

# CSU Fullerton NSSE 2009 Results



## National Survey of Student Engagement

Presentation at:  
**Student Academic Life Committee**  
**October 15, 2009**

Edward Sullivan  
Acting Assistant VP for Institutional Research and Analytical Studies

James Hershey  
Senior Research Associate

# NSSE 2009

- About
  - The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) obtains, on an annual basis, information from hundreds of four-year colleges and universities nationwide about student participation in programs and activities that institutions provide for their learning and personal development. The results provide an estimate of how undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from attending college. Survey items on The National Survey of Student Engagement represent empirically confirmed "good practices" in undergraduate education. That is, they reflect behaviors by students and institutions that are associated with desired outcomes of college.

# NSSE 2009

- 5,000 CSUF students invited to participate in a web based survey administered in spring 2009
  - 2,500 Freshmen
  - 2,500 Seniors
- 1,867 responses (37.3% response rate)
  - 842 Freshmen
  - 1,025 Seniors



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2009 Respondent Characteristics  
California State University,  
Fullerton**

	Cal State Fullerton		Lrge Pb Nresidential		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2009	
	FY	SR	FY	SR	FY	SR	FY	SR
<b>Response Rate<sup>a</sup></b>								
Overall	37%		21%		29%		31%	
By class	34%	41%	19%	23%	26%	32%	28%	34%
NSSE sample size <sup>b</sup>	2,500	2,500	27,920	26,146	167,462	158,206	555,682	518,876
<b>Sampling Error<sup>c</sup></b>								
Overall	2.1%		0.9%		0.3%		0.1%	
By class	3.1%	2.8%	1.3%	1.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%
Number of respondents <sup>b</sup>	842	1,025	5,331	6,070	43,929	50,121	158,349	174,911
Total population	4,696	5,897	51,920	60,541	188,768	191,788	715,341	702,796
<b>Student Characteristics<sup>d</sup></b>								
<i>Mode of Completion</i>								
Paper	0%	0%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Web	100%	100%	99%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%
<i>Enrollment Status<sup>e</sup></i>								
Full-time	96%	75%	95%	81%	93%	81%	95%	84%
Less than full-time	4%	25%	5%	19%	7%	19%	5%	16%
<i>Gender<sup>e</sup></i>								
Female	67%	67%	64%	61%	66%	66%	64%	63%
Male	33%	33%	36%	39%	34%	34%	36%	37%



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2009 Respondent Characteristics  
California State University,  
Fullerton**

	Cal State Fullerton		Lrge Pb Nresidential		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2009	
	FY	SR	FY	SR	FY	SR	FY	SR
<b><i>Race/Ethnicity</i></b>								
Am. Indian/Native American	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Asian/Asian Am./Pacific Isl.	21%	19%	11%	8%	6%	4%	6%	5%
Black/African American	4%	2%	9%	7%	9%	8%	8%	8%
White (non-Hispanic)	27%	34%	56%	61%	67%	70%	69%	71%
Mexican/Mexican American	26%	22%	6%	6%	3%	4%	3%	3%
Puerto Rican	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other Hispanic or Latino	8%	5%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%
Multiracial	5%	6%	4%	3%	3%	2%	3%	2%
Other	3%	4%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%
I prefer not to respond	4%	7%	5%	7%	5%	6%	5%	6%
<b><i>International Student</i></b>	3%	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%	6%	5%
<b><i>Place of Residence</i></b>								
On-campus <sup>f</sup>	15%	1%	43%	3%	60%	13%	67%	17%
<b><i>Transfer Status</i></b>								
Transfer students	2%	68%	11%	56%	10%	50%	9%	42%
<b><i>Age</i></b>								
Non-traditional (24 or older)	0%	46%	5%	47%	9%	42%	7%	34%
Traditional (less than 24)	100%	54%	95%	53%	91%	58%	93%	66%

# Comparison Groups

- 616 colleges and universities (617 if you include CSUF) participated in NSSE 2009
  - 143 had our Carnegie Classification
    - 12 of the 143 were Large Public Non-Residential like us

<b>Institution Name</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>
Auburn University	Auburn University	AL
California State University, Northridge	Northridge	CA
Indiana University Purdue University-Indianapolis	Indianapolis	IN
Middle Tennessee State University	Murfreesboro	TN
Portland State University	Portland	OR
Temple University	Philadelphia	PA
Texas Tech University	Lubbock	TX
The University of Texas at San Antonio	San Antonio	TX
University of Houston	Houston	TX
University of Nevada-Las Vegas	Las Vegas	NV
Virginia Commonwealth University	Richmond	VA
Weber State University	Ogden	UT

# NSSE 2009 Scaled Items



National Survey  
of Student Engagement

NSSE 2009 Benchmark Comparisons  
California State University, Fullerton

## Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)

### Mean Comparisons

California State University, Fullerton compared with:

Class	Cal State Fullerton Mean <sup>a</sup>	Lrge Pb Nresidential			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2009		
		Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
First-Year	52.6	51.6	*	.08	53.1		-.04	53.7	*	-.08
Senior	56.6	55.8		.06	56.9		-.02	57.0		-.03

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \*p<.05 \*\*p<.01 \*\*\*p<.001(2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.

### Level of Academic Challenge (LAC) Items

Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote high levels of student achievement by emphasizing the importance of academic effort and setting high expectations for student performance.

Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, etc. related to academic program)

Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings

Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or more; number of written papers or reports of between 5 and 19 pages; and number of written papers or reports of fewer than 5 pages

Coursework emphasizes: **Analysis** of the basic elements of an idea, experience or theory

Coursework emphasizes: **Synthesis** and organizing of ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships

Coursework emphasizes: **Making of judgments** about the value of information, arguments, or methods

Coursework emphasizes: **Applying** theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations

Working harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations

Campus environment emphasizes: Spending significant amount of time studying and on academic work.

# NSSE 2009 Scaled Items



National Survey  
of Student Engagement

NSSE 2009 Benchmark Comparisons  
California State University, Fullerton

## Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)

### Mean Comparisons

California State University, Fullerton compared with:

Class	Cal State Fullerton Mean <sup>a</sup>	Large Peer Residential			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2009		
		Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
First-Year	43.2	41.0	***	.13	43.3		-.01	43.2		.00
Senior	49.5	50.6	*	-.06	51.6	***	-.12	51.0	**	-.09

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \*p<.05 \*\*p<.01 \*\*\*p<.001(2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.

### Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL) Items

Students learn more when they are intensely involved in their education and asked to think about what they are learning in different settings. Collaborating with others in solving problems or mastering difficult material prepares students for the messy, unscripted problems they will encounter daily during and after college.

Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions

Made a class presentation

Worked with other students on projects **during class**

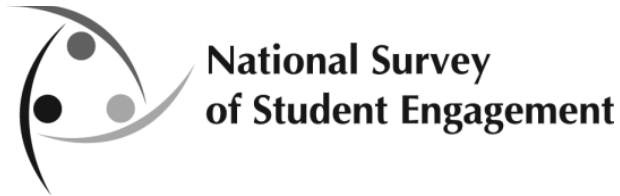
Worked with classmates **outside of class** to prepare class assignments

Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)

Participated in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of a regular course

Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)

# NSSE 2009 Scaled Items



NSSE 2009 Benchmark Comparisons  
California State University, Fullerton

## Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)

### Mean Comparisons

California State University, Fullerton compared with:

Class	California State University, Fullerton compared with:									
	Cal State Fullerton	Large Public Residential			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2009		
	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
First-Year	31.6	32.1		-.03	35.3	***	-.20	34.7	***	-.17
Senior	36.1	39.4	***	-.16	41.9	***	-.28	42.0	***	-.28

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \*p<.05 \*\*p<.01 \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.

### Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI) Items

Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve practical problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside the classroom. As a result, their teachers become role models, mentors, and guides for continuous, life-long learning.

Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor

Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor

Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class

Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student-life activities, etc.)

Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance

Worked on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements



NSSE 2009 Mean Comparisons  
California State University, Fullerton

Cal State Fullerton compared with:

Benchmark	Class	Cal State Fullerton		Lrge Pb Nresidential			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2009				
		Mean <sup>a</sup>		Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>		
<i>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</i>														
<b>1. Academic and Intellectual Experiences</b>														
n.	Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	SFI	FY	2.54		2.57		-0.02	2.68	***	-0.15	2.64	**	-0.11
			SR	2.75		2.79		-0.04	2.86	***	-0.12	2.83	**	-0.09
o.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	SFI	FY	1.97		2.09	***	-0.13	2.23	***	-0.29	2.20	***	-0.26
			SR	2.25		2.33	**	-0.09	2.43	***	-0.19	2.42	***	-0.17
p.	Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	SFI	FY	1.81		1.82		.00	1.90	**	-0.10	1.88	*	-0.08
			SR	1.98		2.03		-0.06	2.09	***	-0.12	2.08	***	-0.11
q.	Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	SFI	FY	2.72		2.59	***	.15	2.70		.02	2.67		.05
			SR	2.70		2.72		-0.02	2.86	***	-0.19	2.81	***	-0.13
s.	Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)	SFI	FY	1.51		1.53		-0.02	1.64	***	-0.15	1.64	***	-0.15
			SR	1.55		1.72	***	-0.19	1.80	***	-0.26	1.82	***	-0.28
<i>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.)</i>														
<b>7. Enriching Educational Experiences</b>														
d.	Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	SFI	FY	.03		.05	**	-0.09	.05	***	-0.11	.05	***	-0.11
			SR	.09		.16	***	-0.19	.16	***	-0.20	.19	***	-0.27

# NSSE 2009 Scaled Items



National Survey  
of Student Engagement

NSSE 2009 Benchmark Comparisons  
California State University, Fullerton

## Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE)

### Mean Comparisons

California State University, Fullerton compared with:

Class	Cal State Fullerton Mean <sup>a</sup>	Lrge Pb Nresidential			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2009		
		Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
First-Year	25.0	27.1	***	-.16	27.1	***	-.16	28.1	***	-.23
Senior	32.4	38.9	***	-.37	38.7	***	-.35	40.9	***	-.47

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \*p<.05 \*\*p<.01 \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.

### Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE) Items

Complementary learning opportunities enhance academic programs. Diversity experiences teach students valuable things about themselves and others. Technology facilitates collaboration between peers and instructors. Internships, community service, and senior capstone courses provide opportunities to integrate and apply knowledge.

- Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, social fraternity or sorority, etc.)
- Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment
- Community service or volunteer work
- Foreign language coursework / Study abroad
- Independent study or self-designed major
- Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)
- Serious conversations with students of different religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values
- Serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own
- Using electronic medium (e.g., listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment
- Campus environment encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds
- Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together

**NSSE 2009 Mean Comparisons  
California State University, Fullerton**

*Cal State Fullerton compared with:*

Benchmark	Class	Cal State Fullerton		Lrge Pb Nresidential			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2009		
		Mean <sup>a</sup>		Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>

*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**

l.	Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	EEE	FY	2.50	2.69	***	-.18	2.61	**	-.10	2.64	***	-.14
			SR	2.82	2.86		-.04	2.87		-.04	2.87		-.04
u.	Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	EEE	FY	2.76	2.65	**	.10	2.60	***	.15	2.62	***	.13
			SR	2.80	2.79		.01	2.68	***	.11	2.70	**	.09
v.	Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	EEE	FY	2.70	2.70		.00	2.68		.02	2.72		-.02
			SR	2.72	2.79		-.06	2.73		.00	2.76		-.03

*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	EEE	FY	.08	.07		.04	.07		.02	.08		.01
			SR	.38	.46	***	-.16	.49	***	-.22	.52	***	-.29
b.	Community service or volunteer work	EEE	FY	.28	.37	***	-.17	.37	***	-.17	.40	***	-.23
			SR	.40	.55	***	-.30	.56	***	-.31	.60	***	-.40
c.	Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	EEE	FY	.12	.17	***	-.13	.17	***	-.13	.18	***	-.15
			SR	.17	.24	***	-.17	.25	***	-.20	.26	***	-.22

## NSSE 2009 Mean Comparisons California State University, Fullerton

*Cal State Fullerton compared with:*

Bench- mark	Class	Cal State Fullerton			Lrge Pb Nresidential			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2009		
		Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
<i>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.)</i>													
<b>7. Enriching Educational Experiences</b>													
e. Foreign language coursework	EEE	FY	.11	.17	***	-.17	.18	***	-.18	.22	***	-.25	
		SR	.20	.37	***	-.37	.35	***	-.31	.41	***	-.43	
f. Study abroad	EEE	FY	.01	.03	***	-.11	.03	***	-.12	.03	***	-.11	
		SR	.05	.11	***	-.21	.11	***	-.19	.15	***	-.29	
g. Independent study or self-designed major	EEE	FY	.01	.03	***	-.11	.04	***	-.15	.04	***	-.13	
		SR	.08	.14	***	-.19	.16	***	-.22	.17	***	-.25	
h. Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	EEE	FY	.01	.02	*	-.06	.02	*	-.07	.02	*	-.06	
		SR	.19	.31	***	-.27	.31	***	-.26	.34	***	-.31	
<i>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</i>													
<b>9. Time Usage</b>													
d. Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	EEE	FY	1.94	2.09	*	-.10	2.19	***	-.15	2.30	***	-.22	
		SR	1.69	1.93	***	-.17	1.95	***	-.18	2.11	***	-.27	
<i>To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following? 1=Very little, 2=Some, 3=Quite a bit, 4=Very much</i>													
<b>10. Institutional Environment</b>													
c. Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	EEE	FY	2.74	2.68		.06	2.72		.02	2.72		.02	
		SR	2.63	2.56	*	.07	2.57	*	.07	2.55	**	.09	

# NSSE 2009 Scaled Items



National Survey  
of Student Engagement

NSSE 2009 Benchmark Comparisons  
California State University, Fullerton

## Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)

### Mean Comparisons

California State University, Fullerton compared with:

Class	Cal State Fullerton Mean <sup>a</sup>	Lrge Pb Nresidential			Carnegie Class			NSSE 2009		
		Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>	Mean <sup>a</sup>	Sig <sup>b</sup>	Effect Size <sup>c</sup>
First-Year	60.3	58.4	*	.10	61.7	*	-.07	61.6		-.07
Senior	57.7	55.5	***	.11	58.9		-.06	58.2		-.03

<sup>a</sup> Weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

<sup>b</sup> \*p<.05 \*\*p<.01 \*\*\*p<.001(2-tailed).

<sup>c</sup> Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.

### Supportive Campus Environment (SCE) Items

Students perform better and are more satisfied at colleges that are committed to their success and cultivate positive working and social relations among different groups on campus.

- Campus environment provides the support you need to help you succeed academically
- Campus environment helps you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)
- Campus environment provides the support you need to thrive socially
- Quality of relationships with other students
- Quality of relationships with faculty members
- Quality of relationships with administrative personnel and offices