





# SENSE 2013 Findings for College of Southern Idaho



#### **Presentation Overview**

- SENSE Overview
- Student Respondent Profile
- SENSE Benchmarks
- Community College Students and Stories
- Strategies to Promote Learning that Matters







#### **SENSE** Overview

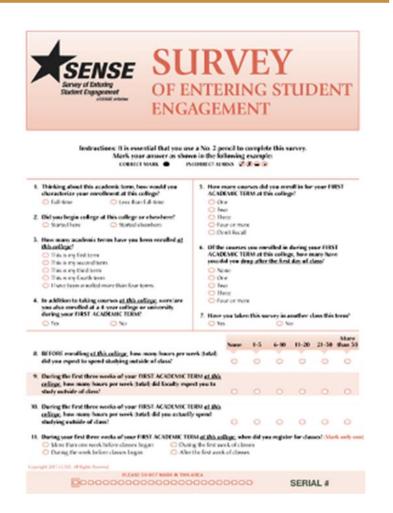
### What is Student Engagement?

...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)

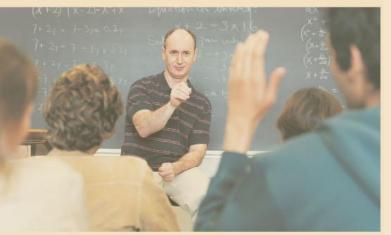
SENSE helps community and technical colleges understand the experience of entering students and engage these students in the earliest weeks of their college experience.



#### SENSE: A Tool for Community Colleges

- As a tool for improvement, SENSE helps us
  - Understand students' critical early experiences
  - Identify and learn from practices that engage entering students
  - Identify areas in which we can improve
- Basic principles
  - Grounded in research about what works to retain and support entering students
  - Reports data publicly
  - Is committed to using data for improvement





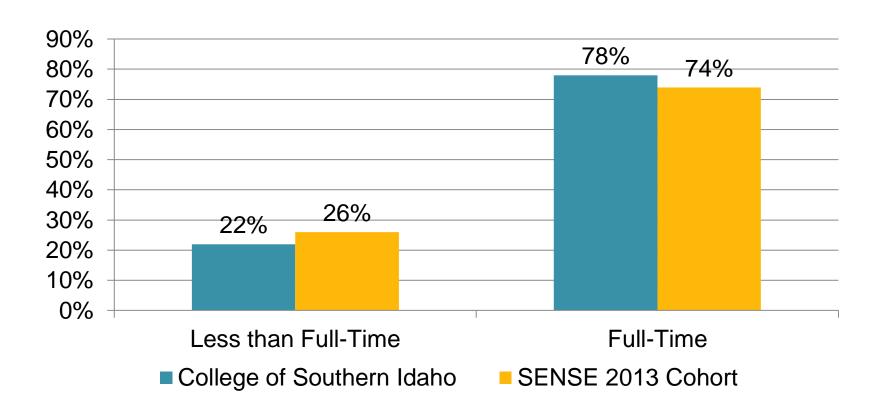


## **Student Respondent Profile** at College of Southern Idaho

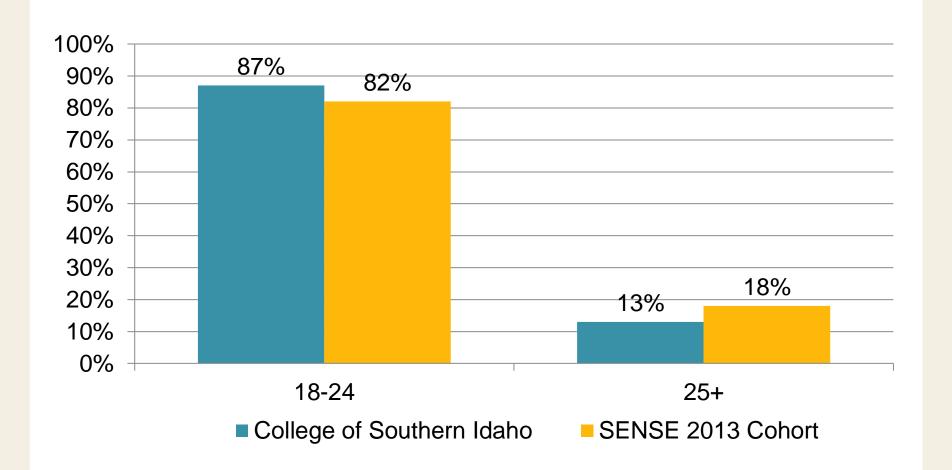
#### **Excluded Respondents**

- The following respondents were excluded from reporting:
  - Respondent did not indicate enrollment status
  - Respondent did not indicate whether he or she was an entering or returning student
  - Respondent marked invalid response selections
  - Respondent under the age of 18
  - Respondent indicated previous survey submission
- Oversample respondents were also excluded.

### Student Respondent Profile: Enrollment Status

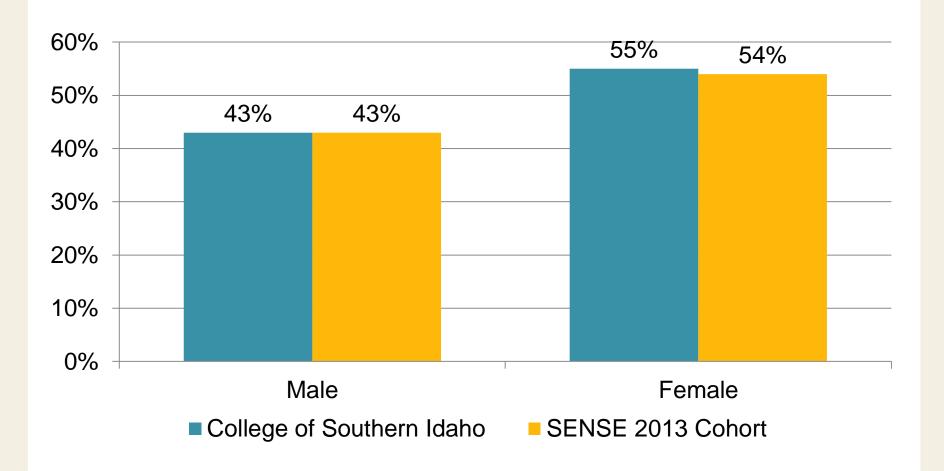


## Student Respondent Profile: Age



Center for Community College Student Engagement

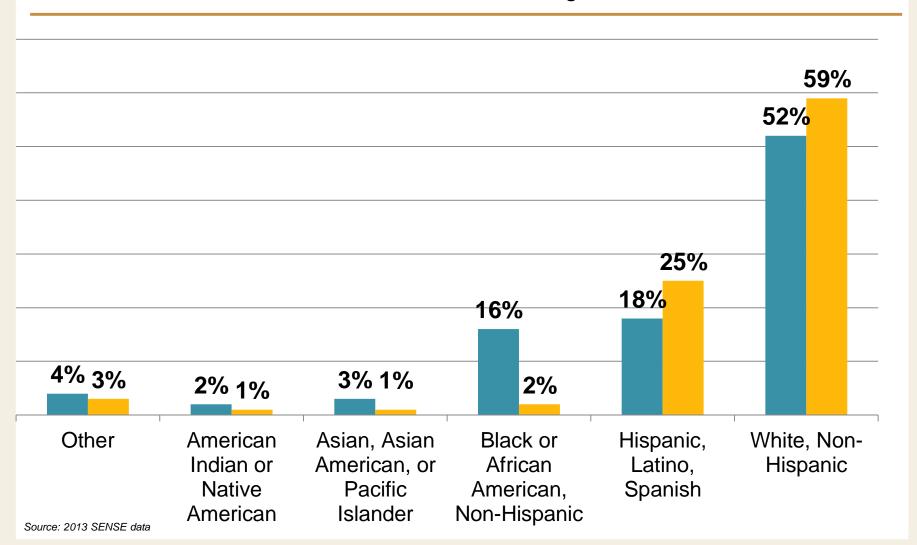
### **Student Respondent Profile: Sex**



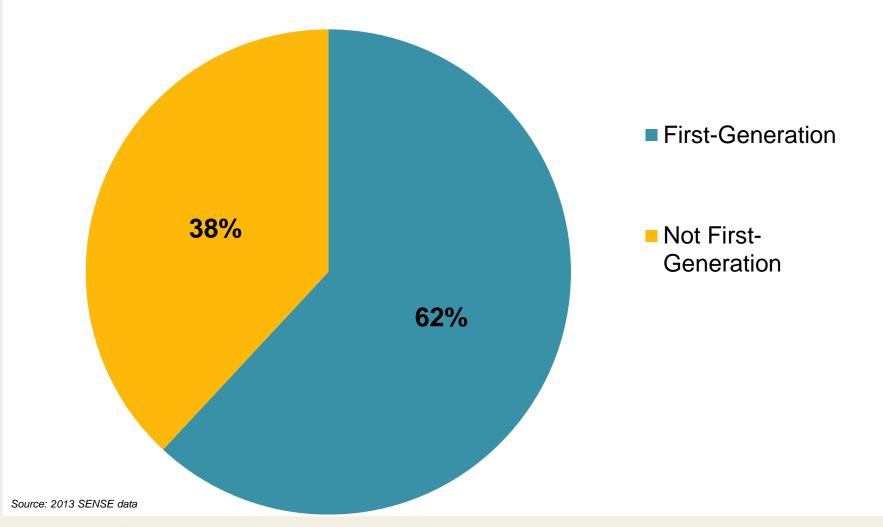
#### Student Respondent Profile: Race & Ethnicity

■ SENSE 2013 Cohort

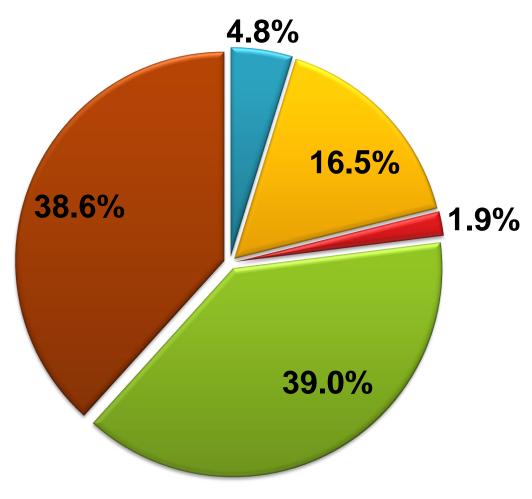
College of Southern Idaho



### **Student Respondent Profile: First-Generation Status**

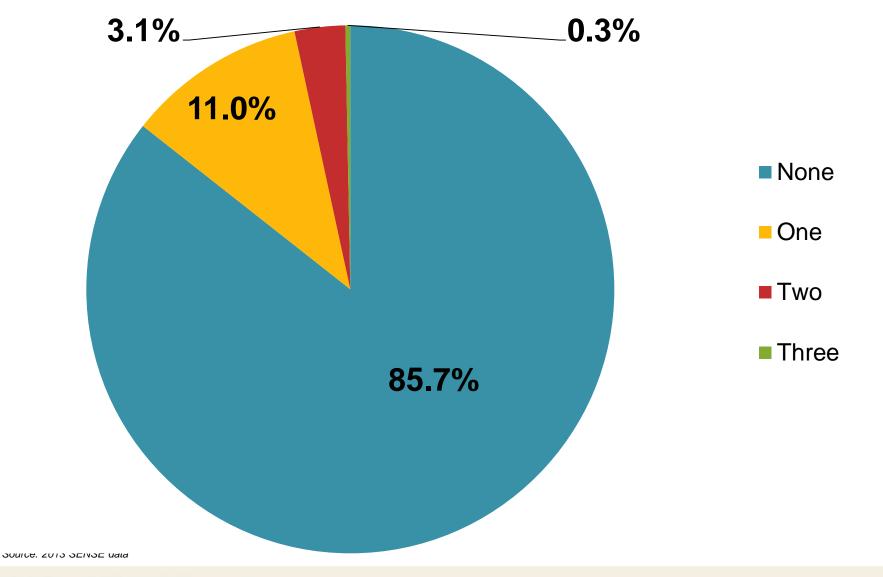


### **Student Respondent Profile: Orientation**

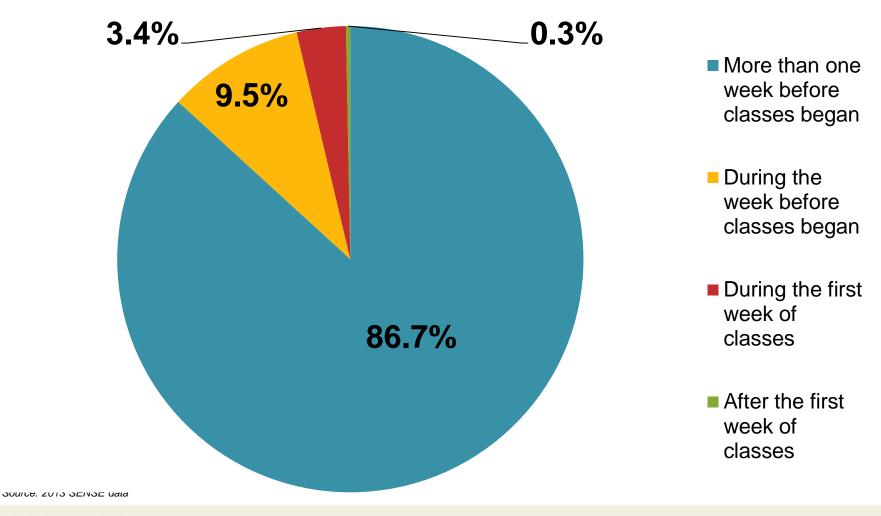


- I took part in an online orientation prior to the beginning of classes
- I attended an on-campus orientation prior to the beginning of classes
- ■I enrolled in an orientation course as part of my course schedule during my first semester/quarter at this college
- I was not aware of a college orientation
- I was unable to participate in orientation due to scheduling or other issues

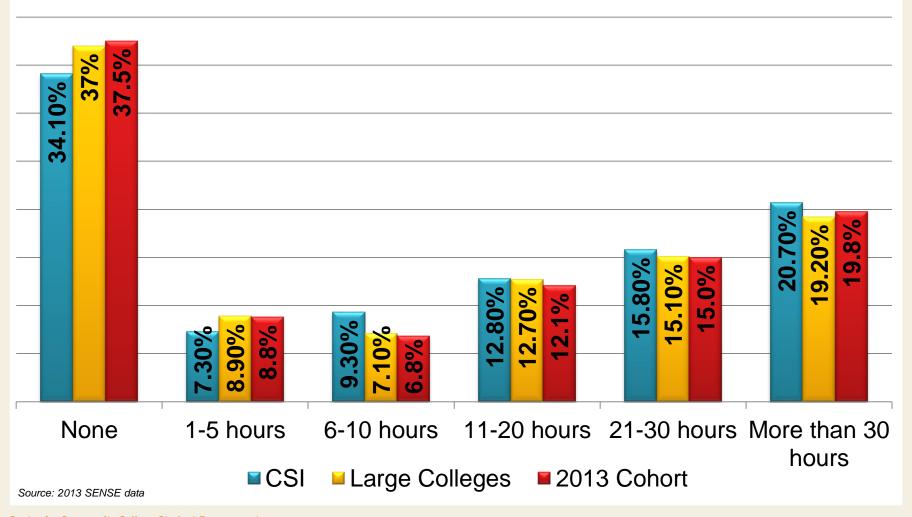
#### Student Respondent Profile: Courses Dropped



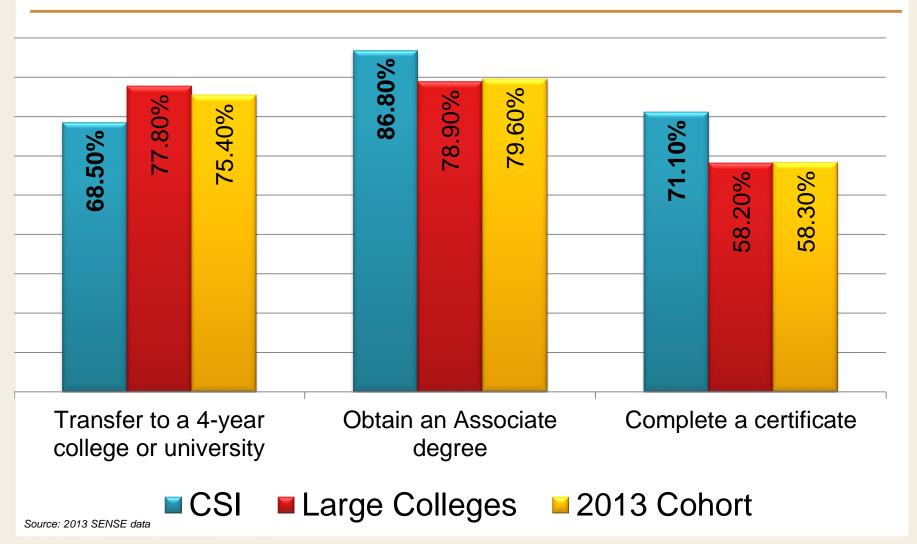
## Student Respondent Profile: Course Registration



#### Student Respondent Profile: Employment



#### **Student Respondent Profile: Goals**









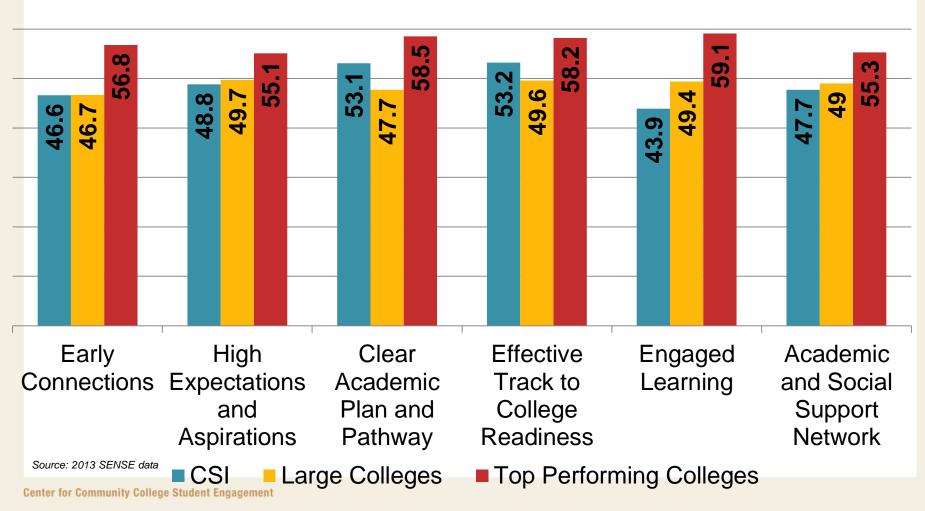
#### **SENSE** Benchmarks

## **SENSE** Benchmarks of Effective Practice with Entering Students

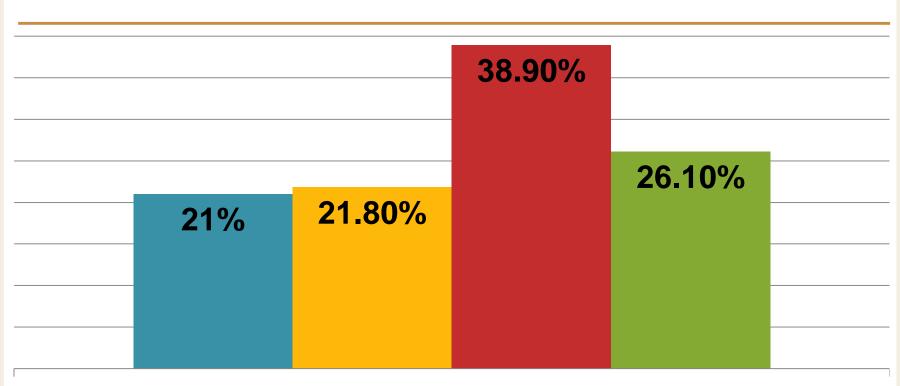
#### The six SENSE benchmarks are:

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

### SENSE Benchmarks for Effective Educational Practice







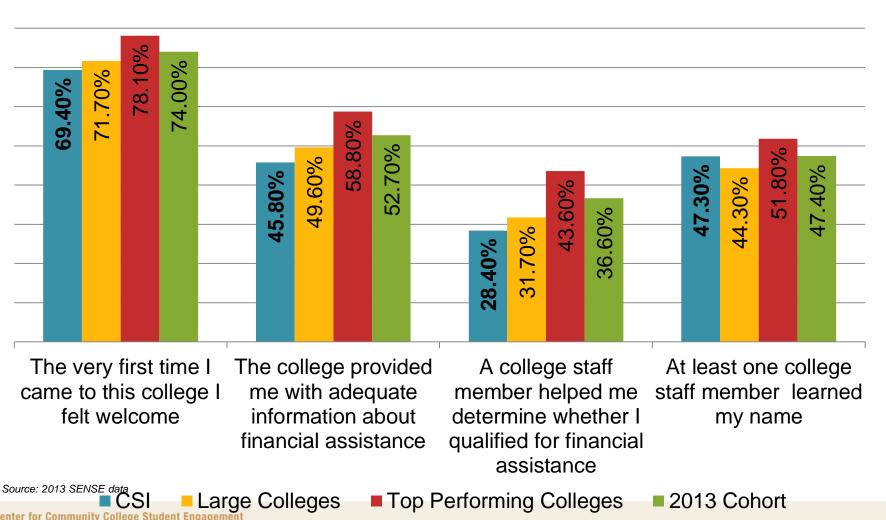
A specific person was assigned to me so I could see him/her each time I needed information or assistance

CSI

- Large Colleges
- Top Performing Colleges
- **2013 Cohort**

### **Early Connections**

#### **Agree or Strong Agree**



#### **High Expectations and Aspirations**

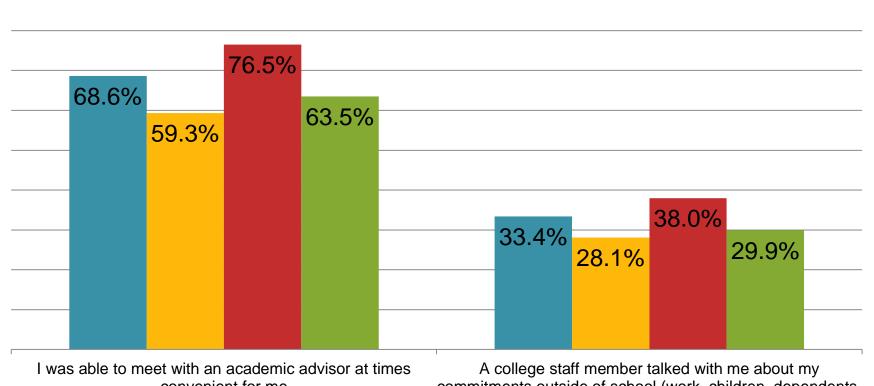
Percent of Student who AGREED OR STRONGLY AGREED with the following statements	CSI	Large Colleges	Top Performing Colleges	2013 Cohort
I have the motivation to do what it takes to succeed in college	91.8%	90.2%	92.7%	90.2%
I am prepared academically to succeed in college	84.2%	85.6%	89.2%	76.0%
The instructors at this college want me to succeed	87.8%	86.8%	89%	87.7%

#### **High Expectations and Aspirations**

Percent of Student who responded Never or Once:	CSI	Large Colleges	Top Performing Colleges	2013 Cohort
Turned in an assignment late	93.3%	92.3%	94.2%	92.2%
Did Not turn in an assignment	92.6%	92.6%	94.9%	92.9%
Went to class without completing readings or assignments	86.8%	86.3%	90%	86%
Skipped class	87.2%	92%	92.5%	91.8%

#### Clear Academic Plan and Pathway

#### **Agree or Strongly Agree**



convenient for me

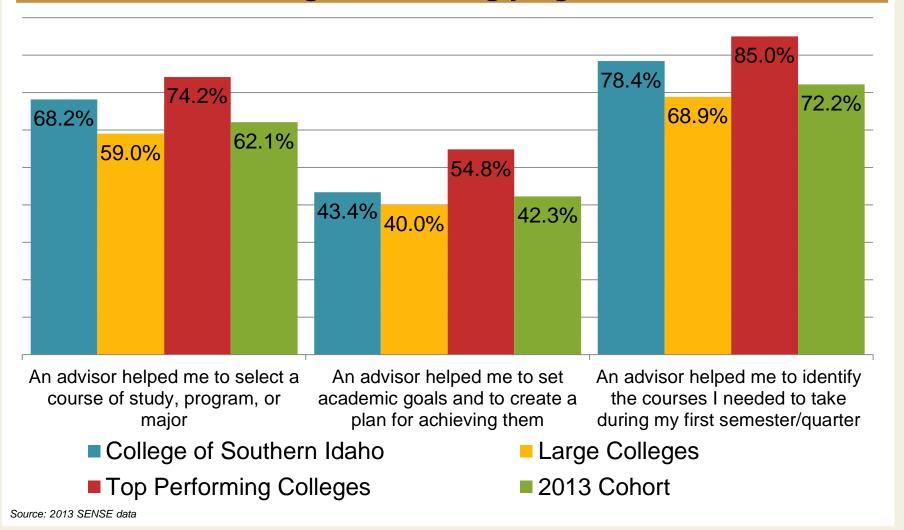
- College of Southern Idaho
- Top Performing Colleges

commitments outside of school (work, children, dependents, etc.) to help me figure out how many courses to take

- Large Colleges
- 2013 Cohort

#### **Clear Academic Plan and Pathway**

#### **Agree or Strongly Agree**



### **Effective Track to College Readiness**

Percent of students who agreed with the following statements.	CSI	Large Colleges	Top Performing Colleges	2013 Cohort
Before I could register for classes I was required to take a placement test to assess my skills in reading, writing, and/or math	93.8%	82.9%	94.4%	84.9%
I took a placement test	96.2%	86.2%	95.4%	88.6%
This college required me to enroll in classes indicated by my placement test scores during my first semester/quarter	78.4%	70%	87.1%	71.2%

### **Effective Track to College Readiness**

Percent of students who agreed or Strongly Agreed with the following statements.	CSI	Large Colleges	Top Performing Colleges	2013 Cohort
I learned to improve my study skills (listening, note taking, highlighting readings, working with others, etc.)	67.2%	73.4%	77.4%	74.2%
I learned to understand my academic strengths and weaknesses	65.9%	71.2%	73.6%	71.6%
I learned skills and strategies to improve my test-taking ability	49.8%	55.5%	59.2%	58.8%

### **Engaged Learning**

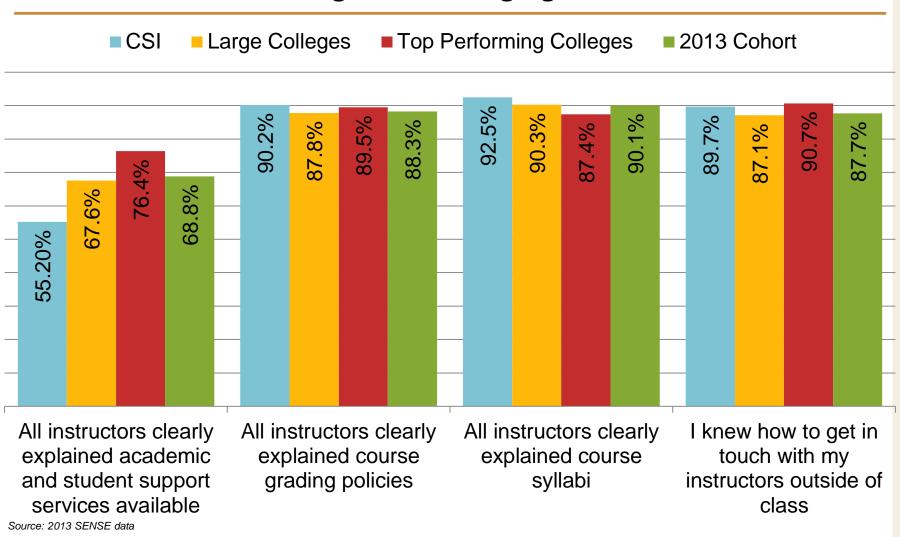
Percent of students answering "Never" to the following questions:	CSI	Large Colleges	Top Performing Colleges	2013 Cohort
Prepare at least two drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in	28.1%	28.3%	28.7%	28.2%
Participate in supplemental instruction (extra class sessions with an instructor, tutor, or experienced student)	74.9%	68.2%	64.2%	68.3%
Participate in a student-initiated (not required) study group outside of class	85.7%	82.2%	77%	82.2%

### **Engaged Learning**

Percent of students answering "Never" to the following questions:	CSI	Large Colleges	Top Performing Colleges	2013 Cohort
Discuss an assignment or grade with an instructor	35.7%	33.3%	27.5%	33.0%
Ask for help from an instructor regarding questions or problems related to a class	27.2%	23.4%	16.1%	23.5%
Receive prompt written or oral feedback from instructors on your performance	29.9%	24.9%	18.1%	24.9%
Discuss ideas from readings or classes with instructors outside of class	73.8%	65.3%	57.8%	65.7%

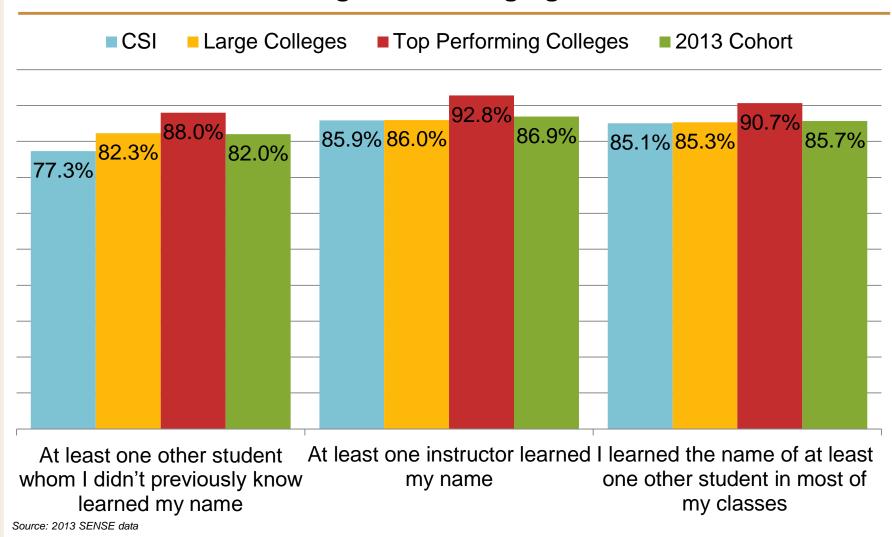
#### **Academic and Social Support Network**

#### **Agree or Strong Agree**



#### **Academic and Social Support Network**

#### **Agree or Strong Agree**



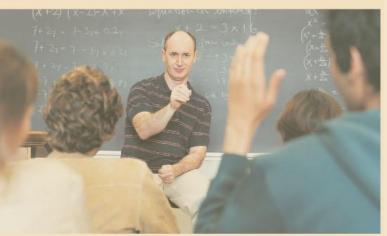
### Benchmarking – and Reaching for Excellence

The most important comparison:

where we are now, compared with where we want to be.





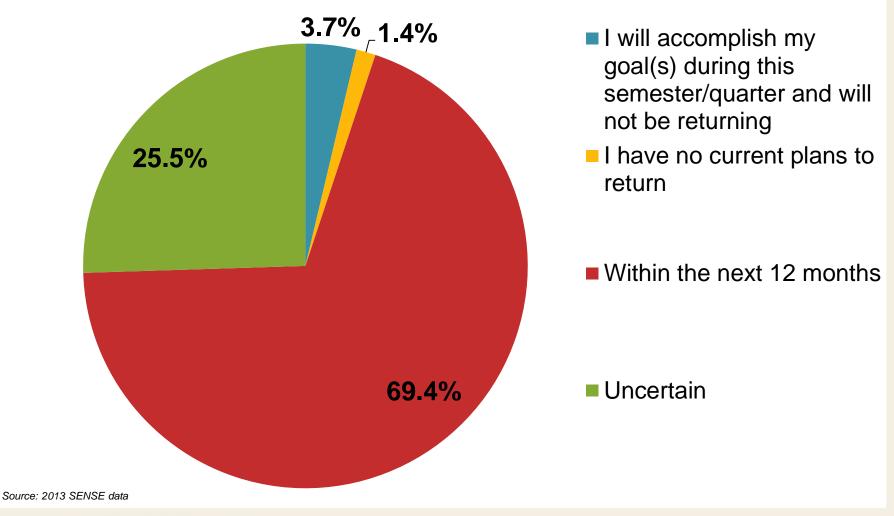




## **Community College Students and Stories**

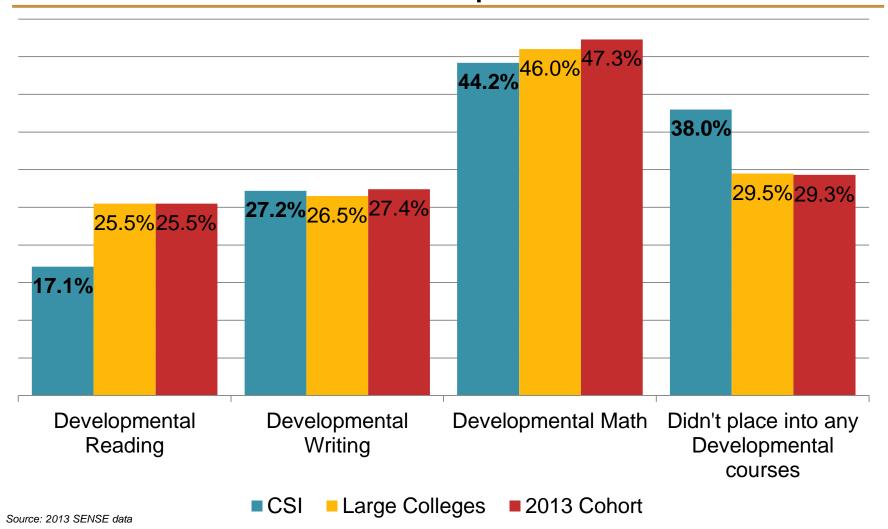
#### **Student Persistence: Future Plans**

When do you plan to take classes at this college again?



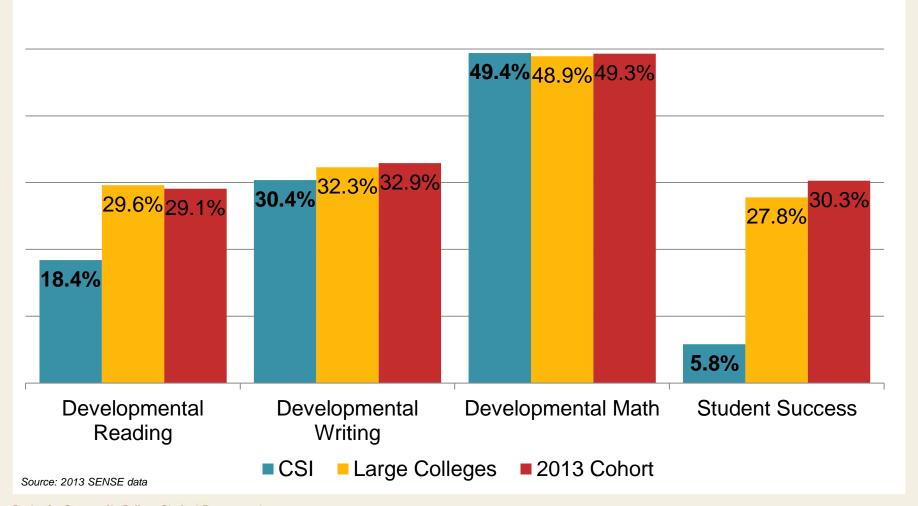
# **Developmental Education**

#### **Placement into Developmental Courses**

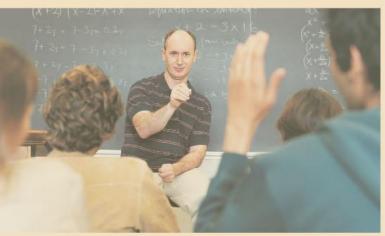


## **Developmental Education**

#### **Enrollment in the first semester**









# **Strategies to Promote Learning that Matters**

# **Strategies to Promote Learning that Matters**

The Center describes key strategies to promote strengthened classroom experiences:

- Strengthen classroom engagement
- Integrate student support into learning experiences
- Focus institutional policies on creating the conditions for learning

# Strengthen Classroom Engagement

- Raise expectations
- Promote active, engaged learning
- Build and encourage relationships
- Ensure that students know where they stand

# **Raise Expectations**

Instructors should set high standards and communicate them clearly, deliberately, and consistently.



# **Raise Expectations**

Students report that they are motivated to succeed:

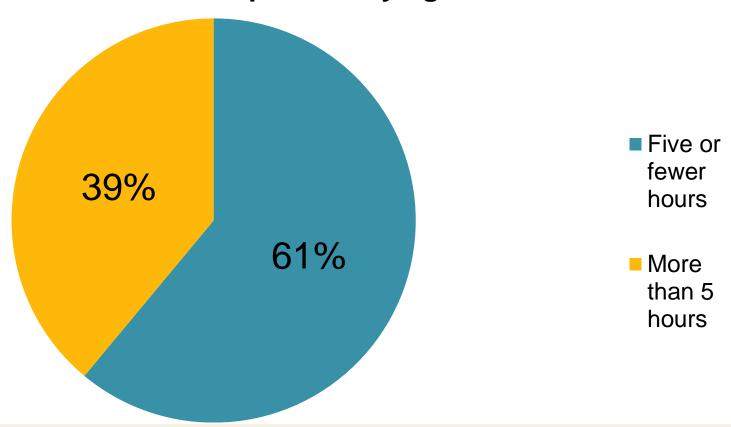
 91.8% of students "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" that they have the motivation to do what it takes to succeed in college

Source: 2013 SENSE data

# Raise Expectations

But expectations may not be as high as they need to be:

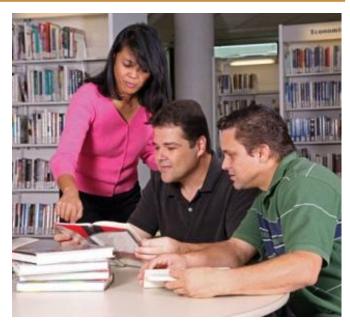




Source: 2013 SENSE data

# Promote Active, Engaged Learning

Students learn and retain more information — and persist and succeed at higher levels — when they are actively involved in learning rather than passively receiving information.

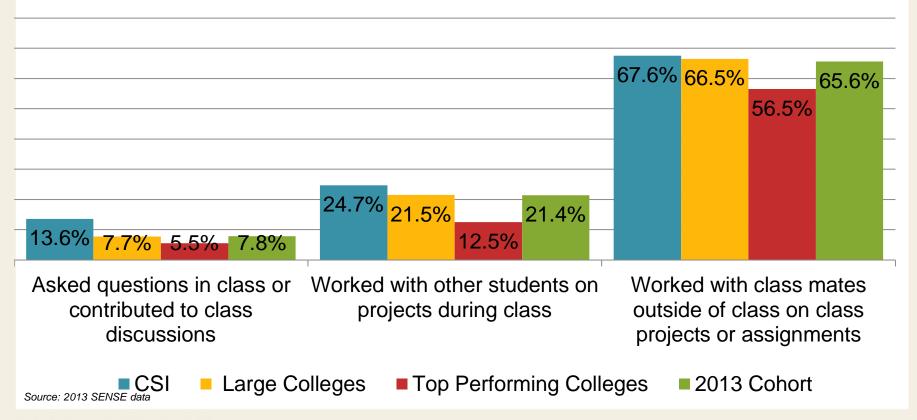


# Promote Active, Engaged Learning

### **Student Perceptions of Engaged Learning**

During the first three weeks of your first semester/quarter at this college, about how often have you done each of the following activities?

#### Percentage of students responding **NEVER**



# **Build and Encourage Relationships**

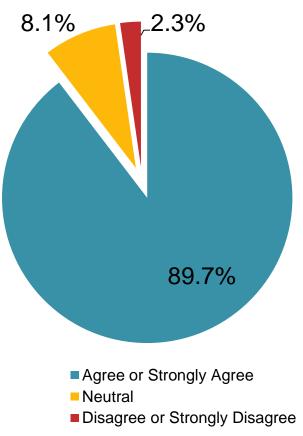
Personal connections are a critical factor in student success



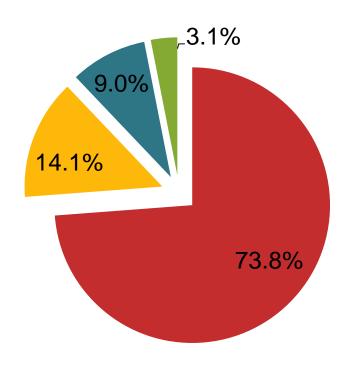
# **Build and Encourage Relationships**

#### **Entering Students' Interaction with Faculty**

"I knew how to get in touch with my instructors outside of class."



Discussed ideas from readings or classes with instructors outside of class.



■ Never ■ Once ■ Two or Three Times ■ Four or more times

Source: 2013 SENSE data

# **Ensure that Students Know Where They Stand**

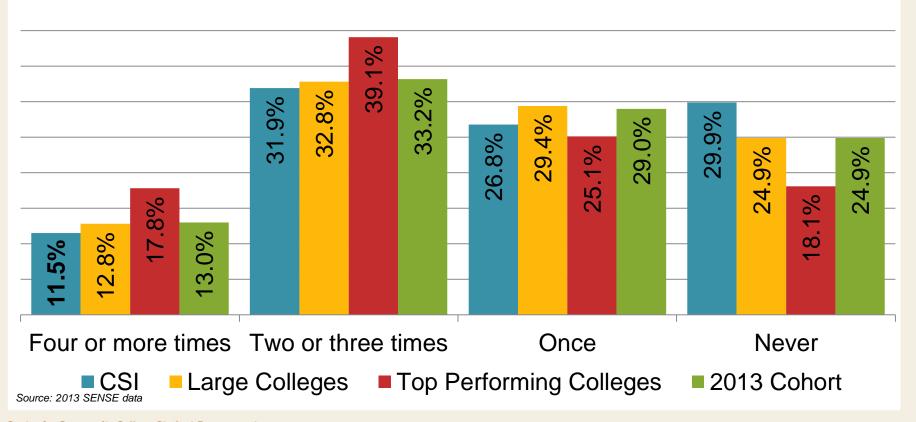
Feedback on academic performance greatly affects student retention



## **Ensure that Students Know Where They Stand**

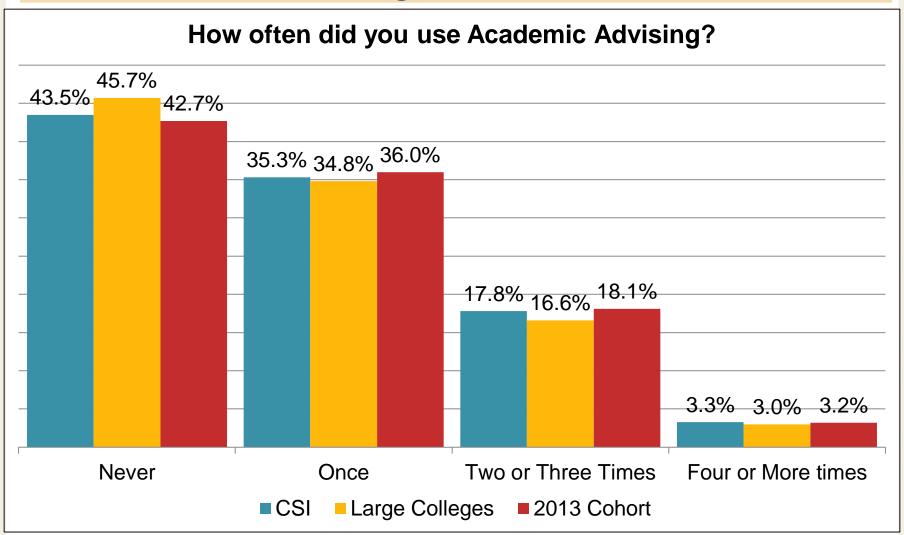
### **Student Perceptions of Feedback**

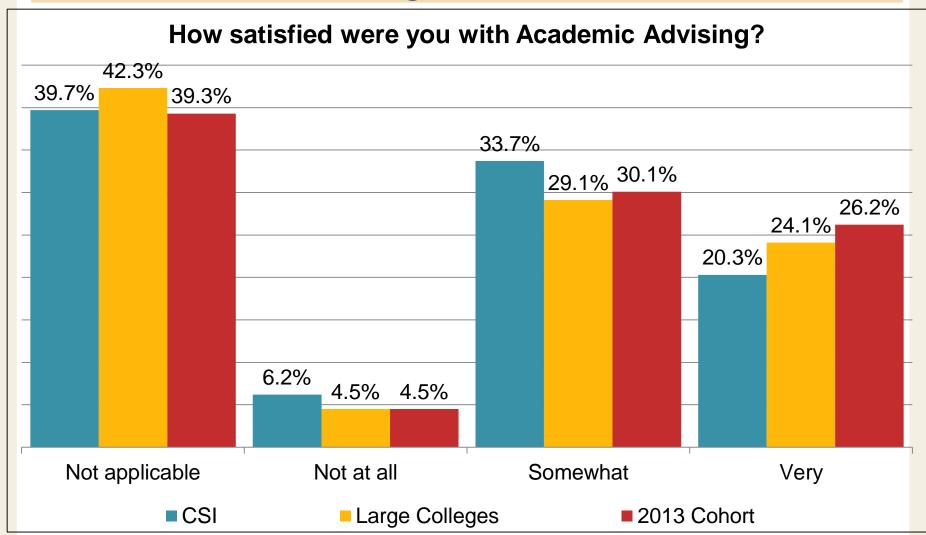
During the first three weeks of your first semester/quarter at this college, about how often have you received prompt written or oral feedback from instructors on your performance?

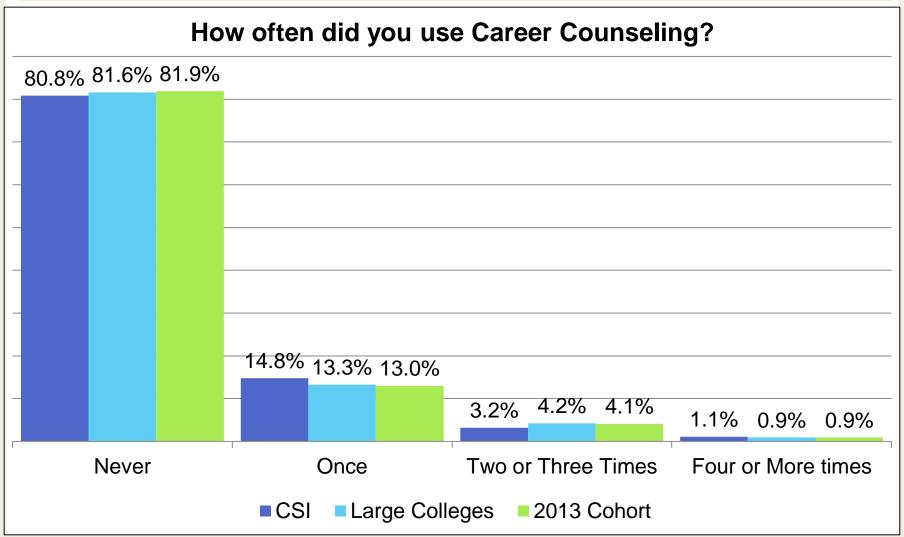


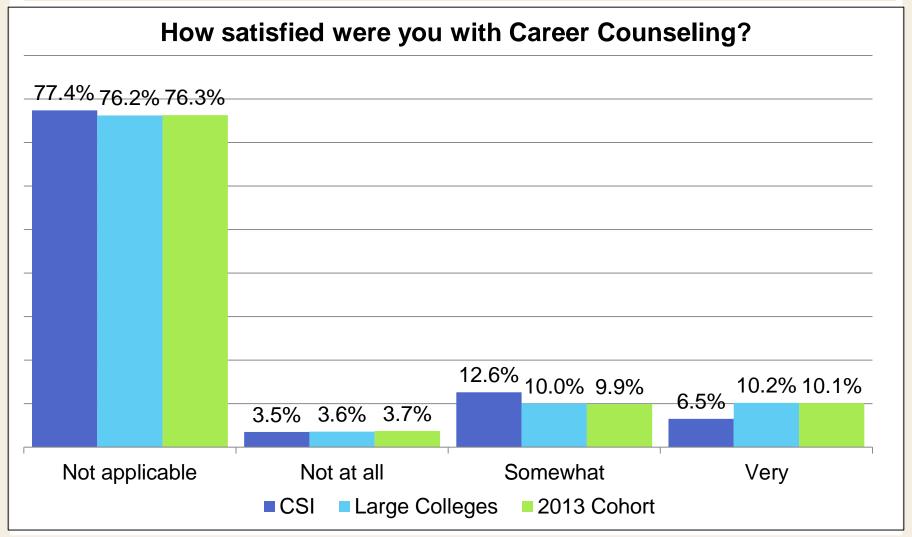
Students are most likely to succeed when expectations are high and they receive the support they need to rise to those expectations

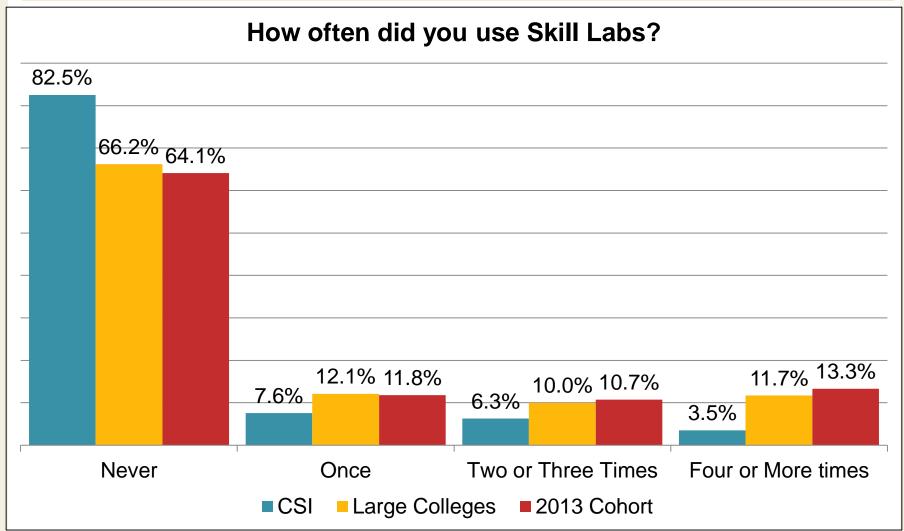


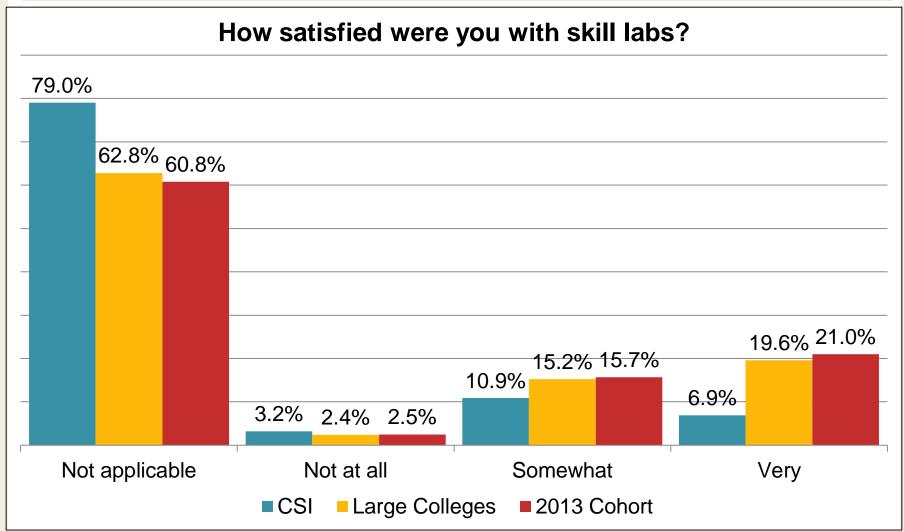


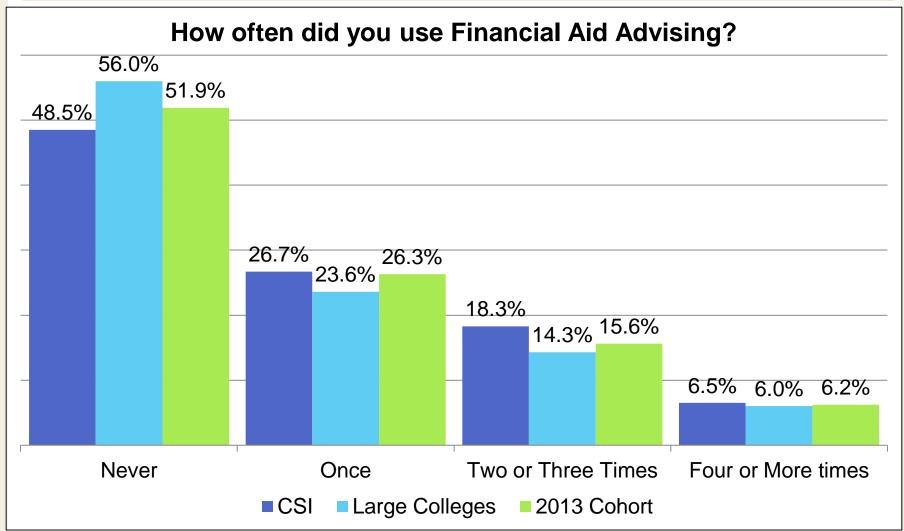


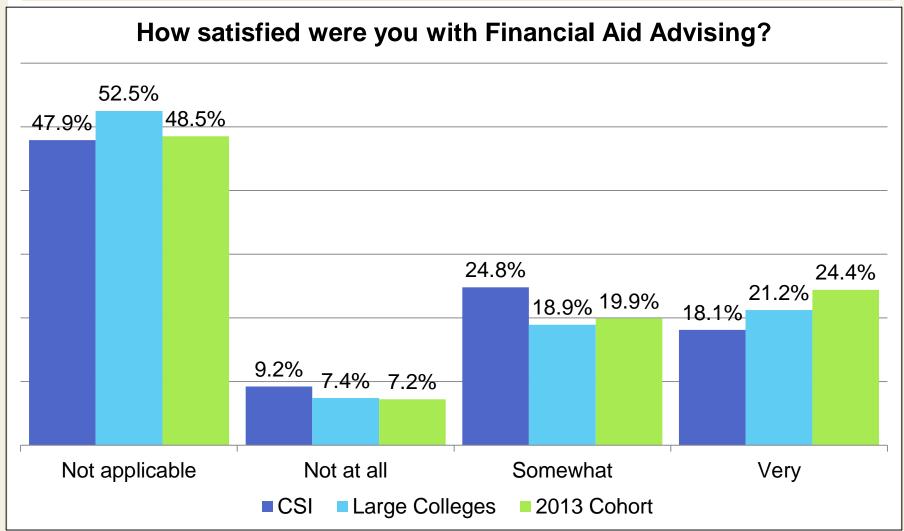


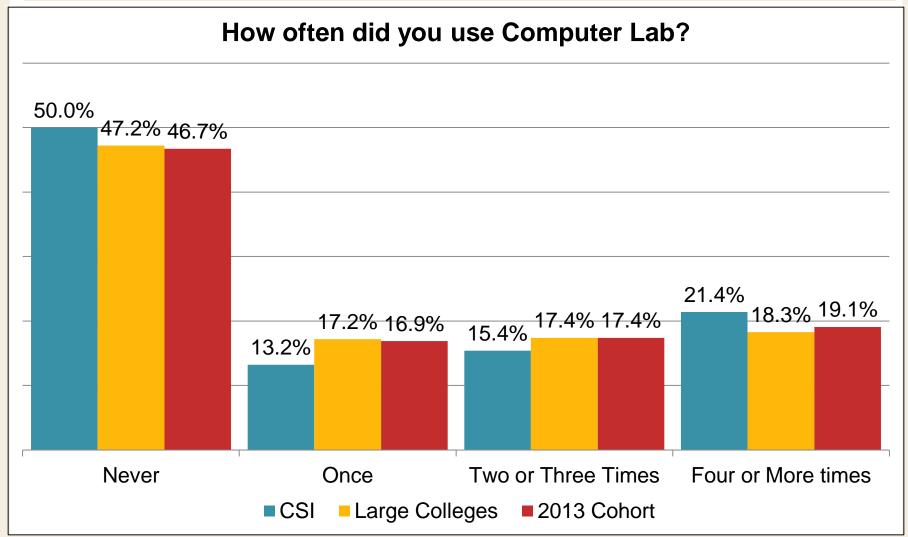


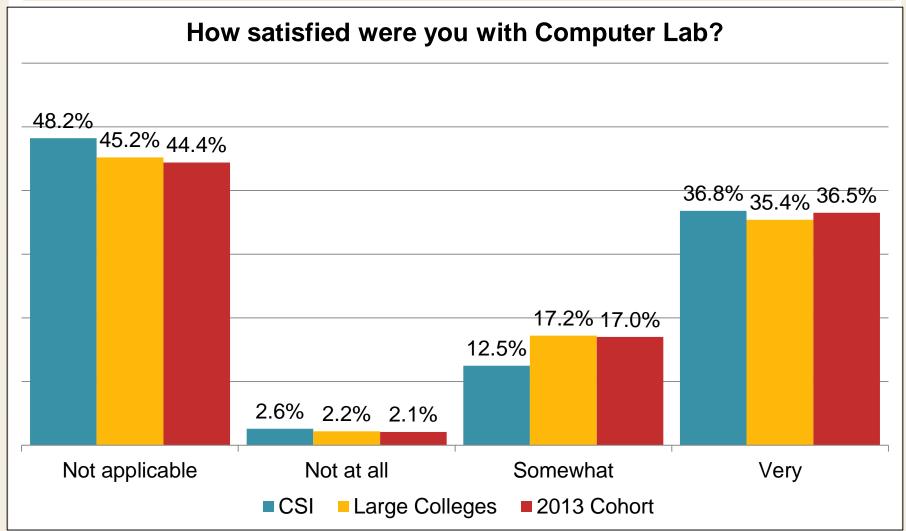


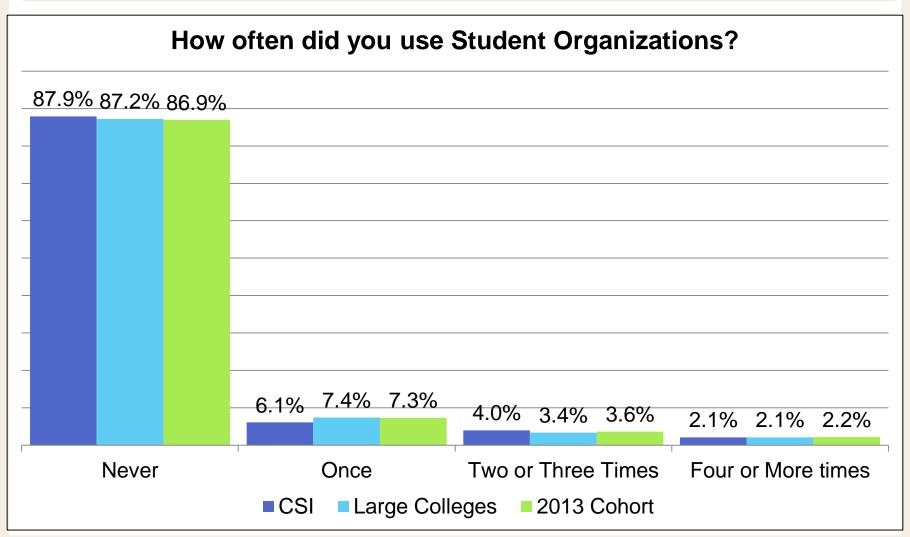


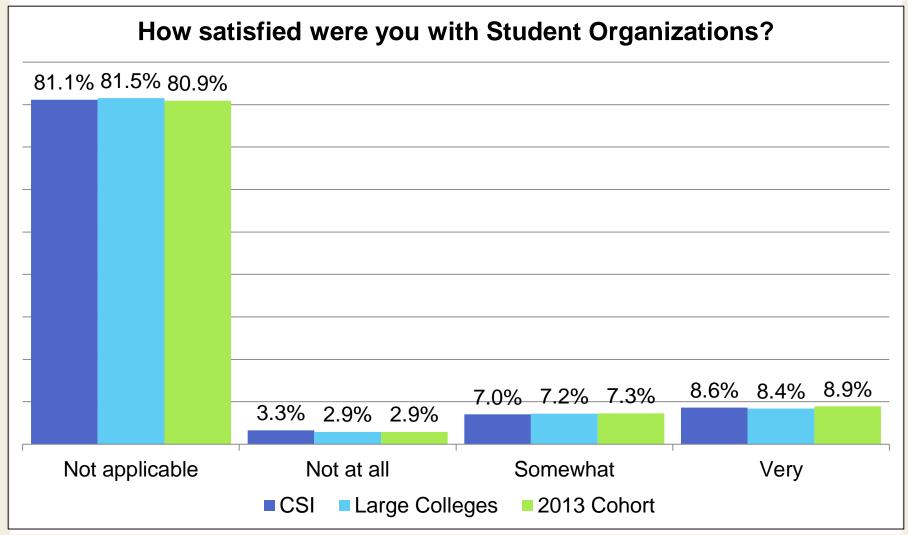


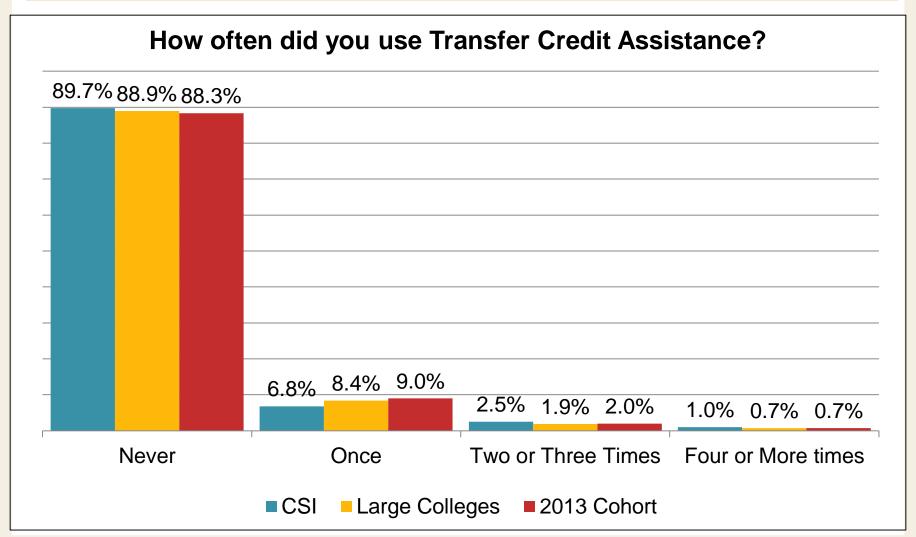


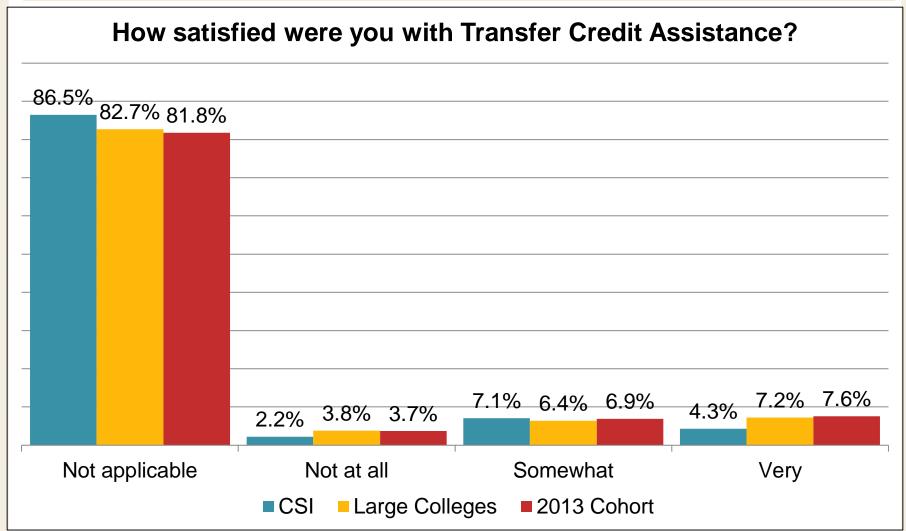












# Focus Institutional Policies on Creating the Conditions for Learning

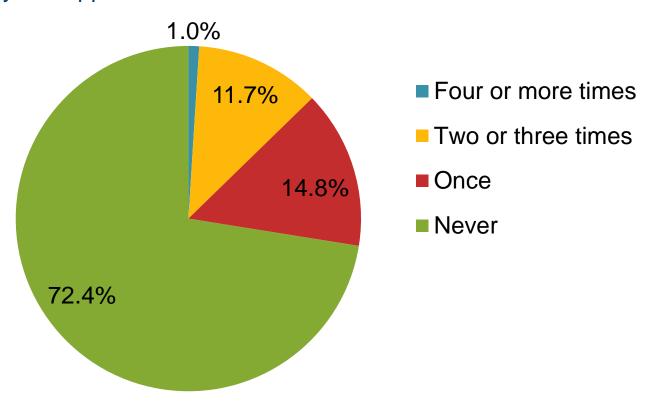
Institutional policies focused on student success are most effective when colleges mandate student participation in activities that are shown to increase persistence and improve student outcomes



# Focus Institutional Policies on Creating the Conditions for Learning

#### **Class Attendance**

During the first three weeks of your first semester/quarter at this college, about how often have you skipped class?



Source: 2013 SENSE data