

## Evergreen Student Experience Survey 2015

### Research Methodology

The Evergreen Student Experience Survey is administered biennially by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. This report describes the research methodology for the 2015 administration of the survey. More information about this and other survey administrations is available on the Institutional Research and Assessment website: [www.evergreen.edu/institutionalresearch](http://www.evergreen.edu/institutionalresearch).

The Evergreen Student Experience Survey is an integral part of Evergreen's assessment plan by incorporating questions that specifically address aspects of Evergreen's unique structure and learning environment. In addition, the survey results are a campus-wide resource for students, administrators, and faculty and include information about:

- Student satisfaction with elements of Evergreen's learning environment
- Student perception of Evergreen's contribution to their growth in various skill areas
- Student goals for the college experience
- Student level of confidence
- Student use of campus resources and participation in community activities
- Demographics not available through the BANNER administrative database

This survey serves as part of a larger longitudinal research effort. The Evergreen Student Experience Survey, the Evergreen New Student Survey, and the Alumni Survey were designed in parallel; the three surveys are administered biennially, and contain comparable questions to assess student attitudes, perceptions and experiences at college entry, after one year of study, and one year after graduation. The data from these three surveys are used individually and in concert for assessment and informed changes to Evergreen's academic environment, improvement of student services, and institutional planning.

### Sampling Method

The total sample of surveyed students consists of a random sample of Olympia degree-seeking undergraduate students, all students enrolled in off-site programs, and all completers of the Evergreen New Student Survey 2014. A random sample of 1,200 students from the Evergreen Olympia degree-seeking undergraduate population was selected. This sample was stratified by class standing to be proportionally representative of all Olympia undergraduate class standing.

*Total number of students in Olympia undergraduate population by class standing, percent of population and total number of students in sample*

	Total in population (N)	Percent of Population	Total in Sample (N)	Percent of Sample
Freshmen	447	13.6%	163	13.6%
Sophomores	604	18.3%	220	18.3%
Juniors	1003	30.4%	365	30.4%
Seniors or Post-baccalaureate	1242	37.7%	452	37.7%

Students enrolled spring quarter 2015 that completed the New Student Survey 2014 and were not selected in the random sample were also asked to participate in the survey. Therefore, all respondents to the Evergreen New Student Survey 2014 who were enrolled spring 2015 were invited to participate in the Evergreen Student Experience Survey thereby enhancing the strength of future longitudinal analyses.

All students enrolled in the Tacoma, Grays Harbor, and Tribal: Reservation-based/Community-determined (Tribal) programs during spring quarter 2015 were also asked to participate in the survey. This was to increase the probability of having sufficient numbers of respondents to conduct program-specific analyses and assessment.

One-thousand seven-hundred and thirty-seven undergraduates were invited to participate in the Evergreen Student Experience Survey 2015. Seven hundred fifty-one additional students who were not part of the Olympia random sample were surveyed:

- All degree-seeking Tribal students (N=30)
- All Degree-seeking Tacoma students (N=167)
- All Degree-seeking Grays Harbor students (N=17)
- Evergreen New Student Survey 2014 respondents not selected in the initial Olympia campus random sample enrolled as of 10th day (N=537).

### Methods of Contacting Students

Enrolled students were first contacted by e-mail to their assigned college e-mail address (evergreen.edu). The e-mails contained a brief introduction to the survey and a link to the web survey. Students who lacked valid e-mail addresses or for other reasons did not respond to the web survey were sent a letter inviting them to participate in the survey. Students could request a paper survey be mailed to them. Three reminder e-mails were sent to students who had not completed the survey.

### Student Responses Rates and Methods of Response

There were 378 responses to the Evergreen Student Experience Survey, representing 11.8% of the 3,199 degree-seeking undergraduates enrolled spring quarter. 378 of 1,737 students responded, giving an overall response rate of 21.8%. The following chart shows separate response rates for the random sample, all enrolled students in the Tacoma, Tribal, and Grays Harbor programs, and the additional respondents to the Evergreen New Student Survey 2014.

<b><i>Response Rates by Sample Types</i></b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>Number in Sample</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
Students in Random Sample	202	1200	16.8%
Students enrolled in Tacoma Program	46	167	27.5%
Students enrolled in Grays Harbor Program	4	17	23.5%
Students enrolled in Tribal: Reservation-based/Community-determined Programs	4	30	13.3%
Additional Olympia students who responded to the Evergreen New Student Survey 2014 and were not selected in random sample	176	537	32.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>1737</b>	<b>21.8%</b>

### Student Response Reports

Because of the unique learning environments of Evergreen's different locations, only a small number of data elements were analyzed using the institution-wide sample responses. Students' responses were analyzed by the type of student and location of study. Responses from the following non-mutually exclusive subgroups have been summarized and analyzed:

- Olympia campus students selected in the random sample (N=202)
- Students studying at the Tacoma campus (N=46)
- All first-time, first-year respondents who were new in Fall 2015 (N=82)
- Students who responded to both the Evergreen New Student Survey 2014 and Evergreen Student Experience Survey 2015 (N=176 first-time, first-years and transfer students)

To protect the identities of individual respondents, responses for Grays Harbor and Tribal programs were summarized in general but not analyzed further because of the low number of respondents. Tests for representativeness of respondents to the population are reported within the separate reports listed above.