High School Exit Survey (HSES)

Executive Summary, Spring 2018

Austin Independent School District

Overall, the district's High School Exit Survey (HSES) results have remained consistent across school years. Most students planned to enroll in college within a year after high school graduation and completed steps to prepare for their college and career plans. Of those planning to enroll in college, 27% had not begun to think about college until they were in high school. Waiting until the senior year in high school is often too late to begin preparing for college. Key college preparation steps include: taking rigorous courses, engaging in academic, college, and career counseling activities, and financial planning.

Figure 1
Eighty-five percent of seniors planned to enroll in college in the year after high school graduation.



Most seniors planned to enroll in colleges in Central Texas and planned to pursue careers that were consistent with occupational needs reported by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce (June 2018).

Top 3 Postsecondary Institutions

Austin Community College (33%) University of Texas at Austin (10%) Texas State University (7%)

Top 3 Career Areas

Health Sciences (18%) Business (13%) Engineering (12%)

To extend outreach for college and career preparation, the district's college and career advisors from each high school sent text messages to seniors to remind them about important college enrollment tasks they needed to complete. Fifty-three percent of AISD seniors reported receiving these text messages, and most seniors found them to be helpful.



86% of AISD seniors reported text messaging was helpful in their college and career preparation.



84% of AISD seniors reported they completed one or more applications for college.



66% of AISD seniors reported they completed a financial aid application for college.

Comprehensive HSES survey results for multiple school years can be accessed at https://www.austinisd.org/dre/district-campus-surveys.

Karen Looby, Ph.D. Publication 17.28 June 2018

About the Survey

The purpose of AISD's High School **Exit Survey is to provide information** about high school students' participation in college and career preparation activities, perceptions of their high school experiences overall, and aspirations for the future. The survey is administered annually to all high school seniors. The data collected from the survey is used to describe student outcomes at district and campus levels. The information informs the district's strategic plan monitoring, program evaluations, and grant compliance reporting. In 2017 and 2018, the response rate of seniors was 85% districtwide.

Most 2018 survey respondents (n= 3,806) were Hispanic or White, and more than half were female.



