
NSSE 2018 Topical Module Report
Civic Engagement
University of San Francisco

This page intentionally left blank.

About This Topical Module

Adapted from a pilot survey that was developed by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, this module asks students to assess their conflict resolution skills and examines how often students have engaged with local or campus and state/national/global issues. The module complements questions on the core survey about service-learning, community service or volunteer work, and becoming an informed and active citizen. Complementary FSSE set available.

Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'Civic Engagement' column of this report.

Group label	Civic Engagement
Date submitted	5/3/18
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution retained the default comparison group (all module participants).
Group description	All other current- and prior-year (if applicable) NSSE institutions who administered module "Civic Engagement"

Civic Engagement (N=83)

Angelo State University (San Angelo, TX)*	Mount Royal University (Calgary, AB)*
Bellevue University (Bellevue, NE)*	Naropa University (Boulder, CO)
Bishop's University (Sherbrooke, QC)*	Nevada State College (Henderson, NV)
Bridgewater State University (Bridgewater, MA)*	New England College (Henniker, NH)*
Central Michigan University (Mount Pleasant, MI)*	Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)
Clayton State University (Morrow, GA)*	North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC)*
Coppin State University (Baltimore, MD)	North Central College (Naperville, IL)
Eastern Oregon University (La Grande, OR)*	Northeastern Illinois University (Chicago, IL)
Elmhurst College (Elmhurst, IL)	Northeastern State University (Tahlequah, OK)
Flagler College (Saint Augustine, FL)	Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff, AZ)
Framingham State University (Framingham, MA)	Pennsylvania College of Technology (Williamsport, PA)
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)	Prairie View A&M University (Prairie View, TX)*
Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)*	Queens University of Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)
Governors State University (University Park, IL)	Rocky Mountain College (Billings, MT)*
Hiram College (Hiram, OH)*	Rutgers University-Camden (Camden, NJ)
Indiana University East (Richmond, IN)	Saint Louis University (Saint Louis, MO)*
Indiana University South Bend (South Bend, IN)	Sierra Nevada College (Incline Village, NV)
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (Indianapolis, IN)	Southern Arkansas University (Magnolia, AR)
Inter American University of Puerto Rico-Metro Campus (San Juan, PR)	Southern Connecticut State University (New Haven, CT)*
Juniata College (Huntingdon, PA)*	Southwestern Oklahoma State University (Weatherford, OK)
Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, GA)*	St. Catherine University (Saint Paul, MN)*
La Salle University (Philadelphia, PA)*	St. John Fisher College (Rochester, NY)
LaGrange College (Lagrange, GA)	St. Thomas University (Fredericton, NB)*
Meredith College (Raleigh, NC)*	Stockton University (Galloway, NJ)
Methodist College (Peoria, IL)	Suffolk University (Boston, MA)
Metropolitan State University (Saint Paul, MN)*	SUNY College at Plattsburgh (Plattsburgh, NY)*
Metropolitan State University of Denver (Denver, CO)*	Texas A&M University-Central Texas (Killeen, TX)*
Miami University-Hamilton (Hamilton, OH)*	Texas Woman's University (Denton, TX)*
Miami University-Middletown (Middletown, OH)*	Thompson Rivers University (Kamloops, BC)*
Misericordia University (Dallas, PA)*	Trent University (Peterborough, ON)

Civic Engagement (N=83), continued

Tuskegee University (Tuskegee, AL)*
Universidad Adventista de las Antillas (Mayaguez, PR)
University of Central Missouri (Warrensburg, MO)*
University of Houston-Victoria (Victoria, TX)*
University of Maine at Augusta (Augusta, ME)*
University of Missouri-St. Louis (Saint Louis, MO)*
University of Mount Olive (Mount Olive, NC)*
University of Nevada-Las Vegas (Las Vegas, NV)
University of North Carolina Wilmington (Wilmington, NC)*
University of North Georgia (Dahlonega, GA)
University of South Carolina Upstate (Spartanburg, SC)
University of South Florida-St. Petersburg (St. Petersburg, FL)*
University of Washington Bothell (Bothell, WA)*
Virginia State University (Petersburg, VA)
Virginia Wesleyan University (Virginia Beach, VA)
Wagner College (Staten Island, NY)
Weber State University (Ogden, UT)*
Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, NC)
Western Connecticut State University (Danbury, CT)*
Wheaton College (Norton, MA)
Wichita State University (Wichita, KS)*
William Paterson University of New Jersey (Wayne, NJ)
Wingate University (Wingate, NC)

*2017 participant

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				USF_CA		Civic Engagement		USF_CA	Civic Engagement	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
1. Select the response that best represents your ability to do the following:										
a. Help people resolve their disagreements with each other	CIV01a	1	Poor	2	2	211	2	4.9	5.0	-.10
		2		5	3	349	2			
		3		17	10	1,106	7			
		4		35	21	3,394	21			
		5		57	34	5,361	33			
		6		28	16	3,567	21			
		7	Excellent	24	14	2,220	14			
			Total	168	100	16,208	100			
b. Resolve conflicts that involve bias, discrimination, and prejudice	CIV01b	1	Poor	4	3	280	2	4.8	4.8	.00
		2		4	2	546	3			
		3		21	12	1,606	10			
		4		35	21	4,089	25			
		5		53	32	4,950	30			
		6		30	17	2,810	17			
		7	Excellent	21	12	1,890	12			
			Total	168	100	16,171	100			
c. Lead a group in which people from different backgrounds feel welcomed and included	CIV01c	1	Poor	3	2	318	2	5.0	5.0	-.01
		2		1	1	485	3			
		3		17	11	1,364	9			
		4		33	21	3,099	19			
		5		44	26	4,326	27			
		6		42	24	3,602	21			
		7	Excellent	27	16	2,990	19			
			Total	167	100	16,184	100			
d. Contribute to the well-being of your community	CIV01d	1	Poor	3	2	231	2	5.0	5.1	-.04
		2		2	2	367	2			
		3		15	9	1,055	7			
		4		31	19	3,183	20			
		5		51	30	4,883	30			
		6		39	22	3,724	22			
		7	Excellent	26	15	2,729	17			
			Total	167	100	16,172	100			
2. During the current school year, whether course-related or not, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Informed yourself about local or campus issues	CIV02a	1	Never	7	4	1,600	11	2.5	2.4 *	.17
		2	Sometimes	80	50	8,007	49			
		3	Often	61	35	4,904	30			
		4	Very often	18	11	1,643	10			
			Total	166	100	16,154	100			
b. Informed yourself about state, national, or global issues	CIV02b	1	Never	9	6	1,001	6	2.8	2.7	.06
		2	Sometimes	50	30	6,013	36			
		3	Often	75	44	5,776	36			
		4	Very often	32	20	3,345	22			
			Total	166	100	16,135	100			
c. Discussed local or campus issues with others	CIV02c	1	Never	12	7	2,182	14	2.5	2.4 *	.19
		2	Sometimes	71	44	7,216	45			
		3	Often	63	37	4,900	29			
		4	Very often	20	12	1,839	11			
			Total	166	100	16,137	100			
d. Discussed state, national, or global issues with others	CIV02d	1	Never	10	6	1,502	9	2.7	2.6	.06
		2	Sometimes	66	40	6,389	39			
		3	Often	59	35	5,276	32			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				USF_CA		Civic Engagement		USF_CA	Civic Engagement	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
		4	Very often	30	18	2,964	19			
			Total	165	100	16,131	100			
e. Raised awareness about local or campus issues	CIV02e	1	Never	57	35	6,817	43	1.9	1.8	.11
		2	Sometimes	74	44	6,084	37			
		3	Often	23	14	2,352	14			
		4	Very often	11	7	873	5			
			Total	165	100	16,126	100			
f. Raised awareness about state, national, or global issues	CIV02f	1	Never	43	26	6,030	38	2.1	2.0 *	.17
		2	Sometimes	72	44	6,092	37			
		3	Often	35	21	2,794	17			
		4	Very often	14	8	1,218	8			
			Total	164	100	16,134	100			
g. Asked others to address local or campus issues	CIV02g	1	Never	60	37	8,036	51	1.9	1.7 ***	.27
		2	Sometimes	65	39	5,382	33			
		3	Often	28	17	1,993	12			
		4	Very often	12	7	727	5			
			Total	165	100	16,138	100			
h. Asked others to address state, national, or global issues	CIV02h	1	Never	59	36	7,742	48	2.0	1.8 **	.23
		2	Sometimes	63	38	5,253	32			
		3	Often	29	17	2,208	14			
		4	Very often	14	9	899	6			
			Total	165	100	16,102	100			
i. Organized others to work on local or campus issues	CIV02i	1	Never	95	58	10,523	66	1.6	1.5	.13
		2	Sometimes	45	27	3,671	23			
		3	Often	19	12	1,382	9			
		4	Very often	5	3	519	3			
			Total	164	100	16,095	100			
j. Organized others to work on state, national, or global issues	CIV02j	1	Never	92	57	10,630	66	1.6	1.5 *	.20
		2	Sometimes	43	27	3,559	22			
		3	Often	19	11	1,279	8			
		4	Very often	7	4	489	3			
			Total	161	100	15,957	100			

3. Think about the experiences you may have had with local, campus, state, national, or global issues. What about these experiences has been most meaningful to you?

This final question asked students to respond in an open text box. Comments were recorded for 41 first-year students and 24 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE18 Student Comments" report and in a separate SPSS data file.

These open-ended responses appear exactly as respondents entered them and may not be suitable for distribution without prior review.

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				USF_CA		Civic Engagement		USF_CA	Civic Engagement	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. Select the response that best represents your ability to do the following:										
a. Help people resolve their disagreements with each other	CIV01a	1	Poor	2	1	227	1	5.1	5.2	-.11
		2		3	2	341	2			
		3		13	9	1,147	5			
		4		24	15	3,809	17			
		5		46	30	7,139	31			
		6		55	33	5,823	26			
		7	Excellent	16	10	3,721	17			
	Total			159	100	22,207	100			
b. Resolve conflicts that involve bias, discrimination, and prejudice	CIV01b	1	Poor	1	1	319	2	4.8	4.9	-.07
		2		4	2	620	3			
		3		12	8	1,797	8			
		4		44	28	4,926	22			
		5		50	32	6,900	30			
		6		33	20	4,681	21			
		7	Excellent	14	9	2,925	14			
	Total			158	100	22,168	100			
c. Lead a group in which people from different backgrounds feel welcomed and included	CIV01c	1	Poor	1	1	271	1	5.3	5.4	-.11
		2		6	4	401	2			
		3		6	4	1,040	5			
		4		25	16	3,161	14			
		5		42	26	5,519	24			
		6		51	31	6,212	28			
		7	Excellent	29	18	5,571	25			
	Total			160	100	22,175	100			
d. Contribute to the well-being of your community	CIV01d	1	Poor	1	1	240	1	5.3	5.4	-.04
		2		2	1	348	2			
		3		8	5	1,015	5			
		4		27	17	3,346	15			
		5		35	23	5,844	26			
		6		58	35	6,205	28			
		7	Excellent	28	17	5,180	23			
	Total			159	100	22,178	100			
2. During the current school year, whether course-related or not, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Informed yourself about local or campus issues	CIV02a	1	Never	9	6	2,736	13	2.5	2.4	.13
		2	Sometimes	76	48	10,389	47			
		3	Often	54	33	6,076	27			
		4	Very often	21	13	2,973	13			
			Total			160	100			
b. Informed yourself about state, national, or global issues	CIV02b	1	Never	6	4	893	4	2.9	2.9	-.03
		2	Sometimes	47	29	6,749	29			
		3	Often	62	38	7,831	35			
		4	Very often	45	29	6,690	32			
			Total			160	100			
c. Discussed local or campus issues with others	CIV02c	1	Never	10	6	3,430	16	2.5	2.4 *	.16
		2	Sometimes	80	50	9,431	43			
		3	Often	44	28	6,095	27			
		4	Very often	26	16	3,191	14			
			Total			160	100			
d. Discussed state, national, or global issues with others	CIV02d	1	Never	10	6	1,443	7	2.7	2.8	-.09
		2	Sometimes	66	41	7,783	35			
		3	Often	47	30	7,353	33			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				USF_CA		Civic Engagement		USF_CA	Civic Engagement	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
		4	Very often	37	23	5,562	25			
			Total	160	100	22,141	100			
e. Raised awareness about local or campus issues	CIV02e	1	Never	45	28	8,879	41	2.1	1.9 **	.21
		2	Sometimes	73	45	8,337	37			
		3	Often	26	17	3,215	14			
		4	Very often	15	9	1,704	8			
			Total	159	100	22,135	100			
f. Raised awareness about state, national, or global issues	CIV02f	1	Never	36	22	6,965	32	2.2	2.1	.06
		2	Sometimes	77	48	8,364	37			
		3	Often	32	20	4,240	19			
		4	Very often	15	9	2,563	12			
			Total	160	100	22,132	100			
g. Asked others to address local or campus issues	CIV02g	1	Never	53	33	11,030	51	2.0	1.7 ***	.28
		2	Sometimes	71	44	7,189	32			
		3	Often	26	17	2,650	12			
		4	Very often	10	6	1,266	6			
			Total	160	100	22,135	100			
h. Asked others to address state, national, or global issues	CIV02h	1	Never	54	33	9,965	46	2.0	1.8 *	.17
		2	Sometimes	65	40	7,261	32			
		3	Often	30	19	3,212	14			
		4	Very often	11	7	1,672	8			
			Total	160	100	22,110	100			
i. Organized others to work on local or campus issues	CIV02i	1	Never	85	53	14,336	66	1.6	1.5 *	.16
		2	Sometimes	51	32	4,951	22			
		3	Often	20	13	1,804	8			
		4	Very often	4	2	997	4			
			Total	160	100	22,088	100			
j. Organized others to work on state, national, or global issues	CIV02j	1	Never	90	56	14,350	66	1.6	1.5	.15
		2	Sometimes	46	30	4,884	22			
		3	Often	16	10	1,772	8			
		4	Very often	7	4	923	4			
			Total	159	100	21,929	100			

3. Think about the experiences you may have had with local, campus, state, national, or global issues. What about these experiences has been most meaningful to you?

This final question asked students to respond in an open text box. Comments were recorded for 41 first-year students and 24 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE18 Student Comments" report and in a separate SPSS data file.

These open-ended responses appear exactly as respondents entered them and may not be suitable for distribution without prior review.

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	USF_CA	USF_CA	Civic Engagement	USF_CA	Civic Engagement	USF_CA	Civic Engagement			
										<i>Comparisons with:</i>
										Civic Engagement
CIV01a	166	4.87	5.01	.11	.01	1.36	1.31	13,381	.187	-.10
CIV01b	166	4.77	4.77	.11	.01	1.42	1.38	13,345	.997	.00
CIV01c	165	5.03	5.05	.11	.01	1.39	1.46	13,348	.895	-.01
CIV01d	165	5.03	5.08	.11	.01	1.37	1.37	13,339	.628	-.04
CIV02a	164	2.53	2.39	.06	.01	0.75	0.81	13,330	.029	.17
CIV02b	164	2.78	2.73	.06	.01	0.83	0.87	13,310	.436	.06
CIV02c	164	2.54	2.37	.06	.01	0.79	0.86	13,314	.013	.19
CIV02d	162	2.66	2.61	.07	.01	0.85	0.90	13,305	.467	.06
CIV02e	163	1.91	1.82	.07	.01	0.87	0.87	13,297	.174	.11
CIV02f	162	2.11	1.95	.07	.01	0.90	0.93	13,304	.030	.17
CIV02g	162	1.94	1.70	.07	.01	0.91	0.85	13,307	.000	.27
CIV02h	162	1.98	1.77	.07	.01	0.94	0.89	13,274	.003	.23
CIV02i	162	1.60	1.49	.06	.01	0.81	0.79	13,266	.097	.13
CIV02j	159	1.63	1.48	.07	.01	0.85	0.77	161	.028	.20

Seniors





Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	USF_CA	USF_CA	Civic Engagement	USF_CA	Civic Engagement	USF_CA	Civic Engagement			
										<i>Comparisons with:</i>
										Civic Engagement
CIV01a	161	5.10	5.23	.10	.01	1.28	1.27	12,947	.181	-.11
CIV01b	161	4.85	4.94	.10	.01	1.22	1.35	12,929	.369	-.07
CIV01c	163	5.29	5.44	.10	.01	1.31	1.35	12,928	.169	-.11
CIV01d	162	5.34	5.40	.10	.01	1.25	1.32	12,932	.574	-.04
CIV02a	163	2.53	2.41	.06	.01	0.80	0.87	12,928	.096	.13
CIV02b	163	2.92	2.94	.07	.01	0.86	0.88	12,922	.750	-.03
CIV02c	163	2.54	2.39	.07	.01	0.84	0.92	12,911	.044	.16
CIV02d	163	2.69	2.77	.07	.01	0.89	0.91	12,910	.258	-.09
CIV02e	162	2.08	1.88	.07	.01	0.91	0.92	12,903	.008	.21
CIV02f	163	2.17	2.11	.07	.01	0.88	0.98	167	.373	.06
CIV02g	163	1.96	1.72	.07	.01	0.86	0.88	166	.000	.28
CIV02h	163	2.00	1.84	.07	.01	0.90	0.94	166	.027	.17
CIV02i	163	1.64	1.51	.06	.01	0.79	0.82	12,875	.044	.16
CIV02j	162	1.63	1.50	.07	.01	0.83	0.81	12,779	.055	.15

See the endnotes on the last page of this report.

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent t -tests uses Cohen's d ; z -tests use Cohen's h .
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t -tests. Values differ from N s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests or z -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.
- j. Statistical comparison uses z -test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.
- k. Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."

Key to symbols:

-  **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
-  **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
-  **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
-  **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.