



NSSE 2017 Topical Module Report

Academic Advising

University of Massachusetts Boston

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About This Topical Module

This module examines students' experiences with academic advising, including frequency, accessibility, and types of information provided. It also asks students to identify their primary source of advice. The module complements a question on the core survey about the quality of students' interactions with academic advisors. Complementary FSSE set available.

Comparison Group

This section summarizes how this module's comparison group was identified, including selection criteria and whether the default option was taken. This is followed by the resulting list of institutions represented in the '4-year Public Inst.' column of this report.

Group label	4-year Public Inst.
Date submitted	5/15/17
How was this comparison group constructed?	Your institution customized this group by selecting institutional characteristics as follows: Sector (Pub)
Group description	All 4-year public institutions participated in NSSE 2017.

4-year Public Inst. (N=177)

Albany State University (Albany, GA)	Dakota State University (Madison, SD)*
Armstrong State University (Savannah, GA)	Delta State University (Cleveland, MS)*
Auburn University at Montgomery (Montgomery, AL)*	Dickinson State University (Dickinson, ND)
Augusta University (Augusta, GA)	Dixie State University (Saint George, UT)*
Binghamton University (State University of New York) (Binghamton, NY)	East Central University (Ada, OK)
Black Hills State University (Spearfish, SD)*	East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania (East Stroudsburg, PA)
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania (Bloomsburg, PA)	East Tennessee State University (Johnson City, TN)*
Bowie State University (Bowie, MD)	Eastern Connecticut State University (Willimantic, CT)
Bridgewater State University (Bridgewater, MA)	Eastern Michigan University (Ypsilanti, MI)*
California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo (San Luis Obispo, CA)	Eastern Washington University (Cheney, WA)
California State Polytechnic University-Pomona (Pomona, CA)	Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (Edinboro, PA)
California State University San Marcos (San Marcos, CA)*	Elizabeth City State University (Elizabeth City, NC)
California State University-Bakersfield (Bakersfield, CA)	Fairmont State University (Fairmont, WV)*
California State University-Channel Islands (Camarillo, CA)	Farmingdale State College (Farmingdale, NY)
California State University-Dominguez Hills (Carson, CA)	Fayetteville State University (Fayetteville, NC)
California State University-Long Beach (Long Beach, CA)	Fitchburg State University (Fitchburg, MA)
California State University-Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)	Florida A&M University (Tallahassee, FL)
California State University, Fresno (Fresno, CA)	Florida International University (Miami, FL)*
California State University, Northridge (Northridge, CA)	Francis Marion University (Florence, SC)
California State University, Sacramento (Sacramento, CA)	Fredonia State University of New York (Fredonia, NY)
California University of Pennsylvania (California, PA)	Georgia College & State University (Milledgeville, GA)
Central Connecticut State University (New Britain, CT)	Grambling State University (Grambling, LA)
Chicago State University (Chicago, IL)	Henderson State University (Arkadelphia, AR)
Christopher Newport University (Newport News, VA)	Indiana State University (Terre Haute, IN)*
Clarion University of Pennsylvania (Clarion, PA)	Keene State College (Keene, NH)*
Clemson University (Clemson, SC)*	Kent State University (Kent, OH)
College at Brockport, SUNY, The (Brockport, NY)	Kentucky State University (Frankfort, KY)
Colorado State University (Fort Collins, CO)*	Kutztown University of Pennsylvania (Kutztown, PA)
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College (New York, NY)	Lincoln University (Lincoln University, PA)
CUNY Medgar Evers College (Brooklyn, NY)	Lock Haven University (Lock Haven, PA)

4-year Public Inst. (N=177), continued

Mansfield University of Pennsylvania (Mansfield, PA)	University of Arkansas (Fayetteville, AR)*
Marshall University (Huntington, WV)*	University of Arkansas at Little Rock (Little Rock, AR)*
Mayville State University (Mayville, ND)	University of Baltimore (Baltimore, MD)*
McNeese State University (Lake Charles, LA)*	University of Central Florida (Orlando, FL)
Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI)*	University of Hawai'i at Hilo (Hilo, HI)
Middle Georgia State University (Macon, GA)	University of Houston (Houston, TX)
Millersville University of Pennsylvania (Millersville, PA)	University of Houston-Downtown (Houston, TX)*
Minnesota State University Moorhead (Moorhead, MN)	University of Houston-Victoria (Victoria, TX)
Missouri Southern State University (Joplin, MO)*	University of Illinois at Chicago (Chicago, IL)
Missouri Western State University (Saint Joseph, MO)*	University of Illinois Springfield (Springfield, IL)*
Montana State University Billings (Billings, MT)*	University of Maine (Orono, ME)
Morrisville State College (Morrisville, NY)	University of Maine at Augusta (Augusta, ME)
Murray State University (Murray, KY)	University of Maine at Farmington (Farmington, ME)
New College of Florida (Sarasota, FL)	University of Maine at Fort Kent (Fort Kent, ME)
New Jersey Institute of Technology (Newark, NJ)*	University of Maine at Machias (Machias, ME)
New Mexico Highlands University (Las Vegas, NM)*	University of Maine at Presque Isle (Presque Isle, ME)
New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (Socorro, NM)	University of Mary Washington (Fredericksburg, VA)*
New Mexico State University (Las Cruces, NM)	University of Maryland-Eastern Shore (Princess Anne, MD)
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University (Greensboro, NC)	University of Massachusetts Amherst (Amherst, MA)
Northeastern Illinois University (Chicago, IL)*	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (North Dartmouth, MA)
Northwestern Oklahoma State University (Alva, OK)	University of Massachusetts Lowell (Lowell, MA)*
Oakland University (Rochester Hills, MI)*	University of Memphis (Memphis, TN)*
Oglala Lakota College (Kyle, SD)	University of Michigan-Flint (Flint, MI)*
Ohio State University at Newark, The (Newark, OH)*	University of Minnesota Duluth (Duluth, MN)*
Ohio State University-Lima Campus (Lima, OH)*	University of Minnesota-Crookston (Crookston, MN)*
Ohio State University-Mansfield Campus (Mansfield, OH)*	University of Missouri-Kansas City (Kansas City, MO)*
Ohio State University-Marion Campus (Marion, OH)*	University of Missouri-St. Louis (Saint Louis, MO)
Ohio State University, The (Columbus, OH)*	University of Nebraska at Kearney (Kearney, NE)*
Ohio University (Athens, OH)	University of Nebraska at Omaha (Omaha, NE)*
Plymouth State University (Plymouth, NH)	University of New Hampshire (Durham, NH)
Rogers State University (Claremore, OK)	University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)*
Rowan University (Glassboro, NJ)*	University of North Georgia (Dahlonega, GA)
Salem State University (Salem, MA)*	University of Northern Iowa (Cedar Falls, IA)*
Shawnee State University (Portsmouth, OH)	University of Oregon (Eugene, OR)
Shepherd University (Shepherdstown, WV)*	University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)*
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Shippensburg, PA)	University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (Chickasha, OK)*
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Slippery Rock, PA)	University of South Dakota (Vermillion, SD)*
South Dakota State University (Brookings, SD)*	University of Southern Indiana (Evansville, IN)*
Southern Connecticut State University (New Haven, CT)	University of Southern Maine (Portland, ME)
Southern Oregon University (Ashland, OR)*	University of Southern Mississippi (Hattiesburg, MS)*
Southwestern Oklahoma State University (Weatherford, OK)	University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, The (Chattanooga, TN)
Stephen F. Austin State University (Nacogdoches, TX)	University of Texas at Arlington, The (Arlington, TX)
Stockton University (Galloway, NJ)*	University of Texas at Dallas, The (Richardson, TX)
SUNY College at Old Westbury (Old Westbury, NY)	University of Texas at El Paso, The (El Paso, TX)
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (Syracuse, NY)	University of Texas at San Antonio, The (San Antonio, TX)
SUNY College of Technology at Alfred (Alfred, NY)	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, The (Edinburg, TX)
SUNY Maritime College (Bronx, NY)	University of Vermont (Burlington, VT)
SUNY-Buffalo State College (Buffalo, NY)	University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (Eau Claire, WI)
Tennessee State University (Nashville, TN)	University of Wisconsin-La Crosse (La Crosse, WI)
Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi (Corpus Christi, TX)	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Milwaukee, WI)
Troy University (Troy, AL)	University of Wisconsin-Superior (Superior, WI)
United States Coast Guard Academy (New London, CT)	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater (Whitewater, WI)
United States Merchant Marine Academy (Kings Point, NY)	Valdosta State University (Valdosta, GA)
University at Albany, SUNY, The (Albany, NY)	Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, VA)
University of Alabama at Birmingham (Birmingham, AL)*	Washburn University (Topeka, KS)
University of Alabama in Huntsville (Huntsville, AL)*	Weber State University (Ogden, UT)
University of Alaska Anchorage (Anchorage, AK)*	Western New Mexico University (Silver City, NM)
University of Alaska Fairbanks (Fairbanks, AK)*	Western Oregon University (Monmouth, OR)

*2016 participant

4-year Public Inst. (N=177), continued

Western Washington University (Bellingham, WA)

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				UMass Boston		4-year Public Inst.		UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
1. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?										
	ADV01	0	0	22	8	4,369	9	2.4	2.2	.09
		1	1	52	20	12,742	24			
		2	2	91	35	16,381	31			
		3	3	54	20	10,030	19			
		4	4	16	6	4,252	8			
		5	5	8	3	1,505	3			
		6	6 or more	20	8	2,410	5			
			Total	263	100	51,689	100			
2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	21	8	4,122	8	3.0	2.9	.11
		2	Some	45	17	10,874	21			
		3	Quite a bit	89	34	18,154	35			
		4	Very much	93	35	15,425	30			
		—	Not applicable	17	6	3,150	6			
			Total	265	100	51,725	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	18	6	3,980	7	3.1	3.0	.09
		2	Some	48	19	10,172	19			
		3	Quite a bit	83	33	17,373	33			
		4	Very much	99	37	16,588	32			
		—	Not applicable	15	5	3,542	7			
			Total	263	100	51,655	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	26	9	6,736	13	3.1	2.8 ***	.24
		2	Some	40	16	11,064	21			
		3	Quite a bit	79	31	15,660	30			
		4	Very much	107	40	14,770	29			
		—	Not applicable	13	5	3,417	7			
			Total	265	100	51,647	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	22	8	6,427	12	2.9	2.8 *	.16
		2	Some	61	24	11,785	22			
		3	Quite a bit	69	26	15,784	30			
		4	Very much	92	35	13,547	27			
		—	Not applicable	21	8	4,086	8			
			Total	265	100	51,629	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	27	9	7,242	14	2.9	2.8 *	.14
		2	Some	59	24	11,734	22			
		3	Quite a bit	67	25	15,055	29			
		4	Very much	91	33	13,448	27			
		—	Not applicable	20	8	4,172	8			
			Total	264	100	51,651	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

First-Year Students

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				UMass Boston		4-year Public Inst.		UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	27	11	5,732	11	2.8	2.9	-.02
		2	Some	73	27	11,102	21			
		3	Quite a bit	61	24	16,561	32			
		4	Very much	90	34	15,348	30			
		—	Not applicable	12	5	2,846	6			
		Total		263	100	51,589	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	31	11	7,758	15	2.7	2.7	.07
		2	Some	65	24	10,754	21			
		3	Quite a bit	47	19	12,083	23			
		4	Very much	70	26	11,637	23			
		—	Not applicable	49	20	9,350	19			
		Total		262	100	51,582	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internships, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	51	20	10,245	19	2.6	2.5	.06
		2	Some	53	19	11,166	22			
		3	Quite a bit	44	17	11,156	22			
		4	Very much	65	25	9,881	19			
		—	Not applicable	49	18	9,114	18			
		Total		262	100	51,562	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	50	20	10,687	21	2.4	2.5	-.07
		2	Some	80	30	12,273	23			
		3	Quite a bit	32	12	11,458	22			
		4	Very much	59	22	10,777	21			
		—	Not applicable	42	16	6,315	13			
		Total		263	100	51,510	100			
3. During the current school year, how often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?										
	ADV04_15	1	Never	102	39	19,465	38	2.0	2.0	-.02
		2	Sometimes	94	36	18,942	36			
		3	Often	44	17	9,161	18			
		4	Very often	23	8	3,954	8			
		—	Not applicable							
		Total		263	100	51,522	100			
4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one.)										
	ADV03	—	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	112	42	18,808	36			
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	20	7	4,587	9			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	25	10	3,952	8			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	10	4	2,003	4			
		—	Website, catalog, or other published sources	13	5	2,377	5			
		—	Friends or other students	32	13	7,914	15			
		—	Family members	31	12	8,588	16			
		—	Other, please specify:	11	4	1,088	2			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	9	3	2,240	5			
		Total		263	100	51,557	100			

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				UMass Boston		4-year Public Inst.		UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
1. During the current school year, about how many times have you and an academic advisor discussed your academic interests, course selections, or academic performance?										
	ADV01	0	0	41	14	10,461	15	2.3	2.2	.04
		1	1	87	28	18,519	25			
		2	2	74	23	19,014	26			
		3	3	45	14	10,597	14			
		4	4	24	7	5,612	8			
		5	5	11	3	2,337	3			
		6	6 or more	34	10	6,520	9			
			Total	316	100	73,060	100			
2. During the current school year, to what extent have your academic advisors done the following?										
a. Been available when needed	ADV02a	1	Very little	33	10	7,713	11	3.0	2.9	.07
		2	Some	59	19	15,067	20			
		3	Quite a bit	92	28	22,068	30			
		4	Very much	112	36	23,311	32			
		—	Not applicable	22	7	4,986	7			
			Total	318	100	73,145	100			
b. Listened closely to your concerns and questions	ADV02b	1	Very little	34	11	7,440	10	3.0	2.9	.03
		2	Some	59	19	14,170	19			
		3	Quite a bit	85	26	20,970	29			
		4	Very much	115	37	24,387	33			
		—	Not applicable	24	8	6,129	9			
			Total	317	100	73,096	100			
c. Informed you of important deadlines	ADV02c	1	Very little	44	14	12,566	17	2.9	2.7 *	.14
		2	Some	53	17	14,978	20			
		3	Quite a bit	92	29	18,686	26			
		4	Very much	105	33	20,920	29			
		—	Not applicable	24	8	5,903	8			
			Total	318	100	73,053	100			
d. Helped you understand academic rules and policies	ADV02d	1	Very little	53	17	12,480	17	2.7	2.7	.06
		2	Some	66	21	15,781	21			
		3	Quite a bit	66	20	17,605	24			
		4	Very much	96	30	18,357	25			
		—	Not applicable	38	13	8,779	12			
			Total	319	100	73,002	100			
e. Informed you of academic support options (tutoring, study groups, help with writing, etc.)	ADV02e	1	Very little	57	18	16,739	23	2.6	2.4	.11
		2	Some	73	24	16,379	22			
		3	Quite a bit	64	20	14,212	19			
		4	Very much	73	22	14,502	20			
		—	Not applicable	50	16	11,175	16			
			Total	317	100	73,007	100			

*p<.05, **p<.01, ***p<.001 (2-tailed); Refer to the endnotes page for the key to triangle symbols.

Seniors

Item wording or description	Variable name	Values ^c	Response options	Frequency Distributions ^a				Statistical Comparisons ^b		
				UMass Boston		4-year Public Inst.		UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	Effect size ^d
				Count	%	Count	%	Mean	Mean	
f. Provided useful information about courses	ADV02f	1	Very little	57	18	12,030	17	2.7	2.7	.00
		2	Some	70	22	15,697	21			
		3	Quite a bit	68	21	19,024	26			
		4	Very much	96	30	19,842	27			
		—	Not applicable	27	9	6,387	9			
		Total		318	100	72,980	100			
g. Helped you when you had academic difficulties	ADV02g	1	Very little	56	18	13,448	19	2.6	2.6	.03
		2	Some	52	17	13,219	18			
		3	Quite a bit	61	19	13,844	19			
		4	Very much	73	22	16,435	22			
		—	Not applicable	75	25	16,013	23			
		Total		317	100	72,959	100			
h. Helped you get information on special opportunities (study abroad, internships, research projects, etc.)	ADV02h	1	Very little	73	23	17,107	24	2.4	2.4	.00
		2	Some	53	17	13,418	18			
		3	Quite a bit	61	19	12,991	17			
		4	Very much	61	19	14,639	20			
		—	Not applicable	68	22	14,784	21			
		Total		316	100	72,939	100			
i. Discussed your career interests and post-graduation plans	ADV02i	1	Very little	89	28	18,111	25	2.3	2.4	-.08
		2	Some	59	19	15,430	21			
		3	Quite a bit	55	17	13,663	18			
		4	Very much	63	20	16,651	22			
		—	Not applicable	48	16	8,912	13			
		Total		314	100	72,767	100			
3. During the current school year, how often have your academic advisors reached out to you about your academic progress or performance?										
	ADV04	1	Never	150	47	34,351	47	1.8	1.8	.03
		2	Sometimes	95	30	22,830	31			
		3	Often	47	14	10,507	14			
		4	Very often	28	8	5,211	7			
		—	Not applicable							
		Total		320	100	72,899	100			
4. During the current school year, which of the following has been your primary source of advice regarding your academic plans? (Select one.)										
	ADV03	—	Academic advisor(s) assigned to you	113	36	22,669	31	2.3	2.3	.03
		—	Academic advisor(s) available to any student	15	5	6,936	10			
		—	Faculty or staff not formally assigned as an advisor	51	15	12,425	17			
		—	Online advising system (degree progress report, etc.)	26	8	5,990	9			
		—	Website, catalog, or other published sources	15	5	4,228	6			
		—	Friends or other students	33	10	8,507	11			
		—	Family members	29	9	5,752	8			
		—	Other, please specify:	14	4	2,254	3			
		—	I did not seek academic advice this year	22	8	4,168	6			
		Total		318	100	72,929	100			

First-Year Students

Variable name	N		Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.			
ADV01	255		2.36	2.23	.10	.01	1.55	1.46	45,728	.163	.09
ADV02a	244		3.04	2.93	.06	.00	0.94	0.94	42,807	.079	.11
ADV02b	244		3.06	2.98	.06	.00	0.92	0.94	42,363	.163	.09
ADV02c	247		3.06	2.82	.06	.00	0.98	1.02	249	.000	.24
ADV02d	239		2.94	2.79	.06	.00	0.99	1.01	41,876	.015	.16
ADV02e	238		2.90	2.75	.07	.01	1.01	1.03	41,845	.028	.14
ADV02f	244		2.84	2.86	.07	.00	1.04	1.00	246	.729	-.02
ADV02g	204		2.74	2.66	.07	.01	1.06	1.07	37,078	.295	.07
ADV02h	208		2.57	2.50	.08	.01	1.17	1.09	209	.397	.06
ADV02i	215		2.42	2.50	.08	.01	1.12	1.10	39,680	.317	-.07
ADV04_15	256		1.95	1.97	.06	.00	0.95	0.93	45,578	.807	-.02

Seniors

Variable name	N	Mean		Standard error ^f		Standard deviation ^g		DF ^h	Sig. ⁱ	Effect size ^d
	UMass Boston	UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	UMass Boston	4-year Public Inst.	Comparisons with: 4-year Public Inst.		
ADV01	314	2.26	2.19	.10	.01	1.78	1.71	63,712	.487	.04
ADV02a	294	2.96	2.89	.06	.00	1.01	1.01	59,364	.239	.07
ADV02b	291	2.96	2.93	.06	.00	1.03	1.01	58,268	.617	.03
ADV02c	290	2.88	2.73	.06	.00	1.06	1.10	292	.015	.14
ADV02d	277	2.72	2.66	.07	.00	1.13	1.09	55,936	.357	.06
ADV02e	264	2.55	2.43	.07	.00	1.10	1.12	53,809	.070	.11
ADV02f	288	2.70	2.70	.07	.00	1.13	1.09	57,973	.974	.00
ADV02g	237	2.61	2.57	.07	.01	1.14	1.14	49,253	.655	.03
ADV02h	244	2.43	2.42	.07	.01	1.15	1.16	50,304	.974	.00
ADV02i	261	2.34	2.43	.07	.00	1.17	1.16	55,282	.198	-.08
ADV04_15	318	1.84	1.81	.05	.00	0.97	0.93	63,580	.558	.03

Endnotes

- a. Column percentages are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. Counts are unweighted; column percentages cannot be replicated from counts.
- b. All statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Unless otherwise noted, statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests. Items with categorical response sets are left blank.
- c. These are the values used to calculate means. For the majority of items, these values match the codes in the data file and codebook.
- d. Effect size for independent t -tests uses Cohen's d ; z -tests use Cohen's h .
- e. Statistics are weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups). Categorical items are not listed.
- f. The 95% confidence interval for the population mean is equal to the sample mean plus or minus 1.96 times the standard error of the mean.
- g. A measure of the amount individual scores deviate from the mean of all the scores in the distribution.
- h. Degrees of freedom used to compute the t -tests. Values differ from N s due to weighting and whether equal variances were assumed.
- i. Statistical comparisons are two-tailed independent t -tests or z -tests. Statistical significance represents the probability that the difference between your students' mean and that of the students in the comparison group is due to chance.
- j. Statistical comparison uses z -test to compare the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes" with all who responded otherwise.
- k. Mean represents the proportion who responded (depending on the item) "Done or in progress" or "Yes."

Key to symbols:

- ▲ **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.
- ▽ **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.

Note: It is important to interpret the direction of differences relative to item wording and your institutional context.