

First-Year Students

Frequency Distributions

Statistical Comparisons

Your first-year students compared with

Educational Goal

Item wording or description
Values^d Response options

		Hamilton College				Broader Liberal Arts				All NSSE				Hamilton College						
		Peer Colleges		Broader Liberal Arts		All NSSE		Peer Colleges		Broader Liberal Arts		All NSSE		Peer Colleges		Broader Liberal Arts		All NSSE		
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	
Intellectual Curiosity and Flexibility	2. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?																			
	a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	1	Never	7	3	51	3	145	3	14,496	7	2.8	2.8	.00	2.8	-.01	2.7 *	▲		
		2	Sometimes	79	38	535	35	1,460	34	85,918	38									
		3	Often	68	33	576	38	1,721	40	83,645	36									
		4	Very often	54	26	356	24	1,021	23	43,994	19									
		Total		208	100	1,518	100	4,347	100	228,053	100									
	c. Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	1	Never	5	3	76	5	186	4	20,997	10	2.9	2.9	.02	2.8	.04	2.6 ***	▲		
		2	Sometimes	65	32	448	30	1,367	32	88,549	39									
		3	Often	85	41	582	40	1,653	39	76,202	33									
		4	Very often	51	25	386	26	1,086	25	39,459	17									
Total			206	100	1,492	100	4,292	100	225,207	100										
d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	1	Never	4	2	52	3	128	3	10,605	5	3.0	3.0	.11	2.9 *	.14	2.8 ***	▲			
	2	Sometimes	41	20	385	26	1,150	27	73,228	33										
	3	Often	105	51	639	43	1,908	44	94,901	42										
	4	Very often	56	28	417	28	1,105	26	45,978	21										
	Total		206	100	1,493	100	4,291	100	224,712	100										
f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	1	Never	2	1	18	1	50	1	6,189	3	3.2	3.1	.14	3.1 *	.18	2.9 ***	▲			
	2	Sometimes	35	17	294	20	892	21	69,275	32										
	3	Often	83	41	656	45	1,915	45	94,518	42										
	4	Very often	82	41	507	34	1,397	32	53,401	23										
	Total		202	100	1,475	100	4,254	100	223,383	100										
4. During the current school year, how much has your coursework emphasized the following?																				
b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	1	Very little	1	1	33	2	78	2	7,243	4	3.2	3.1 *	.19	3.1	.12	3.0 ***	▲			
	2	Some	24	12	277	19	712	17	49,886	23										
	3	Quite a bit	109	53	701	48	2,012	48	98,606	44										
	4	Very much	70	35	444	31	1,407	33	65,155	29										
	Total		204	100	1,455	100	4,209	100	220,890	100										
c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	1	Very little	2	1	25	2	67	2	7,977	4	3.3	3.2	.05	3.2	.04	3.0 ***	▲			
	2	Some	23	12	209	14	606	14	50,813	24										
	3	Quite a bit	91	46	621	43	1,787	43	93,813	42										
	4	Very much	84	41	598	41	1,735	41	67,404	30										
	Total		200	100	1,453	100	4,195	100	220,007	100										

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				Hamilton College		Peer Colleges		Broader Liberal Arts		All NSSE		Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e
				Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	
d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	1	Very little		5	2	32	2	102	2	8,943	4	3.1	3.1	.01	3.1	-.01	2.9 ***	▲	.24
	2	Some		35	18	275	20	761	18	55,214	26								
	3	Quite a bit		90	44	626	43	1,808	44	95,298	43								
	4	Very much		72	35	515	35	1,511	36	60,579	27								
	Total			202	100	1,448	100	4,182	100	220,034	100								
e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	1	Very little		3	1	40	3	116	3	10,068	5	3.2	3.1	.12	3.1	.09	2.9 ***	▲	.32
	2	Some		29	15	283	20	779	19	56,573	26								
	3	Quite a bit		93	48	628	44	1,809	44	93,134	42								
	4	Very much		73	36	494	34	1,462	35	59,734	27								
	Total			198	100	1,445	100	4,166	100	219,509	100								
17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?																			
c. Thinking critically and analytically	1	Very little		2	1	20	2	68	2	6,142	4	3.5	3.3 ***	.26	3.3 ***	.27	3.1 ***	▲	.48
	2	Some		13	6	168	13	485	13	34,630	19								
	3	Quite a bit		65	35	489	39	1,481	40	80,006	42								
	4	Very much		104	57	575	46	1,681	45	67,815	35								
	Total			184	100	1,252	100	3,715	100	188,593	100								
6. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?																			
a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	1	Never		16	7	224	16	531	13	31,769	14	2.8	2.5 ***	.32	2.6 ***	.23	2.6 ***	▲	.29
	2	Sometimes		60	29	518	35	1,458	34	78,540	35								
	3	Often		78	39	464	32	1,383	33	73,417	34								
	4	Very often		50	25	257	18	832	20	37,402	18								
	Total			204	100	1,463	100	4,204	100	221,128	100								
b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	1	Never		29	14	335	23	819	20	50,286	22	2.5	2.2 ***	.28	2.3 *	.18	2.3 ***	▲	.24
	2	Sometimes		76	37	601	41	1,692	40	88,575	40								
	3	Often		65	33	365	25	1,120	27	56,212	26								
	4	Very often		31	16	160	11	565	13	25,566	12								
	Total			201	100	1,461	100	4,196	100	220,639	100								
c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	1	Never		26	12	258	18	636	15	48,486	22	2.5	2.4	.13	2.4	.07	2.3 ***	▲	.25
	2	Sometimes		77	39	581	39	1,694	40	90,714	41								
	3	Often		71	36	427	30	1,274	31	57,246	26								
	4	Very often		26	13	190	13	581	14	23,211	11								
	Total			200	100	1,456	100	4,185	100	219,657	100								

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

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Statistical Comparisons

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Educational Goal	Item wording or description	Values ^d	Response options	Frequency Distributions								Statistical Comparisons							
				Hamilton College		Peer Colleges		Broader Liberal Arts		All NSSE		Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e
				Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean		Mean		Mean		
17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?																			
d. Analyzing numerical and statistical information	1	Very little		17	8	225	18	608	17	28,389	14	2.9	2.5 ***	.43	2.5 ***	.34	2.6 ***	.26	
	2	Some		47	25	428	34	1,209	33	59,448	31								
	3	Quite a bit		69	37	397	32	1,155	31	61,903	33								
	4	Very much		52	29	202	16	746	20	38,763	21								
	Total			185	100	1,252	100	3,718	100	188,503	100								
1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?																			
Aesthetic Discernment d. Attended an art exhibit, play or other arts performance (dance, music, etc.)	1	Never		18	9	155	10	606	13	79,738	36	2.5	2.5	-.02	2.4	.09	2.0 ***	.55	
	2	Sometimes		95	44	700	44	2,012	45	95,264	39								
	3	Often		71	34	517	31	1,293	28	41,673	16								
	4	Very often		27	13	246	15	629	14	23,228	9								
	Total			211	100	1,618	100	4,540	100	239,903	100								
2. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?																			
Creativity g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	1	Never		1	1	8	1	16	0	3,160	2	3.4	3.3	.14	3.3 *	.16	3.1 ***	.42	
	2	Sometimes		24	12	182	13	550	13	45,785	21								
	3	Often		71	34	620	42	1,837	43	99,835	45								
	4	Very often		109	53	659	44	1,835	43	73,411	33								
	Total			205	100	1,469	100	4,238	100	222,191	100								
11. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate?^f																			
e. Work with a faculty member on a research project		Have not decided		71	35	448	33	1,292	33	76,592	38	9%	5% *	.15	7%	.10	5% *	.15	
		Do not plan to do		16	8	77	6	330	8	46,134	23								
		Plan to do		96	47	747	56	2,043	53	68,935	34								
		Done or in progress		17	9	75	5	261	7	10,792	5								
	Total			200	100	1,347	100	3,926	100	202,453	100								
f. Complete a culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, portfolio, etc.)		Have not decided		18	9	315	24	874	23	61,576	31	2%	1%	.10	2%	.04	3%	-.05	
		Do not plan to do		3	1	29	2	106	3	18,280	10								
		Plan to do		175	87	982	73	2,883	73	117,385	56								
		Done or in progress		4	2	13	1	59	2	5,321	3								
	Total			200	100	1,339	100	3,922	100	202,562	100								

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Response options

Hamilton College

Peer Colleges

Broader Liberal Arts

All NSSE

Hamilton College

Peer Colleges

Broader Liberal Arts

All NSSE

Count

%

Count

%

Count

%

Count

%

Mean

Mean

Effect size^e

Mean

Effect size^e

Mean

Effect size^e

17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?

Item	Response	Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE	Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE		
i. Solving complex real-world problems	1 Very little	18	9	156	13	396	11	23,433	13		
	2 Some	53	29	431	35	1,250	34	61,838	33		
	3 Quite a bit	76	41	410	32	1,245	33	63,991	34		
	4 Very much	38	21	253	20	822	22	38,980	20		
	Total	185	100	1,250	100	3,713	100	188,242	100		
		2.7				2.6 *	.15	2.7	.08	2.6	.12

Communication and Expression

1. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?

Item	Response	Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE	Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE		
a. Asked questions or contributed to course discussions in other ways	1 Never	2	1	10	1	30	1	7,262	3		
	2 Sometimes	42	18	348	21	922	20	79,525	34		
	3 Often	87	41	566	35	1,571	34	86,385	35		
	4 Very often	83	39	709	43	2,061	45	69,131	28		
	Total	214	100	1,633	100	4,584	100	242,303	100		
		3.2				3.2	-.02	3.2	-.05	2.9 ***	.37
b. Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	1 Never	38	19	273	17	706	16	37,607	16		
	2 Sometimes	78	37	627	39	1,807	39	83,594	34		
	3 Often	53	24	416	25	1,177	26	70,852	29		
	4 Very often	44	20	315	19	868	19	49,165	20		
	Total	213	100	1,631	100	4,558	100	241,218	100		
		2.5				2.5	-.01	2.5	-.02	2.5	-.08
i. Gave a course presentation	1 Never	17	8	259	17	554	13	45,908	21		
	2 Sometimes	105	51	832	54	2,317	53	105,029	45		
	3 Often	67	32	350	22	1,112	25	56,658	24		
	4 Very often	19	9	122	7	425	9	24,238	10		
	Total	208	100	1,563	100	4,408	100	231,833	100		
		2.4				2.2 ***	.29	2.3 *	.16	2.2 **	.21

7. During the current school year, about how many papers, reports, or other writing tasks of the following length have you been assigned? (Include those not yet completed.)

Item	Response	Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE	Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE		
a. Up to 5 pages	0 None	1	1	11	1	30	1	8,202	5		
	1.5 1-2	14	6	96	7	278	7	36,867	19		
	4 3-5	47	23	312	24	893	23	62,809	32		
	8 6-10	71	35	466	34	1,339	34	51,856	25		
	13 11-15	33	17	262	19	743	19	22,463	10		
	18 16-20	23	11	114	9	339	9	10,262	5		
	23 More than 20	13	6	88	6	316	8	10,580	5		
Total	202	100	1,349	100	3,938	100	203,039	100			
		9.5				9.3	.03	9.5	-.01	6.8 ***	.47

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

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				Hamilton College		Peer Colleges		Broader Liberal Arts		All NSSE		Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e
				Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	
b. Between 6 and 10 pages	0	None		49	26	123	10	370	10	61,098	33	2.1	3.3 ***	-.40	3.2 ***	-.39	2.1	.00	
	1.5	1-2		94	50	527	40	1,600	41	84,028	42								
	4	3-5		37	18	515	38	1,447	37	36,654	18								
	8	6-10		8	4	135	10	378	9	11,338	6								
	13	11-15		1	1	21	2	72	2	2,432	1								
	18	16-20		1	1	7	1	17	0	728	0								
	23	More than 20		1	0	3	0	9	0	716	0								
	Total		191	100	1,331	100	3,893	100	196,994	100									
c. 11 pages or more	0	None		141	78	670	54	1,997	55	144,218	76	.5	.9 ***	-.30	1.0 ***	-.27	.8 **	-.12	
	1.5	1-2		31	18	489	39	1,422	38	35,395	17								
	4	3-5		6	3	73	6	223	6	5,678	3								
	8	6-10		0	0	9	1	33	1	2,457	1								
	13	11-15		1	1	4	0	15	0	1,493	1								
	18	16-20		0	0	0	0	5	0	662	0								
	23	More than 20		0	0	1	0	7	0	935	1								
	Total		179	100	1,246	100	3,702	100	190,838	100									
	Estimated number of assigned pages of student writing.										52.2	66.9 ***	-.34	68.1 ***	-.32	47.0	.09		
17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?																			
a. Writing clearly and effectively	1	Very little		3	2	52	4	144	4	13,681	8	3.3	3.0 ***	.41	3.0 ***	.36	2.9 ***	.51	
	2	Some		17	10	295	24	818	22	47,175	25								
	3	Quite a bit		80	42	516	41	1,550	42	75,870	40								
	4	Very much		85	46	396	31	1,223	33	52,527	27								
		Total		185	100	1,259	100	3,735	100	189,253	100								
b. Speaking clearly and effectively	1	Very little		9	5	129	10	364	10	21,169	12	2.9	2.6 ***	.26	2.7 **	.20	2.7 **	.21	
	2	Some		51	28	421	34	1,186	32	56,804	30								
	3	Quite a bit		76	42	457	37	1,360	37	68,991	36								
	4	Very much		47	25	247	19	808	21	41,676	22								
		Total		183	100	1,254	100	3,718	100	188,640	100								

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

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				Hamilton College		Peer Colleges		Broader Liberal Arts		All NSSE		Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e	Effect size ^e
				Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	
Understanding of Cultural Diversity	2. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?																	
	e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	1	Never	3	2	28	2	70	2	7,910	4	3.1	3.0	.13	3.0	.11	2.9 ***	.26
		2	Sometimes	39	18	388	26	1,085	25	66,770	30							
		3	Often	104	50	654	44	1,907	45	94,936	42							
		4	Very often	60	30	416	28	1,204	28	54,508	24							
			Total	206	100	1,486	100	4,266	100	224,124	100							
		8. During the current school year, about how often have you had discussions with people from the following groups?																
	a. People of a race or ethnicity other than your own	1	Never	1	0	25	2	69	2	9,646	5	3.4	3.3	.07	3.3	.10	3.1 ***	.30
		2	Sometimes	31	15	258	18	745	18	48,565	23							
		3	Often	65	32	389	29	1,163	29	60,333	29							
		4	Very often	105	52	700	52	2,015	51	88,127	42							
			Total	202	100	1,372	100	3,992	100	206,671	100							
	b. People from an economic background other than your own	1	Never	1	0	17	1	58	1	8,783	5	3.4	3.4	.00	3.3	.06	3.1 ***	.31
		2	Sometimes	29	15	224	16	680	17	44,579	22							
		3	Often	68	33	406	29	1,242	31	69,435	34							
	4	Very often	103	51	722	54	2,005	51	83,319	40								
		Total	201	100	1,369	100	3,985	100	206,116	100								
c. People with religious beliefs other than your own	1	Never	1	0	29	2	85	2	13,077	7	3.3	3.3	.07	3.2	.10	3.0 ***	.34	
	2	Sometimes	26	14	251	18	755	19	51,172	25								
	3	Often	77	38	412	30	1,202	30	60,864	30								
	4	Very often	98	48	674	50	1,930	48	80,480	39								
		Total	202	100	1,366	100	3,972	100	205,593	100								
d. People with political views other than your own	1	Never	4	2	80	6	176	4	13,011	7	3.1	2.9 *	.18	3.0	.07	3.0	.07	
	2	Sometimes	57	28	457	33	1,142	29	51,780	25								
	3	Often	64	32	370	28	1,148	29	63,738	31								
	4	Very often	74	38	452	34	1,483	38	76,313	38								
		Total	199	100	1,359	100	3,949	100	204,842	100								
	14. How much does your institution emphasize the following?																	
d. Encouraging contact among students from different backgrounds (social, racial/ethnic, religious, etc.)	1	Very little	13	7	115	9	374	10	21,334	12	2.9	2.8	.05	2.8	.06	2.7 *	.15	
	2	Some	54	28	356	27	1,057	28	54,887	29								
	3	Quite a bit	67	35	432	35	1,199	32	62,277	33								
	4	Very much	56	30	367	29	1,135	30	52,018	27								
		Total	190	100	1,370	100	4,165	100	50,516	100								

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

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				Hamilton College		Peer Colleges		Broader Liberal Arts		All NSSE		Hamilton College	Peer Colleges	Broader Liberal Arts	All NSSE				
				Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	Mean	Effect size ^e	
			Total	190	100	1,270	100	3,765	100	190,516	100								
	17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?																		
	h. Understanding people of other backgrounds (economic, racial/ethnic, political, religious, nationality, etc.)	1	Very little	15	8	127	10	399	11	20,611	12	2.8	2.8	.01	2.8	.04	2.7	.10	
		2	Some	51	29	328	26	1,017	27	54,157	29								
		3	Quite a bit	67	36	434	35	1,252	34	64,804	34								
		4	Very much	51	27	363	29	1,053	28	48,957	25								
			Total	184	100	1,252	100	3,721	100	188,529	100								
Ethical, Informed, and Engaged Citizenship	2. During the current school year, about how often have you done the following?																		
	b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	1	Never	3	2	52	4	143	3	18,251	9	2.9	2.9	-.03	2.9	.01	2.6 ***	.33	
			2	Sometimes	69	33	428	29	1,297	30	86,707								39
			3	Often	79	39	590	39	1,693	39	79,616								35
			4	Very often	56	27	427	28	1,160	27	40,498								18
			Total	207	100	1,497	100	4,293	100	225,072	100								
	11. Which of the following have you done or do you plan to do before you graduate?^f																		
	b. Hold a formal leadership role in a student organization or group		Have not decided	36	18	303	22	844	21	55,876	27	23%	15% **	.20	16% **	.18	12% ***	.31	
			Do not plan to do	13	7	126	10	348	9	46,753	24								
			Plan to do	105	52	722	53	2,124	53	76,898	36								
			Done or in progress	46	23	209	15	641	16	24,408	12								
			Total	200	100	1,360	100	3,957	100	203,935	100								
	d. Participate in a study abroad program		Have not decided	27	14	198	15	583	16	54,732	27	4%	5%	-.07	4%	-.03	4%	.00	
			Do not plan to do	14	7	72	6	300	8	51,756	27								
			Plan to do	151	75	1,015	74	2,893	72	89,983	42								
			Done or in progress	7	4	68	5	167	4	6,955	4								
			Total	199	100	1,353	100	3,943	100	203,426	100								
	12. About how many of your courses at this institution have included a community-based project (service-learning)?																		
		1	None	149	74	899	67	2,416	61	96,037	49	1.3	1.4 **	-.18	1.4 ***	-.28	1.6 ***	-.51	
		2	Some	50	26	420	31	1,371	35	90,804	44								
		3	Most	1	0	25	2	125	3	12,953	6								
		4	All	0	0	5	0	18	0	2,178	1								
			Total	200	100	1,349	100	3,930	100	201,972	100								

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed)

First-Year Students

Frequency Distributions

Statistical Comparisons

Your first-year students compared with

Educational Goal

Item wording
or description

Values^d

Response options

Hamilton
College

Peer Colleges

Broader Liberal
Arts

All NSSE

Hamilton
College

Peer Colleges

Broader Liberal Arts

All NSSE

Count

%

Count

%

Count

%

Count

%

Mean

Mean

Effect
size^e

Mean

Effect
size^e

Mean

Effect
size^e

15. About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing the following?

e. Doing community service or volunteer work	0	0 hrs	87	49	749	61	2,047	56	104,674	57	2.0	1.5 *	.17	1.9	.03	2.4	-.08
	3	1-5 hrs	82	44	440	34	1,409	37	62,996	32							
	8	6-10 hrs	9	5	44	3	153	4	10,838	6							
	13	11-15 hrs	4	3	9	1	50	1	4,400	2							
	18	16-20 hrs	0	0	5	0	29	1	2,433	1							
	23	21-25 hrs	0	0	1	0	11	0	1,073	1							
	28	26-30 hrs	0	0	1	0	3	0	409	0							
	33	More than 30 hrs	0	0	1	0	9	0	621	0							
		Total	182	100	1,250	100	3,711	100	187,444	100							

17. How much has your experience at this institution contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?

g. Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics	1	Very little	19	11	137	12	401	11	22,193	13	2.9	2.8	.10	2.8	.09	2.7 *	.18
	2	Some	40	23	331	27	1,001	27	52,265	28							
	3	Quite a bit	67	36	424	34	1,271	34	65,049	34							
	4	Very much	58	31	357	28	1,045	28	48,839	24							
		Total	184	100	1,249	100	3,718	100	188,346	100							
j. Being an informed and active citizen	1	Very little	15	8	116	10	358	10	23,715	13	2.9	2.8	.07	2.8	.07	2.6 **	.24
	2	Some	49	27	347	28	1,019	28	59,328	32							
	3	Quite a bit	64	35	449	36	1,312	35	63,563	34							
	4	Very much	55	29	336	27	1,010	27	40,912	21							
		Total	183	100	1,248	100	3,699	100	187,518	100							