



**National Survey
of Student Engagement**

Tarleton State University

Means Comparison Report
2001, 2003, and 2005



NSSE 2005 Means Comparison Report Tarleton State University

Tarleton State			
2005	2003	2001	NSSE 2005

	Variable	Bench- mark	Class	Mean				Sig ^a	Effect Size ^b	
				2005	2003	2001	NSSE 2005			
<i>school year, about how often have you done each of the following? 1=never, 2=sometimes, 3=often, 4=very often</i>										
1. Academic and Intellectual Experiences										
a.	Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST	ACL	FY	2.65	2.58	2.63	2.86	**	-.25
					SR	3.22	3.17			
b.	Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN	ACL	FY	1.78	1.89	2.03	2.28	***	-.64
					SR	2.92	2.75			
c.	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP		FY	2.94	2.79	2.84	2.65	***	.29
					SR	2.72	2.71			
d.	Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	INTEGRAT		FY	3.04	2.89	2.99	3.08		
					SR	3.41	3.26			
e.	Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	DIVCLASS		FY	2.51	2.58		2.77	***	-.31
					SR	2.78	2.63			
f.	Come to class without completing readings or assignments	CLUNPREP		FY	1.92	1.87	2.11	2.03		
					SR	2.02	2.07			
g.	Worked with other students on projects during class	CLASSGRP	ACL	FY	2.12	2.26	2.36	2.40	***	-.34
					SR	2.75	2.44			
h.	Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	OCCGRP	ACL	FY	2.09	2.27	2.24	2.43	***	-.40
					SR	2.75	2.70			
i.	Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	INTIDEAS		FY	2.34	2.32		2.57	***	-.30
					SR	2.98	2.80			
j.	Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	TUTOR	ACL	FY	1.63	1.82	1.77	1.72		
					SR	1.96	1.76			
k.	Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	COMMPROJ	ACL	FY	1.45	1.28	1.18	1.54		
					SR	1.68	1.44			

^a * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).

^b Effect size = mean difference divided by comparison group standard deviation.

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l.	Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	ITACADEM	EEE	FY	2.18	2.10	2.16	2.61	***	-.41
					SR	2.81	2.72			
m.	Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	EMAIL		FY	2.80	2.51	2.41	3.06	***	-.30
					SR	3.10	2.96			
n.	Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FACGRADE	SFI	FY	2.72	2.70	2.54	2.62		
					SR	2.89	2.81			
o.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPLANS	SFI	FY	2.16	2.20	2.18	2.17		
					SR	2.57	2.37			
p.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	FACIDEAS	SFI	FY	1.63	1.66	1.83	1.86	***	-.26
					SR	2.13	1.96			
q.	Received prompt feedback from faculty on your academic performance (written or oral)	FACFEED	SFI	FY	2.59	2.51	2.62	2.76	*	-.22
					SR	2.91	2.73			
r.	Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	WORKHARD	LAC	FY	2.74	2.51	2.47	2.63		
					SR	2.82	2.70			
s.	Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)	FACOTHER	SFI	FY	1.75	1.62	1.58	1.63		
					SR	1.86	1.66			
t.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	OOCIDEAS	ACL	FY	2.66	2.56	2.63	2.73		
					SR	2.86	2.76			
u.	Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	DIVRSTUD	EEE	FY	2.31	2.33	2.29	2.60	***	-.28
					SR	2.69	2.47			
v.	Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	DIFFSTU2	EEE	FY	2.52	2.44	2.54	2.77	***	-.26
					SR	2.76	2.53			

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Variable	Bench- mark	Class	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Sig ^a	Effect Size ^b			
									2005	2003	2001
<i>coursework emphasized the following mental activities? 1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much</i>											
2. Mental Activities	a.	Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form	MEMORIZE		FY	2.77	3.06	3.01	2.85	*	.16
						SR	2.85	2.89	2.93		
b.	Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components	ANALYZE	LAC	FY	2.83	2.82	2.85	3.09	***	-.33	
					SR	3.13	3.21	3.16	3.24	*	-.15
c.	Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships	SYNTHESZ	LAC	FY	2.61	2.70	2.62	2.87	***	-.30	
					SR	2.96	2.94	2.91	3.06		
d.	Making judgments 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	LAC	FY	2.74	2.70	2.63	2.84			
					SR	2.92	2.81	2.91	2.99		
e.	Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	APPLYING	LAC	FY	2.72	2.82	2.69	2.99	***	-.32	
					SR	3.13	3.07	3.19	3.19		

<i>and writing have you done? 1=none, 2=between 1 and 4, 3=between 5 and 10.</i>											
3. Reading and Writing	a.	Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	READASGN	LAC	FY	2.73	3.03	2.86	3.31	***	-.60
						SR	3.01	3.00	3.05	3.22	**
b.	Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment	READOWN		FY	2.04	1.89	1.92	2.08			
					SR	2.13	2.24	2.33	2.22		
c.	Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or more	WRITEMOR	LAC	FY	1.23	1.29	1.27	1.25			
					SR	1.52	1.50	1.63	1.68	***	-.21
d.	Number of written papers or reports between 5 and 19 pages	WRITEMID	LAC	FY	2.14	1.97	2.12	2.40	***	-.29	
					SR	2.29	2.20	2.43	2.68	***	-.40
e.	Number of written papers or reports of fewer than 5 pages	WRITESML	LAC	FY	2.71	2.68	2.82	3.21	***	-.48	
					SR	2.93	2.74	3.05	3.13	**	-.17

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			2005	2003	2001	NSSE 2005			
4. Problem Sets									
<i>you complete? 1=none, 2=1-2, 3=3-4, 4=5-6, 5=more than 6</i>									
a.	Number of problem sets that take you more than an hour to complete	PROBSETA		FY	2.48	2.60		2.56	
					SR	2.56	2.45		2.51
b.	Number of problem sets that take you less than an hour to complete	PROBSETB		FY	2.46	2.38		2.70	* -.19
					SR	2.50	2.14		2.33
5. Examinations									
<i>1=very little to 7=very much</i>									
	To what extent have your examinations during the current school year challenged you to do your best work?	EXAMS		FY	5.36	5.57	5.62	5.46	
				SR	5.67	5.53	5.87	5.44	** .18
6. Additional Collegiate Experiences									
<i>you done each of the following? 1=never, 2=sometimes, 3=often, 4=very often</i>									
a.	Attended an art exhibit, gallery, play, dance, or other theatre performance	ATDART05		FY	1.79			2.17	*** -.43
					SR	1.79			2.08
b.	Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	EXRCSE05		FY	2.90			2.84	
					SR	2.51			2.74
c.	Participated in activities to enhance your spirituality (worship, meditation, prayer, etc.)	WORSHP05		FY	2.23			2.16	
					SR	2.46			2.23
d.	Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	OWNVIEW		FY	2.43			2.61	** -.21
					SR	2.77			2.73
e.	Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	OTHRVIEW		FY	2.73			2.77	
					SR	2.82			2.86
f.	Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	CHNGVIEW		FY	2.67			2.80	* -.16
					SR	2.81			2.88
7. Enriching Educational Experiences									
<i>do before you graduate from your institution? (Recoded: 0=have not decided, do not plan to do, plan to do; 1=done. Thus, the mean is the proportion responding</i>									
a.	Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	INTERN04	EEE	FY	.07	.68		.09	
					SR	.40	.68		.58

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	Variable	Benchmark	Class	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Sig ^a	Effect Size ^b	
b.	Community service or volunteer work	VOLNTR04	EEE	FY	.47	.66		.42	***	-.27
					SR	.51	.48			
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	LRNCOM04		FY	.27	.32		.15	***	.35
					SR	.25	.25			
d.	Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	RESRCH04	SFI	FY	.03	.20		.05	***	-.21
					SR	.13	.16			
e.	Foreign language coursework	FORLNG04	EEE	FY	.06	.33		.25	***	-.45
					SR	.26	.20			
f.	Study abroad	STDABR04	EEE	FY	.01	.19		.02	**	-.11
					SR	.06	.08			
g.	Independent study or self-designed major	INDSTD04	EEE	FY	.01	.12		.03	***	-.14
					SR	.20	.18			
h.	Culminating senior experience (capstone course, thesis, project, comprehensive exam, etc.)	SNRX04	EEE	FY	.01	.23		.02	***	-.34
					SR	.22	.33			

*relationships with people at your institution.
1=unfriendly, unsupportive, sense of alienation to*

8. Quality of Relationships

a.	Relationships with other students	ENVSTU	SCE	FY	5.53	5.78		5.56	*	.14
					SR	5.86	5.83			
<i>1=unavailable, unhelpful, unsympathetic to 7=available, helpful</i>										
b.	Relationships with faculty members	ENVFAC	SCE	FY	5.02	5.31		5.36	***	-.27
					SR	5.63	5.58			
<i>1=unhelpful, inconsiderate, rigid to 7=helpful, considerate</i>										
c.	Relationships with administrative personnel and offices	ENVADM	SCE	FY	4.61	5.21		4.76	**	.19
					SR	4.94	5.18			

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week doing each of the following?
1=0 hrs/wk, 2=1-5 hrs/wk, 3=6-10 hrs/wk, 4=11-15 hrs/wk, 5=16-20 hrs/wk, 6=21-25 hrs/wk, 7=26-30

9. Time Usage

a.	Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)	ACADPR01	LAC	FY	3.35	3.50	3.18	4.05	***	-.42
					SR	3.81	3.48	3.83	4.09	*
b.	Working for pay on campus	WORKON01		FY	1.69	1.43	1.91	1.66		
					SR	1.56	1.61	1.70	1.90	***
c.	Working for pay off campus	WORKOF01		FY	2.57	2.71	3.00	2.27		
					SR	3.71	4.19	4.63	3.50	
d.	Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, social fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	COCURR01	EEE	FY	2.43	2.33	2.23	2.31		
					SR	1.89	1.76	1.96	2.19	***
e.	Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, etc.)	SOCIAL05		FY	3.56	3.86	3.88	3.63		
					SR	3.04	3.01	3.45	3.36	**
f.	Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)	CAREDE01		FY	1.63	1.40	1.81	1.63		
					SR	3.58	3.40	3.74	2.29	***
g.	Commuting to class (driving, walking, etc.)	COMMUTE		FY	2.14	2.17		2.14		
					SR	2.59	2.50		2.31	***

the following?

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

10. Institutional Environment

a.	Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	ENVSCHOL	LAC	FY	3.01	3.06	2.97	3.13		
					SR	3.08	3.05	3.06	3.14	
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	ENVSUPRT	SCE	FY	2.97	2.91	3.00	3.06		
					SR	2.93	2.83	2.82	2.97	
c.	Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	ENVDIVRS	EEE	FY	2.44	2.29	2.27	2.60	*	-.16
					SR	2.51	2.26	2.30	2.42	

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d.	Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	ENVNACAD	SCE	FY	2.21	1.90	2.13	2.17		
				SR	2.00	1.90	1.87	1.97		
e.	Providing the support you need to thrive socially	ENVSOCAL	SCE	FY	2.42	2.22	2.46	2.38		
				SR	2.19	2.07	2.15	2.17		
f.	Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)	ENVEVENT		FY	3.00	2.72		2.84	*	.18
				SR	2.46	2.44		2.63	**	-.18
g.	Using computers in academic work	ENVCOMPT		FY	3.26	2.96		3.32		
				SR	3.49	3.42		3.46		

contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?

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

11. Educational and Personal Growth

a.	Acquiring a broad general education	NGNENLED		FY	2.99	3.04	2.91	3.18	**	-.24
				SR	3.27	3.25	3.26	3.33		
b.	Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	GNWORK		FY	2.75	2.60	2.67	2.72		
				SR	3.13	3.02	3.13	3.04		
c.	Writing clearly and effectively	GNWRITE		FY	2.91	2.82	2.82	3.00		
				SR	3.05	2.95	2.95	3.14		
d.	Speaking clearly and effectively	GNSPEAK		FY	2.69	2.67	2.64	2.78		
				SR	3.00	2.92	2.97	3.03		
e.	Thinking critically and analytically	GNANALY		FY	2.99	3.03	2.94	3.18	**	-.25
				SR	3.31	3.29	3.24	3.37		
f.	Analyzing quantitative problems	GNQUANT		FY	2.84	2.58	2.50	2.84		
				SR	2.99	2.95	2.94	3.01		
g.	Using computing and information technology	GNCMPTS		FY	2.99	2.81	2.81	2.96		
				SR	3.25	3.25	3.10	3.18		
h.	Working effectively with others	GNOTHERS		FY	2.90	2.76	2.96	2.95		
				SR	3.13	3.04	3.14	3.18		

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				2005	2003	2001	NSSE 2005		
i.	Voting in local, state, or national elections		FY	2.33	1.69	1.93	2.49		
			SR	2.24	2.05	2.17	2.31		
j.	Learning effectively on your own		FY	2.91	2.79	2.96	2.93		
			SR	3.00	3.09	2.96	3.07		
k.	Understanding yourself		FY	2.73	2.63	2.88	2.77		
			SR	2.79	2.56	2.90	2.88		
l.	Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds		FY	2.37	2.27	2.41	2.59	**	-.23
			SR	2.54	2.39	2.56	2.60		
m.	Solving complex real-world problems		FY	2.53	2.46		2.58		
			SR	2.78	2.57		2.72		
n.	Developing a personal code of values and ethics		FY	2.54	2.52	2.66	2.64		
			SR	2.57	2.54	2.76	2.74	*	-.16
o.	Contributing to the welfare of your community		FY	2.27	2.10	2.09	2.43	*	-.17
			SR	2.34	2.35	2.37	2.50	*	-.16
p.	Developing a deepened sense of spirituality		FY	2.12			2.15		
			SR	1.94			2.04		

12. Academic Advising

1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent

Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?	ADVISE		FY	2.93	2.92	3.05	3.00		
			SR	2.99	2.98	2.87	2.94		

13. Satisfaction

1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent

How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	ENTIREXP		FY	3.19	3.17	3.21	3.22		
			SR	3.25	3.16	3.22	3.27		

14.

1=definitely no, 2=probably no, 3=probably yes, 4=definitely yes

If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?	SAMECOLL		FY	3.39	3.40	3.32	3.22	*	.21
			SR	3.31	3.25	3.19	3.19	*	.13

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