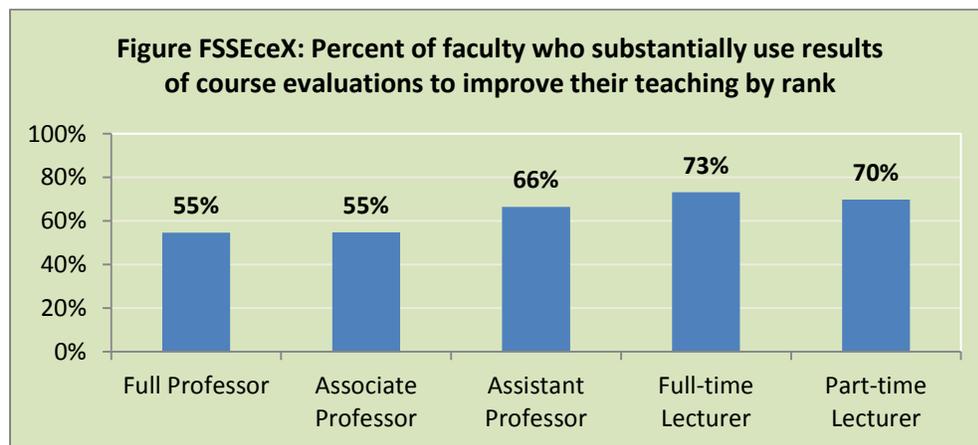


## End-of-Course Evaluations

To explore student and faculty perceptions of end-of-course evaluations, NSSE and FSSE appended a series of questions to their respective questionnaires. Approximately 3,300 first-year students, 5,600 seniors, and 2,600 faculty from 30 institutions responded to these items.

Two thirds of faculty (63%) reported that they were satisfied with the formal end-of-course evaluations provided to students, and one third of faculty (33%) was able to customize these evaluations. Of the respondents who had the ability to customize formal end-of-course evaluations, over half (55%) reported they did so "Very little." Two thirds of students (68% first-year, 66% senior) believed that end-of-course evaluations substantially ("Very much" or "Quite a bit") allowed them to give feedback that matters most to them about a course.

Faculty at lower ranks more often used the results of course evaluations to improve their courses and their teaching. A little over half of professors and associate professors (54%) substantially used course evaluation results to improve their courses compared with two thirds of assistant professors and full- or part-time lecturers (68%, 66%, and 65%, respectively). This difference in use of results was even larger when results were used to improve teaching. A greater proportion of full-time (73%) and part-time lecturers (70%) used results to improve teaching than their higher ranked, tenure-track colleagues (55% for full and associate professors, 67% for assistant professors).



Despite the prevalence and availability of external evaluation sources such as [ratemyprofessors.com](http://ratemyprofessors.com), students were less likely to submit evaluations to these sources than the end-of-course evaluations provided by their institutions. About nine in ten students submitted the end-of-course evaluations provided by their institutions (88% first-year, 94% senior), but only about one third of first-year students and one quarter of seniors submitted ratings to external sources.

However, about half of students used results from external sources when choosing their courses, and one in three first-year students and one in four seniors frequently did so. By contrast, only about one third of first-year students and one in five seniors used results from institution-provided end-of-course evaluations. The lower usage of institution-provided results likely reflected limited availability. Of students who never used results of the evaluations provided by their institution, 62% of first-years and 77% of seniors indicated that these results were not available.

**Percentage of how often students use results from other evaluation sources when choosing courses**

