THE FIRST YEAR IS A BIG DEAL

About 25% of first-year students leave college before their sophomore year. Knowing the experiences of your students and the impact of first-year programs is key to creating positive change.

National results for Your First College Year survey are shown in Dark Blue. Results for the University of Nevada are shown in Grey.

UNDERSTANDING EXPECTATIONS IS IMPORTANT.

12% 12% of students thought they might switch majors
35% 29% actually did

70% 67% of students thought they would probably socialize with someone from another racial/ethnic group
95% 94% actually did

20% 13% of students felt the admissions or recruitment materials didn’t accurately portray campus
59% 44% were satisfied with the relevance of coursework to everyday life
17% 19% of students sought counseling

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT FOR STUDENTS IS ADJUSTING.

81% 73% felt a sense of belonging on campus
47% 42% had difficulty getting along with their roommate
66% 63% felt lonely or homesick
42% 50% frequently felt overwhelmed by all they had to do
42% 56% of students worried about their health
47% 59% of students felt isolated from campus life

BEING INVOLVED IN COURSEWORK IS KEY.

45% 35% frequently discussed course content with other students outside of class
37% 44% frequently felt bored in class
36% 26% had fallen asleep in class

COLEGE CAN BE DEMANDING. ACADEMICS ARE ONE SOURCE OF STUDENT STRESS.

33% 30% of students had difficulty adjusting to the demands of coursework
33% 37% of students had a hard time developing effective study skills
47% 46% of students struggled with effective time management
43% 35% of students witnessed academic dishonesty or cheating

Sources: 2011 Freshman Survey and 2012 Your First College Year Survey

www.heif.gov | Facebook.com/HERI.CIRP | Twitter.com/HERIUCCLA

So, the more you get to know your students, the better you can understand their needs. With insight from CIRP’s Your First College Year Survey, the most comprehensive tool addressing first-year programming and retention strategies, you’ll be one step closer to providing the best environment for student learning.