Pacific Lutheran University

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.

Comparison Group

The comparison group featured in this report is

Comparable Peers

See your *Selected Comparison Groups* report for details.

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 | | | Your students compared with Comparable Peers | |
|---|------------------------|--|--|------------|
| Engagement Indicators, organized under four broad themes. At right are summary results for your institution. For details, see your <i>Engagement Indicators</i> report. | Theme | Engagement Indicator | First-year | Senior |
| | | Higher-Order Learning | | |
| | Academic Challenge | Reflective & Integrative Learning | | |
| | | Learning Strategies | | |
| Key: | | Quantitative Reasoning | ∇ | ∇ |
| Your students' average was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude. | Learning with Peers | Collaborative Learning | ∇ | • |
| Your students' average was significantly \triangle higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude. | | Discussions with Diverse Others | ∇ | |
| No significant difference. | Experiences | Student-Faculty Interaction | ∇ | lacksquare |
| Your students' average was significantly ∇ lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude. | with Faculty | Effective Teaching Practices | | • |
| Your students' average was significantly lower $(p < .05)$ with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude. | Campus Environment | Quality of Interactions | | |
| | | Supportive Environment | | |

High-Impact Practices

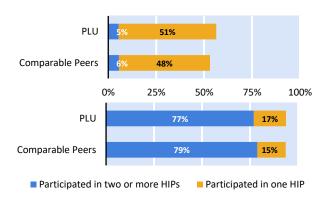
Due to their positive associations with student learning and retention, special undergraduate opportunities are designated "high-impact." For more details and statistical comparisons, see your *High-Impact Practices* report.

First-year

Service-Learning, Learning Community, and Research w/Faculty

Senior

Service-Learning, Learning Community, Research w/Faculty, Internship, Study Abroad, and Culminating Senior Experience





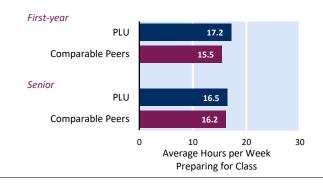
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Academic Challenge: Additional Results

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.

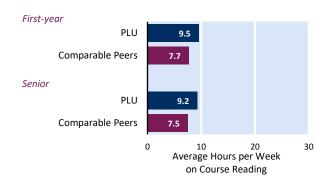
Time Spent Preparing for Class

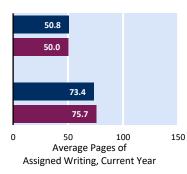
This figure reports the average weekly class preparation time for your students compared to students in your comparison group.



Reading and Writing

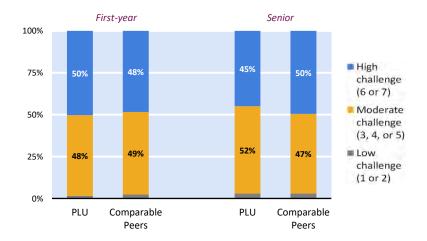
These figures summarize the number of hours your students spent reading for their courses and the average number of pages of assigned writing compared to students in your comparison group. Each is an estimate calculated from two or more separate survey questions.





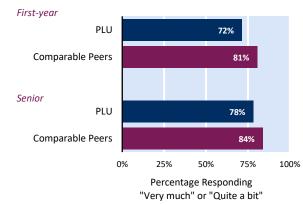
Challenging Students to Do Their Best Work

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."





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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^a 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 Comparable Peers

Participated in a learning community or some other formal program where... (HIP)

Spent more than 10 hours per week on assigned reading

Reviewed your notes after class^b (LS)

Connected your learning to societal problems or issues^b (RI)

Included diverse perspectives (...) in course discussions or assignments^b (RI)

Lowest Performing Relative to Comparable Peers

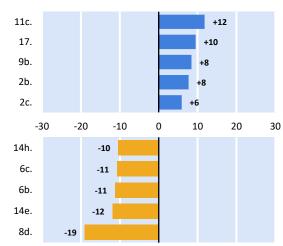
Institution emphasis on attending campus activities and events (...)^c (SE)

Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information^b (QR)

Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (...)^b (QR)

Institution emphasis on providing opportunities to be involved socially^c (SE)

Discussions with... People with political views other than your own^b (DD)



Percentage Point Difference with Comparable Peers

Senior

Highest Performing Relative to Comparable Peers

Spent more than 10 hours per week on assigned reading f

Discussions with... People from an economic background other than your own^b (DD)

Quality of interactions with other administrative staff and offices (...)^d (QI)

Quality of interactions with student services staff $\left(\ldots\right)^d$ (QI)

Completed a culminating senior experience (...) (HIP)

Lowest Performing Relative to Comparable Peers

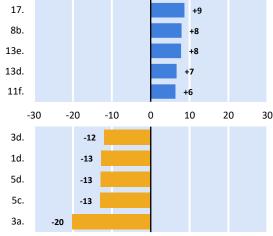
Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member (SF)

Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material w/other students^b (CL)

Instructors provided feedback on a draft or work in progress^c (ET)

Instructors used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points^c (ET)

Talked about career plans with a faculty member (SF)



Percentage Point Difference with Comparable Peers

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."



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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

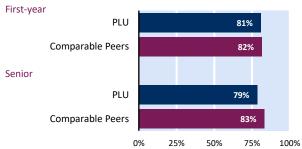
Students reported how much their experience at your institution contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development in ten areas.

Perceived Gains Percentage of Seniors Responding (Sorted highest to lowest) "Very much" or "Quite a bit" Thinking critically and analytically Writing clearly and effectively Understanding people of other backgrounds (econ., racial/ethnic, polit., relig., nation., etc.) Working effectively with others Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics Speaking clearly and effectively Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills Being an informed and active citizen Analyzing numerical and statistical information Solving complex real-world problems 56%

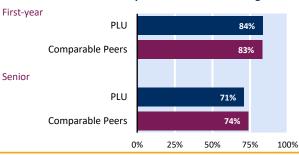
Satisfaction with PLU

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





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



Administration Details

Response Summary

| | Count | Resp. rate | Female | Full-time |
|------------|-------|------------|--------|-----------|
| First-year | 239 | 41% | 72% | 99% |
| Senior | 177 | 29% | 71% | 97% |

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

Additional Questions

Your institution administered the following additional question set(s):

First-year Experiences and Senior Transitions
Inclusiveness and Engagement with Cultural Diversity

See your Topical Module report(s) for results.

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

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