Montclair State University
CIRP Freshman Survey
2019 Results

First-time, Full-time Freshmen

Montclair State University
N=2,395

Public 4yr Colleges-medium selectivity
N=8,280
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
Table of Contents

Demographics
   Gender Identity
   Race/Ethnicity
   Distance from Home

College Admissions Decisions
   College Applications
   Accepted/Attending First Choice
   Reasons for Attending College
   Reasons for Attending This College

Financing College
   Funding Sources
   Financial Aid
   Ability to Finance Education

High School Experiences
   Academic Preparation
   Habits of Mind
   Pluralistic Orientation

Academic Self-Concept
   Civic Engagement
   Health and Wellness

College Preparation
   Summer Bridge Program
   Previous College Coursework
   Science/Research Self-Efficacy

Expectations for College: Major and Career
   Intended Major
   Pre-Med or Pre-Law
   Intended Career
   Time-to-Degree
   Degree Aspirations

Expectations for College Life
   Engagement
   Academic Behaviors
   Student Mobility
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
<th>Man / Trans</th>
<th>Woman / Trans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Man</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>60.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woman Trans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparison Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
<th>Man / Trans</th>
<th>Woman / Trans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Man</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woman Trans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 The Freshman Survey
Demographics
Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American/ Black</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/ Alaska Native</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/ Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White/ Caucasian</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Race/ Ethnicity</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races/ Ethnicities</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 The Freshman Survey
Demographics

How many miles is this college from your permanent home?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance Range</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 or less</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-10</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-50</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-100</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-500</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 500</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?

Your Institution  |  Comparison Group
---|---
None  |  10.7% 12.2%
1  |  8.0% 9.3%
2  |  10.5% 12.0%
3  |  15.4% 16.3%
4  |  12.7% 13.0%
5  |  11.8% 10.7%
6  |  9.1% 7.4%
7 - 8  |  10.7% 10.1%
9 - 10  |  5.5% 4.7%
11 or more  |  5.7% 4.2%

2019 The Freshman Survey
College Acceptance

Were you accepted by your first choice college?

12.9% No
87.1% Yes

Is this college your...

- First Choice: 64.9% Your Institution, 56.3% Comparison Group
- Second Choice: 25.5% Your Institution, 30.3% Comparison Group
- Third Choice: 5.7% Your Institution, 9.2% Comparison Group
- Less than Third Choice: 3.9% Your Institution, 4.2% Comparison Group

2019 The Freshman Survey
In deciding to go to college, how important to you was each of the following reasons?

- To be able to get a better job: 86.0% Very Important, 12.0% Somewhat Important
- To gain a general education and appreciation of ideas: 80.3% Very Important, 18.6% Somewhat Important
- To make me a more cultured person: 76.5% Very Important, 22.2% Somewhat Important
- To be able to make more money: 54.1% Very Important, 36.9% Somewhat Important
College Choice

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

To learn more about things that interest me
- Your Institution: 85.5%
- Comparison Group: 82.8%

To get training for a specific career
- Your Institution: 82.9%
- Comparison Group: 81.7%

To prepare myself for graduate or professional school
- Your Institution: 62.8%
- Comparison Group: 61.5%
College Choice

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This college has a very good academic reputation</td>
<td>61.9%</td>
<td>53.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This college’s graduates make a difference in the world</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This college’s graduates gain admission to top graduate/professional</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This college’s graduates get good jobs</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
<td>47.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2019 The Freshman Survey*
College Choice

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I was offered financial assistance</td>
<td>42.6%</td>
<td>42.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The cost of attending this college</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>55.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not offered aid by first choice</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not afford first choice</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Institution
- Very Important
- Somewhat Important

Comparison Group
- Very Important
- Somewhat Important

2019 The Freshman Survey
College Choice

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

- **My parents/relatives wanted me to come here**: 45.1% Very Important, 17.9% Somewhat Important
- **I wanted to live near home**: 32.4% Very Important, 42.0% Somewhat Important
- **Rankings in national magazines**: 11.3% Very Important, 31.3% Somewhat Important
- **A visit to this campus**: 51.5% Very Important, 46.5% Somewhat Important
Economic factors play an important role in students’ decisions about college.
Financing College

Students’ first-year funding sources:

- **Family resources**
  - Your Institution: 64.5%
  - Comparison Group: 68.3%

- **Personal resources**
  - Your Institution: 54.3%
  - Comparison Group: 59.1%

- **Aid not to be repaid**
  - Your Institution: 56.0%
  - Comparison Group: 64.7%

- **Aid to be repaid**
  - Your Institution: 49.3%
  - Comparison Group: 51.8%
Financing College

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

- Military grants: 0.8% (Your Institution), 5.9% (Comparison Group)
- Work-study: 14.4% (Your Institution), 13.1% (Comparison Group)
- Pell grant: 29.3% (Your Institution), 32.6% (Comparison Group)
- Need-based grants or scholarships: 32.7% (Your Institution), 34.8% (Comparison Group)
- Merit-based grants or scholarships: 40.6% (Your Institution), 42.3% (Comparison Group)
Financing College

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

- None: Your Institution 24.0%, Comparison Group 24.5%
- Some: Your Institution 60.9%, Comparison Group 59.9%
- Major: Your Institution 15.1%, Comparison Group 15.6%
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: 69.1% (Your Institution), 70.0% (Comparison Group)
- Probability & Statistics: 25.5% (Your Institution), 28.1% (Comparison Group)
- Calculus: 19.9% (Your Institution), 16.4% (Comparison Group)
- AP Probability & Statistics: 7.7% (Your Institution), 12.0% (Comparison Group)
- AP Calculus: 7.6% (Your Institution), 12.2% (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
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

- **All FTFT**
  - Your Institution: 50.2
  - Comparison Group: 50.1
- **Men/Trans men**
  - Your Institution: 50.1
  - Comparison Group: 50.1
- **Women/Trans women**
  - Your Institution: 50.2
  - Comparison Group: 50.1
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
Civic Engagement

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:
  - Your Institution: 42.6%
  - Comparison Group: 44.9%

- Felt depressed:
  - Your Institution: 15.3%
  - Comparison Group: 17.7%
College Preparation

These items illustrate students’ academic preparation.
Summer Bridge Program

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

- **Yes**: 0.8% (Your Institution), 3.5% (Comparison Group)
- **No**: 99.2% (Your Institution), 96.5% (Comparison Group)
Previous College Coursework

Have taken courses for credit at this institution prior to this term:
- Yes: 2.3%
- Yes: 6.5%

Have taken courses, whether for credit or not for credit, at any other institution since leaving high school:
- Yes: 11.9%
- Yes: 15.6%

Your Institution vs. Comparison Group
Science/Research Self-Efficacy

How confident are you that you can do the following?

Understand scientific concepts:
- Absolutely Confident: 13.5%
- Very Confident: 21.9%

Use technical science skills (use of tools, instruments, and/or techniques):
- Absolutely Confident: 14.2%
- Very Confident: 19.4%

Explain the results of a study:
- Absolutely Confident: 14.5%
- Very Confident: 30.4%

Comparison Group:
- Absolutely Confident: 16.9%
- Very Confident: 33.2%

Your Institution:
- Absolutely Confident
- 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>0.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Professions</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History or Political Science</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expectations: Major
Do you consider yourself Pre-Med or Pre-Law?

Your Institution
Pre-Med: 14.9%
Pre-Law: 6.7%
Comparison Group
Pre-Med: 15.8%
Pre-Law: 6.3%
Expectations: Career
Please indicate your intended career.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</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>0.5%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>Health Professional</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>Homemaker/Stay-at-Home Parent</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>Information Technology Professional</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business (Admin Assistant)</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clergy</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>Military</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Faculty</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>Research Scientist</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor (MD or DDS)</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>Service Industry</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (elementary/secondary)</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>Skilled worker</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineer</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>Social/Non-Profit Services</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expectations: Time-to-Degree

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

- 0% to 10%
- 10% to 20%
- 20% to 30%
- 30% to 40%
- 40% to 50%
- 50% to 60%
- 60% to 70%
- 70% to 80%
- 80% to 90%
- 90% to 100%
- 100%
### Expectations: Degree Aspirations

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Type</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational certificate</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate (A.A. or equivalent)</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S., B.D., etc.)</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's degree (M.A., M.S., M.B.A., etc.)</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.D. (Law)</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.D., D.D.S., D.V.M., etc. (Medical)</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Doctorate (Ed.D., Psy.D., etc.)</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 The Freshman Survey
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
  - Your Institution: 42.1% Very Good Chance, 24.2% Some Chance
  - Comparison Group: 43.1% Very Good Chance, 28.1% Some Chance

- Participate in a study abroad program
  - Your Institution: 25.6% Very Good Chance, 31.6% Some Chance
  - Comparison Group: 22.8% Very Good Chance, 33.0% Some Chance
Expectations for College Life
What is your best guess as to the chances that you will:

- Participate in student clubs/groups: 38.8% Very Good Chance, 41.3% Some Chance
- Take a course exclusively online: 6.1% Very Good Chance, 21.9% Some Chance
- Work on a professor's research project: 16.6% Very Good Chance, 34.4% Some Chance
Expectations for College Life

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

- Take a leave of absence from this college temporarily
  - Your Institution: 2.4% (Very Good Chance), 8.8% (Some Chance)
  - Comparison Group: 2.2% (Very Good Chance), 7.7% (Some Chance)

- Transfer to another college before graduating
  - Your Institution: 4.0% (Very Good Chance), 15.6% (Some Chance)
  - Comparison Group: 4.7% (Very Good Chance), 17.1% (Some Chance)
The more you get to know your students, the better you can understand their needs.

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

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