In March 2011, MIT invited all undergraduate students (4,178 students) to participate in a web-based survey that asked them about their satisfaction with various academic and non-academic experiences, perception of how their abilities had changed during their time so far at MIT, and their curricular and extra-curricular activities. The survey closed in late March with a 65% overall response rate; Freshmen responded at a slightly higher rate (72%), and the rate decreased with class year with Seniors responding at a rate of 61%.

MIT conducts the Enrolled Student Survey every four years. This is the third administration. This particular survey is being administered simultaneously at a number of peer institutions, allowing for comparative analysis. Peer results will be available by late summer.

As with most surveys, MIT will generate school- and department-level reports, provided there are at least five students who answered the survey in an individual department.

The attached report shows overall frequencies for each question on the survey, broken out by the class standing of the student respondents. Class standing is as recorded by the Registrar’s office, so some students’ time on campus may not align with their standing. For example, 18% of Sophomores report being in their first year on campus.

**Educational Experience**

- Over 90% of students rate their entire educational experience at MIT as either Good or Excellent, and this figure is consistent across all four class years (see figure below). This number has also climbed steadily over the three administrations of the Enrolled Students Survey.
- Students also expressed high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of instruction (95% Very or Generally Satisfied) and somewhat lower levels of satisfaction with the opportunities for class discussion and academic advising, (88% and 71% Very or Generally Satisfied, respectively).
- 94% of students said that given the chance to do it all over again, they would still choose MIT for their undergraduate education.
- 70% of students report finding a class exciting Often or Very Often.
- Overall, almost 60% report having participated in class discussions Often or Very Often (53% Freshmen; 66% Seniors).
- Less than half of students say that they have applied what they have learned in class to a problem or issue outside of class Often or Very Often.
- Less than a quarter of students say that they have had an intellectual discussion with a faculty member outside of class or discussed post-graduation plans with a faculty member Often or Very Often.
- Over 80% of students are very confident of their ability to succeed academically at MIT, and this is consistent across class years. However, the
The ratio of students who Strongly Agree with this statement—as opposed to Agree—increases with class year, perhaps indicating that students become more confident as they progress through their academic career.

- Students appear to get to know faculty better over time, with the percent of students saying that one or more faculty know them well enough to write them a letter of recommendation climbing from just over 50% for Freshmen to over 90% for Seniors.
- Among students who changed their major, the highest-cited reason for changing was that the new major interested them more than their previous major (75% of respondents), with the next highest-cited reason being that students were turned off by introductory courses in their previous major (38% of respondents).
- 92% of respondents report having done some form of group work during the current academic year.
- Just over 70% of students report having stayed up all night at for academic reasons at least Occasionally during the current academic year.
- 37% of students would rather have studied less during the current academic year, while 42% felt they studied about the right amount.
- GPAs appear to improve by class year, with 14% of Freshmen reporting an A average, and 20% of Seniors reporting the same. Similarly, those reporting a B average drop from 28% of Freshmen to 16% of Seniors.

How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at MIT?

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<th>Poor</th>
<th>Fair</th>
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<th>Excellent</th>
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2011 MIT Enrolled Student Survey
Highlights

Campus Life Outside of Class

- Over 80% of students are Generally or Very Satisfied with social life on campus, the sense of community on campus, and the sense of community where they live.
- While a majority of students are satisfied with student health services and student housing, over 50% of students are dissatisfied with food services. More than half the students are dissatisfied with the administration’s responsiveness to student concerns.
- 90% of students agree that they are very confident in their ability to get along socially at MIT.
- 97% of students report having at least one close friend with whom they can talk about private matters or ask for help, and this number is consistent across class years.
- While over 50% of Freshmen report planning to study abroad, only 24% of Seniors report having actually studied abroad (see figure below).
- In contrast to the unfulfilled aspirations to study abroad, plans to conduct research with a faculty member appear to be realistic, as 74% of Freshmen plan to do so, and 74% of Seniors report having done so, which is a large increase from the 2007 Enrolled Student Survey.
- The percentage of students who report spending more than 30 hours on academic work outside of class climbs from 15% of Freshmen to 27% of Seniors.

**Have you already or do you plan to study abroad during your time at MIT?**

Looking at the graph, Freshmen show a lower percentage of those who have already studied abroad compared to those who plan to do so, while Seniors have a higher percentage of those who have already studied abroad, as well as those who plan to do so.
Activities

- 89% of Freshmen plan to have an internship during their time at MIT, and 77% of Seniors report having had an internship.
- Among those students who report having worked more than 0 hours for pay in a typical week, the majority (23% of respondents) worked between 6 and 10 hours a week.
- Over three quarters of students who report having worked for pay worked all or mostly on campus.
- By Senior year, 57% of students report having volunteered in the community.
- A majority of students have participated in some form of organized sports, with the largest group reporting having participated in Intramural sports.
- Aside from sports, the most highly-cited extracurricular activity was volunteer service followed by a music or theater group and a cultural or ethnic organization.
- In terms of hours spent, 64% of students report spending between 0 and 5 hours on physical fitness activities in a typical week, and 57% of students report spending between 0 and five hours on extracurricular activities other than physical fitness.
- Less than one-third of students say that they got enough sleep to feel rested five or more out of the past seven days.

Feelings

- 57% of students report feeling overwhelmed by all that they had to do Often or Very Often in the current academic year, up from 44% in 2007.
- 85% report that they Rarely or Never felt disrespected because of their race, ethnicity, or religious beliefs.
- 27% of students report that concerns about their finances were Moderately or Very stressful for them.
- 87% of overall students report that concerns about their future plans were at least Slightly stressful for them, with the reported stress increasing as students approach the end of their undergraduate education.
Skills

- Over 80% of students say that their MIT experience has contributed at least Some to their ability to lead and supervise tasks and groups of people.
- Over 90% of students say that their MIT experience has contributed at least Some to their ability to use quantitative tools, to understand the process of science and experimentation, and to formulate or create original ideas and solutions.
- 58% of students say that their MIT experience has contributed to their ability to read or speak a foreign language Very little or none.
- 34% of students report that MIT has made them Much stronger in terms of gaining in-depth knowledge of a field.

To what extent has your experience at MIT contributed to your knowledge, skills and personal development in the following areas? (Comparing Freshman to Senior responses)