

# Alumni One-Year Out Satisfaction Survey (2007)

## Executive Summary

Prepared by the System Research Office

2008

The 2008 Alumni Survey Report of baccalaureate degree graduates from 2006-07 was recently conducted by Franklin & Marshall College's Center for Opinion Research in collaboration with the System Research Office. A random sample of 2,314 State System of Higher Education alumni was selected. The survey response rate was 91%, and the margin of error is plus or minus two percent. This report is a follow-up of the 2001, 2003, 2006, and 2007 alumni survey reports. As with the previous surveys, an overwhelming number of respondents were satisfied with their undergraduate experience and were successful in finding work or attending graduate school. Highlights of responses follow, and the full report is included below.

### **Summary Data:**

Alumni were overwhelmingly satisfied with their undergraduate education—95% said they were satisfied with the education they received considering the overall cost to attend college and 94% rated the quality of their education as “excellent” or “good.” In addition 94% were satisfied with the ability of most instructors and 96% said they were satisfied with their intellectual growth. Nine in ten (91%) were satisfied with the course curriculum offered at their university.

At the time of the survey, 85% of recent graduates were employed full-time. Of that number 53% were employed in their field of study. A total of 13% were employed part-time. Only 4% of alumni were unemployed and seeking employment. Of those responding and currently employed 88% found a job within six months or less after they had graduated. Among those currently employed, 81% work in Pennsylvania. A total of 27% of alumni continued their education, either enrolled as a full-time graduate/first-professional degree seeker or a part-time graduate student. The most popular job fields among alumni were Education (31%), Sales Occupations (9%), Administrative Support (10%), Financial Specialists (4%) and Healthcare Practitioners (7%). Approximately 12% of the graduates took more than six months to secure their first job.

When asked how well the university prepared them for employment overall, 38% felt their university prepared them “very well” for employment, while 26% said they were prepared “more than adequately,” and 28% replied “adequately.” Only 7% of alumni felt they were prepared “less than adequately” or “poorly” for employment, a 2% decrease from 2007. Alumni were also asked how well the university prepared them for graduate education--55% responded “very well,” up from 45% in the 2006 report; 20% of responders said they were prepared “more than adequately.”

The quality of education received at the 14 State System universities was also addressed by this survey. Of those who responded, 50% rated the quality of education they received at their university as “excellent,” up substantially from the 42% who responded similarly in 2001. Another 44% said the quality of education received was “good.” When asked if they would recommend their university to others, 94% said “yes.”

Most alumni reported that their undergraduate experiences exceeded their expectations. More than half (58%) said the quality of instruction in their major was better than expected. For those alumni who transferred to a State System university, 89% said the transition was “easy” or “somewhat easy,” 86% said that as many credits were accepted as they expected, and 92% said the transfer process was “easy” or “somewhat easy.” As a whole these percentages have increased 2% from the previous year.

There was a noticeable number of “worse than expected” responses from alumni in the following areas: class availability (20%), and having an advisor who was interested in their progress (22%). Both of these percentages, however, continue to decrease since the 2001 and 2003 surveys.

The State System universities offer work-study, co-operative education, and internship experiences for students (excluding student teaching) in order for them to get “real world” experiences, and 50% of those surveyed took part in one of the above experiences. Of these, 51% took part in an internship, 24% a work-study experience, and 2% participated in a co-operative education experience. Upon completing these experiences, 40% of those surveyed were offered employment by the organization they worked for and 77% said their field experience was at least somewhat important in helping them get a job. The percentage of students participating in this type of experience is up 5% compared to 2001.

#### **Additional Questions:**

In the 2008 report, additional questions were asked about student life. This set of questions was answered by 1,500 students (65%) who had lived in an on-campus residence hall. Of this group, 77% were satisfied with the variety of options for housing available and 85% were satisfied with the condition of their residence hall room; 83% were satisfied with the options for meal plans and 79% with the variety of food provided in the cafeteria.

Additionally, of the total group, 83% were satisfied with the number of student organizations provided and 81% with the quality and number of programs and events offered on campus.

The full report follows, including a section on methodology and marginal frequency report for each question.

#### **Key Trend Data:**

The percentage of students rating the quality of their education as excellent increased significantly from 2001 (from 42% to 50%). However, there was a slight 1% decrease among

alumni from the 2001 report (95% vs. 96%) with overall satisfaction of education received considering the cost.

Compared to 2001, more students are also satisfied with the:

- classroom buildings and library on campus (92% vs. 86%);
- course curriculum (91% vs. 90%); and
- social life on campus (89% vs. 84%).

More students also report “better than expected” experiences with the:

- quality of instruction in the major (58% vs. 51%);
- the knowledge of the faculty (53% v. 45%); and
- the university concern for them as an individual (42% vs. 35%).

Over the past year, fewer students are participating in experiences such as field study or internships, excluding student teaching, (50% in 2008 vs. 52% in 2007) as well as in service learning experiences (32% vs. 33%).

With respect to transfers the comparisons of 2008 with 2007 shows:

- More of these students transferred from a community college (48% vs. 46%);
- More students viewed the transfer transition as “easy” or “very easy” (89% vs. 87%);
- More students had more credits than expected transfer (28% vs. 23%);
- More students thought the transfer process was “easy” or “very easy” (92% vs. 87%).

Note that the trends related to ease of transfer could be a function of more transfers within PASSHE (29% vs. 28%).

The percentage of students reporting borrowing more than \$20,000 (excluding the “Don’t Know” responses) has significantly increased from 2001 (23% in 2008 vs. 13% in 2001).

The percentage of students with graduate study as a primary objective in attending the university maintained at 10% in 2008 from 2007.

According to the 2008 alumni survey report, fewer alumni were employed full-time (71%) than in the 2001 alumni survey report (78%). Compared to 2001, fewer students in the 2008 survey are employed full-time in their field of study (53% vs. 61%); more are employed part-time (13% vs. 9%), more are continuing their education (11% vs. 8%) and fewer consider their current employment to be their career (23% vs. 32%).

In the 2008 report, 81% of alumni who were employed, worked in Pennsylvania, slightly less than the 82% reported in the 2007 report. Less of those alumni working in Pennsylvania stayed in-state due to Pennsylvania being their primary residence or that of their families (73% in 2008 vs. 74% in 2007) and less of those who left Pennsylvania did so because they wanted a “change of scenery” (4% in 2008 and 12% in 2007). Compared to 2007, more students who go to graduate school attend school in Pennsylvania (77% vs. 75%).

Fewer students left the state this year, compared to last year, due to the availability of jobs in Pennsylvania (38% vs. 41% in 2007).

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# **State System of Higher Education Alumni Survey 2006-2007 Graduates**

Prepared for  
**Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education**

Prepared by  
**Center for Opinion Research  
Franklin & Marshall College**

**October 2008**

## **Purpose and Methodology**

The purpose of this research is to provide the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) information about its 2006-2007 baccalaureate degree graduates. Specifically, this research is designed to update previous one-year out alumni satisfaction surveys that provide information about undergraduate satisfaction, employment status, and educational status.

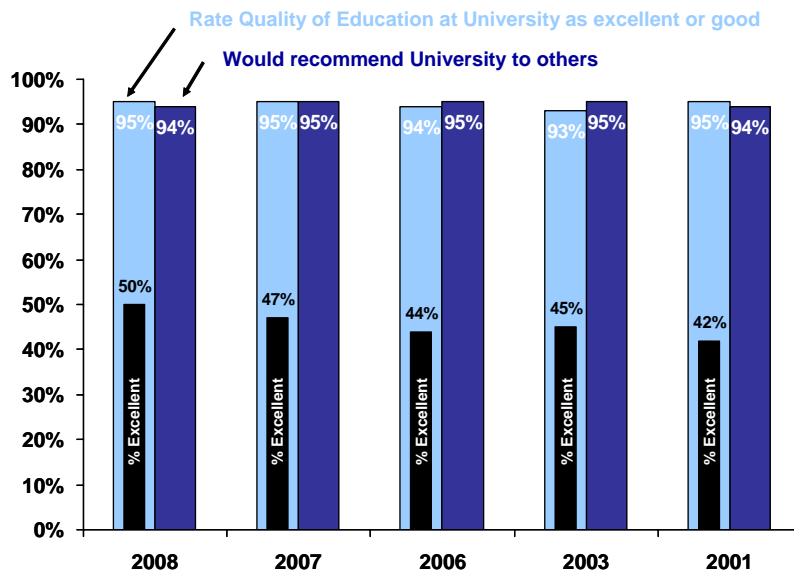
The data presented in the report are based upon a telephone survey of 2,314 2006-2007 graduates of the State System of Higher Education. The survey was conducted by Franklin and Marshall College's Center for Opinion Research on behalf of PASSHE. Interviewing for the survey took place between May and July 2008. Interviews lasted an average of nine minutes. The methodology employed ensured that every 2006-2007 PASSHE graduate had a known chance of selection, although the probability of selection for any individual was based on the university they attended. To correct for the unequal probabilities of selection, the survey data were weighted. The sampling error for a random sample of 2,314 is plus or minus 1.9 percent. The survey had a cooperation rate of 95 percent and a response rate of 91 percent.

## Educational Quality and Satisfaction

State System alumni are very satisfied with their undergraduate experiences. Nine in ten (94%) rate the quality of education they received as either “excellent” or “good,” and almost every alumnus (94%) would recommend their university to others. The average overall satisfaction rating among PASSHE alumni is 8.2 on a ten point scale, where one is very dissatisfied and ten is very satisfied. Women (mean rating = 8.2) tend to be more satisfied than men (mean rating = 8.0), continuing a trend that began in 2006.

While the proportion of alumni who said the quality of education they received was “excellent” or “good” has remained stable compared to last year, the proportion of alumni who rate their educational quality as “excellent” has increased significantly (see Figure 1). Alumni’s opinion about whether or not they would recommend their university to others has remained stable over the past six years, as has the average overall satisfaction rating.

**Figure 1. Overall satisfaction with State System experience**



Specific satisfaction measures affirm that State System alumni are satisfied with the particulars of their educational experience. For all but two attributes tested, at least nine in ten alumni were satisfied with the university attribute (Table 1). Slightly fewer alumni were satisfied with the number of student organizations (83%) or the number and quality of campus activities (81%).

Alumni’s opinions about these university attributes have largely remained stable since 2007, with the exception of one attribute. The proportion of students who are satisfied with the number of student organizations related to their interest fell since 2007.

**Table 1. Satisfaction ratings for specific university attributes**

Were you satisfied or not satisfied with...?	Percent Satisfied				
	2008	2007	2006	2003	2001
<i>Your intellectual growth</i>	96%	97%	96%	96%	96%
<i>The education you received, considering the overall cost</i>	95%	94%	94%	94%	96%
<i>The ability of most of your instructors</i>	94%	94%	94%	95%	96%
<i>The classroom buildings and library</i>	92%	91%	92%	89%	86%
<i>The course curriculum</i>	91%	91%	90%	91%	90%
<i>The security measures taken by the university to ensure the safety of students</i>	90%	90%	91%	90%	89%
<i>The intellectual life of the university</i>	89%	91%	89%	89%	89%
<i>The reputation of the university, compared to similar post-secondary institutions</i>	89%	90%	89%	89%	89%
<i>The social life</i>	89%	89%	87%	86%	84%
<i>The number of student organizations on campus related to your interests</i>	83%	85%	-	-	-
<i>The number and quality of programs, events, and activities on campus, considering the activity fee you paid</i>	81%	80%	-	-	-

Alumni who lived in campus housing during their undergraduate years report high levels of satisfaction with residential living. Overall, the majority of alumni who lived on campus were satisfied with the residence halls (86%). Specifically, alumni were most satisfied with the responsiveness of residence hall staff (88%) and the condition of the rooms (85%). Alumni were least satisfied with the variety of housing (77%) and meal (79%) options available.

Compared to the opinions of last year’s alumni (88% satisfied), fewer students (85%) feel the condition of their residence hall was satisfactory. All other measures of residential living have remained stable since 2007.

**Table 2. Residential students’ satisfaction with residential living**

Were you satisfied or not satisfied with...?	Percent Satisfied	
	2008 (n=1500)	2007 (n=1401)
<i>How well the hall residence hall staff addressed your questions, concerns, or other issues in the hall</i>	88%	90%
<i>The condition of your residence hall room</i>	85%	88%
<i>The meal plan options you were offered</i>	83%	83%
<i>The variety of meals/food served in the cafeteria</i>	79%	79%
<i>The variety of housing options available to you through university affiliated housing</i>	77%	79%

Asked only of students who ever lived in a campus residence hall



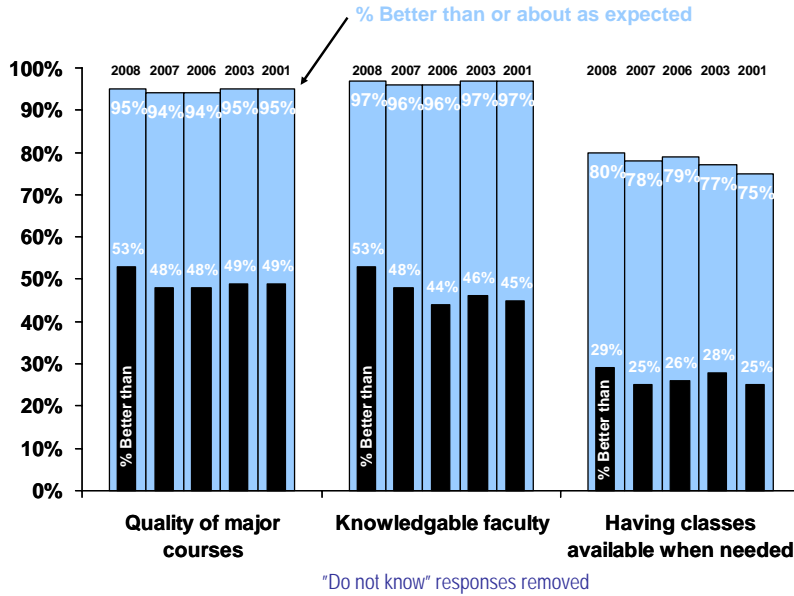
The alumni survey also asks respondents how well their universities met their expectations for eight different items (Table 3). These performance measures also reveal high ratings for the PASSHE universities. The proportion of alumni who feel that the State System met or exceeded their expectations on each of these attributes has remained stable since last year.

**Table 3. Performance ratings for university attributes**

Did [fill University] perform better than you expected, about as you expected, or worse than you expected in each area.	Percent better than or about as expected				
	2008	2007	2006	2003	2001
<i>Providing knowledgeable faculty</i>	97%	96%	96%	97%	97%
<i>Quality of instruction in your major</i>	95%	94%	94%	95%	95%
<i>Quality of major courses</i>	95%	94%	94%	95%	95%
<i>Providing a wide range of courses</i>	93%	92%	92%	91%	91%
<i>Being concerned for you as an individual</i>	91%	91%	89%	90%	89%
<i>Value of general education courses</i>	89%	90%	89%	90%	89%
<i>Having classes available when you needed them</i>	80%	78%	79%	77%	75%
<i>Providing an academic advisor who is interested in your progress</i>	78%	77%	77%	74%	76%

For several performance rating items, the proportion of alumni who report their university was better than expected increased compared to 2007. As Figure 2 shows, these measures are the quality of major courses (+5%), provision of knowledgeable faculty (+5%), and the availability of classes (+4%).

**Figure 2. Changes in performance ratings for university attributes**



## Transfer Students

About one third of alumni interviewed (31%) transferred from another institution at some point during their college education. Almost half of alumni who transferred (48%) entered their alma mater from a community college, about a third (29%) entered from another State System university, and the remaining alumni (24%) transferred from some other institution.

Transfer alumni continue to report a positive transition to the institution that received them (Table 4). A majority of these graduates (89%) felt their transition to their alma mater was “very” or “somewhat” easy, and about the same proportion (86%) said their university accepted “more” or “about as many” credits as they expected from their junior institution. Almost all transfer alumni (91%) felt the transfer process was “very” or “somewhat” easy, an increase from 2007 (87%). Students’ opinions in 2008 did not differ by the type of junior institution they attended.

**Table 4. Alumni transfer students’ entrance experience**

	All Transfers			
	2008 (n=708)	2007 (n=671)	2006 (n=645)	2003 (n=664)
<b>Very or somewhat easy transition</b>	89%	87%	88%	89%
<b>More or about as many credits accepted as expected</b>	86%	84%	86%	86%
<b>Very or somewhat easy transfer process*</b>	91%	87%	89%	na

## Post-Graduate Employment and Preparedness

Most 2006-2007 alumni (84%) are currently employed, and most of those employed (85%) are working full-time. Of those who are employed full-time, more than three in four (75%) are employed in their field of study. As Table 5 shows, the proportion of alumni in the various employment categories has remained stable since last year.

**Table 5. Current employment status of alumni**

Which of the following best describes your current primary employment or educational status? Are you...	Percent				
	2008	2007	2006	2003	2001
<i>Employed full-time in your field of study</i>	53%	54%	57%	61%	54%
<i>Employed part-time in your field of study</i>	9%	9%	8%	7%	9%
<i>Employed full-time in another field</i>	18%	18%	18%	17%	18%
<i>Employed part-time in another field</i>	4%	4%	4%	2%	4%
<i>Employed in the armed forces</i>	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
<i>Continuing your education</i>	11%	10%	9%	8%	10%
<i>Unemployed, seeking employment</i>	4%	4%	3%	3%	4%
<i>Unemployed NOT seeking employment</i>	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

Four in five (81%) employed alumni are currently working in Pennsylvania. Most students said they decided to work in-state because they (58%) or their family (15%) are residents of the state. Of the employed alumni who are working outside of Pennsylvania (19%), many say they are doing so because they are residents of another state (33%) or because they did not find a job in Pennsylvania (38%).

Nearly nine in ten (88%) employed alumni had their first jobs within six months of graduation. The largest share (31%) of 2006-2007 graduates is employed in the education, training, and library occupations, primarily as primary and secondary school teachers. Community and social service occupations (10%), office and administrative support occupations (10%), and sales occupations (9%) are also common job categories

among graduates. Since 2007 the distribution of job types which alumni hold has changed, showing an increase in community and social service occupations (+4%) and a decrease in financial specialists (-3%).

While earnings vary between occupations, alumni employed full-time generally are earning less than 2007 employed alumni one year after their graduation. In 2007, alumni working full-time earned almost \$4,000 more, adjusted for inflation<sup>i</sup> than alumni in 2008. As Table 6 shows, 2008 alumni are earning less than alumni in previous years, but carrying about the same amount of college debt.

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**Table 6. Annual salary of fulltime employed alumni**

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	Fulltime Employed Alumni			
	2008 (n=1650)	2007 (n=1592)	2006 (n=1658)	2003 (n=1826)
<i>Mean salary, adjusted for inflation</i>	\$36,277	\$40,132	\$38,168	\$38,947
<i>Mean loans, adjusted for inflation</i>	\$14,547	\$13,788	\$15,252	\$13,613

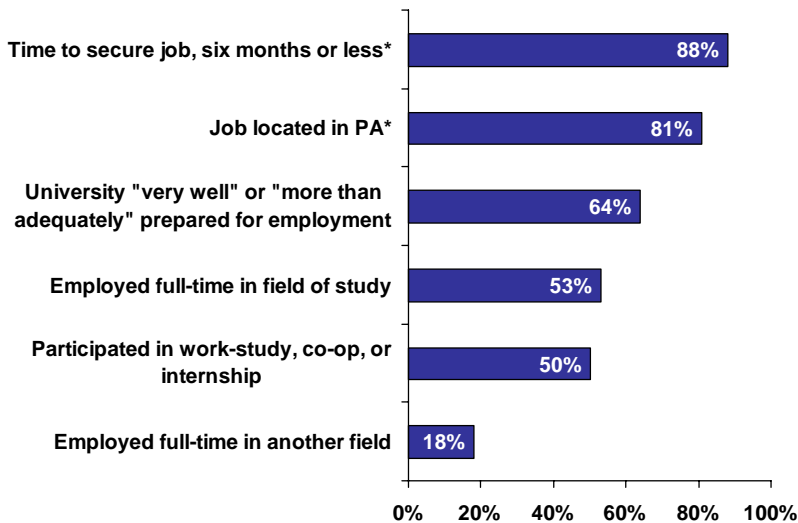
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Two in three respondents (64%) believe their university experiences prepared them for employment “very well” or “more than adequately;” in fact, less than one in ten (7%) said their education had prepared them “less than adequately” or “poorly” for employment. Satisfaction with career preparation has remained stable since last year.

Half of the 2006-2007 alumni (50%) had participated in a work study, co-op or internship (not including student teaching) while they were a student. Two in five students (40%) were offered employment by the organization where they fulfilled their work study, co-op or internship. Not surprisingly, almost eight in ten students who participated in a work study, co-op or internship (77%) believe it was an important factor in their employment.

Of students employed full-time in their fields of study, four in five (83%) felt their internships were an important factor in securing employment. Students who are not employed full-time in their fields of study were less likely to feel their internship was an important factor in securing employment (64%). Figure 3 presents a summary of selected employment attributes for 2006-2007 alumni, which are stable compared to last year.

**Figure 3 Job related measures**



\*Asked only of student employed full-time, part-time, or in the military.

## Graduate School and Continued Education Enrollment and Preparation

Slightly more than one in four (27%) 2006-2007 alumni are currently enrolled in a higher education program. One in ten (13%) is enrolled full-time in a graduate or first-professional program. Another one in ten (9%) is enrolled part-time in a graduate or professional program. The remaining enrolled alumni (5%) are in undergraduate or certification programs or are taking courses but not pursuing a degree. Three in four (77%) alumni who are continuing their education are enrolled in a school located in Pennsylvania. One in three alumni currently enrolled in courses (31%) is attending a PASSHE university for their graduate training.

Most (75%) students enrolled in post-graduate studies believe their undergraduate education at a State System university prepared them “very well” or “more than adequately” for graduate school. The satisfaction ratings for graduate school preparation have remained stable compared to last year.

**Table 7. Graduate School Preparation**

Overall, how well did [fill UNIV] University prepare you for a GRADUATE OR FIRST-PROFESSIONAL-PROGRAM? (not asked of students enrolled in undergraduate programs)	Percent				
	2008 (n=601)	2007 (n=542)	2006 (n=607)	2003 (n=606)	2001 (n=523)
<i>Very well</i>	55%	45%	50%	45%	45%
<i>More than adequately</i>	20%	22%	22%	23%	22%
<i>Adequately</i>	19%	24%	21%	23%	24%
<i>Less than adequately</i>	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%
<i>Poorly</i>	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
<i>Do not know</i>	2%	2%	6%	3%	5%

## **Sample Design and Weighting**

A disproportionate sampling methodology was used to select respondents for the survey. As mentioned earlier, the probability of selection for any individual was based on the university he/she attended. Disproportionate sampling was used to ensure that each PASSHE university had a sufficient sample of its own graduates to conduct university-specific analyses. Had proportionate sampling been used, several universities would have represented the majority of the sample. For example, proportionate sampling would have yielded 287 respondents from Indiana and only 93 from Mansfield, making the Mansfield sample too small to yield reliable university-specific estimates. Whenever disproportionate sampling is used, it is necessary to apply statistical weights that adjust for the unequal probabilities of selection before population estimates are developed.

Table 8 displays the information used to create the sample weights.



**Table 8. Weighting Information**

UNIVERSITY	Pop %	Sample n	N	wi	rwi	Weighted n	Sample %
BLOOMSBURG	8.5	175	1,489	8.51	1.10	197.80	8.5
CALIFORNIA	6.1	176	1,069	6.07	0.96	142.01	6.1
CHEYNEY	0.8	28	143	5.11	0.99	19.00	0.8
CLARION	5.3	175	921	5.26	0.80	122.35	5.3
EAST STROUDSBURG	6.5	175	1,126	6.43	0.84	149.58	6.5
EDINBORO	6.2	175	1,078	6.16	0.85	143.21	6.2
INDIANA	12.4	175	2,160	12.34	1.61	286.94	12.4
KUTZTOWN	8.9	177	1,551	8.76	1.55	206.04	8.9
LOCK HAVEN	5.2	179	901	8.03	0.55	119.69	5.2
MANSFIELD	4.0	176	689	3.91	0.39	91.53	4.0
MILLERSVILLE	8.0	175	1,389	7.94	1.07	184.52	8.0
SHIPPENSBURG	7.4	178	1,293	7.26	0.97	171.77	7.4
SLIPPERY ROCK	8.5	175	1,486	8.49	0.87	197.41	8.5
WEST CHESTER	12.2	175	2,124	12.14	1.46	282.16	12.2
Total	100	2,314	17,419	7.53		2,314.00	100

Sample n = the number of 2006-2007 State System Alumni actually interviewed

N = the total number of 2006-2007 graduates

wi = expansion weight, the reciprocal of the selection probability

rwi=relative expansion weight to maintain sample size

Weighted n = the number of respondents in the weighted data file

Sample % = the proportion of the final weighted sample

<sup>i</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics Inflation Calculator, <http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/cpicalc.pl>

The CPI inflation calculator uses the average Consumer Price Index for a given calendar year. This data represents changes in prices of all goods and services purchased for consumption by urban households. This index value has been calculated every year since 1913. For the current year, the latest monthly index value is used. In the case of this report, the index from September 2008 was used.

## Marginal Frequency Report

Weighted data

May 16-August 12, 2007

N=2214

>Q1< What was your PRIMARY objective in attending a university? Was it to...

2008	2007	2006	
81%	81%	83%	Prepare for a career
3%	4%	3%	Improve your existing job skills
10%	10%	8%	Prepare for graduate, professional, or technical school
3%	4%	4%	For some personal interest
2%	2%	2%	For some other reason

Questions Q2 through NQ2c were only asked of transfer students (n = 708).

>Q2< When you transferred to [fill UNIV] University from your previous college or university, did you feel your transition was...

2008 n=708	2007 n=671	2006 n=668	2003 n=657	
59%	56%	59%	59%	Very easy
30%	31%	29%	30%	Somewhat easy
9%	9%	9%	8%	Somewhat difficult
2%	4%	3%	2%	Very difficult
0%	0%	1%	2%	Do Not Know

>NQ2a< Did you transfer from...

2008 n=708	2007 n=671	2006 n=668	
48%	46%	36%	A community college
29%	28%	32%	Another state system university
24%	27%	32%	From somewhere else
0%	0%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q2b< Did [fill UNIV] University meet your expectations with the number of credits that they accepted for transfer from your previous institution? Would you say they accepted...

2008 n=708	2007 n=671	2006 n=668	2003 n=657	
28%	23%	29%	34%	More credits than expected
58%	61%	57%	52%	About as many credits as expected
14%	16%	13%	10%	Fewer credits than expected
0%	0%	0%	1%	None of my credits
0%	0%	0%	1%	Had no expectations of how many credits would transfer
0%	0%	0%	2%	Do Not Know

>NQ2c< Overall, how easy or difficult was the transfer process, would you say it was...

2008 n=708	2007 n=671	2006 n=668	
58%	52%	53%	Very easy
34%	35%	36%	Somewhat easy
7%	11%	7%	Somewhat difficult, OR
2%	3%	3%	Very difficult
0%	0%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q3< How would you rate the QUALITY of education you received at [Fill UNIV] University? Would you say it was...

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
50%	47%	44%	45%	42%	Excellent
44%	48%	50%	48%	53%	Good
5%	5%	6%	6%	5%	Fair
0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	Poor

>Q4< Would you RECOMMEND [Fill UNIV] University to others?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
94%	95%	95%	95%	94%	Yes
4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	No
2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	Don't Know

>Q4a< Did you pay IN-STATE tuition the semester that you graduated?

2008	2007	2006	2003	
86%	88%	88%	89%	Yes
12%	11%	10%	9%	No
2%	2%	2%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q5< What was the total amount you BORROWED in undergraduate LOANS?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
23%	24%	28%	35%	34%	\$0.00
5%	5%	5%	6%	7%	\$0.01-\$5,000
6%	6%	7%	8%	13%	\$5,001-\$10,000
10%	10%	10%	13%	15%	\$10,001-\$15,000
15%	16%	17%	17%	18%	\$15,001-\$20,000
6%	6%	7%	7%	8%	\$20,001-\$25,000
17%	15%	12%	8%	5%	More than \$25,000
19%	17%	15%	0%	0%	Do Not Know

>NQ5a< How much, if any, of the amount you borrowed did you charge to your own personal credit card?

2008 n=1,354	2007 n=1242	2006 n=1319	
85%	82%	89%	\$0.00
12%	13%	7%	\$0.01-\$5,000
1%	2%	2%	\$5,001-\$10,000
0%	0%	0%	\$10,001-\$15,000
1%	1%	1%	\$15,001-\$40,000
1%	2%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q6< Which of the following BEST describes your current PRIMARY employment or educational status? Are you...

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
53%	55%	54%	57%	61%	Employed full-time in your field of study
9%	9%	9%	8%	7%	Employed part-time in your field of study
18%	17%	18%	18%	17%	Employed full-time in another field
4%	4%	4%	4%	2%	Employed part-time in another field
0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	Employed in the armed forces
11%	10%	10%	9%	8%	Continuing your education
4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	Unemployed, seeking employment
1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	Unemployed NOT seeking employment

>Q7< Would you like this to be your chosen CAREER?

2008 n=508	2007 n=482	2006 n=525	2003 n=540	2001 n=467	
23%	27%	24%	26%	32%	Yes
70%	66%	68%	68%	61%	No
1%	2%	0%	4%	1%	Not applicable
6%	6%	7%	3%	6%	Do Not Know

>Q8< Is your JOB located in Pennsylvania?

2008 n=1942	2007 n=1884	2006 n=1968	2003 n=2131	2001 n=2125	
81%	82%	81%	82%	83%	Yes
19%	18%	19%	18%	17%	No

>JOB< What is the name of your job?

2008 n=1942	2007 n=1882	2006 n=1968	
1%	1%	1%	Architecture and Engineering Occupations
5%	6%	4%	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations
0%	1%	0%	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance
3%	2%	1%	Business Operations Specialists
10%	6%	9%	Community and Social Services Occupations
2%	3%	4%	Computer and Mathematical Occupations
1%	1%	1%	Construction Trades
31%	32%	32%	Education, Training, and Library Occupations
0%	0%	0%	Extraction Workers
0%	1%	0%	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations
4%	7%	5%	Financial Specialists
3%	2%	3%	Food Preparation and Serving Occupations
7%	7%	5%	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations
1%	2%	3%	Healthcare Support Occupations
0%	1%	1%	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Workers
1%	1%	1%	Legal Occupations
3%	3%	2%	Life, Physical and Social Science Occupations
2%	1%	3%	Management Occupations
1%	1%	1%	Military Specific Occupations
10%	8%	9%	Office and Administration Support Occupations
2%	2%	2%	Personal Care and Service Occupations
1%	1%	1%	Production Occupations
3%	3%	2%	Protective Service Occupations
9%	9%	10%	Sales Occupations
1%	2%	1%	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations

>Q9< In what STATE is your JOB located?

2008 n=1942	2007 n=1884	2006 n=1968	
81%	82%	82%	Pennsylvania
4%	4%	5%	New Jersey
3%	3%	3%	Maryland
3%	2%	2%	New York
2%	2%	2%	Virginia
1%	1%	1%	Florida
1%	1%	1%	North Carolina
1%	1%	1%	Ohio
0%	1%	0%	California
1%	0%	1%	Delaware
3%	4%	2%	Other

>Q10< What was the PRIMARY reason you decided to work IN Pennsylvania?

2008 n=1578	2007 n=1543	2006 n=1602	2003 n=1681	
58%	57%	51%	42%	Already PA Resident
1%	1%	1%	1%	Attending school/Graduate School in PA
2%	2%	1%	1%	Better pay/benefits
1%	1%	1%	0%	Certified in PA
3%	3%	3%	14%	Convenience, ease of commute
15%	17%	21%	24%	Family in PA
1%	1%	1%	0%	Internships to hire/stays at college job
8%	8%	8%	9%	Jobs available
7%	5%	7%	5%	Like PA
2%	1%	1%	0%	Live at home to save money
0%	0%	1%	0%	Low cost of living
2%	1%	2%	0%	Not financially able to leave PA (Obligation)
0%	1%	1%	0%	Not ready to move (scared to move)
1%	1%	2%	4%	Other

>Q11cod< What was the PRIMARY reason you decided to work OUTSIDE of Pennsylvania?

2008 n=369	2007 n=345	2006 n=370	2003 n=369	
1%	1%	1%	1%	Attending school, better schools outside PA
1%	0%	0%	0%	Certified outside PA, not certified in PA
4%	12%	6%	4%	Ready to move, change of scenery
%	1%	2%	1%	Continuing education
1%	2%	1%	0%	Convenience, ease of commute
4%	1%	4%	1%	Do not like PA
9%	7%	9%	9%	Family outside of PA
5%	6%	6%	6%	Better pay/benefits
1%	2%	1%	0%	Internships to hire/stays at college job
1%	0%	0%	0%	Live at home to save money
33%	25%	28%	31%	Moved back to hometown, live outside PA
38%	41%	36%	40%	No jobs available in PA
0%	0%	0%	1%	No reason
2%	2%	7%	7%	Other

>Q13< What is your annual GROSS salary? (gross is before deductions)

2008 n=1941	2007 n=1884	2006 n=1968	2003 n=1695	
\$34,522	\$35,896	\$33,130	\$31,264	Mean

>Q14< How long AFTER GRADUATION did it take you to obtain your FIRST job? Would you say...

2008 n=1941	2007 n=1884	2006 n=1968	2003 n=2130	2001 n=2125	
29%	30%	29%	28%	29%	Already had the job
59%	56%	57%	55%	57%	Six months or less
8%	9%	9%	9%	8%	Greater than six months but less than a year
4%	5%	5%	8%	6%	One year or more

>Q15< Which of the following best describes your PRIMARY employer?

2008 n=1941	2007 n=1884	2006 n=1968	2003 n=2131	2001 n=2125	
33%	30%	32%	36%	34%	Educational institution
33%	33%	32%	29%	33%	Large organization or agency (500 or more employees)
20%	22%	20%	17%	16%	Small organization or agency (Less than 100 employees)
13%	13%	14%	15%	13%	Medium organization or agency (100 to 499 employees)
1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	Self employed
0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	Something else
0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q16< Overall, how well did [fill UNIV] University prepare you for employment? Would you say...

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
38%	37%	35%	37%	37%	Very well
26%	24%	27%	25%	25%	More than adequately
28%	29%	29%	28%	32%	Adequately
4%	6%	6%	5%	3%	Less than adequately
3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	Poorly
2%	1%	1%	3%	2%	Do Not Know

>Q17< What is your current EDUCATIONAL status?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
13%	12%	12%	11%	10%	Enrolled full-time in a graduate or first-professional program
9%	8%	10%	10%	9%	Enrolled part-time in a graduate or first-professional program
1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	Enrolled full-time in an undergraduate degree program
1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	Enrolled part-time in an undergraduate degree program
1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	Enrolled full-time in a certification program
1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	Enrolled part-time in a certification program
2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	Taking courses but not pursuing a degree at this time
73%	74%	72%	73%	76%	Not enrolled at any educational institution

>Q19< Is your school located in Pennsylvania?

2008 n=623	2007 n=580	2006 n=638	2003 n= 646	2001 n=549	
77%	75%	73%	78%	79%	Yes
23%	24%	27%	22%	21%	No
0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	Do not know

>Q20< What is the NAME of your school?

2008 n=623	
47%	OTHER
4%	California University of PA
4%	Indiana University of PA
4%	Slippery Rock University of PA
4%	West Chester
3%	Bloomsburg University of PA
3%	East Stroudsburg of PA
3%	Millersville University of PA
3%	Shippensburg
3%	University of Pittsburgh
2%	Clarion University of PA
2%	Edinboro University of PA
2%	Kutztown University of PA
2%	Marywood University
2%	Penn State
2%	Widener University
1%	Lock Haven University of PA
1%	Mansfield University of PA
1%	Ohio State
1%	Temple University
1%	University of Delaware
1%	University of Scranton
1%	Villanova
1%	West Virginia University
1%	Do not know



>Q22< In what STATE is your school located?

2008 n=623	2007 n=580	2006 n=638	
77%	76%	73%	Pennsylvania
2%	2%	3%	New Jersey
4%	2%	3%	New York
1%	1%	3%	Virginia
1%	2%	2%	Maryland
2%	2%	2%	Ohio
2%	0%	1%	Arizona
1%	1%	1%	California
0%	1%	1%	Colorado
0%	1%	1%	Delaware
1%	2%	1%	Florida
1%	0%	1%	Georgia
0%	0%	1%	Illinois
0%	1%	0%	Iowa
1%	1%	1%	Indiana
1%	1%	0%	Massachusetts
0%	1%	1%	Michigan
1%	0%	1%	Minnesota
0%	1%	0%	Mississippi
0%	1%	1%	North Carolina
0%	1%	1%	Texas
1%	1%	1%	West Virginia
4%	2%	1%	Other

>Q23< What is your area of study?

2008* n=623	2007* n=579	2006* n=638	2003 n=644	2001 n=441	
--	--	--	6%	5%	Arts, Humanities
--	--	--	8%	5%	Business
--	--	--	6%	4%	Computer science, Engineering, Math
--	--	--	37%	37%	Education
--	--	--	14%	16%	Health Sciences, Medicine
--	--	--	3%	4%	Law
--	--	--	4%	4%	Life Sciences, Physical Sciences
--	--	--	2%	2%	Public Administration, Policy
--	--	--	9%	12%	Social sciences
--	--	--	12%	11%	Other

\*See data file for complete list.

>Q24< Overall, how well did [fill UNIV] University prepare you for a GRADUATE OR FIRST-PROFESSIONAL-PROGRAM?

2008 n=601	2007 n=542	2006 n=607	2003 n=606	2001 n=523	
55%	50%	45%	50%	45%	Very well
20%	22%	22%	22%	23%	More than adequately
19%	23%	24%	21%	23%	Adequately
3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	Less than adequately
1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	Poorly
2%	2%	6%	3%	5%	Do Not Know

>Q25< While at [fill UNIV] University, did you participate in a work study, co-operative education, clinical field experience, or internship experience, NOT including student teaching?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
50%	52%	49%	51%	45%	Yes
50%	48%	51%	49%	54%	No
0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q26< Was it ...

2008 n=1153	2007 n=1146	2006 n=1125	2003 n=1250	2001 n=1100	
24%	23%	25%	23%	24%	Work study
2%	4%	3%	5%	4%	Co-operative education
14%	12%	12%	12%	0%	Clinical field experience
51%	52%	50%	54%	65%	Internship
--	--	--	--	5%	Work study and Internship
--	--	--	--	1%	Co-operative education and internship
9%	9%	9%	7%	--	Combination of two or more of the above (Multi-program)
0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	Do not know

>Q27< Were you offered employment by the organization where you did your [fill WExp]

2008 n=1153	2007 n=1146	2006 n=1125	2003 n=1250	2001 n=1100	
40%	40%	37%	36%	40%	Yes
60%	60%	62%	64%	59%	No
0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q28< How important was your [fill WExp] in helping you get a job? Would you say it was...

2008 n=1153	2007 n=1146	2006 n=1125	2003 n=1249	2001 n=1100	
45%	47%	41%	44%	52%	Very important
32%	29%	30%	27%	26%	Somewhat important
9%	8%	9%	6%	5%	Somewhat unimportant
13%	15%	20%	21%	15%	Not at all important
1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	Do Not Know

>NQ29< While at [fill UNIV] University, did you participate in any SERVICE LEARNING COURSES where you were involved in community service activities?

2008	2007	2006	
32%	33%	29%	Yes
67%	66%	70%	No
1%	0%	1%	Do not know

>H1< Did you ever live in the campus residence halls at [fill UNIV] University?

2008	2007	
65%	63%	Yes
35%	37%	No

>IntH2< Please tell me if you were satisfied or NOT satisfied with the following aspects of living on campus.

*Questions Q29j through H2e were only asked of students who lived on campus (n = 1500).*

>Q29j< [2008, 2007]: Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the residence halls?  
[2006]: Please tell me, if you were satisfied or NOT satisfied with the RESIDENCE HALLS, if you lived on campus?

2008 n=1500	2007 n=1401	2006 n=1514	2003 n=1618	
86%	88%	81%	85%	Satisfied
14%	12%	19%	15%	Not Satisfied

>H2a< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the CONDITION of your residence hall ROOM?

2008 n=1500	2007 n=1401	
85%	88%	Satisfied
15%	12%	Not Satisfied
1%	0%	Do not know

>H2b< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the VARIETY of housing OPTIONS available to you through university affiliated housing?

2008 n=1500	2007 n=1401	
77%	79%	Satisfied
20%	19%	Not Satisfied
2%	2%	Do Not Know

>H2c< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with how well residence HALL STAFF addressed your questions, concerns, or other issues in the hall?

2008 n=1500	2007 n=1401	
88%	90%	Satisfied
11%	8%	Not Satisfied
1%	2%	Do Not Know

>H2d< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the VARIETY of MEALS/FOOD served in the cafeteria?

2008 n=1500	2007 n=1401	
79%	79%	Satisfied
20%	21%	Not Satisfied
1%	1%	Do Not Know

>H2e< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the MEAL PLAN OPTIONS you were offered?

2008 n=1500	2007 n=1401	
83%	83%	Satisfied
16%	16%	Not Satisfied
1%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q29a< Now I'm going to ask you some questions about your satisfaction with your undergraduate experience at [fill UNIV] University. Please tell me, if you were satisfied or NOT satisfied with the ABILITY of MOST of the INSTRUCTORS at [fill UNIV] University?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
94%	94%	94%	95%	96%	Satisfied
5%	6%	6%	4%	3%	Not Satisfied
0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q29b< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the classroom BUILDINGS and LIBRARY?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
92%	91%	92%	89%	86%	Satisfied
8%	8%	7%	11%	13%	Not Satisfied
1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q29c< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the INTELLECTUAL life of the university?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
89%	91%	89%	89%	89%	Satisfied
9%	8%	9%	9%	8%	Not Satisfied
2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	Do Not Know

>Q29d< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the course CURRICULUM?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
91%	91%	90%	91%	90%	Satisfied
9%	9%	10%	9%	9%	Not Satisfied
0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q29e< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the SOCIAL life?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
89%	89%	87%	86%	84%	Satisfied
7%	7%	8%	7%	6%	Not Satisfied
5%	4%	5%	7%	10%	Do Not Know

>Q29f< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with your INTELLECTUAL growth?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
96%	97%	96%	96%	96%	Satisfied
4%	3%	4%	3%	3%	Not Satisfied
0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	Do Not Know

>Q29g< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the EDUCATION you RECEIVED, considering the overall cost to attend the university?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
95%	94%	94%	94%	96%	Satisfied
5%	6%	5%	5%	4%	Not Satisfied
0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	Do Not Know

>Q29h< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the REPUTATION of the university compared to similar postsecondary institutions?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
89%	90%	89%	89%	89%	Satisfied
9%	8%	9%	8%	8%	Not Satisfied
2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	Do Not Know

>Q29i< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the SECURITY measures taken by the university to ensure the SAFETY of its students?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
90%	90%	91%	90%	89%	Satisfied
9%	8%	8%	8%	8%	Not Satisfied
2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	Do Not Know

>Q29k< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the number of STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS on campus related to your interests?

2008	2007	
83%	85%	Satisfied
14%	11%	Not Satisfied
4%	4%	Do Not Know

>Q29I< Were you satisfied or NOT satisfied with the number and quality of programs, events, and activities on campus, considering the activity fee you paid?

2008	2007	
81%	80%	Satisfied
16%	17%	Not Satisfied
3%	3%	Do Not Know

>Q30a<I am going to read you another list of items, and for each one, I would like you to tell me if you think [fill UNIV] University performed BETTER than you expected, ABOUT AS you EXPECTED or WORSE than you expected in each area. The QUALITY of INSTRUCTION in your MAJOR?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
58%	55%	51%	54%	51%	Better than expected
37%	39%	43%	41%	44%	About as expected
5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	Worse than expected

>Q30b< Providing a WIDE RANGE of courses?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
36%	34%	30%	33%	33%	Better than expected
57%	58%	62%	58%	58%	About as expected
7%	7%	8%	8%	9%	Worse than expected
1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	Do not know

>Q30c< The QUALITY of your MAJOR COURSES?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
53%	48%	48%	49%	49%	Better than expected
42%	46%	46%	46%	46%	About as expected
5%	6%	6%	5%	5%	Worse than expected

>Q30d< The VALUE of your GENERAL EDUCATION courses?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
24%	23%	21%	28%	24%	Better than expected
65%	67%	68%	62%	65%	About as expected
9%	10%	10%	8%	9%	Worse than expected
2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	Do not know

>Q30e< Having CLASSES AVAILABLE when you needed them?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
29%	25%	26%	28%	25%	Better than expected
51%	53%	53%	49%	50%	About as expected
20%	22%	21%	23%	25%	Worse than expected

>Q30f< Providing KNOWLEDGEABLE FACULTY?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
53%	48%	44%	46%	45%	Better than expected
44%	48%	52%	51%	52%	About as expected
3%	4%	4%	3%	3%	Worse than expected

>Q30g< Being CONCERNED for you as an INDIVIDUAL?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
42%	40%	38%	37%	35%	Better than expected
49%	51%	51%	53%	54%	About as expected
9%	8%	11%	11%	11%	Worse than expected

>Q30h< Providing an ACADEMIC ADVISOR who was INTERESTED in your progress?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
46%	43%	43%	39%	41%	Better than expected
32%	34%	34%	35%	35%	About as expected
22%	23%	23%	26%	24%	Worse than expected
0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	Do not know

>Q31< I'd like to ask you about your OVERALL satisfaction with [fill UNIV] University. Using a one to ten scale, where ONE means VERY DISSatisfied and TEN means VERY SATISFIED how satisfied were you with [fill UNIV] University?

2008	2007	2006	2003	2001	
8.15	8.12	8.03	8.02	8.03	Mean

>NQ32< How OFTEN do you visit or talk to the college friends you made while at [fill UNIV] University...

2008	2007	2006	
57%	58%	56%	Frequently
26%	24%	24%	Sometimes
11%	12%	12%	Seldom
6%	6%	7%	Never

>NQ33< How interested are you in being informed about what is taking place at [fill UNIV] University?

2008	2007	2006	
16%	19%	18%	Very interested
55%	54%	54%	Somewhat interested
20%	19%	19%	Not very interested
8%	8%	9%	Not interested at all

>NQ33a< How would you most prefer to be contacted by [fill UNIV]...

2008	2007	
5%	6%	By telephone,
57%	49%	Email, or
37%	45%	Direct mail?
1%	1%	Do not know

>NQ34< How closely CONNECTED do you feel to [fill UNIV] University? Using a ONE to TEN scale, where ONE means you feel absolutely NO connection and TEN means you feel a very STRONG connection to [fill UNIV] University?

2008	2007	2006	
6.57	6.55	6.34	Mean

>NQ34a< Generally speaking, how interested would you be in ATTENDING an alumni event that took place in your area?

2008	2007	
15%	14%	Very interested
49%	48%	Somewhat interested
25%	24%	Not very interested
12%	13%	Not interested at all

>NQ35< Have you made a financial donation to [fill UNIV] University SINCE YOU GRADUATED?

2008	2007	2006	
11%	10%	12%	Yes
89%	90%	87%	No
1%	1%	1%	Do Not Know

>NQ35a< How likely will you be to make a financial donation to [fill UNIV] University in the next TWO years?

2008	2007	
9%	11%	Very likely
34%	32%	Somewhat likely
35%	32%	Not very likely
22%	24%	Not at all likely

>DONE< Gender of respondent

2008	2007	2006	
39%	40%	36%	Male
61%	60%	64%	Female