



NSSE 2015 Topical Module

Academic Advising

Boise State University

About This Topical Module

This module examines students' experiences with academic advising, including frequency, accessibility, and types of information provided. It also asks students to identify their primary source of advice. The module complements a question on the core survey about the quality of students' interactions with academic advisors. Complementary FSSE set available.

Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the 'Public RschH / Doc / M-L' column of this report.

Group label	Public RschH / Doc / M-L
Date submitted	6/12/15
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this comparison group by selecting institutions from all module participants.
Group description	This group reflects the subset of our peer group #1 who completed the advising module.

Public RschH / Doc / M-L (N=37)

Ball State University (Muncie, IN)	University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)*
Binghamton University (State University of New York) (Binghamton, NY)*	University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras Campus (Rio Piedras, PR)
Bowling Green State University (Bowling Green, OH)	University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, The (Chattanooga, TN)
California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo (San Luis Obispo, CA)*	University of Texas at Arlington, The (Arlington, TX)
California State University-Chico (Chico, CA)*	University of Texas at Dallas, The (Richardson, TX)
California State University-Dominguez Hills (Carson, CA)	University of Texas at San Antonio, The (San Antonio, TX)
California State University, Fresno (Fresno, CA)	University of Toledo (Toledo, OH)
California State University, Fullerton (Fullerton, CA)*	
California State University, Northridge (Northridge, CA)	
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College (New York, NY)	
CUNY Hunter College (New York, NY)*	
Eastern Kentucky University (Richmond, KY)	
Eastern Michigan University (Ypsilanti, MI)*	
Ferris State University (Grand Rapids, MI)*	
Florida International University (Miami, FL)*	
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (Indianapolis, IN)	
Middle Tennessee State University (Murfreesboro, TN)*	
Minnesota State University, Mankato (Mankato, MN)	
Montclair State University (Montclair, NJ)	
Oakland University (Rochester Hills, MI)*	
Ohio University (Athens, OH)*	
Southeast Missouri State University (Cape Girardeau, MO)	
Southern Illinois Univ Edwardsville (Edwardsville, IL)	
Stephen F. Austin State University (Nacogdoches, TX)	
Texas Tech University (Lubbock, TX)	
University of Akron (Akron, OH)	
University of Massachusetts Lowell (Lowell, MA)	
University of Memphis (Memphis, TN)*	
University of Mississippi (University, MS)*	
University of Missouri-St. Louis (Saint Louis, MO)	

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Boise State		Public RschH / Doc / M-L		Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
1. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?										
	ADV01	0	0	31	9	1,383	11	1.9	2.2 ***	-0.19 ▽
		1	1	118	35	3,192	24			
		2	2	115	31	4,316	31			
		3	3	47	14	2,653	19			
		4	4	18	5	1,087	8			
		5	5	8	2	401	3			
		6	6 or more	12	3	646	5			
		Total		349	100	13,678	100			
2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	24	7	1,182	8	3.0	3.0	.04
		2	Some	62	18	2,720	19			
		3	Quite a bit	118	34	4,219	31			
		4	Very much	110	31	4,403	32			
		—	Not applicable	35	10	1,166	9			
		Total		349	100	13,690	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	31	9	1,075	8	2.9	3.0	-0.10
		2	Some	73	21	2,550	19			
		3	Quite a bit	112	32	4,024	29			
		4	Very much	104	29	4,764	35			
		—	Not applicable	30	9	1,250	10			
		Total		350	100	13,663	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	43	12	1,769	13	2.8	2.8	-0.07
		2	Some	81	24	2,678	19			
		3	Quite a bit	97	27	3,782	28			
		4	Very much	92	26	4,181	30			
		—	Not applicable	36	11	1,240	10			
		Total		349	100	13,650	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	56	16	1,648	12	2.6	2.8 **	-0.17 ▽
		2	Some	79	23	2,839	21			
		3	Quite a bit	96	28	3,813	28			
		4	Very much	75	22	3,890	28			
		—	Not applicable	40	12	1,410	11			
		Total		346	100	13,600	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	66	18	1,909	14	2.6	2.7 **	-0.19 ▽
		2	Some	81	23	2,841	21			
		3	Quite a bit	82	24	3,608	26			
		4	Very much	73	21	3,820	27			
		—	Not applicable	46	13	1,475	12			
		Total		348	100	13,653	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed): Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Boise State		Public RschH / Doc / M-L		Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	46	13	1,585	12	2.8	2.9	-.09
		2	Some	79	23	2,768	20			
		3	Quite a bit	101	28	3,891	28			
		4	Very much	99	28	4,332	31			
		—	Not applicable	25	8	1,072	8			
		Total		350	100	13,648	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	56	16	2,123	15	2.6	2.7	-.04
		2	Some	67	19	2,564	19			
		3	Quite a bit	78	22	2,875	21			
		4	Very much	73	21	3,188	23			
		—	Not applicable	76	22	2,878	22			
		Total		350	100	13,628	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internship, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	73	20	2,677	19	2.5	2.5	-.06
		2	Some	65	19	2,585	19			
		3	Quite a bit	86	25	2,707	20			
		4	Very much	57	17	2,908	21			
		—	Not applicable	68	19	2,726	21			
		Total		349	100	13,603	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	77	21	2,761	20	2.4	2.5	-.08
		2	Some	74	22	2,904	21			
		3	Quite a bit	92	26	2,771	20			
		4	Very much	60	17	3,164	23			
		—	Not applicable	45	13	1,982	15			
		Total		348	100	13,582	100			
3. How often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?										
	ADV04	1	Never	161	46	3,241	39	1.8	1.9 **	-0.16 ▽
	_15	2	Sometimes	124	35	3,181	37			
		3	Often	47	14	1,471	18			
		4	Very often	16	5	552	6			
		Total		348	100	8,445	100			
4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one)										
	ADV03	—	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	110	30	4,383	32			
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	38	11	1,436	10			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	25	7	1,097	8			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	18	5	487	3			
		—	Web site, catalog, or other published sources	21	6	723	5			
		—	Friends or other students	44	13	2,234	16			
		—	Family members	72	20	2,368	17			
		—	Other, please specify:	4	1	221	2			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	18	6	727	6			
		Total		350	100	13,676	100			

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Boise State		Public RschH / Doc / M-L		Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
1. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?										
	ADV01	0	0	151	18	3,450	16	2.0	2.1 *	-08 ▽
		1	1	226	28	5,641	26			
		2	2	198	23	5,643	26			
		3	3	122	14	3,128	14			
		4	4	52	6	1,737	8			
		5	5	25	3	644	3			
		6	6 or more	62	7	1,857	8			
			Total	836	100	22,100	100			
2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	79	9	2,560	11	3.1	2.9 ***	.17 △
		2	Some	122	14	4,411	20			
		3	Quite a bit	231	28	6,281	28			
		4	Very much	321	38	7,061	32			
		—	Not applicable	88	10	1,808	8			
			Total	841	100	22,121	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	87	10	2,449	11	3.0	2.9 **	.10 △
		2	Some	124	15	4,129	19			
		3	Quite a bit	215	26	5,990	27			
		4	Very much	309	37	7,328	33			
		—	Not applicable	105	12	2,176	10			
			Total	840	100	22,072	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	182	22	3,852	17	2.6	2.7	-06
		2	Some	119	15	4,349	20			
		3	Quite a bit	191	23	5,363	24			
		4	Very much	233	27	6,350	28			
		—	Not applicable	116	14	2,148	10			
			Total	841	100	22,062	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	174	21	3,927	18	2.6	2.6	-06
		2	Some	141	17	4,511	21			
		3	Quite a bit	163	20	4,958	23			
		4	Very much	197	24	5,520	25			
		—	Not applicable	158	19	3,110	14			
			Total	833	100	22,026	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	230	27	5,410	24	2.3	2.4 *	-09 ▽
		2	Some	134	16	4,354	20			
		3	Quite a bit	125	15	3,919	18			
		4	Very much	143	17	4,329	19			
		—	Not applicable	207	25	4,067	19			
			Total	839	100	22,079	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed): Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the triangle symbols.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Boise State		Public RschH / Doc / M-L		Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	153	18	3,993	18	2.7	2.7	.04
		2	Some	126	15	4,498	20			
		3	Quite a bit	206	25	5,299	24			
		4	Very much	224	26	5,909	27			
		—	Not applicable	128	15	2,366	11			
		Total		837	100	22,065	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	156	19	4,336	20	2.6	2.5	.06
		2	Some	105	13	3,594	16			
		3	Quite a bit	132	16	3,764	17			
		4	Very much	190	22	4,712	21			
		—	Not applicable	249	30	5,612	26			
		Total		832	100	22,018	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internship, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	224	27	5,459	25	2.3	2.4	-.07
		2	Some	112	13	3,541	16			
		3	Quite a bit	111	14	3,458	16			
		4	Very much	151	18	4,387	20			
		—	Not applicable	236	28	5,143	24			
		Total		834	100	21,988	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	244	29	5,907	27	2.3	2.4	-.05
		2	Some	126	15	4,178	19			
		3	Quite a bit	138	17	3,678	17			
		4	Very much	168	20	4,893	22			
		—	Not applicable	158	19	3,304	15			
		Total		834	100	21,960	100			
3. How often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?										
	ADV04	1	Never	437	51	6,083	46	1.7	1.8 **	-.10
	_15	2	Sometimes	254	31	4,415	33			
		3	Often	103	12	1,861	14			
		4	Very often	44	5	832	6			
		Total		838	100	13,191	100			
4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one)										
	ADV03	—	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	275	33	6,466	29			
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	77	9	2,344	11			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	126	15	3,870	17			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	103	12	1,723	8			
		—	Web site, catalog, or other published sources	58	7	1,458	7			
		—	Friends or other students	82	10	2,697	12			
		—	Family members	40	5	1,641	7			
		—	Other, please specify:	17	2	408	2			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	62	8	1,519	7			
		Total		840	100	22,126	100			

First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	Boise State	Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Comparisons with: Public RschH / Doc / M-L		
ADV01	344	1.90	2.17	.07	.01	1.32	1.48	364	.000	-.19
ADV02a	309	2.99	2.96	.05	.01	0.92	0.96	13,250	.482	.04
ADV02b	316	2.90	3.00	.05	.01	0.96	0.97	13,141	.071	-.10
ADV02c	306	2.77	2.84	.06	.01	1.02	1.04	13,117	.231	-.07
ADV02d	302	2.63	2.80	.06	.01	1.04	1.03	12,894	.004	-.17
ADV02e	297	2.55	2.75	.06	.01	1.08	1.06	12,842	.002	-.19
ADV02f	319	2.77	2.86	.06	.01	1.03	1.03	13,294	.115	-.09
ADV02g	268	2.61	2.65	.07	.01	1.09	1.10	11,332	.529	-.04
ADV02h	278	2.47	2.54	.06	.01	1.08	1.13	11,508	.301	-.06
ADV02i	297	2.44	2.53	.06	.01	1.06	1.13	312	.147	-.08
ADV04_15	343	1.77	1.91	.05	.01	0.86	0.90	9,079	.003	-.16

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

Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	Boise State	Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Boise State	Public RschH / Doc / M-L	Comparisons with: Public RschH / Doc / M-L		
ADV01	833	2.01	2.14	.06	.01	1.69	1.70	30,863	.032	-.08
ADV02a	752	3.06	2.88	.04	.01	1.00	1.02	794	.000	.17
ADV02b	733	3.01	2.91	.04	.01	1.03	1.03	27,704	.009	.10
ADV02c	722	2.65	2.71	.04	.01	1.17	1.11	756	.154	-.06
ADV02d	673	2.57	2.63	.04	.01	1.16	1.11	704	.136	-.06
ADV02e	630	2.29	2.39	.05	.01	1.18	1.15	25,051	.019	-.09
ADV02f	708	2.71	2.66	.04	.01	1.12	1.11	27,431	.296	.04
ADV02g	582	2.60	2.53	.05	.01	1.19	1.16	22,771	.150	.06
ADV02h	596	2.31	2.40	.05	.01	1.21	1.19	23,405	.075	-.07
ADV02i	672	2.34	2.39	.05	.01	1.20	1.18	25,898	.228	-.05
ADV04_15	836	1.72	1.80	.03	.01	0.88	0.90	19,413	.007	-.10

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.
- 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 .
- 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 N s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the comparison group is due to chance.

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.