

**2018 The College Senior Survey (CSS) Infographic Codebook  
Graduating Seniors**

In 2018, college seniors expressed their political views during a midterm election year. Seniors felt confident in their critical thinking abilities, their global awareness, and aspired to be active agents of change after college. Though many students expressed that their senior year challenged their mental well-being.

| <b>Infographic Item</b>                                                                                              | <b>Survey Question/Variable Name</b>                                                                                     | <b>Response Option(s) Selected</b>    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>WITH A HEIGHTENED POLITICAL CLIMATE, SENIORS EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS ON DIVISIVE NATIONAL ISSUES.</b>               |                                                                                                                          |                                       |
| 31% felt federal military spending should be increased                                                               | 28. Federal military spending should be increased (VIEW13)                                                               | Strongly Agree & Agree Somewhat       |
| 88% disagreed that racial discrimination is no longer a major problem in America                                     | 28. Racial discrimination is no longer a major problem in America (VIEW24)                                               | Strongly Disagree & Disagree Somewhat |
| 55% felt students from disadvantaged social backgrounds should be given preferential treatment in college admissions | 28. Students from disadvantaged social backgrounds should be given preferential treatment in college admissions (VIEW28) | Strongly Agree & Agree Somewhat       |
| <b>STUDENTS ARE GRADUATING FROM COLLEGE ENGAGED IN COMPLEX THINKING...</b>                                           |                                                                                                                          |                                       |
| 64% frequently evaluated the quality or reliability of information they received                                     | 8. How often in the past year did you: Evaluate the quality or reliability of information you received (MNDHAB03)        | Frequently                            |
| 62% felt confident in identifying what is known and not known about a problem                                        | 32. How confident are you that you can: Identify what is known and not known about a problem (SCISKILLS8)                | Very, Absolutely                      |
| 60% frequently sought alternative solutions to a problem                                                             | 8. How often in the past year did you: Seek alternative solutions to a problem (MNDHAB08)                                | Frequently                            |
| <b>... WITH A STRONG SENSE OF GLOBAL AWARENESS...</b>                                                                |                                                                                                                          |                                       |
| 34% studied abroad                                                                                                   | 16. Since entering college, have you: Participated in: Study abroad (COLACT11)                                           | Yes                                   |
| 81% felt their institution contributed                                                                               | 19. Please indicate your agreement with each of the following statements. This institution                               |                                       |

|                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                      |                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| to their understanding of global issues                                    | has contributed to my: Contribution: Understanding of global issues (CONTRIB03)                                                                                      | Agree, Strongly Agree     |
| 55% felt their institution helped their foreign language ability           | 19. Please indicate your agreement with each of the following statements. This institution has contributed to my: Contribution: Foreign language ability (CONTRIB08) | Agree, Strongly Agree     |
| <b>... AND A COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL CHANGE AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP.</b>     |                                                                                                                                                                      |                           |
| 50% felt working for social change is critical in their career path        | 35. When thinking about your career path after college, how important are the following considerations: Career Concern: Working for social change (CARCON11)         | Very Important, Essential |
| 65% are committed to adopting "green" practices to protect the environment | 25. Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following: Adopting "green" practices to protect the environment (GOAL25)                               | Very Important, Essential |
| 29% have a strong desire to influence the political structure              | 25. Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following: Influencing the political structure (GOAL16)                                                 | Very Important, Essential |
| <b>DURING THEIR SENIOR YEAR, MANY STRUGGLED WITH MENTAL HEALTH...</b>      |                                                                                                                                                                      |                           |
| 48% frequently felt overwhelmed                                            | 23. In the past year, how often have you: Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do (GENACT19)                                                                             | Frequently                |
| 42% frequently felt anxious                                                | 23. In the past year, how often have you: Felt anxious (GENACT41)                                                                                                    | Frequently                |
| 19% frequently felt depressed                                              | 23. In the past year, how often have you: Felt depressed (GENACT15)                                                                                                  | Frequently                |
| 38% sought personal counseling in the last year                            | 23. In the past year, how often have you: Sought personal counseling (GENACT31)                                                                                      | Frequently & Occasionally |
| <b>... AND COULD USE MORE INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT.</b>                       |                                                                                                                                                                      |                           |
| 50% felt satisfied with student health services                            | 20. Please rate your satisfaction with your college in each area: Student health services (SATIS20)                                                                  | Satisfied, Very Satisfied |
| 49% felt satisfied with student psychological services                     | 20. Please rate your satisfaction with your college in each area: Student health services (SATIS15)                                                                  | Satisfied, Very Satisfied |

Survey Source: The College Senior Survey 2018

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