The EDUCAUSE 2017 Top 10 Strategic Technology lists reflect the level of attention that the higher education technology community is giving to various existing and emerging technologies. Based on survey responses, EDUCAUSE has identified the top 10 strategic technologies for higher education. By our definition, strategic technologies are those relatively new technologies that institutions will be spending the most time implementing, planning, and tracking in 2017. This year, 249 U.S. and 36 non-U.S. EDUCAUSE CIOs and IT leaders shared their current practices and intended deployment plans for 85 different technologies. The number of respondents rating individual technologies ranged from 181 to 236. Sample sizes presented in the following lists represent the fewest respondents for any technology within each list.

This almanac depicts four ways to view the top 10 strategic technologies: by all U.S. institutions (overall rank order), by Carnegie Classification, by technology approach (early, mid, and late adopters), and by institution size (as measured by student FTE). These views can help personalize the top 10 strategic technology experience and compare your institution’s status to your peers’. View additional resources, including an interactive strategic technologies graphic, on the research hub.

**All U.S. Respondents** *(n = 181)*

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
3. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
4. Uses of APIs
5. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
6. Blended data center
7. Technologies for planning and mapping students’ educational plans
8. Database encryption
9. Technologies for triggering interventions based on student behavior or faculty input
10. Mobile device management
10. Technologies for offering self-service resources that reduce advisor workloads
By Carnegie Classification

**Associate’s Institutions** *(n = 23)*

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
3. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
4. Technologies for planning and mapping students’ educational plans
5. Technologies for offering self-service resources that reduce advisor workloads
6. Uses of APIs
7. Technologies for triggering interventions based on student behavior or faculty input
8. Application performance monitoring*
8. Open educational resources*
8. Technologies for degree auditing (documenting and tracking students’ educational plans)*

*Not part of the overall top 10*
Bachelor’s Institutions ($n = 35$)

1. Uses of APIs
2. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
2. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
4. Active learning classrooms
5. Blended data center
5. Mobile device management
7. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
8. Database encryption
8. Technologies for planning and mapping students’ educational plans
10. CRM for alumni and/or institutional advancement*
10. Federated identity technologies*
10. Institutional support for public-cloud storage*
10. Next-generation Wi-Fi*

* Not part of the overall top 10
Master’s Institutions, Public \( (n = 23) \)

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
3. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
4. Blended data center
5. Mobile app development*
6. Mobile device management
7. iPASS (Integrated Planning and Advising for Student Success) technologies*
8. Application performance monitoring*
9. Institutional support for public-cloud storage*
10. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
11. Technologies for triggering interventions based on student behavior or faculty input

* Not part of the overall top 10
Master's Institutions, Private (n = 25)

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
3. Uses of APIs
4. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
4. Technologies for planning and mapping students’ educational plans
6. Technologies for degree auditing (documenting and tracking students’ educational plans)*
6. Technologies for offering self-service resources that reduce advisor workloads
6. Technologies for triggering interventions based on student behavior or faculty input
9. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
10. Database encryption
10. Next-generation Wi-Fi*
10. Open educational resources*

* Not part of the overall top 10
Doctoral Institutions, Public (n = 32)

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Institutional repositories for research data*
3. Next-generation firewalls*
4. Blended data center
4. Database encryption
4. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
4. Uses of APIs
8. Mobile app development*
8. Predictive analytics for institutional performance*
10. Next-generation Wi-Fi*
10. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
10. Technologies for triggering interventions based on student behavior or faculty input

* Not part of the overall top 10
Doctoral Institutions, Private (n = 19)

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
3. Mobile device management
4. Database encryption
4. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
4. Mobile app development*
4. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
4. Private-cloud computing*
9. CRM for alumni and/or institutional advancement*
9. Technologies for planning and mapping students’ educational plans

* Not part of the overall top 10
By Institutional Approach to Technology

**Early Adopters (n = 62)**

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
2. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
2. Uses of APIs
5. Blended data center
5. Courseware*
5. Mobile app development*
5. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
5. Technologies for planning and mapping students’ educational plans
5. Technologies for triggering interventions based on student behavior or faculty input

*Not part of the overall top 10*
Mainstream Adopters \((n = 86)\)

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
3. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
4. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
5. Uses of APIs
6. Technologies for planning and mapping students' educational plans
7. Blended data center
8. Technologies for offering self-service resources that reduce advisor workloads
9. Database encryption
10. Federated identity technologies*
11. Technologies for degree auditing (documenting and tracking students' educational plans)*
12. Technologies for triggering interventions based on student behavior or faculty input

* Not part of the overall top 10
Late Adopters \((n = 54)\)

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Blended data center
3. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
4. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
4. Uses of APIs
5. Next-generation firewalls*
6. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
8. DDoS prevention products and services*
8. IT asset management tools*
8. Mobile app development*
8. Mobile device management
8. Next-generation Wi-Fi*
8. Service-level reporting tools*

* Not part of the overall top 10
By Student FTE

Institutions with fewer than 2,000 student FTEs (n = 25)

1. Active learning classrooms
1. Mobile device management
3. Uses of APIs
4. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
5. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
5. Technologies for planning and mapping students’ educational plans
7. DDoS prevention products and services*
7. Institutional support for public-cloud storage*
7. Next-generation firewalls*
10. CRM for alumni and/or institutional advancement*
10. Federated identity technologies*
10. Technologies for degree auditing (documenting and tracking students’ educational plans)
10. Technologies for offering self-service resources that reduce advisor workloads

* Not part of the overall top 10
Institutions with 2,000–3,999 student FTEs \((n = 43)\)

1. Active learning classrooms
1. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
1. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
4. Uses of APIs
5. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
6. Blended data center
7. Technologies for planning and mapping students' educational plans
8. Database encryption
8. Predictive analytics for institutional performance\(^*\)
8. Technologies for integrating student records data across case management systems\(^*\)
8. Technologies for triggering interventions based on student behavior or faculty input

\(^*\) Not part of the overall top 10
Institutions with 4,000–7,999 student FTEs (n = 35)

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
3. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
4. Database encryption
5. Technologies for degree auditing (documenting and tracking students’ educational plans)*
5. Technologies for offering self-service resources that reduce advisor workloads
7. Mobile app development*
7. Technologies for planning and mapping students’ educational plans
9. Courseware*
9. Institutional support for public-cloud storage*
9. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
9. Next-generation LMS*
9. Uses of APIs

* Not part of the overall top 10
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Technology</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Not part of the overall top 10
Institutions with 15,000+ student FTEs (n = 36)

1. Active learning classrooms
2. Technologies for improving the analysis of student data
3. Mobile app development*
3. Next-generation firewalls*
5. Uses of APIs
6. Application performance monitoring*
6. Incorporation of mobile devices in teaching and learning
6. Institutional repositories for research data*
6. Mobile apps for enterprise applications
6. Next-generation Wi-Fi*

* Not part of the overall top 10