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# NSSE 2018

## Engagement Indicators

Universidad Adventista de las Antillas

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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.

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Engagement Indicator</i>
<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 2017 and 2018 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, 2015). 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. The Report Builder and your *Major Field Report* (both to be 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)

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Rocconi, L., & Gonyea, R. M. (2015, May). *Contextualizing student engagement effect sizes: An empirical analysis*. Paper presented at the Association for Institutional Research Annual Forum, Denver, CO.

## 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.

### First-Year Students

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Engagement Indicator</i>	Your first-year students compared with Peer Universities	Your first-year students compared with Public Institutions	Your first-year students compared with Private non profit
<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	△	▲	--

## Seniors

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Engagement Indicator</i>	Your seniors compared with Peer Universities	Your seniors compared with Public Institutions	Your seniors compared with Private non profit
<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	▲	▲	▲

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