Mac’s First-Year Student Snapshot

Office of Institutional Research

Percent of first-years indicating potential majors at Macalester

- Natural Sciences & Math: 39%
- Social Sciences: 39%
- Inter-disciplinary: 24%
- Humanities: 22%
- Undecided: 12%
- Fine Arts: 5%
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73% say there is at least ‘some chance’ they will change majors

Percentages on the left add to over 100% because starting in 2018, students can list two potential majors.

Rate yourself as compared to the average person your age

- Academic Ability: % rating themselves below average 1% → % rating themselves above average 87%
- Understanding of Others: 3% → 75%
- Drive to Achieve: 4% → 74%
- Compassion: 5% → 73%
- Writing Ability: 10% → 61%
- Intellectual Self-Confidence: 11% → 59%
- Leadership Ability: 11% → 59%
- Creativity: 12% → 54%
- Mathematical Ability: 14% → 51%
- Public Speaking Ability: 21% → 49%
- Physical Health: 13% → 45%
- Risk-Taking: 21% → 43%
- Emotional Health: 27% → 36%
- Artistic Ability: 35% → 35%
- Social Self-Confidence: 33% → 35%
- Spirituality: 44% → 25%
621 New FY Students

- 30% US students of color
- 24% LGBQPA or ‘Other’
- 16% First-generation college
- 15% International students
- 2% Trans or gender nonbinary

- 55 Countries represented
- 49 Questbridge scholars or finalists
- 29 United World College HS grads

What is the highest degree you plan to obtain?

- Bachelor’s: 10%
- Master’s: 39%
- PhD: 26%
- Professional Degree (MD, JD, PsyD): 24%

Health & Wellness

Frequently felt overwhelmed (in the past year)
- 46%

Frequently felt anxious (in the past year)
- 45%

Frequently felt depressed (in the past year)
- 22%

Will likely seek counseling (very good chance during next year)
- 31%

What is your best guess as to the chances you will:

- Participate in student protests or demonstrations
  - Very Good Chance: 37%
  - Some Chance: 39%

- Work on a professor’s research project
  - Very Good Chance: 37%
  - Some Chance: 50%

- Get a job to help pay for your college expenses
  - Very Good Chance: 61%
  - Some Chance: 28%

- Participate in volunteer or community service work
  - Very Good Chance: 60%
  - Some Chance: 34%

Source: CIRP Freshman Survey
Response Rate: 97%
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