



Student Engagement at the University of the Free State



Studente Ontwikkeling en Sukses • Student Development and Success

UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT • UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE • YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA

Tel (051) 401 3000 • E-mail: info@ufs.ac.za • www.ufs.ac.za



What we will cover in this session

- Overview of student engagement @ UFS
- Permission and ethical issues
- Using profiles for sampling
- 2008 UFS sample vs. population
- Some engagement results at the UFS





SASSE @ UFS

Project run from 2006 – 2008

- 2006 – Pilot study
 - Approximately 800 students
- 2007 – First year sample only
 - Approximately 800 students
- 2008 – First year and senior sample
 - Approximately 1300 students





Obtaining permission

- Vice-Rector: Academic planning
- Deans
 - Ethics committees
- Heads of Department
- Lecturers
- Consent forms



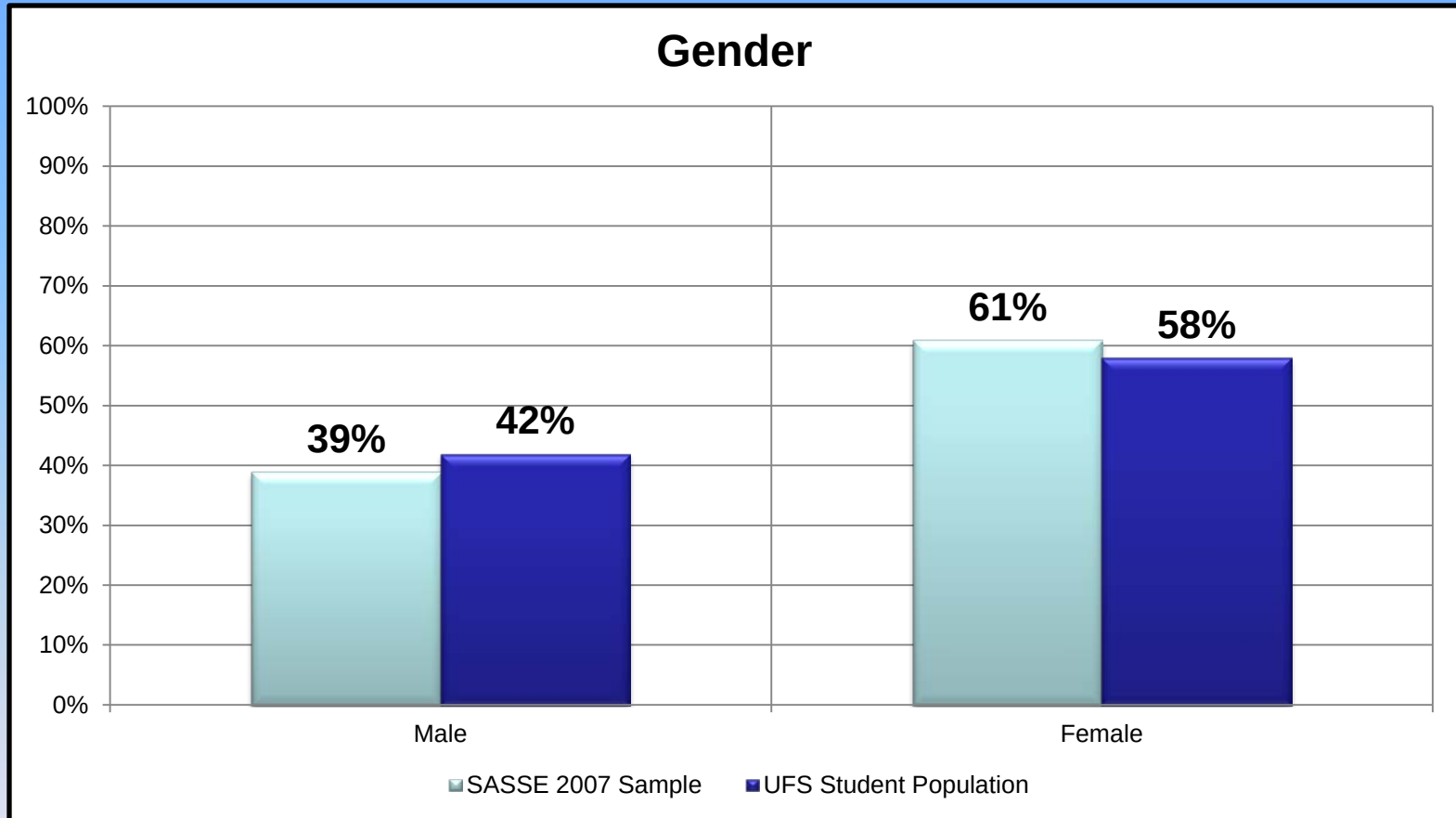


Sampling Strategy 2008

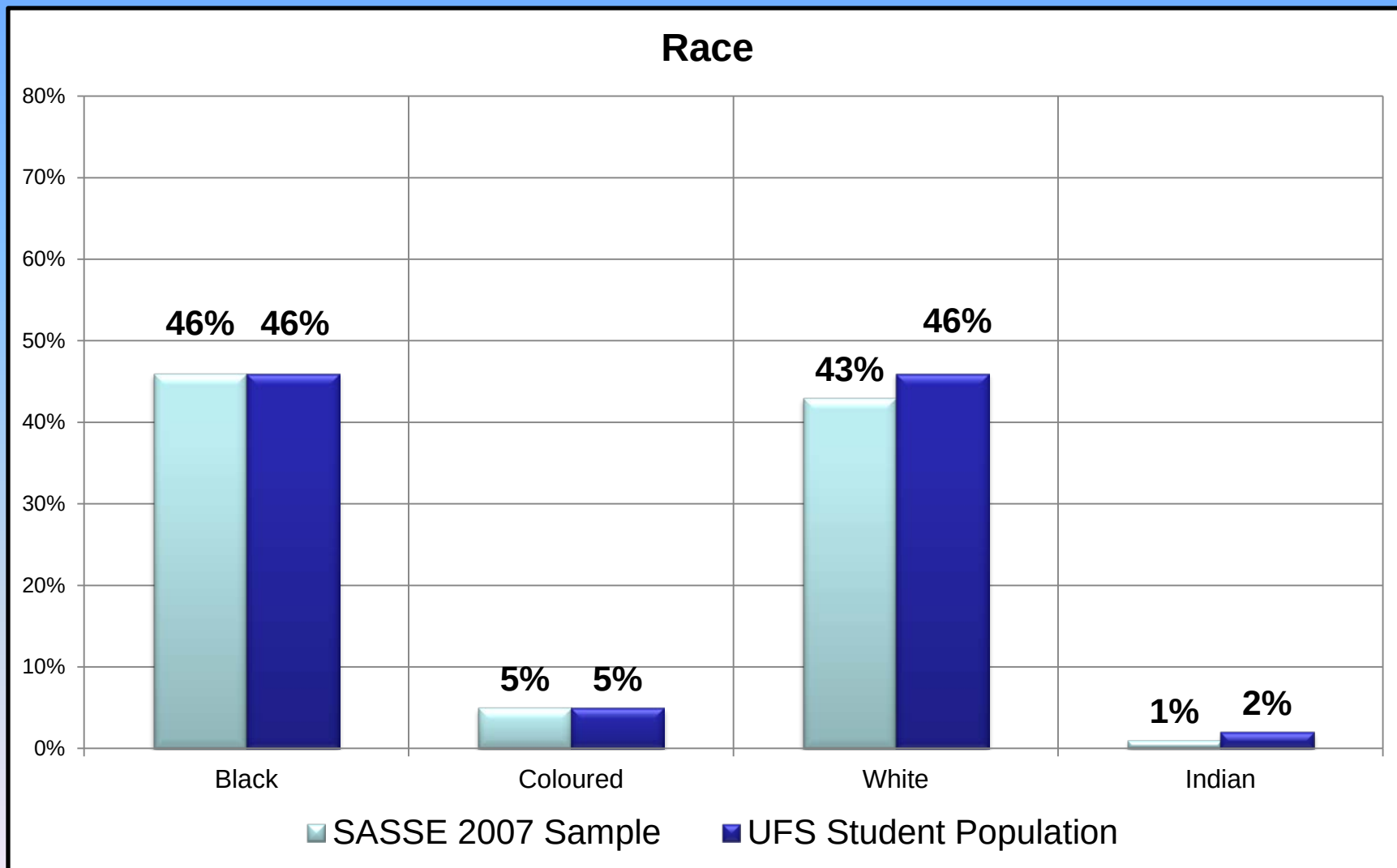
- **Non-probability (class time)**
 - Stratified
- **5 out of 6 Faculties**
 - Size (intention to do faculty level comparisons)
- **Within each faculty**
 - FIRST YEARS**
 - Core modules/large classes (most representative)
 - SENIORS**
 - Classes highest % intention to graduate
 - Recommendation by Deans



Sample/Population Comparison



Sample/Population Comparison





NSSE/SASSE reliability

	NSSE	UFS 08
Level of academic challenge	0.70	0.68
Active and Collaborative Learning	0.64	0.58
Student-Faculty Interaction	0.71	0.64
Enriching Educational Experience	0.52	0.57
Supportive Campus Environment	0.77	0.70





Reliability SASSE 06-08

	2006	2007	2008
Level of Academic Challenge	0.75	0.66	0.68
Active and Collaborative Learning	0.62	0.60	0.58
Student-Staff Interaction	0.62	0.61	0.64
Enriching Educational Experience	0.55	0.60	0.57
Supportive Campus Environment	0.67	0.64	0.70





**Significantly more active and
collaborative learning
experiences**

Male Students

**Significantly more interaction
with staff members**

Black students

are less satisfied with their campus experience

interact significantly less with staff

report the highest level of academic challenge

spend the most time per week studying





Senior Students have

more active learning
experiences,

more course-related and
out-of-class

more interaction with
staff

and use information
technology more often

What would your students say?