



CU-Colorado Springs 2003 Entering Freshmen Survey Report

	2002	2003	%
	Total %	Total %	Change
	N=664	N=606	
College: (Circle the college that corresponds to your major)			
BUS (Business)	12.8%	14.7%	1.9%
ENG (Engineering)	20.0%	15.2%	-4.8%
LAS (Letters, Arts and Sciences)	55.9%	58.3%	2.4%
NURS (Beth-El)	11.3%	11.8%	0.5%
Majors:			
Letters, Arts and Sciences			
Anthropology	0.3%	0.7%	0.4%
Biology	6.3%	5.7%	-0.7%
Biology w/Teacher Education	7.1%	0.0%	-
Chemistry	7.4%	2.8%	-4.6%
Communication	3.6%	3.4%	-0.2%
Distributed Studies	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
Economics	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
English	1.7%	3.2%	1.5%
English w/Teacher Education	2.1%	1.9%	-
Fine Arts	2.4%	2.5%	0.1%
Geography	0.3%	1.1%	0.8%
History	0.8%	1.1%	0.3%
History w/Teacher Education	1.6%	1.4%	-
Mathematics	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
Mathematics w/Teacher Education	1.1%	0.9%	-
Physics	0.3%	1.4%	1.1%
Philosophy	0.2%	1.1%	0.9%
Political Science	2.5%	2.5%	0.0%
Psychology	4.1%	6.0%	1.9%
Sociology	0.9%	1.2%	0.3%
Spanish	0.5%	0.4%	-0.2%
Undecided	23.9%	15.9%	-8.0%
Pre-professional Programs:			
Pre-Dentistry	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%
Pre-Education	0.0%	0.9%	0.9%
Pre-Journalism	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%
Pre-Medicine	0.9%	1.8%	0.9%
Pre-Nursing	1.6%	2.3%	0.7%
Pre-Pharmacy	0.3%	0.2%	-0.1%
Pre-Physical Therapy	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%
Pre-Business	0.0%	7.8%	7.8%
Pre-Engineering	0.0%	0.9%	0.9%

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Engineering:			
Applied Mathematics	0.3%	0.5%	0.2%
Computer Science	6.6%	2.8%	-3.8%
Electrical Engineering	2.7%	1.8%	-0.9%
Mechanical Engineering	4.0%	3.9%	-0.1%
Undecided	6.6%	4.8%	-1.8%
Business:			
Accounting	2.1%	0.9%	-1.2%
Finance	1.4%	0.4%	-1.1%
Finance/Information Systems	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%
Information Systems	0.6%	0.0%	-0.6%
International Business	0.8%	0.4%	-0.5%
Marketing	2.4%	1.2%	-1.2%
Personnel-Human Resources Mgt.	0.3%	0.0%	-0.3%
Productions and Operations Mgt.	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
Organizational Management	0.5%	0.9%	0.4%
Undecided	4.7%	2.7%	-2.1%
Beth-EI College of Nursing			
Health Care Services	1.7%	2.1%	0.4%
Nursing	8.1%	8.7%	0.6%
Gender:			
Male	40.8%	37.4%	-3.4%
Female	59.2%	62.6%	3.4%
Gender by College:			
Business			
Male	54.4%	42.7%	-11.7%
Female	45.6%	57.3%	11.7%
Engineering and Applied Science			
Male	77.0%	77.6%	0.6%
Female	23.0%	22.4%	-0.6%
Letters, Arts, and Sciences			
Male	30.8%	31.7%	0.9%
Female	69.2%	68.3%	-0.9%
Nursing			
Male	4.2%	9.7%	5.5%
Female	95.8%	90.3%	-5.5%
Undecided			
Male	62.5%	37.3%	-25.2%
Female	37.5%	62.7%	25.2%
Mean Age:	18	18	0.0%
Ethnicity: (Circle only one)			
1 - White (Anglo/Caucasian)	79.8%	81.6%	1.8%
2 - African American	3.6%	2.7%	-0.9%
3 - Latino/Chicano/Hispanic	9.4%	8.4%	-1.0%
4 - Asian/Asian American/Pacific Islander	6.7%	6.3%	-0.4%
5 - Native American/American Indian/Aleut	0.5%	1.0%	0.5%

Student's Self-Reported Goals

The following questions are designed to assess your background, aspirations and goals. We would like to know about your past and what your expectations are concerning your college education.

1. Why did you choose CU-Colorado Springs?

A. School was cost competitive			
1 - not important at all	15.4%	14.0%	-1.4%
2 - somewhat important	46.8%	46.8%	0.0%
3 - very important	37.8%	39.2%	1.4%
B. I could live in parents' home while attending CU-Colorado Springs			
1 - not important at all	47.2%	46.9%	-0.3%
2 - somewhat important	18.6%	23.4%	4.8%
3 - very important	34.3%	29.7%	-4.6%
C. I am employed in the area			
1 - not important at all	52.0%	52.2%	0.2%
2 - somewhat important	23.9%	27.0%	3.1%
3 - very important	24.1%	20.7%	-3.4%
D. The university's academic reputation			
1 - not important at all	11.6%	11.3%	-0.3%
2 - somewhat important	52.1%	46.7%	-5.4%
3 - very important	36.3%	42.0%	5.7%
E. Friends came to CU-Colorado Springs			
1 - not important at all	62.4%	65.0%	2.6%
2 - somewhat important	29.7%	28.3%	-1.4%
3 - very important	7.9%	6.8%	-1.2%
F. Good reputation of the faculty			
1 - not important at all	20.5%	20.2%	-0.3%
2 - somewhat important	53.9%	50.0%	-3.9%
3 - very important	25.6%	29.9%	4.3%
G. CU-Colorado Springs offered the major I wanted			
1 - not important at all	14.8%	13.5%	-1.3%
2 - somewhat important	32.0%	26.6%	-5.4%
3 - very important	53.2%	60.0%	6.8%
H. To participate in intercollegiate athletics			
1 - not important at all	74.2%	73.5%	-0.7%
2 - somewhat important	17.6%	20.7%	3.1%
3 - very important	8.2%	5.8%	-2.4%
I. Other*			
1 - not important at all	10.0%	5.7%	-4.3%
2 - somewhat important	10.0%	26.7%	16.7%
3 - very important	80.0%	67.6%	-12.4%
*Top 5 "Other" Reasons:			
Location/Environment			
Smaller Campus/ Classes			
Scholarship to attend			
Housing/Dorms			
OTC			

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2. CU-Colorado Springs was my: (please circle one answer)			
1 - First choice for a university	60.0%	59.9%	-0.1%
2 - Second choice for a university	29.8%	29.6%	-0.2%
3 - Third choice for a university	6.6%	7.1%	0.5%
4 - Fourth choice or lower	3.7%	3.4%	-0.3%
3. How long do you intend to stay at CU-Colorado Springs? (Please circle one answer)			
1 - Until I complete my Bachelor's Degree	64.7%	62.4%	-2.3%
2 - Until I get a good job	0.6%	1.0%	0.4%
3 - Until employment/spouse transfer requires me to leave	1.8%	1.4%	-0.5%
4 - Until I can transfer to another school after one year	11.7%	11.8%	0.1%
5 - Until I can transfer to another school after two years	9.6%	12.3%	2.7%
6 - Other	11.6%	11.1%	-0.5%
4. Would you like to study abroad (in another country)?			
1 - Yes	16.2%	15.0%	-1.2%
2 - No	55.3%	51.9%	-3.4%
3 - Yes, if financial aid is available	28.5%	33.2%	4.7%
5. I plan to complete my Bachelor's Degree in _____ years.	MEAN= 4.01	3.95	-0.06
6. How many languages (other than English) do you speak fluently?			
0	87.1%	87.8%	0.7%
1	11.8%	10.8%	-1.0%
2 or more	1.1%	1.4%	0.3%
7. To how many colleges or universities did you apply?			
One	36.7%	34.2%	-2.5%
Two	25.7%	23.2%	-2.5%
Three	18.3%	20.9%	2.6%
Four or more	19.3%	21.7%	2.4%
8. At how many colleges or universities were you accepted?			
One	42.0%	38.5%	-3.5%
Two	25.9%	27.8%	1.9%
Three	16.9%	18.6%	1.7%
Four or more	15.2%	15.1%	-0.1%
9. To what extent do you experience difficulty with any of the following things?			
A. Reading			
1 - Not at all	70.9%	70.9%	0.0%
2 - A little	23.0%	22.5%	-0.5%
3 - A moderate amount	4.9%	5.3%	0.4%
4 - A great amount	1.2%	1.4%	0.2%
B. Spelling			
1 - Not at all	53.7%	50.8%	-2.9%
2 - A little	32.9%	36.5%	3.6%
3 - A moderate amount	10.4%	10.6%	0.2%
4 - A great amount	3.0%	2.0%	-1.0%
C. Computer Use			
1 - Not at all	51.6%	53.3%	1.7%
2 - A little	39.7%	38.8%	-1.0%
3 - A moderate amount	7.8%	6.4%	-1.4%
4 - A great amount	0.9%	1.5%	0.6%

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D. Learning new material			
1 - Not at all	55.3%	47.9%	-7.4%
2 - A little	38.3%	46.0%	7.7%
3 - A moderate amount	5.6%	5.4%	-0.2%
4 - A great amount	0.8%	0.7%	-0.1%
E. Paying attention			
1 - Not at all	49.9%	44.7%	-5.2%
2 - A little	38.9%	43.7%	4.8%
3 - A moderate amount	9.3%	9.0%	-0.3%
4 - A great amount	1.8%	2.7%	0.9%
F. Difficulty with studying (i.e., homework, preparing for class)			
1 - Not at all	N/A	24.2%	-
2 - A little	N/A	49.3%	-
3 - A moderate amount	N/A	23.5%	-
4 - A great amount	N/A	3.2%	-
10. Which of the categories below best describes your student status?			
1 - New freshman with no previous college work	69.7%	63.0%	-6.7%
2 - New freshman with some college work completed while in high school	28.8%	36.7%	7.9%
3 - Transfer from a community college with at least 12 hours of course credit earned	0.8%	0.3%	-0.5%
4 - Transfer from a 4-year college/university with at least 12 hours of course credit earned	0.8%	0.0%	-0.8%
11. For the following sets of statements, please put a checkmark on the line between the two statements that best represents your response			
I expect my first semester of college to:			
1 - Be easy	N/A	0.7%	-
2 -	N/A	2.4%	-
3 -	N/A	23.7%	-
4 -	N/A	44.4%	-
5 - Challenge me academically	N/A	28.8%	-
	MEAN=	3.98	
1 - Be a lot like high school	N/A	0.7%	-
2 -	N/A	2.4%	-
3 -	N/A	15.2%	-
4 -	N/A	36.0%	-
5 - Be very different from high school	N/A	45.7%	-
	MEAN=	4.24	
1 - Be dull	N/A	0.2%	-
2 -	N/A	2.2%	-
3 -	N/A	15.6%	-
4 -	N/A	32.1%	-
5 - Be exciting	N/A	49.9%	-
	MEAN=	4.29	
1 - Be uninteresting	N/A		-
2 -	N/A	1.5%	-
3 -	N/A	9.9%	-
4 -	N/A	36.7%	-
5 - Be interesting	N/A	51.9%	-
	MEAN=	4.39	

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1 - Discourage me	N/A	0.2%	-
2 -	N/A	0.9%	-
3 -	N/A	13.9%	-
4 -	N/A	36.6%	-
5 - Motivate me to continue	N/A	48.5%	-
MEAN=	4.32		
1 - Be boring	N/A	0.2%	-
2 -	N/A	3.4%	-
3 -	N/A	15.9%	-
4 -	N/A	36.5%	-
5 - Be fun	N/A	44.0%	-
MEAN=	4.21		
1 - Make me feel alienated	N/A	0.5%	-
2 -	N/A	1.9%	-
3 -	N/A	27.9%	-
4 -	N/A	35.5%	-
5 - Help me feel part of this campus	N/A	34.1%	-
MEAN=	4.01		
12. How did you develop your expectations of what college might be like (percent marking as one of their top three)			
<i>(Mark your top three information sources with 1, 2, and 3)</i>			
Talks with my parents	N/A	71.6%	-
Friends who have already gone to college	N/A	66.3%	-
Discussions with teachers/counselors in high school	N/A	53.8%	-
Information I received from colleges in the mail	N/A	38.2%	-
Talks with friends who are also now freshmen	N/A	31.2%	-
TV and movies	N/A	15.4%	-
The Internet	N/A	10.1%	-
Other (please specify)	N/A	5.0%	-
*Top 3 "Other" Reasons:			
Pre-collegiate			
Campus tours			
Volunteer and community service			
13. If you could somehow get a "mail-order" degree that was accepted as fully as the degree you seek (but without doing any academic work), would you seek the mail-order degree?			
1 - Definitely no	28.5%	33.9%	5.4%
2 - Probably no	32.9%	28.4%	-4.5%
3 - Don't know	29.0%	27.6%	-1.4%
4 - Probably yes	7.1%	6.6%	-0.5%
5 - Definitely yes	2.4%	3.5%	1.1%
14. If your intended career requires more than 4 years of college (e.g., M.D., Ph.D., etc.), are you willing to put in the necessary time and work to accomplish this level of education?			
1 - No, for sure	0.6%	0.8%	0.2%
2 - No, probably not	1.2%	1.5%	0.3%
3 - Maybe	6.5%	7.9%	1.4%
4 - Yes, probably	31.0%	33.8%	2.8%
5 - Yes, for sure	60.7%	55.9%	-4.8%
15. Would you like to complete an advanced degree?			
1 - No	21.6%	18.6%	-3.0%
2 - Yes, a Master's Degree	48.5%	51.2%	2.7%
3 - Yes, a Doctoral Degree	9.8%	9.3%	-0.5%
4 - Yes, a professional degree (law, medical, dentistry, etc.)	20.2%	21.0%	0.7%

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16. Forget how your teachers mark your work. How good do you think your work is?			
1 - Poor	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
2 - Below most of the students	0.5%	0.8%	0.3%
3 - Same as most of the students	27.2%	31.8%	4.6%
4 - Above most of the students	62.5%	60.7%	-1.8%
5 - Excellent	9.7%	6.5%	-3.2%
17. As you continue in college, what type of student will you be?			
1 - One of the worst	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
2 - Below most of the students	0.5%	0.0%	-0.5%
3 - Same as most of the students	27.0%	37.2%	10.2%
4 - Better than most of the students	52.9%	51.6%	-1.3%
5 - One of the best	19.7%	11.1%	-8.6%
18. I have a good support system (e.g., friends, family, spouse) that will help me succeed in college.			
1 - Definitely no	0.6%	1.5%	0.9%
2 - Probably no	2.1%	1.8%	-0.3%
3 - Don't know	6.7%	7.1%	0.4%
4 - Probably yes	24.1%	28.9%	4.8%
5 - Definitely yes	66.5%	60.7%	-5.8%
19. Which of the following statements do you agree with? (Mark your top three choices with 1,2, and 3)			
<i>Obtaining a college degree will help you: (percent marking as one of their top three)</i>			
Prepare for a career	N/A	90.2%	-
Think in new ways	N/A	52.2%	-
Become a better person	N/A	38.6%	-
Build long-lasting friendships	N/A	21.2%	-
Learn to focus outside yourself, such as helping others who are in difficulty	N/A	20.2%	-
Clarify your values	N/A	19.2%	-
Develop meaningful philosophy of life	N/A	18.7%	-
Better understand world events	N/A	13.6%	-
Become a good citizen within your community	N/A	12.1%	-
Other (please specify)	N/A	5.3%	-
Develop sensitivity toward cultures and races other than your own	N/A	5.0%	-
<i>*Top 5 "Other" Reasons:</i>			
Be successful			
Become more responsible			
Financially			
Get a better job			
Give a direction in life			

How would you rate your abilities and yourself in the following areas?

Check one answer for each question.

20a. ORAL COMMUNICATION (e.g., public speaking, small groups, one-on-one)			
VERY POOR	1.7%	1.5%	-0.2%
POOR	7.9%	7.5%	-0.4%
FAIR	29.5%	34.2%	4.7%
GOOD	47.4%	42.8%	-4.6%
EXCELLENT	13.5%	14.1%	0.6%
20b. Would you like to improve this skill?			
YES	87.8%	87.0%	-0.8%
NO	12.2%	13.0%	0.8%

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21a. QUANTITATIVE SKILLS (e.g., math, statistics)			
VERY POOR	4.1%	5.7%	1.6%
POOR	11.1%	13.3%	2.2%
FAIR	29.3%	34.6%	5.3%
GOOD	43.7%	36.3%	-7.4%
EXCELLENT	11.8%	10.1%	-1.7%
21b. Would you like to improve this skill?			
YES	93.1%	89.4%	-3.7%
NO	6.9%	10.6%	3.7%
22a. SCIENTIFIC REASONING (e.g., qualitative reasoning, scientific method)			
VERY POOR	0.9%	1.0%	0.1%
POOR	8.3%	8.4%	0.1%
FAIR	36.2%	42.2%	6.0%
GOOD	44.2%	41.3%	-2.9%
EXCELLENT	10.5%	7.1%	-3.4%
22b. Would you like to improve this skill?			
YES	90.3%	87.5%	-2.8%
NO	9.7%	12.5%	2.8%
23a. WRITING SKILLS			
VERY POOR	1.5%	0.7%	-0.8%
POOR	6.2%	5.6%	-0.6%
FAIR	26.8%	34.2%	7.4%
GOOD	48.0%	45.0%	-3.0%
EXCELLENT	17.5%	14.5%	-3.0%
23b. Would you like to improve this skill?			
YES	93.1%	93.2%	0.1%
NO	6.9%	6.8%	-0.1%
24a. MULTI-CULTURAL AWARENESS (e.g., sensitivity to others unlike you)			
VERY POOR	0.9%	0.3%	-0.6%
POOR	4.6%	4.6%	-0.1%
FAIR	18.5%	20.9%	2.4%
GOOD	46.5%	48.7%	2.2%
EXCELLENT	29.5%	25.5%	-4.0%
24b. Would you like to improve this skill?			
YES	82.3%	80.2%	-2.1%
NO	17.7%	19.8%	2.1%
25a. SOCIAL SKILLS (e.g., making friends, working in groups)			
VERY POOR	N/A	0.7%	-
POOR	N/A	3.2%	-
FAIR	N/A	21.5%	-
GOOD	N/A	50.6%	-
EXCELLENT	N/A	24.0%	-
25b. Would you like to improve this skill?			
YES	N/A	84.0%	-
NO	N/A	16.0%	-

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26. Have you been diagnosed as having a learning disability?			
1 - Yes	2.9%	2.9%	0.0%
2 - No	95.2%	94.4%	-0.8%
3 - Maybe	1.8%	2.7%	0.9%
27. Do you suspect you may have a learning disability that hasn't been diagnosed?			
1 - Yes	3.7%	3.4%	-0.3%
2 - No	90.8%	89.4%	-1.4%
3 - Maybe	5.5%	7.3%	1.8%
28. Do you have any physical handicaps that would impact your academic performance in any way?			
1 - Yes	1.4%	1.0%	-0.4%
2 - No	97.8%	98.0%	0.2%
3 - Maybe	0.8%	1.0%	0.2%
29. Would you like someone from Disability Services to contact you regarding this problem?			
1 - Yes	1.7%	1.5%	-0.2%
2 - No	96.9%	96.9%	0.0%
3 - Maybe	1.4%	1.5%	0.1%
30. How many hours a week do you expect you will spend on completing class assignments, homework, and related study?			
1 - None	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%
2 - 1-10 hours	26.2%	13.6%	-12.6%
3 - 11-20 hours	41.8%	42.6%	0.8%
4 - 21-30 hours	24.0%	39.9%	15.9%
5 - Over 30 hours	7.8%	3.9%	-3.9%
31. Which of the following on-campus resources do you plan to use at least once your first semester?			
1 - Library	N/A	26.2%	-
2 - Campus Learning Centers (Writing, Oral Communication, Math, Science, Foreign Language)	N/A	17.3%	-
3 - Computer Labs	N/A	18.5%	-
4 - Student Success Center	N/A	16.0%	-
5 - Professor's office hours for individual meetings/conferences/help	N/A	10.3%	-
6 - Student clubs or Organizations	N/A	11.8%	-
32. How important will gaining a practical experience within the community (as part of your university degree program) be to your overall education?			
1 - Very unimportant	6.6%	16.3%	9.7%
2 - Somewhat unimportant	9.4%	14.8%	5.4%
3 - No importance	13.7%	11.9%	-1.8%
4 - Somewhat important	39.4%	34.5%	-4.9%
5 - Very important	30.9%	22.6%	-8.3%
33. Your educational expenses are paid for by:			
1 - Yourself	25.5%	23.7%	-1.8%
2 - Your parents	36.4%	33.4%	-3.0%
3 - Your spouse	0.6%	0.1%	-0.5%
4 - Student loans	13.9%	16.1%	2.2%
5 - Grants/scholarships	20.0%	25.5%	5.5%
6 - Other	3.8%	2.2%	-1.6%

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	Total %	Total %	Change
34. Do you plan to live in the Residence Halls?			
1 - No, I'm not interested in living in the residence halls.	56.4%	56.7%	0.3%
2 - Maybe, but I have concerns.*	5.5%	6.0%	0.5%
*Top 3 "concerns":			
Cost			
Roommates			
Wait list			
3 - Yes, but I have not applied yet.	4.4%	3.5%	-0.9%
4 - Yes, I've applied, but have not been accepted yet.	9.2%	2.3%	-6.9%
5 - Yes, I've applied and been accepted.	24.5%	31.5%	7.0%
35. Do you own a personal computer? (at least 486 or Pentium PC, or MAC Model 6600)			
1 - Yes	84.8%	84.3%	-0.5%
2 - No	15.2%	15.7%	0.5%
36. Is your computer connected to the Internet/World Wide Web?			
1 - Yes	84.1%	84.2%	0.1%
2 - No	15.9%	15.8%	-0.1%
37. The highest education level completed by your mother was:			
1 - Grade school	N/A	0.2%	-
2 - Junior high	N/A	0.8%	-
3 - Some high school	N/A	3.2%	-
4 - High school graduate	N/A	24.0%	-
5 - Vocational/technical/business (beyond high school)	N/A	6.5%	-
6 - Some college	N/A	27.3%	-
7 - Completed college (4 year degree)	N/A	25.8%	-
8 - Graduate or Professional school	N/A	12.3%	-
38. The highest education level completed by your father was:			
1 - Grade school	N/A	0.7%	-
2 - Junior high	N/A	1.0%	-
3 - Some high school	N/A	3.0%	-
4 - High school graduate	N/A	15.6%	-
5 - Vocational/technical/business (beyond high school)	N/A	6.4%	-
6 - Some college	N/A	23.5%	-
7 - Completed college (4 year degree)	N/A	28.4%	-
8 - Graduate or Professional school	N/A	21.5%	-
39. What was your high school grade point average at the time of graduation?	N/A	3.46	
40. What do you expect your grade point average to be at the end of your first semester of college?	N/A	3.39	
41. What are you looking forward to in your first semester of college?			
<i>This open ended question was asked for the first time in 2002-03. Students generally indicated that they are coming to college for a variety of reasons. Items mentioned most frequently are listed below:</i>			
Meeting new people and/or making friends			
Learning, being able to choose classes			
Having new experiences or a new beginning, a change, usually in conjunction with being away from high school & family			
Having fun (mentioned frequently, but not usually alone for example -- "having fun and learning")			
Experiencing independence and/or responsibility			
Anticipating success in classes or with grades			
Participating in sports or extracurricular activities (including ROTC).			