

**2012**  
**NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**  
**SUMMARY REPORT FOR**  
**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

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## INTRODUCTION

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) was developed to achieve a greater understanding of students' educational experiences in college by exploring how institutions emphasize effective teaching practices and student engagement in various activities. The final NSSE report consists of five scales called Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice (Benchmarks). Each Benchmark consists of a group of scaled items derived from the NSSE survey. The five Benchmarks are Level of Academic Challenge (LAC), Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL), Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI), Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE), and Supportive Campus Environment (SCE). Toward the end of the survey, a series of Learning Gains items are included in order to provide an assessment of students' perceptions of their learning in college. The items in this section have been organized into three scales which reflect general areas of learning in college.

The following report is a summary of responses for first-year students enrolled in University College. This report organizes the NSSE items according to scalelets, or clusters of highly related items that measure a specific aspect of the educational experiences of a group of students. Each scalelet is nested under the corresponding Benchmark with which it is associated. The table below depicts the number of scalelets in each benchmark (as well as the learning gains) for first-year respondents identified as an "area of strength" (an effect size of 0.2 standard deviations greater than the IUPUI average), "asset to protect" (between 0.05 and 0.2 standard deviations greater than the average), "issue to be mindful of" (between -0.05 and -0.2 standard deviations below IUPUI average) and "opportunity for improvement" (an effect size of 0.2 standard deviations below the IUPUI average or more.)

In Spring semester 2012, a random sample of 3,860 seniors and 2,397 first-year students at IUPUI and IUPUC were invited to complete the original version of NSSE (other students completed the NSSE 2.0 pilot test, for which data is available upon request). A total of 559 first-year students responded to the survey for a response rate of 23.3%. Of University College respondents, 326 were first-year students. For further information on NSSE, please contact Steven Graunke in the Office of Information Management and Institutional Research at [sgraunke@iupui.edu](mailto:sgraunke@iupui.edu).

**TABLE 1**  
**AREAS OF STRENGTH, ASSETS TO PROTECT, ISSUES TO BE MINDFUL OF, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT**

	Overall descriptor	Total number of Scalelets	Areas of Strength	Assets to Protect		Issues to be Mindful of	Opportunities for Improvement
<b>Level of Academic Challenge</b>	Asset to protect	3	0	1	2	0	0
<b>Active and Collaborative Learning</b>	Asset to protect	2	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Student-Faculty Interaction</b>	Asset to protect	2	0	1	1	0	0
<b>Enriching Educational Experiences</b>	No label	3	0	2	1	0	0
<b>Supportive Campus Environment</b>	Asset to protect	2	0	1	1	0	0
<b>Learning Gains</b>		3	0	1	2	0	0

**TABLE 2**  
**BENCHMARK, SCALELET, AND LEARNING GAINS SCORES FOR**  
**FIRST-YEARS ENROLLED IN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>IUPUI Mean</b>	<b>Effect Size</b>
<b>Level of Academic Challenge<sup>b</sup></b>	306	54.8	13.9	0.75	54.0	0.06
Writing <sup>b</sup>	301	45.0	16.0	0.88	42.9	0.13
Higher-Order Thinking Skills	297	61.1	16.5	0.91	61.0	0.01
Course Challenge	283	65.6	14.0	0.79	65.7	-0.01
<b>Active and Collaborative Learning<sup>b</sup></b>	326	47.2	17.7	0.93	46.3	0.05
Active Learning <sup>b</sup>	299	47.1	21.4	1.18	45.5	0.08
Collaborative Learning <sup>b</sup>	295	46.9	20.2	1.12	46.0	0.05
<b>Student-Faculty Interaction<sup>b</sup></b>	304	37.6	18.9	1.03	36.4	0.06
Course Interaction <sup>b</sup>	299	47.9	22.1	1.22	46.2	0.08
Out-of-Class Interaction	288	27.1	20.4	1.14	26.2	0.04
<b>Enriching Educational Experiences</b>	297	31.1	14.4	0.80	30.6	0.04
Information Technology <sup>b</sup>	282	70.6	20.3	1.15	69.1	0.07
Varied Experiences <sup>b</sup>	275	23.2	14.5	0.83	22.5	0.05
Diversity	289	52.9	26.7	1.49	53.5	-0.02
<b>Supportive Campus Environment<sup>b</sup></b>	291	61.8	17.6	0.98	61.0	0.05
Support for Student Success <sup>b</sup>	286	53.5	25.9	1.42	52.1	0.06
Interpersonal Environment	296	70.0	18.8	1.04	69.8	0.01
<b>Gains in General Education<sup>b</sup></b>	279	73.1	22.0	1.25	71.1	0.09
<b>Gains in Personal and Social Skills</b>	268	54.6	21.6	1.26	53.6	0.04
<b>Gains in Practical Skills</b>	277	69.5	22.6	1.29	68.8	0.03

<sup>a</sup>“Area of strength”

<sup>b</sup>“Asset to protect”

<sup>c</sup>“Issue to be mindful of”

<sup>d</sup>“Opportunity for Improvement”