A Summary of Student Engagement Results

Student engagement represents two critical features of collegiate quality. The first is the amount of time and effort students put into their studies and other educationally purposeful activities. The second is how institutional resources, courses, and other learning opportunities facilitate student participation in activities that matter to student learning. NSSE surveys undergraduate students in their first and final years to assess their levels of engagement and related information about their experience at your institution.

This Snapshot is a concise collection of key findings from your institution’s NSSE 2021 administration. We hope this information stimulates discussions about the undergraduate experience. Additional details about these and other results appear in the reports referenced throughout.

**Engagement Indicators**

Sets of items are grouped into ten Engagement Indicators, organized under four broad themes. At right are summary results for your institution. For details, see your Engagement Indicators report.

**Key:**

- **Your students’ average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
- **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 at least .3 in magnitude.
- **Your students’ average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

**High-Impact Practices**

Due to their positive associations with student learning and retention, special undergraduate opportunities are designated "high-impact." For more details and statistical comparisons, see your High-Impact Practices report.

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**Comparison Group**

The comparison group featured in this report is SE Land-grants. See your Selected Comparison Groups report for details.
Academic Challenge: Additional Results
The Academic Challenge theme contains four Engagement Indicators as well as several important individual items. The results presented here provide an overview of these individual items. For more information about the Academic Challenge theme, see your Engagement Indicators report. To further explore individual item results, see your Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons, the Major Field Report, the Online Institutional Report, or the Report Builder.

Time Spent Preparing for Class
This figure reports the average weekly class preparation time for your students compared to students in your comparison group.

Reading and Writing
These figures summarize the number of hours your students spent reading for their courses and the average number of pages of assigned writing compared to students in your comparison group. Each is an estimate calculated from two or more separate survey questions.

Challenging Students to Do Their Best Work
To what extent did students' courses challenge them to do their best work? Response options ranged from 1 = "Not at all" to 7 = "Very much."

Academic Emphasis
How much did students say their institution emphasizes spending significant time studying and on academic work? Response options included "Very much," "Quite a bit," "Some," and "Very little."
Item Comparisons

By examining individual NSSE questions, you can better understand what contributes to your institution's performance on the Engagement Indicators. This section displays the five questions on which your students scored the highest and the five questions on which they scored the lowest, relative to students in your comparison group. Parenthetical notes indicate whether an item belongs to a specific Engagement Indicator or is a High-Impact Practice. While these questions represent the largest differences (in percentage points), they may not be the most important to your institutional mission or current program or policy goals. For additional results, see your Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons report.

First-year

Highest Performing Relative to SE Land-grants

Instructors taught in a way that aligns with how you prefer to learn
Instructors explained in advance the criteria for successfully completing assignments
Quality of interactions with other administrative staff and offices (QI)
Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials
Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member

Lowest Performing Relative to SE Land-grants

Assigned more than 50 pages of writing
Discussions with... People with religious beliefs other than your own
Explained course material to one or more students
Spent more than 15 hours per week preparing for class
Worked with other students on course projects or assignments

Senior

Highest Performing Relative to SE Land-grants

Extent to which courses challenged you to do your best work
Institution emphasis on helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities
Reviewed your notes after class
Instructors provided feedback on a draft or work in progress
I feel valued by this institution

Lowest Performing Relative to SE Land-grants

Worked with other students on course projects or assignments
Participated in a study abroad program (HIP)
Worked with a faculty member on a research project (HIP)
Completed a culminating senior experience (HIP)
Participated in an internship, co-op, field exp., student teach., clinical placement.

NSSE 2021 Snapshot
Mississippi State University

Percentage Point Difference with SE Land-grants

a. The items on this page come from the Engagement Indicators (EIs), High-Impact Practices (HIPs), Sense of Belonging (SB), the academic challenge questions on page 2, and four additional questions about effective teaching (new in 2021). Key to abbreviations for EI items: HO = Higher-Order Learning, RI = Reflective & Integrative Learning, LS = Learning Strategies, QR = Quantitative Reasoning, CL = Collaborative Learning, DD = Discussions with Diverse Others, SF = Student-Faculty Interaction, ET = Effective Teaching Practices, QI = Quality of Interactions, SE = Supportive Environment.
b. Combination of students responding "very often" or "often."
c. Combination of students responding "very much" or "quite a bit."
d. Rated at least 6 on a 7-point scale.
e. Percentage reporting at least "some."
f. Estimate based on the reported amount of course preparation time spent on assigned reading.
g. Estimate based on number of assigned writing tasks of various lengths.
h. Combination of students responding "strongly agree" or "agree."
How Students Assess Their Experience

Students' perceptions of their cognitive and affective development, as well as their overall satisfaction with the institution, provide useful evidence of their educational experiences. For more details, see your Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons report.

Perceived Gains Among Seniors

Students reported how much their experience at your institution contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development in ten areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceived Gains</th>
<th>Percentage of Seniors Responding &quot;Very much&quot; or &quot;Quite a bit&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thinking critically and analytically</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working effectively with others</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyzing numerical and statistical information</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing clearly and effectively</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking clearly and effectively</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding people of other backgrounds (econ., racial/ethnic, polit., relig., nation., etc.)</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solving complex real-world problems</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being an informed and active citizen</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Satisfaction with MSU

Students rated their overall experience at the institution, and whether or not they would choose it again.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-year</th>
<th>MSU</th>
<th>80%</th>
<th>SE Land-grants</th>
<th>83%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>MSU</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>SE Land-grants</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage Who Would "Definitely" or "Probably" Attend This Institution Again

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-year</th>
<th>MSU</th>
<th>83%</th>
<th>SE Land-grants</th>
<th>87%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>MSU</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>SE Land-grants</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Administration Details

Response Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Resp. rate</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-year</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>101%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See your Administration Summary and Respondent Profile reports for more information.

Addition Questions

Your institution did not choose to administer additional questions. In future administrations, you may customize NSSE by participating in a topical module or a consortium. See our website for more information.

Visit our website: nsse.indiana.edu

NSSE 2021 Snapshot

Mississippi State University

What is NSSE?

NSSE annually collects information at hundreds of four-year colleges and universities about student participation in activities and programs that promote their learning and personal development. The results provide an estimate of how undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from attending their college or university. Institutions use their data to identify aspects of the undergraduate experience that can be improved through changes in policy and practice.

NSSE has been in operation since 2000 and has been used at more than 1,600 colleges and universities in the US and Canada. More than 90% of participating institutions administer the survey on a periodic basis.

Visit our website: nsse.indiana.edu