

Office of Institutional Research and Planning (OIRP)

Available Research Services and Data

Research Services and Data

I. Quantitative Analysis:

A. Statistical Analysis of Institutional Data

1. Identification of available data

- a. Recurring reports provided on the “inside MCC” OIRP website

<http://www.insidemcc.mchenry.edu/oirp/>

- b. Data from MCC mainframe databases

- c. Examples of data

- Enrollment headcounts and credit hours; credit and non-credit courses; & tenth day, midterm, and end of term data
- Student data including demographics (gender, ethnic category, age, full/part time status, reason for enrollment, transfer information, enrollment status, high school attended, etc. – includes ACT Freshman Class Profile Report); retention rates, graduation rates, and degrees awarded; occupational program post-completion follow-up survey data

2. Data operations

3. Data formatting

4. Analytical Reports

B. Test Development and Analysis

1. Domain and Objective identification

2. Content development

3. Instrument development or selection

4. Test Analysis

5. Analytical Reports

II. Qualitative Research:

A. Survey Research

1. Review your objectives

2. Instrument selection or design (develop questions, rating scales, and demographics required)

3. Sampling

4. Data coding

5. Data collection

- a. Phone interviews (\$10.00 per person contacted; requires contract lead time)

- b. Paper and pencil (typically using scannable forms; can be mailed)

- c. Electronic (reach respondents by email with link to the survey)

6. Data cleaning

7. Data analysis (frequencies/percentages for responses and average response rates (means); analysis by demographic groups; comment analysis)

8. Data file management

9. Analytical Reports

10. Data/findings presentation to targeted audiences

- B. Interview and Focus Group Research
 - 1. Protocol design
 - 2. Respondent selection support
 - 3. Respondent group or individual interviews
 - 4. Analytical Reports

Sample Uses and Applications

- I. State-mandated Data Submissions: services in support of Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) reports
- II. Program Review: services in support of program review processes and reports
- III. Assessment: services in support of assessment planning, development, and implementation
- IV. Planning:
 - A. New program proposals
 - B. Department or College-wide Environmental Scanning
 - C. SWOT Analysis
 - D. Identification of measurable objectives
 - E. Application of Quality Improvement Tools
- V. Continuous Improvement Process: services in support of data requirements for AQIP teams and special projects like Foundations of Excellence
- VI. Policy Development: services to support policy decision making

Other Useful Resource Information

- I. OIRP Website: www.insidemcc.mchenry.edu/oirp A site maintained by the Office of Institutional Research containing a variety of research reports and tables on MCC enrollment, students, staff, finances, etc. Also contains information and materials associated with planning, planning reports, and planning resources.
- II. Illinois Community College Reports: a variety of publications on Illinois CC enrollment, students, performance, staffing, degrees, facilities, etc.
- III. Books, journals, and materials associated with college research and planning. These include materials related to educational theory as well as practice.
- IV. Access to the College's "live" computer databases (enrollment, personnel, facilities, demographics, etc.)
- V. Access to "frozen" census files on MCC resources and activities (10th day and end of term enrollment files, annual student enrollment files, course enrollment history files)

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