

Using Surveys as Student Success Interventions

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- * Help students to find their academic home as early as possible--their appropriate major, a major that matches their interests, abilities, and goals.
- * Provide students with a clear path to success--timely graduation in their appropriate major.
- * Give students immediate feedback and support if they get off their path to success.
- * Remove barriers and add supports for students as they progress on their path to success.
- * Reach out to students proactively with guidance and not wait for them to contact us.

Students who changed majors were more likely to be retained after first year

- * 96% of FTICs who switched majors were active a year later, while only 92% of those who did not switch were active ($p < .05$).

Switched Majors After Starting FIU?	Status				Grand Total
	Active	Completed	Discontinued	Dismissed	
No	92%	0%	6%	1%	100%
Yes	96%	0%	3%	1%	100%
Grand Total	94%	0%	5%	1%	100%

Students who changed majors were more likely to be retained after first year

- * 97% of AA Transfers who switched majors were still active a year later, while only 10% of those who did not switch were no longer enrolled ($p < .05$).

Switched Majors After Starting FIU?	Status				Grand Total
	Active	Completed	Discontinued	Dismissed	
No	86%	4%	10%	0%	100%
Yes	97%	0%	2%	0%	100%
Grand Total	92%	2%	6%	0%	100%

Using Surveys as Student Success Interventions

What techniques can we use to encourage students toward successful academic pathways?

- * Desired results are that students will:
 - * Consider fit-of-major
 - * Make changes if needed
 - * Assess study habits
 - * Make changes if needed
 - * Consult academic advisors

Using Surveys as Student Success Interventions

- * Surveys are efficient means of outreach that can be used to:
 - * Share information
 - * Facilitate self-assessment
 - * Promote views
 - * Encourage action
 - * *AND* identify students who need more help

Push-polling used to affect voting behavior

Push-polling:

- * A tactic used to implant negative, and often untrue, messages about a political opponent

Would you be less likely to vote for Candidate A if you knew he had an affair with his secretary while his wife was in the hospital?

Surveys used to share information and encourage self-assessment

The following are some ways to conserve energy. Please check any that you currently do:

- turning off lights
- unplugging cell phone chargers
- turning off or hibernating your computer
- turning off unused power strips
- turning off water while brushing teeth
- limiting the amount of time spent showering

Surveys used to promote views and encourage action

If you consider yourself green or if you are going green, what is the #1 reason why?

- Health
- Future Generations
- Concern for the Environment (global warming, pollution, etc.)
- Save wildlife
- National security (reduce dependence on foreign oil etc.)
- Right thing to do
- Save money

Major Satisfaction Survey

- * To stimulate students' self-assessment of their fit-of-major:
 - * How students felt about their academic performance
 - * How they felt about courses taken for their major
 - * How the courses made them feel about their major
 - * How they feel about the major they chose

Major Satisfaction Survey

Survey questions project the view that students should assess the fit of their chosen major ...

- *by considering their academic performance*
 - * Indicator of fit-of-major to skill and preparation
- *and how they felt about the courses required for their major*
 - * Indicator of fit-of-major to interests and goals

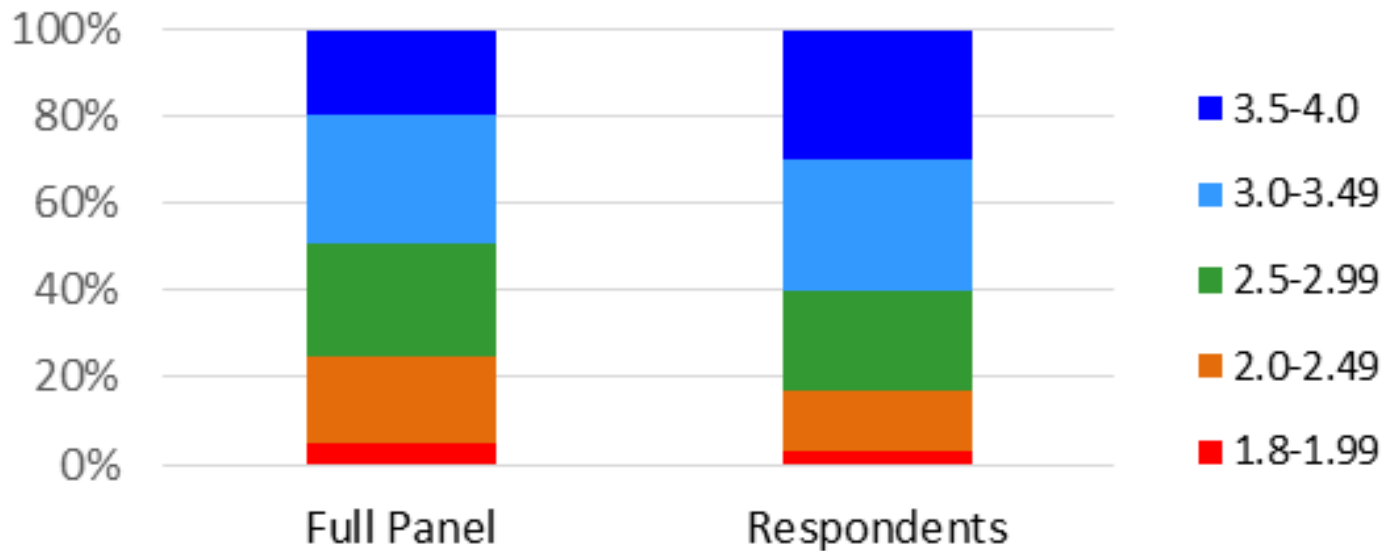
Major Satisfaction Survey

How did things go at FIU this year? We want to know!
Was your major the perfect choice? Or do you need some help revising your plan?

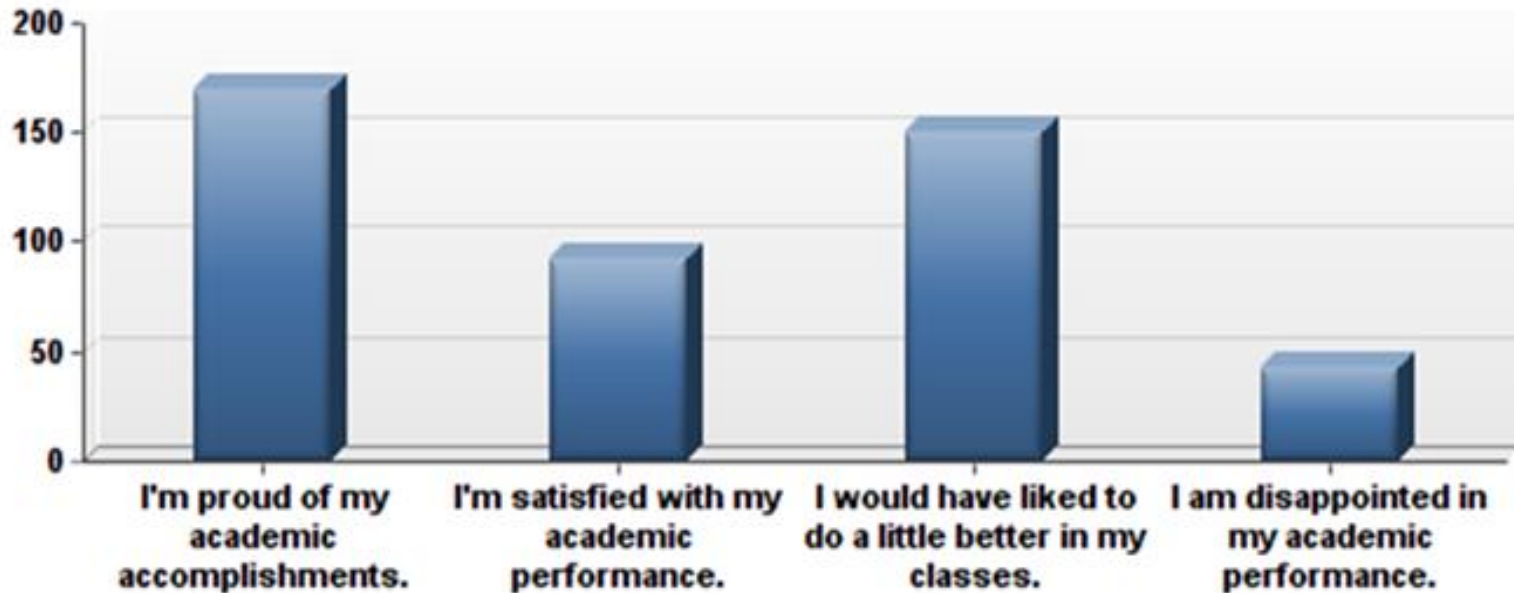
The summer is a great time to reflect on your progress and plan for the next academic year. In this brief survey we want to learn about your academic journey so far and how you feel about the major you chose to begin your career at FIU. This survey will take you just a few minutes, but your response might help us to keep you and other FIU students progressing toward graduation.

Freshmen, Sophomores, & First-year Transfers

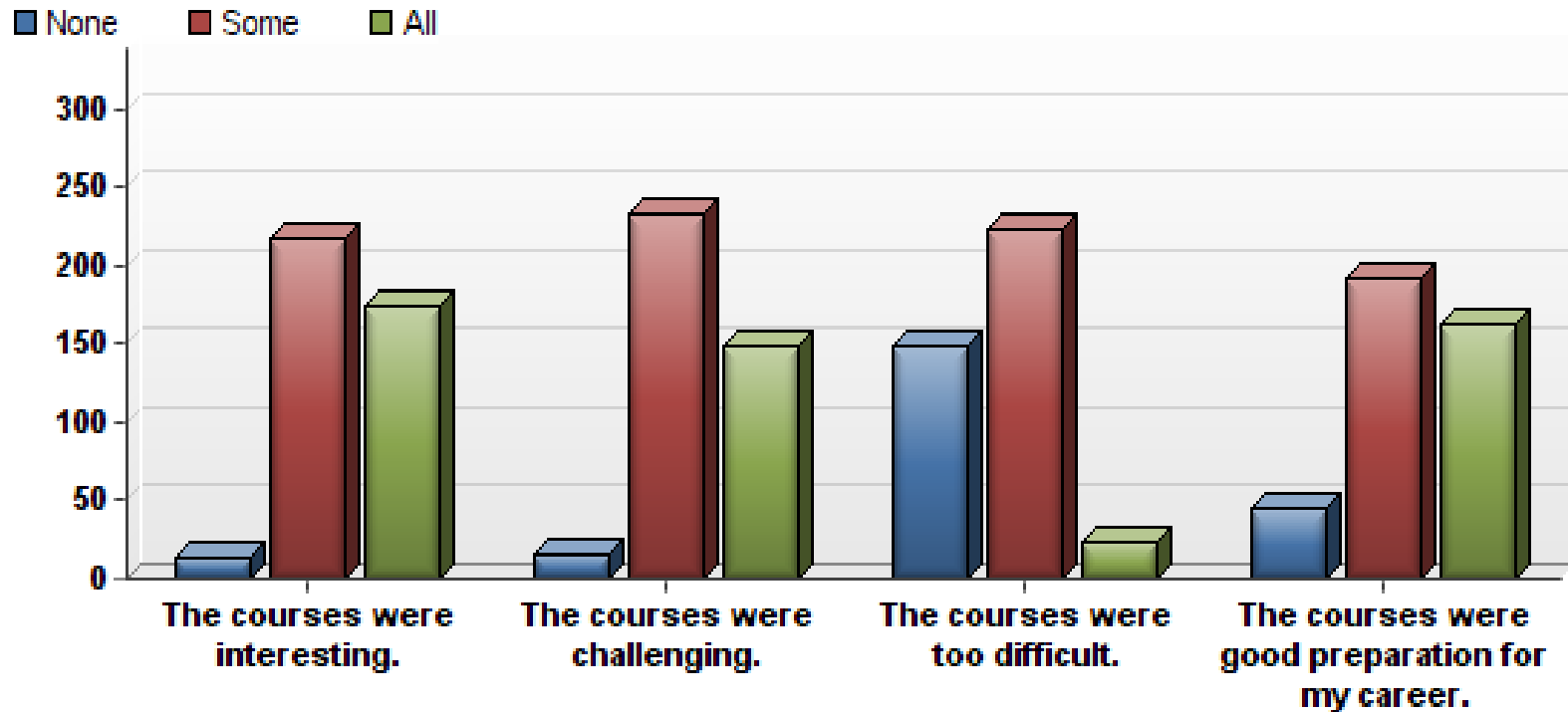
GPA's of Full Panel vs. Respondents



How do you feel about your overall academic performance over the last year?



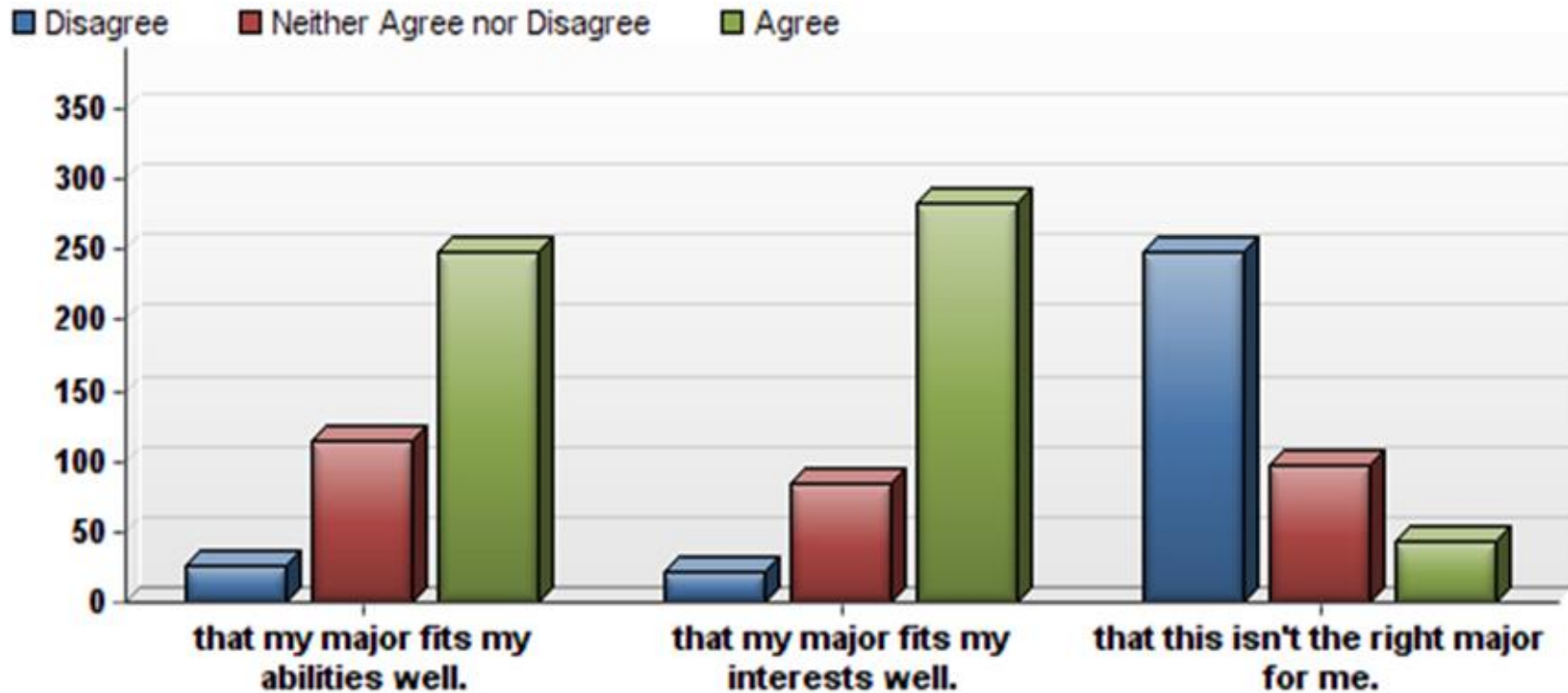
How did you feel about the courses you took for your major?



The courses I've taken for major so far make me feel:

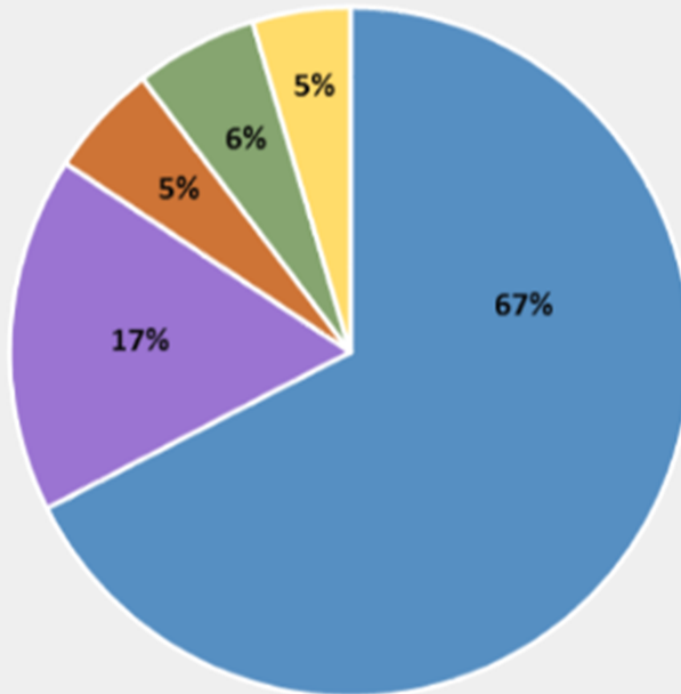


The courses I've taken for major so far make me feel:



How do you feel about your major?

How do you feel about the major you selected?



- I'm happy with my chosen major.
- I'm not sure. I might change my major.
- I want to change my major, but I haven't decided on a new major yet.
- I chose a new major, but I haven't officially changed it yet.
- I have already changed my major.

Many students are unsure about their majors

- * *“I don’t feel confident of the major I chose. I still need more time to think about it.”*
- * *“I need help choosing a major.”*
- * *“I would like to know if there’s anything that will help me in fully deciding what my major should really be.”*

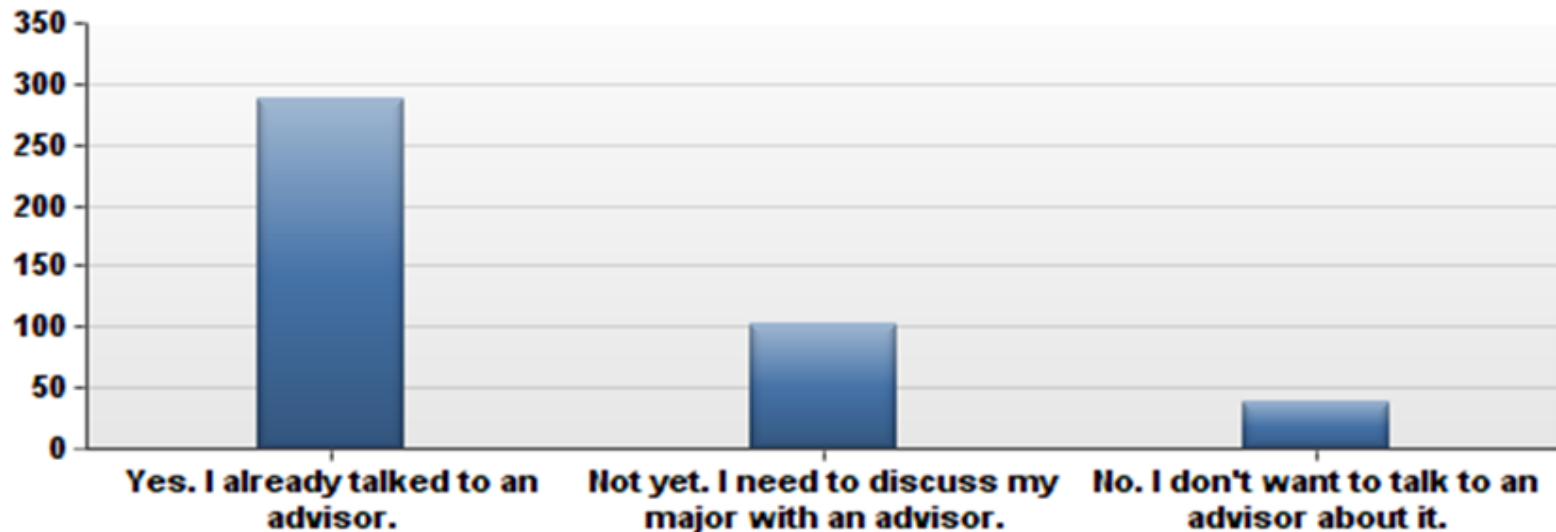
A good fit of major is part of Graduation Success

“GSI should really look into helping students more [with finding a major that fits]. I have changed my major 3 times already and it was because I figured it out on my own and wasted my time taking pre-requisite classes for my major (which is no longer my major).”

My suggestion is for GSI to reach out to students in their undergrad more (especially freshmen and sophomores) to help keep them on track and figure out what is the right fit for them.”

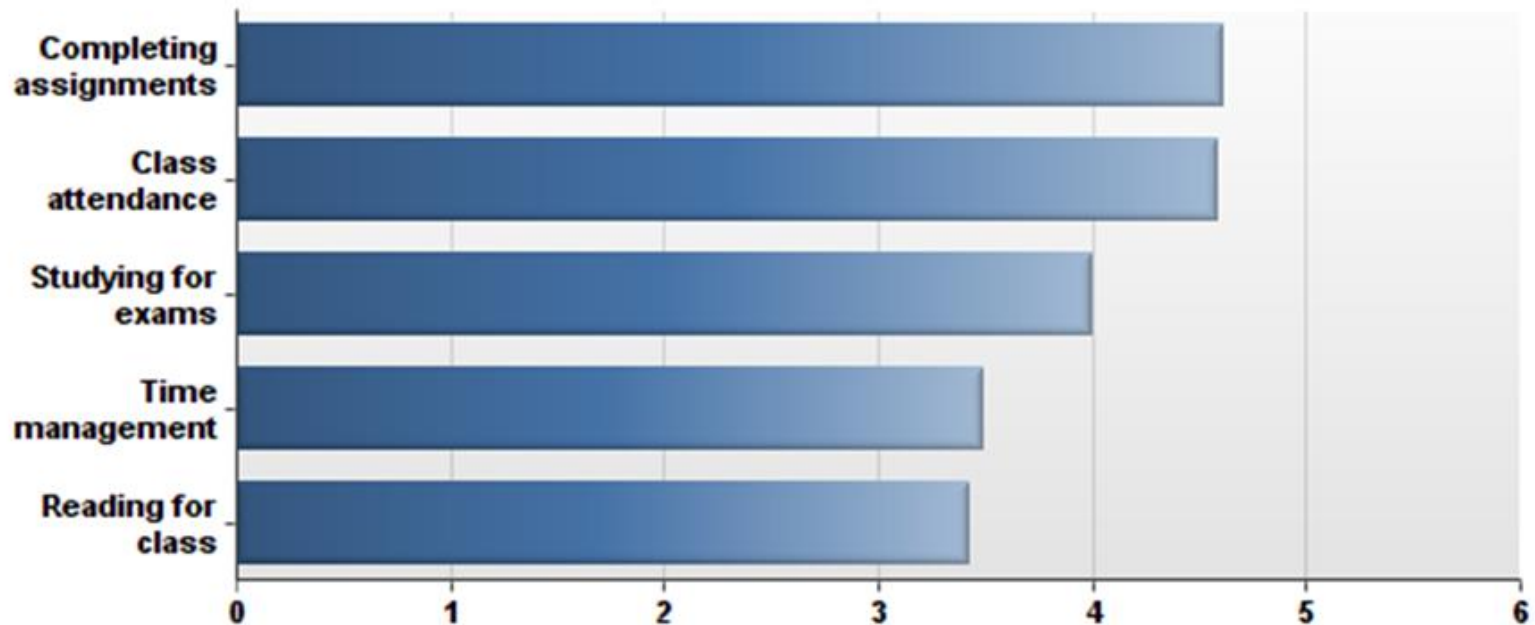
Have you talked to an academic advisor about your major?

It's a good idea to discuss your academic performance with an advisor to assess your progress in your major and plan for the future. Have you talked to an academic advisor about your major?



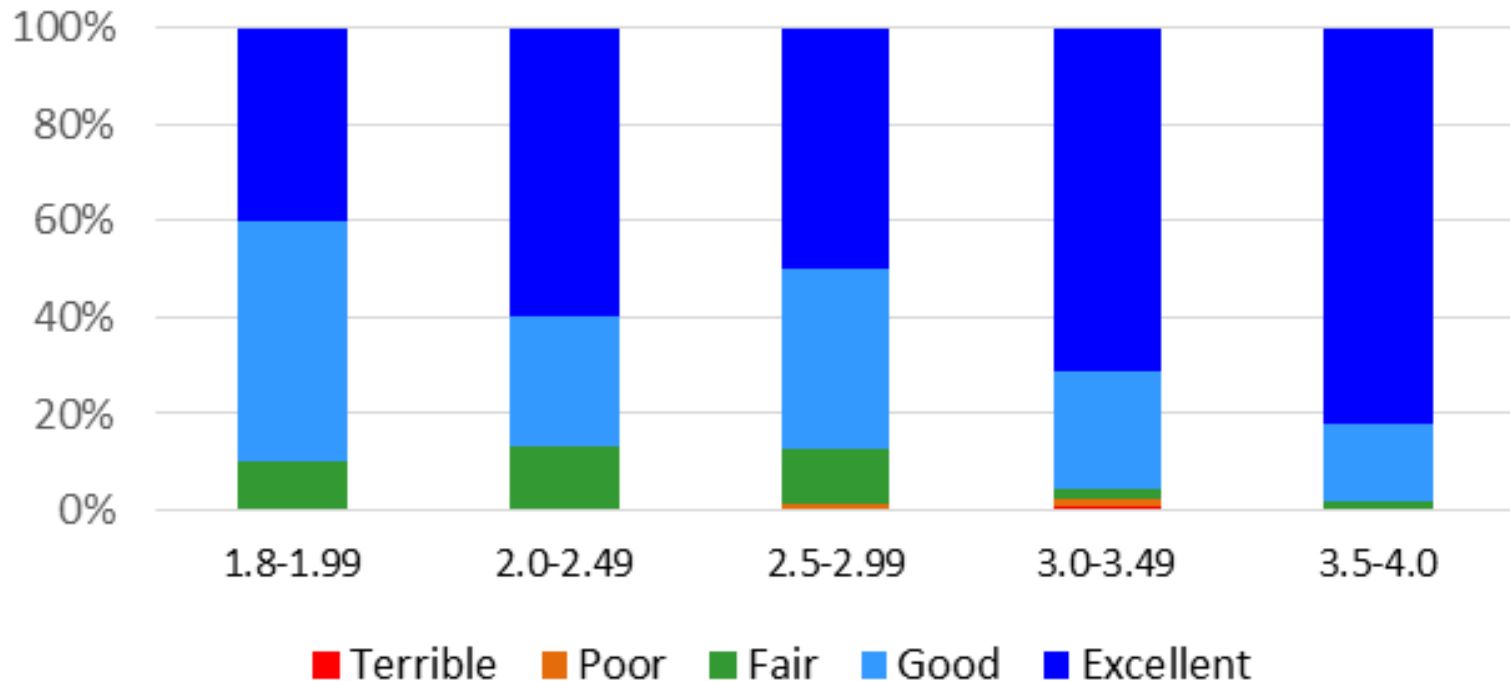
Self-Assess Study Habits

The summer is a good time to reflect on your study habits.
How would you rate your performance over the past year in these areas?



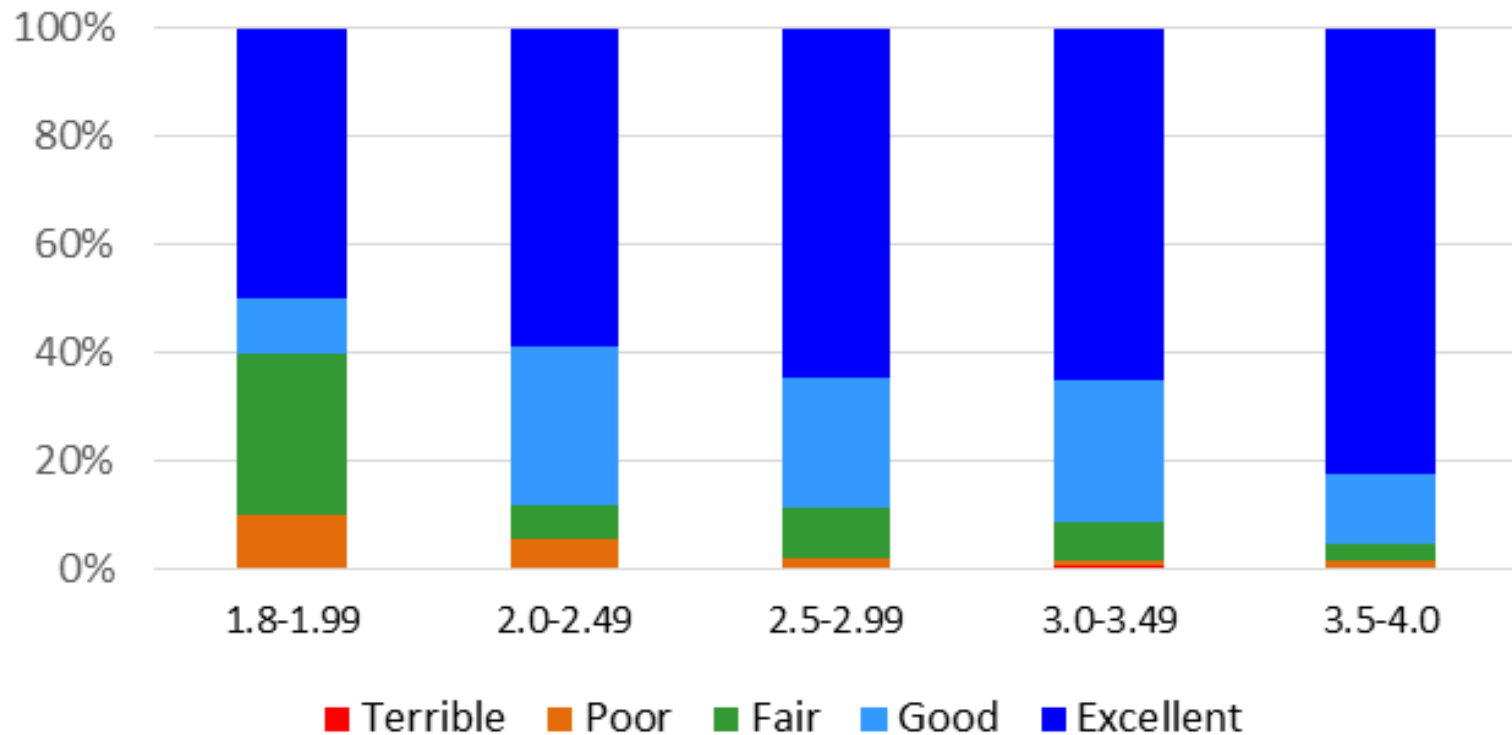
Self-Assess Study Habits

Completing Assignments



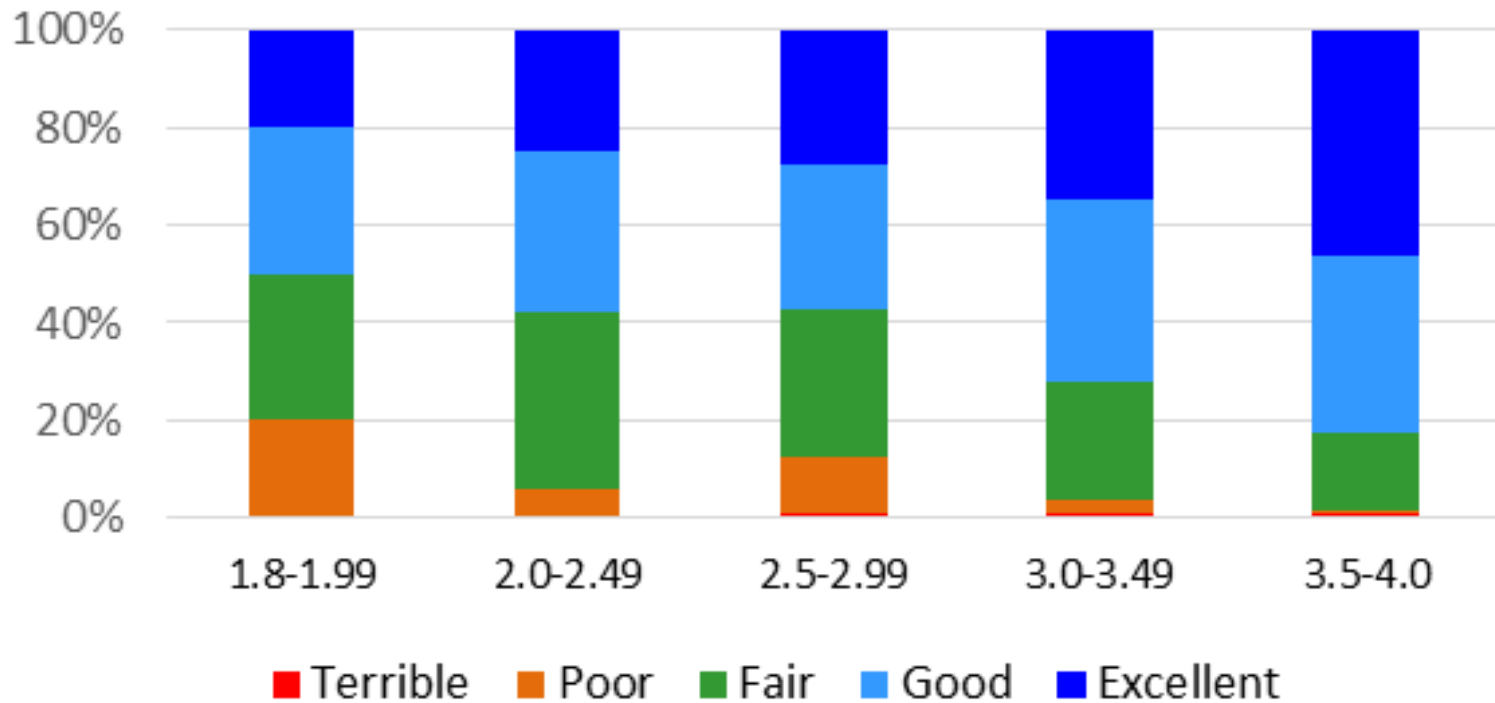
Self-Assess Study Habits

Class Attendance



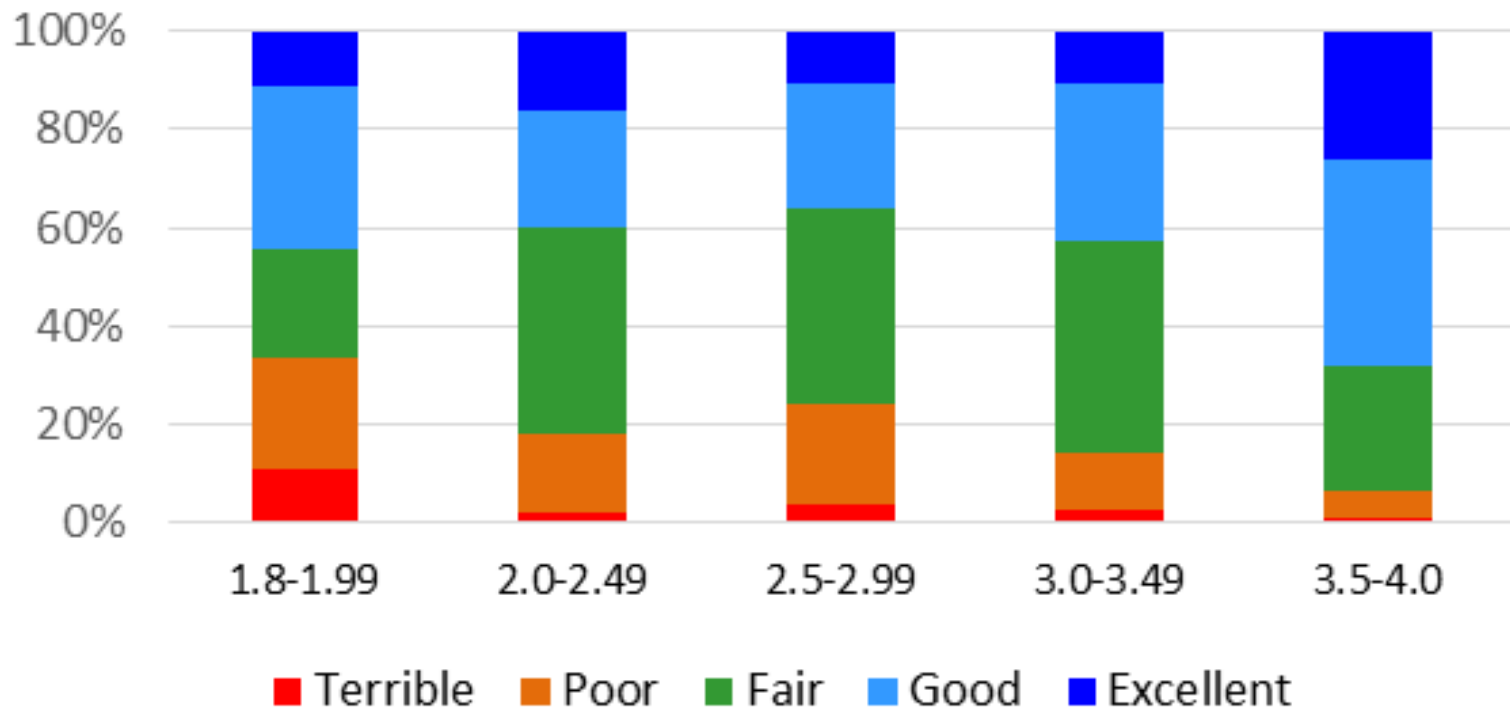
Self-Assess Study Habits

Studying for Exams



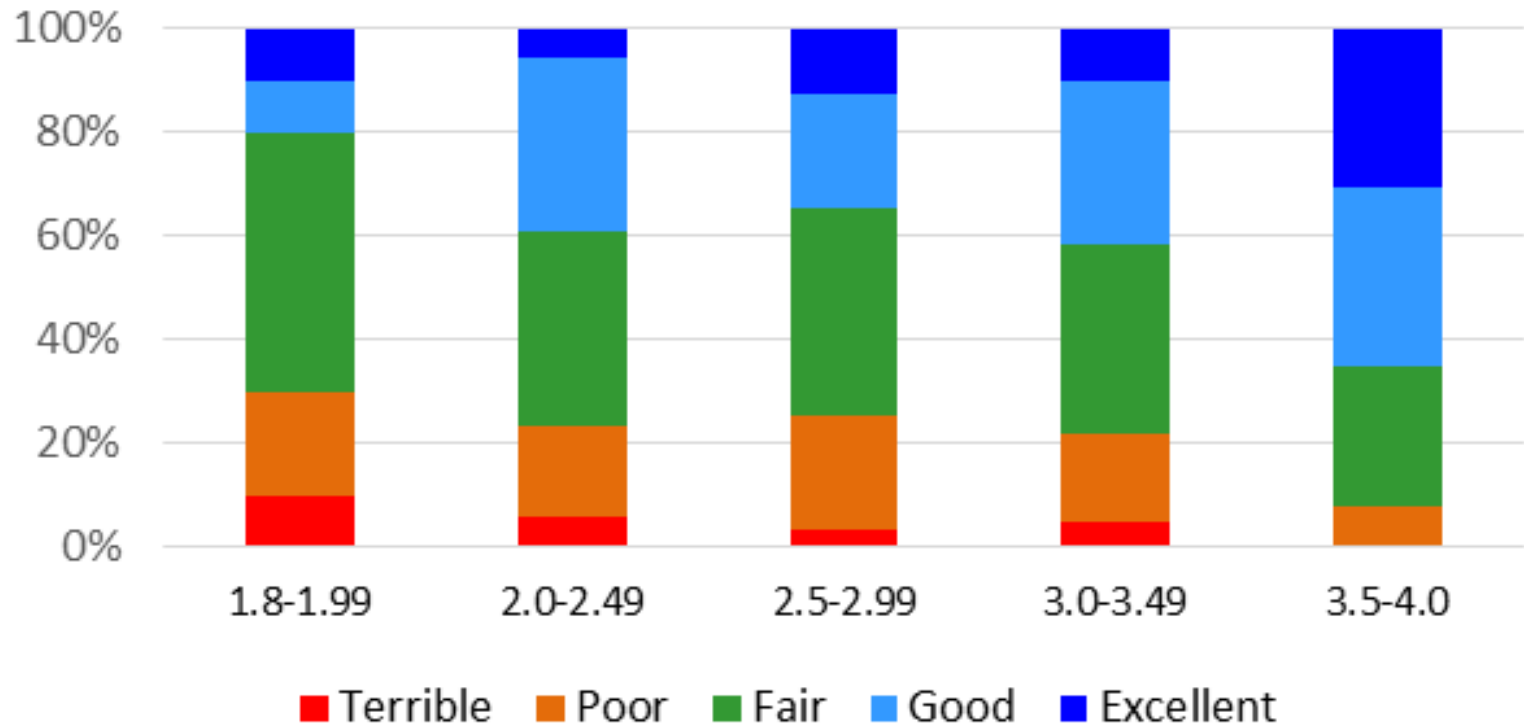
Self-Assess Study Habits

Time Management



Self-Assess Study Habits

Reading for Class



What is the most important change you plan to make to your study habits?

- * 80% of survey participants responded to this open question.
- * By doing so, they:
 - * affirm that they should improve their study habits
 - * thoughtfully consider their practices of the past year
 - * resolve to improve in at least one important way

What is the most important change you plan to make to your study habits?

- * Make a consistent schedule
- * Actually put in time to study and/or review everyday compared to right before tests or rarely study
- * Turning off all distractions during study hours
- * To try to study at school instead of at home
- * Reading the material more often before attending class
- * Read read read read
- * Stop procrastinating
- * Complete my readings during the day, rather than at night when I tend to fall asleep

Using Surveys as Student Success Interventions

Desired results:

1) Students will consider fit-of-major

- * Make changes if needed
- * Survey guided students through important dimensions of fit-of-major:
 - * Academic performance (skill & preparation)
 - * Feelings about courses (interest & goals)

Using Surveys as Student Success Interventions

Desired results:

2) Students will assess study habits

- * Make changes if needed

- * Survey guided students through important dimensions of successful study habits and asked what change would be made:

- * Completing assignments

- * Class attendance

- * Studying for exams

- * Time management

- * Reading for class

Using Surveys as Student Success Interventions

Desired results:

3) Students will consult academic advisors

- * 90 students requested advising
 - * Facilitated appointments to explore other majors
- * 363 students received follow-up emails targeted to address issues identified in survey responses

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Thank You!

Any questions?

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FIU

GSI:

GRADUATION SUCCESS INITIATIVE

FIU