

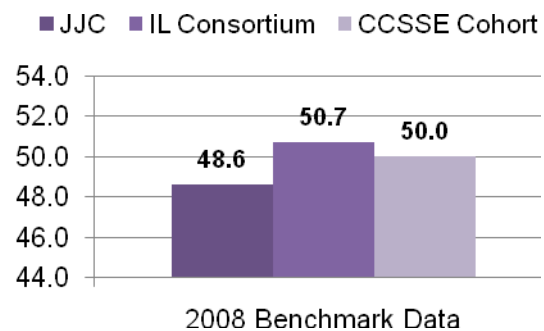
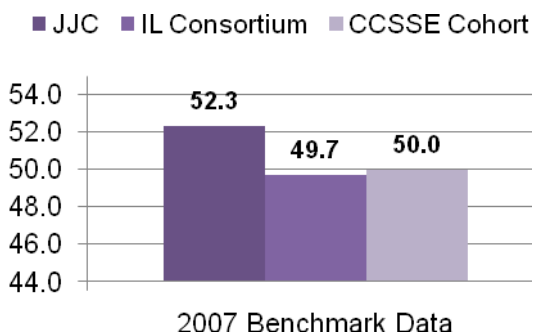
Academic Challenge

Challenging intellectual and creative work is central to student learning and collegiate quality. Ten items from The Community College Student Report correspond to components of academic challenge including the nature and amount of assigned academic work, the complexity of cognitive tasks presented to students, and the standards faculty members use to evaluate student performance. Specifically, Academic Challenge includes the following items:

During the current school year, how often have students

- Worked harder than they thought they could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations
- Analyzed the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory
- Synthesized and organized ideas, information, or experiences in new ways
- Made judgments about the value or soundness of information, arguments, or methods
- Applied theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations
- Used information you have read or heard to perform a new skill
- How many assigned textbooks, manuals, books, or book-length packs of course readings were read
- How many papers or reports of any length were written
- Extent examinations challenged students to do their best work
- Been encouraged to spend significant amounts of time studying

Benchmark Scores – All Students					
JJC		IL Consortium		CCSSE Cohort	
2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
52.3	48.6	49.7	50.7	50.0	50.0



Academic Challenge - JJC Reponses

4p. Worked harder than you thought you could to meet an instructors standards or expectations		
Reply	2007	2008
Never	13.2% (85)	11.4% (70)
Sometimes	37.7% (244)	42.4% (259)
Often	33.3% (215)	29.9% (183)
Very Often	15.8% (102)	16.3% (100)
5b. Analyzing the basic elements of an idea, experience, or theory		
Reply	2007	2008
Very little	4.0% (26)	4.8% (30)
Some	22.9% (148)	33.3% (205)
Quite a bit	45.0% (292)	39.3% (242)
Very much	28.1% (182)	22.6% (139)
5c. Synthesizing and organizing ideas, information, or experiences in new ways		
Reply	2007	2008
Very little	7.1% (46)	7.6% (47)
Some	33.3% (215)	36.8% (224)
Quite a bit	37.0% (239)	37.8% (230)
Very much	22.7% (146)	17.8% (108)
5d. Making judgments about the value or soundness of information, arguments, or methods		
Reply	2007	2008
Very little	10.6% (69)	13.1% (80)
Some	35.0% (226)	40.6% (249)
Quite a bit	35.6% (230)	31.2% (191)
Very much	18.8% (122)	15.2% (93)
5e. Applying theories or concepts to practical problems or in new situations		
Reply	2007	2008
Very little	7.9% (51)	9.0% (56)
Some	33.5% (216)	37.6% (231)
Quite a bit	33.5% (216)	34.9% (215)
Very much	25.1% (162)	18.5% (114)
5f. Using information you have read or heard to perform a new skill		
Reply	2007	2008
Very little	9.5% (62)	9.7% (60)
Some	34.0% (220)	30.8% (190)
Quite a bit	33.9% (219)	33.0% (204)
Very much	22.6% (146)	26.5% (163)
6a. Number of assigned textbooks, manuals, books, or book-length packs of course readings		
Reply	2007	2008
None	3.4% (21)	2.1% (13)
Between 1 and 4	38.3% (244)	47.7% (292)
Between 5 and 10	34.1% (218)	27.9% (171)
Between 11 and 20	12.6% (80)	12.3% (76)
More than 20	11.6% (74)	10.0% (61)
6c. Number of written papers or reports of any length		

Reply	2007	2008
None	9.3% (59)	13.7% (84)
Between 1 and 4	30.6% (195)	29.4% (179)
Between 5 and 10	35.2% (224)	26.3% (161)
Between 11 and 20	18.2% (116)	20.7% (127)
More than 20	6.7% (43)	10.0% (61)
7. Mark the box that best represents the extent to which your examinations during the current school year have challenged you to do your best work at this college		
Reply	2007	2008
Extremely easy	0.7% (4)	1.2% (7)
2	2.3% (14)	0.7% (4)
3	6.3% (38)	7.9% (45)
4	21.5% (131)	23.6% (135)
5	35.9% (219)	37.7% (214)
6	24.1% (147)	20.1% (115)
Extremely challenging	9.1% (56)	9.2% (53)
9a. Encouraging you to spend significant amounts of time studying		
Reply	2007	2008
Very little	4.5% (28)	3.5% (22)
Some	23.3% (148)	27.6% (169)
Quite a bit	42.3% (269)	43.8% (269)
Very much	29.9% (190)	25.0% (153)