Data from the New Student Survey

William Searle
Institutional Research & Planning
**NEW STUDENT SURVEY**

*You as a Student • High School • Entering College • Choosing a College • Expectations • Paying for College • After College • Your Background*

**DESCRIBE YOURSELF AS A STUDENT**

Tell us how well each of the following statements describes you as a student.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Quite well</th>
<th>Very well</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Getting the best grades I can is very important to me.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>I prefer courses that arouse my curiosity, even if they are difficult.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am willing to work hard in a course to learn the material, even if it won’t lead to a higher grade.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I often take time to follow-up on interesting things that are mentioned in class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I prefer to work things out on my own rather than ask for help.</td>
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<tr>
<td>When I do well on a test, it is usually because I am well-prepared, not because things come easily for me.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>My favorite classes are those that deal with facts rather than opinions.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>I prefer classes with lots of discussion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I prefer to learn through hands-on activities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>1,585</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>1,405</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Citizenship</th>
<th>Hawaiian</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Asian</td>
<td>603</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>White</td>
<td>1,397</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|          | Total | 2,990 |

New Student Survey
## Respondents

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Unknown</th>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Student Survey
High School
Did the following during high school

- Leadership role in student organization: 90%
- Work for pay: 65%
- Leadership role outside of school: 57%
- Learn a musical instrument: 56%
- Write a short story, poem, play not for class: 48%
- Create a work of art not for class: 44%
- Live in a different culture: 30%
- Participate in politics beyond voting: 19%

□ Yes
Have a leadership role in a student organization, club, or team

- Overall: 90%
- Female: 91%
- Male: 88%
- Black: 91%
- White: 90%
- Am. Indian: 90%
- Intl: 90%
- Hispanic: 89%
- Multi: 89%
- Asian: 88%

□ Yes
Have a leadership role in a community group, club, or team (outside of school)

- Overall: 57%
- Female: 57%
- Male: 56%
- Am. Indian: 70%
- Hispanic: 60%
- Asian: 58%
- Infl: 57%
- Black: 56%
- White: 56%
- Multi: 56%
Learn or continue to play a musical instrument

- Overall: 56%
- Female: 56%
- Male: 56%
- Asian: 72%
- Am. Indian: 70%
- Intl: 57%
- Multi: 55%
- Black: 52%
- White: 51%
- Hispanic: 44%

Yes
Write a short story, poem, or play not required by a class

- Overall: 48%
- Female: 52%
- Male: 44%
- Am. Indian: 67%
- Black: 58%
- Multi: 53%
- Inf'l: 51%
- Hispanic: 48%
- White: 47%
- Asian: 44%

□ Yes
Create a painting, sculpture, or other work of art not required by a class

- Overall: 44%
- Female: 55%
- Male: 32%
- Am. Indian: 70%
- Multi: 50%
- Intl: 46%
- Asian: 46%
- White: 42%
- Hispanic: 40%
- Black: 37%

[Bar chart showing the percentage of students who created art not required by a class, with the highest percentage for Am. Indian students at 70%.]
Create a painting, sculpture, or other work of art not required by a class

- Overall: 44%
- Female: 55%
- Male: 32%
- Am. Indian: 70%
- Multi: 50%
- Intl: 46%
- Asian: 46%
- White: 42%
- Hispanic: 40%
- Black: 37%

[Yes]
Spend an extended time living among people from a culture different from your own

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Yes Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intl</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participate in politics beyond voting (campaign volunteer, attend public meetings, etc.)

- Overall: 19%
- Male: 21%
- Female: 18%
- Am. Indian: 40%
- Black: 22%
- White: 21%
- Multi: 19%
- Hispanic: 18%
- Infl: 17%
- Asian: 16%
Senior Year of High School
Performed community service as part of class or grad. requirement during final year of HS

[Bar chart showing the percentage of students who performed community service as part of class or grad. requirement during final year of HS, with different racial and gender demographics.]

- Overall: 75%
- Female: 76%
- Male: 75%
- Hispanic: 83%
- Intl: 80%
- Am. Indian: 80%
- Black: 80%
- Multi: 75%
- White: 74%
- Asian: 72%

□ Yes
Volunteered during final year of high school not for a class or graduation requirement
Applied ideas from a class to other courses and interests during final year of HS

- Overall: 44% Very Often, 31% Often
- Female: 43% Very Often, 34% Often
- Male: 45% Very Often, 28% Often
- Hispanic: 37% Very Often, 34% Often
- White: 43% Very Often, 35% Often
- Black: 35% Very Often, 33% Often
- Multi: 33% Very Often, 33% Often
- Asian: 46% Very Often, 26% Often
- Intl: 49% Very Often, 23% Often
- Am. Indian: 60% Very Often, 20% Often

Legend:
- • Very Often
- □ Often
During final year of HS, frequency of interaction with diverse students

- Socialized or shared a meal: 44% very often, 28% often, 17% occasionally
- Felt comfortable sharing own experience: 40% very often, 34% often, 18% occasionally
- Had meaningful discussions about intergroup relations: 24% very often, 23% often, 27% occasionally
- Felt insulted or threatened based on social identity: 6%
During final year of HS, interaction with diverse students... Socialized or shared a meal

Very Often  |  Often  |  Occasionally
During final year of HS, interaction with diverse students... Had meaningful discussions about inter-group relations.
During final year of HS, interaction with diverse students… Felt comfortable sharing your own experience
During final year of HS, interaction with diverse students...
Felt insulted or threatened based on social identity
During final year of HS, about how often did you feel overwhelmed by all you had to do?

- Very Often
- Often
- Sometimes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very Often</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Int'l</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During final year of HS, about how often did you feel depressed?
During final year of HS, about how often did you… Feel out of place or that you just didn’t fit in at school

During final year of HS, about how often did you feel out of place or that you just didn’t fit in at school?
During final year of HS, about how often did you…
Find a balance between schoolwork & other aspects of your life
During final year of HS, about how often did you drink alcohol?
During final year of HS, about how often did you…
Use stimulant medications without a prescription to help study
About You
Getting the best grades I can is very important to me

- Overall: 74%
- Female: 23%
- Male: 20%
- Am. Indian: 20%
- Black: 21%
- Hispanic: 23%
- White: 21%
- Multi: 21%
- Asian: 22%
- Intl: 34%

- Very well
- Quite well
How would you describe your political views?

- Very liberal
- Liberal
- Moderate/Middle-of-the-road
- Conservative
- Very conservative
- Something else
- Haven't thought that much about it
How would you describe your political views?

- Overall: 42%
- Female: 27%
- Male: 22%
- Int'l: 21%
- Black: 17%
- Am. Indian: 17%
- Asian: 11%
- Hispanic: 10%

- Haven't thought that much about it
- Something else
How would you describe your political views?

- **Overall**: 28%
- **Male**: 29%
- **Female**: 27%
- **Asian**: 31%
- **White**: 29%
- **Multi**: 27%
- **Hispanic**: 26%
- **Black**: 25%
- **Infl**: 24%
- **Am. Indian**: 22%

*Moderate/Middle-of-the-road*
How would you describe your political views?
How would you describe your political views?

- Overall: 11% Very conservative, 13% Conservative
- Male: 13% Very conservative, 10% Conservative
- Female: 10% Very conservative, 13% Conservative
- Am. Indian: 22% Very conservative, 14% Conservative
- White: 14% Very conservative, 13% Conservative
- Multi: 13% Very conservative, 10% Conservative
- Hispanic: 10% Very conservative, 8% Conservative
- Asian: 8% Very conservative, 6% Conservative
- Int'l: 6% Very conservative, 6% Conservative
- Black: 6% Very conservative, 6% Conservative

Legend:
- Red: Very conservative
- Pink: Conservative
New Student Survey

Cornell
How concerned are you about your family’s ability to pay for your Cornell education?
Overall, how satisfied are you that you will attend Cornell this fall?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied

- Overall: 76%
- Female: 77%
- Male: 75%
- Hispanic: 86%
- White: 82%
- Multi: 80%
- Am. Indian: 80%
- Black: 77%
- Intl: 74%
- Asian: 58%
During first year, chance that you will...
Feel a sense of community in your residence hall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Very good chance</th>
<th>Some chance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>51%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Am. Indian</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>59%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>White</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intl</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During first year, chance that you will…
Seek assistance from residence hall staff

Very good chance
Some chance
During first year, interest in...
Participating in activities or programs in residence hall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Very interested</th>
<th>Somewhat interested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
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- Very interested
- Somewhat interested
During first year, interest in...
Participating in activities or programs in residence hall

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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>43%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How well prepared do you feel you are to...
Get along socially at Cornell

- 30% Very well prepared
- 32% Quite well prepared
- 29% Not prepared
- 42% Very well prepared
- 43% Quite well prepared
- 29% Not prepared
- 47% Very well prepared
- 43% Quite well prepared
- 35% Not prepared
- 47% Very well prepared
- 43% Quite well prepared
- 30% Not prepared
- 60% Very well prepared
- 47% Quite well prepared
- 50% Not prepared
How well prepared do you feel you are to...
Live away from home

- Overall: 37% Very well prepared, 32% Quite well prepared
- Male: 40% Very well prepared, 32% Quite well prepared
- Female: 37% Very well prepared, 38% Quite well prepared
- Am. Indian: 40% Very well prepared, 60% Quite well prepared
- White: 36% Very well prepared, 36% Quite well prepared
- Black: 42% Very well prepared, 41% Quite well prepared
- Multi: 40% Very well prepared, 40% Quite well prepared
- Hispanic: 40% Very well prepared, 38% Quite well prepared
- Int'l: 33% Very well prepared, 34% Quite well prepared
- Asian: 24% Very well prepared, 37% Quite well prepared
How well prepared do you feel you are to ask for help when you need it?

- Very well prepared
- Quite well prepared

Overall: 44%
Female: 45%
Male: 44%
Am. Indian: 50%
Black: 37%
Hispanic: 34%
White: 31%
Multi: 30%
Int'l: 29%
Asian: 20%
How well prepared do you feel you are to...

Find a group that you feel part of

- Very well prepared
- Quite well prepared

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Very well prepared</th>
<th>Quite well prepared</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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<td>Hispanic</td>
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<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
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<td>27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Am. Indian</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intl</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How well prepared do you feel you are to...
Manage your time effectively

- Very well prepared
- Quite well prepared
How well prepared do you feel you are to... Resolve interpersonal conflicts

- Overall: 49%
- Female: 38%
- Male: 35%
- Am. Indian: 50%
- Hispanic: 49%
- Black: 45%
- Multi: 47%
- White: 47%
- Asian: 50%
- Intl: 56%

- Very well prepared
- Quite well prepared
How well prepared do you feel you are to...

Function effectively as a member of a team

[Bar chart showing percentage of respondents feeling very well prepared and quite well prepared across different groups, including overall, female, male, Multi, Am. Indian, White, Hispanic, Black, Asian, Int'l.]

Very well prepared □ Quite well prepared □
How well prepared do you feel you are to take a leadership role?

- Overall: 40%
- Male: 40%
- Female: 39%
- Hispanic: 50%
- Am. Indian: 50%
- White: 47%
- Multi: 45%
- Black: 43%
- Asian: 41%
- Intl: 46%

- Very well prepared
- Quite well prepared
How well prepared do you feel you are to…

Relate well to people of diff. races/nations/religions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Very well prepared</th>
<th>Quite well prepared</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intl</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>46%</td>
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</table>
How important that Cornell provides...
Opportunities to develop skills valuable in workforce
How important that Cornell provides...
Contact with individuals with different backgrounds

- Essential
- Very Important
How important that Cornell provides...
Exp. to develop/clarify personal code of values/ethics

- Essential
- Very Important
How important that Cornell provides...
Skills for lifelong learning

Overall: 30%
Female: 28%
Male: 32%
Am. Indian: 20%
Hispanic: 23%
Black: 28%
Int'l: 28%
Asian: 29%
Multi: 30%
White: 32%

Essential
Very Important
How important that Cornell provides...
A global perspective

- Overall: 47%
- Female: 51%
- Male: 45%
- Int'l: 63%
- Hispanic: 61%
- Black: 61%
- Am. Indian: 60%
- Multi: 52%
- Asian: 52%
- White: 39%

- Essential
- Very Important
Likelihood while at Cornell…
Get a job to help pay for college expenses

Very likely  Somewhat likely

Overall: 24% Very likely, 22% Somewhat likely
Female: 48% Very likely, 40% Somewhat likely
Male: 40% Very likely, 27% Somewhat likely
Am. Indian: 70% Very likely, 19% Somewhat likely
Hispanic: 66% Very likely, 23% Somewhat likely
Black: 60% Very likely, 23% Somewhat likely
Multi: 58% Very likely, 23% Somewhat likely
Asian: 43% Very likely, 30% Somewhat likely
White: 39% Very likely, 23% Somewhat likely
Int’l: 32% Very likely, 26% Somewhat likely
Likelihood while at Cornell…
Participate in community service not as part of a course

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely

Overall: 33%
Female: 29%
Male: 22%
Am. Indian: 60%
Hispanic: 45%
Black: 42%
Asian: 36%
Multi: 32%
White: 29%
Int'l: 28%
Likelihood while at Cornell...
Study abroad

- Overall: 28% Very likely, 72% Somewhat likely
- Female: 38% Very likely, 62% Somewhat likely
- Male: 29% Very likely, 71% Somewhat likely
- Hispanic: 46% Very likely, 54% Somewhat likely
- Multi: 45% Very likely, 55% Somewhat likely
- Black: 44% Very likely, 56% Somewhat likely
- White: 41% Very likely, 59% Somewhat likely
- Am. Indian: 50% Very likely, 50% Somewhat likely
- Int'l: 28% Very likely, 72% Somewhat likely
- Asian: 28% Very likely, 72% Somewhat likely

Very likely □ Somewhat likely
Likelihood while at Cornell…
Join a student club or organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Very likely</th>
<th>Somewhat likely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<td>Am. Indian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
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<td>Asian</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Int'l</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Very likely**
- **Somewhat likely**
Likelihood while at Cornell…
Join a fraternity or sorority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
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<th>Somewhat likely</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Male</td>
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<td>Black</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Am. Indian</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intl</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Likelihood while at Cornell...
Hold leadership role in campus committee, club, etc.

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
Likelihood while at Cornell...
Use multicultural services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
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<th>Somewhat likely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Int'l</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>23%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>38%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Very likely**
- **Somewhat likely**
How do you prefer to communicate and keep up to date on student groups and social events at Cornell?

- Email: 72%
- Facebook: 69%
- Text: 44%
- Twitter: 12%
- Other: 1%
What are you most looking forward to?

• “Learning more in the academic fields that excite me.”

• “Making friends, having more independence”

• “All of the opportunities available, including internships and clubs, meeting new people, and classes.”
What will be your biggest challenge?

• “Balancing academics and other parts of student life.”

• “Making friends. Seriously.”

• “Getting accustomed to the weather and the long walks.”

• “Missing friends and family back home”
More data...

• [http://irp.dpb.cornell.edu/surveys/freshman-survey](http://irp.dpb.cornell.edu/surveys/freshman-survey)