

## 2012 Parent Survey Highlights

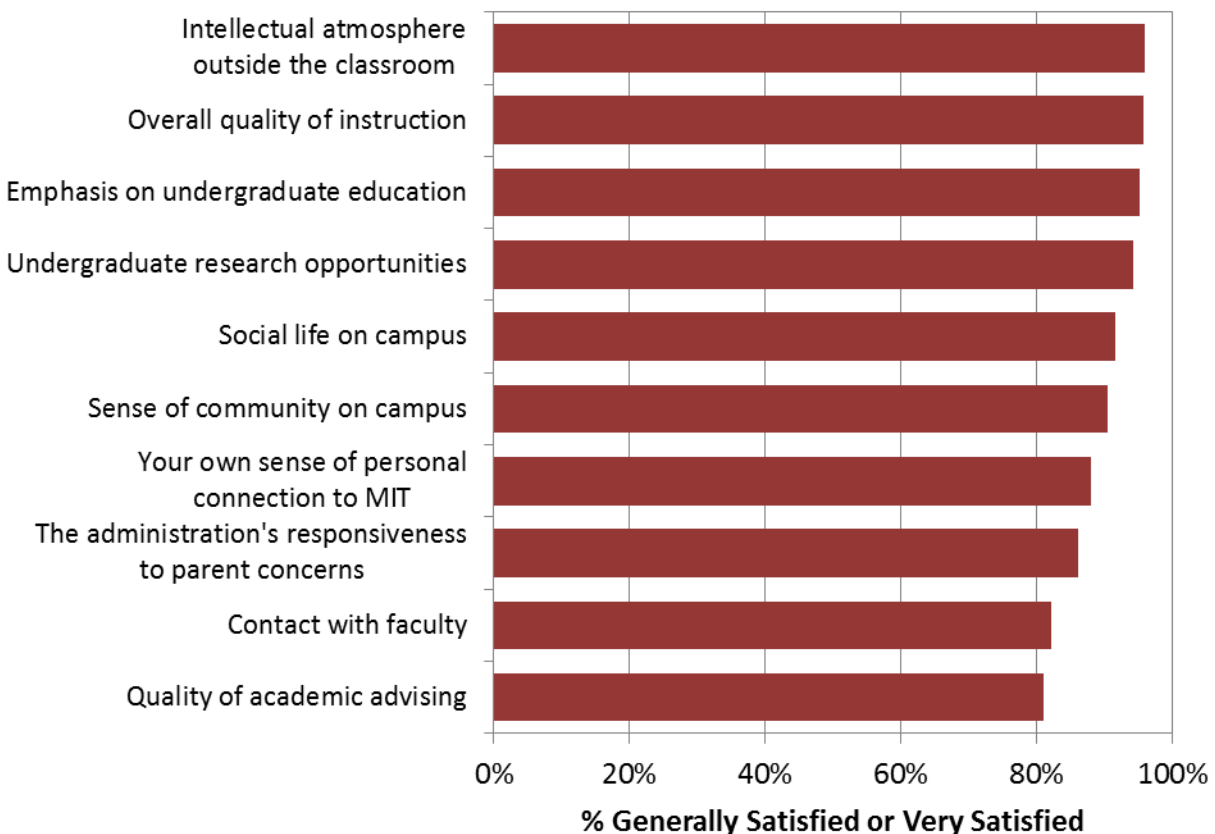
Every few years, MIT invites the parents of undergraduates to participate in a parent survey. This survey asks parents to share their perspectives about their child's college experience, the usefulness of information MIT sends to parents, satisfaction with various aspects of MIT, how they finance an MIT education, and perceptions of their child's abilities. The latest administration of the Parent Survey took place in May 2012. Only parents with an e-mail address on file were invited to participate in the survey. Out of 4,243 undergraduate students, 2,668 students had at least one parent with an e-mail address on file. Of these students, 57% (1,516 students) had at least one parent who responded to the survey. Highlights from the 2012 Parent Survey are presented below and a full report of overall results follows.

### Tell Us How We Are Doing

- Overall, 96% of respondents indicated that they were generally satisfied or very satisfied with their child's undergraduate education at MIT so far.
- Respondents were most satisfied with the intellectual atmosphere outside the classroom, with 96% indicating that they were generally satisfied or very satisfied.

### Satisfaction with Aspects of MIT

(in descending order by percentage of generally or very satisfied)

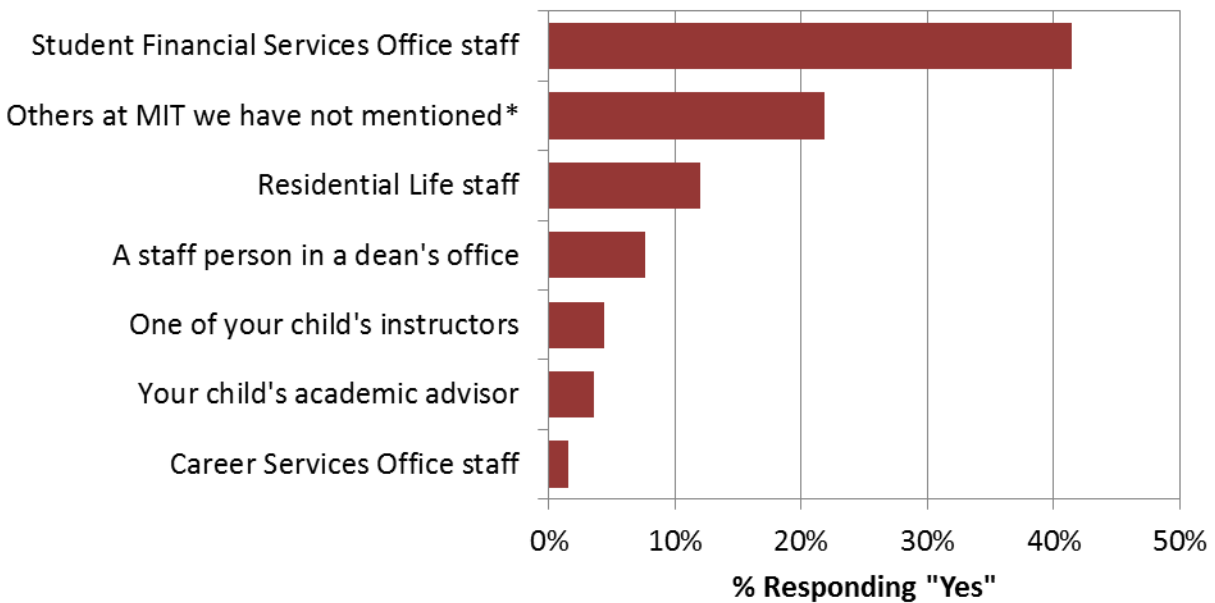


- 86% of respondents indicated that they agreed somewhat or agreed strongly that their child is thriving at MIT.
- When asked whether they agreed that they are worried that their child will have trouble finding a job after graduation, only 19% of respondents indicated that they agreed somewhat or agreed strongly.
- For respondents, 99% believe that providing opportunities to conduct research with faculty as well as promoting personal growth and maturity are somewhat important or very important for MIT to do.
- 88% of respondents indicated that they agreed somewhat or agreed strongly that faculty research at MIT enriches the undergraduate experience.
- When asked if they would encourage high school senior who resembled their child to attend MIT, 93% of respondents said that they probably would or definitely would.

**Day-To-Day Involvement with College Life**

- During the school year, over 80% of respondents said that they have been in contact with their child at least weekly while their child is away at school.
- 92% of respondents have visited MIT’s website during the academic year.
- 27% of respondents followed blogs or social media from MIT.
- Respondents interacted with the Student Financial Services Office staff the most, with 41% indicating that they interacted with that office during the academic year.
- Respondents interacted with the Career Services Office staff the least, with 2% indicating that they interacted with that office during the academic year.

**During the current academic year, have you interacted with...**  
 (in descending order by the percentage responding "Yes")



\* Two of the most common responses in this category were athletic coaches and medical staff.

### Being the Parent of a College Student: Staying Informed

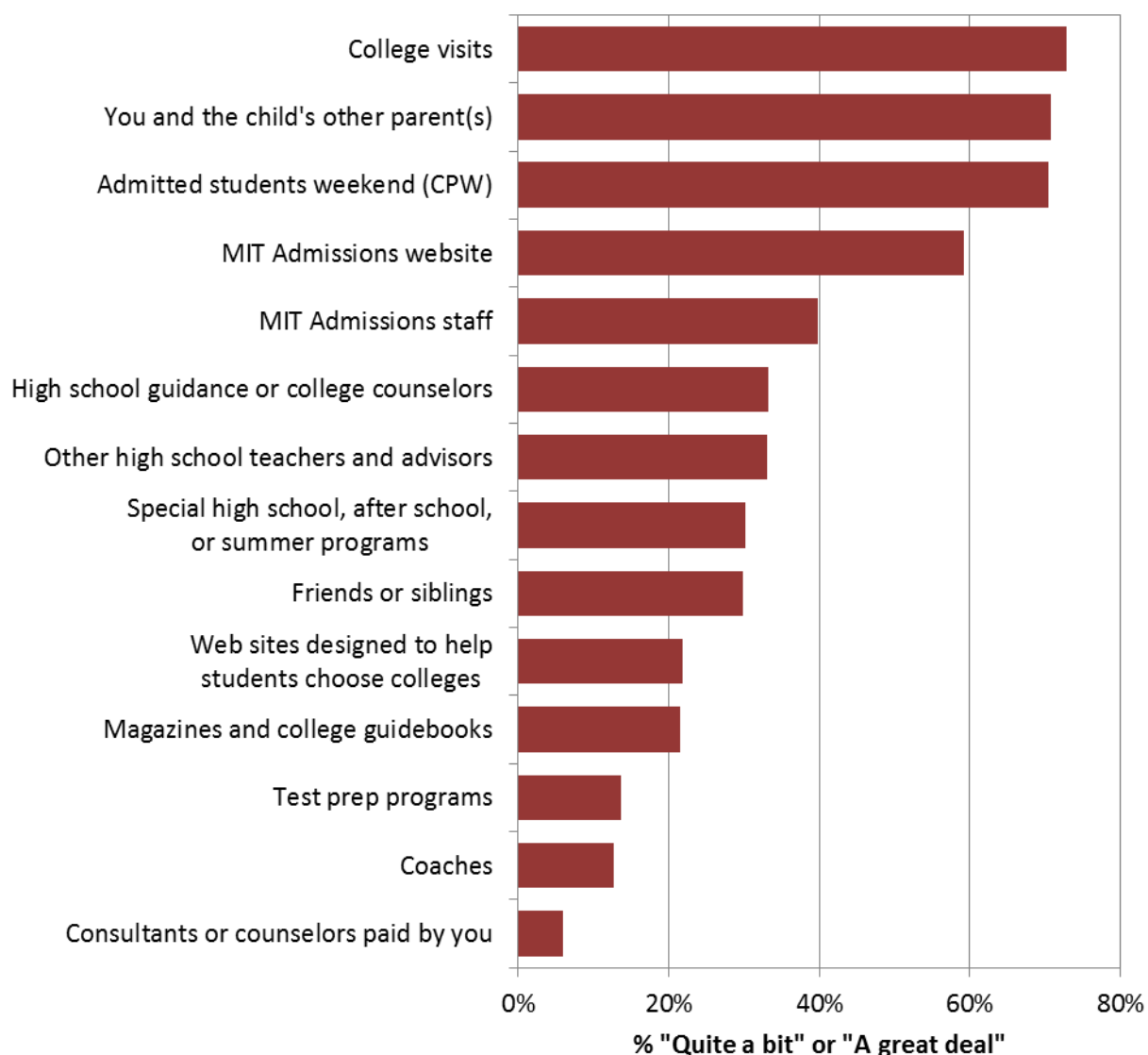
- About 25% of respondents indicated that they were receiving too little communication from MIT.
- 58% of respondents feel that the information they receive from MIT meets their needs as a parent pretty well or very well.
- Career counseling as well as academic life and policies were the two highest areas where respondents indicated that they would like to hear more about.

### Choosing a College

- Respondents rated college visits as the most helpful in their child's college admission process, with 73% indicating that they helped quite a bit or a great deal.

#### To what extent did each of the following help your child in the college admission process?

(in descending order by percentage of "Quite a bit" or "A great deal")



- 39% of respondents agreed somewhat or agreed strongly that financial aid was a major factor in their child's college choices.
- 46% of respondents indicated that they had not heard about or visited a web-based "Net Price Calculator" that helps estimate the amount of financial aid they might receive.

### **Paying for College – This Year**

- About 3/5 of respondents said that their child received a grant from any source to help pay expenses for the current academic year.
- 47% of respondents indicated that their child received grant aid for the current academic year totaling at least \$25,000.

### **Paying for College – To Date**

- Approximately 66% of respondents indicated not borrowing any money to pay for their child's college education.
- Similarly, 64% of respondents said that their child has no student loans.
- 43% of respondents indicated that the impact on the family of paying for their child to attend MIT has been considerable or severe.
- 81% of respondents indicated that their child's experience at MIT has been worth the impact on the family's finances.
- Overall, 76% of respondents indicated being generally satisfied or very satisfied with the level of financial aid received from MIT.

### **About You and This Child**

- 37% of respondents indicated that their child participated in intercollegiate sports as an athlete while in college.
- 74% of respondents said that their child lived in a residence hall the during the most recent fall term.
- Over 90% of respondents listed that they were married or living with a partner.
- The percentage of respondents who listed having two or more children in college now was 35%.

### **About You**

- When asked how old they were on their last birthday, the largest group, 42% of respondents, indicated being between 50 and 54 years of age.
- When asked about their spouse or partner's age, the largest group, 39% of respondents, indicated that their spouse or partner was between 50 and 54 years of age.
- 62% of respondents listed a graduate or professional degree as the highest degree they have earned.
- 58% of respondents listed a graduate or professional degree as the highest degree their spouse or partner has earned.