

Abstract of the Report of the AY2024 First-Year Student Survey

Center for Higher Education Studies, Waseda University

This report contains the results of a new student survey conducted by the Center for Higher Education Studies, Waseda University, on new students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate schools in 2024, including those who enrolled in September 2023. The survey was sent to 12,697 students between April and May of 2024 with a request for responses sent to their e-mail addresses, and 5,207 responses were received (41.0% response rate).

Chapter 1 provides an overview of this survey. Chapter 2 analyzes first-year students' understanding of the admission policy (hereafter referred to as "AP") and their acquisition of skills before entering college. Overall, 56.9% of freshmen and 58.7% of undergraduates were familiar with the AP (sum of "somewhat familiar" and "familiar"). In terms of understanding (empathy) of the AP, the first-year students could understand 94.4% of the university's AP and 95.2% of the faculty's AP (sum of "somewhat understand (empathize)" and "much understand (empathize)"). Eighty percent of the respondents responded positively to the items regarding AP-related behaviors overall. The points that received particularly low percentages of positive responses were "I was able to express my thoughts clearly, either orally or by using diagrams or sentences" (75.7%) and "I was able to act on my own thoughts without being misled by the opinions of others" (78.6%).

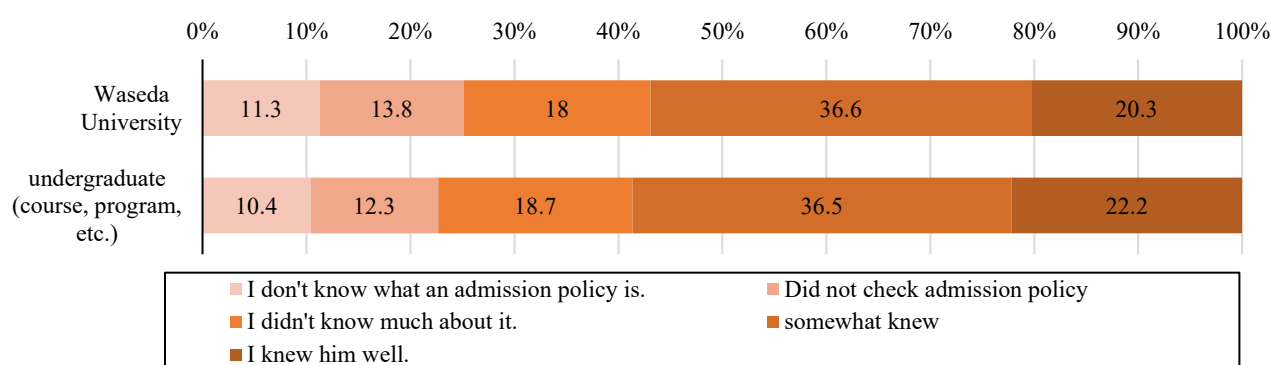


Figure. AP Perception of New Undergraduate Students

In Chapter 3, we conducted a comparative analysis of new undergraduate students who entered Waseda University from the Tokyo metropolitan area (Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, and Kanagawa) and those who entered from non-Tokyo metropolitan (regional) areas, with the aim of clarifying the characteristics of each group. In terms of learning, regardless of region of origin, students who received recommendations tended to be able to study more independently in high school, to have Waseda University and the school they entered as their first choice, and to gather more necessary information, including admission policies, than those who received general or common recommendations. However, there are some points where there are differences among the regions of origin. For example, non-Metropolitan area nominees and others find the availability of scholarships more attractive as a reason for applying to Waseda University.

In Chapter 4, we conducted a descriptive analysis of the admission process for first-year graduate students. First, we conducted a descriptive analysis of each of the four types of students, divided by arts and sciences and by course of study, and found that about 60% were aware of the AP recognition of graduate schools and graduate schools,

except for master of science students. When international students and working graduate students were selected from new graduate school students and their respective characteristics were analyzed, it was found that international students took into account the socioeconomic situation of their home countries in their responses regarding the process to entering graduate school, while working graduate students showed a high awareness of utilizing graduate school in their career development.