### **South Texas College**

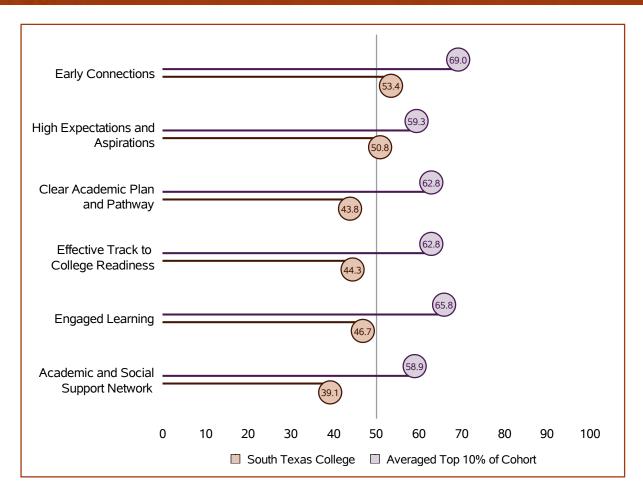
# **SENSE 2020 Executive Summary of Results**



*Center for Community College Student Engagement* 



# Standardized Benchmark Scores



The *SENSE* benchmarks are groups of conceptually related survey items that address key areas of student engagement. The six benchmarks denote areas that educational research has shown to be important to students' early college experiences and educational outcomes. Therefore, they provide colleges with a useful starting point for looking at institutional results and allow colleges to gauge and monitor their performance in areas that are central to their work. In addition, participating colleges have the opportunity to make appropriate and useful comparisons between their performance and that of groups of other colleges.

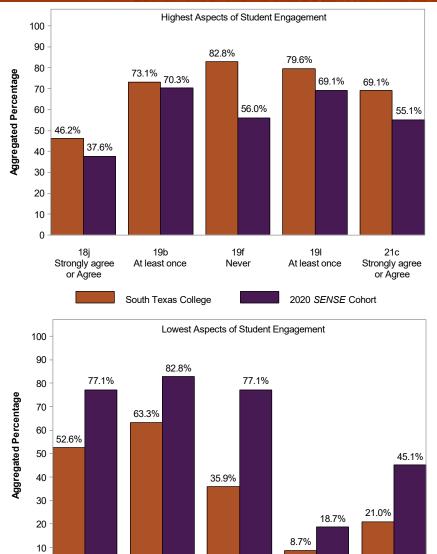
Performing as well as the national average or a peer-group average may be a reasonable initial aspiration, but it is important to recognize that these averages are sometimes unacceptably low. Aspiring to match and then exceed high-performance targets is the stronger strategy.

Therefore, provided above is a comparison of your college's standardized benchmark scores with the averaged benchmark scores from the top 10% of the current three-year cohort.

For further information about *SENSE* benchmarks and how they are computed, please visit <u>www.cccse.org</u>.

Note: Benchmark scores are standardized to have a mean of 50 and a standard deviation of 25 across all respondents.

#### Highest and Lowest Aspects of Student Engagement



 
 Item
 Benchmark

 18j. A college staff member helped me determine whether I qualified for financial assistance
 Early Connections

19b. Frequency: Prepared at least

two drafts of a paper or assignment

19f. Frequency: Came to class

without completing readings or

tool to communicate with an

instructor about coursework

experience at this college

19I. Frequency: Used an electronic

21c. Learned skills and strategies

to improve my test-taking ability

within a class, or through another

before turning it in

assignments

Engaged Learning

High Expectations & Aspirations

Engaged Learning

Effective Track to College Readiness

Item	Benchmark
18q. At least one other student	Academic &
whom I did not previously know	Social Support
learned my name	Network
18s. I learned the name of at least	Academic &
one other student in most of my	Social Support
classes	Network
19g. Frequency: Worked with other students on a project or assignment during class	Engaged Learning
20d2. Frequency: Used	Engaged
face-to-face tutoring	Learning
20h2. Frequency: Used computer lab	Engaged Learning

One way to dig more deeply into benchmark scores is to analyze those items that contribute to the overall benchmark score. This section features the five items across all benchmarks (excluding those for which means are not calculated) on which the college scored highest and the five items on which the college scored lowest relative to the 2020 *SENSE* Cohort. It is important to note that some colleges' highest mean scores may be lower than the cohort mean, and conversely, some colleges' lowest mean scores may be higher than the cohort mean.

20h2

At least once

20d2

At least once

While examining these data, keep in mind that the selected items may not be those that are most closely aligned with the college's goals; thus, it is important to review all institutional reports on the *SENSE* online reporting system at www.cccse.org.

Notes:

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18q

Strongly agree

or Agree

For Item(s) 18, strongly agree and agree responses are combined.

18s

Strongly agree

or Agree

For Item(s) 19, except 19c, 19d, 19f, and 19s, once, two or three times, and four or more times responses are combined.

For Item(s) 19c, d, f, and s, responses have been reversed. The frequency displayed is the percentage of students who report *never* doing the activities described in the items.

For Item(s) 20, once, two or three times, and four or more times responses are combined.

19g

At least once

For Item(s) 21, strongly agree and agree responses are combined.



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