



STUDENT AFFAIRS Research CENTER

Research Report / May 1999

Portrait of the Cal State Fullerton Student

There were 25,675 students at CSU Fullerton in Fall 1998.

- The average student age is **25.1 years old**. The most frequent age is 22 years old.
Source: Office of Analytical Studies, Statistical Handbook, Fall 1998
- **Fifty-nine percent** are female and 41% are male.
Source: Statistical Handbook, Fall 1998
- Students average **16.06 miles** in their one-way commute to campus. Some travel no miles and some travel as far as 75 miles one-way.
Source: Climate Survey Dec 1998
- Students average **11.84 hours** per week of study. Ten percent of the students study 20 or more hours per week.
Source: Climate Survey Dec 1998
- Students **work for wages** an average **26.85 hours** per week. Some report working as few as one hour or as many as 60 hours a week.
Source: Climate Survey Dec 1998
- Thirty-three percent of students are the **first person in their family** ever to attend college.
Source: Climate Survey Dec 1998
- Sixty-two percent of students attend **Full Time**. ("Full time" is 12 or more units for undergraduates.)
Source: Statistical Handbook, Fall 1998
- For most students, 52%, CSU Fullerton was their **first choice** of colleges to attend.
Source: Climate Survey Dec 1998
- Thirty-three percent of students respond with a "10" on a scale of 1 to 10 to the question "**I am proud to attend Cal State Fullerton.**" $M = 8.1$; $sd = 2.1$, scale of 1 to 10.
Source: Climate Survey, Dec 1998
- Students carry an average **class load of 11.4 units** (10.8 if grad students are included).
Source: Statistical Handbook, Fall 1998
- No one **ethnic group** is typical of CSU students. 39% are Anglo; 27% are Asian/Pacific Islander; 21% are Latino.
Source: Statistical Handbook, Fall 1998
- Sixty-eight percent of Students were **born in this country**. Thirty-two percent were not.
Source: Climate Survey Dec 1998

STUDENT AFFAIRS Research C E N T E R

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Student affairs research is a major priority. This research report reflects the Student Affairs commitment to a continual focus on research relating to student affairs.

The mission of the Student Affairs Research Center is to administer and support research on students, including campus climate assessment.

Upcoming Reports:

- Computer Skills Among First Time Freshmen: Climate Survey.
- Census of Computer Skills Among Student Affairs Staff Before and After Rollout.
- How Far Do Our Students Travel to Cal State Fullerton? Climate Survey.
- How Many Hours Do Our Students Study? Climate Survey.
- Portrait of the First Time Freshman
- Sense of Community at CSU Fullerton: A Test of Competing Causal Models.
- How Many Hours Do our Students Work? Climate Survey.
- Profile of CSU Fullerton Students: Campus Climate Survey

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- Just over half of students are **primarily Day** students, with 55% classifying themselves so. Seven percent are **evening students** (4 p.m. classes); six percent are **night** students, and eight percent attend both evening and night. Twenty-four percent report that they attend classes **both day and night**.
Source: Climate Survey Dec 1998
- Eighty-nine percent of students have **declared a major**. The most common major is in the School of Business Administration and Economics, 25%; next most common is a major in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, 22%.
Source: Statistical Handbook Fall 1998
- Students overall are about neutral (mode = 5) with respect to feeling a **sense of community** on this campus—On the item “I feel a sense of community on this campus,” the modal response on a scale bounded by “strongly disagree” and “strongly agree” was “Neither.” $M = 6.1$, $sd = 2.4$, on scale of 1 to 10,
Source: Climate Survey, Dec 1998
- Students perceive that they are **well treated** at Cal State Fullerton. They report that they are “treated with respect and courtesy” by instructors, $M = 8.0$, $sd = 1.9$; by other students, $M = 8.1$, $sd = 1.8$; and by our staff, $M = 7.8$, $sd = 2.1$. Scales of 1 to 10 with 1 = Strongly Disagree and 10 = Strongly Agree,
Source: Climate Survey, Dec 1998.
- Students are **happy with the class schedules** they received. $M = 7.4$, $sd = 2.4$, on scale of 1 to 10 with 1 = Strongly Disagree and 10 = Strongly Agree.
Source: Climate Survey, Dec 1998
- Students report that at CSU Fullerton they have learned how to **better relate** with people of **different cultural backgrounds**. $M = 7.0$; $sd = 2.3$ scale of 1 to 10,
Source: Climate Survey, Dec 1998
- Nine of 10 students have **access to a computer** at home. They have most experience with word processing (94%), and Internet use (93%). Eighty-eight percent have experience with e-mail. Students have least experience with database and presentation software.
Source: Climate Survey, Dec 1998
- Where do our students come from? Fifty-six percent report their **county of origin** as Orange; 27% report Los Angeles County. Other counties in California provide 12% of our students; one percent come from outside California. Four percent arrive from other countries.
Source: Statistical Handbook, Fall 1998

NOTE: Campus Climate Survey used a random sample of 538 students. Margin of error on reported percentage responses is +/- 2%.