CUSC

Canadian University Survey Consortium

CCREU



Consortium Canadien de Recherche sur les Étudiants Universitaires

2016 Survey of First Year Students

This survey is being completed by first-year students at approximately [__] Canadian universities. We want to learn more about our new students to help them make a successful transition to university.

If you cannot finish the survey in one sitting, you can close it and return to it using the link in the email we sent you. You will be returned to the page you were on when you closed.

All of your responses are confidential.

Motivation

How important were each of the following possible reasons in your decision to go to university?

		Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
motiv1	To prepare for a specific job or career				
motiv2	To satisfy my intellectual curiosity				
motiv3	To earn more money than if I didn't				
	go				
motiv4	To get a broad education				
motiv5	I am more likely to get a job with a				
	degree				
motiv6	The satisfaction of doing challenging				
	academic work				
motiv7	To apply what I will learn to make a				
	positive difference in society or my				
	community				
motiv8	I didn't have anything better to do				
motiv9	To get a more fulfilling job than I				
	probably would if I didn't go				
motiv10	To meet my family's expectations				
motiv11	Learning new things is exciting				
motiv12	Most of my friends are going				
motiv13	To meet new people				
motiv14	The chance to participate in varsity				
	athletics				
motiv15	To explore whether university is right				
	for me				
motiv16	Other reason (please specify below):				
motivtxt					
motivtop	Which one was the most important to	you?			

Α	11
Δ nn	lications
APP	iications

How many universities besides <university name=""> did you apply to?</university>						
app1	in Canada: app2 in other countries:					
арр3	Did you apply to a college or CEGEP? Yes □ No □					
app4	Is <university name=""> your first choice? Yes □ No □</university>					
[If app4	I = "No" branch to apptxt, otherwise branch to the Selection section.]					
apptxt	What was your first choice university?					

Selection

How important were each of the following in your decision to choose <university name>?

		Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
sel1	I wanted to live close to home				
sel2	I wanted to live away from home				
sel3	It offered a place in residence				
sel4	Cost of university residence				
sel5	Cost of tuition and fees				
sel6	It has the program I want to take				
sel7	The program I want has a co-op,				
	practicum or other work experience				
sel8	The program I want offers				
	study/work experience abroad				
sel9	The academic reputation of the				
	university				Ш
sel10	It has a good reputation for campus				
	life				
sel11	It offered a scholarship	Ш		Ш	Ш
sel12	It offered other financial assistance				
sel13	The size of the university suits me				
sel14	The city/town it's in				
sel15	Availability of public transportation				
sel16	It's where my friends are going				
sel17	It's where my family wanted me to				
	go				
sel18	The chance to participate in varsity athletics				
sel19	Other reason (please specify below):				
seltxt	(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	_	_	_	_
seltop	Which one was the most important to	you?			

[Students identified in the university's sample file as international/visa students will be branched to vsel1; other students will be branched to the Sources of information section.]

How important were each of the following in your decision to study at <university name>?

		Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
vsel1	Academic reputation of Canadian universities in general				
vsel2	Cost of tuition and fees for				
	international students				
vsel3	Friends or family recommended it				
vsel4	I thought it would be a welcoming				
	environment			Ш	
vsel5	Obtaining a visa for Canada was easier than for other countries				
vsel6 vseltxt	Other reason (please specify below):				

Sources of information

How important were each of the following sources of information in your decision to study at <university name>?

name>:					
		Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
inf1	Visit by a university representative to your high	important	important	important	important
	school or CEGEP				
inf2	The university's web site				
inf3	The university's Facebook site				
inf4	The university's other social media sites (e.g.,				
	Twitter, tumblr, etc.)				
inf5	Printed university brochure, pamphlet or viewbook				
inf6	Visit to campus for an open house				
inf7	Other visit to campus				
inf8	Contact with admissions staff on campus				
inf9	Contact with professors				
Inf10	Contact with university athletic coaches				
inf11	High school/CEGEP counsellors or teachers				
inf12	Students attending the university				
inf13	Friends				
inf14	Parents				
inf15	Maclean's university rankings				
inf16	Globe and Mail Canadian University Report				
inf17	The Times Higher Education World University				
	Rankings				
inf18	QS World University Rankings				
inf19	Academic Ranking of World Universities ("Shanghai				
	rankings")				
inf20	Other (please specify below:)				
inftxt					

orient1	Did you participate in an orientation program before or after arriving on campus last fall? Yes \square No \square [IF NO SKIP TO REGIST1]						
How Sat	isfied were you with each of the f	ollowing aspe Very dissatisfied	cts of the orie Somewhat dissatisfied	entation? Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Don't Know	
orient2	Feeling welcome at the university						
orient3	Helping you understand the university's academic	П	П				
orient4	expectations Helping your personal and						
orient i	social transition to university						
orient5	Providing information about campus life						
orient6	Providing information about						
orient7	student services Building your confidence						
		Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied		
regist1	How satisfied are you with the process of registering for courses at <university< td=""><td>П</td><td>П</td><td>П</td><td></td><td></td></university<>	П	П	П			
regist2	NAME>? Thinking about all the courses in which you wanted to register this year, how	П	П	Ш	Ш		
	satisfied were you with getting into these courses?						

Expectations and experience

Now that you have been at <university name> for a while, how does your experience compare to what you expected in these areas?

		Much less than I expected	Less than I expected	About what I expected	More than I expected	Much more than I expected
exp1	Cost of going to university					Ш
exp2	Debt you might have to take on to					
ovn2	complete your program					
exp3	How academically demanding your	П	П	П		
exp4	courses are The time you have to put into your	Ш				
ехр4	coursework	П		П	П	П
exp5	Contact with your professors in the					
onpo	classroom	П	П	П	П	П
exp6	Contact with your professors	_	_	_	_	_
•	outside of the classroom					
exp7	Class participation					
exp8	Writing in your academic work					
exp9	Using math in your academic work					
exp10	Doing course work in groups					
exp11	Doing course work on your own					
exp12	Intellectual stimulation					
exp13	Making friends					
exp14	Getting involved in campus social					
	activities					
exp15	The university has help and advising					
	available when I need it					
exp16	I get lost in the crowd					
exp17	Your course grades					
				- "		
exp18	Has <university name=""> exceeded,</university>	Exceeded	Met	Fallen short		
	met or fallen short of your expectations?					

Transition to university

How much success have you had adjusting to <university name> in the following areas?

		None	Very little	Some	Very much	No basis for opinion
tran1	Meeting academic demands					
tran2	Choosing a program of study					
tran3	Getting academic advice					
tran4	Performing well in written					
	assignments					
tran5	Performing well in courses that	_	_	_	_	_
	require math					
tran6	Understanding the course material					
tran7	Managing your finances					
tran8	Managing your time					
tran9	Making friends					
tran10	Becoming involved in campus activities					
tran11	Finding suitable housing					
tran12	Dealing with new living					
	arrangements					
tran13	Finding your way around campus					
tran14	Using the library					
tran15	Finding career information					
tran16	Commuting to campus					
tran18	Finding information about academic integrity (plagiarism,		_			
	proper citation, etc.)		Ш			

Professors

	Please indicate your level of agreement or	disagreement with the following statements about
,	your professors.	

	Most of my professors	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	
prof1	are reasonably accessible outside of class					
prof2	take a personal interest in my academic progress					
prof3	treat students as individuals, not just numbers					
prof4	encourage students to participate in class discussions					
prof5	are well organized in their teaching					
prof6 prof7	seem knowledgeable in their fields communicate well in their teaching					
prof8	are intellectually stimulating in their teaching					
prof9	provide useful feedback on my academic work					
prof10	provide prompt feedback on my academic work					
prof11 prof12	are fair in their grading are consistent in their grading					
	Most of my professors	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	No basis for opinion
prof13	treat students the same regardless of gender					
prof14	treat students the same regardless of race					
prof15	look out for students' interests			☐ Yes,		
		Yes, all courses	Yes, most courses	some courses	No courses	
prof16	Were you given the chance to evaluate the quality of teaching in your courses?					
	ering all of your professors and cou ement with the following statemer	•	e indicate y	our level o	of agreeme	nt or
	_	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	
prof17	Generally, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching I have received					

Staff						
Pleas	e indicate your level of agreement o	r disagreer	nent with t	he followi	ng stateme	nts.
	, -				_	No basis
		Strongly			Strongly	for
		disagree	Disagree	Agree	agree	opinion
staff1	Most teaching assistants in my					
staff2	academic program are helpful	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
Stall2	Most university support staff (e.g., clerks, secretaries, etc.) are helpful				П	П
	cierto, secretaries, etc., are neipiar					
Com	mitment to completion					
Pleas	e indicate your level of agreement o	r disagreer	nent with t	he followi	ng stateme	nts.
		Strongly			Strongly	Don't
		disagree	Disagree	Agree	agree	know
cmt1	I have the financial resources to		П		П	П
cmt2	complete my program I had adequate information about	Ш		Ш		
CITICZ	my program from the university					
	before I enrolled					
cmt3	I am in the right program for me					
cmt4	Most of my courses are	_	_	_	_	_
	interesting					
cmt5	My course load is manageable I normally go to all of my classes					
cmt7	I am willing to put a lot of effort	Ш		Ш	Ш	Ш
0	into being successful at university					
cmt8	I can deal with stress					
cmt9	I have good study habits					
cmt10	•					
cm+11	university next year		Ш		Ш	Ш
cmt11	I plan to transfer to another university next year	П	П	П	П	П
cmt12						
	year					
cmt13	, ,				_	
14.4	this university					
cmt14	A university degree is worth the					

eval11

I feel as if I belong at this university

Overall evaluation					
How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following aspects of <university name="">?</university>					
eval9	Very dissatisfied Dissatisfied Satisfied satisfied concern shown by the university for you as an individual your decision to attend this university Would you recommend <university name=""> to others? Yes No [If eval12 = "No" branch to eval12txt, otherwise branch to the Goal development section.] Why wouldn't you recommend <university name="">?</university></university>				
eval12txt					
Goal d	levelopment				
goal1	Have you chosen a major or discipline? Yes □ No □				
goal3 goal4	After you have completed your undergraduate studies do you intend to: apply to a professional program (e.g., Medicine, Law, etc.) Yes \square No \square Unsure \square apply to graduate school Yes \square No \square Unsure \square				
goal5	Which of the following best describes your career plans? I have some general ideas but I need to clarify them I have several possible careers in mind I have a specific career in mind I am unsure but I want to develop a career plan I am not thinking about a career at this stage of my studies				
goal6	How well do you know the career options your program or intended program could open for you? Very well Fairly well Only a little				

	Please indicate what steps if any you have taken to pre	pare for employment/your
	career after graduation? Check all that apply.	
goal7	Talked with professors about employment/career	
goal8	Talked with parents/family about employment/career	
goal9	Talked with friends about employment/career	
goal10	Created resume or curriculum vitae (CV)	
goal11	Created an e-portfolio (an inventory of skills, abilities and	l
	experience maintained on the web)	
goal12	Attended an employment fair	
goal13	Met with a career counsellor	
goal14	Worked in my chosen field of employment	
goal15	Volunteered in my chosen field of employment	
goal16	I have a career mentor	
goal17	None of the above	

Services

Please indicate which of the following services you have used since last September and how satisfied you are with the ones you have used.

				Satisfaction if service used				
		Used		Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	
srv1	Services for First Nations students		srv1sat					
srv2	Services for international students		srv2sat					
srv3	Services for students with disabilities		srv3sat					
srv4	University libraries: physical books, magazines, stacks		srv4sat					
srv5	University libraries: electronic resources		srv5sat					
srv6	Employment services		srv6sat					
srv7	Career counselling		srv7sat					
srv8	Personal counselling		srv8sat					
srv9	Academic advising		srv9sat					
srv10	Tutoring		srv10sat					
srv11	Study skills and learning supports		srv11sat					
srv12	Writing skills		srv12sat					
srv13	University residences		srv13sat					
srv14	Advising for students who need financial aid		srv14sat					
srv15	Financial aid		srv15sat					
srv16	Athletic facilities		srv16sat					

srv17	Othe	er recreational facilities		srv17sat				
srv18	Univ	ersity bookstores: physical	П	srv18sat		П	П	
	stor							
srv19		versity bookstores: online		srv19sat				
srv20		ntory check, ordering, etc. pus medical services	П	srv20sat	П	П	П	
srv21		op offices and supports		srv21sat				
srv22		lities for university-based social	_	srv22sat			_	
		vities			Ш	Ш	Ш	Ш
srv23	Faci	lities for student associations		srv23sat				
srv24		puting services help desk		srv24sat				
srv25		d services		srv25at				
srv26	Park	ing		srv26at				
	Acade	emic history						
	hist1	In what year did you begin yo	•	•		Year:		
	hist2	In what year did you first enro		•		/ear:		
	hist3	Have you transferred to <univ< td=""><td>versity</td><td>name> from</td><td>another p</td><td>ostsecondary i</td><td>institution?</td><td></td></univ<>	versity	name> from	another p	ostsecondary i	institution?	
	hict/	Yes No D	المصطلم				da.	
	hist4 Please choose the letter grade that best reflects your overall average grade:							
	A ☐ (includes A+, A and A-) B ☐ (includes B+, B and B-)							
		B ☐ (includes B+, B and B-) C ☐ (includes C+, C and C-)						
		D						
		F 🗆						
		· -						
	Financia							
	Emplo	oyment						
	work1	Excluding work related to a co	n-on ni	rogram are v	ou employ	red during the	current	
		academic term?	о ор рі	ogram are y	ou citipioy	ea daring the	carrent	
			Yes	, off campus				
			Yes	s, on campus				
		Yes, both off cam	pus an	d on campus				
		No, but I	am look	ing for work				
		No, and I am r	not look	ing for work				
		[If work1 = "Yes" branch to w						
	work2 On average, how many hours per week are you employed in this work?							
	work3 What impact has this employment had on your academic performance?							
	WOIKS	viriat impact has this employ		negative 🗆	acauemic p	enonnance!		
		Ço		t negative \square				
		30		No impact \square				
		Sc		at positive \square				
				y positive \square				

Finan	nces	
fin1 fin2 fin3	How many credit cards do you have? [If <> 0 branch to fin3, Do you usually pay off the whole balance every month? Yes \(\square\$ No What is the total unpaid balance on all of your cards? \$	o 🗆
fin4 fin5	Did you receive a scholarship, financial award or bursary from <un 2015-2016="" <math="" academic="" the="" year?="" yes="">\square No \square Would you have been able to attend <university name=""> without fi from <university name="">? Yes \square No \square</university></university></un>	
Living	g arrangements	
live1	Where are you currently living?	
	In on-campus housing (university residence, dorm, etc.) With parents, guardians or relatives In rented off-campus housing shared with others In rented off-campus housing on your own In a home you own	
livetxt	Other (please specify):	
	[If live1 <> "In on-campus housing" branch to live2, otherwise branch to live3]	L
live2	Would you prefer to live in on-campus housing if you had the choice? Yes \Box No \Box	
live3	What is your marital status? Single □ Married or common law □ In a relationship other than married or common law □	
live4	Do you have children? Yes ☐ No ☐ [If live4 = "Yes" branch to live5, otherwise branch to Disability section]	
live5	How many up to age 5?	
live6	How many age 5 to 11?	
live7	How many 12 or older?	

Disability							
disability Do you have any of the following disabilities? Select all that apply.							
	Is the accommodation at your						
		Do you require	univers	sity adequate?)		
		accommodation	า				
	_	for learning?		Yes Partly	No		
Mobility	dis1 🗆	acom1 yes □					
Hearing	dis2	acom2 yes □					
Speech	dis3 🗆	acom3 yes □	needs3 🗆				
Vision impairment	dis4 □	acom4 yes □	needs4 🗆				
Learning	dis5	acom5 yes □	needs5 🗆				
Head injury	dis6 □	acom6 yes □	needs6 □				
Other physical disability	dis7	acom7 yes □	needs7 □				
Attention deficit disorder	dis8 🗆	acom8 yes □	needs8 □				
Mental health	dis9 □	acom9 yes □	needs9 □				
Other (specify below:)	dis10 □	acom10 yes □	needs10□				
distxt		_					
I do not have a disability	dis11 □						
Deventel adventional a	t to in one on the						
Parental educational a	ttainment						
What is the highest level o	f aducation v	our parant/s\/gua	rdian(s) have som	nlotod2			
What is the highest level o	i education y	our parent(s)/gua	meduc	ipieteur	peduc		
			Parent/Guardian	Parent/Gu			
			1	r arcing Go	20101011		
Less than high school							
High school			_		П		
Some college, CEGEP or tech	nical school (n	o certificate or	_		_		
diploma)							
College, CEGEP or technical s							
Some university (no degree of							
Undergraduate university degree (e.g., BA, BSc, etc.)							
Professional degree (e.g., lav							
Graduate degree (e.g., Maste			_				
Other – Mother (please specify) meductxt							
Other – Father (please speci	• •	peductxt					

Don't know/Not applicable

Ethni	city	
	Are you (check all that apply)	
eth1	Aboriginal (e.g., status, non-status, Métis, Inuit)	
eth2	Arab (e.g., Saudi, Egyptian, etc.)	
eth3	Black	
eth4	Chinese	
eth5	Filipino	
eth6	Japanese	
eth7	Korean	
eth8	Latin American	
eth9	South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)	
eth10	Southeast Asian (e.g., Cambodian, Indonesian, Laotian, Vietnamese, etc.)	
eth11	West Asian (e.g., Afghan, Iranian, etc.)	
eth12	White	
eth13	Other (please specify below):	
ethtxt		
	[If eth1 = "Aboriginal" branch to ab1, otherwise branch to the Comments se	ection.]
	Which of the following describes your Aboriginal background?	
ab1	First Nations status	
ab2	First Nations non-status	
ab3	Metis	
ab4	Inuit	
ab5	Other	_
Comr	nents	

Please take this opportunity to comment fully about your overall university experience. Your remarks will provide valuable information to the institution.

negativ Looking back on your experiences as a student, what aspects of your experience at <university name> have been most negative? How could we have helped or done a better job?

positiv Looking back on your experiences as a student, what aspects of your experience at <university name> have been most positive?