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**NSSE 2016 Topical Module Report**  
**First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions**  
College of Charleston

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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'n' column of this report.

Group label	FY Exp / Sr Transiti'n
Date submitted	5/20/16
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution retained the default comparison group (all module participants).
Group description	All other current- and prior-year NSSE institutions who administered module "First-Year Experiences and Senior Transitions"

### FY Exp / Sr Transiti'n (N=237)

Alfred University (Alfred, NY)*	College of New Jersey, The (Ewing, NJ)*
Augusta University (Augusta, GA)	College of Our Lady of the Elms (Chicopee, MA)
Ave Maria University (Ave Maria, FL)*	College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University, The (Saint Joseph, MN)
Averett University (Danville, VA)	College of Saint Mary (Omaha, NE)*
Avila University (Kansas City, MO)	College of Saint Rose, The (Albany, NY)*
Azusa Pacific University (Azusa, CA)	Colorado College (Colorado Springs, CO)*
Barton College (Wilson, NC)	Columbus College of Art and Design (Columbus, OH)
Berklee College of Music (Boston, MA)*	Concord University (Athens, WV)
Bethany College (Lindsborg, KS)*	Concordia College-New York (Bronxville, NY)*
Birmingham-Southern College (Birmingham, AL)	Concordia University of Edmonton (Edmonton, AB)*
Bishop's University (Sherbrooke, QC)*	Converse College (Spartanburg, SC)
Brandon University (Brandon, MB)*	Coppin State University (Baltimore, MD)
Brescia University College (London, ON)	Cornell College (Mount Vernon, IA)*
Bridgewater College (Bridgewater, VA)	Cumberland University (Lebanon, TN)
Buena Vista University (Storm Lake, IA)	CUNY Hunter College (New York, NY)
Burman University (Lacombe, AB)	CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice (New York, NY)*
California State University-Channel Islands (Camarillo, CA)	CUNY New York City College of Technology (Brooklyn, NY)*
California State University-Chico (Chico, CA)	Daemen College (Amherst, NY)*
California State University, East Bay (Hayward, CA)	Defiance College (Defiance, OH)
Cameron University (Lawton, OK)	Dixie State University (Saint George, UT)
Campbell University Inc. (Buies Creek, NC)*	Drake University (Des Moines, IA)
Campbellsville University (Campbellsville, KY)	East Central University (Ada, OK)*
Canadian Mennonite University (Winnipeg, MB)	Eckerd College (Saint Petersburg, FL)*
Capital University (Columbus, OH)	Emory and Henry College (Emory, VA)*
Carson-Newman University (Jefferson City, TN)*	Evergreen State College, The (Olympia, WA)
Carthage College (Kenosha, WI)*	Faulkner University (Montgomery, AL)
Centenary College of Louisiana (Shreveport, LA)	Ferrum College (Ferrum, VA)*
Central College (Pella, IA)	Finlandia University (Hancock, MI)
Charleston Southern University (Charleston, SC)*	Flagler College (Saint Augustine, FL)*
Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, The (Charleston, SC)	Florida Institute of Technology (Melbourne, FL)

## FY Exp / Sr Transiti (N=237), continued

Florida Polytechnic University (Lakeland, FL)*	Morehead State University (Morehead, KY)*
Framingham State University (Framingham, MA)	Morgan State University (Baltimore, MD)*
Francis Marion University (Florence, SC)	Mount St. Joseph University (Cincinnati, OH)*
Franklin College (Franklin, IN)*	New Mexico Highlands University (Las Vegas, NM)
Franklin Pierce University (Rindge, NH)	New School, The (New York, NY)
Freed-Hardeman University (Henderson, TN)	Newman University (Wichita, KS)
Georgian Court University (Lakewood, NJ)*	Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)
Gordon College (Wenham, MA)	Northern State University (Aberdeen, SD)
Grand Canyon University (Phoenix, AZ)	Northwest Nazarene University (Nampa, ID)*
Guilford College (Greensboro, NC)	Northwestern College (Orange City, IA)
Hampshire College (Amherst, MA)	Norwich University (Northfield, VT)
Hanover College (Hanover, IN)	Ohio Dominican University (Columbus, OH)
Hartwick College (Oneonta, NY)	Oklahoma City University (Oklahoma City, OK)*
Harvey Mudd College (Claremont, CA)	Oregon State University (Corvallis, OR)
Hiram College (Hiram, OH)*	Otis College of Art and Design (Los Angeles, CA)*
Hood College (Frederick, MD)*	Pace University (New York, NY)
Hope International University (Fullerton, CA)*	Pennsylvania College of Technology (Williamsport, PA)*
Houston Baptist University (Houston, TX)*	Peru State College (Peru, NE)
Huron University College (London, ON)*	Pfeiffer University (Misenheimer, NC)
Idaho State University (Pocatello, ID)	Plymouth State University (Plymouth, NH)*
Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago, IL)	Prairie View A&M University (Prairie View, TX)*
Indiana University Bloomington (Bloomington, IN)*	Presentation College (Aberdeen, SD)*
Iona College (New Rochelle, NY)	Regent University (Virginia Beach, VA)
Ithaca College (Ithaca, NY)	Regis University (Denver, CO)
Jarvis Christian College (Hawkins, TX)	Roanoke College (Salem, VA)*
Johnson & Wales University (Providence, RI)	Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, NY)*
Johnson & Wales University-Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)	Roosevelt University (Chicago, IL)*
Johnson & Wales University-Denver (Denver, CO)	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (Terre Haute, IN)*
Johnson & Wales University-North Miami (North Miami, FL)	Rutgers University-Camden (Camden, NJ)*
Judson University (Elgin, IL)	Rutgers University-New Brunswick/Piscataway (New Brunswick, NJ)*
Kansas State University (Manhattan, KS)	Rutgers University-Newark (Newark, NJ)*
Kaplan University (Davenport, IA)*	Sage Colleges, The (Troy, NY)
Kean University (Union, NJ)*	Saint Francis University (Loretto, PA)*
Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, GA)	Saint Joseph's College (Rensselaer, IN)
Keystone College (La Plume, PA)	Saint Peter's University (Jersey City, NJ)
Kwantlen Polytechnic University (Surrey, BC)	Salem College (Winston Salem, NC)*
La Sierra University (Riverside, CA)*	Scripps College (Claremont, CA)
Lander University (Greenwood, SC)	Seton Hall University (South Orange, NJ)
Lane College (Jackson, TN)	Siena College (Loudonville, NY)*
Lenoir-Rhyne University (Hickory, NC)	Southeast Missouri State University (Cape Girardeau, MO)*
Lesley University (Cambridge, MA)*	Southeastern Louisiana University (Hammond, LA)
Lewis & Clark College (Portland, OR)	Southern University at New Orleans (New Orleans, LA)
Lincoln University (Jefferson City, MO)*	Southern Virginia University (Buena Vista, VA)*
Louisiana State University at Alexandria (Alexandria, LA)	Southwestern Oklahoma State University (Weatherford, OK)
Maranatha Baptist University (Watertown, WI)*	Spelman College (Atlanta, GA)
Marian University (Fond Du Lac, WI)*	Spring Hill College (Mobile, AL)
Mars Hill University (Mars Hill, NC)*	St. Cloud State University (St Cloud, MN)*
Marymount California University (Rancho Palos Verdes, CA)	St. Francis College (Brooklyn Heights, NY)
Marymount Manhattan College (New York, NY)*	St. Mary's College of Maryland (Saint Mary's City, MD)
Mayville State University (Mayville, ND)*	Texas A&M University - Texarkana (Texarkana, TX)
McMaster University (Hamilton, ON)*	Texas Christian University (Fort Worth, TX)
McMurry University (Abilene, TX)	Texas State University (San Marcos, TX)
McNeese State University (Lake Charles, LA)	Texas Wesleyan University (Fort Worth, TX)
Milwaukee School of Engineering (Milwaukee, WI)*	Thomas College (Waterville, ME)*
Minot State University (Minot, ND)*	Thomas More College (Crestview Hills, KY)
Missouri University of Science & Technology (Rolla, MO)	Touro College (New York, NY)
Monmouth College (Monmouth, IL)*	Trine University (Angola, IN)
Moravian College (Bethlehem, PA)	Truett McConnell University (Cleveland, GA)

\*2015 participant

## FY Exp / Sr Transiti (N=237), continued

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Union College (NE) (Lincoln, NE)*	Wisconsin Lutheran College (Milwaukee, WI)*
University of Advancing Technology (Tempe, AZ)	Wittenberg University (Springfield, OH)
University of Akron (Akron, OH)*	Youngstown State University (Youngstown, OH)
University of Alabama at Birmingham (Birmingham, AL)	
University of Alabama in Huntsville (Huntsville, AL)	
University of Charleston (Charleston, WV)	
University of Colorado Denver (Denver, CO)	
University of Dallas (Irving, TX)	
University of Hartford (West Hartford, CT)*	
University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu (Kapolei, HI)	
University of Illinois at Chicago (Chicago, IL)*	
University of La Verne (La Verne, CA)*	
University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg, VA)	
University of Michigan-Flint (Flint, MI)	
University of Minnesota Duluth (Duluth, MN)	
University of Montana (Missoula, MT)	
University of Montana-Western, The (Dillon, MT)*	
University of Mount Olive (Mount Olive, NC)*	
University of New Brunswick (Fredericton, NB)	
University of New England (Biddeford, ME)	
University of North Dakota (Grand Forks, ND)*	
University of North Texas at Dallas (Dallas, TX)	
University of Pittsburgh-Bradford (Bradford, PA)	
University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras Campus (Rio Piedras, PR)*	
University of Redlands (Redlands, CA)*	
University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)	
University of Saint Joseph (West Hartford, CT)*	
University of Saint Mary (Leavenworth, KS)	
University of San Francisco (San Francisco, CA)	
University of Scranton (Scranton, PA)*	
University of Southern Indiana (Evansville, IN)	
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, The (Knoxville, TN)	
University of Texas at Arlington, The (Arlington, TX)	
University of Texas at El Paso, The (El Paso, TX)	
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, The (Edinburg, TX)	
University of the Virgin Islands (Charlotte Amalie, VI)	
University of Tulsa (Tulsa, OK)	
University of Vermont (Burlington, VT)*	
University of Washington Tacoma (Tacoma, WA)	
University of Wisconsin-River Falls (River Falls, WI)	
University of Wyoming (Laramie, WY)*	
Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology (Flushing, NY)	
Warner Pacific College (Portland, OR)*	
Washington Adventist University (Takoma Park, MD)	
Washington College (Chestertown, MD)	
Washington State University (Pullman, WA)*	
Webber International University (Babson Park, FL)	
Wesley College (Dover, DE)*	
Wesleyan College, Macon, Georgia (Macon, GA)	
West Virginia Wesleyan College (Buckhannon, WV)	
Western State Colorado University (Gunnison, CO)	
Westfield State University (Westfield, MA)	
Westminster College (Salt Lake City, UT)	
Whitworth University (Spokane, WA)*	
Willamette University (Salem, OR)*	
William Woods University (Fulton, MO)*	
Wingate University (Wingate, NC)	
Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC)	

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CofC		FY Exp / Sr Transitn		CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transitn	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
<b>1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?</b>										
a. Studied when there were other interesting things to do	FYSfy01a	1	Never	10	2	1,542	4	<b>2.8</b>	2.8	-.08
		2	Sometimes	155	40	14,015	34			
		3	Often	156	37	15,161	36			
		4	Very often	85	21	10,675	25			
		Total		406	100	41,393	100			
b. Found additional information for course assignments when you didn't understand the material	FYSfy01b	1	Never	8	2	1,217	3	<b>2.8</b>	2.9	-.05
		2	Sometimes	119	30	12,181	30			
		3	Often	201	50	18,141	44			
		4	Very often	76	18	9,700	23			
		Total		404	100	41,239	100			
c. Participated in course discussions, even when you didn't feel like it	FYSfy01c	1	Never	22	5	3,052	8	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	.04
		2	Sometimes	153	37	15,286	37			
		3	Often	158	40	15,140	36			
		4	Very often	71	17	7,808	19			
		Total		404	100	41,286	100			
d. Asked instructors for help when you struggled with course assignments	FYSfy01d	1	Never	25	6	3,889	10	<b>2.6</b>	2.6	.03
		2	Sometimes	179	45	16,383	40			
		3	Often	131	32	13,521	32			
		4	Very often	71	17	7,345	17			
		Total		406	100	41,138	100			
e. Finished something you have started when you encountered challenges	FYSfy01e	1	Never	0	0	399	1	<b>3.1</b>	3.1 *	-.09
		2	Sometimes	73	20	7,357	19			
		3	Often	224	55	19,438	47			
		4	Very often	109	25	13,944	33			
		Total		406	100	41,138	100			
f. Stayed positive, even when you did poorly on a test or assignment	FYSfy01f	1	Never	14	3	1,473	4	<b>2.8</b>	2.9	-.09
		2	Sometimes	127	32	11,582	28			
		3	Often	169	42	17,117	41			
		4	Very often	93	23	10,954	27			
		Total		403	100	41,126	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, how difficult have the following been for you?</b>										
a. Learning course material	FYSfy02a	1	Not at all difficult	13	4	2,740	7	<b>3.5</b>	3.3 *	.10
		2	2	57	13	7,257	18			
		3	3	133	33	11,938	29			
		4	4	150	36	12,987	31			
		5	5	42	11	4,841	12			
		6	Very difficult	11	2	1,536	4			
		Total		406	100	41,299	100			
b. Managing your time	FYSfy02b	1	Not at all difficult	17	5	2,436	6	<b>4.0</b>	3.8 *	.10
		2	2	49	12	5,316	13			
		3	3	70	17	8,828	21			
		4	4	126	31	10,652	26			
		5	5	83	20	8,373	20			
		6	Very difficult	59	15	5,605	14			
		Total		404	100	41,210	100			

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

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CofC		FY Exp / Sr Transitn		CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transitn	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Mean
c. Getting help with school work	FYSfy02c	1	Not at all difficult	67	17	6,955	17	<b>2.8</b>	2.9	-.04
		2	2	110	26	10,805	26			
		3	3	115	28	11,010	27			
		4	4	71	19	7,609	18			
		5	5	32	8	3,293	8			
		6	Very difficult	10	2	1,514	4			
Total				405	100	41,186	100			
d. Interacting with faculty	FYSfy02d	1	Not at all difficult	66	16	8,447	20	<b>2.9</b>	2.8	.06
		2	2	97	23	10,558	25			
		3	3	119	30	9,881	24			
		4	4	72	18	7,042	17			
		5	5	38	10	3,481	9			
		6	Very difficult	13	3	1,725	5			
Total				405	100	41,134	100			
<b>3. During the current school year, about how often have you sought help with coursework from the following sources?<sup>1</sup></b>										
a. Faculty members	FYSfy03a_16	1	Never	54	13	4,336	19	<b>2.3</b>	2.2 *	.13
		2	Sometimes	211	52	12,690	51			
		3	Often	101	25	5,731	23			
		4	Very often	39	9	1,998	8			
		Total				405	100			
b. Academic advisors	FYSfy03b_16	1	Never	164	40	11,400	46	<b>1.8</b>	1.7 *	.12
		2	Sometimes	159	40	9,100	37			
		3	Often	65	16	3,191	13			
		4	Very often	16	4	1,001	4			
		Total				404	100			
c. Learning support services (tutoring, writing center, success coaching, etc.)	FYSfy03c_16	1	Never	137	34	9,530	40	<b>2.0</b>	1.9	.09
		2	Sometimes	154	38	8,695	35			
		3	Often	77	19	4,209	17			
		4	Very often	37	9	2,187	9			
		Total				405	100			
d. Friends or other students	FYSfy03d_16	1	Never	12	3	1,450	6	<b>2.8</b>	2.9	-.03
		2	Sometimes	128	33	6,732	28			
		3	Often	178	43	9,766	39			
		4	Very often	87	21	6,766	26			
		Total				405	100			
e. Family members	FYSfy03e_16	1	Never	164	41	9,922	41	<b>2.0</b>	1.9	.01
		2	Sometimes	125	30	8,031	33			
		3	Often	82	20	4,539	18			
		4	Very often	33	8	2,207	8			
		Total				404	100			
f. Other persons or offices	FYSfy03f_16	1	Never	251	61	15,264	62	<b>1.6</b>	1.5	.04
		2	Sometimes	100	27	6,428	26			
		3	Often	37	9	2,104	9			
		4	Very often	13	4	776	3			
		Total				401	100			

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

## First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CofC		FY Exp / Sr Transitm		CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transitm	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>4a. During the current school year, have you seriously considered leaving this institution?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSfy04a	No		242	60	16,558	67	<b>40%</b>	33% **	.15
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	Yes		161	40	8,188	33			
		Total		403	100	24,746	100			
<b>4b. [If answered "yes"] Why did you consider leaving? (Select all that apply.)<sup>l</sup></b>										
	FYSfy04b_1_16	—	Academics are too difficult	12	7	1,172	14			
	FYSfy04b_2_16	—	Academics are too easy	19	12	543	7			
	FYSfy04b_3_16	—	Other academic issues (major not offered, course availability, advising, credit transfer, etc.)	29	17	1,688	21			
	FYSfy04b_4_16	—	Financial concerns (costs or financial aid)	66	41	3,632	43			
	FYSfy04b_5_16	—	To change your career options (transfer to another school or program, military service, etc.)	29	20	1,554	20			
	FYSfy04b_6_16	—	Difficulty managing demands of school and work	14	9	1,147	15			
	FYSfy04b_7_16	—	Too much emphasis on partying	35	22	446	6			
	FYSfy04b_8_16	—	Not enough opportunities to socialize and have fun	26	17	1,703	21			
	FYSfy04b_9_16	—	Relations with faculty and staff	19	12	785	10			
	FYSfy04b_10_16	—	Relations with other students	54	34	1,662	19			
	FYSfy04b_11_16	—	Campus climate, location, or culture	43	28	2,063	25			
	FYSfy04b_12_16	—	Unsafe or hostile environment	13	8	426	5			
	FYSfy04b_13_16	—	Personal reasons (family issues, physical or mental health, homesickness, stress, etc.)	67	41	2,853	34			
	FYSfy04b_14_16	—	Another reason, please specify:	20	12	1,302	17			
<b>5. How important is it to you that you graduate from this institution?</b>										
	FYSfy05	1	Not important	20	5	1,450	4	<b>5.1</b>	5.2	-.09
		2	2	10	3	1,028	3			
		3	3	22	6	2,085	5			
		4	4	38	9	3,718	9			
		5	5	64	16	5,219	13			
		6	Very important	247	61	27,652	66			
		Total		401	100	41,152	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 <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
		CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transiti			
								<i>Comparisons with:</i>		
FYSfy01a	402	2.76	2.83	.04	.00	0.80	0.85	39,507	.122	-.08
FYSfy01b	401	2.84	2.88	.04	.00	0.74	0.80	410	.314	-.05
FYSfy01c	401	2.69	2.66	.04	.00	0.82	0.87	409	.411	.04
FYSfy01d	403	2.59	2.57	.04	.00	0.84	0.89	39,268	.556	.03
FYSfy01e	403	3.05	3.12	.03	.00	0.67	0.74	412	.047	-.09
FYSfy01f	399	2.85	2.92	.04	.00	0.81	0.83	39,239	.063	-.09
FYSfy02a	403	3.46	3.33	.05	.01	1.05	1.21	413	.022	.10
FYSfy02b	400	3.97	3.83	.07	.01	1.37	1.42	408	.045	.10
FYSfy02c	402	2.82	2.87	.06	.01	1.27	1.33	39,327	.433	-.04
FYSfy02d	402	2.90	2.82	.07	.01	1.31	1.40	410	.207	.06
FYSfy03a_16 <sup>l</sup>	402	2.30	2.20	.04	.01	0.81	0.83	23,494	.012	.13
FYSfy03b_16 <sup>l</sup>	400	1.84	1.74	.04	.01	0.84	0.83	23,432	.015	.12
FYSfy03b_16 <sup>l</sup>	402	2.02	1.94	.05	.01	0.94	0.95	23,378	.069	.09
FYSfy03b_16 <sup>l</sup>	402	2.82	2.85	.04	.01	0.80	0.88	418	.460	-.03
FYSfy03e_16 <sup>l</sup>	399	1.96	1.94	.05	.01	0.98	0.96	23,448	.767	.01
FYSfy03f_16 <sup>l</sup>	397	1.55	1.53	.04	.01	0.81	0.78	23,333	.466	.04
FYSfy04a <sup>k</sup>	399	.400	.329	.0245	.0031	--	--	--	.003	.15
FYSfy05	398	5.12	5.24	.07	.01	1.40	1.32	39,292	.070	-.09

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CofC		FY Exp / Sr		CofC	FY Exp / Sr	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Mean
<b>1. Do you expect to graduate this spring or summer?<sup>1</sup></b>										
	FYSsr01_16	No		54	13	9,579	34			
		Yes		420	87	21,035	66			
		Total		474	100	30,614	100			
<b>1a. [Excludes those who answered "No," not expecting spring/summer graduation] After graduation, what best describes your immediate plans?</b>										
	FYSsr01a	—	Full-time employment	222	54	24,298	59			
	(Includes all 2015 respondents because FYSsr01_16 was a new item in 2016.)	—	Part-time employment	29	7	1,598	4			
		—	Graduate or professional school	88	20	9,374	23			
		—	Military service	1	0	419	1			
		—	Service or volunteer activity (AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.)	7	1	451	1			
		—	Internship (paid or unpaid)	14	3	1,573	4			
		—	Travel or gap year	31	8	1,386	3			
		—	No plans at this time	19	4	1,213	3			
		—	Other, please specify:	10	2	1,229	3			
		Total		421	100	41,541	100			
<b>1b. [If immediate plans included full- or part-time employment] Do you already have a job for after graduation?<sup>1</sup></b>										
	FYSsr01b	No		148	57	14,589	56	<b>43%</b>	44%	-.03
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	Yes, I will start a new job		54	22	4,739	18			
	(Includes all 2015 respondents because FYSsr01_16 was a new item in 2016.)	Yes, I will continue in my current job		47	21	6,445	26			
		Total		249	100	25,773	100			
<b>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?</b>										
	FYSsr02	1	Very little	29	7	2,407	6	<b>2.9</b>	3.0 **	-.14
	(Includes all 2015 respondents because FYSsr01_16 was a new item in 2016.)	2	Some	107	26	8,847	22			
		3	Quite a bit	157	38	15,421	37			
		4	Very much	124	29	14,752	35			
		Total		417	100	41,427	100			
<b>3. Do you intend to work eventually in a field related to your major(s)?<sup>1</sup></b>										
	FYSsr03	Yes		388	83	43,526	85	<b>83%</b>	85%	-.05
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No		23	5	2,152	4			
		Unsure		58	12	5,172	10			
		Total		469	100	50,850	100			
<b>4. Do you plan to be self-employed, an independent contractor, or a freelance worker someday?<sup>1</sup></b>										
	FYSsr04	Yes		100	23	10,754	23	<b>23%</b>	23%	.00
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No		217	44	25,409	48			
		Unsure		152	34	14,674	29			
		Total		469	100	50,837	100			

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

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CofC		FY Exp / Sr Transiti		CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
<b>5. Do you plan to start your own business (nonprofit or for-profit) someday?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSsr05		Yes	98	21	11,998	25	<b>21%</b>	25%	-.09
		(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No	215	45	23,127	43			
			Unsure	156	34	15,761	31			
			Total	469	100	50,886	100			
<b>6. How much confidence do you have in your ability to complete tasks requiring the following skills and abilities?<sup>j</sup></b>										
a. Critical thinking and analysis of arguments and information	FYSsr06a		1 Very little	4	1	327	1	<b>3.5</b>	3.5	.02
			2 Some	25	5	3,778	7			
			3 Quite a bit	175	37	17,771	34			
			4 Very much	266	57	28,984	58			
			Total	470	100	50,860	100			
b. Creative thinking and problem solving	FYSsr06b		1 Very little	2	0	300	1	<b>3.5</b>	3.5	-.04
			2 Some	37	8	3,437	7			
			3 Quite a bit	163	34	17,219	34			
			4 Very much	265	57	29,841	59			
			Total	467	100	50,797	100			
c. Research skills	FYSsr06c		1 Very little	9	2	957	2	<b>3.3</b>	3.3	.00
			2 Some	70	15	7,517	15			
			3 Quite a bit	181	38	19,603	38			
			4 Very much	208	45	22,712	45			
			Total	468	100	50,789	100			
d. Clear writing	FYSsr06d		1 Very little	9	2	729	1	<b>3.3</b>	3.3	.01
			2 Some	46	11	6,348	12			
			3 Quite a bit	184	40	19,285	38			
			4 Very much	229	48	24,413	48			
			Total	468	100	50,775	100			
e. Persuasive speaking	FYSsr06e		1 Very little	16	3	1,972	4	<b>3.0</b>	3.1	-.03
			2 Some	119	25	11,356	22			
			3 Quite a bit	165	36	18,863	37			
			4 Very much	168	36	18,555	37			
			Total	468	100	50,746	100			
f. Technological skills	FYSsr06f		1 Very little	19	4	1,864	4	<b>2.9</b>	3.1 ***	-.17 ▽
			2 Some	131	28	11,261	21			
			3 Quite a bit	178	38	19,721	38			
			4 Very much	140	30	17,874	37			
			Total	468	100	50,720	100			
g. Financial and business management skills	FYSsr06g		1 Very little	96	20	7,825	15	<b>2.5</b>	2.6	-.09
			2 Some	159	32	17,322	33			
			3 Quite a bit	118	25	15,045	30			
			4 Very much	94	22	10,579	22			
			Total	467	100	50,771	100			

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				CofC		FY Exp / Sr Transitn		CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transitn	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
h. Entrepreneurial skills	FYSsr06h	1	Very little	128	26	10,890	21	<b>2.3</b>	2.4 **	-0.13 ▽
		2	Some	174	37	18,150	35			
		3	Quite a bit	91	19	12,811	25			
		4	Very much	73	17	8,782	18			
		Total		466	100	50,633	100			
i. Leadership skills	FYSsr06i	1	Very little	14	3	1,356	3	<b>3.2</b>	3.3	-0.06
		2	Some	86	18	7,566	15			
		3	Quite a bit	151	32	17,542	35			
		4	Very much	216	46	24,254	47			
		Total		467	100	50,718	100			
j. Networking and relationship building	FYSsr06j	1	Very little	26	6	2,542	5	<b>3.0</b>	3.0	-0.01
		2	Some	93	21	10,915	22			
		3	Quite a bit	175	37	18,350	36			
		4	Very much	170	36	18,776	37			
		Total		464	100	50,583	100			
<b>7. To what extent has your coursework in your major(s) emphasized the following?</b>										
a. Generating new ideas or brainstorming	FYSsr07a	1	Very little	17	4	1,976	4	<b>3.2</b>	3.1	.06
		2	Some	85	18	9,324	19			
		3	Quite a bit	158	36	18,598	36			
		4	Very much	203	43	20,830	41			
		Total		463	100	50,728	100			
b. Taking risks in your coursework without fear of penalty	FYSsr07b	1	Very little	101	22	10,948	22	<b>2.5</b>	2.5	-0.03
		2	Some	143	31	14,127	28			
		3	Quite a bit	115	25	13,625	27			
		4	Very much	103	22	11,906	23			
		Total		462	100	50,606	100			
c. Evaluating multiple approaches to a problem	FYSsr07c	1	Very little	15	3	2,370	5	<b>3.1</b>	3.1	.04
		2	Some	96	21	10,091	20			
		3	Quite a bit	172	38	18,672	37			
		4	Very much	176	39	19,360	38			
		Total		459	100	50,493	100			
d. Inventing new methods to arrive at unconventional solutions	FYSsr07d	1	Very little	58	13	6,284	13	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	.00
		2	Some	129	28	14,345	28			
		3	Quite a bit	148	31	15,458	31			
		4	Very much	126	28	14,071	28			
		Total		461	100	50,158	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 153 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE16 Topical Module - Senior Transitions 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

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
		CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transiti	CofC	FY Exp / Sr Transiti			
FYSsr01b <sup>k</sup>	246	.426	.442	.0316	.0032	--	--	--	.631	-.03
FYSsr02	404	2.89	3.01	.04	.00	0.90	0.90	38,758	.007	-.14
FYSsr03 <sup>k</sup>	463	.835	.854	.0173	.0016	--	--	--	.254	-.05
FYSsr04 <sup>k</sup>	463	.227	.226	.0195	.0019	--	--	--	.940	.00
FYSsr05 <sup>k</sup>	464	.214	.253	.0191	.0020	--	--	--	.060	-.09
FYSsr06a	464	3.50	3.49	.03	.00	0.63	0.66	48,015	.711	.02
FYSsr06b	462	3.48	3.51	.03	.00	0.66	0.65	47,944	.402	-.04
FYSsr06c	463	3.26	3.26	.04	.00	0.78	0.78	47,943	.982	.00
FYSsr06d	462	3.34	3.33	.03	.00	0.74	0.75	47,926	.758	.01
FYSsr06e	462	3.05	3.07	.04	.00	0.86	0.86	47,889	.539	-.03
FYSsr06f	462	2.94	3.08	.04	.00	0.87	0.85	47,875	.000	-.17
FYSsr06g	462	2.49	2.59	.05	.00	1.05	0.99	469	.058	-.09
FYSsr06h	461	2.28	2.41	.05	.00	1.04	1.01	47,793	.006	-.13
FYSsr06i	462	3.21	3.26	.04	.00	0.86	0.82	47,873	.165	-.06
FYSsr06j	459	3.04	3.05	.04	.00	0.90	0.89	47,749	.816	-.01
FYSsr07a	458	3.18	3.13	.04	.00	0.85	0.86	47,885	.231	.06
FYSsr07b	456	2.47	2.51	.05	.00	1.06	1.08	47,762	.467	-.03
FYSsr07c	452	3.12	3.08	.04	.00	0.84	0.88	47,648	.396	.04
FYSsr07d	456	2.74	2.73	.05	.00	1.00	1.01	47,334	.922	.00

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## 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."
- l. This was a new item in 2016, comparison group results do not include 2015 institutions. May not apply to all modules.

### **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.