

Global Citizenship Surveys Executive Summary AY13

See: <http://www.eiu.edu/~assess/globaldata.php> for full report

Global Survey administered SU12, FA12, SP13 Freshman Debut and Senior Seminars

DEMOGRAPHICS: One-third of the EIU Freshman class self-identify as a race other than white/non-Hispanic: Black 23%; Hispanic 6%, Asian 2%; “other” 2%; the proportion of EIU Freshmen (66%) compared to Seniors (82%) self-identified as white/non-Hispanic declined by 16%. This more diverse freshman class has experienced more diversity prior to arrival at EIU: 43% grew up in bi-racial or multi-racial communities. EIU freshmen are U.S. citizens (99% compared to 98% of seniors), and predominately female (62% compared to 38% male). Although the survey offered students the option to identify as transgender, this third gender category did not appear in the Global Survey results.

Objective: Make civic and personal judgments that are informed, responsible, and ethical

Overall EIU students assume **leadership positions** in school and athletic capacities, and less in church and community capacities. Freshmen lead at a higher rate than seniors in school and athletics and in church and community, though the difference of participation is less drastic.

Leadership Positions in	+/-	Fr	Sr
school organization	-12%	47%	35%
athletics	-24%	47%	23%
church/religious group	-3%	21%	18%
community group	0%	22%	22%

EIU freshmen participated more in co-curricular and volunteer work (including volunteerism and non-profit service), and did so more consistently, than EIU seniors.

Participated in	+/-	Fr	Sr
athletics or intramurals	-36%	80%	44%
school clubs	-33%	80%	47%
volunteered at a non-profit	-4%	75%	71%
solicited donations non-profit organization	-2%	42%	40%
fundraising for a religious organization.	-14%	34%	20%

A majority of EIU students (Fr90%/Sr74% strongly agree and agree) believed that **citizens** should respect their government’s decision, but seniors (91%) more than freshmen (67%) believed that citizens should actively question government decisions. EIU students apparently consider the seemingly contradictory actions of “respect” and “active questioning” of government to be duties of citizens, in addition to other citizen duties such as paying taxes, voting and obeying the law.

EIU Seniors stayed informed about local, state, national and international events more than freshmen, and did so more frequently. How? Always/Frequently combined:

- computer or other electronic devices (Fr37%/Sr45%)
- daily newspaper (Fr7%/Sr19%)
- TV news (Fr36%/Sr48%)
- TV news entertainment show (Fr35%/Sr38%)

Yet, most EIU students do not take steps to remain informed (Fr60%/Sr54%).

Party Affiliation	Fr	Sr
Independent	45%	40%
Democrat	29%	30%
Republican	21%	24%
Other	6%	5%

Seniors registered to vote: 84%

Seniors actually voted: 63%

On the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), nearly 2/3rds of EIU students indicated that EIU contributed “quite a bit” or “very much” to their developing a personal code of values and ethics (Fr63%/Sr62%) compared to 62% of freshmen and 65% of seniors in our Carnegie class.

Objective: Appreciate the diverse experiences and perspectives that shape human culture

NSSE Questions	+/-	Fr	Sr	Carnegie Class
How much does your institution emphasize encouraging contact among students from different backgrounds?	-3%	53%	50%	Fr59%/Sr53%
How often have you had discussions with people of a different race or ethnicity other than you own?	-8%	80%	72%	Fr72%/Sr71%
... different economic background?	+1%	72%	73%	Fr72%/Sr74%
... different religious beliefs?	-3%	71%	68%	Fr67%/Sr67%
... different political views?	-6%	75%	69%	Fr69%/Sr71%
Connected your learning to societal problems or issues?	+5%	58%	63%	Fr54%/Sr66%
How much as your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills and personal development in being an informed and active citizen?	-9%	60%	51%	Fr58%/Sr60%

Freshmen seemed more optimistic in their plans to engage in certain learning opportunities than did seniors. Many freshmen, but few seniors, planned to study abroad (Fr51%/Sr7%); do service learning (Fr60%/Sr26%); participate in alternative spring break (Fr32%/Sr6%), do undergraduate research (Fr37%/16%), or participate in national student exchange (Fr17%/Sr1%). While 60% of EIU freshmen planned to do service learning or volunteerism, NSSE data indicated that “some” classes contained a service learning component while only 6% Fr to 10% Sr believed that most classes incorporated service learning.