



National Survey of Student Engagement

Inside

- 1 Report Organization
- 1 Descriptions of Report Contents
- 4 Enhancements for NSSE 2007

A Guide to Your NSSE 2007 *Institutional Report*

The comprehensive nature of the NSSE *Institutional Report* can be challenging to navigate and digest. Reading the material from front to back may not be the best way to get the information you need right now. This guide is designed to help you locate and correctly interpret the different data displays and reports in the binder, and equally important, to provide ideas about using this information in your efforts to improve the undergraduate experience of your students.

Report Organization

The NSSE 2007 *Institutional Report* is divided into the four main sections as presented in the Table of Contents and colored tabs in the binder.

- SECTION I: NSSE – *National Survey of Student Engagement* (dark blue tabs)
- SECTION II: FSSE – *Faculty Survey of Student Engagement* (plum tabs)
- SECTION III: BCSSE – *Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement* (gold tabs)
- SECTION IV: *User Tools* (light blue tabs)

Descriptions of Report Contents

What Is Included in Each Section of this *Institutional Report*?

SECTION I: NSSE

- *Respondents & Comparison Groups* – A snapshot of how well your respondents represent your school's actual first-year and senior student populations. Provides response rates and sampling errors for your institution and comparison groups (consortium or selected peer groups chosen by your institution). This report is not weighted.
- *Frequency Distributions* – The number and weighted percent of student responses to all survey items for your institution and comparison groups, reported separately for first-year and senior students.

- *Mean Comparisons* – Tables of weighted means, statistical tests, and effect sizes for all survey items comparing your institution to your comparison groups, with separate results provided for first-year and senior students.
- *Benchmark Comparisons* – Results for the five clusters of effective educational practice: (1) level of academic challenge, (2) active and collaborative learning, (3) student-faculty interaction, (4) enriching educational experiences, and (5) supportive campus environment. Included are weighted means, statistical tests, and effect sizes comparing your institution to your comparison groups.

SECTION II: FSSE

(FSSE 2007 participating schools only)

- *Respondent Characteristics* – Selected background characteristics of faculty members who responded to the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement. Much of this data is not contained in the institutional data file to protect respondents' identities.



California State University, Fresno

- *Frequency Distributions* – The response percentages to each item on FSSE broken down by the level of the students taught by faculty members.
- *FSSE-NSSE Combined Report* – A template for identifying interesting ways to look for gaps in perceptions between faculty responses and student responses.

SECTION III: BCSSE (BCSSE 2006-2007 Participating Schools only)

- *Respondent Characteristics* – Sampling, response rates, and the characteristics of your BCSSE-NSSE respondents compared with the first-year student population of your institution. Includes demographic statistics related to gender and enrollment status.
- *BCSSE-NSSE Combined Report* – Cross-tabulated results of students' corresponding BCSSE and NSSE responses. Shows the relationship between the value first-year students placed on learning activities and their reported engagement in these activities.

What Sample and Weighting Procedures Were Used to Create the Comparison Reports?

Sample

This year's comparison reports (Frequency Distributions, Mean Comparisons, and Benchmark Comparisons) are based on information from all randomly-selected students for both your institution and comparison institutions. Targeted oversamples and other nonrandomly selected students are *not included* in the reports. This procedure allows us to calculate proper weights and ensures consistency across all comparison reports.

Weights

Weights are applied to all comparison reports to adjust respondents within schools by sex and enrollment status and between schools to reflect the institutions' relative population sizes. Weights are calculated separately for first-year students and seniors. For detailed information about weighting, please visit the NSSE Web site at www.nsse.iub.edu/2007_Institutional_Report.cfm.



Agnes Scott College

Where Can I Learn More About the Technical Properties of the Comparison Reports?

NSSE comparison reports are accompanied by a technical overview document designed to help you interpret your results (e.g. *Interpreting the Frequency Distributions Report* and *Interpreting the Mean Comparisons Report* precede the actual reports).

These documents provide information concerning the sampling and weighting procedures used for various reports, specific statistical tests employed, and examples of how to interpret results.

Other resources include:

- Data codebook(s), detailing survey variable names, descriptions, and response values, are also provided on the NSSE Web site for your reference: www.nsse.iub.edu/2007_Institutional_Report.cfm
- *Psychometric Properties of NSSE*, found at the end of the NSSE section (*dark blue tab*) of the report, responds to common questions about the psychometric properties of the survey instrument.
- *Working with NSSE Data: A Facilitator's Guide* in the User Tools section (*light blue tab*) of the report explains in everyday language the various statistical terms and examples used in the reports.

Additional materials related to technical properties and statistics are on the NSSE Web site at: www.nsse.iub.edu/2007_Institutional_Report.cfm.

Where Can I Find Ideas and Tools to Help My Institution Use NSSE Data Effectively?

The User Tools section (*light blue tab*) of the 2007 *Institutional Report* is designed to help users share and effectively use their NSSE data. This section describes efforts of the NSSE Institute for Effective Educational Practice (NSSE's research, outreach, and service arm) and provides an array of user tools:

- New in 2007! *What Students Are Saying About Their <Your Institution> Experience* is a new report designed as a companion to NSSE's popular *A Pocket Guide to Choosing a College: Are you asking the right questions*. This report provides NSSE schools with a common template for sharing results to Pocket Guide questions with admissions officers, orientation staff, prospective students and their families, and for presenting student engagement results on institutional Web sites.

- *Working with NSSE Data: A Facilitator's Guide* describes ways to share results on your campus.
- *Using NSSE Data* provides examples of how NSSE data have been used to guide educational policy and practice on various campuses.
- *Accreditation Toolkit* notes linkages between NSSE survey items and guidelines established by the various regional accrediting bodies.

Where Is the *Institutional Report CD* Usually Included with this Report?

Your NSSE 2007 data file and all of the materials and results contained in this *Institutional Report*, which in the past were provided on an enclosed CD, are available for download from a secure location within the NSSE Institution Interface Web site. Follow the steps below to retrieve your data and reports:

- STEP 1: Go to the NSSE Web site home page: www.nsse.iub.edu
- STEP 2: Select the Institution Interface option from the left-side navigation bar, and then log in to the interface using your NSSE-provided username and password.
- STEP 3: Select "NSSE 2007" from the survey project drop-down menus at the top of the page.
- STEP 4: Select the "Download Reports" option from the left-side navigation bar to view your 2007 *Institutional Report* files and supplemental materials.
- STEP 5: Download the zip file named with your institution's nickname and IPEDS number to retrieve your 2007 *Institutional Report* files or use the hyperlinks listed below to access supplemental materials.

Contact your NSSE service team if you experience problems downloading your files.

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE SECURE SECTION OF THE INSTITUTION INTERFACE:

- NSSE 2007 Institutional Data File (SPSS 14.0)*
- NSSE 2007 Comparison Group Information (Excel 2003)
- NSSE 2007 Respondent Characteristics (Excel 2003)
- NSSE 2007 Frequency Distributions (Excel 2003)
- NSSE 2007 Mean Comparisons (Excel 2003)
- NSSE 2007 Benchmark Comparisons (Excel 2003)
- Psychometric Properties of NSSE (PDF)
- NSSE 2007 Overview (PDF)

- Using NSSE Data (PDF)
- Accreditation Toolkit (PDF)
- Working with NSSE Data: A Facilitator's Guide (PDF)
- "What Students are Saying..." Pocket Guide Report (PDF)
- NSSE PowerPoint Presentation (Microsoft PowerPoint)*
- NSSE 2007 Codebook (Excel 2003)*
- NSSE 2007 Participating School List (PDF)*

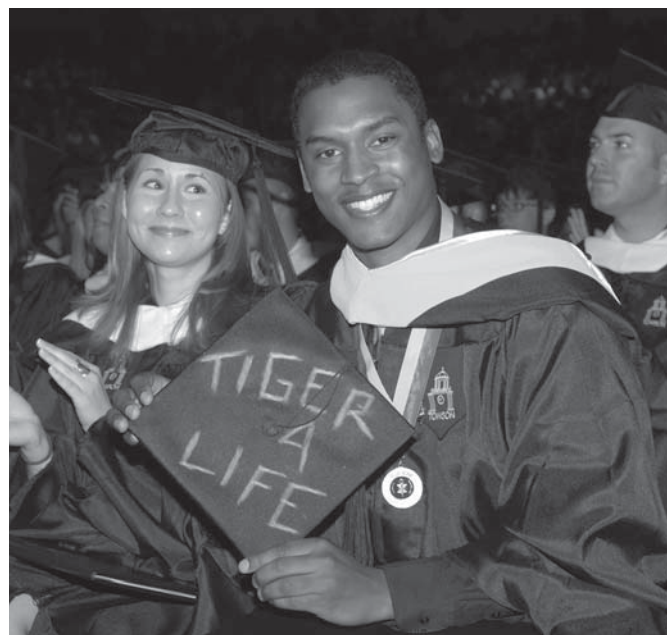
FSSE PARTICIPANTS ALSO RECEIVE:

- FSSE 2007 Overview (PDF)
- FSSE 2007 Institutional Data File (SPSS 14.0)*
- Respondent Characteristics (Excel 2003)
- Frequency Distributions (Excel 2003)
- FSSE-NSSE Combined Report (Excel 2003)
- FSSE 2007 Codebook (Excel 2003)*
- FSSE 2007 Participating School List (PDF)*

BCSSE PARTICIPANTS ALSO RECEIVE:

- BCSSE 2006-NSSE 2007 Institutional Data File (SPSS 14.0)*
- Respondent Characteristics (Excel 2003)
- BCSSE-NSSE Combined Report (Excel 2003)
- BCSSE 2006 Codebook (PDF)*
- BCSSE 2007 Participating School List (PDF)*

(*Item is provided through the Institution Interface only; not included as part of this printed report)



Towson University

Where Can I Find Additional Resources Related to the NSSE 2007 Institutional Report?

Several important documents and additional resources are available on the NSSE Web site: www.nsse.iub.edu/2007_Institutional_Report.cfm

- Copies of the NSSE survey instrument in multiple formats (PDF, HTML).
- Grand Frequency and Mean reports by Carnegie Classification and all 2007 participating institutions.
- Selected 2007 results that can be used for comparison purposes and as examples of different ways to use NSSE data on their own (e.g., examining amount of time students spend on academic work by major or disciplinary area, evaluating the extent to which the institution emphasizes spending significant amounts of time on academic work).
- Examples of how to display NSSE results in tables and graphs.

Enhancements for NSSE 2007

What's New in Your Comparison Reports?

Expanded Peer Group Comparison Options

This year's NSSE *Institutional Report* offers enhanced customization of the three peer group options. Using criteria from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, NSSE allowed institutions to construct custom peer groups for all comparison columns in their reports in 2007. Refer to your *Respondents & Comparison Groups* section for detailed information about your peer groups.

What Changed on the NSSE Instrument in 2007?

Periodically new items are added to the survey instrument, or continuing items are reworded for enhanced clarity and understanding. The following adjustment was made to the NSSE instrument in 2007

Item	Variable	NSSE 2006	NSSE 2007
6a.	atdart05	Attended an art exhibit, gallery, play, dance, or other theater performance	Attended an art exhibit, play, dance, music, theater, or other performance

Center for Postsecondary Research Staff Associated with Student Engagement Projects

Director

..... George Kuh

Associate Director, Research & Data Analysis

..... Bob Gonyea

Associate Director, NSSE Institute & BEAMS

..... Jillian Kinzie

Assistant Director, Survey Operations

..... Todd Chamberlain

Finance Manager

..... Kim Fatten

BCSSE Project Manager & Research Analyst

..... Jim Cole

CSEQ Project Manager & Research Analyst

..... Julie Williams

FSSE Project Manager

..... Tom Nelson Laird

LSSSE Project Manager

..... Lindsay Watkins

NSSE Institute Project Manager

..... Kathy Anderson

Research Analysts

..... Pu-Shih Daniel Chen

..... Ali Korkmaz

..... Shimon Sarraf

..... Rick Shoup

Office Coordinator

..... Erin Whisler

Office Secretary

..... Barbara Stewart

Webmaster

..... Jonathan Tweedy

CSEQ/Local NSSE Project Associates

..... Michelle Salinas Holmes

..... Katie Zaback

FSSE Project Associates

..... Amy Garver

..... Amanda Suniti Niskodé

NSSE Institute Project Associate

..... Jennifer Buckley

NSSE Client Services

Coordinator

..... Chad Ahren

Team 1 (Institutions A to E)

..... Dan Bureau

..... Mahauganee Shaw

Team 2 (Institutions F to Ni)

..... Elizabeth Beeler

..... Shannon Quinn

Team 3 (Institutions No to U of A)

..... Julianna Banks

..... Tony Ribera

Team 4 (Institutions U of B to Z)

..... Chad Christensen

..... Kevin Guidry

NSSE Advisory Board

Douglas Bennett (Chair)

President, Earlham College

Molly Broad

President, The University of North Carolina

Rebecca Chopp

President, Colgate University

Peter Ewell

Vice President, National Center for

Higher Education Management Systems

Muriel A. Howard

President, Buffalo State College

Pat Hutchings

*Vice President, The Carnegie Foundation
for the Advancement of Teaching*

Stan Ikenberry

*Regent Professor and President Emeritus,
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

John Immerwahr

*Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs,
Villanova University*

Charlie Nelms

Chancellor, North Carolina Central University

Patrick Terenzini

*Distinguished Professor and Senior Scientist,
Center for the Study of Higher Education,
The Pennsylvania State University*

Judith Torney-Purta

*Professor of Human Development,
University of Maryland*

Bill Tyson

President, Morrison and Tyson Communications

John Kennedy (ex-officio)

*Director, Center for Survey Research,
Indiana University Bloomington*

Kay McClenney (ex-officio)

*Director, Community College Survey
of Student Engagement*



**National Survey
of Student Engagement**

Center for Postsecondary Research

Indiana University Bloomington

School of Education

1900 East Tenth Street

Eigenmann Hall, Suite 419

Bloomington, IN 47406-7512

Phone: 812-856-5824

Fax: 812-856-5150

E-mail: nse@indiana.edu

www.nse.iub.edu