

Cylchlythyr | Circular

2016 National Student Survey: Publication of data

Date: 13 April 2016
Reference: W16/11HE
To: Heads, governing bodies, and student representative
bodies of regulated institutions
Other interested parties
Response by: No response required
Contact: Name: Dr Cliona O'Neill
Telephone: 029 2068 2283
Email: cliona.oneill@hefcw.ac.uk

This circular provides information on the next steps in the 2016 National Student Survey (NSS) process, including a timetable for when institutions will be able to access their results via the NSS results dissemination site and Unistats websites. No action is required in response.

If you require this document in an alternative accessible format, please telephone us on (029) 2068 2225 or email info@hefcw.ac.uk.



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Introduction

1. This circular provides information on the next steps in the 2016 National Student Survey (NSS) process, including a timetable for when institutions will be able to access their results via the NSS results dissemination site and Unistats websites. No action is required in response.
2. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all participating institutions for their commitment and contribution to the 2016 NSS.
3. As in previous years, a separate circular 'Unistats and the Key Information Set: Data collection timetable and changes for 2016' will be published in late April 2016.

Publication of the 2016 NSS results on dissemination web-site

4. On 29 July, Texuna Technologies Ltd will launch **stage 1** of the NSS results release. Stage 1 will present institutions' own detailed NSS data and can only be viewed by the institution concerned. The agreed NSS contact at each institution will be sent further details of how to access the data closer to the time. Institutions are responsible for ensuring that they keep their contact details up to date at the NSS results website (<https://nss.texunatech.com>).
5. On 5 August, **stage 2** of the NSS results will be released. This will include:
 - a preview of the provisional 2016 NSS institutional benchmark data
 - all institutions' public data reports and custom analysis, at the publication threshold of 10 responses and 50 per cent.
6. On 24 August, **stage 3** of the NSS results will be released. This will include institutions' detailed students' comments for 2016.
7. All NSS data is **subject to strict embargo until 10 August 2016**.
8. To view further information about the NSS 2016 results publication, including proposed changes and feedback surveys, please visit <http://texuna.com/nss>.

Publication of the 2016 NSS results on the HEFCE website

9. HEFCE will publish the 2016 NSS results on 10 August, on behalf of all the funders. The information will include sector summary data as well as complete subject-level data for all institutions with publishable data.

Publication of the 2016 NSS results on Unistats website

10. In August 2016, Unistats will undergo its annual update to display course data for the following academic year. As part of this, 2016 NSS data which meets the publication threshold of 10 respondents and 50 per cent will be displayed on the Unistats website together with the updated Key Information Set (KIS) data. Further information on this will be published shortly, as noted in para 3 above.
11. The data on the Unistats website will be available for public access from 31 August 2016.
12. As part of the KIS submission process, from mid-July institutions will be able to access a report showing the Unistats data to be published for all of the courses for which they have submitted a KIS record. This will include the NSS public results, which are **under embargo until 10 August**.

Timetable

13. A timetable is provided below for ease of reference.

Note: All NSS data is subject to strict embargo until 10 August.

2016	2016 NSS results
29 July	<p>Stage 1</p> <p>NSS data available on the Texunatech NSS results site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • institutions' own data (at the publication threshold of 50 per cent response rate and 10 responses), at overall institution level and Joint Academic Coding System subject levels • institutions' own detailed data at the lower publication threshold of 10 responses (for internal use) • custom analysis functionality will also be available.
5 August	<p>Stage 2</p> <p>NSS data available on the Texunatech NSS results site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 HEFCE NSS benchmark data across institutions • all institutions' public datasets at the higher threshold • custom analysis functionality will also be available.
10 August	HEFCE website to publish 2016 NSS results.
24 August	<p>Stage 3</p> <p>Texunatech to make institutions' own students' open comments available to them by this date.</p>
31 August	Update of Unistats with 2016 dataset.

NSS review: changes for 2017

14. You may also be aware that the funders of the NSS have been undertaking a review of the provision of information, which covers the NSS. In autumn 2015, the funding bodies held a consultation relating to the review and they will be publishing the full outcomes of the consultation in May 2016 on the HEFCE website. Further development work is underway to inform a new NSS in 2017, and final details of NSS 2017 will be announced by August 2016.
15. The review does not affect the NSS 2016, which is unchanged from previous years.

Further information

16. If you have any queries regarding the NSS results site 2016, please contact Texunatech (email nss@texunatech.com). For KIS queries, regulated higher education institutions should contact the Higher Education Statistics Agency (email liaison@hesa.ac.uk, tel 01242 211144) and regulated further education colleges should contact HEFCE (email KIS@hefce.ac.uk, who are dealing with this on behalf of all the funders.
17. For any other information, contact Dr Cliona O'Neill (tel 029 2068 2283; email cliona.oneill@hefcw.ac.uk).