

2023 Entering Student Survey

Selected Items for **First Year Students**

Over the summer of 2023, OAPA was able to conduct the Entering Student Survey (ESS) for the first time since 2019. The survey was conducted entirely online from June 6th to September 5th. The response rate for first year students was 36% (n=1,910). This report presents overall results for selected survey items. Results are shown separately for women (W) and men (M) if the difference between groups was 10 or more percentage points.



41% of women and
29% of men viewed **the arts** as important when
selecting a college



78% of women and 68%
of men have concern
about their **ability to finance** their college
education



32% of women and
17% of men have seen
a **mental health professional** in the
past year



6% of students are a
parent, guardian, or primary caretaker of
a dependent child

Top disabilities and
medical conditions

Mental health disorder
(14%)

Attention deficit
hyperactivity disorder
(4%)

Physical disability
(1%)

Mental health in high
school senior year

(% Frequently)

Felt overwhelmed by all
they had to do
(W=57%, M=30%)

Felt anxious
(W=61%, M=33%)

Felt depressed
(W=19%, M=9%)

Academic behaviors in
high school senior year

(% Frequently)

Were bored in class
(39%)

Asked a teacher for
advice after class
(37%)

Were late to class
(7%)

College opportunities students are looking forward to (% To a great extent):

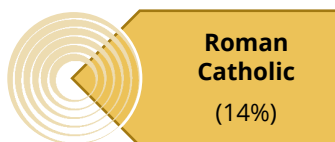
Developing new
friendships
(88%)

Becoming more
independent
(76%)

Exploring career
options
(72%)

Developing a
wellness routine
(57%)

Top current religious preferences:



Political views:



Top student priorities for growth

(% Very important or Essential)

Striving for excellence
(95%)

Learning more about yourself
(88%)

Being very well off financially
(81%)

Personal importance of UMass Amherst values

(% Very important or Essential)

Helping others who are in difficulty
(85%)

Helping to promote inclusiveness in society
(W=87%, M=71%)

Contributing to the welfare of people
(80%)

Top areas of anticipated need for support in college

(% I will need a lot of help)

Managing my finances
(16%)

Managing stress, anxiety, or depression
(14%)

Managing my time
(14%)

Percentage of students who spent 6 or more hours a week during their final year of high school doing the following:

Socializing with friends
(56%)

Studying or doing homework
(50%)

Working for pay
(48%)

Exercising or playing sports
(49%)

Using social media
(47%)

Watching tv or videos
(47%)