Safe Supportive Learning
Engagement | Safety | Environment

EDSCLS Debrief: Project Prevent
QUESTION AND SUMMARY

On October 7 and 8, 2015, the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments (NCSSLE) hosted debrief sessions to discuss the ED SCLS reports with pilot sites, including how to understand their reports and ways to use the data. During the session, the presenters (**Sally Ruddy** and **Samantha Neiman**, American Institutes for Research) received several questions from the audience. The Center has prepared the following Webinar Q&A Summary with responses to each question that was asked during the webinar. For additional information, please email or call the Center (ncssle@air.org; 1-800-258-8413).

Q1: What is a statistically significant gap in scale scores?

A1: You cannot gauge whether the differences are statistically significant from these reports. You would not traditionally do statistical significance testing in a population because any difference in a population is a true representation of difference. The real significance of your data will come from the comparisons. If you are interested in significance testing data from subgroups of your population, we suggest that you consult with a statistician.

Q2: How are the positively and negatively scored items averaged to create the Average (Mean) topic area values?

A2: For the purposes of calculating the Average (Mean) topic area values, negatively valenced items were reverse-coded such that – as with positively valenced items – higher values represent more positive perceptions. They were reverse coded for producing scale scores as well.

Q3: Where does the 100-500 scale come from on the scale scores?

A3: Scale scores can have different ranges, for example 100 – 500 or 150-750. These ranges represent a transformation from the original statistical values of -3 to +3 to a scale with a with a wider range of values (e.g., 100-500). The size of the range) does not intrinsically have a specific meaning, it is just an easier way of conceptualizing -3 to +3.