

2018 Topical Module: Academic Advising

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 **Academic Advising** module examines students' experiences with academic advising, including frequency of use, accessibility, information provided, and primary source of advice. In 2018, 153 U.S. institutions elected to append these items to the core survey. Of these, 147 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 2018 participants as well as all bachelor's-granting U.S. institutions and students (all limited to the eight indicated Carnegie Classification categories).

	Institutions			Students		
	Academic Advising Module (%)	NSSE 2018 (%)	U.S. ^b (%)	Academic Advising Module (%)	NSSE 2018 (%)	U.S. ^b (%)
Carnegie Basic Classification^c						
R1: Doctoral Universities - Highest research activity	7	5	7	25	15	27
R2: Doctoral Universities - Higher research activity	7	8	6	11	16	14
R3: Doctoral Universities - Moderate research activity	7	8	7	14	14	10
M1: Master's Colleges and Universities - Larger programs	24	27	24	24	29	28
M2: Master's Colleges and Universities - Medium programs	18	17	13	11	10	7
M3: Master's Colleges and Universities - Smaller programs	7	8	8	3	4	3
Baccalaureate Colleges: Arts & Sciences Focus	18	16	15	8	8	4
Baccalaureate Colleges: Diverse Fields	11	11	19	4	4	5
Control						
Public	48	39	35	72	57	67
Private	52	61	65	28	43	33
Undergraduate enrollment						
Fewer than 1,000	9	12	22	2	3	2
1,000 – 2,499	33	33	32	13	14	10
2,500 – 4,999	24	23	18	15	18	11
5,000 – 9,999	16	16	14	16	20	18
10,000 – 19,999	10	9	9	25	20	24
20,000 or more	8	6	6	29	25	35

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 2018 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Frequencies by Class and Sex

Academic Advising

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. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?														
	ADV01	0	1,592	7	913	8	2,505	7	3,843	13	2,162	15	6,005	14
		1	5,273	22	2,452	22	7,725	22	7,455	25	3,656	24	11,111	25
		2	7,762	32	3,605	32	11,367	32	8,080	26	4,183	27	12,263	26
		3	5,139	21	2,417	20	7,556	21	4,535	15	2,364	15	6,899	15
		4	2,370	10	1,032	8	3,402	9	2,494	8	1,208	7	3,702	8
		5	822	3	354	3	1,176	3	1,057	3	491	3	1,548	3
		6 or more	1,298	5	670	5	1,968	5	3,193	10	1,534	9	4,727	9
		Total	24,256	100	11,443	100	35,699	100	30,657	100	15,598	100	46,255	100
2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?														
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	Very little	1,799	8	728	7	2,527	7	2,809	10	1,343	9	4,152	10
		Some	4,756	20	2,180	19	6,936	20	5,918	20	2,927	19	8,845	19
		Quite a bit	8,389	34	4,211	36	12,600	35	9,312	30	5,005	32	14,317	30
		Very much	8,168	34	3,851	33	12,019	34	10,962	35	5,505	34	16,467	35
		Not applicable	1,160	5	500	4	1,660	5	1,663	6	837	6	2,500	6
		Total	24,272	100	11,470	100	35,742	100	30,664	100	15,617	100	46,281	100
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	Very little	1,773	7	687	6	2,460	7	2,891	10	1,329	9	4,220	10
		Some	4,526	19	2,082	18	6,608	18	5,451	18	2,694	18	8,145	18
		Quite a bit	7,798	32	3,981	34	11,779	33	8,691	28	4,735	30	13,426	29
		Very much	8,841	37	4,075	36	12,916	36	11,391	36	5,713	36	17,104	36
		Not applicable	1,307	5	635	6	1,942	6	2,201	8	1,135	8	3,336	8
		Total	24,245	100	11,460	100	35,705	100	30,625	100	15,606	100	46,231	100
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	Very little	3,188	13	1,294	12	4,482	13	4,873	16	2,187	15	7,060	16
		Some	4,922	20	2,404	21	7,326	20	6,029	20	3,074	20	9,103	20
		Quite a bit	7,282	30	3,719	32	11,001	31	7,914	25	4,330	27	12,244	26
		Very much	7,492	31	3,429	30	10,921	31	9,716	32	4,945	31	14,661	32
		Not applicable	1,355	6	607	5	1,962	6	2,094	7	1,082	7	3,176	7
		Total	24,239	100	11,453	100	35,692	100	30,626	100	15,618	100	46,244	100
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	Very little	3,045	12	1,244	11	4,289	12	4,904	17	2,235	15	7,139	16
		Some	5,352	22	2,479	21	7,831	22	6,384	21	3,253	21	9,637	21
		Quite a bit	7,236	29	3,754	33	10,990	31	7,403	24	4,143	26	11,546	25
		Very much	6,998	29	3,286	29	10,284	29	8,588	28	4,418	28	13,006	28
		Not applicable	1,607	7	698	6	2,305	6	3,334	11	1,565	10	4,899	11
		Total	24,238	100	11,461	100	35,699	100	30,613	100	15,614	100	46,227	100
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	Very little	3,628	15	1,352	12	4,980	14	6,788	23	3,076	21	9,864	22
		Some	5,349	22	2,599	23	7,948	22	6,595	21	3,585	23	10,180	22
		Quite a bit	6,661	27	3,538	30	10,199	28	5,916	19	3,442	21	9,358	20
		Very much	6,914	29	3,200	28	10,114	29	6,807	22	3,519	22	10,326	22
		Not applicable	1,676	7	757	7	2,433	7	4,498	15	1,978	13	6,476	14
		Total	24,228	100	11,446	100	35,674	100	30,604	100	15,600	100	46,204	100
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	Very little	2,656	11	1,094	10	3,750	11	4,621	16	2,193	15	6,814	16
		Some	4,921	20	2,370	21	7,291	20	6,224	20	3,191	21	9,415	21
		Quite a bit	7,628	31	3,853	33	11,481	32	8,144	26	4,446	28	12,590	27
		Very much	8,010	33	3,628	32	11,638	33	9,321	30	4,671	29	13,992	29
		Not applicable	1,017	4	510	4	1,527	4	2,291	8	1,111	7	3,402	8
		Total	24,232	100	11,455	100	35,687	100	30,601	100	15,612	100	46,213	100

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

NSSE 2018 Topical Modules

U.S. Summary Frequencies by Class and Sex

Academic Advising

Item wording or description	Variable name	Response options	First-Year Students						Seniors					
			Female		Male		Total		Female		Male		Total	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	Very little	3,516	15	1,583	14	5,099	14	5,150	18	2,581	18	7,731	18
		Some	4,841	20	2,322	20	7,163	20	5,176	17	2,842	18	8,018	17
		Quite a bit	5,595	23	2,855	25	8,450	23	6,007	19	3,191	19	9,198	19
		Very much	6,244	26	2,703	24	8,947	25	7,908	25	3,849	24	11,757	24
		Not applicable	4,023	17	1,980	18	6,003	17	6,345	22	3,144	21	9,489	21
		Total	24,219	100	11,443	100	35,662	100	30,586	100	15,607	100	46,193	100
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internship, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	Very little	4,913	21	2,015	18	6,928	20	6,743	23	3,343	23	10,086	23
		Some	5,024	20	2,531	22	7,555	21	5,294	17	3,033	19	8,327	18
		Quite a bit	5,076	20	2,672	23	7,748	21	5,422	17	3,017	18	8,439	18
		Very much	5,308	22	2,418	21	7,726	22	6,977	22	3,445	21	10,422	22
		Not applicable	3,900	16	1,798	16	5,698	16	6,141	22	2,768	18	8,909	20
		Total	24,221	100	11,434	100	35,655	100	30,577	100	15,606	100	46,183	100
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	Very little	4,951	21	2,210	20	7,161	20	6,990	25	3,468	24	10,458	24
		Some	5,625	23	2,780	24	8,405	23	6,148	20	3,407	22	9,555	21
		Quite a bit	5,269	21	2,707	23	7,976	22	5,803	18	3,123	19	8,926	18
		Very much	5,755	24	2,537	22	8,292	23	8,104	25	3,804	23	11,908	24
		Not applicable	2,579	11	1,174	11	3,753	11	3,502	13	1,755	12	5,257	13
		Total	24,179	100	11,408	100	35,587	100	30,547	100	15,557	100	46,104	100
3. During the current school year, how often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?														
	ADV04_15	Never	8,778	37	3,760	34	12,538	35	13,004	44	6,194	41	19,198	43
		Sometimes	9,096	37	4,357	38	13,453	38	10,236	33	5,460	34	15,696	33
		Often	4,237	17	2,316	20	6,553	18	4,696	15	2,699	17	7,395	16
		Very often	2,063	9	997	9	3,060	9	2,585	8	1,237	8	3,822	8
		Total	24,174	100	11,430	100	35,604	100	30,521	100	15,590	100	46,111	100
4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one)														
	ADV03	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	9,565	40	4,458	39	14,023	40	10,732	35	5,352	34	16,084	35
		Academic advisor(s) available to any student	1,536	7	869	8	2,405	7	2,511	8	1,489	10	4,000	9
		Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	2,176	8	1,022	8	3,198	8	5,100	16	2,229	14	7,329	15
		Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	942	4	411	4	1,353	4	2,397	9	1,070	7	3,467	8
		Web site, catalog, or other published sources	988	4	473	4	1,461	4	1,419	5	830	6	2,249	5
		Friends or other students	3,789	15	1,753	15	5,542	15	3,336	11	1,830	12	5,166	12
		Family members	3,977	16	1,622	14	5,599	15	2,615	8	1,197	7	3,812	8
		Other, please specify:	421	2	240	2	661	2	906	3	526	4	1,432	3
		I did not seek academic advice this year	781	3	563	5	1,344	4	1,515	5	1,023	7	2,538	6
		Total	24,175	100	11,411	100	35,586	100	30,531	100	15,546	100	46,077	100

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

NSSE 2018 Topical Modules

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

Academic Advising

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. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?													
	ADV01	2.36	1.45	2.29	1.47	2.33	1.46	2.27	1.73	2.22	1.72	2.24	1.73
2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?													
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	2.99	.94	3.00	.92	3.00	.93	2.95	1.00	2.96	.98	2.96	.99
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	3.04	.95	3.05	.92	3.04	.93	2.98	1.01	2.99	.99	2.98	1.00
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	2.84	1.04	2.85	1.01	2.85	1.02	2.78	1.10	2.81	1.07	2.79	1.08
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	2.81	1.03	2.85	.99	2.83	1.01	2.71	1.10	2.74	1.07	2.72	1.09
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	2.75	1.07	2.80	1.01	2.77	1.04	2.47	1.14	2.51	1.11	2.49	1.13
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	2.91	1.01	2.90	.98	2.91	1.00	2.75	1.09	2.76	1.07	2.75	1.08
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	2.72	1.09	2.70	1.06	2.71	1.08	2.65	1.15	2.62	1.13	2.63	1.14
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internship, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	2.53	1.13	2.57	1.09	2.54	1.11	2.48	1.18	2.47	1.15	2.47	1.17
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	2.55	1.12	2.54	1.09	2.54	1.11	2.49	1.18	2.47	1.15	2.48	1.16
3. During the current school year, how often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic performance?													
	ADV04_15	1.98	.94	2.04	.94	2.00	.94	1.88	.95	1.91	.94	1.89	.95

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

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