The College Senior Survey (CSS) collects information about students’ experiences, attitudes and perceptions as they leave college. In 2017, 1,149 Boston College seniors participated in the survey, a 51% response rate.

**ACTIVITIES IN COLLEGE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boston College</th>
<th>National sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77% vs. 65%</td>
<td>Held an internship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72% vs. 62%</td>
<td>Held a leadership position in an organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65% vs. 50%</td>
<td>Played club, intramural, or recreational sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54% vs. 34%</td>
<td>Studied abroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42% vs. 63%</td>
<td>Completed a culminating experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30% vs. 27%</td>
<td>Participated in an undergrad research program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PERSONAL GROWTH**

Seniors were asked to rate themselves on traits compared with the average person their age. On the majority of self-ratings, a greater percentage of Boston College seniors rated themselves above average or in highest 10% compared to their peers.

**FUTURE PLANS**

- **91%**
  - Agreed that Boston College prepared them for their career

- **93%**
  - Agreed that Boston College prepared them for advanced education

**STUDENT SATISFACTION**

- **89%**
  - of BC seniors were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall college experience

- **87%**
  - of BC seniors would select the same institution if they were to make their college choice again

- **Higher than peers**
  - Writing ability
  - Academic ability
  - Leadership ability
  - Mathematical ability
  - Drive to achieve
  - Physical health
  - Understanding of others
  - Public speaking ability
  - Intellectual self-confidence

**Leadership skills ratings by Boston College seniors have been on a steady rise since 2007.**

**Statistically significant differences between Boston College and peers from all baccalaureate-level institutions are displayed.**

**Satisfaction with academic advising increased from 40% percent in 2007.**
As a follow up to the CIRP Freshman Survey (TFS), the CSS allows us to evaluate the academic and personal development of the same cohort of students over their college experience and to assess the impact of institutional programs, policies, and practices on the students’ experiences and outcomes.

**Students are asked as freshmen, then again as seniors...**

**GOALS THEY VALUE**

Boston College students demonstrate a *greater increase* in some measures of civic engagement and personal growth from freshman to senior year than do their peers.

**TIME SPENT PARTICIPATING IN ACTIVITIES**

Boston College students report a *greater increase* in these social activities from freshman to senior year than do their peers.

**RATE THEIR SKILLS/ABILITIES COMPARED TO PEERS THEIR AGE**

Like their peers, Boston College students’ assessment of their math skills decreases between freshman and senior year, while their assessment of their writing skills increases.

Produced by Institutional Research, Planning & Assessment (IRPA) - bc.edu/irpa