

NSSE 2018 U.S. Response Rates by Institutional Characteristics

The average institutional response rates for U.S. institutions in NSSE 2018 listed below are based on census-administered and randomly sampled participants only. Data were excluded from institutions participating in special research projects, that had nonstandard population files or survey administrations, or when otherwise noted that institutional characteristics were not available.

		Number of Institutions	Overall Response Rate (%)	First-year Response Rate (%)	Senior Response Rate (%)
Overall^a		488	30	29	31
Recruitment Method	Email	488	30	29	31
	Standard mail	0	-	-	-
Institutional Control	Public	182	23	22	24
	Private	306	34	33	35
Carnegie Classification ^b	Doc/Highest	22	22	23	21
	Doc/Higher	35	21	21	21
	Doc/Moderate	38	24	24	25
	Master's L	124	28	27	28
	Master's M	77	30	29	31
	Master's S	39	32	31	34
	Bac/A&S	77	38	37	40
	Bac/Diverse	54	32	29	37
Barron's Selectivity Rating ^c	Noncompetitive	16	26	24	28
	Less competitive	65	26	24	29
	Competitive	250	30	29	31
	Very competitive	75	30	30	30
	Highly competitive	24	33	33	32
	Most competitive	15	38	40	37
Institutional Locale	City	235	28	27	29
	Suburb	110	31	30	32
	Town	123	32	30	34
	Rural	20	31	29	34
Region ^d	New England	38	36	37	36
	Mid East	87	31	30	31
	Great Lakes	73	32	30	34
	Plains	40	32	31	33
	Southeast	138	28	27	30
	Southwest	52	22	21	24
	Rocky Mountains	17	28	26	29
	Far West	38	31	30	32
Total Undergraduate Enrollment	Up to 500	15	41	40	45
	501 to 1,000	58	37	35	42
	1,001 to 2,000	126	34	33	36
	2,001 to 3,000	60	30	29	31
	3,001 to 5,000	81	27	27	28
	5,001 to 10,000	74	25	24	25
	10,001 to 20,000	42	21	21	22
	More than 20,000	29	20	20	20
Full-time Student Percentage	90% or more	266	33	32	34
	80% to 89%	119	26	25	28
	60% to 79%	81	26	26	28
	Less than 60%	19	25	22	27
Female Student Percentage	90% or more	8	50	54	50
	70% to 89%	31	30	30	31
	60% to 69%	128	30	29	31
	50% to 59%	242	29	28	30
	30% to 49%	66	30	28	33
	Less than 30%	10	27	26	27

a. Includes twelve institutions not included in the NSSE 2018 Overview because they had too few respondents for inclusion in comparison groups. Institutions with first-year student data numbered 487 and those with senior data numbered 488.

b. "Other" Carnegie types were not included (20 institutions).

c. Ratings were not available for 43 institutions.

d. Eleven institutions in "Outlying Areas" were not included.