## NSSE

national survey of
student engagement

## University of Cincinnati

Mean Comparisons
August 2011

NSSE
national survey of
Interpreting the Mean Comparisons Report student engagement

## Sample

The Mean Comparisons report is based on information from all randomly selected or censusadministered students for both your institution and your comparison institutions. Targeted and locally administered oversamples and other non-randomly selected students are not included.

## Variables

The items from the NSSE survey appear in the left column in the same order and wording as they appear on the instrument. The name of each variable appears in the second column for easy reference to your data file and the summary statistics at the end of this section. Response options are also provided to help you interpret the statistics.

## Benchmark

Items that make up the five "Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice" are indicated by the following: LAC=Level of Academic
Challenge
ACL=Active and
Collaborative Learning
SFI=Student-Faculty Interaction
EEE=Enriching Educational Experiences
SCE=Supportive Campus Environment

## Mean

The mean is the weighted arithmetic average of student responses on a particular item Means are provided for your institution and all comparison groups. Additional details
regarding weighting can be found on the NSSE Web site.
nsse.iub.edu/links/institutional_reporting

## Statistical Significance

Items with mean differences that are larger than would be expected by chance alone are noted with one, two, or three asterisks, referring to three significance levels ( $\mathrm{p}<.05, \mathrm{p}<.01$, and $\mathrm{p}<.001$ ). The smaller the significance level, the smaller the likelihood that the difference is due to chance. Statistical significance does not guarantee the result is substantive or important. Large sample sizes (like those produced by NSSE) tend to generate more statistically significant results even though the magnitude of mean differences may be inconsequential. Consult effect sizes (see below) to judge the practical meaning of the results.

## Class

Results are reported separately for first-year students (FY) and seniors (SR). Institution-reported class ranks are used.

## NSSE 2011 Mean Comparisons <br> University of Cincinnati

national survey of student engagement

UC compared with:

## Urban

## Universities

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text { Variable } & \begin{array}{c}
\text { Bench- } \\
\text { mark }
\end{array} & \text { Class } \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

1. Academic and Intellectual Experiences

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| Variable | Bench- <br> mark$\quad$ Class |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

2. Mental Activities
acts, ideas, or methods from your

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Memorizing facts, ideas, or methods from your <br> a. courses and readings so you can repeat them in pretty much the same form | MEMORIZE |  | FY SR | 3.05 2.80 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.94^{* * *} \\ & 2.77 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | .13 <br> .03 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.01 \\ & 2.84 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r}.05 \\ -.05 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.97^{* *} \\ & 2.80 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r}.10 \\ -.01 \\ \hline\end{array}$ |
| Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, <br> b. experience, or theory, such as examining a particular case or situation in depth and considering its components | ANALYZE | LAC | FY SR | 3.15 3.32 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.19 \\ & 3.26 \text { * } \end{aligned}$ | -.04 .07 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.19 \\ & 3.30 \end{aligned}$ | -.05 .02 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.23 \text { ** } \\ & 3.32 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -.10 \\ & -.01 \end{aligned}$ |
| Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or <br> c. experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships | SYNTHESZ | LAC | FY SR | 2.94 3.08 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.94 \\ & 3.04 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | .01 <br> .04 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.95 \\ & 3.07 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r}\text {-. } 01 \\ .01 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3.00 \\ & 3.09 \end{aligned}$ | -.06 <br> -.02 |
| Making judgments about the value of info., <br> d. arguments, or methods, such as examining how others gathered and interpreted data and assessing the soundness of their conclusions | EVALUATE | LAC | FY SR | $\begin{aligned} & 2.90 \\ & 3.02 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.97 \text { * } \\ & 2.99 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r}-.08 \\ .03 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.88 \\ & 2.97 \end{aligned}$ | .03 <br> .05 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.86 \\ & 2.96 \text { * } \end{aligned}$ | .05 <br> .06 |
| e. <br> Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations | APPLYING | LAC | FY SR | 3.16 3.29 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.07 * * \\ & 3.18 * * \end{aligned}$ | .10 <br> .14 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.12 \\ & 3.21 * * \end{aligned}$ | .05 .09 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.16 \\ & 3.22 * * \end{aligned}$ | .00 .09 |

3. Reading and Writing

During the current school year, about how much reading and writing have you done? $1=$ None, $2=1-4,3=5-10,4=11-20,5=$ More than 20

|  | Number of assigned textbooks, books, or | READASGN | LAC | FY | 3.18 | 3.13 | . 05 | 3.18 | . 00 | 3.29 *** | -. 12 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | book-length packs of course readings |  |  | SR | 3.16 | 3.16 | . 00 | 3.07 ** | . 08 | 3.15 | . 01 |
|  | Number of books read on your own (not assigned) | READOWN |  | FY | 1.86 | 2.05 *** | -. 21 | 1.98 *** | -. 14 | 1.96 ** | -. 12 |
|  | for personal enjoyment or academic enrichment |  |  | SR | 2.20 | 2.23 | -. 03 | 2.14 | . 06 | 2.10 ** | . 11 |
|  | Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or | WRITEMOR | LAC | FY | 1.18 | 1.27 *** | -. 13 | 1.21 | -. 05 | 1.23 * | -. 08 |
|  |  |  |  | SR | 1.61 | 1.57 | . 04 | 1.57 | . 05 | 1.61 | . 00 |
| d. | Number of written papers or reports between 5 | WRITEMID | LAC | FY | 2.35 | 2.25 ** | . 12 | 2.14 *** | . 28 | 2.17 *** | . 23 |
|  | and 19 pages |  |  | SR | 2.56 | 2.52 | . 04 | 2.46 *** | . 11 | 2.55 | . 01 |
| e. | Number of written papers or reports of fewer than | WRITESML | LAC | FY | 3.10 | 3.02 * | . 08 | 2.88 *** | . 21 | 2.99 ** | . 11 |
|  | 5 pages |  |  | SR | 3.17 | 2.93 *** | . 20 | 2.95 *** | . 19 | 3.03 *** | . 12 |

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[^2]national survey of student engagement


## 8. Quality of Relationships

| a. | Relationships with other students | ENVSTU | SCE | FY | 5.71 | 5.31 *** | . 28 | 5.53 *** | . 13 | 5.56 ** | . 11 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | SR | 5.59 | 5.41 *** | . 13 | 5.57 | . 01 | 5.55 | . 03 |
| 1=Unavailable, Unhelpful, Unsympathetic to 7=Available, Helpful, Sympathetic |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. | ers | ENVFAC | SCE | FY | 4.91 | 5.24 *** | -. 24 | 5.07 *** | -. 12 | 5.03 * | -. 10 |
|  |  |  |  | SR | 5.23 | 5.34 ** | -. 08 | 5.23 | . 00 | 5.12 * | . 08 |
| c. |  |  | 1=Unhelpful, Inconsiderate, Rigid to 7=Helpful, Considerate, Flexible |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Relationships with administrative personnel and | ENVADM | SCE | FY |  | 4.77 | -. 04 | 4.69 | . 02 | 4.70 | . 01 |
|  | offices |  |  | SR | 4.59 | 4.53 | . 04 | 4.52 | . 05 | 4.51 | . 05 |

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UC compared with:

## Urban

 Universities| 9. Time Usage | ACADPR01 | LAC | About how many hours do you spend in a typical 7-day week doing each of the following? <br> $1=0 \mathrm{hrs} / \mathrm{wk}, 2=1-5 \mathrm{hrs} / \mathrm{wk}, 3=6-10 \mathrm{hrs} / \mathrm{wk}, 4=11-15 \mathrm{hrs} / \mathrm{wk}, 5=16-20 \mathrm{hrs} / \mathrm{wk}, 6=21-25 \mathrm{hrs} / \mathrm{wk}, 7=26-30 \mathrm{hrs} / \mathrm{wk}$, $8=$ More than $30 \mathrm{hrs} / \mathrm{wk}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, <br> a. doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities) |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { FY } \\ & \text { SR } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.37 \\ & 4.46 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.03^{* * *} \\ & 4.23^{* * *} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & .21 \\ & .13 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.52 * \\ & 4.46 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -.09 \\ .00 \end{array}$ | $4.78 \text { *** }$ | $\begin{aligned} & -.25 \\ & -.09 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| b. Working for pay on campus | WORKON01 |  | FY | 1.36 | 1.45 * | -. 08 | 1.43 | -. 07 | 1.48 ** | -. 11 |
|  |  |  | SR | 1.48 | 1.71 *** | -. 15 | $1.94{ }^{* * *}$ | -. 27 | 2.07 *** | -. 36 |
| c. Working for pay off campus | WORKOF01 |  | FY | 2.26 | 2.67 *** | -. 18 | 1.59 *** | . 46 | 1.41 *** | . 69 |
|  |  |  | SR | 4.33 | 4.22 | . 04 | 2.84 *** | . 61 | 2.34 *** | . 94 |
| Participating in co-curricular activities <br> d. (organizations, campus publications, student government, fraternity or sorority, intercollegiate or intramural sports, etc.) | COCURR01 | EEE | FY SR | 2.38 2.10 | $\begin{aligned} & 1.93^{* * *} \\ & 1.71^{* * *} \end{aligned}$ | .31 <br> .30 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.44 \\ & 2.29 \text { *** } \end{aligned}$ | -.04 <br> -.12 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.51^{*} \\ & 2.44^{* *} \end{aligned}$ | -.09 -.21 |
| Relaxing and socializing (watching TV, partying, etc.) | SOCIAL05 |  | FY SR | 3.93 3.53 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.74 * * \\ & 3.42 * \end{aligned}$ | .11 <br> .08 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.87 \\ & 3.68 * * \end{aligned}$ | .03 -.10 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.93 \\ & 3.84 * * \end{aligned}$ | .00 -.19 |
| f. Providing care for dependents living with you (parents, children, spouse, etc.) | CAREDE01 |  | FY SR | 1.48 2.57 | 2.03 *** 2.80 ** | -.31 -.09 | $1.35{ }^{* *}$ $1.84 * *$ | .13 .40 | $\begin{aligned} & 1.26^{* * *} \\ & 1.48 \text { *** } \end{aligned}$ | .24 .77 |
| g. Commuting to class (driving walking etc.) | COMMUTE |  | FY | 2.14 | 2.44 *** | -. 26 | 2.31 *** | -. 18 | 2.28 *** | -. 16 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.33 | 2.59 *** | -. 23 | 2.41 * | -. 09 | 2.38 | -. 05 |
| 10. Institutional Environment |  |  | To what extent does your institution emphasize each of the following? $1=$ Very little, $2=$ Some, $3=$ Quite a bit, $4=$ Very much $\qquad$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. <br> Spending significant amounts of time studying and on academic work | ENVSCHOL | LAC | FY | 3.18 | 3.15 | . 04 | 3.22 | -. 05 | 3.27 *** | -. 13 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.11 | 3.10 | . 01 | 3.15 | -. 05 | 3.20 *** | -. 12 |
| Providing the support you need to help you succeed academically | ENVSUPRT | SCE | FY | 2.92 | 3.03 *** | -. 14 | 3.10 *** | -. 23 | 3.09 *** | -. 23 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.84 | 2.83 | . 01 | 2.87 | -. 04 | 2.85 | -. 01 |
| Encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds | ENVDIVRS | EEE | FY | 2.63 | 2.72 * | -. 10 | 2.75 *** | -. 13 | 2.78 *** | -. 15 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.43 | 2.51 * | -. 08 | 2.50 * | -. 07 | 2.48 | -. 05 |

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## 11. Educational and Personal Growth

| a. | Acquiring a broad general education | GNGENLED | FY | 3.14 | 3.14 | . 00 | 3.19 | -. 07 | 3.19 | -. 06 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.09 | 3.16 * | -. 07 | 3.21 *** | -. 14 | 3.20 *** | -. 13 |
| b. | Acquiring job or work-related knowledge | GNWORK | FY | 2.95 | 2.76 *** | . 21 | 2.81 *** | . 15 | 2.84 ** | . 13 |
|  | and skills |  | SR | 3.18 | 2.93 *** | . 25 | 2.98 *** | . 21 | 2.98 *** | . 21 |
| c. | Writing clearly and effectively | GNWRITE | FY | 2.96 | 3.04 * | -. 09 | 2.89 * | . 08 | 2.88 * | . 10 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.04 | 3.03 | . 01 | 3.02 | . 02 | 3.01 | . 03 |
| d. | d eff | GNSPEAK | FY | 2.77 | 2.87 ** | -. 12 | 2.71 | . 06 | 2.68 * | . 10 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.90 | 2.90 | . 00 | 2.90 | . 00 | 2.88 | . 02 |
|  | Thinking critically and analytically | GNANALY | FY | 3.25 | 3.23 | . 02 | 3.24 | . 01 | 3.27 | -. 03 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.35 | 3.29 * | . 07 | 3.35 | -. 01 | 3.38 | -. 04 |
| f. | Analyzing quantitative problems | GNQUANT | FY | 2.97 | 2.96 | . 01 | 3.06 ** | -. 11 | $3.11^{* * *}$ | -. 17 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.12 | 3.04 ** | . 09 | 3.12 | . 00 | 3.14 | -. 03 |
| g. | Using computing and information technology | GNCMPTS | FY | 3.11 | 3.01 ** | . 11 | 3.06 | . 06 | 3.06 | . 06 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.25 | 3.13 *** | . 14 | 3.19 * | . 08 | 3.20 * | . 07 |
| h. | Working effectively with others | GNOTHERS | FY | 3.10 | 2.97 *** | . 15 | 2.96 *** | . 15 | 2.98 *** | . 14 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.13 | 3.06 * | . 08 | 3.12 | . 00 | 3.14 | -. 01 |

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|  | Variable | $\begin{gathered} \text { Bench- } \\ \text { mark } \end{gathered}$ | Class | UC <br> Mean ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | Universities |  | Carnegie Class |  | AAU |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Mean ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Sig ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Effect } \\ & \text { Size } \end{aligned}$ | Mean ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Sig ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Effect } \\ & \text { Size } \end{aligned}$ | Mean ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Sig ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | Effect Size ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |
| i. Voting in local, state, or national elections | GNCITIZN |  | FY | 1.83 | 1.98 *** | -. 15 | 2.07 *** | -. 23 | 2.11 *** | -. 27 |
|  |  |  | SR | 1.89 | 2.02 *** | -. 13 | 2.12 *** | -. 23 | 2.15 *** | -. 25 |
| j. Learning effectively on your own | GNINQ |  | FY | 3.01 | 2.89 *** | . 14 | 3.02 | -. 01 | 3.04 | -. 03 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.08 | 2.93 *** | . 16 | 3.07 | . 01 | 3.10 | -. 03 |
| k. Understanding yourself | GNSELF |  | FY | 2.84 | 2.75 * | . 09 | 2.81 | . 03 | 2.82 | . 03 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.74 | 2.70 | . 05 | 2.81 * | -. 07 | 2.83 ** | -. 09 |
| 1. Understanding people of other racial and ethnic | GNDIVERS |  | FY | 2.62 | 2.70 * | -. 09 | 2.67 | -. 06 | 2.68 | -. 07 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.56 | 2.66 ** | -. 10 | 2.63 * | -. 07 | 2.61 | -. 05 |
| m. Solving complex real-world problems | GNPROBSV |  | FY | 2.71 | 2.66 | . 05 | 2.73 | -. 02 | 2.76 | -. 05 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.79 | 2.71 * | . 08 | 2.83 | -. 05 | 2.86 * | -. 08 |
| n. Developing a personal code of values and ethics | GNETHICS |  | FY | 2.68 | 2.64 | . 04 | 2.70 | -. 01 | 2.68 | . 01 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.64 | 2.58 | . 06 | 2.67 | -. 03 | 2.65 | -. 01 |
| o. Contributing to the welfare of your community | GNCOMMUN |  | FY | 2.47 | 2.36 ** | . 11 | 2.52 | -. 05 | 2.51 | -. 05 |
|  |  |  | SR | 2.41 | 2.40 | . 02 | 2.48 * | -. 06 | 2.44 | -. 03 |
| p. Developing a deepened sense of spirituality | GNSPIRIT |  | FY | 1.97 | 1.97 | . 00 | 2.00 | -. 03 | 1.92 | . 05 |
|  |  |  | SR | 1.74 | 1.75 | -. 01 | 1.78 | -. 04 | 1.69 | . 05 |
| Academic Advising |  | 1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Overall, how would you evaluate the quality of academic advising you have received at your | ADVISE |  | FY | 3.05 | 3.00 | . 06 | 3.07 | -. 03 | 3.05 | . 00 |
| institution? |  |  | SR | 2.85 | 2.79 | . 05 | 2.86 | -. 01 | 2.86 | -. 01 |
| Satisfaction |  | 1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Excellent |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution? | ENTIREXP |  | FY | 3.17 | 3.14 | . 05 | 3.29 *** | -. 17 | 3.29 *** | -. 18 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.15 | 3.09 ** | . 09 | 3.24 *** | -. 12 | 3.27 *** | -. 16 |
| If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending? |  | $1=$ Definitely no, 2=Probably no, 3=Probably yes, 4=Definitely yes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SAMECOLL |  | FY | $3.31$ | 3.15 *** | . 20 | 3.37 | -. 07 | 3.37 | -. 07 |
|  |  |  | SR | 3.16 | 3.06 *** | . 11 | 3.30 *** | -. 16 | 3.33 *** | -. 20 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | IPEDS | 01885 |

[^6]
[^0]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and size for comparisons).
    ${ }^{\mathrm{b}} * \mathrm{p}<.05 \quad{ }^{* *} \mathrm{p}<.01 \quad{ }^{* * *} \mathrm{p}<.001$ (2-tailed).
    ${ }^{\text {c }}$ Mean difference divided by pooled SD

[^1]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and size for comparisons)
    ${ }^{*} \mathrm{p}<.05 \quad$ ** $\mathrm{p}<.01 \quad$ *** $\mathrm{p}<.001$ (2-tailed)
    ${ }^{c}$ Mean difference divided by pooled SD

[^2]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and size for comparisons).
    ${ }^{\mathrm{b}} * \mathrm{p}<.05 \quad{ }^{* *} \mathrm{p}<.01 \quad{ }^{* * *} \mathrm{p}<.001$ (2-tailed).
    ${ }^{\text {c }}$ Mean difference divided by pooled SD

[^3]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and size for comparisons).
    ${ }^{5}$ p $<.05{ }^{* *} \mathrm{p}<.01 \quad{ }^{* * *} \mathrm{p}<.001$ (2-tailed).
    ${ }^{\text {c }}$ Mean difference divided by pooled SD

[^4]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and size for comparisons).
    ${ }^{\mathrm{b}} * \mathrm{p}<.05 \quad{ }^{* *} \mathrm{p}<.01 \quad{ }^{* * *} \mathrm{p}<.001$ (2-tailed).
    ${ }^{\text {c }}$ Mean difference divided by pooled SD

[^5]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and size for comparisons).
    ${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ * $\mathrm{p}<.05{ }^{* *} \mathrm{p}<.01{ }^{* * *} \mathrm{p}<.001$ (2-tailed).
    ${ }^{\text {c }}$ Mean difference divided by pooled SD

[^6]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and size for comparisons).
    ${ }^{\mathrm{b}} * \mathrm{p}<.05 \quad{ }^{* *} \mathrm{p}<.01 \quad{ }^{* * *} \mathrm{p}<.001$ (2-tailed).
    ${ }^{c}$ Mean difference divided by pooled SD

