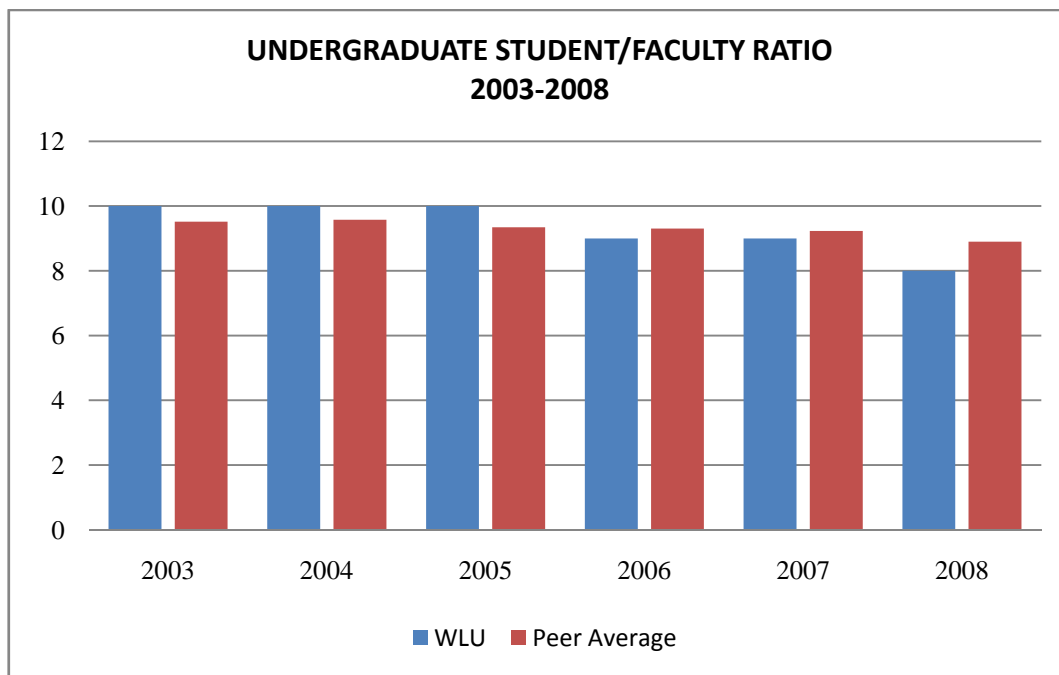


## STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

The student-faculty ratio is frequently used to reflect the intimacy of the educational experience. A low ratio is associated with higher quality education. One might conclude that the lower the ratio, the more contact a student will have with faculty members and that institutions with lower ratios would have smaller class sizes, in general, than one with a higher student-faculty ratio.

The student-faculty ratio is calculated by dividing the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students by FTE faculty. FTE is the number of full-time plus 1/3 of part-time units. Each year the U.S. News America's Best Colleges Survey asks for the undergraduate student-faculty ratio (see chart below). Over the past five years Washington and Lee University's ratio has dropped from 10:1 in 2003 to 8:1 in 2008. This trend is in line with our peers. As a whole, the average ratio for the peer group\* has dropped from 9.5:1 in 2003 to 9.1:1 in 2008.



Source: U.S. News Best Colleges and institutional Common Data Sets

A chart of the student-faculty ratios of the selected peer group follows.

\*The 25 institutions chosen for peer comparison purposes in 2008-09 comprise the top 33 US News Best Liberal Arts Colleges (2009 edition) minus the two service academies (West Point and Annapolis), five women's colleges (Wellesley, Smith, Bryn Mawr, Barnard, Scripps), and Washington and Lee. The schools are listed in the following chart.

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT:FACULTY RATIO 2003-2008

(Number of Students : One Faculty Member)

Institution	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Williams College	8	8	7	7	7	7
Amherst College	8	8	8	8	8	8
Haverford College	8	8	8	8	8	8
Pomona College	9	9	8	8	8	8
Swarthmore College	8	8	8	8	8	8
University of Richmond	na	10	10	10	9	8
Vassar College	9	9	9	8	8	8
Washington & Lee University	10	10	10	9	9	8
Bowdoin College	10	10	10	10	10	9
Carleton College	9	9	9	9	9	9
Claremont McKenna College	9	10	9	9	9	9
Grinnell College	10	9	9	8	9	9
Harvey Mudd College	8	9	9	9	8	9
Middlebury College	11	11	9	9	9	9
Oberlin College	10	10	9	9	9	9
Wesleyan University	9	9	9	9	9	9
Bates College	10	10	10	10	10	10
Colby College	10	10	10	10	10	10
Colgate University	10	10	10	10	10	10
Colorado College	9	10	9	10	11	10
Davidson College	11	11	10	10	10	10
Hamilton College	9	9	10	10	10	10
Kenyon College	10	10	10	10	10	10
Macalester College	11	11	11	11	11	10
Trinity College	10	10	10	11	10	10
Bucknell University	12	11	12	12	11	11
Average	9.5	9.6	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.1

Source: U.S. News, America's Best Colleges