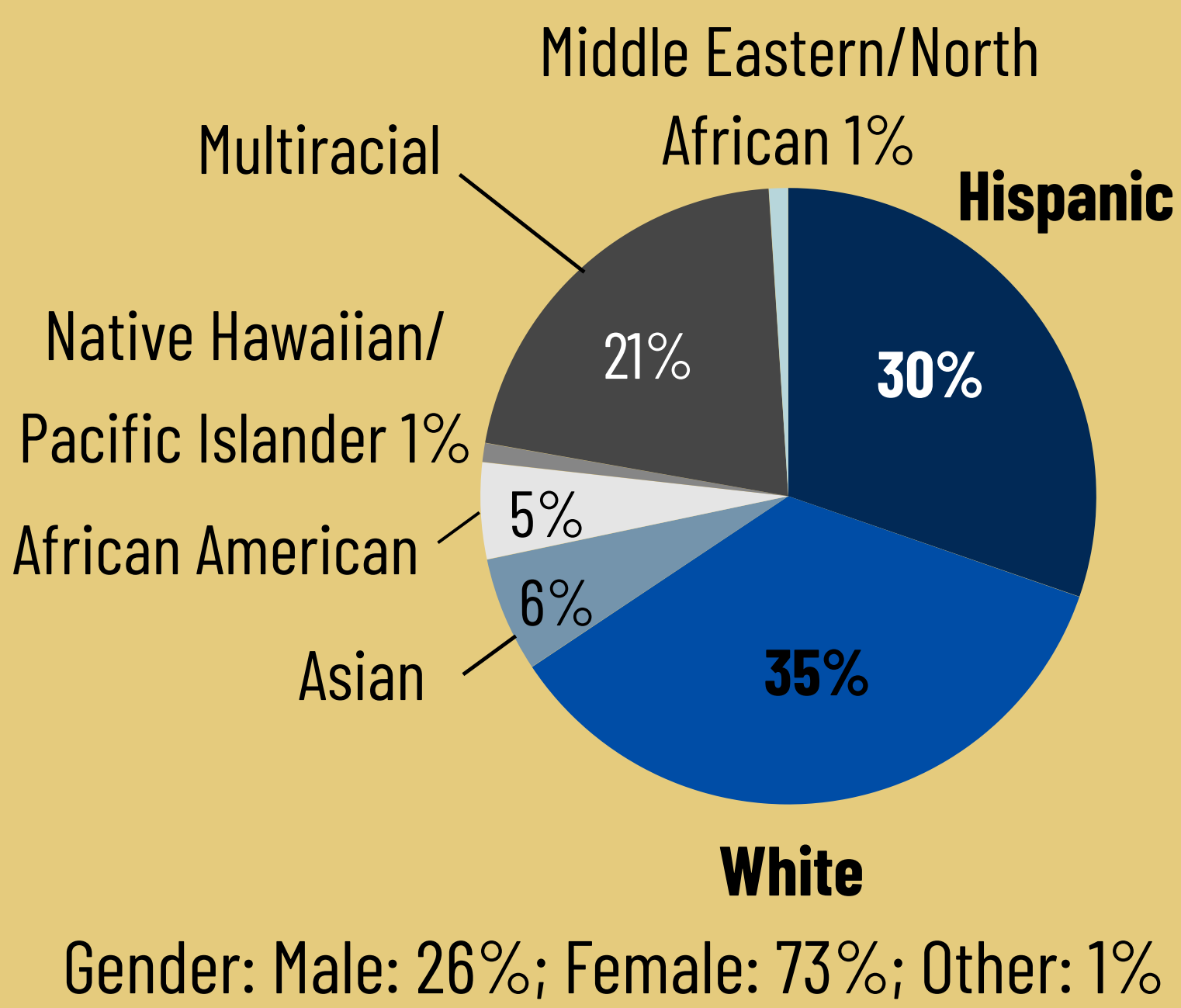


# 2019 BCSSE

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



**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**

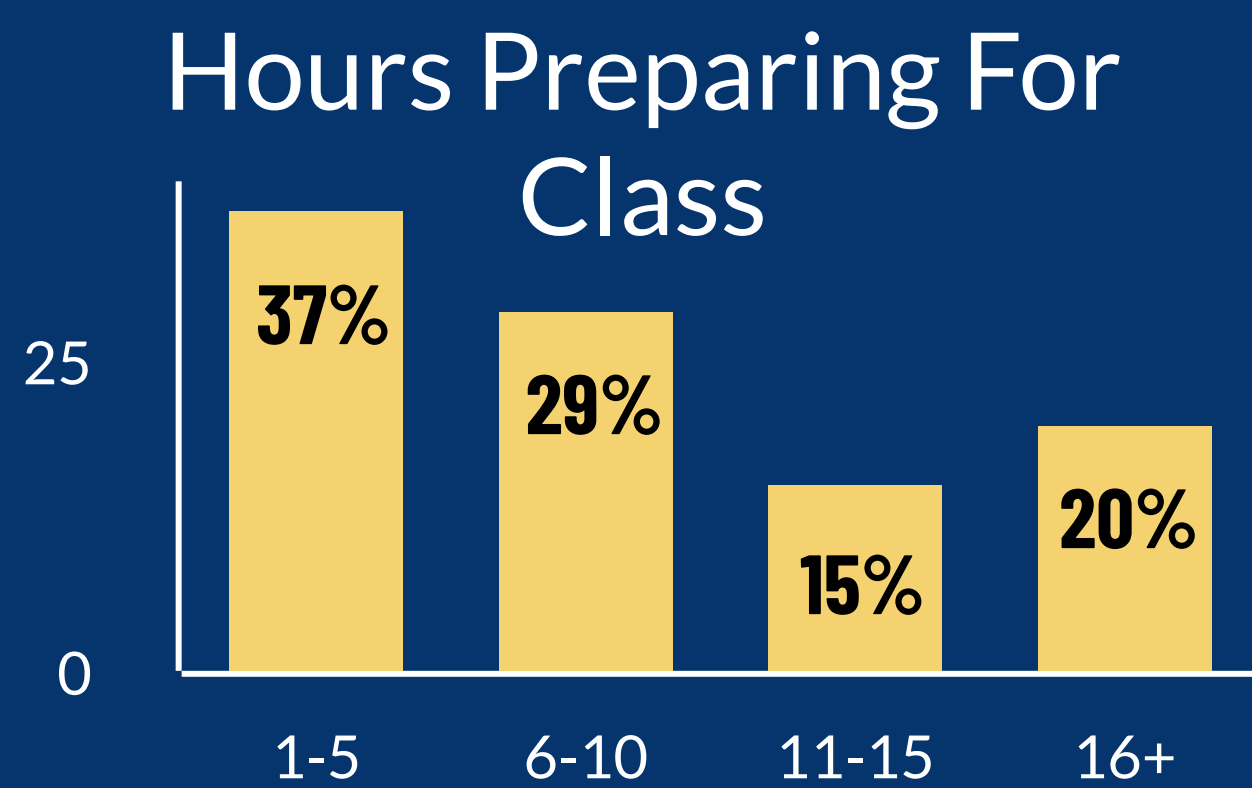
**84%** expect to have financial support from parents or relatives,  
**61%** loans,  
**97%** grants or scholarship,  
**39%** employment on/off-campus, &  
**57%** personal savings or use other sources

## 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



**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