

**National Research Study**

# **Addendum by Race/Ethnicity**

**2011 National Freshman Attitudes Report**

Included in this addendum are the findings for the Noel-Levitz 2011 National Freshman Attitudes Report by race/ethnicity for incoming students. These data show the percentage of students within each group that agreed with each item.

For a demographic breakdown of the respondents, please see pages 7 and 8.

To access the main 2011 National Freshman Attitudes Report, visit [www.noellevitz.com/freshmanreport](http://www.noellevitz.com/freshmanreport).



**Noel-Levitz®**

All survey items	Black/ African- American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaskan Native	White/ Caucasian	OVERALL national percentages
<b>Desire to finish college</b>						
I have a very strong desire to continue my education, and I am quite determined to finish a degree.	95.1%	95.8%	94.9%	93.3%	95.7%	95.4%
I am very strongly dedicated to finishing college—no matter what obstacles get in my way.	95.6%	95.8%	94.3%	92.2%	94.9%	95.1%
I am deeply committed to my educational goals, and I'm fully prepared to make the effort and sacrifices that will be needed to attain them.	92.5%	92.5%	88.8%	89.0%	90.5%	91.0%
Of all the things I could do at this point in my life, going to college is definitely the most satisfying.	90.6%	90.6%	86.2%	86.7%	83.6%	86.0%
I often wonder if a college education is really worth all the time, money, and effort that I'm being asked to spend on it.	21.5%	19.6%	25.1%	19.0%	14.4%	17.3%
I can think of many things I would rather do than go to college.	11.4%	11.9%	15.9%	12.6%	11.2%	11.7%
I wish that society did not put so much pressure on people to go to college, as I'd really rather be doing other things at this point in my life.	11.7%	11.7%	17.4%	11.3%	9.6%	10.8%
I dread the thought of going to school for several more years, and there is a part of me that would like to give the whole thing up.	9.9%	11.3%	14.6%	11.4%	7.9%	9.2%
<b>Attitude toward educators</b>						
The teachers I had in school respected me as a person and treated me fairly.	81.0%	84.0%	84.6%	77.6%	82.2%	81.9%
Most of my teachers have been very caring and dedicated.	77.9%	81.9%	80.4%	74.8%	81.5%	80.4%
I liked my teachers, and I feel they did a good job.	72.9%	78.1%	77.6%	72.6%	77.6%	76.2%
Most teachers have a superior attitude that I find very annoying.	21.2%	18.2%	18.0%	19.1%	15.4%	17.3%
Most of the teachers I had in school were too opinionated and inflexible.	18.3%	20.0%	19.1%	19.2%	14.2%	16.3%
In my opinion, many teachers are more concerned about themselves than they are about their students.	17.6%	15.8%	16.3%	14.7%	12.7%	14.4%

### About the racial/ethnic classifications in this addendum

To report their racial/ethnic background, students responded to this item:

I would describe my racial/ethnic origin as:

- Black/African-American                       Hispanic or Latino  
 American Indian or Alaskan Native         Multi-ethnic or other ethnic origin  
 Asian or Pacific Islander                       Prefer not to respond  
 White/Caucasian

A total of 5,959 students from the overall set of 99,368 students preferred not to respond or reported their ethnicity as "multi-ethnic or other." These students have not been included in the percentages of racial/ethnic groups reported in this addendum.

All survey items	Black/ African- American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaskan Native	White/ Caucasian	OVERALL national percentages
<b>Intellectual interests</b>						
Over the years, books have broadened my horizons and stimulated my imagination.	57.0%	54.2%	60.3%	56.0%	56.4%	56.9%
I get a great deal of satisfaction from reading.	49.7%	48.8%	50.7%	50.6%	45.8%	47.8%
I don't enjoy reading serious books and articles, and I only do it when I have to.	45.9%	45.8%	46.5%	40.5%	44.1%	44.4%
Books have never gotten me very excited.	40.2%	42.6%	38.4%	37.9%	40.0%	40.0%
<b>Study habits</b>						
I take very careful notes during class, and I review them thoroughly before a test.	69.9%	65.3%	68.4%	56.3%	58.7%	62.3%
I study very hard for all my courses, even those I don't like.	62.1%	64.8%	67.6%	57.6%	57.6%	59.8%
I have developed a solid system of self-discipline, which helps me keep up with my schoolwork.	63.5%	58.1%	60.3%	53.0%	57.9%	58.9%
My studying is very irregular and unpredictable.	35.1%	35.9%	34.5%	36.2%	30.5%	32.6%
When I try to study, I usually get bored and quit after a few minutes.	31.6%	31.4%	28.9%	32.0%	26.2%	28.2%
I have great difficulty concentrating on schoolwork, and I often get behind.	22.6%	27.5%	26.0%	27.2%	19.6%	21.7%
<b>Math and science confidence</b>						
I have a very good grasp of the scientific ideas I've studied in school.	45.0%	44.6%	52.2%	45.8%	49.2%	48.0%
I have a hard time understanding and solving complex math problems.	49.7%	48.7%	41.1%	47.9%	44.3%	46.1%
Math has always been a challenge for me.	47.9%	47.9%	37.2%	46.4%	42.2%	44.2%
I have always enjoyed the challenge of trying to solve complex math problems.	41.6%	42.6%	47.6%	38.9%	35.2%	38.0%
I have a very good understanding of general biology (e.g., cell structure, metabolism, genetics, and the circulatory system).	36.9%	37.0%	41.5%	40.3%	37.9%	37.9%
My understanding of the physical sciences is very weak.	29.7%	32.3%	26.3%	28.5%	25.4%	27.2%
<b>Verbal confidence</b>						
I am capable of writing a very clear and well-organized paper.	64.8%	57.7%	54.4%	57.7%	64.3%	63.4%
I pick up new vocabulary words quickly, and I find it easy to use them in my speech and writing.	62.7%	57.3%	51.1%	55.4%	54.1%	56.8%
I am very good at figuring out the deeper meaning of a short story or novel.	60.1%	54.8%	53.5%	55.3%	52.3%	55.0%
I have difficulty organizing my ideas in a paper, and I tend to make a lot of punctuation and grammar mistakes.	35.3%	40.7%	42.3%	40.3%	30.4%	33.2%
In English classes, I've had difficulty analyzing an author's style and theme.	26.9%	31.5%	34.0%	32.0%	29.1%	28.9%
Learning new vocabulary words is a slow and difficult process for me.	16.6%	21.5%	27.8%	22.2%	16.9%	17.7%

All survey items	Black/ African- American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaskan Native	White/ Caucasian	OVERALL national percentages
<b>Career closure</b>						
I have found a potential career that strongly attracts me.	82.7%	83.3%	77.5%	80.3%	80.7%	81.3%
I have made a firm decision to enter a certain occupation and have begun planning my life around that decision.	70.5%	68.6%	66.1%	63.8%	61.7%	64.5%
I become very confused when I try to choose an occupation.	19.4%	25.8%	31.7%	22.9%	20.5%	21.5%
I am very confused about what occupation to pursue.	17.2%	19.6%	25.6%	21.0%	18.8%	19.0%
<b>Family emotional support</b>						
When I was a child, my parents usually understood me, respected my judgment, and treated me in ways that helped me grow.	73.3%	72.5%	69.0%	70.6%	79.2%	76.2%
My family and I communicated very well when I was young, and we had a good understanding of each other's point of view.	63.9%	62.8%	59.6%	60.2%	69.0%	66.2%
My family had one way of looking at me when I was a child, and they didn't understand my feelings very well.	20.9%	21.4%	25.0%	22.9%	12.8%	16.6%
When I was a child, the other members of my family often said hurtful things that caused unpleasant feelings.	16.6%	15.8%	18.4%	21.2%	11.2%	13.7%
<b>Sense of financial security</b>						
I have the financial resources that I need to finish college.	41.8%	40.2%	47.1%	41.3%	49.6%	46.3%
I don't have any financial problems that will interfere with my schoolwork.	34.4%	28.5%	33.0%	30.9%	40.2%	36.9%
I have financial problems that are very distracting and troublesome.	35.4%	40.6%	37.7%	34.1%	26.0%	30.7%
I am in a bad financial position, and the pressure to earn extra money will probably interfere with my studies.	21.4%	25.6%	22.9%	23.7%	15.0%	18.3%
<b>Sociability</b>						
I greatly enjoy getting together with a crowd of people and having fun.	78.4%	82.2%	78.0%	75.8%	78.7%	78.8%
I am very adventurous and outgoing at social gatherings.	62.5%	62.9%	59.3%	54.8%	56.3%	58.5%
Participating in large social gatherings is of little interest to me.	28.3%	27.8%	28.4%	32.4%	24.2%	25.9%
It is hard for me to relax and just have fun with a group of people.	13.3%	13.9%	16.2%	18.4%	12.3%	13.0%

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<b>Opinion tolerance</b>						
I get along well with people who disagree with my opinion openly.	67.7%	68.5%	65.6%	62.8%	62.3%	64.6%
I can feel comfortable with someone who thinks quite differently than I do on major social issues.	64.4%	66.9%	65.7%	64.3%	63.8%	64.7%
I find it easy to be friends with people whose political ideas differ sharply from my own.	56.2%	60.8%	52.9%	55.9%	58.5%	58.2%
When someone's opinions strongly disagree with my own, I tend to develop unfriendly feelings and to avoid close contact with the person.	12.0%	12.7%	13.9%	14.9%	13.3%	13.0%
I feel uneasy and distrustful toward people whose way of thinking is quite dissimilar to my own.	11.6%	10.3%	13.2%	12.5%	8.7%	9.7%
Because they irritate me, I tend to stay away from people whose ideas are quite different from my own.	11.8%	9.4%	12.6%	11.2%	8.5%	9.5%
<b>Receptivity to academic assistance</b>						
I would like to receive some instruction in the most effective ways to take college exams.	83.8%	80.2%	78.7%	74.9%	70.6%	74.9%
I would like to receive some help in improving my study habits.	73.0%	67.3%	67.0%	60.9%	48.4%	57.0%
I would like to receive some individual help in improving my math skills.	64.3%	57.4%	49.8%	53.2%	39.6%	47.9%
I would like to receive some individual help in improving my writing skills.	59.5%	56.1%	65.1%	48.4%	36.3%	45.1%
I would like to receive tutoring in one or more of my courses.	58.7%	49.9%	52.8%	49.5%	34.3%	42.7%
I would like to receive some training to improve my reading skills.	39.8%	39.4%	47.9%	32.6%	20.7%	28.2%
<b>Receptivity to career counseling</b>						
I would like some help selecting an educational plan that will prepare me to get a good job.	75.5%	74.4%	77.0%	61.5%	61.3%	66.6%
I would like to talk with someone about the qualifications needed for certain occupations.	73.6%	69.0%	75.2%	58.7%	55.7%	62.2%
I would like to talk with someone about the salaries and future outlook for various occupations.	65.7%	61.4%	62.1%	46.7%	46.9%	53.5%
I would like to talk with someone about the advantages and disadvantages of various occupations.	57.5%	54.3%	61.0%	40.0%	41.0%	47.2%
I would like some help selecting an occupation that is well-suited to my interests and abilities.	53.9%	55.4%	61.5%	43.2%	41.0%	46.5%

All survey items	Black/ African- American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaskan Native	White/ Caucasian	OVERALL national percentages
<b>Receptivity to financial guidance</b>						
I would like to talk to someone about getting a scholarship.	79.6%	73.3%	76.9%	63.2%	56.3%	64.5%
I would like to talk to someone about getting a part-time job during the regular school year.	60.9%	58.1%	60.6%	47.8%	46.1%	51.6%
I would like to talk to someone about the opportunities available for summer employment.	64.9%	58.9%	64.0%	47.0%	39.4%	48.7%
I would like to talk with someone about getting a loan to help me through school.	37.2%	36.2%	36.5%	31.0%	26.9%	30.8%
<b>Receptivity to personal counseling</b>						
I would like to talk with a counselor about my general attitude toward school.	28.7%	25.6%	34.6%	17.5%	11.6%	18.2%
I would like to talk with a counselor about some difficulties in my personal relationships or social life.	15.4%	13.8%	18.5%	14.6%	7.9%	10.9%
I would like to talk with a counselor about eliminating an unwanted habit (involving food, drugs, cigarettes, or alcohol, etc.).	13.3%	12.1%	15.2%	11.8%	6.1%	8.9%
I would like to talk with a counselor about some emotional tensions that are bothering me.	12.1%	11.4%	14.4%	14.9%	6.9%	9.1%
I would like to talk with a counselor about some feelings of discouragement or unhappy thoughts that keep bothering me.	12.4%	11.4%	16.5%	12.5%	6.4%	8.9%
I would like to talk with a counselor about some family problems.	9.7%	9.2%	10.0%	10.8%	4.8%	6.8%
<b>Receptivity to social enrichment</b>						
I would like to attend an informal gathering where I can meet some new friends.	63.0%	57.0%	62.6%	54.1%	52.8%	56.0%
I would like to find out more about the clubs and social organizations at my college.	66.3%	58.6%	63.3%	56.3%	54.8%	58.2%
I would like to find out more about student government and the various student activities on campus.	60.7%	50.3%	55.4%	45.8%	40.4%	46.9%
I would like to meet an experienced student who can show me around and give me some advice.	61.6%	52.6%	61.5%	44.7%	38.5%	46.3%
<b>Desire to transfer</b>						
I have no desire to transfer to another school before finishing a degree at this college or university.	59.4%	59.5%	56.2%	58.1%	67.4%	63.9%
I plan to transfer to another school before completing a degree at this college or university.	16.0%	15.2%	18.4%	14.9%	9.7%	12.2%
Total number of students	21,055	10,940	3,394	870	57,150	99,368*
Average age of students	21.5	20.9	20.2	21.6	20.2	20.6

\* 5,959 students from the overall set of 99,368 students did not report their ethnicity or reported their ethnicity as “multi-ethnic or other. These students have not been included in the percentages of racial/ethnic groups reported in this addendum.

## Respondent demographics by race/ethnicity (Fall 2010)

All survey items	Black/ African- American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaskan Native	White/ Caucasian
Number of respondents*	21,055	10,940	3,394	870	57,150
Percent of respondents	21.2%	11.0%	3.4%	0.9%	57.5%
Percent female	56.0%	48.4%	49.1%	51.4%	52.0%
Percent male	43.9%	47.6%	50.9%	48.6%	48.0%
<b>Representation by institution type</b>					
Four-year public	18.6%	11.9%	3.9%	0.6%	58.1%
Four-year private	25.8%	7.5%	3.6%	0.9%	56.7%
Two-year (public and private)	19.6%	14.4%	2.1%	1.3%	57.5%
<b>Highest education level of mother</b>					
8 years or less	2.3%	21.5%	13.1%	3.1%	0.8%
Some high school	10.0%	17.7%	12.0%	8.9%	4.1%
High school diploma	31.0%	26.3%	23.9%	32.5%	29.4%
1 to 3 years of college	32.0%	19.5%	18.2%	30.5%	28.4%
Bachelor's degree	14.6%	9.9%	22.2%	16.2%	24.8%
Master's degree	7.4%	3.4%	6.8%	7.4%	9.7%
Professional degree	2.4%	1.6%	3.4%	1.4%	2.6%
<b>Highest education level of father</b>					
8 years or less	3.7%	24.4%	10.2%	4.8%	1.6%
Some high school	13.6%	20.2%	11.5%	13.9%	6.0%
High school diploma	41.9%	26.5%	22.0%	39.0%	33.0%
1 to 3 years of college	21.2%	15.3%	16.6%	20.7%	22.9%
Bachelor's degree	11.6%	7.8%	21.6%	13.4%	21.8%
Master's degree	4.6%	3.1%	10.6%	5.9%	9.7%
Professional degree	2.3%	2.3%	7.1%	1.7%	4.5%
<b>Highest degree planned by respondent</b>					
None	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%	0.9%	0.1%
1-year certificate	0.8%	1.9%	0.6%	2.4%	1.1%
2-year associate's degree	7.0%	11.8%	4.1%	12.3%	10.3%
4-year bachelor's degree	31.3%	37.4%	31.2%	40.2%	40.5%
Master's degree	33.7%	30.2%	36.3%	24.9%	31.4%
Professional degree	26.9%	18.5%	27.3%	18.7%	16.5%

\* 5,959 students did not report their ethnicity or reported their ethnicity as multi-ethnic or other and were eliminated from the analysis.

**Respondent demographics continued**

All survey items	Black/ African- American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian or Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaskan Native	White/ Caucasian
<b>Time expecting to spend at work</b>					
0 (I have no plans to work)	24.1%	18.5%	24.9%	25.3%	26.0%
1 to 10 hours per week	17.1%	17.1%	24.7%	20.1%	25.1%
11 to 20 hours per week	25.4%	27.8%	28.0%	29.4%	28.2%
21 to 30 hours per week	16.5%	18.5%	11.7%	14.7%	12.0%
31 to 40 hours per week	12.6%	13.1%	8.0%	7.4%	6.3%
Over 40 hours per week	4.2%	5.0%	2.4%	3.1%	2.3%
<b>Average grades as senior in high school</b>					
A	6.9%	9.8%	17.1%	13.9%	22.1%
A to B	30.6%	32.0%	36.3%	33.2%	34.6%
B	19.8%	20.8%	19.9%	19.5%	19.3%
B to C	30.8%	27.7%	18.6%	22.4%	16.6%
C	8.0%	6.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.0%
C to D	3.4%	3.3%	2.4%	4.6%	2.0%
D	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	1.1%	0.4%
<b>Respondent's self-assessment of academic knowledge</b>					
Highest 20%	10.7%	11.5%	18.7%	13.1%	19.1%
Next to highest 20%	28.5%	28.8%	31.5%	28.3%	34.3%
Middle 20%	56.8%	54.7%	45.3%	51.5%	43.5%
Next to lowest 20%	3.3%	4.3%	3.5%	6.0%	2.7%
Lowest 20%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	1.1%	0.4%
<b>Respondent's self-assessment of academic ability</b>					
Considerably below average	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	1.4%	0.4%
Slightly below average	5.2%	5.0%	4.8%	5.9%	3.6%
Average	36.9%	41.8%	34.7%	36.8%	29.8%
Slightly above average	32.5%	31.5%	31.4%	32.0%	36.4%
Considerably above average (top 20%)	21.8%	19.3%	24.8%	20.5%	27.1%
Extremely high (top 5%)	2.8%	1.8%	3.5%	3.6%	2.7%
<b>Timing of decision to attend chosen college/university</b>					
Decision made few days before	4.3%	5.6%	4.7%	4.6%	2.1%
Decision made weeks before	18.7%	22.9%	22.1%	19.4%	13.1%
Decision made many months before	76.7%	71.3%	72.7%	74.9%	84.7%

**About the statistical processes**

Due to the large sample sizes, virtually all differences in the means shown in this report proved to be statistically significant based on either a t-test or ANOVA analysis.