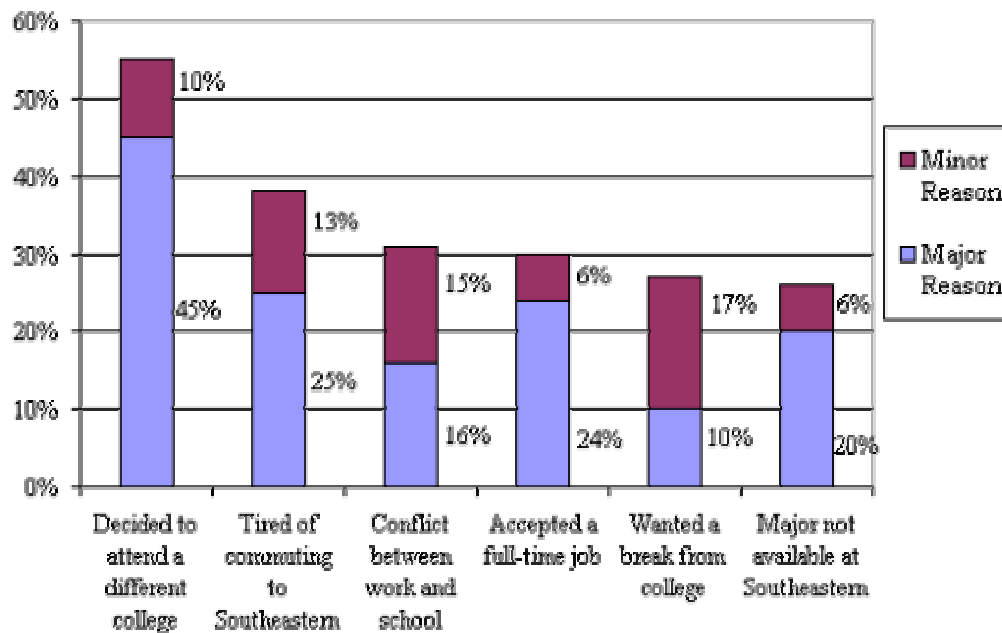


What Factors Keep Students From Returning to Southeastern Louisiana University?

What factors are keeping students from returning to Southeastern?

To answer the question of what factors keep students from returning to Southeastern, a survey was conducted of undergraduate students who were enrolled in Fall 1996 but who were not enrolled in the Spring or Summer 1997. In the survey, 211 students indicated they did not intend to return to Southeastern. Based on the information gathered from the survey, this decision was made for a variety of reasons.

Reasons for Not Returning to Southeastern



What factors were NOT reasons for the decision to not return to Southeastern?

The non-returning students surveyed (n=211) indicated that the following factors were "not a reason at all" to leave Southeastern.

- "SLU was too large for you" was indicated as not a reason for not returning by 202 respondents (96%).
- "Could not find and/or afford child care" was not a reason as indicated by 201 respondents (95%).
- "Inadequate facilities for physically handicapped students" was indicated as not a reason by 198 respondents (94%).

- "Your parents and/or other relatives influenced you to quit" was not a reason for not returning according to 197 respondents (93%).
- Ninety-three percent of the respondents (n=196) indicated that "experienced racism, prejudice or sexism" was not a reason for not returning.
- "Could not obtain summer employment" was not a reason for not returning as indicated by 196 of the respondents (93%).
- "Suspended or placed on probation" was not a reason as indicted by 194 of the respondents (92%).
- "Courses were too difficult" was not a reason for not returning as indicated by 189 respondents (90%).
- Unhappy with SLU's rules and regulations" was not a reason for not returning as indicated by 189 respondents (90%).

Did non-returning students seek assistance from faculty/staff before making the decision?

When asked "Did you talk to anyone like a faculty member or Enrollment Services staff about not returning to SLU?", 84% (n=186) of the respondents indicated "No".

This Policy Brief presents issues addressed in Goal 7 of the University's Strategic Plan: *To increase the proportion of students graduating in four years.* For more information about Southeastern Louisiana University, check the web site of the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment at <http://www.selu.edu/Administration/Inst-Research/>.