

A Different Look at Enrollments: The Complete Year

Each fall the Office of Research produces an enrollment report depicting enrollments for five fall semesters (<http://www.oakton.edu/resource/oir/enrollmentrep2003-07.pdf>). In this *In the Abstract* we take a different look at enrollments, providing data that examine enrollments for complete years. We begin with the summer session and end with the spring term for each year. Specifically, we looked at the combination of terms in which students enroll in each year. We also looked at patterns by age.

Table 1 provides data for each of the last five years. Only 25 percent of students attend Oakton for a traditional academic year (fall and spring terms only), and another 12 percent attend all three terms (summer, fall and spring). The importance of summer enrollments is evident from the following data: on average, 20 percent of students enrolled at Oakton in a year attend in the summer session *only*, and a total of 38 percent of students enrolled at Oakton in a given year take one or more summer courses.

Table 1: Complete Year Enrollment Patterns

Terms Enrolled	Complete Year (Summer, Fall, & Spring) Unduplicated headcounts within each year									
	03-04		04-05		05-06		06-07		07-08	
All 3 Terms	2,174	12%	2,188	12%	2,074	12%	2,005	12%	1,896	12%
Fall & Spring	4,397	25%	4,391	25%	4,362	25%	4,270	25%	4,287	26%
Summer & Fall	763	4%	781	4%	802	5%	754	4%	750	5%
Summer & Spring	285	2%	260	1%	272	2%	276	2%	240	1%
Fall only	3,111	17%	3,103	18%	3,015	17%	2,947	17%	3,177	19%
Spring only	3,585	20%	3,377	19%	3,491	20%	3,502	21%	2,845	17%
Summer only	3,538	20%	3,496	20%	3,381	19%	3,181	19%	3,264	20%
Total	17,853	100%	17,596	100%	17,397	100%	16,935	100%	16,459	100%

Table 2 provides data for the five years taken together. That is, each student is counted once for each complete year he or she attends. For example, a student who attended Oakton in three of the complete years is counted three times. Table 2 shows that of students aged 22 or younger at Oakton, nearly as many attend in the summer only (26%) as attend in a traditional academic year of fall and spring (29%). The overall importance of summer attendance is reflected in this table as well; even among the oldest group of students, 29 percent enroll in the summer.

Table 2: Complete Year Enrollment Patterns by Age

Age	Total N.*	Percent in Age Group Attending:							Total Pct.
		All 3 Terms	Fall & Spring	Summer & Fall	Summer & Spring	Fall only	Spring only	Summer only	
22 or younger	42,597	11%	29%	3%	1%	14%	15%	26%	100%
23-24	8,210	13%	21%	6%	2%	20%	21%	16%	100%
25-39	21,526	14%	21%	6%	2%	21%	24%	13%	100%
40-54	10,250	13%	21%	4%	1%	23%	25%	12%	100%
55 or older	3,630	11%	24%	4%	1%	25%	21%	13%	100%

* Student is counted once in each complete year he or she attends so this is duplicated headcount over five academic years.