

Survey of Graduating Students

The data collected from this survey provides useful information about these students during their time at the University and their plans for the future.

The following table is a summary of these findings:

	Spring 2019	Spring 2022	Spring 2023	Spring 2024	Spring 2025
# of Respondents	515	95	164	183	127
Age					
Under 21	7.2%	0.0%	2.4%	12.6%	0.8%
21-25	44.7%	44.2%	50.6%	41.5%	49.6%
26-35	26.6%	23.2%	21.3%	25.1%	18.9%
36-55	19.8%	29.5%	22.0%	16.9%	28.3%
Over 55	1.7%	3.2%	3.7%	3.8%	2.4%
Gender					
Male	24.3%	15.8%	19.5%	18.0%	26.0%
Female	75.7%	84.2%	80.5%	82.0%	74.0%
Race/Ethnicity					
Am. Indian or Alaskan Native	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Asian	5.4%	4.2%	3.0%	7.7%	7.9%
Black	65.8%	76.8%	71.3%	68.9%	64.6%
Hispanic or Latino	4.9%	3.2%	6.1%	7.1%	8.7%
Two or More Races	3.5%	4.2%	1.2%	2.7%	5.5%
White	17.5%	9.5%	15.9%	12.6%	10.2%
Unknown	2.7%	2.1%	2.4%	1.1%	3.1%
Degree Type					
Master's	13.8%	20.0%	7.9%	21.3%	22.8%
Bachelor's	78.1%	78.9%	89.6%	76.0%	77.2%
Associate	8.2%	1.1%	2.4%	2.7%	0.0%
Certificate	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Attended school...					
only at Clayton State	31.7%	26.3%	34.1%	33.9%	32.3%
as a full-time student	39.8%	46.3%	45.7%	45.4%	40.2%
received financial aid	95.5%	96.8%	98.2%	95.6%	89.0%
during the... *					
daytime	68.9%	36.8%	37.2%	39.3%	37.0%
evening	12.0%	2.1%	1.8%	6.0%	3.1%
online	19.0%	61.1%	61.0%	54.6%	59.8%
After completing their degree,					
Employed full-time (on average 30 hours or more per week)	37.3%	57.9%	51.2%	48.6%	37.8%
Employed part-time (on average less than 30 hours per week)	9.3%	7.4%	5.5%	4.4%	1.6%
Enrolled in a graduate or professional school program or planning to continue education	22.1%	16.8%	16.5%	19.1%	26.8%
Seeking employment	25.8%	15.8%	23.8%	24.6%	28.3%
Other (U.S. Military, volunteer or service program, etc.)	0.8%	0.0%	1.2%	1.1%	3.9%
Not seeking employment	1.4%	2.1%	1.8%	2.2%	1.6%

If planning to continue your education immediately following graduation from Clayton State (i.e., within the next year)?**					
Currently enrolled in a graduate or professional school program	15.8%	25.0%	44.4%	31.4%	44.1%
Planning to continue my education, but I am not yet enrolled	81.6%	68.8%	48.1%	62.9%	55.9%
Not planning on continuing my education at this time	2.6%	6.3%	7.4%	5.7%	0.0%
Ultimate Goal if planning to continue education**					
Additional courses or specialized training		20.0%	14.8%	3.0%	11.8%
Another bachelor's degree or certificate	1.8%	6.7%	3.7%	3.0%	5.9%
Associate or Bachelor's Degree	12.6%	0.0%	7.4%	3.0%	2.9%
Master's Degree	39.6%	26.7%	51.9%	66.7%	55.9%
Doctoral Degree	39.6%	40.0%	14.8%	21.2%	8.8%
Not Sure Yet	6.3%	6.7%	7.4%	3.0%	14.7%
#1 reason for choosing Clayton State (Spring 2019-2023), Reasons for choosing Clayton State (Spring 2024)					
Able to maintain employment	1.6%	4.2%	3.7%	5.7%	5.6%
Advice of high school staff	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	1.3%
Advice of parents or relatives/friends	2.5%	3.2%	4.9%	4.7%	5.6%
Good academic reputation	8.5%	7.4%	8.5%	11.6%	7.3%
Good faculty	2.5%	1.1%	1.8%	5.9%	7.0%
Liked the size of the college	1.6%	3.2%	2.4%	8.3%	8.1%
Liked the social atmosphere	1.4%	4.2%	0.0%	4.0%	3.8%
Low cost of attending	18.4%	22.1%	19.5%	18.8%	16.9%
Nearby Location	33.4%	17.9%	28.7%	19.9%	21.2%
Offered financial support	1.0%	0.0%	2.4%	4.7%	4.6%
Offered the program I wanted	16.7%	21.1%	17.7%	14.3%	14.8%
Unable to attend first choice school	0.2%	5.3%	3.7%	1.0%	2.7%
Wanted to be with friends	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	1.1%
Satisfaction (the percent of students who evaluated Clayton State as Excellent or Good in response to the areas listed below)					
Intellectual Growth	91.1%	87.4%	89.6%	92.9%	90.2%
Personal growth	87.4%	86.3%	89.6%	91.2%	92.9%
Career Development: Acquiring knowledge and skills applicable to a specific job or type of work	80.8%	84.2%	83.5%	88.8%	85.7%
Acquiring the background for further education in some professional, scientific, or scholarly field	83.3%	82.1%	87.2%	91.8%	75.6%
Gaining a broad general education about different fields of knowledge	86.4%	84.2%	89.0%	92.4%	88.3%
Gaining a range of information that may be relevant to a career	85.8%	87.4%	88.4%	92.9%	91.9%
Developing an understanding and enjoyment of art, music and drama	61.2%	71.6%	68.9%	73.5%	64.9%
Broadening acquaintance with and enjoyment of literature	68.7%	68.4%	72.6%	75.3%	70.3%
Writing clearly and effectively	87.2%	86.3%	90.9%	93.5%	91.0%
Learning to use computers	77.1%	71.6%	79.9%		
Becoming aware of different philosophies, cultures and ways of life	80.0%	77.9%	86.6%	85.9%	85.6%
Instruction in your field of major	85.4%	84.2%	86.6%	90.6%	92.8%
Faculty-student interaction	85.0%	78.9%	82.3%	87.1%	87.4%
Overall instruction	87.6%	83.2%	85.4%	92.9%	92.8%
Academic advising	75.3%	71.6%	76.8%	78.7%	71.2%
Career Services	69.3%	69.5%	72.0%	80.5%	73.9%
Student services	78.1%	73.7%	78.0%	82.2%	74.8%

Food service on campus	47.4%	44.2%	50.6%	50.3%	39.6%
Financial aid services	69.5%	68.4%	72.0%	72.2%	64.0%
Academic support services (e/g. math, reading, and writing labs, tutorial support and remedial courses)	74.0%	68.4%	81.7%	75.7%	73.0%
Registration for classes	83.3%	80.0%	84.8%	88.8%	83.8%
Campus sponsored recreation activities	66.4%	66.3%	66.5%	65.1%	62.7%
Library services	81.6%	71.6%	82.9%	78.7%	80.9%
Bookstore service	77.3%	73.7%	82.9%	84.6%	81.8%
Present attitude toward Associate/Bachelor's Degree major	85.2%	77.9%	89.6%	87.0%	89.1%
My overall collegiate experience at Clayton State	87.2%	85.3%	87.2%	90.5%	88.2%

*Students were considered attending in daytime if 50% or more of their classes were in the daytime.

** Students only answer these questions if they chose "Enrolled in a graduate or professional school program" or "Planning to continue education, but not yet enrolled".

In Spring 2019, graduating students complete the survey in order to participate in the graduation ceremony, but are not required to answer all the questions.

In Spring 2022 - Spring 2024, the number of responses is significantly lower as the survey is optional.