

# WHAT PRESIDENTS THINK

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Results of *Inside Higher Ed's* 2014 Survey of  
College and University Presidents

An *Inside Higher Ed* webinar  
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# Presenters

- Doug Lederman, co-editor, *Inside Higher Ed*
- Scott Jaschik, co-editor, *Inside Higher Ed*

# Methodology

- Survey conducted by Gallup in January-February 2014
- Responses from 846 campus chief executives
- Gallup estimates 95 percent confidence level of margin of error of 3.4 percentage points on overall results, with slightly higher margins for subsets of the survey population.
- Responses were coded to allow for analysis by sector of some questions.
- Complete anonymity for individuals and institutions.

## Key Findings

- Half of presidents say it is appropriate for U.S. government to report data on career and other outcomes of graduates. Just 13% are confident data will be accurately collected.
- Many more CEOs say institutions *should* report various student outcomes than say they actually do.
- Half of presidents are confident about sustainability of their institution's financial model over the next 10 years.
- 7 in 10 presidents agree that colleges must improve how they respond to allegations of sexual assault on campus.
- Majority of presidents (90 percent) say state of race relations on campus is generally good.

# Student Outcomes and the Feds



**Significant variation by sector/segment  
view of “appropriateness” of federal role:**

	All	Public	Private Nonprofit	For-Profit
Strongly Agree/Agree	50%	60%	34%	63%
Disagree/ Strongly Disagree	27%	18%	38%	16%

- 9% of private college leaders and 16% of public CEOs said government has a "good chance" of collecting and reporting accurately on higher education outcomes.

## What Data Are Available – and Should Be

	<b>% of Presidents Who Say Data Are Available Now</b>	<b>% of Presidents Who Say Data Should Be Available</b>
Institution-level loan debt	61%	78%
Program-level average loan debt	19%	53%
Institution-level job placement rates	58%	80%
Program-level job placement rates	45%	74%
Graduate school enrollment rates	52%	78%
Starting salaries	31%	53%
Annual income 5 years out	9%	38%
Annual income 10 years out	4%	35%
Ways students are living meaningful lives	56%	74%

## Finances and the Future



- **5% strongly agree (17% agree) that 2008 downturn is “effectively over” at their institution; 54% disagree or strongly disagree.**
- **18% agree that "reports that a significant number of higher education institutions are facing existential financial crisis are overblown"; 60 percent disagree.**
- **Six in 10 CEOs confident in "sustainability" of financial model over five years; 50% over 10 years. For-profit leaders most optimistic (70%), then public master's and doctoral institutions (56 and 53%), community college presidents (44%) and private baccalaureate colleges (45%).**
- **53% of presidents say new spending will come from reallocated \$\$ rather than increase in net revenue.**

# How Presidents Judge Race Relations

	On Own Campus	In Higher Ed Generally
Excellent	30%	2%
Good	60%	51%
Fair	10%	45%
Poor	1%	3%



**Dezha** @Dezha\_Marshae · Nov 19

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[#BBUM](#) involuntarily being a representation of an entire community in a class where I'm the only person of color

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# Scrutiny for Sexual Assault Policies

- **95 percent** of presidents agree or strongly agree that their institution handles allegations appropriately.
- **73 percent** of public presidents and **66 percent** of private presidents believe higher education generally needs to “improve” its response to sexual assault charges.
- **21 percent** of presidents believe athletes are less likely than other students to be held accountable.

# The Israel Boycott Movement

- 6 percent of presidents favor the stance of the American Studies Association (which has called for a boycott of Israeli universities).
- 18 percent of presidents say it is “generally helpful” for disciplinary groups to share their views on world affairs.



# With Thanks to Supporters

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## More Information

- More about the survey:

<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/survey/federal-accountability-and-financial-pressure-survey-presidents>

- Contact information:

[doug.lederman@insidehighered.com](mailto:doug.lederman@insidehighered.com)

[Scott.jaschik@insidehighered.com](mailto:Scott.jaschik@insidehighered.com)