

## Academic Portrait of Students

After years of growth in enrolment, pre-COVID, at The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, student registration remained stable from 16,338 students in 2022-23 to 15,772 students in 2024-25. The decline in enrolment is owing to fewer applicants in recent years as well as reduced student intake in some faculties, and student leave of absences due to personal, financial and academic reasons.

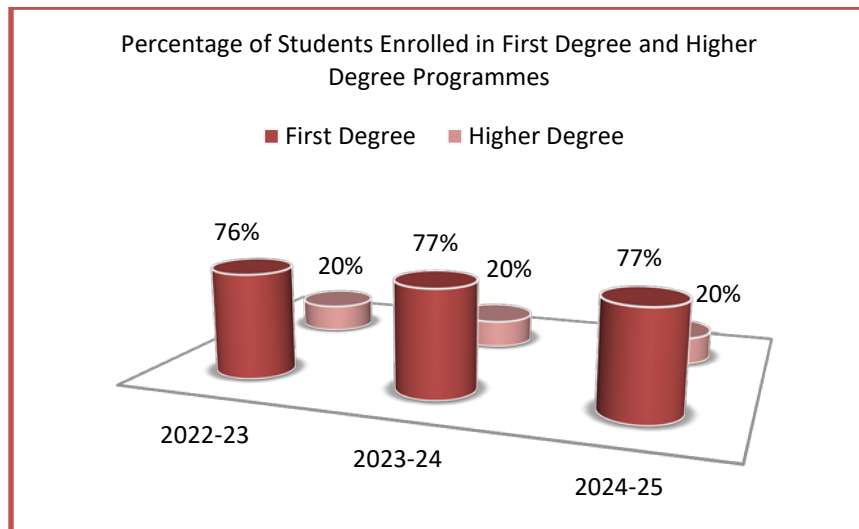
Table 1. Total Enrolment by Faculty

Faculty/Institute	2022/23	2023-24	2024-25
Engineering	305	330	341
Gender & Development Studies	46	28	24
Humanities & Education	2,143	1,899	1,899
Law	584	552	665
Medical Sciences	4,129	3,980	3,877
Science & Technology	2,875	2,905	2,919
Social Sciences	6,153	5,961	5,938
Sport	103	99	109
Total	16,338	15,754	15,772

As seen in Table 1, in 2024-25, total enrolment increased over the previous year. Faculties experiencing increases were Engineering; Law; Science and Technology; and Sport. Compared to the higher enrolment in 2022-23, it is possible that the COVID-19 pandemic created financial challenges for some citizens. More recently, unemployment rates have been at their lowest which may reflect a rebounding economy and a pull for high school graduates and other persons wishing to earn a salary than enrol in university.

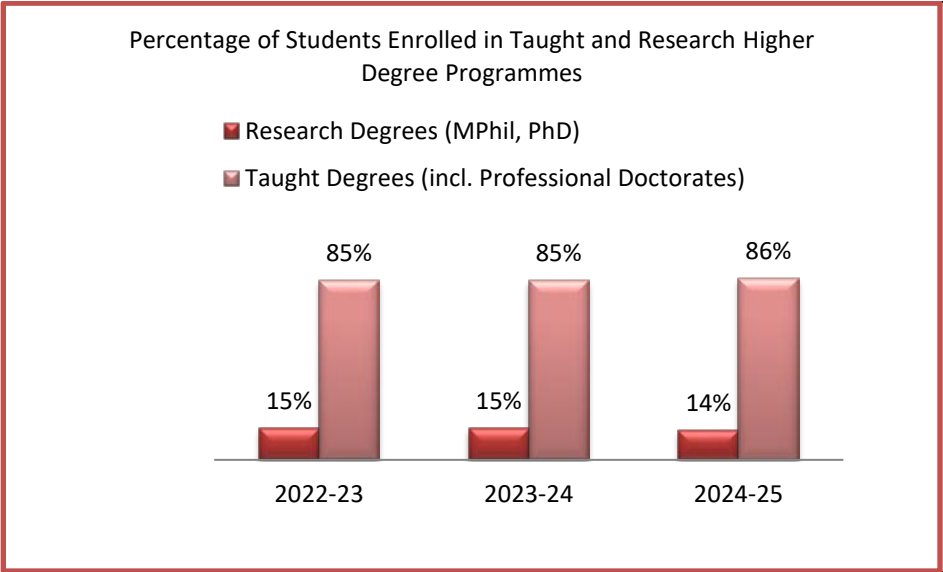
As seen in Figure 1, most students are concentrated in First-degree programmes. Over the three-year period, First-degree programmes accounted for more than 76% of total student enrolment.

Figure 1.



While enrolment in higher degree programmes has remained steady, more students are pursuing taught programmes than research programmes.

Figure 2.



The Mona Campus continues to address the need for increased enrolment in research programmes.

**Demand for a UWI Education**

The University attracts thousands of applicants each year for a UWI education.

The number of persons applying for undergraduate programmes was approximately 9,900 in 2024-25, up from 9,000 in 2023-24.

In 2024-25, 49% of applicants received offers to their programme of first choice, while in 2023-24, 45% of applicants received offers to their programme of first choice. Of the applicants who accepted offers, approximately 82% enrolled in 2024-25 compared to 72% in 2023-24.

Table 2: Number of Applicants, Offers, Acceptances and Admissions in Undergraduate Degrees and Diplomas

Faculty/School	Applied to 1st Choice	Offers to 1st choice	2024-25		
			Multiple Offers	Acceptances	New Admissions
Engineering	441	180	541	190	72
Gender & Devel. Studies	5	2	5	2	1
Humanities & Education	724	317	914	283	301
Law	930	460	526	335	252
Medical Sciences	3,208	1,184	1,418	901	702
Science & Technology	1,502	948	3,389	994	818
Social Sciences	3,025	1,697	5,141	1,556	1,364
Sport	61	31	84	22	19
All	9,896	4,819	12,018	4,283	3,529
			*(5,978 )		

Source: Applications and Admissions Report, August 19, 2025, MIT  
 Transfer applications excluded.  
 Includes On- and Off Campus  
 \* unique applicants

Table 3: Number of Applicants, Offers, Acceptances and Admissions in Undergraduate Degrees and Diplomas

Faculty/School	Applied to 1st Choice	Offers to 1st choice	2023-24		
			Multiple Offers	Acceptances	New Admissions
Engineering	403	152	559	221	84
Gender & Devel. Studies	8	1	13	2	1
Humanities & Education	656	279	848	357	273
Law	768	373	444	253	186
Medical Sciences	2,895	1,008	1,438	950	604
Science & Technology	1,424	791	3,388	945	760
Social Sciences	2,899	1,460	4,178	1,552	1,168
Sport	36	16	60	23	16
All	9,089	4,080	10,928	4,303	3,092
			*(5,555 )		

Source: Applications and Admissions Report, August 22, 2024, MIT  
 Transfer applications excluded.  
 Includes On- and Off Campus  
 \* unique applicants

As seen in Table 4, the majority of students are less than 25 years of age. Over the three-year period, the percentage of students under 25 stood at 65% or greater.

Table 4. Total Student Body by Age Group

Age Group	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	% Distribution		
Under 20	17	18	20
20-24	48	48	47
25-34	23	22	21
35-49	10	10	10
50+	2	2	2
Total	100	100	100

### Throughput of UWI Students

Students who are admitted to the University generally remain active throughout their course of study. The first-year retention rate among First-degree entrants has averaged 85% or higher over the three-year period (Table 5). The UWI retention rate for 2023-24 entrants compares favourably to a national rate of 69.5%<sup>1</sup> among colleges in the United States for the same year.

Table 5. Percentage of First Year, First Degree Entrants Who Returned for their Second Year of Study

Faculty	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	Entrants	Entrants	Entrants
Engineering	76.9%	89.0%	84.7%
Gender & Development Studies	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Hum. & Educ. : Education	73.7%	80.0%	78.6%
Hum. & Educ. : Humanities	86.2%	81.1%	82.9%
Law	90.0%	93.0%	96.0%
Medical Sciences	87.2%	87.2%	91.8%
Science & Technology	88.0%	88.8%	88.3%
Social Sciences	83.3%	85.0%	84.0%
Sport	80.0%	68.8%	83.3%
Total	85.5%	86.6%	87.5%

<sup>1</sup> See the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center report *Persistence and Retention: Fall 2023 Beginning Postsecondary Student Cohort* (accessed October 2, 2025). [https://nscresearchcenter.org/persistence-retention/?\\_gl=1\\*1wfiubh\\*\\_gcl\\_au\\*MTYzMjcoMTQoMy4xNzU5NDI1MjQ3\\*\\_ga\\*MTQoMzAzNjc4NC4xNzU5NDI1MjQ3\\*\\_ga\\_5L4LXL5B8R\\*cze3NTkoMjUyNDckbzEkZzEkdDE3NTkoMjU4MTUkajU5JGwwJGgw](https://nscresearchcenter.org/persistence-retention/?_gl=1*1wfiubh*_gcl_au*MTYzMjcoMTQoMy4xNzU5NDI1MjQ3*_ga*MTQoMzAzNjc4NC4xNzU5NDI1MjQ3*_ga_5L4LXL5B8R*cze3NTkoMjUyNDckbzEkZzEkdDE3NTkoMjU4MTUkajU5JGwwJGgw)

Recent data shows that 54% of First-degree entrants completed their programme in five years (Table 6). Above-average outcomes were seen in Engineering, Education, Law, and Medical Sciences among the 2020 entrants.

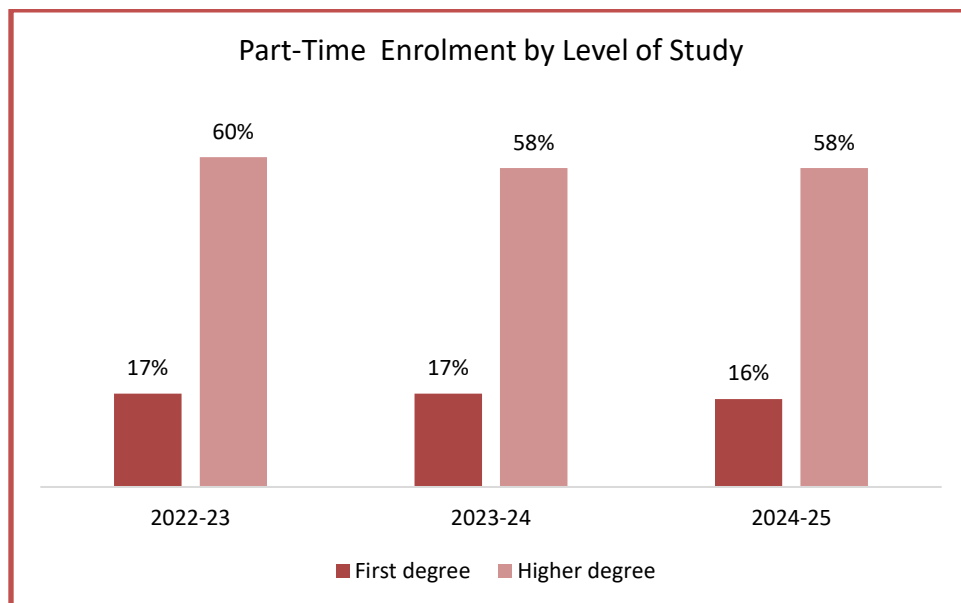
Table 6. Percentage of First Degree Entrants Graduating in Five Years

Faculty/School	2018	2019	2020
	Entrants	Entrants	Entrants
Engineering (B.Sc.)	73.6	73.2	66.3
Gender & Development Studies (B.Sc.)	47.0	23.6	24.9
H&E: Education (B.Ed.)	65.5	44.8	56.0
H&E: Humanities (B.A.)	56.7	57.0	48.8
Law (LLB)	79.9	77.3	70.2
Medical Sciences (B.Sc.)	79.9	83.1	76.1
Medical Sciences (MBBS/DDS)	56.4	71.8	59.3
Science & Technology (B.Sc.)	54.6	56.3	52.5
Social Sciences (B.Sc.)	54.8	55.3	53.4
Sport (B.Sc.)	--	36.6	36.4
Total Average	58.4	58.9	54.0

Note: Includes full- and part-time students.

At the postgraduate level, students remain active for longer periods of time as many are enrolled on a part-time basis and frequently “stop out” from their studies (Figure 3).

Figure 3.



At the postgraduate level, taught programmes are approximately two years full-time. Considering that more than 50% of higher degree students are registered part-time, a five-year graduation rate is used to gauge student throughput.

As seen in Table 7, more than 70% of higher degree entrants complete their programme in five years. Completion rates are highest in Education, Law, and Social Sciences.

Table 7. Percentage of Higher Degree Entrants in Taught Programmes Graduating in Five Years

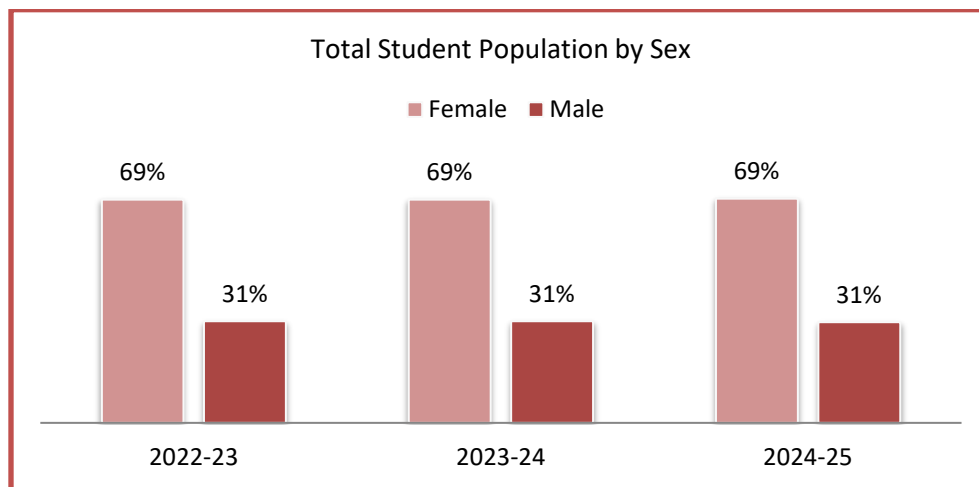
Faculty/School	2018	2019	2020
	Entrants	Entrants	Entrants
Gender & Development Studies	66.6	40.0	66.6
H&E: Humanities	64.2	65.7	56.9
H&E: Education	86.9	89.5	86.1
Law	100.0	100.00	90.0
Medical Sciences	87.7	74.4	59.4
Science & Technology	29.1	52.2	56.0
Social Sciences	81.9	77.1	78.1
Sport	81.9	50.0	58.8
Total Average	78.8	76.3	73.0

Note: Includes full- and part-time students.

### Student Characteristics

Administrators are aware of the gender imbalance at the University. A number of new programmes in Engineering, Sport, and Humanities have been introduced in an effort to attract more male applicants to The UWI. Modest gains have been made in the percentage of male students at the Mona Campus. The percentage of males remains at 31%.

Figure 4.



The UWI, Mona welcomes regional and international students. The number of students from territories that contribute to the University's budget (contributing countries) represents approximately 1,300 students while international students or students from non-contributing countries is close to 300 students. The Mona Campus attracts students from the wider Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America.

Administrators continue efforts to recruit students from the world over.

*Table 8. Total Enrolment by Country of Origin*

<b>Territory</b>	<b>2022/23</b>		<b>2023-24</b>		<b>2024-25</b>	
	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Jamaica	14,492	88.7	14,059	89.2	14,114	89.5
Contributing Countries Excluding Jamaica	1,541	9.4	1,383	8.8	1,366	8.7
Non-Contributing Countries	302	1.8	308	2.0	288	1.8
Not Reported	3	0.0	4	0.0	4	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,338</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,754</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15,772</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## UWI Graduates

As at November 2025, the Mona Campus graduated 3,323 students. This represents a -5.6% decline over the previous year.

*Table 9. Graduates by Programme*

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Graduates</b>		
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma	103	92	106
Undergraduate Certificate/Diploma	19	21	20
First Degree	2,467	2,577	2,365
Higher Degree	951	829	832
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,540</b>	<b>3,519</b>	<b>3,323</b>

Seventy-one percent (71%) of graduates obtained First degrees, while 25% of graduates obtained higher degrees in 2025.

By faculty, Social Sciences accounted for the most graduates (40%) followed by Medical Sciences (23%) and Humanities and Education (15%), respectively (Table 10).

Table 10. Graduates by Faculty

Faculty/Institute	Graduates		
	2023	2024	2025
Engineering	64	56	66
Gender & Development Studies	11	8	3
Humanities & Education	625	510	499
Law	167	136	170
Medical Sciences	820	892	760
Science & Technology	442	525	474
Social Sciences	1,393	1,375	1,330
Sport	18	17	21
Total	3,540	3,519	3,323

Among First degree graduates, 67% of students graduated with either Upper or Lower Second Class Honours in 2025 (Table 11). In comparison, 13% of students graduated with First Class Honours, while 20% of students obtained a Pass.

Table 11. First Degree Graduates by Class of Degree

Programme	2023	2024	2025
	% Distribution		
First Class Honours/Distinction	13	12	13
Upper Second Class Honours	40	36	40
Lower Second Class Honours	28	30	27
Third Class Honours (Eng)	0	0	0
Pass	19	22	20
Total	100	100	100

Studies of our graduates have shown success in the market place and with employers of UWI graduates. One and a half years after graduation, First- and Higher-degree graduates have enjoyed employment rates of 68% or better. This has occurred during a period of modest economic growth in Jamaica.

Table 12. Employment of First Degree Graduates

Year of Graduation	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022
No. of Grads Traced	N=458	N=425	N=418	N=358	N=339
% Employed	76.0	77.0	68.0	85.0	86.0
% Unemployed	24.0	23.0	32.0	15.0	14.0

Note: Graduates surveyed 1.5 years after graduation.

The percentage of graduates traced was 18% for the Class of 2014; 18% for the Class of 2016; 13% for the Class of 2018; 11% for the Class of 2020; and 11% for the Class of 2022.

Table 13. *Employment of Higher Degree Graduates*

Year of Graduation No. of Grads Traced	2014 N=174	2016 N=152	2018 N=168	2020 N=152	2022 N=158
% Employed	78.0	73.0	87.0	94.0	96.0
% Unemployed	22.0	27.0	13.0	6.0	4.0

Note: Graduates surveyed 1.5 years after graduation.

The percentage of graduates traced was 21% for the Class of 2014; 21% for the Class of 2016; 21% for the Class of 2018; 17% for the Class of 2020; and 17% for the Class of 2022.

In a recent survey of Graduates, Class of 2022, conducted in 2024, respondents were employed in key industries, with postgraduates concentrated in the *Education* sector while undergraduates were spread among *Financial Intermediation*; *Health and Social Work*; and *Education* (Figure 5). Undergraduates were also more likely to be employed in the private sector than were postgraduates.

For the Survey of Employers of UWI Graduates, Class of 2022, employers reported being satisfied with the academic preparation of graduates, as well as their professional ethics; presentation skills; and ability to apply theory to practice. Despite their satisfaction with UWI graduates, employers suggested the need for graduates to sharpen their critical thinking, oral and communication skills and for administrators to consider an arts education master’s programme and, for students in international relations, courses in the art of diplomacy; diplomatic writing; and diplomatic negotiation techniques. These, the Mona Campus will improve upon through curricular and extra-curricular interventions.

Figure 5.

