

Institutional Analysis, Assessment & Reporting

NSSE Benchmark Comparisons by Year and Class Level 2002, 2004, and 2006 Administrations Adjusted for full-time enrollment, gender, and age Research Report 2007-02

Marcia J. Belcheir, PhD.
Associate Director

Boise State University
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Summary

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) has developed five benchmarks which summarize a variety of items included in the survey.¹ The five benchmarks are Level of Academic Challenge, Active and Collaborative Learning, Student-Faculty Interaction, Enriching Educational Experiences (for 2004 and 2006 only), and Supportive Campus Environment. This report looks at year-by-year comparisons along with differences in benchmark scores between freshman and seniors. The benchmarks were adjusted to account for differences in full-time enrollment, gender, and age.

Freshmen had lower benchmark scores compared to seniors on all benchmarks except Supportive Campus Environment. This indicates that seniors experienced a greater level of academic challenge, more active and collaborative learning, more faculty-student interaction, and a greater variety of enriching educational experiences compared to freshmen.

Comparisons by year indicated that students are experiencing a more supportive campus environment compared to 2002. In addition, reports indicate that more active and collaborative learning was taking place in 2006 compared to prior years. No significant differences were found for other benchmarks.

Consistent differences were found between students who reported that they were enrolled full-time compared to part-time enrollees. In addition, age and gender often showed significant differences.

Tables that provide the results for each benchmark follow.

Level of Academic Challenge

ANOVA(b)

			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Model	1	Regression	17382.093	6	2897.015	15.332	.000(a)
		Residual	246401.195	1304	188.958		
		Total	263783.287	1310			

a Predictors: (Constant), YR_2006, Age, MALE, FT_ENRL, FROSH, YR_2004

b Dependent Variable: Academic Challenge (unadjusted) - raw, individual-level score

¹ For details on the items that comprise the benchmarks, see the report entitled "A Comparison of National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Benchmarks Over Time."

Coefficients(a)

			Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
			B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
Model	1	(Constant)	46.958	1.872		25.084	.000
		FT_ENRL	7.377	.986	.209	7.486	.000
		MALE	-1.835	.792	-.062	-2.316	.021
		Age	.020	.043	.013	.468	.640
		FROSH	-3.500	.823	-.120	-4.252	.000
		YR_2004	1.885	1.189	.053	1.585	.113
		YR_2006	-.579	.956	-.020	-.606	.545

a Dependent Variable: Academic Challenge (unadjusted) - raw, individual-level score

Active and Collaborative Learning

ANOVA(b)

			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Model	1	Regression	40315.304	6	6719.217	25.925	.000(a)
		Residual	338227.300	1305	259.178		
		Total	378542.604	1311			

a Predictors: (Constant), YR_2006, Age, MALE, FT_ENRL, FROSH, YR_2004

b Dependent Variable: Active and Collaborative Learning - raw, individual-level score

Coefficients(a)

			Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
			B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
Model	1	(Constant)	39.049	2.192		17.810	.000
		FT_ENRL	6.111	1.154	.144	5.295	.000
		MALE	-2.074	.928	-.059	-2.236	.026
		Age	.128	.050	.072	2.541	.011
		FROSH	-8.629	.964	-.247	-8.956	.000
		YR_2004	.508	1.391	.012	.365	.715
		YR_2006	2.565	1.120	.074	2.290	.022

a Dependent Variable: Active and Collaborative Learning - raw, individual-level score

Faculty-Student Interaction

ANOVA(b)

			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Model	1	Regression	39219.432	6	6536.572	18.077	.000(a)
		Residual	471524.598	1304	361.599		
		Total	510744.029	1310			

a Predictors: (Constant), YR_2006, Age, MALE, FT_ENRL, FROSH, YR_2004

b Dependent Variable: Student-Faculty Interaction (for yr-to-yr comparisons) - raw, individual-level score

Coefficients(a)

		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients			
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.	
Model	1	(Constant)	33.558	2.590		12.958	.000
		FT_ENRL	6.543	1.363	.133	4.800	.000
		MALE	-.463	1.096	-.011	-.422	.673
		Age	.027	.059	.013	.447	.655
		FROSH	-9.202	1.138	-.227	-8.083	.000
		YR_2004	2.751	1.644	.055	1.674	.094
		YR_2006	1.553	1.323	.039	1.174	.241

a Dependent Variable: Student-Faculty Interaction (for yr-to-yr comparisons) - raw, individual-level score

Enriching Educational Experiences

ANOVA(b)

			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Model	1	Regression	44491.937	5	8898.387	37.707	.000(a)
		Residual	238822.622	1012	235.991		
		Total	283314.558	1017			

a Predictors: (Constant), YR_2006, FT_ENRL, FROSH, MALE, Age

b Dependent Variable: Enriching Educational Experiences - raw, individual-level score

Coefficients(a)

			Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
			B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
Model	1	(Constant)	36.128	2.407		15.011	.000
		FT_ENRL	5.171	1.315	.116	3.931	.000
		MALE	-1.547	1.003	-.045	-1.542	.123
		Age	-.190	.055	-.107	-3.434	.001
		FROSH	-13.523	1.051	-.394	-12.869	.000
		YR_2006	1.733	1.118	.045	1.551	.121

a Dependent Variable: Enriching Educational Experiences - raw, individual-level score

Supportive Campus Environment

ANOVA(b)

			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Model	1	Regression	8011.227	6	1335.205	4.306	.000(a)
		Residual	403757.202	1302	310.105		
		Total	411768.429	1308			

a Predictors: (Constant), YR_2004, FROSH, FT_ENRL, MALE, Age, YR_2006

b Dependent Variable: Supportive Campus Environment - raw, individual-level score

Coefficients(a)

			Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
			B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
Model	1	(Constant)	39.351	2.403		16.376	.000
		FT_ENRL	2.900	1.263	.066	2.296	.022
		MALE	-.789	1.016	-.021	-.777	.437
		Age	.155	.055	.083	2.809	.005
		FROSH	.805	1.055	.022	.764	.445
		YR_2006	4.278	1.225	.119	3.492	.000
		YR_2004	3.854	1.525	.086	2.527	.012

a Dependent Variable: Supportive Campus Environment - raw, individual-level score