

TABLE 4
SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS AND EXPECTATIONS
OF FIRST YEAR FRESHMEN

	1996	1997	1998
General Background			
% who are first generation students	58%	65%	61%
% who come from homes within 100 miles of ISU	58%	65%	66%
% who expect to be commuting to campus	29%	40%	32%
% who are a minority or an international student	12%	14%	13%
Academic Preparedness			
% rating high school education above average	69%	65%	64%
% in upper 25% of high school class*	31%	38%	27%
% in bottom 50% of high school class*	34%	41%	40%
Average high school GPA	2.84	2.86	2.83
% who decided to attend college by the time they were freshmen in high school	78%	83%	82%
Attraction to ISU			
% applying only to ISU**	40%	53%*	40%
% applying to one other school**	25%	25%	28%
% indicating ISU as first choice	71%	75%	71%
% freshmen who foresee little to no chance of transferring	68%	68%	69%
Expectations			
% planning to work during the upcoming academic year	70%	80%	75%
% expecting to achieve at least a 3.00 GPA in their first semester	45%	52%	48%
% expecting to have a car on campus	69%	75%	77%
Reasons for attending ISU: **			
% indicating low cost	72%	88%	86%
% indicating academic reputation of department in major area	66%	84%	83%
% indicating quality of faculty	66%	83%	84%
% indicating financial aid	62%	76%	73%
% aspiring to gain Bachelor's degree	45%	44%	46%
% aspiring to gain Associate degree	6%	5%	3%
% aspiring to gain graduate degree or post-graduate degree	47%	51%	50%

* Data based on 91% incoming freshman class (1,918), not entire freshman class (2,104)

** These questions were revised in Fall 1997, causing the percentage to appear higher in 1997 and 1998 than in 1996