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# NSSE 2023 Topical Module Report

## First-Year Experiences & Senior Transitions

### Washington State University

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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 details are in the online Selected Comparison Groups report, linked in the Data & Reports table on the Institution Interface. A PDF copy is also saved in your report download folder.

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## 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>		
				WSU		Public RUVH-RUH		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	
				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	42	4	110	5	<b>2.8</b>	2.8	-.01
		2	Sometimes	384	35	957	34			
		3	Often	426	38	1,061	39			
		4	Very often	251	22	639	23			
		Total		1,103	100	2,767	100			
b. Found additional information for course assignments when you didn't understand the material	FYSfy01b	1	Never	28	3	61	2	<b>2.9</b>	2.9	-.03
		2	Sometimes	304	27	752	27			
		3	Often	532	49	1,315	48			
		4	Very often	239	21	633	23			
		Total		1,103	100	2,761	100			
c. Participated in course discussions, even when you didn't feel like it	FYSfy01c	1	Never	75	6	172	6	<b>2.7</b>	2.7 **	-.09
		2	Sometimes	409	38	912	34			
		3	Often	430	38	1,087	38			
		4	Very often	191	17	589	21			
		Total		1,105	100	2,760	100			
d. Asked instructors for help when you struggled with course assignments	FYSfy01d	1	Never	112	11	310	11	<b>2.5</b>	2.5	-.01
		2	Sometimes	507	45	1,248	45			
		3	Often	331	30	790	29			
		4	Very often	154	14	409	15			
		Total		1,104	100	2,757	100			
e. Finished something you have started when you encountered challenges	FYSfy01e	1	Never	5	0	26	1	<b>3.2</b>	3.1	.04
		2	Sometimes	183	16	482	18			
		3	Often	551	50	1,324	47			
		4	Very often	367	33	922	34			
		Total		1,106	100	2,754	100			
f. Stayed positive, even when you did poorly on a test or assignment	FYSfy01f	1	Never	58	5	127	4	<b>2.8</b>	2.8	-.01
		2	Sometimes	347	30	904	31			
		3	Often	454	42	1,124	41			
		4	Very often	246	23	601	23			
		Total		1,105	100	2,756	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	42	4	97	4	<b>3.5</b>	3.5 *	.07
		2	2	132	12	381	15			
		3	3	330	30	863	31			
		4	4	421	38	982	35			
		5	5	135	12	333	12			
		6	Very difficult	44	4	102	4			
		Total		1,104	100	2,758	100			
b. Managing your time	FYSfy02b	1	Not at all difficult	39	3	143	6	<b>3.8</b>	3.8	.05
		2	2	133	12	327	12			
		3	3	260	24	657	24			
		4	4	339	31	802	29			
		5	5	225	20	523	18			
		6	Very difficult	109	10	303	11			
		Total		1,105	100	2,755	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>		
				WSU		Public RUVH-RUH		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
c. Getting help with school work	FYSfy02c	1	Not at all difficult	98	9	316	12	<b>3.1</b>	3.0 *	.07 △
		2	2	276	26	661	24			
		3	3	309	28	836	29			
		4	4	269	23	604	22			
		5	5	96	8	236	9			
		6	Very difficult	57	5	103	4			
		Total		1,105	100	2,756	100			
d. Interacting with faculty	FYSfy02d	1	Not at all difficult	146	14	378	15	<b>3.0</b>	2.9	.04
		2	2	280	25	734	26			
		3	3	294	27	771	28			
		4	4	248	22	553	20			
		5	5	93	8	226	8			
		6	Very difficult	41	4	95	3			
		Total		1,102	100	2,757	100			
<b>3. During the current school year, about how often have you sought help with coursework from the following sources?</b>										
a. Faculty members	FYSfy03a_16	1	Never	213	19	490	19	<b>2.1</b>	2.2	-.03
		2	Sometimes	598	53	1,486	53			
		3	Often	235	22	600	21			
		4	Very often	59	6	174	7			
		Total		1,105	100	2,750	100			
b. Academic advisors	FYSfy03b_16	1	Never	438	40	1,279	46	<b>1.8</b>	1.8 **	.10 △
		2	Sometimes	446	40	1,005	36			
		3	Often	172	16	367	14			
		4	Very often	47	4	103	4			
		Total		1,103	100	2,754	100			
c. Learning support services (tutoring, writing center, success coaching, etc.)	FYSfy03c_16	1	Never	403	37	1,264	45	<b>2.0</b>	1.8 ***	.15 △
		2	Sometimes	411	37	925	35			
		3	Often	204	18	367	14			
		4	Very often	86	8	192	7			
		Total		1,104	100	2,748	100			
d. Friends or other students	FYSfy03d_16	1	Never	74	8	199	8	<b>2.9</b>	2.8 *	.07 △
		2	Sometimes	276	25	779	30			
		3	Often	464	42	1,065	38			
		4	Very often	288	26	708	24			
		Total		1,102	100	2,751	100			
e. Family members	FYSfy03e_16	1	Never	468	43	1,098	40	<b>1.9</b>	2.0	-.06
		2	Sometimes	341	30	888	33			
		3	Often	207	19	502	18			
		4	Very often	88	8	263	10			
		Total		1,104	100	2,751	100			
f. Other persons or offices	FYSfy03f_16	1	Never	656	59	1,657	59	<b>1.6</b>	1.6	-.02
		2	Sometimes	304	28	732	28			
		3	Often	116	11	260	9			
		4	Very often	26	2	106	4			
		Total		1,102	100	2,755	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>		
				WSU		Public RUVH-RUH		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>4. During the current school year, did you take a course intended for first-year students as described below?<sup>j</sup></b>										
a. A course that introduces students to college and helps develop success skills (study skills, goal setting, time management, etc.)	FYSfycourse	Yes		436	39	1,112	44	<b>39%</b>	44% ** ▽	-.10
		No		536	49	1,366	46			
		Unsure		129	12	267	10			
		Total		1,101	100	2,745	100			
b. A first-year seminar or other course focused on a specialized topic or academic subject that emphasizes discussion and analysis	FYSfyseminar	Yes		420	39	1,178	45	<b>39%</b>	45% *** ▽	-.13
		No		473	43	1,180	40			
		Unsure		201	18	391	15			
		Total		1,094	100	2,749	100			
<b>5a. During the current school year, have you seriously considered leaving this institution?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSfy04a	No		764	70	2,016	73	<b>30%</b>	27% * △	.09
		Yes		339	30	732	27			
		Total		1,103	100	2,748	100			

## 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>		
				WSU		Public RUVH-RUH		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>5b. [if answered "yes"] Why did you consider leaving? (Select all that apply.)</b>										
	FYSfy04b_1_16	—	Academics are too difficult	72	22	118	17			
	FYSfy04b_2_16	—	Academics are too easy	13	5	34	5			
	FYSfy04b_3_16	—	Other academic issues (major not offered, course availability, advising, credit transfer, etc.)	43	12	133	17			
	FYSfy04b_4_16	—	Financial concerns (costs or financial aid)	143	42	289	42			
	FYSfy04b_5_16	—	To change your career options (transfer to another school or program, military service, etc.)	61	18	121	18			
	FYSfy04b_6_16	—	Difficulty managing demands of school and work	65	20	120	18			
	FYSfy04b_7_16	—	Too much emphasis on partying	65	20	71	8			
	FYSfy04b_8_16	—	Not enough opportunities to socialize and have fun	52	17	103	14			
	FYSfy04b_9_16	—	Experiences with faculty and staff	43	12	101	14			
	FYSfy04b_10_16	—	Experiences with other students	65	19	145	18			
	FYSfy04b_11_16	—	Campus climate, location, or culture	127	38	229	28			
	FYSfy04b_12_16	—	Unsafe or hostile environment	46	13	64	8			
	FYSfy04b_13_16	—	Personal reasons (family issues, physical or mental health, homesickness, stress, etc.)	182	54	310	40			
	FYSfy04b_14_16	—	A reason not listed above, please specify:	30	9	86	13			
<b>6. How important is it to you that you graduate from <i>this institution</i>?</b>										
	FYSfy05	1	Not important	53	5	107	4	<b>4.9</b>	5.0	-.05
		2	2	38	4	93	3			
		3	3	76	7	183	7			
		4	4	151	14	383	14			
		5	5	166	16	475	17			
		6	Very important	616	54	1,496	55			
			Total	1,100	100	2,737	100			

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### 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>
		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	WSU	Public RUVH-RUH			
FYSfy01a	1,089	2.78	2.79	.025	.013	0.83	0.84	5,368	.880	-.01
FYSfy01b	1,089	2.89	2.91	.023	.012	0.76	0.76	5,353	.335	-.03
FYSfy01c	1,091	2.66	2.74	.025	.013	0.83	0.86	5,352	.005	-.09
FYSfy01d	1,090	2.48	2.48	.026	.014	0.86	0.89	5,343	.871	-.01
FYSfy01e	1,092	3.16	3.13	.021	.011	0.70	0.74	5,343	.285	.04
FYSfy01f	1,091	2.83	2.84	.025	.013	0.84	0.83	5,345	.765	-.01
FYSfy02a	1,090	3.54	3.46	.033	.017	1.10	1.11	5,351	.048	.07
FYSfy02b	1,091	3.82	3.76	.038	.021	1.26	1.35	1,781	.148	.05
FYSfy02c	1,090	3.11	3.03	.039	.020	1.28	1.27	5,350	.041	.07
FYSfy02d	1,088	2.95	2.90	.039	.020	1.29	1.29	5,348	.250	.04
FYSfy03a_16	1,090	2.13	2.16	.024	.012	0.78	0.81	5,339	.330	-.03
FYSfy03b_16	1,088	1.84	1.76	.026	.013	0.84	0.84	5,343	.003	.10
FYSfy03c_16	1,089	1.97	1.83	.028	.014	0.93	0.91	5,332	.000	.15
FYSfy03d_16	1,087	2.85	2.79	.027	.014	0.89	0.90	1,705	.036	.07
FYSfy03e_16	1,089	1.91	1.98	.029	.015	0.96	0.98	5,334	.056	-.06
FYSfy03f_16	1,088	1.57	1.59	.024	.013	0.78	0.82	5,342	.509	-.02
FYSfycourse <sup>k</sup>	1086	.394	.444	.0148	.0076	--	--	--	.003	-.10
FYSfyseminar <sup>k</sup>	1079	.386	.452	.0148	.0076	--	--	--	.000	-.13
FYSfy04a <sup>k</sup>	1088	.304	.266	.0140	.0068	--	--	--	.011	.09
FYSfy05	1,086	4.95	5.02	.044	.021	1.46	1.38	1,622	.143	-.05

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				WSU		Public RUVH-RUH		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>1. Do you expect to graduate this spring or summer?</b>										
	FYSsr01_16	No		548	31	1,054	38			
		Yes		1,280	69	2,019	62			
		Total		1,828	100	3,073	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	807	64	1,088	56			
		—	Part-time employment	77	6	96	5			
		—	Graduate or professional school	239	17	554	25			
		—	Military service	4	0	7	1			
		—	Service or volunteer activity (AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.)	6	0	6	0			
		—	Internship (paid or unpaid)	51	4	76	4			
		—	Travel or gap year	50	4	107	5			
		—	No plans at this time	35	3	78	4			
		—	Other, please specify:	22	2	32	2			
		Total		1,291	100	2,044	100			
<b>1b. [If immediate plans included full- or part-time employment] Do you already have a job for after graduation?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSsr01b	No		433	48	583	49	<b>52%</b>	51%	.02
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	Yes, I will start a new job		241	27	370	29			
		Yes, I will continue in my current job		209	25	223	22			
		Total		883	100	1,176	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	77	6	163	7	<b>2.9</b>	3.0	-.03
		2	Some	313	24	490	22			
		3	Quite a bit	515	40	766	39			
		4	Very much	383	29	617	32			
		Total		1,288	100	2,036	100			
<b>3. Do you intend to work eventually in a field related to your major(s)?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSsr03	Yes		1,622	88	2,621	86	<b>88%</b>	86% **	.07
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No		57	3	154	4			
		Unsure		155	9	305	10			
		Total		1,834	100	3,080	100			
<b>4. Do you plan to be self-employed, an independent contractor, or a freelance worker someday?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSsr04	Yes		347	19	486	17	<b>19%</b>	17%	.05
	(Means indicate the percentage who responded "Yes.")	No		927	50	1,719	54			
		Unsure		559	31	877	29			
		Total		1,833	100	3,082	100			

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



## Seniors

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				WSU		Public RUVH-RUH		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	
				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	434	24	599	22	<b>24%</b>	22%	.05
			No	831	44	1,544	48			
			Unsure	571	31	944	30			
			Total	1,836	100	3,087	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	7	0	19	1	<b>3.5</b>	3.4 **	.09
			2 Some	127	7	266	8			
			3 Quite a bit	685	38	1,264	40			
			4 Very much	1,012	55	1,532	51			
			Total	1,831	100	3,081	100			
b. Creative thinking and problem solving	FYSsr06b		1 Very little	6	0	17	1	<b>3.5</b>	3.4 **	.07
			2 Some	123	7	240	7			
			3 Quite a bit	674	37	1,258	41			
			4 Very much	1,023	56	1,566	52			
			Total	1,826	100	3,081	100			
c. Research skills	FYSsr06c		1 Very little	22	1	79	2	<b>3.3</b>	3.2 **	.09
			2 Some	270	15	567	18			
			3 Quite a bit	750	41	1,250	40			
			4 Very much	785	43	1,183	40			
			Total	1,827	100	3,079	100			
d. Clear writing	FYSsr06d		1 Very little	17	1	51	2	<b>3.3</b>	3.3 *	.07
			2 Some	203	12	420	14			
			3 Quite a bit	755	42	1,250	40			
			4 Very much	853	46	1,360	44			
			Total	1,828	100	3,081	100			
e. Persuasive speaking	FYSsr06e		1 Very little	59	3	122	4	<b>3.0</b>	3.0	.03
			2 Some	432	24	793	26			
			3 Quite a bit	721	39	1,172	37			
			4 Very much	614	33	996	33			
			Total	1,826	100	3,083	100			
f. Technological skills	FYSsr06f		1 Very little	32	2	117	3	<b>3.2</b>	3.1 ***	.11
			2 Some	331	18	714	22			
			3 Quite a bit	770	42	1,230	39			
			4 Very much	692	38	1,020	36			
			Total	1,825	100	3,081	100			
g. Financial and business management skills	FYSsr06g		1 Very little	255	13	627	18	<b>2.6</b>	2.5 ***	.10
			2 Some	660	36	1,100	36			
			3 Quite a bit	563	31	830	28			
			4 Very much	351	20	517	19			
			Total	1,829	100	3,074	100			
h. Entrepreneurial skills	FYSsr06h		1 Very little	423	23	860	26	<b>2.3</b>	2.3 *	.06
			2 Some	681	37	1,084	34			
			3 Quite a bit	429	24	703	24			
			4 Very much	294	16	432	16			
			Total	1,827	100	3,079	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>		
				WSU		Public RUVH-RUH		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
i. Leadership skills	FYSSr06i	1	Very little	55	3	111	4	<b>3.1</b>	3.2	-.01
		2	Some	341	19	545	18			
		3	Quite a bit	694	38	1,140	37			
		4	Very much	738	40	1,280	41			
		Total		1,828	100	3,076	100			
j. Networking and relationship building	FYSSr06j	1	Very little	106	6	225	8	<b>3.0</b>	2.9	.05
		2	Some	417	23	752	24			
		3	Quite a bit	696	38	1,097	36			
		4	Very much	608	33	1,009	33			
		Total		1,827	100	3,083	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	45	3	115	4	<b>3.1</b>	3.1 *	.06
		2	Some	314	18	596	19			
		3	Quite a bit	770	42	1,285	41			
		4	Very much	694	38	1,087	36			
		Total		1,823	100	3,083	100			
b. Taking risks in your coursework without fear of penalty	FYSSr07b	1	Very little	381	21	738	23	<b>2.5</b>	2.5	.02
		2	Some	536	29	877	27			
		3	Quite a bit	517	29	849	28			
		4	Very much	391	21	619	22			
		Total		1,825	100	3,083	100			
c. Evaluating multiple approaches to a problem	FYSSr07c	1	Very little	70	4	144	5	<b>3.1</b>	3.0 *	.07
		2	Some	343	18	675	21			
		3	Quite a bit	770	42	1,243	39			
		4	Very much	643	35	1,014	35			
		Total		1,826	100	3,076	100			
d. Inventing new methods to arrive at unconventional solutions	FYSSr07d	1	Very little	220	12	369	12	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	.00
		2	Some	523	29	904	29			
		3	Quite a bit	606	33	1,035	33			
		4	Very much	468	26	758	26			
		Total		1,817	100	3,066	100			
<b>8. Have you been creating an ePortfolio or other collection that includes samples of your work over time, shows your progress, and helps you reflect on the knowledge and skills you have gained?<sup>j</sup></b>										
	FYSSr09_21	Yes		588	32	702	24	<b>32%</b>	24% ***	.18
		No		1,066	59	2,127	68			
		Unsure		165	9	235	8			
		Total		1,819	100	3,064	100			

### 9. 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 726 senior(s). Responses are provided in your NSSE23 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

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>
		WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	WSU	Public RUVH-RUH	WSU	Public RUVH-RUH			
FYSsr01b <sup>k</sup>	893	.521	.513	.0167	.0115	--	--	--	.685	.02
FYSsr02	1,276	2.92	2.95	.025	.016	0.89	0.91	4,381	.313	-.03
FYSsr03 <sup>k</sup>	1841	.880	.856	.0076	.0049	--	--	--	.010	.07
FYSsr04 <sup>k</sup>	1841	.193	.174	.0092	.0053	--	--	--	.065	.05
FYSsr05 <sup>k</sup>	1843	.242	.222	.0100	.0059	--	--	--	.074	.05
FYSsr06a	1,838	3.47	3.42	.015	.009	0.64	0.66	6,855	.001	.09
FYSsr06b	1,832	3.48	3.43	.015	.009	0.64	0.65	6,855	.007	.07
FYSsr06c	1,833	3.25	3.18	.018	.011	0.75	0.79	6,852	.002	.09
FYSsr06d	1,835	3.32	3.27	.017	.011	0.71	0.76	3,434	.014	.07
FYSsr06e	1,833	3.03	3.00	.020	.012	0.84	0.87	6,857	.267	.03
FYSsr06f	1,832	3.17	3.08	.018	.012	0.78	0.84	3,465	.000	.11
FYSsr06g	1,836	2.57	2.47	.022	.014	0.95	0.99	3,374	.000	.10
FYSsr06h	1,834	2.34	2.28	.023	.014	1.00	1.02	6,852	.040	.06
FYSsr06i	1,835	3.14	3.15	.019	.012	0.83	0.85	6,845	.699	-.01
FYSsr06j	1,834	2.98	2.93	.021	.013	0.89	0.94	3,397	.065	.05
FYSsr07a	1,830	3.15	3.10	.019	.012	0.80	0.84	6,856	.024	.06
FYSsr07b	1,832	2.51	2.48	.024	.015	1.04	1.07	3,334	.403	.02
FYSsr07c	1,832	3.09	3.03	.019	.012	0.83	0.88	6,842	.014	.07
FYSsr07d	1,824	2.73	2.73	.023	.014	0.98	0.98	6,822	.864	.00
FYSsr09_21 <sup>k</sup>	1,826	0.32	0.24	.0110	.0061	--	--	--	.000	.18

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

## 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. Comparison group details are in the Selected Comparison Groups report, linked in the Data & Reports table on the Institution Interface.
- 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 Ns 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. You may not see all of these symbols in your report.