

# Occasional Statistical Digest #12

## Fall 1999

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### 1999 GRADUATING STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY REPORT

#### *Highlights*

- 62% of graduates responded to survey. The total number of degrees and certificates conferred in 1998-1999 was 359.
- 79% of responding graduates were female. 60% enrolled full-time while a student at Dalton State College.
- 86% reported that their objective for attending Dalton State College was fully accomplished.
- A slight majority (36%) completed their degree or certificate program in two years.
- 56% said their immediate plans after graduation was to obtain further education.
- 48% indicated that they were “extremely well” prepared for continuing their education.
- 55% of respondents who entered the labor force said their new job was related to their program of study.
- Almost 60% rated the quality of education they received at Dalton State College as “Excellent.”
- 95% of respondents indicated they would recommend Dalton State College to someone who wanted to major in their program.
- 64% said if they could start college over, they would choose to attend Dalton State College.
- Overall, 72% rated their level of satisfaction with the education they received at Dalton State College as “Very Satisfied.”

#### **Section I: Background Information**

##### *Gender*

Female	79.2%
Male	20.8

### ***Ethnicity***

White (Non-Hispanic Origin)	93.7
Black (Non-Hispanic Origin)	2.0
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.5
Hispanic	1.5
Native American	1.0
Multiracial	0.5

### ***Age***

19 or under	2.0
20	11.9
21	13.9
22	10.9
23	7.9
24	5.0
25	0.5
26-29	11.4
30-39	24.3
40-61	12.4

### ***Degree/Certificate***

Technical Certificate - One Year	26.7
Associate of Science (Transfer Degree)	25.3
Associate of Applied Science Nursing	18.6
Associate of Applied Science – Business	11.3
Associate of Arts (Transfer Degree)	7.7
Associate of Applied Science – Technology	5.9
Associate of Applied Science – Health	3.6
Technical Certificate - Less Than One Year	0.9

### ***Division/Department***

Technical Education	35.3
Business Administration & Social Science	24.2
Nursing (RN)	19.8
Humanities	10.6
Natural Sciences & Math	7.2
Health & Physical Education	2.9

### ***While a student at Dalton State College, I was mainly enrolled***

Full-time	60.4
Part-time	39.6

## *Major*

Nursing (Two-year Registered Nurse Education)	16.9
Licensed Practical Nursing/Certificate	13.1
Business Administration	8.5
Office Career Technology/Certificate	6.6
Office Administration	4.2
Medical Transcription/Certificate	3.8
Psychology	3.8
Business, General	2.8
Computer Service Technology	2.8
Computer Operations/Certificate	2.8
Medical Office Assisting/Certificate	2.8
Journalism	2.3
Nursing	1.9
Medical Office Administration	1.9
General Studies	1.4
Computer Operations	1.4
Medical Laboratory Technology	1.4
Electronic Technology	1.4
English	0.9
Biological Sciences	0.9
Criminal Justice	0.9
Pharmacy	0.9
Physics/Pre-Engineering	0.9
Computer Service Technology/Certificate	0.9
Environmental Horticulture/Certificate	0.9
Industrial Electrical Technology/Certificate	0.9
Welding: Machine Shop Option/Certificate	0.9
Social Work	0.5
Sociology	0.5
Computer Science	0.5
Dental Hygiene	0.5
Information Systems	0.5
Mathematics	0.5
Physical Therapy	0.5
Physician Assistant	0.5
Radiation Therapy Technology	0.5
Management	0.5
Medical Transcription	0.5
Emergency Services Management	0.5
Radiologic Technology	0.5
Drafting and Design Technology	0.5
Technology, General Studies	0.5
Automotive Technology/Certificate	0.5
Drafting and Design Technology/Certificate	0.5
Emergency Medical Technology/Certificate	0.5
Paramedic Technology/Certificate	0.5
Office Technology/Mini-Certificate	0.5
Phlebotomy/Mini-Certificate	0.5

***The classes I attended most frequently were***

Day	66.0
Evening	16.7
Day/Evening Combination	17.2

***Did you participate in any of the following activities while at Dalton State College?***

Campus employment	36.3
Off-campus employment	68.9

***How many hours a week did you typically work while taking classes?***

1-10 hours per week	5.5
11-15 hours per week	7.0
16-25 hours per week	29.5
26-35 hours per week	19.0
36 or over per week	31.0
I was not employed	8.0

***How many hours a week did you typically study outside the classroom?***

1-5 hours per week	27.6
6-10 hours per week	34.4
11-15 hours per week	18.1
16-20 hours per week	10.0
20 or over per week	10.0

***How many times did you change your major at Dalton State College?***

Never	51.1
Once	33.8
Twice	8.2
Three or more times	6.8

***How involved were you in campus programs, activities, and organizations?***

Heavily	2.7
Moderately	10.4
Slightly	28.5
Not at all	58.4

***How often did you meet with faculty members outside of class?***

Never	18.1
Rarely	24.0
Occasionally	44.8
Often	13.1

***What was your primary objective for attending Dalton State College?***

Obtain Associate Degree or Certificate	65.2
Obtain a bachelor's (4-year) degree	6.3
Enhance my job skills in my present field of work or study	5.0
Enhance my job skills for a new line of work	10.9
Take courses to transfer to another college	12.7

***To what extent do you feel you accomplished your objective?***

Fully accomplished	85.8
Partially accomplished	13.2
Not accomplished	0.9

***How long did it take you to complete your degree or certificate program at Dalton State College?***

Less than 1 year	0.5
1 year	12.2
2 years	36.2
3 years	26.7
4 years	16.7
5 or more	7.7

**Section II Career and Educational Plans After Graduation**

***What are your immediate plans after graduation?***

Obtain further education	56.3
Obtain full-time employment	37.6
Other	6.1

***If your plans are to continue your education, do you plan to eventually...***

transfer to a four-year college?	60.2
obtain another associate degree?	9.8
obtain certification in some area through college course work?	2.4
obtain certification in some area through non-college course work?	0.8
take more college courses?	18.7
take some professional development courses?	1.6
attend graduate school	6.5

***How well did Dalton State College prepare you for continuing your education?***

Extremely well	48.1
More than adequately	35.9
Sufficiently	16.0

***What is the highest degree or certificate do you eventually plan to obtain?***

Associate degree	11.9
Battler's degree	29.6
Master's degree	34.0
Doctoral degree	10.7
Professional degree (such as law, medicine, dentistry)	3.1
Technical program certificate or diploma	3.8
No plans, undecided	6.9

***What is your current employment status?***

Unemployed, not seeking or planning to work	6.8
Unemployed, seeking employment	14.9
Working part-time at the job I had before I graduated	28.1
Working full-time at the job I had before I graduated	33.5
Work part-time at a new job I recently obtained	4.5
Work full-time at a new job I recently obtained	12.2

***If you are working, what is your job title?***

Accounting clerk	0.5
Administrative assistant	1.8
Administrative assistant to VP	0.5
Associate sales	0.5
Assistant to President	0.5
Assistant department head	0.5
Beauty assistant	0.5
Bookkeeper	0.5
Carver custom rugs	0.5
Cashier	1.4
Classroom teacher	0.5
Clerical	0.5
Clerk	0.5
Clerk/machinist	0.5
C.N.A.	0.5
Coating supervisor	0.5
Customer service representative	0.5
Data entry clerk	0.5
Data network coordinator	0.5
Daycare Provider	0.5
Daycare teacher	0.9
Delivery person	0.5
Electrical Helper	0.5
Electrician	0.5
Extrusion line operator	0.5
Eyecare technician	0.5

*If you are working, what is your job title?*

File clerk	0.5
Financial Aid assistant	0.5
Financial service representative	0.5
Front desk agent	0.5
Front end manager	0.5
Greenhouse sales	0.5
Home health aide	0.5
Hyster driver	0.5
Industrial health insurance agent	0.5
Instructor/trainer	0.5
Interview coordinator	0.5
Legal assistant	0.5
Legal secretary	0.5
Liftruck operator	0.5
Loom maintenance inspector	0.5
LPN	3.2
LPN nursery	0.5
Maintenance leadman	0.5
Medical assistant	0.5
Medical lab tech	1.4
Medical office assistant	1.8
Medical transcript	0.5
Medstat EMI-EMT I	0.5
Merchandising assistant	0.5
Milk route pull-up	0.5
Not listed	41.6
Nurse tech	5.4
Nurse tech RN	0.5
Office manager	0.5
Paramedic	0.5
Paraprofessional	0.5
Pediatrics LPN	0.5
Pharmacy assistant	0.5
Pharmacy technician	2.3
Plant manager	0.9
Preschool teacher	0.9
Proprietor	0.5
Quality Control tech	0.5
Quality Engineer	0.5
Quality engineering	0.5
Radiologic tech	0.9
Receptionist	1.4
Regional account coordinator	0.5
Registered nurse	0.5
Secretary	1.8

*If you are working, what is your job title?*

Self-employed	0.9
Selling manager	0.5
Shipping clerk	0.5
Student assistant	0.9
Student worker	0.9
Technical assistant	0.5
Technician	0.5
Teller	0.5
Temporary	0.5
Training clerk	0.5
Tufting machine rebuilder	0.5
Veterinary tech	0.5
Visual merchandiser	0.5
Warehouse worker	0.5
Workshop facilitator	0.5
Yarn clerk	0.5

*To improve the curriculum and programs at Dalton State College, we would like to contact your employer for input. May we contact your employer?*

Yes	70.2
No	29.8

*What will you earn during your first year?*

\$15,000 or less	23.7
\$15,001 – 20,000	19.2
\$20,001 – 25,000	21.5
\$25,001 – 30,000	23.2
\$30,001 – 40,000	8.5
\$40,001 – 60,000	2.3
Over \$60,000	1.1
Don't Know	0.6

*To what extent is your new job related to your program/major at Dalton State College?*

Directly related	55.0
Somewhat related	14.8
Not related	18.9
Does not apply	11.2

*How important do you feel your degree or certificate was in obtaining your position?*

Very important	58.3
Somewhat important	14.1
Not important	27.6



*In your opinion, how difficult was it to obtain a job in your area of study or major?*

Very difficult	9.4
Difficult	18.8
Average	45.6
Easy	26.2

### **Section III Knowledge and Skills Developed**

*Looking back at your College experiences, how well do you think Dalton State College prepared you in these areas?*

	<i>Very Well</i>	<i>Adequately</i>	<i>Poorly</i>
a. Ability to write well	55.1	43.9	1.0
b. Ability to speak well and give oral presentations	50.7	46.3	2.9
c. Listening	64.9	35.1	0.0
d. Understand and perform basic mathematical operations	56.6	42.0	1.5
e. Skills in using computers	55.0	42.6	2.5
f. Analyzing and evaluating ideas	58.5	40.5	1.0
g. Problem solving	56.1	42.4	1.5
h. Critical thinking	55.2	42.9	2.0
i. Conducting research and experiments	46.3	48.8	4.9
j. Planning and organizing	62.6	35.5	2.0
k. Using new technologies	45.1	51.0	3.9
l. Appreciation of works of art and other cultural activities	33.7	52.3	14.1
m. Maintaining physical health and well-being	42.1	52.0	5.9
n. Lifelong learning	57.8	40.7	1.5
o. Using the library	39.5	52.1	8.4
p. Interacting with diverse groups of peoples and cultures	45.1	47.4	7.4
q. Working cooperatively	67.6	31.5	0.9
r. Leadership skills	58.1	38.1	3.7
s. Creative thinking	59.3	38.9	1.9
t. Clarifying personal values	60.8	36.4	2.8
u. Personal skills (self-reliance, self-evaluation, self-confidence)	65.6	32.1	2.3
v. Persuading others	41.4	54.9	3.7
w. Skills necessary for active citizenship	48.6	47.2	4.2
x. Dealing with the public	50.9	45.8	3.2

## Section IV Quality of Instruction and Advising

*How would you rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the College?*

	<i>Does Not Apply</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Excellent</i>
a. Quality of instruction by faculty	0.0	0.9	6.4	54.1	38.6
b. Academic advising	0.0	4.1	14.2	46.1	35.6
c. Clarity of program requirements	0.0	2.3	12.4	45.0	40.4
d. Availability of faculty advisor	0.5	3.2	16.1	41.3	39.0
e. Career advising	2.8	6.0	18.8	39.0	33.5
f. Quality of instruction in laboratories	6.4	0.9	16.0	45.2	31.5
g. Accessibility of faculty	0.5	1.4	15.0	48.6	34.5
h. Availability of needed courses	0.5	6.0	22.0	40.8	30.7
i. Quality of non-instructional services (such as computer services, library, etc.)	3.2	0.9	9.6	45.9	40.4
j. Testing/grading system	0.0	1.8	8.6	52.3	37.3
k. Class size	0.9	0.0	7.7	43.2	48.2
l. Classroom and teaching facilities	0.5	0.5	9.1	46.8	43.2

*To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your major program?*

	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>
a. Faculty were genuinely interested in the progress of students in the program	0.0	3.9	58.8	37.3
b. The program was academically demanding	0.0	2.0	57.1	40.9
c. The division or department was characterized by mutual respect between students and professors	0.0	1.0	60.3	38.7
d. Faculty was knowledgeable and well-prepared for their courses	0.0	1.0	50.2	48.8
e. The courses that I needed or required were available	1.0	7.4	54.2	37.4
f. The academic ability of other students in my program was high	0.0	7.0	64.5	28.5
g. Registration procedures were efficient	3.4	10.8	57.1	28.6
h. There were sufficient opportunities to interact with faculty	0.0	4.0	57.9	38.1

***To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your major program?***

	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>
i. Grading practices were fair and appropriate	0.0	3.4	55.2	41.4
j. I received helpful feedback from faculty on my academic progress	0.0	8.4	51.2	40.4
k. I was satisfied with the instruction I received	0.0	3.4	51.7	44.8
l. Instructional equipment was up-to-date and available	0.5	4.0	56.9	38.6
m. Classroom facilities were adequate and comfortable	0.0	4.0	58.4	37.6
n. If I were starting over, I would take my major in this department or division again	1.5	3.9	46.8	47.8
o. The atmosphere at Dalton State College and in my department or division encourages intellectual development	0.0	2.0	55.0	43.1
p. Dalton State College has an image as a strong academic institution	0.0	3.0	51.7	45.3
q. The College administration is committed to providing the best education possible for all students	0.0	1.5	55.0	43.6

***To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your major advisor?***

My major advisor...

	<i>Does Not Apply</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>
a. knew my name and showed an interest personally	0.5	3.2	4.6	34.2	57.5
b. was available during pre-registration and registration to advise me	0.5	1.4	2.7	42.5	53.0
c. gave me feedback on my academic progress	0.5	2.3	8.2	41.6	47.5
d. provided me with accurate information about what I needed to know about the requirements for my program	0.5	2.8	7.8	42.2	46.8
e. was on time for appointments with me	0.9	0.9	1.4	42.5	54.3
f. was accessible when I needed help	1.4	1.8	6.4	38.4	52.1
g. reviewed my academic record prior to giving advice	1.8	2.3	8.7	40.4	46.8
h. gave me information about careers and further educational opportunities in my major	1.8	6.0	16.6	35.5	40.1
i. referred me to appropriate resources on campus	2.8	3.2	11.5	41.9	40.6
j. is someone I would recommend to other students on campus	1.9	2.8	5.6	37.5	52.3

## Section V Satisfaction With Academic And Student Support Services

*How would you rate your level of satisfaction with these services of the College? (Please check only one.)*

	<i>Didn't Know About Service</i>	<i>Didn't Use</i>	<i>Very Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Very Satisfied</i>
a. New student orientation	7.2	11.8	0.5	3.2	57.0	20.4
b. Admissions office	0.5	1.4	1.8	12.3	63.5	20.5
c. Registration	0.0	0	3.6	9.5	65.2	21.7
d. Student records/transcripts	1.4	2.7	0.9	5.0	67.0	23.1
e. Business office (where you pay fees)	0.0	2.5	1.5	7.5	69.2	19.4
f. Academic dean's office	1.5	24.8	1.0	2.5	52.0	18.3
g. Developmental studies	5.0	35.0	1.0	2.5	43.5	13.0
h. Library	0.0	5.9	0.0	1.0	63.7	29.4
i. Bookstore	0.0	1.0	1.0	3.5	69.7	24.9
j. Cafeteria	1.5	15.8	0.5	2.0	57.4	22.8
k. Computer services	2.0	8.8	0.0	0.5	56.9	31.9
l. Parking	0.0	2.0	10.8	17.7	57.1	12.3
m. Campus police and security	0.0	10.0	3.5	4.5	58.7	23.4
n. ACE Center	3.0	25.6	0.5	1.0	47.3	22.7
o. Student center	0.5	12.3	0.0	1.0	60.6	25.6
p. Career services	3.5	29.9	1.0	2.0	45.3	18.4
q. Disability support services	7.6	58.6	0.0	1.0	20.7	12.1
r. Financial aid services	1.0	9.9	7.9	8.4	49.5	23.2
s. Veterans affairs	10.6	63.1	0.0	0.0	16.2	10.1
t. Tutorial services	7.0	54.0	0.0	1.0	25.0	13.0
u. College newspaper	7.6	43.9	0.0	2.5	33.3	12.6
v. Student government	5.0	50.7	0.0	1.0	29.9	13.4
w. Intramural sports and other student activities programs	7.5	50.2	1.0	1.5	26.9	12.9
x. Recreation area in the student center	3.5	42.1	0.0	0.5	38.1	15.8
y. Physical activities facilities	5.4	32.2	0.0	0.5	43.1	18.8
z. Cultural programs (lectures, concerts, etc.)	5.0	39.6	0.5	1.0	39.1	14.9

## Section VI About Dalton State College

*Overall, how would you rate the quality of education you received at Dalton State College?*

Excellent	58.5
Good	37.8
Average	3.7

*What is your general attitude toward Dalton State College?*

Very positive	61.8
Positive	36.9
Negative	1.4

*Would you recommend Dalton State College to someone who wanted to major in your program?*

Yes	95.4
No	1.4
Don't know	3.2

*If you could start college over, would you choose to attend Dalton State College?*

Definitely yes	63.6
Probably yes	29.0
Not sure	5.1
Probably no	2.3

*Overall, how would rate your level of satisfaction with the education you received at Dalton State College?*

Very satisfied	71.8
Satisfied	27.8
Dissatisfied	0.5

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