



# Appendix

## **2023 National First-Year Students and Their Motivations to Complete College**

See the full list of student responses  
and participating institutions



## FULL RESULTS BY SCALE

These are the results from students who completed the College Student Inventory Form B. These results are organized by the scales used in the Retention Management System (RMS).

Total: 79,118 Four-year private: 26,842 Four-year public: 34,207 Two-year: 18,069

RMS SCALE	4-YEAR PRIVATE	4-YEAR PUBLIC	2-YEAR PUBLIC	OVERALL
<b>Desire to Finish College</b>				
Strong desire to continue my education	96%	97%	94%	96%
Strongly dedicated to finishing college	94%	95%	92%	94%
Deeply committed to my educational goals	93%	93%	91%	92%
Of all the things I could do now, going to college is most satisfying	72%	75%	66%	72%
Wonder if college is worth the time, money, and effort	28%	28%	30%	28%
Societal pressure to attend college and would rather do something different	14%	15%	20%	16%
Many things I would rather do than go to college	11%	11%	17%	12%
Dread school and would like to give it up	11%	11%	16%	12%
<b>Interactions with Previous Teachers</b>				
Most teachers have been very caring and dedicated	83%	79%	75%	79%
Teachers respected and treated me fairly	83%	84%	79%	83%
Liked my teachers and feel they did a good job	78%	78%	74%	77%
Teachers I had were too opinionated and inflexible	15%	13%	14%	14%
Teachers are more concerned about themselves than students	14%	17%	15%	16%
Most teachers have superior attitude that is annoying	15%	16%	16%	15%
<b>Reading Interests</b>				
Books have broadened my horizons and stimulated my imagination	55%	59%	58%	58%
Don't enjoy reading serious books and articles	51%	48%	44%	48%
Get personal satisfaction from reading	40%	43%	47%	43%
Books have never gotten me very excited	39%	34%	34%	36%

Full Results by Scale (cont.)

RMS SCALE	4-YEAR PRIVATE	4-YEAR PUBLIC	2-YEAR PUBLIC	OVERALL
<b>Study Habits</b>				
Study very hard for all my courses	68%	67%	68%	68%
Take careful notes during class and review them before a test	66%	64%	66%	65%
Have developed system of self-discipline	59%	57%	54%	57%
My studying is irregular and unpredictable	36%	39%	37%	38%
When I study, I get bored and quit	33%	35%	34%	34%
Difficulty concentrating on school work	24%	26%	30%	26%
<b>Math and Science Confidence</b>				
Have very good understanding of general biology	60%	62%	60%	61%
Good grasp of scientific ideas	57%	61%	49%	57%
Hard time solving complex math problems	42%	42%	49%	44%
Math has always been challenge	39%	38%	50%	41%
Enjoy challenge of solving complex math problem	33%	35%	31%	33%
Weak understanding of physical sciences	20%	20%	24%	21%
<b>Verbal and Writing Confidence</b>				
Capable of writing a clear and well-organized paper	72%	74%	63%	71%
Pick up new vocabulary words quickly	65%	68%	64%	66%
Good at figuring out deeper meaning in short story or novel	51%	54%	53%	53%
Had difficult time analyzing style and theme of authors in English classes	29%	28%	30%	29%
Difficulty organizing ideas in paper	24%	22%	29%	24%
Learning new vocabulary is slow and difficult process for me	14%	12%	16%	14%

Full Results by Scale (cont.)

RMS SCALE	4-YEAR PRIVATE	4-YEAR PUBLIC	2-YEAR PUBLIC	OVERALL
<b>Career Plans</b>				
Have found attractive potential career	83%	81%	80%	81%
Made decision to enter certain occupation	65%	63%	65%	64%
Confused when trying to choose occupation	24%	28%	29%	27%
Confused about occupation to pursue	21%	25%	25%	24%
<b>Family Support</b>				
My parents and I communicated well as a child	77%	73%	68%	73%
As child, parents respected and understood me	77%	71%	62%	71%
Family had one-sided way of looking at me as a child	19%	22%	28%	22%
As a child, family members often said hurtful things towards me	16%	19%	23%	19%
<b>Financial Security</b>				
Have the financial resources needed to finish college	54%	53%	48%	52%
Don't have financial problems that interfere with schoolwork	47%	47%	41%	46%
Have financial problems that are distracting	26%	27%	30%	27%
Bad financial position and pressure to earn extra money will interfere with school	21%	23%	24%	22%
<b>Social Engagement</b>				
Enjoy crowd of people and having fun	88%	89%	75%	85%
Adventurous and outgoing at large social gatherings	52%	53%	46%	51%
Little interest in large social gatherings	27%	25%	39%	29%
Hard for me to relax and have fun with a group of people	18%	17%	21%	18%
<b>Capacity for Tolerance</b>				
Easy to be friends with people who have different political opinions	71%	66%	69%	69%
Feel comfortable with someone who thinks different on major social issues	66%	64%	65%	65%
Get along well with people who disagree with my opinion	62%	61%	64%	62%
Tend to stay away from people whose ideas are quite different than mine	11%	12%	11%	12%



Full Results by Scale (cont.)

RMS SCALE	4-YEAR PRIVATE	4-YEAR PUBLIC	2-YEAR PUBLIC	OVERALL
<b>Capacity for Tolerance (cont.)</b>				
Feel uneasy and distrust toward people who think dissimilar to me	9%	10%	10%	10%
I am unfriendly and avoid people with different opinions than my own	6%	6%	7%	6%
<b>Receptivity to Academic Assistance</b>				
Receive help to improve study habits	65%	68%	68%	67%
Would like instruction on how to take college exams	64%	66%	65%	65%
Receive individual help to improve math skills	44%	46%	52%	47%
Receive help on improving my writing skills	43%	41%	46%	43%
Receive tutoring for one or more of my courses	41%	41%	37%	40%
Receive training to improve my reading skills	33%	33%	40%	35%
<b>Receptivity to Career Guidance</b>				
Help selecting education plan to get good job	69%	74%	62%	69%
Talk about qualifications needed for certain occupations	64%	70%	63%	67%
Talk with someone about salaries and future for occupation	57%	62%	49%	58%
Help selecting occupation suited to my interests	52%	57%	50%	54%
Talk about advantages and disadvantages of certain occupations	52%	57%	46%	53%
<b>Receptivity to Financial Guidance</b>				
Talk about getting a scholarship with someone	60%	68%	59%	63%
Talk to someone about a part-time job	48%	50%	28%	44%
Talk to someone about the opportunities available for summer employment	44%	48%	30%	42%
Talk about getting loan to help get through school	22%	25%	22%	23%
<b>Receptivity to Personal Counseling</b>				
Talk with counselor about general attitude toward school	17%	20%	20%	19%
Talk with counselor about emotional tensions	17%	17%	14%	16%
Talk with counselor about difficulties in my social life	16%	17%	15%	16%

Full Results by Scale (cont.)

RMS SCALE	4-YEAR PRIVATE	4-YEAR PUBLIC	2-YEAR PUBLIC	OVERALL
<b>Receptivity to Personal Counseling (cont.)</b>				
Talk with counselor about feelings of discouragement and unhappy thoughts	14%	15%	13%	14%
Talk with counselor about eliminating unwanted habit	9%	9%	11%	10%
Talk with counselor about family problems	8%	7%	7%	7%
<b>Receptivity to Social Engagement</b>				
Would like to meet some new friends at informal gathering	76%	79%	55%	73%
Find out more about clubs and social organizations at college	67%	75%	48%	66%
Meet an experienced student to seek advice	54%	60%	46%	55%
Find out about student government and activities on campus	52%	55%	38%	50%
<b>Desire to Transfer</b>				
No desire to transfer	72%	72%	43%	66%
I plan to transfer before completing degree at this college	6%	7%	26%	11%
<b>Total Number of Students</b>	<b>26842</b>	<b>34207</b>	<b>18069</b>	<b>79118</b>
<b>Average Age</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>

# List of participating institutions

Aims Community College, CO	Cambridge College, MA	Cornell College, IA
Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, AL	Cardinal Stritch University, WI	Crowder College, MO
Alabama State University, AL	Central Community College, NE	Curry College, MA
Albright College, PA	Central State University, OH	Curry College, MA
Alderson Broadus University, WV	Central Virginia Community College, VA	Davenport University, MI
American Academy of Art College, IL	Central Wyoming College, WY	DePaul University, IL
Anna Maria College, MA	Centralia College, WA	DeSales University, PA
Appalachian Bible College, WV	Chattahoochee Valley Community College, AL	Dickinson State University, ND
Arizona College, AZ	Chemeketa Community College, OR	Dillard University, LA
Arkansas Northeastern College, AR	Christopher Newport University, VA	Earlham College, IN
Ashland University, OH	Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, OH	East Mississippi Community College, MS
Baldwin Wallace University, OH	City University of New York Borough of Manhattan Community College, NY	Eastern Illinois University, IL
Baptist Bible College, MO	City University of New York John Jay College, NY	Eastern Maine Community College, ME
Belmont College, OH	Claflin University, SC	Eastern Oregon University, OR
Beloit College, WI	Clarkson University, NY	Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College, WV
Bethany Lutheran College, MN	Coe College, IA	Eastfield College, TX
Bethel College, KS	Colby-Sawyer College, NH	Edward Waters College, FL
Black Hawk College, IL	College Bound, MO	Elizabeth City State University, NC
Bryan College of Health Sciences, NE	College of Lake County, IL	Elmhurst University, IL
Bryn Athyn College, PA	College of Mount Saint Vincent, NY	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, FL
Cabrillo College, CA	CollegeBound Foundation, MD	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University -Prescott, AZ
Cabrini University, PA	Colorado State University, CO	Emory & Henry College, VA
Caldwell University, NJ	Columbia College of Missouri, MO	Esperanza College of Eastern University, PA
California State University - Monterey Bay, CA	Concordia University – Chicago, IL	Evangel University, MO
California State University - San Marcos, CA	Concordia University – Irvine, CA	Evans Scholars Foundation, IL
Calvin University, MI		

*Participating Institutions (cont.)*

Faith Bible College International, ME	Indiana University of Pennsylvania, PA	McLennan Community College, TX
Faulkner University, AL	Indiana University Southeast, IN	McMurry University, TX
Ferrum College, VA	Iowa State University, IA	McNeese State University, LA
Fitchburg State University, MA	Jefferson Community College, NY	McPherson College, KS
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, FL	Johnson C. Smith University, NC	Mercer University, GA
Florida Gulf Coast University, FL	Judson College, AL	Mercy College, NY
Florida Institute of Technology, FL	Judson University, IL	Midway University, KY
Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH	Kean University, NJ	Miles College, AL
Gadsden State Community College, AL	Kent State University Main Campus, OH	Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, WI
Gallaudet University, DC	LaGuardia Community College, NY	Minnesota State Community and Technical College, MN
Gannon University, PA	Lake Land College, IL	Monmouth College, IL
Geneva College, PA	Lasell University, MA	Monmouth University, NJ
Georgian Court University, NJ	Lesley University, MA	Montreat College, NC
Glen Oaks Community College, MI	Lewis University, IL	Morehouse College, GA
Gordon College, MA	Lincoln Christian University, IL	Mount Marty University, SD
Graceland University, IA	Lincoln College , IL	Mount Saint Mary College, NY
Grand Valley State University, MI	Lindenwood University, IL	Neumann University, PA
Hampton University, VA	Lindenwood University, MO	New England College, NH
Hastings College, NE	Lord Fairfax Community College, VA	New Jersey City University, NJ
Hawaii Pacific University, HI	Lower Columbia College, WA	New Mexico State University Alamogordo, NM
Heritage University, WA	Lyon College, AR	New Mexico State University Main Campus, NM
Highland Community College , IL	Manhattanville College, NY	New York University Tandon School of Engineering, NY
Hudson County Community College, NJ	Marion Technical College, OH	Newman University, KS
IDEA Public Schools, TX	Mary Baldwin University, VA	NewSchool of Architecture and Design, CA
Immaculata University, PA	Marymount Manhattan College, NY	Nichols College, MA
Indian River State College, FL	Maryville University of Saint Louis, MO	
	McKendree University, IL	



## Participating Institutions (cont.)

North Central State College, OH	Pratt Institute, NY	Shaw University, NC
North Coast College, OH	Prince George's Community College, MD	Simpson College, IA
North Dakota State University, ND	Quinnipiac University, CT	Simpson University, CA
North Park University, IL	Radford University, VA	Sitting Bull College, ND
Northern Virginia Community College, VA	Randolph College, VA	Sitting Bull College, ND
Northwest Missouri State University, MO	Rhode Island School of Design, RI	South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, SD
Northwestern College, IA	Ripon College, WI	South Dakota State University, SD
Notre Dame of Maryland University, MD	Robert Morris University, PA	South Florida Bible College, FL
Oakland City University, IN	Rocky Mountain College, MT	Southeastern Community College, IA
Oakwood University, AL	Rowan University, NJ	Southern University at Shreveport-Louisiana, LA
Oberlin College, OH	Rutgers the State University of New Jersey - Camden Campus, NJ	Southwest Baptist University, MO
Ocean County College, NJ	Rutgers the State University of New Jersey - Central Office, NJ	Sowela Technical Community College, LA
Oconee Fall Line Technical College, GA	Rutgers the State University of New Jersey - New Brunswick Campus, NJ	Spalding University, KY
Orange County Community College, NY	Saginaw Valley State University, MI	Spokane Community College, WA
Otero Junior College, CO	Saint Augustine's University, NC	Springfield College, MA
Ozark Christian College, MO	Saint Elizabeth University, NJ	St. Lawrence University, NY
Palm Beach State College, FL	Saint Martin's University, WA	St. Petersburg College, FL
Paul Smith's College, NY	Saint Mary's College of California, CA	State University of New York Buffalo State, NY
Pearl River Community College, MS	Saint Peter's University, NJ	State University of New York College at Cortland, NY
Philander Smith College, AR	Saint Vincent College, PA	Sul Ross State University, TX
Pikes Peak Community College, CO	Salisbury University, MD	Sweet Briar College, VA
Pillar College, NJ	Sampson Community College, NC	Syracuse University, NY
Pima Community College, AZ	San Francisco State University, CA	Tabor College, KS
Pittsburg State University, KS	Sattler College, MA	Tarrant County College District, TX
Point Park University, PA	Savannah State University, GA	Tennessee State University, TN
Polk State College, FL	Seattle University, WA	Texas A & M University, TX

### *Participating Institutions (cont.)*

Texas Southern University, TX	University of Connecticut, CT	Virginia Commonwealth University, VA
Texas Southmost College, TX	University of Dallas, TX	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, VA
Texas State Technical College Harlingen, TX	University of Houston - Clear Lake, TX	Virginia Western Community College, VA
The College of New Jersey, NJ	University of Houston - Downtown, TX	Wade College, TX
The Ohio State University, OH	University of Idaho, ID	Wallace State Community College, AL
The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute, OH	University of Louisiana at Lafayette, LA	Walsh University, OH
The Ohio State University at Lima Campus, OH	University of Louisiana at Monroe, LA	Wartburg College, IA
The Ohio State University at Marion, OH	University of Louisville, KY	Washington College, MD
The Ohio State University Mansfield Campus, OH	University of Lynchburg, VA	Wayland Baptist University, TX
The Ohio State University Newark Campus, OH	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, MA	Wayne State University, MI
The Ohio State University Office of International Affairs, OH	University of Michigan - Flint, MI	Weatherford College, TX
The University of Memphis, TN	University of Minnesota - Morris, MN	Weber State University, UT
The University of Utah, UT	University of Mount Union, OH	Welch College, TN
Tidewater Community College, VA	University of Nebraska at Kearney, NE	Wentworth Institute of Technology, MA
Tiffin University, OH	University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV	West Virginia University, WV
Transylvania University, KY	University of New Mexico - Gallup, NM	Western Carolina University, NC
Trevecca Nazarene University, TN	University of North Texas at Dallas, TX	Western Kentucky University, KY
Trinity College of Florida, FL	University of Pikeville, KY	Western Michigan University, MI
Truett McConnell University, GA	University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, PA	Western New England University, MA
Union College , KY	University of Southern Indiana, IN	William Paterson University of New Jersey, NJ
Union College , NE	University of St. Francis, IL	William Peace University, NC
Union County College, NJ	University of West Florida, FL	Wilmington College, OH
University of Alaska Anchorage, AK	University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, WI	Wittenberg University, OH
University of Central Florida, FL	University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, WI	Woodbury University, CA
University of Central Missouri, MO	Utica University, NY	Worcester State University, MA
University of Charleston, WV	Valdosta State University, GA	Yellowstone Christian College, MT
	Valley City State University, ND	

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