



# UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

**Catholic Students,  
Catholic Institutions  
and College Choice**

**CHERC**

**Background**

**Research Questions**

**College-bound Catholics**

**Catholic Colleges and Universities**

**Choosing Catholic Higher Education**

# **Background**

## **Research Questions**

## **College-bound Catholics**

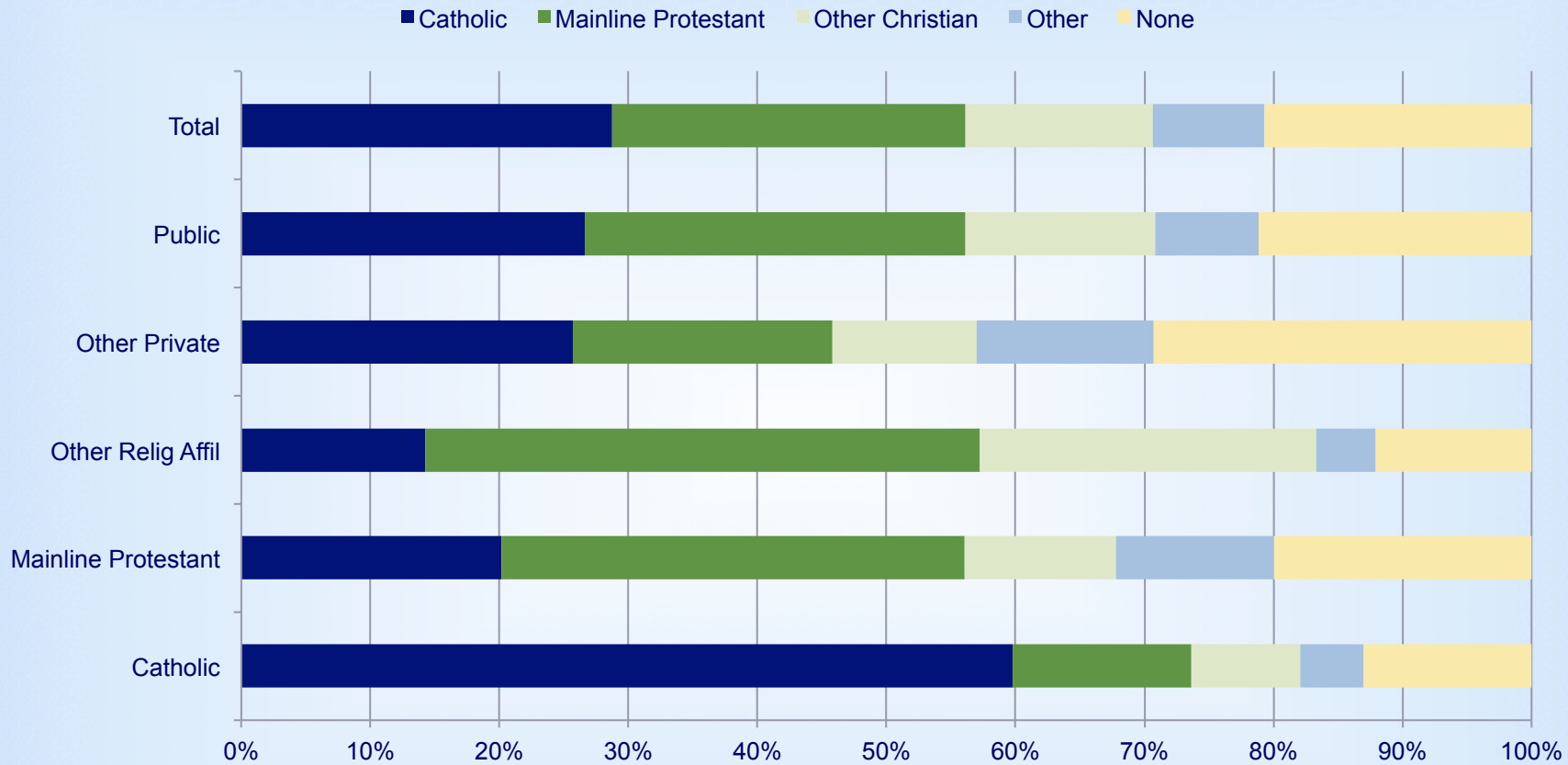
## **Catholic Colleges and Universities**

## **Choosing Catholic Higher Education**

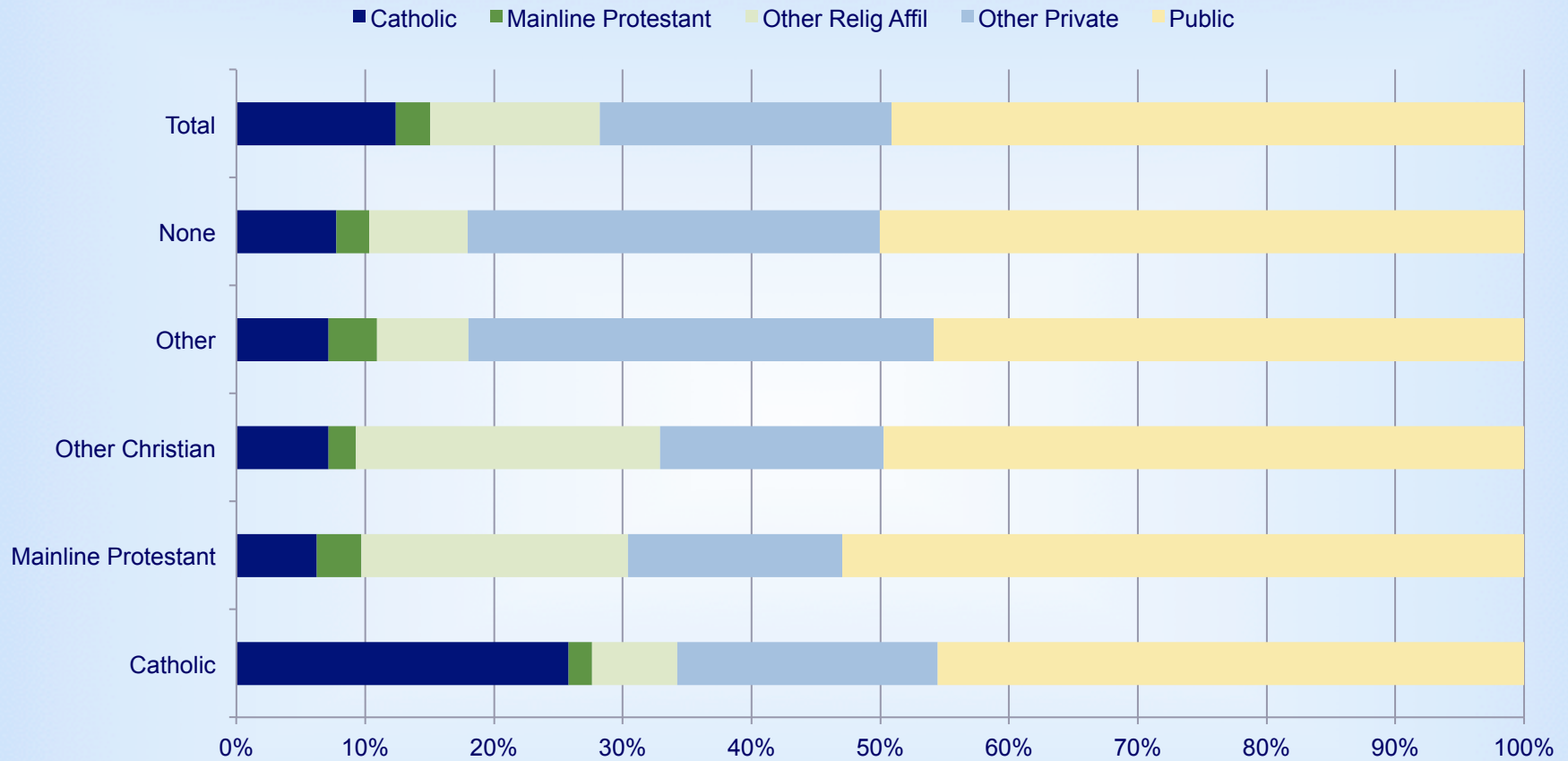
# Data Set

- CIRP 2001-2005 national data set
  - Four-year institutions
  - Religious affiliation from IPEDS IC
  - Simple random subsample: 50% Other Private, 35% Public
- ~145 variables
  - Demographics
  - Reasons for going to college
  - Reasons for choosing the institution
  - Selected self-ratings, goals, time diary, life goals,  
and general/HS activities

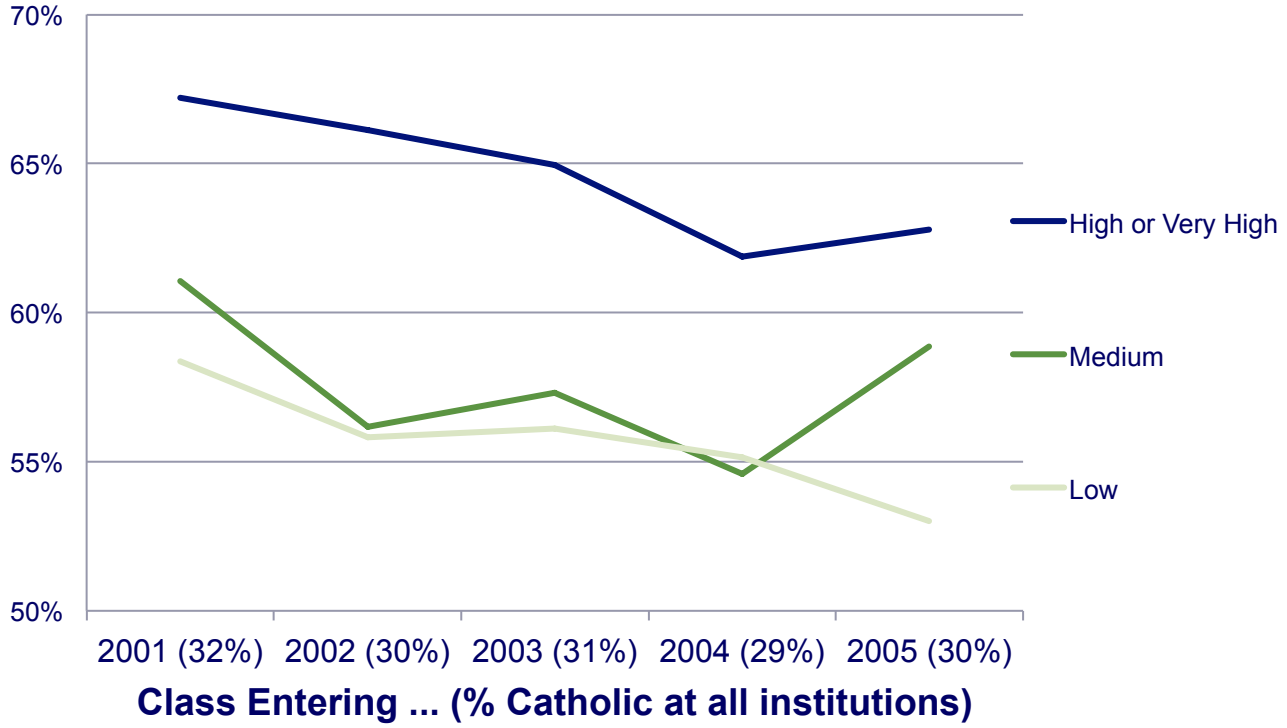
# Student Religious Affiliation by Sector, 2001-2005



# Higher Ed Sector by Student Religious Affiliation



# Percent Catholic Entering Students, Catholic Institutions, by Selectivity Level, 2001-2005



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# Research Questions

- How do Catholic students entering higher education compare to their peers?
  - Background
  - Reasons for going to college
  - Reasons for choosing their institutions
- How do the students entering Catholic higher colleges and universities compare to students entering other institutions?
  - Reasons for going to college
  - Reasons for choosing the institution
- What factors are associated with choosing Catholic higher education?
- Emphasis on college selection issues

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# Catholic First Year Students: Demographics

	Catholic	Other Christian	Other, US	Other, NRA	None	Total
Female	58%	60%	56%	47%	52%	57%
White	82%	79%	65%	14%	77%	78%
African American	3%	14%	6%	4%	6%	8%
American Indian	.8%	1.9%	1.7%	.3%	1.8%	1.5%
Asian American or Pacific Islander	5%	5%	21%	60%	12%	8%
Latino/a or Hispanic	11%	4%	4%	3%	6%	6%
Other	3%	2%	7%	21%	4%	3%
U.S. Citizen or Perm Resident	99%	99%	100%		97%	98%

# Catholic First Year Students: Finances

	Catholic	Other Christian	Other, US	Other, NRA	None	Total
Less than \$50,000	24%	32%	30%	56%	30%	29%
\$50,000 to \$100,000	38%	38%	28%	22%	34%	37%
Over \$100,000	38%	30%	41%	23%	35%	34%
Family Income (\$000)	102	91	111	84	99	97
Confident about sufficient funds	34%	34%	38%	40%	34%	34%
Some concerns	55%	53%	48%	44%	51%	52%
Major concerns	12%	14%	14%	16%	15%	13%

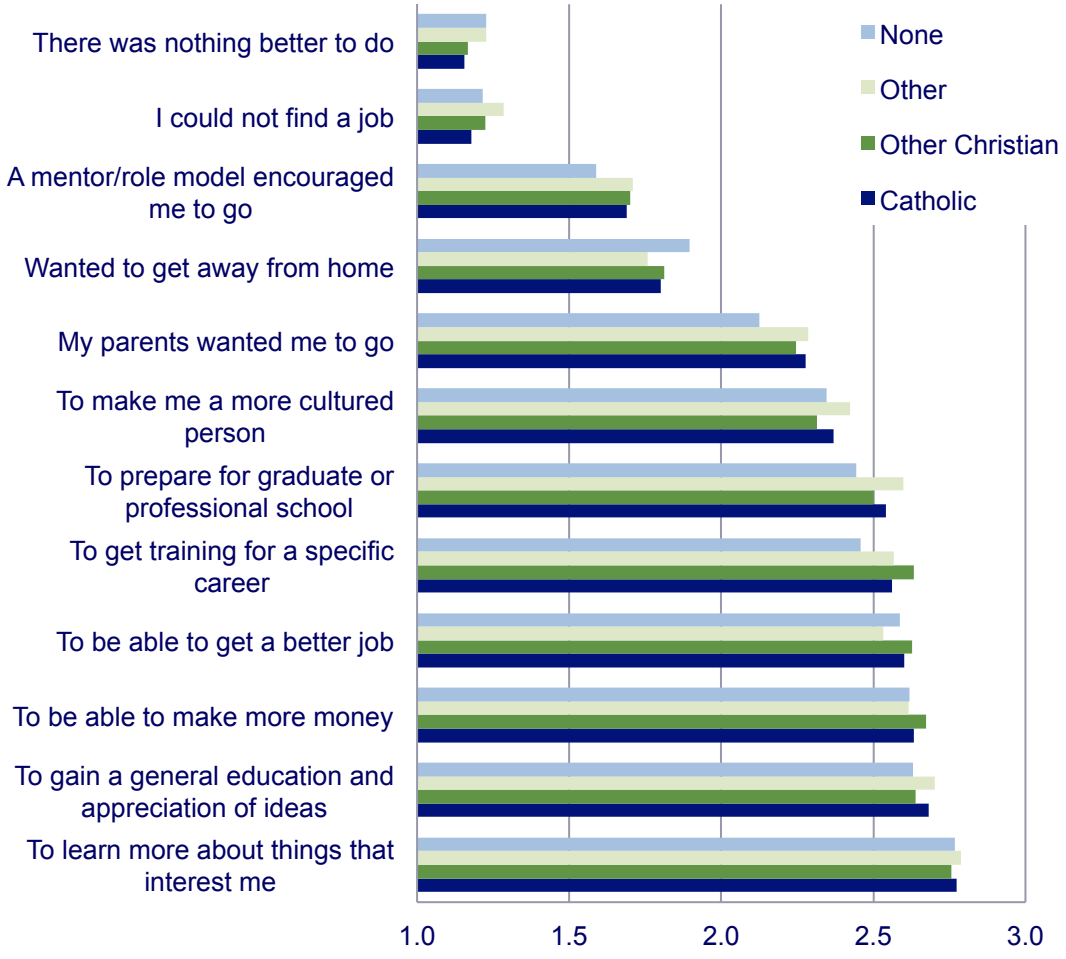
# Catholic First Year Students: Education

	Catholic	Other Christian	Other, US	Other, NRA	None	Total
Less than College Degree	31%	33%	25%	24%	31%	31%
College Degree	37%	37%	28%	29%	33%	36%
Postbaccalaureate Degree	32%	30%	47%	47%	36%	33%
Bachelor's	19%	24%	14%	9%	20%	21%
Master's	45%	41%	37%	43%	40%	42%
Doctorate	16%	17%	23%	33%	22%	18%
Professional	17%	15%	22%	9%	14%	16%

# Catholic First Year Students: High School Background

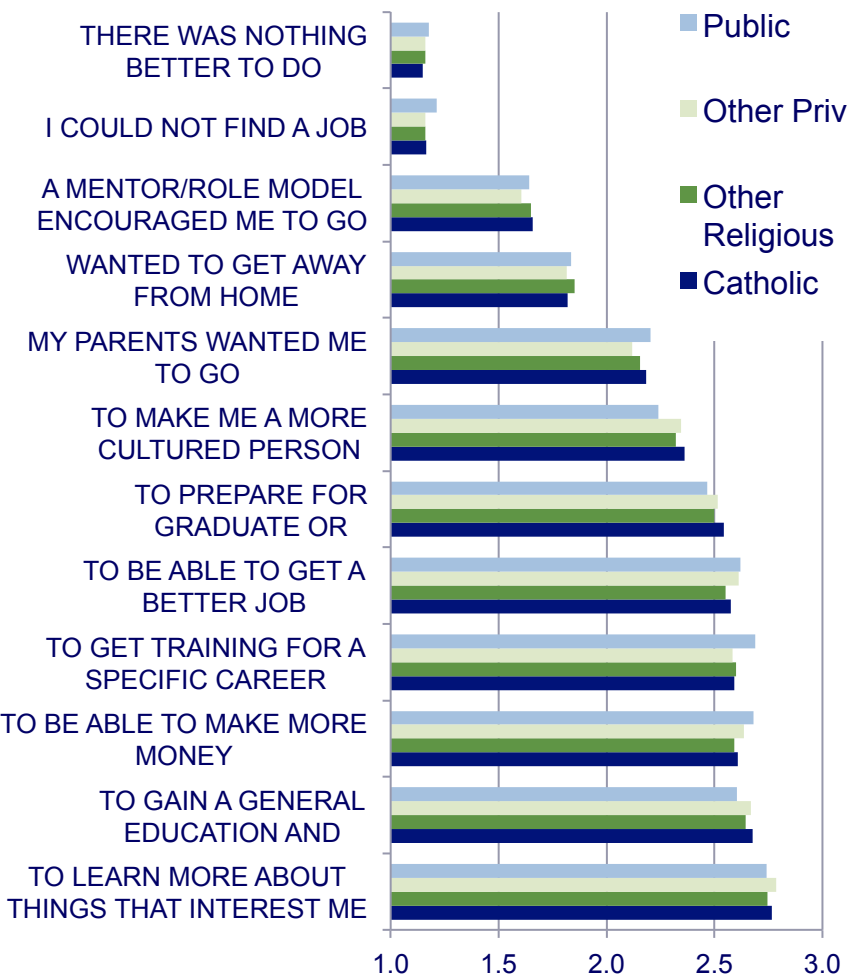
	Catholic	Other Christian	Other, US	Other, NRA	None	Total
Type of High School						
Public	64%	84%	78%	32%	81%	76%
Private, nondenominational	32%	11%	10%	21%	10%	18%
Private, denominational	4%	5%	11%	47%	9%	6%
Attending college within one year of high school graduation	98%	97%	97%	80%	96%	97%
HS required community service	42%	27%	36%	33%	33%	33%
Average SAT or ACT (converted)	1150	1135	1207	1226	1200	1157

## Why Go to College

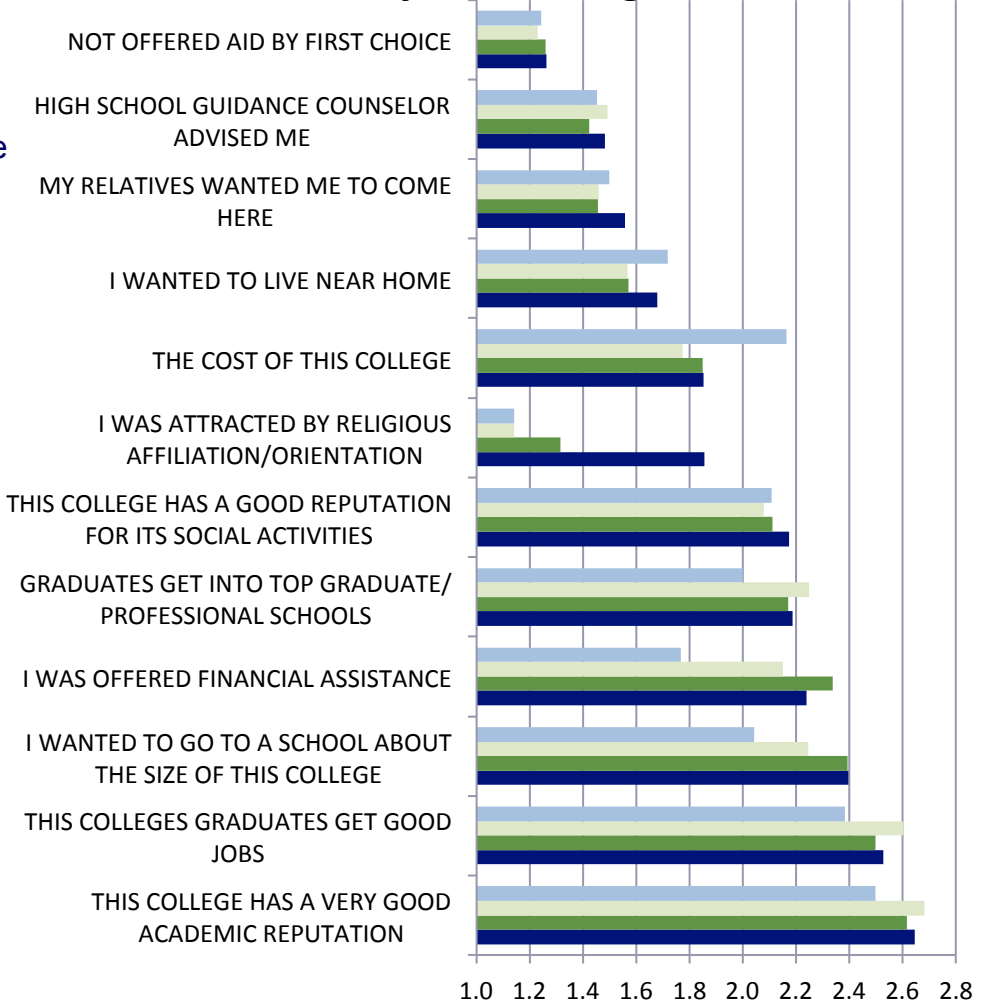


# Catholic Students

## Why Go to College



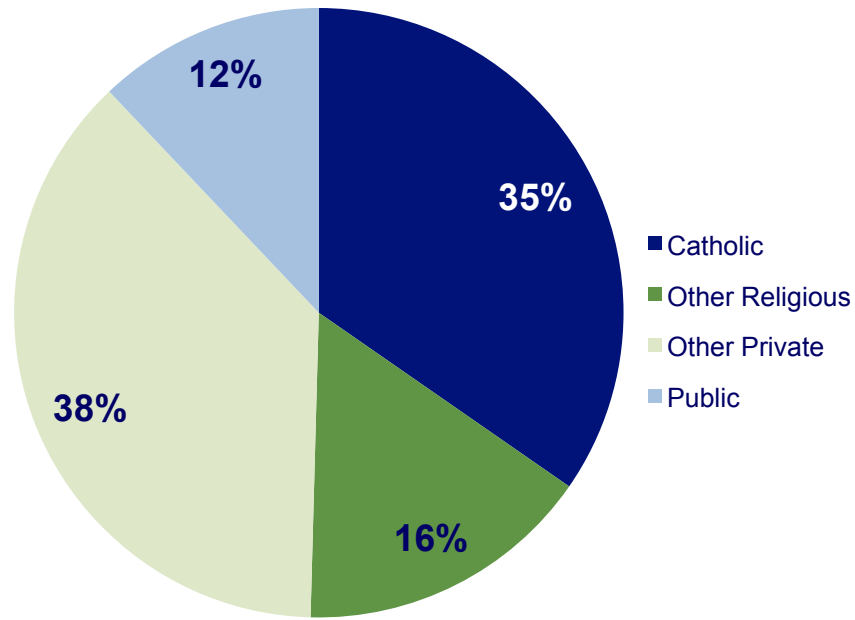
## Why This College



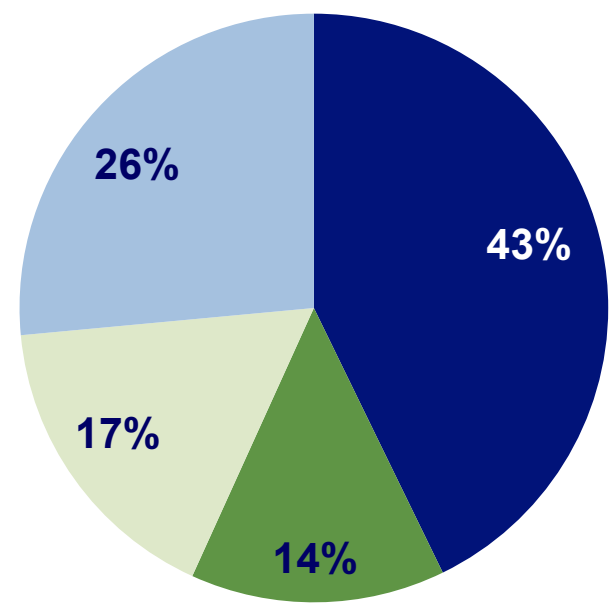


# Where Do Catholics Go to College?

Cohort entering in 2005



High ability: SAT/ACT 1480+



All Catholics

**Background**

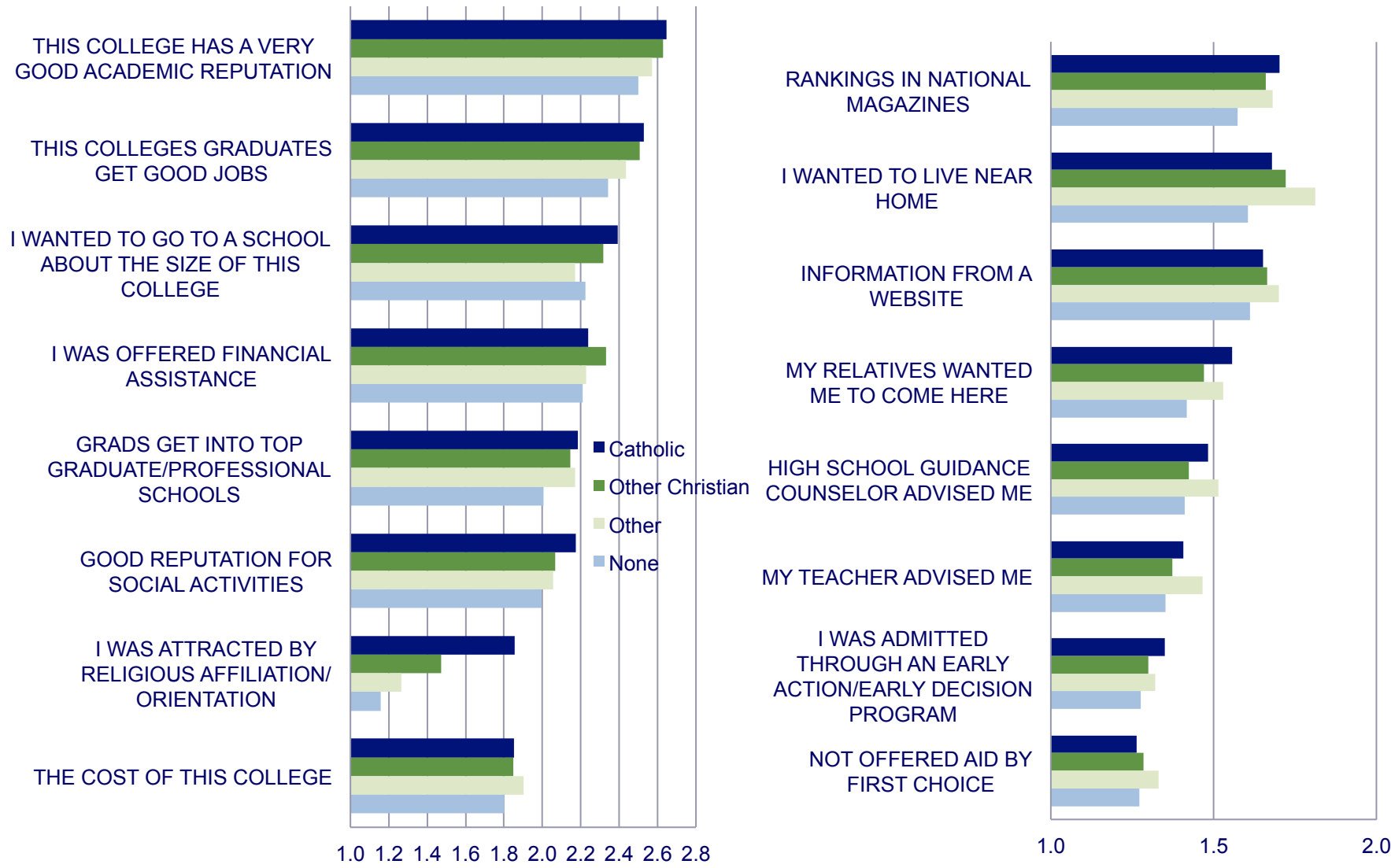
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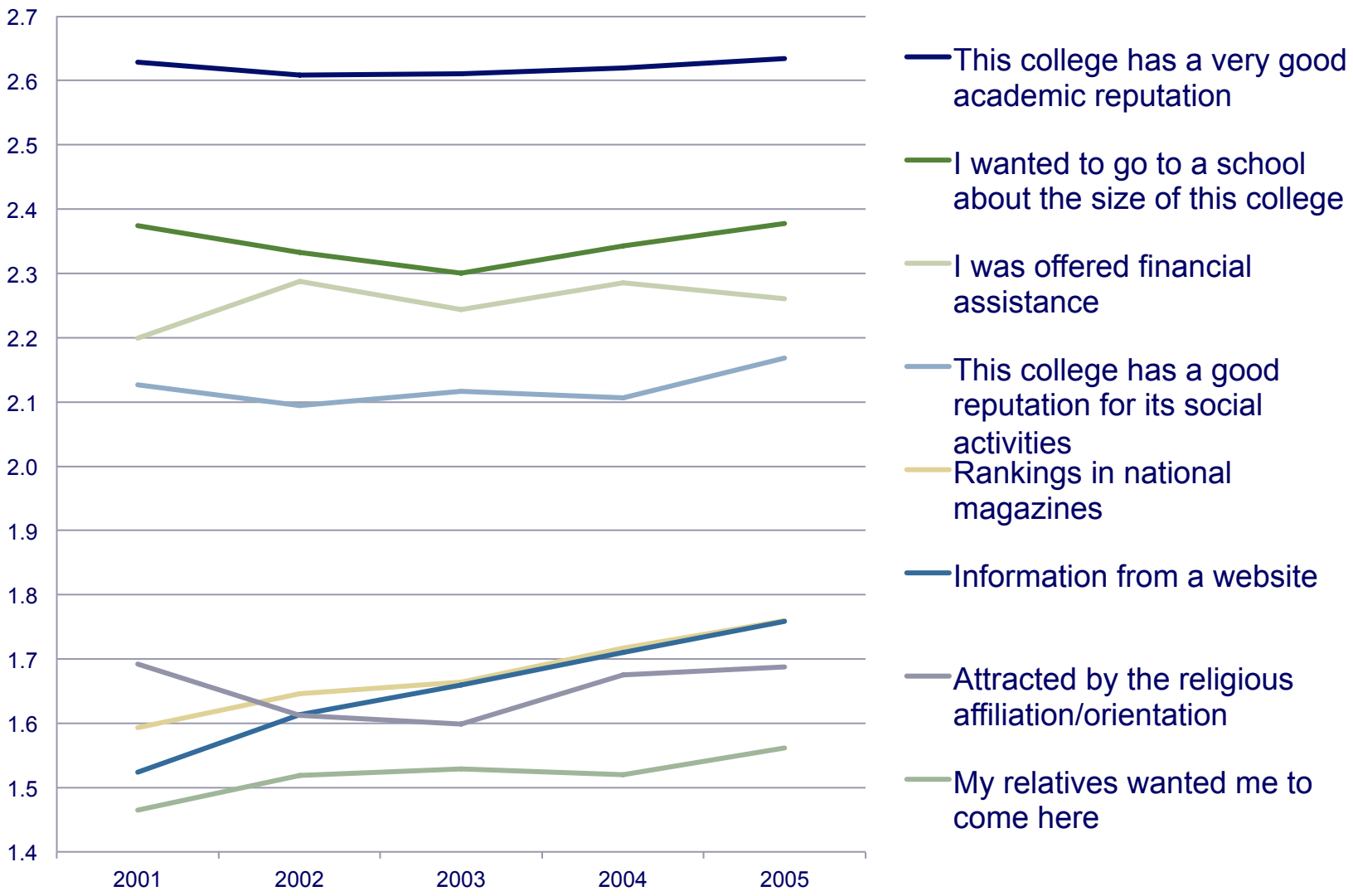
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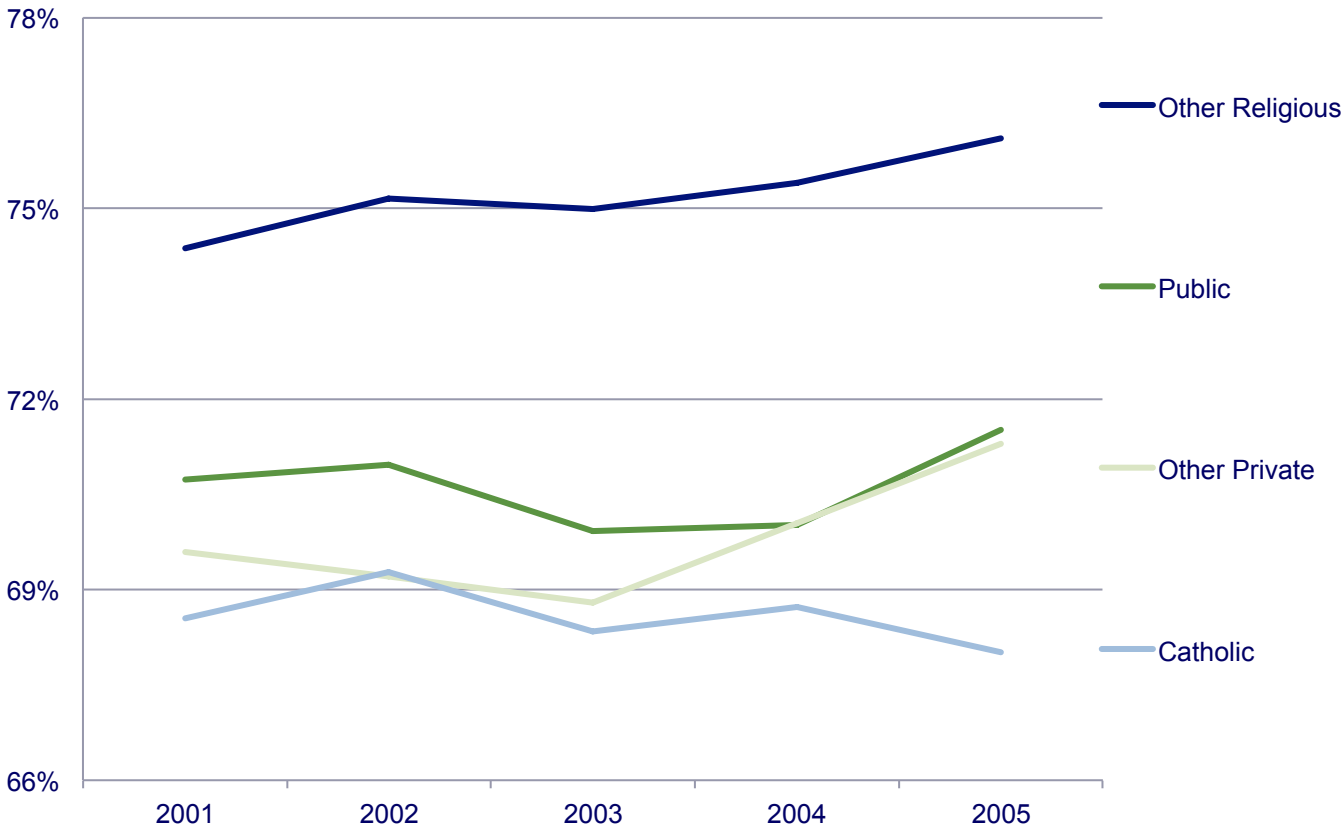
# Reasons for Choosing a Catholic College, by Student's Religion



# Selected Reasons for Choosing a Catholic College, by Year



# Percent of Students Indicating This College Was Their First Choice

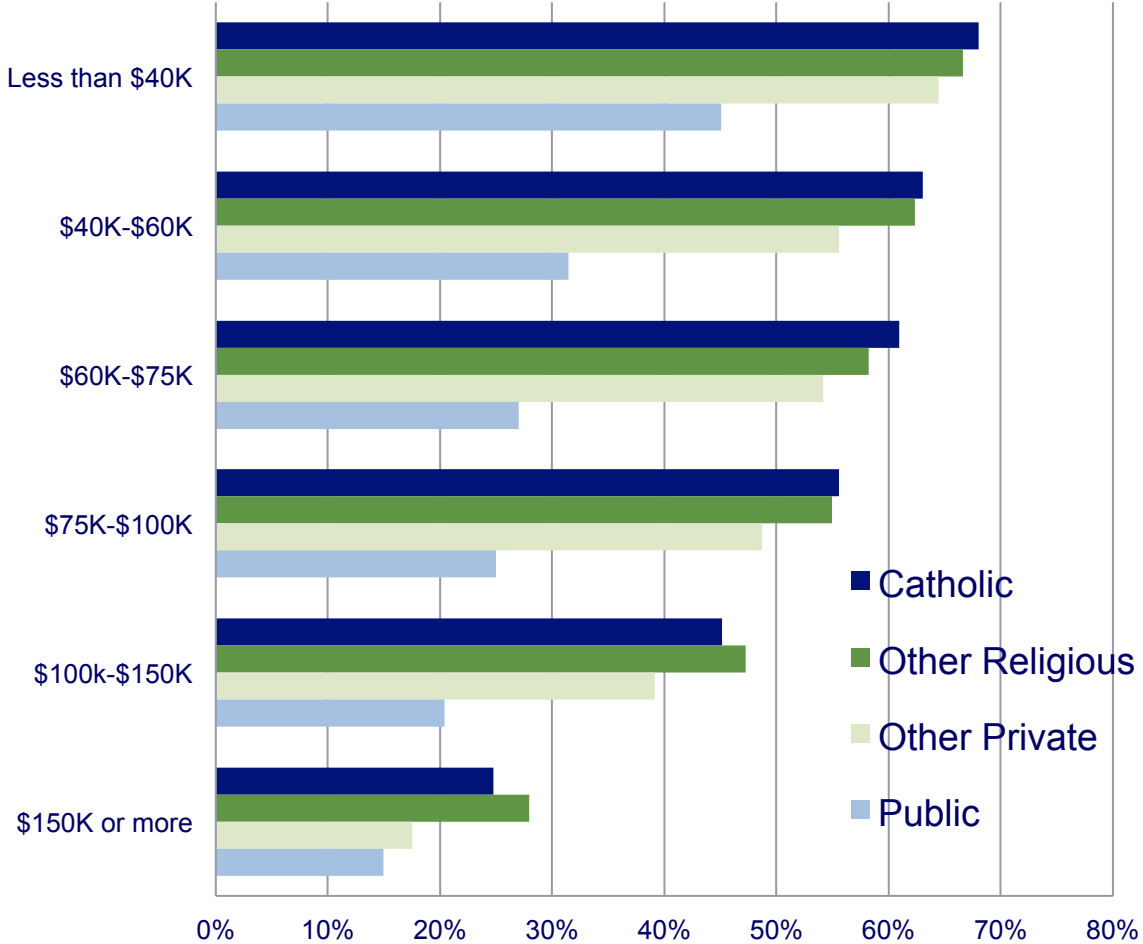


# Percent Who Say There Is a Very Good Chance That They Will Be Satisfied with Their College



# Percent Saying Financial Assistance Was Very Important in College Choice, by Family Income and Institutional Sector

2005



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# Logistic Regression

## Exp (B)

	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	
	All Students	Catholic Students	Non-Catholic Students	
Female	1.097		1.159	
Student Catholic	4.803			p<.01
Student Protestant	0.695		1.115	
Student Other Religion	.850			p<.05
Non-resident Alien	0.475	0.420	0.630	
First Generation Status	1.101		1.201	
Parents: Advanced Degrees	0.891	0.929	0.845	All others: p<.001
African American	1.148	0.704	1.255	
Asian American or Pacific Islander	1.347		1.899	
Latino/a or Hispanic		0.881	1.464	
Other Race	1.412		2.047	
Family Income		1.009		
SAT or ACT (converted)	0.999	0.999	0.999	
HS GPA	0.956		0.955	
Degree Aspirations: Masters	1.084	1.069	1.086	
Degree Aspirations: Professional (JD, MD, etc)	1.070			
Degree Aspirations: Doctorate		0.884		
Liberalism on Political Views		0.929	1.169	
Personality: Social Activism	1.038	1.063		
Personality: Confidence/Leadership	.965	0.931		
Personality: Religious	0.914	1.379	0.600	
Personality: Service Oriented	1.115	1.122	1.087	
Personality: Academic - Science		0.943		
Personality: Studious - Driven			1.120	
Personality: Successful		0.945	1.156	
Reason for College: No Particular Reason	0.936		0.872	
Reason for College: Extrinsic Rewards	1.087	0.938	1.230	
Reason for College: Intrinsic Value	0.926		0.894	
Reason for College: Postbac Preparation	1.072	1.066	1.096	
N	101561	33109	50948	
Nagelkerke's R2	0.23	0.04	0.09	
Percent Correct Predictions	73.4	59.7	82.8	

# What Factors Affect the Likelihood of Choosing a Catholic College over Other Private? Model 1: All Students

## More Likely

- Student Catholic
- First Generation Status
- African American
- Asian American or Pacific Islander
- Other Race
- Degree Aspirations: Masters
- Degree Aspirations: Professional (JD, MD, etc)
- Personality: Social Activism
- Personality: Service Oriented
- Reason for College: Extrinsic Rewards
- Reason for College: Postbac Preparation

## Less Likely

- Student Protestant
- Student Other Religion
- Non-resident Alien
- Parents: Advanced Degrees
- SAT or ACT (converted)
- HS GPA
- Personality: Confidence/Leadership
- Personality: Religious
- Reason for College: No Particular Reason
- Reason for College: Intrinsic Value

# What Factors Affect the Likelihood of Choosing a Catholic College over Other Private? Model 2: Catholics

## More Likely

- Family Income
- Degree Aspirations: Masters
- Personality: Social Activism
- Personality: Religious
- Personality: Service Oriented
- Reason for College: Postbac Preparation

## Less Likely

- Non-resident Alien
- Parents: Advanced Degrees
- African American
- Latino/a or Hispanic
- SAT or ACT (converted)
- Degree Aspirations: Doctorate
- Liberalism on Political Views
- Personality: Confidence/Leadership
- Personality: Academic - Science
- Personality: Successful
- Reason for College: Extrinsic Rewards

# What Factors Affect the Likelihood of Choosing a Catholic College over Other Private? Model 3: Non-Catholics

## More Likely

- Female
- Student Protestant
- First Generation Status
- African American
- Asian American or Pacific Islander
- Latino/a or Hispanic
- Other Race
- Degree Aspirations: Masters
- Liberalism on Political Views
- Personality: Service Oriented
- Personality: Studious - Driven
- Personality: Successful
- Reason for College: Extrinsic Rewards
- Reason for College: Postbac Preparation

## Less Likely

- Non-resident Alien
- Parents: Advanced Degrees
- SAT or ACT (converted)
- HS GPA
- Personality: Religious
- Reason for College: No Particular Reason
- Reason for College: Intrinsic Value

# What Factors Affect the Likelihood of a High Ability Catholic Student Choosing Notre Dame over another Private?

1480 or Higher (N=980)

## More Likely

- Personality: Religious
- Personality: Confidence/Leadership
- Personality: Studious
- Degree Aspirations: Professional Degree

## Less Likely

- Non-resident Alien
- Race: Asian American
- First Generation
- Liberal Political Leanings
- Motivation for College: Postbac Preparation
- Personality: Service Oriented
- Personality: Social Activism
- Personality: Authority Seeking

1380 or Higher (N=2375)

## More Likely

- Personality: Religious
- Personality: Studious
- Personality: Academic-Scientific
- Financing Source: Loans

## Less Likely

- Race: Asian American
- First Generation
- Liberal Political Leanings
- Motivation for College: Postbac Preparation
- Personality: Service Oriented
- Personality: Social Activism
- Financing Source: Grants

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- University of Notre Dame

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