

Assessment Note

Office of Academic Assessment and Institutional Research

Ball State University

AAIR No. FYE-A1-2004

Freshman Year Experience Survey Five Year Trends

The Freshman Year Experience Survey is given to all freshmen in the spring semester. It is designed to gather information about students' goals, activities, study behaviors, and progress during their first year at Ball State. This note outlines some five year trends.

Academics

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who reported that their satisfaction with academic experiences was very high or high	82%	80%	77%	77%	78%
Percentages who indicated that they typically spent 11 or more hours per week studying outside of class	45%	34%	34%	30%	35%
Percentages who strongly agreed or agreed that they were satisfied with...					
Faculty concern about their academic success.	47%	43%	45%	43%	41%
Feedback from instructors about my academic progress.	50%	47%	49%	49%	50%
Opportunities to interact with faculty.	58%	56%	56%	55%	56%
Opportunities to learn from peers.	60%	57%	57%	55%	55%
The quality of instruction in my courses.	67%	64%	66%	63%	63%
Percentages who indicated that their educational experiences at BSU have helped them progress very well or satisfactorily in following areas:					
Analyzing and evaluating ideas	97%	94%	92%	95%	95%
Creative thinking	95%	93%	91%	92%	93%
Critical thinking	96%	95%	93%	94%	95%
Problem solving	95%	92%	91%	92%	93%
Writing	93%	91%	90%	91%	91%
Intellectual growth	97%	96%	94%	95%	96%
Personal growth	98%	95%	95%	95%	95%
Preparation for further education	97%	96%	96%	96%	97%
Preparation for career	93%	93%	92%	92%	93%

Student Activities

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who indicated that...					
Their satisfaction with student activities was very high or high	56%	59%	59%	57%	57%
They typically spent 11 or more hours per week participating in student activities	9%	10%	10%	7%	8%
They attended or participated in student groups, organizations, or clubs very often or often	28%	27%	29%	27%	30%

Perceptions of Ball State

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who reported that...					
Their general attitude toward Ball State was very positive or positive	96%	95%	96%	96%	93%
They would recommend Ball State to someone who wants to attend college	90%	91%	90%	91%	84%
They would rate Ball State as among the best or better than most other universities in the country	55%	61%	58%	58%	52%

Goals, Plans and Expectations

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who planned to complete a Bachelor's degree					
	95%	96%	95%	92%	92%
Percentages who reported that they planned to...					
Return to Ball State in the fall	93%	92%	91%	93%	91%
Finish their degree at Ball State	84%	84%	83%	84%	83%
Percentages who had chosen a major and...					
Were certain about it	56%	55%	60%	60%	60%
May change it	33%	33%	32%	33%	31%

* Results from 2004 are preliminary.

For more information about the Freshman Year Experience Survey or other university assessment projects, please contact the Office of Academic Assessment and Institutional Research.

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