



UNIVERSITY CONCLUSIONS BASED ON ASSESSMENT

2020-21

Brigham Young University uses assessment results to make determinations of quality, effectiveness, and mission fulfillment.

The university's mission statement is The Mission of Brigham Young University. The university's four core themes are The Aims of a BYU Education: "A BYU education should be (1) spiritually strengthening, (2) intellectually enlarging, and (3) character building, leading to (4) lifelong learning and service."

Each core theme has specific objectives which come from the university mission statement or The Aims of a BYU Education. Each objective is measured by indicators. This report categorizes the quantitative measurement of each indicator as excellent, good, fair, or poor.

The achievement of each core theme objective is determined by averaging the indicators. To calculate an average of the indicators, the ratings of excellent, good, fair, or poor are converted to a four-point scale: excellent = 4; good = 3; fair = 2; and poor = 1.

The indicators for each core theme objective are then averaged, and the averages are categorized through rounding as excellent, good, fair, or poor:

Excellent	3.50-4.00
Good	2.50-3.49
Fair	1.50-2.49
Poor	1.00-1.49

If the average of the indicators for a core theme objective is good or excellent, then the core theme objective is achieved. If all the core theme objectives are achieved, then the core theme is achieved. If all the core themes are achieved, then the university meets its definition of mission fulfillment.

The next page shows that the average for each core theme objective is in the good, excellent, or fair range. All the core themes are achieved, except for Lifelong Learning and Service because one objective received a fair rating due to the decrease in on-campus service opportunities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compared to the previous year's Core Themes Report (2019-2020), the number of students giving service through the Center for Service and Learning decreased 93% (N = 1,354; average of the previous three years N = 16,179). The total service hours given decreased by 96% (hours = 3,251; average of the previous three years = 96,301). Similarly, there was an 83% decrease in the number of volunteers in the Department of Student Leadership (N = 240; average of previous three years = 1,611) and a 96% decrease in the number of volunteer hours given (hours = 1,572; average of previous three years = 45,815).

BYU 2020-21 Core Theme Objective Averages

Spiritually Strengthening

Rating	Average	Core Theme Objective
Good	3.17	1.1. Students strengthen their faith and testimony of the restored gospel.
Good	3.22	1.2. Students increase their knowledge and understanding of “the doctrines, the covenants, the ordinances, the standard works, and the history of the restored gospel.”

Intellectually Enlarging

Rating	Average	Core Theme Objective
Good	3.32	2.1. Students acquire the ability to think soundly.
Good	3.06	2.2. Students acquire the ability to communicate effectively.
Good	3.00	2.3. Students acquire the ability to engage in quantitative reasoning.
Good	2.76	2.4. Students develop an understanding of the broad areas of human knowledge, including historical perspective, science, arts and letters, and global awareness.
Excellent	3.50	2.5. Students achieve competence in their major field.
Good	3.33	2.6. Students participate in experiential learning.
Excellent	3.50	2.7. Undergraduate students persist to graduation.
Good	3.00	2.8. Faculty actively produce scholarly and creative works.

Character Building

Rating	Average	Core Theme Objective
Good	3.13	3.1. Students enhance “such moral virtues as integrity, reverence, modesty, self-control, courage, compassion, ... industry,” charity, honesty, temperance, and personal righteousness.

Lifelong Learning and Service

Rating	Average	Core Theme Objective
Good	3.13	4.1. Students learn “how to learn” and are prepared “to continue learning throughout their lives.”
Fair	2.33	4.2. Students and graduates participate in lifelong service.