



Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice

To represent the multi-dimensional nature of student engagement, NSSE developed five indicators of effective educational practice. These "benchmarks" are created from clusters of NSSE questions that best represent these practices.

The table below summarizes key benchmark results for your institution and institutions in your selected comparison groups. The '+' symbol indicates that your institution's score is higher than the respective comparison group ($p < .05$), the '-' symbol indicates a score lower than the comparison group, and a blank space indicates no significant difference. For additional details, review your *NSSE 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 Benchmark Comparisons* reports.

| | | | Comparison Groups | | | |
|--|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--|
| | | WMU* | High Research* | Carnegie Class* | NSSE 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011* | |
| Class | | | | | | |
| Level of Academic Challenge (LAC) | | | | | | |
| How challenging is your institution's intellectual and creative work? | First-Year | 51 / 52 / 52 / 52 | ✓ / ✓ / ✓ / ✓ | ✓ / - / + / - | - / - / - / - | |
| | Senior | 55 / 55 / 57 / 57 | ✓ / - / + / ✓ | ✓ / - / ✓ / ✓ | - / - / ✓ / ✓ | |
| Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL) | | | | | | |
| Are your students actively involved in their learning, individually and working with others? | First-Year | 39 / 41 / 41 / 42 | - / ✓ / ✓ / + | - / ✓ / - / ✓ | - / - / - / - | |
| | Senior | 51 / 49 / 51 / 51 | + / - / ✓ / ✓ | ✓ / - / ✓ / ✓ | - / - / ✓ / ✓ | |
| Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI) | | | | | | |
| Do your students work with faculty members inside and outside the classroom? | First-Year | 32 / 33 / 34 / 34 | - / ✓ / ✓ / + | ✓ / ✓ / ✓ / ✓ | - / ✓ / - / ✓ | |
| | Senior | 41 / 38 / 40 / 39 | ✓ / - / ✓ / ✓ | ✓ / - / - / - | ✓ / - / - / ✓ | |
| Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE) | | | | | | |
| Do your students take advantage of complementary learning opportunities? | First-Year | 26 / 26 / 26 / 27 | ✓ / ✓ / - / ✓ | - / - / - / - | - / - / - / - | |
| | Senior | 41 / 34 / 38 / 37 | + / - / ✓ / - | ✓ / - / - / - | ✓ / - / - / - | |
| Supportive Campus Environment (SCE) | | | | | | |
| Do your students feel the institution is committed to their success? | First-Year | 58 / 60 / 62 / 62 | - / ✓ / ✓ / ✓ | - / ✓ / ✓ / ✓ | - / ✓ / ✓ / ✓ | |
| | Senior | 53 / 53 / 55 / 56 | - / - / - / ✓ | - / - / - / - | - / - / - / - | |

* Comparison data is shown as 2008 / 2009 / 2010 / 2011

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For More Information

A comprehensive summary of all results is contained in your annual institutional report, which we sent in August of each year to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. Reports used in this Executive Snapshot included the: NSSE Mean Comparisons, Frequency Distributions, Benchmark Comparisons, and Respondent Characteristics from the 2008, 2009 and 2010 administrations.



National Survey of Student Engagement

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