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# NSSE 2022

## Engagement Indicators

University of South Carolina Aiken

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### 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. The specific items within each EI are listed below, starting on page 5.

Theme	Engagement Indicator
<i>Academic Challenge</i>	Higher-Order Learning
	Reflective & Integrative Learning
	Learning Strategies
	Quantitative Reasoning
<i>Learning with Peers</i>	Collaborative Learning
	Discussions with Diverse Others
<i>Experiences with Faculty</i>	Student-Faculty Interaction
	Effective Teaching Practices
<i>Campus Environment</i>	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 2021 and 2022 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).

*EIs 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 EI 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](https://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.

## 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.
- △ **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.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to your institutional context. You may not see all of these symbols in your report.

### First-Year Students

Theme	Engagement Indicator	Your first-year students compared with Southeast Public	Your first-year students compared with Carnegie Class	Your first-year students compared with COPLAC
Academic Challenge	Higher-Order Learning	--	--	--
	Reflective & Integrative Learning	--	--	--
	Learning Strategies	△	△	△
	Quantitative Reasoning	--	--	--
Learning with Peers	Collaborative Learning	--	--	--
	Discussions with Diverse Others	--	--	--
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction	△	--	--
	Effective Teaching Practices	--	--	--
Campus Environment	Quality of Interactions	--	--	--
	Supportive Environment	--	--	--

### Seniors

Theme	Engagement Indicator	Your seniors compared with Southeast Public	Your seniors compared with Carnegie Class	Your seniors compared with COPLAC
Academic Challenge	Higher-Order Learning	△	△	△
	Reflective & Integrative Learning	△	△	--
	Learning Strategies	△	△	△
	Quantitative Reasoning	△	△	▲
Learning with Peers	Collaborative Learning	--	--	--
	Discussions with Diverse Others	--	△	△
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction	▲	△	△
	Effective Teaching Practices	△	△	△
Campus Environment	Quality of Interactions	▲	△	▲
	Supportive Environment	△	△	▲

### Academic Challenge: First-year students

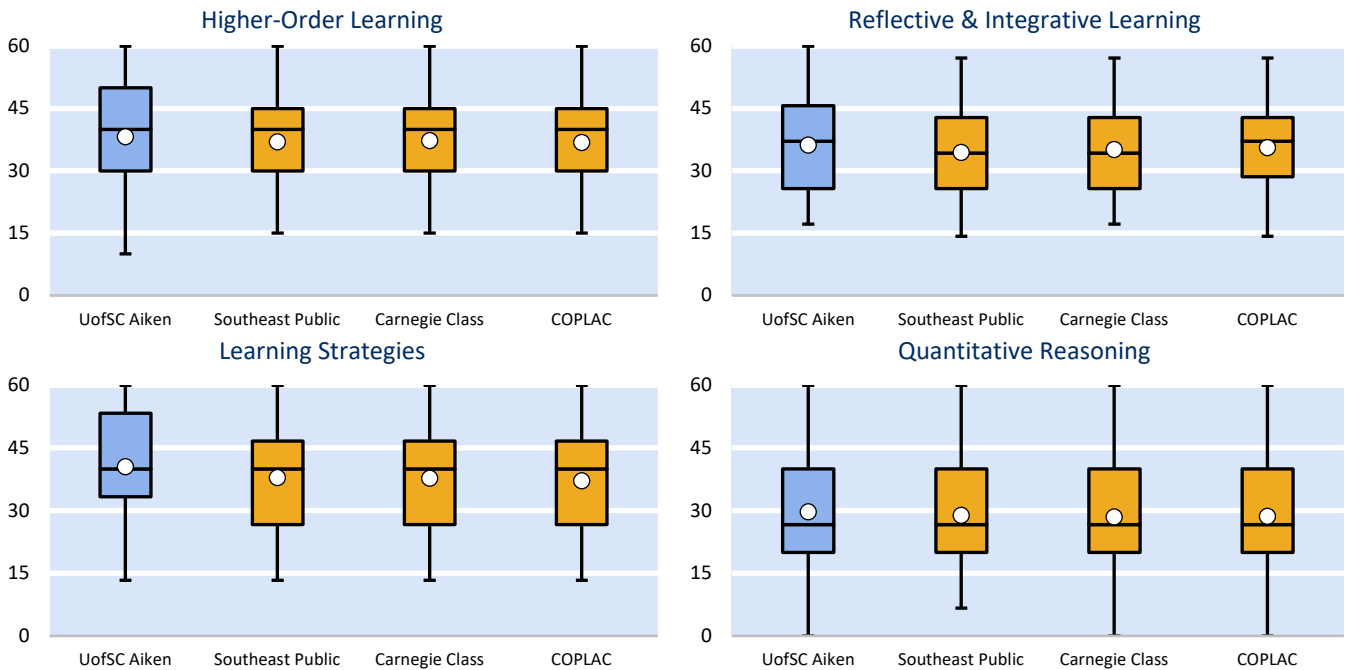
Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning*, *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

Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your first-year students compared with					
		Southeast Public		Carnegie Class		COPLAC	
		Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Higher-Order Learning	38.3	37.0	.09	37.4	.07	36.9	.10
Reflective & Integrative Learning	36.2	34.5	.14	35.2	.09	35.7	.04
Learning Strategies	40.5	37.9 *	.19	37.7 *	.20	37.1 *	.24
Quantitative Reasoning	29.7	28.8	.06	28.4	.08	28.6	.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.

## 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.

	UofSC Aiken	Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your FY students and		
		Southeast Public	Carnegie Class	COPLAC
<b>Higher-Order Learning</b>				
<i>Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized...</i>				
	%			
4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	69	+2	+2	+2
4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	72	+6	+7	+6
4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	70	+3	+2	+1
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	74	+6	+5	+6
<b>Reflective &amp; Integrative Learning</b>				
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	48	-1	-2	-5
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	51	+2	-1	-4
2c. Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	62	+11	+8	+5
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	65	+3	+2	+1
2e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	77	+8	+7	+7
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	70	+7	+5	+5
2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	75	+0	-1	-1
<b>Learning Strategies</b>				
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	76	+6	+4	+3
9b. Reviewed your notes after class	74	+7	+9	+12
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	68	+3	+4	+6
<b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>				
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
6a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	55	+1	+4	+2
6b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	49	+7	+7	+7
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	41	+1	+2	+1

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.

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: Seniors

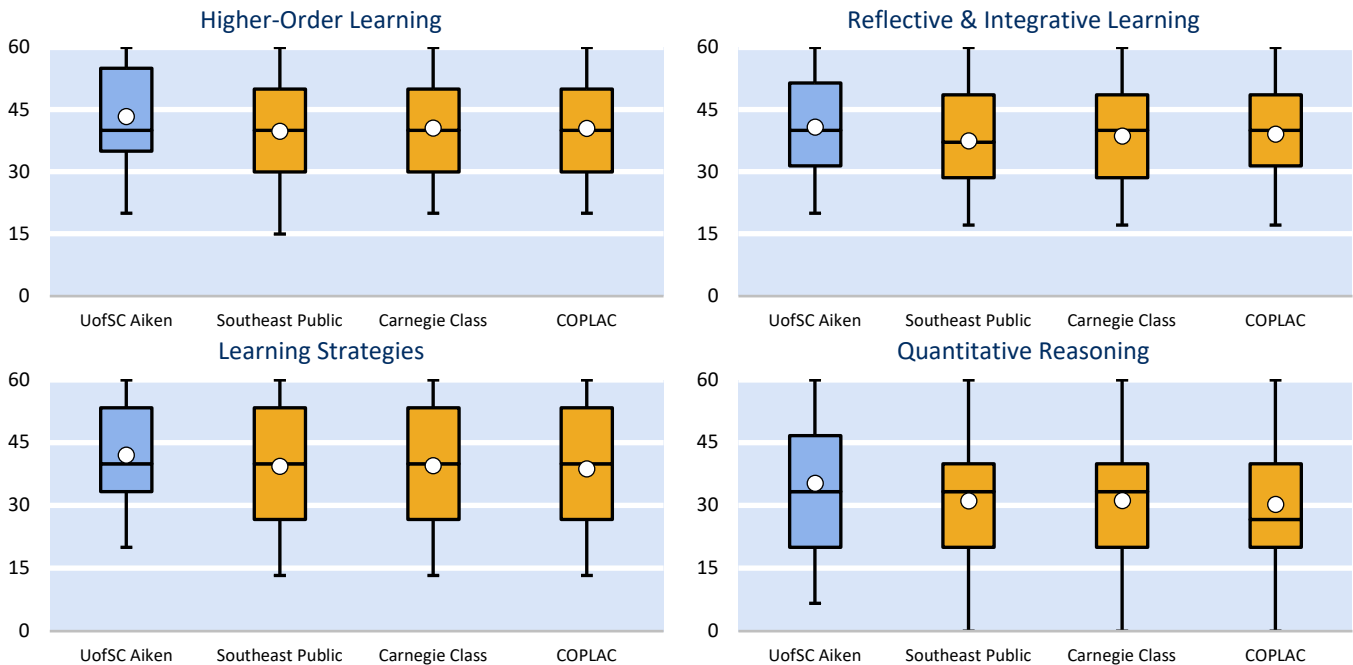
Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning*, *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.

#### Mean Comparisons

Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your seniors compared with					
		Southeast Public		Carnegie Class		COPLAC	
		Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Higher-Order Learning	43.4	39.8 ***	.25	40.6 **	.21	40.5 **	.21
Reflective & Integrative Learning	40.8	37.5 ***	.25	38.7 *	.17	39.2	.13
Learning Strategies	42.0	39.3 **	.18	39.5 *	.17	38.7 **	.22
Quantitative Reasoning	35.3	31.1 ***	.25	31.1 ***	.25	30.2 ***	.31

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.

## 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.

	UofSC Aiken	Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your seniors and		
		Southeast Public	Carnegie Class	COPLAC
<b>Higher-Order Learning</b>				
<i>Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized...</i>				
	%			
4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	81	+5	+3	+5
4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	78	+4	+3	+4
4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	77	+7	+3	+4
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	80	+8	+6	+6
<b>Reflective &amp; Integrative Learning</b>				
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	69	+2	+1	-1
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	69	+10	+5	+4
2c. Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	62	+10	+4	+2
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	73	+8	+6	+7
2e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective	81	+9	+7	+7
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	73	+4	+3	+3
2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	85	+4	+2	+1
<b>Learning Strategies</b>				
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	84	+10	+7	+6
9b. Reviewed your notes after class	72	+5	+6	+11
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	72	+4	+4	+7
<b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>				
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
6a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	65	+8	+8	+10
6b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	61	+12	+11	+14
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	58	+11	+11	+13

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.

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### Learning with Peers: First-year students

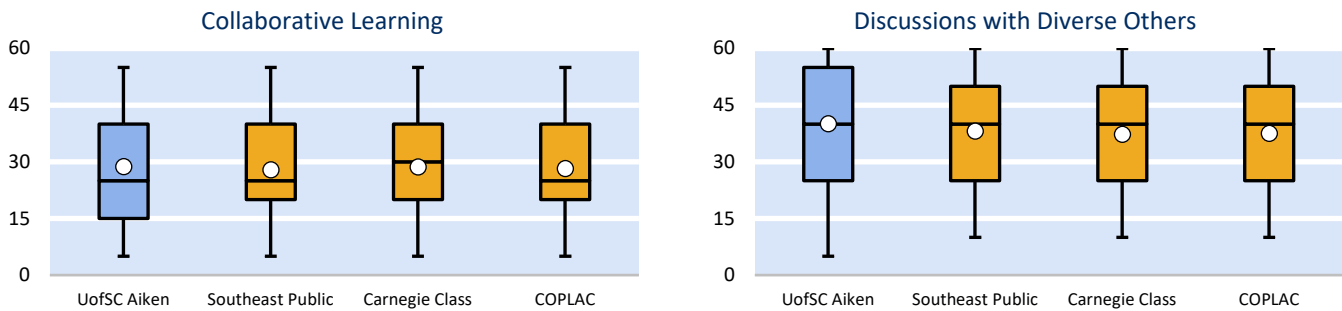
Collaborating with others in mastering difficult material and interacting with peers from different backgrounds prepares students to deal with complex, unscripted problems they will encounter during and after college. Two Engagement Indicators make up this theme: *Collaborative Learning* and *Discussions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

#### Mean Comparisons

Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your first-year students compared with					
		Southeast Public		Carnegie Class		COPLAC	
		Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Collaborative Learning	28.7	27.9	.05	28.6	.01	28.2	.03
Discussions with Diverse Others	40.1	38.1	.12	37.3	.18	37.5	.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 < .001 (2-tailed).

#### Score Distributions



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#### 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.

Collaborative Learning	UofSC Aiken %	Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your FY students and		
		Southeast Public	Carnegie Class	COPLAC
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...				
1b. Asked another student to help you understand course material	44	+1	+1	+3
1c. Explained course material to one or more students	46	+0	-1	-0
1d. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	45	+8	+5	+9
1e. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	37	-6	-10	-11
<b>Discussions with Diverse Others</b>				
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	76	+9	+12	+8
8b. People from an economic background other than your own	70	+3	+4	+2
8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own	65	+1	+5	+0
8d. People with political views other than your own	65	+2	+3	+7

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.

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### Learning with Peers: Seniors

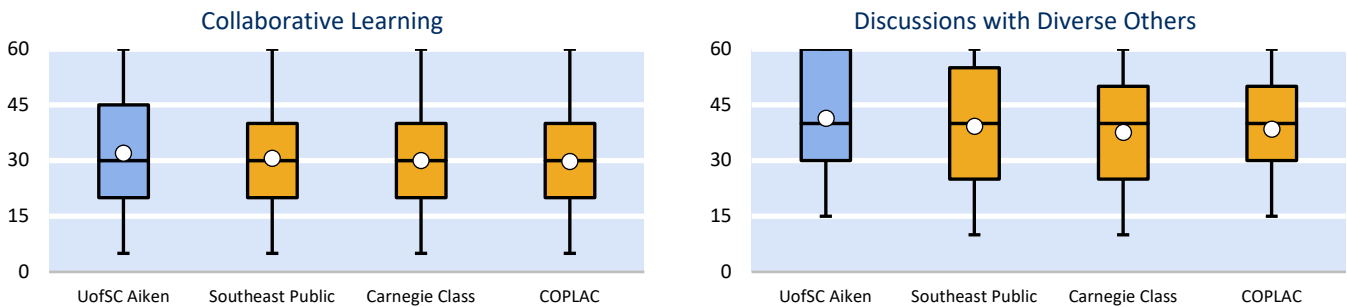
Collaborating with others in mastering difficult material and interacting with peers from different backgrounds prepares students to deal with complex, unscripted problems they will encounter during and after college. Two Engagement Indicators make up this theme: *Collaborative Learning* and *Discussions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

#### Mean Comparisons

Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your seniors compared with					
		Southeast Public		Carnegie Class		COPLAC	
	Mean	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Collaborative Learning	32.0	30.6	.09	30.1	.12	29.8	.14
Discussions with Diverse Others	41.4	39.3	.13	37.7 ***	.24	38.5 **	.19

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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	UofSC Aiken %	Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your seniors and		
		Southeast Public	Carnegie Class	COPLAC
<b>Collaborative Learning</b>				
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
1b. Asked another student to help you understand course material	47	+5	+8	+9
1c. Explained course material to one or more students	55	+2	+2	+2
1d. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	45	+4	+5	+6
1e. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	62	+3	+4	+3
<b>Discussions with Diverse Others</b>				
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often" had discussions with...</i>				
8a. People of a race or ethnicity other than your own	76	+7	+12	+7
8b. People from an economic background other than your own	80	+9	+13	+10
8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own	70	+5	+8	+5
8d. People with political views other than your own	69	+3	+5	+10

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### Experiences with Faculty: First-year students

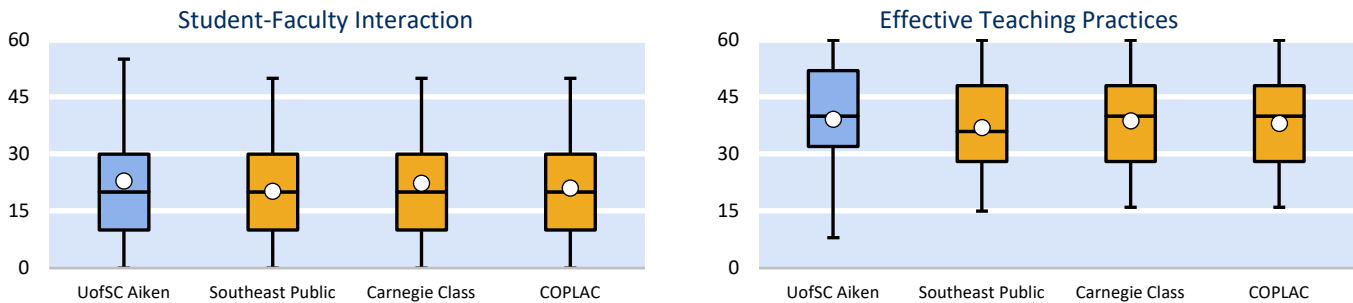
Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside of instructional settings. As a result, faculty become role models, mentors, and guides for lifelong learning. In addition, effective teaching requires that faculty deliver course 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

Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your first-year students compared with					
		Southeast Public Mean	Southeast Public Effect size	Carnegie Class Mean	Carnegie Class Effect size	COPLAC Mean	COPLAC Effect size
Student-Faculty Interaction	22.8	20.1 *	.18	22.3	.04	21.0	.12
Effective Teaching Practices	39.2	36.9	.16	38.7	.04	38.0	.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 < .001 (2-tailed).

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Student-Faculty Interaction	UofSC Aiken %	Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your FY students and		
		Southeast Public	Carnegie Class	COPLAC
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member	43	+8	+3	+9
3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	23	+4	-0	+2
3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	29	+6	+2	+4
3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	33	+4	-1	+2
<i>Effective Teaching Practices</i>				
<i>Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have...</i>				
5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements	79	+6	+4	+4
5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way	70	+0	-3	-2
5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	81	+11	+9	+9
5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	69	+9	+2	+4
5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	60	+5	-1	-2

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### Experiences with Faculty: Seniors

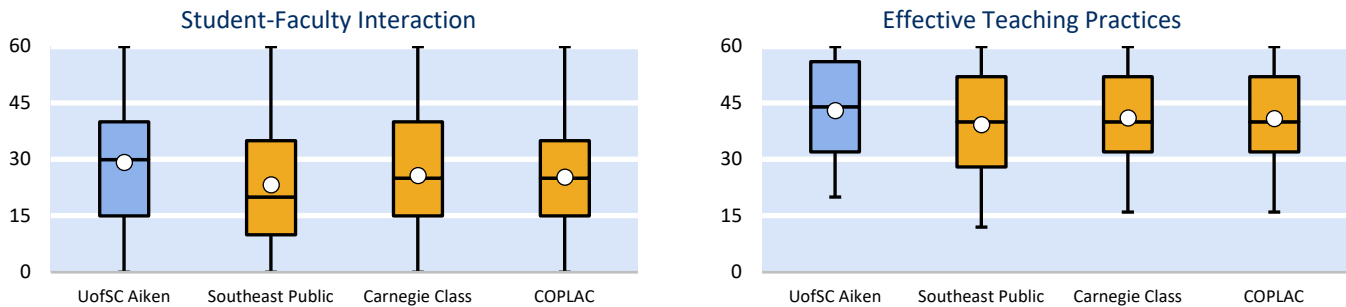
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		Southeast Public Effect size		Carnegie Class Effect size		COPLAC Effect size	
	Mean	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Student-Faculty Interaction	29.1	23.2 ***	.35	25.7 **	.21	25.3 **	.24
Effective Teaching Practices	42.9	39.2 ***	.25	41.0 *	.14	40.8 *	.15

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Student-Faculty Interaction	UofSC Aiken %	Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your seniors and		
		Southeast Public	Carnegie Class	COPLAC
<i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>				
3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member	55	+14	+8	+11
3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	36	+9	+5	+5
3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	42	+11	+7	+8
3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	50	+18	+12	+13
<i>Effective Teaching Practices</i>				
<i>Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have...</i>				
5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements	85	+7	+5	+5
5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way	78	+5	+1	+2
5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	80	+6	+3	+4
5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	71	+9	+3	+4
5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	70	+7	+1	+2

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.

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: First-year students

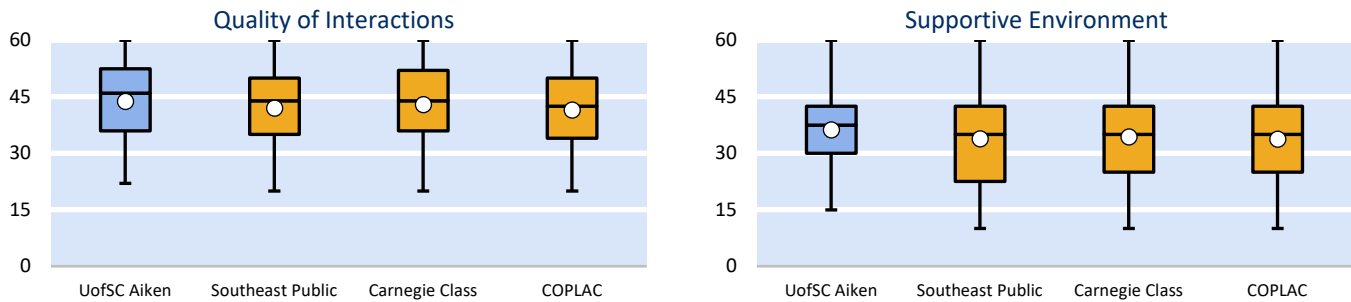
Students benefit and are more satisfied in supportive settings that cultivate positive relationships among students, faculty, and staff. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Quality of Interactions* and *Supportive Environment*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your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

#### Mean Comparisons

Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your first-year students compared with					
		Southeast Public		Carnegie Class		COPLAC	
		Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Quality of Interactions	43.8	42.1	.14	43.0	.07	41.6	.20
Supportive Environment	36.3	33.9	.17	34.4	.14	33.8	.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.

Quality of Interactions	UofSC Aiken	Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your FY students and		
		Southeast Public	Carnegie Class	COPLAC
<i>Percentage rating their interactions a 6 or 7 (on a scale from 1="Poor" to 7="Excellent") with...</i>	%			
13a. Students	53	+5	+4	+6
13b. Academic advisors	53	-2	-4	+2
13c. Faculty	52	+5	-1	+3
13d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	57	+11	+9	+14
13e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	53	+9	+3	+9
<i>Supportive Environment</i>				
<i>Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much the institution emphasized...</i>				
14b. Providing support to help students succeed academically	71	+1	-1	+1
14c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	80	+8	+9	+7
14d. Encouraging contact among students from diff. backgrounds (soc., racial/eth., relig., etc.)	66	+10	+8	+6
14e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially	75	+10	+8	+9
14f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	63	-0	+0	+3
14g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	39	+2	+1	+5
14h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	78	+16	+17	+17
14i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	60	+17	+14	+11

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.

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: Seniors

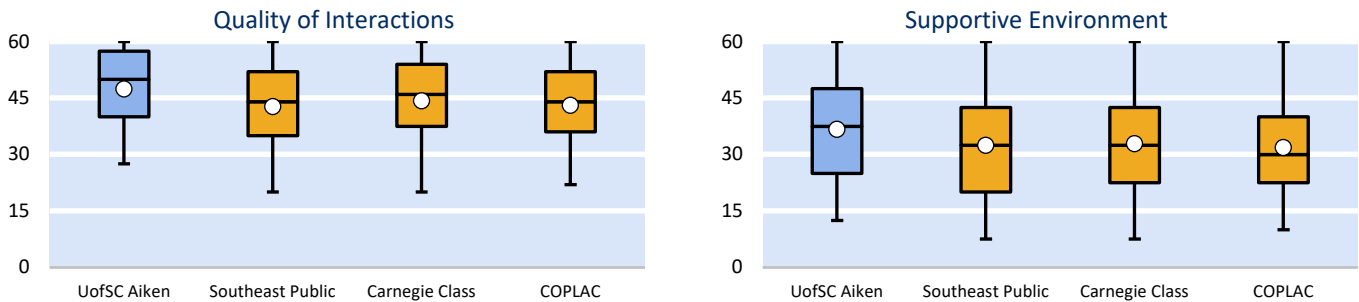
Students benefit and are more satisfied in supportive settings that cultivate positive relationships among students, faculty, and staff. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Quality of Interactions* and *Supportive Environment*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your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

#### Mean Comparisons

Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your seniors compared with					
		Southeast Public		Carnegie Class		COPLAC	
		Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Quality of Interactions	47.5	42.8 ***	.37	44.3 ***	.26	43.1 ***	.38
Supportive Environment	36.8	32.5 ***	.29	32.9 ***	.26	31.9 ***	.35

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.

Quality of Interactions	UofSC Aiken	Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your seniors and		
		Southeast Public	Carnegie Class	COPLAC
<i>Percentage rating their interactions a 6 or 7 (on a scale from 1= "Poor" to 7= "Excellent") with...</i>	%			
13a. Students	62	+4	+3	+6
13b. Academic advisors	68	+15	+7	+14
13c. Faculty	63	+8	+2	+4
13d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	60	+14	+12	+16
13e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	61	+16	+11	+17
<i>Supportive Environment</i>				
<i>Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much the institution emphasized...</i>				
14b. Providing support to help students succeed academically	73	+6	+2	+5
14c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	67	+2	-0	+4
14d. Encouraging contact among students from diff. backgrounds (soc., racial/eth., relig., etc.)	64	+10	+9	+9
14e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially	72	+8	+8	+9
14f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	66	+5	+6	+10
14g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	45	+12	+9	+16
14h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	64	+6	+10	+11
14i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	63	+22	+20	+18

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.

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 Top 50% and Top 10% Institutions

While NSSE's policy is not to rank institutions (see [go.iu.edu/NSSE-PnP](https://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<sup>a</sup> for their high average levels of student engagement:

- (a) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 50% of all 2021 and 2022 NSSE institutions, and
- (b) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 10% of all 2021 and 2022 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 (✓) signifies those comparisons where your average score was at least comparable<sup>b</sup> 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

Theme	Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your first-year students compared with					
			NSSE Top 50%			NSSE Top 10%		
			Mean	Effect size	✓	Mean	Effect size	✓
	Higher-Order Learning	38.3	39.2	-.07	✓	42.1 **	-.29	
Academic	Reflective and Integrative Learning	36.2	36.9	-.06	✓	39.2 **	-.25	
Challenge	Learning Strategies	40.5	39.6	.07	✓	42.9	-.17	
	Quantitative Reasoning	29.7	30.2	-.03	✓	33.3 *	-.23	
Learning with Peers	Collaborative Learning	28.7	31.8 *	-.23		35.4 ***	-.50	
	Discussions with Diverse Others	40.1	39.8	.02	✓	42.6	-.18	
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction	22.8	24.3	-.10		27.8 ***	-.33	
	Effective Teaching Practices	39.2	40.3	-.08	✓	43.3 ***	-.30	
Campus Environment	Quality of Interactions	43.8	45.1	-.11		48.2 ***	-.35	
	Supportive Environment	36.3	35.9	.03	✓	39.1 *	-.21	

#### Seniors

Theme	Engagement Indicator	UofSC Aiken Mean	Your seniors compared with					
			NSSE Top 50%			NSSE Top 10%		
			Mean	Effect size	✓	Mean	Effect size	✓
	Higher-Order Learning	43.4	41.9	.11	✓	44.3	-.07	✓
Academic	Reflective and Integrative Learning	40.8	40.3	.05	✓	42.7 *	-.16	
Challenge	Learning Strategies	42.0	41.1	.06	✓	43.4	-.10	
	Quantitative Reasoning	35.3	32.4 *	.17	✓	35.3	.00	✓
Learning with Peers	Collaborative Learning	32.0	34.0	-.14		37.9 ***	-.42	
	Discussions with Diverse Others	41.4	40.4	.07	✓	43.2	-.12	
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction	29.1	28.8	.02	✓	33.2 ***	-.25	
	Effective Teaching Practices	42.9	41.9	.07	✓	44.5	-.12	
Campus Environment	Quality of Interactions	47.5	45.6 *	.15	✓	48.0	-.04	✓
	Supportive Environment	36.8	34.2 *	.17	✓	37.4	-.05	✓

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 2021 and 2022 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 positive or non-significant with an effect size > -.10.

#### Detailed Statistics: First-Year Students

	Mean statistics			Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores					Comparison results			
	Mean	SD <sup>b</sup>	SE <sup>c</sup>	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom <sup>e</sup>	Mean diff.	Sig. <sup>f</sup>	Effect size <sup>g</sup>
<b>Academic Challenge</b>												
<b>Higher-Order Learning</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 122)	38.3	15.5	1.41	10	30	40	50	60				
Southeast Public	37.0	13.7	.06	15	30	40	45	60	45,196	1.2	.314	.091
Carnegie Class	37.4	13.6	.17	15	30	40	45	60	6,214	.9	.452	.069
COPLAC	36.9	13.7	.29	15	30	40	45	60	2,349	1.4	.270	.103
Top 50%	39.2	13.3	.04	20	30	40	50	60	121	-1.0	.496	-.072
Top 10%	42.1	13.0	.12	20	35	40	55	60	123	-3.8	.009	-.288
<b>Reflective &amp; Integrative Learning</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 127)	36.2	12.7	1.12	17	26	37	46	60				
Southeast Public	34.5	12.4	.06	14	26	34	43	57	49,505	1.7	.114	.140
Carnegie Class	35.2	12.1	.15	17	26	34	43	57	6,750	1.1	.325	.088
COPLAC	35.7	12.7	.26	14	29	37	43	57	2,566	.6	.629	.044
Top 50%	36.9	12.1	.04	17	29	37	46	60	111,017	-.7	.532	-.056
Top 10%	39.2	11.8	.10	20	31	40	49	60	15,234	-3.0	.005	-.252
<b>Learning Strategies</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 115)	40.5	14.9	1.39	13	33	40	53	60				
Southeast Public	37.9	14.1	.07	13	27	40	47	60	41,670	2.6	.047	.185
Carnegie Class	37.7	14.0	.19	13	27	40	47	60	5,772	2.8	.033	.200
COPLAC	37.1	13.9	.30	13	27	40	47	60	2,209	3.4	.011	.243
Top 50%	39.6	14.1	.04	20	27	40	53	60	100,966	1.0	.456	.069
Top 10%	42.9	14.3	.11	20	33	40	60	60	18,536	-2.4	.073	-.168
<b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 114)	29.7	16.3	1.53	0	20	27	40	60				
Southeast Public	28.8	15.4	.08	7	20	27	40	60	42,297	.9	.546	.057
Carnegie Class	28.4	15.4	.20	0	20	27	40	60	5,858	1.3	.381	.083
COPLAC	28.6	15.7	.34	0	20	27	40	60	2,245	1.1	.468	.070
Top 50%	30.2	15.3	.04	7	20	27	40	60	116,682	-.5	.753	-.030
Top 10%	33.3	15.5	.13	7	20	33	40	60	15,194	-3.6	.015	-.229
<b>Learning with Peers</b>												
<b>Collaborative Learning</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 136)	28.7	15.6	1.34	5	15	25	40	55				
Southeast Public	27.9	14.5	.06	5	20	25	40	55	54,630	.8	.526	.054
Carnegie Class	28.6	14.6	.17	5	20	30	40	55	7,342	.1	.950	.005
COPLAC	28.2	14.1	.28	5	20	25	40	55	2,752	.4	.722	.031
Top 50%	31.8	13.9	.04	10	20	30	40	60	136	-3.2	.019	-.229
Top 10%	35.4	13.5	.10	15	25	35	45	60	137	-6.8	.000	-.500
<b>Discussions with Diverse Others</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 116)	40.1	17.0	1.58	5	25	40	55	60				
Southeast Public	38.1	16.1	.08	10	25	40	50	60	41,993	2.0	.187	.123
Carnegie Class	37.3	15.7	.21	10	25	40	50	60	5,847	2.8	.058	.177
COPLAC	37.5	16.1	.35	10	25	40	50	60	2,236	2.5	.097	.158
Top 50%	39.8	15.1	.05	15	30	40	55	60	115	.2	.886	.015
Top 10%	42.6	14.2	.13	20	35	40	55	60	117	-2.5	.115	-.177

#### Detailed Statistics: First-Year Students

	Mean statistics			Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores					Comparison results			
	Mean	SD <sup>b</sup>	SE <sup>c</sup>	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom <sup>e</sup>	Mean diff.	Sig. <sup>f</sup>	Effect size <sup>g</sup>
<b>Experiences with Faculty</b>												
<b>Student-Faculty Interaction</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 125)	22.8	15.4	1.38	0	10	20	30	55				
Southeast Public	20.1	14.8	.07	0	10	20	30	50	47,030	2.7	.043	.181
Carnegie Class	22.3	14.7	.18	0	10	20	30	50	6,467	.5	.683	.037
COPLAC	21.0	14.9	.31	0	10	20	30	50	2,454	1.8	.188	.121
Top 50%	24.3	15.1	.06	5	15	20	35	55	56,290	-1.5	.258	-.101
Top 10%	27.8	15.3	.16	5	15	25	40	60	9,666	-5.0	.000	-.327
<b>Effective Teaching Practices</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 121)	39.2	15.0	1.36	8	32	40	52	60				
Southeast Public	36.9	13.9	.07	15	28	36	48	60	45,043	2.2	.077	.161
Carnegie Class	38.7	13.7	.18	16	28	40	48	60	6,194	.5	.697	.036
COPLAC	38.0	13.6	.29	16	28	40	48	60	2,360	1.1	.378	.082
Top 50%	40.3	13.8	.05	16	32	40	52	60	77,345	-1.1	.364	-.082
Top 10%	43.3	13.7	.12	20	36	44	56	60	12,240	-4.1	.001	-.303
<b>Campus Environment</b>												
<b>Quality of Interactions</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 104)	43.8	12.2	1.20	22	36	46	53	60				
Southeast Public	42.1	12.2	.06	20	35	44	50	60	38,208	1.8	.143	.144
Carnegie Class	43.0	12.3	.17	20	36	44	52	60	5,429	.8	.496	.067
COPLAC	41.6	11.7	.27	20	34	43	50	60	2,016	2.3	.053	.195
Top 50%	45.1	11.9	.05	22	38	48	54	60	61,926	-1.3	.269	-.108
Top 10%	48.2	12.5	.11	23	42	50	60	60	12,010	-4.4	.000	-.350
<b>Supportive Environment</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 111)	36.3	12.9	1.22	15	30	38	43	60				
Southeast Public	33.9	14.0	.07	10	23	35	43	60	40,337	2.4	.071	.172
Carnegie Class	34.4	14.0	.19	10	25	35	43	60	5,581	1.9	.153	.137
COPLAC	33.8	13.6	.30	10	25	35	43	60	2,129	2.4	.065	.180
Top 50%	35.9	13.6	.05	13	26	38	45	60	70,285	.3	.790	.025
Top 10%	39.1	13.3	.15	18	30	40	50	60	8,027	-2.8	.026	-.213

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 +/- 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: Seniors

	Mean statistics			Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores					Comparison results			
	Mean	SD <sup>b</sup>	SE <sup>c</sup>	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom <sup>e</sup>	Mean diff.	Sig. <sup>f</sup>	Effect size <sup>g</sup>
<b>Academic Challenge</b>												
<b>Higher-Order Learning</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 218)	43.4	13.1	.89	20	35	40	55	60				
Southeast Public	39.8	14.3	.06	15	30	40	50	60	53,361	3.6	.000	.249
Carnegie Class	40.6	13.8	.16	20	30	40	50	60	7,750	2.8	.003	.206
COPLAC	40.5	13.6	.27	20	30	40	50	60	2,787	2.9	.002	.214
Top 50%	41.9	13.7	.04	20	35	40	55	60	108,678	1.5	.104	.110
Top 10%	44.3	13.1	.13	20	35	45	60	60	10,014	-.9	.341	-.065
<b>Reflective &amp; Integrative Learning</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 230)	40.8	12.7	.83	20	31	40	51	60				
Southeast Public	37.5	13.3	.06	17	29	37	49	60	57,124	3.3	.000	.248
Carnegie Class	38.7	12.9	.14	17	29	40	49	60	8,193	2.1	.013	.167
COPLAC	39.2	12.9	.25	17	31	40	49	60	2,938	1.7	.059	.130
Top 50%	40.3	12.5	.04	20	31	40	50	60	98,630	.6	.494	.045
Top 10%	42.7	11.7	.12	23	34	43	51	60	9,612	-1.9	.015	-.162
<b>Learning Strategies</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 215)	42.0	13.9	.95	20	33	40	53	60				
Southeast Public	39.3	14.8	.07	13	27	40	53	60	49,867	2.7	.009	.179
Carnegie Class	39.5	14.5	.17	13	27	40	53	60	7,356	2.5	.014	.170
COPLAC	38.7	14.7	.30	13	27	40	53	60	2,661	3.3	.002	.223
Top 50%	41.1	14.6	.04	20	33	40	53	60	118,465	.9	.368	.061
Top 10%	43.4	14.2	.10	20	33	40	60	60	20,198	-1.5	.133	-.103
<b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 214)	35.3	15.5	1.06	7	20	33	47	60				
Southeast Public	31.1	16.8	.07	0	20	33	40	60	215	4.2	.000	.253
Carnegie Class	31.1	16.5	.19	0	20	33	40	60	7,416	4.2	.000	.252
COPLAC	30.2	16.8	.34	0	20	27	40	60	2,691	5.1	.000	.306
Top 50%	32.4	16.5	.05	7	20	33	40	60	132,256	2.9	.011	.173
Top 10%	35.3	16.0	.13	7	20	33	47	60	15,390	.0	.968	-.003
<b>Learning with Peers</b>												
<b>Collaborative Learning</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 234)	32.0	16.9	1.11	5	20	30	45	60				
Southeast Public	30.6	15.9	.06	5	20	30	40	60	234	1.4	.208	.088
Carnegie Class	30.1	15.9	.17	5	20	30	40	60	244	1.9	.084	.122
COPLAC	29.8	15.2	.29	5	20	30	40	60	265	2.2	.055	.143
Top 50%	34.0	14.6	.05	10	25	35	45	60	233	-2.0	.073	-.137
Top 10%	37.9	13.7	.12	15	30	40	50	60	238	-5.8	.000	-.424
<b>Discussions with Diverse Others</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 211)	41.4	16.4	1.13	15	30	40	60	60				
Southeast Public	39.3	16.6	.07	10	25	40	55	60	50,152	2.1	.060	.129
Carnegie Class	37.7	16.0	.19	10	25	40	50	60	7,342	3.8	.001	.236
COPLAC	38.5	15.5	.31	15	30	40	50	60	2,667	3.0	.008	.189
Top 50%	40.4	15.9	.05	15	30	40	55	60	118,599	1.1	.335	.066
Top 10%	43.2	15.1	.14	20	35	45	60	60	11,988	-1.8	.089	-.118

#### Detailed Statistics: Seniors

	Mean statistics			Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores					Comparison results			
	Mean	SD <sup>b</sup>	SE <sup>c</sup>	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom <sup>e</sup>	Mean diff.	Sig. <sup>f</sup>	Effect size <sup>g</sup>
<b>Experiences with Faculty</b>												
<b>Student-Faculty Interaction</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 224)	29.1	17.3	1.16	0	15	30	40	60				
Southeast Public	23.2	16.8	.07	0	10	20	35	60	55,040	5.9	.000	.352
Carnegie Class	25.7	16.3	.19	0	15	25	40	60	234	3.5	.003	.213
COPLAC	25.3	16.2	.32	0	15	25	35	60	257	3.9	.001	.238
Top 50%	28.8	16.2	.07	5	15	25	40	60	224	.4	.748	.023
Top 10%	33.2	16.1	.20	10	20	35	45	60	236	-4.1	.001	-.254
<b>Effective Teaching Practices</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 222)	42.9	13.7	.92	20	32	44	56	60				
Southeast Public	39.2	14.7	.06	12	28	40	52	60	53,248	3.7	.000	.252
Carnegie Class	41.0	14.2	.16	16	32	40	52	60	7,738	1.9	.045	.137
COPLAC	40.8	14.5	.29	16	32	40	52	60	2,798	2.1	.038	.145
Top 50%	41.9	14.1	.05	16	32	40	56	60	86,099	1.0	.303	.069
Top 10%	44.5	13.6	.12	20	36	44	56	60	14,017	-1.6	.088	-.115
<b>Campus Environment</b>												
<b>Quality of Interactions</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 188)	47.5	11.0	.80	28	40	50	58	60				
Southeast Public	42.8	12.7	.06	20	35	44	52	60	189	4.7	.000	.372
Carnegie Class	44.3	12.2	.15	20	38	46	54	60	6,756	3.2	.000	.264
COPLAC	43.1	11.6	.24	22	36	44	52	60	2,461	4.4	.000	.379
Top 50%	45.6	12.3	.04	22	38	48	56	60	91,505	1.9	.035	.154
Top 10%	48.0	12.5	.08	22	40	50	60	60	190	-.5	.546	-.039
<b>Supportive Environment</b>												
UofSC Aiken (N = 210)	36.8	14.6	1.01	13	25	38	48	60				
Southeast Public	32.5	14.8	.07	8	20	33	43	60	48,653	4.3	.000	.288
Carnegie Class	32.9	14.8	.18	8	23	33	43	60	7,132	3.8	.000	.258
COPLAC	31.9	14.1	.29	10	23	30	40	60	2,584	4.9	.000	.345
Top 50%	34.2	14.7	.05	10	23	35	45	60	84,910	2.5	.013	.171
Top 10%	37.4	14.5	.16	13	28	38	48	60	8,442	-.7	.505	-.047

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 +/- 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.