

Case Study 7 – Grade Inflation Tables
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Critique Existing Tables

- ▶ Data is split over two tables, difficult to compare years
- ▶ Too many numbers on each table, 11 grade categories and 15 colleges
- ▶ No need for 2 decimals places
- ▶ Sorted alphabetically instead of by trend
- ▶ Trends are not clear



Suggestions for Revised Tables

- ▶ Group the grade columns into fewer categories (ie. A, B, C, D, F)
- ▶ Show the amount of change by percent difference or percentage change
- ▶ Group the colleges into total student population to reduce number of rows, would need number of students per college
- ▶ Use GPA instead of percent of each grade



Combined Grades and Tables

College	Year	A	B	C	D	F
Biological Sciences	1999-2000	29.8%	31.4%	27.7%	6.1%	4.9%
	2008-2009	39.5%	34.7%	20.4%	2.9%	2.5%
Continuing Education	1999-2000	61.5%	28.0%	6.6%	0.9%	3.1%
	2008-2009	56.3%	32.4%	7.4%	0.6%	3.3%
Dentistry	1999-2000	55.3%	34.9%	9.4%	0.4%	0.1%
	2008-2009	63.4%	30.9%	5.6%	0.1%	0.0%
Design	1999-2000	44.6%	40.7%	10.2%	1.6%	3.0%
	2008-2009	48.0%	42.8%	7.3%	0.8%	1.1%
Education and Human Development	1999-2000	70.9%	21.3%	4.9%	0.8%	2.1%
	2008-2009	71.0%	20.4%	5.7%	1.0%	1.9%
Food, Agricultural, and Natural Sciences	1999-2000	41.8%	38.3%	14.2%	2.5%	3.3%
	2008-2009	50.3%	35.0%	11.4%	1.8%	1.6%
Liberal Arts	1999-2000	43.8%	35.0%	13.6%	2.7%	4.9%
	2008-2009	52.5%	33.2%	9.9%	1.7%	2.7%
Management	1999-2000	53.5%	36.4%	7.6%	1.1%	1.4%
	2008-2009	50.9%	41.7%	6.2%	0.5%	0.7%
Medical	1999-2000	54.4%	18.9%	11.1%	1.7%	1.1%
	2008-2009	46.7%	23.8%	8.9%	1.8%	1.6%
Nursing	1999-2000	67.9%	28.4%	2.0%	0.1%	1.5%
	2008-2009	82.1%	16.1%	1.3%	0.0%	0.5%
Pharmacy	1999-2000	55.3%	33.8%	9.0%	1.6%	0.4%
	2008-2009	68.1%	25.1%	5.3%	0.6%	0.9%
Public Affairs	1999-2000	64.1%	33.2%	1.9%	0.2%	0.6%
	2008-2009	70.7%	25.7%	2.7%	0.4%	0.5%
Public Health	1999-2000	59.6%	30.7%	6.9%	1.3%	1.5%
	2008-2009	75.3%	19.2%	3.9%	0.6%	1.0%
Technology	1999-2000	31.8%	34.0%	24.1%	4.5%	5.6%
	2008-2009	35.7%	36.0%	21.5%	2.8%	4.0%
Veterinary Medicine	1999-2000	55.1%	33.6%	9.7%	1.5%	0.2%
	2008-2009	48.9%	39.3%	10.2%	1.2%	0.4%

Combined Tables – Change in GPA

College	Year	GPA	Change
Biological Sciences	1999-2000	2.75	
	2008-2009	3.06	0.31
Continuing Education	1999-2000	3.44	
	2008-2009	3.38	-0.06
Dentistry	1999-2000	3.45	
	2008-2009	3.57	0.12
Design	1999-2000	3.22	
	2008-2009	3.36	0.13
Education and Human Development	1999-2000	3.58	
	2008-2009	3.58	0.00
Food, Agricultural, and Natural Sciences	1999-2000	3.13	
	2008-2009	3.31	0.18
Liberal Arts	1999-2000	3.10	
	2008-2009	3.31	0.21
Management	1999-2000	3.40	
	2008-2009	3.42	0.02
Medical	1999-2000	2.98	
	2008-2009	2.78	-0.21
Nursing	1999-2000	3.61	
	2008-2009	3.79	0.18
Pharmacy	1999-2000	3.42	
	2008-2009	3.59	0.17
Public Affairs	1999-2000	3.60	
	2008-2009	3.66	0.06
Public Health	1999-2000	3.46	
	2008-2009	3.67	0.21
Technology	1999-2000	2.82	
	2008-2009	2.97	0.15
Veterinary Medicine	1999-2000	3.42	
	2008-2009	3.35	-0.07

Combined College* – Percent Difference

Year	A	B	C	D	F
1999-2000	52.6%	31.9%	10.6%	1.8%	2.2%
2008-2009	57.3%	30.4%	8.5%	1.1%	1.5%
% Difference	4.7%	-1.5%	-2.1%	-0.6%	-0.7%

*Assumed equal number of students per college

