



America's Brightest **ORANGE**

Oklahoma State University

University Assessment and Testing

2021 OSU Alumni Survey

Survey Report – Agribusiness

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 – Agribusiness

	OSU Degree Received:		
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of graduates (<i>n</i>)	73	140	213
Number of survey respondents (<i>n</i>)	17	26	43
Response rate	23.3	18.6	20.2

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	1	3.6
Enrolled in graduate or professional school	3	13.6	7	25.0
Employed full-time or part-time	13	59.1	16	57.1
Both employed (other than graduate assistant) and continuing my education	4	18.2	2	7.1
Self-employed	2	9.1	2	7.1

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	1	3.8
Computer Science, Programming or Technology	0	0.0	0	0.0
Science, Social Science, or Mathematics	1	5.9	1	3.8
Health or Mental Health	0	0.0	0	0.0
Business or Management	1	5.9	7	26.9
Finance or Accounting	5	29.4	3	11.5
Education, Training, or Library	3	17.6	2	7.7
Legal	0	0.0	1	3.8
Writing, Journalism, or Design	0	0.0	0	0.0
Public Service, Policy, or Politics	2	11.8	2	7.7
Public Relations, Marketing, or Sales	2	11.8	1	3.8
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	2	7.7
Other occupational area (INSERT FIELD)	3	17.6	6	23.1



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	1	11.1
Master's	5	83.3	6	66.7
Doctoral	0	0.0	0	0.0
Medical (includes nursing, osteopathy, dental, vet, and more)	0	0.0	0	0.0
Law	0	0.0	2	22.2
Other (INSERT FIELD)	1	16.7	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	0	0.0	0	0.0

	2015	2019
	4. What was the name of your graduate or professional school?	
Georgia Southern University	1	0
Oklahoma State University	4	1
Texas A&M University - Commerce	0	1
University of Oklahoma	0	1
University of Westminster	0	1
University of Wisconsin	0	1

	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	33.3	4	44.4
Adequately	3	50.0	2	22.2
Not very well	0	0.0	3	33.3
Not at all	0	0.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	1	16.7	0	0.0



Well-being & Community

6. How connected do you feel to OSU?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very connected	6	37.5	7	26.9
Moderately connected	5	31.3	12	46.2
Somewhat connected	4	25.0	6	23.1
Not very connected	1	6.3	1	3.8

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	2	5.4
Yes, with professors or staff	3	12.5	5	13.5
Yes, with members of my team, club, or sorority/fraternity	5	20.8	7	18.9
Yes, with classmates/friends I met at OSU	14	58.3	22	59.5
No	2	8.3	1	2.7

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	12	75.0	14	53.8
Somewhat	3	18.8	12	46.2
Little	1	6.3	0	0.0
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	2	7.7
About once a week	0	0.0	3	11.5
About once a month	3	18.8	2	7.7
Every few months	5	31.3	2	7.7
Once or twice in the past year	3	18.8	10	38.5
Not at all	5	31.3	7	26.9



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	1	3.8
Keep about the same	8	50.0	15	57.7
Increase somewhat	5	31.3	8	30.8
Increase a great deal	3	18.8	1	3.8
I don't know	0	0.0	1	3.8

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	1	3.8
Reduce somewhat	1	6.3	1	3.8
Keep about the same	4	25.0	16	61.5
Increase somewhat	7	43.8	3	11.5
Increase a great deal	4	25.0	5	19.2
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	8	50.0	11	42.3
Increase somewhat	5	31.3	11	42.3
Increase a great deal	3	18.8	4	15.4
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	9	56.3	7	26.9
Increase somewhat	2	12.5	13	50.0
Increase a great deal	5	31.3	6	23.1
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	0	0.0	1	3.8
Keep about the same	7	43.8	9	34.6
Increase somewhat	3	18.8	8	30.8
Increase a great deal	6	37.5	7	26.9
I don't know	0	0.0	1	3.8

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	0	0.0	1	3.8
Keep about the same	4	25.0	10	38.5
Increase somewhat	8	50.0	10	38.5
Increase a great deal	4	25.0	5	19.2
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	5	31.3	6	23.1
Satisfied	9	56.3	20	76.9
Neutral	1	6.3	0	0.0
Dissatisfied	1	6.3	0	0.0
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	6	37.5	7	26.9
Satisfied	8	50.0	15	57.7
Neutral	2	12.5	3	11.5
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	1	3.8
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	9	56.3	8	30.8
Satisfied	6	37.5	16	61.5
Neutral	0	0.0	1	3.8
Dissatisfied	1	6.3	1	3.8
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	6	37.5	11	42.3
Satisfied	8	50.0	12	46.2
Neutral	1	6.3	3	11.5
Dissatisfied	1	6.3	0	0.0
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	1	6.3	5	19.2
Satisfied	4	25.0	11	42.3
Neutral	8	50.0	5	19.2
Dissatisfied	3	18.8	5	19.2
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	0	0.0	0	0.0

11f. Availability of internship/practicum experiences	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	2	12.5	7	26.9
Satisfied	5	31.3	10	38.5
Neutral	7	43.8	4	15.4
Dissatisfied	1	6.3	4	15.4
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	1	6.3	1	3.8

11g. Overall education at OSU	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	4	25.0	9	34.6
Satisfied	11	68.8	16	61.5
Neutral	0	0.0	1	3.8
Dissatisfied	1	6.3	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	13	81.3	19	73.1
Probably yes	1	6.3	6	23.1
Uncertain	1	6.3	1	3.8
Probably no	1	6.3	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	6.3	4	22.2
Somewhat related	6	37.5	9	50.0
Directly related	9	56.3	5	27.8

14. How well did OSU prepare you for meaningful employment?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very well	4	25.0	3	16.7
Adequately	10	62.5	14	77.8
Not very well	1	6.3	0	0.0
Not at all	0	0.0	1	5.6
Prefer not to answer	1	6.3	0	0.0

15. Overall, how satisfied are you with your career?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	9	56.3	7	38.9
Satisfied	5	31.3	9	50.0
Neutral	1	6.3	2	11.1
Dissatisfied	1	6.3	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	16	100.0	18	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	8	50.0	12	66.7
3 months after graduation	6	37.5	5	27.8
6 months after graduation	1	6.3	1	5.6
9 months after graduation	1	6.3	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>	%
Accounting Clerk	1		0	
Agent/Agency Owner	0		1	
Agricultural Marketing Coordinator III	1		0	
Agriculture Program Specialist	1		0	
Agronomist in training, farm mechanic, operator, etc	0		1	
Assistant Director of Admissions	1		0	
Bank Officer/Consumer Loan Officer	1		0	
Banking	0		1	
Budget Analyst	1		0	
Commercial Real Estate Appraiser	0		1	
Credit Analyst	0		1	
District Manager	0		1	
Elementary educator	1		0	
Farm Loan Manager	1		0	
Feedyard trainee	0		1	
Field Sales Representative	1		0	
Kill Floor Supervisor	0		1	



18. What is your official job title?

	2015	2019
Lab technician I	0	1
Legislative Analyst	0	1
Loan officer	0	1
Maintenance Worker	0	1
Milling and Field Operations	1	0
Platoon Leader	0	1
Pricing Analyst	1	0
Project Engineer	0	1
Prospective Student Coordinator	0	1
Purchasing Assistant	0	1
Quality Assurance Specialist	1	0
Quality Assurance Specialist Ammunition Surveillance	1	0
Sales rep	0	1
Self employed Taylor Farms	1	0
Trader	1	0
Training Specialist	0	1

19. What is the name of your current employer? Please include full name (no abbreviations).¹

	2015	2019
American Bank of Oklahoma	1	0
BancFirst	1	0
Bayer Crop Science	1	0
CMSWillowbrook	0	1
Consolidated Grain & Barge Enterprises	1	0
Cpkelco	0	1
Department of Defense	1	0
Exchange Bank	0	1
Executive Office of the Governor of Oklahoma	0	1
Farmers Insurance Gregory Broc McGuire Agency	0	1
First National Bank of Syracuse	0	1
Five Rivers Cattle Feeding	0	1
Great Plains national bank	0	1
JUSTIN Vineyards and Winery	0	1
Maryland National Guard	0	1
Oklahoma AgCredit	1	0

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



19. What is the name of your current employer? Please include full name (no abbreviations).¹

	2015	2019
Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry	1	0
Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services	1	0
Oklahoma State University		
College of Education and Human Sciences	0	1
ORS Nasco	1	0
Pyles Whatley Corporation	0	1
Smithfield	0	1
Southern Glazers Wine & Spirits	0	2
Taylor Farms	1	0
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	0	1
United States Department of Agriculture		
Farm Service Agency	2	0
University of Arkansas - Fort Smith	1	0
Ventria Bioscience	1	0
Warren CAT	0	1
Whitebead School System	1	0

20. Which of the following best describes your employer?

	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
A corporation, partnership, or private business	7	43.8	12	66.7
Military	0	0.0	2	11.1
Other governmental entity	6	37.5	2	11.1
Charity or other nonprofit entity	0	0.0	0	0.0
Educational institution	2	12.5	1	5.6
Other	1	6.3	1	5.6
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	14	13.0	12	10.5
Conducting research	9	8.3	7	6.1
Extensive training	5	4.6	9	7.9
Math skills	13	12.0	12	10.5
Problem solving/analytic reasoning	16	14.8	17	14.9
Speaking to a group	13	12.0	14	12.3
Use of specialized machinery	2	1.9	7	6.1
Use of specialized software	10	9.3	9	7.9
Working with a diverse group of people	15	13.9	14	12.3
Writing reports, memos, papers, publications, etc.	11	10.2	13	11.4

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	1	5.6
\$25,000 but less than \$35,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$35,000 but less than \$45,000	2	12.5	2	11.1
\$45,000 but less than \$55,000	5	31.3	7	38.9
\$55,000 but less than \$65,000	3	18.8	4	22.2
\$65,000 but less than \$75,000	2	12.5	2	11.1
\$75,000 but less than \$100,000	3	18.8	0	0.0
\$100,000 but less than \$125,000	0	0.0	1	5.6
\$125,000 but less than \$150,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
Over \$150,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	1	6.3	1	5.6



Demographics

23. Which OSU campus do you most identify with?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Stillwater	15	93.8	25	100.0
Tulsa	0	0.0	0	0.0
Equally Stillwater or Tulsa	0	0.0	0	0.0
Online	1	6.3	0	0.0

24. In which country do you currently reside?	2015		2019	
	China	0		1
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	0		1	
United States of America	13		19	

24a. In which state do you currently reside?	2015		2019	
	AR	1		0
CA	0		1	
IN	1		0	
KS	1		1	
MD	0		1	
OK*	7		8	
OK-OKC	1		1	
OK-STW	2		1	
TX	0		5	
WI	0		1	

*2 respondents did not provide a valid Oklahoma zip code and were therefore added to the general Oklahoma count.



Overall

25. What could OSU have done to better serve you?
academic support and start-up support
Any actual life skills
Been more affordable.
Been more open to interdepartmental opportunities for students. My CASNR programs were great about working together, and had I known, I could've done a triple degree in ANSI with how well programs work on their flexibility, but there were opportunities such as the Family Financial Planning certificate, oil economics courses, and campaigns minor that would have directly related to my interests at the time that I was unaware of that my adviser nor department ever shared.
Better advisors
For my degree that has an emphases on Farm and Ranch Management it would be to show us like where we could get real products and where to get good farm loans and to go over what the FSA and USDA as to offer in programs and payments.
Have better parking options. I'd say the biggest struggle was there were more students trying to park than there were available parking spaces. And when I come to visit, have visitor parking available.
Have more than one career fairs.
I hope I can get more internship opportunities at OSU.
I think a better emphasis on the things you are learning in college are a tool to prepare you to learn in a real world career. I have sat through numerous interview panels and trained new employees out of college, and this is always the thing they struggle with the most. Most often out of college, new graduates think they have learned it all and do not need a "training program" or to continue learning for a new career. Knowing that the skills learned in college are what is going to prepare them for the future and to be successful in moving forward and learning a new career.
I would have learned more if I had been taught the application of the knowledge taught. I graduated with my BS over 30 years ago. A lot has changed. I also would have benefited from an internship, which was not as much of a focus as it has been in the last ten years.
More flexibility on class schedules I missed out on preferred courses due to having to balance work and school.
OSU prepared me very well for my current position. I would have liked to have been told about government employment opportunities while in school. Maybe been informed about job postings on USAjob.gov.
Put more emphasis on teaching pre-law students how to prepare for law school and the study habits that go with it.
Studied harder.
The Ag Econ Department could have had even more courses to develop comfort-ability using Excel.
They did an amazing job just wish I could have stayed longer

26. What additional information would you like OSU to know?
Even though, I pursued a career in education (not my field of study) I have been completely satisfied with my master's degree in Educational Psychology, which I received from OK State.
I believe this institution has the greatest environment of any university in the country because it promotes shared values of humility and respect. Please never lose sight of what makes Cowboys different.
My current position is located on OSU campus at the United States Department of Agriculture Oklahoma State Farm Service Agency Building. I work in the Conservation section as a Agriculture program specialist. We work closely with OSU extension offices. I still have strong ties to the University both in my employment and in my personal life.
Overall, professors were helpful although I had one tell me to "go figure it out" when I had a question. Companies do not seem to care I have a masters degree. I applied to 50 jobs last year without a single call back— I even applied to be financial personal assistants just to get out of the job I have now

