Colorado State University-Fort Collins
CIRP Freshman Survey
2019 Results

First-time, Full-time Freshmen
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
N=799

Public Universities-medium selectivity
N=5,987

Higher Education Research Institute, University of California at Los Angeles
The CIRP Freshman Survey (TFS) collects important information on what your incoming students are like before they experience college. Key sections of the survey examine:

- College admissions decisions
- Financing college
- High school experiences and behaviors
- College Preparation
- Expectations for college-major and career
- Expectations for college life
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A Note about CIRP Constructs

We use the CIRP Constructs throughout this PowerPoint to help summarize important information about your students from the TFS.

Constructs statistically aggregate the results from CIRP questions that tap into key aspects of the college experience. They focus on student traits and institutional practices contributing to students’ academic and social development.
Demographics
Gender Identity

Your Institution

Comparison Group

Man / Trans Man 29.7%
Woman / Trans Woman 67.0%

Man / Trans Man 43.2%
Woman / Trans Woman 56.8%
Demographics

Race/Ethnicity

- African American/Black: 7.8% (Comparison Group), 2.1% (Your Institution)
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 0.6% (Comparison Group), 0.5% (Your Institution)
- Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 4.0% (Comparison Group), 3.0% (Your Institution)
- Latinx: 7.5% (Comparison Group), 5.3% (Your Institution)
- White/Caucasian: 60.3% (Comparison Group), 74.2% (Your Institution)
- Other Race/Ethnicity: 1.7% (Comparison Group), 0.6% (Your Institution)
- Two or More Races/Ethnicities: 18.3% (Comparison Group), 14.1% (Your Institution)
Demographics

How many miles is this college from your permanent home?

- 5 or less: 5.4% (Your Institution), 9.9% (Comparison Group)
- 6-10: 2.9% (Your Institution), 14.9% (Comparison Group)
- 11-50: 10.8% (Your Institution), 38.4% (Comparison Group)
- 51-100: 27.9% (Your Institution), 5.3% (Comparison Group)
- 101-500: 17.3% (Your Institution), 22.4% (Comparison Group)
- Over 500: 35.8% (Your Institution), 9.0% (Comparison Group)

2019 The Freshman Survey
Many factors impact incoming students’ college choice, including the benefits they see in attending college and considerations about which particular college to attend.
College Admissions Decisions

To how many colleges *other than this one* did you apply for admission this year?
Were you accepted by your first choice college?

86.2% Yes
13.8% No

College Acceptance

Is this college your...

- First Choice: 67.3% (Your Institution), 68.5% (Comparison Group)
- Second Choice: 21.8% (Your Institution), 23.0% (Comparison Group)
- Third Choice: 7.4% (Your Institution), 5.6% (Comparison Group)
- Less than Third Choice: 3.5% (Your Institution), 3.0% (Comparison Group)
In deciding to **go to college**, how important to you was each of the following reasons?

- **To be able to get a better job**
  - Your Institution: 84.6%
  - Comparison Group: 82.4%

- **To gain a general education and appreciation of ideas**
  - Your Institution: 76.7%
  - Comparison Group: 72.1%

- **To make me a more cultured person**
  - Your Institution: 51.1%
  - Comparison Group: 44.9%

- **To be able to make more money**
  - Your Institution: 67.2%
  - Comparison Group: 73.2%
College Choice

In deciding to go to college, how important to you was each of the following reasons?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To learn more about things that interest me</td>
<td>86.3%</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To get training for a specific career</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
<td>57.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To prepare myself for graduate or professional school</td>
<td>79.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
College Choice

How important was each reason in your decision to attend this college?

- This college has a very good academic reputation: 56.7% Very Important, 37.4% Somewhat Important
- This college’s graduates make a difference in the world: 31.6% Very Important, 42.7% Somewhat Important
- This college’s graduates gain admission to top graduate/professional schools: 22.7% Very Important, 44.8% Somewhat Important
- This college’s graduates get good jobs: 46.7% Very Important, 40.3% Somewhat Important

Your Institution
- Very Important
- Somewhat Important

Comparison Group
- Very Important
- Somewhat Important
College Choice

How important was each reason in your decision to attend this college?

Your Institution
- Very Important
- Somewhat Important

Comparison Group
- Very Important
- Somewhat Important

- I was offered financial assistance: 32.4% (Very Important), 37.4% (Somewhat Important)
- The cost of attending this college: 40.3% (Very Important)
- Not offered aid by first choice: 10.4% (Very Important)
- Could not afford first choice: 14.1% (Very Important)
College Choice

How important was each reason in your decision to attend this college?

- **My parents/relatives wanted me to come here**: 40.7% Very Important, 16.6% Somewhat Important
- **I wanted to live near home**: 23.1% Very Important, 31.8% Somewhat Important
- **Rankings in national magazines**: 11.0% Very Important, 38.7% Somewhat Important
- **A visit to this campus**: 54.1% Very Important, 36.6% Somewhat Important
Economic factors play an important role in students’ decisions about college.
Financing College

Students’ first-year funding sources:

- **Family resources**: 81.5% for Your Institution, 68.2% for Comparison Group
- **Personal resources**: 66.7% for Your Institution, 67.2% for Comparison Group
- **Aid not to be repaid**: 73.8% for Your Institution, 75.4% for Comparison Group
- **Aid to be repaid**: 46.6% for Your Institution, 40.5% for Comparison Group

2019 The Freshman Survey
Financing College

Did you receive any of the following forms of financial aid?

- Military grants: 3.6% (Your Institution), 2.1% (Comparison Group)
- Work-study: 19.4% (Your Institution), 11.5% (Comparison Group)
- Pell grant: 32.4% (Your Institution), 16.8% (Comparison Group)
- Need-based grants or scholarships: 62.1% (Your Institution), 33.5% (Comparison Group)
- Merit-based grants or scholarships: 59.2% (Your Institution), 33.5% (Comparison Group)
Financing College

Do you have any concern about your ability to finance your college education?

24.7%  
57.0%  
18.3%  
27.0%  
59.5%  
13.5%

None  Some  Major

Your Institution  Comparison Group
Understanding students’ established behaviors in high school helps foster skills, knowledge, and abilities in the curriculum and co-curriculum.
High School Experiences

Please mark which of the following courses you have completed.

- Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry: 79.4%
- Probability & Statistics: 31.1%
- Calculus: 31.2%
- AP Probability & Statistics: 21.8%
- AP Calculus: 30.2%

Your Institution

Comparison Group

2019 The Freshman Survey
**Habits of Mind**

*Habits of Mind* is a unified measure of the behaviors and traits associated with academic success. These learning behaviors are seen as the foundation for lifelong learning.

**Construct Items**

- Seek solutions to problems and explain them to others
- Support your opinions with a logical argument
- Look up scientific research articles and resources
- Take a risk because you felt you had more to gain
- Accept mistakes as part of the learning process
- Take on a challenge that scares you
- Ask questions in class
- Explore topics on your own, even though it was not required for a class
- Evaluate the quality or reliability of information you received
- Seek alternative solutions to a problem
- Analyze multiple sources of information before coming to a conclusion

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All FTFT</th>
<th>Men/Trans men</th>
<th>Women/Trans women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52.9</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>52.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52.5</td>
<td>52.6</td>
<td>52.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Return to contents*
Pluralistic Orientation

*Pluralistic Orientation* measures skills and dispositions appropriate for living and working in a diverse society.

**Construct Items**

- Ability to see the world from someone else's perspective
- Tolerance of others with different beliefs
- Openness to having my views challenged
- Ability to discuss and negotiate controversial issues
- Ability to work cooperatively with diverse people
Academic Self-Concept

Self-awareness and confidence in academic environments help students learn by encouraging their intellectual inquiry. Academic Self-Concept is a unified measure of students’ beliefs about their abilities and confidence in academic environments.

Construct Items

- Self-rated academic ability
- Self-rated mathematical ability
- Self-rated self-confidence (intellectual)
- Self-rated drive to achieve

Your Institution

Comparison Group
Engaged citizens are a critical element in the functioning of our democratic society. Civic Engagement measures the extent to which students are motivated and involved in civic, electoral and political activities.

### Construct Items

- Demonstrated for a cause
- Performed volunteer work
- Publicly communicated your opinion about a cause
- Helped raise money for a cause or campaign
- Influencing social values
- Keeping up to date with political affairs
Health and Wellness

Students’ emotional well-being can affect many important aspects of the student experience including academic performance and persistence.

In the past year, how often have you:

- Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do: 53.5% (Your Institution) vs. 41.2% (Comparison Group)
- Felt depressed: 26.9% (Your Institution) vs. 17.1% (Comparison Group)

2019 The Freshman Survey
College Preparation

These items illustrate students’ academic preparation.
Summer Bridge Program

Did you participate in a bridge program at this institution this summer?

- Yes: 3.4%
- No: 96.1%

Comparison Group: 96.6%
Previous College Coursework

Have taken courses for credit at this institution prior to this term

- Your Institution: 6.4%
- Comparison Group: 5.9%

Have taken courses, whether for credit or not for credit, at any other institution since leaving high school

- Your Institution: 20.8%
- Comparison Group: 13.0%
Science/Research Self-Efficacy

How confident are you that you can do the following?

- Understand scientific concepts
  - Your Institution: 19.7% Absolutely Confident, 40.4% Very Confident
  - Comparison Group: 18.9% Absolutely Confident, 33.0% Very Confident

- Use technical science skills (use of tools, instruments, and/or techniques)
  - Your Institution: 18.5% Absolutely Confident, 33.7% Very Confident
  - Comparison Group: 17.4% Absolutely Confident, 28.7% Very Confident

- Explain the results of a study
  - Your Institution: 19.7% Absolutely Confident, 43.8% Very Confident
  - Comparison Group: 19.6% Absolutely Confident, 40.9% Very Confident
Understanding students’ intended majors and career aspirations helps them plot an intentional and meaningful course of study.
### Expectations: Major

Please indicate your intended major.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Your Inst</th>
<th>Comp Group</th>
<th>Your Inst</th>
<th>Comp Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Professions</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History or Political Science</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expectations: Major

Do you consider yourself Pre-Med or Pre-Law?

- Pre-Med: 19.0% (Your Institution), 24.7% (Comparison Group)
- Pre-Law: 2.6% (Your Institution), 6.8% (Comparison Group)
### Expectations: Career

Please indicate your intended career.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>Your Inst</th>
<th>Comp Group</th>
<th>Your Inst</th>
<th>Comp Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/Natural Resources</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>Health Professional</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>Homemaker/Stay-at-Home Parent</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>Information Technology Professional</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business (Admin Assistant)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clergy</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>Military</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Faculty</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>Research Scientist</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor (MD or DDS)</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>Service Industry</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (elementary/secondary)</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>Skilled worker</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineer</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>Social/Non-Profit Services</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>25.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expectations: Time-to-Degree

How many years do you expect it will take you to graduate from this college?

- 1 year: 0.0%
- 2 years: 0.8%
- 3 years: 4.5%
- 4 years: 81.5%
- 5 years: 78.3%
- 6+ years: 9.0%
- Do not plan to graduate: 0.8%

Comparison Group:
- 1 year: 0.0%
- 2 years: 0.0%
- 3 years: 2.0%
- 4 years: 5.0%
- 5 years: 7.5%
- 6+ years: 2.3%
- Do not plan to graduate: 5.4%

2019 The Freshman Survey
Expectations: Degree Aspirations

What is the highest academic degree that you intend to attain?

- None: 0.5% (Your Institution), 0.3% (Comparison Group)
- Vocational certificate: 0.0% (Your Institution), 0.1% (Comparison Group)
- Associate (A.A. or equivalent): 0.5% (Your Institution), 0.5% (Comparison Group)
- Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S., B.D., etc.): 33.5% (Your Institution), 32.0% (Comparison Group)
- Master's degree (M.A., M.S., M.B.A., etc.): 34.6% (Your Institution), 35.9% (Comparison Group)
- J.D. (Law): 2.6% (Your Institution), 4.4% (Comparison Group)
- M.D., D.D.S., D.V.M., etc. (Medical): 15.0% (Your Institution), 12.1% (Comparison Group)
- Ph.D.: 10.4% (Your Institution), 9.1% (Comparison Group)
- Professional Doctorate (Ed.D., Psy.D., etc.): 2.5% (Your Institution), 5.2% (Comparison Group)
- Other: 0.3% (Your Institution), 0.4% (Comparison Group)

2019 The Freshman Survey
Expectations for College Life

Understanding students’ expectations helps provide opportunities for students to grow intellectually, interpersonally, and affectively.
Expectations for College Life

What is your best guess as to the chances that you will:

- Participate in volunteer or community service work
  - Very Good Chance: 43.2%
  - Some Chance: 41.7%
- Participate in a study abroad program
  - Very Good Chance: 31.0%
  - Some Chance: 32.1%
Expectations for College Life

What is your best guess as to the chances that you will:

- Participate in student clubs/groups: 55.9% (Very Good Chance), 36.2% (Some Chance)
- Take a course exclusively online: 32.9% (Very Good Chance), 43.8% (Some Chance)
- Work on a professor's research project: 25.2% (Very Good Chance), 44.7% (Some Chance)

Your Institution
- Very Good Chance
- Some Chance

Comparison Group
- Very Good Chance
- Some Chance
Expectations for College Life

What is your best guess as to the chances that you will:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Take a leave of absence from this college temporarily</th>
<th>Transfer to another college before graduating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Your Institution</strong></td>
<td><strong>Comparison Group</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Good Chance</td>
<td>Very Good Chance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Chance</td>
<td>Some Chance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 The Freshman Survey
For more information about HERI/CIRP Surveys

The Freshman Survey
Your First College Year Survey
Diverse Learning Environments Survey
College Senior Survey
Staff Climate Survey
The Faculty Survey

Please contact:
heri@ucla.edu
(310) 825-1925
www.heri.ucla.edu
Many factors impact incoming students’ college choice, including the benefits they see in attending college and considerations about which particular college to attend.
College Choice

In deciding to go to college, how important to you was each of the following:

- TO PLEASE MY FAMILY: 28.5%
- TO MAKE ME A MORE CULTURED PERSON: 51.1%
- TO PREPARE MYSELF FOR GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL: 54.9%
- TO BE ABLE TO MAKE MORE MONEY: 67.2%
- TO GAIN A GENERAL EDUCATION AND APPRECIATION OF IDEAS: 76.7%
- TO GET TRAINING FOR SPECIFIC CAREER: 77.8%
- TO BE ABLE TO GET A BETTER JOB: 84.6%
- TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THINGS THAT INTEREST ME: 86.3%
College Choice

How important was each reason in your decision to come here:

%age indicating “Very Important”

- This college has a very good academic reputation: 56.7%
- This college has a good reputation for its social and extracurr. activities: 45.0%
- The cost of attending this college: 40.3%
- I was offered financial assistance: 32.4%
- My parents/relatives wanted me to come here: 10.9%
- My teacher advised me: 8.0%
- My high school counselor advised me: 6.0%
- Private counselor advised me: 3.1%

2019 The Freshman Survey
Expectations for College Life

What is your best guess as to the chances that you will:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Good Chance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Chance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 The Freshman Survey