Departure Survey Report For Fiscal Year 2012

IOWA EXECUTIVE BRANCH



State of Iowa January 2013

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Iowa Department of Administrative Services, HRE

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INTRODUCTION

•	This project was initiated by the Department of Personnel, now the Department of Administrative Services (DAS)– Human Resources Enterprise (HRE), to assist executive branch agencies in determining why employees leave their employ or state government as well as provide insight into past employee perceptions of their employer. As the workforce continues to age and at the same time the available workforce declines, employers must have data to manage their turnover effectively.
•	 The specific objectives for this research are to: Determine the most prevalent reasons employees separate from state employment. Determine if departments are utilizing exit interviews. Determine past employee perceptions about compensation and benefit issues. Determine past employee perceptions about employee autonomy issues. Determine past employee perceptions about coworkers/supervisors. Determine past employee perceptions about diversity issues. Determine past employee perceptions about coworkers/supervisors.
This Report •	The report that follows contains the methodology and key findings for the State of Iowa as an employer after the twelfth year of data collection. <u>ALL TOTAL FIGURES</u> INCLUDE 12 YEARS WORTH OF DATA.

METHODOLOGY

Sample	tho em cou incl 38	The population for this year's survey consisted of all those executive branch employees who left state employment or made an interagency transfer over the course of fiscal year 2012. The population surveyed included 1,070 past and current employees comprised of 38 transfers, 142 retirees and early retirees, and 146 voluntary separations.					
Sample Contact	app sep whi Eac env • As	 Packets were mailed throughout FY' 12 after an approximate lag period of 60 days from the date of separation. Electronic surveys are now also available, which was implemented in the last 3 months of FY' 12. Each packet included a survey and postage paid return envelope. As of September 30, 2012, the designated cut-off date, the total return was as follows: 					
		<u>FY 2011</u>	<u>FY 2012</u>	Total Project			
Number Mailed		1,003	1,070	13,714			
Returned Undeliverable		26	24	256			
Net Delivered		977	1,046	13,458			
Responses (n)		289	326	4,545			
Response Rate		29.6%	31.2%	33.8%			
Data Analysis	ent • Res pas • In a pro • The bas out • Fre						

KEY FINDINGS – DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF TOTAL SAMPLE

Characteristics

	<u>FY 2011</u>	<u>FY 2012</u>	Total Project
<u>Sub-samples</u>			
Transfers	23.2%	11.7%	17.4%
Retirements	25.6%	43.6%	41.3%
Voluntary Separations	51.2%	44.8%	41.3%
<u>Gender</u>			
Male	39.6%	42.0%	41.6%
Female	60.4%	58.0%	58.4%
Disability			
Yes	4.0%	6.4%	5.5%
No	96.0%	93.6%	94.5%
Age Group			
18-29 years	17.0%	10.8%	11.2%
30-39 years	19.8%	16.0%	16.5%
40-49 years	19.1%	13.8%	16.2%
50-59 years	29.2%	28.9%	27.0%
60-69 years	13.9%	28.3%	27.5%
70+ years	1.0%	2.2%	1.6%
<u>Ethnicity</u>			
Caucasian	95.5%	94.5%	95.1%
African American	0.7%	1.8%	1.7%
Asian American	1.4%	1.8%	1.1%
Native American	1.0%	0.3%	0.6%
Latino	1.4%	1.5%	1.4%
<u>Supervisor</u>			
Yes	12.5%	11.3%	14.8%
No	87.5%	88.7%	85.2%

KEY FINDINGS – DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF TOTAL SAMPLE

Characteristics

	<u>FY 2011</u>	<u>FY 2012</u>	Total Project
Length of Employment			
Less than 1 year	13.2%	5.2%	8.5%
1-5 years	40.8%	29.8%	28.0%
6-10 years	8.0%	14.1%	12.5%
11-15 years	8.4%	12.3%	8.8%
16-25 years	13.2%	13.8%	17.1%
25+ years	16.4%	24.8%	24.9%
Location			
Capitol Complex	24.7%	22.3%	23.3%
Regional	16.7%	15.2%	15.1%
Polk County	5.2%	5.0%	5.8%
DOT – Ames	2.1%	5.0%	3.5%
Institution	28.1%	28.2%	29.4%
Home Based	2.8%	3.1%	3.0%
Other	20.5%	21.4%	20.0%
Past Dept Employer			
Human Services	31.3%	25.0%	30.2%
Corrections	15.3%	12.7%	15.0%
Transportation	6.3%	5.2%	6.8%
Workforce Development	5.9%	12.0%	5.5%
Education	2.8%	7.7%	4.3%
Natural Resources	2.4%	2.8%	3.8%
Public Safety	3.8%	3.7%	3.8%
Veteran's Home	4.2%	1.9%	3.7%
Public Health	3.5%	4.9%	3.5%
Administrative Services	1.7%	2.2%	2.6%
Inspections & Appeals	1.7%	1.5%	2.5%
Agriculture	1.0%	2.8%	2.3%
Revenue	1.0%	4.6%	2.0%
Public Defense	5.2%	2.2%	1.9%
Auditor	3.1%	1.9%	1.4%
All Others	10.8%	9.0%	10.7%

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KEY FINDINGS – TOTAL SAMPLE PROFILE

<u>Reason</u>	Percent of respondents listing this reason in 2011	Percent of respondents listing this reason in 2012	Total percent of respondents listing this reason*
1. Working Conditions	33.6%	31.6%	29.0%
2. Quality of Supervision	27.0%	25.5%	24.5%
3. Career Advancement			
Opportunity	27.3%	19.9%	22.0%
4. Organization Culture	24.2%	21.5%	17.0%
5. Co-Worker Relations	15.9%	16.0%	14.1%

*Respondent could select more than one. Omits those who left because of retirement.

Length of Job Search

	FY 2011	<u>FY 2012</u>	Total Percent
Started search within the last 90 days	27.6%	30.1%	34.2%
Started search within the last 6 months	29.9%	30.1%	28.0%
Started search within the last year	23.1%	22.3%	19.4%
Started search over a year ago	19.5%	17.6%	18.4%

Employing Agency asked	
employee to reconsider	
leaving.	

Employing Agency encouraged employee to check other State employee career options.

Employee checked into other options that would have allowed him/her to stay.

Employing Agency conducted an Exit Interview.

- 26.6% of respondents said that their previous department encouraged them to reconsider leaving in 2011. This decreased slightly in 2012 to 26.5%.
- In 2011, 9.7% of respondents said that their previous department encouraged them to explore alternative state career options prior to leaving. This number decreased in 2012 to 6.7%.
- In 2011, 38.4% of respondents said they, in fact, did check into options that would have allowed them to stay with the State prior to leaving. This number decreased in 2012 to 36.6%.
- 31.1% of respondents said that their previous department conducted an exit interview prior to leaving in 2011, which increased to 38.2% in 2012.

FY 2012 Exit Survey

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Strongly Disagree	-2-	-3-	-4-	-5-	Strongly Agree

I would apply	for another posi	ition with the	State of le	owa if I we	ere looking f	or work (35).
2011	13.4%	7.1%	6.7%	17.7%	18.4%	36.7%
2012	14.2%	6.2%	7.7%	13.9%	20.7%	37.2%
Total	11.0%	5.7%	8.2%	15.2%	22.5%	37.4%
	24.9% disagr	reed to some d	egree	75.1	% agreed to s	some degree
Compensati	on & Rewards					
I was recogni	zed when I did e	exceptional w	vork (1).			
2011	18.9%	15.8%	11.9%	20.7%	17.5%	15.1%
2012	21.7%	12.4%	15.2%	17.0%	18.0%	15.8%
Total	16.6%	15.9%	16.3%	19.1%	17.6%	14.5%
	48.8% disagr	reed to some d	egree	51.2	% agreed to s	some degree
The benefits	I received met m	ny expectatio	ns (2).			
The benefits	I received met m 2.8%	ny expectatio 2.1%	ns (2). 8.0%	13.6%	31.1%	42.3%
				13.6% 14.5%	31.1% 32.1%	42.3% 38.9%
2011	2.8%	2.1%	8.0%			
2011 2012	2.8% 4.0% 2.9%	2.1% 2.8%	8.0% 7.7% 8.9%	14.5% 17.3%	32.1%	38.9% 32.5%
2011 2012 Total	2.8% 4.0% 2.9%	2.1% 2.8% 3.7%	8.0% 7.7% 8.9%	14.5% 17.3%	32.1% 34.7%	38.9% 32.5%
2011 2012 Total	2.8% 4.0% 2.9% 15.5% disagr	2.1% 2.8% 3.7% reed to some d did (3).	8.0% 7.7% 8.9% egree	14.5% 17.3% 84.5	32.1% 34.7% % agreed to s	38.9% 32.5%
2011 2012 Total I was paid fai 2011	2.8% 4.0% 2.9% 15.5% disagr rly for the work I 9.8%	2.1% 2.8% 3.7% reed to some d did (3). 10.8%	8.0% 7.7% 8.9% egree	14.5% 17.3% 84.5 18.5%	32.1% 34.7% <u>% agreed to s</u> 25.9%	38.9% 32.5% some degree 22.7%
2011 2012 Total	2.8% 4.0% 2.9% 15.5% disagr	2.1% 2.8% 3.7% reed to some d did (3).	8.0% 7.7% 8.9% egree	14.5% 17.3% 84.5	32.1% 34.7% % agreed to s	38.9% 32.5%
2011 2012 Total I was paid fai 2011 2012	2.8% 4.0% 2.9% 15.5% disagr rly for the work I 9.8% 6.5% 7.7%	2.1% 2.8% 3.7% reed to some d did (3). 10.8% 8.2%	8.0% 7.7% 8.9% egree 12.2% 13.8% 13.1%	14.5% 17.3% 84.5 18.5% 16.9% 19.0%	32.1% 34.7% <u>% agreed to s</u> 25.9% 26.2%	38.9% 32.5% some degree 22.7% 28.3% 21.2%
2011 2012 Total I was paid fai 2011 2012 Total	2.8% 4.0% 2.9% 15.5% disagr rly for the work I 9.8% 6.5% 7.7%	2.1% 2.8% 3.7% reed to some d did (3). 10.8% 8.2% 9.8% reed to some d	8.0% 7.7% 8.9% egree 12.2% 13.8% 13.1% egree	14.5% 17.3% 84.5 [°] 18.5% 16.9% 19.0% 69.4 [°]	32.1% 34.7% <u>% agreed to s</u> 25.9% 26.2% 29.2% <u>% agreed to s</u>	38.9% 32.5% some degree 22.7% 28.3% 21.2% some degree
2011 2012 Total I was paid fai 2011 2012 Total My pay was s	2.8% 4.0% 2.9% 15.5% disagr rly for the work I 9.8% 6.5% 7.7% 30.6% disagr	2.1% 2.8% 3.7% reed to some d did (3). 10.8% 8.2% 9.8% reed to some d	8.0% 7.7% 8.9% egree 12.2% 13.8% 13.1% egree ing the sa	14.5% 17.3% 84.5 18.5% 16.9% 19.0% 69.4 me jobs in	32.1% 34.7% <u>% agreed to s</u> 25.9% 26.2% 29.2% <u>% agreed to s</u> the private	38.9% 32.5% some degree 22.7% 28.3% 21.2% some degree sector (4).
2011 2012 Total I was paid fai 2011 2012 Total My pay was s 2011	2.8% 4.0% 2.9% 15.5% disagr rly for the work I 9.8% 6.5% 7.7% 30.6% disagr similar to employ 19.1%	2.1% 2.8% 3.7% reed to some d did (3). 10.8% 8.2% 9.8% reed to some d rees perform 11.7%	8.0% 7.7% 8.9% egree 12.2% 13.8% 13.1% egree ing the sa 22.0%	14.5% 17.3% 84.5 18.5% 16.9% 19.0% 69.4 me jobs in 20.9%	32.1% 34.7% <u>% agreed to s</u> 25.9% 26.2% 29.2% <u>% agreed to s</u> the private 17.0%	38.9% 32.5% some degree 22.7% 28.3% 21.2% some degree sector (4). 9.2%
2011 2012 Total I was paid fai 2011 2012 Total My pay was s	2.8% 4.0% 2.9% 15.5% disagr rly for the work I 9.8% 6.5% 7.7% 30.6% disagr	2.1% 2.8% 3.7% reed to some d did (3). 10.8% 8.2% 9.8% reed to some d	8.0% 7.7% 8.9% egree 12.2% 13.8% 13.1% egree ing the sa	14.5% 17.3% 84.5 18.5% 16.9% 19.0% 69.4 me jobs in	32.1% 34.7% <u>% agreed to s</u> 25.9% 26.2% 29.2% <u>% agreed to s</u> the private	38.9% 32.5% some degree 22.7% 28.3% 21.2% some degree sector (4).

FY 2012 Exit Survey

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Strongly Disagree	-2-	-3-	-4-	-5-	Strongly Agree
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I was asked to do an appropriate amount of work for the amount I was paid (19).

2011	12.3%	14.0%	16.1%	17.5%	24.9%	15.1%
2012	11.5%	9.3%	12.1%	22.3%	24.1%	20.7%
Total	11.1%	12.7%	12.6%	20.2%	26.6%	16.8%
	36.4% disagr	63.6	% agreed to	some degree		

Work Tools

My office environment helped me provide quality products and services (5).

2011	15.4%	14.7%	21.9%	21.5%	16.1%	10.4%
2012	12.3%	15.1%	16.7%	21.5%	21.8%	12.6%
Total	13.8%	15.5%	19.7%	22.4%	18.8%	9.7%
	49.0% disagr	51.0	% agreed to	some degree		

The training I received permitted me to update and expand my skills (6).

	43.2% disagr	56.8% agreed to some degree					
Total	12.9%	14.2%	16.2%	22.6%	22.7%	11.5%	
2012	12.7%	14.9%	14.6%	18.9%	23.6%	15.2%	
2011	15.8%	12.7%	20.1%	16.2%	21.5%	13.7%	

The technology I was provided was sufficient to accomplish my work (7).

Total	6.4%	9.0%	15.2%	24.1%	31.3%	14.0%
2012	6.8%	11.5%	13.9%	22.0%	31.9%	13.9%
2011	5.6%	11.3%	14.8%	20.8%	31.7%	15

I was provided the necessary orientation and training to successfully carry out my job duties (9).

Total	10.0% 39.7% disagr	12.5%	17.2%	22.0%	24.9%	13.4%
2012	9.3%	12.1%	18.0%	17.0%	26.6%	17.0%
2011	11.2%	12.9%	18.9%	20.3%	24.5%	12.2%

FY 2012 Exit Survey

Strongly Disagree	-2-	-3-	-4-	-5-	Strongly Agree

I was given complete and accurate information regarding my job duties prior to accepting the job I recently vacated (17).

2011	11.4%	11.7%	18.1%	19.2%	25.3%	14.2%
2012	12.1%	9.0%	16.1%	17.4%	26.1%	19.3%
Total	10.1%	10.9%	15.7%	22.3%	25.2%	15.8%
	36.7% disagreed to some degree			63.3	% agreed to	some degree

Policies and procedures were clear and aided me in performing my job (24).

2011	12.3%	15.1%	16.5%	22.1%	22.5%	11.6%
2012	10.9%	12.1%	16.8%	20.5%	25.2%	14.6%
Total	11.4%	11.9%	17.0%	21.6%	24.8%	13.3%
	40.3% disagr	59.7	% agreed to s	some degree		

Communication

Communication was open and informative within my work unit (13).

2011	19.9%	12.9%	19.2%	17.1%	19.6%	11.2%
2012	23.1%	14.8%	16.0%	16.4%	15.7%	13.9%
Total	20.4%	15.4%	16.3%	16.8%	18.6%	12.5%
	52.1% disagreed to some degree			47.9	% agreed to s	some degree

My department's vision, mission, and goals were communicated to me (14).

2011	8.8%	9.5%	16.8%	21.8%	26.0%	17.2%
2012	10.5%	12.0%	15.7%	18.8%	23.5%	19.4%
Total	9.4%	9.1%	15.8%	21.4%	26.3%	18.0%
	34.3% disagr	eed to some d	legree	65.7	% agreed to s	some degree

I had a clear understanding of how I contributed to the mission of my department (15).

2011	9.8%	10.8%	16.4%	18.5%	25.2%	19.2%
2012	9.9%	13.9%	10.8%	16.7%	27.9%	20.7%
Total	8.9%	10.7%	14.8%	20.2%	27.1%	18.3%
	34.4% disagr	65.6% agreed to some degree				

FY 2012 Exit Survey

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Strongly Disagree	-2-	-3-	-4-	-5-	Strongly Agree
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I received timely and effective feedback about my performance (16).

2011	16.8%	17.2%	19.3%	17.5%	18.9%	10.2%
2012	17.7%	17.3%	17.3%	17.3%	16.4%	13.9%
Total	16.6%	17.1%	18.2%	19.0%	17.6%	11.5%
	51.9% disagr	eed to some d	legree	48.1	% agreed to s	some degree

Intrinsic Value & Autonomy

There were career advancement opportunities for me if I had chosen to stay (8).

2011	41.8%	16.8%	12.6%	12.3%	10.5%	6.0%
2012	39.9%	19.2%	15.2%	10.2%	7.7%	7.7%
Total	40.3%	21.6%	14.3%	11.1%	7.7%	5.0%
	76.2% disagr	eed to some d	legree	23.89	% agreed to s	some degree

The work I was required to do was meaningful (18).

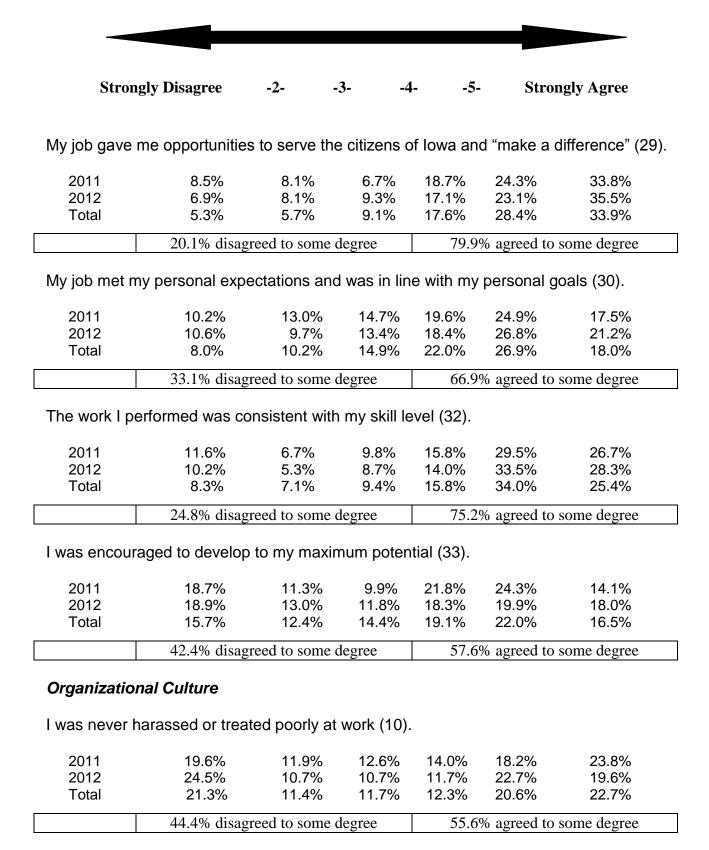
2011	4.6%	7.7%	10.2%	14.4%	30.5%	32.6%
2012	5.9%	4.9%	9.6%	14.5%	27.5%	37.7%
Total	3.7%	5.0%	9.4%	17.1%	31.1%	33.7%
	18.1% disagr	eed to some	degree	81.9	% agreed to a	some degree

The work I was required to do was enjoyable (20).

2011	9.5%	13.0%	13.7%	21.1%	26.8%	15.8%
2012	7.4%	10.2%	12.7%	18.3%	28.5%	22.9%
Total	6.4%	9.1%	13.5%	23.6%	27.7%	19.6%
	29.0% disagre	eed to some d	legree	71.0	% agreed to s	some degree

The work I performed was consistent with my career interests (21).

2011	8.2%	9.6%	15.6%	19.1%	28.7%	18.8%
2012	8.1%	7.2%	7.5%	15.9%	34.0%	27.4%
Total	5.9%	7.7%	13.1%	20.6%	31.0%	21.8%
	26.7% disagi	reed to some	degree	73.3	% agreed to s	some degree



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-4-

-5-

Strongly Agree

-3-

All employee	es in my departme	ent were trea	ated fairly	(11).		
2011 2012 Total	22.8% 28.6% 25.1%	14.4% 16.0% 16.7%	16.8% 11.4% 14.5%	17.2% 15.4% 15.7%	15.8% 18.5% 16.0%	13.0% 10.2% 12.0%
	56.3% disagr	,.			% agreed to s	

Mv department	was accepting of diverse	e individuals and groups (12).

-2-

2011	6.7%	8.4%	12.6%	17.2%	27.7%	27.4%
2012	9.9%	7.7%	15.4%	14.8%	26.5%	25.6%
Total	9.8%	8.0%	13.6%	19.2%	28.4%	21.0%
	31.4% disagr	reed to some	degree	68.6	% agreed to s	some degree

Teamwork and cooperation were encouraged in my work unit (27).

2011	11.3%	9.2%	14.8%	15.8%	26.8%	22.2%
2012	15.6%	10.0%	9.1%	16.6%	23.1%	25.6%
Total	12.3%	10.4%	11.4%	17.1%	26.2%	22.7%
	34.0% disagr	eed to some d	legree	66.0	% agreed to	some degree

Employee complaints and problems were appropriately handled in a timely manner (28).

	55.7% disagr	reed to some d	legree	44.3	% agreed to s	some degree
Total	24.5%	15.6%	15.5%	18.4%	16.5%	9.4%
2012	25.9%	16.2%	13.4%	18.7%	14.6%	11.2%
2011	27.2%	11.7%	17.0%	18.0%	16.6%	9.5%

Taking initiative was encouraged in my work unit (31).

2011	16.4%	11.4%	12.1%	14.9%	25.6%	19.6%
2012	15.8%	8.7%	13.3%	14.6%	26.6%	21.1%
Total	13.3%	10.5%	12.0%	17.1%	26.2%	20.8%
	35.9% disagr	eed to some c	legree	64.1	% agreed to	some degree

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Disagree	-2-	-3-	-4-	-5-	Strongly Agree

Supervisor Perceptions

I had a good working relationship with my immediate supervisor (22).

2011	15.5%	8.1%	11.7%	16.3%	22.6%	25.8%
2012	16.7%	8.6%	11.1%	10.8%	24.4%	28.4%
Total	14.6%	8.9%	9.6%	13.5%	23.6%	29.7%
	33.2% disagreed to some degree			66.8	% agreed to	some degree

The supervision provided to me was effective (23).

2011	21.0%	11.9%	11.2%	19.6%	18.5%	17.8%
2012	21.0%	10.2%	11.4%	16.0%	23.8%	17.6%
Total	19.3%	11.5%	11.9%	15.8%	22.2%	19.2%
	42.8% disagreed to some degree			57.2	% agreed to s	some degree

My supervisor let me know that he/she valued my contributions (25).

2011	19.8%	12.0%	10.2%	17.3%	19.4%	21.2%
2012	21.2%	12.5%	8.1%	14.0%	20.9%	23.4%
Total	18.5%	11.7%	10.2%	14.9%	21.5%	23.2%
	40.4% disagreed to some degree			59.6	% agreed to	some degree

Co-worker Perceptions

I had a good working relationship with my co-workers (26).

2011 2012	4.2% 4.7%	5.6% 5.3%	10.9% 6.8%	9.1% 15.2%	34.4% 30.4%	35.8% 37.6%	
Total	4.0%	4.1%	6.8%	14.2%	34.2%	36.7%	
	14.9% disag	reed to some	degree	85.1	% agreed to	some degree	
The State employees I knew were hard-working and took pride in the work they did (34).							

2011	7.4%	12.3%	14.4%	20.7%	23.9%	21.4%
2012	6.8%	10.2%	13.6%	19.5%	27.9%	22.0%
Total	7.1%	9.4%	13.3%	21.7%	27.4%	21.1%
	29.8% disagreed to some degree			70.2	% agreed to a	some degree

FY 2012 Exit Survey

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	Liked Most	Percent of respondents in 2011	Percent of respondents in 2012	Total percent of respondents *
1.	Made Multiple Choices*	16.6%	12.5%	33.7%
2.	Benefits	31.1%	34.6%	27.3%
3.	Retirement Benefits	14.5%	19.6%	15.8%
4.	Co-Worker Relations	11.8%	10.9%	13.4%
5.	Rate of Pay	8.7%	8.7%	9.2%

Top 5 things past employees liked about their employment with the State

*Respondent was only supposed to select one. Change in form reduced multiple choices for FY08.

Top 5 things attracting past employees to their current jobs

Attracting Feature	Percent of respondents in 2011	Percent of respondents in 2012	Total percent of respondents *
1. Career Advancement			-
Opportunity	32.9%	32.9%	24.6%
2. Working Conditions	36.3%	36.3%	23.8%
3. Rate of Pay	22.8%	22.8%	18.3%
4. Organizational Culture	26.3%	26.3%	15.0%
5. Opportunity for Training	22.5%	22.5%	12.4%

*Respondent could select more than one.

Top 5 things past employees liked least about their employment with the State

Liked Least	Percent of respondents in 2011	Percent of respondents in 2012	Total percent of respondents *
1. Made Multiple Choices*	13.8%	9.8%	22.8%
2. Quality of Supervision	17.6%	20.9%	16.0%
3. Career Advancement Opportunity	16.6%	13.6%	13.0%
4. Organizational Culture	15.2%	17.7%	12.6%
5. Working Conditions	11.8%	13.9%	11.6%

*Respondent was only supposed to select one.

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Revisit of Objectives

Determine the most prevalent reasons employees separate from state employment.

Based on the 12-year aggregate sample, respondents list the top reason for leaving to be, "Working Conditions" followed by "Quality of Supervision" and "Career Advancement Opportunity". These three reasons were also three of the top five things listed as aspects of state employment least liked by respondents. Further, perceptions of "Career Advancement Opportunity" and "Working Conditions" provided by other employers were the top two attracting features to the respondents.

Determine if departments are utilizing exit interviews.

A little more than 38% of respondents stated that their previous state employer conducted an exit interview. There has been an overall decrease since this survey was implemented in 2001, although this year saw the highest percentage of those who were provided the exit interview. In 2001, 34.4% of respondents stated in the affirmative their previous State employer performed this important step. In 2012, this number increased to 38.2%. This is a window from which a department can ascertain and provide feedback about their particular operation.

Determine past employee perceptions about compensation and benefit issues.

Based on the 12-year aggregate sample, respondents perceived their benefits in a very positive light. Over 84% of respondents felt the benefits offered met their expectations (2), and it was the single most often cited aspect of working for the State that respondents liked. On the other hand, just under half of the respondents felt they earned less than people working the same jobs in the private sector (4). Interestingly, "Rate of Pay" was not a major reason listed for leaving but it was the third highest attracting feature perceived to be offered by other employers. Most employees felt they were paid fairly (3) and asked to do an appropriate amount of work for what they were paid (19).

Determine past employee perceptions about employee autonomy and intrinsic value.

Although most respondents believe the work they performed as a state employee was meaningful (18), enjoyable (20), consistent with their career interests (21) and perceived skill levels (32), and allowed them to serve lowa citizens and "make a difference" (29), over three-fourths of these same respondents did not believe that there were career opportunities if they had chosen to stay (8), over 76% answered negatively on item 8. This last perception is especially dangerous to the State due to the fact that perceived

career advancement opportunities appear to be a major reason for leaving and a major attracting feature of other employers.

Determine past employee perceptions about co-workers/supervisors.

Respondents as a group did not provide overly negative responses to any of the questions regarding supervision (22, 23, and 25). However, it was cited as the second highest reason for leaving and one of the top five factors cited as "liked least" about employment with the State.

Determine past employee perceptions about co-workers/supervisors.

The two items dealing with co-worker perceptions (26 & 34) were two of the most positive items responded to on the survey and perceptions about co-workers was listed as one of the top 5 things liked most about state employment.

Determine past employee perceptions about diversity issues.

Two-thirds of respondents felt their past department was accepting of diverse individuals (12). A majority of the respondents, however, did not feel that all employees in their past department were treated fairly (11).

Determine past employee perceptions about communication issues.

Over half of the respondents disagreed that communication was open and informative within their past work unit (13) and that feedback was timely and effective regarding performance (16).

Conclusion

Based on the 12-year aggregate sample, it appears that out of the 35 individual items on the survey, only 14 items could be said to have received very positive responses (over 2/3rds agreement with an item). This is not too surprising as this is an exit survey and respondents are likely to be somewhat more negative/honest in their responses. Regardless, there are many positives to be found. Only five items have over 50% of the respondents disagreeing with a specific item, so in most cases the majority of respondents are answering positively to the questions. More importantly 75.1% of the respondents agreed to some degree that they would likely apply for another position with the State if they were looking.