NSSE 2025 Snapshot

Northern Michigan University

A Summary of Student Engagement Results

Student engagement represents two critical features of collegiate quality. The first is the amount of time and effort students put into their studies and other educationally purposeful activities. The second is how institutional resources, courses, and other learning opportunities facilitate student participation in activities that matter to student learning. NSSE surveys undergraduate students in their first and final years to assess their levels of engagement and related information about their experience at your institution.

Comparison Group

The comparison group featured in this report is

Great Lakes Public

See your *Selected Comparison Groups* report for details.

This Snapshot is a concise collection of key findings from your institution's NSSE administration. We hope this information stimulates discussions about the undergraduate experience. Additional details about these and other results appear in the reports referenced throughout.

Engagement Indicators

Sets of items are grouped into ten Engagement Indicators, organized under four broad themes. At right are summary results for your institution. For details, see your *Engagement Indicators* report.

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.

Theme	*Engagement Indicator*	**Your students** compared with Great Lakes Public: *First-year*	*Senior*
Academic Challenge	Higher-Order Learning	--	--
	Reflective & Integrative Learning	--	△
	Learning Strategies	▽	--
	Quantitative Reasoning	--	--
Learning with Peers	Collaborative Learning	▽	△
	Discussions with Diverse Others	▽	▽
Experiences with Faculty	Student-Faculty Interaction	--	△
	Effective Teaching Practices	--	△
Campus Environment	Quality of Interactions	--	△
	Supportive Environment	--	--

High-Impact Practices

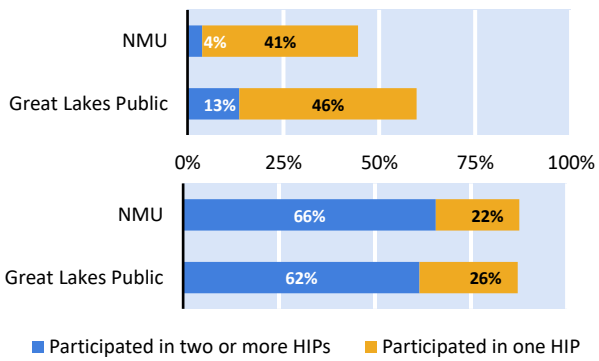
Due to their positive associations with student learning and retention, certain undergraduate opportunities are designated "high-impact." For more details and statistical comparisons, see your *High-Impact Practices* report.

First-year

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

Senior

Service-Learning, Learning Community, Research w/Faculty, Internship, Study Abroad, and Culminating Senior Experience

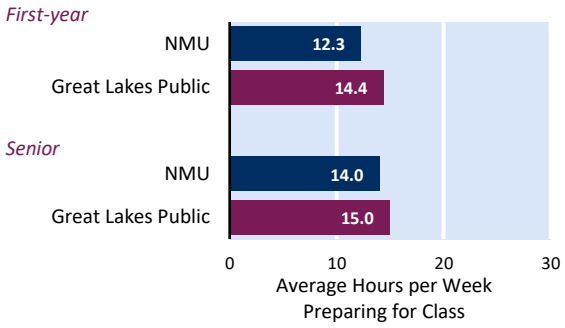


Academic Challenge: Additional Results

The Academic Challenge theme contains four Engagement Indicators as well as several important individual items. The results presented here provide an overview of these individual items. For more information about the Academic Challenge theme, see your *Engagement Indicators* report. To further explore individual item results, see your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons,* the *Major Field Report,* the *Online Institutional Report,* or the Report Builder.

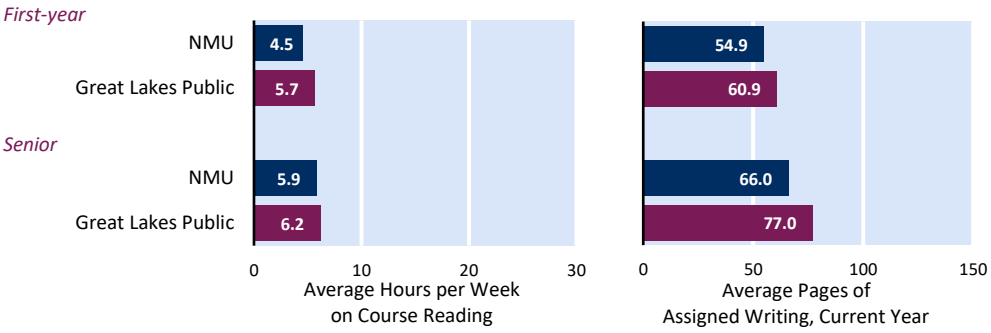
Time Spent Preparing for Class

This figure reports the average weekly class preparation time for your students compared to students in your comparison group.



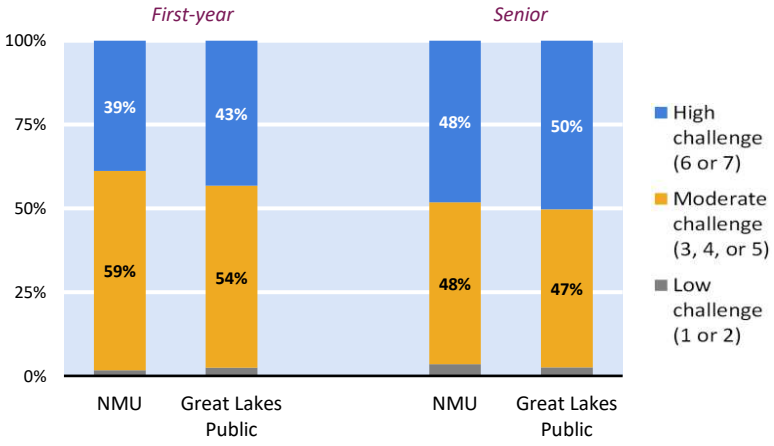
Reading and Writing

These figures summarize the number of hours your students spent reading for their courses and the average number of pages of assigned writing compared to students in your comparison group. Each is an estimate calculated from two or more separate survey questions.



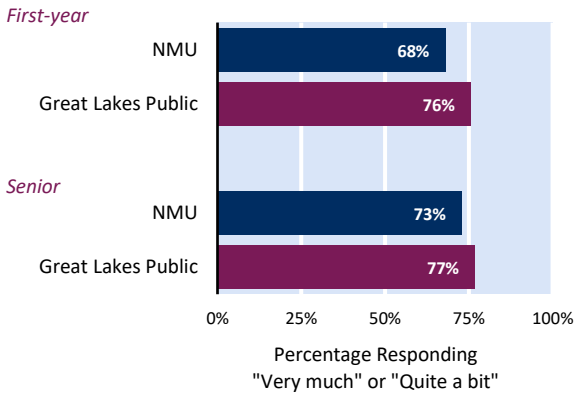
Challenging Students to Do Their Best Work

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



Academic Emphasis

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



Item Comparisons

By examining individual NSSE questions, you can better understand what contributes to your institution's performance on the Engagement Indicators. This section displays the five questions[a] on which your students scored the highest and the five questions on which they scored the lowest, relative to students in your comparison group. Parenthetical notes indicate whether an item belongs to a specific Engagement Indicator or is a High-Impact Practice. While these questions represent the largest differences (in percentage points), they may not be the most important to your institutional mission or current program or policy goals, or equally available to all students. For additional results, see your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report.

First-year

Highest Performing Relative to Great Lakes Public

Discussions with…People with sexual orientations other than your own

Included diverse perspectives (…) in course discussions or assignments[b] (RI)

Quality of interactions with faculty[d] (QI)

Quality of interactions with academic advisors[d] (QI)

Institution emphasis on attending events that address important social/econ./polit. issues[c] (SE)

Lowest Performing Relative to Great Lakes Public

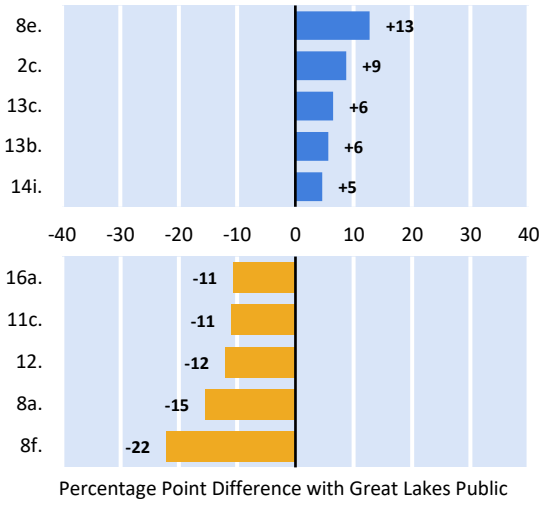
Spent more than 15 hours per week preparing for class

Participated in a learning community or some other formal program where… (HIP)

About how many courses have included a community-based project (service-learning)?[e] (HIP)

Discussions with… People of races or ethnicities other than your own[b] (DD)

Discussions with…People from countries other than your own



Senior

Highest Performing Relative to Great Lakes Public

Quality of interactions with academic advisors[d] (QI)

Talked about career plans with a faculty member[b] (SF)

Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments[b] (RI)

Connected your learning to societal problems or issues[b] (RI)

Instructors provided feedback on a draft or work in progress[c] (ET)

Lowest Performing Relative to Great Lakes Public

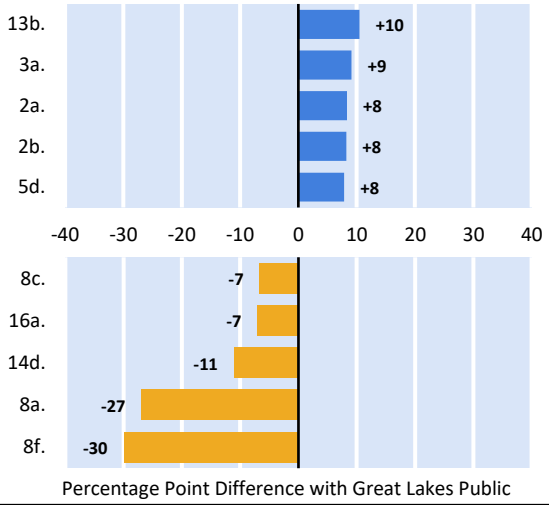
Discussions with… People with religious beliefs other than your own[b] (DD)

Spent more than 15 hours per week preparing for class

Institution emphasis on encouraging contact among students from different backgrounds…[c] (SE)

Discussions with… People of races or ethnicities other than your own[b] (DD)

Discussions with…People from countries other than your own



a. The items on this page come from the Engagement Indicators (EIs), High-Impact Practices (HIPs), Sense of Belonging (SB), the academic challenge questions on page 2, and four additional questions about effective teaching (new in 2021). Key to abbreviations for EI items: HO = Higher-Order Learning, RI = Reflective & Integrative Learning, LS = Learning Strategies, QR = Quantitative Reasoning, CL = Collaborative Learning, DD = Discussions with Diverse Others, SF = Student-Faculty Interaction, ET = Effective Teaching Practices, QI = Quality of Interactions, SE = Supportive Environment.

b. Combination of students responding "very often" or "often."

c. Combination of students responding "very much" or "quite a bit."

d. Rated at least 6 on a 7-point scale.

e. Percentage reporting at least "some."

f. Estimate based on the reported amount of course preparation time spent on assigned reading.

g. Estimate based on number of assigned writing tasks of various lengths.

h. Combination of students responding "strongly agree" or "agree."

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How Students Assess Their Experience

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

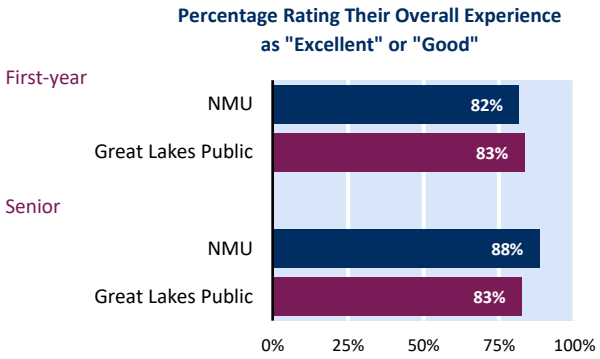
Perceived Gains Among Seniors

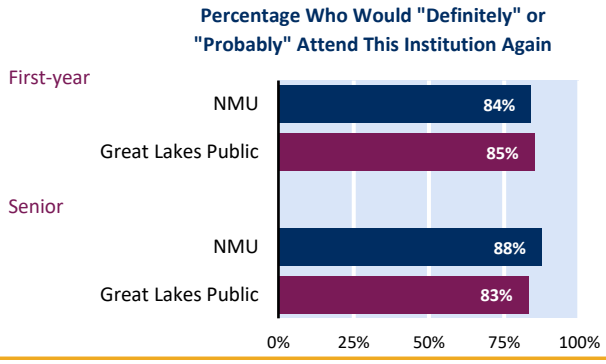
Students reported how much their experience at your institution contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development in ten areas.

Perceived Gains (Sorted highest to lowest)	Percentage of Seniors Responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit"
Thinking critically and analytically	86%
Working effectively with others	79%
Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills	74%
Writing clearly and effectively	69%
Speaking clearly and effectively	68%
Analyzing numerical and statistical information	68%
Solving complex real-world problems	66%
Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics	65%
Understanding people of other backgrounds (econ., racial/ethnic, polit., relig., nation., etc.)	61%
Being an informed and active citizen	59%

Satisfaction with NMU

Students rated their overall experience at the institution, and whether or not they would choose it again.





Administration Details

Response Summary

	Count	Resp. rate	Female	Full-time
First-year	324	42%	66%	96%
Senior	513	41%	71%	88%

See your *Administration Summary* and *Respondent Profile* reports for more information.

Additional Questions

Your institution administered the following additional question set(s):

Academic Advising

First-Year Experiences & Senior Transitions

See your *Topical Module* report(s) for results.

What is NSSE?

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

NSSE has been in operation since 2000 and has been used at nearly 1,700 colleges and universities in the US and Canada. More than 90% of participating institutions administer the survey on a periodic basis.

Visit our website: **nsse.iu.edu**

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