

College of Arts & Sciences

The Freshman Profile, Fall 2003

NOTE: DUE TO SMALL SAMPLE SIZES, SOME STATISTICS MAY NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR ANALYTICAL PURPOSES.

The survey instrument administered to Fall 2003 Freshman Sycamore Advantage participants was the same one administered to the previous Freshman class. A separate report provides a profile of the entire Fall 2003 Freshman cohort. The purpose of this report is to provide a profile of freshmen enrolled in the College of Arts & Sciences (A&S). The following results are based on the 504 freshmen in Arts & Sciences who went through Sycamore Advantage in June and August 2003. These students represent 25.0% of the 2,016 new freshmen and 31.2% of the Freshman Profile respondent pool.

| Age | 2003 | 2002 |
|-------------------|-------|-------|
| % age 17-19 | 97.0% | 96.5% |
| % age 20-25 | 2.4% | 3.1% |
| % age 26-30 | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| % age 31-35 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| % age 36 and over | 0.2% | 0.0% |

| Graduated from High School | 2003 | 2002 |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|
| This year | 95.4% | 93.8% |
| Last year | 2.4% | 4.0% |
| Two years ago | 0.6% | 0.2% |
| Three years ago | 0.6% | 0.4% |
| Four or more years ago | 1.0% | 1.5% |

| 58.3% of Fall 2003 A & S freshmen are women | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| Racial Background | 2003 | 2002 |
| Black or African American | 8.5% | 12.0% |
| Native American | 0.8% | 0.0% |
| Caucasian | 88.3% | 84.0% |
| International | 0.6% | 0.7% |
| Hispanic | 0.8% | 1.3% |
| Asian American/Pacific Islander | 0.4% | 0.7% |
| Multiracial | 0.6% | 1.3% |

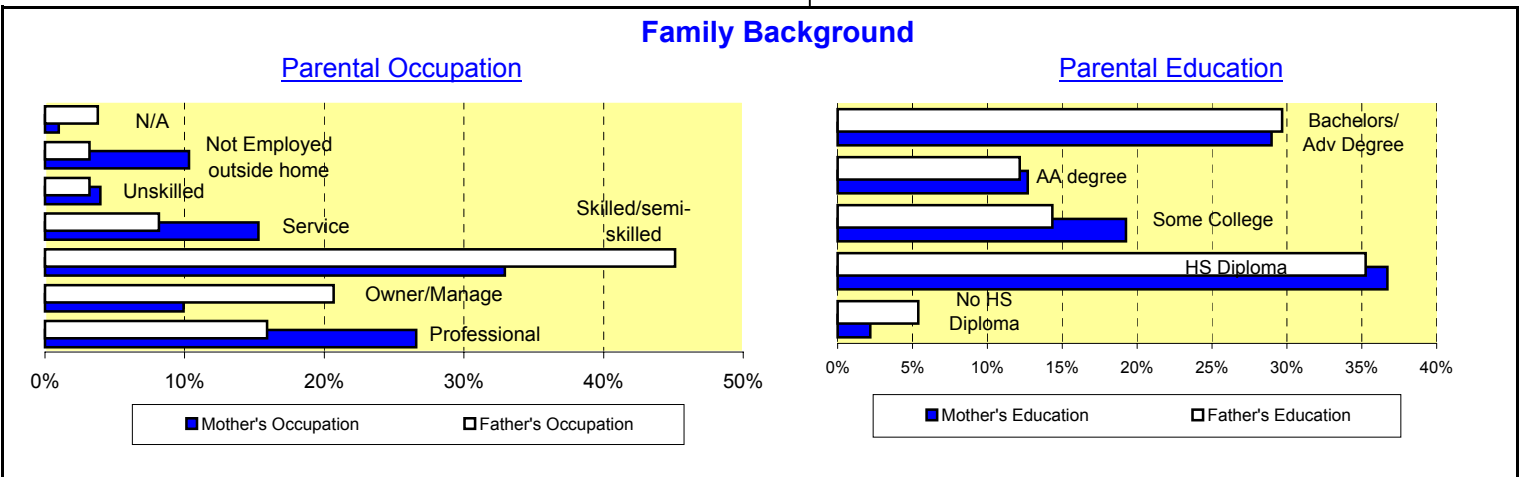
| Estimated Family Income | 2003 | 2002 |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| Under \$25,000 | 13.6% | 15.6% |
| between \$25,000 & \$39,999 | 19.1% | 19.4% |
| between \$40,000 & \$59,999 | 21.1% | 26.9% |
| between \$60,000 & \$79,999 | 26.2% | 19.4% |
| Between \$80,000 & \$99,999 | 12.6% | 9.9% |
| \$100,000 or more | 7.3% | 8.8% |

| Area Lived In During High School | 2003 | 2002 |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Rural area | 23.3% | 24.3% |
| Small town | 36.6% | 35.7% |
| Moderate city | 23.3% | 21.9% |
| Large city | 5.2% | 6.4% |
| Suburban area outside city | 11.7% | 11.6% |

| Are You the First of the Children in Your Family Going to College? | 2003 | 2002 |
|--|-------|-------|
| I am the only child | 7.5% | 8.8% |
| Yes, and I am the oldest | 33.9% | 33.0% |
| Yes, but I am not the oldest | 11.5% | 14.9% |
| No | 47.0% | 43.3% |

54.8% : somewhat concerned about paying for college
24.0% : greatly concerned about paying for college

| How Much Time Do You Spend Commuting from Your Home to ISU (one way)? | 2003 | 2002 |
|---|-------|-------|
| Live on campus | 72.9% | 70.9% |
| 5 -30 minutes | 20.9% | 21.9% |
| More than 30 minutes | 6.2% | 7.3% |



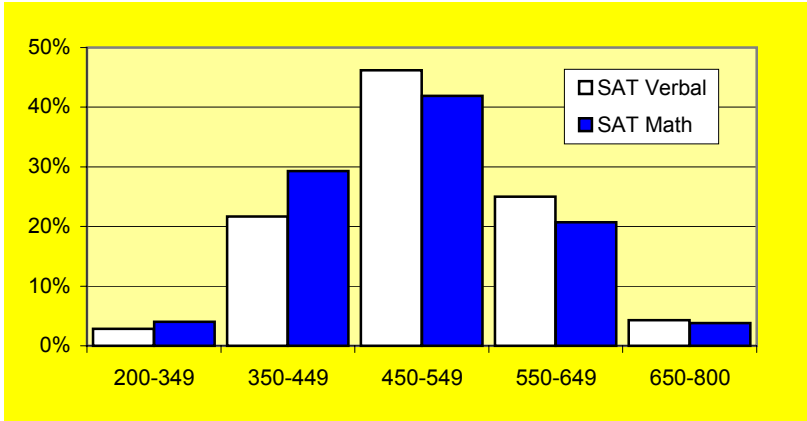
Family Ties to ISU Students

17% : Parents attended ISU
30% : Other close relative attended ISU
40% : Either parent or relative attended ISU

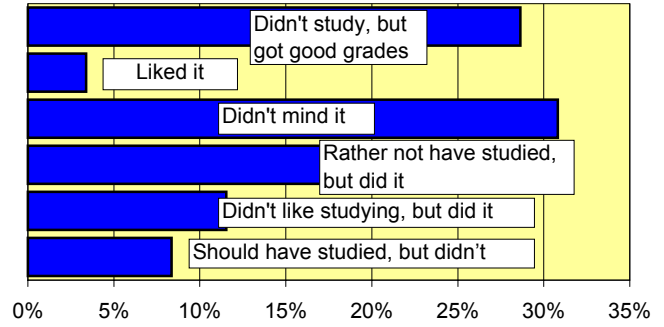
12% : Parents graduated from ISU
17% : Close relative graduated from ISU
25% : Either parent or relative graduated from ISU

Academics

Recentered Verbal & Math SAT Scores



Attitudes Toward Studying in High School



Which Academic Area Will Be Most Difficult for You?

| | 2003 | 2002 |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Communication (speech) | 7.6% | 10.0% |
| English Composition | 13.5% | 16.1% |
| Lab sciences (e.g. biology) | 17.3% | 19.0% |
| Mathematics | 50.0% | 46.9% |
| Others (e.g. art, economics, etc) | 11.6% | 8.1% |

Academic Indicators

| | SAT SCORES | | | HS GPA |
|------|------------|----------|-----------|--------|
| | Avg Verbal | Avg Math | Total Avg | Avg |
| 2003 | 503 | 488 | 991 | 3.09 |
| 2002 | 496 | 480 | 976 | 3.03 |

69.4% of A & S respondents ranked their high school as being above average.

71.9% of A & S freshmen predicted that their first year GPA would be B or better.

| High School Attitudes: | Strongly Agree/Agree | | Strongly Agree/Agree | |
|--|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 |
| I did well in a variety of subjects | 84.8% | 84.8% | 37.4% | 41.0% |
| I was interested in many subjects | 63.8% | 63.4% | 37.3% | 32.3% |
| I learned a lot from doing class assignments | 65.7% | 70.8% | 52.7% | 49.6% |
| I enjoyed participating in social activities | 74.9% | 75.8% | 70.1% | 70.0% |
| I only tried hard in my favorite classes | | | 37.4% | 41.0% |
| I was only good at one or two subjects | | | 37.3% | 32.3% |
| A lot of what I learned in school can be applied to the real world | | | 52.7% | 49.6% |
| I liked being in high school | | | 70.1% | 70.0% |

| | 2003 | 2002 |
|--|-------|-------|
| (Percent Responding "Often"/"Very Often") | | |
| In high school, how often could personal experiences confirm or verify ideas presented in class? | 46.8% | 51.5% |
| During high school, how often did you feel "stressed" or overwhelmed by all your responsibilities? | 43.0% | 39.1% |
| How often have you been in a leadership role in a class group, or a school or community activity? | 53.3% | 55.7% |

High School Time Allotment

In a typical week during your senior year, how many hours did you spend...

| | % of Respondents Indicating Hours Spent | | | | | 2002 |
|---|---|------|------|-------|------|---------|
| | LT 1 | 1-5 | 6-10 | 11-15 | 16+ | 0-5 hrs |
| Studying or preparing for class on own | 17.7 | 56.3 | 18.3 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 76.8 |
| Studying or preparing for class with students | 51.8 | 41.0 | 6.0 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 93.0 |
| Socializing with friends | 2.2 | 18.9 | 30.2 | 21.9 | 26.8 | 22.1 |
| Working at a job for pay | 26.1 | 6.8 | 13.5 | 16.3 | 37.3 | 31.9 |
| Exercising or playing sports | 23.9 | 25.4 | 16.3 | 14.5 | 19.9 | 49.6 |
| Using computer/internet for recreation | 20.3 | 43.6 | 19.5 | 8.0 | 8.6 | 68.4 |
| Playing video games or watching T.V. | 21.9 | 48.1 | 19.1 | 6.6 | 4.4 | 67.1 |
| Participating in community activities | 38.8 | 41.0 | 13.7 | 4.4 | 2.0 | 82.1 |

High School Learning Experiences

| | 2003 | | 2002 |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| | A Lot or Higher | Little/none or nothing | A Lot or Higher |
| Percent of students reporting amount learned in high school by: | | | |
| Talking and working with high school teachers | 56.1% | 8.7% | 59.9% |
| Interacting with student groups | 31.4% | 23.1% | 32.7% |
| Percent of students reporting how much they enjoyed learning in student groups | 41.6% | 21.9% | 42.1% |
| Percent of students indicating how much effort they put into high school work | 45.6% | 15.4% | 46.5% |
| Percent of students indicating time spent planning for future during last year of H.S. | 51.1% | 10.1% | 56.3% |

Student Confidence

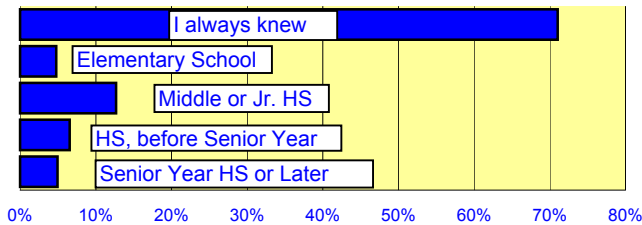
Student Confidence in Their Ability To:

| | Very Good/ or Good | Not Very/ Not Good | Very Good/Good Chg over 2002 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Understand and respect cultures and attitudes of others | 88.4% | 1.2% | -1.5% |
| Use computers or the internet for school work or research | 83.0% | 3.4% | 3.0% |
| Work with others on projects | 78.8% | 2.6% | 3.3% |
| Evaluate opposing options or viewpoints | 72.3% | 2.0% | -5.3% |
| Effectively plan and manage your responsibilities | 68.2% | 5.0% | 5.4% |
| Find new ways to think about problems or topics | 67.1% | 2.0% | -2.0% |
| Effectively communicate your ideas in writing | 60.9% | 9.8% | -2.3% |
| Effectively communicate your ideas by speaking | 57.4% | 10.8% | -3.1% |
| Organize, prioritize, and plan your time | 50.3% | 12.4% | 0.2% |
| Intelligently discuss politics or current world events | 44.7% | 21.0% | -3.0% |
| Solve complex problems | 42.2% | 12.8% | -2.1% |

NOTE: Good and Not Good columns do not add up to 100% because a "Neutral" option was offered.

Getting to College

% Indicating When They Decided to Attend College

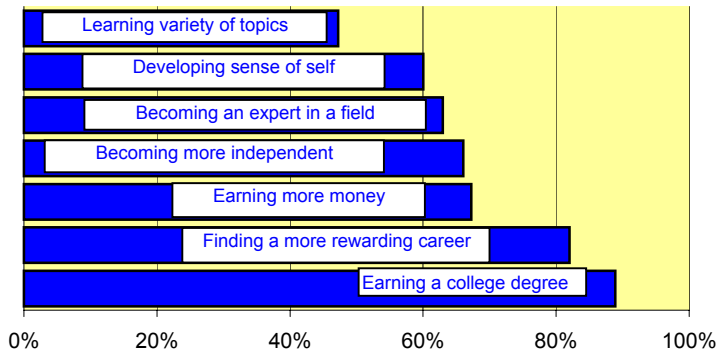


Financial Preparation: Student Perceptions of When Parents Began Saving for College

| | 2003 | 2002 |
|---|-------|-------|
| Before student entered high school | 16.1% | 17.9% |
| During H.S. or later | 6.3% | 6.2% |
| Don't know when they started saving | 29.0% | 23.6% |
| Don't know if they saved | 17.1% | 18.3% |
| Parents didn't save, but are contributing | 21.2% | 21.2% |
| Does not apply | 10.3% | 12.8% |

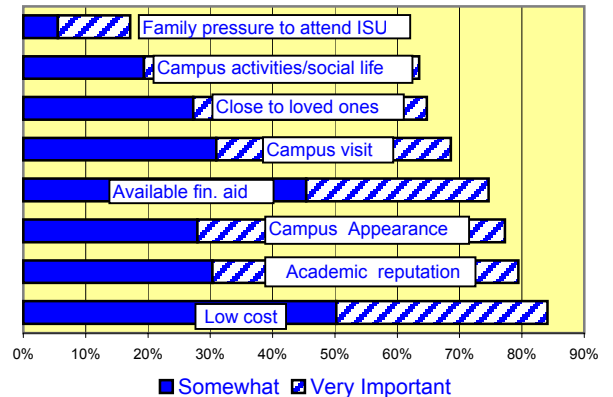
The College Decision

% of respondents indicating factors are a **very important** reason for deciding to go to college



The ISU Decision: Top Reasons for Deciding on ISU

% of respondents indicating somewhat or very important



67% of freshmen indicate most of their close friends from high school are attending college this year

14% of ISU freshman applied to institutions outside of Indiana

48% indicate that 2 or more of their close friends are attending Indiana State this year

72% of freshmen indicate that their family is very supportive of their decision to attend ISU

Top Choices of A&S Freshmen % Applied

| Institution | % Applied |
|----------------------|-----------|
| ISU | 68.3% |
| IU | 8.7% |
| Ball State | 4.6% |
| Non-Indiana Schools | 7.1% |
| IN Privates | 5.7% |
| Purdue | 3.2% |
| Other Hoosier 4-year | 2.1% |

Closer Look: About **49%** of A&S freshmen applied to other schools. About **14%** applied to schools outside Indiana. IU remains ISU's greatest competitor in terms of applicants, with about 19% sending applications to both schools, followed by Ball State, Non-Indiana schools. IU was also second in being considered the first choice of A&S students who applied. IU rose to the primary first choice institution for A&S freshmen after ISU this year.

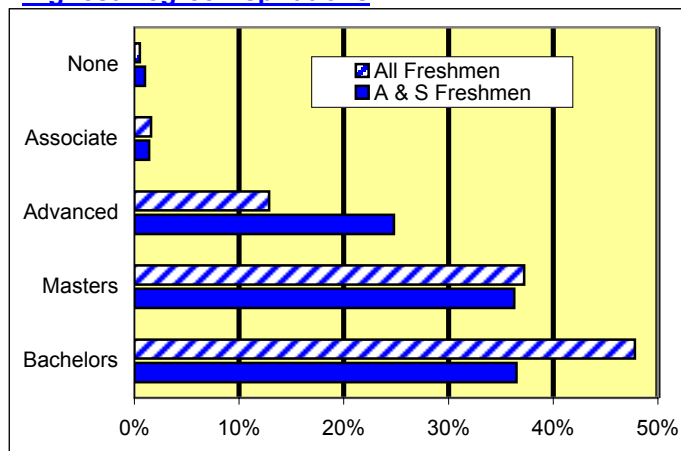
College Expectations

Academic Expectations

I expect college to help me improve my ability to:

| | % Agree | |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | A&S Freshmen | All Freshmen |
| Find new ways to think about problems | 91.7% | 90.0% |
| Organize, prioritize, and plan my time | 90.0% | 88.0% |
| Evaluate opposing points of view | 88.6% | 86.0% |
| Effectively plan and manage my responsibilities | 88.2% | 87.2% |
| Understand and appreciate other cultures | 88.2% | 85.5% |
| Effectively communicate my ideas in writing | 87.4% | 83.3% |
| Solve complex problems | 87.2% | 82.3% |
| Effectively communicate my ideas by speaking | 86.4% | 85.7% |
| Work with others on projects | 82.1% | 81.0% |
| Intelligently discuss politics or current events | 77.8% | 73.8% |
| Use computers or the internet | 75.6% | 76.7% |

Highest Degree Aspirations



Time Allocation Expectations

Hours Students Expect to Spend During their First Year of College:

| | | | | | | 2002 | |
|---|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 0-5 hrs | 6-10 hrs | 11-15 hrs | 16-20 hrs | 20+ hrs | 0-5 hrs | 20+ hrs |
| Studying, researching, doing homework | 5.9% | 24.1% | 23.3% | 21.5% | 25.2% | 3.4% | 32.9% |
| Meeting with students to prep for class | 58.3% | 30.6% | 9.1% | 1.2% | 0.8% | 61.3% | 1.2% |
| Meeting with professors or instructors to discuss preparing for class | 76.1% | 17.8% | 3.6% | 1.8% | 0.6% | 76.6% | 1.2% |
| Going to campus events | 58.7% | 28.9% | 7.5% | 2.4% | 2.4% | 63.7% | 1.7% |
| Participating in campus organizations | 66.6% | 21.8% | 8.4% | 1.6% | 1.6% | 66.6% | 2.0% |
| Socializing with: | | | | | | | |
| friends who are ISU students | 24.5% | 29.6% | 24.7% | 11.3% | 9.9% | 27.8% | 10.2% |
| friends who are <u>not</u> ISU students | 55.7% | 25.3% | 9.9% | 4.3% | 4.9% | 59.4% | 3.7% |
| Using a computer/internet for recreation | 56.7% | 23.3% | 11.5% | 5.5% | 3.0% | 65.0% | 2.9% |
| Playing video games or watching T.V. | 76.8% | 16.7% | 4.5% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 79.0% | 0.2% |
| Participating in sports or exercising | 54.7% | 27.4% | 9.1% | 3.7% | 5.1% | 54.1% | 1.7% |
| Participating in community activities | 82.3% | 12.4% | 4.3% | 0.6% | 0.4% | 86.2% | 0.5% |
| Working: | | | | | | | |
| in an off-campus job | 54.8% | 14.1% | 14.7% | 9.6% | 6.9% | 59.8% | 9.0% |
| in an on-campus job | 63.2% | 19.0% | 11.1% | 5.3% | 1.4% | 61.3% | 1.4% |

Expectations That There is Some Chance of the Following Happening at ISU

| | 2003 A&S | 2003 All Freshmen | | 2003 A&S | 2003 All Freshmen |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|---|----------|-------------------|
| Join a fraternity or sorority | 44.7% | 50.5% | Transfer to another college | 33.4% | 33.3% |
| Fail one or more classes | 11.0% | 10.2% | Drop out permanently | 1.8% | 2.9% |
| Get tutoring help | 75.7% | 82.7% | Be satisfied with your college | 98.4% | 97.7% |
| Need extra time to complete degree | 46.2% | 50.7% | Be gainfully employed during first year | 84.9% | 82.7% |
| Graduate with honors | 63.5% | 65.5% | | | |



Office of Strategic Planning,
Institutional Research and Effectiveness

Should you have any comments or questions regarding this material, please contact us at x2305.