

# ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

## UW System grads: Where they came from, where they're going

During a break in the Badgers' victory in the Capital One Bowl, a short feature promoting UW-Madison reminded us that the UW System's flagship campus also ranks high in many other categories. UW-Madison ranks number one among universities in the U.S. in both the number of CEOs heading S&P 500 companies and the number of Peace Corps volunteers. While these may seem like strange bedfellows, they only underscore how little most of us really know about UW-Madison and the UW System.

Most people know that UW-Madison is home to about 40,000 students. However, did you know that in 2005-06:

- UWS included 141,624 undergraduate and 21,309 graduate students.
- There were 9,338 Dane County residents who were undergraduates in the UWS, and 19,965 residents of the Capital Region\* who were undergraduates in the UWS.
- Wisconsin residents comprised 83 percent of the undergraduates attending UWS.
- The five counties providing the most students to UWS — Milwaukee, Waukesha, Dane, Out-

agamie and Brown — accounted for 38 percent of UWS undergraduates. These five counties also make up 38 percent of the state's population.

- One in 50 Wisconsin residents is currently an undergraduate at a UWS university or college. Also, one in 50 Dane County residents is currently attending UWS as an undergraduate.

- There are more Waukesha County residents (11,258) attending the 26 UWS institutions than Dane County residents (9,338).

- More undergraduates in the Capital Region\* attend a UW College (2 year campus) than nine of the 13 UWS four-year campuses

- Thirty-one percent of the state's residents live in a county that does not have a UWS campus. However, these counties generated 40 percent of the current undergraduates in the UWS.

More statistics about UWS students are available at <http://www.uwsa.edu/opar/ssb.htm>.

\* The Capital Region is composed of Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Rock and Sauk counties.

Part 1 of this month's series on the UW System

**Next week:** Which UWS campuses are students from the Capital Region\* attending?

Economic Snapshot is a weekly feature provided by the Center for Community and Economic Development, University of Wisconsin Extension.

QUESTIONS: Contact Professor Bill Pinkovitz, Center for Community and Economic Development, University of Wisconsin Extension at [bill.pinkovitz@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:bill.pinkovitz@ces.uwex.edu).

**UW**  
**Extension**