



# PROFILE

## Enrollments by Family Income at UW System Institutions

This document provides data on the family income distribution of Wisconsin ACT test takers and their enrollment at UW System institutions. The family incomes of Wisconsin ACT test takers, self-reported when they take the ACT, are compared against the income quintiles of all Wisconsin families. Test takers in each high school graduating class are matched with enrolled new freshmen in the following fall semester in the UW System. For example, test takers graduating from high school in 2000 are matched with fall semester enrollments of the 2000-01 academic year.

Since family income data is taken from the ACT examination, the population examined here differs slightly from the population of all resident new freshmen in the UW System. As a result, numbers and proportions reported for Wisconsin ACT test takers may differ from those of all resident new freshmen. See the Technical Notes for more details.

### Wisconsin

Wisconsin ACT Test Takers

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 6,519    | 19.5  | 5,928    | 17.1  | 5,968    | 16.5  | 5,879    | 15.6  | 5,257    | 14.0  | 5,950    | 15.5  | 6,351    | 18.1  |
| Low-Medium                       | 8,224    | 24.5  | 8,330    | 24.0  | 8,332    | 23.0  | 8,498    | 22.5  | 7,619    | 20.3  | 8,177    | 21.3  | 7,842    | 22.3  |
| Medium                           | 7,363    | 22.0  | 7,934    | 22.8  | 9,066    | 25.0  | 9,061    | 24.0  | 8,752    | 23.4  | 8,882    | 23.1  | 7,884    | 22.4  |
| Medium-High                      | 5,923    | 17.7  | 6,420    | 18.5  | 7,321    | 20.2  | 7,908    | 20.9  | 8,530    | 22.8  | 8,444    | 22.0  | 7,609    | 21.7  |
| Highest                          | 5,487    | 16.4  | 6,123    | 17.6  | 5,535    | 15.3  | 6,448    | 17.1  | 7,303    | 19.5  | 7,014    | 18.2  | 5,444    | 15.5  |
| All Quintiles                    | 33,516   | 100.0 | 34,736   | 100.0 | 36,222   | 100.0 | 37,795   | 100.0 | 37,462   | 100.0 | 38,469   | 100.0 | 35,131   | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$39,000 |       | \$44,000 |       | \$49,000 |       | \$53,000 |       | \$56,000 |       | \$57,000 |       | \$59,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., and US Census Bureau.

### UW System

UW System: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 2,357    | 15.8  | 2,226    | 13.7  | 2,426    | 13.7  | 2,234    | 12.6  | 1,959    | 11.1  | 2,185    | 12.3  | 2,311    | 14.5  |
| Low-Medium                       | 3,416    | 22.8  | 3,711    | 22.8  | 3,859    | 21.8  | 3,796    | 21.5  | 3,249    | 18.3  | 3,482    | 19.6  | 3,411    | 21.4  |
| Medium                           | 3,464    | 23.1  | 3,879    | 23.9  | 4,695    | 26.6  | 4,405    | 24.9  | 4,340    | 24.5  | 4,350    | 24.5  | 3,831    | 24.0  |
| Medium-High                      | 3,022    | 20.2  | 3,303    | 20.3  | 3,964    | 22.4  | 4,117    | 23.3  | 4,496    | 25.4  | 4,361    | 24.5  | 3,855    | 24.2  |
| Highest                          | 2,708    | 18.1  | 3,131    | 19.3  | 2,727    | 15.4  | 3,116    | 17.6  | 3,667    | 20.7  | 3,406    | 19.2  | 2,547    | 16.0  |
| All Quintiles                    | 14,966   | 100.0 | 16,249   | 100.0 | 17,670   | 100.0 | 17,668   | 100.0 | 17,711   | 100.0 | 17,784   | 100.0 | 15,956   | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$42,000 |       | \$47,000 |       | \$51,000 |       | \$55,000 |       | \$59,000 |       | \$60,000 |       | \$62,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

## UW Institutions

### UW-Eau Claire: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 205      | 14.2  | 176      | 13.6  | 176      | 12.8  | 133      | 10.1  | 91       | 7.3   | 95       | 7.7   | 117      | 10.5  |
| Low-Medium                       | 318      | 22.1  | 284      | 22.0  | 313      | 22.6  | 275      | 20.9  | 217      | 17.6  | 237      | 19.1  | 243      | 21.8  |
| Medium                           | 330      | 22.9  | 301      | 23.3  | 333      | 24.1  | 335      | 25.4  | 311      | 25.1  | 324      | 26.2  | 291      | 26.1  |
| Medium-High                      | 299      | 20.7  | 256      | 19.8  | 302      | 21.8  | 324      | 24.6  | 330      | 26.7  | 331      | 26.7  | 269      | 24.2  |
| Highest                          | 289      | 20.1  | 276      | 21.3  | 259      | 18.7  | 251      | 19.0  | 287      | 23.3  | 252      | 20.4  | 194      | 17.4  |
| All Quintiles                    | 1,441    | 100.0 | 1,295    | 100.0 | 1,383    | 100.0 | 1,317    | 100.0 | 1,236    | 100.0 | 1,240    | 100.0 | 1,114    | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$44,000 |       | \$48,000 |       | \$52,000 |       | \$57,000 |       | \$62,000 |       | \$63,000 |       | \$64,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

### UW-Green Bay: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 120      | 17.4  | 115      | 14.0  | 120      | 14.9  | 98       | 12.8  | 83       | 12.1  | 105      | 13.8  | 120      | 16.9  |
| Low-Medium                       | 161      | 23.3  | 204      | 25.0  | 180      | 22.4  | 198      | 26.0  | 139      | 20.3  | 159      | 21.0  | 177      | 25.0  |
| Medium                           | 175      | 25.3  | 222      | 27.2  | 231      | 28.6  | 214      | 28.2  | 208      | 30.2  | 202      | 26.7  | 190      | 26.7  |
| Medium-High                      | 142      | 20.6  | 154      | 18.8  | 186      | 23.1  | 154      | 20.3  | 156      | 22.7  | 185      | 24.4  | 154      | 21.7  |
| Highest                          | 92       | 13.4  | 123      | 15.1  | 89       | 11.1  | 96       | 12.7  | 101      | 14.7  | 107      | 14.2  | 69       | 9.7   |
| All Quintiles                    | 690      | 100.0 | 818      | 100.0 | 806      | 100.0 | 760      | 100.0 | 687      | 100.0 | 759      | 100.0 | 710      | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$40,000 |       | \$45,000 |       | \$49,000 |       | \$51,000 |       | \$55,000 |       | \$57,000 |       | \$57,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

### UW-La Crosse: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 137      | 12.9  | 139      | 11.4  | 145      | 11.6  | 111      | 9.9   | 83       | 7.4   | 88       | 8.2   | 110      | 10.4  |
| Low-Medium                       | 234      | 22.1  | 259      | 21.3  | 265      | 21.3  | 218      | 19.4  | 184      | 16.6  | 154      | 14.2  | 209      | 19.8  |
| Medium                           | 253      | 23.8  | 296      | 24.4  | 322      | 25.8  | 274      | 24.4  | 277      | 24.9  | 268      | 24.9  | 262      | 24.7  |
| Medium-High                      | 235      | 22.1  | 271      | 22.3  | 324      | 25.9  | 306      | 27.2  | 321      | 28.9  | 322      | 29.9  | 294      | 27.8  |
| Highest                          | 204      | 19.2  | 250      | 20.6  | 192      | 15.4  | 215      | 19.1  | 246      | 22.2  | 246      | 22.8  | 184      | 17.4  |
| All Quintiles                    | 1,063    | 100.0 | 1,213    | 100.0 | 1,248    | 100.0 | 1,125    | 100.0 | 1,111    | 100.0 | 1,078    | 100.0 | 1,058    | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$44,000 |       | \$49,000 |       | \$53,000 |       | \$59,000 |       | \$63,000 |       | \$67,000 |       | \$67,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

### UW-Madison: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 257      | 9.8   | 272      | 9.2   | 279      | 8.9   | 236      | 7.5   | 189      | 6.5   | 216      | 7.7   | 200      | 8.9   |
| Low-Medium                       | 425      | 16.2  | 489      | 16.5  | 463      | 14.8  | 485      | 15.4  | 339      | 11.7  | 409      | 14.6  | 331      | 14.7  |
| Medium                           | 497      | 18.9  | 577      | 19.4  | 700      | 22.4  | 675      | 21.4  | 585      | 20.2  | 586      | 20.9  | 479      | 21.3  |
| Medium-High                      | 639      | 24.3  | 727      | 24.5  | 782      | 25.0  | 786      | 24.9  | 792      | 27.4  | 736      | 26.3  | 605      | 26.9  |
| Highest                          | 806      | 30.7  | 903      | 30.4  | 901      | 28.8  | 968      | 30.7  | 988      | 34.2  | 852      | 30.4  | 637      | 28.3  |
| All Quintiles                    | 2,624    | 100.0 | 2,969    | 100.0 | 3,125    | 100.0 | 3,150    | 100.0 | 2,893    | 100.0 | 2,799    | 100.0 | 2,252    | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$53,000 |       | \$57,000 |       | \$61,000 |       | \$67,000 |       | \$72,000 |       | \$72,000 |       | \$76,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-Milwaukee: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 240      | 18.3  | 311      | 18.9  | 372      | 19.0  | 311      | 14.2  | 348      | 14.3  | 378      | 14.0  | 391      | 15.7  |
| Low-Medium                       | 287      | 21.9  | 363      | 22.1  | 417      | 21.3  | 446      | 20.4  | 404      | 16.6  | 482      | 17.8  | 485      | 19.5  |
| Medium                           | 303      | 23.1  | 365      | 22.2  | 482      | 24.6  | 527      | 24.1  | 542      | 22.2  | 617      | 22.8  | 529      | 21.3  |
| Medium-High                      | 255      | 19.5  | 318      | 19.3  | 396      | 20.2  | 516      | 23.6  | 598      | 24.5  | 647      | 23.9  | 610      | 24.5  |
| Highest                          | 223      | 17.1  | 286      | 17.4  | 290      | 14.8  | 389      | 17.8  | 546      | 22.4  | 584      | 21.6  | 470      | 18.9  |
| All Quintiles                    | 1,307    | 100.0 | 1,643    | 100.0 | 1,957    | 100.0 | 2,188    | 100.0 | 2,438    | 100.0 | 2,708    | 100.0 | 2,485    | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$41,000 |       | \$45,000 |       | \$48,000 |       | \$55,000 |       | \$59,000 |       | \$61,000 |       | \$65,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-Oshkosh: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 160      | 15.3  | 154      | 13.2  | 177      | 11.5  | 161      | 12.5  | 143      | 10.3  | 153      | 11.7  | 157      | 13.1  |
| Low-Medium                       | 260      | 24.8  | 287      | 24.5  | 329      | 21.4  | 278      | 21.6  | 271      | 19.5  | 266      | 20.4  | 254      | 21.1  |
| Medium                           | 268      | 25.7  | 301      | 25.7  | 452      | 29.4  | 359      | 27.9  | 359      | 25.8  | 335      | 25.7  | 317      | 26.3  |
| Medium-High                      | 201      | 19.2  | 232      | 19.8  | 361      | 23.5  | 292      | 22.7  | 371      | 26.7  | 333      | 25.6  | 296      | 24.6  |
| Highest                          | 157      | 15.0  | 199      | 17.0  | 218      | 14.2  | 197      | 15.3  | 247      | 17.8  | 215      | 16.5  | 179      | 14.9  |
| All Quintiles                    | 1,046    | 100.0 | 1,173    | 100.0 | 1,538    | 100.0 | 1,287    | 100.0 | 1,391    | 100.0 | 1,302    | 100.0 | 1,203    | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$41,000 |       | \$46,000 |       | \$51,000 |       | \$54,000 |       | \$58,000 |       | \$59,000 |       | \$62,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-Parkside: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 98       | 18.4  | 76       | 15.6  | 98       | 17.3  | 95       | 18.3  | 78       | 14.5  | 135      | 20.2  | 132      | 24.1  |
| Low-Medium                       | 122      | 22.8  | 122      | 25.2  | 130      | 22.8  | 115      | 22.2  | 104      | 19.4  | 129      | 19.3  | 128      | 23.3  |
| Medium                           | 130      | 24.5  | 114      | 23.5  | 140      | 24.7  | 129      | 24.8  | 116      | 21.7  | 146      | 22.0  | 110      | 20.1  |
| Medium-High                      | 102      | 19.1  | 101      | 20.9  | 128      | 22.6  | 111      | 21.3  | 141      | 26.3  | 149      | 22.4  | 126      | 22.9  |
| Highest                          | 81       | 15.1  | 71       | 14.7  | 72       | 12.6  | 69       | 13.3  | 97       | 18.1  | 107      | 16.1  | 53       | 9.6   |
| All Quintiles                    | 533      | 100.0 | 483      | 100.0 | 568      | 100.0 | 519      | 100.0 | 536      | 100.0 | 666      | 100.0 | 548      | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$40,000 |       | \$44,000 |       | \$49,000 |       | \$51,000 |       | \$57,000 |       | \$55,000 |       | \$53,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-Platteville: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 138      | 18.2  | 98       | 13.3  | 129      | 15.6  | 100      | 14.6  | 101      | 12.1  | 104      | 12.3  | 142      | 17.6  |
| Low-Medium                       | 208      | 27.4  | 202      | 27.4  | 227      | 27.3  | 167      | 24.3  | 191      | 22.7  | 204      | 24.1  | 173      | 21.5  |
| Medium                           | 181      | 23.8  | 195      | 26.6  | 246      | 29.6  | 193      | 28.1  | 214      | 25.5  | 223      | 26.3  | 196      | 24.3  |
| Medium-High                      | 129      | 17.0  | 141      | 19.1  | 155      | 18.7  | 148      | 21.5  | 211      | 25.1  | 197      | 23.3  | 190      | 23.7  |
| Highest                          | 103      | 13.6  | 100      | 13.6  | 73       | 8.8   | 80       | 11.6  | 123      | 14.6  | 119      | 14.0  | 104      | 12.9  |
| All Quintiles                    | 760      | 100.0 | 736      | 100.0 | 830      | 100.0 | 688      | 100.0 | 840      | 100.0 | 846      | 100.0 | 805      | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$38,000 |       | \$44,000 |       | \$46,000 |       | \$52,000 |       | \$55,000 |       | \$56,000 |       | \$59,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-River Falls: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 118      | 26.5  | 105      | 20.6  | 105      | 20.5  | 104      | 20.9  | 77       | 16.7  | 88       | 19.0  | 104      | 21.7  |
| Low-Medium                       | 122      | 27.5  | 159      | 31.2  | 140      | 27.4  | 129      | 25.9  | 112      | 24.2  | 108      | 23.4  | 130      | 27.1  |
| Medium                           | 87       | 19.5  | 120      | 23.5  | 118      | 23.1  | 124      | 24.8  | 124      | 26.9  | 111      | 23.8  | 108      | 22.5  |
| Medium-High                      | 70       | 15.6  | 74       | 14.6  | 106      | 20.7  | 93       | 18.6  | 87       | 18.8  | 91       | 19.6  | 93       | 19.4  |
| Highest                          | 48       | 10.9  | 52       | 10.1  | 42       | 8.3   | 49       | 9.8   | 62       | 13.4  | 66       | 14.2  | 45       | 9.3   |
| All Quintiles                    | 445      | 100.0 | 510      | 100.0 | 512      | 100.0 | 499      | 100.0 | 463      | 100.0 | 464      | 100.0 | 481      | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$34,000 |       | \$38,000 |       | \$44,000 |       | \$47,000 |       | \$51,000 |       | \$53,000 |       | \$52,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-Stevens Point: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 160      | 15.2  | 156      | 13.2  | 150      | 12.6  | 141      | 12.0  | 122      | 11.1  | 116      | 10.0  | 151      | 14.0  |
| Low-Medium                       | 262      | 24.8  | 302      | 25.4  | 280      | 23.6  | 279      | 23.8  | 219      | 20.0  | 271      | 23.5  | 244      | 22.6  |
| Medium                           | 259      | 24.6  | 301      | 25.4  | 374      | 31.5  | 311      | 26.5  | 305      | 27.8  | 309      | 26.8  | 303      | 28.1  |
| Medium-High                      | 223      | 21.1  | 230      | 19.4  | 271      | 22.9  | 282      | 24.0  | 268      | 24.5  | 284      | 24.6  | 253      | 23.5  |
| Highest                          | 151      | 14.3  | 197      | 16.6  | 110      | 9.3   | 161      | 13.7  | 181      | 16.5  | 174      | 15.1  | 128      | 11.9  |
| All Quintiles                    | 1,056    | 100.0 | 1,186    | 100.0 | 1,185    | 100.0 | 1,175    | 100.0 | 1,094    | 100.0 | 1,153    | 100.0 | 1,079    | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$41,000 |       | \$45,000 |       | \$49,000 |       | \$54,000 |       | \$56,000 |       | \$57,000 |       | \$60,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-Stout: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 109      | 18.0  | 113      | 15.5  | 114      | 15.8  | 109      | 15.4  | 80       | 11.6  | 82       | 12.6  | 97       | 13.8  |
| Low-Medium                       | 148      | 24.5  | 166      | 22.8  | 183      | 25.4  | 164      | 23.1  | 140      | 20.1  | 139      | 21.5  | 170      | 24.3  |
| Medium                           | 157      | 26.0  | 187      | 25.6  | 195      | 27.0  | 188      | 26.5  | 195      | 28.1  | 162      | 25.2  | 173      | 24.7  |
| Medium-High                      | 112      | 18.5  | 151      | 20.7  | 159      | 22.1  | 152      | 21.4  | 167      | 24.0  | 153      | 23.7  | 167      | 23.9  |
| Highest                          | 78       | 13.0  | 112      | 15.4  | 69       | 9.6   | 96       | 13.5  | 113      | 16.2  | 110      | 17.0  | 94       | 13.4  |
| All Quintiles                    | 605      | 100.0 | 729      | 100.0 | 720      | 100.0 | 710      | 100.0 | 695      | 100.0 | 645      | 100.0 | 700      | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$40,000 |       | \$46,000 |       | \$47,000 |       | \$52,000 |       | \$56,000 |       | \$58,000 |       | \$59,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-Superior: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                  | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| Lowest                           | 27       | 22.1  | 38       | 26.8  | 31       | 19.1  | 33       | 18.8  | 21       | 15.9  | 25       | 21.1  | 27       | 24.9  |
| Low-Medium                       | 42       | 34.4  | 37       | 26.1  | 49       | 30.1  | 64       | 36.2  | 38       | 28.0  | 37       | 30.5  | 27       | 25.4  |
| Medium                           | 26       | 20.9  | 33       | 23.5  | 45       | 27.7  | 41       | 23.3  | 36       | 26.6  | 33       | 27.7  | 27       | 25.2  |
| Medium-High                      | 18       | 14.5  | 21       | 14.8  | 29       | 17.9  | 30       | 17.0  | 30       | 22.6  | 17       | 14.1  | 18       | 16.7  |
| Highest                          | 10       | 8.1   | 12       | 8.7   | 9        | 5.3   | 8        | 4.7   | 9        | 6.9   | 8        | 6.6   | 9        | 7.9   |
| All Quintiles                    | 123      | 100.0 | 140      | 100.0 | 162      | 100.0 | 177      | 100.0 | 134      | 100.0 | 120      | 100.0 | 108      | 100.0 |
| Median Family Income (Est.)      | \$34,000 |       | \$38,000 |       | \$43,000 |       | \$43,000 |       | \$49,000 |       | \$46,000 |       | \$51,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW-Whitewater: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile   | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                    | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| <b>Lowest</b>                      | 211      | 16.1  | 163      | 11.1  | 168      | 11.5  | 197      | 12.5  | 161      | 10.4  | 174      | 13.2  | 149      | 12.9  |
| <b>Low-Medium</b>                  | 297      | 22.6  | 310      | 21.2  | 289      | 19.8  | 328      | 20.7  | 251      | 16.2  | 251      | 19.1  | 222      | 19.3  |
| <b>Medium</b>                      | 293      | 22.3  | 366      | 25.0  | 417      | 28.6  | 386      | 24.4  | 383      | 24.7  | 312      | 23.8  | 279      | 24.2  |
| <b>Medium-High</b>                 | 278      | 21.1  | 325      | 22.2  | 361      | 24.8  | 377      | 23.8  | 422      | 27.2  | 329      | 25.0  | 321      | 27.9  |
| <b>Highest</b>                     | 235      | 17.9  | 301      | 20.5  | 222      | 15.3  | 293      | 18.6  | 333      | 21.4  | 248      | 18.9  | 181      | 15.7  |
| <b>All Quintiles</b>               | 1,314    | 100.0 | 1,464    | 100.0 | 1,458    | 100.0 | 1,581    | 100.0 | 1,551    | 100.0 | 1,314    | 100.0 | 1,152    | 100.0 |
| <b>Median Family Income (Est.)</b> | \$42,000 |       | \$49,000 |       | \$53,000 |       | \$56,000 |       | \$61,000 |       | \$60,000 |       | \$66,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

**UW Colleges: Wisconsin ACT Test Takers Enrolled as Fall New Freshmen**

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile   | 1994     |       | 1996     |       | 1998     |       | 2000     |       | 2002     |       | 2004     |       | 2006     |       |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
|                                    | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     | N        | %     |
| <b>Lowest</b>                      | 376      | 19.2  | 312      | 16.5  | 360      | 16.5  | 405      | 16.2  | 381      | 14.4  | 427      | 15.9  | 414      | 18.3  |
| <b>Low-Medium</b>                  | 529      | 27.0  | 527      | 27.9  | 594      | 27.3  | 649      | 26.0  | 640      | 24.2  | 638      | 23.7  | 617      | 27.3  |
| <b>Medium</b>                      | 504      | 25.8  | 500      | 26.5  | 641      | 29.5  | 648      | 26.0  | 686      | 26.0  | 720      | 26.8  | 568      | 25.1  |
| <b>Medium-High</b>                 | 319      | 16.3  | 303      | 16.0  | 404      | 18.5  | 547      | 22.0  | 601      | 22.8  | 587      | 21.8  | 459      | 20.3  |
| <b>Highest</b>                     | 230      | 11.7  | 248      | 13.1  | 179      | 8.2   | 243      | 9.8   | 334      | 12.6  | 318      | 11.8  | 202      | 8.9   |
| <b>All Quintiles</b>               | 1,959    | 100.0 | 1,890    | 100.0 | 2,178    | 100.0 | 2,492    | 100.0 | 2,642    | 100.0 | 2,690    | 100.0 | 2,261    | 100.0 |
| <b>Median Family Income (Est.)</b> | \$38,000 |       | \$42,000 |       | \$46,000 |       | \$49,000 |       | \$52,000 |       | \$54,000 |       | \$54,000 |       |

Sources: ACT, Inc., UW System, and US Census Bureau.

## Technical Notes

The income distribution of UW students is estimated by comparing family income of Wisconsin ACT test takers with the income distribution of all Wisconsin families.

Income data for students is reported by high school students when they take the ACT. Approximately two-thirds of Wisconsin high school graduates have taken the ACT since 1990. Of these, over 85% reported their family income. ACT test takers who later reported family income for financial aid purposes in the UW System tended to understate their family income on the ACT. If this tendency is the case for all ACT test takers, then income quintile distributions may overstate the number of ACT test takers in the lower income quintiles.

Income quintiles and median incomes for Wisconsin families are estimated from income data reported by the US Census Bureau. Years between 1990 and 2000 are interpolated from data reported in the decennial censuses. Data after 2000 are from the American Community Survey.

| Wisconsin Family Income Quintile   | Quintile Lower Bound |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                    | 1994                 | 1996      | 1998      | 2000      | 2002      | 2004      | 2006      |
| <b>Low</b>                         | \$0                  | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       |
| <b>Low-Medium</b>                  | \$23,000             | \$25,000  | \$27,000  | \$29,000  | \$28,000  | \$29,000  | \$31,000  |
| <b>Medium</b>                      | \$36,000             | \$39,000  | \$43,000  | \$45,000  | \$45,000  | \$47,000  | \$51,000  |
| <b>Medium-High</b>                 | \$49,000             | \$54,000  | \$58,000  | \$62,000  | \$62,000  | \$66,000  | \$71,000  |
| <b>High</b>                        | \$69,000             | \$75,000  | \$82,000  | \$87,000  | \$88,000  | \$92,000  | \$99,000  |
| <b>Total Families</b>              | 1,328,593            | 1,350,741 | 1,372,889 | 1,395,037 | 1,410,791 | 1,417,606 | 1,456,314 |
| <b>Median Family Income (Est.)</b> | \$42,000             | \$46,000  | \$50,000  | \$53,000  | \$53,000  | \$56,000  | \$61,000  |

Note: Between 1990 and 2000, income quintiles, median income, and the number of families are interpolated from family income distributions in 1990 and 2000, adjusted for inflation.

Source: US Census Bureau.

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Wisconsin ACT test takers in a given high school graduating class are matched with enrolled new freshmen in the following fall semester in the UW System. For example, test takers graduating high school in 2000 are matched with fall semester enrollments of the 2000-01 academic year.

Wisconsin ACT test takers make up about 87% of resident UW New Freshmen enrollments. The remaining 13% are new freshmen who did not immediately enroll after high school, who were not required to submit an ACT score with their application, who graduated from a non-Wisconsin high school, or who otherwise could not be matched with Wisconsin ACT test takers in the corresponding high school graduating class. Because Wisconsin ACT test takers do not comprise all resident new freshmen, numbers and proportions reported for this population may differ from those of all resident UW New Freshmen.

### **For More Information**

The following publications on this topic are on the OPAR web site, <http://www.uwsa.edu/opar> :

- “Stages to Enrollment at UW System by Family Income,” OPAR Profile, February 2006.
- “Access to Higher Education by Income in Wisconsin,” OPAR Bulletin, May 2003.
- “Access to the UW System: Service Rates by Family Income,” OPAR Occasional Research Brief, June 2001.

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