2021 CIRP FRESHMAN SURVEY
Each year thousands of students across the United States complete the CIRP (Cooperative Institutional Research Program) Freshman Survey. The results in this newsletter profile Chapman University’s 2021 first-time, full-time entering students. Over 1,600 incoming first-year students completed the online survey resulting in a 56% response rate.

REASONS FOR CHOOSING CHAPMAN
Percent reporting “Very Important” reason on a 3-pt scale

- 66% This college has a very good academic reputation
- 65% This college’s graduates get good jobs
- 62% I was offered financial assistance
- 59% The academic reputation of my intended major
- 52% I wanted to go to a school about the size of this college
- 44% A visit to campus
- 44% This college has good opportunities for students to get involved in research and creative activities
- 37% This college’s graduates make a difference in the world
- 31% Communication with a professor
- 24% Ranking in national magazines

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY WAS?
First Choice College: 49.2%
Second Choice College: 30.1%
Third Choice College: 13.3%
Other: 7.5%

WHY GO TO COLLEGE AT ALL?
Percent reporting “Very Important” reason on a 3-pt scale
- 87.5% Learn about things that interest me
- 76.8% Get a better job
- 76.7% Gain general education and appreciation of ideas
- 74.6% Get training for a specific career
- 67.1% Make more money
- 56.2% Make me a more cultured person
- 48.2% Prepare for graduate/professional school
- 33.4% To please my family

INSECURITY, INSTABILITY AND CHALLENGES ENTERING COLLEGE
Percent reporting “Frequently” on a 3-pt scale
- 53.3% Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do
- 50.3% Felt anxious
- 20.7% Felt depressed
- 2.1% Felt hungry but did not eat because I didn’t have enough money for food

Percent reporting “Very Good Chance” on a 4-pt scale
- 25% Seek personal counseling

Do you have any concerns about your ability to finance your college education?
- 37% None
- 55% Some
- 8% Major

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT WHILE IN COLLEGE
Percent reporting “Very Good Chance” on a 4-pt scale
- 69.5% Vote in a local, state or national election
- 40.4% Participate in volunteer or community service work
- 21.4% Participate in student protest or demonstration

COLLEGE EXPECTATIONS
Percent reporting “Very Good Chance” on a 4-pt scale
- 65.4% Participate in student clubs/groups
- 51.6% Get a job to help pay college expenses
- 48.2% Study abroad
- 37.7% Get tutoring help
- 17.3% Join a fraternity/sorority

HOW MANY MILES IS CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY FROM YOUR PERMANENT HOME?
- 11 or less: 11.0%
- 11–100: 31.2%
- 101–500: 22.4%
- Over 500: 35.4%
### DIVERSITY-RELATED STRENGTHS
Percent reporting “A Major Strength” or “Somewhat Strong” on a 5-pt scale

- **92.4%** Ability to work cooperatively with diverse people
- **80.3%** Tolerance of others with different beliefs
- **67.4%** Ability to discuss and negotiate controversial issues
- **82.6%** Ability to see the world from someone else’s perspective
- **80.3%** Tolerance of others with different beliefs
- **68.3%** Openness to having own views challenged

### DIVERSITY-RELATED BELIEF
Percent reporting “Agree” or “Agree Strongly” on a 5-pt scale

- **77.8%** Chapman University is an institution that values diversity

### DEGREE ASPIRATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Degree Aspiration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40.4%</td>
<td>Plan to pursue a Master’s Degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>Plan to pursue a Doctorate Degree (Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>Plan to pursue a Medical Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>Plan to pursue a Law Degree</td>
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### CAREER GOALS
Percent reporting “Essential” or “Very Important” on a 4-pt scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Career Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>59.6%</td>
<td>Obtaining recognition from my colleagues for contributions to my specific field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52.4%</td>
<td>Becoming an authority in my field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.9%</td>
<td>Becoming successful in a business of my own</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>Becoming accomplished in one of the performing arts</td>
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### SOCIAL MEDIA & TV
Percent reporting spending 11 or more hours a week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39.7%</td>
<td>Using Social Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32.5%</td>
<td>Watching TV/online video content (e.g., Amazon, Hulu, Netflix, YouTube)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>Playing video games</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TRANSITION TO CHAPMAN
Percent reporting “Agree Somewhat” or “Strongly Agree” on a 4-pt scale

- **96%** The admission staff responded to my questions in a timely manner.
- **91%** The communication I received from Chapman regarding enrollment was clear.
- **90%** Orientation for new students has made me feel connected to Chapman.
- **88%** I am pleased with how my on-campus housing arrangement worked out.
- **87%** Financial aid office staff explained the details of my financial package.

### SELF-PERCEPTIONS
Percent reporting “Above Average” or “Highest 10%” compared to peers their age

- **70.2%** Academic Ability
- **60.3%** Creativity
- **56.8%** Leadership Ability
- **44.7%** Artistic Ability
- **42.9%** Self-confidence (intellectual)
- **34.6%** Emotional Health
- **30.8%** Self-confidence (social)

### FUTURE GOALS
Percent reporting “Essential” or “Very Important” on a 4-pt scale

- **84%** Being very well off financially
- **81%** Helping others who are in difficulty
- **62%** Raising a family
- **60%** Helping promote racial understanding
- **54%** Influencing social values
- **20%** Influencing the political structure

Prepared by: Institutional Research and Decision Support (IRADS)
Chapman.edu/irads