

NSSE 2017 Statistical Comparisons

Clayton State University

			Statistical Comparisons ^b										
			Clayton State students compared with										
Item wording or description	Variable name ^c	Student Type	Clayton State	USG Comparator Peer			GA State Universities			NSSE 2016 & 2017			
			Mean	Mean	Significant	Effect size ^e	Mean	Significant	Effect size ^e	Mean	Significant	Effect size ^e	
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?													
a.	Asked questions or contributed to course discussions in other ways	askquest	First Year Students	2.7	2.8		-.06	2.9		-.13	2.8		-.10
			Seniors	3.2	3.1		.06	3.2		.01	3.1		-.09
b.	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it	drafts	First Year Students	2.5	2.5		.02	2.6		-.02	2.5		.05
			Seniors	2.8	2.5	***	Δ .27	2.5	***	▲ .30	2.4	***	▲ .36
c.	Come to class without completing readings or assignments	unpreparedr <small>(Reverse-coded version of unprepared created by NSSE.)</small>	First Year Students	2.9	3.0		-.12	3.0		-.15	3.0		-.15
			Seniors	3.1	3.0		.10	3.0		.09	3.0		.12
d.	Attended an art exhibit, play, or other arts performance (dance, music, etc.)	attendart	First Year Students	1.7	2.0	**	▼ -.34	1.9	*	▼ -.23	1.9	*	▼ -.23
			Seniors	1.6	1.8	**	▼ -.18	1.7		-.11	1.8	**	▼ -.18
e.	Asked another student to help you understand course material	CLaskhelp	First Year Students	2.5	2.7	*	▼ -.21	2.6		-.16	2.6		-.11
			Seniors	2.3	2.5	***	▼ -.28	2.5	***	▼ -.26	2.4	**	▼ -.19
f.	Explained course material to one or more students	CLexplain	First Year Students	2.6	2.8		-.17	2.7		-.12	2.7		-.06
			Seniors	2.6	2.8	***	▼ -.25	2.8	***	▼ -.23	2.7	*	▼ -.14
g.	Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with	CLstudy	First Year Students	2.5	2.6		-.14	2.6		-.06	2.5		-.03
			Seniors	2.5	2.6		-.11	2.5		-.08	2.5		.00
h.	Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	CLproject	First Year Students	2.6	2.7		-.14	2.7		-.12	2.6		-.06
			Seniors	2.8	2.9		-.12	2.8		-.04	2.8		-.05
i.	Given a course presentation	present	First Year Students	2.2	2.3		-.06	2.3		-.07	2.3		-.05
			Seniors	2.5	2.7	**	▼ -.19	2.8	***	▼ -.27	2.7	**	▼ -.17
2. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?													
a.	Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	RIntegrate	First Year Students	2.5	2.7		-.16	2.5		.05	2.6		-.06
			Seniors	2.8	3.0	*	▼ -.17	2.9		-.08	2.9		-.10
b.	Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	RSocietal	First Year Students	2.5	2.6		-.13	2.5		-.03	2.6		-.07
			Seniors	2.8	2.8		-.08	2.8		-.04	2.8		-.03
c.	Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, etc.)	RIdiverse	First Year Students	2.6	2.6		-.01	2.6		.03	2.6		.05
			Seniors	2.7	2.6		.04	2.7		-.02	2.6		-.05
d.	Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a	Rlownview	First Year Students	2.7	2.8		-.07	2.8		-.06	2.8		-.03
			Seniors	2.9	2.9		.06	2.9		.05	2.8		.08
e.	Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an	RIperspect	First Year Students	2.9	2.9		-.03	2.9		-.01	2.9		-.02
			Seniors	3.1	3.0	*	Δ .17	3.0	*	Δ .16	3.0	**	Δ .21
f.	Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or	RInewview	First Year Students	2.9	2.9		.00	2.8		.05	2.8		.05
			Seniors	3.0	3.0		.05	3.0		.10	2.9		.11
g.	Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	Rlconnect	First Year Students	3.0	3.0		-.07	3.0		.00	3.0		-.06
			Seniors	3.3	3.2		.03	3.2		.09	3.2		.09
3. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?													
a.	Talked about career plans with a faculty member	SFcareer	First Year Students	2.2	2.4		-.20	2.3		-.10	2.2		-.02
			Seniors	2.4	2.5		-.08	2.6		-.13	2.4		-.03
b.	Worked with a faculty member on activities other than coursework	SFotherwork	First Year Students	1.8	1.9		-.13	1.9		-.08	1.8		.01
			Seniors	1.8	2.0	**	▼ -.21	2.1	***	▼ -.31	1.9	*	▼ -.14
c.	Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member	SFdiscuss	First Year Students	1.9	2.1		-.18	2.1		-.15	2.0		-.08
			Seniors	2.0	2.2	***	▼ -.29	2.3	***	▼ -.33	2.2	**	▼ -.20
d.	Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	SFperform	First Year Students	2.1	2.3		-.19	2.3		-.18	2.1		-.02
			Seniors	2.2	2.3	*	▼ -.14	2.4	***	▼ -.24	2.2		-.02
4. During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following?													
a.	Memorizing course material	memorize	First Year Students	2.9	2.9		-.05	3.0		-.13	2.9		-.03
			Seniors	2.9	2.8	*	Δ .15	2.8		.11	2.7	***	Δ .24
b.	Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new	HOapply	First Year Students	2.9	2.9		.01	2.9		.05	2.9		-.01
			Seniors	3.1	3.1		.01	3.1		.05	3.1		.06
c.	Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its	HOanalyze	First Year Students	3.0	2.9		.10	2.9		.09	2.9		.07
			Seniors	3.1	3.1		.08	3.1		.06	3.0		.10
d.	Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	HOevaluate	First Year Students	3.0	2.9		.15	2.9		.08	2.9		.15
			Seniors	3.0	2.9		.12	3.0		.06	2.9	*	Δ .13
e.	Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	HOform	First Year Students	2.9	2.9		.07	2.9		.03	2.9		.07
			Seniors	3.0	3.0		.01	3.0		.01	2.9		.07
5. During the current school year, to what extent have your instructors done the following?													
a.	Clearly explained course goals and requirements	ETgoals	First Year Students	3.2	3.1	*	Δ .23	3.0	*	Δ .26	3.1		.21
			Seniors	3.2	3.1		.09	3.2		.07	3.1		.09
b.	Taught course sessions in an organized way	ETorganize	First Year Students	3.2	2.9	**	▲ .36	3.0	**	▲ .33	3.0	*	▲ .27
			Seniors	3.1	3.1		.09	3.1		.10	3.1		.07
c.	Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	ETexample	First Year Students	3.2	3.0		.21	3.0	*	Δ .24	3.0		.17
			Seniors	3.2	3.1		.11	3.1		.10	3.1		.10
d.	Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	ETdraftfb	First Year Students	3.0	2.8	*	Δ .28	2.8		.21	2.8	*	Δ .24
			Seniors	2.9	2.8		.14	2.8		.10	2.8	*	Δ .13
e.	Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed	ETfeedback	First Year Students	2.9	2.7		.25	2.8		.17	2.7		.21
			Seniors	2.8	2.8		.00	2.8		.00	2.8		.02
6. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?													
a.	Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	QRconclude	First Year Students	2.5	2.6		-.09	2.6		-.09	2.6		-.04
			Seniors	2.5	2.7	***	▼ -.24	2.6		-.13	2.6	**	▼ -.18
b.	Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue	QRproblem	First Year Students	2.2	2.4		-.17	2.3		-.08	2.3		-.04

c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	SElearnsup	First Year Students	3.0	3.1			-16	3.1			-10	3.1			-12
		Seniors	3.1	2.9	***	▲	.27	2.9	***	▲	.29	2.8	***	▲	.32
d. Encouraging contact among students from different backgrounds (social, family, etc.)	SEdiverse	First Year Students	2.7	2.8			-.06	2.6			.09	2.8			-.05
		Seniors	2.8	2.6	*	▲	.17	2.6			.13	2.6	*	▲	.15
e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially	SEsocial	First Year Students	2.8	3.0			-.25	2.9			-.12	3.0			-.21
		Seniors	3.0	2.8	*	▲	.16	2.9			.12	2.8	*	▲	.17
f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, etc.)	SEwellness	First Year Students	2.9	3.0			-.12	2.9			.05	2.9			-.04
		Seniors	2.9	2.8			.08	2.8			.13	2.7	*	▲	.16
g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	SEnonacad	First Year Students	2.3	2.5			-.19	2.3			-.04	2.4			-.09
		Seniors					.15	2.1	*	▲	.17	2.1	*	▲	.17
			2.3	2.1											
h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	SEactivities	First Year Students	2.6	2.9	*		-.33	2.8			-.21	2.8			-.22
		Seniors	2.7	2.6			.09	2.6			.10	2.6			.12
i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	SEevents	First Year Students	2.4	2.6			-.20	2.6			-.13	2.6			-.11
		Seniors	2.6	2.4	*	▲	.19	2.4	*	▲	.19	2.4	**	▲	.25
15. About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following?															
a. Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)	tmprephrs <i>(Recorded version of tmpprep created by NSSE. Values are estimated number of hours per week.)</i>	First Year Students	12.2	13.8			-.19	12.2			.00	14.7	*	▼	-.31
		Seniors	15.2	15.0			.02	14.3			.10	15.2			.00
b. Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	tmccurrhrs <i>(Recorded version of tmccocurr created by NSSE. Values are estimated number of hours per week.)</i>	First Year Students	3.3	6.0	***	▼	-.37	5.1	*	▼	-.26	5.7	**	▼	-.35
		Seniors	2.7	4.6	***	▼	-.27	4.7	***	▼	-.29	4.9	***	▼	-.31
c. Working for pay on campus	tmworkonhrs <i>(Recorded version of tmworkon created by NSSE. Values are estimated number of hours per week.)</i>	First Year Students	1.5	3.1	*	▼	-.24	2.0			-.08	2.4			-.15
		Seniors	1.2	4.0	***	▼	-.38	3.4	***	▼	-.32	3.6	***	▼	-.34
d. Working for pay off campus	tmworkoffhrs <i>(Recorded version of tmworkoff created by NSSE. Values are estimated number of hours per week.)</i>	First Year Students	8.5	5.4	*	▲	.31	6.9			.15	5.8	*	▲	.27
		Seniors	18.3	13.0	***	▲	.39	13.3	***	▲	.36	12.8	***	▲	.42
Estimated number of hours working for pay	tmworkhrs <i>(Continuous variable created by NSSE)</i>	First Year Students	10.0	8.4			-.14	8.8			-.10	8.1			-.17
		Seniors	19.6	17.0	*	▲	.19	16.8	*	▲	.21	16.3	**	▲	.25
e. Doing community service or volunteer work	tmservicehrs <i>(Recorded version of tmservice created by NSSE. Values are estimated number of hours per week.)</i>	First Year Students	3.2	2.9			.06	3.3			-.02	2.5			.14
		Seniors	4.0	3.7			.05	4.0			.01	3.2			.14
f. Relaxing and socializing (time with friends, video games, TV or videos, keeping up with friends online, etc.)	tmrelaxhrs <i>(Recorded version of tmrelax created by NSSE. Values are estimated number of hours per week.)</i>	First Year Students	10.5	12.2			-.20	12.0			-.17	12.1			-.19
		Seniors	8.6	10.2	*	▼	-.19	10.0	*	▼	-.17	10.5	**	▼	-.24
g. Providing care for dependents (children, parents, etc.)	tmcarehrs <i>(Recorded version of tmcare created by NSSE. Values are estimated number of hours per week.)</i>	First Year Students	6.7	2.9	**	▲	.52	3.2	*	▲	.44	3.1	**	▲	.48
		Seniors	12.7	7.3	***	▲	.44	7.9	***	▲	.38	6.3	***	▲	.57
h. Commuting to campus (driving, walking, etc.)	tmcommutehrs <i>(Recorded version of tmcommute created by NSSE. Values are estimated number of hours per week.)</i>	First Year Students	5.6	4.4			.18	5.0			.08	3.8	*	▲	.31
		Seniors	6.8	5.5	*	▲	.19	5.7			.15	4.8	**	▲	.32
16. Of the time you spend preparing for class in a typical 7-day week, about how much is on assigned reading?															
	reading	First Year Students	2.7	2.7			-.01	2.7			-.02	2.8			-.07
		Seniors	3.4	2.8	***	▲	.48	2.9	***	▲	.47	2.9	***	▲	.45
	tmreadinghrs <i>(Continuous variable created by NSSE. Calculated as a proportion of tmpprephrs based on reading, where Very little=.10; Some=.25; About half=.50; Most=.75; Almost all=.90)</i>	First Year Students	5.6	6.2			-.11	5.7			-.01	6.8			-.21
		Seniors	9.4	7.2	***	▲	.33	7.1	***	▲	.34	7.4	***	▲	.32
17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?															
a. Writing clearly and effectively	pgwrite	First Year Students	3.0	2.8			.19	2.9			.15	2.8			.21
		Seniors	3.2	3.0	**	▲	.26	3.0	**	▲	.22	3.0	**	▲	.21
b. Speaking clearly and effectively	pgspeak	First Year Students	2.8	2.7			.09	2.7			.09	2.7			.11
		Seniors	2.9	2.9			.07	3.0			-.03	2.9			.04
c. Thinking critically and analytically	pgthink	First Year Students	3.1	3.0			.10	3.0			.09	3.1			.07
		Seniors	3.3	3.3			.07	3.3			.12	3.3			.06
d. Analyzing numerical and statistical information	pganalyze	First Year Students	2.6	2.7			-.13	2.7			-.16	2.6			-.09
		Seniors	2.9	2.9			-.03	2.8			.05	2.9			.03
e. Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills	pgwork	First Year Students	2.5	2.6			-.15	2.5			-.06	2.6			-.12
		Seniors	3.0	2.9			.14	3.0			.08	2.9			.13
f. Working effectively with others	pgothers	First Year Students	2.8	2.8			-.02	2.8			.00	2.8			-.03
		Seniors	3.1	3.0			.10	3.1			.05	3.0			.08
g. Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics	pgvalues	First Year Students	2.6	2.7			-.13	2.7			-.11	2.7			-.12
		Seniors	2.9	2.8			.15	2.9			.04	2.8			.08
h. Understanding people of other backgrounds (economic, racial/ethnic, political, religious, nationality, etc.)	pgdiverse	First Year Students	2.7	2.8			-.11	2.7			-.04	2.8			-.10
		Seniors	2.9	2.8			.11	2.8			.04	2.8			.05
i. Solving complex real-world problems	pgprobsolve	First Year Students	2.6	2.7			-.06	2.6			-.04	2.6			-.03
		Seniors	2.8	2.8			-.03	2.8			.00	2.8			-.02

j.	Being an informed and active citizen	pgcitizen	First Year Students	2.6	2.7		-.03	2.7		-.06	2.7		-.02
			Seniors	2.7	2.7		.04	2.7		.02	2.7		.04
18. How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?													
		evalexp	First Year Students	3.1	3.2		-.08	3.1		.02	3.2		-.14
			Seniors	3.3	3.2		.13	3.2		.16	3.3		.07
19. If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?													
		sameinst	First Year Students	3.1	3.2		-.19	3.0		.07	3.2		-.18
			Seniors	3.2	3.2		-.01	3.1		.07	3.2		-.03

Statistical comparisons: Items with mean differences that are larger than would be expected by chance are noted with asterisks referring to three significance levels (* $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$).

Significance levels indicate the probability that an observed difference is due to chance. Statistical significance does not guarantee the result is substantive or important. Large sample sizes tend to generate more statistically significant results even though the magnitude of mean differences may be inconsequential. Consult effect sizes (see #7) to judge the practical meaning of differences. Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t-tests. Exceptions are items 11 a-f which are compared using a z-test.

Effect size: Effect size indicates practical significance. An effect size of .2 is often considered small, .5 moderate, and .8 large. A positive effect size indicates that your institution's mean was greater than that of the comparison group, thus showing a favorable result for your institution. A negative effect size indicates your institution lags behind the comparison group, suggesting that the student behavior or institutional practice represented by the item may warrant attention. Effect sizes for independent t -tests use Cohen's d ; z -tests use Cohen's h . Cohen's d is calculated by dividing the mean difference by the pooled standard deviation. Cohen's h is calculated by taking the difference in the proportion of students who responded "Done or in progress" after the proportion has been transformed using a non-linear (arcsine) transformation. See: Cohen, J. (1988). *Statistical power analysis for the behavioral sciences (2nd edition)*. New York: Psychology Press.

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.