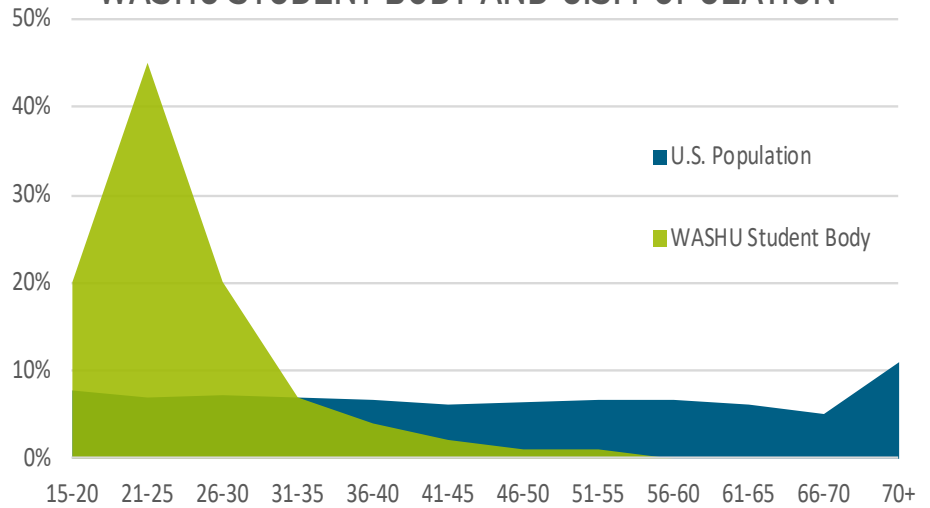




How Old is WashU?

The age distribution of the U.S. population has changed substantially, and more people are living longer than ever before. Yet, this demographic shift is not reflected in the student body at WashU. In fact, there is a notable difference between the age distribution of WashU students and the age distribution of the U.S. population as a whole.

AGE DISTRIBUTION:
WASHU STUDENT BODY AND U.S. POPULATION



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 National Population Estimates

What is Old?
Given the age distribution of students enrolled at WashU, students over the age of 30 are considered nontraditionally aged or “older.”

Undergraduate Student Body

The age distribution of WashU’s undergrads is very narrow--99% of undergraduates are 25 or younger.

While 62% of the U.S. population is over the age of 30, 0% of the undergrad population at WashU is older than 30, with the exception of those attending University College.

The students that make up University College are spread across a wider range of ages. Almost 30% are under the age of 30; 33% are between 31-40; 24% are 41-50; and 14% are 51 or older.

Age Distribution:
WashU Undergrad Student Body and U.S. Population

School	Younger than 20	21-25	26-30	Older than 30
ARTS AND SCIENCES	44%	56%	0%	0%
ARCHITECTURE	43%	57%	0%	0%
ENGINEERING	42%	57%	0%	0%
ART	39%	60%	1%	0%
BUSINESS	36%	64%	0%	0%
U COLLEGE	1%	8%	17%	74%
U.S. POPULATION	24%	7%	7%	62%

PERCENT OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 25 AT 4-YEAR, PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT UNIVERSITIES IN THE U.S.*:

87%

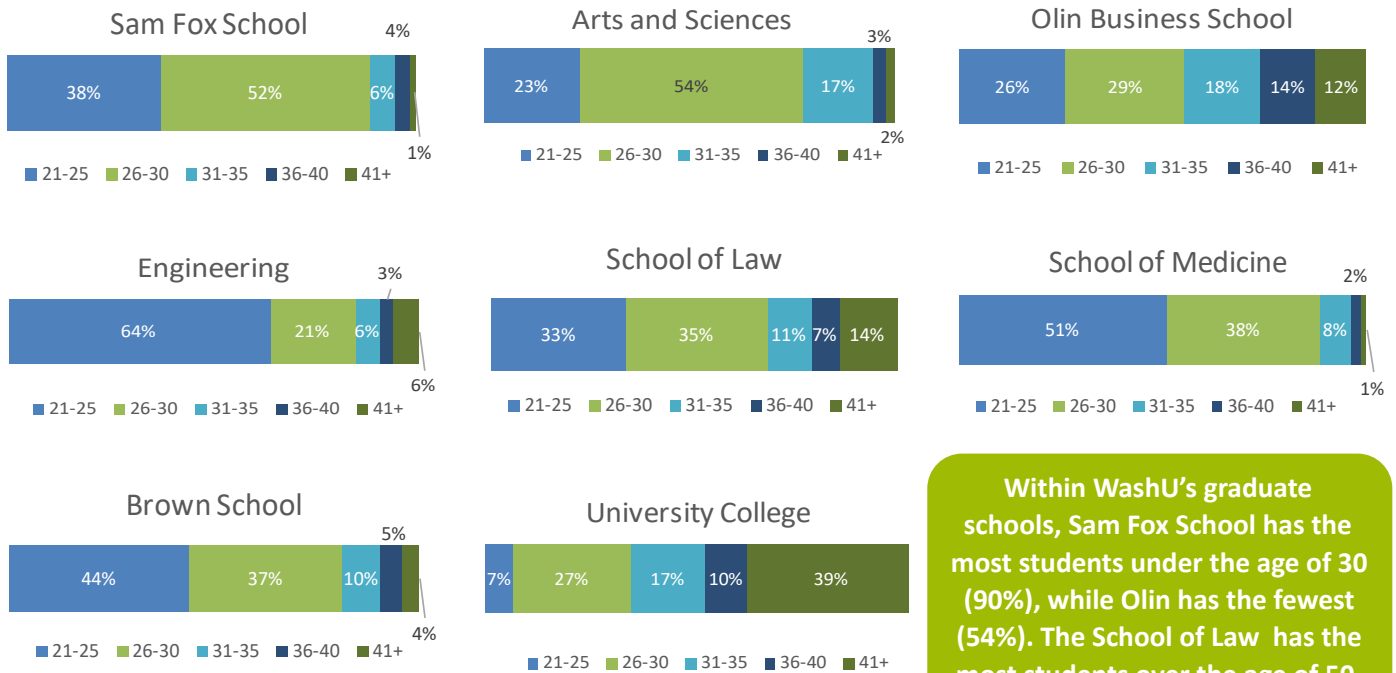
PERCENT OF FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AT WASHU 25 OR UNDER:

100%

*National Center for Education Statistics, Fall 2017

Graduate Student Body

As expected, WashU’s graduate schools are more age diverse than it’s undergraduate student body. The age make-up of the student body varies by school:



Within WashU’s graduate schools, Sam Fox School has the most students under the age of 30 (90%), while Olin has the fewest (54%). The School of Law has the most students over the age of 50.

Take-Aways

- Demographic shifts at the population level are not reflected in the student body.
- Virtually all WashU undergraduate students are younger than 25.
- The age of the graduate student body varies across schools, but most students are under age 30.
- University College has the largest percentage of students older than 30.
- Age diversity corresponds to type of degree and curriculum format.

Washington University for Life

In 2018, WashU became a member of the Age-Friendly University Global Network, a group of educational institutions committed to expanding programs and policies to engage people in all life stages.

WashU for Life initiative includes:

- Next Move Student Group at the Brown School
- Focus groups with admissions and career services staff to understand opportunities and challenges of increasing age diversity
- Next Move: Transitioning to the New Retirement Seminars
- Multigenerational Classroom Research Study
- Publication: [Morrow-Howell, N., Lawlor, E., Macias, E., Swinford, E. & Brandt, J. \(2019\). Making the case for age-diverse universities. The Gerontologist. https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnz181.](https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gnz181)