

University of South Carolina Columbia



About This Report

About Your Engagement Indicators Report

Engagement Indicators (EIs) provide a useful summary of the detailed information contained in your students' NSSE responses. By combining responses to related NSSE questions, each EI offers valuable information about a distinct aspect of student engagement. Ten indicators, based on three to eight survey questions each (a total of 47 survey questions), are organized into four broad themes as shown at right.

Theme	Engagement Indicator
	Higher-Order Learning
Academic Challenge	Reflective & Integrative Learning
	Learning Strategies
	Quantitative Reasoning
	Collaborative Learning
Learning with Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others
	Discussions with Diverse others
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction
	Effective Teaching Practices
	Overlite of lateractic ac
Campus Environment	Quality of Interactions
	Supportive Environment

Report Sections

Overview (p. 3)

Displays how average EI scores for your students compare with those of students at your comparison group institutions.

Theme Reports (pp. 4-13)

Detailed views of EI scores within the four themes for your students and those at comparison group institutions. Three views offer varied insights into your EI scores:

Mean Comparisons

Straightforward comparisons of average scores between your students and those at comparison group institutions, with tests of significance and effect sizes (see below).

Score Distributions

Box-and-whisker charts show the variation in scores *within* your institution and comparison groups.

Performance on Indicator Items

Responses to each item in a given EI are summarized for your institution and comparison groups.

Comparisons with High-Performing Institutions (p. 15) Comparisons of your students' average scores on each EI with those of students at institutions whose average scores were in the top 50% and top 10% of 2020 and 2021 participating institutions.

Detailed Statistics (pp. 16-19)

Detailed information about EI score means, distributions, and tests of statistical significance.

Interpreting Comparisons

Mean comparisons report both statistical significance and effect size. Effect size indicates the practical importance of an observed difference. For EI comparisons, NSSE research has concluded that an effect size of about .1 may be considered small, .3 medium, and .5 large (Rocconi & Gonyea, 2018). Comparisons with an effect size of at least .3 in magnitude (before rounding) are highlighted in the Overview (p. 3).

Els vary more among students within an institution than between institutions, like many experiences and outcomes in higher education. As a result, focusing attention on average scores alone amounts to examining the tip of the iceberg. It's equally important to understand how student engagement varies within your institution. Score distributions indicate how El scores vary among your students and those in your comparison groups. Your NSSE Tableau dashboards and Report Builder (released in the fall) offer valuable perspectives on internal variation and help you investigate your students' engagement in depth.

How Engagement Indicators are Computed

Each EI is scored on a 60-point scale. To produce an indicator score, the response set for each item is converted to a 60-point scale (e.g., Never = 0; Sometimes = 20; Often = 40; Very often = 60), and the rescaled items are averaged. Thus a score of zero means a student responded at the bottom of the scale for every item in the EI, while a score of 60 indicates responses at the top of the scale on every item.

For more information on EIs and their psychometric properties, refer to the NSSE website: nsse.indiana.edu

Rocconi, L.M., & Gonyea, R.M. (2018). Contextualizing effect sizes in the National Survey of Student Engagement: An empirical analysis. *Research & Practice in Assessment, 13* (Summer/Fall), pp. 22-38.



Overview

University of South Carolina Columbia

Engagement Indicators: Overview

Engagement Indicators are summary measures based on sets of NSSE questions examining key dimensions of student engagement. The ten indicators are organized within four broad themes: Academic Challenge, Learning with Peers, Experiences with Faculty, and Campus Environment. The tables below compare average scores for your students with those in your comparison groups.

Use the following key:

- **Your students' average** was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
- \triangle Your students' average was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- -- No significant difference.
- ∇ Your students' average was significantly lower (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- **Your students' average** was significantly lower (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

First-Year Stu	idents	Your first-year students compared with	Your first-year students compared with	Your first-year students compared with
Theme	Engagement Indicator	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison
	Higher-Order Learning	∇	∇	∇
Academic	Reflective & Integrative Learning	∇	∇	∇
Challenge	Learning Strategies			
	Quantitative Reasoning			
Learning with	Collaborative Learning	▼	∇	•
Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	∇		
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction			
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices	∇	∇	∇
Campus	Quality of Interactions			
Environment	Supportive Environment	∇	∇	∇
Seniors		Your seniors compared with	Your seniors compared with	Your seniors compared with
Theme	Engagement Indicator	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison
	Higher-Order Learning	∇	∇	∇
Academic	Reflective & Integrative Learning	∇	∇	∇
Challenge	Learning Strategies	∇		∇
	Quantitative Reasoning			
Learning with	Collaborative Learning	∇	∇	∇
Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	∇		∇
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction			
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices			
Campus	Quality of Interactions	∇	∇	∇
Environment	Supportive Environment	∇		



Academic Challenge

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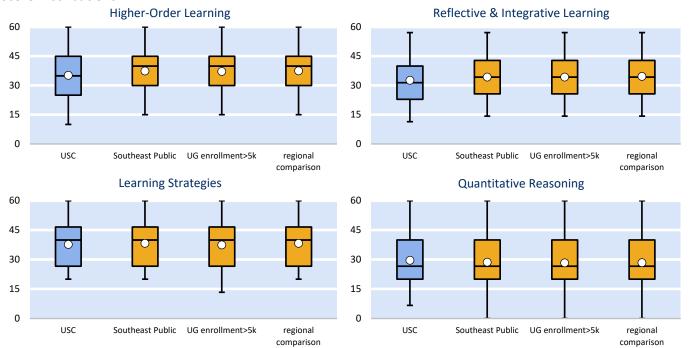
Academic Challenge: First-year students

Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning, Reflective & Integrative Learning, Learning Strategies,* and *Quantitative Reasoning*. Below and on the next page are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

Mean Comparisons		Your first-year students compared with					
	USC	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison			
		Effect	Effect	Effect			
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean size	Mean size	Mean size			
Higher-Order Learning	35.3	37.4 **16	37.2 **14	37.5 ***16			
Reflective & Integrative Learning	32.7	34.3 **13	34.4 **14	34.6 ***16			
Learning Strategies	37.7	38.305	37.5 .01	38.304			
Quantitative Reasoning	29.6	28.6 .06	28.3 .09	28.4 .08			

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; *p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .01 (2-tailed).

Score Distributions



Notes: Each box-and-whiskers chart plots the 5th (bottom of lower bar), 25th (bottom of box), 50th (middle line), 75th (top of box), and 95th (top of upper bar) percentile scores. The dot represents the mean score. Refer to Detailed Statistics for your institution's sample sizes.



Academic Challenge

University of South Carolina Columbia

Academic Challenge: First-year students (continued)

Performance on Indicator Items

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

		Southeast	t difference ^a between yo UG	regional
Higher-Order Learning	USC	Public	enrollment>5k	comparison
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized	%			
4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	62	-7	-7	-7
4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	64	-4	-3	-4
4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	65	-3	-3	-3
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	64	-3	-4	-4
Reflective & Integrative Learning			·	
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	45	-3	-4	-4
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	46	-2	-3	-3
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	48	-2	-2	-2
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	57	-4	-4	-5
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	66	-3	-3	-4
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	57	-6	-7	-7
2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	69	-6	-6	-6
Learning Strategies				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	72	+0	+0	-0
9b. Reviewed your notes after class	68	+1	+4	+2
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	63	-2	+0	-2
Quantitative Reasoning			-	-
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	52	-2	-1	-1
Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	47	+6	+7	+6
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	45	+5	+5	+5

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage—Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.



Academic Challenge

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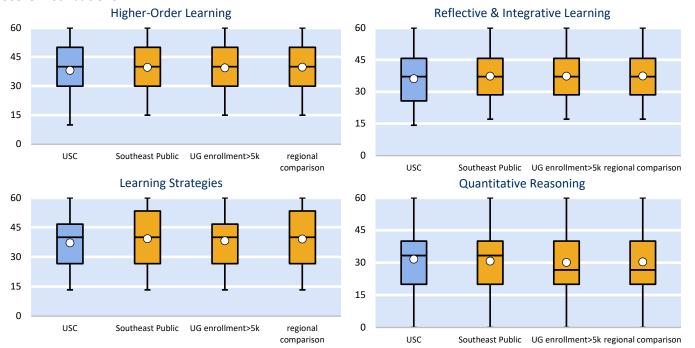
Academic Challenge: Seniors

Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning, Reflective & Integrative Learning, Learning Strategies,* and *Quantitative Reasoning*. Below and on the next page are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

lean Comparisons		Your seniors compared with					
	USC	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison			
		Effect	Effect	Effect			
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean size	Mean size	Mean size			
Higher-Order Learning	38.1	39.7 *11	39.4 *09	39.8 **12			
Reflective & Integrative Learning	36.2	37.4 *09	37.3 *09	37.4 *10			
Learning Strategies	37.2	39.3 **14	38.207	39.1 *13			
Quantitative Reasoning	31.6	30.7 .05	30.1 .09	30.3 .08			

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; *p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .01 (2-tailed).

Score Distributions



Notes: Each box-and-whiskers chart plots the 5th (bottom of lower bar), 25th (bottom of box), 50th (middle line), 75th (top of box), and 95th (top of upper bar) percentile scores. The dot represents the mean score. Refer to Detailed Statistics for your institution's sample sizes.



Academic Challenge

University of South Carolina Columbia

Academic Challenge: Seniors (continued)

Performance on Indicator Items

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

		Percentage po	int difference ^a between y	our seniors and
Higher-Order Learning	USC	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized	%			
4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	73	-3	-2	-3
4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	69	-5	-4	-5
4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	66	-3	-3	-4
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	67	-4	-4	-4
Reflective & Integrative Learning			-	-
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	62	-5	-5	-4
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	57	-1	-1	-1
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	50	+1	-0	-0
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	61	-4	-3	-4
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	73	+1	+1	+1
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	63	-7	-7	-7
2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	78	-4	-4	-4
Learning Strategies				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	73	-3	-3	-3
9b. Reviewed your notes after class	59	-7	-4	-6
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	63	-4	-1	-4
Quantitative Reasoning				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	58	+0	+2	+2
Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	49	+2	+3	+3
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	50	+3	+4	+4

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage - Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.



Learning with Peers

University of South Carolina Columbia

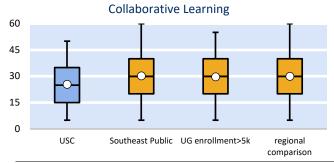
Learning with Peers: First-year students

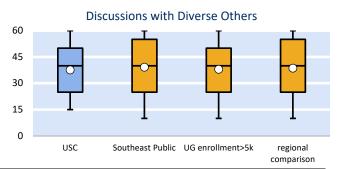
Collaborating with others in mastering difficult material and developing interpersonal and social competence prepare students to deal with complex, unscripted problems they will encounter during and after college. Two Engagement Indicators make up this theme: *Collaborative Learning* and *Discussions with Diverse Others*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

Mean Comparisons			Your	first-year student	s compared w	vith	
	USC	Southeast I	Public Effect	UG enroll	ment>5k Effect	regional co	mparison Effect
Engagement Indicator	Mean		size	Mean	size	Mean	size
Collaborative Learning	25.5	30.3 *** -	.33	29.7 ***	29	30.1 ***	31
Discussions with Diverse Others	37.7	39.2 * -	.09	38.1	02	38.7	06

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; *p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001 (2-tailed).

Score Distributions





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Performance on Indicator Items

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Percentage point differen				ır FY students and
		Southeast	UG	regional
Collaborative Learning	USC	Public	enrollment>5k	comparison
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"	%			
1b. Asked another student to help you understand course material	38	-10	-9	-9
1c. Explained course material to one or more students	42	-10	-8	-9
1d. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	30	-14	-12	-13
1e. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	31	-17	-17	-17
Discussions with Diverse Others				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often" had discussions with				
8a. People of a race or ethnicity other than your own	64	-6	-4	-5
8b. People from an economic background other than your own	67	-3	-1	-3
8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own	63	-3	-1	-1
8d. People with political views other than your own	64	-1	+2	+0

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage—Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.



Learning with Peers

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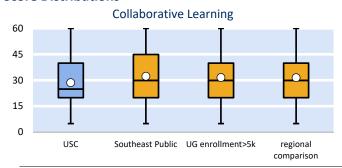
Learning with Peers: Seniors

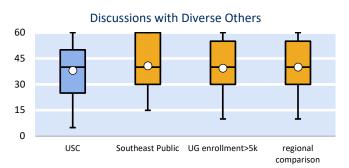
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Mean Comparisons			Your seniors compared with	
	USC	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison
		Effect	Effect	Effect
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean size	Mean size	Mean size
Collaborative Learning	28.7	32.5 ***24	31.7 ***19	31.6 ***18
Discussions with Diverse Others	38.1	40.8 ***17	39.408	40.1 *12

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; *p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001 (2-tailed).

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		Percentage point difference $^{\it a}$ between your seniors and		
		Southeast	UG	regional
Collaborative Learning	USC	Public	enrollment>5k	comparison
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"	%			
1b. Asked another student to help you understand course material	37	-8	-6	-6
1c. Explained course material to one or more students	48	-9	-7	-7
1d. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	36	-11	-9	-10
1e. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	55	-8	-7	-6
Discussions with Diverse Others				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often" had discussions with				
8a. People of a race or ethnicity other than your own	63	-10	-7	-8
8b. People from an economic background other than your own	69	-5	-2	-3
8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own	60	-9	-7	-7
8d. People with political views other than your own	64	-3	+1	-2

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Experiences with Faculty

University of South Carolina Columbia

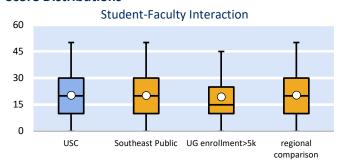
Experiences with Faculty: First-year students

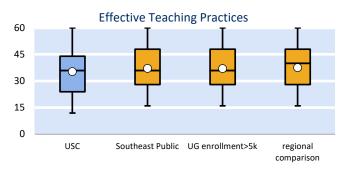
Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside of instructional settings. As a result, faculty become role models, mentors, and guides for lifelong learning. In addition, effective teaching requires that faculty deliver course material and provide feedback in student-centered ways. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Student-Faculty Interaction* and *Effective Teaching Practices*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

Mean Comparisons		rith		
	USC	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison
		Effect	Effect	Effect
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean size	Mean size	Mean size
Student-Faculty Interaction	20.3	20.2 .01	19.4 .06	20.401
Effective Teaching Practices	35.4	37.2 **13	37.1 **13	37.6 ***16

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; *p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .01 (2-tailed).

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		Percentage point	difference ^α between yoι	ır FY students and
		Southeast	UG	regional
Student-Faculty Interaction	USC	Public	enrollment>5k	comparison
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"	%			
3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member	35	-1	+1	-1
3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	20	+1	+2	+0
3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	23	-1	+1	-1
3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	27	-1	+1	-1
Effective Teaching Practices				
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have				
5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements	72	-2	-3	-3
5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way	69	-2	-2	-3
5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	67	-4	-4	-5
5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	57	-2	-2	-4
5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	52	-4	-3	-5

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage—Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.



Experiences with Faculty

University of South Carolina Columbia

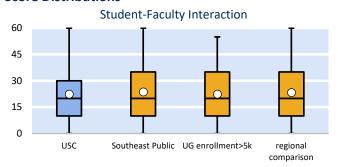
Experiences with Faculty: Seniors

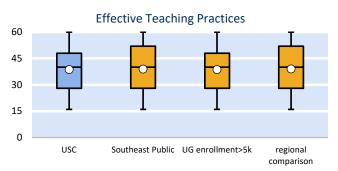
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Mean Comparisons				Your seniors con	mpared with		
	USC	Southe	ast Public	UG enro	llment>5k	regional	comparison
			Effect		Effect		Effect
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	size	Mean	size	Mean	size
Student-Faculty Interaction	22.4	23.6	07	22.3	.00	23.2	05
Effective Teaching Practices	38.6	38.9	02	38.6	.00	39.0	03

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		Percentage point difference ^a between your seniors an							
		Southe		UG	regi	onal			
Student-Faculty Interaction	USC	Publi	ic enrol	ment>5k	comp	arison			
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"	%								
3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member	41	(-1 +1	1		-1			
3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	28	+1	+3	1	+1)			
3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	26		-6	-3		-5			
3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	25		-8	-5		-7			
Effective Teaching Practices									
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have									
5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements	78		-0	-0		-0			
5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way	76	+2	+2		+2				
5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	76	+1	+1)	+1)			
5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	58		-3	-2		-3			
5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	61	ĺ	-1 +1	j		-1			

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Campus Environment

University of South Carolina Columbia

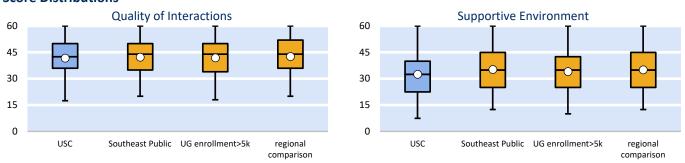
Campus Environment: First-year students

Students benefit and are more satisfied in supportive settings that cultivate positive relationships among students, faculty, and staff. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Quality of Interactions* and *Supportive Environment*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

Mean Comparisons			Your	first-year studer	nts compared w	vith	
	USC	Southeast		UG enro	llment>5k	regional co	•
			Effect		Effect		Effect
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	size	Mean	size	Mean	size
Quality of Interactions	41.7	42.2	04	41.9	01	42.6	07
Supportive Environment	32.5	35.2 ***	20	34.0 *	11	35.0 ***	18

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; *p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001 (2-tailed).

Score Distributions



Notes: Each box-and-whiskers chart plots the 5th (bottom of lower bar), 25th (bottom of box), 50th (middle line), 75th (top of box), and 95th (top of upper bar) percentile scores. The dot represents the mean score. Refer to Detailed Statistics for your institution's sample sizes.

Performance on Indicator Items

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

USC	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison
%			
47	-3	-2	-4
55	+1	+2	+1
47	-2	-1	-4
46	F -0	+1	-1
40	-4	-3	-5
	'	1	'
66	-6	-5	-7
72	-3	-1	-2
55	-5	-4	-5
62	-6	-3	-5
67	-1	+1	-0
32	-8	-7	-8
59	-4	+2	-2
39	-8	-5	-8
	% 47 55 47 46 40 66 72 55 62 67 32 59 39	66	% 47 -3 -2 55 +1 -2 -1 46 -0 +1 -3 40 -4 -3 -1 55 -5 -4 -6 -3 67 -1 +1 -7 59 -4 +2 -5 39 -8 -5

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage—Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.



Campus Environment

University of South Carolina Columbia

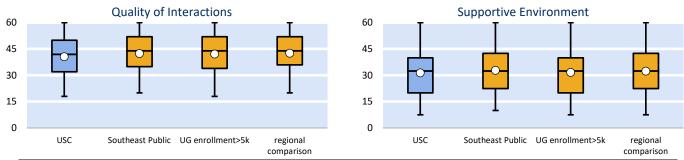
Campus Environment: Seniors

Students benefit and are more satisfied in supportive settings that cultivate positive relationships among students, faculty, and staff. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Quality of Interactions* and *Supportive Environment*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

Mean Comparisons				Your seniors cor	npared with		
	USC	Southeast P	Public Effect	UG enro	llment>5k Effect	regional c	omparison Effect
Engagement Indicator	Mean	-	size	Mean	size	Mean	size
Quality of Interactions	40.6	42.5 ** -	.15	42.2 *	12	42.7 **	16
Supportive Environment	31.5	32.9 * -	.10	31.7	02	32.4	07

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; *p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001 (2-tailed).

Score Distributions



Notes: Each box-and-whiskers chart plots the 5th (bottom of lower bar), 25th (bottom of box), 50th (middle line), 75th (top of box), and 95th (top of upper bar) percentile scores. The dot represents the mean score. Refer to Detailed Statistics for your institution's sample sizes.

Performance on Indicator Items

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

	٠, ٠	ne difference between y	our seniors and
USC	Southeast Public	UG enrollment>5k	regional comparison
%			
54	-4	-3	-4
48	-4	-3	-5
50	-5	-4	-6
43	-2	-1	-2
34	-9	-9	-10
	'	'	'
67	-2	t −0	-1
67	+2	+3	+2
45	-11	- 9	-10
66	-0	+3	+1
61	-1	+1	+0
24	-9	-7	-9
61	+3	+10	+6
34	-8	-6	-7
	% 54 48 50 43 34 67 67 45 66 61 24 61 34	USC Public % 54	USC Public enrollment>5k

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage - Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.

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Comparisons with High-Performing Institutions University of South Carolina Columbia

Comparisons with Top 50% and Top 10% Institutions

While NSSE's policy is not to rank institutions (see **go.iu.edu/NSSE-PnP**), the results below are designed to compare the engagement of your students with those attending two groups of institutions identified by NSSE a for their high average levels of student engagement:

- (a) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 50% of all 2020 and 2021 NSSE institutions, and
- (b) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 10% of all 2020 and 2021 NSSE institutions.

While the average scores for most institutions are below the mean for the top 50% or top 10%, your institution may show areas of distinction where your average student was as engaged as (or even more engaged than) the typical student at high-performing institutions. A check mark (\checkmark) signifies those comparisons where your average score was at least comparable to that of the high-performing group. However, the presence of a check mark does not necessarily mean that your institution was a member of that group.

It should be noted that most of the variability in student engagement is within, not between, institutions. Even "high-performing" institutions have students with engagement levels below the average for all institutions.

First-Year	Students			Your first-year studen	its compared wit	า	
		USC	NSSE T	op 50%	NSSE T	op 10%	
Theme	Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size ✓	Mean	Effect size	✓
	Higher-Order Learning	35.3	39.2 ***	30	41.9 ***	51	
Academic	Reflective and Integrative Learning	32.7	36.5 ***	32	39.1 ***	54	
Challenge	Learning Strategies	37.7	39.7 **	15	43.0 ***	37	
	Quantitative Reasoning	29.6	29.7	01 ✓	32.5 ***	19	
Learning	Collaborative Learning	25.5	33.9 ***	60	37.0 ***	84	
with Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	37.7	40.6 ***	19	43.8 ***	42	
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction	20.3	23.2 ***	19	27.8 ***	49	
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices	35.4	40.4 ***	37	43.2 ***	58	
Campus	Quality of Interactions	41.7	45.1 ***	30	47.7 ***	49	
Environment	Supportive Environment	32.5	36.8 ***	33	39.9 ***	58	
Seniors				Your seniors cor	npared with		
		USC	NSSE T	op 50%	NSSE T		
Theme	Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size ✓	Mean	Effect size	✓
	Higher-Order Learning	38.1	41.6 ***	25	43.9 ***	44	
Academic	Reflective and Integrative Learning	36.2	39.7 ***	29	42.5 ***	52	
Challenge	Learning Strategies	37.2	40.6 ***	23	43.5 ***	44	
	Quantitative Reasoning	31.6	31.6	.00 ✓	34.8 ***	20	
Learning	Collaborative Learning	28.7	35.0 ***	44	38.8 ***	74	
with Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	38.1	41.2 ***	20	44.2 ***	40	
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction	22.4	28.5 ***	38	33.6 ***	70	
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices	38.6	41.5 ***	21	44.6 ***	44	
Campus	Quality of Interactions	40.6	45.2 ***	38	48.2 ***	63	
Environment	Supportive Environment	31.5	34.1 ***	19	37.2 ***	40	

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation; *p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001 (2-tailed).

a. Precision-weighted means were used to determine the top 50% and top 10% institutions for each Engagement Indicator from all NSSE 2020 and 2021 institutions, separately by class. Using this method, Engagement Indicator scores of institutions with relatively large standard errors were adjusted toward the mean of all students, while those with smaller standard errors received smaller corrections. As a result, schools with less stable data—even those with high average scores—may not be among the top scorers. NSSE does not publish the names of the top 50% and top 10% institutions because of our commitment not to release institutional results and our policy against ranking institutions.

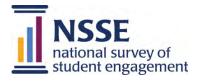
b. Check marks are assigned to comparisons that are either significant and positive, or non-significant with an effect size > -10.



Detailed Statistics^a University of South Carolina Columbia

Detailed Statistics: First-Year Students

	Mea	ın statisti	cs	Percentile ^d scores			Comparison results					
_		SD ^b	25(Deg. of	Mean	a: f	Effect
Academic Challenge	Mean	SD	SE ^c	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	freedom ^e	diff.	Sig. ^f	size ^g
Higher-Order Learning												
USC (N = 438)	35.3	14.2	.68	10	25	35	45	60				
Southeast Public	37.4	13.8	.11	15	30	40	45	60	17,481	-2.2	.001	156
UG enrollment>5k	37.2	13.4	.06	15	30	40	45	60	47,263	-1.9	.003	143
regional comparison	37.5	13.7	.08	15	30	40	45	60	31,486	-2.3	.001	165
Top 50%	39.2	13.2	.06	20	30	40	50	60	444	-4.0	.000	299
Top 10%	41.9	12.9	.18	20	35	40	55	60	500	-6.6	.000	508
Reflective & Integrative Learning	g											
USC $(N = 501)$	32.7	12.9	.58	11	23	31	40	57				
Southeast Public	34.3	12.5	.09	14	26	34	43	57	19,359	-1.7	.003	133
UG enrollment>5k	34.4	12.1	.05	14	26	34	43	57	508	-1.7	.003	141
regional comparison	34.6	12.3	.07	14	26	34	43	57	34,698	-2.0	.000	159
Top 50%	36.5	12.0	.06	17	29	37	46	57	510	-3.8	.000	318
Top 10%	39.1	11.8	.17	20	31	40	49	60	592	-6.5	.000	542
Learning Strategies												
USC $(N = 389)$	37.7	13.6	.69	20	27	40	47	60				
Southeast Public	38.3	14.0	.11	20	27	40	47	60	16,127	6	.378	045
UG enrollment>5k	37.5	13.9	.07	13	27	40	47	60	44,087	.2	.790	.014
regional comparison	38.3	13.9	.08	20	27	40	47	60	29,195	6	.393	044
Top 50%	39.7	14.0	.07	20	27	40	53	60	37,973	-2.1	.004	148
Top 10%	43.0	14.3	.17	20	33	40	60	60	440	-5.3	.000	371
Quantitative Reasoning												
USC $(N = 396)$	29.6	14.4	.73	7	20	27	40	60				
Southeast Public	28.6	15.6	.12	0	20	27	40	60	418	1.0	.190	.062
UG enrollment>5k	28.3	15.2	.07	0	20	27	40	60	44,815	1.3	.089	.086
regional comparison	28.4	15.5	.09	0	20	27	40	60	407	1.2	.108	.076
Top 50%	29.7	15.3	.07	7	20	27	40	60	402	1	.875	007
Top 10%	32.5	15.5	.20	7	20	33	40	60	457	-2.9	.000	186
Learning with Peers												
Collaborative Learning	25.5	12.0	50	_	1.5	25	25	50				
USC (N = 567)	25.5	13.9	.58	5	15	25	35	50	c01	4.0	000	227
Southeast Public UG enrollment>5k	30.3	14.8	.10	5	20	30	40	60	601	-4.8	.000	327
	29.7	14.7	.06	5 5	20	30 30	40	55	578	-4.2	.000	289
regional comparison Top 50%	30.1 33.9	14.8 13.9	.08 .06	10	20 25	35	40 45	60 60	585 60,630	-4.6 -8.4	.000	308 604
Top 10%	37.0	13.6	.13	15	25	40	45	60	12,423	-11.5	.000	843
Discussions with Diverse Others												
USC (N = 395)	37.7	14.8	.75	15	25	40	50	60				
Southeast Public	39.2	16.2	.13	10	25	40	55	60	417	-1.5	.046	094
UG enrollment>5k	38.1	16.0	.08	10	25	40	50	60	402	-1.5 4	.630	023
regional comparison	38.7	16.1	.09	10	25	40	55	60	406	-1.0	.181	023
Top 50%	40.6	15.2	.07	15	30	40	55	60	48,152	-2.9	.000	192
Top 10%	43.8	14.4	.18	20	35	45	60	60	7,116	-6.1	.000	424
F -0/0								50	,,110	J.1	.500	



Detailed Statistics^a University of South Carolina Columbia

Detailed Statistics: First-Year Students

	Mea	n statisti	CS		Perce	ntile ^d sco	ores		Со	mparison	results	
									Deg. of	Mean		Effect
	Mean	SD b	SE c	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	freedom ^e	diff.	Sig. ^f	size ^g
Experiences with Faculty												
Student-Faculty Interaction												
USC $(N = 461)$	20.3	14.5	.68	0	10	20	30	50				
Southeast Public	20.2	14.8	.11	0	10	20	30	50	18,286	.1	.880	.007
UG enrollment>5k	19.4	14.4	.07	0	10	15	25	45	49,199	.9	.182	.062
regional comparison	20.4	14.8	.08	0	10	20	30	50	32,886	1	.912	005
Top 50%	23.2	14.7	.09	0	10	20	30	50	29,394	-2.8	.000	193
Top 10%	27.8	15.2	.27	5	15	25	40	60	614	-7.4	.000	492
Effective Teaching Practices												
USC $(N = 433)$	35.4	14.3	.69	12	24	36	44	60				
Southeast Public	37.2	13.8	.11	16	28	36	48	60	17,336	-1.8	.007	131
UG enrollment>5k	37.1	13.4	.06	16	28	36	48	60	46,994	-1.7	.009	127
regional comparison	37.6	13.7	.08	16	28	40	48	60	31,292	-2.2	.001	164
Top 50%	40.4	13.5	.08	20	32	40	52	60	30,596	-5.0	.000	373
Top 10%	43.2	13.4	.21	20	36	44	56	60	4,587	-7.8	.000	579
Campus Environment												
Quality of Interactions												
USC $(N = 366)$	41.7	12.6	.66	18	36	43	50	60				
Southeast Public	42.2	12.4	.10	20	35	44	50	60	14,895	6	.402	044
UG enrollment>5k	41.9	12.4	.06	18	34	44	50	60	40,265	2	.777	015
regional comparison	42.6	12.4	.08	20	36	44	52	60	27,021	9	.176	071
Top 50%	45.1	11.5	.07	24	38	46	54	60	374	-3.4	.000	295
Top 10%	47.7	12.3	.17	24	40	50	58	60	5,902	-6.0	.000	486
Supportive Environment												
USC $(N = 378)$	32.5	13.9	.71	8	23	33	40	60				
Southeast Public	35.2	14.1	.11	13	25	35	45	60	15,574	-2.8	.000	196
UG enrollment>5k	34.0	13.9	.07	10	25	35	43	60	42,668	-1.6	.029	113
regional comparison	35.0	14.1	.08	13	25	35	45	60	28,220	-2.6	.000	182
Top 50%	36.8	13.5	.07	15	28	38	45	60	32,832	-4.4	.000	325
Top 10%	39.9	12.8	.20	18	33	40	50	60	4,647	-7.5	.000	577

a. Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institutional size for comparison groups).

b. Standard deviation is a measure of the amount the individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.

c. Standard error of the mean, used to compute a confidence interval (CI) around the sample mean. For example, the 95% CI (equal to the sample mean \pm 1.96 x SE) is the range that is 95% likely to contain the true population mean.

d. A percentile is the point in the distribution of student-level EI scores at or below which a given percentage of EI scores fall.

e. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values vary from the total Ns due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.

f. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between the mean of your institution and that of the comparison group occurred by chance.

g. Effect size is the mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



Detailed Statistics^a University of South Carolina Columbia

Detailed Statistics: Seniors

	Mea	n statisti	cs	Percentile ^d scores					Comparison results				
_									Deg. of	Mean		Effect	
A codemic Challenge	Mean	SD ^b	SE ^c	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	freedom ^e	diff.	Sig. ^f	size ^g	
Academic Challenge Higher-Order Learning													
USC (N = 490)	38.1	14.6	.66	10	30	40	50	60					
Southeast Public	39.7	14.0	.10	15	30	40	50	60	18,945	-1.6	.014	112	
UG enrollment>5k	39.4	13.9	.06	15	30	40	50	60	56,346	-1.3	.039	094	
regional comparison	39.4	14.0	.08	15	30	40	50	60	34,907	-1.5 -1.6	.010	118	
Top 50%	41.6	13.6	.07	20	35	40	55	60	35,753	-3.5	.000	255	
Top 10%	43.9	13.0	.21	20	35	40	55	60	591	-5.8	.000	438	
Reflective & Integrative Learning	σ												
USC $(N = 535)$	36.2	13.7	.59	14	26	37	46	60					
Southeast Public	37.4	13.0	.09	17	29	37	46	60	20,441	-1.2	.035	093	
UG enrollment>5k	37.3	12.8	.05	17	29	37	46	60	543	-1.2	.049	092	
regional comparison	37.4	12.9	.07	17	29	37	46	60	37,522	-1.3	.024	098	
Top 50%	39.7	12.4	.07	20	31	40	49	60	548	-3.6	.000	290	
Top 10%	42.5	11.7	.22	23	34	43	51	60	689	-6.3	.000	525	
Learning Strategies													
USC (N = 440)	37.2	15.6	.75	13	27	40	47	60					
Southeast Public	39.3	14.8	.11	13	27	40	53	60	459	-2.1	.005	143	
UG enrollment>5k	38.2	14.8	.06	13	27	40	47	60	53,381	-1.0	.144	070	
regional comparison	39.1	14.8	.08	13	27	40	53	60	449	-1.9	.012	128	
Top 50%	40.6	14.6	.07	20	33	40	53	60	447	-3.4	.000	231	
Top 10%	43.5	14.2	.20	20	33	40	60	60	501	-6.3	.000	440	
Quantitative Reasoning													
USC (N = 446)	31.6	16.3	.77	0	20	33	40	60					
Southeast Public	30.7	16.4	.12	0	20	33	40	60	18,059	.9	.271	.053	
UG enrollment>5k	30.1	16.3	.07	0	20	27	40	60	54,087	1.5	.058	.090	
regional comparison	30.3	16.5	.09	0	20	27	40	60	33,362	1.3	.099	.079	
Top 50%	31.6	16.3	.07	0	20	33	40	60	49,181	.0	.989	.001	
Top 10%	34.8	15.8	.23	7	20	33	47	60	5,293	-3.2	.000	203	
Learning with Peers													
Collaborative Learning													
USC $(N = 580)$	28.7	14.9	.62	5	20	25	40	60					
Southeast Public	32.5	15.4	.11	5	20	30	45	60	614	-3.7	.000	240	
UG enrollment>5k	31.7	15.4	.06	5	20	30	40	60	63,684	-2.9	.000	190	
regional comparison	31.6	15.6	.08	5	20	30	40	60	598	-2.8	.000	182	
Top 50%	35.0	14.2	.06	10	25	35	45	60	51,988	-6.3	.000	443	
Top 10%	38.8	13.4	.18	15	30	40	50	60	680	-10.1	.000	743	
Discussions with Diverse Others													
USC $(N = 442)$	38.1	16.6	.79	5	25	40	50	60					
Southeast Public	40.8	16.2	.12	15	30	40	60	60	17,921	-2.7	.001	166	
UG enrollment>5k	39.4	16.2	.07	10	30	40	55	60	53,624	-1.4	.081	083	
regional comparison	40.1	16.4	.09	10	30	40	55	60	33,111	-2.0	.012	121	
Top 50%	41.2	15.6	.07	15	30	40	60	60	447	-3.2	.000	202	
Top 10%	44.2	15.0	.17	20	35	45	60	60	483	-6.1	.000	403	



Detailed Statistics^a University of South Carolina Columbia

Detailed Statistics: Seniors

	Mea	n statisti	CS		Perce	ntile ^d sco	ores		Co	mparison	results	
									Deg. of	Mean		Effect
	Mean	SD b	SE c	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	freedom ^e	diff.	Sig. ^f	size ^g
Experiences with Faculty												
Student-Faculty Interaction												
USC $(N = 507)$	22.4	16.3	.72	0	10	20	30	60				
Southeast Public	23.6	16.4	.12	0	10	20	35	60	19,613	-1.2	.101	074
UG enrollment>5k	22.3	16.0	.07	0	10	20	35	55	58,168	.0	.967	.002
regional comparison	23.2	16.4	.09	0	10	20	35	60	36,111	9	.234	053
Top 50%	28.5	16.0	.12	5	15	25	40	60	19,583	-6.2	.000	384
Top 10%	33.6	15.9	.33	10	20	35	45	60	2,858	-11.3	.000	704
Effective Teaching Practices												
USC $(N = 480)$	38.6	14.1	.64	16	28	40	48	60				
Southeast Public	38.9	14.4	.11	16	28	40	52	60	18,853	3	.626	023
UG enrollment>5k	38.6	14.2	.06	16	28	40	48	60	56,210	.0	.992	.000
regional comparison	39.0	14.5	.08	16	28	40	52	60	34,788	4	.581	025
Top 50%	41.5	13.9	.08	16	32	40	52	60	30,357	-2.9	.000	209
Top 10%	44.6	13.3	.22	20	36	44	56	60	4,109	-6.0	.000	444
Campus Environment												
Quality of Interactions												
USC $(N = 410)$	40.6	12.7	.63	18	32	42	50	60				
Southeast Public	42.5	12.5	.10	20	35	44	52	60	16,366	-1.9	.003	151
UG enrollment>5k	42.2	12.5	.06	18	34	44	52	60	48,816	-1.6	.012	124
regional comparison	42.7	12.6	.07	20	36	44	52	60	30,298	-2.0	.001	161
Top 50%	45.2	11.9	.07	22	38	48	54	60	28,967	-4.6	.000	381
Top 10%	48.2	11.9	.15	25	42	50	60	60	456	-7.6	.000	633
Supportive Environment												
USC $(N = 434)$	31.5	14.1	.68	8	20	33	40	60				
Southeast Public	32.9	14.5	.11	10	23	33	43	60	17,331	-1.4	.043	098
UG enrollment>5k	31.7	14.4	.06	8	20	33	40	60	51,999	2	.742	016
regional comparison	32.4	14.6	.08	8	23	33	43	60	32,091	-1.0	.174	066
Top 50%	34.1	14.2	.08	10	23	35	43	60	31,432	-2.6	.000	185
Top 10%	37.2	14.3	.23	13	28	38	48	60	4,411	-5.7	.000	399

a. Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institutional size for comparison groups).

b. Standard deviation is a measure of the amount the individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.

c. Standard error of the mean, used to compute a confidence interval (CI) around the sample mean. For example, the 95% CI (equal to the sample mean \pm 1.96 x SE) is the range that is 95% likely to contain the true population mean.

d. A percentile is the point in the distribution of student-level EI scores at or below which a given percentage of EI scores fall.

e. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values vary from the total Ns due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.

f. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between the mean of your institution and that of the comparison group occurred by chance.

g. Effect size is the mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.