

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Graduating Student Survey

2023 National Public School Summary Report

August 2023

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2023 Graduating Student Survey

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Total number of schools: 67
 Total number of responses: 4,754
 Response Rate: 73.9%

Section I: Required Interprofessional Education

1. What required curricular activities (didactic or experiential) did you participate in where you had the opportunity to learn with other health professions students? (Check all that apply).

	Response Percent	Response Total
Lectures	N/A	3196
Patient-centered case problems	N/A	4025
Clinical simulations	N/A	3619
Active engagement with patients	N/A	2988
Community projects, service learning	N/A	2504
Team skills training	N/A	2793
Online coursework	N/A	2789
Clinical Labs	N/A	2018
IPPE	N/A	3488
APPE	N/A	4315
Research or Capstone projects	N/A	1348
Other; please specify:	N/A	61
Did not participate in any required interprofessional education activities	N/A	12

2. With which other professions students have you had the opportunity to participate or interact in required educational activities as indicated above? (Check all that apply).

	Response Percent	Response Total
Dentistry	N/A	2011
Nursing	N/A	4329
Occupational therapy	N/A	1815
Osteopathic medicine (DO)	N/A	1582
Allopathic medicine (MD)	N/A	3017
Physical therapy	N/A	2613
Physician assistant	N/A	2511
Psychology	N/A	671
Public health	N/A	1454
Social work	N/A	2578
Veterinary medicine	N/A	407
Other; please specify:	N/A	256
Did not participate in any required interprofessional education activities	N/A	35

Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the statement below.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
3. The learning experience with other professions students helped me gain a better understanding of how to be part of a multi-disciplinary team to improve patient outcomes.	42.6% (2025)	51.7% (2459)	3.5% (165)	1.2% (59)	1.0% (46)

Section II: Professional Competencies/Outcomes/Curriculum

The Pharm.D. Program prepared me to...

Domain 1: Foundational Knowledge

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
4. Apply knowledge from the foundational pharmaceutical and biomedical sciences to the provision of patient care.	47.5% (2257)	49.8% (2369)	2.0% (93)	0.4% (21)	0.3% (14)
5. Apply knowledge from the clinical sciences to the provision of patient care.	51.6% (2453)	46.3% (2201)	1.4% (67)	0.4% (20)	0.3% (13)
6. Evaluate scientific literature.	44.0% (2094)	50.7% (2408)	4.0% (191)	0.9% (44)	0.4% (17)

Domain 2: Essentials for Practice

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
7. Provide medication expertise as part of patient-centered care.	54.6% (2596)	43.4% (2062)	1.4% (68)	0.3% (14)	0.3% (14)
8. Optimize the safety and efficacy of medication use systems (e.g., dispensing, administration, effects monitoring) to manage patient healthcare needs.	51.7% (2457)	45.2% (2148)	2.3% (108)	0.5% (24)	0.4% (17)
9. Design strategies to manage chronic disease and improve health and wellness.	52.8% (2508)	44.9% (2134)	1.7% (79)	0.4% (17)	0.3% (16)
10. Assess the health needs of a given patient population.	47.3% (2248)	49.3% (2342)	2.6% (122)	0.4% (17)	0.5% (25)
11. Provide patient-centered care based on evidence-based best practices.	56.2% (2673)	41.9% (1994)	1.1% (53)	0.5% (22)	0.3% (12)

Domain 3: Approach to Practice and Care

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
12. Design, implement and evaluate viable solutions to patient care problems.	48.3% (2296)	49.2% (2340)	1.7% (82)	0.4% (19)	0.4% (17)
13. Use effective strategies to educate patients, healthcare professionals and caregivers to improve patient care.	52.7% (2505)	45.1% (2142)	1.6% (74)	0.4% (19)	0.3% (14)
14. Advocate for the patient best interest.	53.3% (2534)	43.4% (2061)	2.4% (116)	0.5% (22)	0.4% (21)
15. Engage as a member of an interprofessional healthcare team.	53.0% (2521)	44.0% (2094)	2.1% (101)	0.4% (18)	0.4% (20)
16. Identify cultural disparities in healthcare.	42.4% (2014)	50.9% (2421)	5.0% (238)	0.8% (38)	0.9% (43)
17. Recognize and address cultural disparities in access to and delivery of healthcare.	41.7% (1981)	50.4% (2397)	5.9% (281)	0.9% (44)	1.1% (51)
18. Effectively communicate (verbal, non-verbal, written) when interacting with individuals, groups and organizations.	52.1% (2479)	44.8% (2130)	2.3% (108)	0.4% (18)	0.4% (19)

Domain 4: Personal and Professional Development

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
19. Examine and reflect on how my behavior and choices affect my personal and professional growth.	50.9% (2418)	44.6% (2121)	3.1% (145)	0.8% (38)	0.7% (32)
20. Accept responsibility for creating and achieving shared goals.	50.5% (2401)	46.2% (2195)	2.1% (102)	0.7% (32)	0.5% (24)
21. Develop new ideas and approaches to practice.	41.5% (1971)	51.1% (2428)	5.6% (266)	1.0% (49)	0.8% (40)
22. Act in a manner consistent with the trust given to pharmacists by patients, other healthcare providers and society.	56.4% (2682)	41.5% (1974)	1.1% (53)	0.6% (27)	0.4% (18)

The following statements refer to the curriculum of the Doctor of Pharmacy program at your college/school of pharmacy and/or your experiences with the curriculum.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
23. I developed the skills needed to prepare me for continuous professional development and self-directed life-long learning.	53.9% (2564)	43.2% (2052)	2.1% (99)	0.4% (18)	0.4% (21)
24. I was provided opportunities to engage in active learning (e.g., laboratories, recitations, student portfolios, problem-based learning, in-class activities).	56.7% (2694)	41.1% (1952)	1.5% (70)	0.5% (23)	0.3% (15)
25. Elective didactic courses permitted exploration of and/or advanced study in areas of professional interest.	50.7% (2411)	43.7% (2079)	3.6% (173)	1.1% (53)	0.8% (38)

Section III: Pharmacy Practice Experiences

The following statements refer to your introductory pharmacy practice experiences. Introductory pharmacy practice experiences include any rotations that occur prior to the final professional year in the curriculum and may include activities such as shadowing of practitioners, interviews with real patients, and/or service learning. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
26. My introductory pharmacy practice experiences were valuable in helping me to prepare for my advanced pharmacy practice experiences.	34.9% (1661)	52.2% (2482)	9.7% (463)	2.6% (122)	0.5% (26)
27. My introductory pharmacy practice experiences permitted my involvement in direct patient care responsibilities in both community and institutional settings.	36.8% (1749)	52.1% (2475)	8.5% (406)	2.1% (99)	0.5% (25)
28. My introductory pharmacy practice experiences were of high quality.	33.7% (1603)	50.6% (2405)	11.8% (561)	2.8% (132)	1.1% (53)

The following statements refer to your advanced pharmacy practice experiences.

Advanced pharmacy practice experiences form the core of the final professional year of the curriculum. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
29. In the community pharmacy setting, I was able to engage in direct patient care.	58.6% (2788)	36.6% (1738)	3.4% (161)	0.9% (45)	0.5% (22)
30. In the ambulatory care setting, I was able to engage in direct patient care.	66.3% (3153)	30.5% (1452)	1.7% (80)	0.5% (26)	0.9% (43)
31. In the hospital or health-system pharmacy setting, I was able to engage in direct patient care.	54.1% (2571)	38.2% (1817)	5.7% (273)	1.2% (58)	0.7% (35)
32. In the inpatient/acute care setting, I was able to engage in direct patient care.	61.3% (2914)	35.1% (1667)	2.3% (110)	0.5% (25)	0.8% (38)
33. The need for continuity of care (e.g., acute, chronic and wellness promoting patient care services) in outpatient and inpatient settings was emphasized in the advanced pharmacy practice experiences.	54.5% (2591)	41.4% (1970)	2.8% (134)	0.5% (22)	0.8% (37)
34. The variety of the available advanced pharmacy practice experience electives met my needs as a student.	53.5% (2542)	39.0% (1852)	4.9% (233)	2.2% (105)	0.5% (22)
35. I was academically prepared to enter my advanced pharmacy practice experiences.	44.3% (2105)	48.1% (2286)	5.8% (277)	1.2% (57)	0.6% (29)
36. My advanced pharmacy practice experiences were of high quality.	53.4% (2539)	42.3% (2010)	3.1% (145)	0.6% (30)	0.6% (30)

The following statements refer to your overall (both introductory and advanced) advanced pharmacy practice experiences. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
37. My pharmacy practice experiences allowed me to have direct interaction with diverse patient populations (e.g., age, gender, socioeconomic, ethnic and/or cultural background, disease states, etc.).	58.2% (2768)	39.6% (1884)	1.6% (74)	0.3% (16)	0.3% (12)
38. My pharmacy practice experiences allowed me to collaborate with other health care professionals.	59.8% (2842)	38.5% (1832)	1.2% (56)	0.2% (11)	0.3% (13)

Section IV: Student Services

Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding student services.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Did Not Utilize
39. College/school provided access to academic advising.	42.0% (1999)	47.2% (2244)	3.8% (183)	1.4% (65)	5.5% (263)
40. College/school provided access to guidance on career planning.	33.7% (1603)	47.4% (2255)	9.6% (457)	2.5% (119)	6.7% (320)
41. College/school provided access to accommodation services as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).	34.6% (1643)	32.3% (1536)	1.1% (50)	0.5% (26)	31.5% (1499)
42. College/school provided access to financial aid advising.	34.1% (1621)	45.9% (2181)	6.0% (286)	2.1% (98)	11.9% (568)
43. College/school provided access to student health and wellness services (e.g., immunizations, counseling services, campus pharmacy, primary care clinics, etc.).	43.4% (2064)	46.4% (2207)	3.2% (151)	0.9% (45)	6.0% (287)

Section V: The Student Experience

Please consider each of the following statements with regard to your experience as a student of the college/school of pharmacy. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
44. The college/school of pharmacy provided timely information about news, events and important matters within the college/school of pharmacy.	38.4% (1826)	50.8% (2413)	7.8% (370)	2.3% (110)	0.7% (35)
45. Information was made available to me about additional educational opportunities (e.g., residencies, fellowships, graduate school).	43.5% (2066)	49.6% (2358)	5.0% (236)	1.2% (58)	0.8% (36)
46. The college/school's administration responded to problems and issues of concern to the student body.	30.4% (1447)	49.5% (2353)	11.8% (560)	5.4% (257)	2.9% (137)
47. I was aware of the process for raising issues with the college/school administration.	31.4% (1493)	49.3% (2342)	12.9% (613)	2.9% (139)	3.5% (167)

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	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
48. I was aware that student representatives served on college/school committees with responsibility for curriculum and other matters.	42.6% (2024)	50.2% (2387)	4.8% (228)	1.4% (68)	1.0% (47)
49. The college/school of pharmacy was welcoming to students with diverse backgrounds.	48.2% (2291)	44.6% (2121)	3.0% (144)	1.2% (57)	3.0% (141)
50. I know how to utilize college/school policies dealing with harassment and discrimination.	36.3% (1726)	47.7% (2266)	8.8% (416)	1.7% (81)	5.6% (265)
51. The college/school of pharmacy had processes to communicate student perspectives to the faculty or administration.	38.2% (1817)	50.9% (2420)	6.1% (291)	2.3% (107)	2.5% (119)
52. Faculty, administrators and staff served as positive role models for students.	43.6% (2072)	49.3% (2343)	4.1% (194)	1.7% (82)	1.3% (63)
53. Preceptors modeled professional attributes and behaviors.	48.4% (2299)	47.6% (2265)	2.4% (115)	0.8% (38)	0.8% (37)
54. Preceptors provided me with individualized instruction, guidance and evaluation.	50.1% (2380)	46.2% (2198)	2.4% (115)	0.7% (35)	0.5% (26)
55. I was aware of expected behaviors with respect to professional and academic conduct.	56.2% (2673)	42.0% (1998)	1.0% (47)	0.4% (18)	0.4% (18)
56. The college/school of pharmacy had an effective process to manage academic misconduct by students (e.g., plagiarism).	39.9% (1899)	43.7% (2078)	4.9% (235)	3.4% (163)	8.0% (379)
57. The college/school of pharmacy had an effective process to manage professional misconduct by students (e.g., repeated tardiness/absences, drug diversion).	38.0% (1807)	43.0% (2044)	6.8% (324)	3.9% (185)	8.3% (394)

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	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
58. The college/school's faculty and administration encouraged me to participate in regional, state or national pharmacy meetings.	41.1% (1952)	48.5% (2308)	6.7% (317)	1.7% (81)	2.0% (96)
59. The college/school of pharmacy was supportive of student professional organizations.	48.8% (2321)	46.1% (2190)	2.6% (122)	1.1% (50)	1.5% (71)
60. I was aware of opportunities to participate in research activities with faculty.	35.5% (1690)	46.2% (2198)	12.4% (590)	3.6% (172)	2.2% (104)
60(a). I was aware of the existence of federal student loan repayment programs.	31.3% (1489)	45.9% (2183)	12.8% (610)	3.7% (175)	6.2% (297)
60(b). I was aware of the existence of state student loan repayment programs.	29.0% (1377)	42.2% (2008)	17.0% (810)	4.7% (224)	7.0% (335)
60(c). I was aware of eligibility requirements for governmental (state or federal) student loan repayment programs.	29.1% (1382)	43.0% (2043)	16.7% (796)	4.4% (208)	6.8% (325)

Section VI: Facilities, Experiential Sites and Educational Resources

The following statements refer to facilities, experiential sites and educational resources. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
61. My campus learning environment was safe.	51.3% (2441)	45.1% (2142)	1.9% (91)	0.9% (42)	0.8% (38)
62. The information technology resources provided by the college/school of pharmacy and/or elsewhere on campus were conducive to learning.	49.0% (2328)	46.7% (2220)	2.6% (122)	0.9% (42)	0.9% (42)
63. The classrooms in the college/school of pharmacy or elsewhere on campus were conducive to learning.	48.7% (2314)	46.8% (2223)	2.8% (135)	0.8% (40)	0.9% (42)
64. The laboratories and other non-classroom environments were conducive to learning.	49.6% (2360)	46.2% (2196)	2.1% (100)	0.7% (35)	1.3% (63)
65. The study areas in the college/school of pharmacy or elsewhere on campus were conducive to learning.	49.1% (2333)	45.3% (2154)	3.1% (148)	1.4% (65)	1.1% (54)
66. The common spaces such as lounges, lobbies or other areas for relaxation and socialization available in the college/school of pharmacy or elsewhere on campus met my needs.	45.6% (2170)	46.4% (2205)	4.7% (225)	1.9% (89)	1.4% (65)

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	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
67. Access to educational resources (e.g., library, electronic data bases) was conducive to learning.	54.2% (2577)	42.8% (2036)	1.8% (84)	0.7% (33)	0.5% (24)
68. During pharmacy practice experiences, access to educational resources (e.g., library, electronic data bases) was conducive to learning.	56.0% (2663)	41.7% (1982)	1.3% (64)	0.5% (24)	0.4% (21)

Section VII: Overall Impressions

These statements refer to your overall impressions of the college/school and the profession of pharmacy. Please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment
69. I am prepared to enter pharmacy practice.	42.5% (2020)	52.6% (2499)	3.1% (147)	0.8% (38)	1.1% (50)
70. If I were starting my college career over again I would choose to study pharmacy.	33.8% (1607)	42.9% (2039)	13.6% (645)	5.7% (273)	4.0% (190)
71. If I were starting my pharmacy program over again I would choose the same college/school of pharmacy. (If you select disagree or strongly disagree please indicate the reason why in the comment box at the end of this section.)	43.9% (2089)	42.2% (2004)	6.8% (321)	4.1% (194)	3.1% (146)

Question 72 is an open-ended comment question and is not included in this report.

Section VIII: Demographic Information

73. Which of the following choice(s) describes the primary area of your paid outside work experiences while in the college/school?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Community pharmacy	N/A	3239
Institutional pharmacy	N/A	1567
Other pharmacy related; please specify:	N/A	598
Non-pharmacy related: please specify:	N/A	306
I did not work (Skip to number 75)	N/A	382

74. If you had paid employment please indicate the approximate number of hours you worked per week.

	Response Percent	Response Total
Less than 10 hours	28.4%	1243
10 to 14 hours	34.0%	1485
15 to 19 hours	22.4%	980
20 to 29 hours	10.0%	439
30 or more hours	3.5%	154
No answer	1.6%	71

75. Please indicate any college degrees you had earned prior to entering the Doctor of Pharmacy program. (Check all that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Total
Did not have a degree prior to entering program	N/A	1620
Associate's	N/A	561
B.S., B.A. or Other Bachelor's	N/A	2713
Master's; please specify type:	N/A	116
JD or Other Law	N/A	3
Ph.D.	N/A	6
M.D., D.D.S. or other Professional Doctorate	N/A	8
Other Doctorate	N/A	5

76(a). What are your current plans for primary employment upon your graduation from the college/school of pharmacy? (Check all that apply)

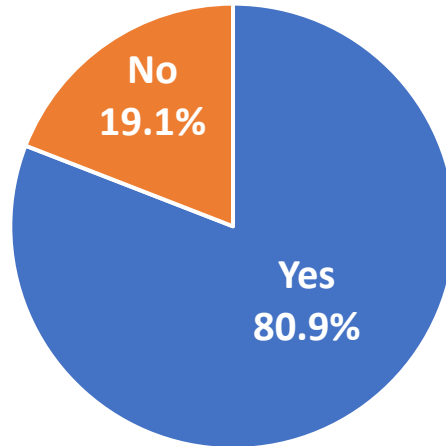
	Response Percent	Response Total
Chain community pharmacy	N/A	1646
Independent community pharmacy	N/A	724
Hospital	N/A	2267
Clinic-based pharmacy	N/A	776
Consultant	N/A	189
Home care	N/A	63
Nursing home/Long-term care facility	N/A	190
Academia	N/A	275
Association management	N/A	31
Pharmaceutical industry	N/A	538
Managed Care	N/A	229
Government or regulatory agency	N/A	182
Other Pharmacy Related Field	N/A	303
Non-pharmacy related field	N/A	32
No plans for employment in the coming year	N/A	102

76(b). What are your current plans upon your graduation from the college/school of pharmacy? (Check all that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Total
Pharmacy Residency Program	N/A	1964
Pharmacy Ph.D. Program	N/A	87
Master's; please specify type:	N/A	153
JD or Other Law Program	N/A	18
Other Health Professions (MD, DDS, DVM, etc.)	N/A	41
Non-Pharmacy Ph.D. Program	N/A	12
Fellowship	N/A	289
No plans for further education in the coming year	N/A	2292

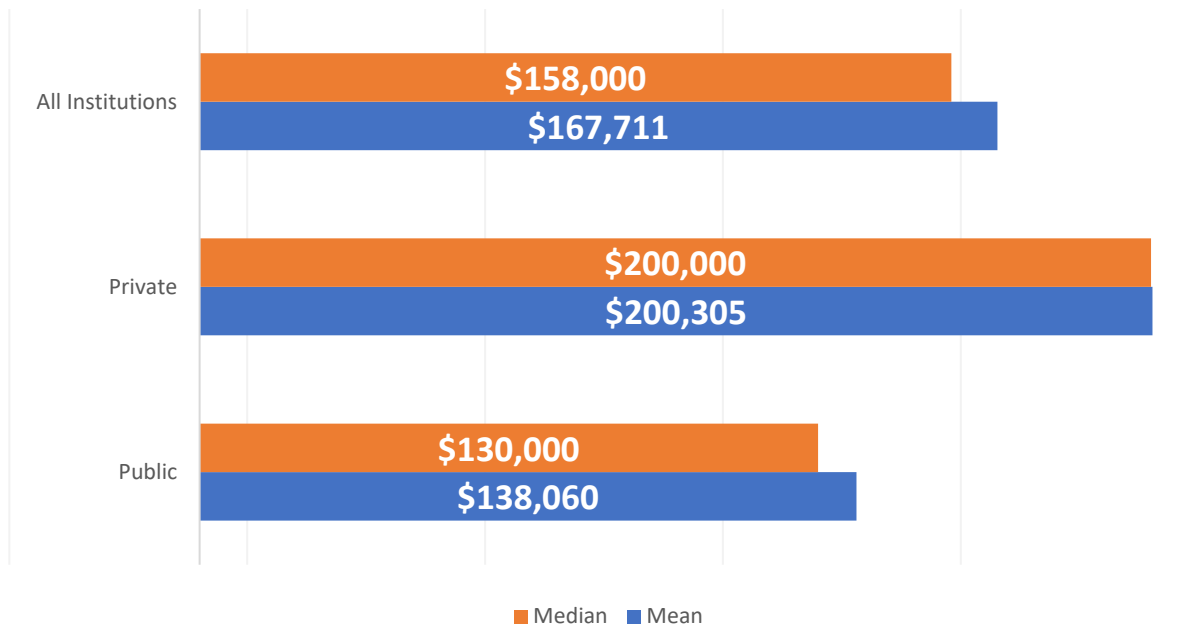
77. Have you borrowed money to help pay for your college expenses in the Pharm.D. degree program?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Yes	80.9%	3846
No	19.1%	908



78. If you borrowed to help pay for your college expenses in the Pharm.D. degree program, please estimate how much you will owe at date of graduation:

Amounts Borrowed to Finance Pharm.D. Education



79(a). How do you describe yourself?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Female	63.2%	3003
Trans Female/Trans Woman	0.1%	5
Male	32.8%	1561
Trans Male/Trans Man	0.0%	2
Other not listed above	0.3%	12
Prefer not to disclose	3.6%	171

79(b). Do you consider yourself to be:

	Response Percent	Response Total
Heterosexual or Straight	85.6%	4068
Gay or Lesbian	3.3%	159
Bisexual	4.1%	193
Other not listed above	0.7%	35
Prefer not to disclose	6.3%	299

80. Age

	Response Percent	Response Total
25 or under	45.7%	2174
26 - 30	41.0%	1951
31 - 35	5.6%	267
36 - 40	2.6%	124
41 - 45	0.9%	45
46 - 50	0.3%	14
51 or above	0.1%	6
Prefer not to disclose	3.6%	173

81. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

	Response Percent	Response Total
No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	85.9%	4082
Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano	4.3%	206
Yes, Puerto Rican	2.1%	98
Yes, Cuban	0.8%	37
Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin	1.9%	92
Prefer not to disclose	5.0%	239

82. I identify as (check all that apply):

	Response Percent	Response Total
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.2%	55
Asian	23.3%	1106
Black or African American	7.7%	367
Middle Eastern or North African	3.9%	185
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.5%	23
White	58.8%	2796
Other not listed above	1.6%	74
Prefer not to disclose	7.4%	352

a. Respondents were able to select multiple options; therefore, percentages do not represent mutually exclusive answer choices and may not total to 100%.

83. Do you identify as a first-generation student?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Yes, neither of my parents completed a college/university degree	30.2%	1436
No	65.5%	3116
Prefer not to disclose	4.2%	202

84. Which is the language you know best?

	Response Percent	Response Total
English	89.8%	4267
Other	7.0%	333
Prefer not to disclose	3.2%	154

85. How would you describe your English Language Proficiency?

	Response Percent	Response Total
Native	78.0%	3707
Advanced	16.3%	775
Intermediate	2.3%	110
Beginner	0.1%	4
Prefer not to disclose	3.3%	158