

### **Cape Breton University**

### **Snapshot**

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

### **Comparison Group**

The comparison group featured in this report is

#### Canada

See your *Selected Comparison Groups* report for details.

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

### **High-Impact Practices (HIPs)**

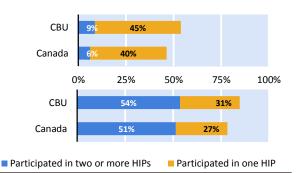
Due to their positive associations with student learning and retention, special undergraduate opportunities are designated "high-impact." For more details and statistical comparisons, see your *High-Impact Practices* report.

#### First-year

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

#### Senior

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



#### **Administration Summary**

	Count	Resp. rate	Female	Full-time
First-year	261	32%	52%	80%
Senior	203	41%	74%	87%

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

### **Additional Questions**

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

Refer to your Topical Module report(s) for complete results.



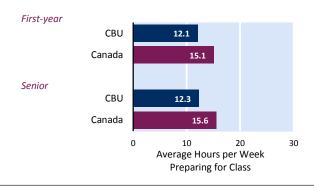
### **Cape Breton University**

### **Academic Challenge: Additional Results**

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

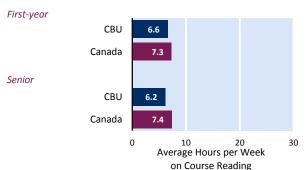
### **Time Spent Preparing for Class**

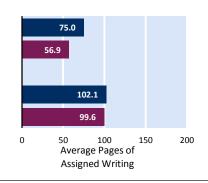
This figure reports the average weekly class preparation time for your first-year and senior students compared to students in your comparison group.



### **Reading and Writing**

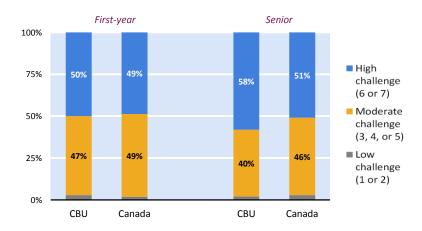
These figures report the average number of hours your students spent reading for their courses and the average number of pages of assigned writing compared to students in your comparison group.





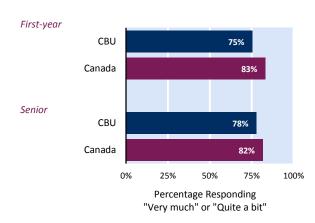
### **Challenging Courses**

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



### **Academic Emphasis**

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





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### **Item Comparisons**

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

#### First-year

#### **Highest Performing Relative to Canada**

Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class<sup>b</sup> (SF)

About how many...courses have included a community-based project (service-learning)?<sup>e</sup> (HIP)

Reviewed your notes after class<sup>b</sup> (LS)

Talked about career plans with a faculty member (SF)

Instructors... Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments<sup>c</sup> (ET)

### **Lowest Performing Relative to Canada**

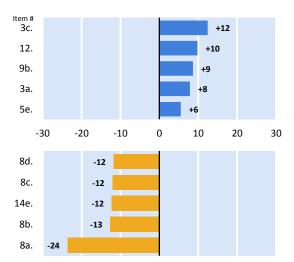
Discussions with... People with political views other than your own<sup>b</sup> (DD)

Discussions with... People with religious beliefs other than your own b (DD)

Inst. emphasizes... Providing opportunities to be involved socially<sup>c</sup> (SE)

Discussions with... People from an economic background other than your own (DD)

Discussions with... People of a race or ethnicity other than your own<sup>b</sup> (DD)



Percentage Point Difference with Canada

#### Senior

### **Highest Performing Relative to Canada**

 $About \ how \ many... courses \ have \ included \ a \ community-based \ project \ (service-learning)?^e \ (HIP)$ 

Instructors... Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments<sup>c</sup> (ET)

Inst. emphasizes... Using learning support services (...)<sup>c</sup> (SE)

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

Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member (SF)

#### **Lowest Performing Relative to Canada**

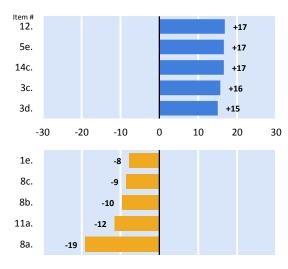
Asked another student to help you understand course material (CL)

Discussions with... People with religious beliefs other than your own<sup>b</sup> (DD)

Discussions with... People from an economic background other than your own (DD)

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

Discussions with... People of a race or ethnicity other than your own<sup>b</sup> (DD)



Percentage Point Difference with Canada

a. The displays on this page draw from the 53 items that make up the ten Engagement Indicators and six High-Impact Practices. Key to abbreviations: HO = Higher-Order Learning, RI = Reflective & Integrative Learning, LS = Learning Strategies, QR = Quantitative Reasoning, CL = Collaborative Learning, DD = Discussions with Diverse Others, SF = Student-Faculty Interaction, ET = Effective Teaching Practices, QI = Quality of Interactions, SE = Supportive Environment, HIP = High-Impact Practice. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile included in your Institutional Report and available on the NSSE Web site.

b. Combination of students responding "Very often" or "Often."

c. Combination of students responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit."

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

e. Percentage reporting at least "Some."



### **Cape Breton University**

### **How Students Assess their Experience**

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

#### **Perceived Gains Among Seniors**

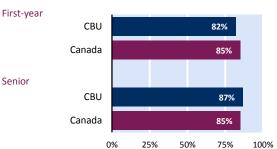
Students reported how much their experience at your institution contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development in ten areas.

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

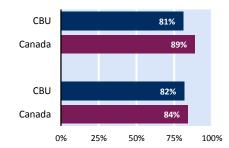
#### Satisfaction with CBU

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

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



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



#### What is NSSE?

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

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

Visit our Web site: nsse.iub.edu

### **Try the Institutional Report Builder**

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

First-year

Senior



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

nsse.iub.edu/links/interface

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