NSSE national survey of student engagement

Customized Comparison Groups

The NSSE *Institutional Report* displays core survey results for your students alongside those of three comparison groups. In June, your institution was invited to customize these groups via the "Report Form" on the Institution Interface. This report summarizes how your comparison groups were selected and lists the institutions within them.

NSSE comparison groups may be customized by (a) identifying specific institutions from the list of all current-year participants, (b) composing the group by selecting institutional characteristics, or (c) a combination of these. Institutions that choose not to customize receive default groups[a] that provide relevant comparisons for most institutions.

Institutions that appended additional question sets in the form of topical modules or through consortium participation were also invited to customize comparison groups for the corresponding reports by choosing from the institutions where the question sets were administered. The default for these groups is all other institutions where the questions were included. Please note: Comparison groups for additional question sets (topical modules and consortium questions) are documented within those reports.

Report Comparisons

Comparison groups are located in the institutional reports as illustrated in the mock report at right. The three groups are "Public Research Univ," "Large Public," and "NSSE 2013."

Your Students' Responses   **Comparison Group 1**   **Comparison Group 2**   **Comparison Group 3**

First-Year Students — Frequency Distributions[a]

Item wording or description	Variable name [c]	Values [d]	Response options	NSSEville State Count	%	Public Research Univ Count	%	Large Public Count	%	NSSE 2013 Count	%
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?											
a. Asked questions or contributed to course discussions in other ways	askquest	1	Never	13	3	234	2	1,029	3	3,632	3
		2	Sometimes	151	33	4,325	30	12,818	33	41,152	34
		3	Often	150	36	5,137	35	13,705	35	41,523	34
		4	Very often	120	28	4,855	33	11,448	29	34,678	29
			Total	434	100	14,551	100	39,080	100	120,985	100

SAMPLE

Reading This Report

This report consists of three sections that provide details for each of your comparison groups, illustrated at right.

Comparison Group Name
The name assigned to the comparison group is listed here.

How Group was Selected
Indicates whether your group was drawn from a list, built based on criteria, or is the default group. If institutional characteristics were used to build your comparison group, they are listed here.

Institution List
The names, cities and states or provinces of the comparison institutions are listed for your reference.

Comparison Group 1: Public Research Univ

This section summarizes how this group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default group was used. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions in this group.

Date submitted	7/2/13
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this group by selecting institutional characteristics as follows: Sector (Pub); Basic Classification (RU/VH, RU/H)
Group description	No description provided

SAMPLE

'Public Research Univ' institutions (N=57)

Auburn University (Auburn University, AL)	University of Montana (Missoula, MT)
Bowling Green State University (Bowling Green, OH)	University of Nebraska at Lincoln (Lincoln, NE)
Clemson University (Clemson, SC)	University of Nevada, Reno (Reno, NV)
College of William & Mary (Williamsburg, VA)	University of New Hampshire (Durham, NH)
Colorado School of Mines (Golden, CO)	University of North Dakota (Grand Forks, ND)
Florida Atlantic University (Boca Raton, FL)	University of North Texas (Denton, TX)
Iowa State University (Ames, IA)	University of Oklahoma (Norman, OK)
Kansas State University (Manhattan, KS)	University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)

a. The default groups are:

    Comparison Group 1 - For institutions not in a NSSE consortium, this group contains current-year institutions in the same geographic region and sector (public/private). For consortium institutions, it contains results for the other consortium members.

    Comparison Group 2 - All other current-year U.S. NSSE institutions sharing your institution's Basic Carnegie Classification. (Canadian institutions are not classified by the Carnegie Foundation, and must identify a comparison group.)

    Comparison Group 3 - All other current-year U.S. NSSE institutions (Canadian participants are also included in this group for Canadian institutions).