Rutgers University-Camden
CIRP Freshman Survey
2013 Results

First-time, Full-time Freshmen

Rutgers University-Camden
N=125

Public 4yr Colleges-high selectivity
N=7,304

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
- Knowledge, skills and abilities
- Expectations for college—major and career
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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

How many miles is this college from your permanent home?

- 5 or less: 16.0%
- 6-10: 22.4%
- 11-50: 44.8%
- 51-100: 19.3%
- 101-500: 17.1%
- Over 500: 31.2%
- Comparison Group: 24.7%

Your Institution vs Comparison Group
Demographics

From what kind of high school did you graduate?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public school (not charter or magnet)</td>
<td>78.4%</td>
<td>78.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public charter school</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public magnet school</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private religious/parochial school</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private independent college-prep school</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home school</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
College Admissions Decisions

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

To how many colleges *other than this one* did you apply for admission this year?

![Bar chart showing college admission decisions.](image)
Were you accepted by your first choice college?

- Yes: 78.4%
- No: 21.6%
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 be able to get a better job</td>
<td>91.9%</td>
<td>79.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To gain a general education and appreciation of ideas</td>
<td>85.1%</td>
<td>68.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To make me a more cultured person</td>
<td>77.4%</td>
<td>79.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be able to make more money</td>
<td>68.3%</td>
<td>68.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Institution: Very Important, Somewhat Important
Comparison Group: Very Important, 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**: 83.9%
- **To get training for a specific career**: 80.3%
- **To prepare myself for graduate or professional school**: 83.9%

- **Your Institution**
  - Very Important: 14.5%
  - Somewhat Important: 18.4%
- **Comparison Group**
  - Very Important: 14.5%
  - Somewhat Important: 21.1%
College Choice

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

- This college has a very good academic reputation: 74.2% Very Important, 34.6% Somewhat Important
- This college has a good reputation for its social activities: 36.7% Very Important, 42.3% Somewhat Important
- This college’s graduates gain admission to top graduate/professional schools: 40.8% Very Important, 30.0% Somewhat Important
- This college’s graduates get good jobs: 63.3% Very Important, 54.4% Somewhat Important
- The percentage of students that graduate from this college: 37.8% Very Important, 26.8% Somewhat Important

Your Institution
- Very Important
- Somewhat Important

Comparison Group
- Very Important
- Somewhat Important

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College Choice

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

- **I was offered financial assistance**
  - Your Institution: 20.0% Very Important, 30.4% Somewhat Important
  - Comparison Group: 62.5% Very Important, 39.9% Somewhat Important

- **The cost of attending this college**
  - Your Institution: 17.5% Very Important, 33.5% Somewhat Important
  - Comparison Group: 75.8% Very Important, 47.8% Somewhat Important

- **Not offered aid by first choice**
  - Your Institution: 21.0% Very Important, 10.1% Somewhat Important
  - Comparison Group: 22.7% Very Important, 15.9% Somewhat Important

- **Could not afford first choice**
  - Your Institution: 19.5% Very Important, 14.0% Somewhat Important
  - Comparison Group: 27.1% Very Important, 14.8% Somewhat Important
College Choice

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

- *My parents wanted me to come here*:
  - Very Important: 35.0%
  - Somewhat Important: 41.3%

- *I wanted to live near home*:
  - Very Important: 35.8%
  - Somewhat Important: 25.6%

- *Rankings in national magazines*:
  - Very Important: 18.3%
  - Somewhat Important: 41.7%

- *A visit to the campus*:
  - Very Important: 28.6%
  - Somewhat Important: 38.1%

*Your Institution*
- Very Important: 35.8%
- Somewhat Important: 41.3%

*Comparison Group*
- Very Important: 28.6%
- Somewhat Important: 35.8%
Financing College

Economic factors play an important role in students’ decisions about college.
Financing College

The current economic situation significantly affected my college choice.

52.0% Agree Strongly
37.6% Agree Somewhat
42.4% Disagree Somewhat
18.0% Disagree Strongly
3.2%

13.8%
### Financing College

The percentage of students with at least some funds from these various sources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family resources</td>
<td>74.4%</td>
<td>67.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal resources</td>
<td>72.8%</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aid not to be repaid</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
<td>73.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aid to be repaid</td>
<td>64.0%</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sources</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financing College

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

- None: 20.8%
- Some: 62.4%
- Major: 9.0%

Comparison Group:
- None: 42.5%
- Some: 48.6%
- Major: 16.8%
High School Experiences

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

How many Advanced Placement *courses* did you take in high school?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses Taken</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>51.2%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15+</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Not offered at my high school**: 4.8%
- **None**: 6.0%
- **1-4**: 31.2%
- **5-9**: 25.7%
- **10-14**: 12.0%
- **15+**: 0.0%

*Comparison Group* refers to the average of the comparison group from institutions that offer AP courses.
High School Experiences
How many Advanced Placement exams did you take in high school?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not offered at my high school</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15+</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Institution | Comparison Group |
High School Experiences
Which of the following math courses did you complete in high school?

- Algebra II: 94.4%, 97.3%
- Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry: 79.2%, 85.7%
- Probability & Statistics: 16.0%, 32.5%
- Calculus: 28.8%, 33.7%
- AP Probability & Statistics: 1.6%, 14.7%
- AP Calculus: 19.2%, 27.7%

Comparison Group
High School Experiences

Have you *had* any special tutoring or remedial work in any of the following subjects?

- **English**: 12.0% (Your Institution), 10.9% (Comparison Group)
- **Reading**: 10.4% (Your Institution), 8.9% (Comparison Group)
- **Mathematics**: 19.2% (Your Institution), 19.8% (Comparison Group)
- **Social Studies**: 8.0% (Your Institution), 6.8% (Comparison Group)
- **Science**: 12.0% (Your Institution), 9.7% (Comparison Group)
- **Foreign Language**: 8.0% (Your Institution), 8.9% (Comparison Group)
- **Writing**: 11.2% (Your Institution), 8.6% (Comparison Group)
High School Experiences

Do you feel you **will need** any special tutoring or remedial work in any of the following subjects?
**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

- Support your opinions with a logical argument
- Seek solutions to problems and explain them to others
- Seek alternative solutions to a problem
- Evaluate the quality or reliability of information you received
- Ask questions in class
- Take a risk because you felt you had more to gain
- Seek feedback on academic work
- Explore topics on your own, even though it was not required for a class
- Accept mistakes as part of the learning process
- Revise your papers to improve your writing
- Look up scientific research articles and resources
Pluralistic Orientation

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

### Construct Items

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

### Chart

- **All FTFT**: 52.1, 49.8
- **Men**: 52.0, 49.5
- **Women**: 52.2, 50.0

- **Your Institution**
- **Comparison Group**
**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.

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**Construct Items**

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

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**Bar Chart**

- **All FTFT**
  - Your Institution: 49.1
  - Comparison Group: 48.8

- **Men**
  - Your Institution: 49.6
  - Comparison Group: 50.1

- **Women**
  - Your Institution: 48.9
  - Comparison Group: 47.8
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

- Publicly communicated your opinion about a cause
- I am interested in seeking information about current social and political issues
- Worked on a local, state, or national political campaign
- Demonstrated for a cause
- Keeping up to date with political affairs
- Influencing social values
- Helped raise money for a cause or campaign
- Performed volunteer work
Health and Wellness

Students’ physical and emotional well-being can affect many important aspects of the student experience including academic performance and persistence. These items gauge student behaviors, attitudes and experiences related to health and wellness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Felt overwhelmed by all you had to do</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
<td>30.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt depressed</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
<td>57.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparison Group</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35.9%</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

These items illustrate students’ views of their academic skills and abilities.
Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Think about your current abilities and tell us how strong or weak you believe you are in each of the following areas:

- **General knowledge**: 30.1% Strong, 51.2% Somewhat Strong
- **Knowledge of a particular field or discipline**: 24.1% Strong, 53.7% Somewhat Strong
- **Foreign language ability**: 23.2% Strong, 44.9% Somewhat Strong

**Your Institution**
- A Major Strength
- Somewhat Strong

**Comparison Group**
- A Major Strength
- Somewhat Strong
Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Think about your current abilities and tell us how strong or weak you believe you are in each of the following areas:

- Understanding of the problems facing your community
  - 21.1% A Major Strength
  - 29.3% Somewhat Strong
  - 11.3% A Major Strength
  - 33.1% Somewhat Strong

- Understanding of national issues
  - 18.7% A Major Strength
  - 28.5% Somewhat Strong
  - 12.2% A Major Strength
  - 31.5% Somewhat Strong

- Understanding of global issues
  - 20.3% A Major Strength
  - 21.1% Somewhat Strong
  - 10.9% A Major Strength
  - 28.5% Somewhat Strong
Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Think about your current abilities and tell us how strong or weak you believe you are in each of the following areas:

Critical thinking skills
- Your Institution: 39.8%
- Comparison Group: 43.7%

Problem-solving skills
- Your Institution: 25.2%
- Comparison Group: 30.9%

A Major Strength
- Blue

Somewhat Strong
- Orange

100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Think about your current abilities and tell us how strong or weak you believe you are in each of the following areas:

- Knowledge of people from different races/cultures
  - Your Institution: 26.0%
  - Comparison Group: 32.5%

- Ability to get along with people of different races/cultures
  - Your Institution: 60.2%
  - Comparison Group: 45.5%
Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Think about your current abilities and tell us how strong or weak you believe you are in each of the following areas:

- Ability to manage your time effectively
- Interpersonal skills
- Leadership abilities

Your Institution
- A Major Strength
- Somewhat Strong

Comparison Group
- A Major Strength
- Somewhat Strong
Expectations for College: Major and Career

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>0.1%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological &amp; Life Sciences</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Professions</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History or Political Science</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expectations: Major
Do you consider yourself Pre-Med or Pre-Law?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Your Institution</th>
<th>Comparison Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Med</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Law</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- Your Institution
- Comparison Group
## Expectations: Career

Please indicate your intended career.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</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>0.0%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business (Admin Assistant)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clergy</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Faculty</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor (MD or DDS)</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Elementary/Secondary)</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineer</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>11.0%</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: 84.2%
- 2 years: 91.4%
- 3 years: 7.5%
- 4 years: 4.2%
- 5 years: 2.5%
- 6+ years: 1.0%
- Do not plan to graduate from this college: 1.7%
Expectations: Degree Aspirations

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

- None: 0.0% (Your Institution), 0.0% (Comparison Group)
- Vocational certificate: 0.0% (Your Institution), 0.1% (Comparison Group)
- Associate (A.A. or equivalent): 0.0% (Your Institution), 0.6% (Comparison Group)
- Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S., etc.): 15.3% (Your Institution), 22.1% (Comparison Group)
- Master's degree (M.A., M.S., etc.): 36.3% (Your Institution), 45.3% (Comparison Group)
- Ph.D. or Ed.D.: 23.4% (Your Institution), 19.0% (Comparison Group)
- M.D., D.O., D.D.S., D.V.M.: 16.9% (Your Institution), 7.9% (Comparison Group)
- J.D. (Law): 4.8% (Your Institution), 3.5% (Comparison Group)
- B.D. or M.DIV. (Divinity): 0.0% (Your Institution), 0.1% (Comparison Group)
- Other: 3.2% (Your Institution), 0.9% (Comparison Group)
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: 51.3%
  - Some Chance: 36.5%

- **Participate in a study abroad program**
  - Very Good Chance: 38.3%
  - Some Chance: 32.2%

- **Discuss course content with students outside of class**
  - Very Good Chance: 53.0%
  - Some Chance: 41.7%

---

**Comparison Group**

- **Very Good Chance**
  - Participate in volunteer or community service work: 29.4%
  - Participate in a study abroad program: 35.1%
  - Discuss course content with students outside of class: 42.3%

- **Some Chance**
  - Participate in volunteer or community service work: 42.7%
  - Participate in a study abroad program: 35.0%
  - Discuss course content with students outside of class: 45.4%
Expectations for College Life
What is your best guess as to the chances that you will:

Communicate regularly with your professors
- Your Institution: 46.1%
- Comparison Group: 40.5%

Take a course exclusively online at this institution
- Your Institution: 7.0%
- Comparison Group: 25.2%

Work on a professor’s research project
- Your Institution: 44.3%
- Comparison Group: 30.0%
Expectations for College Life

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

- Need extra time to complete your degree requirements: 31.0% Very Good Chance, 23.1% Some Chance
- Take a leave of absence from this college temporarily: 6.1% Very Good Chance, 9.8% Some Chance
- Transfer to another college before graduating: 16.4% Very Good Chance, 5.0% Some Chance

Your Institution
- Very Good Chance
- Some Chance

Comparison Group
- Very Good Chance
- 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
The Faculty Survey

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