

C. Characteristics of Undergraduate Students

Fall 2006 Freshmen

A total of 9,769 individuals applied for admission as full-time, first-time freshmen to Montclair State University in fall 2006, up 32% from fall 2002. The University admitted 54% of these applicants, and 2,027 of those who were admitted to the University enrolled in classes for a yield of 38%. The fall 2006 admissions yield was approximately 1 percentage point higher than in fall 2002.

Fall 2006 freshmen entered MSU as either regular admits, special admits, or students admitted through the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program. By admitting students using different admissions categories, the University fulfilled the hopes and aspirations of more of its applicants. Of Montclair State University's 2,018 full-time, first-time freshmen, 85% were Regular Admits, 7% were admitted through the EOF program, and 8% were Special Admits (see Table II.C.1).

The academic preparedness of MSU's full-time entrants improved from 2002 to 2006. MSU's fall 2006 full-time, first-time freshmen had an average combined SAT score of 1,021, up 11 points from fall 2002.¹ Regularly admitted full-time entrants had a mean SAT score of 1,045, while EOF entrants and special admits had mean combined SAT's of 828 and 931, respectively. For all full-time freshmen, the average math SAT score (520) exceeded the average critical reading (501) and writing (505) scores (see Table II.C.1).

TABLE II.C.1: Mean Math and Verbal SAT for First-Time Freshmen, by Admission Status and Overall, Fall 2006

Type	Full-Time				Part-Time			
	Number	Math	Read	Write	Number	Math	Read	Write
Regular	1,697	530	514	518	9	481	454	417
EOF	139	430	398	404	3	370	377	367
Special	156	483	448	455	1	310	300	360
All	1,992	520	501	505	13	442	425	398
Missing	-	26	26	88	-	11	11	13

MSU assessed the skills of incoming freshmen using the Montclair State University Placement Test (MSUPT). The English component of the MSUPT was the New Jersey College Basic Skills Placement Test (NJCBSPT), while the Mathematics component was locally developed by faculty from the Department of Mathematics. Entering freshmen with SAT verbal scores ≥ 540 were

¹ A majority of incoming freshmen took the new SAT test consisting of three, rather than two, components. The new SAT tests students in Mathematics, Critical Reading, and Writing. Most institutions report combined math and reading scores (total=1600) when comparing results to earlier years in which math and "verbal" scores were combined.

exempt from taking the writing portion of the MSUPT, while entrants with SAT verbal scores ≥ 570 were exempt from taking both the reading and writing portions of the test.

Results of tests administered to fall 2006 first-time freshmen revealed that 18% had remedial needs in reading, 13% needed remediation in writing 28% needed remediation in math computation, and 46% had remedial needs in elementary algebra (see Table II.B.2). Overall, 56% of first-time freshmen needed remediation in one or more skill area.

TABLE II.C.2: Remediation/Developmental Education, Fall 2006

First-time freshmen, fall 2005	Total number of students	Number of students needing remediation	Number of recent HS graduates	Number of recent HS grads needing remediation
	2,043	1,151	1,749	958
First-time freshmen (FTF) needing remediation in fall 2006	Number of FTF	Percent of FTF	Number of FTF who are recent HS graduates	Percent of FTF who are recent HS grads
Subject Area				
Reading	360	18	282	16
Writing**	271	13	205	12
Math Computation	572	28	487	28
Elementary Algebra	932	46	758	43
First-time freshmen requiring remediation in at least one subject area in fall 2006	Number of FTF	Percent of FTF	Number of FTF who are recent HS graduates	Percent of FTF who are recent HS grads
Needing remediation in at least one subject area	1,151	56	958	55

**** MSU awards credits toward graduation for this course.**

A survey administered to fall 2006 first-time freshmen revealed that nearly 90% considered MSU their first or second choice among colleges. The survey also revealed that among the important reasons freshmen chose MSU were its good academic reputation (52%), the success its graduates have finding good jobs (42%), its affordability (42%), and its good social reputation (35%).

The profile of first-time freshman reflects the continuing commitment of the University to an ethnically and racially diverse student body. Eleven percent of first-time freshmen identified themselves as African American, over 6% as Asian, and approximately 19% as Latino/a. About 1% of freshmen were international students, and over 59% of entering freshmen were female.

Fall 2006 Undergraduates

In fall 2006, a total of 16,076 students attended Montclair State University. Of this total, 12,365 (or 76.9% of all enrollees) were registered as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates attending the University rose 13% between fall 2002 and fall 2006. Over 82% of fall 2006 undergraduates attended the University full-time, up over five percentage points from fall 2002. MSU's undergraduates were racially/ethnically diverse, with nearly 18% identifying themselves as Latino/a, 10% as African American, 6% as Asian, 57% White, and 3% non-resident aliens (see Table II.C.3.a).

TABLE II.C.3.a: Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2006

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Native Amer.	32	0.3%	12	0.5%	44	0.4%
African Amer.	1,047	10.3%	231	10.6%	1,278	10.3%
Asian	615	6.0%	93	4.3%	708	5.7%
Latino/a	1,776	17.4%	437	20.0%	2,213	17.9%
White	5,933	58.3%	1,100	50.3%	7,033	56.9%
Non-Res. Alien	305	3.0%	37	1.7%	342	2.8%
Missing	472	4.6%	275	12.6%	747	6.0%
Total	10,180	100.0%	2,185	100.0%	12,365	100.0%

In fall 2006, 60% of all undergraduates were female, and the average age of the undergraduate population was 22.9 years (see Tables II.C.3.b and II.C.3.c).

TABLE II.C.3.b: Undergraduate Enrollment by Sex, Fall 2006

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	6,080	59.7%	1,391	63.7%	7,471	60.4%
Male	4,100	40.3%	794	36.3%	4,894	39.6%
Total	10,180	100.0%	2,185	100.0%	12,365	100.0%

TABLE II.C.3.c: Undergraduate Enrollment by Age, Fall 2006

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Less than 18	26	0.3%	27	1.2%	53	0.4%
18-19	3,335	32.8%	46	2.1%	3,381	27.3%
20-21	3,534	34.7%	156	7.1%	3,690	29.8%
22-24	2,273	22.3%	672	30.8%	2,945	23.8%
25-29	608	6.0%	460	21.1%	1,068	8.6%
30-34	169	1.7%	245	11.2%	414	3.3%
35-39	113	1.1%	207	9.5%	320	2.6%
40-49	89	0.9%	257	11.8%	346	2.8%
50-64	33	0.3%	105	4.8%	138	1.1%
More than 64	0	0.0%	8	0.4%	8	0.1%
Unknown	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	2	0.0%
Total	10,180	100.0%	2,185	100.0%	12,365	100.0%

During FY2006, MSU's undergraduates received financial aid from Federal, State, University, and private sources. Aid took multiple forms, from grants and scholarships, through loans and waivers. For those who needed financial assistance, the MSU Alumni Association and the MSU Foundation sponsored a number of scholarships, and special MSU program awards were substantial, amounting to nearly \$7 million during FY06. During the same fiscal year, Federal grants, guaranteed loans, and work-study programs amounted to nearly \$58 million.

During FY06, MSU distributed over \$14 million in state-funded financial aid (see Table II.C.4). A total of 7,730 awards went to 3,997 recipients, including 362 Bloustein Scholars and 149 Urban Scholars.

Between FY02 and FY06, the total number of financial aid awards rose 40%, while the total amount of aid dollars distributed increased nearly 82%.

Table II.C.4: Financial Aid from State-Funded Programs, FY2006

	Recipients	Awards	\$ Dollars	\$/Recipient	\$/Award
TAG	2,815	5,119	\$10,677,947	\$3,793	\$2,086
EOF	660	1,244	\$755,150	\$1,174	\$623
Bloustein Scholars	362	701	\$350,500	\$968	\$500
Urban Scholars	149	284	\$142,000	\$953	\$500
NJCLASS Loans	--	210	\$1,797,449	--	\$8,559
NJ Stars II (2006)	11	--	\$22,000	\$2,000	--
OSRP	--	172	\$420,525	--	\$2,445

Of MSU's 2,018 full-time, first-time freshmen who entered in fall 2006, nearly 97% were New Jersey residents (see Table II.C.5). Most were from Bergen (17%), Essex (15%), and Passaic (12%) counties.

Table II.C.5: Full-Time, First-Time Freshman Enrollment by State of Residence, Fall 2006

State Residents	Non-State Residents	Total Students	% State Residents
1,956	62	2,018	96.9%

Fall 2006 Graduate Students

Of the 16,076 students who attended Montclair State University in fall 2006, 3,711 (23%) were graduate students. Graduate student enrollment declined 0.6% between fall 2002 and fall 2006.

Most graduate students (78%) attended MSU part-time, taking fewer than nine credits per semester. Seventy-three percent of fall 2006 graduate students were female, and the average age of the graduate student population was 33 years. Nearly 10% of graduate students identified themselves as African American, 4% as Asian, 9% as Latino/a, 74% as White, and 4% as non-resident aliens. Nearly 94% of MSU's graduate students are New Jersey residents.