

# 2005 CIRP Summary Data

---

## Overall results

Prepared by Luz Caceda

## Overall Data

---

Towson University uses the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Freshman Survey to identify various characteristics of its first year students. The CIRP Freshman Survey collects broad information about demographic characteristics, high school experiences, college finances, and students' expectations, opinions, attitudes, values and goals.

In 2005, about 85% of the First-Time Full-Time undergraduate students completed the CIRP Freshman Survey.

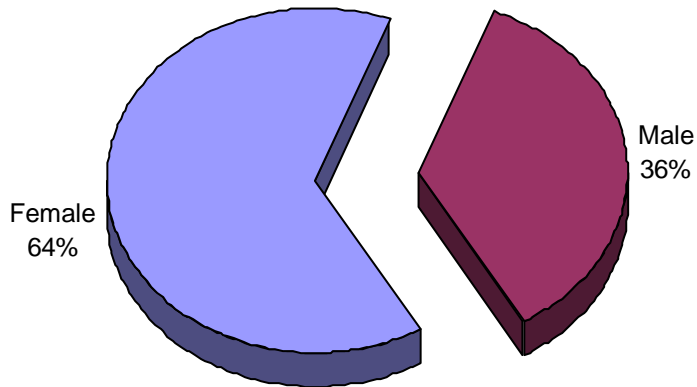
### Demographic Information

- 99% of students graduated from HS in 2005 and are younger than 20.
- 98% of students are American citizens. 95% of students were born in the United States and 4% came to the United States before the age of 12.
- 97% of students have English as native language
- 82% of students are white or Caucasian, 11% African-American or Black, and 7% other.
- 80% of students came from public school (not charter or magnet)
- 72% of students plan to live in the college residence and 23% with their family or relative.
- 68 % of students had Towson University as their first choice.
- 64% of students are female.
- 39% of students have A as average grade in high school and 60% has B.
- 15% of students live less than 10 miles away from Towson University, 47% of students live about 11-50 miles away, and 38% live more than 50 miles away.

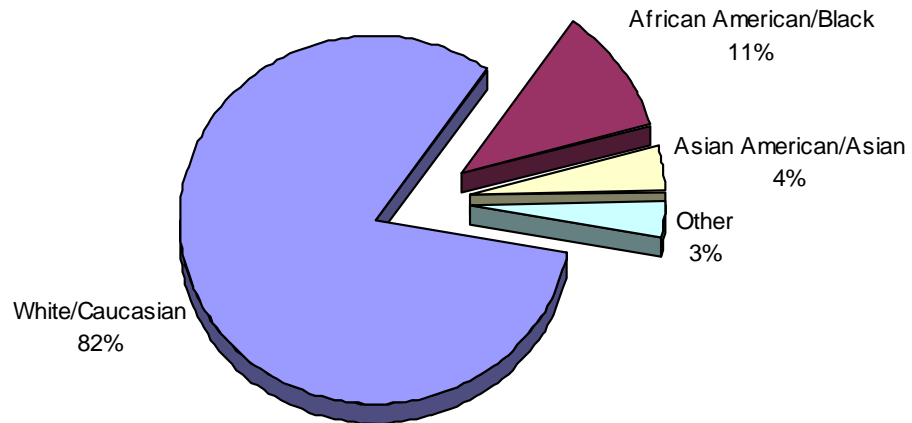
# FTFT Students Demographics

---

## FTFT Students Gender



## Ethnicity of FTFT Students



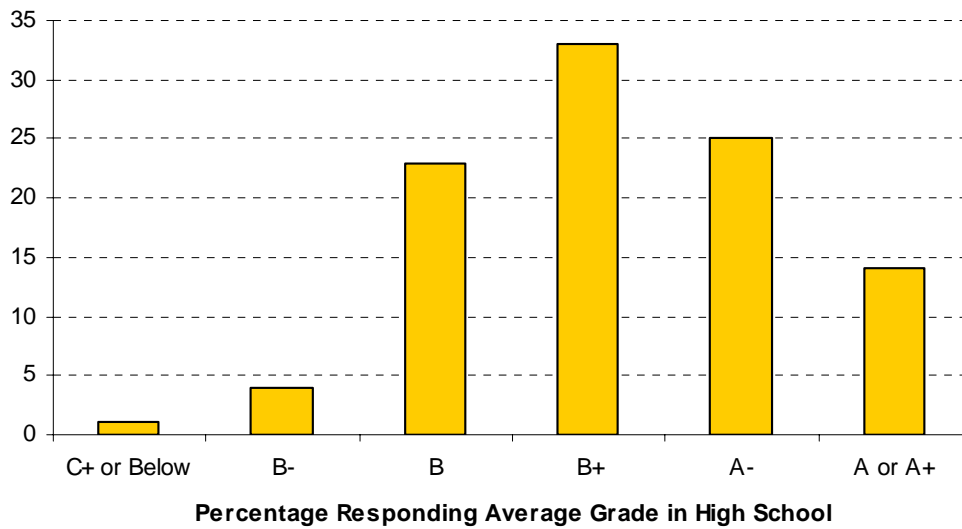
## Academic Background

---

### FTFT Students' High School Grade

	C+ or Below	B-	B	B+	A-	A or A+
All	1	4	23	33	25	14

**FTFT Students Grade Distribution**



### FTFT Students SAT and CTA Composite Scores

	Mean Score	Percentage Scoring Below the Mean
SAT Verbal Score	546	52
SAT Math Score	557	48
ACT Composite	23	54

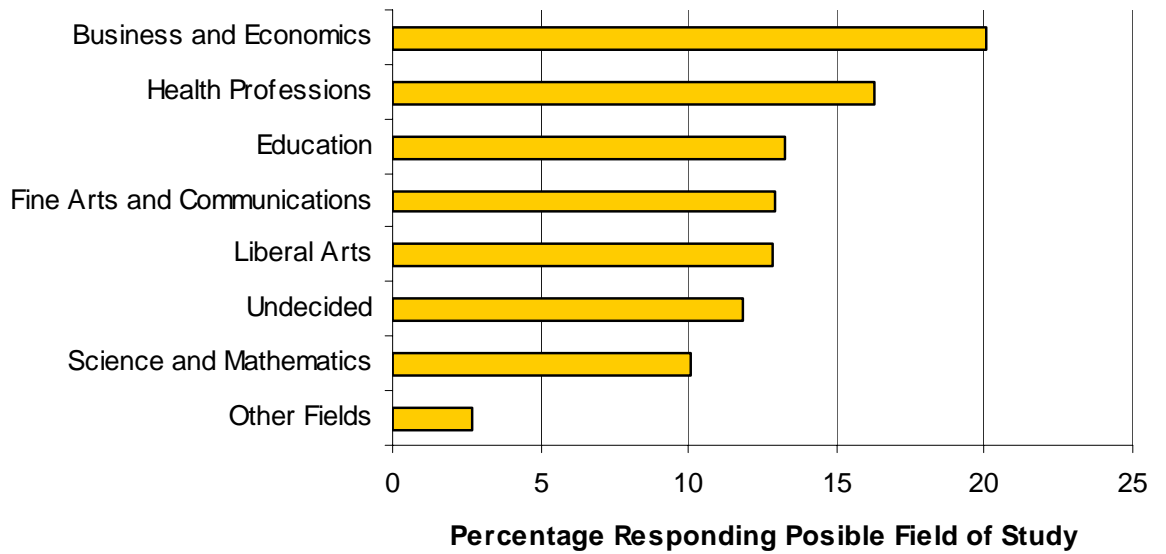
# Academic Expectations

---

## FTFT Students' Majors at Towson University

	Percentage n=1821
Business and Economics	20
Health Professions	16
Liberal Arts	13
Fine Arts and Communications	13
Education	13
Undecided	12
Science and Mathematics	10
Other Fields	3

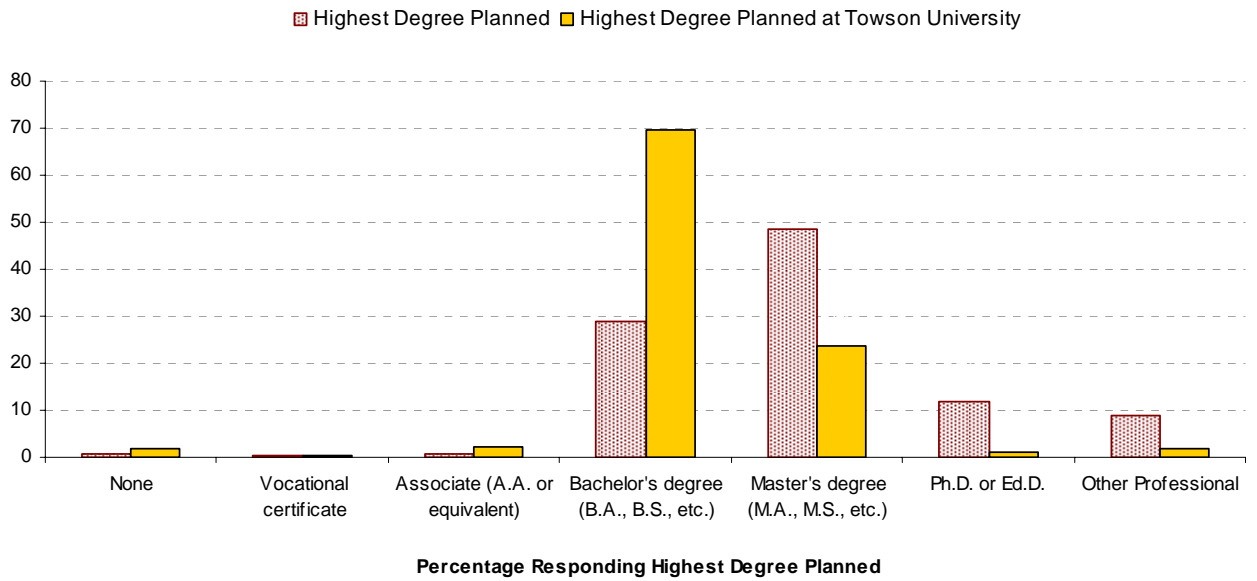
**FTFT Students by Major**



## FTFT Students Highest Degree Planned

Degree	Percentage Responding Highest Degree Planned n=1541	Percentage Responding Highest Degree Planned at Towson University n=1116
None	1	2
Vocational certificate	0	0
Associate (A.A. or equivalent)	1	2
Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S., etc.)	29	70
Master's degree (M.A., M.S., etc.)	49	24
Ph.D. or Ed.D.	12	1
Other Professional	9	2

## FTFT Students Highest Degree Planned

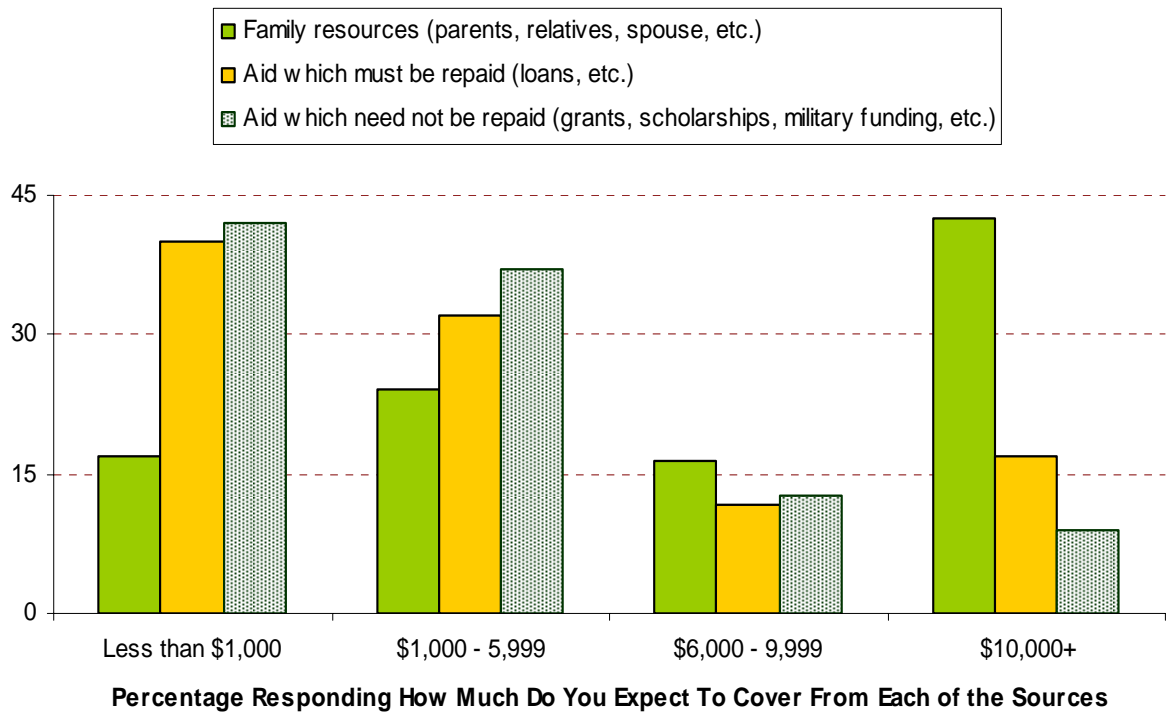


# Financial Resources

## FTFT Students' Financial Sources for the First Year Educational Expenses

How much of your first year's educational expenses do you expect to cover with	Percentage Responding			
	Family resources (Parents, relatives, spouse, etc.) n = 1741	Aid which must be repaid (Loans, etc.)	Aid which need not be repaid (Grants, scholarships, etc.)	My own resources (Savings from work, work - study, other income) n = 1354
\$10,000 +	43	17	9	2
\$6,000 - 9,999	17	12	13	3
\$3,000 - 5,999	13	14	15	8
\$1,000 - 2,999	11	18	22	29
Less than \$1,000	8	4	13	36
None	9	36	29	22

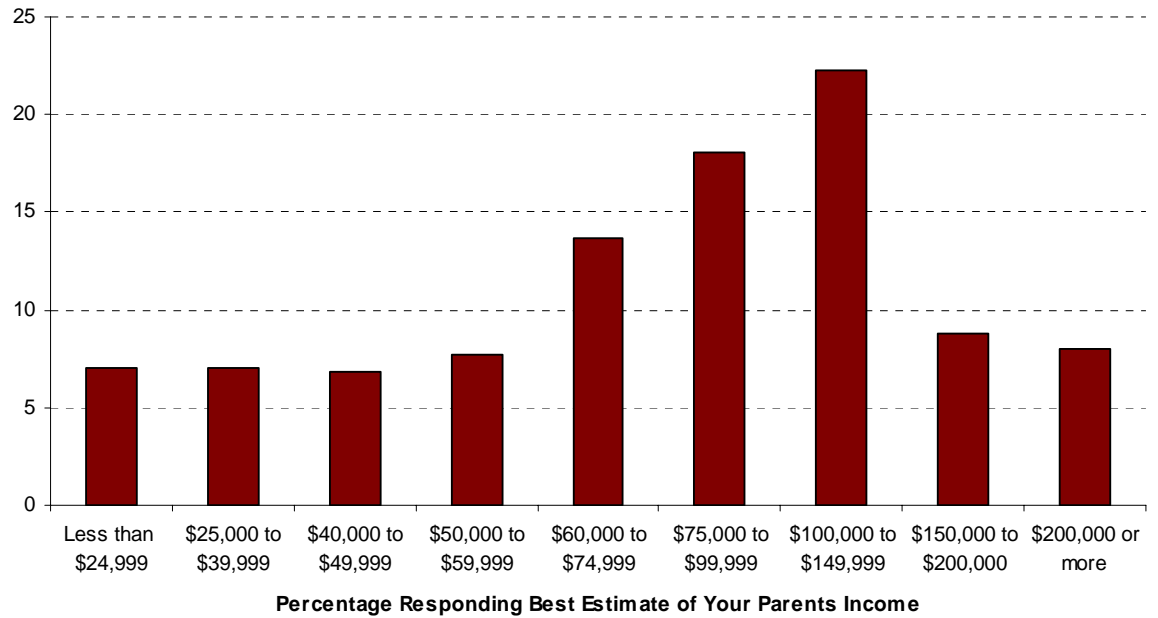
## Financial Sources for the First Year Educational Expenses



**FTFT Students' Parents Income**

What is your best estimate of your parents' total income last year?	Percentage n=1746
Less than \$24,999	7
\$25,000 to \$39,999	7
\$40,000 to \$49,999	7
\$50,000 to \$59,999	8
\$60,000 to \$74,999	14
\$75,000 to \$99,999	18
\$100,000 to \$149,999	22
\$150,000 to \$200,000	9
\$200,000 or more	8
\$250,000 or more	4

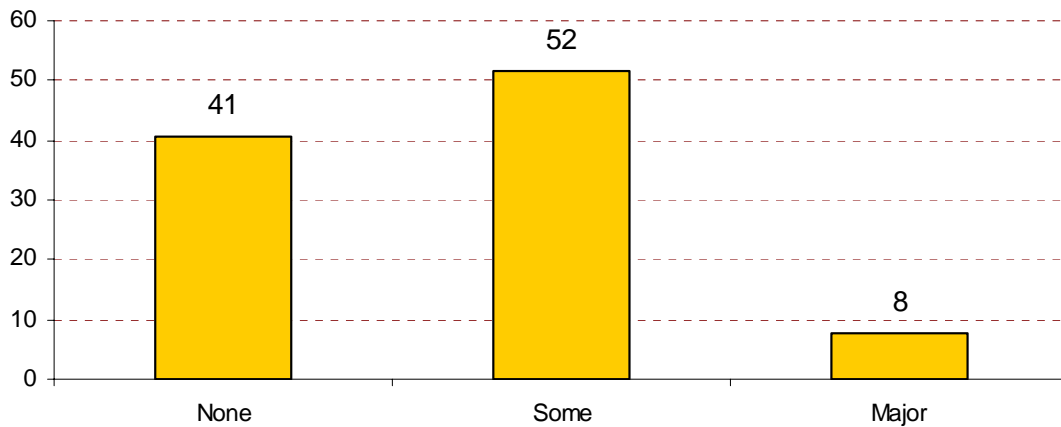
**FTFT Students' Parents Income**



### FTFT Students' Concern about financing a college education

Do you have any concern about your ability to finance your college education?	Percentage n=1889
None (I am confident that I will have sufficient funds)	41
Some (but I probably will have enough funds)	52
Major (not sure I will have enough funds to complete college)	8

**FTFT Students Concerns about Financing College**



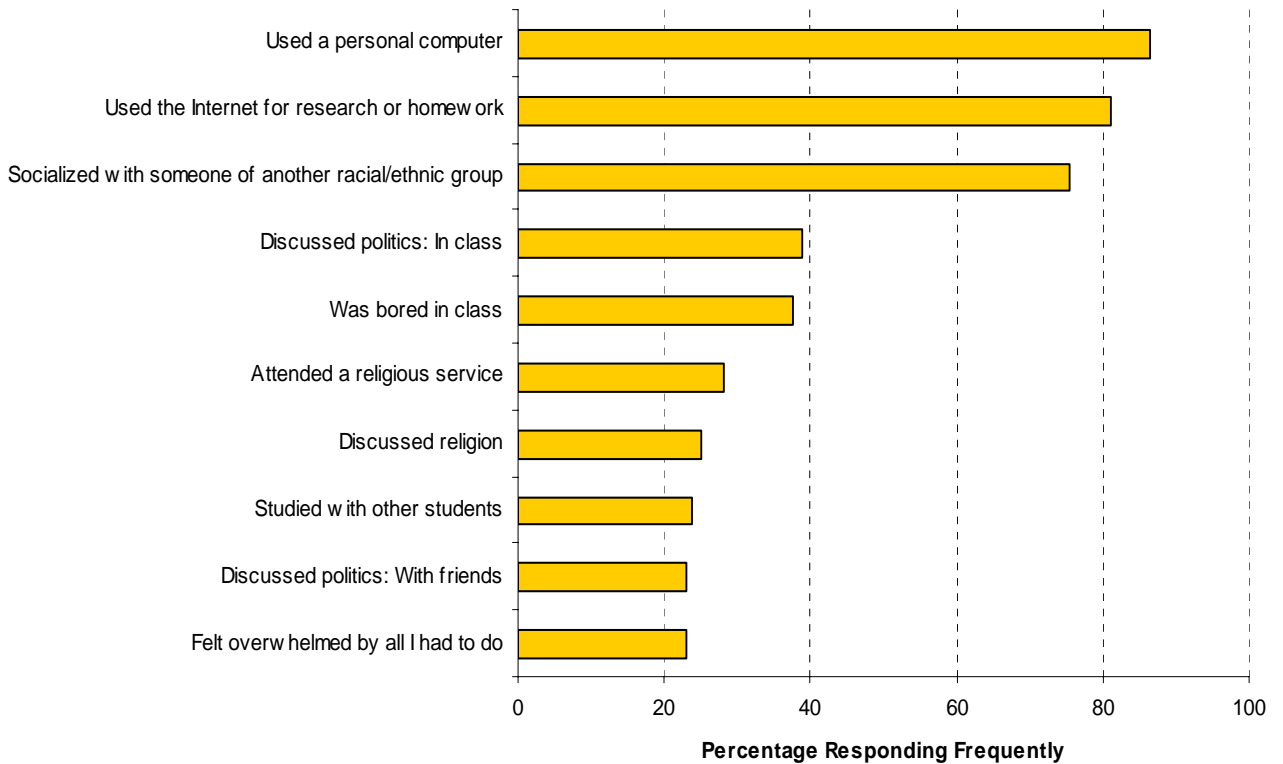
Percentage Responding None, Some, or Major

# FTFT Students' Activities During the Last Year in High School

## Ten most frequent activities that students did during the last year

Which activities did you do during the past year?	Percentage Responding "Frequently"
Used a personal computer	87
Used the Internet for research or homework	81
Socialized with someone of another racial/ethnic group	75
Discussed politics: In class	39
Was bored in class	38
Attended a religious service	28
Discussed religion	25
Studied with other students	24
Discussed politics: With friends	23
Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do	23

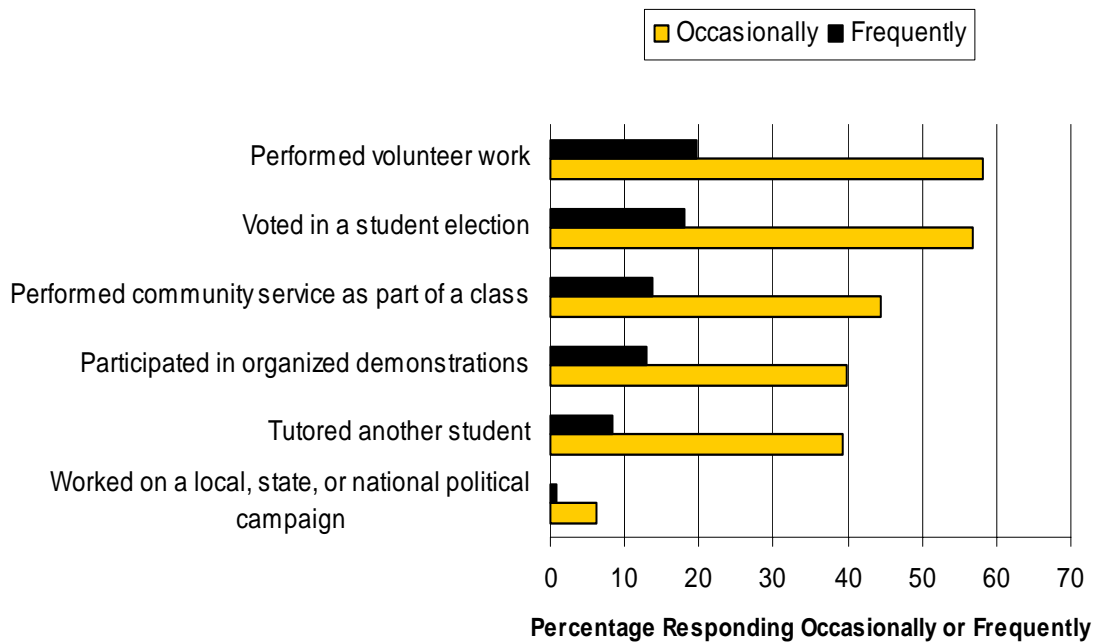
## Ten Most Frequent Activities During the Last Year in High School



## Activities Associated with Student Engagement

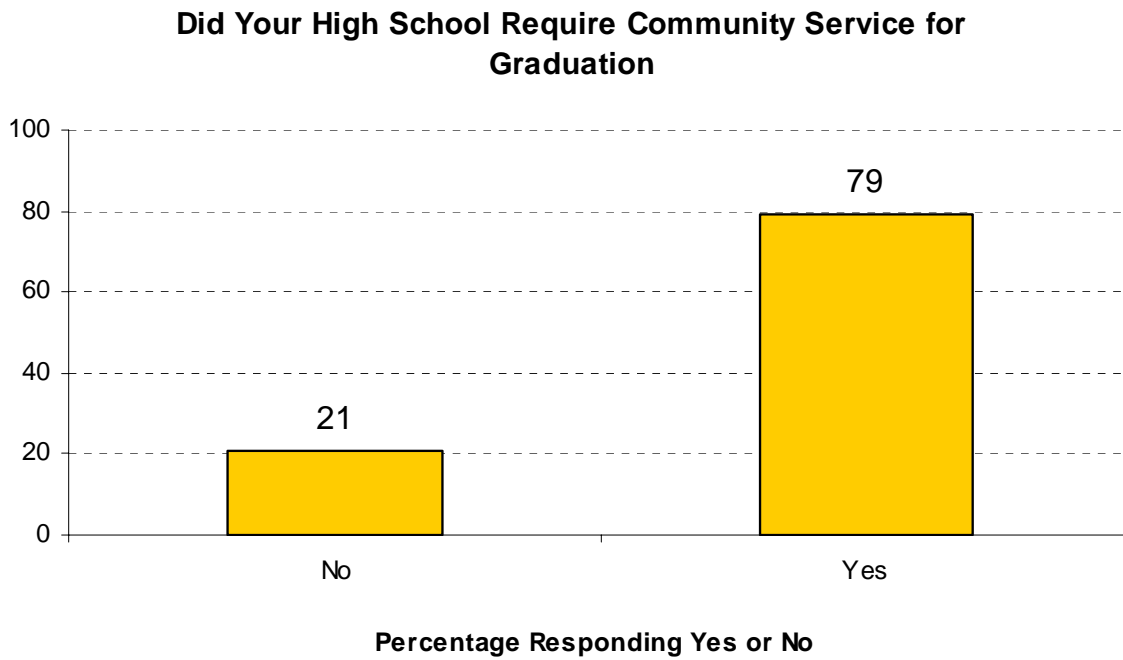
For the activities below, indicate which ones you did during the <u>past year</u> .	Percentage Responding Occasionally	Percentage Responding Frequently
Performed volunteer work	58	20
Voted in a student election	57	18
Performed community service as part of a class	44	14
Participated in organized demonstrations	40	13
Tutored another student	39	8
Worked on a local, state, or national political campaign	6	1

### FTFT Student Engagement Activity



## Community Service

Did your high school require community service for graduation?	Percentage n=1952
Yes	79
No	21

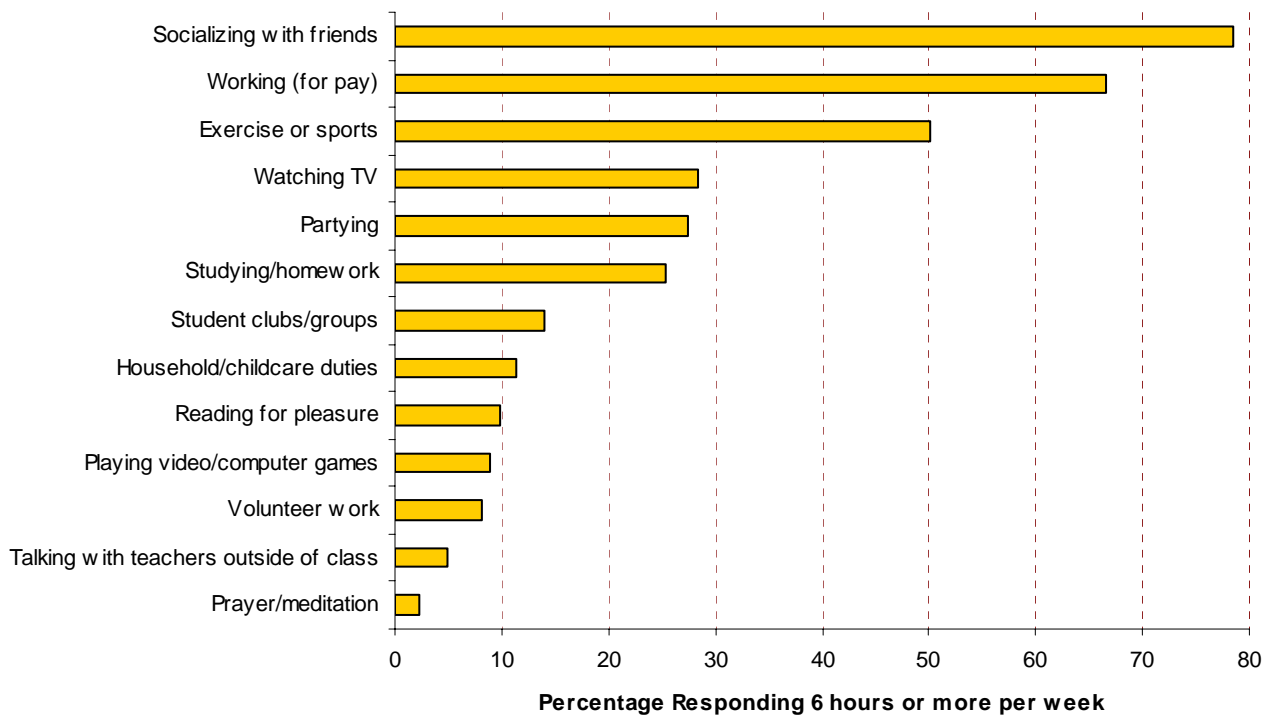


## Activities per week

Five most frequent activities during the last year in high school.

During the last year in high school, how much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities?	Percentage Responding More than 6 hours per week
Socializing with friends	78
Working (for pay)	67
Exercise or sports	50
Watching TV	28
Partying	27

**Typical Activities During the Last Year in High School**



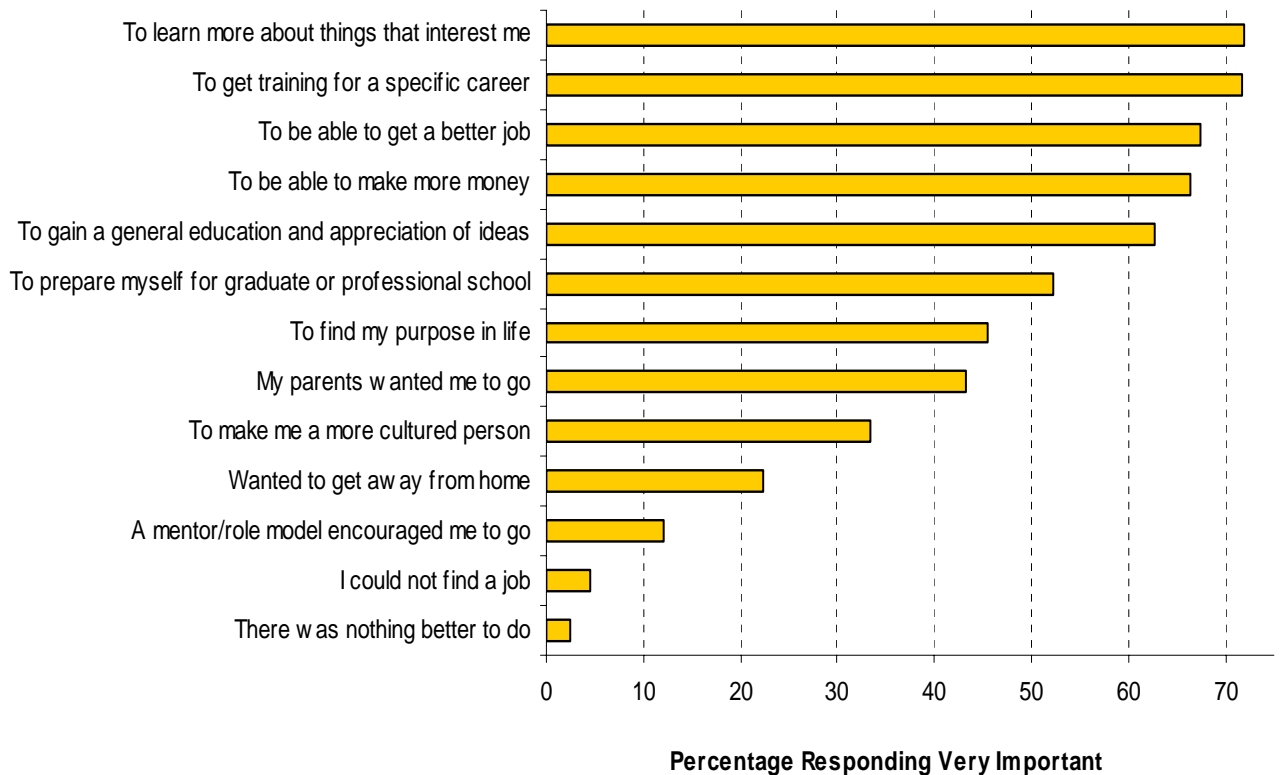
# FTFT Students College Decision

---

## Five Most Important Reasons in Deciding to go College

In deciding to go to college how important to you was each of the following reasons?	Percentage Responding Very Important
To learn more about things that interest me	72
To get training for a specific career	72
To be able to get a better job	67
To be able to make more money	66
To gain a general education and appreciation of ideas	63

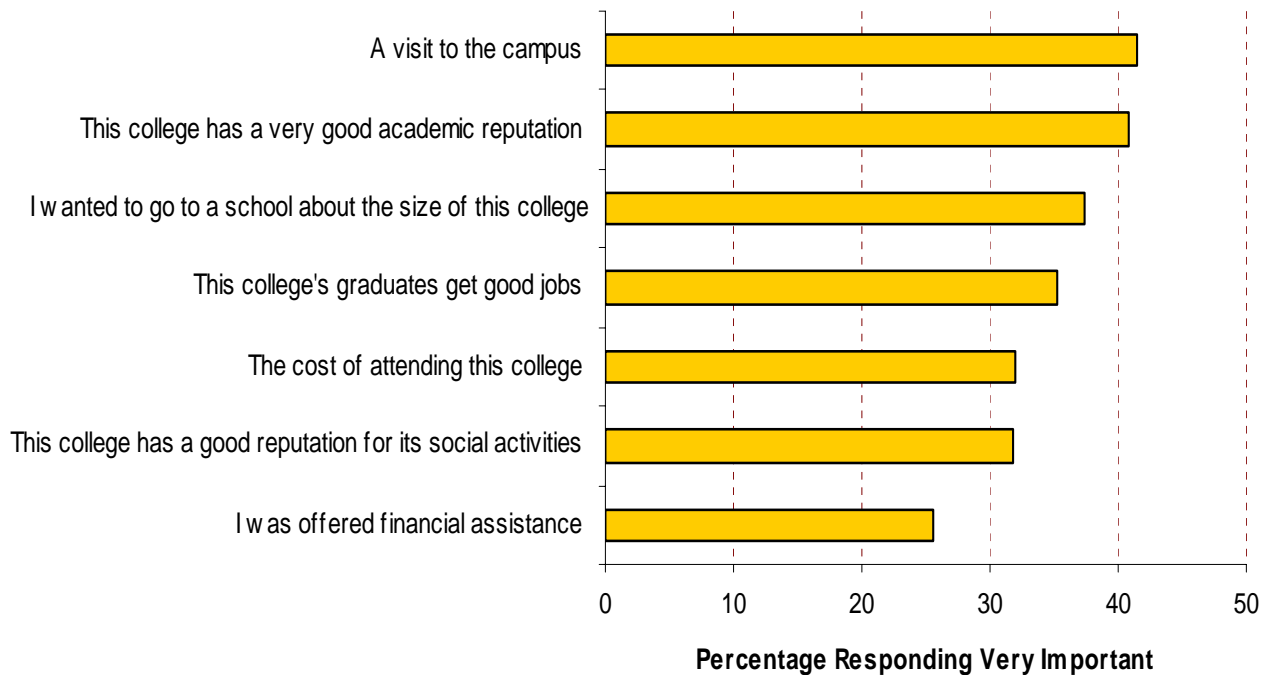
### Very Important Reasons in Deciding to Go to College



## Most Influencing Factors in Deciding to Attend Towson University

How important was each factor in your decision to come here?	Percentage Responding Very Important
A visit to the campus	41
This college has a very good academic reputation	41
I wanted to go to a school about the size of this college	37
This college's graduates get good jobs	35
The cost of attending this college	32
This college has a good reputation for its social activities	32
I was offered financial assistance	26

### Factors Influencing Decision to Attend Towson University

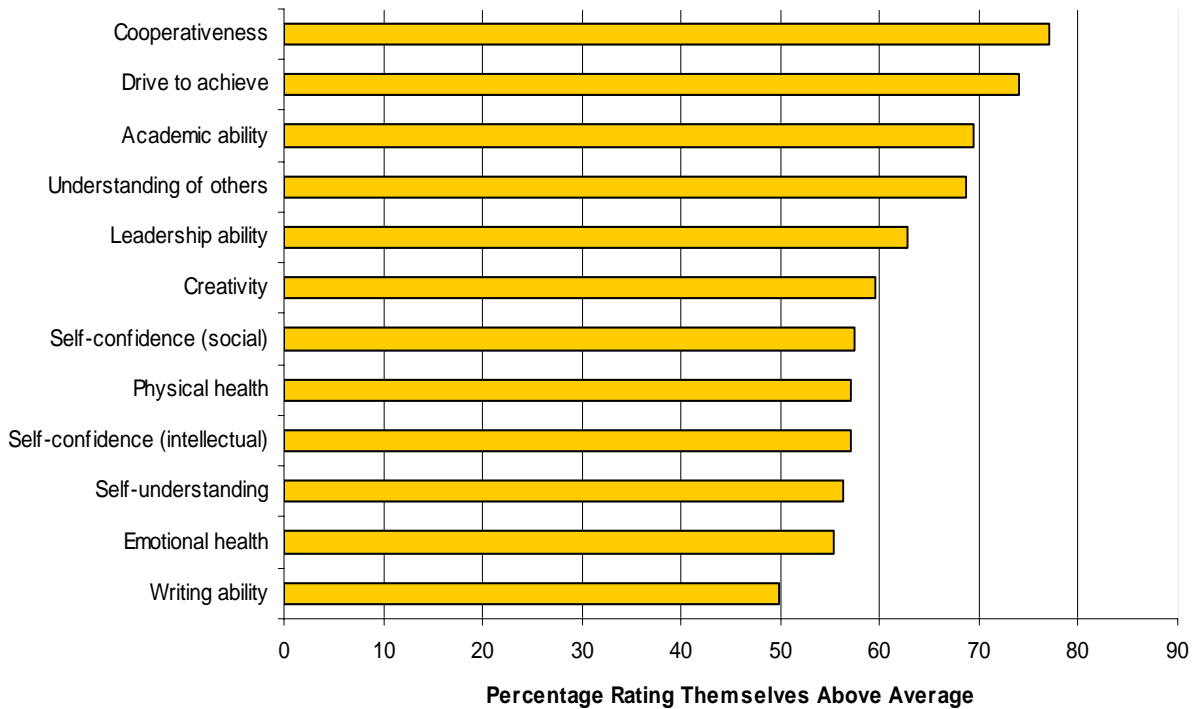


# FTFT Students' Self-Perception

## Student Self-Description

Rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average person your age.	Percentage Responding Above Average**
Cooperativeness	77
Drive to achieve	74
Academic ability	70
Understanding of others	69
Leadership ability	63
Creativity	60
Self-confidence (social)	58
Self-confidence (intellectual)	57
Physical health	57
Self-understanding	56
Emotional health	55
Writing ability	50

**FTFT Students Self-Perception in Comparison With Their Peers**



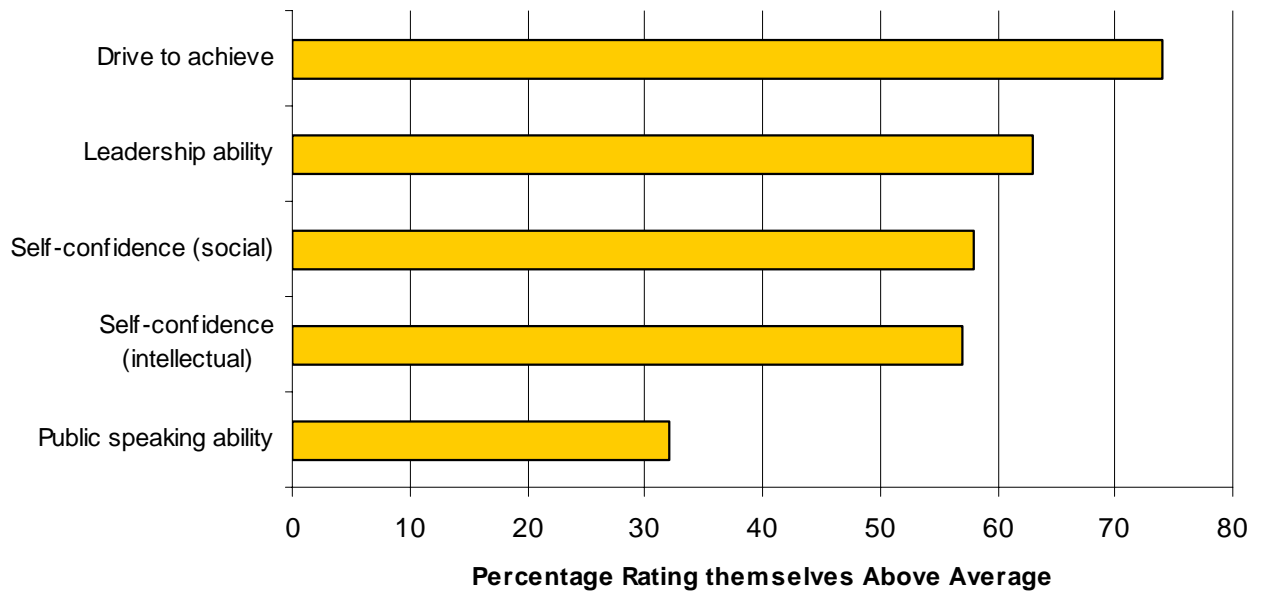
Note:

- \*\* Percentage responding "Above Average" and "Highest 10%"

## Leadership Traits

Rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average person your age.	Percentage Responding Above Average
Drive to achieve	74
Leadership ability	63
Self-confidence (social)	58
Self-confidence (intellectual)	57
Public speaking ability	32

**FTFT Students Self-Perception About their Leadership Traits**



## FTFT Students' Goals and Opinions

---

### Personal goals

Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following.	Percentage Responding Essential or Very Important
Being very well off financially	79
Raising a family	75
Helping others who are in difficulty	61
Becoming an authority in my field	54
Obtaining recognition from my colleagues for contributions to my special field	51
Becoming successful in a business of my own	41
Having administrative responsibility for the work of others	41
Improving my understanding of other countries and cultures	39
Developing a meaningful philosophy of life	37
Influencing social values	35
Keeping up to date with political affairs	28
Integrating spirituality into my life	28
Helping to promote racial understanding	26
Becoming a community leader	25
Participating in a community action program	19
Becoming accomplished in one of the performing arts (acting, dancing, etc.)	17
Creating artistic work (painting, sculpture, decorating, etc.)	16
Influencing the political structure	15
Becoming involved in programs to clean up the environment	15
Writing original works (poems, novels, short stories, etc.)	14
Making a theoretical contribution to science	12

### Political views

How would you characterize your political views?	Percentage n=1884
Far Right	1.6
Conservative	17.7
Middle-of-the-road	49.9
Liberal	28.2
Far left	2.6

## FTFT Students Opinions

Mark one in each row:	Percentage Responding Agree Strongly or Agree Somewhat
The federal government should do more to control the sale of handguns	83
Through hard work, everybody can succeed in American society	83
The federal government is not doing enough to control environmental pollution	78
A national health care plan is needed to cover everybody's medical costs	76
Same-sex couples should have the right to legal marital status	69
Abortion should be legal	64
Dissent is a critical component of the political process	60
Only volunteers should serve in the armed forces	59
Colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus	58
There is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals	58
Wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now	56
If two people really like each other, it's all right for them to have sex even if they've known each other for only a very short time	51
Grading in the high schools has become too easy	50
Affirmative action in college admissions should be abolished	47
Undocumented immigrants should be denied access to public education	41
Marijuana should be legalized	40
Federal military spending should be increased	39
The death penalty should be abolished	27
Realistically, an individual can do little to bring about changes in our society	27
The activities of married women are best confined to the home and family	20
Racial discrimination is no longer a major problem in America	19
It is important to have laws prohibiting homosexual relationships	19

## Changes

Student estimates chances are “very good” that he/she will

What is your best guess as to the chances that you will:	Percentage Responding Very Good Chance
Socialize with someone of another racial/ethnic group	67
Make at least "B" average	63
Be satisfied with your college	49
Get a job to help pay for college expenses	47
Participate in student clubs/groups	35
Communicate regularly with your professors	25
Participate in a study abroad program	21
Participate in volunteer or community service work	15
Strengthen your religious beliefs/ convictions	14
Change major field	13
Change career choice	12
Play varsity/intercollegiate athletics	12
Join a social fraternity or sorority	8
Work full-time while attending college	6
Transfer to another college before graduating	6
Participate in student government	5
Seek personal counseling	5
Participate in student protests or demonstrations	4

## Special Needs

- 26% of students feel that they will need special tutoring or remedial work in at least one of seven areas: Mathematics, Science, Writing, Foreign Language, English, Reading, and Social Studies.
- 17% of students feel that they will need tutoring or remedial work in Mathematics.
- 14% of students feel that they will need tutoring or remedial work in only one area.

Have you had, or do you feel you will need any special tutoring or remedial work	Percentage Responding Need Remedial Work n=1968	Percentage n=1968
Not have had remedial work	20	85
Have had remedial work	6	15
Total	26	

## Need Special Tutoring or Remedial Work

Areas	Percentage** n=1968	Number of Areas	Percentage n=1968
Mathematics	17	Only in one	14
Science	6	Two areas	7
Writing	6	Three areas	3
Foreign Language	5	Four areas	1
English	5	Five areas	0
Reading	4	Six areas	0
Social Studies	2	Seven areas	1

\*\* Percentage will add to more than 26% if any student marked more than one area