

## **Introduction**

Xavier University of Louisiana's *University Profile 2011–2012* is a collection of statistical data, charts, and graphs compiled by the Office of Planning, Institutional Research, and Assessment. This summary provides an overview of particularly significant university academic attributes, such as student enrollment and characteristics, retention rates, graduation rates, expenditure per student, faculty distribution, and student/faculty ratios. Historic as well as current information is provided. Census information is based on the fall 2011 enrollment, four weeks after the start of the semester.

Xavier is our nation's only historically Black, Catholic university. Founded in 1925 by *Saint Katharine Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament*, Xavier is a coeducational institution. The university, located in the heart of New Orleans, is administered by a diverse Board of Trustees composed of religious and lay members committed to its mission — to promote a more just and humane society.

Xavier is composed of the College of Arts and Sciences (16 departments and the Divisions of Business and Education) and the College of Pharmacy. Xavier offers programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Theology, and Doctor of Pharmacy.

Enrollment for Fall 2011 was 3,399 students, of which 71.3% are female. Race/ethnicity categories are listed within the *Profile*. Individuals are now asked to first designate ethnicity as: [Hispanic or Latino] or [Not Hispanic or Latino]. Second, individuals are to indicate one or more races that apply among the following: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget published these new standards for federal agencies on the collection of racial and ethnic data. The categories do not denote scientific definitions of anthropological origins. The designations are used to categorize U.S. citizens, resident aliens, and other eligible non-citizens. A more detailed explanation of the new racial/ethnic categories are provided at the following website: <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/reic/definitions.asp> . At Xavier, Black students comprised 73.8% of the total headcount; Asian 10.9%; White students, 6.1%; Two or more races, 3.0%, and Hispanic 2.1%. The Admissions Office reports that the pool of this year's 786 new freshmen to the university represents 34 states and the District of Columbia. The average SAT and ACT scores for entering freshmen this year are 972 and 21.5, respectively.

During the academic year, Xavier students receive instruction from 240 (full-time) faculty members of diverse educational backgrounds and professional credentials.

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## **Mission Statement**

Xavier University of Louisiana, founded by Saint Katharine Drexel and the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, is Catholic and historically Black. The ultimate purpose of the University is to contribute to the promotion of a more just and humane society by preparing its students to assume roles of leadership and service in a global society. This preparation takes place in a diverse learning and teaching environment that incorporates all relevant educational means, including research and community service.