Every year Sonoma State administers the CIRP Freshman Survey to all incoming first-time freshmen. This year, approximately 1,000 students completed the survey. The following is a profile of those students.

**Great Expectations**
Over 1,800 incoming freshmen come to us with great expectations. Many come prepared with academic habits which are tied to success in college.

- **62%** Accept their mistakes as part of the learning process.
- **66%** Frequently collaborated with other students on group projects.
- **62%** Frequently integrated skills and knowledge from different sources and experiences.
- **68%** Took either an Advanced Placement course or an Advanced Placement exam while in high school.
- **79%** Expect to graduate in 4 years, (though nationally only 38% of freshmen will actually do so).

**Diverse Backgrounds**
Seeing the world from another perspective is assisted by exposure to those perspectives.

- **50%** Indicated that they were middle of the road politically, though their views appear to lean ‘liberal’ socially.
- **60%** Believe undocumented immigrants should have at least some access to public higher education.
- **69%** Agree that addressing climate change should be a federal priority.
- **38%** Consider themselves more spiritual than an average person their age.
- **33%** Indicated they had no religious preference.
- **59%** Attended a high school that was roughly half nonwhite or more.
- **46%** Said they grew up in a neighborhood of similar character.

**Choosing SSU**
More students are making Sonoma State their top choice.

- **52%** Reported Sonoma State was their top college choice, up from 49% for 2012.
- **88%** Reported that getting a better job was a very important reason why they chose to come to SSU.
- **87%** Said it was very important to learn more about subjects of interest to them.
- **56%** A visit to SSU was the deciding factor for many of our freshmen, with 56% of our students reporting that they chose Sonoma after visiting the campus.

**Average number of institutions to which incoming freshmen reported applying:**

- **6**