

Quality Indicators in OUS

The quality-related indicators displayed below—freshman persistence, bachelor’s completion, graduate satisfaction, sponsored research, and philanthropic support—reflect widely used measures of quality and accountability. They were selected in 1997 following passage of Senate Bill 919, which directed OUS to develop performance measures related to the goals of access, quality, employability, and cost-effectiveness. They were developed in consultation with OUS presidents and provosts.

The additional student-faculty ratio indicator is a measure of the qualitative impact of enrollment demand and funding. To the extent that increases in the ratio are accompanied by increases in the other quality measures, the ratio presents a productivity measure. However, an increase in the ratio along with flat or declining trends in the other measures may signal a level of stress on the academic programs of OUS.

| | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-00 | 2000-01 | 2001-02 |
|--|----------|---------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Freshman persistence ¹ | 76.8% | 77.7% | 79.1% | 77.9% | 79.7% | 80.3% |
| Bachelor’s completion ² | 54.9% | 52.7% | 52.8% | 55.1% | 55.5% | 54.1% |
| Quality rating by recent graduates ³ | | | | | | |
| “Very Good” or “Excellent” | 62.1% | Not available | Not available | 79.9% | 79.8% | Not available |
| Mean rating | 3.7 | Not available | Not available | 4.0 | 4.0 | Not available |
| Sponsored research & other programs ⁴ | | | | | | |
| Total dollars, all OUS (millions) | \$173.4 | \$174.8 | \$192.0 | \$203.1 | \$221.7 | \$238.4 |
| \$ per faculty, large univs (actual) | \$87,122 | \$87,526 | \$97,926 | \$104,960 | \$106,824 | \$113,369 |
| \$ per faculty, large univs (CPI-adj) | \$87,122 | \$85,955 | \$93,104 | \$96,764 | \$96,107 | \$100,779 |
| Philanthropic support (millions) | \$488.7 | \$625.8 | \$640.7 | \$742.0 | \$771.7 | \$767.1 |
| Student-faculty ratios ⁵ | 23.4 | 23.4 | 24.1 | 24.5 | 24.3 | 25.3 |

¹ Proportion of first-time, full-time freshmen entering an OUS institution and persisting to the second year in any OUS institution.

² Proportion of first-time, full-time freshmen entering an OUS institution and graduating from any OUS institution within six years.

³ Percents reflect proportion of recent bachelor’s graduates who rate their educational experience as either “very good” or “excellent.” Rating scores reflect weighted scores for OUS on a five-point scale, ranging from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent).

⁴ Includes annualized restricted fund expenditures for sponsored research, teaching/training grants, student services grants, library grants and similar support, but excludes student financial aid.

⁵ The ratio of fall FTE enrollment to full-time faculty headcount, as reported on IPEDS to the National Center for Education Statistics. The ratio for fall 2002 is 25.9.