ADJUSTING TO COLLEGE CAN BE TRICKY

Approximately 50% of respondents said that if given the choice, they would still choose to enroll at their current college, while 34% were undecided. The items below provide us with a look into how first-year students acclimate to their new school.

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS ARE WORRIED ABOUT SAFETY ON CAMPUS

- 24% Felt unsafe on campus
- 25% Believe sexual violence is prevalent on campus
- 23% Are not aware of their college’s harassment/assault reporting policy

WHILE COLLEGES TOOK STEPS TO EASE STUDENTS’ TRANSITION TO COLLEGE,

- 30% Participated in a common book or summer reading program
- 51% Took a course or first-year seminar designed to help students adjust to college life
- 54% Were satisfied with first-year programs
- 63% Were satisfied with their orientation
- 47% Found it difficult to manage time effectively
- 36% Had difficulty developing effective study skills
- 47% Frequently felt overwhelmed by all they had to do
- 57% Felt isolated from campus life
- 71% Felt lonely or homesick

WHILE SOME STUDENTS MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH THEIR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES BACK HOME....

- 36% Interacted with parents or guardians daily
- 24% Interacted with siblings or extended family daily
- 29% Contributed money to help support their family
- 20% Frequently went home for the weekend
- 34% Felt their family responsibilities interfered with schoolwork
- 75% Interacted with close friends at their school daily

MOST FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS ESTABLISHED CONNECTIONS AT THEIR NEW SCHOOL.

- 86% Felt that faculty empowered them to learn
- 85% Agreed that at least one staff member took an interest in their development
- 72% Found it easy to develop close friendships with other students
- 73% Received advice/counseling from another student
- 66% Are satisfied with the overall sense of community among students

Survey Source: CIRP Your First College Year Survey 2016

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