Members of the 2016 freshman class are thinking a lot about politics. They are eager to get involved and share their views, but are also looking for support as they try to navigate their new environment.

With a divisive political climate, freshmen are expressing their views...

- **80%** Think global climate change should be a federal priority
- **87%** Agree that sexual activity without explicit, affirmative consent is considered sexual assault
- **68%** Believe the federal government should have stricter gun control laws

...And are taking action to promote change.

- **22%** Demonstrated for a cause
- **51%** Spoke up publicly about a cause
- **55%** Helped raise money for a cause or campaign

Incoming students believe in the importance of community involvement and civic values.

- **43%** Feel it's important to become a community leader
- **36%** Feel it's important to participate in a community action program
- **47%** Feel it's important to promote racial understanding
- **49%** Feel it's important to influence social values

Students seem eager and ready to engage with research and science...

- **53%** Are confident in their ability to understand scientific concepts
- **65%** Anticipate working on a professor’s research project
- **50%** Derive satisfaction from working on a team that is doing important research
- **35%** Feel like they belong in the field of science

...And are applying complex thinking strategies.

- **63%** Frequently supported their opinion with a logical argument
- **49%** Frequently evaluated the quality or reliability of information
- **46%** Frequently analyzed information from multiple sources before drawing a conclusion

And colleges need to be prepared to support students’ mental health concerns as they arrive on campus.

- **84%** Felt anxious
- **51%** Felt depressed
- **41%** Were frequently overwhelmed by all they had to do
- **47%** Anticipate seeking personal counseling