



**National Survey
of Student Engagement**

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Frequency Distributions
August 2008



Interpreting the Frequency Distributions Report

Sample

The *Frequency Distributions* report is based on information from all randomly selected students for both your institution and your comparison institutions. Targeted oversamples and other non-randomly selected students are not included in this report.

Variables

The items from the NSSE survey appear in the left column in the same order and wording as they appear on the instrument.

Variable Names

The name of each variable appears in the first column for easy reference to your raw data file and the *Mean Comparisons* report.

Benchmark

Items that comprise the five “Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice” are indicated by the following:

LAC=Level of Academic Challenge

ACL=Active and Collaborative Learning

SFI=Student-Faculty Interaction

EEE=Enriching Educational Experiences

SCE=Supportive Campus Environment

Response Options

Response options listed just as they appear on the instrument.

Column Percentage (%)

This column represents the *weighted* percentage of students responding to the particular option in each question.

Weighting

Weights adjusting for gender, enrollment status, and institutional size are applied to the percentage column (%) of this report. Weights are computed separately for first-year students and seniors. Weighted results present a more accurate representation of your institution and comparison group students. *Only the column percents are weighted. The counts are the actual number of respondents. Because the counts are unweighted and the column percentages are weighted, you will not be able to calculate the column percent directly from the count numbers.* For more information about weighting, please visit the NSSE Web site at www.nsse.iub.edu/2008_Institutional_Report/NSSE_2008_Weighting.cfm.

Class

Frequency distributions are reported separately for first-year students and seniors. Institution-reported class ranks are used.

Count

The Count column represents the actual number of students who responded to the particular option in each question. *Counts are unweighted.*



National Survey
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NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions^a
University of Wisconsin-Madison
First-Year Students Seniors

	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
1a. Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST (ACL)	Never	21	3%	25	3%
		Sometimes	369	45%	331	35%
		Often	301	36%	327	34%
		Very often	139	17%	272	28%
		Total	830	100%	955	100%
1b. Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN (ACL)	Never	179	22%	54	6%
		Sometimes	519	62%	484	51%
		Often	109	13%	288	30%
		Very often	22	3%	130	13%
		Total	829	100%	956	100%
1c. Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP	Never	163	20%	205	21%
		Sometimes	286	34%	433	46%
		Often	257	31%	207	22%
		Very often	124	15%	109	11%
		Total	830	100%	954	100%
1d. Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	INTEGRAT	Never	53	6%	11	1%
		Sometimes	282	34%	156	17%
		Often	333	40%	413	43%
		Very often	158	19%	375	39%
		Total	826	100%	955	100%
1e. Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	DIVCLASS	Never	96	12%	61	7%
		Sometimes	338	41%	362	39%
		Often	265	32%	321	33%
		Very often	127	16%	210	21%
		Total	826	100%	954	100%
1f. Come to class without completing readings or assignments	CLUNPREP	Never	196	24%	132	14%
		Sometimes	444	53%	534	56%
		Often	140	18%	186	20%
		Very often	43	5%	98	11%
		Total	823	100%	950	100%
1g. Worked with other students on projects during class	CLASSGRP (ACL)	Never	154	19%	127	13%
		Sometimes	372	45%	470	50%
		Often	231	28%	252	26%
		Very often	66	8%	105	11%
		Total	823	100%	954	100%
1h. Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	OCCGRP (ACL)	Never	90	11%	56	6%
		Sometimes	407	49%	306	32%
		Often	236	29%	327	34%
		Very often	94	12%	267	29%
		Total	827	100%	956	100%
1i. Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	INTIDEAS	Never	53	7%	23	3%
		Sometimes	318	42%	232	25%
		Often	303	40%	410	45%
		Very often	89	12%	256	28%
		Total	763	100%	921	100%
1j. Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	TUTOR (ACL)	Never	388	50%	402	43%
		Sometimes	254	34%	327	36%
		Often	89	12%	113	13%
		Very often	31	4%	77	8%
		Total	762	100%	919	100%

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	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
1k. Participated in a community-based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	COMMPROJ (ACL)	Never	536	70%	559	62%
		Sometimes	146	19%	225	24%
		Often	59	8%	82	9%
		Very often	18	2%	54	5%
	Total		759	100%	920	100%
1l. Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	ITACADEM (EEE)	Never	135	17%	119	13%
		Sometimes	279	37%	305	33%
		Often	201	27%	239	26%
		Very often	145	19%	258	28%
Total		760	100%	921	100%	
1m. Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	EMAIL	Never	6	1%	2	0%
		Sometimes	188	25%	115	13%
		Often	294	38%	304	33%
		Very often	272	36%	497	54%
Total		760	100%	918	100%	
1n. Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FACGRADE (SFI)	Never	90	12%	69	7%
		Sometimes	397	52%	385	42%
		Often	199	26%	300	33%
		Very often	72	10%	162	18%
Total		758	100%	916	100%	
1o. Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPLANS (SFI)	Never	221	30%	173	19%
		Sometimes	389	51%	422	46%
		Often	119	16%	214	23%
		Very often	32	4%	109	12%
Total		761	100%	918	100%	
1p. Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	FACIDEAS (SFI)	Never	363	47%	317	34%
		Sometimes	290	38%	419	46%
		Often	83	11%	132	15%
		Very often	26	3%	52	6%
Total		762	100%	920	100%	
1q. Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	FACFEED (SFI)	Never	72	10%	47	6%
		Sometimes	337	45%	329	36%
		Often	265	36%	411	46%
		Very often	67	9%	112	12%
Total		741	100%	899	100%	
1r. Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	WORKHARD (LAC)	Never	68	9%	79	9%
		Sometimes	309	42%	399	45%
		Often	258	35%	298	33%
		Very often	102	14%	123	13%
Total		737	100%	899	100%	
1s. Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)	FACOTHER (SFI)	Never	486	65%	456	51%
		Sometimes	173	24%	290	32%
		Often	56	8%	103	12%
		Very often	24	3%	51	6%
Total		739	100%	900	100%	
1t. Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	OOCIDEAS (ACL)	Never	47	7%	30	3%
		Sometimes	292	40%	298	33%
		Often	267	36%	346	38%
		Very often	132	18%	224	25%
Total		738	100%	898	100%	

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University of Wisconsin-Madison
First-Year Students Seniors**

		UW Madison				UW Madison		
		<i>Variable</i>	<i>Response Options</i>		<i>Count</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>%</i>
1u.	Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	DIVRSTUD (EEE)	Never		104	14%	103	12%
			Sometimes		280	38%	378	42%
			Often		210	28%	237	26%
			Very often		145	20%	183	20%
				Total	739	100%	901	100%
1v.	Had serious conversations with students who are very different from you in terms of their religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values	DIFFSTU2 (EEE)	Never		70	10%	77	9%
			Sometimes		244	33%	275	31%
			Often		231	31%	317	35%
			Very often		193	26%	231	26%
				Total	738	100%	900	100%
2a.	Coursework emphasizes: Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings	MEMORIZE	Very little		31	4%	80	9%
			Some		143	20%	260	29%
			Quite a bit		339	46%	338	38%
			Very much		224	30%	219	24%
				Total	737	100%	897	100%
2b.	Coursework emphasizes: Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory	ANALYZE (LAC)	Very little		13	2%	7	1%
			Some		132	18%	130	15%
			Quite a bit		335	46%	373	42%
			Very much		256	35%	384	43%
				Total	736	100%	894	100%
2c.	Coursework emphasizes: Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences	SYNTHESZ (LAC)	Very little		40	5%	22	2%
			Some		205	28%	210	24%
			Quite a bit		313	43%	359	40%
			Very much		174	24%	305	34%
				Total	732	100%	896	100%
2d.	Coursework emphasizes: Making judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods	EVALUATE (LAC)	Very little		51	7%	36	4%
			Some		245	33%	232	26%
			Quite a bit		299	41%	363	40%
			Very much		138	19%	265	29%
				Total	733	100%	896	100%
2e.	Coursework emphasizes: Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	APPLYING (LAC)	Very little		16	2%	27	3%
			Some		168	23%	168	19%
			Quite a bit		308	42%	322	36%
			Very much		241	33%	379	42%
				Total	733	100%	896	100%
3a.	Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	READASGN (LAC)	None		1	0%	8	1%
			1-4		107	15%	176	20%
			5-10		268	37%	356	40%
			11-20		242	33%	229	25%
			More than 20		121	16%	129	14%
				Total	739	100%	898	100%
3b.	Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment	READOWN	None		221	30%	188	21%
			1-4		396	54%	494	55%
			5-10		78	10%	138	15%
			11-20		29	4%	37	4%
			More than 20		13	2%	39	4%
				Total	737	100%	896	100%
3c.	Number of written papers or reports of <u>20 pages or more</u>	WRITEMOR (LAC)	None		669	91%	480	54%
			1-4		49	7%	363	40%
			5-10		9	1%	36	4%
			11-20		6	1%	12	1%
			More than 20		3	0%	6	1%
				Total	736	100%	897	100%

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			Count	%	Count	%
3d. Number of written papers or reports between 5 and 19 pages	WRITEMID (LAC)	None	145	20%	67	7%
		1-4	453	61%	398	45%
		5-10	114	15%	310	34%
		11-20	22	3%	96	11%
		More than 20	3	0%	26	3%
	Total	737	100%	897	100%	
3e. Number of written papers or reports of fewer than 5 pages	WRITESML (LAC)	None	20	3%	29	3%
		1-4	262	36%	286	32%
		5-10	273	36%	293	33%
		11-20	145	20%	176	20%
		More than 20	39	5%	113	12%
	Total	739	100%	897	100%	
4a. Number of problem sets that take you more than an hour to complete	PROBSETA	None	81	11%	241	26%
		1-2	275	37%	289	33%
		3-4	222	30%	212	25%
		5-6	74	10%	65	7%
		More than 6	84	12%	83	9%
	Total	736	100%	890	100%	
4b. Number of problem sets that take you less than an hour to complete	PROBSETB	None	132	18%	375	42%
		1-2	298	41%	321	37%
		3-4	175	24%	116	13%
		5-6	53	7%	28	3%
		More than 6	76	10%	48	5%
	Total	734	100%	888	100%	
5. Select the circle that best represents the extent to which your examinations during the current school year challenged you to do your best work	EXAMS	1 Very little	3	0%	13	1%
		2	4	1%	13	1%
		3	13	2%	48	6%
		4	67	9%	117	13%
		5	196	27%	254	28%
		6	268	36%	315	35%
		7 Very much	184	25%	138	15%
	Total	735	100%	898	100%	
6a. Attended an art exhibit, play, dance, music, theater, or other performance	ATDART07	Never	134	19%	172	20%
		Sometimes	391	53%	473	53%
		Often	128	18%	163	18%
		Very often	76	10%	77	8%
	Total	729	100%	885	100%	
6b. Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	EXRCSE05	Never	45	6%	56	6%
		Sometimes	193	26%	276	31%
		Often	220	30%	240	28%
		Very often	268	37%	311	36%
	Total	726	100%	883	100%	
6c. Participated in activities to enhance your spirituality (worship, meditation, prayer, etc.)	WORSHP05	Never	383	52%	436	50%
		Sometimes	188	26%	268	30%
		Often	82	11%	82	9%
		Very often	76	10%	95	10%
	Total	729	100%	881	100%	
6d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	OWNVIEW	Never	88	12%	78	9%
		Sometimes	315	43%	331	38%
		Often	226	31%	309	34%
		Very often	101	14%	166	19%
	Total	730	100%	884	100%	

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	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
6e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	OTHRVIEW	Never	53	7%	40	5%
		Sometimes	276	38%	297	34%
		Often	258	35%	346	38%
		Very often	138	19%	203	23%
		Total	725	100%	886	100%
6f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	CHNGVIEW	Never	26	4%	23	3%
		Sometimes	260	36%	268	31%
		Often	282	39%	368	41%
		Very often	161	22%	227	25%
		Total	729	100%	886	100%
7a. Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	INTERN04 (EEE)	Have not decided	84	12%	40	5%
		Do not plan to do	22	3%	131	15%
		Plan to do	570	80%	152	18%
		Done	36	5%	552	62%
		Total	712	100%	875	100%
7b. Community service or volunteer work	VOLNTR04 (EEE)	Have not decided	69	10%	47	6%
		Do not plan to do	28	4%	102	13%
		Plan to do	349	49%	107	13%
		Done	266	37%	620	69%
		Total	712	100%	876	100%
7c. Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together	LRNCOM04 (EEE)	Have not decided	181	26%	55	6%
		Do not plan to do	320	44%	555	64%
		Plan to do	109	15%	35	4%
		Done	105	15%	231	26%
		Total	715	100%	876	100%
7d. Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	RESRCH04 (SFI)	Have not decided	256	36%	104	12%
		Do not plan to do	113	16%	391	44%
		Plan to do	318	45%	92	11%
		Done	27	4%	289	33%
		Total	714	100%	876	100%
7e. Foreign language coursework	FORLNG04 (EEE)	Have not decided	76	11%	28	3%
		Do not plan to do	131	19%	215	25%
		Plan to do	110	15%	32	4%
		Done	397	55%	602	67%
		Total	714	100%	877	100%
7f. Study abroad	STDABR04 (EEE)	Have not decided	183	26%	62	7%
		Do not plan to do	120	17%	490	57%
		Plan to do	389	54%	86	10%
		Done	21	3%	239	26%
		Total	713	100%	877	100%
7g. Independent study or self-designed major	INDSTD04 (EEE)	Have not decided	231	32%	59	7%
		Do not plan to do	368	52%	523	59%
		Plan to do	88	13%	49	6%
		Done	26	4%	246	28%
		Total	713	100%	877	100%
7h. Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	SNRX04 (EEE)	Have not decided	325	45%	79	9%
		Do not plan to do	71	10%	338	38%
		Plan to do	308	43%	178	21%
		Done	10	1%	282	33%
		Total	714	100%	877	100%

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University of Wisconsin-Madison
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	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
8a. Quality of relationships with <u>other students</u>	ENVSTU (SCE)	1 Unfriendly, Unsupportive, Sense of alienation	11	1%	14	2%
		2	19	3%	15	2%
		3	32	5%	40	5%
		4	70	10%	86	10%
		5	146	21%	197	23%
		6	234	33%	288	33%
		7 Friendly, Supportive, Sense of belonging	203	28%	236	27%
		Total		715	100%	876
8b. Quality of relationships with <u>faculty members</u>	ENVFAC (SCE)	1 Unavailable, Unhelpful, Unsympathetic	7	1%	10	1%
		2	19	3%	37	4%
		3	61	9%	69	8%
		4	182	25%	144	16%
		5	237	33%	272	31%
		6	158	22%	234	27%
		7 Available, Helpful, Sympathetic	52	7%	110	13%
		Total		716	100%	876
8c. Quality of relationships with <u>administrative personnel and offices</u>	ENVADM (SCE)	1 Unhelpful, Inconsiderate, Rigid	20	3%	35	4%
		2	58	8%	83	9%
		3	84	12%	117	13%
		4	224	31%	228	26%
		5	154	21%	202	23%
		6	129	18%	143	17%
		7 Helpful, Considerate, Flexible	45	6%	64	7%
		Total		714	100%	872
9a. Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)	ACADPR01 (LAC)	0 hr/wk	4	1%	1	0%
		1-5 hr/wk	48	7%	77	9%
		6-10 hr/wk	116	17%	191	22%
		11-15 hr/wk	160	22%	186	21%
		16-20 hr/wk	162	23%	157	18%
		21-25 hr/wk	114	16%	112	13%
		26-30 hr/wk	59	8%	72	8%
		30+ hr/wk	47	7%	71	9%
Total		710	100%	867	100%	
9b. Working for pay <u>on campus</u>	WORKON01	0 hr/wk	486	68%	470	54%
		1-5 hr/wk	28	4%	58	7%
		6-10 hr/wk	104	15%	123	14%
		11-15 hr/wk	72	10%	107	12%
		16-20 hr/wk	16	2%	63	8%
		21-25 hr/wk	2	0%	25	3%
		26-30 hr/wk	0	0%	9	1%
		30+ hr/wk	0	0%	10	1%
Total		708	100%	865	100%	

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			Count	%	Count	%
9c. Working for pay off campus	WORKOF01	0 hr/wk	615	87%	500	59%
		1-5 hr/wk	23	3%	49	5%
		6-10 hr/wk	24	3%	74	8%
		11-15 hr/wk	24	3%	94	11%
		16-20 hr/wk	13	2%	57	6%
		21-25 hr/wk	8	1%	40	4%
		26-30 hr/wk	1	0%	24	3%
		30+ hr/wk	0	0%	27	3%
		Total		708	100%	865
9d. Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	COCURR01 (EEE)	0 hr/wk	166	23%	240	27%
		1-5 hr/wk	311	43%	344	40%
		6-10 hr/wk	111	15%	144	16%
		11-15 hr/wk	70	10%	61	7%
		16-20 hr/wk	29	4%	40	5%
		21-25 hr/wk	11	2%	10	1%
		26-30 hr/wk	5	1%	9	1%
		30+ hr/wk	6	1%	20	2%
Total		709	100%	868	100%	
9e. Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, etc.)	SOCIAL05	0 hr/wk	3	0%	6	1%
		1-5 hr/wk	99	14%	166	19%
		6-10 hr/wk	200	28%	259	29%
		11-15 hr/wk	170	24%	216	25%
		16-20 hr/wk	119	17%	111	13%
		21-25 hr/wk	57	8%	61	7%
		26-30 hr/wk	22	3%	16	2%
		30+ hr/wk	38	6%	33	4%
Total		708	100%	868	100%	
9f. Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)	CAREDE01	0 hr/wk	662	93%	766	88%
		1-5 hr/wk	22	3%	46	5%
		6-10 hr/wk	9	1%	19	2%
		11-15 hr/wk	8	1%	6	1%
		16-20 hr/wk	2	0%	5	1%
		21-25 hr/wk	2	0%	2	0%
		26-30 hr/wk	0	0%	5	1%
		30+ hr/wk	2	0%	17	2%
Total		707	100%	866	100%	
9g. Commuting to class (driving, walking, etc.)	COMMUTE	0 hr/wk	41	6%	30	4%
		1-5 hr/wk	506	71%	615	71%
		6-10 hr/wk	118	17%	187	22%
		11-15 hr/wk	26	4%	25	3%
		16-20 hr/wk	12	2%	4	0%
		21-25 hr/wk	1	0%	2	0%
		26-30 hr/wk	2	0%	1	0%
		30+ hr/wk	3	0%	4	1%
Total		709	100%	868	100%	
10a. Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	ENVSCHOL (LAC)	Very little	8	1%	7	1%
		Some	79	12%	78	9%
		Quite a bit	320	45%	380	44%
		Very much	293	42%	394	46%
		Total		700	100%	859

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**National Survey
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**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions^a
University of Wisconsin-Madison
First-Year Students Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
10b. Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	ENVSUPRT (SCE)	Very little	21	3%	40	5%
		Some	161	23%	244	28%
		Quite a bit	304	43%	385	45%
		Very much	214	30%	189	22%
	Total		700	100%	858	100%
10c. Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	ENVDIVRS (EEE)	Very little	73	11%	158	19%
		Some	224	32%	345	40%
		Quite a bit	230	33%	241	28%
		Very much	172	25%	113	13%
	Total		699	100%	857	100%
10d. Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	ENVNACAD (SCE)	Very little	182	26%	344	40%
		Some	325	46%	365	43%
		Quite a bit	138	20%	110	13%
		Very much	56	8%	38	4%
	Total		701	100%	857	100%
10e. Providing the support you need to thrive socially	ENVSOCAL (SCE)	Very little	92	13%	165	19%
		Some	240	34%	372	43%
		Quite a bit	249	36%	219	25%
		Very much	115	17%	102	12%
	Total		696	100%	858	100%
10f. Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)	ENVEVENT	Very little	27	4%	50	6%
		Some	132	19%	200	24%
		Quite a bit	307	44%	365	43%
		Very much	235	33%	242	28%
	Total		701	100%	857	100%
10g. Using computers in academic work	ENVCOMPT	Very little	9	1%	7	1%
		Some	92	13%	66	8%
		Quite a bit	268	38%	208	24%
		Very much	330	47%	577	67%
	Total		699	100%	858	100%
11a. Acquiring a broad general education	NGGENLED	Very little	6	1%	15	2%
		Some	91	14%	84	10%
		Quite a bit	292	42%	300	35%
		Very much	299	43%	455	53%
	Total		688	100%	854	100%
11b. Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	GNWORK	Very little	63	9%	55	7%
		Some	206	30%	170	20%
		Quite a bit	246	36%	270	31%
		Very much	172	25%	358	43%
	Total		687	100%	853	100%
11c. Writing clearly and effectively	GNWRITE	Very little	47	7%	24	3%
		Some	193	28%	168	20%
		Quite a bit	261	38%	318	37%
		Very much	185	27%	342	39%
	Total		686	100%	852	100%

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	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
11d. Speaking clearly and effectively	GNSPEAK	Very little	84	12%	55	6%
		Some	220	32%	237	28%
		Quite a bit	234	34%	286	33%
		Very much	147	21%	274	32%
		Total	685	100%	852	100%
11e. Thinking critically and analytically	GNANALY	Very little	10	1%	11	1%
		Some	103	15%	60	7%
		Quite a bit	262	38%	258	30%
		Very much	312	45%	521	62%
		Total	687	100%	850	100%
11f. Analyzing quantitative problems	GNQUANT	Very little	31	4%	36	4%
		Some	128	18%	158	17%
		Quite a bit	271	40%	274	32%
		Very much	256	38%	385	46%
		Total	686	100%	853	100%
11g. Using computing and information technology	GNCMPTS	Very little	44	6%	26	3%
		Some	157	23%	155	18%
		Quite a bit	251	36%	280	32%
		Very much	234	35%	391	47%
		Total	686	100%	852	100%
11h. Working effectively with others	GNOTHERS	Very little	38	6%	21	3%
		Some	195	28%	153	18%
		Quite a bit	262	38%	317	37%
		Very much	190	28%	363	42%
		Total	685	100%	854	100%
11i. Voting in local, state, or national elections	GNCITIZN	Very little	56	8%	111	14%
		Some	134	20%	219	26%
		Quite a bit	200	30%	237	29%
		Very much	282	42%	272	31%
		Total	672	100%	839	100%
11j. Learning effectively on your own	GNINQ	Very little	18	3%	25	3%
		Some	96	15%	110	13%
		Quite a bit	261	39%	304	37%
		Very much	294	44%	399	48%
		Total	669	100%	838	100%
11k. Understanding yourself	GNSSELF	Very little	54	8%	66	8%
		Some	169	25%	201	24%
		Quite a bit	234	35%	292	35%
		Very much	213	32%	280	33%
		Total	670	100%	839	100%
11l. Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	GNDIVERS	Very little	72	11%	92	11%
		Some	210	32%	310	37%
		Quite a bit	220	33%	263	31%
		Very much	169	25%	173	20%
		Total	671	100%	838	100%

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First-Year Students Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
11m Solving complex real-world problems	GNPROBSV	Very little	56	8%	57	7%
		Some	202	30%	207	24%
		Quite a bit	246	36%	305	37%
		Very much	167	25%	269	33%
		Total	671	100%	838	100%
11n. Developing a personal code of values and ethics	GNETHICS	Very little	87	13%	109	13%
		Some	210	31%	253	30%
		Quite a bit	224	33%	276	33%
		Very much	149	22%	199	23%
		Total	670	100%	837	100%
11o. Contributing to the welfare of your community	GNCOMMUN	Very little	89	13%	118	15%
		Some	236	36%	303	37%
		Quite a bit	235	35%	259	30%
		Very much	108	16%	158	18%
		Total	668	100%	838	100%
11p. Developing a deepened sense of spirituality	GNSPIRIT	Very little	320	48%	494	60%
		Some	170	25%	191	23%
		Quite a bit	101	15%	87	10%
		Very much	80	12%	64	7%
		Total	671	100%	836	100%
12. Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?	ADVISE	Poor	49	7%	97	12%
		Fair	162	24%	221	26%
		Good	329	48%	333	39%
		Excellent	141	21%	197	24%
		Total	681	100%	848	100%
13. How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	ENTIREXP	Poor	9	1%	10	1%
		Fair	65	10%	64	8%
		Good	317	46%	330	39%
		Excellent	290	43%	445	52%
		Total	681	100%	849	100%
14. If you could start over again, would you go to the <i>same institution</i> you are now attending?	SAMECOLL	Definitely no	16	2%	22	3%
		Probably no	64	9%	77	9%
		Probably yes	204	30%	257	30%
		Definitely yes	396	58%	493	58%
		Total	680	100%	849	100%

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**National Survey
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Background Item Frequency Distributions^a
University of Wisconsin-Madison
First-Year Students Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
15. Age	AGE	19 or younger	666	98%	8	1%
		20-23	13	2%	749	87%
		24-29	3	0%	61	8%
		30-39	0	0%	24	3%
		40-55	0	0%	9	1%
		Over 55	0	0%	0	0%
		Total	682	100%	851	100%
16. Sex	SEX	Male	281	47%	311	45%
		Female	400	53%	539	55%
		Total	681	100%	850	100%
17. Are you an international student or foreign national?	INTERNAT	No	633	93%	822	97%
		Yes	48	7%	25	3%
		Total	681	100%	847	100%
18. Racial or ethnic identification	RACE05	American Indian or other Native American	4	1%	6	1%
		Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander	71	11%	44	5%
		Black or African American	13	2%	6	1%
		White (non-Hispanic)	532	78%	696	81%
		Mexican or Mexican American	6	1%	8	1%
		Puerto Rican	0	0%	4	1%
		Other Hispanic or Latino	5	1%	9	1%
		Multiracial	15	2%	19	2%
		Other	4	1%	2	0%
		I prefer not to respond	32	5%	57	7%
		Total	682	100%	851	100%
19. What is your current classification in college?	CLASS	Freshman/first year	645	94%	2	0%
		Sophomore	29	4%	4	1%
		Junior	5	1%	74	9%
		Senior	1	0%	761	89%
		Unclassified	2	0%	10	1%
		Total	682	100%	851	100%
20. Did you begin college at your current institution or elsewhere?	ENTER	Started here	670	98%	696	82%
		Started elsewhere	10	2%	153	18%
		Total	680	100%	849	100%
21. Since graduating from high school, which of the following types of schools have you attended other than the one you are attending now? (Select all that apply.)	VOTECH05	Vocational or technical school	5	1%	50	5%
	COMCOL05	Community or junior college	8	1%	72	7%
	FOURYR05	4-year college other than this one	19	2%	159	16%
	NONE05	None	630	75%	581	60%
	OCOL1_05	Other	12	1%	21	2%

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**NSSE 2008 Background Item Frequency Distributions^a
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	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
22. Thinking about this current academic term...How would you characterize your enrollment?	ENRLMENT	Less than full-time	3	0%	41	5%
		Full-time	678	100%	809	95%
		Total	681	100%	850	100%
23. Are you member of a social fraternity or sorority?	FRATSORO	No	607	90%	765	90%
		Yes	71	10%	84	10%
		Total	678	100%	849	100%
24. Are you a student-athlete on a team sponsored by your institution's athletics department?	ATHLETE	No	644	95%	822	97%
		Yes	35	5%	28	3%
		Total	679	100%	850	100%
25. What have most of your grades been up to now at this institution?	GRADES04	C- or lower	1	0%	2	0%
		C	23	3%	11	1%
		C+	6	1%	16	2%
		B-	51	8%	44	5%
		B	155	23%	152	19%
		B+	142	21%	190	22%
		A-	169	25%	234	27%
		A	134	20%	199	23%
Total	681	100%	848	100%		
26. Which of the following best describes where you are living now while attending college?	LIVENOW	Dormitory or campus housing	612	91%	37	4%
		Residence, walking distance	48	7%	672	80%
		Residence, driving distance	12	2%	113	14%
		Fraternity or sorority house	3	0%	16	2%
		Total	675	100%	838	100%
27a. What is the highest level of education that your <u>father</u> completed?	FATHREDU	Did not finish HS	11	2%	22	3%
		Graduated from HS	88	13%	127	15%
		Attended, no degree	63	9%	76	9%
		Completed Associate's	53	8%	68	8%
		Completed Bachelor's	231	34%	269	32%
		Completed Master's	139	21%	165	20%
		Completed Doctorate	93	14%	119	14%
Total	678	100%	846	100%		
27b. What is the highest level of education that your <u>mother</u> completed?	MOTHREDU	Did not finish HS	12	2%	18	2%
		Graduated from HS	93	14%	149	18%
		Attended, no degree	70	10%	62	7%
		Completed Associate's	71	10%	97	11%
		Completed Bachelor's	250	37%	313	37%
		Completed Master's	153	23%	158	19%
		Completed Doctorate	29	4%	50	6%
Total	678	100%	847	100%		

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University of Wisconsin-Madison
First-Year Students Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UW Madison		UW Madison	
			Count	%	Count	%
28. Primary major or expected primary major, in collapsed categories	MAJRPCOL	Arts and Humanities	55	8%	126	14%
		Biological Science	105	16%	142	17%
		Business	84	14%	65	8%
		Education	24	4%	48	5%
		Engineering	93	15%	121	16%
		Physical Science	33	5%	33	4%
		Professional	56	8%	80	9%
		Social Science	92	14%	126	15%
		Other	57	9%	100	11%
		Undecided	50	7%	0	0%
		Total	649	100%	841	100%
29. Second major or expected second major (not minor, concentration, etc.) if applicable, in collapsed categories	MAJRSCOL	Arts and Humanities	89	36%	121	35%
		Biological Science	14	6%	37	11%
		Business	22	9%	31	9%
		Education	10	4%	5	1%
		Engineering	5	2%	2	1%
		Physical Science	19	8%	23	8%
		Professional	14	6%	14	4%
		Social Science	43	17%	69	20%
		Other	24	10%	35	10%
		Undecided	4	1%	0	0%
		Total	244	100%	337	100%
Institution reported: Gender	GENDER	Male	343	46%	367	46%
		Female	497	54%	602	54%
		Total	840	100%	969	100%
Institution reported: Race or ethnicity	ETHNICIT	African American/Black	0	0%	0	0%
		Am. Indian/Native Amer.	0	0%	0	0%
		Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%	0	0%
		Caucasian/White	0	0%	0	0%
		Hispanic/Latino	0	0%	0	0%
		Other	0	0%	0	0%
		Foreign	0	0%	0	0%
		Multi-racial	0	0%	0	0%
		Unknown	0	0%	0	0%
		Total	0	0%	0	0%
Institution reported: Enrollment	ENROLLMT	Part-time	7	1%	71	8%
		Full-time	833	99%	898	92%
		Total	840	100%	969	100%
Mode of completion of the questionnaire	MODECOMP	Paper	0	0%	0	0%
		Web	840	100%	969	100%
		Total	840	100%	969	100%
Thinking about this current academic term...Are you taking all courses entirely online? (item appeared only in the online instrument.)	DISTED	No	676	99%	840	99%
		Yes	5	1%	11	1%
		Total	681	100%	851	100%

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**National Survey
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Frequency Distributions ^a
Association of American Universities Data Exchange
Consortium Questions
University of Wisconsin-Madison**

	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Response Options</i>	First-Year Students		Seniors	
			UW Madison		UW Madison	
			<i>Count</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>%</i>
1. Consider the size of the lower-division classes you've taken at this university – have they generally been:	AAU0801	Far larger than you'd like	98	15%	198	24%
		Somewhat larger	207	32%	294	36%
		OK in size	320	50%	314	37%
		Smaller than you'd like	3	0%	1	0%
		Not applicable/have taken no lower-division courses here	14	2%	21	3%
		Total	642	100%	828	100%
2. Consider the size of the upper-division classes you've taken at this university – have they generally been:	AAU0802	Far larger than you'd like	35	5%	38	5%
		Somewhat larger	102	16%	114	14%
		OK in size	385	60%	653	79%
		Smaller than you'd like	6	1%	16	2%
		Not applicable/have taken no upper-division courses here	112	18%	7	1%
		Total	640	100%	828	100%
3. How would you rate the quality of instruction in lower-division courses?	AAU0803	Poor	19	3%	48	6%
		Fair	165	27%	279	35%
		Good	362	57%	412	51%
		Excellent	71	12%	67	8%
		Not applicable/have taken no lower-division courses here	6	1%	1	0%
		Total	623	100%	807	100%
4. How would you rate the quality of instruction in upper-division courses?	AAU0804	Poor	6	1%	12	2%
		Fair	84	16%	66	8%
		Good	291	55%	370	45%
		Excellent	126	24%	372	45%
		Not applicable/have taken no upper-division courses here	20	4%	1	0%
		Total	527	100%	821	100%
5. Would you say that the courses you need to take for your major have been available:	AAU0805	Hardly ever	14	2%	22	3%
		Some of the time	133	21%	154	18%
		Most of the time	285	45%	357	44%
		Always or nearly always	137	22%	292	35%
		Not applicable (haven't tried to take any yet)	69	10%	1	0%
		Total	638	100%	826	100%
6. Would you say that the courses you need to take for your general education requirements have been available:	AAU0806	Hardly ever	16	3%	16	2%
		Some of the time	153	24%	155	18%
		Most of the time	288	45%	379	46%
		Always or nearly always	175	27%	258	31%
		Not applicable (haven't tried to take any yet)	6	1%	17	2%
		Total	638	100%	825	100%
7. How would you rate the academic quality of this university in general ?	AAU0807	Poor	4	1%	5	1%
		Fair	32	5%	34	4%
		Good	238	37%	306	37%
		Excellent	365	57%	479	58%
		Total	639	100%	824	100%
8. How would you rate the academic quality of your major program ?	AAU0808	Poor	5	1%	12	1%
		Fair	43	7%	65	8%
		Good	206	32%	290	35%
		Excellent	271	43%	457	56%
		No major yet	114	18%	1	0%
		Total	639	100%	825	100%

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**NSSE 2008 Frequency Distributions ^a
Association of American Universities Data Exchange
Consortium Questions
University of Wisconsin-Madison**

	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Response Options</i>	First-Year Students		Seniors	
			UW Madison		UW Madison	
			<i>Count</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>%</i>
9. How would you rate the quality of academic advising you have received from your college or department at this university?	AAU0809	Poor	61	10%	125	15%
		Fair	174	27%	249	30%
		Good	263	41%	255	31%
		Excellent	108	17%	170	21%
		Not applicable	34	6%	26	3%
		Total	640	100%	825	100%
10. How would you rate this university's responsiveness to student academic problems?	AAU0810	Poor	35	6%	74	9%
		Fair	157	25%	242	30%
		Good	298	47%	305	37%
		Excellent	62	10%	76	9%
		Not applicable	85	13%	128	15%
Total	637	100%	825	100%		
11. During the past year, from what source did you receive most of your academic advising?	AAU0811	Advisors in your college or department	289	45%	375	45%
		Instructors or staff members not formally assigned as an ac	52	8%	112	14%
		Online registration and degree tracking system	42	7%	205	25%
		Undergraduate catalog or other publications	101	16%	55	7%
		Friends or Family	137	22%	69	9%
		Not applicable	18	3%	6	1%
Total	639	100%	822	100%		
12. The advisor(s) in your college or department is (are) available when you need to see her/him (them).	AAU0812	Strongly disagree	26	4%	37	5%
		Disagree	64	10%	90	11%
		Agree	367	57%	435	53%
		Strongly agree	111	18%	222	27%
		Not applicable	67	11%	32	4%
Total	635	100%	816	100%		
13. The information you've received from academic advisors has been accurate and up to date.	AAU0813	Strongly disagree	16	2%	42	5%
		Disagree	49	8%	106	13%
		Agree	393	62%	430	52%
		Strongly agree	120	19%	199	25%
		Not applicable	57	9%	37	5%
Total	635	100%	814	100%		
14. At this university students have to run around from one place to another to get the information or approvals they need.	AAU0814	Strongly disagree	29	5%	69	9%
		Disagree	167	26%	223	28%
		Agree	240	38%	306	37%
		Strongly agree	82	13%	147	18%
		Not applicable	112	18%	70	9%
Total	630	100%	815	100%		
15. I expect to complete a bachelor's degree:	AAU0815	I may well not complete a bachelor's degree	4	1%	2	0%
		At another college or university	20	3%	0	0%
		At this university in more than 5 years total	12	2%	65	8%
		At this university in more than 4 years but within 5 years	236	37%	292	36%
		At this university in a total of 4 years or less	362	57%	458	55%
		Total	634	100%	817	100%
16. Within one year of ending your undergraduate studies, which do you plan to do?	AAU0816	Attend graduate or professional school	248	39%	250	30%
		Be employed (including self- and part-time employment)	143	23%	414	51%
		Attend graduate/professional school and be employed at the same time	106	16%	54	7%
		Take time off, have/raise a family, relax, travel, etc.	15	2%	29	3%
		I am not at all sure what I will be doing	119	19%	70	9%
		Total	631	100%	817	100%

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	<i>Variable</i>	<i>Response Options</i>	First-Year Students		Seniors	
			UW Madison		UW Madison	
			<i>Count</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>%</i>
17. From the list below, choose one item that best describes the biggest obstacle to your academic progress.	AAU0817	Money, work obligations, finances	168	26%	269	33%
		Family obligations	15	2%	31	4%
		Difficulties getting the courses you need	31	5%	38	5%
		Lack of good academic advising	46	7%	68	8%
		Lack of personal motivation	133	21%	113	14%
		Poor academic performance	62	10%	45	6%
		I have no real obstacles	176	28%	248	30%
	Total	631	100%	812	100%	
18. What is your primary reason for working for pay (either on- or off-campus)?	AAU0818	To gain knowledge/skills/experience	62	10%	153	19%
		To earn money for basic expenses	206	32%	408	49%
		To earn extra spending money	110	17%	117	15%
		For something to do	7	1%	8	1%
		I don't work for pay	247	39%	130	16%
	Total	632	100%	816	100%	
19. While attending this university how often have you been challenged to do the very best you can?	AAU0819	Never	6	1%	3	0%
		Seldom	17	3%	40	5%
		Some of the time	191	31%	304	38%
		Most of the time	418	65%	467	57%
	Total	632	100%	814	100%	
20. Most of the time, professors in my courses make it clear what they expect me to learn.	AAU0820	Strongly disagree	2	0%	9	1%
		Disagree	62	10%	53	6%
		Agree	388	61%	491	61%
		Strongly agree	180	28%	260	32%
	Total	632	100%	813	100%	

^a Column percentages (%) are weighted by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size. Because the counts are not weighted, you cannot calculate the column % directly from the counts.