

North Dakota State University



**Report Sections** 

## **NSSE 2024 Engagement Indicators**

#### **About This Report**

## 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. The specific items within each EI are listed below, starting on page 5.

Theme	Engagement Indicator
	Higher-Order Learning
Academic Challenge	Reflective & Integrative Learning
j.	Learning Strategies
	Quantitative Reasoning
Learning with Peers	Collaborative Learning
5	Discussions with Diverse Others
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction
	Effective Teaching Practices
	Quality of Interactions
Campus Environment	Supportive Environment

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 <i>within</i> 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 all current- and prior-year institutions.
Detailed Statistics (pp. 16-End)	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, 2018). Comparisons with an effect size of at least .3 in magnitude (before rounding) are highlighted in the Overview (p. 3).

*Els 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 El scores vary among your students and those in your comparison groups. Your NSSE Tableau dashboards and Report Builder (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

Rocconi, L.M., & Gonyea, R.M. (2018). Contextualizing effect sizes in the National Survey of Student Engagement: An empirical analysis. *Research & Practice in Assessment,* 13 (Summer/Fall), pp. 22-38.



**Overview** 

### North Dakota State University

### **Engagement Indicators: Overview**

Student-Faculty Interaction

**Effective Teaching Practices** 

**Quality of Interactions** 

Supportive Environment

Experiences with Faculty

Campus Environment

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:

- **A** Your students' average was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.
- $\triangle$  Your students' average was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- -- No significant difference.
- $\nabla$  Your students' average was significantly lower (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.
- **Vour students' average** was significantly lower (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to your institutional context. You may not see all of these symbols in your report.

irst-Year Stu	ar Students Your first-year student compared with		Your first-year students compared with	Your first-year student compared with	
Theme	Engagement Indicator	NDSU Peers	Very High Research	NSSE 2023 & 2024	
	Higher-Order Learning	$\nabla$	$\nabla$	$\nabla$	
Academic	Reflective & Integrative Learning	$\nabla$	$\nabla$	$\nabla$	
Challenge	Learning Strategies		$\nabla$	$\nabla$	
	Quantitative Reasoning		$\bigtriangledown$	$\nabla$	
Learning with	Collaborative Learning	$\Delta$		Δ	
Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	$\bigtriangledown$		$\nabla$	
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction				
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices		$\nabla$	$\nabla$	
Campus	Quality of Interactions	Δ	$\Delta$		
Environment	Supportive Environment				
eniors		Your seniors compared with	Your seniors compared with	Your seniors compared with	
Theme	Engagement Indicator	NDSU Peers	Very High Research	NSSE 2023 & 2024	
	Higher-Order Learning	$\nabla$	$\nabla$	$\nabla$	
Academic	Reflective & Integrative Learning	$\nabla$		$\mathbf{\bullet}$	
Challenge	Learning Strategies	$\nabla$		$\blacksquare$	
	Quantitative Reasoning	$\bigtriangledown$	$\bigtriangledown$	$\nabla$	
Learning with	Collaborative Learning			Δ	
Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	$\nabla$	$\mathbf{V}$	$\nabla$	

 $\nabla$ 

Δ



**Academic Challenge** 

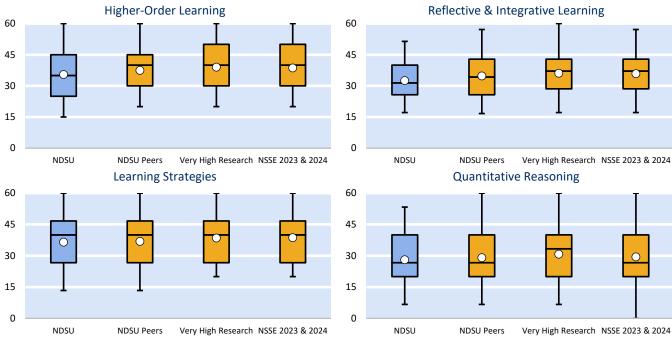
### North Dakota State University

### Academic Challenge: First-year students

Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning, Reflective & Integrative Learning, Learning Strategies,* and *Quantitative Reasoning.* Below and on the next page are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

Mean Comparisons		Your first-year students compared with					
	NDSU	NDSU Peers	Very High Research	NSSE 2023 & 2024			
Francisco esta la diseter		Effect	Effect	Effect			
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean size	Mean size	Mean size			
Higher-Order Learning	35.5	37.5 **15	39.0 ***27	38.6 ***23			
Reflective & Integrative Learning	32.6	34.8 ***18	36.1 ***29	35.9 ***27			
Learning Strategies	36.5	36.903	38.5 **14	38.6 **15			
Quantitative Reasoning	28.1	29.107	30.8 ***17	29.5 *09			

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).



Score Distributions

Notes: Each box-and-whiskers chart plots the 5th (bottom of lower bar), 25th (bottom of box), 50th (middle line), 75th (top of box), and 95th (top of upper bar) percentile scores. The dot represents the mean score. Refer to Detailed Statistics for your institution's sample sizes.



Academic Challenge

North Dakota State University

## Academic Challenge: First-year students (continued)

#### **Performance on Indicator Items**

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

		Percentage point d	ifference <sup>a</sup> between yo	ur FY students and
Higher-Order Learning	NDSU	NDSU Peers	Very High Research	NSSE 2023 & 2024
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized	%			-
4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	70	+0	-4	-1
4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	64	-4	-8	-6
4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	57	-9	-12	-13
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	64	-5	-8	-8
Reflective & Integrative Learning				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	54	+1	-2	+0
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	36	-12	-16	-16
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	35	-13	-18	-18
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	58	-5	-7	-7
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from 2e. their perspective	62	-8	-9	-9
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	65	-1	-4	-4
2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	80	+2	+0	+1
Learning Strategies				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	63	-7	-11	-11
9b. Reviewed your notes after class	67	+3	+1	+1
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	64	+1	-3	-3
Quantitative Reasoning				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
6a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	57	+1	-1	+3
Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, 6b. climate change, public health, etc.)	39	-4	-8	-5
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	36	-6	-11	-7

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.



Academic Challenge

## North Dakota State University

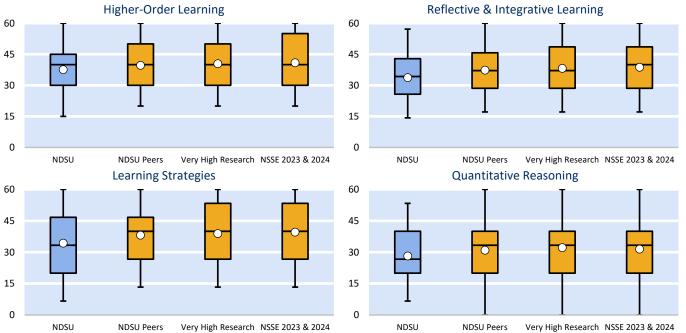
### **Academic Challenge: Seniors**

Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning, Reflective & Integrative Learning, Learning Strategies,* and *Quantitative Reasoning.* Below and on the next page are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

### Mean Comparisons

viean compansons		Your seniors compared with						
	NDSU	NDSU Peers	Very High Research	NSSE 2023 & 2024				
		Effect	Effect	Effect				
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean size	Mean size	Mean size				
Higher-Order Learning	37.6	39.7 **15	40.4 ***21	40.9 ***24				
Reflective & Integrative Learning	33.7	37.4 ***29	38.2 ***35	38.8 ***39				
Learning Strategies	34.3	38.1 ***26	38.9 ***31	39.5 ***36				
Quantitative Reasoning	28.2	30.9 ***17	32.2 ***24	31.4 ***20				

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).



**Score Distributions** 

Notes: Each box-and-whiskers chart plots the 5th (bottom of lower bar), 25th (bottom of box), 50th (middle line), 75th (top of box), and 95th (top of upper bar) percentile scores. The dot represents the mean score. Refer to Detailed Statistics for your institution's sample sizes.



**Academic Challenge** 

North Dakota State University

## Academic Challenge: Seniors (continued)

#### **Performance on Indicator Items**

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

		i creentage point	t difference <sup>a</sup> between Very High	NSSE 2023 &
Higher-Order Learning	NDSU	NDSU Peers	Research	2024
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized	%			
4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	79	+2	+1	+1
$_{4c.}$ Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	71	-3	-5	-5
d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	61	-7	-9	-12
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	62	-10	-11	-13
Reflective & Integrative Learning				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	71	+1	+2	+2
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	47	-9	-13	-15
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course 2c. discussions or assignments	33	-15	-20	-22
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	54	-10	-12	-14
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective	60	-11	-12	-14
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	66	-5	-6	-6
$_{ m 2g.}$ Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	78	-4	-5	-6
earning Strategies				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	62	-10	-13	-15
b. Reviewed your notes after class	54	-9	-10	-11
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	57	-8	-9	-11
Quantitative Reasoning				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"				
Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, a. graphs, statistics, etc.)	54	-4	-6	-4
Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, 5b. climate change, public health, etc.)	36	-11	-14	-13
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	39	-8	-12	-9

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.



Learning with Peers

## North Dakota State University

### **Learning with Peers: First-year students**

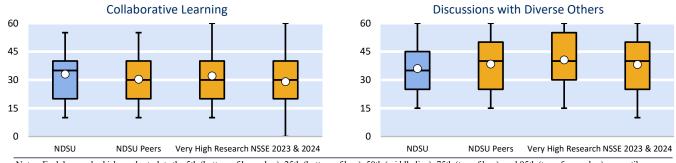
Collaborating with others in mastering difficult material and interacting with peers from different backgrounds prepares students to deal with complex, unscripted problems they will encounter during and after college. Two Engagement Indicators make up this theme: *Collaborative Learning* and *Discussions with Diverse Others*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

## Mean Comparisons

viean comparisons		Your first-year students compared with						
	NDSU	NDSU Peers	Very High Research	NSSE 2023 & 2024				
		Effect	Effect	Effect				
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean size	Mean size	Mean size				
Collaborative Learning	33.0	30.3 *** .19	32.1 .06	29.0 *** .26				
Discussions with Diverse Others	36.0	38.3 **15	40.6 ***31	38.1 **13				

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).

#### **Score Distributions**



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#### **Performance on Indicator Items**

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

		Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your FY students			
			Very High	NSSE 2023 &	
Collaborative Learning	NDSU	NDSU Peers	Research	2024	
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"	%				
1b. Asked another student to help you understand course material	58	+10	+8	+14	
1c. Explained course material to one or more students	57	+7	+4	+10	
1d. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	50	+7	+2	+9	
1e. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	60	+9	+4	+10	
Discussions with Diverse Others					
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often" had discussions with					
8a. People of races or ethnicities other than your own	51	-17	-24	-18	
8b. People from economic backgrounds other than your own	66	-6	-10	-5	
8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own	60	-5	-11	-4	
8d. People with political views other than your own	63	+2	+1	+5	

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.



Learning with Peers

## North Dakota State University

### **Learning with Peers: Seniors**

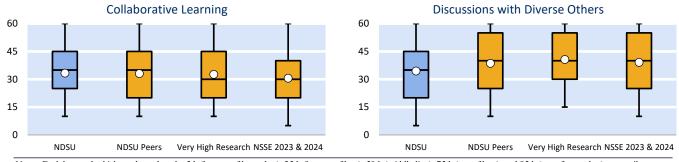
Collaborating with others in mastering difficult material and interacting with peers from different backgrounds prepares students to deal with complex, unscripted problems they will encounter during and after college. Two Engagement Indicators make up this theme: *Collaborative Learning* and *Discussions with Diverse Others*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

### Mean Comparisons

		Your seniors compared with						
	NDSU	NDSU	Peers	Very High	Research	NSSE 2023	3 & 2024	_
			Effect		Effect		Effect	
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	size	Mean	size	Mean	size	
Collaborative Learning	33.4	33.1	.02	32.6	.05	30.6 ***	.17	
Discussions with Diverse Others	34.5	38.6 ***	26	40.7 ***	40	39.1 ***	28	

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).

#### **Score Distributions**



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#### **Performance on Indicator Items**

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

	Percentage poin	t difference <sup>a</sup> between	your seniors and
		Very High	NSSE 2023 &
NDSU	NDSU Peers	Research	2024
%			
50	+2	+5	+9
56	+0	+0	+4
47	+1	+3	+6
71	+6	+6	+11
50	-17	-25	-21
62	-9	-13	-10
58	-6	-12	-8
60	-2	-2	-0
	% 50 56 47 71 50 62 58	NDSU         NDSU Peers           %         -17           50         -17           62         -9           58         -6	NDSU         NDSU Peers         Research           %         -42         +5           56         +0         +0           47         +1         +3           71         +6         -6           50         -25         -25           62         -9         -13           58         -6         -12

NSSE website.



**Experiences with Faculty** 

### North Dakota State University

## **Experiences with Faculty: First-year students**

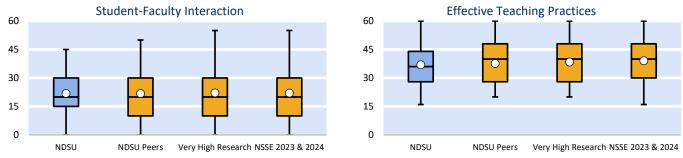
Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside of instructional settings. As a result, faculty become role models, mentors, and guides for lifelong learning. In addition, effective teaching requires that faculty deliver course material and provide feedback in student-centered ways. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: Student-Faculty Interaction and Effective Teaching Practices. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

#### Μ

Mean Comparisons		Your first-year students compared with					
	NDSU	NDSU Peers Effect		Very High Research Effect		NSSE 2023 & 2024 Effect	
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	size	Mean	size	Mean	size
Student-Faculty Interaction	21.8	21.8	.00	22.1	02	22.0	01
Effective Teaching Practices	36.9	37.6	06	38.4 *	11	39.0 ***	16

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).

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#### Performance on Indicator Items

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		Percentage p	oint difference <sup>a</sup> between y	our FY students and
Student-Faculty Interaction	NECH	NDSU Peers	Very High Research	NSSE 2023 & 2024
	NDSU	ND30 Peers	Research	2024
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"	%		_	_
3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member	44	+4	+5	+5
3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	20	-4	-4	-3
3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	24	-2	-4	-4
3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	29	-0	-1	-3
Effective Teaching Practices			-	
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have				
5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements	77	+1	-1	-1
5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way	74	+0	-2	-1
5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	73	-0	-2	-1
5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	58	-3	-4	-7
5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	56	-1	-2	-6

Notes: Refer to your Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.



**Experiences with Faculty** 

## North Dakota State University

### **Experiences with Faculty: Seniors**

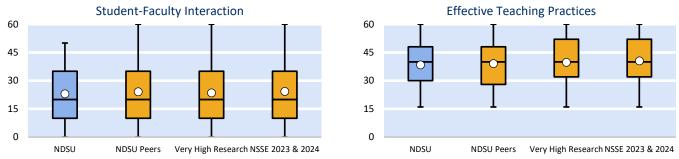
Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside of instructional settings. As a result, faculty become role models, mentors, and guides for lifelong learning. In addition, effective teaching requires that faculty deliver course material and provide feedback in student-centered ways. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: Student-Faculty Interaction and Effective Teaching Practices. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

#### an Comparisons

viean Comparisons				Your seniors co	mpared with		
	NDSU	NDS	U Peers	Very Hig	h Research	NSSE 202	3 & 2024
			Effect		Effect		Effect
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	size	Mean	size	Mean	size
Student-Faculty Interaction	23.0	24.1	07	23.5	03	24.2	08
Effective Teaching Practices	38.3	39.0	05	39.7	10	40.4 **	15

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).

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		Perce	entage point (	difference	<sup>a</sup> between	your seniors	and
Student-Faculty Interaction	NDSU	NDSU	Peers	Very High Research		NSSE 2 20	2023 & 24
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"	%						
3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member	44	+1	)	+3		+0	)
3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	25		-5		-4		-4
3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	31		-2		-1	I	-2
3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	29		-2		-1		-5
Effective Teaching Practices							
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have							
5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements	78		-0		-3		-3
5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way	75	+0			-2	I	-2
5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	76	- (	-1		-2		-2
5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	60		-2		-1		-5
5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	61	(	-0		-1		-4

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**Campus Environment** 

## North Dakota State University

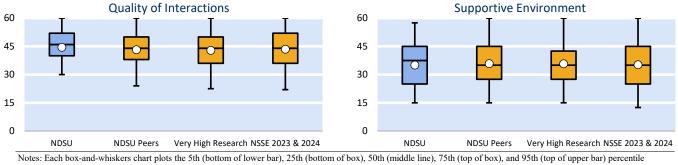
## **Campus Environment: First-year students**

Students benefit and are more satisfied in supportive settings that cultivate positive relationships among students, faculty, and staff. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Quality of Interactions* and *Supportive Environment*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

Mean Comparisons			Your	r first-year student	s compared w	vith		
	NDSU	NDSU Pe		Very High		NSSE 20	23 & 2024	_
			Effect		Effect		Effect	
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	size	Mean	size	Mean	size	
Quality of Interactions	44.5	43.3 *	.12	42.9 **	.14	43.5	.08	
Supportive Environment	35.1	35.8	06	35.8	06	35.2	01	

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).

#### **Score Distributions**



scores. The dot represents the mean score. Refer to Detailed Statistics for your institution's sample sizes.

#### **Performance on Indicator Items**

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

		Percentage point	difference <sup>a</sup> between y	our FY students and
			Very High	NSSE 2023 &
Quality of Interactions	NDSU	NDSU Peers	Research	2024
Percentage rating their interactions a 6 or 7 (on a scale from $l="Poor"$ to $7="Excellent"$ ) with	%			
13a. Students	53	+3	+0	+1
13b. Academic advisors	66	+11	+12	+10
13c. Faculty	47	-1	-3	-7
13d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	49	+2	+3	+0
13e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	51	+7	+10	+4
Supportive Environment			-	-
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much the institution emphasized				
14b. Providing support to help students succeed academically	72	-1	-1	-1
14c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	73	-2	-2	-1
14d. Encouraging contact among students from diff. backgrounds (soc., racial/eth., relig., etc.)	52	-9	-11	-9
14e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially	72	-O	+0	+3
14f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	69	-1	+0	+2
14g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	38	-4	-2	-3
14h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	70	+2	+1	+7
14i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	41	-4	-5	-5



**Campus Environment** 

## North Dakota State University

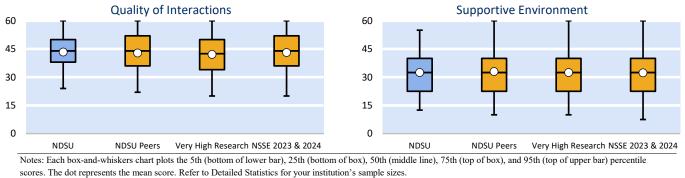
### **Campus Environment: Seniors**

Students benefit and are more satisfied in supportive settings that cultivate positive relationships among students, faculty, and staff. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Quality of Interactions* and *Supportive Environment*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

Mean Comparisons				Your seniors com	pared with		
	NDSU	NDS	U Peers	Very High	Research	NSSE 20	23 & 2024
			Effect		Effect		Effect
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	size	Mean	size	Mean	size
Quality of Interactions	43.4	42.9	.04	42.1 *	.11	43.1	.03
Supportive Environment	32.5	33.0	04	32.5	.00	32.4	.01

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).

#### **Score Distributions**



#### **Performance on Indicator Items**

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

		Percentage point	t difference <sup>a</sup> between	your seniors and
			Very High	NSSE 2023 &
Quality of Interactions	NDSU	NDSU Peers	Research	2024
Percentage rating their interactions a 6 or 7 (on a scale from 1="Poor" to 7="Excellent") with	%			
13a. Students	59	-1	+0	+0
13b. Academic advisors	54	+3	+7	+2
13c. Faculty	50	-4	-4	-8
13d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	48	+3	+5	+2
13e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	47	+3	+7	+2
Supportive Environment			84	14
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much the institution emphasized				
14b. Providing support to help students succeed academically	66	-2	-1	-2
14c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	62	-2	-1	-3
14d. Encouraging contact among students from diff. backgrounds (soc., racial/eth., relig., etc.)	47	-8	-10	-9
14e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially	72	+4	+6	+8
14f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	67	+5	+7	+8
14g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	28	-5	-3	-5
14h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	69	+7	+8	+14
14i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	38	-1	-1	-2
Notes: Refer to your <i>Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons</i> report for full distributions and significant NSSE website.	ce tests. Item nun	nbering corresponds to	the survey facsimile a	vailable on the

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## Comparisons with High-Performing Institutions North Dakota State University

## Comparisons with Top 50% and Top 10% Institutions

While NSSE's policy is not to rank institutions (see go.iu.edu/NSSE-PnP), the results below are designed to compare the engagement of your

students with those attending two groups of institutions identified by NSSE<sup>a</sup> for their high average levels of student engagement:

- (a) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 50% of all 2023 and 2024 NSSE institutions, and
- (b) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 10% of all 2023 and 2024 NSSE institutions.

While the average scores for most institutions are below the mean for the top 50% or top 10%, your institution may show areas of distinction where your average student was as engaged as (or even more engaged than) the typical student at high-performing institutions. A check mark  $(\checkmark)$  signifies those comparisons where your average score was at least comparable<sup>b</sup> to that of the high-performing group. However, the presence of a check mark does not necessarily mean that your institution was a member of that group.

It should be noted that most of the variability in student engagement is within, not between, institutions. Even "high-performing" institutions have students with engagement levels below the average for all institutions.

irst-Year	Students			Your first-year stude	nts compared with	ı	
		NDSU	NSSE T	op 50%	NSSE T	op 10%	
Theme	Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size √	Mean	Effect size	$\checkmark$
	Higher-Order Learning	35.5	39.8 ***	33	42.4 ***	55	
Academic	Reflective and Integrative Learning	32.6	37.3 ***	39	39.9 ***	63	
Challenge	Learning Strategies	36.5	40.2 ***	26	43.1 ***	46	
	Quantitative Reasoning	28.1	30.8 ***	18	33.3 ***	34	
Learning	Collaborative Learning	33.0	33.4	03 🗸	36.7 ***	27	
with Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	36.0	40.7 ***	32	44.2 ***	60	
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction	21.8	25.4 ***	23	29.9 ***	52	
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices	36.9	40.8 ***	28	43.6 ***	47	
Campus	Quality of Interactions	44.5	45.7 *	10	48.7 ***	35	
Environment	Supportive Environment	35.1	37.1 **	16	40.4 ***	42	

Seniors				Your seniors co	mpared with	
		NDSU	NSSE T	Гор 50%	NSSE T	op 10%
Theme	Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size √	Mean	Effect size √
	Higher-Order Learning	37.6	42.4 ***	35	44.9 ***	57
Academic	Reflective and Integrative Learning	33.7	40.6 ***	55	43.2 ***	80
Challenge	Learning Strategies	34.3	41.2 ***	47	44.1 ***	69
	Quantitative Reasoning	28.2	32.8 ***	28	36.2 ***	50
Learning	Collaborative Learning	33.4	34.8	10 🗸	38.0 ***	34
with Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	34.5	41.4 ***	44	44.1 ***	66
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction	23.0	29.9 ***	43	34.9 ***	75
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices	38.3	42.5 ***	30	45.2 ***	53
Campus	Quality of Interactions	43.4	45.4 **	17	48.1 ***	38
Environment	Supportive Environment	32.5	34.6 **	15	38.0 ***	40

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).

a. Precision-weighted means were used to determine the top 50% and top 10% institutions for each Engagement Indicator from all current- and prior-year institutions, separately by class. Using this method, Engagement Indicator scores of institutions with relatively large standard errors were adjusted toward the mean of all students, while those with smaller standard errors received smaller corrections. As a result, schools with less stable data—even those with high average scores—may not be among the top scorers. NSSE does not publish the names of the top 50% and top 10% institutions because of our commitment not to release institutional results and our policy against ranking institutions.

b. Check marks are assigned to comparisons that are either positive or non-significant with an effect size > -.10.



**Detailed Statistics**<sup>a</sup>

## North Dakota State University

## **Detailed Statistics: First-Year Students**

Detailed Statistics. Thist		in statisti	CS.		Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores Compariso		mparison	son results				
-									Deg. of	Mean		Effect
	Mean	SD <sup>b</sup>	SE <sup>c</sup>	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	freedom <sup>e</sup>	diff.	Sig. <sup>f</sup>	size <sup>g</sup>
Academic Challenge												
Higher-Order Learning		10 (	(2)					<i>c</i> 0				
NDSU (N = $395$ )	35.5	12.6	.63	15	25	35	45	60		•		
NDSU Peers	37.5	12.9	.19	20	30	40	45	60	5,118	-2.0	.003	153
Very High Research	39.0	13.1	.07	20	30	40	50	60	36,276	-3.5	.000	268
NSSE 2023 & 2024	38.6	13.4	.04	20	30	40	50	60	131,924	-3.1	.000	233
Top 50%	39.8	13.2	.04	20	30	40	50	60	86,687	-4.3	.000	327
Top 10%	42.4	12.5	.13	20	35	40	55	60	10,320	-6.9	.000	549
Reflective & Integrative Learnin	g											
NDSU ( $N = 416$ )	32.6	10.8	.53	17	26	31	40	51				
NDSU Peers	34.8	12.0	.17	17	26	34	43	57	501	-2.2	.000	184
Very High Research	36.1	12.0	.06	17	29	37	43	60	426	-3.5	.000	292
NSSE 2023 & 2024	35.9	12.2	.03	17	29	37	43	57	418	-3.3	.000	269
Top 50%	37.3	12.0	.04	17	29	37	46	60	420	-4.7	.000	394
Top 10%	39.9	11.7	.12	20	31	40	49	60	9,510	-7.4	.000	630
Learning Strategies												
NDSU (N = $366$ )	36.5	13.7	.72	13	27	40	47	60				
NDSU Peers	36.9	13.7	.72	13	27	40	47	60	4,689	4	.633	026
Very High Research	38.5	13.7	.08	20	27	40	47	60	33,038	-1.9	.007	142
NSSE 2023 & 2024	38.6	13.9	.08	20	27	40	47	60	120,325	-1.9	.007	142
Top 50%	40.2	13.9	.04	20	33	40	53	60	70,188	-2.1	.004	152
									-			
Top 10%	43.1	14.5	.12	20	33	40	60	60	384	-6.6	.000	459
Quantitative Reasoning												
NDSU (N = $380$ )	28.1	13.4	.69	7	20	27	40	53				
NDSU Peers	29.1	15.1	.23	7	20	27	40	60	465	-1.0	.168	067
Very High Research	30.8	15.4	.08	7	20	33	40	60	390	-2.6	.000	172
NSSE 2023 & 2024	29.5	15.7	.04	0	20	27	40	60	382	-1.4	.049	087
Top 50%	30.8	15.5	.05	7	20	33	40	60	384	-2.7	.000	177
Top 10%	33.3	15.4	.12	7	20	33	40	60	404	-5.2	.000	337
Learning with Peers												
Collaborative Learning												
NDSU (N = $436$ )	33.0	13.6	.65	10	20	35	40	55				
NDSU Peers	30.3	14.3	.19	10	20	30	40	55	6,137	2.7	.000	.190
Very High Research	32.1	14.4	.07	10	20	30	40	60	43,721	.9	.183	.064
NSSE 2023 & 2024	29.0	15.4	.04	0	20	30	40	60	438	4.0	.000	.260
Top 50%	33.4	13.9	.04	10	25	35	40	60	94,687	4	.595	026
Top 10%	36.7	13.7	.10	15	25 25	35	40	60	18,115	-3.7	.000	267
Discussions with Discuss Orth												
Discussions with Diverse Others		14.0	75	1.5	25	25	45	(0)				
NDSU (N = $376$ )	36.0	14.6	.75	15	25	35	45	60	1.754	2.2	004	1.50
NDSU Peers	38.3	15.4	.23	15	25	40	50	60	4,756	-2.3	.004	153
Very High Research	40.6	15.0	.08	15	30	40	55	60	33,389	-4.6	.000	306
NSSE 2023 & 2024	38.1	16.1	.05	10	25	40	50	60	378	-2.1	.005	132
Top 50%	40.7	14.9	.05	20	30	40	55	60	78,094	-4.7	.000	316
Top 10%	44.2	13.8	.15	20	35	45	60	60	8,635	-8.2	.000	596



**Detailed Statistics**<sup>a</sup>

### North Dakota State University

## **Detailed Statistics: First-Year Students**

	Mea	n statisti	cs	Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores					Comparison results				
									Deg. of	Mean		Effect	
	Mean	SD <sup>b</sup>	SE <sup>c</sup>	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	freedom <sup>e</sup>	diff.	Sig. <sup>f</sup>	size <sup>g</sup>	
Experiences with Faculty													
Student-Faculty Interaction													
NDSU (N = $405$ )	21.8	13.2	.66	0	15	20	30	45					
NDSU Peers	21.8	14.8	.21	0	10	20	30	50	491	.1	.934	.004	
Very High Research	22.1	15.3	.08	0	10	20	30	55	416	3	.700	017	
NSSE 2023 & 2024	22.0	15.3	.04	0	10	20	30	55	407	2	.783	012	
Top 50%	25.4	15.3	.07	5	15	25	35	60	413	-3.5	.000	230	
Top 10%	29.9	15.5	.20	5	20	30	40	60	482	-8.0	.000	522	
Effective Teaching Practices													
NDSU (N = 396)	36.9	12.6	.63	16	28	36	44	60					
NDSU Peers	37.6	12.5	.18	20	28	40	48	60	5,090	7	.282	056	
Very High Research	38.4	12.8	.07	20	28	40	48	60	35,978	-1.5	.024	114	
NSSE 2023 & 2024	39.0	13.4	.04	16	30	40	48	60	397	-2.1	.001	158	
Top 50%	40.8	13.5	.05	20	32	40	52	60	400	-3.8	.000	284	
Top 10%	43.6	14.1	.13	20	36	44	56	60	430	-6.6	.000	471	
Campus Environment													
Quality of Interactions													
NDSU (N = $342$ )	44.5	9.9	.53	30	40	46	52	60					
NDSU Peers	43.3	10.8	.17	24	38	44	50	60	414	1.2	.028	.115	
Very High Research	42.9	11.1	.06	23	36	44	50	60	351	1.6	.003	.142	
NSSE 2023 & 2024	43.5	11.7	.04	22	36	44	52	60	344	1.0	.066	.084	
Top 50%	45.7	11.5	.05	24	40	48	54	60	348	-1.2	.027	104	
Top 10%	48.7	11.9	.13	24	42	52	60	60	380	-4.2	.000	353	
Supportive Environment													
NDSU (N = 355)	35.1	13.0	.69	15	25	38	45	58					
NDSU Peers	35.8	13.1	.20	15	28	35	45	60	4,545	7	.316	055	
Very High Research	35.8	13.0	.07	15	28	35	43	60	31,909	7	.298	056	
NSSE 2023 & 2024	35.2	13.6	.04	13	25	35	45	60	115,889	2	.814	012	
Top 50%	37.1	13.0	.05	17	28	38	45	60	56,956	-2.0	.003	156	
Top 10%	40.4	12.6	.18	20	33	40	50	60	5,099	-5.4	.000	424	

a. Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institutional size for comparison groups).

b. Standard deviation is a measure of the amount the individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.

c. Standard error of the mean, used to compute a confidence interval (CI) around the sample mean. For example, the 95% CI (equal to the sample mean +/- 1.96 x SE)

is the range that is 95% likely to contain the true population mean.

d. A percentile is the point in the distribution of student-level EI scores at or below which a given percentage of EI scores fall.

e. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values vary from the total Ns due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.

f. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between the mean of your institution and that of the comparison group occurred by chance.

g. Effect size is the mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



**Detailed Statistics**<sup>a</sup>

## North Dakota State University

## **Detailed Statistics: Seniors**

	Mea	n statisti	CS		Perce	ntile <sup>d</sup> sco	ores			mparison	results	
	Mean	SD <sup>b</sup>	SE <sup>c</sup>	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom <sup>e</sup>	Mean diff.	Sig. <sup>f</sup>	Effect size <sup>g</sup>
Academic Challenge	mean		02	500	2500	30111	7500	5500	jieedom	۵, , , , ,	o.g.	0.20
Higher-Order Learning												
NDSU $(N = 350)$	37.6	12.8	.68	15	30	40	45	60				
NDSU Peers	39.7	13.5	.17	20	30	40	50	60	6,420	-2.0	.006	152
Very High Research	40.4	13.7	.06	20	30	40	50	60	47,192	-2.8	.000	206
NSSE 2023 & 2024	40.9	13.8	.03	20	30	40	55	60	161,157	-3.3	.000	241
Top 50%	42.4	13.6	.05	20	35	40	55	60	353	-4.8	.000	354
Top 10%	44.9	12.8	.15	20	40	45	60	60	7,444	-7.3	.000	569
Reflective & Integrative Learni	ng											
NDSU $(N = 371)$	33.7	12.7	.66	14	26	34	43	57				
NDSU Peers	37.4	12.7	.16	17	29	37	46	60	6,896	-3.6	.000	288
Very High Research	38.2	12.8	.06	17	29	37	49	60	50,550	-4.5	.000	349
NSSE 2023 & 2024	38.8	12.9	.03	17	29	40	49	60	172,293	-5.0	.000	391
Top 50%	40.6	12.4	.05	20	31	40	51	60	68,366	-6.9	.000	555
Top 10%	43.2	11.8	.15	23	34	43	54	60	6,929	-9.5	.000	798
Learning Strategies												
NDSU (N = 325)	34.3	15.0	.83	7	20	33	47	60				
NDSU Peers	38.1	14.5	.19	13	27	40	47	60	6,032	-3.8	.000	262
Very High Research	38.9	14.5	.07	13	27	40	53	60	44,104	-4.6	.000	314
NSSE 2023 & 2024	39.5	14.6	.04	13	27	40	53	60	150,829	-5.2	.000	357
Top 50%	41.2	14.5	.05	20	33	40	53	60	82,958	-6.9	.000	473
Top 10%	44.1	14.2	.14	20	33	47	60	60	10,521	-9.8	.000	689
Quantitative Reasoning												
NDSU (N = $332$ )	28.2	14.8	.81	7	20	27	40	53				
NDSU Peers	30.9	16.4	.21	0	20	33	40	60	380	-2.8	.001	171
Very High Research	32.2	16.5	.08	0	20	33	40	60	338	-4.0	.000	244
NSSE 2023 & 2024	31.4	16.7	.04	0	20	33	40	60	333	-3.3	.000	197
Top 50%	32.8	16.5	.06	7	20	33	40	60	335	-4.7	.000	283
Top 10%	36.2	16.2	.17	7	20	40	47	60	362	-8.0	.000	498
Learning with Peers												
Collaborative Learning												
NDSU (N = $385$ )	33.4	14.8	.75	10	25	35	45	60				
NDSU Peers	33.1	15.1	.18	10	20	35	45	60	7,253	.3	.684	.021
Very High Research	32.6	15.1	.07	10	20	30	45	60	53,831	.7	.338	.049
NSSE 2023 & 2024	30.6	16.0	.04	5	20	30	40	60	386	2.8	.000	.174
Top 50%	34.8	14.2	.05	10	25	35	45	60	82,507	-1.4	.061	096
Top 10%	38.0	13.6	.13	15	30	40	50	60	408	-4.6	.000	339
Discussions with Diverse Other												
NDSU (N = 328)	34.5	16.1	.89	5	20	35	45	60				
NDSU Peers	38.6	16.1	.21	10	25	40	55	60	6,087	-4.1	.000	256
Very High Research	40.7	15.6	.07	15	30	40	55	60	44,386	-6.2	.000	399
NSSE 2023 & 2024	39.1	16.4	.04	10	25	40	55	60	151,756	-4.7	.000	284
Top 50%	41.4	15.6	.05	15	30	40	60	60	85,736	-6.9	.000	444
Top 10%	44.1	14.5	.15	20	35	45	60	60	344	-9.6	.000	663



**Detailed Statistics**<sup>a</sup>

## North Dakota State University

### **Detailed Statistics: Seniors**

	Mean statistics			Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores					Comparison results			
		SD <sup>b</sup>	SE <sup>c</sup>	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom <sup>e</sup>	Mean diff.	Sig. <sup>f</sup>	Effect size <sup>g</sup>
	Mean											
Experiences with Faculty												
Student-Faculty Interaction												
NDSU (N = 358)	23.0	15.1	.80	0	10	20	35	50				
NDSU Peers	24.1	16.3	.21	0	10	20	35	60	6,613	-1.1	.218	067
Very High Research	23.5	16.2	.07	0	10	20	35	60	48,694	5	.558	031
NSSE 2023 & 2024	24.2	16.5	.04	0	10	20	35	60	359	-1.2	.120	075
Top 50%	29.9	16.3	.08	5	20	30	40	60	365	-7.0	.000	427
Top 10%	34.9	16.1	.26	10	20	35	45	60	4,271	-11.9	.000	745
Effective Teaching Practices												
NDSU (N = 344)	38.3	12.8	.69	16	30	40	48	60				
NDSU Peers	39.0	13.8	.18	16	28	40	48	60	6,410	7	.347	052
Very High Research	39.7	13.7	.06	16	32	40	52	60	46,988	-1.3	.068	099
NSSE 2023 & 2024	40.4	14.0	.04	16	32	40	52	60	345	-2.1	.002	150
Top 50%	42.5	13.8	.06	20	32	44	56	60	347	-4.1	.000	300
Top 10%	45.2	13.1	.15	20	36	48	60	60	7,842	-6.9	.000	528
Campus Environment												
Quality of Interactions												
NDSU (N = 313)	43.4	10.9	.61	24	38	44	50	60				
NDSU Peers	42.9	11.7	.16	22	36	44	52	60	357	.5	.437	.042
Very High Research	42.1	12.1	.06	20	34	43	50	60	318	1.3	.030	.111
NSSE 2023 & 2024	43.1	12.4	.03	20	36	44	52	60	314	.3	.611	.025
Top 50%	45.4	12.0	.05	22	38	48	55	60	316	-2.0	.001	166
Top 10%	48.1	12.3	.11	23	42	50	60	60	334	-4.7	.000	383
Supportive Environment												
NDSU (N = 322)	32.5	12.3	.69	13	23	33	40	55				
NDSU Peers	33.0	13.9	.19	10	23	33	40	60	369	5	.474	037
Very High Research	32.5	14.0	.07	10	23	33	40	60	327	.0	.974	.002
NSSE 2023 & 2024	32.4	14.4	.04	8	23	33	40	60	323	.1	.846	.009
Top 50%	34.6	14.2	.06	10	25	35	45	60	325	-2.1	.002	151
Top 10%	38.0	13.7	.18	15	28	40	48	60	365	-5.5	.000	401

a. Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institutional size for comparison groups).

b. Standard deviation is a measure of the amount the individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.

c. Standard error of the mean, used to compute a confidence interval (CI) around the sample mean. For example, the 95% CI (equal to the sample mean +/- 1.96 x SE)

is the range that is 95% likely to contain the true population mean.

d. A percentile is the point in the distribution of student-level EI scores at or below which a given percentage of EI scores fall.

e. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values vary from the total Ns due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.

f. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between the mean of your institution and that of the comparison group occurred by chance.

g. Effect size is the mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.