

MySuccessCheck is a 15-item questionnaire for new GVSU undergraduate students, intended to provide an early indication of which students are at greatest risk for dropping out. The questionnaire is intentionally brief, and includes two types of items: a few items required to create an effective diagnostic scale identifying students’ risk of dropout; and other specific items that GVSU student-support staff indicated they would use in practical interventions with individual students expressing needs.

**Participation Rate:**

The fall 2018 survey was open from Sep 17 – 28. Students in their first GVSU semester were invited via email to participate, and were also encouraged to do so by staff throughout the university.

	# Invited	Participants	Response Rate
Total	5787	2709	46.8%
FTIAC	4309	2376	55.1%
Transfer	1478	333	22.5%
On-Campus Resident	4034	2347	58.2%
Off-Campus Resident	1753	362	20.7%
Female	3501	1887	53.9%
First Generation	987	428	43.4%
Students of Color	2021	904	44.7%
Student Support Network	1236	777	62.9%

**Risk Assessment and Staff Follow-up:**

As in every past fall term, the computed risk score is strongly predictive of retention. Non-participants had a retention rate between those of “Low”- and “Medium”-risk participants. Non-participation is a significant indicator of risk for low first-semester grades.

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	GPA
Low	2339	86%	97.6%	3.19
Medium	223	8%	88.3%	2.97
High	114	4%	81.6%	2.63
Unclassified	33	1%	100.0%	3.00
All	2709	100%	96.2%	3.15
<i>Non-Participants</i>	<i>3078</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>91.6%</i>	<i>2.90</i>

The mySuccessCheck interface for staff members includes a mechanism for staff members to post notes to individual students’ records. These notes allow staff members to coordinate responses, and also allow us to assess the completeness and effectiveness of the responses. Staff members categorize the intensity of each response using the following scale:

- One-way communication ... staff member sent an email or left a voicemail message, but didn’t receive any reciprocal communication.
- Limited communication ... staff member and student communicated reciprocally, but not in particular depth
- Discussion ... staff member had a substantive exchange of information about the content of the student’s MySuccessCheck response

Altogether, staff logged 2,007 responses or interactions, affecting 1,281 different participating students. Because staff responses are reactive to needs expressed in students’ responses, it not expected that every student would elicit a response.

	N				Retention			
	Discussion	Limited	One-way	None	Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Low	122	16	1922	279	96.7%	93.8%	97.6%	98.2%
Medium	36	50	131	6	86.1%	86.0%	90.1%	83.3%
High	34	19	61	0	76.5%	89.5%	82.0%	.
Unclassified	0	0	27	6	.	.	100.0%	100.0%
All	192	85	2141	291	91.1%	88.2%	96.7%	97.9%

**Survey Item Breakdown:**

**I would like an advisor to contact me to discuss my major or career goals**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
No	958	36%	95.4%	3.17	3%	3%	75%	19%
Yes	1707	64%	96.6%	3.14	9%	3%	82%	6%

This item's responses are not significantly related to retention or GPA.

**I am confident in my choice of major**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	766	28%	96.0%	3.12	6%	2%	80%	12%
Agree	1102	41%	96.7%	3.17	5%	3%	79%	12%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	471	17%	95.3%	3.14	10%	3%	78%	9%
Disagree	241	9%	96.3%	3.13	12%	5%	76%	7%
Disagree Strongly	118	4%	96.6%	3.19	14%	6%	77%	3%

This item's responses are not significantly related to retention or GPA.

**I have spoken to one or more of my professors outside of class**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	356	13%	97.2%	3.27	8%	4%	71%	17%
Agree	1024	38%	96.5%	3.18	7%	2%	79%	12%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	364	14%	97.0%	3.06	6%	4%	81%	9%
Disagree	756	28%	94.8%	3.15	8%	3%	81%	8%
Disagree Strongly	191	7%	96.3%	2.94	6%	5%	84%	5%

There's a significant non-ordinal association between responses and GPA ("Agree Strongly">{"Neither...", "Disagree Strongly"}).

**If I need extra help to be successful in my coursework, I know where to go at GVSU to receive academic support**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	787	29%	96.8%	3.14	7%	2%	79%	12%
Agree	1356	51%	96.4%	3.19	6%	3%	79%	12%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	281	10%	95.0%	3.04	9%	4%	76%	11%
Disagree	228	9%	94.3%	3.08	9%	5%	86%	.
Disagree Strongly	30	1%	93.3%	3.16	10%	3%	87%	.

This item's responses are not significantly related to retention or GPA.

**I have friends at GVSU who I enjoy spending time with**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	1266	47%	98.0%	3.09	5%	2%	82%	11%
Agree	930	35%	94.9%	3.25	8%	3%	76%	13%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	286	11%	95.8%	3.15	10%	6%	75%	9%
Disagree	156	6%	92.3%	3.13	12%	6%	78%	3%
Disagree Strongly	39	1%	82.1%	2.86	15%	10%	74%	.

Significant ordinal association between responses and retention. "Middle" responders ("Agree" to "Disagree") had significantly higher grades than "Disagree Strongly".

**I am satisfied with my social life at GVSU**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	788	30%	98.2%	3.05	5%	1%	83%	11%
Agree	931	35%	97.0%	3.19	7%	2%	79%	13%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	556	21%	94.1%	3.19	8%	4%	77%	11%
Disagree	323	12%	93.8%	3.19	12%	8%	75%	6%
Disagree Strongly	66	2%	90.9%	3.21	12%	9%	76%	3%

Significant ordinal association between responses and retention.

**I plan to return to GVSU for the Winter term**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	1861	70%	97.9%	3.16	6%	1%	82%	12%
Agree	711	27%	94.9%	3.16	9%	6%	76%	10%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	91	3%	80.2%	2.93	25%	16%	55%	3%
Disagree	5	0%	40.0%	2.69	20%	20%	60%	.
Disagree Strongly	7	0%	42.9%	3	14%	29%	57%	.

Significant ordinal association between responses and retention.

**I plan to continue at GVSU next year (Fall 2018)**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	1711	64%	98.1%	3.16	5%	1%	82%	12%
Agree	693	26%	96.2%	3.18	8%	4%	78%	11%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	245	9%	86.9%	3.04	15%	16%	64%	4%
Disagree	28	1%	71.4%	2.98	36%	14%	50%	.
Disagree Strongly	13	0%	69.2%	2.94	23%	8%	69%	.

Significant ordinal association between responses and retention.

**I feel like I belong at GVSU**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	1112	42%	98.3%	3.11	5%	1%	82%	12%
Agree	1012	38%	96.9%	3.22	6%	2%	80%	12%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	456	17%	92.8%	3.16	11%	8%	73%	8%
Disagree	84	3%	82.1%	3.03	20%	18%	62%	.
Disagree Strongly	13	0%	76.9%	2.53	15%	.	85%	.

Significant ordinal association between responses and retention. Those who disagree strongly had significantly lower grades than all other respondents.

**In an average week (so far) how many hours do you spend studying and preparing for your courses?**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Less than 1	14	1%	92.9%	1.91	.	14%	86%	.
1 to 5	558	21%	95.7%	2.96	8%	4%	88%	.
6 to 10	894	33%	96.5%	3.11	6%	3%	91%	.
11 to 15	518	19%	97.1%	3.22	8%	3%	89%	.
16 to 20	335	12%	95.8%	3.25	6%	3%	50%	41%
21 to 25	176	7%	95.5%	3.34	7%	3%	47%	43%
26 to 30	115	4%	96.5%	3.38	7%	3%	53%	37%
31 to 35	50	2%	94.0%	3.46	10%	2%	46%	42%
36 to 40	21	1%	90.5%	3.66	5%	.	57%	38%
More than 40	20	1%	95.0%	3.56	10%	5%	50%	35%

Responses corresponding to more than 35 associated with significantly higher grades than those corresponding to fewer than 5 hours.

**How many of your scheduled classes have you missed?**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
None of them	1900	70%	97.0%	3.33	6%	2%	80%	12%
One	435	16%	96.3%	2.94	7%	3%	81%	10%
Two	227	8%	92.5%	2.61	9%	6%	80%	5%
3 to 5	119	4%	90.8%	2.24	16%	18%	66%	.
6 or More	11	0%	81.8%	1.74	64%	.	36%	.
I Don't Know	6	0%	100.0%	1.67	.	33%	50%	17%

Significant ordinal associations between responses and both retention and GPA.

**Many new students report feeling homesick in the initial weeks of college. Do you feel like homesickness is affecting your daily life at GVSU? (Choose the answer that is closest to how you feel.)**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
I'm not homesick	1114	41%	96.7%	3.08	5%	1%	81%	12%
Homesickness is not really bothering me much	945	35%	97.5%	3.2	5%	2%	82%	11%
I feel homesick most days but it's getting better	545	20%	96.1%	3.22	12%	6%	73%	9%
Homesickness is making it difficult to do my class work	70	3%	80.0%	3.08	20%	14%	66%	.
I regret moving away from home	30	1%	76.7%	2.77	30%	23%	47%	.

Bottom two responses associated with significantly lower retention than other responses. "I regret..." associated with significantly lower GPA than {"not really bothering...", "homesick most days..."}.

**Do you still need to purchase textbooks for any of your classes this semester?**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Yes	181	7%	96.1%	2.84	10%	4%	86%	.
No	2446	93%	96.2%	3.17	7%	3%	79%	12%

Significantly related to GPA.

**Would you like someone from the Disability Support Resources office to contact you to discuss accommodations and resources related to a disability?**

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
No	2492	96%	96.3%	3.16	7%	3%	79%	11%
Yes	93	4%	97.8%	2.89	10%	6%	83%	1%

Significantly related to GPA.