2017 VCU Freshman Computing Survey

The captured data below are the results from the 2017 VCU Freshman Computing Survey. There was an 86% completion rate from the 684 students who viewed this year’s survey.

What is the primary computer that you own and use at VCU?

- Laptop: 96%
- Desktop: 2%
- Tablet Device: 1%
- Do not own a computer: 1%

How old is your primary computer?

- Less than one year old: 55%
- One year old: 12%
- Two years old: 14%
- Three years old: 9%
- More than four years old: 6%
- Four years old: 4%

What operating system (OS) does your primary computer use?

- Apple Mac OS X: 53%
- Microsoft Windows: 45%
- Other: 2%

Do you own more than one computer?

- No: 75%
- Yes: 25%

How frequently do you carry your portable computer (laptop, tablet, but not smartphone) with you around campus to class, library, or other VCU buildings?

- Daily: 75%
- Several times a week: 17%
- Rarely: 5%
- About once a week: 2%
- Less than once a week: 1%

Do you own a handheld device that is capable of accessing the Internet?

- Yes: 95%
- No. No plans to purchase in the next 12 months: 3%
- No. Plan to purchase over next 12 months: 2%

Tell us about the handheld devices you own.

(select all that apply)

- Apple iPhone: 55%
- Handheld gaming device (Nintendo DS, Sony PSP, etc.): 12%
- Apple iPad (all versions): 11%
- Android based cellphone: 9%
- Apple iPod Touch: 7%
- Android based tablet: 5%
- Other: 1%

What keeps you from using the Internet, or using it more often, from a handheld device?

(select your top three)

- Network Connection is too slow: 25%
- Inadequate battery life: 18%
- Use other access to internet: 13%
- Limited access to network: 12%
- No urgent reason to access: 11%
- Data plan costs: 9%
- Device usability issues: 6%
- Security and privacy concerns: 4%
- Other: 2%

In the next three years, I expect my use of the Internet from a handheld device will:

- Stay the same: 61%
- Increase: 27%
- Greatly increase: 7%
- Decrease: 4%
- Greatly decrease: 1%
Have you downloaded the VCU Mobile app for handheld devices?
   Yes     80%
   No     20%

What version of VCU Mobile did you download?
   Apple iOS    87%
   Android cellphone/tablet  13%

Which services available on VCU Mobile have you used this semester?
   (select all that apply)
   Blackboard    14%
   myVCU    13%
   Alerts    9%
   Dining    9%
   Courses    8%
   RamSafe    8%
   Schedule    8%
   RamRide    7%
   Events    5%
   Maps    4%
   Athletics    4%
   Library    4%
   Directory    2%
   Emergency    2%
   Instructor    1%
   News    1%
   Sites    1%

How would you prefer VCU notify you of a campus emergency?
   (select the top three)
   Text messaging    32%
   Email    23%
   Instant messaging    17%
   Public Access System    7%
   Twitter    6%
   VCU Alert webpage    5%
   VCU website front page    4%
   Voice telephone call    4%
   Facebook    2%

LyndaCampus is an educational resource loaded with a wealth of excellent video training goodies for just about everything. And the best part, Lynda is FREE for all VCU students.

Have you logged into lynda.vcu.edu?
   No     89%
   Yes     11%

Are you aware that VCU Technology Services uses Twitter and Facebook to communicate with the VCU Community?
   Yes, but I don’t follow    49%
   No, I wasn’t aware    32%
   Yes, I follow    19%

What would you like to see included in VCU Mobile that is not already available?
   (select all that apply)
   Check course grades    19%
   Class registration    18%
   Athletic tickets    17%
   Holds    13%
   Alert Notification    9%
   Campus Learning Center    9%
   Elections (SGA, Homecoming, etc.)    8%
   Intramural schedule    6%
   Other    1%

What sort of content would you find beneficial and like to see from our social media team?
   (select all that apply)
   Contests and giveaways    24%
   Technology tips and tricks    21%
   Alerts about service interruptions    17%
   Info about VCUITS services    17%
   Cyber Security tips    10%
   Student's featuring our services    5%
   VCUITS employee features    5%