



# OH, THE PLACES THEY'LL GO ...

KS Senior Survey 2000–2002

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## AT A GLANCE

Each year, seniors at Kapālama Campus complete a Senior Survey before graduating from Kamehameha Schools. The purpose of the survey is to assess post-graduation plans and to gauge student satisfaction with campus programs. This report summarizes the Senior Survey completed by Kamehameha Schools graduates from the classes of 2000, 2001, and 2002. Overall findings show that more than 80 percent of graduates plan to attend a four-year college or university. The majority of these students plan to attend college on the mainland and aspire to earn a graduate degree. As a whole, graduates have a high level of satisfaction with their educational experiences at Kamehameha Schools.

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# Oh, the Places They'll Go...

## KS Senior Survey 2000–2002

### Executive Summary

This report summarizes the Senior Survey completed by Kamehameha Schools Kapālama Campus graduates from the classes of 2000, 2001, and 2002. Overall findings include the following:

- More than 80 percent of graduates plan to attend four-year colleges or universities immediately after graduation.
- More than half of graduating seniors have aspirations of ultimately obtaining a graduate or professional degree, while 36 percent aspire to earn a bachelor's degree.
- Students planned on a wide range of college majors. The most common was Business Administration (five percent), although 18 percent of students had not yet decided on a major.
- Compared with other colleges and universities, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa has the highest percentage of Kamehameha Schools graduates who applied, were accepted, and planned to attend college there.
- We find that students who aspire to a four-year college degree have higher GPAs and test scores than average, especially those heading to mainland institutions.
- Overall, students report a high level of satisfaction with their education at Kamehameha Schools. Students planning to attend four-year colleges and universities and those with higher GPAs report higher levels of satisfaction.

## Introduction

Each year, seniors at Kapālama Campus complete a survey before graduating from Kamehameha Schools. The purpose of the survey is to gather information regarding their post-graduation plans and to gauge student satisfaction with campus programs.

This summary report addresses the following topics:

- Post-graduation plans and aspirations
- Preparation for post-secondary education (GPA, class rank, SAT scores)
- Comparison of student characteristics and post-graduation plans
- Student satisfaction with their experiences at Kamehameha Schools

### Methods

The annual survey, which takes about 15 minutes to complete, is distributed and collected by homeroom teachers. A total of 1,322 surveys were collected from the graduating classes of 2000, 2001 and 2002. Each graduating class represents about one-third of the total sample.

## Post-graduation Plans

An overwhelming majority of graduating seniors plan to attend four-year colleges or universities, as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Student plans**

Plans	Count	Percent
Work	14	1
Armed Forces (not concurrently enrolled in a degree program)	15	1
Technical School	17	1
Two-year College or Junior College	172	13
Four-year College/University	1,074	81
Other/Missing	30	2

### Choice of College

Students were asked to indicate the schools to which they had applied, whether they were accepted, and whether they planned to attend that school. Fifty-five percent of the students said they planned to attend college in Hawai‘i, while 45 percent indicated mainland institutions. Generally, students who plan to attend four-year colleges or universities, or who have other plans, intend to relocate to the mainland. Students are more likely to remain in Hawai‘i if they plan to attend two-year colleges. These statistics are summarized in Table 2.

**Table 2. Post-graduation plans: Hawai'i vs. Mainland**

Graduating Class	STUDENT PLANS							
	Four-year College/University				Two-year College			
	Hawai'i		Mainland		Hawai'i		Mainland	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
2000	119	30	220	56	52	12	7	2
2001	140	35	208	52	41	9	19	4
2002	143	33	222	52	54	12	9	2
Total	402	33	650	53	147	12	35	3

\*Note: Actual counts and percentages are for those who indicated a particular college. Some respondents indicated they intend to enroll but did not identify a particular college.

Although there is some variation in plans between the three graduating classes, there are no significant differences or trends.

Kamehameha Schools graduates apply for and are accepted to study at a wide range of educational institutions. In all, the seniors from the classes of the three graduating classes indicated they would attend 179 educational institutions. Tables 3 and 4 list the most frequently identified colleges and universities. Although more than 50 percent of seniors plan to attend schools on the mainland, many also plan to remain in Hawai'i. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa had the highest percentage of students who applied (43 percent), got accepted (34 percent), and planned to attend (19 percent). Other universities with high enrollment by Kamehameha Schools graduates include Kapi'olani Community College (5 percent), Hawai'i Pacific University (4 percent), University of Nevada (4 percent), and Leeward Community College (4 percent).

**Table 3. Common college choices – Hawai'i colleges and universities**

Hawai'i Schools	Plan to attend		Accepted		Applied	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
University of Hawai'i, Mānoa	249	19	444	34	564	43
Kapi'olani Community College	65	5	66	5	88	7
Hawai'i Pacific University	58	4	120	9	140	11
Leeward Community College	54	4	70	5	92	7
University of Hawai'i, Hilo	34	3	73	6	96	7
Honolulu Community College	24	2	30	2	40	3
Chaminade University	23	2	50	4	59	4
Windward Community College	22	2	27	2	39	3
Brigham Young University, Hawai'i	21	2	29	2	37	3

**Table 4. Common college choices – Mainland colleges and universities**

Mainland Schools	Plan to attend		Accepted		Applied	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
University of Nevada, Las Vegas	59	4	111	3	137	10
Loyola Marymount, CA	38	3	96	7	119	9
Oregon State University, OR	26	2	112	8	134	10
Chapman University, CA	25	2	56	4	67	5
University of Washington, WA	23	2	56	4	79	6
Pacific University, OR	22	2	64	5	49	4
Brigham Young University, UT	21	2	30	2	42	3

### Intended Majors

A total of 1,255 students responded to the question of “I intend to major in ...” Table 5 lists the most frequently identified majors.

**Table 5. Intended majors**

Major	Count	Percent
Business Administration	68	5
Psychology	46	4
Pre-medical	40	3
Elementary Education	37	3
Computer Science	29	2
Electrical, Electronics	26	2

There is a wide spread of intended majors, with no one major selected by more than five percent of the students. Business administration and psychology were the most popular majors. At the time of the survey, 18 percent of the students had not decided on a major. In all, students identified 179 distinct majors.

### Educational Aspirations

At the time of graduation, 89 percent of seniors said they plan to complete a college degree. Three percent indicated they plan to complete technical school or a two-year degree, while 36 percent plan to complete a bachelor’s degree and 51 percent have aspirations of ultimately obtaining a graduate degree (see Table 6).

**Table 6. Highest degree aspirations**

Educational level	Count	Percent
High School	7	0.5
Military Training (no degree identified)	4	0.3
Technical School	12	1
Two-year college	20	2
Four-year college	457	36
Graduate	647	51
Undecided	132	10

## Preparation for Post–secondary Education

Grade point averages (GPA), class rank, and SAT scores are among the many possible indicators of students' preparation for post-secondary education. Table 7 presents statistics on these indicators by students' post-graduation plans. Because their numbers are small and therefore less stable descriptors of the groups in general, we have combined the students whose plans are not indicated and those who indicated "Other." We have also combined students who intend to enter technical training programs and two-year colleges for the same reason. The GPA and class rank data are from Kamehameha Schools High School student database; data for the SAT scores are from files maintained by PASE.

**Table 7. Indicators of preparation for post-secondary education**

Post-graduation plans	Count	Average GPA	Median class rank	Average SAT <sup>1</sup>	
				Verbal	Math
Work	14	2.80	248	475	531
Armed Forces/Military (not concurrently enrolled in a degree program)	15	2.74	314	493	516
Two-Year College or Technical School	189	2.64	366	469	510
Four-Year College/University	1,074	3.19	191	536	593
Other/Missing	30	2.81	324	504	562
Total	1,322	3.09	219	525	579

Note: For class rank, class sizes are as follows: 444 students in 2000; 435 in 2001, and 443 in 2002.

As a group, students planning to attend four-year colleges or universities have the highest average GPA, class ranks, and SAT scores. Those planning to attend two-year or technical programs have the lowest average scores or ranks on all these indicators.

<sup>1</sup> Many KS students take the SAT on more than one occasion. The Verbal and Math scores reported here reflect averages of the students' highest SAT scores. Colleges and universities typically use applicants' highest scores to make admissions decisions.

## Additional Comparisons

Further analyses compared students who plan to attend four-year colleges or universities and those who planned to attend two-year colleges or technical schools by the location of those institutions: in Hawai‘i or on the mainland. Table 8 shows that as a group, students who plan to attend four-year colleges or universities on the mainland have a higher average GPA (3.27), and higher SAT Verbal (547), and Math (608) scores than those who plan to attend colleges or universities in Hawai‘i. All comparisons between students enrolling in four-year institutions in Hawai‘i vs. on the mainland are statistically significant ( $p > 0.01$ ). Conversely, none of the comparisons between students starting in two-year or technical programs are statistically significant.

**Table 8. Characteristics of students attending higher education on the mainland and in Hawai‘i**

Post-graduation plans	Count	Average GPA	Median class rank	Average SAT <sup>2</sup>	
				Verbal	Math
Four-year College/University					
Hawai‘i	402	3.06	227	520	569
Mainland	650	3.27	158	547	608
Two-year College or Technical School					
Hawai‘i	147	2.64	358	470	512
Mainland	35	2.60	380	460	503

Note: Counts in this table do not match those in previous tables because data used in this table were incomplete for some students.

Further analysis was done on the educational aspirations of students who plan to attend four-year colleges or universities compared to those who plan to attend two-year colleges or technical schools by the location of those schools: in Hawai‘i or the mainland. As seen in Table 9, students who plan to start at four-year colleges or universities on the mainland are more likely to aspire to obtain a graduate school degree than those who plan to start at four-year colleges and universities in Hawai‘i (59 percent vs. 49 percent, respectively). Although a higher proportion of those students who plan to start at two-year colleges in the mainland aspire to obtain a bachelor’s or graduate degrees than those who plan to start at two-year colleges in Hawai‘i, the two groups are not significantly different.

<sup>2</sup> The Verbal and Math scores reported here reflect averages of the students’ highest SAT scores.

**Table 9. Highest educational aspirations by student plans and school locale**

Post-graduation plans	Two-year/ Technical		Four-year		Graduate		Don't Know		HS/ Military (no degree)		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Four-year College/ University	5	0	359	35	570	55	96	9	3	0	1033	100
Hawai`i	3	1	165	42	193	49	32	8	0	0	393	100
Mainland	2	0	194	30	377	59	64	10	3	0	640	100
Two-year College or Technical School	24	14	71	40	60	34	21	12	1	1	177	100
Hawai`i	19	13	57	40	46	32	19	13	1	1	142	100
Mainland	5	14	14	40	14	40	2	6	0	0	35	100

## Student Satisfaction

Using a scale from 1 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied), students were asked to rate their overall satisfaction with the education they received at Kamehameha Schools. Of the 1,283 students that responded to this question, 24.3 percent indicated a 9, and 18.8 percent indicated a 10. Most students (77.1 percent) rated their satisfaction level as a 6 or above.

Further analysis was done to check for differences between satisfaction levels and student plans. Table 10 presents the average satisfaction level by students' post-graduation plans. Students who planned to attend four-year colleges or universities expressed slightly higher levels of satisfaction level (7.54) than students with other plans. The difference in satisfaction between students who plan to enroll in four-year colleges and universities and other students is statistically significant. No significant differences were found when grouping students by the location of their colleges and universities or their degree aspirations.

**Table 10. Average satisfaction level by student plans**

<b>Student Plans</b>	<b>Average Satisfaction Level (1 [lowest] to 10 [highest])</b>
Four-year college/university (n = 1,055)	7.54
Work (n = 14)	7.29
Two-year college (n = 166)	7.17
Technical Training (n = 17)	6.88
Armed Forces (n = 14)	6.86
Other (n = 12)	6.50
Overall (n = 1,278)	7.47

Correlations between students' GPA and their satisfaction were statistically significant but modest ( $r = 0.11$ ). No significant correlations were found between students' SAT Verbal or Math scores and their satisfaction with their education at Kamehameha Schools.

## Conclusions

Kamehameha Schools has been successful in creating and supporting high educational aspirations among graduating seniors. More than 80 percent of graduates plan to attend four-year colleges or universities immediately after graduation. More than half of graduating seniors have aspirations of ultimately obtaining a graduate or professional degree, while 36 percent aspire to earn a bachelor's degree. Forty percent of those students who plan to begin their education at technical or two-year colleges aspire to complete a bachelors' degree and 34 percent aspire to complete graduate degrees.

The high school program, including college counseling services, appears to be responsive to the wide range of student interests and needs. While 19 percent of graduating seniors plan to attend the University of Hawai`i at Mānoa, students' plans included 179 different colleges and universities and 179 distinct majors (yes, the numbers *are* the same).

Kamehameha Schools tends to send its most academically prepared students to mainland colleges and universities. As a group, students bound for four-year colleges and universities on the mainland are more academically prepared for post-secondary education than are students who plan to attend college in Hawai`i. However, there is a wide range of GPAs and SAT scores in both groups. Students beginning their education at four-year mainland institutions are more likely to aspire to complete graduate degrees than are students who plan to begin their education in Hawai`i. This applies only to students who plan to begin post-secondary education at four-year institutions.

Overall, students report a high level of satisfaction with their education at Kamehameha Schools. Students planning to attend four-year colleges and universities and those with higher GPAs report higher levels of satisfaction.