



2013-2014 Graduation Survey Data  
Summer and Fall (2013) and Spring (2014)  
Marshall University

Office of Assessment and Program Review

# Executive Summary

- **These data are for academic year 2013 – 2014. Unless otherwise noted, all findings are essentially unchanged since academic year 2012 – 2013.**
- Overall response rate was 28% (494 respondents out of 1,735 graduates) – **down from 42% in 2012-2013.**
- Females were more likely than males to respond to the survey.
- Students who completed Bachelor's Degrees were more likely to respond than were students who completed Associate's Degrees and Certificates.
- The Mean GPA of respondents (3.20) was significantly higher than that of all graduates (3.09), but the effect size was small.
- Response rates did not differ significantly across colleges.
- Respondents did not differ from the cohort in terms of race and age.

# Executive Summary

- Most respondents were single with no children, were WV residents, and completed their entire education at Marshall.
- Thirty-four percent reported no educational debt, while 35% (**compared to 40% in 2012 – 2013**) reported debt greater than \$20,000.
- Most respondents stated that their educational objective was to begin their first career.
- Fifty-seven percent of respondents said they had participated in an internship or practicum, with 59% (**compared to 58% in 2012 – 2013**), believing this experience had helped them find employment.
- Fifty-seven percent (**as compared to 56% in 2012 – 2013**) of respondents indicated that they intend to pursue graduate studies, while only 4% indicated that they intend to work for a Volunteer Organization such as the Peace Corps or AmeriCorps.
- Most students reported that they intend to remain in WV to complete graduate studies and most chose Marshall University for this purpose.

# Executive Summary

- Students reported positive feelings about all aspects of their MU education. On a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 being “strongly agree,” 2 being “agree,” 3 being “neither agree nor disagree,” 4 being “disagree” and 5 being “strongly disagree,” means exceeded 2 for only four out of fourteen items. Three of these items were the same as those identified in 2012 – 2013, while the item in red did not exceed 2.0 in academic year 2012 – 2013.
  - I developed the ability to use mathematics in everyday life (2.34)
  - Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills (2.23)
  - I broadened my appreciation for the arts (2.37)
  - I developed multicultural and global perspectives (2.07)

# Executive Summary

- On a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 being “very satisfied,” 2 being “satisfied,” 3 being “neutral,” 4 being “dissatisfied,” and 5 being “very dissatisfied,” students reported greater satisfaction with
  - the quality of teaching (1.91) than with
  - the quality of advising (2.35)
  - academic support services (2.34)
  - classroom and lab facilities (2.22)
- Sixty-eight percent of respondents plan to be employed in their major field, 11% not in their major field, and 21% were unsure at the time of the survey.
- Fifty-eight percent (**down from 59% in 2012 – 2013**) plan to work in WV.
- Thirty-seven percent (of the 346 students who answered the question) reported having accepted a job (**down from 58% in 2012 – 2013**). Of those, 63% will earn more than \$30,000 annually (**up slightly from 60% in 2012 – 2013**).
- Only 22% of respondents reported using Career Services, with JobTrax and Resume Assistance used most frequently.

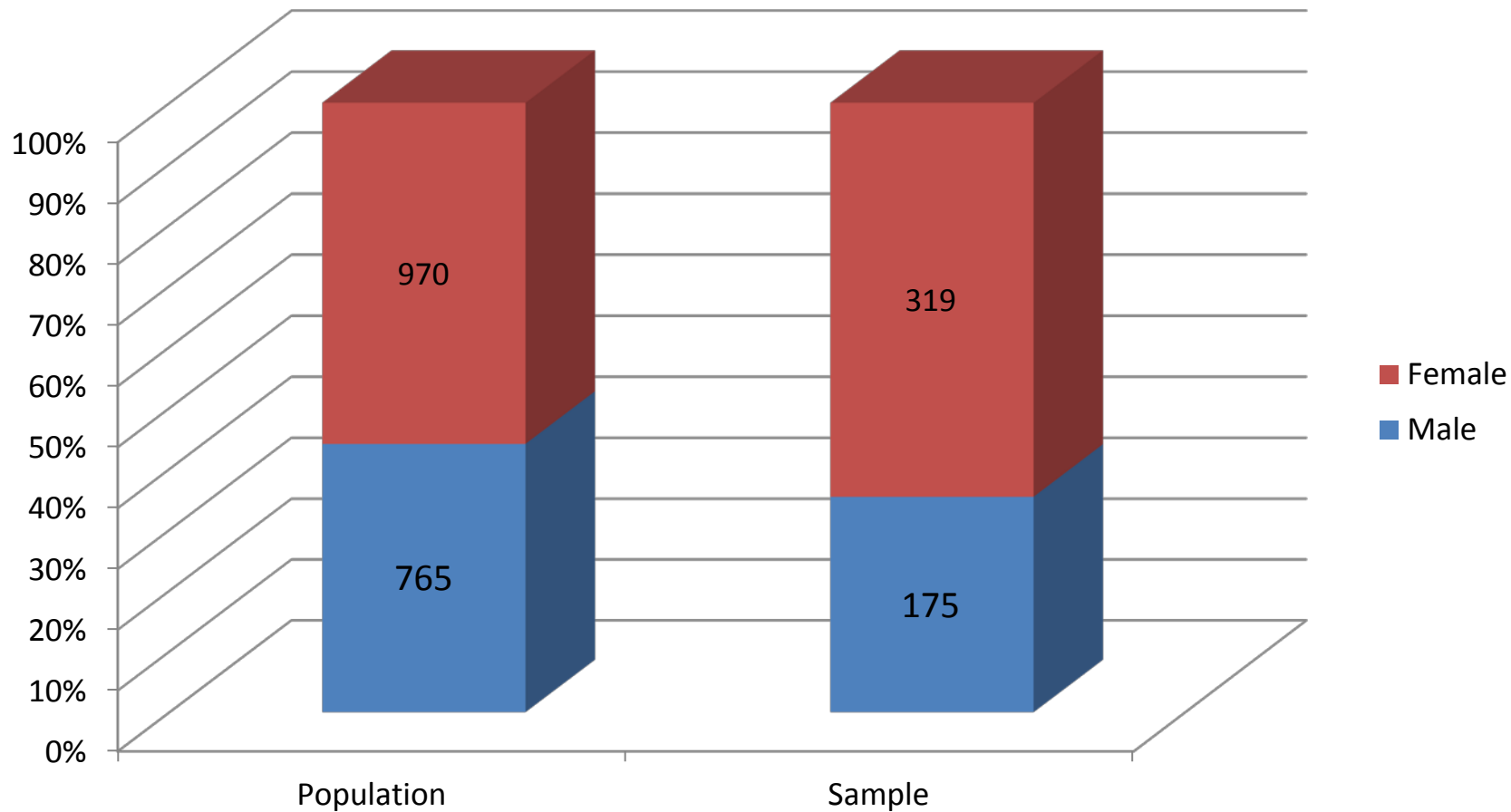
## 2013 – 2014 Response Rate by College by Semester

College	Summer 2013	Fall 2013	Spring 2014	Total
CAM	2/13 = 15%	14/36 = 39%	21/80 = 26%	37/129 = 29%
COB	6/35 = 17%	34/119 = 29%	41/158 = 26%	81/312 = 26%
COEPD	0/1 = 0%	10/62 = 16%	35/97 = 36%	45/160 = 28%
COHP	2/11 = 18%	33/144 = 23%	73/259 = 28%	108/414 = 26%
COLA	1/34 = 3%	10/57 = 18%	48/118 = 41%	59/209 = 28%
COS	4/12 = 33%	23/74 = 31%	47/150 = 31%	74/236 = 31%
CITE	0/3 = 0%	6/16 = 38%	16/32 = 50%	22/51 = 43%
RBA	7/45 = 16%	20/91 = 22%	41/88 = 47%	68/224 = 30%
Total	22/154 = 14%	150/599 = 25%	322/982 = 33%	494/1,735 = 28%

Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender;  $X^2 (1) = 11.844, p = .001$

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
Male	765 (44%)	Male	175 (35%)	23%
Female	970 (56%)	Female	319 (65%)	33%
Total	1,735 (100%)	Total	494 (100%)	28%

Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender;  $\chi^2 (1) = 11.844, p = .001$

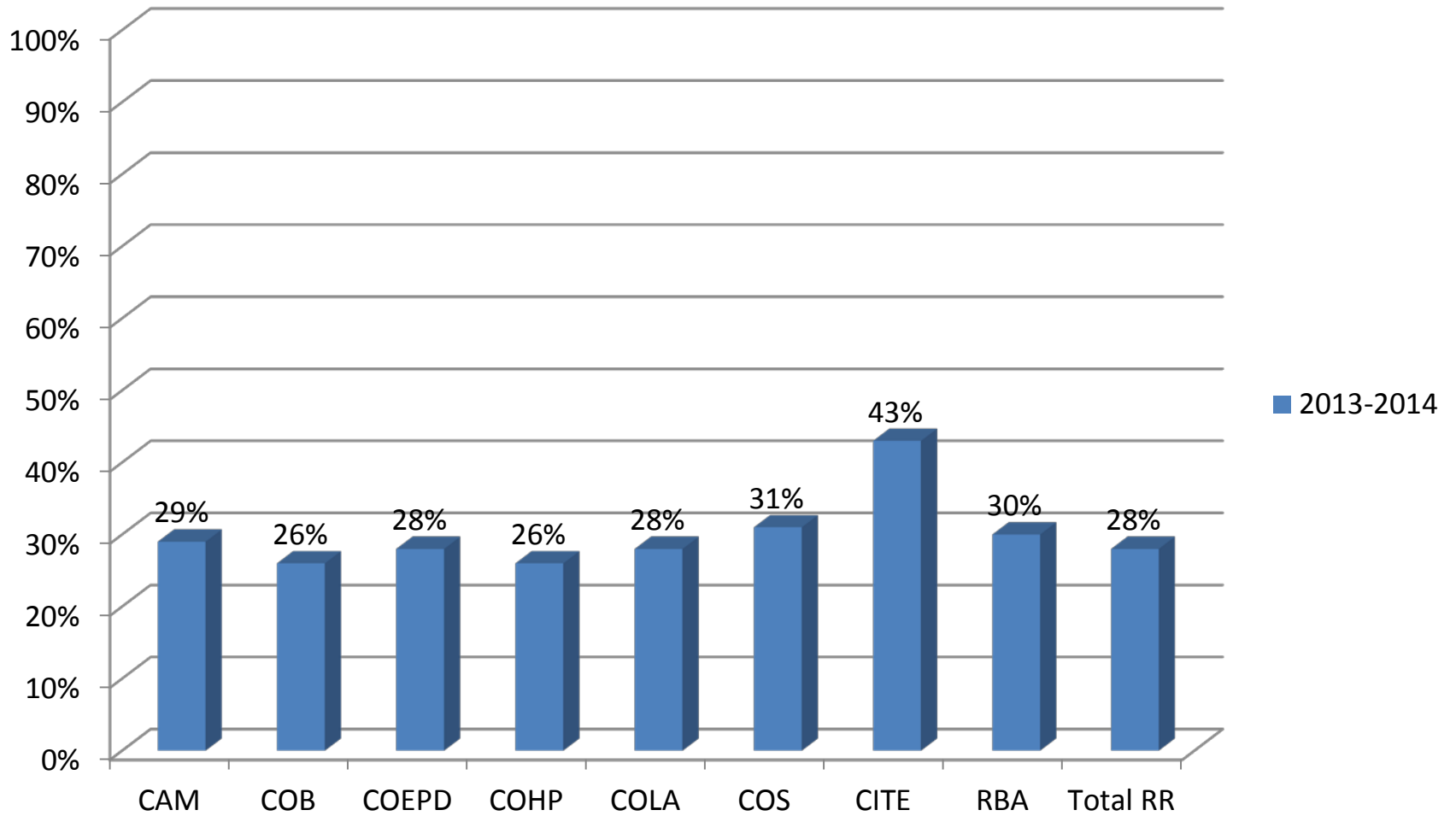




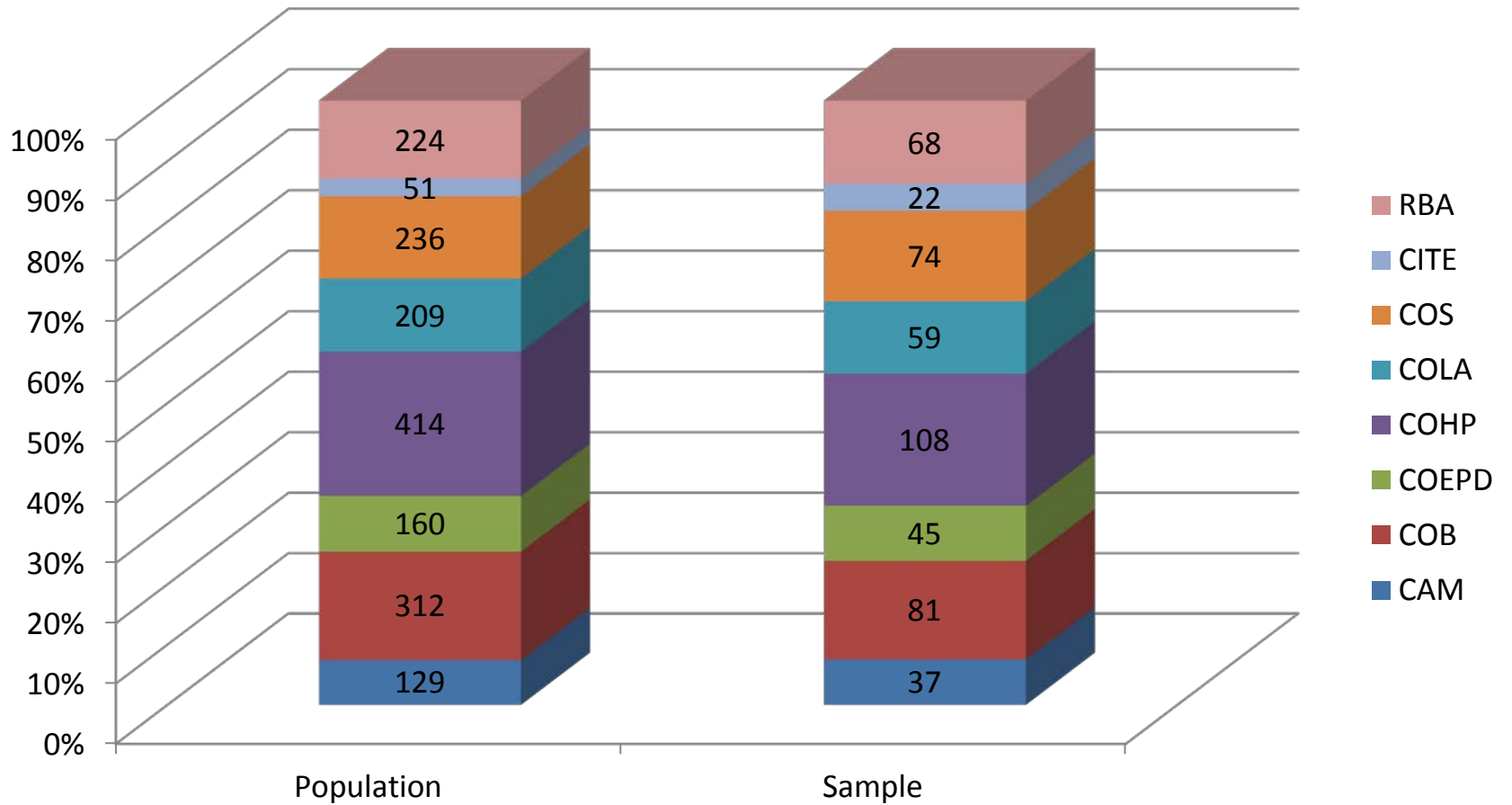
## Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; *ns*

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
CAM	129 (7%)	CAM	37 (7%)	29%
COB	312 (18%)	COB	81 (16%)	16%
COEPD	160 (9%)	COE	45 (9%)	18%
COHP	414 (24%)	COHP	108 (22%)	16%
COLA	209 (12%)	COLA	59 (12%)	28%
COS	236 (14%)	COS	74 (15%)	31%
CITE	51 (3%)	CITE	22 (4%)	43%
RBA	224 (13%)	RBA	68 (14%)	30%
Total	1,735 (100%)	Total	494 (100%)	28%

# Response Rate by College



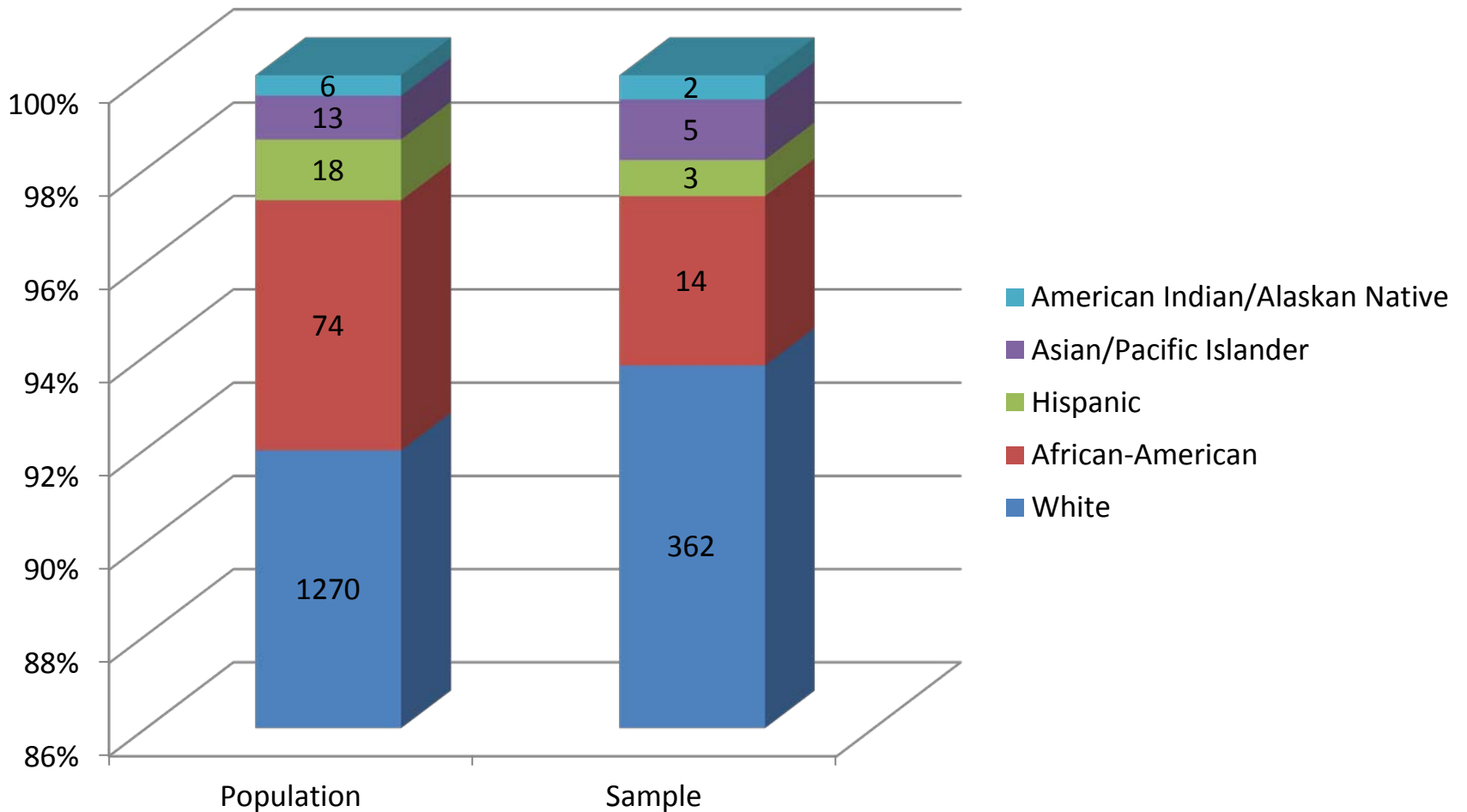
# Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; *ns*



## Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Race; *ns*

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
White	1,270 (92%)	White	362 (94%)	29%
African-American	74 (5%)	African-American	14 (4%)	19%
Hispanic	18 (1%)	Hispanic	3 (1%)	17%
Asian/Pacific Islander	13 (1%)	Asian/Pacific Islander	5 (1%)	38%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	6 (0%)	American Indian/Alaskan Native	2 (1%)	33%
Total	1,381 (100%)	Total	386 (100%)	28%

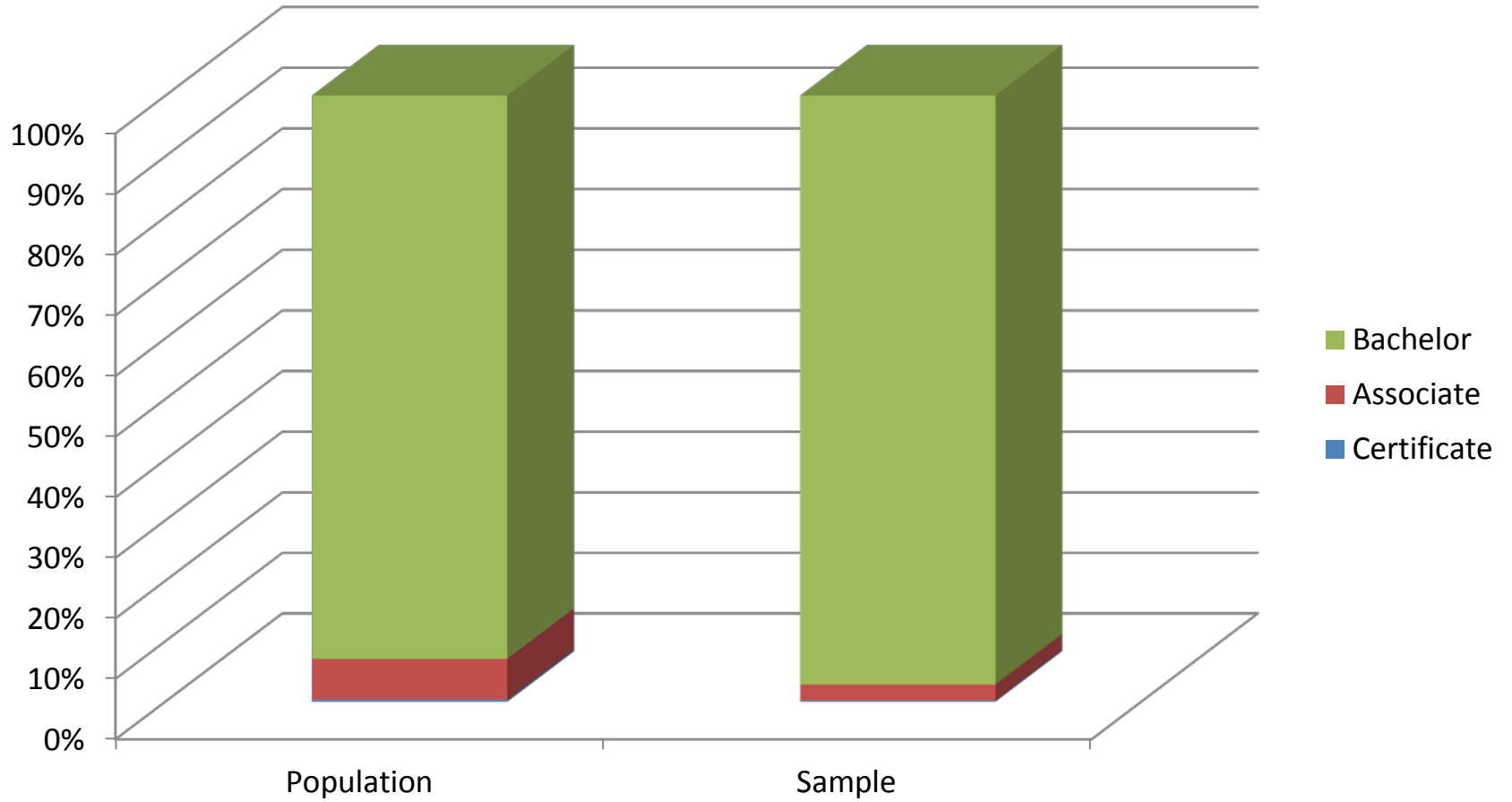
# Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Race; *ns*



Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned;  $\chi^2 (2) = 12.141, p \leq .002$

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
Certificates	6 (0%)	Certificates	1 (0%)	17%
Associate's Degree	117 (7%)	Associate's Degree	13 (3%)	11%
Bachelor's Degree	1,612 (93%)	Bachelor's Degree	480 (97%)	30%
Total	1,735 (100%)	Total	494 (100%)	28%

Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned;  $\chi^2 (2) = 12.141, p \leq .002$

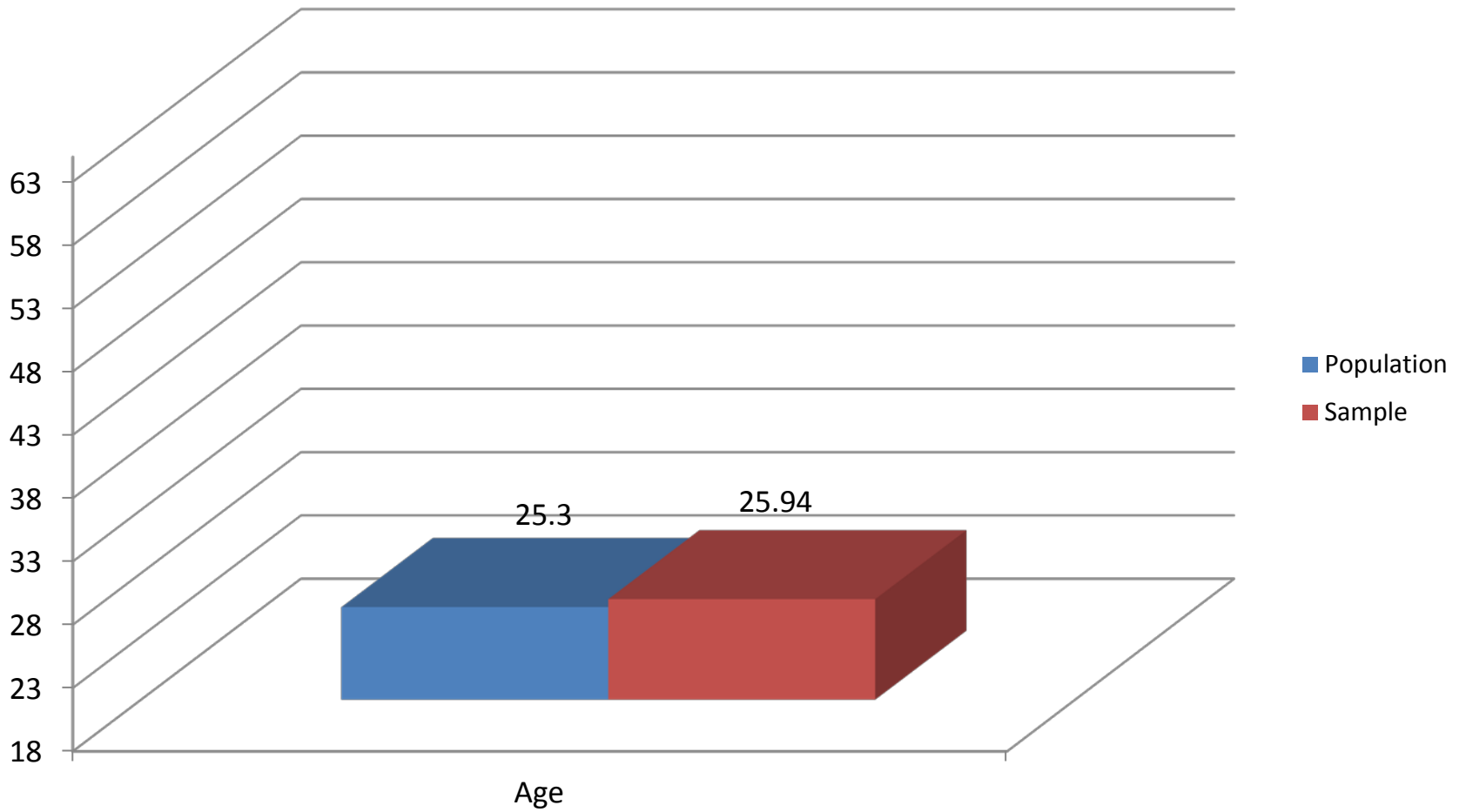


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Age and GPA; Age is *ns*, but GPA is significant,  $t(493) = 5.318, p < .001$ . However, the effect size is small.

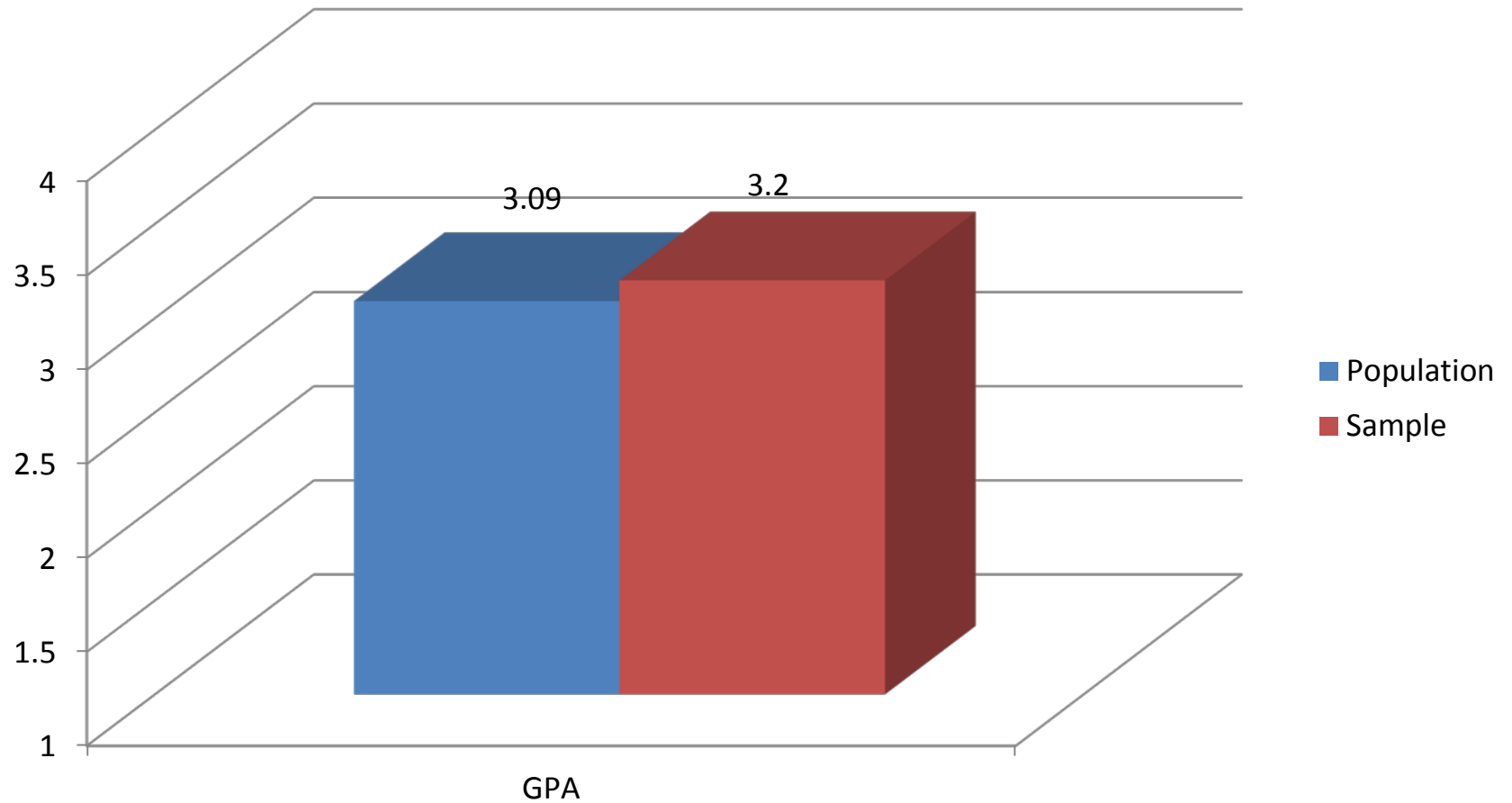
Population Category	Mean ( <i>SD</i> )	Median	Range
Age ( $n = 1,735$ )	25.30 (6.45)	23	19 – 65
GPA ( $n = 1,735$ )	3.09 (0.48)	3.13	1.84 – 4.00
Sample Category			
Age ( $n = 494$ )	25.94 (7.86)	23	20 - 65
GPA ( $n = 494$ )	3.20 (0.48)	3.26	1.98 – 4.00



# Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Mean Age; *ns*

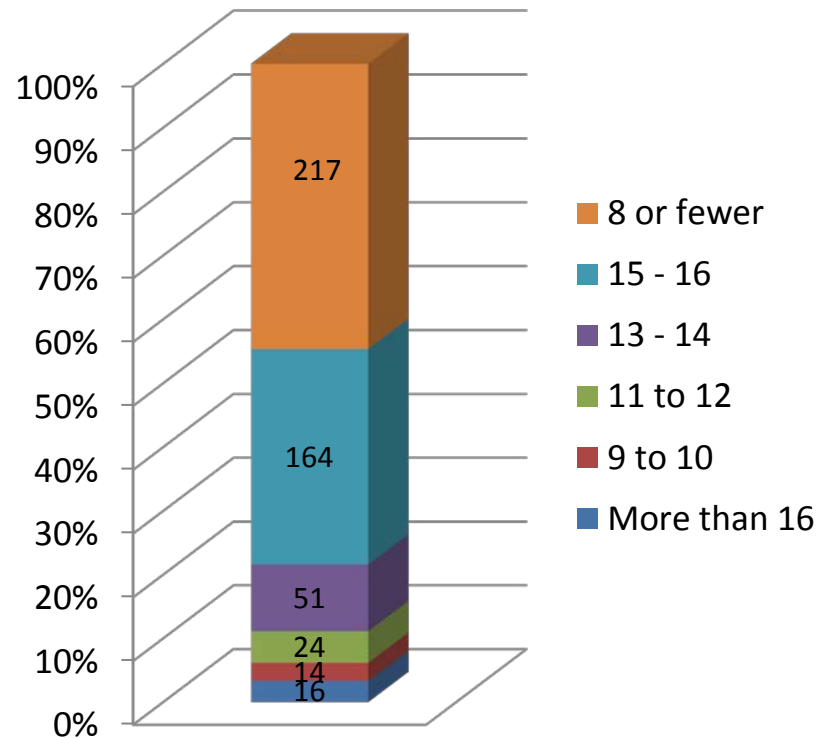


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Mean GPA;  $t(493) = 5.318, p < .001$ .  
However, the effect size is small.



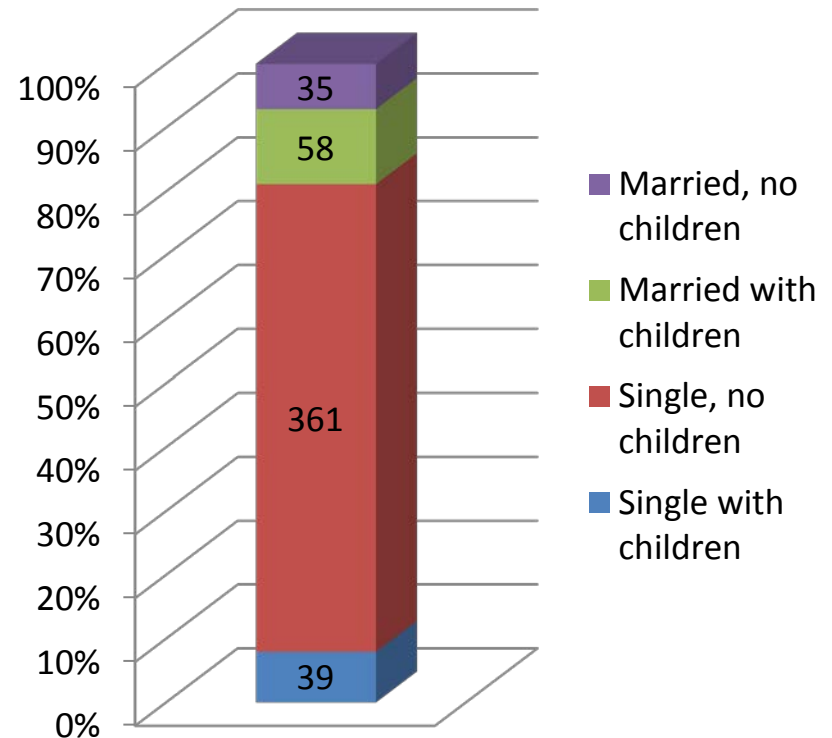
## # of Semesters to Complete Degree

Category	<i>N</i>
8 or fewer	217
9 – 10	164
11 – 12	51
13 – 14	24
15 – 16	14
More than 16	16
Total	486



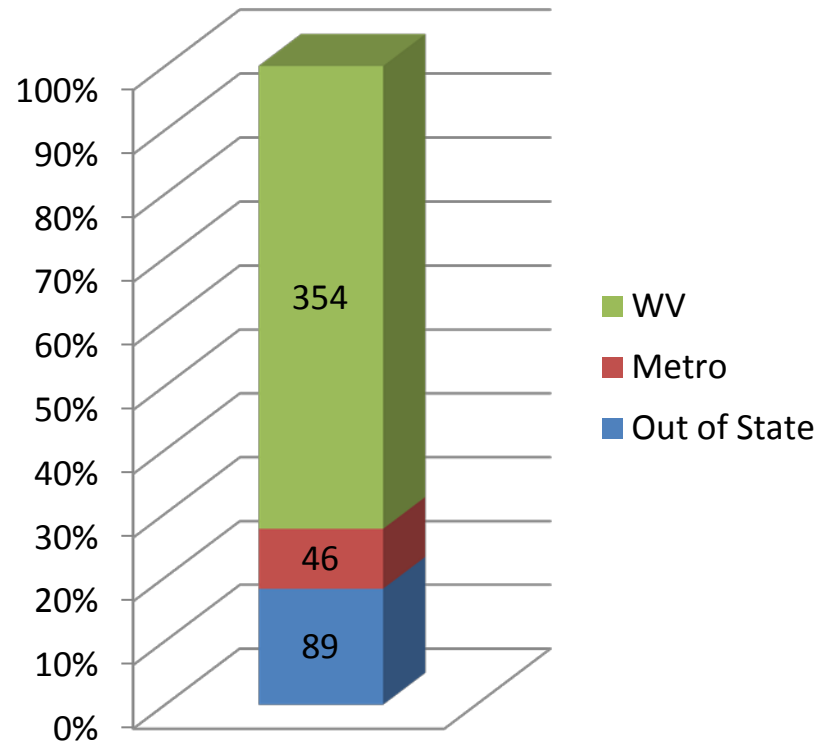
# Family Status

Category	<i>N</i>
Married, no children	35
Married with children	58
Single, no children	361
Single with children	39
Total	493



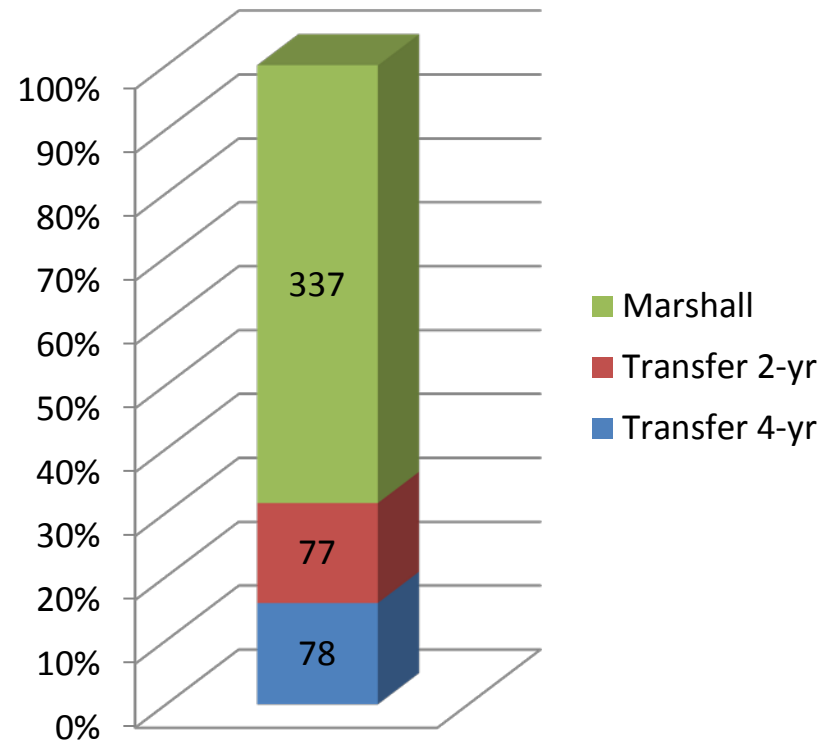
## Residence at time of admission

Category	<i>n</i>
West Virginia	354
Metro	46
Out of State	89
Total	489



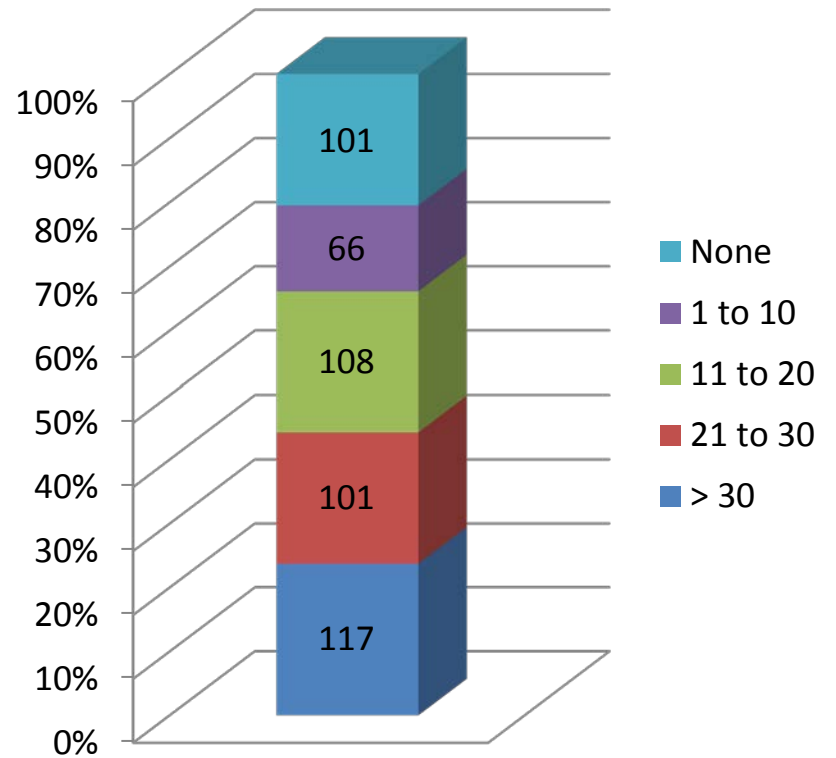
## While pursuing your degree, did you

Category	<i>n</i>
Originally Enroll and Stay at Marshall?	337
Transfer from a 2-Year institution?	77
Transfer from another 4-year institution?	78
Total	492



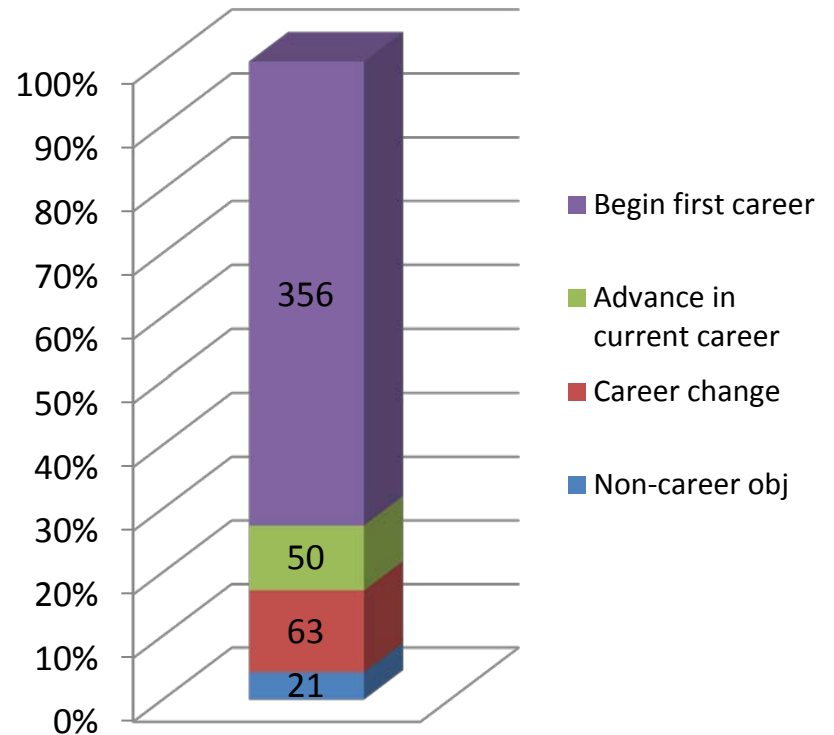
During the last year of your studies, how many hours a week did you work while attending classes?

Category	<i>n</i>
None	101
1 - 10	66
11 - 20	108
21 - 30	101
More than 30	117
Total	493



Which of the following best describes your educational objective while attending Marshall University.

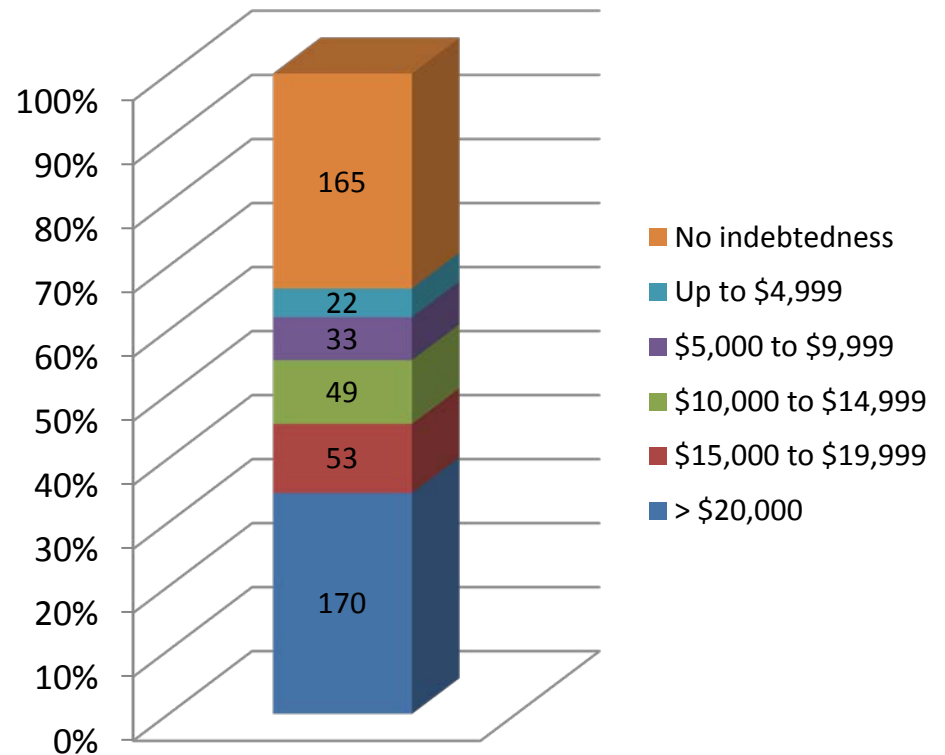
Category	<i>n</i>
Begin first career	356
Advance in current career	50
Career Change	63
Non-Career Objective	21
Total	490





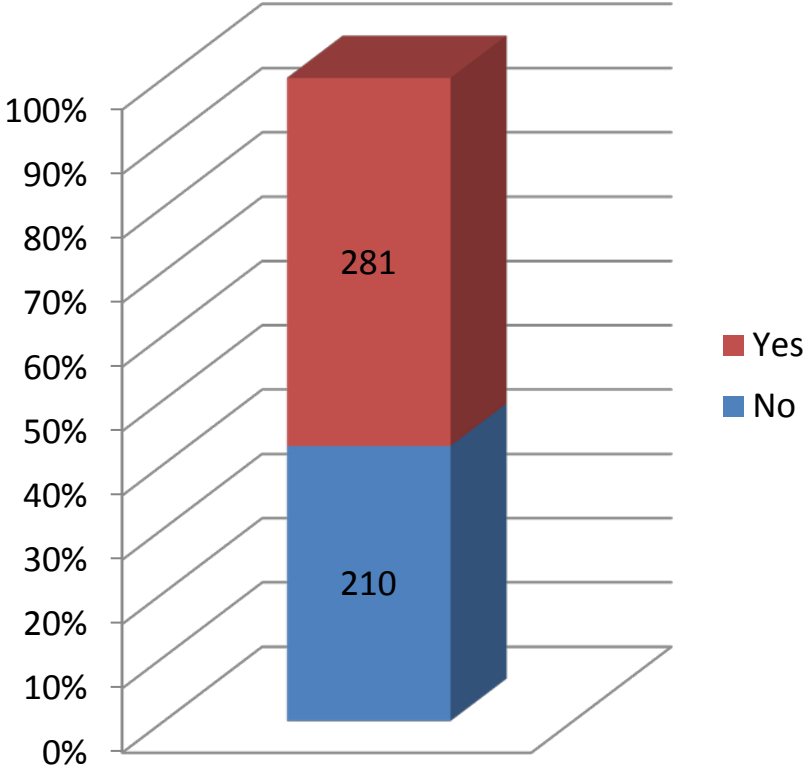
Upon graduation, what was the dollar amount of your educational loan indebtedness?

Category	<i>n</i>
No indebtedness	165
Up to \$4,999	22
\$5,000 - \$9,999	33
\$10,000 - \$14,999	49
\$15,000 - \$19,999	53
> \$20,000	170
Total	492



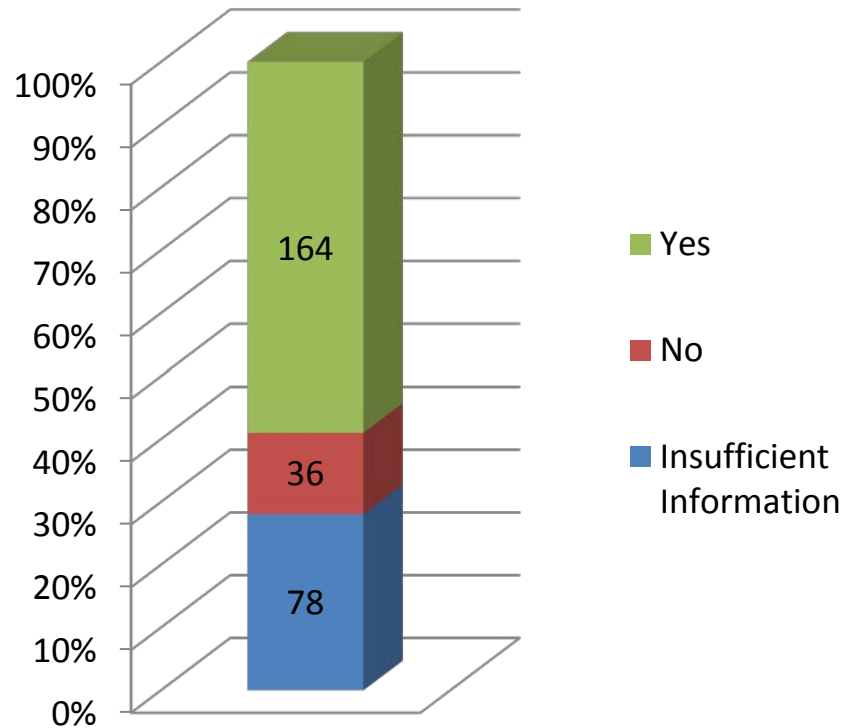
Did you take part in an internship, practicum or other structured work experience related to your major?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	281
No	210
Total	491



If you answered "yes" to the previous question, did that experience increase your ability to secure employment?

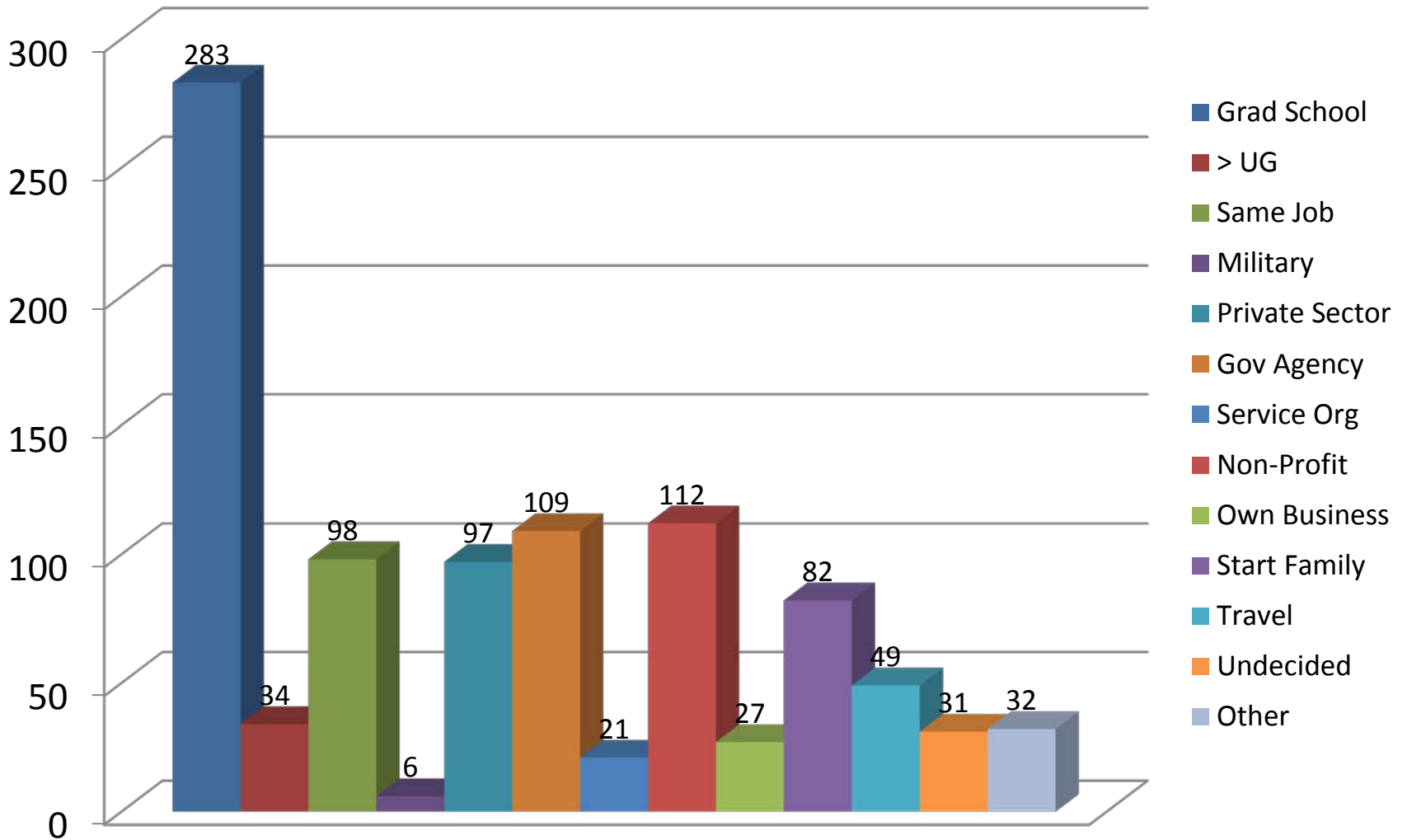
Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	164
No	36
Insufficient Information to answer question	78
Total	278



## When I graduate from Marshall University I plan to (check all that apply)

Category	<i>n</i>
Attend Graduate School	283
Complete additional undergraduate coursework	34
Continue to work at the same job I have at present	98
Enter the military	6
Work for a private sector company or corporation	97
Work for a local, state, or federal agency	109
Work for a volunteer or service organization, e.g. Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, City Year, etc.	21
Work for a non-profit organization, e.g. hospital, university, public school, etc.	112
Begin my own business	27
Start or raise a family	82
Take time off (to travel, etc.)	49
Undecided or no plans	31
Other	32

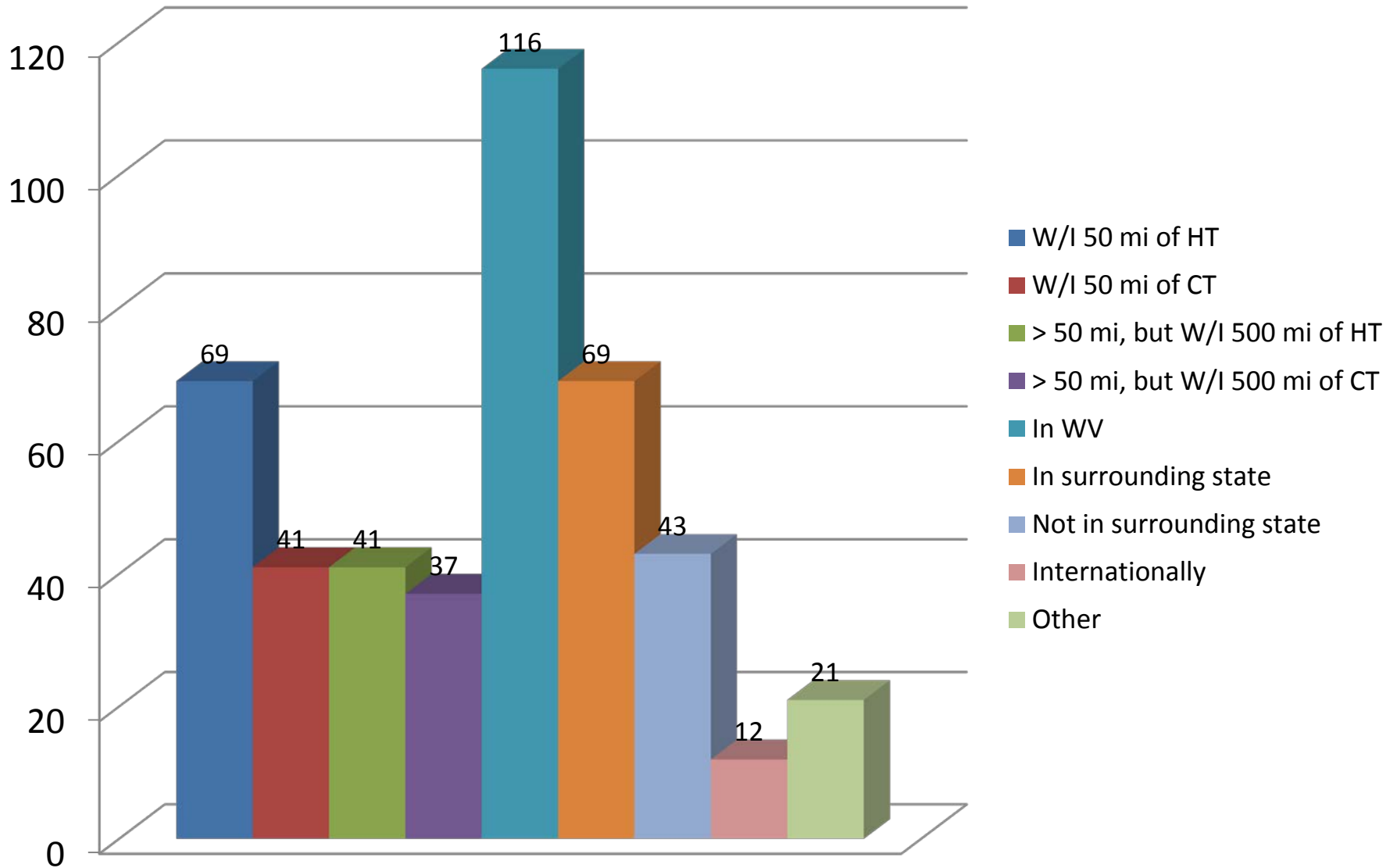
## When I graduate from Marshall University I plan to (check all that apply)



If you plan to continue your education and have applied to institutions of higher education, please check all that apply: I have applied to institutions

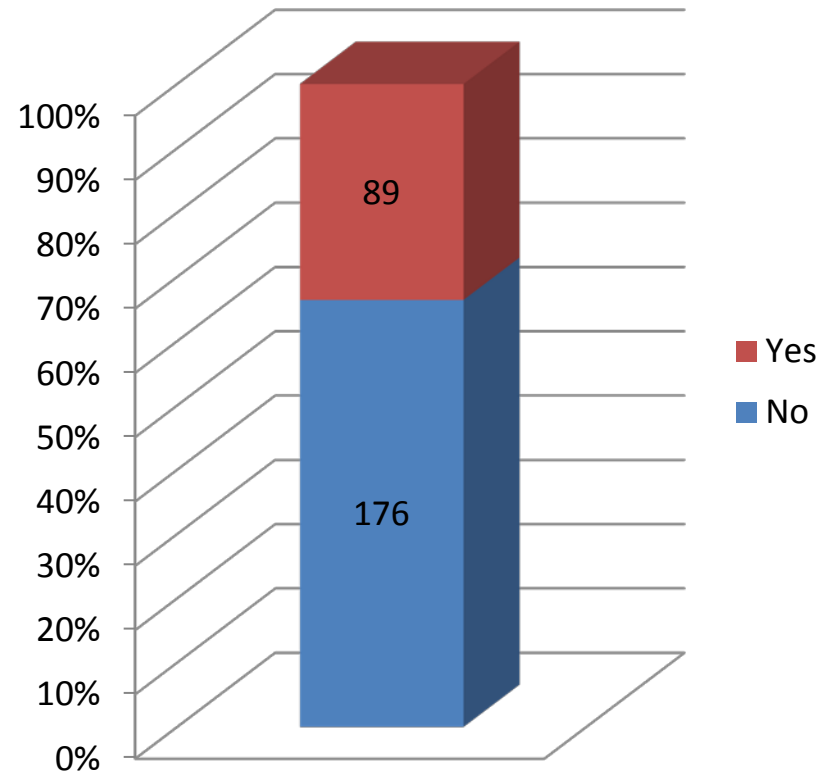
Category	<i>n</i>
Within 50 miles of my college town	69
Within 50 miles of my home town	41
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of my college town	41
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of my home town	37
In WV	116
In at least one of WV's neighboring states (OH, KY, VA, MD, PA)	69
Within the US, but outside the above boundaries	43
Internationally	12
Other (online – five responses)	21

If you plan to continue your education and have applied to institutions of higher education, please check all that apply: I have applied to institutions



# Have you been accepted at a higher level educational program?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	89
No	176
Total	265





If you have been accepted by a higher level institution, what institution do you plan to attend?

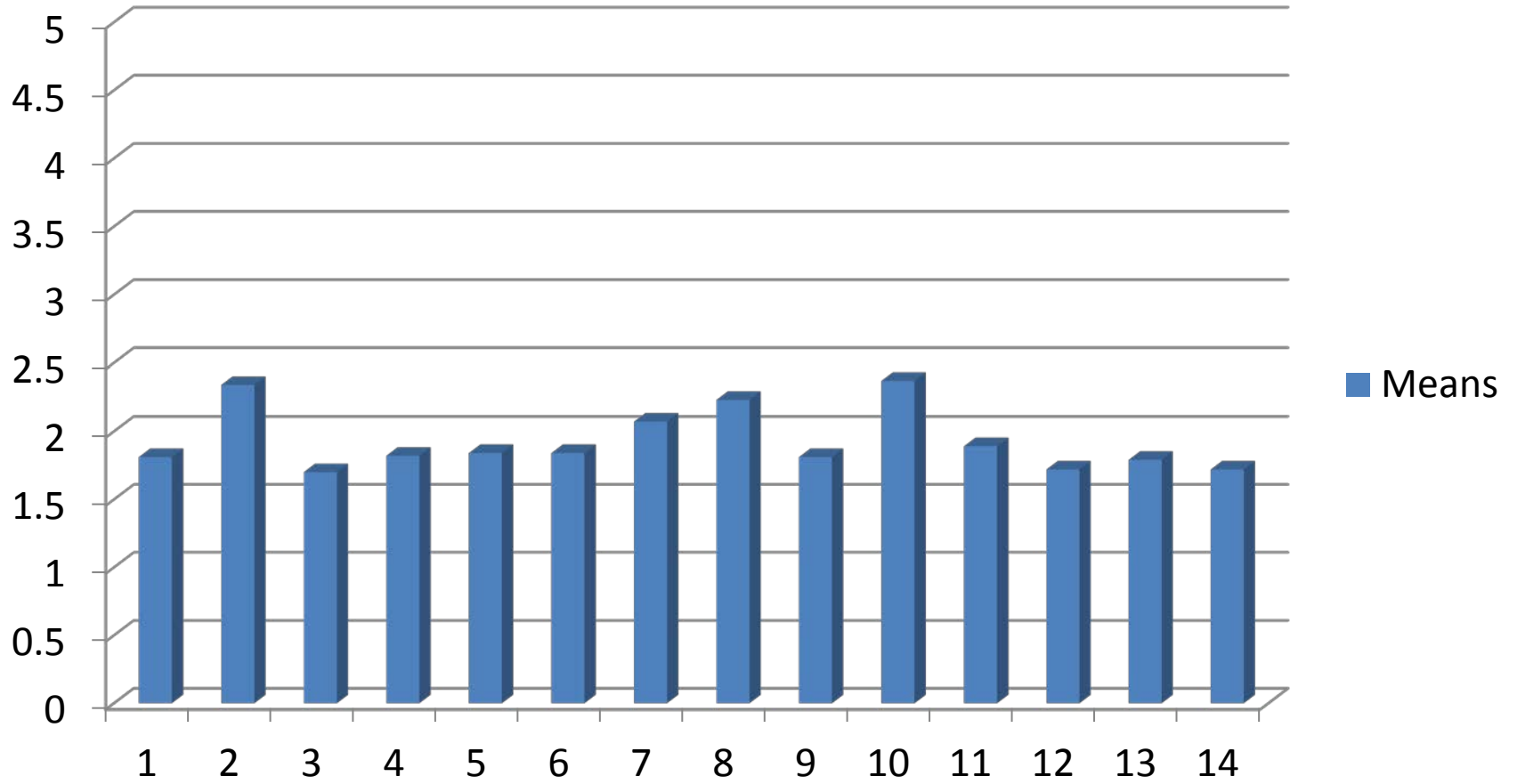
School	<i>n</i>	School	<i>n</i>		
Alderson Broaddus University	1	Ohio state University College of Optometry	1	West Virginia University	7
Argosy University	1	Palmer College of Chiropractic	1	West Virginia University School of Medicine	1
Boston University	1	Purdue University	1	William Paterson University	1
Capella University	1	Tiffin University	1		
Clemson University	1	Tufts University	1		
Emory University	1	Tulane University	1		
Life University	1	University of Alabama at Birmingham	1		
Marshall University	43	University of Arizona	1		
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine	4	University of Central Florida	1		
Marshall University School of Pharmacy	2	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	1		
Mid-American Reformed Seminary	1	University of Kentucky	3		
Northern KY University Chase Law School	1	University of Maryland	1		
Northeastern University	1	University of Pittsburgh	1		
Ohio State University	1	University of Westminster	1		

- The following tables and graphs give mean responses according to the following scale:
  - 1 = Strongly Agree
  - 2 = Agree
  - 3 = Neither Agree nor Disagree
  - 4 = Disagree
  - 5 = Strongly Disagree

## Question 16: 1 – 14 (While pursuing my degree at Marshall University,

Question	Mean	SD	n
1. I developed the ability to write effectively.	1.81	0.826	473
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics in everyday life.	2.34	1.016	471
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	1.70	0.753	473
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	1.82	0.845	472
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	1.84	0.849	470
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	1.84	0.853	473
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	2.07	0.963	472
8. Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	2.23	1.090	472
9. My classes challenged me to analyze and evaluate issues and to solve real-world problems in a manner that is ethical and supportive of our civic well-being.	1.81	0.888	473
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	2.37	1.073	472
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	1.89	1.017	471
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	1.72	0.737	471
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	1.79	0.803	471
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	1.72	0.766	471

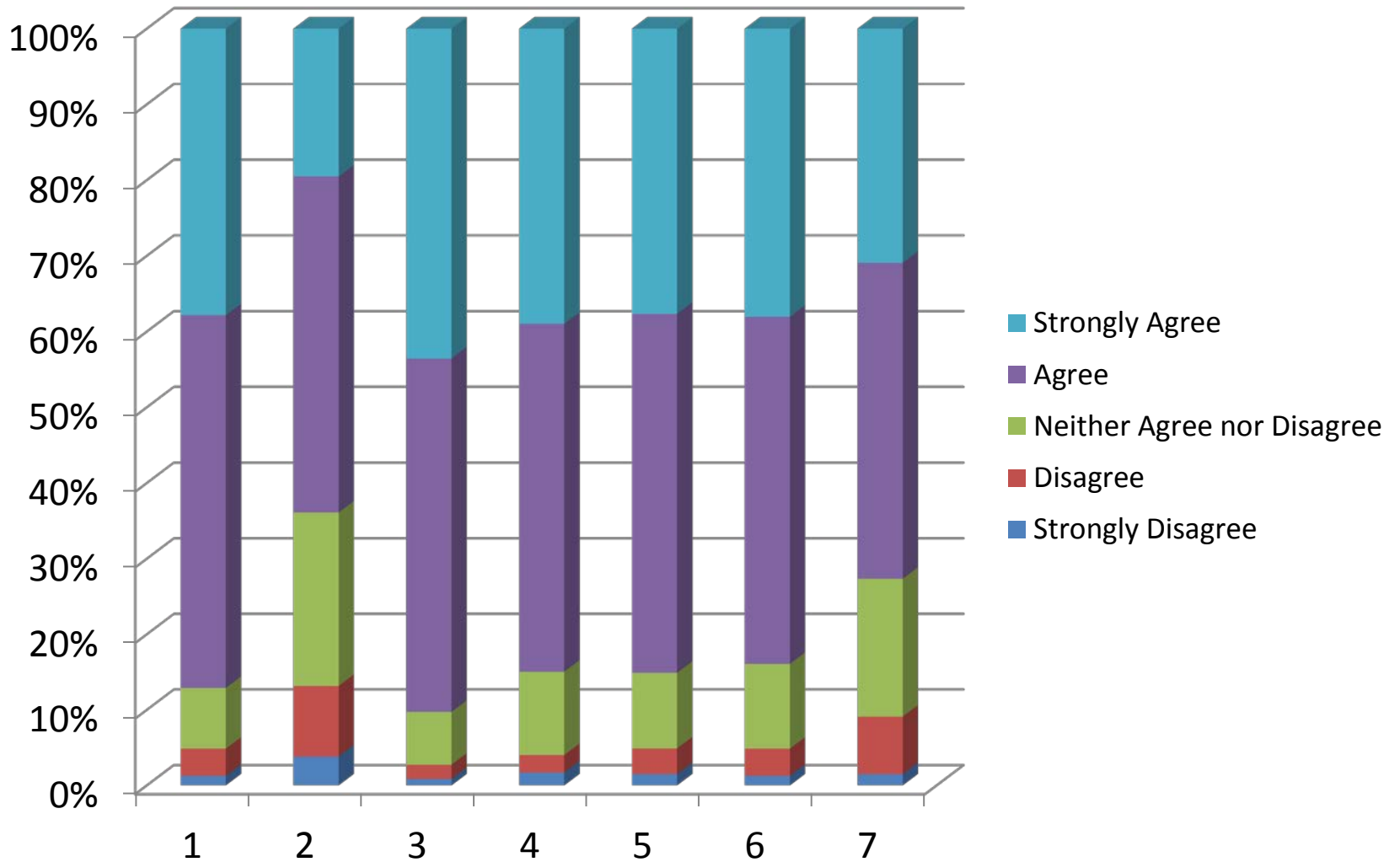
## Mean Agreement with Question 16 (1 – 14)



## Question 16: 1 – 7 (While pursuing my degree at Marshall University,

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	Total n
1. I developed the ability to write effectively.	179	233	38	17	6	473
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics in everyday life.	92	209	108	44	18	471
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	206	221	33	9	4	473
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	184	217	52	11	8	472
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	177	223	47	16	7	470
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	180	217	53	17	6	473
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	146	197	86	36	7	472

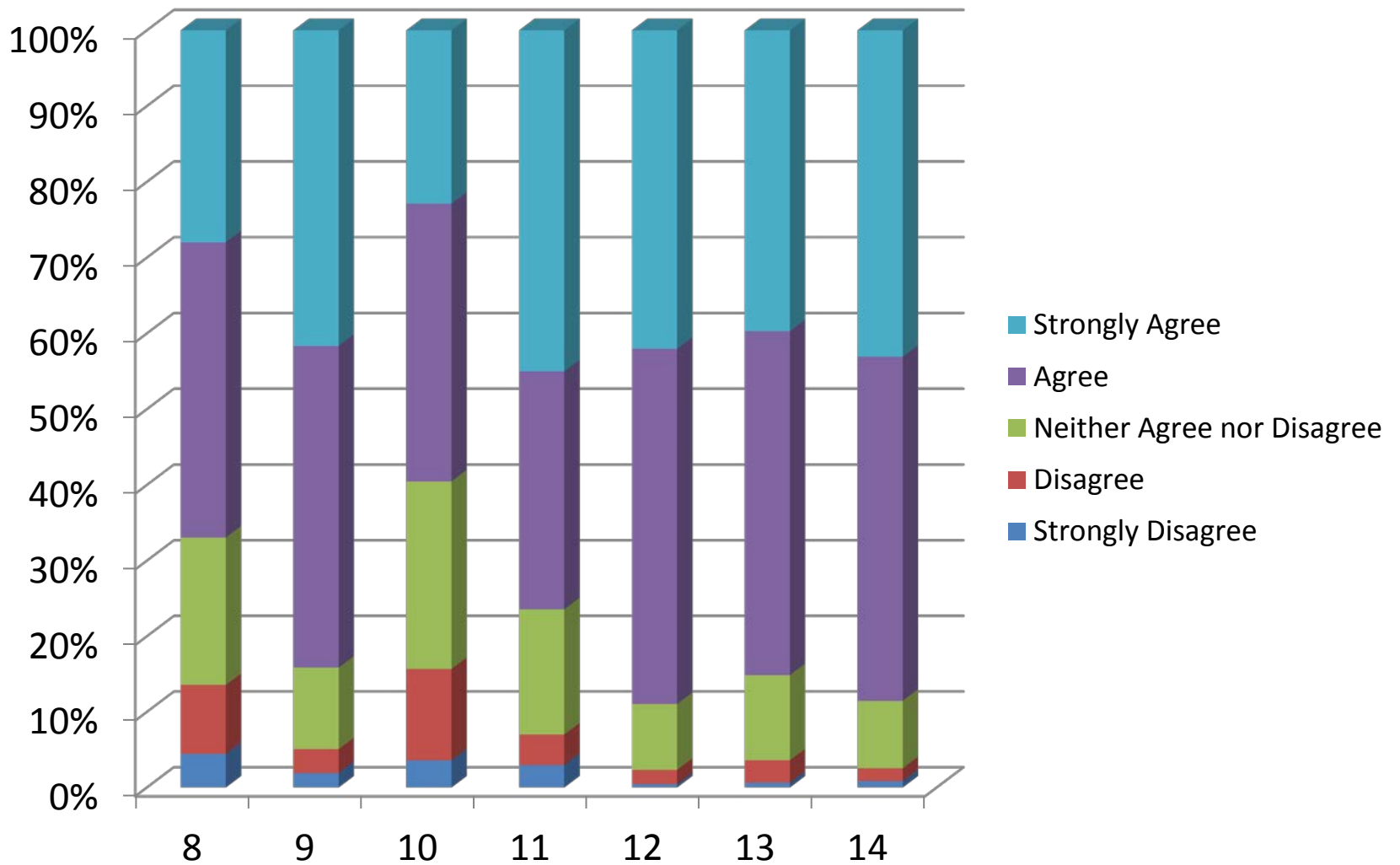
Frequencies for Question 16 (1 – 7)



## Question 16: 8 – 14 (While pursuing my degree at Marshall University,

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	Total n
8. Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	132	184	92	43	21	472
9. My classes challenged me to analyze and evaluate issues and to solve real-world problems in a manner that is ethical and supportive of our civic well-being.	197	201	51	15	9	473
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	108	173	117	57	17	472
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	212	148	78	19	14	471
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	198	221	41	9	2	471
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	187	214	53	14	3	471
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	203	214	42	8	4	471

Frequencies for Question 16 (8 – 14)

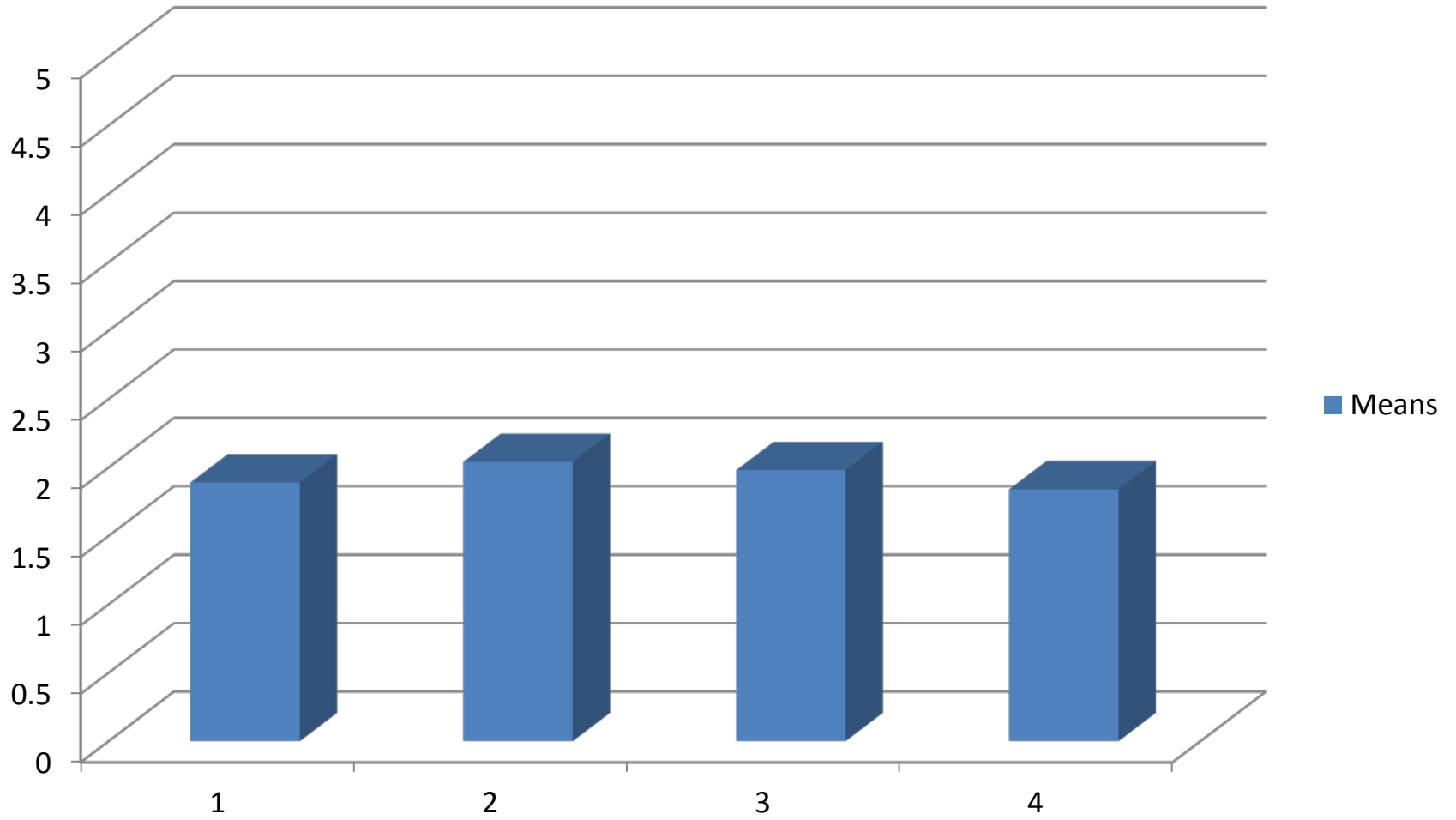




## Question 17: 1 – 4 (Now that I have completed my degree, I

Question	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>n</i>
1. Feel adequately prepared for a career and/or graduate or professional study in my major field.	1.92	0.935	473
2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.	1.90	0.968	473
3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.	1.77	1.001	471
4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.	1.75	0.948	472

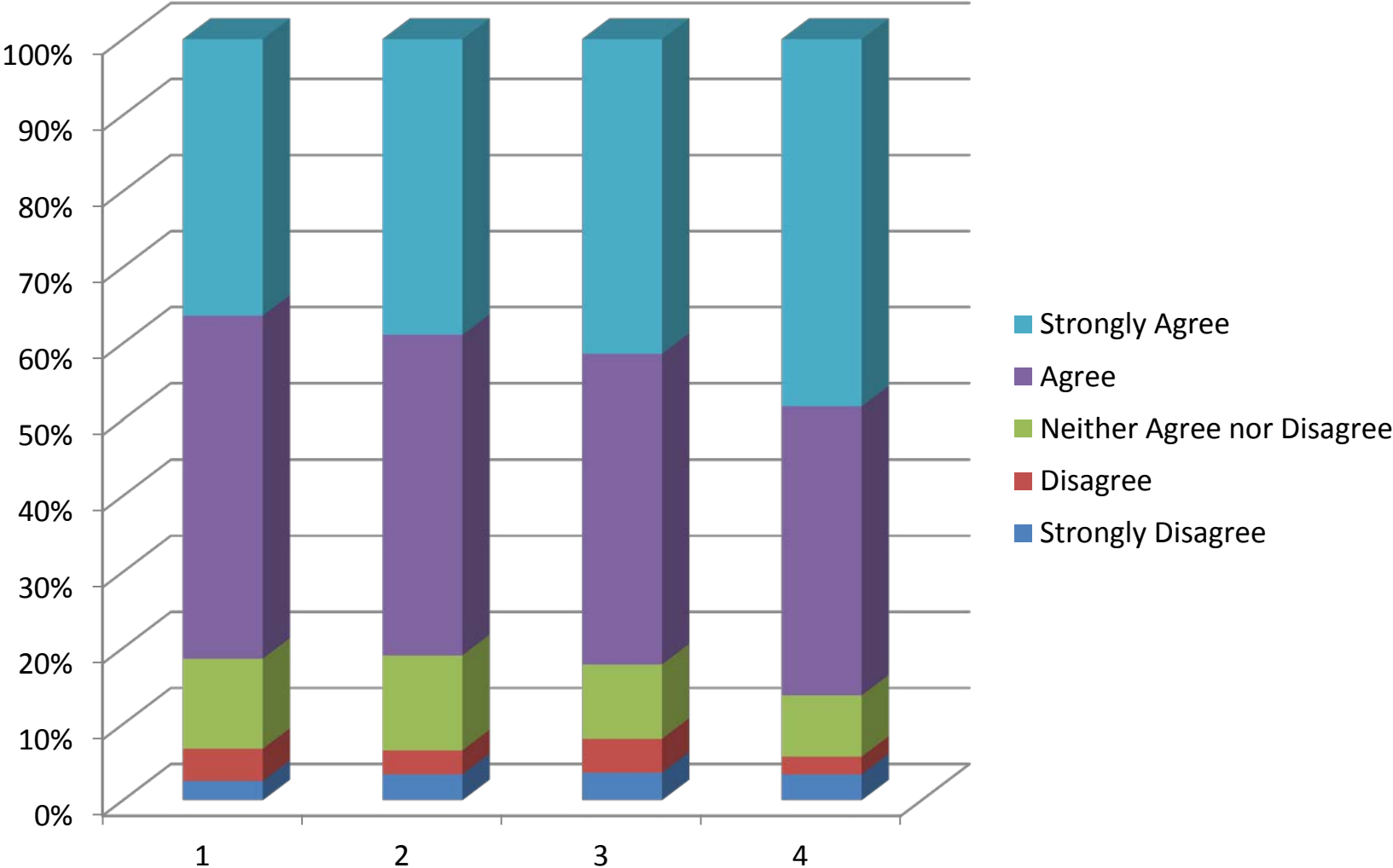
# Mean Agreement with Question 17 (1 – 4)



## Question 17: 1 – 4 (Now that I have completed my degree, I

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	Total n
1. Feel adequately prepared for a career and/or graduate or professional study in my major field.	172	213	56	20	12	473
2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.	184	199	59	15	16	473
3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.	195	192	46	21	17	471
4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.	228	179	38	11	16	472

Frequencies for Question 17 (1 - 4)

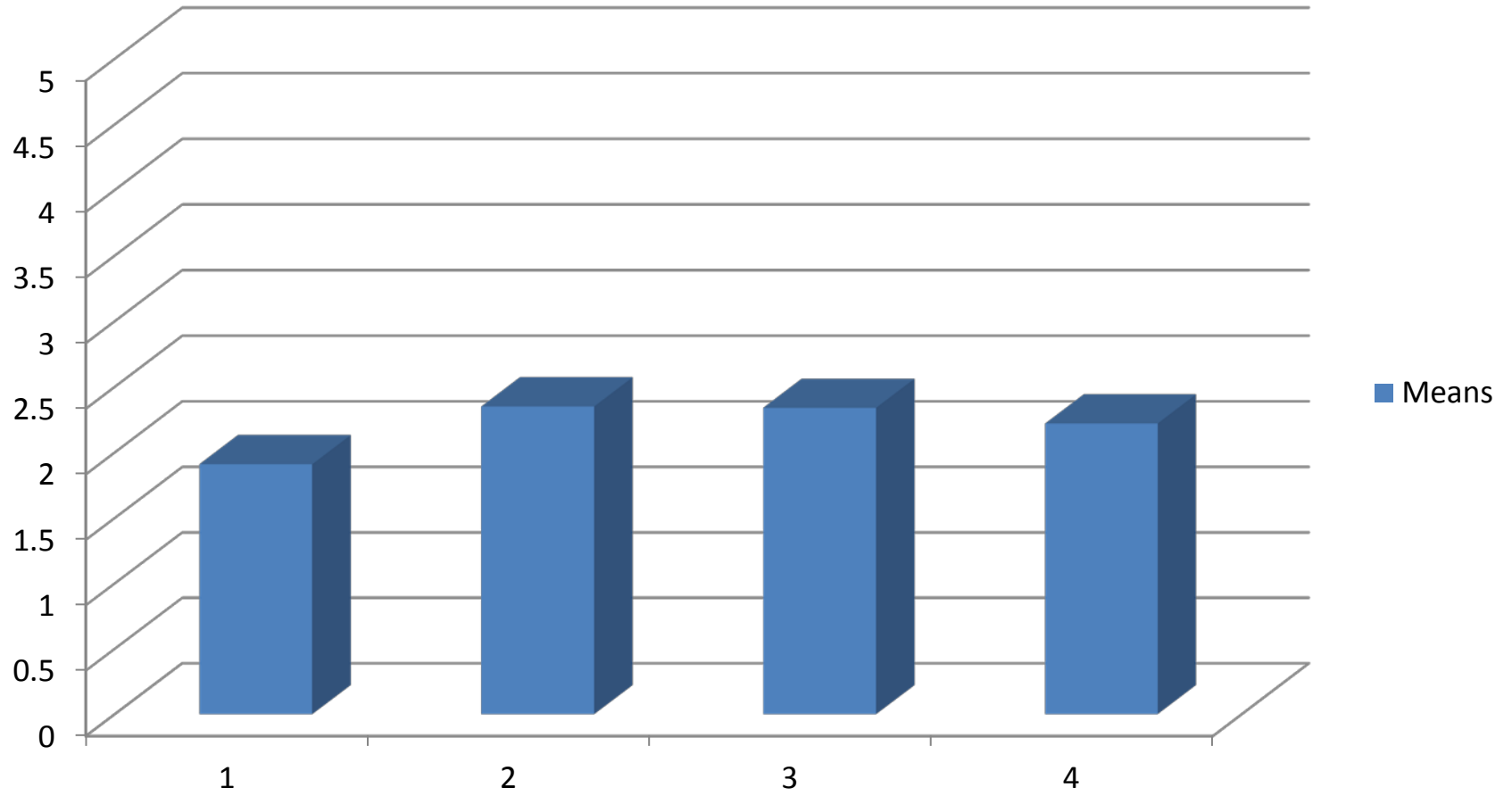


- The following tables and graphs give mean responses according to the following scale:
  - 1 = Very Satisfied
  - 2 = Satisfied
  - 3 = Neutral
  - 4 = Dissatisfied
  - 5 = Very Dissatisfied

Question 18: 1 – 4 (Please Rate your satisfaction with the following at Marshall):

<b>Question</b>	<b><i>Mean</i></b>	<b><i>SD</i></b>	<b><i>n</i></b>
1. Teaching	1.91	0.867	473
2. Advising	2.35	1.175	473
3. Academic Support Services	2.34	0.996	472
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	2.22	0.926	473

# Mean Satisfaction to Question 18 (1 – 4)

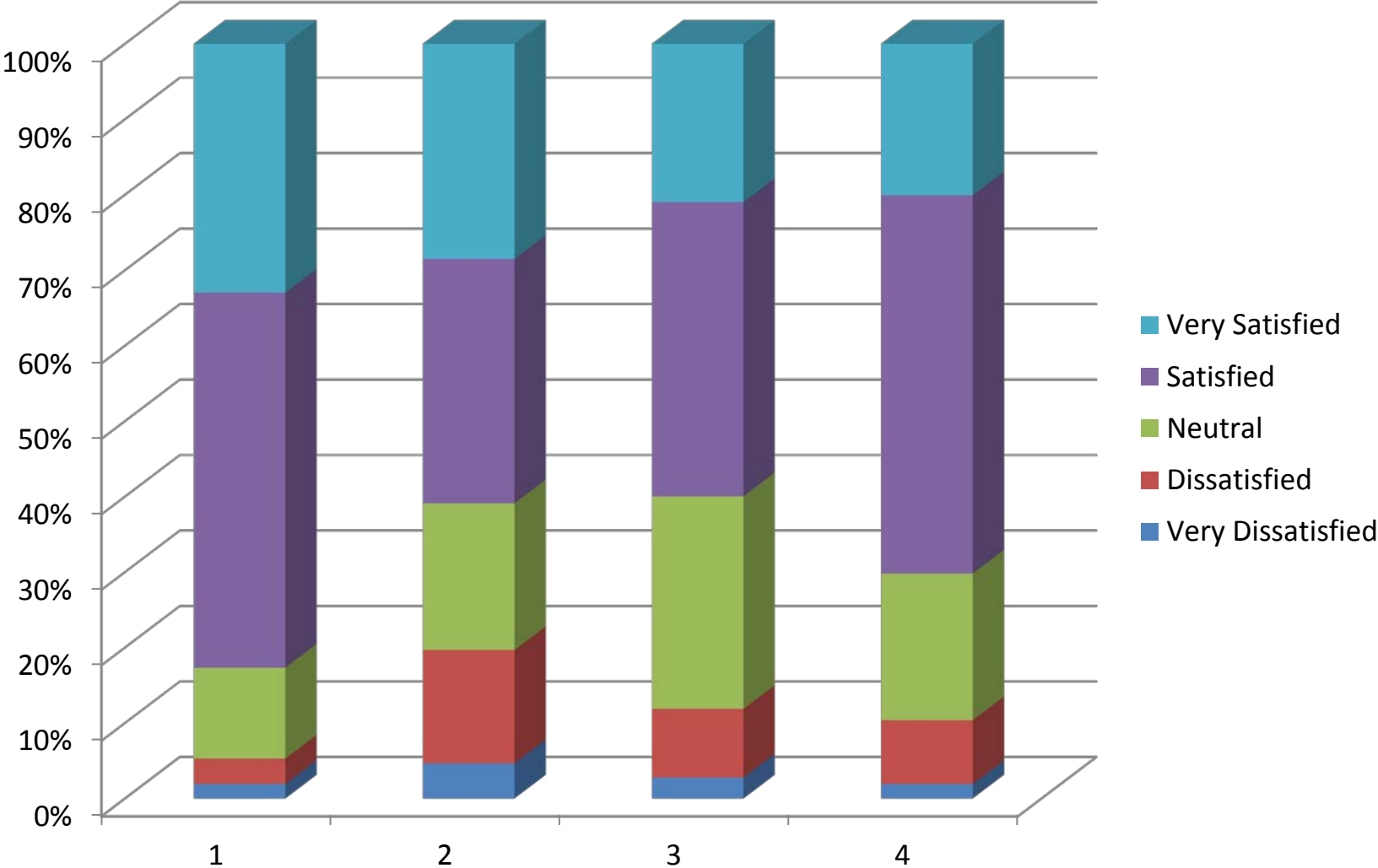


Question 18: 1 – 4 (Please Rate your satisfaction with the following at Marshall):

Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total n
1. Teaching	156	235	57	16	9	473
2. Advising	135	153	92	71	22	473
3. Academic Support Services	99	184	133	43	13	472
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	95	237	92	40	9	473

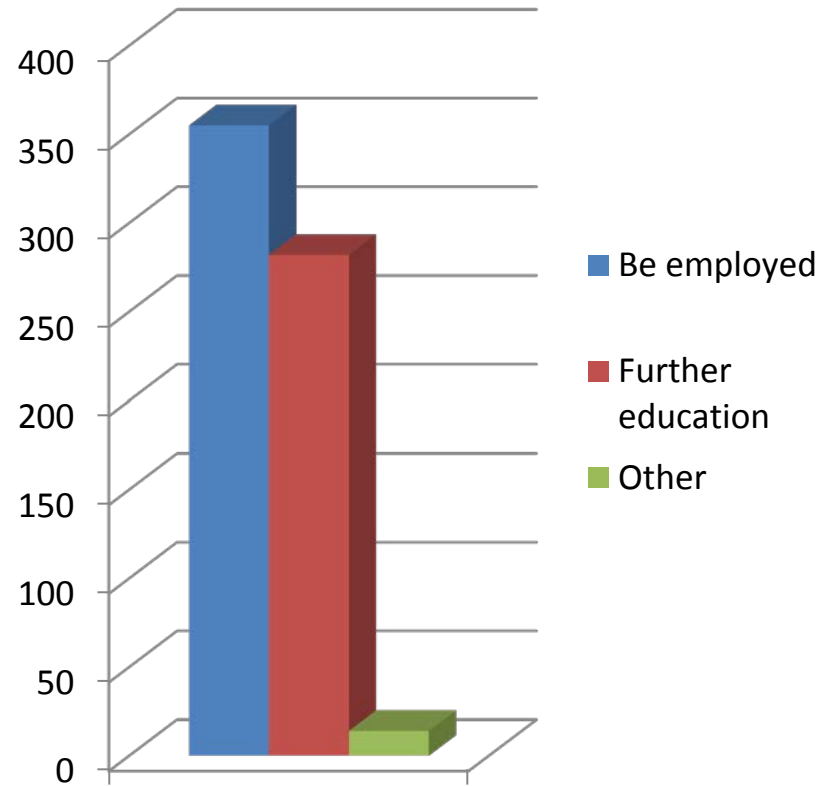


Frequencies for Question 18 (1 - 4)



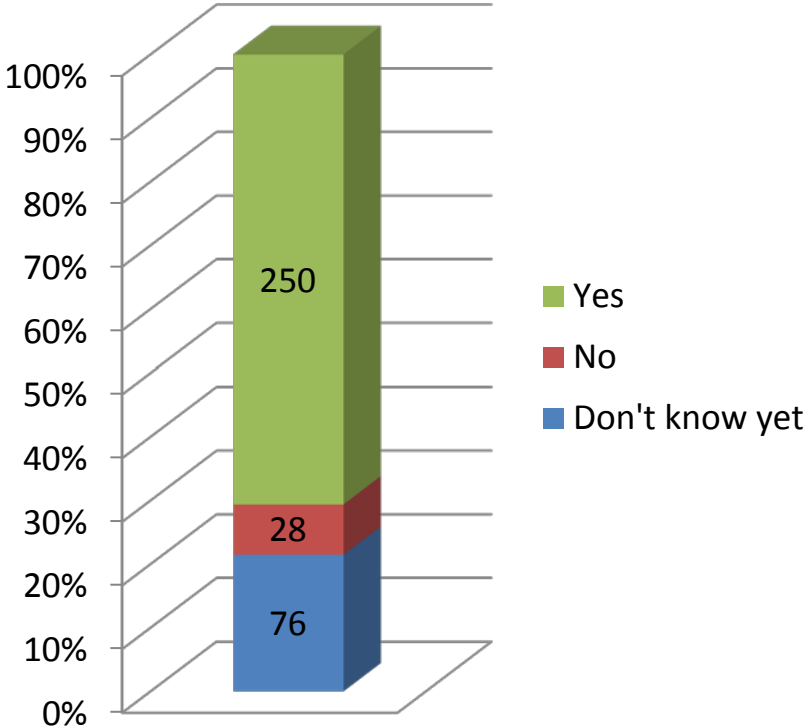
## When I graduate, I plan to (check all that apply)

Category	<i>n</i>
Be employed	355
Further my education	282
Other (Start Business, Travel, Freelance, Take CPA Exam)	14



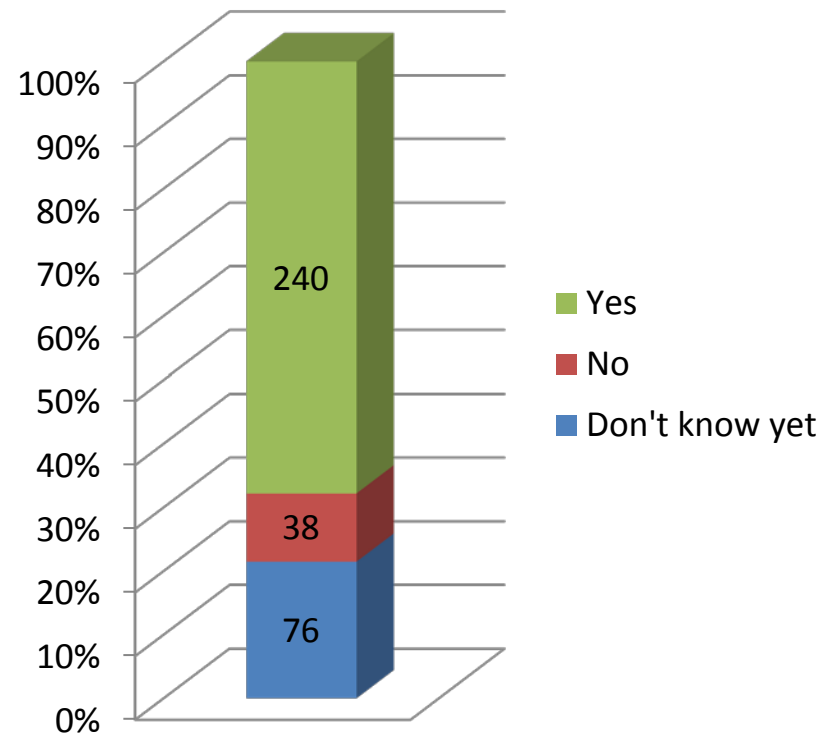
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be in the career path you have chosen?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	250
No	28
Don't Know Yet	76
Total	354



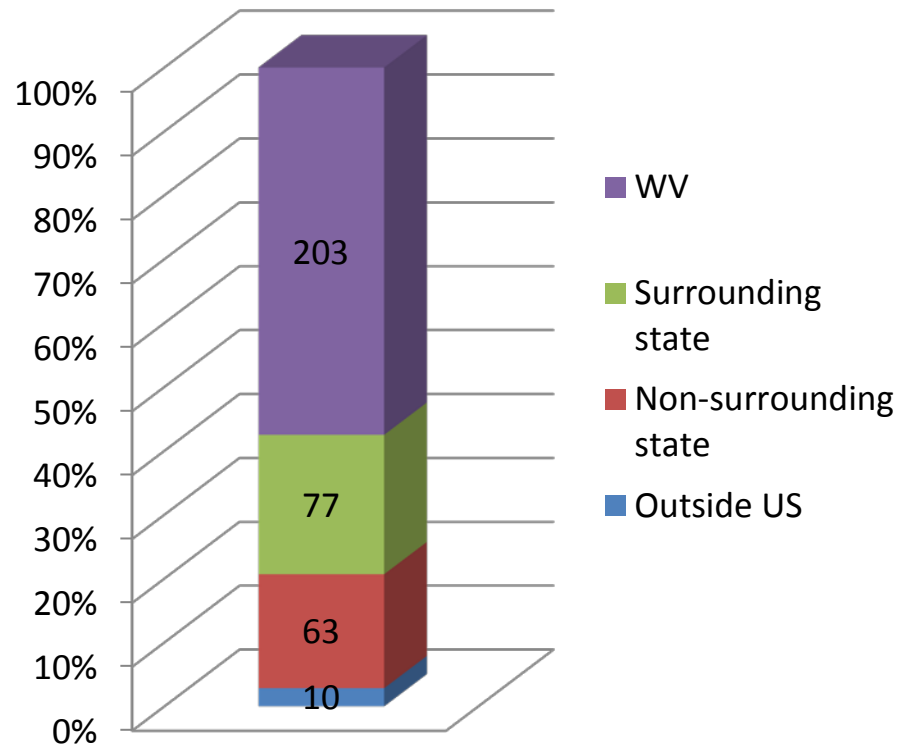
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be in your major field?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	240
No	38
Don't Know Yet	76
Total	354



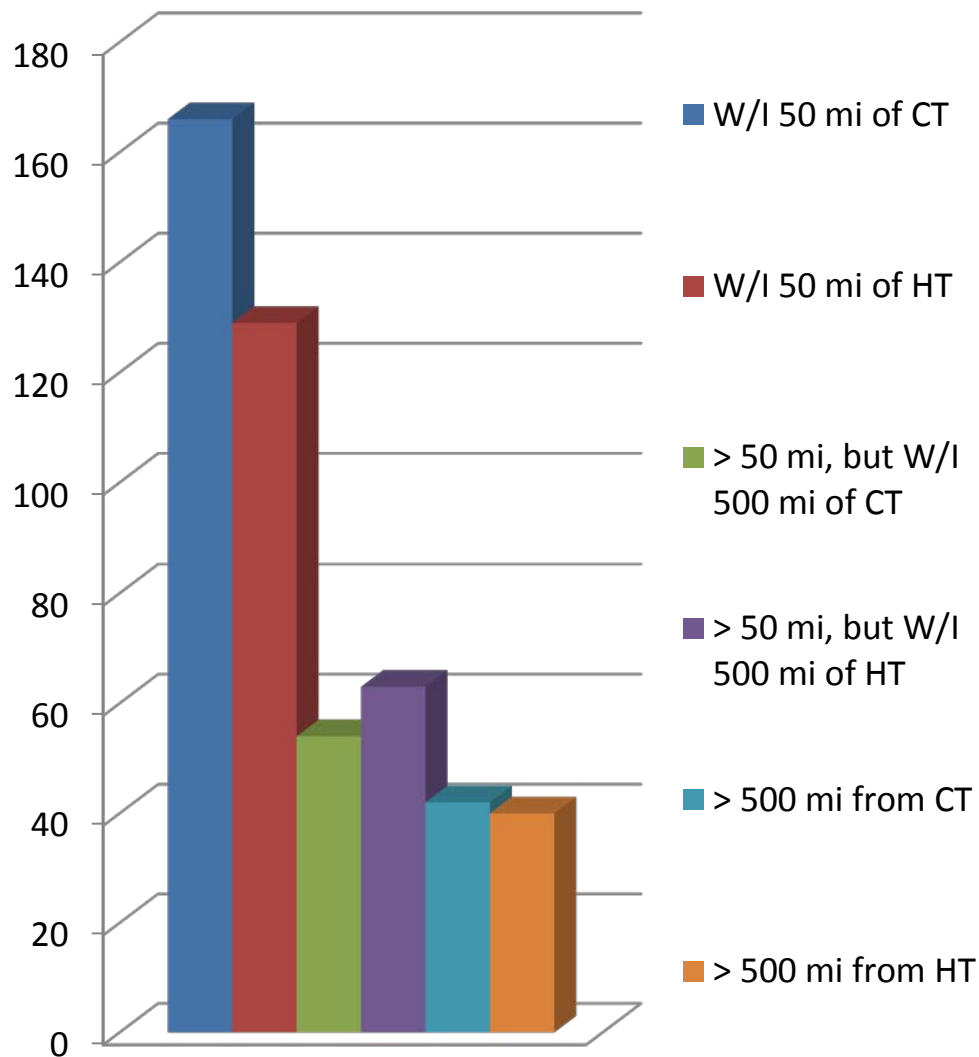
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be

Category	<i>n</i>
In WV?	203
In KY, OH, PA, VA, or MD?	77
In a state other than one mentioned above?	63
In a country other than the US?	10
Total	353



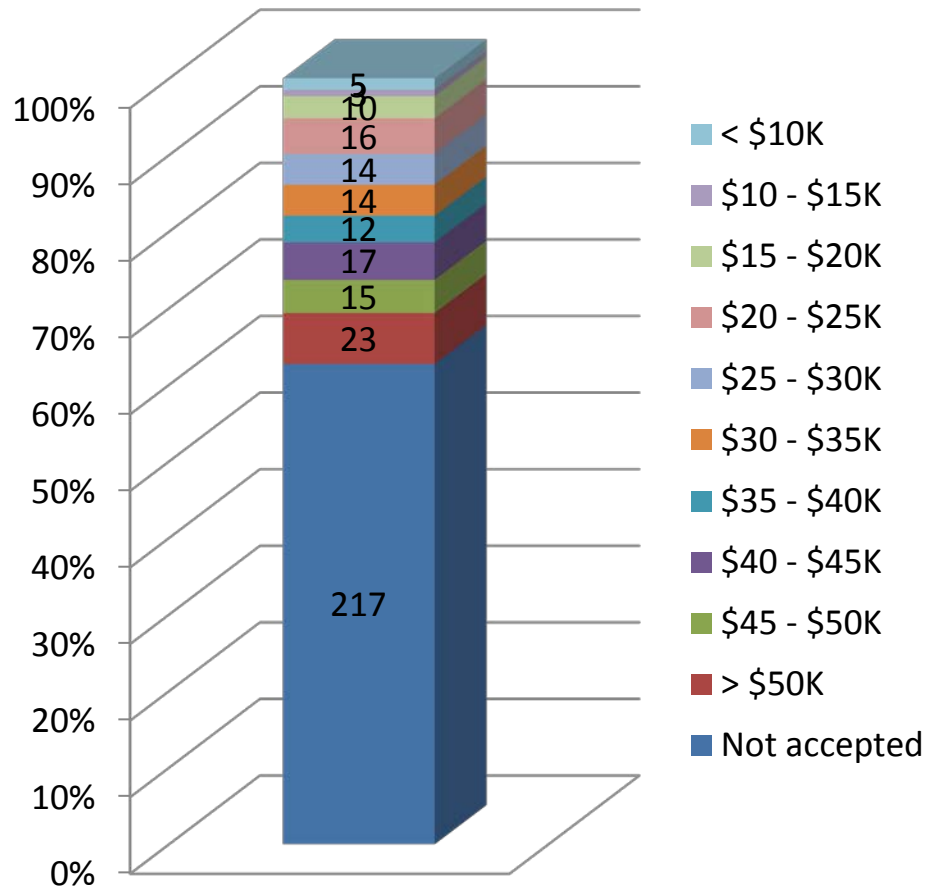
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be (choose all that apply):

Category	<i>n</i>
Within 50 miles of your college town?	166
Within 50 miles of your home town?	129
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of your college town?	54
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of your home town?	63
Over 500 miles from your college town	42
Over 500 miles from your home town	40



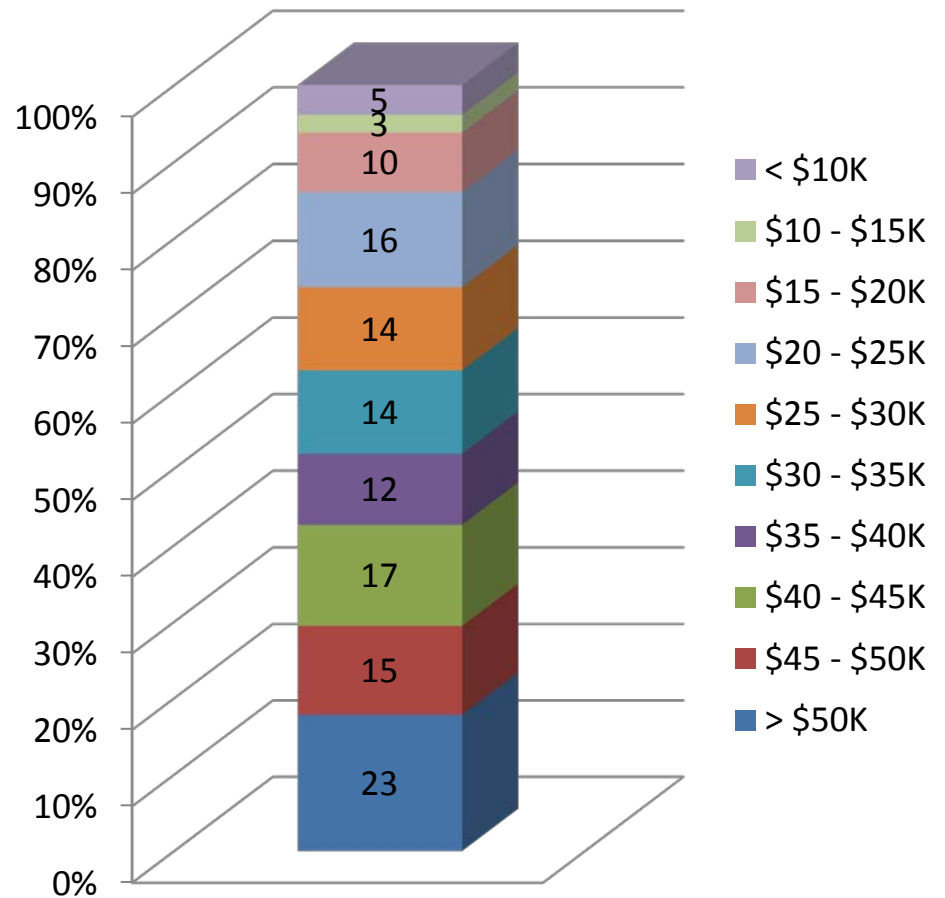
If you have accepted employment, what is your starting salary?

Category	<i>n</i>
\$10,000 or less	5
\$10,001 - \$15,000	3
\$15,001 - \$20,000	10
\$20,001 - \$25,000	16
\$25,001 - \$30,000	14
\$30,001 - \$35,000	14
\$35,001 - \$40,000	12
\$40,001 - \$45,000	17
\$45,001 - \$50,000	15
More than \$50,000	23
I have not yet accepted employment	217
Total	346



If you have accepted employment, what is your starting salary? (This chart eliminates the 217 respondents who had not accepted employment at the time of the survey)

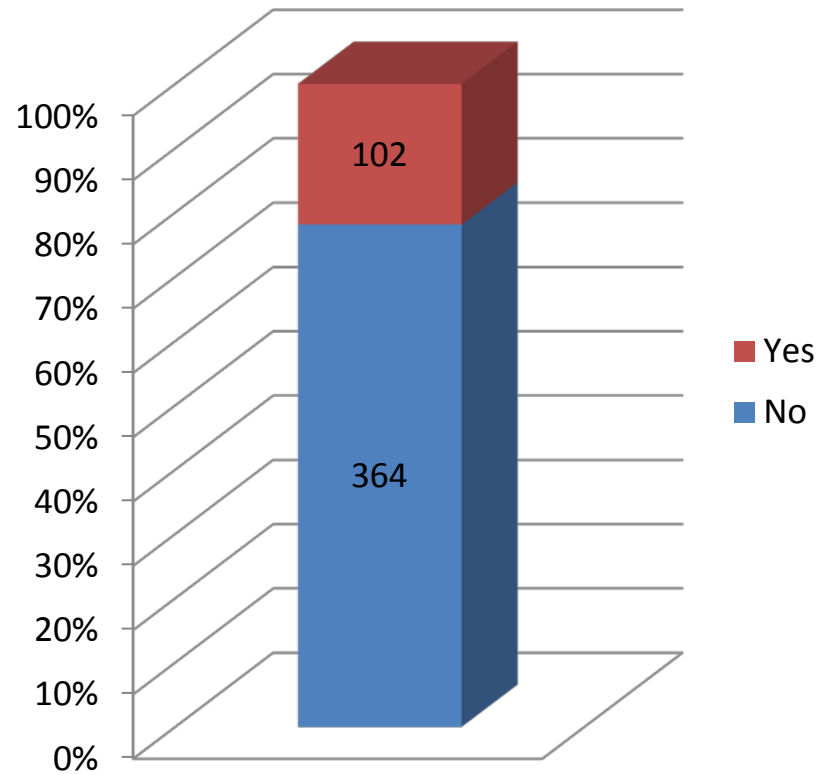
Category	<i>n</i>
\$10,000 or less	5
\$10,001 - \$15,000	3
\$15,001 - \$20,000	10
\$20,001 - \$25,000	16
\$25,001 - \$30,000	14
\$30,001 - \$35,000	14
\$35,001 - \$40,000	12
\$40,001 - \$45,000	17
\$45,001 - \$50,000	15
More than \$50,000	23
Total	129





## Did Career Services help you with your career path?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	102
No	364
Total	466



If Career Services helped you with your career path, please indicate services used (Check all that apply)

Category	<i>n</i>
Marshall Job Trax	68
Resume Assistance	70
Career Advising	33
Mock Interviewing	19
On-Campus Recruitment Event	17
Career Fair	33
Other (Student Resource Center, Personal Statement Assistance, Seminars, Beta Alpha Psi Events)	5

