



SASSE 2013 Engagement Indicators

About this report

About your engagement indicators report

Engagement Indicators (EIs) provide a useful summary of the detailed information contained in your students' SASSE responses. By combining responses to related SASSE 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 organised into four themes as shown at right.

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Engagement Indicator</i>
<i>Academic Challenge</i>	Higher-Order Learning
	Reflective and Integrative Learning
	Learning Strategies
	Quantitative Reasoning
<i>Learning with Peers</i>	Collaborative Learning
	Discussions with Diverse Others
<i>Experiences with Staff</i>	Student-Staff Interaction
	Effective Teaching Practices
<i>Campus Environment</i>	Quality of Interactions
	Supportive Environment

Report sections

Overview (p. 2)	Displays how average EI scores for your first-year and senior students compare with those of students at your comparison group institutions.
Theme Reports (pp. 3-12)	Detailed views of EI scores within the four themes for your students and those at comparison group institutions. Three views offer insights into your EI scores: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Mean comparisons</i> Straightforward comparisons of average scores between your students and those at comparison group institutions, with tests of significance and effect sizes (see below). <i>Score distributions</i> Box-and-whisker charts show the variation in scores within your institution and comparison groups. <i>Summary of indicator items</i> Responses to each item in a given EI are displayed for your institution and comparison groups.

Interpreting comparisons

Mean comparisons report both statistical significance and effect size. Effect size indicates the practical importance of an observed difference. In practice, an effect size of .2 is often considered small, .5 moderate, and .8 large. Comparisons with an effect size of at least .3 in magnitude (before rounding) are highlighted in the Overview.

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 between those in your comparison groups.

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.