## Freshmen Students: Fall 2001

The 2001 freshmen norms are based on the responses of 281,064 students at 421 baccalaureate colleges. Of Elon’s 1,212 Fall 2001 first-time full-time freshmen, 1,048 participated in this survey (an 87% response rate).

Some key findings are:

### Nationally

- Freshmen identifying themselves as politically liberal reached a two-decade high of 29.9% and showed signs of renewed political interest and activism
- Increased interracial interaction and awareness of racial issues
- Freshmen appear to be more intrinsically motivated to attend college, with “learning more about things that interest me” remaining one of the most chosen reasons for attending
- Freshmen continue to invest less time in their studies, but are earning higher grades
- Increasing reports of high school required community service
- Continuing rise in opposition to the death penalty
- Growing support for gay rights

### Elon vs. 4-Year Private Highly Selective Religious Schools (Comparison Group)

- More Elon students stated chances are *they will be satisfied with their college choice* (60% vs. 56%)
- Elon has more students who *lived 100 or more miles from college* (84% vs. 63%)
- Elon students come from a *more affluent background* ($100,000 or more: 52% vs. 33%)
- As a *first choice college*, Elon tied at 77%
- Elon students *attend fewer public high schools* (73% vs. 76%)
- More Elon students came from *high schools that required community service* (38% vs. 28%)
- More Elon students *plan to obtain a master’s degree* (56% vs. 41%)
- Elon students stated they are less concerned about *financing college* (No concern financing: 49% vs. 35%)
- Elon was chosen more often for *rankings in national magazines* (16% vs. 11%)

### A Few of the Schools From Elon’s Comparison Group for CIRP 2001

- Agnes Scott College
- Albion College
- Alma College
- Augustana College
- Austin College
- Davidson College
- Earlham College
- Gustavus Adolphus College
- Hamline University
- Hendrix College
- Lake Forest College
- Luther College
- Muhlenberg College
- Ohio Wesleyan University
- Randolph-Macon Woman’s College
- Rhodes College
- Southwestern University
- University of Redlands
- University of the South
- Wittenberg University
- Wofford College

[Download Freshman Students 2001 Excel Spreadsheet](http://www.elon.edu/irweb/cirp/CIRP2001.xls)