

CIRP Freshman Survey Findings

Fall 2012 Administration

Presented by

Institutional Assessment & Research



Outline

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Overview

- ~ CIRP Freshman Study is the largest study of higher education institutions in the U.S.
- ~ Created and administered by the HERI at UCLA.
- ~ It is a nationally-normed study of incoming freshman characteristics.
- ~ Since its origin in 1965, it has been taken by over 15 million students at over 1,900 institutions.

Overview

- ~ In 2012, 236,937 respondents from 389 colleges and universities in the U.S. participated in the study.
- ~ The survey asked over 200 standard questions in a wide variety of areas.
- ~ At CSUMB, we administer the survey every two years to freshmen enrolled in FYS in fall.

Overview

The questions in the survey covered topics in:

- ~ Demographics
- ~ High-school experience
- ~ College profile
- ~ Financial profile
- ~ Personality profile
- ~ Socio-political profile

CSUMB Population & Sample

- ~ The population consisted of the 902 First-time freshmen enrolled in fall 2012.
- ~ The sample consisted of 500 of these freshmen.
- ~ 92% completed the survey, compared to 86% in 2010.
- ~ The respondents closely matched the general population of freshmen on gender & ethnicity. But more non-URMs and 18 yr olds responded to the survey.
- ~ CIRP compared CSUMB's freshmen responses to those of freshmen at 50 4-year public colleges (n= 36,533 respondents) across the U.S., including 7 CSUs.

Findings: High School Profile

Item	CSUMB 2012 (%)	CSUMB 2010 (%)	4-Year Public College 2012 (%)
Graduated from high school in same year	99	100	97
Used Internet for research or homework	99	99	99
Bored in high school class	95	97	94
Came late to high school class	55	67	54
Studied 3-5 hours per week	36	35	29
Socialized with another race/ethnic	95	96	95
Studied with other students	90	93	87
Tutored another student	65	65	55
Did not work during a typical week	54	55	43
Working sometime in typical week	46	46	57
Did not participate in student clubs &	31	38	35

Findings: College Profile

Item	CSUMB 2012 (%)	CSUMB 2010 (%)	4-Year Public College 2012 (%)
Top reason to attend current college: Cost	64	49	54
Most important to student: Being very well off financially	85	81	83
Be satisfied with current college	52	50	50
Transfer to another college before completing education	9	13	9
Plan to obtain a graduate degree	76	67	72
Becoming an authority in my field	54	51	58
Their college as first choice	51	44	56
Applied only to their college	5	6	15
Need extra time to complete degree studies	9	12	8

Findings: Financial Profile

Item	CSUMB 2012 (%)	CSUMB 2010 (%)	4-Year Public College 2012 (%)
Concern about ability to finance college education:			
No concern	20	22	31
Some concern	59	61	56
Major concern	21	18	14
Annual Family income of 150k or more	10	12	12
Annual Family income between 60 & 149k	33	37	38
Annual Family income of less than 60K	57	51	50
Expect to cover some of the expenses with aid which must be repaid	59	51	48
Expect parents, relatives & spouses to help cover 1st yr. educational expenses	76	71	69
Expect to cover some of the expenses with own savings	54	53	58

Findings: Personality Profile

Item	CSUMB 2012 (%)	CSUMB 2010 (%)	4-Year Public College 2012 (%)
Student rated self "above average" or "highest 10%" as compared with the average person of his/her age in:			
Work cooperatively with diverse people	77	80	77
Drive to achieve	72	67	73
Tolerance of others with different beliefs	70	73	68
Understanding of others	66	64	65
See the world from someone else's perspective	62	66	62
Public speaking ability	36	30	33
Artistic ability	31	32	27
Computer skills	28	32	35
Mathematical ability	28	31	39
Popularity	21	25	30

Findings: Socio-Political Profile

Item	CSUMB 2012 (%)	CSUMB 2010 (%)	4-Year Public College 2012 (%)
Political leaning: Middle-of-the-road	47	50	52
Discussed politics	81	77	77
Voted in a student election	61	64	65
Performed volunteer work	88	86	84
Performed community service as part of a class	66	66	56
Same-sex couples should have the right to legal marital status (Agree strongly / Agree somewhat)	79	N/A	74
A national health care plan is needed to cover everybody's medical costs (Agree strongly / Agree somewhat)	73	70	65
Students from disadvantaged social backgrounds should be given preferential treatment in college admissions (Agree strongly / Agree somewhat)	52	N/A	46
Wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now (Agree strongly / Agree somewhat)	73	70	67

Some Notable Findings

- ~ More of the freshmen in 2012 than in 2010 come from families with annual income of 60k or less and indicate they have major concern about financing their college education.
- ~ 2012 freshmen were less likely than 2010 freshmen to indicate that they came late to class in high school.
- ~ More of the freshmen in 2012 than in 2010 rated themselves as above average or in the highest 10% in “drive to achieve” compared with the average person their age.
- ~ Freshmen in 2012 were less likely than those in 2010 to report that they are middle-of-the-road; however more discussed politics than in previous years (2010, 2008.) 2012 freshman were also more likely to have performed volunteer work compared to their peers in 2010 and 2008.

Want More?

Download the CIRP Executive Summaries from:
<http://iar.csUMB.edu/cirp-reports>

Questions

Contact Dr. Veronica O. Chukwuemeka @
vchukwuemeka@csumb.edu / (831) 582-4664



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Monterey Bay

CSUMB•EDU