



NSSE 2016 Topical Module Report

Civic Engagement

Auburn University

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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	5/2/16
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution retained the default comparison group (all module participants).
Group description	All other current- and prior-year NSSE institutions who administered module "Civic Engagement"

Civic Engagement (N=84)

Austin Peay State University (Clarksville, TN)	Marshall University (Huntington, WV)
Bard College (Annandale-On-Hudson, NY)	Marygrove College (Detroit, MI)*
Bemidji State University (Bemidji, MN)*	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (North Adams, MA)*
Bowling Green State University (Bowling Green, OH)	Mercer University (Macon, GA)
Central Connecticut State University (New Britain, CT)*	Mercy College (Dobbs Ferry, NY)
Clafin University (Orangeburg, SC)	Mercyhurst University (Erie, PA)
Clayton State University (Morrow, GA)	Metropolitan State University of Denver (Denver, CO)*
Cleveland State University (Cleveland, OH)*	Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, TX)
Colby-Sawyer College (New London, NH)*	Montana State University Billings (Billings, MT)
Coleman University (San Diego, CA)	Mount Aloysius College (Cresson, PA)
College of Wooster, The (Wooster, OH)*	Northeastern Illinois University (Chicago, IL)
DePaul University (Chicago, IL)*	Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff, AZ)*
Dominican University (River Forest, IL)	Olivet College (Olivet, MI)
Dominican University of California (San Rafael, CA)	Pennsylvania College of Technology (Williamsport, PA)*
Earlham College (Richmond, IN)*	Pittsburg State University (Pittsburg, KS)*
Framingham State University (Frammingham, MA)	Pitzer College (Claremont, CA)
Geneva College (Beaver Falls, PA)	Prairie View A&M University (Prairie View, TX)*
George Mason University (Fairfax, VA)*	Presbyterian College (Clinton, SC)
Governors State University (University Park, IL)	Ramapo College of New Jersey (Mahwah, NJ)
Grand Valley State University (Allendale, MI)	Rhode Island College (Providence, RI)*
Hiram College (Hiram, OH)*	Roosevelt University (Chicago, IL)*
Kean University (Union, NJ)*	Rutgers University-Camden (Camden, NJ)*
Keene State College (Keene, NH)	Salem State University (Salem, MA)
LaGrange College (Lagrange, GA)	Sam Houston State University (Huntsville, TX)
Lindenwood University (Saint Charles, MO)*	San Diego State University (San Diego, CA)*
Long Island University - Brooklyn (Brooklyn, NY)*	Stockton University (Galloway, NJ)
Long Island University - Post (Brookville, NY)*	Sul Ross State University (Alpine, TX)
Loyola University New Orleans (New Orleans, LA)*	Temple University (Philadelphia, PA)
Lycoming College (Williamsport, PA)	Texas A&M University - Texarkana (Texarkana, TX)
Manhattan College (Bronx, NY)	Tulane University of Louisiana (New Orleans, LA)*

Civic Engagement (N=84), continued

University of Alaska Anchorage (Anchorage, AK)
University of Houston-Downtown (Houston, TX)
University of Houston-Victoria (Victoria, TX)*
University of La Verne (La Verne, CA)*
University of Maine at Presque Isle (Presque Isle, ME)
University of Missouri-St. Louis (Saint Louis, MO)*
University of Nebraska at Omaha (Omaha, NE)
University of North Carolina at Asheville (Asheville, NC)*
University of North Carolina Wilmington (Wilmington, NC)*
University of North Texas (Denton, TX)
University of Pikeville (Pikeville, KY)
University of San Diego (San Diego, CA)*
University of South Carolina Upstate (Spartanburg, SC)
Utah Valley University (Orem, UT)
Valley City State University (Valley City, ND)*
Virginia Wesleyan College (Norfolk, VA)
Wabash College (Crawfordsville, IN)
Weber State University (Ogden, UT)
Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, NC)*
Westfield State University (Westfield, MA)
Wichita State University (Wichita, KS)*
William Paterson University of New Jersey (Wayne, NJ)
Wingate University (Wingate, NC)
Wright State University (Dayton, OH)*

*2015 participant

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Auburn		Civic Engagement		Auburn	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	5	2	231	2	5.1	5.1	.02
		2		7	2	366	2			
		3		22	7	1,086	7			
		4		51	16	3,283	20			
		5		127	36	5,233	31			
		6		83	23	4,053	25			
		7	Excellent	47	14	2,349	14			
		Total		342	100	16,601	100			
b. Resolve conflicts that involve bias, discrimination, and prejudice	CIV01b	1	Poor	4	1	290	2	4.7	4.8 *	-0.12 ▽
		2		11	4	501	3			
		3		40	12	1,531	9			
		4		99	29	4,017	24			
		5		99	28	4,947	29			
		6		56	17	3,394	21			
		7	Excellent	31	9	1,875	12			
		Total		340	100	16,555	100			
c. Lead a group where people from different backgrounds feel welcomed and included	CIV01c	1	Poor	8	2	399	3	5.0	5.1	-0.03
		2		12	4	523	3			
		3		28	8	1,305	8			
		4		55	16	3,095	19			
		5		100	30	4,282	25			
		6		90	25	4,027	24			
		7	Excellent	47	15	2,916	18			
		Total		340	100	16,547	100			
d. Contribute to the well-being of your community	CIV01d	1	Poor	4	1	254	2	5.4	5.2 **	.17 △
		2		4	1	379	3			
		3		10	3	1,044	7			
		4		45	15	2,914	18			
		5		108	31	4,562	27			
		6		103	29	4,343	26			
		7	Excellent	64	19	3,004	18			
		Total		338	100	16,500	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	16	5	1,462	10	2.5	2.5	.09
		2	Sometimes	161	47	7,478	46			
		3	Often	127	37	5,458	32			
		4	Very often	36	11	2,171	13			
		Total		340	100	16,569	100			
b. Informed yourself about state, national, or global issues	CIV02b	1	Never	18	5	1,098	7	2.8	2.7 *	.12 △
		2	Sometimes	123	35	6,494	38			
		3	Often	129	36	5,710	35			
		4	Very often	69	24	3,247	20			
		Total		339	100	16,549	100			

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Auburn		Civic Engagement		Auburn	Civic Engagement	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
c. Discussed local or campus issues with others	CIV02c	1	Never	29	9	2,074	14	2.5	2.4	.06
		2	Sometimes	157	46	7,068	43			
		3	Often	123	35	5,212	30			
		4	Very often	31	10	2,187	12			
		Total		340	100	16,541	100			
d. Discussed state, national, or global issues with others	CIV02d	1	Never	27	8	1,755	11	2.6	2.5	.07
		2	Sometimes	145	42	6,792	41			
		3	Often	113	32	5,178	31			
		4	Very often	54	18	2,782	17			
		Total		339	100	16,507	100			
e. Raised awareness about local or campus issues	CIV02e	1	Never	148	45	7,098	45	1.8	1.8	-.02
		2	Sometimes	134	38	6,082	36			
		3	Often	41	12	2,364	14			
		4	Very often	17	5	984	6			
		Total		340	100	16,528	100			
f. Raised awareness about state, national, or global issues	CIV02f	1	Never	145	43	6,634	41	1.8	1.9	-.08
		2	Sometimes	128	37	6,063	36			
		3	Often	49	15	2,637	16			
		4	Very often	17	5	1,180	7			
		Total		339	100	16,514	100			
g. Asked others to address local or campus issues	CIV02g	1	Never	200	60	8,183	51	1.6	1.7 *	-.14
		2	Sometimes	92	26	5,248	31			
		3	Often	32	9	2,245	13			
		4	Very often	15	5	844	5			
		Total		339	100	16,520	100			
h. Asked others to address state, national, or global issues	CIV02h	1	Never	195	58	8,221	51	1.6	1.7 **	-.16
		2	Sometimes	95	28	5,077	30			
		3	Often	31	10	2,229	13			
		4	Very often	14	4	944	6			
		Total		335	100	16,471	100			
i. Organized others to work on local or campus issues	CIV02i	1	Never	230	69	10,528	65	1.5	1.5	-.08
		2	Sometimes	72	20	3,698	22			
		3	Often	24	7	1,623	9			
		4	Very often	11	4	645	4			
		Total		337	100	16,494	100			
j. Organized others to work on state, national, or global issues	CIV02j	1	Never	242	74	10,790	67	1.4	1.5 **	-.15
		2	Sometimes	60	18	3,529	21			
		3	Often	20	6	1,441	9			
		4	Very often	7	3	596	4			
		Total		329	100	16,356	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 74 first-year students and 97 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE16 Topical Module - Civic Engagement 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		
				Auburn		Civic Engagement		Auburn	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	3	1	250	1	5.2	5.3	-.07
		2		10	2	356	1			
		3		22	5	1,177	5			
		4		54	13	3,692	15			
		5		151	36	7,782	30			
		6		127	30	7,386	29			
		7	Excellent	59	14	4,580	19			
		Total		426	100	25,223	100			
b. Resolve conflicts that involve bias, discrimination, and prejudice	CIV01b	1	Poor	7	2	331	1	4.9	5.1 **	-.15
		2		11	3	632	3			
		3		38	9	1,746	7			
		4		82	19	4,931	19			
		5		157	38	7,631	30			
		6		89	21	6,157	25			
		7	Excellent	40	9	3,718	15			
		Total		424	100	25,146	100			
c. Lead a group where people from different backgrounds feel welcomed and included	CIV01c	1	Poor	2	1	326	1	5.4	5.5	-.03
		2		9	2	465	2			
		3		23	5	1,156	5			
		4		53	12	3,398	13			
		5		101	24	5,947	23			
		6		143	34	7,331	29			
		7	Excellent	93	21	6,513	27			
		Total		424	100	25,136	100			
d. Contribute to the well-being of your community	CIV01d	1	Poor	5	1	268	1	5.5	5.5	.03
		2		9	2	402	2			
		3		14	3	1,053	4			
		4		43	10	3,484	14			
		5		110	26	6,034	24			
		6		138	33	7,621	30			
		7	Excellent	104	24	6,203	25			
		Total		423	100	25,065	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	27	7	2,775	12	2.7	2.5 ***	.21
		2	Sometimes	175	42	10,903	43			
		3	Often	122	29	7,474	29			
		4	Very often	100	23	4,040	16			
		Total		424	100	25,192	100			
b. Informed yourself about state, national, or global issues	CIV02b	1	Never	10	2	1,157	5	3.1	2.9 ***	.23
		2	Sometimes	102	22	7,902	30			
		3	Often	155	37	8,929	35			
		4	Very often	157	38	7,152	30			
		Total		424	100	25,140	100			

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Auburn		Civic Engagement		Auburn	Civic Engagement	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
c. Discussed local or campus issues with others	CIV02c	1	Never	38	9	3,488	15	2.6	2.4 ***	.25
		2	Sometimes	157	37	10,601	43			
		3	Often	140	33	7,151	27			
		4	Very often	90	20	3,893	15			
			Total	425	100	25,133	100			
d. Discussed state, national, or global issues with others	CIV02d	1	Never	17	4	1,961	8	3.0	2.7 ***	.28
		2	Sometimes	122	28	9,065	36			
		3	Often	150	36	8,352	33			
		4	Very often	135	33	5,750	23			
			Total	424	100	25,128	100			
e. Raised awareness about local or campus issues	CIV02e	1	Never	160	39	10,398	43	1.9	1.9	.05
		2	Sometimes	167	39	9,016	35			
		3	Often	56	13	3,716	14			
		4	Very often	40	9	2,009	8			
			Total	423	100	25,139	100			
f. Raised awareness about state, national, or global issues	CIV02f	1	Never	151	37	8,791	36	2.0	2.0	-.05
		2	Sometimes	168	38	9,271	36			
		3	Often	63	15	4,493	18			
		4	Very often	42	10	2,569	10			
			Total	424	100	25,124	100			
g. Asked others to address local or campus issues	CIV02g	1	Never	202	49	12,550	52	1.7	1.7	.03
		2	Sometimes	143	34	7,787	30			
		3	Often	51	11	3,143	12			
		4	Very often	26	6	1,644	6			
			Total	422	100	25,124	100			
h. Asked others to address state, national, or global issues	CIV02h	1	Never	201	48	12,059	49	1.8	1.8	.00
		2	Sometimes	139	33	7,745	30			
		3	Often	52	12	3,426	13			
		4	Very often	31	8	1,830	7			
			Total	423	100	25,060	100			
i. Organized others to work on local or campus issues	CIV02i	1	Never	262	63	15,811	65	1.6	1.5	.04
		2	Sometimes	98	22	5,533	21			
		3	Often	42	9	2,382	9			
		4	Very often	22	5	1,345	5			
			Total	424	100	25,071	100			
j. Organized others to work on state, national, or global issues	CIV02j	1	Never	285	68	16,161	67	1.5	1.5	-.05
		2	Sometimes	92	22	5,272	20			
		3	Often	29	7	2,211	8			
		4	Very often	17	4	1,218	5			
			Total	423	100	24,862	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 74 first-year students and 97 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE16 Topical Module - Civic Engagement 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
	Auburn	Auburn	Civic Engagement	Auburn	Civic Engagement	Auburn	Civic Engagement	Comparisons with: Civic Engagement		
CIV01a	332	5.10	5.07	.07	.01	1.29	1.32	8,620	.692	.02
CIV01b	330	4.68	4.84	.07	.01	1.30	1.36	8,587	.029	-.12
CIV01c	330	5.01	5.05	.08	.02	1.42	1.47	8,583	.607	-.03
CIV01d	327	5.39	5.16	.07	.02	1.22	1.38	360	.001	.17
CIV02a	330	2.55	2.47	.04	.01	0.75	0.84	362	.074	.09
CIV02b	329	2.79	2.69	.05	.01	0.86	0.87	8,588	.038	.12
CIV02c	330	2.46	2.41	.04	.01	0.79	0.88	362	.274	.06
CIV02d	329	2.61	2.54	.05	.01	0.87	0.90	8,570	.200	.07
CIV02e	330	1.78	1.80	.05	.01	0.86	0.88	8,575	.714	-.02
CIV02f	329	1.83	1.90	.05	.01	0.87	0.92	8,570	.176	-.08
CIV02g	329	1.59	1.71	.05	.01	0.85	0.87	8,575	.013	-.14
CIV02h	324	1.60	1.74	.05	.01	0.83	0.90	8,542	.004	-.16
CIV02i	327	1.45	1.52	.04	.01	0.78	0.82	8,563	.160	-.08
CIV02j	320	1.37	1.49	.04	.01	0.72	0.80	351	.005	-.15

Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	Auburn	Auburn	Civic Engagement	Auburn	Civic Engagement	Auburn	Civic Engagement			
CIV01a	423	5.24	5.33	.06	.01	1.20	1.26	449	.133	-.07
CIV01b	421	4.89	5.08	.06	.01	1.27	1.33	447	.002	-.15
CIV01c	420	5.45	5.48	.06	.01	1.28	1.36	14,849	.583	-.03
CIV01d	419	5.51	5.46	.06	.01	1.30	1.32	14,806	.488	.03
CIV02a	421	2.68	2.49	.04	.01	0.90	0.90	14,877	.000	.21
CIV02b	421	3.11	2.90	.04	.01	0.83	0.88	14,845	.000	.23
CIV02c	422	2.64	2.42	.04	.01	0.91	0.92	14,846	.000	.25
CIV02d	421	2.97	2.72	.04	.01	0.87	0.91	447	.000	.28
CIV02e	420	1.91	1.87	.05	.01	0.94	0.93	14,849	.295	.05
CIV02f	421	1.98	2.03	.05	.01	0.96	0.98	14,839	.320	-.05
CIV02g	419	1.75	1.72	.04	.01	0.88	0.90	14,832	.579	.03
CIV02h	420	1.79	1.79	.05	.01	0.92	0.93	14,808	.924	.00
CIV02i	421	1.57	1.54	.04	.01	0.86	0.85	14,811	.470	.04
CIV02j	420	1.47	1.51	.04	.01	0.79	0.84	447	.253	-.05

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."
- l. This was a new item in 2016, comparison group results do not include 2015 institutions. May not apply to all modules.

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.