

## Chapter XVIII: NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (NSSE)

*Who takes it?*

Freshmen and Seniors.

*When is it administered?*

It began as a pilot program in Fall 1999. This survey was last given in Spring 2000.

*How long does it take for the students to complete the instrument?*

15 minutes.

*What office administers it?*

Assessment and Testing Office.

*Who originates this survey?*

National Survey of Student Engagement  
Center for Postsecondary Research and Planning  
Indiana University  
Ashton Aley Hall, Suite 102  
1913 East Seventh Street  
Bloomington, IN 47405-7510  
(812) 856-5824

*When are results typically available?*

The end of the following semester. (I.e. Spring 2000 results were available November 13, 2000.)

*What type of information is sought?*

The Spring 2000 NSSE was divided into three large sections: College Activities, Educational and Personal, and Opinions About Your School. The College Activities portion included questions on academic, intellectual, and social experiences, questions related to nature of exams, reading and writing activities, and questions regarding weekly activities. The Educational and Personal section asked questions on knowledge, skills, and personal development. Finally, the Opinions About Your School portion emphasized the amount of time spent studying, being tutored, and providing support for others.

*From whom are the results available?*

University Planning and Development Office.

*To whom are the results regularly distributed?*

The Vice President for Academic Affairs.

*Are the results available by division or discipline?*

No.

*Are the results comparable to data of other universities?*

Yes. Two hundred seventy-six four-year institutions participated in the Spring 2000 NSSE. NSSE provides the results for Truman as compared to Master's I- and II-level institutions and to all institutions participating in the Survey.

***National Survey of Student Engagement***  
**Means Summary Report**  
**Truman State University**

			Truman St.	Master's I & II			National			
Variable	Var. Name	Class	Mean	Mean	Sig <sup>a</sup>	Effect Size	Mean	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size	
			1st Yr. N=196 Senior N=163 Total N=359				1st Yr. N=11208 Senior N=12727 Total N=23935	1st Yr. N=30694 Senior N=32330 Total N=63024		

**COLLEGE ACTIVITIES**

**Academic, Intellectual, and Social Experiences**

*1=never, 2=occasionally, 3=often, 4=very often*

Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST	1st Yr.	2.89	2.74			2.75		
		Senior	3.10	3.07			3.05		
Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor or other students	EMAIL	1st Yr.	2.85	2.60	*	0.26	2.75		
		Senior	2.90	2.67			2.83		
Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN	1st Yr.	2.37	2.18			2.14	*	0.29
		Senior	2.98	2.81			2.75	*	0.27
Rewrote a paper or assignment several times	REWROPAP	1st Yr.	2.29	2.43			2.39		
		Senior	2.33	2.07	*	0.27	2.06	*	0.28
Came to class unprepared	CLUNPREP	1st Yr.	1.87	1.66	*	0.33	1.72		
		Senior	2.06	1.77	*	0.44	1.84	*	0.34
Worked with other students on projects during class	CLASSGRP	1st Yr.	2.28	2.45			2.42		
		Senior	2.45	2.55			2.49		
Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	OCCGRP	1st Yr.	2.51	2.29	*	0.26	2.39		
		Senior	2.99	2.67	*	0.37	2.71	*	0.33
Tutored or taught other students	TUTOR	1st Yr.	1.64	1.63			1.68		
		Senior	2.04	1.82			1.88		
Participated in a community-based project as part of a regular course	COMMPROJ	1st Yr.	1.18	1.36	*	-0.27	1.35	*	-0.26
		Senior	1.37	1.61	*	-0.30	1.58		
Used an electronic medium (e-mail, list-serve, chat group, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	ITACADEM	1st Yr.	2.26	2.04			2.15		
		Senior	2.36	2.16			2.22		
Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FACGRADE	1st Yr.	2.53	2.47			2.47		
		Senior	2.75	2.63			2.63		
Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPIANS	1st Yr.	2.14	2.08			2.09		

<sup>a</sup>T-tests: institution vs. comparison group means (without your institution's data); 2-tailed, p<0.001.

<sup>b</sup>T-tests: institution vs. national means (without your institution's data); 2-tailed, p<0.001.

## National Survey of Student Engagement Means Summary Report

Variable	Var. Name	Class	Truman St.		Master's I & II		National		
			Mean	Mean	Sig <sup>a</sup>	Effect Size	Mean	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size
Ranked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPLANS	Senior	2.49	2.35			2.38		
Discussed ideas from your reading or classes with faculty members outside of class	FACIDEAS	1st Yr.	1.69	1.69			1.71		
		Senior	1.93	1.96			1.98		
Received prompt feedback from faculty on your academic performance	FACFEED	1st Yr.	2.56	2.46			2.48		
		Senior	2.91	2.72			2.71	*	0.26
Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	WORKHARD	1st Yr.	2.56	2.59			2.57		
		Senior	2.58	2.69			2.65		
Worked with a faculty member on a research project	FACRESCH	1st Yr.	1.18	1.29			1.28		
		Senior	1.77	1.50	*	0.34	1.58		
Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student-life activities, etc.)	FACOTHER	1st Yr.	1.35	1.39			1.40		
		Senior	1.86	1.61	*	0.29	1.66		
Discussed ideas from your reading or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	OOCIDEAS	1st Yr.	2.67	2.72			2.74		
		Senior	2.80	2.87			2.88		
Had serious conversations with other students whose religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values were very different from yours	DIFFSTUD	1st Yr.	2.69	2.40	*	0.30	2.51		
		Senior	2.77	2.39	*	0.41	2.49	*	0.30
Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	DIVRSTUD	1st Yr.	2.43	2.46			2.53		
		Senior	2.55	2.47			2.52		

### Reading and Writing

*1=none, 2=fewer than 5, 3=between 5 and 10, 4=between 11 and 20, 5=more than 20*

Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	READASGN	1st Yr.	3.56	3.43			3.55		
		Senior	3.43	3.30			3.40		
Number of books read on your own (not assigned)	READOWN	1st Yr.	1.92	2.02			2.03		
		Senior	2.10	2.19			2.21		
Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or more	WRITEMOR	1st Yr.	1.17	1.24			1.23		
		Senior	1.70	1.63			1.67		
Number of written papers or reports of fewer than 20 pages	WRITEFEW	1st Yr.	3.65	3.53			3.59		
		Senior	3.90	3.27	*	0.56	3.34	*	0.50

<sup>a</sup>T-tests: institution vs. comparison group means (without your institution's data); 2-tailed, p<0.001.

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# National Survey of Student Engagement

## Means Summary Report

			Truman St.	Master's I & II			National		
Variable	Var. Name	Class	Mean	Mean	Sig <sup>a</sup>	Effect Size	Mean	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size

### Nature of Exams

*1=mostly multiple choice or short answer to 7=mostly essay or open-ended problems*

Nature of the examinations taken this year at this institution	EXAMS	1st Yr.	4.12	3.73	*	0.26	3.78
		Senior	4.39	4.21			4.41

### Character of Mental Activities

*1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much*

<b>Memorizing</b> facts, ideas or methods from your courses and reading so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form	MEMORIZE	1st Yr.	2.82	2.85			2.81
		Senior	2.66	2.63			2.57
<b>Analyzing</b> the basic elements of an idea, experience or theory such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	ANALYZE	1st Yr.	2.94	2.88			2.93
		Senior	3.15	3.07			3.10
<b>Synthesizing</b> and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	SYNTHESZ	1st Yr.	2.51	2.56			2.61
		Senior	2.82	2.78			2.82
<b>Making judgments</b> about the value of information, arguments, or methods such as examining how others gathered and interpreted data and assessing the soundness of their conclusions	EVALUATE	1st Yr.	2.40	2.54			2.54
		Senior	2.67	2.68			2.69
<b>Applying</b> theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	APPLYING	1st Yr.	2.81	2.73			2.79
		Senior	3.03	3.00			3.01

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Variable	Var. Name	Class	Mean	Mean	Sig <sup>a</sup>	Effect Size	Mean	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size
1= 5 or fewer hours/week, 2= 6-10 hours/week, 3= 11-15 hours/week, 4= 16-20 hours/week, 5= 21-25 hours/week, 6= 26-30 hours/week, 7= more than 30 hours/week									
<b>Weekly Activities</b>									
Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, lab work, rehearsing, etc., related to your academic program)	ACADPREP	1st Yr.	3.85	3.16	*	0.44	3.40	*	0.28
		Senior	3.25	3.29			3.43		
Working for pay <b>on campus</b>	WORKON	1st Yr.	1.17	1.41	*	-0.26	1.44	*	-0.29
		Senior	1.91	1.54	*	0.31	1.65		
Working for pay <b>off campus</b>	WORKOFF	1st Yr.	1.32	2.52	*	-0.57	2.07	*	-0.40
		Senior	1.81	3.67	*	-0.77	3.19	*	-0.58
Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, social fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	COCURRIC	1st Yr.	2.23	1.71	*	0.41	1.84	*	0.29
		Senior	2.46	1.63	*	0.65	1.76	*	0.52
Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, exercising, playing games, etc.)	SOCIAL	1st Yr.	3.38	3.16			3.24		
		Senior	3.14	2.74			2.87		
Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)	CAREDEPD	1st Yr.	1.04	1.66	*	-0.40	1.44	*	-0.31
		Senior	1.15	2.37	*	-0.56	2.05	*	-0.45

### Other Educational Experiences

Note: The response type of the items in this section of *The College Student Report* is categorical. Refer to frequency data for comparative results.

## EDUCATIONAL AND PERSONAL

### Knowledge, Skills, and Personal Development

1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much

Acquiring a broad general education	NGNENLED	1st Yr.	3.21	3.10			3.11		
		Senior	3.40	3.34			3.33		
Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	GNWORK	1st Yr.	2.18	2.45	*	-0.27	2.47	*	-0.30
		Senior	2.96	3.04			3.00		
Writing clearly and effectively	GNWRITE	1st Yr.	2.79	2.92			2.88		

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***National Survey of Student Engagement***  
**Means Summary Report**

Variable	Var. Name	Class	Truman St.		Master's I & II		National			
			Mean		Mean	Sig <sup>a</sup>	Effect Size	Mean	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size
Writing clearly and effectively	GNSWRITE	Senior	3.00		3.11			3.09		
Speaking clearly and effectively	GNSPEAK	1st Yr.	2.71		2.67			2.60		
		Senior	2.99		3.03			2.98		
Thinking critically and analytically	GNANALY	1st Yr.	3.06		3.02			3.05		
		Senior	3.28		3.30			3.32		
Analyzing quantitative problems	GNQUANT	1st Yr.	2.66		2.58			2.62		
		Senior	2.88		2.89			2.90		
Using computing and information technology	GNCMPTS	1st Yr.	2.71		2.72			2.74		
		Senior	3.05		2.98			2.98		
Working effectively with others	GNOTHERS	1st Yr.	2.72		2.85			2.82		
		Senior	3.30		3.11			3.11		
Voting in elections	GNCITIZN	1st Yr.	1.58		1.65			1.65		
		Senior	1.65		1.74			1.72		
Learning effectively on your own	GNINQ	1st Yr.	2.95		2.90			2.95		
		Senior	3.16		3.09			3.12		
Understanding yourself	GNSELF	1st Yr.	2.83		2.84			2.87		
		Senior	3.10		2.99			3.02		
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	GNDIVERS	1st Yr.	2.31		2.60	*	-0.27	2.57	*	-0.25
		Senior	2.43		2.69			2.67		
Being honest and truthful	GNTRUTH	1st Yr.	2.61		2.78			2.77		
		Senior	2.69		2.79			2.78		
Contributing to the welfare of your community	GNCOMMUN	1st Yr.	2.04		2.19			2.21		
		Senior	2.28		2.41			2.41		

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# National Survey of Student Engagement

## Means Summary Report

			Truman St.	Master's I & II			National		
Variable	Var. Name	Class	Mean	Mean	Sig <sup>a</sup>	Effect Size	Mean	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size
<b>OPINIONS ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL</b>									
<b>Institutional Emphasis</b>									
<i>1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much</i>									
Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	ENVSCHOL	1st Yr.	3.45	3.10	*	0.44	3.14	*	0.40
		Senior	3.54	3.10	*	0.54	3.12	*	0.51
Providing the support you need to help you succeed	ENVSUPRT	1st Yr.	3.00	2.96			2.99		
		Senior	2.81	2.82			2.82		
Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	ENVDIVRS	1st Yr.	2.20	2.47	*	-0.27	2.49	*	-0.29
		Senior	2.02	2.30	*	-0.28	2.28	*	-0.26
Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	ENVNACAD	1st Yr.	1.91	2.10			2.09		
		Senior	1.73	1.87			1.87		
Providing the support you need to thrive socially	ENVSOCAL	1st Yr.	2.38	2.33			2.38		
		Senior	2.28	2.07			2.11		
<b>Quality of Relationships</b>									
<i>1=unfriendly, unsupportive, sense of alienation to 7=friendly, supportive, sense of belonging</i>									
Relationships with other students	ENVSTU	1st Yr.	5.76	5.40	*	0.26	5.48		
		Senior	5.80	5.43	*	0.27	5.44	*	0.27
<i>1=unavailable, unhelpful, unsympathetic to 7=available, helpful, sympathetic</i>									
Relationships with faculty members	ENVFAC	1st Yr.	5.30	5.18			5.22		
		Senior	5.15	5.37			5.38		
<i>1=unhelpful, inconsiderate, rigid to 7=helpful, considerate, flexible</i>									
Relationships with administrative personnel and offices	ENVADM	1st Yr.	4.38	4.52			4.58		
		Senior	4.27	4.26			4.30		
<b>Satisfaction</b>									
<i>1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent</i>									
How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	ENTIREXP	1st Yr.	3.26	3.10			3.17		
		Senior	3.26	3.17			3.21		
<i>1=definitely no, 2=probably no, 3=probably yes, 4=definitely yes</i>									
If you could start over again, would you go to the <b>same institution</b> you are now attending?	SAMECOLL	1st Yr.	3.24	3.11			3.18		
		Senior	3.12	3.07			3.11		

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