



Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Freshman Survey

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CIRP FACT BOOK

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Each fall Elon University incoming freshmen participate in the Higher Education Research Institute's (HERI) student survey, Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP). Selected results are contained throughout this report to assist in evaluating the profile of incoming students over the past decade.

Elon first participated in CIRP in 1971 and has consecutively participated since 1984. The source of data contained within this fact book is from the *CIRP Trends Report, Elon University* and the *2002 CIRP Institutional Profile*.

Freshmen Response Rates & Minority Composition

In 2002-03 the CIRP response rate was 95%, with 1,135 out of 1,194 incoming freshmen participating.

Elon University			
Academic Year	Response rate	Female ratio	Male ratio
1992-93	86%	58%	42%
1993-94	91%	57%	43%
1994-95	98%	56%	44%
1995-96	96%	60%	40%
1996-97	93%	60%	40%
1997-98	96%	61%	39%
1998-99	87%	62%	38%
1999-00	95%	64%	36%
2000-01	90%	63%	37%
2001-02	86%	62%	38%
2002-03	95%	62%	38%

Ethnicity

Elon University Percentages*						
Academic Year	White	African American	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	Other
1992-93	94.0	4.2	1.6	1.3	0.9	0.9
1993-94	93.1	5.6	1.8	0.9	0.6	0.5
1994-95	93.9	4.6	1.7	0.4	1.3	1.2
1995-96	93.4	4.5	1.2	1.5	1.9	0.6
1996-97	92.4	6.7	1.5	0.6	0.6	1.0
1997-98	91.6	7.0	2.2	1.0	1.8	2.1
1998-99	92.1	5.7	1.8	1.1	1.5	1.4
1999-00	93.2	6.2	2.3	0.9	1.1	1.8
2000-01	92.8	5.8	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.2
2001-02	92.7	4.4	0.7	1.4	1.3	1.2
2002-03	92.7	4.9	0.8	1.7	1.6	1.1

**Percentages will sum to more than 100% if any respondent marked more than one category*

Parent's Education & Income

Overall, the trend for parent's education and income level has increased over the past decade.

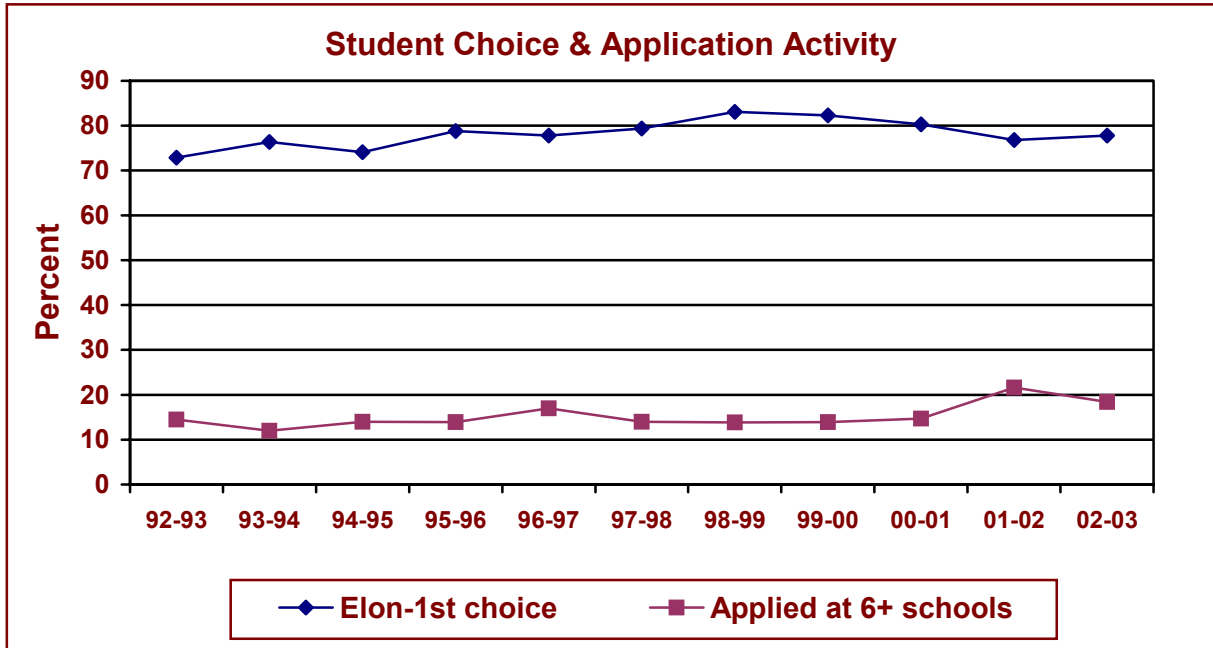
Elon University Percentages						
Academic Year	High School or less		Some college or college degree		Some grad. School or graduate degree	
	Mother	Father	Mother	Father	Mother	Father
1992-93	22.5	15.7	57.3	54.6	20.2	29.7
1993-94	22.7	18.2	57.6	51.4	19.8	30.5
1994-95	20.0	17.2	60.4	52.6	19.6	30.2
1995-96	21.9	17.5	57.9	49.7	20.1	32.9
1996-97	19.0	16.7	56.8	48.8	24.2	34.4
1997-98	18.5	16.3	59.6	51.7	22.0	31.9
1998-99	14.2	12.4	60.1	51.0	25.7	36.6
1999-00	14.4	12.5	61.1	53.6	24.5	33.9
2000-01	14.5	14.9	58.4	49.2	27.1	35.7
2001-02	12.1	10.7	58.7	50.5	29.2	39.0
2002-03	11.3	11.3	58.4	46.7	30.3	42.0

Parent's Income

Elon University Percentages					
Academic Year	\$49k or less	\$50-99k	\$100-149k	\$150-199k	\$200k or more
1992-93	30.0	39.2	13.2	7.6	9.9
1993-94	27.0	44.1	16.3	5.0	7.5
1994-95	26.8	42.2	15.9	6.5	8.7
1995-96	24.4	41.3	17.4	8.0	9.1
1996-97	24.2	43.3	14.2	8.6	9.7
1997-98	21.3	37.9	18.9	11.1	10.7
1998-99	20.3	39.4	20.6	7.8	12.0
1999-00	17.7	37.3	20.2	10.5	14.3
2000-01	17.0	34.9	24.7	9.7	13.9
2001-02	14.6	33.2	23.1	12.1	16.8
2002-03	10.8	34.4	20.6	12.9	21.3

College Choice

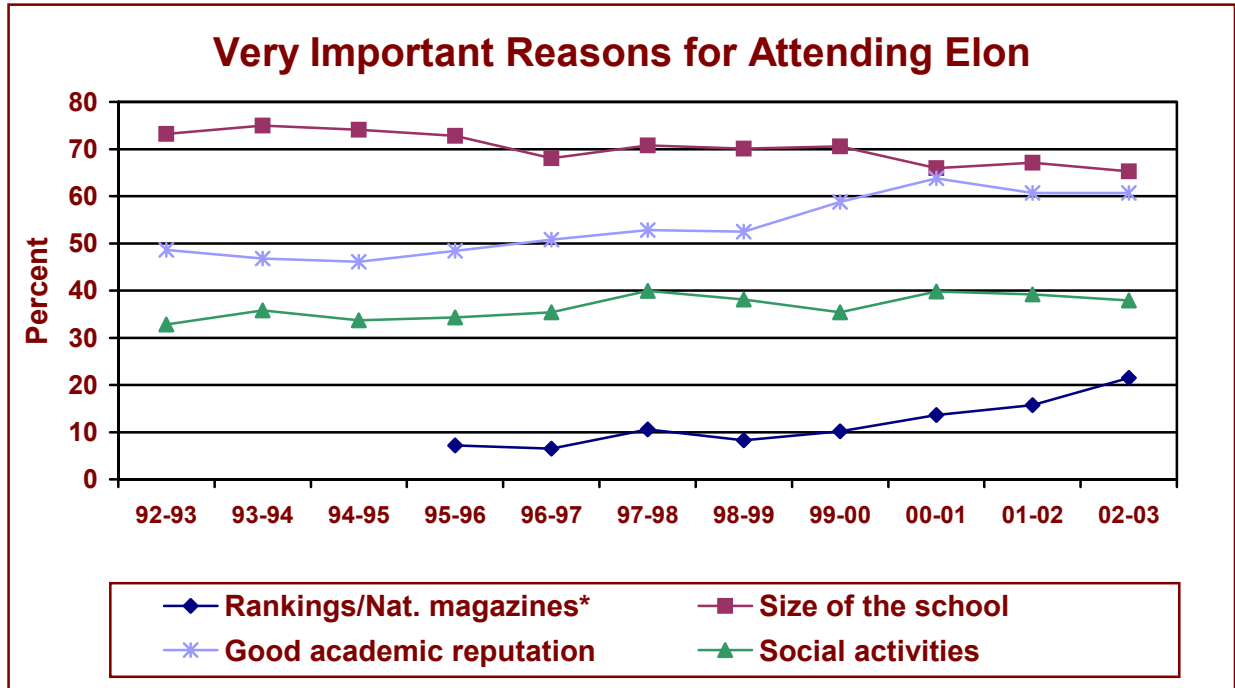
In 2002-03 Elon was the first choice for 77.8% of CIRP participants.



Elon University Percentages		
Academic Year	Elon/ 1st choice	Applied/ 6+ schools
1992-93	72.9	14.5
1993-94	76.4	12.0
1994-95	74.1	14.0
1995-96	78.8	13.9
1996-97	77.8	17.0
1997-98	79.4	14.0
1998-99	83.1	13.8
1999-00	82.3	13.9
2000-01	80.3	14.7
2001-02	76.8	21.6
2002-03	77.8	18.4

College Choice Influences

In 2002-03, CIRP participants identified academic reputation and the size of the school as two very important reasons influencing their decision to attend Elon.

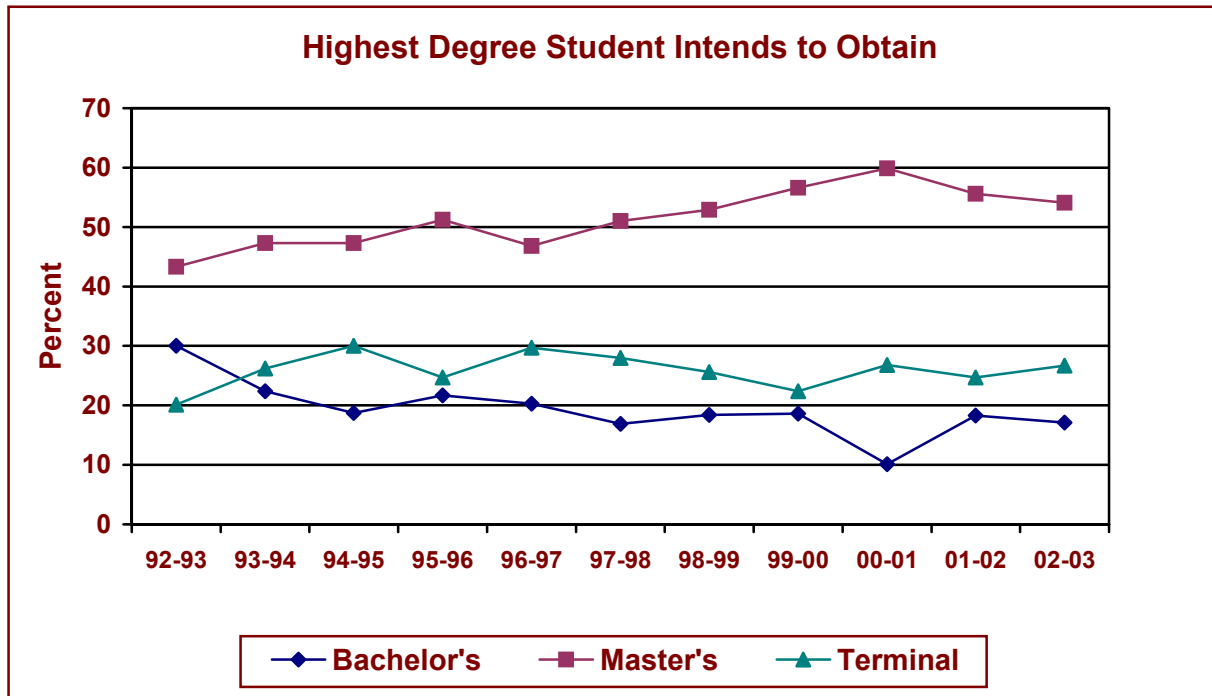


Elon University Percentages				
Academic Year	National rankings*	School size	Academic reputation	Social activities
1992-93	-	73.2	48.6	32.8
1993-94	-	75.0	46.8	35.8
1994-95	-	74.1	46.1	33.7
1995-96	7.2	72.8	48.4	34.3
1996-97	6.5	68.1	50.8	35.4
1997-98	10.6	70.8	52.8	39.9
1998-99	8.3	70.1	52.5	38.1
1999-00	10.2	70.6	58.8	35.4
2000-01	13.6	66.0	63.8	39.8
2001-02	15.7	67.1	60.7	39.2
2002-03	21.5	65.3	60.7	37.9

*Rankings question was not included in the CIRP survey until 1995

Degree Intentions

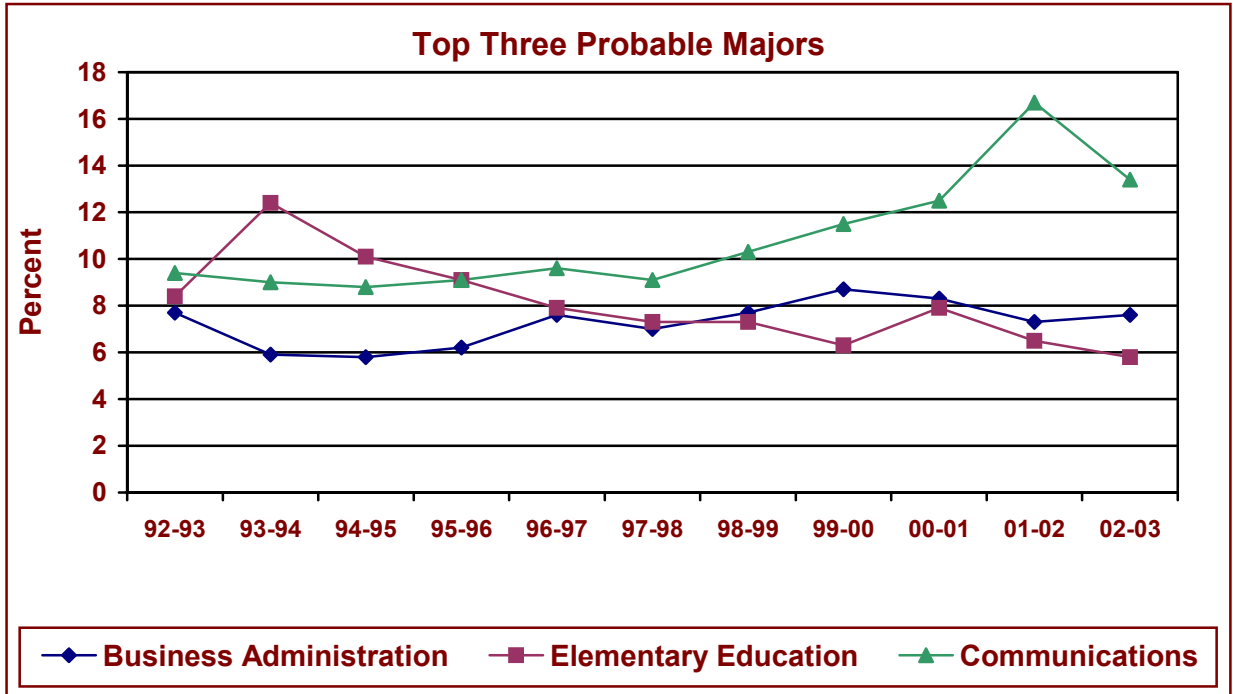
The intent to attend graduate school has increased over the past decade.



Elon University Percentages			
<u>Academic Year</u>	<u>Bachelor's</u>	<u>Master's</u>	<u>Terminal</u>
1992-93	30.0	43.3	20.1
1993-94	22.4	47.3	26.2
1994-95	18.7	47.3	30.0
1995-96	21.7	51.2	24.7
1996-97	20.3	46.8	29.7
1997-98	16.9	51.0	28.0
1998-99	18.4	52.9	25.6
1999-00	18.6	56.6	22.4
2000-01	10.1	59.9	26.8
2001-02	18.3	55.6	24.7
2002-03	17.1	54.1	26.7

Major Intentions

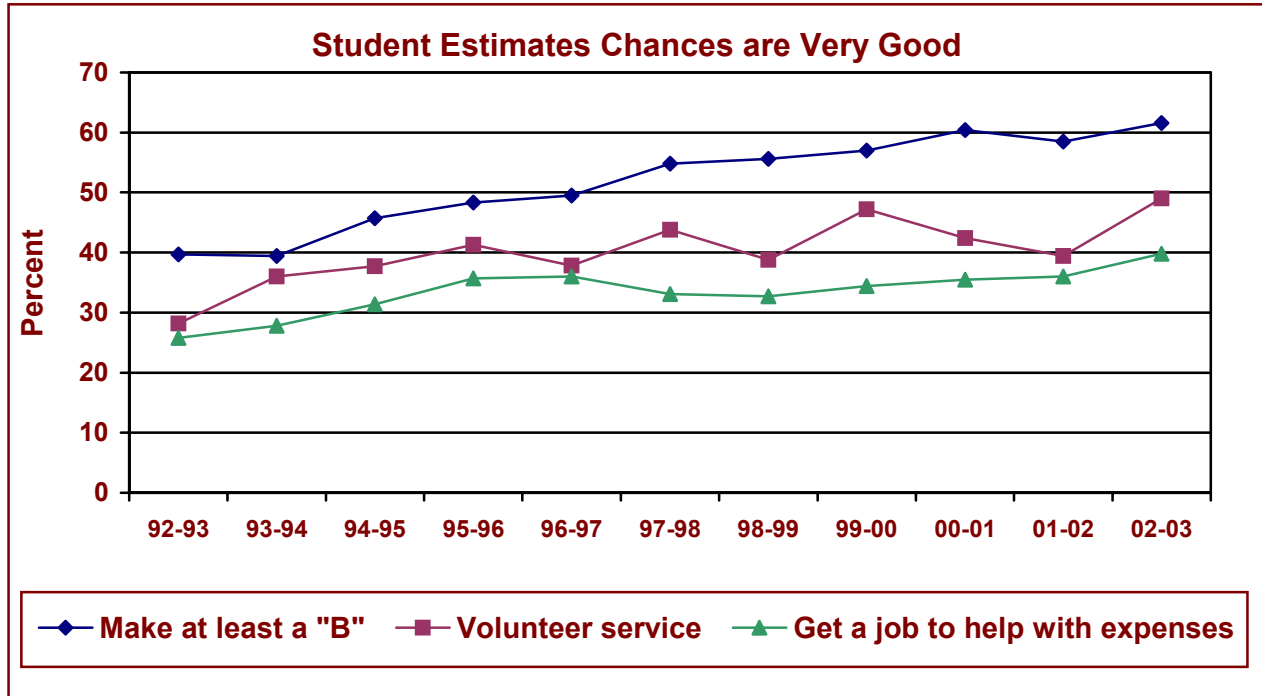
The top three probable majors have remained consistent over the past decade.



Elon University Percentages			
Academic Year	Business Administration	Elementary Education	Communications
1992-93	7.7	8.4	9.4
1993-94	5.9	12.4	9.0
1994-95	5.8	10.1	8.8
1995-96	6.2	9.1	9.1
1996-97	7.6	7.9	9.6
1997-98	7.0	7.3	9.1
1998-99	7.7	7.3	10.3
1999-00	8.7	6.3	11.5
2000-01	8.3	7.9	12.5
2001-02	7.3	6.5	16.7
2002-03	7.6	5.8	13.4

Student Expectations

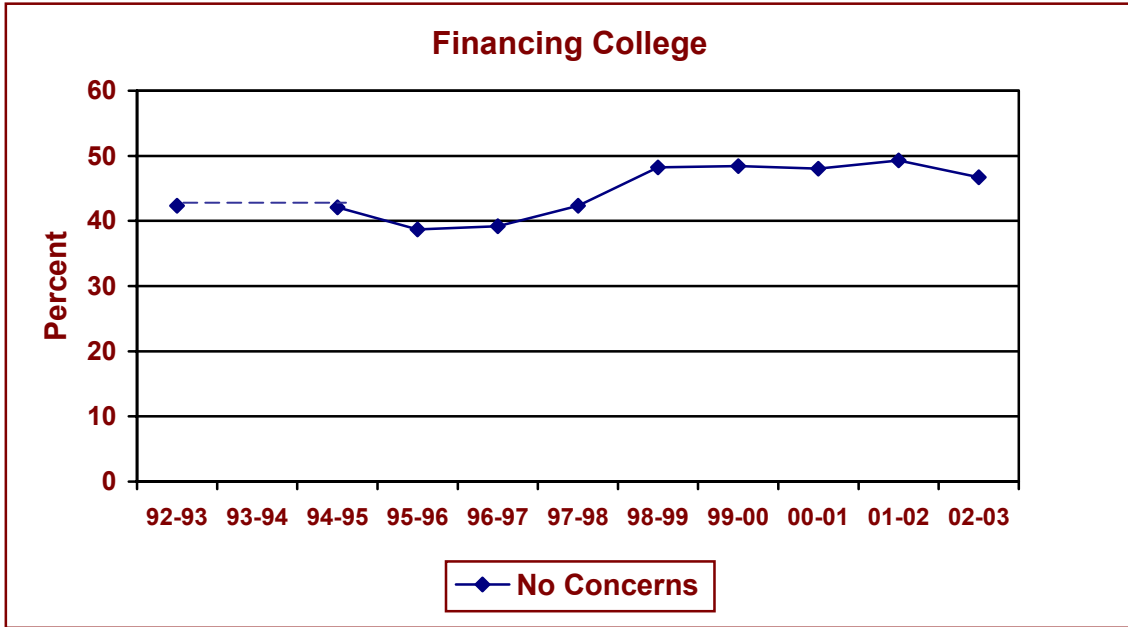
Incoming students reported chances are very good regarding specific expectations of their educational experience. The following statements appear to have the largest response rate change over the past decade.



Elon University Percentages			
Academic Year	Make at least a 'B' avg	Participate/ volunteer service	Get a job/ help w/ expenses
1992-93	39.7	28.2	25.8
1993-94	39.4	36.0	27.8
1994-95	45.7	37.7	31.4
1995-96	48.3	41.3	35.7
1996-97	49.5	37.8	36.0
1997-98	54.8	43.8	33.1
1998-99	55.6	38.8	32.7
1999-00	57.0	47.2	34.4
2000-01	60.4	42.4	35.5
2001-02	58.5	39.4	36.0
2002-03	61.6	49.0	39.8

Financial Concerns

Concerns regarding college finances and educational expenses appear to have decreased overall since 1992.

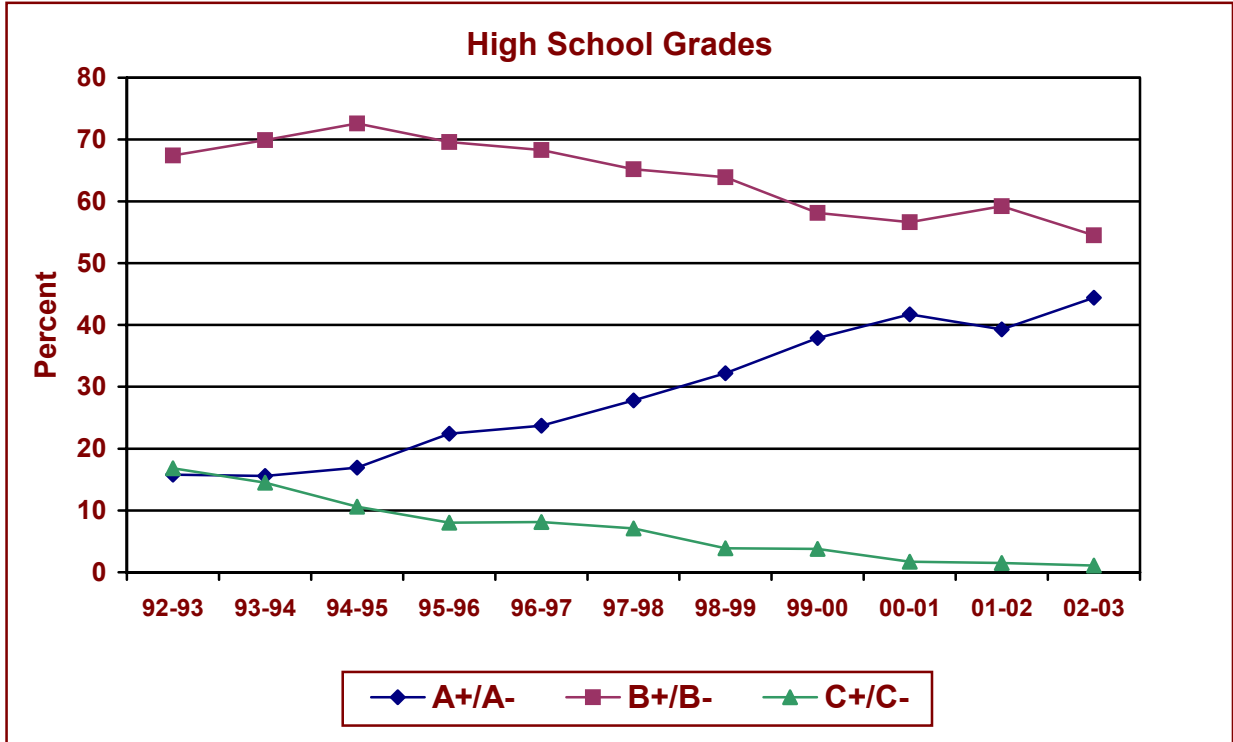


Elon University Percentages		
Academic Year	Some concerns	No concerns
1992-93	47.2	42.3
1993-94	-	-
1994-95	45.9	42.1
1995-96	46.6	38.7
1996-97	47.3	39.2
1997-98	46.7	42.3
1998-99	44.0	48.2
1999-00	43.9	48.4
2000-01	45.7	48.0
2001-02	42.0	49.3
2002-03	44.7	46.7

(Financial concerns question was not asked in 1993)

High School Grades

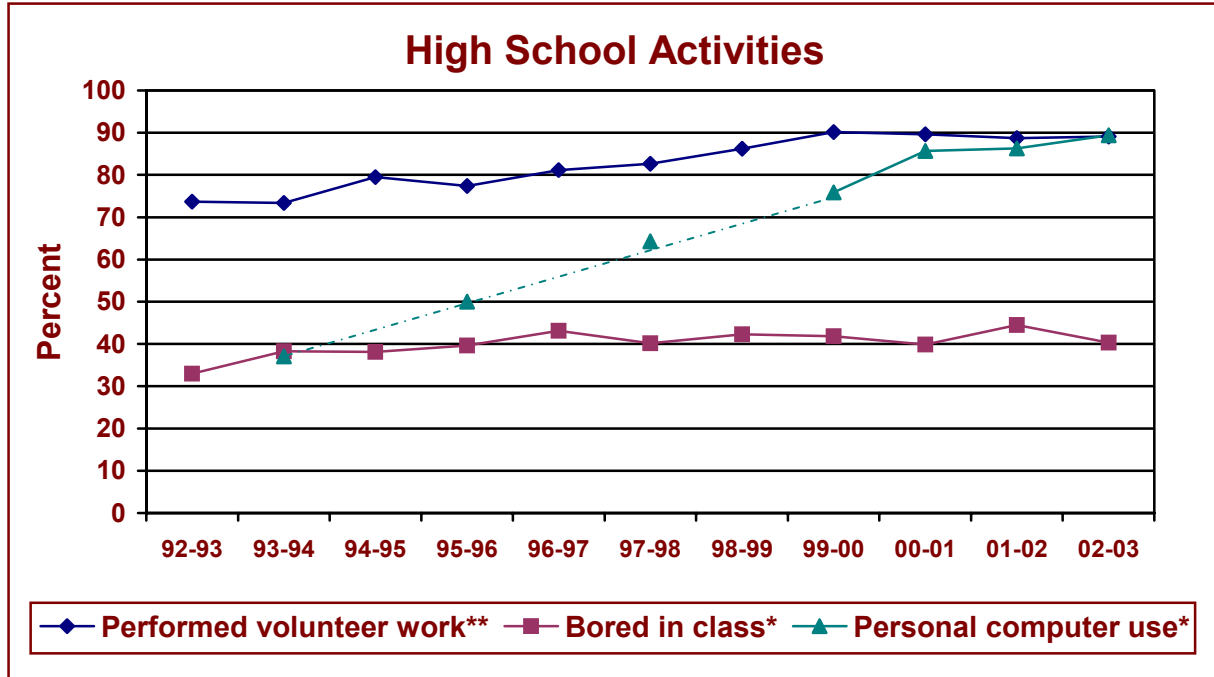
Significant trends are revealed in the self-reporting of high school grade averages over the past decade.



Elon University Percentages			
<u>Academic Year</u>	A+/A-	B+/B-	C+/C-
1992-93	15.8	67.4	16.8
1993-94	15.6	69.9	14.5
1994-95	16.9	72.6	10.6
1995-96	22.4	69.6	8.0
1996-97	23.7	68.3	8.1
1997-98	27.8	65.2	7.1
1998-99	32.2	63.9	3.9
1999-00	37.9	58.1	3.8
2000-01	41.7	56.6	1.7
2001-02	39.3	59.2	1.5
2002-03	44.4	54.5	1.1

High School Activities

High school activities, reported as frequently or occasionally, increasing over the past decade include performing volunteer work, being bored in class and the use of personal computers.



Elon University Percentages			
Academic Year	Volunteer Work**	Bored in Class*	Personal computer use*
1992-93	73.7	33.0	-
1993-94	73.4	38.3	37.1
1994-95	79.5	38.1	-
1995-96	77.4	39.6	50.0
1996-97	81.2	43.1	-
1997-98	82.7	40.2	64.3
1998-99	86.2	42.3	-
1999-00	90.2	41.8	75.9
2000-01	89.6	39.9	85.7
2001-02	88.7	44.5	86.3
2002-03	89.1	40.3	89.4

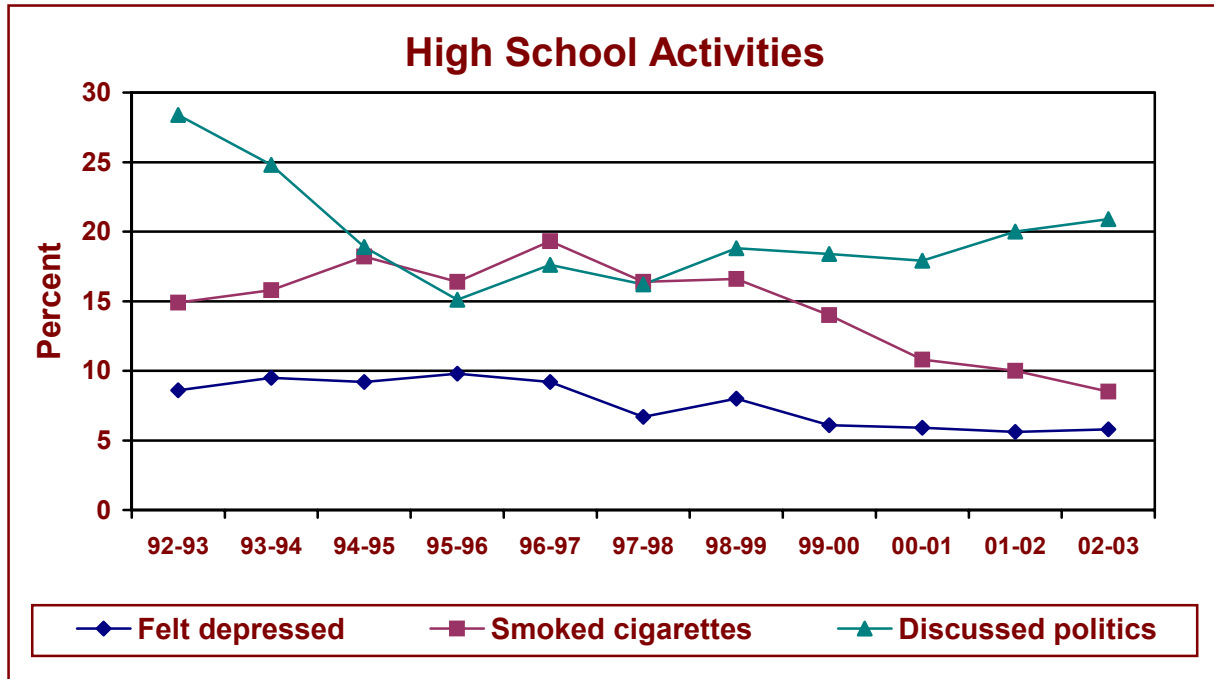
(Personal computer use question was not asked consecutively until 1999.)

*Frequently

**Frequently or occasionally

High School Activities

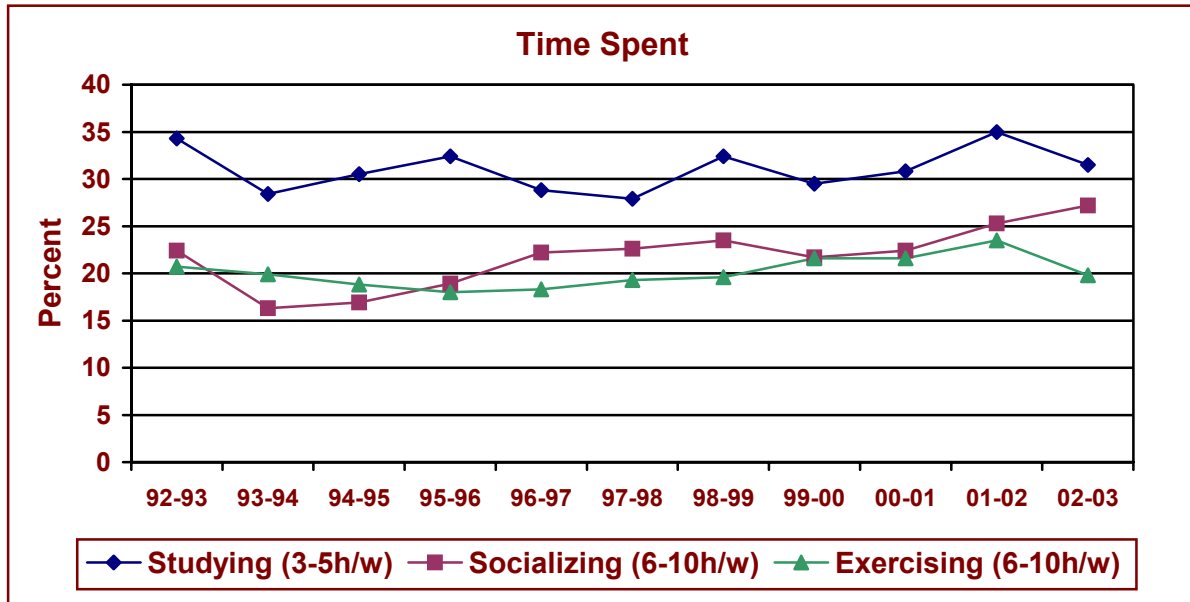
High school activities, reported as frequently, decreasing over the past decade include feeling depressed, smoking cigarettes, and discussing politics.



Elon University Percentages			
Academic Year	Felt depressed	Smoked cigarettes	Discussed politics
1992-93	8.6	14.9	28.4
1993-94	9.5	15.8	24.8
1994-95	9.2	18.2	18.9
1995-96	9.8	16.4	15.1
1996-97	9.2	19.3	17.6
1997-98	6.7	16.4	16.2
1998-99	8.0	16.6	18.8
1999-00	6.1	14.0	18.4
2000-01	5.9	10.8	17.9
2001-02	5.6	10.0	20.0
2002-03	5.8	8.5	20.9

Time Spent/High School Activities

During their last year in high school, the majority of CIRP participants reported spending the following timeframes on studying, socializing and exercising.

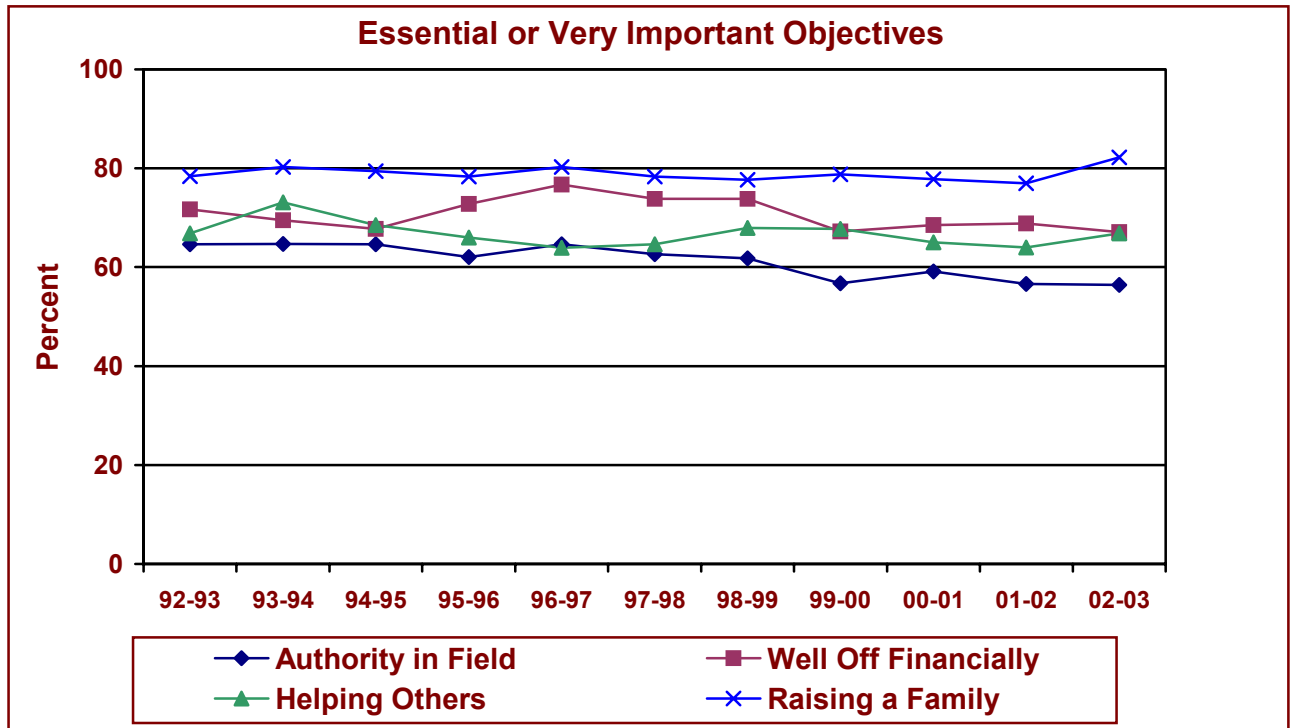


(h/w=hours per week)

Elon University Percentages			
Academic Year	Studying (3-5h/w)	Socializing (6-10h/w)	Exercising (6-10h/w)
1992-93	34.3	22.4	20.7
1993-94	28.4	16.3	19.9
1994-95	30.5	16.9	18.8
1995-96	32.4	18.9	18.0
1996-97	28.8	22.2	18.3
1997-98	27.9	22.6	19.3
1998-99	32.4	23.5	19.6
1999-00	29.5	21.7	21.6
2000-01	30.8	22.4	21.6
2001-02	35.0	25.3	23.5
2002-03	31.5	27.2	19.8

Student Objectives

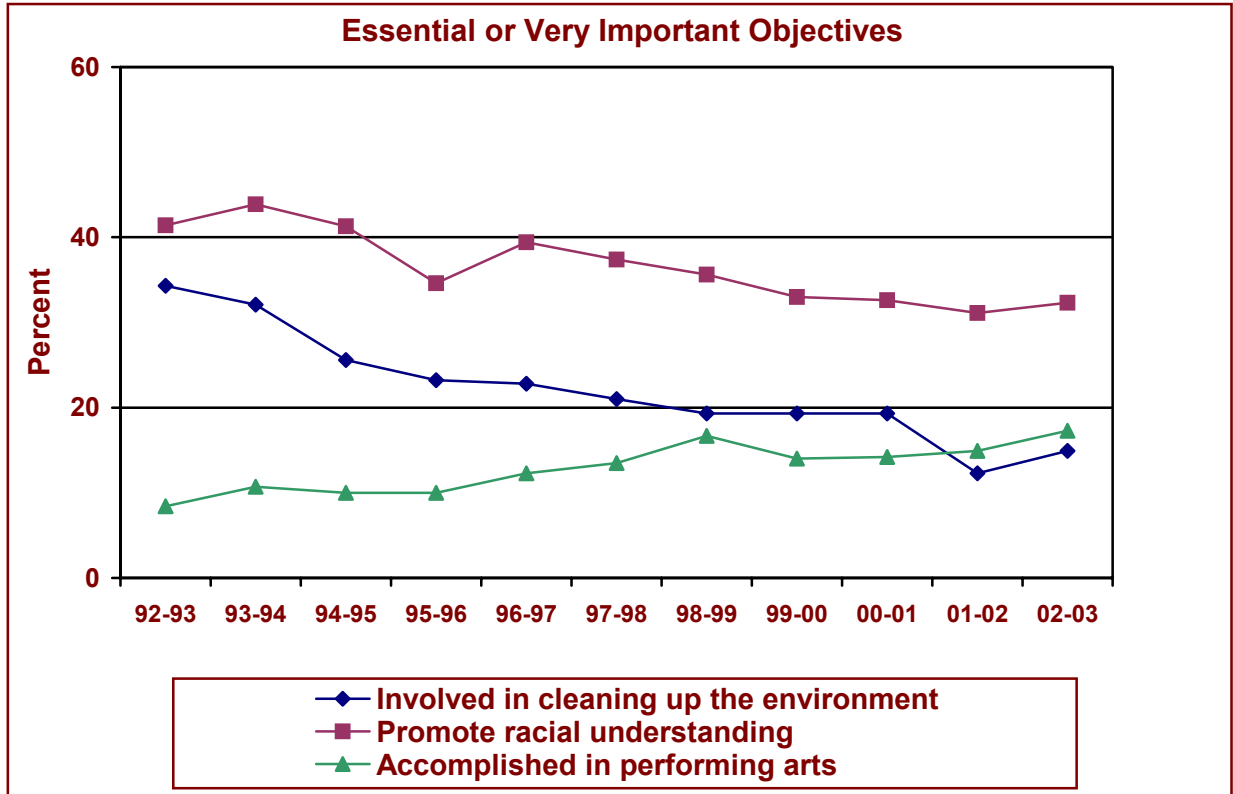
Over the past decade the following four objectives were consistently reported by the majority of incoming students as essential or very important.



Elon University Percentages				
Academic Year	Authority In field	Well off financially	Helping others	Raising a family
1992-93	64.6	71.7	66.8	78.4
1993-94	64.7	69.5	73.1	80.3
1994-95	64.6	67.7	68.5	79.4
1995-96	62.0	72.8	66.0	78.3
1996-97	64.6	76.7	63.9	80.3
1997-98	62.6	73.8	64.6	78.3
1998-99	61.8	73.8	67.9	77.7
1999-00	56.7	67.2	67.7	78.8
2000-01	59.1	68.5	65.0	77.8
2001-02	56.6	68.8	64.0	77.0
2002-03	56.4	67.1	66.8	82.2

Student Objectives

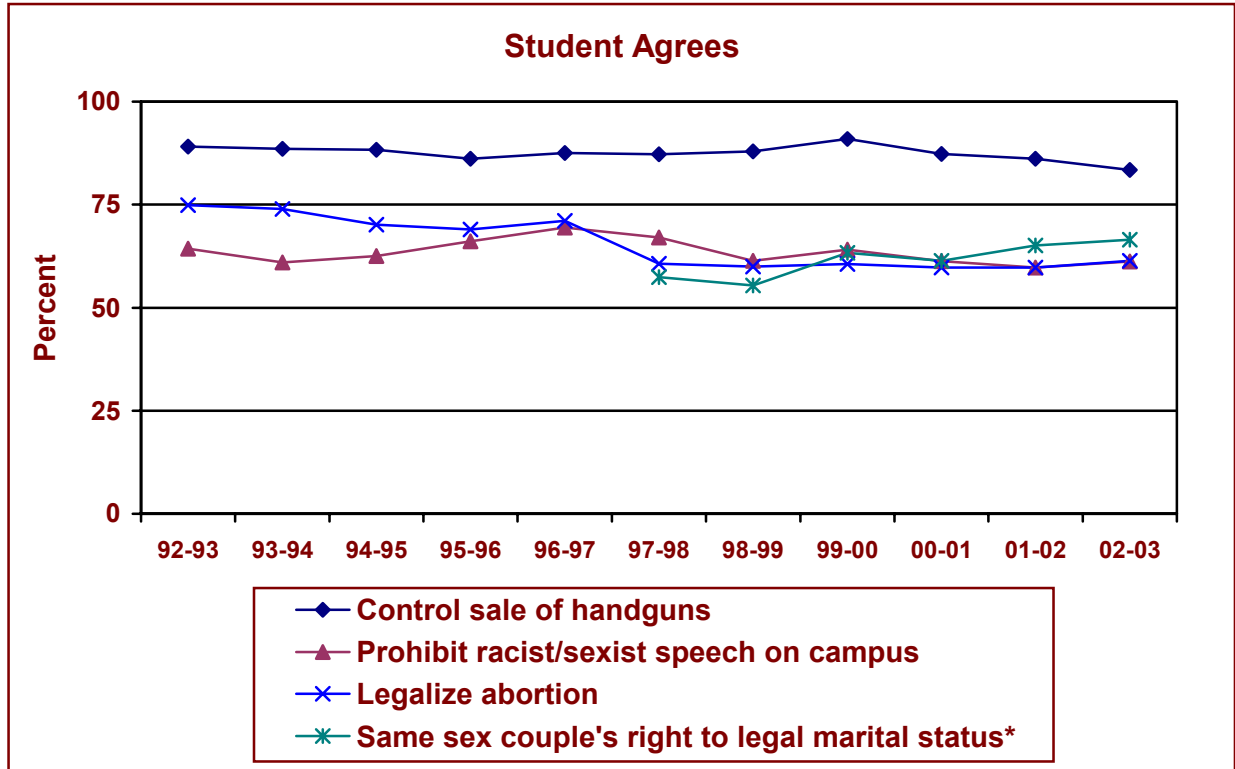
The following objectives, reported as essential or very important, appear to have the most response rate change over the past decade.



Elon University Percentages			
<u>Academic Year</u>	Involved/ cleaning up the environment	Promote racial understanding	Accomplished in performing arts
1992-93	34.3	41.4	8.4
1993-94	32.1	43.9	10.7
1994-95	25.6	41.3	10.0
1995-96	23.2	34.6	10.0
1996-97	22.8	39.4	12.3
1997-98	21.0	37.4	13.5
1998-99	19.3	35.6	16.7
1999-00	19.3	33.0	14.0
2000-01	19.3	32.6	14.2
2001-02	12.3	31.1	14.9
2002-03	14.9	32.3	17.3

Student Agreement

Over the past decade the majority of Elon freshmen have agreed strongly or somewhat to the following four statements.

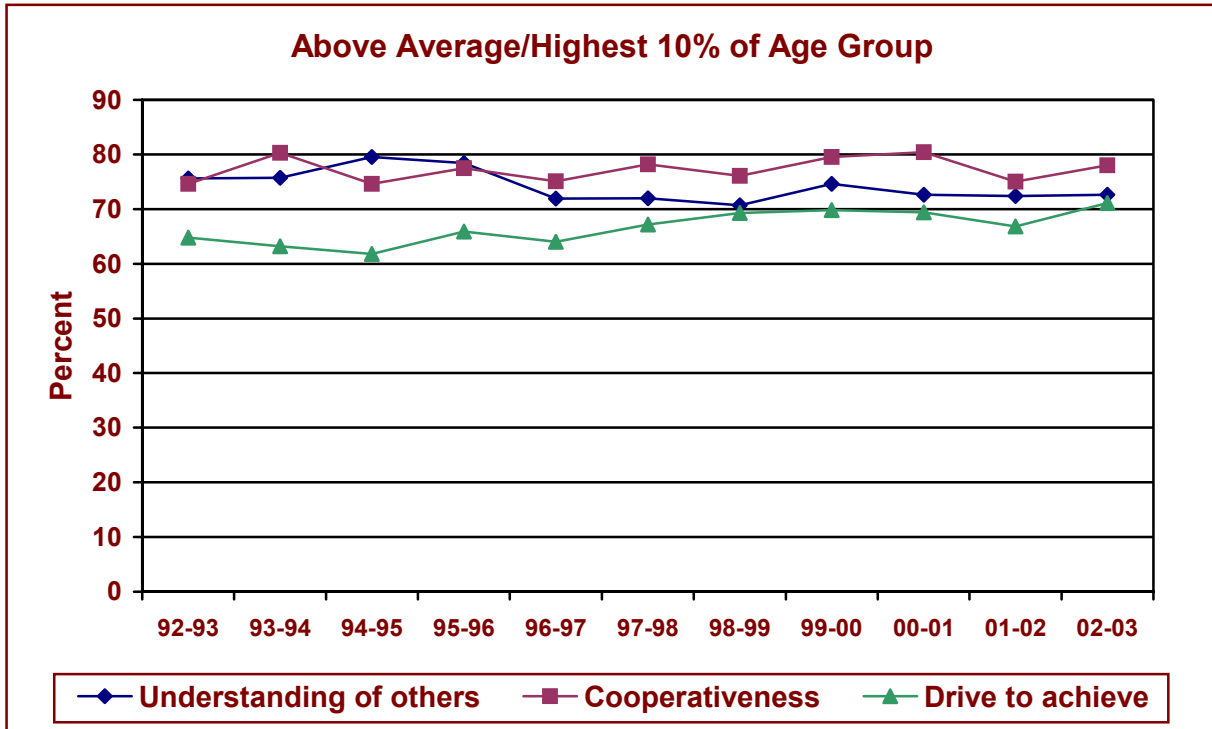


Elon University Percentages				
Academic Year	Control sale of handguns	Prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus	Legalize abortion	Same sex couple/ legal marital status*
1992-93	89.1	64.3	74.9	-
1993-94	88.5	61.0	73.9	-
1994-95	88.3	62.5	70.1	-
1995-96	86.1	66.1	69.0	-
1996-97	87.5	69.4	71.1	-
1997-98	87.2	67.0	60.7	57.4
1998-99	87.9	61.4	60.0	55.4
1999-00	90.9	64.1	60.6	63.3
2000-01	87.3	61.3	59.7	61.4
2001-02	86.1	59.7	59.7	65.1
2002-03	83.4	61.2	61.4	66.5

*Same sex couple question was not included in the CIRP survey until 1997.

Student Self-Ratings

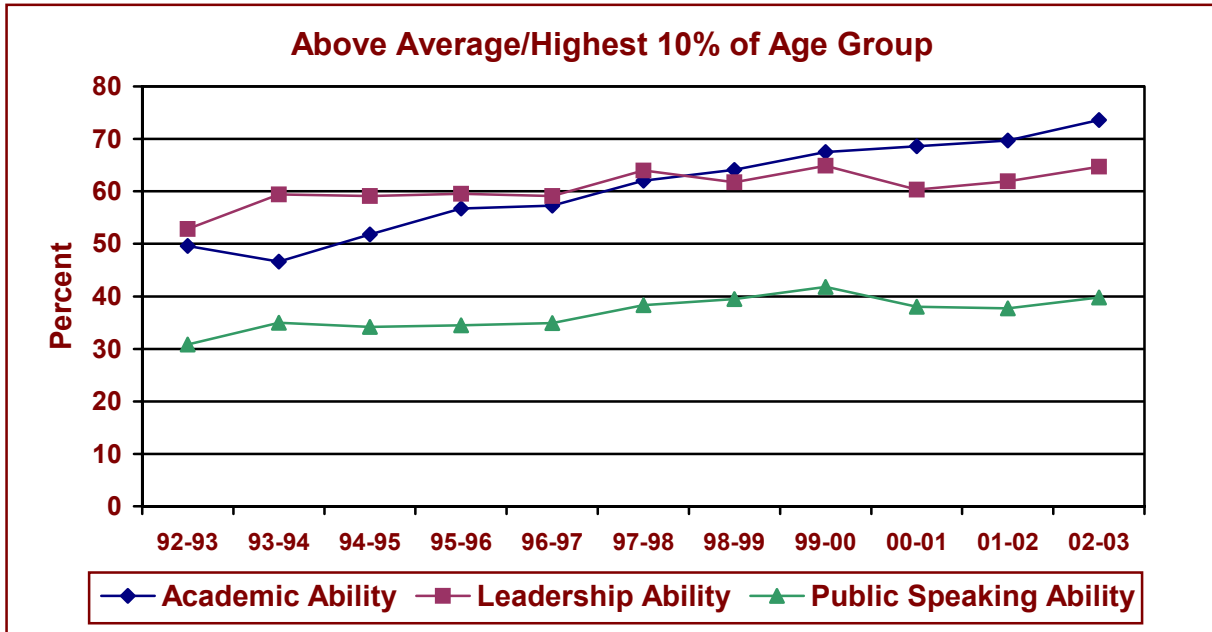
Over the past decade the majority of incoming Elon freshmen have consistently rated themselves above average or within the highest 10% of their age group on understanding of others, cooperativeness, and drive to achieve.



Elon University Percentages			
Academic Year	Understanding of others	Cooperativeness	Drive to achieve
1992-93	75.6	74.6	64.8
1993-94	75.7	80.3	63.2
1994-95	79.5	74.6	61.8
1995-96	78.4	77.5	65.9
1996-97	71.9	75.1	64.0
1997-98	72.0	78.2	67.2
1998-99	70.7	76.1	69.3
1999-00	74.6	79.5	69.8
2000-01	72.6	80.4	69.4
2001-02	72.4	75.0	66.8
2002-03	72.6	78.0	71.1

Student Self-Ratings

Abilities appearing to have changed the most over the past ten years are academic ability, leadership ability, and public speaking ability.



Elon University Percentages			
Academic Year	Academic ability	Leadership ability	Public speaking ability
1992-93	49.6	52.8	30.8
1993-94	46.6	59.4	35.0
1994-95	51.8	59.1	34.2
1995-96	56.7	59.5	34.5
1996-97	57.3	59.1	34.9
1997-98	62.0	64.0	38.3
1998-99	64.1	61.7	39.5
1999-00	67.5	64.9	41.8
2000-01	68.6	60.3	38.0
2001-02	69.7	61.9	37.7
2002-03	73.6	64.7	39.8