

## 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 Lane's location (i.e., close to home). The percentage of respondents choosing "Close to Home" as a reason for choosing Lane Community College was similar in this year's study (56.3%) as in prior year's studies.
  - Unlike prior follow-up surveys, a much lower percentage of graduate respondents reported a reason for choosing to attend Lane was lower cost (48.5% compared to 58.3% in the most recent prior study). Respondents with career technical majors again reported the availability of a specific program (57.1%) and Lane's location (64.5%) as key reasons for choosing Lane.
  - As in prior studies, the high quality of instruction remains an important reason for choosing Lane for 21.2 percent of transfer respondents.
  - The percentage of respondents with transfer majors reporting that enrollment restrictions at state colleges and universities were an important factor in choosing Lane was 7.4 percent.

The following comments highlight some other reasons respondents chose Lane:

- \* *I was twenty years out of school so I wanted to start [at Lane]. Size of classes figured in.*
- \* *I was told that it was easier.*
- \* *I had friends down here and heard really good things about the programs and faculty.*
- \* *It has a good reputation. Everyone has great things to say about it.*
- \* *Friendly learning environment.*
- \* *It wasn't as scary as the U of O.*
- \* *I'd heard good things about that department.*
- \* *I knew it ranked highly and knew people who went there.*
- \* *I had taken classes [at Lane] before and I felt comfortable.*
- \* *Flexible at Lane, distance, cost.*
- \* *Play sports.*
- \* *I wasn't sure what I wanted to study.*
- \* *I was a vet and needed a chance to get in the groove again.*

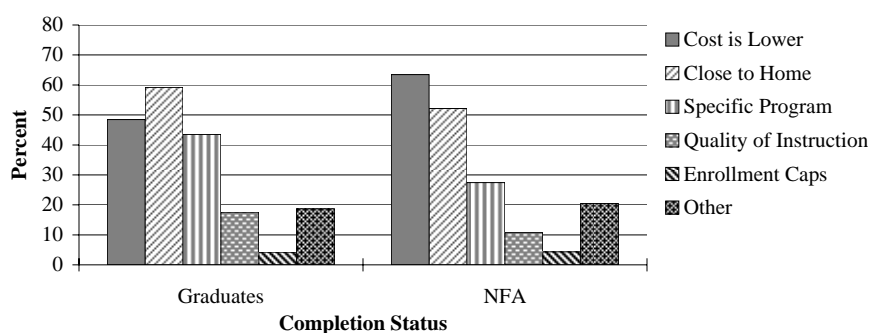
**Table 10: Reasons for Choosing Lane** (All Respondents)

Reasons for Choosing Lane	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Cost is Lower	127	48.5	118	63.4	144	76.2	101	39.0	245	54.7
Close to Home	155	59.2	97	52.2	85	45.0	167	64.5	252	56.3
Specific Program	114	43.5	51	27.4	17	9.0	148	57.1	165	36.8
Quality of Instruction	46	17.6	20	10.8	40	21.2	26	10.0	66	14.7
Enrollment Caps	11	4.2	8	4.3	14	7.4	5	1.9	19	4.2
Other	49	18.7	38	20.4	54	28.6	33	12.7	87	19.4
Total Respondents*	262		186		189		259		448	

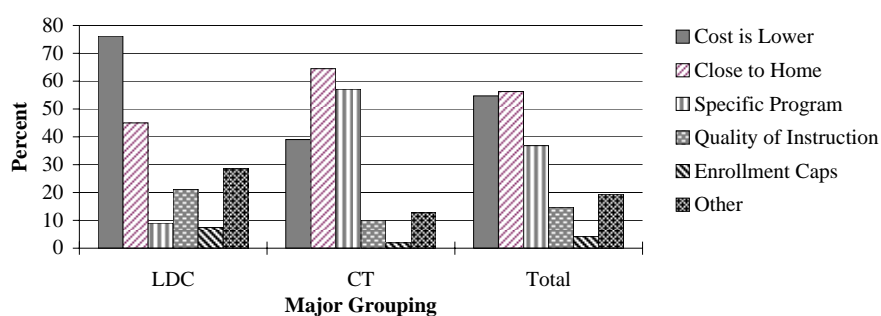
Example: The percentage of responding graduates who reported lower cost as a reason for choosing Lane was 48.5%.

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

**Reasons for Choosing Lane & Completion Status**



**Reasons for Choosing Lane & Major Grouping**



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 (30.2%) was about the same as the percentage of graduates indicating the primary reason for attending Lane was to prepare for a new job or career (32.1%).
  - Career technical (CT) majors were more likely to attend Lane to prepare for a new job or career (43.6%) followed by *to earn a degree or certificate* (37.5%).

#### **Further Analysis:**

Nearly three-quarters of respondents (72%) *30 years old and under* indicated the primary reason for attending Lane was to transfer while 62 percent of the respondents over *age 30* indicated the primary reason for attending Lane was to prepare for a new job or career.

*A majority of students achieved the objective indicated by their primary reason for attending Lane.*

Primary Reason	2000 Study	2001 Study	2002 Study	2004 Study	# Responses	2007 Achievement	
						#	% Achieved
Transfer	78%	83%	81%	84%	186	139	75% transferred.
Earn certificate/degree	76%	79%	71%	73%	108	76	70% graduated.
Prepare for a new job (2000, 2001, 2004 and 2007 studies are CT only)	52%	57%	52%	46%	119	72	61% were working in a related job, and not the same job as before attending Lane.

#### **Ethnicity**

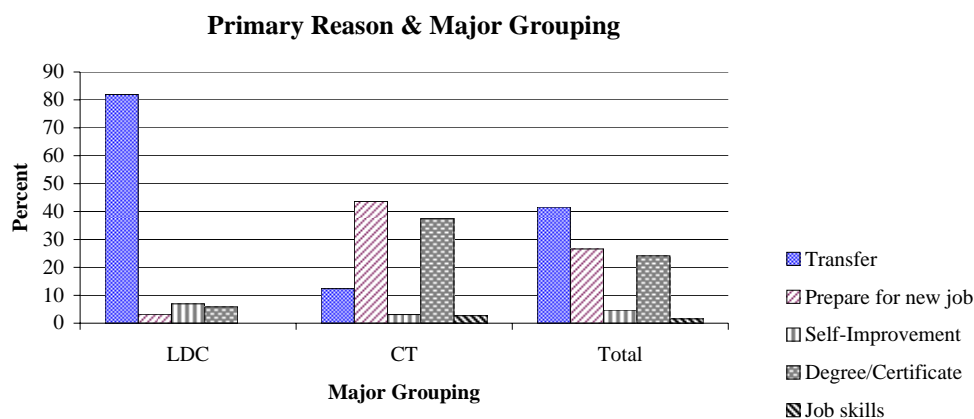
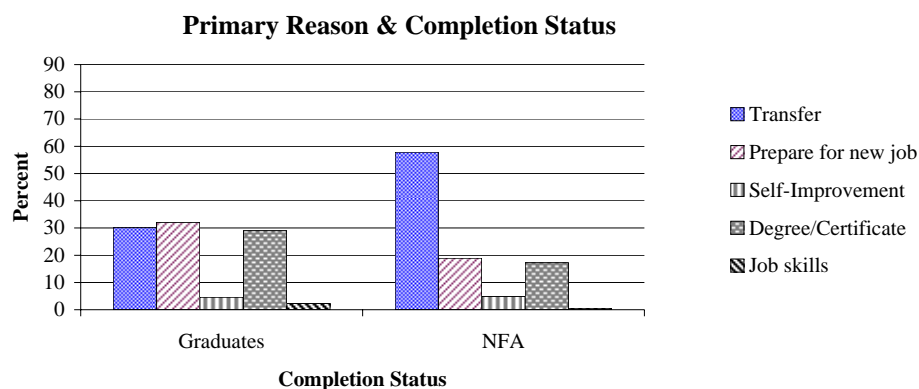
Only five African-American, five Native American/Alaska Native, 11 Hispanic and 11 Asian/Pacific Islander respondents answered this question.

Forty percent of Caucasian respondents (145 out of 359) indicated the primary reason for attending Lane was to transfer.

**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	79	30.2	107	57.8	154	81.9	32	12.4	186	41.6
Prepare for new job	84	32.1	35	18.9	6	3.2	113	43.6	119	26.6
Self-Improvement	12	4.6	9	4.9	13	6.9	8	3.1	21	4.7
Degree/Certificate	76	29.0	32	17.3	11	5.9	97	37.5	108	24.2
Job skills	6	2.3	1	0.5	0	0.0	7	2.7	7	1.6
Other	5	1.9	1	0.5	4	2.1	2	0.8	6	1.3
Total	262	100.0	185	100.0	188	100.0	259	100.0	447	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding graduates whose primary reason for attending Lane was to transfer was 30.2%.



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.

## 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, three-fourths of the respondents reported they achieved their goals “very much so.”
- Graduates overwhelmingly indicated they accomplished their goals “very much so” (87.4%). Nearly three out of five NFA respondents (59.2%) also expressed a high level of goal achievement.
- The percentage of respondents indicating “very much so” and “somewhat” combined was similar to recent studies.

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

- \* *Employment.*
- \* *I thought I would get a better job and I have been to a lot of interviews but haven't gotten a better job.*
- \* *I got my degree. I wish I could have taken more classes [at Lane].*
- \* *I would like to go back and take more classes.*
- \* *I got my degree but I had changes in my family plan and decided to come back for a different degree.*
- \* *More classes!*
- Many NFA respondents indicated what they wanted, but did not accomplish at Lane, was to get a degree at Lane.
  - \* *I haven't graduated yet and have already had some work in the field.*
  - \* *I wasn't able to finish due to family circumstances.*
  - \* *I ended up switching my major and then I found another job.*
  - \* *I still need a couple of classes more for my transfer degree.*

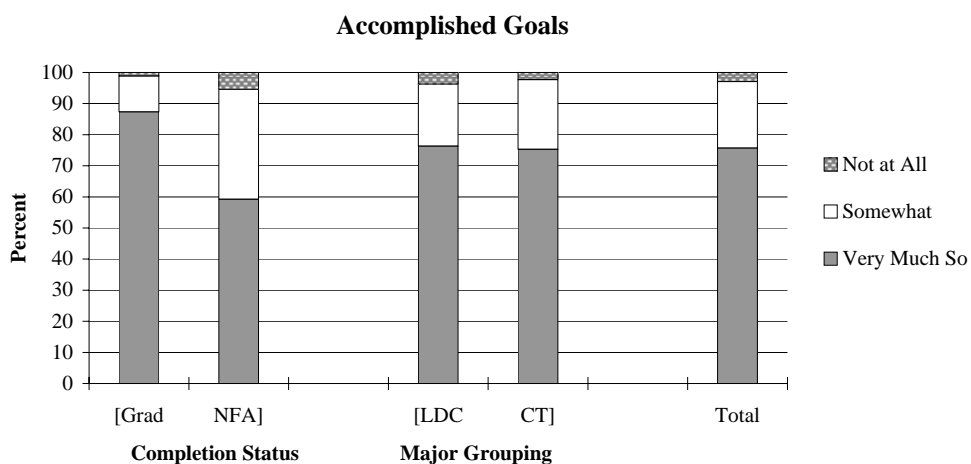
## Interpretation/Analysis:

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)

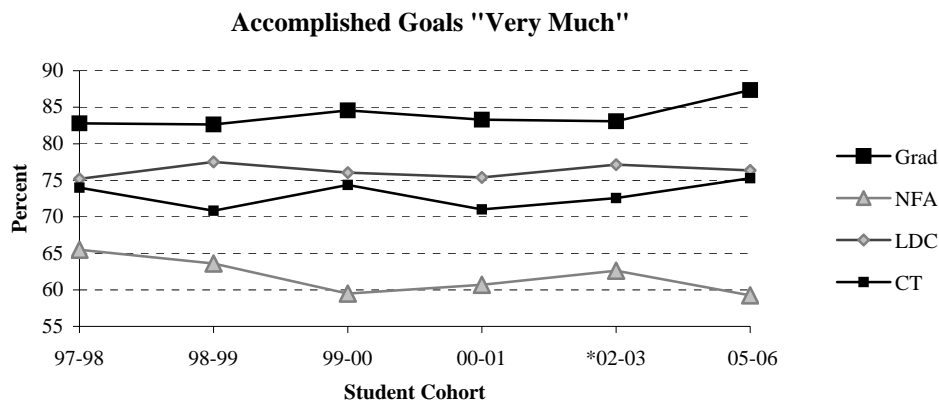
Accomplished Goals?	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Much So	228	87.4	109	59.2	142	76.3	195	75.3	337	75.7
Somewhat	30	11.5	65	35.3	37	19.9	58	22.4	95	21.3
Not at All	3	1.1	10	5.4	7	3.8	6	2.3	13	2.9
Total	261	100.0	184	100.0	186	100.0	259	100.0	445	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding graduates who indicated they accomplished their goals at Lane "very much so" was 87.4%.



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.



\*Studies were not conducted for '01-02, '03-04 or '04-05 students.

Graph below for use in summary

## 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* (17.2%), had *financial problems* (12.4%), or *accomplished their goals* (7.5%).
- About a quarter (26.7%) of the lower division collegiate (LDC) respondents who did not complete a degree or certificate indicated they left Lane because they *transferred*, 11.9 percent indicated they left because they *accomplished their goals*, and 10.9 percent indicated they left because of *financial problems*.
- Fourteen percent of career technical (CT) respondents who did not complete a degree or certificate indicated they left Lane because of *financial problems*.

### 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	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	02-03	05-06
Financial problems	21.8	24.1	27.9	16.7	18.8	19.7	14.1
Accepted a job	23.5	21.7	18.6	13.9	20.3	6.1	4.7
Accomplished goals	8.4	24.1	14.0	11.1	10.1	9.1	2.4
Transfer	4.2	2.4	9.3	20.8	18.8	12.1	5.9

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

Student Cohort	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	02-03	05-06
Transfer	56.9	51.0	54.2	52.2	51.2	45.5	17.2
Accomplished goals	22.0	36.3	18.1	27.3	22.6	10.9	7.5

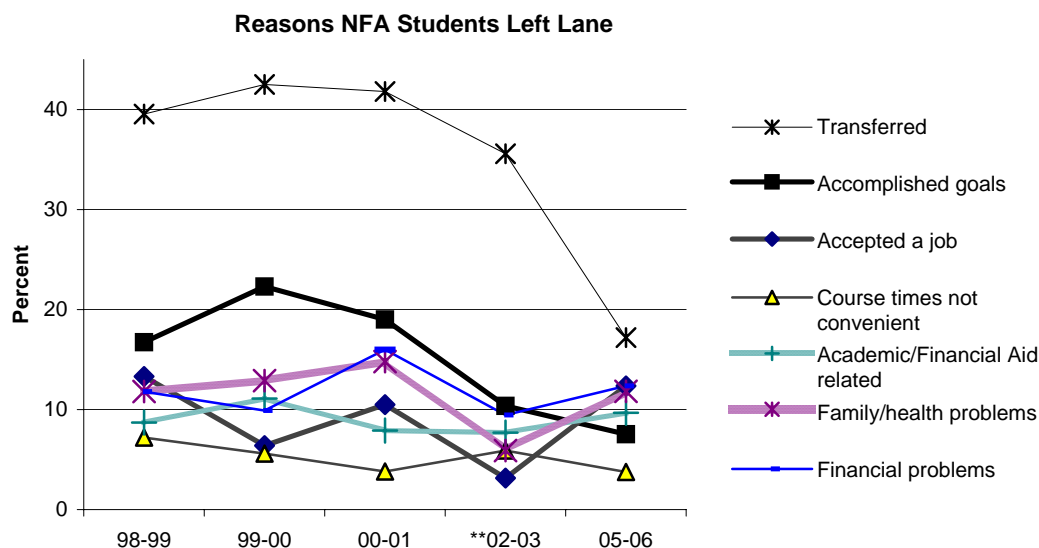
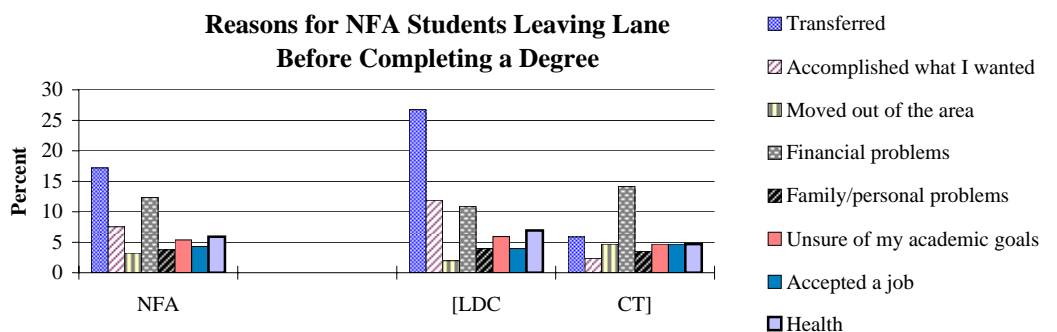
**Table 13d: Left Because Courses Were Not Offered at a Convenient Time**

Student Cohort	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01	02-03	05-06
Transfer major NFA respondents	7.3	8.3	5.6	6.2	3.8	6.4	2.0
CT major NFA respondents	8.4	22.9	10.5	4.2	4.3	4.5	5.9
All NFA respondents	7.9	12.5	7.2	5.6	3.8	5.9	3.8

**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	32	17.2	27	26.7	5	5.9
2 Accomplished what I wanted	14	7.5	12	11.9	2	2.4
3 Moved out of the area	6	3.2	2	2.0	4	4.7
4 Financial problems	23	12.4	11	10.9	12	14.1
5 Family/personal problems	7	3.8	4	4.0	3	3.5
6 Unsure of my academic goals	10	5.4	6	5.9	4	4.7
7 Accepted a job	8	4.3	4	4.0	4	4.7
8 Needed a break before returning to school	7	3.8	5	5.0	2	2.4
9 Courses not offered at convenient time	7	3.8	2	2.0	5	5.9
10 Health problems	11	5.9	7	6.9	4	4.7
11 Child care problems	4	2.2	2	2.0	2	2.4
12 Poor academic preparation	1	0.5	1	1.0	0	-
13 Lost my financial aid	7	3.8	2	2.0	5	5.9
14 Dissatisfied with the quality of teaching	4	2.2	0	-	4	4.7
15 Transportation problems	1	0.5	0	-	1	1.2
16 Other	21	11.3	8	7.9	13	15.3
Total respondents*	186	100.0	101	100.0	85	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 for '01-02, '03-04 or '04-05 students.