

# **ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey Graphics Report**

**For**

**University of Wisconsin-Madison**

**Summary of Selected Results**

December 2005

For more information contact:

Jocelyn Milner  
Academic Planning and Analysis  
[jmilner@wisc.edu](mailto:jmilner@wisc.edu)  
608-263-5658

Margaret Harrigan  
Academic Planning and Analysis  
[harrigan@vc.wisc.edu](mailto:harrigan@vc.wisc.edu)

<http://wiscinfo.doit.wisc.edu/obpa/Alumni/alumni.htm>

Acknowledgement:

Thanks to Jennifer Meek Weaver for assistance with the tables and graphs.

Technical Notes  
ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey 2005

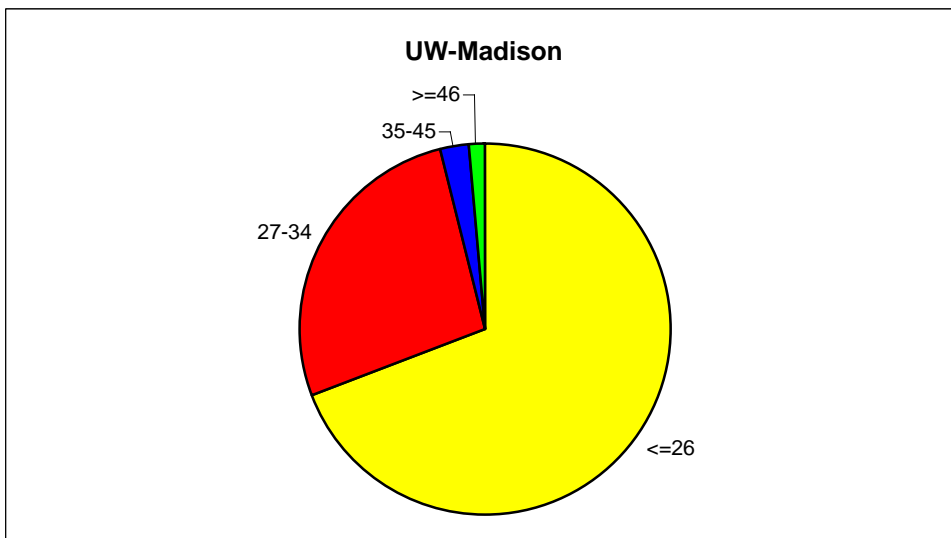
A random sample of 1022 UW Madison alumni who received a bachelor's degree in 2000-01, 2001-02, or 2002-03 were mailed a survey by ACT, Inc. in August 2005. Of those surveyed, 240 completed the questionnaire, resulting in a 23.5% response rate. The national comparison data consists of 34 public four-year colleges and universities who participated in the Act Alumni Outcomes Survey during the period from 2000-2005. A total of 12,839 alumni at these universities responded to the survey. The 34 colleges and universities included in the comparison data are listed below.

Colleges and Universities Included in National Comparison Data:

State	College/University	Enrollment
AL	University of Alabama	10,001 to 20,000
AR	University of Arkansas at Little Rock	10,001 to 20,000
CA	California State University-Sacramento	Over 25,000
CA	Sonoma State University	6,001 to 8,000
CO	Fort Lewis College	4,001 to 5,000
GA	Georgia Southern University	10,001 to 20,000
GA	North Georgia College & State University	3,001 to 4,000
IN	University of Southern Indiana	8,001 to 10,000
LA	Nicholls State University	6,001 to 8,000
LA	Grambling State University	4,001 to 5,000
LA	Louisiana Tech University	10,001 to 20,000
LA	Louisiana State University and A&M-Baton Rouge	Over 25,000
LA	University of New Orleans	10,001 to 20,000
LA	Louisiana State University at Shreveport	4,001 to 5,000
LA	McNeese State University	6,001 to 8,000
LA	University of Louisiana at Monroe	8,001 to 10,000
LA	Northwestern State University of Louisiana	8,001 to 10,000
LA	Southeastern Louisiana University	10,001 to 20,000
LA	Southern University at Baton Rouge	8,001 to 10,000
LA	Southern University at New Orleans	3,001 to 4,000
LA	University of Louisiana at Lafayette	10,001 to 20,000
LA	Louisiana State Univ. School of Allied Health-New Orleans	2,001 to 3,000
MI	University of Michigan-Dearborn	8,001 to 10,000
MO	Northwest Missouri State University	6,001 to 8,000
ND	North Dakota State University	10,001 to 20,000
ND	Dickinson State University	2,001 to 3,000
ND	Mayville State University	501 to 1,000
ND	Minot State University	3,001 to 4,000
ND	Valley City State University	1,001 to 1,500
ND	University of North Dakota	10,001 to 20,000
OR	University of Oregon	20,001 to 25,000
TN	Austin Peay State University	6,001 to 8,000
TX	University of Houston-Victoria	1,501 to 2,000
VT	Castleton State College	1,501 to 2,000

Figure 1. Section I - Background Information, Item B: Age

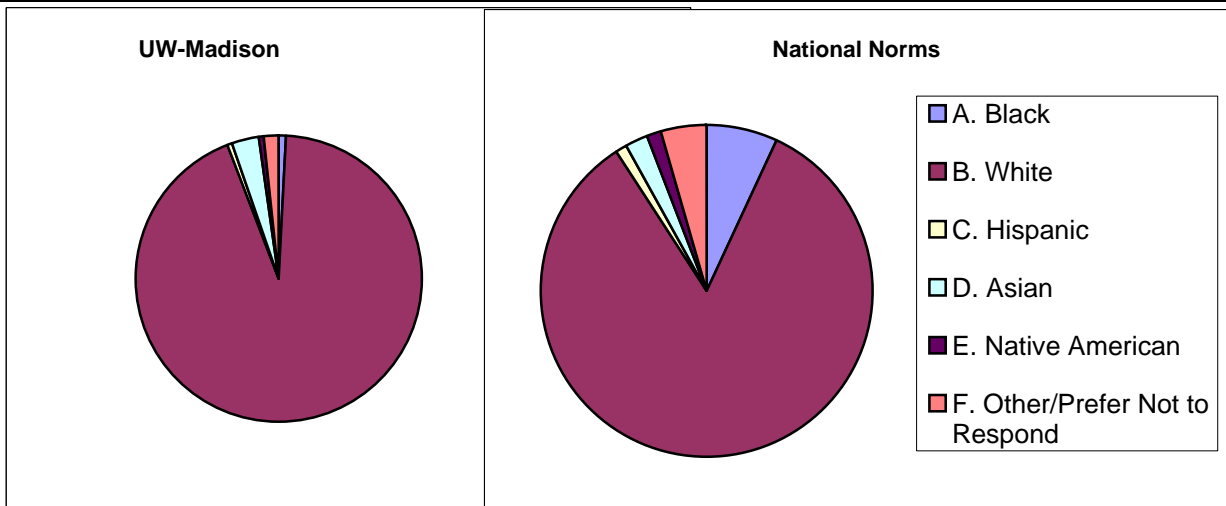
Age	UW-Madison %	National Norms %
20 & Under	0.0	0.0
21-22	0.0	0.9
23-24	10.7	15.0
25-26	58.5	24.1
27 to 29	24.8	21.5
30 to 34	2.1	14.5
35 to 39	1.7	7.3
40 to 45	0.9	6.6
46 to 49	0.4	4.0
50 to 59	0.9	5.3
60 and over	0.0	0.8
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<=26	69.2	40.0
27-34	26.9	36.0
35-45	2.6	13.9
>=46	1.3	10.1



Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)  
 National Norms - includes participating 4-year public universities.  
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Figure 2. Section I - Background Information, Item C: Racial/Ethnic

Racial/Ethnic	UW-Madison %	National Norms %
African American or Black	0.8	6.8
Native American (Indian, Alaskan, Hawaiian)	0.4	1.4
Caucasian or White	93.3	82.7
Mexican American, Mexican Origin	0.0	1.5
Asian American, Oriental, Pacific Islander	3.3	2.3
Puerto Rican, Cuban, Other Latino or Hispanic	0.4	1.0
Other	0.4	1.0
Prefer Not to Respond	1.3	3.3
<hr/>		
A. Black	0.8	6.8
B. White	93.3	82.7
C. Hispanic	0.4	1.0
D. Asian	3.3	2.3
E. Native American	0.4	1.4
F. Other/Prefer Not to Respond	1.7	4.3



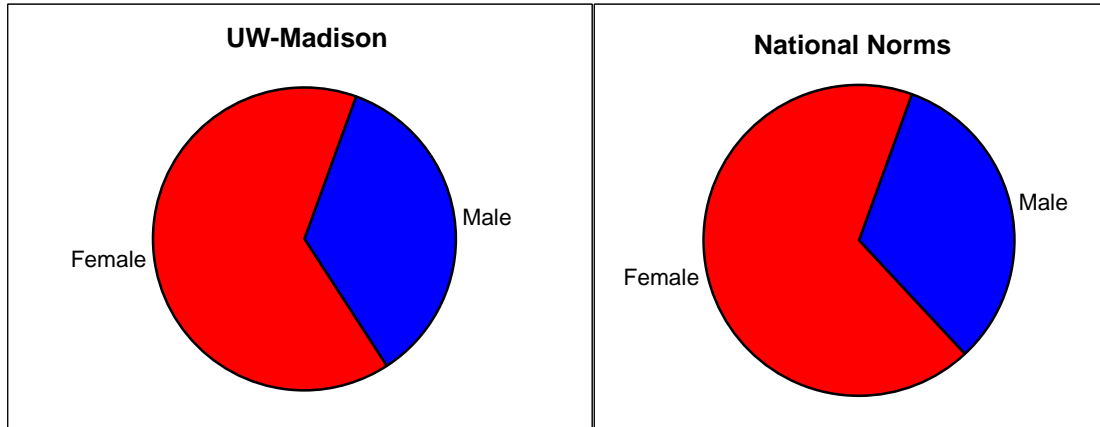
Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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Figure 3. Section I - Background Information, Item D: Gender

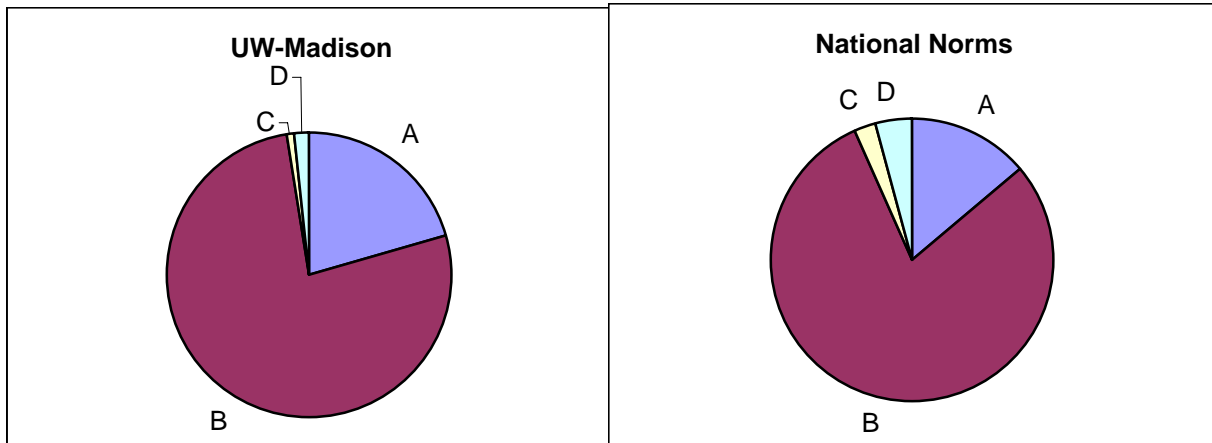
Gender	UW-Madison %	National Norms %
Male	35.4	32.4
Female	64.6	67.6



Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)  
National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.  
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Figure 4. Section I - Background Information, Item E: Primary Work Status

Primary Work Status	UW-Madison %	National Norms %
Employed full time	70.8	73.0
Caring for my family/home full time	0.8	2.9
Serving in the military	0.0	0.5
Employed part time	6.3	5.8
Continuing my education part time and employed	5.4	5.0
Continuing my education part time	0.4	0.3
Continuing my education full time	14.6	8.6
Unemployed, seeking employment	0.8	2.3
Unemployed, not seeking employment	0.0	0.3
Other	0.8	1.2
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A. Continuing my education	20.4	13.9
B. Employed	77.1	79.3
C. Unemployed	0.8	2.6
D. Other	1.6	4.1



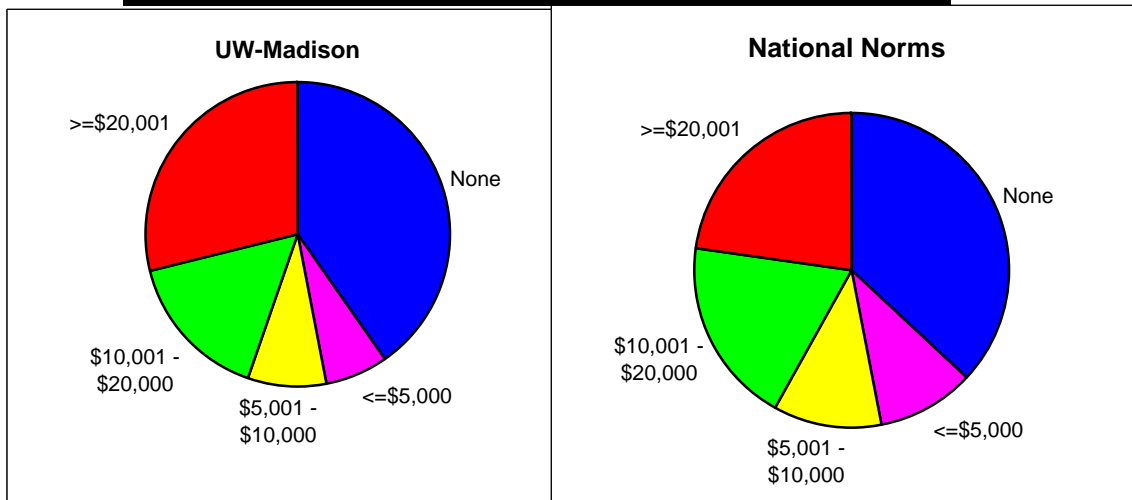
Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)  
 National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.  
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Figure 5. Section I - Background Information,  
Item J: Largest Student Loan Debt

Largest Student Loan Debt	UW-Madison %	National Norms %
None	40.2	37.0
\$2,500 or less	3.3	4.1
\$2,501 - \$5,000	3.3	5.8
\$5,001 - \$7,500	3.8	5.0
\$7,501 - \$10,000	4.6	6.1
\$10,001 - \$15,000	7.5	9.8
\$15,001 - \$20,000	8.4	9.4
\$20,001 - \$25,000	6.3	7.4
\$25,001 - \$30,000	7.5	5.6
\$30,001 or more	15.1	9.8

None	40.2	37.0
<=\$5,000	6.7	9.9
\$5,001 - \$10,000	8.4	11.1
\$10,001 - \$20,000	15.9	19.2
>=\$20,001	28.9	22.8



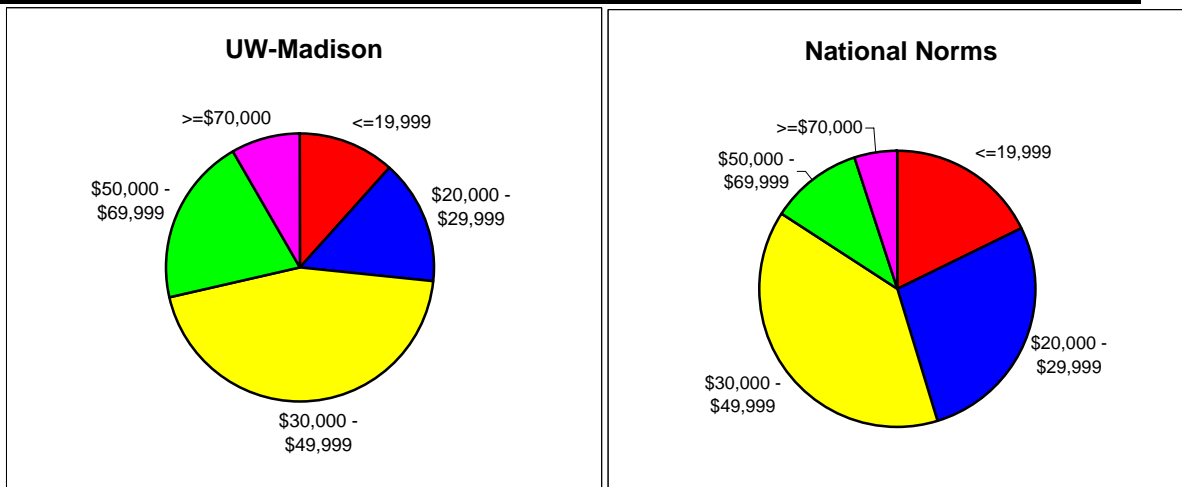
Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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Figure 6. Section II - Employment History, Item C: Annual Income for Current Job

Annual Income for Current Job	UW-Madison %	National Norms %
\$14,999 or less	7.8	10.5
\$15,000 - \$19,999	3.9	7.2
\$20,000 - \$24,999	7.3	12.9
\$25,000 - \$29,999	7.8	14.7
\$30,000 - \$39,999	29.1	25.1
\$40,000 - \$49,999	15.5	13.9
\$50,000 - \$59,999	11.7	7.0
\$60,000 - \$69,999	8.7	3.6
\$70,000 or more	8.3	5.1
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<=19,999	11.7	17.7
\$20,000 - \$29,999	15.0	27.6
\$30,000 - \$49,999	44.7	39.0
\$50,000 - \$69,999	20.4	10.6
>=\$70,000	8.3	5.1



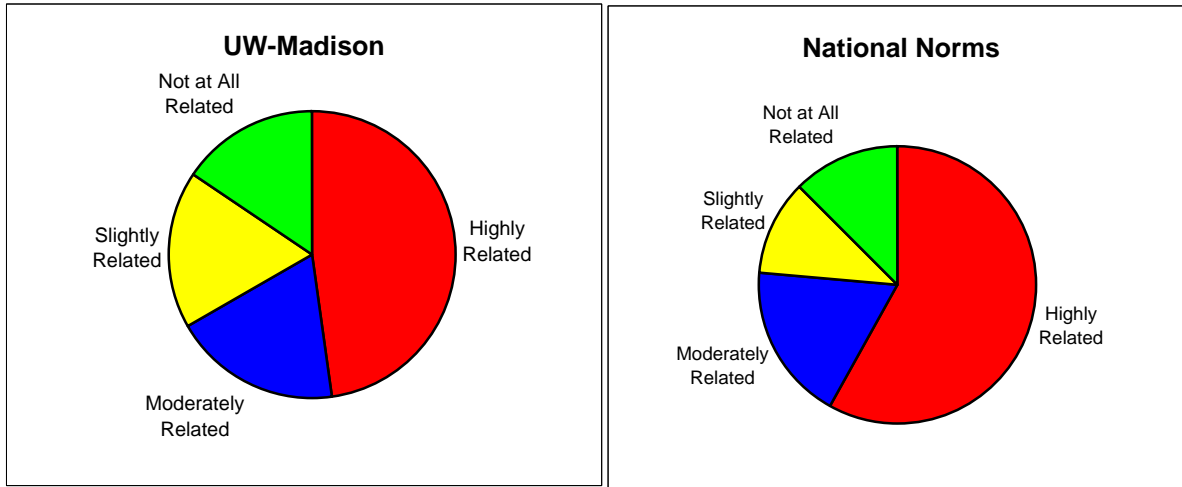
Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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Figure 7. Section II - Item B: Closeness of Current Job to Most Recent Degree

	UW-Madison %	National Norms %
Highly Related	47.8	58.1
Moderately Related	18.8	18.2
Slightly Related	17.9	11.3
Not at All Related	15.5	12.4



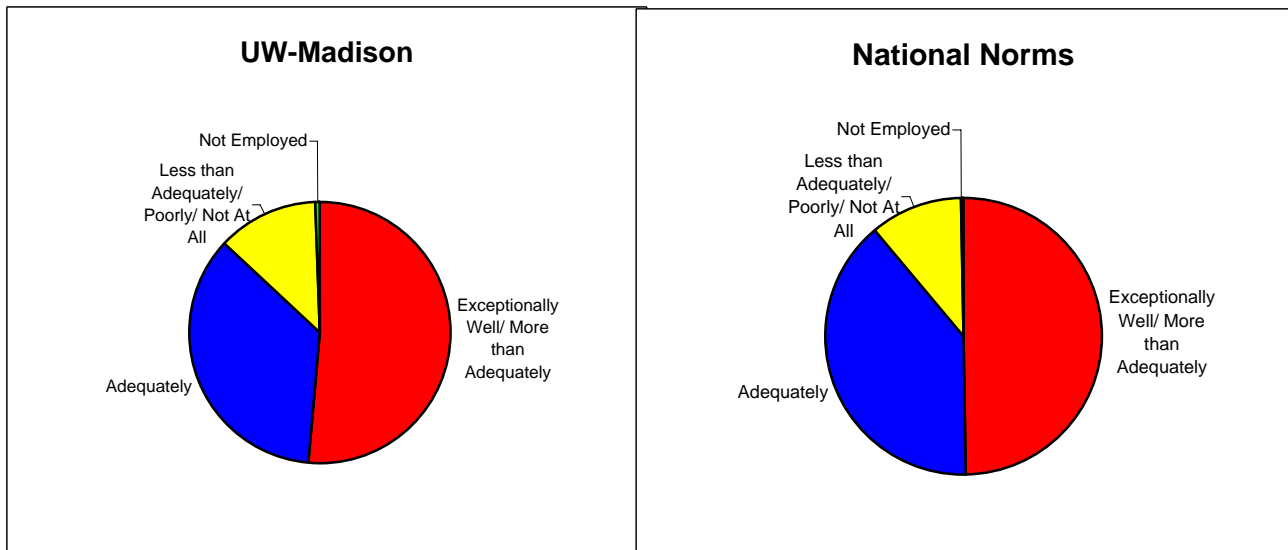
Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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Figure 8. Section II - Item D: How well your experiences at this school prepared you for current job.

	UW-Madison %	National Norms %
Exceptionally Well	20.3	18.8
More than Adequately	30.9	30.8
Adequately	35.7	39.3
Less than Adequately	5.3	5.0
Poorly	2.4	1.1
Not At All	4.8	4.7
Not Employed	0.5	0.3
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Exceptionally Well/ More than Adequately	51.2	49.6
Adequately	35.7	39.3
Less than Adequately/ Poorly/ Not At All	12.5	10.8
Not Employed	0.5	0.3

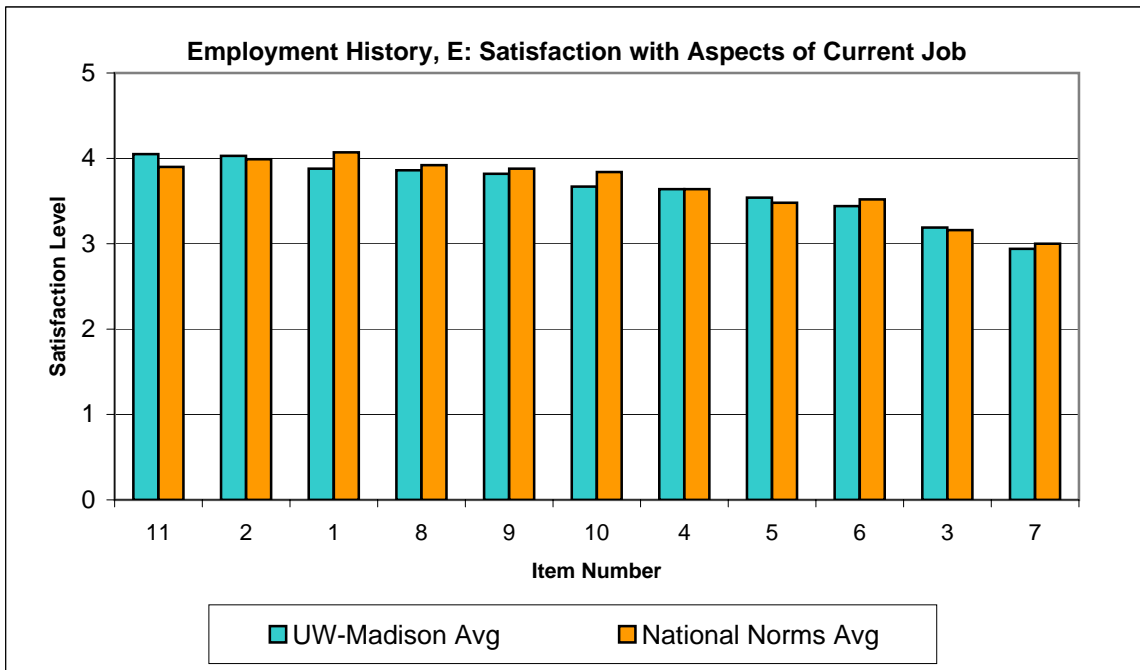


Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)  
 National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.  
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Figure 9. Section II - Employment History, Item E: Satisfaction with Aspects of Current Job

Item #		UW-Madison Avg	National Norms Avg
11	Organization's ethical standards	4.05	3.90
2	Job security	4.03	3.99
1	Challenge	3.88	4.07
8	Quality of service/product provided/produced	3.86	3.92
9	Opportunity to be creative	3.82	3.88
10	Human diversity	3.67	3.84
4	Fringe Benefits	3.64	3.64
5	Potential for career/professional advancement	3.54	3.48
6	Support for continuing education/in-service programs	3.44	3.52
3	Salary	3.19	3.16
7	Accessibility/proximity of childcare services	2.94	3.00

(Satisfaction Scale: 5=very satisfied, 4=satisfied, 3=neutral, 2=dissatisfied, 1=very dissatisfied)



Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

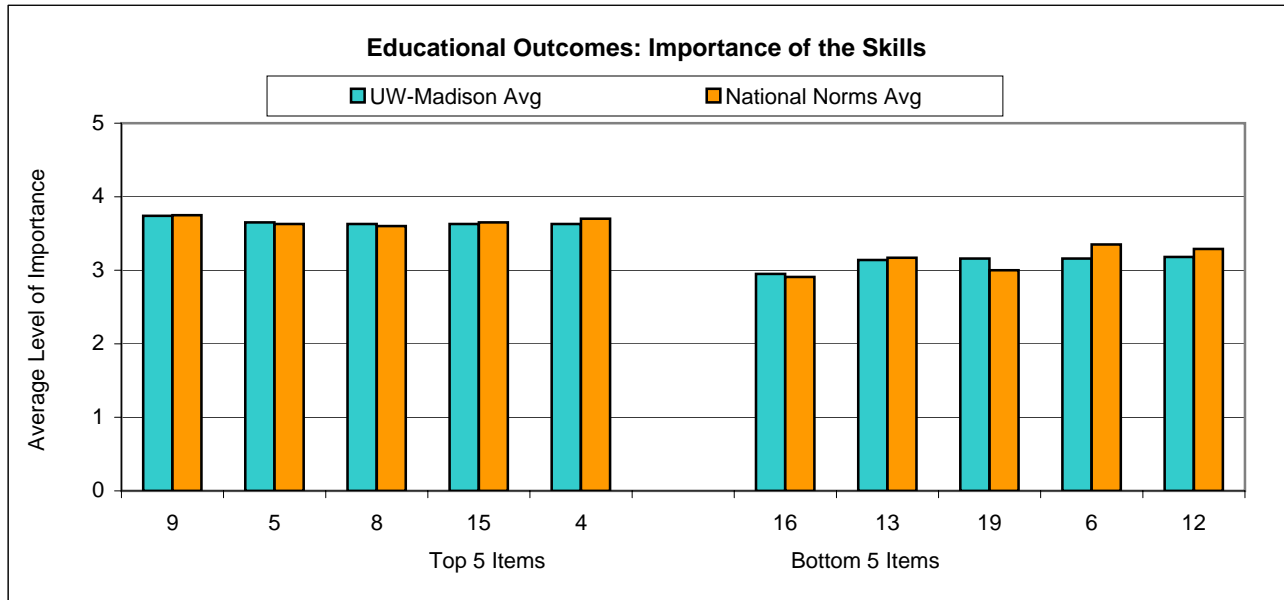
National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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Figure 10. Section III - Educational Outcomes: Importance of the Skills to Personal/Professional Success in Today's World

Item #		UW-Madison Avg	National Norms Avg
<b>Top 5</b>			
9	Recognizing/using effective verbal communication skills	3.74	3.75
5	Defining and solving problems	3.65	3.63
8	Getting along with people from various cultures/races/backgrounds	3.63	3.60
15	Recognizing/using effective written communication skills	3.63	3.65
4	Living my personal/professional life according to my own standard/ethic	3.63	3.70
<b>Bottom 5</b>			
16	Understanding/appreciating art/music/literature	2.95	2.91
13	Understanding the interaction between human beings and the environment	3.14	3.17
19	Understanding international issues	3.16	3.00
6	Appreciating/exercising my rights/responsibilities/privileges as a citizen	3.16	3.35
12	Learning about existing/emerging career options	3.18	3.29

(Importance Scale: 4=major importance, 3=moderate importance, 2=minor importance, 1=no importance)  
 NOTE: Items with fewer than 10 respondents were not included in the analyses.

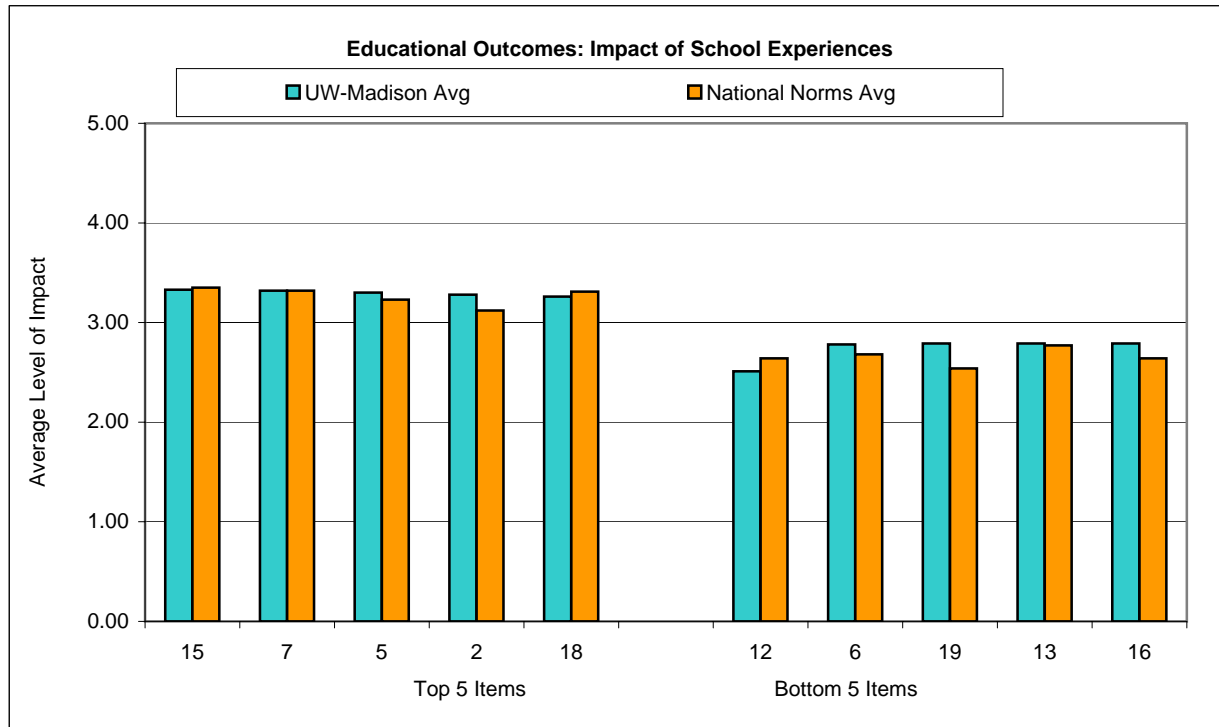


Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)  
 National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.  
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Figure 11. Section III - Educational Outcomes: Impact of Your Experiences at this School on Skill Attainment

Item #		UW-Madison Avg	National Norms Avg
<b>Top 5 for Your Institution</b>			
15	Recognizing/using effective written communication skills	3.33	3.35
7	Accessing/using a variety of information sources	3.32	3.32
5	Defining and solving problems	3.30	3.23
2	Thinking objectively about beliefs/attitudes/values	3.28	3.12
18	Working cooperatively in groups; working as a team member	3.26	3.31
<b>Bottom 5 for Your Institution</b>			
12	Learning about existing/emerging career options	2.51	2.64
6	Appreciating/exercising my rights/responsibilities/privileges as a citizen	2.78	2.68
19	Understanding international issues	2.79	2.54
13	Understanding the interaction between human being and the environment	2.79	2.77
16	Understanding/appreciating art/music/literature	2.79	2.64

(Impact Scale: 4=major impact, 3=moderate impact, 2=minor impact, 1=no impact)  
 NOTE: Items with fewer than 10 respondents were not included in the analyses.



Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)  
 National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.  
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Figure 12. Section III - Educational Outcomes: Importance of the Skills to Personal/Professional Success in Today's World

Largest Positive and Largest Negative Differences between Your Institution's Averages and the National Averages

Item #		UW-Madison Avg	National Norms Avg	Difference
<b>Largest Positive Differences</b>				
19	Understanding international issues	3.16	3.00	0.16
16	Understanding/appreciating art/music/literature	2.95	2.91	0.04
1	Developing original ideas and/or products	3.50	3.46	0.04
8	Getting along with people from various cultures/races/backgrounds	3.63	3.60	0.03
5	Defining and solving problems	3.65	3.63	0.02
<b>Largest Negative Differences</b>				
6	Appreciating/exercising my rights/responsibilities/privileges as a citiz	3.16	3.35	-0.19
7	Accessing/using a variety of information sources	3.36	3.49	-0.13
12	Learning about existing/emerging career options	3.18	3.29	-0.11
3	Making/exercising a lifelong commitment to learning	3.49	3.60	-0.11
14	Analyzing/drawing conclusions from various types of data	3.26	3.36	-0.10

(Importance Scale: 4=major importance, 3=moderate importance, 2=minor importance, 1=no importance)

NOTE: Items with fewer than 10 respondents were not included in the analyses.

Figure 13. Section III - Educational Outcomes: Impact of Your Experiences at this School on Skill Attainment

Largest Positive and Largest Negative Differences between Your Institution's Averages and the National Averages

Item #		UW-Madison Avg	Norms Avg	Difference
<b>Largest Positive Differences</b>				
19	Understanding international issues	2.79	2.54	0.25
2	Thinking objectively about beliefs/attitudes/values	3.28	3.12	0.16
16	Understanding/appreciating art/music/literature	2.79	2.64	0.15
6	Appreciating/exercising my rights/responsibilities/privileges as a citiz	2.78	2.68	0.10
5	Defining and solving problems	3.30	3.23	0.07
<b>Largest Negative Differences</b>				
12	Learning about existing/emerging career options	2.51	2.64	-0.13
9	Recognizing/using effective verbal communication skills	3.14	3.28	-0.14
8	Getting along with people from various cultures/races/backgrounds	2.97	3.07	-0.10
10	Developing/using effective leadership skills	2.94	2.98	-0.04
18	Working cooperatively in groups; working as a team member	3.26	3.31	-0.05

(Impact Scale: 4=major impact, 3=moderate impact, 2=minor impact, 1=no impact)

NOTE: Items with fewer than 10 respondents were not included in the analyses.

Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

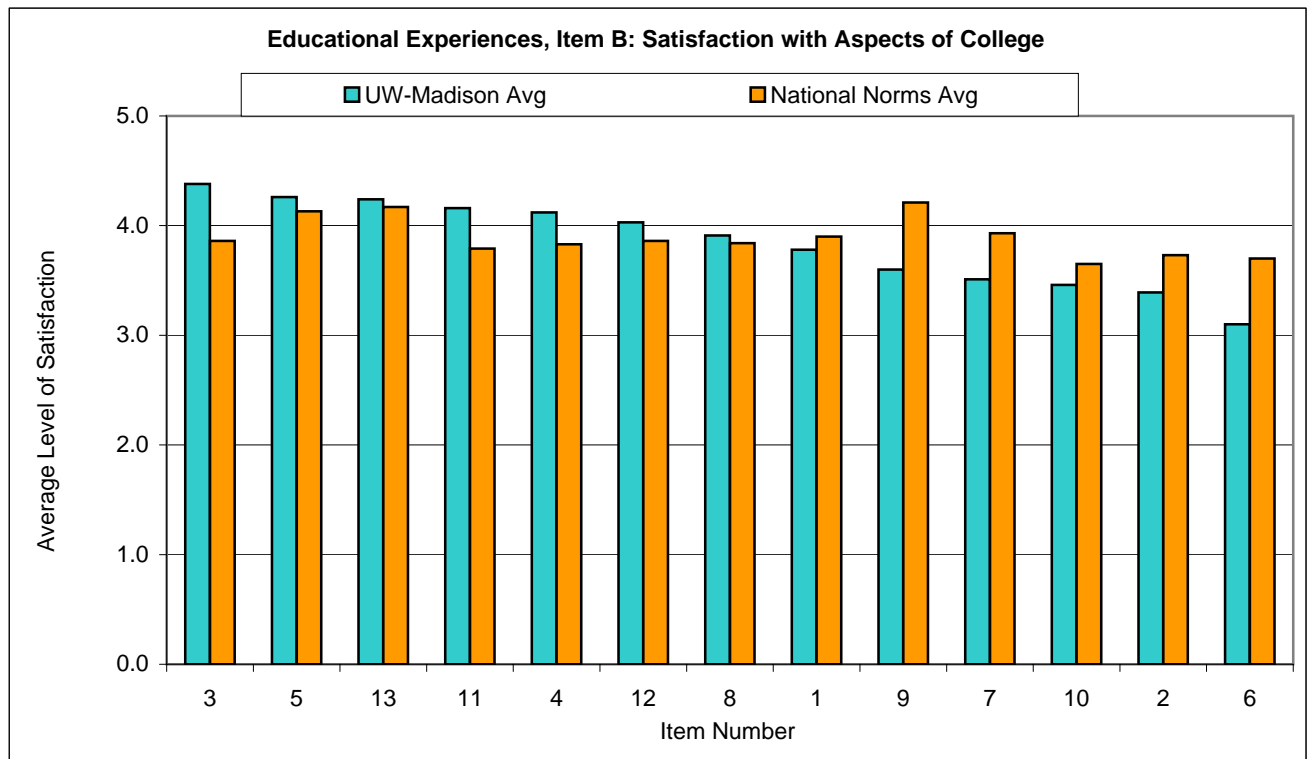
National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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Figure 14. Section IV - Educational Experiences, Item B: Satisfaction with Aspects of this College

Item #		UW-Madison Avg	National Norms Avg
3	Variety of courses offered	4.38	3.86
5	Overall quality of instruction	4.26	4.13
13	Quality of the program in my major/field	4.24	4.17
11	Campus acceptance of individuals regardless of their sexual orientation	4.16	3.79
4	Preparation for further academic study	4.12	3.83
12	General condition of building and grounds	4.03	3.86
8	Transfer of course credits from other colleges/schools to this college	3.91	3.84
1	Variety of instructional approaches used in the classroom	3.78	3.90
9	Class size relative to the type of course	3.60	4.21
7	College response to older/nontraditional students	3.51	3.93
10	Multicultural content of course	3.46	3.65
2	Campus response to needs of physically challenged individuals	3.39	3.73
6	Concern for me as an individual	3.10	3.70

(Satisfaction Scale: 5=very satisfied, 4=satisfied, 3=neutral, 2=dissatisfied, 1=dissatisfied)



Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

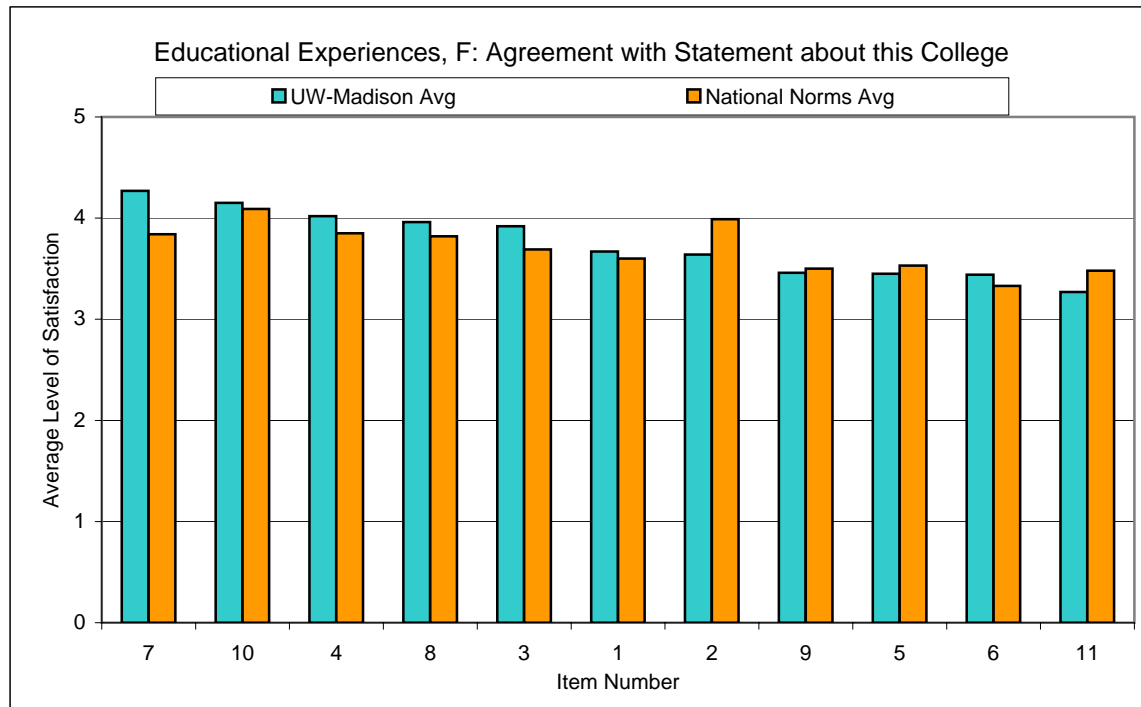
National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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Figure 15. Section IV - Educational Experiences, F: Agreement with Statements about this College

Item #		UW-Madison Avg	National Norms Avg
7	Overall, the school had an intellectually stimulating atmosphere	4.27	3.84
10	Academic success was encouraged/supported at this school	4.15	4.09
4	There was a sense of personal safety/security on the campus	4.02	3.85
8	The campus was, generally, free from harassment	3.96	3.82
3	Overall, there was a campus atmosphere of ethnic/political/religious understanding/acceptance	3.92	3.69
1	The core requirements at this school were a valuable component of my education	3.67	3.60
2	Most faculty were readily available to students outside of class time	3.64	3.99
9	Administrators at the campus respected/were responsive to student input	3.46	3.50
5	The financial aid available to me was adequate for my needs	3.45	3.53
6	School policies/practices provided adequate/appropriate support for victims of harassment/crime	3.44	3.33
11	I encountered few course schedule/course availability problems	3.27	3.48

(Satisfaction Scale: 5=strongly agree, 4=agree, 3=neutral, 2=disagree, 1=strongly disagree)



Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

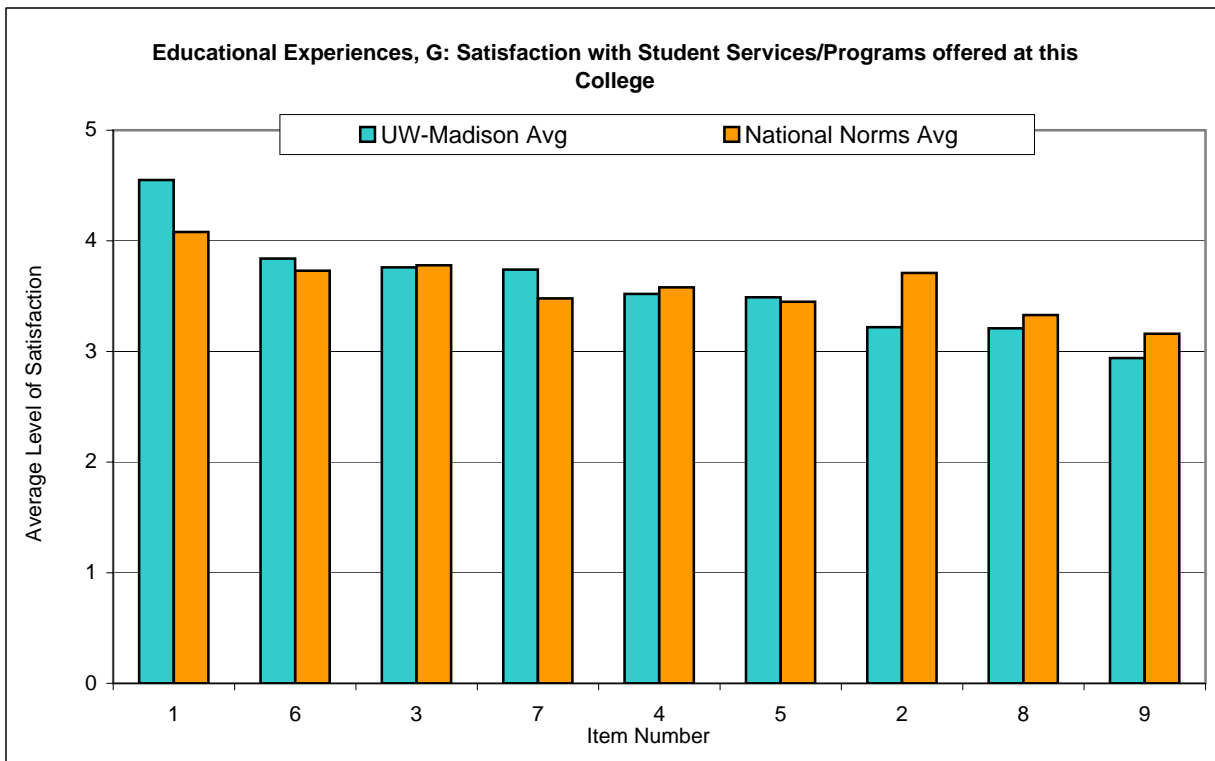
National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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Figure 16. Section IV - Educational Experiences, G: Satisfaction with Student Services/Programs

Item #		UW-Madison Avg	National Norms Avg
1	Library services and materials	4.55	4.08
6	Health/wellness program/services for student	3.84	3.73
3	Registration procedures	3.76	3.78
7	Orientation to/instruction in use of campus computer system	3.74	3.48
4	Academic support services	3.52	3.58
5	Personal counseling services	3.49	3.45
2	Academic advising	3.22	3.71
8	Financial aid counseling and related services	3.21	3.33
9	Career planning and placement services	2.94	3.16

(Satisfaction Scale: 5=very satisfied, 4=satisfied, 3=neutral, 2=dissatisfied, 1=very dissatisfied)



Source: 2005 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey (Conducted for UWSA)

National Norms - includes respondents from participating 4-year public universities, 2000 to 2005.

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