

Indiana State University
2005 NSSE Special Report: American Democracy Project Consortium
ISU Freshman and Senior Comparison

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) was randomly administered to selected ISU students in Spring 2005. The survey was completed, via the internet, by 705 freshmen and 671 senior ISU students. As requested by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, ISU participated in the consortium with 24 other institutions (a list of participated institutions is available on request). In this consortium, students were asked additional questions related to the level of their civic engagement, and social and political concerns. This particular page includes comparisons between ISU freshmen and seniors on these items. Comparisons between ISU students and the consortium norms are illustrated on the following pages.

* item was found statistically significant in mean comparison

How important is each of the following issues or causes to you?

Issue	Respondent	Not at all	Not too import	Some what import	Very import	Issue	Respondent	Not at all	Not too import	Some what import	Very import
		import	ant	ant	ant			ant	ant	ant	ant
Education *	ISU Fr.	0%	1%	13%	86%	Religion	ISU Fr.	7%	16%	29%	47%
	ISU Sr.	0%	0%	7%	92%		ISU Sr.	9%	15%	27%	49%
Environment	ISU Fr.	1%	8%	43%	48%	National security	ISU Fr.	2%	13%	39%	46%
	ISU Sr.	1%	4%	44%	51%		ISU Sr.	2%	10%	39%	49%
Healthcare	ISU Fr.	0%	4%	33%	63%	Human and civil rights	ISU Fr.	1%	8%	33%	58%
	ISU Sr.	1%	4%	30%	65%		ISU Sr.	1%	7%	34%	59%
Economy *	ISU Fr.	1%	7%	46%	46%	Neighborhood issues	ISU Fr.	2%	14%	48%	36%
	ISU Sr.	0%	4%	41%	55%		ISU Sr.	2%	12%	51%	34%
Entertainment & recreation *	ISU Fr.	0%	9%	41%	49%	International issues	ISU Fr.	2%	16%	51%	31%
	ISU Sr.	1%	13%	45%	42%		ISU Sr.	3%	14%	53%	31%

Where do you generally get most of your information about each of the following?

Issue	My Institution (classes, etc.)		Family or friends		Radio		Television		Newspapers or magazines		Online Sources		I don't usually pay attention to this	
	ISU Fr.	ISU Sr.	ISU Fr.	ISU Sr.	ISU Fr.	ISU Sr.	ISU Fr.	ISU Sr.	ISU Fr.	ISU Sr.	ISU Fr.	ISU Sr.	ISU Fr.	ISU Sr.
Local news	8%	4%	20%	9%	5%	9%	43%	48%	18%	21%	3%	5%	3%	3%
National news	6%	3%	13%	7%	4%	5%	57%	57%	9%	10%	10%	16%	2%	2%
International news	7%	3%	12%	7%	3%	4%	51%	51%	8%	10%	12%	21%	5%	5%
Volunteering	35%	31%	23%	24%	3%	3%	7%	6%	9%	9%	3%	4%	20%	24%
Voting	20%	10%	27%	23%	3%	6%	32%	29%	9%	15%	3%	9%	6%	8%
Involved in social or political issues	29%	20%	21%	16%	2%	3%	12%	11%	7%	10%	3%	8%	26%	32%

Please indicate activities that you might have done in the past year and select your primary reason why you did it.

Activity	Yes	Primary reason among 'Yes'				Activity	Yes	Primary reason among 'Yes'					
		1st	%	2nd	%			1st	%	2nd	%		
Join a local community group or association	ISU Fr.	29%	(1)	25%	(4)	16%	Organize a petition	ISU Fr.	2%	(1)	43%	(2)	36%
	ISU Sr.	25%	(1)	28%	(6)	23%		ISU Sr.	3%	(1)	50%	(2)	28%
Fundraise for a charitable organization *	ISU Fr.	30%	(1)	32%	(2)	19%	Display buttons, signs on political issues *	ISU Fr.	20%	(1)	34%	(7)	34%
	ISU Sr.	37%	(1)	35%	(8)	18%		ISU Sr.	27%	(1)	50%	(8)	19%
Participate in a fundraising run/walk	ISU Fr.	25%	(1)	31%	(2)	21%	Join in a protest about an important issue	ISU Fr.	8%	(1)	65%	(7)	10%
	ISU Sr.	28%	(1)	39%	(7)	25%		ISU Sr.	11%	(1)	63%	(7)	12%
Volunteer with a local * community or religious group	ISU Fr.	36%	(4)	26%	(1)	24%	Volunteer to work on a political campaign *	ISU Fr.	6%	(1)	34%	(7)	17%
	ISU Sr.	42%	(1)	30%	(4)	22%		ISU Sr.	11%	(1)	51%	(5)	11%
Send a letter or email to the media *	ISU Fr.	11%	(1)	38%	(8)	22%	Run for an elected leadership position	ISU Fr.	8%	(1)	40%	(6)	24%
	ISU Sr.	19%	(1)	45%	(8)	20%		ISU Sr.	11%	(1)	36%	(6)	35%
Contact public officials about an issue *	ISU Fr.	8%	(1)	42%	(8)	23%	Vote in an election (on or off campus) *	ISU Fr.	68%	(1)	74%	(8)	11%
	ISU Sr.	20%	(1)	46%	(8)	23%		ISU Sr.	77%	(1)	80%	(8)	11%
Sign a petition related to a political or community issue	ISU Fr.	26%	(1)	53%	(8)	24%							
	ISU Sr.	28%	(1)	53%	(8)	18%							

Reason: (1) To feel like I was making a difference: (2) To satisfy a requirement: (3) I was inspired by courses or a professor: (4) Religious reasons (5) My friends or family are involved: (6) To prepare for a job or future career: (7) It's fun or satisfying: (8) Other reason

ISU Freshman and Consortium Norm Comparison

This page includes comparisons between 705 ISU freshmen and 1,781 freshman students from other institutions, who participated in the American Democracy Project Consortium.

* item was found statistically significant in mean comparison

How important is each of the following issues or causes to you?

Issue	Respondent	Not at all	Not too import	Some what import	Very import	Issue	Respondent	Not at all	Not too import	Some what import	Very import
		ant	ant	ant	ant			ant	ant	ant	ant
Education	ISU Fr.	0%	1%	13%	86%	Religion *	ISU Fr.	7%	16%	29%	47%
	Nat'l Fr.	0%	1%	10%	89%		Nat'l Fr.	12%	18%	25%	45%
Environment	ISU Fr.	1%	8%	43%	48%	National security	ISU Fr.	2%	13%	39%	46%
	Nat'l Fr.	1%	7%	41%	51%		Nat'l Fr.	2%	13%	37%	48%
Healthcare	ISU Fr.	0%	4%	33%	63%	Human and civil rights	ISU Fr.	1%	8%	33%	58%
	Nat'l Fr.	1%	6%	33%	61%		Nat'l Fr.	1%	6%	30%	62%
Economy	ISU Fr.	1%	7%	46%	46%	Neighborhood issues *	ISU Fr.	2%	14%	48%	36%
	Nat'l Fr.	1%	9%	44%	47%		Nat'l Fr.	3%	18%	46%	33%
Entertainment & recreation *	ISU Fr.	0%	9%	41%	49%	International issues	ISU Fr.	2%	16%	51%	31%
	Nat'l Fr.	1%	10%	44%	45%		Nat'l Fr.	2%	16%	48%	34%

Where do you generally get most of your information about each of the following?

Issue	My Institution (classes, etc.)		Family or friends		Radio		Television		Newspapers or magazines		Online Sources		I don't usually pay attention to this	
	ISU Fr.	Nat'l Fr.	ISU Fr.	Nat'l Fr.	ISU Fr.	Nat'l Fr.	ISU Fr.	Nat'l Fr.	ISU Fr.	Nat'l Fr.	ISU Fr.	Nat'l Fr.	ISU Fr.	Nat'l Fr.
Local news	8%	7%	20%	16%	5%	6%	43%	40%	18%	20%	3%	5%	3%	6%
National news	6%	5%	13%	10%	4%	4%	57%	53%	9%	10%	10%	15%	2%	3%
International news	7%	6%	12%	8%	3%	3%	51%	48%	8%	9%	12%	19%	5%	6%
Volunteering	35%	30%	23%	25%	3%	2%	7%	4%	9%	8%	3%	5%	20%	26%
Voting	20%	15%	27%	28%	3%	3%	32%	28%	9%	10%	3%	7%	6%	9%
Involved in social or political issues	29%	24%	21%	18%	2%	2%	12%	11%	7%	5%	3%	6%	26%	34%

Please indicate activities that you might have done in the past year and select your primary reason why you did it.

Activity	Respondent	Yes	Primary reason among 'Yes'				Activity	Respondent	Yes	Primary reason among 'Yes'			
			1st	%	2nd	%				1st	%	2nd	%
Join a local community group or association *	ISU Fr.	29%	(1)	25%	(4)	16%	Organize a petition	ISU Fr.	2%	(1)	43%	(2)	36%
	Nat'l Fr.	24%	(7)	27%	(1)	26%		Nat'l Fr.	1%	(1)	48%	(8)	19%
Fundraise for a charitable organization	ISU Fr.	30%	(1)	32%	(2)	19%	Display buttons, signs on political issues *	ISU Fr.	20%	(1)	34%	(7)	34%
	Nat'l Fr.	26%	(1)	39%	(7)	17%		Nat'l Fr.	27%	(1)	45%	(8)	21%
Participate in a fundraising run/walk *	ISU Fr.	25%	(1)	31%	(2)	21%	Join in a protest about an important issue	ISU Fr.	8%	(1)	65%	(7)	10%
	Nat'l Fr.	15%	(1)	41%	(7)	22%		Nat'l Fr.	7%	(1)	61%	(8)	15%
Volunteer with a local * community or religious group	ISU Fr.	36%	(4)	26%	(1)	24%	Volunteer to work on a political campaign	ISU Fr.	6%	(1)	34%	(7)	17%
	Nat'l Fr.	31%	(1)	27%	(4)	24%		Nat'l Fr.	8%	(1)	54%	(8)	17%
Send a letter or email to the media	ISU Fr.	11%	(1)	38%	(8)	22%	Run for an elected leadership position	ISU Fr.	8%	(1)	40%	(6)	24%
	Nat'l Fr.	12%	(1)	31%	(8)	24%		Nat'l Fr.	9%	(1)	34%	(7)	31%
Contact public officials about an issue	ISU Fr.	8%	(1)	42%	(8)	23%	Vote in an election (on or off campus)	ISU Fr.	68%	(1)	74%	(8)	11%
	Nat'l Fr.	11%	(1)	48%	(8)	23%		Nat'l Fr.	72%	(1)	73%	(8)	13%
Sign a petition related to a political or community issue	ISU Fr.	26%	(1)	53%	(8)	24%							
	Nat'l Fr.	28%	(1)	59%	(8)	19%							

Reason: (1) To feel like I was making a difference: (2) To satisfy a requirement: (3) I was inspired by courses or a professor: (4) Religious reasons (5) My friends or family are involved: (6) To prepare for a job or future career: (7) It's fun or satisfying: (8) Other reason

ISU Senior and Consortium Norm Comparison

This page includes comparisons between 671 ISU senior and 2,095 senior students from other institutions, who participated in the American Democracy Project Consortium.

* item was found statistically significant in mean comparison

How important is each of the following issues or causes to you?

Issue	Respondent	Not at all	Not too import	Some what import	Very import	Issue	Respondent	Not at all	Not too import	Some what import	Very import
		ant	ant	ant	ant			ant	ant	ant	ant
Education	ISU Sr.	0%	0%	7%	92%	Religion *	ISU Sr.	9%	15%	27%	49%
	Nat'l Sr.	0%	1%	7%	92%		Nat'l Sr.	11%	19%	26%	44%
Environment *	ISU Sr.	1%	4%	44%	51%	National security	ISU Sr.	2%	10%	39%	49%
	Nat'l Sr.	1%	5%	38%	57%		Nat'l Sr.	3%	12%	39%	46%
Healthcare	ISU Sr.	1%	4%	30%	65%	Human and civil rights *	ISU Sr.	1%	7%	34%	59%
	Nat'l Sr.	1%	5%	30%	65%		Nat'l Sr.	1%	5%	30%	64%
Economy	ISU Sr.	0%	4%	41%	55%	Neighborhood issues	ISU Sr.	2%	12%	51%	34%
	Nat'l Sr.	1%	6%	39%	55%		Nat'l Sr.	2%	15%	46%	37%
Entertainment & recreation *	ISU Sr.	1%	13%	45%	42%	International issues	ISU Sr.	3%	14%	53%	31%
	Nat'l Sr.	2%	15%	46%	38%		Nat'l Sr.	2%	15%	51%	32%

Where do you generally get most of your information about each of the following?

Issue	My Institution (classes, etc.)		Family or friends		Radio		Television		Newspapers or magazines		Online Sources		I don't usually pay attention to this	
	ISU Sr.	Nat'l Sr.	ISU Sr.	Nat'l Sr.	ISU Sr.	Nat'l Sr.	ISU Sr.	Nat'l Sr.	ISU Sr.	Nat'l Sr.	ISU Sr.	Nat'l Sr.	ISU Sr.	Nat'l Sr.
Local news	4%	4%	9%	10%	9%	10%	48%	43%	21%	23%	5%	6%	3%	3%
National news	3%	3%	7%	5%	5%	8%	57%	53%	10%	12%	16%	18%	2%	2%
International news	3%	4%	7%	4%	4%	6%	51%	47%	10%	11%	21%	22%	5%	5%
Volunteering	31%	28%	24%	25%	3%	3%	6%	3%	9%	9%	4%	7%	24%	26%
Voting	10%	12%	23%	19%	6%	5%	29%	27%	15%	20%	9%	10%	8%	8%
Involved in social or political issues	20%	20%	16%	17%	3%	3%	11%	9%	10%	8%	8%	7%	32%	37%

Please indicate activities that you might have done in the past year and select your primary reason why you did it.

Activity	Respondent	Yes	Primary reason among 'Yes'				Activity	Respondent	Yes	Primary reason among 'Yes'			
			1st	%	2nd	%				1st	%	2nd	%
Join a local community group or association	ISU Sr.	25%	(1)	28%	(6)	23%	Organize a petition	ISU Sr.	3%	(1)	50%	(2)	28%
	Nat'l Sr.	26%	(1)	28%	(6)	25%		Nat'l Sr.	2%	(1)	57%	(8)	20%
Fundraise for a charitable organization	ISU Sr.	37%	(1)	35%	(8)	18%	Display buttons, signs on political issues	ISU Sr.	27%	(1)	50%	(8)	19%
	Nat'l Sr.	33%	(1)	39%	(7)	15%		Nat'l Sr.	29%	(1)	53%	(8)	21%
Participate in a fundraising run/walk *	ISU Sr.	28%	(1)	39%	(7)	25%	Join in a protest about an important issue	ISU Sr.	11%	(1)	63%	(7)	12%
	Nat'l Sr.	20%	(1)	40%	(7)	23%		Nat'l Sr.	10%	(1)	62%	(8)	13%
Volunteer with a local community or religious group	ISU Sr.	42%	(1)	30%	(4)	22%	Volunteer to work on a political campaign *	ISU Sr.	11%	(1)	51%	(5)	11%
	Nat'l Sr.	40%	(1)	32%	(4)	21%		Nat'l Sr.	8%	(1)	59%	(8)	13%
Send a letter or email to the media	ISU Sr.	19%	(1)	45%	(8)	20%	Run for an elected leadership position	ISU Sr.	11%	(1)	36%	(6)	35%
	Nat'l Sr.	19%	(1)	39%	(8)	32%		Nat'l Sr.	12%	(1)	37%	(6)	24%
Contact public officials about an issue	ISU Sr.	20%	(1)	46%	(8)	23%	Vote in an election (on or off campus)	ISU Sr.	77%	(1)	80%	(8)	11%
	Nat'l Sr.	22%	(1)	50%	(8)	25%		Nat'l Sr.	80%	(1)	77%	(8)	14%
Sign a petition related to a * political or community issue	ISU Sr.	28%	(1)	53%	(8)	18%							
	Nat'l Sr.	33%	(1)	63%	(8)	19%							

Reason: (1) To feel like I was making a difference: (2) To satisfy a requirement: (3) I was inspired by courses or a professor: (4) Religious reasons (5) My friends or family are involved: (6) To prepare for a job or future career: (7) It's fun or satisfying: (8) Other reason