

High School Exit Survey: Bowie

Austin Independent School District

Class of 2015

Purpose

The 13th annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey (HSES) was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2015. In total, 548 Bowie High School seniors completed the survey, for a response rate of 86%.

On each campus, Project ADVANCE facilitators primarily were responsible for ensuring all seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey. Special education chairs at each campus may have provided eligible special education students with guidance and assistance in completing the survey.

The purpose of the HSES was to monitor high school students' perceptions of their high school experience. Results are used to improve the campus environment and program supports for students. Survey results also are used in the monitoring of the district's strategic plan *Goal 3: All students will graduate ready for college, career, and life in a globally competitive economy.*

Postsecondary Aspirations, Parental Engagement, & Support

Table 1.

Almost 60% half of Bowie seniors planned to [work part time while attending college.](#)

Postsecondary plans	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Continue my education	95%	92%	86%
Attend college or technical school <u>without working</u>	29%	28%	20%
Attend college or technical school while <u>working full time</u>	8%	7%	11%
Attend college or technical school while <u>working part time</u>	60%	57%	56%
Work full time only	5%	2%	4%
Work part time only	1%	1%	1%
Enlist in the military	4%	2%	3%
No plans/ not sure yet	2%	2%	4%
Other	1%	1%	2%

Table 2.

Most Bowie seniors who planned to enroll in college planned to enroll **Fall 2015.**

Semester enrollment	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
This summer	6%	7%	8%
This fall	90%	90%	85%
Next spring	4%	3%	7%

Table 3.

Sixty-six percent of Bowie seniors planned to enroll in a **4-year institution. Almost 30% of seniors planned to enroll in a **2-year college and then transfer to a 4-year college**.**

Type of institution	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
A 4-year college or university	65%	66%	57%
A 2-year college or university	5%	4%	10%
A 2-year community college and then transfer to a 4-year college	33%	29%	30%
A private career or trade school	1%	1%	2%

Table 4.

Twenty-six percent of Bowie seniors planned to attend **Austin Community College.**

Postsecondary institutions	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Austin Community College (ACC)	29%	26%	35%
Texas State University	11%	9%	8%
University of Texas-Bowie	7%	9%	9%
University of Texas-San Antonio	4%	7%	4%
Texas A&M University	6%	3%	4%
St. Edward's University	2%	1%	2%
Blinn College	6%	4%	2%
University of North Texas	4%	4%	2%
Texas Tech University	6%	5%	3%
Stephen F. Bowie University	1%	0%	1%
Other	30%	32%	31%

Table 5.

Health sciences, business, and engineering were top areas Bowie seniors planned to study in college. Three percent of Bowie seniors were interested in studying computer and information sciences, a 2% percentage point decline since 2014.

Jobs/careers	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Health sciences	15%	17%	17%
Business	15%	13%	13%
Engineering	13%	13%	13%
Law, public safety, corrections, and security	4%	5%	6%
Computer and information sciences	5%	3%	5%
Human services	2%	1%	3%
I do not know	8%	9%	9%
Visual and performing arts	7%	9%	7%
Agricultural sciences and technologies	4%	2%	3%
Natural sciences and mathematics	8%	8%	7%
Education	5%	4%	5%
Communication	4%	5%	4%
Architecture	2%	2%	2%
Social sciences	4%	3%	3%
Hospitality and tourism	2%	1%	1%
Humanities	2%	1%	1%
Office skills	0%	0%	0%
Trade and industrial	1%	1%	1%

Table 6.

More than 2/3 of Bowie seniors took a high school course in the area they planned to study in college.

	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Yes	67%	65%
No	33%	35%

Table 7.

Over 50% of Bowie seniors who did not take a course in the area they planned to study in college did not do so because **there were no such courses offered at Bowie.**

Reasons	Bowie 2015	District 2015
I wanted to, but there were no such courses offered at my school.	53%	27%
My parents did not want me to take a course in that area.	0%	1%
I wanted to, but my schedule would not allow it.	31%	51%
I was not interested in taking a course in this area in high school.	19%	18%
A counselor steered me away from those courses.	1%	1%
Other	6%	11%

Table 8.

Forty-one percent of Bowie seniors who did not plan to enroll in college immediately after high school, planned to **take a year off from school to pursue other things.**

Reason	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Financial	17%	7%	18%
Academic	10%	11%	7%
Personal obligation	0%	2%	7%
Personal preference	34%	27%	20%
Gap year	24%	41%	35%
Other	15%	11%	14%

Table 9.

Sixty-six percent of Bowie seniors' mother's education level was a **college degree or above.**

School status	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, etc.)	2%	3%	3%
Professional degree (e.g., MD, JD, etc.)	4%	6%	20%
Master's degree	13%	15%	9%
Bachelor's degree (4-year)	34%	36%	20%
Associate degree (2-year)	9%	6%	5%
Some college	18%	13%	13%
High school diploma or earned a GED	16%	16%	19%
Less than high school	3%	4%	24%
Don't know or does not apply	2%	1%	4%

Table 10.

Eighty-three percent of Bowie seniors' parents expected them to **earn a college degree or industry license/certification**.

Level of education	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, etc.)	6%	16%	12%
Master's degree	22%	19%	16%
Bachelor's degree (4-year)	49%	42%	37%
Associate degree (2-year)	4%	4%	5%
Industry license or certification	--	2%	3%
Some college	4%	4%	7%
High school or earned a GED	3%	3%	8%
I am not sure	8%	10%	12%

Table 11.

Almost all Bowie seniors expected to earn a **college degree or certification** in their lifetime.

Level of education	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Doctoral or professional degree	--	23%	20%
Master's degree	--	31%	28%
Bachelor's degree (4-yr college or university)	42%	38%	35%
Associate degree (2-year community college)	4%	4%	8%
Industry license or certification (e.g., trade/technical school)	2%	3%	4%
High school diploma	2%	2%	5%

Table 12.

Bowie seniors have been told mostly by their **parents and friends** they should go to college.

Level of education	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Parents	94%	89%
Teachers	71%	78%
College and career advisor	35%	55%
School counselor	40%	55%
Coach(es)	35%	38%
Sibling(s) or other family member(s)	65%	63%
Friend(s)	77%	75%
Other adult in my life	49%	47%
No one	3%	3%

Table 13.

Bowie seniors' parents were involved with their schooling mostly by **talking to them about how their doing in their classes and **talking to them about their homework**.**

Seniors who responded either <i>sometimes</i> or <i>often</i>	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Talking to you about homework	71%	68%	68%
Making sure you completed your homework	63%	63%	65%
Asking you about what you're learning in school	62%	60%	65%
Helping you decide what classes to take	61%	61%	54%
Talking to you about how you're doing in your classes	84%	81%	79%
Rewarding you when you do well in school	54%	56%	56%
Communicating with your teachers	43%	41%	46%
Attending school meetings	41%	46%	47%
Attending school events	59%	64%	58%
Volunteering at your school	29%	28%	28%
Joining and participating in the PTA	20%	18%	18%
Use Parent Cloud to monitor your grades	68%	54%	51%

Table 14.

Most Bowie seniors know at least one teacher who supported their personal lives, high school academics, and postsecondary aspirations.

Teacher help	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Would be willing to give you extra help with your school work if you needed it	90%	88%	88%
Would be willing to help you with a personal problem	73%	76%	74%
Cares about how you're doing in school	79%	79%	79%
Would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation for a job or college	90%	85%	81%
Knows what you will be doing next year	68%	68%	65%
Would be willing to help you even after you graduate	68%	35%	64%
I do not know a teacher who fits any of the items above.	--	4%	4%

Persistence and Motivation

Table 15.

Bowie seniors indicated their feelings about their persistence, motivation, and interactions with teachers.

Percentage who responded either <i>sometimes</i> or <i>always</i>	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
I can do even the hardest schoolwork if I try.	89%	90%	92%
I enjoy doing my schoolwork.	41%	51%	59%
I feel/felt well prepared for STAAR/EOC.	69%	82%	84%
I try hard to do my best work.	89%	88%	91%
I feel successful in my schoolwork.	84%	86%	89%
My teachers push us to think hard about the things we read.	73%	79%	87%
My teachers push everyone to work hard.	79%	82%	90%
I can reach the goals I set for myself.	94%	94%	96%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know.	67%	71%	78%
My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways.	55%	61%	73%
My teachers connect what I am learning to life outside of class.	56%	61%	70%
I have fun learning in my classes.	62%	72%	77%
I like to come to school.	60%	61%	71%

Extracurricular Activities

Table 16.

The school-affiliated activities Bowie seniors were mostly involved in were **sports** and **academic clubs**.

In school	Did not participate	1-2 years	3-4 years
Music	61%	16%	23%
Theater/drama	73%	21%	7%
Dance	83%	10%	7%
Sports	44%	19%	37%
Academic clubs/UII competitions	52%	22%	27%
Speech/debate	73%	25%	3%
Student government	85%	11%	5%
Career and technical student organizations	83%	11%	6%

Table 17.

Bowie seniors were mostly involved in **community service** and **sports** outside of school.

Outside of school	Did not participate	1-2 years	3-4 years
Music	69%	9%	21%
Theater/drama	89%	6%	5%
Dance	86%	6%	8%
Sports	48%	14%	38%
Providing routine care for family members	76%	9%	16%
Community service	37%	24%	39%
Environmental projects/activities	70%	16%	15%
Boy/Girl Scouts	89%	3%	8%

Work and Study Time

Table 18.

Sixty-five percent of Bowie seniors **worked** during their senior year.

Work time	Percentage who worked <i>during</i> senior year		
	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Did not work	42%	35%	39%
Less than 20 hours	36%	38%	28%
20 hours or more	22%	27%	33%

Table 19.

Most Bowie seniors who worked during their senior year worked because they **liked the freedom of having their own money**.

Reason	Bowie 2015	District 2015
To save money for college	25%	19%
To help my family with bills/expenses	8%	20%
I like the freedom of having my own money	60%	52%
Other	7%	9%

Table 20.

On average, Bowie seniors studied **1 to 5 hours** each week.

Study time	Percentage who studied each week		
	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
None	9%	8%	9%
1 to 5 hours	43%	38%	40%
6 to 10 hours	24%	25%	22%
11 to 15 hours	11%	15%	12%
16 to 20 hours	8%	8%	9%
More than 20 hours	4%	7%	9%

Instructional Quality

Table 21.

Bowie High School helped seniors to actively develop **Twenty-first Century Skills**.

Percentage who responded <i>somewhat well</i> or <i>very well</i>	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Teamwork	89%	91%	91%
Creative thinking	85%	86%	90%
Problem solving	88%	93%	93%
Conflict resolution	82%	85%	87%
Personal health/fitness	75%	77%	81%
Time management	76%	80%	84%
Technology	78%	71%	84%

Table 22.

Bowie seniors rated the quality of their **English language arts** and **social studies** instruction most favorably.

Percentage who responded <i>good</i> or <i>excellent</i>	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
English language arts	70%	78%	81%
Social studies	76%	77%	75%
Performing/Fine arts	70%	72%	73%
Career and technical (CTE)	71%	65%	71%
Science	72%	71%	70%
Mathematics	64%	69%	73%
Computer/Technology	60%	58%	64%
Foreign language	39%	72%	64%

Technology Access and Use

Table 23.

Almost all Bowie seniors have a **computer with Internet access** at home.

Access	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
No computer	1%	1%	5%
No computer, but Internet access	4%	4%	12%
Computer, no Internet	1%	0%	4%
Computer with Internet access	94%	95%	79%

Table 24.

Bowie seniors used Naviance mostly to check their **class rank and grade point average (GPA)**.

Percentage answering <i>yes</i>	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Class rank and GPA inquiry	88%	84%	82%
College search	70%	64%	70%
Counselor-directed activities	65%	54%	63%
College visit sign up	56%	52%	55%
Career exploration	50%	38%	48%
Resume building	35%	27%	36%

Postsecondary Preparation and Advising

Table 25.

Half of Bowie seniors have been thinking about college **“for as long as [they] can remember**.

Time frame	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
As long as I can remember	43%	49%	37%
In elementary school	7%	8%	9%
In middle/junior high school	21%	18%	21%
In high school	27%	23%	31%
I've never thought about college	2%	2%	3%

Table 26.

Forty-three percent of Bowie seniors who did not think about college until high school did not think about it until their junior and senior years.

Grade	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
9 th Grade	35%	30%	20%
10 th Grade	25%	27%	25%
11 th Grade	29%	31%	37%
12 th Grade	12%	12%	18%

Table 27.

Bowie seniors prepared for postsecondary education mostly by ordering and submitting transcripts to colleges and taking college entrance exams.

Type of preparation	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Took college entrance tests (e.g., SAT, ACT, THEA, COMPASS, ASSET)	75%	70%	60%
Took one or more Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes	55%	59%	51%
Took test prep class for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, etc.	42%	44%	45%
Completed or are currently enrolled in ACC courses	43%	36%	32%
Took other college level courses (e.g., Texas State, Texas Tech, TSTC)	5%	14%	9%
Visited one or more colleges or technical schools	63%	65%	58%
Met with the school counselor/ADVANCE staff to discuss college plans/processes	45%	29%	50%
Attended one or more college fairs	36%	41%	43%
Met with a college representative or recruiter at my high school	44%	39%	41%
Participated in ACC College Connections	47%	23%	24%
Attended Financial Aid Saturday event(s)	--	7%	10%
Completed and submitted the FAFSA	57%	59%	68%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	49%	54%	47%
Ordered and submitted a transcript to a college or trade/ technical school.	73%	75%	56%
I have not completed any activities to prepare for continuing my education	16%	17%	17%
I have done nothing to academically prepare for continuing my education	13%	13%	19%
I have not completed any forms to prepare for continuing my education	12%	15%	19%

Table 28.

Bowie seniors' family members helped them prepare for life after high school mostly by **talking to them about their career and/or college options**, **their responsibilities as an adult**, and **what a career or college would be like**.

Form of help	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Talked to you about career and/or college options	89%	88%	79%
Talked to you about finances	72%	73%	65%
Talked to you about your responsibilities as an adult	79%	77%	75%
Talked to you about what a career and/or college would be like	77%	76%	62%
Helped you with financial aid (FAFSA and/or scholarships)	62%	63%	55%
Helped you complete applications for colleges or trade/technical schools	56%	56%	40%
Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges	61%	60%	53%
No one in my family talked to me about or helped me with these things.	3%	2%	6%

Table 29.

Bowie seniors' teachers helped them most by **pushing their academic abilities**. School counselors helped them **select courses needed for work or college**. Project ADVANCE staff helped by encouraging them to **continue their education after high school**.

Activity	None of these people	School counselor	Teacher	College & career advisor
Select courses needed for work or admission to college	52%	28%	15%	17%
Push your academic abilities further	32%	14%	58%	6%
Take AP / honors courses	44%	15%	46%	4%
Take dual credit or articulated credit courses	56%	17%	24%	13%
Get information about careers/occupations	49%	18%	24%	18%
Continue your education after high school	42%	25%	37%	23%
Apply to multiple schools	64%	17%	16%	16%
Decide what school to attend	73%	10%	16%	10%
Fill out applications for postsecondary education	70%	11%	13%	13%
Write college application essays or personal statements	50%	10%	37%	13%

Table 30.

Most Bowie seniors were able to meet with their school counselor and Project ADVANCE advisor.

Availability	School Counselor	College & Career Advisor
Yes, this person was available and I talked to him/her.	53%	60%
I tried to talk to this person and wasn't able to meet with him/her.	18%	5%
I never tried to meet with this person.	29%	34%

Applications to Postsecondary Institutions

Table 31.

Bowie seniors who applied to 2-year and 4-year institutions submitted 1 to 3 applications, on average.

Institution type	0 applications	1-3 applications	4 or more applications
2-year	32%	65%	3%
4-year	26%	40%	34%
Business/technical/vocational school	91%	8%	1%

Table 32.

Bowie seniors who applied to 2-year and 4-year institutions received 1 to 3 acceptances, on average.

Institution type	0 acceptances	1-3 acceptances	4 or more acceptances
2-year	36%	61%	3%
4-year	33%	45%	22%
Business/technical/vocational school	91%	6%	3%

Postsecondary Financial Literacy

Table 33.

Almost 80% of Bowie seniors planned to pay for college with family or personal savings.

Source	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Scholarships and/or grants	60%	63%	68%
Loans	44%	47%	42%
Family or personal savings	81%	79%	63%
Tuition and fees exemption	11%	12%	10%
Working during the school year	56%	51%	59%
Working during the summer	62%	56%	61%
I don't know	2%	2%	4%

Table 34.

Bowie seniors learned about financial aid for college mostly from their parents or other adults.

Source of information	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Senior economics class	18%	13%	21%
Financial Aid Saturday events	9%	6%	16%
Talked to school counselor/college and career advisor/Project ADVANCE staff	27%	18%	48%
Information from a college or university (e.g., website, brochures)	41%	31%	35%
College recruiter	17%	10%	18%
U.S. Department of Education or FAFSA websites	24%	22%	23%
Parents or other adults	77%	78%	63%
Social media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	12%	12%	12%
None of these	8%	10%	10%

Table 35.

Most Akins seniors who submitted the FAFSA indicated it was “**some parts easy, some parts difficult**” for their parents to complete.

Degree of ease	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
Easy	22%	19%	24%
Some parts easy, some parts difficult	45%	45%	47%
Difficult	10%	13%	12%
I did not apply for financial aid	23%	23%	16%

Table 36.

Bowie seniors who did not submit the FAFSA did not do so mostly because **they did not know about the financial aid process** or **they did not need financial aid to attend college**.

Reason	Bowie 2014	Bowie 2015	District 2015
I did not need financial aid to attend college	34%	26%	18%
My parents were not willing to submit private financial information	4%	2%	6%
My family did not think we would qualify or be eligible for financial aid	23%	21%	19%
I did not plan to go to college	13%	17%	18%
I did not know about the financial aid process	27%	31%	38%

Acronym Key

The following acronyms are used in the High School Exit Survey summary reports. Where relevant, acronyms have a link to an external URL.

Acronym	Definition
ACC	Austin Community College
ACT	American College Testing
AP	Advanced Placement
ASSET	American College Testing (ACT) placement exam for students in community/technical colleges
COMPASS	American College Testing (ACT) Computer-adapted Placement Assessment and Support Services
EOC	End of Course exam
FAFSA	Free Application for Federal Student Aid
GPA	grade point average
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
PSAT	Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)
SAT	Scholastic Aptitude Test
STAAR	State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness
TAKS	Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills
THEA	Texas Higher Education Assessment
TSTC	Texas State Technical College
UIL	University Interscholastic League