# Journey Through the First Year of

Developed by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) and the Policy Center on the First Year of College in 2000, the Your First College Year survey (YFCY) is administered annually through the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) at the University of California, Los Angeles. The YFCY was the first national survey designed specifically to measure student development in the first year of college, and it is distributed to students at the end of their first year. Twenty-three institutions participated in the 19th administration of the YFCY in the Spring of 2018. The sample consists of 5,204 first-time, full-time students at these institutions.

# AT THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR, STUDENTS ARE SATISFIED WITH ACADEMIC LIFE ON CAMPUS...

73%

are satisfied with general education and core curriculum courses

79% are satisfied with their overall academic experience

86% would recommend their college to others



# ...AND HAVE UTILIZED A VARIETY OF STUDENT SERVICES.

54% used student health services

25% used student psychological services

used campus safety

29% services

15% used the disability resource center

47% used the writing center

36% used financial aid advising

**THEY HAVE NUMEROUS DEMANDS ON THEIR TIME OUTSIDE OF CLASS...** 



34% felt their job responsibilities interfered with



felt their family responsibilities interfered with



43%

used study

skills advising

spent three or more hours per week commuting



hours per week

watching TV/online

video content



meditate

spent three or more hours per week exercising or playing sports

# ... BUT FIND WAYS TO UNWIND.

## MANY STUDENTS ARE THINKING ABOUT **THEIR CAREERS...**





**59%** strongly agree that it is important to think about their career path after college

HERI

24% strongly agree that they have a clear idea of how to achieve their career goals

used career services



**19%** are very satisfied with the relevance of coursework to their future career plans



decided to pursue

a different major

34%

...AND SOME ARE NOW

**EXPLORING NEW GOALS.** 

changed their career choice

With insight from HERI'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: Your First College Year Survey 2018 www.heri.ucla.edu/infographic/

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