

Harper College
Survey of Transfer Graduates
Comparison of Multiple Years, FY04 to FY06

Prepared by the Office of Research
Teaming to meet research needs of the College
June 1, 2007

The tables that follow track the results of the surveys of Transfer Graduates for FY04 through FY06. These tables will eventually show five-year trends when sufficient data is available. This version of the survey was first administered to FY04 graduates.

Table 1: Response Rates for Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06

	Total N	N Responding	Response Rate (%)
FY04	663	282	42.5%
FY05	711	372	52.3%
FY06	817	478	58.5%

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
1. What was your main objective in attending Harper College?				
Obtain skills needed for entry into new or different job	n	15	17	26
	%	5.3%	4.6%	5.5%
Improve skills needed in present job	n	7	3	4
	%	2.5%	0.8%	0.8%
Explore courses to decide on a career	n	22	38	35
	%	7.8%	10.3%	7.3%
Take coursework for transfer to another college	n	222	302	381
	%	79.0%	81.6%	79.9%
Personal interest or self-improvement	n	15	10	31
	%	5.3%	2.7%	6.5%
Number Responding	N	281	370	477
2. To what extent were you successful in achieving your educational objective?				
Very successful	n	198	270	379
	%	70.5%	72.8%	79.5%
Successful	n	71	74	71
	%	25.3%	19.9%	14.9%
Somewhat successful	n	10	24	25
	%	3.6%	6.5%	5.2%
Not at all successful	n	2	3	2
	%	0.7%	0.8%	0.4%
Number Responding	N	281	371	477
3. Please rate how your education at Harper College helped you in each of the following areas:				
Ability to verbally communicate effectively				
Extremely helpful	n	136	191	275
	%	48.7%	51.5%	57.9%
Helpful	n	133	171	170
	%	47.7%	46.1%	35.8%
Not very helpful	n	9	8	22
	%	3.2%	2.2%	4.6%
Not helpful at all	n	1	1	8
	%	0.4%	0.3%	1.7%
Number responding	N	279	371	475
Ability to communicate in writing effectively				
Extremely helpful	n	129	189	263
	%	46.4%	50.9%	55.4%
Helpful	n	135	163	175
	%	48.6%	43.9%	36.8%
Not very helpful	n	11	15	33
	%	4.0%	4.0%	6.9%
Not helpful at all	n	3	4	4
	%	1.1%	1.1%	0.8%
Number responding	N	278	371	475

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
3. Please rate how your education at Harper College helped you in each of the following areas:				
Ability to understand scientific concepts				
Extremely helpful	n	94	151	223
	%	34.6%	40.9%	47.4%
Helpful	n	141	165	169
	%	51.8%	44.7%	36.0%
Not very helpful	n	28	45	68
	%	10.3%	12.2%	14.5%
Not helpful at all	n	9	8	10
	%	3.3%	2.2%	2.1%
Number responding	N	272	369	470
Ability to explain and apply the scientific method				
Extremely helpful	n	97	147	189
	%	36.1%	39.9%	40.1%
Helpful	n	130	166	194
	%	48.3%	45.1%	41.2%
Not very helpful	n	29	45	73
	%	10.8%	12.2%	15.5%
Not helpful at all	n	13	10	15
	%	4.8%	2.7%	3.2%
Number responding	N	269	368	471
Ability to appreciate other points of view				
Extremely helpful	n	158	225	330
	%	56.8%	60.8%	69.0%
Helpful	n	108	127	121
	%	38.8%	34.3%	25.3%
Not very helpful	n	9	14	24
	%	3.2%	3.8%	5.0%
Not helpful at all	n	3	4	3
	%	1.1%	1.1%	0.6%
Number responding	N	278	370	478
Ability to appreciate diversity and other cultures				
Extremely helpful	n	161	238	319
	%	57.9%	64.5%	67.0%
Helpful	n	95	113	116
	%	34.2%	30.6%	24.4%
Not very helpful	n	14	15	33
	%	5.0%	4.1%	6.9%
Not helpful at all	n	8	3	8
	%	2.9%	0.8%	1.7%
Number responding	N	278	369	476

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
3. Please rate how your education at Harper College helped you in each of the following areas:				
Ability to identify, develop, and solve quantitative problems				
Extremely helpful	n	99	154	218
	%	36.0%	41.7%	46.4%
Helpful	n	147	177	192
	%	53.5%	48.0%	40.9%
Not very helpful	n	20	32	50
	%	7.3%	8.7%	10.6%
Not helpful at all	n	9	6	10
	%	3.3%	1.6%	2.1%
Number responding	N	275	369	470
Ability to use computers and technology				
Extremely helpful	n	105	170	241
	%	40.1%	46.6%	51.3%
Helpful	n	116	135	141
	%	44.3%	37.0%	30.0%
Not very helpful	n	28	49	61
	%	10.7%	13.4%	13.0%
Not helpful at all	n	13	11	27
	%	5.0%	3.0%	5.7%
Number responding	N	262	365	470
4. Please rate the instruction at Harper College in each of the following:				
Class size				
Excellent	n	164	218	291
	%	58.6%	58.9%	61.4%
Good	n	92	124	153
	%	32.9%	33.5%	32.3%
Average	n	24	25	29
	%	8.6%	6.8%	6.1%
Poor	n	0	3	1
	%	0.0%	0.8%	0.2%
Number responding	N	280	370	474
Quality of instruction				
Excellent	n	169	187	246
	%	59.9%	50.4%	51.8%
Good	n	98	149	194
	%	34.8%	40.2%	40.8%
Average	n	14	33	33
	%	5.0%	8.9%	6.9%
Poor	n	1	2	2
	%	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%
Number responding	N	282	371	475

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
4. Please rate the instruction at Harper College in each of the following:				
Course content				
Excellent	n	145	177	239
	%	51.4%	47.7%	50.1%
Good	n	123	158	213
	%	43.6%	42.6%	44.7%
Average	n	13	36	24
	%	4.6%	9.7%	5.0%
Poor	n	1	0	1
	%	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%
Number responding	N	282	371	477
Fairness of grading				
Excellent	n	163	200	268
	%	57.8%	54.2%	56.2%
Good	n	97	137	177
	%	34.4%	37.1%	37.1%
Average	n	20	31	30
	%	7.1%	8.4%	6.3%
Poor	n	2	1	2
	%	0.7%	0.3%	0.4%
Number responding	N	282	369	477
Faculty teaching ability				
Excellent	n	170	197	252
	%	60.3%	53.1%	53.1%
Good	n	90	141	198
	%	33.7%	38.0%	41.7%
Average	n	20	30	24
	%	7.1%	8.1%	5.1%
Poor	n	4	3	1
	%	1.4%	0.8%	0.2%
Number responding	N	2882	371	475
Faculty concern for students				
Excellent	n	167	200	254
	%	59.4%	54.1%	53.4%
Good	n	90	128	183
	%	32.0%	34.6%	38.4%
Average	n	20	40	36
	%	7.1%	10.8%	7.6%
Poor	n	4	2	3
	%	1.4%	0.5%	0.6%
Number responding	N	281	370	476

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
4. Please rate the instruction at Harper College in each of the following:				
Faculty availability				
Excellent	n	172	207	255
	%	61.6%	56.3%	53.9%
Good	n	85	118	166
	%	30.5%	32.1%	35.1%
Average	n	21	39	51
	%	7.5%	10.6%	10.8%
Poor	n	1	4	1
	%	0.4%	1.1%	0.2%
Number responding	N	279	368	473
5. Please rate your satisfaction with each office or service listed:				
Financial Aid services				
Very satisfied	n	53	70	99
	%	60.9%	46.7%	61.5%
Satisfied	n	21	60	39
	%	24.1%	40.0%	24.2%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	10	12	15
	%	11.5%	8.0%	9.3%
Very dissatisfied	n	3	8	8
	%	3.4%	5.3%	5.0%
Did not use	n	195	221	315
Number responding	N	87	150	161
Academic advising				
Very satisfied	n	133	144	253
	%	55.6%	43.5%	60.0%
Satisfied	n	69	124	114
	%	28.9%	37.5%	27.0%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	26	39	41
	%	10.9%	11.8%	9.7%
Very dissatisfied	n	11	24	14
	%	4.6%	7.3%	3.3%
Did not use	n	42	40	54
Number responding	N	239	331	422

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
5. Please rate your satisfaction with each office or service listed:				
Career planning				
Very satisfied	n	60	82	86
	%	41.4%	39.2%	40.4%
Satisfied	n	59	95	79
	%	40.7%	45.5%	37.1%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	20	23	41
	%	13.8%	11.0%	19.2%
Very dissatisfied	n	6	9	7
	%	4.1%	4.3%	3.3%
Did not use	n	137	163	263
Number responding	N	145	209	213
College transfer planning				
Very satisfied	n	106	112	170
	%	53.8%	42.6%	51.8%
Satisfied	n	69	109	110
	%	35.0%	41.4%	33.5%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	12	25	40
	%	6.1%	9.5%	12.2%
Very dissatisfied	n	10	17	8
	%	5.1%	6.5%	2.4%
Did not use	n	85	109	150
Number responding	N	197	263	328
Counseling				
Very satisfied	n	83	106	163
	%	48.3%	45.3%	53.6%
Satisfied	n	63	99	101
	%	36.6%	42.3%	33.2%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	21	16	32
	%	12.2%	6.8%	10.5%
Very dissatisfied	n	5	13	8
	%	2.9%	5.6%	2.6%
Did not use	n	110	137	173
Number responding	N	172	234	304
Tutoring				
Very satisfied	n	77	103	146
	%	58.8%	53.4%	62.7%
Satisfied	n	49	67	69
	%	37.4%	34.7%	29.6%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	4	19	11
	%	3.1%	9.8%	4.7%
Very dissatisfied	n	1	4	7
	%	0.8%	2.1%	3.0%
Did not use	n	150	179	244
Number responding	N	131	193	233

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
5. Please rate your satisfaction with each office or service listed:				
Library/audio visual services				
Very satisfied	n	151	165	267
	%	68.9%	55.7%	65.9%
Satisfied	n	57	119	124
	%	26.0%	40.2%	30.6%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	6	10	13
	%	2.7%	3.4%	3.2%
Very dissatisfied	n	5	2	1
	%	2.3%	0.7%	0.2%
Did not use	n	63	76	71
Number responding	N	219	296	405
Student activities				
Very satisfied	n	65	73	113
	%	50.8%	42.4%	53.3%
Satisfied	n	51	86	79
	%	39.8%	50.0%	37.3%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	7	10	16
	%	5.5%	5.8%	7.5%
Very dissatisfied	n	5	3	4
	%	3.9%	1.7%	1.9%
Did not use	n	154	200	265
Number responding	N	128	172	212
Registration procedures				
Very satisfied	n	167	196	284
	%	60.5%	52.8%	60.7%
Satisfied	n	85	144	148
	%	30.8%	38.8%	31.6%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	19	23	32
	%	6.9%	6.2%	6.8%
Very dissatisfied	n	5	8	4
	%	1.8%	2.2%	0.9%
Did not use	n	4	1	9
Number responding	N	276	371	468
Access for disabled on campus				
Very satisfied	n	49	69	94
	%	57.0%	54.3%	67.1%
Satisfied	n	35	51	39
	%	40.7%	40.2%	27.9%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	1	4	5
	%	1.2%	3.1%	3.6%
Very dissatisfied	n	1	3	2
	%	1.2%	2.4%	1.4%
Did not use	n	196	241	336
Number responding	N	86	127	140

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
5. Please rate your satisfaction with each office or service listed:				
Availability of computers for out-of-class use				
Very satisfied	n	152	198	293
	%	66.7%	65.6%	71.5%
Satisfied	n	68	84	90
	%	29.8%	27.8%	22.0%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	5	16	23
	%	2.2%	5.3%	5.6%
Very dissatisfied	n	3	4	4
	%	1.3%	1.3%	1.0%
Did not use	n	53	70	67
Number responding	N	228	302	410
Career Center				
Very satisfied	n	76	102	144
	%	56.3%	51.0%	65.8%
Satisfied	n	49	85	68
	%	36.3%	42.5%	31.1%
Somewhat dissatisfied	n	7	12	7
	%	5.2%	6.0%	3.2%
Very dissatisfied	n	3	1	0
	%	2.2%	0.5%	0.0%
Did not use	n	147	172	258
Number responding	N	135	200	219
6. Please rate the location of the courses taken in terms of convenience:				
Harper main campus in Palatine				
Very convenient	n	192	274	380
	%	68.1%	73.9%	79.7%
Convenient	n	83	93	92
	%	29.4%	25.1%	19.3%
Not convenient	n	7	4	5
	%	2.5%	1.1%	1.0%
Number responding	N	282	371	477
Northeast Center in Wheeling				
Very convenient	n	15	22	43
	%	41.7%	45.8%	44.8%
Convenient	n	15	11	31
	%	41.7%	22.9%	32.3%
Not convenient	n	6	15	22
	%	16.7%	31.3%	22.9%
Number responding	N	36	48	96

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
6. Please rate the location of the courses taken in terms of convenience:				
WEB or Internet based from home or office				
Very convenient	n	28	64	115
	%	62.2%	69.6%	62.2%
Convenient	n	15	25	60
	%	33.3%	27.2%	32.4%
Not convenient	n	2	3	10
	%	4.4%	3.3%	5.4%
Number responding	N	45	92	185
Harper Professional Center in Schaumburg				
Very convenient	n	2	11	16
	%	33.3%	55.0%	40.0%
Convenient	n	4	9	19
	%	66.7%	45.0%	47.5%
Not convenient	n	0	0	5
	%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%
Number responding	N	6	20	40
Other				
Very convenient	n	4	1	2
	%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
Convenient	n	0	0	0
	%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Not convenient	n	4	1	0
	%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%
Number responding	N	8	2	2
7. Which of the following best describes your current educational status?				
Full-time student, 12 credit hours or more	n	177	238	309
	%	62.8%	64.2%	64.6%
Part-time student	n	32	55	53
	%	11.3%	14.8%	11.1%
Not currently enrolled – plan to enroll at a later date	n	52	51	80
	%	18.4%	13.7%	16.7%
Not currently enrolled – no plans to enroll	n	21	27	36
	%	7.4%	7.3%	7.5%
Number responding	N	282	371	478

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
8. Which institution do you currently attend?				
Columbia College in Chicago	n	2	8	13
	%	1.0%	2.7%	3.6%
DePaul University	n	14	19	20
	%	6.8%	6.5%	5.5%
Elmhurst College	n	12	6	12
	%	5.8%	2.1%	3.3%
Illinois State University	n	12	24	25
	%	5.8%	8.2%	6.9%
Northeastern Illinois University	n	21	28	34
	%	10.2%	9.6%	9.4%
Northern Illinois University	n	42	37	56
	%	20.4%	12.7%	15.5%
Roosevelt University	n	24	32	38
	%	11.7%	11.0%	10.5%
University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana	n	4	9	11
	%	1.9%	3.1%	3.0%
University of Illinois at Chicago	n	10	15	31
	%	4.9%	5.2%	8.6%
Harper College	n	22	37	27
	%	10.7%	12.7%	7.5%
Other	n	42	76	95
	%	20.4%	26.1%	26.2%
Number responding	N	206	291	362
9. What is your current major/course of study? (open-ended question; see Appendices of individual reports)				
		n/a	n/a	n/a
10. How would you describe your current major?				
Same as my Harper major	n	59	93	91
	%	29.2%	31.8%	25.3%
Related to my Harper major	n	86	111	169
	%	42.6%	38.0%	47.1%
Entirely new area	n	57	88	99
	%	28.2%	30.1%	27.6%
Number responding	N	202	292	359
11. Did all of your Harper credits transfer to your current institution?				
Yes	n	151	193	249
	%	79.1%	74.2%	72.8%
No	n	40	67	93
	%	20.9%	25.8%	27.2%
Number responding	N	191	260	342

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
12. What was the main reason why some credits did not transfer?				
Some credits would transfer as elective only	n	20	22	27
	%	50.0%	32.8%	28.4%
Entirely new field of study at transfer institution	n	2	14	12
	%	5.0%	20.9%	12.6%
Grades were not high enough to earn transfer credits	n	1	3	2
	%	2.5%	4.5%	2.1%
Other	n	17	28	54
	%	42.5%	41.8%	56.8%
Number responding	N	40	67	95
13. What is the highest degree you plan to earn?				
Bachelor's Degree	n	108	127	198
	%	43.0%	37.6%	46.4%
Master's Degree	n	121	155	187
	%	48.2%	45.9%	43.8%
Doctorate Degree	n	19	41	29
	%	7.6%	12.1%	6.8%
Professional Degree	n	3	15	13
	%	1.2%	4.4%	3.0%
Number responding	N	251	338	427
14. Have you taken additional courses at Harper since receiving your degree or certificate?				
Yes	n	52	93	100
	%	18.6%	25.1%	21.1%
No	n	227	278	374
	%	81.4%	74.9%	78.9%
Number responding	N	279	371	474
15. What type of courses have you taken?				
Credit courses	n	47	90	99
	%	94.0%	92.8%	99.0%
Continuing Education courses (non-credit)	n	3	7	7
	%	6.0%	7.2%	7.0%
Number responding	N	50	97	100
16. How would you rate your Harper education in terms of how well it prepared you for continuing your education?				
Excellent	n	174	206	256
	%	63.5%	55.5%	54.0%
Good	n	82	126	177
	%	29.9%	34.0%	37.3%
Average	n	17	35	37
	%	6.2%	9.4%	7.8%
Poor	n	0	3	4
	%	0.0%	0.8%	0.8%
Very poor	n	1	1	0
	%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%
Number responding	N	274	371	474

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
17. What is your present employment status?				
Employed full-time – 30 or more hours per week	n	113	126	173
	%	40.2%	34.0%	37.4%
Employed part-time – less than 30 hours per week	n	105	148	176
	%	37.4%	39.9%	38.0%
Full-time military service	n	0	1	0
	%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
Unemployed, seeking employment	n	21	18	32
	%	7.5%	4.9%	6.9%
Unemployed, not seeking employment		42	78	82
		14.9%	21.0%	17.7%
Number responding	N	281	371	463
17e. If unemployed and not seeking employment, mark one reason below.				
Full-time student	n	32	73	96
	%	78.0%	84.9%	93.2%
Full-time homemaker	n	4	3	1
	%	9.8%	3.5%	1.0%
Health disability	n	1	1	1
	%	2.4%	1.2%	1.0%
Family responsibilities	n	1	3	0
	%	2.4%	3.5%	0.0%
Other	n	3	6	5
	%	7.3%	7.0%	4.9%
Number responding	N	41	86	103
18. As a result of my experiences at Harper, I have a better appreciation for diversity and different cultures and values.^a				
Definitely yes	n			190
	%	n/a	n/a	39.9%
Yes	n			233
	%	n/a	n/a	48.9%
No	n			48
	%	n/a	n/a	10.1%
Definitely no	n			5
	%	n/a	n/a	1.1%
Number responding	N	n/a	n/a	476
19. Would you recommend Harper to your friends and family?				
Definitely yes	n	248	314	407
	%	87.9%	84.4%	85.1%
Yes	n	30	54	69
	%	10.6%	14.5%	14.4%
No	n	2	2	2
	%	0.7%	0.5%	0.4%
Definitely no	n	2	2	0
	%	0.7%	0.5%	0.0%
Number responding	N	282	372	478

^a This question was added to the survey beginning with FY06 graduates.

Table 2: Responses to Survey of Transfer Graduates, FY04 to FY06, continued

Question Text		FY04	FY05	FY06
20. Would you return to Harper for educational enrichment courses in the near future?				
Definitely yes	n	206	259	293
	%	74.1%	70.0%	61.4%
Yes	n	55	79	132
	%	19.8%	21.4%	27.7%
No	n	11	23	43
	%	4.0%	6.2%	9.0%
Definitely no	n	6	9	9
	%	2.2%	2.4%	1.9%
Number responding	N	278	370	477