



The CIRP Freshman Survey 2005-2008

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Orientation 2008: Survey Results

CIRP Survey

- W&M Freshman – 2000
Paper version
- W&M Freshman– 2005
Paper version
- W&M Freshman – 2008
Electronic version
- Public, 4-yr Highly selective – 2008

Responses

1,280 (95%)

1,242/1,340 (93%)

757/1,392 (54%)

19,270

	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
How many other colleges applied to	(N=1,273)	(N=1,234)	(N=757)	(N=19,270)
None	26	27	25	20
1 to 3	27	24	20	48
4 to 6	32	28	29	25
7 to 10	12	18	20	6
11 or more	2	4	6	1
Accepted at 1st choice	(N=)	(N=1,234)	(N=757)	(N=19,270)
Yes	Not asked	Not asked	69	86
No	Not asked	Not asked	31	14
W&M was your:	(N=1,273)	(N=1,226)	(N=755)	(N=19,270)
1st choice	69	68	63	69
2nd choice	18	20	20	23
3rd choice	8	7	10	5
Less than 3rd choice	4	4	6	2

Highest degree intend to obtain	W&M 2000	W&M 2005	W&M 2008	Public Hi 2008
	% (N=1,053)	% (N=1,100)	% (N=738)	% (N=19,270)
Bachelor's	4	7	8	24
Master's	38	37	37	46
Ph.D. or Ed.D.	27	26	26	16
MD, DO, DDS, DVM	16	13	14	7
JD	12	16	14	3
Other	3	1	2	4

Concern about financing college	W&M 2000	W&M 2005	W&M 2008	Public Hi 2008
	(N=1,222)	(N=1,227)	(N=755)	(N=19,270)
None	51	50	49	47
Some	44	45	45	45
Major	6	5	6	8

Engaged in activity “frequently “	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %
Tutored another student	19	17	19
Internet: For research or homework	79	88	89
Performed community service as part of class	18	14	16
Worked on a local, state or national political campaign	Not asked	5	6
Played a musical instrument	32	35	36
Voted in a student election	35	29	31
Discussed religion	38	47	42
Discusses politics	34	Not comparable	53
Performed volunteer work	38	41	38
Socialized with someone of another racial/ ethnic group	71	79	77
Participated in political demonstrations	6	Not comparable	33

Engaged in activity “frequently” (cont.)	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %
Asked a teacher for advice after class	34	27	33
Was a guest in a teacher's home	4	4	4
Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do	33	29	30
Felt depressed	7	6	8
Studied with other students	36	29	31
Attended a religious service	49	45	41
Drank wine or liquor	8	8	6
Drank beer	9	9	6
Was bored in class	44	46	41
Came late to class	11	8	8
Smoked cigarettes	5	3	2

Engaged in activity “frequently “ or “occasionally”	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
Tutored another student	75	70	73	54
Internet: For research or homework (frequently)	79	88	89	74
Performed community service for class	64	49	59	54
Worked on a local, state or national political campaign	Not asked	22	24	10
Played a musical instrument	52	55	55	42
Voted in a student election (frequently)	35	29	31	20
Discussed religion (frequently)	38	47	43	31
Discussed politics (frequently)	34	Not comparable	53	35
Performed volunteer work	92	94	91	81
Socialized with someone of another racial/ ethnic group (frequently)	71	79	77	67
Participated in political demonstrations	31	Not comparable	33	21

Engaged in activity “frequently” or “occasionally” (cont.)	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
Asked a teacher for advice after class (frequently)	34	27	33	24
Was a guest in a teacher's home	36	28	26	21
Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do (frequently)	33	29	30	27
Felt depressed (frequently)	7	6	8	6
Studied with other students	93	89	88	86
Attended a religious service	82	81	78	77
Drank wine or liquor	55	52	47	47
Drank beer	47	44	41	42
Was bored in class (frequently)	44	46	41	44
Came late to class	67	53	56	60
Smoked cigarettes (frequently)	5	3	2	6

Student rated self "above average" or "highest 10%" as compared with the average person of his/her age in:	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008
Academic ability	93	95	95	69
Drive to achieve	82	84	83	74
Cooperativeness	75	74	77	73
Self-confidence (intellectual)	71	72	73	60
Writing ability	66	70	72	48
Understanding of others	69	69	71	64
Leadership ability	62	66	67	64
Self-understanding	63	60	66	56
Creativity	63	63	62	54

Student rated self "above average" or "highest 10%" as compared with the average person of his/her age in: (cont.)	W&M 2000	W&M 2005	W&M 2008	Public Hi 2008
	%	%	%	%
Mathematical ability	55	58	58	46
Physical health	55	57	57	59
Emotional health	54	58	57	55
Public speaking ability	48	49	56	38
Self-confidence (social)	47	48	44	52
Spirituality	49	43	44	39
Computer skills	37	36	39	38
Popularity	34	Not asked	37	41
Artistic ability	36	34	34	28

% responding "frequently" only. Student rated self "above average" or "highest 10%" as compared with the average person of his/her age in (Not asked in 2000 or 2005):	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
Ability to see the world from someone else's perspective	76	63
Tolerance of others with different beliefs	84	70
Openness to having my own views challenged	67	56
Ability to discuss and negotiate controversial issues	74	63
Ability to work cooperatively with diverse people	84	77

During the past year, did you "frequently": (Not asked in 2000 or 2005)	Freshmen (N=757)	Public 4yr HI (N=19,270)
Support your opinions with a logical argument	81	59
Take notes during class	75	63
Seek solutions to problems and explain them to others	75	51
Revise your papers to improve your writing	65	44
Ask questions in class	63	54
Seek feedback on your academic work	62	45
Evaluate the quality or reliability of information you received	61	35
Accept mistakes as part of the learning process	55	50
Seek alternative solutions to a problem	55	43
Explore topics on your own, even though it was not required for a class	44	31
Take a risk because you feel you have more to gain	39	41
Look up scientific research articles and resources	32	22

How would you characterize your political views?	W&M 2000	W&M 2005	W&M 2008	Public Hi 2008
	(N=1,208)	(N=1,215)	(N=745)	(N=19,270)
Far left	4	6	5	3
Liberal	36	38	39	24
Middle-of-the-road	38	32	33	45
Conservative	22	23	19	26
Far right	1	2	3	3

Reasons noted as "very important" in influencing student's decision to attend this particular college	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
This college has a very good academic reputation	87	89	87	63
This college's graduates get good jobs	60	61	63	54
I wanted to go to a school about the size of this college	58	58	59	33
A visit to campus	Not asked	57	58	39
This college's graduates gain admission to top graduate/professional schools	50	55	56	31
Rankings in national magazines	24	38	38	14
I was admitted through an Early Action or Early Decision program	32	32	31	10
The cost of attending this college	27	31	31	49
I was offered financial assistance	13	12	14	36
I wanted to live near home	10	9	10	21

Reasons noted as "very important" in influencing student's decision to attend this particular college	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
This college has a good reputation for its social activities	22	18	28	34
Information from a website	11	18	22	18
High school counselor advised me	8	7	10	9
Not offered aid by first choice	5	6	9	7
My teacher advised me	4	4	7	6
Offered athletic scholarship/athletic department recruited me	3	Not asked	6	8
My parents wanted me to come here	Not asked	Not asked	14	14
My relatives wanted me to come here	10	9	5	6
I was attracted by the religious affiliation/orientation of the college	3	1	3	3
Private college counselor advised me	2	2	3	2
Could not afford first choice	Not asked	Not asked	10	11

Objectives considered to be "essential" or "very important"	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
Helping others who are in difficulty	64	69	72	67
Raising a family	71	70	71	76
Becoming an authority in my field	61	63	62	60
Obtaining recognition from my colleagues for contributions to my special field	41	49	54	56
Helping to promote racial understanding	36	37	38	30
Becoming successful in business of my own	26	28	28	37
Making a theoretical contribution to science	19	17	23	19
Becoming accomplished in one of the performing arts (acting, dancing, etc.)	19	20	20	14
Creating artistic works (painting, sculpture, decorating, etc.)	16	14	15	15

Objectives considered to be "essential" or "very important" (Cont):	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
Becoming a community leader	40	38	45	36
Developing a meaningful philosophy of life	56	59	67	47
Keeping up to date with political affairs	50	60	63	38
Being very well off financially	53	59	63	76
Influencing social values	40	40	51	43
Participating in a community action program	34	28	39	24
Influencing the political structure	25	30	35	21
Becoming involved in programs to clean up the environment	23	22	34	24
Writing original works (poems, novels, short stories, etc.)	20	21	28	14

Objectives considered to be "essential" or "very important":	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
Improving my understanding of other countries and cultures	Not asked	Not asked	71	47
Adopting "green" practices to protect the environment	Not asked	Not asked	58	39

Student estimates chances are "very good" that he/she will:	W&M 2000 %	W&M 2005 %	W&M 2008 %	Public Hi 2008 %
Participate in student clubs/groups	67	70	80	39
Discuss course content with students outside of class	Not asked	Not asked	80	41
Participate in a study abroad program	Not asked	57	59	22
Participate in volunteer or community service work	45	43	54	20
Communicate regularly with professors	45	47	61	32
Socialize with someone of another racial/ethnic group	73	82	86	60
Be satisfied with your college	61	66	75	52

Student estimates chances are "very good" that he/she will (cont.):	W&M 2000	W&M 2005	W&M 2008	Public Hi 2008
	%	%	%	%
Have a roommate of different race/ethnicity	Not asked	Not asked	42	25
Make at least a "B" average	58	58	75	58
Change career choice	23	27	27	11
Change major field	21	22	22	13
Participate in student protests or demonstrations	Not asked	12	11	4
Participate in student government	8	11	10	6
Join a social fraternity or sorority	9	11	12	9

Student estimates chances are "very good" that he/she will (cont.):	W&M 2000	W&M 2005	W&M 2008	Public Hi 2008
	%	%	%	%
Seek personal counseling	5	5	7	7
Play varsity/intercollegiate athletics	11	16	16	19
Get tutoring help in specific courses	Not asked	Not asked	25	28
Transfer to another college before graduating	2	2	3	9
Work full-time while attending college	1	1	2	10
Get a job to help pay for college expenses	26	32	35	43
Work on a professor's research project	Not asked	Not asked	37	26
Need extra time to complete your degree requirements	2	Not asked	4	6