

NSSE 2006 Mean Comparisons University of South Carolina Aiken

2004				2006			
USC-Aiken	All NSSE			USC Aiken	All NSSE		

Variable *Bench- mark* *Class* *Mean*^a *Mean*^a *Sig*^b *Effect Size*^c *Mean*^a *Mean*^a *Sig*^b *Effect Size*^c
In your experience at your institution during the current school year, about how often have you done each of the following?
1=never, 2=sometimes, 3=often, 4=very often

1. Academic and Intellectual Experiences

a.	Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST	ACL	FY	2.77	2.84		2.79	2.78		
				SR	3.03	3.16		3.22	3.06	*	.19
b.	Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN	ACL	FY	2.11	2.24	* -.17	2.02	2.23	**	-.26
				SR	2.66	2.86	* -.23	2.87	2.80		
c.	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP		FY	2.75	2.70		2.92	2.65	**	.28
				SR	2.31	2.51	* -.20	2.53	2.49		
d.	Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various	INTEGRAT		FY	3.29	3.05	*** .30	3.31	3.03	***	.35
				SR	3.25	3.35		3.40	3.30		
e.	Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class	DIVCLASS		FY	2.81	2.73		2.89	2.76		
				SR	2.74	2.81		2.89	2.78		
f.	Come to class without completing readings or assignments	CLUNPREP		FY	1.99	2.01		1.90	2.03		
				SR	2.08	2.07		2.06	2.12		
g.	Worked with other students on projects during class	CLASSGRP	ACL	FY	2.41	2.33		2.51	2.40		
				SR	2.52	2.44		2.59	2.51		
h.	Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	OCCGRP	ACL	FY	2.25	2.39	* -.16	2.43	2.36		
				SR	2.58	2.73		2.66	2.75		
i.	Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during	INTIDEAS		FY	2.52	2.47		2.58	2.57		
				SR	2.74	2.86		2.94	2.91		
j.	Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	TUTOR	ACL	FY	1.61	1.67		1.66	1.67		
				SR	1.82	1.91		1.93	1.89		
k.	Participated in a community-based project as part of a regular course	COMMPROJ	ACL	FY	1.41	1.56	* -.18	1.52	1.50		
				SR	1.49	1.74	** -.27	1.82	1.69		

a Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

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

c Mean difference divided by comparison group standard deviation.



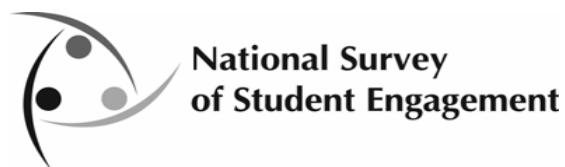
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				USC- Aiken	All NSSE			USC Aiken	All NSSE		
	Variable	Bench- mark	Class	Mean ^a	Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c
l.	Used an electronic medium (list-serv, chat group, Internet, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	ITACADEM	EEE FY SR	2.49 2.65	2.63 2.78			2.67 2.78	2.64 2.85		
m.	Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	EMAIL	FY SR	2.83 3.03	2.98 3.24	*	-.26	3.12 3.35	3.01 3.31		
n.	Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FACGRADE	SFI FY SR	2.63 2.80	2.59 2.84			2.76 3.04	2.56 2.79	**	.24 .29
o.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPLANS	SFI FY SR	2.29 2.50	2.14 2.50	*	.16	2.31 2.63	2.10 2.40	*	.23 .23
p.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	FACIDEAS	SFI FY SR	1.86 2.01	1.81 2.11			1.95 2.27	1.81 2.08	*	.22
q.	Received prompt feedback from faculty on your academic performance (written or oral)	FACFEED	SFI FY SR	2.75 2.89	2.63 2.84			2.73 3.03	2.58 2.76	***	.33
r.	Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	WORKHARD	LAC FY SR	2.77 2.80	2.60 2.72	**	.20	2.80 2.84	2.57 2.69	**	.26
s.	Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student	FACOTHER	SFI FY SR	1.53 1.94	1.57 1.90			1.62 1.90	1.56 1.81		
t.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members,	OOIDEAS	ACL FY SR	2.64 2.84	2.73 2.90			2.73 2.98	2.68 2.84		
u.	Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	DIVRSTUD	EEE FY SR	2.65 2.63	2.56 2.62			2.69 2.89	2.55 2.64	**	.25
v.	Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious	DIFFSTU2	EEE FY SR	2.61 2.77	2.74 2.72			2.63 2.76	2.68 2.71		

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		USC-Aiken		All NSSE		USC Aiken		All NSSE			

Variable	Bench- mark	Class	Mean ^a	Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c
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During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following mental activities? 1=very little, 2=some, 3=quite a bit, 4=very much

2. Mental Activities

a.	Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings so you can repeat them in	MEMORIZE	FY	3.07	2.91	*	.18	3.09	2.87	**	.26
				SR	2.98	2.74	**	.26	2.87	2.74	
b.	Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory, such as examining a	ANALYZE	LAC	3.17	3.13			3.16	3.06		
				SR	3.24	3.30			3.26	3.22	
c.	Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations	SYNTHESZ	LAC	2.98	2.88			2.90	2.83		
				SR	3.07	3.09			3.07	3.01	
d.	Making judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods, such as examining how	EVALUATE	LAC	2.95	2.84			2.97	2.82		
				SR	2.99	2.99			3.00	2.94	
e.	Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	APPLYING	LAC	3.08	3.03			3.11	2.98		
				SR	3.26	3.23			3.32	3.17	

During the current school year, about how much reading and writing have you done?

1=none, 2=between 1 and 4, 3=between 5 and 10, 4=between 11 and 20, 5=more than 20

3. Reading and Writing

a.	Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	READASGN	LAC	3.19	3.42	**	-.23	3.12	3.26		
				SR	2.89	3.32	***	-.42	2.81	3.18	***
b.	Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment	READOWN		1.89	2.03	*	-.17	1.93	2.06		
				SR	2.09	2.21			2.02	2.21	*
c.	Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or more	WRITEMOR	LAC	1.22	1.25			1.25	1.25		
				SR	1.45	1.66	***	-.27	1.53	1.64	
d.	Number of written papers or reports between 5 and 19 pages	WRITEMID	LAC	2.51	2.40			2.23	2.29		
				SR	2.44	2.66	*	-.23	2.50	2.59	
e.	Number of written papers or reports of fewer than 5 pages	WRITESML	LAC	3.41	3.25			3.18	3.05		
				SR	2.79	3.11	**	-.27	2.59	2.98	***

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Variable	Bench- mark	Class		Mean ^a	Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c	Mean ^a	Mean ^a	Sig ^b	Effect Size ^c
4. Problem Sets <i>In a typical week, how many homework problem sets do you complete?</i>											
<i>1=none, 2=1-2, 3=3-4, 4=5-6, 5=more than 6</i>											
a.	Number of <i>problem sets</i> that take you more than an hour to complete	PROBSETA		2.69	2.59			2.76	2.63		
				SR	2.43	2.49			2.49	2.57	
b.	Number of <i>problem sets</i> that take you less than an hour to complete	PROBSETB		2.79	2.68			2.85	2.74		
				SR	2.29	2.29			2.33	2.34	
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	EXAMS		5.64	5.54			5.60	5.42		
				SR	5.51	5.48			5.69	5.41	*
6. Additional Collegiate Experiences <i>During the current school year, about how often have 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	ATTDARTS		2.06	2.12			2.23	2.10		
				SR	1.86	2.03			1.75	2.01	**
b.	Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	EXERCISE		2.57	2.72			2.74	2.77		
				SR	2.21	2.57	***	-.32	2.58	2.70	
c.	Participated in activities to enhance your spirituality (worship, meditation, prayer, etc.)	WORSHIP		2.11	2.08			2.34	2.09	*	.22
				SR	2.20	2.07			2.49	2.18	**
d.	Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	OWNVIEW						2.51	2.57		
				SR					2.66	2.69	
e.	Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her	OTHRVIEW						2.70	2.74		
				SR					2.79	2.83	
f.	Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	CHNGVIEW						2.87	2.80		
				SR					2.87	2.87	

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Variable *Bench-
mark* *Class* *Mean*^a *Mean*^a *Sig*^b *Effect
Size*^c *Mean*^a *Mean*^a *Sig*^b *Effect
Size*^c

Which of the following have you done or do you plan to 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 "done" among all valid respondents.)

7. Enriching Educational Experiences

a.	Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	INTERN	EEE	FY	.01	.06	***	-.23	.05	.07		
					SR	.38	.56	***	-.37	.54	.53	
b.	Community service or volunteer work	VOLUNTER	EEE	FY	.26	.37	**	-.24	.32	.37		
					SR	.45	.60	**	-.30	.56	.59	
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two	LEARNCOM		FY	.07	.12	*	-.16	.10	.16	*	-.16
					SR	.14	.23	*	-.20	.25	.25	
d.	Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	RESEARCH	SFI	FY	.05	.03			.07	.05		
					SR	.14	.20			.14	.19	
e.	Foreign language coursework	FORLANG	EEE	FY	.16	.23	*	-.17	.09	.22	***	-.32
					SR	.54	.43	*	.21	.50	.41	
f.	Study abroad	STUDYABR	EEE	FY	.01	.02			.02	.03		
					SR	.06	.16	***	-.29	.07	.14	**
g.	Independent study or self-designed major	INDSTUDY	EEE	FY	.02	.02			.04	.03		
					SR	.08	.23	***	-.35	.15	.19	
h.	Culminating senior experience (comprehensive exam, capstone course, thesis, project, etc.)	SENIORX	EEE	FY	.01	.01			.01	.01		
					SR	.15	.35	***	-.42	.26	.32	

8. Quality of Relationships

Mark the box that best represents the quality of your relationships with people at your institution. 1=unfriendly, unsupportive, sense of alienation to 7=friendly, supportive, sense of belonging

a.	Relationships with other students	ENVSTU	SCE	FY	5.65	5.68			5.70	5.48	*	.16
					SR	6.01	5.75	*	.20	5.92	5.60	**
<i>1=unavailable, unhelpful, unsympathetic to 7=available, helpful, sympathetic</i>												
b.	Relationships with faculty members	ENVFAC	SCE	FY	5.59	5.58			5.53	5.19	**	.25
					SR	5.80	5.73			5.93	5.42	***
<i>1=unhelpful, inconsiderate, rigid to 7=helpful, considerate, flexible</i>												
c.	Relationships with administrative personnel and offices	ENVADM	SCE	FY	5.49	5.13	**	.25	5.17	4.60	***	.36
					SR	5.64	4.82	***	.50	5.15	4.50	***

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*About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day 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 hrs/wk, 8=more than 30 hrs/wk*

9. Time Usage

a.	Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data,	ACADPR01	LAC	FY	3.54	4.00	***	-.28	3.86	3.99		
					SR	3.51	4.08	***	-.32	3.78	4.10	
b.	Working for pay on campus	WORKON01		FY	1.29	1.63	***	-.28	1.26	1.53	**	-.22
					SR	1.55	1.92	**	-.24	1.71	1.83	
c.	Working for pay off campus	WORKOF01		FY	2.88	2.27	**	.28	2.67	2.59		
					SR	4.90	3.53	***	.50	4.10	3.81	
d.	Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student	COCURR01	EEE	FY	1.95	2.22	*	-.18	2.11	2.17		
					SR	2.01	2.14			1.91	2.08	
e.	Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, exercising, etc.)	SOCIAL01		FY	3.68	3.82			3.52	3.79		
					SR	3.49	3.54			3.48	3.48	
f.	Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)	CAREDE01		FY	1.97	1.60	*	.24	1.98	1.78		
					SR	2.93	2.26	**	.30	2.97	2.33	**
g.	Commuting to class (driving, walking, etc.)	COMMUTE		FY	2.39	2.15	**	.24	2.49	2.24	*	.25
					SR	2.55	2.30	*	.24	2.56	2.38	

*To what extent does your institution emphasize each of 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	3.31	3.15	*	.21	3.35	3.07	***	.36
					SR	3.27	3.14			3.25	3.08	*
b.	Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	ENVSUPRT	SCE	FY	3.14	3.10			3.30	2.99	***	.39
					SR	3.06	2.97			3.20	2.87	***
c.	Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	ENVDIVRS	EEE	FY	2.65	2.60			2.88	2.57	***	.33
					SR	2.61	2.41	*	.21	2.76	2.40	***

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d.	Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	ENVNACAD	SCE	FY	2.16			2.49	2.13	***	.39
				SR	2.08			2.30	1.90	***	.43
e.	Providing the support you need to thrive socially	ENVSOCAL	SCE	FY	2.39			2.76	2.37	***	.42
				SR	2.37		**	.28	2.46	2.14	***
f.	Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events,	ENVEVENT		FY	2.95			3.11	2.75	***	.38
				SR	2.69			2.81	2.57	**	.26
g.	Using computers in academic work	ENVCOMPT		FY	3.37			3.52	3.32	***	.25
				SR	3.52			3.62	3.47	*	.20

To what extent has your experience at this institution 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	NGENLED		FY	3.22			3.30	3.12	*	.23	
				SR	3.39			3.41	3.24	*	.21	
b.	Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	GNWORK		FY	2.75			2.91	2.70	*	.22	
				SR	3.14			3.33	3.02	***	.34	
c.	Writing clearly and effectively	GNWRITE		FY	3.18		**	.25	3.36	2.95	***	.48
				SR	3.29		*	.21	3.42	3.07	***	.41
d.	Speaking clearly and effectively	GNSPEAK		FY	2.95		**	.24	2.99	2.75	**	.25
				SR	3.14				3.28	2.96	***	.35
e.	Thinking critically and analytically	GNANALY		FY	3.31		*	.17	3.38	3.16	**	.28
				SR	3.47				3.60	3.33	***	.36
f.	Analyzing quantitative problems	GNQUANT		FY	2.90		***	.29	3.11	2.85	**	.28
				SR	3.08		*	.24	3.33	3.02	***	.35
g.	Using computing and information technology	GNCMPTS		FY	3.12		***	.29	3.27	2.99	**	.31
				SR	3.32		*	.23	3.53	3.21	***	.39
h.	Working effectively with others	GNOTHERS		FY	3.00		*	.17	3.16	2.92	**	.27
				SR	3.34		*	.24	3.40	3.14	**	.31

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i.	Voting in local, state, or national elections	GNCITIZN	FY	2.12	1.88	**	.25	2.08	1.92		
				2.07	1.84	*	.24	2.29	2.10	*	.19
j.	Learning effectively on your own	GNINQ	FY	3.01	2.91			3.11	2.85	**	.30
				3.15	3.09			3.12	3.00		
k.	Understanding yourself	GNSSELF	FY	2.76	2.74			2.96	2.71	**	.26
				2.81	2.88			2.94	2.78		
l.	Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	GNDIVERS	FY	2.63	2.53			2.87	2.57	***	.30
				2.83	2.58	**	.26	2.79	2.57	*	.21
m.	Solving complex real-world problems	GNPROBSV	FY	2.64	2.50			2.86	2.58	***	.31
				2.97	2.69	**	.30	2.94	2.72	*	.23
n.	Developing a personal code of values and ethics	GNETHICS	FY	2.55	2.61			2.77	2.59	*	.19
				2.80	2.72			2.77	2.65		
o.	Contributing to the welfare of your community	GNCOMMUN	FY	2.27	2.32			2.59	2.34	**	.26
				2.46	2.42			2.62	2.42	*	.20
p.	Developing a deepened sense of spirituality	GNSPIRIT	FY	2.03	2.10			2.27	2.05	*	.20
				1.99	1.99			1.98	1.92		
12. Academic Advising											
<i>1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent</i>											
	Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your	ADVISE	FY	3.22	3.02	**	.25	3.34	2.94	***	.46
				3.28	2.95	***	.36	3.30	2.82	***	.51
13. Satisfaction											
<i>1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent</i>											
	How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	ENTIREXP	FY	3.25	3.22			3.32	3.16	*	.22
				3.28	3.25			3.41	3.19	**	.29
14.											
<i>1=definitely no, 2=probably no, 3=probably yes, 4=definitely yes</i>											
	If you could start over again, would you go to the <i>same institution</i> you are now attending?	SAMECOLL	FY	3.24	3.23			3.23	3.20		
				3.28	3.18			3.34	3.17	*	.19

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