

Assessment Note

Office of Academic Assessment and Institutional Research

Ball State University

AAIR No. SOP-AI-2004

Sophomore Survey Four Year Trends

The *Ball State University Sophomore Survey* was developed in 2001 to gather information about student development and learning at the time of transition from the Core Curriculum classes to the major program of study. The survey is given each spring to sophomores who have earned 42 to 57 credit hours. This note outlines some four year trends.

Academics

	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who reported that their satisfaction with academic experiences was very high or high	83%	87%	80%	83%
Percentages who indicated that they typically spent 11 or more hours per week studying outside of class	49%	46%	42%	44%
Percentages who strongly agreed or agreed that they were satisfied with...				
Faculty concern about their academic success.	53%	51%	51%	52%
Opportunities to interact with faculty in their major.	65%	67%	66%	68%
Opportunities to interact with faculty outside of class.	62%	62%	57%	62%
The quality of instruction.	80%	82%	81%	82%
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%	97%	96%	96%
Creative thinking	95%	94%	95%	94%
Critical thinking	97%	96%	96%	95%
Problem solving	97%	95%	94%	94%
Writing	95%	92%	93%	95%
Intellectual growth	98%	98%	97%	97%
Personal growth	96%	97%	95%	95%
Preparation for further education	96%	96%	94%	95%
Preparation for career	95%	94%	92%	94%

Student Activities

	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who indicated that...				
Their satisfaction with student activities was very high or high	57%	60%	61%	56%
They typically spent 11 or more hours per week participating in student activities	10%	10%	13%	12%
They attended or participated in student groups, organizations, or clubs very often or often.	28%	30%	30%	29%
They were heavily or moderately involved in campus programs, activities, and organizations.	37%	38%	43%	39%

Perceptions of Ball State

	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who reported that...				
Their general attitude toward Ball State was very positive or positive	97%	97%	96%	95%
They would recommend Ball State to someone who wants to attend college.	90%	91%	90%	89%

Goals, Plans and Expectations

	2001	2002	2003	2004*
Percentages who reported that they planned to...				
Return to Ball State in the fall	95%	97%	95%	96%
Finish their degree at Ball State	94%	94%	93%	92%
Percentages who had decided on a major				
Of those, the percentages who were very certain about their choice	98%	98%	97%	97%
	72%	75%	72%	73%

* Results from 2004 are preliminary.

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