



University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

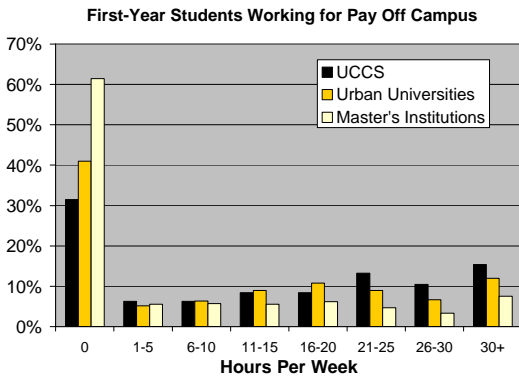
2004 National Survey of Student Engagement Hours Students Work *Research Brief #18*

In spring 2004, UCCS participated in a national study of college students, along with other four-year colleges and universities. Randomly selected first-year and senior students at UCCS were invited to share their views by completing *The College Student Report*. This survey is part of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) administered by the Indiana University at Bloomington.

The survey asked students how they spend time, the nature and quality of their interactions with faculty members and peers, and what they had gained from their classes, as well as other aspects of their college experience.

Hours Students Work

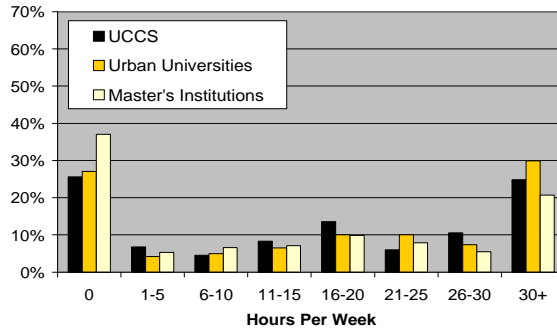
NSSE survey results show that UCCS students work for pay off campus at rates much than students at comparable institutions. The vast majority of UCCS first-year students work, (69%). The vast majority of first-year students elsewhere do not work, (62%).



UCCS first-year students also spend more hours in paid employment. Approximately 38% of them say they work more than 20 hours per week.

Among UCCS seniors, the pattern is more pronounced as 74% work off campus. Approximately one-quarter of the seniors working off campus work 30 or more hours per week and 42% report working more than 20 hours per week. Nationally, only about one-third of seniors are working those many hours.

Senior Students Working for Pay Off Campus



On-campus work hours are a different story. At UCCS, students are less likely to work on campus. Ten percent of first-year and 20% of senior students work on campus. The percentages among students at comparable institutions range from 14-27% among first-year students and 18-34% among seniors.

Percent of Students Working*		
First Year Students	Off Campus	On Campus
UCCS	69%	10%
Public Urban Universities	59%	14%
Public Master's Institutions	39%	25%
All Publics in NSSE Study	33%	27%
Senior Students		
UCCS	74%	20%
Public Urban Universities	73%	18%
Public Master's Institutions	63%	27%
All Publics in NSSE Study	56%	34%

* "Off campus" and "on campus" are not mutually exclusive categories.

Providing more on-campus work opportunities may be a means of reducing students' financial constraints while simultaneously increasing the sense of community at UCCS. The NSSE results further reveal that first-year students nationally are provided with much more available time than are UCCS first-time students to become acquainted with their colleges and adjusting to college life.