

Parent & Family Pulse Poll – October 2014: Students' Holiday Plans

Results (198 responses)

My student is a:		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
High school student	0.0%	0
Freshman	44.9%	89
Sophomore	20.7%	41
Junior	17.7%	35
Senior	15.7%	31
Grad student	1.0%	2

What are your student's plans for the Thanksgiving holiday? (Please choose one).		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Coming home to visit family	86.9%	172
Travelling with family to another destination	5.1%	10
Staying in Lubbock	7.1%	14
Visiting a friend	1.0%	2
Other (please specify)		5

For the Thanksgiving holiday, what is your student's primary mode of transportation? (Please choose one.)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Student's own car	57.7%	113
Riding in friend's car	11.7%	23
Airline	7.7%	15
Family is picking up	5.1%	10
Parent & Family Relations bus trip	13.8%	27
Other bus trip	1.0%	2
None - staying in Lubbock	3.1%	6
Other (please specify)		4

What are your student's plans for the semester break? (Select all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Coming home	87.9%	174
Travelling with family	11.1%	22
Visiting friend	7.1%	14
Staying in Lubbock	8.6%	17
Travelling with friends	6.6%	13
Working	14.6%	29
Other (please specify)		8

For the semester break, what is your student's primary mode of transportation? (Please choose one.)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Student's own car	68.9%	135
Riding in friend's car	8.7%	17
Airline	9.2%	18
Family is picking up	9.7%	19
Bus trip	2.0%	4
None - staying in Lubbock	1.5%	3
Other (please specify)		3

What concerns do you have about the holidays with your student? (Please select all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Travel safety	74.5%	143
House rules now that student has been living independently	16.1%	31
Not enough time to spend with student during holiday(s)	29.7%	57
Cost of travel	14.6%	28
Leaving items in residence hall/apartment during holiday(s)	24.0%	46
Student not able to come home for holiday(s)	5.2%	10

Most students are coming home for the holidays and are taking their own cars. Most parents surveyed were concerned about travel safety of their students, not being able to spend enough time with their students during the holidays, and about student(s) leaving items in the residence halls during the breaks.

- For driving safety tips for your student, visit http://www.depts.ttu.edu/ttd/cp_tips.php, provided by the Texas Tech Police Department. The Texas Dept. of Transportation posts driving conditions here: <http://conditions.drivetexas.org/current/>. Encourage your student to visit that site and prepare for inclement weather. Visit <http://bit.ly/1UDJ1Nw> to download and print the Road Raiders list – Tech Parents who can help your student.
- Be flexible about your family's holiday plans. Students need time to relax after a long semester and may also want to reconnect with friends. Communicate your expectations and share your holiday plans with your student ahead of time so that you can be on the same page. Be open-minded and expect to see changes in your student.
- For information on leaving items in residence halls during the winter break, visit <http://housing.ttu.edu/winterbreak>. While the campus police and security staff will still be patrolling campus, it is recommended students do not leave valuables in the halls if they are going to be gone for a long period of time (i.e. jewelry, laptops, etc.)