

Table 1: Characteristics of Survey Respondents

Characteristic	%			
	Cornell (n=2476)	Norm Group 1 (n=3353)	Norm Group 2 (n=4254)	Norm Group 3 (n=2135)
Gender**				
Male	53.0	46.9	50.7	55.1
Female	47.0	53.1	49.3	44.9
Race/Ethnicity**				
White	59.6	57.1	62.1	59.5
Asian-American	16.8	15.4	16.5	16.2
Other [†]	8.6	14.3	7.8	9.8
URM ^{††}	8.1	9.6	9.0	8.5
International	7.0	3.6	4.5	6.0
Citizenship Status**				
US Citizen	87.0	92.9	91.4	89.4
Permanent resident	5.9	3.4	4.0	4.5
Non-citizen/resident	7.1	3.7	4.6	6.1

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[†] Respondents who identified themselves as belonging to more than one racial/ethnic group or who did not indicate their racial/ethnic group were designated as "other" for further analyses.

^{††} African-Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, and Native-Americans were combined as "underrepresented minorities" for further analyses due to their small sizes within groups.

**Table 2: Status of Parents
 By Group**

Q. Are your parents:

Status	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Both alive and living with each other	82.4	80.9	81.8	81.4
Both alive, divorced or living apart	14.7	16.1	15.1	15.8
One or both deceased	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.7

**Table 3: Highest Level of Parents' Formal Education
 By Group**

Q24. What is the highest level of formal education obtained by your parents?

Level of education**	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Grammar school or less				
Father	1.7	1.3	1.3	0.9
Mother	1.8	1.2	1.3	0.7
Some high school				
Father	2.0	1.0	1.3	1.2
Mother	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.1
High school graduate				
Father	6.4	4.1	5.5	7.0
Mother	9.1	5.8	7.4	8.8
Postsecondary other than college				
Father	1.9	1.4	1.7	1.9
Mother	2.8	2.3	2.8	2.9
Some college				
Father	7.5	6.7	6.2	6.9
Mother	9.5	7.9	8.1	9.1
College degree				
Father	25.9	20.3	21.7	25.5
Mother	34.1	31.5	34.4	35.7
Some graduate school				
Father	4.3	3.5	3.5	4.6
Mother	5.7	6.5	5.7	5.7
Graduate degree				
Father	50.3	61.8	58.8	52.1
Mother	35.6	43.9	39.2	35.9

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**Table 4: Estimate of Parents' Total Income
 By Group**

Q20. What is your best estimate of your parents' total income last year?

Income amount**	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Less than \$6,000	1.6	1.1	1.2	0.7
\$6,000 - 9,999	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.7
\$10,000 - 14,999	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.6
\$15,000 - 19,999	2.2	1.3	1.2	1.0
\$20,000 - 24,999	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.1
\$25,000 - 29,999	2.4	1.7	1.5	1.9
\$30,000 - 39,999	4.6	3.5	4.2	5.0
\$40,000 - 49,999	6.1	4.8	5.0	6.4
\$50,000 - 59,999	6.1	5.5	5.1	7.2
\$60,000 - 74,999	9.6	7.8	8.1	10.0
\$75,000 - 99,999	13.8	13.1	12.4	15.8
\$100,000 - 149,999	22.2	21.0	21.2	22.3
\$150,000 - 199,999	10.0	11.6	10.9	9.1
\$200,000 or more	17.0	25.1	25.4	16.3

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**Table 5: Frequent Activities in Past Year
By Group**

Q22. For the activities below, indicate which ones you did during the past year. (1 = not at all to 3 = frequently)

Activity	% "frequently"			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Used a personal computer**	92.8	94.5	93.8	92.6
Communicated via e-mail	85.0	84.9	85.4	84.9
Used the Internet for research or homework**	78.5	70.8	76.2	75.7
Socialized w/person of other racial/ethnic grp**	74.6	81.8	78.5	77.6
Other internet use**	65.3	60.0	66.8	65.8
Was bored in class**	43.9	37.9	42.3	41.5
Studied with other students**	34.5	38.6	39.0	34.8
Performed volunteer work**	33.5	43.5	38.4	34.0
Played a musical instrument**	32.7	35.8	34.0	37.8
Attended a religious service**	28.5	31.0	36.4	35.8
Discussed religion**	26.4	32.4	37.3	31.9
Asked a teacher for advice after class**	25.6	33.8	30.3	26.0
Attended public recital or concert**	24.6	28.6	30.7	29.4
Voted in student election**	24.5	30.7	34.1	26.2
Tutored another student**	23.8	28.8	26.0	21.1
Discussed politics**	23.7	32.8	32.7	29.5
Felt overwhelmed by all I had to do**	22.6	30.0	30.0	24.8
Participated in internet chat rooms**	18.5	10.8	15.7	20.0
Performed community service as part of class**	15.5	13.8	16.2	16.4
Came late to class**	15.0	14.7	15.6	13.1
Drank beer**	12.2	9.1	11.5	9.2
Visited art gallery or museum**	12.0	14.4	15.5	13.5
Drank wine or liquor**	11.1	8.6	10.9	8.3
Felt depressed**	6.3	8.8	8.5	7.4
Overslept and missed class or appointment**	4.8	3.3	4.9	4.2
Participated in organized demonstrations	4.8	4.3	4.9	5.1
Was a guest in a teacher's home**	4.7	5.8	5.9	4.9
Smoked cigarettes**	4.5	2.9	4.9	3.4

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**Table 6: Weekly Use of Time During High School
By Group**

Q30. During your last year in high school, how much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities?

Activity	% \geq 16 hours per week			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Socializing with friends**	28.6	26.1	28.8	24.9
Studying/homework**	21.6	33.1	25.2	21.0
Exercise or sports**	17.7	19.5	17.7	16.1
Working (for pay)**	13.7	6.2	9.6	12.9
Watching TV**	5.2	3.0	5.3	5.3
Student clubs/groups**	4.8	5.7	6.4	4.9
Partying**	4.6	1.8	4.3	3.8
Volunteer work**	2.1	1.6	1.8	2.5
Playing video/computer games**	1.9	0.8	1.4	2.2
Reading for pleasure**	1.7	1.2	1.6	2.0
Household/childcare duties**	1.1	0.5	0.6	0.9
Talking with teachers outside of class**	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.7
Prayer/meditation**	0.7	0.3	0.7	0.9

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**Table 7: Self-Rating on Traits
By Group**

*Q27. Rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average person your age:
(Lowest 10%, below average, average, above average, highest 10%)*

Trait	% "above average" or "highest 10%"			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Academic ability**	94.2	96.5	95.9	91.9
Drive to achieve**	82.9	91.0	87.7	81.0
Mathematical ability**	73.1	76.9	73.4	71.6
Self-confidence (intellectual)**	71.5	79.9	78.0	73.0
Cooperativeness**	70.7	76.5	73.4	72.1
Understanding of others**	65.0	71.6	71.2	66.5
Initiative**	64.8	76.2	71.6	63.3
Leadership ability**	64.8	75.6	72.4	64.4
Self-understanding**	62.9	69.6	67.2	65.8
Creativity**	61.8	70.1	65.5	62.3
Competitiveness**	61.0	67.7	69.4	62.5
Physical health*	59.6	62.9	61.2	58.2
Writing ability**	58.3	77.9	69.3	58.9
Emotional health**	57.5	62.1	61.3	61.1
Self-confidence (social)**	47.9	52.5	55.1	48.4
Computer skills	42.6	39.7	40.6	41.9
Popularity**	42.1	48.3	48.2	39.1
Public speaking ability**	42.0	56.3	53.3	43.9
Spirituality**	38.4	41.3	44.2	45.2
Artistic ability**	35.3	41.5	38.2	34.6

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**Table 8: Political Views
 By Group**

Q32. How would you characterize your political views?

Political view**	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Far right	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.5
Conservative	15.7	13.8	17.0	17.4
Middle of the road	40.3	31.9	34.5	38.9
Liberal	39.7	48.2	42.8	38.4
Far left	3.5	5.3	4.6	3.9

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**Table 9: Views on Selected Topics
By Group**

Q29. Mark one in each row. (1=disagree strongly to 4 = agree strongly)

View	% "agree" or "strongly agree"			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Fed govt should do more to control handguns**	86.1	89.3	87.1	81.9
Legal marital status for same sex couples**	73.8	77.2	73.0	69.1
Abortion should be legal**	73.2	78.6	75.1	71.4
Employers can require drug testing	67.7	67.5	67.5	69.8
Wealthy people should pay more taxes**	57.1	55.1	52.1	52.8
Colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech**	55.4	50.0	50.4	54.5
Abolish affirm action in college admissions**	55.4	52.4	57.1	58.8
Too much concern for rights of criminals**	54.1	43.3	49.8	56.8
Sex is OK if people like each other*	51.6	47.3	49.4	48.2
Death penalty should be abolished**	40.8	49.6	45.2	40.6
Marijuana should be legalized	40.2	42.4	41.2	39.1
Right to know personal lives of public figures	28.2	26.7	27.7	27.9
Individuals can do little to change society**	26.3	17.7	20.5	24.9
Activities of married women best at home**	16.2	7.5	11.1	15.5
Racial discrimination is no longer a problem**	15.8	12.5	15.0	18.0
Prohibit homosexual relations**	14.8	9.5	12.3	16.5

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**Table 10: Importance of Goals
 By Group**

Q37. Please indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following. (1 = not important to 4 = essential)

Goal	% "very important" or "essential"			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Raising a family**	68.3	71.7	72.7	68.5
Being very well off financially**	67.7	56.1	65.8	64.1
Becoming an authority in my field**	63.9	65.6	66.7	62.6
Helping others who are in difficulty**	58.4	69.2	64.6	63.9
Obtaining recognition from colleagues**	55.0	50.1	54.6	54.1
Developing a meaningful philosophy of life**	51.7	69.6	60.7	54.3
Becoming successful in own business**	40.1	30.3	34.5	30.8
Integrating spirituality into my life**	36.6	45.2	45.3	42.5
Keeping up to date with political affairs**	35.8	50.1	47.3	37.9
Having administrative responsibility**	35.4	25.9	33.2	31.8
Helping to promote racial understanding**	32.4	42.6	40.8	36.2
Becoming a community leader**	32.2	39.5	39.6	33.1
Making a theoretical contribution to science**	31.4	23.5	21.8	30.8
Influencing social values**	31.2	39.6	37.7	32.5
Participating in community action program**	24.5	37.2	33.1	27.3
Being involved in environmental clean-up**	21.7	25.0	19.3	20.8
Influencing the political structure**	19.1	23.1	22.9	19.0
Writing original works**	15.9	23.3	19.7	17.7
Creating artistic work (painting, sculpture, etc)*	15.0	16.7	14.4	14.3
Becoming accomplished in a performing art**	13.4	19.5	20.2	16.7

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**Table 11: Importance of Reasons For Deciding To Go To College
By Group**

Q26. In deciding to go to college, how important to you was each of the following reasons? (1 = not important to 3 = very important)

Reason	% "very important"			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
To learn more about things that interest me**	84.2	92.8	87.4	83.7
To gain a general education & appreciation of ideas**	75.2	87.5	81.6	75.0
To prepare myself for graduate/prof school**	68.4	69.0	69.7	73.1
To be able to get a better job**	62.6	60.6	64.8	64.4
To be able to make more money**	60.9	52.0	60.0	60.4
To get training for a specific career**	56.1	35.2	48.4	55.7
To make me a more cultured person**	52.5	66.4	64.3	54.4
To improve my reading and study skills**	35.5	40.6	40.8	37.0
My parents wanted me to go*	28.7	32.3	30.9	30.2
To get away from home	19.2	18.0	19.8	19.8
Mentor/role model encouraged me to go**	11.2	9.1	10.1	12.5
There was nothing better to do	4.6	4.2	4.8	5.2
I could not find a job**	2.2	1.3	2.4	3.0

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**Table 12: Number of Applications to Other Colleges
 By Group**

Q15. To how many colleges other than this one did you apply for admission this year?

Number**	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
None	20.4	20.9	22.7	12.9
One	5.4	4.0	5.6	5.1
Two	4.9	4.5	5.4	6.2
Three	7.5	7.4	7.0	7.8
Four	9.9	8.5	9.0	11.4
Five	10.3	8.9	10.4	11.8
Six	10.7	10.2	9.8	11.9
Seven to ten	24.9	28.0	23.5	26.1
Eleven or more	5.9	7.5	6.4	7.0

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**Table 13: Highest Intended Academic Degree
 By Group**

Q17. What is the highest academic degree that you intend to obtain at any college?

Degree**	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
None	2.6	0.8	1.6	2.1
Associate/Other	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.8
Bachelor's	3.8	2.5	3.3	3.0
Master's	38.5	32.1	38.1	32.4
Ph.D. or Ed.D.	29.4	34.9	26.7	31.5
M.D., D.O., D.D.S., D.V.M.	16.7	18.5	17.9	21.7
LL.B. or J.D.	7.9	10.0	10.8	8.1
B.D. or M.Div.	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4

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**Table 14: Concern About Financing College Education
 By Group**

Q31. Do you have any concern about your ability to finance your college education? (1 = none to 3 = major)

Level of concern**	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
None	40.3	45.3	46.7	41.5
Some	49.6	46.2	44.2	48.4
Major	10.1	8.5	9.1	10.2

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**Table 15: College Choice
 By Group**

Q14. Is this college your:

Choice**	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
First choice	68.5	82.8	72.1	60.6
Second choice	18.5	11.6	17.6	22.4
Third choice	8.6	3.9	6.8	10.3
Less than third choice	4.4	1.7	3.5	6.8

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**Table 16: Importance of Reasons For Coming to Current College
By Group**

Q35. How important was each reason in your decision to come here? (1= not important to 3=very important)

Reason	% "very important"			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Good academic reputation**	85.7	90.0	87.9	81.3
Graduates get good jobs**	73.2	65.8	72.0	66.1
Graduates go to top graduate schools**	60.5	58.3	62.9	57.9
Rankings in national magazines**	31.4	25.1	34.7	32.8
Early Action/Decision program**	30.6	30.7	31.4	17.4
Good social reputation**	27.2	36.7	30.1	17.4
Offers special programs**	24.6	21.9	23.1	22.0
Offered financial assistance**	22.1	24.2	24.2	36.2
I was offered a need-based scholarship**	19.4	21.7	19.9	20.6
Size of college**	19.0	34.9	33.3	35.3
Information from a website**	12.8	9.7	13.0	13.9
I was offered a merit-based scholarship**	9.5	4.7	6.9	25.7
Relative's wish	7.6	7.0	6.6	6.7
Advice of high school guidance counselor**	6.9	4.7	6.1	7.0
Low tuition**	4.5	0.8	1.3	13.2
Teacher's advice	3.5	3.6	3.9	5.0
Wanted to live near home**	3.2	4.3	6.8	6.8
Advice of private guidance counselor**	2.9	1.8	3.1	3.3
Not accepted anywhere else**	2.5	1.1	1.7	3.5
Not offered aid by first choice**	2.4	0.8	2.3	5.8
Friends are attending**	2.4	0.9	1.7	2.4
I was offered an athletic scholarship**	1.6	3.5	2.8	4.5
Religious affiliation/orientation of college**	1.3	1.1	3.2	2.2

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**Table 17 : Past and Anticipated Remedial Work
By Group**

Q10. Have you had, or do you feel you will need, any special tutoring or remedial work in any of the following subjects?

Type of remedial work	%			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Had remedial work in writing**	4.2	2.7	3.4	4.2
Need remedial work in writing*	9.0	7.3	7.4	7.1
Had remedial work in mathematics	6.5	6.9	7.6	7.2
Need remedial work in mathematics	8.6	9.2	10.0	8.8
Had remedial work in science	3.3	2.6	3.4	3.3
Need remedial work in science	5.5	5.9	6.0	5.9
Had remedial work in foreign language*	3.2	2.4	3.3	3.6
Need remedial work in foreign language*	5.5	7.4	7.4	7.3
Had remedial work in English**	5.6	2.8	3.7	5.2
Need remedial work in English**	4.9	3.9	4.3	5.9
Had remedial work in reading**	2.9	1.7	2.3	3.2
Need remedial work in reading	2.7	2.4	2.0	2.6
Had remedial work in social studies**	1.9	1.1	1.5	2.5
Need remedial work in social studies	1.8	1.1	1.3	1.4

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**Table 18: Student Estimates of Experiences/Events at Cornell
By Group**

Q38. What is your best guess as to the chances that you will: (1 = no chance to 4 = very good chance)

Experience/Event	% "very good chance"			
	Cornell	Norm Group 1	Norm Group 2	Norm Group 3
Get a bachelor's degree**	83.1	93.1	87.9	83.7
Develop close friendships w/other students**	76.1	90.0	82.3	72.8
Socialize with different racial/ethnic group**	74.0	91.3	82.9	78.0
Make at least "B" average**	58.8	74.3	70.3	64.8
Be satisfied with this college**	56.8	79.1	68.3	55.0
Participate in student clubs/groups**	54.6	73.9	67.3	58.2
Get a job to help pay for college expenses**	37.2	40.3	34.8	32.7
Communicate regularly with professors**	34.3	56.5	43.5	40.6
Participate in volunteer/cmtly svc work**	28.7	50.4	41.6	33.6
Graduate with honors**	21.5	28.5	28.6	24.9
Change career choice**	17.3	33.6	23.6	18.5
Change major field**	16.1	31.9	22.0	16.4
Play varsity/intercollegiate athletics**	13.4	18.7	13.2	18.5
Join a social fraternity or sorority**	9.7	5.0	10.9	3.7
Participate in student protests or demonstrations**	5.8	11.5	8.9	5.5
Seek personal counseling**	5.7	8.1	6.0	5.3
Participate in student government**	5.4	8.6	9.3	7.9
Need extra time to complete degree**	2.8	2.1	3.0	5.2
Transfer to another college**	1.8	0.7	0.9	2.7
Work full-time while attending college**	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.9
Drop out temporarily**	1.0	0.7	0.7	1.1
Drop out permanently**	0.7	0.2	0.4	1.1

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