

Results of the National Survey of Student Engagement



January 2012

Table of Contents

| Introduction | |
|-------------------------|----|
| 2011 NSSE Results | 4 |
| Response Rate | 4 |
| Student Characteristics | |
| Benchmarks | 8 |
| Conclusion | 18 |
| Next Steps | 18 |
| References | 19 |
| Appendices | 20 |

Introduction

This report provides an overview of the University of Toronto (U of T) findings from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) which was administered in 2011. U of T participated in NSSE in 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2011 along with all Ontario universities and many Canadian and US universities.

U of T collects a range of data on student engagement. The four years of NSSE survey results add to this rich source of information, particularly to our data on our internal progress over time. This report focuses primarily on this internal progress with some peer comparisons where they are relevant in understanding our results. Benchmark reports are contained in the appendices.

The report describes the NSSE survey, U of T's interpretation and use of the results, and our progress in key areas that we have identified as institutional priorities in enhancing our students' experience.

The Context for NSSE: Student Experience Priorities at the University of Toronto

The University of Toronto's long term planning framework, *Towards 2030*, formed the basis for a broad consultation that examined issues including enhancing the student experience. Recommendations in the President's Synthesis Report included expanding learning communities, providing more small class experiences and group projects, increasing communication between students and faculty both inside and outside the classroom, providing more opportunities for undergraduate students to work with faculty and graduate students on research projects, and providing international experiences including study abroad programs. Towards 2030: Synthesis Report is available online at: http://www.towards2030.utoronto.ca/synth.html.

In 2010, the Vice-Provost, Students initiated a tri-campus, qualitative assessment project to drill down into some areas of the undergraduate student experience that warranted further exploration based on results from former NSSE surveys and other student engagement research. This extensive assessment involved a series of 38 focus groups, involving 367 students from first- and second-entry faculties on all three campuses with the results outlined in a comprehensive report, *In Their Own Words: Understanding the Undergraduate Student Experience at the University of Toronto*. In 2011, the Council on Student Experience issued a response to the focus group report titled, *Response to In Their Own Words: Best practices & strategies for enhancing the student experience at the University of Toronto*. It contained an extensive set of recommendations including: the development of a co-curricular program and record, increasing mentorship opportunities, enhancing orientation and transition programming, increasing opportunities for student-faculty interaction and collaborating with our students in communicating key messages. This report is available online at http://www.viceprovoststudents.utoronto.ca/intheirownwords.

About the National Survey of Student Engagement

The NSSE survey was developed in 1999 by the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research to assess the quality of the educational experience. The survey was launched in 2000. Since that time, nearly 1,500 four-year colleges and universities in the US and Canada have participated in NSSE. In 2011, 683 U.S. and 68 Canadian institutions participated including all 21 Ontario universities.

NSSE is not a satisfaction survey. Its purpose is to provide institutions with data that can be used to enhance the student experience. The survey collects information about student participation in various academic activities and in extracurricular and co-curricular activities. The survey asks students directly about their experiences, their challenges, and about their interactions with faculty, staff and peers. These results provide an understanding of the demographics of our undergraduates, how they spend their time,

and their perceptions of the skills and knowledge they are gaining from their university experience. The NSSE research team at Indiana University clusters a number of the survey items in five Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice – Level of Academic Challenge, Active and Collaborative Learning, Student-Faculty Interaction, Enriching Educational Experience and Supportive Campus Environment.

The NSSE research team recommends that institutions look "within" and compare progress over time. Although we compare our students' responses with those of students at other 'like' universities (peers), we place a higher value on internal progress at U of T.

U of T's Methodology and Interpretation of Results

NSSE provides us with institutional reports that allow us to make reliable and consistent comparisons to our peers. The detailed reports contain data on each item indicating significance and effect size, both of which are key to understanding our results when comparing to our peers and to our understanding of the reliability of the results. Our two comparison groups are:

1. Canadian universities (U15). This is the most relevant group of institutions for our peer comparison. This is a group of 15 leading, research-intensive Canadian universities:

Dalhousie University
McGill University
McMaster University
Queen's University
Université d'Ottawa / University of Ottawa
Université de Montréal
Université Laval
University of Alberta

University of British Columbia

University of Calgary

University of Waterloo

University of Western Ontario

University of Manitoba

University of Saskatchewan

University of Toronto (results are not included in the U15 data)

2. Ontario universities (Ontario). 21 participated in the 2011 NSSE survey. We compare to this group only when the items were administered to Ontario students only. In this case, the full U15 group is not included.

As noted earlier, this report focuses primarily on U of T's internal progress over time. Benchmark peer comparison reports are contained in the appendices.

Survey Population - All First-Entry Programs

As defined by the researchers at NSSE at Indiana University, students in all first-entry faculties were invited to participate in the 2011 NSSE survey in 2011. At U of T, students from our second-entry Nursing program were also invited to participate but their results are excluded from this report. The survey was administered on-line only.

The first-entry faculties are:

Arts & Science
Applied Science & Engineering
Physical Education & Health
Music
University of Toronto Mississauga
University of Toronto Scarborough

2011 NSSE Results

The following data describes our student response rate and characteristics and demonstrates our progress to date in classroom learning and support, undergraduate research, co-curricular involvement, international experience, and diversity and equity. Peer comparisons are included.

Response Rate

The University of Toronto's overall response rate of 40.1% is a full 8 percentage points higher than the Ontario overall response rate (32.1%) and 8.5 percentage points higher than the U15 overall response rate (31.6%).

| U of T 2011 Respo | Ontario | U15 | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------|--------|---------|---------|
| | First Year | Senior Year | TOTAL | TOTAL | TOTAL |
| Sample Size | 14,801 | 11,737 | 26,538 | 136,982 | 129,372 |
| Number of Respondents | 5,486 | 5,148 | 10,634 | 43,954 | 40,897 |
| Response Rate | 37.1% | 43.9% | 40.1% | 32.1% | 31.6% |
| Sampling Error | 1.0% | 1.0% | 0.7% | 0.4% | 0.4% |

Research on survey response rates (Dillman, 2007) points to a number of factors contributing to higher response rates, including: perceived importance of the survey, level of interest students have in the topic, creation of respondent trust, and perception of rewards for participation. The U of T survey administration team put in place a number of strategies to influence all of these factors - with the positive result of a relatively high response rate.

Student Characteristics

U of T's NSSE respondents are primarily full-time students and under the age of 24 years old. By senior year, more students are studying part-time at U of T than at the U15 institutions. About 25% are first-generation students with neither parent/guardian having attended any post-secondary education.

Among first year respondents, 23% indicate that they are not Canadian citizens. This number decreases to 13% by senior year. Canadian citizenship is significantly higher among U15 institution respondents in both first year and senior year. U of T has similar gender percentages to the U15.

With respect to where they live, 68% of first year students and 94% of senior year students report living off-campus. Of this number, 75% of first year students and 59% of senior year students report living with

parents, relatives or guardians. This is a significantly greater percentage than other Ontario university students.

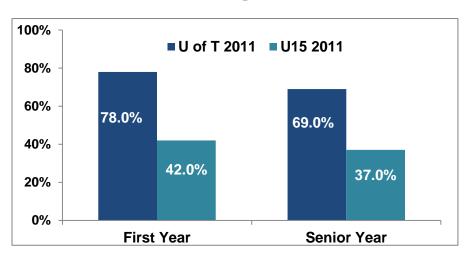
The following table provides further details about our students.

| | | FIRST YEAR U OF T | FIRST YEAR U15 | SENIOR YEAR U OF T | SENIOR YEAR U15 |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| GENDER | MALE | 44% | 44% | 44% | 43% |
| | FEMALE | 56% | 56% | 56% | 57% |
| ENROLMENT | FULL-TIME | 93% | 96% | 79% | 82% |
| STATUS* | PART-TIME | 6% | 4% | 21% | 18% |
| AGE | LESS THAN 24 | 94% | 94% | 82% | 76% |
| NOL | 24 OR OLDER | 6% | 6% | 18% | 24% |
| TRANSFER STATUS | STARTED HERE | 95% | 94% | 90% | 84% |
| | STARTED ELSEWHERE | 5% | 6% | 10% | 16% |
| PARENTAL LEVEL OF | HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS | 25% | 24% | 25% | 25% |
| EDUCATION | POST-SECONDARY | 75% | 76% | 75% | 75% |
| CITIZENSHIP | CANADIAN | 77% | 87% | 87% | 92% |
| | OTHER | 23% | 13% | 13% | 8% |
| | | FIRST YEAR U OF T | FIRST YEAR ONTARIO | SENIOR YEAR U OF T | SENIOR YEAR ONTARIO |
| | ON-CAMPUS | 32% | 48% | 6% | 6% |
| PLACE OF RESIDENCE | OFF-CAMPUS | 68% | 52% | 94% | 94% |
| | WITH PARENTS, RELATIVES OR GUARDIANS | 75% | 62% | 59% | 35% |

^{*}Institution reported data

Ethno-Cultural Background

Since 2008, Canadian students have been asked to identify their ethno-cultural background from a list provided (with the option of selecting all that apply, including "other"). Respondents could choose as many items as they wish from the list. As was the case in 2008, results indicate that we continue to see a level of racial and cultural diversity far higher than the U15 institutions.



Students Who Selected a Background "Other Than White"

Notes:

Since 2008, the percentage represents students who reported they belong to at least one of the 14 "non-White" ethno-cultural groups listed in the survey. Respondents can choose as many items as they wish from the list and the responses equal more than 100%.

Time Usage

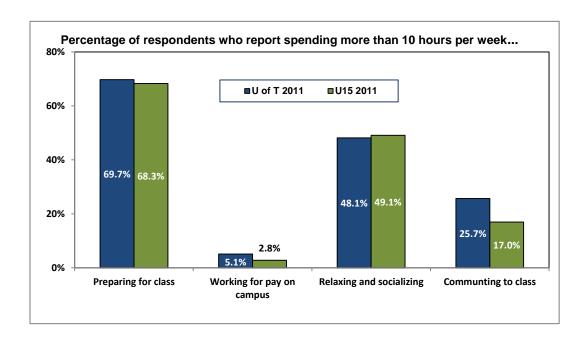
Understanding how students spend their time is important in isolating the factors that contribute to their "time on task" – that is, the time that they spend engaged in educationally purposeful activity. NSSE includes a series of items that asks students to identify the number of hours per week they spend on a variety of activities.

Over time, we are seeing some positive developments in the amount of time students spend on educationally relevant activities, including co-curricular activities, preparing for class and working on campus (which has been shown to have positive correlations to retention and other forms of engagement.)

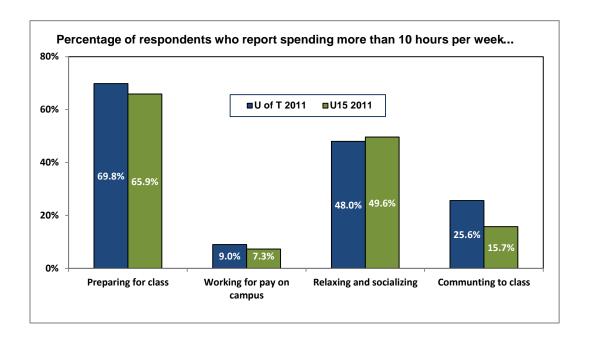
There remain, however, some significant demands on our students' time that impact their engagement. The NSSE data indicate that the use of time among our students is significantly different from that of students at peer institutions. For example, U of T students in first year and senior year spend more time commuting and working for pay on campus compared to U15 university students.

In addition, U of T students in first year and senior year report significantly more time spent on working for pay off-campus than do students in other Ontario universities.

Time Usage First Year Students



Time Usage Senior Year Students



Benchmarks

As we proceed with our planning framed by *Towards 2030: A Third Century of Excellence at the University of Toronto*, it is heartening to see in the NSSE data that we have improved in our efforts to enhance the student experience. While we still face challenges, there is no question that steady progress is being made on a number of fronts, including many of the priority areas identified through the analysis undertaken by the Council on Student Experience.

All U of T benchmarks results have improved from 2008 to 2011. Indeed, our 2011 benchmark results are the highest they have ever been with <u>significant improvement</u> in two benchmark areas – Level of Academic Challenge and Student-Faculty Interaction. In no areas are we below our past results and there are only two areas (first year) where we remain at the 2004 levels.

We have made **positive growth** over our 2004 results in:

- Level of Academic Challenge (senior year)
- Active Collaborative Learning (first year and senior year)
- Student Faculty Interaction (first year and senior year)
- Enriching Educational Experiences (first year and senior year)
- Supportive Campus Environment (senior year)

We remain at our 2004 level in the benchmark results for:

- Level of Academic Challenge (first year)*
- Supportive Campus Environment (first year)*

The following charts illustrate our positive progress between 2004 and 2011.

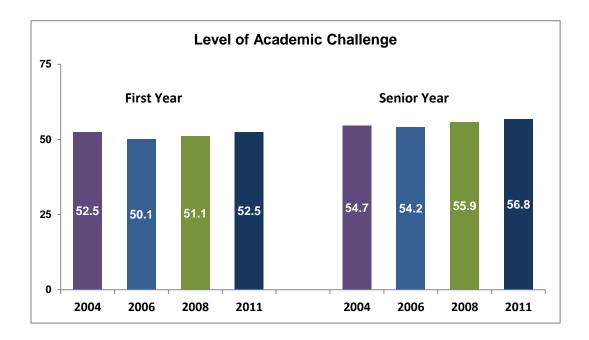
Level of Academic Challenge

This benchmark includes:

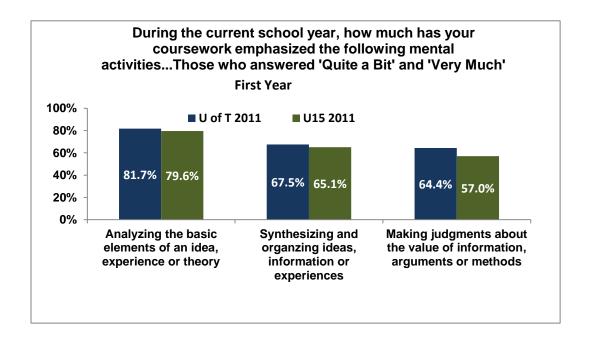
- Hours spent preparing for class
- Number of assigned textbooks, books, course readings
- Number of written papers or reports
- Courses emphasizing: Analysis; Making of Judgements; Applying Theories or concepts
- Working harder than you thought you could
- Campus environment: spending significant amount of time studying

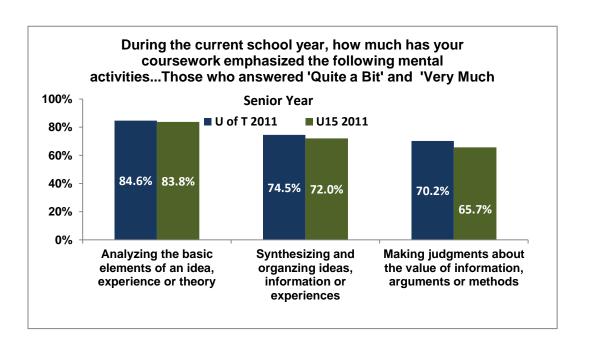
^{*}Although we remain at our 2004 level in two of the benchmarks, it is encouraging to see that our results between 2008 and 2011 did increase significantly.

We are at the same level as in 2004 in first year responses and we have increased our score significantly in senior year responses over 2004. While our first year responses are at the same level as 2004, our results on this benchmark improved significantly between 2008 and 2011.



The majority of our students spend their on-campus time studying and on other academic work as indicated in the time usage charts on page 7. The next charts provide a snapshot of U of T's results on specific items in the Level of Academic Challenge benchmark with comparison to the U15 universities.

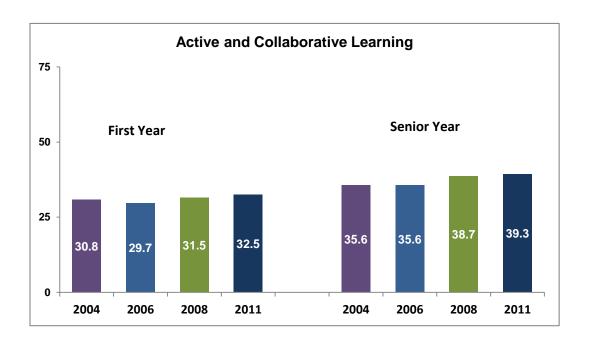




Active and Collaborative Learning

This benchmark includes:

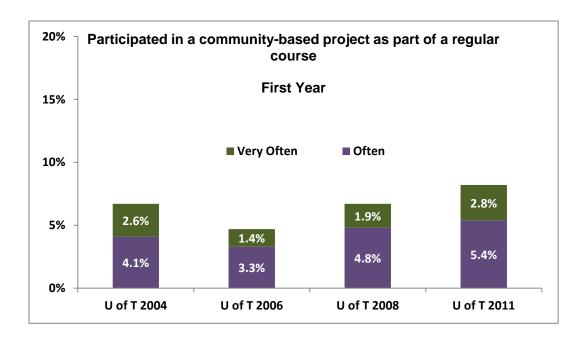
- Asked a question in class or contributed to class discussions
- Made a class presentation
- Worked with other students on projects during class
- Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments
- Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)
- Participated in a community-based project as part of the course
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class

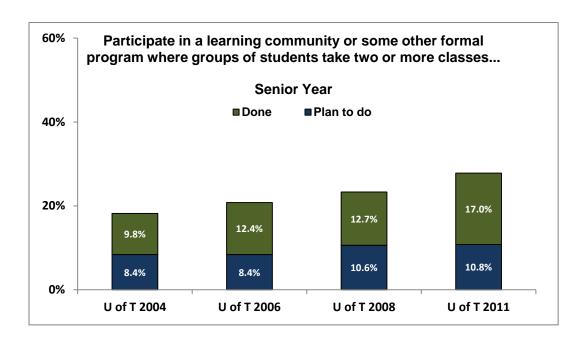


We are pleased with our positive results in this benchmark from 2004 to 2011 and with our first year results continuing to improve (significantly between 2008 and 2011).

We recognize that our students face challenges in meeting other students given the size and scope of the university. As a result, we have introduced a variety of opportunities for first year students to participate in small learning communities. In particular, we are introducing foundational programs across all the colleges and the three campuses. 'Vic One' and 'Trin One' are already successful and have been in existence for some years. As of 2012, Innis College, University College, St. Michael's College, New College, UTM and UTSC will be running similar foundational year programs. These are academic credit programs that offer small theme-based seminars (generally of 25 students) and many of these seminars include experiential learning activities. Our First-Year Learning Communities (FLCs) are based on academic streams (life sciences, commerce, etc.) where senior students meet with a group of 24 students to learn strategies which support their success.

The following charts further illustrate our progress over time in active and collaborative learning.

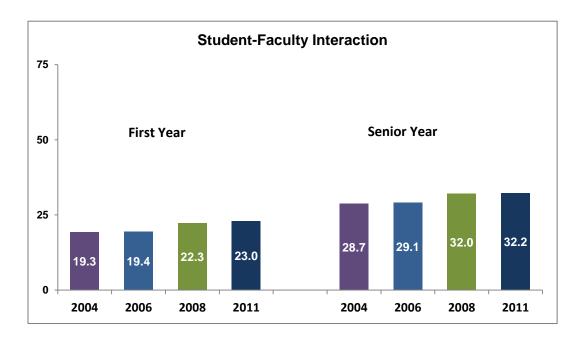




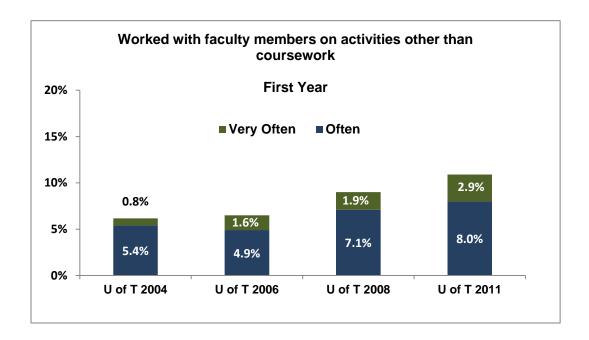
Student-Faculty Interaction

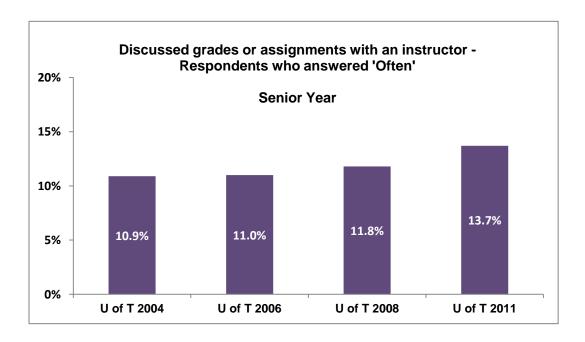
This benchmark includes:

- Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor
- Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty outside of class
- Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework
- Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance
- Worked on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements



The significant improvement in this benchmark since 2004 can be attributed in part to the dedication of our faculty and the work done by our recently expanded Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation. U of T students report that they engage in learning both inside and outside of the classroom, discuss ideas and readings outside the classroom, and work with faculty on projects other than coursework (such as research).



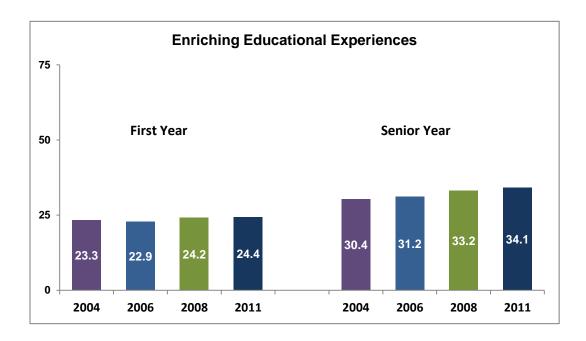


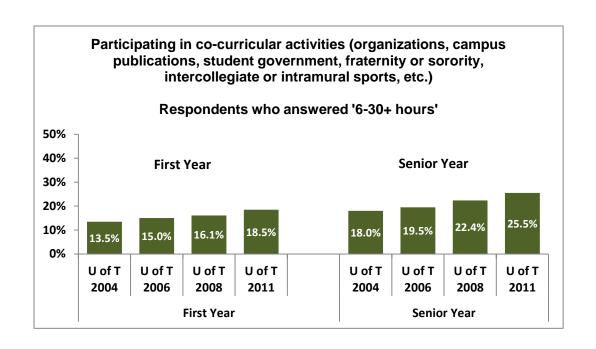
Enriching Educational Experiences

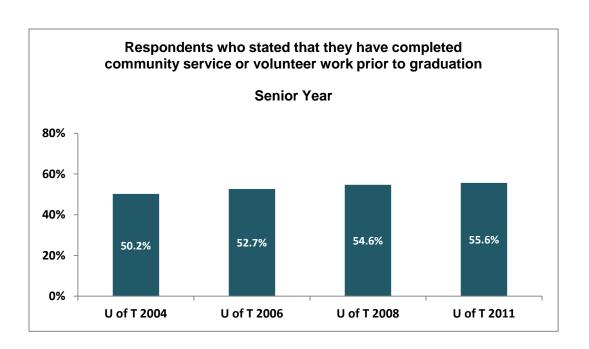
This benchmark includes:

- Hours spent participating in co-curricular activities
- Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op
- Community service or volunteer work
- Foreign language coursework and study abroad
- Independent study or self-directed major
- Culminating senior experience
- Serious conversations with student of different: religious beliefs, political opinions, personal values, ethnicity or race
- Campus environment encouraging contact among students from different economic, social and racial or ethnic backgrounds
- Participate in a learning community or other programs where groups of students take two or more classes together

Progress on this benchmark since 2004 is significant here too. Despite our location in a large and vibrant city and the large number of our students who live off campus, our students are very active participants in University life as evidenced by their participation, for example, in the arts: attending exhibits, plays, performances, etc. Our students participate in activities at Hart House, a centre for co-curricular involvement, with a long and rich history of co-curricular involvement through the arts, sport and recreation, and student clubs such as the debates club. And, in addition to their on-campus activity, our students are civically minded, engaging in the broader community through volunteerism.







Supportive Campus Environment

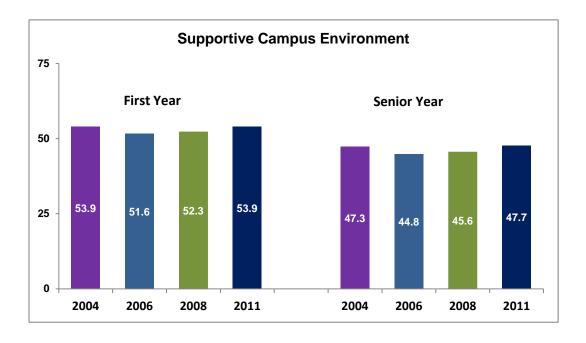
This benchmark includes:

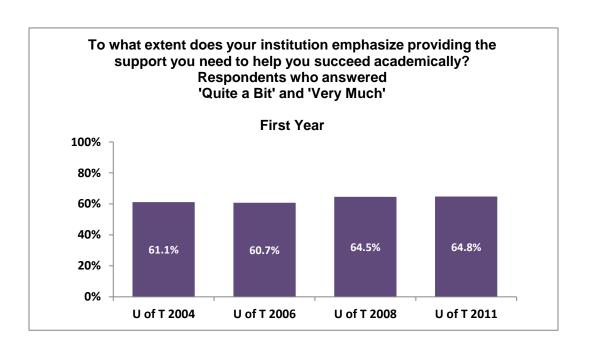
- Provides the support you need to help you succeed academically
- Helps you cope with your non-academic responsibilities
- Provides the support you need to thrive socially
- Quality of relationships with other students
- Quality of relationships with faculty members
- Quality of relationships with administrative personnel and offices

Our results in this benchmark have remained at the 2004 level for first year responses and have improved slightly in senior year responses. However, our results improved significantly in first year and senior year responses between 2008 and 2011.

To expand our capacity to meet the needs of our students, we are "embedding" many of our professional staff in our colleges, faculties, and libraries, where our students study and congregate. Some examples include a learning strategist (academic success and accessibility) located in Woodsworth College; Counsellors with dedicated hours in Faculties; a First Nations advisor at Social Work and OISE; and Career Counsellors assisting Registrars during the selection of major programs.

We continue to support our increasing numbers of international students, through advising programs specifically for international students.





Conclusion

U of T continues to use NSSE results to learn more about the many ways our students engage in their academic and co-curricular activities and the relative importance they place on them. We remain focused on enhancing our supportive learning environment. Positive progress from 2004 to 2011, and a greater range of opportunities in both formal academic programming and in activities beyond the classroom contribute to our students' personal growth and academic success.

Next Steps

Communication of Results

The Dean of each first-entry faculty and of UTM and UTSC receives a package that contains: results from the full NSSE sample, results for their division, and comparison results for the other five divisions. Divisional level analysis is conducted by each division, with some support centrally to ensure statistical reliability, and divisions are encouraged to share their results throughout the University. Presentations will be provided across the University.

Further Research

The 2011 NSSE results have identified some potential areas for further research. We will undertake some specific research projects prior to the next NSSE administration.

Vice-Provost, Students' Blog

In this regular blog, we will examine a different aspect of the student experience using NSSE and other data sources. Comments (moderated) are welcome.

Visit: http://www.vpstudentsblog.utoronto.ca/

Further Information

The National Survey of Student Engagement is a project of the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and the Office of Assistant Vice-President, Government, Institutional & Community Relations of University of Toronto. This report was prepared by Catherine Drea, Director of Student Life Programs & Communications, and Xuelun Liang, Senior Institutional Research Analyst.

For more information on NSSE visit: http://nsse.iub.edu/

For more information on U of T's participation in NSSE and the results, contact:

Catherine Drea
Office of the Assistant Vice-President, Student Life
416-978-1753
catherine.drea@utoronto.ca

References

Dillman, D. A. (2007). *Mail and internet surveys: The tailored design method* (2nd ed.). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Naylor, D. (2008). Towards 2030: Planning for a third century of excellence at the University of Toronto Synthesis report. Available at: http://www.towards2030.utoronto.ca/synth.html

University of Toronto. (2011). The Council on Student Experience: Best practices & strategies for enhancing the student experience at the University of Toronto. Available at: http://www.viceprovoststudents.utoronto.ca/uoftresponse.htm.

Appendix 1

University of Toronto

Benchmark Comparisons

August 2011



Interpreting the Benchmark Comparisons Report

To focus discussions about the importance of student engagement and to guide institutional improvement efforts, NSSE created five Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice: Level of Academic Challenge, Active and Collaborative Learning, Student-Faculty Interaction, Enriching Educational Experiences, and Supportive Campus Environment. This Benchmark Comparisons Report compares the performance of your institution with your selected comparison groups. In addition, it provides comparisons with two sets of highly engaging institutions, those with benchmarks in the top 50% and top 10% of all NSSE institutions.

Each benchmark is an index of responses to several NSSE questions. Because NSSE questions have different response sets, each question's response set was rescaled from zero to 100, and students' rescaled responses were then averaged. Thus a benchmark score of zero would mean that every student chose the lowest response option for every item, and 100 would mean every student chose the highest response to every item. Although benchmarks are reported on a 0-100 scale, they are not percentages.

Additional details regarding how benchmarks are created can be found on the NSSE Web site. nsse.iub.edu/links/institutional_reporting

Class and Sample Statistical Significance Effect Sizea Benchmarks with mean differences that are larger than would be expected by Effect size indicates the Means are reported for chance alone are noted with one, two, or three asterisks, denoting one of three practical significance of the first-year students and seniors. Institutionsignificance levels (p<.05, p<.01, and p<.001). The smaller the significance level, mean difference. It is reported class levels are the smaller the likelihood that the difference is due to chance. Please note that calculated by dividing the mean difference by the used. All randomly statistical significance does not guarantee that the result is substantive or selected or censusimportant. Large sample sizes (as with the NSSE project) tend to produce more pooled standard deviation. In administered students statistically significant results even though the magnitude of mean differences may practice, an effect size of .2 are included in these be inconsequential. Consult effect sizes to judge the practical meaning of the is often considered small, .5 analyses. Students in results. moderate, and .8 large. A targeted or locally positive sign indicates that Level of Academic Challenge (LAC) administered your institution's mean was greater, thus showing an oversamples are not Mean Comparisons included. affirmative result for the institution. A negative sign indicates the institution lags behind the comparison Mean group, suggesting that the Distributions of Student Benchmark Scores The mean is the weighted student behavior or arithmetic average of the institutional practice student level benchmark represented by the item may scores. warrant attention. **Box and Whiskers Charts Benchmark Description** A visual display of first-year and & Survey Items senior benchmark score NSSEville State Mid East Private Camerie Class NSSE 2011 A description of the dispersion for your institution Note: Each box and whis kers chart plots the 5th (bottom of lower bar), 25th percentile scores. The dot shows the benchmark mean. See page 2 for an ill benchmark and the individual and your selected comparison or items used in its creation is Level of Academic Challenge (LAC) Items consortium groups. provided. Hours spent preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, etc. related to academic program) Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings. Number of written papers or reports of <u>2D pages or more</u>, between 5 and <u>19 pages</u>, and <u>fewer than 5 pages</u> and retainorisips. Coursework emphasizes: Making of judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods (Coursework emphasizes: Applying theories or concepts to practical problemes or in new situations). Working harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations. Communications are considered as the contraction of the method of the country of the method of the country of the standards or expectations. 95th Percentile **Box and Whiskers Kev** A box and whiskers chart is a concise way to summarize the variation 75th Percentile of student benchmark scores. This display compares the distribution of scores at your institution, in percentile terms, with that of your 50th Percentile/Median (Bar) comparison groups. The ends of the whiskers show the 5th and 95th Mean (Dot) percentile scores, while the box is bounded by the 25th and 75th 25th Percentile percentiles. The bar inside the box indicates the median score, and the

dot shows the mean score.

5th Percentile

^a See Contextualizing NSSE Effect Sizes at nsse.iub.edu/pdf/effect_size_guide.pdf for additional information.



Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)

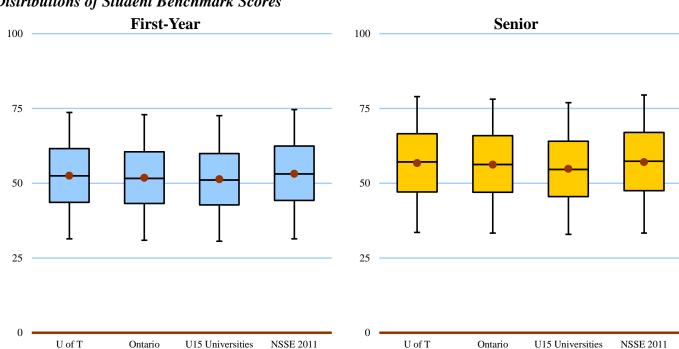
Mean Comparisons

University of Toronto compared with:

| | U of T | Ontario | | U15 U | Jniversiti | es | NS | SE 2011 | |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|------------|--------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| | | | Effect | | | Effect | | | Effect |
| Class | Mean ^a | Mean ^a Sig ^b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c |
| First-Year | 52.5 | 51.8 *** | .05 | 51.3 | *** | .09 | 53.2 | *** | 05 |
| Senior | 56.8 | 56.2 * | .04 | 54.8 | *** | .15 | 57.1 | | 02 |

^a Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and by institution size for comparison groups).

Distributions of Student Benchmark Scores



Note: 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 shows the benchmark mean. See page 2 for an illustration. See pages 10 and 11 for percentile values.

Level of Academic Challenge (LAC) Items

Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote high levels of student achievement by emphasizing the importance of academic effort and setting high expectations for student performance.

- Hours spent preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, etc. related to academic program)
- Number of assigned textbooks, books, or book-length packs of course readings
- Number of written papers or reports of 20 pages or more, between 5 and 19 pages, and fewer than 5 pages
- Coursework emphasizes: Analysis of the basic elements of an idea, experience or theory
- Coursework emphasizes: Synthesis and organizing of ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships
- Coursework emphasizes: Making of judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods
- Coursework emphasizes: Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations
- Working harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations
- · Campus environment emphasizes: Spending significant amount of time studying and on academic work

b * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).

^c Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)

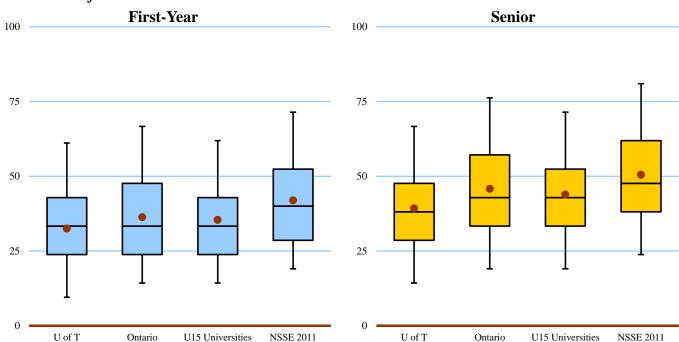
Mean Comparisons

University of Toronto compared with:

| | U of T | Ontario | | U15 U | niversiti | ies | NS | SE 2011 | |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| | | | Effect | | | Effect | | | Effect |
| Class | Mean ^a | Mean ^a Sig ^b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c |
| First-Year | 32.5 | 36.3 *** | 24 | 35.4 | *** | 19 | 42.0 | *** | 56 |
| Senior | 39.3 | 45.8 *** | 39 | 43.9 | *** | 28 | 50.5 | *** | 63 |

^a Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and by institution size for comparison groups).

Distributions of Student Benchmark Scores



Note: 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 shows the benchmark mean. See page 2 for an illustration. See pages 10 and 11 for percentile values.

Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL) Items

Students learn more when they are intensely involved in their education and asked to think about what they are learning in different settings. Collaborating with others in solving problems or mastering difficult material prepares students for the messy, unscripted problems they will encounter daily during and after college.

- · Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions
- Made a class presentation
- Worked with other students on projects during class
- Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments
- Tutored or taught other students (paid or voluntary)
- Participated in a community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of a regular course
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)

^b * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).

^c Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)

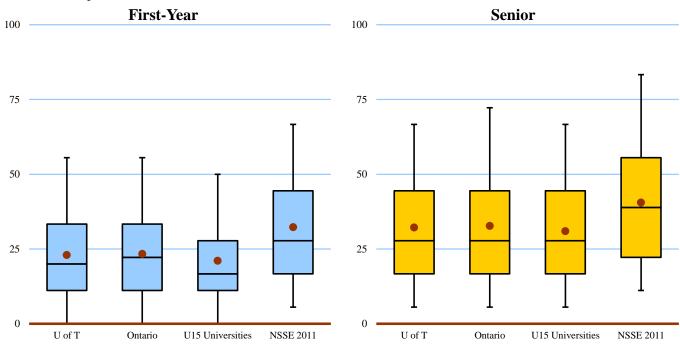
Mean Comparisons

University of Toronto compared with:

| | U of T | Ontario | 0 | U15 U | niversiti | es | NS | SE 2011 | |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| | | | Effect | | | Effect | | | Effect |
| Class | Mean ^a | Mean ^a Sig ^b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c |
| First-Year | 23.0 | 23.3 | 02 | 21.1 | *** | .12 | 32.3 | *** | 50 |
| Senior | 32.2 | 32.7 | 03 | 30.9 | *** | .06 | 40.5 | *** | 39 |

^a Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and by institution size for comparison groups).

Distributions of Student Benchmark Scores



Note: 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 shows the benchmark mean. See page 2 for an illustration. See pages 10 and 11 for percentile values.

Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI) Items

Students learn firsthand how experts think about and solve practical problems by interacting with faculty members inside and outside the classroom. As a result, their teachers become role models, mentors, and guides for continuous, life-long learning.

- Discussed grades or assignments with an instructor
- Talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class
- Worked with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, orientation, student-life activities, etc.)
- Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty on your academic performance
- Worked on a research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements

^b * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).

^c Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE)

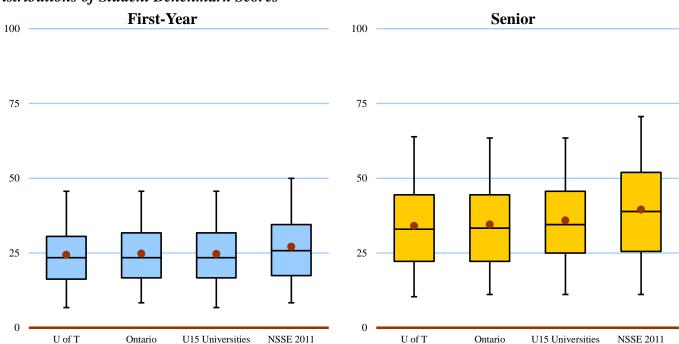
Mean Comparisons

University of Toronto compared with:

| | U of T | Ontario |) | U15 U | Jniversiti | ies | NS | SE 2011 | |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|------------|--------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| | | | Effect | | | Effect | | | Effect |
| Class | Mean ^a | Mean ^a Sig ^b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c |
| First-Year | 24.4 | 24.8 * | 04 | 24.7 | | 03 | 27.1 | *** | 20 |
| Senior | 34.1 | 34.5 | 03 | 35.9 | *** | 12 | 39.5 | *** | 30 |

^a Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and by institution size for comparison groups).

Distributions of Student Benchmark Scores



Note: 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 shows the benchmark mean. See page 2 for an illustration. See pages 10 and 11 for percentile values.

Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE) Items

Complementary learning opportunities enhance academic programs. Diversity experiences teach students valuable things about themselves and others. Technology facilitates collaboration between peers and instructors. Internships, community service, and senior capstone courses provide opportunities to integrate and apply knowledge.

- Hours spent participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, campus publications, student gov., social fraternity or sorority, etc.)
- Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment
- · Community service or volunteer work
- · Foreign language coursework and study abroad
- Independent study or self-designed major
- Culminating senior experience (capstone course, senior project or thesis, comprehensive exam, etc.)
- Serious conversations with students of different religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values
- Serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than your own
- Using electronic medium (e.g., listsery, chat group, Internet, instant messaging, etc.) to discuss or complete an assignment
- Campus environment encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds
- Participate in a learning community or some other formal program where groups of students take two or more classes together

^b * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).

^c Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)

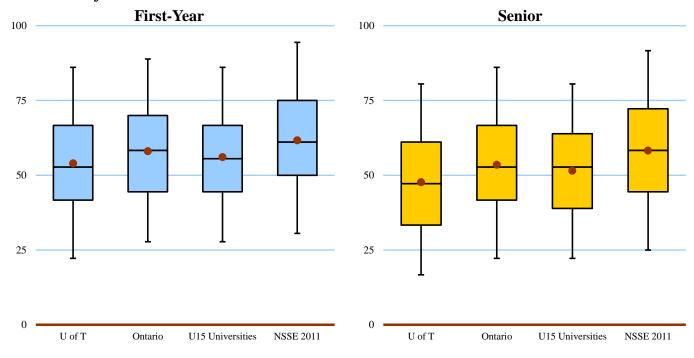
Mean Comparisons

University of Toronto compared with:

| | U of T | Ontario | | U15 U | J niversit i | ies | NS | SE 2011 | |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|---------------------|--------|-------------------|---------|--------|
| | | | Effect | | | Effect | | | Effect |
| Class | Mean ^a | Mean ^a Sig ^b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c | Mean ^a | Sig b | Size c |
| First-Year | 53.9 | 58.0 *** | 22 | 56.1 | *** | 12 | 61.7 | *** | 41 |
| Senior | 47.7 | 53.5 *** | 31 | 51.5 | *** | 21 | 58.2 | *** | 54 |

^a Weighted by gender and enrollment status (and by institution size for comparison groups).

Distributions of Student Benchmark Scores



Note: 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 shows the benchmark mean. See page 2 for an illustration. See pages 10 and 11 for percentile values.

Supportive Campus Environment (SCE) Items

Students perform better and are more satisfied at colleges that are committed to their success and cultivate positive working and social relations among different groups on campus.

- Campus environment provides the support you need to help you succeed academically
- Campus environment helps you cope with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)
- Campus environment provides the support you need to thrive socially
- Quality of relationships with other students
- Quality of relationships with faculty members
- Quality of relationships with administrative personnel and offices

b * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).

^c Mean difference divided by the pooled standard deviation.



NSSE 2011 Benchmark Comparisons With Highly Engaging Institutions

Interpreting the Top 10% and Top 50% Comparisons

This section of the NSSE Benchmark Comparisons report allows you to estimate the performance of your average student in relation to the average student attending two different institutional peer groups identified by NSSE for their high levels of student engagement: (a) institutions with benchmark scores placing them in the top 50% of all NSSE schools in 2011 and (b) institutions with benchmark scores in the top 10% for 2011. These comparisons allow an institution to determine if the engagement of their students differs in significant, meaningful ways from students in these high performing peer groups.

Example

| | | | | | NSSEville St | ate compared v | with | |
|----------|-----|--------------------|------|-----|---------------|----------------|------|---------------|
| | | NSSEville State | | | E 2011 50% | | | E 2011 10% |
| | | Mean | Mean | Sig | Effect size | Mean | Sig | Effect size |
| • . | LAC | 57.1 | 55.8 | * | .10 | 60.5 | *** | -0.28 |
| ear | ACL | 50.3 | 45.8 | *** | .28 | 50.7 | | -0.02 |
| t-Y | SFI | 37.3 | 37.2 | | .01 | 42.0 | *** | -0.24 |
| First | EEE | 21.8 | 30.0 | *** | 63 | 34.4 | *** | -0.98 |
| <u> </u> | SCE | 60.9 | 64.7 | *** | 21 | 69.7 | *** | -0.49 |

Based on the example above NSSEville State CAN conclude...

- ◆ The average score for NSSEville State first-year students is slightly above (i.e., small positive effect size) that of the average student attending NSSE 2011 schools that scored in the top 50% on Level of Academic Challenge (LAC).
- The average NSSEville State first-year student is as engaged (i.e., not significantly different) as the average student attending NSSE 2011 schools that scored in the top 10% on Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL).
- It is *likely* that NSSEville State is in the top 50% of all NSSE 2011 schools for first-year students on Level of Academic Challenge (LAC) and Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL).^a

Based on the example above NSSEville State CANNOT concludea...

- NSSEville State is in the top half of all schools on the Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI) benchmark for first-year students.
- NSSEville State is a "top ten percent" institution on Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL) for first-year students.

Additional information regarding the Top 50% and Top 10% section of the benchmark report can be found on the NSSE Web site. nsse.iub.edu/links/institutional_reporting

^a Precision-weighted means (produced by Hierarchical Linear Modeling) were used to determine the top 50% and top 10% institutions for each benchmark, separately for first-year and senior students. Using this method, benchmark scores of institutions with relatively large standard errors are adjusted substantially toward the grand mean of all students, while those with smaller standard errors receive smaller corrections. Thus, schools with less stable data, though they may have high scores, may not be identified 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 individual school results and our policy against the ranking of institutions.



NSSE 2011 Benchmark Comparisons With Highly Engaging Institutions University of Toronto

| | | | | U of T com | pared with | | | |
|------------|-----|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--|
| | | | NSSE | 2011 | NSSE 2 | 2011 | | |
| | | U of T | Top 5 | 0% | Top 1 | 0% | Level of Acade | emic Challenge |
| | | Mean ^a | Mean ^a Sig ^b | Effect size c | Mean ^a Sig ^b | Effect size c | | AC) |
| | LAC | 52.5 | 56.3 *** | 29 | 60.7 *** | 65 | | |
| ear | ACL | 32.5 | 47.5 *** | 90 | 51.8 *** | -1.12 | | |
| t-Y | SFI | 23.0 | 38.8 *** | 83 | 43.4 *** | -1.01 75 | , , , T | |
| First-Year | EEE | 24.4 | 30.3 *** | 45 | 33.5 *** | 67 | | |
| | SCE | 53.9 | 66.9 *** | 70 | 70.7 *** | 92 | | |
| - | LAC | 56.8 | 60.1 *** | 25 | 64.1 *** | 55 50 | | \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\ |
| ï | ACL | 39.3 | 55.8 *** | 97 | 60.0 *** | -1.18 | 1 - | I I |
| Senior | SFI | 32.2 | 48.7 *** | 76 | 55.8 *** | -1.09 25 | | |
| Š | EEE | 34.1 | 46.1 *** | 67 | 54.8 *** | -1.22 | | |
| | SCE | 47.7 | 64.7 *** | 90 | 68.7 *** | -1.13 | | |
| | | | | | | 0 | First-Year | Senior |

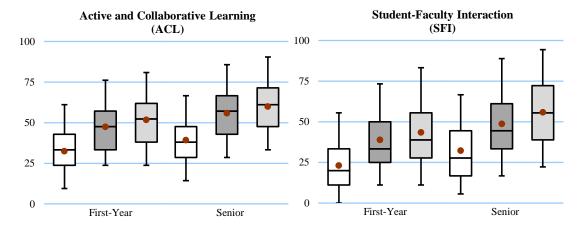


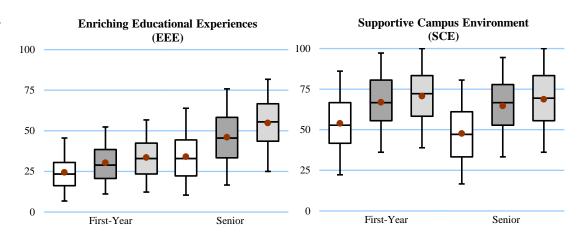
U of T

Top 50%

☐ Top 10%

This display compares your students with those attending schools that scored in the top 50% and top 10% of all NSSE 2011 institutions on a particular benchmark.





Note: 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 shows the benchmark mean. See page 2 for an illustration. See pages 10 and 11 for percentile values.

^a Weighted by gender and enroll. status (and by inst. size for comp. groups).

^b * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).

^c Mean diff. divided by the pooled standard dev.



NSSE 2011 Benchmark Comparisons Detailed Statistics and Effect Sizes ^a University of Toronto

First-Year Students

| | = | - | | | | | | | | I | Reference | Group | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|------|------------------|-----|-------------------------|----------|------|------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------|
| | _ | Mean Statistics | | | D | Distribution Statistics | | | | Comparison Statistics | | | |
| | | | | | | Per | centiles | d | | Deg. of | Mean | | Effect |
| | - | Mean | SD b | SEM ^c | 5th | 25th | 50th | 75th | 95th | Freedom e | Diff. | Sig. f | size ^g |
| LEVEL OF ACADEMIC CH | IALLENGE (LA | C) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 5180) | 52.5 | 13.2 | .2 | 31 | 44 | 52 | 62 | 74 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 51.8 | 12.8 | .1 | 31 | 43 | 52 | 61 | 73 | 7,171 | .7 | .000 | .05 |
| U15 Universities | | 51.3 | 12.8 | .1 | 31 | 43 | 51 | 60 | 73 | 7,378 | 1.2 | .000 | .09 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 53.2 | 13.3 | .0 | 31 | 44 | 53 | 62 | 75 | 330,269 | 7 | .000 | 05 |
| Top 50% | | 56.3 | 12.9 | .0 | 35 | 48 | 56 | 65 | 77 | 120,228 | -3.7 | .000 | 29 |
| Top 10% | | 60.7 | 12.3 | .1 | 40 | 52 | 61 | 69 | 80 | 8,495 | -8.1 | .000 | 65 |
| ACTIVE AND COLLABOR | ATIVE LEARN | ING (AC | L) | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 5470) | 32.5 | 15.6 | .2 | 10 | 24 | 33 | 43 | 61 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 36.3 | 15.6 | .1 | 14 | 24 | 33 | 48 | 67 | 34,726 | -3.8 | .000 | 24 |
| U15 Universities | | 35.4 | 15.4 | .1 | 14 | 24 | 33 | 43 | 62 | 32,113 | -2.9 | .000 | 19 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 42.0 | 16.9 | .0 | 19 | 29 | 40 | 52 | 71 | 5,669 | -9.5 | .000 | 56 |
| Top 50% | | 47.5 | 16.7 | .1 | 24 | 33 | 48 | 57 | 76 | 6,198 | -15.0 | .000 | 90 |
| Top 10% | | 51.8 | 17.8 | .1 | 24 | 38 | 52 | 62 | 81 | 10,464 | -19.3 | .000 | -1.12 |
| STUDENT-FACULTY INTE | ERACTION (SFI | I) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 5221) | 23.0 | 16.9 | .2 | 0 | 11 | 20 | 33 | 56 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 23.3 | 16.5 | .1 | 0 | 11 | 22 | 33 | 56 | 7,239 | 3 | .177 | 02 |
| U15 Universities | | 21.1 | 15.7 | .1 | 0 | 11 | 17 | 28 | 50 | 7,229 | 1.9 | .000 | .12 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 32.3 | 18.7 | .0 | 6 | 17 | 28 | 44 | 67 | 5,424 | -9.3 | .000 | 50 |
| Top 50% | | 38.8 | 19.2 | .1 | 11 | 25 | 33 | 50 | 73 | 6,084 | -15.8 | .000 | 83 |
| Top 10% | | 43.4 | 21.2 | .2 | 11 | 28 | 39 | 56 | 83 | 11,721 | -20.4 | .000 | -1.01 |
| ENRICHING EDUCATION | AL EXPERIENC | CES (EE | E) | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 5105) | 24.4 | 12.5 | .2 | 7 | 16 | 23 | 31 | 46 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 24.8 | 12.2 | .1 | 8 | 17 | 23 | 32 | 46 | 31,540 | 4 | .019 | 04 |
| U15 Universities | | 24.7 | 12.1 | .1 | 7 | 17 | 23 | 32 | 46 | 29,232 | 3 | .079 | 03 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 27.1 | 13.4 | .0 | 8 | 17 | 26 | 35 | 50 | 5,293 | -2.7 | .000 | 20 |
| Top 50% | | 30.3 | 13.3 | .0 | 11 | 21 | 29 | 38 | 52 | 5,556 | -5.9 | .000 | 45 |
| Top 10% | | 33.5 | 13.9 | .1 | 12 | 23 | 33 | 42 | 57 | 8,333 | -9.2 | .000 | 67 |
| SUPPORTIVE CAMPUS EN | VIRONMENT | (SCE) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 5042) | 53.9 | 19.1 | .3 | 22 | 42 | 53 | 67 | 86 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 58.0 | 18.4 | .1 | 28 | 44 | 58 | 70 | 89 | 6,974 | -4.1 | .000 | 22 |
| U15 Universities | | 56.1 | 17.6 | .1 | 28 | 44 | 56 | 67 | 86 | 6,971 | -2.1 | .000 | 12 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 61.7 | 18.9 | .0 | 31 | 50 | 61 | 75 | 94 | 314,277 | -7.7 | .000 | 41 |
| Top 50% | | 66.9 | 18.4 | .1 | 36 | 56 | 67 | 81 | 97 | 5,558 | -13.0 | .000 | 70 |
| Top 10% | | 70.7 | 17.9 | .1 | 39 | 58 | 72 | 83 | 100 | 7,847 | -16.8 | .000 | 92 |

^a All statistics are weighted by gender and enrollment status. Comparison group statistics are also weighted by institutional size.

PSIS: 35015001

^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: Use SEM 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 benchmark scores at or below which a given percentage of benchmark scores fall.

^e Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values vary for 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 calculated by subtracting the comparison group mean from the school mean, and dividing the result by the pooled standard deviation.



NSSE 2011 Benchmark Comparisons Detailed Statistics and Effect Sizes ^a University of Toronto

| • | | |
|-----|---------|--|
| Sei | niors | |
| | 11101 9 | |

| | - | | | | | | | Reference Group | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|-----|------|----------|-----------------------|------|-----------|-------|--------|-------------------|
| | = | Mea | D | Distribution Statistics | | | | Comparison Statistics | | | | | |
| | | | are b | ora e c | ٠. | | centiles | | | Deg. of | Mean | a: f | Effect |
| | = | Mean | SD b | SEM ^c | 5th | 25th | 50th | 75th | 95th | Freedom e | Diff. | Sig. f | size ^g |
| LEVEL OF ACADEMIC CH | IALLENGE (LA | .C) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 5041) | 56.8 | 14.0 | .2 | 34 | 47 | 57 | 67 | 79 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 56.2 | 13.7 | .1 | 33 | 47 | 56 | 66 | 78 | 32,101 | .5 | .013 | .04 |
| U15 Universities | | 54.8 | 13.4 | .1 | 33 | 46 | 55 | 64 | 77 | 6,902 | 2.0 | .000 | .15 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 57.1 | 14.1 | .0 | 33 | 48 | 57 | 67 | 80 | 415,762 | 3 | .131 | 02 |
| Top 50% | | 60.1 | 13.7 | .0 | 37 | 51 | 61 | 70 | 82 | 5,445 | -3.4 | .000 | 25 |
| Top 10% | | 64.1 | 13.0 | .1 | 42 | 55 | 65 | 73 | 84 | 7,637 | -7.3 | .000 | 55 |
| ACTIVE AND COLLABOR | ATIVE LEARNI | ING (AC | L) | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 5222) | 39.3 | 16.3 | .2 | 14 | 29 | 38 | 48 | 67 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 45.8 | 17.1 | .1 | 19 | 33 | 43 | 57 | 76 | 7,495 | -6.5 | .000 | 39 |
| U15 Universities | | 43.9 | 16.5 | .1 | 19 | 33 | 43 | 52 | 71 | 33,444 | -4.7 | .000 | 28 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 50.5 | 17.7 | .0 | 24 | 38 | 48 | 62 | 81 | 5,372 | -11.2 | .000 | 63 |
| Top 50% | | 55.8 | 17.2 | .1 | 29 | 43 | 57 | 67 | 86 | 5,765 | -16.6 | .000 | 97 |
| Top 10% | | 60.0 | 17.8 | .1 | 33 | 48 | 61 | 71 | 90 | 8,957 | -20.7 | .000 | -1.18 |
| STUDENT-FACULTY INTE | ERACTION (SFI |) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 5060) | 32.2 | 19.7 | .3 | 6 | 17 | 28 | 44 | 67 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 32.7 | 19.6 | .1 | 6 | 17 | 28 | 44 | 72 | 32,369 | 5 | .074 | 03 |
| U15 Universities | | 30.9 | 19.1 | .1 | 6 | 17 | 28 | 44 | 67 | 6,968 | 1.2 | .000 | .06 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 40.5 | 21.2 | .0 | 11 | 22 | 39 | 56 | 83 | 5,204 | -8.3 | .000 | 39 |
| Top 50% | | 48.7 | 21.7 | .1 | 17 | 33 | 44 | 61 | 89 | 5,794 | -16.5 | .000 | 76 |
| Top 10% | | 55.8 | 22.5 | .2 | 22 | 39 | 56 | 72 | 94 | 10,678 | -23.7 | .000 | -1.09 |
| ENRICHING EDUCATION | AL EXPERIENC | CES (EE | E) | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 4979) | 34.1 | 16.5 | .2 | 10 | 22 | 33 | 44 | 64 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 34.5 | 16.0 | .1 | 11 | 22 | 33 | 44 | 63 | 6,851 | 5 | .058 | 03 |
| U15 Universities | | 35.9 | 15.8 | .1 | 11 | 25 | 35 | 46 | 63 | 6,815 | -1.8 | .000 | 12 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 39.5 | 18.0 | .0 | 11 | 26 | 39 | 52 | 71 | 5,127 | -5.5 | .000 | 30 |
| Top 50% | | 46.1 | 17.8 | .0 | 17 | 33 | 46 | 58 | 76 | 5,384 | -12.0 | .000 | 67 |
| Top 10% | | 54.8 | 17.0 | .1 | 25 | 44 | 56 | 67 | 82 | 8,116 | -20.7 | .000 | -1.22 |
| SUPPORTIVE CAMPUS EN | VIRONMENT (| (SCE) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| U of T | (N = 4926) | 47.7 | 19.4 | .3 | 17 | 33 | 47 | 61 | 81 | | | | |
| Ontario | | 53.5 | 19.0 | .1 | 22 | 42 | 53 | 67 | 86 | 31,225 | -5.8 | .000 | 31 |
| U15 Universities | | 51.5 | 18.1 | .1 | 22 | 39 | 53 | 64 | 81 | 6,658 | -3.8 | .000 | 21 |
| NSSE 2011 | | 58.2 | 19.5 | .0 | 25 | 44 | 58 | 72 | 92 | 401,123 | -10.6 | .000 | 54 |
| Top 50% | | 64.7 | 18.9 | .1 | 33 | 53 | 67 | 78 | 94 | 106,283 | -17.0 | .000 | 90 |
| Top 10% | _ | 68.7 | 18.5 | .1 | 36 | 56 | 69 | 83 | 100 | 7,741 | -21.1 | .000 | -1.13 |

^a All statistics are weighted by gender and enrollment status. Comparison group statistics are also weighted by institutional size.

PSIS: 35015001

^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: Use SEM 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 benchmark scores at or below which a given percentage of benchmark scores fall.

e Degrees of freedom used to compute the t-tests. Values vary for 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 calculated by subtracting the comparison group mean from the school mean, and dividing the result by the pooled standard deviation.



University of Toronto

Multi-Year Benchmark Report August 2011



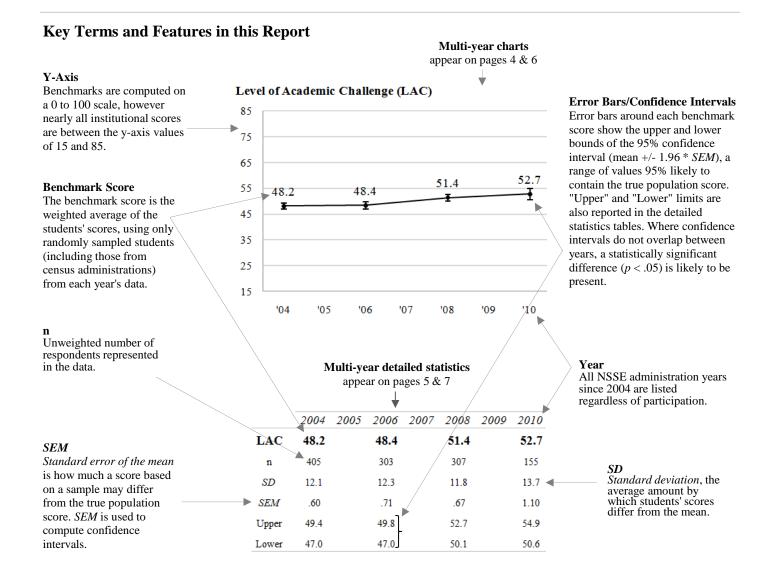
Interpreting the Multi-Year Benchmark Report

For institutions that have participated in multiple NSSE administrations, this *Multi-Year Benchmark Report* presents comparable benchmark scores by year so that patterns of change or stability are discernible. It also provides statistics such as *number of respondents*, *standard deviation*, and *standard error* so that shorthand mean comparison tests can be calculated.

Questions that might be answered with this report include, "How stable was the level of student-faculty interaction over the years?" or "Given the implementation of initiative X three years ago, did the level of active and collaborative learning increase?"

This report has three main parts: (a) a table of *data quality indicators* (p. 3), which provides a quick reference to important statistics for each year's administration, (b) *multi-year charts*, and (c) *detailed statistics*. Key terms and features of (b) and (c) are illustrated below.

For more information and recommendations for analyzing past and present NSSE data for trends or stability, consult the *Multi-Year Data Analysis Guide*. **nsse.iub.edu/pdf/MYDAG.pdf**





NSSE 2011 Multi-Year Benchmark Report Data Quality Indicators

University of Toronto

An important early step in conducting a multi-year analysis is to review the quality of your data in each year for both first-year and senior respondents. The precision of an institution's population estimates can vary from one year to the next. The values in this table were drawn from the *Respondent Characteristics* reports from each NSSE administration.

Data Quality Indicators for Each NSSE Participation Year

| | | Resp | onse | Samp | oling | Number of | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------|-----------------|------|-----------------|-----------|-------|--|
| Year ^a | $\mathbf{Mode}^{\mathbf{b}}$ | Ra | te ^c | Erre | $\mathbf{or^d}$ | Respon | dents | |
| | | FY | SR | FY | SR | FY | SR | |
| 2004 | Web-only | 56% | 51% | 2.6% | 2.8% | 1,310 | 1,078 | |
| 2005 | | | | | | | | |
| 2006 | Web-only | 35% | 43% | 3.3% | 3.0% | 851 | 992 | |
| 2007 | | | | | | | | |
| 2008 | Web-only | 43% | 48% | 2.9% | 2.7% | 1,086 | 1,213 | |
| 2009 | | | | | | | | |
| 2010 | | | | | | | | |
| 2011 | Web-only | 37% | 44% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 5,485 | 5,237 | |

^a All NSSE administration years since 2004 are listed regardless of participation.

b Modes include *Paper* (students receive a paper survey and the option of completing a Web version), *Web* (students receive all correspondence by e-mail and complete the Web version), and *Web*+ (students initially invited to participate via e-mail; a subgroup of nonrespondents receive paper surveys).

^c Response rates (number of respondents divided by sample size) adjusted for ineligibility, nondeliverable mailing addresses, and students who were unavailable during the survey administration.

^d Sampling error gauges the precision of results based on a sample survey. It is an estimate of how much survey item percentages for your respondents could differ from those of the entire population of students at your institution. Data with larger sampling errors (such as +/-10%) need not be dismissed out of hand, but any results using them should be interpreted more conservatively.

^e This is the original count used to calculate response rates and sampling errors for each administration's *Respondent Characteristics* report. This number includes all randomly sampled students (including those from census administrations). In 2004 and 2005 it may also include targeted oversamples. For this reason, the counts for 2004 and 2005 may not match those given in the detailed statistics on pages 5 and 7.

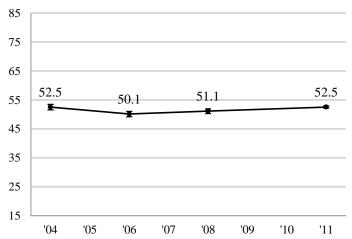


NSSE 2011 Multi-Year Benchmark Report Multi-Year Charts

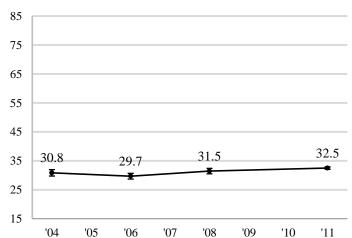
University of Toronto

First-Year Students

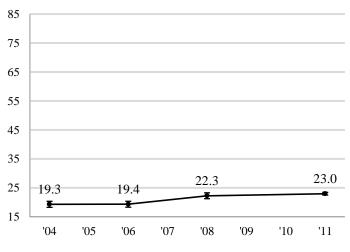
Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)



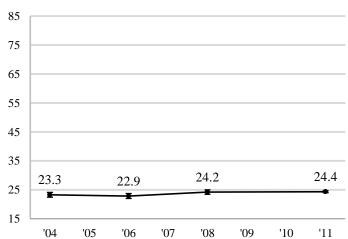
Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)



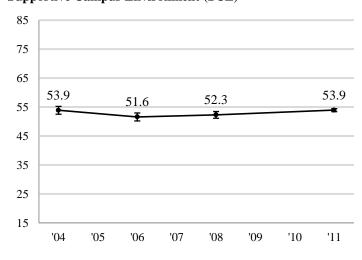
Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)



Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE)



Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)



Notes:

- Benchmark scores are charted for all years of participation. See page 5 for detailed statistics.
- For more information and recommendations for analyzing multi-year NSSE data, consult the *Multi-Year Data Analysis Guide*. nsse.iub.edu/pdf/MYDAG.pdf



NSSE 2011 Multi-Year Benchmark Report Detailed Statistics^a

University of Toronto

| Fi | irst-` | Ÿ | ear | S | tud | lents |
|----|--------|---|-----|---|-----|-------|
| | | | | | | |

| | | | | | 1.11.90 | - I cai stu | ucins | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|------|------|------|---------|-------------|-------|------|------|--|--|
| | | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | | |
| Level of | LAC | 52.5 | | 50.1 | | 51.1 | | | 52.5 | | |
| Academic | n | 692 | | 768 | | 1015 | | | 5180 | | |
| Challenge | SD | 12.4 | | 12.9 | | 13.0 | | | 13.2 | | |
| | SEM | .47 | | .47 | | .41 | | | .18 | | |
| | Upper | 53.5 | | 51.0 | | 51.9 | | | 52.9 | | |
| | Lower | 51.6 | | 49.2 | | 50.3 | | | 52.2 | | |
| Active and | ACL | 30.8 | | 29.7 | | 31.5 | | | 32.5 | | |
| Collaborative | n | 693 | | 847 | | 1058 | | | 5470 | | |
| Learning | SD | 14.9 | | 14.8 | | 15.6 | | | 15.6 | | |
| | SEM | .57 | | .51 | | .48 | | | .21 | | |
| | Upper | 32.0 | | 30.7 | | 32.4 | | | 32.9 | | |
| | Lower | 29.7 | | 28.7 | | 30.5 | | | 32.1 | | |
| Student | SFI | 19.3 | | 19.4 | | 22.3 | | | 23.0 | | |
| Faculty Interaction | n | 693 | | 773 | | 1016 | | | 5221 | | |
| | SD | 14.2 | | 14.6 | | 16.6 | | | 16.9 | | |
| | SEM | .54 | | .53 | | .52 | | | .23 | | |
| | Upper | 20.4 | | 20.4 | | 23.3 | | | 23.4 | | |
| | Lower | 18.3 | | 18.3 | | 21.3 | | | 22.5 | | |
| Enriching | EEE | 23.3 | | 22.9 | | 24.2 | | | 24.4 | | |
| Educational | n | 692 | | 752 | | 997 | | | 5105 | | |
| Experiences | SD | 10.9 | | 12.1 | | 12.4 | | | 12.5 | | |
| | SEM | .42 | | .44 | | .39 | | | .18 | | |
| | Upper | 24.1 | | 23.7 | | 25.0 | | | 24.7 | | |
| | Lower | 22.5 | | 22.0 | | 23.5 | | | 24.0 | | |
| Supportive | SCE | 53.9 | | 51.6 | | 52.3 | | | 53.9 | | |
| Campus | n | 692 | | 733 | | 989 | | | 5042 | | |
| Environment | SD | 18.5 | | 19.2 | | 18.7 | | | 19.1 | | |
| | SEM | .70 | | .71 | | .59 | | | .27 | | |
| | Upper | 55.3 | | 53.0 | | 53.5 | | | 54.5 | | |
| | Lower | 52.5 | | 50.2 | | 51.2 | | | 53.4 | | |
| | | | | ** | | | | | | | |

^a n=number of respondents; SD =standard deviation; SEM =standard error of the mean; Upper/Lower=95% confidence interval limits

PSIS: 35015001

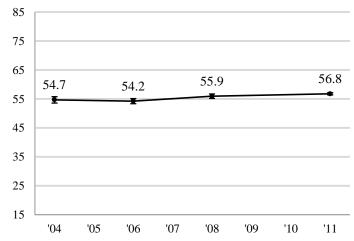


NSSE 2011 Multi-Year Benchmark Report Multi-Year Charts

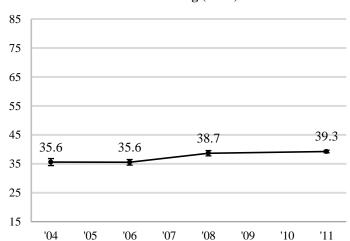
University of Toronto

Seniors

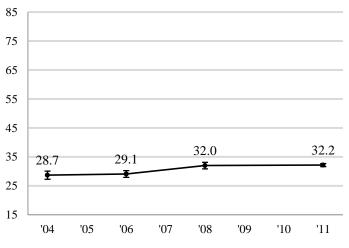
Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)



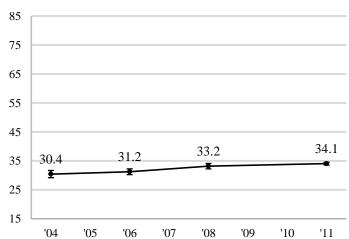
Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)



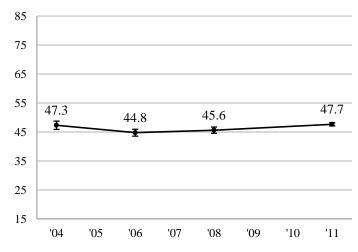
Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)



Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE)



Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)



Notes:

- Benchmark scores are charted for all years of participation. See page 7 for detailed statistics.
- For more information and recommendations for analyzing multi-year NSSE data, consult the *Multi-Year Data Analysis Guide*. nsse.iub.edu/pdf/MYDAG.pdf



NSSE 2011 Multi-Year Benchmark Report Detailed Statistics^a

University of Toronto

| | | Seniors | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| | | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | |
| Level of | LAC | 54.7 | | 54.2 | | 55.9 | | | 56.8 | |
| Academic | n | 604 | | 950 | | 1138 | | | 5041 | |
| Challenge | SD | 14.0 | | 14.0 | | 13.2 | | | 14.0 | |
| | SEM | .57 | | .45 | | .39 | | | .20 | |
| | Upper | 55.8 | | 55.1 | | 56.7 | | | 57.1 | |
| | Lower | 53.6 | | 53.4 | | 55.2 | | | 56.4 | |
| Active and | ACL | 35.6 | | 35.6 | | 38.7 | | | 39.3 | |
| Collaborative | n | 604 | | 991 | | 1193 | | | 5222 | |
| Learning | SD | 15.0 | | 15.7 | | 16.1 | | | 16.3 | |
| | SEM | .61 | | .50 | | .46 | | | .22 | |
| | Upper | 36.8 | | 36.5 | | 39.6 | | | 39.7 | |
| | Lower | 34.4 | | 34.6 | | 37.8 | | | 38.8 | |
| Student | SFI | 28.7 | | 29.1 | | 32.0 | | | 32.2 | |
| Faculty Interaction | n | 603 | | 959 | | 1144 | | | 5060 | |
| | SD | 17.6 | | 18.4 | | 19.3 | | | 19.7 | |
| | SEM | .72 | | .59 | | .57 | | | .28 | |
| | Upper | 30.1 | | 30.3 | | 33.1 | | | 32.7 | |
| | Lower | 27.3 | | 27.9 | | 30.9 | | | 31.6 | |
| Enriching | EEE | 30.4 | | 31.2 | | 33.2 | | | 34.1 | |
| Educational | n | 604 | | 933 | | 1119 | | | 4979 | |
| Experiences | SD | 15.5 | | 15.3 | | 16.0 | | | 16.5 | |
| | SEM | .63 | | .50 | | .48 | | | .23 | |
| | Upper | 31.7 | | 32.2 | | 34.1 | | | 34.5 | |
| | Lower | 29.2 | | 30.3 | | 32.3 | | | 33.6 | |
| Supportive | SCE | 47.3 | | 44.8 | | 45.6 | | | 47.7 | |
| Campus | n | 604 | | 922 | | 1109 | | | 4926 | |
| Environment | SD | 17.9 | | 18.3 | | 18.2 | | | 19.4 | |
| | SEM | .73 | | .60 | | .55 | | | .28 | |
| | Upper | 48.8 | | 45.9 | | 46.7 | | | 48.2 | |
| | Lower | 45.9 | | 43.6 | | 44.6 | | | 47.1 | |

^a n=number of respondents; *SD* =standard deviation; *SEM* =standard error of the mean; Upper/Lower=95% confidence interval limits

PSIS: 35015001