



The UND-developed Graduating Student Survey (GSS) was designed and first used in 1991 giving UND the capacity to conduct an exit survey of graduating seniors. The GSS survey has been administered every three to four years since its inception and is intended to extract a variety of information from the students including such things as, overall satisfaction with the university experience, college-related goals, student involvement, cognitive and affective development, as well as future goals and aspirations. Researchers often say to study the successful students. This survey gives the University of North Dakota the capacity to obtain opinions from seniors just prior to graduation.

About dashboards... The various “dashboards” that OIR prepares are a collection of visual graphics designed to highlight and summarize key findings. The particular *survey* dashboards summarize survey findings with additional information found on the OIR survey website at:

<http://und.edu/research/institutional-research/survey-timelines.cfm#ess>

If questions, please contact our office at 701-777-4358.
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Executive Summary

The University of North Dakota, in an attempt to gauge the impressions and attitudes of its successful students, periodically administers a Graduating Student Survey to those students about to graduate. In April of 2011, the Office of Institutional Research invited 800 students scheduled to graduate in May of that year to participate in the survey, which was previously administered in 1991, 1996, 2001, 2004, and 2008. 305 seniors completed the survey for a response rate of 38 percent.

- When asked to evaluate their educational growth in areas related to the Essential Studies learning outcome goals, respondents report their UND education contributed most to *understanding how choices are made and evaluated, analyzing and solving problems, and learning on your own.*
- Respondents reported the least amount of growth in the areas of *participating in research with a faculty member, understanding and appreciating the arts, and using the library.*
- High numbers of respondents report their college-related goals as being tied to career training and development. 94% indicate they wish to increase their knowledge in a field, 88% indicate they wish to improve their knowledge for their career, 85% indicate a goal of formulating long-term career plans, and 83% report the goal of preparing for a new career.
- That being said, respondents rate the career advising they receive relatively low when compared to general academic advising and advising in general education requirements.
- Just over one-half of respondents (54%) indicate they had used the Career Services office; 62% of these students report being satisfied with the service they received from Career Services.
- High satisfaction is reported for several highly used offices. These include the Wellness Center (95%), Student Union (90%) Admissions (85%), the Library (81%) and the Campus Shuttle Bus (80%).
- Frequently used offices also received some of the lowest satisfaction scores, with less than one-half of users reporting being satisfied with the Parking Office (26%), Housing (48%), and Campus Police (47%).
- Respondents are quite happy with the social atmosphere at UND, 88% responding to a positive level of interaction with other students and 84% reporting a positive overall social experience.
- 39% of respondents plan to further their education, with 17% planning to re-enroll at UND and 22% planning to enroll elsewhere.
- With regard to high-impact academic practices, large percentages report completing community service (87%) and a culminating senior experience (63%). Lower percentages report working with faculty on research (29%), participating in a learning community (20%), independent study (15%) and study abroad (12%).
- 88% of respondents report being satisfied with their experiences at UND in general.
- 78% of respondents would again enroll at UND if given the chance to start over.
- 70% indicate they would choose the same major if they could start over.

University of North Dakota 2011 Graduating Student Survey Dashboard

A total of 305 seniors expected to graduate after Spring 2011 completed the survey; response rate was 38%.

Top and Bottom Areas of Satisfaction

Mean score for 2011 indicated in parenthesis; mean calculated on 5-point scale. Arrow indicates mean score change from average of 2001, 2004, & 2008 surveys: ↑ = mean score increase ↔ = mean score steady, ↓ = mean score decrease

Top 5 Experiences with regard to Satisfaction:

1. Overall social experience (4.35) ↑
2. Level of interaction with other UND students (4.28) ↔
3. Personal safety / security on campus (4.26) ↑
4. Attitude of non-teaching staff toward students (4.23) ↑
5. Helpfulness of faculty in major (4.22) ↓

Top 5 Reported Satisfaction Service Areas¹:

1. Wellness Center (4.57) ↑
2. Student Memorial Union (4.23) ↑
3. Campus Shuttle Bus (4.05) ↑
4. Admissions (4.01) ↑
5. Library (4.00) ↔

Bottom 5 Experiences with regard to Satisfaction:

1. UND Pride Card (1.93) (NA)
2. Purposes for which student activity fees are used (2.99) ↑
3. Career advising in your major (3.37) ↓
4. Housing regulations (3.43) ↓
5. Student Government (3.56) ↓

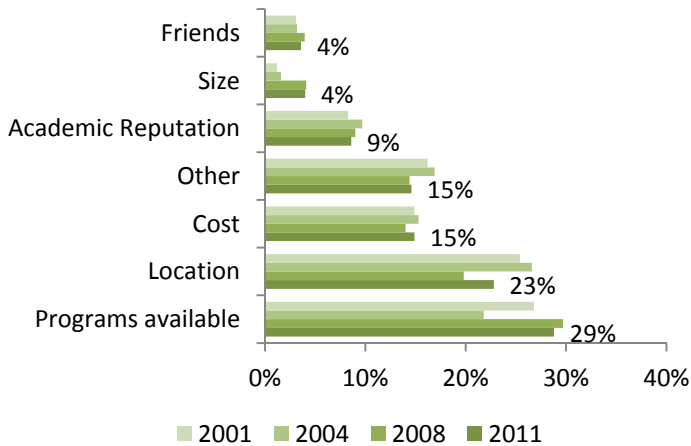
Bottom 5 Reported Satisfaction Service Areas¹:

1. Parking Office (2.51) ↓
2. Housing Office (3.26) ↓
3. Campus Police (3.30) ↓
4. Student Financial Aid (3.48) ↑
5. Bookstore (3.54) ↑

(1) Only areas with more than 50% of respondents reporting use are included here.

Primary Reason For Attending UND

(2011 Percentage shown)



Top Areas of Personal Growth

% Reporting UND Education has contributed "Very Much"

1. Understanding how choices are made and evaluated (79%) ↑
2. Learning on your own (72%) ↑
3. Analyzing and solving problems (68%) ↑
4. Working independently (66%) ↑
5. Evaluating the credibility of different sources of information (66%) NA

Bottom Areas of Personal Growth

% Reporting UND Education has contributed "Very Little"

1. Participating in research with a faculty member (45%) ↑
2. Understanding and appreciating the arts (36%) ↓
3. Using the library (31%) ↑
4. Recognizing your rights, responsibilities and privileges as a citizen (25%) ↓
5. Caring for your own physical and mental health (25%) ↓

Top College-Related Goals

