NUI Galway – StudentSurvey.ie 2022 results

NUI Galway undertakes the StudentSurvey.ie annually and consistently performs well against other Irish universities in both our participation rates and student satisfaction rates as evidenced by the results of 2 key satisfaction questions below:

The StudentSurvey.ie is designed to focus on student engagement, namely the amount of time and effort that students put into meaningful and purposeful educational activities and the extent to which institutions provide such opportunities and encourage students to engage with them. Research shows that students who engage more frequently in educationally purposeful activities both in and outside the classroom get better grades, are more satisfied, and are more likely to persist and graduate. NUI Galway is committed to interpreting and utilising StudentSurvey.ie data to enhance the experiences of our students.

2978 of NUI Galway students responded to StudentSurvey.ie (formerly known as ISSE) survey in 2022. This number yields a response rate of 26%.

Of these 1415 were First Year students (Y1), 739 were Final Year students (YF) and 739 were Postgraduate Taught students (PGT) (response rate 31.5%, 23.5%, 22.9% respectively). The summary demographics of respondents profile is reported in Table 1.

Results: Overall Satisfaction

Table 1. 'How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?'

How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?							
(Percentage of students who responded positively^)							
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
NUI Galway (%)	86.3	84.6	84.8	83.4	82.1	65.7	73.9
Other Irish Unis (%)	85.1	84.9	83.8	83.8	81.8	69.3	79.9
If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending?							
(Percentage of students who responded positively*)							
	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**
NUI Galway (%)	86.3	88.5	88.6	87.8	87.0	81.4	80.2
Other Irish Unis (%)	87.9	88.4	87.9	86.8	86.5	86.0	85.1
^ Percentage of students who responded as good or excellent; * Percentage of students who responded probably or definitely							

Table 1 demonstrates the overall satisfaction amongst NUI Galway students. In 2022 73.9 % of NUIG students rated their overall educational experience at NUIG as Excellent/Good (65.7 % in 2021, 79.9 % Other Unis in 2022). 80.2 % of NUIG students stated they would come to NUI

Galway if they had to start over again (81.4 % in 2021, 85.1 % Other Unis 2022) rating their educational experience at NUI Galway as good or excellent.

In terms of the data, the percentage results for all questions are detailed in Table 3.

To aid navigation, these questions are grouped under certain engagement indicators and the responses for individual questions are combined to create nine related indicator scores. These indicator scores act as 'signposts' and are calculated on a scale from 0 to 60 - with the lowest response placed at 0, and the highest placed at 60 - and weighted based on cohort and gender.

10 Indicator Scores [out of max 60]

The following table (Table 2) provides the weighted calculated score (out of 60) for each of the 10 engagement indicators for both National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) and the average calculated score for the remaining 6 other Irish Universities. The detailed percentage responses per question are detailed in Table 3.

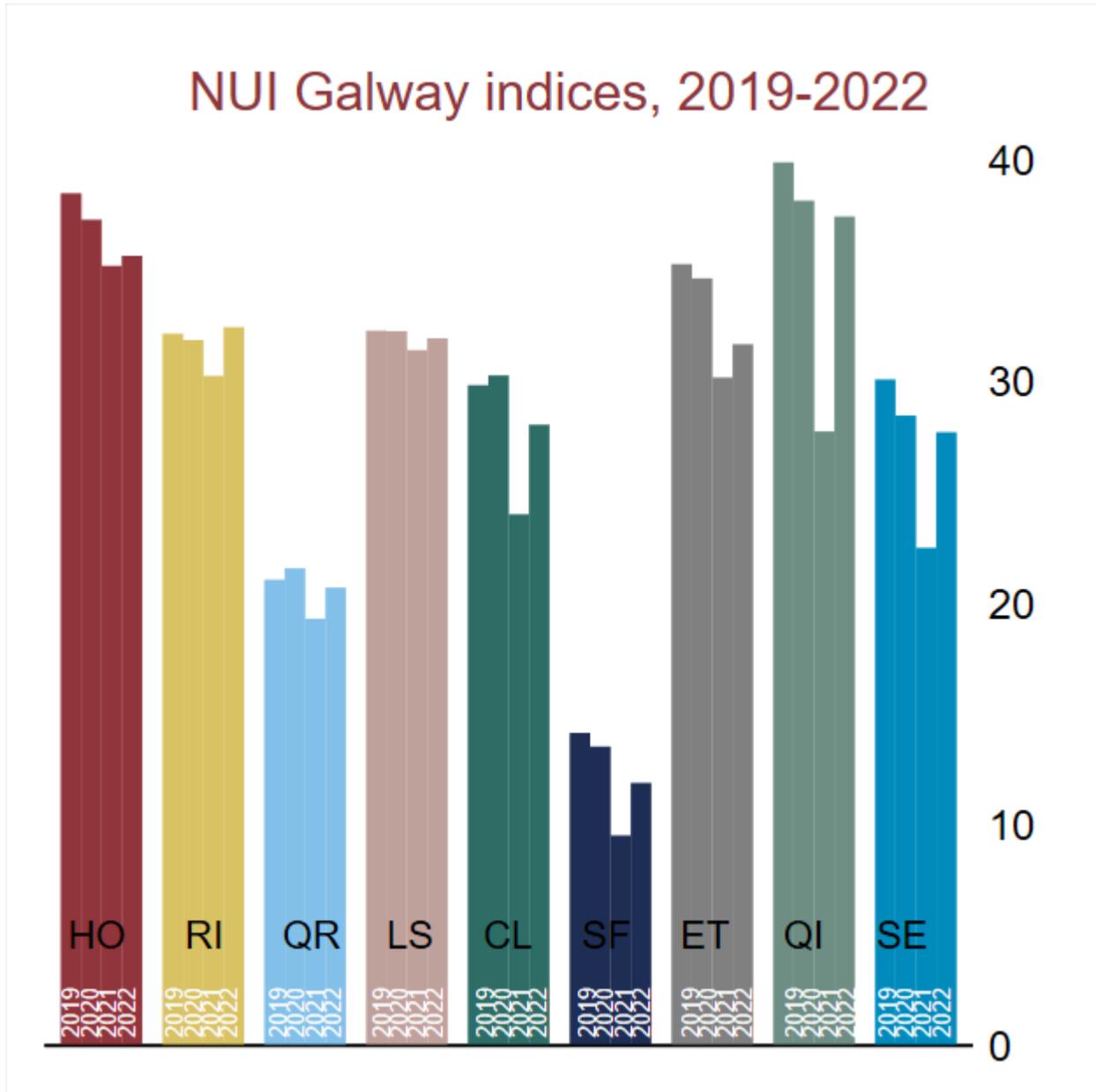*Table 2. Indices (GREEN - higher than Other Unis average, RED - lower, UNDERLINED - increase from 2021)*

	HO	RI	QR	LS	CL	SF	ET	QI	SE	LC
2022	35.7	32.4	20.7	31.9	28.0	11.9	31.7	37.4	27.7	32.4
2021	35.2	30.2	19.3	31.4	24.0	9.5	30.2	27.7	22.5	.
Other Unis 2022	36.3	33.3	21.7	32.7	29.1	12.4	32.8	38.1	29.2	33.5
Other Unis 2021	35.8	30.9	19.3	31.6	24.2	8.9	31.3	28.9	23.8	.
GREEN - higher than Other Unis average, RED - lower, UNDERLINED - increase from 2021										

Note: The colour coding highlights comparison with Other Unis averages and an index is UNDERLINED if it increased from the previous year. In 2022 9 out of 10 indices increased from 2021 year. In 2022 year, 0 out of 10 indices are above the Other Unis averages. In 2021 year, 1 out of 10 indices were above. Please, note, that a new index - LC - 'Learning, Creative and Social Skills' was introduced in 2022, which groups previously non-indicator variables and one new variable together. Please see APPENDIX 2 for further details.

Figure 1 depicts the four year level of indices and helps to see the effect of COVID (year 2021 as in 2020 StudentSurvey was conducted BEFORE the lockdown) and recovery in 2022.

Figure 1. NUI Galway Indices, 2019-2022.

The responses to the specific questions, detailed in Table 3, show the following strengths and weaknesses.

Table 3 shows the percentage of students responding positively to questions in each indicator category for NUIG and the average for the 6 Other Unis.

Table 3. Percentage of students responding positively to each question.

Questions	2022	2021	Other Unis 2022	Difference 2022-2021	Difference 2022 NUIG-Other
HO					
Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new	64.0%	64.4%	65.2	-0.3%	-1.2%
Analysing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning in depth by examining	58.8%	58.6%	60.7	0.2%	-1.9%
Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source	61.1%	60.6%	63.4	0.4%	-2.3%
Forming an understanding or new idea from various pieces of information	68.6%	66.2%	68.6	2.4%	0.0%
RI					
Combined ideas from different subjects / modules when completing assignme	58.0%	54.6%	60.5	3.4%	-2.5%
Connected your learning to problems or issues in society	47.9%	43.7%	50.8	4.2%	-2.9%
Included diverse perspectives (political, religious, racial/ethnic, gende	37.1%	30.8%	37.8	6.3%	-0.7%
Examined the strengths and weaknesses of your own views on a topic or iss	51.1%	45.8%	52.8	5.3%	-1.7%
Tried to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue	58.9%	54.5%	59.6	4.4%	-0.7%
Learned something that changed the way you understand an issue or concept	63.5%	58.6%	65.4	5.0%	-1.9%
Connected ideas from your subjects / modules to your prior experiences an	67.9%	62.9%	70.0	4.9%	-2.1%
QR					
Reached conclusions based on your analysis of numerical information (numb	34.5%	33.5%	36.8	1.0%	-2.3%
Used numerical information to examine a real-world problem or issue (unem	27.5%	26.3%	29.8	1.3%	-2.3%

Evaluated what others have concluded from numerical information	21.4%	20.1%	24.6	1.3%	-3.2%
LS					
Identified key information from recommended reading materials	55.1%	53.3%	57.4	1.9%	-2.3%
Reviewed your notes after class	54.8%	53.9%	57.1	0.8%	-2.3%
Summarised what you learned in class or from course materials	46.3%	46.2%	48.0	0.1%	-1.7%
CL					
Asked another student to help you understand course material	40.3%	35.3%	41.3	5.0%	-1.0%
Explained course material to one or more students	43.9%	36.0%	45.0	7.8%	-1.1%
Prepared for exams by discussing or working through course materi	40.0%	29.9%	41.8	10.1%	-1.8%
Worked with other students on projects or assignments	47.0%	39.9%	51.8	7.0%	-4.8%
SF					
Talked about career plans with academic staff	12.5%	10.4%	14.0	2.1%	-1.5%
Worked with academic staff on activities other than coursework (committee	9.9%	8.1%	10.3	1.8%	-0.4%
Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with academic staff outside o	17.2%	12.5%	19.9	4.7%	-2.7%
Discussed your performance with academic staff	14.3%	11.4%	14.7	2.9%	-0.4%
ET					
Clearly explained course goals and requirements	64.7%	64.3%	67.1	0.5%	-2.4%
Taught in an organised way	68.1%	67.2%	70.6	0.9%	-2.5%
Used examples or illustrations to explain difficult points	65.0%	65.1%	67.9	-0.1%	-2.9%
Provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	32.3%	26.5%	33.4	5.8%	-1.1%
Provided prompt and detailed feedback on tests or completed assignments	39.8%	31.6%	41.6	8.3%	-1.8%
QI					
Students	91.6%	62.1%	91.5	29.5%	0.1%
Academic advisors	71.6%	52.2%	72.8	19.4%	-1.2%
Academic staff	80.7%	63.6%	84.1	17.0%	-3.4%
Support services staff	69.8%	48.9%	72.2	21.0%	-2.4%

Other administrative staff and offices	70.0%	50.3%	72.3	19.7%	-2.3%
SE					
Providing support to help students succeed academically	55.9%	49.4%	57.5	6.5%	-1.6%
Using learning support services	55.6%	49.1%	56.4	6.5%	-0.8%
Contact among students from different backgrounds (social, racial/ethnic,	39.0%	25.7%	43.2	13.4%	-4.2%
Providing opportunities to be involved socially	48.9%	34.9%	53.9	13.9%	-5.0%
Providing support for your overall well-being (recreation, health care, c	45.8%	43.1%	48.5	2.7%	-2.7%
Helping you manage your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.	22.3%	16.6%	23.3	5.7%	-1.0%
Attending campus activities and events	45.8%	27.6%	49.7	18.2%	-3.9%
Attending events that address important social, economic, or political is	44.5%	26.5%	49.6	18.1%	-5.1%
LC					
Writing clearly and effectively	62.3%	55.3%	63.5	7.0%	-1.2%
Speaking clearly and effectively	48.4%	44.2%	50.9	4.2%	-2.5%
Thinking critically and analytically	73.3%	70.4%	76.5	2.8%	-3.2%
Analysing numerical and statistical information	46.3%	46.9%	48.5	-0.6%	-2.2%
Working effectively with others	63.0%	52.6%	64.8	10.4%	-1.8%
Solving complex real-world problems	52.8%	47.9%	54.9	4.9%	-2.1%
Being an informed and active citizen (societal / political / community)	46.0%	37.9%	48.1	8.1%	-2.1%
Pgcreative	52.8%	-	54.0	-	-1.2%
Non-Indicator					
Asked questions or contributed to discussions in class, tutorials, labs o	45.0%	43.2%	45.1	1.8%	-0.1%
Come to class without completing readings or assignments	38.4%	26.5%	37.0	11.9%	1.4%
Made a presentation in class or online	29.9%	27.8%	32.6	2.1%	-2.7%

Explored how to apply your learning in the workplace	39.0%	35.8%	41.6	3.3%	-2.6%
Exercised or participated in physical fitness activities	48.3%	48.9%	50.1	-0.6%	-1.8%
Blended academic learning with workplace experience	35.4%	28.6%	35.9	6.8%	-0.5%
Worked on assessments that informed you how well you are learning	39.2%	40.5%	40.9	-1.3%	-1.7%
Acquiring job- or work-related knowledge and skills	53.7%	50.4%	56.3	3.3%	-2.6%
Community service or volunteer work	57.6%	49.1%	55.6	8.5%	2.0%
How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this	73.9%	65.7%	79.9	8.2%	-6.0%
If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you a	80.2%	81.4%	85.1	-1.3%	-4.9%

*GREEN - increase from previous year, RED - decreased, UNDERLINED - higher than Other Unis average

APPENDIX 2: Grouped into new indicator (Learning, Creative and Social Skills).

1. Writing clearly and effectively

2. Speaking effectively [revised wording: the words 'clearly and' removed]

3. Thinking critically and analytically

4. Analysing numerical and statistical information

5. Working effectively with others

6. Solving complex real-world problems

7. Being an informed and active citizen (societal / political / community)

8. Being innovative and creative [new question]