

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

How America Completes College 2023

Topline Findings

Full Annotated Questionnaire

Washington DC, July 5, 2023

S1. What is your current education status

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Attending a 2- or 4-year college	65%	93%	-
Attending a technical school or other post-high school career institution	*	1%	-
Started a two-year college, a four-year college or university, or some other type of post-high school but withdrew	29%	-	100%
Graduated from a two-year college, a four-year college or university, or some other type of post-high school in the 2022-2023 school year	5%	7%	-

S2. Institution Type

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Yes, a technical school	2%	2%	3%
Yes, other post-high school career institution	1%	*	2%
Yes, a two-year institution	22%	24%	18%
Yes, a four-year institution	75%	74%	77%
No, but I plan to attend in the future	-	-	-
No, I have not attended any post-high school institution	-	-	-

S6. [Asked to current students only] In the 2022-2023 school year, were you a college...?

	Total Current students (N=1,029)
Freshman	27%
Sophomore	42%
Junior	22%
Senior	8%
5th year or higher	*

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S7. **[Asked to current students only]** Are you planning on returning to school in the fall for the 2023-2024 school year?

	Total Current students (N=1029.0)
Yes	91%
No	4%
I already graduated	3%
Not sure yet	1%

S8. **[Asked to current students planning to return to school]** When are you scheduled to complete your program or graduate?

	Total Current students (N=978)
May/June 2023	5%
December 2023	3%
May/June 2024	22%
December 2024	5%
May/June 2025	32%
December 2025	4%
May/June 2026	29%

S9. **[Asked to non-completers only]** What was the last school year you attended college?

	Total Non-completers (N=427)
2012-13	1%
2013-14	1%
2014-15	2%
2015-16	1%
2016-17	3%
2017-18	3%
2018-19	2%
2019-20	7%
2020-21	20%
2021-22	34%
2022-23	29%

S10. **[Asked to non-completers only]** When did you withdraw from college?

	Total Non-completers (N=427)
During or after my first semester	9%
During or after my first year	26%
During or after my second year	34%
During or after my third year	16%
During or after my fourth year or more	6%
Just shy of graduation (less than one year/semester of graduation)	8%

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S11. **[Asked to non-completers only]** Do you plan to go back and complete your college education?

	Total Non-completers (N=427)
Definitely, in the next year	31%
Definitely, in the next 5 years	14%
Definitely, at some point	27%
Maybe, in the future	24%
No, don't plan to go back	3%

S12. Degree Type

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Bachelor's degree	80%	82%	75%
Associate's degree	17%	17%	17%
Certificate in a technical or vocational field	2%	*	8%

S13. **[Asked to current students earning Bachelors or Associates degree]** Are you on track to earn your degree in 2/4 years or less?

	Total Current students (N=1,023)
Yes	78%
No	16%
I'm not sure	6%

S14A. **[Asked to current students earning Bachelors and not on track]** How many years do you expect it to take you to earn your Bachelor's degree?

	Total Current students (N=162)
4.5 years	45%
5 years	38%
5.5 years	5%
6 years	3%
More than 6 years	2%
I'm not sure	7%

S14B. **[Asked to current students earning Associates and not on track]** How many years do you expect it to take you to earn your Associate's degree?

	Total Current students (N=12)
2.5 years	56%
3 years	4%
3.5 years	6%
4 years	1%
More than 4 years	2%
I'm not sure	32%

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S15. Living arrangements

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
With parents or other relatives	26%	28%	21%
On campus with roommates	29%	26%	36%
On campus alone	8%	9%	8%
Off campus in apartment/house with roommates/housemates	27%	29%	21%
Off campus in apartment/house alone	10%	8%	14%

S16. Which of the following best describes your college attendance in the 2022-2023 school year?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Only online classes	5%	5%	6%
Only in-person classes	51%	55%	43%
A hybrid schedule (part in-person, part online)	43%	40%	51%

Q1. [Summary - Top 2 Box] Thinking generally about college and higher education, please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
College is an investment in my future	91%	94%	82%
Higher education will lead to a better job	82%	84%	76%
College is a privileged experience	77%	76%	77%
College just isn't right for everyone	74%	81%	56%
A college degree is important to being successful in life	59%	57%	64%

a) College is an investment in my future

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	91%	94%	82%
Strongly agree	58%	66%	39%
Somewhat agree	32%	28%	43%
Neither agree nor disagree	5%	3%	10%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	4%	3%	7%
Somewhat disagree	2%	1%	4%
Strongly disagree	2%	1%	3%

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Q1. [Summary - Top 2 Box]. Thinking generally about college and higher education, please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. *(continued)*

b) A college degree is important to being successful in life

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	59%	57%	64%
Strongly agree	24%	21%	30%
Somewhat agree	36%	36%	35%
Neither agree nor disagree	20%	21%	16%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	21%	22%	19%
Somewhat disagree	13%	14%	11%
Strongly disagree	8%	8%	8%

c) College just isn't right for everyone

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	74%	81%	56%
Strongly agree	43%	49%	30%
Somewhat agree	30%	32%	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	12%	12%	13%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	14%	7%	31%
Somewhat disagree	9%	5%	19%
Strongly disagree	5%	2%	12%

d) College is a privileged experience

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	77%	76%	77%
Strongly agree	39%	38%	40%
Somewhat agree	38%	38%	37%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%	13%	13%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	10%	10%	9%
Somewhat disagree	6%	7%	5%
Strongly disagree	4%	4%	4%

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Q1. [Summary - Top 2 Box]. Thinking generally about college and higher education, please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. *(continued)*

e) Higher education will lead to a better job

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	82%	84%	76%
Strongly agree	39%	42%	32%
Somewhat agree	42%	42%	44%
Neither agree nor disagree	11%	10%	14%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	7%	6%	9%
Somewhat disagree	4%	4%	5%
Strongly disagree	3%	2%	4%

Q2. [Summary - Top 2 Box]. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about college and reasons you may have decided to attend.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
A college degree opens up opportunities that wouldn't be available otherwise	86%	88%	80%
Meeting the right people at college will help to find a job in the future	84%	86%	79%
Attending college will help me obtain my dream job	81%	84%	75%
Going to college was always something expected in my family	80%	80%	78%
I wanted to attend college because I would earn more money with a college degree	78%	78%	80%
The social and intellectual experience of college is equally or more important to the possibility of increased earning potential	70%	71%	68%
College is more of a social experience than a learning opportunity	37%	30%	55%

a) A college degree opens up opportunities that wouldn't be available otherwise

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	86%	88%	80%
Strongly agree	47%	51%	36%
Somewhat agree	39%	37%	43%
Neither agree nor disagree	10%	8%	14%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	5%	4%	6%
Somewhat disagree	3%	3%	4%
Strongly disagree	1%	1%	2%

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Q2. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about college and reasons you may have decided to attend. (*continued*)

b) College is more of a social experience than a learning opportunity

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	37%	30%	55%
Strongly agree	12%	9%	20%
Somewhat agree	25%	21%	35%
Neither agree nor disagree	26%	26%	24%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	37%	44%	21%
Somewhat disagree	26%	30%	16%
Strongly disagree	11%	14%	5%

c) I wanted to attend college because I would earn more money with a college degree

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	78%	78%	80%
Strongly agree	43%	44%	39%
Somewhat agree	36%	33%	41%
Neither agree nor disagree	14%	14%	12%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	8%	8%	8%
Somewhat disagree	5%	5%	5%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	3%

d) The social and intellectual experience of college is equally or more important to the possibility of increased earning potential

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	70%	71%	68%
Strongly agree	31%	31%	31%
Somewhat agree	39%	40%	37%
Neither agree nor disagree	20%	20%	20%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	10%	10%	12%
Somewhat disagree	7%	7%	8%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	4%

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Q2. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about college and reasons you may have decided to attend. (*continued*)

e) Meeting the right people at college will help to find a job in the future

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	84%	86%	79%
Strongly agree	41%	44%	34%
Somewhat agree	43%	42%	45%
Neither agree nor disagree	13%	12%	15%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	4%	3%	6%
Somewhat disagree	2%	2%	4%
Strongly disagree	1%	1%	2%

f) Going to college was always something expected in my family

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	80%	80%	78%
Strongly agree	50%	54%	41%
Somewhat agree	29%	26%	38%
Neither agree nor disagree	12%	11%	14%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	9%	9%	8%
Somewhat disagree	5%	5%	5%
Strongly disagree	4%	4%	3%

g) Attending college will help me obtain my dream job

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	81%	84%	75%
Strongly agree	49%	54%	37%
Somewhat agree	33%	30%	38%
Neither agree nor disagree	11%	10%	14%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	7%	6%	11%
Somewhat disagree	4%	4%	6%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	4%

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Q3. When did you decide to go to college?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
It seems like I've always known	53%	64%	28%
Sometime in elementary school	3%	2%	3%
In junior high / middle school	6%	7%	5%
Freshman year of high school	5%	3%	9%
Sophomore year of high school	4%	2%	9%
Junior year of high school	7%	4%	12%
Senior year of high school	9%	5%	18%
After I left high school	10%	9%	14%
Not sure	3%	3%	2%

Q4. When did you start your undergraduate education?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Right after finishing high school	82%	86%	72%
About a year after finishing high school	10%	6%	19%
More than a year after finishing high school	8%	8%	9%

Q5. When you were in high school, how committed were you to attending college?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	92%	91%	93%
Very committed	66%	71%	55%
Somewhat committed	25%	20%	38%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	8%	9%	7%
Not very committed	5%	5%	6%
Not at all committed	3%	4%	1%

Q6. Who encouraged you to attend college? Please select all that apply.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Parents	73%	78%	63%
Family members other than parents	43%	48%	30%
Friends	42%	42%	42%
A teacher	39%	42%	31%
A high school counselor or another staff member	31%	34%	25%
A mentor or someone I look up to outside of school or family	22%	23%	18%
A non-affiliated college counselor	9%	10%	8%
An employer	8%	8%	7%
Other	5%	4%	5%
No one	9%	9%	10%

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Q7. What are some of the reasons why you chose to attend college? Please select up to 3 reasons.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
I believed it will provide better opportunities for me in the long run	33%	36%	26%
To pursue a specific career	32%	31%	33%
To expand my knowledge	30%	28%	33%
The job that I want requires a college degree	26%	31%	16%
To advance in my career	22%	20%	24%
I believed a degree will help me earn more money	21%	20%	25%
My family expected it of me	21%	21%	21%
I believed a degree will lead to a good job	20%	17%	25%
To experience the social aspect of college	18%	19%	16%
To discover what I want to do long-term	18%	20%	13%
To experience independence	16%	16%	18%
I wanted to earn a degree to help support my family	12%	10%	15%
I wanted to earn a degree to be in a position to help people less fortunate than me	10%	10%	10%
To be the first in my family to go to college	7%	6%	8%
Because I lost my job	1%	1%	1%
Other	1%	1%	1%

Q8. Why did you select the college/university you are attending/attended? Please select all that apply.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
The school is affordable / price of the program	41%	45%	33%
The scholarships / aid I received for that school	36%	42%	23%
Near home	31%	36%	18%
In-state school	30%	31%	28%
For the specific academic program / degree I wanted	30%	32%	27%
Small school	18%	21%	9%
Prestige	18%	17%	20%
The social life	18%	15%	26%
I have friends who go to/went to the same college / university	17%	16%	19%
Far away from home	12%	13%	12%
It offers online or hybrid classes	11%	9%	17%
Large School	10%	9%	14%
My parents went to the same college / university	7%	7%	7%
I was recruited for my sport	6%	7%	5%
Other	2%	2%	2%

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Q9. Did you and your parent(s) / family discuss any of the following topics before you enrolled in college?
Please select all that apply

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Scholarships	55%	62%	40%
How much college was going to cost	51%	54%	43%
Which schools I was interested in attending	47%	53%	32%
Who would pay for college	45%	49%	35%
How our family would pay for college	40%	45%	28%
How / when to start applying to schools	39%	44%	29%
Student loans	36%	37%	34%
College prep or SAT/ACT prep	33%	38%	22%
Available college savings	32%	31%	36%
None of these	8%	8%	8%
I don't remember	4%	5%	1%

Q10. - Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Before I enrolled, my family and I created a plan for paying for all years of college.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	42%	39%	51%
Strongly agree	15%	17%	12%
Somewhat agree	27%	22%	39%
Neither agree nor disagree	18%	18%	18%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	40%	44%	32%
Somewhat disagree	14%	15%	13%
Strongly disagree	26%	29%	18%

Q11. [Summary - Top 2 Box] Before attending college, how confident did you feel about each of the following?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
My ability to get into college	86%	88%	80%
My ability to graduate from college	82%	85%	76%
My / my family's ability to cover the cost of college	53%	54%	50%

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Q11. Before attending college, how confident did you feel about each of the following? (*continued*)

a) My ability to get into college

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	86%	88%	80%
Completely confident	57%	66%	37%
Somewhat confident	29%	23%	43%
Neither confident nor unconfident	8%	6%	13%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	6%	6%	7%
Somewhat unconfident	4%	3%	5%
Completely unconfident	2%	2%	2%

b) My ability to graduate from college

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	82%	85%	76%
Completely confident	57%	63%	40%
Somewhat confident	26%	21%	36%
Neither confident nor unconfident	11%	9%	14%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	7%	6%	10%
Somewhat unconfident	4%	3%	7%
Completely unconfident	3%	2%	3%

c) My / my family's ability to cover the cost of college

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	53%	54%	50%
Completely confident	25%	28%	18%
Somewhat confident	28%	26%	32%
Neither confident nor unconfident	17%	16%	21%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	30%	31%	28%
Somewhat unconfident	16%	15%	16%
Completely unconfident	14%	15%	12%

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Q12. [Summary - Top 2 Box] Now that you are in college, how confident do you feel about each of the following?/Once you were in college, how confident did you feel about each of the following?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
My ability to graduate from college	83%	88%	71%
My / my family's ability to cover the cost of college	58%	63%	47%

a) My ability to graduate from college

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	83%	88%	71%
Completely confident	55%	67%	27%
Somewhat confident	28%	21%	44%
Neither confident nor unconfident	9%	7%	13%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	8%	5%	17%
Somewhat unconfident	6%	3%	13%
Completely unconfident	2%	2%	4%

b) My / my family's ability to cover the cost of college

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	58%	63%	47%
Completely confident	30%	36%	16%
Somewhat confident	28%	27%	31%
Neither confident nor unconfident	17%	14%	22%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	25%	23%	31%
Somewhat unconfident	15%	14%	19%
Completely unconfident	10%	9%	12%

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Q13. [Summary - Top 2 Box] Thinking back to when you were heading to college, how prepared, if at all, did you feel...?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
For college-level course work	83%	85%	77%
To manage my own time and workload	77%	79%	72%
To live on my own on/off campus	70%	70%	69%
To pay for college	57%	57%	58%

a) To live on my own on/off campus

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	70%	70%	69%
Very prepared	36%	39%	30%
Somewhat prepared	33%	31%	39%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	22%	21%	25%
Not that prepared	15%	14%	18%
Not at all prepared	7%	7%	6%
Does not apply to me	8%	9%	6%

b) To pay for college

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	57%	57%	58%
Very prepared	21%	23%	18%
Somewhat prepared	36%	34%	40%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	37%	36%	40%
Not that prepared	22%	21%	23%
Not at all prepared	16%	15%	17%
Does not apply to me	6%	7%	3%

c) For college-level course work

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	83%	85%	77%
Very prepared	41%	45%	33%
Somewhat prepared	42%	41%	44%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	16%	14%	21%
Not that prepared	11%	9%	15%
Not at all prepared	5%	5%	7%
Does not apply to me	1%	*	1%

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Q13. Thinking back to when you were heading to college, how prepared, if at all, did you feel...?
(continued)

d) To manage my own time and workload

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	77%	79%	72%
Very prepared	37%	38%	32%
Somewhat prepared	40%	41%	40%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	22%	20%	27%
Not that prepared	16%	15%	19%
Not at all prepared	6%	5%	8%
Does not apply to me	1%	1%	1%

Q14. [Summary - Top 2 Box] Now that you are in college, how well have you adjusted to the following...?
/ Once you were in college, how well did you adjust to the following?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
To college-level course work	88%	92%	78%
To managing my own time and workload	83%	88%	71%
To living on my own on/off campus	76%	79%	69%
To paying for college	67%	71%	58%

a) To living on my own on/off campus

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	76%	79%	69%
Very well	47%	56%	27%
Somewhat well	29%	24%	41%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	12%	8%	22%
Not that well	9%	5%	17%
Not at all well	4%	3%	5%
Does not apply to me	12%	13%	9%

b) To paying for college

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	67%	71%	58%
Very well	28%	31%	20%
Somewhat well	39%	40%	38%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	24%	20%	36%
Not that well	16%	12%	25%
Not at all well	9%	8%	11%
Does not apply to me	8%	10%	5%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q14. Now that you are in college, how well have you adjusted to the following...? / Once you were in college, how well did you adjust to the following? (*continued*)

c) To college-level course work

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	88%	92%	78%
Very well	52%	60%	32%
Somewhat well	36%	31%	46%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	12%	8%	20%
Not that well	8%	5%	15%
Not at all well	4%	3%	5%
Does not apply to me	1%	*	2%

d) To managing my own time and workload

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	83%	88%	71%
Very well	41%	46%	28%
Somewhat well	42%	42%	43%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	16%	11%	29%
Not that well	10%	7%	19%
Not at all well	6%	4%	10%
Does not apply to me	1%	1%	1%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q15. When preparing for college, did you do any of the following in high school?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Toured a college campus	51%	55%	39%
Met with my high school / guidance counselor	48%	51%	40%
Participated in Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses	41%	48%	24%
Joined extracurricular activities to enhance college applications	39%	42%	30%
Talked to friends or an older sibling about what college is like	38%	42%	31%
Participated in dual or concurrent enrollment programs that allowed me to earn college credits while still in high school	31%	33%	26%
Talked to current college students about their school choice and experience	31%	32%	28%
Met with a college representative about admissions or on-campus experience	31%	33%	25%
Met with a college financial aid office representative to talk about how to pay for college	21%	19%	25%
Met with a career counselor	18%	16%	24%
Met with an independent college consultant	9%	6%	14%
None of the above	6%	6%	4%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q16. What general subject are you studying/majoring in?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Agriculture	1%	1%	2%
Architecture and Related Services	1%	1%	2%
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	9%	9%	9%
Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services	11%	11%	11%
Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs	3%	2%	6%
Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services	8%	7%	11%
Education	6%	7%	4%
Engineering	12%	13%	9%
Health Professions and Related Programs	11%	13%	8%
Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Related Protective Services	2%	2%	1%
Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities	5%	4%	8%
Mathematics and Statistics	3%	2%	5%
Physical Sciences	3%	3%	2%
Psychology	7%	8%	6%
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	1%	*	1%
Social Sciences	4%	4%	4%
Visual and Performing Arts	2%	2%	2%
Other (please specify)	10%	11%	7%
Undecided	2%	2%	2%

Q17. Thinking about when you first went to college, which of the following statements best fit your career goal / major at the time?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
I knew the career/major I wanted	43%	40%	52%
I knew the general field of work I wanted but not the exact job/major	26%	27%	25%
I thought I knew what I wanted to do, but my interests changed	21%	22%	18%
I didn't know what I wanted to do yet	9%	11%	5%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q18. [Summary - Top 2 Box]. How confident do you feel in each of the following

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Ability to enter your chosen career after you graduate	76%	76%	73%
Overall career direction	75%	77%	70%

a) Overall career direction

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	75%	77%	70%
Completely confident	31%	34%	25%
Somewhat confident	44%	44%	45%
Neither confident nor unconfident	14%	12%	18%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	11%	11%	12%
Somewhat unconfident	9%	9%	8%
Completely unconfident	2%	2%	4%

b) Ability to enter your chosen career after you graduate

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	76%	76%	73%
Completely confident	33%	37%	24%
Somewhat confident	42%	39%	49%
Neither confident nor unconfident	13%	12%	16%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	11%	12%	10%
Somewhat unconfident	8%	9%	7%
Completely unconfident	3%	3%	4%

Q19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Having a career plan or direction before you graduate college is important to being successful in your professional life

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	83%	81%	88%
Strongly agree	33%	32%	36%
Somewhat agree	50%	49%	52%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	17%	19%	12%
Somewhat disagree	12%	13%	9%
Strongly disagree	5%	6%	3%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q20. [Asked if didn't know career goals going into college] How useful, if at all, were your college courses for helping you establish your career goals/major?

	Total Sample (N=778)	Total Current students (N=588)	Total Non- completers (N=190)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	79%	81%	74%
Very useful	27%	29%	21%
Somewhat useful	52%	52%	53%
<i>Bottom Box (Net)</i>	16%	15%	21%
Not very useful	11%	9%	15%
Not at all useful	6%	5%	7%
Not sure	4%	4%	5%

Q21. How would you rate your overall college experience?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
1	1%	*	1%
2	*	*	1%
3	3%	2%	4%
4	4%	3%	4%
5	8%	9%	7%
6	9%	10%	5%
7	18%	17%	22%
8	28%	27%	30%
9	16%	14%	18%
10	13%	16%	7%
<i>Mean</i>	7.47	7.55	7.27

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q23. [Summary - Top 2 Box]. How easy or difficult do you find the following school/academic-related aspects of your college experience?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Registering for classes	69%	70%	65%
Staying on track and going to classes	62%	65%	55%
Getting academic help when needed	58%	60%	53%
Managing online/hybrid classes	53%	52%	53%
Finding the right major/career path	51%	51%	51%
Balancing social life and school	47%	47%	49%
My courses	39%	34%	48%
Balancing extracurricular activities and school	39%	37%	46%
Being able to meet the cost of additional expenses (textbooks, living costs, food, etc.)	35%	35%	34%
Balancing work (paid or unpaid) and school	32%	32%	32%
Being able to meet the cost of college tuition	32%	31%	34%
Trying to support myself and/or my family while in school	26%	23%	32%

a) My courses

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	39%	34%	48%
Very easy	12%	11%	15%
Easy	26%	23%	33%
Neither easy nor difficult	31%	32%	28%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	30%	33%	23%
Difficult	23%	25%	19%
Very difficult	7%	8%	4%
Does not apply to me	*	*	*

b) Staying on track and going to classes

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	62%	65%	55%
Very easy	25%	29%	16%
Easy	37%	36%	40%
Neither easy nor difficult	21%	20%	23%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	17%	15%	21%
Difficult	13%	12%	14%
Very difficult	4%	2%	7%
Does not apply to me	*	*	*

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q23. How easy or difficult do you find the following school/academic-related aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

c) Finding the right major/career path

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	51%	51%	51%
Very easy	22%	23%	18%
Easy	29%	28%	33%
Neither easy nor difficult	29%	29%	28%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	20%	20%	20%
Difficult	15%	15%	14%
Very difficult	5%	5%	6%
Does not apply to me	1%	*	1%

d) Balancing work (paid or unpaid) and school

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	32%	32%	32%
Very easy	11%	11%	9%
Easy	21%	20%	23%
Neither easy nor difficult	22%	22%	20%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	36%	34%	42%
Difficult	28%	27%	30%
Very difficult	8%	6%	12%
Does not apply to me	11%	12%	6%

e) Balancing extracurricular activities and school

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	39%	37%	46%
Very easy	13%	12%	14%
Easy	26%	24%	32%
Neither easy nor difficult	25%	25%	25%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	27%	29%	23%
Difficult	22%	23%	18%
Very difficult	5%	5%	5%
Does not apply to me	9%	9%	7%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q23. How easy or difficult do you find the following school/academic-related aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

f) Balancing social life and school

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	47%	47%	49%
Very easy	16%	16%	18%
Easy	31%	31%	31%
Neither easy nor difficult	24%	23%	26%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	27%	29%	25%
Difficult	21%	22%	17%
Very difficult	7%	6%	8%
Does not apply to me	2%	2%	1%

g) Registering for classes

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	69%	70%	65%
Very easy	30%	33%	23%
Easy	38%	37%	42%
Neither easy nor difficult	20%	19%	23%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	11%	11%	12%
Difficult	9%	9%	9%
Very difficult	2%	2%	2%
Does not apply to me	*	*	1%

h) Getting academic help when needed

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	58%	60%	53%
Very easy	19%	20%	16%
Easy	39%	40%	37%
Neither easy nor difficult	22%	22%	23%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	16%	15%	20%
Difficult	13%	12%	14%
Very difficult	4%	3%	6%
Does not apply to me	3%	3%	3%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q23. How easy or difficult do you find the following school/academic-related aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

i) Managing online/hybrid classes

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	53%	52%	53%
Very easy	23%	26%	17%
Easy	29%	26%	36%
Neither easy nor difficult	20%	18%	23%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	12%	10%	17%
Difficult	8%	7%	13%
Very difficult	4%	4%	4%
Does not apply to me	15%	19%	7%

j) Trying to support myself and/or my family while in school

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	26%	23%	32%
Very easy	9%	9%	9%
Easy	17%	14%	23%
Neither easy nor difficult	25%	26%	22%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	32%	30%	38%
Difficult	22%	20%	26%
Very difficult	10%	10%	12%
Does not apply to me	17%	21%	8%

k) Being able to meet the cost of college tuition

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	32%	31%	34%
Very easy	12%	12%	12%
Easy	20%	19%	22%
Neither easy nor difficult	27%	29%	23%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	32%	29%	39%
Difficult	20%	18%	24%
Very difficult	12%	11%	15%
Does not apply to me	9%	11%	3%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q23. How easy or difficult do you find the following school/academic-related aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

l) Being able to meet the cost of additional expenses (textbooks, living costs, food, etc.)

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	35%	35%	34%
Very easy	13%	15%	7%
Easy	23%	21%	27%
Neither easy nor difficult	27%	27%	25%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	33%	31%	39%
Difficult	25%	23%	28%
Very difficult	9%	8%	11%
Does not apply to me	5%	6%	2%

Q24. [Summary - Top 2 Box]. How easy or difficult do you find the following living or social-related aspects of your college experience?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Transiting/commuting to classes	60%	59%	64%
Living away from home	49%	50%	47%
Meeting new people / making friends	49%	46%	58%
Staying healthy (e.g., eating healthy, not drinking too much, etc.)	45%	42%	52%
Living with a roommate(s)	43%	41%	48%
Being able to live where I want	41%	38%	48%
Prioritizing mental health	33%	28%	44%

a) Living away from home

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	49%	50%	47%
Very easy	22%	25%	17%
Easy	27%	26%	30%
Neither easy nor difficult	19%	18%	21%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	13%	11%	20%
Difficult	9%	7%	15%
Very difficult	4%	4%	5%
Does not apply to me	19%	22%	12%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q24. How easy or difficult do you find the following living or social-related aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

b) Being able to live where I want

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	41%	38%	48%
Very easy	15%	14%	18%
Easy	25%	23%	30%
Neither easy nor difficult	24%	24%	25%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	21%	22%	19%
Difficult	15%	16%	12%
Very difficult	6%	5%	7%
Does not apply to me	15%	17%	8%

c) Living with a roommate(s)

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	43%	41%	48%
Very easy	16%	16%	15%
Easy	28%	25%	34%
Neither easy nor difficult	19%	19%	18%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	15%	14%	16%
Difficult	9%	8%	10%
Very difficult	6%	6%	6%
Does not apply to me	23%	26%	17%

d) Meeting new people / making friends

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	49%	46%	58%
Very easy	21%	20%	23%
Easy	28%	26%	35%
Neither easy nor difficult	22%	23%	20%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	28%	31%	21%
Difficult	17%	19%	12%
Very difficult	11%	12%	9%
Does not apply to me	1%	*	1%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q24. How easy or difficult do you find the following living or social-related aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

e) Transiting/commuting to classes

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	60%	59%	64%
Very easy	25%	26%	25%
Easy	35%	33%	39%
Neither easy nor difficult	19%	19%	20%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	11%	10%	13%
Difficult	7%	6%	9%
Very difficult	4%	4%	4%
Does not apply to me	10%	13%	4%

f) Staying healthy (e.g., eating healthy, not drinking too much, etc.)

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	45%	42%	52%
Very easy	17%	16%	18%
Easy	28%	26%	33%
Neither easy nor difficult	23%	25%	17%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	32%	32%	30%
Difficult	23%	24%	20%
Very difficult	9%	8%	10%
Does not apply to me	1%	1%	1%

g) Prioritizing mental health

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	33%	28%	44%
Very easy	12%	10%	16%
Easy	21%	18%	28%
Neither easy nor difficult	23%	24%	19%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	43%	46%	35%
Difficult	27%	30%	20%
Very difficult	16%	16%	15%
Does not apply to me	1%	1%	1%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q25. [Summary - Top 2 Box]. How would you rate the following aspects of your college experience?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Physical campus	78%	80%	73%
My academic program	78%	82%	67%
Resources to help me succeed in my courses (tutoring, writing centers, etc.)	74%	76%	70%
The quality of courses	73%	74%	72%
The variety of courses	73%	74%	70%
Support from teachers or professors	71%	71%	69%
Support from my family	71%	74%	65%
The culture on campus	67%	68%	65%
Career planning resources	63%	64%	63%
Extracurricular groups	62%	62%	63%
Resources to help me adjust to college life	61%	61%	63%
Social support system	60%	59%	61%
Resources to help me pick a major/career	60%	59%	63%
The social life	60%	59%	63%
Financial support from outside sources (other scholarships, parents, etc.)	56%	59%	49%
Financial support from the college (scholarships, advice on how to pay, etc.)	55%	58%	47%
Mental health resources or counseling center	51%	49%	59%
Housing	48%	45%	57%
Access to alumni network	47%	43%	57%

a) Social support system

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	60%	59%	61%
Excellent	23%	23%	21%
Good	37%	36%	41%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	33%	32%	34%
Fair	24%	23%	25%
Poor	9%	9%	9%
Did not have any	3%	2%	3%
Does not apply to me	5%	6%	2%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q25. How would you rate the following aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

b) Financial support from the college (scholarships, advice on how to pay, etc.)

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	55%	58%	47%
Excellent	25%	29%	15%
Good	30%	30%	32%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	38%	33%	47%
Fair	26%	24%	32%
Poor	11%	10%	15%
Did not have any	3%	3%	3%
Does not apply to me	5%	6%	2%

c) Financial support from outside sources (other scholarships, parents, etc.)

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	56%	59%	49%
Excellent	24%	26%	18%
Good	32%	33%	30%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	32%	28%	43%
Fair	21%	17%	29%
Poor	11%	10%	14%
Did not have any	7%	8%	7%
Does not apply to me	4%	6%	1%

d) Support from teachers or professors

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	71%	71%	69%
Excellent	29%	33%	21%
Good	41%	38%	48%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	27%	25%	30%
Fair	20%	20%	20%
Poor	7%	5%	9%
Did not have any	1%	1%	1%
Does not apply to me	1%	2%	-

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q25. How would you rate the following aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

e) Resources to help me pick a major/career

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	60%	59%	63%
Excellent	24%	24%	24%
Good	36%	34%	39%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	31%	30%	32%
Fair	25%	25%	25%
Poor	6%	6%	7%
Did not have any	3%	3%	2%
Does not apply to me	7%	8%	3%

f) Resources to help me succeed in my courses (tutoring, writing centers, etc.)

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	74%	76%	70%
Excellent	27%	27%	28%
Good	47%	49%	42%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	21%	19%	27%
Fair	18%	16%	20%
Poor	4%	3%	6%
Did not have any	1%	1%	2%
Does not apply to me	3%	4%	1%

g) Resources to help me adjust to college life

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	61%	61%	63%
Excellent	20%	21%	18%
Good	41%	40%	45%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	31%	31%	32%
Fair	23%	25%	20%
Poor	8%	6%	12%
Did not have any	4%	4%	5%
Does not apply to me	4%	5%	1%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q25. How would you rate the following aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

h) Mental health resources or counseling center

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	51%	49%	59%
Excellent	20%	21%	18%
Good	32%	28%	41%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	33%	34%	31%
Fair	22%	23%	20%
Poor	11%	11%	11%
Did not have any	4%	4%	5%
Does not apply to me	11%	14%	5%

i) Career planning resources

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	63%	64%	63%
Excellent	21%	21%	22%
Good	42%	43%	40%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	28%	27%	31%
Fair	22%	21%	24%
Poor	6%	6%	8%
Did not have any	3%	3%	4%
Does not apply to me	5%	7%	2%

j) Access to alumni network

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	47%	43%	57%
Excellent	19%	18%	21%
Good	28%	25%	36%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	30%	30%	29%
Fair	22%	23%	21%
Poor	7%	7%	8%
Did not have any	7%	7%	7%
Does not apply to me	17%	21%	7%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q25. How would you rate the following aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

k) The social life

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	60%	59%	63%
Excellent	24%	25%	23%
Good	36%	34%	41%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	33%	34%	31%
Fair	23%	24%	22%
Poor	10%	10%	9%
Did not have any	4%	4%	5%
Does not apply to me	3%	3%	1%

l) Extracurricular groups

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	62%	62%	63%
Excellent	26%	26%	25%
Good	37%	36%	38%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	22%	21%	26%
Fair	18%	17%	21%
Poor	4%	4%	5%
Did not have any	5%	6%	3%
Does not apply to me	10%	11%	8%

m) The culture on campus

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	67%	68%	65%
Excellent	29%	30%	26%
Good	38%	38%	40%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	28%	27%	29%
Fair	21%	21%	22%
Poor	7%	7%	7%
Did not have any	1%	1%	2%
Does not apply to me	3%	4%	3%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q25. How would you rate the following aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

n) Physical campus

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	78%	80%	73%
Excellent	38%	41%	30%
Good	40%	39%	43%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	17%	15%	22%
Fair	14%	12%	19%
Poor	3%	3%	3%
Did not have any	2%	2%	2%
Does not apply to me	3%	3%	3%

o) Housing

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	48%	45%	57%
Excellent	15%	14%	17%
Good	33%	31%	40%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	34%	35%	30%
Fair	24%	25%	23%
Poor	9%	11%	7%
Did not have any	3%	2%	4%
Does not apply to me	15%	18%	9%

p) The quality of courses

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	73%	74%	72%
Excellent	27%	29%	22%
Good	46%	45%	50%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	24%	24%	26%
Fair	21%	21%	19%
Poor	4%	3%	7%
Did not have any	1%	2%	1%
Does not apply to me	1%	1%	1%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q25. How would you rate the following aspects of your college experience? (*continued*)

q) The variety of courses

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	73%	74%	70%
Excellent	31%	33%	28%
Good	41%	41%	42%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	26%	25%	28%
Fair	21%	21%	23%
Poor	4%	4%	5%
Did not have any	1%	1%	2%
Does not apply to me	1%	1%	*

r) Support from my family

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	71%	74%	65%
Excellent	40%	45%	27%
Good	32%	29%	38%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	23%	20%	31%
Fair	17%	16%	21%
Poor	6%	5%	10%
Did not have any	3%	3%	3%
Does not apply to me	2%	3%	1%

s) My academic program

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	78%	82%	67%
Excellent	35%	38%	26%
Good	43%	44%	41%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	20%	15%	31%
Fair	16%	13%	25%
Poor	3%	2%	6%
Did not have any	2%	1%	2%
Does not apply to me	1%	1%	*

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q26. Regarding academics and courses, which of the following, if any, are you experiencing? Please select all that apply. /Regarding academics and courses, which of the following, if any, did you experience while in college?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Difficulty managing my course workload	37%	34%	44%
The classes I want aren't available	26%	27%	21%
I had to withdraw from a course	24%	20%	32%
I didn't know what to expect for college-level courses	20%	18%	24%
Courses are too hard	18%	16%	22%
Difficulty registering for the classes needed to complete for my major or minor	17%	18%	15%
Difficulty getting in touch with the professor	16%	14%	19%
Courses are not challenging enough	8%	8%	8%
I had to enroll in a remedial/developmental course	8%	5%	15%
None of the above	20%	23%	14%

Q27. [Asked if experiencing academic challenges in Q26] Have you found resources at your school to help you with any of your academic challenges?

	Total Sample (N=1,153)	Total Current students (N=793)	Total Non- completers (N=360)
Yes	64%	65%	62%
No	18%	14%	25%
Have not looked	18%	21%	13%

Q28. Thinking of the social aspect of college, which of the following, if any, are you experiencing? Please select all that apply.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Trouble making connections	29%	31%	26%
Feeling like I belong	27%	27%	25%
Happiness to be away from home	26%	25%	27%
No time to be social	21%	22%	17%
Feeling overwhelmed by the adjustment to college social life	21%	20%	25%
Homesickness	18%	17%	19%
Culture shock	15%	15%	15%
A lack of racial, ethnic, or cultural diversity	12%	11%	14%
Discrimination or racism	9%	6%	16%
Fear for my physical safety while on campus	8%	6%	13%
Discrimination based on my sexual or gender identity	7%	5%	9%
None of the above	19%	22%	11%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q29. Have you done any of the following while in college?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Talked with an academic advisor	55%	65%	33%
Attended on-campus activities	54%	59%	40%
Attended a professor's office hours	43%	50%	25%
Attended sporting events	39%	42%	31%
Talked with someone at the career center	24%	26%	19%
Joined an academic organization on campus	24%	26%	17%
Joined a sports team or club	23%	24%	22%
Used school resources to help adjust to college or meet other students	18%	20%	15%
Networked with alumni	16%	17%	14%
Joined a community service organization on campus	15%	16%	13%
Joined a religious organization on campus	12%	10%	16%
Joined a social fraternity or sorority	11%	10%	13%
Joined a multicultural organization on campus	10%	9%	11%
Joined an LGBTQ+ organization on campus	8%	7%	11%
Joined a political organization on campus	7%	6%	9%
None of the above	11%	11%	9%

Q30. Are you working while attending college?/ Did you work while attending college?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
I work on campus	24%	26%	21%
I work off campus	45%	44%	47%
I work an unpaid internship	4%	3%	6%
I have worked during previous semesters of college but am not currently working	9%	12%	-
I don't work while attending college	26%	23%	34%

Q31. [Asked if working/worked while in college] On average, how many hours a week do/did you work while attending college?

	Total Sample (N=1,027)	Total Current students (N=741)	Total Non- completers (N=286)
Less than 10 hours a week	23%	24%	18%
10 to 19 hours a week	41%	39%	47%
20 to 35 hours a week	24%	25%	23%
More than 35 hours a week	10%	10%	11%
Don't remember	2%	2%	1%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q32. Did you transfer schools?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Yes	14%	15%	12%
No	86%	85%	88%

Q33. [Asked if transferred schools] Why did you change schools?

	Total Sample (N=178)	Total Current students (N=136)	Total Non- completers (N=42*)
The cost	23%	21%	30%
I wanted to attend a larger school	15%	16%	11%
The school wasn't a good cultural fit for me	15%	16%	14%
I started at a different school to reduce cost before finishing at current school	15%	19%	6%
I transferred to my state school to save money	14%	10%	28%
Poor academic performance	14%	15%	12%
The school didn't have the degree program I wanted	12%	12%	13%
I had a hard time adjusting socially	11%	9%	16%
I was homesick and wanted to be closer to home	10%	11%	10%
I wanted to attend a smaller school	10%	8%	14%
I wanted to go to a school further away from home	9%	8%	12%
Courses were too difficult	6%	8%	3%
Courses weren't challenging enough	5%	4%	7%
Disruptive or problematic behavior	4%	2%	11%
I was waitlisted/delayed getting into the first school I wanted	3%	4%	1%
Other	23%	26%	16%

*CAUTION: Small base size

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q34. [Asked if transferred schools] Has transferring schools impacted your college experience in any of the following ways? / Did transferring schools impact your college experience in any of the following ways?

	Total Sample (N=178)	Total Current students (N=136)	Total Non- completers (N=42*)
Had to retake coursework/credits did not transfer to my new school	27%	21%	46%
Got behind academically compared to other students in my year/ my major	24%	21%	34%
I changed majors or minors	22%	19%	32%
I changed my career goals	21%	19%	27%
I am not on track to graduate in on time because of transferring	17%	14%	26%
None of the above	39%	47%	14%

*CAUTION: Small base size

Q35. Looking back, do you feel changing schools was beneficial to your overall college experience?

	Total Sample (N=178)	Total Current students (N=136)	Total Non- completers (N=42*)
Yes	70%	74%	57%
No	11%	9%	17%
Not sure	19%	17%	27%

*CAUTION: Small base size

Q36. [Asked to current students only] You mentioned you expect it will take you more than 2/4 years to graduate. Why do you expect it to take more time to earn your current degree?

	Total Current students (N=174)
Needed to repeat classes	36%
Mental health made it difficult to stay on track	30%
Financial reasons	25%
Needed to take fewer classes per semester	24%
Changed majors	23%
Poor academic performance	17%
Needed to take a break from school	16%
Experienced a major life change or event	14%
Physical health made it difficult to stay on track	12%
Transferred schools	10%
The classes I needed to take weren't available	10%
Wanted to learn more / take more classes	9%
My work conflicted with my academics	6%
Couldn't decide on a major	3%
Other	18%
Not sure	5%



PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q37. **[Asked to current students only]** Have you ever considered taking a break or not finishing college

	Total Current students (N=1,029)
Yes	34%
No	66%

Q37. **[Asked to current students only]** Have you ever been in a situation where you were almost dismissed from school - Have you ever?

	Total Current students (N=1,029)
Yes	11%
No	89%



PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q38. [Asked to current students who have considered leaving college] How seriously did you consider leaving college?

	Total Current students (N=338)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	57%
Very seriously	16%
Somewhat seriously	41%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	44%
Not very seriously	38%
Not at all seriously	6%

Q39. [Asked to current students who have considered leaving college or non-completers] Why are you considering/did you consider taking a break or not finishing college?

	Total Sample (N=765)	Total Current students (N=338)	Total Non-completers (N=427)
Mental health issues	31%	42%	22%
The cost overall	30%	37%	25%
Loss of motivation / change in focus	30%	42%	21%
Change in financial situation	24%	21%	26%
Poor academic performance	18%	22%	15%
Unable to balance work and school	18%	23%	13%
Did not feel worth it to continue	16%	23%	10%
Not sure what major or career path to choose	13%	20%	8%
Traumatic personal event	13%	11%	15%
Courses are too difficult	12%	14%	10%
Change in family situation (had a baby, got married, divorce, death, etc.)	12%	10%	14%
Feeling like I am not getting valuable skills for the future	9%	13%	6%
Physical health issues	9%	7%	11%
COVID-19	9%	13%	6%
The school isn't a good cultural fit for me	7%	10%	5%
Loss of scholarship	7%	8%	7%
Homesickness	6%	6%	6%
Difficulty living on my own	6%	6%	7%
Too difficult to commute / didn't have transportation	6%	6%	6%
Classmates/friends	5%	5%	5%
Professors/Staff	5%	8%	3%
Experienced discrimination	4%	3%	5%
Extracurricular commitments distracted from schoolwork	4%	3%	4%
Disruptive or problematic behavior	3%	1%	4%
The school doesn't have the degree program I want	2%	1%	3%
Courses are not challenging enough	1%	1%	2%
Other	5%	4%	6%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q40. [Asked to current students who have considered leaving college or non-completers] What resources would help you stay in college?/ What resources would have helped you decide to stay in college, if any? Please select all that apply

	Total Sample (N=765)	Total Current students (N=338)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Additional financial resources	39%	38%	41%
More mental health resources/support	25%	30%	20%
Friends/social organizations	23%	29%	18%
Better/more flexible class scheduling	23%	28%	20%
Online/hybrid classes	19%	19%	19%
Additional support from academic or career advisors	17%	20%	14%
Additional academic resources	15%	9%	19%
Additional employment resources	15%	11%	18%
Additional support from professors	15%	14%	16%
Extracurricular activities	14%	14%	14%
Better commute or transportation support	11%	11%	10%
More representation of people like me	8%	7%	9%
Other	4%	5%	3%
Nothing	9%	8%	9%

Q41. [Asked to current students who were nearly dismissed] What was the reason you were nearly dismissed?.

	Total Current students (N=106)
Poor academic performance	56%
Financial (e.g., not being able to pay tuition or fees)	16%
Family commitments distracted from schoolwork	11%
Coursework was too hard	9%
Loss of scholarship	8%
Work commitments distracted from schoolwork	5%
Disruptive or problematic behavior	4%
Extracurricular commitments distracted from schoolwork	3%
Social aspect of college distracted from schoolwork	2%
Other	15%

Q42. [Asked to current students only] After graduation, how quickly do you expect to get a job in your chosen field?

	Total Current students (N=1,029)
Expect to have a job lined up before I graduate	33%
Within 3 months of graduating	17%
Within 6 months of graduating	13%
Within a year of graduating	14%
More than a year after graduating	8%
I don't have an expectation	16%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Q43. **[Asked to non-completers only]** After leaving school, how quickly were you able to get a job?

	Total Non-completers (N=427)
I already had a job lined up when I left school	18%
Within 3 months	33%
Within 6 months	19%
Within a year	13%
More than a year after leaving school	5%
I have not been able to find a job yet	14%

Q44. After graduation, what salary do you expect from your first job in your chosen field? / In your first job after leaving college, what was your salary?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Unpaid internship	3%	2%	7%
Less than \$15,000	9%	2%	27%
\$15,000 to \$29,999	16%	8%	36%
\$30,000 to \$49,999	14%	16%	11%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	25%	34%	4%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	18%	25%	2%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	8%	10%	3%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	1%	2%	1%
\$200,000 or more	2%	3%	*
Unemployed	3%	-	10%

Q45. **[Asked to non-completers only]** After withdrawing from college, what actions did you take within that first year?

	Total Non-completers (N=427)
Took the first job I could find	40%
Worked on my mental health	32%
Moved back in with my parents	32%
Worked on my physical health	22%
Found a career I wanted to progress in	13%
Enrolled in online professional certificate training programs (e.g. Coursera, Udemy, Grow with Google, etc.)	13%
Sought out alternative education plans (e.g. a trade or vocational school)	8%
Other	3%
None of the above	7%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

D1. What is/was the household income in the household in which you grew up? Your best estimate is fine.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Low income	13%	15%	9%
Low-middle income	25%	26%	23%
Middle income	41%	36%	55%
High-middle income	18%	20%	12%
High income	2%	2%	1%

D2. What is the highest level of education either of your parents have completed?

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
8th grade or less	2%	3%	2%
Some high school	3%	3%	2%
High school graduate (12) or GED	13%	15%	9%
Some college	14%	11%	20%
Trade/Technical/Vocational Training	3%	2%	6%
College graduate, Associate's degree	10%	6%	18%
College graduate, Bachelor's degree	32%	30%	35%
Postgraduate work/degree	19%	25%	6%
Don't know	2%	2%	1%
Prefer not to answer	2%	3%	1%

D3. When growing up, how often did you have access to the following?

a) Enough food in the house

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	90%	93%	83%
Always	52%	59%	34%
Most of the time	38%	34%	49%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	10%	7%	17%
Not very often	9%	6%	16%
Never	1%	1%	2%

b) Reliable transportation

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	87%	89%	82%
Always	50%	56%	35%
Most of the time	37%	33%	47%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	13%	11%	18%
Not very often	10%	8%	15%
Never	3%	3%	3%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

D3. When growing up, how often did you have access to the following? (*continued*)

c) A safe neighborhood to play/walk-around

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	87%	89%	82%
Always	51%	58%	32%
Most of the time	36%	30%	50%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	13%	11%	18%
Not very often	10%	8%	15%
Never	3%	3%	2%

d) Healthy food (e.g. fresh fruits and vegetables)

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	85%	87%	81%
Always	46%	51%	33%
Most of the time	39%	36%	49%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	15%	13%	19%
Not very often	13%	12%	15%
Never	2%	2%	4%

e) Quality health care

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	87%	89%	81%
Always	52%	59%	33%
Most of the time	35%	30%	47%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	13%	11%	19%
Not very often	12%	10%	17%
Never	2%	1%	3%

f) Reliable internet

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	86%	87%	82%
Always	46%	51%	32%
Most of the time	40%	36%	50%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	14%	13%	18%
Not very often	12%	10%	16%
Never	3%	3%	1%

PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

D3. When growing up, how often did you have access to the following? (*continued*)

g) Stable housing

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	89%	90%	84%
Always	62%	71%	40%
Most of the time	27%	20%	44%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	11%	10%	16%
Not very often	9%	8%	13%
Never	2%	2%	3%

h) A safe home environment

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	88%	89%	84%
Always	55%	63%	35%
Most of the time	33%	26%	49%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	12%	11%	16%
Not very often	9%	8%	12%
Never	3%	3%	4%

i) Quality schools/education

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	85%	87%	81%
Always	49%	55%	33%
Most of the time	36%	32%	48%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	15%	13%	19%
Not very often	13%	12%	17%
Never	2%	2%	2%

j) Extracurricular activities (e.g. sports, clubs, theatre, etc.)

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	83%	84%	79%
Always	49%	57%	31%
Most of the time	34%	28%	48%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	17%	16%	21%
Not very often	13%	12%	17%
Never	4%	4%	4%

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D3. When growing up, how often did you have access to the following? (*continued*)

k) Social support

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	78%	78%	76%
Always	40%	46%	27%
Most of the time	38%	33%	49%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	22%	22%	24%
Not very often	18%	17%	21%
Never	4%	5%	3%

D4. How would you rate your...

a) Current mental health

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	53%	50%	59%
Excellent	19%	20%	16%
Good	34%	30%	43%
Fair	33%	34%	30%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	14%	15%	11%
Poor	11%	12%	8%
Very poor	3%	3%	3%

b) Current physical health

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
<i>Top 2 Box (Net)</i>	65%	66%	63%
Excellent	22%	24%	19%
Good	43%	42%	44%
Fair	28%	27%	28%
<i>Bottom 2 Box (Net)</i>	7%	6%	8%
Poor	6%	6%	6%
Very poor	1%	1%	2%

D5. Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself? Please select all that apply.

	Total Sample (N=1,456)	Total Current students (N=1,029)	Total Non- completers (N=427)
Gay or lesbian	7%	8%	3%
Straight	71%	69%	76%
Bisexual	14%	15%	11%
Cisgender	11%	13%	7%
Transgender	2%	1%	4%
Non-binary	3%	4%	3%
Other	4%	4%	3%



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About the Study

These are the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted on behalf of Sallie Mae between June 2 and June 26, 2023. For this survey, a sample of 1,029 current college students ages 18-30 and 427 adults who started but did not complete college ages 18-30 from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii were interviewed online in English.

The sample was randomly drawn from The Generation Lab Student Panel and General Youth Panel, and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. The Student panel includes students from across the country, including those attending community colleges, HBCUs, and women-only colleges. The General youth panel is recruited to closely resemble a probability-based sample through academically-guided, advertisement-based, geographic recruitment with quota sampling. After a sample has been obtained, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population for college students and adults who have not completed college using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2021 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, race/ethnicity, and type of educational institution.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following ($n=1,456$, $DEFF=1.5$, adjusted Confidence Interval= ± 4.6 percentage points).





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About Ipsos

Ipsos is one of the largest market research and polling companies globally, operating in 90 markets and employing over 18,000 people.

Our passionately curious research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide true understanding and powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 solutions are based on primary data from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

Our tagline "Game Changers" sums up our ambition to help our 5,000 customers move confidently through a rapidly changing world.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos has been listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and Mid-60 indices and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD). ISIN code FR0000073298, Reuters ISOS.PA, Bloomberg IPS:FP www.ipsos.com

