

Interfaith University's Campus Interfaith Inventory Report 2016–2017

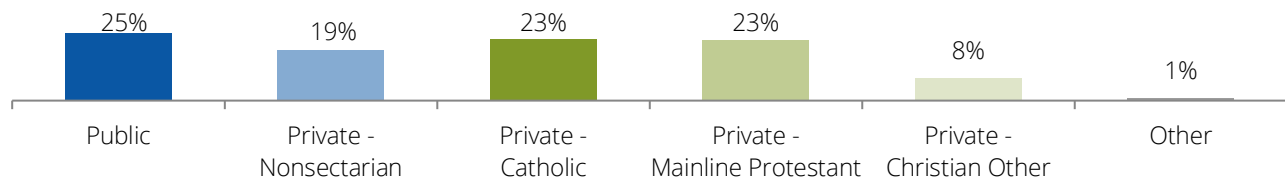
Introduction

The Campus Interfaith Inventory is a groundbreaking new project to identify how campuses are engaging in religious diversity work and identify both promising practices and emerging priorities at the institutions driving these efforts. The Inventory is built upon the nine [Leadership Practices for Interfaith Excellence](#) (*Liberal Education*, 2015). This report shows how your institution benchmarks next to peer institutions and the national dataset.

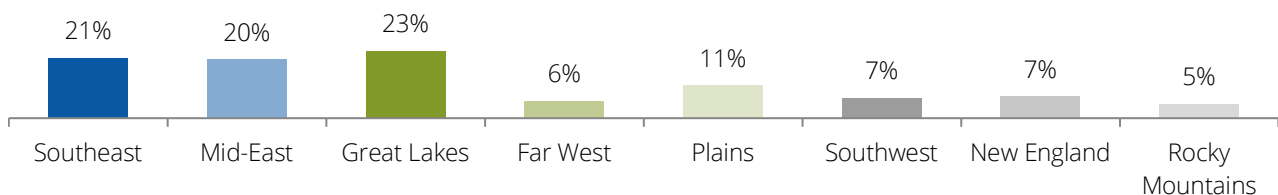
Data Overview

190 institutions participated in this first year of the Campus Interfaith Inventory. These campuses represent a diversity of institution types, as well as geographic representation across the United States, with concentrations in the Great Lakes, Southeast, and Mid-East regions.

Participating Campuses by Institution Type



Participating Campuses by Region



Reading This Report

In this report, you will see your institution's Inventory responses next to the aggregate data for similar institutions and all institutions. For this analysis, campuses were divided into five institution types: Public, Private – Nonsectarian, Private – Catholic, Private – Mainline Protestant, and Private – Christian Other. Note that the data does not represent a full or random national sample, only the 190 self-selected participating institutions. All percentages reported in this report reflect the percentage of all participating campuses. Note, however, that some questions were only asked contingent upon answers to other questions.

We intend for this report to be generative, sparking reflection and planning across campus departments. We hope that by learning how your efforts compare to other institutions, you can benchmark your campus and initiate conversations with campus stakeholders about increasing investment in this work. You will also soon receive a full national summary report, which will include greater detail on national findings as well as specific campus examples. If you have questions about the data or how to use it for planning next steps at your institution, feel free to reach out to your IFYC contact person or to Rebecca Russo, Director of Campus Stewardship, at rebecca@ifyc.org.

Note: LP 1 (Mission & Identity), LP 3 (Public Identity), LP5 (Academic Priority), LP8 (Campus Community Partnerships) and LP 9 (Assessment) were hidden to shorten this sample report. The full report is 14 pages.

LP 2 – Campus-Wide Strategy

Stakeholders from all levels of the campus are engaged in creating, implementing and sustaining a holistic curricular and co-curricular strategy for advancing interfaith cooperation. There is a written plan or clear approach in place that holds stakeholders accountable and provides a roadmap.

	Interfaith University	Public Campuses	All Responding Campuses
Does your institution have a cross-campus committee or group that meets regularly to advance interfaith cooperation as a high-level institutional priority? [% saying yes]	No	46%	35%
This committee includes involvement from:			
Senior Administration		17%	14%
Faculty		33%	28%
Staff		40%	31%
Students		29%	21%
Alumni		2%	3%
Community Members or Leaders		23%	9%
This group or committee: [Check one]			
Is informal and self-organized		13%	12%
Is an official campus committee		33%	23%
Is interfaith cooperation and/or engagement of religious diversity named as an explicit priority of an existing campus-wide diversity office or committee? [% saying yes]	Yes	48%	58%
Is interfaith cooperation included in the institution's current strategic plan? [% saying yes]	No	6%	25%
It is included in these ways:			
Mentioned explicitly at least once		4%	16%
Stated as one of the top-level priorities		0%	7%
Does your institution currently have or is it developing a cross-campus strategy specifically for interfaith cooperation? [% saying yes]	Yes	25%	32%
This strategy is:			
In the process of being written	In the process of being written	13%	20%
Written and under review		2%	2%
Written and finalized, but not yet implemented		2%	1%
Written, finalized, and already being implemented on campus		8%	7%
This strategy:			
Is guided primarily by one team or department	X	13%	16%
Includes input from multiple cross-campus partners		17%	19%
Is utilized widely to guide cross-campus programming		8%	5%
Includes both curricular and co-curricular components		8%	11%

LP 4 – Respect and Accommodations for Religious and Nonreligious Identity

Policies that ensure a respectful level of accommodation for religious diversity are foundational to creating a basic sense of trust across campus communities. Campuses must not only develop these policies, provide sufficient resources, and implement them with authenticity, but also take strides to ensure the full campus is aware of them.

	Interfaith University	Public Campuses	All Responding Campuses
What religious dietary options does your campus have in place? [Check all that apply]			
Halal Food Availability		31%	32%
Kosher Food Availability	X	48%	32%
Other		31%	32%
What physical spaces does your campus have in place to accommodate various religious and non-religious traditions? [Check all that apply]			
An interfaith/multifaith space on campus	X	67%	68%
Separate dedicated spaces for religious and/or intentionally secular groups		19%	29%
Other		23%	19%
What policies or accommodations does your campus have in place? [Check all that apply]			
Religious holiday calendar that is widely publicized across the campus		44%	40%
Religious holiday course absence policies for students		67%	49%
Religious holiday absence policies for faculty and staff		50%	38%
Housing accommodations		17%	26%
Facility use accommodations		2%	5%
Foot washing stations for Muslim prayer		15%	20%
Ability to access campus spaces as needed for all religious and nonreligious groups, even if not formal university-affiliated groups		56%	53%
A process to manage bias incidents or complaints	X	83%	79%
Consistent addressing of religious considerations in all campus policies related to diversity		35%	34%
Other		15%	10%

	Interfaith University	Public Campuses	All Responding Campuses
In what ways does your institution welcome and proactively celebrate the religious diversity present on campus on an ongoing basis? [Check all that apply]			
Announcements celebrating religious holidays from different traditions	X	29%	46%
Campus-hosted holiday celebrations for different traditions		46%	57%
Use of public ceremonies or events to highlight religious diversity	X	42%	45%
Other		21%	17%
What type of staff support for religious diversity does your campus have, either employed by the institution or by outside organizations? [Check all that apply]			
Religious Life Professionals		23%	57%
Professionals for Specific Religious Communities		48%	45%
Professionals for Specific Secular Communities		15%	8%
Other Student Life Professionals		50%	43%
Other	X	13%	9%
What procedures exist to support the ongoing development of these policies and accommodations? [Check all that apply]			
A forum exists for policy complaints and suggestions, which explicitly calls out religious accommodations		21%	19%
All policies related to religious accommodation are communicated clearly and visibly		23%	25%
Procedures exist to review religious accommodation policies, field new requests, and ensure that policies get updated	X	27%	23%
A clear point-person on campus exists to navigate policy or procedural accommodations related to religious diversity	X	29%	43%
Other		13%	9%

LP 6 – Staff and Faculty Competence and Capacity

Given the influence that staff and faculty have on campus climate, efforts to hire and develop individuals who have the knowledge, skill and capacity to advance positive interfaith climates are essential.

	Interfaith University	Public Campuses	All Responding Campuses
Does your campus offer interfaith or religious diversity training for staff and/or faculty? [% saying yes]	No	33%	33%
One-time or occasional training for staff		21%	26%
One-time or occasional training for faculty		19%	19%
Recurring training (at least annually) for staff		13%	7%
Recurring training (at least annually) for faculty		8%	5%
To what degree is religious diversity or interfaith training offered compared to trainings around other forms of identity on campus?	Less frequently		
More frequently (more often or to wider audiences)		2%	2%
About the same (just as often or to similar audiences)		8%	15%
Less frequently (not as often or to smaller audiences)		85%	79%
To what extent do staff and/or faculty plan co-curricular interfaith activities? [Check all that apply]			
Staff and/or faculty: Plan interfaith activities on an occasional basis	X	60%	51%
Plan multiple interfaith activities annually	X	31%	44%
Plan intentionally designed interfaith activities that involve partnerships with multiple campus groups and/or offices	X	38%	47%
Organize annual signature interfaith events		21%	34%
Other		15%	11%
Is interfaith cooperation integrated into at least one major student event? [% saying yes]	Yes	31%	41%
First-year orientation or convocation	X	17%	21%
Residential life programming	X	6%	9%
First-year or all-school common reading		6%	7%
Baccalaureate	X	0%	14%
Commencement		0%	10%
Study abroad orientation		2%	5%
Campus-wide service days		8%	13%
Other		2%	10%

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LP 7 – Student Leadership

Explicitly student-led interfaith efforts infuse the campus with genuine energy and student buy-in. They also provide students with the space to develop as passionate and lifelong interfaith leaders.

	Interfaith University	Public Campuses	All Responding Campuses
What structures does your campus have in place for student leaders to promote interfaith cooperation on campus? [Check all that apply]			
Interfaith student group (student-organized)		46%	52%
Interfaith student council or committee		19%	27%
Year-long interfaith leadership program (e.g., interfaith scholars or fellows)		4%	9%
Internship, student staff, or work-study position	X	23%	32%
Student chaplains with interfaith responsibilities		6%	12%
Interfaith position in student government		10%	12%
Other		10%	9%
What structures are in place to support those student leaders?			
Structures for recruiting and training new leaders each year		29%	37%
An intentional, ongoing leadership development curriculum	X	17%	24%
Other		15%	14%
To what extent do staff and/or faculty on campus support these student leaders? [Check all that apply]			
Staff and/or faculty:			
Support student interfaith leaders on an occasional or as-requested basis		35%	33%
Support student interfaith leaders in a committed, ongoing way	X	44%	55%
Work collaboratively with student interfaith leaders to advance mutual goals		38%	53%
In the past year, how often have students planned and led interfaith activities on campus? [Check one]	Regularly		
Never		4%	10%
Occasionally or ad-hoc		65%	39%
Regularly (at least three activities annually)		29%	49%
In the past year, has your campus offered interfaith or religious diversity training for a broad base of students, beyond your interfaith student leaders? [% saying yes]	No	21%	21%
In the past year, have students initiated any changes to campus policies or programs related to religious diversity? [% saying yes]	Yes	38%	31%

Leadership Practices Institutions are Prioritizing

In the Campus Interfaith Inventory, each institution could note which leadership practices they are planning to prioritize in the coming year. The following chart shows which leadership practices you said your institution is prioritizing, along with the percentage of campuses prioritizing each practice area. If you are looking for resources or ideas to help with implementation of these priority areas, feel free to reach out to Interfaith Youth Core for support.

	Interfaith University	Public Campuses	All Responding Campuses
LP 1 – Mission and Identity	X	31%	28%
LP 2 – Campus-Wide Strategy		31%	25%
LP 3 – Public Identity		40%	34%
LP 4 – Accommodation and Respect for Religious and Nonreligious Identity	X	19%	17%
LP 5 – Academic Priority		17%	17%
LP 6 – Staff and Faculty Competence and Capacity		23%	19%
LP 7 – Student Leadership		27%	25%
LP 8 – Campus-Community Partnerships	X	23%	19%
LP 9 – Assessment Cycle		8%	15%