

National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
First-Year Students' Responses: MTSU Trend
Spring 2014, Spring 2016, and Spring 2019

First-Year Students		
NSSE2014	NSSE2016	NSSE2019
307	344	794



NSSE Question:

Q1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following? Scale: 1=Never 2=Sometimes 3=Often 4=Very Often			NSSE2014	NSSE2016	NSSE2019
Asked questions or contributed to course discussions in other ways	askquest	count	306	341	782
		mean	2.97	2.87	2.99
Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	drafts	count	304	340	784
		mean	2.67	2.45	2.63
Come to class without completing readings or assignments (reversed coded)	unpreparedr	count	304	338	785
		mean	2.99	2.96	3.01
Attended an art exhibit, play, or other arts performance (dance, music, etc.)	attendart	count	301	338	786
		mean	2.01	1.96	2.17
Asked another student to help you understand course material	CLaskhelp	count	304	337	782
		mean	2.44	2.49	2.73
Explained course material to one or more students	CLexplain	count	287	331	781
		mean	2.74	2.64	2.9
Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	CLstudy	count	289	332	776
		mean	2.38	2.43	2.68
Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	CLproject	count	287	328	772
		mean	2.53	2.48	2.73
Given a course presentation	present	count	290	326	774
		mean	2.37	2.32	2.48
Q2. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following? Scale: 1=Never 2=Sometimes 3=Often 4=Very Often					
Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	Rlintegrate	count	284	323	769
		mean	2.59	2.54	2.77
Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	Rlsocietal	count	276	317	766
		mean	2.5	2.47	2.66
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	Rldiverse	count	277	321	761
		mean	2.53	2.51	2.63
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	Rlownview	count	279	316	757
		mean	2.84	2.71	2.94
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective	Rlperspect	count	275	314	748
		mean	2.93	2.92	3.04
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	Rlnewview	count	270	315	740
		mean	2.83	2.77	2.92
Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	Rlconnect	count	272	314	736
		mean	3.17	2.99	3.18
Q3. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following? Scale: 1=Never 2=Sometimes 3=Often 4=Very Often					
Talked about career plans with a faculty member	SFcareer	count	279	314	738
		mean	2.34	2.12	2.51
Worked with a faculty member on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	SFotherwork	count	277	313	738
		mean	1.69	1.55	1.78
Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	SFdiscuss	count	276	312	731
		mean	1.98	1.88	2.16
Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	SFperform	count	277	311	734
		mean	2.19	2.11	2.33
Q4. During the current school year, about how much has your coursework emphasized the following? Scale: 1=Very Little 2=Some 3=Quite a bit 4=Very Much					
Coursework emphasized: Memorizing course material	memorize	count	274	313	734
		mean	2.96	2.91	3.01
Coursework emphasized: Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	HOapply	count	271	308	732
		mean	2.83	2.85	2.91
Coursework emphasized: Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	HOanalyze	count	268	306	728
		mean	2.92	2.83	2.9
Coursework emphasized: Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	HOevaluate	count	271	306	724
		mean	2.93	2.9	2.98
Coursework emphasized: Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	HOform	count	272	306	722
		mean	2.86	2.84	2.93
Q5. During the current school year, to what extent have your instructors done the following? Scale: 1=Very Little 2=Some 3=Quite a bit 4=Very much					
Instructors: Clearly explained course goals and requirements	ETgoals	count	272	307	722
		mean	3.16	3.04	3.13
Instructors: Taught course sessions in an organized way	ETorganize	count	274	306	719
		mean	3.14	2.99	3.05
Instructors: Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	ETexample	count	274	304	718
		mean	3.13	2.99	3.07
Instructors: Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	ETdraftfb	count	272	304	719
		mean	2.97	2.84	2.97

Instructors: Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	ETfeedback	count	272	303	721
		mean	2.84	2.7	2.78
Q6. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following? Scale: 1=Never 2=Sometimes 3=Often 4=Very often					
Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	QRconclude	count	274	303	718
		mean	2.5	2.42	2.61
Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	QRproblem	count	273	301	714
		mean	2.26	2.15	2.35
Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	QRevaluate	count	270	299	712
		mean	2.21	2.16	2.31
Q7. During the current school year, about how many papers, reports, or other writing tasks of the following length have you been assigned? Scale: 1=None 2=1-2 3=3-5 4=6-10 5=11-15 6=16-20 7=More than 20 papers					
Number of written papers or reports: Between 6 and 10 pages	wrmed	count	226	273	713
		mean	1.69	1.79	1.87
Estimated number of assigned papers, reports, etc., up to 5 pages (NSSE recode)	wrshortnum	count	243	277	713
		mean	6.11	6.76	6.35
Estimated number of assigned papers, reports, etc., between 6 and 10 pages (NSSE recode)	wrmednum	count	226	273	713
		mean	1.63	1.79	1.91
Estimated number of assigned papers, reports, etc., 11 pages or more (NSSE recode)	wrlongnum	count	221	266	712
		mean	0.49	0.78	0.71
Q8. During the current school year, about how often have you had discussions with people from the following groups? Scale: 1=Never 2=Sometimes 3=Often 4=Very Often					
Had discussions with people of a race or ethnicity other than your own	DDrace	count	245	280	713
		mean	3.22	3.2	3.25
Had discussions with people from an economic background other than your own	DDeconomic	count	244	280	707
		mean	3.17	3.13	3.14
Had discussions with people with religious beliefs other than your own	DDreligion	count	241	280	710
		mean	3.08	3.1	3.11
Had discussions with people with political views other than your own	DDpolitical	count	242	279	710
		mean	3.07	3.08	3.09
Q9. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following? Scale: 1=Never 2=Sometimes 3=Often 4=Very Often					
Identified key information from reading assignments	LSreading	count	242	278	707
		mean	3.1	3.06	3.03
Reviewed your notes after class	LSnotes	count	241	276	709
		mean	2.94	2.9	3
Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	LSsummary	count	239	273	706
		mean	2.83	2.8	2.89
Q10. During the current school year, to what extent have your courses challenged you to do your best work? Scale: 1=Not at all 4=Somewhat 7=Very Much					
To what extent have your courses challenged you to do your best work?	challenge	count	239	276	706
		mean	5.45	5.6	5.53
Q11. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate? Scale: 1=Have not decided 2=Do not plan to do 3=Plan to do 4=Done or in progress (percent indicating 'Done or in progress')					
Internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement	intern	count	237	277	708
		mean	0.08	0.06	0.05
Formal leadership role in a student organization or group	leader	count	239	277	706
		mean	0.10	0.06	0.09
Learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	learncom	count	238	273	705
		mean	0.14	0.11	0.11
Study abroad program	abroad	count	239	274	706
		mean	0.03	0.03	0.02
Work with a faculty member on a research project	research	count	238	274	707
		mean	0.07	0.04	0.06
Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, portfolio, etc.)	capstone	count	235	276	704
		mean	0.05	0.02	0.03
Q12. About how many of your courses at this institution have included a community-based project (service-learning)? Scale: 1=None 2=Some 3=Most 4=All					
About how many of your courses at this institution have included a community-based project (service-learning)?	servcourse	count	202	250	700
		mean	1.5	1.4	1.5
Q13. Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at your institution. Scale: 1=Poor 2=2 3=3 4=4 5=5 6=6 7=Excellent 9=Not applicable (missing)					
Quality of interactions with students	Qlstudent	count	238	275	707
		mean	5.45	5.16	5.44
Quality of interactions with academic advisors	Qladvisor	count	236	275	705
		mean	4.79	5.04	5.29
Quality of interactions with faculty	Qlfaculty	count	235	273	706
		mean	5.16	5.01	5.38
Quality of interactions with student services staff	Qlstaff	count	203	230	590
		mean	4.69	4.78	5.04
Quality of interactions with other administrative staff and offices	Qladmin	count	226	251	642
		mean	4.41	4.72	5.17
Q14. How much does your institution emphasize the following? Scale: 1=Very little 2=Some 3=Quite a bit 4=Very much					

Institutional emphasis: Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	empstudy	count	201	251	703
		mean	3.19	3.11	3.16
Institutional emphasis: Providing support to help students succeed academically	SEacademic	count	202	250	698
		mean	3.04	2.91	3.09
Institutional emphasis: Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	SElearnsup	count	201	249	701
		mean	3.14	3.15	3.2
Institutional emphasis: Encouraging contact among students from different backgrounds (social, racial/ethnic, religious, etc.)	SEdiverse	count	202	250	700
		mean	2.65	2.71	2.78
Institutional emphasis: Providing opportunities to be involved socially	SEsocial	count	202	250	699
		mean	2.99	3.01	3.07
Institutional emphasis: Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	SEwellness	count	200	247	696
		mean	2.95	3.06	3.05
Institutional emphasis: Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	SEnonacad	count	202	248	693
		mean	2.19	2.26	2.22
Institutional emphasis: Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	SEactivities	count	202	244	695
		mean	2.88	2.9	3
Institutional emphasis: Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	SEevents	count	202	246	694
		mean	2.39	2.46	2.5
Q15. About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following? Scale: 1=0 hours per week 2=1-5 3=6-10 4=11-15 5=16-20 6=21-25 7=26-30 8=More than 30					
Estimated hours: tmprep recoded by NSSE using the midpoints of response ranges and an estimate for unbounded options	tmprephrs	count	205	250	693
		mean	12.3	13.68	14.18
Estimated hours: Hours per week: Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	tmcocurrhrs	count	202	245	692
		mean	4.12	4.06	4.8
Hours per week: Working for pay ON CAMPUS	tmworkonhrs	count	203	246	690
		mean	1.92	1.59	1.64
Hours per week: Working for pay OFF CAMPUS	tmworkoffhrs	count	201	247	691
		mean	7.46	7.98	9.51
Hours per week: Doing community service or volunteer work	tmsevicehrs	count	197	247	688
		mean	2.13	2.53	2.43
Hours per week: Relaxing and socializing (time with friends, video games, TV or videos, keeping up with friends online, etc.)	tmrelaxhrs	count	203	244	693
		mean	11.73	13.76	13.51
Hours per week: Providing care for dependents (children, parents, etc.)	tmcarehrs	count	201	244	690
		mean	2.47	2.7	2.45
Hours per week: Commuting to campus (driving, walking, etc.)	tmcommutehrs	count	202	245	692
		mean	5.21	5.88	5.76
Estimated number of hrs working for pay recoded and summed by NSSE from tmworkonhrs and tmworkoffhrs using the response range midpoints and an estimate for unbounded options	tmworkhrs	count	199	245	687
		mean	9.03	9.59	11.04
Q16. Of the time you spend preparing for class in a typical 7-day week, about how much is on assigned reading? Scale: 1=Very little 2=Some 3=About half 4=Most 5=Almost all					
Of the time you spend preparing for class in a typical 7-day week, about how much is on ASSIGNED READING?	reading	count	201	244	690
		mean	2.7	2.65	2.44
Q17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas? Scale: 1=Very little 2=Some 3=Quite a bit 4=Very much					
Perceived gains: Writing clearly and effectively	pgwrite	count	199	245	687
		mean	2.93	2.82	2.9
Perceived gains: Speaking clearly and effectively	pgspeak	count	199	244	688
		mean	2.68	2.74	2.81
Perceived gains: Thinking critically and analytically	pgthink	count	199	244	689
		mean	2.9	2.93	3.09
Perceived gains: Analyzing numerical and statistical information	pganalyze	count	198	244	687
		mean	2.34	2.49	2.57
Perceived gains: Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills	pgwork	count	198	244	688
		mean	2.51	2.5	2.69
Perceived gains: Working effectively with others	pgothers	count	197	244	689
		mean	2.74	2.69	2.89
Perceived gains: Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics	pgvalues	count	198	244	687
		mean	2.38	2.58	2.64
Perceived gains: Understanding people of other backgrounds (economic, racial/ethnic, political, religious, nationality, etc.)	pgdiverse	count	199	243	688
		mean	2.68	2.75	2.83
Perceived gains: Solving complex real-world problems	pgprobsolve	count	198	245	690
		mean	2.43	2.49	2.59
Perceived gains: Being an informed and active citizen	pgcitizen	count	197	244	689
		mean	2.46	2.54	2.62
Q18. How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution? Scale: 1=Poor 2=Fair 3=Good 4=Excellent					
How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	evalexp	count	200	244	690
		mean	3.09	3.07	3.24
Q19. If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending? Scale: 1=Definitely no 2=Probably no 3=Probably yes 4=Definitely yes					
If you could start over again, would you go to the SAME INSTITUTION you are now attending?	sameinst	count	200	245	695
		mean	3.23	3.16	3.37

Legend:

Reported as a percentage 
Means reported not recoded to NSSE created categories 

Notes:

Survey items are weighted for gender and academic caseload (i.e., fulltime, part-time) within an institution
NSSE created/recoded categories excluded for several variables: means reported are based on raw responses. These variables are highlighted in blue.