Survey of Entering Student Engagement (SENSE) 2018

Findings for Cabrillo
What is Student Engagement?

…the amount of time and energy students invest in meaningful educational practices

…the institutional practices and student behaviors that are highly correlated with student learning and retention
The Survey of Entering Student Engagement (SENSE)

SENSE helps community colleges understand the experience of entering students and engage these students in the earliest weeks of their college experience.
Student Data

- Approximately 450 first time in college students participated last fall.
- They were asked 100 or so questions.
- Can disaggregate the data by:
  - Race and Ethnicity
  - Gender
  - Part-time and full-time
  - First Generation
Student Participant Profiles

Here’s who took the survey – note the differences between our overall population and these first-time-in-college students
Student Respondent Profile: Enrollment Status

Source: 2018 SENSE data
Student Respondent Profile:
Age

Source: 2018 SENSE data
Student Respondent Profile: First-Generation Status

Source: 2018 SENSE data
Student Respondent Profile: Race & Ethnicity

Our overall population and Survey Participants are compared in the bar charts.

- **White**: 29% (Survey Participants) vs 45% (Our overall population)
- **Hispanic, Latino, Spanish**: 46% (Survey Participants) vs 43% (Our overall population)
- **Black or African American**: 1% (Survey Participants) vs 1% (Our overall population)
- **Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander**: 4% (Survey Participants) vs 4% (Our overall population)
- **American Indian or Native American**: 2% (Survey Participants) vs 0% (Our overall population)
- **Other**: 6% (Survey Participants) vs 1% (Our overall population)

Source: 2018 SENSE data
Breaking news about the results

- This is the most recent evidence we have for why 30-40% of students who enroll each fall do not enroll the following spring.

- The college plays a big role in making students feel welcomed and engaged by:
  - Engaging in very specific behaviors
  - Asking students to participate in certain activities
  - Dealing with negative academic behaviors in the first three weeks!
Survey Results Overall
SENSE Benchmarks of Effective Practice with Entering Students

The questions are grouped into six areas that have been shown to be effective practices for engaging students. They are:

- Early Connections
- High Expectations and Aspirations
- Clear Academic Plan and Pathway
- Effective Track to College Readiness
- Engaged Learning
- Academic and Social Support Network
Overall Take-Away

- We have an opportunity to improve
  - By looking at student answers to specific questions
  - Making small changes to our daily activities
  - Embracing the challenge and taking it on
**SENSE Benchmarks for Effective Educational Practice**

**SENSE Benchmark Scores for Cabrillo College compared to 2018 Cohort and 2018 Top-Performers**

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SENSE Benchmark Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cabrillo</th>
<th>2018 Cohort</th>
<th>2018 Top-Performing Colleges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Connections</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>69.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Expectations and Aspirations</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>58.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clear Academic Plan and Pathway</td>
<td>45.6</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>62.3</td>
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</tbody>
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Source: 2018 SENSE data
SENSE Benchmarks for Effective Educational Practice

SENSE Benchmark Scores for Cabrillo College compared to 2018 Cohort and 2018 Top-Performers

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Want to learn more?

- Visit the SENSE Survey page on the GP website: https://sites.google.com/cabrillo.edu/guided-pathways/sense-survey

- It includes the results of the entire survey and also all the ways those results can be disaggregated.