

Chapter 1: FIRST-YEAR SURVEY

Who takes it?

All first-year students who start in the fall semester are invited to take the survey.

When is it administered?

It is normally administered during Truman Week. This year, it was administered early in the fall semester.

How long does it take for the faculty to complete the instrument?

15 to 25 minutes.

What office administers it?

The Student Success Center in conjunction with the Provost's Office administers the survey.

Who originates this survey?

The survey is a local instrument prepared by Truman faculty and administrators.

When are results typically available?

Late fall.

What type of information is sought?

The survey provides information on the student's perception of the admission process, summer orientation, and expectations of college. It also provides some basic demographic information on first-generation status and family income.

From whom are the results available?

The Provost's Office.

To whom are the results regularly distributed?

The University community through this Almanac.

Are the results available by department or discipline?

No.

Are the results comparable to data of other universities?

No.

Because results were not included in the 2014 Almanac, results from both 2014 and 2015 are included here.

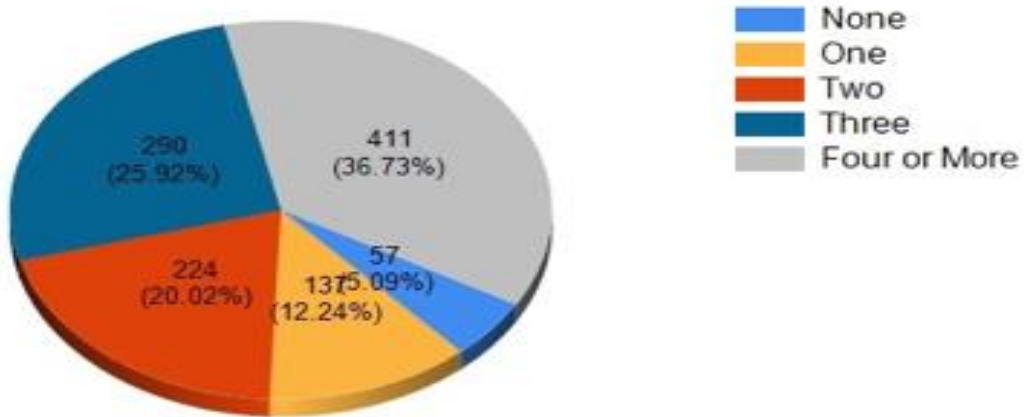
FIRST YEAR SURVEY 2014 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- One thousand one hundred and thirty-one students completed the survey.
- Over 91% of respondents visited the Truman campus at least once as part of the admission process.
- Approximately 54% of first year students said the liberal arts mission of the University was influential in their decision to attend.
- One-half of respondents reported that Truman's academic reputation was the most important reason for attending. The cost of Truman and being offered financial assistance were the next most highly ranked.
- Approximately 17% indicated that they are first generation students while 66% indicated that both of their parents had graduated from college.
- 11% identified themselves as upper class, 24% as upper-middle class, 26% as middle class, 24% as working class, and 13% identified themselves as lower class.
- Over 84% expect to graduate from Truman knowing three or more faculty well enough to ask for a letter of recommendation.
- The most common expectation for first semester grades was A-/B+. Fewer than 2% of students expected to average lower than a B.
- Over 91% of students reported having a strongly positive or a positive attitude towards Truman at the time of the survey. Less than 1% of students reported having a negative attitude towards Truman at the time of the survey.

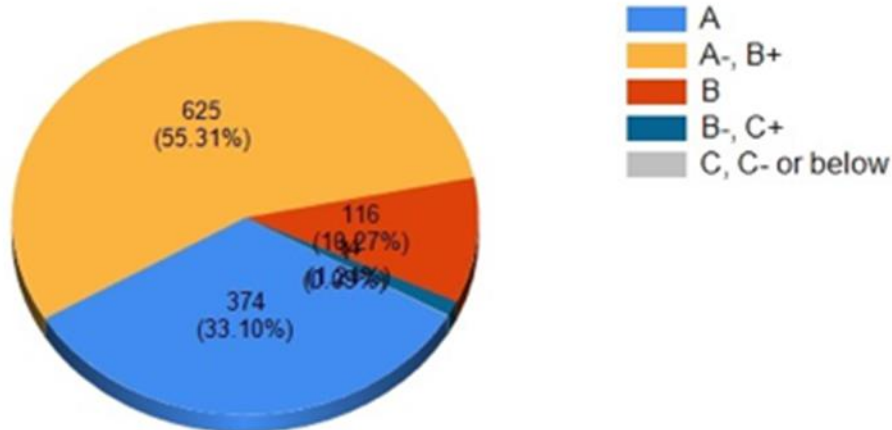
Example results follow.

FIRST YEAR SURVEY 2014

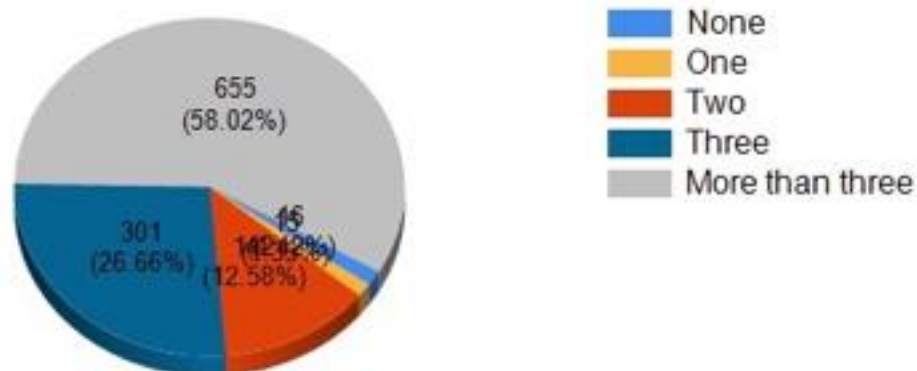
**In selecting a college, how many colleges or university campuses did you visit?
(1119 Responses)**



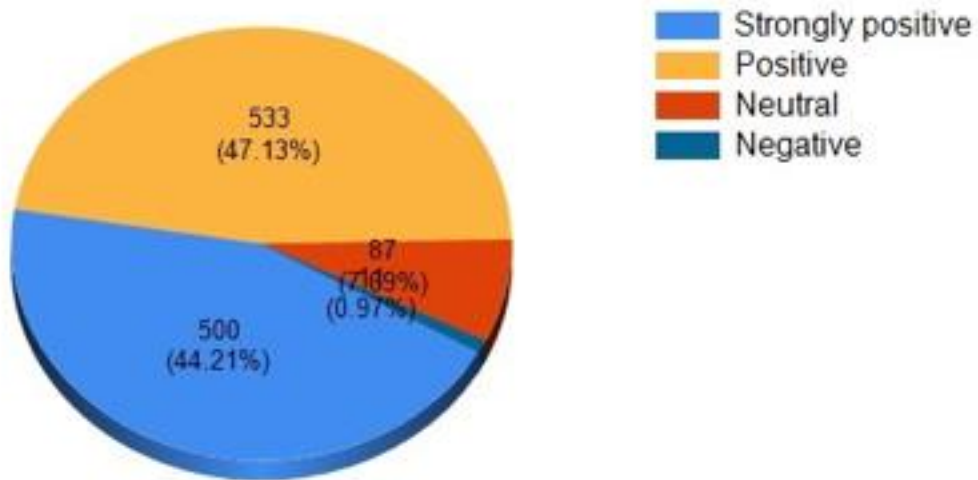
**What do you expect most of your first semester grades at Truman to be?
(1130 Responses)**



**Upon graduation from Truman, how many faculty members do you expect to know well enough that you would ask them for a letter of recommendation?
(1129 Responses)**



**At the present time, your general attitude toward Truman is
(1131 Responses)**



FIRST YEAR SURVEY 2015 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

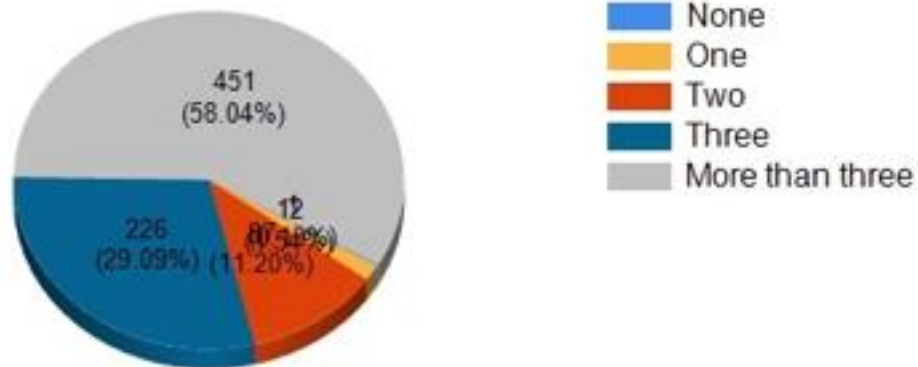
- Seven hundred and seventy-eight students completed the survey.
- Over 92% of students visited the Truman campus at least once as part of the admission process.
- Approximately half of first year students said the liberal arts mission of the University was influential in their decision to attend.
- Over half of respondents reported that Truman's academic reputation was the most important reason for attending. The cost of Truman and being offered financial assistance were the next most highly ranked.
- Approximately 18% indicated that they are first generation students while 67% indicated that both of their parents had graduated from college.
- 11% identified themselves as upper class, 24% as upper middle class, 24% as middle class, 25% as working class, and 12% identified themselves as lower class.
- Over 87% expect to graduate from Truman knowing three or more faculty well enough to ask for a letter of recommendation.
- The most common expectation for first semester grades was A-/B+. Fewer than 0.8% of students expected to average lower than a B.
- Over 90% of students reported having a strongly positive or a positive attitude towards Truman at the time of the survey. Less than 1% of students reported having a negative attitude towards Truman at the time of the survey.

There was a smaller pool of respondents than the previous year. The results were consistent with the results from the last survey.

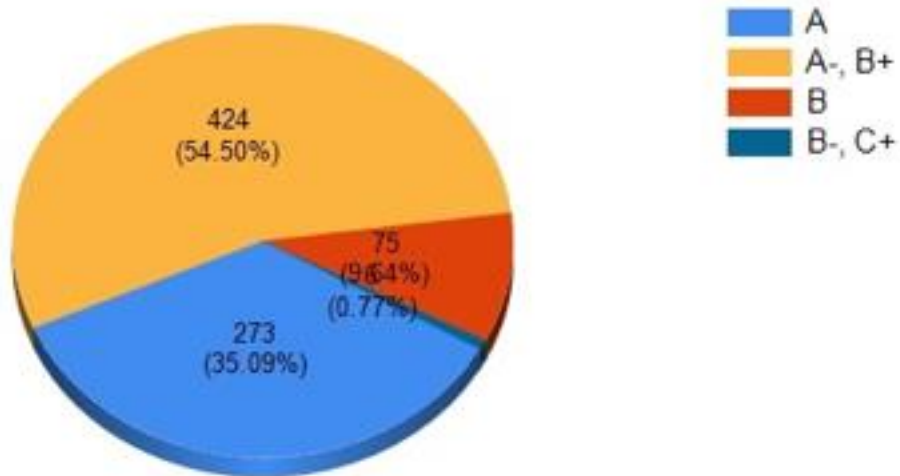
Appropriate wording from previous chapters has been used.

Full results follow.

**Upon graduation from Truman, how many faculty members do you expect to know well enough that you would ask them for a letter of recommendation?
(777 Responses)**



**What do you expect most of your first semester grades at Truman to be?
(778 Responses)**



**At the present time, your general attitude toward Truman is
(777 Responses)**

