



CU-Colorado Springs

National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) 2002 Responses from CU-Colorado Springs Students *Hours Students Work*

Research Brief No. 5

NSSE Overview

In spring 2002, CU-Colorado Springs participated in a national study of college students, along with 367 other four-year colleges and universities. Seven hundred randomly selected first-year and senior students at CU-Colorado Springs were invited to share their views by completing *The College Student Report*. This survey is part of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) that is administered by the Indiana University at Bloomington.

The NSSE questionnaire took students less than 15 minutes to complete and participants had the choice of using paper or the Web. 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 and other aspects of their college experience. Approximately 301 students completed a survey (131 freshmen and 170 seniors), providing a 43% response rate.

Hours Students Work

NSSE results confirm a general institutional perception that CU-Colorado Springs students are employed at higher rates and work longer than the typical college student.

CU-Colorado Springs' freshmen work substantially more hours compared to counterparts nationally. This suggests that most CU-Colorado Springs freshmen juggle adjustment to college demands with employment demands, while most freshmen nationally deal solely with college demands.

Hours per week working for pay off campus	CU-Colorado Springs Freshmen	All Public NSSE Freshmen	CU-Colorado Springs Seniors	All Public NSSE Seniors
None	42%	61%	27%	38%
1 to 20	29%	22%	21%	26%
21 and more	29%	17%	52%	36%

The trend toward being employed and working longer is more pronounced by the time CU-Colorado Springs students become seniors. The majority work over 20 hours per week. Nationally, about one in three seniors do not work and about one in three work over 20 hours a week.

Ten percent of freshmen and twenty-percent of seniors work on campus. Rates of employment on campus, a factor that may contribute to greater association with the campus community, were lower at CU-Colorado Springs for both freshmen and seniors than found nationally.

Similar patterns of work and school were found at other urban institutions participating in the study.

For further information on NSSE and CU-Colorado Springs' results, please contact the Office of Institutional Research.

Prepared by: Office of Institutional Research
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