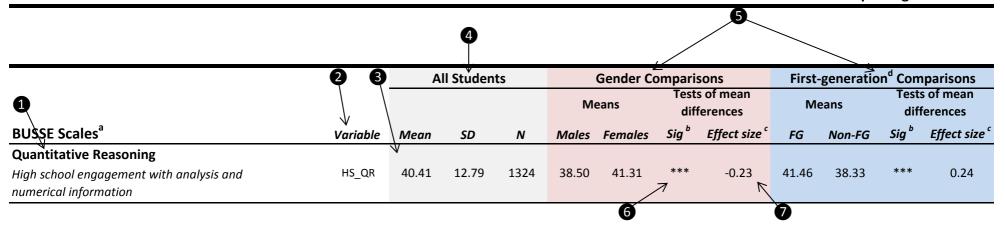


BUSSE Mean Scale Scores and Selected Student Comparisons

Interpreting Mean Results



- 1. *Scale:* The BUSSE Scale appears in the left column of the report.
- 2. *Variable Name:* The variable name as it appears in the data file and codebook.
- 3. **Mean:** The unweighted scale mean is reported overall for the institution, as well as by gender and first-generation status.
- 4. *Institutional Level:* Results for each item for the institution overall.
- 5. **Selected Student Comparisons:** Results for each item by gender and first-generation status.

- 6. 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 (p<.05, p<.01, and 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 tend to generate more statistically significant results even though the magnitude of mean differences may be inconsequential. It is recommended to consult effect sizes to judge the practical meaning of the results.
- 7. **Effect size:** Indicates the "practical significance" of the mean difference. It is calculated by dividing the mean difference by the pooled standard deviation. In practice, an effect size of .2 is often considered small, .5 moderate, and .8 large.