

LINGNAN UNIVERSITY
Non-academic Background of LOCAL New Students 2024-25

1. Objectives

The report gives a summary of survey findings on the non-academic background of new local undergraduate students admitted to Lingnan University for the 2024-25 academic year. These 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 2024. 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	308	113	421	283	103	386
Male	236	120	356	209	97	306
Total	544	233	777	492	200	692
Response Rate				90.4%	85.8%	89.1%

Number of responses: 692 local undergraduate students admitted in 2024

Survey Summary

4. Personal Particulars

4.1 Sex (Valid Response = 692)

	Female	Male	Total
Total Number of Local Students	421	356	777
Total Number of Respondents	386	306	692

4.2 Age (Valid Response = 692)

Age	% of Respondents				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
17 or below	6.4	5.9	8.0	6.7	15.2
18	42.1	39.6	37.7	48.0	38.1
19	13.7	13.6	16.4	16.4	15.8
20	18.9	19.0	17.2	16.4	18.7
21	9.5	11.1	11.3	5.7	7.1
22	5.5	6.3	5.0	4.8	2.8
23-24	2.8	3.2	2.6	1.2	1.3
25-26	0.3	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.3
27-29	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.3
30 or above	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.5
Mean	19.2 (as of 31 Oct; provided by the Registry)	19.3	19.3	18.9	19.0

According to the data provided by the Registry on 31 October 2024, 81.1% of the respondents were between 17 and 20 years old.

4.3 Years of Residence in Hong Kong (Valid Response = 692)

85.7% of the respondents were born in Hong Kong while 14.3% of the respondents were born outside Hong Kong.

Years of Residence in Hong Kong		% of Respondents				
		2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Born in Hong Kong	Since birth	77.2	80.9	80.3	79.5	79.2
	7 years or more (not since birth)	4.5	2.4	4.0	4.1	3.8
	3 to less than 7 years	1.0	0.3	0.4	0.7	0
	Less than 3 years	3.0	0.8	0.4	0.1	0
Subtotal		85.7	84.3	85.1	84.4	83
Not born in Hong Kong	7 years or more	11.4	12.6	11.9	13.1	14.7
	3 to less than 7 years	0.9	2.2	2.4	2	2.2
	Less than 3 years	2.0	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.2
Subtotal		14.3	15.7	14.7	15.5	17.1

5. Living Condition

5.1 District of Residence (Valid Response = 692)

The survey shows that 9.5% of the respondents lived on Hong Kong Island, 23.8% in Kowloon and 60.5% in the New Territories. The top three districts this year were Yuen Long (14.5%), Tuen Mun 9.2%) and Kwun Tong (9.0%) respectively.

Residential District	% of Respondents				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Hong Kong Island					
Central & Western	2.6	1.7	1.9	1.3	0.9
Wan Chai	0.6	0.8	1	1.0	0.9
Eastern	4.2	4.0	3.9	4.8	6.9
Southern	2.2	2.4	2.6	3.5	2.7
Subtotal	9.6	8.9	9.4	10.6	11.4
Kowloon					
Yau Tsim Mong	1.6	2.5	2.3	3.5	2.7
Sham Shui Po	5.4	6.0	5.5	4.4	5.2
Kowloon City	4.0	3.0	3.9	4.1	4.9
Wong Tai Shin	3.8	7.1	4.6	4.5	6.0
Kwun Tong	9.0	10.1	11.0	11.6	12.2

Subtotal	23.8	28.7	27.3	28.1	31
New Territories					
Kwai Tsing	6.9	9.0	7.7	7.9	9.4
Tsuen Wan	6.6	6.2	5.2	5.8	3.0
Tuen Mun	9.2	11.8	9.9	7.4	6.0
Yuen Long	14.5	14.3	14.2	14.7	11.6
North (e.g. Sheung Shui, Fanling)	6.2	4.7	6.7	6.4	6.0
Tai Po	2.2	2.7	2.7	2.0	3.3
Sha Tin	7.8	6.4	7.3	7.0	8.9
Sai Kung	4.6	3.5	5.6	5.1	6.9
Islands	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.8	2.2
Subtotal	60.5	61.1	61.9	60.1	57.3
Others	6.1	1.3	1.4	1.2	0.5

5.2 Travelling Time (Valid Response = 692)

Most of the respondents (72.4%) spent more than 1 hour on travelling between home and the University.

Travelling Time (in minutes)	% of Respondents				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Less than 60	27.6	29.1	24.6	24.0	17.6
60-119	45.1	44.6	47.0	47.2	43.7
120-179	16.7	15.7	18.8	19.1	25.1
180-240	7.1	7.9	7.5	8.2	11.6
More than 240	3.5	2.7	2.2	1.6	2.0

5.3 Type of Housing (Valid Response = 692)

The survey reveals that the majority of the respondents (56.8%) lived in public or Home Ownership Scheme flats.

Type of Housing	% of Respondents				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Private flats	31.4	33.6	32.1	34.9	30.7
Public rental/sale flats & Home Ownership Scheme flats	56.8	56.2	58.5	57.4	61.9
Others	11.8	10.2	9.3	7.7	7.4

5.4 Study Environment at Home (Valid Response = 692)

More than half of the respondents (60.0%) have their own rooms in their living areas.

Home Environment	% of Respondents				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
With an own room	60.0	59.2	58.2	54.4	55.3

6. Parents Background & Family Information

6.1 Size of Household (Valid Response = 692)

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

Household Size (including the respondent)	% of Respondents				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
1	1.9	1.3	1.9	1.6	0.6
2	10.3	8.9	7.9	6.1	9.1
3	30.1	28.8	27.2	32.5	30.4
4	37.9	39.1	42.4	39.9	40.4
5	12.4	16.5	15.2	13.8	13.6
6	4.2	4.1	3.3	3.9	3.8
7	2.1	0.9	1.9	1.5	1.4
8	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.6
Average size	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8
Rounding	4	4	4	4	4

6.2 Parents' Highest Educational Attainment (Total Response = 692)

The survey shows that 73.3% of the respondents are 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 = 591) Excluding Not Applicable			Mother (Valid Response = 609) Excluding Not Applicable		
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
No formal schooling	4.1	3.6	2.7	3.8	4.1	3.1
Primary school	19.8	19.9	18.4	20.7	22.7	21.6
Secondary school	51.4	55.3	58.7	53.4	57.8	56.7
Post-secondary	24.7	21.2	20.2	22.1	15.4	18.6

6.3 Monthly Household Income (Valid Response = 692)

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

Monthly Household Income (HK\$)	% of Respondents				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Under 10,000	8.5	6.8	5.9	7.0	8.5
10,000 to 19,999	17.9	19.6	20.1	21.7	22.6
20,000 to 29,999	17.5	20.9	25.5	21.8	22.3
30,000 to 39,999	11.4	14	13.6	16.7	14.3
40,000 to above	15.6	16.4	14.2	13.1	14.4
Not applicable or not willing to disclose	29.1	22.3	20.7	19.7	18.0

6.4 Source of Financial Support for University Education (Valid Response = 586)

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	6.5 (7.0)	40.1 (38.7)	43.5 (41.4)	77.6 (78.9)	93.5 (93.1)	96.8 (97.4)
1-19	6.8 (6.6)	29.5 (28.2)	22.2 (20.6)	4.9 (4.2)	4.6 (5.0)	1.7 (1.6)
20-39	11.1 (12.8)	23.2 (26.7)	20.0 (23.5)	4.8 (4.8)	1.5 (1.0)	0.5 (0.6)
40-59	18.1 (17.8)	6.1 (4.3)	9.2 (7.7)	5.1 (4.6)	0.2 (0.3)	0.9 (0.3)
60-79	14.8 (15.4)	0.2 (1.0)	3.2 (5.0)	2.1 (2.2)	0 (0.2)	0.1 (0)
80-100	42.7 (40.5)	0.9 (1.1)	1.9 (1.8)	5.5 (5.3)	0.2 (0.5)	0 (0)

**Figures in the bracket were the % of the survey in 2023-24*

7 Travelling Experiences (Valid Response = 692)

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

Travelling Experiences	% of Respondents				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
No travelling experiences	5.5	5.5	7.3	5.4	3.1
Mainland China	62.4	55.2	58.8	64.0	62.1
Other Asian countries	71.7	73.3	70.3	70.0	76.2
Countries outside Asia	23.1	21.4	22.7	26.7	27.7

8 Preferences for Extra-curricular Activities while at University (Valid Response = 692)

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

Rank	Type of Activities				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
1	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Academic-related Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities
2	Academic-related Activities	Cultural and Recreational Activities	Academic-related Activities	Academic-related Activities	Academic-related Activities
3	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training
4	Social/ Community Services	Social/ Community Services	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Leadership Programmes/ Personal Skills Training	Social/ Community Services
5	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports	Sports
6	Serve on Student Societies/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Student Societies/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Student Societies/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Student Societies/ Other Student Bodies	Serve on Student Societies/ Other Student Bodies
7	Religious Activities	Religious Activities	Religious Activities	Religious Activities	Religious Activities

9 Self-Assessment of Skills and Abilities (Valid Response = 692)

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)				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
<i>Global Perspective</i>	7.11	6.91	7.05	7.19	7.57
I like to explore and appreciate new cultures.	7.21	7.07	7.17	7.36	7.76
I have the sense of the global dimensions of citizenship.	6.95	6.72	6.86	6.96	7.36
I am able to work with people from other cultural backgrounds.	7.15	6.94	7.13	7.25	7.59
<i>Interpersonal Skills</i>	7.06	6.82	6.95	6.94	7.31
I feel comfortable building relationships with people from different backgrounds.	7.10	6.87	6.96	6.96	7.3
I learn from interpersonal relationships.	7.17	6.91	7.04	7.02	7.44
I cooperate successfully with other students in a variety of situations.	6.90	6.68	6.86	6.83	7.18
<i>Problem Solving & Analytical Abilities</i>	6.95	6.75	6.91	6.91	7.27
I feel confident in tackling problems.	6.63	6.42	6.55	6.48	6.8
I understand that problems usually have more than one cause.	7.15	6.99	7.19	7.29	7.64
Before I solve a problem, I gather as many facts about the problem as I can.	7.07	6.83	6.98	6.97	7.36
<i>Social Responsibility & Civic Awareness</i>	6.87	6.63	6.92	6.96	7.46
It is my responsibility to help improve the community.	6.84	6.58	6.9	6.96	7.49
I believe that taking care of people who are in need is everyone's responsibility.	7.04	6.81	7.05	7.19	7.63
I act as if my behaviors make a difference in other people's lives.	6.73	6.49	6.82	6.74	7.26
<i>Communication Skills</i>	6.63	6.41	6.51	6.42	6.79
I feel comfortable to present my ideas in front of others.	6.59	6.30	6.42	6.38	6.74
I know how to communicate my ideas in a situation that is new to me.	6.60	6.42	6.52	6.45	6.8
I participate effectively in group discussions and activities.	6.70	6.50	6.58	6.44	6.82
<i>Management Skills</i>	6.62	6.45	6.55	6.43	6.82
I trust my abilities to lead others.	6.44	6.29	6.36	6.2	6.63
I know how to allocate tasks to group members.	6.62	6.41	6.52	6.36	6.76
I can plan activities independently.	6.81	6.65	6.78	6.73	7.08

9.2 Self-Assessment of Abilities and Skills (Valid Response = 692)

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

Areas of Abilities	Rating of Respondents (1 very weak and 5 very strong)				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Adaptability	3.54	3.49	3.53	3.54	3.62
Analytical ability	3.49	3.44	3.45	3.44	3.55
Chinese writing ability	3.49	3.52	3.49	3.53	3.57
Communication skill	3.52	3.47	3.48	3.48	3.61
Computer literacy	3.17	3.11	3.15	3.07	3.04
Creative ability	3.39	3.39	3.36	3.34	3.41
Critical thinking	3.48	3.47	3.48	3.49	3.64
English language ability	3.15	3.21	3.25	3.16	3.26
General knowledge	3.56	3.52	3.53	3.55	3.65
Independence	3.65	3.60	3.58	3.62	3.75
Leadership	3.30	3.27	3.27	3.20	3.34
Learning skill	3.42	3.43	3.45	3.46	3.56
Organizing ability	3.41	3.41	3.39	3.37	3.51
Problem-solving	3.50	3.46	3.46	3.50	3.57
Putonghua	3.55	3.48	3.36	3.42	3.35
Self-confidence	3.24	3.19	3.21	3.13	3.29
Social skill	3.32	3.33	3.32	3.30	3.45
Stress-coping	3.36	3.28	3.30	3.27	3.47
Time management	3.20	3.23	3.18	3.20	3.26

10 Expectation of University Education (Valid Response = 692)

Most of the respondents considered university education as an opportunity to (1) Study an Interesting Subject, (2) Prepare for Future Career, and (3) Enjoy University Life, in descending order of importance. The pattern differs from that of last year.

Expectations of University Education	% of Respondents Considered it Important or Very Important				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
To study an interesting subject	71.0	67.7	70	73.6	84.3
To prepare for future career	68.9	56.2	59.8	63.6	75.1
To enjoy university life	62.6	65.2	62.3	64.6	78.2
To develop character	59.4	61.6	58.2	60.4	72.3
To prepare for postgraduate study	54.6	51.6	54.2	54.6	63.6

11 Adaptation to University Life (Valid Response = 692)

The two main difficulties expected to be encountered are Adaptation to the New Study Mode and Speaking English in Class. The survey also reflected that more students find it challenging to speak English in class.

Difficulties expected to come across	% of Respondents Considered it Likely or Very Likely				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Adaptation to the new study mode	40.6	42.2	40.6	41.8	49.7
Speaking English in class	38.7	36.5	34	35.6	34.8
Financial problem	36.8	34.0	33	35.6	36.5
Adaptation to hostel/ campus life	34.8	35.7	31	36.1	41.1

12 Attributes of University Student (Valid Response = 692)

Students were asked what made them a university student. Independence and Self-discipline are the two most important attributes in shaping them into better university students. The survey also indicated an increasing trend in each attribute compared to previous years, especially a significant increase in Academic Excellence.

Attributes	% of Respondents Considered it Strong or Very Strong				
	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Independence	60.5	59.3	54.8	57.2	68.3
Self-discipline	58.2	57.4	51.8	56.5	66.8
Passion in seeking knowledge & truth	56.8	56.5	50.6	57.5	68.7
Autonomy	56.8	56.1	49.4	53.8	66.3
Integrity	54.6	53.7	48.4	53.4	63.8
Academic excellence	52.2	49.7	42	43.8	48.6

Enclosure: Questionnaire on the Non-academic Background of New Local Undergraduate Students admitted by Lingnan University in 2024-25