

STUDENT AFFAIRS
Research
C E N T E R

Research Report / September 2007

Portrait of the First Time Freshman – Fall 2006

(Surveyed Spring 2007)

There were 3,859 First Time Freshman (FTF) at CSU Fullerton at the end of Fall 2006.¹ Unless otherwise stated, all charts, graphs, and bullet points are information from the 452 respondents of the FTF Experience Survey, Fall 2006.

Source: ¹Admissions and Records.

Survey Sample Comparisons

Ethnicity	Survey Respondents ²	First Time Freshmen ³
American Indian	0.2%	0.6%
Black	3.1%	5.8%
Chicano	21.9%	24.9%
Other Hispanic	6.9%	8.5%
Asian	18.6%	16.6%
Pacific Islander	0.7%	0.8%
Filipino	5.8%	5.7%
White	33.0%	27.7%
Unknown	10.0%	6.6%
Gender	Survey Respondents ²	First Time Freshmen ³
Male	27%	40%
Female	73%	60%

Sources: ² FTF Experience Survey Fall 2006 & ³ Institutional Research & Analytical Studies (Characteristics of First-Time Freshmen and New Undergraduate Transfers, Fall 2006).

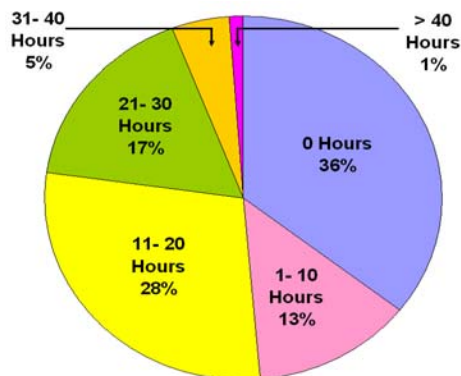
- ◆ 98% of the FTF respondents were 18 years or older and 2% were under 18 at the time of survey completion.
- ◆ 92% are US citizens.
- ◆ 44% reported that their father had "graduated from college" and 43% reported their mother had "graduated from college."
- ◆ 86% indicated they were "Day" Students (8AM - 4PM), 2% were "Evening" Students (4PM - 7PM), 1% were "Night" Students (7PM - 10PM), 1% were "Evening and Night" Students (4PM - 10PM), and 10% attended class during all periods.

- ◆ 44% of FTF respondents spent between 0 – 10 hours studying during a typical week, 33% spent 11 – 20 hours, and 14% spent 21 – 30 hours.

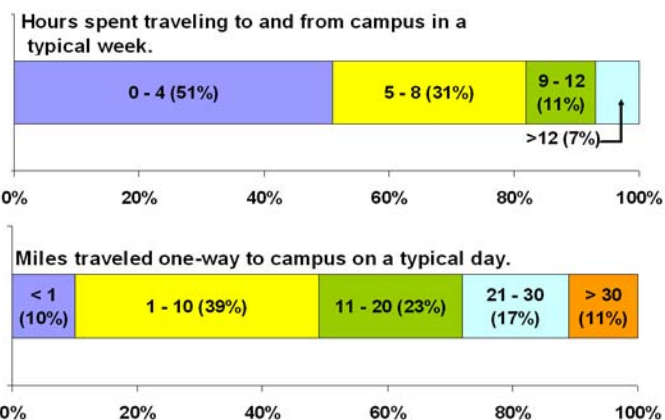
According to Institutional Research and Analytical Studies, 97% of all FTF attended CSUF as "Full Time" students during Fall 2006.⁴

Source: ⁴ Student Profile At-A-Glance, Fall 2006. ("Full Time" is defined as 12 units or more).

Hours Worked for Wages by FTF Respondents

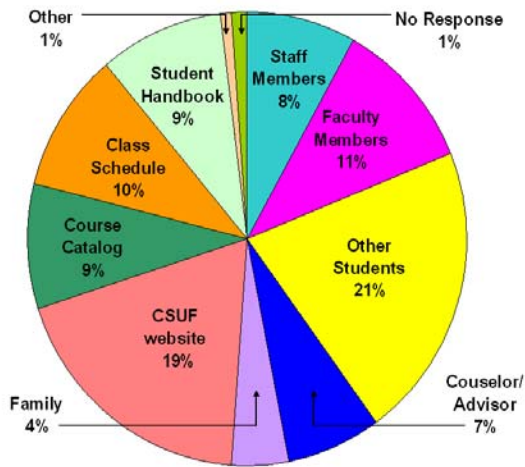


FTF Respondents Who Are Commuters



- ◆ 39% of FTF respondents have their parents pay for all of their college education, 21% pay for their college education completely on their own, and 40% of FTF share the costs of tuition with their parents.
- ◆ 49% found that they worked harder than expected in order to meet the standards and expectations of their professor / instructor (34% felt that often and 15% very often).
- ◆ 44% found that they worked harder than they were capable of working in order to meet the standards and expectations of their professor / instructor (29% felt that often and 15% very often).
- ◆ 62% speak English exclusively at home and 1% speak a language other than English consistently at home.

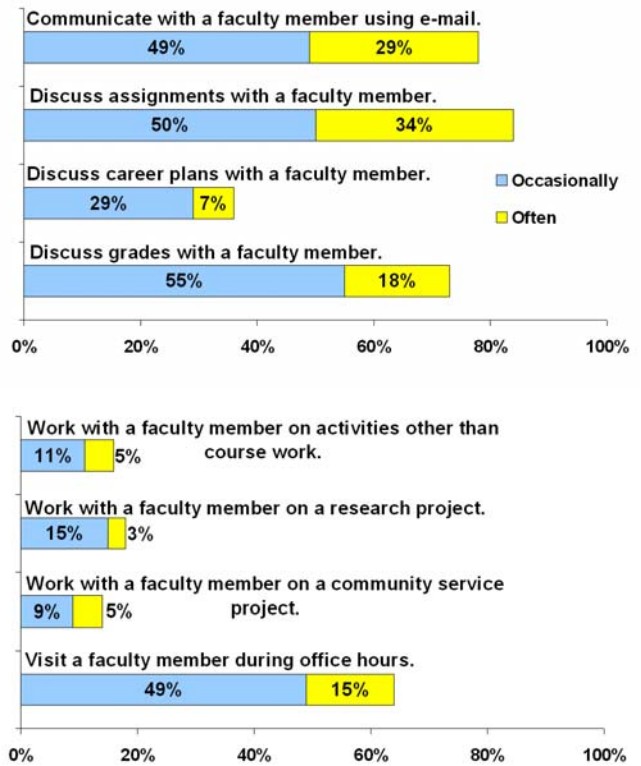
Source of Information About How Things Work at Cal State Fullerton As Indicated by FTF Respondents



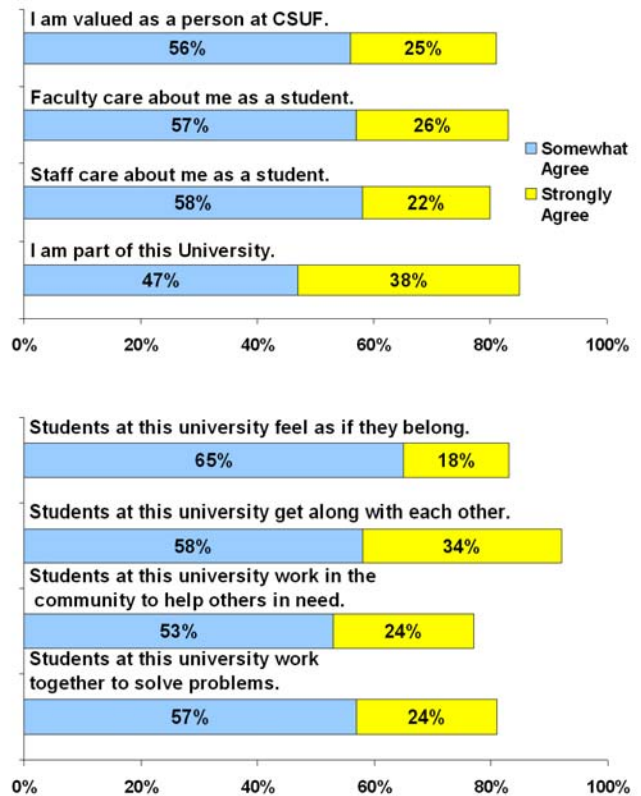
College Distribution Among FTF Respondents

Colleges of declared majors	Percentage
Arts	11%
Business & Economics	20%
Communication	8%
Education	4%
Engineering & Computer Science	5%
Health & Human Development	7%
Humanities & Social Sciences	19%
Natural Sciences & Mathematics	9%
Undeclared	17%

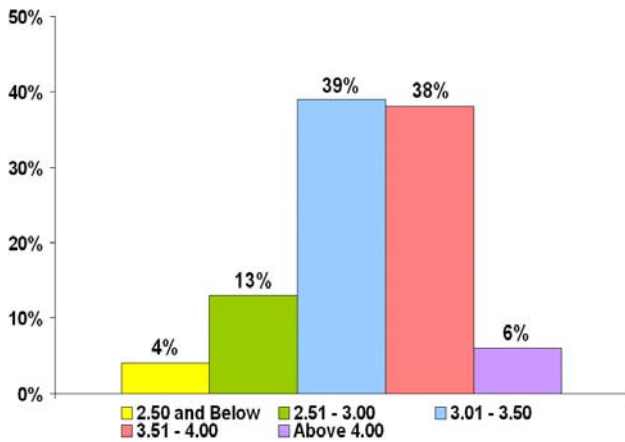
Faculty/Student Interaction Among FTF Respondents



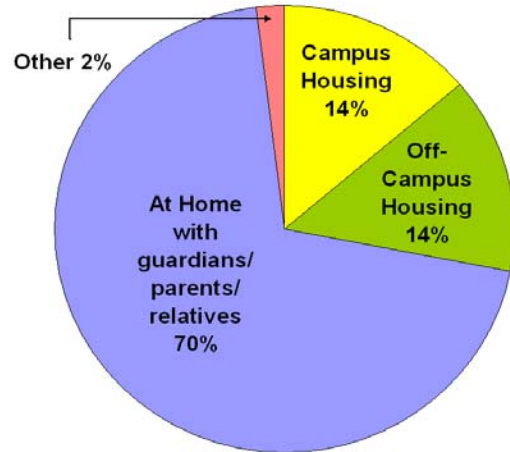
Perception of CSUF by FTF Respondents



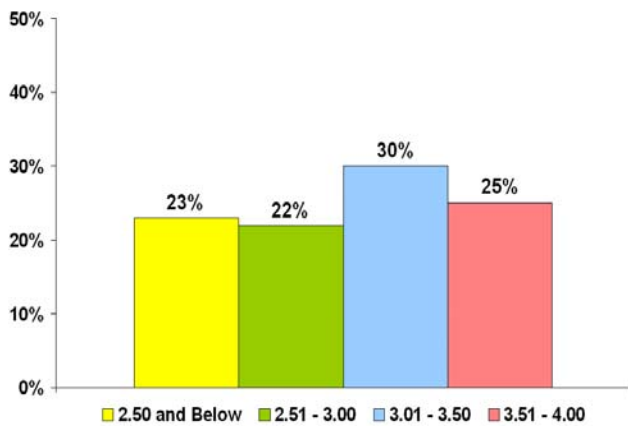
High School GPA Reported by FTF Respondents



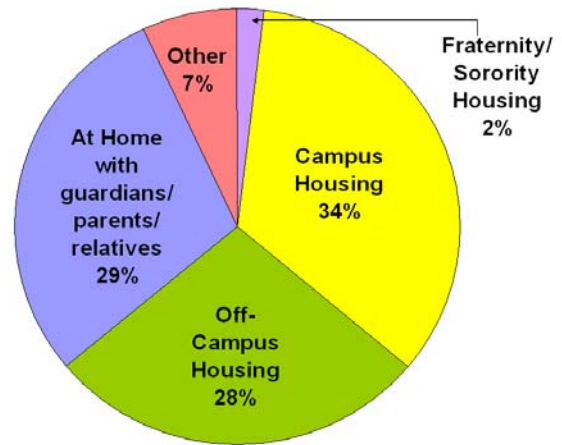
Living Situations of FTF Respondents



CSUF GPA Reported by FTF Respondents

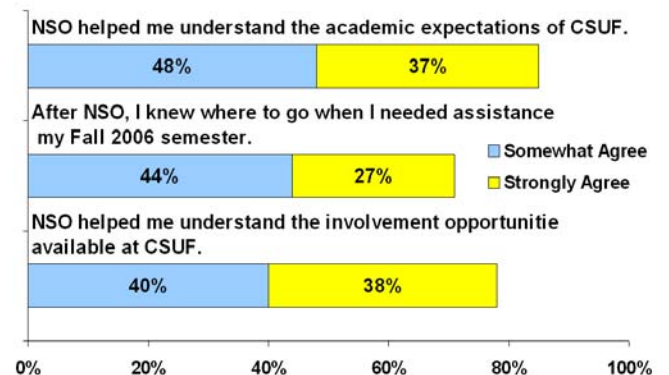


Preferred Living Situations of FTF Respondents



- ◆ 53% of FTF respondents plan to apply for an internship, practicum, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment while enrolled at Cal State Fullerton (32% are undecided).
- ◆ 24% plan to study abroad while enrolled at Cal State Fullerton (46% are undecided).
- ◆ 14% have enrolled in a Service Learning course where the instructor integrates community service with academic coursework.
- ◆ 66% used an electronic medium to discuss or complete an assignment during the school year (28% Often and 38% Very Often).

Perception of the New Student Orientation (NSO)* by FTF Respondents



*NSO was held for FTF the summer preceding the Fall 2006 semester.

- ◆ 48% of FTF respondents indicated that Cal State Fullerton was their first choice of colleges to attend.
- ◆ 92% were “proud to attend Cal State Fullerton” (31% Somewhat agree and 61% Strongly agree).
- ◆ 67% “feel a sense of community on this campus” (39% Somewhat agree and 28% Strongly agree).
- ◆ 83% indicated that their experience at Cal State Fullerton has increased their “appreciation and understanding of people from different cultural backgrounds” (52% Somewhat agree and 31% Strongly agree).
- ◆ 47% asked questions during class (31% Often and 16% Very Often).
- ◆ 57% participated in classroom discussions (36% Often and 21% Very Often).
- ◆ 84% were satisfied with the registration process at Cal State Fullerton (49% Somewhat agree and 35% Strongly agree).

End Note-

During the Spring 2007 semester, the Student Affairs Research Center conducted a web-based survey through an online survey software called Zoomerang. Four hundred and fifty two (452) First Time Freshmen responded to the First Time Freshman Experience Survey Fall 2006. The survey consisted of questions that address the formal and informal environment in which students interact with faculty, staff, and other students, including how they learn, live, and conduct their curricular (i.e. academic) as well as co-curricular (non-academic) activities both inside and outside the classroom setting. The response rate of FTF was 2% greater this year compared to the Fall 2005 FTF.

Student Affairs research is a major priority. This 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 coordinate studies of the student population using various surveys, such as the First Time Freshman Experience Survey, and to coordinate support of the Student Affairs directors and staff who conduct evaluation and assessment of their services and/or programs.

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