How to interpret SELT reports: a user guide

**Name of course and teaching session**

**Number of enrolments and responses.** The response rate is calculated by dividing the number of responses by the number of enrolments, for example 13/25 = 0.52 (52% response rate). For information on responses rates and confidence in results, go to “How accurate are survey data?” at [http://unistats.anu.edu.au/surveys/toolkit/](http://unistats.anu.edu.au/surveys/toolkit/)

**Overall indicator** is the average score out of five across all the responses to all the experience questions (Q.1–6). In this example, the average score is 3.1, with a standard deviation of 1.3. The Overall indicator is not generally used as a performance measurement; rather the percentage agreement scores for each question are most often used when interpreting and using results. See the individual examples below.

**Legend** provides an example of a standard chart, with labelling of the various chart components

**Percentage scores** (frequencies) for each answer category are presented along the top of each question’s chart. The percentages are also graphically represented as blue columns in the histogram.

**Answer categories** (scores) are labelled along the bottom of the chart; where 1=Strongly Disagree, 2=Disagree, 3=Neutral, 4=Agree and 5=Strongly Agree

**Percentage results** can be grouped into three broad categories by adding percentages together:

- Disagreement rates (adding percentages for answers 1 + 2), Neutral (percentage for 3), Agreement rates (adding percentages for answers 4 + 5)

**Summary figures** for each question show the number of responses (n), the average score (av.) and standard deviation (dev.). If students have marked N/A as a response, the numbers would show against ab. (abstention).

**Mixed results** can be indicated by a spread of responses across all answer categories

**Polarised results** suggest respondents are split into groups of positive and negative experience. In this example, negative responses total 53.9% (15.4 + 38.5) and positive responses total 38.5% (30.8 + 7.7), with few neutral responses

**Strongly positive results** will be represented by high percentages in the 4 + 5 scores, for example 93.6% agreement (61.5 + 23.1). Reasons for the positive feedback may be found in the “Best Aspects” comments on subsequent pages of the full convenor/lecturer report.

**Broadly positive results**, with some room for improvement may be characterised by somewhat higher agreement percentages (example 61.6%) compared to disagreement percentages (example 23.1%)

**More consistently negative** results will be represented by high percentages in the 1 + 2 scores, for example 77% disagreement (46.2 + 30.8). Reasons for the negative feedback may be drawn from the “Needs Improvement” comments on subsequent pages of the full convenor/lecturer report.

**Overall Satisfaction with the learning experience** is calculated from question 6 on course evaluations. This question is used to measure the university’s strategic goal to increase the proportion of courses at or above 80% agreement by adding the percentages for answers 4 + 5. In this example, the score falls below that with agreement at 46.2% (38.5 + 7.7)

**Unedited open-ended comments** will appear on subsequent pages of the full convenor/lecturer report, which may provide further understanding of the student’s experience, and often include examples of what worked well in the course, and aspects they felt were less helpful.

**Demographic information**, such as required/elective, residency and study intensity, are displayed as percentages of respondents. In this example all respondents (100%) undertook the course as an elective.

If you would like further assistance interpreting SELT reports, please email the Evaluations Team: [evaluations@anu.edu.au](mailto:evaluations@anu.edu.au)