



Survey Report

The seventh annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2010. Facilitators on each campus, primarily Project ADVANCE counselors, were responsible for ensuring that all graduating seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey. Funding for this report was provided by district local funds.

This report contains the results for the Austin High School Class of 2010. Where available, data are presented from previous senior classes to compare with the 2010 responses. In addition, average results from all AISD high schools are presented alongside results for Austin for comparison purposes. In total, 3,574 students in the Class of 2010 completed the survey, including 436 students from Austin. Tests for statistical significance were conducted with district-level data only (see district-level report). Table 1 presents yearly response rates by campus and by district. Next, major findings are presented, followed by open-ended campus-level responses, and finally, responses to the multiple-choice items from the survey.

Table 1. High School Exit Survey Response Rates, Classes 2008–2010

	Class of 2008	Class of 2009	Class of 2010
All high schools	74.8%	78.8%	82.0%
Austin	86.0%	89.8%	94.6%

Major Findings

Some of the notable trends at this campus include:

- Postsecondary preparation and plans.** Similar to district-wide results, a lower percentage of seniors in 2010 than in 2009 planned to continue their education after high school; however, the percentage of seniors who indicated a plan to continue their education was higher than the percentage in the district who indicated so. Compared with seniors district wide, Austin seniors appeared to have more college preparation. Higher percentages of Austin seniors than of seniors district wide indicated taking college entrance tests, taking advanced placement classes, and ordering and submitting transcripts. Compared with the Austin Class of 2009, a higher percentage of seniors in 2010 applied to 2-year colleges and to technical/career schools, and a lower percentage applied to 4-year colleges.

- **Parent participation and civic engagement.** In almost every category of parent participation, a higher percentage of Austin seniors than of seniors district wide indicated that their parents participated in school activities; however, these percentages represented a decline for Austin, compared with percentages for the Class of 2009. Compared with the total district results, a higher percentage of Austin seniors voted in an election or were planning to register to vote after their 18th birthday.
- **Extracurricular activities.** A lower percentage of Austin seniors than of seniors district wide participated in career and technical student organizations. Also, the percentage of students participating in speech and debate was higher than the percentage for students district wide, and higher than the school’s percentage in 2009.

OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS

At the end of the survey, students were asked for additional comments and “What is the ONE thing that you especially want the administration of AISD to know?” Of the 436 respondents, 42% provided comments that could be categorized as either positive or critical feedback and subcategorized according to emerging themes.

POSITIVE FEEDBACK

Twenty-eight percent of the students’ comments were categorized as positive feedback, and three major themes emerged: general satisfaction and accomplishment (60%), helpful college and career support (22%) and helpful teachers (18%).

- **General satisfaction and accomplishment.** Many students mentioned general positive feelings about their school and their own efforts in completing high school. One student wrote, “Austin high has been a great place to go to school and i would’nt ask to be anywhere else! thank you for everything and all the extra help!!”
- **Helpful college and career support.** Students expressed thankfulness for the college and career support they received from the school’s College and Career Center. A student wrote, “The College and Career Center staff and my AVID teacher were so helpful in the process of applying for college. They should be kept around for future students to benefit from them as well. If I did not have their help, I would not have gotten so far in the applying for scholarships and college process.”
- **Helpful teachers.** Many students recognized the helpfulness of teachers. A student said, “I would like to thank my teachers who have helped me throughout the years and who have always believed in me. I also want to thank them for pushing me to reach my goals. I

wouldn't be who i am today or be going where i am today if it wasn't for them.!"

CRITICAL FEEDBACK

The majority of the seniors' comments (72%) were categorized as critical feedback. From these comments, three major themes emerged as primary areas of concern: college and career support (27%), curriculum and instruction quality (27%), and school climate (23%).

- **College and career support.** Many students wanted better access to and help with college and career information. One student wrote, "I wish I have gotten more information about financial aid, and college application, I think that talking directly to the students is better than sending emails, because no everyone has internet or an internet mobile to connect with. In person the directions can be better explained."
- **Curriculum and instruction.** Many students requested more engaging classes and interesting assignments. One student said, "We need to find better ways to keep students active in class with alternative ways to learn."
- **School climate.** Many students requested that school rules be enforced consistently across student groups. For example, one student said, "Either enforce the rules fully, or not enforce them at all. I'm tired of certain kids being treated differently (not getting in trouble because they're a part of sports or 'close' with the administrators) and being above others. Get rid of 'favorites' and treat everyone the same."

INDIVIDUAL ITEM RESPONSES FOR AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL

This section provides item-level data for the high school and the district. Seniors' responses to the multiple-choice questions were organized into seven general topic areas: postsecondary intentions and family support; high school experiences, campus climate, and civic engagement; instruction and technology; postsecondary preparation and advising; and additional results.

POSTSECONDARY INTENTIONS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Table 2. Within a Year After Graduating From High School, What Do You Plan to Do? (Item 8)

	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Continue my education	93.2%	96.9%	94.5%	92.2%	93.1%	91.4%
Go into the military	1.8%	3.1%	2.8%	2.8%	3.9%	4.3%
Be a full-time parent	0.7%	1.2%	1.1%	2.2%	1.7%	1.2%
Work full-time	10.9%	7.5%	7.8%	13.5%	11.7%	11.5%
Work part-time	41.0%	30.7%	35.3%	41.1%	32.9%	34.8%
No plans/Not sure	0.7%	0.9%	5.0%	2.4%	2.3%	5.1%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

* Item was recoded to match data from previous years. In 2008, this was two items: “Attend a school or college for a business, technical, trade, or vocational certificate” and “Attend a college or university for a degree.” The percentage represents all students who chose either or both options.

Table 3. If You Are Not Planning to Pursue Further Education at This Time, What Are Your Primary Reasons? (Item 9)

	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Cannot afford to attend school	20.0%	42.9%	50.0%	16.9%	33.0%	27.2%
Childcare or family responsibilities	6.7%	14.3%	12.5%	14.9%	11.4%	9.2%
Don't like attending school	13.3%	0.0%	37.5%	19.4%	17.6%	18.4%
Grades/test scores aren't high enough	16.7%	28.6%	18.8%	16.5%	21.6%	22.6%
Don't feel academically prepared	16.7%	28.6%	31.3%	13.7%	17.0%	18.4%
Need income to support myself/others	33.3%	28.6%	50.0%	25.0%	34.1%	25.9%
My goals don't require additional education	.	.	6.3%	.	.	13.8%
Other	23.3%	17.6%	20.6%	22.6%	12.9%	22.1%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

Table 4. If You Are Not Planning to Pursue Further Education at This Time, Do You Intend to Pursue It at a Later Time? (Item 10)

	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Probably or definitely yes	57.7%	66.7%	66.7%	59.2%	66.2%	63.0%
Maybe	19.2%	25.0%	27.8%	19.3%	24.1%	27.0%
Probably or definitely no	11.5%	8.3%	0.0%	10.5%	4.2%	3.0%
Don't know	11.5%	0.0%	5.6%	11.0%	5.6%	7.0%

Note. Response options were collapsed for ease in reporting.

Table 5. To What Extent Were Your Parents Involved in the Following School-Related Activities? (Item 11)

<i>*Percentage who responded parents were involved at least Occasionally</i>	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Volunteering at your school	41.5%	39.3%	32.7%	40.0%	30.3%	28.7%
Working with you on homework or school projects	57.6%	53.4%	49.1%	54.6%	46.8%	44.3%
Helping you decide what classes to take	64.0%	64.7%	56.1%	60.2%	53.4%	51.6%
Attending school meetings	60.2%	59.9%	49.0%	54.9%	45.9%	44.5%
Communicating with your teachers	62.6%	61.8%	53.5%	60.6%	52.1%	48.5%
Participating in school leadership opportunities	25.5%	20.0%	16.6%	29.0%	17.9%	17.0%
Attending athletic events	62.2%	64.3%	56.3%	58.8%	51.5%	50.1%
Attending academic events and competitions	33.9%	24.8%	20.7%	36.9%	25.4%	24.7%
Attending performance events	51.7%	45.1%	46.4%	53.3%	45.0%	43.9%
Joining and participating in the PTA	27.7%	20.0%	16.5%	27.1%	16.5%	16.4%

Note. Response options were *never, rarely, occasionally, and often*. In 2008, *consistently* was an additional response option; in 2009, it was removed. Thus, results may not be equivalent between years.

Table 6. How Far Did Your Mother, Father, and Older Sibling Go in School? Indicate Their Highest Level of Education. (Item 13)

	Austin Mother	Austin Father	Austin Sibling	All HS Mother	All HS Father	All HS Siblings
Did not finish high school	12.0%	14.5%	4.1%	19.2%	21.3%	8.0%
Graduated from high school or earned a GED	19.1%	17.4%	18.8%	19.1%	18.8%	20.6%
Attended a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school, but no degree	5.4%	6.1%	13.3%	7.4%	5.5%	10.7%
Graduated from a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school	5.4%	3.9%	2.6%	5.0%	3.8%	4.6%
Attended a 4-yr college, but did not complete a degree	6.6%	6.3%	8.1%	6.2%	6.4%	8.8%
Graduated from college	27.8%	22.0%	20.7%	20.7%	18.2%	17.6%
Completed a Master's degree or equivalent	13.2%	15.7%	6.6%	11.4%	11.7%	3.8%
Completed a Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced professional degree	4.0%	6.3%	0.0%	4.5%	6.0%	1.3%
Don't know or Does not apply	6.4%	7.7%	25.8%	6.5%	8.2%	24.6%

Note. In 2010, “older” was added to describe on which sibling to report.

HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCES, CAMPUS CLIMATE, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Table 7. How Many Different High Schools Have You Attended? (Item 5)

	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
1	82.6%	77.4%	73.2%	77.6%	70.1%	71.9%
2	13.6%	14.2%	17.3%	16.8%	18.4%	18.6%
3 or more	3.8%	8.4%	9.5%	5.6%	11.5%	9.5%

Table 8. Please Indicate the Number of Years of High School in Which You Participated in Each of These Extracurricular Activities. (Items 14 and 16)

<i>*Percentage who reported at least 1 year of participation</i>	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
<i>In school</i>				
Music	27.0%	31.3%	33.6%	33.7%
Theater	18.2%	19.4%	18.6%	18.8%
Dance	17.7%	17.6%	22.1%	21.5%
Sports	59.0%	57.1%	57.9%	55.6%
UIL academic competitions	20.7%	22.2%	20.0%	20.0%
Speech/debate	18.3%	24.6%	20.9%	21.0%
Student government	16.2%	18.4%	16.3%	17.3%
Career and technical student organizations	7.2%	8.1%	14.5%	15.5%
<i>Outside school</i>				
Music	25.5%	30.2%	30.5%	29.9%
Theater	5.3%	8.5%	7.9%	8.7%
Dance	14.1%	10.3%	15.0%	13.7%
Sports	51.4%	52.4%	50.9%	49.6%
Community service/volunteering	68.9%	67.5%	62.1%	60.2%
Environmental project/activities	27.3%	30.3%	28.0%	25.9%
Boy/Girl Scouts	8.1%	9.2%	8.0%	10.2%
Family care	15.9%	23.2%	22.4%	21.1%

*Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

Table 9. For Each of These Extracurricular Activities, Did You Spend More Than 10 Hours per Week During Your Senior Year on Them? (Items 15 and 17)

<i>*Percentage of seniors indicating they spent more than 10 hours per week on each activity.</i>	Austin 2010	All HS 2010
<i>Inside school</i>		
Music	7.5%	8.3%
Theater	3.9%	3.2%
Dance	2.4%	4.0%
Sports	26.7%	23.5%
UIL academic competitions	2.0%	2.3%
Speech/debate	0.0%	1.3%
Student government	0.5%	1.1%
Career and technical student organizations	0.3%	2.2%
<i>Outside school</i>		
Music	7.5%	7.0%
Theater	2.0%	1.9%
Dance	1.5%	2.8%
Sports	19.7%	17.8%
Community service/volunteering	8.1%	6.9%
Environmental project/activities	2.5%	2.5%
Boy/Girl Scouts	0.3%	1.0%
Family care	10.4%	7.1%

* Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

Table 10. Please Indicate the Number of Years of High School That You Have Been Employed (Either During the Year or During the Summer) (Item 18)

	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
0	31.5%	40.2%	27.9%	37.3%
1	25.4%	18.1%	26.8%	23.7%
2	23.9%	19.8%	24.5%	20.6%
3	10.2%	13.5%	12.9%	10.9%
4	9.0%	8.4%	7.9%	7.5%

Figure 1. Now Indicate the Number of Hours Per Week That You Worked During Last Summer. (Item 19a)

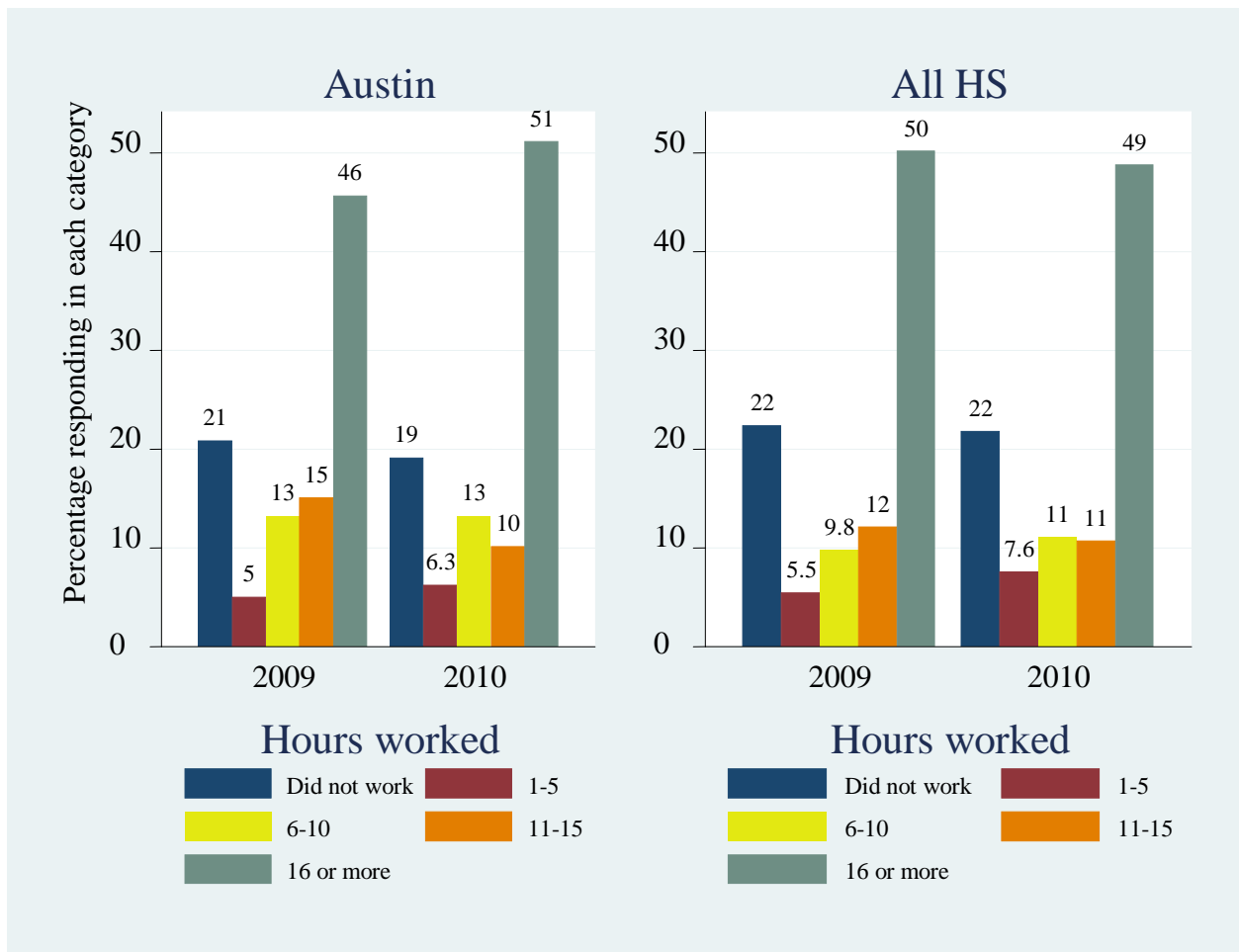


Figure 2. Now Indicate the Number of Hours per Week That You Worked During Your Senior Year. (Item 19b)

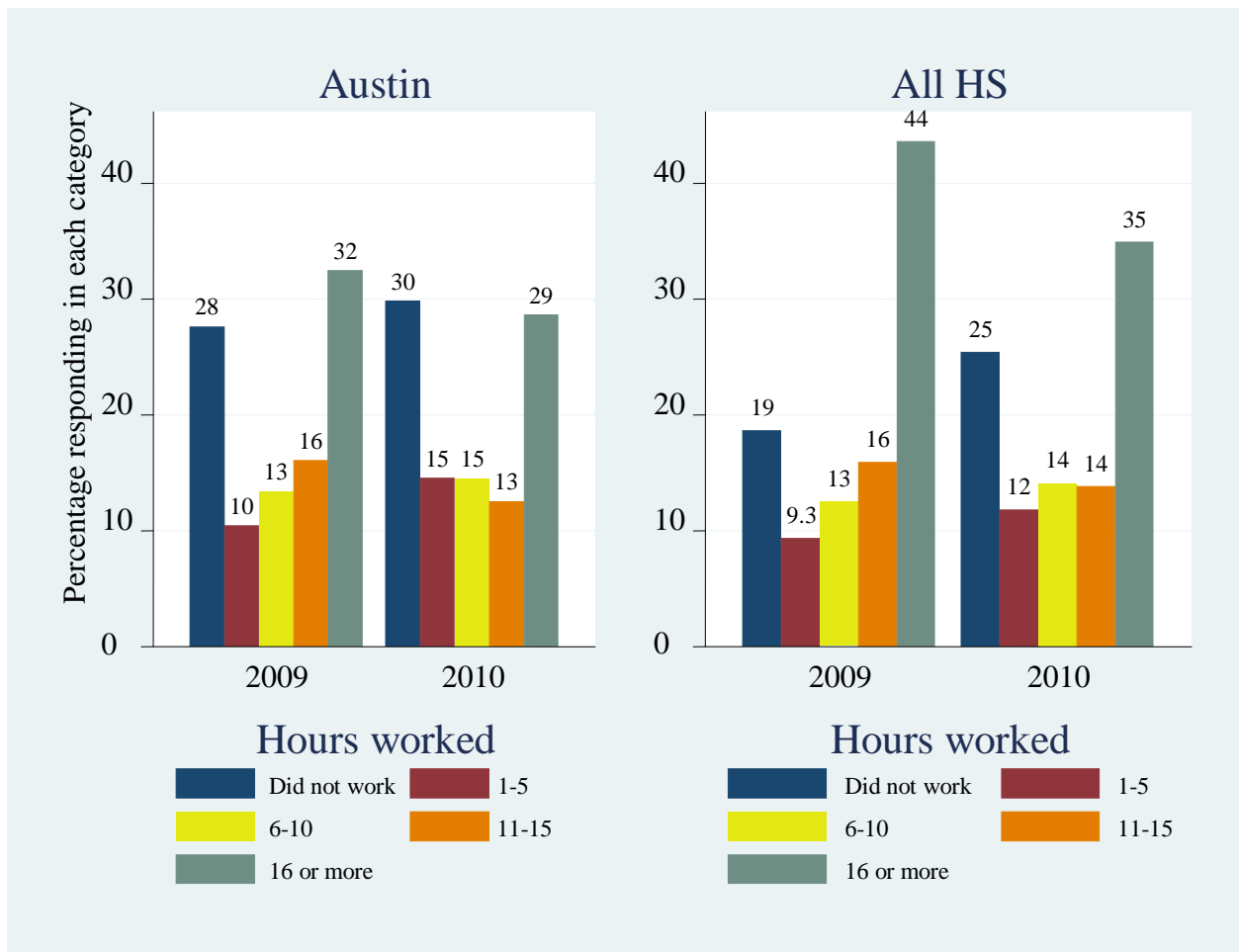


Figure 3. Thinking Back on Your Years in High School, How Many Hours per Week Did You Typically Spend Studying, Doing Research, or Completing Homework Assignments Outside of Class? (Item 20)

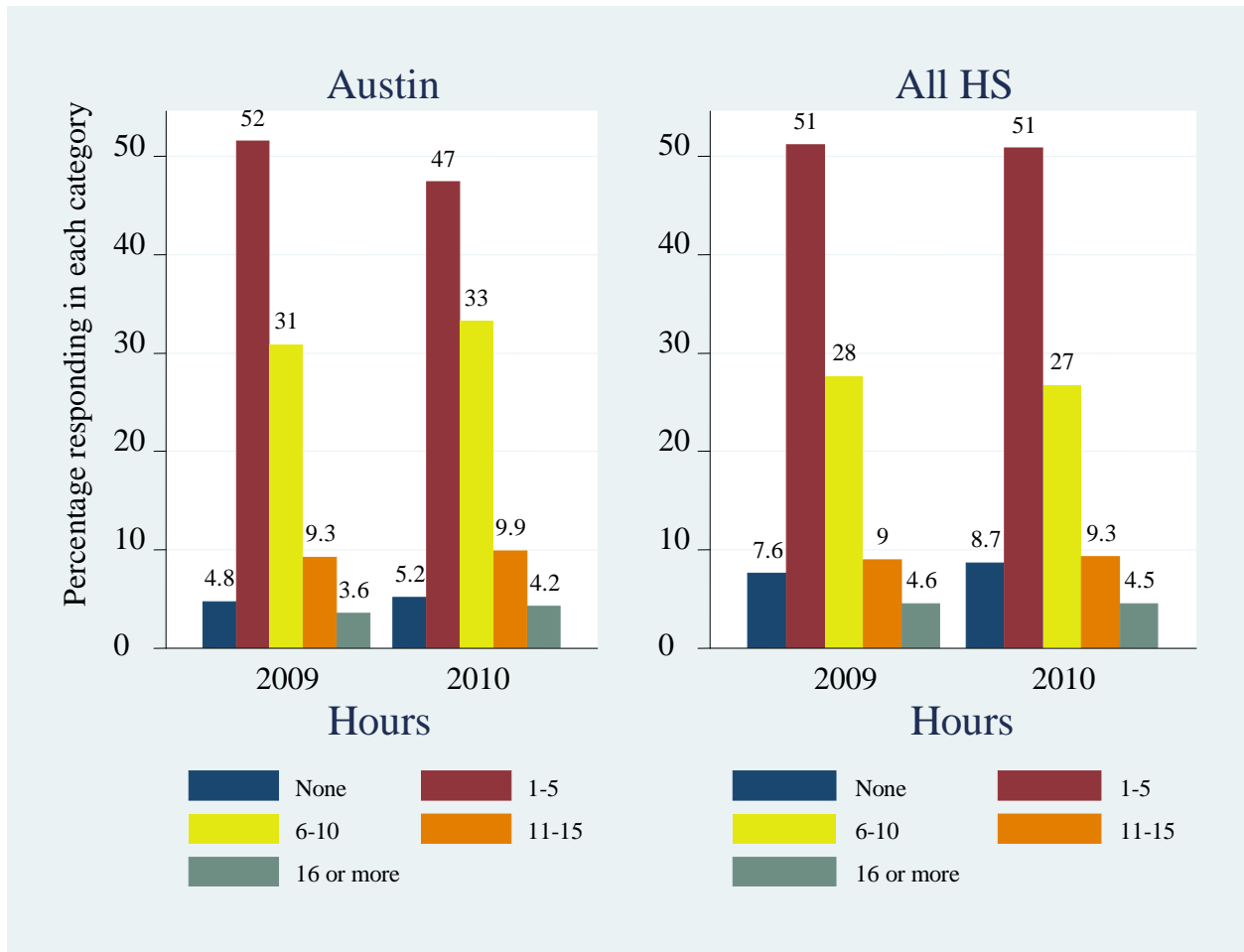


Table 11. Please Mark the Item That Best Indicates How You Feel: (Item 21)

<i>*Percentage who responded Sometimes or Always</i>	Austin 2010	All HS 2010
I can do even the hardest schoolwork if I try	90.9%	91.8%
I enjoy doing my schoolwork	49.9%	58.6%
I feel/felt well prepared for TAKS	89.3%	89.3%
I try hard to do my best work	88.5%	89.5%
I feel successful in my schoolwork	89.2%	90.3%
I can reach the goals I set for myself	96.7%	95.4%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know	71.6%	75.9%
I know how I'm doing in school	91.2%	92.2%
My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways	64.2%	68.4%
I have fun learning in my classes	71.2%	76.5%
My teachers connect what I am learning to my life outside of the classroom	63.5%	66.1%
I like to come to school	67.1%	71.4%

Note. Response options included *never, not a lot, sometimes, always, and don't know*. Response options changed from 2009; therefore, trend data were not available.

**Table 12. Please Answer the Following Questions About Your Civic Engagement
 (Items 6 and 7)**

	Austin 2010	All HS 2010
Are you registered to vote?*	27.7%	31.4%
Have you voted in any school board, city, county, state, or national election?*	8.3%	7.0%
Will you register to vote after your 18th birthday?***	75.0%	66.6%

* Only asked to students who were 18 years old or older

** Only asked to students who were not 18 years or older at the time they completed the survey

INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY

Table 13. How Well Did Your High School Help You to Actively Develop Knowledge and Skills in the Following Areas? (Item 22)

<i>*Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Well</i>	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Teamwork	89.8%	91.2%	86.9%	88.6%	89.7%	89.3%
Creative thinking	92.4%	93.8%	89.5%	90.6%	91.7%	90.0%
Problem solving	93.5%	93.0%	92.5%	91.5%	92.0%	91.8%
Conflict resolution	82.4%	85.4%	79.7%	82.8%	84.1%	83.8%
Personal health/fitness	73.0%	80.1%	75.2%	78.6%	81.0%	81.2%
Time management	80.1%	81.8%	79.7%	80.8%	81.2%	82.7%
Technology	82.4%	84.4%	83.8%	84.6%	84.2%	84.4%

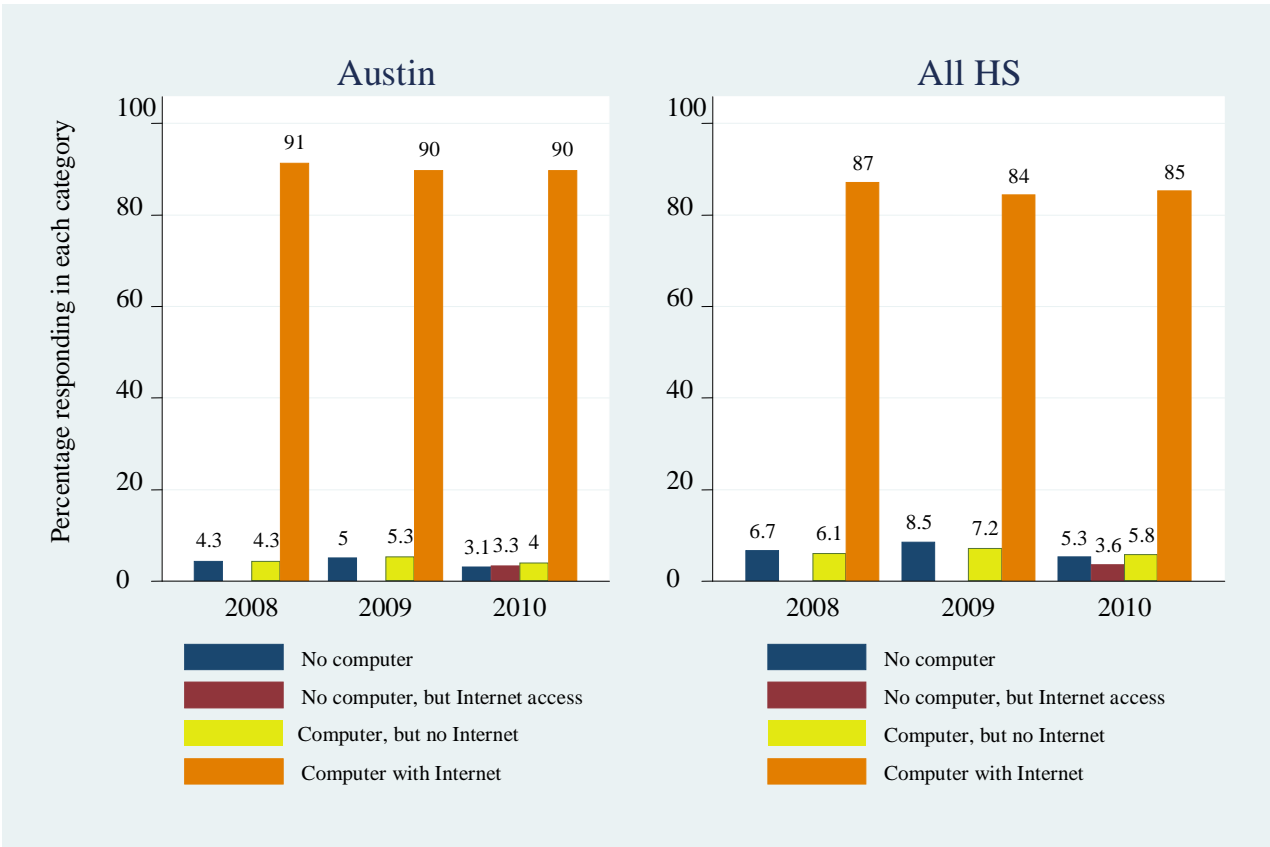
*Responses were *not well*, *somewhat well*, and *very well*.

Table 14. Please Rate the Quality of Instruction That You Feel That You Received in the Following Areas: (Item 23)

<i>*Percentage who responded Good or Excellent</i>	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
English Language Arts	84.8%	83.3%	84.8%	81.2%	81.6%	84.5%
Mathematics	64.9%	67.7%	62.0%	70.7%	70.8%	70.3%
Science	61.3%	69.1%	59.2%	69.5%	69.8%	67.1%
Social Studies	84.3%	85.2%	80.8%	82.8%	82.0%	79.7%
Computer/Technology	69.2%	70.2%	67.2%	71.8%	70.2%	68.7%
Foreign Language	64.0%	65.2%	57.1%	63.9%	64.3%	62.0%
Performing/Fine Arts	75.8%	77.0%	74.2%	73.8%	73.0%	71.8%
Career and Technology	.	.	52.5%	.	.	58.9%

*Responses were *poor*, *fair*, *good*, and *excellent*. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

**Figure 4. Which of the Following Describes Your Computer and Internet Access at Home?
 (Item 24)**



Note. This item was recoded to match longitudinal data. In prior years' surveys, students were asked to indicate the type of Internet service they had at home.

Figure 5. Do Your Parents Use ParentConnect / GradeSpeed to Monitor Your Grades?

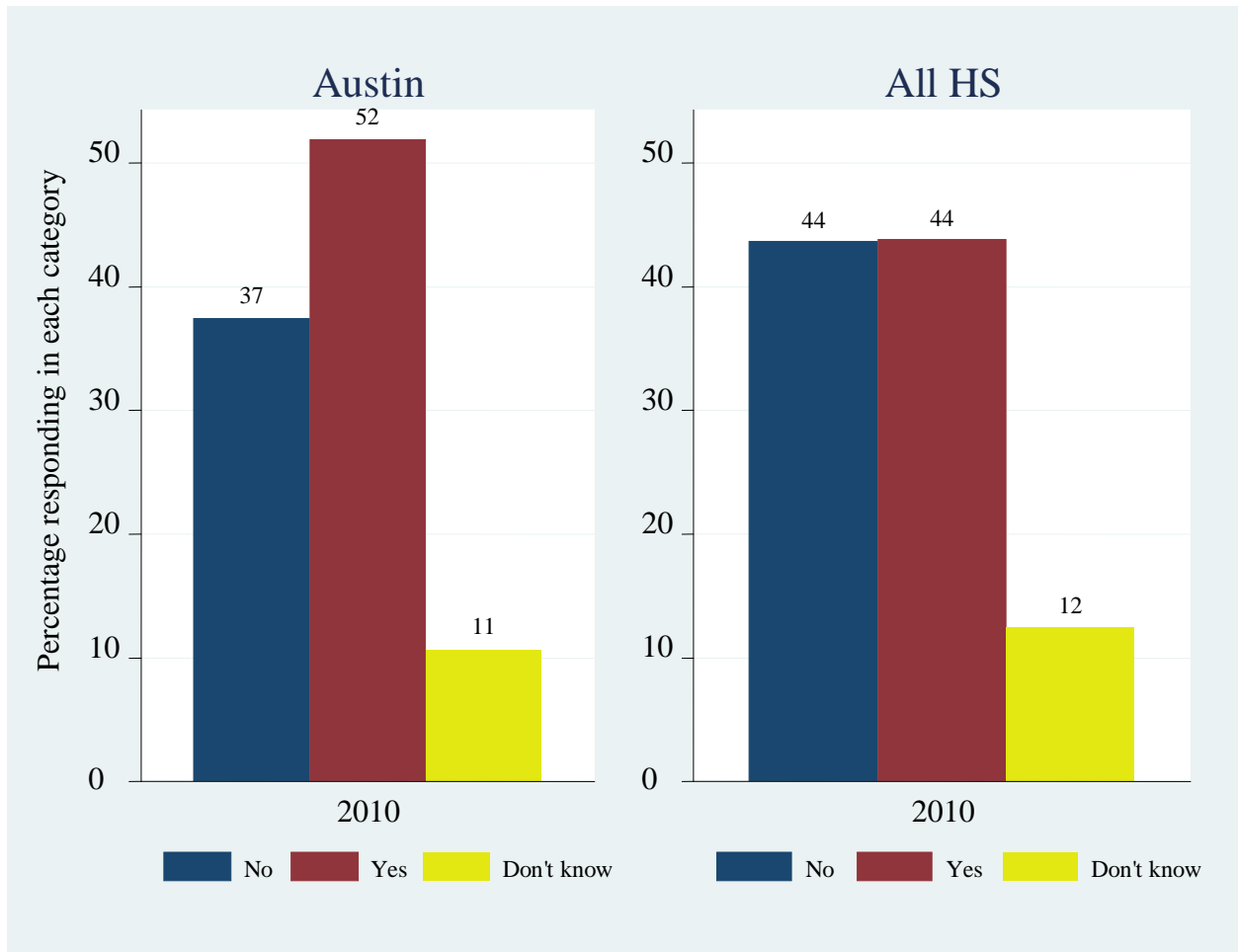


Table 15. How Frequently Do You Use a Computer or Other Internet-Capable Devices (For Example, an iPhone) (Item 25)

<i>*Percentage who responded At least once a week or more</i>	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
At home?	92.4%	89.7%	92.5%	86.7%	83.9%	88.0%
At school?	70.5%	77.2%	83.0%	74.0%	73.1%	80.7%
To present material in class, for example, using PowerPoint	15.1%	17.6%	24.1%	23.5%	22.0%	27.9%
To type a paper or class assignment?	61.9%	68.6%	67.1%	55.3%	53.5%	56.9%
To search the Internet to complete class-related assignments?	66.5%	69.6%	73.2%	61.6%	62.7%	66.5%
To research college/career choices?	49.2%	54.0%	56.6%	50.6%	51.0%	53.3%
To complete online forms or applications for college/employment?	42.5%	43.0%	47.4%	44.0%	43.4%	46.5%
To communicate with teachers (e.g., email, IM, etc.)?	14.6%	15.1%	27.5%	20.8%	17.8%	26.6%
To monitor grades/progress in school?	.	29.6%	55.6%	.	29.4%	50.5%

*Responses were *never, less than once a week, once or twice a week, every day, and almost every day*. Reports prior to 2008 indicated item means.

Note. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

Table 16. Indicate How Much You Agree With Each of the Following Statements About Technology Use at School: (Item 26)

<i>*Percentage who responded Agree or Strongly agree</i>	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
My teachers effectively use the technology resources that are available.	91.6%	90.0%	89.8%	90.4%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my classmates as part of my schoolwork.	79.9%	79.7%	82.3%	83.1%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my teachers.	76.5%	78.2%	76.0%	78.8%
I would like to use more online resources.	81.6%	84.6%	84.0%	84.4%

* Responses were *strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly disagree, and don't know/unsure*.

Table 17. How Frequently Do You Log Onto Naviance / Family Connection for the Following Activities? (Item 28)

<i>*Percentage who responded Once a week or more</i>	Austin 2010	All HS 2010
College search	15.8%	18.0%
Resume building	7.9%	8.7%
Career exploration	8.4%	11.9%
College visit sign up	13.4%	12.1%
Class rank and GPA inquiry	16.8%	15.4%
Counselor directed activities, such as personality questionnaires	4.8%	8.2%
Other	9.2%	10.7%

* Response options were *never, less than once a week, once or twice a week, and every day or almost every day*. Percentages are of the number of students who said *once or twice a week, or every day or almost every day*.
 Note. This was a new item in 2010.

POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION AND ADVISING

Table 18. At What Time in Your Life Did You Start Thinking about College as a Possibility After High School? (Item 30)

	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
As long ago as I can remember	45.6%	48.9%	43.9%	40.5%	38.7%	37.8%
In elementary school	9.3%	8.1%	9.1%	8.5%	7.6%	8.4%
In middle/junior high school	22.0%	18.4%	18.0%	21.9%	21.0%	20.3%
In high school	21.5%	24.3%	27.3%	26.9%	30.9%	31.5%
I've never thought about college as an option after high school	1.6%	0.2%	1.6%	2.3%	1.8%	2.1%

Table 19. High School Preparation for Post-Graduation Opportunities (Item 31)

*Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Well	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
How well prepared were you to plan your high school course selections?	91.0%	94.7%	92.9%	91.2%	91.2%	92.1%
How well prepared were you to meet your college and career goals?	86.8%	89.0%	83.9%	88.4%	86.1%	86.0%
How well prepared have you been for the college/technical/vocational school application process?	83.0%	84.7%	81.0%	83.4%	82.0%	82.3%
How well informed are/were you about obtaining financial aid for education after high school (whether or not you applied)?	81.8%	83.0%	80.0%	81.6%	81.0%	81.8%

*Response options were *not well*, *somewhat well*, and *very well*.

Table 20. How Did You Prepare for Continuing Education? (Check All That Apply) (Item 33)

	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Took the PSAT examination	79.2%	75.2%	67.7%	67.9%	63.1%	58.8%
Took AP/IB classes	51.1%	51.2%	48.2%	48.6%	47.2%	45.7%
Visited campuses	57.2%	57.8%	53.9%	51.8%	55.8%	53.1%
Attended college fairs	44.8%	33.7%	43.1%	48.6%	45.3%	49.2%
Completed and submitted a FAFSA	46.4%	43.9%	50.0%	49.3%	48.6%	49.9%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	39.8%	40.6%	41.7%	41.6%	40.3%	39.8%
Took college entrance tests	79.4%	80.4%	73.9%	72.4%	68.1%	65.6%
Took test prep classes	51.8%	45.0%	41.7%	41.7%	38.9%	38.1%
Completed ACC courses	25.8%	26.7%	30.0%	29.4%	33.1%	33.3%
Ordered and submitted transcripts	58.8%	56.8%	52.3%	50.3%	47.7%	45.9%
Senior ACC application process	.	.	42.4%	.	.	38.2%
Other college-level courses	.	3.1%	4.6%	.	5.4%	6.0%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

Table 21. In Which of the Following College Preparation Programs Did You Participate While in High School? (Item 34)

	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Project ADVANCE	16.0%	12.6%	17.9%	15.1%
AVID	8.0%	9.9%	8.8%	7.0%
ACC College Connections	13.9%	12.4%	18.0%	16.5%
College Forward	0.5%	1.1%	3.5%	3.8%
Con mi MADRE	0.7%	2.1%	1.9%	1.9%
Talent Search/Trio	0.0%	0.5%	2.6%	2.4%
Upward Bound	0.5%	0.5%	1.3%	1.1%
Breakthrough	0.2%	2.3%	1.3%	1.6%
Immigrant College Access	1.2%	1.4%	2.3%	2.2%
I did not participate in any programs like this	49.3%	44.7%	41.3%	45.0%
Other	2.8%	2.5%	3.0%	3.7%

Table 22. If You Participated in One or More College Preparation Programs, What Did You Get Out of It? (Item 35)

	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
They encouraged me to attend school regularly	28.4%	21.6%	31.8%	30.5%
They helped me choose the HS courses to prepare for college	27.9%	20.7%	28.5%	26.2%
They explained the financial aid process to me	31.6%	28.6%	33.2%	31.1%
They were available to help with school-related issues	24.7%	27.0%	26.2%	26.5%
They helped me deal with personal issues	15.8%	11.2%	15.4%	14.7%
They helped me believe that college was right for me	27.4%	24.1%	30.9%	30.0%
They helped me apply to college	43.3%	30.3%	38.7%	35.5%
Other	1.4%	5.0%	1.9%	5.4%

Table 23. Have You Applied to the Following Types of Postsecondary Institutions? (Items 36, 37, and 38)

	Austin 2008	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Have you applied to a 2-year college	41.0%	38.4%	49.1%	41.4%	41.3%	49.5%
Have you applied to a 4-year college?	69.0%	70.0%	66.7%	63.9%	62.7%	63.9%
Have you applied to a business/technical/vocational school?	4.5%	6.4%	8.5%	6.5%	10.7%	11.3%

Note. On the 2009 and 2010 surveys, students were asked to indicate the number of schools to which they had applied, whereas in 2008, students were only prompted to indicate whether they had applied.

Figure 6. Will You Be the First of Your Siblings (Brothers or Sisters) to Attend College? (Item 12)



Table 24. How Easy Has It Been for You and Your Parents to Understand the Process of Applying for Financial Aid? (Item 46)

	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Difficult	10.3%	15.3%	12.8%	13.9%
Some parts easy, some parts difficult	39.1%	43.6%	43.7%	42.5%
Easy	24.3%	21.2%	22.2%	24.2%
Did not apply for financial aid	26.3%	20.0%	21.4%	19.5%

Table 25. How Do You Plan to Pay For Your Education After High School? (Item 47)

	Austin 2009	Austin 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Scholarships and/or grants	57.3%	58.3%	56.3%	57.6%
Loans	38.9%	37.6%	38.0%	37.8%
Family or personal savings	60.6%	57.1%	49.5%	50.2%
Working during the school year	42.5%	43.8%	46.4%	45.6%
Working during the summer	47.6%	46.3%	48.2%	48.2%
I don't know	7.5%	13.1%	14.6%	14.0%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

Table 26. Which of the Following Did a Family Member Do to Help You Prepare for Life After High School Graduation? (Item 44)

	Austin 2010	All HS 2010
Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges	60.6%	57.7%
Talked to you about what college would be like	62.8%	61.0%
Helped you complete college applications	45.9%	41.4%
Helped you find scholarships	33.7%	34.1%
Helped you complete a FAFSA	48.4%	47.9%
Helped you decide which college to attend	56.2%	54.0%
Helped you write college essays/personal statements	37.4%	30.6%
Did not help	11.2%	15.4%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

Table 27. If You Did Not Submit a Financial Aid Application, Why Not? (Item 48)

	Austin 2010	All HS 2010
I do not need financial aid to attend college	25.3%	20.9%
My parents were not willing to submit private financial information	5.2%	7.7%
My family did not think we would qualify for or were eligible for financial aid	20.1%	22.1%
I do not plan to go to college	7.1%	10.1%
I did not know about the financial aid process	42.2%	39.2%

Table 28. Which of the Following Campus Staff Helped You With Any of the Activities Listed Below? (Item 43)

	Austin School counselor	Austin Advisory	Austin Teacher	Austin College and Career Center advisor	Austin AVID staff	Austin Early College Start advisor	All HS School counselor	All HS Advisory	All HS Teacher	All HS College and Career Center advisor	All HS AVID staff	All HS Early College Start advisor
Selected courses for work or college	51.8%	13.8%	31.0%	23.9%	5.7%	7.1%	50.1%	15.8%	32.9%	27.1%	3.4%	10.8%
Advanced placement/honors courses	36.5%	15.6%	54.1%	10.6%	6.4%	2.1%	34.6%	14.0%	51.8%	11.3%	3.4%	2.5%
Encouraged to continue education	50.2%	33.0%	59.2%	39.2%	9.6%	8.0%	50.4%	27.6%	59.4%	31.3%	6.2%	9.3%
Talked about colleges/schools	35.1%	21.6%	34.9%	33.0%	5.0%	2.8%	39.1%	19.9%	41.2%	30.5%	3.4%	5.7%
Discussed careers	31.4%	20.6%	31.4%	34.2%	5.3%	3.0%	34.1%	19.5%	36.5%	28.2%	3.5%	5.5%
Encouraged to apply to multiple schools	33.9%	23.2%	36.2%	38.3%	6.0%	3.7%	38.5%	19.2%	38.6%	31.4%	3.7%	4.2%
Helped complete applications for college	22.7%	10.1%	18.3%	22.7%	5.3%	2.3%	25.9%	11.4%	22.4%	28.7%	3.4%	4.9%
Helped find scholarships	19.7%	9.9%	17.2%	29.8%	5.0%	1.6%	24.7%	11.1%	19.6%	29.7%	3.4%	2.9%
Helped choose college	17.9%	9.6%	18.3%	18.3%	4.4%	1.1%	22.1%	11.0%	24.9%	22.4%	2.9%	3.6%
Helped plan for college expenses	15.8%	11.2%	13.1%	26.8%	5.5%	2.1%	20.6%	11.3%	18.0%	25.9%	3.2%	3.9%
Helped with college application essays or personal statements	16.1%	9.9%	30.5%	20.9%	5.3%	1.4%	20.6%	10.2%	36.1%	22.9%	2.9%	2.7%

Note. The design of this question changed from what it was in 2008. In past years, students were asked to rate each type of staff member according to his or her effectiveness in one of the above college preparation domains. On the 2009 and 2010 surveys, students were asked to indicate whether any of these staff members had helped them with any of the activities listed above.

Table 29. How Much Do You Think Tuition, Fees, and Books Would Cost for a Year of Full-Time Enrollment at the Types of In-State Postsecondary Institutions Listed Below? Please Do Not Consider Living Expenses in Your Estimate.

Austin							
	Under \$1,000	\$1,001- \$3,000	\$3,001- \$5,000	\$5,001- \$7,000	\$7,001- \$9,000	Greater than \$9,000	Don't Know
Public junior or community college	14.1%	29.4%	17.5%	8.5%	3.7%	1.9%	24.9%
Public 4-year	1.3%	7.4%	6.6%	13.5%	23.5%	29.4%	18.3%
Private 4-year	0.5%	2.7%	4.0%	5.1%	8.2%	58.0%	21.5%

All HS							
	Under \$1,000	\$1,001- \$3,000	\$3,001- \$5,000	\$5,001- \$7,000	\$7,001- \$9,000	Greater than \$9,000	Don't Know
Public junior or community college	13.3%	27.2%	16.3%	7.3%	3.1%	2.5%	30.3%
Public 4-year	2.3%	6.5%	9.7%	13.3%	19.2%	23.4%	25.6%
Private 4-year	1.8%	2.9%	4.7%	6.1%	7.7%	48.4%	28.4%

Note. New item in 2010.

ADDITIONAL RESULTS

Figure 7a. What Is the *One Thing* That Was Most Important to Keeping You Going Through School All the Way to Graduation? (Item 50, Austin)

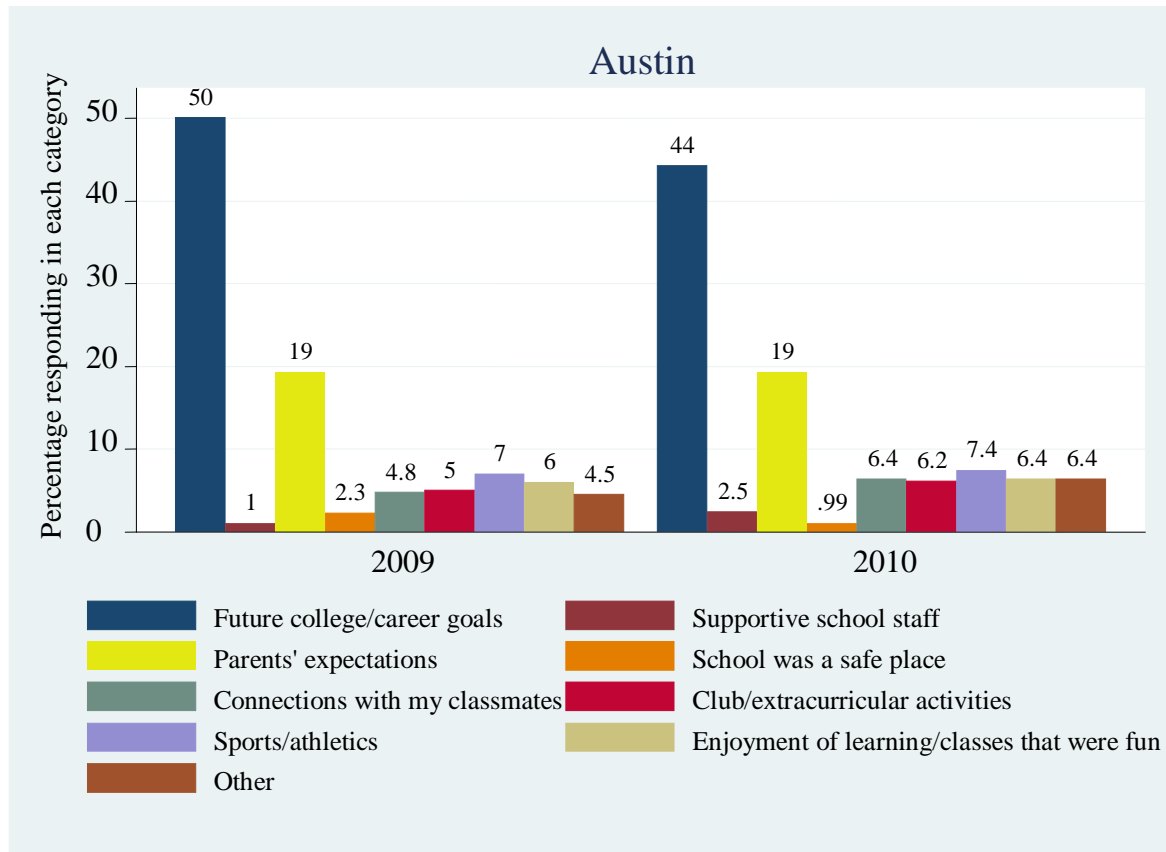


Figure 7b. What Is the *One Thing* That Was Most Important to Keeping You Going Through School All the Way to Graduation? (Item 50, All High Schools)

