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# **NSSE 2015 Topical Module**

## **Academic Advising**

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

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## 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 'Official Peers\_ADV' column of this report.

Group label	Official Peers_ADV
Date submitted	6/8/15
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this comparison group by selecting institutions from all module participants.
Group description	Official Peers completing the Advising module.

## Official Peers\_ADV (N=6)

University of Alabama at Birmingham (Birmingham, AL)\*  
 University of Cincinnati (Cincinnati, OH)  
 University of Illinois at Chicago (Chicago, IL)  
 University of South Florida (Tampa, FL)  
 Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, VA)\*  
 Wayne State University (Detroit, MI)

## 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>		
				IUPUI		Official Peers_ADV		IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>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?</b>										
	ADV01	0	0	24	6	113	4	<b>2.5</b>	2.6	-.06
		1	1	86	19	595	20			
		2	2	148	32	977	31			
		3	3	112	24	699	22			
		4	4	48	11	418	13			
		5	5	13	3	158	5			
		6	6 or more	29	6	195	6			
			Total	460	100	3,155	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?</b>										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	39	8	237	8	<b>3.1</b>	3.0	.01
		2	Some	77	17	578	18			
		3	Quite a bit	143	32	1,005	33			
		4	Very much	171	37	1,209	38			
		—	Not applicable	28	7	120	4			
			Total	458	100	3,149	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	38	7	188	6	<b>3.1</b>	3.1	-.06
		2	Some	79	17	549	18			
		3	Quite a bit	143	32	970	31			
		4	Very much	173	37	1,304	40			
		—	Not applicable	24	6	129	5			
			Total	457	100	3,140	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	76	16	352	11	<b>2.8</b>	2.9 *	-.13
		2	Some	89	19	596	19			
		3	Quite a bit	108	23	889	28			
		4	Very much	159	34	1,164	36			
		—	Not applicable	25	6	136	5			
			Total	457	100	3,137	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	61	13	354	12	<b>2.9</b>	2.9	-.01
		2	Some	89	20	651	21			
		3	Quite a bit	127	28	917	29			
		4	Very much	149	33	1,032	33			
		—	Not applicable	29	7	177	6			
			Total	455	100	3,131	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	60	13	374	12	<b>2.9</b>	2.9	-.02
		2	Some	95	21	638	20			
		3	Quite a bit	115	25	841	27			
		4	Very much	153	34	1,089	34			
		—	Not applicable	31	7	202	7			
			Total	454	100	3,144	100			

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

## 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>		
				IUPUI		Official Peers_ADV		IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Mean
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	58	12	350	11	<b>2.9</b>	2.9	-.03
		2	Some	87	20	601	19			
		3	Quite a bit	131	29	934	30			
		4	Very much	162	35	1,146	36			
		—	Not applicable	19	5	113	4			
		Total		457	100	3,144	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	76	16	454	15	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	-.02
		2	Some	84	19	596	19			
		3	Quite a bit	111	25	647	21			
		4	Very much	124	27	857	27			
		—	Not applicable	59	14	581	19			
		Total		454	100	3,135	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internship, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	89	18	568	19	<b>2.7</b>	2.6	.06
		2	Some	82	19	646	20			
		3	Quite a bit	100	22	670	21			
		4	Very much	130	28	811	26			
		—	Not applicable	56	13	442	14			
		Total		457	100	3,137	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	93	20	536	17	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	.02
		2	Some	84	19	696	22			
		3	Quite a bit	100	22	730	24			
		4	Very much	140	31	910	28			
		—	Not applicable	35	8	256	8			
		Total		452	100	3,128	100			
<b>3. How often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?</b>										
	ADV04	1	Never	190	41	760	35	<b>1.9</b>	2.0 *	-0.11
	_15	2	Sometimes	166	37	845	39			
		3	Often	77	17	382	19			
		4	Very often	26	6	132	6			
		—	Not applicable	10	2	32	1			
		Total		459	100	2,119	100			
<b>4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one)</b>										
	ADV03	—	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	151	33	1,313	41	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	.02
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	71	16	258	9			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	29	7	182	6			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	25	6	144	4			
		—	Web site, catalog, or other published sources	11	3	109	4			
		—	Friends or other students	56	12	477	15			
		—	Family members	90	18	522	17			
		—	Other, please specify:	10	2	32	1			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	16	4	114	4			
		Total		459	100	3,151	100			

## Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values <sup>c</sup>	Response options	Frequency Distributions <sup>a</sup>				Statistical Comparisons <sup>b</sup>		
				IUPUI		Official Peers_ADV		IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
<b>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?</b>										
	ADV01	0	0	115	15	804	14	<b>2.1</b>	2.1	.01
		1	1	177	24	1,633	27			
		2	2	196	28	1,608	27			
		3	3	110	15	910	15			
		4	4	62	8	472	8			
		5	5	26	4	168	3			
		6	6 or more	42	6	399	6			
			Total	728	100	5,994	100			
<b>2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?</b>										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	78	10	615	10	<b>3.0</b>	2.9	.03
		2	Some	135	18	1,220	20			
		3	Quite a bit	207	29	1,710	28			
		4	Very much	254	35	2,041	34			
		—	Not applicable	54	7	418	7			
			Total	728	100	6,004	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	66	9	623	10	<b>3.0</b>	3.0	.05
		2	Some	132	18	1,123	19			
		3	Quite a bit	188	26	1,587	26			
		4	Very much	262	36	2,078	35			
		—	Not applicable	80	11	575	10			
			Total	728	100	5,986	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	106	14	916	15	<b>2.8</b>	2.8	.03
		2	Some	146	20	1,177	19			
		3	Quite a bit	176	25	1,530	25			
		4	Very much	232	32	1,875	31			
		—	Not applicable	65	9	488	9			
			Total	725	100	5,986	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	118	16	976	16	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	.00
		2	Some	149	20	1,250	21			
		3	Quite a bit	146	21	1,287	22			
		4	Very much	195	27	1,613	27			
		—	Not applicable	121	16	824	14			
			Total	729	100	5,950	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	163	23	1,399	23	<b>2.5</b>	2.4	.01
		2	Some	146	20	1,151	19			
		3	Quite a bit	121	18	1,062	18			
		4	Very much	151	21	1,235	21			
		—	Not applicable	144	19	1,140	20			
			Total	725	100	5,987	100			

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001 (2-tailed): Refer to the Endnotes page for a key to the 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>		
				IUPUI		Official Peers_ADV		IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV	Effect size <sup>d</sup>
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	122	16	1,124	19	<b>2.7</b>	2.7	.04
		2	Some	147	20	1,238	20			
		3	Quite a bit	177	26	1,380	23			
		4	Very much	197	27	1,641	27			
		—	Not applicable	82	11	600	10			
		Total		725	100	5,983	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	118	16	1,161	19	<b>2.6</b>	2.5	.03
		2	Some	115	16	935	15			
		3	Quite a bit	114	17	896	15			
		4	Very much	144	20	1,260	21			
		—	Not applicable	233	32	1,726	29			
		Total		724	100	5,978	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internship, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	167	22	1,384	23	<b>2.4</b>	2.4	.00
		2	Some	122	17	976	16			
		3	Quite a bit	112	16	966	16			
		4	Very much	144	20	1,220	20			
		—	Not applicable	179	25	1,425	25			
		Total		724	100	5,971	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	196	27	1,573	26	<b>2.4</b>	2.4	.00
		2	Some	142	20	1,173	19			
		3	Quite a bit	118	17	992	17			
		4	Very much	164	22	1,316	22			
		—	Not applicable	106	15	913	16			
		Total		726	100	5,967	100			
<b>3. How often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?</b>										
	ADV04	1	Never	304	42	2,056	48	<b>1.9</b>	1.8 **	.11
		2	Sometimes	272	37	1,458	34			
		3	Often	113	16	525	12			
		4	Very often	39	5	245	6			
		—	Not applicable							
		Total		728	100	4,284	100			
<b>4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one)</b>										
	ADV03	—	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	257	36	1,784	30			
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	68	9	628	11			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	122	16	840	14			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	55	7	731	12			
		—	Web site, catalog, or other published sources	40	6	298	5			
		—	Friends or other students	73	10	761	12			
		—	Family members	45	6	491	8			
		—	Other, please specify:	15	2	82	1			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	53	7	393	7			
		Total		728	100	6,008	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>
		IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV	IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV	IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV			
ADV01	460	2.48	2.56	.07	.03	1.45	1.46	3,342	.264	-.06
ADV02a	428	3.05	3.05	.05	.02	0.95	0.95	3,183	.912	.01
ADV02b	431	3.05	3.11	.05	.02	0.95	0.92	3,166	.245	-.06
ADV02c	429	2.81	2.94	.05	.02	1.11	1.03	549	.019	-.13
ADV02d	424	2.86	2.88	.05	.02	1.05	1.02	3,111	.806	-.01
ADV02e	421	2.86	2.89	.05	.02	1.06	1.04	3,095	.643	-.02
ADV02f	436	2.90	2.94	.05	.02	1.04	1.02	3,192	.557	-.03
ADV02g	393	2.72	2.74	.06	.02	1.09	1.10	2,721	.727	-.02
ADV02h	398	2.69	2.63	.06	.02	1.13	1.12	2,849	.268	.06
ADV02i	415	2.70	2.68	.06	.02	1.14	1.10	3,028	.754	.02
ADV04_15	460	1.87	1.96	.04	.02	0.88	0.89	2,499	.040	-.11

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



## 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>
	IUPUI	IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV	IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV	IUPUI	Official Peers_ADV			
ADV01	728	2.11	2.09	.06	.02	1.60	1.60	6,394	.795	.01
ADV02a	676	2.96	2.93	.04	.01	1.01	1.01	5,947	.540	.03
ADV02b	651	3.01	2.96	.04	.01	1.00	1.02	5,744	.243	.05
ADV02c	661	2.82	2.79	.04	.02	1.08	1.09	5,836	.523	.03
ADV02d	613	2.70	2.70	.04	.02	1.11	1.11	5,441	.996	.00
ADV02e	587	2.45	2.45	.05	.02	1.15	1.16	5,143	.907	.01
ADV02f	648	2.71	2.66	.04	.02	1.09	1.12	831	.276	.04
ADV02g	493	2.58	2.54	.05	.02	1.14	1.18	630	.453	.03
ADV02h	544	2.44	2.45	.05	.02	1.17	1.18	4,792	.960	.00
ADV02i	621	2.41	2.41	.05	.02	1.18	1.18	5,355	.949	.00
ADV04_15	728	1.85	1.76	.03	.01	0.88	0.88	5,016	.008	.11

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## 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.