

Academic Profile of Students

After years of continual growth in enrolment at The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, student enrolment has stabilized from a high of 19,170 students in 2019-20 to a baseline of 17,805 students in 2021-22. 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.

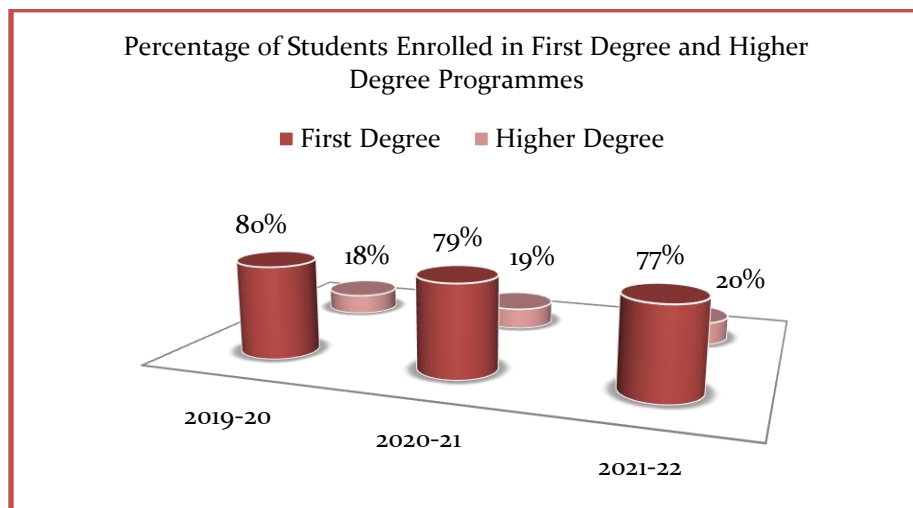
Table 1. Total Enrolment by Faculty

Faculty/Institute	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Engineering	277	331	322
Gender & Development Studies	95	93	76
Humanities & Education	2,585	2,591	2,446
Law	659	701	604
Medical Sciences	4,343	4,261	4,185
Science & Technology	3,187	3,179	3,004
Social Sciences	7,940	7,785	7,113
Sport	84	111	115
Total	19,170	19,052	17,865

While the larger faculties such as Medical Sciences, Science and Technology, and Social Sciences saw enrolment declines in 2021-22, the Faculty of Sport witnessed continued growth in enrolment in over the three-year period.

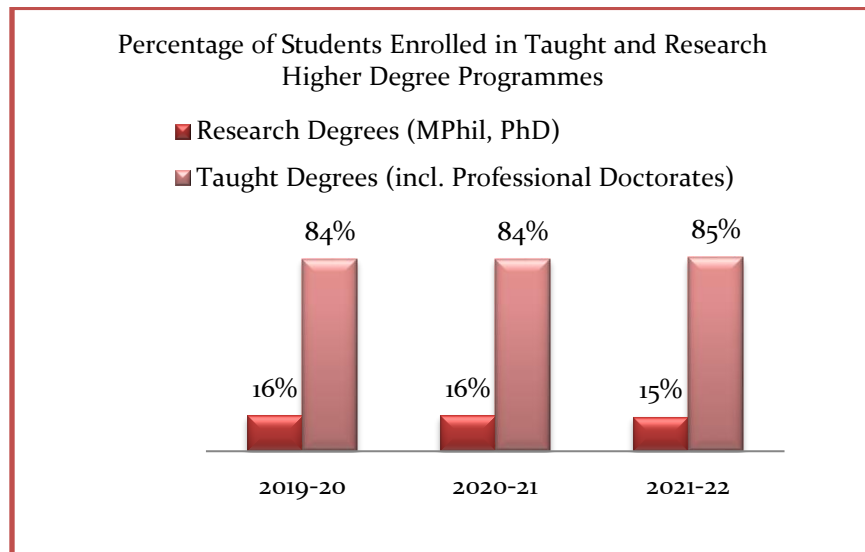
Most students are concentrated in First-degree programmes. Over the three-year period, First-degree programmes accounted for more than 75% of total student enrolment.

Figure 1.



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

Figure 2.



The Mona Campus will continue to address the need for increased enrolment in research programmes over the coming years.

Demand for a UWI Education

The University continues to attract thousands of applicants each year for a UWI education.

The number of persons applying for First-degree programmes was 8,244 in 2021-22, down from 9,431 in 2020-21.

In 2021-22, 48% of applicants received offers to their programme of first choice, while in 2020-21, 42% of applicants received offers to their programme of first choice. Of the applicants who accepted offers, approximately 78% enrolled in 2021-22 compared to 70% in 2020-21.

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

Faculty/Institute	Applied to 1st Choice	Offers to 1 st choice	2021-22		
			Multiple Offers	Acceptances	New Admissions
Engineering	339	157	508	170	66
Gender & Devel. Studies	20	3	203	14	4
Humanities & Education	568	296	2,473	359	305
Law	635	326	455	209	148
Medical Sciences	2,777	1,150	1,474	836	591
Science & Technology	1,181	293	2,944	1,014	795
Social Sciences	2,677	1,698	8,761	1,533	1,302
Sport	47	29	56	20	15
All	8,244	3,952	16,874 *(6,626)	4,155	3,226

Source: Applications and Admissions Report, August 19, 2022, MITS

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 1 st choice	2020-21		
			Multiple Offers	Acceptances	New Admissions
Engineering	403	188	520	258	102
Gender & Devel. Studies	10	6	230	39	17
Humanities & Education	782	401	3,502	600	404
Law	728	348	486	279	204
Medical Sciences	2,642	820	961	861	609
Science & Technology	1,304	312	3,135	1,291	896
Social Sciences	3,482	1,839	6,229	2,214	1,663
Sport	80	51	98	44	32
All	9,431	3,965	15,161 *(7,459)	5,586	3,927

Source: Applications and Admissions Report, August 20, 2021, MITS

Transfer applications excluded.

Includes On- and Off Campus

* unique applicants

-- not available

The majority of First degree entrants are less than 25 years of age. Over the three-year period, the percentage of First degree entrants aged 24 and under stood at 87% or greater.

Table 4. First Degree Entrants by Age Group

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
24 & Under	91%	88%	87%
25-34	7%	10%	10%
35-49	2%	3%	2%
50+	0%	0%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Performance 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 76% or higher over the three-year period (Table 5). The UWI retention rate in 2018-19 (84.3%) [not shown] compares favourably to a national rate of 80.5%¹ among four-year public institutions in the United States for the same academic year.

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

Faculty/Institute	2019-20 Cohort	2020-21 Cohort	2021-22 Cohort
Engineering	85.5%	85.0%	73.5%
Gender & Devel. Studies	64.3%	47.1%	75.0%
H&E: Educ.	75.5%	77.3%	66.7%
H&E: Hum.	74.8%	70.5%	72.4%
Law (3 yr prog.)	89.6%	83.3%	81.6%
Med. Sci.	92.6%	81.8%	80.6%
Sci. & Tech.	86.9%	78.3%	81.9%
Soc. Sci.	82.1%	76.7%	73.8%
Sport	64.7%	72.7%	80.0%
Total	84.2%	77.3%	76.2%

Recent data shows that 50% of First-degree entrants completed their programme in five years (Table 6). Above-average performances were seen in the Faculties of Law and Medical Sciences (BSc./MBBS) among the 2017 cohort.

¹ NCHEMS Information Center using NCES, IPEDS Enrollment Survey data. <http://www.higheredinfo.org> (accessed January 27, 2023).

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

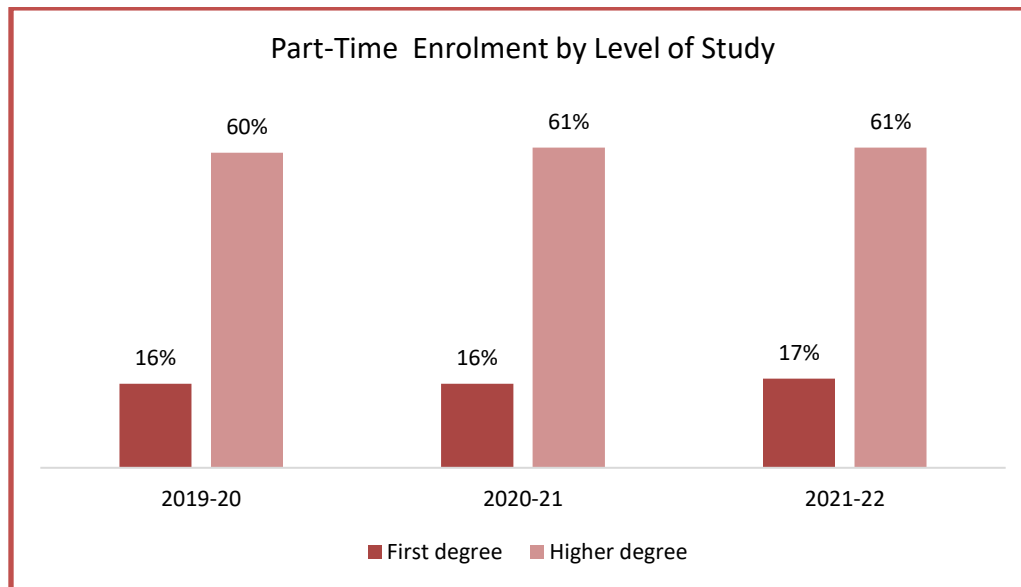
Faculty/School	2016	2017
	Entrants	Entrants
Gender & Development Studies (B.Sc.)	24.2	36.7
H&E: Education (B.Ed.)	33.7	36.2
H&E: Humanities (B.A.)	44.3	44.6
Law (LLB)	65.4	64.6
Medical Sciences (B.Sc.)	27.6	65.4
Medical Sciences (MBBS/DDS)	60.1	64.9
Science & Technology (B.Sc.)	36.5	46.7
Social Sciences (B.Sc.)	46.5	48.1
Total Average	42.0	50.0

Note: Includes full- and part-time students.

Among students who entered university in 2012 and graduated within five-to-six years, the graduation rates were 57% for The UWI, Mona and 58.6% among Bachelor degree entrants in the United States.² Comparable rates for 2016 and 2017 entrants are not available.

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.



² NCHEMS Information Center using NCES, IPEDS Graduation Survey data. <http://www.higheredinfo.org> (accessed January 27, 2023).

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 two-thirds of higher degree entrants complete their programme in five years. Completion rates are highest in Education, Social Sciences, and Medical Sciences.

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

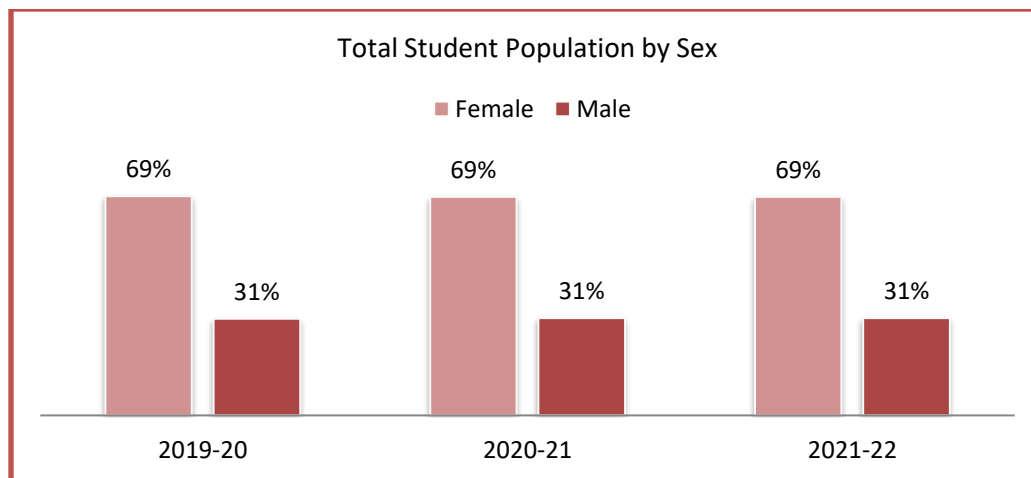
Faculty/School	2016 Entrants	2017 Entrants
Gender & Development Studies	33.3	83.4
H&E: Humanities	50.7	61.4
H&E: Education	86.0	85.7
Law	--	100.0
Medical Sciences	79.8	77.1
Science & Technology	28.5	59.3
Social Sciences	79.4	80.4
Total Average	72.5	76.4

Note: Includes full- and part-time students.

Student Characteristics

Administrators are cognizant 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 prides itself on being a regional institution. The establishment of a fourth Campus, The UWI Open Campus, which specializes in distance and blended forms of instruction, has witnessed significant growth in enrolment from the Caribbean countries since 2007-08.

Table 8. Total Enrolment by Country of Origin

Territory	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Jamaica	17,313	90.3	17,175	90.1	15,991	89.5
Contributing Countries Excluding Jamaica	1,632	8.5	1,635	8.6	1,599	9.0
Non-Contributing Countries	216	1.1	240	1.3	273	1.5
Not Reported	9	0.0	2	0.0	2	0.0
Total	19,170	100.0	19,052	100.0	17,865	100.0

At the Mona Campus, the number of students from contributing Caribbean countries and non-contributing countries has been on the rise since 2018-19 up to 2020-21. The Mona Campus has succeeded in attracting international students from regions such as the wider Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Europe, and North and South America.

Administrators plan to attract students from the world over in the upcoming years.

UWI Graduates

At November 2022, the Mona Campus graduated 4,085 students. This represented a -3% decline over 2021.

Table 9. Graduates by Programme

Programme	Graduates		
	2020	2021	2022
Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma	43	106	98
Undergraduate Certificate/Diploma	3	3	22
First Degree	2,754	3,179	3,044
Higher Degree	856	926	921
Total	3,656	4,214	4,085

Seventy-five per cent (75%) of graduates obtained First degrees, while 23% of graduates obtained higher degrees in 2022.

By faculty, Social Sciences accounted for 41% of all graduates followed by Medical Sciences (21%) and Humanities and Education (18%), respectively (Table 10).

Table 10. Graduates by Faculty

Faculty/Institute	Graduates		
	2020	2021	2022
Engineering	35	53	69
Gender & Development Studies	14	22	22
Humanities & Education	623	684	715
Law	193	188	179
Medical Sciences	626	909	855
Science & Technology	475	551	535
Social Sciences	1,688	1,804	1,689
Sport	2	3	21
Total	3,656	4,214	4,085

Among First degree graduates, 68% of students graduated with either Lower or Upper Second Class Honours in 2022 (Table 11). In comparison, 14% of students graduated with First Class Honours, while 18% of students obtained a Pass.

Table 11. First Degree Graduates by Class of Degree

Programme	2020	2021	2022
	% Distribution		
First Class Honours/Distinction	9	13	14
Upper Second Class Honours	32	40	41
Lower Second Class Honours	34	28	27
Third Class Honours (Eng)	0	0	0
Pass	26	19	18
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 No. of Grads Traced	2014 N=458	2016 N=425	2018 N=418	2020 N=358
% Employed	76.0	77.0	68.0	85.0
% Unemployed	24.0	23.0	32.0	15.0

Note: Graduates surveyed 1.5 years after graduation.

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

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
% Employed	78.0	73.0	87.0	94.0
% Unemployed	22.0	27.0	13.0	6.0

Note: Graduates surveyed 1.5 years after graduation.

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

In a recent survey of Graduates, Class of 2020, conducted in 2022, 55% of First-degree respondents were employed in professional occupations, while 12% were employed in technician and associate professional positions, and 17% in clerical jobs respectively. Among Higher-degree respondents, 20% were employed in managerial positions, 55% in professional occupations, 5% in technician and associate professional posts, and 4% in clerical jobs, respectively (Figure 5).

For the Employer Survey of UWI Graduates, Class of 2020, employers reported being satisfied with the academic preparation of graduates, as well as their problem-solving skills and knowledge of information technology. Despite their satisfaction with UWI graduates, employers suggested the need for graduates to obtain greater exposure to the following: internships, leadership training, ethical and professional standards, emotional intelligence and soft skills, and practical applications of knowledge. Teaching candidates should also be taught to write proper lesson plans while library courses needed to focus on emerging trends in a post-pandemic library environment as well as training in sign language to improve service delivery. These, the Mona Campus will improve upon through curricular and extra-curricular intervention.

Figure 5.

