

LINGNAN UNIVERSITY
Non-academic Background of LOCAL New Students 2020/21

1. Objectives

The report gives a summary of findings of the survey on the non-academic background of new full-time local undergraduate students admitted by Lingnan University in the year 2020/21. The findings may facilitate the planning of student services and facilities. The data will also be useful to academic staff and other interested parties in knowing more about our newly-admitted students.

2. Methodology

The survey was conducted from Aug to Sep 2020. All new full-time local undergraduate students were invited to complete the survey via Moodle platform. Participation was entirely voluntary.

3. Response Rate

Gender	Total Number of Local First-year students	Total Number of Local Senior-year students	Total Number of Local Students	Number of Local First-year Respondents	Number of Local Senior-year Respondents	Total Number of Local Respondents
Female	318	73	391	305	72	377
Male	210	57	267	204	57	261
Total	528	130	658	509 (96.4%)	129 (99.2%)	638 (97.0%)

Valid response: 638 (full-time local undergraduate)

Survey Summary

4. Personal Particulars

4.1 Sex (Valid Response = 638)

	Female	Male	Total
Total Number of Local Students	391 (59.4%)	267 (40.6%)	658
Total Number of Respondents	377 (59.1%)	261 (40.9%)	638

4.2 Age (according to the responses from the survey) (Valid Response = 638)

Age	% of Respondents				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
17 or below	15.2	14.7	21.2	17.4	16.4
18	38.1	44.1	44.9	44.5	41.2
19	15.8	15.1	12.9	17.6	21.6
20	18.7	11.5	11.0	10.7	12.3
21	7.1	7.1	6.0	5.6	4.4
22	2.8	4.5	2.0	1.6	2.9
23-24	1.3	1.5	1.3	2.1	0.9
25-26	0.3	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.2
27-29	0.3	0.4	0.2	0	0.2
30 or above	0.5	0.2	0	0	0
Mean (as of 5 Nov, provided by Registry)	19.0	18.9	18.5	18.6	18.6

According to the data provided by Registry on 5 Nov 2020, 85.7% of the respondents were between 17 and 20 years old.

4.3 Years of Residence in Hong Kong (Valid Response = 638)

83% of the respondents were born in Hong Kong while 17.1% of the respondents were born outside Hong Kong.

Years of residence in Hong Kong		% of Respondents				
		2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Born in Hong Kong	Since birth	79.2	76.4	72.3	72.2	70.3
	7 years or more (not since birth)	3.8	3.2	3.9	4.9	5.2
	3 to less than 7 years	0	0.2	0.8	1.5	0.5
	Less than 3 years	0	0.2	0	0.3	0.2
Sub Total		83	80	77	78.9	76.2
Not born in Hong Kong	7 years or more	14.7	17.7	19.4	18.4	14.6
	3 to less than 7 years	2.2	1.3	1.6	1.2	2.0
	Less than 3 years	0.2	1	2.0	1.5	7.2
Sub Total		17.1	20	23	21.1	23.8

5. Living Condition

5.1 District of Residence (Valid Response = 638)

The survey shows that 11.4% of the respondents lived on Hong Kong Island, 31% in Kowloon and 57.3% in the New Territories. The top three districts this year were Kwun Tong (12.2%), Yuen Long (11.6%) and Kwai Tsing (9.4%) respectively.

Residential Districts	% of Respondents				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Hong Kong Island					
Central & Western	0.9	2.8	1.7	2.6	1.0
Wan chai	0.9	0.6	1.9	0.3	0.9
Eastern	6.9	4.3	7.9	5.3	6.8
Southern	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.0	1.9
Subtotal	11.4	10.1	13.9	10.2	10.6

Kowloon					
Yau Tsim Mong	2.7	3.0	1.4	1.8	2.6
Sham Shui Po	5.2	5.0	4.4	4.4	4.4
Kowloon City	4.9	3.9	3.3	3.0	5.6
Wong Tai Shin	6.0	5.4	7.2	7.7	3.9
Kwun Tong	12.2	10.4	9.9	7.9	8.5
Subtotal	31	27.7	26.2	24.8	25.0
New Territories					
Kwai Tsing	9.4	11.9	7.2	9.2	9.1
Tsuen Wan	3.0	4.5	3.2	5.6	3.9
Tuen Mun	6.0	7.6	10.7	9.0	10.4
Yuen Long	11.6	14.7	12.7	13.0	14.0
North (E.g. Sheung Shui, Fanling, etc.)	6.0	6.9	3.7	5.7	5.8
Tai Po	3.3	2.8	4.0	3.3	2.9
Sha Tin	8.9	6.5	7.3	8.4	6.7
Sai Kung	6.9	6	7.2	6.2	6.2
Islands	2.2	1.1	1.7	3.6	4.1
Subtotal	57.3	62	57.7	64	63.1
Others	0.5	0.2	2.2	1.0	1.2

5.2 Travelling Time (Valid Response = 638)

Most of the respondents (82.4%) spent more than 1 hour on a return trip between home and the University.

Travelling Time (in minutes)	% of Respondents			
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18
Less than 60	17.6	25.0	23.8	27.9
60-119	43.7	47.3	43.7	43.8
120-179	25.1	17.5	17.6	16.2
180-240	11.6	8.8	9.7	8.7
More than 240	2.0	1.5	5.2	3.4

5.3 Type of Housing (Valid Response = 638)

The survey reveals that majority of the respondents (61.9%) lived in public or Home Ownership Scheme flats.

Type of Housing	% of Respondents				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Private flats	30.7	38.7	36.3	32.5	33.2
Public rental/sale flats & Home Ownership Scheme flats	61.9	57.7	59.9	61.9	63.4
Others	7.4	3.5	3.8	5.6	3.4
Total	100	100	100	100	100

5.4 Study Environment at Home (Valid Response = 638)

Slightly more than half of the respondents (55.3%) have their own rooms in their living areas.

Home Environment	% of Respondents				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
With a own room	55.3	59.0	59.9	57.1	54.4

6. Parents Background & Family Information

6.1 Size of Household (Valid Response = 638)

The average size of household and also the most common household size are 4 people, which are similar to the previous years.

Household Size (including the respondent)	% of Respondents				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
1	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.5	1.2
2	9.1	7.5	7.3	7.6	5.2
3	30.4	29.2	31.5	27.7	28.9
4	40.4	40.6	39.6	42.1	43.3
5	13.6	14.0	15.3	14.6	15.3
6	3.8	5.8	3.8	4.1	4.8
7	1.4	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.2
8	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.2
Average size	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.0

6.2 Parents' Highest Educational Attainment (Total Response = 638)

The survey shows that 76.2% of the respondents are the first-generation university students in their families (neither of their parents have a college degree). (Not applicable response are excluded.)

Highest Educational Attainment	% of Respondents					
	Father (Valid Response = 574) Excluded Not Applicable			Mother (Valid Response = 596) Excluded Not Applicable		
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
No Formal Schooling	1.9	2.5	4.6	2.5	3.0	3.2
Primary School	20.9	20.6	22.5	21.5	20.9	22.7
Secondary School	59.8	58.4	55.6	61.4	60.8	57.2
Post-Secondary	17.4	18.5	17.3	14.6	15.3	16.9

6.3 Monthly Household Income (Valid Response = 638)

31.1% of the respondents' household incomes were less than HK\$20,000 per month (Those selected not application or not willing to disclose are excluded in this conclusion).

Monthly Household Income (HK\$)	% of Respondents				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Under 10,000	8.5	4.7	6.2	7.7	9.4
10,000 to 19,999	22.6	18.6	23.4	27.7	27.7
20,000 to 29,999	22.3	23.1	24.8	26.2	26.4
30,000 to 39,999	14.3	17.9	13.5	17.2	14.9
40,000 to above	14.4	14.3	21.3	9.2	11.6
Not applicable or not willing to disclose	18.0	21.5	10.8	12.0	9.9

6.4 Source of Financial Support for University Education (Valid Response = 604)

The survey shows that the majority of the respondents relied on the family to finance their university education.

Degree of Dependence (%)	% of Respondents					
	Family Contribution	Personal savings	Part-time work	Government Grant/ Loan	Scholarship	Others
Below 1	10.9 (11.7)	49.8 (53.0)	59.1 (54.6)	70.5 (72.0)	93.2 (95.5)	98.2 (97.0)
1-19	5.1 (6.1)	21.5 (25.5)	16.4 (18.8)	2.3 (3.0)	4.5 (2.8)	0.7 (1.1)
20-39	15.9 (10.1)	21.5 (15.5)	15.7 (16.2)	4.6 (5.6)	1 (1.1)	0.5 (0.6)
40-59	13.2 (14.9)	7 (5.2)	7.1 (5.8)	6.1 (6.7)	0.8 (0.2)	0.3 (0.4)
60-79	10.3 (10.2)	0 (0.6)	1.2 (2.4)	5.6 (3.2)	0.2 (0)	0 (0)
80-100	44.5 (47)	0.2 (0.6)	0.5 (2.2)	10.8 (9.6)	0.3 (0.4)	0.3 (0.9)

**Figures in the bracket were the % of the survey in 2019/20.*

7 Travelling Experiences (Valid Response = 638)

Only 3.1% of the respondents had no travelling experience outside Hong Kong.

Travelling Experiences	% of Respondents				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
No travelling experiences	3.1	4.3	2.5	4.9	4.1
Mainland China	62.1	32	25.4	30.2	30.6
Other Asian Countries	76.2	70.2	64.4	65.4	61.8
Countries outside Asia	27.7	26.0	25.8	21.5	21.0

8 Preferences for Extra-curricular Activities While at University (Valid Response = 638)

Respondents were asked to indicate their preferences for participation in different types of activities while at University. They ranked Cultural and Recreational Activities and Academic-related Activities as the top two activities that they would like to participate most in Lingnan. The first two choices are the same as last year.

Rank	Type of Activities				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
1	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Academic-related Activities	Academic-related Activities	Academic-related Activities
2	Academic-related Activities	Academic-related Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities
3	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training
4	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services
5	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports
6	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Religious Activities	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies
7	Religious Activities	Religious Activities	Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies	Religious Activities	Religious Activities

9 Self-Assessment of Skills and Abilities (Valid Response = 638)

9.1 Common Survey Questions among SSC, OSL and OGEIS

Students were asked to indicate how much they agreed with the following statements which are common survey questions regarding skills and abilities among three different departments of the University. Questionnaire surveys will also be conducted before and after students joining the experiential learning programmes offered by the three offices. The self-evaluation on abilities and skills by the respondents are as follows:

Common Survey Questions	Rating of Respondents (1 strongly disagree and 10 strongly agree)				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
<i>Interpersonal Skills</i>	7.31	7.29	7.26	7.18	7.11
I feel comfortable building relationships with people from different backgrounds.	7.30	7.19	7.21	7.21	7.09
I learn from interpersonal relationships.	7.44	7.33	7.42	7.25	7.18
I cooperate successfully with other students in a variety of situations.	7.18	7.36	7.16	7.09	7.05
<i>Communication Skills</i>	6.79	6.75	6.71	6.76	6.71
I feel comfortable to present my ideas in front of others.	6.74	6.82	6.75	6.79	6.72
I know how to communicate my ideas in a situation that is new to me.	6.80	6.71	6.75	6.81	6.72
I participate effectively in group discussions and activities.	6.82	6.73	6.63	6.68	6.69
<i>Management Skills</i>	6.82	6.68	6.63	6.58	6.53
I trust my abilities to lead others.	6.63	6.54	6.51	6.54	6.45
I know how to allocate tasks to group members.	6.76	6.58	6.54	6.53	6.48
I can plan activities independently.	7.08	6.93	6.81	6.67	6.67
<i>Problem Solving & Analytical Abilities</i>	7.27	7.20	7.13	7.12	7.02
I feel confident in tackling problems.	6.80	6.85	6.77	6.81	6.68
I understand that problems usually have more than one cause.	7.64	7.52	7.49	7.40	7.32
Before I solve a problem, I gather as many facts about the problem as I can.	7.36	7.22	7.14	7.16	7.06
<i>Social Responsibility & Civic Awareness</i>	7.46	7.49	7.31	7.23	7.23
It is my responsibility to help improve the community.	7.49	7.39	7.23	7.20	7.20
I believe that taking care of people who are in need is everyone's responsibility.	7.63	7.54	7.44	7.38	7.37
I act as if my behaviors make a difference in other people's lives.	7.26	7.54	7.26	7.11	7.13
<i>Global Perspective</i>	7.57	7.59	7.48	7.35	7.31

I like to explore and appreciate new cultures.	7.76	7.87	7.71	7.55	7.54
I have the sense of the global dimensions of citizenship.	7.36	7.47	7.35	7.20	7.16
I am able to work with people from other cultural backgrounds.	7.59	7.43	7.37	7.31	7.22

9.2 Self-Assessment of Abilities and Skills (Valid Response = 638)

Students were asked to assess their various abilities. The top three ratings of abilities and skills were (1) Independence, (2) General Knowledge and (3) Critical Thinking. On the other hand, the three weakest abilities and skills were in (1) Computer Literacy, (2) English language ability and (3) Time Management.

Areas of Abilities	Rating of Respondents (1 very weak and 5 very strong)				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Adaptability	3.62	3.46	3.51	3.43	3.45
Analytical ability	3.55	3.45	3.45	3.43	3.42
Chinese writing ability	3.57	3.53	3.61	3.52	3.51
Communication skill	3.61	3.54	3.55	3.48	3.51
Computer literacy	3.04	3.04	2.94	2.88	2.98
Creative ability	3.41	3.28	3.26	3.16	3.23
Critical thinking	3.64	3.58	3.52	3.43	3.47
English language ability	3.26	3.25	3.27	3.14	3.26
General knowledge	3.65	3.53	3.53	3.47	3.47
Independence	3.75	3.75	3.70	3.57	3.60
Leadership	3.34	3.27	3.23	3.09	3.18
Organizing ability	3.51	3.48	3.41	3.30	3.38
Problem-solving	3.57	3.47	3.50	3.44	3.45
Putonghua	3.35	3.28	3.39	3.35	3.26
Self-confidence	3.29	3.21	3.31	3.20	3.29
Social skill	3.45	3.32	3.40	3.29	3.36
Stress-coping	3.47	3.39	3.44	3.34	3.33
Learning skill	3.56	3.48	3.53	3.44	3.51
Time management	3.26	3.15	3.24	3.21	3.22

10 Expectation of University Education (Valid Response = 638)

Most of the respondents considered university education as an opportunity for studying an interesting subject and to enjoy university life, and followed by preparing for future career. The pattern is somehow different when comparing with previous years, more students expect to prepare for postgraduate study.

Expectations of University Education	% of Respondents Considered it Important or Very Important				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
To study an interesting subject	84.3	80.0	76.8	78.0	78.9
To prepare for future career	75.1	56.7	64.7	66.2	64.9
To develop character	72.3	64.3	57.7	54.2	57.6
To enjoy university life	78.2	64.1	62.9	62.0	66.1
To prepare for postgraduate study	63.6	50.4	53.7	55.2	53.6

11 Adaptation to University Life (Valid Response = 638)

The two main difficulties expected to come across are adaptation to the new study mode and hostel/campus life, which were obviously higher than the other three difficulties.

Expect to come across difficulties	% of Respondents Considered it Likely or Very likely				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Adaptation to hostel/ campus life	41.1	42.5	41.0	44.3	39.6
Adaptation to the new study mode	49.7	37.4	44.8	40.4	43
Speaking English in class	34.8	33.3	31.4	29.4	29.6
Financial problem	36.5	33.9	31.8	32.0	31.2

12 Attributes of University Student (Valid Response = 638)

Students were asked what made them a university student. Passion in seeking knowledge & truth and independence are two important attributes in making them a better university student.

Attributes	% of Respondents Considered it Strong or Very strong				
	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
Academic excellence	48.6	58.6	65.2	67.2	67.3
Passion in seeking knowledge & truth	68.7	66.7	63.8	66.3	64.4
Integrity	63.8	71.7	69.2	68.9	69.1
Independence	68.3	73.4	69.6	70.9	70.3
Autonomy	66.3	73.4	69.3	72.9	69.2
Self-discipline	66.8	72.5	71.9	66.2	72.4