

AU PAIR IN AMERICA

About the program

The Au Pair in America program was begun in 1986 to provide a unique cultural exchange opportunity for western Europeans between the ages of 18 and 26. More than 64,000 young people have participated in this homestay experience while caring for the children of an American host family.

Au Pair in America was the first organization designated by the U.S. Department of State to use visas for the program. It is currently servicing more than 4,500 host families in 184 "cluster" areas based in 37 states.

Community Counselors oversee placements for cluster groups averaging 24 host families/au pairs. AIFS offices in London, England; Cape Town, South Africa; Bonn, Germany and Sydney, Australia coordinate the recruitment and selection of au pairs from around the world.



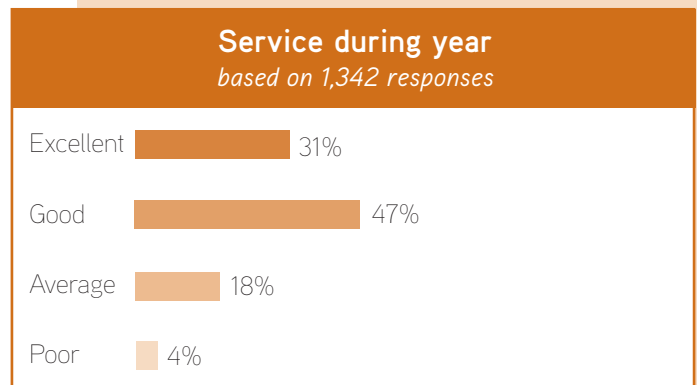
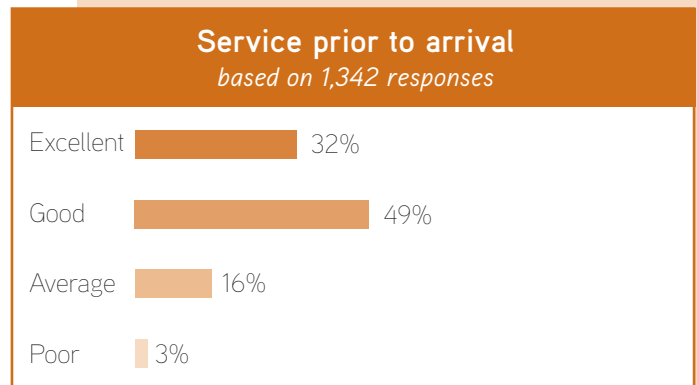
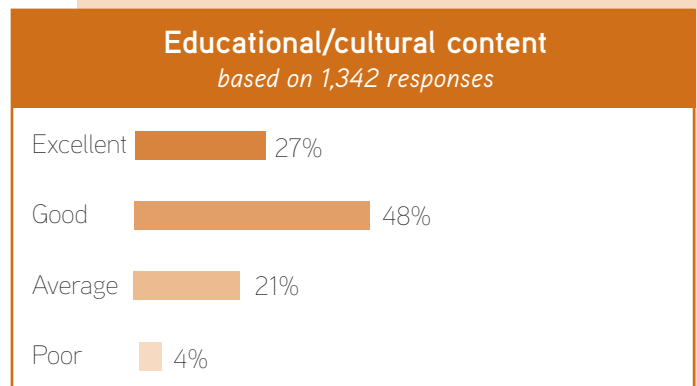
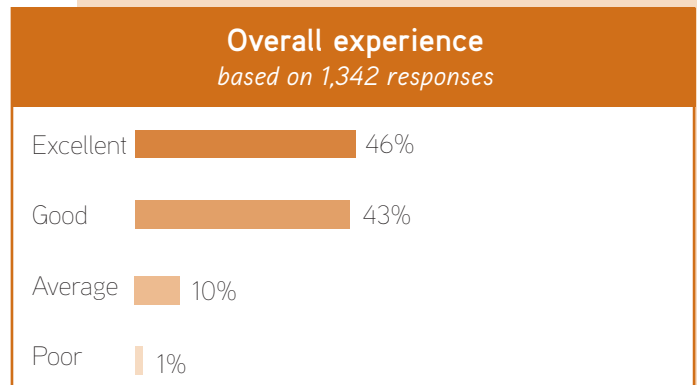
Au pair overall measurement

Host Family Quality Enhancement Program

Surveys are mailed each quarter to host families who have completed a program contract during the prior 3-month period. The survey is four pages in length; results assess:

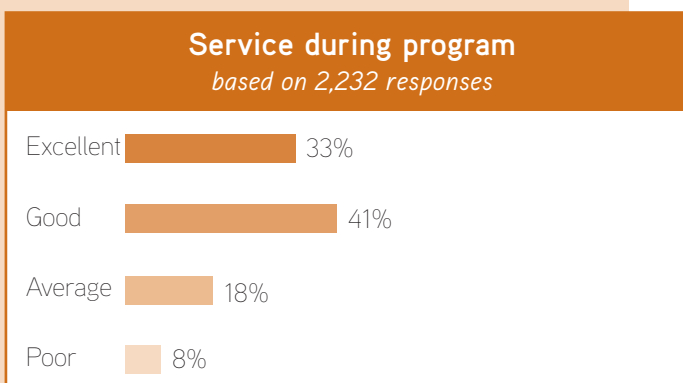
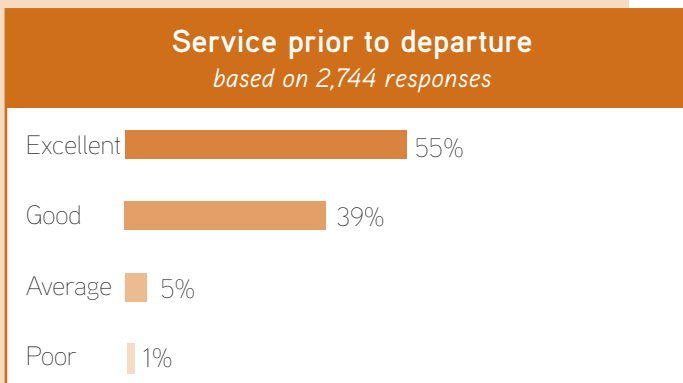
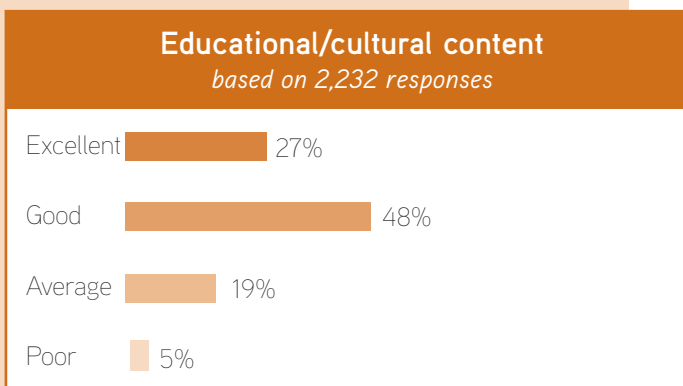
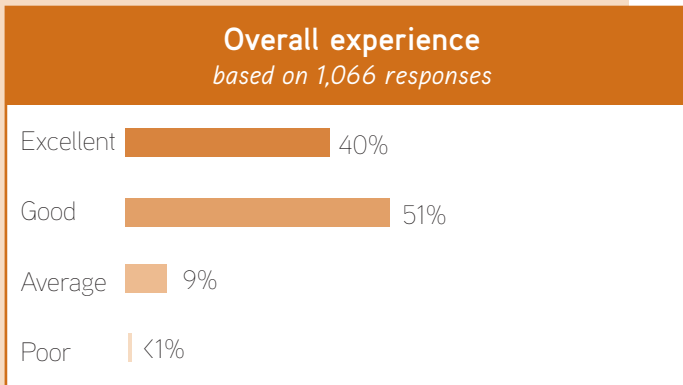
- satisfaction with the placement process and field support.
- satisfaction with the au pair interviewing and screening.
- overall evaluation of the au pair.
- compatibility in program expectations with the au pair.
- satisfaction with the au pair's preparation, child care ability, integration into the host family, English language skills and driving ability.

Responses from au pair host families



(When less than 100%, some questions were not answered)

Responses from au pairs



Au pair evaluations

Au pair evaluations have been distributed since early in the program's history. An additional evaluation was introduced to assess predeparture satisfaction with the program by au pairs (including an analysis of their interviewer).



"How are we doing?" surveys

The Au Pair in America program is only as good as our service provided on the local level by Community Counselors. Results are shared with the group annually.

Other key indicators

Seventy-eight percent of au pair families were repeat families; 20 percent of au pairs returned early; and 24 percent were rematches. The number of years families have been with the Au Pair in America program are as follows:

One	32%
Two	21%
Three-four	23%
Five-seven	15%
Eight+	9%

(When less than 100%, some questions were not answered)