

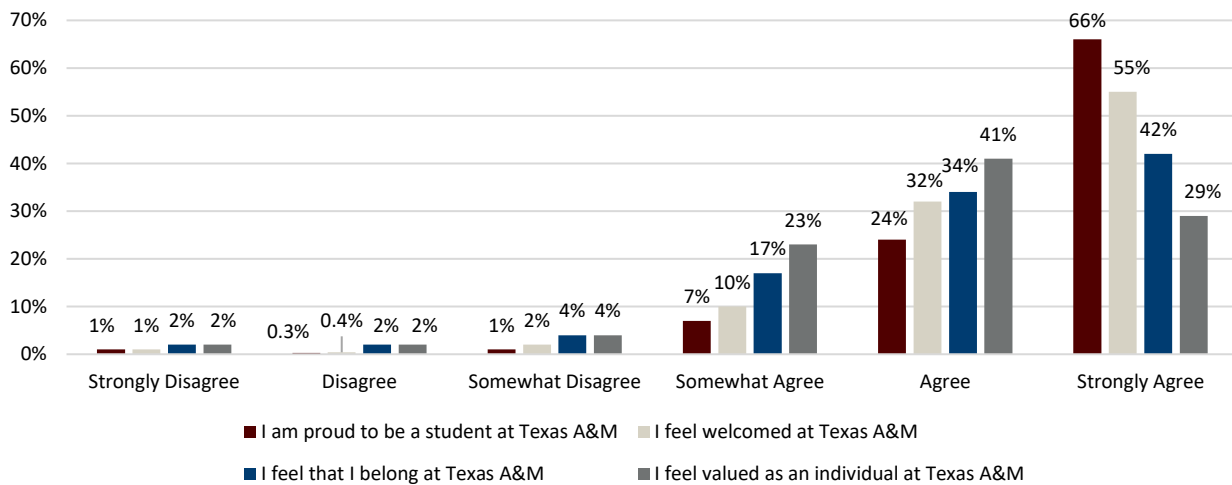


First Time in College (FTIC) Aggie Experience Survey 2018 Satisfaction and Belonging

In early September 2018, all First Time in College (FTIC) students were invited to complete the “Class of 2022” Aggie Experience Survey. The survey included Bryan-College Station, Galveston, Qatar, McAllen, and online students. Of the 11,300 FTIC students invited to take it, 3,098 students responded, for a 27% response rate. Female respondents were overrepresented in the survey compared to the fall 2018 FTIC population. First Generation (First Gen), Regents’ Scholars, ethnicity, Freshmen (U1), and Top 10% demographics were similar for the survey respondents and the FTIC population. The survey gathered feedback regarding factors in choosing Texas A&M; academic goals; time allocation; sense of belonging; academic self-efficacy and current level of proficiency; concerns, potential obstacles, and challenges; awareness of university resources; living situation; satisfaction; admissions information and process; and recruitment program. This report will address satisfaction and belonging.

Table 1 indicates new students have a positive regard for the institution and their decision to come to Texas A&M. In addition, 96% of respondents somewhat agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed that they would still choose to enroll, knowing what they know now. First-Gen, Regents’ Scholars, and underrepresented minority students felt less positive about belonging at Texas A&M.

Table 1: Belonging



FTIC students have experiences with two areas specific to the Division of Student Affairs as prospective students: Residence Life and New Student and Family Programs (NSFP). When asked about their satisfaction with the units, 62% were satisfied or very satisfied with Residence Life, 27% were neutral, and 10% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. For NSFP, 66% were satisfied or very satisfied, 28% were neutral, and 6% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Conclusion

Several weeks into their first semester, FTIC students seemed positive about their decision to attend Texas A&M. They had a sense of pride and belonging. Most students also had good experiences with the Division of Student Affairs departments that they interacted with as prospective students. The Division of Student Affairs should continue to be student focused in programs, services, and communication with prospective and incoming students to promote the Aggie Family.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Contact the Department of Student Life Studies at
sls@tamu.edu or (979) 862-5624.

