

Cohort 99 - Entering Students in Fall 1999: One-Termers and Persisters

Our August and September 2004 In the Abstracts presented information about the 3210 students who first entered Oakton in fall 1999. We call this group “Cohort 99.” This month we explore characteristics of Cohort 99 students who were at Oakton for just that one semester (32 percent of Cohort 99 students) and those who were at Oakton for two or more semesters, including summers. These data provide some insights into factors that may explain why one-third of the students were at Oakton for just one term.

	Terms at Oakton*	
	Fall 1999 only N=1016	Two or more terms N = 2178
<u>Age at entry to Oakton:</u>		
Less than 20	16%	47%
20-24	22%	19%
25-29	14%	8%
30 or older	47%	25%
Mean age at entry	32.1	25.5
<u>Gender</u>		
Female	55%	49%
Male	45%	51%
<u>Ethnicity</u>		
Asian – Pacific Islander	13%	17%
Black	7%	5%
Hispanic	5%	6%
Caucasian, non-Hispanic	49%	52%
No information	26%	20%
<u>Goal at Oakton at entry</u>		
Prepare for transfer	24%	45%
Career preparation/advancement/exploration	43%	32%
Personal interest	6%	3%
Other or no information	27%	20%
<u>Highest degree at entry</u>		
High school or below, including GED	41%	58%
Some college	19%	18%
Bachelor’s or higher	30%	14%
Other or no information	10%	10%

* Sixteen students from the Cohort 99 population did not register in fall 1999 or withdrew prior to the fifth week of classes.