

Summary of 2020-2021 Graduating Senior Survey Results

Five hundred ninety-eight graduating seniors responded to the Graduating Senior Survey in 2020-2021. Of the respondents, 59% were female, and 41% were male. Ninety-three percent were enrolled full-time. Eighty-seven percent were single. Sixty-five percent borrowed through the Federal Student Loan Programs to help finance their education. A majority (94%) reported no disability. Most respondents lived either in off-campus rooms/apartments (38%), in their own homes (30%), or with their parents/relatives (24%), and 8% lived on campus in dormitories or Fraternity house. Thirty-eight percent of the respondents had majors in the School of Human Services & Social Sciences, 22% in the School of Business & Industry, 17% in the School of Education, 12% in the School of Arts & Humanities, 10% in the School of Health Professions & Wellness, and 2% had majors in the School of Science.

When compared with the average person their age, over 50% of the respondents considered themselves above average or in the highest 10% in the following characteristics:

- Drive to achieve (73%)
- Understanding of others (63%)
- Academic ability (58%)
- Leadership ability (57%)
- Competitiveness (51%)
- Self-confidence (intellectual) (50%)

Perceptions of their Major

- Nearly all indicated the overall quality of their major was good or excellent (96%) and over three-quarters were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall education at JSU (78%).
- A majority the respondents thought the major courses as preparation for employment (83%) or graduate or professional school (83%) were good or excellent;
- Library books and materials (89%), Computer labs (84%) facilities, and laboratory (74%) facilities for majors were adequate or more than adequate;
- More respondents frequently applied concepts learned in their major to solve actual problems (53%), expressed ideas orally (49%), expressed ideas in writing (48%), and a faculty in my major express special interest in my progress (41%);
- A majority agreed or strongly agreed that:
 - faculty were approachable (92%) and accessible outside of class (88%)
 - fundamental theories were taught (91%)
 - program faculty were professionally competent (90%) and were effective teachers (87%)
 - grading procedures were fair (89%)
 - my advisor was willing to help (89%)
 - courses were intellectually stimulating (88%)
 - current research methods were taught (85%)
 - requirements were explained clearly (83%)
 - at least one professor worked closely with me (81%)

Educational Outcomes

Respondents thought the following educational outcomes were important and that their JSU experiences prepared them well (good or excellent) to perform them:

- Listening effectively (94%)
- Conducting work activities in an ethical manner (94%)
- Having tolerance for different points of view (92%)
- Working cooperatively and as a team member (91%)
- Defining and solving problems (91%)
- Reading comprehension (91%)
- Recognizing and acting upon ethical principles (91%)

- Thinking objectively about beliefs, attitudes, and values (91%)
- Writing effectively (91%)
- Making and exercising a lifelong commitment to learning (91%)
- Using computers to search for and retrieve information (90%)
- Analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating information (90%)
- Speaking effectively (89%)
- Understanding the interaction of people and their environment (89%)
- Specialized occupational skills and knowledge (88%)
- Understanding the present as it relates to historical events and processes (88%)
- Working with people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds (87%)
- Understanding and exercising one’s rights, responsibilities, and privileges as a citizen (87%)
- Basic computer skills (86%)
- Knowing how to access the information needed in one’s professional position (85%)
- Making formal presentations (84%)
- Understanding and applying scientific principles and methods (82%)
- Resolving interpersonal conflict (81%)
- Knowledge of the principles of good mental and physical health (79%)
- Understanding another culture and language (77%)
- Understanding international issues (73%)

Satisfaction with University services and climate

- Most respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the class size (89%), course content in their major (85%), out-of-class availability of instructors (83%), the testing/grading system (83%), the availability of computers (81%), the general registration procedures (78%), the attitude of non-teaching staff toward students (77%), and the attitude of non-teaching staff toward students (77%).
- Two-thirds or more were satisfied with the variety of courses offered (75%), opportunities for involvement in campus activities (74%), personal security on campus (71%), racial/ethnic harmony (70%), availability of needed courses (70%), and concern for you as an individual (67%).

Student Self-efficacy and Self-efficacy with Technology

Respondents had access to a PC (39%), a laptop or notebook computer (94%), and other portable devices such as iPad or smart phone (85%). The majority had Internet connectivity 24 hours/7 days a week (83%).

Respondents agreed that ... (On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1=strongly disagree and 5=strongly agree)

	In general	With technology
• They can always manage to solve difficult problems if they try hard enough.	(M=4.37)	(M=3.99)
• It is easy for them to stick to their aims and accomplish their goals.	(M=4.11)	(M=3.96)
• They are confident that they could deal efficiently with unexpected events.	(M=4.15)	(M=3.87)
• Thanks to their resourcefulness, they know how to handle unforeseen situations.	(M=4.14)	(M=3.86)
• They can solve most problems if they invest the necessary effort.	(M=4.37)	(M=4.03)
• They can remain calm when facing difficulties because they can rely on their coping abilities.	(M=4.00)	(M=3.91)
• When they are confronted with a problem, they can usually find several solutions.	(M=4.07)	(M=3.86)
• No matter what comes their way, they are usually able to handle it.	(M=4.20)	(M=3.97)
• If they are in trouble, they can usually think of something to do.	(M=4.16)	-

- If someone opposes them, they can find means and ways to get what they want.

In general (<i>M</i> =3.53)	With technology -
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M=Mean

Department Heads and Directors and other administrators can find additional assessment data and filter data by school, department or major on Tableau Server, JSU's Assessment System, by going to <https://sso.online.tableau.com/public/idp/SSO>. User IDs and passwords are available, by calling the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at 256 782-5158.