

50th Reunion Survey Results of Classmates

Total Responses: 422

SUCCESS

At Yale, we all had dreams of how life ought to turn out. Were yours:

realistic	301	72.9 %
unrealistic	112	27.1 %

Or have things gone in a totally unexpected direction?

yes	189	46.1 %
no	221	53.9 %

Or did you try to fulfill those dreams and fail?

yes	58	14.9 %
no	331	85.1 %

Are you satisfied with yourself?

a lot	219	52.6 %
more or less	185	44.5 %
not very much	12	2.9 %

Are you happy?

greatly	324	77.7 %
sometimes	91	21.8 %
rarely	2	0.5 %

RELATIONSHIPS

What is your sexual orientation?

straight	404	97.8 %
gay	7	1.7 %
bisexual	2	0.5 %

Are you married?

yes	367	88.4 %
no	48	11.6 %

How many times?

once	247	61.1 %
twice	121	30.0 %
three or more times	36	8.9 %

Are you widowed?

yes	26	6.5 %
no	371	93.5 %

Have you been divorced?

yes	166	40.3 %
no	246	59.7 %

How many times?

once	128	77.1 %
twice	38	22.9 %

Has your wife worked? (Check all that apply)

no	54	13.6 %
full-time	300	75.4 %
part-time	161	40.5 %

How many children do you have?

0	36	9.0 %
1	44	10.9 %
2	163	40.5 %
3	97	24.1 %
4	42	10.4 %
5	12	3.0 %
6	4	1.0 %
7	3	0.7 %
18	1	0.2 %
Total	402	
Average	2.4	

Number of girls

0	81	22.3 %
1	165	45.5 %
2	79	21.8 %
3	29	8.0 %
4	7	1.9 %
5	1	0.3 %
6	1	0.3 %
Total	363	
Average	1.2	

Number of boys

0	68	18.7 %
1	153	42.1 %
2	91	25.1 %
3	37	10.2 %
4	10	2.8 %
5	2	0.6 %
7	1	0.3 %
12	1	0.3 %
Total	363	
Average	1.4	

What type of school do/did they attend? (Check all that apply)

public	258	70.5 %
private	238	65.0 %

How many of your children have completed college?

0	11	3.0 %
1	68	18.4 %
2	155	42.0 %
3	90	24.4 %
4	29	7.9 %
5	10	2.7 %
6	3	0.8 %
7	1	0.3 %
10	2	0.5 %
Total	369	
Average	2.3	

How many graduated from Yale?

0	262	73.2 %
1	72	20.1 %
2	21	5.9 %
3	1	0.3 %
4	2	0.6 %
Total	358	
Average	0.3	

How many of your children are married?

0	59	16.0 %
1	116	31.4 %
2	120	32.5 %
3	54	14.6 %
4	14	3.8 %
5	4	1.1 %
6	1	0.3 %
7	1	0.3 %
Total	369	
Average	1.6	

How many grandchildren do you have?

0	78	20.6 %
1	43	11.3 %
2	73	19.3 %
3	53	14.0 %
4	44	11.6 %
5	29	7.7 %
6	25	6.6 %
7	11	2.9 %
8	10	2.6 %
9	6	1.6 %
10	1	0.3 %
11	1	0.3 %
12	2	0.5 %
13	2	0.5 %
30	1	0.3 %
Total	379	
Average	3.0	

RELIGION

Do you believe in God?

yes	173	41.9 %
no	154	37.3 %
not sure	86	20.8 %

Have you changed your religious beliefs since college?

yes	177	43.1 %
no	234	56.9 %

If so, in what way?

more religious	64	27.4 %
less religious	111	47.4 %
other:	59	25.2 %

Do you attend church, synagogue, or mosque?

once a year	46	11.2 %
somewhat more frequently	65	15.8 %
much more frequently	39	9.5 %
weekly	67	16.3 %
not at all	195	47.3 %

If you maintain a religious affiliation, what is it?

Baptist	4	1.4 %	
Buddhism	7	2.5 %	
Church of Christ	5	1.8 %	
Conservative Judaism	3	1.1 %	
Deism	1	0.4 %	
Episcopal	85	30.5 %	
Hinduism, any	0	0.0 %	
Humanism	0	0.0 %	
Islam, any	0	0.0 %	
Lutheran	7	2.5 %	
Methodist	10	3.6 %	
Mormonism	2	0.7 %	
Orthodox Judaism	0	0.0 %	
Presbyterian	23	8.2 %	
Reconstructionist	2	0.7 %	
Reformed Judaism	19	6.8 %	
Roman Catholic	33	11.8 %	
Russian/Greek/Eastern Orthodox	2	0.7 %	
Unitarian/Universalist	12	4.3 %	
Agnosticism/Atheism	24	8.6 %	
Other:	49	14.4 %	

EDUCATION AND WORK

Have you earned an advanced degree since 1964? (check all that apply)

Master's	108	30.1 %
M.B.A.	85	23.7 %
Ph.D.	80	22.3 %
J.D.	98	27.3 %
M.D.	49	13.6 %
Other:	44	12.2 %

Did you serve in a branch of the military? (check all that apply)

no	252	62.4 %
reserves	55	13.6 %
active duty	121	30.0 %

How many full-time jobs have you held since graduation?

1	62	15.3 %
2	67	16.5 %
3	69	17.0 %
4	51	12.6 %
5	41	10.1 %
6	32	7.9 %
7	32	7.9 %
8	10	2.5 %
9	8	2.0 %
10	12	3.0 %
11	7	1.7 %
12	8	2.0 %
13	3	0.7 %
15	1	0.2 %
20	1	0.2 %
23	1	0.2 %
Total	405	
Average	4.4	

How many different employers (if different from number of "jobs")?

0	3	1.3 %
1	29	12.2 %
2	42	17.6 %
3	47	19.7 %
4	28	11.8 %
5	30	12.6 %
6	20	8.4 %
7	13	5.5 %
8	4	1.7 %
9	3	1.3 %
10	9	3.8 %
11	4	1.7 %
12	3	1.3 %
13	1	0.4 %
16	2	0.8 %
Total	238	
Average	4.2	

Are you retired?

fully	179	43.1 %
partially	132	31.8 %
no	104	25.1 %

If not now, do you plan to retire?

Yes	87	41.0 %
No	125	59.0 %

Have you worked in the field you thought you would when you graduated?

yes	225	54.7 %
no	96	23.4 %
had little idea at graduation	90	21.9 %

Are you satisfied with your career choices?

yes	390	95.4 %
no	19	4.6 %

Have you served as a public official? (check all that apply)

Elective	28	30.4 %
Appointive	76	82.6 %

Are you a volunteer in a not-for-profit organization?

Yes	279	72.8 %
No	104	27.2 %

Are you satisfied with how much money you have earned?

yes	332	80.4 %
no	81	19.6 %

Do you expect a comfortable retirement?

yes	368	90.0 %
no	41	10.0 %

LIVING

How many hours of television do you watch weekly?

0	39	9.7 %
1-5	115	28.6%
6-10	128	31.8%
11-15	56	13.9%
16-20	37	9.2%
21-25	14	3.5%
>25	12	3.0%
Total	401	
Average		9.4

How many fiction books do you read annually?

0	34	8.6 %
1-5	130	32.9%
6-10	92	23.3%
11-15	45	11.4%
16-20	33	8.4%
21-25	18	4.6%
26-30	8	2.0%
31-35	8	2.0%
36-40	7	1.8%
>40	30	7.6%
Total	395	
Average	14.1	

How non-fiction many books do you read annually?

0	13	3.3 %
1 – 5	160	40.0%
6 – 10	115	28.8%
11 – 15	41	10.3%
16 – 20	30	7.5%
21 – 25	11	2.8%
> 25	29	7.3%
Total	399	
Average	12.0	

Are you a regular user of: (check all that apply)

e-mail	402	100.0 %
Facebook	62	15.4 %
Twitter	13	3.2 %

Do you use a tablet PC (iPod, Kindle, Nook, etc.)?

yes	230	55.8 %
no	182	44.2 %

HEALTH

Are you generally healthy?

yes	374	90.8 %
no	38	9.2 %

If no, from what problems do you suffer? (Check all that apply)

high blood pressure	76	44.2 %
prostate problem (BHP)	37	21.5 %
arthritis	44	25.6 %
cancer	25	14.5 %
heart disease	38	22.1 %
hearing loss	45	26.2 %
Other	71	41.3 %

If you have health problems do they: (Check all that apply)

make you less active	57	28.6 %
require inconvenient numbers of doctor visits for treatment	22	11.1 %
annoy you but have little impact on your overall lifestyle	157	78.9 %
motivate you to think more about "end-of-life" issues than otherwise	49	24.6 %

Do you take a low-dose aspirin daily?

yes	248	60.8 %
no	160	39.2 %

Are you overweight?

no	283	68.0 %
too heavy	127	30.5 %
obese	6	1.4 %

How often do you drink alcohol?

daily	224	54.1 %
only socially	45	10.9 %
once in a while	84	20.3 %
never or hardly ever	61	14.7 %

Are you alcoholic?

yes	16	3.9 %
no	394	96.1 %

Are you a recovered/recovering alcoholic?

yes	20	5.0 %
no	383	95.0 %

Did you ever smoke?

yes	220	53.4 %
no	192	46.6 %

If yes, have you quit?

less than a decade ago	4	1.9 %
more than a decade ago	206	98.1 %

Do you use any recreational drugs?

yes	21	5.1 %
no	388	94.9 %

Do you worry about aging?

yes	168	41.3 %
no	239	58.7 %

Do you feel your age?

yes	127	31.2 %
younger	277	68.1 %
older	3	0.7 %

Compared to the level in college, how would you rate your libido?

100%	23	5.8 %
75%	78	19.5 %
50%	145	36.3 %
25%	134	33.6 %
0%	19	4.8 %

How often do you exercise in the following ways?

Walking/light exercise:

3 or more/week	280	70.5 %
1-2/week	77	19.4 %
1-3/month	23	5.8 %
never	17	4.3 %

Vigorous aerobic exercise:

3 or more/week	153	38.2 %
1-2/week	117	29.2 %
1-3/month	47	11.7 %
never	84	20.9 %

Strength or weight training:

3 or more/week	85	21.6 %
1-2/week	91	23.2 %
1-3/month	44	11.2 %
never	173	44.0 %

Are you a principal caregiver for a member of your family?

yes	37	9.0 %
no	372	91.0 %

POLITICS

Party choice

Democrat	216	53.1 %
Republican	89	21.9 %
Independent	85	20.9 %
Other	21	5.2 %

Have you changed affiliation since college?

yes	134	32.6 %
no	277	67.4 %

Are you politically active?

yes	182	44.3 %
no	229	55.7 %

If yes, as a:

contributor	137	72.1 %
volunteer	53	27.9 %

Are you

more conservative	125	34.6 %
more liberal than you were in college?	236	65.4 %

Who was your choice for President in 2012?

Obama	286	70.3 %
Romney	109	26.8 %
Other	12	3.0 %

Since 1960, who has been the best President?

Kennedy	27	6.8 %
Johnson	47	11.8 %
Nixon	0	0.0 %
Ford	8	2.0 %
Carter	12	3.0 %
Reagan	110	27.6 %
Bush I	22	5.5 %
Clinton	119	29.9 %
Bush II	3	0.8 %
Obama	50	12.6 %

Should same-sex marriage be legal nationally?

yes	350	86.8 %
no	53	13.2 %

Can global warming be reduced by mandating changes in human activity?

entirely	48	11.7 %
mitigated somewhat	297	72.4 %
unsure	65	15.9 %

VALUES

Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future of our society?

optimistic	198	49.3 %
pessimistic	204	50.7 %

YALE

Was your Yale education relevant to your life today?

yes	384	93.2 %
no	28	6.8 %

Do you think a system of distinguished private universities whose graduates disproportionately fill positions of responsibility in society is a strength or a weakness?

strength	325	81.9 %
weakness	72	18.1 %

Are we products of an educational system that favors the privileged?

yes	342	83.4 %
no	68	16.6 %

Are we products of an educational system that rewards the talented?

yes	375	92.6 %
no	30	7.4 %