

INTRODUCTION

- A student's living arrangements may provide obstacles or opportunities to their studying and engagement in college.
- Commuters are not able to always use campus resources, need extra hours to commute, and may not have an ideal studying place off-campus.
- Students who dorm may have to deal with difficult roommates → affects studying and mental health.
- **Hypothesis:** Commuter students will have a lower academic performance than students who live on campus.

MATERIALS & METHODS

- An anonymous survey asking about **residential status** (on-campus or commute), studying areas, and sharing living spaces with others was sent to City College students (n = 48).
- The main measurement of academic performance was **grade point average (GPA)**.

The Effect of Living Arrangements on Undergraduate Academic Performance

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RESULTS

Average GPA for on-campus residents was **3.60**, while that of commuters was **3.44**.

On-campus residents reported studying for 10.68 hours per week on average; commuters reported 8.94 hours per week on average.

Out of commuters, 32% reported having enough time to be involved in campus and 44% of on-campus residents reported the same.

GPA of Residents

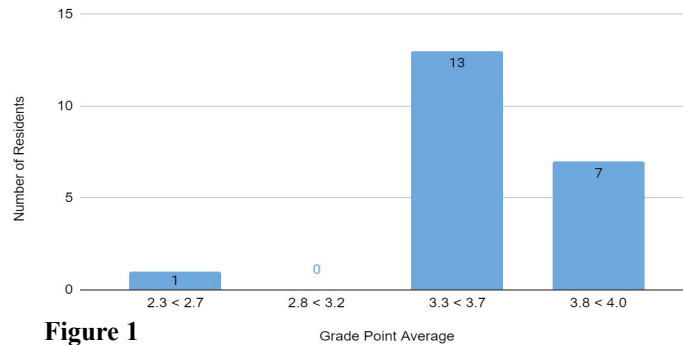


Figure 1

GPA of Commuters

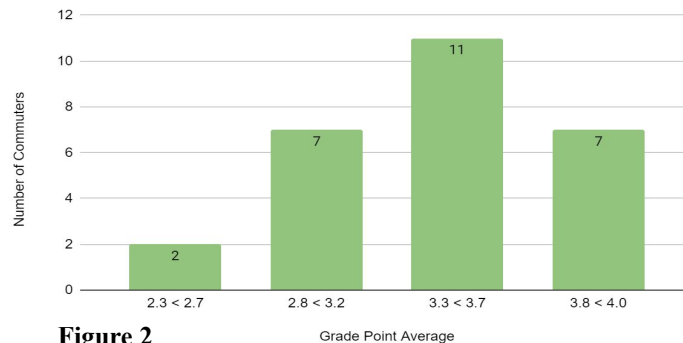


Figure 2

DISCUSSION

- The results show a **positive relationship** between living on campus and a student's academic success among the sample of students attending City College.
- Students who live in the dorms reported a **higher average GPA** and more time available for studying compared to those who commute—our hypothesis was correct.
- Calls for institutions to better accommodate commuter students and help them become more involved in campus in an accessible way.
- **Limitations:** small sample size and limited variety of participants, other factors like socioeconomic status and number of credits were not accounted for, other ways to measure academic success besides GPA.
- **Next Steps:** How do differences in commuting time/distance affect academic performance among commuters?