



2016-2017 Graduation Survey Data  
Summer and Fall (2016) and Spring (2017)  
Marshall University

Office of Assessment and Program Review

# Executive Summary

- **These data are for academic year 2016 – 2017. Unless otherwise noted, all findings are essentially unchanged since academic year 2015 – 2016.**
- Overall response rate was 37% (568 respondents out of 1,553 graduates) – **up slightly from 33% in 2015-2016.**
- Females were more likely than males to respond to the survey.
- The Mean GPA of respondents (3.26) was significantly higher than that of all graduates (3.15).
- 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-three percent reported no educational debt (up from 31% in 2015-2016), while 39% reported debt greater than \$20,000 (down from 41% in 2015-2016).
- Most respondents stated that their educational objective was to begin their first career.
- Thirty-eight percent of respondents said they had participated in an internship or practicum (significantly down from 56% in 2015-2016), with 71% believing this experience had helped them find employment (significantly up from 60% in 2015-2016).
- Sixty percent of respondents indicated that they intend to pursue graduate studies (up from 58% in 2015-2016), while only 5% 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 two out of sixteen items (**down from three in 2015-2016**). Both of these items also were identified in 2014 – 2015.
  - Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills. (2.09)
  - I broadened my appreciation for the arts. (2.26)

# 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 (1.75) than with
  - the quality of advising (2.37)
  - academic support services (2.13)
  - classroom and lab facilities (2.14)
- Sixty-seven percent of respondents plan to be employed in their major field, 9% not in their major field, and 24% were unsure at the time of the survey.
- Fifty-nine percent plan to work in WV.
- Forty-six percent (of the 379 students who answered the question) reported having accepted a job. Of those, 73% will earn more than \$30,000 annually (up from 69% in 2015-2016).
- Only 18% of respondents reported using Career Services, with JobTrax and Resume Assistance used most frequently.

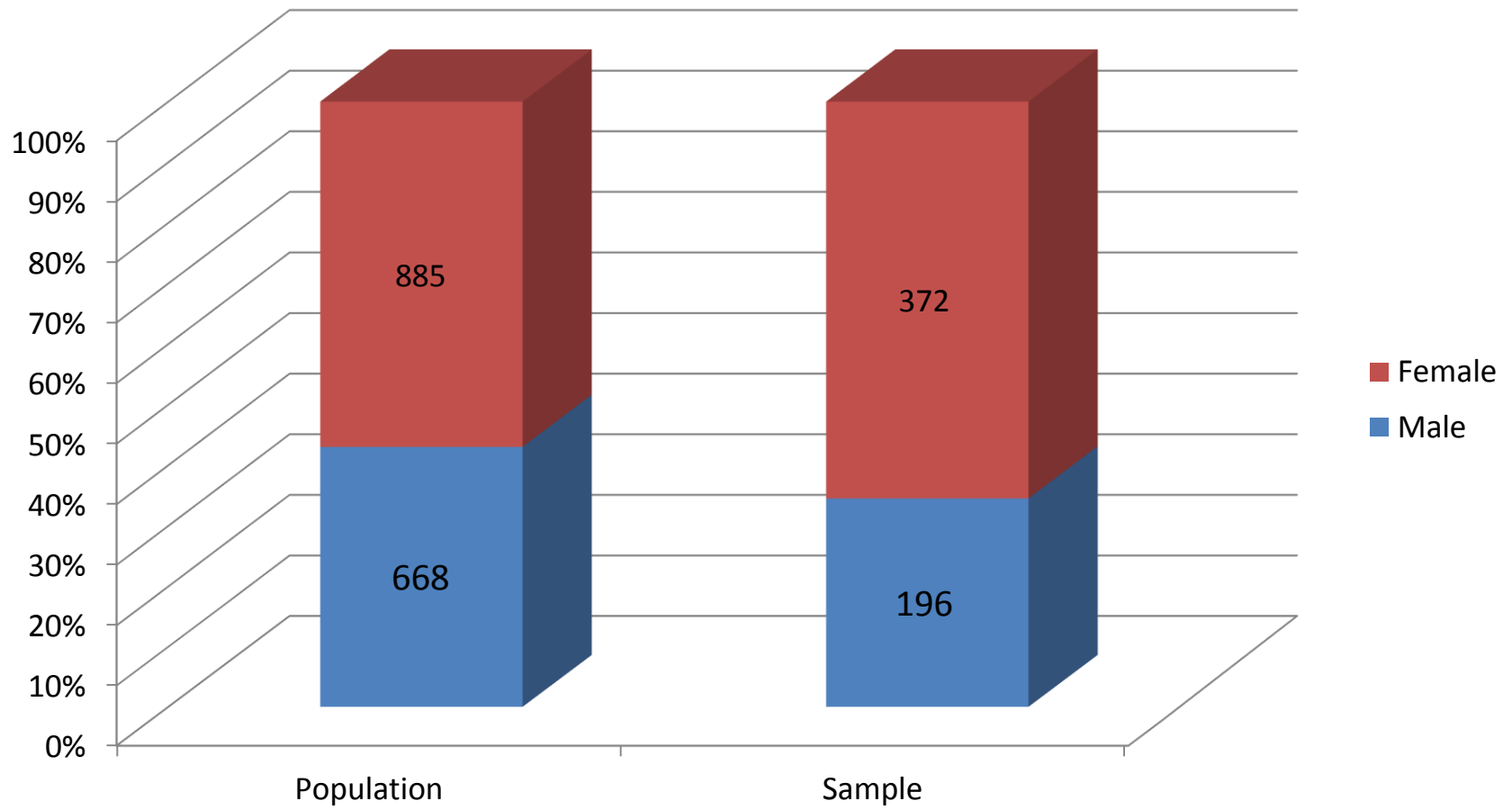
# 2016 – 2017 Response Rate by College by Semester

College	Summer 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Total
CAM	2/3 = 67%	5/26 = 19%	22/63 = 35%	29/92 = 32%
COB	3/20 = 15%	23/64 = 36%	62/156 = 40%	88/240 = 37%
COEPD	0/5 = 0%	26/53 = 49%	24/63 = 38%	50/121 = 41%
COHP	5/22 = 23%	59/172 = 34%	96/272 = 35%	160/466 = 34%
COLA	5/20 = 25%	10/45 = 22%	40/121 = 33%	55/186 = 30%
COS	2/10 = 20%	24/67 = 36%	63/132 = 48%	89/209 = 43%
CITE	0/1 = 0%	10/27 = 37%	18/38 = 47%	28/66 = 42%
RBA	10/33 = 30%	29/73 = 40%	30/67 = 45%	69/173 = 40%
Total	27/114 = 24%	186/527 = 35%	355/912 = 39%	568/1,553 = 37%

Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender;  $X^2 (1) = 12.466, p < .001$

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
Male	668 (43%)	Male	196 (34.5%)	29%
Female	885 (57%)	Female	372 (65.5%)	42%
Total	1,553 (100%)	Total	568 (100%)	37%

Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons:  $\chi^2 (1) = 12.466, p < .001$

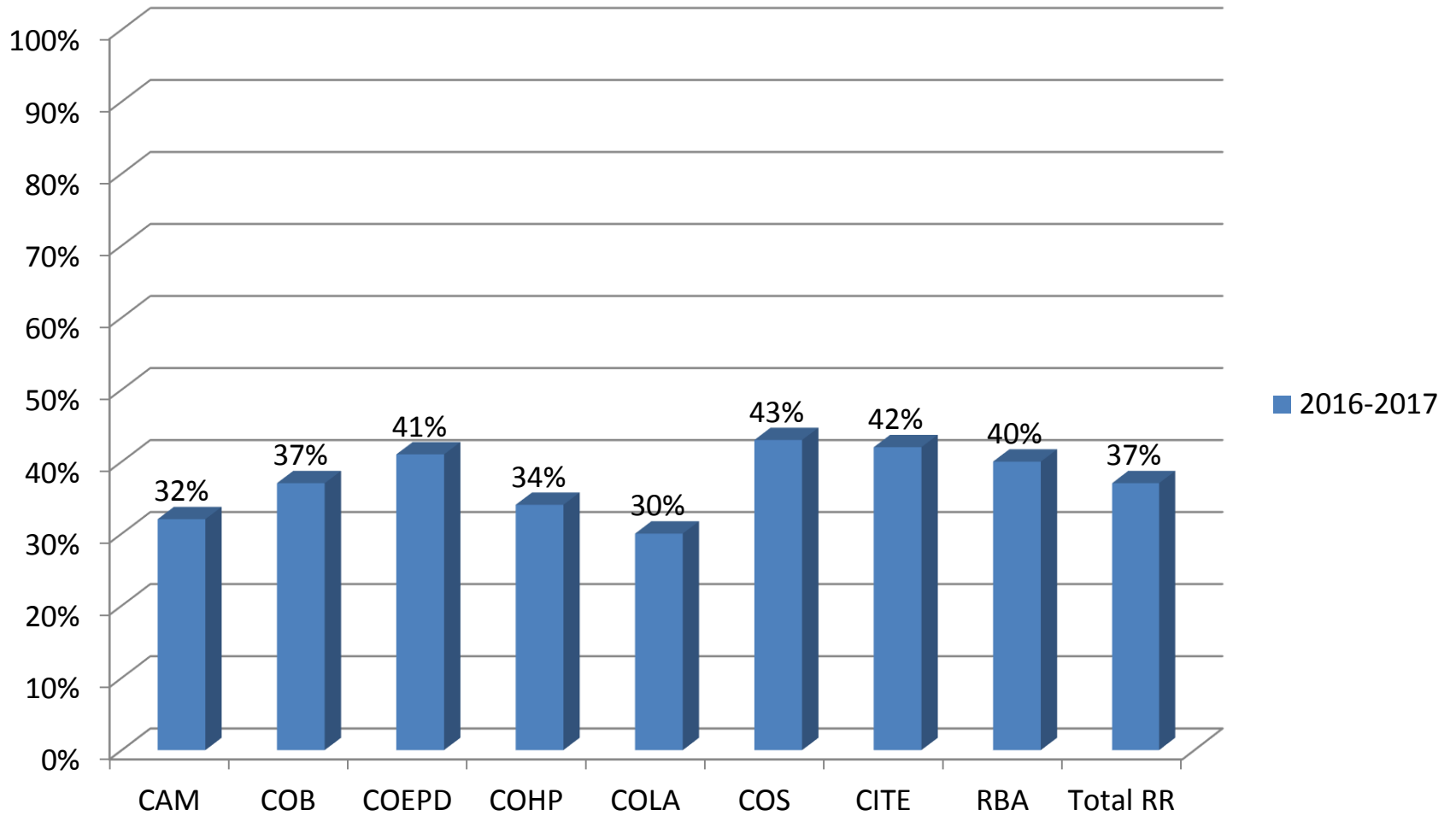




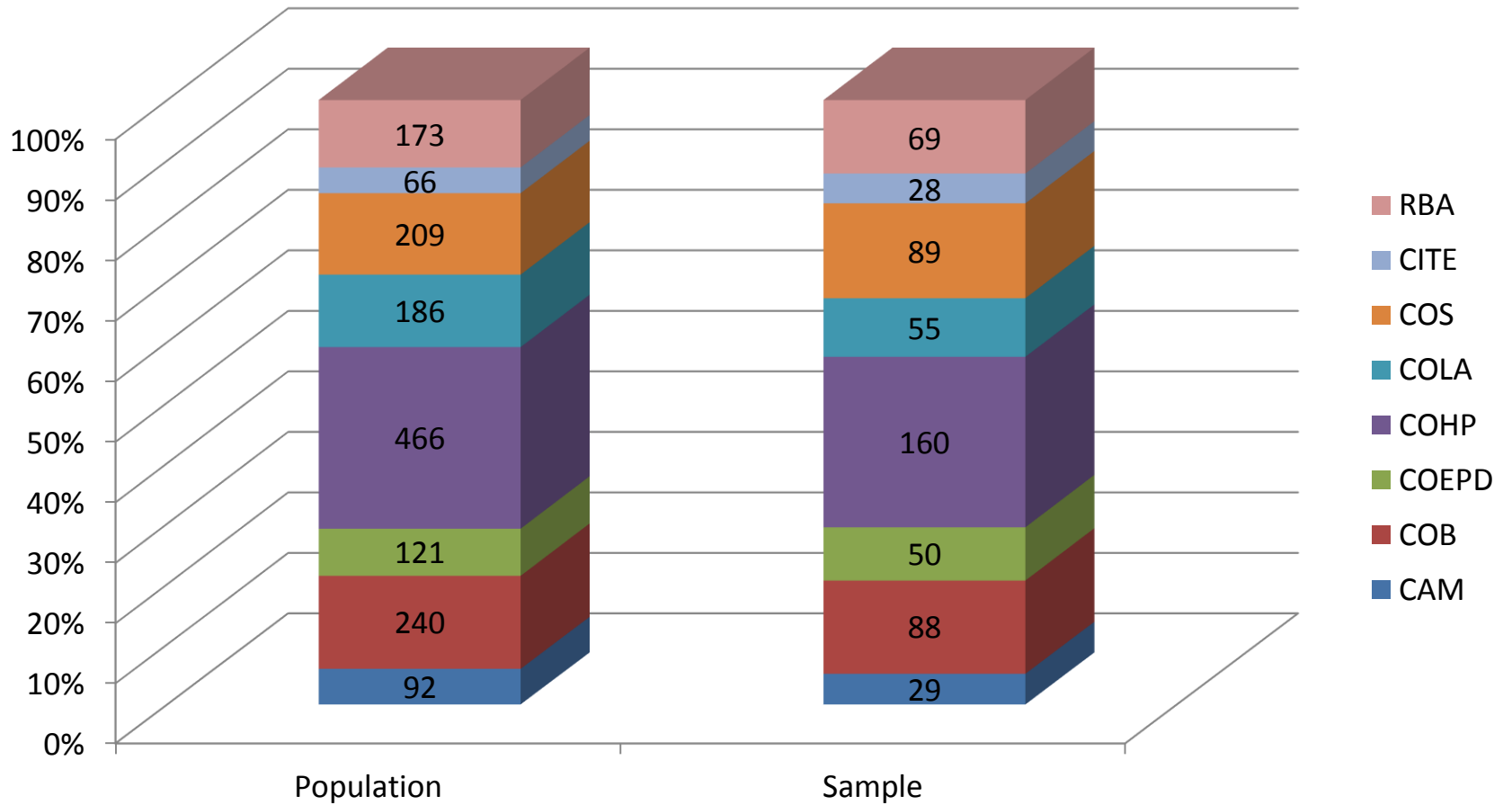
Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; *ns*

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
CAM	92 (6%)	CAM	29 (5%)	32%
COB	240 (15%)	COB	88 (15%)	37%
COEPD	121 (8%)	COE	50 (9%)	41%
COHP	466 (30%)	COHP	160 (28%)	34%
COLA	186 (12%)	COLA	55 (10%)	30%
COS	209 (13%)	COS	89 (16%)	43%
CITE	66 (4%)	CITE	28 (5%)	42%
RBA	173 (11%)	RBA	69 (12%)	40%
Total	1,553 (100%)	Total	568 (100%)	37%

# Response Rate by College



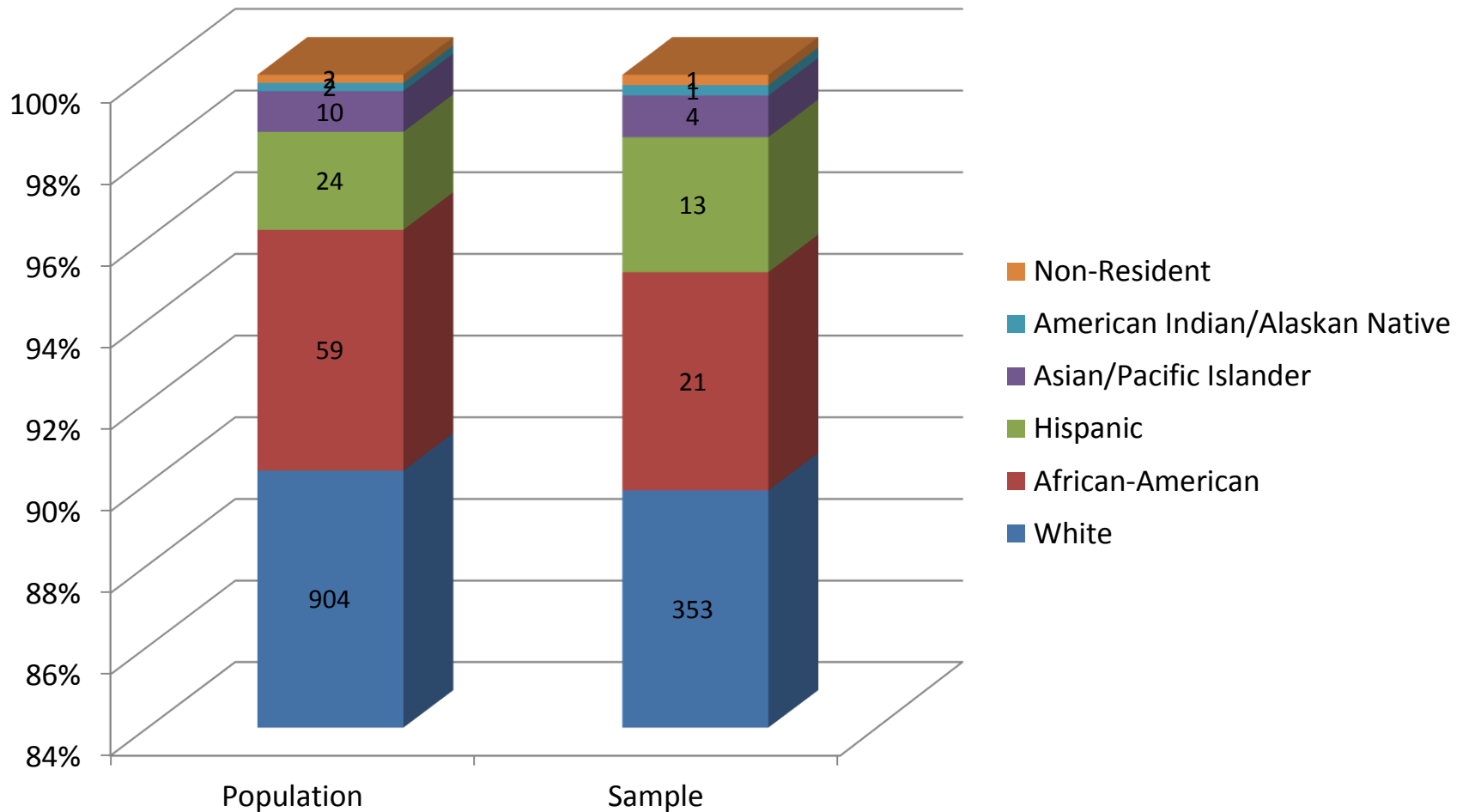
# Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; *ns*



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

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
White	904 (90%)	White	353 (90%)	39%
African-American	59 (6%)	African-American	21 (5%)	36%
Hispanic	24 (2%)	Hispanic	13 (3%)	54%
Asian/Pacific Islander	10 (1%)	Asian/Pacific Islander	4 (1%)	40%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2 (0%)	American Indian/Alaskan Native	1 (0%)	50%
Non-Resident	2 (0%)	Non-Resident	1 (0%)	50%
Total	1,001 (100%)	Total	393 (100%)	39%

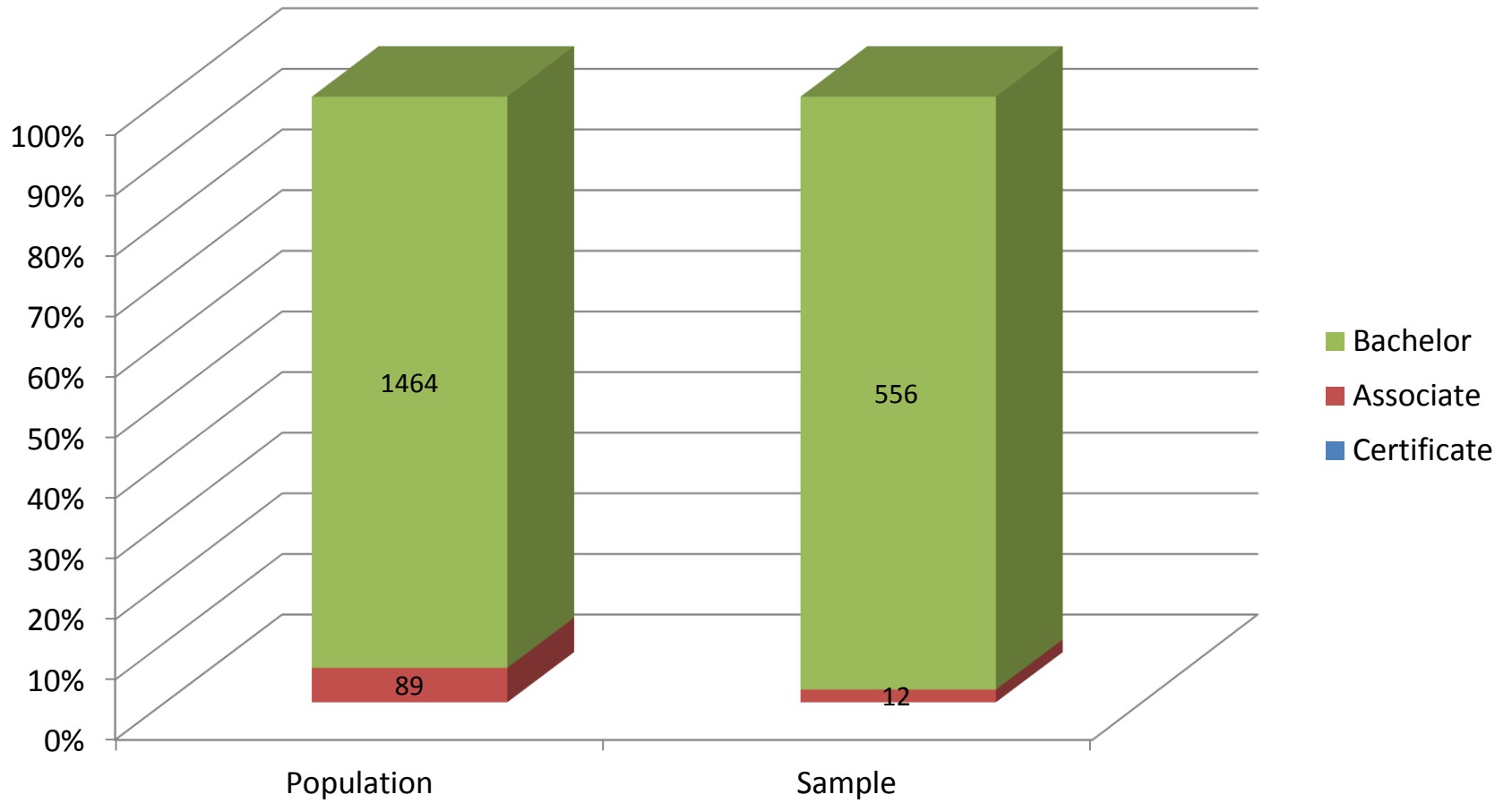
# Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Race; *ns*



Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned;  $\chi^2 (1) = 12.005, p = .001$

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
Certificates	0	Certificates	0	N/A
Associate's Degree	89 (6%)	Associate's Degree	12 (2%)	13%
Bachelor's Degree	1,464 (94%)	Bachelor's Degree	556 (98%)	38%
Total	1,553	Total	568	37%

Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Degree Earned;  $\chi^2 (1) = 12.005, p = .001$

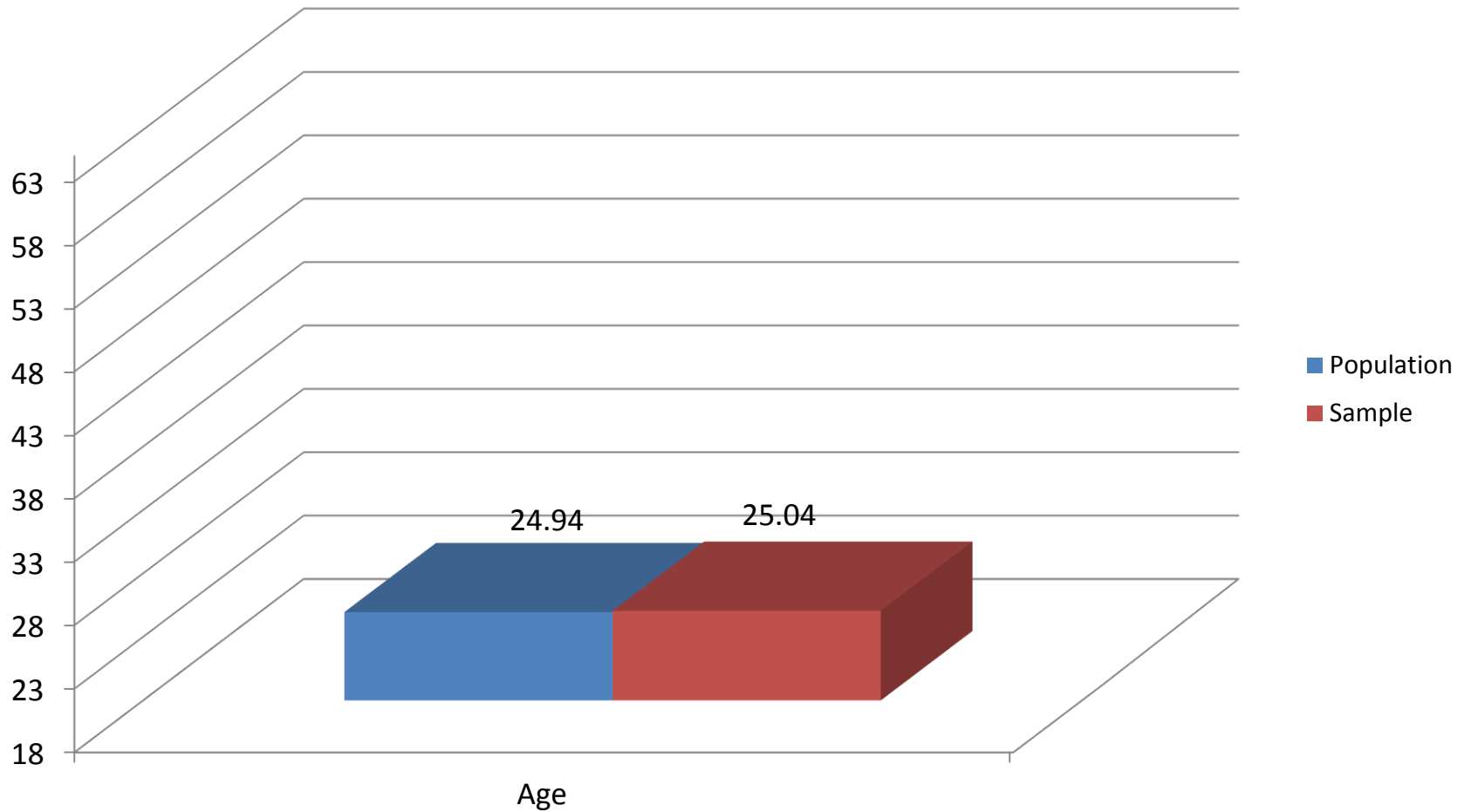


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Age and GPA; Age is *ns*, but GPA is significant,  
 $t(567) = 5.467, p < .001$ .

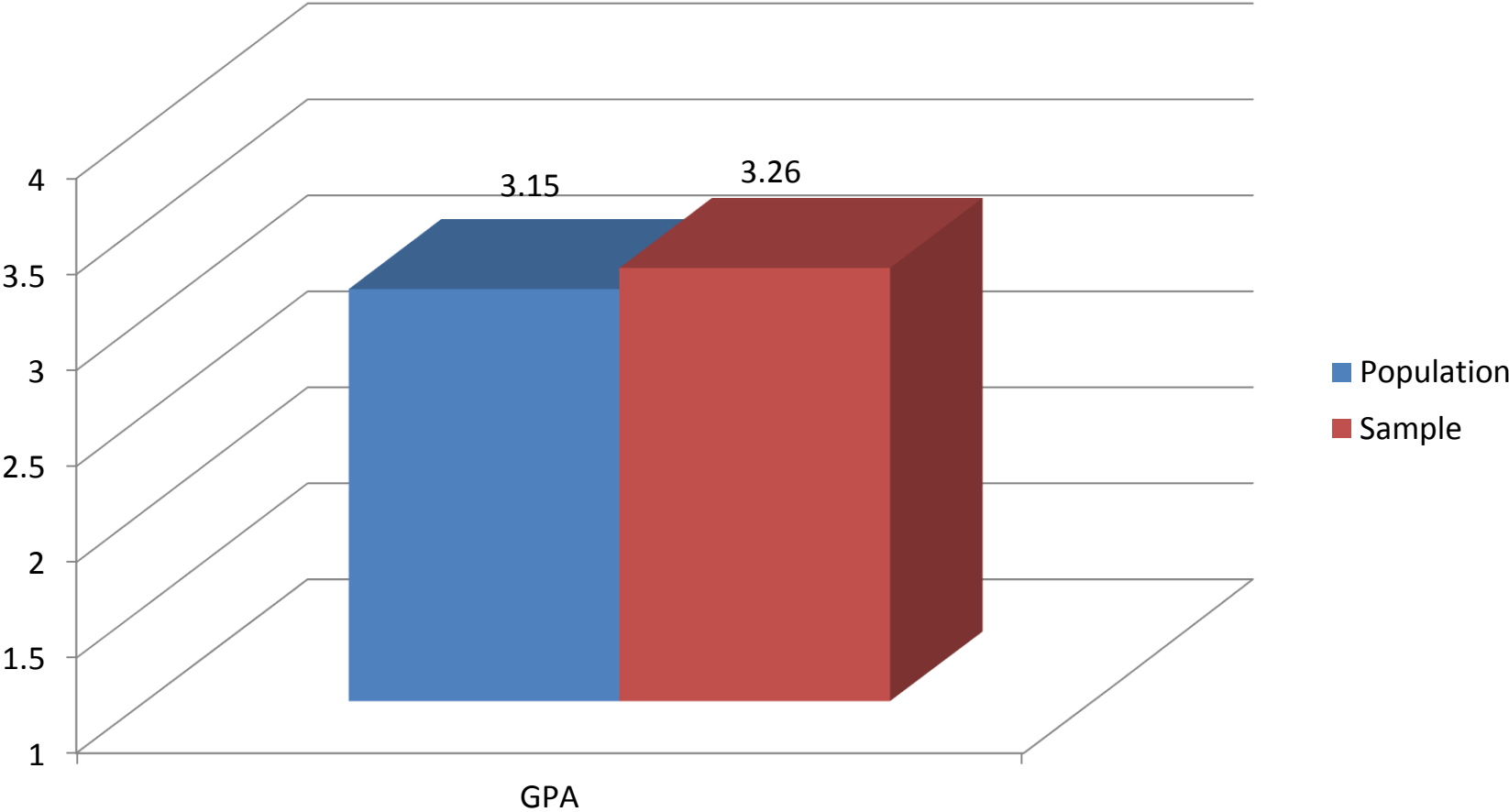
Population Category	Mean ( <i>SD</i> )	Median	Range
Age ( $n = 1,553$ )	24.94 (6.29)	22	20 – 82
GPA ( $n = 1,553$ )	3.15 (0.464)	3.18	1.93 – 4.00
Sample Category			
Age ( $n = 556$ )	25.04 (6.81)	22	20 – 82
GPA ( $n = 558$ )	3.26 (0.473)	3.31	1.93 – 4.00



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

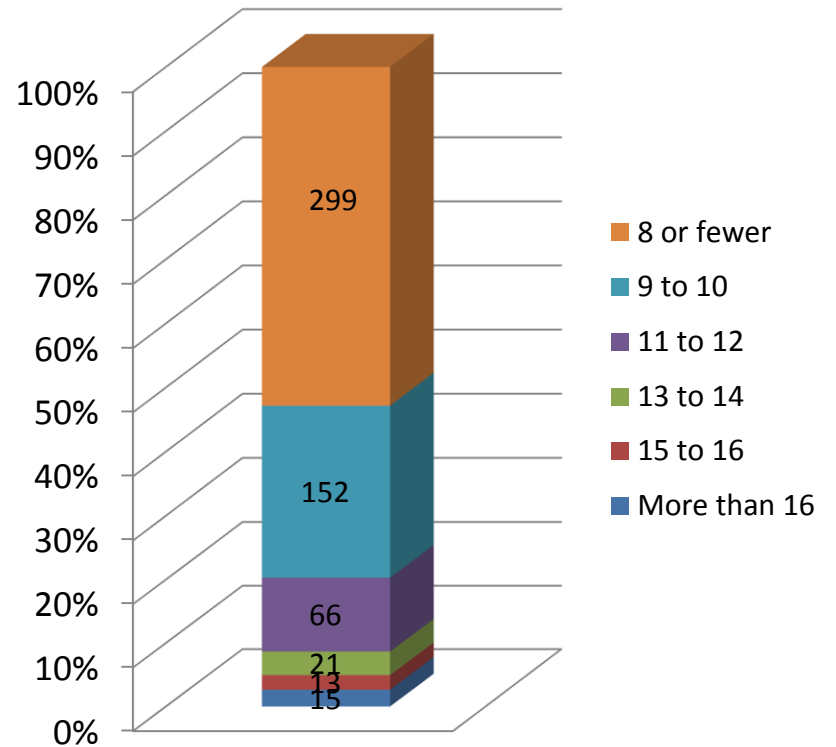


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: GPA; GPA is significant,  $t(567) = 5.467$ ,  $p < .001$ .



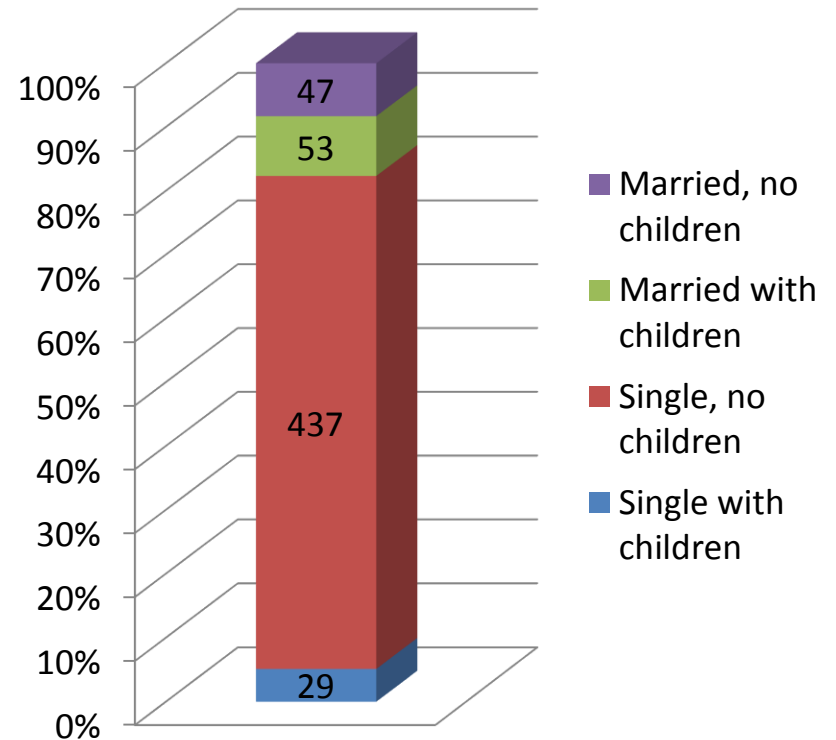
## # of Semesters to Complete Degree

Category	<i>n</i>
8 or fewer	299
9 – 10	152
11 – 12	66
13 – 14	21
15 – 16	13
More than 16	15
Total	566



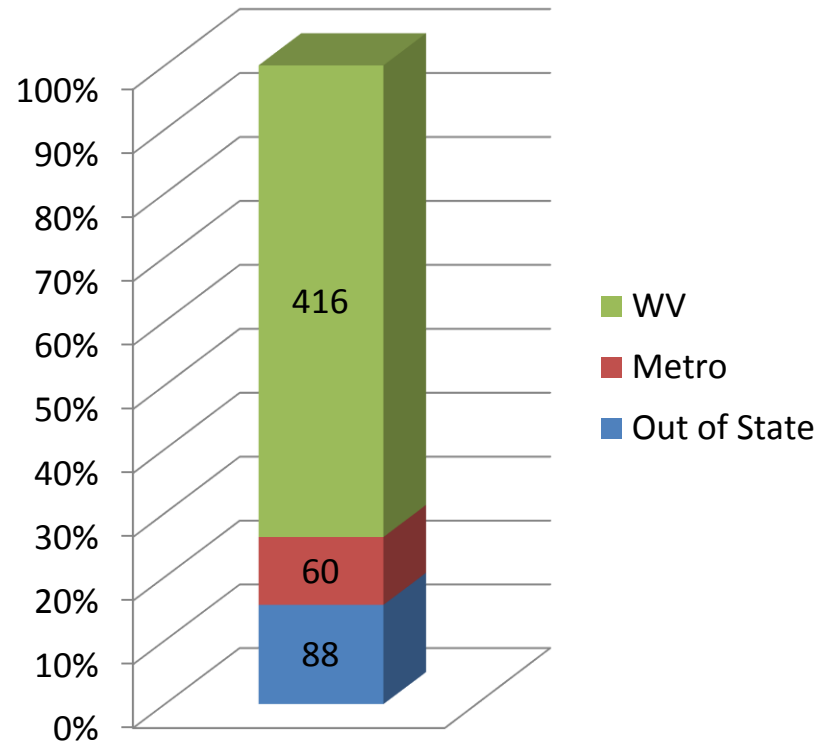
# Family Status

Category	<i>n</i>
Married, no children	47
Married with children	53
Single, no children	437
Single with children	29
Total	566



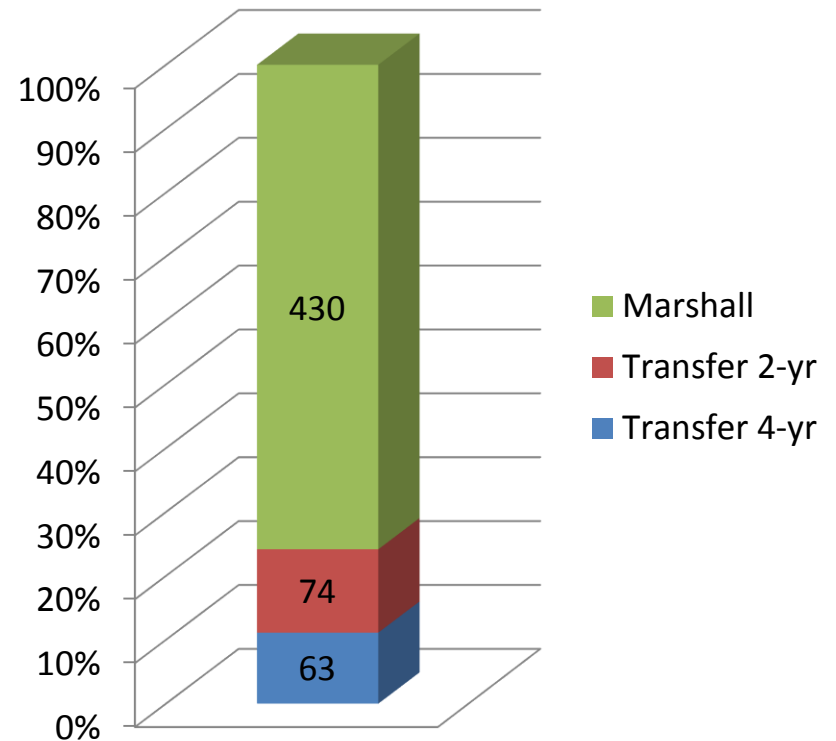
## Residence at time of admission

Category	<i>n</i>
West Virginia	416
Metro	60
Out of State	88
Total	565



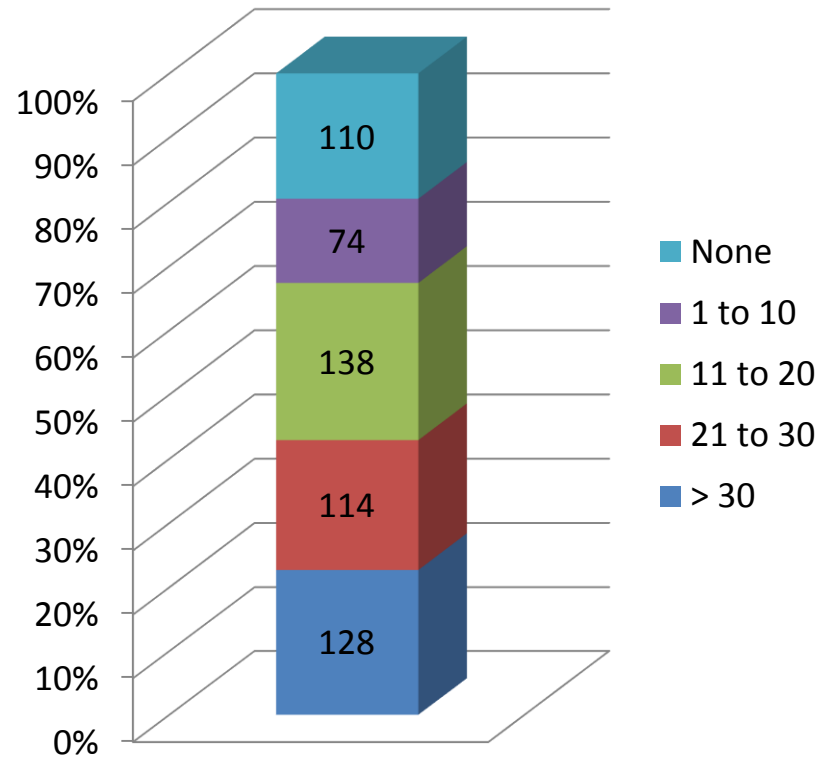
## While pursuing your degree, did you

Category	<i>n</i>
Originally Enroll and Stay at Marshall?	430
Transfer from a 2-Year institution?	74
Transfer from another 4-year institution?	63
Total	567



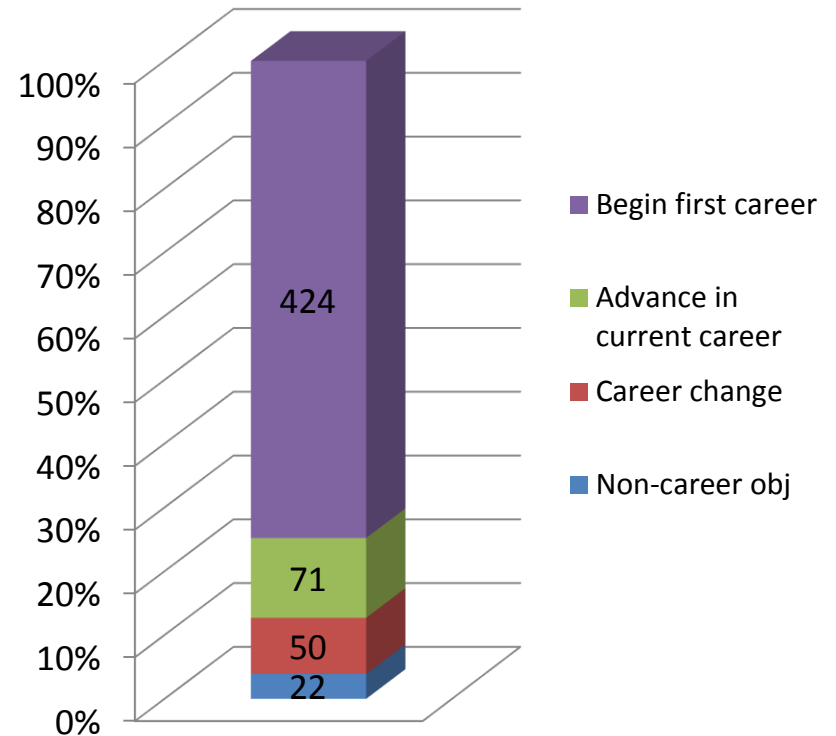
During the last year of your studies, how many hours a week did you work while attending classes?

Category	<i>n</i>
None	110
1 - 10	74
11 - 20	138
21 - 30	114
More than 30	128
Total	565



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

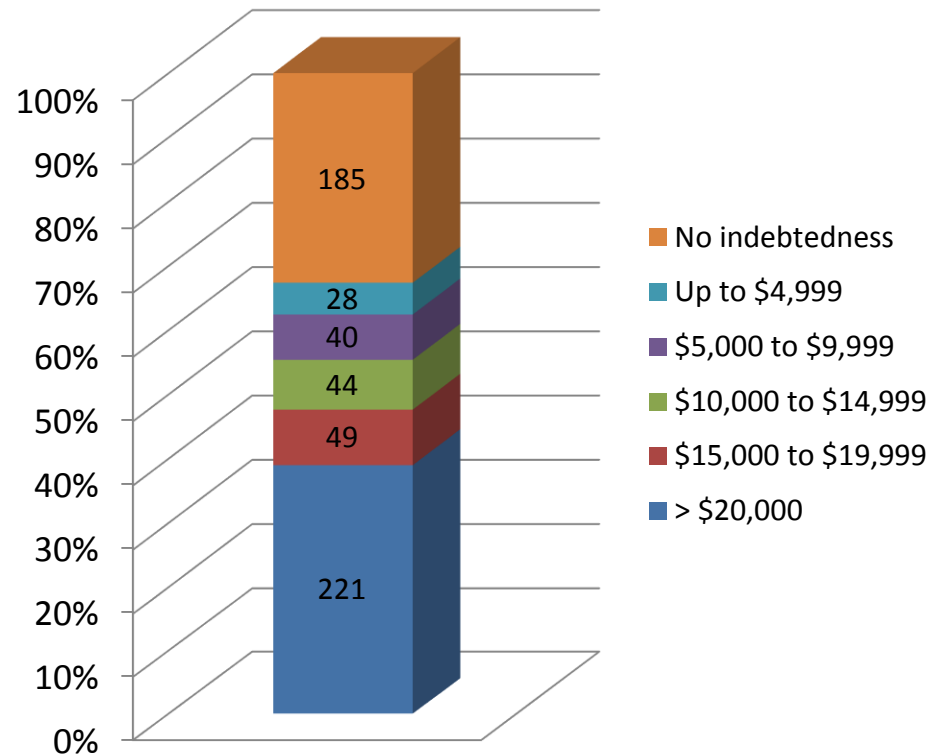
Category	<i>n</i>
Begin first career	424
Advance in current career	71
Career Change	50
Non-Career Objective	22
Total	567





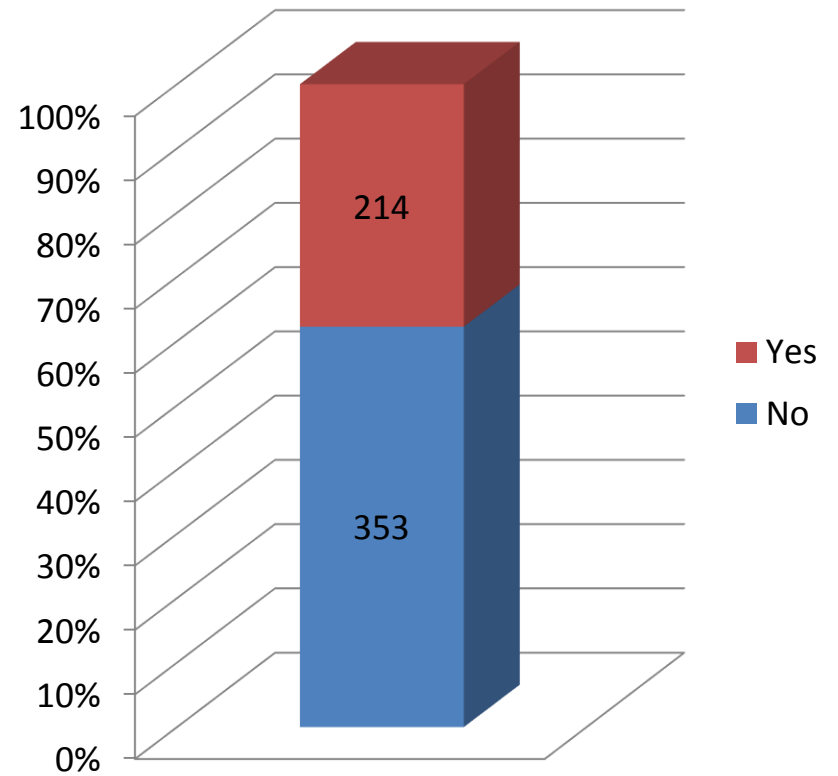
Upon graduation, what was the dollar amount of your educational loan indebtedness?

Category	<i>n</i>
No indebtedness	185
Up to \$4,999	28
\$5,000 - \$9,999	40
\$10,000 - \$14,999	44
\$15,000 - \$19,999	49
> \$20,000	221
Total	567



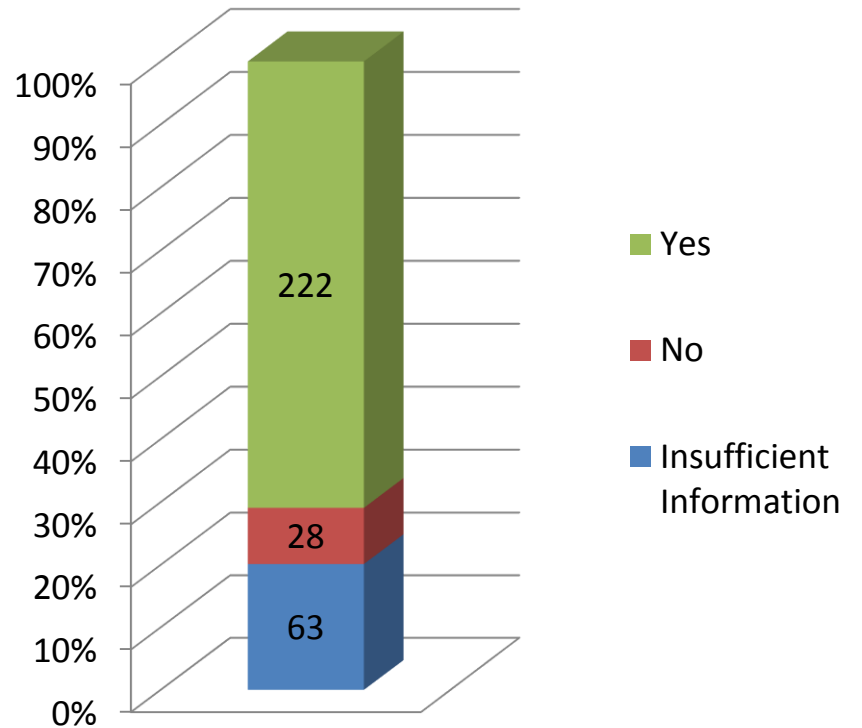
Did you take part in an internship, practicum or other structured work experience related to your major?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	214
No	353
Total	567



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

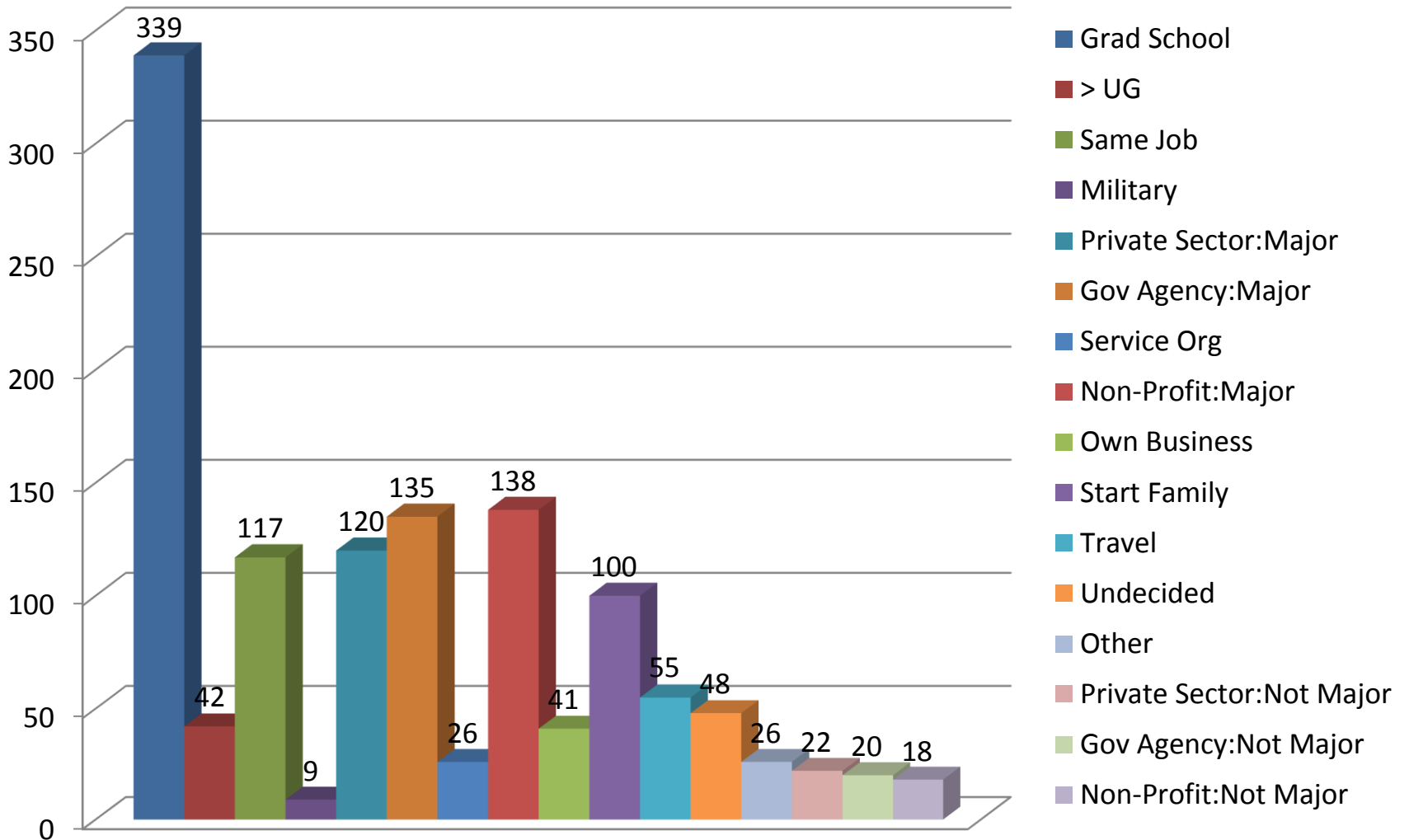
Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	222
No	28
Insufficient Information to answer question	63
Total	313



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

Category	<i>n</i>
Attend Graduate School	339
Complete additional undergraduate coursework	42
Continue to work at the same job I have at present	117
Enter the military	9
Work for a private sector company or corporation in job related to college major	120
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.	26
Work for a non-profit organization, e.g. hospital, university, public school, etc. in job related to college major	138
Begin my own business	41
Start or raise a family	100
Take time off (to travel, etc.)	55
Undecided or no plans	48
Other (Varied responses, including completing internships and searching for employment)	26
Work for a private sector company or corporation in job NOT related to college major	22
Work for a local, state, or federal agency in job NOT related to college major	20
Work for a non-profit organization, e.g. hospital, university, public school, etc. in job NOT related to college major	18

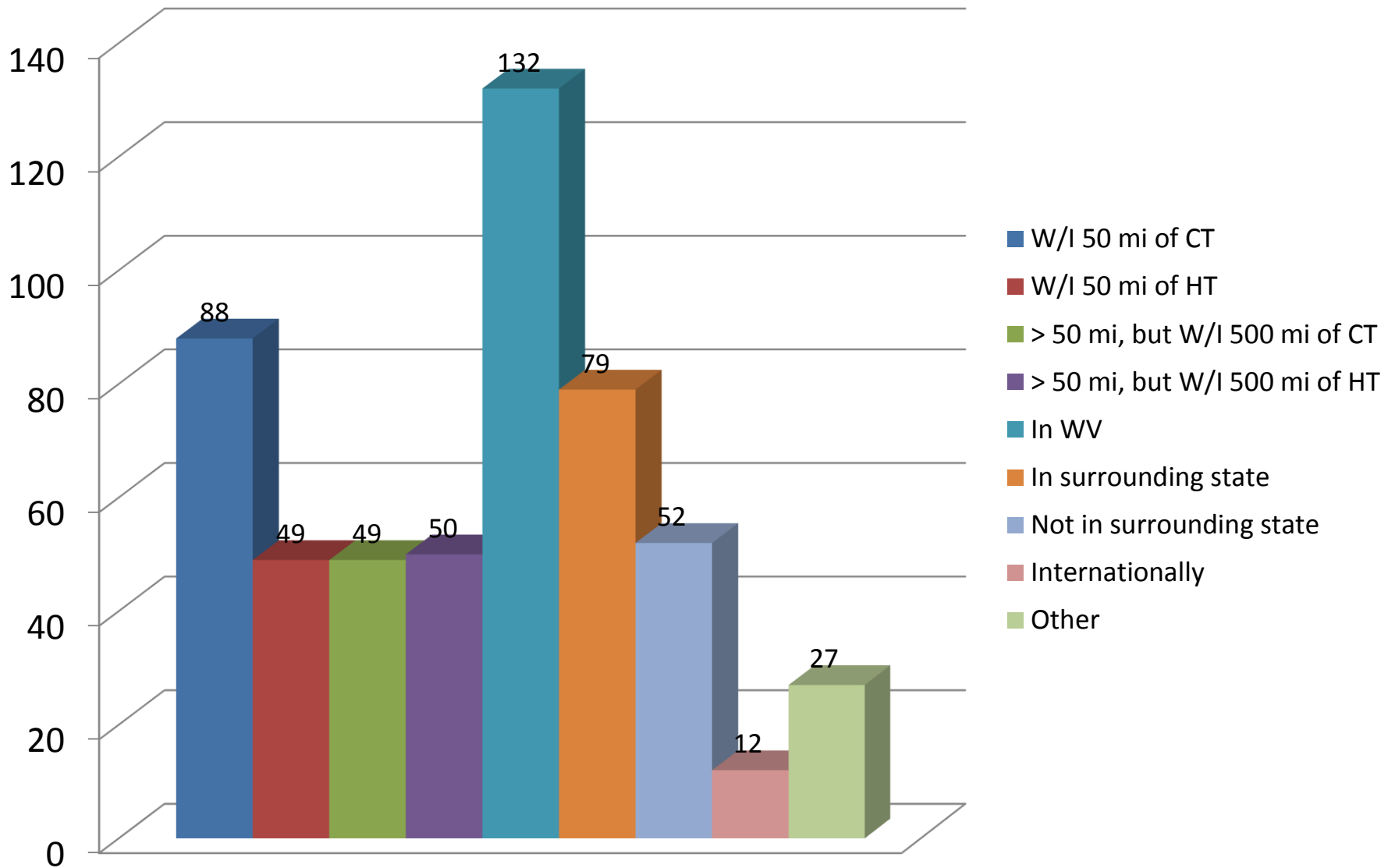
## When I graduate from Marshall University I plan to (check all that apply)



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

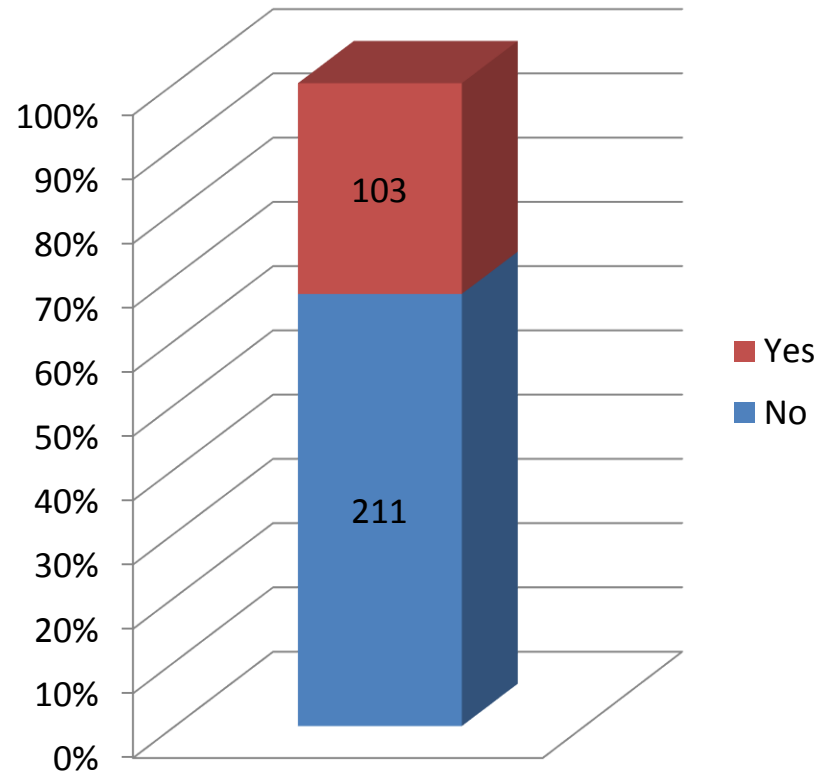
Category	<i>n</i>
Within 50 miles of my college town	88
Within 50 miles of my home town	49
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of my college town	49
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of my home town	50
In WV	132
In at least one of WV's neighboring states (OH, KY, VA, MD, PA)	79
Within the US, but outside the above boundaries	52
Internationally	12
Other (Varied, most have not yet applied)	27

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	103
No	211
Total	314





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>
Belmont College of Law	1	Mercer University	1
Bradley University	1	Mercer University	1
Capella University	1	Middle Tennessee State University	1
Colorado State University	1	Moritz College of Law	1
Elon University School of Law	1	Northwestern University	1
Georgia Institute of Technology	2	Ohio University	2
Kennesaw State University	1	Portland State University	1
Kentucky Christian University	1	Spalding University	1
Kings College London	1	Towson University	1
Logan University	1	University College Cork (Ireland)	1
Marshall University	34	University of Akron	1
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine	6	University of Cincinnati College of Law	1
Marshall University School of Pharmacy	5	University of Cincinnati College of Medicine	1
Marshall University School of Physical Therapy	1	University of Illinois at Chicago	1
Memphis University	1	University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign	1

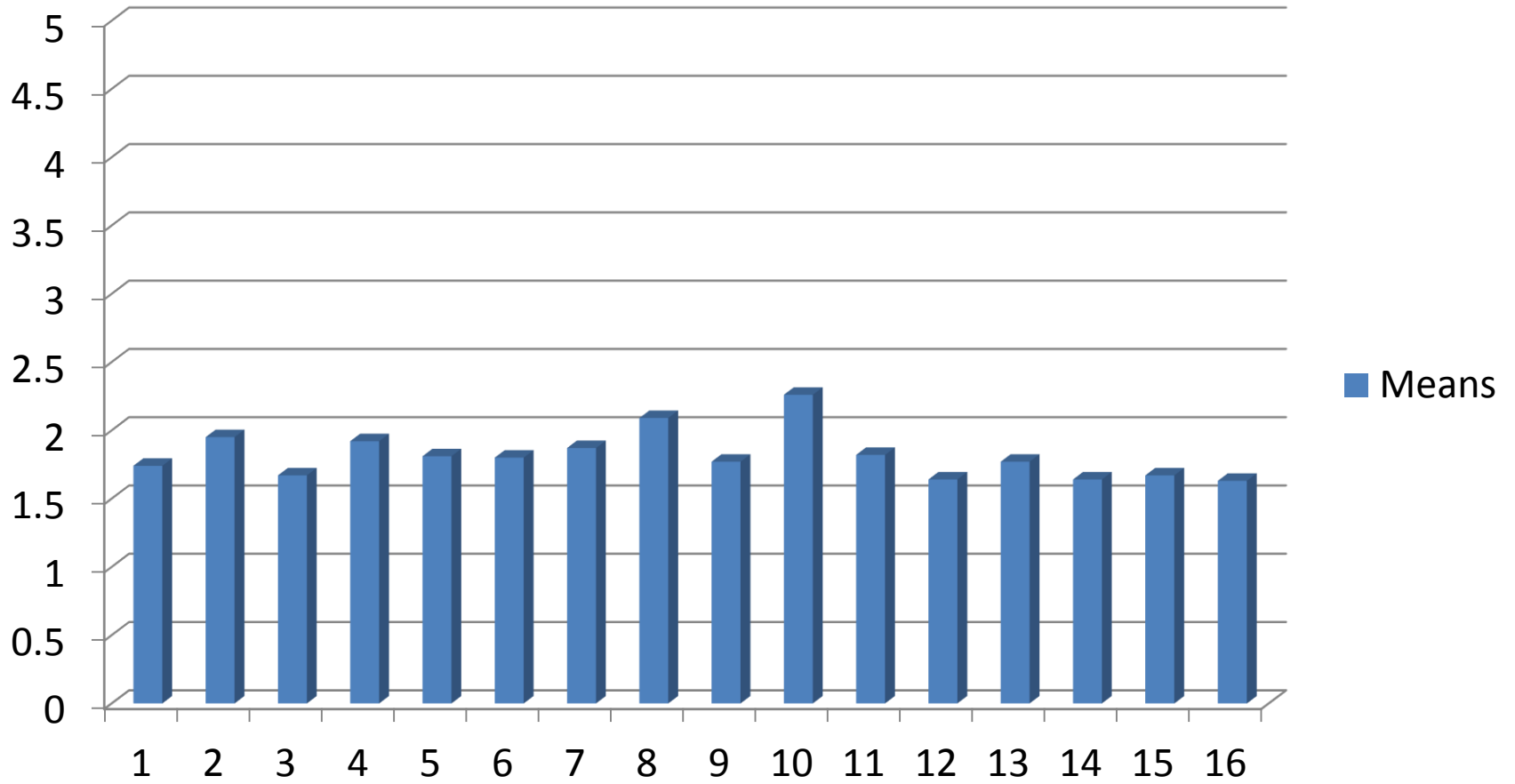


- The following tables and graphs give mean responses according to the following scale:
  - 1 = Strongly Agree
  - 2 = Agree
  - 3 = Neither Agree nor Disagree
  - 4 = Disagree
  - 5 = Strongly Disagree

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

Question	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>n</i>
1. I developed the ability to write effectively.	1.74	0.771	562
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems.	1.95	0.855	560
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	1.67	0.750	562
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	1.92	0.906	562
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	1.81	0.839	562
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	1.80	0.755	561
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	1.87	0.888	559
8. Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	2.09	1.049	558
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.	1.77	0.791	559
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	2.26	1.098	557
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	1.82	0.904	559
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	1.64	0.656	559
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	1.77	0.700	555
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	1.64	0.641	553
15. I determined how to improve my own learning and to engage in lifelong learning.	1.67	0.662	555
16. I used my knowledge from more than one area of study to explore issues or to solve problems.	1.63	0.646	555

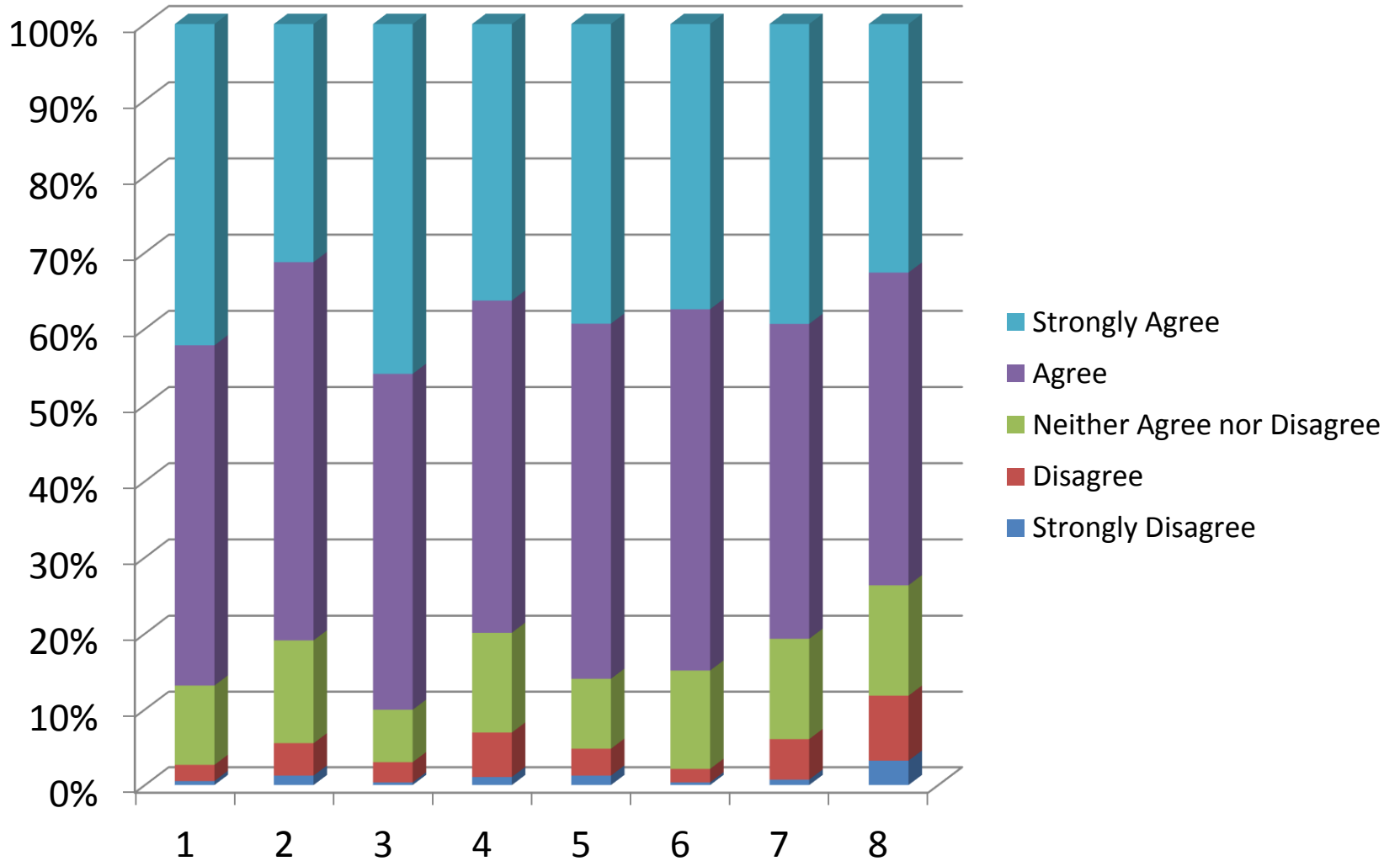
## Mean Agreement with Question 14 (1 – 16)



## 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.	237	251	59	12	3	562
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems..	175	278	76	24	7	560
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	258	248	39	15	2	562
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	204	245	74	33	6	562
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	221	262	52	20	7	562
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	210	266	73	10	2	561
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	220	231	74	30	4	559
8. . Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	182	229	81	48	18	558

Frequencies for Question 14 (1 – 8)

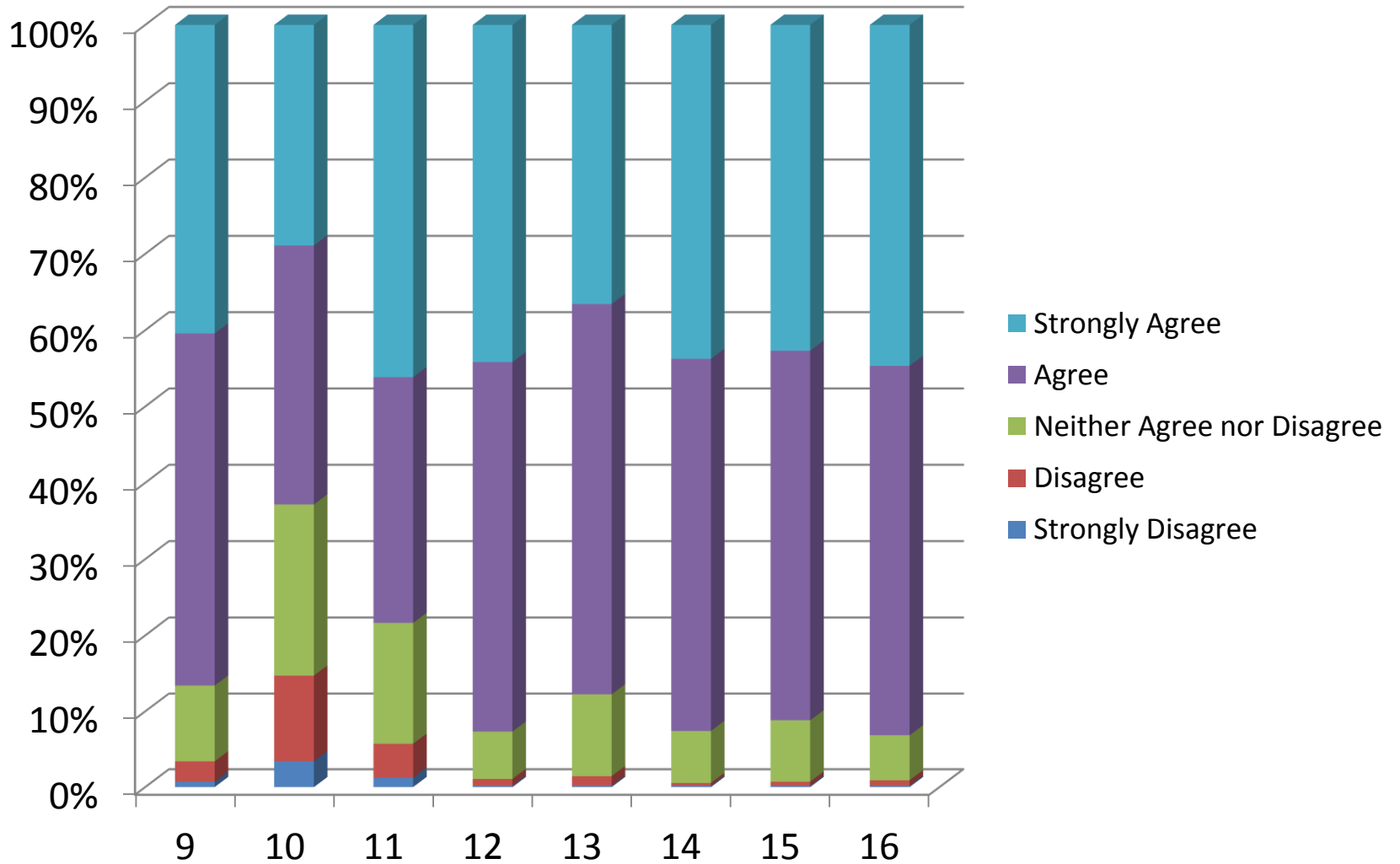


## Question 14: 9 – 16 (While pursuing my degree at Marshall University,

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	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.	226	258	56	15	4	559
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	161	189	125	63	19	557
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	258	180	89	25	7	559
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	247	271	35	5	1	559
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	203	284	60	7	1	555
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	242	270	38	2	1	553
15. I determined how to improve my own learning and to engage in lifelong learning.	237	269	45	3	1	555
16. I used knowledge from more than one area of study to explore issues or to solve problems.	248	269	33	4	1	555



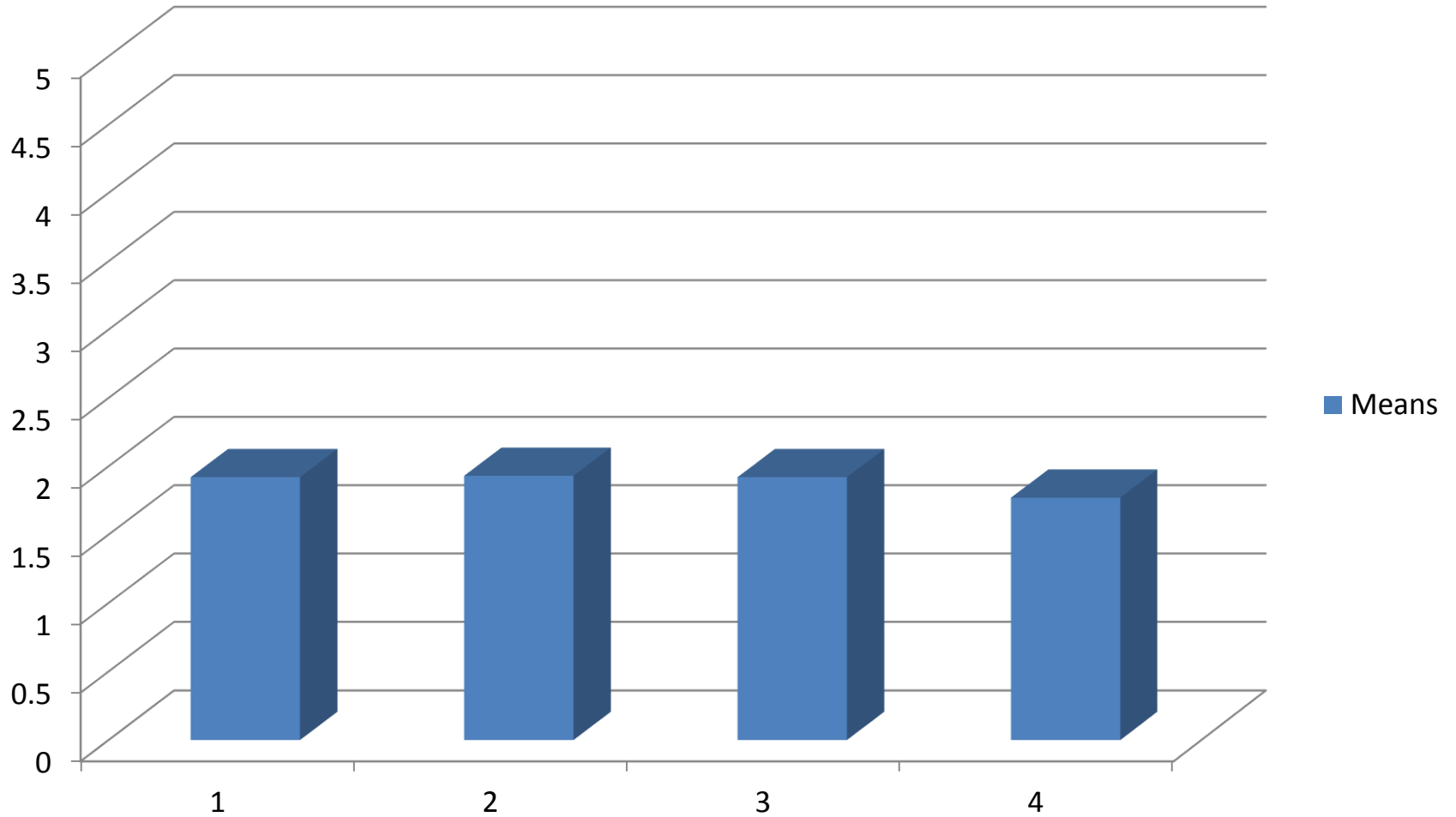
Frequencies for Question 14 (9 – 16)



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.	1.92	0.881	562
2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.	1.93	0.974	560
3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.	1.92	0.998	561
4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.	1.77	0.887	560

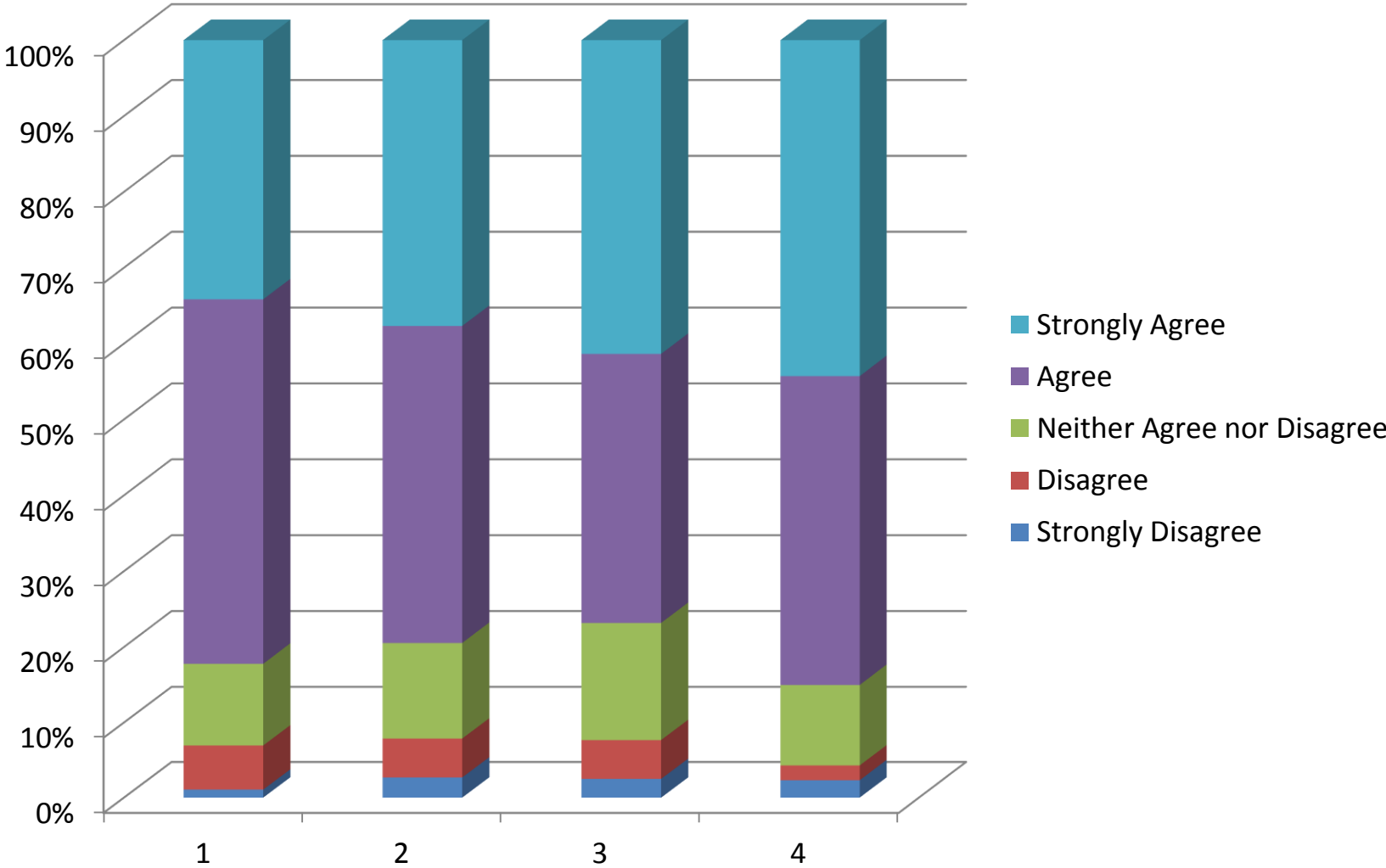
# Mean Agreement with Question 15 (1 – 4)



## 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.	192	270	61	33	6	562
2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.	211	234	71	29	15	560
3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.	232	199	87	29	14	561
4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.	248	228	60	11	13	560

Frequencies for Question 15 (1 - 4)

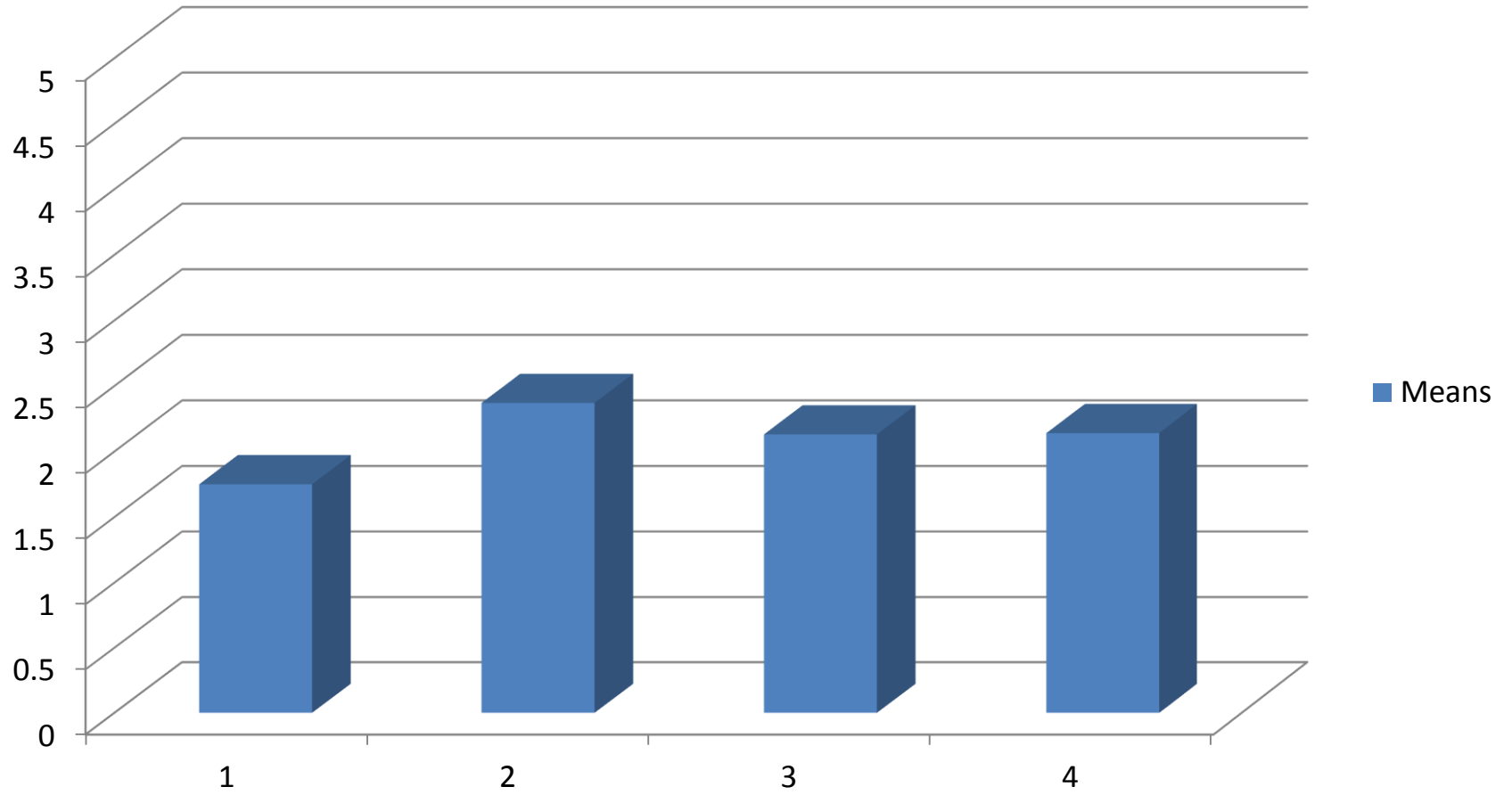


- The following tables and graphs give mean responses according to the following scale:
  - 1 = Very Satisfied
  - 2 = Satisfied
  - 3 = Neutral
  - 4 = Dissatisfied
  - 5 = Very Dissatisfied

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	1.75	0.800	562
2. Advising	2.37	1.271	561
3. Academic Support Services	2.13	0.910	561
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	2.14	0.971	562

# Mean Satisfaction to Question 16 (1 – 4)

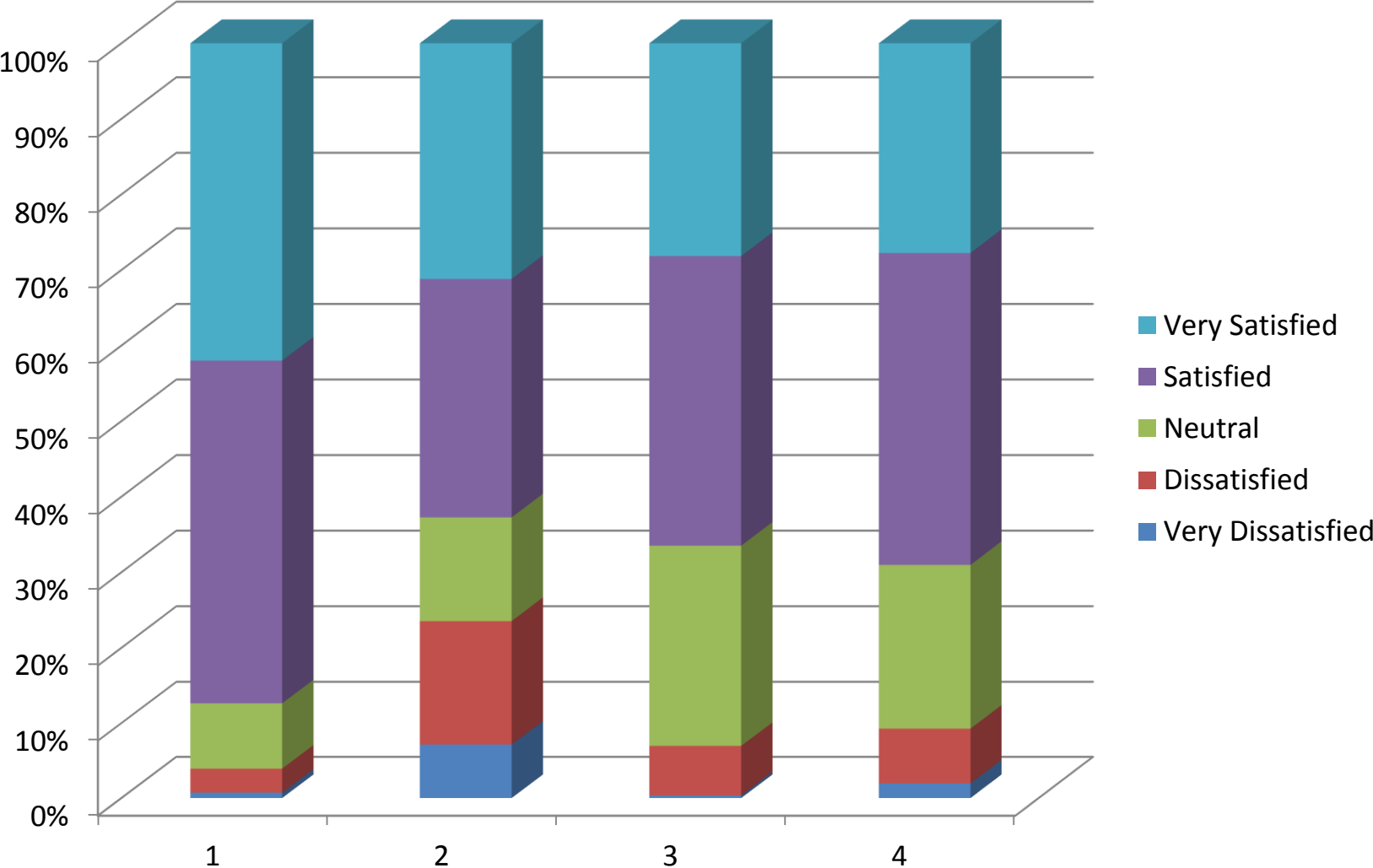




Question 16: 1 – 4 (Please Rate your satisfaction with the following at Marshall):

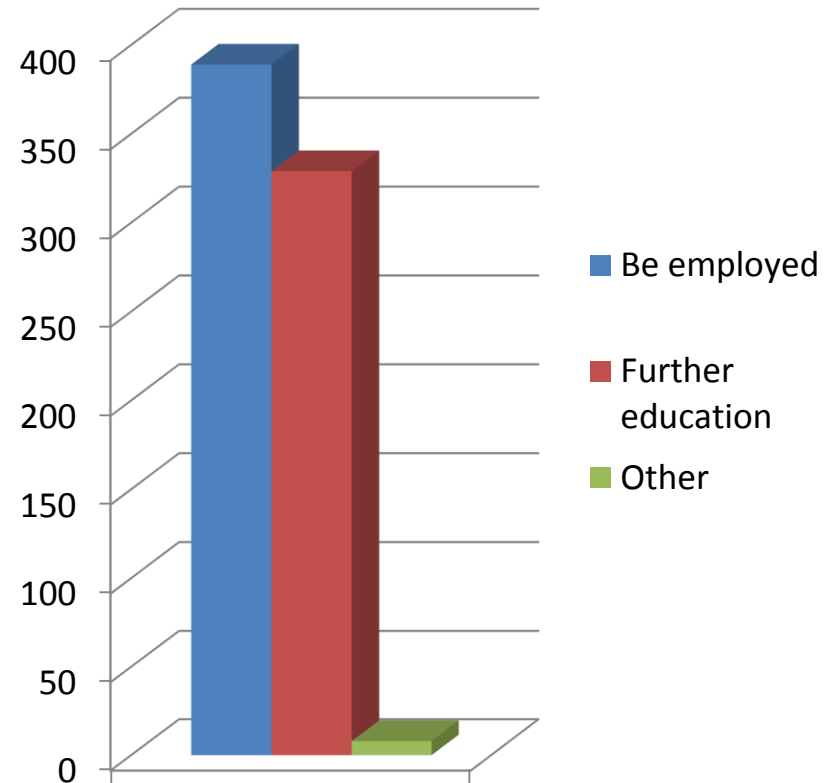
Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total n
1. Teaching	236	255	49	18	4	562
2. Advising	175	177	77	92	40	561
3. Academic Support Services	158	215	149	37	2	561
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	156	232	122	41	11	562

Frequencies for Question 16 (1 - 4)



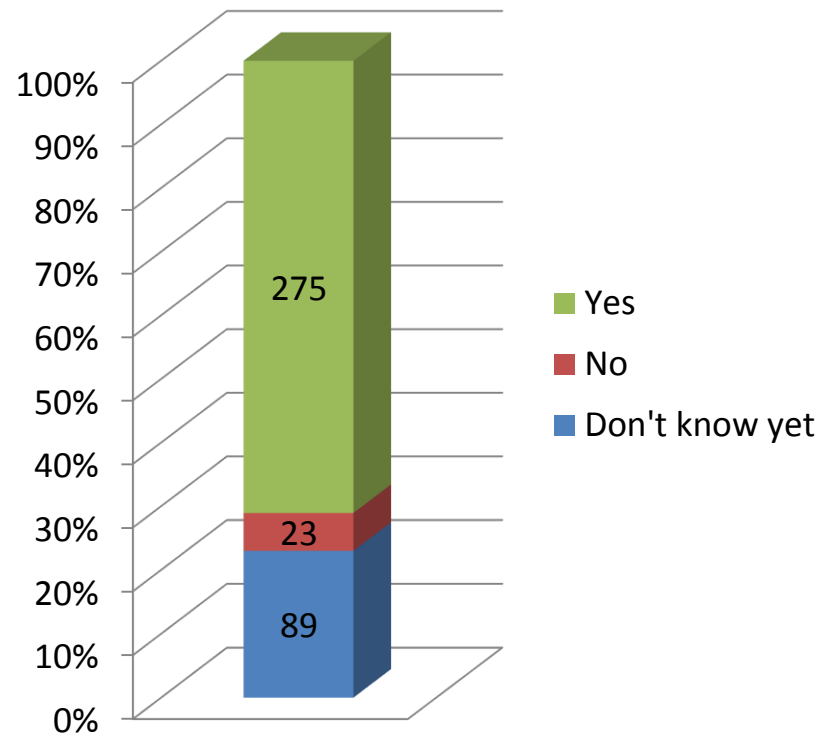
## When I graduate, I plan to (check all that apply)

Category	<i>n</i>
Be employed	389
Further my education	329
Other (Internship, start business, travel, progress in current field, retired)	8



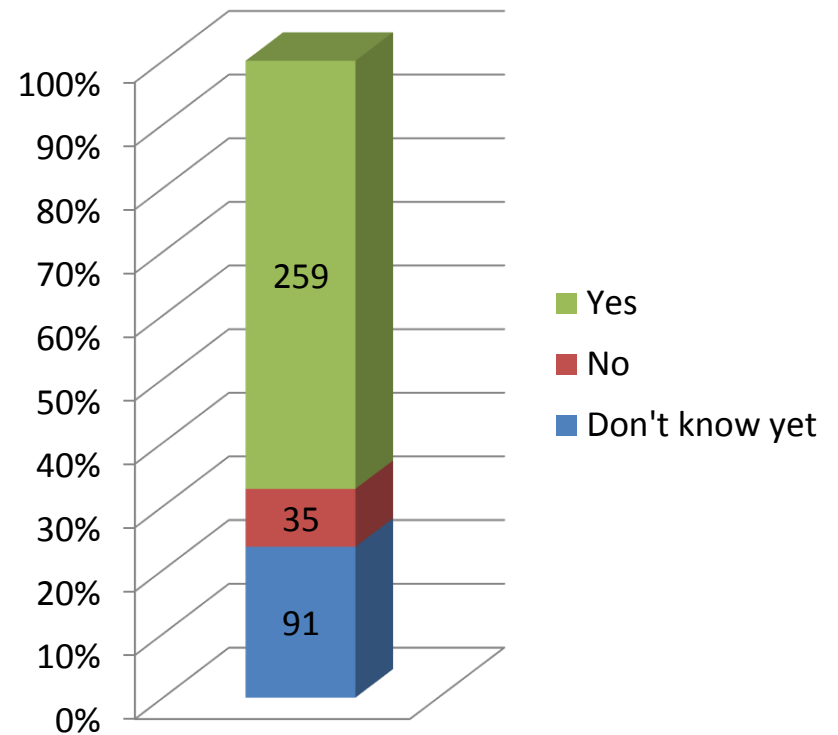
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be in the career path you have chosen?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	275
No	23
Don't Know Yet	89
Total	387



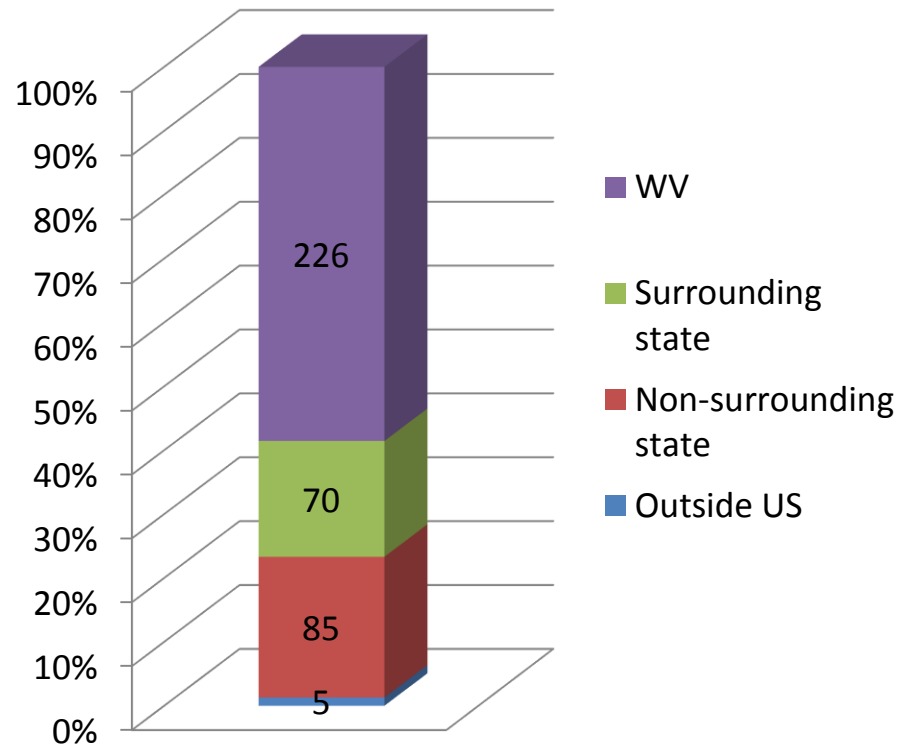
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be in your major field?

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	259
No	35
Don't Know Yet	91
Total	385



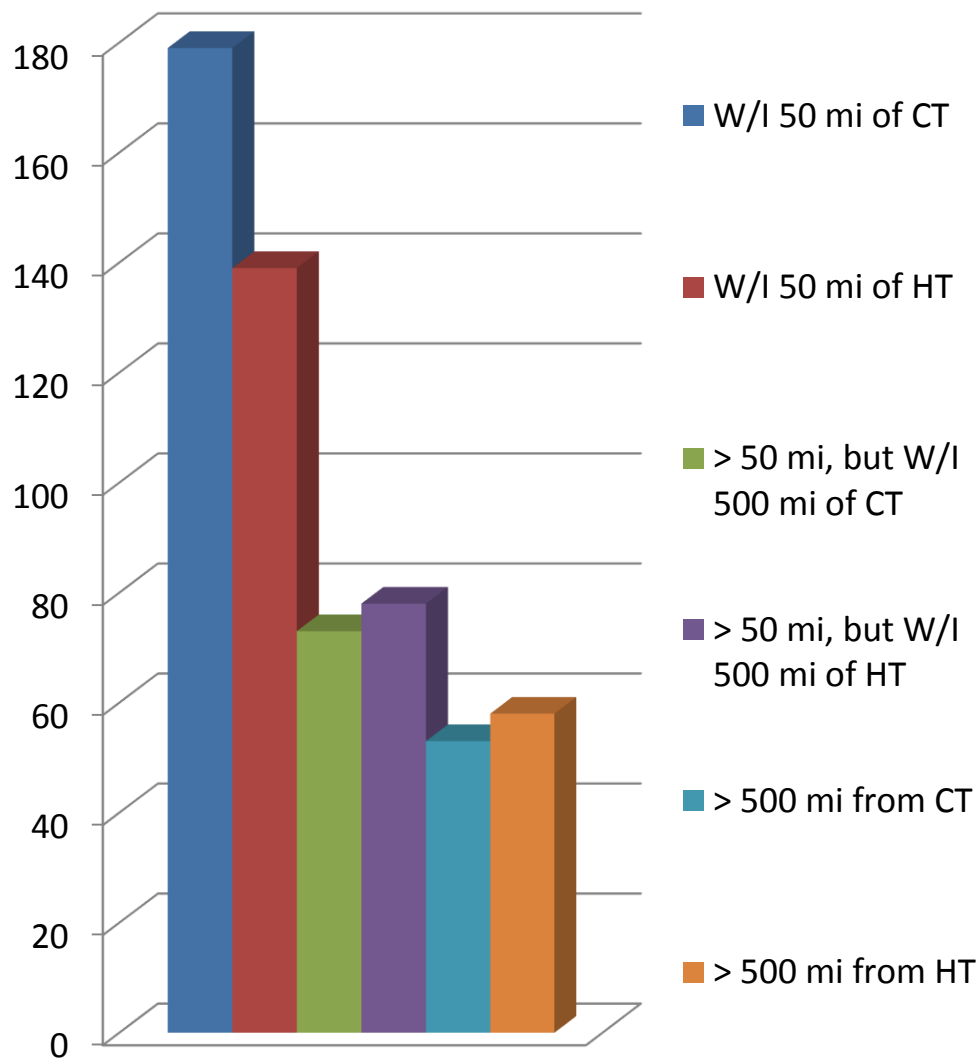
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be

Category	<i>n</i>
In WV?	226
In KY, OH, PA, VA, or MD?	70
In a state other than one mentioned above?	85
In a country other than the US?	5
Total	386



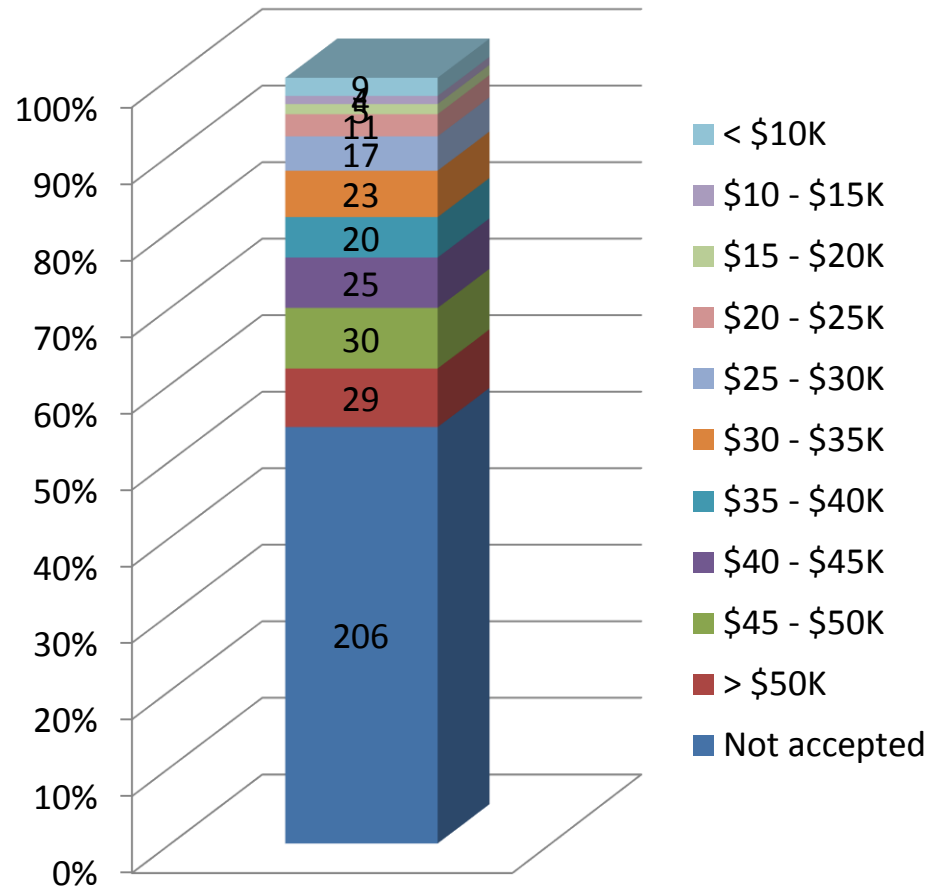
If you plan to be employed after graduation, will your job be (choose all that apply):

Category	<i>n</i>
Within 50 miles of your college town?	179
Within 50 miles of your home town?	139
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of your college town?	73
Over 50 miles, but within 500 miles of your home town?	78
Over 500 miles from your college town	53
Over 500 miles from your home town	58



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

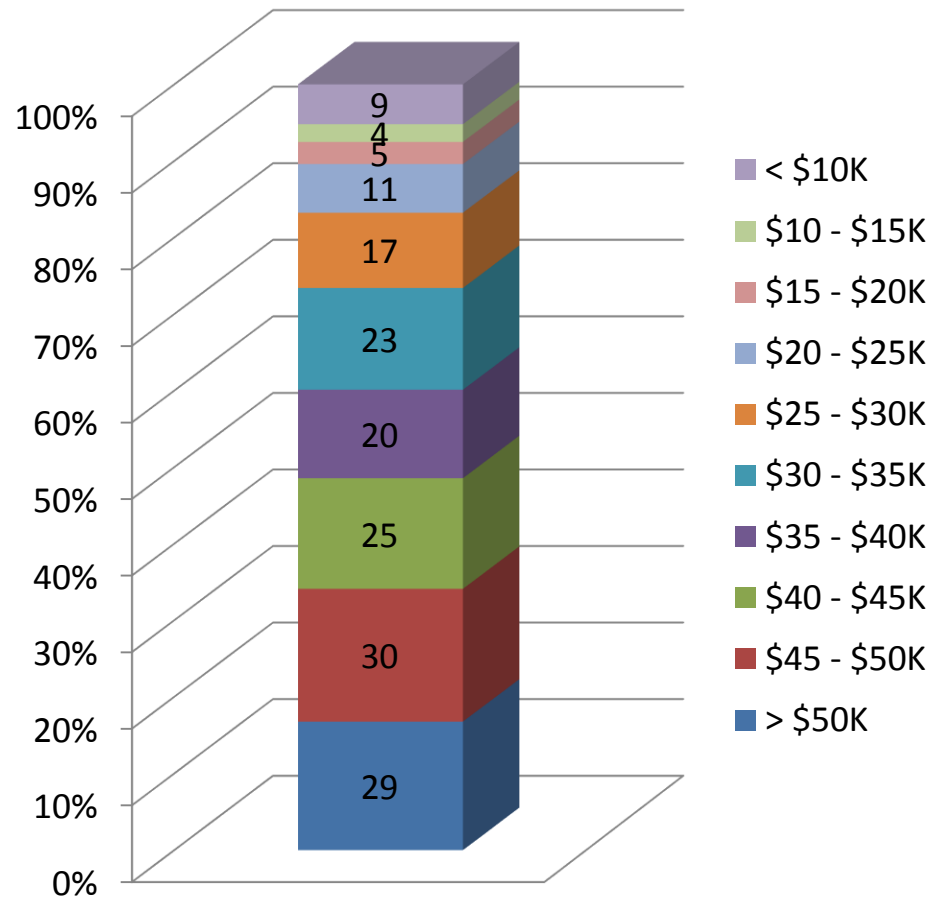
Category	<i>n</i>
\$10,000 or less	9
\$10,001 - \$15,000	4
\$15,001 - \$20,000	5
\$20,001 - \$25,000	11
\$25,001 - \$30,000	17
\$30,001 - \$35,000	23
\$35,001 - \$40,000	20
\$40,001 - \$45,000	25
\$45,001 - \$50,000	30
More than \$50,000	29
I have not yet accepted employment	206
Total	379





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)

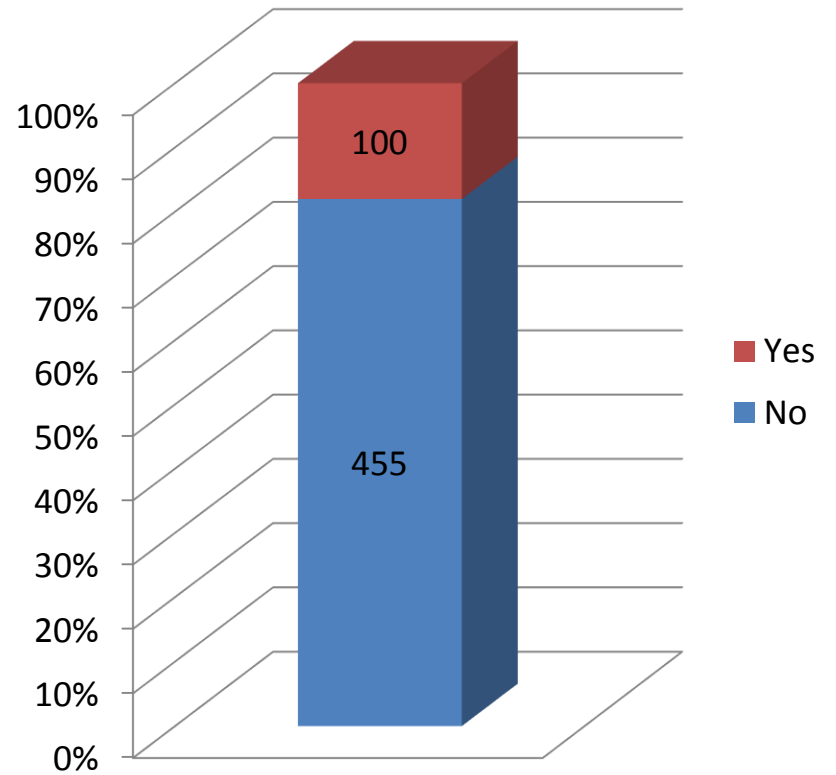
Category	<i>n</i>
\$10,000 or less	9
\$10,001 - \$15,000	4
\$15,001 - \$20,000	5
\$20,001 - \$25,000	11
\$25,001 - \$30,000	17
\$30,001 - \$35,000	23
\$35,001 - \$40,000	20
\$40,001 - \$45,000	25
\$45,001 - \$50,000	30
More than \$50,000	29
Total	173





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

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	100
No	455
Total	555



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

Category	<i>n</i>
Marshall Job Trax	61
Resume Assistance	68
Career Advising	32
Mock Interviewing	28
On-Campus Recruitment Event	22
Career Fair	31
Other (On-Campus Interviews, Business Cards, Graduate Applications, Research Advising)	5

