

Spring 2008 OADE Math Lab Survey

Summary

In Spring 2008, a survey aimed at examining the structure and function of math tutoring labs statewide was distributed to the OADE membership. Twenty-eight members from the twenty-four institutions listed below responded to this inquiry.

Institutions Responding:

- Miami University Hamilton
- Sinclair Community College
- Bowling Green State University
- Marion Technical College
- Sinclair Community College
- Jefferson Community College
- University of Cincinnati
- Wayne College
- Northwest State Community College
- Rhodes State College
- Wright State University (Dayton campus)
- Cuyahoga Community College, Western Campus
- Columbus State Community College
- Owens Community College
- University of Akron
- Ashland University
- Zane State College
- Cuyahoga Community College / Eastern Campus
- University of Northwestern Ohio
- Capital University
- Ohio University
- Academic Success Center/Kent State University
- Ohio State University at Marion
- University of Rio Grande & Rio Grande Community College

Results are summarized in the following tables:

| 1. Are you involved in Math tutoring on your campus? For the purpose of this survey, 'involvement' is defined as either supervising math tutors or providing direct Math support to students. | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Yes | 100.0% | 28 |
| No | 0.0% | 0 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 28 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 0 |

| 2. How many hours per week is mathematics tutoring available? | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| 1-9 hours | 3.8% | 1 |
| 10-19 hours | 0.0% | 0 |
| 20-29 hours | 7.7% | 2 |
| 30-39 hours | 15.4% | 4 |
| 40-49 hours | 23.1% | 6 |
| 50-59 hours | 30.8% | 8 |
| 60-69 hours | 7.7% | 2 |
| 70 or more hours | 7.7% | 2 |
| NA | 3.8% | 1 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 26 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 2 |

3. Which of the following choices best describes the availability of your mathematics tutoring? (Check all that apply)

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Days | 100.0% | 26 |
| Evenings | 88.5% | 23 |
| Saturdays | 38.5% | 10 |
| Sundays | 19.2% | 5 |
| Fall | 92.3% | 24 |
| Spring | 92.3% | 24 |
| Summer | 76.9% | 20 |
| This question does not apply. | 0.0% | 0 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 26 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 2 |

4. Describe a typical tutoring session in your math lab (check all that apply).

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| One-on-one tutoring / tutor seated at a table/desk | 73.1% | 19 |
| Small group tutoring / tutor seated at a table/desk | 50.0% | 13 |
| One-on-one tutoring / tutor circulating around a lab answering questions. | 57.7% | 15 |
| Small group tutoring / tutor circulating around the lab answering questions. | 38.5% | 10 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 26 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 2 |

5. How many of the following types of mathematics tutors do you have?

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Professional tutors (BS/BA min) | 72.0% | 18 |
| Graduates students | 56.0% | 14 |
| Peer tutors | 92.0% | 23 |
| Faculty tutors | 68.0% | 17 |
| Volunteer tutors | 52.0% | 13 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 25 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 3 |

6. What is the hourly rate of pay for each type of mathematics tutor?

| Answer Options | below \$10.00 per hour | \$10-15 per hour | \$16-20 per hour | \$21-25 per hour | \$26-30 per hour | > \$30 per hour | Response Count |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Professional Tutors | 0 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Graduate students | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Peer tutors | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Faculty tutors | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Volunteer tutors | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | Other (please specify) | 5 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | | | | | | |

| 7. What percentage of your tutors are full time? | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| 0-10% | 91.7% | 22 |
| 11-20% | 8.3% | 2 |
| 21-30% | 0.0% | 0 |
| 31-40% | 0.0% | 0 |
| 41-50% | 0.0% | 0 |
| More than 50% | 0.0% | 0 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 24 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 4 |

| 8. What are the conditions of your tutors' employment? | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Hired per course | 15.0% | 3 |
| Hired per semester | 80.0% | 16 |
| Hired per year | 30.0% | 6 |
| Other (please specify) | | 6 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 20 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 8 |

| 9. What type of training do your mathematics tutors receive? | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| None | 8.0% | 2 |
| Institutional / In-house | 76.0% | 19 |
| College Reading and Learning Association | 28.0% | 7 |
| National Tutoring Association | 4.0% | 1 |
| Association of Tutoring Professionals | 0.0% | 0 |
| Other (please specify) | | 1 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 25 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 3 |

| 10. How are your mathematics tutoring visits recorded or tracked? (Check all that apply) | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Log sheets/Cards | 78.3% | 18 |
| Institutional software (created in-house) | 21.7% | 5 |
| TutorTrac | 21.7% | 5 |
| ACCESS database | 13.0% | 3 |
| Excel database | 13.0% | 3 |
| Other (please specify) | | 6 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 23 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 5 |

| 11. What type of mathematics tutoring is available? | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Appointments | 62.5% | 15 |
| Walk-ins | 91.7% | 22 |
| Other (please specify) | | 2 |

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|----|
| | <i>answered question</i> | 24 |
| | <i>skipped question</i> | 4 |

| 12. What is the length of each appointment in minutes? | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| 0-30 | 25.0% | 5 |
| 31-60 | 75.0% | 15 |
| 61-90 | 0.0% | 0 |
| >90 | 0.0% | 0 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 20 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 8 |

| 13. How many appointments are allowed each day? | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Only 1 | 46.2% | 6 |
| 1-2 | 7.7% | 1 |
| 2-3 | 15.4% | 2 |
| 3-4 | 0.0% | 0 |
| 5 or more | 30.8% | 4 |
| Other (please specify) | | 11 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 13 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 15 |

| 14. How many appointments are allowed each week? | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Only one | 0.0% | 0 |
| 1-5 | 42.9% | 6 |
| 6-10 | 21.4% | 3 |
| More than 10 | 35.7% | 5 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Other (please specify) | 9 |
| <i>answered question</i> | 14 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | 14 |

| 15. Which of the following options describes your math tutoring appointments? (check all that apply) | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Individual | 100.0% | 17 |
| Group - 2 students | 64.7% | 11 |
| Group - 3 students | 52.9% | 9 |
| Group - 4 students | 17.6% | 3 |
| Group - 5 students | 17.6% | 3 |
| Other (please specify) | 4 | |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 17 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 11 |

| 16. What is the maximum amount of time that a student can have tutoring during a given day? | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| < 1 hour | 0.0% | 0 |
| 1 hour | 18.2% | 4 |
| 2 hours | 13.6% | 3 |
| 3 hours | 4.5% | 1 |
| 4 hours | 0.0% | 0 |
| > 4 hours | 63.6% | 14 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 22 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 6 |

17. How many visits is a student allowed to have per week?

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Unlimited | 56.5% | 13 |
| 1 visit | 0.0% | 0 |
| 2 visit | 4.3% | 1 |
| 3 visit | 8.7% | 2 |
| 4 visit | 0.0% | 0 |
| > 4 visits | 30.4% | 7 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 23 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 5 |

18. Is mathematics tutoring PROVIDED for developmental courses?

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Yes | 95.8% | 23 |
| No | 4.2% | 1 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 24 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 4 |

19. Is mathematics tutoring REQUIRED for developmental courses?

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Yes | 5.0% | 1 |
| No | 95.0% | 19 |
| Other (please specify) | | 6 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 20 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 8 |

| 20. Is mathematics tutoring provided for all courses? | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Yes | 83.3% | 20 |
| No | 16.7% | 4 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 24 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 4 |

21. Please discuss any best practices, successes or challenges that you have encountered on your campus.

We provide tutorial videos, software exercises, and practice tests. We try to get peer tutors with high-level math experience in order to serve all students. We have a website with all our worksheets on it for easy download (www.sinclair.edu/centers/mathlab). We see about 1,000 students per quarter and have a lot of happy customers.

We recently adopted the MyMathLab Online learning environment as an addition to our mathematics courses. This has given our students tools and resources that have increased our overall test scores.

We have trouble getting tutors to rove. We also have trouble getting tutors who can help students, well, beyond integral calculus.

We continue to have a growing number of students who are using our math lab on a fairly regular basis, and we are very pleased with the support that we receive from our math faculty who are encouraging their students to utilize this math assistance.

"Peer tutoring and peer-lead study groups have been successful on our campus.

Finding tutors for specialized courses (like business math or finite math) and for higher level mathematics (such as calculus) is difficult."

We proudly serve students on a free walk-in basis. Students who show up in the Center receive immediate help, rather than having to wait for 24 or 48 hours for an appointment.

A frustration is that students often do not tell us if tutoring is not working out until it is too late. Tutoring has been more successful since all the forms and information have been online. Next year will be even better because tutoring is going to Academic Advisors in each the schools. This will allow for more efficient communication with tutors, tutees and professors.

During peak periods, a tutor may work with a larger group of students. Students in the same course make up a group. The tutor will circulate among the groups to provide assistance to everyone.

The biggest challenge is that even though a student may do well in a Math course they often don't want to tutor. In turn, making sure we have adequate numbers of tutors available is difficult.

Recruiting enough qualified math tutors and maintaining enough regularly scheduled hours to keep pace with increasing demand.

#21 for all freshman level math courses. We locate drop-in tutoring in the library and several residence halls as well as scheduled tutoring in the math lab. Tutoring is available M-R 10-10pm.

Funding the training of new tutors since student graduate. Can retain most two years, at the most 3 years. Costly to train new tutors.