NSSE Benchmark Report

November 2005

Texas Tech University

National Survey
of Student Engagement

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NSSE 2005 Benchmark Report

Texas Tech University

To focus discussions about the importance of student engagement and guide institutional improvement efforts, NSSE created five clusters or benchmarks of effective educational practice: (1) Level of academic challenge, (2) Active and collaborative learning, (3) Student-faculty interaction, (4) Enriching educational experiences, and (5) Supportive campus environment. Using approximately 225,000 randomly selected students from 518 institutions that participated in NSSE 2005, this Benchmark Report compares the performance of your institution with its selected peer group, Carnegie group, and the 2005 national norms. In addition, page 8 provides two other comparisons between your school and above-average institutions with benchmarks in the top 50% nationally and high-performing institutions with benchmarks in the top 10% nationally. These displays allow you to determine if the engagement of your typical student differs in a statistically significant, meaningful way from the average student in these comparison groups. More detailed information about how benchmarks are created can be found in the 2005 annual report and on the NSSE website at nsse.iub.edu.

Guide to Your Benchmark Report

Statistical Significance
Benchmarks with mean differences that are larger than would be expected by chance alone are noted with one, two, or three asterisks, denoting one of three significance levels ($p<.05$, $p<.01$, and $p<.001$). The smaller the significance level, the smaller the likelihood that the difference is due to chance. Please note that statistical significance does not guarantee that the result is substantive or important. Large sample sizes (like those seen with NSSE data) tend to produce more statistically significant results even though the magnitude of mean differences may be inconsequential.

Class
Means are reported for first-year students and seniors. Only students who were part of the base random sample or random oversample are included in these analyses. Students in targeted oversamples are not included.

Mean
The mean is the weighted arithmetic average of student level benchmark scores. Although institutional benchmark score calculations have not changed from prior years, reference group calculations were revised in 2005.

Benchmark Description & Survey Items
A theoretical rationale for measuring the benchmark and the individual items used in its creation are summarized.

Effect Size
Effect size indicates the "practical significance" of the mean difference. It is calculated by dividing the mean difference by the standard deviation of the group with which the institution is being compared (selected peers, Carnegie type, or 2005 national norm). In practice, an effect size of .2 is often considered small, .5 moderate, and .8 large. A positive sign indicates that your institution's mean was greater, thus showing an affirmative result for the institution. A negative sign indicates the institution lags behind the comparison group. Look for patterns of effect sizes that point to areas of student or institutional performance that warrant attention.

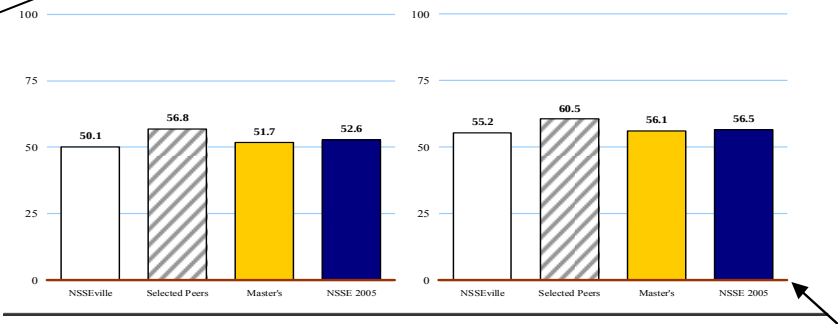
Bar Charts
A visual display of first-year and senior mean benchmark scores for your institution and three reference groups.

Level of Academic Challenge

Benchmark Mean Comparisons

NSSEville compared with:

Class	NSSEville Mean	Selected Peers Mean	Sig	Effect Size	Master's Mean	Sig	Effect Size	NSSE 2005 Mean	Sig	Effect Size
First-Year	50.1	56.8	***	-.51	51.7	***	-.17	52.6	***	-.24
Seniors	55.2	60.5	***	-.42	56.1	**	-.12	56.5	***	-.15



Level of Academic Challenge 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.

- Preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, rehearsing, 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; number of written papers or reports of between 5 and 19 pages; and number of written papers or reports of fewer than 5 pages
- Coursework emphasizing analysis of the basic elements of an idea, experience or theory
- Coursework emphasizing synthesis and organizing of ideas, information, or experiences into new, more complex interpretations and relationships
- Coursework emphasizing the making of judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods
- Coursework emphasizing application of 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 emphasizing time studying and on academic work

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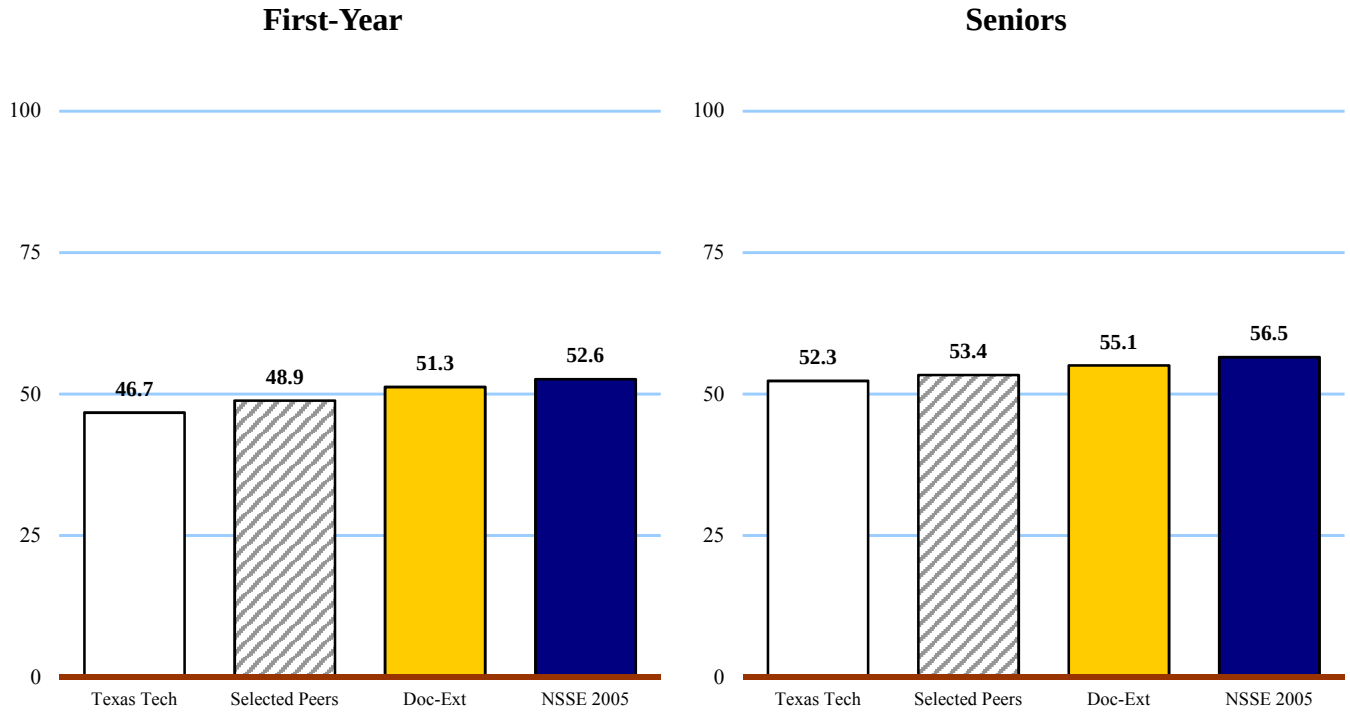
NSSE 2005 Benchmark Report
Mean Comparisons
Texas Tech University

Level of Academic Challenge

Benchmark Mean Comparisons

Texas Tech compared with:

	Texas Tech	Selected Peers			Doc-Ext			NSSE 2005		
Class	*Mean*	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]
First-Year	46.7	48.9	**	-.17	51.3	***	-.34	52.6	***	-.44
Seniors	52.3	53.4		-.07	55.1	**	-.19	56.5	***	-.30



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- Coursework emphasizing the making of judgments about the value of information, arguments, or methods
- Coursework emphasizing application of 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 emphasizing time studying and on academic work

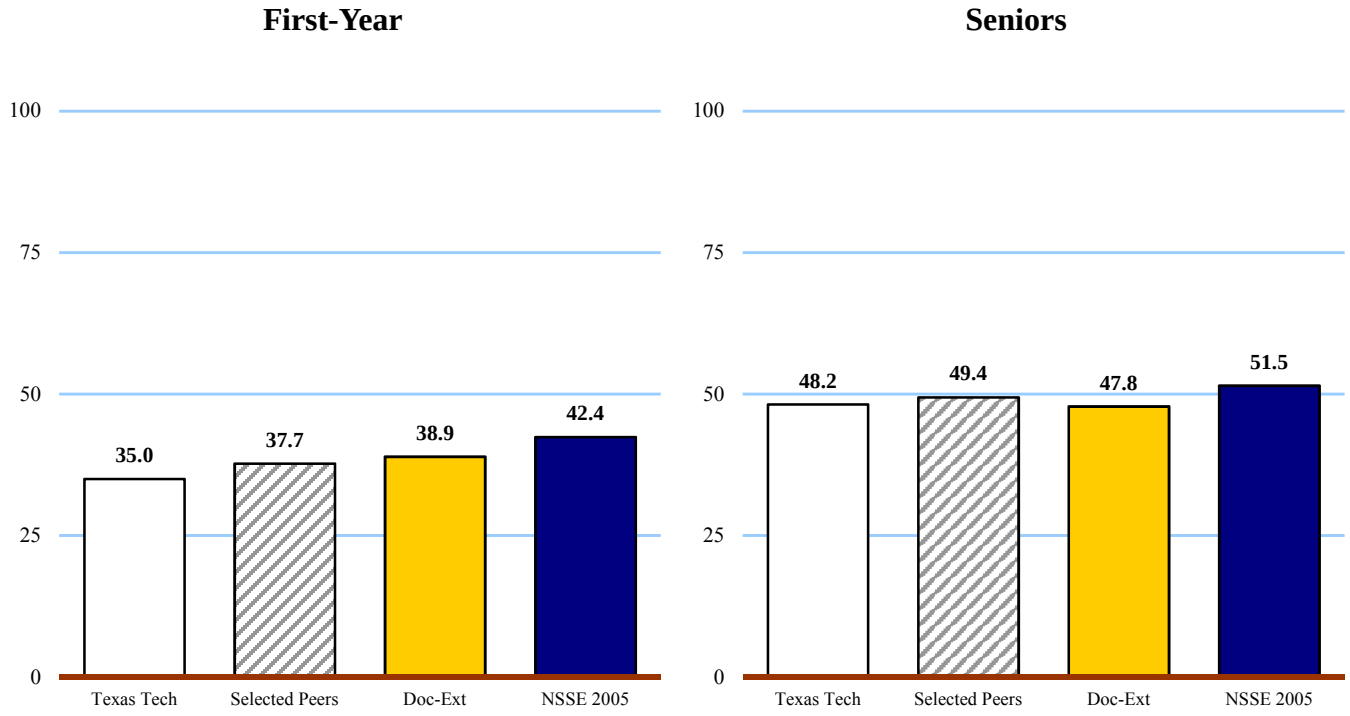
a * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).
b Effect size = mean difference divided by comparison group standard deviation.

Active and Collaborative Learning

Benchmark Mean Comparisons

Texas Tech compared with:

	Texas Tech	Selected Peers			Doc-Ext			NSSE 2005		
Class	*Mean*	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]
First-Year	35.0	37.7	**	-.18	38.9	***	-.25	42.4	***	-.47
Seniors	48.2	49.4		-.07	47.8		.02	51.5	***	-.19



Active and Collaborative Learning 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
- Participated in a community-based project as part of a regular course
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)

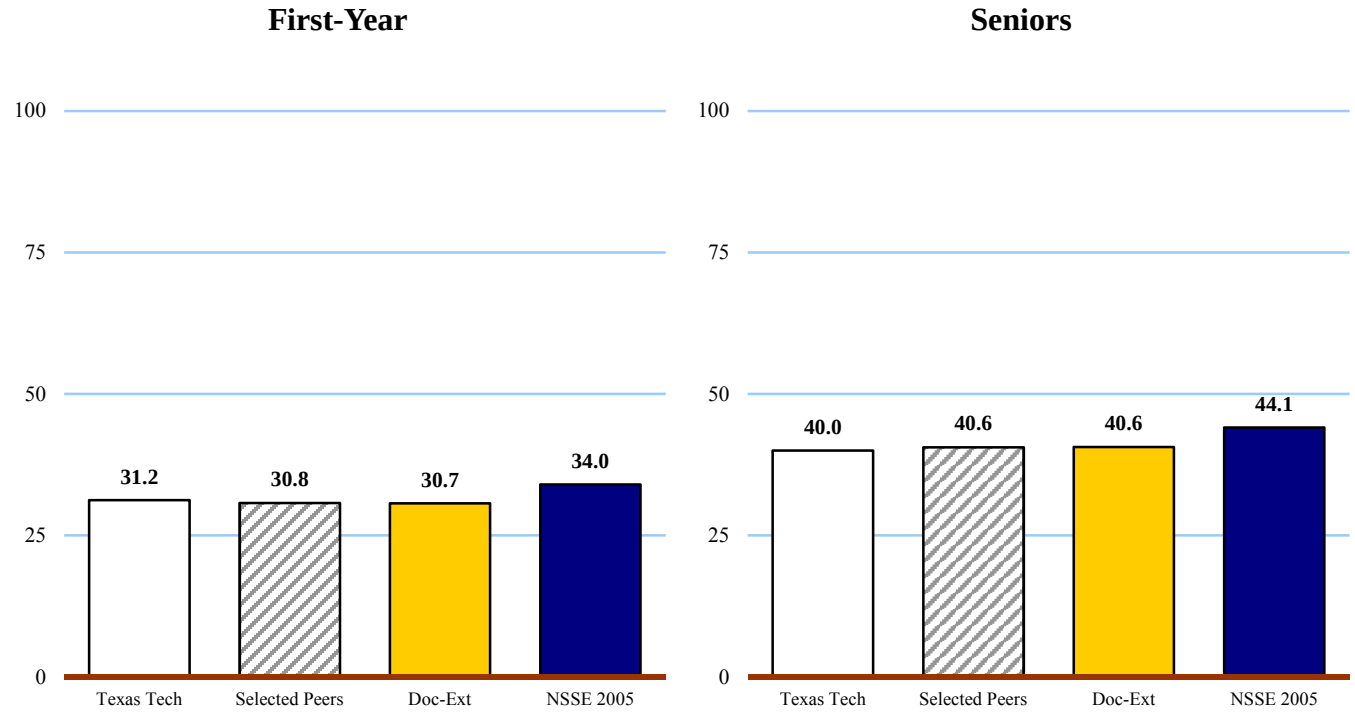
a * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).
b Effect size = mean difference divided by comparison group standard deviation.

Student-Faculty Interaction

Benchmark Mean Comparisons

Texas Tech compared with:

	Texas Tech	Selected Peers			Doc-Ext			NSSE 2005		
Class	*Mean*	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]
First-Year	31.2	30.8		.03	30.7		.03	34.0	**	-.16
Seniors	40.0	40.6		-.03	40.6		-.03	44.1	**	-.19



Student-Faculty Interaction 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 feedback from faculty on your academic performance (written or oral)
- Worked with a faculty member on a research project outside of course or program requirements

a * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).
b Effect size = mean difference divided by comparison group standard deviation.

National Survey of Student Engagement

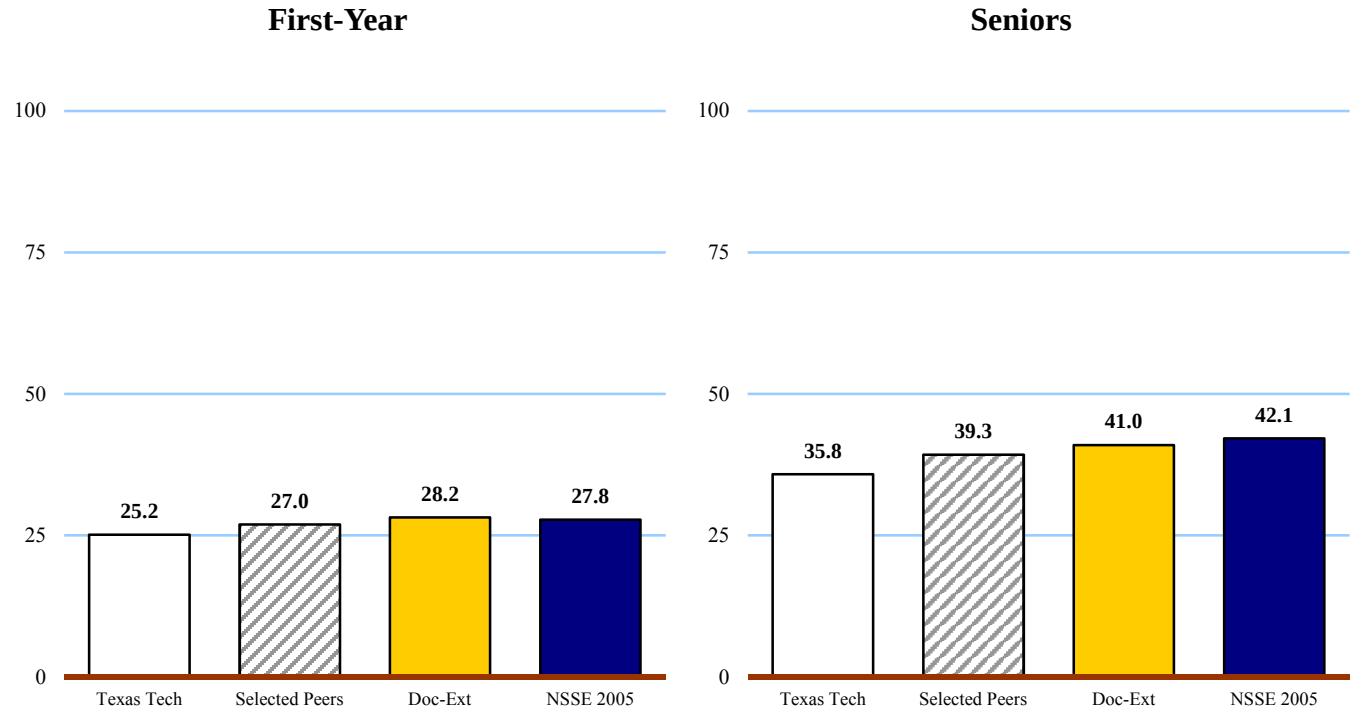
NSSE 2005 Benchmark Report
Mean Comparisons
Texas Tech University

Enriching Educational Experiences

Benchmark Mean Comparisons

Texas Tech compared with:

	Texas Tech	Selected Peers			Doc-Ext			NSSE 2005		
Class	*Mean*	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]
First-Year	25.2	27.0	*	-.14	28.2	***	-.24	27.8	***	-.21
Seniors	35.8	39.3	***	-.21	41.0	***	-.30	42.1	***	-.35



Enriching Educational Experiences Items

Complementary learning opportunities in and out of class augment 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.

- Participating in co-curricular activities (organizations, publications, student government, sports, etc.)
- Practicum, internship, field experience, co-op experience, or clinical assignment
- Community service or volunteer work
- Foreign language coursework & study abroad
- Independent study or self-designed major
- Culminating senior experience (comprehensive exam, capstone course, thesis, project, etc.)
- Serious conversations with students of different religious beliefs, political opinions, or personal values
- Serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity
- Using electronic technology 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

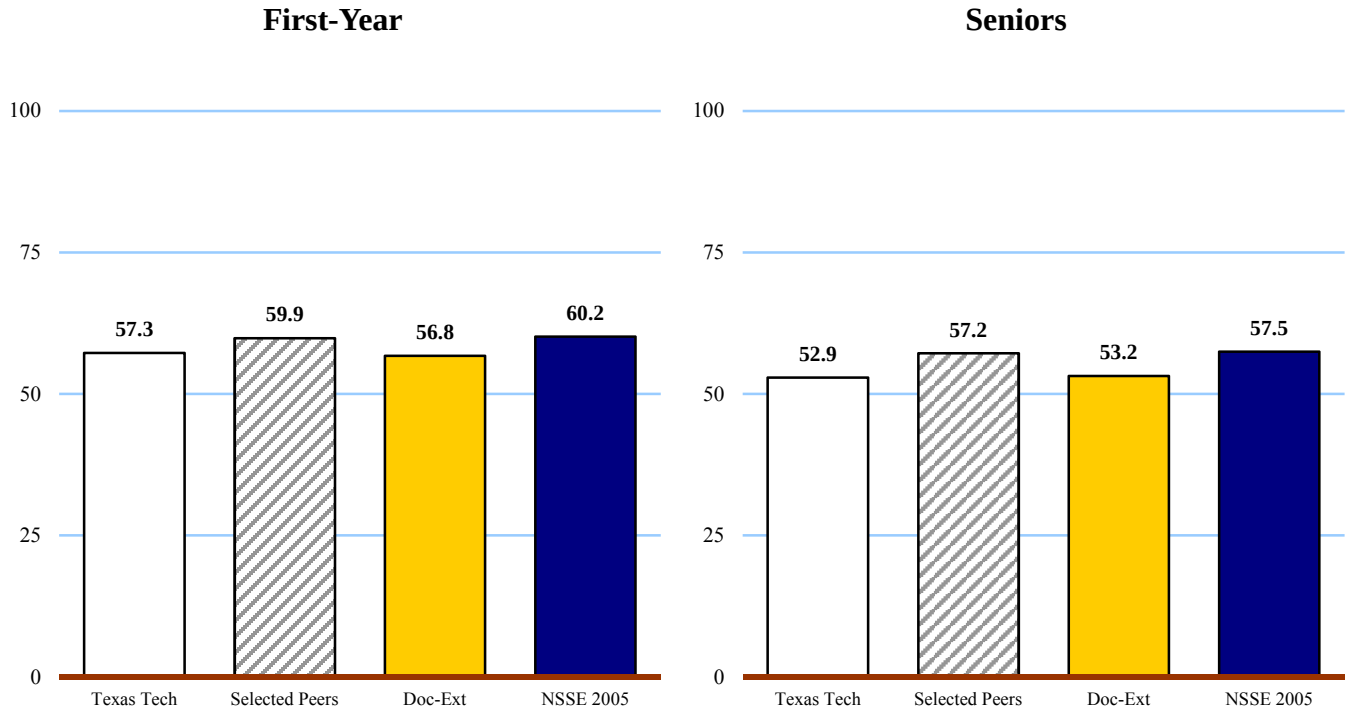
a * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).
b Effect size = mean difference divided by comparison group standard deviation.

Supportive Campus Environment

Benchmark Mean Comparisons

Texas Tech compared with:

	Texas Tech	Selected Peers			Doc-Ext			NSSE 2005		
Class	*Mean*	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]	*Mean*	*Sig* [a]	*Effect Size* [b]
First-Year	57.3	59.9	*	-.14	56.8		.03	60.2	**	-.16
Seniors	52.9	57.2	***	-.24	53.2		-.01	57.5	***	-.25



Supportive Campus Environment 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

a * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).
b Effect size = mean difference divided by comparison group standard deviation.

Texas Tech compared with

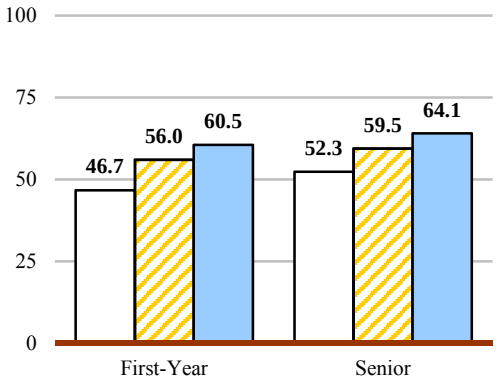
		Texas Tech	NSSE 2005 Top 50%			NSSE 2005 Top 10%		
		mean	*mean*	*sig* [a]	*effect size* [b]	*mean*	*sig* [a]	*effect size* [b]
First-Year	LAC	46.7	56.0	***	-.73	60.5	***	-1.15
	ACL	35.0	46.3	***	-.72	50.6	***	-.98
	SFI	31.2	37.8	***	-.36	42.4	***	-.60
	EEE	25.2	30.4	***	-.41	33.9	***	-.71
	SCE	57.3	64.5	***	-.42	69.5	***	-.74
Senior	LAC	52.3	59.5	***	-.52	64.1	***	-.92
	ACL	48.2	55.1	***	-.42	59.5	***	-.68
	SFI	40.0	49.6	***	-.45	56.9	***	-.79
	EEE	35.8	47.8	***	-.68	55.9	***	-1.23
	SCE	52.9	62.5	***	-.54	67.0	***	-.82

Legend

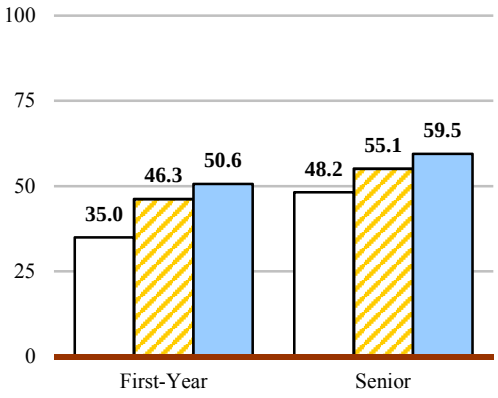
- Texas Tech
- Top 50%
- Top 10%

This display compares your students with those attending schools that scored in the top 50% and top 10% of all NSSE 2005 institutions on the benchmark.

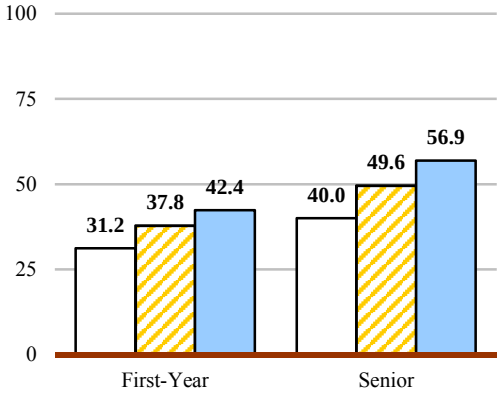
Level of Academic Challenge



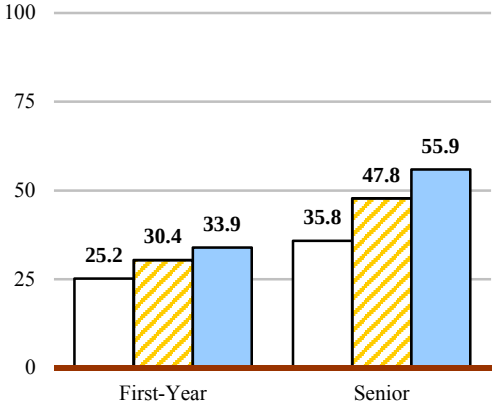
Active and Collaborative Learning



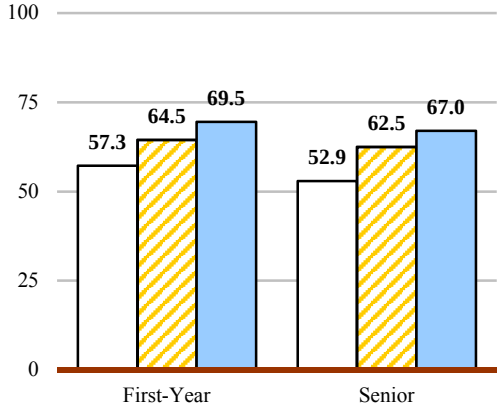
Student-Faculty Interaction



Enriching Educational Experiences



Supportive Campus Environment



a * p<.05 ** p<.01 ***p<.001 (2-tailed).
b Effect size = mean difference divided by comparison group standard deviation.

NSSE 2005 Benchmark Report
Detailed Benchmark Statistics and Effect Sizes
Texas Tech University

First-Year Students

		Mean Statistics					Distribution Statistics					Reference Group Comparison Statistics							
					Conf. Interval		Percentile Distribution					Mean		Conf. Interval			Effect	Conf. Interval	
	N	Mean	SD	SE	Lower	Upper	5	25	50	75	95	Diff.	SE	Lower	Upper	Sig.	size	Lower	Upper
LEVEL OF ACADEMIC CHALLENGE																			
Texas Tech	354	46.7	13.4	.7	45.3	48.1	25	38	47	55	69								
Selected Peers	2,776	48.9	12.8	.2	48.4	49.3	28	40	48	57	70	-2.1	.7	-3.5	-.7	.003	-.17	-.28	-.05
Doc-Ext	21,820	51.3	13.1	.1	51.1	51.4	30	42	51	60	73	-4.5	.7	-5.9	-3.1	.000	-.34	-.45	-.24
NSSE 2005	106,053	52.6	13.4	.0	52.6	52.7	31	44	53	62	75	-5.9	.7	-7.3	-4.5	.000	-.44	-.54	-.34
Top 50%	52,055	56.0	12.8	.1	55.9	56.1	35	47	56	65	77	-9.3	.7	-10.6	-8.0	.000	-.73	-.83	-.62
Top 10%	12,161	60.5	12.0	.1	60.3	60.7	40	52	61	69	80	-13.8	.7	-15.2	-12.4	.000	-1.15	-1.26	-1.03
ACTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE LEARNING																			
Texas Tech	394	35.0	16.0	.8	33.4	36.6	10	24	33	43	67								
Selected Peers	3,056	37.7	15.6	.3	37.2	38.3	14	29	38	48	67	-2.7	.8	-4.4	-1.1	.001	-.18	-.28	-.07
Doc-Ext	23,848	38.9	15.5	.1	38.7	39.1	17	29	38	48	67	-3.9	.8	-5.5	-2.4	.000	-.25	-.35	-.16
NSSE 2005	114,027	42.4	15.8	.0	42.3	42.5	19	33	43	52	71	-7.4	.8	-9.0	-5.8	.000	-.47	-.57	-.37
Top 50%	49,532	46.3	15.6	.1	46.1	46.4	24	33	43	57	75	-11.3	.8	-12.8	-9.7	.000	-.72	-.82	-.62
Top 10%	10,896	50.6	15.9	.2	50.3	50.9	29	38	48	62	76	-15.6	.8	-17.2	-14.0	.000	-.98	-1.08	-.88
STUDENT-FACULTY INTERACTION																			
Texas Tech	360	31.2	16.6	.9	29.5	33.0	11	22	28	39	61								
Selected Peers	2,816	30.8	16.7	.3	30.1	31.4	7	17	28	39	61	.5	.9	-1.4	2.3	.608	.03	-.08	.14
Doc-Ext	22,054	30.7	16.6	.1	30.4	30.9	11	17	28	39	61	.6	.9	-1.2	2.3	.513	.03	-.07	.14
NSSE 2005	107,172	34.0	17.6	.1	33.9	34.1	11	22	33	44	67	-2.8	.9	-4.6	-1.0	.003	-.16	-.26	-.06
Top 50%	44,956	37.8	18.2	.1	37.7	38.0	11	22	33	50	72	-6.6	.9	-8.3	-4.9	.000	-.36	-.46	-.27
Top 10%	8,844	42.4	18.5	.2	42.0	42.8	17	28	39	56	78	-11.2	.9	-12.9	-9.4	.000	-.60	-.70	-.51
ENRICHING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES																			
Texas Tech	347	25.2	12.6	.7	23.8	26.5	7	16	25	32	47								
Selected Peers	2,689	27.0	12.6	.2	26.5	27.4	8	18	26	35	48	-1.8	.7	-3.2	-.4	.012	-.14	-.25	-.03
Doc-Ext	21,254	28.2	12.7	.1	28.0	28.4	10	19	27	36	50	-3.1	.7	-4.4	-1.7	.000	-.24	-.35	-.13
NSSE 2005	103,470	27.8	12.8	.0	27.7	27.9	8	19	26	36	50	-2.7	.7	-4.0	-1.3	.000	-.21	-.31	-.10
Top 50%	55,533	30.4	12.7	.1	30.3	30.5	11	22	30	38	52	-5.3	.7	-6.6	-3.9	.000	-.41	-.52	-.31
Top 10%	10,423	33.9	12.4	.1	33.7	34.2	15	25	33	42	55	-8.8	.7	-10.1	-7.4	.000	-.71	-.81	-.60
SUPPORTIVE CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT																			
Texas Tech	342	57.3	17.6	.9	55.4	59.1	28	47	58	69	86								
Selected Peers	2,639	59.9	18.3	.4	59.2	60.6	31	47	61	72	89	-2.6	1.0	-4.7	-.6	.012	-.14	-.26	-.03
Doc-Ext	20,841	56.8	17.8	.1	56.5	57.0	28	44	58	69	86	.5	1.0	-1.4	2.4	.608	.03	-.08	.13
NSSE 2005	101,749	60.2	18.1	.1	60.0	60.3	31	47	61	72	89	-2.9	1.0	-4.8	-1.0	.003	-.16	-.27	-.05
Top 50%	46,610	64.5	17.3	.1	64.3	64.6	36	53	64	78	92	-7.2	.9	-9.1	-5.4	.000	-.42	-.52	-.31
Top 10%	8,245	69.5	16.5	.2	69.1	69.8	42	58	69	81	97	-12.2	.9	-14.0	-10.4	.000	-.74	-.85	-.63

Senior Students

		Mean Statistics					Distribution Statistics					Reference Group Comparison Statistics							
					Conf. Interval		Percentile Distribution					Mean		Conf. Interval			Effect	Conf. Interval	
	N	Mean	SD	SE	Lower	Upper	5	25	50	75	95	Diff.	SE	Lower	Upper	Sig.	size	Lower	Upper
LEVEL OF ACADEMIC CHALLENGE																			
Texas Tech	285	52.3	13.2	.8	50.8	53.9	29	44	52	61	74								
Selected Peers	3,061	53.4	14.2	.3	52.9	53.9	30	43	53	63	77	-1.0	.9	-2.8	.7	.236	-.07	-.19	.05
Doc-Ext	21,954	55.1	13.9	.1	54.9	55.2	32	46	55	65	78	-2.7	.8	-4.3	-1.1	.001	-.19	-.31	-.08
NSSE 2005	104,811	56.5	14.1	.0	56.4	56.6	33	47	57	67	79	-4.2	.8	-5.8	-2.5	.000	-.30	-.41	-.18
Top 50%	46,242	59.5	13.6	.1	59.3	59.6	37	50	60	69	81	-7.1	.8	-8.7	-5.5	.000	-.52	-.64	-.41
Top 10%	9,096	64.1	12.7	.1	63.8	64.3	42	56	65	73	84	-11.7	.8	-13.2	-10.2	.000	-.92	-1.04	-.80
ACTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE LEARNING																			
Texas Tech	310	48.2	16.2	.9	46.4	50.0	24	38	48	57	76								
Selected Peers	3,221	49.4	16.7	.3	48.9	50.0	24	38	48	62	81	-1.2	1.0	-3.2	.7	.208	-.07	-.19	.04
Doc-Ext	23,064	47.8	16.6	.1	47.6	48.0	24	38	48	57	76	.4	.9	-1.5	2.2	.694	.02	-.09	.13
NSSE 2005	108,825	51.5	16.9	.1	51.4	51.6	24	38	52	62	81	-3.3	1.0	-5.2	-1.4	.001	-.19	-.31	-.08
Top 50%	45,628	55.1	16.5	.1	55.0	55.3	29	43	52	67	86	-6.9	.9	-8.8	-5.1	.000	-.42	-.53	-.31
Top 10%	9,597	59.5	16.6	.2	59.2	59.8	33	48	57	71	86	-11.3	1.0	-13.2	-9.4	.000	-.68	-.79	-.57
STUDENT-FACULTY INTERACTION																			
Texas Tech	287	40.0	20.3	1.2	37.7	42.4	11	28	39	50	78								
Selected Peers	3,098	40.6	20.1	.4	39.9	41.3	11	28	39	56	78	-.6	1.2	-3.0	1.8	.639	-.03	-.15	.09
Doc-Ext	22,123	40.6	20.4	.1	40.3	40.9	11	28	39	56	78	-.6	1.2	-3.0	1.8	.630	-.03	-.15	.09
NSSE 2005	105,589	44.1	21.0	.1	44.0	44.2	17	28	39	56	83	-4.1	1.2	-6.5	-1.6	.001	-.19	-.31	-.08
Top 50%	42,492	49.6	21.1	.1	49.4	49.8	17	33	50	67	89	-9.6	1.2	-12.0	-7.2	.000	-.45	-.57	-.34
Top 10%	7,126	56.9	21.4	.3	56.4	57.4	22	39	56	72	94	-16.9	1.2	-19.3	-14.5	.000	-.79	-.90	-.68
ENRICHING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES																			
Texas Tech	272	35.8	15.5	.9	34.0	37.7	14	25	35	47	62								
Selected Peers	3,007	39.3	16.7	.3	38.7	39.9	14	27	39	50	69	-3.5	1.0	-5.5	-1.4	.001	-.21	-.33	-.09
Doc-Ext	21,562	41.0	17.4	.1	40.8	41.2	14	28	40	53	71	-5.2	.9	-7.0	-3.3	.000	-.30	-.40	-.19
NSSE 2005	103,279	42.1	18.1	.1	42.0	42.2	14	29	42	55	73	-6.3	.9	-8.1	-4.5	.000	-.35	-.45	-.25
Top 50%	49,935	47.8	17.5	.1	47.7	48.0	18	36	48	60	76	-12.0	.9	-13.8	-10.1	.000	-.68	-.79	-.58
Top 10%	9,212	55.9	16.3	.2	55.6	56.3	28	46	57	67	82	-20.1	1.0	-22.1	-18.1	.000	-1.23	-1.35	-1.11
SUPPORTIVE CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT																			
Texas Tech	265	52.9	18.6	1.1	50.7	55.1	22	39	56	67	83								
Selected Peers	2,968	57.2	18.3	.3	56.6	57.9	28	44	58	69	89	-4.3	1.2	-6.6	-2.0	.000	-.24	-.36	-.11
Doc-Ext	21,283	53.2	18.4	.1	52.9	53.4	22	42	53	67	83	-.3	1.1	-2.5	2.0	.820	-.01	-.14	.11
NSSE 2005	102,096	57.5	18.5	.1	57.4	57.6	28	44	58	69	89	-4.6	1.1	-6.8	-2.3	.000	-.25	-.37	-.13
Top 50%	39,784	62.5	17.6	.1	62.3	62.7	33	50	64	75	92	-9.6	1.1	-11.7	-7.5	.000	-.54	-.66	-.42
Top 10%	7,281	67.0	17.1	.2	66.6	67.4	36	56	67	78	94	-14.1	1.2	-16.3	-11.8	.000	-.82	-.95	-.69

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