STATE OF
THE STUDENT

Love, anxiety, and debt. The lives of college students in America.
METHODOLOGY

The 2018 State of the Student research project was designed and managed by Chegg, Inc. to gain a deeper understanding of the perceptions of enrolled college students. The online research was conducted using empaneled respondents provided by Research Now. The sample for this research was collected in June and August 2018. It consists of 1,001 students currently enrolled in U.S.-based colleges. To guarantee the sample is reflective of the college population at large, the data is weighted to match data from the U.S. Census. Data points used for weighting include: gender, age segment, college type (2-year vs. 4-year) and school attendance (full-time vs. part-time).

See Appendix for sources
The image of the American college student has long held a special place in the American zeitgeist. At the end of each summer, the public often imagines parents dropping their children off at an ivy-clad quad to begin their path to adulthood. This is a time for fun, exploration and personal development. From the movie “Animal House” to the annual lists of “best party schools,” college is often associated with fun and excitement. Recently, this image has shifted to sensitive Gen Zers more concerned with social media than their studies.

However, the data from Chegg’s State of the Student report—which highlights insights from a survey of over 1,000 students across a representative spectrum of demographics and colleges—paints a very different picture. Two in three students have “studied all night,” while only a quarter have “partied all night.” They are overwhelmingly anxious (over 60 percent “all the time” or “frequently”) and troubled by financial and academic concerns. Three in four students work while in college, which is not surprising considering they will graduate with an average of $39,400 in debt.*

The data from the State of the Student report illustrates the challenges of the modern student: the struggles to afford housing, tuition and even food, and social pressure to spend more money than they can afford. College students are more adult than ever, not only in terms of age, but also in terms of their concerns and their choices. One in four students has a child and two-thirds cannot comfortably afford housing. There’s a need to align the educational experience with modern life, and the first step is getting to know just who the modern student really is.

When students were asked about their mental health, negative emotions prevailed. Over half (57 percent) reported feeling “very sad or depressed” at college. More (43 percent) have felt “very lonely” than have felt they are having “the greatest time of their life” (35 percent). Rotem, 19, a student at Santa Clara University, said, “I feel anxious, sad and depressed very often at college, for a host of reasons. My culture and I place a lot of stress on doing well in school. There’s also a foreboding feeling in college that the work that I put out now will determine the course of the rest of my life. I don’t feel great about my personal life and feel the sudden loss of the support network (friends, family and the like) that carried me through young adulthood. I don’t feel like I’ve connected with my college or its students nearly as much as I did in high school and earlier.”

Anxiety is a common challenge, with 60 percent of students saying they feel anxious “frequently” or “all the time” at college, and only 6 percent never feeling anxious. The main stressors are finances and school work. Douglass, 22, at Swarthmore College, described feeling anxious “fairly frequently about finishing work,” but noted that “depression and sadness are rarer.” For Brianna, 20, at Biola University, the role of anxiety in her life changed when she got to college: “I was diagnosed with social anxiety after I went to college. I feel happy a lot at college, but I have found that since I have been a student, the ‘lows’ in life hit harder than when they happened in high school.”
For most students, academics, careers and finances are their overwhelming concerns - overshadowing health, wellness and relationship issues. Nearly two-thirds (62 percent) cited academic performance as a main stressor, and the same number cited financial concerns. And when it comes to academics, careers and finances, female students are more stressed than male students. Dalia, 19, at the University of California, Santa Barbara, said that she feels most stressed by “the pressure to get good grades because I want to have the highest GPA I can attain.” For Seth, 21, at the University of Pennsylvania, “the overall level of work is definitely the biggest stressor... I always have to make sure I am understanding lectures, getting my homework done on time and practicing the content to ensure I can succeed on exams.”

Physical appearance is another common concern (among both male and female students). One in four students (24 percent) reported feeling social pressure to change their body type. Nearly the same number (23 percent) have felt pressure to change how they dress. Some students, like Douglass, felt that their campuses are “fairly accepting of all body types and appearances.” Brianna attributed the pressure to changing how she dressed to socioeconomic status, explaining, “At my school there are a lot of affluent people. There is a lot of pressure to be dressed well and look put together 24/7.”

While it may be unsurprising that college students feel stressed by their academics and finances, some describe feeling unable to find a balance between work and play. Rotem explained, “I think the largest stress for me at college is actually to try and enjoy myself. I went to a very competitive high school and feel ready for the workload thrown at me, but I have to go out of my way to find time for my social life and to physically meet up with people.” Dalia also described her social life as a stressor rather than a reprieve, adding pressure to “balance out social life and extracurricular activities without spreading myself too thin.”

Which of the following do you find particularly stressful? 23

- Relationship Issues: 31%
- Academic Performance: 62%
- Financial Concerns: 62%
- Career Concerns: 47%
- Health & Wellness: 24%

Female students are 28% more likely than male students to be stressed by financial concerns 23
If the pressure to excel academically, make money and prepare for the workforce interferes with students’ abilities to make social connections, perhaps that explains why so many students reported feeling lonely. Over half of females (51 percent) and one-third of males (35 percent) said that they have felt “very lonely” while at college. Sixty percent of LGBTQ students have felt “very lonely,” compared with 38 percent of heterosexual students. Douglass said that he believes feeling lonely is “definitely a common experience. College is the first time you are on your own. Whether or not you make friends is totally up to you.” Rotem described feeling “isolated [because of] my lack of connection to the people I ended up living with my freshman and sophomore years. Living with people I genuinely disliked made it difficult to cope with all of the other stressors in college.” In spite of the high proportion of students who reported feeling anxious, depressed or lonely, nearly two-thirds of students (63 percent) have never taken advantage of the mental health resources at their college or are unaware that they exist. Rather, they turn to other sources, with over two-thirds (69 percent) reporting having a strong advocate—such as a professor, academic adviser or coach—to whom they turn for advice and support. Brianna said, “My marketing professor has mentored me through internship applications and gotten me jobs on campus. He also talks to me about my social anxiety and helps me with that.”
SOCIAL SCENE

Even with high levels of stress and anxiety, social and romantic life still thrives on campus. **One in three students (30 percent) has fallen in love at college,** and on average, males are 38 percent more likely than females to have fallen in love. **Over half (54 percent) have made a best friend.**

Interestingly, about one in five (17 percent) has had a crush on one of their professors, which is higher than the percentage of students who have had a crush on one of their teaching assistants (13 percent). In addition, male students (20 percent) are sending “inappropriate” photos of themselves to others more than females (15 percent), but female students are 77 percent more likely than male students to have “creeped on” (anonymously profiled) a classmate on social media.

Three in four students said that the social scene at their college is respectful or mostly respectful, and 61 percent described it as inclusive or mostly inclusive. Charlie, 20, at Wake Forest University, said that the social scene is “pretty respectful, accepting of all regardless of looks and class.” Isabelle, 20, at the University of Nevada, Reno, described a heterogeneous social scene: “On my campus I think you could experience a bit of everything. It is a big school, so you really need to advocate for yourself and put yourself in the environment you want and need to feel good about yourself.” Seth observed a similar trend, saying, “There are a lot of different social scenes, each having its own feel. The majority... is made up of Greek life, which at times can be non-inclusive to those not in a fraternity or sorority, but also gives those who are in the system a sense of belonging.”

One in four students has felt discriminated against on the basis of gender while in college, **with male students being 50 percent more likely to report feeling this way than female students.** Seth said, “I think that since there has been so much attention on female rights in the past few years, males now feel that it is going too far, and they now feel discriminated against. This may be because they think females are getting opportunities over them just because they are female.”

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**In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gender</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sexual orientation</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>race</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>religion</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>political views</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>economic background</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dalia suggested this phenomenon may stem not from something recent but rather from something deep-rooted: “I think there are expectations for men to act a certain way and that they are not given the opportunity to express their feelings as often.” Isabelle concurred, saying, “Not enough people talk about how men have the same struggles as women do, socially, individually and societally.”

Male students were more likely than female students to report feeling discriminated against on every front, including gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, socioeconomic background and political views. Twenty-four percent of males have felt discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation, compared with only 14 percent of females.

Forty percent of students who identify as LGBTQ reported feeling discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation, compared with only 13 percent of non-LGBTQ students. LGBTQ students also reported experiencing more discrimination on the basis of socioeconomic background (36 percent vs. 23 percent). This may be part of the reason why students who identified as LGBTQ were more than twice as likely as heterosexual students (44 percent vs. 21 percent) to report feeling “very sad” or “depressed” at college.

One in four students (24 percent) reported having felt discriminated against on the basis of their race while in college, with male students being 58 percent more likely to have felt this way than female students. One in five students (18 percent) has felt discriminated against on the basis of religion, with males twice as likely to report this than females (25 percent vs. 12 percent). When asked whether they believe students define “discrimination” in different ways, Ozair, 19, at the University of California, Berkeley, said, “I think especially when it comes to implicit versus explicit discrimination, a lot of college students have different perspectives on when behavior, joking or not, becomes discriminatory.”

“I think especially when it comes to implicit versus explicit discrimination, a lot of college students have different perspectives on when behavior, joking or not, becomes discriminatory.”

—Ozair, 19, at the University of California, Berkeley
Only one in three students (35 percent) considered themselves a feminist, and only 42 percent of students were confident that their school administration adequately addresses cases of sexual assault. Douglass said, “We had a huge protest last semester about how [Swarthmore College] handles sexual assault. Our college does not respond to investigations in a timely manner, and several administrators have not followed proper procedure for handling cases.” There was a gender and age disparity in responses to the feminist question, with younger students less likely to respond with “no” and more likely to say they don’t know.

Additionally, and perhaps unsurprisingly, females are more than twice as likely as males to declare themselves feminists (48 percent vs. 20 percent). Students also had different understandings of the word “feminist.” Dalia thought that only a minority of students identify as feminist because “the word ‘feminist’ has a negative connotation in today’s social world. Personally, I am proud to be a feminist because I view feminism as the belief and advocacy for equal rights among genders. However, many people falsely classify feminists as man-haters.” Douglass said, “To be honest, I don’t really know what being a feminist means. It seems to have a different definition depending on who you ask. I believe that women should be treated equally with men, and I am willing to advocate for that belief.”
It is unsurprising that finances are the greatest cause of student anxiety. **Two in three students (67 percent) say they cannot comfortably afford housing at their college. One in three students (34 percent) finds it challenging or impossible to afford food.** Three in four students (73 percent) work while attending college.

The process of choosing a college mirrors students’ financial concerns. Over half of students (53 percent) noted that financial aid is one of the most important factors when choosing a college. Students are more likely to consider job prospects than a college’s overall reputation when deciding where to go. Forty-nine percent are on financial aid, while only 33 percent are financing their education with funds from their parents or relatives. While the degree to which students are concerned about their finances does not correlate with whether or not they are first-generation college students, it does correlate with gender. **Female students are far more likely to report having financial concerns than male students (69 percent vs. 54 percent).** They are more likely to report having student loans, being on financial aid and being on a scholarship or grant. Women account for 56 percent of college students in the United States, but they hold two-thirds of the nation’s staggering 1.5 trillion dollars of student debt.¹

¹ AAUW https://www.aauw.org/research/deeper-in-debt/
The greatest source of social pressure that students feel in college is to spend more money than they can afford.

Thirty-seven percent of students have felt pressure to spend more money than they can afford, more than the number who have felt pressure to drink alcohol (31 percent), do drugs (16 percent), smoke cigarettes (15 percent), change their body type (24 percent) or change how they dress (23 percent). The students who were asked for written responses seemed to view social pressure as something natural and not necessarily unexpected. Ozair said, “I’ve definitely felt social pressure to spend money on things that I might not have otherwise... In college, people are really trying hard to find their place and the people they’ll spend their time with, so in order to find that, they often let social pressure implicitly influence their decisions.”

1 in 3 students have felt pressure to spend more than they can afford

When it comes to watching their finances, students unsurprisingly value technology. When asked which five of nine “essentials” they would keep if they had to cut their budget, 80 percent of students would keep their cell phones and 75 percent would keep their laptops. In terms of entertainment versus education, the number of people who would keep streaming services (e.g., Netflix) and online learning resources were nearly tied, at 45 and 47 percent, respectively. Similarly, 45 percent would keep funds for going out with friends. Half of students (51 percent) would keep healthy food, 27 percent would keep their gym membership, and 24 percent would keep funds for travel. On average, one in three students (37 percent) would keep their TV, although this number increased steadily with the age of the students, while cell phones had the opposite effect.
What do college students think of the state of politics in the United States? In line with polls of the country, students share a pessimistic outlook. Only one in five students (21 percent) believes the political system works to the benefit of all Americans, and only 37 percent feel that the country is on the right track. Fewer than half of Republican students (44 percent), fewer than one in five Democratic students (17 percent) and only one in 10 students registered as independent (11 percent) thinks that the political system benefits all Americans.

Natalie, 20, at Santa Clara University, said she doesn’t think the political system works to benefit all Americans, explaining, “The majority of Americans are struggling to stay afloat,” but at her college, “most people are extremely privileged and do not feel like they are affected by the political system.”

Nevertheless, for many students today, pertinent issues in today’s politics are personal. One in three students is concerned that someone they know personally could be deported from the United States. Half of Hispanic students (50 percent) and 39 percent of Democratic students share this concern.

Perhaps unsurprisingly given the recent tragedies of on-campus shootings, students are also worried about gun violence. Two-thirds (66 percent) feel worried that there will be an incident of gun violence on their campus, with women 15 percent more likely to worry about this than men.

While 73 percent of Republican students feel that the country is going in the right direction, only 24 percent of Democratic students think it is. Older college students (over 25 years old) are more likely than younger students (17-24 years old) to feel that the country is going in the right direction, and male students are more than twice as likely as female students to say that the United States is going in the right direction (56 percent vs. 22 percent). Isabelle reflected, “We are a divided country. I think these next 10 to 20 years is really going to be crucial in changing the way our government affects our people. We have a lot of good people fighting for great causes, but at the same time, we have people fighting against them. Everyone thinks they’re right, so it all moves very slowly. It’s hard because most people aren’t educated enough and just get bits and pieces of information from biased media... I feel as though my college is split pretty evenly in terms of left and right. However, I do think most people want change and think we are not on the right track. Our government is leaving us with a giant mess to clean up.”
While students are polarized, reflective of the broader population/nation, it seems that political differences do not create a deep divide between the daily experiences of Democratic and Republican students on campus—except in how they feel their political opinions are respected. One in four students (25 percent) has felt discriminated against because of their political views in college. Many Republican students feel attacked, with 35 percent reporting having felt discriminated against because of their political views compared with 25 percent of Democratic students. They are also 53 percent more likely than Democratic students to report feeling discriminated against on the basis of their religion. Dalia said, “My school’s student body is primarily liberal, so Republican students likely feel the need to suppress their opinions in order to avoid facing shame.” Brianna observed the same effect, explaining, “The majority of my college is conservative, so I’m sure liberal students feel left out.”

Sixty-eight percent of students worry about their futures “frequently” or “all the time,” but their anxiety does not preclude their optimism. An even greater proportion, three in four students (73 percent), feel optimistic about finding a job after college that will support them. STEM students are more optimistic about finding a job than their humanities/social sciences counterparts. Isabelle said, “I think everyone is always a little worried, but really, you have to just take it one step at a time. Get an education, do internships and then get a job.”

The extent to which students worry about their futures correlates more strongly with gender and age than with academic year. Male students were less likely to report feeling anxious and more likely to be optimistic about their futures than female students, although this may align with a general societal confidence gap between genders. Students do not seem to be aware of this gap, however, and several believe the opposite to be true. Natalie said, “I think that male students worry a lot more about their futures because there is this general idea that the man has to support the woman down the line,” while Seth explained, “I think male students worry more about how much money they will make in their careers since it is historically on men to provide for their families, whereas women might pursue something they’re passionate about and not worry as much about how much money it will make them.”
CONCLUSION

Attending college has always been complicated, fraught with emotions that range from the depths of loneliness, stress and anxiety to the heights of exhilaration and joy. Not all are conducive to learning, or even reaching gainful employment, which is generally why students attend college in the first place. Add to this today’s complex economic, political, social and tech-dominated landscape, and it becomes even more challenging and important to understand what the modern student is thinking and experiencing—and how they are coping. In many ways students are wrestling with the same issues and concerns as many adults, often coupled with additional social pressures from campus life.

This survey calls into question whether many students are being placed in an unacceptable environment of stress from financial and academic pressures. Truly knowing who the modern student is and the realities they’re facing is critical for the education industry to help students succeed. As the world evolves, so too must our learning institutions. And it should always start with putting students first.
Appendix

**Students Then vs. Now**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>1970</th>
<th>Now</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Older than 25 years old</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minority Enrollment</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Students</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English is not a first language</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

† Older than 25 years old: 1970 28%, vs. Now 40%
“Total fall enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by attendance status, sex, and age: Selected years, 1970 through 2026.” Digest of Education Statistics, National Center for Education Statistics, 2016, [Note: 28% refers to 1970, 40% refers to 2015]

† Minority Enrollment: 1970 15%, vs. Now 42%
“Fall enrollment of U.S. residents in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by race/ethnicity: Selected years, 1976 through 2026.” Digest of Education Statistics, National Center for Education Statistics, 2016, [Note: 15% refers to 1970, 42% refers to 2015]

‡ Female Students: 1970 42%, vs. Now 56%
“Total undergraduate fall enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by attendance status, sex of student, and control and level of institution: Selected years, 1970 through 2023.” Digest of Education Statistics, National Center for Education Statistics, 2013, [Note: 42% refers to 1970, 56% refers to Fall 2016]

Ω English is not a first language
Q. Which of the following words best describes the social scene at your college?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Scene at College</th>
<th>Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>respectful</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inclusive</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>non inclusive</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>disrespectful</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Have any of the following happened to you while at college?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experiences in college</th>
<th>Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studied all night</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Made a best friend</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed very lonely</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt you were having the greatest time of your life</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt homesick</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creeped on a classroom or social media</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed in love</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partied all night</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a crush on one of your professors</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent an “inappropriate” photo of yourself to someone</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a crush on one of your TAs</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your gender?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discrimination based on gender</th>
<th>Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your sexual orientation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discrimination based on sexual orientation</th>
<th>Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Do you ever wish you could go back in time and choose a different college?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choose a different college</th>
<th>Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometimes</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Do you feel that you have a strong advocate at college to whom you can go for advice and support? (e.g. a professor, academic advisor, coach)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Availability of strong advocate at college</th>
<th>Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not have</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Which of the following items were most important in choosing your college?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important items in choosing college</th>
<th>Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic programs/major</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial aid</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job prospects</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular activities</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall college reputation (prestige)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I know someone who attended</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parental expectations</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Have any of the following happened to you while at college?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experiences in college</th>
<th>Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a crush on one of your professors</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sent an “inappropriate” photo of yourself to someone</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a crush on one of your TAs</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed in love</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partied all night</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt you were having the greatest time of your life</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt homesick</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felt you were having the greatest time of your life</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q. Are you confident that your school administration adequately addresses cases of sexual assault?

**Sexual Assault**

- Yes: $24\%$
- No: $30\%$
- Not sure: $19\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. How often do you feel anxious at college?

**Anxiety**

- All the time: $18\%$
- Frequently: $42\%$
- Rarely: $34\%$
- Never: $6\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your race?

**Discrimination based on race**

- Yes: $25\%$
- Male: $75\%$
- Female: $19\%$
- No: $30\%$
- Average: $76\%$
- Male: $70\%$
- Female: $81\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your religion?

**Discrimination based on religion**

- Yes: $18\%$
- Male: $25\%$
- Female: $12\%$
- No: $82\%$
- Average: $88\%$
- Male: $75\%$
- Female: $72\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your economic background/class?

**Discrimination based on economic background/class**

- Yes: $25\%$
- Male: $28\%$
- Female: $22\%$
- No: $75\%$
- Average: $78\%$
- Male: $72\%$
- Female: $78\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. Have you ever taken advantage of the mental health resources at your college?

**Taken Advantage of Mental Health Resources**

- Yes, at least once a week: $9\%$
- Yes, about once a month: $12\%$
- Yes, 1-3 times a year: $16\%$
- No, never: $49\%$
- Average: $31%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your political views?

**Discrimination based on political views**, By Political Party

- Average: $76\%$
- Male: $70\%$
- Female: $82\%$
- Male Republican: $69\%$
- Female Republican: $75\%$
- Male Democrat: $65\%$
- Female Democrat: $72\%$
- Male Independent: $43\%$
- Female Independent: $49\%$
- Male Other (please specify): $50\%$
- Female Other (please specify): $57\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your economic background/class?

**Discrimination based on economic background/class**

- Average: $78\%$
- Male: $72\%$
- Female: $82\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your race?

**Discrimination based on race**

- Average: $74\%$
- Male: $79\%$
- Female: $70\%$
- Male: $75\%$
- Female: $81\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your religion?

**Discrimination based on religion**

- Average: $83\%$
- Male: $75\%$
- Female: $88\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. At college, have you ever felt social pressure to do any of the following (which you would not have normally done)?

**Social Pressure**

- Spend more money than you could afford: $31\%$
- Change your body type (e.g., weight gain): $24\%$
- Change how you dress: $22\%$
- Hide/downplay your religious beliefs: $16\%$
- Engage in a sexual act: $15\%$
- Change your body type (e.g., weight gain): $14\%$
- Change your body type (e.g., weight gain): $13\%$
- Spent more money than you could afford: $12\%$
- Change your body type (e.g., weight gain): $12\%$
- Change your body type (e.g., weight gain): $11\%$
- Change your body type (e.g., weight gain): $10\%$
- Change your body type (e.g., weight gain): $10\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your economic background/class?

**Discrimination based on economic background/class**

- Average: $78\%$
- Male: $72\%$
- Female: $82\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. In college, have you ever felt discriminated against because of your race?

**Discrimination based on race**

- Average: $74\%$
- Male: $79\%$
- Female: $70\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*

Q. Have you ever taken advantage of the mental health resources at your college?

**Taken Advantage of Mental Health Resources**

- Yes, at least once a week: $9\%$
- Yes, about once a month: $12\%$
- Yes, 1-3 times a year: $16\%$
- No, never: $49\%$

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))*
Q. Are you able to afford food?

66% Yes, comfortably
10% Yes, but not without sacrificing money I may need for other things
24% No, I struggle to afford housing

Q. Which of the following do you find particularly stressful?

Stressful
Financial concerns 67%
Career concerns 62%
Academic performance 56%
Netflix/Online streaming service 40%
Going out with friends 33%
Online learning resources 30%
Healthy food 28%
Laptop 24%
Phone 23%

Q. Do you feel very sad/depressed at college?

43% Yes, 26%
No, 31%

Q. Are you able to afford housing at your college?

34% Yes, comfortably
43% Yes, but not without sacrificing money I may need for other things
24% No, I struggle to afford housing

Q. How often do you worry about your future?

Worry about future
All the time 35%
Sometimes 33%
Frequently 26%
Rarely/never 6%

Q. Do you work while attending college?

24% Yes, up to 10 hours/week
28% Yes, 10-20 hours/week
27% Yes, 20-40 hours/week
5% Yes, over 40 hours/week

Q. Are you able to afford food?

Afford food
Yes 66%
No 10%
Sometimes it can be challenging 24%

Q. Which of the following do you find particularly stressful?

Stressful
Financial concerns 67%
Career concerns 62%
Academic performance 56%
Netflix/Online streaming service 40%
Going out with friends 33%
Online learning resources 30%
Healthy food 28%
Laptop 24%
Phone 23%

Q. If you had to cut your budget, which five items would you keep?

Budget cut
Phone 80%
Laptop 75%
Healthy food 61%
Online learning resources 47%
Going out with friends 45%
Netflix/Online streaming service 45%
Tv 37%
Gym 27%
Travel 24%

Q. If you had to cut your budget, rank these items from what is most important to what is least important to you (1 being really important and 5 being not important).

Budget cut

Q. Do you work while attending college?

24% Yes, up to 10 hours/week
28% Yes, 10-20 hours/week
16% Yes, 20-40 hours/week
5% Yes, over 40 hours/week
Q. On the whole, do you feel that the United States is heading in the “right direction”?

Yes, the country is going in the right direction 37%
No, the country is on the wrong track 63%

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))

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Q. Are you optimistic about finding a job after college that will pay enough to support you?

Yes, I am optimistic 73%
No, I am not optimistic 27%

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))

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Q. Do you consider yourself a feminist?

Yes 35%
No 51%
I don’t know 14%

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))

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Q. Are you concerned that someone you know personally could be deported from the United States?

Yes 30%
No 70%

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))

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Q. How often do you worry that there will be an incident of gun violence on your campus?

Frequently 19%
Sometimes 47%
Never 34%

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))

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Q. Do you have a child?

Yes 22%
No 78%

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))

---

Q. If you have a child, do you feel that your college is supportive of students who are parents?

Yes, very supportive 61%
Only somewhat supportive 32%
My college offers little to no support 95

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))

---

Q. Which best describes your current field of study? (If you are a dual major, please select the one that fits the best).

STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) 30%
Business (marketing, accounting, finance, etc.) 18%
Another major (please specify) 18%
Social Sciences (sociology, psychology, anthropology) 16%
Foreign Languages (language, arts, etc.) 13%
Unspecified 6%

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))

---

Q. Do you consider yourself a feminist?

Yes 35%
No 51%
I don’t know 14%

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Yes, very supportive 61%
Only somewhat supportive 32%
My college offers little to no support 95

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STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) 30%
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Another major (please specify) 18%
Social Sciences (sociology, psychology, anthropology) 16%
Foreign Languages (language, arts, etc.) 13%
Unspecified 6%

* Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018. (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))
Q. In which region of the U.S. do you attend college?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Which of the following best describes your ethnic background?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Islander</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Are you of Hispanic origin?

- Yes: 10%
- No: 90%

Q. How are you financing your college education?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financing method</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employer reimbursement</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military benefits</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working full time</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working part time</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My personal savings and loans</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student loans</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship or grant</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial aid</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Which best describes your parents' education to date?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education status</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mother has a college degree</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father has a college degree</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both have a college degree</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither has a college degree</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. Which of the following best describes your affiliation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q. What do you most identify as?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Straight</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesbian</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonbinary</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to say</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Chegg Consumer Insights, June 2018 (Base: Undergraduate Students only (n=1,001))