
NSSE 2025

High-Impact Practices

University of Houston-Clear Lake

About Your High-Impact Practices Report

Due to their positive associations with student learning and retention, certain undergraduate opportunities are designated "high-impact." High-Impact Practices (HIPs) share several traits: They demand considerable time and effort, facilitate learning outside of the classroom, require meaningful interactions with faculty and students, encourage collaboration with diverse others, and provide frequent and substantive feedback. As a result, participation in these practices has the potential to be very influential and rewarding (Kilgo et al., 2015; Kuh, 2008). NSSE founding director George Kuh recommends that institutions should aspire for all students to participate in at least two HIPs over the course of their undergraduate experience—one during the first year and one in the context of their major (NSSE, 2007).

NSSE asks students about their participation in the six HIPs shown in the box at right. Unlike most questions on the NSSE survey, the HIP questions are not limited to the current school year. Thus, senior students' responses include participation from prior years.

High-Impact Practices in NSSE

Service-Learning

Courses that included a community-based project

Learning Community

Formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together

Research with Faculty

Work with a faculty member on a research project

Internship or Field Experience

Internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement

Study Abroad

Culminating Senior Experience

Capstone course, senior project or thesis, portfolio, recital, comprehensive exam, etc.

Report Sections

Participation Comparisons (p. 3)

Displays HIP participation for your students compared with that of students at your comparison group institutions. Two views present insights into your students' HIP participation:

Overall HIP Participation

Displays the percentage of students who participated in one HIP and in two or more HIPs, relative to those at your comparison group institutions.

Statistical Comparisons

Comparisons of participation in each HIP and overall for your students relative to those at comparison group institutions, with tests of significance and effect sizes.

Response Detail (pp. 4-5)

Provides complete response frequencies for the relevant HIP questions for your students and those at your comparison group institutions. First-year results include a summary of their expectations for future HIP participation.

Participation by Student Social Identities and Experiences (p. 6-End)

Displays your students' participation in each HIP by selected student social identities and experiences.

Interpreting Comparisons

HIP participation varies more among students within an institution than it does between institutions, like many experiences and outcomes in higher education. As a result, focusing attention on overall participation rates amounts to examining the tip of the iceberg. It is equally important to understand how student engagement (including HIP participation) varies *within* your institution. The table beginning on page 6 provides an initial look at how HIP participation varies by selected student social identities and experiences. Your NSSE Tableau dashboard and Report Builder (released in the fall) offer further perspectives on internal variation to help you investigate your students' HIP participation in depth.

Kilgo, C. A., Sheets, J. K. E., & Pascarella, E. T. (2015). The link between high-impact practices and student learning: Some longitudinal evidence. *Higher Education*, 69, 509-525.

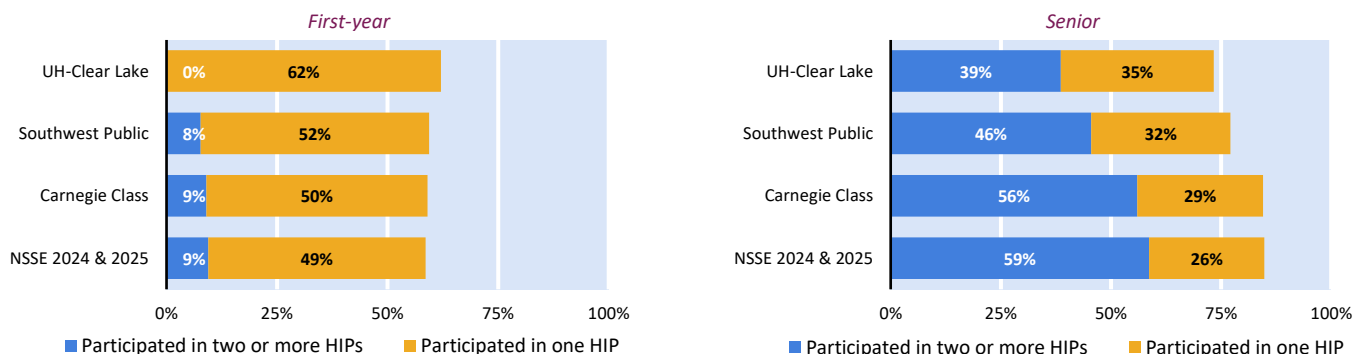
Kuh, G. D. (2008). *High-impact educational practices: What they are, who has access to them, and why they matter*. Association of American Colleges and Universities.

National Survey of Student Engagement (2007). *Experiences that matter: Enhancing student learning and success—Annual Report 2007*. Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research.

Rocconi, L.M., & Gonyea, R.M. (2018). Contextualizing effect sizes in the National Survey of Student Engagement: An empirical analysis. *Research & Practice in Assessment*, 13 (Summer/Fall), pp. 22-38.

Overall HIP Participation

The figures below display the level of participation of students in High-Impact Practices. Both figures include participation in service-learning, learning communities, and research with faculty. The senior figure also includes participation in internships or field experiences, study abroad, and culminating senior experiences. The first segment in each bar shows the percentage who participated in at least two HIPs, and the full bar (both colors) represents the percentage who participated in at least one.



Statistical Comparisons

The table below displays the percentage of your students who participated in a given High-Impact Practice, including the percentage who participated in at least one or in two or more HIPs. It also graphs the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison groups. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is compared to the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is compared to the comparison group. (Comparison group percentages appear on the following pages.)

Your students' participation compared with:

	UH-Clear Lake	Southwest Public		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2024 & 2025	
	%	Difference ^a	ES ^b	Difference ^a	ES ^b	Difference ^a	ES ^b
First-year							
Service-Learning	62	+5	.11	+7	.13	+8	.15
Learning Community	0	-8	-.56	-10	-.65	-10	-.66
Research with Faculty	0	-5	-.45	-5	-.45	-5	-.47
Participated in at least one	62	+3	.05	+3	.06	+3	.07
Participated in two or more	0	-8	-.56	-9	-.61	-9	-.62
Senior							
Service-Learning	49	-7	-.14	-18	-.37	-12	-.25
Learning Community	13	-4	-.12	-8	-.21	-9	-.24
Research with Faculty	15	-3	-.07	-4	-.10	-8	-.21
Internship or Field Exp.	33	-2	-.05	-11	-.23	-15	-.30
Study Abroad	5	-2	-.08	-5	-.20	-7	-.25
Culminating Senior Exp.	21	-11	-.26	-22	-.48	-24	-.51
Participated in at least one	73	-4	-.09	-11	-.28	-11	-.28
Participated in two or more	39	-7	-.14	-17	-.35	-20	-.40

a. Percentage point differences (institution – comp. group) rounded to whole numbers. Values less than one may not display a bar and may be shown as +0 or -0.

b. Cohen's *h* (standardized difference between two proportions). Effect sizes indicate the practical importance of observed differences. For service-learning, internships, study abroad, and culminating senior experiences, an ES of about .2 may be considered small, .5 medium, and .8 large. For learning community and research with faculty, an ES of about .1 may be considered small, .3 medium, and .5 large (Rocconi & Gonyea, 2018).

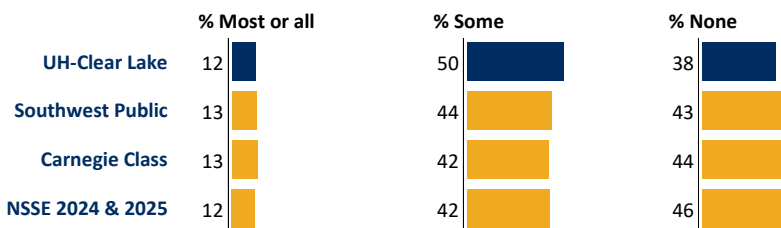
p* < .05, *p* < .01, ****p* < .001 (z-test comparing participation rates).

Note: Participation includes the percentage of students who responded "done or in progress" except for service-learning which is the percentage who responded that at least "some" courses included a community-based project. Results are unweighted, except for overall percentages which are weighted by sex and enrollment status.

First-year students

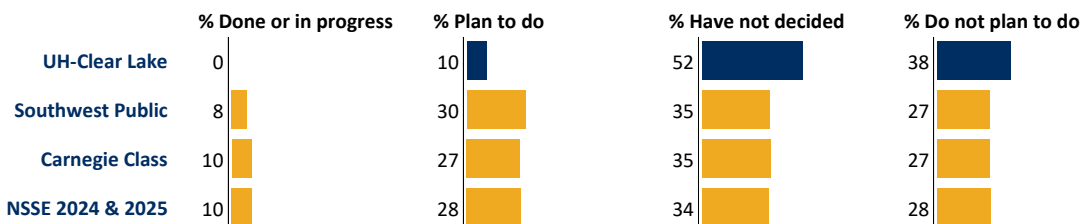
Service-Learning

About how many of your courses at this institution have included a community-based project (service-learning)?



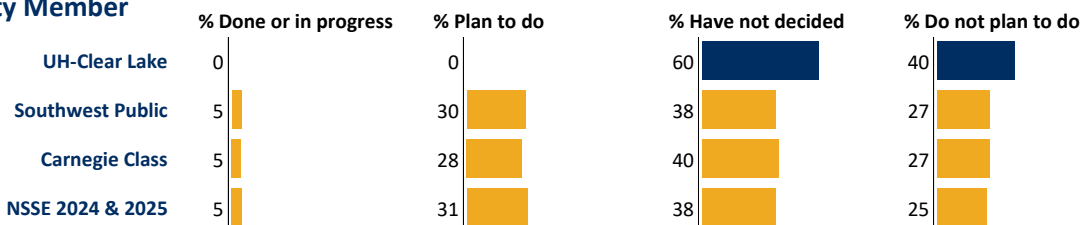
Learning Community

Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together.



Research with a Faculty Member

Work with a faculty member on a research project.



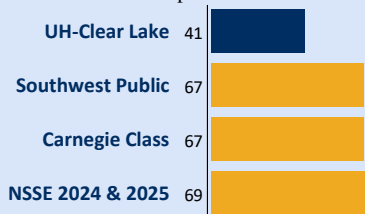
Plans to Participate^a

Knowing whether first-year students *plan* to participate in upper-division HIPs can reveal insights about HIP demand, awareness of opportunities, and the clarity of institutional information. These results might also point to topics for additional exploration, such as what contributes to students' expectations, their assumptions about who can participate, or why other students are undecided or have no plans to participate in the activity.

Percentage responding "Plan to do"

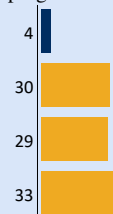
Internship or Field Experience

Participate in an internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement.



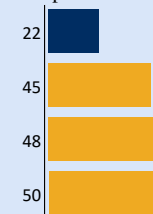
Study Abroad

Participate in a study abroad program.



Culminating Senior Experience

Complete a culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, portfolio, recital, comprehensive exam, etc.).



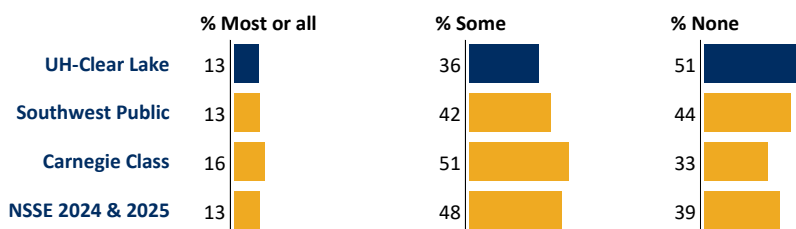
a. Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* for details on the other response options.

Note: Results are unweighted, except for overall percentages which are weighted by sex and enrollment status.

Seniors

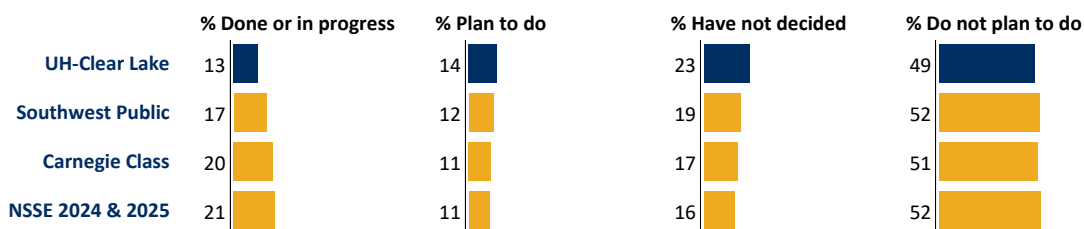
Service-Learning

About how many of your courses at this institution have included a community-based project (service-learning)?



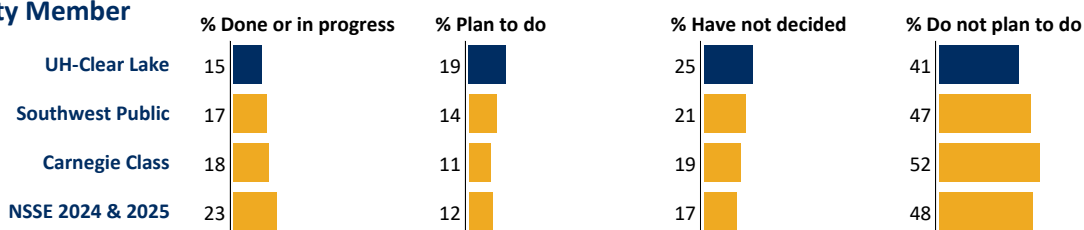
Learning Community

Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together.



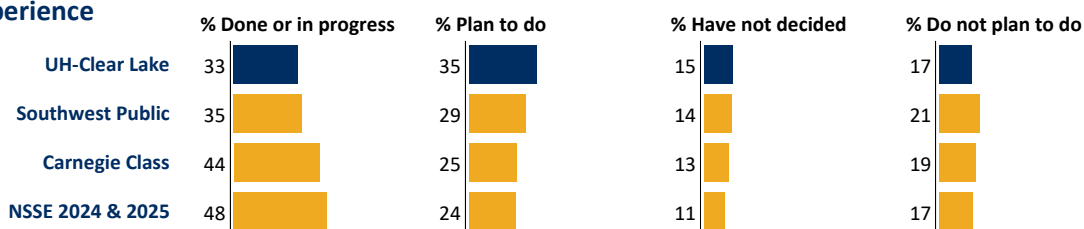
Research with a Faculty Member

Work with a faculty member on a research project.



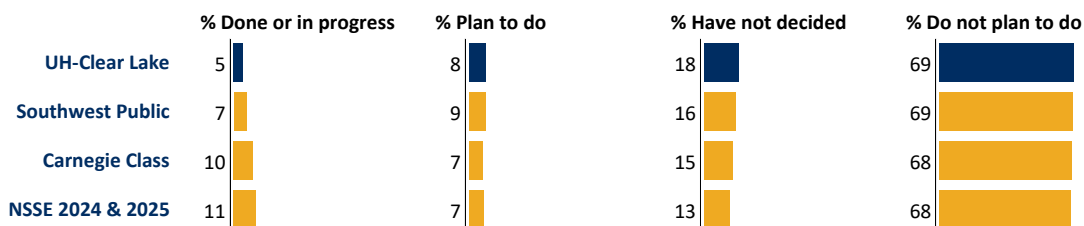
Internship or Field Experience

Participate in an internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement.



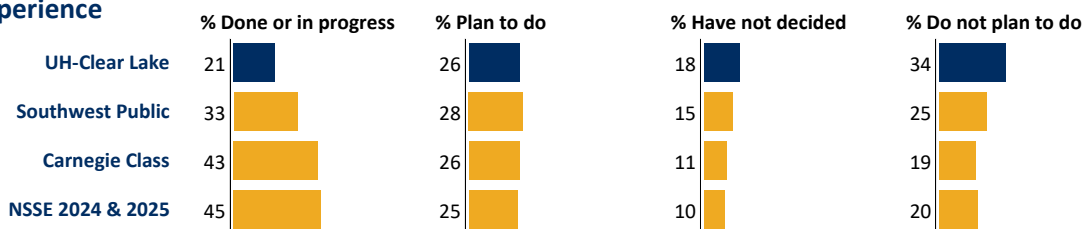
Study Abroad

Participate in a study abroad program.



Culminating Senior Experience

Complete a culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, portfolio, recital, comprehensive exam, etc.).



Note: Results are unweighted, except for overall percentages which are weighted by sex and enrollment status.

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Disaggregated Results

University of Houston-Clear Lake

Participation in High-Impact Practices by Student Social Identities and Experiences

Examining participation rates for different groups offers insight into how engagement varies within your student population. The table below displays participation in each HIP by selected social identities and experiences. Details include the number of HIP participants (N), the number within the group who responded to the item (total), and the group participation percentage (%).

	First-year						Senior											
	Service-Learning		Learning Community		Research with Faculty		Service-Learning		Learning Community		Research with Faculty		Internship or Field Experience		Study Abroad		Culminating Senior Experience	
Major category ^a	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Arts & humanities	0/0		0/0		0/0		7/19	37	2/19	11	2/19	11	10/19	53	0/19	0	5/19	26
Bio. sci., agric., and natural res.	2/2	100	0/2	0	0/2	0	13/24	54	4/24	17	10/24	42	6/24	25	2/24	8	5/24	21
Physical sci., math, computer sci.	0/0		0/0		0/0		5/22	23	4/22	18	4/22	18	6/22	27	1/22	5	7/22	32
Social sciences	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	17/30	57	3/32	9	3/32	9	4/31	13	1/32	3	2/32	6
Business	2/5	40	0/5	0	0/5	0	10/22	45	2/22	9	1/22	5	6/22	27	0/22	0	7/22	32
Communications, media, public rel.	0/0		0/0		0/0		3/8	38	0/8	0	0/8	0	5/8	63	1/8	13	3/8	38
Education	2/4	50	0/4	0	0/4	0	16/24	67	3/25	12	1/24	4	15/25	60	2/25	8	2/25	8
Engineering	1/2	50	0/2	0	0/2	0	7/16	44	3/16	19	2/16	13	7/16	44	2/16	13	6/16	38
Health professions	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	9/16	56	1/16	6	2/16	13	4/16	25	1/16	6	1/16	6
Social service professions	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	6/9	67	1/9	11	3/9	33	3/9	33	0/9	0	2/8	25
Undecided/undeclared	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Transfer status	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Started here	10/16	63	0/16	0	0/16	0	18/30	60	5/31	16	8/31	26	9/31	29	3/31	10	8/31	26
Started elsewhere	0/0		0/0		0/0		82/170	48	22/172	13	23/171	13	57/171	33	7/172	4	34/171	20
Enrollment status ^b	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Not full-time	1/4	25	0/4	0	0/4	0	53/104	51	13/108	12	14/107	13	34/107	32	6/108	6	19/107	18
Full-time	9/13	69	0/13	0	0/13	0	48/101	48	14/101	14	17/101	17	36/101	36	4/101	4	24/101	24
First-generation ^c	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Continuing generation	4/7	57	0/7	0	0/7	0	40/77	52	11/78	14	15/78	19	24/77	31	4/78	5	10/77	13
First-generation	5/7	71	0/7	0	0/7	0	58/117	50	14/118	12	15/117	13	41/118	35	5/118	4	30/118	25
I prefer not to respond	1/2	50	0/2	0	0/2	0	2/6	33	2/7	29	1/7	14	2/7	29	1/7	14	2/7	29
Race/ethnicity ^d	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Asian	0/2	0	0/2	0	0/2	0	14/20	70	2/20	10	2/20	10	7/20	35	3/20	15	2/20	10
Black or African American	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	10/20	50	6/20	30	3/20	15	4/20	20	1/20	5	8/20	40
Hispanic, Latina/o, Latine, or Latinx	4/6	67	0/6	0	0/6	0	44/80	55	10/81	12	7/80	9	30/81	37	2/81	2	16/81	20
Indigenous, American Indian, etc.	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0	2/3	67	2/3	67	0/3	0	1/3	33	0/3	0	0/3	0
Middle Eastern or North African	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0	1/2	50	1/2	50	1/2	50	1/2	50	0/2	0	1/2	50
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0/0		0/0		0/0		2/2	100	0/2	0	0/2	0	1/2	50	0/2	0	0/2	0
White	5/7	71	0/7	0	0/7	0	40/91	44	10/92	11	16/92	17	31/91	34	3/92	3	15/92	16
Another race or ethnicity	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/1	0	0/1	0	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	1/1	100
I prefer not to respond	1/2	50	0/2	0	0/2	0	5/8	63	2/9	22	3/9	33	2/9	22	1/9	11	3/8	38

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	First-year						Senior											
	Service-Learning		Learning Community		Research with Faculty		Service-Learning		Learning Community		Research with Faculty		Internship or Field Experience		Study Abroad		Culminating Senior Experience	
International status	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Not an international student	10/16	63	0/16	0	0/16	0	93/189	49	26/192	14	28/191	15	65/191	34	10/192	5	38/191	20
International student	0/0		0/0		0/0		7/11	64	1/11	9	3/11	27	2/11	18	0/11	0	4/11	36
Gender identity ^d	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Woman	3/6	50	0/6	0	0/6	0	70/131	53	18/133	14	21/132	16	47/132	36	7/133	5	24/133	18
Man	6/8	75	0/8	0	0/8	0	25/58	43	7/58	12	7/58	12	17/58	29	2/58	3	15/57	26
Trans/Transgender	1/2	50	0/2	0	0/2	0	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0
Agender or gender neutral	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Demigender	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Genderqueer, non-binary, etc.	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0
Two-spirit	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Cis/Cisgender	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	5/16	31	0/17	0	3/17	18	4/17	24	0/17	0	3/17	18
Questioning or unsure	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Another gender identity	0/0		0/0		0/0		2/5	40	0/5	0	0/5	0	2/5	40	0/5	0	2/5	40
I prefer not to respond	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	3/6	50	2/7	29	3/7	43	2/7	29	1/7	14	3/7	43
Sexual orientation ^d	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Straight or heterosexual	7/10	70	0/10	0	0/10	0	80/156	51	23/157	15	26/156	17	52/157	33	6/157	4	32/156	21
Bisexual	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	15/26	58	2/26	8	2/26	8	10/26	38	1/26	4	5/26	19
Lesbian	0/0		0/0		0/0		1/3	33	0/3	0	0/3	0	2/3	67	0/3	0	0/3	0
Gay	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0	1/3	33	0/3	0	0/3	0	1/3	33	0/3	0	1/3	33
Queer	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/3	0	0/3	0	0/3	0	2/3	67	1/3	33	2/3	67
Pansexual or polysexual	0/0		0/0		0/0		4/6	67	0/6	0	0/6	0	3/6	50	1/6	17	0/6	0
Ace, gray, or asexual	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Demisexual	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Questioning or unsure	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0	0/3	0	1/3	33	0/3	0	2/3	67	0/3	0	2/3	67
Another sexual orientation	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/1	0	0/1	0	0/1	0	1/1	100	0/1	0	1/1	100
I prefer not to respond	2/3	67	0/3	0	0/3	0	3/9	33	2/11	18	4/11	36	2/10	20	1/11	9	3/11	27
Age ^b	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
FY 21+, Seniors 25+	2/3	67	0/3	0	0/3	0	65/120	54	12/123	10	17/122	14	33/122	27	3/123	2	23/122	19
FY < 21, Seniors < 25	8/14	57	0/14	0	0/14	0	36/85	42	15/86	17	14/86	16	37/86	43	7/86	8	20/86	23

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	First-year						Senior											
	Service-Learning		Learning Community		Research with Faculty		Service-Learning		Learning Community		Research with Faculty		Internship or Field Experience		Study Abroad		Culminating Senior Experience	
Disability status ^d	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Sensory disability	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/2	0	1/2	50	1/2	50	1/2	50	1/2	50	2/2	100
Physical disability	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Mental health or develop. disability	2/2	100	0/2	0	0/2	0	10/24	42	4/24	17	5/24	21	11/24	46	1/24	4	5/24	21
Another disability or condition	0/0		0/0		0/0		1/2	50	0/2	0	0/2	0	1/2	50	0/2	0	0/2	0
Multiple types of disab. or cond.	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	9/15	60	1/15	7	0/15	0	2/15	13	0/15	0	2/15	13
No disability or condition	7/10	70	0/10	0	0/10	0	68/139	49	18/142	13	18/142	13	47/141	33	8/142	6	27/142	19
I prefer not to respond	0/0		0/0		0/0		10/15	67	3/15	20	6/15	40	4/15	27	0/0		5/14	36
Residence	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Not on campus	9/15	60	0/15	0	0/15	0	98/195	50	25/198	13	30/197	15	66/197	34	9/198	5	41/197	21
On campus	1/1	100	0/1	0	0/1	0	2/5	40	2/5	40	1/5	20	1/5	20	1/5	20	1/5	20
Athlete status	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	0	N/total	%	N/total	0	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Not an athlete	10/16	63	0/16	0	0/16	0	99/199	50	27/202	13	31/201	15	67/201	33	10/202	5	42/201	21
Student-athlete	0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0		0/0	
Greek membership	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Not a member	10/16	63	0/16	0	0/16	0	95/189	50	24/191	13	29/190	15	62/191	32	8/191	4	39/190	21
Member	0/0		0/0		0/0		4/7	57	1/8	13	2/8	25	4/7	57	2/8	25	1/8	13
Military status	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
No military service	10/16	63	0/16	0	0/16	0	96/194	49	26/196	13	31/195	16	64/195	33	10/196	5	40/195	21
Current or former military service	0/0		0/0		0/0		4/6	67	1/7	14	0/7	0	3/7	43	0/7	0	2/7	29
Satisfaction ^e	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%	N/total	%
Fair or poor	2/3	67	0/3	0	0/3	0	21/40	53	5/40	13	5/39	13	13/40	33	1/40	3	9/39	23
Good or excellent	8/14	57	0/14	0	0/14	0	80/164	49	22/167	13	26/167	16	56/166	34	9/167	5	34/167	20
Overall	10/17	62	0/17	0	0/17	0	101/205	49	27/209	13	31/208	15	70/208	33	10/209	5	43/208	21

Notes: Results are of those responding "done or in progress" except for service-learning which is the percentage responding that at least "some" courses included a community-based project. Results are unweighted, except for overall percentages which are weighted by sex and enrollment status if applicable. Percentages are within-group and can be read, for example, "X% of business major respondents participated in a learning community."

a. NSSE's default categories, based on first major if more than one was reported. Customizable major categories are available in your NSSE Tableau dashboards and Report Builder (released in the fall). Excludes majors categorized as "all other."

b. Institution-reported variable.

c. No parent, guardian, or person who raised you holds a bachelor's degree.

d. Select-all-that-apply item; students may be represented in more than one category.

e. Based on responses to "How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?"