Brown Opinion Project: March 2022 Poll Results



Methodology

The Brown Opinion Project (BOP) conducted its March 2022 poll from March 2-4. BOP solicited responses from Brown undergraduate students near Faunce Hall, the Circle Dance Statues near Waterman Street, and the World War I arch on Ruth Simmons Quadrangle. BOP representatives asked every person who passed their location if they were interested in taking a quick anonymous poll. Responses were anonymously collected using Google Forms. On March 4, only responses from juniors and seniors were collected in an effort to ensure a representative sample. (Sophomores and first-years were oversampled the prior two days due to their higher prevalence near polling locations.) Over the course of the polling process, we collected 591 total responses from Brown undergraduate students. The margin of error is 4.09% with 95% confidence¹.

Self-reported Demographic Information

The sample of undergraduate students who took the poll is demographically similar to the Brown undergraduate student population. First-years made up 23.01% of the sample, sophomores 32.66%, juniors 24.02%, and seniors 20.30%. The sample was 48.73% female, 47.38% male, 3.38% non-binary, while 0.51% preferred not to indicate their gender. Additionally, 57.70% of respondents identified as white, 30.62% as Asian, 10.49% as Black, 4.74% as non-white Hispanic, 1.35% as Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 1.18% as American Indian/Alaska Native, while 2.03% of respondents preferred not to indicate their race. The percentages for race add up to more than 100 percent because some respondents selected more than one race/ethnicity.

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^{&#}x27;We follow the Pew Research Center in adjusting our margin of error to account for the weighting of survey responses. We calculate the survey's margin of error as SQRT(design effect)*1.96*SQRT((.5*.5) / N). Read more at this link.

Students also indicated their (intended) field of study: 29.44% of respondents identified as Social Science concentrators, 29.27% of respondents identified as Physical Science concentrators, 27.92% of respondents identified as Life Science concentrators, 10.83% of respondents identified as Arts and Humanities concentrators, 2.03% of respondents are undecided, and 0.51% of respondents identified as having independent concentrations. 55.33% of students indicated no receipt of financial aid, 31.64% indicated that they received grants covering some costs, and 10.49% received grants covering all costs, while 0.85% were unsure and 1.69% preferred not to answer. Finally, 82.91% of the sample reported applying to Brown as a domestic applicant, 14.72% reported applying as an international applicant, while 1.69% were unsure and 0.68% preferred not to answer.

Results²

1) Should Brown require applicants to submit a standardized test score (ACT/SAT)?

Yes: 27.44% No: 51.62%

Unsure: 19.80%

Prefer not to answer: 1.14%

2) Do you believe that Brown should maintain preferential admissions for children of alumni?

Yes: 13.02% No: 71.16% Unsure: 15.35%

Prefer not to answer: 0.48%

3) Have you ever checked out a physical book from a Brown library?

Yes: 41.49% No: 57.99% Unsure: 0.38%

Prefer not to answer: 0.13%

² The results reported here are weighted by class year. There was a large enough deviation between the sample and the assumed grade distribution that we felt it necessary to report weighted averages, especially given the class-sensitive nature of some questions. Notably, weighting changed the percentages very little with the exception of question number four. The raw data is available here.

4) What do you call the dorms located on Vartan Gregorian Quad?

Greg: 34.83%

New Dorm: 49.08%

Other: 4.21% Unsure: 10.28%

Prefer not to answer: 1.06%

5) Which Covid-19 restrictions do you think should be in place right now?

Required masking in class: 64.22%

Required masking in student spaces (Faunce, libraries, dining halls, etc.): 35.63%

Mandatory Covid-19 testing: 48.4%

None of the above: 20.04%

Unsure: 4.8%

Prefer not to answer: 0.75%

6) When was the last time you had sex?

Less than one week ago: 30.25% Less than one month ago: 16.18%

Less than six months ago: 12.55% More than six months ago: 7.18%

I've never had sex: 23.62%

Unsure: 1.21%

Prefer not to answer: 9.01%

7) Which of the following drugs have you used recreationally in the past six months?

Alcohol: 77.58% Cocaine: 6.52%

Inhalants (Poppers/Whip-its): 6.14%

LSD (Acid): 3.94% Marijuana: 49.82%

MDMA (Ecstasy/Molly): 1.89%

Nicotine: 18.70%

Psilocybin (Psychedelic mushrooms): 9.05%

None of the above: 15.93%

Unsure: 0.35%

Prefer not to answer: 2.74%

8) If economic sanctions do not stop Russian military actions in Ukraine, would you favor or oppose the US taking military action to stop them?

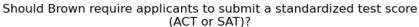
Favor 22.80% Oppose: 31.82% Unsure: 42.04%

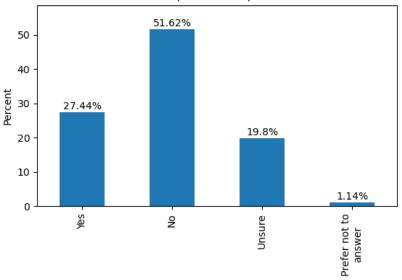
Prefer not to answer: 3.33%

Raw anonymized data is available here: pollo3 recode

If you have questions about our results or methodology, please reach out to brownopinionproject@brown.edu. Thanks for reading!

Data Visualizations^{3 4}



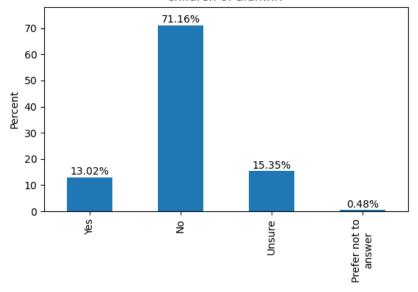


³ These are also weighted by class year.

⁴ Data visualization number five uses data from BOP's October 2021 poll.

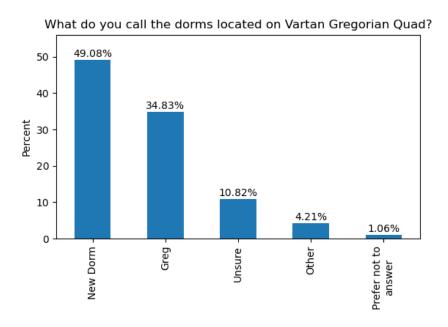
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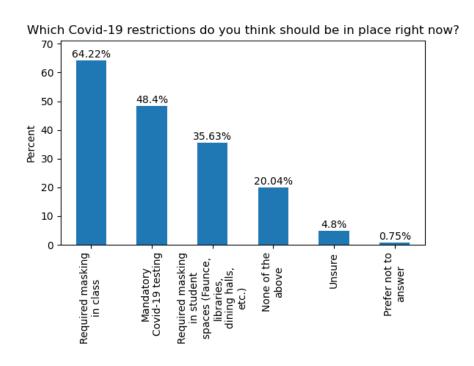
Do you believe that Brown should maintain preferential admissions for children of alumni?



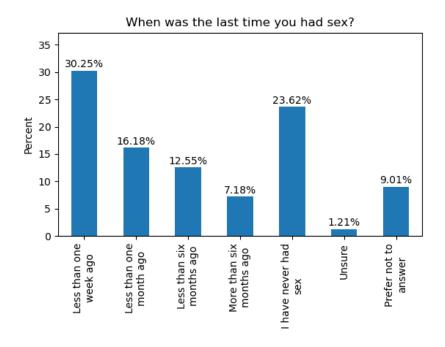
Have you ever checked out a physical book from a Brown library? 60 57.99% 50 41.49% 40 Percent 30 20 10 0.38% 0.13% 0 Prefer not to answer Yes -2 Unsure

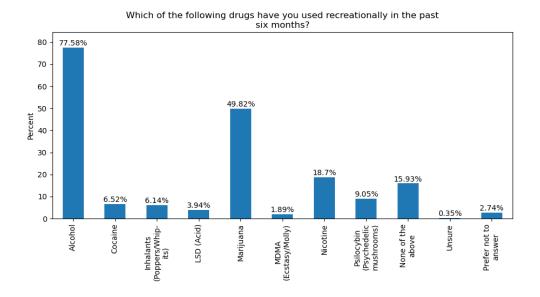
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6.





If economic sanctions do not stop Russian military actions in Ukraine, would you favor or oppose the US taking military action to stop them?

