CIRP Freshman Survey Summary Fall 2011 to Fall 2015 Cohort Trends

Since 1973 Saint Mary's College has administered the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Survey to new students. Summarized below are some of the characteristics of first-year Saint Mary's students from cohorts entering fall of 2011 to the fall of 2015.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Miles from home:					
More than 100 miles	72.0%	71.6%	68.2%	60.4%	60.1%
Saint Mary's (This College) was student's:					
First choice	58.7%	57.4%	60.5%	59.5%	56.3%
Second choice	31.9%	25.4%	29.3%	27.5%	33.5%
Reasons noted at "Very Important" in choosing this college (top 7)					
Good academic reputation	79.4%	74.7%	78.1%	77.9%	77.9%
Offered financial assistance	74.6%	70.4%	68.9%	70.8%	70.8%
Graduates get good jobs	68.3%	76.2%	73.7%	71.1%	71.1%
Size of college	65.8%	59.9%	58.9%	59.3%	59.3%
A visit to the campus	60.6%	54.2%	63.7%	58.8%	58.8%
Percentage of students that graduate from this College		56.1%	56.3%	58.0%	50.6%
I was attracted by the religious affiliation of this College.		44.9%	45.2%	46.6%	46.6%
Status of parents					
Both alive and living together	78.9%	86.2%	79.2%	80.0%	84.4%
Parental education ¹					
Father / Male Guardian has college degree or higher	70.0%	73.3%	70.0%	71.3%	67.3%
Mother / Female Guardian has college degree or higher	67.7%	76.8%	71.7%	73.5%	69.9%
Highest degree planned anywhere					
Degree beyond Bachelor's	86.5%	78.3%	86.0%	76.5%	77.7%
Concern regarding ability to finance education?					
None	33.9%	33.2%	38.9%	32.0%	30.3%
Some	55.7%	58.7%	51.4%	55.9%	56.9%
Major	10.4%	8.1%	9.7%	12.1%	12.8%
Student's probable career (top 4)					
Nurse/Health Professional	19.5%	20.6%	22.2%	17.9%	24.9%
Education	12.0%	8.9%	9.2%	10.4%	8.4%
Undecided	8.5%	14.1%	9.8%	9.3%	9.6%
Business		5.3%	7.1%	8.2%	12.0%

Source: CIRP Freshman Survey (Fall 2011 – Fall 2015 Administrations). Next administration – Fall 2016.

 $^{^1}$ The 2015 administration changed the language to "parent / guardian 1" and "parent / guardian 2". Over 70% of student indicated their father as "parent / guardian 1" and their mother as "parent / guardian 2".