NSSE 2023
Engagement Indicators
Valparaiso University

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

Report Sections

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 *within* 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. 16-19)
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).

EIs 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 EI 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.

Engagement Indicators: Overview

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:

▲ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size at least .3 in magnitude.

△ **Your students' average** was significantly higher ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

-- No significant difference.

▽ **Your students' average** was significantly lower ($p < .05$) with an effect size less than .3 in magnitude.

▼ **Your 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.

First-Year Students

Theme	Engagement Indicator	Your first-year students compared with Peer Institutions	Your first-year students compared with Top Cancel Schools	Your first-year students compared with NSSE 2022 & 2023
Academic Challenge	Higher-Order Learning	--	--	--
	Reflective & Integrative Learning	--	--	--
	Learning Strategies	--	--	--
	Quantitative Reasoning	--	--	--
Learning with Peers	Collaborative Learning	--	--	△
	Discussions with Diverse Others	--	--	--
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction	--	--	△
	Effective Teaching Practices	--	△	△
Campus Environment	Quality of Interactions	--	△	△
	Supportive Environment	--	--	--

Seniors

Theme	Engagement Indicator	Your seniors compared with Peer Institutions	Your seniors compared with Top Cancel Schools	Your seniors compared with NSSE 2022 & 2023
Academic Challenge	Higher-Order Learning	--	--	--
	Reflective & Integrative Learning	--	--	--
	Learning Strategies	▽	--	▽
	Quantitative Reasoning	--	△	△
Learning with Peers	Collaborative Learning	--	△	▲
	Discussions with Diverse Others	△	△	△
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction	--	△	▲
	Effective Teaching Practices	--	△	--
Campus Environment	Quality of Interactions	--	--	--
	Supportive Environment	--	△	△

## 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

| | Valpo | Your first-year students compared with | | | | | |
| | | Peer Institutions | | Top Cancel Schools | | NSSE 2022 & 2023 | |
Engagement Indicator	*Mean*	*Mean*	*Effect size*	*Mean*	*Effect size*	*Mean*	*Effect size*
Higher-Order Learning	39.5	39.4	.01	38.6	.07	38.3	.09
Reflective & Integrative Learning	36.9	37.1	-.01	36.2	.07	35.8	.09
Learning Strategies	37.5	38.9	-.10	37.9	-.03	38.2	-.04
Quantitative Reasoning	29.5	29.7	-.01	29.9	-.03	29.4	.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
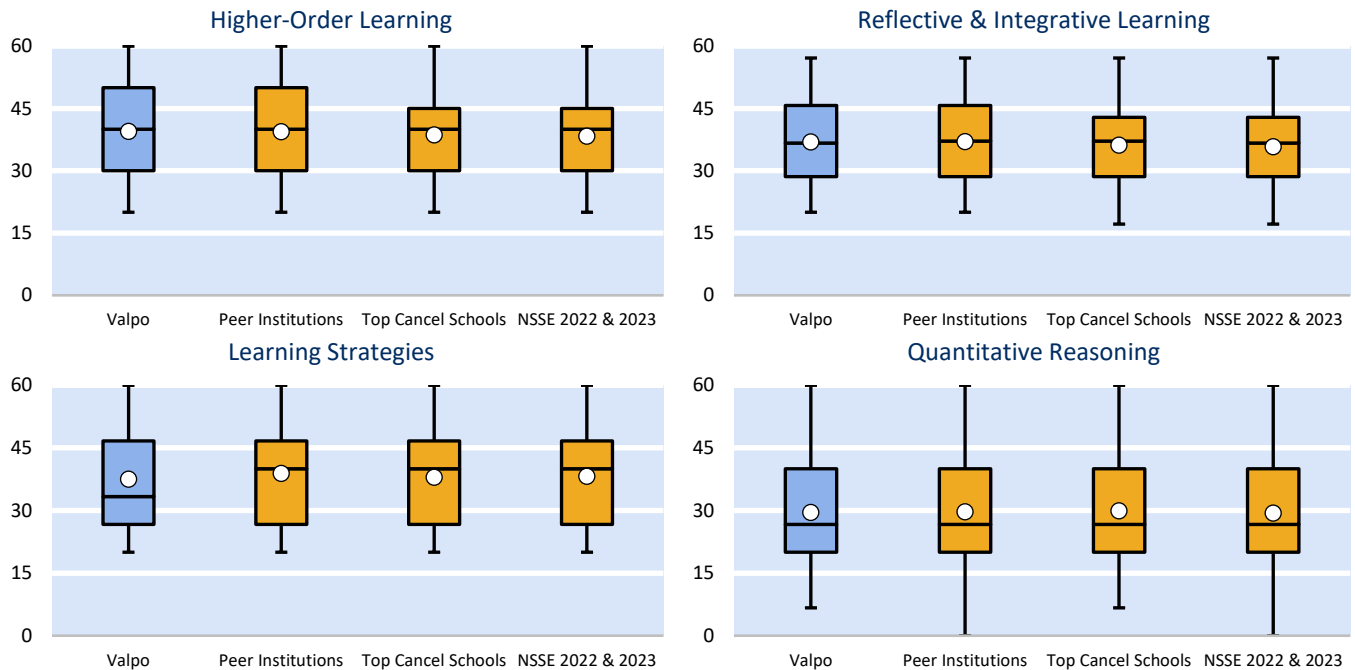
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Academic Challenge: First-year students (continued)

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 difference[a] between your FY students and		
Higher-Order Learning	**Valpo**	**Peer Institutions**	**Top Cancel Schools**	**NSSE 2022 & 2023**
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	74	+0	+0	+4
4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	73	-0	+2	+4
4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	74	+1	+4	+4
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	72	-1	+0	+1
Reflective & Integrative Learning				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"…				
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	53	-4	-4	+0
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	59	+0	+4	+6
2c. Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	58	-2	+2	+4
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	58	-7	-6	-6
2e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective	71	-2	+0	+0
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	71	+2	+4	+4
2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	78	-4	-2	-0
Learning Strategies				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"…				
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	75	-2	+1	+2
9b. Reviewed your notes after class	60	-7	-6	-6
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	60	-7	-6	-5
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.)	56	+2	+0	+2
6b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	39	-6	-6	-5
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	42	-2	-3	-1

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.

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage − Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.

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

| | Valpo | Your seniors compared with | | | | | |
| | | Peer Institutions | | Top Cancel Schools | | NSSE 2022 & 2023 | |
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Higher-Order Learning	41.6	41.8	-.01	40.1	.11	40.7	.07
Reflective & Integrative Learning	39.4	40.5	-.09	38.5	.07	38.7	.06
Learning Strategies	36.4	38.8 *	-.17	37.9	-.11	39.2 *	-.19
Quantitative Reasoning	34.6	32.3	.14	31.2 *	.21	31.4 *	.19

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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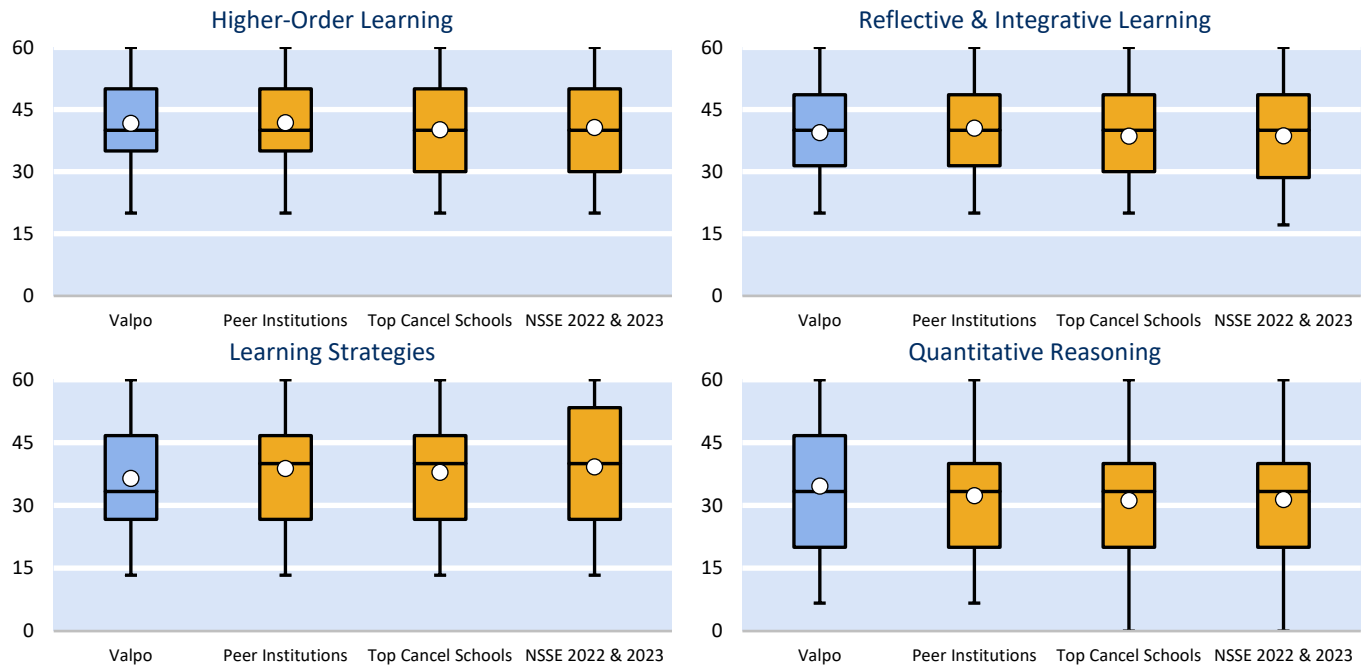
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Academic Challenge: Seniors (continued)

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.

	Valpo	Percentage point difference [a] between your seniors and		
Higher-Order Learning		**Peer Institutions**	**Top Cancel Schools**	**NSSE 2022 & 2023**
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	81	-1	+3	+3
4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	75	-3	+0	-0
4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	70	-6	+0	-2
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	76	-0	+3	+2
Reflective & Integrative Learning				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"…				
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	77	+3	+6	+9
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	65	-4	+3	+3
2c. Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	63	-1	+6	+7
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	67	-4	+0	-1
2e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective	71	-5	-1	-2
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	72	-3	+0	-0
2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	84	-3	-0	+0
Learning Strategies				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"…				
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	75	-3	+1	-1
9b. Reviewed your notes after class	56	-4	-6	-9
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	59	-8	-6	-8
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.)	61	+4	+4	+3
6b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	56	+5	+8	+7
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	63	+10	+13	+14

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.

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage − Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.
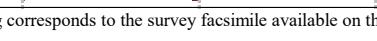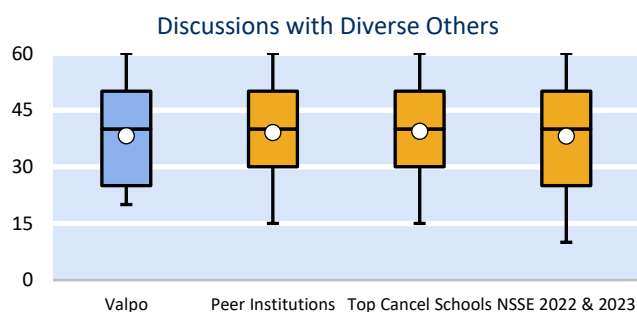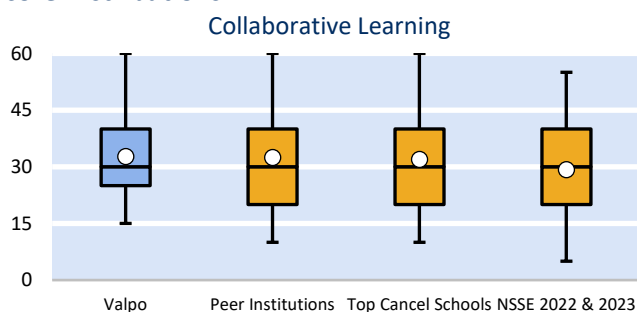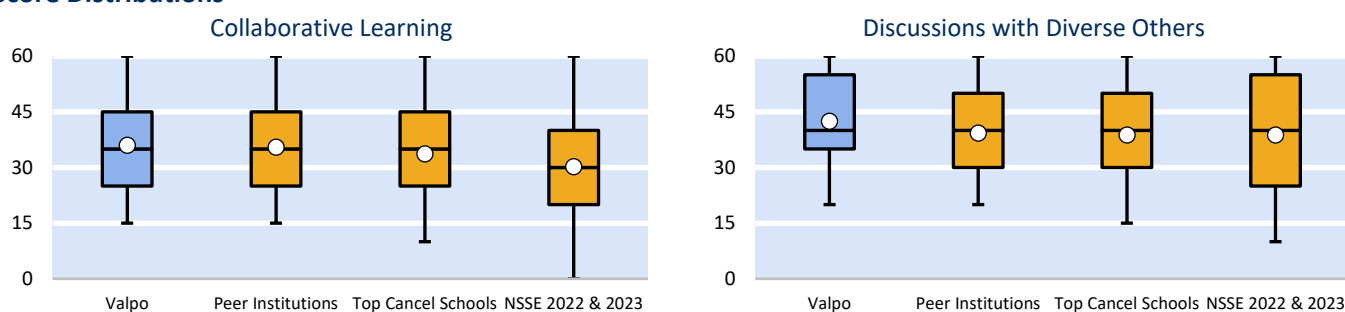
Learning with Peers: First-year students

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

	Valpo	*Your first-year students compared with*					
		Peer Institutions		Top Cancel Schools		NSSE 2022 & 2023	
			Effect		*Effect*		*Effect*
Engagement Indicator	*Mean*	*Mean*	*size*	*Mean*	*size*	*Mean*	*size*
Collaborative Learning	32.7	32.4	.02	31.9	.06	29.2 **	.23
Discussions with Diverse Others	38.2	39.1	-.06	39.4	-.09	38.1	.00

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.

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.

	Valpo	Percentage point difference [a] between your FY students and		
		Peer Institutions	Top Cancel Schools	NSSE 2022 & 2023
Collaborative Learning				
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"…	%			
1b. Asked another student to help you understand course material	40	-9	-10	-4
1c. Explained course material to one or more students	52	-2	-2	+4
1d. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	49	+2	+4	+8
1e. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	59	-1	+2	+9
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	59	-13	-12	-10
8b. People from economic backgrounds other than your own	66	-6	-6	-4
8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own	69	+2	+1	+5
8d. People with political views other than your own	61	+0	-3	+2

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.

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage – Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.

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

| | Valpo | Your seniors compared with | | | | | |
| | | Peer Institutions | | Top Cancel Schools | | NSSE 2022 & 2023 | |
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Collaborative Learning	36.0	35.5	.04	33.7 *	.16	30.3 ***	.36
Discussions with Diverse Others	42.5	39.3 **	.23	38.8 **	.24	38.8 **	.23

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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| | Valpo | Percentage point difference [a] between your seniors and | | |
Collaborative Learning		Peer Institutions	Top Cancel Schools	NSSE 2022 & 2023
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"…	%			
1b. Asked another student to help you understand course material	50	+0	+2	+9
1c. Explained course material to one or more students	66	+2	+7	+14
1d. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students	49	-1	+3	+9
1e. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments	79	+6	+9	+20
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	70	+1	+3	+1
8b. People from economic backgrounds other than your own	77	+5	+7	+7
8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own	74	+10	+8	+9
8d. People with political views other than your own	75	+12	+12	+15

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NSSE 2023 Engagement Indicators

Experiences with Faculty

Valparaiso University
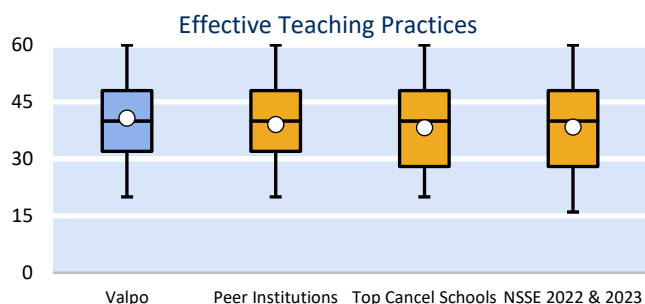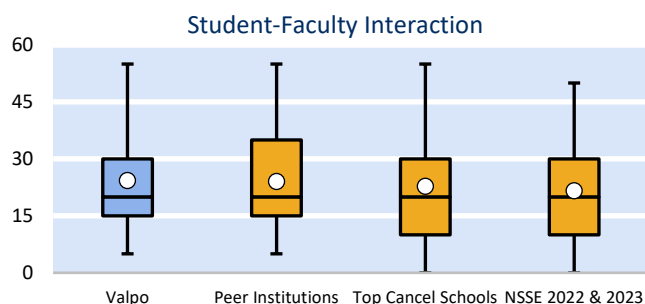
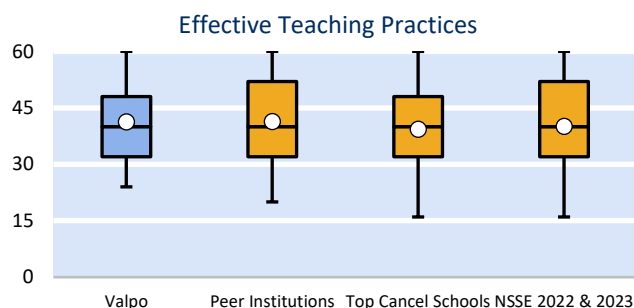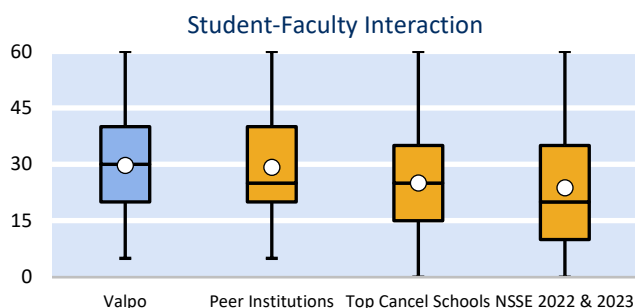## Experiences with Faculty: First-year students

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.

Mean Comparisons

	Valpo	Peer Institutions		Top Cancel Schools		NSSE 2022 & 2023	
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Student-Faculty Interaction	24.3	24.0	.02	22.7	.10	21.6 *	.18
Effective Teaching Practices	40.7	39.0	.13	38.2 *	.20	38.4 *	.18

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	Valpo	Peer Institutions	Top Cancel Schools	NSSE 2022 & 2023
Student-Faculty Interaction	%			
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"…				
3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member	43	+1	+3	+6
3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	21	-3	-3	-1
3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	34	+2	+5	+7
3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	38	+4	+6	+7
Effective Teaching Practices				
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have…				
5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements	83	+5	+5	+7
5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way	84	+8	+10	+11
5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	77	+2	+3	+4
5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	73	+7	+10	+9
5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	62	-0	+3	+2

Percentage point difference[a] between your FY students and

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NSSE 2023 Engagement Indicators

Experiences with Faculty
Valparaiso University

Experiences with Faculty: Seniors

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Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Student-Faculty Interaction	29.7	29.2	.03	25.0 ***	.29	23.7 ***	.36
Effective Teaching Practices	41.2	41.3	-.01	39.3 *	.14	40.0	.08

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| | Valpo | Percentage point difference [a] between your seniors and | | |
Student-Faculty Interaction		Peer Institutions	Top Cancel Schools	NSSE 2022 & 2023
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"…	%			
3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member	55	-0	+10	+13
3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.)	37	-0	+6	+9
3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class	47	+3	+12	+15
3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member	35	-5	+2	+2
Effective Teaching Practices				
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have…				
5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements	83	+0	+4	+3
5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way	81	+2	+6	+5
5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	83	+1	+7	+6
5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	67	-2	+5	+3
5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	67	-2	+3	+2

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.

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage – Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.

NSSE 2023 Engagement Indicators
Campus Environment
Valparaiso University
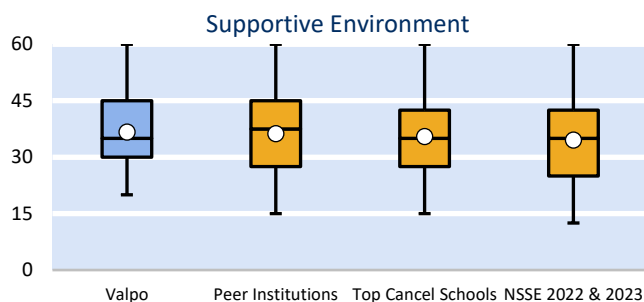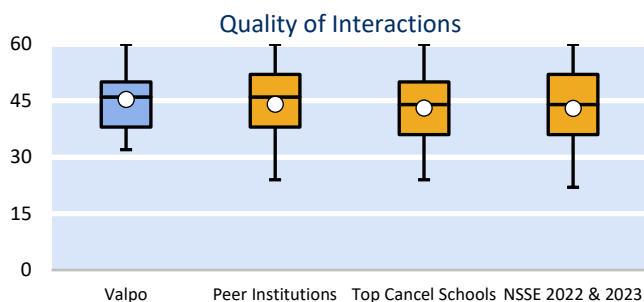
Campus Environment: First-year students

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

| | Valpo | Your first-year students compared with | | | | | |
| | | Peer Institutions | | Top Cancel Schools | | NSSE 2022 & 2023 | |
Engagement Indicator	*Mean*	*Mean*	*Effect size*	*Mean*	*Effect size*	*Mean*	*Effect size*
Quality of Interactions	45.3	44.1	.12	43.1 **	.21	43.0 **	.20
Supportive Environment	36.7	36.2	.04	35.5	.10	34.6	.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).

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.

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 [a] between your FY students and | | |
Quality of Interactions	Valpo	Peer Institutions	Top Cancel Schools	NSSE 2022 & 2023
Percentage rating their interactions a 6 or 7 (on a scale from 1="Poor" to 7="Excellent") with...	%			
13a. Students	53	-2	+2	+2
13b. Academic advisors	57	-0	+1	+2
13c. Faculty	68	+10	+16	+16
13d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	56	+8	+9	+9
13e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	54	+6	+9	+8
Supportive Environment				
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much the institution emphasized...				
14b. Providing support to help students succeed academically	77	+2	+2	+6
14c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	81	+6	+6	+9
14d. Encouraging contact among students from diff. backgrounds (soc., racial/eth., relig., etc.)	56	-6	-5	-3
14e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially	72	-4	-1	+3
14f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	72	+3	+4	+7
14g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	37	-1	-1	-2
14h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	63	-7	-4	+1
14i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	52	+2	+4	+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.

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage – Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.

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

	Valpo	Peer Institutions		Top Cancel Schools		NSSE 2022 & 2023	
			Effect		*Effect*		*Effect*
Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	size	Mean	size	Mean	size
Quality of Interactions	42.6	43.6	-.09	42.1	.05	43.0	-.03
Supportive Environment	34.8	33.8	.07	31.7 **	.22	32.0 **	.19

Your seniors compared with

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.

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.

Quality of Interactions	Valpo	Peer Institutions	Top Cancel Schools	NSSE 2022 & 2023
Percentage rating their interactions a 6 or 7 (on a scale from 1="Poor" to 7="Excellent") with...	%			
13a. Students	58	-1	+1	-0
13b. Academic advisors	57	+3	+7	+3
13c. Faculty	67	+4	+13	+9
13d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.)	41	-5	-1	-4
13e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)	40	-3	-1	-5
Supportive Environment				
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much the institution emphasized...				
14b. Providing support to help students succeed academically	79	+6	+13	+11
14c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)	82	+14	+17	+17
14d. Encouraging contact among students from diff. backgrounds (soc., racial/eth., relig., etc.)	56	+2	+5	+2
14e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially	73	+2	+7	+10
14f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)	60	-2	+2	+2
14g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)	28	-5	-1	-5
14h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)	68	+4	+10	+14
14i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues	44	-2	+4	+3

Percentage point difference [a] between your seniors and

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.

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage – Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.

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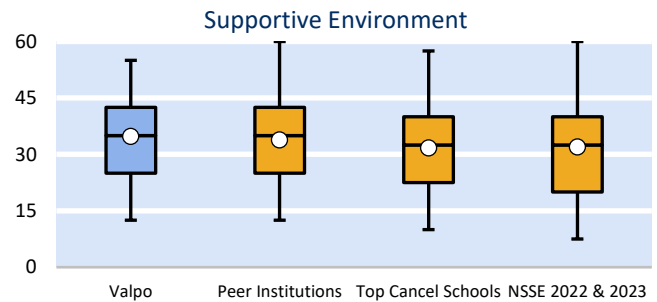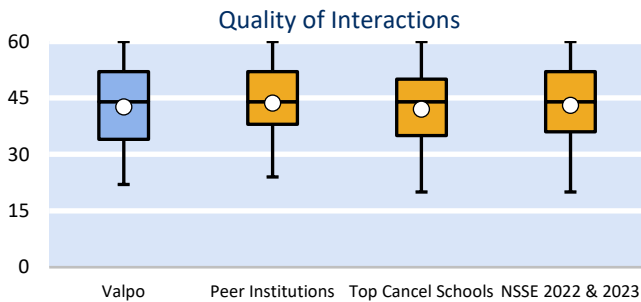
NSSE 2023 Engagement Indicators
Comparisons with High-Performing Institutions
Valparaiso University

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[a] for their high average levels of student engagement:

   (a) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 50% of all 2022 and 2023 NSSE institutions, and
   (b) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 10% of all 2022 and 2023 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 (✓) signifies those comparisons where your average score was at least comparable[b] 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.

First-Year Students

| | | Valpo | Your first-year students compared with | | | | | |
| | | | NSSE Top 50% | | | NSSE Top 10% | | |
Theme	Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size	✓	Mean	Effect size	✓
	Higher-Order Learning	39.5	39.5	.00	✓	42.2 *	-.21	
Academic	Reflective and Integrative Learning	36.9	37.2	-.03	✓	39.8 **	-.25	
Challenge	Learning Strategies	37.5	39.8	-.16		42.8 ***	-.37	
	Quantitative Reasoning	29.5	30.7	-.07	✓	33.4 **	-.25	
Learning	Collaborative Learning	32.7	33.2	-.04	✓	36.5 ***	-.28	
with Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	38.2	40.5	-.16		43.6 ***	-.40	
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction	24.3	25.4	-.07	✓	29.3 ***	-.32	
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices	40.7	40.1	.04	✓	43.3 *	-.19	
Campus	Quality of Interactions	45.3	45.2	.01	✓	48.1 ***	-.23	
Environment	Supportive Environment	36.7	36.8	.00	✓	39.6 *	-.23	

Seniors

| | | Valpo | Your seniors compared with | | | | | |
| | | | NSSE Top 50% | | | NSSE Top 10% | | |
Theme	Engagement Indicator	Mean	Mean	Effect size	✓	Mean	Effect size	✓
	Higher-Order Learning	41.6	42.1	-.03	✓	44.7 **	-.24	
Academic	Reflective and Integrative Learning	39.4	40.6	-.09	✓	43.1 ***	-.31	
Challenge	Learning Strategies	36.4	40.9 ***	-.31		43.6 ***	-.51	
	Quantitative Reasoning	34.6	32.7	.12	✓	36.3	-.10	
Learning	Collaborative Learning	36.0	34.7	.09	✓	38.1 *	-.15	
with Peers	Discussions with Diverse Others	42.5	41.1	.09	✓	43.9	-.10	✓
Experiences	Student-Faculty Interaction	29.7	29.6	.01	✓	34.3 ***	-.29	
with Faculty	Effective Teaching Practices	41.2	42.1	-.07	✓	44.7 ***	-.26	
Campus	Quality of Interactions	42.6	45.4 **	-.23		47.9 ***	-.42	
Environment	Supportive Environment	34.8	34.5	.02	✓	37.7 *	-.21	

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.

NSSE 2023 Engagement Indicators

Detailed Statistics[a]
Valparaiso University

Detailed Statistics: First-Year Students

	Mean statistics			Percentile[d] scores					Comparison results			
	Mean	SD[b]	SE[c]	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom[e]	Mean diff.	Sig.[f]	Effect size[g]
Academic Challenge												
Higher-Order Learning												
Valpo (N = 129)	39.5	12.6	1.11	20	30	40	50	60				
Peer Institutions	39.4	12.9	.18	20	30	40	50	60	5,123	.1	.925	.008
Top Cancel Schools	38.6	12.8	.13	20	30	40	45	60	9,308	.9	.435	.069
NSSE 2022 & 2023	38.3	13.3	.03	20	30	40	45	60	211,301	1.2	.298	.092
Top 50%	39.5	13.2	.04	20	30	40	50	60	135,725	.0	.993	-.001
Top 10%	42.2	12.8	.10	20	35	40	55	60	16,590	-2.7	.016	-.212
Reflective & Integrative Learning												
Valpo (N = 138)	36.9	11.7	.99	20	29	37	46	57				
Peer Institutions	37.1	11.5	.15	20	29	37	46	57	5,632	-.1	.910	-.010
Top Cancel Schools	36.2	11.9	.12	17	29	37	43	57	10,069	.8	.448	.065
NSSE 2022 & 2023	35.8	12.2	.03	17	29	37	43	57	231,120	1.1	.271	.094
Top 50%	37.2	12.0	.03	20	29	37	46	60	127,486	-.3	.769	-.025
Top 10%	39.8	11.8	.09	20	31	40	49	60	16,716	-2.9	.004	-.246
Learning Strategies												
Valpo (N = 124)	37.5	14.1	1.26	20	27	33	47	60				
Peer Institutions	38.9	13.4	.20	20	27	40	47	60	4,750	-1.4	.268	-.101
Top Cancel Schools	37.9	13.5	.15	20	27	40	47	60	8,637	-.4	.746	-.029
NSSE 2022 & 2023	38.2	13.9	.03	20	27	40	47	60	194,672	-.6	.617	-.045
Top 50%	39.8	13.9	.04	20	27	40	53	60	109,191	-2.2	.074	-.160
Top 10%	42.8	14.0	.09	20	33	40	60	60	22,863	-5.3	.000	-.375
Quantitative Reasoning												
Valpo (N = 126)	29.5	14.9	1.33	7	20	27	40	60				
Peer Institutions	29.7	15.4	.23	0	20	27	40	60	4,819	-.2	.910	-.010
Top Cancel Schools	29.9	15.2	.16	7	20	27	40	60	8,781	-.4	.766	-.027
NSSE 2022 & 2023	29.4	15.5	.03	0	20	27	40	60	198,097	.1	.928	.008
Top 50%	30.7	15.3	.04	7	20	27	40	60	132,724	-1.1	.405	-.074
Top 10%	33.4	15.4	.11	7	20	33	40	60	21,424	-3.9	.005	-.251
Learning with Peers												
Collaborative Learning												
Valpo (N = 155)	32.7	12.9	1.03	15	25	30	40	60				
Peer Institutions	32.4	13.4	.17	10	20	30	40	60	6,201	.3	.817	.019
Top Cancel Schools	31.9	13.8	.13	10	20	30	40	60	10,917	.8	.495	.055
NSSE 2022 & 2023	29.2	15.0	.03	5	20	30	40	55	154	3.5	.001	.230
Top 50%	33.2	13.9	.04	10	25	35	40	60	148,609	-.6	.619	-.040
Top 10%	36.5	13.7	.08	15	25	35	45	60	29,957	-3.9	.000	-.282
Discussions with Diverse Others												
Valpo (N = 126)	38.2	15.0	1.34	20	25	40	50	60				
Peer Institutions	39.1	14.4	.21	15	30	40	50	60	4,768	-.9	.486	-.063
Top Cancel Schools	39.4	14.6	.16	15	30	40	50	60	8,688	-1.3	.337	-.086
NSSE 2022 & 2023	38.1	15.8	.04	10	25	40	50	60	196,109	.0	.975	.003
Top 50%	40.5	14.8	.04	20	30	40	55	60	120,432	-2.4	.072	-.161
Top 10%	43.6	13.9	.12	20	35	40	60	60	14,232	-5.5	.000	-.395

Detailed Statistics: First-Year Students

	Mean statistics			Percentile[d] scores					Comparison results			
	Mean	SD[b]	SE[c]	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom[e]	Mean diff.	Sig.[f]	Effect size[g]
Experiences with Faculty												
Student-Faculty Interaction												
Valpo (N = 130)	24.3	13.7	1.20	5	15	20	30	55				
Peer Institutions	24.0	14.7	.20	5	15	20	35	55	5,335	.3	.843	.018
Top Cancel Schools	22.7	15.0	.15	0	10	20	30	55	9,614	1.6	.234	.105
NSSE 2022 & 2023	21.6	15.1	.03	0	10	20	30	50	220,366	2.7	.040	.180
Top 50%	25.4	15.3	.06	5	15	25	35	60	130	-1.1	.381	-.069
Top 10%	29.3	15.3	.15	5	20	25	40	60	133	-5.0	.000	-.324
Effective Teaching Practices												
Valpo (N = 128)	40.7	12.1	1.07	20	32	40	48	60				
Peer Institutions	39.0	12.4	.18	20	32	40	48	60	5,096	1.7	.134	.134
Top Cancel Schools	38.2	12.5	.13	20	28	40	48	60	9,255	2.5	.023	.203
NSSE 2022 & 2023	38.4	13.3	.03	16	28	40	48	60	210,407	2.3	.048	.175
Top 50%	40.1	13.5	.04	16	32	40	52	60	93,979	.6	.637	.042
Top 10%	43.3	13.3	.12	20	36	44	56	60	12,358	-2.6	.031	-.192
Campus Environment												
Quality of Interactions												
Valpo (N = 121)	45.3	8.6	.78	32	38	46	50	60				
Peer Institutions	44.1	10.6	.16	24	38	46	52	60	131	1.2	.123	.117
Top Cancel Schools	43.1	10.9	.12	24	36	44	50	60	126	2.3	.005	.209
NSSE 2022 & 2023	43.0	11.8	.03	22	36	44	52	60	120	2.3	.004	.197
Top 50%	45.2	11.5	.04	24	38	46	54	60	121	.1	.901	.009
Top 10%	48.1	12.1	.10	24	42	50	60	60	124	-2.8	.001	-.231
Supportive Environment												
Valpo (N = 122)	36.7	12.1	1.10	20	30	35	45	60				
Peer Institutions	36.2	12.7	.19	15	28	38	45	60	4,621	.5	.692	.036
Top Cancel Schools	35.5	12.8	.14	15	28	35	43	60	8,385	1.2	.293	.096
NSSE 2022 & 2023	34.6	13.5	.03	13	25	35	43	60	188,315	2.1	.082	.158
Top 50%	36.8	13.1	.05	15	28	38	45	60	82,005	-.1	.965	-.004
Top 10%	39.6	12.8	.13	20	30	40	50	60	9,804	-2.9	.011	-.230

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: Seniors

	Mean statistics			Percentile[d] scores					Comparison results			
	Mean	SD[b]	SE[c]	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom[e]	Mean diff.	Sig.[f]	Effect size[g]
Academic Challenge												
Higher-Order Learning												
Valpo (N = 150)	41.6	12.7	1.03	20	35	40	50	60				
Peer Institutions	41.8	12.9	.19	20	35	40	50	60	5,017	-.2	.887	-.012
Top Cancel Schools	40.1	13.5	.13	20	30	40	50	60	10,429	1.5	.170	.113
NSSE 2022 & 2023	40.7	13.8	.03	20	30	40	50	60	268,106	1.0	.383	.071
Top 50%	42.1	13.7	.04	20	35	40	55	60	124,527	-.4	.711	-.030
Top 10%	44.7	12.8	.12	20	40	45	60	60	12,060	-3.1	.004	-.239
Reflective & Integrative Learning												
Valpo (N = 165)	39.4	12.0	.93	20	31	40	49	60				
Peer Institutions	40.5	12.0	.17	20	31	40	49	60	5,341	-1.1	.248	-.092
Top Cancel Schools	38.5	12.5	.12	20	30	40	49	60	11,128	.9	.362	.072
NSSE 2022 & 2023	38.7	12.9	.02	17	29	40	49	60	286,191	.8	.445	.059
Top 50%	40.6	12.5	.04	20	31	40	51	60	112,826	-1.2	.234	-.093
Top 10%	43.1	11.8	.11	23	34	43	54	60	11,603	-3.6	.000	-.307
Learning Strategies												
Valpo (N = 142)	36.4	14.1	1.18	13	27	33	47	60				
Peer Institutions	38.8	14.1	.21	13	27	40	47	60	4,721	-2.4	.043	-.172
Top Cancel Schools	37.9	14.4	.15	13	27	40	47	60	9,861	-1.5	.212	-.106
NSSE 2022 & 2023	39.2	14.6	.03	13	27	40	53	60	252,123	-2.8	.024	-.190
Top 50%	40.9	14.5	.04	20	33	40	53	60	133,533	-4.6	.000	-.315
Top 10%	43.6	14.1	.10	20	33	40	60	60	19,528	-7.2	.000	-.508
Quantitative Reasoning												
Valpo (N = 145)	34.6	16.5	1.37	7	20	33	47	60				
Peer Institutions	32.3	16.4	.24	7	20	33	40	60	4,761	2.3	.094	.141
Top Cancel Schools	31.2	16.0	.16	0	20	33	40	60	9,946	3.4	.011	.213
NSSE 2022 & 2023	31.4	16.6	.03	0	20	33	40	60	255,583	3.2	.021	.192
Top 50%	32.7	16.5	.04	7	20	33	40	60	156,798	1.9	.163	.116
Top 10%	36.3	16.2	.14	7	20	40	47	60	12,716	-1.7	.215	-.104
Learning with Peers												
Collaborative Learning												
Valpo (N = 171)	36.0	13.7	1.05	15	25	35	45	60				
Peer Institutions	35.5	14.0	.19	15	25	35	45	60	5,684	.5	.635	.037
Top Cancel Schools	33.7	14.6	.14	10	25	35	45	60	11,723	2.3	.039	.159
NSSE 2022 & 2023	30.3	16.0	.03	0	20	30	40	60	170	5.8	.000	.361
Top 50%	34.7	14.2	.04	10	25	35	45	60	125,296	1.3	.223	.093
Top 10%	38.1	13.6	.10	15	30	40	50	60	17,132	-2.1	.048	-.152
Discussions with Diverse Others												
Valpo (N = 145)	42.5	14.3	1.19	20	35	40	55	60				
Peer Institutions	39.3	14.1	.21	20	30	40	50	60	4,732	3.2	.007	.226
Top Cancel Schools	38.8	15.3	.15	15	30	40	50	60	9,892	3.7	.004	.243
NSSE 2022 & 2023	38.8	16.2	.03	10	25	40	55	60	144	3.7	.002	.226
Top 50%	41.1	15.6	.04	15	30	40	55	60	137,785	1.4	.271	.091
Top 10%	43.9	14.8	.12	20	35	45	60	60	14,810	-1.4	.241	-.098

Detailed Statistics: Seniors

	Mean statistics			Percentile[d] scores					Comparison results			
	Mean	SD[b]	SE[c]	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Deg. of freedom[e]	Mean diff.	Sig.[f]	Effect size[g]
Experiences with Faculty												
Student-Faculty Interaction												
Valpo (N = 157)	29.7	15.9	1.27	5	20	30	40	60				
Peer Institutions	29.2	15.8	.22	5	20	25	40	60	5,160	.5	.702	.031
Top Cancel Schools	25.0	16.0	.16	0	15	25	35	60	10,745	4.7	.000	.292
NSSE 2022 & 2023	23.7	16.5	.03	0	10	20	35	60	276,354	5.9	.000	.359
Top 50%	29.6	16.2	.07	5	20	30	40	60	60,081	.1	.944	.006
Top 10%	34.3	15.8	.19	10	20	35	45	60	6,997	-4.6	.000	-.290
Effective Teaching Practices												
Valpo (N = 152)	41.2	11.9	.96	24	32	40	48	60				
Peer Institutions	41.3	13.0	.19	20	32	40	52	60	5,001	-.1	.911	-.009
Top Cancel Schools	39.3	13.7	.14	16	32	40	48	60	157	2.0	.045	.144
NSSE 2022 & 2023	40.0	14.1	.03	16	32	40	52	60	151	1.2	.219	.084
Top 50%	42.1	13.8	.05	20	32	40	56	60	152	-.9	.342	-.067
Top 10%	44.7	13.4	.11	20	36	44	56	60	155	-3.5	.000	-.260
Campus Environment												
Quality of Interactions												
Valpo (N = 140)	42.6	11.3	.95	22	34	44	52	60				
Peer Institutions	43.6	11.0	.16	24	38	44	52	60	4,606	-1.0	.280	-.093
Top Cancel Schools	42.1	11.8	.12	20	35	44	50	60	9,216	.6	.581	.047
NSSE 2022 & 2023	43.0	12.4	.03	20	36	44	52	60	229,581	-.4	.688	-.034
Top 50%	45.4	12.1	.04	22	38	48	55	60	99,497	-2.7	.007	-.227
Top 10%	47.9	12.5	.08	22	40	50	60	60	24,756	-5.3	.000	-.420
Supportive Environment												
Valpo (N = 140)	34.8	12.6	1.06	13	25	35	43	55				
Peer Institutions	33.8	13.4	.20	13	25	35	43	60	4,653	.9	.421	.069
Top Cancel Schools	31.7	13.7	.14	10	23	33	40	58	9,618	3.0	.009	.222
NSSE 2022 & 2023	32.0	14.5	.03	8	20	33	40	60	139	2.8	.010	.193
Top 50%	34.5	14.3	.05	10	25	35	45	60	139	.2	.838	.015
Top 10%	37.7	13.9	.15	15	28	38	48	60	8,879	-2.9	.014	-.209

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.