

Examining the University of Regina Student Experience Activities and Commitment to Completion

Completed in Spring 2017, the *2017 CUSC Middle Years Student Survey* focused on undergraduate students who had earned between 25 and 101 credits at the time of the survey. The survey was distributed to over 56,000 students at 24 universities across Canada. In total, 15,248 students from across Canada completed the survey, including 1,065 from the University of Regina.

This report focuses on the University of Regina’s middle-years students, comparing them to students nationally and to students attending institutions comparable to the University of Regina (see final page for a listing). Where possible, this report also compares results with the 2014 CUSC Middle Years Survey and the 2011 and 2008 CUSC All Undergraduates surveys. Unless stated otherwise, all differences reported are not statistically significant.

This third report in a series of six explores student involvement in campus and volunteer activities, their study patterns, and the commitment to completion by middle years students who completed the survey.

Activities

The middle-years students who reported attended various campus activities often or very often. Overall:

- At the University of Regina, participation (often or very often) ranged from 15% who *participated in on-campus student recreational and sport programs* to 7% who *attended public lectures and guest speakers on campus* (1% very often). 62% of the students at least occasionally *attended campus social events*.
- Student involvement in campus activities at the national level ranged from 23% who often or very often *participated in student clubs* (10% very often) to 7% who *attended campus cultural events* (2% very often). 62% of the students at least occasionally *attended campus social events*.
- At comparable universities, participation ranged from 22% who *participated in student clubs* to 7% who *attended campus cultural events*. 62% of the students at least occasionally *attended campus social events*.

Involvement in campus activities (% often or very often)	National (n=15,248)	Comparable universities (n=7,365)	University of Regina		
			2017 (n=1,065)	2014 (n=941)	2011 (n=434)
Participated in student clubs	23%	22%	13%	14%	11%
Participated in on-campus student recreational and sport programs	17%	18%	15%	18%	16%
Attended campus social events	13%	12%	9%	10%	14%
Attended home games of university athletic teams	10%	10%	10%	9%	9%
Participated in student government	10%	10%	8%	7%	7%
Attended public lectures and guest speakers on campus	8%	7%	7%	8%	21%
Attended campus cultural events	7%	7%	8%	9%	16%

Overall, just over half (51%) of University of Regina middle-years students volunteered at least occasionally on or off campus, including 24% who often or very often *participated in community service or volunteer activities*.

During an average week, middle-years students at the University of Regina spent about 3.7 hours on average engaged in community service or volunteer activities, less than students nationally (4.3 hours per week, on average) and at comparable universities (4.2 hours per week, on average).

Involvement in community service/volunteer activities (% often or very often)	National (n=15,248)	Comparable universities (n=7,365)	University of Regina		
			2017 (n=1,065)	2014 (n=941)	2011 (n=434)
Participated in on/off-campus community service/volunteer activities	24%	23%	24%	25%	24%
Participated in off-campus community service/volunteer activities	18%	18%	19%	20%	18%
Participated in on campus community service/volunteer activities	12%	12%	10%	13%	9%
Average hours (those who participated)	4.3	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.7

Study patterns

On average, middle-years students at the University of Regina reported spending about 30 hours on their academic work, split between time spent in classes and labs (14.2 hours per week, on average) and outside of classes and labs (15.8 hours per week, on average).

Nationally, 41% of middle-years students who responded to the survey said they spent 10 hours or fewer per week on academic work outside of classes and labs, compared to 44% at the University of Regina and 42% at comparable universities.

Study patterns	National (n=15,248)	Comparable universities (n=7,365)	University of Regina			
			2017 (n=1,065)	2014 (n=941)	2011 (n=434)	2008 (n=356)
Average number of hours spent in scheduled classes and labs	15.0	14.8	14.2	14.2	13.0	14.0
Average number of hours spent on academic work outside of classes and labs	16.8	16.4	15.8	14.6	13.4	15.8

On average, the lower the student's university grade, the less time they spent on academic activities outside of class.

Hours spent on academic work outside of class	National (n=15,248)	Comparable universities (n=7,365)	University of Regina (n=1,065)
Overall average grade:			
A (includes A+, A and A-)	19.5	19.3	19.7
B (includes B+, B and B-)	16.1	15.5	15.1
C (includes C+, C and C-)	15.0	14.9	14.4

Commitment to completion

Many middle-years students at the University of Regina (88%) agree that they *plan to come back to this university next year*, compared to 90% at the national level and 93% at comparable universities.

Results on whether University of Regina students *plan to complete their degree at this university* are similar to whether they plan to return next year (89%), compared to 92% at the national level and 93% at comparable universities.

About 6 in 10 middle-years students at the University of Regina agree that they *have the financial resources to complete their program*, including 20% who strongly agree. Conversely, about 3 in 10 disagree that they have the financial resources, including 9% who strongly disagree.

About 2 in 3 middle-years students who responded to the survey nationally agree that *a university degree is worth the cost*, including 26% who strongly agreed. About 1 in 4 disagrees, including 7% who strongly disagree.

Results are shown in the following table:

Commitment to completion	National (n=15,248)	Comparable universities (n=7,365)	University of Regina	
			2017 (n=1,065)	2014 (n=941)
Plan to come back to this university next year				
Strongly agree	54%	55%	49%	52%
Agree	36%	38%	39%	36%
Disagree	3%	2%	3%	3%
Strongly disagree	2%	1%	3%	2%
Don't know	5%	4%	6%	7%
Plan to complete my degree at this university				
Strongly agree	63%	62%	55%	60%
Agree	29%	31%	34%	28%
Disagree	2%	2%	1%	2%
Strongly disagree	1%	1%	2%	2%
Don't know	5%	5%	7%	8%
I have the financial resources to complete my program				
Strongly agree	25%	24%	20%	20%
Agree	46%	46%	43%	46%
Disagree	17%	18%	21%	18%
Strongly disagree	6%	7%	9%	9%
Don't know	5%	5%	6%	6%
A university degree is worth the cost				
Strongly agree	26%	23%	22%	26%
Agree	39%	38%	37%	36%
Disagree	17%	19%	19%	18%
Strongly disagree	7%	8%	10%	9%
Don't know	11%	12%	12%	10%

About CUSC

The 2017 CUSC survey is the 23rd cooperative study undertaken by the *Canadian University Survey Consortium / Consortium canadien de recherche sur les étudiants universitaires* (CUSC/CCREU) and the 18th study in which the University of Regina has participated. Prior to 2014, the surveys ran in a three-year cycle, targeting first year, graduating, and all undergraduate students in separate years. In 2014, the All Undergraduate student survey was changed to a survey of Middle-Years students (i.e., students in the second or third year of a four-year program, second year of a three-year program, or second to fourth year of a five-year program, or, as in the case of the University of Regina, students who have earned between 25 and 101 credits).

The 2017 survey was directed to middle-years students; this report compares results to the previous surveys conducted in 2014, 2011 and 2008. The 2017 survey involved 24 participating universities and over 15,000 students from across Canada, yielding an overall response rate of 27.2%. Participating students from the University of Regina numbered 1,065, representing a 35.5% rate of response.

University comparisons

For comparison purposes, CUSC categorizes the participating universities into three groups:

- Group 1 consists of universities that offer primarily undergraduate studies and have smaller student populations
- Group 2 consists of universities that offer both undergraduate and graduate studies and tend to be of medium size in terms of student population.
- Group 3 consists of universities that offer both undergraduate and graduate degrees, with most having professional schools as well. These tend to be the largest institutions in terms of student population.

The University of Regina is included in Group 2. In 2017, eight Group 2 universities participated in the survey. Along with the University of Regina, they included Carleton, Simon Fraser, Thompson Rivers, Moncton, New Brunswick (Fredericton), Victoria, and Wilfred Laurier.

Statistically significant differences

In order to term an association as statistically significant, the Pearson's chi-square must have probability of a type 1 error of less than .001 and either the Phi coefficient or Cramer's V must have a value of .150 or greater.

Non-response

Non-responses have not been included in the analysis. Therefore, throughout this report, unless explicitly stated as a subpopulation, overall results do not include those who did not respond to a particular question. However, for questions where "don't know" is a valid response, overall results include those who selected "don't know" to a particular question.

Note: Tables in this report might not add up to one hundred percent due to rounding errors and/or because some categories (such as "Other") are not reflected in the table.

For more information about CUSC/CCREU, visit the website at www.cusc-ccreu.ca.