



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

University of Massachusetts Amherst

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.

## 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](http://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.



**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>**  
NSSEville State University

Variable	Response Options	NSSEville State		Mid East Public		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2008		NSSEville State		Mid East Public		Carnegie Class		NSSE 2008		
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
1a. Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST (ACL)	Never	14	3%	451	4%	1,565	5%	4,836	4%	5	1%	251	3%	955	3%	2,713	2%
	Sometimes	211	37%	5,099	44%	13,661	45%	55,638	39%	84	19%	3,555	34%	10,461	33%	38,525	28%	
	Often	202	34%	4,111	35%	10,071	33%	52,664	35%	156	32%	3,737	33%	10,549	33%	49,105	33%	
	Very often	144	26%	2,152	17%	5,693	17%	34,795	22%	232	48%	3,674	30%	10,465	31%	57,604	36%	
	Total	571	100%	11,813	100%	30,990	100%	147,933	100%	477	100%	11,217	100%	32,430	100%	147,946	100%	
b. Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN (ACL)	Never	44	8%	1,959	19%	5,777	20%	20,344	16%	14	3%	566	6%	1,892	7%	6,697	6%
	Sometimes	334	58%	6,759	57%	17,509	56%	80,660	53%	147	32%	4,536	44%	12,648	41%	48,977	35%	
	Often	157	27%	2,460	18%	6,060	18%	36,269	23%	206	43%	3,957	33%	11,116	33%	55,559	36%	
	Very often	36	7%	626	5%	1,639	5%	10,626	7%	111	22%	2,155	17%	6,764	19%	36,673	23%	
	Total	571	100%	11,804	100%	30,985	100%	147,899	100%	478	100%	11,214	100%	32,420	100%	147,906	100%	
c. Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP	Never	73	15%	1,831	17%	5,084	17%	19,478	14%	72	15%	2,298	21%	6,235	20%	24,486	17%
	Sometimes	174	31%	3,761	34%	9,922	32%	46,750	31%	183	38%	4,508	41%	12,655	39%	56,891	38%	
	Often	204	33%	3,602	30%	9,622	31%	47,395	32%	113	23%	2,750	24%	8,268	25%	39,304	27%	
	Very often	120	21%	2,610	20%	6,342	19%	34,222	23%	110	24%	1,654	14%	5,243	16%	27,190	18%	
	Total	571	100%	11,804	100%	30,970	100%	147,845	100%	478	100%	11,210	100%	32,401	100%	147,871	100%	
d. Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or in information from various sources	INTEGRAT	Never	7	1%	294	3%	905	3%	2,948	3%	5	1%	126	1%	405	1%	1,472	1%
	Sometimes	123	21%	2,768	26%	7,646	26%	31,606	23%	57	12%	1,676	17%	4,813	16%	18,243	14%	
	Often	274	49%	5,241	44%	13,382	43%	66,317	44%	184	38%	4,517	40%	12,781	40%	57,611	40%	
	Very often	167	28%	3,503	27%	9,032	28%	46,937	31%	232	49%	4,890	42%	14,395	43%	70,535	46%	
	Total	571	100%	11,806	100%	30,965	100%	147,808	100%	478	100%	11,209	100%	32,394	100%	147,861	100%	
e. Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	DIVCLASS	Never	26	6%	773	7%	2,198	8%	8,966	7%	23	6%	777	9%	2,711	9%	9,446	7%
	Sometimes	178	31%	4,048	34%	10,465	34%	48,551	33%	137	28%	3,655	34%	10,845	34%	46,541	32%	
	Often	222	38%	4,537	38%	11,603	38%	56,651	38%	182	39%	3,872	34%	10,742	33%	51,304	34%	
	Very often	145	26%	2,434	20%	6,678	21%	33,553	22%	135	27%	2,896	24%	8,066	25%	40,456	27%	
	Total	571	100%	11,792	100%	30,944	100%	147,721	100%	477	100%	11,200	100%	32,364	100%	147,747	100%	

## Count

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

## Column Percentage (%)

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



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	First-Year Students				Seniors												
			UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
1a.	Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions	CLQUEST (ACL)	Never	112	7%	800	5%	997	6%	6,249	4%	30	3%	611	4%	699	4%	3,750	2%
			Sometimes	732	48%	7,974	45%	8,628	46%	65,079	37%	351	32%	6,360	37%	7,046	37%	47,030	27%
			Often	438	29%	6,236	34%	6,452	33%	64,379	35%	361	33%	5,852	32%	6,239	32%	62,351	33%
			Very often	217	15%	2,944	16%	2,967	15%	44,629	24%	345	32%	5,249	27%	5,438	27%	78,166	38%
			Total	1,499	100%	17,954	100%	19,044	100%	180,336	100%	1,087	100%	18,072	100%	19,422	100%	191,297	100%
1b.	Made a class presentation	CLPRESEN (ACL)	Never	467	31%	3,210	20%	3,296	19%	23,024	15%	50	4%	1,037	7%	1,089	7%	8,402	5%
			Sometimes	848	57%	10,806	58%	11,486	59%	95,532	52%	497	46%	7,991	46%	8,670	46%	61,394	34%
			Often	133	9%	3,198	18%	3,470	18%	46,856	25%	380	35%	6,008	32%	6,422	32%	72,280	36%
			Very often	42	3%	686	4%	736	4%	14,546	8%	156	14%	3,021	16%	3,228	16%	49,054	24%
			Total	1,490	100%	17,900	100%	18,988	100%	179,958	100%	1,083	100%	18,057	100%	19,409	100%	191,130	100%
1c.	Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	REWROPAP	Never	149	10%	2,984	19%	3,434	19%	23,536	13%	200	19%	3,784	22%	4,228	22%	30,947	16%
			Sometimes	412	27%	5,896	33%	6,354	33%	57,961	31%	481	44%	7,701	42%	8,251	42%	74,562	38%
			Often	574	39%	5,665	31%	5,882	30%	58,530	32%	257	23%	4,288	24%	4,502	23%	50,205	27%
			Very often	362	24%	3,382	17%	3,342	17%	40,102	23%	146	13%	2,267	13%	2,417	12%	35,437	18%
			Total	1,497	100%	17,927	100%	19,012	100%	180,129	100%	1,084	100%	18,040	100%	19,398	100%	191,151	100%
1d.	Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	INTEGRAT	Never	47	3%	470	3%	536	3%	3,593	2%	7	1%	222	1%	234	1%	1,922	1%
			Sometimes	393	26%	4,546	26%	4,948	26%	36,342	21%	183	17%	2,871	17%	3,123	17%	23,043	13%
			Often	695	47%	8,140	45%	8,629	44%	81,767	45%	440	41%	7,522	41%	8,075	41%	74,654	40%
			Very often	361	24%	4,775	26%	4,898	26%	58,492	32%	454	42%	7,433	40%	7,969	40%	91,535	46%
			Total	1,496	100%	17,931	100%	19,011	100%	180,194	100%	1,084	100%	18,048	100%	19,401	100%	191,154	100%
1e.	Included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, political beliefs, etc.) in class discussions or writing assignments	DIVCLASS	Never	93	6%	1,180	8%	1,339	8%	10,736	7%	80	8%	1,431	9%	1,703	10%	11,959	7%
			Sometimes	485	33%	6,224	35%	6,651	34%	57,102	32%	368	34%	6,338	35%	6,881	36%	58,895	31%
			Often	595	40%	6,900	38%	7,226	37%	70,307	38%	368	34%	6,090	33%	6,354	33%	66,240	34%
			Very often	322	21%	3,607	20%	3,773	20%	41,776	23%	268	24%	4,160	22%	4,416	22%	53,781	27%
			Total	1,495	100%	17,911	100%	18,989	100%	179,921	100%	1,084	100%	18,019	100%	19,354	100%	190,875	100%
1f.	Come to class without completing readings or assignments	CLUNPREP	Never	270	18%	3,458	19%	3,564	18%	43,282	23%	147	13%	2,328	13%	2,468	13%	38,884	20%
			Sometimes	837	56%	10,624	58%	11,236	58%	104,850	58%	601	55%	10,386	57%	10,987	56%	111,223	58%
			Often	260	18%	2,755	16%	3,049	17%	21,982	13%	219	21%	3,532	20%	3,919	20%	27,273	15%
			Very often	116	8%	1,027	6%	1,095	6%	9,161	6%	110	11%	1,718	10%	1,941	10%	12,923	7%
			Total	1,483	100%	17,864	100%	18,944	100%	179,275	100%	1,077	100%	17,964	100%	19,315	100%	190,303	100%
1g.	Worked with other students on projects during class	CLASSGRP (ACL)	Never	275	18%	2,426	14%	2,716	15%	22,605	13%	124	11%	2,232	13%	2,508	13%	20,255	11%
			Sometimes	736	49%	8,311	46%	8,875	47%	82,168	45%	541	50%	8,404	47%	9,146	47%	82,354	42%
			Often	371	25%	5,622	31%	5,801	30%	56,699	32%	296	28%	5,093	28%	5,349	27%	58,651	31%
			Very often	114	8%	1,545	8%	1,584	8%	18,456	11%	124	12%	2,314	12%	2,389	12%	29,722	16%
			Total	1,496	100%	17,904	100%	18,976	100%	179,928	100%	1,085	100%	18,043	100%	19,392	100%	190,982	100%

<sup>a</sup> 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.



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University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	First-Year Students				Seniors											
			UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
1h. Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments	OCCGRP (ACL)	Never	248	17%	1,822	11%	1,899	11%	21,798	14%	74	7%	916	6%	991	6%	13,168	7%
		Sometimes	704	46%	8,434	46%	8,826	46%	78,162	44%	447	41%	6,255	35%	6,588	35%	64,487	34%
		Often	364	25%	5,643	31%	6,017	31%	57,116	30%	334	31%	6,146	33%	6,667	34%	66,530	34%
		Very often	182	13%	2,036	12%	2,275	12%	23,190	12%	232	22%	4,743	26%	5,170	26%	47,051	24%
	Total		1,498	100%	17,935	100%	19,017	100%	180,266	100%	1,087	100%	18,060	100%	19,416	100%	191,236	100%
1i. Put together ideas or concepts from different courses when completing assignments or during class discussions	INTIDEAS	Never	76	5%	900	6%	995	6%	9,897	7%	26	2%	424	3%	459	3%	5,074	3%
		Sometimes	555	38%	6,955	41%	7,357	41%	66,133	39%	266	25%	4,722	27%	4,983	27%	47,725	27%
		Often	569	40%	6,745	39%	7,107	39%	67,893	39%	463	44%	7,747	44%	8,359	44%	81,035	43%
		Very often	242	17%	2,430	14%	2,523	14%	26,763	15%	303	28%	4,551	26%	4,927	26%	51,596	27%
	Total		1,442	100%	17,030	100%	17,982	100%	170,686	100%	1,058	100%	17,444	100%	18,728	100%	185,430	100%
1j. Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)	TUTOR (ACL)	Never	706	48%	7,994	46%	8,425	46%	85,000	51%	453	42%	7,486	42%	7,978	43%	78,133	43%
		Sometimes	464	33%	6,126	36%	6,486	36%	57,821	33%	340	32%	6,328	36%	6,840	36%	65,207	35%
		Often	197	14%	2,075	13%	2,190	13%	19,551	11%	150	14%	2,232	13%	2,398	13%	24,013	13%
		Very often	71	5%	824	5%	870	5%	8,308	5%	115	11%	1,403	8%	1,523	8%	18,063	9%
	Total		1,438	100%	17,019	100%	17,971	100%	170,680	100%	1,058	100%	17,449	100%	18,739	100%	185,416	100%
1k. Participated in a community- based project (e.g. service learning) as part of a regular course	COMMPROJ (ACL)	Never	948	65%	10,464	62%	11,243	63%	98,597	59%	597	57%	9,666	58%	10,728	58%	90,643	51%
		Sometimes	310	22%	4,350	25%	4,439	24%	47,005	26%	282	27%	5,051	28%	5,216	27%	58,446	30%
		Often	117	9%	1,599	9%	1,642	9%	17,401	10%	101	10%	1,719	9%	1,766	9%	22,745	12%
		Very often	64	5%	590	4%	630	4%	7,480	4%	76	7%	987	5%	997	5%	13,344	7%
	Total		1,439	100%	17,003	100%	17,954	100%	170,483	100%	1,056	100%	17,423	100%	18,707	100%	185,178	100%
1l. Used an electronic medium (listserv, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment	ITACADEM (EEE)	Never	212	14%	2,167	13%	2,273	13%	28,285	17%	90	8%	1,630	10%	1,818	10%	21,179	11%
		Sometimes	491	34%	5,453	32%	5,756	32%	54,209	31%	313	30%	4,989	29%	5,449	30%	53,159	29%
		Often	396	28%	4,981	29%	5,240	29%	47,272	27%	300	29%	5,061	29%	5,309	29%	49,848	27%
		Very often	338	23%	4,410	26%	4,701	26%	40,876	24%	353	33%	5,770	32%	6,160	32%	61,254	33%
	Total		1,437	100%	17,011	100%	17,970	100%	170,642	100%	1,056	100%	17,450	100%	18,736	100%	185,440	100%
1m. Used e-mail to communicate with an instructor	EMAIL	Never	36	3%	209	2%	275	2%	2,246	2%	1	0%	94	1%	112	1%	963	1%
		Sometimes	390	28%	3,861	24%	4,410	26%	35,087	23%	118	12%	2,217	14%	2,513	15%	22,890	14%
		Often	549	38%	6,502	38%	6,846	38%	63,957	37%	286	28%	5,532	32%	6,069	33%	57,291	32%
		Very often	458	31%	6,426	36%	6,422	35%	69,166	38%	652	61%	9,600	53%	10,038	52%	104,131	53%
	Total		1,433	100%	16,998	100%	17,953	100%	170,456	100%	1,057	100%	17,443	100%	18,732	100%	185,275	100%
1n. Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor	FACGRADE (SFI)	Never	201	14%	1,556	10%	1,781	10%	12,271	8%	66	7%	941	6%	1,079	6%	7,568	5%
		Sometimes	688	48%	8,046	47%	8,657	48%	70,605	42%	408	38%	7,077	41%	7,766	42%	64,305	36%
		Often	364	25%	4,859	28%	4,985	27%	54,683	31%	331	32%	5,526	31%	5,862	31%	62,029	33%
		Very often	178	12%	2,543	15%	2,517	14%	32,921	19%	252	23%	3,888	21%	4,013	21%	51,432	26%
	Total		1,431	100%	17,004	100%	17,940	100%	170,480	100%	1,057	100%	17,432	100%	18,720	100%	185,334	100%

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**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	First-Year Students				Seniors											
			UMass Amherst	Flagship Peers	Carnegie Class	U. S. NSSE 2008	UMass Amherst	Flagship Peers	Carnegie Class	U. S. NSSE 2008								
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%						
1o. Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor	FACPLANS (SFI)	Never	454	31%	3,593	22%	4,068	23%	36,105	23%	151	14%	2,817	18%	3,175	18%	26,576	17%
		Sometimes	656	46%	8,563	49%	8,906	48%	79,678	46%	443	42%	7,960	46%	8,608	46%	75,201	42%
		Often	245	17%	3,497	21%	3,594	20%	37,415	22%	290	28%	4,178	23%	4,367	23%	48,449	25%
		Very often	83	6%	1,346	8%	1,379	8%	17,348	10%	174	16%	2,490	13%	2,582	13%	35,129	17%
	Total		1,438	100%	16,999	100%	17,947	100%	170,546	100%	1,058	100%	17,445	100%	18,732	100%	185,355	100%
1p. Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class	FACIDEAS (SFI)	Never	604	41%	7,158	41%	7,712	42%	63,420	38%	286	27%	5,222	30%	5,782	31%	47,434	28%
		Sometimes	558	39%	6,795	40%	7,063	39%	68,700	39%	464	44%	7,964	45%	8,536	45%	81,798	44%
		Often	205	15%	2,206	13%	2,317	13%	26,590	15%	211	20%	2,852	16%	2,967	16%	35,224	18%
		Very often	75	5%	869	5%	887	5%	11,948	7%	97	9%	1,404	8%	1,449	8%	20,947	11%
	Total		1,442	100%	17,028	100%	17,979	100%	170,658	100%	1,058	100%	17,442	100%	18,734	100%	185,403	100%
1q. Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance	FACFEED (SFI)	Never	103	7%	1,165	8%	1,397	9%	10,380	7%	25	2%	911	6%	1,055	6%	7,171	5%
		Sometimes	602	42%	6,649	41%	7,229	41%	58,871	36%	318	30%	6,051	36%	6,720	37%	52,526	31%
		Often	536	38%	6,738	39%	6,855	38%	69,479	40%	490	46%	7,573	43%	7,944	42%	84,198	44%
		Very often	185	13%	2,172	13%	2,167	12%	28,754	16%	217	21%	2,698	15%	2,780	15%	39,902	20%
	Total		1,426	100%	16,724	100%	17,648	100%	167,484	100%	1,050	100%	17,233	100%	18,499	100%	183,797	100%
1r. Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations	WORKHARD (LAC)	Never	161	11%	1,408	9%	1,549	9%	11,155	7%	76	8%	1,358	9%	1,502	9%	10,155	6%
		Sometimes	576	40%	6,600	40%	7,024	40%	61,753	37%	390	37%	6,800	40%	7,343	40%	62,874	35%
		Often	510	36%	6,283	36%	6,561	36%	65,484	38%	404	38%	6,332	36%	6,680	36%	71,664	39%
		Very often	176	12%	2,414	14%	2,490	14%	28,979	17%	179	17%	2,720	15%	2,951	16%	38,955	20%
	Total		1,423	100%	16,705	100%	17,624	100%	167,371	100%	1,049	100%	17,210	100%	18,476	100%	183,648	100%
1s. Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student life activities, etc.)	FACOTHER (SFI)	Never	836	58%	9,992	60%	10,692	60%	89,319	56%	460	44%	7,831	47%	8,552	48%	77,542	46%
		Sometimes	372	27%	4,505	27%	4,665	26%	49,821	28%	359	35%	5,866	33%	6,307	34%	60,676	32%
		Often	153	11%	1,605	10%	1,647	10%	19,918	11%	153	15%	2,291	13%	2,366	12%	28,227	14%
		Very often	61	4%	585	4%	598	4%	8,078	5%	76	7%	1,218	7%	1,251	7%	17,060	8%
	Total		1,422	100%	16,687	100%	17,602	100%	167,136	100%	1,048	100%	17,206	100%	18,476	100%	183,505	100%
1t. Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)	OOCIDEAS (ACL)	Never	99	7%	988	7%	1,071	7%	10,456	7%	33	3%	646	4%	744	4%	7,172	4%
		Sometimes	528	37%	6,550	40%	6,976	40%	61,506	37%	371	36%	5,883	35%	6,362	35%	58,663	33%
		Often	528	37%	6,035	36%	6,357	36%	60,229	36%	380	36%	6,558	38%	6,991	38%	69,543	37%
		Very often	266	19%	3,108	18%	3,201	17%	34,883	20%	266	25%	4,118	23%	4,375	23%	48,118	26%
	Total		1,421	100%	16,681	100%	17,605	100%	167,074	100%	1,050	100%	17,205	100%	18,472	100%	183,496	100%
1u. Had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own	DIVRSTUD (EEE)	Never	169	12%	2,058	12%	2,093	12%	24,528	15%	120	12%	1,720	10%	1,856	10%	22,525	12%
		Sometimes	495	34%	5,746	34%	5,908	33%	56,530	33%	343	33%	5,891	34%	6,275	34%	64,069	34%
		Often	414	29%	4,838	30%	5,146	30%	45,694	27%	307	29%	5,020	29%	5,315	29%	50,557	28%
		Very often	345	25%	4,070	24%	4,486	25%	40,469	24%	281	26%	4,585	27%	5,031	27%	46,415	26%
	Total		1,423	100%	16,712	100%	17,633	100%	167,221	100%	1,051	100%	17,216	100%	18,477	100%	183,566	100%

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	First-Year Students				Seniors												
			UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
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	129	9%	1,457	9%	1,488	9%	17,926	12%	82	8%	1,247	7%	1,301	7%	17,357	10%
			Sometimes	470	33%	5,402	32%	5,578	32%	54,854	33%	339	33%	5,686	33%	6,023	33%	62,991	34%
			Often	444	31%	5,277	31%	5,611	32%	50,262	30%	337	32%	5,489	31%	5,909	32%	55,134	30%
			Very often	381	27%	4,567	27%	4,947	28%	44,211	26%	289	27%	4,794	28%	5,250	28%	48,117	26%
			Total	1,424	100%	16,703	100%	17,624	100%	167,253	100%	1,047	100%	17,216	100%	18,483	100%	183,599	100%
2a.	Coursework emphasizes: <b>Memorizing</b> facts, ideas, or methods from your courses and readings	MEMORIZE	Very little	69	5%	714	4%	810	5%	9,546	6%	83	8%	1,404	8%	1,526	8%	17,073	9%
			Some	359	26%	4,091	25%	4,307	25%	44,889	27%	293	29%	5,007	29%	5,416	29%	57,404	31%
			Quite a bit	582	41%	7,043	41%	7,462	42%	67,092	40%	395	38%	6,420	38%	6,816	37%	65,675	36%
			Very much	406	28%	4,802	29%	4,975	29%	44,559	27%	274	25%	4,316	25%	4,634	25%	42,465	24%
			Total	1,416	100%	16,650	100%	17,554	100%	166,086	100%	1,045	100%	17,147	100%	18,392	100%	182,617	100%
2b.	Coursework emphasizes: <b>Analyzing</b> the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory	ANALYZE (LAC)	Very little	26	2%	219	1%	244	2%	3,098	2%	12	1%	200	1%	217	1%	2,366	1%
			Some	261	19%	2,710	17%	2,871	17%	30,037	19%	143	14%	2,418	15%	2,565	14%	24,732	14%
			Quite a bit	675	48%	7,826	47%	8,207	47%	74,715	45%	443	43%	7,343	43%	7,836	43%	77,684	43%
			Very much	452	31%	5,872	35%	6,218	35%	57,981	34%	441	43%	7,175	41%	7,766	42%	77,615	41%
			Total	1,414	100%	16,627	100%	17,540	100%	165,831	100%	1,039	100%	17,136	100%	18,384	100%	182,397	100%
2c.	Coursework emphasizes: <b>Synthesizing</b> and organizing ideas, information, or experiences	SYNTHESZ (LAC)	Very little	61	4%	588	4%	631	4%	6,668	5%	26	2%	584	4%	645	4%	5,474	3%
			Some	413	30%	4,467	27%	4,716	27%	44,508	28%	245	24%	3,888	23%	4,124	23%	37,960	22%
			Quite a bit	594	42%	7,227	43%	7,549	43%	69,774	42%	424	41%	7,008	41%	7,461	40%	74,470	41%
			Very much	338	24%	4,317	26%	4,612	26%	44,524	26%	348	33%	5,622	32%	6,119	33%	64,193	34%
			Total	1,406	100%	16,599	100%	17,508	100%	165,474	100%	1,043	100%	17,102	100%	18,349	100%	182,097	100%
2d.	Coursework emphasizes: <b>Making judgments</b> about the value of information, arguments, or methods	EVALUATE (LAC)	Very little	94	6%	805	5%	876	5%	7,646	5%	51	5%	846	5%	970	6%	7,770	5%
			Some	429	31%	4,673	28%	4,948	28%	42,728	26%	262	25%	4,195	25%	4,514	25%	39,713	23%
			Quite a bit	569	40%	7,086	43%	7,493	43%	70,181	42%	406	39%	6,860	40%	7,250	40%	72,889	40%
			Very much	318	22%	4,028	24%	4,183	24%	45,078	27%	323	31%	5,220	30%	5,634	30%	61,922	33%
			Total	1,410	100%	16,592	100%	17,500	100%	165,633	100%	1,042	100%	17,121	100%	18,368	100%	182,294	100%
2e.	Coursework emphasizes: <b>Applying</b> theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations	APPLYING (LAC)	Very little	59	4%	443	3%	501	3%	5,560	4%	29	3%	544	3%	600	4%	4,571	3%
			Some	319	22%	3,497	21%	3,698	21%	36,273	23%	193	18%	3,095	19%	3,293	19%	29,853	17%
			Quite a bit	588	41%	6,795	40%	7,102	40%	67,538	40%	395	38%	6,315	37%	6,724	37%	68,224	37%
			Very much	446	32%	5,877	35%	6,214	35%	56,339	33%	427	41%	7,192	41%	7,769	41%	79,729	42%
			Total	1,412	100%	16,612	100%	17,515	100%	165,710	100%	1,044	100%	17,146	100%	18,386	100%	182,377	100%
3a.	Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings	READASGN (LAC)	None	14	1%	88	1%	99	1%	1,002	1%	13	1%	202	1%	240	1%	2,249	1%
			1-4	251	18%	2,526	16%	2,674	17%	30,250	21%	228	22%	4,059	25%	4,567	26%	44,408	26%
			5-10	628	44%	7,287	44%	7,733	45%	68,738	43%	434	42%	6,796	40%	7,230	40%	67,959	38%
			11-20	356	24%	4,823	27%	5,042	27%	43,935	24%	227	22%	3,672	20%	3,833	20%	39,423	20%
			More than 20	171	12%	1,911	11%	1,979	11%	21,746	11%	142	13%	2,411	13%	2,512	13%	28,074	14%
			Total	1,420	100%	16,635	100%	17,527	100%	165,671	100%	1,044	100%	17,140	100%	18,382	100%	182,113	100%

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
3b. Number of books read on your own (not assigned) for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment	READOWN	None	359	26%	4,233	26%	4,484	26%	40,996	25%	194	19%	3,426	21%	3,719	21%	37,818	21%
		1-4	783	55%	9,273	55%	9,760	55%	91,156	54%	578	55%	9,475	55%	10,093	55%	98,141	54%
		5-10	190	13%	2,103	12%	2,216	12%	21,521	13%	177	17%	2,657	15%	2,891	16%	28,382	16%
		11-20	40	3%	567	4%	596	4%	6,337	4%	47	5%	870	5%	939	5%	9,295	5%
		More than 20	42	3%	451	3%	465	3%	5,783	4%	47	5%	712	4%	741	4%	8,614	5%
		Total		1,414	100%	16,627	100%	17,521	100%	165,793	100%	1,043	100%	17,140	100%	18,383	100%	182,250
3c. Number of written papers or reports of <u>20 pages or more</u>	WRITEMOR (LAC)	None	1,228	86%	14,212	85%	14,870	85%	136,665	81%	498	48%	8,862	52%	9,298	51%	87,387	50%
		1-4	114	8%	1,784	11%	1,985	11%	21,077	13%	466	44%	6,989	40%	7,618	41%	78,395	41%
		5-10	44	3%	313	2%	338	2%	4,374	3%	50	5%	888	5%	1,005	5%	11,181	6%
		11-20	20	1%	174	1%	187	1%	2,006	1%	17	2%	231	1%	277	2%	2,874	2%
		More than 20	13	1%	129	1%	128	1%	1,594	1%	13	1%	165	1%	181	1%	2,396	1%
		Total		1,419	100%	16,612	100%	17,508	100%	165,716	100%	1,044	100%	17,135	100%	18,379	100%	182,233
3d. Number of written papers or reports <u>between 5 and 19 pages</u>	WRITEMID (LAC)	None	143	10%	1,940	13%	2,188	14%	20,308	14%	72	7%	1,411	9%	1,539	9%	14,739	9%
		1-4	778	55%	8,640	52%	9,297	52%	87,381	53%	399	38%	7,548	45%	8,091	44%	77,160	44%
		5-10	388	27%	4,812	27%	4,817	27%	44,342	25%	369	35%	5,569	32%	5,955	32%	59,438	31%
		11-20	92	6%	1,040	6%	1,015	6%	11,228	6%	142	13%	1,953	11%	2,095	11%	22,443	11%
		More than 20	20	1%	208	2%	216	2%	2,539	2%	64	6%	668	4%	713	4%	8,493	4%
		Total		1,421	100%	16,640	100%	17,533	100%	165,798	100%	1,046	100%	17,149	100%	18,393	100%	182,273
3e. Number of written papers or reports of <u>fewer than 5 pages</u>	WRITESML (LAC)	None	20	1%	430	3%	488	3%	4,310	3%	31	3%	828	6%	928	6%	10,547	6%
		1-4	368	26%	5,359	33%	5,762	33%	48,305	31%	255	25%	5,478	33%	6,028	33%	58,973	34%
		5-10	494	34%	5,918	34%	6,210	34%	57,559	34%	311	30%	5,207	30%	5,554	30%	51,329	28%
		11-20	342	24%	3,414	20%	3,530	20%	36,639	21%	249	24%	3,318	19%	3,479	19%	33,941	18%
		More than 20	198	14%	1,531	10%	1,553	9%	19,122	11%	200	19%	2,322	13%	2,406	13%	27,502	14%
		Total		1,422	100%	16,652	100%	17,543	100%	165,935	100%	1,046	100%	17,153	100%	18,395	100%	182,292
4a. Number of problem sets that take you <b>more</b> than an hour to complete	PROBSETA	None	190	14%	2,001	12%	2,114	12%	21,136	13%	243	23%	4,202	23%	4,493	23%	36,647	19%
		1-2	526	37%	5,995	36%	6,313	36%	57,539	35%	333	32%	5,545	33%	5,901	33%	56,579	32%
		3-4	428	30%	5,230	31%	5,480	31%	53,206	32%	285	28%	4,334	26%	4,707	26%	51,249	29%
		5-6	127	9%	1,713	10%	1,817	10%	17,473	10%	79	8%	1,353	8%	1,403	8%	17,145	9%
		More than 6	145	10%	1,664	11%	1,764	11%	15,667	10%	99	9%	1,630	10%	1,787	10%	19,222	11%
		Total		1,416	100%	16,603	100%	17,488	100%	165,021	100%	1,039	100%	17,064	100%	18,291	100%	180,842
4b. Number of problem sets that take you <b>less</b> than an hour to complete	PROBSETB	None	154	11%	2,382	15%	2,600	15%	22,145	13%	302	29%	5,654	33%	6,313	34%	49,959	27%
		1-2	480	34%	6,149	37%	6,483	37%	57,436	36%	359	35%	6,022	36%	6,432	36%	63,432	36%
		3-4	360	25%	4,387	26%	4,571	26%	45,377	27%	230	22%	3,144	18%	3,283	18%	37,561	21%
		5-6	172	12%	1,762	10%	1,830	10%	19,736	12%	73	7%	1,021	6%	1,041	6%	13,961	8%
		More than 6	249	17%	1,888	12%	1,969	12%	19,971	12%	73	7%	1,167	7%	1,165	7%	15,345	9%
		Total		1,415	100%	16,568	100%	17,453	100%	164,665	100%	1,037	100%	17,008	100%	18,234	100%	180,258

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

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University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	First-Year Students				Seniors						
			UMass Amherst	Flagship Peers	Carnegie Class	U. S. NSSE 2008	UMass Amherst	Flagship Peers	Carnegie Class	U. S. NSSE 2008			
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
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	13	1%	72	1%	87	1%	1,032	1%	17	2%
			2	29	2%	133	1%	159	1%	2,002	1%	27	3%
			3	68	5%	466	3%	510	3%	5,899	4%	48	5%
			4	200	14%	1,633	11%	1,774	11%	20,732	13%	144	14%
			5	452	32%	4,735	29%	4,924	29%	49,875	30%	315	31%
			6	445	31%	6,111	35%	6,384	35%	54,659	32%	328	31%
			7 Very much	213	15%	3,486	21%	3,684	21%	31,451	19%	161	15%
			<b>Total</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,636</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,522</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>165,650</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>100%</b>
6a.	Attended an art exhibit, play, dance, music, theater, or other performance	ATDART07	Never	314	23%	3,125	21%	3,483	22%	32,446	23%	278	27%
			Sometimes	630	44%	8,290	50%	8,758	50%	75,294	45%	467	45%
			Often	297	21%	3,355	19%	3,352	18%	34,774	20%	190	19%
			Very often	166	12%	1,738	10%	1,800	11%	21,517	12%	104	10%
			<b>Total</b>	<b>1,407</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,508</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,393</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>164,031</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>100%</b>
6b.	Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	EXRCSE05	Never	151	10%	1,204	8%	1,262	8%	18,107	13%	99	9%
			Sometimes	435	31%	4,612	29%	4,865	29%	45,462	28%	320	31%
			Often	363	26%	4,695	29%	5,013	29%	41,860	26%	262	25%
			Very often	457	33%	5,985	35%	6,227	34%	58,321	33%	359	35%
			<b>Total</b>	<b>1,406</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,496</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,367</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>163,750</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>100%</b>
6c.	Participated in activities to enhance your spirituality (worship, meditation, prayer, etc.)	WORSHPO5	Never	852	60%	6,881	44%	7,465	44%	65,456	42%	588	57%
			Sometimes	337	24%	4,720	28%	4,906	28%	46,496	27%	269	26%
			Often	136	10%	2,342	14%	2,407	14%	24,700	15%	102	10%
			Very often	82	6%	2,550	14%	2,590	14%	27,187	16%	73	7%
			<b>Total</b>	<b>1,407</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,493</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,368</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>163,839</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>100%</b>
6d.	Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	OWNVIEW	Never	162	11%	1,515	10%	1,653	10%	14,693	10%	85	8%
			Sometimes	601	43%	6,612	40%	6,983	39%	62,682	38%	422	40%
			Often	429	31%	5,763	34%	6,045	34%	57,543	35%	344	33%
			Very often	209	15%	2,603	16%	2,689	16%	28,935	18%	188	18%
			<b>Total</b>	<b>1,401</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,493</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,370</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>163,853</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>100%</b>
6e.	Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	OTHRVIEW	Never	97	7%	870	6%	963	6%	8,817	6%	57	6%
			Sometimes	496	36%	5,979	37%	6,302	36%	55,218	34%	321	31%
			Often	523	37%	6,430	38%	6,722	38%	63,918	38%	412	40%
			Very often	290	20%	3,210	19%	3,384	20%	35,970	22%	245	23%
			<b>Total</b>	<b>1,406</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,489</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,371</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>163,923</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>100%</b>
6f.	Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	CHNGVIEW	Never	59	4%	542	4%	587	4%	5,561	4%	28	3%
			Sometimes	444	32%	5,542	34%	5,910	34%	51,816	32%	295	29%
			Often	593	42%	6,786	41%	7,104	40%	66,039	40%	448	43%
			Very often	311	22%	3,632	22%	3,781	22%	40,453	24%	269	26%
			<b>Total</b>	<b>1,407</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,502</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,382</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>163,869</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>a</sup> 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.



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7a. Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment	INTERN04 (EEE)	Have not decided	173	13%	1,575	10%	1,724	11%	19,682	13%	67	6%	1,060	7%	1,122	7%	12,535	8%
		Do not plan to do	45	3%	455	3%	484	3%	6,444	5%	185	18%	2,570	15%	2,764	15%	27,537	16%
		Plan to do	1,080	77%	13,250	80%	13,839	80%	122,198	74%	152	15%	3,062	19%	3,214	19%	37,153	23%
		Done	98	7%	1,021	7%	1,103	7%	12,958	8%	628	61%	10,147	59%	10,947	59%	101,572	53%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,301</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,150</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>161,282</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,839</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,047</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>178,797</b>	<b>100%</b>
7b. Community service or volunteer work	VOLNTR04 (EEE)	Have not decided	221	17%	1,581	11%	1,766	12%	20,329	14%	90	9%	1,205	8%	1,268	8%	15,150	9%
		Do not plan to do	100	8%	743	5%	854	6%	9,724	7%	217	22%	2,261	15%	2,565	16%	26,632	16%
		Plan to do	703	50%	7,047	44%	7,395	44%	65,676	41%	122	12%	1,833	12%	1,926	11%	23,891	15%
		Done	362	26%	6,908	40%	7,112	39%	65,250	38%	598	57%	11,525	66%	12,275	65%	112,842	60%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,279</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,127</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>160,979</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,027</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,824</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,034</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>178,515</b>	<b>100%</b>
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	331	24%	5,263	30%	5,475	30%	54,795	32%	82	8%	1,812	11%	1,904	11%	24,043	14%
		Do not plan to do	313	22%	4,886	30%	5,296	31%	41,213	26%	561	55%	9,645	58%	10,606	59%	91,588	51%
		Plan to do	299	22%	3,635	22%	3,663	21%	40,771	26%	52	5%	950	6%	973	6%	14,015	9%
		Done	449	32%	2,508	17%	2,707	18%	24,227	16%	333	32%	4,418	26%	4,550	25%	48,738	26%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,292</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,141</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>161,006</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,825</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,033</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>178,384</b>	<b>100%</b>
7d. Work on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements	RESRCH04 (SFI)	Have not decided	536	38%	6,140	37%	6,437	37%	61,946	38%	118	11%	2,054	13%	2,148	12%	27,302	17%
		Do not plan to do	254	18%	3,390	21%	3,497	21%	37,686	24%	499	48%	8,581	50%	9,137	50%	92,829	51%
		Plan to do	536	39%	6,012	38%	6,421	38%	52,961	32%	127	12%	1,883	12%	1,979	12%	20,503	13%
		Done	66	5%	737	5%	764	5%	8,158	5%	285	28%	4,292	25%	4,750	26%	37,688	20%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,279</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,119</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>160,751</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,810</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,014</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>178,322</b>	<b>100%</b>
7e. Foreign language coursework	FORLNG04 (EEE)	Have not decided	250	18%	2,064	14%	2,330	15%	27,482	18%	54	5%	735	5%	872	5%	13,529	8%
		Do not plan to do	355	26%	3,445	23%	3,702	23%	40,525	27%	389	39%	5,344	33%	6,014	34%	72,736	41%
		Plan to do	515	36%	4,806	30%	5,203	31%	52,923	33%	64	6%	906	6%	991	6%	14,424	9%
		Done	272	19%	5,952	34%	5,877	31%	39,993	22%	523	49%	9,856	56%	10,168	54%	77,851	41%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,267</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,112</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>160,923</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,841</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,045</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>178,540</b>	<b>100%</b>
7f. Study abroad	STDABR04 (EEE)	Have not decided	358	26%	3,910	25%	4,163	26%	43,763	28%	87	9%	1,436	9%	1,519	9%	20,017	13%
		Do not plan to do	178	13%	2,675	18%	2,813	18%	38,748	26%	650	64%	9,986	60%	10,679	60%	112,074	63%
		Plan to do	828	58%	9,377	55%	9,817	54%	74,028	43%	57	6%	1,365	9%	1,434	8%	14,419	9%
		Done	30	2%	326	2%	349	2%	4,326	3%	229	22%	4,034	22%	4,389	23%	31,836	15%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,288</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,142</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>160,865</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,821</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,021</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>178,346</b>	<b>100%</b>
7g. Independent study or self-designed major	INDSTD04 (EEE)	Have not decided	484	34%	5,142	31%	5,415	31%	53,688	33%	53	5%	1,336	8%	1,424	8%	18,920	12%
		Do not plan to do	625	45%	8,441	51%	8,893	51%	73,544	45%	605	59%	11,387	67%	12,239	67%	108,442	61%
		Plan to do	243	18%	2,255	15%	2,380	15%	27,727	18%	63	6%	981	6%	1,047	6%	14,664	9%
		Done	43	3%	434	3%	432	3%	5,837	4%	308	29%	3,097	18%	3,285	18%	36,240	18%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,395</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,272</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,120</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>160,796</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,801</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,995</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>178,266</b>	<b>100%</b>

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

			First-Year Students								Seniors							
			UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
Variable	Response Options		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7h. Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)	SNRX04 (EEE)	Have not decided	528	38%	7,013	43%	7,523	44%	59,640	38%	87	8%	1,505	10%	1,594	10%	16,944	11%
		Do not plan to do	139	10%	1,929	13%	2,005	12%	17,074	12%	438	42%	6,359	38%	6,751	39%	43,070	26%
		Plan to do	698	50%	7,098	43%	7,348	42%	81,365	48%	188	19%	3,991	24%	4,080	23%	53,432	31%
		Done	29	2%	252	2%	256	2%	2,931	2%	318	31%	4,983	28%	5,615	29%	65,199	33%
	Total		1,394	100%	16,292	100%	17,132	100%	161,010	100%	1,031	100%	16,838	100%	18,040	100%	178,645	100%
8a. Quality of relationships with other students	ENVSTU (SCE)	1 Unfriendly, Unsupportive, Sense of alienation	23	2%	140	1%	159	1%	1,754	1%	17	2%	158	1%	181	1%	1,594	1%
		2	36	3%	393	3%	419	3%	4,411	3%	25	3%	368	2%	425	2%	4,078	2%
		3	72	5%	779	5%	835	5%	8,609	6%	67	6%	840	5%	940	5%	8,264	5%
		4	171	13%	1,869	12%	2,014	13%	19,117	13%	121	12%	1,762	11%	1,972	12%	18,981	11%
		5	265	19%	3,414	21%	3,645	21%	32,263	21%	193	19%	3,399	21%	3,709	21%	35,124	20%
		6	422	31%	5,004	31%	5,234	31%	46,390	28%	298	29%	5,151	30%	5,492	30%	51,467	28%
		7 Friendly, Supportive, Sense of belonging	405	29%	4,710	28%	4,835	27%	48,542	29%	306	29%	5,160	29%	5,323	29%	59,111	32%
		Total		1,394	100%	16,309	100%	17,141	100%	161,086	100%	1,027	100%	16,838	100%	18,042	100%	178,619
8b. Quality of relationships with faculty members	ENVFAC (SCE)	1 Unavailable, Unhelpful, Unsympathetic	11	1%	103	1%	125	1%	1,252	1%	9	1%	154	1%	196	1%	1,604	1%
		2	60	4%	480	3%	564	3%	3,826	3%	28	3%	515	3%	596	3%	4,056	3%
		3	160	11%	1,362	9%	1,501	9%	10,068	7%	79	8%	1,140	7%	1,281	7%	8,718	6%
		4	346	25%	3,466	22%	3,783	22%	26,987	18%	180	18%	2,697	16%	3,013	17%	22,094	14%
		5	392	28%	4,949	30%	5,168	30%	42,574	26%	291	28%	4,734	28%	5,031	28%	40,609	23%
		6	273	19%	4,038	24%	4,106	23%	44,995	26%	280	27%	4,783	27%	5,048	27%	53,953	29%
		7 Available, Helpful, Sympathetic	152	11%	1,915	12%	1,908	11%	31,462	19%	162	16%	2,817	16%	2,882	16%	47,657	25%
		Total		1,394	100%	16,313	100%	17,155	100%	161,164	100%	1,029	100%	16,840	100%	18,047	100%	178,691
8c. Quality of relationships with administrative personnel and offices	ENVADM (SCE)	1 Unhelpful, Inconsiderate, Rigid	66	5%	394	3%	416	3%	4,374	3%	79	8%	773	5%	870	5%	8,713	5%
		2	152	11%	1,036	6%	1,128	6%	9,573	7%	149	15%	1,498	9%	1,685	10%	14,357	9%
		3	225	16%	2,112	13%	2,258	13%	17,872	12%	181	18%	2,205	13%	2,465	13%	20,759	12%
		4	402	29%	4,415	27%	4,704	27%	38,319	24%	233	22%	3,977	23%	4,288	24%	38,153	22%
		5	272	19%	3,962	24%	4,155	24%	37,718	23%	179	17%	3,723	22%	3,879	21%	37,938	21%
		6	159	11%	2,781	17%	2,841	17%	30,740	18%	134	13%	2,803	16%	2,969	16%	32,198	17%
		7 Helpful, Considerate, Flexible	114	8%	1,594	10%	1,629	10%	22,382	14%	76	7%	1,842	11%	1,863	11%	26,419	14%
		Total		1,390	100%	16,294	100%	17,131	100%	160,978	100%	1,031	100%	16,821	100%	18,019	100%	178,537

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**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

			First-Year Students								Seniors							
Item	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
9a. Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)	ACADPR01 (LAC)	0 hr/wk	7	1%	44	0%	52	0%	569	0%	7	1%	67	0%	72	0%	628	0%
		1-5 hr/wk	196	15%	1,605	10%	1,748	11%	23,021	17%	152	15%	2,427	15%	2,592	15%	28,227	17%
		6-10 hr/wk	347	25%	3,679	23%	3,894	24%	39,726	26%	227	22%	4,130	24%	4,362	24%	44,800	26%
		11-15 hr/wk	329	24%	3,926	24%	4,046	24%	36,347	22%	234	23%	3,527	20%	3,756	20%	36,039	20%
		16-20 hr/wk	266	19%	3,267	20%	3,389	19%	27,870	16%	179	18%	2,767	17%	2,958	17%	28,758	16%
		21-25 hr/wk	143	10%	1,876	11%	1,963	11%	16,408	9%	107	10%	1,736	10%	1,868	10%	17,026	9%
		26-30 hr/wk	51	4%	967	6%	1,014	6%	8,366	4%	61	6%	963	6%	1,048	6%	10,203	5%
		30+ hr/wk	51	4%	844	6%	932	6%	7,514	4%	58	6%	1,133	7%	1,279	7%	11,811	6%
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,390</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,208</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,038</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>159,821</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,750</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,935</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>177,492</b>	<b>100%</b>
9b. Working for pay <u>on campus</u>	WORKON01	0 hr/wk	1,041	75%	13,144	80%	13,807	81%	122,304	80%	518	51%	11,398	68%	12,244	68%	124,477	74%
		1-5 hr/wk	48	3%	497	3%	507	3%	8,176	4%	55	5%	801	5%	840	5%	10,101	4%
		6-10 hr/wk	134	10%	1,136	7%	1,221	7%	14,704	7%	150	15%	1,545	9%	1,656	9%	16,877	8%
		11-15 hr/wk	103	8%	836	6%	895	5%	7,759	5%	147	14%	1,352	8%	1,466	8%	11,153	6%
		16-20 hr/wk	42	3%	429	3%	434	3%	4,248	3%	96	9%	1,031	6%	1,089	6%	8,954	5%
		21-25 hr/wk	9	1%	87	1%	89	1%	941	1%	29	3%	286	2%	299	2%	2,296	1%
		26-30 hr/wk	4	0%	24	0%	21	0%	333	0%	11	1%	115	1%	113	1%	1,005	1%
		30+ hr/wk	5	0%	44	0%	50	0%	1,256	1%	16	2%	221	2%	221	1%	2,512	2%
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,386</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,197</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,024</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>159,721</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,022</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,749</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,928</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>177,375</b>	<b>100%</b>
9c. Working for pay <u>off campus</u>	WORKOF01	0 hr/wk	1,153	84%	13,137	81%	13,863	80%	109,989	65%	634	63%	9,282	55%	9,898	55%	77,485	41%
		1-5 hr/wk	59	4%	631	4%	656	4%	7,165	4%	65	6%	925	5%	975	5%	8,944	5%
		6-10 hr/wk	55	4%	667	4%	681	4%	7,470	5%	73	7%	1,276	8%	1,351	7%	11,261	6%
		11-15 hr/wk	58	4%	607	4%	603	4%	7,831	5%	72	7%	1,410	8%	1,495	8%	12,059	7%
		16-20 hr/wk	24	2%	552	4%	601	4%	8,587	6%	74	7%	1,446	9%	1,568	9%	16,142	9%
		21-25 hr/wk	14	1%	284	2%	302	2%	6,035	5%	37	3%	928	6%	1,050	6%	12,397	7%
		26-30 hr/wk	9	1%	125	1%	137	1%	3,504	3%	29	3%	493	3%	570	3%	8,410	5%
		30+ hr/wk	8	1%	159	1%	146	1%	8,992	8%	35	4%	958	6%	1,003	6%	30,634	20%
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,380</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,162</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,989</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>159,573</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,019</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,718</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,910</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>177,332</b>	<b>100%</b>
9d. Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.)	COCURR01 (EEE)	0 hr/wk	469	33%	4,020	27%	4,359	28%	55,846	40%	404	39%	5,289	34%	5,729	34%	76,646	47%
		1-5 hr/wk	516	37%	5,974	36%	6,313	36%	50,950	30%	358	35%	5,690	33%	6,052	33%	50,987	27%
		6-10 hr/wk	177	13%	3,045	18%	3,178	18%	23,238	13%	120	12%	2,651	15%	2,869	15%	21,446	11%
		11-15 hr/wk	101	7%	1,540	9%	1,536	9%	13,181	7%	62	6%	1,383	8%	1,432	8%	11,438	6%
		16-20 hr/wk	59	4%	803	5%	815	5%	7,872	4%	35	4%	784	4%	817	4%	7,348	4%
		21-25 hr/wk	27	2%	394	2%	399	2%	3,994	2%	17	2%	382	2%	404	2%	3,911	2%
		26-30 hr/wk	17	1%	149	1%	153	1%	1,725	1%	7	1%	177	1%	188	1%	1,875	1%
		30+ hr/wk	23	2%	282	2%	289	2%	3,037	2%	20	2%	403	3%	455	3%	3,888	2%
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,389</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,207</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,042</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>159,843</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,759</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,946</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>177,539</b>	<b>100%</b>

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

			First-Year Students								Seniors							
Item	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
9e. Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, etc.)	SOCIAL05	0 hr/wk	11	1%	117	1%	134	1%	1,878	1%	11	1%	135	1%	163	1%	2,390	1%
		1-5 hr/wk	193	14%	2,975	18%	3,060	18%	37,313	23%	186	18%	3,426	21%	3,650	20%	51,161	29%
		6-10 hr/wk	320	22%	4,683	28%	4,984	29%	46,082	28%	262	25%	4,901	29%	5,287	30%	53,978	30%
		11-15 hr/wk	344	25%	3,800	23%	3,976	23%	33,237	21%	235	23%	3,745	22%	3,969	22%	33,302	19%
		16-20 hr/wk	241	18%	2,263	14%	2,353	14%	19,650	12%	144	14%	2,340	14%	2,491	14%	18,853	11%
		21-25 hr/wk	123	9%	1,051	7%	1,103	7%	9,367	6%	78	8%	986	6%	1,041	6%	7,974	5%
		26-30 hr/wk	53	4%	483	3%	513	3%	4,332	3%	40	4%	416	3%	465	3%	3,411	2%
		30+ hr/wk	98	8%	794	5%	871	6%	7,697	5%	64	7%	782	5%	852	5%	6,209	4%
Total			1,383	100%	16,166	100%	16,994	100%	159,556	100%	1,020	100%	16,731	100%	17,918	100%	177,278	100%
9f. Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.)	CAREDE01	0 hr/wk	1,209	87%	14,070	86%	14,870	86%	119,964	71%	822	81%	13,511	79%	14,500	80%	113,065	61%
		1-5 hr/wk	77	6%	1,130	7%	1,156	7%	18,015	12%	90	9%	1,313	9%	1,445	9%	20,113	12%
		6-10 hr/wk	31	2%	372	3%	382	2%	7,304	5%	51	5%	564	4%	634	4%	10,287	6%
		11-15 hr/wk	39	3%	255	2%	256	2%	4,046	3%	15	2%	330	2%	380	2%	6,285	4%
		16-20 hr/wk	12	1%	130	1%	132	1%	2,412	2%	13	1%	230	1%	235	1%	4,882	3%
		21-25 hr/wk	9	1%	43	0%	51	0%	1,054	1%	5	0%	96	1%	96	1%	2,531	2%
		26-30 hr/wk	1	0%	16	0%	16	0%	686	1%	4	0%	74	0%	72	0%	1,853	1%
		30+ hr/wk	4	0%	128	1%	106	1%	5,821	4%	17	1%	596	4%	533	3%	18,028	11%
Total			1,382	100%	16,144	100%	16,969	100%	159,302	100%	1,017	100%	16,714	100%	17,895	100%	177,044	100%
9g. Commuting to class (driving, walking, etc.)	COMMUTE	0 hr/wk	147	11%	1,248	8%	1,410	8%	31,148	16%	56	6%	834	5%	869	5%	22,188	10%
		1-5 hr/wk	865	62%	11,328	69%	11,930	69%	98,175	61%	707	70%	11,766	69%	12,591	69%	111,129	62%
		6-10 hr/wk	247	18%	2,583	16%	2,619	16%	18,844	14%	171	16%	3,089	20%	3,346	20%	29,315	19%
		11-15 hr/wk	79	6%	611	4%	622	4%	6,262	5%	57	5%	691	5%	743	5%	8,788	6%
		16-20 hr/wk	31	2%	237	2%	245	2%	2,570	2%	14	1%	191	1%	209	1%	2,936	2%
		21-25 hr/wk	6	0%	69	0%	71	0%	962	1%	9	1%	63	0%	67	0%	1,068	1%
		26-30 hr/wk	4	0%	27	0%	27	0%	430	0%	1	0%	42	0%	37	0%	482	0%
		30+ hr/wk	8	1%	89	1%	97	1%	1,298	1%	6	1%	74	0%	81	0%	1,598	1%
Total			1,387	100%	16,192	100%	17,021	100%	159,689	100%	1,021	100%	16,750	100%	17,943	100%	177,504	100%
10a. Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work	ENVSCHOL (LAC)	Very little	46	3%	217	2%	239	2%	2,594	2%	31	3%	382	2%	387	2%	3,550	2%
		Some	345	25%	2,297	15%	2,384	15%	24,200	17%	266	26%	2,840	17%	2,971	17%	27,741	17%
		Quite a bit	638	47%	7,495	47%	7,711	46%	71,639	46%	474	46%	7,722	46%	8,092	46%	78,798	45%
		Very much	345	25%	6,026	37%	6,509	37%	59,550	35%	250	24%	5,678	34%	6,358	35%	66,174	36%
Total			1,374	100%	16,035	100%	16,843	100%	157,983	100%	1,021	100%	16,622	100%	17,808	100%	176,263	100%
10b. Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically	ENVSUPRT (SCE)	Very little	61	4%	363	3%	408	3%	3,781	3%	72	7%	842	6%	949	6%	7,455	5%
		Some	354	26%	3,215	21%	3,419	21%	28,565	20%	338	33%	4,386	27%	4,817	27%	38,674	24%
		Quite a bit	623	46%	7,274	46%	7,649	46%	68,930	44%	420	41%	7,459	44%	7,939	44%	76,967	44%
		Very much	324	23%	5,151	31%	5,334	30%	56,373	33%	191	18%	3,917	23%	4,084	23%	52,890	28%
Total			1,362	100%	16,003	100%	16,810	100%	157,649	100%	1,021	100%	16,604	100%	17,789	100%	175,986	100%

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	First-Year Students				Seniors											
			UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
10c. Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds	ENVDIVRS (EEE)	Very little	170	13%	1,560	10%	1,619	10%	17,459	12%	216	21%	2,842	18%	3,210	18%	28,993	17%
		Some	469	35%	4,801	30%	5,101	30%	48,085	31%	384	38%	6,095	36%	6,585	36%	60,697	34%
		Quite a bit	458	33%	5,537	35%	5,830	35%	52,486	33%	279	28%	4,743	29%	4,986	28%	51,583	29%
		Very much	270	20%	4,102	25%	4,264	25%	39,599	24%	139	14%	2,916	18%	3,000	17%	34,657	19%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,367</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,814</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>157,629</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,596</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,781</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>175,930</b>	<b>100%</b>
10d. Helping you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	ENVNACAD (SCE)	Very little	349	25%	3,711	24%	3,973	24%	34,643	24%	434	43%	6,228	38%	6,855	39%	60,038	36%
		Some	564	41%	6,707	41%	7,067	41%	61,101	38%	385	38%	6,634	40%	7,068	40%	66,374	37%
		Quite a bit	334	25%	3,922	25%	4,090	25%	41,728	26%	143	14%	2,695	16%	2,794	16%	33,536	18%
		Very much	122	9%	1,652	10%	1,670	10%	20,082	12%	55	5%	1,019	6%	1,047	6%	15,839	9%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,992</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>157,554</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,576</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,764</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>175,787</b>	<b>100%</b>
10e. Providing the support you need to thrive socially	ENVSOCAL (SCE)	Very little	198	14%	2,003	13%	2,160	13%	22,584	16%	256	26%	3,514	22%	4,031	23%	40,509	24%
		Some	512	37%	5,639	36%	6,109	36%	55,844	36%	415	41%	6,604	40%	7,159	40%	68,890	39%
		Quite a bit	470	35%	5,654	35%	5,862	35%	53,476	33%	261	26%	4,643	28%	4,763	27%	46,550	26%
		Very much	184	14%	2,670	16%	2,649	15%	25,238	16%	83	8%	1,812	10%	1,802	10%	19,482	11%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,364</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,966</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,780</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>157,142</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,573</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,755</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>175,431</b>	<b>100%</b>
10f. Attending campus events and activities (special speakers, cultural performances, athletic events, etc.)	ENVEVENT	Very little	79	6%	679	5%	781	5%	12,292	9%	90	9%	1,237	8%	1,391	8%	22,728	14%
		Some	397	29%	3,575	24%	3,888	24%	37,683	25%	336	33%	4,547	28%	5,138	29%	51,508	31%
		Quite a bit	561	41%	6,742	42%	7,096	42%	61,725	38%	413	41%	6,855	41%	7,322	41%	64,014	35%
		Very much	337	24%	5,015	30%	5,057	29%	45,825	27%	177	17%	3,944	23%	3,907	21%	37,314	20%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,374</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,011</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,822</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>157,525</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,016</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,583</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,758</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>175,564</b>	<b>100%</b>
10g. Using computers in academic work	ENVCOMPT	Very little	31	2%	229	2%	245	2%	3,231	2%	17	2%	201	1%	222	1%	3,066	2%
		Some	180	13%	1,839	12%	1,885	12%	20,883	13%	110	11%	1,401	9%	1,466	9%	16,327	10%
		Quite a bit	466	34%	5,514	34%	5,613	34%	55,370	35%	306	30%	4,581	28%	4,733	27%	51,044	29%
		Very much	693	50%	8,423	52%	9,069	53%	78,245	49%	587	57%	10,441	62%	11,388	63%	105,644	59%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,370</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,005</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,812</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>157,729</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,624</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,809</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>176,081</b>	<b>100%</b>
11a. Acquiring a broad general education	GNGENLED	Very little	18	1%	232	2%	257	2%	3,423	3%	22	2%	374	2%	435	3%	4,034	3%
		Some	197	15%	2,006	14%	2,206	14%	21,600	15%	136	14%	2,077	13%	2,345	14%	21,355	13%
		Quite a bit	616	46%	6,861	44%	7,207	44%	65,607	43%	389	38%	6,043	37%	6,497	37%	62,284	36%
		Very much	523	38%	6,694	40%	6,919	40%	64,667	40%	470	46%	7,979	48%	8,354	47%	86,636	48%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,354</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,793</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,589</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>155,297</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,473</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,631</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>174,309</b>	<b>100%</b>
11b. Acquiring job or work-related knowledge and skills	GNWORK	Very little	159	11%	1,302	9%	1,358	9%	13,075	10%	66	6%	1,144	7%	1,276	8%	10,516	7%
		Some	459	34%	4,468	28%	4,736	29%	42,252	28%	259	26%	3,625	22%	3,884	22%	34,077	20%
		Quite a bit	450	34%	5,820	37%	6,085	37%	56,570	36%	323	32%	5,359	33%	5,746	33%	57,701	33%
		Very much	280	21%	4,164	26%	4,374	26%	43,075	27%	365	36%	6,315	38%	6,697	37%	71,769	40%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,348</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,754</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,553</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>154,972</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,443</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,603</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>174,063</b>	<b>100%</b>

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	First-Year Students				Seniors											
			UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
11c. Writing clearly and effectively	GNWRITE	Very little	83	6%	829	6%	980	6%	6,580	5%	42	4%	695	5%	821	5%	6,408	4%
		Some	346	26%	3,719	25%	4,062	25%	32,088	22%	237	24%	3,436	21%	3,773	22%	31,403	19%
		Quite a bit	578	43%	6,511	41%	6,834	41%	63,610	41%	410	41%	6,374	39%	6,869	39%	65,135	38%
		Very much	347	25%	4,706	29%	4,685	28%	52,818	33%	327	32%	5,948	35%	6,147	35%	71,233	39%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,354</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,765</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,561</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>155,096</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,016</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,453</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,610</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>174,179</b>	<b>100%</b>
11d. Speaking clearly and effectively	GNSPEAK	Very little	188	14%	1,570	11%	1,744	11%	11,446	8%	91	9%	1,099	8%	1,228	8%	9,159	6%
		Some	477	36%	4,712	30%	5,081	30%	40,765	27%	304	30%	4,209	26%	4,580	26%	37,068	22%
		Quite a bit	443	33%	5,840	37%	6,074	36%	59,515	38%	367	36%	5,982	36%	6,450	36%	64,421	37%
		Very much	243	18%	3,620	23%	3,644	22%	43,281	27%	251	25%	5,158	30%	5,345	30%	63,437	35%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,351</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,742</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,543</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>155,007</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,448</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,603</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>174,085</b>	<b>100%</b>
11e. Thinking critically and analytically	GNANALY	Very little	36	3%	299	2%	316	2%	3,283	2%	25	3%	313	2%	339	2%	2,946	2%
		Some	267	20%	2,245	15%	2,373	15%	22,135	15%	140	14%	1,763	11%	1,900	11%	18,043	11%
		Quite a bit	585	43%	6,634	42%	6,919	42%	63,104	41%	406	40%	5,782	35%	6,108	35%	60,830	36%
		Very much	461	34%	6,579	41%	6,943	41%	66,402	41%	443	44%	8,581	52%	9,251	52%	92,183	51%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,349</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,757</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,551</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>154,924</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,439</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,598</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>174,002</b>	<b>100%</b>
11f. Analyzing quantitative problems	GNQUANT	Very little	73	5%	673	4%	689	4%	8,031	5%	71	7%	845	5%	903	5%	8,185	5%
		Some	366	27%	3,425	22%	3,511	22%	36,195	24%	239	23%	3,575	21%	3,753	21%	35,701	21%
		Quite a bit	552	41%	6,457	41%	6,774	41%	62,209	40%	360	35%	5,629	35%	5,939	34%	62,333	36%
		Very much	361	27%	5,186	33%	5,556	33%	48,293	31%	341	35%	6,369	40%	6,988	40%	67,609	39%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,741</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,530</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>154,728</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,418</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,583</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>173,828</b>	<b>100%</b>
11g. Using computing and information technology	GNCMPTS	Very little	91	6%	793	5%	783	5%	8,070	6%	56	5%	572	4%	587	4%	6,319	4%
		Some	335	25%	3,347	21%	3,399	21%	33,280	21%	221	21%	2,812	17%	2,916	16%	28,885	16%
		Quite a bit	490	36%	5,963	37%	6,162	37%	58,322	37%	352	35%	5,655	34%	5,946	34%	59,716	34%
		Very much	435	32%	5,660	36%	6,218	37%	55,401	36%	388	38%	7,420	46%	8,165	46%	79,237	46%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,351</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,763</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,562</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>155,073</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,459</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,614</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>174,157</b>	<b>100%</b>
11h. Working effectively with others	GNOTHERS	Very little	111	8%	715	5%	799	5%	7,025	5%	57	6%	615	4%	684	4%	5,807	4%
		Some	374	28%	3,771	25%	4,008	25%	34,388	23%	221	22%	3,019	19%	3,379	20%	29,303	18%
		Quite a bit	510	38%	6,288	39%	6,592	39%	61,072	39%	371	37%	5,955	36%	6,390	36%	62,634	36%
		Very much	357	26%	4,971	31%	5,146	30%	52,459	33%	367	36%	6,853	40%	7,145	39%	76,280	42%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,745</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,545</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>154,944</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,016</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,442</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,598</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>174,024</b>	<b>100%</b>
11i. Voting in local, state, or national elections	GNCITIZN	Very little	406	30%	4,008	26%	4,536	27%	47,765	31%	338	34%	5,218	33%	5,784	33%	61,308	36%
		Some	430	32%	4,952	31%	5,238	31%	47,445	31%	335	33%	5,370	32%	5,749	32%	53,966	31%
		Quite a bit	330	25%	3,901	25%	3,931	25%	34,335	23%	206	20%	3,380	21%	3,577	21%	33,038	19%
		Very much	177	13%	2,684	18%	2,620	17%	22,947	16%	124	12%	2,323	14%	2,316	13%	23,981	14%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,343</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,545</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,325</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,492</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,291</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,426</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,293</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>a</sup> 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.

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

			First-Year Students								Seniors							
Item	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
11j. Learning effectively on your own	GNINQ	Very little	76	6%	641	4%	674	4%	7,245	5%	49	5%	757	5%	851	5%	8,939	6%
		Some	335	25%	3,151	21%	3,371	21%	34,420	23%	196	20%	3,000	18%	3,195	18%	32,144	19%
		Quite a bit	587	44%	6,883	44%	7,224	44%	65,674	43%	437	44%	6,751	41%	7,186	41%	68,546	40%
		Very much	344	25%	4,849	30%	5,039	30%	44,999	29%	321	32%	5,768	35%	6,175	35%	62,605	35%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,342</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,524</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,308</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,338</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,276</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,407</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,234</b>	<b>100%</b>
11k. Understanding yourself	GNSELF	Very little	133	10%	1,430	10%	1,546	10%	14,719	11%	110	11%	1,689	11%	1,924	11%	18,223	12%
		Some	392	30%	4,062	26%	4,409	27%	39,135	26%	247	25%	4,030	25%	4,330	25%	40,849	24%
		Quite a bit	505	37%	5,907	38%	6,124	37%	55,579	36%	359	36%	5,630	34%	6,010	34%	58,078	33%
		Very much	310	23%	4,121	26%	4,221	26%	42,880	28%	287	28%	4,930	30%	5,146	29%	55,118	31%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,520</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,300</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,313</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,279</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,410</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,268</b>	<b>100%</b>
11l. Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	GNDIVERS	Very little	162	12%	1,609	11%	1,674	11%	18,355	12%	156	16%	2,002	12%	2,286	13%	23,636	14%
		Some	451	34%	5,018	32%	5,340	33%	47,879	31%	318	32%	5,529	34%	5,914	34%	54,776	32%
		Quite a bit	455	34%	5,474	35%	5,691	35%	51,420	33%	327	32%	5,185	32%	5,501	32%	53,571	31%
		Very much	271	20%	3,430	22%	3,609	22%	34,695	23%	198	20%	3,556	22%	3,697	22%	40,220	24%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,531</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,314</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,349</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,272</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,398</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,203</b>	<b>100%</b>
11m. Solving complex real-world problems	GNPROBSV	Very little	132	9%	1,398	9%	1,452	9%	15,039	11%	120	12%	1,485	9%	1,630	10%	16,825	10%
		Some	458	35%	5,053	32%	5,302	32%	48,612	32%	314	31%	4,684	29%	4,930	28%	48,049	28%
		Quite a bit	497	37%	5,775	37%	6,075	37%	55,476	36%	319	32%	5,857	36%	6,254	36%	61,710	35%
		Very much	249	19%	3,299	21%	3,484	21%	33,241	22%	249	25%	4,254	26%	4,602	26%	45,656	26%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,336</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,525</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,313</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,368</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,280</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,416</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,240</b>	<b>100%</b>
11n. Developing a personal code of values and ethics	GNETHICS	Very little	179	13%	1,949	14%	2,110	14%	18,119	13%	171	17%	2,360	15%	2,700	16%	23,065	15%
		Some	432	32%	4,635	30%	4,972	30%	42,457	28%	294	29%	4,695	29%	5,102	30%	45,032	27%
		Quite a bit	474	36%	5,410	35%	5,602	34%	52,288	34%	312	31%	5,174	31%	5,452	31%	53,939	30%
		Very much	254	19%	3,535	22%	3,625	22%	39,460	25%	222	22%	4,037	24%	4,145	23%	50,185	28%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,529</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,309</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,324</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,266</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,399</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,221</b>	<b>100%</b>
11o. Contributing to the welfare of your community	GNCOMMUN	Very little	261	19%	2,251	16%	2,481	17%	24,850	18%	227	23%	2,844	19%	3,278	20%	30,938	20%
		Some	517	39%	5,398	35%	5,767	35%	51,055	34%	379	38%	5,764	36%	6,213	36%	55,579	33%
		Quite a bit	387	29%	5,146	32%	5,295	32%	47,415	30%	258	26%	4,665	28%	4,842	28%	49,017	27%
		Very much	175	13%	2,720	16%	2,757	16%	29,022	18%	137	14%	3,008	17%	3,078	17%	36,671	20%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,515</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,300</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,342</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,281</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,411</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,205</b>	<b>100%</b>
11p. Developing a deepened sense of spirituality	GNSPIRIT	Very little	642	48%	6,277	41%	6,852	42%	53,083	37%	581	58%	8,671	54%	9,595	56%	76,747	47%
		Some	342	26%	4,375	28%	4,542	27%	41,973	27%	214	21%	3,930	23%	4,130	23%	42,806	24%
		Quite a bit	234	17%	2,942	19%	2,982	18%	31,923	20%	114	11%	2,076	13%	2,049	12%	26,789	15%
		Very much	123	9%	1,938	13%	1,944	12%	25,310	16%	91	9%	1,590	10%	1,623	9%	25,777	14%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,341</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,532</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,320</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,289</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,267</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,397</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,119</b>	<b>100%</b>

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Engagement Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
12. Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your institution?	ADVISE	Poor	143	10%	893	6%	965	6%	7,871	6%	167	16%	2,033	12%	2,206	12%	16,488	11%
		Fair	356	26%	2,947	19%	3,137	18%	26,154	18%	258	26%	4,075	24%	4,372	24%	34,962	21%
		Good	623	46%	7,196	46%	7,661	47%	72,047	47%	396	39%	6,354	39%	6,801	39%	69,507	40%
		Excellent	231	17%	4,683	29%	4,748	29%	48,255	30%	192	19%	3,955	24%	4,196	24%	52,952	28%
		Total	1,353	100%	15,719	100%	16,511	100%	154,327	100%	1,013	100%	16,417	100%	17,575	100%	173,909	100%
13. How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?	ENTIREXP	Poor	29	2%	199	2%	233	2%	2,761	2%	17	2%	313	2%	377	2%	3,670	2%
		Fair	181	13%	1,408	10%	1,534	10%	16,391	12%	108	11%	1,701	11%	1,843	11%	19,104	12%
		Good	759	56%	7,669	49%	8,061	49%	76,681	51%	539	53%	7,464	45%	8,050	46%	80,819	48%
		Excellent	388	28%	6,437	39%	6,674	39%	58,465	35%	350	34%	6,931	42%	7,296	41%	70,302	38%
		Total	1,357	100%	15,713	100%	16,502	100%	154,298	100%	1,014	100%	16,409	100%	17,566	100%	173,895	100%
14. If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?	SAMECOLL	Definitely no	65	5%	381	3%	418	3%	6,417	4%	47	5%	649	4%	725	4%	8,930	5%
		Probably no	181	13%	1,436	10%	1,547	10%	18,208	12%	129	13%	1,629	10%	1,775	10%	22,126	13%
		Probably yes	574	43%	5,545	36%	5,884	36%	60,866	40%	410	40%	5,540	34%	6,029	35%	64,495	38%
		Definitely yes	536	39%	8,370	52%	8,675	51%	68,902	43%	428	42%	8,601	51%	9,046	51%	78,361	44%
		Total	1,356	100%	15,732	100%	16,524	100%	154,393	100%	1,014	100%	16,419	100%	17,575	100%	173,912	100%

IPEDS: 166629

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**National Survey  
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**NSSE 2008 Background Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
15. Age	AGE	19 or younger	1,319	97%	15,081	95%	15,780	95%	134,274	83%	3	0%	79	1%	91	1%	571	0%
		20-23	37	3%	519	4%	618	4%	10,561	8%	887	87%	13,740	82%	14,810	82%	116,629	62%
		24-29	2	0%	90	1%	85	0%	3,653	3%	81	8%	1,581	11%	1,707	11%	26,056	18%
		30-39	1	0%	39	0%	38	0%	3,425	3%	21	2%	624	4%	623	4%	15,723	10%
		40-55	0	0%	22	0%	21	0%	2,603	2%	21	2%	358	2%	316	2%	13,672	9%
		Over 55	1	0%	6	0%	6	0%	228	0%	2	0%	39	0%	34	0%	1,184	1%
		Total	1,360	100%	15,757	100%	16,548	100%	154,744	100%	1,015	100%	16,421	100%	17,581	100%	173,835	100%
16. Sex	SEX	Male	543	48%	6,081	48%	6,513	48%	55,083	45%	445	51%	6,771	49%	7,386	49%	62,000	43%
		Female	817	52%	9,672	52%	10,032	52%	99,648	55%	570	49%	9,653	51%	10,195	51%	111,866	57%
		Total	1,360	100%	15,753	100%	16,545	100%	154,731	100%	1,015	100%	16,424	100%	17,581	100%	173,866	100%
17. Are you an international student or foreign national?	INTERNAT	No	1,313	97%	15,001	95%	15,668	95%	146,047	94%	979	97%	15,668	95%	16,742	95%	165,632	95%
		Yes	44	3%	730	5%	850	5%	8,204	6%	34	3%	728	5%	810	5%	7,941	5%
		Total	1,357	100%	15,731	100%	16,518	100%	154,251	100%	1,013	100%	16,396	100%	17,552	100%	173,573	100%
18. Racial or ethnic identification	RACE05	American Indian or other Native American	11	1%	146	1%	88	1%	1,247	1%	5	1%	126	1%	77	0%	1,362	1%
		Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander	132	10%	1,671	12%	1,926	12%	9,903	7%	63	6%	1,517	11%	1,695	11%	9,267	7%
		Black or African American	39	3%	743	5%	776	5%	11,036	9%	23	2%	599	3%	643	3%	11,887	8%
		White (non-Hispanic)	991	73%	11,208	69%	11,522	68%	108,095	65%	778	77%	12,056	70%	12,736	70%	123,234	67%
		Mexican or Mexican American	2	0%	190	2%	195	2%	3,656	3%	2	0%	158	2%	187	2%	4,367	3%
		Puerto Rican	8	1%	100	1%	122	1%	1,161	1%	2	0%	67	0%	89	1%	1,075	1%
		Other Hispanic or Latino	25	2%	348	2%	435	3%	4,025	4%	19	2%	316	2%	422	3%	4,443	3%
		Multiracial	30	2%	361	2%	423	3%	4,003	3%	23	2%	397	3%	442	3%	3,804	2%
		Other	21	2%	182	1%	216	1%	2,330	2%	24	2%	186	1%	209	1%	2,542	2%
		I prefer not to respond	98	7%	799	5%	831	5%	8,994	6%	75	8%	989	6%	1,073	6%	11,787	7%
		Total	1,357	100%	15,748	100%	16,534	100%	154,450	100%	1,014	100%	16,411	100%	17,573	100%	173,768	100%
19. What is your current classification in college?	CLASS	Freshman/first year	1,314	97%	14,496	90%	15,004	88%	133,207	82%	0	0%	15	0%	17	0%	179	0%
		Sophomore	39	3%	1,041	9%	1,309	10%	16,608	14%	1	0%	75	0%	53	0%	721	1%
		Junior	2	0%	160	1%	173	1%	2,379	2%	67	7%	921	6%	869	6%	8,886	6%
		Senior	0	0%	19	0%	24	0%	764	1%	939	93%	15,112	91%	16,357	92%	159,311	91%
		Unclassified	2	0%	33	0%	30	0%	1,540	1%	6	1%	294	2%	283	2%	4,575	3%
		Total	1,357	100%	15,749	100%	16,540	100%	154,498	100%	1,013	100%	16,417	100%	17,579	100%	173,672	100%
20. Did you begin college at your current institution or elsewhere?	ENTER	Started here	1,319	97%	15,111	96%	15,895	96%	139,741	89%	749	74%	11,786	70%	12,654	70%	101,923	54%
		Started elsewhere	38	3%	627	4%	634	4%	14,684	11%	263	26%	4,631	30%	4,922	30%	71,916	46%
		Total	1,357	100%	15,738	100%	16,529	100%	154,425	100%	1,012	100%	16,417	100%	17,576	100%	173,839	100%

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**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Background Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

		First-Year Students								Seniors								
		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		
		Variable	Response Options	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
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	0%	166	1%	136	1%	5,366	4%	16	1%	527	3%	499	3%	12,539	7%
	COMCOL05	Community or junior college	29	2%	807	5%	752	4%	12,426	8%	177	16%	4,097	24%	4,114	23%	61,055	35%
	FOURYR05	4-year college other than this one	69	5%	707	4%	748	4%	11,926	7%	189	17%	3,302	18%	3,561	18%	43,816	23%
	NONE05	None	1,217	79%	13,804	71%	14,565	71%	124,279	64%	647	58%	9,422	48%	10,266	48%	79,289	36%
	OCOL1_05	Other	28	2%	273	2%	291	2%	4,676	3%	43	4%	522	3%	586	3%	7,542	4%
22. Thinking about this current academic term...How would you characterize your enrollment?	ENRLMENT	Less than full-time	9	1%	173	1%	181	1%	5,865	6%	43	4%	1,360	11%	1,462	11%	23,210	16%
		Full-time	1,350	99%	15,565	99%	16,348	99%	148,587	94%	968	96%	15,052	89%	16,109	89%	150,550	84%
Total			1,359	100%	15,738	100%	16,529	100%	154,452	100%	1,011	100%	16,412	100%	17,571	100%	173,760	100%
23. Are you member of a social fraternity or sorority?	FRATSORO	No	1,292	95%	13,188	84%	14,164	86%	139,775	91%	957	95%	13,631	84%	14,891	85%	153,894	89%
		Yes	66	5%	2,535	16%	2,355	14%	14,422	9%	55	5%	2,767	16%	2,663	15%	19,713	11%
		Total	1,358	100%	15,723	100%	16,519	100%	154,197	100%	1,012	100%	16,398	100%	17,554	100%	173,607	100%
24. Are you a student-athlete on a team sponsored by your institution's athletics department?	ATHLETE	No	1,271	94%	14,883	95%	15,626	95%	134,974	91%	973	96%	15,871	97%	16,996	97%	161,077	95%
		Yes	88	6%	835	5%	885	5%	19,066	9%	40	4%	525	3%	563	3%	12,313	5%
		Total	1,359	100%	15,718	100%	16,511	100%	154,040	100%	1,013	100%	16,396	100%	17,559	100%	173,390	100%
25. What have most of your grades been up to now at this institution?	GRADES04	C- or lower	26	2%	205	2%	231	2%	2,684	2%	2	0%	41	0%	45	0%	397	0%
		C	26	2%	436	3%	493	3%	5,513	4%	11	1%	301	2%	321	2%	2,871	2%
		C+	53	4%	741	5%	825	5%	8,837	6%	31	3%	611	4%	659	4%	6,680	4%
		B-	102	8%	1,167	8%	1,220	8%	13,156	9%	77	8%	1,218	8%	1,332	8%	12,222	8%
		B	265	20%	3,215	21%	3,425	21%	32,110	21%	176	18%	3,350	21%	3,593	21%	33,727	20%
		B+	299	22%	3,177	19%	3,323	20%	30,410	19%	239	24%	3,607	22%	3,816	22%	36,150	21%
		A-	314	23%	3,320	20%	3,464	20%	30,194	18%	267	26%	3,562	21%	3,846	21%	37,362	20%
		A	274	20%	3,462	22%	3,537	21%	31,022	20%	207	20%	3,712	23%	3,949	23%	43,974	25%
Total			1,359	100%	15,723	100%	16,518	100%	153,926	100%	1,010	100%	16,402	100%	17,561	100%	173,383	100%
26. Which of the following best describes where you are living now while attending college?	LIVENOW	Dormitory or campus housing	1,291	95%	13,258	82%	13,786	81%	107,033	63%	276	28%	1,562	10%	1,981	11%	31,228	13%
		Residence, <b>walking distance</b>	29	2%	770	6%	901	7%	9,031	7%	306	30%	7,532	45%	7,767	44%	42,624	25%
		Residence, <b>driving distance</b>	30	2%	1,408	10%	1,528	11%	32,973	29%	412	41%	6,540	42%	7,043	42%	88,615	60%
		Fraternity or sorority house	2	0%	160	1%	179	1%	848	1%	12	1%	506	3%	550	3%	2,729	1%
		Total	1,352	100%	15,596	100%	16,394	100%	149,885	100%	1,006	100%	16,140	100%	17,341	100%	165,196	100%

<sup>a</sup> 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.



**National Survey  
of Student Engagement**

**NSSE 2008 Background Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
27a. What is the highest level of education that your <u>father</u> completed?	FATHREDU	Did not finish HS	74	5%	578	4%	588	4%	10,761	8%	53	5%	730	5%	716	5%	15,666	10%
		Graduated from HS	289	21%	2,517	16%	2,571	16%	36,319	24%	182	18%	2,676	17%	2,802	16%	41,353	24%
		Attended, no degree	162	12%	1,734	11%	1,801	11%	20,574	14%	115	12%	1,796	11%	1,941	11%	23,610	14%
		Completed Associate's	102	7%	1,130	7%	1,182	7%	12,579	8%	93	9%	1,134	7%	1,181	7%	14,284	8%
		Completed Bachelor's	393	29%	5,055	32%	5,296	32%	39,691	25%	279	28%	5,047	30%	5,483	31%	42,201	24%
		Completed Master's	234	18%	2,901	19%	3,152	19%	22,020	14%	188	19%	2,960	18%	3,249	18%	22,862	13%
		Completed Doctorate	98	7%	1,712	10%	1,817	10%	10,382	6%	96	9%	1,975	12%	2,089	12%	12,167	7%
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,352</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,627</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,407</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>152,326</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,006</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,318</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,461</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,143</b>	<b>100%</b>
27b. What is the highest level of education that your <u>mother</u> completed?	MOTHREDU	Did not finish HS	51	4%	440	3%	488	3%	8,034	6%	37	4%	541	4%	563	4%	12,408	8%
		Graduated from HS	240	18%	2,357	15%	2,433	15%	32,680	22%	182	18%	2,843	18%	2,937	18%	42,411	25%
		Attended, no degree	170	12%	1,926	12%	2,023	12%	23,491	16%	89	9%	1,979	12%	2,156	12%	25,910	16%
		Completed Associate's	186	14%	1,847	12%	1,918	12%	19,412	13%	135	13%	1,877	11%	1,990	11%	21,495	12%
		Completed Bachelor's	415	31%	5,719	36%	5,965	35%	43,803	27%	326	32%	5,465	33%	5,879	33%	43,111	24%
		Completed Master's	247	18%	2,724	17%	2,932	17%	21,443	13%	212	21%	3,010	18%	3,278	18%	23,403	13%
		Completed Doctorate	46	3%	655	4%	694	4%	4,202	2%	29	3%	640	4%	707	4%	4,086	2%
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,355</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,668</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,453</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>153,065</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,355</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,510</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>172,824</b>	<b>100%</b>
28. Primary major or expected primary major, in collapsed categories	MAJRPCOL	Arts and Humanities	187	14%	1,944	13%	1,962	13%	21,796	13%	182	18%	2,454	15%	2,607	15%	26,907	15%
		Biological Science	128	10%	1,621	11%	1,726	11%	13,052	8%	87	9%	1,633	10%	1,734	10%	12,407	7%
		Business	197	15%	2,438	16%	2,545	17%	22,882	17%	160	16%	2,143	13%	2,143	13%	29,775	18%
		Education	13	1%	720	4%	667	4%	13,855	8%	11	1%	808	4%	710	4%	16,933	9%
		Engineering	101	9%	1,668	12%	2,052	13%	9,079	7%	81	9%	1,822	13%	2,372	14%	9,118	6%
		Physical Science	48	4%	617	4%	702	4%	5,714	4%	22	2%	665	5%	709	4%	5,988	3%
		Professional	110	8%	1,573	10%	1,461	9%	16,047	11%	110	10%	1,243	7%	1,161	7%	15,451	9%
		Social Science	223	17%	1,981	12%	2,041	12%	19,260	12%	180	17%	2,774	16%	2,990	16%	26,257	14%
		Other	183	14%	2,069	14%	2,246	14%	21,413	16%	178	18%	2,681	17%	2,940	17%	28,606	18%
		Undecided	118	9%	683	4%	658	4%	6,174	4%	0	0%	1	0%	1	0%	66	0%
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,308</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15,314</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,060</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>149,272</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,224</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,367</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>171,508</b>	<b>100%</b>
29. Second major or expected second major (not minor, concentration, etc.) if applicable, in collapsed categories	MAJRSCOL	Arts and Humanities	97	28%	1,224	25%	1,274	25%	11,458	24%	65	26%	1,209	28%	1,234	27%	9,958	23%
		Biological Science	16	5%	231	5%	254	5%	1,907	4%	10	4%	207	5%	226	5%	1,589	4%
		Business	38	11%	642	15%	668	15%	5,948	16%	7	3%	538	14%	564	14%	6,468	18%
		Education	18	5%	151	3%	156	3%	3,218	7%	9	3%	131	3%	143	3%	3,788	8%
		Engineering	3	1%	135	3%	153	3%	1,062	3%	7	3%	81	2%	93	2%	660	2%
		Physical Science	25	8%	300	6%	312	7%	2,530	6%	19	8%	268	8%	289	8%	2,301	6%
		Professional	44	12%	416	9%	381	8%	3,117	8%	13	5%	191	5%	163	4%	1,887	5%
		Social Science	68	19%	986	20%	1,015	20%	7,457	16%	85	33%	1,048	24%	1,107	24%	7,543	18%
		Other	31	9%	550	12%	576	12%	5,323	14%	33	13%	434	10%	475	11%	5,360	14%
Undecided	8	2%	106	2%	101	2%	1,270	3%	1	0%	40	1%	41	1%	735	2%		
<b>Total</b>			<b>348</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,741</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,890</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>43,290</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,147</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,335</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>40,289</b>	<b>100%</b>

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**NSSE 2008 Background Item Frequency Distributions<sup>a</sup>  
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

**First-Year Students**

**Seniors**

	Variable	Response Options	UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008		UMass Amherst		Flagship Peers		Carnegie Class		U. S. NSSE 2008	
			Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Institution reported: Gender	GENDER	Male	601	47%	7,047	47%	7,648	48%	65,836	45%	484	51%	7,643	49%	8,390	49%	70,148	44%
		Female	932	53%	11,205	53%	11,721	52%	117,257	55%	621	49%	10,695	51%	11,329	51%	123,644	56%
		Total	1,533	100%	18,252	100%	19,369	100%	183,093	100%	1,105	100%	18,338	100%	19,719	100%	193,792	100%
Institution reported: Race or ethnicity	ETHNICIT	African American/Black	67	4%	1,013	6%	1,056	6%	13,801	11%	35	3%	778	4%	819	4%	13,609	9%
		Am. Indian/Native Amer.	8	0%	163	1%	90	0%	1,200	1%	5	0%	139	1%	87	0%	1,317	1%
		Asian/Pacific Islander	153	10%	1,652	10%	1,948	11%	9,142	6%	71	6%	1,563	10%	1,778	10%	8,661	6%
		Caucasian/White	1,094	72%	12,541	69%	12,702	69%	113,395	64%	844	77%	13,058	72%	13,531	72%	123,876	67%
		Hispanic/Latino	49	3%	836	6%	981	7%	10,507	9%	34	3%	635	5%	817	6%	11,083	8%
		Other	0	0%	212	1%	179	1%	2,317	2%	0	0%	197	1%	155	1%	1,490	1%
		Foreign	10	1%	416	3%	417	3%	3,665	2%	11	1%	417	4%	389	3%	3,297	2%
		Multi-racial	0	0%	39	0%	32	0%	622	0%	0	0%	32	0%	32	0%	478	0%
		Unknown	152	10%	538	3%	584	3%	8,080	5%	105	9%	534	3%	612	3%	9,322	5%
Total	1,533	100%	17,410	100%	17,989	100%	162,729	100%	1,105	100%	17,353	100%	18,220	100%	173,133	100%		
Institution reported: Enrollment	ENROLLMT	Part-time	2	0%	300	5%	367	5%	8,389	8%	43	3%	1,555	14%	1,520	13%	28,528	19%
		Full-time	1,531	100%	17,952	95%	19,002	95%	174,704	92%	1,062	97%	16,783	86%	18,199	87%	165,264	81%
		Total	1,533	100%	18,252	100%	19,369	100%	183,093	100%	1,105	100%	18,338	100%	19,719	100%	193,792	100%
Mode of completion of the questionnaire	MODECOMP	Paper	0	0%	34	1%	47	1%	4,576	4%	0	0%	86	1%	104	1%	4,998	5%
		Web	1,533	100%	18,218	99%	19,322	99%	178,517	96%	1,105	100%	18,252	99%	19,615	99%	188,794	95%
		Total	1,533	100%	18,252	100%	19,369	100%	183,093	100%	1,105	100%	18,338	100%	19,719	100%	193,792	100%
Thinking about this current academic term...Are you taking all courses entirely online? (item appeared only in the online instrument.)	DISTED	No	1,352	100%	15,591	99%	16,378	99%	145,950	97%	1,009	100%	16,091	98%	17,274	99%	161,002	96%
		Yes	5	0%	113	1%	106	1%	3,907	3%	3	0%	237	2%	197	1%	7,772	4%
		Total	1,357	100%	15,704	100%	16,484	100%	149,857	100%	1,012	100%	16,328	100%	17,471	100%	168,774	100%

IPEDS: 166629

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