



**National Survey
of Student Engagement**

Western Carolina University

BCSSE 2007-NSSE 2008 Respondent Characteristics
August 2008



The *BCSSE 2007-NSSE 2008 Combined Report* contains two sections, cross-sectional results and longitudinal results. The *cross-sectional* results include frequencies from *all* your BCSSE and NSSE respondents. For comparison purposes, only similar items on both instruments are included in this section (i.e., there were 23 items in the BCSSE survey identical or similar to items in the NSSE survey). Using all your BCSSE and NSSE data provides your institution with the best estimates of your incoming first-year student characteristics and their end-of-year engagement.

The *longitudinal* results portray the matched data from those first-year students who completed both BCSSE in the summer/fall of 2007 and NSSE in the spring of 2008. Of course, fewer students completed both surveys but interpretation of results allows you to focus on environmental factors that may influence the nature and frequency of student engagement in various areas in the first year. Because the number of respondents varies for the cross-sectional and longitudinal results, background characteristics for both are summarized below.

BCSSE 2007 - NSSE 2008 Samples

	Count
BCSSE 2007 respondents (cross-sectional data)	380
First-year students included in NSSE population file	1,092
BCSSE respondents identified in the NSSE population file	302
BCSSE 2007 respondents invited to participate in NSSE 2008	302
NSSE 2008 first-year student respondents	217
BCSSE 2007 - NSSE 2008 respondents (longitudinal data)	63

Respondent Characteristics	Cross-Sectional		Longitudinal
	BCSSE¹	NSSE²	BCSSE-NSSE³
Gender			
Female	46%	67%	65%
Male	54%	33%	35%
Ethnicity			
Am. Indian/Native American	2%	3%	2%
Asian/Asian Am./Pacific Isl.	0%	1%	2%
Black/African American	11%	4%	2%
White (non-Hispanic)	79%	86%	86%
Mexican/Mexican American	1%	0%	0%
Puerto Rican	0%	0%	0%
Other Hispanic/Latino	1%	1%	0%
Multiracial	2%	2%	4%
Other	1%	2%	2%
I prefer not to respond	4%	2%	2%
Enrollment Status			
Full-time	100%	99%	100%
Less than full-time	0%	1%	0%

¹ Self reported characteristics of all BCSSE 2007 respondents

² Institutionally reported characteristics of all NSSE 2008 respondents

³ Institutionally reported characteristics of students who completed *both* BCSSE 2007 and NSSE 2008