Computers and Internet Use

- 97% of respondents own a personal computer (4)
- 98% of respondents accessed the Internet a few times a week or more (2)
- 95% said they were comfortable using the Internet as a communication tool (2)
- 46% of entering freshmen rated themselves as “above average” or “highest 10%” compared to their peers on COMPUTER SKILLS (5)
- 78% of entering freshmen said they frequently used the Internet for research or homework (5)

Email

- 88% of respondents had two or more email accounts (4)
- 96% checked email at least once a day (4)
- 77% checked their neo email at least once a day (4)
- 99% said they were comfortable using email as a communication tool (4)
- 99% of Respondents have used email to contact a faculty member (1)
  --83% used email to clarify an assignment
  --76% used email to submit an assignment
  --57% used email to inquire about their grades
  --56% used email to clarify class material
- 62% preferred using email to contact a faculty member over other methods of communication (1)
  --Most said they preferred email as a matter of convenience

Social Networking

- 90% of respondents have a Facebook profile (1)
- 43% have a profile on other social networks such as MySpace and Yahoo! Personals (1)
- 17% have a blog (1)
- 13% have a personal web page (1)

Privacy Issues

- 45% of respondents have posted personal information (full name, telephone number, home address) online for public viewing (1)

Instant Messaging

- 72% of respondents say they use instant messaging (3)
- 75% of those who use instant messaging do so to communicate with friends (3)
- 91% said they were comfortable using Instant Messaging as a communication tool (3)

Cell Phones

- 99% of respondents have a cell phone (1)
- 87% talk on their cell phones up to 3 hours per day (1)
- 92% talk to friends every day via cell phone (1)
- 90% talk to parents every day via cell phone (1)
- 36% had a land line or traditional phone (1)

Online Harassment

- 33% of respondents have received an uncomfortable online message from a stranger since becoming an A&M student (1)
- 19% have received an uncomfortable online message from a friend or acquaintance (1)
- 10% say they have been harassed (threats, badgering, name calling) via online technology (instant messaging, email, text messaging) (1)

Sources:
1. Technology Use Survey (Spring 2006; n=472; 64% response rate)
2. Internet Use Survey (Fall 2004; n=461; 60% response rate)
3. Instant Messaging Use Survey (Spring 2005; n=872; 73% response rate)
4. Email Use Survey (Fall 2005; n=217; 62% response rate)
5. Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) (Summer 2006; n=4561; 61% response rate)

To read the reports highlighted on this page, please visit the Student Life Studies webpage.

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