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# **NSSE 2013**

## **Engagement Indicators**

University of South Carolina Columbia

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### 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 themes as shown at right.

| Theme                           | Engagement Indicator                |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Academic Challenge</i>       | Higher-Order Learning               |
|                                 | Reflective and Integrative Learning |
|                                 | Learning Strategies                 |
|                                 | Quantitative Reasoning              |
| <i>Learning with Peers</i>      | Collaborative Learning              |
|                                 | Discussions with Diverse Others     |
| <i>Experiences with Faculty</i> | Student-Faculty Interaction         |
|                                 | Effective Teaching Practices        |
| <i>Campus Environment</i>       | Quality of Interactions             |
|                                 | Supportive Environment              |

### Report sections

- Overview (p. 3)** Displays how average EI scores for your first-year and senior 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.
  - Summary of Indicator Items**  
Responses to each item in a given EI are displayed 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 current-year participating 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. An effect size of .2 is generally considered small, .5 medium, and .8 large. Comparisons with an effect size of at least .3 in magnitude (before rounding) are highlighted in the Overview.

*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. The Institutional Report Builder and your *Major Field Report* (both to be 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 Web site: [nsse.iub.edu](http://nsse.iub.edu)

## 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 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.

### First-Year (FY) Students

| <i>Theme</i>                    | <i>Engagement Indicator</i>         | <b>Your FY students</b><br>compared with<br>Southeast Public | <b>Your FY students</b><br>compared with<br>Carnegie Class | <b>Your FY students</b><br>compared with<br>NSSE 2013 |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| <i>Academic Challenge</i>       | Higher-Order Learning               | --   | --   | --  |
|                                 | Reflective and Integrative Learning | --   | --   | --  |
|                                 | Learning Strategies                 | --   | △  | --  |
|                                 | Quantitative Reasoning              | --   | --   | --  |
| <i>Learning with Peers</i>      | Collaborative Learning              | --   | ▽  | --  |
|                                 | Discussions with Diverse Others     | --   | --   | --  |
| <i>Experiences with Faculty</i> | Student-Faculty Interaction         | --   | --   | --  |
|                                 | Effective Teaching Practices        | --   | △  | --  |
| <i>Campus Environment</i>       | Quality of Interactions             | ▼  | --   | ▼   |
|                                 | Supportive Environment              | --   | --   | --  |

### Seniors

| <i>Theme</i>                    | <i>Engagement Indicator</i>         | <b>Your seniors</b><br>compared with<br>Southeast Public | <b>Your seniors</b><br>compared with<br>Carnegie Class | <b>Your seniors</b><br>compared with<br>NSSE 2013 |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| <i>Academic Challenge</i>       | Higher-Order Learning               | ▼  | --   | ▼   |
|                                 | Reflective and Integrative Learning | --   | --   | --  |
|                                 | Learning Strategies                 | ▼  | --   | --  |
|                                 | Quantitative Reasoning              | --   | --   | --  |
| <i>Learning with Peers</i>      | Collaborative Learning              | --   | --   | △   |
|                                 | Discussions with Diverse Others     | --   | △  | △   |
| <i>Experiences with Faculty</i> | Student-Faculty Interaction         | --   | △  | △   |
|                                 | Effective Teaching Practices        | --   | △  | --  |
| <i>Campus Environment</i>       | Quality of Interactions             | ▼  | --   | ▼   |
|                                 | Supportive Environment              | --   | △  | △   |

### Academic Challenge: First-year students

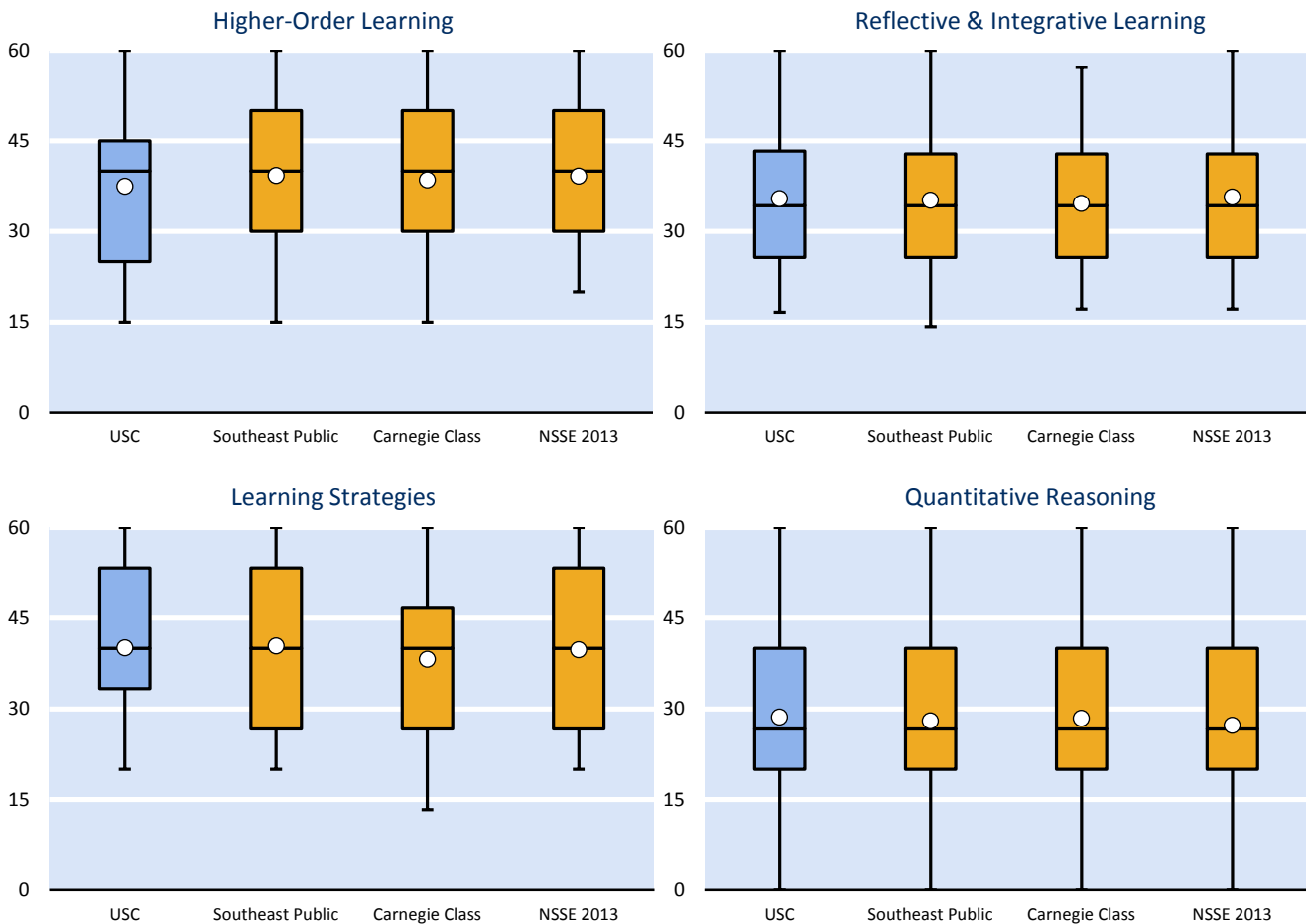
Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning*, *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

| Engagement Indicator              | USC<br>Mean | Your first-year students compared with |             |                |             |           |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                                   |             | Southeast Public                       |             | Carnegie Class |             | NSSE 2013 |             |
|                                   | Mean        | Mean                                   | Effect size | Mean           | Effect size | Mean      | Effect size |
| Higher-Order Learning             | 37.4        | 39.2                                   | -.13        | 38.5           | -.08        | 39.1      | -.12        |
| Reflective & Integrative Learning | 35.4        | 35.2                                   | .02         | 34.6           | .07         | 35.7      | -.02        |
| Learning Strategies               | 40.1        | 40.4                                   | -.02        | 38.2 *         | .13         | 39.8      | .02         |
| Quantitative Reasoning            | 28.6        | 28.0                                   | .04         | 28.4           | .01         | 27.3      | .08         |

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





































































#### 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.

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

### Summary of Indicator Items

|   | USC   | Southeast Public   | Carnegie Class   | NSSE 2013  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Higher-Order Learning</b>  |   |  |  |  |
| <i>Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized...</i>                           |   |  |  |  |
|   | %   | %  | %  | %  |
| 4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations  | 76    | 74    | 76    | 74    |
| 4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts                                     | 69    | 72    | 72    | 73    |
| 4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source   | 63    | 69    | 65    | 70    |
| 4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information  | 61    | 68    | 66    | 69    |
| <b>Reflective &amp; Integrative Learning</b>  |   |  |  |  |
| <i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>  |   |  |  |  |
| 2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments   | 56    | 54    | 55    | 56    |
| 2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues  | 55    | 50    | 50    | 53    |
| 2c. Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments  | 51    | 49    | 46    | 51    |
| 2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue   | 61    | 63    | 60    | 63    |
| 2e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective             | 62  | 66  | 63  | 66  |
| 2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept   | 63  | 63  | 64  | 66  |
| 2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge   | 76  | 76  | 77  | 78  |
| <b>Learning Strategies</b>  |   |  |  |  |
| <i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>  |   |  |  |  |
| 9a. Identified key information from reading assignments   | 84  | 81  | 78  | 81  |
| 9b. Reviewed your notes after class   | 63  | 68  | 62  | 66  |
| 9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials   | 66  | 66  | 60  | 64  |
| <b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>   |   |  |  |  |
| <i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>  |   |  |  |  |
| 6a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)             | 53  | 54  | 55  | 51  |
| 6b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.) | 40  | 39  | 39  | 38  |
| 6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information   | 43  | 38  | 39  | 37  |

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your *Institutional Report* and available on the NSSE Web site.

### Academic Challenge: Seniors

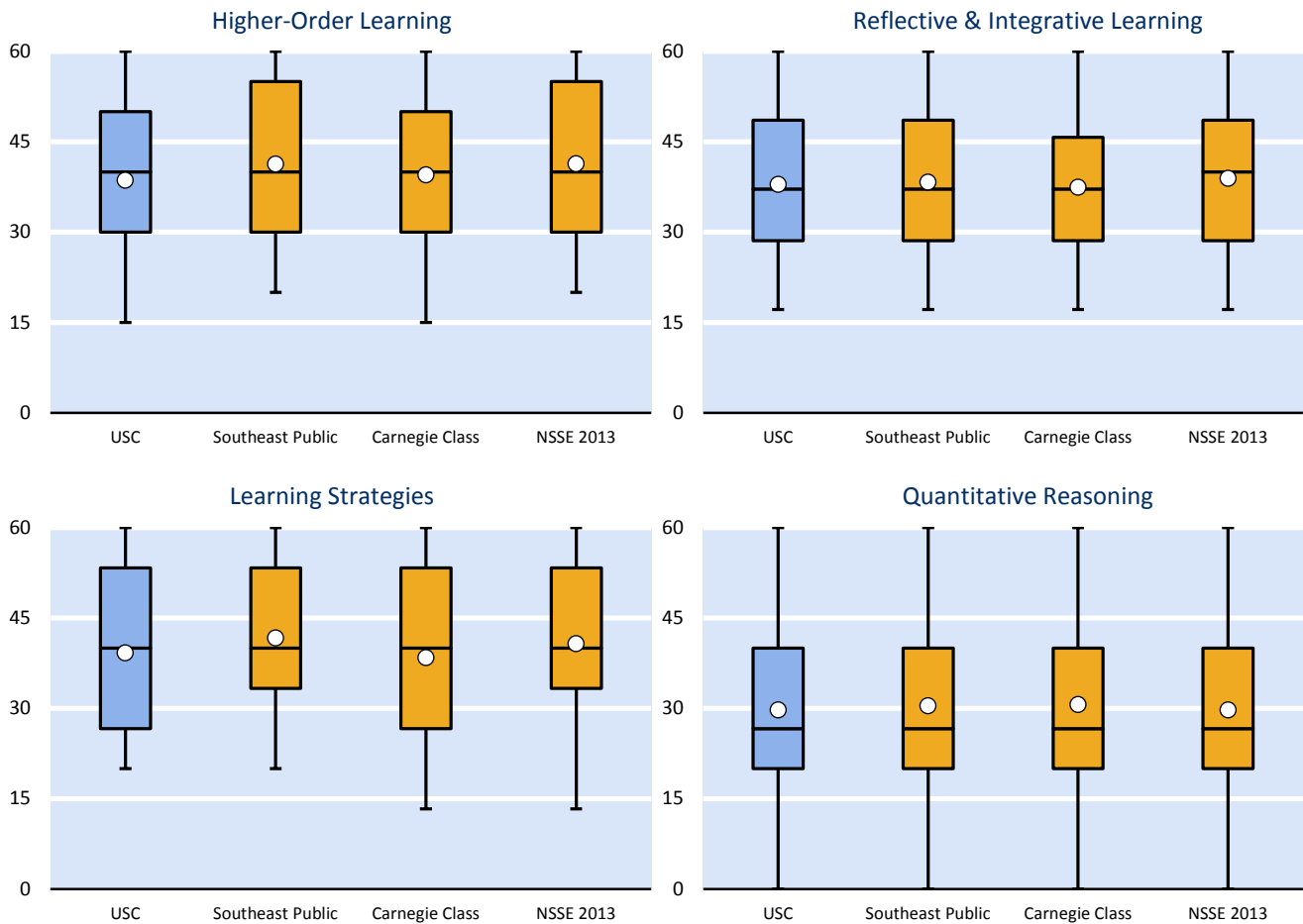
Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning*, *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

| Engagement Indicator              | USC<br>Mean | Your first-year students compared with |             |                |             |           |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                                   |             | Southeast Public                       |             | Carnegie Class |             | NSSE 2013 |             |
|                                   |             | Mean                                   | Effect size | Mean           | Effect size | Mean      | Effect size |
| Higher-Order Learning             | 38.6        | 41.3 ***                               | -.19        | 39.5           | -.06        | 41.3 ***  | -.19        |
| Reflective & Integrative Learning | 37.9        | 38.3                                   | -.03        | 37.5           | .04         | 38.9      | -.07        |
| Learning Strategies               | 39.2        | 41.7 **                                | -.17        | 38.4           | .05         | 40.7      | -.10        |
| Quantitative Reasoning            | 29.7        | 30.4                                   | -.04        | 30.6           | -.05        | 29.7      | .00         |

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





































































#### 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.

## Academic Challenge: Seniors (continued)

### Summary of Indicator Items

|   | USC   | Southeast Public   | Carnegie Class   | NSSE 2013  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Higher-Order Learning</b>  |   |  |  |  |
| <i>Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized...</i>                           |   |  |  |  |
|   | %   | %  | %  | %  |
| 4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations  | 75    | 81    | 78    | 80    |
| 4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts                                     | 73    | 77    | 75    | 78    |
| 4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source   | 67    | 71    | 64    | 72    |
| 4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information  | 66    | 71    | 67    | 73    |
| <b>Reflective &amp; Integrative Learning</b>  |   |  |  |  |
| <i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>  |   |  |  |  |
| 2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments   | 70    | 71    | 72    | 71    |
| 2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues  | 62    | 62    | 59    | 64    |
| 2c. Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments  | 58    | 52    | 49    | 56    |
| 2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue   | 66    | 65    | 61    | 67    |
| 2e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from his or her perspective             | 69  | 69  | 66  | 70  |
| 2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept   | 64  | 68  | 68  | 70  |
| 2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge   | 81  | 83  | 83  | 84  |
| <b>Learning Strategies</b>  |   |  |  |  |
| <i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>  |   |  |  |  |
| 9a. Identified key information from reading assignments   | 83  | 84  | 80  | 84  |
| 9b. Reviewed your notes after class   | 58  | 68  | 58  | 65  |
| 9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials   | 62  | 68  | 60  | 66  |
| <b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>   |   |  |  |  |
| <i>Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...</i>  |   |  |  |  |
| 6a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)             | 52  | 56  | 57  | 54  |
| 6b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.) | 44  | 45  | 45  | 44  |
| 6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information   | 45  | 45  | 46  | 44  |

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your *Institutional Report* and available on the NSSE Web site.

### Learning with Peers: First-year students

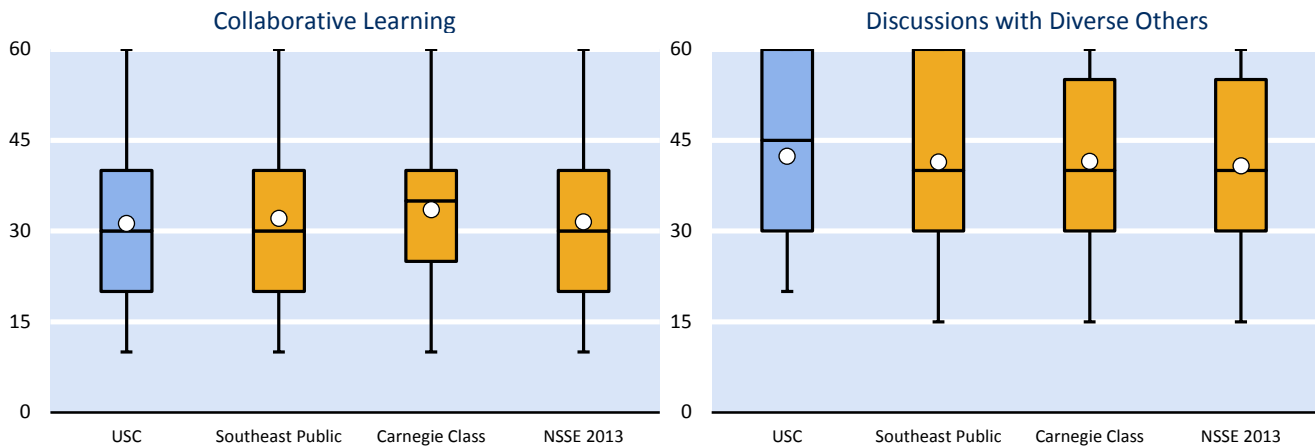
Collaborating with others in mastering difficult material and developing interpersonal and social competence prepare students to deal with complex, unscripted problems they will encounter during and after college. Two Engagement Indicators make up this theme: *Collaborative Learning* and *Discussions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

#### Mean Comparisons

| Engagement Indicator            | USC<br>Mean | Your first-year students compared with |             |                |             |           |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                                 |             | Southeast Public                       |             | Carnegie Class |             | NSSE 2013 |             |
|                                 | Mean        | Mean                                   | Effect size | Mean           | Effect size | Mean      | Effect size |
| Collaborative Learning          | 31.2        | 32.1                                   | -.06        | 33.5 **        | -.16        | 31.4      | -.02        |
| Discussions with Diverse Others | 42.3        | 41.3                                   | .06         | 41.5           | .05         | 40.7      | .10         |

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

#### 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.

#### Summary of Indicator Items

##### Collaborative Learning

Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...

|   | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|---|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1e. Asked another student to help you understand course material                            | 49  | 49               | 55             | 48        |
| 1f. Explained course material to one or more students                                       | 59  | 58               | 61             | 56        |
| 1g. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students | 50  | 49               | 53             | 48        |
| 1h. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments                            | 44  | 49               | 52             | 50        |

##### Discussions with Diverse Others

Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often" had discussions with...

|  | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|--|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 8a. People from a race or ethnicity other than your own    | 70  | 72               | 70             | 71        |
| 8b. People from an economic background other than your own | 75  | 74               | 74             | 73        |
| 8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own      | 71  | 68               | 72             | 68        |
| 8d. People with political views other than your own        | 76  | 71               | 72             | 70        |

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your *Institutional Report* and available on the NSSE Web site.



### Learning with Peers: Seniors

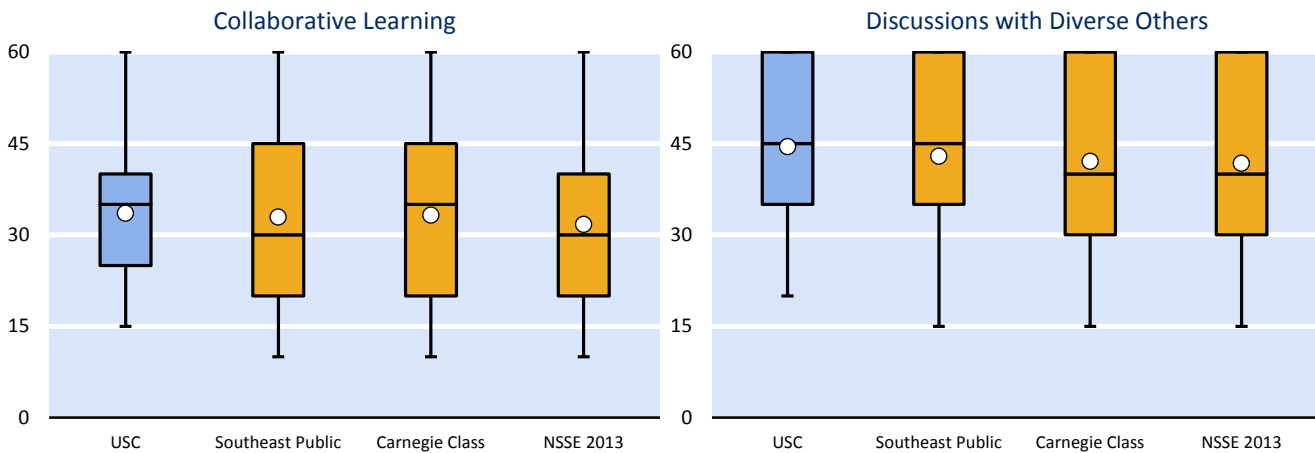
Collaborating with others in mastering difficult material and developing interpersonal and social competence prepare students to deal with complex, unscripted problems they will encounter during and after college. Two Engagement Indicators make up this theme: *Collaborative Learning* and *Discussions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

#### Mean Comparisons

| Engagement Indicator            | USC<br>Mean | Your seniors compared with |             |                |             |           |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                                 |             | Southeast Public           |             | Carnegie Class |             | NSSE 2013 |             |
|                                 |             | Mean                       | Effect size | Mean           | Effect size | Mean      | Effect size |
| Collaborative Learning          | 33.6        | 33.0                       | .04         | 33.2           | .02         | 31.7 *    | .13         |
| Discussions with Diverse Others | 44.5        | 42.9                       | .10         | 42.1 **        | .15         | 41.8 ***  | .17         |

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

#### 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.

#### Summary of Indicator Items

##### Collaborative Learning

Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...

|   | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|---|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1e. Asked another student to help you understand course material                            | 45  | 41               | 44             | 38        |
| 1f. Explained course material to one or more students                                       | 60  | 60               | 61             | 57        |
| 1g. Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course material with other students | 49  | 48               | 47             | 44        |
| 1h. Worked with other students on course projects or assignments                            | 68  | 63               | 64             | 63        |

##### Discussions with Diverse Others

Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often" had discussions with...

|  | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|--|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 8a. People from a race or ethnicity other than your own    | 78  | 75               | 71             | 72        |
| 8b. People from an economic background other than your own | 79  | 77               | 74             | 74        |
| 8c. People with religious beliefs other than your own      | 77  | 72               | 73             | 70        |
| 8d. People with political views other than your own        | 81  | 75               | 73             | 72        |

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your *Institutional Report* and available on the NSSE Web site.

### Experiences with Faculty: First-year students

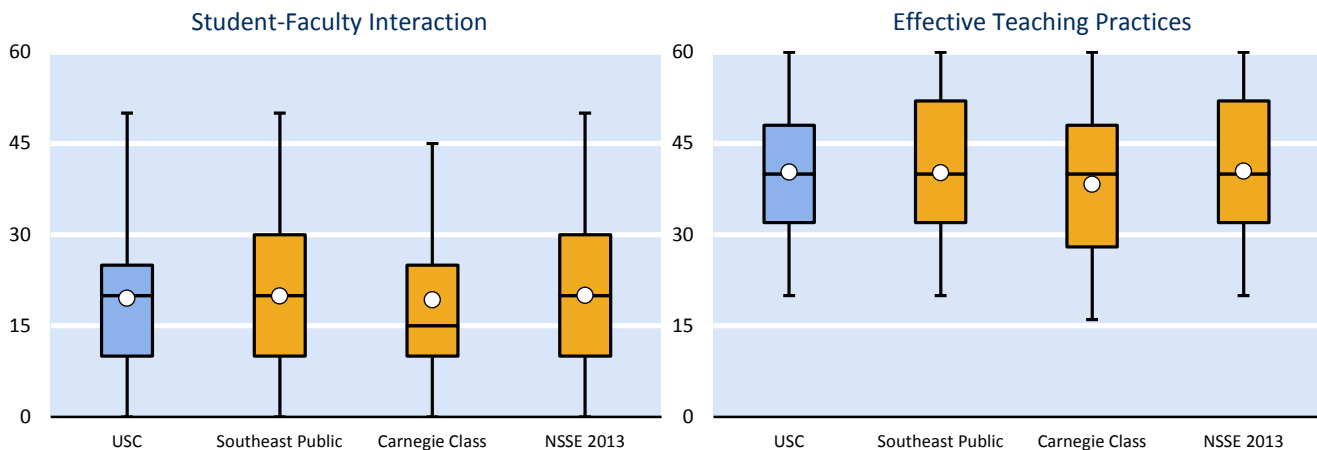
Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside of instructional settings. As a result, faculty become role models, mentors, and guides for lifelong learning. In addition, effective teaching requires that faculty deliver course 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

| Engagement Indicator         | USC<br>Mean | Your first-year students compared with |                |                        |                |                   |                |
|------------------------------|-------------|--|----------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
|                              |             | Southeast Public<br>Mean               | Effect<br>size | Carnegie Class<br>Mean | Effect<br>size | NSSE 2013<br>Mean | Effect<br>size |
| Student-Faculty Interaction  | 19.5        | 19.9                                   | -.02           | 19.2                   | .02            | 20.0              | -.03           |
| Effective Teaching Practices | 40.3        | 40.2                                   | .01            | 38.3 **                | .16            | 40.4              | -.01           |

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

#### 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.

#### Summary of Indicator Items

##### Student-Faculty Interaction

Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...

|   | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|---|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member   | 29  | 32               | 30             | 32        |
| 3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.) | 16  | 18               | 18             | 18        |
| 3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class      | 20  | 24               | 23             | 24        |
| 3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member                               | 25  | 28               | 24             | 28        |

##### Effective Teaching Practices

Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have...

|   | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|---|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements                         | 85  | 81               | 80             | 82        |
| 5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way                              | 84  | 79               | 79             | 80        |
| 5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points              | 81  | 78               | 78             | 78        |
| 5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress                        | 59  | 64               | 56             | 65        |
| 5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments | 57  | 61               | 56             | 63        |

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your *Institutional Report* and available on the NSSE Web site.

## Experiences with Faculty: Seniors

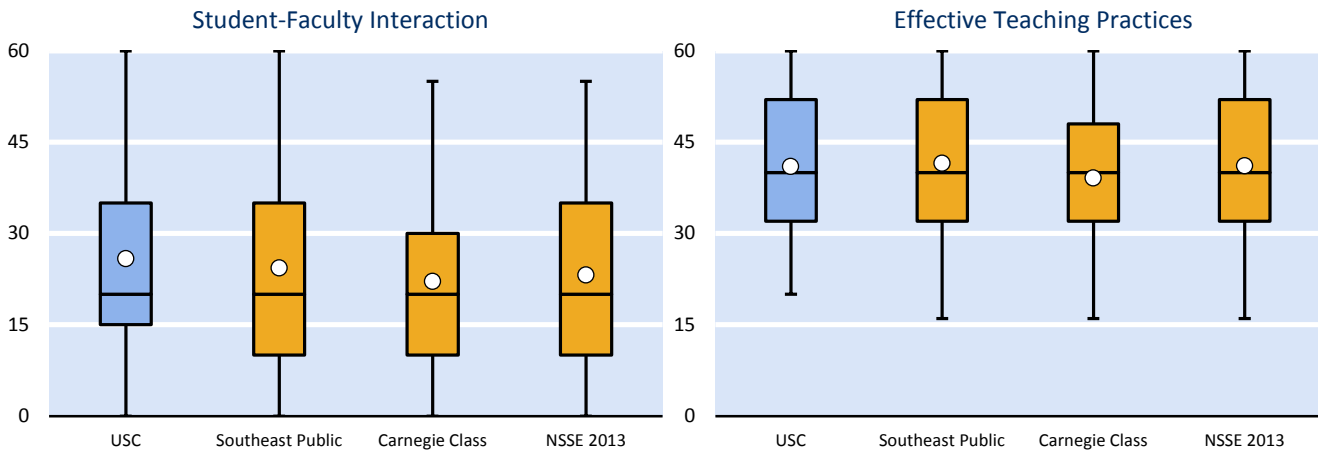
Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside of instructional settings. As a result, faculty become role models, mentors, and guides for lifelong learning. In addition, effective teaching requires that faculty deliver course 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.

### Mean Comparisons

| Engagement Indicator         | USC<br>Mean | Your seniors compared with |             |                        |             |                   |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
|                              |             | Southeast Public<br>Mean   | Effect size | Carnegie Class<br>Mean | Effect size | NSSE 2013<br>Mean | Effect size |
| Student-Faculty Interaction  | 25.8        | 24.3                       | .09         | 22.1 ***               | .24         | 23.2 **           | .16         |
| Effective Teaching Practices | 41.0        | 41.5                       | -.04        | 39.1 **                | .14         | 41.1              | -.01        |

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

### 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.

### Summary of Indicator Items

#### Student-Faculty Interaction

Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...

|   | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|---|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 3a. Talked about career plans with a faculty member   | 46  | 43               | 37             | 42        |
| 3b. Worked w/faculty on activities other than coursework (committees, student groups, etc.) | 32  | 27               | 25             | 25        |
| 3c. Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class      | 34  | 35               | 29             | 32        |
| 3d. Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member                               | 35  | 35               | 27             | 32        |

#### Effective Teaching Practices

Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much instructors have...

|   | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|---|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 5a. Clearly explained course goals and requirements                         | 86  | 83               | 81             | 83        |
| 5b. Taught course sessions in an organized way                              | 84  | 81               | 80             | 82        |
| 5c. Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points              | 84  | 80               | 80             | 79        |
| 5d. Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress                        | 54  | 62               | 54             | 62        |
| 5e. Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments | 69  | 69               | 61             | 68        |

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your *Institutional Report* and available on the NSSE Web site.

### Campus Environment: First-year students

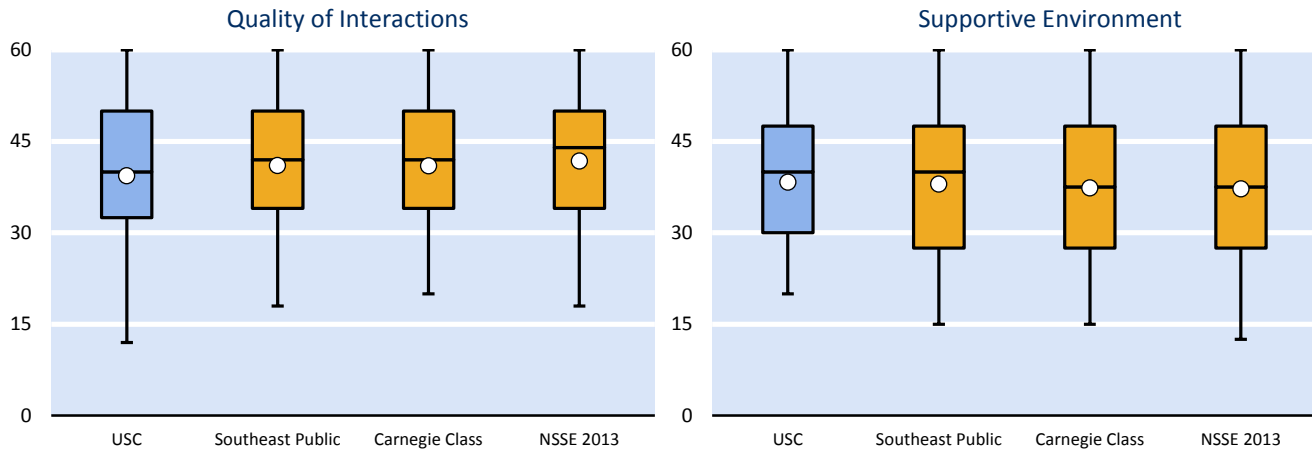
Students benefit and are more satisfied in supportive settings that cultivate positive relationships among students, faculty, and staff. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Quality of Interactions* and *Supportive Environment*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your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

#### Mean Comparisons

| Engagement Indicator    | USC<br>Mean | Your first-year students compared with |             |                |             |           |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                         |             | Southeast Public                       |             | Carnegie Class |             | NSSE 2013 |             |
|                         |             | Mean                                   | Effect size | Mean           | Effect size | Mean      | Effect size |
| Quality of Interactions | 39.3        | 41.0 *                                 | -.13        | 41.0           | -.14        | 41.7 **   | -.19        |
| Supportive Environment  | 38.3        | 38.0                                   | .02         | 37.4           | .07         | 37.2      | .08         |

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

#### 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.

#### Summary of Indicator Items

##### Quality of Interactions

Percentage rating a 6 or 7 on a scale from 1="Poor" to 7="Excellent" their interactions with...

|  | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|--|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 13a. Students  | 61  | 59               | 60             | 60        |
| 13b. Academic advisors   | 38  | 47               | 47             | 49        |
| 13c. Faculty   | 42  | 48               | 44             | 51        |
| 13d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.) | 39  | 43               | 41             | 44        |
| 13e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)     | 29  | 40               | 37             | 42        |

##### Supportive Environment

Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much the institution emphasized...

|  | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|--|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 14b. Providing support to help students succeed academically                                     | 80  | 78               | 77             | 78        |
| 14c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)                   | 75  | 79               | 77             | 78        |
| 14d. Encouraging contact among students from diff. backgrounds (soc., racial/eth., relig., etc.) | 56  | 57               | 57             | 58        |
| 14e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially   | 76  | 74               | 75             | 72        |
| 14f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)   | 81  | 74               | 76             | 72        |
| 14g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)                  | 45  | 44               | 42             | 44        |
| 14h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)             | 79  | 72               | 73             | 68        |
| 14i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues               | 58  | 55               | 54             | 53        |

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your *Institutional Report* and available on the NSSE Web site.

### Campus Environment: Seniors

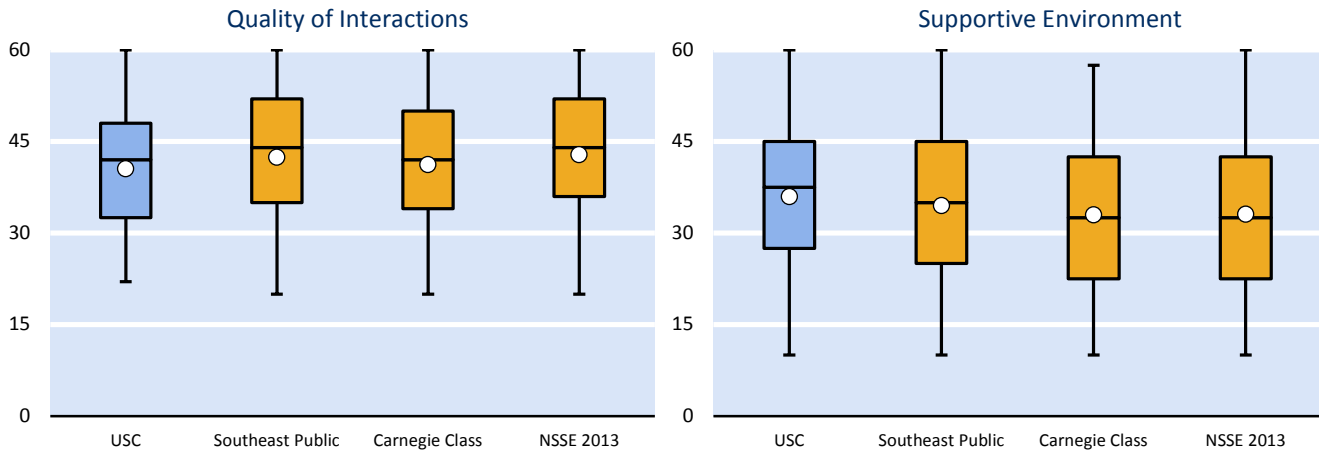
Students benefit and are more satisfied in supportive settings that cultivate positive relationships among students, faculty, and staff. Two Engagement Indicators investigate this theme: *Quality of Interactions* and *Supportive Environment*. Below are three views of your results alongside those of your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

#### Mean Comparisons

| Engagement Indicator    | USC<br>Mean | Your seniors compared with |             |                |             |           |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                         |             | Southeast Public           |             | Carnegie Class |             | NSSE 2013 |             |
|                         |             | Mean                       | Effect size | Mean           | Effect size | Mean      | Effect size |
| Quality of Interactions | 40.5        | 42.4 **                    | -.16        | 41.2           | -.06        | 42.8 ***  | -.19        |
| Supportive Environment  | 36.0        | 34.5                       | .10         | 32.9 ***       | .22         | 33.0 ***  | .20         |

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

#### 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.

#### Summary of Indicator Items

##### Quality of Interactions

Percentage rating a 6 or 7 on a scale from 1="Poor" to 7="Excellent" their interactions with...

|  | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|--|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 13a. Students  | 68  | 65               | 63             | 65        |
| 13b. Academic advisors   | 45  | 52               | 47             | 53        |
| 13c. Faculty   | 52  | 60               | 54             | 61        |
| 13d. Student services staff (career services, student activities, housing, etc.) | 35  | 42               | 38             | 42        |
| 13e. Other administrative staff and offices (registrar, financial aid, etc.)     | 30  | 41               | 36             | 43        |

##### Supportive Environment

Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much the institution emphasized...

|  | USC | Southeast Public | Carnegie Class | NSSE 2013 |
|--|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 14b. Providing support to help students succeed academically                                     | 76  | 73               | 69             | 72        |
| 14c. Using learning support services (tutoring services, writing center, etc.)                   | 69  | 68               | 63             | 67        |
| 14d. Encouraging contact among students from diff. backgrounds (soc., racial/eth., relig., etc.) | 53  | 52               | 48             | 52        |
| 14e. Providing opportunities to be involved socially   | 75  | 70               | 68             | 65        |
| 14f. Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, counseling, etc.)   | 73  | 67               | 65             | 62        |
| 14g. Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)                  | 36  | 32               | 28             | 32        |
| 14h. Attending campus activities and events (performing arts, athletic events, etc.)             | 72  | 64               | 64             | 56        |
| 14i. Attending events that address important social, economic, or political issues               | 48  | 49               | 47             | 45        |

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your *Institutional Report* and available on the NSSE Web site.

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

The results below compare the engagement of your first-year and senior students with those attending two groups of institutions identified by NSSE for their high average levels of student engagement:

- (a) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 50% of all current-year NSSE institutions, and
- (b) institutions with average scores placing them in the top 10% of all current-year 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 to that of the high-performing group. However, the absence of a significant difference between your score and that of the high-performing group does not 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      |                                     | USC<br>Mean | Your first-year students compared with |             |   |                   |             |   |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|---|-------------------|-------------|---|
| Theme                    | Engagement Indicator                |             | NSSE 2013 Top 50%                      |             |   | NSSE 2013 Top 10% |             |   |
|                          |                                     |             | Mean                                   | Effect size | ✓ | Mean              | Effect size | ✓ |
| Academic Challenge       | Higher-Order Learning               | 37.4        | 40.9 ***                               | -.25        |   | 42.7 ***          | -.39        |   |
|                          | Reflective and Integrative Learning | 35.4        | 37.6 **                                | -.17        |   | 39.4 ***          | -.32        |   |
|                          | Learning Strategies                 | 40.1        | 41.9 *                                 | -.13        |   | 44.3 ***          | -.30        |   |
|                          | Quantitative Reasoning              | 28.6        | 28.8                                   | -.01        | ✓ | 30.6              | -.12        | ✓ |
| Learning with Peers      | Collaborative Learning              | 31.2        | 34.5 ***                               | -.24        |   | 37.1 ***          | -.43        |   |
|                          | Discussions with Diverse Others     | 42.3        | 43.2                                   | -.06        | ✓ | 45.7 ***          | -.22        |   |
| Experiences with Faculty | Student-Faculty Interaction         | 19.5        | 23.4 ***                               | -.26        |   | 26.7 ***          | -.44        |   |
|                          | Effective Teaching Practices        | 40.3        | 42.8 ***                               | -.19        |   | 44.7 ***          | -.32        |   |
| Campus Environment       | Quality of Interactions             | 39.3        | 44.3 ***                               | -.43        |   | 46.3 ***          | -.57        |   |
|                          | Supportive Environment              | 38.3        | 39.6                                   | -.10        | ✓ | 41.4 ***          | -.24        |   |
| Seniors                  |                                     | USC<br>Mean | Your seniors compared with             |             |   |                   |             |   |
| Theme                    | Engagement Indicator                |             | NSSE 2013 Top 50%                      |             |   | NSSE 2013 Top 10% |             |   |
|                          |                                     |             | Mean                                   | Effect size | ✓ | Mean              | Effect size | ✓ |
| Academic Challenge       | Higher-Order Learning               | 38.6        | 43.5 ***                               | -.36        |   | 45.3 ***          | -.49        |   |
|                          | Reflective and Integrative Learning | 37.9        | 41.1 ***                               | -.25        |   | 43.1 ***          | -.41        |   |
|                          | Learning Strategies                 | 39.2        | 43.2 ***                               | -.28        |   | 45.4 ***          | -.44        |   |
|                          | Quantitative Reasoning              | 29.7        | 31.2                                   | -.08        | ✓ | 32.5 **           | -.17        |   |
| Learning with Peers      | Collaborative Learning              | 33.6        | 35.0 *                                 | -.10        |   | 37.5 ***          | -.29        |   |
|                          | Discussions with Diverse Others     | 44.5        | 44.1                                   | .02         | ✓ | 45.9              | -.09        | ✓ |
| Experiences with Faculty | Student-Faculty Interaction         | 25.8        | 29.7 ***                               | -.24        |   | 34.6 ***          | -.55        |   |
|                          | Effective Teaching Practices        | 41.0        | 43.3 ***                               | -.17        |   | 45.3 ***          | -.32        |   |
| Campus Environment       | Quality of Interactions             | 40.5        | 45.8 ***                               | -.46        |   | 47.6 ***          | -.62        |   |
|                          | Supportive Environment              | 36.0        | 36.2                                   | -.02        | ✓ | 39.5 ***          | -.27        |   |

Notes: Precision-weighted means (produced by Hierarchical Linear Modeling) were used to determine the top 50% and top 10% institutions for each Engagement Indicator, separately for first-year and senior students. 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.

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

#### Detailed Statistics: First-year students

|  | Mean statistics |                 |                  | Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores |      |      |      |      | Comparison results           |            |                   |                          |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
|  | Mean            | SD <sup>b</sup> | SEM <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> |
| <b>Academic Challenge</b>                  |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| <b>Higher-Order Learning</b>               |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 254)                              | 37.4            | 14.0            | .88              | 15                             | 25   | 40   | 45   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 39.2            | 14.3            | .21              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 50   | 60   | 5,049                        | -1.8       | .052              | -.125                    |
| Carnegie Class                             | 38.5            | 13.5            | .21              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 50   | 60   | 4,496                        | -1.1       | .225              | -.078                    |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 39.1            | 13.8            | .08              | 20                             | 30   | 40   | 50   | 60   | 31,116                       | -1.7       | .050              | -.123                    |
| Top 50%                                    | 40.9            | 13.6            | .11              | 20                             | 30   | 40   | 50   | 60   | 14,311                       | -3.4       | .000              | -.251                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 42.7            | 13.7            | .24              | 20                             | 35   | 40   | 55   | 60   | 3,497                        | -5.3       | .000              | -.387                    |
| <b>Reflective and Integrative Learning</b> |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 263)                              | 35.4            | 13.4            | .83              | 17                             | 26   | 34   | 43   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 35.2            | 12.9            | .18              | 14                             | 26   | 34   | 43   | 60   | 5,261                        | .3         | .749              | .020                     |
| Carnegie Class                             | 34.6            | 12.3            | .18              | 17                             | 26   | 34   | 43   | 57   | 289                          | .8         | .337              | .066                     |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 35.7            | 12.6            | .07              | 17                             | 26   | 34   | 43   | 60   | 266                          | -.3        | .751              | -.021                    |
| Top 50%                                    | 37.6            | 12.5            | .11              | 17                             | 29   | 37   | 46   | 60   | 271                          | -2.2       | .010              | -.174                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 39.4            | 12.5            | .21              | 20                             | 31   | 40   | 49   | 60   | 3,724                        | -4.0       | .000              | -.317                    |
| <b>Learning Strategies</b>                 |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 242)                              | 40.1            | 13.5            | .87              | 20                             | 33   | 40   | 53   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 40.4            | 14.3            | .22              | 20                             | 27   | 40   | 53   | 60   | 272                          | -.3        | .715              | -.023                    |
| Carnegie Class                             | 38.2            | 14.1            | .23              | 13                             | 27   | 40   | 47   | 60   | 275                          | 1.9        | .035              | .135                     |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 39.8            | 14.2            | .08              | 20                             | 27   | 40   | 53   | 60   | 28,974                       | .3         | .719              | .023                     |
| Top 50%                                    | 41.9            | 14.1            | .13              | 20                             | 33   | 40   | 53   | 60   | 252                          | -1.8       | .043              | -.126                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 44.3            | 14.2            | .27              | 20                             | 33   | 47   | 60   | 60   | 290                          | -4.2       | .000              | -.299                    |
| <b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>              |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 260)                              | 28.6            | 17.3            | 1.07             | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 28.0            | 16.7            | .24              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   | 5,112                        | .6         | .571              | .036                     |
| Carnegie Class                             | 28.4            | 15.8            | .24              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   | 286                          | .2         | .835              | .014                     |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 27.3            | 16.4            | .09              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   | 263                          | 1.4        | .206              | .083                     |
| Top 50%                                    | 28.8            | 16.3            | .12              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   | 17,790                       | -.2        | .845              | -.012                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 30.6            | 16.1            | .27              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   | 293                          | -2.0       | .071              | -.124                    |
| <b>Learning with Peers</b>                 |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| <b>Collaborative Learning</b>              |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 269)                              | 31.2            | 14.2            | .87              | 10                             | 20   | 30   | 40   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 32.1            | 14.2            | .20              | 10                             | 20   | 30   | 40   | 60   | 5,429                        | -.9        | .332              | -.061                    |
| Carnegie Class                             | 33.5            | 13.9            | .21              | 10                             | 25   | 35   | 40   | 60   | 4,818                        | -2.3       | .009              | -.163                    |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 31.4            | 14.2            | .08              | 10                             | 20   | 30   | 40   | 60   | 33,152                       | -.2        | .775              | -.018                    |
| Top 50%                                    | 34.5            | 13.7            | .11              | 15                             | 25   | 35   | 45   | 60   | 14,906                       | -3.3       | .000              | -.237                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 37.1            | 13.6            | .25              | 15                             | 25   | 35   | 45   | 60   | 3,227                        | -5.9       | .000              | -.431                    |
| <b>Discussions with Diverse Others</b>     |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 244)                              | 42.3            | 15.6            | 1.00             | 20                             | 30   | 45   | 60   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 41.3            | 16.2            | .24              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 60   | 60   | 4,666                        | 1.0        | .364              | .060                     |
| Carnegie Class                             | 41.5            | 15.4            | .24              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 55   | 60   | 4,215                        | .8         | .412              | .054                     |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 40.7            | 16.0            | .09              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 55   | 60   | 29,316                       | 1.6        | .125              | .098                     |
| Top 50%                                    | 43.2            | 15.4            | .13              | 20                             | 35   | 45   | 60   | 60   | 14,302                       | -.9        | .361              | -.059                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 45.7            | 15.0            | .28              | 20                             | 40   | 50   | 60   | 60   | 3,149                        | -3.4       | .001              | -.225                    |



#### Detailed Statistics: First-year students

|                                     | Mean statistics |                 |                  | Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores |      |      |      |      | Comparison results           |            |                   |                          |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
|                                     | Mean            | SD <sup>b</sup> | SEM <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> |
| <b>Experiences with Faculty</b>     |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| <b>Student-Faculty Interaction</b>  |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 254)                       | 19.5            | 14.5            | .91              | 0                              | 10   | 20   | 25   | 50   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                    | 19.9            | 14.7            | .21              | 0                              | 10   | 20   | 30   | 50   | 5,151                        | -.3        | .714              | -.024                    |
| Carnegie Class                      | 19.2            | 14.0            | .21              | 0                              | 10   | 15   | 25   | 45   | 4,558                        | .3         | .741              | .021                     |
| NSSE 2013                           | 20.0            | 14.5            | .08              | 0                              | 10   | 20   | 30   | 50   | 31,735                       | -.5        | .601              | -.033                    |
| Top 50%                             | 23.4            | 15.0            | .15              | 0                              | 10   | 20   | 35   | 55   | 10,283                       | -3.9       | .000              | -.257                    |
| Top 10%                             | 26.7            | 16.4            | .42              | 0                              | 15   | 25   | 40   | 60   | 368                          | -7.1       | .000              | -.440                    |
| <b>Effective Teaching Practices</b> |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 262)                       | 40.3            | 11.8            | .73              | 20                             | 32   | 40   | 48   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                    | 40.2            | 13.5            | .19              | 20                             | 32   | 40   | 52   | 60   | 299                          | .1         | .898              | .007                     |
| Carnegie Class                      | 38.3            | 12.7            | .19              | 16                             | 28   | 40   | 48   | 60   | 298                          | 2.0        | .008              | .160                     |
| NSSE 2013                           | 40.4            | 13.3            | .07              | 20                             | 32   | 40   | 52   | 60   | 266                          | -.1        | .852              | -.010                    |
| Top 50%                             | 42.8            | 13.3            | .13              | 20                             | 35   | 44   | 56   | 60   | 276                          | -2.5       | .001              | -.189                    |
| Top 10%                             | 44.7            | 13.8            | .26              | 20                             | 36   | 48   | 60   | 60   | 329                          | -4.4       | .000              | -.320                    |
| <b>Campus Environment</b>           |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| <b>Quality of Interactions</b>      |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 238)                       | 39.3            | 13.6            | .88              | 12                             | 33   | 40   | 50   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                    | 41.0            | 12.7            | .19              | 18                             | 34   | 42   | 50   | 60   | 4,498                        | -1.7       | .046              | -.133                    |
| Carnegie Class                      | 41.0            | 11.9            | .19              | 20                             | 34   | 42   | 50   | 60   | 261                          | -1.6       | .073              | -.136                    |
| NSSE 2013                           | 41.7            | 12.5            | .07              | 18                             | 34   | 44   | 50   | 60   | 28,048                       | -2.4       | .003              | -.191                    |
| Top 50%                             | 44.3            | 11.6            | .12              | 22                             | 38   | 46   | 53   | 60   | 246                          | -5.0       | .000              | -.427                    |
| Top 10%                             | 46.3            | 12.0            | .23              | 23                             | 40   | 48   | 56   | 60   | 272                          | -6.9       | .000              | -.569                    |
| <b>Supportive Environment</b>       |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 228)                       | 38.3            | 12.8            | .85              | 20                             | 30   | 40   | 48   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                    | 38.0            | 14.0            | .22              | 15                             | 28   | 40   | 48   | 60   | 259                          | .3         | .719              | .023                     |
| Carnegie Class                      | 37.4            | 13.1            | .22              | 15                             | 28   | 38   | 48   | 60   | 3,874                        | .9         | .301              | .071                     |
| NSSE 2013                           | 37.2            | 14.0            | .09              | 13                             | 28   | 38   | 48   | 60   | 232                          | 1.1        | .192              | .080                     |
| Top 50%                             | 39.6            | 13.2            | .12              | 18                             | 30   | 40   | 50   | 60   | 12,600                       | -1.3       | .143              | -.098                    |
| Top 10%                             | 41.4            | 12.9            | .26              | 20                             | 33   | 43   | 53   | 60   | 2,709                        | -3.1       | .000              | -.244                    |

a. Results weighted by gender 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 is the range of values that is 95% likely to contain the true population mean, equal to the sample mean +/- 1.96 \* SEM.

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 <sup>d</sup> scores |      |      |      |      | Comparison results           |            |                   |                          |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
|  | Mean            | SD <sup>b</sup> | SEM <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> |
| <b>Academic Challenge</b>                  |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| <b>Higher-Order Learning</b>               |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 342)                              | 38.6            | 14.1            | .76              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 50   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 41.3            | 14.3            | .15              | 20                             | 30   | 40   | 55   | 60   | 9,344                        | -2.7       | .001              | -.186                    |
| Carnegie Class                             | 39.5            | 14.1            | .16              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 50   | 60   | 8,495                        | -.9        | .268              | -.061                    |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 41.3            | 14.0            | .06              | 20                             | 30   | 40   | 55   | 60   | 62,310                       | -2.7       | .000              | -.193                    |
| Top 50%                                    | 43.5            | 13.7            | .09              | 20                             | 35   | 40   | 55   | 60   | 24,313                       | -4.9       | .000              | -.356                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 45.3            | 13.6            | .16              | 20                             | 40   | 45   | 60   | 60   | 7,347                        | -6.6       | .000              | -.488                    |
| <b>Reflective and Integrative Learning</b> |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 356)                              | 37.9            | 13.6            | .72              | 17                             | 29   | 37   | 49   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 38.3            | 13.2            | .14              | 17                             | 29   | 37   | 49   | 60   | 9,726                        | -.4        | .619              | -.027                    |
| Carnegie Class                             | 37.5            | 13.0            | .14              | 17                             | 29   | 37   | 46   | 60   | 8,803                        | .5         | .489              | .037                     |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 38.9            | 13.0            | .05              | 17                             | 29   | 40   | 49   | 60   | 64,701                       | -1.0       | .158              | -.075                    |
| Top 50%                                    | 41.1            | 12.6            | .08              | 20                             | 31   | 40   | 51   | 60   | 24,080                       | -3.2       | .000              | -.250                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 43.1            | 12.6            | .16              | 20                             | 34   | 43   | 54   | 60   | 6,738                        | -5.1       | .000              | -.405                    |
| <b>Learning Strategies</b>                 |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 321)                              | 39.2            | 14.0            | .78              | 20                             | 27   | 40   | 53   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 41.7            | 14.7            | .16              | 20                             | 33   | 40   | 53   | 60   | 8,729                        | -2.5       | .003              | -.171                    |
| Carnegie Class                             | 38.4            | 14.8            | .17              | 13                             | 27   | 40   | 53   | 60   | 7,950                        | .8         | .346              | .054                     |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 40.7            | 14.7            | .06              | 13                             | 33   | 40   | 53   | 60   | 59,247                       | -1.5       | .062              | -.105                    |
| Top 50%                                    | 43.2            | 14.4            | .09              | 20                             | 33   | 40   | 60   | 60   | 28,360                       | -4.0       | .000              | -.277                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 45.4            | 14.0            | .15              | 20                             | 40   | 47   | 60   | 60   | 8,606                        | -6.2       | .000              | -.443                    |
| <b>Quantitative Reasoning</b>              |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 346)                              | 29.7            | 17.2            | .93              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 30.4            | 17.5            | .18              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   | 9,505                        | -.7        | .479              | -.039                    |
| Carnegie Class                             | 30.6            | 17.1            | .19              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   | 8,596                        | -.9        | .347              | -.052                    |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 29.7            | 17.3            | .07              | 0                              | 20   | 27   | 40   | 60   | 63,437                       | .0         | .989              | .001                     |
| Top 50%                                    | 31.2            | 17.2            | .09              | 0                              | 20   | 33   | 40   | 60   | 35,266                       | -1.4       | .120              | -.084                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 32.5            | 17.0            | .17              | 0                              | 20   | 33   | 40   | 60   | 9,935                        | -2.8       | .002              | -.166                    |
| <b>Learning with Peers</b>                 |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| <b>Collaborative Learning</b>              |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 364)                              | 33.6            | 13.6            | .71              | 15                             | 25   | 35   | 40   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 33.0            | 14.6            | .15              | 10                             | 20   | 30   | 45   | 60   | 9,911                        | .6         | .425              | .043                     |
| Carnegie Class                             | 33.2            | 14.6            | .16              | 10                             | 20   | 35   | 45   | 60   | 9,005                        | .4         | .650              | .024                     |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 31.7            | 14.6            | .06              | 10                             | 20   | 30   | 40   | 60   | 65,458                       | 1.9        | .015              | .128                     |
| Top 50%                                    | 35.0            | 13.8            | .09              | 15                             | 25   | 35   | 45   | 60   | 26,772                       | -1.4       | .047              | -.105                    |
| Top 10%                                    | 37.5            | 13.5            | .21              | 15                             | 25   | 40   | 50   | 60   | 4,360                        | -3.9       | .000              | -.291                    |
| <b>Discussions with Diverse Others</b>     |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 325)                              | 44.5            | 14.6            | .81              | 20                             | 35   | 45   | 60   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                           | 42.9            | 16.1            | .17              | 15                             | 35   | 45   | 60   | 60   | 355                          | 1.6        | .058              | .099                     |
| Carnegie Class                             | 42.1            | 15.7            | .18              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 60   | 60   | 8,025                        | 2.4        | .007              | .152                     |
| NSSE 2013                                  | 41.8            | 16.1            | .07              | 15                             | 30   | 40   | 60   | 60   | 328                          | 2.7        | .001              | .169                     |
| Top 50%                                    | 44.1            | 15.9            | .09              | 20                             | 35   | 45   | 60   | 60   | 332                          | .4         | .637              | .024                     |
| Top 10%                                    | 45.9            | 15.7            | .16              | 20                             | 40   | 50   | 60   | 60   | 350                          | -1.4       | .091              | -.090                    |

#### Detailed Statistics: Seniors

|                                     | Mean statistics |                 |                  | Percentile <sup>d</sup> scores |      |      |      |      | Comparison results           |            |                   |                          |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
|                                     | Mean            | SD <sup>b</sup> | SEM <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> |
| <b>Experiences with Faculty</b>     |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| <b>Student-Faculty Interaction</b>  |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 351)                       | 25.8            | 16.2            | .86              | 0                              | 15   | 20   | 35   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                    | 24.3            | 16.7            | .17              | 0                              | 10   | 20   | 35   | 60   | 9,531                        | 1.5        | .099              | .090                     |
| Carnegie Class                      | 22.1            | 15.6            | .17              | 0                              | 10   | 20   | 30   | 55   | 8,643                        | 3.7        | .000              | .239                     |
| NSSE 2013                           | 23.2            | 16.3            | .06              | 0                              | 10   | 20   | 35   | 55   | 63,475                       | 2.6        | .002              | .162                     |
| Top 50%                             | 29.7            | 16.1            | .14              | 5                              | 20   | 30   | 40   | 60   | 13,632                       | -3.8       | .000              | -.239                    |
| Top 10%                             | 34.6            | 16.0            | .40              | 10                             | 20   | 35   | 45   | 60   | 1,953                        | -8.7       | .000              | -.546                    |
| <b>Effective Teaching Practices</b> |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 351)                       | 41.0            | 12.3            | .66              | 20                             | 32   | 40   | 52   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                    | 41.5            | 13.9            | .14              | 16                             | 32   | 40   | 52   | 60   | 384                          | -.5        | .421              | -.039                    |
| Carnegie Class                      | 39.1            | 13.2            | .14              | 16                             | 32   | 40   | 48   | 60   | 384                          | 1.9        | .006              | .141                     |
| NSSE 2013                           | 41.1            | 13.8            | .05              | 16                             | 32   | 40   | 52   | 60   | 355                          | -.1        | .852              | -.009                    |
| Top 50%                             | 43.3            | 13.7            | .09              | 20                             | 36   | 44   | 56   | 60   | 363                          | -2.3       | .001              | -.168                    |
| Top 10%                             | 45.3            | 13.5            | .21              | 20                             | 36   | 48   | 60   | 60   | 425                          | -4.3       | .000              | -.323                    |
| <b>Campus Environment</b>           |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| <b>Quality of Interactions</b>      |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 321)                       | 40.5            | 11.2            | .62              | 22                             | 33   | 42   | 48   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                    | 42.4            | 12.1            | .13              | 20                             | 35   | 44   | 52   | 60   | 8,504                        | -1.9       | .005              | -.159                    |
| Carnegie Class                      | 41.2            | 11.5            | .13              | 20                             | 34   | 42   | 50   | 60   | 7,667                        | -.7        | .306              | -.058                    |
| NSSE 2013                           | 42.8            | 11.9            | .05              | 20                             | 36   | 44   | 52   | 60   | 57,129                       | -2.3       | .001              | -.192                    |
| Top 50%                             | 45.8            | 11.5            | .08              | 24                             | 40   | 48   | 55   | 60   | 19,229                       | -5.3       | .000              | -.458                    |
| Top 10%                             | 47.6            | 11.6            | .16              | 24                             | 42   | 50   | 58   | 60   | 5,777                        | -7.1       | .000              | -.617                    |
| <b>Supportive Environment</b>       |                 |                 |                  |                                |      |      |      |      |                              |            |                   |                          |
| USC (N = 309)                       | 36.0            | 13.7            | .78              | 10                             | 28   | 38   | 45   | 60   |                              |            |                   |                          |
| Southeast Public                    | 34.5            | 14.5            | .16              | 10                             | 25   | 35   | 45   | 60   | 8,252                        | 1.5        | .076              | .103                     |
| Carnegie Class                      | 32.9            | 13.8            | .16              | 10                             | 23   | 33   | 43   | 58   | 7,537                        | 3.0        | .000              | .218                     |
| NSSE 2013                           | 33.0            | 14.4            | .06              | 10                             | 23   | 33   | 43   | 60   | 56,586                       | 2.9        | .000              | .202                     |
| Top 50%                             | 36.2            | 13.7            | .10              | 13                             | 28   | 38   | 45   | 60   | 21,067                       | -.2        | .787              | -.015                    |
| Top 10%                             | 39.5            | 13.0            | .24              | 18                             | 30   | 40   | 50   | 60   | 3,302                        | -3.5       | .000              | -.268                    |

a. Results weighted by gender 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 is the range of values that is 95% likely to contain the true population mean, equal to the sample mean +/- 1.96 \* SEM.

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.