

C. Characteristics of Undergraduate Students

Fall 2009 Freshmen

A total of 13,469 individuals applied for admission as first-time freshmen to Montclair State University in fall 2009, up 93% from fall 2000. The University admitted 47% of these applicants, and 2,117 of those who were admitted to the University enrolled as freshmen for a yield of 33%. The fall 2009 admissions yield was approximately nine percentage points lower than in fall 2000.

Fall 2009 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 MSU's 2,101 full-time, first-time students (IPEDS cohort), 86.6% were Regular Admits, 7.5% were admitted through the EOF program, and 5.9% were Special Admits (see Table II.C.1).

MSU's fall 2009 full-time, first-time students (IPEDS cohort) had an average combined (Math and Critical Reading) SAT score of 1,001. Regularly admitted full-time entrants had a mean SAT score of 1,020, while EOF entrants and special admits had mean combined SAT's of 845 and 924, respectively. For all full-time students (IPEDS cohort), the average math SAT score (507) exceeded the average critical reading (494) and writing (499) scores (see Table II.C.1).

TABLE II.C.1: Mean Math, Reading & Writing SAT for First-Time IPEDS Cohort, by Admission Status and Overall, Fall 2009

Type	Full-Time			Part-Time				
	Number	Math	Read	Write	Number	Math	Read	Write
Regular	1,819	515	504	509	9	520	426	459
EOF	158	436	409	414	2	410	425	415
Special	124	470	453	461	5			
All	2,101	507	494	499	16	498	426	449
Missing	-	40	40	49	-	6	6	7

In fall 2009, Montclair State University used the College Board's suite of Accuplacer tests to assess college readiness in elementary algebra. College readiness in writing was initially assessed using the SAT essay and writing scores, in combination, followed by a faculty review of early writing samples.

Incoming freshmen whose SAT-Math scores were below 550, or who failed to attain at least a B-score in Algebra II in high school, were required to take the Accuplacer elementary algebra portion of Accuplacer. Everyone's SAT-W and SAT-essay scores were examined for possible placement into developmental writing; followed by a faculty review of writing samples.

Approximately 4% of fall 2009 undergraduates were enrolled in one or more remedial courses. Most of those enrolled in remediation were first-time freshmen.

Table II.C.2: Enrollment in Remedial Courses, Fall 2009

Total Fall 2009 Undergraduate Enrollment	Number of Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses	Percent of Total
14,139	601	4.3%
Total Number of Full-time, First-time Students	Number of FTFT Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses	Percent of FTFT Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Course
2,101	442	21.0%
Remedial Subject Area	Number of FTFT Students Enrolled in	Percent of FTFT Students Enrolled in
Reading	76	3.6%
Writing	191	9.1%
Math Computation	0	0.0%
Elementary Algebra	236	11.2%

A survey administered to fall 2009 first-time freshmen revealed that over 89% considered MSU their first or second choice among colleges. The survey also revealed that the top three reasons freshmen chose MSU were: a) its good academic reputation (65%), b) the success of its graduates in finding good jobs (54%), and c) its affordability (54%).

The profile of the fall 2009 entering class reflects the continuing commitment of the University to an ethnically and racially diverse student body. Excluding unknowns, 10% of full-time, first-time students identified themselves as African American, 7% as Asian, and 22% as Latino/a. Over 1% of freshmen were international students, and over 61% of entering freshmen were female.

Fall 2009 Undergraduates

In fall 2009, a total of 18,171 students attended Montclair State University. Of this total, 14,139 (or 77.8% of all enrollees) were registered as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates attending the University rose 16% between fall 2005 and fall 2009. Nearly 86% of fall 2009 undergraduates attended the University full-time, up over four percentage points from fall 2005. MSU's undergraduates were racially/ethnically diverse. Excluding unknowns, over 21% of undergraduates identified themselves as Latino/a, 10% as African American, 6% as Asian, 57% White, and 5% non-resident aliens (see Table II.C.3.a).

TABLE II.C.3.a: Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2009

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Native Amer.	20	0.2%	7	0.3%	27	0.2%
African Amer.	1,060	8.8%	197	9.7%	1,257	8.9%
Asian	720	5.9%	107	5.3%	827	5.8%
Latino/a	2,321	19.2%	406	20.0%	2,727	19.3%
White	6,327	52.2%	1,010	49.9%	7,337	51.9%
Non-Res. Alien	654	5.4%	50	2.5%	704	5.0%
Missing	1,011	8.3%	249	12.3%	1,260	8.9%
Total	12,113	100.0%	2,026	100.0%	14,139	100.0%

In fall 2009, 61% of all undergraduates were female, and the average age of the undergraduate population was 22.5 years (see Tables II.C.3.b and II.C.3.c).

TABLE II.C.3.b: Undergraduate Enrollment by Sex, Fall 2009

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	7,401	61.1%	1,269	62.6%	8,670	61.3%
Male	4,712	38.9%	757	37.4%	5,469	38.7%
Total	12,113	100.0%	2,026	100.0%	14,139	100.0%

TABLE II.C.3.c: Undergraduate Enrollment by Age, Fall 2009

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Less than 18	14	0.1%	33	1.6%	47	0.3%
18-19	3,681	30.4%	45	2.2%	3,726	26.4%
20-21	4,717	38.9%	127	6.3%	4,844	34.3%
22-24	2,634	21.7%	627	30.9%	3,261	23.1%
25-29	668	5.5%	448	22.1%	1,116	7.9%
30-34	202	1.7%	224	11.1%	426	3.0%
35-39	69	0.6%	147	7.3%	216	1.5%
40-49	100	0.8%	238	11.7%	338	2.4%
50-64	28	0.2%	123	6.1%	151	1.1%
More than 64	0	0.0%	13	0.6%	13	0.1%
Unknown	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
Total	12,113	100.0%	2,026	100.0%	14,139	100.0%

During FY2009, 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 \$5 million during FY09. During the same fiscal year, Federal grants, loans, and work-study programs amounted to over \$72 million.

During FY09, MSU distributed nearly \$24 million in state-funded financial aid, including both scholarships and NJCLASS loans (see Table II.C.4). A total of 5,039 awards were made to MSU students, including 3,076 TAG Awards, 769 NJCLASS Loans, and 667 EOF Awards.

Table II.C.4: Financial Aid from Federal, State & Institution-Funded Programs, FY2009

	Recipients	\$ Dollars	\$/Recipient
<u>STATE PROGRAMS</u>			
TAG	3,076	\$12,983,000	\$4,221
EOF	667	\$772,000	\$1,157
Distinguished Scholars	254	\$231,000	\$909
Urban Scholars	141	\$126,000	\$894
NJCLASS Loans	769	\$8,543,000	\$11,109
NJ Stars	95	\$830,000	\$8,737
OSRP	37	\$125,000	\$3,378
<u>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</u>			
Pell Grants	3,520	\$11,687,000	\$3,320
College Work Study	375	\$447,000	\$1,192
Perkins Loans	257	\$532,000	\$2,070
SEOG	631	\$743,000	\$1,178
Stafford Loans (Subsidized)	6,629	\$26,054,000	\$3,930
Stafford Loans (Unsubsidized)	7,686	\$26,125,000	\$3,399
PLUS Loans	663	\$6,452,000	\$9,732
<u>INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS</u>			
Grants/Scholarships	1,189	\$4,676,000	\$3,933
Loans	0	\$0	\$0

Of MSU's 2,117 first-time students who entered in fall 2009, over 97% were New Jersey residents (see Table II.C.5). Most were from Bergen (19.8%), Passaic (13.6%), and Essex (12.8%) counties.

Table II.C.5: Full-Time, First-Time Student Enrollment by State of Residence, Fall 2009

State Residents	Non-State Residents	Total Students	% State Residents
2,055	62	2,117	97.1%

Fall 2009 Graduate Students

Of the 18,171 students who attended Montclair State University in fall 2009, 4,032 (22%) were graduate students. Graduate student enrollment rose nearly 4% between fall 2005 and fall 2009.

Most graduate students (73%) attended MSU part-time, taking fewer than nine credits per semester. Seventy-three percent of fall 2009 graduate students were female, and the average age of the graduate student population was 32 years. Excluding unknowns, 9% of graduate students identified themselves as African American, 4% as Asian, 7% as Latino/a, 75% as White, and 4% as non-resident aliens. Nearly 94% of MSU's graduate students are New Jersey residents.