



America's Brightest **ORANGE**

Oklahoma State University

University Assessment and Testing

2021 OSU Alumni Survey

Survey Report – Teaching, Learning and Leadership

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 – Teaching, Learning and Leadership

	OSU Degree Received:		
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of graduates (<i>n</i>)	61	38	99
Number of survey respondents (<i>n</i>)	19	14	33
Response rate	31.1	36.8	33.3

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	1	4.5	0	0.0
Enrolled in graduate or professional school	2	9.1	1	7.1
Employed full-time or part-time	15	68.2	10	71.4
Both employed (other than graduate assistant) and continuing my education	4	18.2	3	21.4
Self-employed	0	0.0	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	0	0.0	0	0.0
Science, Social Science, or Mathematics	0	0.0	0	0.0
Health or Mental Health	0	0.0	1	7.1
Business or Management	0	0.0	0	0.0
Finance or Accounting	0	0.0	0	0.0
Education, Training, or Library	17	89.5	12	85.7
Legal	0	0.0	0	0.0
Writing, Journalism, or Design	0	0.0	0	0.0
Public Service, Policy, or Politics	1	5.3	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)	1	5.3	1	7.1



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	1	14.3	1	33.3
Master's	3	42.9	0	0.0
Doctoral	3	42.9	2	66.7
Medical (includes nursing, osteopathy, dental, vet, and more)	0	0.0	0	0.0
Law	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other (INSERT FIELD)	0	0.0	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?	
East Central University	0	1
Oklahoma State University	4	2
Oklahoma University College of Pharmacy	0	1
York College	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	5	100.0	3	75.0
Adequately	0	0.0	0	0.0
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	1	25.0



Well-being & Community

6. How connected do you feel to OSU?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very connected	4	22.2	3	21.4
Moderately connected	8	44.4	5	35.7
Somewhat connected	3	16.7	4	28.6
Not very connected	3	16.7	2	14.3

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)	3	12.5	3	13.6
Yes, with professors or staff	5	20.8	6	27.3
Yes, with members of my team, club, or sorority/fraternity	0	0.0	0	0.0
Yes, with classmates/friends I met at OSU	7	29.2	9	40.9
No	9	37.5	4	18.2

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	11	61.1	8	57.1
Somewhat	5	27.8	3	21.4
Little	2	11.1	1	7.1
None	0	0.0	2	14.3

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	2	11.1	2	15.4
About once a week	1	5.6	3	23.1
About once a month	2	11.1	3	23.1
Every few months	5	27.8	2	15.4
Once or twice in the past year	4	22.2	1	7.7
Not at all	4	22.2	2	15.4



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	8	44.4	6	42.9
Increase somewhat	4	22.2	1	7.1
Increase a great deal	5	27.8	6	42.9
I don't know	1	5.6	1	7.1

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	1	5.6	0	0.0
Keep about the same	5	27.8	5	35.7
Increase somewhat	5	27.8	4	28.6
Increase a great deal	6	33.3	3	21.4
I don't know	1	5.6	2	14.3

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	6	33.3	5	35.7
Increase somewhat	7	38.9	4	28.6
Increase a great deal	4	22.2	4	28.6
I don't know	1	5.6	1	7.1



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	1	5.6	0	0.0
Keep about the same	6	33.3	4	28.6
Increase somewhat	6	33.3	4	28.6
Increase a great deal	4	22.2	5	35.7
I don't know	1	5.6	1	7.1

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	0	0.0
Keep about the same	8	44.4	6	42.9
Increase somewhat	4	22.2	5	35.7
Increase a great deal	5	27.8	2	14.3
I don't know	1	5.6	1	7.1

10f. Developing good health habits and physical fitness	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Reduce a great deal	1	5.6	0	0.0
Reduce somewhat	1	5.6	0	0.0
Keep about the same	7	38.9	6	42.9
Increase somewhat	5	27.8	4	28.6
Increase a great deal	3	16.7	1	7.1
I don't know	1	5.6	3	21.4



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	8	44.4	8	57.1
Satisfied	8	44.4	6	42.9
Neutral	2	11.1	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

11b. Availability of courses needed for your degree program	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	5	27.8	8	57.1
Satisfied	7	38.9	4	28.6
Neutral	3	16.7	1	7.1
Dissatisfied	2	11.1	1	7.1
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	1	5.6	0	0.0

11c. OSU academic facilities (e.g. classrooms, labs, buildings, etc.)	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	9	50.0	6	42.9
Satisfied	6	33.3	5	35.7
Neutral	2	11.1	2	14.3
Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	1	5.6	1	7.1



11d. OSU academic advising	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	5	27.8	6	42.9
Satisfied	5	27.8	3	21.4
Neutral	4	22.2	2	14.3
Dissatisfied	3	16.7	2	14.3
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	1	5.6	1	7.1

11e. Preparation to handle non-career related goals (e.g. family, finances, etc.)	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	2	11.1	3	21.4
Satisfied	2	11.1	2	14.3
Neutral	9	50.0	7	50.0
Dissatisfied	2	11.1	1	7.1
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	3	16.7	1	7.1

11f. Availability of internship/practicum experiences	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	3	16.7	3	21.4
Satisfied	4	22.2	2	14.3
Neutral	7	38.9	4	28.6
Dissatisfied	1	5.6	1	7.1
Very Dissatisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0
Not applicable	3	16.7	4	28.6

11g. Overall education at OSU	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	6	33.3	9	64.3
Satisfied	10	55.6	4	28.6
Neutral	2	11.1	1	7.1
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	12	66.7	11	78.6
Probably yes	4	22.2	1	7.1
Uncertain	1	5.6	1	7.1
Probably no	1	5.6	1	7.1
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	5.9	1	7.7
Somewhat related	1	5.9	2	15.4
Directly related	15	88.2	10	76.9

14. How well did OSU prepare you for meaningful employment?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very well	10	10	9	69.2
Adequately	5	5	2	15.4
Not very well	1	1	1	7.7
Not at all	0	0	0	0.0
Prefer not to answer	1	1	1	7.7

15. Overall, how satisfied are you with your career?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Very Satisfied	8	47.1	10	76.9
Satisfied	6	35.3	2	15.4
Neutral	1	5.9	0	0.0
Dissatisfied	2	11.8	1	7.7
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	94.1	12	92.3
Part-time	1	5.9	1	7.7

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	13	76.5	8	66.7
3 months after graduation	2	11.8	3	25.0
6 months after graduation	0	0.0	0	0.0
9 months after graduation	0	0.0	0	0.0
1 year after graduation	2	11.8	0	0.0
over 1 year after graduation	0	0.0	1	8.3

18. What is your official job title?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
2nd grade teacher	1		1	
Academic Advisor	1		0	
Adjunct Accounting Instructor	0		1	
Collaborative Interventionist	1		0	
Director of recruitment	0		1	
Director of Safety and Security	0		1	
Elementary teacher	1		1	
Federal Programs Administrator	0		1	
Head Start Teacher	1		0	
high school math teacher	1		0	
Instructional Coordinator	0		1	
OSU Extension Educator , Family & Consumer Sciences/4-H	1		0	
Program Manager	1		0	
Reading Specialist	1		0	
Senior Instructional Designer	0		1	
Special Education Expert	1		0	



18. What is your official job title?		
	2015	2019
Special Education Instructional Coach	0	1
Special Education Teacher	2	2
State certified Reading Specialist	1	0
Teacher	0	2
Teacher Trainer/Instructional Coach	0	1

19. What is the name of your current employer? Please include full name (no abbreviations). ¹
Ada City Schools
All Saints Catholic School
Bartlesville Public Schools
Bethany Public Schools
Building First Nations
Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area
City of Tulsa
Claremore Public Schools
Enid Public School
Epic Charter Schools
Jenks Public schools
Jenks Public Schools
Kildare Elementary School
Mid-America Christian University
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
OKLAHOMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
Oklahoma State University
Owasso public schools
Oxnard School District
Special Ed Resources.com
Tulsa Public Schools
Tulsa Technology Center
Will Rogers Elementary (Stillwater Public Schools)
Xero

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	1	5.9	2	16.7
Military	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other governmental entity	2	11.8	0	0.0
Charity or other nonprofit entity	0	0.0	0	0.0
Educational institution	14	82.4	10	83.3
Other	0	0.0	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	13	12.6	11	12.9
Conducting research	8	7.8	4	4.7
Extensive training	12	11.7	8	9.4
Math skills	7	6.8	9	10.6
Problem solving/analytic reasoning	13	12.6	11	12.9
Speaking to a group	14	13.6	10	11.8
Use of specialized machinery	0	0.0	3	3.5
Use of specialized software	9	8.7	9	10.6
Working with a diverse group of people	16	15.5	13	15.3
Writing reports, memos, papers, publications, etc.	11	10.7	7	8.2

22. What is your approximate total annual salary (including bonuses), before taxes?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Less than \$15,000	1	5.9	0	0.0
\$15,000 but less than \$25,000	0	0.0	2	15.4
\$25,000 but less than \$35,000	1	5.9	0	0.0
\$35,000 but less than \$45,000	1	5.9	5	38.5
\$45,000 but less than \$55,000	4	23.5	5	38.5
\$55,000 but less than \$65,000	2	11.8	0	0.0
\$65,000 but less than \$75,000	2	11.8	1	7.7
\$75,000 but less than \$100,000	5	29.4	0	0.0
\$100,000 but less than \$125,000	0	0.0	0	0.0
\$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	5.9	0	0.0



Demographics

23. Which OSU campus do you most identify with?	2015		2019	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Stillwater	7	38.9	10	71.4
Tulsa	10	55.6	3	21.4
Equally Stillwater or Tulsa	1	5.6	1	7.1
Online	0	0.0	0	0.0

24. In which country do you currently reside?	2015	2019
	United States of America	14

24a. In which state do you currently reside?	2015	2019
	CO	1
OK*	9	8
OK-TUL	3	1

*1 respondent 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?
Both my bachelors (1985) and masters degree programs prepared me for my future. I have had opportunities to share my skills gained at OSU with audiences of all ages with individuals to audiences of 2500+! I'm proud to be an OSU Extension Family & Consumer Sciences Educator! I ride for the brand 🏇
Help all professors speak English clearly.
Help with the transition from Master's to PhD program.
I had struggled as a Tulsa student who signed up believing all my classes would be in Tulsa. I had multiple classes I needed to drive to Stillwater for which was challenging as a full-time teacher in Tulsa. I had to leave my work early on class days to make it to class in Stillwater. I wish there had been more events held in Tulsa in the evening. As a working student, I could never attend the lunchtime events and it seemed there were rarely any events I could attend in the afternoon/evening after work. So I didn't feel as connected to OSU as I could have been. I didn't feel that all of my courses were Master's level, while some I felt challenged by, for the most part I felt like I missed out on more complex information as there were students who were brand new to the field and needed the information presented to them at the basic level. I wish I could have been able to take more related elective classes, more flexibility in



25. What could OSU have done to better serve you?
coursework because there were classes I would have loved to take that were what I needed to learn but they were in the traditional coursework set. I would have happily tested out or replaced some of my courses in order to take related ones, such as being able to choose more courses on reading/writing, or ELL teaching, or math instruction.
I thought it served me very well.
I was very pleased after a difficult experience at another institution.
I wish that a part of our classes were studying proper formatting, prepping for technical aspects of papers and submission for publications and preparation for dissertation. I have colleagues going through doctoral programs at other schools and they have ongoing dissertation work throughout their studies. I feel like this would be very helpful to understand what is expected and how to begin the work
I would have enjoyed more community building events for my program- Masters in Education. I lived there as an out of state student due to the military.
Identify employers who are pro Alumni for hiring purposes.
Identify my major correctly. Make sure that my major was certified by the board of education before making the course offering. refund me my educational expense.
It would be nice to have an alumni app to help us stay in touch with those in close proximity. I lived out of Oklahoma for a bit and it would have been nice to watch a game with other Pokes.
Make the degree plan and description more readily available. Also, for those trying to get into education, help with the certification process when coming from another field.
More real world experiences. My graduate program was very difficult too. I had a first time advisor and she did an extremely horrible job with me. I almost didn't graduate because she didn't know different things I needed to have prepared for my final project, and then she blamed it on me rather than taking responsibility for it.
More real world internship opportunities.
Some sped classes could have been better developed. Particularly the autism course. I felt like I wasn't given enough information in the course to feel like it was beneficial.
There needs to be more emphasis on working with diverse groups of individuals as I feel my previous coworkers weren't equipped for that. There needs to be a restructuring of advising in which advisors help to guide their students through the degree program as well as navigate campus resources, graduate school, internships, and preparation for career.
To keep all education classes in Stillwater.
When I entered my Master's program I was unprepared/did not know all that would require beyond the classroom ~ financial investments for resources beyond textbooks, portfolio, and such.

26. What additional information would you like OSU to know?
call me, re: quality of education. for returning students near or over the age of 50, who are starting a new career, create job search focus for that age group. Make an effort therefore pursuing and education at that age is a waste of time and money.
XXXXX is my advisor and I have had her for many classes. She is an amazing scholar and professor. She expects a lot from her studies and is extremely knowledgeable and has great insights and perspectives.
Give Alumni the option to change the degree title. The title, teaching, learning, and leadership are too ambiguous to employers. They don't know what you specialized in your master's program. For example, I emphasized Hispanic outreach development through TLL but my potential employers offer have to ask what is TLL.
I appreciate the professors and felt they gave me the information I needed.
I did my undergrad at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, majored in Education and minored in Spanish. I wish I would have known how wonderful OSU was, because it was more than worth the cost of attending in comparison. I am also very impressed that the level of multicultural and anti-racism curriculum was very high while I attended OSU six years ago... I feel very mu ca ahead of the curve in understanding current issues that we see in the news and in our schools. Thank you.
I would love to explore a doctorate there.



26. What additional information would you like OSU to know?

Online courses are not the experience most people want. In class interaction with peers and an engaging teacher is what students desire.

The Teaching, Learning, and Leadership program has opened doors for me professionally and personally. One of the expectations was for students to write publication articles and present at conferences which allowed me to meet and befriend colleagues across America and in Canada. Through these relationships, I have had the opportunity to be involved at the local, state, and national levels. My experience at OSU empowered me to become a national presenter. I have been able to collaborate with other educators at the national level in research and development and work with authors to review and edit mathematics publications and books. Furthermore, I have been called upon to serve on educator boards and councils that have a positive impact and input into the research and development of educational programs and pedagogy. My MS in TLL truly made me a better person, teacher, and leader. I highly recommend this program to ALL educators!

They should have more incentive to start a degree immediately after another. Once you get away, it is difficult to get back

