



**2019-2020 Graduation Survey Results**  
**Summer and Fall (2019) and Spring (2020)**  
**Marshall University**

Office of Academic Affairs:  
Assessment and Quality Initiatives

# Executive Summary

- **These data are for academic year 2019 – 2020. Unless otherwise noted, all findings are essentially unchanged since academic year 2018 – 2019.**
- Overall response rate was 34% (605 respondents out of 1,780 graduates).
- Females were more likely than males to respond to the survey.
- The Mean GPA of respondents (3.31) was significantly higher than that of all graduates (3.19).
- The Mean Age of respondents (25.50) was significantly higher than that of all graduates (24.84). **This difference has not been significant for most past administrations.**
- Response rates did not differ among colleges. **This was a change from 2018-2019 results.**
- Respondents did not differ from the population in terms of race. **This was a change from 2018-2019 results, but was consistent with most past administrations.**

# Executive Summary

- Most respondents were single with no children, were WV residents, and completed their entire education at Marshall.
- Thirty-six percent 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.
- Sixty percent of respondents (363) said they had participated in an internship or practicum (up from 54% in 2018-2019), with 64% (233) believing this experience had helped them to find employment.
- Graduates indicated the following plans after graduation; employed full-time (202), part-time (17), or seeking employment (144); enrolled in further education (125) or planning to continue education (92). Only five respondents indicated they planned to serve in the U. S. Military, one indicated plans to participate in a volunteer or service organization, and five indicated they did not have plans to seek employment or continue education. Fourteen of the 605 survey respondents did not respond to this item. (The response choices for this item were slightly different than those for 2018-2019. The change was made so the choices would match those used in the six-month to twelve-month post-graduation alumni survey).

# Executive Summary

- Students reported positive feelings about all aspects of their Marshall education. Eighty percent or more of students agreed with ten of the seventeen statements regarding their learning, while 10% or more disagreed with two statements as outlined below:
- **90% or more AGREED with these statements:**
  - I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives. (92%)
  - I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence. (91%)
  - I determined how to improve my own learning and to engage in lifelong learning. (90%)
  - I used knowledge from more than one area of study to explore issues or to solve problems. (91%)
- **80% - 89% AGREED with these statements:**
  - I developed the ability to write effectively. (85%)
  - I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively. (86%)
  - I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions. ((83%)
  - I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking. (81%)
  - 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. (86%)
  - I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems. (87%)
- **10% OR MORE DISAGREED with these statements:**
  - Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills. (10%)
  - Writing Intensive Courses enhanced my learning experience. (11%)

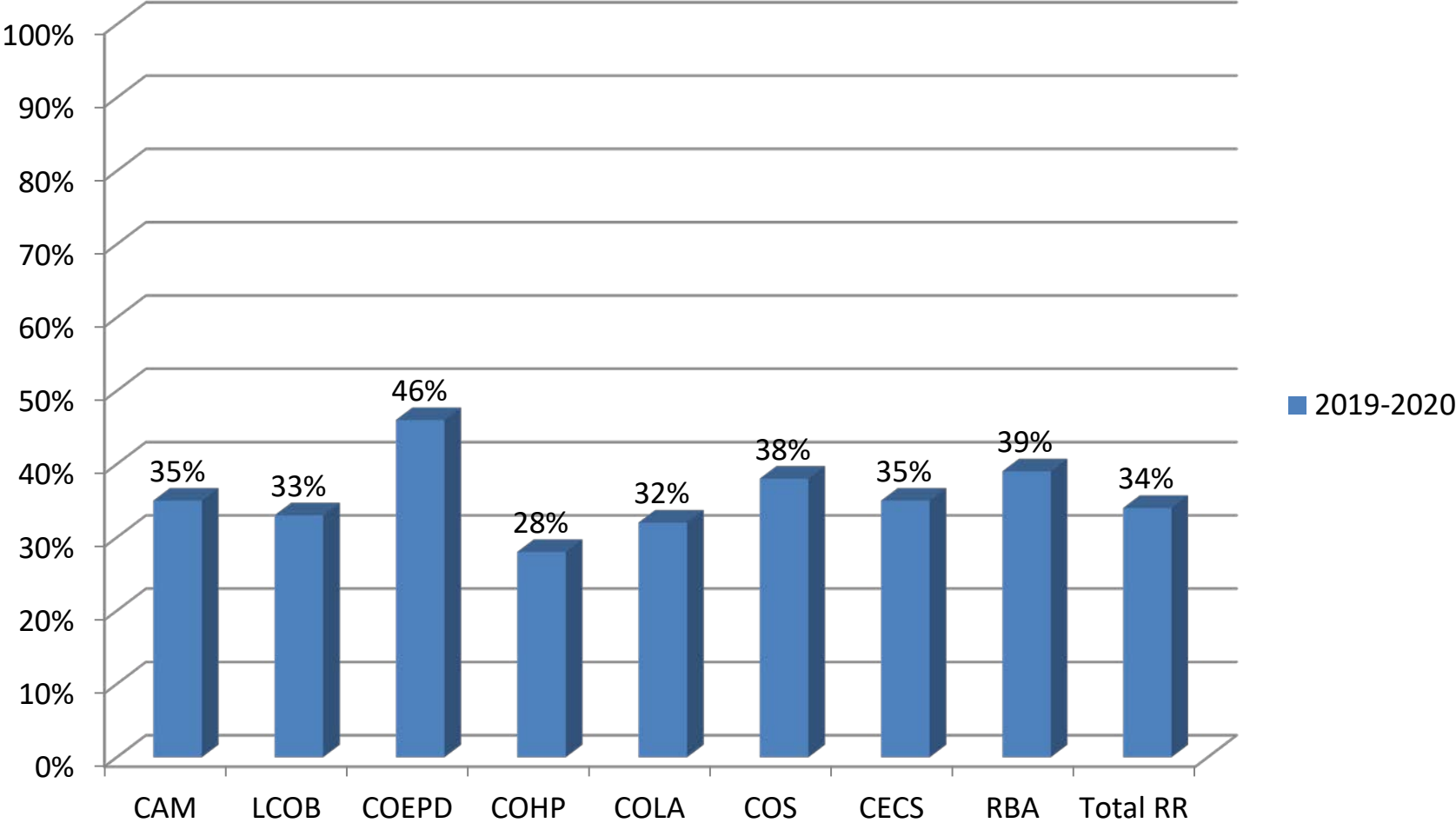
# Executive Summary

- 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 (79%)
  - the quality of advising (66%)
  - academic support services (69%)
  - classroom and lab facilities (67%)
- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of respondents said they would recommend Marshall University to prospective students and 80% 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 17% of respondents (down from 24% in 2018-2019) reported using Career Services, with JobTrax and Resume Assistance used most frequently.

## 2019 – 2020 Response Rate by College

College	Total
CAM	31/89 (35%)
LCOB	95/285 (33%)
COEPD	58/125 (46%)
COHP	149/528 (28%)
COLA	60/188 (32%)
COS	98/259 (38%)
CECS	41/118 (35%)
RBA	73/188 (39%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>605/1,780 (34%)</b>

# Response Rate by College

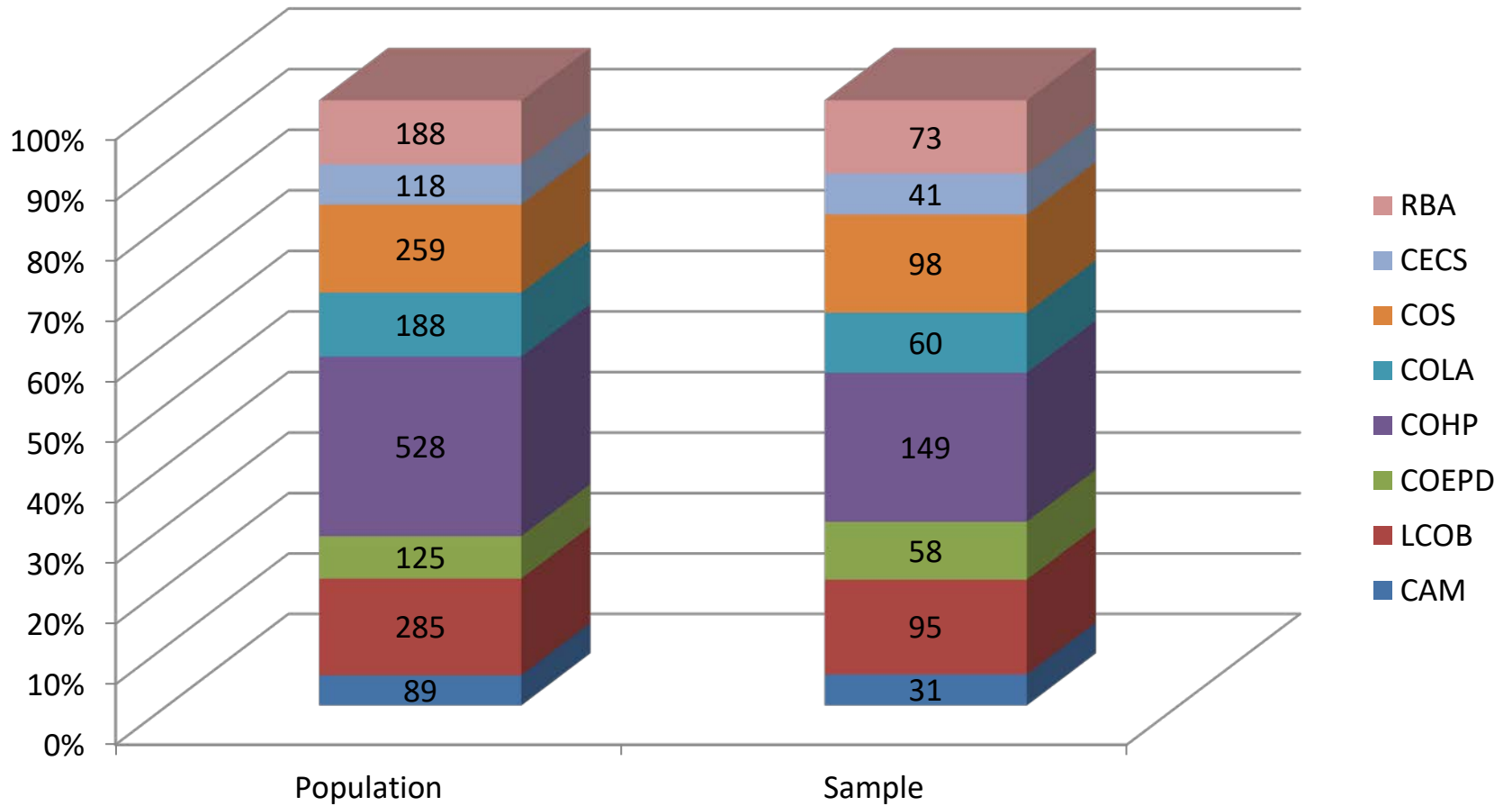


**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College  
differences among colleges not significant (ns)**

<b>Population Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Sample Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
<b>CAM</b>	89 (5%)	<b>CAM</b>	31 (5%)	35%
<b>LCOB</b>	285 (16%)	<b>LCOB</b>	95 (16%)	33%
<b>COEPD</b>	125 (7%)	<b>COEPD</b>	58 (10%)	46%
<b>COHP</b>	528 (30%)	<b>COHP</b>	149 (25%)	28%
<b>COLA</b>	188 (11%)	<b>COLA</b>	60 (10%)	32%
<b>COS</b>	259 (15%)	<b>COS</b>	98 (16%)	38%
<b>CECS</b>	118 (7%)	<b>CITE</b>	41 (7%)	35%
<b>RBA</b>	188 (11%)	<b>RBA</b>	73 (12%)	39%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,780 (100%)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>605 (100%)</b>	<b>34%</b>



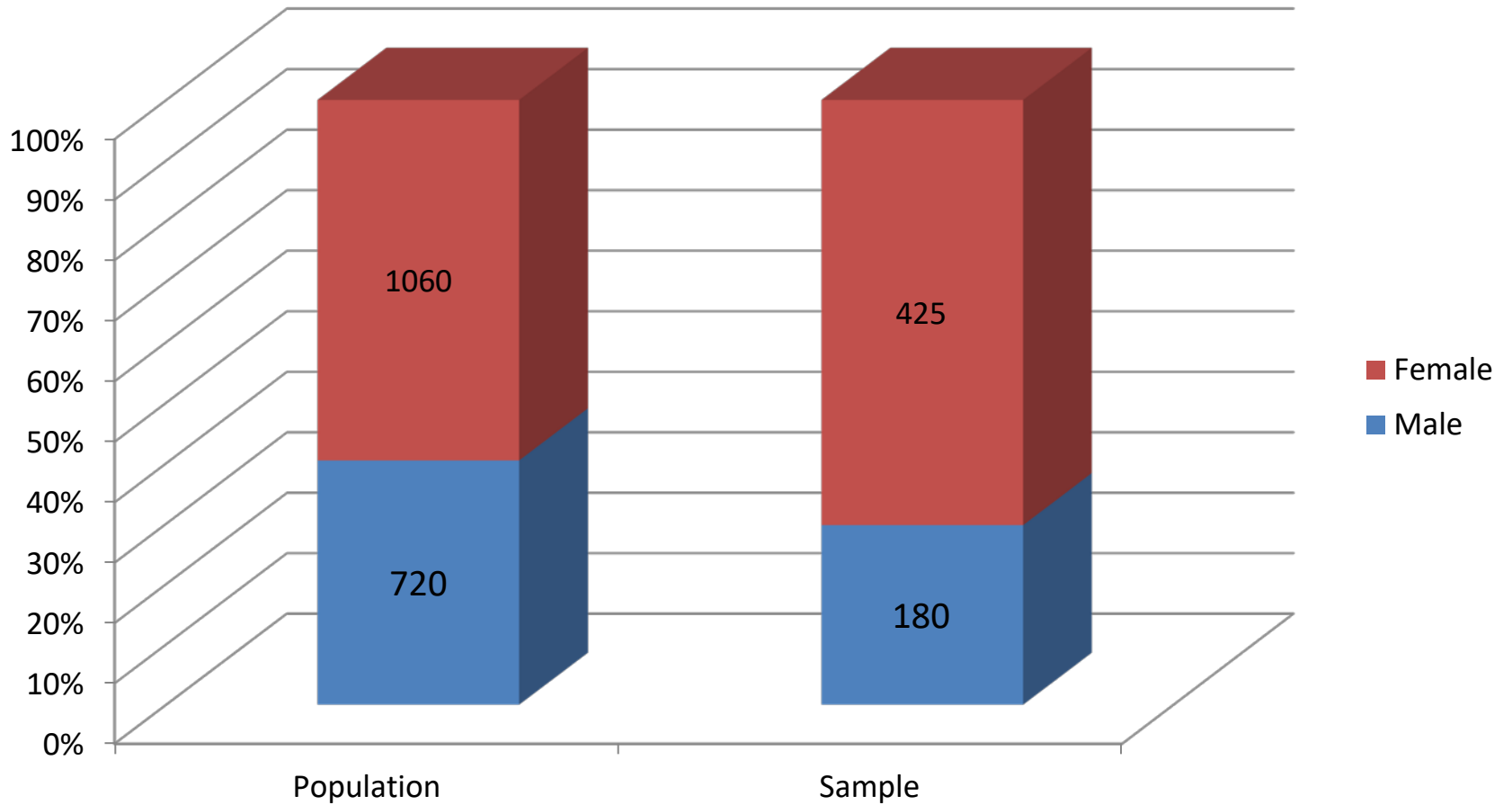
## Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: College; *ns*



**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender;  $\chi^2 (1) = 21.991, p < .001$**

<b>Population Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Sample Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
<b>Male</b>	720 (40%)	<b>Male</b>	180 (30%)	25%
<b>Female</b>	1,060 (60%)	<b>Female</b>	425 (70%)	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,780 (100%)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>605 (100%)</b>	<b>34%</b>

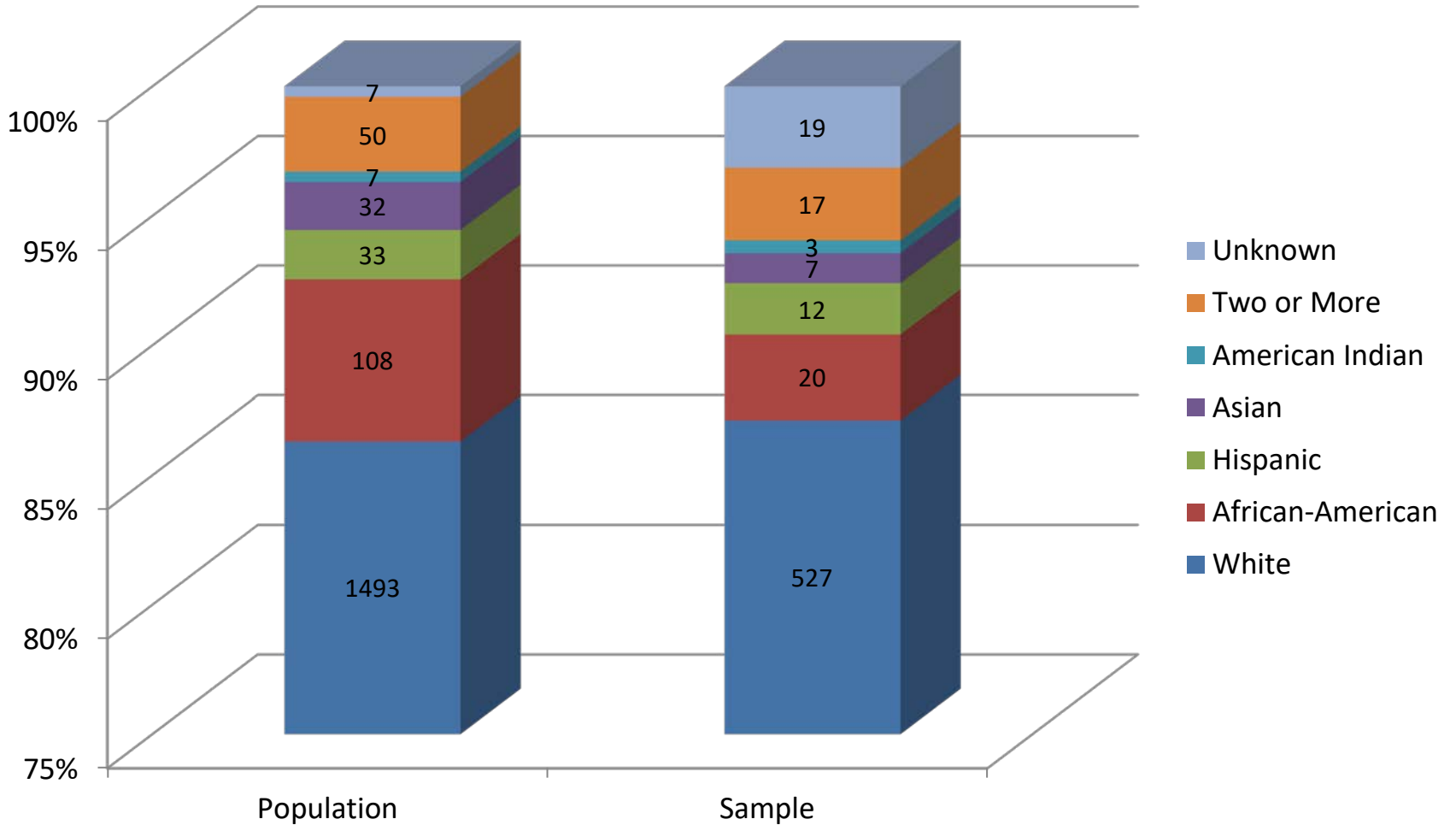
**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Gender;  $\chi^2 (1) = 21.991, p < .001$**



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

Population Category	# (%)	Sample Category	# (%)	Response Rate
White	1,493 (84%)	White	527 (87%)	35%
African-American	108 (6%)	African-American	20 (3%)	19%
Hispanic	33 (2%)	Hispanic	12 (2%)	36%
Asian	32 (2%)	Asian	7 (1%)	22%
American Indian	7 (0%)	American Indian	3 (0%)	43%
Two or More	50 (3%)	Two or More	17 (3%)	34%
Unknown	57 (3%)	Unknown	19 (3%)	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,780 (100%)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>605 (100%)</b>	<b>34%</b>

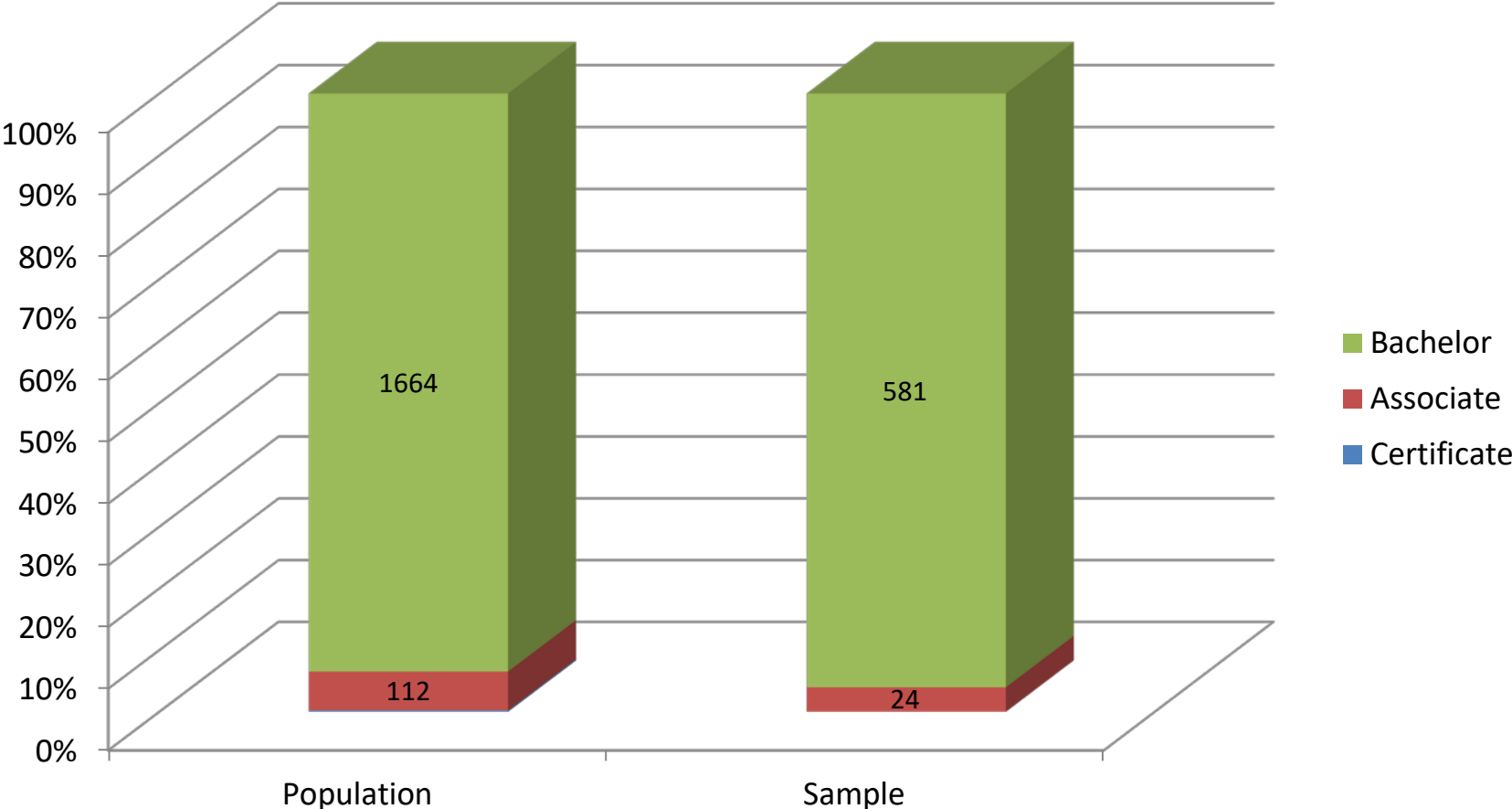
# Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Race; *ns*



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

<b>Population Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Sample Category</b>	<b># (%)</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
<b>Certificates</b>	4 (0%)	<b>Certificates</b>	0	0%
<b>Associate's Degree</b>	112 (6%)	<b>Associate's Degree</b>	24 (4%)	21%
<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	1,664 (94%)	<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	581 (96%)	35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>34%</b>

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

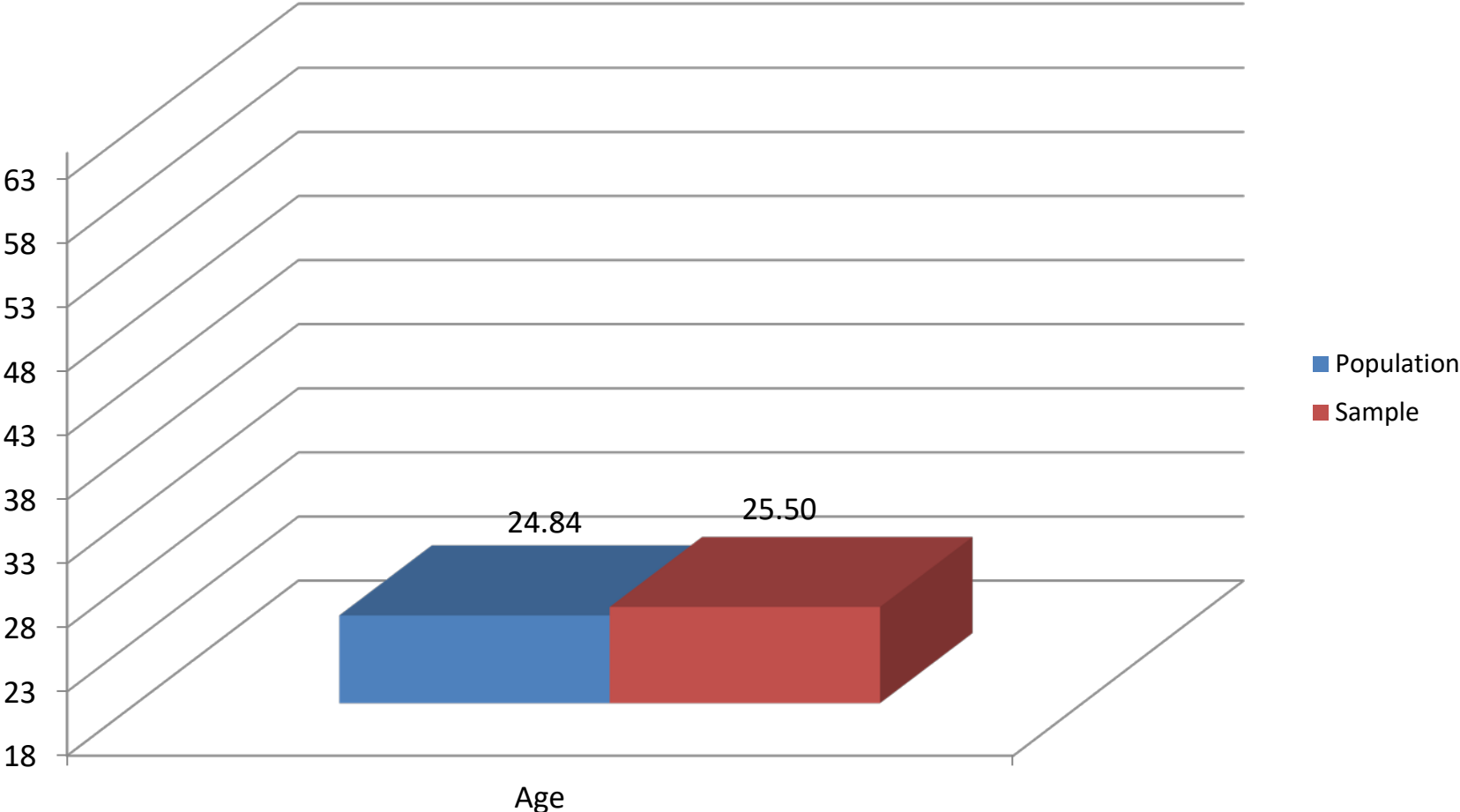


**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Age and GPA were both significant**  
**Age,  $t(604) = 2.048, p = .041$ ; GPA,  $t(604) = 6.325, p < .001$ .**

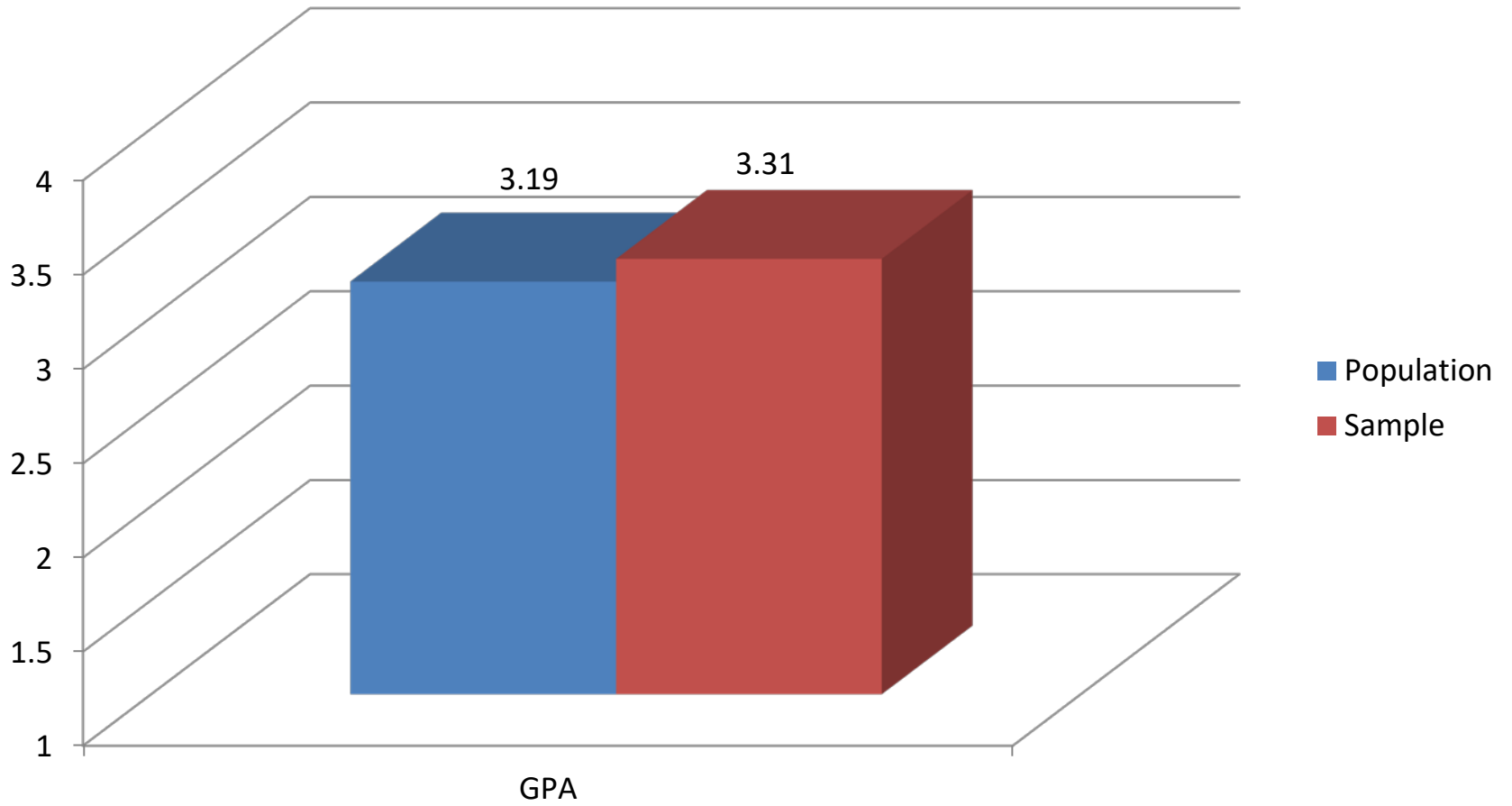
<b>Population Category</b>	<b>Mean (SD)</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Range</b>
<b>Age (<math>n = 1,780</math>)</b>	24.84 (6.44)	22	18 – 64
<b>GPA (<math>n = 1,780</math>)</b>	3.19 (0.48)	3.21	1.82 – 4.00
<b>Sample Category</b>			
<b>Age (<math>n = 605</math>)</b>	25.50 (7.90)	22	19 – 64
<b>GPA (<math>n = 605</math>)</b>	3.31 (0.46)	3.37	1.96 – 4.00



**Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: Mean Age; Age,  $t(552) = 2.052, p = .041$**

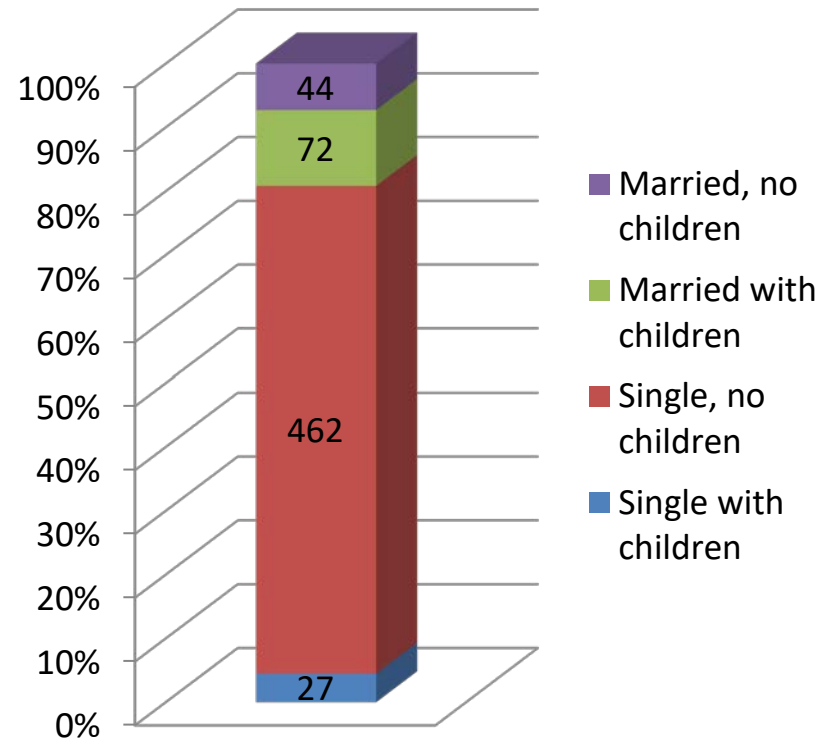


Population/Sample Demographic Comparisons: GPA; GPA is significant,  $t(574) = 4.937, p < .001$



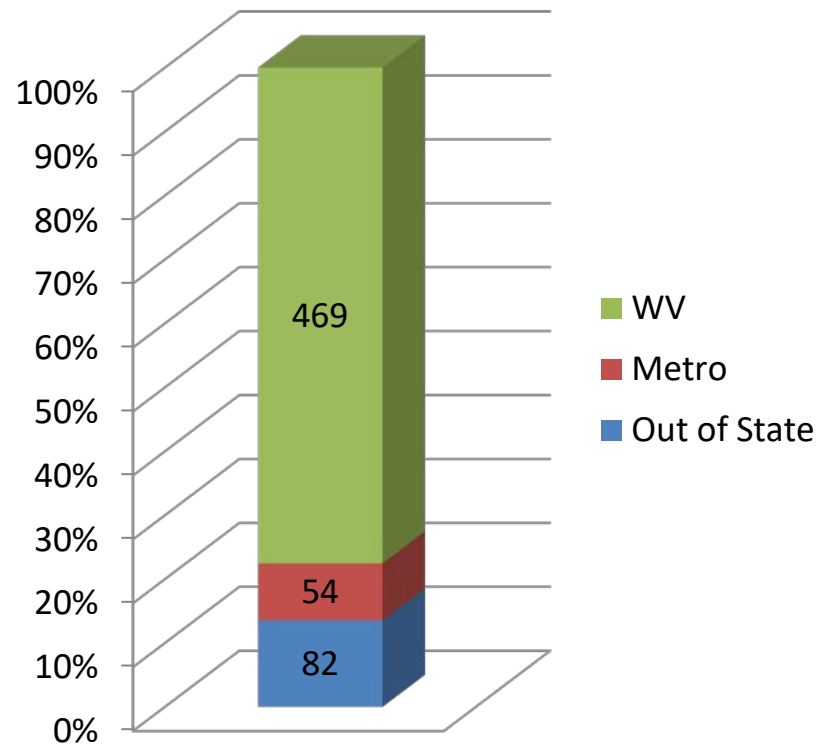
# Family Status

Category	<i>n</i>
Married, no children	44
Married with children	72
Single, no children	462
Single with children	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>605</b>



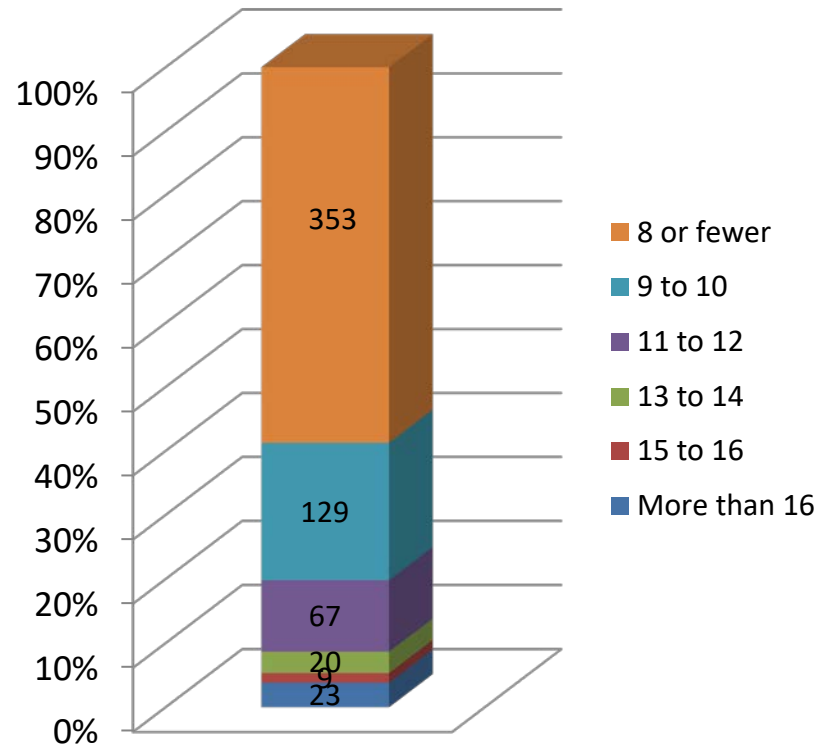
# Residence at time of admission

Category	<i>n</i>
West Virginia	469
Metro	54
Out of State	82
Total	605



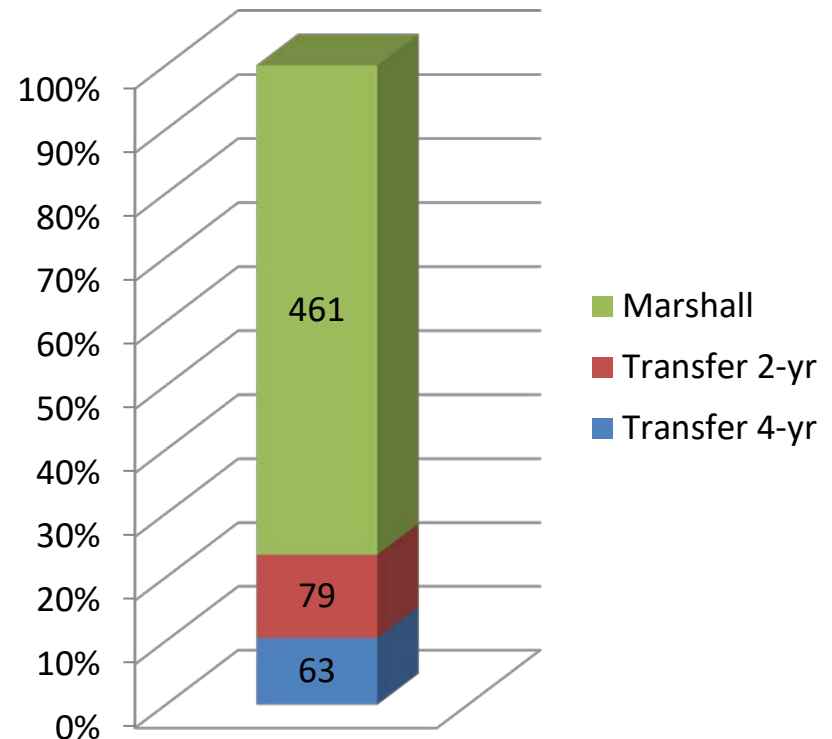
# # of Semesters to Complete Degree

Category	<i>n</i>
8 or fewer	353
9 – 10	129
11 – 12	67
13 – 14	20
15 – 16	9
More than 16	23
Total	601



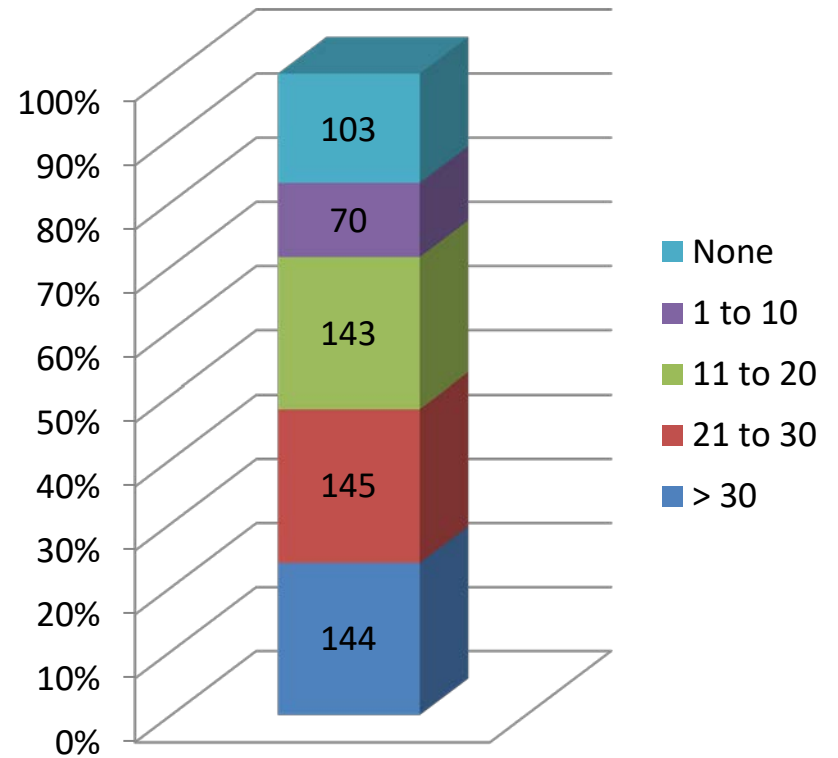
# While pursuing your degree, did you

Category	<i>n</i>
Originally Enroll and Stay at Marshall?	461
Transfer from a 2-Year institution?	79
Transfer from another 4-year institution?	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>603</b>



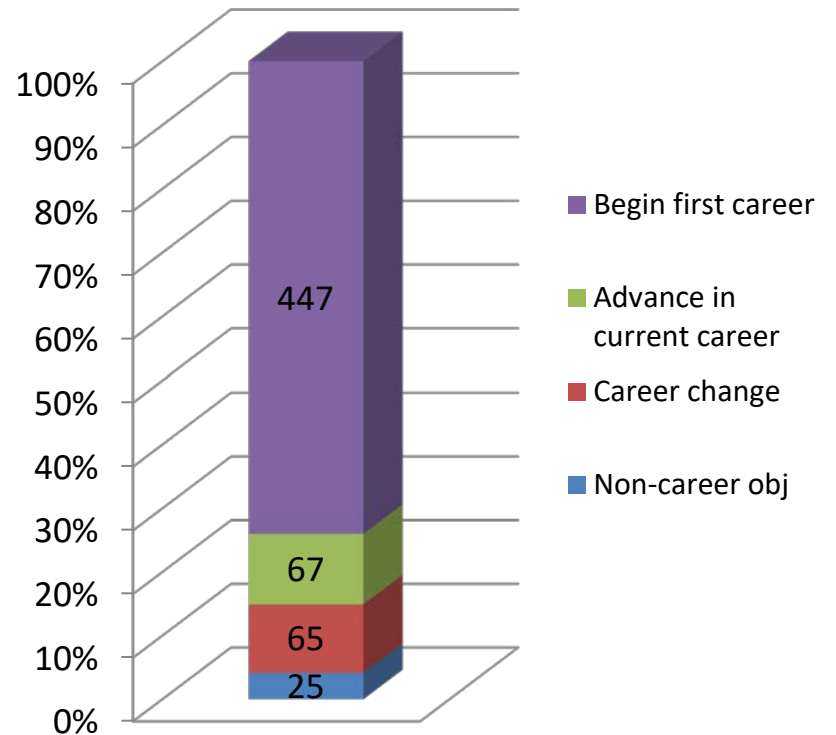
During the last year of your studies, how many hours a week did you work while attending classes?

Category	<i>n</i>
None	103
1 - 10	70
11 - 20	143
21 - 30	145
More than 30	144
Total	605



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

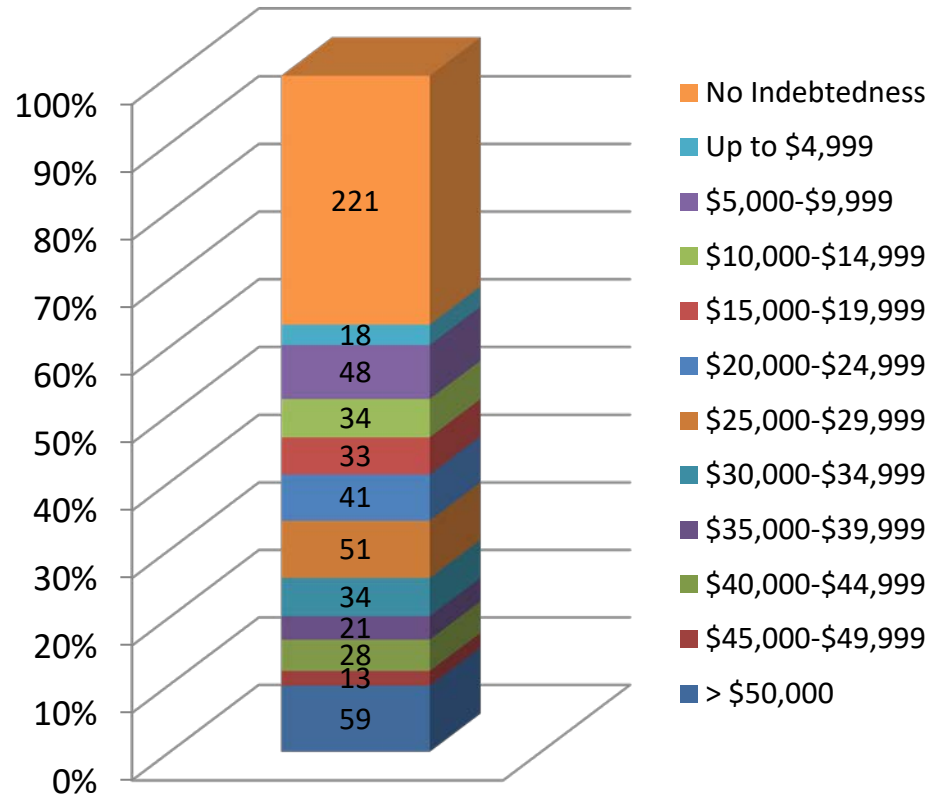
Category	<i>n</i>
Begin first career	447
Advance in current career	67
Career Change	65
Non-Career Objective	25
Total	604





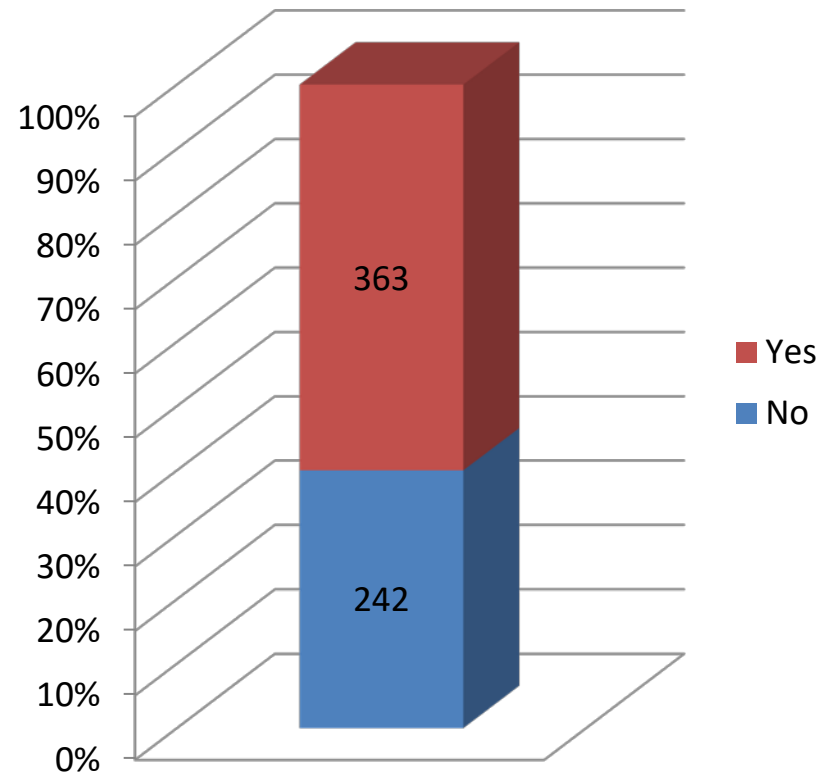
## Upon graduation, what was the dollar amount of your educational loan indebtedness?

Category	<i>n</i>
No indebtedness	221
Up to \$4,999	18
\$5,000 - \$9,999	48
\$10,000 - \$14,999	34
\$15,000 - \$19,999	33
\$20,000 - \$24,999	41
\$25,000 - \$29,999	51
\$30,000 - \$34,999	34
\$35,000 - \$39,999	21
\$40,000 - \$44,999	28
\$45,000 - \$49,999	13
\$50,000 or more	59
<b>Total</b>	<b>601</b>



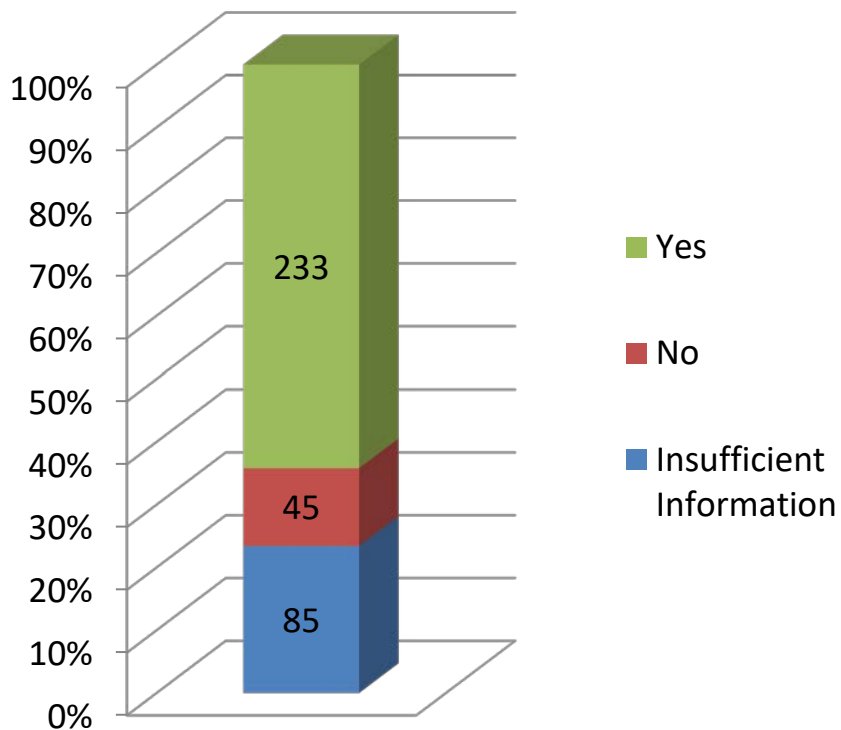
**Did you take part in an internship, practicum or other structured work experience related to your major and anticipated career?**

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	363
No	242
Total	605



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

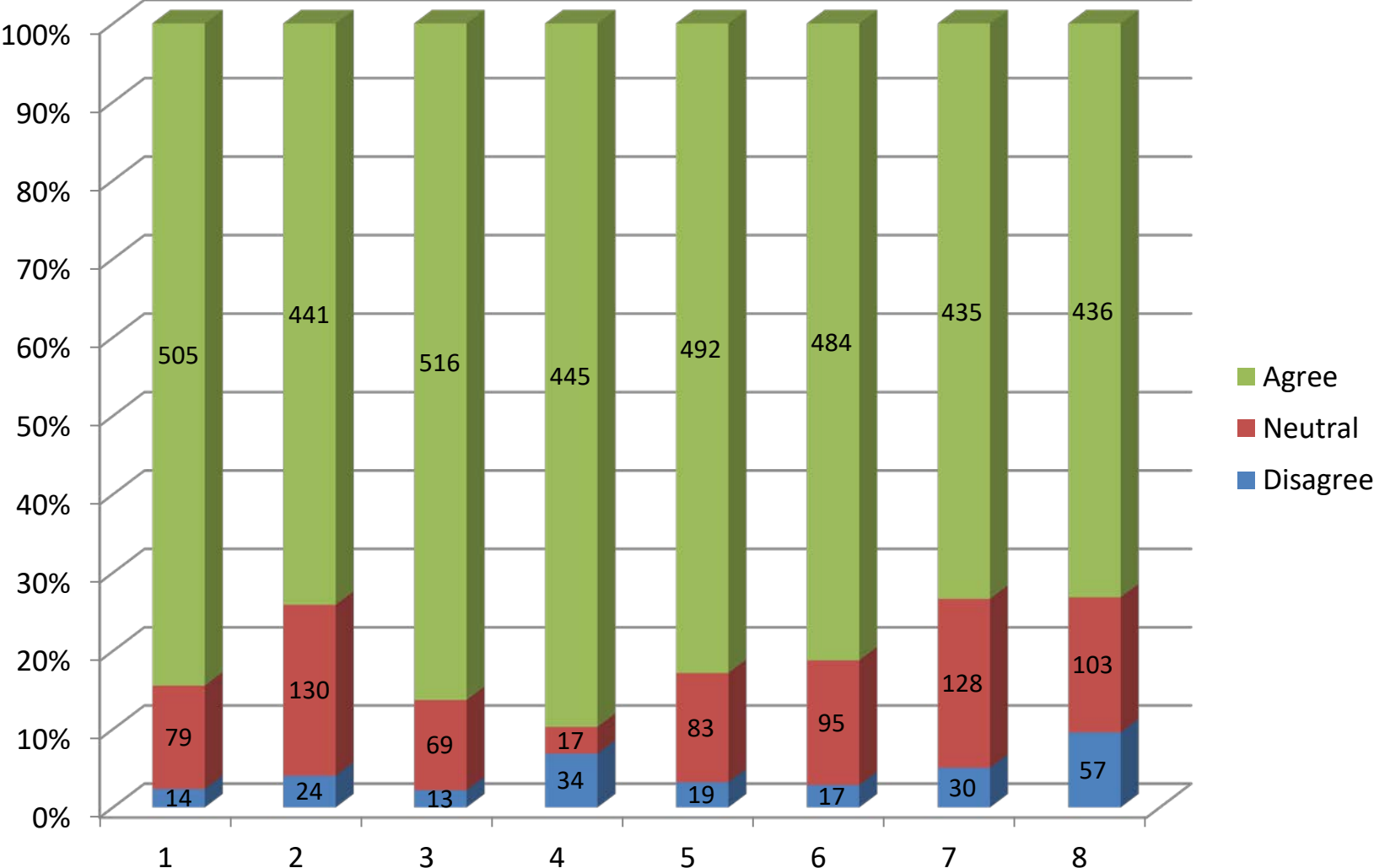
<b>Category</b>	<b><i>n</i></b>
<b>Yes</b>	233
<b>No</b>	45
<b>Insufficient Information to answer question</b>	85
<b>Total</b>	363



# While pursuing my degree at Marshall University,

Question	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
1. I developed the ability to write effectively.	505 (85%)	79 (13%)	14 (2%)	598
2. I developed the ability to use mathematics to explore real world problems..	441 (74%)	130 (22%)	24 (4%)	598
3. I learned to find scholarly information, to evaluate it critically and to use it effectively.	516 (86%)	69 (12%)	13 (2%)	598
4. I gained expertise in the use of technology important in my field of study.	445 (75%)	117 (20%)	34 (6%)	596
5. I acquired sufficient skills and knowledge to prepare for career-related positions.	492 (83%)	83 (14%)	19 (3%)	594
6. I developed the ability to express myself effectively through speaking.	484 (81%)	95 (16%)	17 (3%)	596
7. I developed multicultural and global perspectives.	435 (73%)	128 (22%)	30 (5%)	593
8. . Writing intensive courses helped me to improve my writing skills.	436 (73%)	103 (17%)	57 (10%)	596

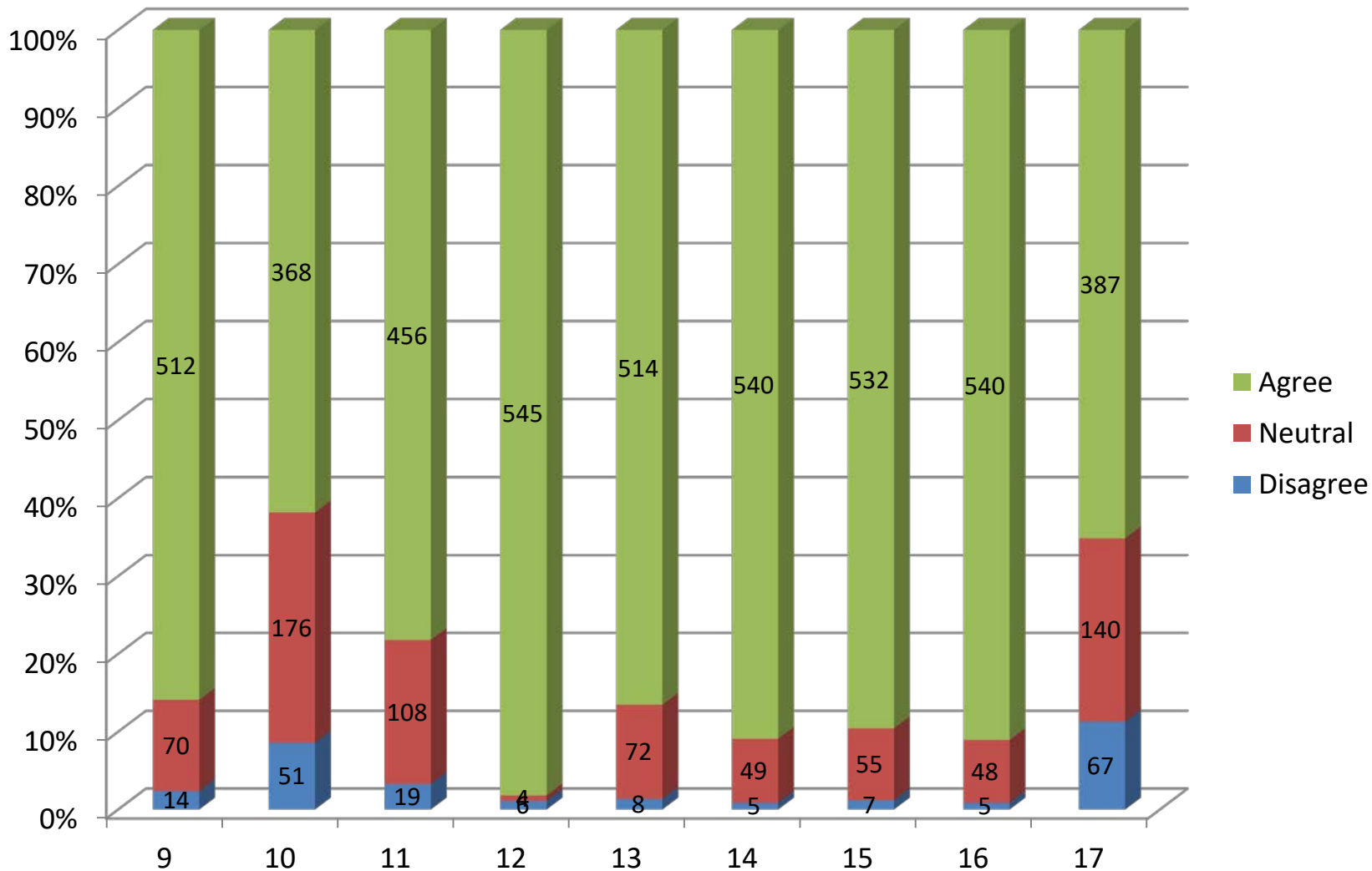
# Frequencies for Items from Previous Slide



## 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.	512 (86%)	70 (12%)	14 (2%)	596
10. I broadened my appreciation for the arts.	368 (62%)	176 (30%)	51 (9%)	595
11. My capstone course challenged me to do my best work.	456 (77%)	108 (18%)	29 (5%)	593
12. I learned to examine issues from multiple perspectives.	545 (92%)	44 (7%)	6 (1%)	595
13. I learned to use what I know to solve novel problems.	514 (87%)	72 (12%)	8 (1%)	594
14. I learned to assess my own values and examine other viewpoints and credible evidence.	540 (91%)	49 (8%)	5 (1%)	594
15. I determined how to improve my own learning and to engage in lifelong learning.	532 (90%)	55 (9%)	7 (1%)	594
16. I used knowledge from more than one area of study to explore issues or to solve problems.	540 (91%)	48 (8%)	5 (1%)	593
17. Writing Intensive Courses enhanced my learning experience.	387 (65%)	140 (24%)	67 (11%)	594

## Frequencies for Items from Previous Slide

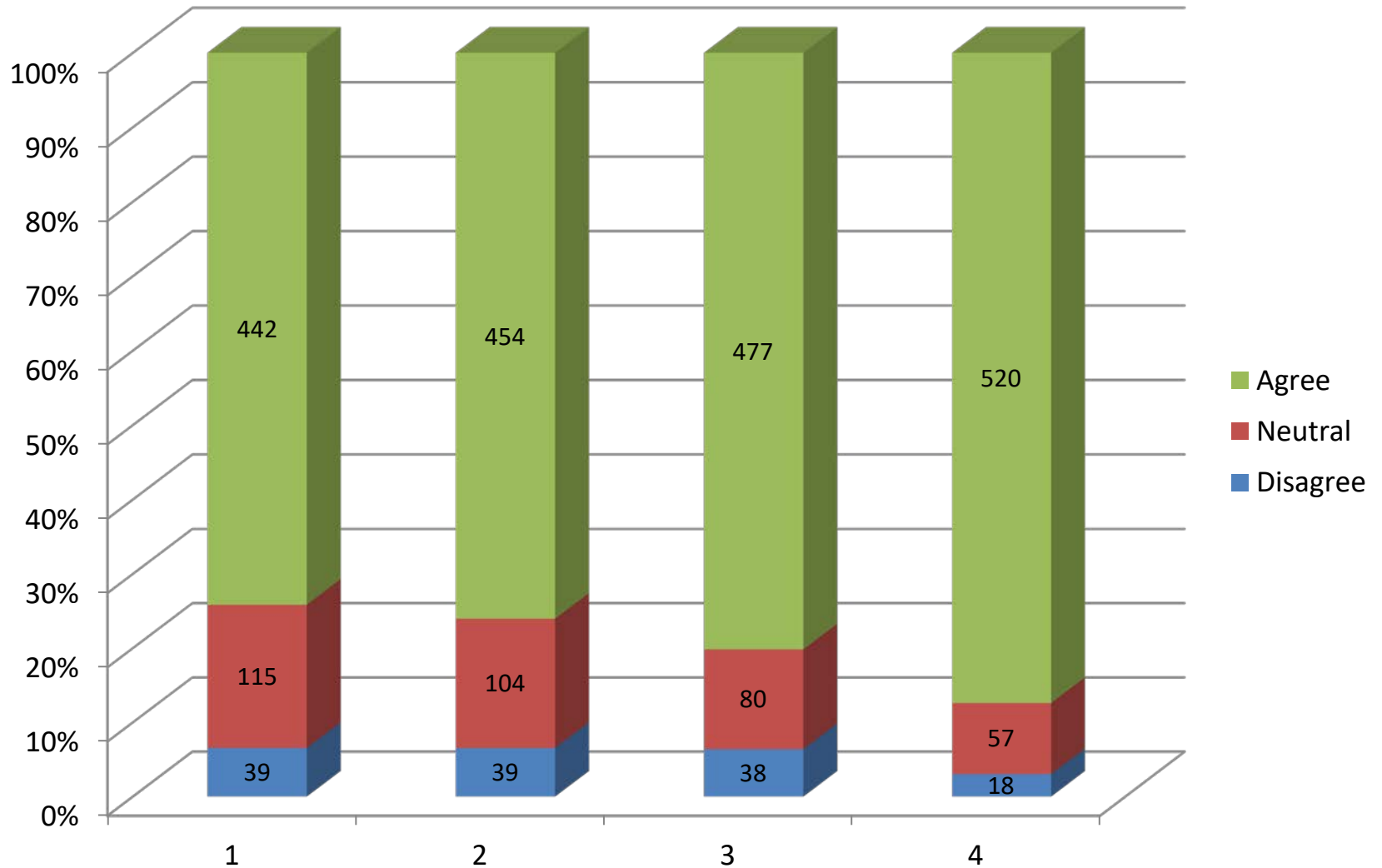


## Now that I have completed my degree, I

Question	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
<b>1. Feel adequately prepared for a career and/or graduate or professional study in my major field.</b>	442 (74%)	115 (19%)	39 (7%)	596
<b>2. Believe that Marshall University's program in my major field is of high quality.</b>	454 (76%)	104 (17%)	39 (7%)	597
<b>3. Would recommend to others that they study the same program at Marshall.</b>	477 (80%)	80 (13%)	38 (6%)	595
<b>4. Would recommend Marshall to prospective students.</b>	520 (87%)	57 (10%)	18 (3%)	595



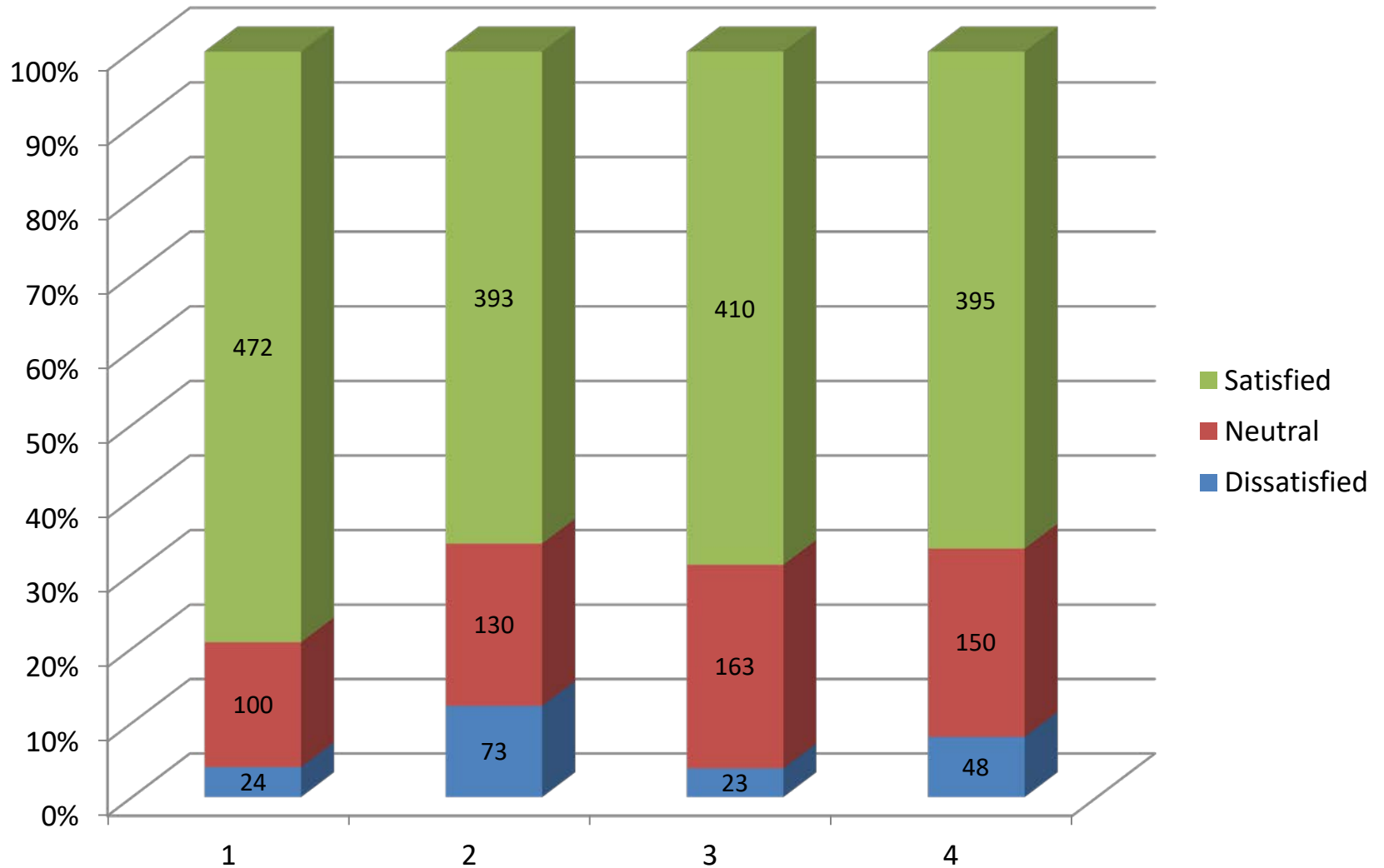
# Frequencies for Items from the Previous Slide



# Please Rate your satisfaction with the following at Marshall

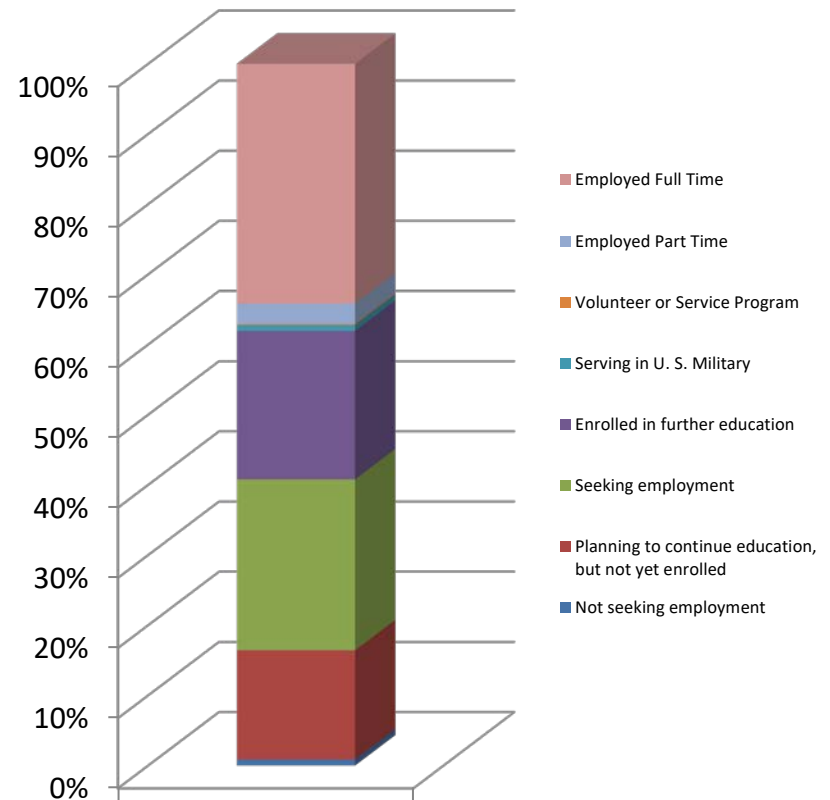
Question	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Total
1. Teaching	472 (79%)	100 (17%)	24 (4%)	596
2. Advising	393 (66%)	130 (22%)	73 (12%)	596
3. Academic Support Services	410 (69%)	163 (27%)	23 (4%)	596
4. Classroom/Lab Facilities	395 (67%)	150 (25%)	48 (8%)	593

# Frequencies for Items from the Previous Slide



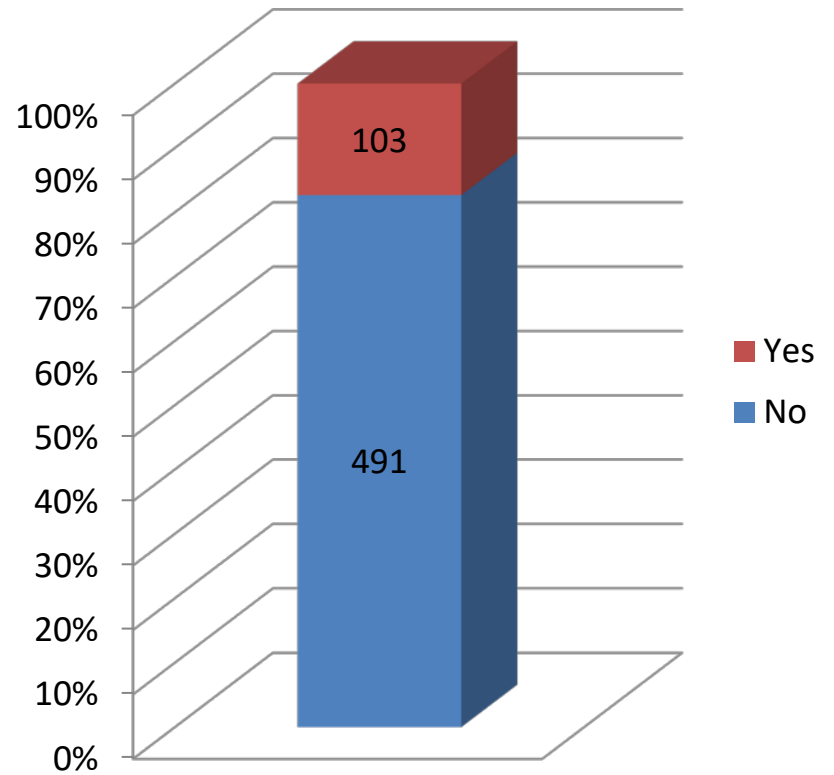
# Which of the Following BEST Describes Your Status after Graduation.

Category	<i>n</i>
Employed full time (on average 30 hours or more per week)	202
Employed part time (on average fewer than 30 hours per week)	17
Participating in a volunteer or service program (e.g. Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, City Year, etc.)	1
Serving in the United States Military	5
Enrolled in Further Education	125
Seeking Employment	144
Planning to continue education, but not yet enrolled	92
Not seeking employment or continuing education at this time	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>591</b>



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

Category	<i>n</i>
Yes	103
No	491
Total	594



**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>	58
<b>Resume Assistance</b>	68
<b>Career Advising</b>	40
<b>Mock Interviewing</b>	25
<b>On-Campus Recruitment Event</b>	23
<b>Career Fair</b>	46
<b>Other</b> (Job Posting, Academic Mentor Programs, and MOVC)	5

