

Messiah College
Institutional Research Office
Publications Listing

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Preface

This bibliography contains a list of publications available from the Institutional Research Office. The goal of this document is to make the campus community aware of items that are available from the Institutional Research Office as well as encourage suggestions for additional projects in the future.

The types of reports in this bibliography vary to include: (1) basic data reports, (2) comparisons, (3) projections, and (4) larger studies. While most of these reports were completed/compiled by the Institutional Research Office, some involved a collaborative effort between various offices. For that collaboration, our office is very thankful.

Any items that are listed can be made available by request for appropriate uses.

Please contact me at any time with questions, suggestions or requests for existing or new projects.

A copy of this report is also available via the Messiah College – Institutional Research web page.

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College Data Reports

Messiah College Fact Book

Compilation of various enrollment, academic, faculty, personnel, finance, facilities, and alumni layouts and data reports.

Date Available: Mid-October

Years Available: 1975, 1981 - Current

Annual Fact Sheet

A one-page, double-sided document updated by Institutional Research and Public Relations to be used as the official public document on general college statistics

Years Available: 2000 - Current

Enrollment Statistics - Fall & Spring Semesters

This two-page summary includes information on the student population, as of snapshot, including breakdowns by level, gender, location (i.e., Grantham, Philly, Off-Campus), full-time/part-time and more. Page two gives a summary of new student enrollments and withdrawals and retention statistics.

Date Available: Mid-September and mid-February

Years Available: Fall 1990 - Current (Registrar may have pre-1990 years)

Department Enrollment Summary - Fall & Spring Semesters

This summary gives enrollment statistics, as of snapshot, based on academic department. Each department has its own two-page report containing breakdowns by level, gender, location, full-time/part-time, ethnicity, location (i.e., Grantham, Philly, Off-Campus). Most information is presented separately by major.

Date Available: Late-September and late-February

Years Available: Spring 1997 - Current

Housing Summary – “Actual Occupancy Statistics” - Fall & Spring Semesters

Gives a breakdown, as of snapshot, of resident and non-resident students by gender, full-time/part-time, residence status (i.e., resident, commuter, etc.), and place of residence.

Date Available: Late-September and late-February

Years Available: Fall 1996 - Current

Freshman Class Profile – Fall Semester Only

Gives statistics on the class of new, first-time students entering in the fall of the current academic year. Information presented includes: (1) Class Size; (2) SAT breakdown; (3) ACT breakdown; (4) Class Rank; (5) Distribution by Major; (6) Secondary School Information; (7) Ethnic Background; (8) Geographic Distribution; and (9) Denominational Affiliation.

Date Available: Fall Semester from Admissions Office

Years Available: Fall 1992 - Current (Admissions may have pre-1992 years)

Comparison Reports

College Costs – “Tuition & Fees, Room & Board Comparative Peer Group Analysis”

Provides raw data, calculations and a descriptive summary of college costs at Messiah and the benchmark group institutions. Specifically, tuition, fees, room & board are included and are presented in a five-year history format.

Date Available: Fall Semester

Years Available: 1997-98 - Current

College Cost Comparisons of Peer Group Institutions

Compares Tuition & Fees, Room & Board and Total Costs of Messiah with the peer group institutions. A five-year history is presented on each year's report. The report is available in the Fact Book.

Date Available: See Fact Book

Years Available: Data from 1994-95 to Current

Undergraduate Enrollment – Comparative Peer Group Analysis

Compares headcount enrollments for Messiah and its peer group institutions. A five-year history is presented on each year's report. The report is also available in the Fact Book.

Date Available: Summer; also see Fact Book

Years Available: Data from Fall 1994 to Current

Graduation Rates of Peer Group Institutions

Comparison data and brief summary analysis of cohort enrollment and graduation rates by ethnicity for Messiah's peer group institutions.

Date Available: Fall Semester

Years Available: 1998 (Fall 1991 Cohort) to Current

Freshman Admissions & Financial Aid Study – PA Peer Group

Data is presented from the survey on admissions and financial aid statistics for Messiah and its peer group institutions. Also included is a five-year history to aid in analyzing trends and a summary by AICUP, the organization conducting the survey.

Date Available: Spring Semester

Years Available: FY1999, FY2000

Faculty Salary & Compensation: Comparative Peer Group Analysis

Data is presented on average faculty salaries and compensation by rank for Messiah and peer group institutions.

Date Available: Spring Semester

Years Available: 1989-90 - Current (Salary); 1997-98 - Current (Salary & Comp.)

U.S. News: America's Best Colleges – Comparative Analysis

U.S. News collects and publishes data on various characteristics of post-secondary institutions. This study analyzes and compares attributes of Messiah College with attributes from the following three comparison groups: (1) Top 10 Regional Liberal Arts Colleges; (2) CCCU Peer Group; (3) Private PA Peer Group. An overview of attributes studied includes: (1) Academic Reputation; (2) Retention; (3) Faculty Resources; (4) Student Selectivity; (5) Financial Resources; (6) Financial Resources; and (7) Alumni Giving Rate.

Date Available: Fall Semester

Years Available: 1998 - Current

College Projections

Enrollment (Budget) Projections

Projects total college enrollment (for both fall and spring semesters) and breakdowns by class level, location (i.e., Grantham, Philly, Off-Campus), Financial FTE, Full-Time/Part-Time/Full-Time Equivalent. Also includes housing over-occupancy projections and number of faculty, faculty offices and classrooms required for a given enrollment. Includes some previous years' information for historical reference.

Official Enrollment Projections are completed in October for the next fiscal/academic year. An update is given early in spring semester.

Date Available: October and January

Years Available: Fall 1997 - Current

Weekly Enrollment Projections – Fall & Spring Semesters

After scheduled registration is completed each semester, weekly reports are published which describe future-term college enrollment. The weekly reports serve two main goals. First, these projections give a current “snapshot” of where registered enrollment is for the next semester. Second, the report indicates additional potential for student registrations in the areas of both continuing students and new students.

Also, a page of projections is presented with the weekly enrollment projections, that are developed for fall semester, to allow comparison with the official college enrollment projections (see above). This serves as an early warning system when the number of students is too high or too low based on official projections.

Date Available: After official registration period each semester

Years Available: Fall 1997 - Current

Faculty Salary Projections

This projection collects faculty salary data for Messiah and its peer group institutions for a five-year period. It then calculates mean, median and quartile ranks and compares the appropriate statistic(s) to the College's *Strategic Plan* to determine our current condition with regard to the goals in the plan. Finally, this document projects the faculty salaries needed for the next few years which would meet the College's *Strategic Plan* goal.

Date Available: End of Spring Semester

Years Available: 1997-98 – Current

Studies

CIRP – Cooperative Institutional Research Program Surveys

In past years, this study has been done on an annual basis at the start of fall semester. It is given to all entering first-time, first-year students to help develop a picture of the habits, behaviors, opinions, demographics, etc. of the entering class. Future years will see a shift to an alternate-year survey schedule.

Date Administered: Prior to start of fall semester

Results Available: Late Spring

Years Available: Data & Analysis - 1991, 1992, 1993, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001; Data Only - 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998

AICUP – First-Year Student (previously “Freshman Experience” or “Sophomore”) Survey

Until the 1999-2000 academic year, this survey was given to all first-semester sophomores who attended Messiah the previous year. The purpose was to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of each institution’s educational and co-curricular programs.

Starting in 1999-2000, the surveyed evolved into a study of second-semester freshman and their experiences at Messiah. A follow-up is available the next fall to differentiate responses between continuing and attrited students.

Date Administered: Middle of spring semester

Results Available: End of fall semester

Years Available: 1995-96, 1997-98, 2000-01

CSS – College Student Survey

This survey, conducted by HERI (Higher Education Research Institute), studies responses of graduating seniors in the areas of college experience and future plans. Longitudinal data may be available for students who completed the CIRP survey to allow for comparisons.

Date Administered: Middle of spring semester

Results Available: End of fall semester

Years Available: 1994-95, 1997-98, 2000-01

NSSE – National Survey of Student Engagement

Started in 1999 as a pilot, the NSSE is designed to query undergraduate students directly about their educational experiences by looking at student engagement (classroom activities, extracurricular activities, satisfaction with the college, and other experiences). This survey is given to a sample of second-semester freshmen and second-semester seniors.

Date Administered: Middle of spring semester

Results Available: End of fall semester

Years Available: Fall 1999 (pilot), Spring 2002

SSI – Student Satisfaction Inventory

Conducted by USA Group/Noel Levitz, this survey project is to measure the strength of student expectations about their college experience, as well as their level of satisfaction with those experiences." Messiah conducts this survey using a sample of all student class levels.

Date Administered: Middle of fall semester

Results Available: Spring semester

Years Available: Fall 1999

Special Projects

New Freshman Retention Study

This study was conducted in an attempt to understand the characteristics of New Freshmen as they pertain to retention. The study looked at all New Freshmen who entered in the fall of 1996 and analyzed two subgroups: (1) those continuing in the fall of 1997; and (2) students who attrited prior to the following fall.

Cohort: Fall 1996

Conducted: Spring 1998

Philadelphia Survey Analysis

This survey was conducted between October 1996 and March 1997. The purpose of the survey was to better understand the perceptions of the Philadelphia Campus and make improvements based on the responses of those surveyed. Six different sample groups were used: (1) Community of Educators; (2) Current Grantham Students; (3) Current Grantham Minority Students; (4) Current Philadelphia Campus Students; (5) Philadelphia Campus Alumni; and (6) Parents of Philadelphia Alumni.

Conducted: 1996-97

Student Fees Study

This study reviews the fee charges as well as the collection methods for tuition and fees at Messiah and our peer group institutions.

Conducted: January 2000

“Investing in Quality” Study

Coordinated with Dean Moshier, this study was conducted on students in the sciences to determine retention statistics on those students over the last six years.

Conducted: October 2002

START Program Review

Together with Christopher Couch, the review gathered relevant descriptive data on the history of the START Program students since its inception. The goal was to compare the characteristics of START students versus the entire Messiah population.

Conducted: January 2003