
NSSE 2019 Topical Module Report

First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

Stephen F. Austin State University

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About This Topical Module

This module includes a set of items only for first-year students and a set only for seniors, with questions adapted from the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement and the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project, respectively. The first-year items focus on academic perseverance, help-seeking behaviors, and institutional commitment, while the senior items explore post-graduation plans, links between the academic major and future plans, and confidence with skills developed during college.

Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'FY Exp / Sr Transiti' column of this report.

Group label	FY Exp / Sr Transiti
Date submitted	Not applicable; comparison group not customized.
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution did not customize this comparison group; the default group (all module participants) was used.
Group description	Default comparison group

FY Exp / Sr Transiti (N=277)

Abilene Christian University (Abilene, TX)	California State University, Chico (Chico, CA)*
Acadia University (Wolfville, NS)	California University of Pennsylvania (California, PA)
Adams State University (Alamosa, CO)*	Campbellsville University (Campbellsville, KY)
Alaska Pacific University (Anchorage, AK)	Castleton University (Castleton, VT)
Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (Albany, NY)	Central Christian College of Kansas (McPherson, KS)
Alberta College of Art + Design (Calgary, AB)	Central College (Pella, IA)
Albertus Magnus College (New Haven, CT)*	Cheyney University of Pennsylvania (Cheyney, PA)
Algoma University (Sault Ste. Marie, ON)	Chowan University (Murfreesboro, NC)
Alvernia University (Reading, PA)	Clarion University of Pennsylvania (Clarion, PA)
Ambrose University (Calgary, AB)	Clarke University (Dubuque, IA)
American Public University System (Charles Town, WV)	Clarkson University (Potsdam, NY)
Angelo State University (San Angelo, TX)	Cleveland State University (Cleveland, OH)*
Aquinas College (Grand Rapids, MI)*	College of Charleston (Charleston, SC)
Ashford University (San Diego, CA)*	College of Our Lady of the Elms (Chicopee, MA)
Auburn University at Montgomery (Montgomery, AL)*	College of Wooster, The (Wooster, OH)*
Bard College (Annandale-On-Hudson, NY)	Colorado State University (Fort Collins, CO)
Barry University (Miami, FL)*	Columbia College (Columbia, MO)
Bellarmino University (Louisville, KY)*	Columbia College (Columbia, SC)
Benedictine College (Atchison, KS)*	Concord University (Athens, WV)
Bennett College (Greensboro, NC)	Concordia College New York (Bronxville, NY)
Berklee College of Music (Boston, MA)	Concordia University Irvine (Irvine, CA)
Berry College (Mount Berry, GA)	Concordia University Texas (Austin, TX)*
Bethel University (Saint Paul, MN)	Daemen College (Amherst, NY)
Birmingham-Southern College (Birmingham, AL)	Dean College (Franklin, MA)
Black Hills State University (Spearfish, SD)*	Delta State University (Cleveland, MS)*
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania (Bloomsburg, PA)	DePauw University (Greencastle, IN)*
Bridgewater College (Bridgewater, VA)*	Dixie State University (Saint George, UT)
Briercrest College and Seminary (Caronport, SK)	Dominican University of California (San Rafael, CA)
Bryant University (Smithfield, RI)	Earlham College (Richmond, IN)*
Buena Vista University (Storm Lake, IA)	East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania (East Stroudsburg, PA)

FY Exp / Sr Transitr (N=277), continued

East Tennessee State University (Johnson City, TN)	Lincoln College (Lincoln, IL)
Eastern New Mexico University (Portales, NM)*	Lock Haven University (Lock Haven, PA)
Eckerd College (Saint Petersburg, FL)	Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College (Baton Rouge, LA)*
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (Edinboro, PA)	Louisiana State University at Alexandria (Alexandria, LA)*
Elizabeth City State University (Elizabeth City, NC)	Loyola University Maryland (Baltimore, MD)*
Elon University (Elon, NC)	Lyon College (Batesville, AR)
Emerson College (Boston, MA)*	Mansfield University of Pennsylvania (Mansfield, PA)
Emmanuel College (Boston, MA)*	Marian University (Fond Du Lac, WI)*
Fairmont State University (Fairmont, WV)	Martin Methodist College (Pulaski, TN)
Fayetteville State University (Fayetteville, NC)	Marymount California University (Rancho Palos Verdes, CA)*
Felician University (Lodi, NJ)	Marymount Manhattan College (New York, NY)
Ferris State University (Big Rapids, MI)*	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (North Adams, MA)*
Finlandia University (Hancock, MI)*	McMurry University (Abilene, TX)*
Fitchburg State University (Fitchburg, MA)	Miami University-Hamilton (Hamilton, OH)
Flagler College (Saint Augustine, FL)	Miami University-Middletown (Middletown, OH)
Florida Southern College (Lakeland, FL)*	Midway University (Midway, KY)
Framingham State University (Framingham, MA)	Millersville University of Pennsylvania (Millersville, PA)
Freed-Hardeman University (Henderson, TN)*	Mississippi University for Women (Columbus, MS)
Geneva College (Beaver Falls, PA)	Missouri State University (Springfield, MO)
George Fox University (Newberg, OR)	Montana State University Billings (Billings, MT)
Georgia Southwestern State University (Americus, GA)	Morehead State University (Morehead, KY)*
Gordon College (Wenham, MA)	Mount Mary University (Milwaukee, WI)
Grambling State University (Grambling, LA)	Mount St. Mary's University (Emmitsburg, MD)
Grand Canyon University (Phoenix, AZ)*	Muskingum University (New Concord, OH)*
Grand Valley State University (Allendale, MI)	New College of Florida (Sarasota, FL)
Gwynedd Mercy University (Gwynedd Valley, PA)*	New Jersey Institute of Technology (Newark, NJ)
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology (Harrisburg, PA)	New School, The (New York, NY)
Harvey Mudd College (Claremont, CA)	Nicholls State University (Thibodaux, LA)*
Hiram College (Hiram, OH)	Nichols College (Dudley, MA)*
Hobart and William Smith Colleges (Geneva, NY)*	North Central University (Minneapolis, MN)
Hofstra University (Hempstead, NY)*	Northern Illinois University (DeKalb, IL)*
Holy Cross College (Notre Dame, IN)	Northern Kentucky University (Highland Heights, KY)*
Hope International University (Fullerton, CA)	Northern State University (Aberdeen, SD)*
Howard University (Washington, DC)*	Northwestern College (Orange City, IA)
Humboldt State University (Arcata, CA)	Nova Southeastern University (Fort Lauderdale, FL)
Huron University College (London, ON)	Occidental College (Los Angeles, CA)
Huston-Tillotson University (Austin, TX)	Oglala Lakota College (Kyle, SD)
Indiana Institute of Technology (Fort Wayne, IN)*	Ohio State University at Newark, The (Newark, OH)
Indiana University Kokomo (Kokomo, IN)*	Ohio State University-Lima Campus (Lima, OH)
Indiana University of Pennsylvania (Indiana, PA)	Ohio State University-Mansfield Campus (Mansfield, OH)
Indiana University Southeast (New Albany, IN)*	Ohio State University-Marion Campus (Marion, OH)
Jacksonville State University (Jacksonville, AL)	Ohio State University, The (Columbus, OH)
Johnson & Wales University (Providence, RI)	Oklahoma City University (Oklahoma City, OK)*
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)	Oregon State University (Corvallis, OR)
Johnson & Wales University-Denver (Denver, CO)	Our Lady of the Lake University (San Antonio, TX)
Judson College (Marion, AL)	Pacific Union College (Angwin, CA)
Kansas State University (Manhattan, KS)	Pacific University (Forest Grove, OR)*
Kean University (Union, NJ)	Paul Smith's College (Paul Smiths, NY)*
Kentucky State University (Frankfort, KY)	Pepperdine University (Malibu, CA)
King's College (Wilkes-Barre, PA)	Pratt Institute (Brooklyn, NY)*
Kutztown University of Pennsylvania (Kutztown, PA)	Purdue University Global (Davenport, IA)
Lafayette College (Easton, PA)*	Quincy University (Quincy, IL)
Lake Erie College (Painesville, OH)*	Radford University (Radford, VA)
Lander University (Greenwood, SC)	Ramapo College of New Jersey (Mahwah, NJ)*
Langston University (Langston, OK)*	Redeemer University College (Ancaster, ON)
Lehigh University (Bethlehem, PA)*	Regent University (Virginia Beach, VA)
Lenoir-Rhyne University (Hickory, NC)*	Rivier University (Nashua, NH)
Lewis & Clark College (Portland, OR)*	Roanoke College (Salem, VA)*

*2018 participant

FY Exp / Sr Transitr (N=277), continued

Roberts Wesleyan College (Rochester, NY)*	University of New Orleans, The (New Orleans, LA)
Rosemont College (Rosemont, PA)*	University of North Dakota (Grand Forks, ND)
Rowan University (Glassboro, NJ)	University of North Texas (Denton, TX)
Rutgers University-Camden (Camden, NJ)*	University of Northern British Columbia (Prince George, BC)
Saint Joseph's College (Standish, ME)*	University of Redlands (Redlands, CA)*
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota (Winona, MN)	University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)
Saint Michael's College (Colchester, VT)*	University of Richmond (University of Richmond, VA)*
Saint Peter's University (Jersey City, NJ)	University of Saint Joseph (West Hartford, CT)
Saint Xavier University (Chicago, IL)	University of South Carolina Columbia (Columbia, SC)
Salem State University (Salem, MA)	University of Southern Mississippi (Hattiesburg, MS)
Samford University (Birmingham, AL)	University of Tennessee Martin, The (Martin, TN)
Scripps College (Claremont, CA)*	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, The (Knoxville, TN)
Seattle Pacific University (Seattle, WA)	University of Texas at El Paso, The (El Paso, TX)
Shepherd University (Shepherdstown, WV)	University of Texas of the Permian Basin, The (Odessa, TX)
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Shippensburg, PA)	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, The (Edinburg, TX)*
Siena College (Loudonville, NY)*	University of Tulsa (Tulsa, OK)
Simpson College (Indianola, IA)*	University of Virginia's College at Wise, The (Wise, VA)*
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Slippery Rock, PA)	University of Washington Tacoma (Tacoma, WA)
Southeastern Louisiana University (Hammond, LA)*	University of West Georgia (Carrollton, GA)
Southeastern University (Lakeland, FL)	Ursinus College (Collegeville, PA)*
Southern Adventist University (Collegedale, TN)	Vancouver Island University (Nanaimo, BC)*
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (Edwardsville, IL)	Washington College (Chestertown, MD)
Southern Methodist University (Dallas, TX)	Washington State University (Pullman, WA)
Southern Nazarene University (Bethany, OK)	Wayland Baptist University (Plainview, TX)*
Southern Oregon University (Ashland, OR)	Webber International University (Babson Park, FL)
Southern University at New Orleans (New Orleans, LA)	West Chester University of Pennsylvania (West Chester, PA)
Southern Virginia University (Buena Vista, VA)*	West Virginia Wesleyan College (Buckhannon, WV)*
Southwest Minnesota State University (Marshall, MN)	Western Illinois University (Macomb, IL)
Southwestern Christian University (Bethany, OK)*	Western State Colorado University (Gunnison, CO)*
Spelman College (Atlanta, GA)	Westminster College (New Wilmington, PA)
Spring Hill College (Mobile, AL)*	Willamette University (Salem, OR)*
St. Mary's College of Maryland (St. Mary's City, MD)	William Paterson University of New Jersey (Wayne, NJ)*
Stevens Institute of Technology (Hoboken, NJ)	William Peace University (Raleigh, NC)
Susquehanna University (Selinsgrove, PA)*	William Woods University (Fulton, MO)
Texas Christian University (Fort Worth, TX)	Wilson College (Chambersburg, PA)*
Texas Southern University (Houston, TX)*	Wingate University (Wingate, NC)
Thiel College (Greenville, PA)*	Winona State University (Winona, MN)
Thomas College (Waterville, ME)*	Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC)*
Touro College (New York, NY)	Wittenberg University (Springfield, OH)
Trent University (Peterborough, ON)	Wofford College (Spartanburg, SC)
Trinity University (San Antonio, TX)*	Woodbury University (Burbank, CA)*
Tulane University (New Orleans, LA)*	Worcester State University (Worcester, MA)*
Tusculum University (Greeneville, TN)	Youngstown State University (Youngstown, OH)*
Union College (Schenectady, NY)*	
Université de Hearst (Hearst, ON)	
University of Advancing Technology (Tempe, AZ)	
University of Arkansas at Monticello (Monticello, AR)	
University of Colorado Colorado Springs (Colorado Springs, CO)*	
University of Connecticut (Storrs, CT)*	
University of Dallas (Irving, TX)	
University of Guam (Mangilao, GU)	
University of Hawai'i at Hilo (Hilo, HI)	
University of Kentucky (Lexington, KY)	
University of Miami (Coral Gables, FL)*	
University of Montana (Missoula, MT)	
University of Montana-Western, The (Dillon, MT)*	
University of New England (Biddeford, ME)*	
University of New Hampshire (Durham, NH)	

NSSE 2019 First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons: First-Year Experiences

Stephen F. Austin State University

First-Year Students

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				SFA		FY Exp / Sr Transitn		SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transitn	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?										
a. Studied when there were other interesting things to do	FYSfy01a	1	Never	7	3	2,183	4	2.8	2.8	.07
		2	Sometimes	77	34	19,931	36			
		3	Often	79	37	20,731	37			
		4	Very often	63	25	12,592	23			
		Total	226	100	55,437	100				
b. Found additional information for course assignments when you didn't understand the material	FYSfy01b	1	Never	4	1	1,464	3	2.9	2.9	.09
		2	Sometimes	59	26	16,198	29			
		3	Often	109	49	25,289	45			
		4	Very often	54	24	12,384	23			
		Total	226	100	55,335	100				
c. Participated in course discussions, even when you didn't feel like it	FYSfy01c	1	Never	17	7	3,624	7	2.7	2.7	.06
		2	Sometimes	76	34	20,397	37			
		3	Often	82	37	20,938	37			
		4	Very often	50	22	10,387	19			
		Total	225	100	55,346	100				
d. Asked instructors for help when you struggled with course assignments	FYSfy01d	1	Never	23	11	4,822	10	2.7	2.6 *	.14
		2	Sometimes	77	32	22,736	41			
		3	Often	76	35	18,475	33			
		4	Very often	49	22	9,285	16			
		Total	225	100	55,318	100				
e. Finished something you have started when you encountered challenges	FYSfy01e	1	Never	1	0	485	1	3.2	3.1	.12
		2	Sometimes	38	16	9,910	18			
		3	Often	99	46	27,313	49			
		4	Very often	88	37	17,584	32			
		Total	226	100	55,292	100				
f. Stayed positive, even when you did poorly on a test or assignment	FYSfy01f	1	Never	16	7	2,089	4	2.9	2.9	-.02
		2	Sometimes	72	31	16,821	29			
		3	Often	77	32	23,057	42			
		4	Very often	61	30	13,331	25			
		Total	226	100	55,298	100				
2. During the current school year, how difficult have the following been for you?										
a. Learning course material	FYSfy02a	1	Not at all difficult	10	6	2,739	5	3.4	3.4	-.01
		2	2	31	14	8,656	16			
		3	3	71	30	17,321	31			
		4	4	86	38	18,817	34			
		5	5	22	9	5,916	11			
		6	Very difficult	6	2	1,878	4			
		Total	226	100	55,327	100				
b. Managing your time	FYSfy02b	1	Not at all difficult	11	5	3,106	6	3.7	3.7	-.07
		2	2	43	20	7,318	13			
		3	3	52	23	12,968	23			
		4	4	59	25	15,497	28			
		5	5	28	12	10,327	19			
		6	Very difficult	33	16	6,091	11			
		Total	226	100	55,307	100				

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

NSSE 2019 First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons: First-Year Experiences

Stephen F. Austin State University

First-Year Students

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				SFA		FY Exp / Sr Transitn		SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transitn	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
c. Getting help with school work	FYSfy02c	1	Not at all difficult	46	20	9,026	17	2.8	2.8	-.04
		2	2	51	21	14,541	26			
		3	3	66	31	15,369	27			
		4	4	42	19	10,543	19			
		5	5	12	5	4,082	7			
		6	Very difficult	9	4	1,750	3			
		Total	226	100	55,311	100				
d. Interacting with faculty	FYSfy02d	1	Not at all difficult	61	26	11,834	22	2.6	2.7	-.09
		2	2	54	27	15,134	27			
		3	3	61	27	13,695	25			
		4	4	27	11	9,061	16			
		5	5	14	5	3,829	7			
		6	Very difficult	9	4	1,745	3			
		Total	226	100	55,298	100				
3. During the current school year, about how often have you sought help with coursework from the following sources?										
a. Faculty members	FYSfy03a_16	1	Never	31	13	8,527	17	2.3	2.2 *	.15
		2	Sometimes	114	51	29,526	53			
		3	Often	56	25	12,878	23			
		4	Very often	24	11	4,326	8			
		Total	225	100	55,257	100				
b. Academic advisors	FYSfy03b_16	1	Never	102	44	23,214	43	1.8	1.8	-.06
		2	Sometimes	90	41	21,808	39			
		3	Often	25	11	7,728	14			
		4	Very often	7	4	2,449	4			
		Total	224	100	55,199	100				
c. Learning support services (tutoring, writing center, success coaching, etc.)	FYSfy03c_16	1	Never	57	25	21,551	40	2.2	1.9 ***	.32
		2	Sometimes	91	42	19,942	36			
		3	Often	43	17	9,192	17			
		4	Very often	34	15	4,489	8			
		Total	225	100	55,174	100				
d. Friends or other students	FYSfy03d_16	1	Never	8	3	3,393	8	3.0	2.8 ***	.24
		2	Sometimes	50	23	15,411	29			
		3	Often	96	43	21,430	38			
		4	Very often	71	31	14,976	26			
		Total	225	100	55,210	100				
e. Family members	FYSfy03e_16	1	Never	89	42	21,793	41	2.0	1.9	.06
		2	Sometimes	67	28	18,358	33			
		3	Often	42	18	10,223	18			
		4	Very often	26	12	4,846	8			
		Total	224	100	55,220	100				
f. Other persons or offices	FYSfy03f_16	1	Never	134	58	32,828	60	1.6	1.6	.03
		2	Sometimes	63	30	15,572	28			
		3	Often	18	8	4,941	9			
		4	Very often	8	4	1,831	3			
		Total	223	100	55,172	100				

NSSE 2019 First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons: First-Year Experiences

Stephen F. Austin State University

First-Year Students

Frequency Distributions ^a								Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				SFA		FY Exp / Sr Transitn		SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transitn	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
4a. During the current school year, have you seriously considered leaving this institution?^j								23%	30% *	-.14 ▽
	FYSfy04a	No		171	77	38,308	70			
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "yes" or "no")	Yes		51	23	16,928	30			
		Total		222	100	55,236	100			
4b. [If answered "yes"] Why did you consider leaving? (Select all that apply.)										
	FYSfy04b_1_16	—	Academics are too difficult	8	18	2,694	17			
	FYSfy04b_2_16	—	Academics are too easy	0	0	1,019	6			
		—	Other academic issues (major not offered, course availability, advising, credit transfer, etc.)	7	13	2,829	16			
	FYSfy04b_3_16	—								
	FYSfy04b_4_16	—	Financial concerns (costs or financial aid)	20	38	6,938	40			
		—	To change your career options (transfer to another school or program, military service, etc.)	6	17	2,819	17			
	FYSfy04b_5_16	—								
	FYSfy04b_6_16	—	Difficulty managing demands of school and work	7	20	2,621	17			
	FYSfy04b_7_16	—	Too much emphasis on partying	2	5	1,098	7			
	FYSfy04b_8_16	—	Not enough opportunities to socialize and have fun	2	5	3,077	17			
	FYSfy04b_9_16	—	Relations with faculty and staff	6	15	1,636	10			
	FYSfy04b_10_16	—	Relations with other students	6	13	3,768	21			
	FYSfy04b_11_16	—	Campus climate, location, or culture	15	32	4,701	27			
	FYSfy04b_12_16	—	Unsafe or hostile environment	0	0	1,032	6			
		—	Personal reasons (family issues, physical or mental health, homesickness, stress, etc.)	26	47	6,993	40			
	FYSfy04b_13_16	—								
	FYSfy04b_14_16	—	A reason not listed above, please specify:	6	14	2,476	16			
5. How important is it to you that you graduate from <i>this institution</i>?								4.9	5.0	-.07
	FYSfy05	1	Not important	8	5	2,608	5			
		2	2	9	5	1,958	4			
		3	3	17	8	3,422	6			
		4	4	29	11	6,702	12			
		5	5	37	16	8,328	15			
		6	Very important	122	55	31,860	58			
		Total		222	100	54,878	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	SFA	SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	Comparisons with:		
								FY Exp / Sr Transiti		
FYSfy01a	234	2.84	2.78	.055	.005	0.84	0.84	27,024	.275	.07
FYSfy01b	234	2.95	2.88	.048	.005	0.74	0.79	238	.136	.09
FYSfy01c	233	2.74	2.69	.058	.005	0.89	0.86	26,982	.348	.06
FYSfy01d	233	2.68	2.56	.061	.005	0.94	0.88	26,966	.035	.14
FYSfy01e	234	3.20	3.12	.047	.004	0.72	0.73	26,957	.072	.12
FYSfy01f	234	2.86	2.88	.061	.005	0.93	0.83	236	.758	-.02
FYSfy02a	234	3.38	3.39	.072	.007	1.09	1.14	26,974	.934	-.01
FYSfy02b	234	3.65	3.74	.095	.008	1.45	1.37	26,963	.307	-.07
FYSfy02c	234	2.79	2.84	.087	.008	1.32	1.30	26,967	.555	-.04
FYSfy02d	234	2.57	2.69	.088	.008	1.35	1.34	26,960	.170	-.09
FYSfy03a_16	233	2.33	2.21	.055	.005	0.84	0.81	236	.030	.15
FYSfy03b_16	232	1.75	1.80	.052	.005	0.80	0.84	26,898	.364	-.06
FYSfy03b_16	233	2.22	1.93	.065	.006	0.99	0.93	26,892	.000	.32
FYSfy03b_16	233	3.03	2.82	.053	.006	0.80	0.90	238	.000	.24
FYSfy03e_16	233	2.00	1.94	.068	.006	1.03	0.96	26,918	.375	.06
FYSfy03f_16	231	1.58	1.56	.053	.005	0.81	0.79	26,890	.648	.03
FYSfy04a ^k	229	.235	.295	.0281	.0028	--	--	--	.046	-.14
FYSfy05	231	4.93	5.03	.098	.009	1.49	1.43	26,765	.291	-.07

NSSE 2019 First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons: Senior Transitions

Stephen F. Austin State University

Seniors

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				SFA		FY Exp / Sr Transitm		SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transitm	Effect size ^d
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
1. Do you expect to graduate this spring or summer?										
	FYSsr01_16	No		81	47	21,379	34			
		Yes		97	53	47,573	66			
		Total		178	100	68,952	100			
1a. [Excludes those who answered "No," not expecting spring/summer graduation] After graduation, what best describes your immediate plans?										
	FYSsr01a	—	Full-time employment	64	68	28,190	59			
		—	Part-time employment	3	3	2,079	4			
		—	Graduate or professional school	21	20	10,421	21			
		—	Military service	2	3	661	2			
		—	Service or volunteer activity (AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.)	1	1	441	1			
		—	Internship (paid or unpaid)	3	3	1,899	4			
		—	Travel or gap year	0	0	1,733	4			
		—	No plans at this time	2	2	1,614	3			
		—	Other, please specify:	1	1	1,074	2			
		Total		97	100	48,112	100			
1b. [If immediate plans included full- or part-time employment] Do you already have a job for after graduation?^j										
	FYSsr01b	No		49	70	15,393	50			
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	Yes, I will start a new job		9	14	6,884	24			
		Yes, I will continue in my current job		9	16	7,902	26			
		Total		67	100	30,179	100			
								30%	50% ***	-.42
2. [Excludes those who answered "No," not expecting spring/summer graduation] To what extent have courses in your major(s) prepared you for your post-graduation plans?										
	FYSsr02	1	Very little	6	5	2,768	6			
		2	Some	11	12	10,336	22			
		3	Quite a bit	38	39	17,881	37			
		4	Very much	42	44	17,054	35			
		Total		97	100	48,039	100			
								3.2	3.0 *	.23
3. Do you intend to work eventually in a field related to your major(s)?^j										
	FYSsr03	Yes		162	91	59,917	86			
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No		7	4	2,873	4			
		Unsure		9	5	6,356	9			
		Total		178	100	69,146	100			
								91%	86% *	.16
4. Do you plan to be self-employed, an independent contractor, or a freelance worker someday?^j										
	FYSsr04	Yes		36	20	13,640	21			
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No		93	51	37,743	53			
		Unsure		49	29	17,848	26			
		Total		178	100	69,231	100			
								20%	21%	-.03

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

NSSE 2019 First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons: Senior Transitions

Stephen F. Austin State University

Seniors

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				SFA		FY Exp / Sr Transitn		SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transitn	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
5. Do you plan to start your own business (nonprofit or for-profit) someday? ¹										
	FYSsr05	Yes		44	24	15,743	24	24%	24%	.01
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No		86	47	34,091	48			
		Unsure		48	28	19,432	28			
		Total		178	100	69,266	100			
6. How much confidence do you have in your ability to complete tasks requiring the following skills and abilities?										
a. Critical thinking and analysis of arguments and information	FYSsr06a	1	Very little	4	2	403	1	3.4	3.5	-.10
		2	Some	16	8	5,346	7			
		3	Quite a bit	68	39	25,922	37			
		4	Very much	88	51	37,437	55			
		Total		176	100	69,108	100			
b. Creative thinking and problem solving	FYSsr06b	1	Very little	0	0	342	1	3.4	3.5	-.10
		2	Some	12	6	4,699	7			
		3	Quite a bit	79	45	25,364	36			
		4	Very much	86	48	38,650	56			
		Total		177	100	69,055	100			
c. Research skills	FYSsr06c	1	Very little	2	1	1,195	2	3.3	3.2	.06
		2	Some	23	12	10,590	15			
		3	Quite a bit	76	44	27,445	40			
		4	Very much	76	43	29,868	43			
		Total		177	100	69,098	100			
d. Clear writing	FYSsr06d	1	Very little	2	1	816	1	3.2	3.3	-.09
		2	Some	25	15	8,397	13			
		3	Quite a bit	76	43	27,405	39			
		4	Very much	73	41	32,458	47			
		Total		176	100	69,076	100			
e. Persuasive speaking	FYSsr06e	1	Very little	3	2	2,358	4	3.0	3.1	-.10
		2	Some	48	26	15,543	23			
		3	Quite a bit	76	44	26,607	38			
		4	Very much	49	28	24,574	36			
		Total		176	100	69,082	100			
f. Technological skills	FYSsr06f	1	Very little	6	3	2,159	3	3.0	3.1	-.06
		2	Some	38	19	15,261	21			
		3	Quite a bit	85	49	27,998	40			
		4	Very much	48	29	23,647	36			
		Total		177	100	69,065	100			
g. Financial and business management skills	FYSsr06g	1	Very little	27	14	10,535	15	2.5	2.6	-.07
		2	Some	61	35	24,185	35			
		3	Quite a bit	66	37	20,455	30			
		4	Very much	22	13	13,883	21			
		Total		176	100	69,058	100			

NSSE 2019 First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions

Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons: Senior Transitions

Stephen F. Austin State University

Seniors

				Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				SFA		FY Exp / Sr Transitn		SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transitn	
Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
h. Entrepreneurial skills	FYSsr06h	1	Very little	34	18	15,324	22	2.4	2.4	-.01
		2	Some	68	40	25,512	37			
		3	Quite a bit	56	31	16,942	25			
		4	Very much	19	11	11,261	17			
		Total	177	100	69,039	100				
i. Leadership skills	FYSsr06i	1	Very little	1	0	1,642	3	3.3	3.3	.08
		2	Some	24	13	10,346	15			
		3	Quite a bit	70	39	24,296	35			
		4	Very much	82	47	32,790	47			
		Total	177	100	69,074	100				
j. Networking and relationship building	FYSsr06j	1	Very little	5	2	3,126	5	3.0	3.0	.00
		2	Some	42	23	15,038	22			
		3	Quite a bit	74	42	25,586	37			
		4	Very much	56	32	25,317	37			
		Total	177	100	69,067	100				
7. To what extent has your coursework in your major(s) emphasized the following?										
a. Generating new ideas or brainstorming	FYSsr07a	1	Very little	1	1	2,137	4	3.2	3.1	.13
		2	Some	28	15	12,600	19			
		3	Quite a bit	83	46	27,996	40			
		4	Very much	65	38	26,218	37			
		Total	177	100	68,951	100				
b. Taking risks in your coursework without fear of penalty	FYSsr07b	1	Very little	34	18	13,180	20	2.6	2.5	.02
		2	Some	48	28	19,831	29			
		3	Quite a bit	60	34	19,981	28			
		4	Very much	34	20	15,912	23			
		Total	176	100	68,904	100				
c. Evaluating multiple approaches to a problem	FYSsr07c	1	Very little	7	4	2,568	4	3.1	3.1	.07
		2	Some	33	18	13,522	20			
		3	Quite a bit	67	37	27,560	40			
		4	Very much	70	40	25,117	36			
		Total	177	100	68,767	100				
d. Inventing new methods to arrive at unconventional solutions	FYSsr07d	1	Very little	17	9	7,078	11	2.8	2.7	.02
		2	Some	54	31	20,491	30			
		3	Quite a bit	62	35	22,999	33			
		4	Very much	43	25	17,973	26			
		Total	176	100	68,541	100				

8. Is there anything your institution could have done better to prepare you for your career or further education? Please describe.

This final question asked students to respond in an open text box. Comments were recorded for 56 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE19 Student Comments" report and in a separate SPSS data file.

These open-ended responses appear exactly as respondents entered them and may not be suitable for distribution without prior review.

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.





Seniors

	N		Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
Variable name	SFA	SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	SFA	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	Comparisons with: FY Exp / Sr Transiti			
FYSsr01b ^k	66	.297	.501	.0566	.0042	--	--	--	.001	-.42	
FYSsr02	94	3.21	3.00	.088	.006	0.85	0.90	22,268	.023	.23	
FYSsr03 ^k	177	.913	.862	.0213	.0019	--	--	--	.049	.16	
FYSsr04 ^k	177	.197	.208	.0300	.0022	--	--	--	.733	-.03	
FYSsr05 ^k	177	.243	.239	.0324	.0023	--	--	--	.889	.01	
FYSsr06a	175	3.40	3.46	.054	.004	0.71	0.66	33,424	.172	-.10	
FYSsr06b	176	3.42	3.48	.046	.004	0.61	0.65	33,393	.187	-.10	
FYSsr06c	176	3.29	3.24	.054	.004	0.71	0.77	33,418	.430	.06	
FYSsr06d	175	3.25	3.32	.055	.004	0.73	0.74	33,400	.228	-.09	
FYSsr06e	175	2.98	3.06	.059	.005	0.79	0.85	176	.149	-.10	
FYSsr06f	176	3.04	3.09	.059	.005	0.78	0.83	177	.399	-.06	
FYSsr06g	175	2.50	2.57	.068	.005	0.89	0.98	176	.312	-.07	
FYSsr06h	176	2.35	2.37	.068	.005	0.90	1.00	177	.852	-.01	
FYSsr06i	176	3.33	3.27	.054	.004	0.72	0.81	33,403	.316	.08	
FYSsr06j	176	3.05	3.05	.061	.005	0.80	0.88	33,403	.982	.00	
FYSsr07a	176	3.22	3.11	.054	.005	0.71	0.83	33,340	.089	.13	
FYSsr07b	174	2.55	2.53	.077	.006	1.01	1.05	33,323	.776	.02	
FYSsr07c	176	3.14	3.08	.065	.005	0.86	0.85	33,251	.341	.07	
FYSsr07d	175	2.76	2.74	.071	.005	0.94	0.97	33,141	.836	.02	

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent t -tests uses Cohen's d ; z -tests use Cohen's h .
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t -tests. Values differ from N s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests or z -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.
- j. Statistical comparison uses z -test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.
- k. Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."

Key to symbols:

-  **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
-  **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
-  **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
-  **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.