



2014-2015 Graduation Survey Data
Summer and Fall (2014) and Spring (2015)
Marshall University

Office of Assessment and Program Review

Executive Summary

- **These data are for academic year 2014 – 2015. Unless otherwise noted, all findings are essentially unchanged since academic year 2013 – 2014.**
- Overall response rate was 32% (558 respondents out of 1,717 graduates) – **up from 28% in 2013-2014.**
- 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.
- The Mean GPA of respondents (3.22) was significantly higher than that of all graduates (3.14), but the effect size was small.
- Response rates differed significantly across colleges. The College of Arts and Media had the highest response rate (44%) and the College of Health Professions the lowest (24%). **- in 2013-2014 response rates did not differ among 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.
- Twenty-nine percent reported no educational debt (**down from 34% in 2013-2014**), while 41% reported debt greater than \$20,000.
- Most respondents stated that their educational objective was to begin their first career.
- Fifty-five percent of respondents said they had participated in an internship or practicum (**compared to 57% in 2013-2014**), with 60% (**compared to 59% in 2013 – 2014**) believing this experience had helped them find employment.
- Fifty-eight percent (**as compared to 57% in 2013 – 2014**) 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 three (as compared to four in 2013-2014) out of fourteen items. All of these items were the same as those identified in 2013 – 2014, while the item in red did not exceed 2.0 this year.
 - I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems. (2.05)
 - Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills. (2.07)
 - I broadened my appreciation for the arts. (2.14)
 - I developed multicultural and global perspectives. (1.94)

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 (1.86) than with
 - the quality of advising (2.28)
 - academic support services (2.20)
 - classroom and lab facilities (2.21)
- Sixty-six percent of respondents plan to be employed in their major field, 11% not in their major field, and 23% were unsure at the time of the survey.
- Fifty-seven percent (**down from 58% in 2013 – 2014**) plan to work in WV.
- Forty percent (of the 397 students who answered the question) reported having accepted a job (**up from 37% in 2013 – 2014**). Of those, 67% will earn more than \$30,000 annually (**up from 63% in 2013 – 2014**).
- Only 18% of respondents reported using Career Services (**down from 22% in 2013-2014**), with JobTrax and Resume Assistance used most frequently.

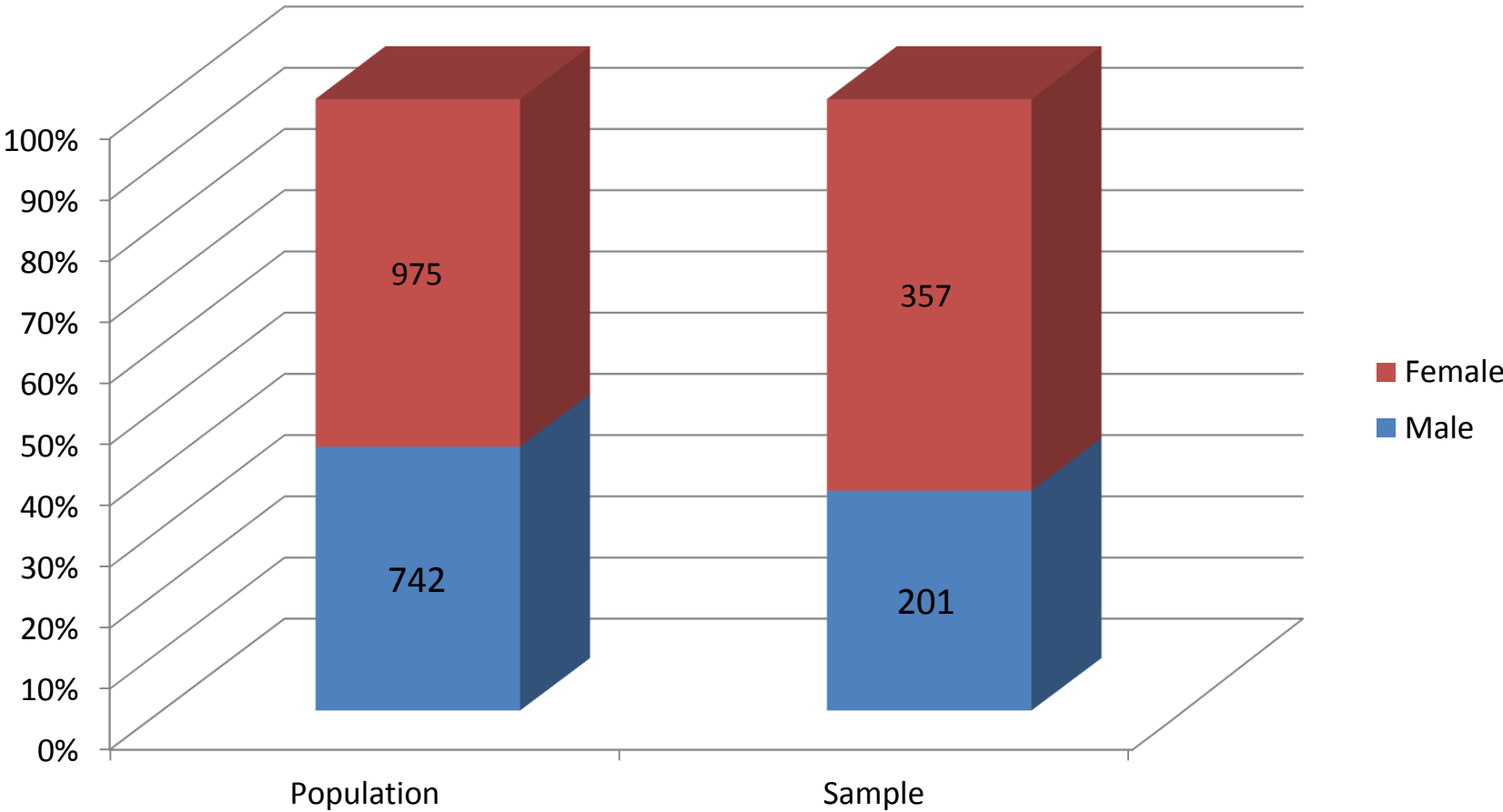
2014 – 2015 Response Rate by College by Semester

College	Summer 2014	Fall 2014	Spring 2015	Total
CAM	1/9 = 11%	14/29 = 48%	36/77 = 47%	51/115 = 44%
COB	7/30 = 23%	21/97 = 22%	53/178 = 30%	81/305 = 27%
COEPD	2/3=67%	24/63 = 38%	34/99 = 34%	60/165 = 36%
COHP	2/22 = 9%	24/121 = 20%	85/320 = 27%	111/463 = 24%
COLA	9/25 = 36%	22/47 = 47%	45/113 = 40%	76/185 = 41%
COS	4/16 = 25%	35/82 = 43%	55/155 = 35%	94/253 = 37%
CITE	1/2 = 50%	11/19 = 58%	8/29 = 28%	20/50 = 40%
RBA	8/41 = 20%	28/66 = 42%	29/74 = 39%	65/181 = 36%
Total	34/148 = 23%	179/524 = 34%	345/1,045 = 33%	558/1,717 = 32%

Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender; $\chi^2 (1) = 8.879, p = .003$

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
Male	742 (43%)	Male	201 (36%)	27%
Female	975 (57%)	Female	357 (64%)	37%
Total	1,717 (100%)	Total	558 (100%)	32%

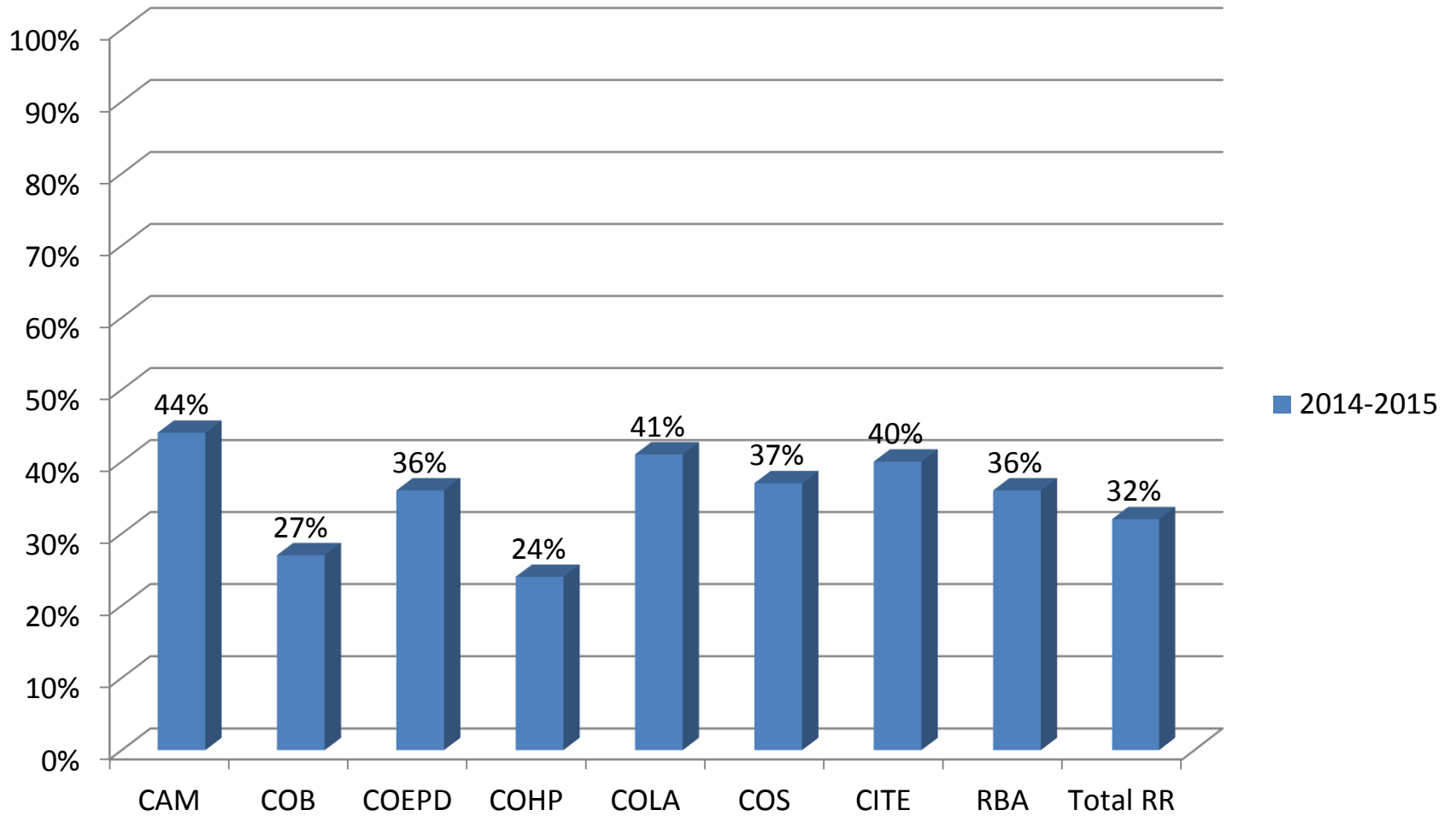
Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender; $\chi^2 (1) = 8.879, p = .003$



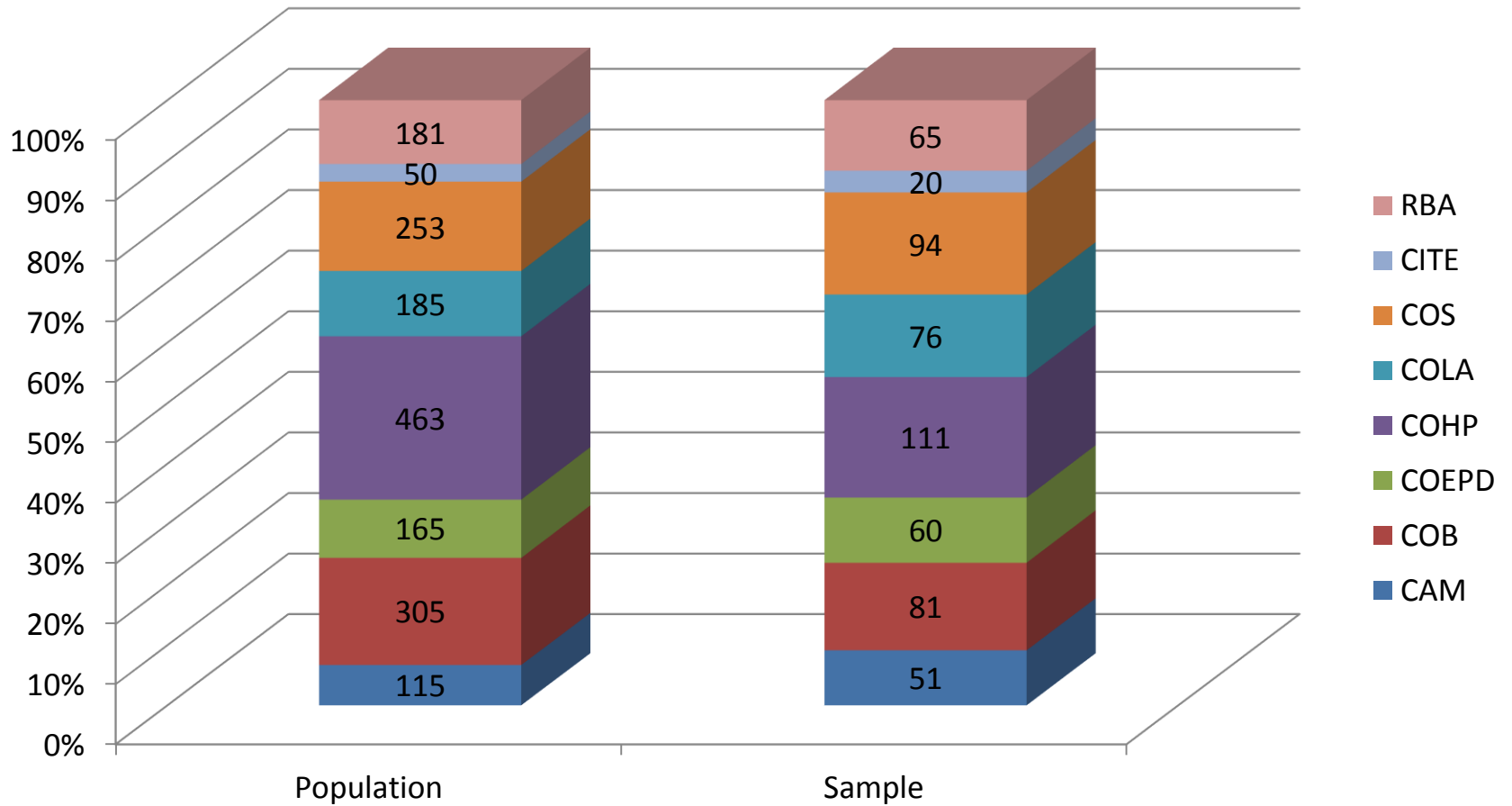
Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; $\chi^2 (7) = 20.265, p = .005$

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
CAM	115 (7%)	CAM	51 (9%)	44%
COB	305 (18%)	COB	81 (15%)	27%
COEPD	165 (10%)	COE	60 (11%)	36%
COHP	463 (27%)	COHP	111 (20%)	24%
COLA	185 (11%)	COLA	76 (14%)	41%
COS	253 (15%)	COS	94 (17%)	37%
CITE	50 (3%)	CITE	20 (4%)	40%
RBA	181 (11%)	RBA	65 (12%)	36%
Total	1,717 (100%)	Total	558 (100%)	32%

Response Rate by College



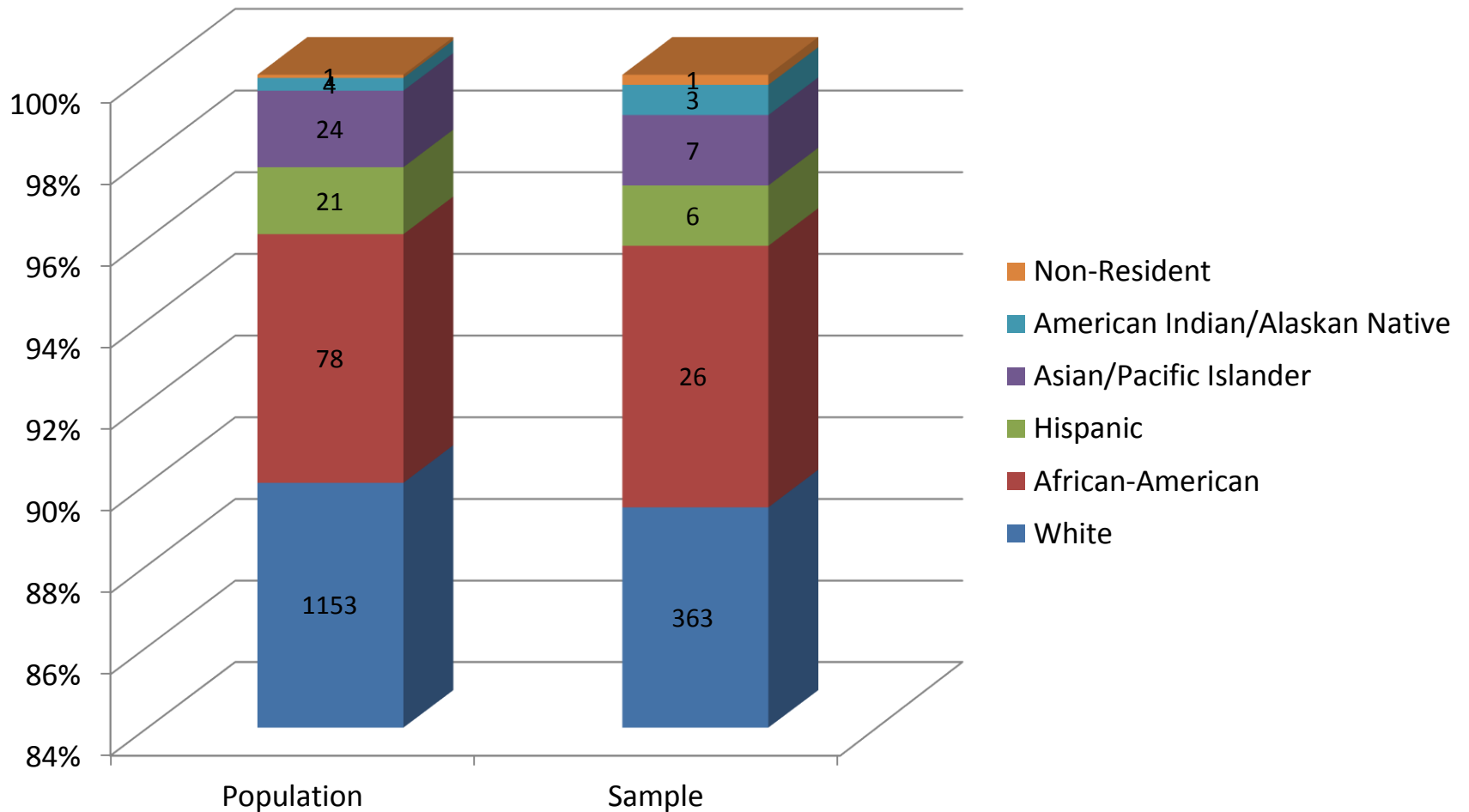
Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; $\chi^2 (7) = 20.265, p = .005$



Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Race; *ns*

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
White	1,153 (90%)	White	363 (89%)	31%
African-American	78 (6%)	African-American	26 (6%)	33%
Hispanic	21 (2%)	Hispanic	6 (2%)	29%
Asian/Pacific Islander	24 (2%)	Asian/Pacific Islander	7 (2%)	29%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	4 (0%)	American Indian/Alaskan Native	3 (1%)	75%
Non-Resident	1 (0%)	Non-Resident	1 (0%)	100%
Total	1,281 (100%)	Total	406 (100%)	32%

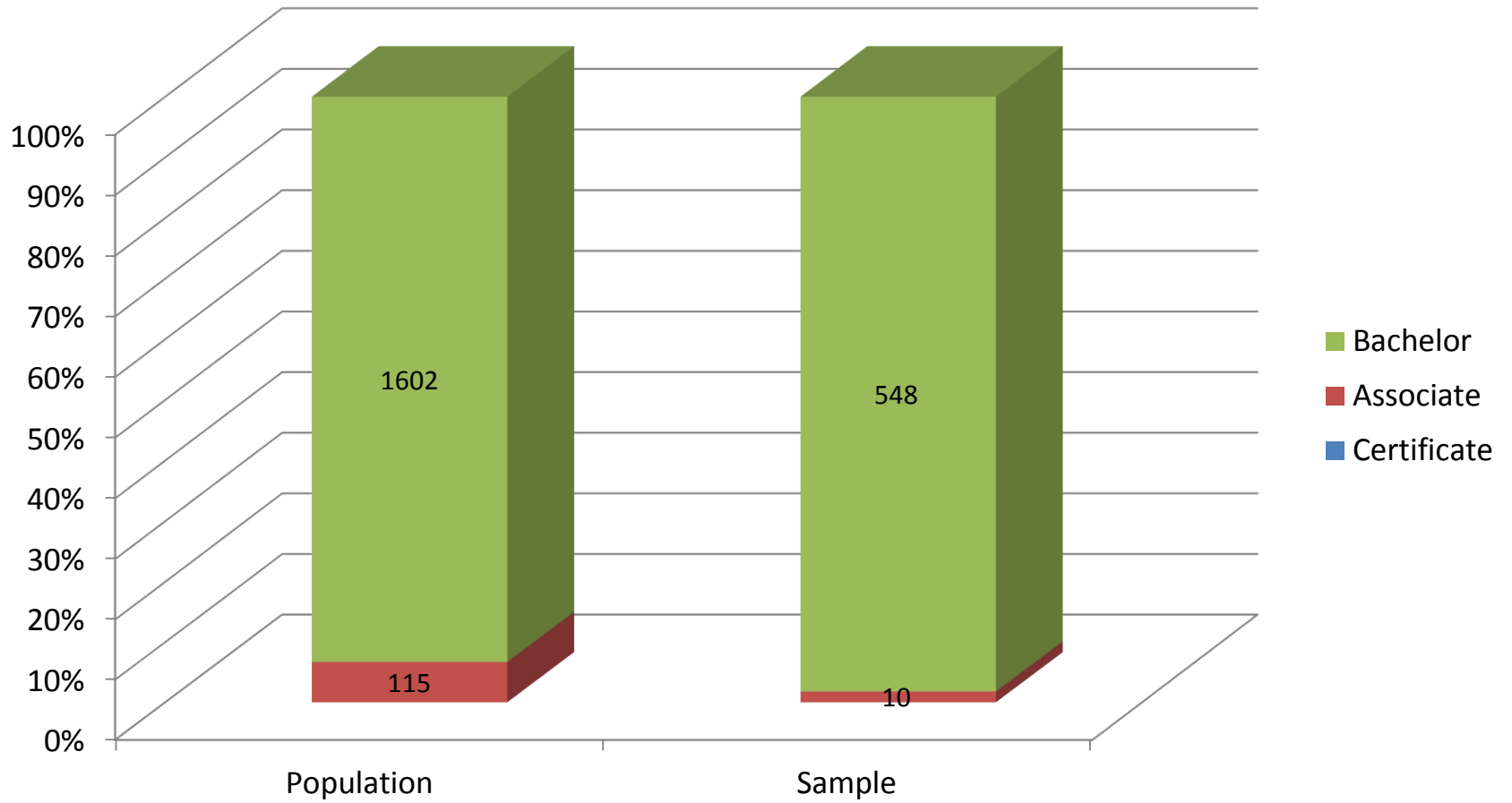
Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Race; *ns*



Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned; $X^2 (1) = 19.517, p < .001$.

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
Certificates	0 (0%)	Certificates	0 (0%)	N/A
Associate's Degree	115 (7%)	Associate's Degree	10 (2%)	9%
Bachelor's Degree	1,602 (93%)	Bachelor's Degree	548 (98%)	34%
Total	1,717 (100%)	Total	558 (100%)	32%

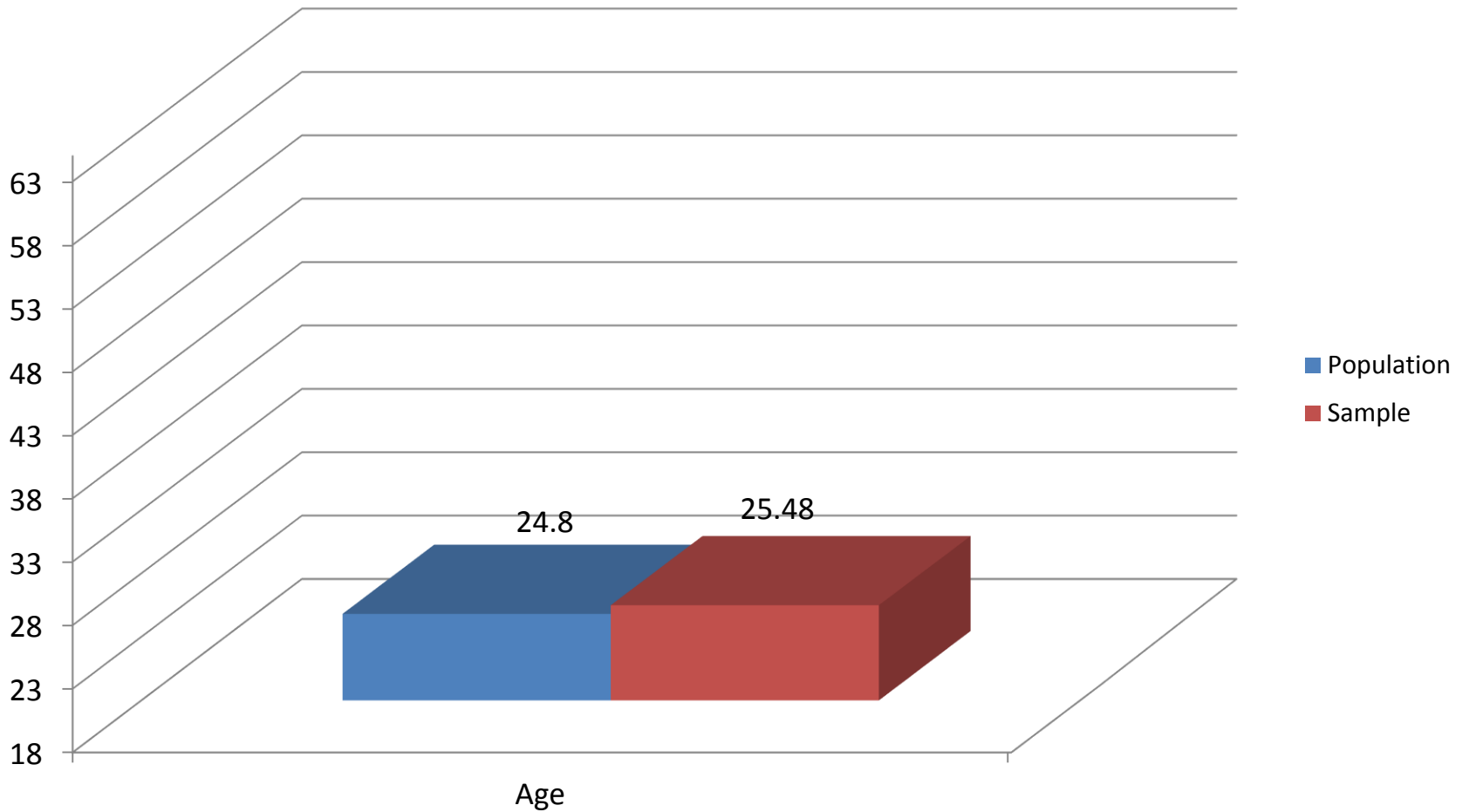
Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned; $\chi^2 (1) = 19.517, p < .001$.



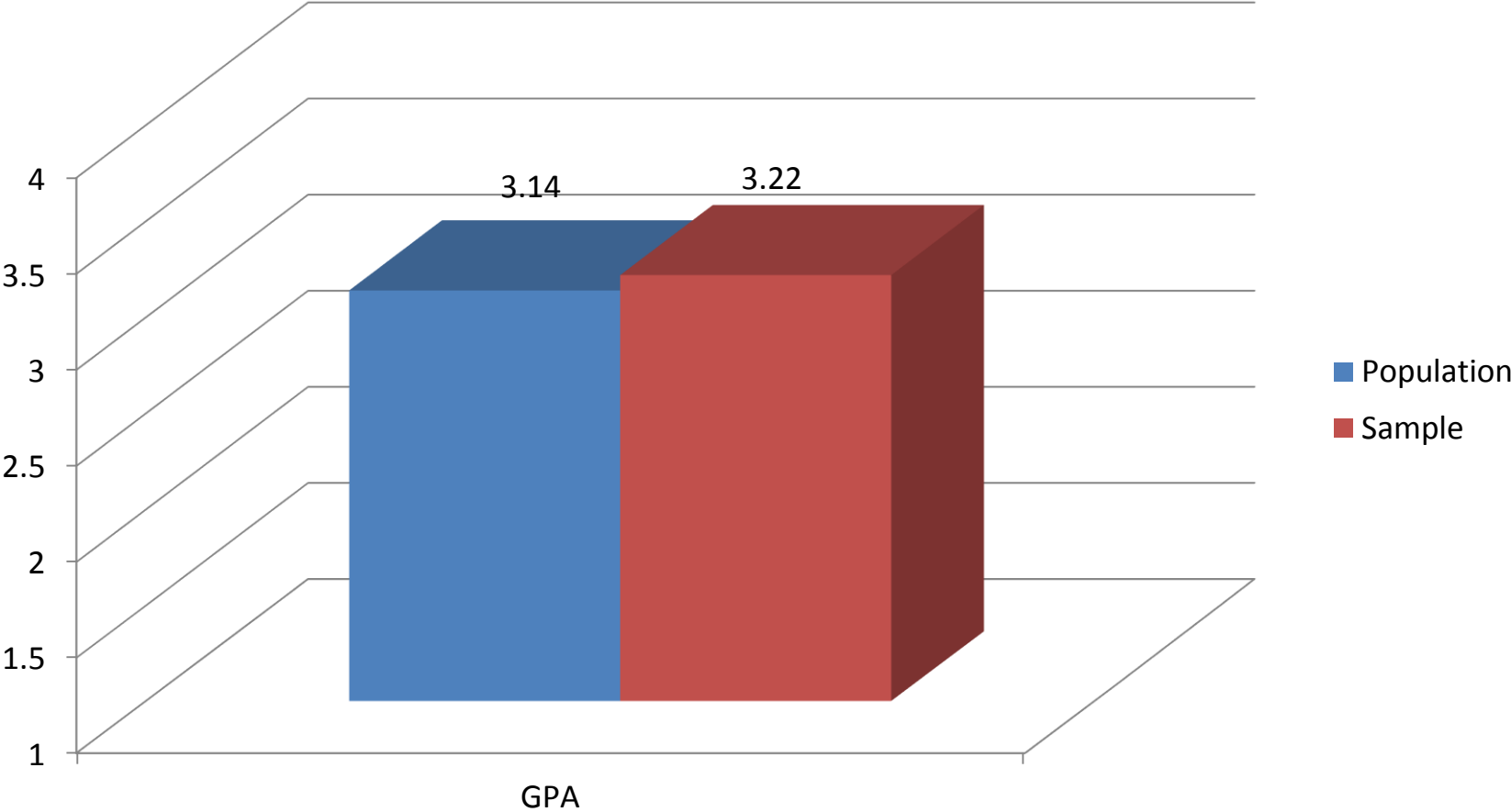
Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Age and GPA; Age is *ns*, but GPA is significant, $t(557) = 4.387, p < .001$. However, the effect size is small.

Population Category	Mean (<i>SD</i>)	Median	Range
Age ($n = 1,717$)	24.80 (6.05)	22	19 – 64
GPA ($n = 1,717$)	3.14 (0.46)	3.16	1.84 – 4.00
Sample Category			
Age ($n = 558$)	25.48 (7.18)	23	20 - 64
GPA ($n = 558$)	3.22 (0.44)	3.23	2.14 – 4.00

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

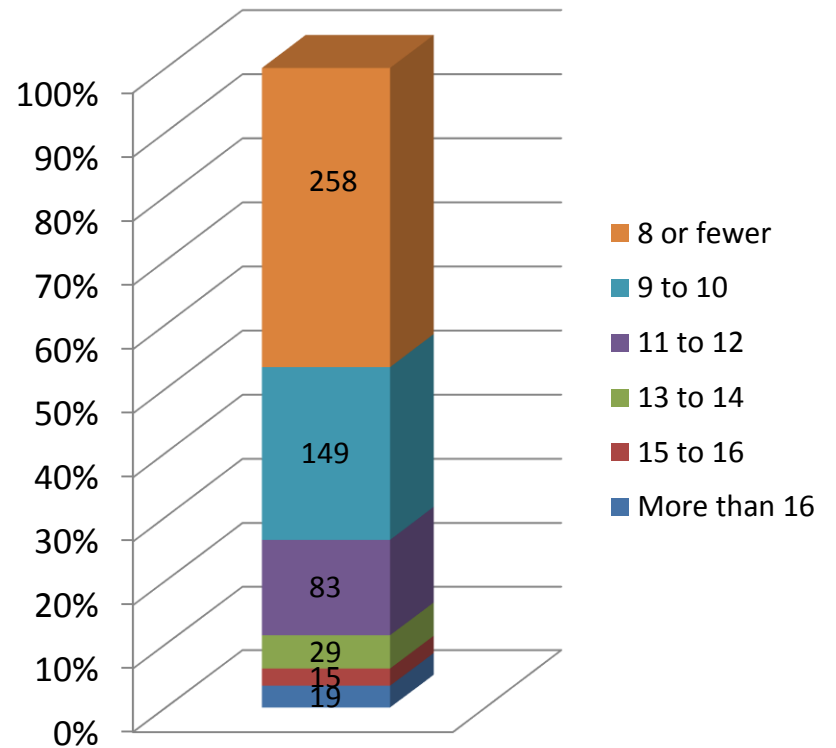


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: GPA; GPA is significant, $t(557) = 4.387$, $p < .001$. However, the effect size is small.



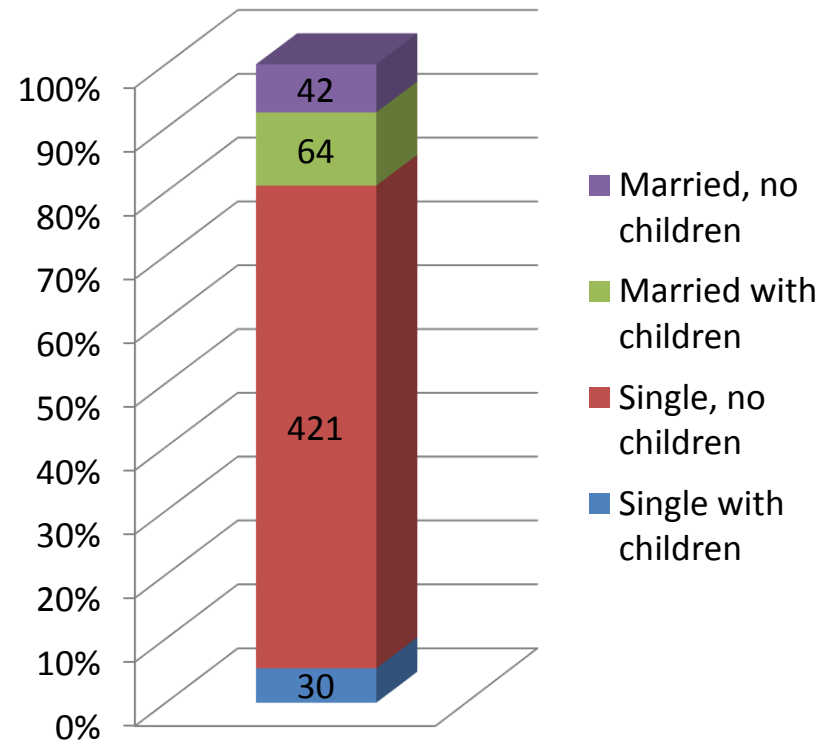
of Semesters to Complete Degree

Category	<i>N</i>
8 or fewer	258
9 – 10	149
11 – 12	83
13 – 14	29
15 – 16	15
More than 16	19
Total	553



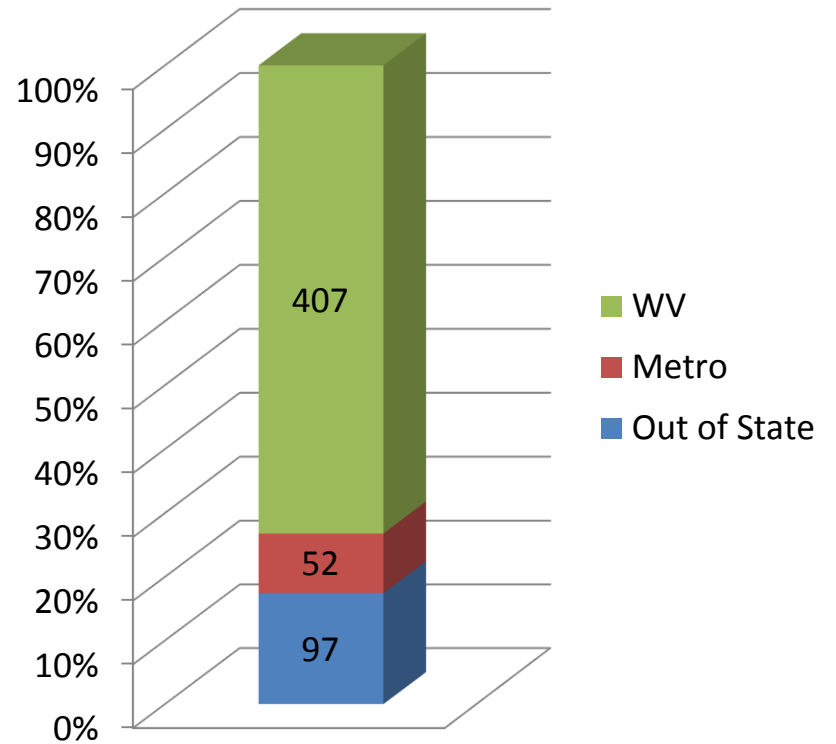
Family Status

Category	<i>N</i>
Married, no children	42
Married with children	64
Single, no children	421
Single with children	30
Total	557



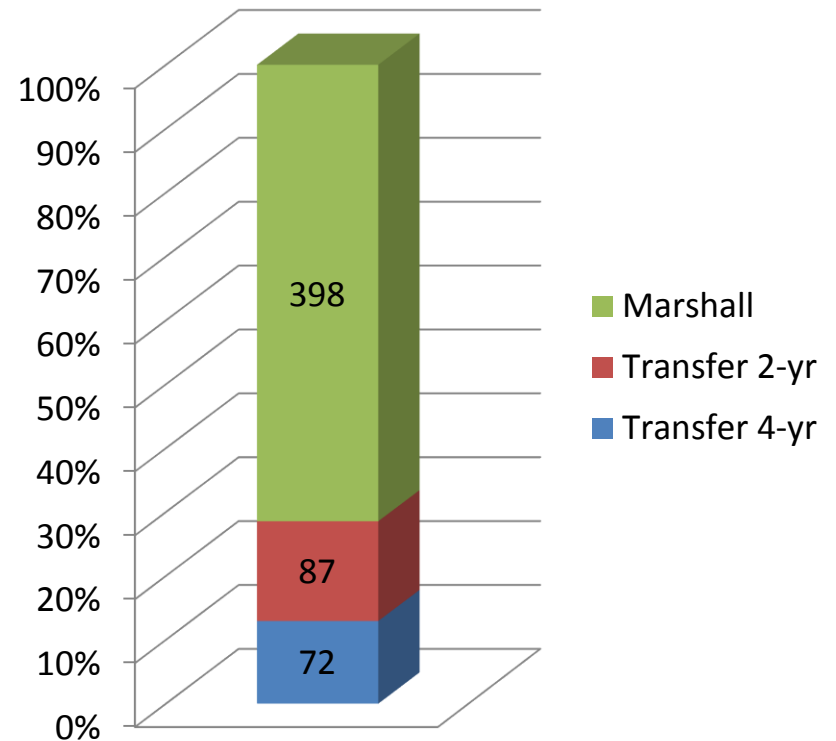
Residence at time of admission

Category	<i>n</i>
West Virginia	407
Metro	52
Out of State	97
Total	556



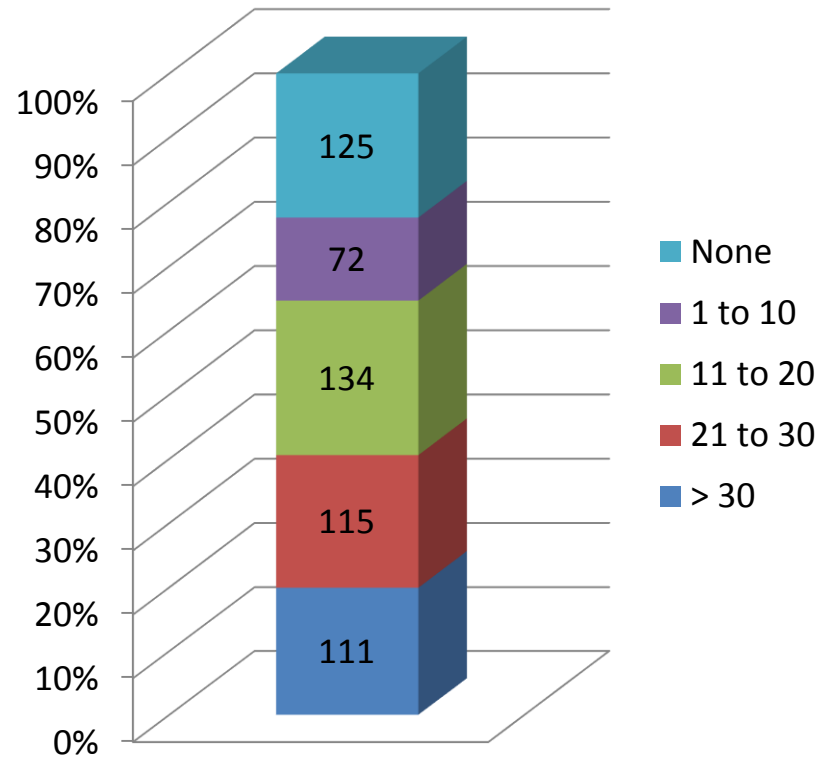
While pursuing your degree, did you

Category	<i>n</i>
Originally Enroll and Stay at Marshall?	398
Transfer from a 2-Year institution?	87
Transfer from another 4-year institution?	72
Total	557



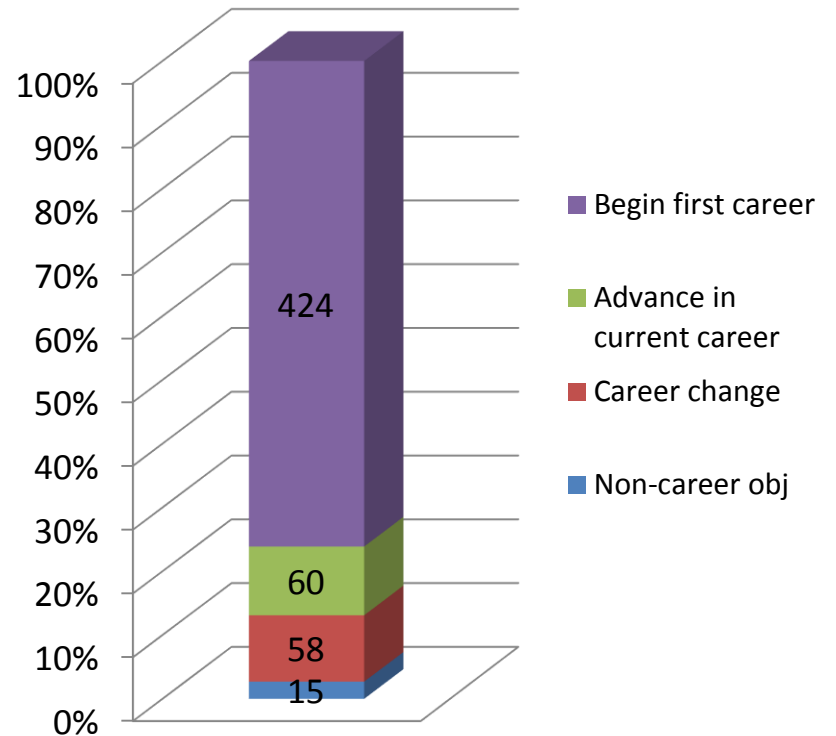
During the last year of your studies, how many hours a week did you work while attending classes?

Category	<i>n</i>
None	125
1 - 10	72
11 - 20	134
21 - 30	115
More than 30	111
Total	557



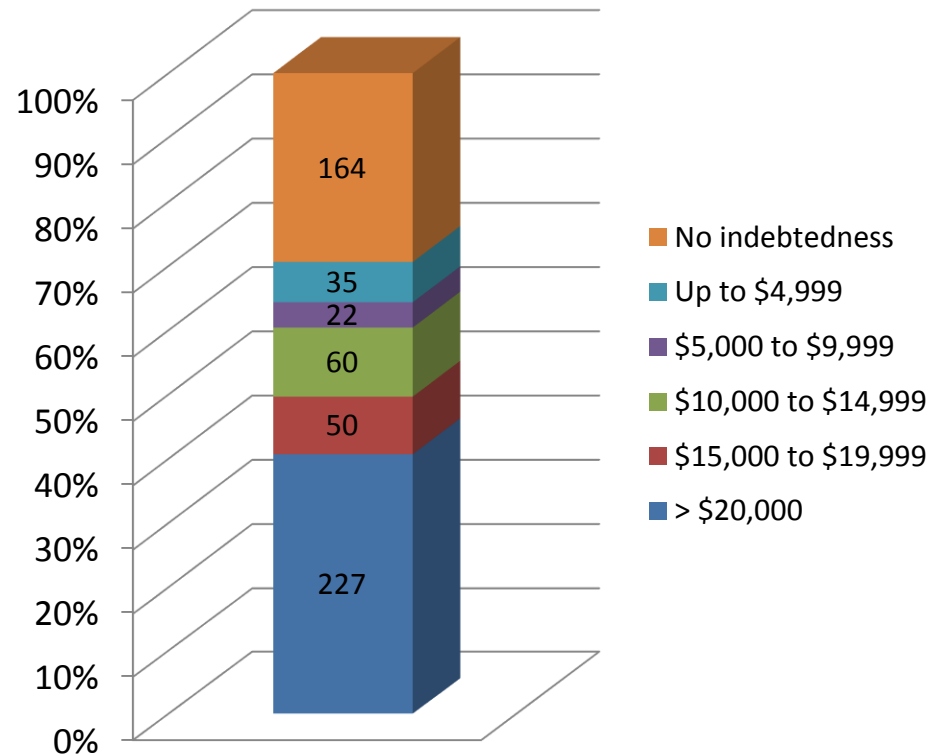
Which of the following best describes your educational objective while attending Marshall University.

Category	<i>n</i>
Begin first career	424
Advance in current career	60
Career Change	58
Non-Career Objective	15
Total	557



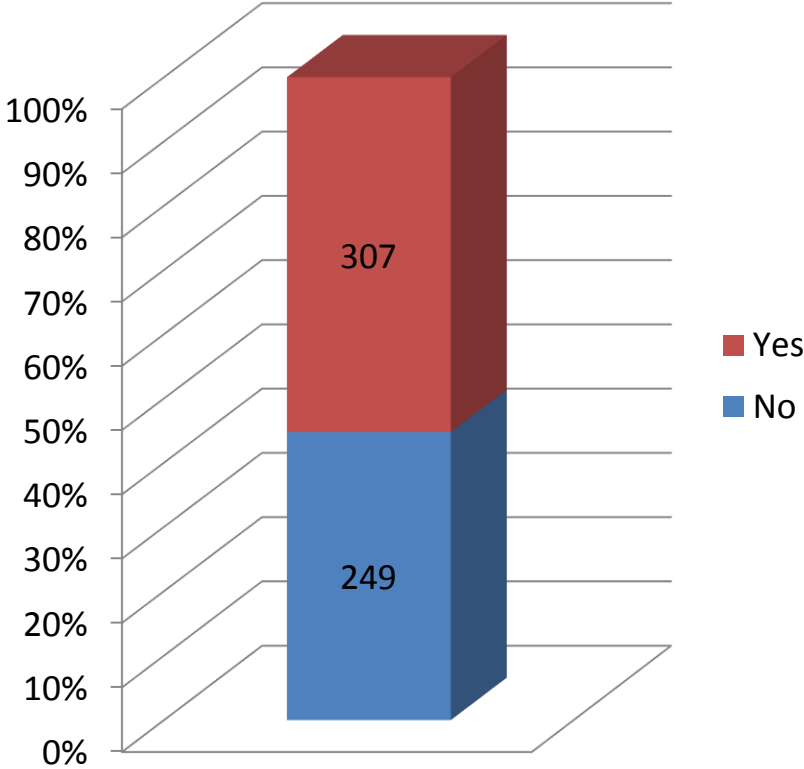
Upon graduation, what was the dollar amount of your educational loan indebtedness?

Category	<i>n</i>
No indebtedness	164
Up to \$4,999	35
\$5,000 - \$9,999	22
\$10,000 - \$14,999	60
\$15,000 - \$19,999	50
> \$20,000	227
Total	558



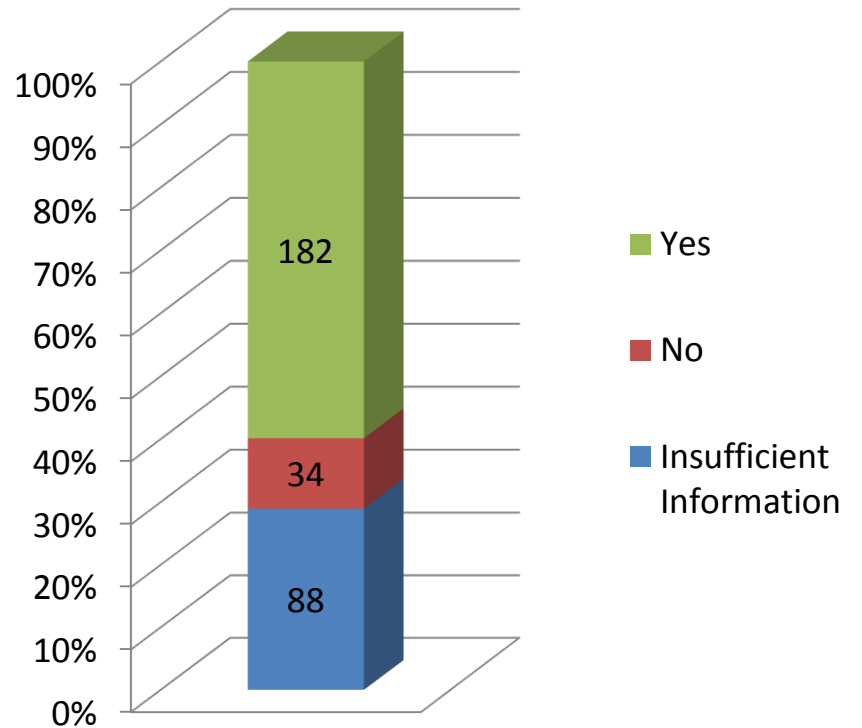
Did you take part in an internship, practicum or other structured work experience related to your major?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	307
No	249
Total	556



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

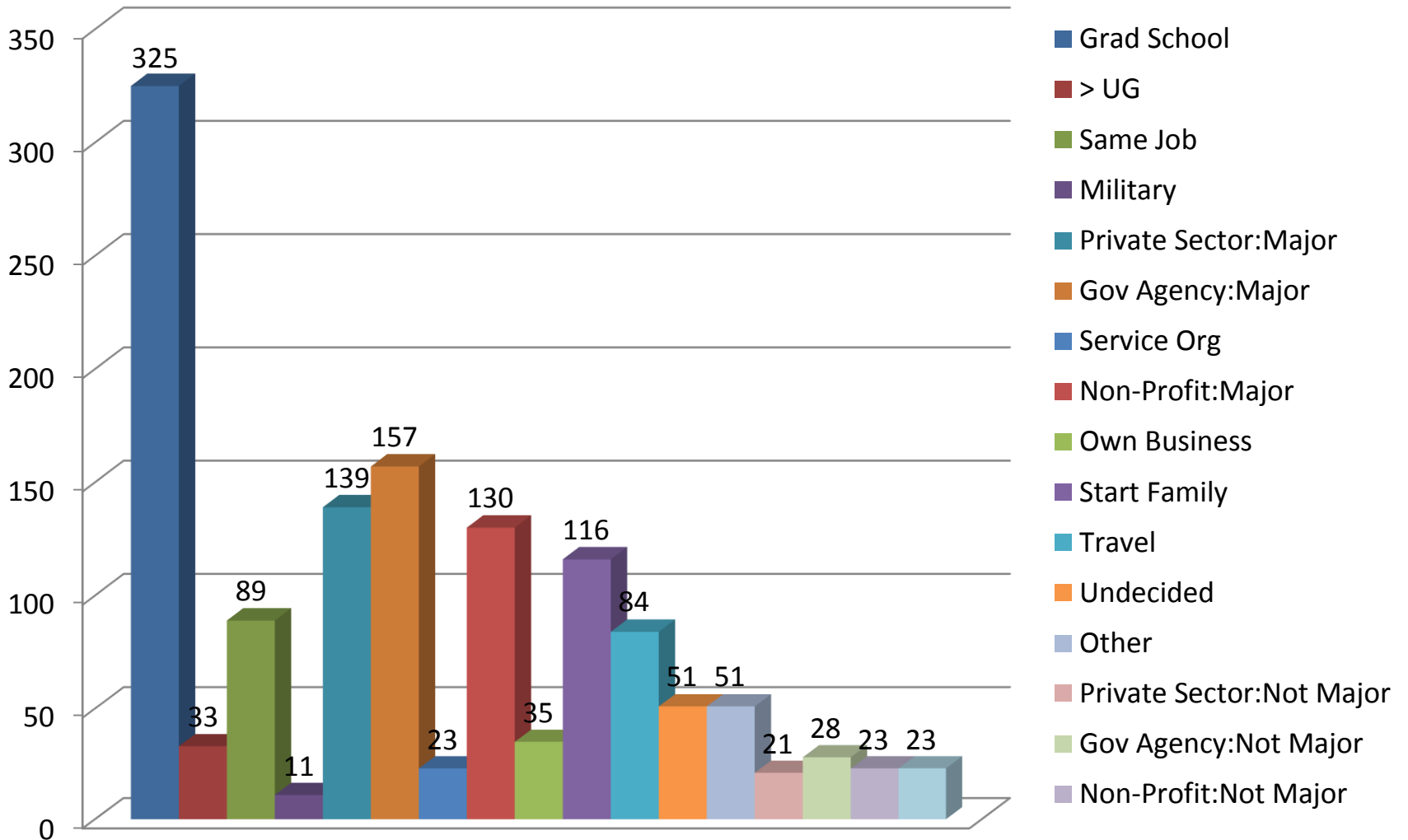
Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	182
No	34
Insufficient Information to answer question	88
Total	304



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

Category	<i>n</i>
Attend Graduate School	325
Complete additional undergraduate coursework	33
Continue to work at the same job I have at present	89
Enter the military	11
Work for a private sector company or corporation in job related to college major	139
Work for a local, state, or federal agency in job related to college major	157
Work for a volunteer or service organization, e.g. Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, City Year, etc.	23
Work for a non-profit organization, e.g. hospital, university, public school, etc. in job related to college major	130
Begin my own business	35
Start or raise a family	116
Take time off (to travel, etc.)	84
Undecided or no plans	51
Other	21
Work for a private sector company or corporation in job NOT related to college major	28
Work for a local, state, or federal agency in job NOT related to college major	23
Work for a non-profit organization, e.g. hospital, university, public school, etc. in job NOT related to college major	23

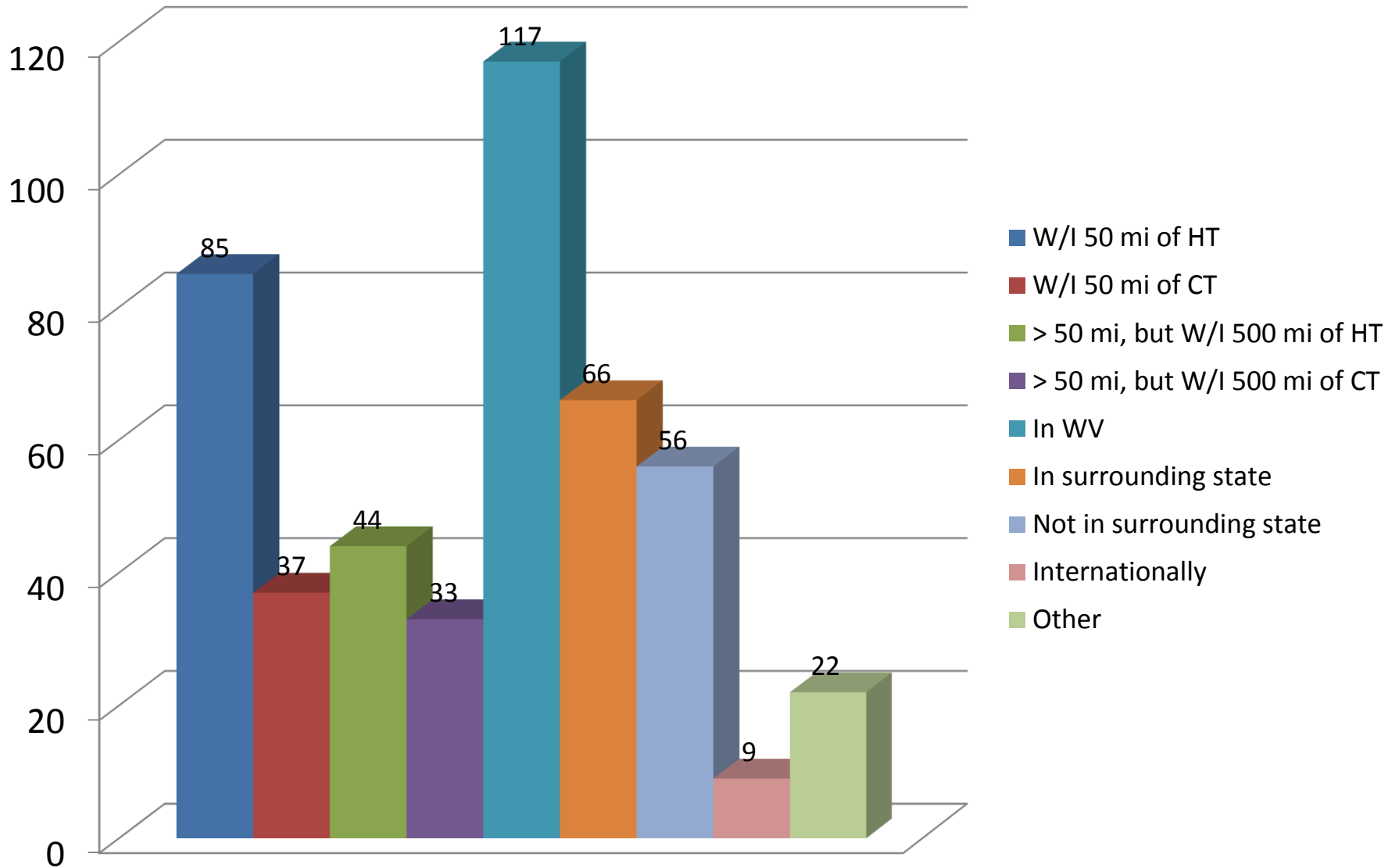
When I graduate from Marshall University I plan to (check all that apply)



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

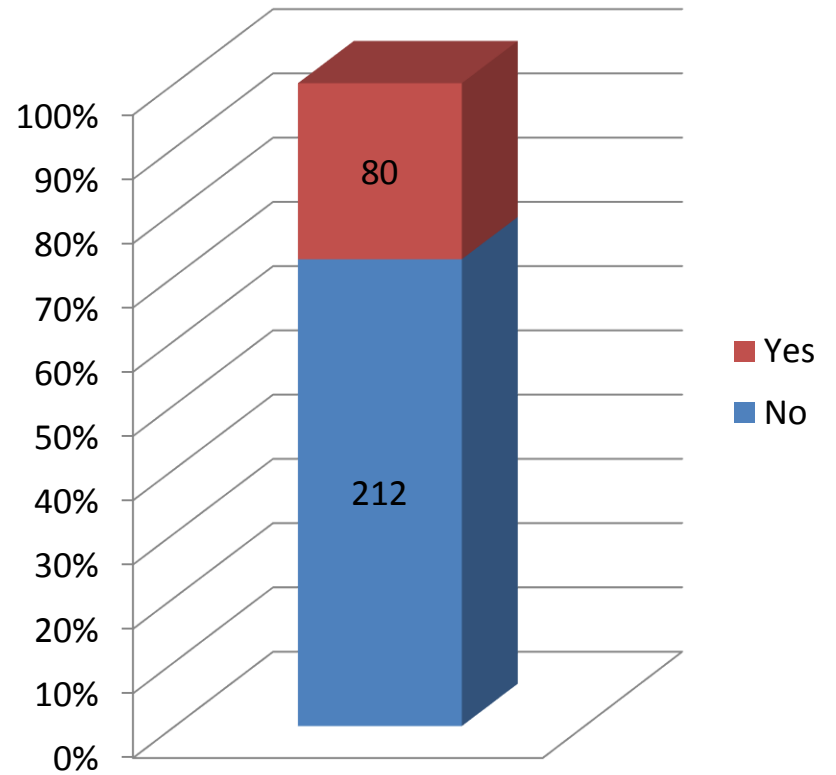
Category	<i>n</i>
Within 50 miles of my college town	85
Within 50 miles of my home town	37
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of my college town	44
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of my home town	33
In WV	117
In at least one of WV's neighboring states (OH, KY, VA, MD, PA)	66
Within the US, but outside the above boundaries	56
Internationally	9
Other	22

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	80
No	212
Total	292



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

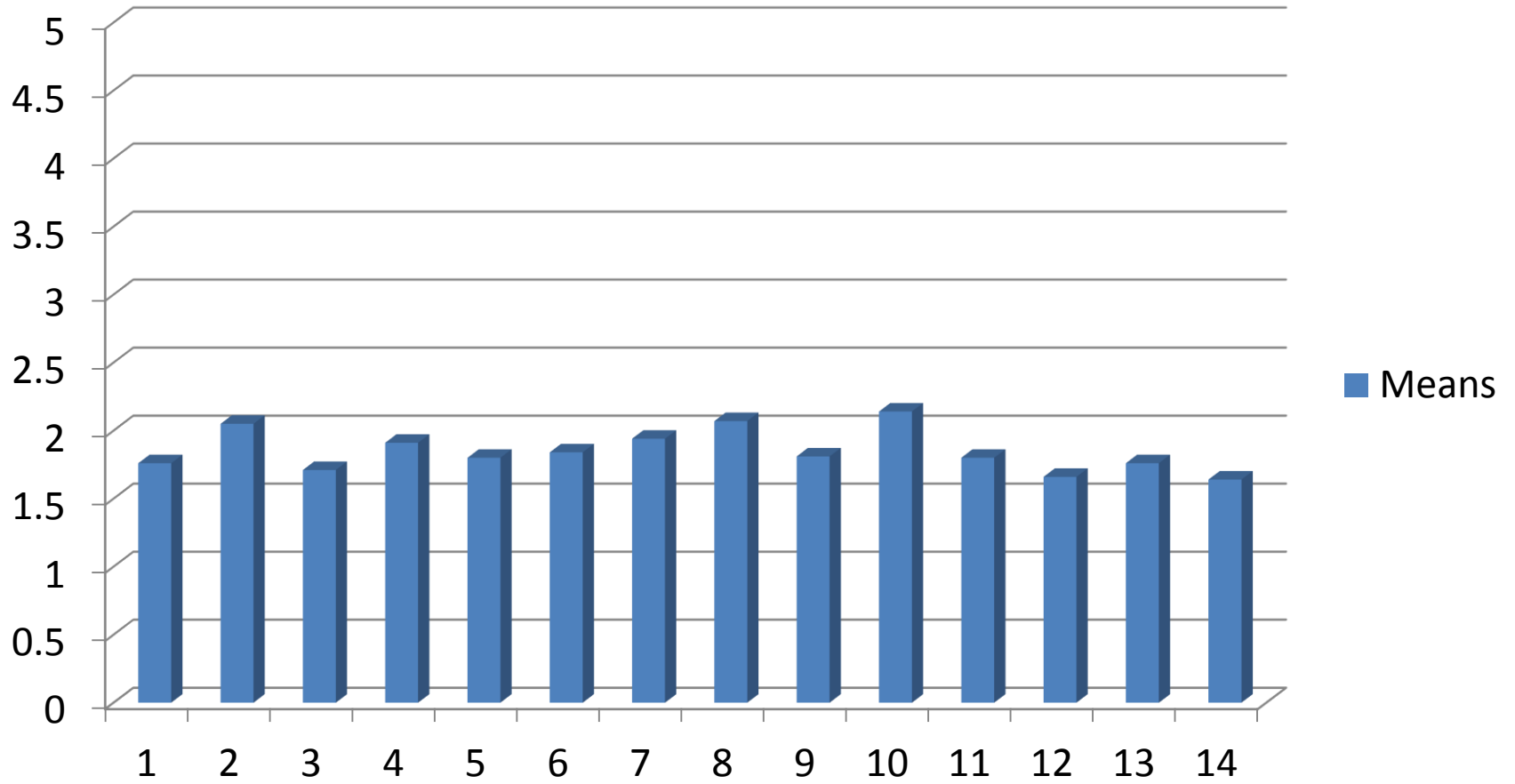
School	<i>n</i>	School	<i>n</i>
Brandeis University	1	UC Berkeley (PhD in Microbiology)	1
Chatham University	1	University of Charleston	1
JMU	1	University of Cincinnati	1
Liberty University	1	University of Dayton	1
Long Island University: Post	1	University of Delaware	1
Marshall University	36	West Virginia University	4
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine	4	West Virginia University School of Pharmacy	1
Marymount University	1	Western Kentucky University	1
North Carolina State University	2		
Ohio University	2		
Princeton University	2		
Rutgers (or New Jersey City University)	1		
The Boston Conservatory	1		
The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary	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.	1.76	0.742	547
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems.	2.05	0.892	547
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	1.71	0.718	547
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	1.91	0.918	548
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	1.80	0.778	547
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	1.84	0.841	547
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	1.94	0.902	547
8. Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	2.07	0.999	544
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	0.844	547
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	2.14	1.070	547
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	1.80	0.903	545
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	1.66	0.755	545
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	1.76	0.745	543
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	1.64	0.723	543

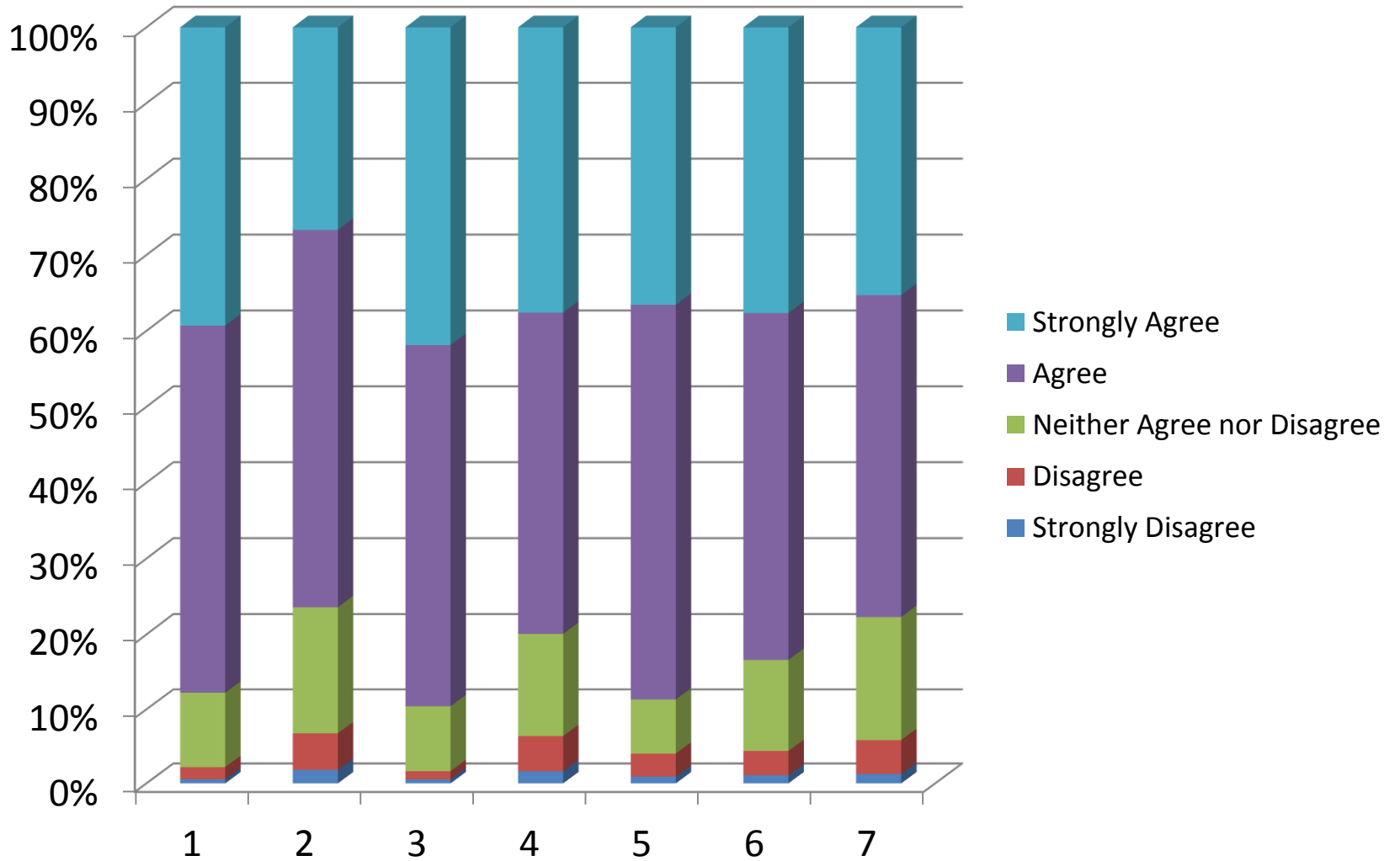
Mean Agreement with Question 16 (1 – 14)



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

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total n
1. I developed the ability to write effectively.	215	265	55	9	3	547
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems..	146	272	92	27	10	547
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	229	261	48	6	3	547
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	206	232	75	26	9	548
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	200	285	40	17	5	547
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	206	250	67	18	6	547
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	193	232	90	25	7	547

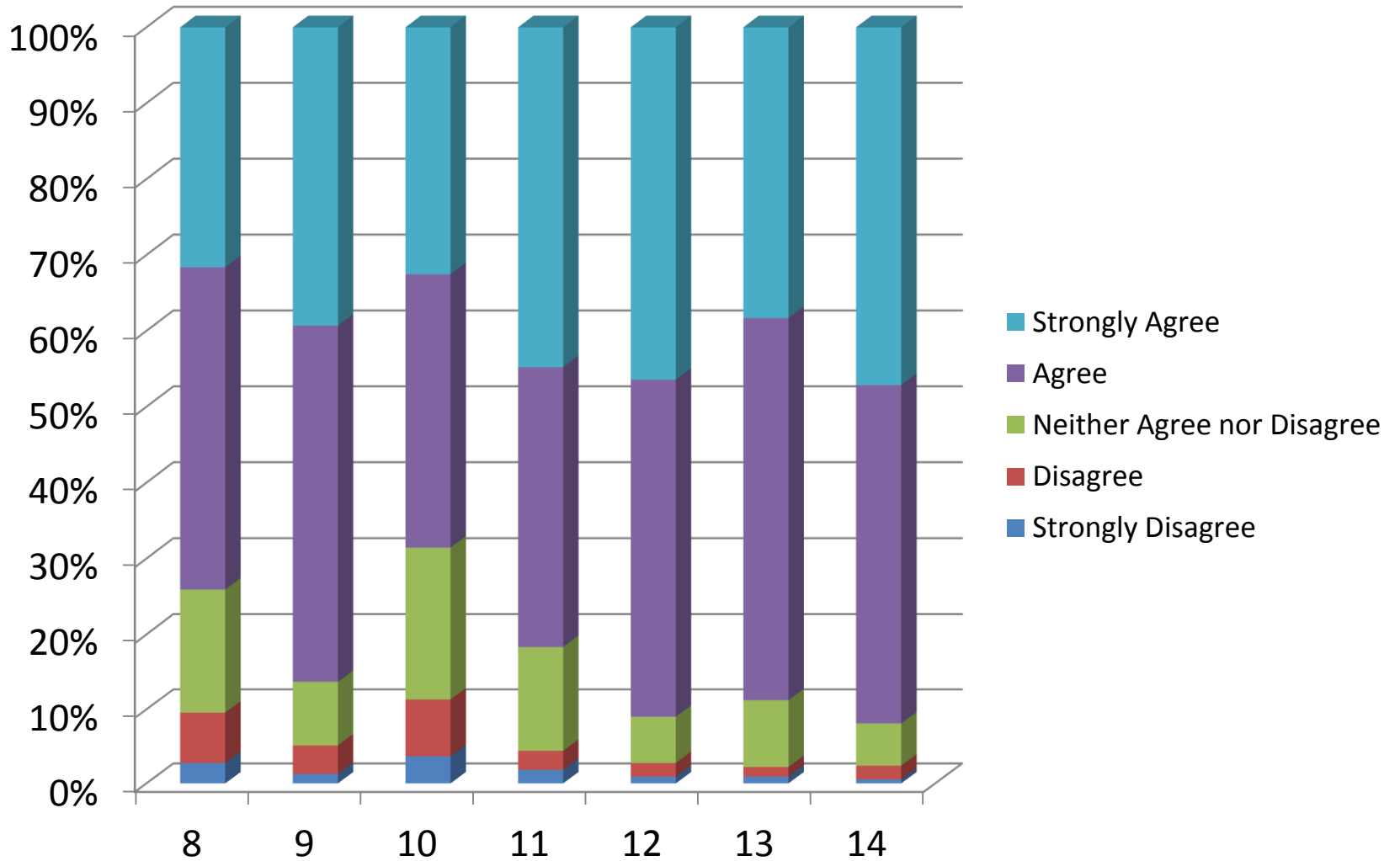
Frequencies for Question 16 (1 – 7)



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.	172	231	89	37	15	544
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.	215	257	47	21	7	547
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	178	197	110	42	20	547
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	244	201	76	14	10	545
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	253	243	34	10	5	545
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	208	274	49	7	5	543
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	256	243	31	10	3	543

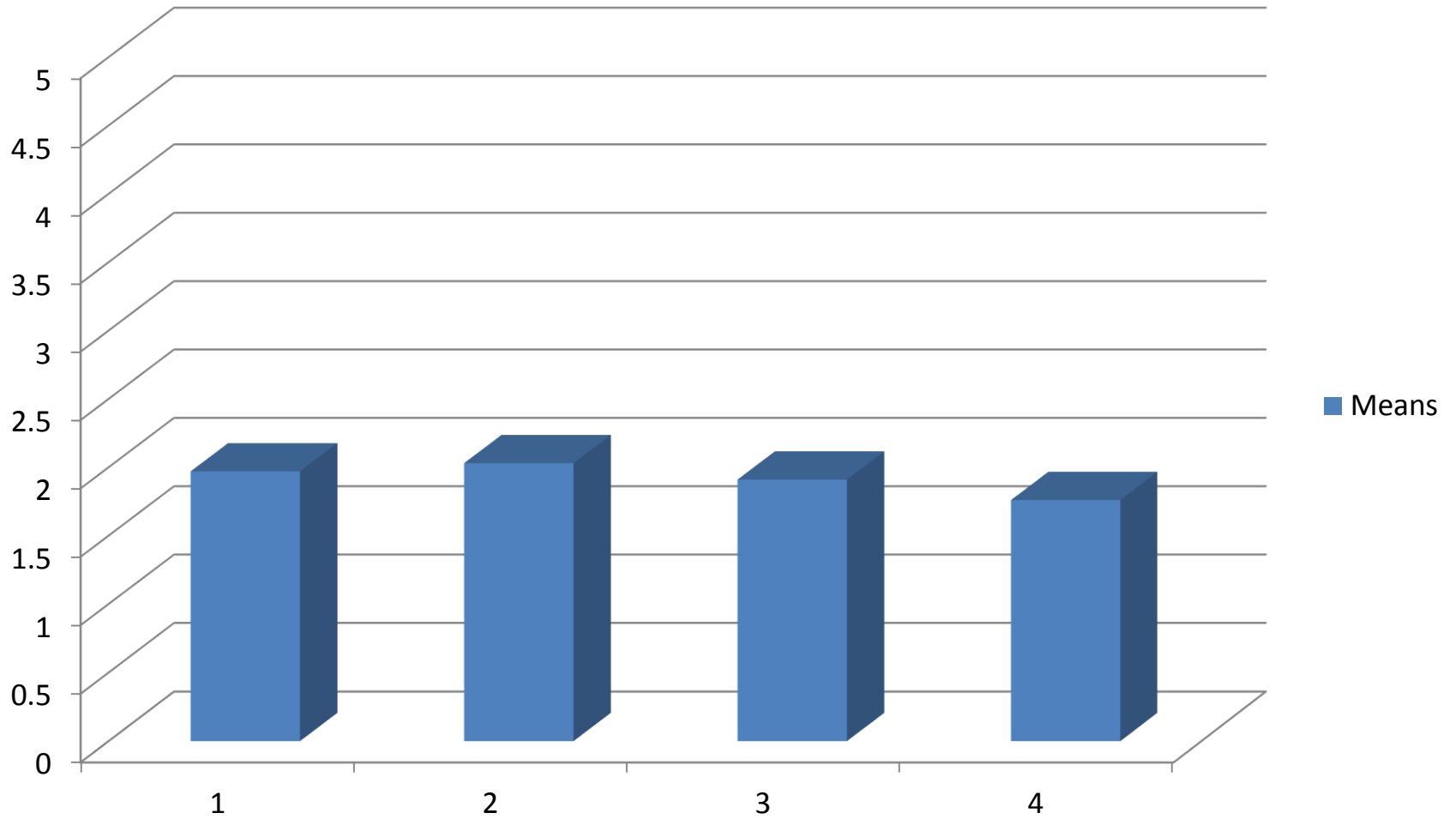
Frequencies for Question 16 (8 – 14)



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.	1.97	0.949	544
2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.	2.03	1.017	544
3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.	1.91	1.023	544
4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.	1.76	0.918	543

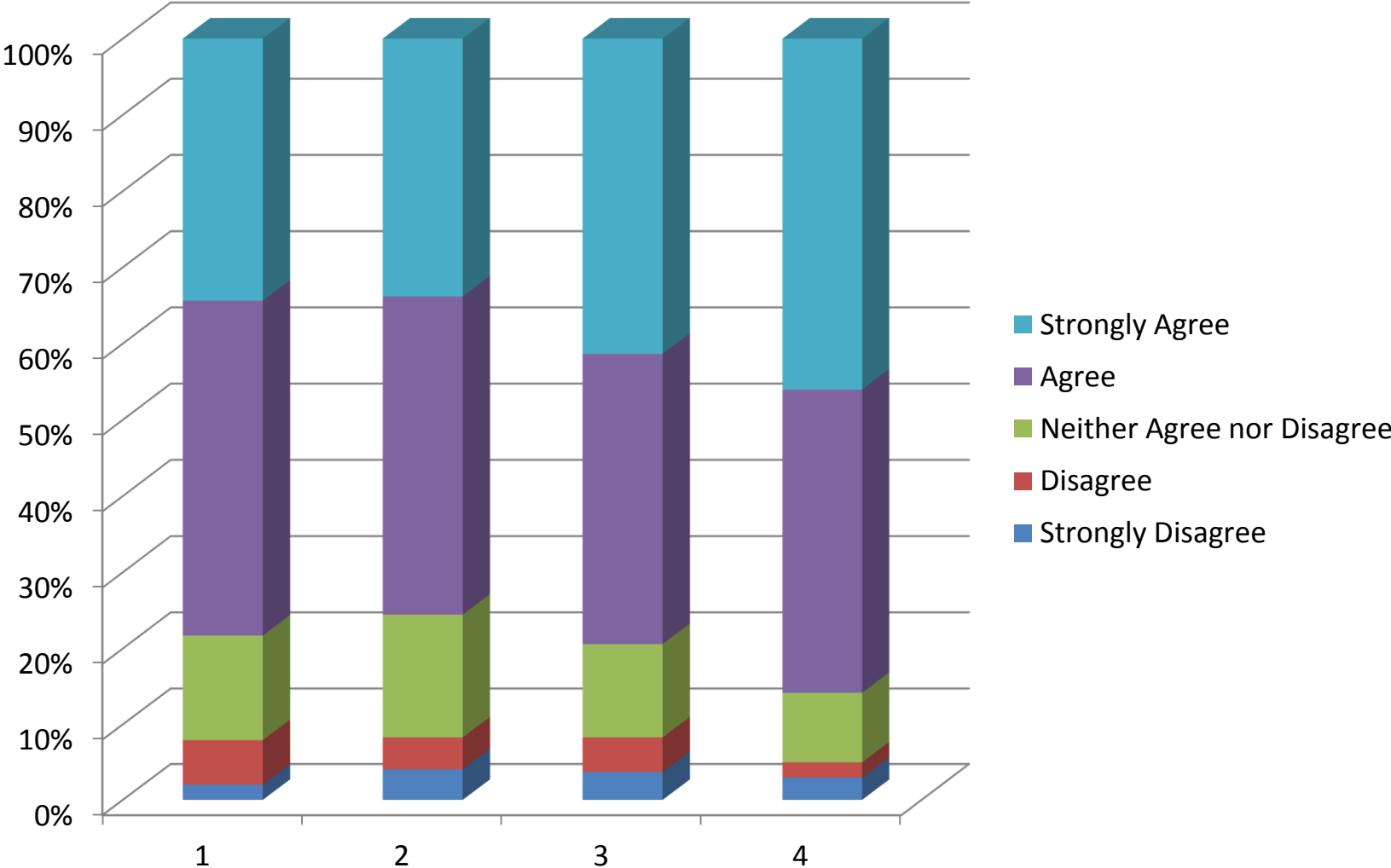
Mean Agreement with Question 17 (1 – 4)



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.	187	239	75	32	11	544
2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.	184	227	88	23	22	544
3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.	225	207	67	25	20	544
4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.	250	216	50	11	16	543

Frequencies for Question 17 (1 - 4)

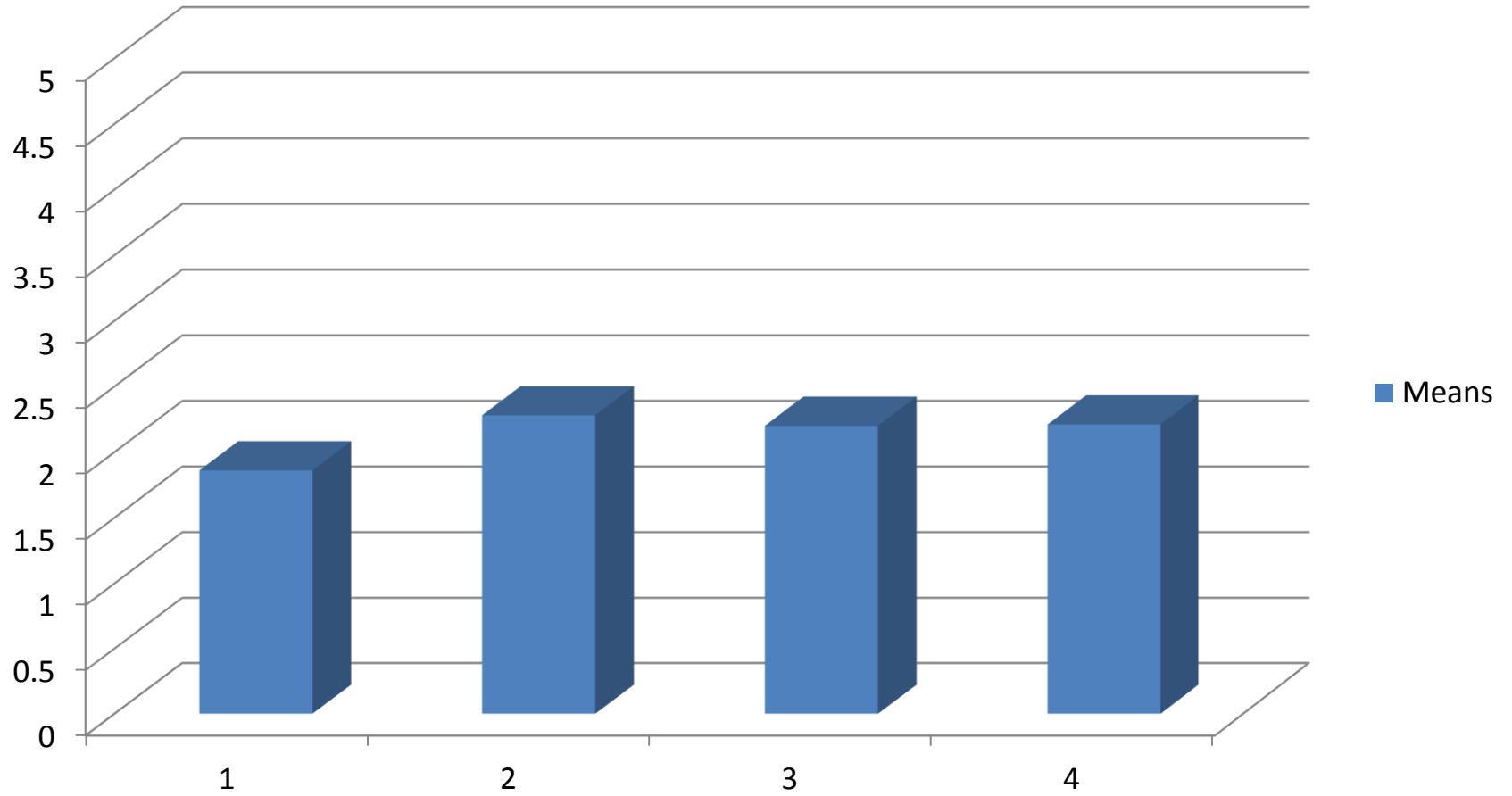


- The following tables and graphs give mean responses according to the following scale:
 - 1 = Very Satisfied
 - 2 = Satisfied
 - 3 = Neutral
 - 4 = Dissatisfied
 - 5 = Very Dissatisfied

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

Question	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>n</i>
1. Teaching	1.86	0.876	547
2. Advising	2.28	1.179	547
3. Academic Support Services	2.20	0.955	546
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	2.21	0.961	545

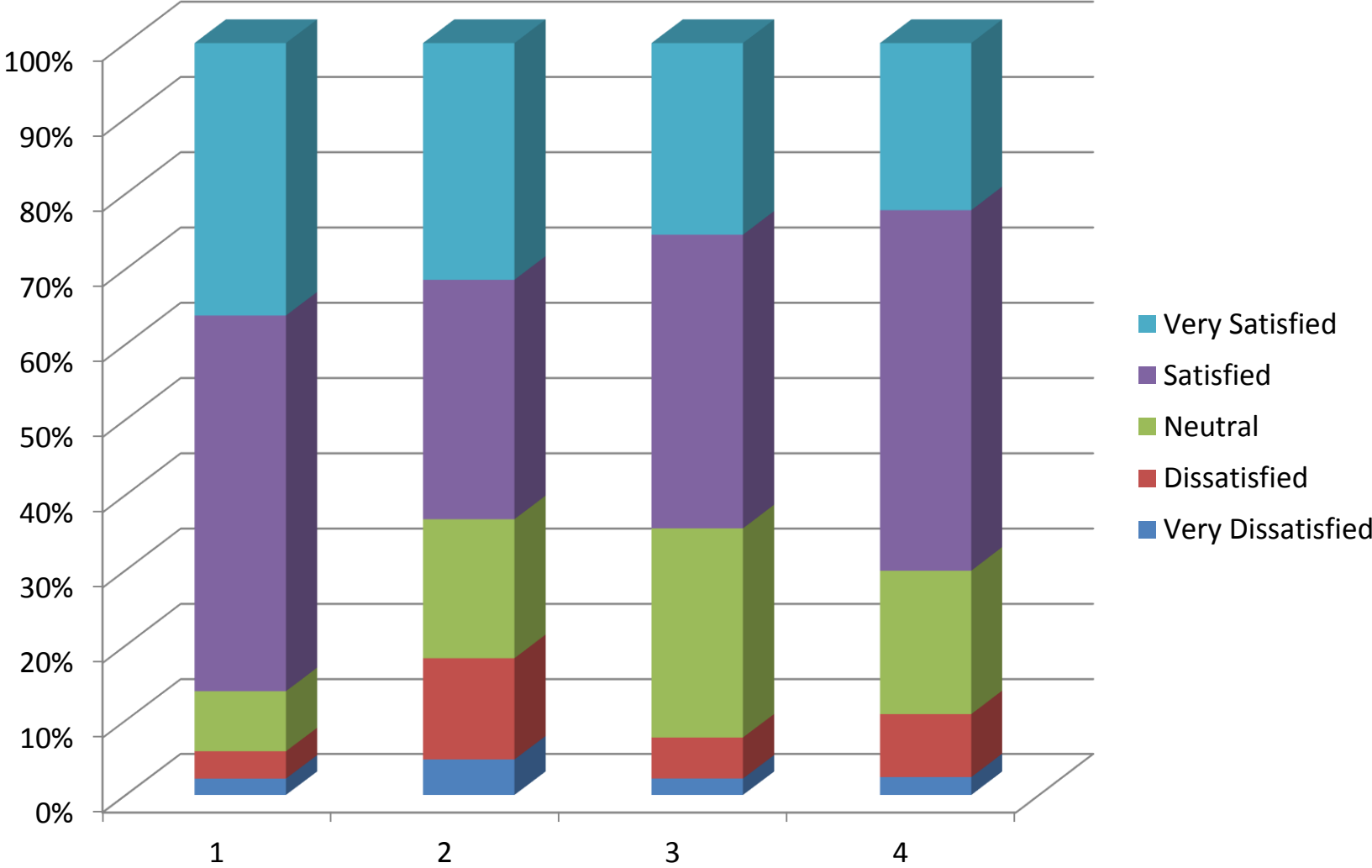
Mean Satisfaction to Question 18 (1 – 4)



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

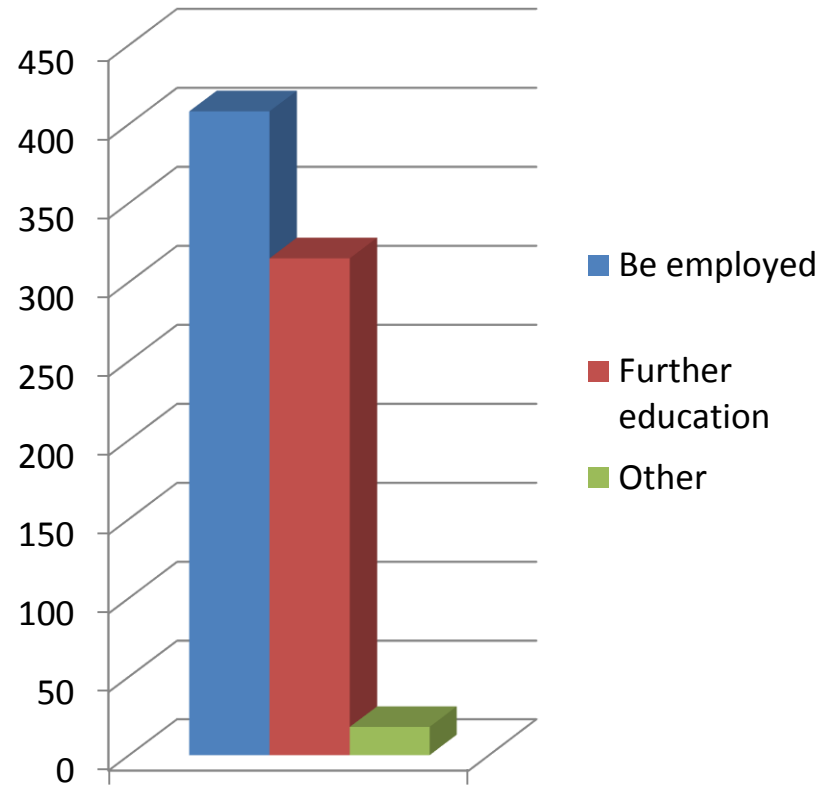
Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total n
1. Teaching	198	273	44	20	12	547
2. Advising	172	174	101	74	26	547
3. Academic Support Services	139	213	152	30	12	546
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	121	261	104	46	13	545

Frequencies for Question 18 (1 - 4)



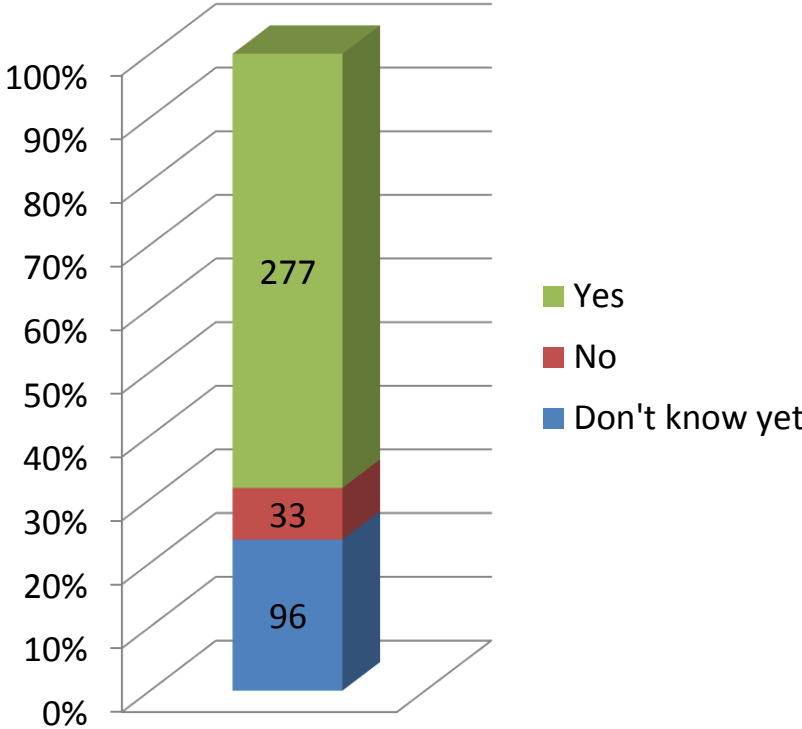
When I graduate, I plan to (check all that apply)

Category	<i>n</i>
Be employed	408
Further my education	315
Other (specific jobs were given here)	18



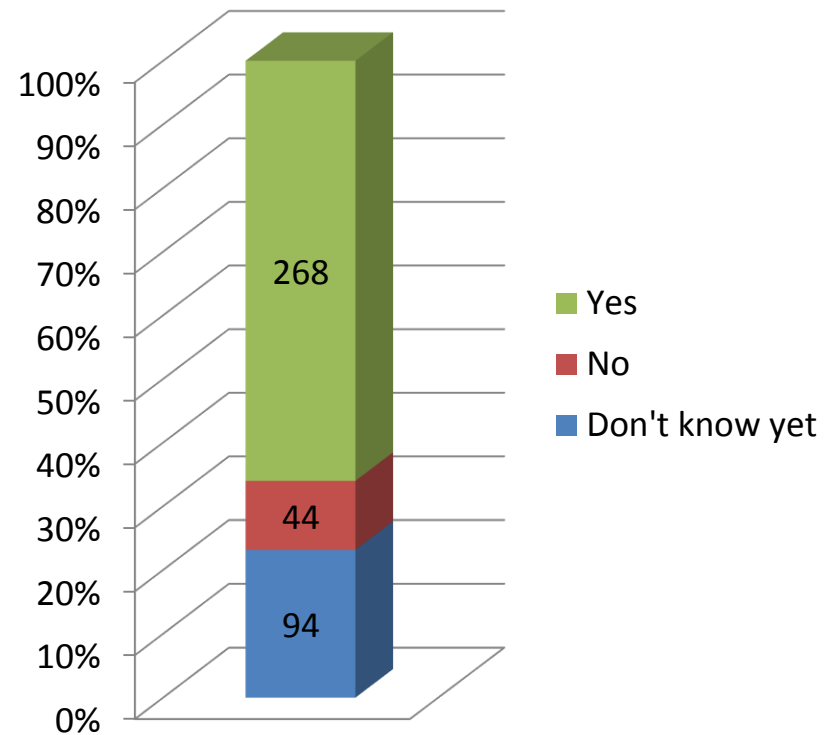
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be in the career path you have chosen?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	277
No	33
Don't Know Yet	96
Total	406



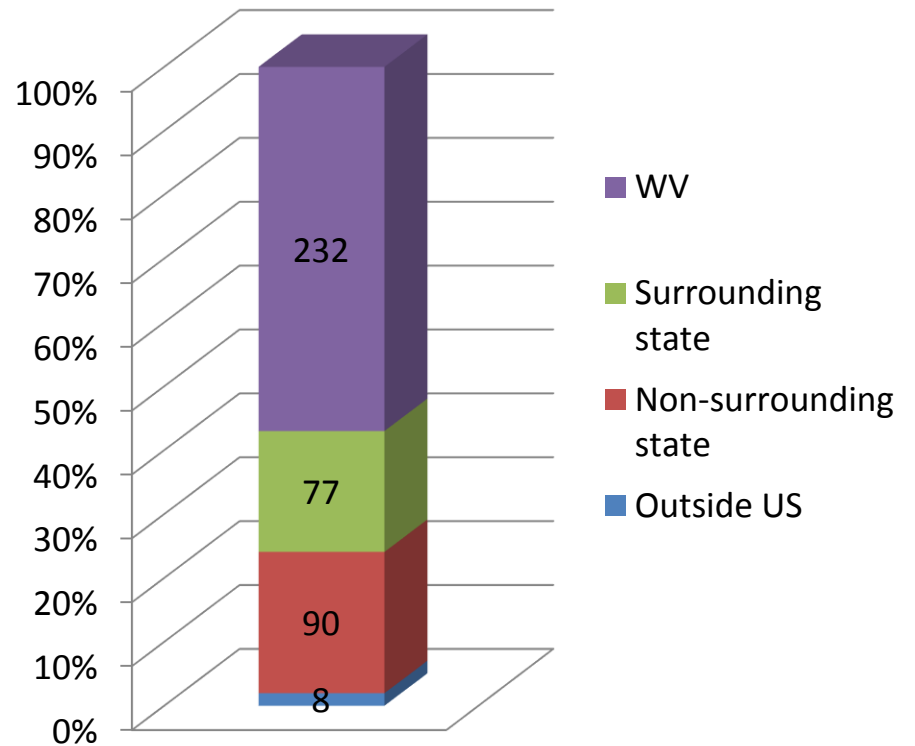
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be in your major field?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	268
No	44
Don't Know Yet	94
Total	406



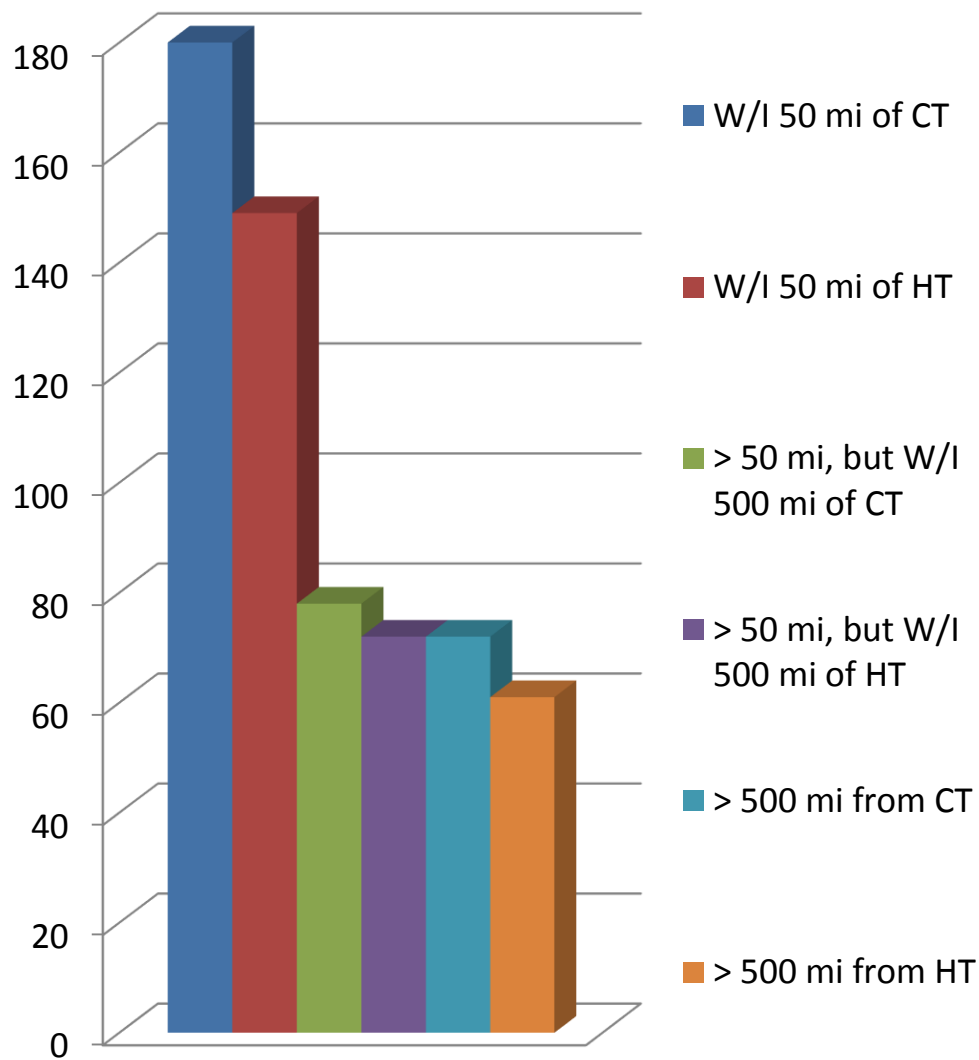
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be

Category	<i>n</i>
In WV?	232
In KY, OH, PA, VA, or MD?	77
In a state other than one mentioned above?	90
In a country other than the US?	8
Total	407



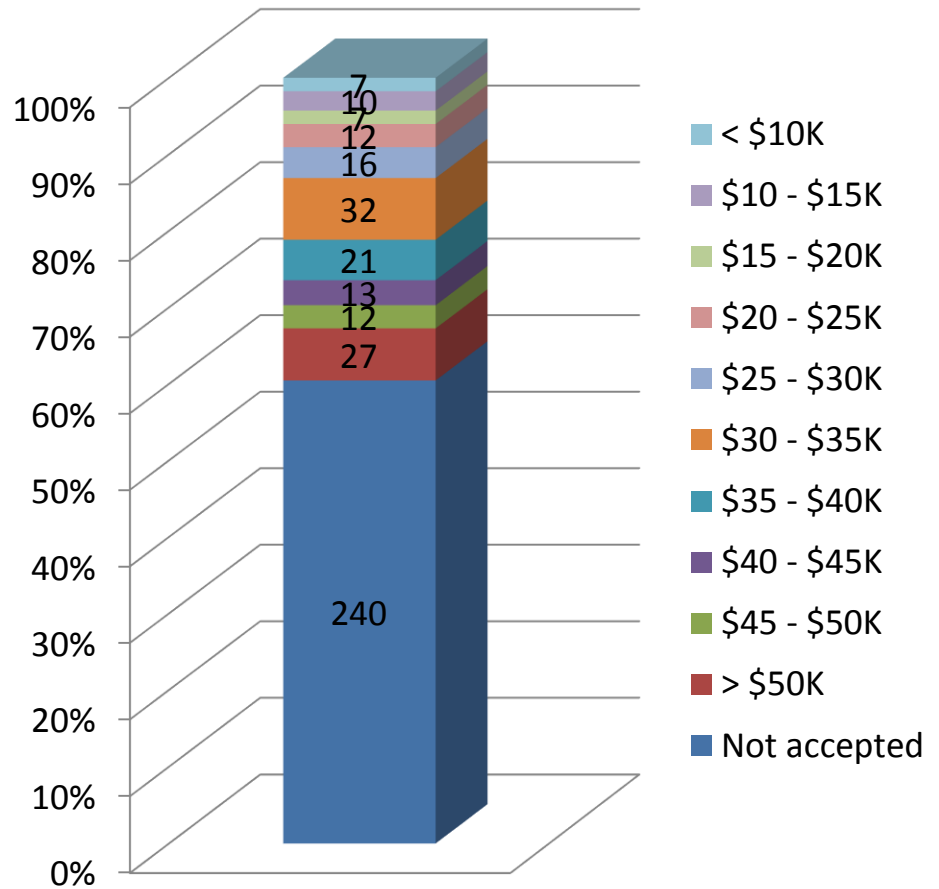
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be (choose all that apply):

Category	<i>n</i>
Within 50 miles of your college town?	180
Within 50 miles of your home town?	149
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of your college town?	78
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of your home town?	72
Over 500 miles from your college town	72
Over 500 miles from your home town	61



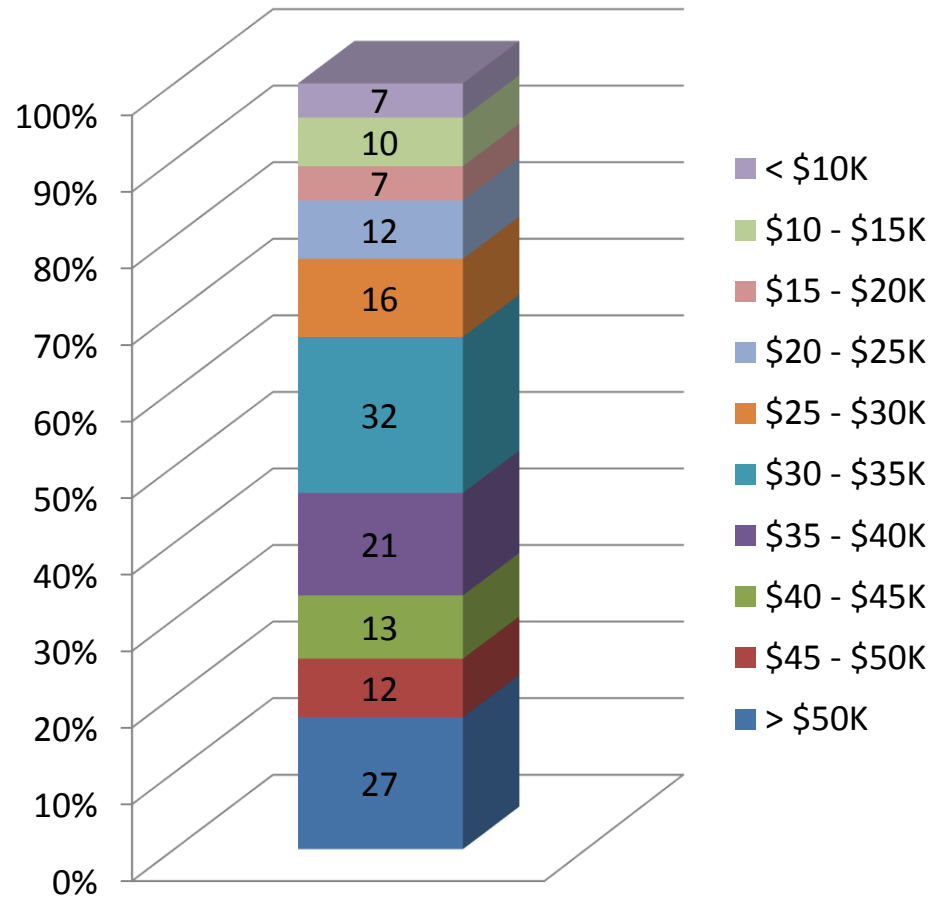
If you have accepted employment, what is your starting salary?

Category	<i>n</i>
\$10,000 or less	7
\$10,001 - \$15,000	10
\$15,001 - \$20,000	7
\$20,001 - \$25,000	12
\$25,001 - \$30,000	16
\$30,001 - \$35,000	32
\$35,001 - \$40,000	21
\$40,001 - \$45,000	13
\$45,001 - \$50,000	12
More than \$50,000	27
I have not yet accepted employment	240
Total	397



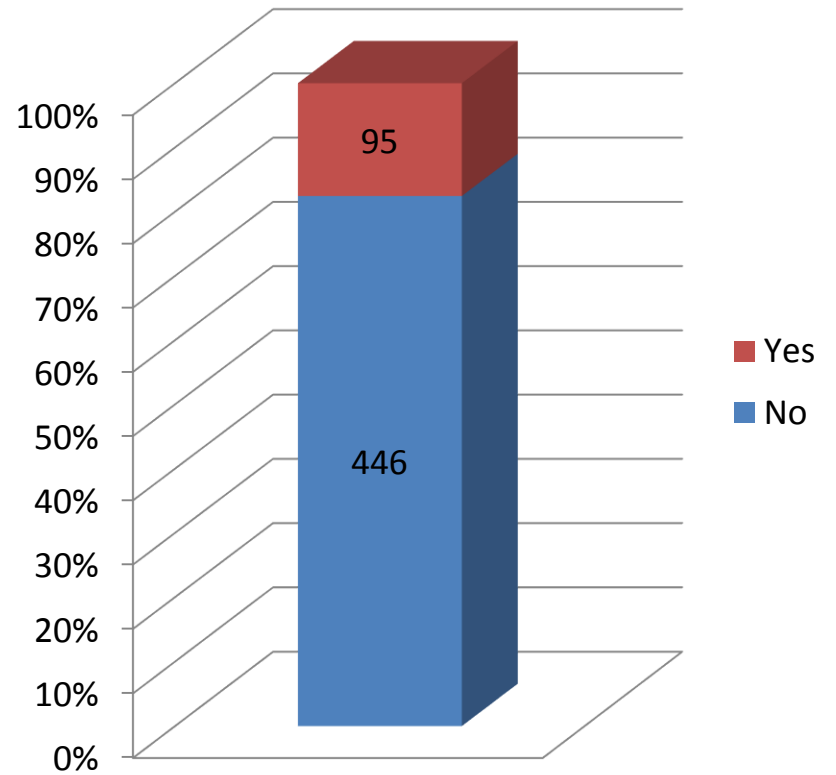
If you have accepted employment, what is your starting salary? (This chart eliminates the 217 respondents who had not accepted employment at the time of the survey)

Category	<i>n</i>
\$10,000 or less	7
\$10,001 - \$15,000	10
\$15,001 - \$20,000	7
\$20,001 - \$25,000	12
\$25,001 - \$30,000	16
\$30,001 - \$35,000	32
\$35,001 - \$40,000	21
\$40,001 - \$45,000	13
\$45,001 - \$50,000	12
More than \$50,000	27
Total	157



Did Career Services help you with your career path?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	95
No	446
Total	541



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

Category	<i>n</i>
Marshall Job Trax	62
Resume Assistance	63
Career Advising	41
Mock Interviewing	18
On-Campus Recruitment Event	18
Career Fair	40
Other (Personal Statement Assistance)	1

