

# Leadership Report

## 2013 Your First College Year Survey

In spring 2013, we asked first-year students at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) to participate in the *Your First College Year* survey. The survey was administered by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at UCLA in conjunction with the Office of Planning and Institutional Research. Due to low response rates, the results should be interpreted with caution.<sup>1</sup> This report provides information related to students' leadership experiences and self-perceptions.

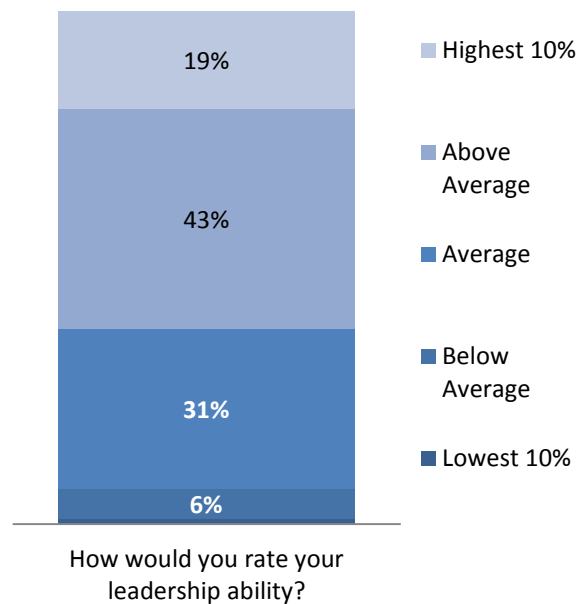


The survey instrument includes 16 constructs based on rigorous statistical methods. The constructs are designed to capture the experiences and outcomes that institutions are often interested in but find challenging to measure because of their complex and multifaceted nature. Constructs are particularly helpful in examining trends over time and making comparisons to other institutions. Construct scores should not be converted into percentages or compared to other constructs.

The leadership construct is a unified measure of students' beliefs about their leadership development, capabilities, and experiences. Since 2011, CWRU's score has not changed significantly (49 in 2011 vs. 50 in 2013). Additionally, CWRU's score for 2013 was not significantly different from the score for the private university comparison group (CWRU: 50 vs. private institutions: 50).<sup>2</sup>

Students were asked to rate their leadership ability in two different ways. Compared to the average person their age, 62% of students rated themselves above average or higher in leadership ability, and 68% said their leadership ability was somewhat strong or a major strength. When asked if they had effectively led a group to a common purpose, a little more than half agreed they had (58%). Since entering CWRU, 26% had served as a leader of an organization and 22% had participated in leadership training.

Figure 1. Compared to the average person your age...



### Additional Information

For additional information about this report, please contact Amanda Thomas at (216) 368-6119 or [ast27@case.edu](mailto:ast27@case.edu).

<sup>1</sup> Of the 1,336 students who received the survey, 27% (n=361) answered at least 50% of the questions. Compared to their peers, women, Asian/White, U.S. citizens, and students in non-management majors responded to the survey at significantly higher rates.

<sup>2</sup> The private university comparison group included Azusa Pacific University, Fordham University, Pepperdine University, University of the Pacific, Wake Forest University, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute.