



NSSE 2014
University System of Georgia
Dalton State College

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About This Consortium Report

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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 'all USG Schools' column of this report.

Group label	all USG Schools
Date submitted	6/5/14
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution retained the default comparison group (all consortium participants).
Group description	Member Schools of the University System of Georgia (USG)

'all USG Schools' institutions (N=23)

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (Tifton, GA)
 Albany State University (Albany, GA)
 Armstrong State University (Savannah, GA)
 Clayton State University (Morrow, GA)
 College of Coastal Georgia (Brunswick, GA)
 Columbus State University (Columbus, GA)
 Fort Valley State University (Fort Valley, GA)
 Georgia College & State University (Milledgeville, GA)
 Georgia Gwinnett College (Lawrenceville, GA)
 Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, GA)
 Georgia Regents University (Augusta, GA)
 Georgia Southern University (Statesboro, GA)
 Georgia Southwestern State University (Americus, GA)
 Georgia State University (Atlanta, GA)
 Gordon State College (Barnesville, GA)
 Kennesaw State University (Kennesaw, GA)
 Middle Georgia State College (Macon, GA)
 Savannah State University (Savannah, GA)
 Southern Polytechnic State University (Marietta, GA)
 University of Georgia (Athens, GA)
 University of North Georgia (Dahlonega, GA)
 University of West Georgia (Carrollton, GA)
 Valdosta State University (Valdosta, GA)

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Dalton State		all USG Schools		Dalton State	all USG Schools	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
1. Since entering this college, how often have you felt:										
a. That your job responsibilities interfered with your coursework	USG1401a	1	Not at all	9	12	771	16	2.6	2.4	.19
		2	Rarely	20	29	754	16			
		3	Occasionally	23	25	901	19			
		4	Frequently	15	16	490	10			
		—	Not applicable	16	18	1,885	38			
			Total	83	100	4,801	100			
b. That your family responsibilities interfered with your coursework	USG1401b	1	Not at all	18	22	1,512	32	2.3	2.1	.21
		2	Rarely	28	38	1,372	28			
		3	Occasionally	23	24	1,120	23			
		4	Frequently	12	12	399	8			
		—	Not applicable	3	4	393	8			
			Total	84	100	4,796	100			
c. That your social life interfered with your coursework	USG1401c	1	Not at all	21	27	1,034	22	2.2	2.3	-.13
		2	Rarely	28	35	1,471	31			
		3	Occasionally	20	22	1,585	32			
		4	Frequently	10	13	549	11			
		—	Not applicable	3	4	141	3			
			Total	82	100	4,780	100			
2. What is the primary source you use to pay for your educational expenses (tuition, fees, room, and board)?										
	USG1402	—	My own resources (saving from work, work-study income, etc.)	9	10	234	5			
		—	Family (parents, relatives, spouse/significant other, etc.)	10	12	1,483	30			
		—	Aid which need not be repaid (grants, scholarships, military funding, etc.)	52	61	1,684	36			
		—	Aid which must be repaid (loans, etc.)	14	17	1,373	29			
		—	Other	0	0	39	1			
			Total	85	100	4,813	100			
3. After all financial aid is taken into consideration, I still have unmet financial needs that make pursuing a degree difficult.										
	USG1403	1	Strongly disagree	14	15	524	11	2.6	2.7	-.02
		2	Disagree	20	20	1,290	27			
		3	Agree	32	39	1,546	32			
		4	Strongly agree	13	17	926	19			
		—	Not applicable	6	10	508	11			
			Total	85	100	4,794	100			
4. How much student loan debt do you expect to have when you leave college?										
	USG1404	\$ -	No debt expected	38	41	1,545	33	\$ 10,402	\$ 12,193	-.13
		\$ 2,500	\$1-\$5,000	17	17	550	11			
		\$10,000	\$5,001-\$15,000	10	13	1,055	22			
		\$22,500	\$15,001-\$30,000	13	18	1,028	22			
		\$40,000	More than \$30,000	8	12	593	12			
			Total	86	100	4,771	100			

NSSE 2014 University System of Georgia
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Dalton State College

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Dalton State		all USG Schools		Dalton State	all USG Schools	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
5. Which one of the following statements best describes the influence of the HOPE Award on your decision to attend this college?										
	USG1405	—	I was not HOPE Award eligible when admitted to this college.	35	48	1,447	31			
		—	I was HOPE Award eligible, but I would have attended this college with or without the HOPE Award.	23	24	1,764	36			
		—	I could only attend this college with the HOPE Award, but could have attended elsewhere without the HOPE Award.	9	9	589	13			
		—	I could not have attended any college at all without the HOPE Award.	17	19	972	20			
			Total	84	100	4,772	100			
6. What was your primary reason for attending this college?										
	USG1406	—	Complete a certificate program	0	0	114	3			
		—	Obtain an associate's degree	3	4	135	3			
		—	Transfer to another college or university	16	23	648	13			
		—	Obtain a bachelor's degree	57	63	3,397	71			
		—	Obtain or update job-related skills	1	1	81	2			
		—	Self-improvement/personal growth	6	8	368	8			
		—	Change careers	1	1	36	1			
			Total	84	100	4,779	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for key to triangle symbols.
Note: For some items, lower scores may be preferable due to wording.

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b			
				Dalton State		all USG Schools		Dalton State	all USG Schools		
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d	
7. Respond to the following statements based on the services you have received from the library at this college this year.											
a. The reference help available in the library is adequate for my information needs.	USG1407a	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	77	2	3.4	3.2 *	△	.25
		2	Disagree	2	2	148	3				
		3	Agree	40	51	2,281	47				
		4	Strongly agree	32	36	1,191	24				
		—	Not applicable	9	11	1,054	24				
		Total		83	100	4,751	100				
b. The library provides programs that strengthen learning at this college.	USG1407b	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	83	2	3.3	3.1 *	△	.26
		2	Disagree	4	5	327	7				
		3	Agree	43	54	2,200	46				
		4	Strongly agree	28	31	992	20				
		—	Not applicable	8	10	1,137	26				
		Total		83	100	4,739	100				
c. The library collection includes adequate print resources for my academic needs.	USG1407c	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	75	2	3.5	3.3 **	▲	.31
		2	Disagree	2	2	182	4				
		3	Agree	33	45	2,169	46				
		4	Strongly agree	38	43	1,353	27				
		—	Not applicable	9	11	942	22				
		Total		82	100	4,721	100				
d. The library collection includes adequate electronic resources for my academic needs.	USG1407d	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	53	1	3.5	3.3		.22
		2	Disagree	4	3	149	3				
		3	Agree	33	43	2,192	46				
		4	Strongly agree	41	46	1,618	33				
		—	Not applicable	5	7	705	16				
		Total		83	100	4,717	100				
e. The library facility offers comfortable spaces that meet my academic needs.	USG1407e	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	62	2	3.5	3.4 *	△	.24
		2	Disagree	3	3	154	3				
		3	Agree	30	40	2,035	44				
		4	Strongly agree	45	51	1,887	38				
		—	Not applicable	5	7	553	13				
		Total		83	100	4,691	100				
8. How often did you visit the library building at this college this year?											
USG1408	1	Never		6	9	374	9	3.2	3.3		-.05
	2	Rarely		15	18	975	22				
	3	Monthly		20	27	842	18				
	4	Weekly		31	34	1,780	35				
	5	Daily		11	12	805	16				
	Total			83	100	4,776	100				
9. Courses at this college are offered in such a way that I can take them in the recommended sequence and still complete my degree in a timely manner.											
USG1409	1	Strongly disagree		1	1	128	3	3.1	3.0		.12
	2	Disagree		8	10	644	14				
	3	Agree		58	69	3,031	64				
	4	Strongly agree		16	20	947	20				
	Total			83	100	4,750	100				

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for key to triangle symbols.
 Note: For some items, lower scores may be preferable due to wording.

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Dalton State		all USG Schools		Dalton State	all USG Schools	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
10. During this academic year, how many times have you participated in academic advising offered by staff and/or faculty at this college?										
	USG1410	0 0		22	27	525	11	1.5	1.9 **	▼ -.41
		1 1		22	30	1,173	25			
		2 2		17	22	1,734	37			
		3 3		13	13	769	16			
		4 4 or more times		8	9	559	11			
		Total		82	100	4,760	100			
11. Respond to the following four statements based on the academic advising offered by staff and/or faculty at this college that you have participated in this year. (Note: items were only given if respondents selected '1,' '2,' '3,' or '4 or more times' to item 10, or left it blank.)										
a. The academic advising I received related to my course-work was helpful.	USG1411a	1 1 Strongly disagree		1	1	124	3	3.4	3.2	.17
		2 2 Disagree		2	2	260	6			
		3 3 Agree		32	53	2,110	51			
		4 4 Strongly agree		24	42	1,579	36			
		— Not applicable		1	1	142	4			
		Total		60	100	4,215	100			
b. The academic advising I received on selecting, changing, or modifying my major field of study was helpful.	USG1411b	1 1 Strongly disagree		1	1	133	3	3.3	3.2	.09
		2 2 Disagree		4	5	296	7			
		3 3 Agree		26	46	1,646	40			
		4 4 Strongly agree		17	28	1,240	28			
		— Not applicable		11	19	903	21			
		Total		59	100	4,218	100			
c. The academic advising I received on my post-graduation plans was helpful.	USG1411c	1 1 Strongly disagree		1	1	132	3	3.2	3.0	.24
		2 2 Disagree		2	3	256	6			
		3 3 Agree		21	36	1,028	24			
		4 4 Strongly agree		12	20	655	14			
		— Not applicable		24	40	2,138	52			
		Total		60	100	4,209	100			
d. The academic advising I received helped me overcome academic difficulties.	USG1411d	1 1 Strongly disagree		2	3	187	5	3.2	3.0	.25
		2 2 Disagree		4	7	453	11			
		3 3 Agree		24	43	1,550	37			
		4 4 Strongly agree		16	25	775	17			
		— Not applicable		14	23	1,238	31			
		Total		60	100	4,203	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for key to triangle symbols.
Note: For some items, lower scores may be preferable due to wording.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b			
				Dalton State		all USG Schools		Dalton State	all USG Schools		
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d	
1. Since entering this college, how often have you felt:											
a. That your job responsibilities interfered with your coursework	USG1401a	1	Not at all	12	9	772	12	2.9	2.7 *	△	.20
		2	Rarely	24	18	1,206	19				
		3	Occasionally	43	30	2,377	36				
		4	Frequently	43	30	1,318	20				
		—	Not applicable	17	12	869	14				
		Total		139	100	6,542	100				
b. That your family responsibilities interfered with your coursework	USG1401b	1	Not at all	14	10	1,361	22	2.9	2.4 ***	▲	.47
		2	Rarely	32	24	1,845	29				
		3	Occasionally	45	32	2,007	30				
		4	Frequently	48	33	1,082	15				
		—	Not applicable	1	1	236	4				
		Total		140	100	6,531	100				
c. That your social life interfered with your coursework	USG1401c	1	Not at all	43	32	1,627	25	2.0	2.2 *	▽	-.22
		2	Rarely	52	38	2,227	33				
		3	Occasionally	25	18	1,956	31				
		4	Frequently	13	9	582	9				
		—	Not applicable	4	3	115	2				
		Total		137	100	6,507	100				
2. What is the primary source you use to pay for your educational expenses (tuition, fees, room, and board)?											
	USG1402	—	My own resources (saving from work, work-study income, etc.)	21	15	645	10	2.8	2.7	△	.13
		—	Family (parents, relatives, spouse/significant other, etc.)	11	8	1,375	22				
		—	Aid which need not be repaid (grants, scholarships, military funding, etc.)	63	45	1,567	24				
		—	Aid which must be repaid (loans, etc.)	45	32	2,909	43				
		—	Other	1	1	86	1				
		Total		141	100	6,582	100				
3. After all financial aid is taken into consideration, I still have unmet financial needs that make pursuing a degree difficult.											
	USG1403	1	Strongly disagree	12	8	772	13	2.8	2.7	△	.13
		2	Disagree	31	22	1,666	25				
		3	Agree	54	38	2,020	30				
		4	Strongly agree	30	21	1,422	22				
		—	Not applicable	14	10	669	10				
		Total		141	100	6,549	100				
4. How much student loan debt do you expect to have when you leave college?											
	USG1404	\$ -	No debt expected	42	31	1,890	30	\$ 13,504	\$ 17,218 **	▽	-.24
		\$ 2,500	\$1-\$5,000	13	9	360	6				
		\$10,000	\$5,001-\$15,000	31	22	992	15				
		\$22,500	\$15,001-\$30,000	36	25	1,717	26				
		\$40,000	More than \$30,000	19	14	1,603	25				
		Total		141	100	6,562	100				

NSSE 2014 University System of Georgia
Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Dalton State College

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Dalton State		all USG Schools		Dalton State	all USG Schools	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
5. Which one of the following statements best describes the influence of the HOPE Award on your decision to attend this college?										
	USG1405	—	I was not HOPE Award eligible when admitted to this college.	61	44	2,973	44			
		—	I was HOPE Award eligible, but I would have attended this college with or without the HOPE Award.	45	32	2,164	34			
		—	I could only attend this college with the HOPE Award, but could have attended elsewhere without the HOPE Award.	8	6	440	8			
		—	I could not have attended any college at all without the HOPE Award.	27	19	951	14			
			Total	141	100	6,528	100			
6. What was your primary reason for attending this college?										
	USG1406	—	Complete a certificate program	2	1	70	1			
		—	Obtain an associate's degree	6	4	54	1			
		—	Transfer to another college or university	3	2	171	2			
		—	Obtain a bachelor's degree	116	82	5,643	86			
		—	Obtain or update job-related skills	3	2	82	1			
		—	Self-improvement/personal growth	8	6	278	5			
		—	Change careers	3	2	257	4			
			Total	141	100	6,555	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for key to triangle symbols.
Note: For some items, lower scores may be preferable due to wording.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b			
				Dalton State		all USG Schools		Dalton State	all USG Schools		
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d	
7. Respond to the following statements based on the services you have received from the library at this college this year.											
a. The reference help available in the library is adequate for my information needs.	USG1407a	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	102	2	3.5	3.2 ***	▲	.40
		2	Disagree	3	2	293	4				
		3	Agree	58	41	3,104	47				
		4	Strongly agree	57	42	1,589	24				
		—	Not applicable	22	16	1,431	23				
		Total		140	100	6,519	100				
b. The library provides programs that strengthen learning at this college.	USG1407b	1	Strongly disagree	0	0	195	3	3.3	3.0 ***	▲	.42
		2	Disagree	8	6	595	9				
		3	Agree	60	42	2,754	41				
		4	Strongly agree	46	34	1,166	17				
		—	Not applicable	26	18	1,793	29				
		Total		140	100	6,503	100				
c. The library collection includes adequate print resources for my academic needs.	USG1407c	1	Strongly disagree	3	2	169	2	3.3	3.2		.14
		2	Disagree	8	6	428	6				
		3	Agree	63	45	2,916	44				
		4	Strongly agree	45	33	1,581	24				
		—	Not applicable	20	14	1,397	22				
		Total		139	100	6,491	100				
d. The library collection includes adequate electronic resources for my academic needs.	USG1407d	1	Strongly disagree	3	2	140	2	3.3	3.3		.07
		2	Disagree	8	6	330	5				
		3	Agree	58	42	2,932	45				
		4	Strongly agree	52	38	2,088	32				
		—	Not applicable	17	12	990	16				
		Total		138	100	6,480	100				
e. The library facility offers comfortable spaces that meet my academic needs.	USG1407e	1	Strongly disagree	1	1	169	3	3.4	3.3 **	△	.25
		2	Disagree	8	6	385	6				
		3	Agree	47	35	2,919	45				
		4	Strongly agree	61	45	2,174	34				
		—	Not applicable	19	14	787	13				
		Total		136	100	6,434	100				
8. How often did you visit the library building at this college this year?											
USG1408	1	Never		14	10	679	11	3.3	3.2		.08
	2	Rarely		30	21	1,393	21				
	3	Monthly		27	18	1,209	18				
	4	Weekly		43	30	2,325	35				
	5	Daily		27	21	938	15				
	Total			141	100	6,544	100				
9. Courses at this college are offered in such a way that I can take them in the recommended sequence and still complete my degree in a timely manner.											
USG1409	1	Strongly disagree		14	10	511	8	2.7	2.8 *	▽	-.21
	2	Disagree		33	25	1,323	20				
	3	Agree		75	52	3,498	53				
	4	Strongly agree		17	12	1,192	19				
	Total			139	100	6,524	100				

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for key to triangle symbols.
 Note: For some items, lower scores may be preferable due to wording.

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Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons
Dalton State College

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				Dalton State		all USG Schools		Dalton State	all USG Schools	
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	Effect size ^d
10. During this academic year, how many times have you participated in academic advising offered by staff and/or faculty at this college?										
	USG1410	0	0	44	31	810	12	1.4	2.0 ***	-0.43
		1	1	37	27	1,728	26			
		2	2	30	21	2,004	32			
		3	3	10	7	827	12			
		4	4 or more times	19	14	1,174	18			
			Total	140	100	6,543	100			
11. Respond to the following four statements based on the academic advising offered by staff and/or faculty at this college that you have participated in this year. (Note: items were only given if respondents selected '1,' '2,' '3,' or '4 or more times' to item 10, or left it blank.)										
a. The academic advising I received related to my course-work was helpful.	USG1411a	1	Strongly disagree	5	6	241	4	3.3	3.2	.02
		2	Disagree	7	7	391	7			
		3	Agree	41	42	2,690	47			
		4	Strongly agree	41	43	2,256	39			
		—	Not applicable	2	2	138	2			
			Total	96	100	5,716	100			
b. The academic advising I received on selecting, changing, or modifying my major field of study was helpful.	USG1411b	1	Strongly disagree	3	4	238	4	3.2	3.2	-0.02
		2	Disagree	10	10	400	7			
		3	Agree	29	30	1,958	34			
		4	Strongly agree	28	29	1,651	29			
		—	Not applicable	26	27	1,446	25			
			Total	96	100	5,693	100			
c. The academic advising I received on my post-graduation plans was helpful.	USG1411c	1	Strongly disagree	6	6	354	6	3.1	3.0	.13
		2	Disagree	6	6	596	11			
		3	Agree	27	29	1,736	30			
		4	Strongly agree	22	23	1,255	21			
		—	Not applicable	35	36	1,762	32			
			Total	96	100	5,703	100			
d. The academic advising I received helped me overcome academic difficulties.	USG1411d	1	Strongly disagree	6	7	352	7	3.0	2.9	.04
		2	Disagree	8	8	707	13			
		3	Agree	35	37	1,890	33			
		4	Strongly agree	19	20	1,219	21			
		—	Not applicable	28	28	1,514	28			
			Total	96	100	5,682	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the Endnotes page for key to triangle symbols.
Note: For some items, lower scores may be preferable due to wording.

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by gender 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 gender 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 gender 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 Ns 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.