

## NSSE Benchmarks: Areas of Strength and Opportunities for Improvement

Every 3 years IUPUI participates in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). The tables on pages 2 and 3 summarize IUPUI student responses from 2009 and 2012 on NSSE Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice (Benchmarks). These Benchmarks are intended to compare institutions against specified peer groups with regard to practices that are associated with student success. Organized under each benchmark are related scalelets -- clusters of highly related items that measure a specific aspect of the educational experiences of a group of students.

Each Benchmark includes a descriptor, which highlights IUPUI's standing relative to other public institutions with the same Carnegie classification that completed NSSE in 2012 (Research Very High or Research High institutions). "Areas of strength" are items with an effect size difference of 0.2 standard deviations or greater, "assets to protect" are items with an effect size difference of between 0.05 and 0.2, "issues to be mindful of" are items with an effect size difference of -0.05 and -0.2, and "opportunities for improvement" are items with an effect size difference of -0.2 or lower. In the tables below, Benchmarks considered "areas of strength" in 2012 are highlighted in maroon, "assets to protect" are highlighted in light red, and "issues to be mindful of" are highlighted in light gray.

For first-year students, Active and Collaborative Learning was rated as an area of strength in both 2009 and 2012. Student-Faculty Interaction and Enriching Educational Experiences were both assets to protect for first-year students. However, the effect size difference between IUPUI and all public research institutions was smaller for seniors. Supportive Campus Environment has been a consistent issue to be mindful of for seniors and was rated as an issue to be mindful of for first-year students in 2012 as well.

Further information about the Benchmarks and scalelets can be obtained from the NSSE website at [http://nsse.iub.edu/pdf/nsse\\_benchmarks.pdf](http://nsse.iub.edu/pdf/nsse_benchmarks.pdf). IUPUI's full NSSE report can be viewed on the IMIR website at [imir.iupui.edu/surveys](http://imir.iupui.edu/surveys). For further information, please contact Gary Pike at [pikeg@iupui.edu](mailto:pikeg@iupui.edu) or Steve Graunke at [sgraunke@iupui.edu](mailto:sgraunke@iupui.edu).

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First-Year <sup>a</sup>	2012				2009			
	Benchmarks	IUPUI Mean	Research Institutions Mean	Effect Size	Descriptor	IUPUI	Research Institutions	Effect Size
<b>Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>0.02</b>		<b>53.3</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>0.01</b>	
Course Challenge	65.7	63.6	0.14	Asset to protect	64.7	62.1	0.17	Asset to protect
Writing	42.9	41.2	0.11	Asset to protect	43.8	41.4	0.17	Asset to protect
Higher-Order Thinking Skills	61.0	61.4	-0.02		60.1	60.7	-0.04	
<b>Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)</b>	<b>45.7</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>Area of strength</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>0.24</b>	<b>Area of strength</b>
Active Learning	45.5	37.4	0.39	Area of strength	44.6	36.7	0.41	Area of strength
Collaborative Learning	46.0	44.9	0.06	Asset to protect	45.0	44.4	0.03	
<b>Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>Asset to protect</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>Asset to protect</b>
Out-of-Class Interaction	26.2	22.0	0.20	Area of strength	23.5	21.0	0.13	Asset to protect
Course Interaction	46.2	44.9	0.06	Asset to protect	46.1	43.9	0.10	Asset to protect
<b>Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE)</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>Asset to protect</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>Asset to protect</b>
Varied Experiences	22.5	20.0	0.17	Asset to protect	20.8	20.1	0.05	Asset to protect
Information Technology	69.1	69.4	-0.01		69.4	69.0	0.02	
Diversity	53.5	57.1	-0.14	Issue to be mindful of	54.1	56.7	-0.10	Issue to be mindful of
<b>Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)</b>	<b>60.3</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>Issue to be mindful of</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>59.8</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>Asset to protect</b>
Interpersonal Environment	69.8	68.4	0.08	Asset to protect	69.0	67.1	0.10	Asset to protect
Support for Student Success	52.1	54.0	-0.08	Issue to be mindful of	52.8	52.4	0.02	

<sup>a</sup> Benchmarks described as “Areas of strength” are highlighted in maroon, “assets to protect” are highlighted in light red, and “issues to be mindful of” are highlighted in light gray.

<b>Senior<sup>a</sup></b>		2012			2009			
Benchmarks	IUPUI Mean	Research Institutions Mean	Effect Size	Descriptor	IUPUI	Research Institutions	Effect Size	Descriptor
<b>Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)</b>	<b>57.1</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>0.03</b>		<b>57.0</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>Asset to protect</b>
Course Challenge	63.9	63.4	0.03		62.3	61.1	0.08	Asset to protect
Writing	44.4	44.3	0.00 <sup>b</sup>		46.9	45.0	0.11	Asset to protect
Higher-Order Thinking Skills	67.6	65.5	0.12	Asset to protect	66.0	64.8	0.07	Asset to protect
<b>Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)</b>	<b>52.1</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>Asset to protect</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>49.1</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>Asset to protect</b>
Active Learning	53.4	47.2	0.29	Area of strength	53.0	47.0	0.31	Area of strength
Collaborative Learning	51.4	50.6	0.04		50.3	50.2	0.01	
<b>Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)</b>	<b>39.4</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>-0.07</b>	<b>Issue to be mindful of</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>39.9</b>	<b>-0.03</b>	
Out-of-Class Interaction	28.4	31.4	-0.12	Issue to be mindful of	28.2	30.0	-0.07	Issue to be mindful of
Course Interaction	50.7	50.1	0.03		50.3	49.5	0.04	
<b>Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE)</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>-0.04</b>		<b>40.0</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>Issue to be mindful of</b>
Varied Experiences	32.3	34.0	-0.09	Issue to be mindful of	32.1	35.1	-0.15	Issue to be mindful of
Information Technology	77.7	75.0	0.14	Asset to protect	77.4	74.9	0.13	Asset to protect
Diversity	55.8	55.7	0.01		55.0	55.8	-0.03	
<b>Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>Issue to be mindful of</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>-0.12</b>	<b>Issue to be mindful of</b>
Interpersonal Environment	71.0	69.9	0.06	Asset to protect	68.5	67.9	0.03	
Support for Student Success	42.9	46.0	-0.13	Issue to be mindful of	39.4	43.8	-0.18	Issue to be mindful of

<sup>a</sup> Benchmarks described as “Areas of strength” are highlighted in maroon, “assets to protect” are highlighted in light red, and “issues to be mindful of” are highlighted in light gray.

<sup>b</sup> Effect size between 0 and 0.0049.