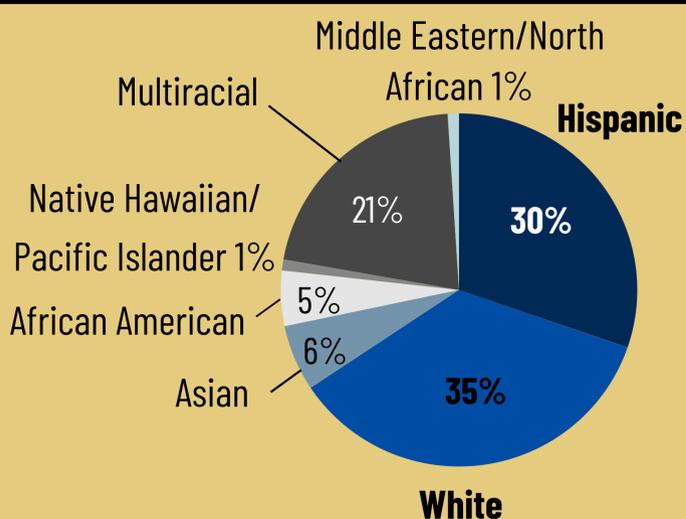


2019 BCSSE

The Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement (BCSSE) collects data about entering students' prior academic, co-curricular experiences, & their expectations for participating in educationally purposeful activities during the coming college year. 358 VU freshmen completed the survey in 2019 fall.

★ Demographics



Gender: Male: 26%; Female: 73%; Other: 1%



51% were **First Generation**

87% graduated from **public HS**
13% graduated from **private HS**



52% have at least one **close friend** attending VU as a 1st year

30% of first-gen & **16%** of non-first-gen expect **paying college expenses to be difficult**



84% expect to have financial support from parents or relatives,
61% loans,
97% grants or scholarship,
39% employment on/off-campus, &
57% personal savings or use other sources

High School Experience

During their final year of HS:

45% did not work for pay while **33%** worked +10 hours/week



39% never came to class without completing readings/assignments while **47%** did so *sometimes*

Hours Preparing For Class



49% of first-gen vs. **64%** of non-first-gen were involved in religious youth groups very much or quite a bit



26% of first-gen vs. **39%** of non-first-gen were involved in performing or visual arts programs very much or quite a bit

College Expectations



90% expect to graduate from VU

55% indicated Vanguard was their **1st choice**, **26%** **2nd choice**, & **16%** **3rd choice** or lower



37% of students expect to **work 10+ hours/week** on/off-campus



68% of first-gen vs. **42%** of non-first-gen expect to **discuss their academic performance with faculty** often or very often

54% of first-gen vs. **36%** of non-first-gen expect to **work with faculty on activities other than coursework** often or very often



12% of first-gen vs. **23%** of non-first-gen expect to spend **20+ hours/week** preparing for class



59% of first-gen vs. **72%** of non-first-gen expect to spend **5+ hours/week** relaxing & socializing



Perception of Preparedness

On a scale of 1 to 6 (1 being not at all prepared & 6 being very prepared):

72% of first-gen vs. **87%** of non-first-gen rated 4, 5, or 6 to **feeling prepared to write clearly & effectively**



78% of first-gen vs. **86%** of non-first-gen rated 4, 5, or 6 to **feeling prepared to speak clearly & effectively**



National Comparison

- **VU first-gen** perceived **less academic preparedness** than their national counterparts (39.9 vs. 42.4, significant at .01)
- **VU non-first-gen** expected **less student-faculty interaction** than their national counterparts (29.9 vs. 33.1, significant at .01)

* National counterparts are 15,003 freshmen in master's colleges/university who participated in BCSSE 2019