



---

**NSSE 2015**  
**Minnesota State Colleges and Universities**  
Southwest Minnesota State University

---

This page intentionally left blank.

## About This Consortium Report

**Consortium Coordinator** Susan Carter, Associate Director for Research, Minnesota State System, susan.carter@so.mnscu.edu

### Comparison Group

This section summarizes how your consortium 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 'Minnesota' column of this report.

Group label	Minnesota
Date submitted	Not applicable; comparison group not customized.
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution did not customize this comparison group; the default group (all consortium participants) was used.
Group description	Default comparison group

### Minnesota (N=6)

Bemidji State University (Bemidji, MN)  
Metropolitan State University (Saint Paul, MN)  
Minnesota State University Moorhead (Moorhead, MN)  
Minnesota State University, Mankato (Mankato, MN)  
St. Cloud State University (St Cloud, MN)  
Winona State University (Winona, MN)

### First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SMSU		Minnesota		SMSU	Minnesota	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>1. How often has your experience at this university exposed you to diverse faculty, staff and administrators (diversity in age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sexual orientation, disability, religious beliefs, creeds, or income)?</b>										
MNS1501	1	Never	2	2	38	4	<b>3.0</b>	3.0	-.08	
	2	Sometimes	28	30	233	24				
	3	Often	32	36	380	38				
	4	Very often	28	31	318	34				
	Total		90	100	969	100				
<b>2. In your experiences at this university during the current school year, about how often have you had serious conversations with students who differ from you in terms of gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability?</b>										
MNS1502	1	Never	12	12	152	15	<b>2.5</b>	2.5	.03	
	2	Sometimes	38	41	388	41				
	3	Often	28	33	261	28				
	4	Very often	12	15	168	17				
	Total		90	100	969	100				
<b>3. To what extent have your experiences at this university contributed to your understanding of today's international/multi-cultural world?</b>										
MNS1503	1	Not at all	6	5	37	4	<b>3.1</b>	3.4 *	-.22	
	2	Very little	15	17	145	13				
	3	Some	37	40	377	38				
	4	Quite a bit	27	32	288	31				
	5	Very much	5	5	123	13				
	Total		90	100	970	100				
<b>4. Have you considered leaving this university because of feeling isolated or unwelcome at the institution or in the local community?</b>										
MNS1504	—	No, I have not considered leaving because of feeling isolated or unwelcome	76	86	748	77				
	—	Yes, both at the institution and in the local community	4	4	59	6				
	—	Yes, in the local community	1	1	55	6				
	—	Yes, at the institution	9	9	105	11				
	Total		90	100	967	100				
<b>5. Please read the following statement and indicate how much you agree or disagree: Faculty use examples of experiences from various racial or ethnic groups in their courses.</b>										
MNS1505	1	Strongly disagree	2	2	40	3	<b>2.8</b>	2.8	-.03	
	2	Mostly disagree	20	23	224	24				
	3	Mostly agree	62	68	594	60				
	4	Strongly agree	6	7	109	12				
	Total		90	100	967	100				

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

### Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				SMSU		Minnesota		SMSU	Minnesota	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>1. How often has your experience at this university exposed you to diverse faculty, staff and administrators (diversity in age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sexual orientation, disability, religious beliefs, creeds, or income)?</b>										
MNS1501	1	Never		6	8	71	4	<b>2.7</b>	3.0 **	-0.33
	2	Sometimes		26	32	515	26			
	3	Often		36	41	674	37			
	4	Very often		17	19	560	34			
	Total			85	100	1,820	100			
<b>2. In your experiences at this university during the current school year, about how often have you had serious conversations with students who differ from you in terms of gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability?</b>										
MNS1502	1	Never		12	16	254	13	<b>2.3</b>	2.6 **	-0.26
	2	Sometimes		36	44	678	35			
	3	Often		28	32	531	30			
	4	Very often		8	9	361	21			
	Total			84	100	1,824	100			
<b>3. To what extent have your experiences at this university contributed to your understanding of today's international/multi-cultural world?</b>										
MNS1503	1	Not at all		5	7	82	5	<b>3.1</b>	3.4 **	-0.32
	2	Very little		17	20	261	14			
	3	Some		38	45	651	34			
	4	Quite a bit		15	17	564	31			
	5	Very much		10	11	268	16			
	Total			85	100	1,826	100			
<b>4. Have you considered leaving this university because of feeling isolated or unwelcome at the institution or in the local community?</b>										
MNS1504	—	No, I have not considered leaving because of feeling isolated or unwelcome		75	89	1,532	85			
	—	Yes, both at the institution and in the local community		6	6	84	5			
	—	Yes, in the local community		0	0	62	3			
	—	Yes, at the institution		4	5	141	7			
	Total			85	100	1,819	100			
<b>5. Please read the following statement and indicate how much you agree or disagree: Faculty use examples of experiences from various racial or ethnic groups in their courses.</b>										
MNS1505	1	Strongly disagree		5	6	114	7	<b>2.7</b>	2.8	-0.04
	2	Mostly disagree		22	26	484	26			
	3	Mostly agree		47	56	955	51			
	4	Strongly agree		11	12	266	17			
	Total			85	100	1,819	100			

### First-Year Students

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
	SMSU	SMSU	Minnesota	SMSU	Minnesota	SMSU	Minnesota	Comparisons with: Minnesota		
MNS1501	88	2.96	3.03	.09	.02	0.85	0.86	1,453	.479	-.08
MNS1502	88	2.50	2.47	.09	.03	0.89	0.94	1,454	.763	.03
MNS1503	88	3.15	3.36	.10	.03	0.95	1.00	1,454	.047	-.22
MNS1505	88	2.79	2.82	.06	.02	0.60	0.68	1,447	.783	-.03

## Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error <sup>f</sup>		Standard deviation <sup>g</sup>		DF <sup>h</sup>	Sig. <sup>i</sup>	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
	SMSU	SMSU	Minnesota	SMSU	Minnesota	SMSU	Minnesota	Comparisons with: Minnesota		
MNS1501	85	2.72	3.00	.09	.02	0.87	0.86	2,149	.003	-.33
MNS1502	84	2.34	2.60	.09	.02	0.85	0.97	91	.009	-.26
MNS1503	85	3.06	3.39	.11	.02	1.05	1.06	91	.005	-.32
MNS1505	85	2.74	2.78	.08	.02	0.75	0.80	2,149	.689	-.04

## 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.