



**2020-2021 Graduation Survey Results  
Summer and Fall (2020) and Spring (2021)  
Marshall University**

Office of Academic Affairs:  
Assessment and Quality Initiatives

# Executive Summary

- **These data are for academic year 2020 – 2021. Unless otherwise noted, all findings are essentially unchanged since academic year 2019 – 2020.**
- Overall response rate was 36% (568 respondents out of 1,558 graduates). **This was up slightly from 34% in 2019-2020.**
- Females were more likely than males to respond to the survey.
- The Mean GPA of respondents (3.28) was significantly higher than that of all graduates (3.21).
- The Mean Age of respondents (26.02) was significantly higher than that of all graduates (25.12).
- Response rates differed among colleges with the COEPD and the RBA program both having response rates above 50%. **This was a change from 2019-2020 results, where response rates did not differ among colleges.**
- Respondents did not differ from the population in terms of race.

# Executive Summary

- Most respondents were single with no children, were WV residents, and completed their entire education at Marshall.
- Thirty-nine percent (**up from 36% in 2019-2020**) reported no educational debt, while 10% reported debt greater than \$50,000.
- Most respondents stated that their educational objective was to begin their first career.
- Forty-four percent of respondents (248) said they had participated in an internship or practicum (**down from 60% in 2019-2020; this decrease was likely due to the challenges posed by the COVID pandemic**), with 65% (162) believing this experience had helped them to find employment.
- Graduates indicated the following plans after graduation; employed full-time (220), part-time (23), or seeking employment (126); enrolled in further education (94) or planning to continue education (81). Only five respondents indicated they planned to serve in the U. S. Military, none indicated plans to participate in a volunteer or service organization, and five indicated they did not have plans to seek employment or continue education. Fifteen of the 568 survey respondents did not respond to this item.

# Executive Summary

- Students reported positive feelings about all aspects of their Marshall education. Eighty percent or more students agreed with nine of the sixteen statements regarding their learning, while 10% or more disagreed with one statement as outlined below:
- **90% or more AGREED with these statements:**
  - I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively. (91%)
  - I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives. (91%)
  - I used knowledge from more than one area of study to explore issues or to solve problems. (91%)
  - I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence. (90%)
  - I determined how to improve my own learning and to engage in lifelong learning. (90%)
- **80% - 89% AGREED with these statements:**
  - I developed the ability to write effectively. (86%)
  - I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems. (86%)
  - I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions. (84%)
  - 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. (84%)
- **10% OR MORE DISAGREED with these statements:**
  - Writing Intensive Courses enhanced my learning experience. (11%)

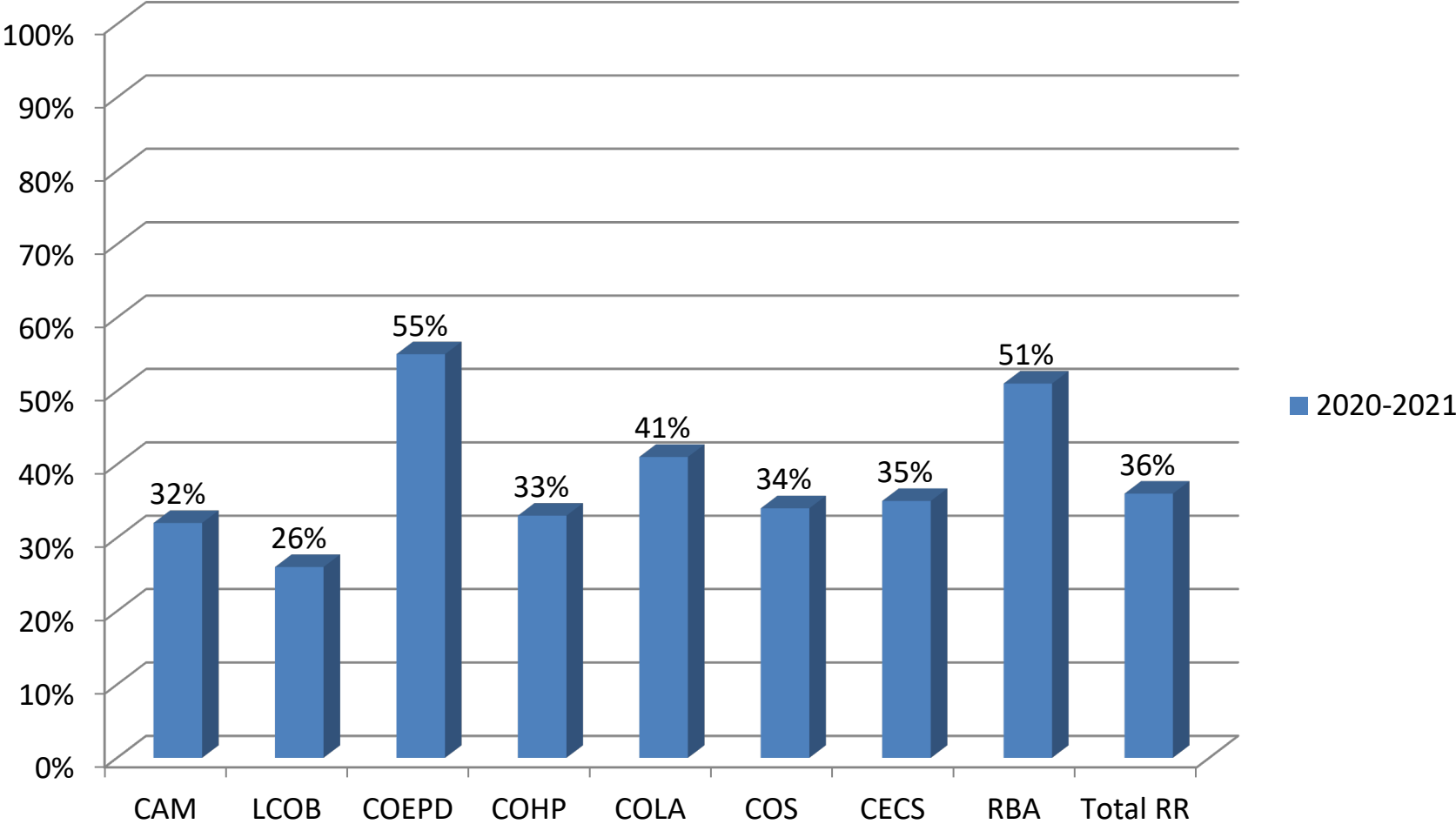
# Executive Summary

- Students reported (as they have in previous years) greater satisfaction with the quality of teaching than with the quality of advising, academic support services, or classroom lab facilities. Percent of students indicated satisfaction are in parentheses:
  - the quality of teaching (84%)
  - the quality of advising (69%)
  - academic support services (68%)
  - classroom and lab facilities (71%)
- Eighty-three percent (83%-**down from 87% last year**) of respondents said they would recommend Marshall University to prospective students and 79% said they would recommend their specific MU degree programs to others.
- Regarding salaries of our graduates, we now report this information in the alumni survey report.
- Only 15% of respondents reported using Career Services, with Resume Assistance and Career Advising used most frequently.

## 2020 – 2021 Response Rate by College

College	Total
CAM	23/72 (32%)
LCOB	64/250 (26%)
COEPD	61/110 (55%)
COHP	156/475 (33%)
COLA	66/160 (41%)
COS	84/244 (34%)
CECS	28/80 (35%)
RBA	86/167 (51%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>568/1,558 (36%)</b>

# Response Rate by College



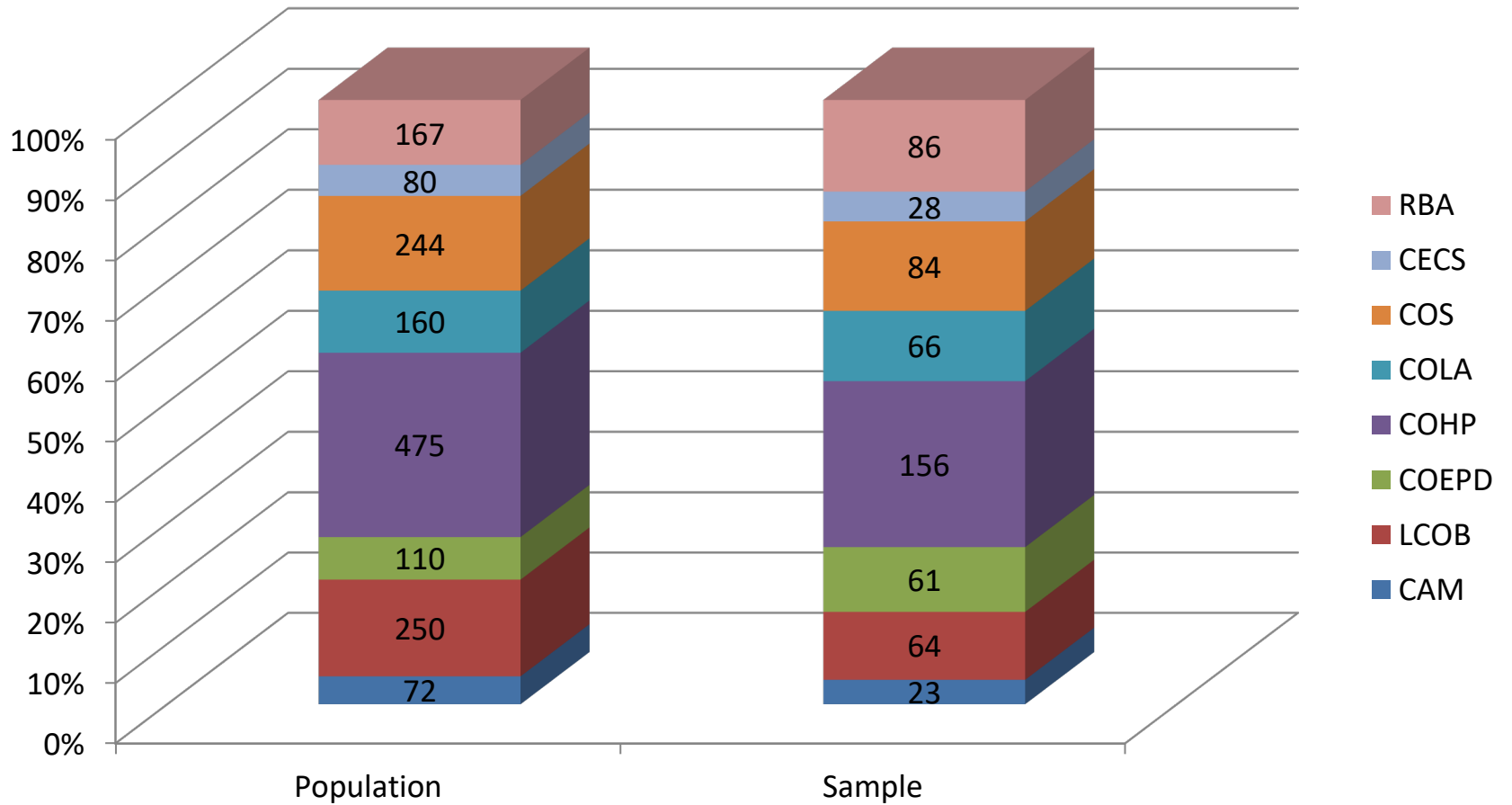
## Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College

$\chi^2 (7) = 22.820, p = .002$

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
<b>CAM</b>	72 (5%)	<b>CAM</b>	23 (4%)	32%
<b>LCOB</b>	250 (16%)	<b>LCOB</b>	64 (11%)	26%
<b>COEPD</b>	110 (7%)	<b>COEPD</b>	61 (11%)	55%
<b>COHP</b>	475 (30%)	<b>COHP</b>	156 (27%)	33%
<b>COLA</b>	160 (10%)	<b>COLA</b>	66 (12%)	41%
<b>COS</b>	244 (16%)	<b>COS</b>	84 (15%)	34%
<b>CECS</b>	80 (5%)	<b>CITE</b>	28 (5%)	35%
<b>RBA</b>	167 (11%)	<b>RBA</b>	86 (15%)	51%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,558 (100%)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>568 (100%)</b>	<b>36%</b>



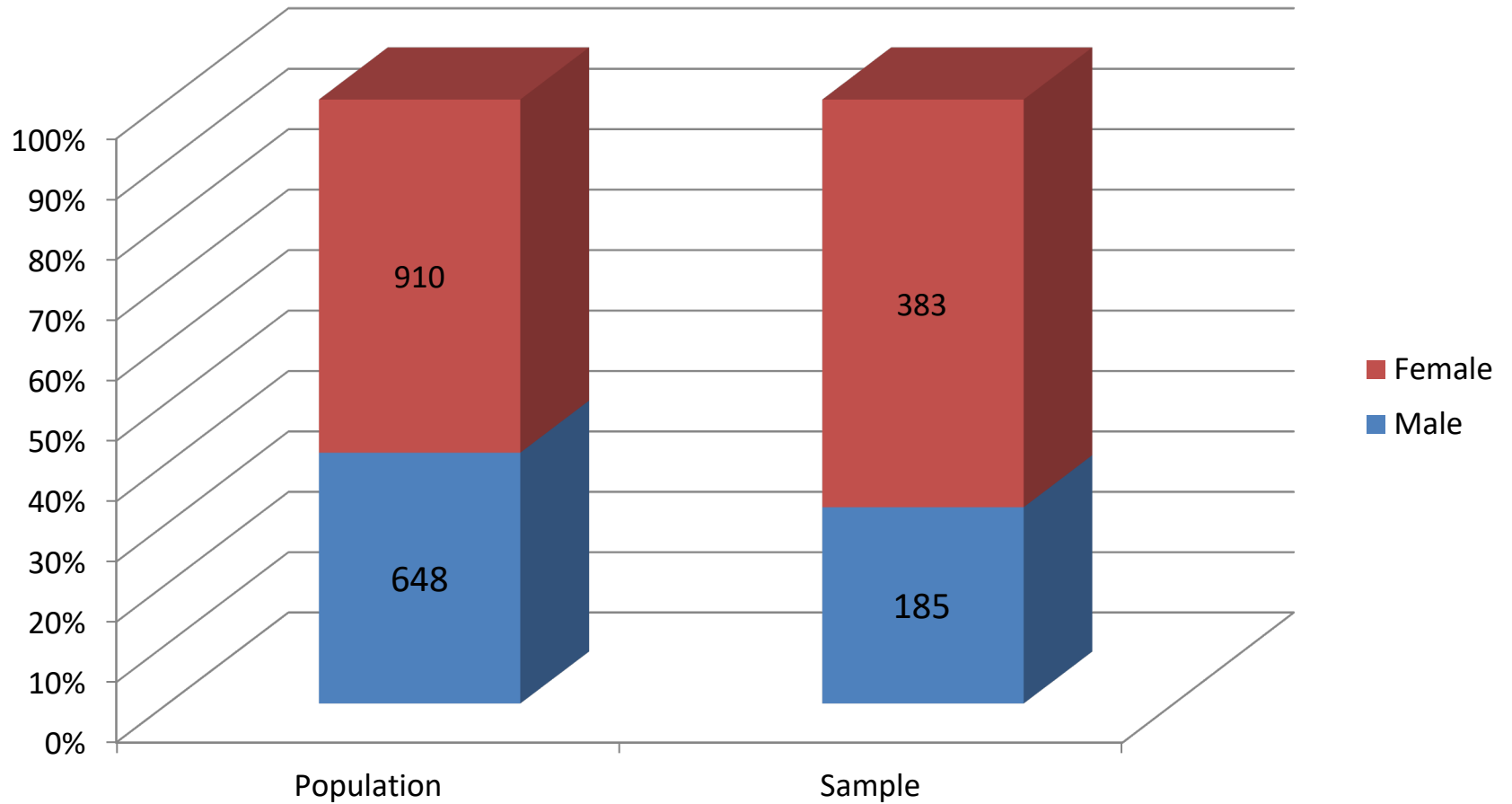
**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College;  $\chi^2 (7) = 22.820, p = .002$**



**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender;  $\chi^2 (1) = 14.216, p < .001$**

<b>Population Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Sample Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
<b>Male</b>	648 (42%)	<b>Male</b>	185 (33%)	29%
<b>Female</b>	910 (58%)	<b>Female</b>	383 (67%)	42%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,558 (100%)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>568 (100%)</b>	<b>36%</b>

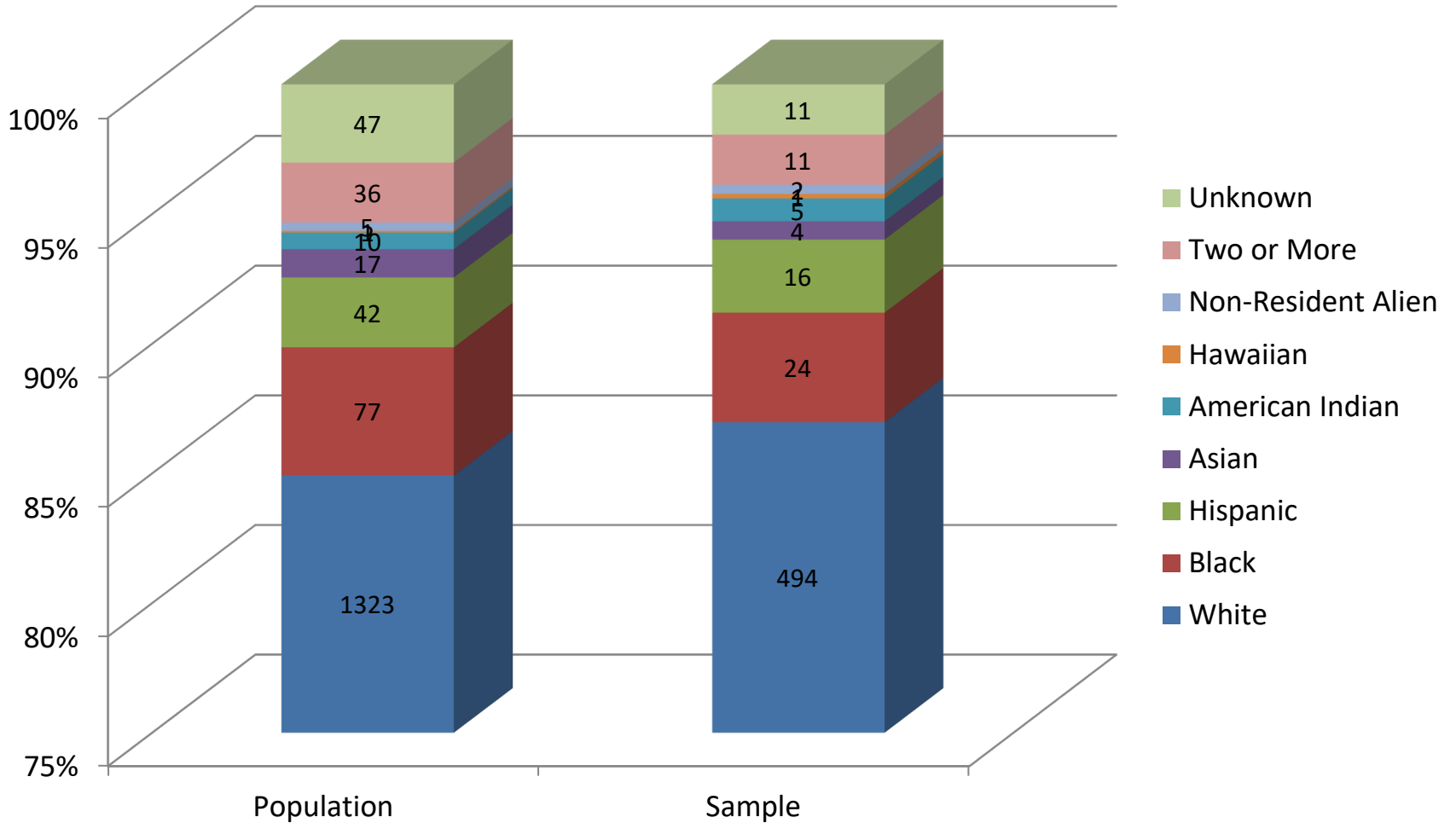
**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender;  $\chi^2 (1) = 14.216, p < .001$**



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

<b>Population Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Sample Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
<b>White</b>	1,323 (%)	<b>White</b>	494 (%)	35%
<b>Black</b>	77 (%)	<b>Black</b>	24 (%)	19%
<b>Hispanic</b>	42 (%)	<b>Hispanic</b>	16 (%)	36%
<b>Asian</b>	17 (%)	<b>Asian</b>	4 (%)	22%
<b>American Indian</b>	10 (%)	<b>American Indian</b>	5 (%)	43%
<b>Hawaiian</b>	1 (%)	<b>Hawaiian</b>	1 (100%)	
<b>Non-Resident Alien</b>	5 (%)	<b>Non-Resident Alien</b>	2 (%)	
<b>Two or More</b>	36 (3%)	<b>Two or More</b>	11 (3%)	34%
<b>Unknown</b>	47 (3%)	<b>Unknown</b>	11 (3%)	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,558 (100%)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>568 (100%)</b>	<b>36%</b>

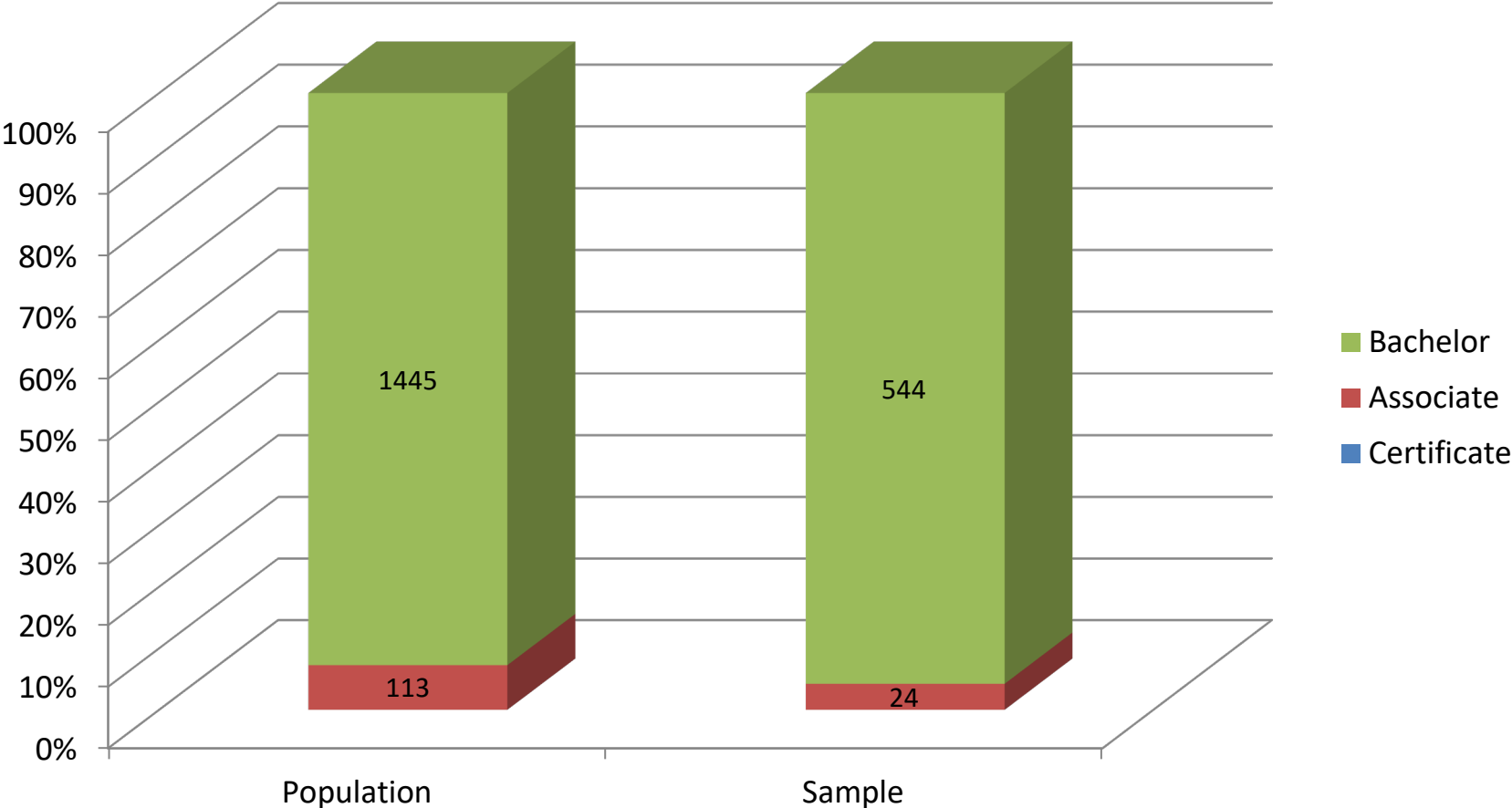
## Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Race; *ns*



**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned;  $X^2 (1) = 6.329, p = .012$**

<b>Population Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Sample Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
<b>Certificates</b>	0	<b>Certificates</b>	0	0%
<b>Associate's Degree</b>	113 (7%)	<b>Associate's Degree</b>	24 (4%)	21%
<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	1,445 (93%)	<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	544 (96%)	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,558</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>36%</b>

**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned;  $\chi^2 (1) = 6.329, p = .012$**

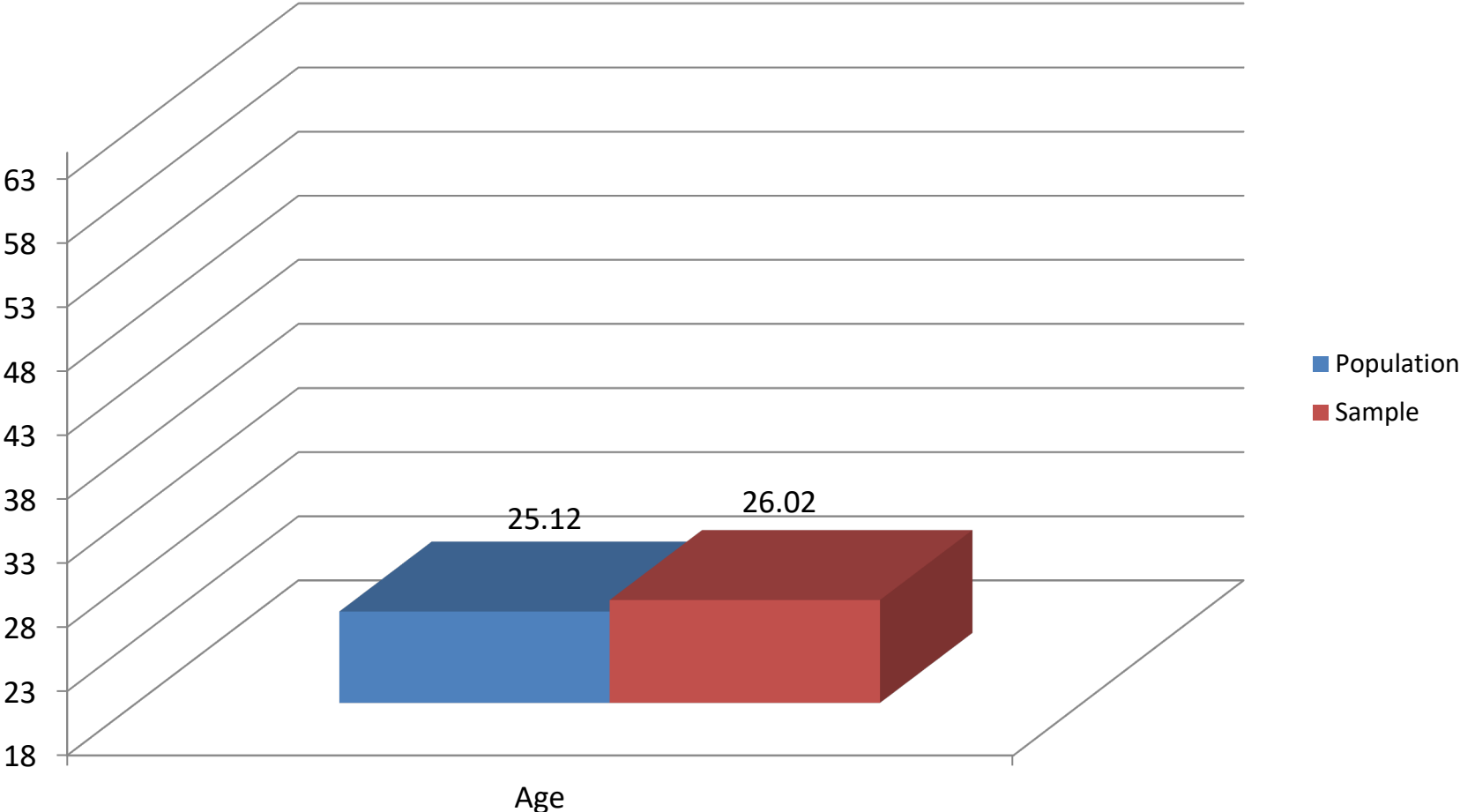


**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Age and GPA were both significant**  
**Age,  $t(604) = 2.048, p = .041$ ; GPA,  $t(604) = 6.325, p < .001$ .**

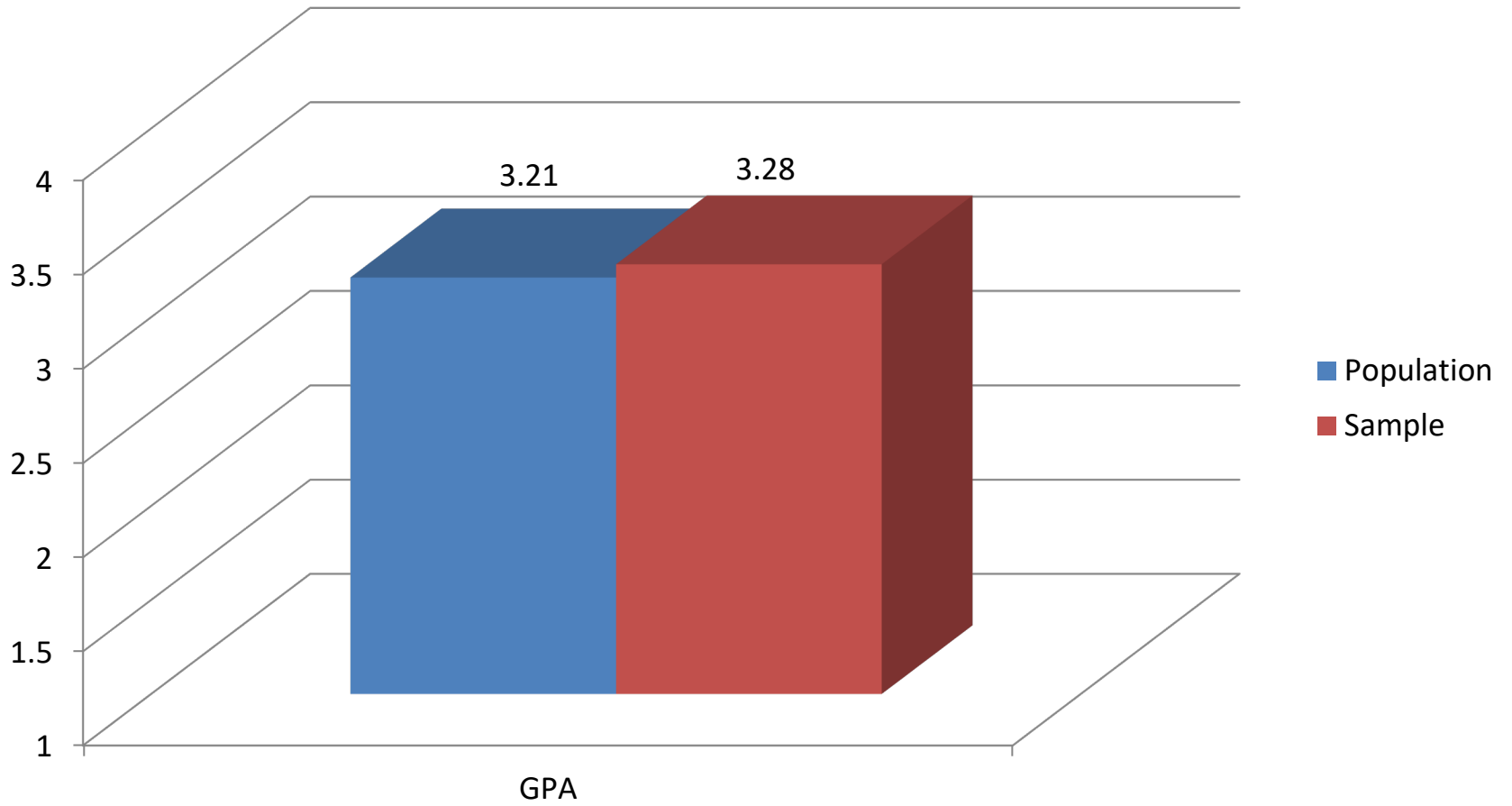
<b>Population Category</b>	<b>Mean (SD)</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Range</b>
<b>Age (<math>n = 1,558</math>)</b>	25.12 (6.79)	22	19 – 78
<b>GPA (<math>n = 1,558</math>)</b>	3.21 (0.47)	3.25	1.85 – 4.00
<b>Sample Category</b>			
<b>Age (<math>n = 568</math>)</b>	26.02 (8.15)	22	19 – 78
<b>GPA (<math>n = 568</math>)</b>	3.28 (0.47)	3.34	1.85 – 4.00



**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Mean Age; Age,  $t(568) = 2.639, p = .009$**

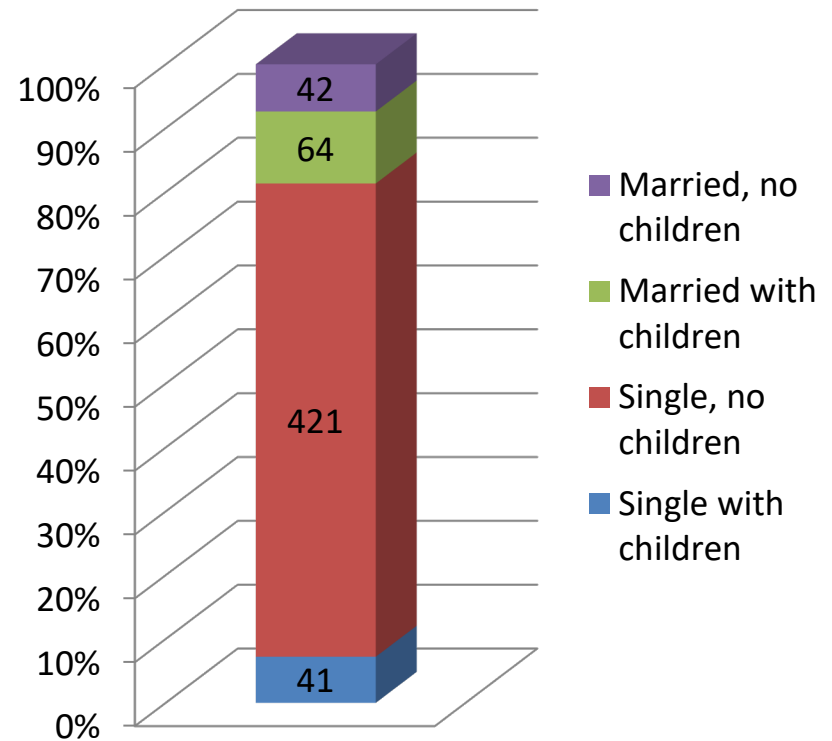


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: GPA; GPA is significant,  $t(567) = 3.765, p < .001$



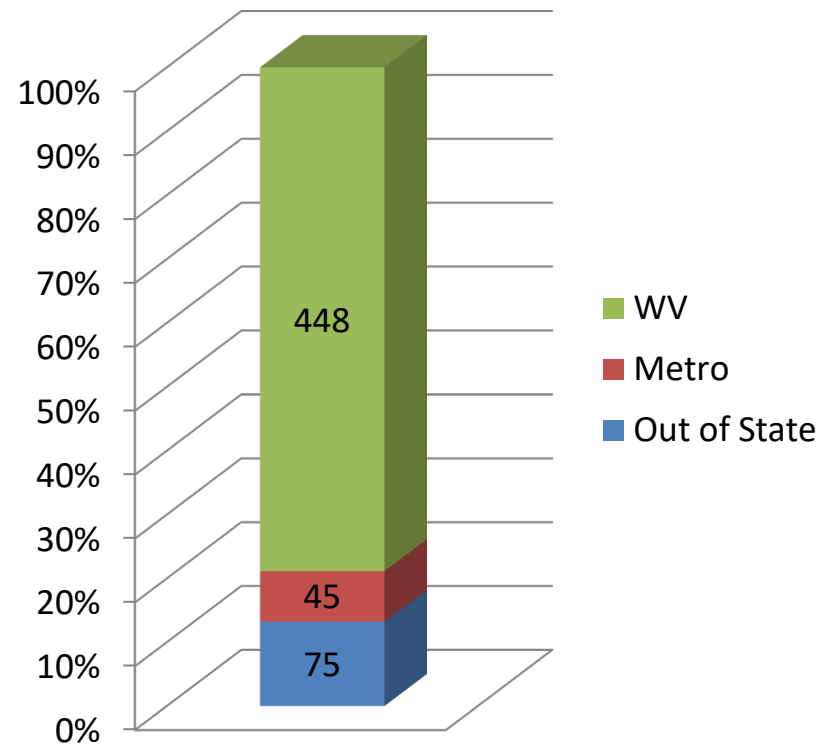
# Family Status

Category	<i>n</i>
Married, no children	42
Married with children	64
Single, no children	421
Single with children	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>568</b>



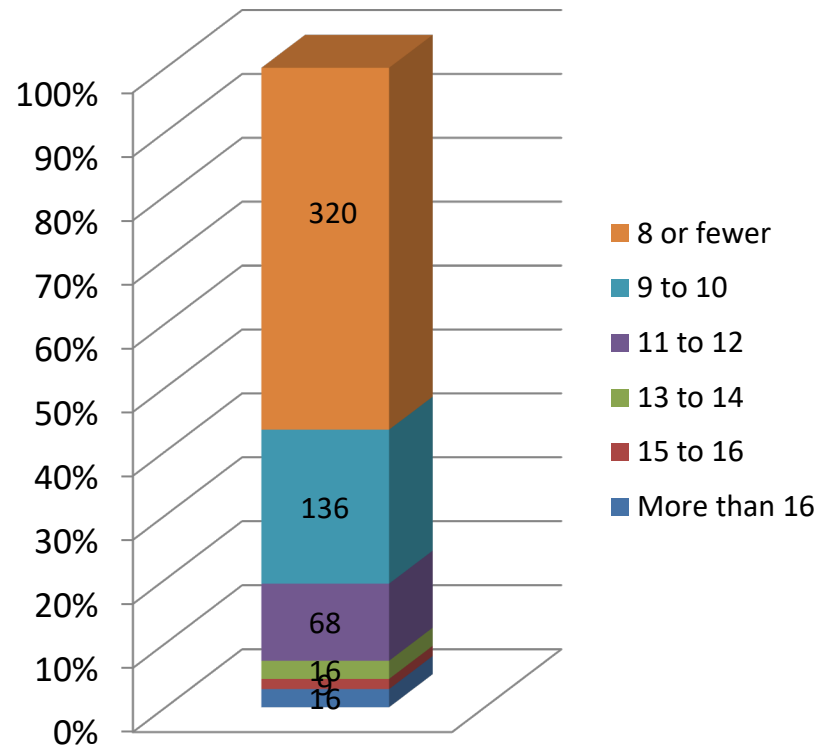
# Residence at time of admission

Category	<i>n</i>
West Virginia	448
Metro	45
Out of State	75
Total	568



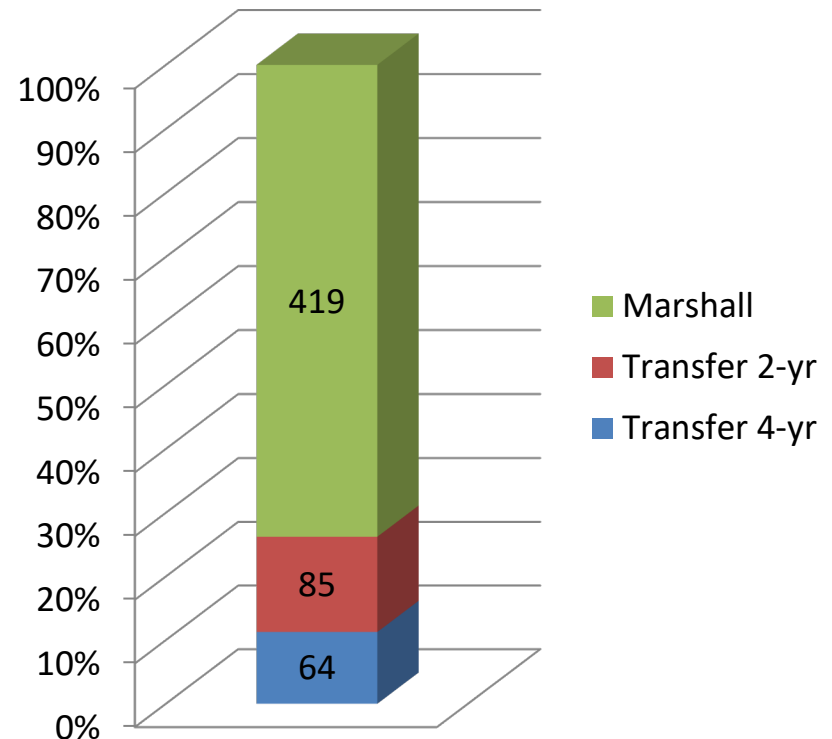
# # of Semesters to Complete Degree

Category	<i>n</i>
8 or fewer	320
9 – 10	136
11 – 12	68
13 – 14	16
15 – 16	9
More than 16	16
Total	565



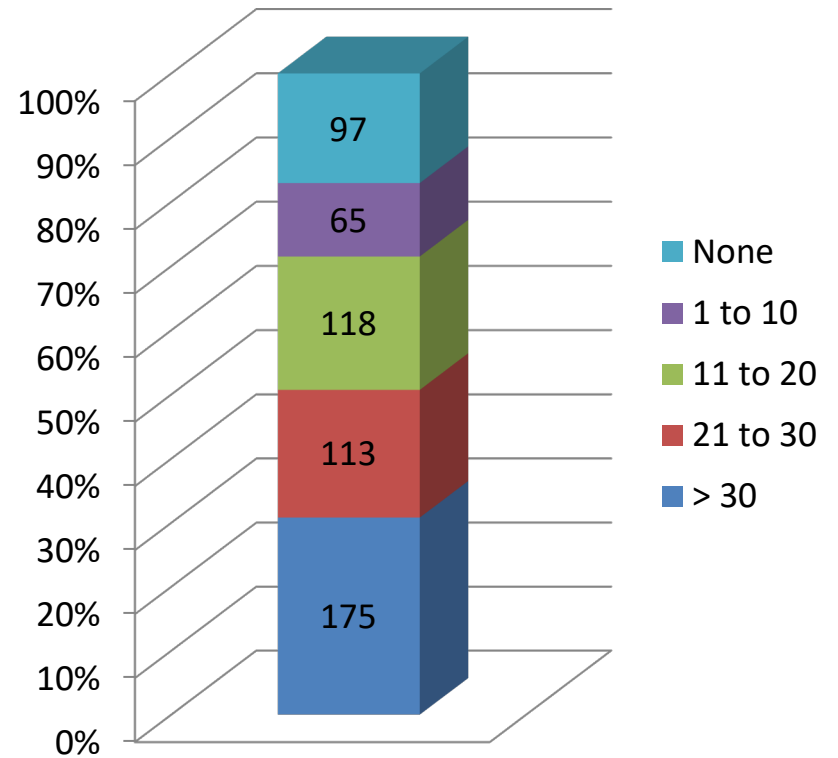
# While pursuing your degree, did you

Category	<i>n</i>
Originally Enroll and Stay at Marshall?	419
Transfer from a 2-Year institution?	85
Transfer from another 4-year institution?	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>568</b>



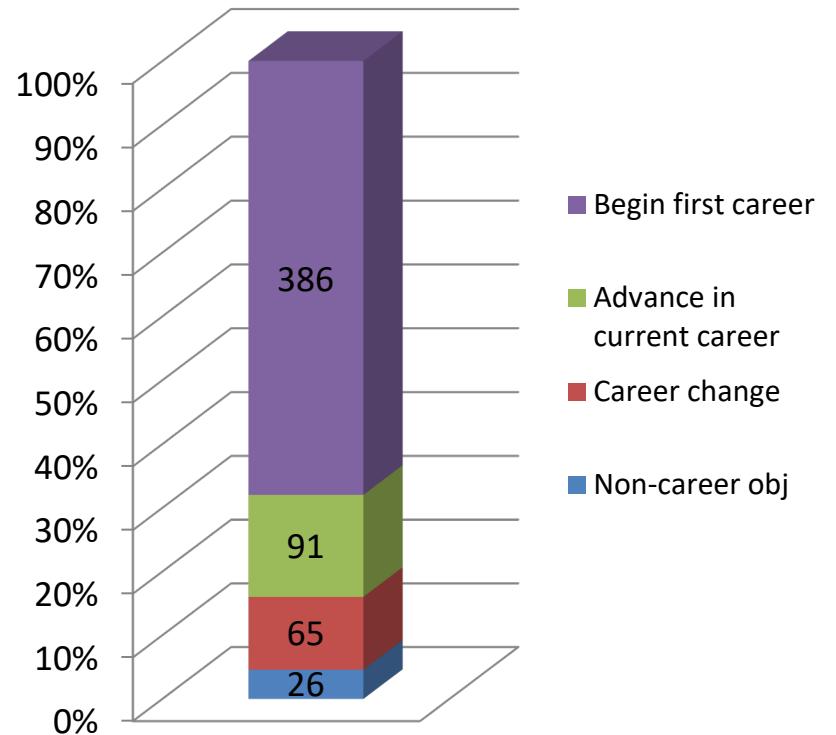
During the last year of your studies, how many hours a week did you work while attending classes?

Category	<i>n</i>
None	97
1 - 10	65
11 - 20	118
21 - 30	113
More than 30	175
Total	568



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

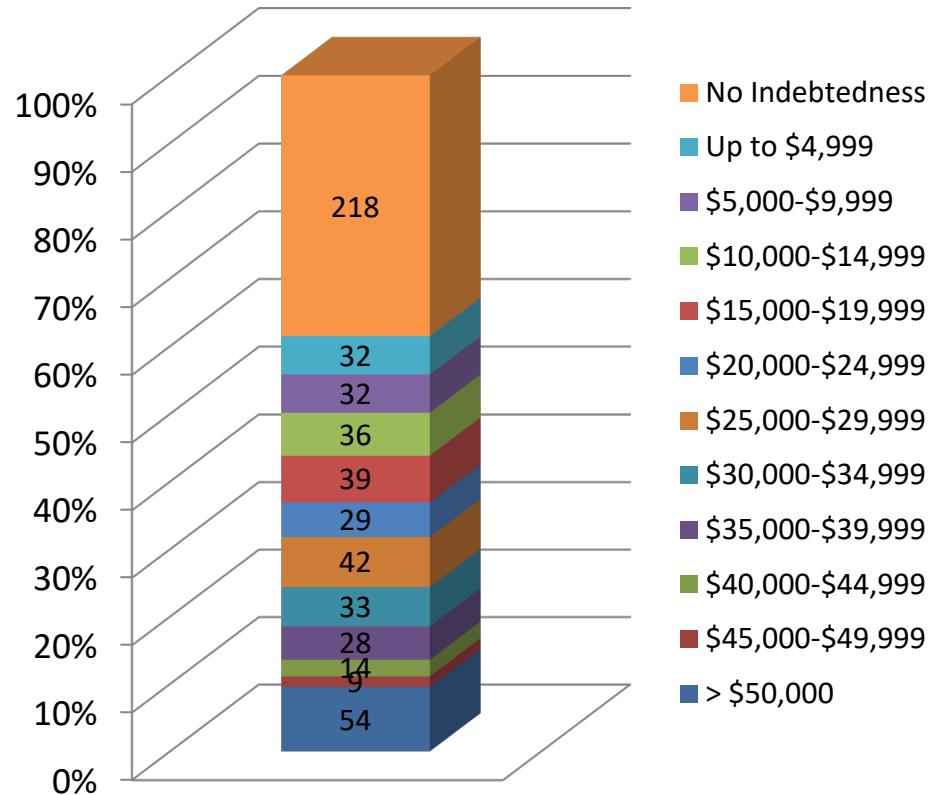
Category	<i>n</i>
Begin first career	386
Advance in current career	91
Career Change	65
Non-Career Objective	26
Total	568





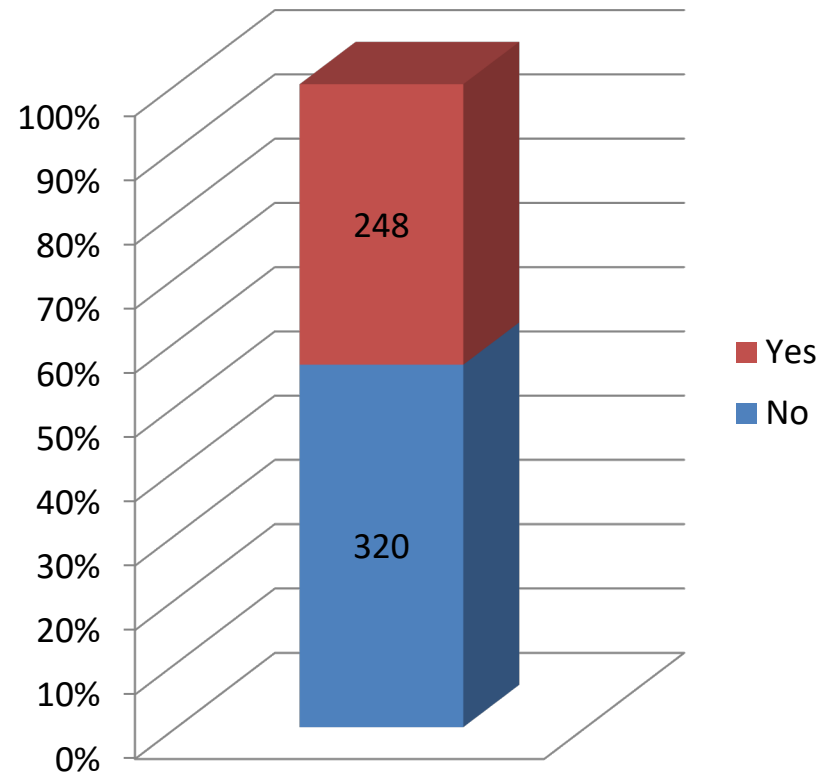
## Upon graduation, what was the dollar amount of your educational loan indebtedness?

Category	<i>n</i>
No indebtedness	218
Up to \$4,999	32
\$5,000 - \$9,999	32
\$10,000 - \$14,999	36
\$15,000 - \$19,999	39
\$20,000 - \$24,999	29
\$25,000 - \$29,999	42
\$30,000 - \$34,999	33
\$35,000 - \$39,999	28
\$40,000 - \$44,999	14
\$45,000 - \$49,999	9
\$50,000 or more	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>566</b>



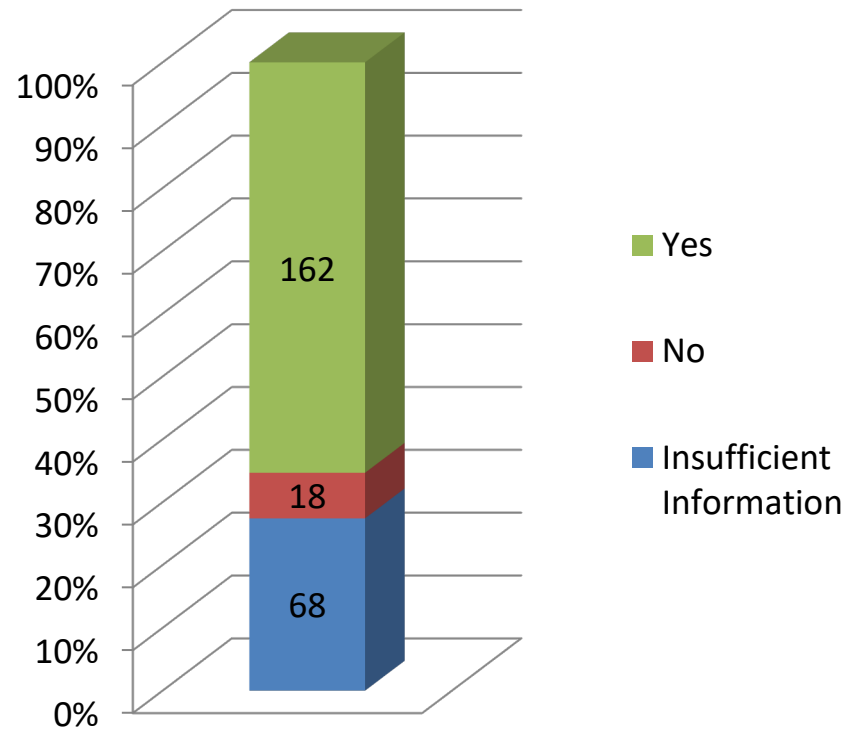
**Did you take part in an internship, practicum or other structured work experience related to your major and anticipated career?**

<b>Category</b>	<b><i>n</i></b>
<b>Yes</b>	248
<b>No</b>	320
<b>Total</b>	568



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

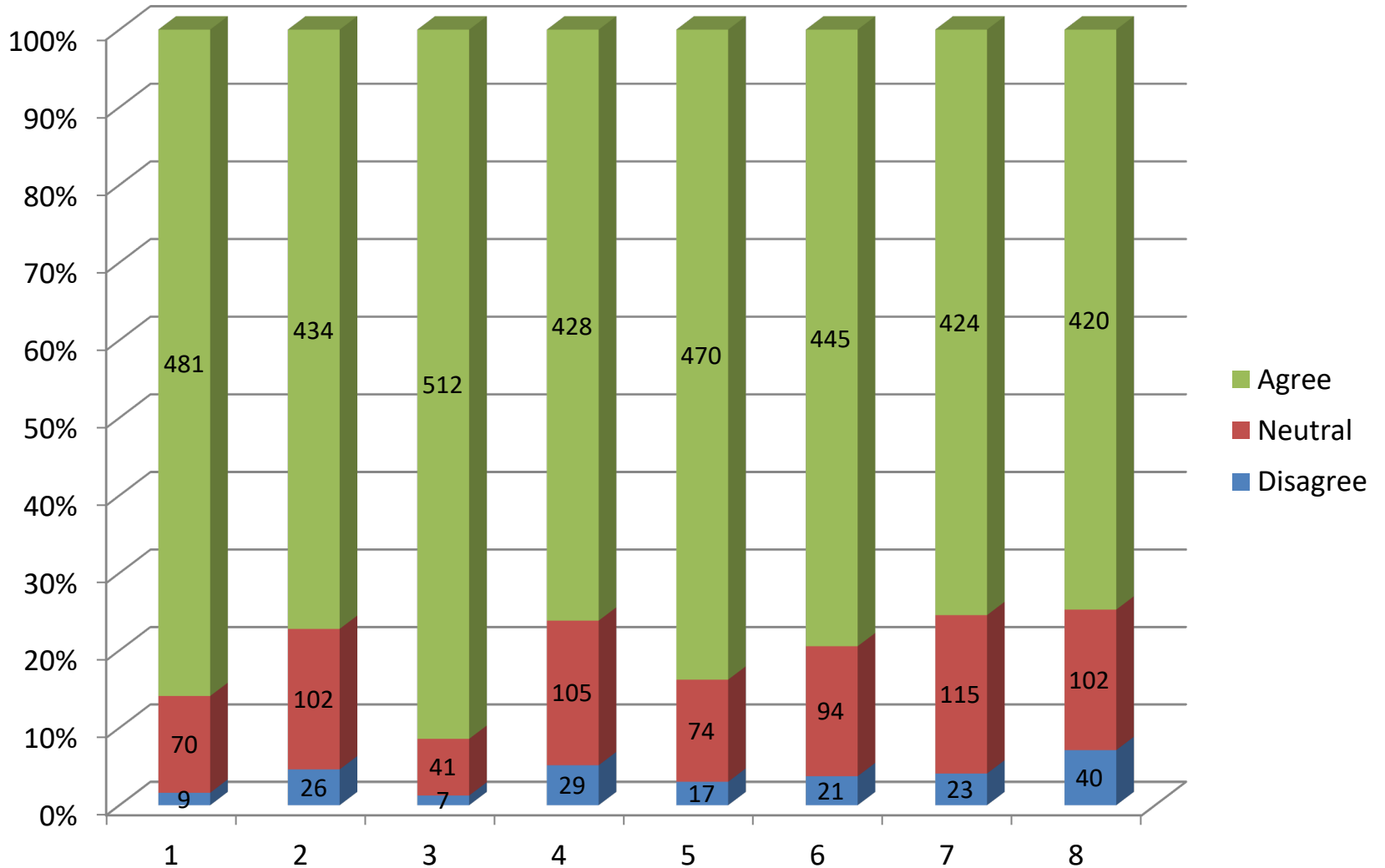
<b>Category</b>	<b><i>n</i></b>
<b>Yes</b>	162
<b>No</b>	18
<b>Insufficient Information to answer question</b>	68
<b>Total</b>	248



# While pursuing my degree at Marshall University,

Question	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
1. I developed the ability to write effectively.	481 (86%)	70 (13%)	9 (2%)	560
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems..	434 (77%)	102 (18%)	26 (5%)	562
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	512 (91%)	41 (7%)	7 (1%)	560
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	428 (76%)	105 (19%)	29 (5%)	562
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	470 (84%)	74 (13%)	17 (3%)	561
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	445 (79%)	94 (17%)	21 (4%)	560
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	424 (75%)	115 (20%)	23 (4%)	562
8. . Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	420 (75%)	102 (18%)	40 (7%)	562

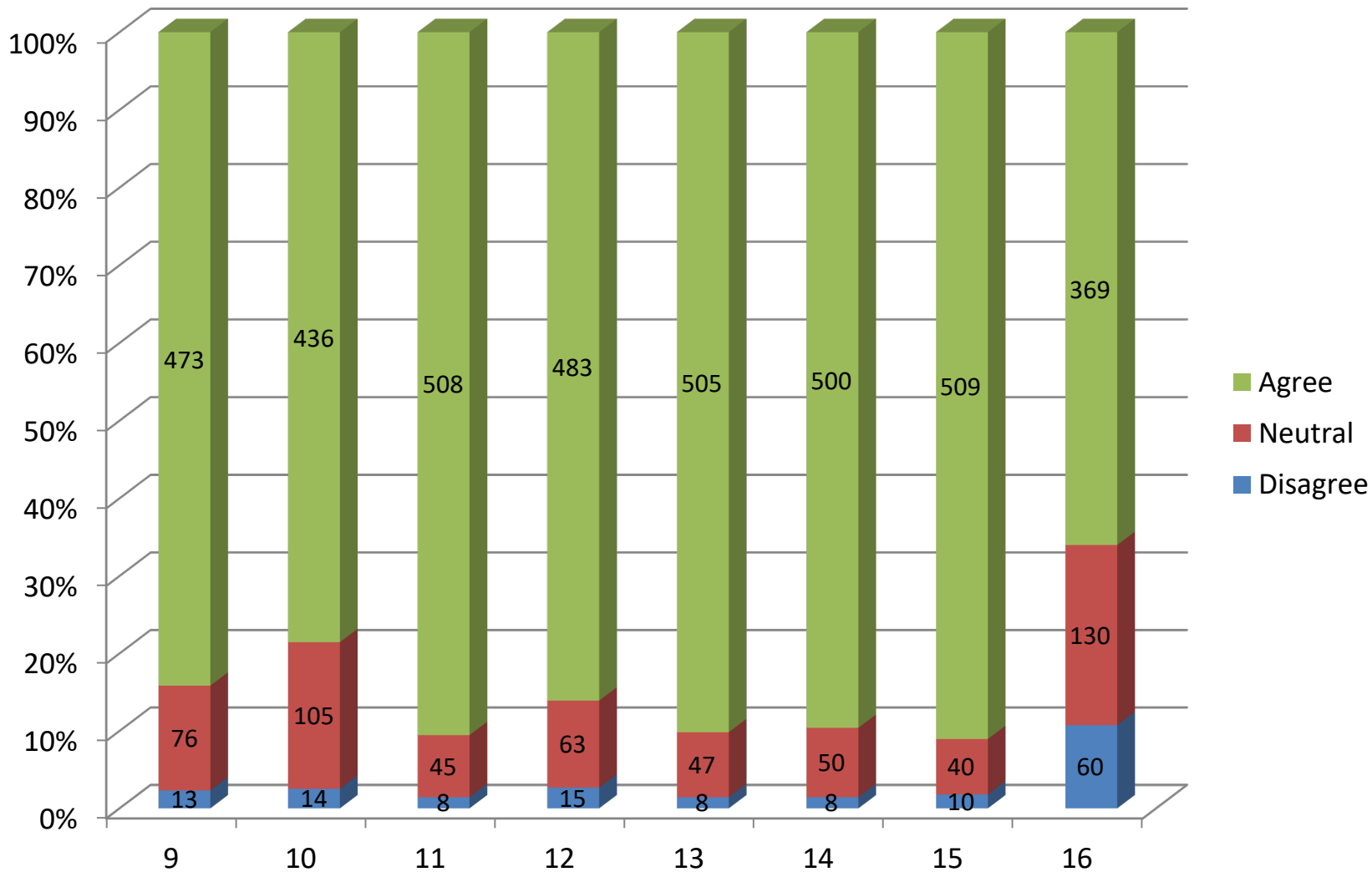
# Frequencies for Items from Previous Slide



## While pursuing my degree at Marshall University,

Question	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
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.	473 (84%)	76 (14%)	13 (2%)	562
10. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	436 (79%)	105 (19%)	14 (3%)	555
11. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	508 (91%)	45 (8%)	8 (1%)	561
12. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	483 (86%)	63 (11%)	15 (3%)	561
13. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	505 (90%)	47 (8%)	8 (1%)	560
14. I determined how to improve my own learning and to engage in lifelong learning.	500 (90%)	50 (9%)	8 (1%)	558
15. I used knowledge from more than one area of study to explore issues or to solve problems.	509 (91%)	40 (7%)	10 (2%)	559
16. Writing Intensive Courses enhanced my learning experience.	369 (66%)	130 (23%)	60 (11%)	559

## Frequencies for Items from Previous Slide

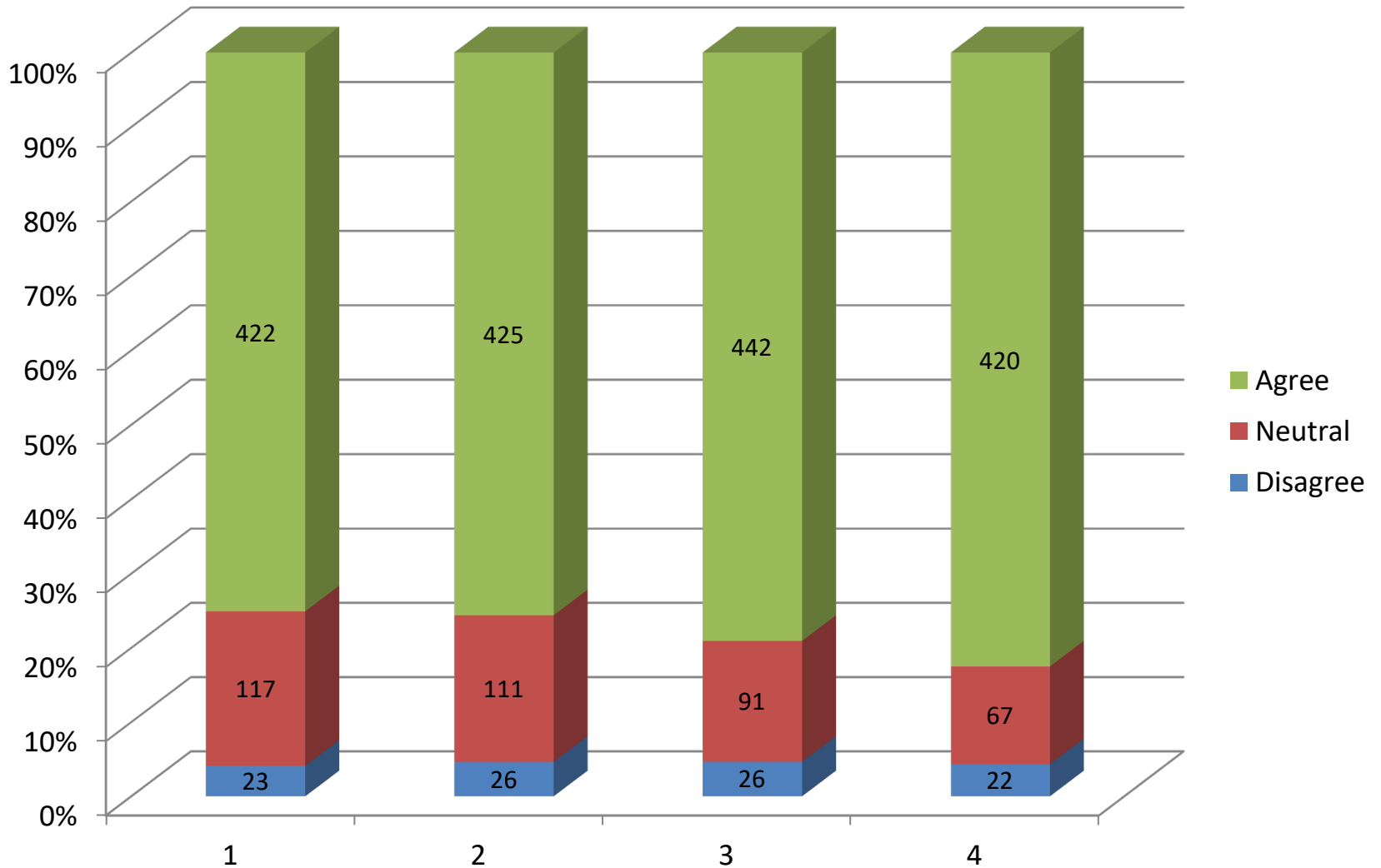


## Now that I have completed my degree, I

Question	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
<b>1. Feel adequately prepared for a career and/or graduate or professional study in my major field.</b>	422 (75%)	117 (21%)	23 (4%)	562
<b>2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.</b>	425 (76%)	111 (20%)	26 (5%)	562
<b>3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.</b>	442 (79%)	91 (16%)	26 (5%)	559
<b>4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.</b>	420 (83%)	67 (13%)	22 (4%)	559



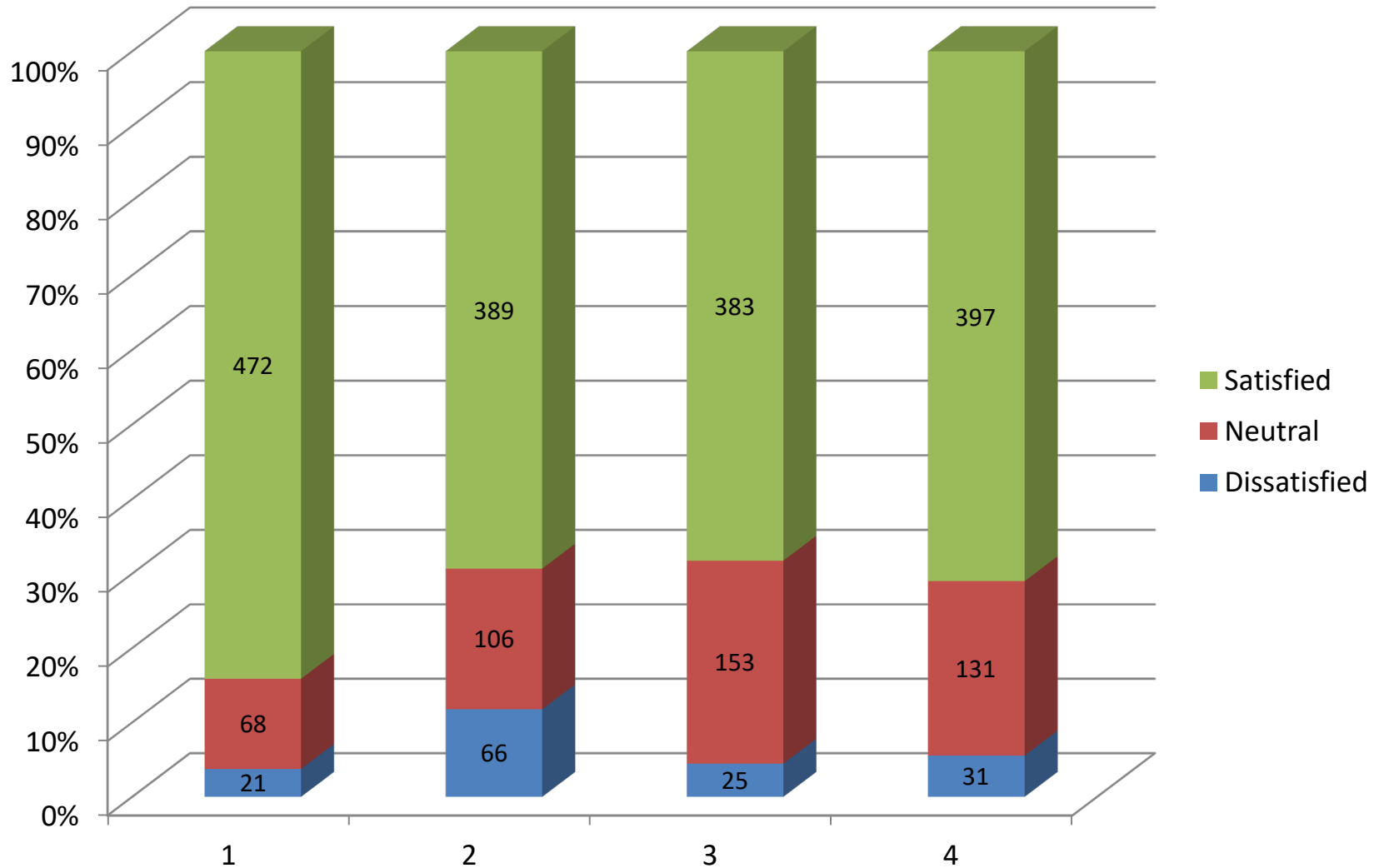
# Frequencies for Items from the Previous Slide



# Please Rate your satisfaction with the following at Marshall

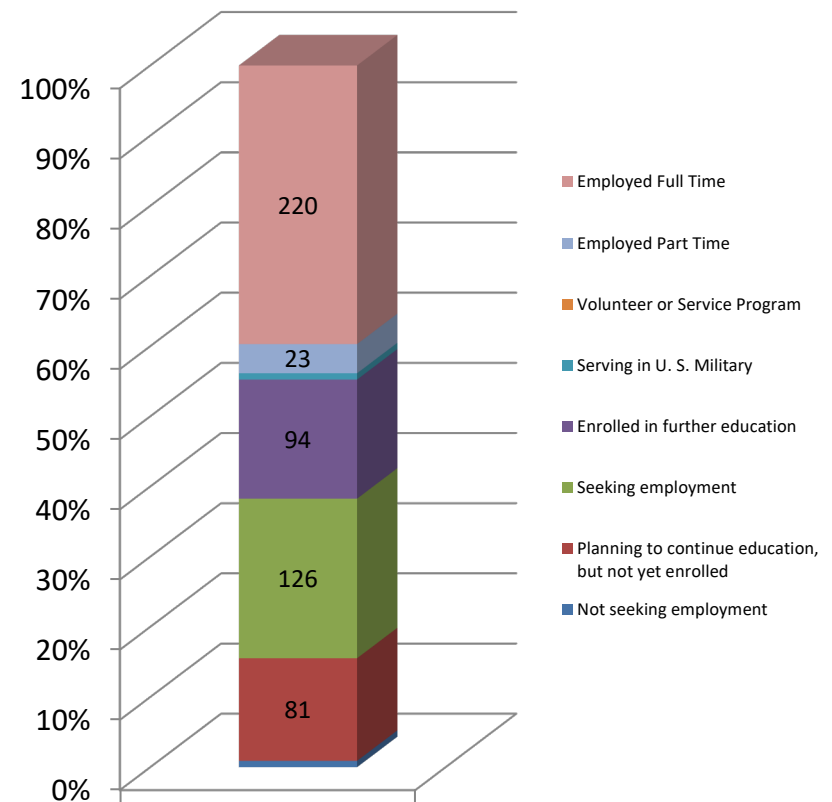
Question	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Total
1. Teaching	472 (84%)	68 (12%)	21 (4%)	561
2. Advising	389 (69%)	106 (19%)	66 (12%)	561
3. Academic Support Services	383 (68%)	153 (27%)	25 (4%)	561
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	397 (71%)	131 (23%)	31 (6%)	559

# Frequencies for Items from the Previous Slide



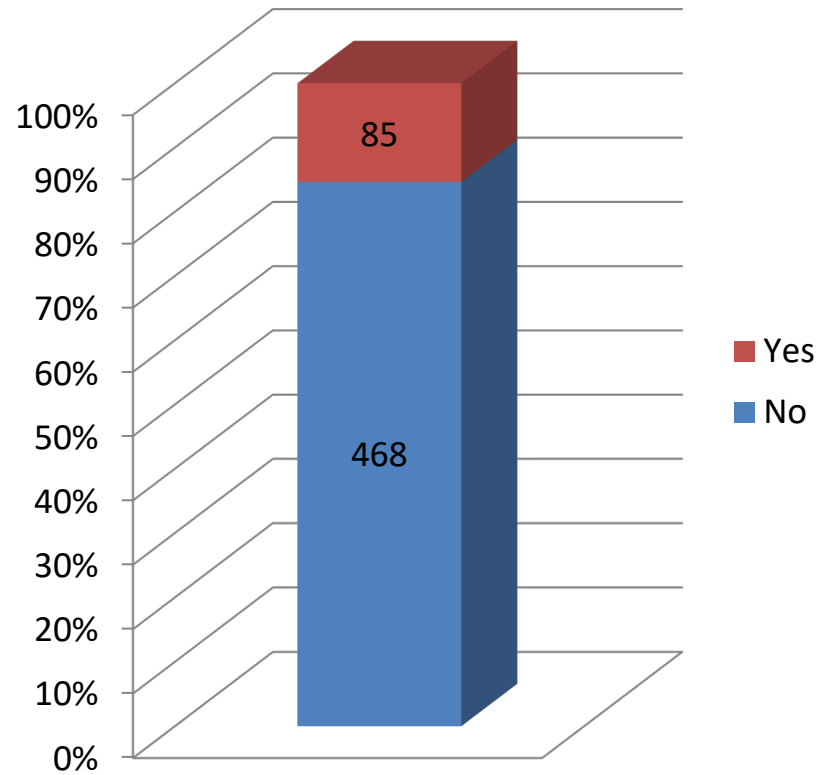
# Which of the Following BEST Describes Your Status after Graduation.

Category	<i>n</i>
Employed full time (on average 30 hours or more per week)	220
Employed part time (on average fewer than 30 hours per week)	23
Participating in a volunteer or service program (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, City Year, etc.)	0
Serving in the United States Military	5
Enrolled in Further Education	94
Seeking Employment	126
Planning to continue education, but not yet enrolled	81
Not seeking employment or continuing education at this time	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>554</b>



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

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	85
No	468
Total	553



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

<b>Category</b>	<b><i>n</i></b>
<b>Marshall Job Trax</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Resume Assistance</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Career Advising</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Mock Interviewing</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>On-Campus Recruitment Event</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Career Fair</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Other (Education Department)</b>	<b>1</b>

