



2015-2016 Graduation Survey Data  
Summer and Fall (2015) and Spring (2016)  
Marshall University

Office of Assessment and Program Review

# Executive Summary

- **These data are for academic year 2015 – 2016. Unless otherwise noted, all findings are essentially unchanged since academic year 2014 – 2015.**
- Overall response rate was 33% (556 respondents out of 1,710 graduates) – **up slightly from 32% in 2014-2015.**
- Females were more likely than males to respond to the survey.
- The Mean GPA of respondents (3.24) was significantly higher than that of all graduates (3.15).
- Response rates did not differ significantly across colleges (**as they had in 2014-2015**).
- 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-one percent reported no educational debt (up from 29% in 2014-2015), while 41% reported debt greater than \$20,000.
- Most respondents stated that their educational objective was to begin their first career.
- Fifty-six percent of respondents said they had participated in an internship or practicum (compared to 55% in 2014-2015), with 60% believing this experience had helped them find employment.
- Fifty-eight percent of respondents indicated that they intend to pursue graduate studies, while only 3% 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 out of sixteen items. All of these items were the same as those identified in 2014 – 2015.
  - I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems. (2.03)
  - Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills. (2.10)
  - I broadened my appreciation for the arts. (2.30)

# 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 (1.79) than with
  - the quality of advising (2.33)
  - academic support services (2.15)
  - classroom and lab facilities (2.14)
- 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.
- Sixty percent (up from 57% in 2014 – 2014) plan to work in WV.
- Forty-five percent (of the 408 students who answered the question) reported having accepted a job (up from 40% in 2014 – 2015). Of those, 69% will earn more than \$30,000 annually (up from 67% in 2014 – 2015).
- Only 18% of respondents reported using Career Services, with JobTrax and Resume Assistance used most frequently.

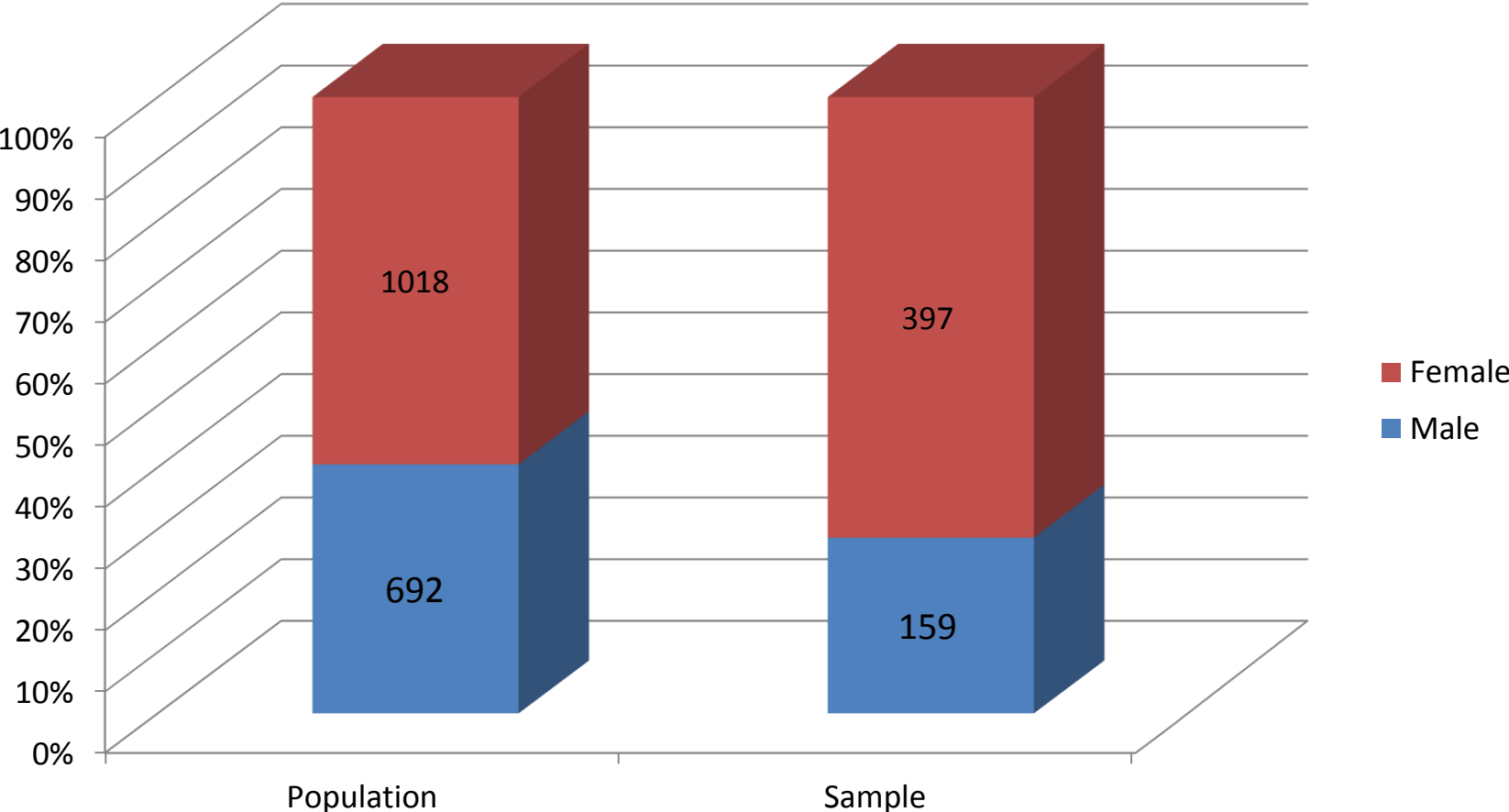
# 2015 – 2016 Response Rate by College by Semester

College	Summer 2015	Fall 2015	Spring 2016	Total
CAM	1/3 = 33%	9/28 = 32%	20/77 = 26%	30/108 = 28%
COB	6/42 = 14%	36/96 = 38%	41/124 = 33%	83/262 = 32%
COEPD	¼ = 25%	35/62 = 56%	20/107 = 19%	56/173 = 32%
COHP	2/31 = 6%	38/116 = 33%	101/315 = 32%	141/462 = 31%
COLA	3/21 = 14%	17/66 = 26%	48/129 = 37%	68/216 = 31%
COS	6/26 = 23%	30/75 = 40%	53/152 = 35%	89/253 = 35%
CITE	0/0 = N/A	7/21 = 33%	9/27 = 33%	16/48 = 33%
RBA	2/31 = 6%	39/76 = 51%	32/81 = 40%	73/188 = 39%
Total	21/158 = 13%	211/540 = 32%	324/1,012 = 32%	556/1,710 = 33%

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

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
Male	692 (40.5%)	Male	159 (29%)	23%
Female	1,018 (59.5%)	Female	397 (71%)	39%
Total	1,710 (100%)	Total	556 (100%)	33%

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

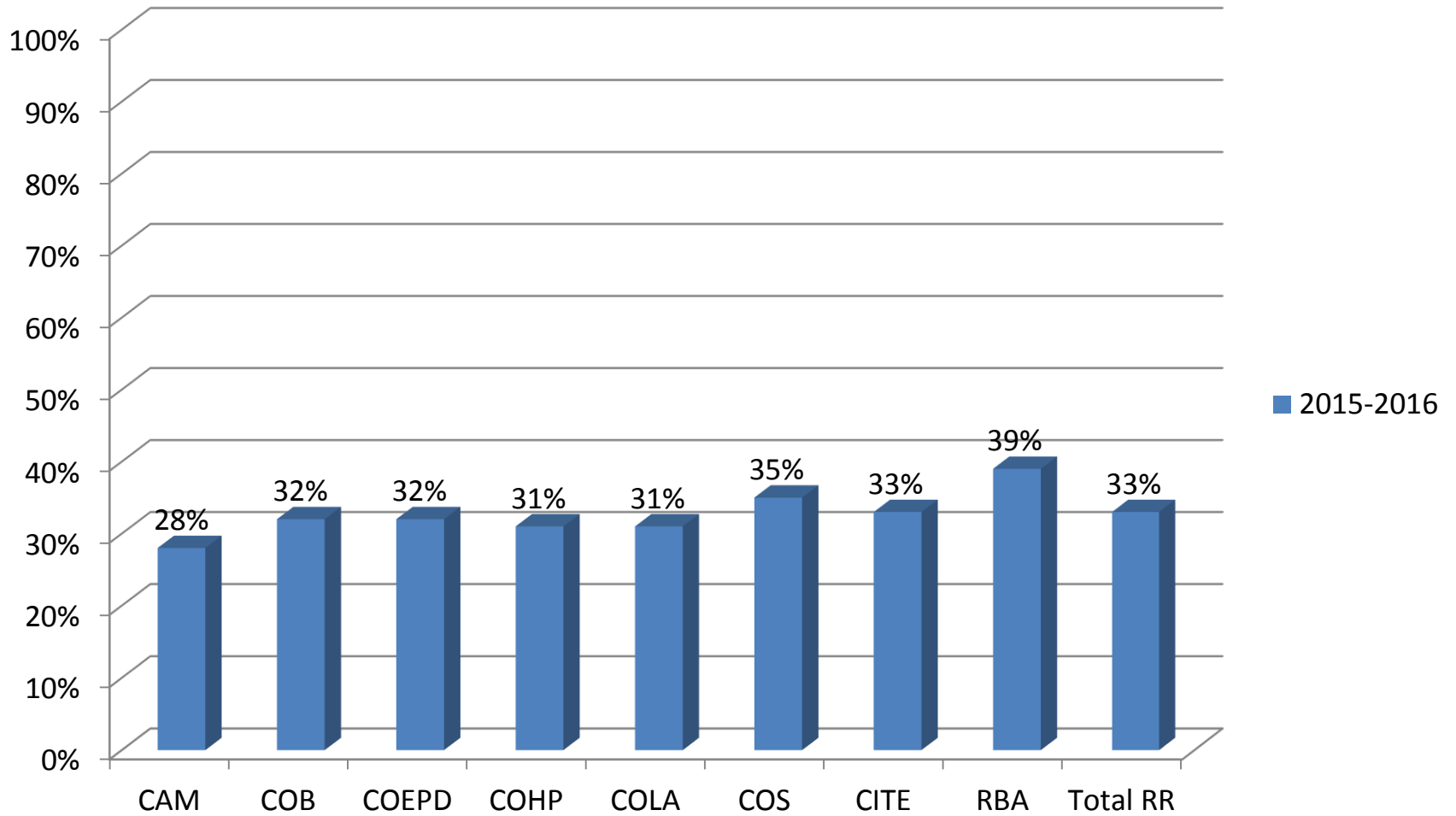




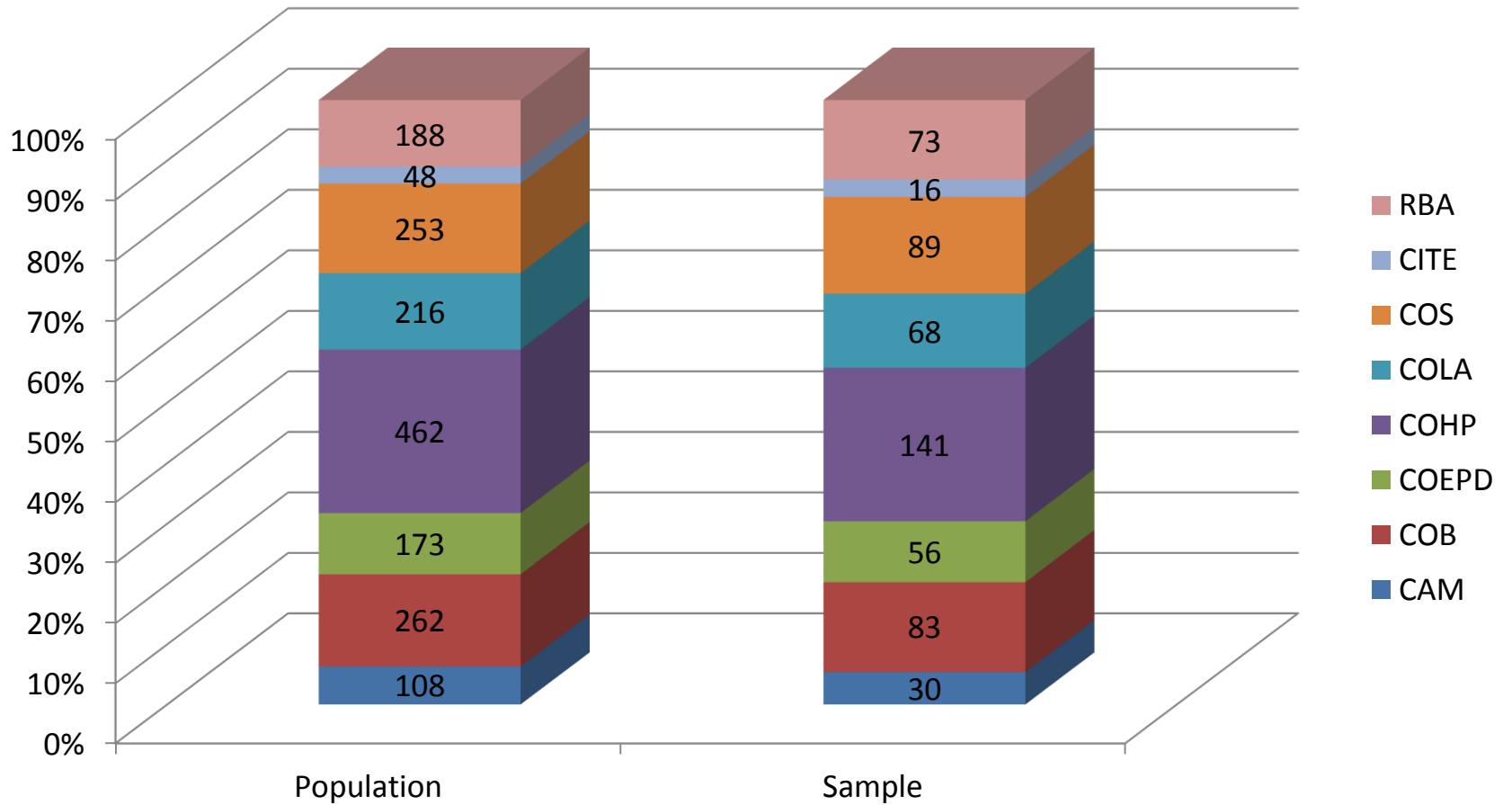
Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; *ns*

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
CAM	108 (6%)	CAM	30 (5%)	28%
COB	262 (15%)	COB	83 (15%)	32%
COEPD	173 (10%)	COE	56 (10%)	32%
COHP	462 (27%)	COHP	141 (25%)	31%
COLA	216 (13%)	COLA	68 (12%)	31%
COS	253 (15%)	COS	89 (16%)	35%
CITE	48 (3%)	CITE	16 (3%)	33%
RBA	188 (11%)	RBA	73 (13%)	39%
Total	1,710 (100%)	Total	556 (100%)	33%

# Response Rate by College



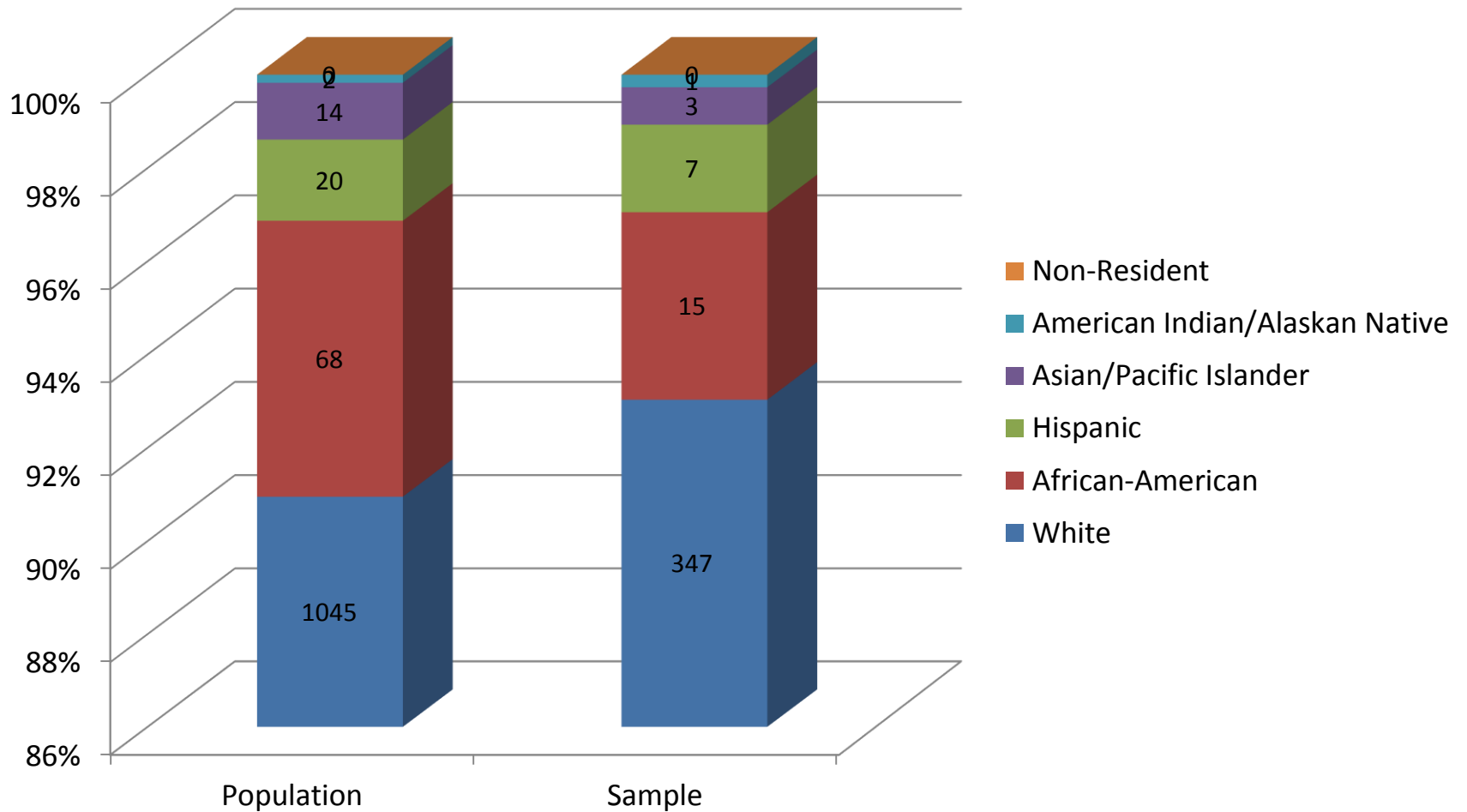
# Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; *ns*



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

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
White	1,045 (91%)	White	347 (93%)	33%
African-American	68 (6%)	African-American	15 (4%)	22%
Hispanic	20 (2%)	Hispanic	7 (2%)	35%
Asian/Pacific Islander	14 (1%)	Asian/Pacific Islander	3 (1%)	21%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	50%
Non-Resident	0	Non-Resident	0	N/A
Total	1,149	Total	373	32%

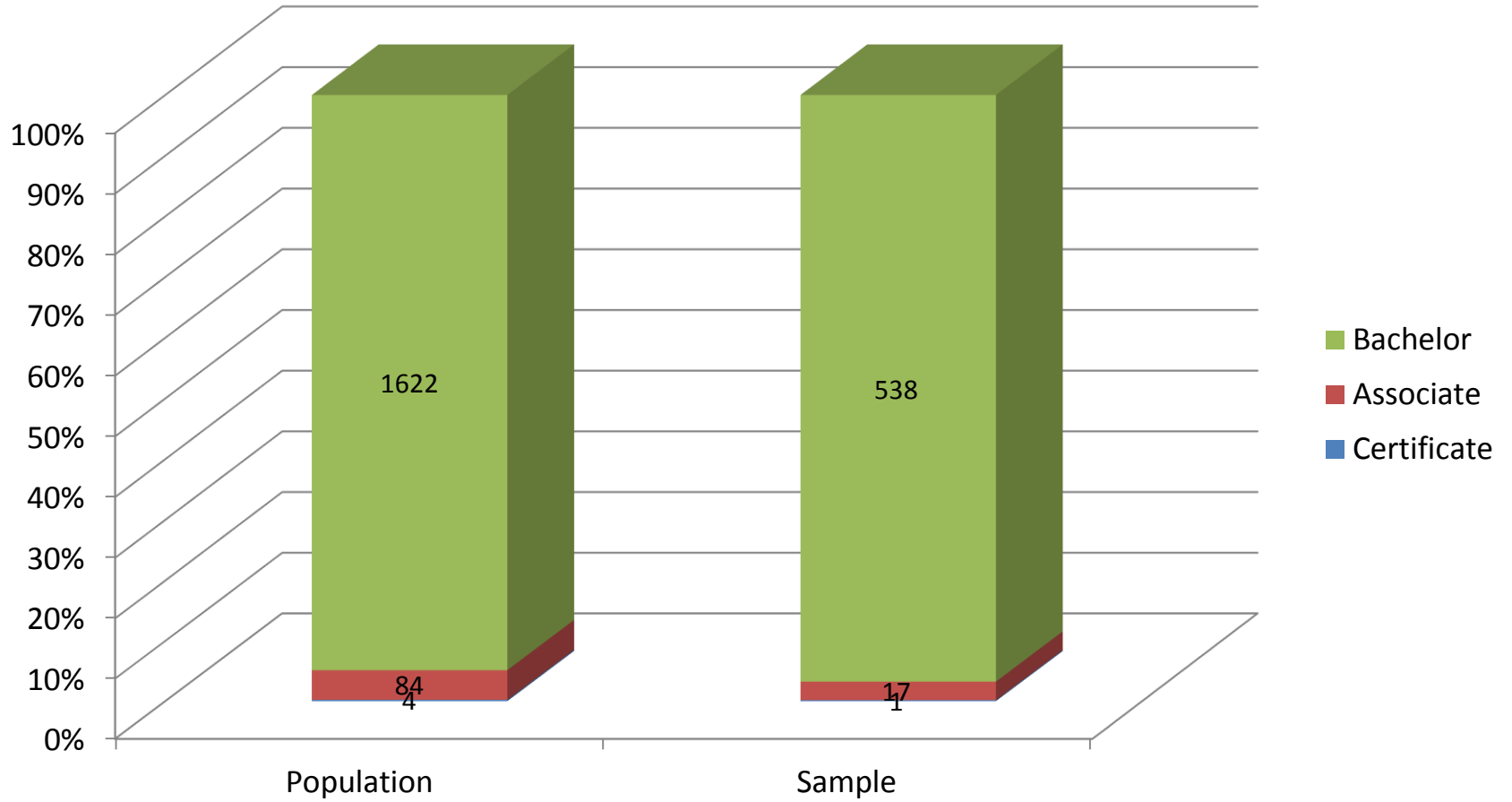
# Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Race; *ns*



Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned; *ns.*

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
Certificates	4	Certificates	1	25%
Associate's Degree	84 (5%)	Associate's Degree	17 (3%)	20%
Bachelor's Degree	1,622 (95%)	Bachelor's Degree	538 (97%)	33%
Total	1,710	Total	556	33%

Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned; *ns.*

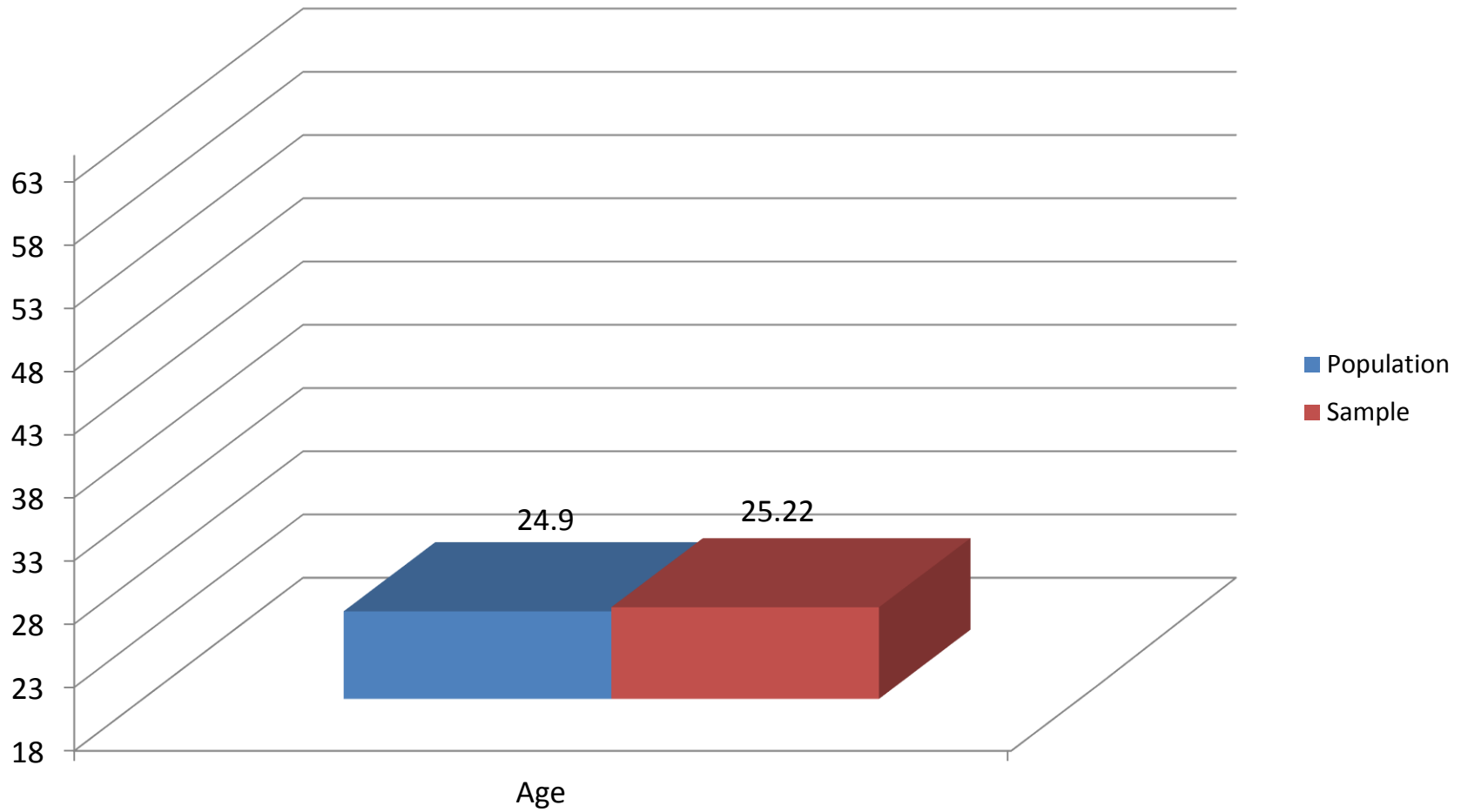


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Age and GPA; Age is *ns*, but GPA is significant,  
 $t(555) = 4.608, p < .001$ .

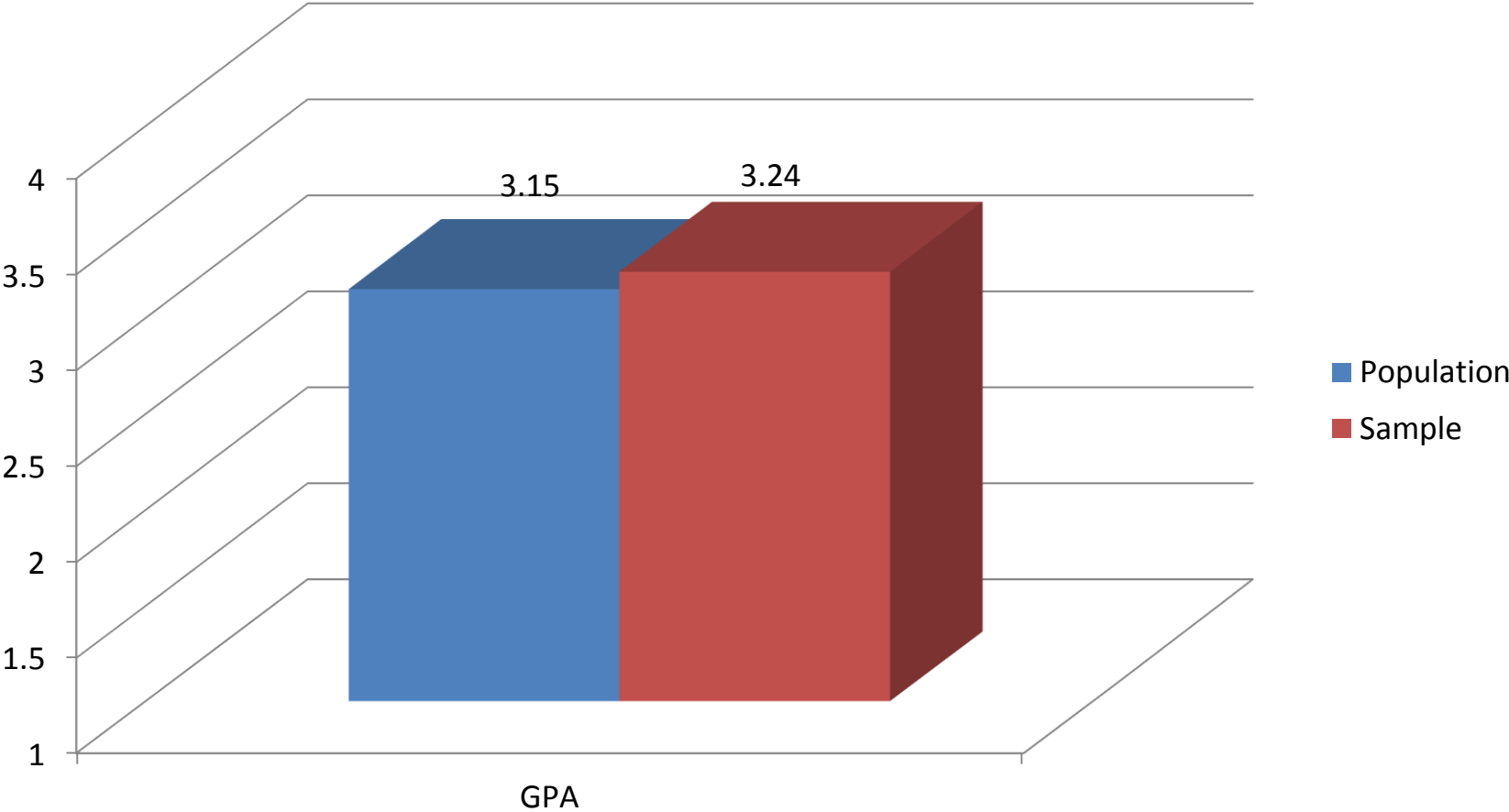
Population Category	Mean (SD)	Median	Range
Age ( $n = 1,717$ )	24.90 (6.21)	22	19 – 72
GPA ( $n = 1,717$ )	3.15 (0.47)	3.18	1.86 – 4.00
Sample Category			
Age ( $n = 556$ )	25.22 (6.96)	22	19 – 72
GPA ( $n = 558$ )	3.24 (0.45)	3.27	1.96 – 4.00



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

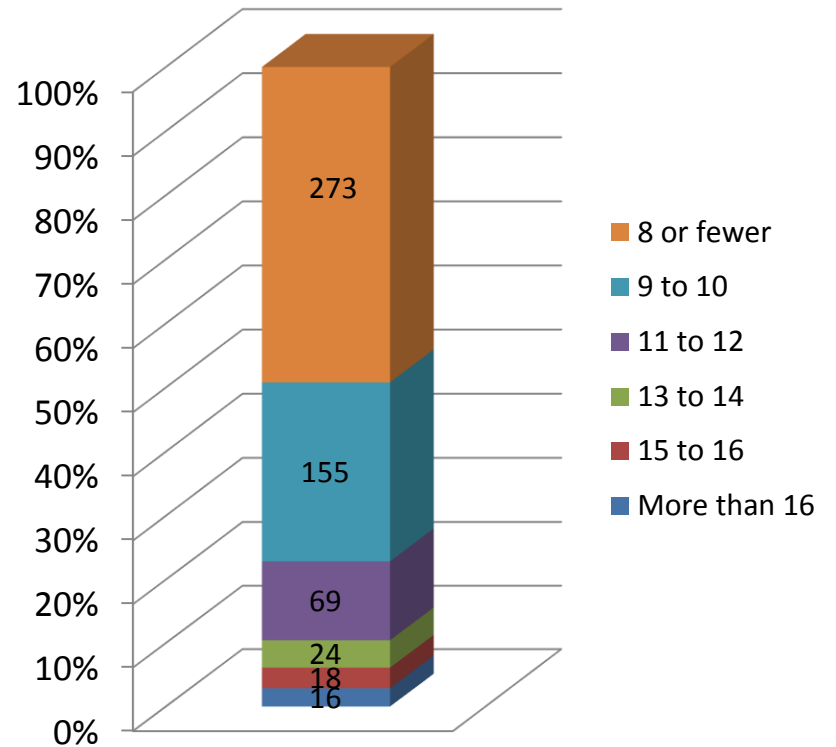


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: GPA; GPA is significant,  $t(555) = 4.608$ ,  $p < .001$ .



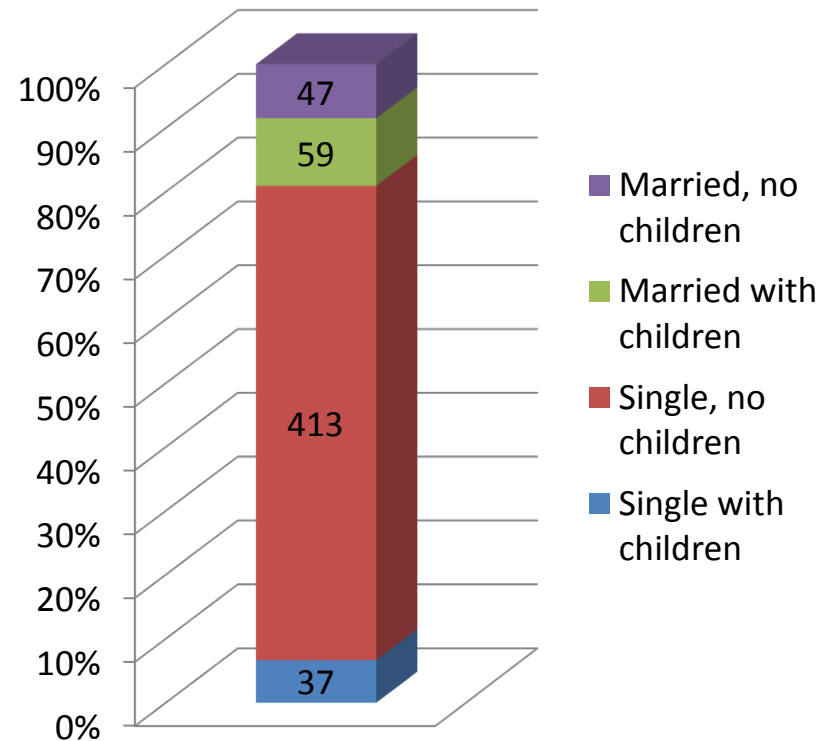
## # of Semesters to Complete Degree

Category	<i>n</i>
8 or fewer	273
9 – 10	155
11 – 12	69
13 – 14	24
15 – 16	18
More than 16	16
Total	555



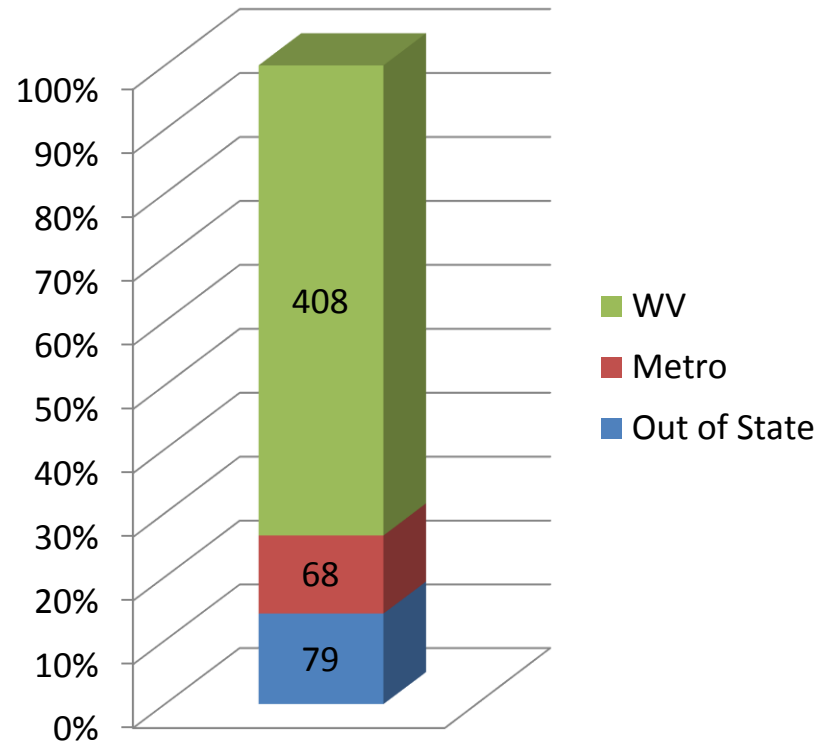
# Family Status

Category	<i>n</i>
Married, no children	47
Married with children	59
Single, no children	413
Single with children	37
Total	556



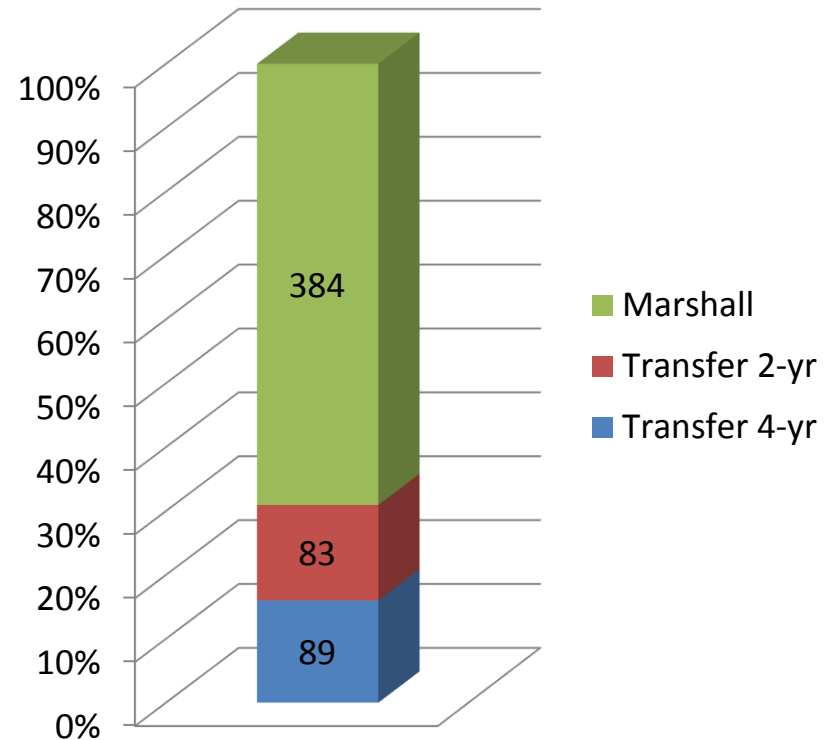
## Residence at time of admission

Category	<i>n</i>
West Virginia	408
Metro	68
Out of State	79
Total	555



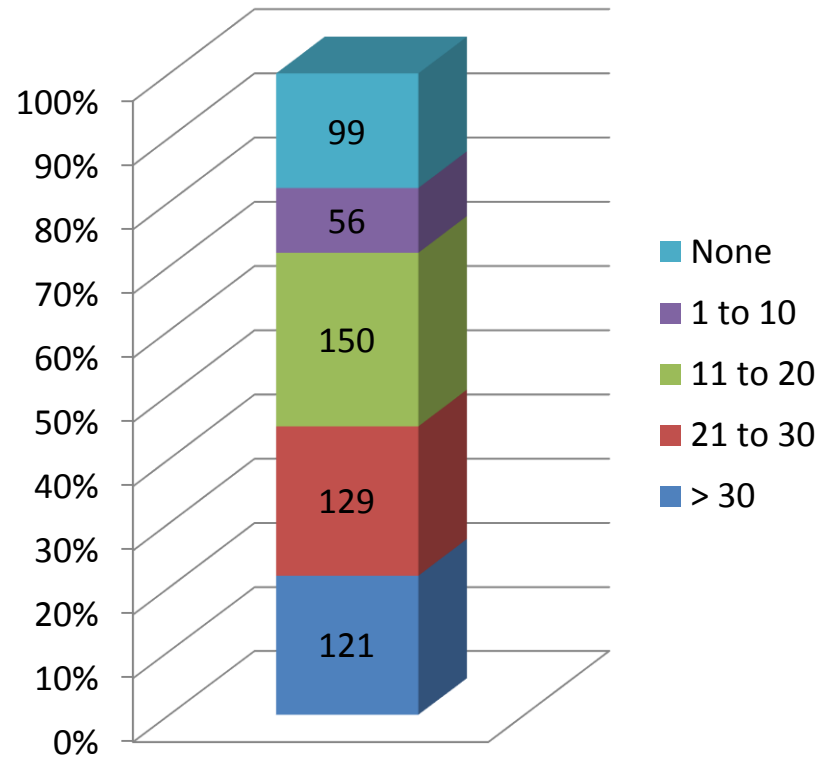
## While pursuing your degree, did you

Category	<i>n</i>
Originally Enroll and Stay at Marshall?	384
Transfer from a 2-Year institution?	83
Transfer from another 4-year institution?	89
Total	556



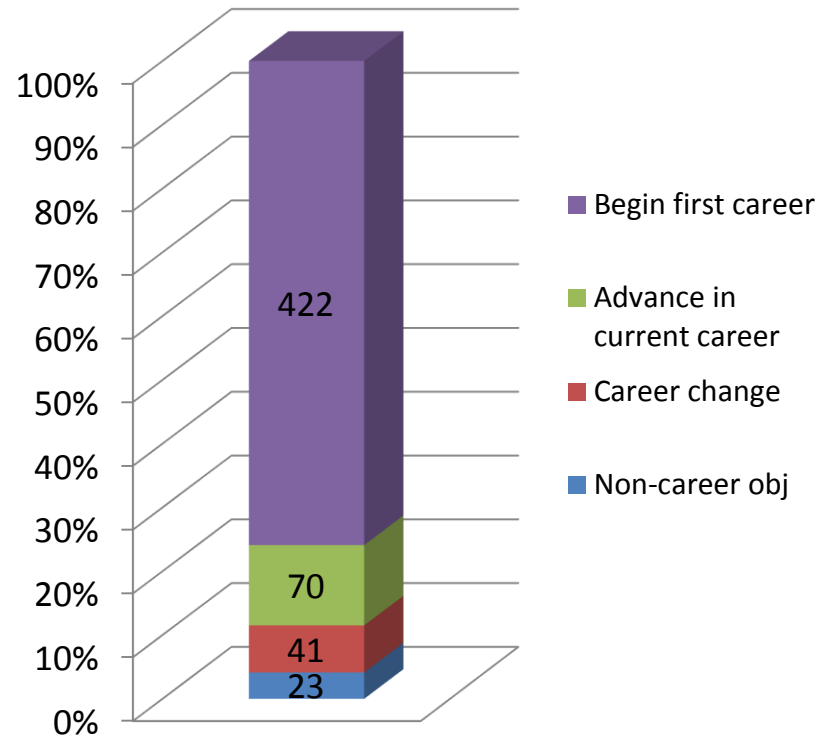
During the last year of your studies, how many hours a week did you work while attending classes?

Category	<i>n</i>
None	99
1 - 10	56
11 - 20	150
21 - 30	129
More than 30	121
Total	555



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

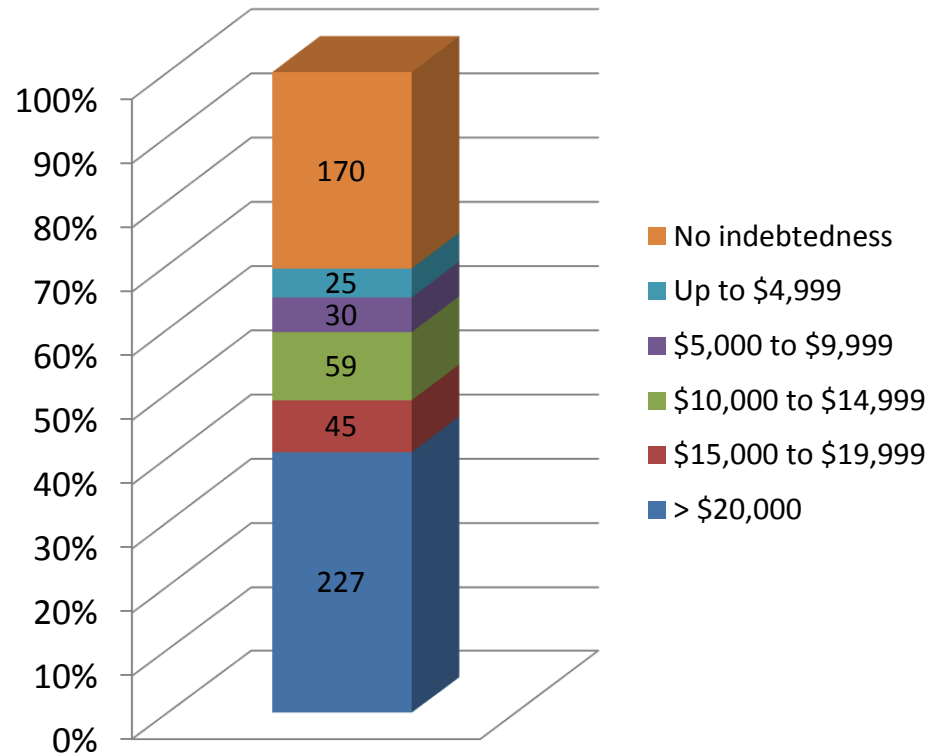
Category	<i>n</i>
Begin first career	422
Advance in current career	70
Career Change	41
Non-Career Objective	23
Total	556





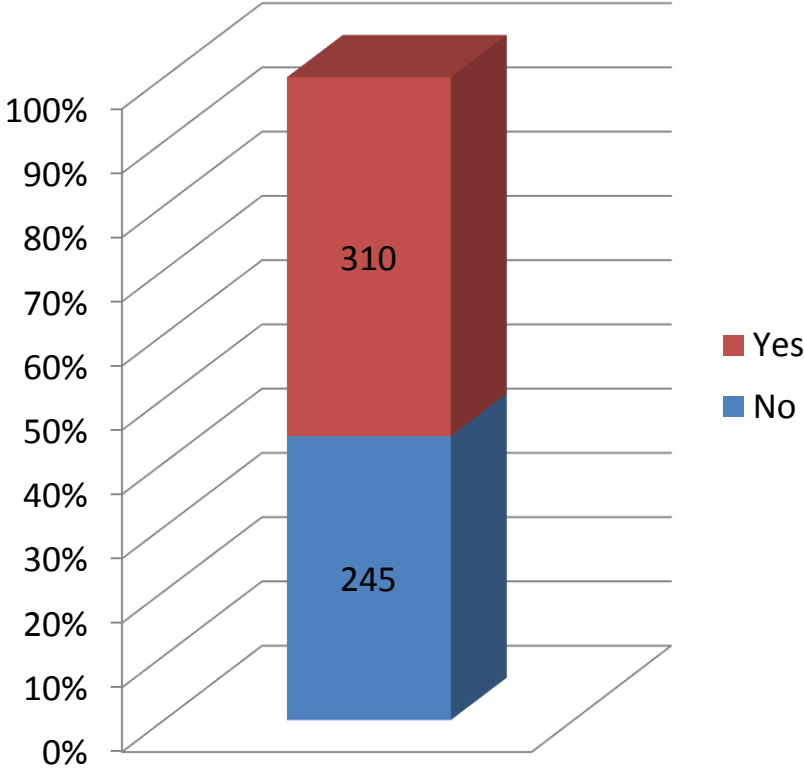
Upon graduation, what was the dollar amount of your educational loan indebtedness?

Category	<i>n</i>
No indebtedness	170
Up to \$4,999	25
\$5,000 - \$9,999	30
\$10,000 - \$14,999	59
\$15,000 - \$19,999	45
> \$20,000	227
Total	556



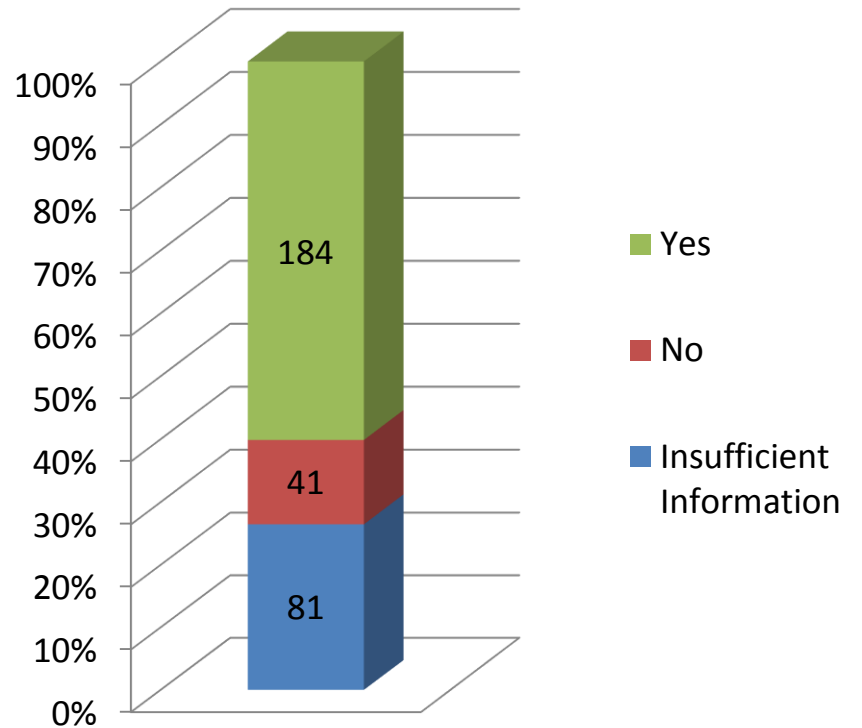
Did you take part in an internship, practicum or other structured work experience related to your major?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	310
No	245
Total	555



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

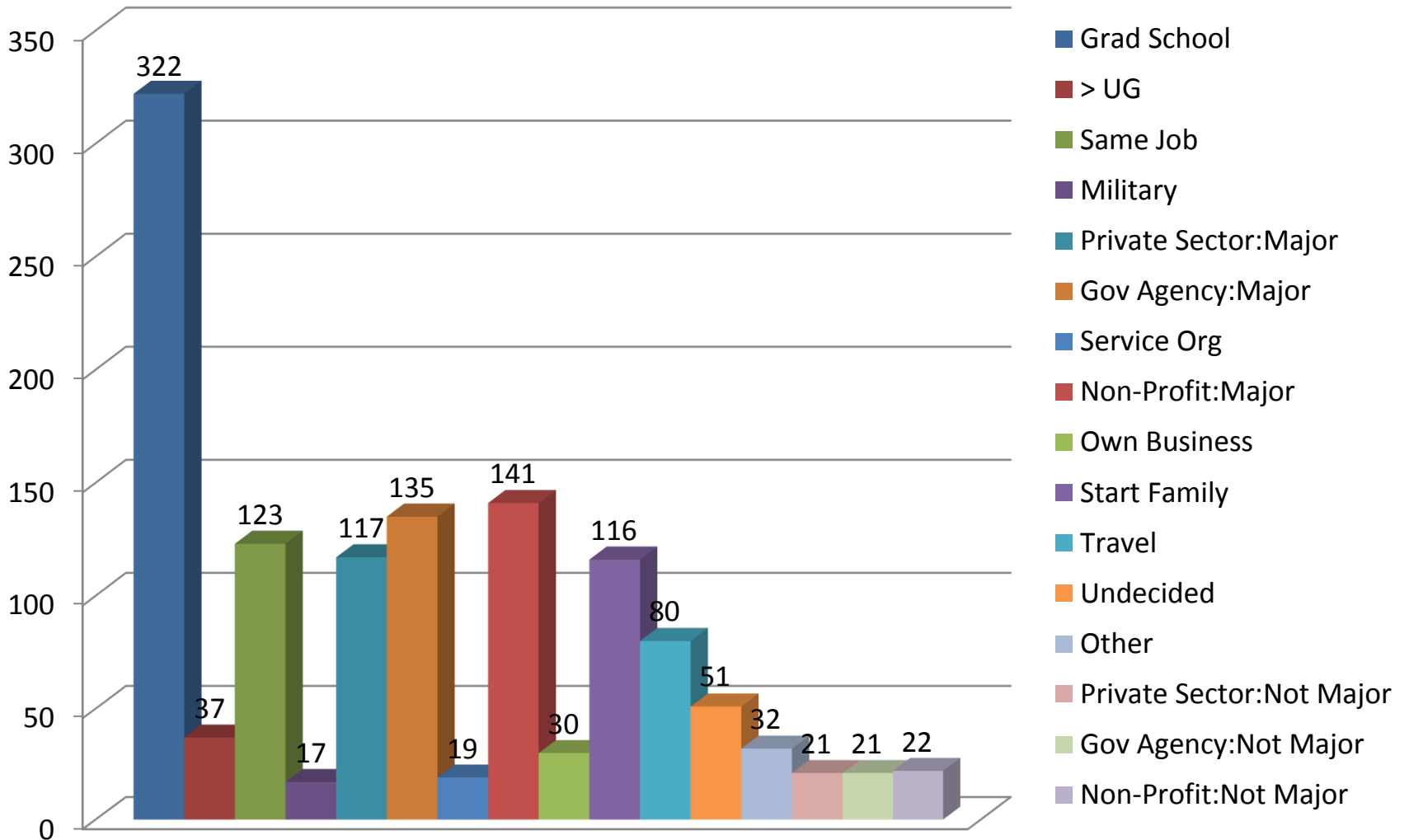
Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	184
No	41
Insufficient Information to answer question	81
Total	306



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

Category	<i>n</i>
Attend Graduate School	322
Complete additional undergraduate coursework	37
Continue to work at the same job I have at present	123
Enter the military	17
Work for a private sector company or corporation in job related to college major	117
Work for a local, state, or federal agency in job related to college major	135
Work for a volunteer or service organization, e.g. Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, City Year, etc.	19
Work for a non-profit organization, e.g. hospital, university, public school, etc. in job related to college major	141
Begin my own business	30
Start or raise a family	116
Take time off (to travel, etc.)	80
Undecided or no plans	51
Other	32
Work for a private sector company or corporation in job NOT related to college major	21
Work for a local, state, or federal agency in job NOT related to college major	21
Work for a non-profit organization, e.g. hospital, university, public school, etc. in job NOT related to college major	22

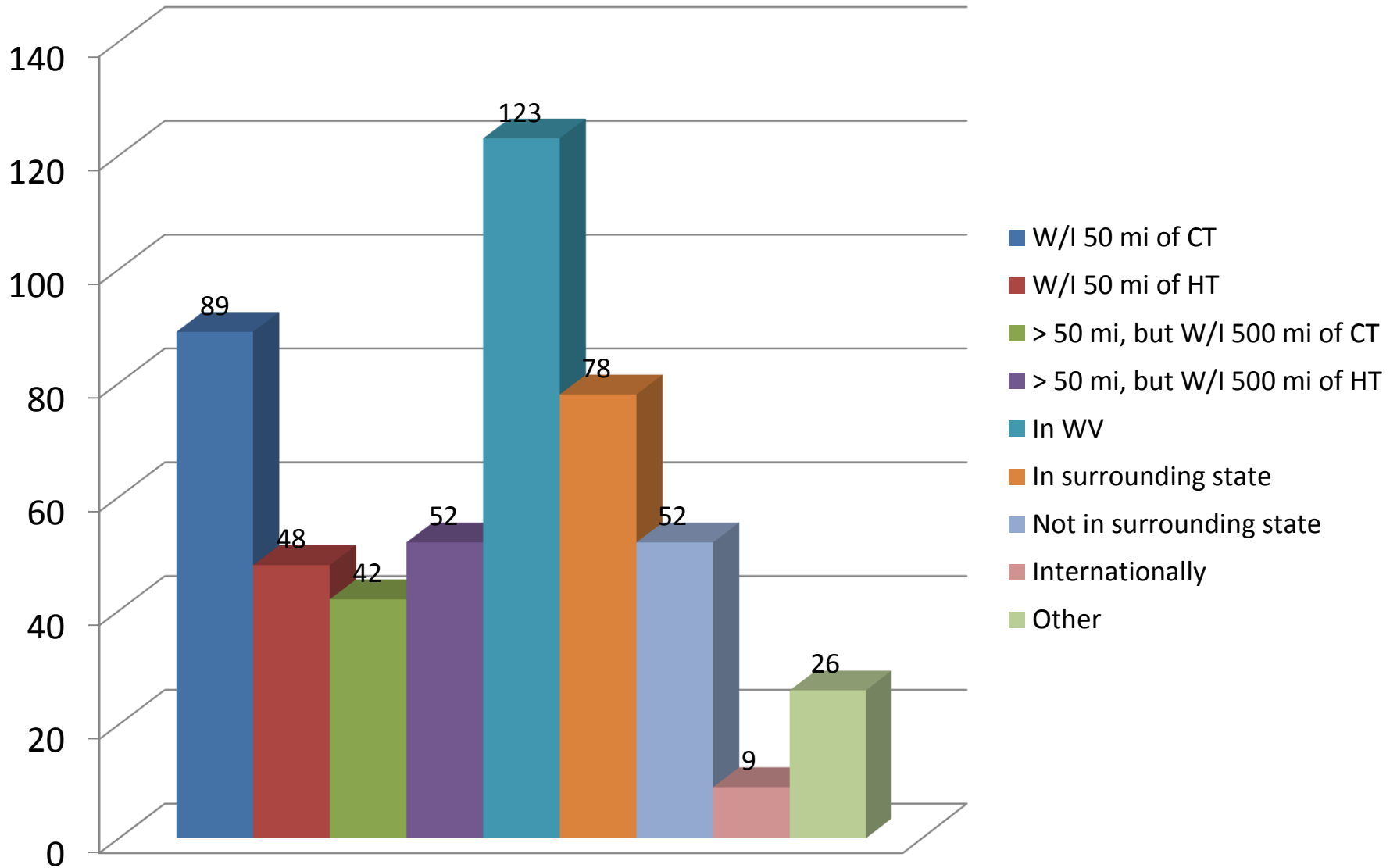
## When I graduate from Marshall University I plan to (check all that apply)



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

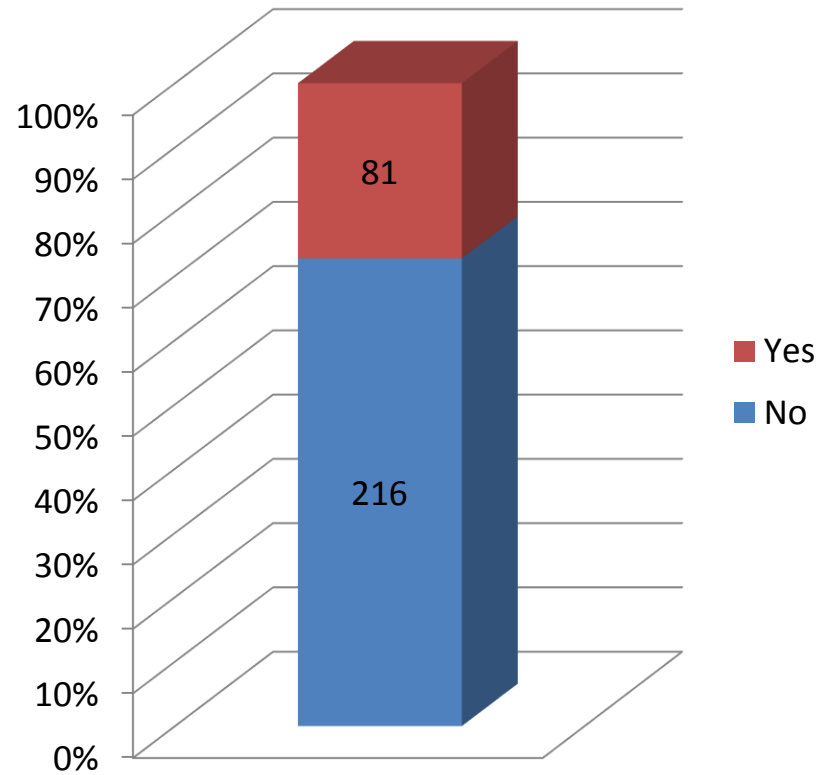
Category	<i>n</i>
Within 50 miles of my college town	89
Within 50 miles of my home town	48
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of my college town	42
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of my home town	52
In WV	123
In at least one of WV's neighboring states (OH, KY, VA, MD, PA)	78
Within the US, but outside the above boundaries	52
Internationally	9
Other	26

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	81
No	216
Total	297





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

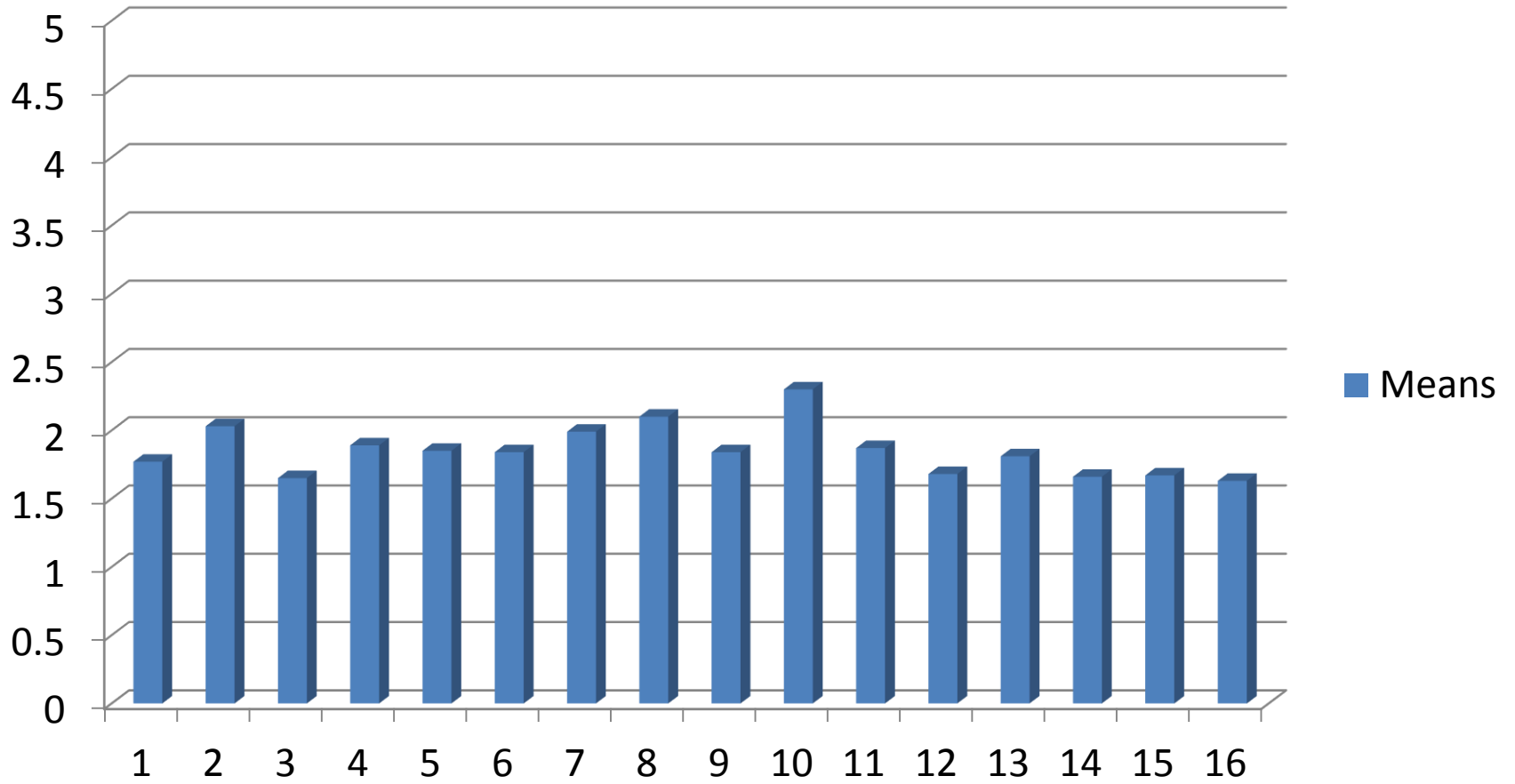
School	<i>n</i>	School	<i>n</i>
Alderson Broaddus	1	Ohio university	1
American Military University and/or University of Cincinnati	1	Syracuse University, Boston University, or Georgetown University	1
Appalachian College of Pharmacy	1	Temple University	1
Barry University	1	The University of Findlay	1
Capella University	1	University of Alabama	1
Capital University Law School	1	University of Kentucky	1
Chiropractic College	1	University of Louisville	1
East Tennessee State University	1	University of Louisville School of Medicine	1
Kettering College	1	University of Pennsylvania	1
Marshall University	36	University of South Florida	1
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine	3	University of Southern California	1
Marshall University School of Pharmacy	2	University of Tennessee at Knoxville	1
Mississippi State University	1	West Virginia University	2
Northwestern University	1	West Virginia University School of Dentistry	1
Ohio State University	1	Wheeling Jesuit University School of Physical Therapy	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 14: 1 – 16 (While pursuing my degree at Marshall University,

Question	Mean	SD	n
1. I developed the ability to write effectively.	1.77	0.788	549
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems.	2.03	0.889	548
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	1.65	0.735	544
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	1.89	0.927	546
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	1.85	0.838	546
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	1.84	0.864	545
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	1.99	0.967	544
8. Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	2.10	1.050	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.	1.84	0.836	542
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	2.30	1.142	542
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	1.87	0.999	542
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	1.68	0.776	542
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	1.81	0.752	543
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	1.66	0.702	544
15. I determined how to improve my own learning and to engage in lifelong learning.	1.67	0.740	544
16. I used my knowledge from more than one area of study to explore issues or to solve problems.	1.63	0.689	544

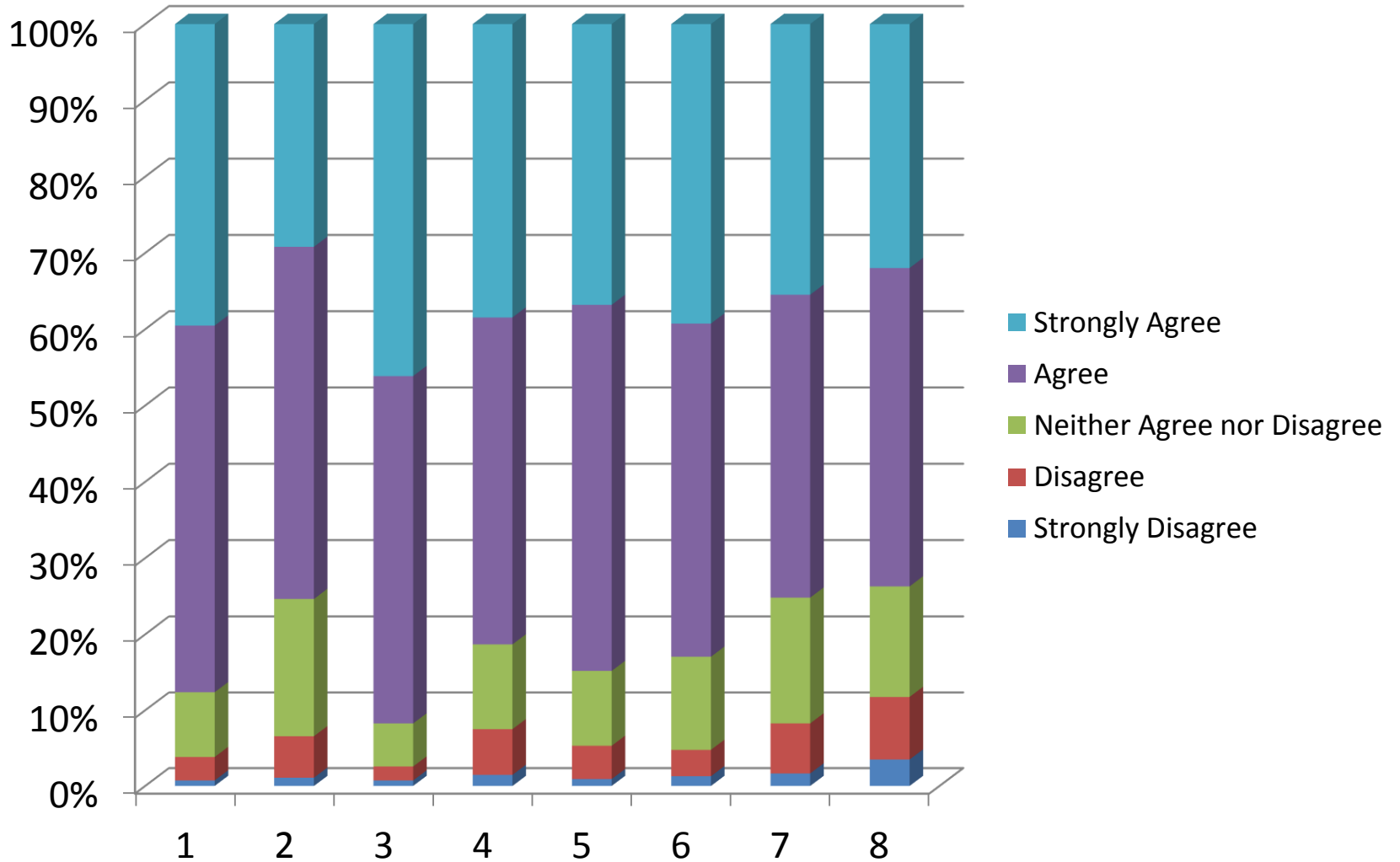
## Mean Agreement with Question 14 (1 – 16)



## Question 14: 1 – 8 (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.	217	264	47	17	4	549
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems..	160	253	99	30	6	548
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	251	248	31	10	4	544
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	210	234	61	33	8	546
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	201	262	54	24	5	546
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	214	238	67	19	7	545
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	193	216	90	36	9	544
8. . Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	174	227	79	45	19	544

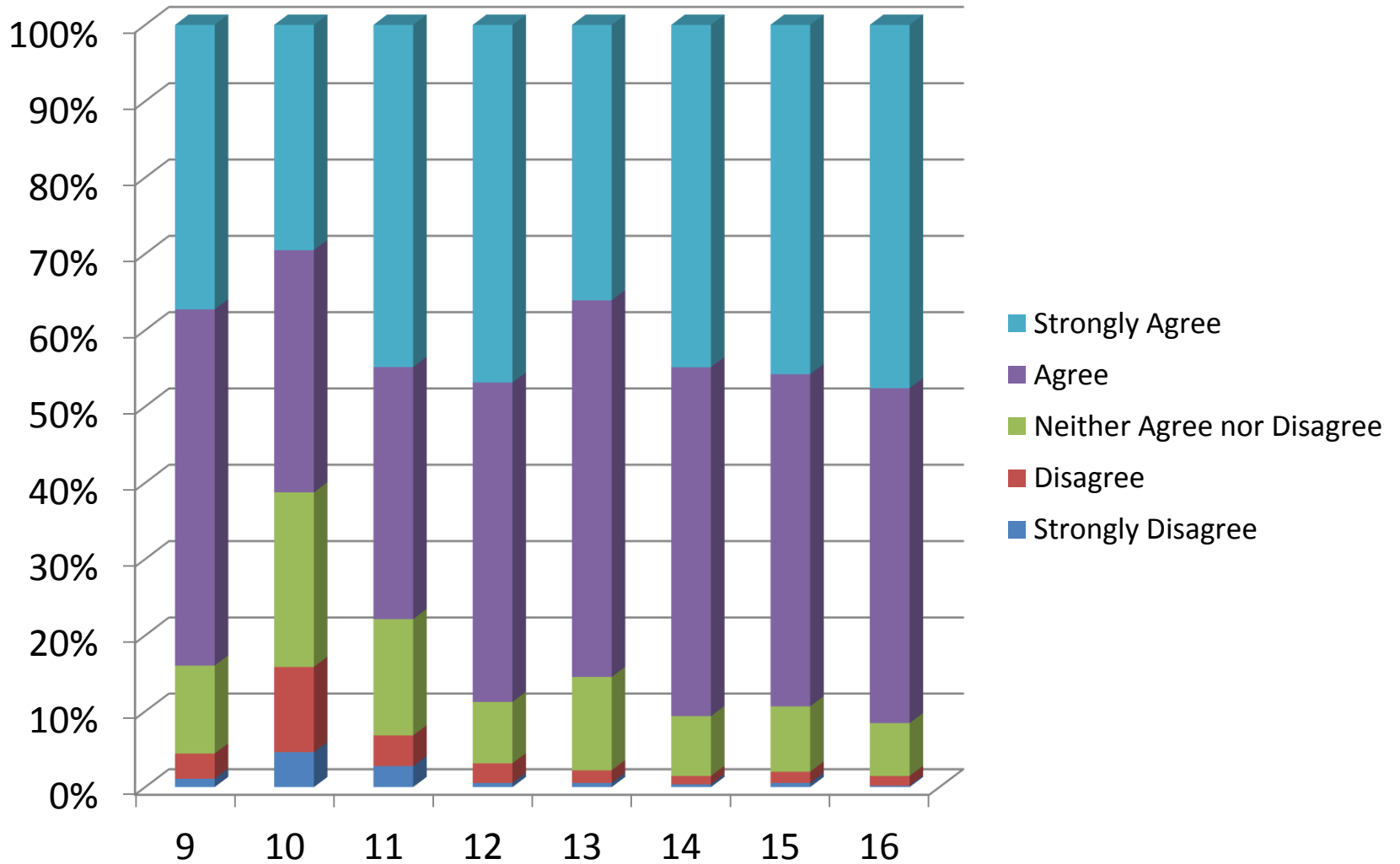
Frequencies for Question 14 (1 – 8)



## Question 14: 9 – 16 (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
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.	202	253	63	18	6	542
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	160	172	124	61	25	542
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	243	179	83	22	15	542
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	254	227	44	14	3	542
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	196	268	67	9	3	543
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	244	249	43	6	2	544
15. I determined how to improve my own learning and to engage in lifelong learning.	249	237	47	8	3	544
16. I used knowledge from more than one area of study to explore issues or to solve problems.	259	239	38	7	1	544

Frequencies for Question 14 (9 – 16)

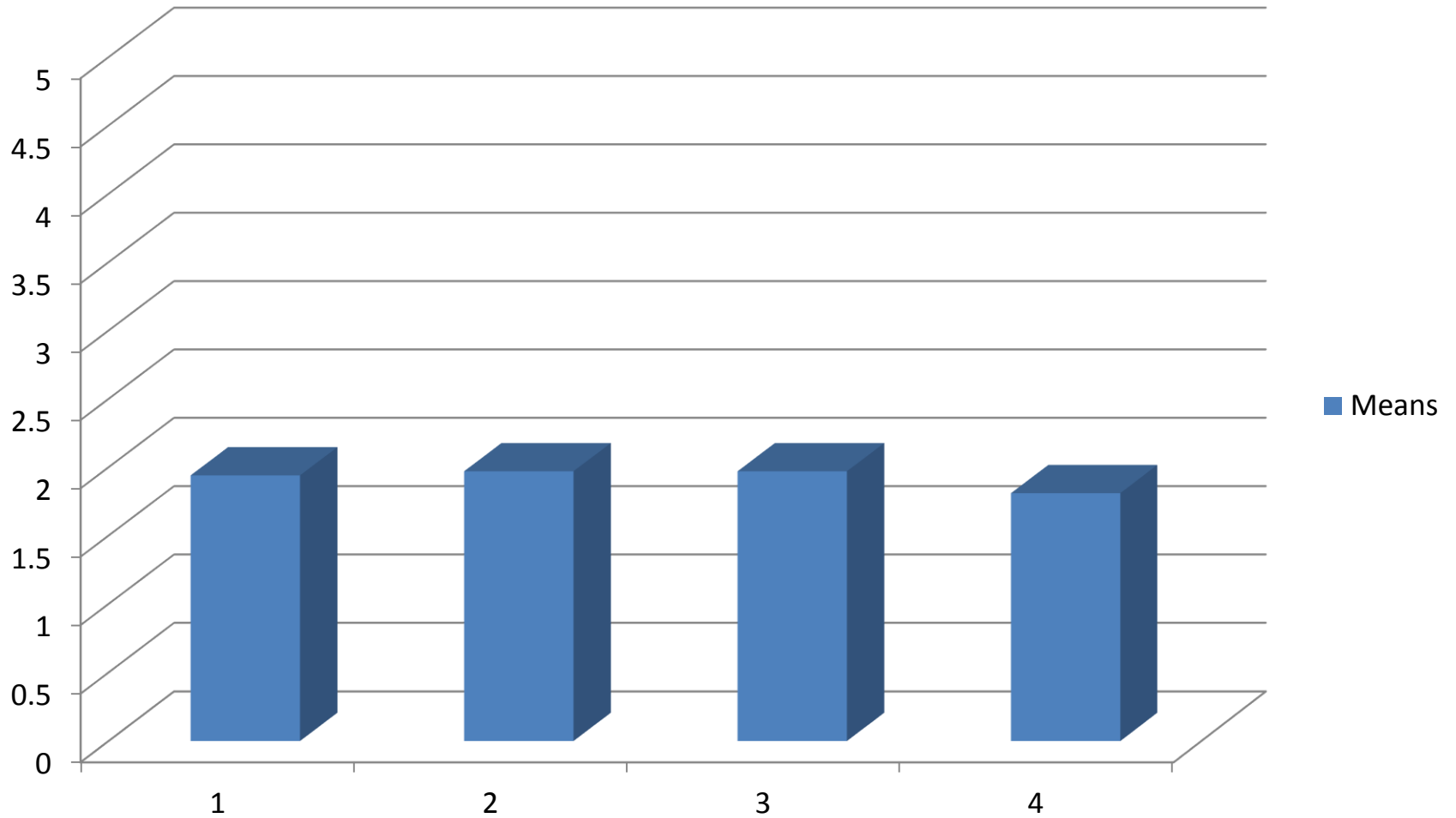




## Question 15: 1 – 4 (Now that I have completed my degree, I

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.	1.94	0.917	546
2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.	1.97	0.985	546
3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.	1.97	1.051	546
4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.	1.81	0.943	547

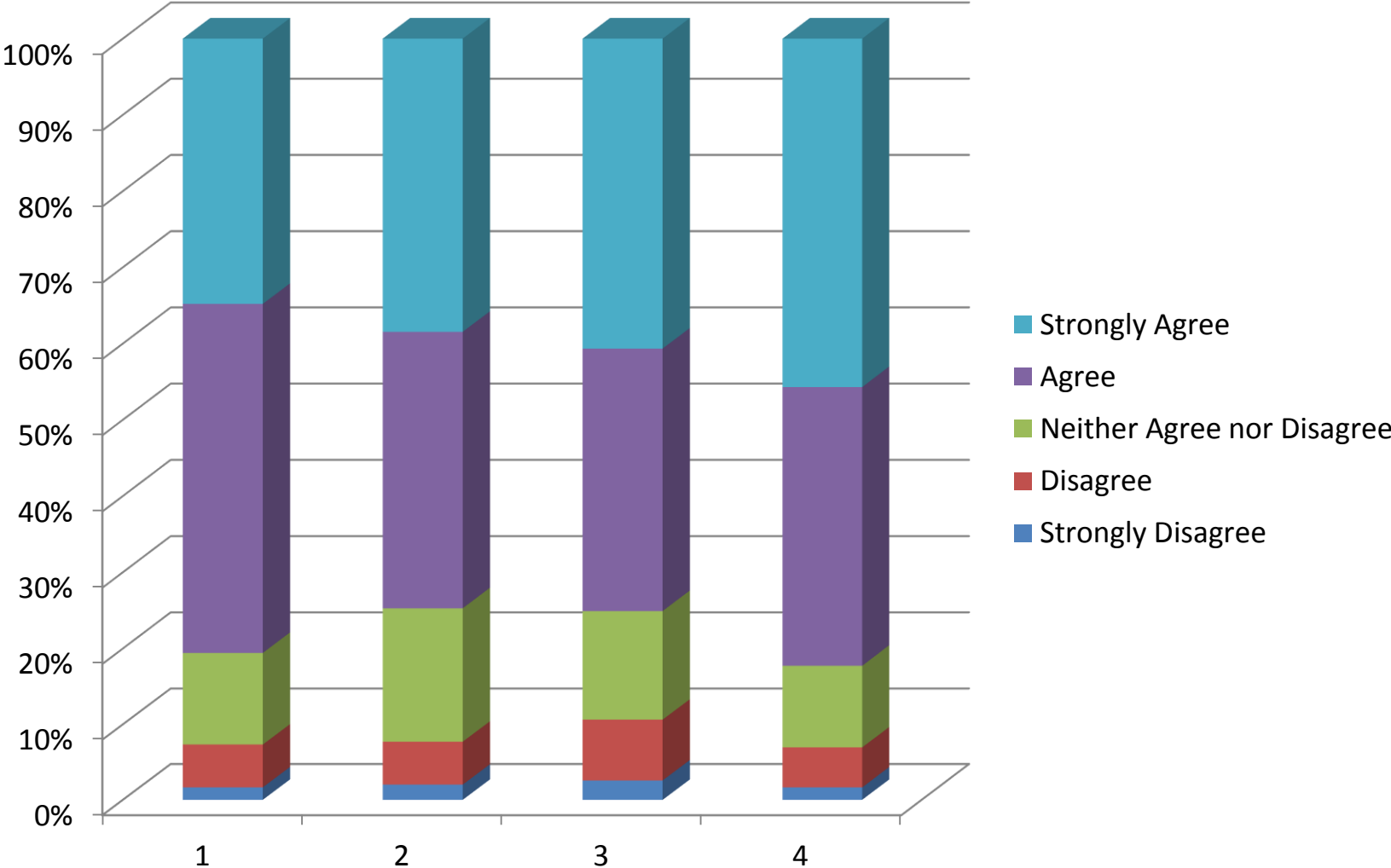
# Mean Agreement with Question 15 (1 – 4)



## Question 15: 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.	190	250	66	31	9	546
2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.	210	198	96	31	11	546
3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.	222	188	78	44	14	546
4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.	250	200	59	29	9	547

Frequencies for Question 15 (1 - 4)

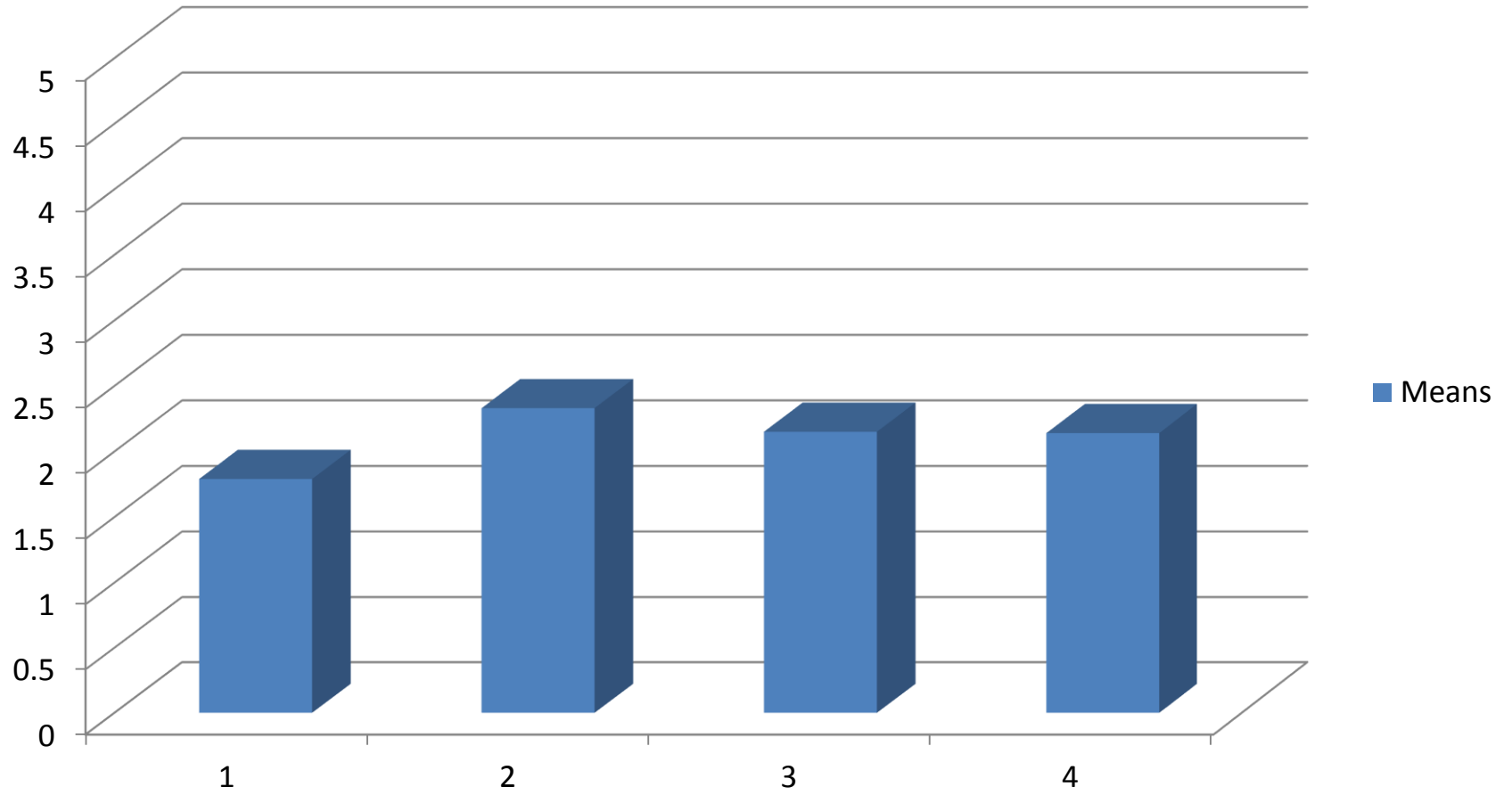


- The following tables and graphs give mean responses according to the following scale:
  - 1 = Very Satisfied
  - 2 = Satisfied
  - 3 = Neutral
  - 4 = Dissatisfied
  - 5 = Very Dissatisfied

Question 16: 1 – 4 (Please Rate your satisfaction with the following at Marshall):

Question	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>n</i>
1. Teaching	1.79	0.814	548
2. Advising	2.33	1.226	547
3. Academic Support Services	2.15	0.996	548
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	2.14	0.974	546

# Mean Satisfaction to Question 16 (1 – 4)

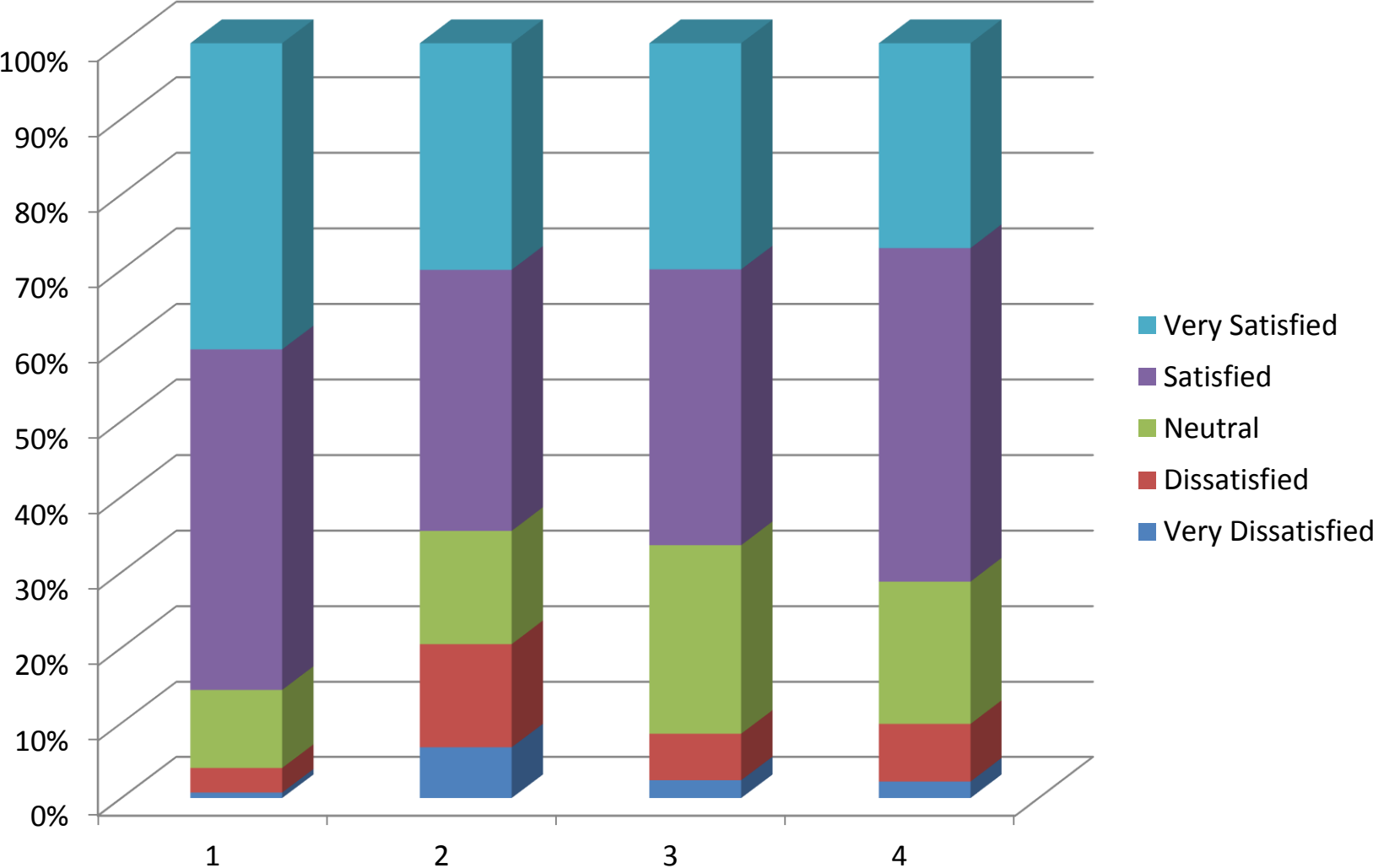


Question 16: 1 – 4 (Please Rate your satisfaction with the following at Marshall):

Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total n
1. Teaching	222	247	57	18	4	548
2. Advising	164	189	82	75	37	547
3. Academic Support Services	164	200	137	34	13	548
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	148	241	103	42	12	546

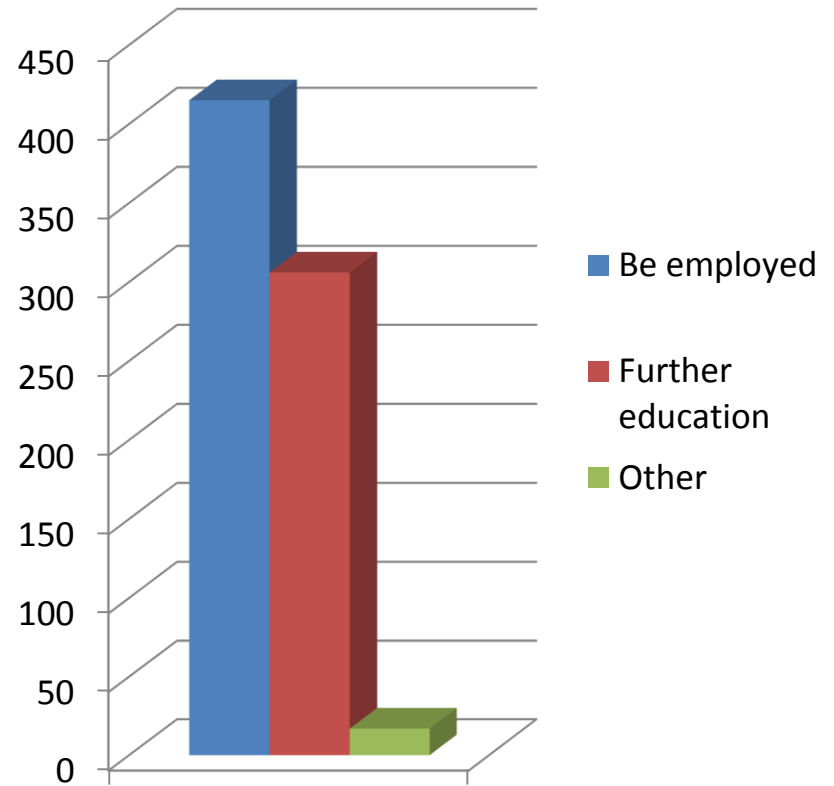


Frequencies for Question 16 (1 - 4)



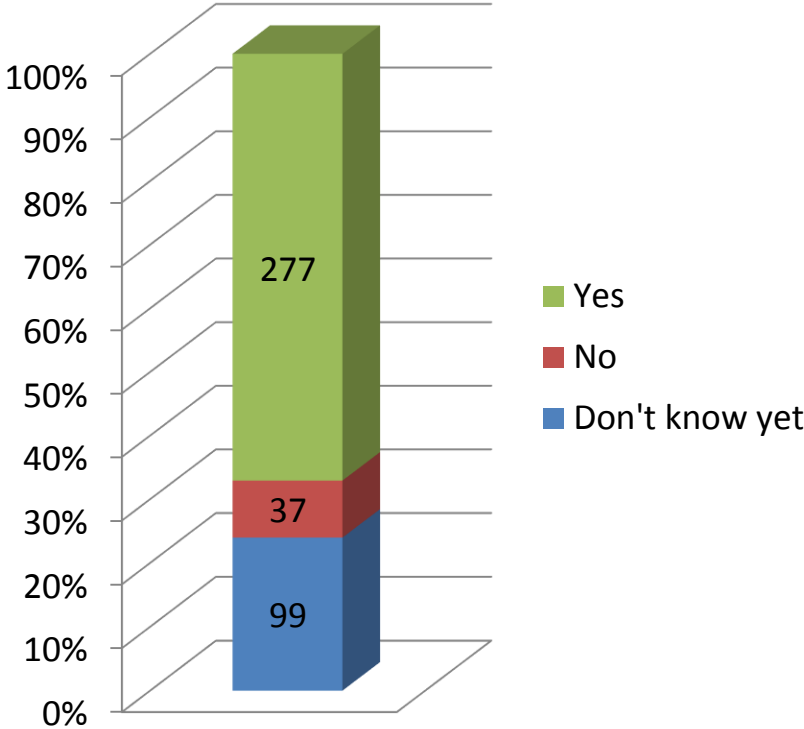
## When I graduate, I plan to (check all that apply)

Category	<i>n</i>
Be employed	415
Further my education	306
Other (specific jobs were given here)	17



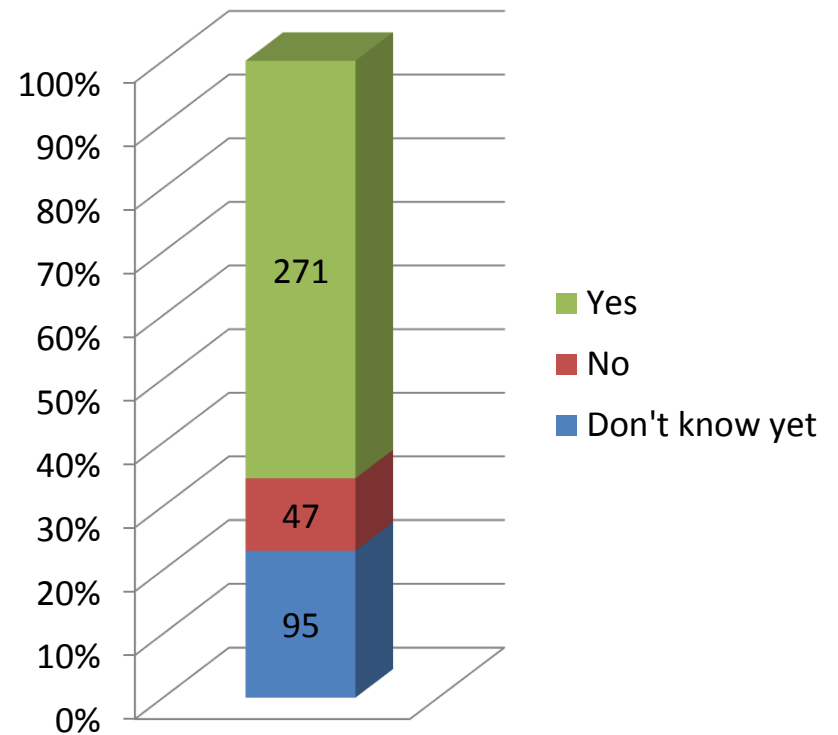
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be in the career path you have chosen?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	277
No	37
Don't Know Yet	99
Total	413



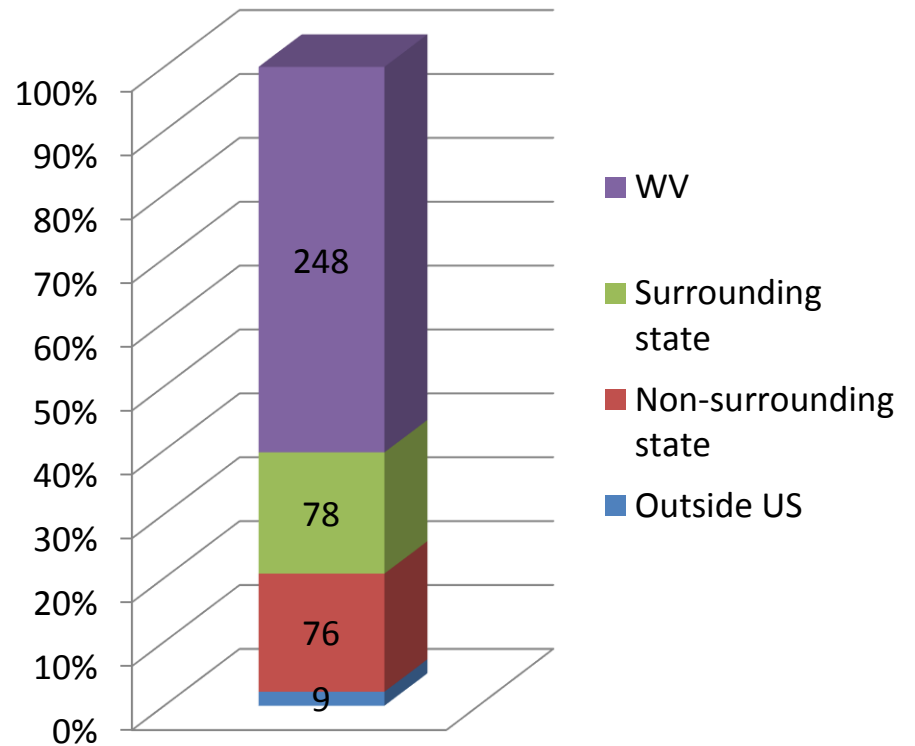
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be in your major field?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	271
No	47
Don't Know Yet	95
Total	413



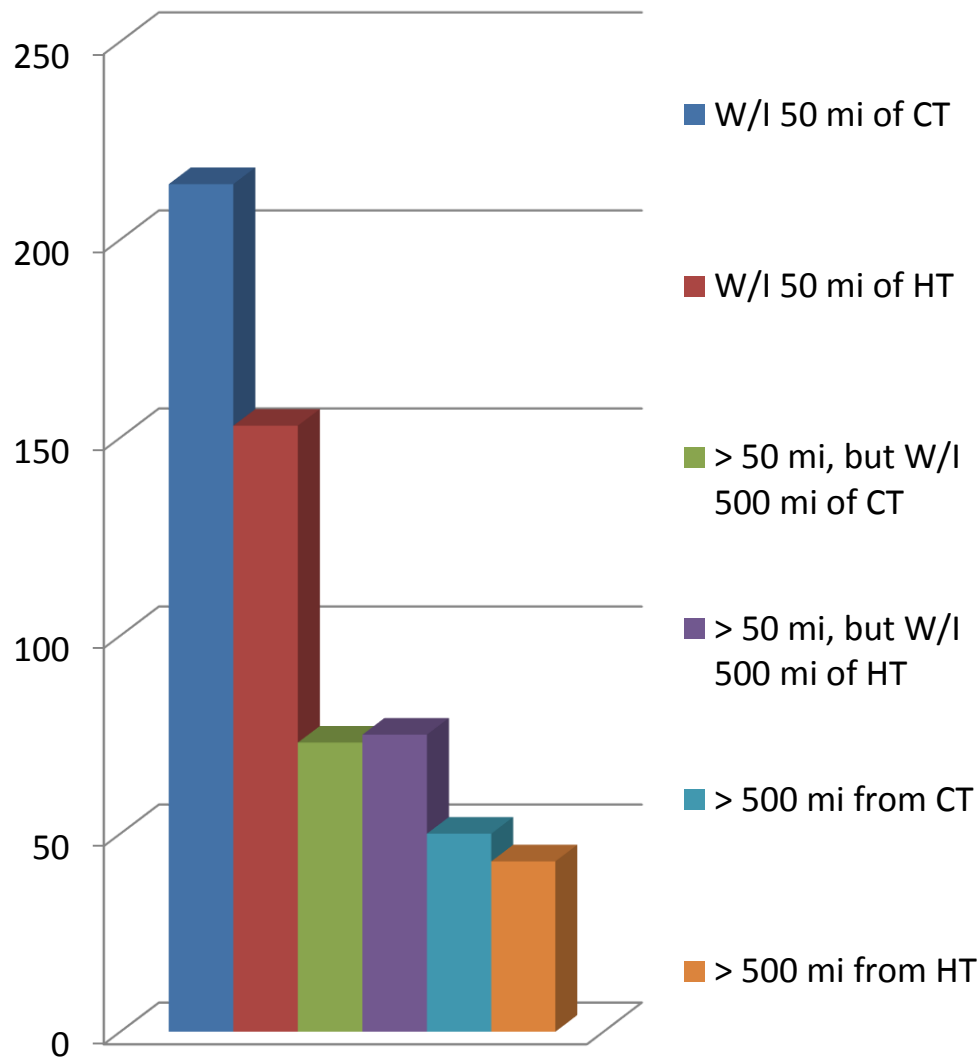
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be

Category	<i>n</i>
In WV?	248
In KY, OH, PA, VA, or MD?	78
In a state other than one mentioned above?	76
In a country other than the US?	9
Total	411



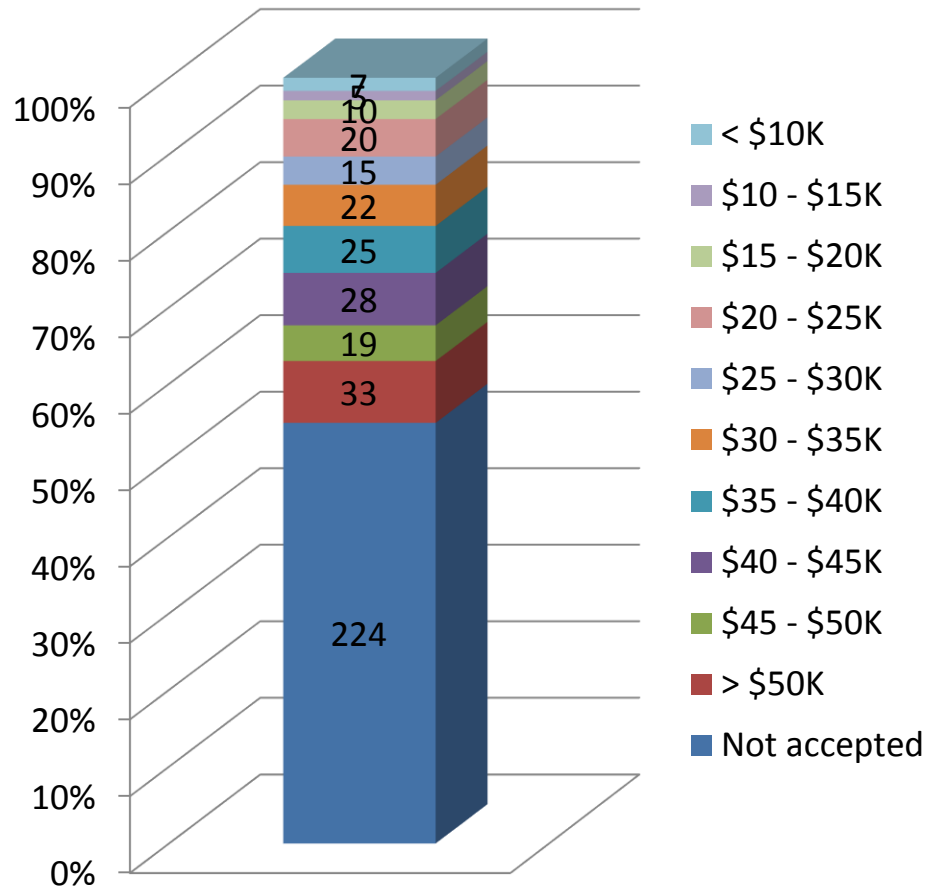
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be (choose all that apply):

Category	<i>n</i>
Within 50 miles of your college town?	214
Within 50 miles of your home town?	153
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of your college town?	73
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of your home town?	75
Over 500 miles from your college town	50
Over 500 miles from your home town	43



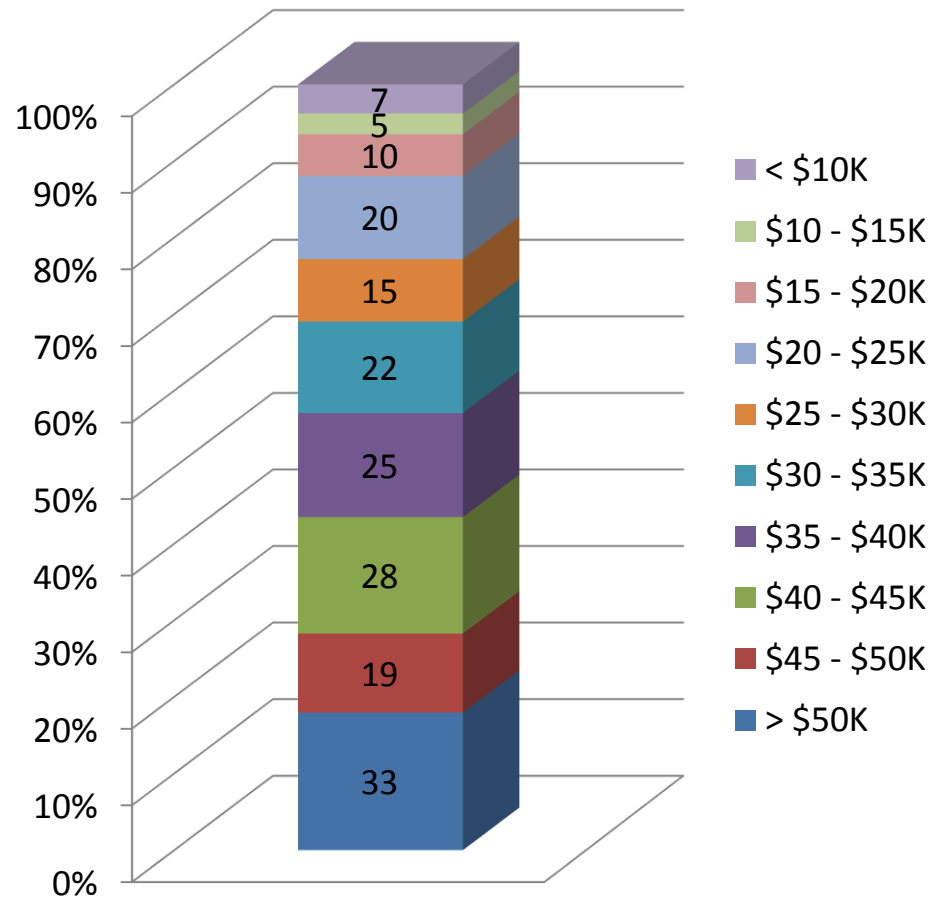
If you have accepted employment, what is your starting salary?

Category	<i>n</i>
\$10,000 or less	7
\$10,001 - \$15,000	5
\$15,001 - \$20,000	10
\$20,001 - \$25,000	20
\$25,001 - \$30,000	15
\$30,001 - \$35,000	22
\$35,001 - \$40,000	25
\$40,001 - \$45,000	28
\$45,001 - \$50,000	19
More than \$50,000	33
I have not yet accepted employment	224
Total	408



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	5
\$15,001 - \$20,000	10
\$20,001 - \$25,000	20
\$25,001 - \$30,000	15
\$30,001 - \$35,000	22
\$35,001 - \$40,000	25
\$40,001 - \$45,000	28
\$45,001 - \$50,000	19
More than \$50,000	33
Total	184

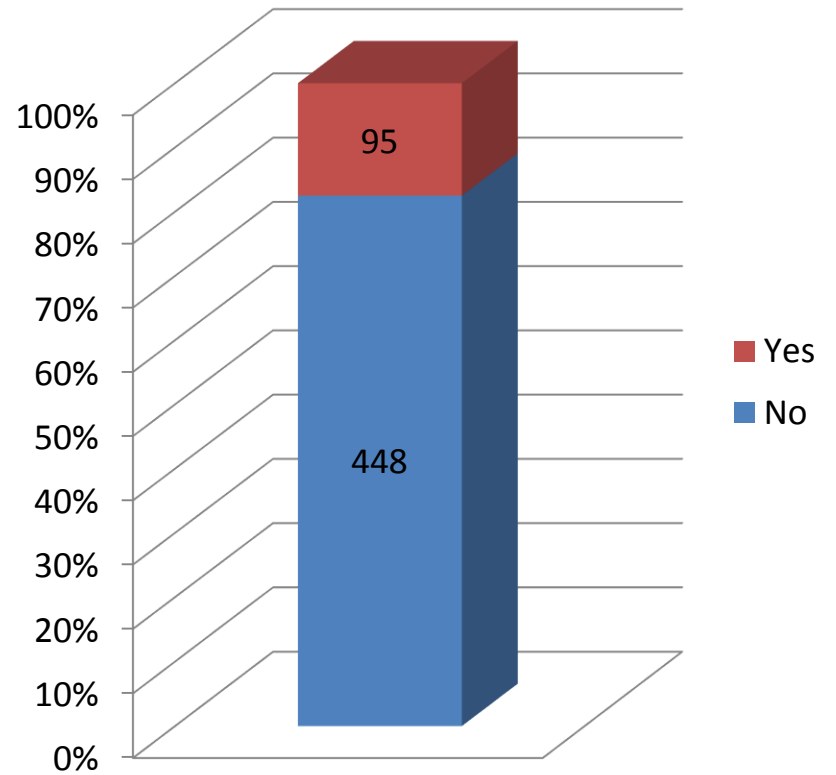






## Did Career Services help you with your career path?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	95
No	448
Total	543



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

Category	<i>n</i>
Marshall Job Trax	66
Resume Assistance	75
Career Advising	29
Mock Interviewing	25
On-Campus Recruitment Event	24
Career Fair	51
Other (special event, advising)	2

