Item Comparisons

By examining individual NSSE questions, you can better understand what contributes to your institution’s performance on Engagement Indicators and High-Impact Practices. This section displays the five questions on which your first-year and senior students scored the highest and the five questions on which they scored the lowest, relative to students in your comparison group. Parenthetical notes indicate whether an item belongs to a specific Engagement Indicator or is a High-Impact Practice. While these questions represent the largest differences (in percentage points), they may not be the most important to your institutional mission or current program or policy goals. For additional results, refer to your Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons report.

**First-year**

**Highest Performing Relative to Southeast Private**
- Discussions with... People with religious beliefs other than your own (DD)
- Institution emphasis on attending events that address important social/econ./polit. issues (SE)
- Institution emphasis on providing support for your overall well-being... (SE)
- Institution emphasis on providing opportunities to be involved socially (SE)
- Institution emphasis on attending campus activities and events (…) (SE)

**Lowest Performing Relative to Southeast Private**
- Participated in a learning community or some other formal program where... (HIP)
- Quality of interactions with academic advisors (QI)
- Extent to which courses challenged you to do your best work
- Talked about career plans with a faculty member (SF)
- About how many courses have included a community-based project (service-learning)? (HIP)

**Senior**

**Highest Performing Relative to Southeast Private**
- Completed a culminating senior experience (…) (HIP)
- Worked with a faculty member on a research project (HIP)
- Participated in a study abroad program (HIP)
- Participated in an internship, co-op, field exp., student teach., clinical placement. (HIP)
- Assigned more than 50 pages of writing

**Lowest Performing Relative to Southeast Private**
- Discussions with... People of a race or ethnicity other than your own (DD)
- Quality of interactions with other administrative staff and offices (…) (QI)
- About how many courses have included a community-based project (service-learning)? (HIP)
- Reviewed your notes after class (LS)
- Discussions with... People with political views other than your own (DD)

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a. The displays on this page draw from the items that make up the ten Engagement Indicators (EIs), six High-Impact Practices (HIPs), and the additional academic challenge items reported on page 2. Key to abbreviations for EI items: HO = Higher-Order Learning, RI = Reflective & Integrative Learning, LS = Learning Strategies, QR = Quantitative Reasoning, CL = Collaborative Learning, DD = Discussions with Diverse Others, SF = Student-Faculty Interaction, ET = Effective Teaching Practices, QI = Quality of Interactions, SE = Supportive Environment. HIP items are also indicated. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your Institutional Report and available on the NSSE Web site.
b. Combination of students responding "Very often" or "Often."
c. Combination of students responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit."
d. Rated at least 6 on a 7-point scale.
e. Percentage reporting at least "Some."
f. Estimate based on the reported amount of course preparation time spent on assigned reading.
g. Estimate based on number of assigned writing tasks of various lengths.