

CCSSE Stratified Samples

Why did CCSSE use a stratified sampling methodology?

Stratifying the sample and weighting survey responses allows us to better estimate the feelings of the campus as a whole.

Why did CCSSE stratify the sample by student Enrollment Status?

Administering an in-classroom survey skews responses toward full-time students as they are more likely to be found on campus and in a classroom.

How Did CCSSE Weight Responses for TMCC?

CCSSE used the official IPEDS reported enrollment data for TMCC from the Fall 2003 IPEDS survey.

	Fall 2003 IPEDS	CCSSE Sample	Weighting Factor (IPEDS / CCSSE)
Full-Time	2388	533	4.48
Part-Time	8257	462	17.87

How would weighted data differ from un-weighted data?

Question: One of my reasons/goals for attending this college is to obtain a degree:

		Not a goal	Secondary goal	Primary goal	Total
Un-weighted	Full-Time	109	113	303	525
	Part-Time	170	90	187	447
	Total #	279	203	490	972
	Total %	29%	21%	50%	100%

		Not a goal	Secondary goal	Primary goal	Total*
Weighted	Full-Time	488	506	1358	2352
	Part-Time	3038	1609	3342	7989
	Total #	3527	2115	4700	10341
	Total %	34%	20%	45%	100%

* Responses do not total to the Fall 2003 IPEDS numbers due to non-response of some sample questions.

Is weighting by Full-time / Part-time status a valid way to analyze CCSSE data?

It is probably a valid analysis assumption and it is used by CCSSE to analyze all of its data sets. However, since classification as part-time or full-time is self-selected by the student rather than being based on a strict definition of the credit load of a student, it may not yield data that is totally accurate.