



NSSE 2018 Topical Module Report

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 'Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L' column of this report.

Group label	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L
Date submitted	5/15/18
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this comparison group by selecting institutions from all module participants.
Group description	Reflects the subset of our peer group #1 who completed the advising module

Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L (N=32)

Appalachian State University (Boone, NC)	West Chester University of Pennsylvania (West Chester, PA)
Ball State University (Muncie, IN)	Western Washington University (Bellingham, WA)*
Binghamton University (State University of New York) (Vestal, NY)*	
California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo (San Luis Obispo, CA)*	
California State Polytechnic University-Pomona (Pomona, CA)*	
California State University-Dominguez Hills (Carson, CA)*	
California State University-Long Beach (Long Beach, CA)*	
California State University-Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)*	
California State University, Fresno (Fresno, CA)*	
California State University, Fullerton (Fullerton, CA)	
California State University, Northridge (Northridge, CA)*	
California State University, Sacramento (Sacramento, CA)*	
California State University, San Bernardino (San Bernardino, CA)	
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College (New York, NY)*	
Eastern Washington University (Cheney, WA)*	
Indiana University of Pennsylvania (Indiana, PA)	
Kent State University (Kent, OH)*	
Northern Kentucky University (Highland Heights, KY)	
Ohio University (Athens, OH)*	
Stephen F. Austin State University (Nacogdoches, TX)*	
Troy University (Troy, AL)*	
University of Massachusetts Boston (Boston, MA)*	
University of Missouri-St. Louis (Saint Louis, MO)*	
University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)	
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, The (Chattanooga, TN)	
University of Texas at El Paso, The (El Paso, TX)	
University of Texas at San Antonio, The (San Antonio, TX)	
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, The (Edinburg, TX)	
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater (Whitewater, WI)*	
Weber State University (Ogden, UT)*	

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Boise State		Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L		Boise State	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
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	15	4	1,904	11	2.2	2.2	-.01
		1	1	109	28	3,822	23			
		2	2	142	36	4,962	30			
		3	3	75	20	3,121	19			
		4	4	27	7	1,434	9			
		5	5	4	1	488	3			
		6	6 or more	17	4	723	5			
			Total	389	100	16,454	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	29	7	1,178	7	3.0	3.0	.01
		2	Some	77	20	3,212	19			
		3	Quite a bit	149	38	5,584	34			
		4	Very much	124	32	5,056	31			
		—	Not applicable	12	3	1,434	8			
			Total	391	100	16,464	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	25	6	1,067	6	3.0	3.0	-.02
		2	Some	75	18	2,981	18			
		3	Quite a bit	144	38	5,163	32			
		4	Very much	126	32	5,669	35			
		—	Not applicable	19	6	1,573	9			
			Total	389	100	16,453	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	40	9	1,856	11	2.8	2.9	-.05
		2	Some	96	25	3,105	19			
		3	Quite a bit	131	34	4,813	29			
		4	Very much	106	28	5,167	32			
		—	Not applicable	17	4	1,513	9			
			Total	390	100	16,454	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	52	13	1,725	10	2.7	2.9 **	-.14 ▽
		2	Some	97	24	3,356	20			
		3	Quite a bit	124	33	4,877	30			
		4	Very much	93	25	4,807	29			
		—	Not applicable	23	6	1,684	10			
			Total	389	100	16,449	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	54	13	1,945	12	2.6	2.8 ***	-.21 ▽
		2	Some	121	31	3,359	21			
		3	Quite a bit	99	26	4,604	28			
		4	Very much	89	23	4,890	30			
		—	Not applicable	27	7	1,641	10			
			Total	390	100	16,439	100			

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

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Boise State		Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L		Boise State	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	33	8	1,585	10	2.9	2.9	.02
		2	Some	77	20	3,240	20			
		3	Quite a bit	145	36	4,964	30			
		4	Very much	121	31	5,314	32			
		—	Not applicable	14	4	1,327	8			
			Total	390	100	16,430	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	57	14	2,162	13	2.6	2.7 *	-.12
		2	Some	94	26	3,172	19			
		3	Quite a bit	87	21	3,739	23			
		4	Very much	84	22	4,097	25			
		—	Not applicable	68	18	3,258	20			
			Total	390	100	16,428	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internships, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	69	17	3,116	19	2.5	2.5	-.04
		2	Some	108	28	3,285	20			
		3	Quite a bit	80	20	3,356	21			
		4	Very much	74	19	3,364	20			
		—	Not applicable	59	16	3,293	20			
			Total	390	100	16,414	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	82	20	3,280	20	2.5	2.5	.02
		2	Some	94	25	3,611	22			
		3	Quite a bit	87	22	3,379	21			
		4	Very much	94	24	3,559	22			
		—	Not applicable	33	9	2,565	15			
			Total	390	100	16,394	100			
3. During the current school year, how often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?										
	ADV04	1	Never	154	38	6,314	38	1.9	2.0 *	-.12
	_15	2	Sometimes	163	44	5,857	35			
		3	Often	50	14	2,970	19			
		4	Very often	19	5	1,268	8			
			Total	386	100	16,409	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	162	41	5,889	36	1.9	2.0 *	-.12
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	23	7	1,836	11			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	33	9	1,114	7			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	11	3	804	5			
		—	Website, catalog, or other published sources	19	5	816	5			
		—	Friends or other students	33	8	2,444	14			
		—	Family members	88	22	2,390	14			
		—	Other, please specify:	8	2	348	2			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	11	3	757	5			
			Total	388	100	16,398	100			

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

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Boise State		Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L		Boise State	Pub RU-H / 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	79	16	4,101	17	2.1	2.1	.01
		1	1	145	27	6,765	26			
		2	2	137	27	6,598	26			
		3	3	57	11	3,472	14			
		4	4	32	6	1,795	7			
		5	5	16	4	736	3			
		6	6 or more	44	9	2,032	8			
			Total	510	100	25,499	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	49	10	2,655	11	2.9	2.9	.09
		2	Some	103	20	5,528	21			
		3	Quite a bit	147	28	7,568	29			
		4	Very much	172	34	7,536	29			
		—	Not applicable	37	8	2,222	9			
			Total	508	100	25,509	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	50	9	2,401	10	3.0	2.9	.03
		2	Some	102	20	4,975	19			
		3	Quite a bit	134	26	7,280	29			
		4	Very much	175	35	8,173	32			
		—	Not applicable	48	10	2,665	11			
			Total	509	100	25,494	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	99	20	4,138	16	2.7	2.7	-.03
		2	Some	94	19	5,177	20			
		3	Quite a bit	119	24	6,454	25			
		4	Very much	152	29	7,198	28			
		—	Not applicable	45	9	2,530	10			
			Total	509	100	25,497	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	99	19	4,056	16	2.5	2.7 *	-.12
		2	Some	113	23	5,418	21			
		3	Quite a bit	109	21	6,238	24			
		4	Very much	114	22	6,348	25			
		—	Not applicable	72	15	3,435	14			
			Total	507	100	25,495	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	131	25	5,486	22	2.3	2.5 **	-.16
		2	Some	133	27	5,662	22			
		3	Quite a bit	68	14	5,146	20			
		4	Very much	91	17	5,067	20			
		—	Not applicable	87	17	4,112	16			
			Total	510	100	25,473	100			

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

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Boise State		Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L		Boise State	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	94	19	3,951	16	2.6	2.7	-.05
		2	Some	107	21	5,458	21			
		3	Quite a bit	126	25	6,601	26			
		4	Very much	137	26	6,724	26			
		—	Not applicable	46	9	2,733	11			
		Total		510	100	25,467	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	106	21	4,403	18	2.5	2.6	-.07
		2	Some	86	17	4,635	18			
		3	Quite a bit	71	13	4,967	19			
		4	Very much	120	23	5,582	22			
		—	Not applicable	126	25	5,885	23			
		Total		509	100	25,472	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internships, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	130	25	5,889	23	2.3	2.4	-.10
		2	Some	107	21	4,709	18			
		3	Quite a bit	55	10	4,492	17			
		4	Very much	94	18	4,760	19			
		—	Not applicable	124	26	5,615	22			
		Total		510	100	25,465	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	141	28	6,372	25	2.3	2.4	-.05
		2	Some	99	19	5,391	21			
		3	Quite a bit	76	15	4,670	18			
		4	Very much	106	21	5,229	20			
		—	Not applicable	85	17	3,748	15			
		Total		507	100	25,410	100			
3. During the current school year, how often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?										
	ADV04	1	Never	280	55	12,282	48	1.7	1.8 **	-.14
	_15	2	Sometimes	141	28	8,100	32			
		3	Often	64	13	3,409	14			
		4	Very often	23	4	1,630	7			
		—	Not applicable							
		Total		508	100	25,421	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	164	32	7,038	28			
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	40	8	3,249	12			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	101	20	4,102	16			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	36	7	2,472	10			
		—	Website, catalog, or other published sources	33	7	1,592	6			
		—	Friends or other students	55	11	3,082	12			
		—	Family members	31	6	1,673	7			
		—	Other, please specify:	22	5	783	3			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	23	5	1,429	6			
		Total		505	100	25,420	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	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	Boise State	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	Boise State	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	Comparisons with: Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L		
ADV01	386	2.17	2.18	.07	.01	1.29	1.48	412	.855	-.01
ADV02a	375	2.98	2.97	.05	.01	0.91	0.93	14,238	.835	.01
ADV02b	366	3.02	3.04	.05	.01	0.89	0.93	386	.684	-.02
ADV02c	371	2.84	2.89	.05	.01	0.96	1.02	14,141	.325	-.05
ADV02d	366	2.73	2.87	.05	.01	1.00	1.00	13,974	.009	-.14
ADV02e	359	2.63	2.84	.05	.01	1.01	1.03	13,997	.000	-.21
ADV02f	372	2.94	2.93	.05	.01	0.94	0.99	394	.757	.02
ADV02g	319	2.62	2.74	.06	.01	1.05	1.07	12,430	.042	-.12
ADV02h	328	2.49	2.54	.06	.01	1.05	1.11	346	.451	-.04
ADV02i	354	2.54	2.53	.06	.01	1.10	1.11	13,106	.762	.02
ADV04_15	383	1.86	1.97	.04	.01	0.83	0.94	408	.011	-.12

Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	Boise State	Boise State	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	Boise State	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	Boise State	Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L	Comparisons with: Pub RU-H / Doc / M-L		
ADV01	510	2.10	2.08	.08	.01	1.73	1.69	19,942	.852	.01
ADV02a	467	2.94	2.85	.05	.01	1.00	1.00	18,165	.053	.09
ADV02b	459	2.95	2.93	.05	.01	1.01	1.00	17,815	.559	.03
ADV02c	463	2.69	2.73	.05	.01	1.14	1.09	485	.484	-.03
ADV02d	430	2.54	2.67	.05	.01	1.10	1.08	17,218	.014	-.12
ADV02e	424	2.27	2.45	.05	.01	1.10	1.11	16,661	.001	-.16
ADV02f	462	2.64	2.70	.05	.01	1.11	1.08	17,746	.255	-.05
ADV02g	380	2.51	2.59	.06	.01	1.20	1.13	396	.195	-.07
ADV02h	378	2.29	2.40	.06	.01	1.18	1.15	15,450	.062	-.10
ADV02i	419	2.33	2.39	.06	.01	1.19	1.15	16,817	.325	-.05
ADV04_15	508	1.66	1.79	.04	.01	0.86	0.91	19,879	.002	-.14

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 ; z -tests use Cohen's h .
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t -tests. Values differ from N s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests or z -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.
- j. Statistical comparison uses z -test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.
- k. Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."

Key to symbols:

- ▲ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
- △ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▽ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- ▼ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.