

# Data and Evidence Analysis Summary – Wood Tech 2016

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## WTCS Comparative Data:

<https://facultyresources.westerntc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/2015-31-4102-Wood-Tech-QRP-1-Year-Tech-Diploma-Evidence-Analysis-Report.pdf>

### Course Completion

- C or better course completion for the Wood Tech program ranged from 80.0% in 2011 to 81% in 2015. When compared to the two other colleges selected as a comparison group, Western is tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> out of three. Northeast Wisconsin Technical College consistently out-performed Western during these years and may be worth further examination.
- Western's number of students ranged from 55 in 2011 to 42 in 2015. The other two WTCS colleges have seen decreased enrollment from 2011 to 2015 with Chippewa Valley Technical College registering no students after 2011.

### Second Year Retention

- Western's second year retention ranged from 75.7% in 2010 to 75% in 2015 for an average over time of 75.3%.
- It experienced a low in 2013 at 56.4% and rebounded to 77.8% in 2014.
- When compared to the other two schools in the comparison group, Western had the lowest average second year retention over the 6 years of measurement. Averages over the 6 years ranged from 75.3% for Western to 89.1% for Chippewa Valley Technical College.
- Western's cohort size (number of starting students) ranged from a high of 37 in 2010 to 28 in 2013. With an average of 31 first-term students declaring the program in a given year, Western has the second lowest enrollment of first-term students within this comparison group for 2015.

### Western's Third Year Graduation

- Western's third year graduation ranged from 35.3% in 2013 to 57.1% in 2015 with an average over the six years of 36.5%. Western's 2015 report year cohort (students starting in 2012) achieved the highest third year graduation with 57.1% of students graduating within three years.
- Chippewa Valley Technical College reported no statistics for third year graduations. In a comparison to the other college, Western's third-year graduation rate (average) of 36.5% is 2<sup>nd</sup> out of two. The other schools included Northeast Wisconsin Technical College at 42.2%.

## Labor Market Analysis October 2015

<https://facultyresources.westernnc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/2015-OCT-Wood-Tech-Program-Trends.pdf>

In an analysis of the Western District and occupations associated with the field of wood tech, the following points are noted:

- From 2016-2020, these occupations are expected to grow in Western's district by 4.1%.
- Expectations for district labor trends remain similar to national trends (4.1%) but stronger than the state trends (3.3%).
- Job distribution throughout the district has high concentrations in La Crosse County and Trempealeau County.
- This program includes occupations with an aging population, 31.7% of those employed are 45 years of age or older. The segment of workers that is the 19-24 year old population makes up 12.6%. A pathway that allows current workers to come back for skills or deeper knowledge may be of benefit to research further.
- Specific occupations with strong growth include Roofers (13% - 24 new positions)
- Other occupations with an increase:
  - Construction Laborers (6% - 49 positions)
- Earnings for graduates of this program (median) are strong ranging from \$15.40 per hour for Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters to \$18.84 for Roofers.
- Possible opportunities include looking to high schools for transcribed credit, a closer coordination with other construction related programs and a continued pathways into Construction Management.

## Student Satisfaction Trends

The Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory was conducted in the fall of 2015. The instrument asks students to rate the importance AND the satisfaction with 95 items (1-7 with 7 as highest) related to the following "scales":

- Instructional effectiveness
- Academic advising/counseling
- Concern for the individual
- Registration effectiveness
- Admissions and financial aid
- Student centeredness
- Campus climate
- Academic services
- Service excellence
- Safety and security
- Campus support services and responsiveness to diverse populations

In the program self-study process (data and evidence analysis work), programs are asked to identify gaps between importance and satisfaction. Gaps are calculated as the difference between the

importance of an item and the satisfaction level. Gaps that are close to a “1” should be discussed and explored – particularly if they are tied to items that are rated as high in importance for students.

There is no current data to analyze for this trend.

## Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Trends

<https://facultyresources.westernnc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/2WoodTechSpring2016StudentSLOReport.pdf>

Your program had 5 responses to the survey. Items that may be topics of discussion for this program include:

- Celebrate the good feedback you received about the real-life application of concepts and the variety of courses included in the program. Students seem to really appreciate the hands-on learning.
- There are some suggestions for improvement from the students. It might be valuable to look at past survey results to identify trends in the qualitative feedback received from students. Those results are housed on the Program Excellence web site.
- A couple of students commented about how some students either miss a lot of class time or don't do the same amount of work but still get their degree. This may be something to explore in more depth.
- The majority of the students either strongly agreed or agreed that they were able to learn and master both the program outcomes and the Core Abilities. Students seemed to not understand what it means to “transfer social and natural science theories into practical applications.” Some of this can be attributed to the wording of this particular Core Ability.
- Several comments on how the instructors were nice, helpful, and made the program enjoyable.

## Graduate Follow-Up Trends

Year	2012-13
Types of jobs obtained	Cabinet Builder Carpenter Laborer Laborer
Companies hiring Western graduates	Beyer Custom Cabinets, LTD, West Salem, WI Wieser Brothers General Contractor, La Crescent, MN West Salem Planning and Molding, West Salem, WI

Year	2013-14
Types of jobs obtained	Carpenter Saw Operator
Companies hiring Western graduates	Weiser Brothers, La Crescent, MN Acentus Sound Products, La Crosse, WI

Year	2014-15
Types of jobs obtained	Cabinet Maker Carpenter Concrete Finisher
Companies hiring Western graduates	RJ Jurowski Construction, Inc., Whitehall, WI Weiser Brothers General Contractor, La Crescent, MN Yoder Carpentry, Hayward, WI

### Career Pathways Self-Survey

- Your program had 2 responses to the survey. Both were full-time faculty.
- Items that may be topics of discussion for this program include:
  - In course sequencing - there also seems to be potential offerings in the district HS's.
  - In many cases, there are "unknowns" and "neither agree nor disagree" responses.

Your program had a small response rate on this survey and many of the areas can help drive future team discussions. There is opportunity to offer this or similar surveys to other stakeholders to develop a more holistic view of potential program improvements