Legislated Accountability Requirements
University of Wisconsin System
Not Including UW-Madison
Executive Summary

Performance

- UW System institutions graduate students at a rate **(53.7%)** lower than a comparable national group of institutions **(58.5%)**. For more details, see the Progress & Completion topic of the Accountability Dashboard.

- UW System institutions awarded a total of **26,055** degrees last year. Further information is available via the Accountability Dashboard in the Progress & Completion topic.

- During the 2014-15 academic year, UW System institutions conferred **4,602** total degrees in STEM fields and **2,119** in Health areas at all levels. Data for individual UW institutions are available in the Economic Development topic of the Accountability Dashboard.

- Bachelor's degree recipients in 2014-15 enrolled an average of **9.5** fall and spring semesters between entry as new freshmen and graduation. The average time to graduation was less than five academic years, and was lower than the average of 10.2 semesters for graduates in 1993-94 when the goal to reduce credits to degree was established. The Accountability Dashboard includes additional detail in the Cost & Efficiency topic.

- UW System graduates in 2014-15 attempted an average of **140** UW credits by the time they graduated, down from 150 in 1993-94. The Cost & Efficiency topic of the Accountability Dashboard contains further details.

- Institutions of the UW System retain new freshmen entering full-time at a rate **(76.9%)** lower than the national average **(80.8%)**. The Access topic of the Accountability Dashboard contains further details.

- UW institutions collect information on undergraduate students' career activities immediately after graduation. In addition, some UW institutions survey students several years after graduation to understand career outcomes over a longer term. View the Economic Development topic of the Accountability Dashboard for more details.

- Among 2011-12 graduates who were Wisconsin residents when enrolled, **87%** were living in Wisconsin three years after graduation, while **7%** of Minnesota reciprocity students and **17%** of other nonresidents remained. More details about alumni are included under the Economic Development topic in the Accountability Dashboard.

Financial

- The UW System financial reports are prepared annually according to standard accounting principles. The reports are available on the UW System, Financial Administration website.

Access and Affordability

- The median family income for undergraduate students at UW institutions was **$65,468** in 2014-15. Median family income differs depending on whether a student is considered a dependent or independent for financial aid purposes. The majority of undergraduates are dependents. Incomes also vary by residency status. Non-resident and reciprocity students have higher family incomes than resident students among dependent undergraduates. Out-of-state independent undergraduates and graduate students have lower incomes. Additional details are available here.

- The enrollment of lower income students is measured by the percentage of UW System undergraduates who receive a Pell Grant. Undergraduate Pell grant recipients enrolled in 2014-15 include **34.9%** of Wisconsin resident students, **24.1%** of Minnesota reciprocity students, and **21.1%** of other nonresident students. Additional details are displayed in the Access topic of the Accountability Dashboard.

- Among fall 2015 undergraduates, **13.4%** of Wisconsin residents, **8.7%** of Minnesota reciprocity students, and **12.8%** of other nonresidents were underrepresented minority (URM) students. URM students include all who indicate African American, American Indian, Hispanic/Latino(a), or Southeast Asian alone or in combination with other

races/ethnicities. The Access topic of the Accountability Dashboard includes further details.

- In 2014-15, UW System institutions enrolled **13,034** new transfer students, who make up nearly one-third of new undergraduate degree-seeking students. More details and years of data are provided in the Access topic of the Accountability Dashboard.

- The Universal Credit Transfer Agreement (UCTA) between the University of Wisconsin System and the Wisconsin Technical College System includes courses that are transferable to all UWs and WTCS districts as a general education or general degree requirement course. The UCTA went into effect July 1, 2014. Specific information about how each course in the Universal Credit Transfer Agreement will transfer to a receiving institution and will satisfy general requirements may be accessed through the UW Transfer Information System (TIS) Credit Transfer Wizards. More details may be found on the Transfer Wisconsin website.

- The UW System served more than **7,700** students in 2013-14 who were still in high school, through UW course offerings and through college credit programming at participating high schools. Further information can be seen here.

- In 2014-15, the published cost **($18,274)** of attendance for resident new freshmen was lower than at a comparable group of institutions **($22,772)**. The average net cost of attendance for Wisconsin resident new freshmen in the UW System **($12,188)** was also lower than at a comparable group of institutions **($13,306)**. More about the published and net cost is shown in the Cost & Efficiency topic of the Accountability Dashboard.

- Institutional grant aid to students with financial need in 2013-14 increased to **64.7%** from **58.7%** of all institutional grants in 2010-11. Institutional grants totaled **$23 million** during the 2013-14 year. The Cost & Efficiency topic of the Accountability Dashboard includes additional years of data for UW institutions.

Undergraduate Education
- The majority of first-year students **(75%)** and seniors **(74%)** in 2014 indicated satisfaction with the availability of general education courses. See the Undergraduate Experience topic of the Accountability Dashboard for more information.

- UW System institutions offer **300** undergraduate majors. The UW System's Higher Education Location Program (UW HELP), a unit of UW-Extension, maintains a breadth of information regarding UW System institutions. UW HELP's MajorMania is a useful tool for prospective students, parents, high school guidance counselors, and others.

- The most popular majors sought by students were in Business (**20.8%**), followed by Education (**9.8%**), and Health professions (**8.8%**). Go here for a list of undergraduate enrollments by major.

- At or above the national average, **86%** of freshman and **87%** of seniors gave their entire experience at a UW System institution a positive rating. See the Undergraduate Experience topic of the Accountability Dashboard to learn more.

- The UW System is committed to providing all students an equal opportunity to succeed in higher education. Closing the gap in second year retention rates and six year graduation rates between underrepresented minority (URM) students and non-URM students is one important effort the UW System is making to achieve the commitment. Gaps remain, but are narrowing. The Progress & Completion topic of the Accountability Dashboard includes more detail.

- Seniors in 2014 reported participation in an internship or field experience at higher **(54%)** than national **(50%)** rates. To explore more, see the Undergraduate Experience topic of the Accountability Dashboard for additional years of data and more information.

- UW System students performed above average on the national Nursing Licensure examination. To see more about how students performed on this and other post-baccalaureate exams, click here.

Graduate and Professional Education
- Of the **3,534** graduate and professional degrees conferred, **34% (1,201)** were in key areas such as Business, Nursing, Engineering, Physical Therapy, and Audiology. Follow this link for further details.

- Graduate students commonly participate in internships and cooperative work experiences as a component of their UW graduate program. More information is available here.

- Currently, financial incentives such as student loan-forgiveness programs, tax credits, or home ownership assistance to students who remain in the state after graduation are not available to UW graduates. Further information is available here.

Faculty

- Faculty are engaged in a variety of activities in addition to classroom instruction including instructional design, course preparation and evaluation, advising, community service, research and scholarship, and administrative and governance responsibilities. Combined, these activities promote student achievement, economic development, and lead to prestigious awards and recognitions. Go here for additional context about the work of faculty.

- For fall 2015, the faculty average weekly group contact hours among faculty were **6.8** hours at UW-Milwaukee, **11.9** at the UW Comprehensive institutions, and **12.7** at the UW Colleges. The Accountability Dashboard includes more details regarding faculty instructional workload in the Faculty & Staff topic.

- Annual faculty turnover across the UW System totaled **308** positions during FY15 and averaged **7.1%**. Annual retirements averaged **3.0%** and annual resignations averaged **3.8%**. Contracts were not renewed for **0.3%** of faculty. Of the **164** resignations in FY15, **49** were tenured faculty and **115** were tenure track (probationary) faculty. UW System faculty salaries were **18.7%** lower than faculty salaries at comparable peer universities. More details about recruiting, retaining, and compensating scholars is included in the Faculty & Staff topic of the Accountability Dashboard.

Economic Development

- Revenue brought into the state through federal, state, and private sources totaled **$721.5 million** in fiscal year 2015. For revenue by source, go here.

- Academic research and development at UW System institutions is a significant source of economic activity for Wisconsin. The number of new projects, projects in progress, and projects completed in fiscal year 2015 totaled **4,086**. Follow this link for additional years of information.

- Through the WiSys Technology Foundation and the UWM Research Foundation, in fiscal year 2015, UW System institutions generated **13 U.S. patents** and executed **20 new licenses** for technologies. In addition, these institutions generated 111 disclosures of inventions or other intellectual property. Further explanation is provided here.

- Research discoveries at UW System institutions are increasingly being tapped for their commercial potential. The WiSys Technology Foundation and the UW-Milwaukee Research Foundation have facilitated **24** startup companies in addition to patents and licenses for new technologies. The newly created $2 million Ideadvance Seed Fund will provide additional support to entrepreneurs at UW institutions. Additional context and details are available at this link.

- The UW System supports Wisconsin businesses through the products and services it purchases in connection with sponsored research. The number of vendors affiliated with the UW System totals **over 1,600**, not including vendor purchases made through electronic banking cards, and generates **$4.7 million** in revenue to those businesses. Similarly, more than **1,000 Wisconsin businesses** are supported by the UW System totaling **$1.9 million** in revenue. Purchases made through electronic banking comprised another **$4.9 million** in spending. Go here for about vendors and purchases.

- Joint industry-university partnerships support Wisconsin business. GE Healthcare is investing more than **$3 million** to create a center for imaging research at UW-Milwaukee that will help educate the company's existing workforce and encourage research in imaging reconstruction, an area key to GE's success. UW-Stevens Point's Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF) works with fish farming businesses and aquaculturists to provide the safest and highest quality fish to consumers. NADF serves as a showcase and an outreach center for training in commercial aquaculture. Supplementary information is available here.

- Companies created **770 new jobs** in 2014-15 with the assistance of UW-Extension's Small Business Development Center and Center for Technology Commercialization. Follow this link for more about job growth from support to existing industries and new businesses.

- Jobs generated by UW System institutions throughout Wisconsin include direct faculty and staff

employment, jobs generated by institutional operational expenditures, jobs created to support UW System employees professionally and personally, and jobs attributable to student and visitor spending. Additional detail informed by results of economic impact studies at some UW institutions is provided here.

- Technology parks and innovation centers foster new businesses and job growth. UW-Stout's Discovery Center and UW-Whitewater's University Technology Park are examples of how UW System institutions support entrepreneurship and bring academic expertise to industry challenges. For select results of economic impact studies that provide indications of economic impact, see here.

Collaboration

- The UW System engages in a wide variety of partnerships, both formal and informal, with businesses, not-for-profit organizations, governmental agencies, and other partners. These partnerships combine UW and non-UW resources to support programs or initiatives that benefit Wisconsin communities, the Midwest region, and beyond. Additional aspects of partners and collaborative relationships in the UW System are provided at this link.

Incentive Grants

- The Incentive Grant Program provided $22.5 million of UW System funds to support economic and workforce development projects, and projects that improve the affordability of education at UW institutions. More information is provided here.