

Southwest Minnesota State University

Snapshot

NSSE asks first-year and senior students about a wide range of educationally purposeful activities (for more information, see page 4). This *Snapshot* is a concise collection of key findings from your institution's NSSE 2013 participation. We hope this information stimulates discussion on your campus about the undergraduate experience. Additional details about these results, including statistical test results, can be found in the reports referenced throughout.

Comparison Group

The comparison group featured in this report is

Minnesota

See your *Selected Comparison Groups* report for details.

Engagement Indicators Your students compared with Sets of items are grouped into ten Minnesota Theme **Engagement Indicator** First-year Senior Engagement Indicators, which fit within four themes of engagement. **Higher-Order Learning (HO)** At right are summary results for Reflective & Integrative Learning (RI) your institution. For details, see Academic your Engagement Indicators Challenge **Learning Strategies (LS)** report. Quantitative Reasoning (QR) Key: Your students' average was significantly higher (p < .05) with an effect size at least Collaborative Learning (CL) .3 in magnitude. Learning with Peers Your students' average was significantly **Discussions with Diverse Others (DD)** higher (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude. No significant difference. Student-Faculty Interaction (SF) Experiences with Faculty Your students' average was significantly **Effective Teaching Practices (ET)** lower (p < .05) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

Quality of Interactions (QI)

Supportive Environment (SE)

High-Impact Practices (HIPs)

in magnitude.

Your students' average was significantly

lower (p < .05) with an effect size at least .3

Due to their positive associations with student learning and retention, special undergraduate opportunities are designated "high-impact." For more details and statistical comparisons, see your *High-Impact Practices* report.

First-year

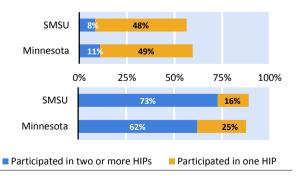
Campus

Environment

Learning Communities, Service-Learning, and Research w/Faculty

Senior

Learning Communities, Service-Learning, Research w/Faculty, Internships, Study Abroad, and Culminating Experiences



Administration Summary

	Count	Resp. rate	Female	Full-time
First-year	151	32%	81%	97%
Senior	124	26%	65%	92%

Refer to your Administration Summary and Respondent Profile reports for more information.

Additional Questions

Your institution administered the following additional question sets:

Academic Advising

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Refer to your Topical Module and Consortium reports for complete results.



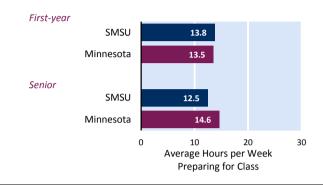
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Academic Challenge: Additional Results

The Academic Challenge theme contains four Engagement Indicators (HO, RI, LS, QR) as well as several important individual items. The results presented here provide an overview of these individual items. For more information about the Academic Challenge theme, see your *Engagement Indicators* report. To further explore individual item results, see your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons*, the *Major Field Report*, or the NSSE *Institutional Report Builder* (described on p. 4).

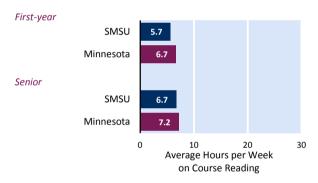
Time Spent Preparing for Class

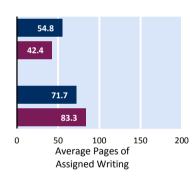
This figure reports the average weekly class preparation time for your first-year and senior students compared to students in your comparison group.



Reading and Writing

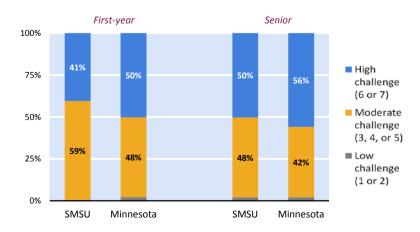
These figures report the average number of hours your students spent reading for their courses and the average number of pages of assigned writing compared to students in your comparison group.





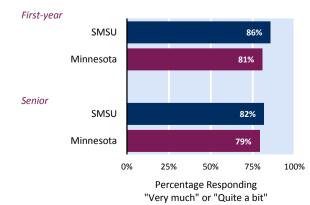
Challenging Courses

To what extent did your students' courses challenge them to do their best work? Response options ranged from 1 = "Not at all" to 7 = "Very much."



Academic Emphasis

How much did students say their institution emphasizes spending significant time studying and on academic work? Response options included "Very much," "Quite a bit," "Some," and "Very little."





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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^a 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 Minnesota

Worked with other students on course projects or assignments^b (CL)

Inst. emphasizes... Using learning support services (...)^c (SE)

Quality of interactions with... Faculty^d (QI)

Participated in an internship, co-op, field exp., student teach., clinical placemt. (HIP)

Talked about career plans with a faculty member (SF)

Lowest Performing Relative to Minnesota

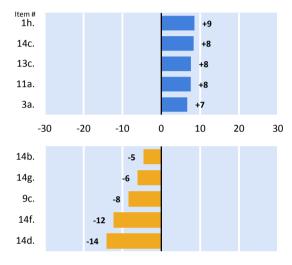
Inst. emphasizes... Providing support to help students succeed academically^c (SE)

Inst. emphasizes... Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (...)^c (SE)

Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials^b (LS)

Inst. emphasizes... Providing support for your overall well-being... (SE)

Inst. emphasizes... Encouraging contact among students from different backgrounds... (SE)



Percentage Point Difference with Minnesota

Senior

Highest Performing Relative to Minnesota

Worked with a faculty member on activities other than coursework (...)^b (SF)

Completed a culminating senior experience (...) (HIP)

Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class^b (SF)

Talked about career plans with a faculty member (SF)

Quality of interactions with... Other administrative staff and offices...^d (QI)

Lowest Performing Relative to Minnesota

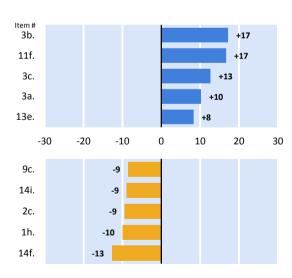
Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials^b (LS)

Inst. emphasizes... Attending events that address important social/econ./polit. issues^c (SE)

Included diverse perspectives (...) in course discussions or assignments^b (RI)

Worked with other students on course projects or assignments^b (CL)

Inst. emphasizes... Providing support for your overall well-being... (SE)



Percentage Point Difference with Minnesota

a. The displays on this page draw from the 53 items that make up the ten Engagement Indicators and six High-Impact Practices. Key to abbreviations: 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 = High-Impact Practice. 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."



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How Students Assess their Experience

Students' perceptions of their cognitive and affective development, as well as their overall satisfaction with the institution, provide useful evidence of their educational experiences. For more details, refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report.

Perceived Gains Among Seniors

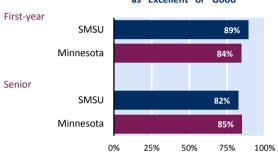
Students reported how much their experience at your institution contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development in ten areas.

Perceived Gains Percentage of Seniors Responding (Sorted highest to lowest) "Very much" or "Quite a bit" Thinking critically and analytically Working effectively with others Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills Speaking clearly and effectively Writing clearly and effectively Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics Understanding people of other backgrounds (econ., racial/ethnic, polit., relig., nation., etc.) Solving complex real-world problems Being an informed and active citizen Analyzing numerical and statistical information

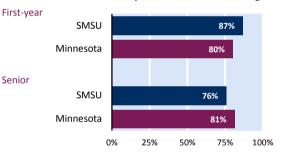
Satisfaction with SMSU

Students rated their overall experience at your institution and whether they would attend your institution again.

Percentage Rating Their Overall Experience as "Excellent" or "Good"



Percentage Who Would "Definitely" or "Probably" Attend This Institution Again



What is NSSE?

NSSE annually collects information at hundreds of four-year colleges and universities about student participation in activities and programs that promote their learning and personal development. The results provide an estimate of how undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from attending their college or university. Institutions use their data to identify aspects of the undergraduate experience that can be improved through changes in policy and practice.

NSSE has been in operation since 2000 and has been used at more than 1,500 colleges and universities in the US and Canada. More than 90% of participating institutions administer the survey on a periodic basis.

Visit our Web site: nsse.iub.edu

Try the Institutional Report Builder

The NSSE Institutional Report Builder, to be updated with 2013 results in early fall, is an interactive tool for participating institutions to instantly generate custom reports using their NSSE data. Create tables of Engagement Indicator statistics or item



frequencies that compare subgroups of students within your institution, or that compare your students to those from a customized comparison group. Access the Institutional Report Builder via the Institution Interface.

nsse.iub.edu/links/interface

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