

General Education Assessment of Critical Thinking, Problem Solving and Analytic Writing

Illinois College administers the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) to its first-year students and seniors to measure critical thinking, problem solving and analytic writing. Results for 2012-13 are displayed in Table 1 below. Based on value-added scores from a cross-sectional research design, Illinois College seniors who were tested in the spring of 2013 were estimated to have made improvements on average at a level above that of seniors at the vast majority of other participating four-year institutions in the areas of *total CLA score, performance task, analytic writing, make-an-argument* and *critique-an-argument*.

Table 1. 2012-13 Illinois College Value-Added CLA Results

	Value-Added National Percentile Rank
Total CLA Score	88
Performance Task	85
Analytic Writing Task	84
Make-an-Argument	74
Critique-an-Argument	88

As depicted in Table 2 below, Illinois College seniors who were tested in the fall of 2013 and the spring of 2014 were estimated to have made improvements on average at a level above that of seniors at the vast majority of other participating four-year institutions on the selected response questions that address *scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical reading, evaluation, and the ability to critique-an-argument*. Illinois College's value added percentile ranks in 2013-14 were highest in the areas of *performance task* and *total CLA score*, where its average scores were at the 92nd and 88th national percentiles, respectively.

Table 2. 2013-14 Illinois College Value-Added CLA Results

	Value-Added National Percentile Rank
Total CLA Score	88
Performance Task	92
Selected-Response Questions*	76

Note: *Selected response questions address scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical reading, evaluation, and the ability to critique an argument.