

2017 Topical Module: Civic Engagement

Profile of Participating Institutions and Respondents and All Bachelor's-Granting U.S. Institutions and Students

Topical modules are short sets of questions on a topic related to current issues in higher education and student engagement that may be appended to the core survey. The **Civic Engagement** module asks students to assess their conflict resolution skills and examines how often they engage with local, state, national, and global issues. In 2017, 53 U.S. institutions elected to append these items to the core survey. Of these, 51 belonged to one of the eight Carnegie classifications shown in the table below.^a

The institutions and respondents participating in a given module are only a subset of all NSSE participating institutions and respondents. The table below displays the characteristics for module participants alongside NSSE 2017 participants as well as all bachelor's-granting U.S. institutions and students (all limited to the eight indicated Carnegie Classification categories).

	Institutions			Students		
	Civic Eng. Module	NSSE 2017	U.S. ^b	Civic Eng. Module	NSSE 2017	U.S. ^b
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Carnegie Basic Classification^c						
R1: Doctoral Universities - Highest research activity	6	5	7	13	18	26
R2: Doctoral Universities - Higher research activity	8	6	6	14	13	14
R3: Doctoral Universities - Moderate research activity	8	7	7	12	9	11
M1: Master's Colleges and Universities - Larger programs	37	29	24	34	32	28
M2: Master's Colleges and Universities - Medium programs	16	13	13	14	8	7
M3: Master's Colleges and Universities - Smaller programs	4	8	9	3	5	3
Baccalaureate Colleges: Arts & Sciences Focus	14	16	15	6	8	4
Baccalaureate Colleges: Diverse Fields	8	15	19	4	7	5
Control						
Public	59	44	35	74	67	66
Private	41	56	65	26	33	34
Undergraduate enrollment						
Fewer than 1,000	12	15	21	3	3	2
1,000 – 2,499	16	32	33	9	14	10
2,500 – 4,999	24	18	17	16	14	11
5,000 – 9,999	32	19	14	35	21	19
10,000 – 19,999	14	9	9	31	18	24
20,000 or more	2	7	6	5	30	34

a. All numbers are unweighted and based on U.S. postsecondary institutions that award bachelor's degrees and belong to one of the eight Carnegie Classification categories in the table. Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

b. U.S. percentages are based on the 2015 IPEDS Institutional Characteristics file.

c. For information on the Carnegie Foundation's Basic Classification, see carnegieclassifications.iu.edu

NSSE 2017 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Frequencies by Class and Sex

Civic Engagement

Item wording or description	Variable name	Response options	First-Year Students						Seniors					
			Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
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	56	1	49	2	105	1	51	1	61	2	112	1
		2	109	2	76	3	185	3	137	2	83	2	220	2
		3	357	6	210	8	567	7	409	5	258	6	667	5
		4	1,172	20	557	20	1,729	20	1,480	17	767	17	2,247	17
		5	1,978	34	933	34	2,911	34	2,957	33	1,378	31	4,335	32
		6	1,397	24	549	20	1,946	22	2,374	27	1,117	25	3,491	26
		7 Excellent	767	13	362	13	1,129	13	1,414	16	749	17	2,163	17
		Total	5,836	100	2,736	100	8,572	100	8,822	100	4,413	100	13,235	100
b. Resolve conflicts that involve bias, discrimination, and prejudice	CIV01b	1 Poor	73	1	58	2	131	2	85	1	100	2	185	2
		2	202	3	103	4	305	4	249	3	154	4	403	3
		3	597	11	262	9	859	10	695	8	381	9	1,076	8
		4	1,487	25	707	26	2,194	26	2,024	23	1,005	23	3,029	23
		5	1,827	31	798	29	2,625	30	2,841	32	1,292	29	4,133	30
		6	1,044	18	468	17	1,512	18	1,832	21	894	20	2,726	21
		7 Excellent	589	10	329	12	918	11	1,078	13	575	13	1,653	13
		Total	5,819	100	2,725	100	8,544	100	8,804	100	4,401	100	13,205	100
c. Lead a group where people from different backgrounds feel welcomed and included	CIV01c	1 Poor	106	2	65	2	171	2	65	1	82	2	147	1
		2	170	3	86	3	256	3	163	2	79	2	242	2
		3	462	8	262	10	724	9	380	4	223	5	603	5
		4	1,100	19	519	19	1,619	19	1,244	14	624	14	1,868	14
		5	1,597	27	743	28	2,340	27	2,254	25	1,071	24	3,325	25
		6	1,383	23	550	19	1,933	21	2,552	29	1,242	28	3,794	28
		7 Excellent	1,007	18	504	19	1,511	18	2,153	25	1,088	24	3,241	25
		Total	5,825	100	2,729	100	8,554	100	8,811	100	4,409	100	13,220	100
d. Contribute to the well being of your community	CIV01d	1 Poor	47	1	62	2	109	2	55	1	77	2	132	1
		2	104	2	81	3	185	2	111	1	90	2	201	2
		3	307	5	216	8	523	7	314	4	214	5	528	4
		4	1,034	18	514	19	1,548	18	1,169	13	711	16	1,880	15
		5	1,792	31	816	30	2,608	31	2,372	27	1,196	27	3,568	27
		6	1,500	25	599	21	2,099	23	2,708	30	1,146	25	3,854	28
		7 Excellent	1,041	18	443	16	1,484	17	2,081	24	969	22	3,050	23
		Total	5,825	100	2,731	100	8,556	100	8,810	100	4,403	100	13,213	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	Never	457	9	292	12	749	10	1,035	12	515	12	1,550	12
		Sometimes	2,821	49	1,319	48	4,140	49	4,015	46	1,998	46	6,013	46
		Often	1,883	31	847	30	2,730	31	2,431	27	1,290	29	3,721	28
		Very often	662	11	271	10	933	10	1,322	15	606	14	1,928	14
		Total	5,823	100	2,729	100	8,552	100	8,803	100	4,409	100	13,212	100
b. Informed yourself about state, national, or global issues	CIV02b	Never	311	6	123	5	434	5	297	3	132	3	429	3
		Sometimes	2,147	37	843	31	2,990	34	2,723	31	1,037	23	3,760	28
		Often	2,102	36	993	36	3,095	36	3,065	35	1,534	35	4,599	35
		Very often	1,264	22	764	29	2,028	25	2,720	31	1,703	39	4,423	34
		Total	5,824	100	2,723	100	8,547	100	8,805	100	4,406	100	13,211	100
c. Discussed local or campus issues with others	CIV02c	Never	677	13	350	14	1,027	14	1,371	16	632	15	2,003	16
		Sometimes	2,489	44	1,226	45	3,715	44	3,631	42	1,865	43	5,496	42
		Often	1,899	31	827	29	2,726	30	2,438	27	1,259	28	3,697	27
		Very often	756	12	319	11	1,075	12	1,355	15	646	14	2,001	15
		Total	5,821	100	2,722	100	8,543	100	8,795	100	4,402	100	13,197	100

Note: Results weighted by institution-reported sex, enrollment status, and institution size. Counts are not weighted.

NSSE 2017 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Frequencies by Class and Sex

Civic Engagement

Item wording or description	Variable name	Response options	First-Year Students						Seniors					
			Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
d. Discussed state, national, or global issues with others	CIV02d	Never	470	9	192	7	662	8	529	6	222	5	751	6
		Sometimes	2,214	38	953	36	3,167	37	3,013	35	1,350	31	4,363	33
		Often	1,948	33	949	34	2,897	34	2,874	32	1,520	34	4,394	33
		Very often	1,182	20	631	23	1,813	21	2,379	27	1,310	29	3,689	28
		Total	5,814	100	2,725	100	8,539	100	8,795	100	4,402	100	13,197	100
e. Raised awareness about local or campus issues	CIV02e	Never	2,333	42	1,119	43	3,452	43	3,500	41	1,790	42	5,290	41
		Sometimes	2,292	38	1,034	37	3,326	38	3,325	37	1,697	38	5,022	38
		Often	867	14	415	14	1,282	14	1,247	14	616	14	1,863	14
		Very often	327	5	151	5	478	5	720	8	296	7	1,016	7
		Total	5,819	100	2,719	100	8,538	100	8,792	100	4,399	100	13,191	100
f. Raised awareness about state, national, or global issues	CIV02f	Never	2,128	38	935	36	3,063	37	2,771	32	1,356	31	4,127	32
		Sometimes	2,237	38	1,017	37	3,254	37	3,318	38	1,625	37	4,943	37
		Often	982	17	540	19	1,522	18	1,637	18	871	19	2,508	19
		Very often	465	8	234	9	699	8	1,065	12	552	13	1,617	12
		Total	5,812	100	2,726	100	8,538	100	8,791	100	4,404	100	13,195	100
g. Asked others to address local or campus issues	CIV02g	Never	2,834	51	1,288	50	4,122	50	4,443	52	2,186	50	6,629	52
		Sometimes	1,983	33	949	34	2,932	33	2,815	31	1,466	33	4,281	32
		Often	736	12	354	12	1,090	12	1,005	11	507	11	1,512	11
		Very often	266	4	130	5	396	4	527	6	245	5	772	6
		Total	5,819	100	2,721	100	8,540	100	8,790	100	4,404	100	13,194	100
h. Asked others to address state, national, or global issues	CIV02h	Never	2,722	48	1,201	45	3,923	47	3,939	46	1,941	45	5,880	45
		Sometimes	1,921	32	914	33	2,835	33	2,855	32	1,465	33	4,320	33
		Often	812	13	429	15	1,241	14	1,270	14	629	14	1,899	14
		Very often	357	6	173	6	530	6	725	8	358	8	1,083	8
		Total	5,812	100	2,717	100	8,529	100	8,789	100	4,393	100	13,182	100
i. Organized others to work on local or campus issues	CIV02i	Never	3,782	67	1,682	64	5,464	65	5,817	68	2,832	65	8,649	67
		Sometimes	1,362	23	660	23	2,022	23	1,908	21	1,002	23	2,910	22
		Often	467	8	282	10	749	9	658	7	375	8	1,033	7
		Very often	183	3	84	3	267	3	401	4	181	4	582	4
		Total	5,794	100	2,708	100	8,502	100	8,784	100	4,390	100	13,174	100
j. Organized others to work on state, national, or global issues	CIV02j	Never	3,866	68	1,691	64	5,557	66	5,855	68	2,828	66	8,683	67
		Sometimes	1,274	22	650	24	1,924	23	1,842	21	1,003	23	2,845	21
		Often	427	7	271	9	698	8	643	7	374	8	1,017	7
		Very often	175	3	84	3	259	3	366	4	160	4	526	4
		Total	5,742	100	2,696	100	8,438	100	8,706	100	4,365	100	13,071	100

Note: Results weighted by institution-reported sex, enrollment status, and institution size. Counts are not weighted.

NSSE 2017 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Means and Standard Deviations by Class and Sex

Civic Engagement

Item wording or description	Variable name	First-Year Students						Seniors					
		Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total	
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
1. Select the response that best represents your ability to do the following:													
a. Help people resolve their disagreements with each other	CIV01a	5.08	1.24	4.94	1.35	5.02	1.29	5.26	1.21	5.18	1.32	5.23	1.26
b. Resolve conflicts that involve bias, discrimination, and prejudice	CIV01b	4.76	1.31	4.77	1.40	4.76	1.35	4.95	1.29	4.86	1.42	4.91	1.35
c. Lead a group where people from different backgrounds feel welcomed and included	CIV01c	5.07	1.42	5.00	1.48	5.04	1.45	5.48	1.30	5.39	1.39	5.44	1.34
d. Contribute to the well being of your community	CIV01d	5.23	1.28	4.99	1.43	5.13	1.35	5.51	1.23	5.29	1.38	5.41	1.30
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	2.44	.80	2.37	.82	2.41	.81	2.44	.89	2.44	.87	2.44	.88
b. Informed yourself about state, national, or global issues	CIV02b	2.73	.86	2.89	.88	2.80	.87	2.93	.87	3.09	.86	3.00	.87
c. Discussed local or campus issues with others	CIV02c	2.43	.87	2.38	.87	2.40	.87	2.40	.93	2.41	.91	2.40	.92
d. Discussed state, national, or global issues with others	CIV02d	2.64	.89	2.74	.89	2.68	.90	2.80	.91	2.87	.90	2.83	.90
e. Raised awareness about local or campus issues	CIV02e	1.82	.86	1.82	.87	1.82	.87	1.89	.92	1.85	.89	1.87	.91
f. Raised awareness about state, national, or global issues	CIV02f	1.95	.93	2.00	.94	1.97	.93	2.11	.99	2.13	.99	2.12	.99
g. Asked others to address local or campus issues	CIV02g	1.70	.84	1.72	.85	1.70	.84	1.70	.88	1.71	.86	1.71	.87
h. Asked others to address state, national, or global issues	CIV02h	1.77	.89	1.82	.91	1.79	.90	1.85	.95	1.85	.94	1.85	.95
i. Organized others to work on local or campus issues	CIV02i	1.47	.76	1.52	.79	1.49	.77	1.48	.81	1.50	.80	1.49	.81
j. Organized others to work on state, national, or global issues	CIV02j	1.45	.75	1.51	.78	1.48	.76	1.47	.80	1.50	.79	1.48	.80

Notes: Results weighted by sex, enrollment status, and institution size. See codebook for variable ranges. Categorical items are not listed.

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