BCSSE
beginning college survey
of student engagement

Item Frequency and Means

High School

High school graduation year 537

Graduation yearyear	Percent
2023	98%
2022	1%
2021	1%

From which type of high school did you graduate? 536

High school type	Count	Percent
Public	501	93%
Private, not religiously-affiliated	7	1%
Private, religiously-affiliated	19	4%
Home school	4	1%
Other (e.g., G.E.D.)	5	1%

What were most of your high school grades? 514

High School	Percent
A- or higher	47%
B or B+	45%
B- or lower	8%

High school math 494

High School Math (MG)	Count
a. Algebra II	452
b. Pre-Calculus/ Trigonometry	253
c. Calculus	93
d. Probability/ Stats	183

During high school,

. . . how many of the following types of classes did you complete?

College-Level Classes	Mean	St Dev	0	1 to 2	3-4	5 to 6	7 to 8	9 to 10	11+	Count
a. Advanced Placement (AP)	2.0	1.99	31%	38%	18%	11%	1%	0%	0%	526
b. University or college courses for credit	1.5	2.72	58%	26%	7%	3%	1%	1%	4%	522

. . . how involved were you in the following activities at your school or elsewhere? ⓘ

Activity Involvement	Mean	St Dev	Not at all (1)	Very little (2)	Some (3)	Quite a bit (4)	Very much (5)	Count
Academic clubs or honor societies	2.1	1.30	48%	18%	17%	8%	8%	526
Athletic teams (varsity, JV, club sport, etc.)	2.5	1.61	45%	13%	11%	10%	21%	526
Community service or volunteer work	3.0	1.36	20%	15%	26%	21%	18%	527
Performing or visual art program (band, chorus, theater, art, etc.)	2.5	1.40	35%	21%	18%	13%	13%	526
Publications (student newspaper, yearbook, etc.)	1.5	0.98	75%	12%	7%	3%	3%	527
Religious youth groups	1.4	0.91	80%	8%	6%	3%	2%	525
Student government	1.5	1.07	74%	11%	7%	3%	5%	526
Vocational clubs (business, health, technology, etc.)	1.7	1.17	66%	13%	10%	5%	6%	525

During your last year of high school,

. . . about how many papers, reports, or other writing tasks of the following lengths did you complete?

Writing in High School	Mean	St Dev	0	1 to 2	3 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21+	Count
a. Short	5.0	5.1	13%	26%	34%	16%	4%	2%	5%	525
b. Medium	1.6	2.9	55%	26%	12%	5%	1%	0%	1%	520
c. Long	0.6	2.2	85%	10%	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%	519

. . . about how many hours did you spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following?

Hours Spent in High School	Mean	St Dev	0	1 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 25	26 to 30	31+	Count
a. Preparing for class (studying, reading, doing homework, etc.)	8.5	6.54	1%	40%	33%	13%	8%	2%	1%	2%	526
b. Working for pay	7.2	9.51	52%	9%	9%	6%	11%	9%	4%	2%	522
c. Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, school publications, student government, sports, etc.)	7.6	8.47	24%	32%	17%	11%	7%	1%	2%	5%	525
d. Relaxing and socializing (time with friends, video games, TV or videos, keeping up with friends online, etc.)	10.9	8.30	1%	30%	30%	16%	10%	4%	2%	8%	526

. . . about how often did you do the following?

High School	Mean	St Dev	Very often (4)	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)	Count
a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.) (HS_QR)	2.6	0.90	17%	36%	36%	12%	525
b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.) (HS_QR)	2.3	0.85	9%	29%	45%	17%	524
c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information (HS_QR)	2.2	0.86	8%	27%	46%	19%	524
d. Identified key information from reading assignments (HS_LS)	3.1	0.78	34%	44%	20%	2%	527
e. Reviewed your notes after class (HS_LS)	2.9	0.81	24%	42%	31%	3%	526
f. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials (HS_LS)	2.8	0.78	22%	43%	33%	2%	526
g. Included diverse perspectives	2.7	0.86	20%	36%	37%	6%	526
h. Examined strengths and weaknesses	2.9	0.79	22%	44%	31%	3%	525
i. Tried to better understand someone else's view	3.1	0.78	34%	43%	21%	2%	526

First-Year Expectations and Beliefs

During the coming school year,

. . . about how many hours do you expect to spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following?

Expected hours	Mean	St Dev	0	1 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 25	26 to 30	31+	Count
a. Studying	13.6	7.56	0%	13%	27%	23%	16%	12%	4%	3%	517
b. Working	11.7	9.37	20%	12%	17%	15%	17%	10%	4%	5%	517
c. Co-curricular activities	6.3	5.89	16%	40%	25%	11%	5%	1%	0%	1%	514
d. Relaxing and socializing	9.5	6.95	1%	33%	34%	16%	9%	3%	1%	3%	516

. . . about how often do you expect to do the following?

Work with Peer or Faculty members	Mean	St Dev	Very often (4)	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)	Count
a. Ask another student to help you understand course material (EXP_CL)	2.8	0.77	19%	42%	37%	2%	517
b. Explain course material to one or more students (EXP_CL)	2.6	0.71	11%	41%	46%	2%	516
c. Prepare for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students (EXP_CL)	3.0	0.80	28%	43%	27%	2%	515
d. Work with other students on course projects or assignments (EXP_CL)	3.0	0.77	26%	45%	27%	1%	517
e. Talk about career plan with a faculty member (EXP_SFI)	2.8	0.80	23%	39%	36%	2%	517
f. Work with a faculty member on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.) (EXP_SFI)	2.5	0.84	14%	27%	50%	9%	516
g. Discuss your academic performance with a faculty member (EXP_SFI)	2.8	0.77	19%	42%	36%	2%	517
h. Discuss course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class (EXP_SFI)	2.5	0.78	12%	35%	47%	6%	516
i. Prepare two or more drafts of paper or assignment before turning it in							0
j. Come to class without completing readings or assignments							0

. . . about how often do you expect to have discussions with people from the following groups?

Expected Discussions Diverse with Others	Mean	St Dev	Very often (4)	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)	Count
a. Different races (EXP_DD)	3.2	0.78	39%	40%	19%	1%	516
b. Different economic backgrounds (EXP_DD)	3.1	0.80	36%	43%	18%	3%	515
c. Different religious beliefs (EXP_DD)	2.9	0.86	31%	37%	29%	4%	515
d. Different political views (EXP_DD)	2.8	0.89	26%	37%	31%	6%	514
e. Different sexual orientation	3.0	0.86	34%	39%	22%	4%	515
f. Different country	3.0	0.82	32%	40%	26%	2%	516

. . . how certain are you that you will do the following?

Expected Academic Perseverance	Mean	St Dev	Very certain (6)	5	4	3	2	Not at all certain (1)
a. Study when there are interesting things (EXP_PER)	3.8	1.14	9%	16%	34%	30%	8%	2%
b. Find additional information (EXP_PER)	4.5	1.16	24%	23%	34%	14%	4%	1%
c. Participate in course discussions (EXP_PER)	3.7	1.18	9%	15%	34%	30%	11%	3%
d. Ask instructors for help (EXP_PER)	4.5	1.21	28%	26%	26%	16%	4%	1%
e. Finish what have been started (EXP_PER)	4.5	1.12	24%	29%	30%	14%	3%	1%

Expected Academic Perseverance	Mean	St Dev	Very certain (6)	5	4	3	2	Not at all certain (1)
f. Stay positive (EXP_PER)	4.0	1.29	15%	21%	29%	24%	8%	4%

. . . how difficult do you expect the following to be?

Difficulties in Colleges or Universities	Mean	St Dev	Not at all difficult (1)	2	3	4	5	Very difficult (6)	Count
a. Learning course material (EXP_DD)	3.9	1.10	2%	5%	26%	39%	18%	9%	516
b. Managing your time (EXP_DD)	4.0	1.20	2%	9%	22%	34%	22%	12%	515
c. Paying college or university expenses	4.0	1.52	7%	11%	18%	22%	21%	20%	516
d. Getting help with school work (EXP_DD)	3.2	1.15	8%	19%	35%	27%	8%	3%	516
e. Making new friends	3.4	1.40	10%	14%	29%	25%	12%	10%	515
f. Interacting with faculty (EXP_DD)	2.9	1.28	16%	19%	33%	21%	6%	4%	516

. . . about how often do you expect to seek help with coursework from the following sources?

People to Seek Help regarding Coursework	Mean	St Dev	Very often (4)	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)	Count
a. Faculty members	2.7	0.71	13%	47%	38%	2%	507
b. Academic advisors	2.8	0.76	19%	45%	34%	2%	506
c. Learning support services (tutoring, writing center, success coaching, etc.)	2.8	0.81	21%	42%	34%	4%	495
d. Friends or other students	3.0	0.75	26%	47%	25%	1%	507
e. Family members	2.3	0.87	12%	26%	47%	15%	509
f. Other persons or offices	2.3	0.76	9%	23%	59%	10%	508

How prepared are you to do the following in your academic work at this institution? ⓘ

Academic Work Preparation	Mean	St Dev	Very prepared (6)	5	4	3	2	Not at all prepared (1)	Count
a. Write clearly and effectively (PER_PREP)	4.3	1.09	16%	22%	39%	18%	4%	0%	510
b. Speak clearly and effectively (PER_PREP)	4.2	1.14	14%	25%	33%	22%	5%	1%	508
c. Think critically and analytically (PER_PREP)	4.4	1.03	17%	25%	38%	17%	2%	0%	510
d. Analyze numerical and Statistical information (PER_PREP)	3.9	1.12	9%	17%	35%	29%	8%	1%	508
e. Work effectively with others (PER_PREP)	4.6	1.02	23%	30%	33%	13%	2%	0%	508
f. Use computing and information technology (PER_PREP)	4.3	1.18	18%	24%	32%	20%	5%	1%	510

Academic Work Preparation	Mean	St Dev	Very prepared (6)	5	4	3	2	Not at all prepared (1)	Count
g. Learn effectively on your own (PER_PREP)	4.3	1.06	16%	25%	37%	18%	3%	0%	510

How important is it to you that your institution provides the following? ⓘ

Importance of Campus Environment	Mean	St Dev	Very important (6)	5	4	3	2	Not at all important (1)	Count
a. Challenging academic experience (IMP_CAMP)	3.9	1.08	9%	15%	42%	27%	4%	2%	509
b. Support to help students succeed academically (IMP_CAMP)	5.1	0.98	49%	23%	22%	5%	1%	0%	509
c. Opportunities to interact with students from different backgrounds (IMP_CAMP)	4.8	1.16	35%	25%	26%	11%	2%	1%	510
d. Help managing your non-academic responsibilities (IMP_CAMP)	4.5	1.32	31%	20%	28%	13%	5%	3%	508
e. Opportunities to be involved socially (IMP_CAMP)	4.5	1.18	26%	25%	28%	17%	3%	1%	509
f. Opportunities to attend campus activities and events (IMP_CAMP)	4.4	1.24	25%	24%	29%	16%	5%	2%	509
g. Learning support services (IMP_CAMP)	4.8	1.18	37%	22%	25%	12%	3%	1%	509

Demographics and Other Student Characteristics

Which of the following sources are you using to pay for your education expenses (tuition, fees, books, room & board, etc.)? For each, tell us if you are using, not using, or not sure. 510

Paying for College (MG)	Count	Using	Not using	Not sure	Total
a. Parents	510	68%	14%	18%	100%
b. Loans	507	25%	42%	32%	100%
c. Grants or Scholarships	509	62%	17%	21%	100%
d. Employment	510	54%	17%	29%	100%
e. Savings	509	57%	19%	24%	100%

How many close friends will attend this institution?

Close friends	Percent
a. None	62%
b. 1	20%
c. 2	13%
d. 3	3%
e. 4 or more	2%

Which of the following best describes where you will be living while attending college?

Living	Percent
a. Campus housing (other than a fraternity or sorority house)	55.1%
c. House, apartment, or other residence within walking distance to campus	2.8%
d. House, apartment, or other residence farther than walking distance to campus	41.9%
f. Not applicable: Homeless or in transition	0.2%

How would you describe yourself? (Select all that apply.)

Racal and ethnic identity	Percent
a. Asian	12.8%
b. Black or African American	4.3%
c. Hispanic, Latina/o, Latine, or Latinx	2.2%
d. Indigenous, American Indian, Native American, or Alaska Native	63.1%
e. Middle Eastern or North African	1.6%
f. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2.0%
g. White	30.3%
h. Another race or ethnicity	0.6%
i. I prefer not to respond	1.8%

What is your gender identity?

Gender Identity	Percent
Agender	2.7%
Man	32.5%
Trans	2.0%
Woman	63.1%

Are you a full-time student? 507

Full-time status	Count
No	4%
Yes	96%

Regarding your parents (or those who raised you), what is the highest level of education completed by either of them?

Parental education	Percent
a. Did not finish high school	24.9%
b. High school diploma or GED	28.2%
c. Attended college but did not complete degree	11.1%
d. Associate's degree (AA, AS, etc.)	8.2%
e. Bachelor's degree (BA, BS, etc.)	14.9%
f. Master's degree (MA, MS, etc.)	9.9%
g. Doctoral or professional degree (PhD, JD, MD, etc.)	2.8%

Do you know what your major will be?

Major	Percent
No	6%
Yes	94%

Major 477

Major	Count
Arts & Humanities	5%
Biological Science, Agriculture, & Natural Resources	10%
Business	10%
Communications, Media, & Public Relations	0%
Education	4%
Engineering	5%
Health Professions	41%
Other majors	7%
Physical Science, Mathematics, & Computer Science	8%
Social Sciences	9%
Social Service Professions	0%

What do you expect most of your grades will be during the coming year?

Typical grades	Percent
A- or higher	40%
B or B+	52%
B- or lower	8%

Do you expect to graduate from this institution?

Typical grades	Percent	Count
Yes	87%	443
Uncertain	12%	63
No	1%	3

This institution was your:

Typical grades	Percent
a. First choice	54%
b. Second choice	34%
c. Third choice or lower	12%

Are you an international student?

International student	Percent
No	97%
Yes	3%

BCSSE Scale Means

First-Year BCSSE Scales	Mean	St Dev	Count
a. High school engagement with analysis and numerical information (HS_QR)	27.40	14.82	494
b. Use of effective learning strategies in high school (HS_LS)	38.62	12.24	497
c. Expectation to interact and collaborate with peers (EXP_CL)	36.50	12.33	498
d. Expectation to interact and engage with faculty (EXP_SFI)	33.16	13.28	499
e. Expectation to engage in discussions with diverse others (EXP_DD)	40.55	14.08	498
f. Student certainty that they will persist in the face of academic adversity (EXP_PER)	38.27	10.39	499
g. Expected academic difficulty during the coming year (EXP_DIF)	30.17	10.09	499
h. Student perception of their academic preparation (PER_PREP)	39.25	9.48	498
i. Student-rated importance that the institution provides a challenging and supportive environment (IMP_CAMP)	43.07	9.87	497