

East Tennessee State University COVID-19 Fall 2020 Pre-enrollment Student Survey Results
July 19, 2020 to July 31, 2020
Michael Hoff
Planning and Decision Support
Survey Conducted by the ETSU Applied Social Research Lab

Summary:

On July 19, 2020 a survey was sent to all admitted and currently enrolled students for Fall 2020, the survey closed on July 31, 2020. The intent of the survey was to obtain data that would help the university best serve students this coming academic semester. Overall, 6,583 students have responded, that is 37% of the survey population, the survey population included all potential fall enrollees – more importantly this represents about 50% of the expected fall enrollment. Although 69% of respondents did not answer the demographic questions of those who did respond the population mirrors the ETSU student population. Respondents are 68% female, 85% are undergraduate students, and the average age of the respondents is 21. It is also important to note, 30% are new students and 64% are returning students while 6% did not respond to the question about new or returning status. This report is a brief summary of the data collected. Overall, the report is encouraging and indicates about 85% of students will adjust as necessary, with minimal disruption, as the institution remains in remote status for most activities this fall. For those students who indicated they need a device or access to the internet ETSU has acquired enough equipment to ensure those students can participate.

Items of Note:

1. 69% of respondents did not indicate what college they are attending or plan to attend to this fall. Though, we have data that can be used to identify those colleges for each respondent and will provide a report to each college.
2. 91% of those who responded indicate they plan to attend ETSU this fall. Only one percent of respondents indicated their decision was based on the current pandemic.
3. 23% of respondents indicated they were planning to live on campus this fall.
4. When asked about the ability to take courses by modality 14% indicated they can only take online courses while 6% say that they can only take on ground courses. So, 94% of respondents can enroll in online classes this fall without issue. For the remaining 6% ETSU is currently making arrangements for them to participate.
5. In response to a question about course modality preferences 45% of respondents indicated a preference for on ground courses, 25% prefer online courses, and 22% say it depends and 8% did not respond.
6. 86% of respondents indicate they read the ETSU emails to get covid-19 news. Not a surprising result given that this survey was sent through email.
7. Overall, 46% of respondents have concerns about coming on campus for class and/or living on campus this fall. Of the population that intends to live on campus 37% have concerns related to being in residence halls.
 - a. The two primary concerns are their health and/or the health of others.
8. When asked about their comfortability with zoom only 13% indicated they had no experience or were not comfortable with using zoom.
9. Of the students who responded to this survey and were also enrolled this past spring, 77% indicated they had a good experience 14% had mixed results and 9% did not have a good experience. This is an expected result as spring labs and clinicals were impacted in a negative way, ETSU has taken steps to ensure more of these courses this fall can be completed.
10. Of the respondents who were aware of the steps ETSU is taking to keep them safe, 83% are confident/extremely confident ETSU is taking the right steps to keep them safe.
11. When asked about respondents' willingness to participate in healthy behaviors this fall, like wearing a mask, washing hands, social distancing etc., between 5-10% indicated they were not willing to participate. Detail results in attached tables.
12. When asked about their personal experience with the pandemic 34% know someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. More specifically, 7.3% indicate that a family member was diagnosed with COVID-19, for respondents that also indicated they plan to live on campus 6% had a family member who was diagnosed.
13. When asked about tools to participate in education online 85% indicate they have the required internet and have a laptop/desktop computer.