## Post-MCAT Questionnaire

## 2019 Report

February 2020

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## 2019 AAMC Post-MCAT Questionnaire Summary Report

## Executive Summary

## Background

The Post-MCAT Questionnaire (PMQ) is administered by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). The survey collects information from individuals who have taken the Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®) for the purpose of helping medical schools and medical educators understand more about aspiring and potential medical students. The Summary Report presents data from the 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 PMQs. Copies of the Summary Report and the survey tool are publicly available on the AAMC website at www.aamc.org/data/pmq.

## Methodology

The PMQ is administered online. MCAT registrants are invited via email to take the PMQ within four days of sitting for the exam and have three weeks to complete the survey. Limiting the time to respond to the survey to three weeks ensures that examinees can only respond to the PMQ prior to receiving their MCAT scores. MCAT registrants are invited to take the PMQ each time they take the MCAT. The 2015 data in this report reflect only responses from examinees of the new 2015 MCAT; data from the January 2015 administrations are, therefore, not included.

Of the 82,576 individuals invited to take the PMQ, 28,251 individuals responded (for a response rate of $34.2 \%$ in 2019). While MCAT examinees are eligible to participate in the PMQ each time that they take the MCAT, the PMQ Summary Report only includes information from the first PMQ that an individual completed. In 2015, the old MCAT and new MCAT fielded-the report includes only the first PMQ associated with the new 2015 MCAT. Survey data for participating individuals may not be comparable to data for non-participants.

## PMQ Content Changes

Two versions of the PMQ were fielded in 2019 as a result of on-going efforts to re-engineer the AAMC Student Surveys. Survey items for which there were modifications between the first version of the 2019 PMQ and the second version of the 2019 PMQ have been omitted from this report. Therefore, the MCAT Preparation section that appeared in prior years does not appear in this report. For new survey items, comparisons to prior years cannot be made. Blank rows and columns indicate that comparable data are not available.

Prior to 2019, participants were asked about their language proficiency in English, as well as their proficiency in other languages they speak. Participants were also asked to describe the reasons they took particular courses during their educational career. These questions were removed from both versions of the 2019 PMQ.

Finally, two new response options were added to the coursework question, where participants can indicate that they have taken or are taking a course that focuses on improving study skills and a course that focuses on improving reading skills.

## Selected Findings

## Background Information

Starting in 2016, only the responses from U.S. citizens and permanent residents are included for the Socioeconomic Status (SES) question (Q3), as opposed to previous years when all responses were included. For this reason, the reported values for 2015 will differ from those reported in prior publications of this report. Respondents most often were categorized with having an AAMC SES Education Occupation (EO) indicator of EO-1, which indicates that the highest education level of any parent reported was less than a college degree, regardless of occupation (25.4\%
in 2019). However, the number of respondents reporting an SES EO indicator of EO-1 has decreased over the past five years, down from $27.9 \%$ in 2015.

## Premedical Experiences

Just over three-fifths of respondents each year indicated that they definitely decided to study medicine before college, either before high school or during high school (about 60.4\% in 2019). Over half of respondents in 2019 had taken courses at a four-year college or university within the three months before their MCAT exam (61.2\% in 2019). In all five years, the majority of respondents were full-time students throughout their undergraduate education (93.1\% in 2019).

## Career Plans and Interest

Each year, the majority of respondents indicated that they are "Very likely" to apply to an MD-granting medical program ( $85.4 \%$ in 2019). In the last five years, the percentage of respondents indicating that "availability of social support in medical school" would encourage them to apply to medical school has increased from $49.5 \%$ in 2015 to 61.5\% in 2019. In all five years, the most commonly cited item that would discourage respondents from applying to medical school was "Grades, MCAT scores, and other academic qualifications" (73.1\% in 2019).

## Financial Information

Each year, less than half of respondents indicated that they have, or will have, outstanding education loans for their college/premedical education (40.3\% in 2019). For those with debt, the median education debt increased from $\$ 25,000$ in 2018 to $\$ 26,000$ in 2019. Additionally, respondents who had noneducational, consumer debt reported a median debt increase from \$6,000 in 2018 to $\$ 7,000$ in 2019.

## Coursework

Over half of respondents had taken or had been taking Introductory Sociology in 2019 (53.9\%), compared with $48.0 \%$ in 2015. In all five years, about three quarters of respondents had taken or had been taking a course in molecular or cellular biology at the time of their MCAT exam (74.5\% in 2019).

## Providing Feedback

We encourage constituents to provide feedback regarding the PMQ report. If you would like to provide feedback, please contact pmq@aamc.org.

Total number of individuals who responded to the questionnaire:

| $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 9}$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 27,545 | 32,563 | 32,316 | 30,425 | 28,251 |

1. Sex:

Note: This information is populated from other AAMC data sources (e.g., MCAT).

|  | $\underline{\text { Percent }}$ | Percent | Percent | $\underline{\text { Percent }}$ | $\underline{\text { Percent }}$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Male | 41.8 | 43.1 | 41.5 | 39.7 | 39.1 |  |
| Female | 58.2 | 56.9 | 58.5 | 60.3 | 60.9 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 27,483 | 32,469 | 32,224 | 30,348 | 28,166 |

2. How do you self-identify?

Note: Percentages may not sum to $100 \%$ as multiple responses are allowed. Self-identified race/ethnicity is only reported for U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Self-identified race/ethnicity and citizenship/permanent residency status are populated from other AAMC data sources (e.g., MCAT).

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.0 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 16.4 | 18.1 | 18.7 | 19.3 | 18.0 |
| Asian | 9.7 | 9.2 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.9 |
| Black or African-American | 9.7 | 9.8 | 9.6 | 10.6 | 10.9 |
| Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 46.9 | 48.6 | 49.4 | 49.7 | 48.9 |
| White | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.6 |
| Other | 16.7 | 15.2 | 14.2 | 14.0 | 14.5 |
| Non-U.S. Citizen and Non-Permanent Resident |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 27,545 | 32,563 | 32,316 | 30,425 | 28,251 |

## 3. Parental Education and Occupation

The Socioeconomic Status (SES) Education Occupation (EO) indicator classifies individuals into five ordered groups (EO-1 through EO-5) based on four aggregated categories of education (No college degree, Bachelor's degree, Master's degree, Doctoral degree) and two aggregated categories of occupation (Executive, managerial or professional; Service, clerical, skilled and unskilled labor). The lowest (most disadvantaged) SES group is EO-1, and the highest is EO-5. Determination of an EO indicator is based on having both education and occupation information for at least one parent. If a respondent provided complete information for two parents, the EO indicator displayed is for the parent with the higher value. The EO indicator is only reported for U.S. citizens and permanent residents.
EO-1 Less than a college degree (regardless of occupation
category)
EO-2 College, master's, or doctoral degree; Service, clerical, skilled
and unskilled labor occupations
EO-3 College degree; Executive, managerial or professional
occupations
EO-4 Master's degree; Executive, managerial or professional
occupations
EO-5 Doctoral degree; Executive, managerial or professional
occupations

Number of respondents
4. When did you definitely decide that you wanted to study medicine?
I have not definitely decided that I want to study medicine
Before high school
During high school/before college
During the first two years in college
During junior year in college
During senior year in college
After receiving a bachelor's degree
After receiving an advanced degree
Number of respondents

## 2015201620172018

| Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 27.9 | 26.7 | 25.8 | 25.5 | 25.4 |
| 9.7 | 8.8 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 8.9 |
| 23.1 | 20.9 | 21.0 | 22.0 | 21.9 |
| 17.2 | 19.3 | 20.3 | 20.2 | 20.0 |
| 22.2 | 24.3 | 24.4 | 23.6 | 23.8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 18,836 | 26,454 | 26,725 | 25,248 | 23,263 |


| Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.0 |
| 27.7 | 26.7 | 27.4 | 27.9 | 27.8 |
| 31.6 | 31.7 | 31.4 | 31.6 | 32.6 |
| 17.2 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 17.6 | 17.7 |
| 7.3 | 7.7 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.3 |
| 3.3 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.2 |
| 7.8 | 7.7 | 8.1 | 7.7 | 7.2 |
| 2.6 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 |
| 26,557 | 31,326 | 31,057 | 29,278 | 27,194 |

5. Please indicate any experiences in which you have participated.
Note: Percentages may not sum to $100 \%$ as multiple responses are allowed.
Middle school premedical or science program
Magnet science/health science high school
Summer laboratory research apprenticeship for high school
students
Classroom-based summer, after-school, or Saturday premedical
program for high school students
Laboratory research apprenticeship for college students
Summer academic enrichment program for college students
Non-degree post-baccalaureate program to strengthen academic
skills
Non-degree post-baccalaureate program to complete premedical
requirements
Volunteered in the healthcare field
Volunteered in a non-healthcare field
International volunteer experience
Shadowed a physician or other healthcare professional
None of the above

Number of respondents
6. During the last three months, what describes your attendance at school or college?
Note: Percentages may not sum to $100 \%$ as multiple responses are allowed.
I did not attend any school in the last three months
High school
Community college
Four-year college or university
Post-baccalaureate premedical program
Graduate/professional program (e.g., MS, PhD, JD)
Number of respondents
What best describes your enrollment status throughout
your undergraduate education?

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Full-time | 93.2 | 93.2 | 93.3 | 93.2 | 93.1 |
| Full-time during some years and part-time during others | 5.2 | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.2 |
| Part-time | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.7 |
| Number of respondents |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 26,319 | 30,925 | 30,692 | 28,913 |

8. Have you already graduated from college?

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | $\underline{\text { Percent }}$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Yes | 46.0 | 47.1 | 49.1 | 49.8 | 50.3 |  |
| No | 54.0 | 52.9 | 50.9 | 50.2 | 49.7 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of respondents | 26,358 | 30,991 | 30,709 | 29,064 | 26,944 |  |

9. How many years have passed since you graduated from college?
Note: Only those who responded "Yes" to Q8 could respond to this item.

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Less than 1 year | 39.0 | 41.7 | 42.7 | 43.2 | 42.6 |
| 1-2 years | 30.9 | 29.0 | 28.8 | 28.7 | 29.6 |
| 3-4 years | 15.2 | 16.2 | 15.5 | 15.6 | 15.3 |
| 5 or more years | 14.9 | 13.1 | 13.0 | 12.5 | 12.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 12,083 | 14,562 | 15,056 | 14,370 |

10. How did you spend your time between college and taking the MCAT?
Note: Those who responded "Less than 1 year" in Q9 could not respond to this item. Percentages may not sum to $\mathbf{1 0 0 \%}$ as multiple responses are allowed.

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Worked at another career | 56.4 | 53.8 | 55.0 | 55.8 | 55.2 |  |
| Worked to improve finances | 45.4 | 43.4 | 44.2 | 44.7 | 45.1 |  |
| Continued coursework to prepare for the MCAT exam | 40.3 | 40.3 | 41.2 | 42.3 | 42.6 |  |
| Continued coursework to fulfill premedical requirements | 26.3 | 25.6 | 24.8 | 25.7 | 24.6 |  |
| Took premedical courses for the first time | 12.7 | 12.3 | 11.8 | 11.3 | 10.4 |  |
| Pursued graduate studies | 34.4 | 30.9 | 30.6 | 30.9 | 31.4 |  |
| Worked/volunteered internationally | 13.5 | 13.0 | 12.6 | 12.8 | 12.3 |  |
| Worked/volunteered in research | 40.5 | 39.3 | 37.8 | 39.2 | 39.6 |  |
| Helped fulfill family obligations | 31.0 | 29.4 | 30.7 | 33.9 | 35.7 |  |
| Other | 7.6 | 7.7 | 7.9 | 7.6 | 8.1 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 7,309 | 8,454 | 8,603 | 8,138 | 7,719 |

11. How likely are you to apply to the following graduate or professional programs?

|  | Percentage of Respondents Selecting Each Rating |  |  |  | Count |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Not <br> likely | Somewhat likely | Likely | Very likely |  |
| MD-granting medical program |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019 | 1.6 | 3.5 | 9.5 | 85.4 | 23,311 |
| 2018 | 1.5 | 3.3 | 8.7 | 86.5 | 26,755 |
| 2017 | 1.6 | 2.9 | 7.8 | 87.8 | 27,500 |
| 2016 | 1.7 | 2.8 | 8.5 | 86.9 | 28,095 |
| 2015 | 1.7 | 3.1 | 8.6 | 86.6 | 24,228 |
| DO-granting medical program |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019 | 28.6 | 23.0 | 15.7 | 32.7 | 22,413 |
| 2018 | 29.3 | 22.8 | 15.4 | 32.4 | 25,403 |
| 2017 | 30.0 | 22.1 | 15.7 | 32.3 | 25,896 |
| 2016 | 31.0 | 22.1 | 15.3 | 31.5 | 26,473 |
| 2015 | 31.8 | 21.9 | 15.1 | 31.3 | 22,787 |
| Other health program (e.g., Veterinary, Dental, Physician Assistant, Pharmacy) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019 | 72.2 | 19.0 | 5.9 | 2.9 | 21,892 |
| 2018 | 71.3 | 19.6 | 6.1 | 3.0 | 24,659 |
| 2017 | 68.5 | 20.6 | 7.2 | 3.7 | 25,012 |
| 2016 | 66.7 | 21.6 | 7.6 | 4.1 | 25,589 |
| 2015 | 65.0 | 22.4 | 8.3 | 4.3 | 22,107 |
| Graduate program in science, technology, or math |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019 | 57.5 | 23.9 | 10.9 | 7.7 | 22,011 |
| 2018 | 56.6 | 24.3 | 10.9 | 8.3 | 24,783 |
| 2017 | 55.8 | 24.1 | 11.8 | 8.3 | 25,086 |
| 2016 | 54.8 | 24.8 | 12.3 | 8.1 | 25,681 |
| 2015 | 54.3 | 24.5 | 13.0 | 8.1 | 22,172 |
| Non-health professional program (e.g., law, MBA) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019 | 85.5 | 10.4 | 2.8 | 1.3 | 21,755 |
| 2018 | 84.9 | 10.6 | 3.1 | 1.4 | 24,448 |
| 2017 | 84.0 | 11.2 | 3.4 | 1.5 | 24,749 |
| 2016 | 84.4 | 10.9 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 25,290 |
| 2015 | 84.3 | 11.0 | 3.4 | 1.3 | 21,801 |
| Graduate program in behavioral or social sciences (e.g., psychology, sociology) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019 | 81.9 | 13.0 | 3.5 | 1.5 | 21,826 |
| 2018 | 81.6 | 13.5 | 3.6 | 1.3 | 24,491 |
| 2017 | 80.8 | 13.8 | 3.9 | 1.4 | 24,851 |
| 2016 | 81.0 | 13.4 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 25,435 |
| 2015 | 79.8 | 14.1 | 4.5 | 1.6 | 21,948 |
| Graduate program in the humanities (e.g., history, English) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2019 | 95.4 | 3.5 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 21,693 |
| 2018 | 95.6 | 3.3 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 24,324 |
| 2017 | 95.1 | 3.8 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 24,609 |
| 2016 | 95.2 | 3.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 25,196 |
| 2015 | 95.0 | 3.7 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 21,728 |

## 12. What type of medicine are you interested in pursuing?

Primary care medicine (e.g., family medicine, internal medicine,
pediatrics)
Medical specialty (e.g., allergy/immunology, cardiology, dermatology)
Surgical specialty (e.g., general surgery, orthopedic surgery,
neurosurgery)
Not sure/undecided

Number of respondents

| Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 30.7 | 29.0 | 27.7 | 27.8 | 28.5 |
| 29.3 | 29.3 | 30.8 | 31.8 | 31.5 |
| 22.8 | 23.3 | 23.0 | 23.1 | 22.6 |
| 17.2 | 18.4 | 18.6 | 17.3 | 17.5 |
| 24,254 | 28,089 | 27,487 | 26,846 | 23,391 |

13. Which of the following items would encourage you to apply to medical school?
Note: Percentages may not sum to $\mathbf{1 0 0 \%}$ as multiple responses are allowed.
Finding a medical school where I will feel comfortable
Fit between my personal interests/goals and a medical school's
mission
Availability of academic support in medical school
Availability of financial support in medical school
Availability of social support in medical school
Grades, MCAT scores, and other academic qualifications
Number of respondents
Which of the following items would discourage you from
applying to medical school?
Note: Percentages may not sum to 100\% as multiple
responses are allowed.

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | 29.4 |  | 28.8 | 27.3 | 28.6 |
| Amount of current debt | 45.4 | 46.6 | 45.9 | 47.4 | 52.1 |  |
| Cost of applying to medical school | 62.5 | 62.8 | 62.9 | 64.2 | 68.0 |  |
| Cost of medical school | 72.0 | 71.1 | 71.5 | 72.0 | 73.1 |  |
| Grades, MCAT scores, and other academic qualifications | 20.9 | 21.9 | 21.2 | 20.9 | 22.0 |  |
| Family obligations |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 22,170 | 25,619 | 25,102 | 24,716 | 21,827 |

15. Please indicate the extent to which the following individuals have positively or negatively influenced your decision to pursue a career in medicine.

16. How are (or were) your college/premedical education costs paid?
Note: The percentage is the average of the percentages for the category. Responses needed to total $100 \%$.

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | $\underline{\text { Percent }}$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Scholarships or awards | 33.8 | 34.1 | 35.2 | 35.9 | 36.6 |  |
| Scholarships or awards with a service commitment (NHSC, Military, | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.8 |  |
| etc.) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Loans | 20.3 | 18.8 | 18.1 | 18.6 | 17.9 |  |
| Work-study program | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.2 |  |
| Personal income and savings | 7.6 | 7.5 | 7.1 | 7.6 | 7.7 |  |
| Money from parents, guardians, or other relatives | 33.3 | 34.4 | 34.7 | 33.2 | 33.0 |  |
| Money from spouse or partner | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 |  |
| Other | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.3 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of respondents | 21,401 | 24,662 | 24,040 | 22,798 | 19,741 |  |

17. Do you (or will you) have any outstanding education loans for your college/premedical education?

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Yes | 44.9 | 41.8 | 40.6 | 41.0 | 40.3 |  |
| No | 55.1 | 58.2 | 59.4 | 59.0 | 59.7 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of respondents | 22,754 | 27,146 | 26,581 | 25,712 | 22,797 |  |

18. What is, or will be, the total amount of outstanding education loans for your college/premedical education? Note: Amounts totaling $\mathbf{>} \$ 500,000$ were treated as invalid. Only those who responded "Yes" to Q17 could respond to this item.

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| No debt $(\$ 0)$ | 56.9 | 60.3 | 61.5 | 61.2 | 62.3 |
| $\$ 1$ to $\$ 4,999$ | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.6 |
| $\$ 5,000$ to $\$ 9,999$ | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.2 |
| $\$ 10,000$ to $\$ 14,999$ | 4.1 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| $\$ 15,000$ to $\$ 19,999$ | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| $\$ 20,000$ to $\$ 24,999$ | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 5.6 | 4.8 |
| $\$ 25,000$ to $\$ 29,999$ | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| $\$ 30,000$ to $\$ 49,999$ | 10.1 | 9.1 | 8.6 | 8.0 | 8.0 |
| $\$ 50,000$ to $\$ 74,999$ | 5.6 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 4.4 |
| $\$ 75,000$ to $\$ 99,999$ | 2.2 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| $\$ 100,000$ to $\$ 500,000$ | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.7 | 3.3 | 3.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

19. Do you have any noneducational, consumer debt that you are legally required to repay? (This includes credit card debt, car loans, home mortgages, or other consumer debt.)

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Yes | 20.1 | 17.6 | 17.8 | 18.4 | 18.6 |
| No | 79.9 | 82.4 | 82.2 | 81.6 | 81.4 |
| Number of respondents | 23,317 | 27,056 | 26,454 | 25,597 | 22,677 |

20. Please list the amount of your noneducational, consumer debt.
Note: Amounts totaling > \$500,000 for credit cards, car loans, and other debt were treated as invalid, and amounts totaling $>\$ 10,000,000$ for mortgage and total debt were treated as invalid. Only those who responded "Yes" to Q19 could respond to this item.

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No debt (\$0) | 81.5 | 83.4 | 83.3 | 83.8 | 83.7 |
| \$1 to \$4,999 | 8.3 | 7.3 | 7.2 | 6.9 | 6.7 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999 | 2.8 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.6 | 2.6 |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| \$15,000 to \$19,999 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| \$20,000 to \$24,999 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 |
| \$25,000 to \$29,999 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| \$30,000 to \$49,999 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| \$50,000 to \$74,999 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| \$100,000 or more | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Number of respondents | 22,866 | 26,713 | 26,109 | 24,924 | 22,039 |
| Median noneducational debt of those reporting noneducational debt | \$5,800 | \$6,000 | \$6,500 | \$6,000 | \$7,000 |

21. Please list the amount of your noneducational, consumer debt for each category listed below.
Note: The number shown in each category is the median of those providing valid figures. Amounts totaling greater than $\$ 500,000$ for credit cards, car loans, and other debt were treated as invalid, and amounts totaling greater than $\$ 10,000,000$ for mortgage and total debt were treated as invalid. Only those who responded "Yes" to Q19 could respond to this item.

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Credit Cards |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median | $\$ 2,000$ | $\$ 2,000$ | $\$ 2,000$ | $\$ 2,000$ | $\$ 2,000$ |  |
| Number of respondents | 3,355 | 3,452 | 3,414 | 3,138 | 2,793 |  |
| Car Loans |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median | $\$ 11,000$ | $\$ 11,000$ | $\$ 10,000$ | $\$ 11,000$ | $\$ 10,000$ |  |
| Number of respondents | 1,723 | 1,828 | 1,848 | 1,735 | 1,586 |  |
| Mortgage |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median | $\$ 152,000$ | $\$ 150,000$ | $\$ 155,000$ | $\$ 176,000$ | $\$ 180,000$ |  |
| Number of respondents | 589 | 611 | 575 | 522 | 471 |  |
| Other Consumer Loans |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median | $\$ 3,400$ | $\$ 3,650$ | $\$ 4,000$ | $\$ 4,000$ | $\$ 4,400$ |  |
| Number of respondents | 479 | 424 | 413 | 352 | 317 |  |
| Total Amount |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Median | $\$ 5,800$ | $\$ 6,000$ | $\$ 6,500$ | $\$ 6,000$ | $\$ 7,000$ |  |
| Number of respondents | 4,230 | 4,432 | 4,362 | 4,044 | 3,587 |  |

## 22. Which of the following courses have you taken or are you currently taking? <br> Note: Percentages may not sum to $100 \%$ as multiple responses are allowed. Blank cells indicate the course was not a response option in the corresponding year.

|  | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Introductory biology | 96.3 | 95.5 | 93.1 | 94.1 | 93.5 |
| Molecular or cellular biology | 73.7 | 74.5 | 73.5 | 74.7 | 74.5 |
| Anatomy or physiology | 70.0 | 69.1 | 67.7 | 69.5 | 69.2 |
| Genetics | 71.5 | 71.5 | 70.1 | 71.8 | 71.8 |
| Introductory (inorganic) chemistry | 93.2 | 93.0 | 90.6 | 91.7 | 91.3 |
| Biochemistry | 82.9 | 87.7 | 87.6 | 90.4 | 91.0 |
| Organic chemistry | 96.4 | 96.8 | 94.6 | 96.4 | 96.6 |
| Introductory physics | 94.9 | 94.8 | 92.6 | 94.6 | 94.1 |
| Calculus | 87.6 | 88.0 | 85.8 | 87.1 | 86.4 |
| Research methods | 43.4 | 41.8 | 40.8 | 40.1 | 41.7 |
| Statistics | 81.9 | 83.3 | 82.9 | 85.5 | 86.4 |
| Public health | 21.1 | 20.8 | 21.6 | 21.8 | 22.3 |
| Ethics or philosophy | 50.3 | 49.7 | 48.9 | 48.9 | 48.7 |
| English composition/writing | 85.6 | 85.9 | 84.2 | 84.2 | 84.0 |
| English literature or other humanities | 77.4 | 77.3 | 75.1 | 75.9 | 75.2 |
| Introductory psychology | 83.0 | 84.6 | 83.6 | 85.8 | 85.9 |
| Other psychology | 43.1 | 42.3 | 42.2 | 43.4 | 42.8 |
| Introductory sociology | 48.0 | 51.5 | 51.7 | 53.4 | 53.9 |
| Other sociology | 17.9 | 18.0 | 17.4 | 17.7 | 17.4 |
| Cultural anthropology, urban studies, or other courses about different cultures | 34.9 | 35.0 | 33.5 | 33.7 | 32.7 |
| Course that combined two natural science subject areas | 25.2 | 25.7 | 25.7 | 26.5 | 25.9 |
| Course that combined two behavioral or social science subject areas | 16.8 | 16.1 | 15.8 | 15.4 | 15.7 |
| Course that combined one natural and one behavioral or social science subject areas | 35.8 | 35.1 | 35.9 | 36.7 | 36.1 |
| Course that focuses on critical thinking, reasoning, or problem-solving |  |  | 33.2 | 34.5 | 32.7 |
| Course that focuses on improving study skills |  |  |  |  | 10.2 |
| Course that focuses on improving reading skills |  |  |  |  | 9.9 |
| Number of respondents | 23,413 | 27,017 | 26,937 | 25,570 | 22,625 |

