

High School Exit Survey: LBJ

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, 135 LBJ High School seniors completed the survey, for a response rate of 87%.

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% of LBJ seniors planned to [work part time while attending college.](#)

Postsecondary plans	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Continue my education	82%	95%	86%
Attend college or technical school <u>without working</u>	12%	16%	20%
Attend college or technical school while <u>working full time</u>	16%	8%	11%
Attend college or technical school while <u>working part time</u>	53%	57%	56%
Work full time only	16%	8%	4%
Work part time only	6%	1%	1%
Enlist in the military	5%	2%	3%
No plans/ not sure yet	5%	7%	4%
Other	4%	1%	2%

Table 2.

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

Semester enrollment	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
This summer	11%	9%	8%
This fall	75%	79%	85%
Next spring	13%	12%	7%

Table 3.

Almost 50% of LBJ seniors planned to enroll in a **4-year institution. Thirty-one percent of seniors planned to enroll in a **2-year college and then transfer to a 4-year college**.**

Type of institution	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
A 4-year college or university	49%	48%	57%
A 2-year college or university	23%	17%	10%
A 2-year community college and then transfer to a 4-year college	34%	31%	30%
A private career or trade school	1%	4%	2%

Table 4.

Four in 10 LBJ seniors planned to attend **Austin Community College.**

Postsecondary institutions	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Austin Community College (ACC)	49%	41%	35%
Texas State University	8%	12%	8%
University of Texas-LBJ	7%	5%	9%
University of Texas-San Antonio	7%	3%	4%
Texas A&M University	11%	3%	4%
St. Edward's University	0%	0%	2%
Blinn College	9%	3%	2%
University of North Texas	0%	1%	2%
Texas Tech University	0%	0%	3%
Stephen F. LBJ University	0%	0%	1%
Other	34%	31%	31%

Table 5.

Health sciences, business, and engineering were top areas LBJ seniors planned to study in college. Two percent of LBJ seniors were interested in studying computer and information sciences in 2014 and 2015.

Jobs/careers	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Health sciences	25%	25%	17%
Business	12%	13%	13%
Engineering	11%	10%	13%
Law, public safety, corrections, and security	5%	8%	6%
Computer and information sciences	2%	2%	5%
Human services	3%	3%	3%
I do not know	11%	15%	9%
Visual and performing arts	8%	5%	7%
Agricultural sciences and technologies	2%	4%	3%
Natural sciences and mathematics	2%	2%	7%
Education	8%	4%	5%
Communication	4%	4%	4%
Architecture	2%	1%	2%
Social sciences	4%	2%	3%
Hospitality and tourism	2%	2%	1%
Humanities	0%	0%	1%
Office skills	0%	0%	0%
Trade and industrial	1%	2%	1%

Table 6.

More than 6 in 10 LBJ seniors took a high school course in the area they planned to study in college.

	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Yes	62%	65%
No	38%	35%

Table 7.

Almost 50% of LBJ 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 LBJ**.

Reasons	LBJ 2015	District 2015
I wanted to, but there were no such courses offered at my school.	49%	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.	34%	51%
I was not interested in taking a course in this area in high school.	11%	18%
A counselor steered me away from those courses.	6%	1%
Other	9%	11%

Table 8.

Twenty-one percent each of LBJ seniors who did not plan to enroll in college immediately after high school, either had **financial or personal obligations**, or planned to **take a year off from school to pursue other things**.

Reason	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Financial	19%	21%	18%
Academic	7%	2%	7%
Personal obligation	19%	21%	7%
Personal preference	26%	17%	20%
Gap year	23%	21%	35%
Other	7%	17%	14%

Table 9.

Seven in 10 LBJ seniors' mother's education level was a **high school diploma/GED or below**.

School status	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, etc.)	0%	2%	3%
Professional degree (e.g., MD, JD, etc.)	0%	0%	20%
Master's degree	2%	2%	9%
Bachelor's degree (4-year)	4%	5%	20%
Associate degree (2-year)	4%	5%	5%
Some college	9%	10%	13%
High school diploma or earned a GED	27%	25%	19%
Less than high school	47%	45%	24%
Don't know or does not apply	6%	6%	4%

Table 10.

Sixty-two percent of LBJ seniors' parents expected them to **earn a college degree or industry license/certification**.

Level of education	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Doctorate degree (e.g., PhD, EdD, etc.)	8%	12%	12%
Master's degree	15%	11%	16%
Bachelor's degree (4-year)	28%	25%	37%
Associate degree (2-year)	8%	8%	5%
Industry license or certification	--	6%	3%
Some college	11%	9%	7%
High school or earned a GED	16%	13%	8%
I am not sure	10%	16%	12%

Table 11.

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

Level of education	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Doctoral or professional degree	--	21%	20%
Master's degree	--	24%	28%
Bachelor's degree (4-yr college or university)	36%	33%	35%
Associate degree (2-year community college)	13%	9%	8%
Industry license or certification (e.g., trade/technical school)	8%	7%	4%
High school diploma	9%	5%	5%

Table 12.

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

Level of education	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Parents	89%	89%
Teachers	84%	78%
College and career advisor	64%	55%
School counselor	64%	55%
Coach(es)	44%	38%
Sibling(s) or other family member(s)	68%	63%
Friend(s)	78%	75%
Other adult in my life	46%	47%
No one	2%	3%

Table 13.

LBJ seniors' parents were involved with their schooling mostly by **talking to them about how their doing in their classes**, and **talking to them about** and **making sure they complete their homework**.

Seniors who responded either <i>sometimes</i> or <i>often</i>	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Talking to you about homework	77%	71%	68%
Making sure you completed your homework	76%	72%	65%
Asking you about what you're learning in school	69%	67%	65%
Helping you decide what classes to take	63%	60%	54%
Talking to you about how you're doing in your classes	81%	81%	79%
Rewarding you when you do well in school	68%	69%	56%
Communicating with your teachers	56%	59%	46%
Attending school meetings	45%	41%	47%
Attending school events	53%	52%	58%
Volunteering at your school	26%	26%	28%
Joining and participating in the PTA	21%	23%	18%
Use Parent Cloud to monitor your grades	64%	53%	51%

Table 14.

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

Teacher help	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Would be willing to give you extra help with your school work if you needed it	85%	88%	88%
Would be willing to help you with a personal problem	60%	69%	74%
Cares about how you're doing in school	77%	74%	79%
Would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation for a job or college	73%	78%	81%
Knows what you will be doing next year	59%	55%	65%
Would be willing to help you even after you graduate	56%	60%	64%
I do not know a teacher who fits any of the items above.	--	4%	4%

Persistence and Motivation

Table 15.

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

Percentage who responded either <i>sometimes</i> or <i>always</i>	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
I can do even the hardest schoolwork if I try.	93%	97%	92%
I enjoy doing my schoolwork.	44%	76%	59%
I feel/felt well prepared for STAAR/EOC.	80%	88%	84%
I try hard to do my best work.	90%	99%	91%
I feel successful in my schoolwork.	89%	97%	89%
My teachers push us to think hard about the things we read.	87%	90%	87%
My teachers push everyone to work hard.	90%	90%	90%
I can reach the goals I set for myself.	98%	93%	96%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know.	86%	84%	78%
My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways.	81%	83%	73%
My teachers connect what I am learning to life outside of class.	74%	70%	70%
I have fun learning in my classes.	80%	81%	77%
I like to come to school.	75%	78%	71%

Extracurricular Activities

Table 16.

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

In school	Did not participate	1-2 years	3-4 years
Music	65%	25%	9%
Theater/drama	73%	24%	4%
Dance	70%	22%	8%
Sports	39%	29%	31%
Academic clubs/UII competitions	59%	25%	17%
Speech/debate	73%	27%	0%
Student government	76%	21%	4%
Career and technical student organizations	84%	13%	3%

Table 17.

LBJ 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	80%	11%	9%
Theater/drama	86%	14%	1%
Dance	82%	14%	5%
Sports	42%	23%	32%
Providing routine care for family members	69%	19%	12%
Community service	41%	33%	26%
Environmental projects/activities	72%	18%	10%
Boy/Girl Scouts	88%	8%	4%

Work and Study Time

Table 18.

Almost 50% of LBJ seniors **worked** during their senior year.

Work time	Percentage who worked <i>during</i> senior year		
	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Did not work	38%	43%	39%
Less than 20 hours	28%	19%	28%
20 hours or more	34%	38%	33%

Table 19.

Almost 50% of LBJ seniors who worked during their senior year worked because they **liked the freedom of having their own money**.

Reason	LBJ 2015	District 2015
To save money for college	23%	19%
To help my family with bills/expenses	19%	20%
I like the freedom of having my own money	47%	52%
Other	10%	9%

Table 20.

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

Study time	Percentage who studied each week		
	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
None	15%	14%	9%
1 to 5 hours	48%	47%	40%
6 to 10 hours	21%	20%	22%
11 to 15 hours	5%	6%	12%
16 to 20 hours	6%	8%	9%
More than 20 hours	6%	5%	9%

Instructional Quality

Table 21.

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

Percentage who responded <i>somewhat well</i> or <i>very well</i>	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Teamwork	90%	96%	91%
Creative thinking	91%	96%	90%
Problem solving	92%	95%	93%
Conflict resolution	86%	94%	87%
Personal health/fitness	93%	90%	81%
Time management	87%	87%	84%
Technology	88%	93%	84%

Table 22.

LBJ seniors rated the quality of their **science**, **English language arts**, and **performing/fine arts** instruction most favorably.

Percentage who responded <i>good</i> or <i>excellent</i>	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
English language arts	84%	81%	81%
Social studies	77%	70%	75%
Performing/Fine arts	73%	75%	73%
Career and technical (CTE)	67%	70%	71%
Science	79%	82%	70%
Mathematics	64%	69%	73%
Computer/Technology	66%	67%	64%
Foreign language	61%	66%	64%

Technology Access and Use

Table 23.

Half of LBJ seniors have a **computer with Internet access** at home.

Access	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
No computer	10%	19%	5%
No computer, but Internet access	17%	22%	12%
Computer, no Internet	4%	8%	4%
Computer with Internet access	68%	51%	79%

Table 24.

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

Percentage answering <i>yes</i>	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Class rank and GPA inquiry	86%	83%	82%
College search	75%	73%	70%
Counselor-directed activities	66%	60%	63%
College visit sign up	66%	52%	55%
Career exploration	83%	51%	48%
Resume building	38%	34%	36%

Postsecondary Preparation and Advising

Table 25.

Almost 40% of LBJ seniors did not start thinking about college until they were in **high school**.

Time frame	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
As long as I can remember	22%	24%	37%
In elementary school	6%	12%	9%
In middle/junior high school	21%	21%	21%
In high school	42%	38%	31%
I've never thought about college	8%	5%	3%

Table 26.

Almost 60% percent of LBJ seniors who did not think about college until high school did not think about it until their **junior and senior years.**

Grade	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
9 th Grade	12%	18%	20%
10 th Grade	31%	24%	25%
11 th Grade	33%	31%	37%
12 th Grade	25%	27%	18%

Table 27.

LBJ seniors prepared for postsecondary education mostly by **completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**, **attended one or more college fairs**, and **taking college entrance exams.**

Type of preparation	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Took college entrance tests (e.g., SAT, ACT, THEA, COMPASS, ASSET)	48%	50%	60%
Took one or more Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes	29%	31%	51%
Took test prep class for the PSAT, SAT, ACT, etc.	24%	47%	45%
Completed or are currently enrolled in ACC courses	44%	29%	32%
Took other college level courses (e.g., Texas State, Texas Tech, TSTC)	18%	10%	9%
Visited one or more colleges or technical schools	53%	43%	58%
Met with the school counselor/ADVANCE staff to discuss college plans/processes	42%	48%	50%
Attended one or more college fairs	53%	52%	43%
Met with a college representative or recruiter at my high school	40%	41%	41%
Participated in ACC College Connections	21%	20%	24%
Attended Financial Aid Saturday event(s)	--	10%	10%
Completed and submitted the FAFSA	66%	60%	68%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	40%	38%	47%
Ordered and submitted a transcript to a college or trade/ technical school.	45%	42%	56%
I have not completed any activities to prepare for continuing my education	21%	21%	17%
I have done nothing to academically prepare for continuing my education	29%	22%	19%
I have not completed any forms to prepare for continuing my education	23%	30%	19%

Table 28.

LBJ seniors' family members helped them prepare for life after high school mostly by **talking to them about their responsibilities as an adult** and **talking to them about their career and/or college options**.

Form of help	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Talked to you about career and/or college options	72%	76%	79%
Talked to you about finances	52%	65%	65%
Talked to you about your responsibilities as an adult	78%	83%	75%
Talked to you about what a career and/or college would be like	56%	54%	62%
Helped you with financial aid (FAFSA and/or scholarships)	49%	53%	55%
Helped you complete applications for colleges or trade/technical schools	30%	32%	40%
Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges	44%	57%	53%
No one in my family talked to me about or helped me with these things.	5%	6%	6%

Table 29.

LBJ seniors' school counselors and Project ADVANCE advisors helped them most by encouraging them to **continue their education after high school**. Teachers helped them **write college essays**.

Activity	None of these people	School counselor	Teacher	College & career advisor
Select courses needed for work or admission to college	38%	37%	18%	28%
Push your academic abilities further	18%	32%	57%	14%
Take AP / honors courses	46%	30%	24%	12%
Take dual credit or articulated credit courses	49%	30%	21%	8%
Get information about careers/occupations	30%	27%	18%	36%
Continue your education after high school	23%	38%	42%	44%
Apply to multiple schools	32%	26%	29%	38%
Decide what school to attend	46%	23%	22%	28%
Fill out applications for postsecondary education	38%	22%	13%	42%
Write college application essays or personal statements	29%	21%	44%	34%

Table 30.

Most LBJ 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.	64%	71%
I tried to talk to this person and wasn't able to meet with him/her.	14%	13%
I never tried to meet with this person.	22%	16%

Applications to Postsecondary Institutions

Table 31.

Fifty-six percent of LBJ seniors who applied to 2- year institutions submitted **1 to 3 applications**.

Institution type	0 applications	1-3 applications	4 or more applications
2-year	41%	56%	3%
4-year	37%	37%	26%
Business/technical/vocational school	84%	16%	0%

Table 32.

More than half of LBJ seniors who applied to 2-year institutions received **1 to 3 acceptances**.

Institution type	0 acceptances	1-3 acceptances	4 or more acceptances
2-year	45%	52%	3%
4-year	50%	39%	11%
Business/technical/vocational school	85%	14%	1%

Postsecondary Financial Literacy

Table 33.

Six in 10 LBJ seniors each planned to pay for college by **working during the summer and/or school year.**

Source	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Scholarships and/or grants	76%	72%	68%
Loans	36%	27%	42%
Family or personal savings	43%	50%	63%
Tuition and fees exemption	19%	15%	10%
Working during the school year	54%	60%	59%
Working during the summer	54%	58%	61%
I don't know	6%	9%	4%

Table 34.

LBJ seniors learned about financial aid for college mostly from their **school counselor and Project ADVANCE advisor**, and from their **parents or other adults.**

Source of information	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Senior economics class	23%	16%	21%
Financial Aid Saturday events	20%	22%	16%
Talked to school counselor/college and career advisor/Project ADVANCE staff	60%	57%	48%
Information from a college or university (e.g., website, brochures)	26%	39%	35%
College recruiter	25%	35%	18%
U.S. Department of Education or FAFSA websites	25%	26%	23%
Parents or other adults	44%	56%	63%
Social media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	13%	11%	12%
None of these	9%	17%	10%

Table 35.

Four in 10 Akins seniors who submitted the FAFSA indicated it was “some parts easy, some parts difficult” for their parents to complete.

Degree of ease	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
Easy	28%	25%	24%
Some parts easy, some parts difficult	42%	42%	47%
Difficult	15%	14%	12%
I did not apply for financial aid	16%	20%	16%

Table 36.

Most LBJ seniors who did not submit the FAFSA did not do so because they did not know about the financial aid process.

Reason	LBJ 2014	LBJ 2015	District 2015
I did not need financial aid to attend college	4%	4%	18%
My parents were not willing to submit private financial information	4%	0%	6%
My family did not think we would qualify or be eligible for financial aid	22%	12%	19%
I did not plan to go to college	61%	19%	18%
I did not know about the financial aid process	9%	65%	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