

Data, Data Everywhere

Office of Research Administration
<https://www.lawrence.edu/info/offices/ora>

The Office of Research Administration compiles a variety of institutional data and information about Lawrence University. Publicly accessible data are posted to our [website](#), under [Institutional Data](#) and [Consumer Information](#).

Fast Facts

General facts about Appleton and Lawrence, including the current student body and faculty/staff, are available at [Fast Facts](#). This is updated each fall.

Lawrence Profile

The profile is a summary of Lawrence's history, academic calendar and programs, student enrollment, graduation, retention, admissions data, faculty and staff, financial aid, finances, and campus life. This is published each fall and can be found by selecting [Profiles & Fact Book](#) under Institutional Data.

Common Data Set Initiative

A collaborative effort between publishers
and the educational community

The Common Data Set (CDS) initiative is a collaborative effort among data providers in the higher education community and publishers as represented by the College Board, Peterson's, and U.S. News & World Report. The combined goal of this collaboration is to improve the quality and accuracy of information provided to all involved in a student's transition into higher education. Institutions annually submit data in the standard form of the CDS and have access to each other's data for comparative purposes. The CDS includes data on Enrollment and Persistence, Admissions, Academic Offerings and Policies, Student Life, Tuition and Fees, Financial Aid, Faculty and Class Size, and Degrees Conferred. This is typically completed by the end of November and is posted to Institutional Data and Information, under [Common Data Set](#).



IPEDS is a system of interrelated surveys conducted annually, which gathers information from every college, university, and technical and vocational institution in the United States and other jurisdictions (such as Puerto Rico) that participates in the federal student financial aid programs. IPEDS provides basic data needed to describe — and analyze trends in — postsecondary education in the United States, in terms of the numbers of students enrolled, staff employed, dollars expended, and degrees earned. The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, requires that institutions that participate in federal student aid programs report data on enrollments, program completions, graduation rates, faculty and staff, finances, institutional prices, and student financial aid. These data are made available to students and parents through the [College Navigator](#) college search and [College Affordability and Transparency Center](#) websites, and to researchers and others through the [IPEDS Data Center](#). Congress, federal agencies, state governments, education providers, professional associations, private businesses, media, students and parents, and others rely on IPEDS data for this basic information. IPEDS data are used at the federal and state level for policy analysis and development and at the institutional level for benchmarking and peer analysis.

IPEDS has several survey components including Institutional Characteristics, Admissions, Fall Enrollment, 12-Month Enrollment, Student Financial Aid, Finance, Completions, Graduation Rates, Graduation Rates 200%, Academic Libraries, and Human Resources.

Student Data

Data about student enrollment and diversity, retention, intercollegiate athletics, and other commonly requested data are posted to Institutional Data, specifically [Students](#), in fall and winter. Data sources include IPEDS and the Equity in Athletics Survey.

Faculty and Staff Data

The collection and reporting of gender and race/ethnicity data on the IPEDS Human Resources (HR) Survey component are mandatory for all institutions which receive, are applicants for, or expect to be applicants for Federal financial assistance. IPEDS collects and reports gender using a binary system (male and female). Data are typically reported in spring to IPEDS and then posted to [Faculty & Staff](#) under Institutional Data.

Peer Schools



The colleges and universities (left) constitute Lawrence's official peer group. This list is used whenever comparative data are needed for internal purposes. These particular colleges were selected to be similar to Lawrence in size and academic quality, and to represent various regions of the country. All are coeducational and most are members of the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium. See [Peer Schools](#) for links to individual institutions.

Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA)

HEOA includes many disclosure and reporting requirements, which are available on the [Consumer Information](#) page.

Survey Data

The Office of Research Administration handles the administration of numerous student surveys. Recurring national student surveys in which Lawrence participates include the [CIRP Freshman Survey \(TFS\)](#), [National Survey of Student Engagement \(NSSE\)](#), and National College Health Assessment (NCHA). In 2015, we participated in the [Higher Education Data Sharing \(HEDS\) Sexual Assault Campus Climate Survey](#), and we are doing so currently. Lawrence administers campus climate surveys as well as other ad hoc surveys to students. While some results are available to the general public, others may be restricted to certain constituents on campus.

A copy of the most recent staff climate survey presentation and summary are available on the [Human Resources](#) website.

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