

MySuccessCheck is a short 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. Participating students who express need get immediate feedback with suggested resources to help them succeed, and staff members also review responses and contact some respondents with offers of assistance.

Participation Rate:

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	6022	2433	40%
FTIAC	4829	1999	41%
Transfer	1193	434	36%
On-Campus Resident	4442	1888	43%
Off-Campus Resident	1580	545	35%
Female	3697	1675	45%
First Generation	2616	1060	41%
Students of Color	1580	617	39%

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 of “Medium” risk participants. Non-participation is a significant indicator of risk from fall-to-winter attrition and low first-semester grades.

	N	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA
Low	2158	89%	96%	3.16
Medium	174	7%	85%	2.81
High	100	4%	76%	2.29
Unclassified	1	0%	100%	3.66
All	2433	100%	95%	3.10
<i>Non-Participants</i>	3589		90%	2.78

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 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.

Participants received some of the feedback messages automatically and immediately upon completion. We cannot measure how attentively participants read the feedback, or determine its effectiveness, but I’ve divided the participants who did not receive a logged contact from a staff member into two categories: those who requested an email copy of their automatic feedback and those who did not.

Altogether, staff logged 361 contacts affecting 321 different participants. Because staff responses are reactive to needs expressed in students' responses, it is not expected that every student would elicit a response. A total of 490 participants chose to receive their feed back by email. Of those, 60 also received a logged contact from a staff member.

	N					Retention		
	Discussion	Limited	One-way	Email report	None	Any Staff Contact	Email Report	None
Low	3		153	414	1588	95%	97%	96%
Medium	12	1	47	16	98	87%	81%	85%
High	16	2	76		6	78%		50%
Unclassified					1			100%
All	31	3	276	430	1693	88%	96%	96%

Survey Item Breakdown:

If I need extra help to be successful in my online or in-person coursework, I know where to access GVSU resources for academic support

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	759	31%	95%	3.04	1%	0%	10%	89%
Agree	1304	54%	95%	3.18	1%	0%	10%	89%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	207	9%	91%	2.92	3%		19%	78%
Disagree	151	6%	91%	3.04	3%	1%	15%	82%
Disagree Strongly	11	0%	100%	2.58	18%		45%	36%
All	2432	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to GPA

I plan to continue at GVSU next year (Fall 2024)

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
Agree Strongly	1457	60%	97%	3.11	0%		8%	92%
Agree	786	32%	94%	3.13	1%		10%	90%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	173	7%	82%	2.92	11%	2%	43%	45%
Disagree	10	0%	90%	2.98	10%		80%	10%
Disagree Strongly	7	0%	57%	2.4			86%	14%
All	2433	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to 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	873	36%	97%	3.07	1%		6%	93%
Agree	1101	45%	95%	3.15	1%	0%	10%	89%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	398	16%	91%	3.05	2%	0%	20%	78%
Disagree	46	2%	89%	2.96	13%	2%	43%	41%
Disagree Strongly	14	1%	71%	2.61	7%		57%	36%
All	2432	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to retention.

For in-person or synchronous classes, how many of your scheduled class sessions have you missed?

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
None of them	1571	65%	96%	3.36	1%	0%	6%	93%
One	428	18%	93%	2.95	1%	0%	13%	86%
Two	258	11%	93%	2.44	3%		19%	79%
3 to 5	138	6%	84%	2.09	1%		43%	55%
6 or More	23	1%	91%	1.82	35%		43%	22%
I Don't Know	14	1%	71%	1.33	7%		43%	50%
All	2432	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to retention and GPA.

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
No	1772	73%	96%	3.2	1%	0%	10%	89%
Yes	656	27%	92%	2.84	1%	0%	16%	83%
All	2428	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to retention and 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	2285	94%	95%	3.13	1%	0%	6%	92%
Yes	136	6%	93%	2.58	1%	1%	98%	
All	2421	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to GPA.

Are your finances or lack of financial resources limiting or interrupting your access to food (i.e. the ability to prepare nutritious food the need to rely on others to provide food, skipping a meal because of food, or going hungry)?

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
No	2048	84%	96%	3.18	1%	0%	10%	89%
Yes	377	16%	91%	2.68	2%		21%	77%
All	2425	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to retention and GPA.

Do you have technology (computer, hot spot, BB access) necessary to be successful in your classes?

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
No	61	3%	89%	2.22	5%	2%	41%	52%
Yes	2368	97%	95%	3.12	1%	0%	11%	88%
All	2429	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to retention and GPA.

Would you like to learn more about financial wellness and basic budgeting?

	Frequency	Percent	Retention	Fall GPA	Staff Response (row sums to 100%)			
					Discussion	Limited	One-way	None
No	936	39%	94%	3.2	1%	0%	10%	89%
Yes	1493	61%	95%	3.03	1%	0%	12%	86%
All	2429	100%	95%	3.1	1%	0%	11%	87%

Significantly related to GPA.