

Assessment Note

Office of Academic Assessment and Institutional Research

Ball State University

AAIR No. SEN-A1-2004

Ball State Senior Survey Five Year Trends

The Senior Survey is mailed each spring to all seniors scheduled to graduate in May. It is designed to address the extent to which Ball State meets student needs in a variety of areas ranging from core curriculum and the major to campus facilities. Career and further educational plans are also a focus of this important survey. 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	87%	88%	89%	87%	88%
Percentages who indicated that they typically spent 11 or more hours per week studying outside of class	52%	52%	52%	50%	52%
With regards to their academic major, percentages who strongly agreed or agreed that they were satisfied with...					
Feedback from instructors about my academic progress.	78%	74%	76%	77%	76%
Opportunities for interaction with departmental faculty.	86%	85%	83%	82%	81%
Percentages who indicated that their experiences at BSU have prepared them very well in following areas:					
Analyzing and evaluating ideas	57%	57%	54%	52%	55%
Creative thinking	53%	55%	47%	49%	49%
Critical thinking	57%	59%	52%	52%	56%
Problem solving	51%	52%	44%	45%	43%
Writing	44%	42%	41%	40%	42%
Percentages who reported that their experiences at Ball State had met their needs very well in the following areas:					
Intellectual growth	62%	61%	59%	55%	60%
Personal growth	67%	66%	66%	62%	63%
Preparation for further education	51%	50%	47%	43%	43%
Preparation for career	49%	48%	47%	43%	45%

Student Activities

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who indicated that					
their satisfaction with student activities was very high or high	58%	59%	61%	54%	57%
they were heavily or moderately involved in campus programs, activities, and organizations.	52%	50%	50%	47%	48%

Perceptions of Ball State

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who reported that					
their general attitude toward Ball State was very positive or positive	94%	95%	96%	94%	94%
that they would recommend Ball State to someone who wanted to major in their field.	83%	83%	84%	84%	84%

Goals, Plans and Expectations

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who planned to eventually obtain a graduate or professional degree after graduation.	70%	69%	72%	66%	65%

* Results from 2004 are preliminary.

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