



**National Survey
of Student Engagement**

Ferris State University

Multi-Year Benchmark Report

August 2008

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

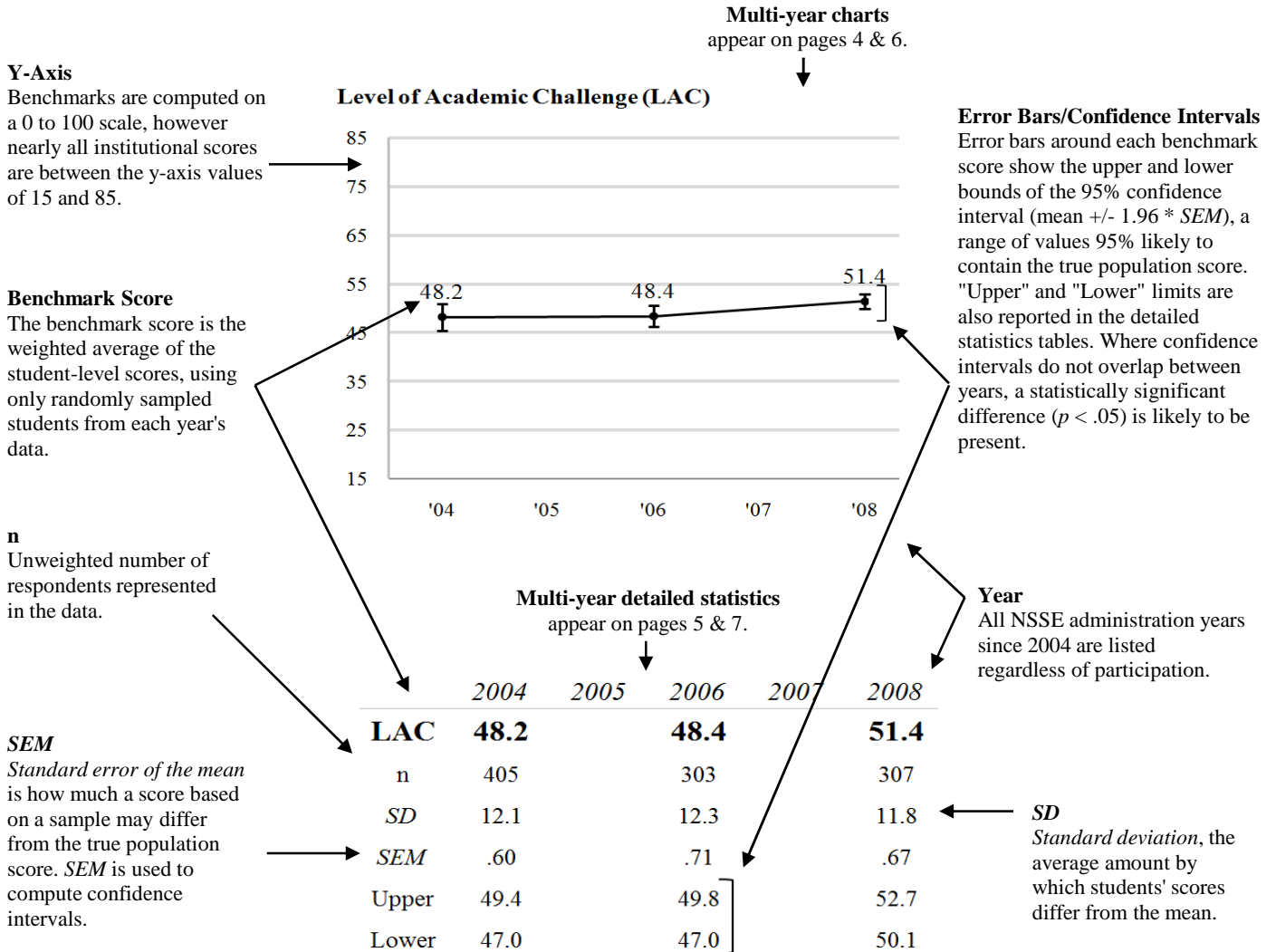
Questions that might be answered with this report include, “How stable was the level of student-faculty interaction over the years?” or “Given the implementation of initiative X in 2006-07, did the level of active and collaborative learning increase?”

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 participation, (b) *multi-year charts*, and (c) *detailed statistics*. Key terms and features of (b) and (c) are described below using data from the fictional “NSSEville State University.”

For more information and recommendations for analyzing past and present NSSE data for trends or stability, consult the *Multi-Year Data Analysis Guide*:

www.nsse.iub.edu/pdf/2008_Institutional_Report/Multiyear_Data_Guide.pdf.

Key Terms and Features in this Report



Some NSSE administrations yield more precise population estimates than others. The values in this table were drawn from the *Respondent Characteristics* reports for each NSSE administration. An important early step in conducting a multi-year analysis is to review the quality of your data for both first-year and senior respondents in each year.

Year ^a	Mode ^b	Response Rate ^c		Sampling Error ^d		Number of Respondents ^e	
		FY	SR	FY	SR	FY	SR
2004							
2005							
2006	Web	22%	18%	4.3%	4.8%	448	365
2007							
2008	Web	26%	27%	3.4%	3.4%	636	682

^a All NSSE administration years since 2001 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).

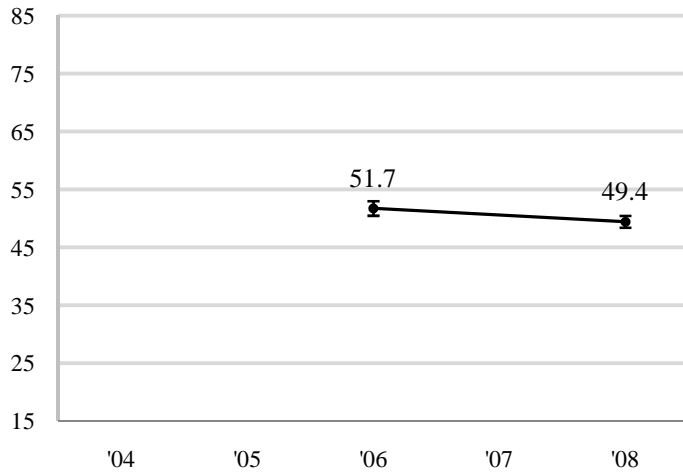
^c Response rates (number of respondents divided by sample size) were adjusted for ineligibility, nondeliverable mailing addresses, and students who were unavailable during the survey administration.

^d Sampling error gauges the precision of estimates 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 off hand, but any results using them should probably be interpreted more conservatively.

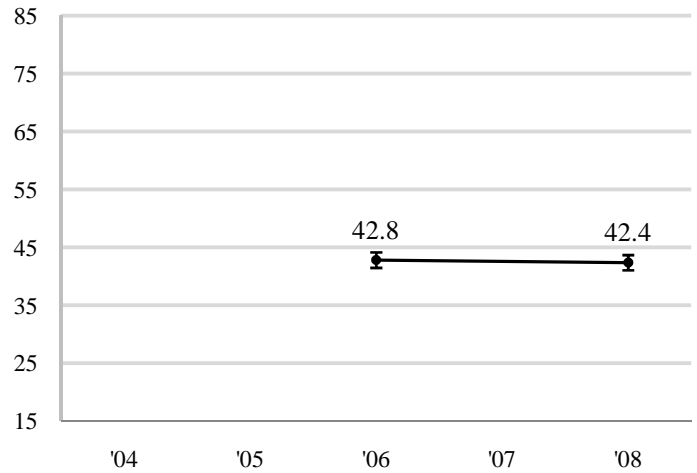
^e This is the original count used to calculate response rates and sampling errors for each administration's *Respondent Characteristics* report. This number includes all randomly sampled students. In 2004 and 2005 it may also include targeted oversamples. For this reason, the counts for 2004 and 2005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

First-Year Students

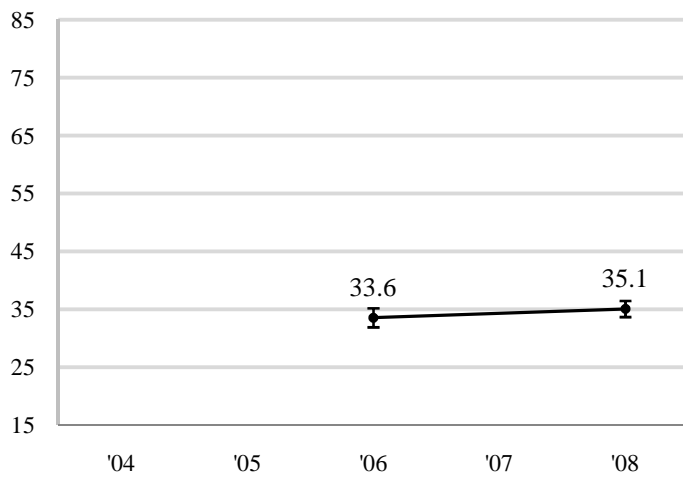
Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)



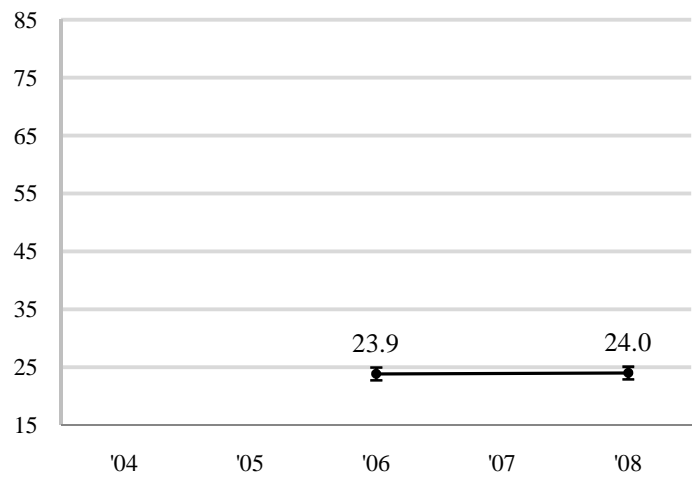
Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)



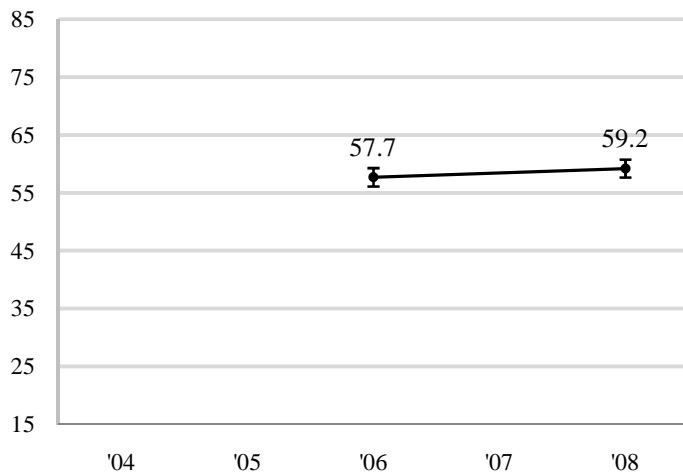
Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)



Enriching Educational Experiences (EEE)



Supportive Campus Environment (SCE)



Notes:

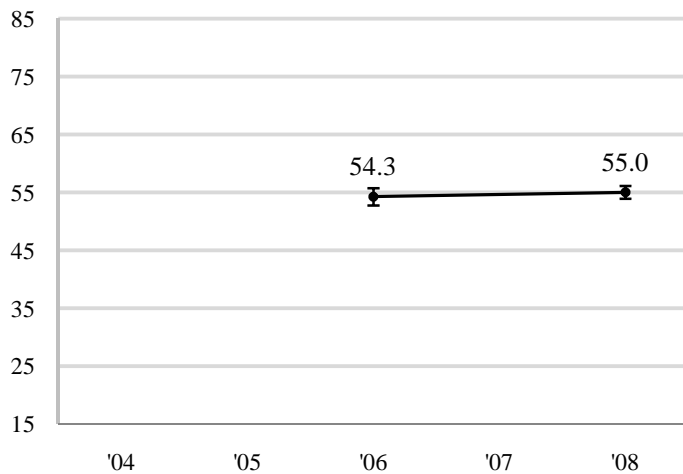
- Benchmark scores are charted for all years of participation. See page 5 for detailed statistics.
- For more information and recommendations for analyzing multi-year NSSE data, consult the *Multi-Year Data Analysis Guide*: www.nsse.iub.edu/pdf/2008_Institutional_Report/Multiyear_Data_Guide.pdf.

		First-Year Students				
		<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>
Level of Academic Challenge	LAC			51.7		49.4
	n			401		588
	<i>SD</i>			12.9		12.7
	<i>SEM</i>			.64		.52
	Upper			53.0		50.4
	Lower			50.5		48.4
Active and Collaborative Learning	ACL			42.8		42.4
	n			448		624
	<i>SD</i>			14.5		16.8
	<i>SEM</i>			.69		.67
	Upper			44.2		43.7
	Lower			41.5		41.0
Student Faculty Interaction	SFI			33.6		35.1
	n			407		587
	<i>SD</i>			17.0		17.2
	<i>SEM</i>			.84		.71
	Upper			35.2		36.5
	Lower			31.9		33.7
Enriching Educational Experiences	EEE			23.9		24.0
	n			385		576
	<i>SD</i>			11.1		13.5
	<i>SEM</i>			.57		.56
	Upper			25.0		25.1
	Lower			22.7		22.9
Supportive Campus Environment	SCE			57.7		59.2
	n			376		563
	<i>SD</i>			15.7		18.7
	<i>SEM</i>			.81		.79
	Upper			59.3		60.7
	Lower			56.1		57.6

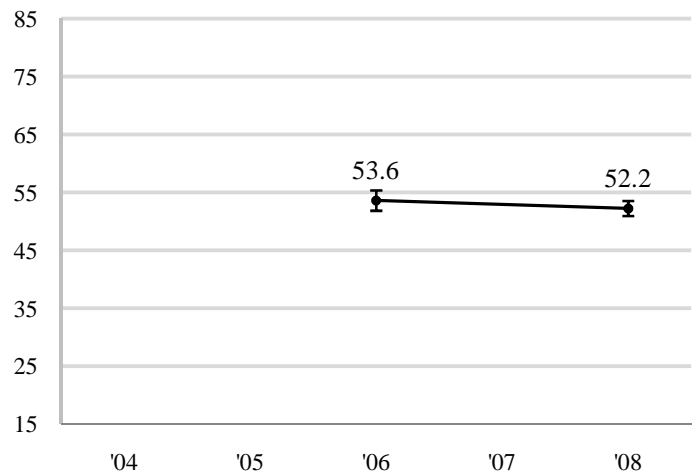
^a n=number of respondents; *SD* =standard deviation; *SEM* =standard error of the mean;
Upper/Lower=95% confidence interval limits

Seniors

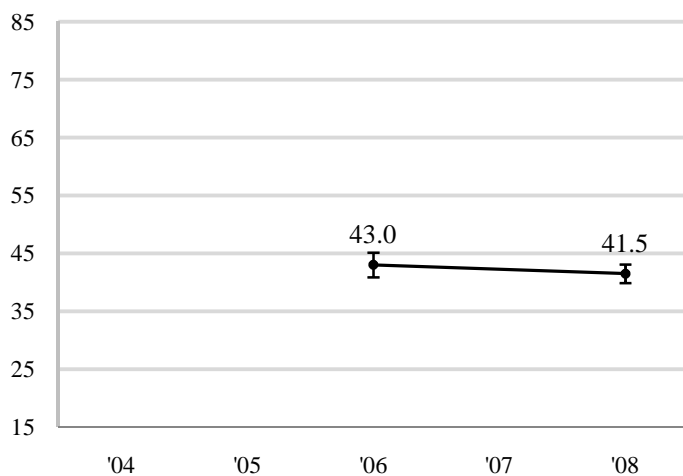
Level of Academic Challenge (LAC)



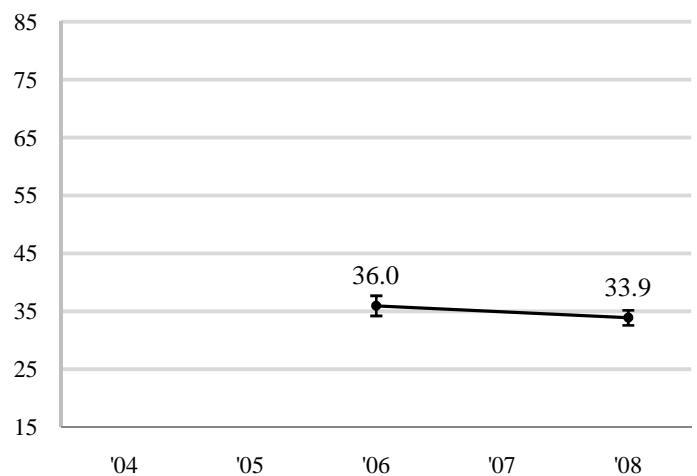
Active and Collaborative Learning (ACL)



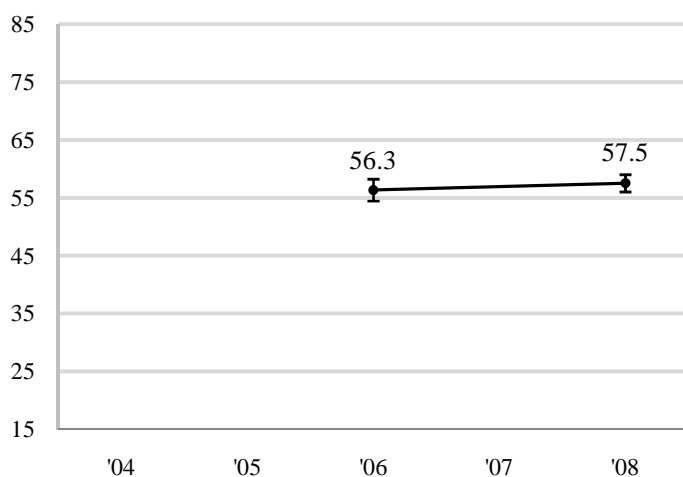
Student-Faculty Interaction (SFI)



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*: www.nsse.iub.edu/pdf/2008_Institutional_Report/Multiyear_Data_Guide.pdf.

Ferris State University

		Seniors				
		<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>
Level of Academic Challenge	LAC			54.3		55.0
	n			343		640
	<i>SD</i>			14.0		14.4
	<i>SEM</i>			.76		.57
	Upper			55.7		56.1
	Lower			52.8		53.9
Active and Collaborative Learning	ACL			53.6		52.2
	n			364		675
	<i>SD</i>			17.1		17.4
	<i>SEM</i>			.90		.67
	Upper			55.4		53.5
	Lower			51.9		50.9
Student Faculty Interaction	SFI			43.0		41.5
	n			348		644
	<i>SD</i>			20.2		20.8
	<i>SEM</i>			1.08		.82
	Upper			45.1		43.1
	Lower			40.9		39.9
Enriching Educational Experiences	EEE			36.0		33.9
	n			335		625
	<i>SD</i>			16.2		16.7
	<i>SEM</i>			.89		.67
	Upper			37.7		35.2
	Lower			34.2		32.6
Supportive Campus Environment	SCE			56.3		57.5
	n			329		615
	<i>SD</i>			17.5		18.8
	<i>SEM</i>			.97		.76
	Upper			58.2		59.0
	Lower			54.4		56.0

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