

Overview

As well as asking students from Australian and New Zealand universities to reflect on the time they devote to various learning activities, the Australasian Survey of Student Engagement (AUSSE) also measures students' educational outcomes.

The following responses reflecting students' educational outcomes were provided by 800 randomly selected Australasian University first- and third-year students as part of the 2009 AUSSE survey.

Higher Order Thinking

This educational outcome reflects a student's level of participation in higher-order forms of thinking.

80% of students feel that their coursework emphasises analysing ideas, experiences or theories, 62% of students feel that synthesising and organising ideas, information or experiences is emphasised, 64% of students believe that their coursework focuses on making judgements about the value of information, arguments or methods is emphasised, and 75% of students feel that applying theories or concepts to practical problems, or in new situations is highlighted by their coursework.

General Learning Outcomes

The general learning outcomes scale indicates a student's development of general competencies.

By later year, 31% of students believe that their experience at university has helped them very much to acquire a broad, general education, and 33% believe that their experience has very much contributed to their development of work-related knowledge and skills.

35%, 24% and 46% of later year students feel that their university experience has very much contributed to their ability to write clearly and effectively, speak clearly and effectively and think clearly and analytically respectively.

General Development Outcomes

This educational outcome indicates a student's level of development of general forms of individual and social growth.

By later year, 34% of students feel that university has very much helped them to learn effectively on their own and 27% to work effectively with others.

23% of later year students feel that their experience at university has very much contributed to their ability to solve complex, real world problems.

Career Readiness

Career readiness reflects a students' engagement with their future career, and their involvement in activities such as writing resumes and career planning.

17% of first year and 24% of later year students frequently keep their resume up-to-date, and 31% of first year and 43% of later year students frequently set themselves career development goals and plans.

Departure Intention

This outcomes measure reflects the intentions of non-graduating students to leave university before completing their qualification.

33% of first year and 24% of later year students report that they have seriously considered leaving Australasian University during the current academic year.

8% of first year and 4% of later year students plan to shift to another university next year, while 93% of first year and 67% of later year students plan to continue with current study. 34% of later year students plan to leave university having completed their qualification next year.

Overall Satisfaction

This educational outcome indicates a student's overall satisfaction with their education experience at their university.

90% of first year and 85% of later year students would attend Australasian University given the choice to start over again.

87% of first year and 82% of later year students rate their entire educational experience at Australasian University as good or excellent.