

2020 Graduating Senior Survey High Impact Practices (HIPs)

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The Graduating Senior Survey includes a set of items asking seniors whether they participated in each of five types of high-impact practices. These items are similar to a set of questions asked on the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) in which UMass Amherst participates. (More information on NSSE can be found at the [NSSE website](#).)

Below are the proportions of students who reported participating in each of these practices. Results from three different survey populations are provided: UMass Amherst seniors responding to the 2020 Senior Survey, UMass Amherst seniors participating in the 2017 NSSE survey, and 2017 National NSSE results for seniors at selected peer doctoral-extensive institutions.

Note: due to the abrupt transition to remote instruction the 2020 Senior Survey was administered entirely online. The response rate was equal to that for the 2017 NSSE (47%), but lower than response rates for the largely in-person Senior Survey administrations in prior years.

For a further examination of HIPs - including analyses of the relationship between participation in HIPs and learning outcomes, future employment and education, and disciplinary and curricular requirements - read [High-Impact Practices at UMass Amherst](#) on the OAPA website.

Percent of respondents who participated in the following applied learning experiences

Type of Learning Experience	UMA 2020 Senior Survey		UMA 2017 NSSE Seniors		National UMA Peers 2017 NSSE Seniors	
	N*	Percent*	N*	Percent*	N*	Percent*
Practicum, internship, field or co-op experience, clinical assignments	2,662	60%	2,557	59%	4,915	60%
**Community service or volunteer work	2,658	56%	--	--	--	--
***Research project with faculty outside of course/program requirements	2,651	31%	2,547	33%	4,894	33%
Study abroad	2,657	24%	2,551	20%	4,895	23%
Culminating senior experience	2,653	46%	2,548	39%	4,895	44%

Notes:

*Number of respondents who answered this item. NSSE percentages are weighted by institution-reported gender and enrollment status.

**NSSE did not ask this item in 2017

***In 2014, NSSE changed the wording of this item to "Work with a faculty member on a research project."