

LINGNAN UNIVERSITY
Non-academic Background of LOCAL New Students 2023-24

1. Objectives

The report gives a summary of findings of the survey on the non-academic background of new local undergraduate students admitted to Lingnan University for the 2023-24 academic year. The findings may facilitate the planning and enhancement of student services and facilities. Additionally, academic staff and other interested parties will find the data useful in gaining a deeper understanding of our newly-admitted students.

2. Methodology

The survey was conducted from August to October 2023. All newly admitted full-time local undergraduate students were invited to complete the survey via the 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	330	120	450	300	116	416
Male	248	149	397	216	133	349
Total	578	269	847	516	249	765
Response Rate				89.3%	92.6%	90.3%

Number of responses: 765 (local undergraduate students admitted in 2023)

Survey Summary

4. Personal Particulars

4.1 Sex (Valid Response = 765)

	Female	Male	Total
Total Number of Local Students	450	397	847
Total Number of Respondents	416	349	765

4.2 Age (Valid Response = 765)

Age	% of Respondents				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
17 or below	5.9	8.0	6.7	15.2	14.7
18	39.6	37.7	48.0	38.1	44.1
19	13.6	16.4	16.4	15.8	15.1
20	19.0	17.2	16.4	18.7	11.5
21	11.1	11.3	5.7	7.1	7.1
22	6.3	5.0	4.8	2.8	4.5
23-24	3.2	2.6	1.2	1.3	1.5
25-26	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.9
27-29	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.4
30 or above	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.2
Mean	19.3 (as of 31 Oct, provided by Registry)	19.3	18.9	19.0	18.9

According to the data provided by Registry on 31 October 2023, 78.1% of the respondents were between 17 and 20 years old.

4.3 Years of Residence in Hong Kong (Valid Response = 764)

84.3% of the respondents were born in Hong Kong while 15.7% of the respondents were born outside Hong Kong.

Years of residence in Hong Kong		% of Respondents				
		2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Born in Hong Kong	Since birth	80.9	80.3	79.5	79.2	76.4
	7 years or more (not since birth)	2.4	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.2
	3 to less than 7 years	0.3	0.4	0.7	0	0.2
	Less than 3 years	0.8	0.4	0.1	0	0.2
Subtotal		84.3	85.1	84.4	83	80
Not born in Hong Kong	7 years or more	12.6	11.9	13.1	14.7	17.7
	3 to less than 7 years	2.2	2.4	2	2.2	1.3
	Less than 3 years	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.2	1
Subtotal		15.7	14.7	15.5	17.1	20

5. Living Condition

5.1 District of Residence (Valid Response = 764)

The survey shows that 8.9% of the respondents lived on Hong Kong Island, 28.7% in Kowloon and 61.1% in the New Territories. The top three districts this year were Yuen Long (14.3%), Tuen Mun (11.8%) and Kwun Tong (10.1%) respectively.

Residential Districts	% of Respondents				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Hong Kong Island					
Central & Western	1.7	1.9	1.3	0.9	2.8
Wan chai	0.8	1	1.0	0.9	0.6
Eastern	4.0	3.9	4.8	6.9	4.3
Southern	2.4	2.6	3.5	2.7	2.4
Subtotal	8.9	9.4	10.6	11.4	10.1
Kowloon					
Yau Tsim Mong	2.5	2.3	3.5	2.7	3.0
Sham Shui Po	6.0	5.5	4.4	5.2	5.0
Kowloon City	3.0	3.9	4.1	4.9	3.9

Wong Tai Shin	7.1	4.6	4.5	6.0	5.4
Kwun Tong	10.1	11.0	11.6	12.2	10.4
Subtotal	28.7	27.3	28.1	31	27.7
New Territories					
Kwai Tsing	9.0	7.7	7.9	9.4	11.9
Tsuen Wan	6.2	5.2	5.8	3.0	4.5
Tuen Mun	11.8	9.9	7.4	6.0	7.6
Yuen Long	14.3	14.2	14.7	11.6	14.7
North (e.g. Sheung Shui, Fanling)	4.7	6.7	6.4	6.0	6.9
Tai Po	2.7	2.7	2.0	3.3	2.8
Sha Tin	6.4	7.3	7.0	8.9	6.5
Sai Kung	3.5	5.6	5.1	6.9	6
Islands	2.5	2.6	3.8	2.2	1.1
Subtotal	61.1	61.9	60.1	57.3	62
Others	1.3	1.4	1.2	0.5	0.2

5.2 Travelling Time (Valid Response = 764)

Most of the respondents (70.9%) spent more than 1 hour on travelling between home and the University.

Travelling Time (in minutes)	% of Respondents				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Less than 60	29.1	24.6	24.0	17.6	25.0
60-119	44.6	47.0	47.2	43.7	47.3
120-179	15.7	18.8	19.1	25.1	17.5
180-240	7.9	7.5	8.2	11.6	8.8
More than 240	2.7	2.2	1.6	2.0	1.5

5.3 Type of Housing (Valid Response = 764)

The survey reveals that majority of the respondents (56.2%) lived in public or Home Ownership Scheme flats.

Type of Housing	% of Respondents				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Private flats	33.6	32.1	34.9	30.7	38.7
Public rental/sale flats & Home Ownership Scheme flats	56.2	58.5	57.4	61.9	57.7
Others	10.2	9.3	7.7	7.4	3.5

5.4 Study Environment at Home (Valid Response = 764)

More than half of the respondents (59.2%) have their own rooms in their living areas.

Home Environment	% of Respondents				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
With an own room	59.2	58.2	54.4	55.3	59.0

6. Parents Background & Family Information

6.1 Size of Household (Valid Response = 764)

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

Household Size (including the respondent)	% of Respondents				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
1	1.3	1.9	1.6	0.6	0.9
2	8.9	7.9	6.1	9.1	7.5
3	28.8	27.2	32.5	30.4	29.2
4	39.1	42.4	39.9	40.4	40.6
5	16.5	15.2	13.8	13.6	14.0
6	4.1	3.3	3.9	3.8	5.8
7	0.9	1.9	1.5	1.4	0.9
8	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.9
Average size	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.9
Rounding	4	4	4	4	4

6.2 Parents' Highest Educational Attainment (Total Response = 764)

The survey shows that 77.2% of the respondents are the first-generation university students in their families (neither of their parents have a college degree). (Not applicable responses are excluded.)

Highest Educational Attainment	% of Respondents					
	Father (Valid Response = 662) Excluding Not Applicable			Mother (Valid Response = 702) Excluding Not Applicable		
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
No formal schooling	3.6	2.7	1.8	4.1	3.1	3.9
Primary school	19.9	18.4	22.9	22.7	21.6	25.0
Secondary school	55.3	58.7	59.0	57.8	56.7	57.2
Post-secondary	21.2	20.2	16.3	15.4	18.6	13.8

6.3 Monthly Household Income (Valid Response = 764)

26.4% of the respondents' household incomes were less than HK\$20,000 per month.

Monthly Household Income (HK\$)	% of Respondents				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Under 10,000	6.8	5.9	7.0	8.5	4.7
10,000 to 19,999	19.6	20.1	21.7	22.6	18.6
20,000 to 29,999	20.9	25.5	21.8	22.3	23.1
30,000 to 39,999	14	13.6	16.7	14.3	17.9
40,000 to above	16.4	14.2	13.1	14.4	14.3
Not applicable or not willing to disclose	22.3	20.7	19.7	18.0	21.5

6.4 Source of Financial Support for University Education (Valid Response = 625)

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	7.0 (10.4)	38.7 (40.9)	41.4 (41.4)	78.9 (74.8)	93.1 (95.0)	97.4 (97.9)
1-19	6.6 (6.8)	28.2 (28.4)	20.6 (23.7)	4.2 (2.6)	5.0 (3.1)	1.6 (1.5)
20-39	12.8 (14.1)	26.7 (23.7)	23.5 (19.5)	4.8 (5.5)	1.0 (1.6)	0.6 (0.3)
40-59	17.8 (14.0)	4.3 (5.4)	7.7 (9.3)	4.6 (6.7)	0.3 (0)	0.3 (0)
60-79	15.4 (12.5)	1.0 (0.5)	5.0 (3.9)	2.2 (4.2)	0.2 (0.2)	0 (0)
80-100	40.5 (42.4)	1.1 (1.1)	1.8 (2.3)	5.3 (6.0)	0.5 (0)	0 (0.2)

**Figures in the bracket were the % of the survey in 2022-23.*

7 Travelling Experiences (Valid Response = 765)

5.5% of the respondents had no travelling experience outside Hong Kong.

Travelling Experiences	% of Respondents				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
No travelling experiences	5.5	7.3	5.4	3.1	4.3
Mainland China	55.2	58.8	64.0	62.1	32
Other Asian countries	73.3	70.3	70.0	76.2	70.2
Countries outside Asia	21.4	22.7	26.7	27.7	26.0

8 Preferences for Extra-curricular Activities while at University (Valid Response = 765)

Respondents were asked to indicate their preferences for participation in different types of activities while at University. They ranked Academic-related Activities and Cultural and Recreational Activities as the top two activities that they would like to participate most in the university. Academic-related Activities ranked first this year, which is a major difference compare with the previous four years.

Rank	Type of Activities				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
1	Academic-related Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities
2	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Academic-related Activities	Academic-related Activities	Academic-related Activities	Academic-related Activities
3	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services
4	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training
5	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports
6	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Students' Union/ Other Student Bodies
7	Religious Activities	Religious Activities	Religious Activities	Religious Activities	Religious Activities

9 Self-Assessment of Skills and Abilities (Valid Response = 765)

9.1 Common Survey Questions among OSA, OSL and OGE

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.

Common Survey Questions	Rating of Respondents (1 strongly disagree and 10 strongly agree)				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
<i>Global Perspective</i>	6.91	7.05	7.19	7.57	7.59
I like to explore and appreciate new cultures.	7.07	7.17	7.36	7.76	7.87
I have the sense of the global dimensions of citizenship.	6.72	6.86	6.96	7.36	7.47
I am able to work with people from other cultural backgrounds.	6.94	7.13	7.25	7.59	7.43
<i>Interpersonal Skills</i>	6.82	6.95	6.94	7.31	7.29
I feel comfortable building relationships with people from different backgrounds.	6.87	6.96	6.96	7.3	7.19
I learn from interpersonal relationships.	6.91	7.04	7.02	7.44	7.33
I cooperate successfully with other students in a variety of situations.	6.68	6.86	6.83	7.18	7.36
<i>Social Responsibility & Civic Awareness</i>	6.63	6.92	6.96	7.46	7.49
It is my responsibility to help improve the community.	6.58	6.9	6.96	7.49	7.39
I believe that taking care of people who are in need is everyone's responsibility.	6.81	7.05	7.19	7.63	7.54
I act as if my behaviors make a difference in other people's lives.	6.49	6.82	6.74	7.26	7.54
<i>Problem Solving & Analytical Abilities</i>	6.75	6.91	6.91	7.27	7.2
I feel confident in tackling problems.	6.42	6.55	6.48	6.8	6.85
I understand that problems usually have more than one cause.	6.99	7.19	7.29	7.64	7.52
Before I solve a problem, I gather as many facts about the problem as I can.	6.83	6.98	6.97	7.36	7.22
<i>Management Skills</i>	6.45	6.55	6.43	6.82	6.68
I trust my abilities to lead others.	6.29	6.36	6.2	6.63	6.54
I know how to allocate tasks to group members.	6.41	6.52	6.36	6.76	6.58
I can plan activities independently.	6.65	6.78	6.73	7.08	6.93
<i>Communication Skills</i>	6.41	6.51	6.42	6.79	6.75
I feel comfortable to present my ideas in front of others.	6.30	6.42	6.38	6.74	6.82
I know how to communicate my ideas	6.42	6.52	6.45	6.8	6.71

in a situation that is new to me.					
I participate effectively in group discussions and activities.	6.50	6.58	6.44	6.82	6.73

9.2 Self-Assessment of Abilities and Skills (Valid Response = 765)

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

Areas of Abilities	Rating of Respondents (1 very weak and 5 very strong)				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Independence	3.60	3.58	3.62	3.75	3.75
Adaptability	3.49	3.53	3.54	3.62	3.46
General knowledge	3.52	3.53	3.55	3.65	3.53
Chinese writing ability	3.52	3.49	3.53	3.57	3.53
Communication skill	3.47	3.48	3.48	3.61	3.54
Critical thinking	3.47	3.48	3.49	3.64	3.58
Problem-solving	3.46	3.46	3.50	3.57	3.47
Analytical ability	3.44	3.45	3.44	3.55	3.45
Learning skill	3.43	3.45	3.46	3.56	3.48
Organizing ability	3.41	3.39	3.37	3.51	3.48
Creative ability	3.39	3.36	3.34	3.41	3.28
Putonghua	3.48	3.36	3.42	3.35	3.28
Social skill	3.33	3.32	3.30	3.45	3.32
Stress-coping	3.28	3.30	3.27	3.47	3.39
Leadership	3.27	3.27	3.20	3.34	3.27
English language ability	3.21	3.25	3.16	3.26	3.25
Self-confidence	3.19	3.21	3.13	3.29	3.21
Time management	3.23	3.18	3.20	3.26	3.15
Computer literacy	3.11	3.15	3.07	3.04	3.04

10 Expectation of University Education (Valid Response = 765)

Most of the respondents considered university education as an opportunity to (1) Study an Interesting Subject, (2) Enjoy University Life, and (3) Develop Character, in descending order of importance. The pattern is similar to that of last year.

Expectations of University Education	% of Respondents Considered it Important or Very Important				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
To study an interesting subject	67.7	70	73.6	84.3	80
To enjoy university life	65.2	62.3	64.6	78.2	64.1
To prepare for future career	56.2	59.8	63.6	75.1	56.7
To develop character	61.6	58.2	60.4	72.3	64.3
To prepare for postgraduate study	51.6	54.2	54.6	63.6	50.4

11 Adaptation to University Life (Valid Response = 765)

The two main difficulties expected to come across are Adaptation to the New Study Mode and Speaking English in Class. The survey indicated that both difficulties have slightly increased when comparing with that of the previous year.

Difficulties expected to come across	% of Respondents Considered it Likely or Very likely				
	223-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Adaptation to the new study mode	42.2	40.6	41.8	49.7	37.4
Speaking English in class	36.5	34	35.6	34.8	33.3
Financial problem	34.0	33	35.6	36.5	33.9
Adaptation to hostel/ campus life	35.7	31	36.1	41.1	42.5

12 Attributes of University Student (Valid Response = 765)

Students were asked what made them a university student. Independence and Self-discipline are two most important attributes in making them a better university student. The survey also reflected an increasing trend of each attribute when comparing with previous years' findings, especially a significant increase in Academic Excellence.

Attributes	% of Respondents Considered it Strong or Very strong				
	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Independence	59.3	54.8	57.2	68.3	73.4
Self-discipline	57.4	51.8	56.5	66.8	72.5
Passion in seeking knowledge & truth	56.5	50.6	57.5	68.7	66.7
Autonomy	56.1	49.4	53.8	66.3	73.4
Integrity	53.7	48.4	53.4	63.8	71.7
Academic excellence	49.7	42	43.8	48.6	58.6

Enclosure: Questionnaire on the Non-academic Background of New Local Undergraduate Students admitted by Lingnan University in 2023-24