



America's Brightest **ORANGE**

Oklahoma State University

University Assessment and Testing

2021 OSU Alumni Survey

Survey Report – Economics

The OSU Alumni Survey is a survey designed to collect information about OSU graduated students. More specifically, it is designed to collect information on their career, educational achievements, and their experience with OSU. This information will be used to improve academic programs and student experiences at OSU for generations to come. This survey targeted alumni of undergraduate and graduate programs who received their degree in 2015 and/or 2019. The survey was administered online by OSU-University Assessment and Testing (UAT) in March 2021 through May 2021. Departments may request additional information by contacting UAT (assessment@okstate.edu).

Survey Questions

Respondents were asked up to 26 institutional level items. Institutional level items were given to all OSU alumni and the items consisted of six topics: continuing education, well-being and community, demographic information, academic satisfaction, career reflection, and current job or career information.

Target Population / Response Rate – Economics

	OSU Degree Received:		
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of graduates (<i>n</i>)	38	33	71
Number of survey respondents (<i>n</i>)	8	6	14
Response rate	21.1	18.2	19.7

1. Since graduating from OSU, how would you describe your activity? (This item was "mark all that apply")	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Not engaged in paid employment, nor enrolled in graduate or professional school	0	0.0	0	0.0
Enrolled in graduate or professional school	2	20.0	2	33.3
Employed full-time or part-time	6	60.0	2	33.3
Both employed (other than graduate assistant) and continuing my education	1	10.0	2	33.3
Self-employed	1	10.0	0	0.0

2. Whether or not you are currently employed, in what area is your principal occupation?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Engineering	0	0.0	0	0.0
Computer Science, Programming or Technology	1	12.5	1	16.7
Science, Social Science, or Mathematics	0	0.0	0	0.0
Health or Mental Health	0	0.0	0	0.0
Business or Management	1	12.5	0	0.0
Finance or Accounting	2	25.0	2	33.3
Education, Training, or Library	0	0.0	1	16.7
Legal	2	25.0	1	16.7
Writing, Journalism, or Design	0	0.0	0	0.0
Public Service, Policy, or Politics	0	0.0	0	0.0
Public Relations, Marketing, or Sales	0	0.0	0	0.0
Architecture	0	0.0	0	0.0
Art, Performing, or Athletics	0	0.0	0	0.0
Participating in a volunteer or service program	0	0.0	0	0.0
Serving in the U.S. military	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other occupational area (INSERT FIELD)	2	25.0	1	16.7



Continuing Education

Participants who indicated they were continuing their education responded to the following items.

	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
3. What graduate or professional degree are you pursuing or, if you completed a degree, what degree did you complete? (This item was "mark all that apply")				
Graduate Certificate	0	0.0	0	0.0
Master's	2	66.7	1	25.0
Doctoral	0	0.0	0	0.0
Medical (includes nursing, osteopathy, dental, vet, and more)	0	0.0	0	0.0
Law	1	33.3	1	25.0
Other (INSERT FIELD)	0	0.0	2	50.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

	2015	2019
	4. What was the name of your graduate or professional school?	
Georgia Institute of Technology	1	0
Oklahoma State University	0	1
University of Oklahoma	0	1
University of Texas	1	0
Washington University in St. Louis School of Law	1	0

	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
5. How well did your OSU program prepare you for graduate or professional education program?				
Very well	2	66.7	0	0.0
Adequately	1	33.3	3	100.0
Not very well	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0



Well-being & Community

6. How connected do you feel to OSU?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very connected	3	37.5	1	25.0
Moderately connected	1	12.5	1	25.0
Somewhat connected	4	50.0	2	50.0
Not very connected	0	0.0	0	0.0

7. Are you regularly in touch with people you met at OSU? (This item was “mark all that apply”)	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Yes, with my advisor(s)	0	0.0	0	0.0
Yes, with professors or staff	1	7.7	1	12.5
Yes, with members of my team, club, or sorority/fraternity	5	38.5	3	37.5
Yes, with classmates/friends I met at OSU	7	53.8	3	37.5
No	0	0.0	1	12.5

8. How much has your overall quality of life been enhanced by your Oklahoma State University experience?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Much	7	87.5	2	50.0
Somewhat	1	12.5	1	25.0
Little	0	0.0	1	25.0
None	0	0.0	0	0.0

9. In the past twelve months, how often have you participated in unpaid volunteer work?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
More than once a week	0	0.0	1	25.0
About once a week	1	12.5	0	0.0
About once a month	1	12.5	0	0.0
Every few months	0	0.0	1	25.0
Once or twice in the past year	3	37.5	0	0.0
Not at all	3	37.5	2	50.0



10. How would you change the emphasis OSU placed on these aspects of education and college life?

10a. Making ethical and thoughtful decisions	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
Keep about the same	5	62.5	2	50.0
Increase somewhat	2	25.0	1	25.0
Increase a great deal	1	12.5	1	25.0
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0

10b. Exploring alternative values, perspectives, and beliefs from around the world	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	1	25.0
Keep about the same	2	25.0	2	50.0
Increase somewhat	4	50.0	0	0.0
Increase a great deal	2	25.0	1	25.0
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0

10c. Improving written and oral communication skills	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
Keep about the same	3	37.5	1	25.0
Increase somewhat	4	50.0	0	0.0
Increase a great deal	1	12.5	3	75.0
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0



10d. Improving ability to think critically (analytically and logically)	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	0	0.0	0	0.0
Keep about the same	1	12.5	0	0.0
Increase somewhat	3	37.5	2	50.0
Increase a great deal	4	50.0	2	50.0
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0

10e. Ability to interact positively with people who are different from you	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	1	12.5	0	0.0
Keep about the same	2	25.0	2	50.0
Increase somewhat	2	25.0	0	0.0
Increase a great deal	3	37.5	2	50.0
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0

10f. Developing good health habits and physical fitness	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Reduce a great deal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	1	12.5	0	0.0
Keep about the same	1	12.5	2	50.0
Increase somewhat	6	75.0	0	0.0
Increase a great deal	0	0.0	2	50.0
I don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0



Academic Satisfaction

11. Please rate your degree of satisfaction with each of the following items:

11a. The quality of teaching at OSU	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	1	12.5	0	0.0
Satisfied	7	87.5	1	25.0
Neutral	0	0.0	1	25.0
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	2	50.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

11b. Availability of courses needed for your degree program	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	2	25.0	1	25.0
Satisfied	6	75.0	1	25.0
Neutral	0	0.0	1	25.0
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	1	25.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

11c. OSU academic facilities (e.g. classrooms, labs, buildings, etc.)	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	5	62.5	1	25.0
Satisfied	2	25.0	3	75.0
Neutral	1	12.5	0	0.0
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0



11d. OSU academic advising	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	1	12.5	0	0.0
Satisfied	2	25.0	0	0.0
Neutral	4	50.0	3	75.0
Dissatisfied	1	12.5	1	25.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

11e. Preparation to handle non-career related goals (e.g. family, finances, etc.)	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	0	0.0	1	25.0
Satisfied	3	37.5	0	0.0
Neutral	4	50.0	1	25.0
Dissatisfied	1	12.5	1	25.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	1	25.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

11f. Availability of internship/practicum experiences	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Satisfied	0	0.0	1	25.0
Neutral	8	100.0	1	25.0
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	1	25.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	1	25.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

11g. Overall education at OSU	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	2	25.0	0	0.0
Satisfied	6	75.0	3	75.0
Neutral	0	0.0	1	25.0
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0



12. If you could start over, would you still choose to attend Oklahoma State University?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Definitely yes	5	62.5	2	50.0
Probably yes	2	25.0	0	0.0
Uncertain	1	12.5	2	50.0
Probably no	0	0.0	0	0.0
Definitely no	0	0.0	0	0.0

Career Reflection

Participants who indicated they were employed responded to the following items.

13. How closely is your job related to your field of study?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Not related	1	12.5	2	100.0
Somewhat related	3	37.5	0	0.0
Directly related	4	50.0	0	0.0

14. How well did OSU prepare you for meaningful employment?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very well	4	50.0	1	50.0
Adequately	4	50.0	0	0.0
Not very well	0	0.0	1	50.0
Not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

15. Overall, how satisfied are you with your career?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	7	87.5	2	100.0
Satisfied	1	12.5	0	0.0
Neutral	0	0.0	0	0.0
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0



Current Job or Career

16. Are you employed full-time (on average 30 hours or more per week) or part-time (on average less than 30 hours per week)?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Full-time	8	100.0	2	100.0
Part-time	0	0.0	0	0.0

17. How long did it take to find your first employment after graduating from OSU?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Employed by graduation	4	57.1	2	100.0
3 months after graduation	3	42.9	0	0.0
6 months after graduation	0	0.0	0	0.0
9 months after graduation	0	0.0	0	0.0
1 year after graduation	0	0.0	0	0.0
over 1 year after graduation	0	0.0	0	0.0

18. What is your official job title?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Associate Attorney	0		4	
Attorney	1		0	
Business Analyst	1		0	
Chapter Services Consultant	1		0	
Data Scientist	0		1	
FBO manager and pilot	1		0	
Management Consulting Analyst	0		1	
owner	1		0	
Research Analyst	1		0	
Trader and Portfolio Manager	1		0	



19. What is the name of your current employer? Please include full name (no abbreviations). ¹
Alpha Tau Omega National Fraternity
AndCo Consulting
Charter Communications
Husch Blackwell LLP
Sendero
Tom Johnson Investment Management, LLC
Uda Law Firm, PC
UNITED STATES AVIATION
Wilbur-Ellis
withheld

¹Current Employer is presented exactly as reported by survey respondents.



20. Which of the following best describes your employer?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
A corporation, partnership, or private business	6	75.0	1	50.0
Military	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other governmental entity	0	0.0	0	0.0
Charity or other nonprofit entity	0	0.0	1	50.0
Educational institution	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other	2	25.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

21. Does your job require: (This item was "mark all that apply")	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Technology skills	4	7.0	0	0.0
Conducting research	8	14.0	0	0.0
Extensive training	4	7.0	1	9.1
Math skills	5	8.8	1	9.1
Problem solving/analytic reasoning	7	12.3	2	18.2
Speaking to a group	7	12.3	2	18.2
Use of specialized machinery	1	1.8	1	9.1
Use of specialized software	5	8.8	1	9.1
Working with a diverse group of people	8	14.0	1	9.1
Writing reports, memos, papers, publications, etc.	8	14.0	2	18.2

22. What is your approximate total annual salary (including bonuses), before taxes?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Less than \$15,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$15,000 but less than \$25,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$25,000 but less than \$35,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$35,000 but less than \$45,000	0	0.0	1	50.0
\$45,000 but less than \$55,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$55,000 but less than \$65,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$65,000 but less than \$75,000	1	12.5	1	50.0
\$75,000 but less than \$100,000	3	37.5	0	0.0
\$100,000 but less than \$125,000	1	12.5	0	0.0
\$125,000 but less than \$150,000	1	12.5	0	0.0
Over \$150,000	2	25.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0



Demographics

23. Which OSU campus do you most identify with?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Stillwater	8	100.0	3	75.0
Tulsa	0	0.0	0	0.0
Equally Stillwater or Tulsa	0	0.0	1	25.0
Online	0	0.0	0	0.0

24. In which country do you currently reside?	2015	2019
	United States of America	6

24a. In which state do you currently reside?	2015	2019
	CA	1
CO	1	1
FL	1	0
IN	0	1
MT	1	0
OK	0	1
OK-TUL	0	1
TX	2	0



Overall

25. What could OSU have done to better serve you?
<p>During my first stint at OSU in the '80s I had three instructors who didn't belong in the classroom and one horrendous advising failure. Two professors were overmatched per the subject matter, the other was a psychotic liar - for once I worked very hard delivering "A" level work and I was awarded a C.....via the math that means I was awarded 17 or fewer points on the final.....there's no way that happened. OSU blindly supported all three, especially the third. Per the advising comment.....I enrolled in a 1 hour summer school fishing class that was canceled and students were advised in writing on OSU letterhead that there was no need to drop the class. All that turned out to be nonsense.....I lived with an F on my transcript for years and worse I was literally accused of lying about the letter by people in the registrar's office on two separate occasions and once by someone in the College of Arts and Sciences. Several years later someone, somewhere found a copy of that letter only then were records corrected with not a whiff of an apology, explanation or even notification I only found out even more years later when I contacted OSU about something else. OSU dropping the ball probably impacted some people's careers. I've never really gotten over all that. I know current OSU staff are in no way responsible and I'm not an emotional guy but I just can't get past the smugness, the bureaucracy and the hostility from the registrar's office back then. I'm certain if someone hadn't turned in a copy of that letter I'd still have an F on my record as would others. It's sad in a way but I advised both of my kids to look elsewhere for college. FWIIW my son is an MD chief neurology resident and rising neurophysiology fellow and Baylor grad. My daughter will begin her engineering masters work at Rice this fall, she's a Texas A&M Look School grad. Yea, I'm still a little bitter. XXXXXX, XXXXXX@XXXXX.XXX, XXX-XXX-XXXX Sorry for the typos I broke my glasses.</p>
<p>Focus more utilizing industry software and systems (Excel, Bloomberg, etc.) for in-class learning. Additionally, making students aware of industry credentials such as CFP, CFA, etc. would be helpful for making students better prepared for more competitive jobs post graduation.</p>
<p>Have an outlet to really explore what majors typically lead to what jobs. Felt like that was missing up front and my advisor wasn't in tune with what typical outcomes were.</p>
<p>I should have utilized career services more. Not really a knock on OSU, it just wasn't mentioned much from professors.</p>
<p>I think it would've been better for me to take my business degree in the ag department. I had a very hard time understanding the professors and they're teaching assistants.</p>
<p>I wasted time and money taking some really pointless classes. I understand the need for basic history, math, writing, etc for first year students... but for example I had to take a lab classes that took more time than my other classes combined in certain semesters and I was a business student. Another semester I took Entomology to fulfill a diversity requirement and that class also took more time weekly than my businesses classes combined. It was really frustrating taking specifically the sciences courses because it wasn't helpful to my future at all yet required so much time and effort. My complaint about the courses offered is that for Economics there were many classes that were listed and sounded interesting but were literally never offered in my time there. Also some economics courses need to be spiced up to made more interesting. Looking at graphs every class isn't conducive to actual real life business. I know economics is a theory but we didn't learn much in terms of practicability. Also I had some great teachers but some were at best just average in their approach and motivation.</p>
<p>n/a</p>
<p>Prepare me for what the real life is going to be like instead of drilling in useless knowledge to what my career entails.</p>
<p>Required internship or practicum.</p>

26. What additional information would you like OSU to know?
<p>If I had a do-over, I would double major in computer science and economics. Would I choose OSU again, I am not sure. The value received for the education was/is great. However, after being in the 'work-force' for a few years my perspective has grown/changed. My study habits would be different, my social goals would be different, etc. I would be willing to pursue a 'more nationally prestigious' university in exchange for the higher cost. It has taken a few years to understand what I want to do and what I am good at.</p>
<p>n/a</p>



26. What additional information would you like OSU to know?
N/A
None.
There are many students that don't know how to properly communicate in business settings. Some students of course learn this on their own but even BCOM could use some tweaking to more properly address modern business communications.

