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# **NSSE 2017 Topical Module Report**

## **Civic Engagement**

North Carolina State University

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## About This Topical Module

Adapted from a pilot survey that was developed by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, this module asks students to assess their conflict resolution skills and examines how often students have engaged with local or campus and state/national/global issues. The module complements questions on the core survey about service-learning, community service or volunteer work, and becoming an informed and active citizen. Complementary FSSE set available.

## 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 'Comparison Group' column of this report.

Group label	Comparison Group
Date submitted	5/18/17
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this comparison group by selecting institutions from all module participants.
Group description	The comparison group consists of those participating institutions deemed to be most similar to NC State; including those classified as doctoral highest, higher, and moderate, and one UNC school classified as Master's Level.

## Comparison Group (N=6)

Central Michigan University (Mount Pleasant, MI)  
 Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)  
 Temple University (Philadelphia, PA)\*  
 University of Nebraska at Omaha (Omaha, NE)\*  
 University of North Carolina Wilmington (Wilmington, NC)  
 University of North Texas (Denton, TX)\*

## 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>		
				NC State		Comparison Group		NC State	Comparison Group	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>1. Select the response that best represents your ability to do the following:</b>										
a. Help people resolve their disagreements with each other	CIV01a	1	Poor	3	1	35	1	<b>5.0</b>	5.1	-.09
		2		8	2	70	2			
		3		24	6	195	6			
		4		84	21	646	20			
		5		161	40	1,144	34			
		6		81	20	799	25			
		7	Excellent	39	10	399	12			
	Total		400	100	3,288	100				
b. Resolve conflicts that involve bias, discrimination, and prejudice	CIV01b	1	Poor	3	1	43	1	<b>4.6</b>	4.9 **	-.18
		2		12	3	89	3			
		3		49	12	280	9			
		4		107	27	800	24			
		5		143	36	1,039	32			
		6		61	15	680	21			
		7	Excellent	24	6	339	10			
	Total		399	100	3,270	100				
c. Lead a group in which people from different backgrounds feel welcomed and included	CIV01c	1	Poor	4	1	60	2	<b>5.1</b>	5.2	-.09
		2		9	2	89	3			
		3		30	8	223	7			
		4		77	19	551	17			
		5		132	33	919	28			
		6		91	22	831	25			
		7	Excellent	57	14	605	19			
	Total		400	100	3,278	100				
d. Contribute to the well-being of your community	CIV01d	1	Poor	0	0	35	1	<b>5.2</b>	5.3	-.04
		2		5	1	56	1			
		3		15	4	169	5			
		4		70	18	569	18			
		5		156	39	957	29			
		6		103	26	902	27			
		7	Excellent	50	12	582	18			
	Total		399	100	3,270	100				
<b>2. During the current school year, whether course-related or not, about how often have you done the following?</b>										
a. Informed yourself about local or campus issues	CIV02a	1	Never	18	5	216	7	<b>2.6</b>	2.6	.00
		2	Sometimes	182	46	1,415	44			
		3	Often	154	38	1,160	35			
		4	Very often	46	11	495	14			
		Total		400	100	3,286	100			
b. Informed yourself about state, national, or global issues	CIV02b	1	Never	6	2	147	4	<b>3.0</b>	2.8 **	.13
		2	Sometimes	114	29	1,128	34			
		3	Often	173	43	1,173	36			
		4	Very often	107	27	829	26			
		Total		400	100	3,277	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>		
				NC State		Comparison Group		NC State	Comparison Group	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
c. Discussed local or campus issues with others	CIV02c	1	Never	30	8	306	10	<b>2.5</b>	2.5	-.02
		2	Sometimes	180	45	1,331	41			
		3	Often	140	35	1,150	35			
		4	Very often	50	12	490	14			
		Total		400	100	3,277	100			
d. Discussed state, national, or global issues with others	CIV02d	1	Never	16	4	228	7	<b>2.8</b>	2.8 *	.10
		2	Sometimes	127	32	1,157	35			
		3	Often	158	40	1,144	35			
		4	Very often	98	24	746	24			
		Total		399	100	3,275	100			
e. Raised awareness about local or campus issues	CIV02e	1	Never	174	44	1,318	41	<b>1.8</b>	1.9 *	-.12
		2	Sometimes	156	39	1,250	38			
		3	Often	58	14	485	15			
		4	Very often	11	3	223	6			
		Total		399	100	3,276	100			
f. Raised awareness about state, national, or global issues	CIV02f	1	Never	156	39	1,194	36	<b>1.9</b>	2.0 *	-.11
		2	Sometimes	154	38	1,218	38			
		3	Often	68	17	570	18			
		4	Very often	22	6	294	9			
		Total		400	100	3,276	100			
g. Asked others to address local or campus issues	CIV02g	1	Never	211	53	1,582	48	<b>1.6</b>	1.8 *	-.12
		2	Sometimes	125	31	1,081	34			
		3	Often	55	14	436	13			
		4	Very often	8	2	181	5			
		Total		399	100	3,280	100			
h. Asked others to address state, national, or global issues	CIV02h	1	Never	180	45	1,527	46	<b>1.8</b>	1.8	-.03
		2	Sometimes	136	34	1,049	33			
		3	Often	63	16	469	15			
		4	Very often	17	4	225	7			
		Total		396	100	3,270	100			
i. Organized others to work on local or campus issues	CIV02i	1	Never	264	67	2,129	65	<b>1.4</b>	1.5 *	-.10
		2	Sometimes	95	24	726	22			
		3	Often	31	8	304	10			
		4	Very often	5	1	115	3			
		Total		395	100	3,274	100			
j. Organized others to work on state, national, or global issues	CIV02j	1	Never	265	67	2,161	66	<b>1.4</b>	1.5	-.06
		2	Sometimes	93	23	698	22			
		3	Often	32	8	259	8			
		4	Very often	6	2	125	4			
		Total		396	100	3,243	100			

### 3. Think about the experiences you may have had with local, campus, state, national, or global issues. What about these experiences has been most meaningful to you?

This final question asked students to respond in an open text box. Comments were recorded for 123 first-year students and 148 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE17 Topical Module - Civic Engagement 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.*

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				NC State		Comparison Group		NC State	Comparison Group	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
<b>1. Select the response that best represents your ability to do the following:</b>										
a. Help people resolve their disagreements with each other	CIV01a	1	Poor	2	0	48	1	<b>5.2</b>	5.3	-.07
		2		12	2	63	2			
		3		27	6	237	6			
		4		76	16	665	15			
		5		178	36	1,387	32			
		6		127	26	1,159	27			
		7	Excellent	68	14	718	18			
	Total			490	100	4,277	100			
b. Resolve conflicts that involve bias, discrimination, and prejudice	CIV01b	1	Poor	10	2	55	1	<b>4.8</b>	5.0 **	-.16
		2		10	2	135	3			
		3		43	9	334	8			
		4		131	27	919	21			
		5		157	32	1,328	31			
		6		94	19	942	22			
		7	Excellent	43	9	553	14			
	Total			488	100	4,266	100			
c. Lead a group in which people from different backgrounds feel welcomed and included	CIV01c	1	Poor	6	1	47	1	<b>5.5</b>	5.5	.00
		2		5	1	75	2			
		3		17	3	188	5			
		4		66	14	573	13			
		5		130	26	1,069	25			
		6		147	30	1,234	29			
		7	Excellent	118	24	1,074	26			
	Total			489	100	4,260	100			
d. Contribute to the well-being of your community	CIV01d	1	Poor	4	1	44	1	<b>5.5</b>	5.4	.05
		2		7	1	72	2			
		3		18	4	192	4			
		4		60	13	624	15			
		5		136	28	1,149	27			
		6		160	33	1,215	28			
		7	Excellent	105	21	961	23			
	Total			490	100	4,257	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, whether course-related or not, about how often have you done the following?</b>										
a. Informed yourself about local or campus issues	CIV02a	1	Never	32	7	360	9	<b>2.6</b>	2.6	.05
		2	Sometimes	200	41	1,792	43			
		3	Often	183	37	1,406	32			
		4	Very often	75	15	709	16			
			Total			490	100			
b. Informed yourself about state, national, or global issues	CIV02b	1	Never	8	2	142	3	<b>3.2</b>	3.0 ***	.22
		2	Sometimes	105	21	1,235	28			
		3	Often	181	37	1,548	36			
		4	Very often	196	41	1,344	33			
			Total			490	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>		
				NC State		Comparison Group		NC State	Comparison Group	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
c. Discussed local or campus issues with others	CIV02c	1	Never	49	11	471	12	<b>2.5</b>	2.5	.02
		2	Sometimes	207	42	1,751	42			
		3	Often	159	32	1,316	30			
		4	Very often	75	15	722	16			
		Total		490	100	4,260	100			
d. Discussed state, national, or global issues with others	CIV02d	1	Never	25	5	242	6	<b>3.0</b>	2.8 ***	.17
		2	Sometimes	126	25	1,416	34			
		3	Often	181	37	1,480	34			
		4	Very often	158	33	1,118	27			
		Total		490	100	4,256	100			
e. Raised awareness about local or campus issues	CIV02e	1	Never	207	43	1,723	41	<b>1.8</b>	1.9	-.07
		2	Sometimes	188	38	1,531	36			
		3	Often	60	12	651	15			
		4	Very often	35	7	354	8			
		Total		490	100	4,259	100			
f. Raised awareness about state, national, or global issues	CIV02f	1	Never	164	33	1,459	34	<b>2.1</b>	2.1	.01
		2	Sometimes	185	38	1,573	38			
		3	Often	92	19	778	18			
		4	Very often	49	10	449	11			
		Total		490	100	4,259	100			
g. Asked others to address local or campus issues	CIV02g	1	Never	265	54	2,152	51	<b>1.7</b>	1.7	-.09
		2	Sometimes	149	30	1,281	30			
		3	Often	52	10	551	12			
		4	Very often	24	5	279	6			
		Total		490	100	4,263	100			
h. Asked others to address state, national, or global issues	CIV02h	1	Never	227	46	2,003	48	<b>1.8</b>	1.8	-.01
		2	Sometimes	160	33	1,277	30			
		3	Often	71	15	644	15			
		4	Very often	32	6	329	8			
		Total		490	100	4,253	100			
i. Organized others to work on local or campus issues	CIV02i	1	Never	339	70	2,747	66	<b>1.4</b>	1.5 *	-.10
		2	Sometimes	99	20	903	21			
		3	Often	32	6	400	9			
		4	Very often	20	4	208	5			
		Total		490	100	4,258	100			
j. Organized others to work on state, national, or global issues	CIV02j	1	Never	348	72	2,814	68	<b>1.4</b>	1.5 **	-.12
		2	Sometimes	97	20	848	20			
		3	Often	27	6	348	8			
		4	Very often	14	3	204	5			
		Total		486	100	4,214	100			

### 3. Think about the experiences you may have had with local, campus, state, national, or global issues. What about these experiences has been most meaningful to you?

This final question asked students to respond in an open text box. Comments were recorded for 123 first-year students and 148 seniors. Responses are provided in your "NSSE17 Topical Module - Civic Engagement 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.*

## 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>
	NC State	NC State	Comparison Group	NC State	Comparison Group	NC State	Comparison Group			
CIV01a	399	4.97	5.08	.06	.02	1.16	1.23	552	.090	-.09
CIV01b	398	4.64	4.86	.06	.03	1.19	1.29	2,875	.001	-.18
CIV01c	399	5.05	5.18	.06	.03	1.29	1.38	556	.074	-.09
CIV01d	399	5.21	5.26	.05	.03	1.07	1.27	591	.358	-.04
CIV02a	399	2.56	2.57	.04	.02	0.75	0.81	559	.949	.00
CIV02b	399	2.95	2.84	.04	.02	0.78	0.86	564	.009	.13
CIV02c	399	2.52	2.54	.04	.02	0.80	0.85	2,881	.712	-.02
CIV02d	399	2.85	2.75	.04	.02	0.84	0.89	551	.048	.10
CIV02e	398	1.76	1.87	.04	.02	0.80	0.89	2,876	.023	-.12
CIV02f	399	1.89	1.99	.04	.02	0.88	0.94	2,881	.034	-.11
CIV02g	399	1.65	1.75	.04	.02	0.79	0.87	2,882	.025	-.12
CIV02h	395	1.79	1.82	.04	.02	0.86	0.92	2,872	.522	-.03
CIV02i	394	1.43	1.51	.03	.02	0.69	0.80	573	.038	-.10
CIV02j	395	1.44	1.49	.04	.02	0.71	0.79	562	.263	-.06

See the endnotes on the last page of this report.



## 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>
	NC State	Comparison Group	NC State	Comparison Group	NC State	Comparison Group	NC State	Comparison Group			
	<i>Comparisons with:</i>										
CIV01a	491	5.17	5.26	.05	.02	1.21	1.28	615	.136	-.07	
CIV01b	489	4.77	4.98	.06	.02	1.28	1.34	4,997	.001	-.16	
CIV01c	490	5.48	5.48	.06	.02	1.25	1.33	4,990	.984	.00	
CIV01d	491	5.46	5.40	.06	.02	1.22	1.32	622	.296	.05	
CIV02a	491	2.59	2.55	.04	.01	0.82	0.87	615	.301	.05	
CIV02b	491	3.17	2.98	.04	.01	0.81	0.86	4,997	.000	.22	
CIV02c	491	2.52	2.50	.04	.01	0.87	0.90	4,990	.620	.02	
CIV02d	491	2.97	2.82	.04	.01	0.89	0.90	605	.000	.17	
CIV02e	491	1.83	1.90	.04	.01	0.90	0.93	4,990	.125	-.07	
CIV02f	491	2.06	2.05	.04	.01	0.96	0.97	4,989	.889	.01	
CIV02g	491	1.66	1.74	.04	.01	0.85	0.91	4,992	.060	-.09	
CIV02h	491	1.81	1.82	.04	.01	0.91	0.95	4,984	.871	-.01	
CIV02i	491	1.44	1.53	.04	.01	0.78	0.84	623	.021	-.10	
CIV02j	487	1.39	1.49	.03	.01	0.72	0.83	636	.003	-.12	

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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."

### **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.