The percentage of freshmen who identify as Catholic on their DePaul application has declined the past 10 years, down 19 percentage points from 2007 to 2017. DePaul enrolled 1,085 Catholic freshmen in 2007, compared with 715 in 2017, (a 34 percent decline). In contrast, DePaul enrolled almost the same number of total freshmen in 2007 and 2017.

Not all freshmen report a religious affiliation. Over time, about three quarters of freshmen chose to report a religion and the proportion of freshmen reporting “none” has grown from 4 to 22 percent from 2007 to 2017.

Although the percent of freshmen identifying as Catholic has declined, 56 percent of all freshmen say their religious identity is important or very important to them. Thirty-six percent of freshmen describe themselves as “spiritual but not religious” and another 31 percent describe themselves as “religious and spiritual.”

Source: IRMA Admission Files. Survey data are taken from the Mission and Values Survey administered by IRMA during the 2013/14 and 2014/15 academic years. Data in this report are combined across years. For full survey report, click here. For more information, contact Liz Sanders at liz.sanders@depaul.edu. For more information about the survey report or access, contact Joe Filkins at jfilikins@depaul.edu.