

**National Survey of Student Engagement  
First-Year Survey Summary (2012 Cohort)**

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) was administered in Spring 2013 to first-year and senior students. Summarized below are some of the select questions with comparisons to national peers and Carnegie peer groups.

	Saint Mary's	Carnegie Peers	National Sample
<b>Academic Challenge (% often or very often)</b>			
Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	56%	58%	56%
Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	60%	59%	53%
Connected ideas from courses to prior experiences/knowledge	85%	83%	78%
Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information	50%	50%	51%
<b>Learning with Peers (% often or very often)</b>			
Asked another student to help you understand course material	61%	55%	48%
Explained course material to one or more students	64%	61%	56%
Had discussions with people from a race/ethnicity other than own	68%	73%	71%
Had discussions with people from an economic background other than own	75%	78%	73%
<b>Experiences with Faculty (% Very much or quite a bit)</b>			
Talked about career plans with a faculty member ( <i>% often/very</i> )	41%	36%	32%
Faculty clearly explained course goals and requirements	88%	86%	82%
Faculty taught course sessions in an organized way	89%	85%	80%
Faculty provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	77%	72%	65%
<b>Campus Environment</b>			
Quality of interactions with other students (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	63%	66%	60%
Quality of interactions with faculty members (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	59%	61%	51%
Quality of interactions with administrative staff (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	49%	48%	42%
<b>Other (non-benchmark components) Saint Mary's has contributed to: (% quite a bit or very much)</b>			
Writing clearly and effectively	74%	72%	67%
Thinking critically and analytically	84%	82%	78%
Developing or clarifying a personal code of ethics/values	66%	65%	59%
Solving complex real-world problems	60%	57%	55%
Being an informed and active citizen	63%	62%	57%
<b>Evaluation of entire educational experience: (% good or excellent)</b>			
% Good or Excellent	95%	90%	88%
<b>If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending? (%Probably/Definitely Yes)</b>			
% Probably/Definitely Yes	88%	86%	84%

Source: National Survey of Student Engagement (2013 Administration). Next administration – Spring 2016.