# Oklahoma State University

## University Assessment and Testing

2021 OSU Alumni Survey

Survey Report – Computer Science

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 – Computer Science**

| | OSU Degree Received: | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | <u>2015</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>Total</u> |
| Number of graduates (*n*) | 38 | 29 | 67 |
| Number of survey respondents (*n*) | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| Response rate | 21.1 | 27.6 | 23.9 |

| 1. Since graduating from OSU, how would you describe your activity? (This item was "mark all that apply") | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Not engaged in paid employment, nor enrolled in graduate or professional school | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Enrolled in graduate or professional school | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Employed full-time or part-time | 8 | 100.0 | 7 | 87.5 |
| Both employed (other than graduate assistant) and continuing my education | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 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 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Engineering | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Computer Science, Programming or Technology | 8 | 100.0 | 6 | 75.0 |
| Science, Social Science, or Mathematics | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Health or Mental Health | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Business or Management | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Finance or Accounting | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Education, Training, or Library | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Legal | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 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) | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |

# Continuing Education

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

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **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")** | | | | |
| | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Graduate Certificate | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Master's | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 100.0 |
| 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 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other (INSERT FIELD) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Prefer not to answer | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| **4. What was the name of your graduate or professional school?** | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 2015 | 2019 |
| Oklahoma State University | 0 | 1 |

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **5. How well did your OSU program prepare you for graduate or professional education program?** | | | | |
| | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Very well | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Adequately | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Not very well | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Not at all | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 100.0 |
| Prefer not to answer | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

# Well-being & Community

|  | 2015 | | 2019 | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **6. How connected do you feel to OSU?** | | | | |
|  | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| Very connected | 1 | 20.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Moderately connected | 2 | 40.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Somewhat connected | 1 | 20.0 | 3 | 37.5 |
| Not very connected | 1 | 20.0 | 1 | 12.5 |

|  | 2015 | | 2019 | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **7. Are you regularly in touch with people you met at OSU? (This item was "mark all that apply")** | | | | |
|  | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| Yes, with my advisor(s) | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Yes, with professors or staff | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Yes, with members of my team, club, or sorority/fraternity | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Yes, with classmates/friends I met at OSU | 4 | 80.0 | 8 | 100.0 |
| No | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

|  | 2015 | | 2019 | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **8. How much has your overall quality of life been enhanced by your Oklahoma State University experience?** | | | | |
|  | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| Very Much | 4 | 80.0 | 5 | 62.5 |
| Somewhat | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 37.5 |
| Little | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| None | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

|  | 2015 | | 2019 | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **9. In the past twelve months, how often have you participated in unpaid volunteer work?** | | | | |
|  | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| More than once a week | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| About once a week | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| About once a month | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Every few months | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Once or twice in the past year | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Not at all | 4 | 80.0 | 8 | 100.0 |

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

| 10a. Making ethical and thoughtful decisions | 2015 n | 2015 % | 2019 n | 2019 % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reduce a great deal | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Reduce somewhat | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Keep about the same | 2 | 40.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Increase somewhat | 2 | 40.0 | 3 | 37.5 |
| Increase a great deal | 1 | 20.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| I don't know | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |

| 10b. Exploring alternative values, perspectives, and beliefs from around the world | 2015 n | 2015 % | 2019 n | 2019 % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reduce a great deal | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Reduce somewhat | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Keep about the same | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Increase somewhat | 2 | 40.0 | 4 | 57.1 |
| Increase a great deal | 3 | 60.0 | 2 | 28.6 |
| I don't know | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 14.3 |

| 10c. Improving written and oral communication skills | 2015 n | 2015 % | 2019 n | 2019 % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reduce a great deal | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Reduce somewhat | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Keep about the same | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Increase somewhat | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 28.6 |
| Increase a great deal | 3 | 60.0 | 4 | 57.1 |
| I don't know | 1 | 20.0 | 1 | 14.3 |

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **10d. Improving ability to think critically (analytically and logically)** | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Reduce a great deal | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Reduce somewhat | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Keep about the same | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 14.3 |
| Increase somewhat | 1 | 20.0 | 2 | 28.6 |
| Increase a great deal | 4 | 80.0 | 4 | 57.1 |
| I don't know | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **10e. Ability to interact positively with people who are different from you** | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Reduce a great deal | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Reduce somewhat | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Keep about the same | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 14.3 |
| Increase somewhat | 2 | 40.0 | 2 | 28.6 |
| Increase a great deal | 3 | 60.0 | 4 | 57.1 |
| I don't know | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **10f. Developing good health habits and physical fitness** | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Reduce a great deal | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Reduce somewhat | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 14.3 |
| Keep about the same | 2 | 40.0 | 1 | 14.3 |
| Increase somewhat | 1 | 20.0 | 2 | 28.6 |
| Increase a great deal | 2 | 40.0 | 3 | 42.9 |
| 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 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Very Satisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Satisfied | 3 | 60.0 | 4 | 50.0 |
| Neutral | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Dissatisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Very Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| 11b. Availability of courses needed for your degree program | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Very Satisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Satisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Neutral | 3 | 60.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 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 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Very Satisfied | 2 | 40.0 | 4 | 50.0 |
| Satisfied | 2 | 40.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Neutral | 1 | 20.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Very Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| 11d. OSU academic advising | 2015 n | 2015 % | 2019 n | 2019 % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very Satisfied | 2 | 40.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Satisfied | 2 | 40.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Neutral | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Dissatisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Very Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| 11e. Preparation to handle non-career related goals (e.g. family, finances, etc.) | 2015 n | 2015 % | 2019 n | 2019 % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very Satisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Satisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Neutral | 4 | 80.0 | 4 | 50.0 |
| Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Very Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| 11f. Availability of internship/practicum experiences | 2015 n | 2015 % | 2019 n | 2019 % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very Satisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Satisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Neutral | 3 | 60.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 50.0 |
| Very Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| 11g. Overall education at OSU | 2015 n | 2015 % | 2019 n | 2019 % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very Satisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Satisfied | 3 | 60.0 | 5 | 62.5 |
| Neutral | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Dissatisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Very Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **12. If you could start over, would you still choose to attend Oklahoma State University?** | | | | |
| | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| Definitely yes | 2 | 50.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Probably yes | 0 | 0.0 | 4 | 50.0 |
| Uncertain | 1 | 25.0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| Probably no | 1 | 25.0 | 2 | 25.0 |
| Definitely no | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

## Career Reflection

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

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **13. How closely is your job related to your field of study?** | | | | |
| | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| Not related | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Somewhat related | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Directly related | 4 | 80.0 | 5 | 100.0 |

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **14. How well did OSU prepare you for meaningful employment?** | | | | |
| | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| Very well | 2 | 40.0 | 1 | 20.0 |
| Adequately | 1 | 20.0 | 4 | 80.0 |
| Not very well | 2 | 40.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Not at all | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Prefer not to answer | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **15. Overall, how satisfied are you with your career?** | | | | |
| | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| Very Satisfied | 1 | 20.0 | 2 | 40.0 |
| Satisfied | 3 | 60.0 | 3 | 60.0 |
| Neutral | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Very Dissatisfied | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

# Current Job or Career

| | | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **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)?** | | | | | |
| | | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| | Full-time | 5 | 100.0 | 5 | 100.0 |
| | Part-time | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **17. How long did it take to find your first employment after graduating from OSU?** | | | | |
| | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Employed by graduation | 1 | 20.0 | 4 | 80.0 |
| 3 months after graduation | 4 | 80.0 | 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 | 1 | 20.0 |
| over 1 year after graduation | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| **18. What is your official job title?** | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 2015 | 2019 |
| DevOps Engineer | 1 | 0 |
| Engineering Lead | 1 | 0 |
| Software Developer | 0 | 4 |
| Software engineer | 1 | 0 |
| Software engineer III | 1 | 0 |
| Sr. Software Engineer | 1 | 0 |

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

|  | 2015 | 2019 |
|---|---|---|
| Egen Solutions | 1 | 0 |
| Informatica LLC | 1 | 0 |
| Paycom LLC | 0 | 3 |
| S&P Global | 0 | 1 |
| Walmart | 1 | 0 |
| Walmart Labs | 1 | 0 |
| Yubico, Inc. | 1 | 0 |

**20. Which of the following best describes your employer?**

|  | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| A corporation, partnership, or private business | 4 | 100.0 | 4 | 100.0 |
| Military | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other governmental entity | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Charity or other nonprofit entity | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Educational institution | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 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 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | *n* | % | *n* | % |
| Technology skills | 4 | 25.0 | 5 | 25.0 |
| Conducting research | 1 | 6.3 | 1 | 5.0 |
| Extensive training | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Math skills | 3 | 18.8 | 2 | 10.0 |
| Problem solving/analytic reasoning | 3 | 18.8 | 4 | 20.0 |
| Speaking to a group | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 10.0 |
| Use of specialized machinery | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Use of specialized software | 3 | 18.8 | 3 | 15.0 |
| Working with a diverse group of people | 2 | 12.5 | 3 | 15.0 |
| Writing reports, memos, papers, publications, etc. | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

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

|  | 2015 | | 2019 | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **22. What is your approximate total annual salary (including bonuses), before taxes?** | | | | |
|  | *n* | *%* | *n* | *%* |
| 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 | 0 | 0.0 |
| $45,000 but less than $55,000 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| $55,000 but less than $65,000 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 20.0 |
| $65,000 but less than $75,000 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 20.0 |
| $75,000 but less than $100,000 | 1 | 20.0 | 3 | 60.0 |
| $100,000 but less than $125,000 | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| $125,000 but less than $150,000 | 2 | 40.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Over $150,000 | 1 | 20.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Prefer not to answer | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

# Demographics

|  | 2015 | | 2019 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **23. Which OSU campus do you most identify with?** | | | | |
| | *n* | **%** | *n* | **%** |
| Stillwater | 5 | 100.0 | 6 | 100.0 |
| Tulsa | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Equally Stillwater or Tulsa | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Online | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |

| **24. In which country do you currently reside?** | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 2015 | 2019 |
| United States of America | 3 | 5 |

| **24a. In which state do you currently reside?** | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 2015 | 2019 |
| AR | 1 | 0 |
| CA | 1 | 0 |
| IL | 1 | 0 |
| NJ | 0 | 1 |
| OK* | 0 | 3 |
| OK-OKC | 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? |
|---|
| Better career counselling |
| bring more interships |
| Computer science curriculum prepares is very well on critical thinking and problem solving. But we need more specialized courses with the tech and tools used outside in the tech world. |
| If the curriculum is updated to better suit latest trends in job market, it would be more suitable and make students job ready by the graduation time. |
| The course work is obsolete. They need to come up with better course work and continuously upgrade with the new technology. There are so many new technologies in the market today but Computer Science program hardly have it in there course work. |

| 26. What additional information would you like OSU to know? |
|---|
| Also professors need to get better at communication skills and stop giving the repetitive exams/assignments. Yes basics are required, but MS program has to be more advanced and should go along with the new technology stack. |
| I enjoyed my time at Osu. |
| Lack of good professors in CS Grad school |
| Please update courses with some new specialized and up-to-date technologies |