



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**Western Carolina University**

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**Respondent Characteristics**

August 2009

	WCU		CSWC		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2009	
	FY	SR	FY	SR	FY	SR	FY	SR
<b>Response Rate<sup>a</sup></b>								
Overall	23%		27%		27%		31%	
By class	21%	24%	25%	30%	25%	29%	29%	34%
NSSE sample size <sup>b</sup>	1,188	1,484	97,991	90,249	34,803	35,714	556,994	519,892
<b>Sampling Error<sup>c</sup></b>								
Overall	3.6%		0.4%		0.6%		0.1%	
By class	5.5%	4.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0.9%	0.8%	0.2%	0.2%
Number of respondents <sup>b</sup>	252	360	24,169	26,954	8,798	10,472	158,939	175,576
Total population	1,189	2,200	120,898	127,123	40,531	43,604	718,848	706,493
<b>Student Characteristics<sup>d</sup></b>								
<b>Mode of Completion</b>								
Paper	0%	0%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%
Web	100%	100%	98%	98%	99%	98%	98%	98%
<b>Enrollment Status<sup>e</sup></b>								
Full-time	97%	80%	95%	84%	96%	82%	95%	84%
Less than full-time	3%	20%	5%	16%	4%	18%	5%	16%
<b>Gender<sup>e</sup></b>								
Female	60%	66%	65%	66%	69%	67%	64%	63%
Male	40%	34%	35%	34%	31%	33%	36%	37%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>								
Am. Indian/Native American	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Asian/Asian Am./Pacific Isl.	0%	2%	7%	5%	3%	2%	6%	5%
Black/African American	4%	3%	9%	8%	7%	6%	8%	7%
White (non-Hispanic)	89%	85%	63%	67%	79%	81%	68%	70%
Mexican/Mexican American	1%	0%	3%	4%	1%	1%	3%	3%
Puerto Rican	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Other Hispanic or Latino	0%	0%	5%	4%	1%	1%	3%	3%
Multiracial	1%	1%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Other	0%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
I prefer not to respond	3%	7%	6%	7%	4%	6%	5%	6%
<b>International Student</b>	2%	0%	6%	5%	4%	4%	6%	5%
<b>Place of Residence</b>								
On-campus <sup>f</sup>	90%	26%	59%	12%	63%	11%	67%	17%
<b>Transfer Status</b>								
Transfer students	12%	48%	8%	44%	9%	51%	9%	42%
<b>Age</b>								
Non-traditional (24 or older)	2%	36%	5%	36%	10%	43%	7%	35%
Traditional (less than 24)	98%	64%	95%	64%	90%	57%	93%	65%

<sup>a</sup> Response rate (number of respondents divided by sample size) is adjusted for non-deliverable mailing addresses, students for whom contact information was not available, and other students who were sampled yet unavailable during the survey administration.

<sup>b</sup> This report is based on information from all randomly selected students for both your institution and your comparison institutions. Targeted and locally administered oversamples (i.e., non-randomly selected students) are not included in this report.

<sup>c</sup> Sampling error is an estimate of the margin by which the *true* score for your institution on a given item could differ from the reported score. To interpret the sampling error, assume that 60% of your students reply "very often" to a particular item. If the sampling error is +/-5%, then the true population value is most likely between 55% and 65%.

<sup>d</sup> Percent of total respondents within each category. These results are *not* weighted.

<sup>e</sup> Institution-reported data. This information was used to weight your Mean Comparisons, Frequency Distributions, and Benchmark Comparisons reports.

<sup>f</sup> Students who identified their residence as "dormitory or other campus housing" or "fraternity or sorority house."