



American University of Armenia

Հայաստանի Ամերիկյան Համալսարան

A US-accredited institution  
affiliated with the University  
of California providing a  
global education in Armenia

# 2014 Entering Freshman Survey

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# Methodology

Entering Freshman Survey aimed to collect **information** about entering students' *background, high school experiences* and *expected first-year experiences*.

**Survey Population: 394** first-time Fall 2014 admitted freshmen who completed their Intent to Enroll form as of August 25, 2014

**Completed surveys: 243**, denoting a response rate of **61.7%**.

*Percentages noted in the report indicate valid percent, missing values excluded.*

# Background Profile

Response rate by academic program		
Academic program	Freshmen N	Survey Respondents N (%)
Business	216	131 (60.6)
Computational Sciences	87	51 (58.6)
English and Communications	91	57 (62.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>239 (60.7)</b>

Distribution of respondents by gender		
Gender	Frequency	Percent
Female	139	57.4
Male	103	42.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Distribution of respondents by citizenship N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Republic of Armenia or Nagorno-Karabakh Republic	222 (91.7)	179 (92.7)
Non-Republic of Armenia	20 (8.3)	14 (7.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>242 (100)</b>	<b>193 (100)</b>

# Background Profile Cont'd

Distribution of respondents by countries where they were born N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Republic of Armenia or Nagorno-Karabakh Republic	205 (84.4)	155 (79.9)
Other	38 (15.6)	39 (20.1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>243 (100)</b>	<b>163 (100)</b>

Distribution of respondents born in Armenia by marzes N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Yerevan	163 (80.3)	125 (76.7)
Marzes outside of Yerevan*	40 (19.7)	38 (23.2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>203 (100)</b>	<b>163 (100)</b>

\* Includes Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh.

# High School Experiences

Which of the following best describes your high school education? N (%)		
Type of school and location	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Public, in Armenia	144 (59.3)	127 (65.5)
Private, in Armenia	72 (29.6)	39 (20.1)
Private, outside of Armenia	11 (4.5)	11 (5.7)
Public, outside of Armenia	9 (3.7)	10 (5.2)
Other	7 (2.9)	7 (3.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>243 (100)</b>	<b>194 (100)</b>

What were most of your grades during your last two years of high school? N (%)		
Grades	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
A	98 (40.8)	66 (34.0)
A-	67 (27.9)	69 (35.6)
B+ and lower*	63 (26.3)	56 (28.7)
Grades not used	12 (5.0)	3 (1.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>240 (100)</b>	<b>194 (100)</b>

\* No student reported that most of their grades were C- or lower during their last two years of high school.

# High School Experiences Cont'd

During your last two years of high school, did you work with a tutor? N (%)		
	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Yes	155 (65.7)	124 (64.6)
No	81 (34.3)	68 (35.4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>236 (100)</b>	<b>192 (100)</b>

During your last two years of high school, how often did you do the following?				
Description	Entering Freshman Survey			
	2014		2013	
	Mean*	N (%)	Mean*	N (%)
Revise writing assignments before submission	2.92	155 (66.8)	2.77	114 (61.0)
Acknowledge different perspectives in class discussions or assignments	2.80	142 (60.9)	2.97	139 (74.7)
Review your notes after class by yourself or with a classmate	2.74	145 (60.9)	2.67	107 (55.7)
Prepare outlines of readings or other assignments	2.57	116 (49.6)	2.66	110 (58.2)
Use data to understand or examine a real-world problem such as unemployment, environmental issue, public health	2.39	96 (40.9)	2.46	84 (44.4)
Not do your homework**	1.66	11 (4.6)	1.76	14 (7.3)

\* Mean and combined number and percentage of often and very often. Scale of 1 to 4; 1=never and 4=very often.

\*\* Double negative.

# High School Experiences Cont'd

During your last two years of high school, approximately how many writing assignments did you complete of the following length? N (%)			
Description		Entering Freshman Survey	
		2014	2013
Up to 2 pages	10 and more	127 (62.5)	116 (64.4)
	1-9	66 (32.5)	57 (31.6)
	0	10 (4.9)	7 (3.9)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>203 (100)</b>	<b>180 (100)</b>
Between 3 and 5 pages	10 and more	68 (32.4)	65 (36.7)
	1-9	126 (60.0)	101 (57.1)
	0	16 (7.6)	11 (6.2)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>210 (100)</b>	<b>177 (100)</b>
Between 6 and 10 pages	10 and more	33 (16.8)	27 (15.4)
	1-9	112 (57.1)	119 (67.6)
	0	51 (26.0)	30 (17.0)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>196 (100)</b>	<b>176 (100)</b>
11 pages or more	10 and more	23 (11.9)	16 (9.3)
	1-9	82 (42.5)	80 (46.5)
	0	88 (45.6)	76 (44.2)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>193 (100)</b>	<b>172 (100)</b>



# High School Experiences Cont'd

During your last two years of high school, to what extent did your courses challenge you to do your best? N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Very much	59 (25.1)	48 (25.1)
Quite a bit	78 (33.2)	62 (32.5)
Some	74 (31.5)	54 (28.3)
Very little	18 (7.7)	20 (10.5)
Not at all	6 (2.6)	7 (3.7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>235 (100.0)</b>	<b>191 (100.0)</b>
<b>Mean*</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>3.64</b>

\* Mean; scale of 1 to 5; 1=not at all and 5=very much.

# High School Experiences Cont'd

During your last two years of high school, approximately how many hours did you spend most weeks doing the following? N (%)			
Description	Hours per week	Entering Freshman Survey	
		2014	2013
Engaging in non-school related reading	More than 20	13 (5.7)	N/A
	11-20	37 (16.1)	N/A
	1-10	160 (69.5)	N/A
	0	20 (8.7)	N/A
	<b>Total</b>	<b>230 (100)</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Studying, reading, or doing home tasks to prepare for class	More than 20	66 (27.5)	100 (52.4)
	11-20	89 (37.1)	50 (26.1)
	1-10	84 (35.0)	40 (21.0)
	0	1 (0.4)	1 (0.5)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>240 (100)</b>	<b>191 (100)</b>
Working at a job for pay	More than 20	3 (1.3)	2 (1.1)
	11-20	10 (4.3)	7 (3.7)
	1-10	30 (13.0)	21 (11.2)
	0	188 (81.4)	158 (84.0)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>231 (100)</b>	<b>188 (100)</b>

# High School Experiences Cont'd

During your last two years of high school, approximately how many hours did you spend most weeks doing the following? N (%) Cont'd			
Description	Hours per week	Entering Freshman Survey	
		2014	2013
Participating in activities such as sports, student newspaper, student government, music groups, etc.	More than 20	26 (11.0)	31 (16.2)
	11-20	46 (19.5)	47 (24.6)
	1-10	131 (55.5)	96 (50.3)
	0	33 (14.0)	17 (8.9)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>236 (100)</b>	<b>191 (100)</b>
Volunteering	More than 20	12 (5.2)	18 (9.5)
	11-20	21 (9.1)	31 (16.3)
	1-10	135 (58.2)	83 (43.7)
	0	64 (27.6)	58 (30.5)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>232 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>
Socializing or spending time with friends	More than 20	33 (14.0)	48 (25.2)
	11-20	61 (25.8)	62 (32.6)
	1-10	139 (58.9)	79 (41.6)
	0	3 (1.3)	1 (0.5)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>236 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>

# High School Experiences Cont'd

During high school, what kind of non-school organized activities did you engage in? N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Organized sports (football club, basketball, etc.)	136 (56.0)	108 (56.0)
Community service or volunteer work	122 (50.2)	N/A
Dance lessons	66 (27.2)	60 (31.1)
Music lessons	62 (25.5)	55 (28.5)
Student government (or student council)	41 (16.9)	N/A
Art lessons (drawing, painting, etc.)	34 (14.0)	26 (13.5)
Student newspaper, yearbook, school blog	23 (9.5)	N/A
Church or other religious youth groups	19 (7.8)	N/A
Other	20 (8.2)	36 (18.7)
None	9 (3.7)	23 (11.9)
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>193</b>

# High School Experiences Cont'd

During your high school years, did you travel abroad? N (%)		
	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Yes	158 (65.0)	N/A
No	85 (35.0)	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>243 (100)</b>	<b>N/A</b>

During your high school years, did you travel abroad for? N (%)		
Purpose for traveling abroad	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Pleasure	126 (82.4)	119 (85.0)
Study	40 (26.1)	34 (24.3)
Conference or training	23 (15.0)	35 (25.0)
Other	11 (7.2)	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>153 (100)</b>	<b>140 (100)</b>

# Expected First-Year Experiences

During the coming academic year, approximately how many hours do you expect to spend each week doing the following? N (%)			
Description	Hours per week	Entering Freshman Survey	
		2014*	2013**
Studying, reading, or doing home tasks to prepare for class	More than 20	93 (39.9)	131 (68.3)
	11-20	106 (45.5)	41 (21.4)
	1-10	32 (13.8)	20 (10.5)
	0	2 (0.9)	0 (0.0)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>233 (100)</b>	<b>192 (100)</b>
Working at a job for pay	More than 20	0 (0.0)	11 (6.0)
	11-20	41 (17.9)	25 (13.5)
	1-10	70 (30.7)	62 (33.5)
	0	117 (51.3)	87 (47.0)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>228 (100)</b>	<b>185 (100)</b>

\*2014-2015 academic year

\*\*2013-2014 academic year

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

During the coming academic year, approximately how many hours do you expect to spend each week doing the following? N (%) cont'd			
Description	Hours per week	Entering Freshman Survey	
		2014*	2013**
Participating in activities such as sports, student newspaper, student government, music groups, etc.	More than 20	11 (4.8)	22 (11.5)
	11-20	52 (22.6)	63 (33.2)
	1-10	160 (69.3)	102 (53.7)
	0	8 (3.5)	3 (1.6)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>231 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>
Volunteering	More than 20	3 (1.3)	13 (6.9)
	11-20	33 (14.3)	29 (15.6)
	1-10	157 (68.0)	115 (61.5)
	0	38 (16.5)	30 (16.0)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>231 (100)</b>	<b>187 (100)</b>
Socializing or spending time with friends	More than 20	18 (7.8)	30 (15.8)
	11-20	55 (24.0)	56 (29.4)
	1-10	154 (66.9)	104 (54.7)
	0	3 (1.3)	0 (0.0)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>230 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>

\*2014-2015 academic year

\*\*2013-2014 academic year

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

How many hours do you expect to spend on homework for each course in a typical week? N (%)		
Hours per week	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
More than 20	15 (6.5)	43 (22.3)
11-20	78 (33.7)	67 (24.7)
1-10	137 (59.0)	83 (43.0)
0	2 (0.9)	0 (0.0)
<b>Total</b>	<b>232 (100)</b>	<b>193 (100)</b>



# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

Where do you mostly intend to prepare for class? N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
The university library	114 (48.9)	75 (39.1)
Where I was residing/living	111 (47.6)	111 (57.8)
At a public or other library	N/A	0 (0.0)
At a friend's house	N/A	1 (0.5)
Other	8 (3.4)	5 (2.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>233 (100)</b>	<b>192 (100)</b>

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

How likely are you to do the following in the coming academic year? Mean*		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014*	2013**
Keep working hard even if you received a bad grade on an assignment	5.56	5.47
Finish what you started despite difficulties	5.46	5.44
Look for information to help you understand course material	5.32	5.31
Take part in class discussion	4.99	5.40
Study when there were more interesting things to do	4.80	4.63
Ask your instructor for help with difficult assignments	4.69	4.73

\*Mean; scale of 1 to 6; 1=not likely at all and 6=very likely.

\*2014-2015 academic year

\*\*2013-2014 academic year

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

Do you expect difficulty with the following? N (%)			
Description		Entering Freshman Survey	
		2014	2013
Learning new material	No	135 (57.2)	112 (58.9)
	Yes	41 (17.4)	33 (17.4)
	Not sure	60 (25.4)	45 (23.7)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>236 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>
Managing your time	No	132 (56.2)	81 (42.4)
	Yes	58 (24.7)	58 (30.4)
	Not sure	45 (19.1)	52 (27.2)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>235 (100)</b>	<b>191 (100)</b>
Paying tuition	No	100 (42.6)	79 (41.6)
	Yes	58 (24.7)	44 (23.2)
	Not sure	77 (32.8)	67 (35.3)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>235 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

Do you expect difficulty with the following? N (%) Cont'd			
Description		Entering Freshman Survey	
		2014	2013
Getting help with classes	No	169 (72.8)	134 (71.3)
	Yes	11 (4.7)	8 (4.3)
	Not sure	52 (22.4)	46 (24.5)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>232 (100)</b>	<b>188 (100)</b>
Making new friends	No	193 (82.1)	161 (84.3)
	Yes	16 (6.8)	13 (6.8)
	Not sure	26 (11.1)	17 (8.9)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>235 (100)</b>	<b>191 (100)</b>
Relating to faculty	No	181 (77.7)	154 (81.1)
	Yes	13 (5.6)	7 (3.7)
	Not sure	39 (16.7)	29 (15.3)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>233 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

How many writing assignments of the following length do you expect to complete in the coming academic year? N (%)			
Description		Entering Freshman Survey	
		2014*	2013**
Up to 2 pages	10 and more	164 (77.0)	142 (78.0)
	1-9	43 (20.2)	40 (22.0)
	0	6 (2.8)	0 (0.0)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>213 (100)</b>	<b>182 (100)</b>
Between 3 and 5 pages	10 and more	128 (60.1)	116 (63.7)
	1-9	81 (38.1)	66 (36.3)
	0	4 (1.9)	0 (0.0)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>213 (100)</b>	<b>182 (100)</b>
Between 6 and 10 pages	10 and more	79 (36.7)	61 (33.1)
	1-9	126 (58.6)	119 (64.7)
	0	10 (4.7)	4 (2.2)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>215 (100)</b>	<b>184 (100)</b>
11 pages or more	10 and more	47 (21.9)	33 (17.9)
	1-9	141 (65.9)	131 (71.2)
	0	26 (12.1)	20 (10.9)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>214 (100)</b>	<b>184 (100)</b>

\*2014-2015 academic year

\*\*2013-2014 academic year

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

How well prepared are you in the following skills? Mean*		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
To function as part of a team	6.00	6.04
Speaking skills	5.75	5.91
To critically analyze ideas and information	5.57	5.90
Writing skills	5.48	5.47
English speaking skills	5.39	5.47
English writing skills	5.26	5.28
To lead and guide others	5.15	5.50
Computer skills	5.04	5.19
Applying scientific methods of enquiry	4.43	4.77

\*Mean; scale of 1 to 7 (1=not at all and 7=very well).

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

Are you a recipient of financial aid from the university (tuition assistance, deferred payment, work-study, scholarship)? N (%)		
	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Yes	103 (44.0)	90 (45.9)
No	131 (56.0)	101 (51.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>234 (100)</b>	<b>191 (100)</b>

How are you paying for your university education? N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Support from parents or relatives	210 (86.4)	160 (84.2)
Tuition assistance	81 (33.3)	48 (25.3)
Grants or scholarships	13 (5.3)	29 (15.3)
Job or personal savings	31 (12.8)	22 (11.6)
Deferred payment	3 (1.2)	9 (4.7)
Other	1 (0.4)	10 (5.3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>239 (100)</b>	<b>190 (100)</b>

# Expected First-Year Experiences Cont'd

For you, how important is it that the university provides? Mean*		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Support for student success	5.67	5.55
Academic challenge	5.31	5.21
Campus activities and events	5.08	5.23
Diverse student body	4.93	4.86

\*Mean; scale from 1 to 6; 1=not important, 6=very important.

What do you expect your average grade to be during your first academic year? N (%)		
Grades	2014*	2013**
A	98 (42.1)	79 (40.9)
A-	82 (35.2)	84 (43.5)
B+ and lower***	53 (22.7)	30 (15.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>233 (100)</b>	<b>193 (100)</b>

\*2014-2015 academic year

\*\*2013-2014 academic year

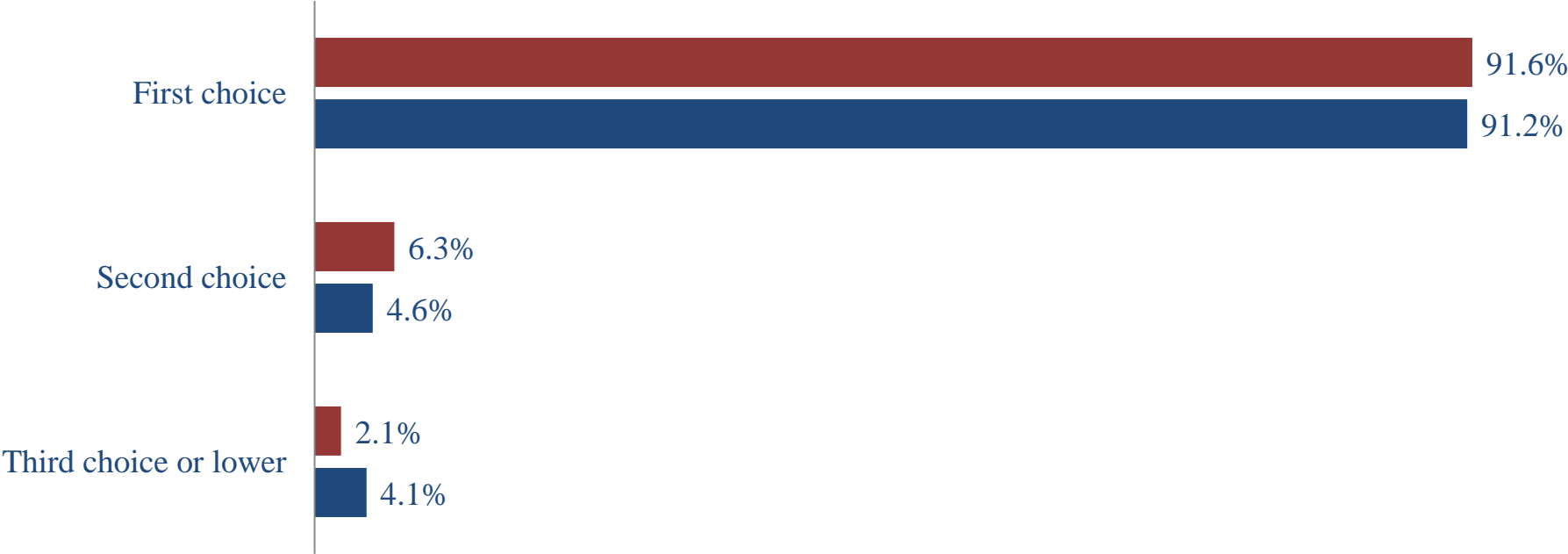
\*\*\* No student expected their average grade to be lower than C+.



# Other

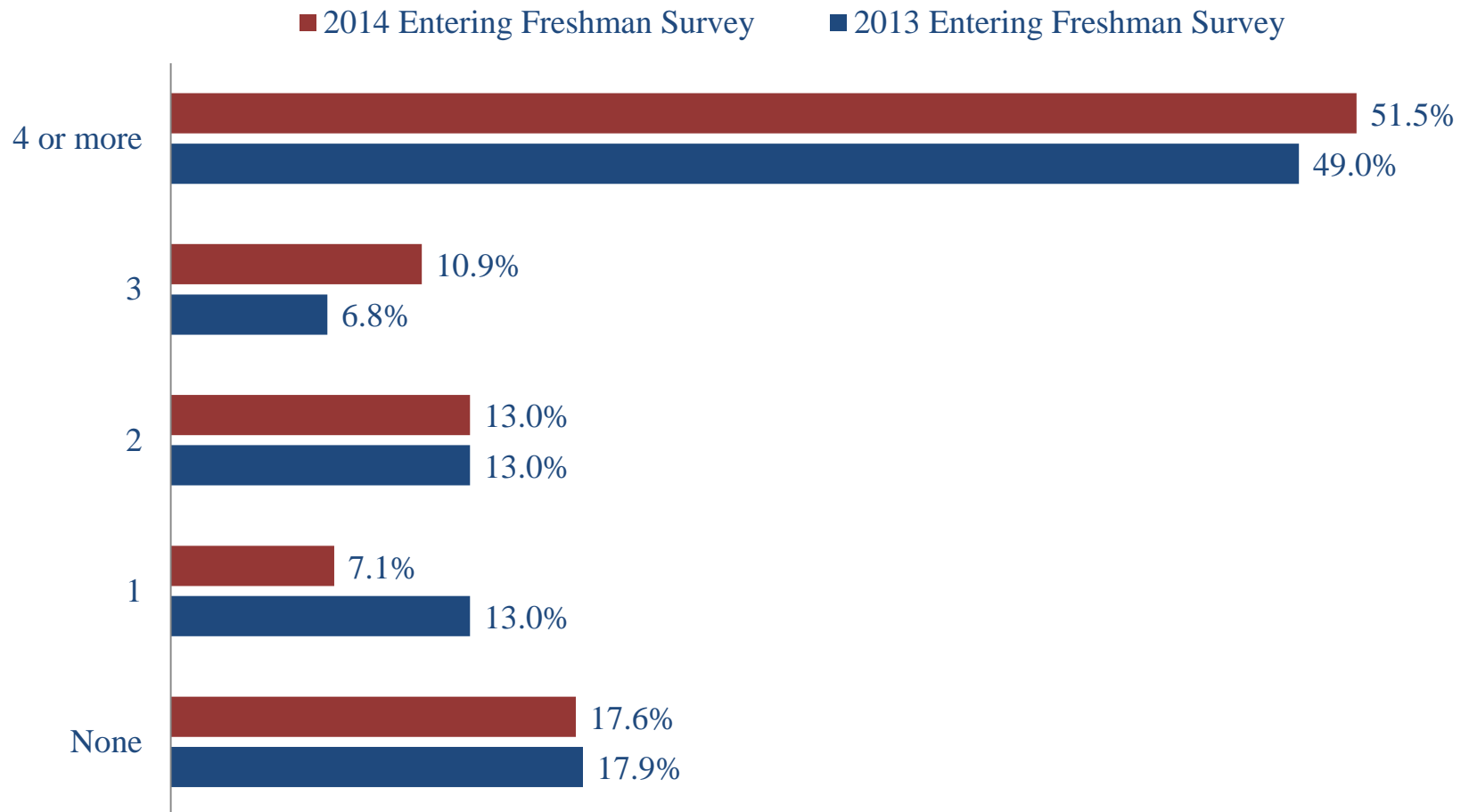
## This university was your:

■ 2014 Entering Freshman Survey    ■ 2013 Entering Freshman Survey



# Other Cont'd

How many of your close friends will attend this university during the coming academic year?



# Other Cont'd

What is the highest level of education completed by either of your parents or guardians? N(%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014	2013
Master's degree; Doctoral degree or equivalent	126 (52.7)	116 (59.8)
Bachelor's degree or equivalent; Five year diploma	92 (38.4)	61 (31.4)
Did not finish high school; High school diploma or equivalent; Attended college or university but did not complete degree; Associate's or vocational degree	17 (7.1)	17 (8.8)
Not sure	4 (1.7)	0 (0.0)
<b>Total</b>	<b>239 (100)</b>	<b>194 (100)</b>

# Other Cont'd

During the coming academic year, where will you be living? N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014*	2013**
At home with my immediate family	216 (90.8)	164 (84.5)
In an apartment or house I was renting alone or with others	16 (6.7)	14 (7.2)
At the home of a relative or friend	5 (2.1)	13 (6.6)
Other	1 (0.4)	3 (1.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>238 (100)</b>	<b>194 (100)</b>

\*2014-2015 academic year

\*\*2013-2014 academic year

# Other Cont'd

During the coming academic year how will you mostly get to class? N (%)		
Description	Entering Freshman Survey	
	2014*	2013**
Public transportation	160 (67.2)	133 (67.9)
Walk	43 (18.1)	33 (16.8)
Drive	32 (13.4)	21 (10.7)
Other	3 (1.3)	7 (3.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>238 (100)</b>	<b>194 (100)</b>

*\*2014-2015 academic year*

*\*\*2013-2014 academic year*

For additional information contact:  
Institutional Research Office  
Tel: +374 60 61 25 16  
[iro@aua.am](mailto:iro@aua.am)