

### Academic Challenge: First-year students

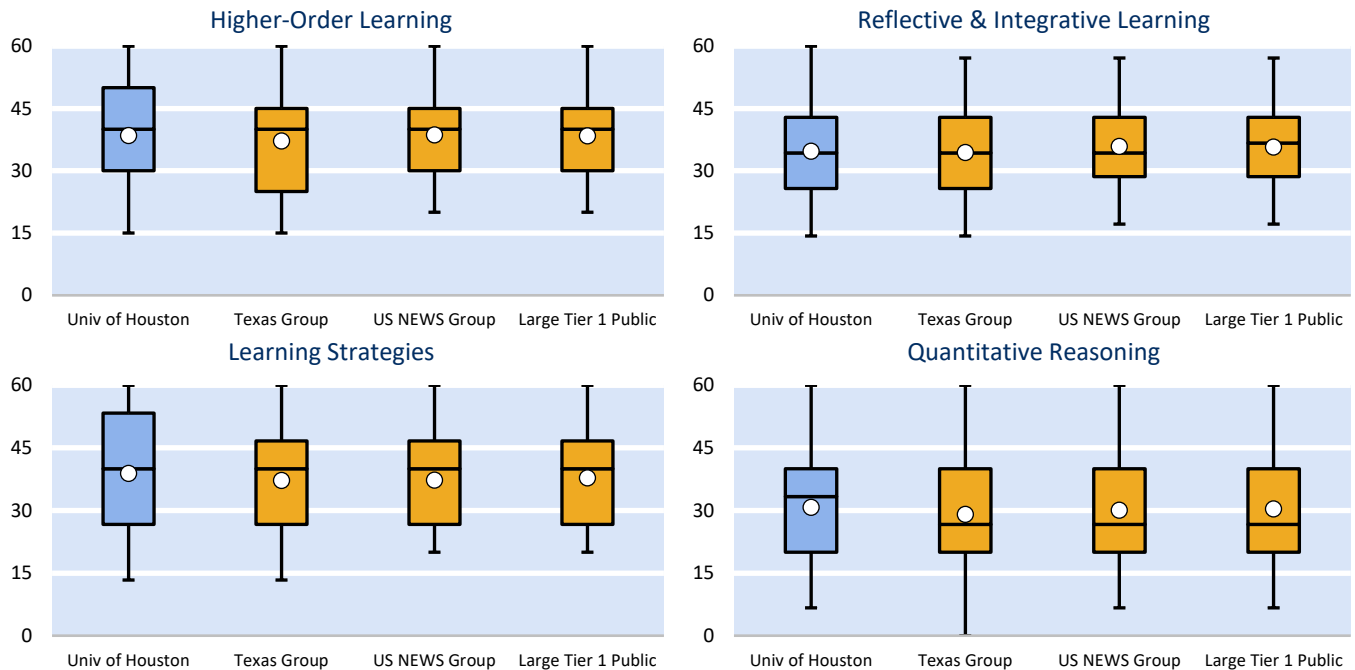
Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Colleges and universities promote student learning by challenging and supporting them to engage in various forms of deep learning. Four Engagement Indicators are part of this theme: *Higher-Order Learning*, *Reflective & Integrative Learning*, *Learning Strategies*, and *Quantitative Reasoning*. Below and on the next page are three views of your results alongside those of your comparison groups.

#### Mean Comparisons

Engagement Indicator	Univ of Houston Mean	Your first-year students compared with					
		Texas Group		US NEWS Group		Large Tier 1 Public	
		Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size	Mean	Effect size
Higher-Order Learning	38.5	37.2	.10	38.7	-.01	38.4	.01
Reflective & Integrative Learning	34.7	34.4	.03	35.9	-.10	35.7	-.08
Learning Strategies	38.9	37.2 *	.12	37.3 *	.12	37.8	.08
Quantitative Reasoning	30.8	29.1	.11	30.1	.05	30.3	.03

Notes: Results weighted by institution-reported sex and enrollment status (and institution size for comparison groups); Effect size: Mean difference divided by pooled standard deviation; Symbols on the Overview page are based on effect size and p before rounding; \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001 (2-tailed).

#### Score Distributions



Notes: Each box-and-whiskers chart plots the 5th (bottom of lower bar), 25th (bottom of box), 50th (middle line), 75th (top of box), and 95th (top of upper bar) percentile scores. The dot represents the mean score. Refer to Detailed Statistics for your institution's sample sizes.

### Academic Challenge: First-year students (continued)

#### Performance on Indicator Items

The table below displays how your students responded to each EI item, and the difference, in percentage points, between your students and those of your comparison group. Blue bars indicate how much higher your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group. Dark red bars indicate how much lower your institution's percentage is from that of the comparison group.

		Percentage point difference <sup>a</sup> between your FY students and			
	Univ of Houston	Texas Group	US NEWS Group	Large Tier 1 Public	
Higher-Order Learning					
Percentage responding "Very much" or "Quite a bit" about how much coursework emphasized...	%				
4b. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations	67	+1	-9	-6	
4c. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining its parts	66	-1	-6	-4	
4d. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	73	+6	+6	+4	
4e. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information	72	+4	+2	+2	
Reflective & Integrative Learning					
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...					
2a. Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	49	+0	-5	-5	
2b. Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	50	+2	-2	-3	
2c. Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gender, etc.) in course discussions or assignments	53	+4	-0	-1	
2d. Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or issue	63	+0	-1	-1	
2e. Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looks from their perspective	69	-0	-1	-2	
2f. Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	64	-2	-4	-3	
2g. Connected ideas from your courses to your prior experiences and knowledge	74	+0	-6	-4	
Learning Strategies					
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...					
9a. Identified key information from reading assignments	75	+6	+3	+3	
9b. Reviewed your notes after class	68	+2	+5	+2	
9c. Summarized what you learned in class or from course materials	66	+3	+4	+2	
Quantitative Reasoning					
Percentage of students who responded that they "Very often" or "Often"...					
6a. Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information (numbers, graphs, statistics, etc.)	60	+7	+4	+3	
6b. Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unemployment, climate change, public health, etc.)	48	+4	+4	+2	
6c. Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	48	+8	+3	+2	

Notes: Refer to your *Frequencies and Statistical Comparisons* report for full distributions and significance tests. Item numbering corresponds to the survey facsimile available on the NSSE website.

a. Percentage point difference = Institution percentage – Comparison group percentage. Because results are rounded to whole numbers, differences of less than 1 point may or may not display a bar. Small, but nonzero differences may be represented as +0 or -0.