



Report/Name	Survey Type	Grade Level	Number of Respondents (N)
County / MERCER	Student Survey	12	181

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## School Level Response Rates:

Surveys Administered	566
Surveys Received*	181
<b>School Response Rate (%)</b>	<b>32.0%</b>

\*tables below include data only for those 181 students who provided assent.

## Results (Percentages) by Survey Question

### 1. What is your gender?

	(%)
Female	43.6%
Male	56.4%
Other	0.0%
No Response	0.0%

### 2. What is your race?

	(%)
White	79.0%
Black or African American	14.4%
Asian	0.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.6%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.0%
Two or more races	6.1%
Other	
No response	0.0%

### 3. What is your ethnicity?

	(%)
Hispanic or Latino	2.2%
Not Hispanic or Latino	86.7%
Other	Dark White.;
No Response	11.0%

### 4. What is the main language you speak at home?

(%)
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English	97.8%
Spanish	0.0%
Other	Africameric anese; Redneck.;
No Response	2.2%

**5. Which of the following options best describes your family's total annual income?**

	(%)
\$30,000 or less	35.4%
\$30,001 - \$60,000	25.4%
\$60,001 - \$100,000	16.0%
\$100,001 or more	7.7%
Don't know or I'd rather not say	15.5%
No Response	0.0%

**6. What is the highest level of education obtained by your mother/father?**

	Mother (%)	Father (%)
Some high school	12.7%	12.2%
High school diploma/GED	27.1%	38.1%
Some college	16.0%	11.6%
2-year college degree	11.0%	4.4%
4-year college degree	18.2%	9.9%
Master's degree	7.2%	5.0%
Ph.D. or higher	1.7%	3.3%
Don't know	6.1%	15.5%
No Response	0.0%	0.0%

**7. If you have other brothers or sisters, how many have attended college in the past or are in college now?**

	(%)
0	45.3%
1	27.1%
2	8.8%
3	4.4%
4	0.0%
5 or more	2.2%
I don't have brothers or sisters	5.0%
No Response	7.2%

**8. Do you plan to continue your education after high school?**

	(%)
Yes	89.0%



No	7.7%
No Response	3.3%

8b. If you answered No, what are your main reasons you do not plan to continue your education?

	(%)
My grades aren't good enough	42.9%
It costs too much/I can't afford it	14.3%
I need to work	14.3%
I want to work	21.4%
Family issues	21.4%
I plan to enlist in the military	28.6%
Other going to a technical school	

9. As you think about your current skills, how confident are you of your ability in the following areas?

	Very Confident (%)	Confident (%)	Not Confident (%)	Don't Know (%)	No Response (%)
Math Skills	28.7%	47.0%	19.3%	3.9%	1.1%
English/Language Arts	36.5%	47.0%	12.7%	2.2%	1.7%
Science	26.5%	50.8%	19.9%	2.2%	0.6%
Study Skills	23.2%	53.0%	14.9%	6.6%	2.2%
Ability to pass the end-of-year tests (e.g., WESTEST 2, Smarter Balanced Assessment)	32.6%	48.1%	12.7%	5.5%	1.1%
Ability to do well in college level courses in the future	33.7%	47.0%	9.9%	7.7%	1.7%

10. What is the highest level of education that you...

	Would like to get? (%)	Expect to get? (%)
High school or less	7.7%	11.0%
Some college	10.5%	9.4%
Two-year associate's college degree	8.8%	14.4%
Four-year bachelor's college degree	35.9%	36.5%
More than a 4-year college degree	36.5%	28.2%
No Response	0.6%	0.6%

11. How sure are you about being able to do the following?

	Very Sure (%)	Sure (%)	Somewhat Sure (%)	Not at all Sure (%)	Don't Know (%)	No Response (%)
I can find a way to pay for college.	22.1%	19.9%	29.8%	11.6%	11.0%	5.5%
I can get accepted to a college.	37.6%	24.9%	17.1%	9.4%	5.5%	5.5%



	Very Sure (%)	Sure (%)	Somewhat Sure (%)	Not at all Sure (%)	Don't Know (%)	No Response (%)
I can have family support for going to college.	44.2%	25.4%	13.8%	5.5%	4.4%	6.6%
I can choose a good college.	41.4%	29.8%	13.3%	4.4%	3.3%	7.7%
I can get a scholarship or grant for college.	25.4%	22.1%	27.6%	10.5%	7.7%	6.6%
I can make an educational plan that will prepare me for college.	27.6%	32.0%	23.2%	7.2%	4.4%	5.5%
I can make my family proud with my choices after high school.	45.3%	28.7%	14.4%	3.3%	1.1%	7.2%
I can choose college courses that best fit my interests.	38.7%	32.0%	14.9%	5.5%	2.2%	6.6%
I can pay for college even if my family cannot help me.	14.4%	16.0%	19.9%	33.7%	9.9%	6.1%
I can get good grades in my high school math classes.	32.0%	23.8%	23.8%	9.9%	3.3%	7.2%
I can get good grades in my high school science classes.	28.7%	27.1%	28.7%	6.1%	2.2%	7.2%
I can choose the high school classes needed to get into a good college.	33.1%	33.1%	17.7%	4.4%	5.0%	6.6%
I know enough about computers to get into college.	30.4%	32.6%	17.1%	7.7%	5.5%	6.6%
I can go to college after high school.	49.2%	23.8%	11.0%	5.0%	4.4%	6.6%

**12. If you do go to college, how sure are you about being able to do the following?**

	Very Sure (%)	Sure (%)	Somewhat Sure (%)	Not at all Sure (%)	Don't Know (%)	No Response (%)
I could pay for each year of college.	18.8%	18.8%	27.1%	19.9%	8.3%	7.2%
I could get A's and B's in college.	21.0%	23.8%	34.3%	8.3%	5.0%	7.7%
I could get my family to support my wish of finishing college.	46.4%	23.8%	16.0%	3.3%	3.3%	7.2%
I could take care of myself in college.	35.4%	34.3%	14.4%	6.6%	2.2%	7.2%
I could fit in at college.	34.3%	27.1%	19.3%	4.4%	7.2%	7.7%
I could get good enough grades to get or keep a scholarship.	29.8%	26.5%	23.2%	8.8%	3.9%	7.7%
I could finish college and receive a college degree.	39.8%	30.9%	15.5%	3.3%	2.8%	7.7%
I could care for my family responsibilities while in college.	25.4%	34.3%	21.0%	7.2%	3.9%	8.3%
I could set my own schedule while in college.	28.7%	33.1%	24.9%	2.2%	2.8%	8.3%



	Very Sure (%)	Sure (%)	Somewhat Sure (%)	Not at all Sure (%)	Don't Know (%)	No Response (%)
I could make friends at college.	40.9%	28.7%	15.5%	6.1%	1.7%	7.2%
I could get the education I need for my choice of career.	42.5%	28.7%	17.1%	2.8%	1.1%	7.7%
I could get a job after I graduate from college.	38.7%	34.3%	9.4%	6.1%	3.9%	7.7%
I would like being in college.	34.8%	28.7%	17.1%	4.4%	6.1%	8.8%
I could be smart enough to finish college.	37.6%	31.5%	15.5%	5.5%	1.7%	8.3%
I could pick the right things to study at college.	34.8%	31.5%	21.0%	2.8%	2.2%	7.7%
I could do the classwork and homework assignments in college classes.	33.1%	39.2%	13.3%	3.3%	2.8%	8.3%

**13. Has anyone from your school or GEAR UP ever spoken with you about...**

	Yes (%)	No (%)	No Response (%)
College Entrance Requirement	79.6%	19.3%	1.1%
Availability of Financial Aid	84.5%	12.7%	2.8%

**14. Are you knowledgeable about financial aid and the cost and benefits to you of going to college?**

	(%)
Yes	79.6%
No	14.9%
No Response	5.5%

**15. Do you think that you could afford to attend one of the following types of colleges using financial aid, scholarships, and your family's resources?**

	A public 4-year college (%)	A public community/ technical college (%)	A public career/ technical center (%)
Definitely	30.9%	37.0%	38.1%
Probably	41.4%	40.9%	40.3%
Not Sure	18.2%	14.4%	16.6%
Probably Not	4.4%	4.4%	1.7%
Definitely Not	3.9%	2.2%	2.2%
No Response	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%

16. How much do you think it costs for one year of in-state tuition (your estimate should not include the cost of food, housing, or books) at...

	4-year University or College (%)	Public Community or Technical College (%)
Up to \$4,000	7.7%	31.5%
\$4,001 - \$8,000	34.8%	28.2%
\$8,001 - \$11,000	22.7%	19.3%
\$11,001 - \$16,000	13.3%	8.3%
\$16,001 - \$21,000	11.0%	6.1%
\$21,001 - \$26,000	3.9%	2.2%
>\$26,000	4.4%	2.8%
No response	2.2%	1.7%

\*The correct amounts are highlighted in green.

17. How aware are you about the following topics (by percentage)?

	Extremely (%)	Moderately (%)	Slightly (%)	Not at All (%)	No Response (%)
FAFSA	45.9%	28.7%	13.3%	5.5%	6.6%
College Savings Plan/529	20.4%	18.8%	22.7%	30.4%	7.7%
ACT /SAT	61.9%	25.4%	5.5%	1.1%	6.1%
WV Higher Education Grant	29.3%	24.9%	21.0%	18.8%	6.1%
Federal Pell Grants	26.5%	23.8%	25.4%	18.2%	6.1%
Federal Student Loans	30.4%	30.9%	21.0%	11.0%	6.6%
Federal Work-Study	24.9%	21.5%	23.2%	23.2%	7.2%
Scholarships	49.2%	29.3%	12.2%	3.3%	6.1%
Requirements for College Acceptance	45.9%	32.0%	12.2%	3.3%	6.6%
The Importance/ Benefit of a College Education	59.7%	21.0%	9.4%	3.9%	6.1%
High School Graduation Requirements	64.1%	21.5%	6.1%	2.2%	6.1%

18. What do you think is the maximum amount of money per academic year that is available to help pay for college...

	Federal Pell Grant (%)	WV Higher Education Grant (%)	PROMISE Scholarship (%)
Up to \$1,000	3.9%	3.3%	2.2%
\$1,001- \$2000	6.6%	3.9%	6.6%
\$2,001-\$3,000	7.7%	21.5%	3.3%
\$3,001-\$4,000	21.5%	15.5%	11.6%
\$4,001-\$5,000	23.8%	20.4%	33.7%



	Federal Pell Grant (%)	WV Higher Education Grant (%)	PROMISE Scholarship (%)
\$5,001-\$6,000	14.9%	11.6%	8.8%
\$6,001-\$7,000	8.8%	8.3%	7.7%
>\$7,000	9.4%	12.7%	24.3%
No Response	3.3%	2.8%	1.7%

\*The correct amounts are highlighted in green.

**19. How important have the following resources, individuals, or tools been in gathering information about your options for college?**

	Extremely (%)	Moderately (%)	Slightly (%)	Not at All (%)	No Response (%)
College or university websites	40.9%	30.4%	13.8%	8.3%	6.6%
College Foundation of WV website	34.8%	34.8%	15.5%	8.3%	6.6%
Other college planning websites	26.5%	36.5%	18.8%	12.7%	5.5%
College fairs	35.9%	30.4%	16.6%	9.4%	7.7%
Television	20.4%	26.5%	26.5%	20.4%	6.1%
Radio	17.1%	20.4%	23.2%	32.0%	7.2%
Direct mail	38.7%	28.2%	13.8%	13.3%	6.1%
E-mail	40.9%	29.8%	14.4%	9.4%	5.5%
Brochures and pamphlets	31.5%	30.9%	21.0%	9.9%	6.6%
Magazines/newspapers	22.1%	23.8%	22.1%	26.5%	5.5%
Signs, posters, or billboards	19.9%	24.9%	23.8%	25.4%	6.1%
Text messages	24.9%	26.0%	17.7%	24.9%	6.6%
School counselor	50.3%	29.3%	8.8%	5.5%	6.1%
Family members	36.5%	35.4%	13.8%	8.3%	6.1%
GEAR UP staff	27.6%	27.1%	16.6%	22.1%	6.6%
College admissions representatives	39.8%	28.2%	15.5%	9.9%	6.6%

**20. Which of the following do you need from your school or GEAR UP to help you be more successful in school and more prepared for college (check all that apply)?**

Support Needed	(%)
More advanced classes (e.g., AP)	32.6%
Information about participating in GEAR UP events	42.0%
Tutoring	37.0%
Opportunities to participate in college visits	53.6%
Information about college entrance requirements	51.4%
Information about college financial aid/scholarships	52.5%
Leadership opportunities	38.7%



Support Needed	(%)
Summer activities	28.2%
Career exploration activities	43.6%
Test preparation	45.3%
Assistance with the college entrance process	47.0%
Assistance with completing financial aid forms (e.g., FAFSA)	47.5%
Information and events presented in other languages (e.g., Spanish)	17.1%
Other      learn about colleges earlier and what it takes to get in and requirements for scholarships; Money; Money, and a major; Steve Johnson; MONEY;	

**21. Have you completed your FAFSA yet?**

	(%)
No, I do not plan to complete it this academic year.	12.2%
No, but I plan to complete it this academic year.	43.1%
Yes.	43.6%
No Response	1.1%

**22. Have you taken the SAT or ACT tests?**

	(%)
No, and I do not plan to take either this academic year.	5.5%
No, but I plan to take SAT and/or ACT this academic year.	30.9%
Yes.	61.9%
No Response	1.7%

**23. How many college applications have you completed?**

	(%)
0, and I do not plan to complete any this academic year.	7.7%
0, but I plan to complete one or more this academic year.	14.4%
1.	19.3%
2 or more.	57.5%
No Response	1.1%