# WAKETECH

Lead the way.

ESS Staff Professional Development: Assessment, Evaluation, and Research

# What Does It Mean? Quantitative and Qualitative Assessment

#### Camellia Inman

Director, Strategic Planning and Assessment Enrollment and Student Services
<a href="mailto:assessment.waketech.edu">assessment.waketech.edu</a>

June 2017



### LEARNING OUTCOMES

### Participants will be able to:

- Identify differences between quantitative and qualitative assessment
- Recognize when it's appropriate to use quantitative and qualitative assessment



### **QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT**

**Quantitative Data:** It can be measured, used to quantify attitudes, opinions, behaviors; numerical data – **NUMBERS** 

**Practical Examples:** height of a person, today's temperature, price of a car

**Higher Ed Examples:** students enrolled, survey respondents, placement test scores, college cost

**Applications:** Collection for numerical computations – total count, averages, percentages, minimum values, maximum values, etc.

Answers: WHAT?



### **QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT**

How many students are needed? Sample size RULES DO APPLY

	Margin of Error (Confidence Interval)		
Population	Note: Confidence Level - 95%		5%
	10%	5%	1%
100	50	80	99
500	81	218	476
1,000	88	278	906
10,000	96	370	4,900
100,000	96	383	8,763
1,000,000+	97	384	9,513

https://www.surveymonkey.com/mp/sample-size-calculator/



### **QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT**

**Qualitative Data:** Descriptive data expressing how people think or feel; categorical data, comments – **TEXT** 

**Practical Examples:** Colorful artwork, smell of springtime, pleasant mood, love is in the air

**Higher Ed Examples:** Welcoming campus atmosphere, caring service experience, friendly employee, felt motivated to succeed, approachable staff

**Applications:** Gain an understanding of underlying reasons, opinions, and motivations

Answers: WHY?



### **QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT**

How many students are needed? NO RULES for sample size

#### Sample Size

 Depends upon what you want to know, risks involved, usefulness, credibility, time, and resources

#### **Common Types of Sampling**

- Purposeful Sampling Choosing relevant students based on the study
- Stratified Sampling Subgroups to make sure they're represented

#### **Saturation**

- Same responses over and over, nothing new is emerging
- Stop sampling when saturation is reached.

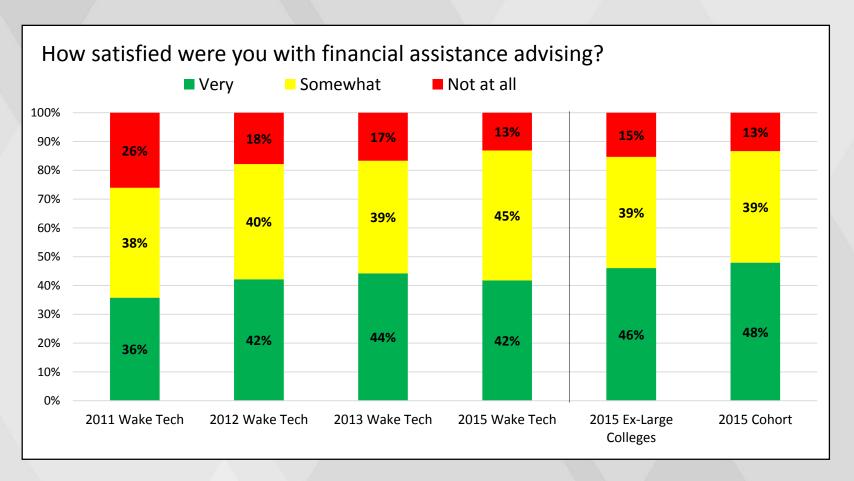


### WHEN DO WE NEED QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA?

Quantitative (Numbers)	Qualitative (Text)	
What do students think?	Why do students think that way?	
How do students feel?	Why do students feel that way?	
What are students are doing?	Why are students doing that?	



# SENSE SURVEY: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ADVISING





#### **QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT**

- Friendly and welcoming attitude
- Knowledgeable about concerns
- Wait time for service
- Helpful in resolving concerns
- Assisted in person, phone, chat, email
- Overall satisfaction



#### **QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT**

Are there any comments that you would like to share about our service or your contact with Financial Aid?



#### **QUANTITATIVE RESULTS**

Percent Strongly Agree or Agree

- Helpful in resolving concerns 77%
- Assisted

```
in person – <u>71%</u>
phone – <u>38%</u>
```

Overall satisfaction – 73%



### **QUALITATIVE RESULTS**

#### Some Common Themes

- Good customer service
- Poor customer service
- Timely answer and return phone calls
- More service to distance students



### USING ASSESSMENT RESULTS: TAKE ACTION

- ✓ Peak Duty Schedule
- ✓ Increased customer service training
- ✓ Implemented the Financial Aid Contact Form
- ✓ Communication preference



# QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT: TAKEAWAYS

- ☐ Short, Simple, Specific
- ☐ Include both types of assessment
- ☐ Analyze the data
- ☐ Share the results
- ☐ Use the results
- ☐ Take action to improve
- Repeat



#### SOURCES

http://www.waketech.edu/student-services/strategic-planning-and-assessment

https://www.surveymonkey.com/mp/sample-size-calculator/

https://www.snapsurveys.com/blog/what-is-the-difference-between-qualitative-research-and-quantitative-research/

http://www.surveysystem.com/sscalc.htm



### Questions

SPA Website

assessment.waketech.edu