

2006 CIRP Institutional Data Summary

Presented by
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First-Year Experience



CIRP Overview

- 41st Annual Report of national normative data on the characteristics of students attending American colleges and universities as first-time, full-time freshmen.
- Provided by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program at the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA.
- Results are based on the weighted responses of more than 271,000 students at 393 of the nation's baccalaureate colleges and universities.
- The CIRP survey was conducted at UW-River Falls during the New Student Registration Program in June 2006. Nearly 1,000 new students took the survey.



College Choice

- 75.9% of new UWRF students indicated that **UWRF was their first choice** of colleges (66.3 AP).
- New UWRF students indicated the following as **very important in influencing their decision** to attend UWRF:
 - 44.7% wanted to go to a school about this size
 - 42.9% this college has a good academic reputation
 - 34.9% the cost of attending this college
 - 33.2% a visit to campus
 - 29.8% this college's graduates get good jobs
- 68.7% of our new students **live within 100 miles** of campus (65.3 AP); 5.3% **live within 10 miles** of campus (14.8 AP).



First-Year Experience

Reasons for Attending College

- **New UWRF students indicated the following as very important reason for their decision to go to college:**
 - 73.6% to learn more about things that interest me
 - 73.5% to be able to get a better job
 - 71.4% to get training for a specific career
 - 68.3% to be able to make more money

Family Background

- 66.5% of our new students indicated that their *father* did not have a college degree (57.5 AP).
- 63% of new students indicated that their *mother* did not have a college degree (56.1 AP).
- 76.9% of our new students indicated that their parents live with each other (66.9 AP).

Paying for College

- 78.4% of new UWRF students indicated having some or major **concern about their ability to finance their college education** (63.9 AP).
- 44.9% of our new students have no savings to help pay for college and 25.6% expect no financial support from family members.
- 63.8% of new students expect to get a job to help pay for college expenses (46.4 AP).



Behavior in High School

- 82.% of new students have **studied with other students**, although women are much more likely to study with their peers.
- 79.1% of new students spent less than 5 hours/week **studying or doing homework**; 48% spent less than 2 hours/week.
- 19.6% of new students **worked more than 20 hours/week**.
- 79.3% of new students have **performed volunteer work**.
- 51.6% of new UWRF students have **socialized with someone of another racial or ethnic group** (63.8 AP).



Self-Perceptions by Gender

First-Year Students at UWRF	Women	Men
Rated their computer skills as “above average.”	24.0% (30.5 AP)	41.4% (46.9 AP)
Rated their writing ability as “above average.”	44.2% (45.2% AP)	33.9% (41.1 AP)
Rated their mathematical ability as “above average.”	29.4% (29.9 AP)	44.1% (46.7 AP)



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Self-Perceptions by Gender

First-Year Students at UWRF	Women	Men
Rated their emotional health as “above average.”	41.8% (45.2 AP)	57% (60.1 AP)
Rated their physical health as “above average.”	40.7% (43.3% AP)	61.6% (66.2 AP)
Rated their leadership ability as “above average.”	58% (54.2 AP)	58% (62.3 AP)
Said they frequently “ felt overwhelmed by all they had to do. ”	38.9% (37.4 AP)	18.8% (17.7 AP)



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Expectations for College

- **New UWRF students estimate that there's a “very good chance” they will:**
 - 51.8% Make at least a “B” average (56.1 AP)
 - 46% Participate in student clubs and groups (37.6 AP)
 - 26.9% Participate in a study abroad program (20.7 AP)
 - 26.7% Communicate regularly with your professors (29.6 AP)
- **Highest Academic degree they intend to obtain:**
 - 41.6% Bachelor's Degree
 - 36% Master's Degree
 - 9.5% Ph.D.
 - 7.4% Professional Degree



QUESTIONS?

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