

**APPENDIX**

**Fall 1999**

*First Year Student Survey*

**(N = 4,157)**

*Due to rounding, some percentages may total 99 or 101.*

*Items with an asterisk (\*) indicate a non-response rate of 15% or more.*

If the information on the label is blank or not correct, please provide your name, ASU ID, and course below:

# 1999 First Year Student Survey



Office of University Evaluation

In keeping with Arizona State University's commitment to "Excellence in Undergraduate Education," we are asking first year students about their experiences, expectations, and reasons for attending ASU. Please respond as accurately and as candidly as possible. Your responses will be strictly confidential. Information will be reported only as group data.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY													
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

## Part A: Reasons for Attending ASU

1. Think about some of the factors you considered when deciding to attend ASU instead of another college/university. How important was each of the following in your decision to attend ASU?

	N	Essential	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not at all Important
1. Good academic reputation	4,139	23%	48%	26%	3%
2. Availability of specific courses or program options	4,131	31%	42%	23%	4%
3. Variety of majors offered	4,122	23%	41%	29%	6%
4. Good faculty	4,097	20%	41%	32%	7%
5. Location in Phoenix metropolitan area	4,120	24%	31%	30%	15%
6. Physical appearance of campus	4,116	14%	36%	37%	12%
7. Large size of ASU (40,000+)	4,117	7%	19%	41%	34%
8. Weather/climate	4,083	17%	26%	33%	23%
9. Low cost of tuition and fees	4,091	36%	31%	21%	12%
10. Availability of financial aid at ASU (loan, scholarship, grant)	4,126	39%	23%	18%	20%
11. Availability of tuition waiver	4,088	29%	20%	20%	31%
12. Residence hall programs and services	4,114	11%	25%	31%	34%
13. Opportunity to work on campus	4,112	6%	14%	32%	48%
14. ASU is close to my job	4,091	6%	10%	18%	66%
15. Availability of extracurricular activities	4,112	10%	28%	40%	23%
16. Student Recreation Complex (athletic facilities)	4,116	14%	30%	34%	21%
17. Most of my friends also chose to attend ASU	4,117	4%	11%	23%	63%
18. My mother/father wanted me to attend ASU	4,117	5%	11%	23%	62%
19. High school counselor/advisor recommended ASU	4,094	2%	7%	22%	68%
20. ASU newsletters, brochures, catalogs	4,108	3%	16%	41%	40%
21. Representative at ASU Admissions office (student/staff)	4,084	5%	16%	35%	44%
22. To get a good job	4,104	35%	34%	18%	13%
23. To prepare for graduate or professional school	4,104	35%	34%	20%	12%
24. ASU is close to family (home)	4,090	20%	20%	19%	42%
25. Wanted to get away from home	4,103	16%	19%	22%	43%
26. Nationally ranked sports teams	4,110	7%	15%	28%	51%
27. Campus is safe	4,110	19%	38%	29%	14%
28. Racial/Ethnic diversity of campus	4,121	11%	23%	35%	32%

2a. Of all the schools to which you applied, ASU ranked as your... (N = 4,089)

N			
1,008	25%	<b>only</b> choice	(Go to Item 3)
1,814	44%	<b>first</b> choice	(Go to Item 2c)
830	20%	<b>second</b> choice	} Answer Item 2b, then go to Item 2c
264	6%	<b>third</b> choice	
173	4%	<b>fourth</b> choice or lower	

2b. If ASU was **not** your first choice, what college/university ranked first?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

2c. In addition to ASU, did you apply for admission at each of the following types of colleges/universities? (Please indicate 'No' or 'Yes' for each option below.)

N	No	Yes	
2,648	88%	12%	Community colleges in the valley (i.e., Phoenix metro area)
2,787	51%	49%	Public universities <b>in</b> Arizona (U of A, NAU)
2,844	34%	66%	Public universities <b>outside</b> the state of Arizona
2,756	55%	45%	<b>Private</b> colleges/universities (anywhere)

3. When did you decide to come to ASU? (N = 4,116)

8%	Less than one month before I enrolled	42%	Between 2 and 5 months before I enrolled
7%	One month before I enrolled	23%	Between 6 months and 11 months before I enrolled
		19%	12 months or more before I enrolled

4. What was your family's reaction to your enrolling at ASU? (N = 4,132)

77%	Very supportive	1%	Not at all supportive	1%	Not Applicable
18%	Somewhat supportive	3%	No reaction		

5. How valuable is it to your long-term goals to graduate from ASU? (N = 4,128)

74%	Very valuable	6%	Slightly valuable
17%	Moderately valuable	3%	Not at all valuable

### Part B: Future Expectations

1. Please select the one description below you feel best represents your career plans at this time. (N = 4,116)

- 13% I have **not** made a career choice at this time and do not feel particularly concerned or worried about it.
- 21% I have **not** made a career choice, and I am concerned about it. I would like to make a decision soon and need some assistance to do so.
- 37% I have chosen a career, and although I have not investigated it or other career alternatives thoroughly, I think I would like it.
- 30% I have investigated a number of careers and have selected one. I know quite a lot about this career such as the kinds of training/education required and the outlook for jobs in the future.

2. Please indicate whether or not you plan to do each of the following.

I plan to...	N	No	Yes
a. Continue my education at ASU in spring 2000	4,094	3%	97%
b. Continue my education at ASU in fall 2000	4,052	9%	91%
c. Transfer to another college before graduating	3,984	81%	19%
d. Drop out of ASU <b>temporarily</b> (and not transfer anywhere)	4,033	97%	3%
e. Drop out of college <b>permanently</b>	4,024	99%	1%
f. Graduate from college	4,076	2%	98%
g. Graduate specifically from ASU	4,006	23%	77%
h. Continue for a Master's degree at ASU or somewhere else	4,039	23%	77%
i. Continue for a Doctorate or other professional degree at ASU or somewhere else	3,982	55%	45%

3. How long do you expect it will take you to complete your undergraduate degree? (N = 4,109)

8%	< 4 years	62%	4 years	28%	5 years	1%	6 years	1%	7 years
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4. How satisfied are you with this length of time? (N = 4,117)

24%	Very Satisfied	68%	Satisfied	7%	Dissatisfied	1%	Very Dissatisfied
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5. Of how much importance do you think each skill or knowledge area will be to your <b>success after graduation</b> ?	N	Critical	Much	Some	Little	None
a. Awareness & knowledge about human history	4,096	12%	28%	40%	15%	4%
b. Appreciation of art, music, and drama	4,101	14%	21%	32%	23%	11%
c. Ability to write clearly, correctly, and effectively	4,095	61%	28%	9%	2%	0%
d. Skills & techniques directly applicable to a job	4,088	76%	18%	4%	1%	0%
e. Awareness of different cultures & ways of life in the U.S.	4,089	24%	35%	27%	10%	3%
f. Ability to speak clearly, correctly, and efficiently	4,089	74%	20%	5%	1%	0%
g. Ability to recognize assumptions, logically infer, & reach conclusions	4,087	57%	31%	9%	2%	0%
h. Understand scientific theory and experimentation	4,086	20%	26%	32%	17%	6%
i. Ability to withhold judgment, raise questions, & examine contrary views	4,087	44%	36%	15%	4%	1%
j. Knowledge & understanding of important literature	4,087	14%	26%	35%	20%	5%
k. Knowledge & understanding of math & statistics	4,085	30%	32%	24%	11%	4%
l. Awareness of people and values outside the U.S.	4,085	21%	32%	32%	13%	3%
m. Ability to use computers	4,082	64%	25%	9%	2%	1%
n. Appreciation for community & civic involvement	4,089	19%	33%	33%	12%	3%
o. Knowledge & understanding of social sciences	4,092	18%	32%	35%	12%	3%

### Part C: Experiences at ASU

1. Thus far at ASU, how satisfied are you with each of the following?					
	N	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
a. Your academic <b>experience</b> (courses, professors)	4,101	21%	69%	9%	1%
b. Your academic <b>performance</b> (grades) in relation to your effort	4,095	12%	60%	26%	3%
c. Your <b>social</b> life/experience	4,095	27%	57%	13%	3%
d. Your <b>recreational</b> experience (SRC, intramurals)	4,075	24%	59%	14%	3%
e. Your <b>cultural</b> experience (speakers, plays, diverse people)	4,066	12%	67%	18%	3%
f. Professional development	4,059	11%	73%	15%	1%
g. <u>Overall</u> undergraduate experience	4,086	19%	72%	8%	1%
2. As a new student, how would you rate <u>the quality of academic programs</u> at Arizona State University? (N = 4,069)					
8% Among the best in the country		3% Not as good as most			
43% Better than most		46% About average		0% Among the worst in the country	
3. About my choice of academic <u>major</u> ,... (N = 4,059)					
7% I am completely undecided.					
15% Many different majors appeal to me, but I've not yet decided on one.					
31% I have examined the requirements for at least one major, but I've not made a final commitment to it yet.					
46% I have made a definite decision. (Please specify your primary major: _____)					
4. How much of your college education (tuition, books, room, board, etc.) is being paid for by each of the following? ( <u>Note</u> : The sum of all the types of assistance should approximate 100%)					
	N	All 100%	Most >50%	Some 1-50%	None 0%
a. Personal earnings/savings	3,925	4%	9%	46%	41%
b. Assistance from parents/primary caregivers	3,971	22%	30%	29%	19%
c. Assistance from other family members (e.g., spouse, siblings, grandparents)	3,836	1%	5%	14%	80%
d. Financial aid (scholarship, loan, grant)	3,941	14%	30%	20%	36%
e. Other (Please Describe) _____ (e.g., Veterans benefits, Employer tuition reimbursement)	2,948*	1%	2%	2%	95%
5. Do you believe a bachelor's degree is worth going into/extending your personal debt? (N = 4,064)					
	6% No	53% Yes	34% Unsure	7% N/A	

**Part D: Demographics**

1. With whom did you live most while attending high school? (Select ONE) (N = 4,064)  
 17% Mother only      4% Father only      76% Two parents      0% Spouse      3% Other adult(s)

2. What language did you learn to speak first? (N = 4,079)  
 85% English (only language)      7% English and another language Simultaneously      8% Other language

3. During your first year at ASU, are there individuals other than yourself who will be economically dependent upon you? (N = 4,062)  
 94% No      6% Yes

4. What was the last grade in school each of your parents completed? (Select one per parent.)

Mother	Father	
(N = 4,004)	(N = 3,986)	
1%	1%	Less than 8th grade
1%	1%	8th grade (graduate)
2%	2%	1 to 3 years of high school
17%	12%	High school graduate/GED
4%	4%	Vocational/technical training
19%	15%	Some college
10%	7%	2 year college degree (A.A.)
26%	28%	4 or 5 year undergraduate degree
19%	29%	Post-graduate degree (master's degree, doctorate, M.D., etc.)
1%	2%	Not applicable

5a. Are you employed? (N = 4,070)

N			
2,361	58%	No →	Go to Item 6
1,709	42%	Yes →	Go to Item 5b

5b. If yes, about how many hours each week, on average, do you work on and off-campus?

	N	0	less than 6	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-35	More than 35
On-campus	1,208*	70%	2%	7%	8%	7%	4%	1%
Off-campus	1,514	9%	5%	11%	15%	24%	28%	7%

5c. What is your PRIMARY reason for working during your first year at ASU. (Select ONE) (N = 1,601)

- 27% Help pay for my college education (tuition, books, etc.)
- 22% Take care of personal and/or family obligations
- 44% Earn "spending" money (movies, clothes, food, records, gas, etc.)
- 2% Gain general job experience
- 4% Gain job experience related to my anticipated major or career
- 1% Have something to do

6. Where are you living during fall semester? (N = 4,055)

- 51% On-campus housing (e.g., residence hall, fraternity house or sorority floor)
- 1% Off-campus with spouse, children, etc
- 27% Off-campus with parent(s) or other relative(s)
- 21% Off-campus with friend(s) or by self

Thank you for completing the First Year Student Survey.  
 Your responses will help improve ASU programs and services.  
 Please return the survey to your instructor.