



2008 READI Usage Survey Results

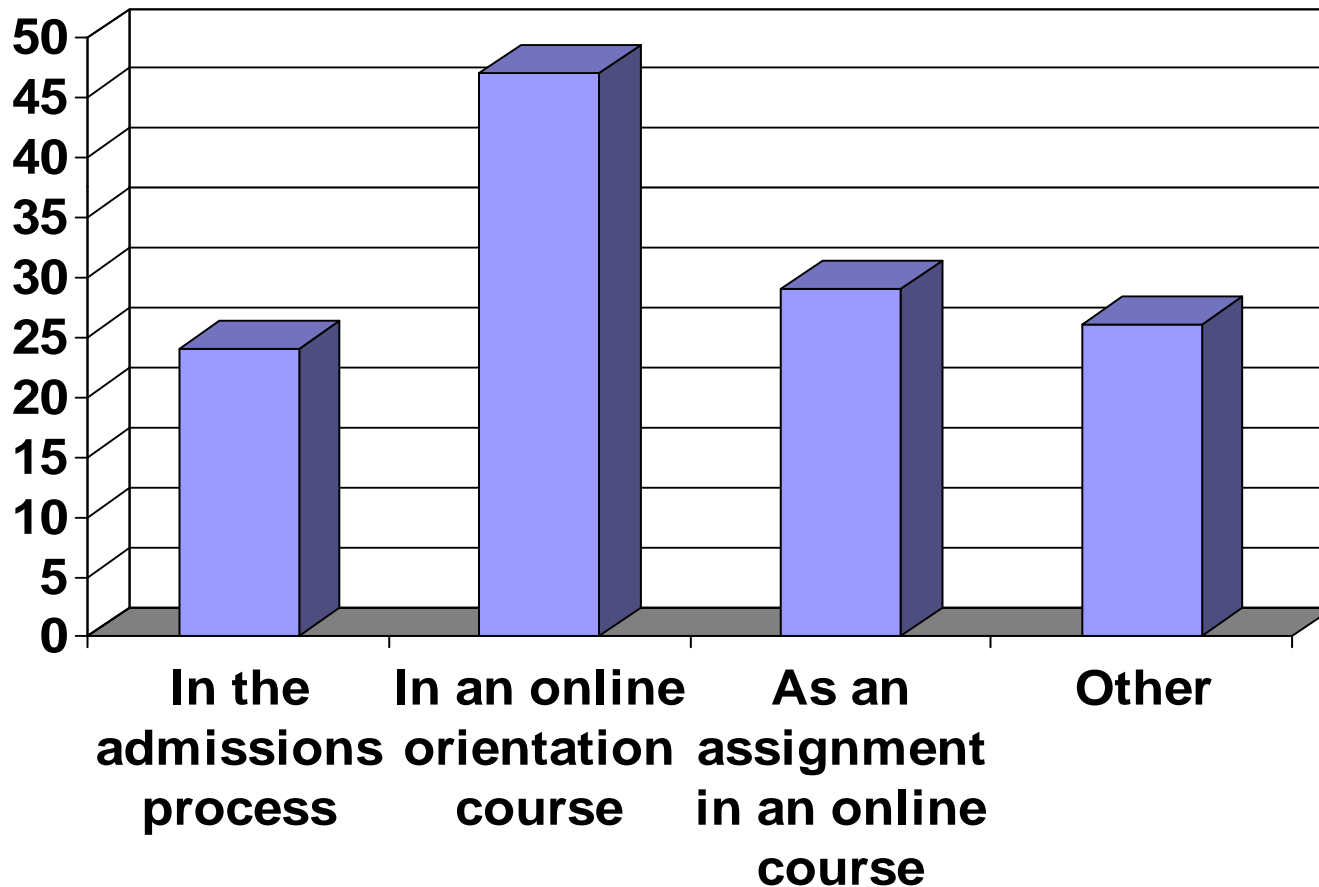
Survey of READI administrators about their usage of Readiness for Education At a Distance Indicator.



Study Participation

- 83 READI administrators responded to the survey out of a possible 187 READI administrators (44% response rate).
- Data was submitted during the months of March and April, 2008 based on patterns of usage of READI over the previous 12 months.
- A list of participating institutions is at the end of this document.

Executive Overview: Where Do You Use READI?





Executive Overview

- READI is used by a variety of institutions ranging in size from 100 online students to over 20,000 online students.
- The most common way that schools provide access to READI is through the school's website. The second most common way is through embedding READI as an assignment into an orientation course. A variety of good practices of encouraging student use of READI are included in the report below.



Executive Overview

- Most schools provide READI as an option to students but about 30% of schools do require that students take READI.
- Most schools make READI available to all students but about 30% make it available only to distance education students.
- About 30% of schools go over the READI scores one-to-one with students. A variety of good practices of assisting students in interpreting their READI scores are included in the report below.



Positive comments about READI

- READI offers a realistic view of one's ability to navigate in an online learning environment. It also highlights the individual's potential conflict area, i.e., doesn't have a computer, etc. From our perspective, READI offers an unbiased, objective overview of the student's ability to succeed in an online learning environment.
- Students are encouraged to use the data for their own benefit. Many report sharing the data with parents and friends, and say the data is helpful in their online studies.
- We use the data to learn more about student demographics, learning styles, and preparedness for participating in online classes. The information we gather from READI informs the development of student services/tutorials.
- It's as good as any software I've seen.
- This tool already exceeds our expectations. We tried to grow our own assessment tool and were unsuccessful.
- READI addresses all the major problems that online students face. Even if a student takes an online class when READI seems to indicate that the student is probably not prepared, at least that student knows what to expect.



Positive comments about READI

- I believe that the students enjoy the ease of the testing and immediate results. I think it is a very easy and user friendly tool. I appreciate the fact that you allow storage of previous assessments.
- It is very user friendly for the student, administrator and faculty.
- READI is a great pre-assessment tool for those students who would have the intention to go through flexible learning. It allows both students and administrators to determine where the students stand in terms of the technical knowledge, competency skills and the personal attributes in order to achieve Student Success. Likewise, the READi is a good tool to develop a baseline for student demographics to better improve the institution effectiveness plan (IEP).
- READI helped our department dispel some myths about student preparedness. It helps us bring look carefully at other variables that affect student success, rather than "lack of technology experience"



How do students gain access to READI?

Choice	Count	Percent of Sample
School Website	47	56.6%
Admissions Office	17	20.5%
Instructor	37	44.6%
Registration Process	35	42.2%
Other	37	44.6%



How do students gain access to READI? Other ...

- Online Demo Course
- Academic Advisor
- Online Orientation, online information brochure, emails from coordinator
- Within the online courseroom for our orientation seminar.
- Link on Moodle home page
- Online orientation, Online Coordinator
- an email from me twice before enrollment
- SFA Online site and Letter of Introduction to Distance Education @ SFA
- Preparing for Success Class
- Email
- Distance Learning Orientation and Materials
- Part of our Online Student Orientation and Access Department Web page
- We are piloting...plan to use web instructors and advisors.
- From the Distance Learning office
- Advisor




How do students gain access to READI? Other ...

- From the Distance learning website
- Within a specific WCC non-credit course
- We are incorporating it into our Freshman Orientation beginning this summer.
- Email and postal letter sent directly to enrolled students
- Not sure at this time
- Program Manager dedicated to each program provide student info
- Advisement
- Online Student Orientation Course
- Schedule of classes
- Within Orientation WebCT class
- Pilot phase
- Have not yet implemented
- Distance Ed. Website
- They will receive said information from the Online Advocate
- Online Advocate




How do students gain access to READI? Other ...

- Counselors
- Inside the CMS Desire2Learn
- College Call Center
- Various staff and faculty are examining READI for use in the future.
- Distance Education Orientation
- Student Orientation




Other comments about student access to READI...

- Our students have free access to ReadI at this link http://www.watc.edu/online-right_for_me.php
- We also inform students during student orientation.
- READI is part of our online Demo course and we encourage faculty to use it in Week One as a learning tool and part of the online courses orientation.
- I ask that all students who are new to online take the READI survey and then I distribute to the retention coordinator and the instructor.
- New learners are given the URL and access information as part of an assignment in the University Orientation Seminar that all new learners are registered to take.
- Announcements.
- We need to stress usage to all distance learning instructors.
- Different instructors use it differently; some require and some recommend.
- Students are being educated about the READI instrument in the Preparing for Success course. This is one of the first courses new students take during the first quarter of attendance.
- We have a form that students are encouraged to fill out. When they fill it out and provide a valid email address, we respond to them with information. The link to the READI assessment will be in that email.




Other comments about student access to READI...

- We are just going to pilot READI this coming summer so our experience is minimal at this point.
- We have placed a link on our online education information page of the campus' class schedule newsprint
- Getting ready to develop some marketing material for use during advising and registration. Do you have anything to offer (can we use logo's or materials from your web site)?
- Many online instructors have the READI survey as the first assignment.
- Printed school schedule, on the bottom of their bill from Cashier's office, a news flash on our Portal Home page
- As of the moment, instructors provide this information. We are still on the initial stage of rolling this delivery method of instruction
- Asking counselors to promote its use.
- Within one of the modules of the course and in the announcements of the course.
- Beginning this summer, READI will be built into Freshman We discuss the READI assessment during Freshman Orientation. The assessment is being incorporated into Freshman Orientation beginning this summer. Additionally, online instructors have the option of also using it. Prior to Summer 08, it has been an optional assessment for online instructors to use.



Other comments about student access to READI...

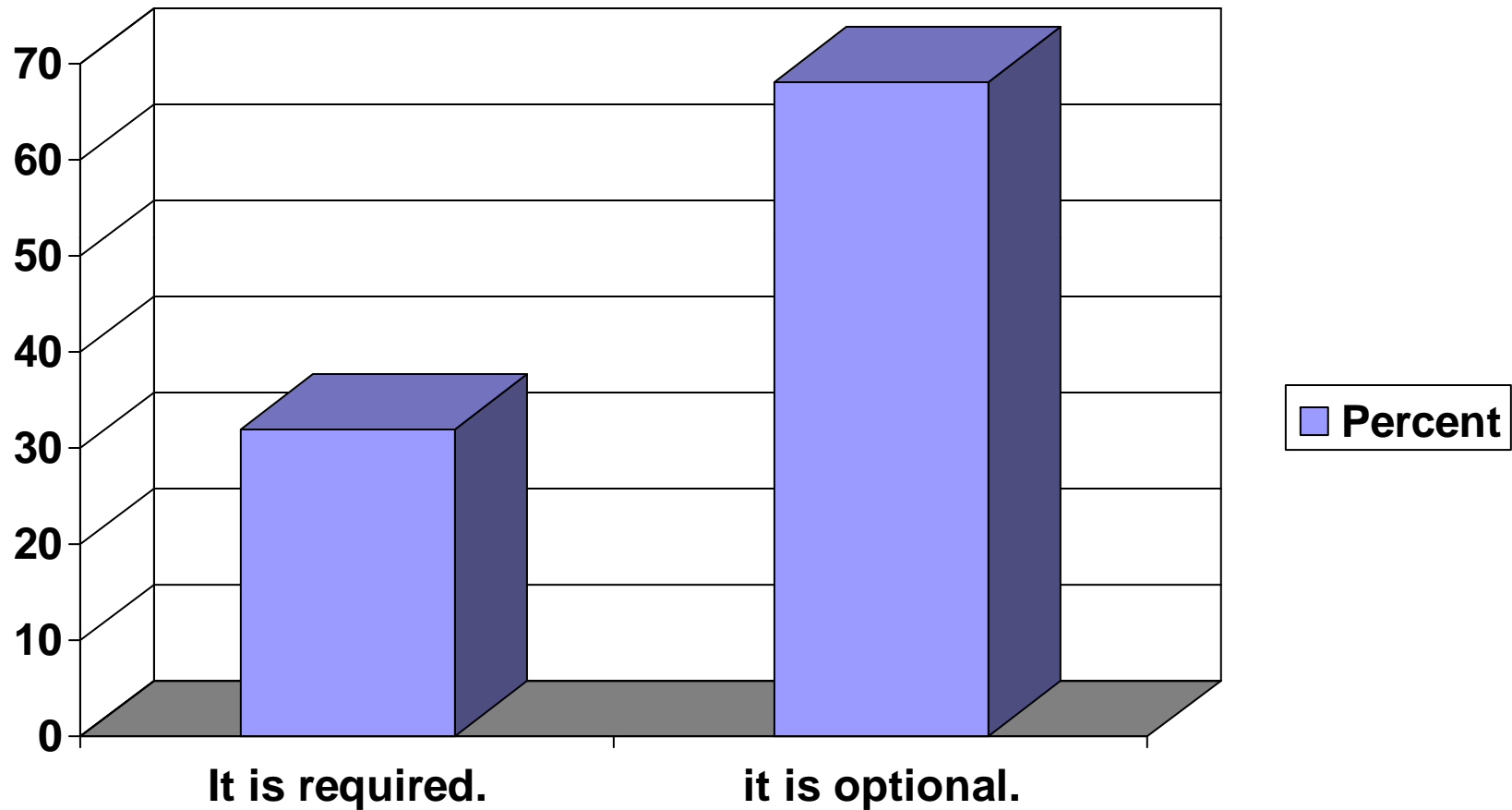
- Some instructors also encourage students to take survey during first week of the course. Login information is provided by the instructor.
- Email with a telephone call follow-up
- Right now the READI assessment is not required of our online students. I am working toward having the READI assessment included in our New Student Orientation.
- Postcard
- The READI assessment is part of our Strategies for Success Orientation course. The Orientation course is mandatory for all new Center for Online Learning students.
- We have a link to READI on our Distance Education web site. We encourage all of our online faculty to link to to READI on their welcome/orientation/syllabus webpage.
- We use ReadI as part of our Online Student Orientation and Assessment.
- A link inside of online courses.
- We have a page that talks about READI--what it is, what it's used for--and includes the userid/psw for initial login.
- Distance Learning Class



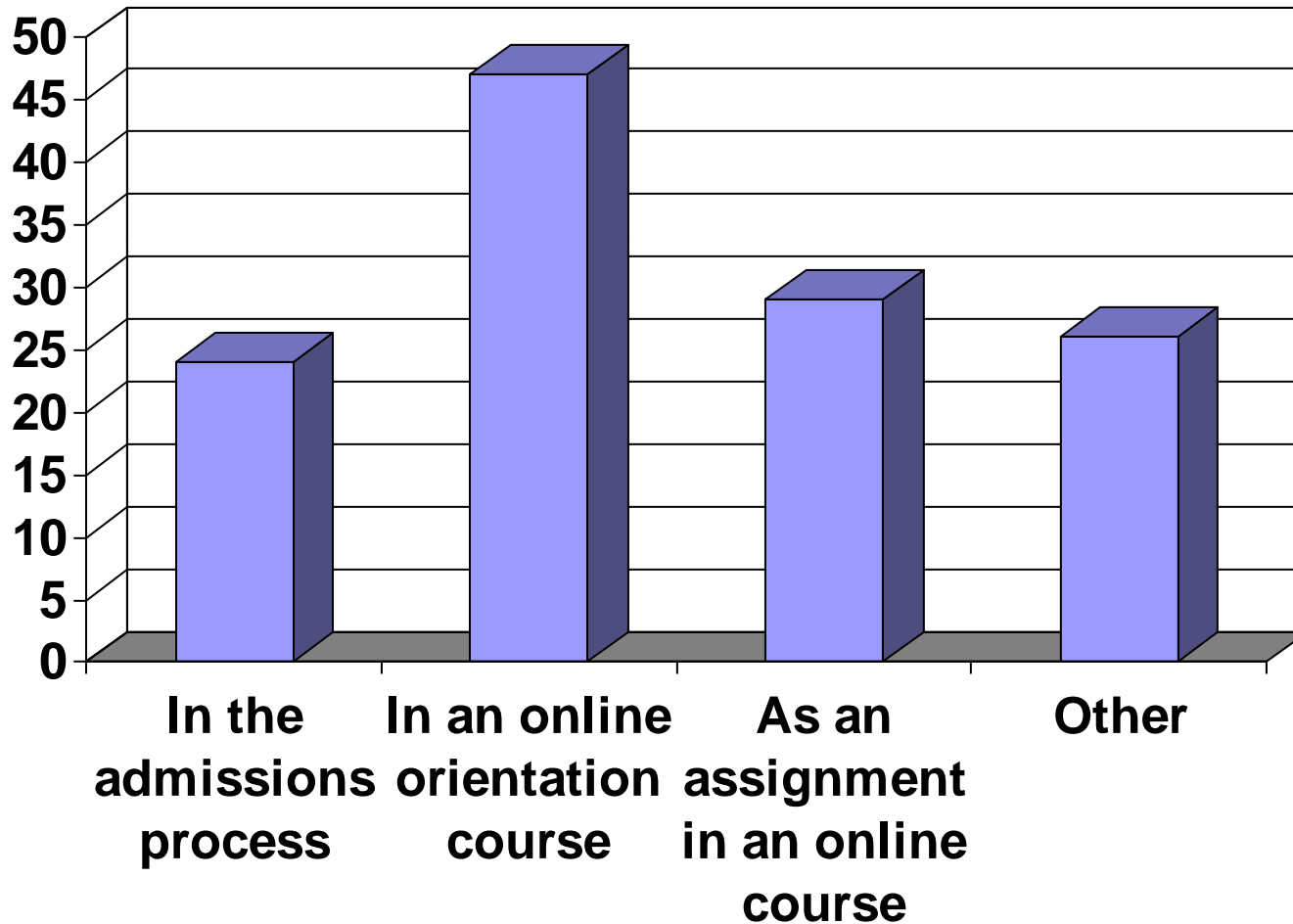
Other comments about student access to READI...

- Through admissions process meeting with current students to share opportunity
- We are in the process of making changes to the college website which will include making READI more available. We include information about READI in our Orientation to Online sessions at the beginning of each semester.

Is READI required or optional?



Where do you implement READI?





Where do you implement READI comments?

- My online instructors take the ReadI as part of their orientation to teaching online.
- Optional for those beginning online classes
- As an assignment in an onground course
- Available to general population of students to see if they are ready for distance learning courses.
- Prior to registration
- Available to any online student who has a Moodle account
- We will officially offer our students the assessment beginning of April.
- I email them and ask them to take this test
- Taking the READI instrument is voluntary for all students. However, for those students expressing an interest to enroll in online classes, it is mandatory. Again, communications are given to students during orientation and during the Preparing for Success class.
- College Success Class On-Ground
- It will be used as more of a self-assessment at this point.
- This process is in place for our pilot test for summer; we expect it to be a preliminary to enrolling in an online course in the future.



Where do you implement READI comments?

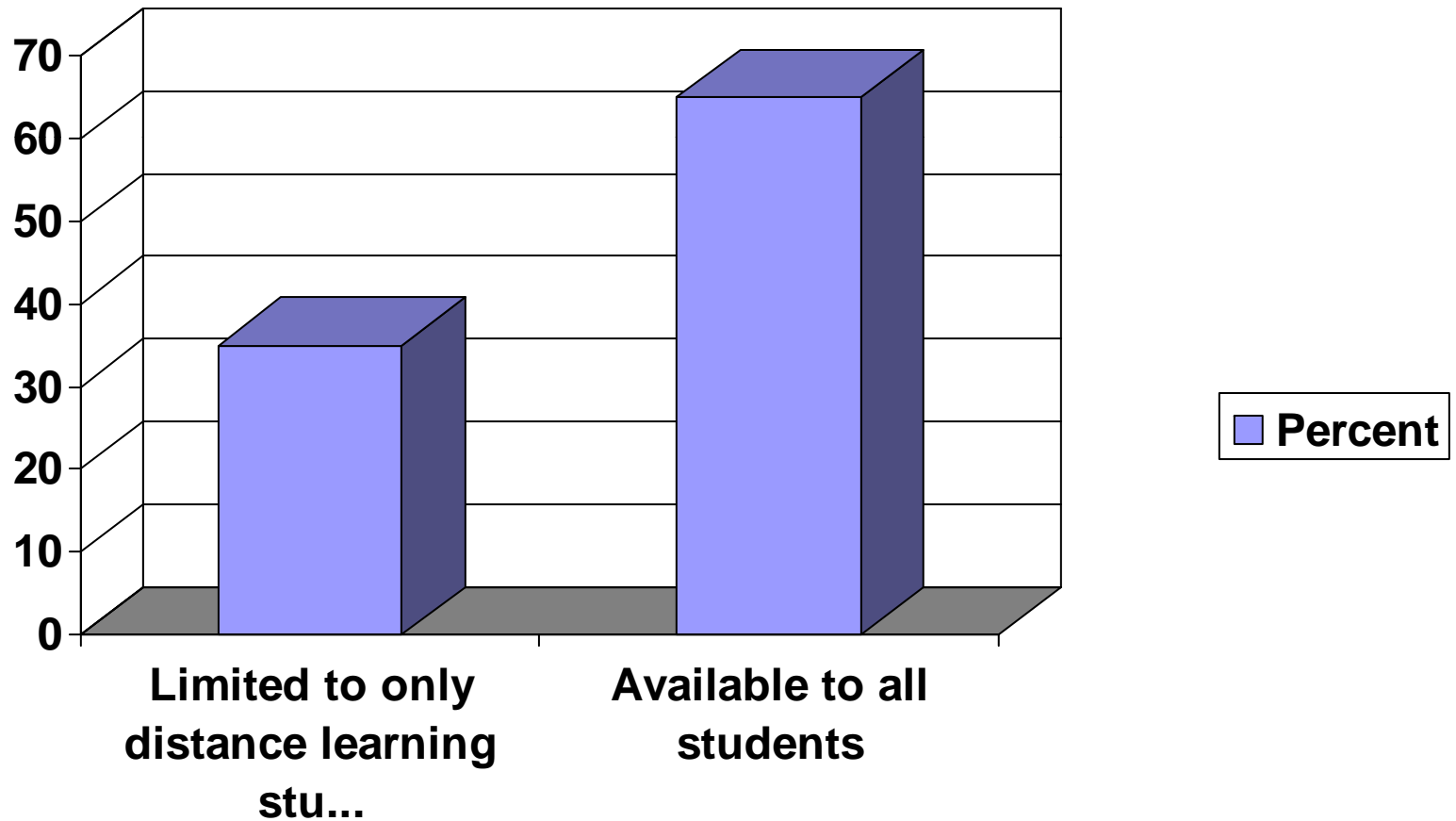
- Instructors may choose to use it in their classes, however they see fit.
- Request an assessment by certain groups (allied health students in hybrid classes).
- This is our first term and we are piloting it with a small group of distance learning courses. We also have it linked from our distance learning web page.
- The READI survey is required within this Online Orientation course.
- Beginning this summer, it will be included in Freshman Orientation. Online course instructors also have the option of using it.
- After the registration of the first class of the program
- I believe ReadI will be implemented in fall 2008 orientation.
- At this time only our alternative teaching program requires all new students to take the assessment. It is done by the direction of the director of that continuing education program.
- Prior to course registration
- Not implemented district wide
- Have not yet implemented
- On web site and inside online courses.



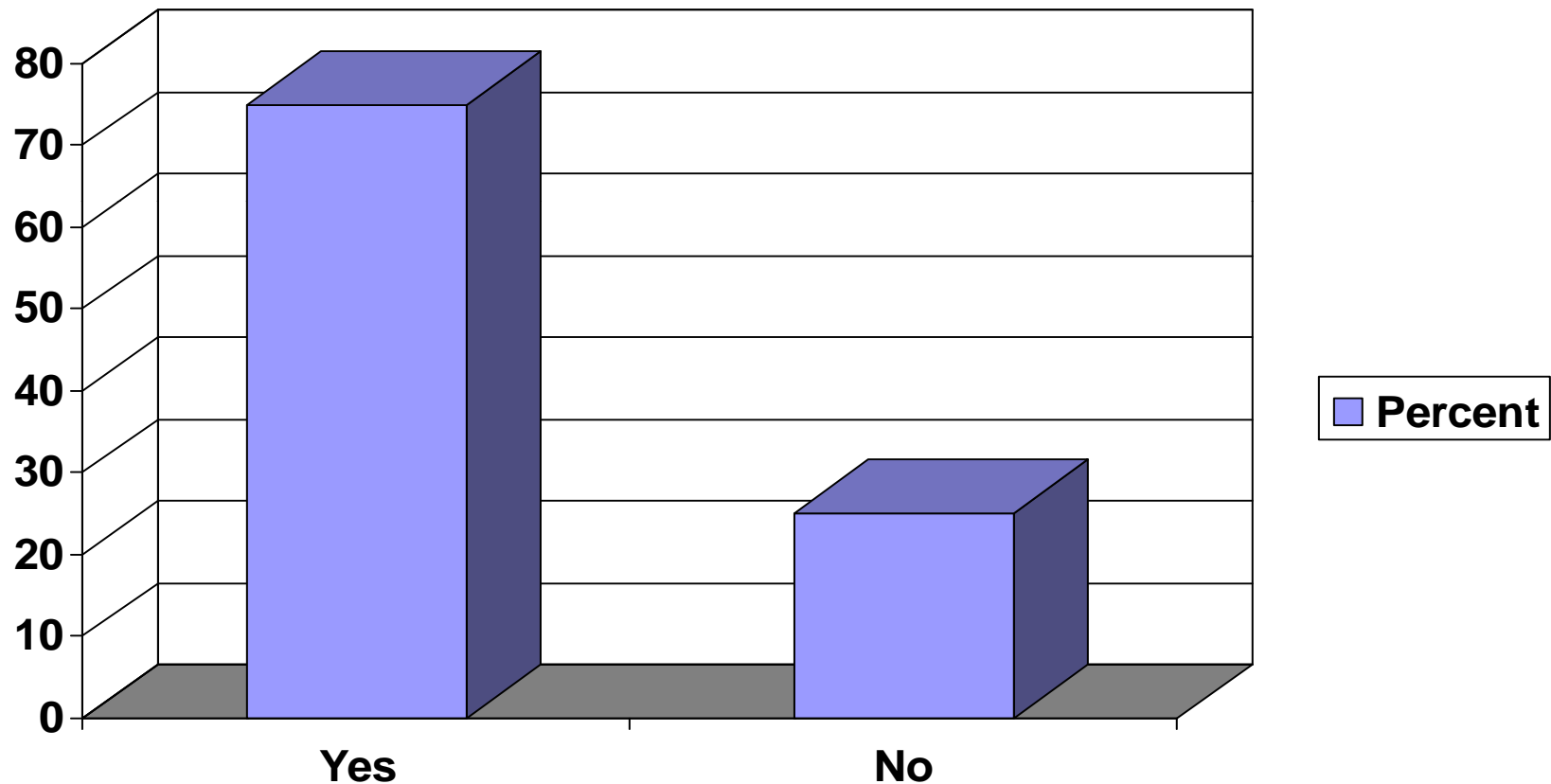
Where do you implement READI comments?

- We will be assigning this to all students considering online courses.
- Counseling process
- At this point, we make the assessment available to the student.
- Not yet set - Still in pilot stage
- At point of registration for online courses
- Recommended on information "splash" page for online students.
- As part of the DE website with the password published so anyone can take the assessment.

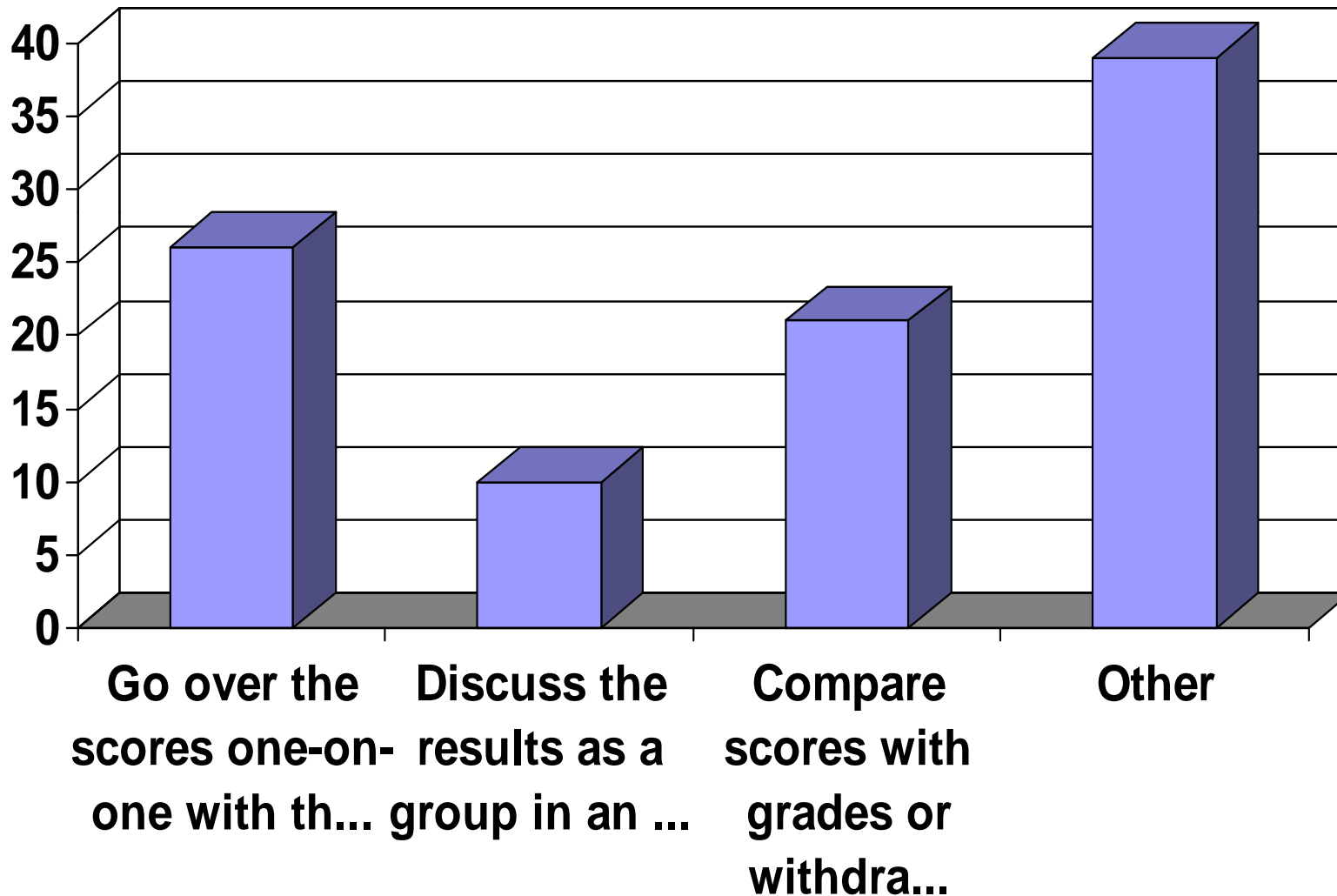
Is READI available to all students or only distance learning students?




If a potential or current customer is interested in learning more about the way you use READI at your school, may we pass your contact information along to them?




How do you use the student report data?





How do you use the student report data?

Choice	Count	Percent of Sample
Go over the scores one-on-one with the student	26	31.3%
Discuss the results as a group in an online class	10	12.0%
Compare scores with grades or withdrawal rates	21	25.3%
Other	39	47.0%



How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- We hope students will use the results for self-study, I also check for any major concerns. We retain the data for analysis post semester.
- We basically use it to help determine if a student should be in an online course. We are also using it for other statistical purposes.
- Let the students use it as an indicator for themselves.
- Our next step is to compare scores with grades and withdrawal rates.
- As far as I know, this data is going into the ether because no one is requesting the reports back on their students.
- The student report data is mostly for the students personal use, but we encourage faculty to create introductory discussions around it in week one.
- Allow general population of students to review their own scores and suggestions.
- Each instructor uses the READI data for his/her evaluation of students in his/her course.
- Haven't used it yet...READI has not been used by students yet
- The READI assessment is used by our Retention Coordinator and our Online instructors to identify online students who may have potential online issues. The instructors are encouraged to review issues with student as indicated on the READI Assessment.




How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- Registration component
- Learners are allowed the option of discussing any findings that really stood out for them, based on their results of the READI Assessment that they take in the orientation seminar.
- Students are encouraged to use the data for their own benefit. Many report sharing the data with parents and friends, and say the data is helpful in their online studies.
- Encourage instructors to view scores of students who begin to struggle. Use as early intervention to note areas of weakness for tutoring possibilities.
- Right now, the results of the survey are for student use/information. There are a couple instructors who require the students to take the assessment, but it is not widely used by faculty.
- Review data each term to determine student readiness for online instruction.
- Currently we just check it before school and see if there are any red flags and indicate to the student that online classes might not be the best. Instructors also have access to the data so they respond to students if they'd like or pull it up if the student begins to have problems. Our administration does not want it used to deter students from taking online classes currently.
- Implementation of READI is at a pilot level for one group on our campus at this time. It will be available to all distance and on-campus students this summer and fall terms. After several semester's results, we will have a better understanding of the results and relevance to grades, withdraw percentages, and so forth.




How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- This is a new process for us. We want to use the data and compare it with GPA and/or course completion rates. We have not yet determined the actual assessment but we also want to look at withdrawal rates.
- Mainly to assure students have enough tech savvy to engage in an online class. And to gauge a students English abilities.
- We will be using it as a self-assessment for the student. In the future, we may do more, but for now, that is all we have the staff for.
- The Distance Learning staff use the data to conduct analyses, while individual instructors may use it as a class activity.
- Some of our online instructors require their students to complete the READI survey - they then discuss the results with each student as the student completes the survey. The ITDE office has no further input into the administration or results of the surveys other than to insure that they are available to faculty to use in their courses.
- We are going to pilot this summer so am unable to answer this question at this time.
- Have not finalized how to cover the report. Will be glad to report on this later after the pilot.




How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- Depends on if they score Passing, Questionable, or Failing. One other change is that if a student Fails the Technical portion, we offer a hands-on workshop that they can substitute for the assessment. In the workshop they must learn to perform a series of tasks. If they are successful, they may continue on in the course.
- As of the moment, I have not run the report. I will use this data to discuss it with the faculty to their students and then use this as part of my IEP.
- Again, piloting it with a small group of courses this term. Presently working with counselors to begin incorporating it more across the campus.
- We are not using the student report data at this time.
- In the upcoming implementation of using READI in Freshman Orientation, we will discuss the information obtained from the assessment prior to the administration of it. Our hope is that it will allow students to make wise decision about whether or not they should register for an online class.
- We have yet to implement a formal review process.
- Just beginning to really look at scores. Have had it avail this school year.




How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- Program Managers go over the READI results per the student's request.
- Very few students are taking the assessment at this time because it is not mandatory. I am working to change that.
- Students submit email as part of the assignment to instructor after completing the assessment.
- The admissions representative will go over the test with the student.
- We use the student data report to compare scores with retention rates.
- We use the results to orient students before signing them up for online courses. We just started looking at results and comparing to retention rates
- This aspect is still in progress.
- We use the data to learn more about student demographics, learning styles, and preparedness for participating in online classes. The information we gather from READI informs the development of student services/tutorials.




How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- We plan to review them with the students individually at this time.
- At this point, we make the assessment available to the student. We are in discussions about how we need to utilize it.
- This process is currently self-directed.
- We are not really doing anything with the data. We have shared it with the head advisor but don't know if the advisors are really using the results to help advise students but hope they will in the future.
- Currently we do not use the data collected from READI in any meaningful capacity at this time; however, students are assigned to take the assessment in our Freshman Orientation courses or independently. I can see our institution formalizing READI in our counseling center at some point.



How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- First time users, no data yet for changes.
- It's as good as any software I've seen.
- You should add more statistical reports that use bar or pie charts. The charts on the administrator page are somewhat meaningless.
- The main problem with this assessment is that it doesn't provide students with ways to remedy the issues that might keep them from being a good distance learning student. If you could provide suggestions or proven ways to overcome obstacles, I'd find this kind of survey useful. As it, it only stands as a means of discouragement for some of our students.
- I can't think of much. I like the updates as the technology questions should be updated often. Perhaps it would be nice for students to be able to save or print out each piece of the survey separately. That way if their instructor asked them to post a discussion about their learning style they could attach the assessment on their learning style?
- Reporting option should allow to report a class of students without having to create a group for each course.
- Update the questions for the Technology Competency section to eliminate references to the number of electronic components that one owns, as this question occasionally causes learners to feel that they are supposed to own more electronic components or that they won't do well in their online program.




How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- Give students the ability to e-mail a report by providing an e-mail button at the end of the report.
- If there is any way to make the assessment more brief..... I think the time allotted for this assessment does require an investment on the part of the student and instructor. If there was a way to shorten the assessment, it might be used more often by faculty.
- For report data, providing summary analysis of those individuals who have taken the READI instrument. For example, summary scores of technical competency. Etc.
- I have nothing to add now. I really like the way it looks, and the list of remediation sites at the end of the report.
- Integrate with our Student Information System to pull correct student data and tie it all in together. Give us the ability to store their score as a field in the database along with ID number, classes, etc.
- The assessment is long. Is there a way it can be shortened.
- multiple platform (mac users), vista vs xp
- We are very happy with it as it is.



How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- Is there a way to see if student has completed all of the test?
- Ability to edit content. A lot of students are in Master's programs therefore many questions aren't applicable.
- None - I like the assessment
- READI needs to be shortened to take approximately 30 minutes to complete.
- More customization.
- It would be great if we could somehow connect this tool w/our database, so we can keep track of students who have taken the survey more efficiently.
- We haven't had any students utilize it yet.
- This tool already exceeds our expectations. We tried to grow our own assessment tool and were unsuccessful.
- It would be nice if the learning styles was also shown on a bar graph.



How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- READI addresses all the major problems that online students face. Even if a student takes an online class when READI seems to indicate that the student is probably not prepared, at least that student knows what to expect.
- Many report sharing the data with parents and friends, and say the data is helpful in their online studies.
- I believe that the students enjoy the ease of the testing and immediate results. I think it is a very easy and user friendly tool. I appreciate the fact that you allow storage of previous assessments.
- Not at this time but I will share them with you in the future.
- It is very user friendly for the student, administrator and faculty.



How do you use the student report data? Other ...

- READI offers a realistic view of one's ability to navigate in an online learning environment. It also highlights the individual's potential conflict area, i.e., doesn't have a computer, etc. From our perspective, READI offers an unbiased, objective overview of the student's ability to succeed in an online learning environment.
- In our first semester, so not yet...
- READI is a great pre-assessment tool for those students who would have the intention to go through flexible learning. It allows both students and administrators to determine where the students stand in terms of the technical knowledge, competency skills and the personal attributes in order to achieve Student Success. Likewise, the READi is a good tool to develop a baseline for student demographics to better improve the institution effectiveness plan (IEP).
- READI helped our department dispel some myths about student preparedness. It helps us bring look carefully at other variables that affect student success, rather than "lack of technology experience"



Other Comments about READI

- I like the product thus far.
- The main problem with this assessment is that it doesn't provide students with ways to remedy the issues that might keep them from being a good distance learning student. If you could provide suggestions or proven ways to overcome obstacles, I'd find this kind of survey useful. As it, it only stands as a means of discouragement for some of our students.
- I look forward to hearing how other schools are using READI, thank you, ahead of time, for sharing these results.
- FYI: Our faculty body would like to use READI as a "gate keeper tool" (so to speak) for distance learning courses, but the college currently does not require a pre-requisite course or READI evaluation score before allowing enrollment in online courses.
- It would be great to know how other schools are marketing READI, and how effective that marketing is.



Other Comments about READI

- Thank you for this tool! The extra support, ready to get to get students prepared for online learning is truly appreciated.
- The only reason that I declined to have us considered for a case study is that we have only been pilot testing READI this school year. We intend to implement the software on a much larger scale beginning in the Fall 2008 term and should have better feedback for you next year.
- Thanks for allowing us to demo this product. I am feeling confident that we will use this product, especially in our Title III assessments. Thanks again!
- At this time WCJC has not implemented the READI program.
- Getting education to adopt changes is a slow, painful process.
- We are still piloting, so don't have many answers yet



Participating Schools

- Wichita Area Technical College
- Ouachita Technical College
- Southwest Mississippi Community College
- Int. Academy of Design and Tech - Chicago
- Kansas City Kansas Community College
- Western Wyoming Community College
- Trident Technical College
- Texas A&M University-Commerce
- Georgia Virtual Technical College
- Sanford-Brown College-Milwaukee
- Trinity Valley Community College
- Kansas City Kansas Community College
- Gadsden State Community College
- Okefenokee Technical College
- Gordon College



Participating Schools

- Capella University
- Sanford Brown Institute Fort Lauderdale Campus
- Western Texas College
- Augusta Technical College
- DCCCD - Eastfield College
- Atlanta Technical College
- Jones County Junior College
- International Academy of Design & Technology (IADT)
- Northwestern Technical College
- Stephen F. Austin State University
- IADT - Detroit
- St. Philip's College
- IADT Vegas
- Blinn College
- Galveston College



Participating Schools

- Texas A&M University-Commerce
- Darton College
- North Central Texas College
- Kansas City Kansas Community College
- North Arkansas College
- Northeast Mississippi Community College
- Panola College
- South Florida Community College
- Sanford-Brown Institute, New York City
- Cuyahoga Community College
- Washtenaw Community College
- Chippewa Valley Technical College
- Victoria College
- Del Mar College
- Jackson State University



Participating Schools

- East Central Community College
- Compass Knowledge Group
- East Mississippi Community College
- Texarkana College
- Clarendon College
- Wharton County Junior College
- College of the Mainland
- Columbus State Community College
- Trident Technical college
- IADT- Vegas
- Manatee Community College
- Saint Leo University Center for Online Learning
- Gordon College
- ECPI Online College of Technology
- Gadsden State Community College



Participating Schools

- San Antonio College
- El Paso COmmunity College
- Sanford-Brown College Milwaukee
- Alvin Community College
- TSTC Harlingen
- College of Southern Maryland
- North Georgia Technical College
- South Texas College
- Itawamba Community College
- Mountain View College
- Sanford Brown Institute, Trevese, PA
- Sanford Brown Institute
- Brazosport College
- Temple College
- Temple College



Participating Schools

- SBI - North Loop Houston
- Northwest Vista College
- Sanford Brown Institute
- Middle Georgia Technical College
- Amarillo College
- TSTC Marshall
- Tyler Junior College
- Navarro College