

Quality

Degree programme quality has been the subject of many discussions and attempts at definition in recent years. The ministry's student survey¹ contains a question in which the students are asked to evaluate the overall quality of their degree programme. It should be noted that such an evaluation cannot, of course, be taken in isolation when assessing degree programme quality. Rather, the evaluation of the statement itself can be understood as an expression of the student's immediate overall level of satisfaction with the degree programme in general.

In 2020, the results of the survey may be affected by coronavirus restrictions and the periodic physical shutdown of AU. The survey was conducted from 20 October to 15 December 2020. During this period, the university was subject to a number of coronavirus restrictions that impacted teaching, but was not physically shut down. For specific questions and results in the investigation concerning the coronavirus pandemic, please refer to the memo concerning well-being during the coronavirus.

In the wake of the shutdown in the spring, in early summer 2020, the university conducted a survey evaluating the transition to online teaching and exams. The aim of the survey was to learn from these experiences in order to enhance AU's approach to digital teaching and exams in future. The report and main conclusions are available here: <https://newsroom.au.dk/nyheder/vis/artikel/hvad-laerte-vi-af-foraarets-corona-undervisning>.

Main findings: Quality

The quality of my programme is generally high

- In 2016, 2018 and 2020, students responded that the quality of their degree programme is generally high. In 2020, 90% of respondents 'Strongly agree' or 'Agree' that the quality of their degree programme is generally high, which to a large extent corresponds to the result in 2016 (87%) and 2018 (91%).
- Minor differences between the faculties are evident. Respondents from AR (87%), BSS (89%), HE (92%), Nat (95%) and Tech (89%) responded that they 'Strongly agree' or 'Agree' that the quality of their degree programme is generally high.
- There are no differences correlated with degree programme level or gender.

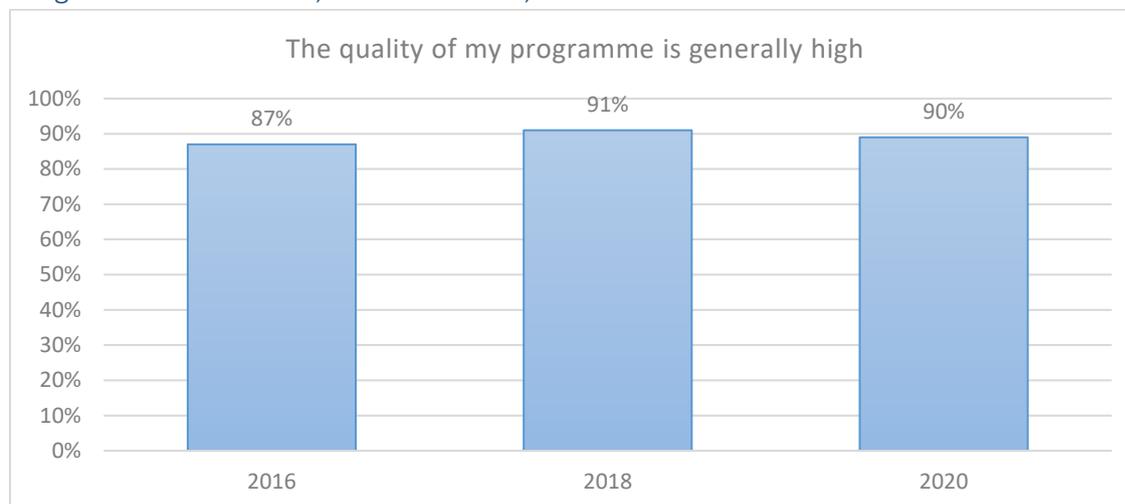
The quality of my programme is generally high

Since 2016, the student survey has included an evaluation of the statement '*The quality of my programme is generally high*', and in the three surveys conducted in this period (in 2016, 2018 and 2020) respondents from AU have responded that the quality of their degree programme is generally high.

¹ The student survey is carried out by the Ministry of Higher Education and Science every two years. The study consists of a number of sub-elements, including the Learning Barometer (which measures the students' experiences of the learning environment on their degree programme and their own approaches to learning), Degree Programme Zoom (digital admissions tool that allows students to compare degree programmes), Teaching Environment (under the auspices of Dansk Center for Undervisningsmiljø (the Danish centre for the teaching environment)).

Figure 1 on the next page shows the proportion of respondents in 2016, 2018 and 2020 who indicated that they 'Strongly agree' or 'Agree' that the quality of their degree programme is generally high.

Figure 1: The quality of my programme is generally high, 'Strongly agree' and 'Agree', Degree Programme Zoom 2016, 2018 and 2020, AU



Note: The figures show the percentage who replied 'Strongly agree' or 'Agree'. The remainder have replied 'Neutral', 'Somewhat disagree', or 'Disagree'. The response 'Unsure/not applicable' is not included in the calculations.

The evaluation of degree programme quality is high at all five faculties in this year's survey. Table 1 shows that there are minor differences between the faculties. Respondents from AR (87%), BSS (89%), HE (92%), Nat (95%) and Tech (89%) responded that they 'Strongly agree' or 'Agree' that the quality of their degree programme is generally high.

Table 1: The quality of my programme is generally high, faculty level, AU 2020

The quality of my programme is generally high	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
AR	34%	53%	8%	4%	1%
BSS	41%	48%	8%	3%	1%
HE	41%	51%	6%	2%	0%
Nat	51%	44%	4%	1%	0%
Tech	35%	54%	8%	3%	0%
Grand total	39%	50%	7%	3%	1%

*The response category 'Unsure/not applicable' is not included in the calculations. N=11,079

There are no differences correlated with degree programme level or gender in relation to the evaluation of the statement.

FACTS about the 2020 survey:

AU's study environment survey is based on data collected by Epinion for the Danish Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Aarhus University. The results of the survey form the basis for the university's teaching environment evaluation, which is conducted every three years.

The survey is carried out every other year and was most recently conducted in the autumn of 2020.

The questionnaire was sent to 33,381 full-time students at Aarhus University and 11,133 responded to the survey, which results in an overall response rate of 33.4%.