First-year students are ready to take on the challenges of a new environment with an open mind – receptive to new perspectives and diverse views. However, their new environment can also take an emotional toll. Understanding their state of mind can help them excel as they continue their college journey.

First-year students frequently pushed themselves...
- 41% Took on challenges that scared them
- 36% Took a risk if they felt they had more to gain
- 62% Saw mistakes as part of the learning process
- 55% Analyzed multiple sources before reaching a conclusion
- 62% Supported their opinions with logical arguments
- 47% Sought alternative solutions to a problem

Though maintaining personal wellness is a struggle...
- 39% Frequently felt anxious
- 23% Reported below average emotional health
- 25% Frequently maintained a healthy diet
- 19% Never had adequate sleep

...Students strive to relate to others...
- 26% Rate their compassion in the top 10% of their peers
- 26% Rate their understanding of others in the top 10% of their peers

...And rate their ability to recognize difference as a major strength.
- 34% Can see the world from another’s perspective
- 40% Are tolerant of those with different beliefs
- 43% Work cooperatively with diverse people
- 28% Are open to having their views challenged
- 30% Are able to discuss and negotiate controversial issues

They have big plans for their first summer after starting college.
- 18% Plan on taking courses at their current institution
- 21% Plan on taking courses at another institution
- 83% Plan to work for pay
- 51% Will perform volunteer work
- 33% Will participate in an internship
- 74% Will travel

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 helping your students adjust to campus life while providing the best environment for learning.

Survey Source: CIRP Your First College Year Survey 2017