

# NSSE 2000

## **National Survey of Student Engagement**

**University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Survey of First Year and Senior Cohorts**

**Office of Institutional Research and Office of Academic  
Planning and Assessment**

**April 12, 2001**

# NSSE 2000 Methodology

- National
- 276 colleges and universities participated
- 63,000 students responded
- Response Rate: 42%
- UMass Amherst
- Administered in Spring 2000 to randomly selected first year and senior students
- 374 students responded by mail (73%) or through optional web survey (27%)
- Response Rate: 37%

# Respondent Characteristics

	<u>Respondents</u> n=374	<u>Original Cohort</u> n=6731
■ Gender		
◆ Female	60%	48%
■ Race/Ethnicity		
◆ White	79%	75%
◆ Asian American	6%	7%
◆ Hispanic/Latino	3%	4%
◆ African American	2%	3%
◆ Native American	0%	0%
◆ Unknown	8%	10%
■ Class level		
◆ First Year	48%	60%

# NSSE Benchmarks

Indicators of effective educational practice in five areas:

- Level of academic challenge
- Active and collaborative learning
- Interactions with faculty members
- Enriching educational experiences
- Supportive campus environment

# Benchmark Score Calculation

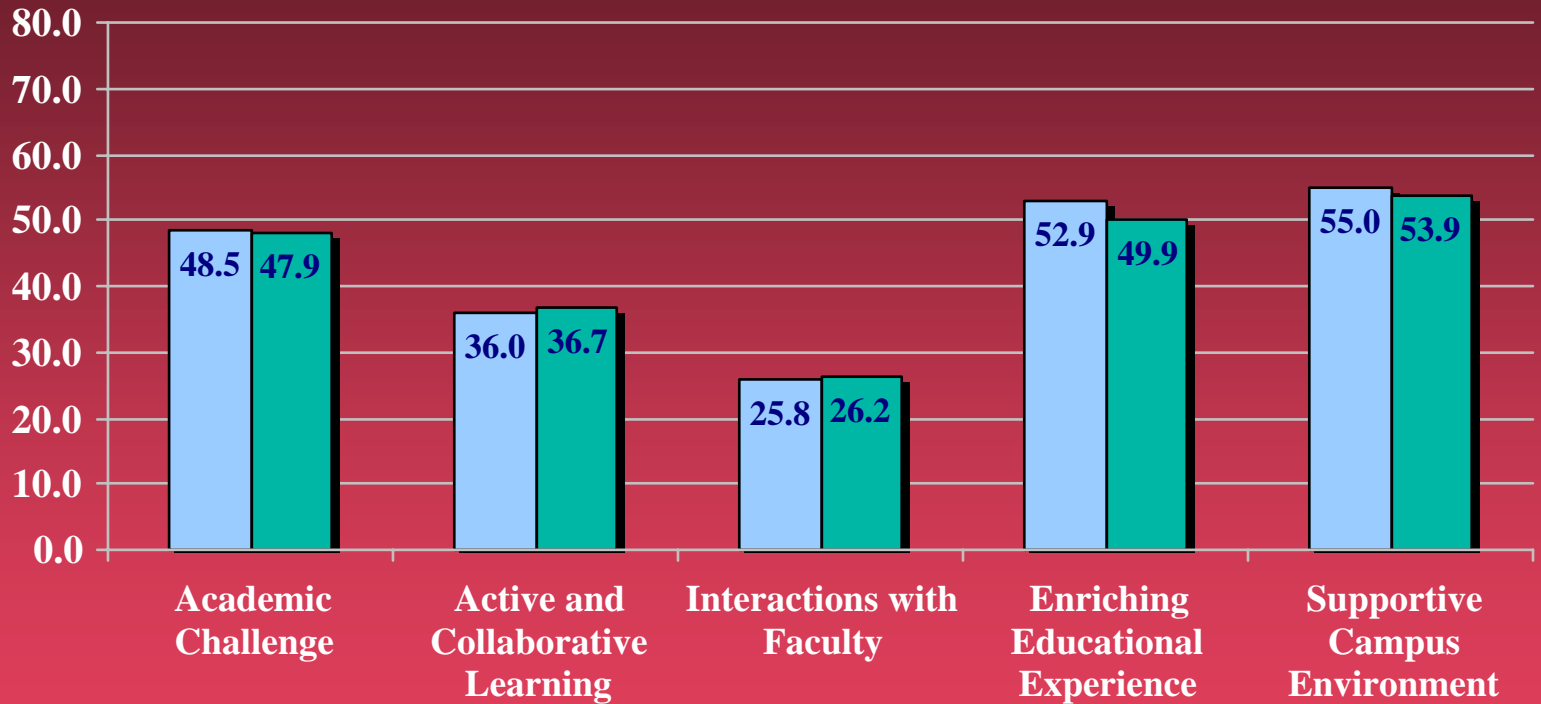
A benchmark is a score summarizing the responses of students to a group of related items

- Calculated separately for first year students and seniors
- To calculate each benchmark:
  - ◆ A weighted mean for each benchmark item was calculated (adjusted for gender and PT/FT enrollment status)
  - ◆ The item means were summed to create an overall score
  - ◆ This score was converted to a *100 point scale* (where 0 is the lowest possible score and 100 is the highest).

# Benchmark Comparisons

## First Year Students

■ UMass Amherst ■ Special Peers



Range for Doctoral

Extensive Institutions: 41.5 - 55.7

33.5 - 42.9

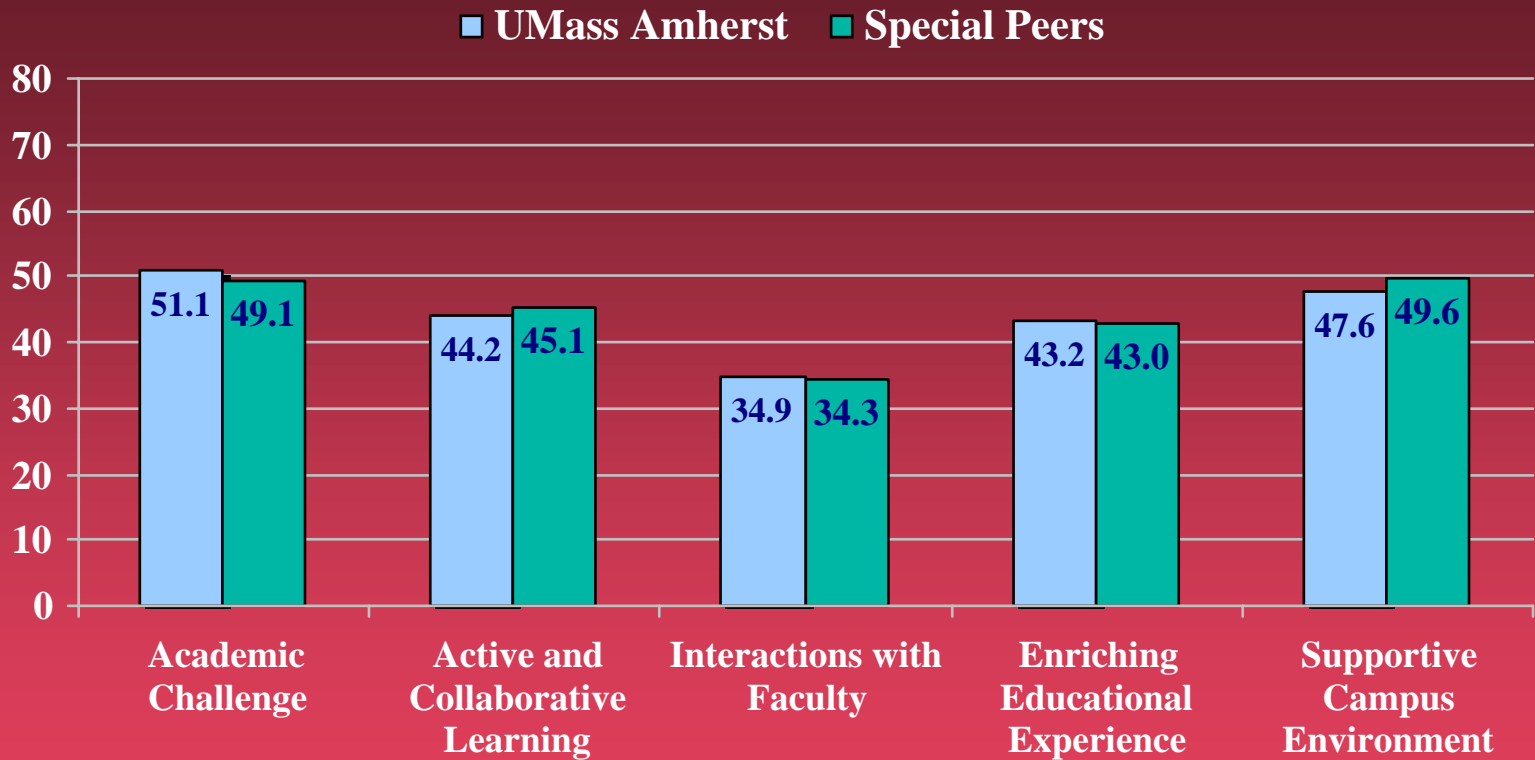
21.4 - 34.2

41.6 - 63.9

45.2 - 70.6

# Benchmark Comparisons

## Seniors



Range for Doctoral

Extensive Institutions: 46.5 - 55.8

38.6 - 53.8

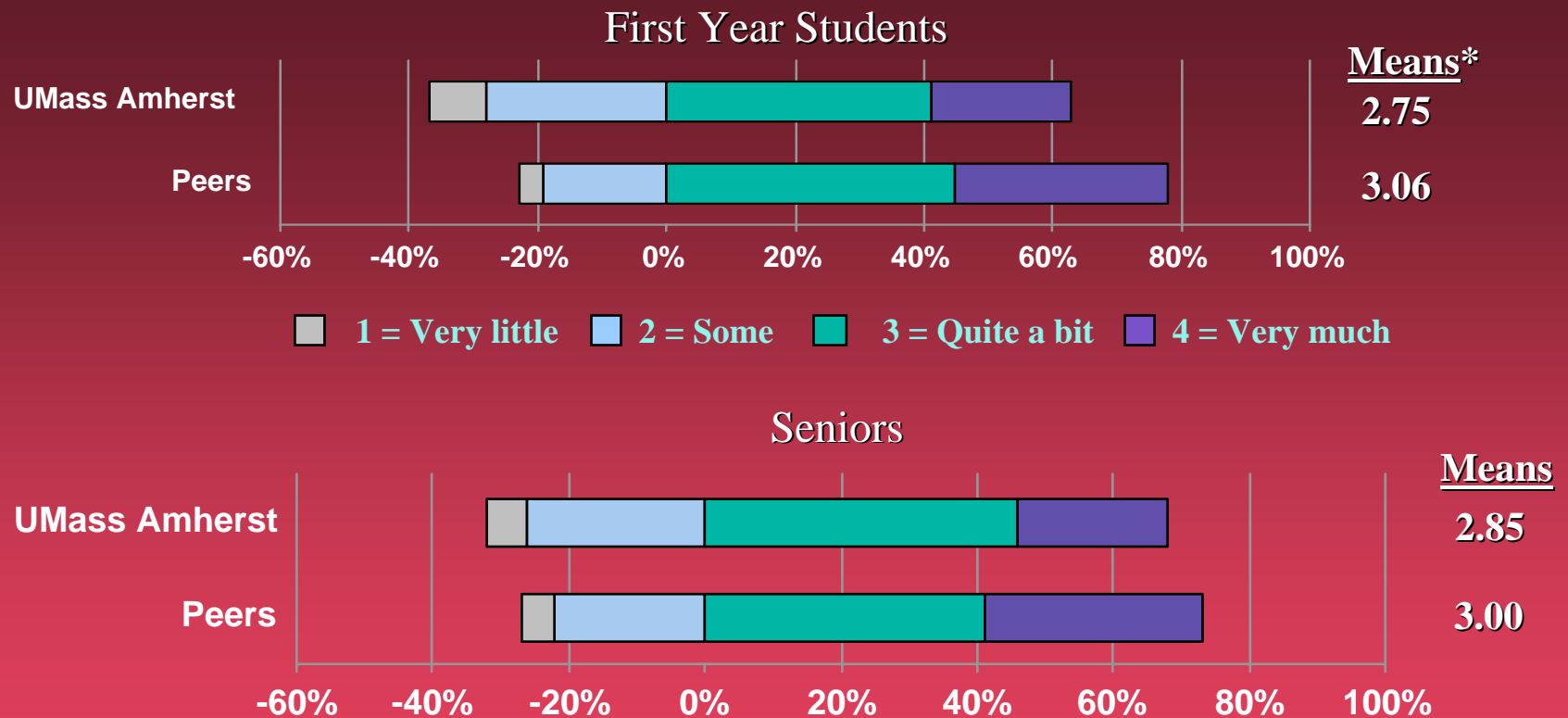
28.0 - 41.2

34.9 - 54

40.5 - 62.6

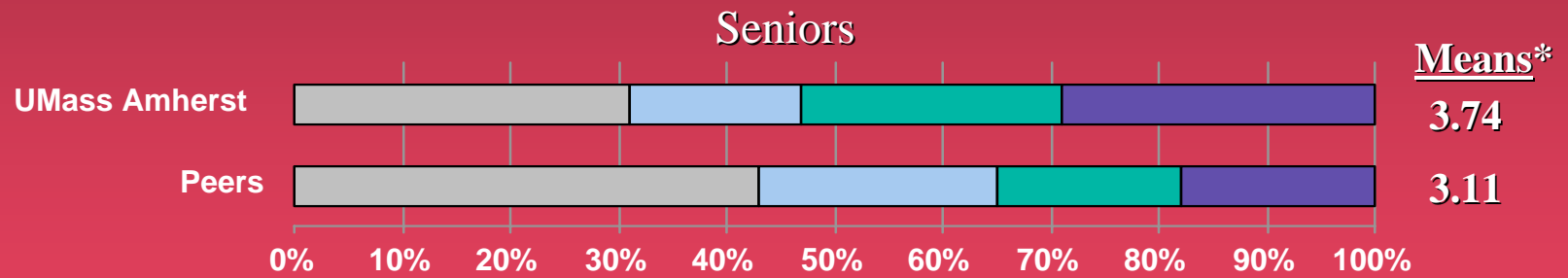
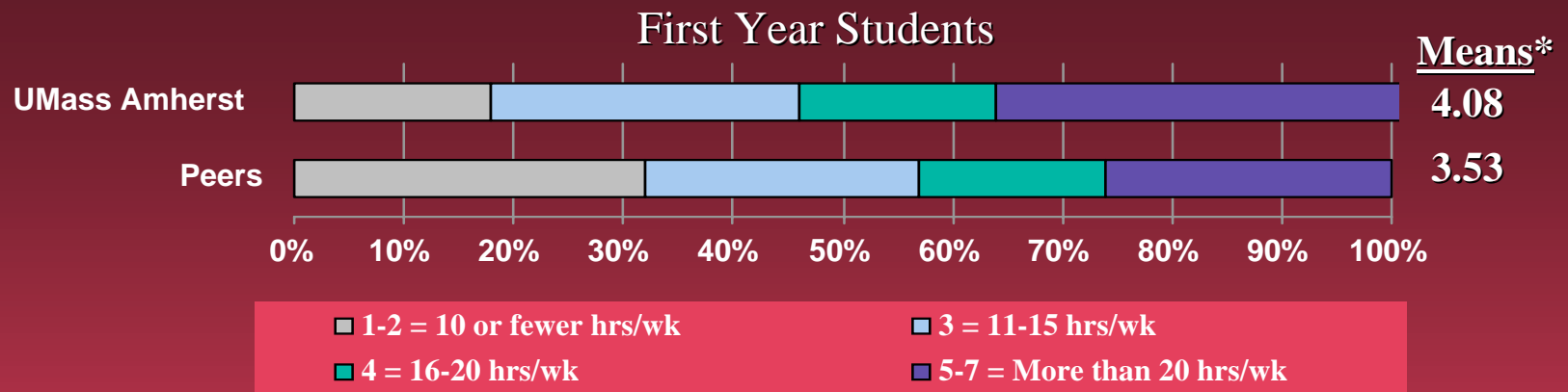
# Academic Challenge Benchmark

University emphasizes spending time on studying and academic work



\*Significant at  $p \leq .001$

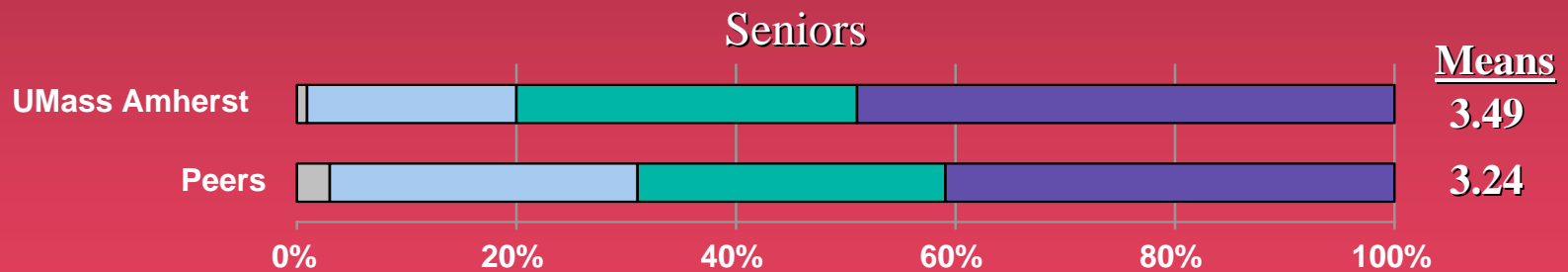
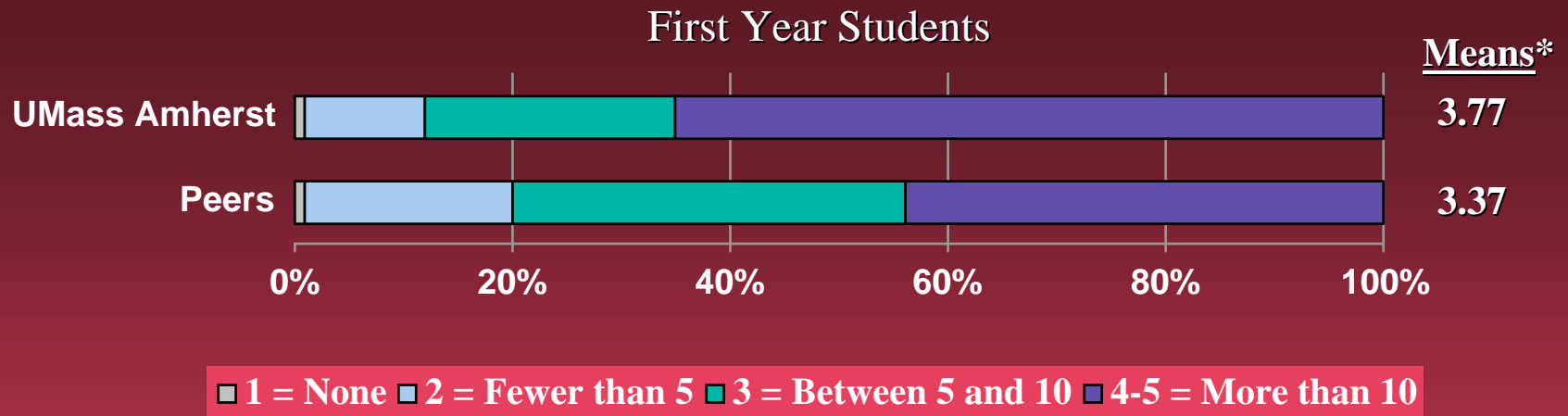
# Time spent relaxing and socializing



\*Significant at  $p \leq .001$

# Academic Challenge Benchmark

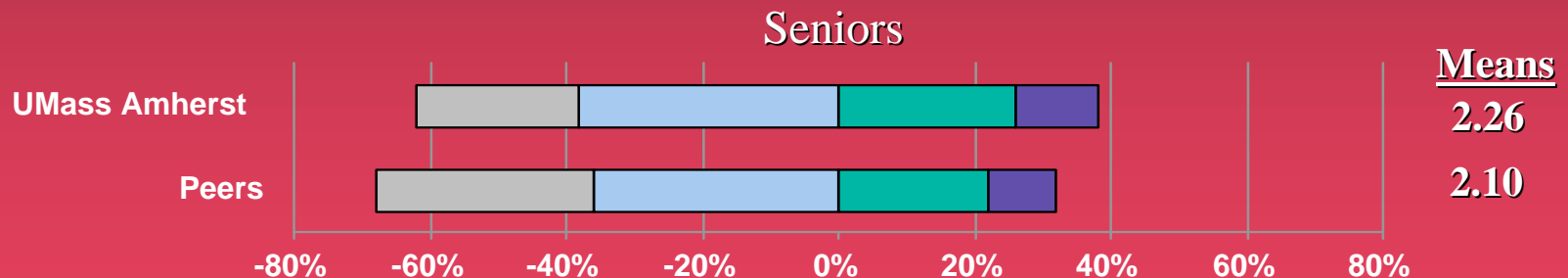
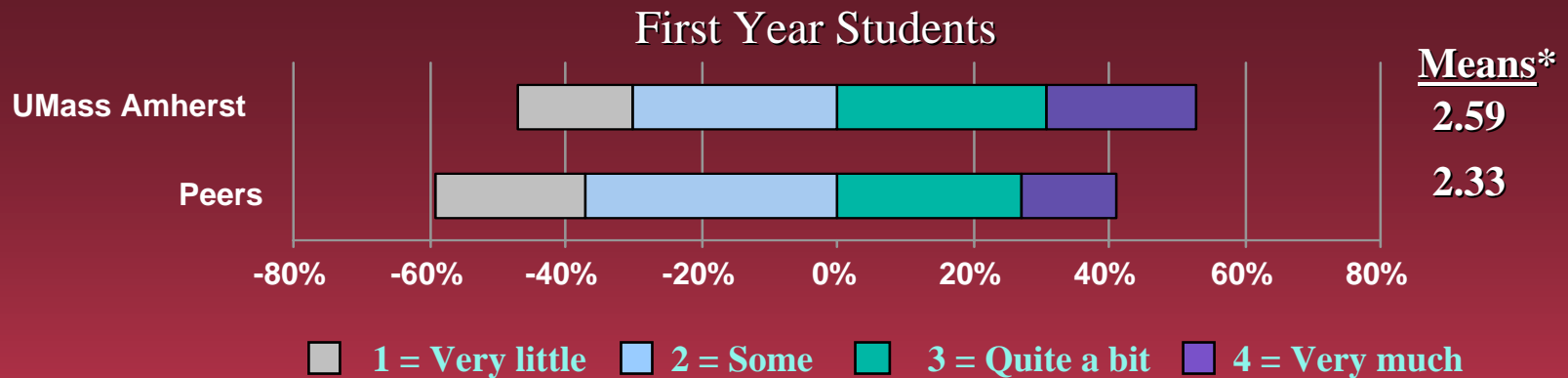
## Number of written papers or reports fewer than 20 pages



\*Significant at  $p \leq .001$

# Enriching Educational Experience Benchmark

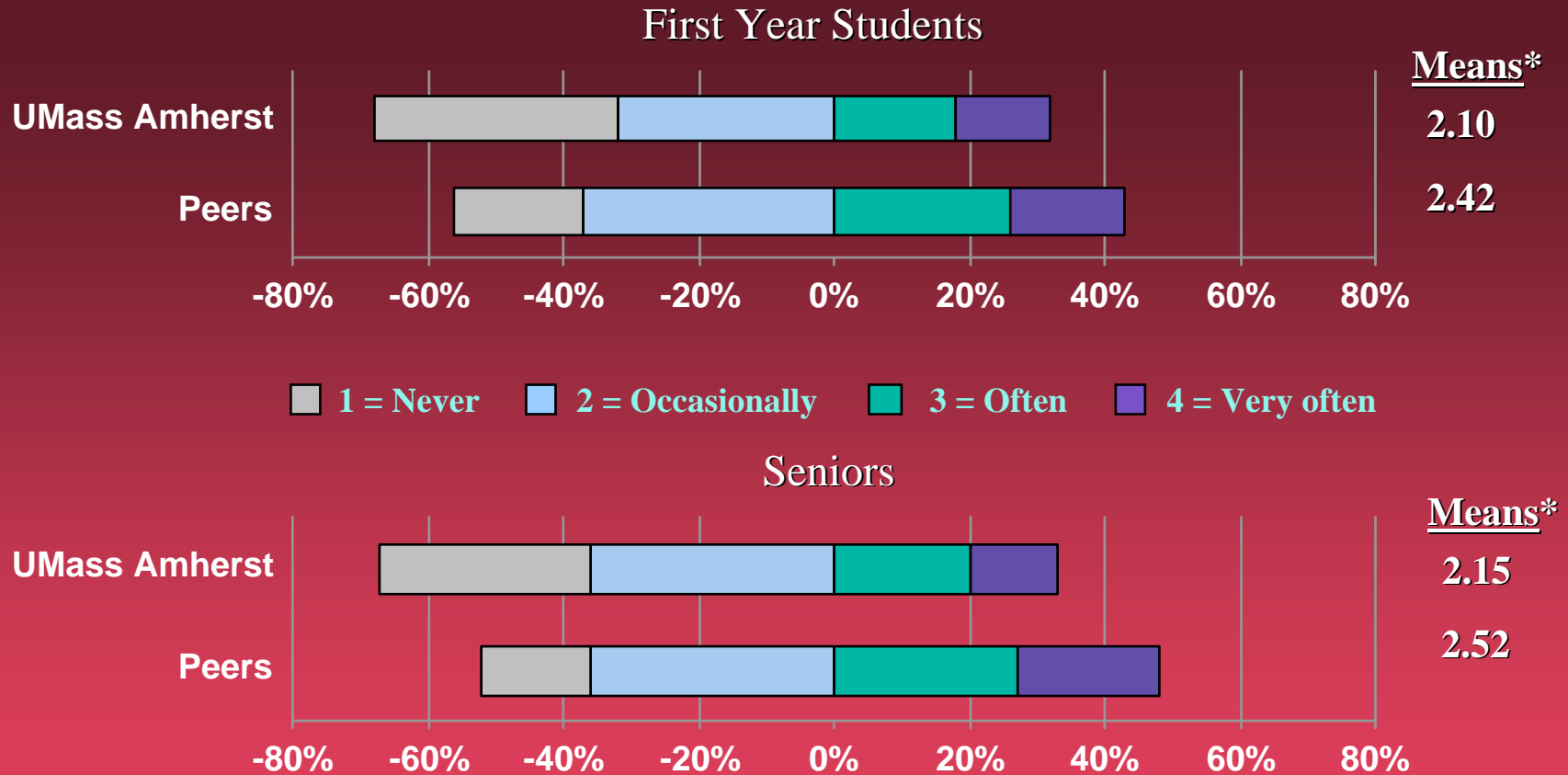
University emphasizes encouraging contact among students from different economic, social, and racial/ethnic backgrounds



\*Significant at  $p \leq .001$

# Enriching Educational Experience Benchmark

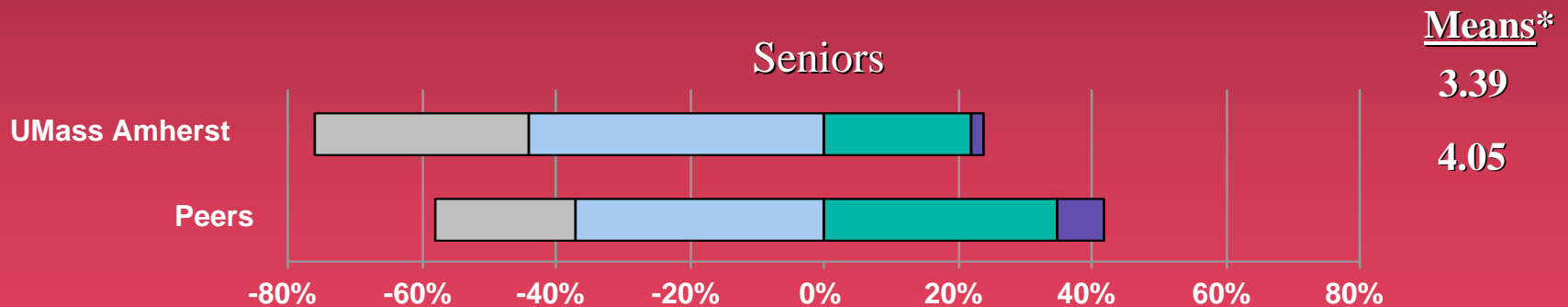
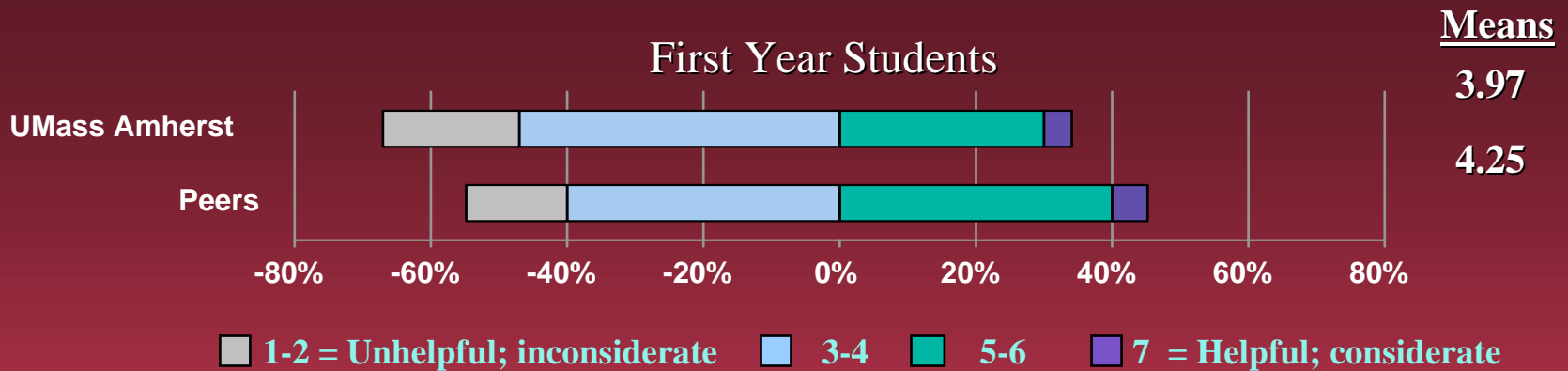
## Used an electronic medium to discuss or complete an assignment



\*Significant at  $p \leq .001$

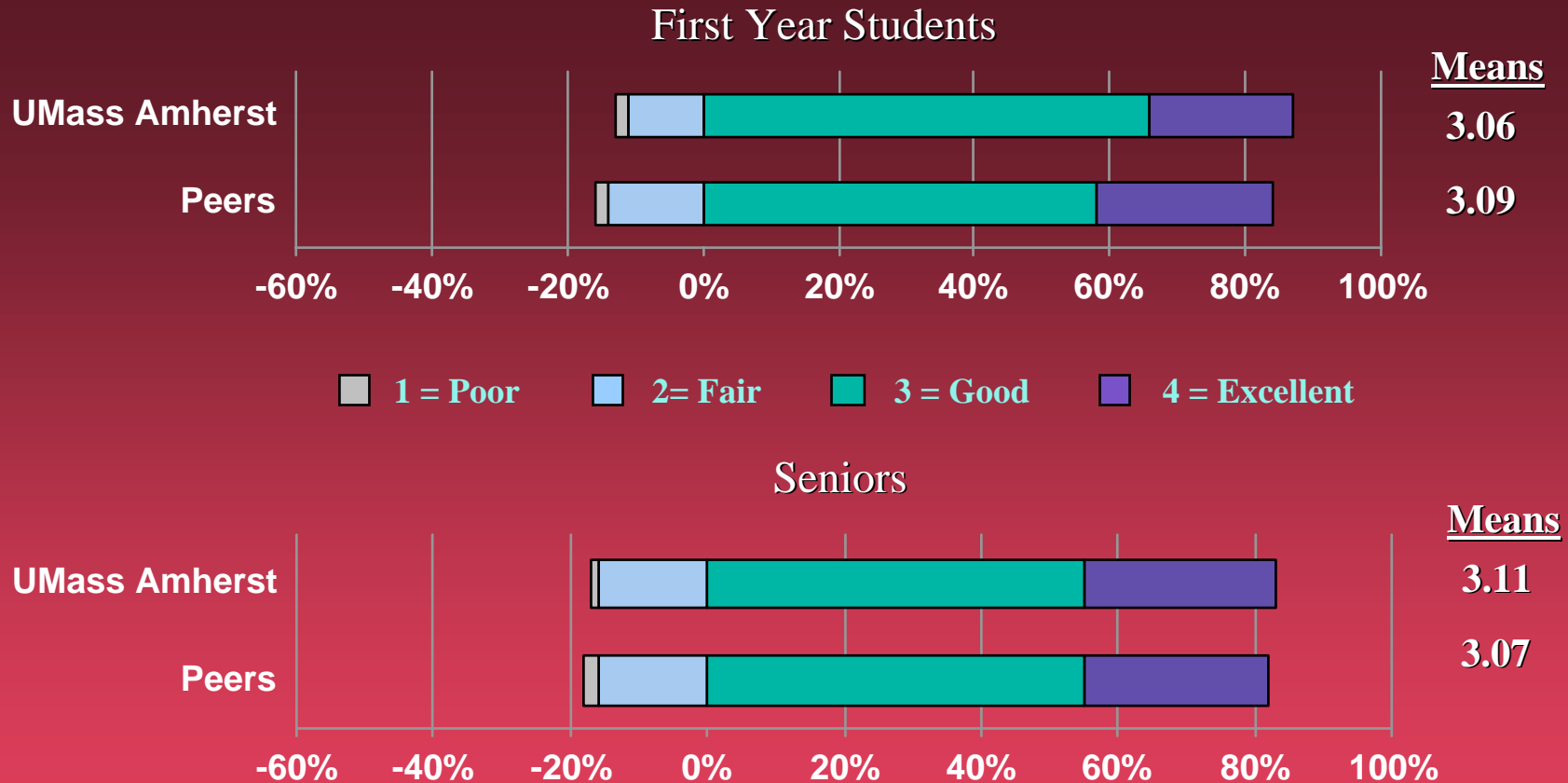
# Supportive Campus Environment Benchmark

## Student satisfaction with administrative personnel and offices



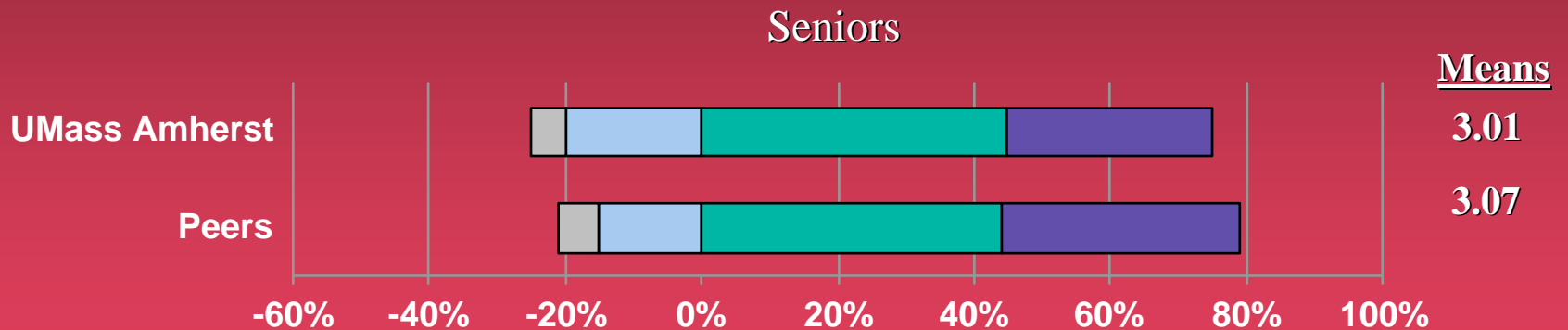
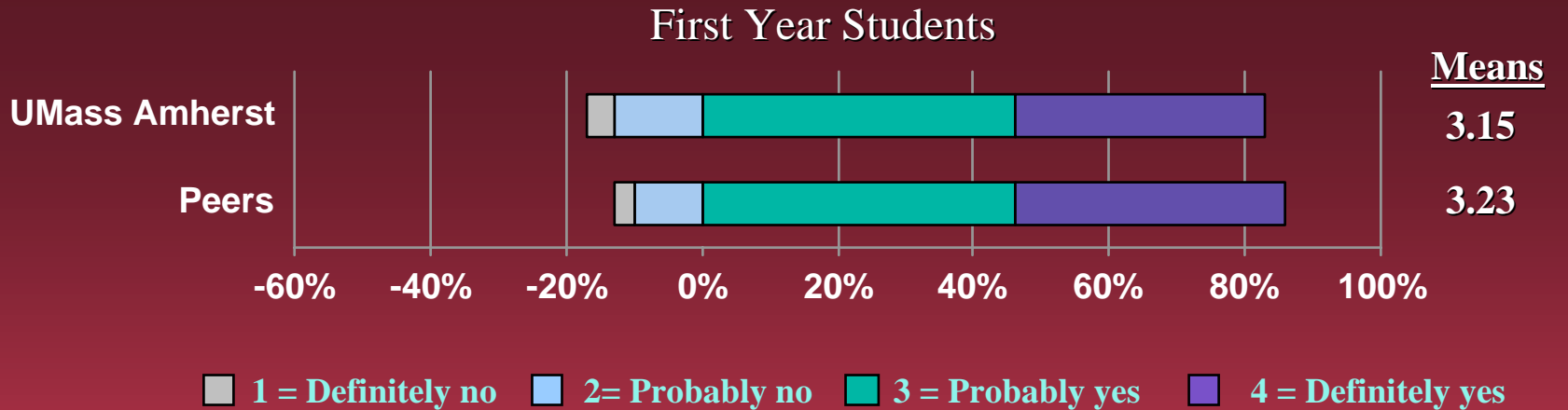
\*Significant at  $p \leq .001$

# How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?



\*Significant at  $p \leq .001$

# If you could start over, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?



\*Significant at  $p \leq .001$

**NSSE 2000**

**For more information:**

**[www.umass.edu/oapa](http://www.umass.edu/oapa)**