

## Chapter 3: GRADUATING STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE (GSQ)

*Who takes it?*

All graduating seniors.

*When is it administered?*

Before graduation as part of the clearance process.

*How long does it take for the student to complete the instrument?*

Approximately 15-20 minutes.

*What office administers it?*

It is administered online through the Assessment and Testing Office.

*Who originates the assessment?*

The Provost and the University Assessment Committee.

*When are the results typically available?*

In the fall for the fiscal year.

*What type of information is sought?*

The GSQ asks questions related to student satisfaction, campus involvement, and time spent on certain activities.

*From whom are the results available?*

Assessment and Testing Office, Violette Hall 1130.

*To whom are the results regularly distributed?*

University, School, and Discipline means and frequencies are sent to the Academic Deans and respective Department Chairs. University averages and frequencies are sent to the Provost, Deans, and Assessment Committee. University-wide results are published in this *Almanac*.

*Are the results available by department or discipline?*

Yes.

*Are the results comparable to data of other universities?*

No.

# **TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **FY24 GRADUATING STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

**SUMMER 2023, FALL 2023 AND SPRING 2024  
GRADUATES**

### **SUMMARY OF RESPONSES**

The Graduating Student Questionnaire (GSQ) is an online web-based survey administered by the Assessment & Testing Office and is completed by seniors as part of the graduation clearance process coordinated by the Registrar’s Office each semester.

The questionnaire consists of questions focusing on students’ future plans; satisfaction of services and facilities, experiences with faculty, impression of major and liberal arts courses, the major overall, and opportunities for interaction with others; the adequacy of major preparation and education and experiences; the amount of time spent in various activities; and some basic demographic information.

By looking at the means and frequencies of the responses, the university can identify areas of strength to build upon and possible areas of weakness to address. Selected GSQ responses are below, including recent trend data. Incorporating previous years’ reference tables is a new addition, and it may be helpful to note trends entering and exiting the peak years surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 protocols went into effect in the Spring of 2020. Question numbers are provided throughout the text for additional research using the GSQ appendix. The appendix is a comprehensive review of every multiple-choice question with means and frequency distribution charts, included with other appendices in the Assessment Almanac at [assessment.truman.edu](http://assessment.truman.edu).

### Basic demographic information . . .

665 surveys completed  
 41.8% male; 55.2% female; 3% other  
 84.2% Caucasian; 15.8% minority

### Future Plans . . .

The majority of students plan to be employed either part time or full time upon graduation. More students reportedly plan to work full or part time in FY24 compared to responses in FY23, and the same percentage plan to continue their education. More students indicated they would enlist in the military, which is the highest response rate in the past five years. Interest in volunteer service is at a five-year low.

Question:	2. What is most likely to be your principal activity upon graduation?									
	2020 %		2021 %		2022 %		2023 %		2024 %	
Employed full/part time	53.9	↓	48.5	↑	51.9	↓	46.5	↑	52.7	
Grad school /add'l undergrad	39.9	↑	44.6	↓	41.0	↑	43.3	→	43.3	
Military	1.3	↑	1.4	↓	0.7	↑	1.4	↑	1.5	
Volunteer service	1.8	↑	1.9	↓	1.8	↓	0.8	↓	0.3	

## Satisfaction of experiences, services, and facilities. . .

Student satisfaction is measured across several questions. In FY24 students felt a slightly higher sense of belonging on campus (Q14g), and satisfaction with concern for students as individuals increased to a five-year high (Q14r). Students were less satisfied with faculty advising in FY24 (Q14m). New Student/CAE advising (Q14n) continues a trend of improved satisfaction. Satisfaction with on-campus work (Q14q) fell further to a five-year low, but most students still report being *satisfied* in this area. Satisfaction with the quality of instruction (Q32) is on a five point scale, where students have consistently reported being *satisfied*, though the average satisfaction has dropped to a five-year low.

Question:	14g. How satisfied were you with your sense of belonging on this campus?						Question:	14r. How satisfied were you with Truman's concern for you as an individual?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - Very dissatisfied	6.8	7.4	5.2	6.2	5.8	1 - Very dissatisfied	8.4	7.2	8.8	7.2	6.9	4.7	
2 - Dissatisfied	16.1	15.9	17.4	14.4	16.3	2 - Dissatisfied	17.5	19.9	19.4	16.4	16.1	11.9	
3 - Satisfied	51.1	51.9	55.2	57.4	53.0	3 - Satisfied	51.8	53.5	53.1	59.3	58.3	62.2	
4 - Very satisfied	25.9	24.8	22.2	22.0	24.9	4 - Very satisfied	22.3	19.4	18.7	17.0	18.8	21.2	
Mean - 1-4 above	2.96	2.94	2.94	2.95	2.97	Mean - 1-4 above	2.88	2.85	2.82	2.86	2.89	3.00	

  

Question:	14m. How satisfied were you with academic advising by faculty advisors in your major?						Question:	14n. How satisfied were you with academic advising by New Student/CAE advisors?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - Very dissatisfied	7.0	7.6	6.4	5.1	6.1	1 - Very dissatisfied	10.8	12.1	14.6	14.5	13.10	13.1	
2 - Dissatisfied	11.7	12.6	11.6	10.7	9.8	2 - Dissatisfied	19.5	21.8	21.7	19.2	19.20	17.1	
3 - Satisfied	44.1	43.0	43.9	43.9	47.0	3 - Satisfied	51.4	51.2	50.7	51.3	52.70	52.3	
4 - Very satisfied	37.2	36.8	38.2	40.3	37.0	4 - Very satisfied	18.3	14.9	13.0	15.0	15.0	17.5	
Mean - 1-4 above	3.11	3.09	3.14	3.19	3.15	Mean - 1-4 above	2.77	2.69	2.62	2.67	2.70	2.74	

  

Question:	32. Indicate your level of satisfaction with the quality of instruction at Truman.						Question:	14q. How satisfied were you with on-campus work experiences?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - Very dissatisfied	1.1	1.7	1.4	0.8	0.8	1 - Very dissatisfied	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.5	3.4	3.4	
2 - Dissatisfied	4.0	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.6	2 - Dissatisfied	5.3	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.0	
3 - Neutral	13.6	11.4	12.8	10.3	13.4	3 - Satisfied	54.8	56.2	56.7	56.0	58.8	61.5	
4 - Satisfied	54.7	54.4	55.5	62.0	57.9	4 - Very satisfied	37.6	34.1	33.7	34.7	31.4	29.1	
5 - Very satisfied	26.7	29.3	27.3	23.6	24.3	Mean - 1-4 above	3.28	3.22	3.21	3.23	3.18	3.16	
Mean - 1-5 above	4.02	4.06	4.04	4.04	4.01								

## Majors, LSP, and co-curriculum education....

On average, students were equally satisfied with their first major between FY23 and FY24 (Q22), and satisfaction with the second major (Q24) increased from a five-year low. Regarding LSP or Dialogues courses (Q9), students responded that those courses were not often challenging. The dip in LSP/Dialogues challenge might be attributable to a change in nomenclature in FY23 for this question – the question now encompasses General Education (LSP or Dialogues). In FY24, students report being more adequately prepared regarding knowledge of modes of inquiry or processes in the first major (Q12a). Adequacy of subject matter knowledge (Q12b) has remained roughly equal over several years and is tied with a five-year low from FY23. Students reported being prepared to think critically (Q12h) at similar levels to previous years, though the average adequacy trend is very slowly dropping. Over 95% of students report their first major prepared them for critical thinking and subject matter knowledge *adequately* or *very adequately*. Less than 1% of students reported being very inadequately prepared to think critically (Q12h) and being very inadequately knowledgeable with subject matter in their major (Q12b).

Question:	22. How satisfied are you with your first major?						Question:	24. How satisfied are you with your second major?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - Very dissatisfied	5.3	5.1	3.6	3.7	3.3	1 - Very dissatisfied	7.1	5.0	4.3	5.3	7.0	2.8	
2 - Dissatisfied	5.1	4.8	4.1	5.3	3.9	2 - Dissatisfied	7.1	7.9	9.6	11.4	10.5	11.3	
3 - Satisfied	44.1	38.9	41.5	41.9	46.2	3 - Satisfied	48.1	47.5	49.6	50.0	47.4	50.7	
4 - Very satisfied	45.5	51.3	50.8	49.0	46.6	4 - Very satisfied	37.7	39.6	36.5	33.3	35.1	35.2	
Mean - 1-4 above	3.30	3.36	3.39	3.36	3.36	Mean - 1-4 above	3.16	3.22	3.18	3.11	3.11	3.18	

  

Question:	9. How often were your General Education courses (LSP or Dialogues) challenging?						Question:	12a. How adequately has your first major prepared you regarding knowledge of modes of inquiry or processes in your major?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - Never	1.4	2.8	3.1	2.4	3.8	1 - Very inadequate	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.6	
2 - Not very often	38.5	39.5	37.1	46.2	45.7	2 - Inadequate	2.9	3.8	2.9	4.2	3.6	3.1	
3 - Often	47.3	43.8	46.7	40.3	41.9	3 - Adequate	48.8	49.1	48.9	53.1	53.2	53.4	
4 - Very often	12.8	13.9	13.2	11.2	8.6	4 - Very adequate	47.6	46.5	47.7	42.2	42.3	42.9	
Mean - 1-4 above	2.72	2.69	2.70	2.60	2.55	Mean - 1-4 above	3.43	3.42	3.44	3.37	3.37	3.39	

  

Question:	12b. How adequately has your first major prepared you regarding knowledge of subject matter in your major?						Question:	12h. How adequately has your first major prepared you to think critically?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - Very inadequate	0.5	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.6	1 - Very inadequate	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.3	
2 - Inadequate	3.3	2.2	3.2	3.0	2.4	2 - Inadequate	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.4	2.2	1.8	
3 - Adequate	40.6	39.5	42.5	45.8	48.3	3 - Adequate	37.3	34.6	35.1	40.2	41.7	43.6	
4 - Very adequate	55.6	57.8	54.0	50.3	48.6	4 - Very adequate	59.8	61.8	61.9	56.9	55.9	54.2	
Mean - 1-4 above	3.51	3.55	3.50	3.45	3.45	Mean - 1-4 above	3.56	3.58	3.58	3.54	3.53	3.52	

## Amount of time spent . . .

The GSQ asks several questions regarding how students spend their time. On average, students indicated spending less time on course-related work outside of class (Q5) in FY24. Time spent on academic organizations (Q16a) increased in FY24. Time spent on Greek organizations (Q16c) rebounded from a five-year low in FY23 to a five-year high in FY24. Time spent on intercollegiate sports (Q16g) was lower in FY24. Time spent socializing with friends (Q16m) dropped to a five-year low. Students reported spending less time on on-campus employment (Q16n) in FY24.

Question:	5. Approximate number of hours spent on course-related work outside of class						Question:	16a. Approximate number of hours spent on academic organizations					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - 0-5 hours	3.9	3.0	2.9	3.9	5.3	1 - None	33.7	33.4	37.7	33.2	34.3	33.9	
2 - 6-10 hours	20.5	18.2	18.1	19.8	25.0	2 - 1-2 hours	33.5	35.0	33.3	29.3	30.9	31.7	
3 - 11-15 hours	25.1	22.8	24.8	24.2	21.8	3 - 3-5 hours	23.0	21.0	20.1	23.5	23.0	22.4	
4 - 16-20 hours	23.4	24.4	22.9	20.8	22.1	4 - 6-10 hours	7.0	7.6	5.7	10.1	7.9	7.5	
5 - 21-25 hours	12.4	15.4	14.6	16.9	14.8	5 - 11-15 hours	1.8	2.1	2.3	3.1	3.1	2.9	
6 - 26-30 hours	9.1	7.7	9.5	8.6	6.3	6 - 16 or more hrs	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.7	
7 - 31 or more hrs	5.6	8.5	7.0	5.7	4.7	Mean - 1-6 above	2.13	2.13	2.05	2.23	2.17	2.19	
Mean - 1-7 above	3.69	3.88	3.85	3.76	3.54								

  

Question:	16c. Approximate number of hours spent on Greek organizations						Question:	16g. Approximate number of hours spent on intercollegiate sports organizations					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - None	66.0	65.2	66.6	70.4	67.2	1 - None	82.4	82.9	84.8	81.1	81.4	77.3	
2 - 1-2 hours	6.9	8.2	5.9	5.0	4.9	2 - 1-2 hours	2.3	2.7	3.6	3.9	3.0	2.6	
3 - 3-5 hours	14.8	13.5	13.3	12.7	12.5	3 - 3-5 hours	3.0	2.4	1.9	3.3	2.4	4.3	
4 - 6-10 hours	8.5	7.4	8.2	7.1	9.0	4 - 6-10 hours	2.7	2.9	2.7	3.1	2.2	3.5	
5 - 11-15 hours	2.2	3.4	3.4	2.8	3.4	5 - 11-15 hours	2.6	2.5	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.4	
6 - 16 or more hrs	1.6	2.3	2.6	2.0	3.1	6 - 16 or more hrs	7.0	6.6	5.2	6.5	8.9	9.9	
Mean - 1-6 above	1.79	1.82	1.84	1.73	1.86	Mean - 1-6 above	1.62	1.59	1.49	1.61	1.67	1.65	

  

Question:	16m. Approximate number of hours spent socializing with friends						Question:	16n. Approximate number of hours spent on employment on campus					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - None	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.6	2.3	1 - None	31.0	28.4	29.6	30.9	26.6	27.4	
2 - 1-2 hours	8.3	8.4	7.4	8.5	10.8	2 - 1-2 hours	3.6	4.2	2.5	4.6	3.6	5.2	
3 - 3-5 hours	28.6	27.1	27.9	25.4	28.9	3 - 3-5 hours	37.9	39.1	42.3	39.8	43.0	39.7	
4 - 6-10 hours	34.9	31.8	35.4	37.7	30.2	4 - 6-10 hours	14.7	15.1	13.0	12.8	13.8	15.3	
5 - 11-15 hours	14.2	17.1	15.7	15.0	14.5	5 - 11-15 hours	7.7	6.6	6.7	7.1	6.9	7.1	
6 - 16 or more hrs	12.9	14.2	12.2	11.8	13.3	6 - 16 or more hrs	5.1	6.5	6.0	4.8	6.1	5.3	
Mean - 1-6 above	3.91	3.97	3.93	3.92	3.84	Mean - 1-6 above	2.80	2.87	2.83	2.75	2.89	2.85	

### Other information worth noting . . .

After a few years of waning enthusiasm, more students report they would likely choose to attend Truman again if they had the chance to choose again (Q3). FY24 shows a rebound in the percent of students who would *definitely* choose Truman again.

Question:	3. If you could start college over, would you choose to attend this university?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - Definitely no	5.0	5.4	5.5	4.7	3.6	
2 - Probably no	20.2	16.7	18.3	17.3	16.0	
3 - Probably yes	46.6	52.9	51.0	53.9	54.1	
4 - Definitely yes	28.2	25.0	25.3	24.0	26.4	
Mean	2.98	2.98	2.96	2.97	3.03	

### High Impact Educational Experiences . . .

Students indicated that their education as a whole (Q25) was equally transformative in FY24, tied for a five-year low with both FY23 and FY22. Study Abroad experiences (Q26Aa) are reported to be significantly more transformative – a five-year high and 20% increase for *totally transformative* responses from FY23. Student undergraduate research experiences (Q26Ba) were more transformative in FY24. Internship experiences (Q26Da) are reported to be more transformative, compared to prior years. Means for all 11 “transformative” prompts are equal or higher in FY24 than FY23 (university-wide report p84).

Question:	25. How transformative was your education as a whole?					Question:	26Aa. How transformative was your Study Abroad experience?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %
1 - Not at all	2.2	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.6	1 - Not at all	0.4	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2 - Slightly	7.1	7.7	7.8	8.7	9.7	2 - Slightly	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.5
3 - Somewhat	32.1	32.8	37.5	36.6	33.9	3 - Somewhat	12.1	10.2	10.7	14.5	17.1	4.5
4 - Very Transformative	50.0	46.8	44.6	43.9	46.3	4 - Very Transformative	47.0	39.6	46.7	46.8	48.6	39.4
5 - Totally Transformative	8.6	9.8	7.5	8.3	7.5	5 - Totally Transformative	38.8	46.8	41.0	38.7	34.3	54.5
Mean - 1-5 above	3.56	3.53	3.47	3.47	3.47	Mean - 1-5 above	4.22	4.28	4.27	4.24	4.17	4.47

  

Question:	26Ba. How transformative was your Undergraduate Research experience?					Question:	26Da. How transformative was your Internship experience?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %		2019 %	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %
1 - Not at all	4.0	1.9	2.3	6.5	1.9	1 - Not at all	1.8	1.8	2.6	2.1	1.6	1.9
2 - Slightly	9.7	12.7	10.5	15.1	9.3	2 - Slightly	4.1	3.9	5.2	5.7	7.7	4.9
3 - Somewhat	37.4	42.7	43.6	40.9	43.9	3 - Somewhat	20.5	19.7	23.0	22.7	29.0	21.3
4 - Very Transformative	38.8	37.6	37.2	33.3	36.4	4 - Very Transformative	45.7	44.9	48.2	45.7	47.0	43.7
5 - Totally Transformative	10.1	5.2	6.4	4.3	8.4	5 - Totally Transformative	27.9	29.7	21.0	23.8	14.8	28.4
Mean - 1-5 above	3.41	3.31	3.35	3.14	3.40	Mean - 1-5 above	3.94	3.97	3.80	3.83	3.66	3.92

## Second Major Related Responses . . .

Of the 665 survey respondents, 66 (10%) students indicated they had a second major and completed the related questions. Satisfaction with the quality of instruction (Q23Cb) reached a five-year high. Students indicated higher overall satisfaction with their second major (Q24) in FY24.

Question:	23Cb. How satisfied were you with the overall quality of instruction in your second major?						Question:	24. How satisfied are you with your second major?					
	2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	2019 %		2020 %	2021 %	2022 %	2023 %	2024 %	
1 - Very dissatisfied	6.1	1.7	8.0	1.9	1.4	1 - Very dissatisfied	7.1	5.0	4.3	5.3	7.0	2.8	
2 - Dissatisfied	12.9	9.3	9.7	7.4	5.8	2 - Dissatisfied	7.1	7.9	9.6	11.4	10.5	11.3	
3 - Satisfied	43.2	54.2	48.7	57.4	59.4	3 - Satisfied	48.1	47.5	49.6	50.0	47.4	50.7	
4 - Very satisfied	37.9	34.7	33.6	33.3	33.3	4 - Very satisfied	37.7	39.6	36.5	33.3	35.1	35.2	
Mean - 1-4 above	3.13	3.22	3.08	3.22	3.25	Mean - 1-4 above	3.16	3.22	3.18	3.11	3.11	3.18	