

Goals and Attainment

Reasons for Choosing Lane

Why did you choose to attend Lane rather than some other college or university?

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ Specific degree or training program was available at Lane
- ☐ Cost is lower at Lane
- ☐ Quality of instruction is higher at Lane
- ☐ Lane is close to home
- ☐ Because of enrollment restrictions at state colleges and universities

- The most frequently reported reason for choosing to attend Lane was lower cost. The percentage of all respondents choosing "Lower Cost" as a reason for choosing Lane Community College was similar in this year's study (63.4%) as in prior year's studies.
- As in prior studies, the high quality of instruction remains an important reason for choosing Lane for 18.4 percent of transfer respondents.
- The percentage of respondents with transfer majors reporting that lower cost at Lane Community College was an important factor in choosing Lane was 75.6 percent.

The following comments highlight some other reasons respondents chose Lane:

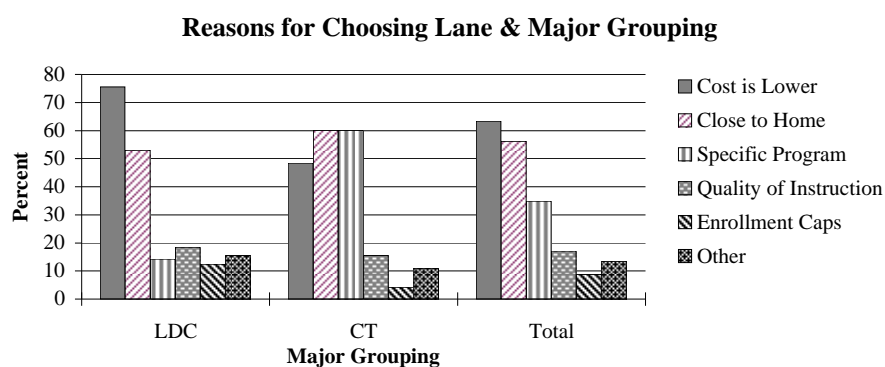
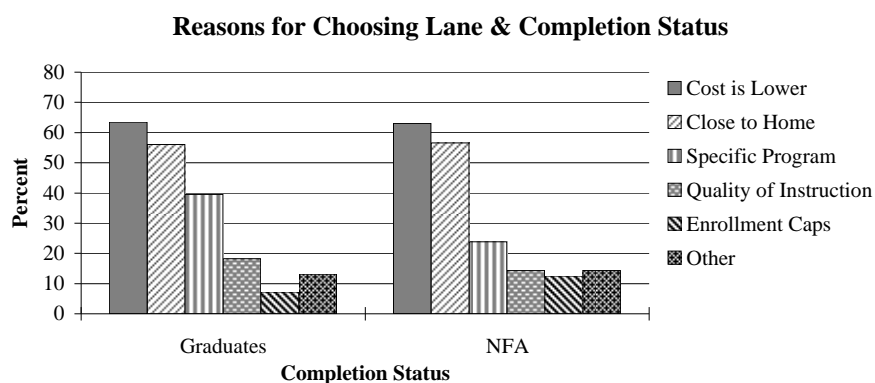
- * *I am a non-traditional student, and Lane was a comfortable place for me to start. I feel this choice has greatly increased my academic success.*
- * *To still be taking classes while gaining residence.*
- * *Trade Act Program after the loss of employment.*
- * *I went to Lane a long time ago and was impressed.*
- * *It wasn't as overwhelming as the U of O.*
- * *I wasn't sure what I wanted to take.*
- * *Lane was rated as one of the best Community Colleges on the west coast.*
- * *I wanted to finish my lower division classes.*
- * *I wanted to get the transfer degree.*
- * *I heard that the teachers were helpful and it was true.*
- * *Smaller classes/good transition from high school.*

Table 10: Reasons for Choosing Lane (All Respondents)

Reasons for Choosing Lane	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%		
Cost is Lower	257	63.5	106	63.1	238	75.6	125	48.4	363	63.4
Close to Home	227	56.0	95	56.5	167	53.0	155	60.1	322	56.2
Specific Program	160	39.5	40	23.8	45	14.3	155	60.1	200	34.9
Quality of Instruction	74	18.3	24	14.3	58	18.4	40	15.5	98	17.1
Enrollment Caps	29	7.2	21	12.5	39	12.4	11	4.3	50	8.7
Other	53	13.1	24	14.3	49	15.6	28	10.9	77	13.4
Total Respondents*	405		168		315		258		573	

Example: The percentage of responding graduates who reported lower cost as a reason for choosing Lane was 63.5%.

*Note: Respondents could indicate more than one reason for choosing Lane, therefore the number of responses is greater than the number of respondents.



Respondents are represented three times:

- Once in Completion Status as either a graduate or NFA (no formal award).
- Secondly in Major Grouping as either LDC (lower division collegiate transfer) or CT (career technical).
- A third time in the total.

Primary Reason for Attending Lane

What was your primary reason for attending Lane?

(Choose only one answer)

- ☐ To complete lower division classes for transfer to a four-year college
 - ☐ To prepare for a new job or career
 - ☐ General self-improvement
 - ☐ To earn a one- or two-year certificate/degree (not interested in transfer to four-year school)
 - ☐ To improve/update job skills for current position
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
- As in prior years, no formal award and LDC respondents were most likely to attend Lane *to complete lower division courses for transfer* while career technical respondents were most likely to attend Lane to prepare for a new job or career.
 - In this year's study, the percentage of graduates indicating the primary reason for attending Lane was to transfer (43.2%) was higher compared to the percentage of graduates indicating the primary reason for attending Lane was to prepare for a new job or career (26.8%).
 - Career technical (CT) majors were more likely to attend Lane to prepare for a new job or career (45.3%) followed by *to earn a degree or certificate* (34%).

Further Analysis:

Sixty percent of respondents *30 years old and under* indicated the primary reason for attending Lane was to transfer. Thirty-nine percent of the respondents *over age 30* indicated the primary reason for attending Lane was to prepare for a new job or career and another 35% of respondents *over age 30* indicated the primary reason for attending Lane was to transfer.

A majority of students achieved the transfer and award objectives indicated by their primary reason for attending Lane.

Primary Reason	2000 Study	2001 Study	2002 Study	2004 Study	2007 Study	2009 Study	# Responses	2011 Achievement	
								#	% Achieved
Transfer	78%	83%	81%	84%	75%	83%	284	236	83% transferred
Earn certificate/degree	76%	79%	71%	73%	70%	74%	102	86	84% graduated
Prepare for a new job (CT only)	52%	57%	52%	46%	61%	58%	139	59	42% were working in a related job, and not the same job as before attending Lane.

Ethnicity

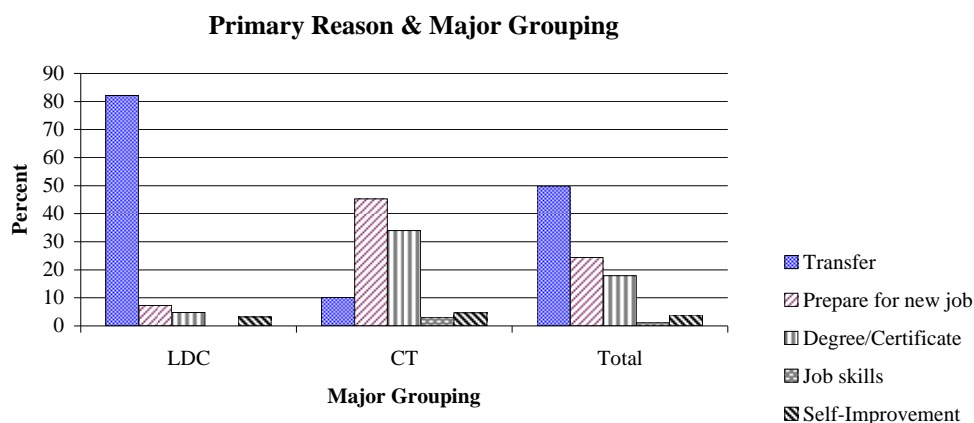
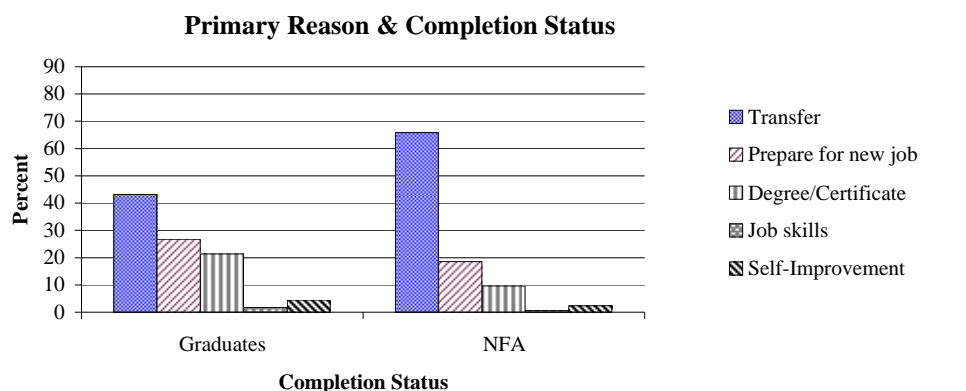
Fifty percent of Caucasian respondents (220 out of 439) indicated the primary reason for attending Lane was to transfer.

	Primary Reason	# Primary Reason	# Responses	% Primary Response
Amer. Ind/Nat. Alaska	Transfer	3	8	37.5%
Asian/Pac Islander	New Job	6	10	60.0%
Black	Transfer	4	9	44.4%
and	New Job	4	9	44.4%
Hispanic	Transfer	19	29	65.5%

Table 11: Primary Reason for Attending Lane (All Respondents)

Primary Reason	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Transfer	174	43.2	110	65.9	258	82.2	26	10.2	284	49.8
Prepare for new job	108	26.8	31	18.6	23	7.3	116	45.3	139	24.4
Degree/Certificate	86	21.3	16	9.6	15	4.8	87	34.0	102	17.9
Job skills	7	1.7	1	0.6		0.0	8	3.1	8	1.4
Self-Improvement	18	4.5	4	2.4	10	3.2	12	4.7	22	3.9
Other	10	2.5	5	3.0	8	2.5	7	2.7	15	2.6
Total	403	100.0	167	100.0	314	100.0	256	100.0	570	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding graduates whose primary reason for attending Lane was to transfer was 43.2%.



Respondents are represented three times:

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- Secondly in Major Grouping as either LDC (lower division collegiate transfer) or CT (career technical).
- A third time in the total.

Goal Accomplishment

To what extent did you achieve your goals or obtain what you wanted from your Lane education?

☐ Very much so ☐ Somewhat ☐ Not at all

- Overall, nearly three-fourths of the respondents reported they achieved their goals “very much so” (72.1%).
- Graduates overwhelmingly indicated they accomplished their goals “very much so” (79.8%). Just over half of NFA respondents (53.6%) also expressed a high level of goal achievement.
- As in recent studies, the percentage of respondents indicating “very much so” and “somewhat” combined was extremely high (97%).

The following comments are goals students wanted to achieve while attending Lane but did not accomplish:

- * *Yes, my whole 4 yr. degree (I loved Lane)*
- * *I wanted to get into the nursing program but couldn't get in.*
- * *I would have liked to continue part-time while obtaining residency for U of O and to complete A&P sequences and med terminology, things I will need for grad school. But I was cut off from financial aid!*
- * *Did not feel my advisor was very helpful - told me not to take certain classes and now at the U of O, found out these classes would have been good to take at LCC.*
- * *A 2-year degree that would help me in the job market.*
- * *My study habits were too weak for the classes that I would have liked to take.*
- * *My goal was to start a new career. Nobody is hiring in this field. I understand this is not LCC's fault, but my goal remains unfulfilled.*
- * *I didn't get my degree but I transferred anyway.*
- * *Final math class.*
- * *I would have liked to have finished my lower division math courses at Lane; however, in the higher levels of calculus, I found that the primary instructor was effectively disconnected from the learning experience of her students.*
- * *Couldn't get into all the classes I needed.*

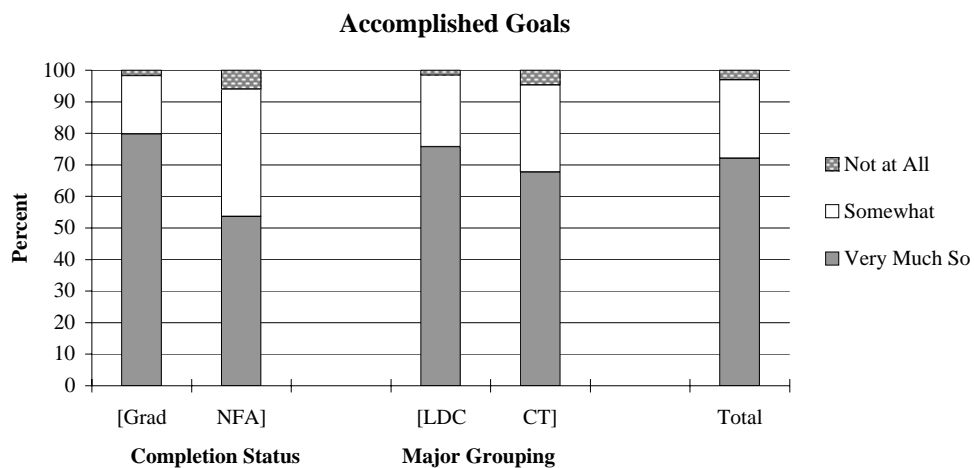
Interpretation/Analysis:

Students' goal achievement is one of Lane's Key Institutional Effectiveness Measures; overall, the majority of Lane's former students expressed a high degree of goal achievement. Findings from the current survey indicate that 97 percent of former students who responded to this question reported they accomplished their goals.

Table 12: Did Students Accomplish Their Goals (All Respondents)

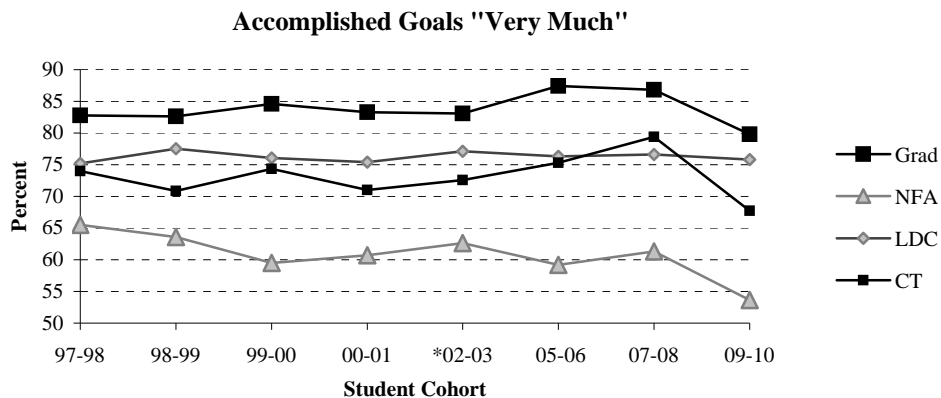
Accomplished Goals?	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Much So	320	79.8	89	53.6	235	75.8	174	67.7	409	72.1
Somewhat	74	18.5	67	40.4	70	22.6	71	27.6	141	24.9
Not at All	7	1.7	10	6.0	5	1.6	12	4.7	17	3.0
Total	401	100.0	166	100.0	310	100.0	257	100.0	567	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding graduates who indicated they accomplished their goals at Lane "very much so" was 79.8%.



Respondents are represented three times:

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- A third time in the total.



*Studies were not conducted between 97-98 and 09-10 for years not shown.

Reasons for Leaving Lane Before Completing a Degree

If you left Lane before receiving a degree or certificate, why did you leave?

(Check all that apply—see choices in Table 13 on the next page).

- No formal award (NFA) respondents (those who did not complete a degree or certificate) indicated they left Lane because they *transferred* (41.1% up 10% compared to the prior study), had *financial problems* (11.3%), or *accomplished their goals* (23.2%).
- Over half (53%) of the lower division collegiate (LDC) respondents who did not complete a degree or certificate indicated they left Lane because they *transferred*, 29.9% indicated they left because they *accomplished their goals*, 9.4% indicated they left because of *financial problems* and another 9.4% indicated they left Lane before completing a degree or certificate because they *moved out of the area*.
- Nearly sixteen percent (15.7%) of career technical (CT) respondents who did not complete a degree or certificate indicated they left Lane because of *financial problems* compared to 24.3% in the 2009 Study of 2007-08 Students indicating the same.

Interpretation/Analysis:

Reasons students leave are not always controlled by the college. In a study published in the *Community College Journal of Research and Practice* (December 1997), Conklin lists the top five reasons students cited for dropping classes: work schedule conflicts, bad time/inconvenient, personal problems, too hard/bad grades, and disliked instructor. In her study, these top five reasons remained consistent over five years.

As in past Lane studies, few NFA respondents left because they were dissatisfied with the quality of teaching at Lane.

Table 13b: Reasons Career technical NFA Students Left Lane

Student Cohort	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	02-03	05-06	07-08	09-10
Financial problems	24.1	27.9	16.7	18.8	19.7	14.1	24.3	15.7
Accepted a job	21.7	18.6	13.9	20.3	6.1	4.7	2.7	5.9
Accomplished goals	24.1	14.0	11.1	10.1	9.1	2.4	2.7	7.8
Transfer	2.4	9.3	20.8	18.8	12.1	5.9	5.4	13.7

Table 13c: Reasons Lower Division Collegiate NFA Students Left Lane

Student Cohort	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	02-03	05-06	07-08	09-10
Transfer	51.0	54.2	52.2	51.2	45.5	26.7	42.7	53.0
Accomplished goals	36.3	18.1	27.3	22.6	10.9	11.9	8.5	29.9

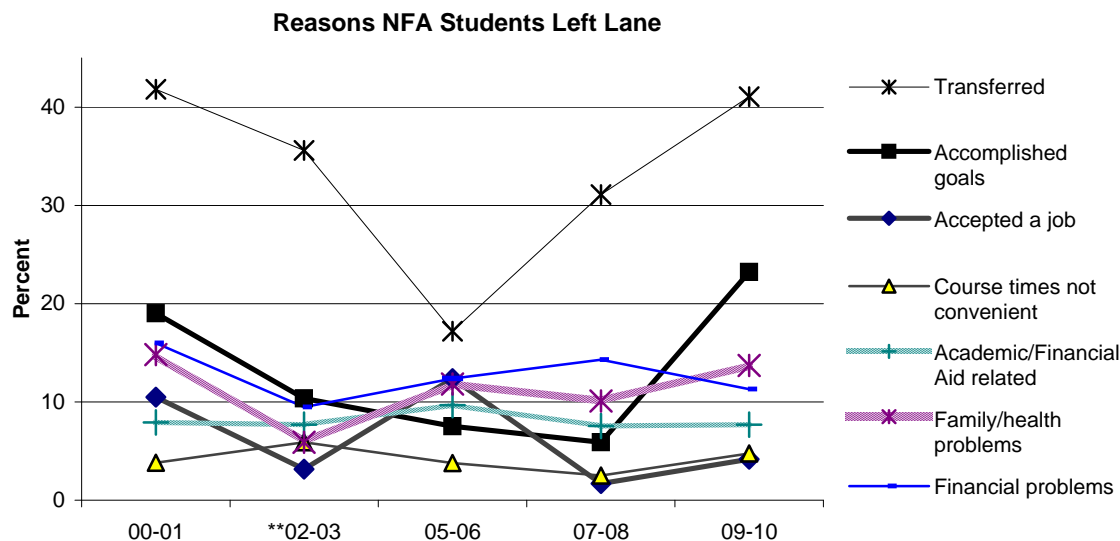
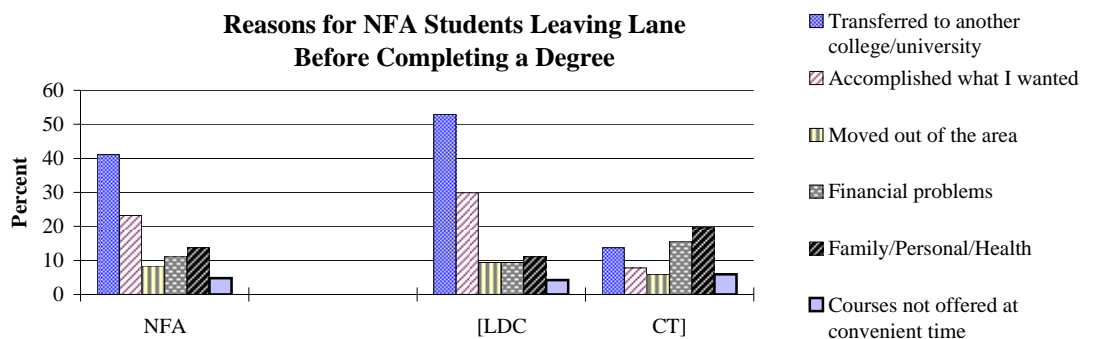
Table 13d: Left Because Courses Were Not Offered at a Convenient Time

Student Cohort	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	02-03	05-06	07-08	09-10
Transfer major NFA respondents	8.3	5.6	6.2	3.8	6.4	2.0	1.2	4.3
CT major NFA respondents	22.9	10.5	4.2	4.3	4.5	5.9	5.4	5.9
All NFA respondents	12.5	7.2	5.6	3.8	5.9	3.8	2.5	4.8

Table 13: Reasons for Leaving Lane Before Completing a Degree (NFA Only)

Reasons for Leaving Lane Before Completing a Degree	Major Grouping					
	NFA		LDC		CT	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
1 Transferred to another college/university	69	41.1	62	53.0	7	13.7
2 Accomplished what I wanted	39	23.2	35	29.9	4	7.8
3 Moved out of the area	14	8.3	11	9.4	3	5.9
4 Financial problems	19	11.3	11	9.4	8	15.7
5 Family/personal problems	12	7.1	7	6.0	5	9.8
6 Unsure of my academic goals	2	1.2	1	0.9	1	2.0
7 Accepted a job	7	4.2	4	3.4	3	5.9
8 Needed a break before returning to school	6	3.6	4	3.4	2	3.9
9 Courses not offered at convenient time	8	4.8	5	4.3	3	5.9
10 Health problems	11	6.5	6	5.1	5	9.8
11 Child care problems	4	2.4	2	1.7	2	3.9
12 Poor academic preparation	5	3.0	4	3.4	1	2.0
13 Lost my financial aid	8	4.8	5	4.3	3	5.9
14 Dissatisfied with the quality of teaching	7	4.2	5	4.3	2	3.9
15 Transportation problems	1	0.6	1	0.9	0	-
16 Other	20	11.9	10	8.5	10	19.6
Total respondents*	168	100.0	117	100.0	51	100.0

*Note: Respondents could indicate more than one reason for leaving Lane, therefore the number of responses is greater than the number of respondents.



*Studies were not conducted between 00-01 and 09-10 for years not shown.