BCSSE
beginning college survey
of student engagement

Item Frequency and Means

High School

High school graduation year

Graduation year ▼	Percent
2023	97%
2022	3%
2021	1%

From which type of high school did you graduate?

High school type	Percent
a. Public	93%
b. Private, religiously-affiliated	3%
c. Private, not religiously-affiliated	1%
d. Home school	1%
e. Other (e.g., G.E.D.)	1%

What were most of your high school grades?

High School	Percent
A- or higher	66%
B or B+	31%
B- or lower	3%

Have you earned a grade of "C" or better in the following math classes?

High School Math	Percent
a. Algebra II	99%
b. Pre-Calculus/ Trigonometry	59%
c. Calculus	33%
d. Probability/ Stats	43%

During high school,

. . . how many of the following types of classes did you complete?

College-Level Classes ↑	Mean	St Dev	0	1 to 2	3-4	5 to 6	7 to 8	9 to 10	11+	Count
a. Advanced Placement (AP)	2.5	2.46	26%	36%	16%	15%	5%	1%	1%	415
b. University or college courses for credit	1.8	2.80	51%	27%	11%	5%	1%	1%	5%	416

. . . how involved were you in the following activities at your school or elsewhere? ⓘ

Activity Involvement ↑	Mean	St Dev	Not at all (0)	Very little (1)	Some (2)	Quite a bit (3)	Very much (4)	Count
Academic clubs or honor societies	1.4	1.45	40%	16%	19%	12%	14%	475
Athletic teams (varsity, JV, club sport, etc.)	1.8	1.68	40%	10%	11%	12%	26%	476
Community service or volunteer work	2.4	1.39	15%	12%	25%	20%	29%	476
Performing or visual art program (band, chorus, theater, art, etc.)	1.7	1.48	30%	21%	16%	14%	18%	476
Publications (student newspaper, yearbook, etc.)	0.7	1.23	65%	15%	8%	4%	8%	477
Religious youth groups	0.5	1.04	76%	8%	8%	4%	3%	476
Student government	0.9	1.27	58%	16%	13%	6%	7%	476
Vocational clubs (business, health, technology, etc.)	1.0	1.35	58%	13%	12%	8%	9%	476

During your last year of high school,

. . . about how many papers, reports, or other writing tasks of the following lengths did you complete?

Writing in High School ↑	Mean	St Dev	0	1 to 2	3 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21+	Count
a. Short	6.0	6.2	9%	26%	31%	18%	5%	3%	7%	418
b. Medium	2.1	3.6	46%	29%	18%	5%	1%	0%	1%	410
c. Long	1.0	2.8	72%	20%	5%	2%	0%	0%	1%	410

. . . about how many hours did you spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following?

Hours Spent in High School ↑	Mean	St Dev	0	1 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 25	26 to 30	31+	Count
a. Preparing for class (studying, reading, doing homework, etc.)	9.4	7.31	1%	33%	36%	14%	8%	4%	1%	3%	418
b. Working for pay	7.4	9.49	48%	10%	10%	10%	11%	6%	1%	4%	414
c. Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, school publications, student government, sports, etc.)	9.5	9.57	15%	33%	19%	11%	9%	5%	1%	8%	416
d. Relaxing and socializing (time with friends, video games, TV or videos, keeping up with friends online, etc.)	10.9	8.85	0%	33%	28%	16%	8%	5%	1%	8%	416

. . . about how often did you do the following?

High School ↑	Mean	St Dev	Very often (4)	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)	Count
a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.) (HS_QR)	2.7	0.89	20%	38%	33%	9%	479
b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.) (HS_QR)	2.4	0.89	13%	30%	42%	15%	479
c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information (HS_QR)	2.3	0.85	9%	31%	44%	16%	478
d. Identified key information from reading assignments (HS_LS)	3.2	0.73	36%	47%	15%	1%	478
e. Reviewed your notes after class (HS_LS)	3.0	0.86	32%	36%	29%	4%	476
f. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials (HS_LS)	2.9	0.86	30%	37%	29%	4%	477
g. Included diverse perspectives	2.8	0.88	26%	35%	33%	5%	476
h. Examined strengths and weaknesses	3.0	0.86	33%	37%	26%	4%	476
i. Tried to better understand someone else's view	3.1	0.79	38%	40%	21%	1%	475

First-Year Expectations and Beliefs

During the coming school year,

. . . about how many hours do you expect to spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following?

Expected hours ↑	Mean	St Dev	0	1 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 25	26 to 30	31+	Count
a. Studying	14.0	7.81	0%	11%	27%	25%	18%	9%	4%	5%	416
b. Working	11.4	8.82	19%	12%	19%	14%	21%	9%	4%	2%	416
c. Co-curricular activities	6.3	6.26	18%	38%	24%	12%	4%	2%	0%	1%	416
d. Relaxing and socializing	9.3	7.10	2%	32%	36%	16%	7%	2%	1%	4%	415

. . . about how often do you expect to do the following?

Work with Peer or Faculty members ↑	Mean	St Dev	Very often (4)	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)	Count
a. Ask another student to help you understand course material (EXP_CL)	2.8	0.81	24%	37%	37%	2%	440
b. Explain course material to one or more students (EXP_CL)	2.7	0.77	16%	36%	45%	3%	439
c. Prepare for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students (EXP_CL)	3.0	0.79	28%	45%	25%	3%	440
d. Work with other students on course projects or assignments (EXP_CL)	3.0	0.76	30%	44%	25%	1%	439
e. Talk about career plan with a faculty member (EXP_SFI)	2.8	0.83	24%	35%	38%	3%	439
f. Work with a faculty member on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.) (EXP_SFI)	2.4	0.85	13%	30%	46%	11%	439
g. Discuss your academic performance with a faculty member (EXP_SFI)	2.8	0.80	20%	39%	38%	3%	439
h. Discuss course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class (EXP_SFI)	2.5	0.86	15%	28%	48%	9%	438
i. Prepare two or more drafts of paper or assignment before turning it in	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
j. Come to class without completing readings or assignments	-	-	-	-	-	-	0

. . . about how often do you expect to have discussions with people from the following groups?

Expected Discussions Diverse with Others ↑	Mean	St Dev	Very often (4)	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)	Count
a. Different races (EXP_DD)	3.3	0.74	46%	40%	13%	1%	439
b. Different economic backgrounds (EXP_DD)	3.2	0.73	40%	44%	15%	1%	438
c. Different religious beliefs (EXP_DD)	3.1	0.81	37%	42%	18%	3%	438
d. Different political views (EXP_DD)	3.0	0.83	30%	39%	28%	3%	438
e. Different sexual orientation	3.0	0.89	35%	38%	21%	6%	439
f. Different country	3.0	0.82	33%	40%	25%	2%	436

. . . how certain are you that you will do the following?

Expected Academic Perseverance ↑	Mean	St Dev	Very certain (6)	5	4	3	2	Not at all certain (1)
a. Study when there are interesting things (EXP_PER)	3.9	1.09	10%	13%	39%	30%	5%	2%
b. Find additional information (EXP_PER)	4.6	1.07	25%	28%	30%	15%	1%	0%
c. Participate in course discussions (EXP_PER)	4.0	1.29	15%	21%	28%	22%	11%	2%
d. Ask instructors for help (EXP_PER)	4.6	1.19	31%	23%	27%	15%	3%	0%
e. Finish what have been started (EXP_PER)	4.6	1.12	28%	29%	26%	15%	2%	1%
f. Stay positive (EXP_PER)	4.1	1.24	17%	19%	30%	26%	7%	2%

. . . how difficult do you expect the following to be?

Difficulties in Colleges or Universities ↑	Mean	St Dev	Not at all difficult (1)	2	3	4	5	Very difficult (6)	Count
a. Learning course material (EXP_DD)	3.9	1.05	2%	6%	28%	38%	20%	6%	440
b. Managing your time (EXP_DD)	4.0	1.21	3%	6%	25%	33%	21%	11%	439
c. Paying college or university expenses	3.9	1.58	9%	11%	20%	21%	18%	21%	439
d. Getting help with school work (EXP_DD)	3.2	1.12	6%	19%	35%	30%	8%	3%	439
e. Making new friends	3.7	1.43	9%	12%	26%	25%	17%	13%	440
f. Interacting with faculty (EXP_DD)	3.2	1.27	12%	17%	32%	26%	10%	4%	440

. . . about how often do you expect to seek help with coursework from the following sources?

People to Seek Help regarding Coursework ↑	Mean	St Dev	Very often (4)	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)	Count
a. Faculty members	2.7	0.75	17%	42%	40%	2%	423
b. Academic advisors	2.8	0.78	21%	42%	35%	2%	420
c. Learning support services (tutoring, writing center, success coaching, etc.)	2.7	0.87	20%	36%	37%	7%	416
d. Friends or other students	3.0	0.78	29%	43%	27%	1%	422
e. Family members	2.2	0.89	10%	23%	46%	22%	422
f. Other persons or offices	2.2	0.81	8%	21%	55%	16%	421

How prepared are you to do the following in your academic work at this institution? ⓘ

Academic Work Preparation ↑	Mean	St Dev	Very prepared (6)	5	4	3	2	Not at all prepared (1)	Count
a. Write clearly and effectively (PER_PREP)	4.3	1.09	16%	22%	35%	23%	3%	0%	423
b. Speak clearly and effectively (PER_PREP)	4.2	1.15	16%	22%	36%	20%	5%	1%	422
c. Think critically and analytically (PER_PREP)	4.4	1.05	16%	27%	36%	17%	3%	0%	423
d. Analyze numerical and Statistical information (PER_PREP)	3.9	1.19	12%	19%	33%	26%	8%	2%	421
e. Work effectively with others (PER_PREP)	4.6	1.07	26%	28%	32%	11%	3%	0%	423
f. Use computing and information technology (PER_PREP)	4.3	1.10	18%	25%	33%	20%	4%	0%	422
g. Learn effectively on your own (PER_PREP)	4.3	1.14	19%	26%	33%	18%	4%	1%	423

How important is it to you that your institution provides the following? ⓘ

Importance of Campus Environment ↑	Mean	St Dev	Very important (6)	5	4	3	2	Not at all important (1)	Count
a. Challenging academic experience (IMP_CAMP)	4.0	1.08	12%	14%	44%	24%	4%	2%	423
b. Support to help students succeed academically (IMP_CAMP)	5.2	0.96	53%	20%	22%	4%	0%	0%	423
c. Opportunities to interact with students from different backgrounds (IMP_CAMP)	4.7	1.32	35%	24%	22%	12%	4%	3%	423
d. Help managing your non-academic responsibilities (IMP_CAMP)	4.5	1.30	30%	20%	29%	13%	5%	2%	423
e. Opportunities to be involved socially (IMP_CAMP)	4.6	1.16	30%	26%	29%	11%	3%	1%	423
f. Opportunities to attend campus activities and events (IMP_CAMP)	4.6	1.17	30%	25%	30%	12%	3%	1%	423
g. Learning support services (IMP_CAMP)	4.9	1.14	41%	23%	25%	9%	3%	0%	422

Demographics and Other Student Characteristics

Which of the following sources are you using to pay for your education expenses (tuition, fees, books, room & board, etc.)? For each, tell us if you are using, not using, or not sure.

Financial sources ▲	Count	Using	Not using	Not sure
a. Parents	422	64%	21%	14%
b. Loans	420	24%	60%	15%
c. Grants or Scholarships	422	72%	17%	12%
d. Employment	422	50%	21%	29%
e. Savings	422	57%	25%	18%

How many close friends will attend this institution?

Close friends	Percent
a. None	38%
b. 1	26%
c. 2	18%
d. 3	6%
e. 4 or more	12%

Which of the following best describes where you will be living while attending college?

Which of the following best describes where you will be living while attending college?	Percent
a. Campus housing (other than a fraternity or sorority house)	33.5%
c. House, apartment, or other residence within walking distance to campus	7.4%
d. House, apartment, or other residence farther than walking distance to campus	58.1%
e. Not applicable: No campus, entirely online program, etc.	1.0%

Regarding your parents (or those who raised you), what is the highest level of education completed by either of them?

Parental education ▲	Percent
a. Did not finish high school	21.3%
b. High school diploma or GED	28.9%
c. Attended college but did not complete degree	12.4%
d. Associate's degree (AA, AS, etc.)	8.1%
e. Bachelor's degree (BA, BS, etc.)	21.3%
f. Master's degree (MA, MS, etc.)	5.7%
g. Doctoral or professional degree (PhD, JD, MD, etc.)	2.2%

How would you describe yourself? (Select all that apply.)

Racal and ethnic identity	Percent
a. Asian	33.2%
b. Black or African American	8.8%
c. Hispanic, Latina/o, Latine, or Latinx	41.8%
d. Indigenous, American Indian, Native American, or Alaska Native	1.2%
e. Middle Eastern or North African	1.7%
f. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4.5%
g. White	22.0%
h. Another race or ethnicity	2.9%
i. I prefer not to respond	1.9%

Major

Major	Percent
Arts & Humanities	5.2%
Biological Science, Agriculture, & Natural Resources	5.5%
Business	12.2%
Communications, Media, & Public Relations	1.3%
Education	3.9%
Engineering	14.3%
Health Professions	27.3%
Other majors (not categorized	9.9%
Physical Science, Mathematics, & Computer Science	8.9%
Social Sciences	7.3%
Social Service Professions	4.2%

What is your gender identity?

Gender identity	Percent
a. Man	35%
b. Woman	61%
c. Another gender identity	3%
d. I prefer not to respond	2%

Do you expect to graduate from this institution?

Typical grades ▼	Percent	Count
Yes	89%	372
Uncertain	10%	42
No	1%	4

Are you a full-time student?

Full-time status	Percent
No	2%
Yes	98%

Do you know what your major will be?

Major	Percent
No	7%
Yes	93%

Are you an international student?

International student	Percent
No	97%
Yes	3%

This institution was your:

Choice	Percent
a. First choice	57%
b. Second choice	31%
c. Third choice or lower	13%

What do you expect most of your grades will be during the coming year?

Typical grades	Percent
A- or higher	49%
B+ or lower	51%

BCSSE Scale Means

First-Year BCSSE Scales ↑	Mean	St Dev	Count
a. High school engagement with analysis and numerical information (HS_QR)	29.91	14.90	417
b. Use of effective learning strategies in high school (HS_LS)	40.71	12.40	415
c. Expectation to interact and collaborate with peers (EXP_CL)	37.47	12.58	416
d. Expectation to interact and engage with faculty (EXP_SFI)	32.23	14.05	416
e. Expectation to engage in discussions with diverse others (EXP_DD)	42.47	13.31	416
f. Student certainty that they will persist in the face of academic adversity (EXP_PER)	39.84	10.11	417
g. Expected academic difficulty during the coming year (EXP_DIF)	30.67	10.04	417
h. Student perception of their academic preparation (PER_PREP)	39.60	9.95	416
i. Student-rated importance that the institution provides a challenging and supportive environment (IMP_CAMP)	43.78	9.99	416