



# National Survey of Student Engagement

## Grand Results

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BCSSE 2008-NSSE 2009 Respondent Characteristics  
October 2009

This report contains the overall results for all institutions that participated in BCSSE 2008 and NSSE 2009. Respondents to either survey that were not at an institution that did both surveys, are not included in any of these results. The *BCSSE 2008-NSSE 2009 Combined Report* contains two sections, cross-sectional results and longitudinal results. The *cross-sectional* results include frequencies from *all* respondents at institutions that participated in both BCSSE and NSSE. For comparison purposes, only similar items on both instruments are included in this section (there were 23 items in the BCSSE survey identical or similar to items in the NSSE survey). Using all the BCSSE and NSSE data provides the best estimates of incoming first-year student characteristics and their end-of-year engagement at BCSSE-NSSE institutions.

The *longitudinal* results in your BCSSE08-NSSE09 Combined Report already included comparative results with similar institutions with same Carnegie classification. This report includes the overall comparative results for the respondent characteristics, the cross-sectional frequencies, and the longitudinal results for all BCSSE-NSSE institutions where data could be matched at the student level.

### BCSSE 2008 - NSSE 2009 Samples

	<b>Count</b>
BCSSE 2008 respondents (cross-sectional data)	56,167
First-year students included in NSSE population file	n/a
BCSSE respondents identified in the NSSE population file	n/a
BCSSE 2008 respondents invited to participate in NSSE 2009	n/a
NSSE 2009 first-year respondents	24,423
BCSSE 2008 - NSSE 2009 matched respondents (longitudinal data)	14,307

<b>Respondent Characteristics</b>	<b>Cross-Sectional<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>Longitudinal</b>
	<b>BCSSE</b>	<b>NSSE</b>	<b>BCSSE-NSSE<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	58%	65%	68%
Male	42%	35%	32%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Am. Indian/Native American	1%	1%	1%
Asian/Asian Am./Pacific Isl.	5%	6%	5%
Black/African American	10%	9%	7%
White (non-Hispanic)	72%	70%	74%
Mexican/Mexican American	2%	2%	2%
Puerto Rican	1%	1%	1%
Other Hispanic/Latino	3%	3%	2%
Multiracial	3%	3%	3%
Other	1%	2%	1%
I prefer not to respond	3%	5%	5%
<b>Enrollment Status</b>			
Full-time	98%	95%	99%
Less than full-time	2%	5%	1%

<sup>1</sup> Student reported characteristics for respondents enrolled at institutions that participated in both BCSSE 2008 and NSSE 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Student reported characteristics for matched students who completed both BCSSE 2008 and NSSE 2009.



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BCSSE 2008-NSSE 2009 Combined Report  
Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal Results  
October 2009



The cross-sectional results are based on *all* first-year student respondents from institutions that participated in BCSSE 2008 and NSSE 2009 administrations (in contrast to the longitudinal results which contain only *matched* data). These data provide the best estimates of the first-year students' pre-college characteristics and their engagement during the first year. By presenting BCSSE-NSSE cross-sectional results side-by-side, you can identify areas of correspondence as well as gaps in engagement to develop a better understanding of the first-year student experience.

**Variables**

The items from the BCSSE and NSSE surveys appear in the left column of the report with same or similar wording as they appear on the instruments.

**Response Options**

Response options presented on the survey were collapsed into fewer categories for reporting purposes.

**Data Source**

These columns present the overall BCSSE 2008 frequencies and NSSE 2009 frequencies.

*How many hours in a typical 7-day week doing each of the following?*

	BCSSE				NSSE	
	High School		Expected FY		First Year	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Preparing for class (studying, doing homework, rehearsing, etc.)						
None	14	4	0	0	2	1
1-10	198	57	62	18	109	52
11-20	90	26	162	47	69	33
More than 20	42	12	121	35	29	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>100</b>

**Count**

The actual number of students who answered within each response category.

**Column Percentage (%)**

The percentage of students responding to the particular option in each question.



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Cross-Sectional Results  
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<i>How many hours in a typical 7-day week doing each of the following?</i>		BCSSE <sup>1</sup>				NSSE	
		High School		Expected FY		First Year	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Preparing for class (studying, doing homework, rehearsing, etc.)	None	1,451	3	77	0	111	1
	1-10	40,707	71	12,013	21	8,095	37
	11-20	11,972	21	29,534	52	9,136	42
	More than 20	3,524	6	15,265	27	4,611	21
	Total	57,654	100	56,889	100	21,953	100
Working for pay	No	17,713	31	14,959	26	11,378	52
	Yes	39,887	69	41,845	74	10,530	48
	Total	57,600	100	56,804	100	21,908	100
Participating in co-curricular activities (arts, clubs, athletics, etc.)	None	5,386	9	3,651	6	7,812	36
	1-10	23,245	40	30,271	53	9,549	44
	11-20	19,057	33	17,915	31	3,167	14
	More than 20	9,975	17	5,040	9	1,419	6
	Total	57,663	100	56,877	100	21,947	100
Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, etc.)	None	245	0	527	1	206	1
	1-10	26,174	45	29,963	53	10,766	49
	11-20	20,420	35	20,835	37	7,796	36
	More than 20	10,812	19	5,579	10	3,065	14
	Total	57,651	100	56,904	100	21,833	100
<i>How often did you do or expect to do each of the following?</i>							
Ask questions in class or contribute to class discussions	Never/Sometimes	14,687	26	12,304	22	8,854	37
	Often/Very often	42,852	74	44,594	78	15,323	63
	Total	57,539	100	56,898	100	24,177	100
Make a class presentation	Never/Sometimes	28,103	49	21,925	39	15,765	65
	Often/Very often	29,350	51	34,853	61	8,462	35
	Total	57,453	100	56,778	100	24,227	100
Come to class without completing readings or assignments	Never/Sometimes	51,943	90			20,003	83
	Often/Very often	5,496	10			4,213	17
	Total	57,439	100			24,216	100
Discuss grades or assignments with a teacher/instructor	Never/Sometimes	27,421	48	18,947	33	10,682	46
	Often/Very often	29,847	52	37,843	67	12,518	54
	Total	57,268	100	56,790	100	23,200	100
Work with other students on projects <b>during class</b>	Never/Sometimes	20,570	36	24,424	43	13,503	56
	Often/Very often	36,820	64	32,307	57	10,728	44
	Total	57,390	100	56,731	100	24,231	100

<sup>1</sup> Blank cells indicate BCSSE items with no similar item on NSSE.

<i>How often did you do or expect to do each of the following?</i>		BCSSE <sup>1</sup>				NSSE	
		High School		Expected FY		First Year	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Work with classmates <b>outside of class</b> to prepare class assignments	Never/Sometimes	39,843	69	16,591	29	13,452	55
	Often/Very often	17,610	31	40,223	71	10,836	45
	Total	57,453	100	56,814	100	24,288	100
Prepare two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	Never/Sometimes	31,509	55			10,493	43
	Often/Very often	25,833	45			13,646	57
	Total	57,342	100			24,139	100
Have serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own.	Never/Sometimes	28,479	50	19,540	35	10,784	47
	Often/Very often	28,798	50	36,970	65	12,081	53
	Total	57,277	100	56,510	100	22,865	100
Discuss ideas from your readings or classes with teacher/faculty members outside of class	Never/Sometimes	42,072	74	29,845	53	18,174	78
	Often/Very often	15,139	26	26,953	47	5,047	22
	Total	57,211	100	56,798	100	23,221	100
Discuss ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, etc.)	Never/Sometimes	31,300	55	21,989	39	9,221	40
	Often/Very often	25,980	45	34,584	61	13,606	60
	Total	57,280	100	56,573	100	22,827	100
Talked with a counselor, teacher, or other staff member about college or career plans	Never/Sometimes	25,177	44			15,157	65
	Often/Very often	32,090	56			8,020	35
	Total	57,267	100			23,177	100
Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of relig. beliefs, pol. opinions, or values	Never/Sometimes	28,280	49			9,513	42
	Often/Very often	28,897	51			13,370	58
	Total	57,177	100			22,883	100
Work on a paper or project that requires integrating ideas or information from various sources	Never/Sometimes			5,823	10	4,725	20
	Often/Very often			50,971	90	19,501	80
	Total			56,794	100	24,226	100
Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	Never/Sometimes			13,466	24	10,328	45
	Often/Very often			43,321	76	12,794	55
	Total			56,787	100	23,122	100
Receive prompt feedback from faculty on your academic performance (written or oral)	Never/Sometimes			18,513	33	8,887	39
	Often/Very often			38,140	67	13,945	61
	Total			56,653	100	22,832	100
Work with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc)	Never/Sometimes			31,263	55	18,939	83
	Often/Very often			25,333	45	3,865	17
	Total			56,596	100	22,804	100
Try to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	Never/Sometimes			12,187	22	8,249	37
	Often/Very often			44,345	78	14,112	63
	Total			56,532	100	22,361	100
Learn something that changes the way you understand an issue or idea	Never/Sometimes			10,720	19	7,400	33
	Often/Very often			45,815	81	15,005	67
	Total			56,535	100	22,405	100
<b>Grades</b>	A or A-	27,220	47	23,636	42	8,784	41
	B or B+	23,943	42	27,364	49	8,401	40
	B- or lower	6,264	11	4,747	9	4,034	19
	Total	57,427	100	55,747	100	21,219	100

<sup>1</sup> Blank cells indicate BCSSE items with no similar item on NSSE.

These longitudinal results contain matched data from all first-year students who completed *both* the BCSSE 2008 and NSSE 2009 surveys. The purpose of this report is to analyze the relationships between incoming student characteristics and their reported engagement near the end of their first year. With longitudinal data, you can more effectively identify how students with varying levels of pre-college characteristics were actually engaged during their first year of college.

Six BCSSE scales are categorized into quartile ranges based on the lower 25 percent (Low25), the middle 50 percent (Mid50), and the upper 25 percent (Top25) of respondents.

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### **BCSSE Scales**

The following BCSSE scales were constructed by converting the responses for each item to a 0-10 range. A mean scale score was then calculated for each student. Below is a brief description of each scale with the component BCSSE items in parentheses.

<i>High School Academic Engagement</i>	Student engagement in educationally relevant activities during the last year of high school. (hreadasg, hwrite5, hwrite5m, hacadpr, hclquest, hclprese, hfacgrad, hclassgr, hoccgrp, hrewropa, hfacidea, hoocidea)
<i>Expected Academic Engagement</i>	Expected engagement in educationally relevant behaviors during the first year of college. (cacadpr, cclquest, cclprese, cfacgrad, cclassgr, coccgrp, cfacidea, coocidea)
<i>Expected Academic Perseverance</i>	Student certainty that they will persist in the face of academic adversity. (cotherint, cfindinfo, ccourdis, caskinst, cfinish, cstaypos)
<i>Expected Academic Difficulty</i>	Expected academic difficulty during the first year of college. (clearnma, cmantime, cgethelp, cintfac)
<i>Perceived Academic Preparation</i>	Student perception of their academic preparation. (cgnwrite, cgnspeak, cgnanaly, cgnquant, cgncompt, cgnother, cgningq)
<i>Importance of Campus Environment</i>	Student-rated importance that the institution provides a challenging and supportive environment. (cenvscho, cenvsupr, cenvdivr, cenvnaca, cenvsoca, cenveven)

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### **NSSE Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice**

Also included in this report are four of the five NSSE Benchmarks, with the component items in parentheses: <sup>1</sup>

<i>Level of Academic Challenge (adjusted)</i>	Engagement in challenging and intellectually diverse work. (readasgn, writemor, writemid, writesml, analyze, synthesize, evaluate, applying, workhard, acadpr01, envschol)
<i>Active &amp; Collaborative Learning:</i>	Engagement in collaborative learning and learning in different settings. (clquest, clpresen, classgrp, occgrp, tutor, commproj, oocideas)
<i>Student-Faculty Interaction</i>	Student engagement with faculty as instructors, role models, and mentors. (facgrade, facideas, facplans, facfeed, facother, resrch04)
<i>Supportive Campus Environment</i>	Quality of campus environment to support student success. (envsocal, envsuprt, envnacad, envstu, envfac, envadm)

<sup>1</sup> The benchmark "Enriching Educational Experiences" is not included in this section of the report given that it measures the participation in many activities not typically completed by first-year students (internships, capstone courses, study abroad, etc).

**BCSSE Scales by NSSE Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)**

BCSSE Scale	Quartile Range <sup>1</sup>	Level of Academic Challenge All BCSSE08-NSSE09 Data		
		Mean	SD	N
High School Academic Engagement	Low25	48.0	12.9	2019
	Mid50	54.0	12.0	7217
	Top25	60.5	12.4	3980
Expected Academic Engagement	Low25	49.4	12.4	3321
	Mid50	55.2	12.1	6560
	Top25	60.5	12.8	3231
Expected Academic Perseverance	Low25	50.9	12.3	4257
	Mid50	55.2	12.3	5273
	Top25	59.8	13.0	3543
Expected Academic Difficulty	Low25	55.8	13.3	2898
	Mid50	54.8	12.8	6173
	Top25	54.9	13.0	3543
Perceived Academic Preparation	Low25	51.7	12.9	3436
	Mid50	55.4	12.4	7072
	Top25	58.9	13.4	2522
Importance of Campus Environment	Low25	50.4	13.0	1924
	Mid50	54.0	12.4	6400
	Top25	58.3	12.9	4667
All matched BCSSE-NSSE Respondents		55.0	13.0	13331



**BCSSE Scales by NSSE Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)**

BCSSE Scale	Quartile Range <sup>1</sup>	Active and Collaborative Learning		
		All BCSSE08-NSSE09 Data		
		Mean	SD	N
High School Academic Engagement	Low25	35.3	14.6	2172
	Mid50	42.2	14.5	7717
	Top25	50.8	16.6	4232
Expected Academic Engagement	Low25	36.4	13.7	3545
	Mid50	43.7	14.7	7021
	Top25	51.3	17.2	3436
Expected Academic Perseverance	Low25	39.5	14.9	4550
	Mid50	43.7	15.1	5643
	Top25	48.8	17.1	3770
Expected Academic Difficulty	Low25	46.1	16.8	3094
	Mid50	43.5	15.6	6618
	Top25	42.3	15.9	4235
Perceived Academic Preparation	Low25	40.2	15.4	3701
	Mid50	43.7	15.4	7521
	Top25	48.7	17.2	2692
Importance of Campus Environment	Low25	40.0	15.6	2079
	Mid50	42.7	15.1	6837
	Top25	46.6	16.9	4958
All matched BCSSE-NSSE Respondents		43.7	16.0	14239

**BCSSE Scales by NSSE Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)**

BCSSE Scale	Quartile Range <sup>1</sup>	Student-Faculty Interaction All BCSSE08-NSSE09 Data		
		Mean	SD	N
High School Academic Engagement	Low25	27.8	15.2	2038
	Mid50	33.9	15.9	7277
	Top25	43.1	19.3	4003
Expected Academic Engagement	Low25	28.3	14.3	3355
	Mid50	35.3	16.5	6607
	Top25	44.2	19.6	3248
Expected Academic Perseverance	Low25	31.0	15.8	4280
	Mid50	35.6	16.7	5322
	Top25	41.6	19.5	3568
Expected Academic Difficulty	Low25	38.6	19.1	2923
	Mid50	35.4	16.9	6225
	Top25	34.2	17.6	4007
Perceived Academic Preparation	Low25	32.8	16.7	3463
	Mid50	35.5	17.1	7125
	Top25	40.4	19.7	2539
Importance of Campus Environment	Low25	30.9	16.3	1942
	Mid50	34.4	16.8	6451
	Top25	39.5	18.7	4696
All matched BCSSE-NSSE Respondents		35.7	17.7	13435

**BCSSE Scales by NSSE Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)**

BCSSE Scale	Quartile Range <sup>1</sup>	Supportive Campus Environment All BCSSE08-NSSE09 Data		
		Mean	SD	N
High School Academic Engagement	Low25	60.0	17.8	1921
	Mid50	63.4	17.2	6972
	Top25	67.5	18.5	3837
Expected Academic Engagement	Low25	59.6	16.7	3209
	Mid50	64.1	17.3	6332
	Top25	68.8	18.9	3089
Expected Academic Perseverance	Low25	60.0	17.1	4099
	Mid50	64.5	17.0	5092
	Top25	68.6	18.8	3402
Expected Academic Difficulty	Low25	67.3	18.3	2783
	Mid50	64.5	17.1	5951
	Top25	61.3	18.2	3843
Perceived Academic Preparation	Low25	60.7	17.4	3308
	Mid50	64.6	17.3	6817
	Top25	67.5	19.2	2426
Importance of Campus Environment	Low25	58.2	17.3	1855
	Mid50	63.0	17.0	6163
	Top25	68.2	18.3	4493
All matched BCSSE-NSSE Respondents		64.1	17.8	12840