

BRIEF REPORT, JUNE 2015: Retrospective Pre-Post Knowledge Ratings

Do Fellows perceive the FAIMER Institute and Regional Institutes as contributing to an increase in their knowledge & skills? The FAIMER fellowship programs differ from one another with respect to the mix of professional experience and background of their fellow populations. The program curricula also vary in emphasis to meet the needs of different contexts and fellow populations.

Comparison of retrospective pre to post knowledge ratings for 2013 program classes show **gains across curricular topic categories** (see figure below; each category in the figure below included multiple items for specific topics within the category).

The variability between programs and categories in percent of fellows rating their knowledge “above average” before starting the program (retrospective pre) shows differences in background knowledge. The post ratings show the gains in fellow knowledge following Session 1 (first on-site session) and also Session 3 (second on-site session one year later). The below figure is based on a matched group, so includes only individuals who completed the questionnaire at both time points.

Differences in professional background and focus suggest variety in learning needs and desired career paths among fellows. This poses a challenge for the fellowships in meeting diverse needs and expectations, and an opportunity for creation of a diverse community of educators. FAIMER and program leadership need to continue to consider the fit between program curricula, program contexts and goals, and backgrounds and needs of applicants/fellows.

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Percent of respondents with "above average" retrospective pre-post knowledge ratings: FAIMER fellowships 2013 classes at Session1 pre, Session1 post, and Session3 post

