



What is the High School Survey of Student Engagement (HSSSE)?

HSSSE (pronounced hessie) is an annual survey that assesses the extent to which high school students are involved in activities associated with high levels of learning and development.

HSSSE is a paper-based survey that is short, reliable, and easy for students to complete.

It identifies student behaviors and school characteristics that can be altered to enhance student learning and school effectiveness. About 200,000 students across 28 states participated in the survey in 2004 and 2005.

In short, HSSSE:

- **Documents and describes** student engagement in educationally purposeful activities.
- **Provides** actionable information on school characteristics that promote student engagement and learning.
- **Complements** performance tests by identifying school features that affect outcomes.
- **Stimulates** discussions on effective teaching and learning.

How will participating in HSSSE improve my school?

Under the federal No Child Left Behind Act and accountability laws across most states, student performance on standardized tests is the primary tool to evaluate student and school success. These tests, however, do not pinpoint the specific educational processes that lead to the outcomes the tests measure.

This is where HSSSE data can be helpful. HSSSE data are powerful because they can be used immediately to guide school improvement initiatives, develop data-based plans for professional development, and enhance the overall quality of teaching and learning at your school.

"I'm so excited about the possibilities that are open to us because we have this information in hand! We are going to use HSSSE data as a part of our school-wide goal-setting process..."

—Patti Harrold,
Edmond Memorial High School,
2005 HSSSE Participant



**How
engaged are
students at
your school?**

The High School Survey of Student Engagement

**invites you to
participate in the
2006 survey**





What will my school receive?

By participating in HSSSE, your school will receive actionable data about the activities and experiences of students at your school. Specifically, you will receive:

- **A customized report** with comparisons between students' responses at your school and national data on all survey items. In addition, comparisons are provided with respondents grouped by grade level, instructional track, race and ethnicity, and gender.
- **An electronic data file** of student responses at your school that can be used for additional analyses.
- **An overview** of important national trends among HSSSE respondents.
- **Suggestions** on how to interpret and use HSSSE results to guide school improvement efforts at your school.

HSSSE staff will use aggregate data for various reports, but schools will never be compared in any way or identified without their consent. Of course, schools can use their own data as they see fit.

Frequently Asked Questions about HSSSE

When is HSSSE administered?

HSSSE is administered each March. Schools typically administer the survey school-wide during homeroom or a certain class period. The survey takes about 20 minutes to complete.

Should all students at my school participate in the survey?

The HSSSE staff advocates providing all students the opportunity to participate in the survey and supports giving accommodations to students who regularly receive them.

How much does it cost to participate in HSSSE?

To participate in HSSSE 2006, schools pay a registration fee plus a survey fee based on student enrollment. Detailed pricing information can be found on the HSSSE website. Schools can choose to be billed upon registration, survey administration, or receipt of the report.

Can HSSSE staff conduct special data analyses?

Special analyses can be prepared for your school or school district for an additional fee. We are happy to work with you to meet your school's needs.

How can my school participate in HSSSE?

It's easy! Check out our website

<http://ceep.indiana.edu/hssse>

for additional information about registration and the cost of participation.

Our website also includes links to the HSSSE survey, sample school reports, a summary of the national data, and other information about HSSSE.

High School Survey of Student Engagement

Center for Evaluation
& Education Policy
509 East Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47401-3654

Phone: 812-856-1429
Fax: 812-856-1886

E-mail: hssse@indiana.edu
Website: ceep.indiana.edu/hssse

