



Graduation Survey

2019-2024 Trend Report

Center for the Study of Student Life

July 2024



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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INTRODUCTION

The Ohio State University Undergraduate and Graduate/Professional Graduation Surveys were first administered in the spring term of 2011 and are administered at the end of each term by the Office of Student Life. The surveys gather information about the experiences, satisfaction and career and education plans of graduating students, as well as their permanent contact information. This report presents the results from the last five academic years. Please note that the COVID-19 pandemic may have affected responses for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

DESIGN

The surveys were designed by representatives from the Registrar's Office, the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, the Office of Student Life, University Communications and the Alumni Association. Two surveys were developed - one for undergraduates and one for students earning master's or professional degrees. Doctoral degree graduates were added to the survey starting in 2023-2024 and will be included in the trend report once three years of data are collected.

The surveys include the following sections: future contact information, students' satisfaction with Ohio State, students' immediate career plans, students' future education plans and the amount of debt incurred in pursuit of their degrees. In addition, undergraduate students are asked questions about the curriculum and about their co-curricular experiences.

Since 2011, the surveys have undergone several revisions. Some items have been added or changed, and some response options have been edited to better reflect student perspectives. This report compares findings when multiple years of data are available.

INVITATIONS AND RESPONSE RATES

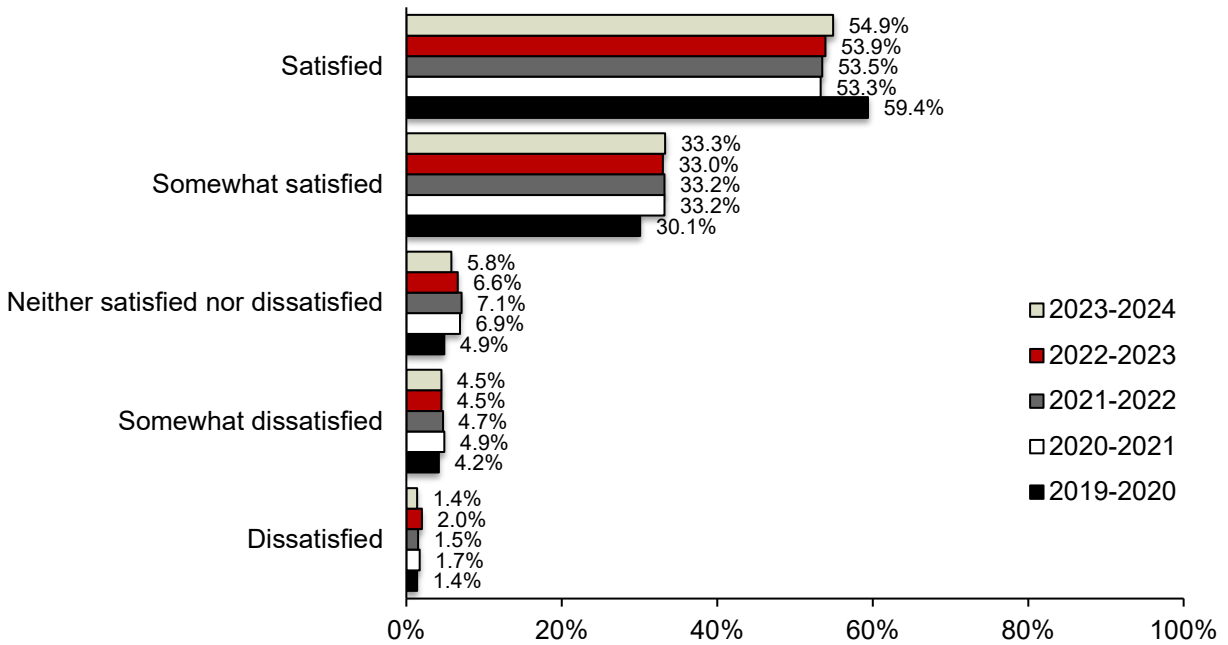
Students who applied to graduate each term were invited to take the appropriate survey. If students planned to graduate with more than one degree, they received only one invitation. If students planned to graduate with both an undergraduate and graduate degree in the same major, they were invited to take the Master's/professional survey. If a student planned to graduate with both a master's and professional degree from the same college, they are counted as a professional student in reporting. Response rates for each of the academic years, by degree obtained, are presented in the table below.

		Undergraduate	Master's	Professional
2019 - 2020	Invited	12,237	3,248	883
	Responded	8,071	1,212	264
	Response Rate	66.0%	37.3%	29.9%
2020 - 2021	Invited	12,046	3,020	839
	Responded	7,778	1,160	279
	Response Rate	64.6%	38.4%	33.3%
2021 - 2022	Invited	11,611	2,770	872
	Responded	7,385	1,060	254
	Response Rate	63.6%	38.3%	29.1%
2022 - 2023	Invited	11,424	3,052	869
	Responded	6,511	1,118	216
	Response Rate	57.0%	36.6%	24.9%
2023 - 2024	Invited	12,186	2,611	856
	Responded	6,950	1,165	291
	Response Rate	57.0%	44.6%	34.0%

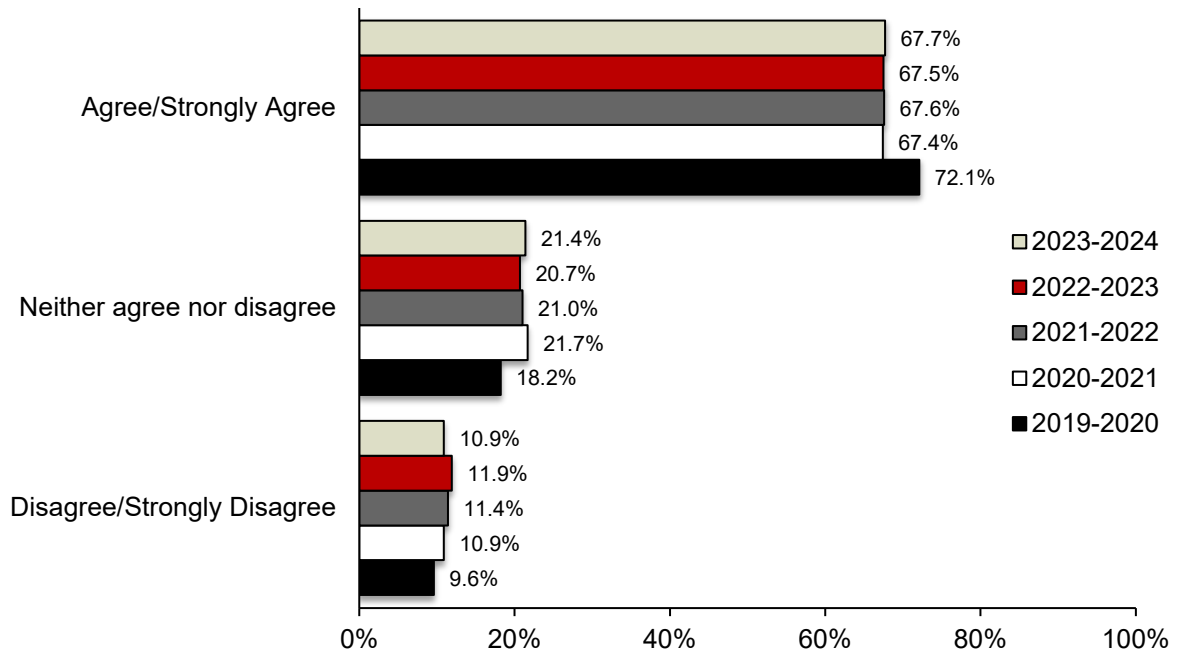
UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS

SATISFACTION WITH OHIO STATE

Looking back, how satisfied are you with your experience as a student at Ohio State overall? (Undergraduates)

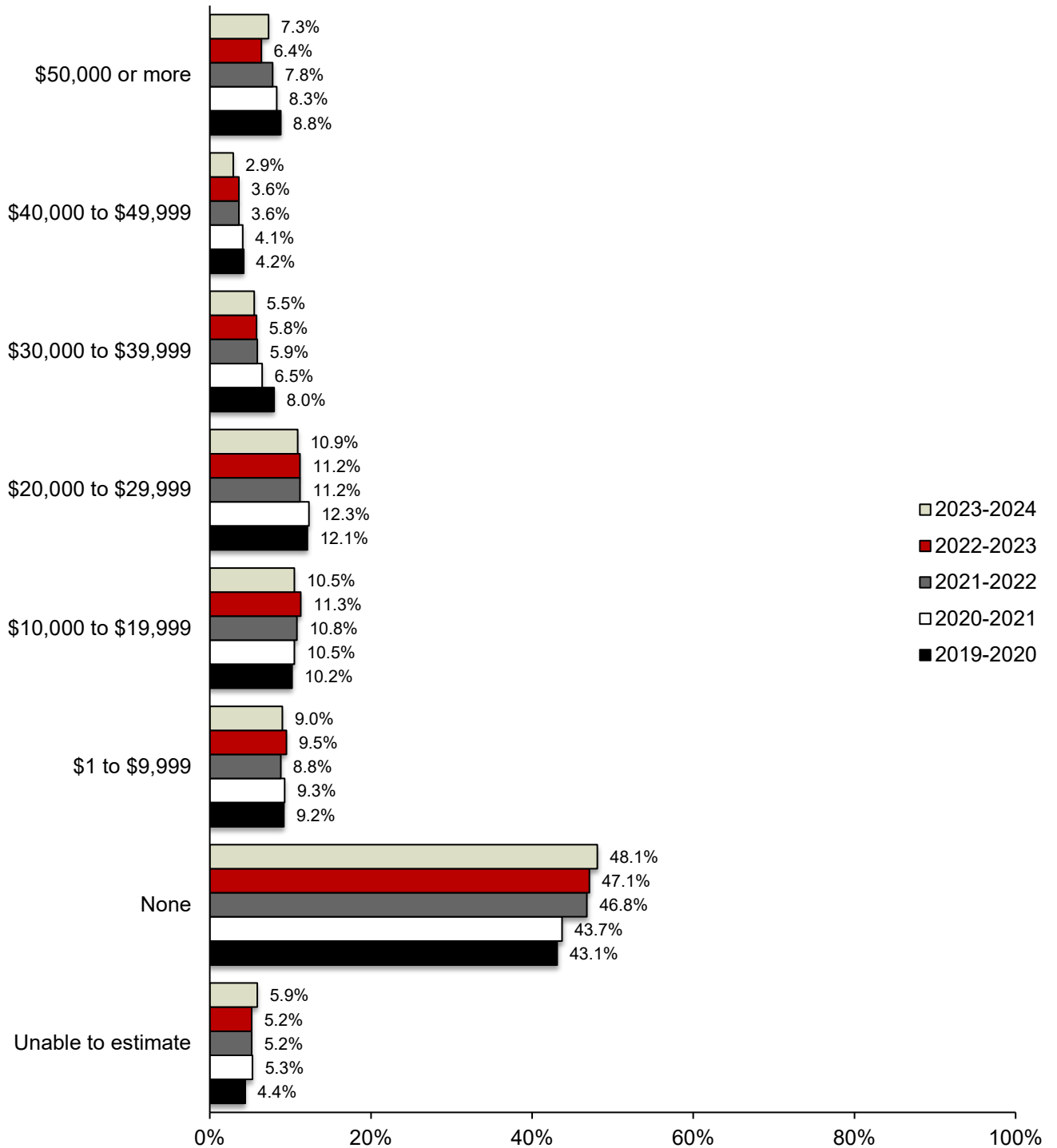


Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family? (Undergraduates)



DEBT

At the time you graduate, approximately what will be the total amount borrowed to finance your education that you are personally responsible for repaying?
(Undergraduates)



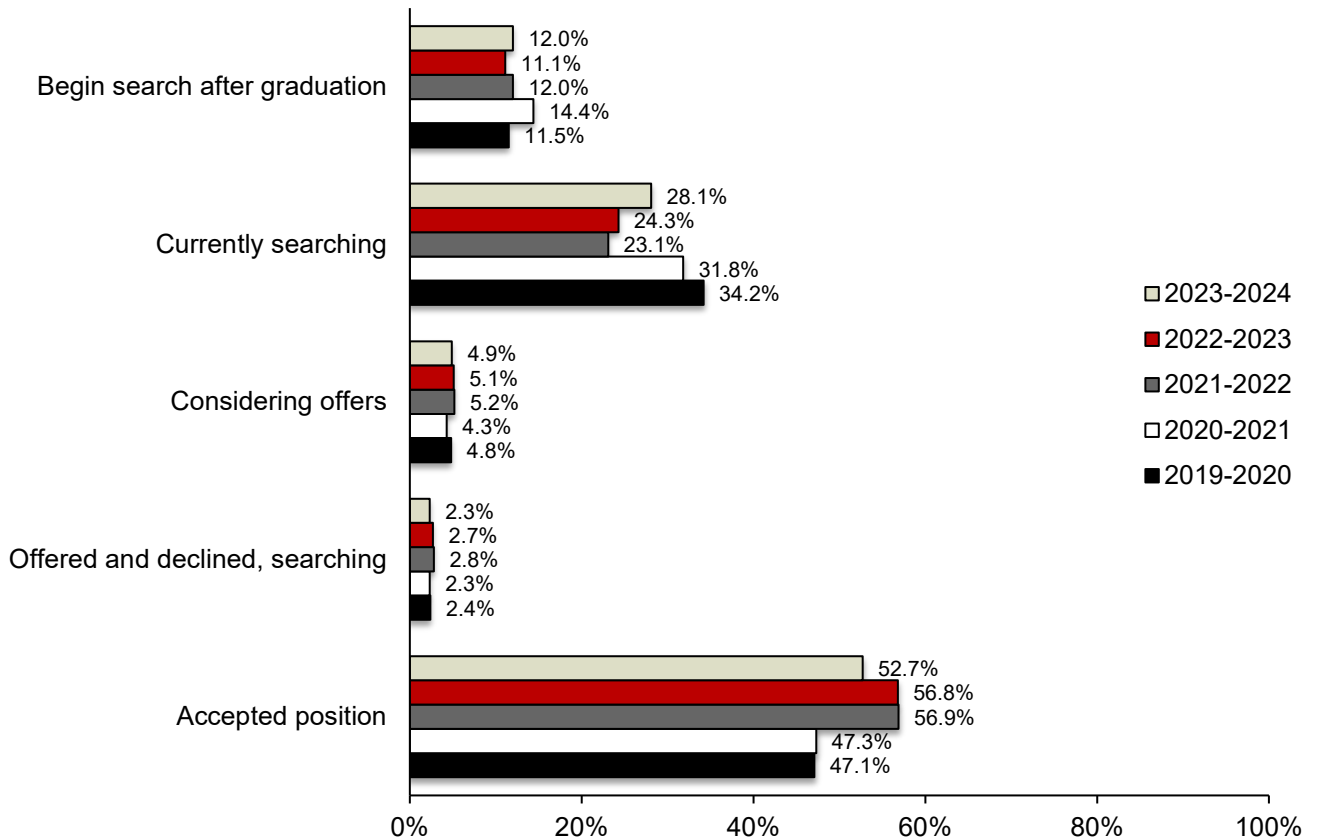
POST-GRADUATION PLANS

What is MOST LIKELY to be your principal activity upon graduation?	Undergraduates				
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Employment	65.5%	64.5%	66.7%	67.2%	68.0%
Graduate or professional school	25.6%	27.4%	25.4%	25.2%	25.4%
Additional undergraduate coursework	1.3%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	1.3%
Military service	1.2%	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%
Volunteer activity (e.g., Peace Corps)	0.8%	0.6%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%
Other plans (e.g., gap year, extended travel, starting a family, etc.)	5.5%	5.9%	6.0%	5.6%	4.1%

EMPLOYMENT PLANS

Only respondents who reported that they would either be employed part-time or full-time following graduation are included in the following chart.

Which of the following best describes your current state of plans for employment after graduation? (Undergraduates)

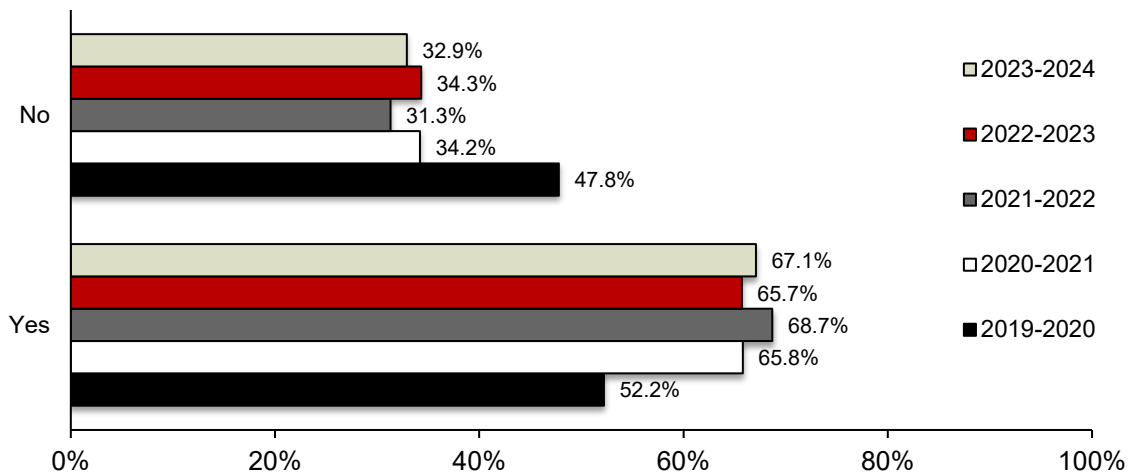


If you have accepted a position, in what type of organization or sector will you work?	Undergraduates				
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	78.4%	79.1%	77.6%	77.5%	78.4%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	8.2%	10.1%	10.1%	9.1%	8.1%
Government or other public institution/agency	13.4%	10.9%	12.3%	13.4%	13.5%
How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?					
Very well	27.8%	23.6%	25.9%	26.6%	26.6%
Generally well	48.6%	48.6%	47.3%	47.3%	47.3%
Neutral	14.0%	16.7%	15.6%	15.1%	16.2%
Inadequately	6.3%	7.0%	7.2%	7.7%	7.2%
Very inadequately	2.3%	2.7%	2.7%	2.9%	2.1%
Not applicable	1.0%	1.4%	1.4%	0.4%	0.6%
How important have university or college resources been in helping you to find a job¹					
Essential	12.2%	12.7%	12.9%	15.7%	16.3%
Very important	25.8%	20.1%	20.3%	22.0%	21.9%
Somewhat important	18.2%	37.3%	36.5%	36.7%	38.0%
Not important	15.6%	22.4%	22.8%	21.1%	18.7%
Not applicable	4.6%	7.4%	7.6%	4.5%	5.1%
Where will you be employed? (Top location listed)					
Ohio	66.9%	66.4%	65.9%	69.8%	70.8%

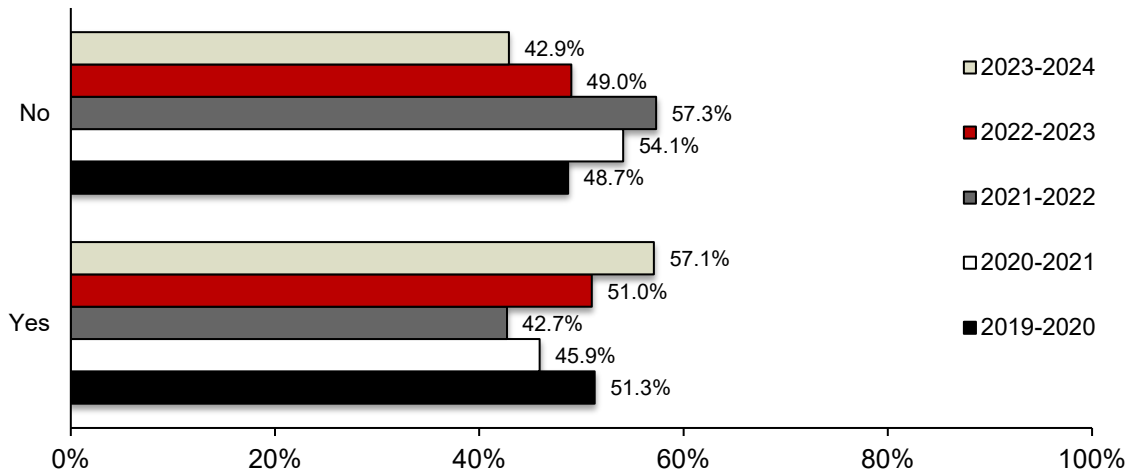
¹Starting in 2020-2021, "Neutral" was removed; the percentages for the prior years will not add up to 100%.

INTERNSHIPS

While enrolled in your current degree program, did you complete an internship, co-op, practicum, apprenticeship or academic major-related work experience? (Undergraduates)



Earlier you indicated you had accepted a job offer. Is your accepted position with the same organization where you completed your internship, co-op, practicum, apprenticeship or academic-major related work experience? (Undergraduates)

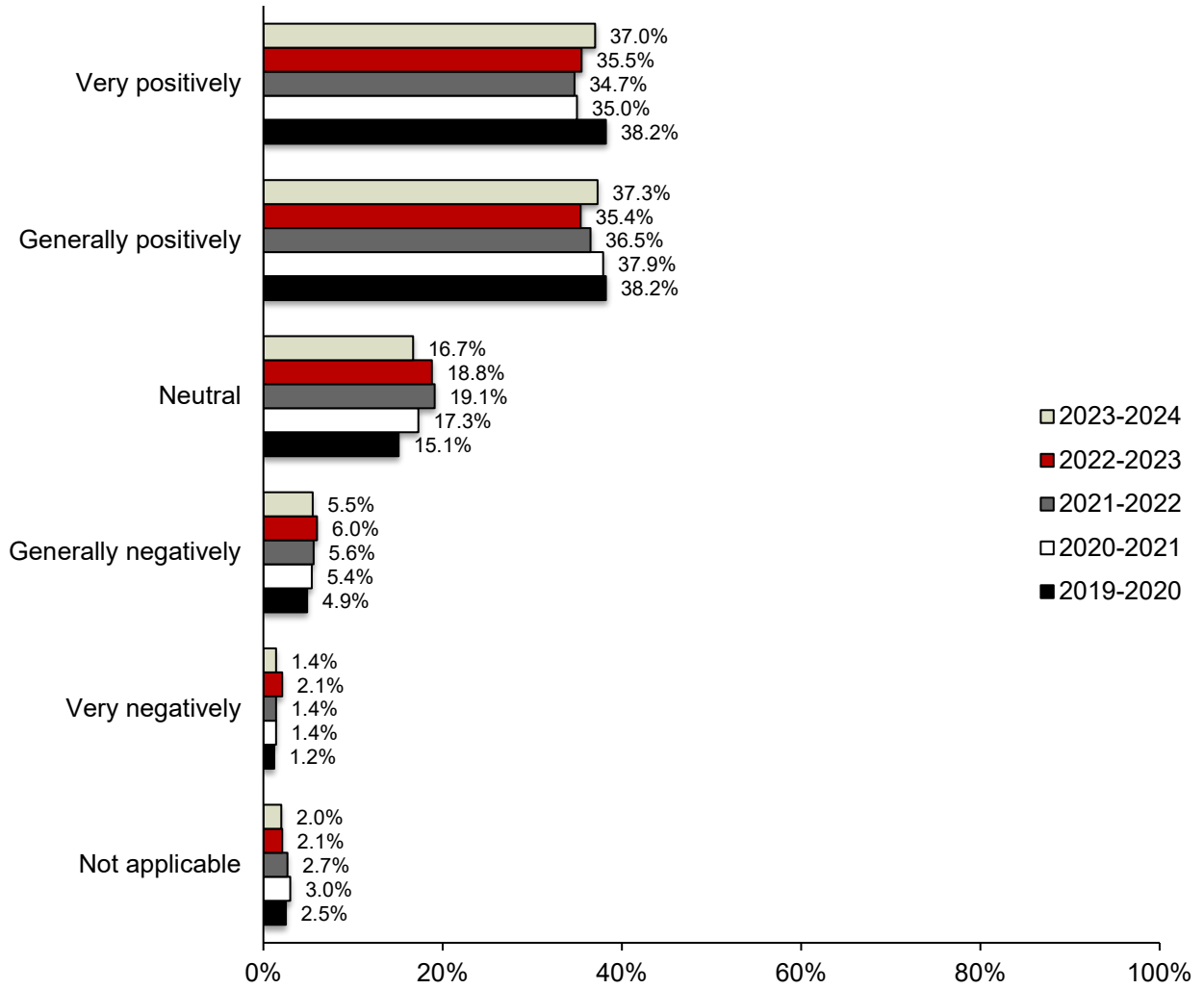


FUTURE EDUCATION

Which degrees do you plan to pursue upon graduation or in the future? (Undergraduates)

2019-2020	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	1.8%	6.0%	92.2%
Medicine (MD)	2.1%	5.0%	93.0%
Other Medical	3.0%	5.0%	92.0%
Second Bachelor's	1.0%	4.5%	94.4%
Master's	13.2%	48.0%	38.9%
Doctorate	2.7%	17.7%	79.6%
2020-2021	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	1.8%	5.7%	92.5%
Medicine (MD)	1.5%	5.5%	93.0%
Other Medical	2.5%	5.5%	92.0%
Second Bachelor's	0.6%	4.5%	94.9%
Master's	14.3%	43.9%	41.8%
Doctorate	2.8%	19.0%	78.2%
2021-2022	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	1.6%	5.4%	92.9%
Medicine (MD)	1.1%	5.1%	93.8%
Other Medical	2.5%	4.8%	92.7%
Second Bachelor's	0.9%	4.1%	95.1%
Master's	13.0%	42.6%	44.3%
Doctorate	2.9%	17.7%	79.4%
2022-2023	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	1.9%	7.4%	90.6%
Medicine (MD)	1.7%	5.7%	92.6%
Other Medical	2.3%	5.3%	92.3%
Second Bachelor's	1.0%	5.4%	93.6%
Master's	15.0%	48.5%	36.5%
Doctorate	3.4%	20.5%	76.1%
2023-2024	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	2.3%	7.3%	90.5%
Medicine (MD)	1.7%	6.1%	92.2%
Other Medical	3.0%	4.8%	92.2%
Second Bachelor's	1.2%	5.1%	93.7%
Master's	14.4%	50.9%	34.7%
Doctorate	3.3%	21.3%	75.4%

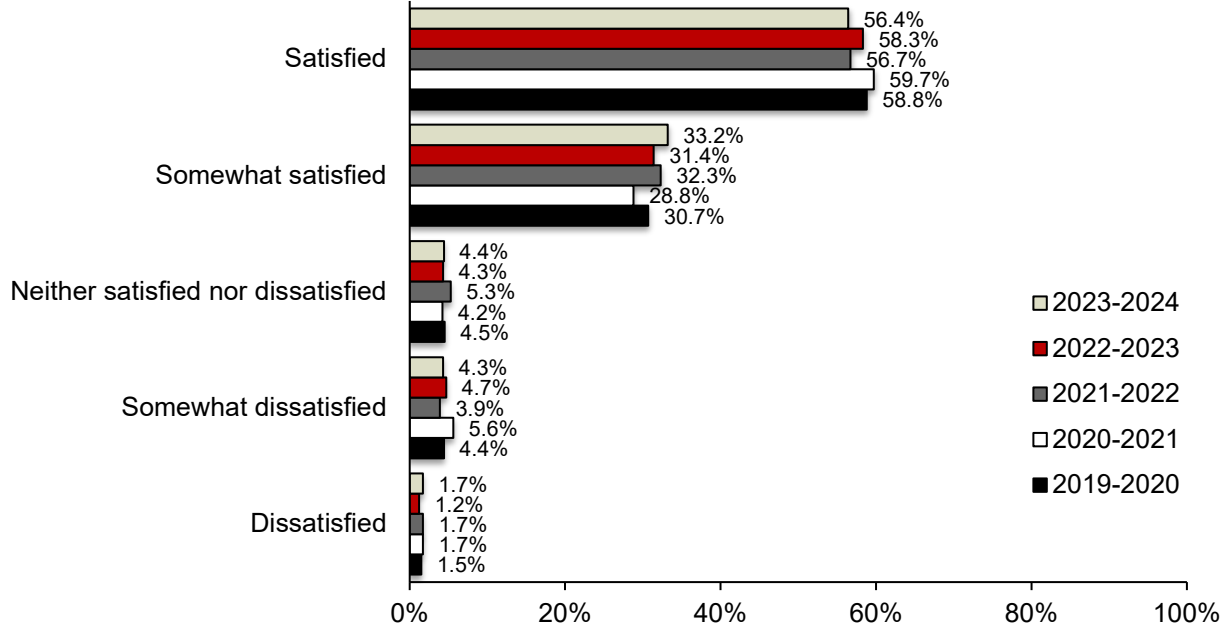
To what extent have your overall undergraduate experiences influenced your plans for graduate or professional studies? (Undergraduates)



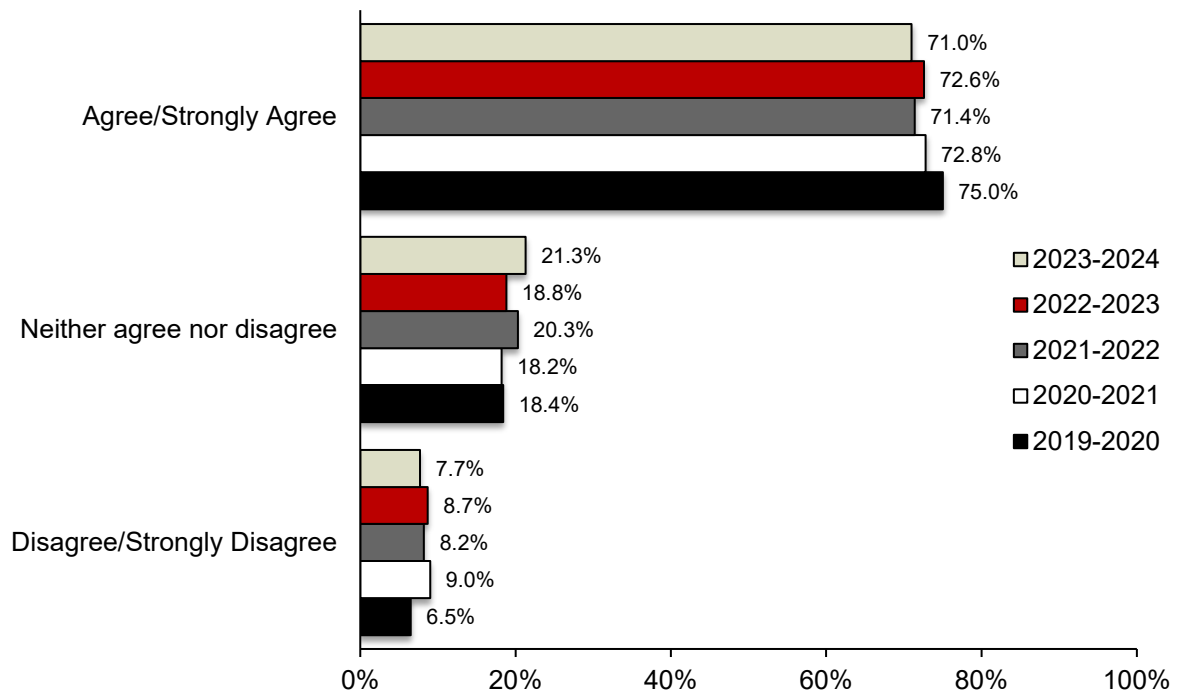
MASTER'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS

SATISFACTION WITH OHIO STATE

Looking back, how satisfied are you with your experience as a student at Ohio State overall? (Master's)

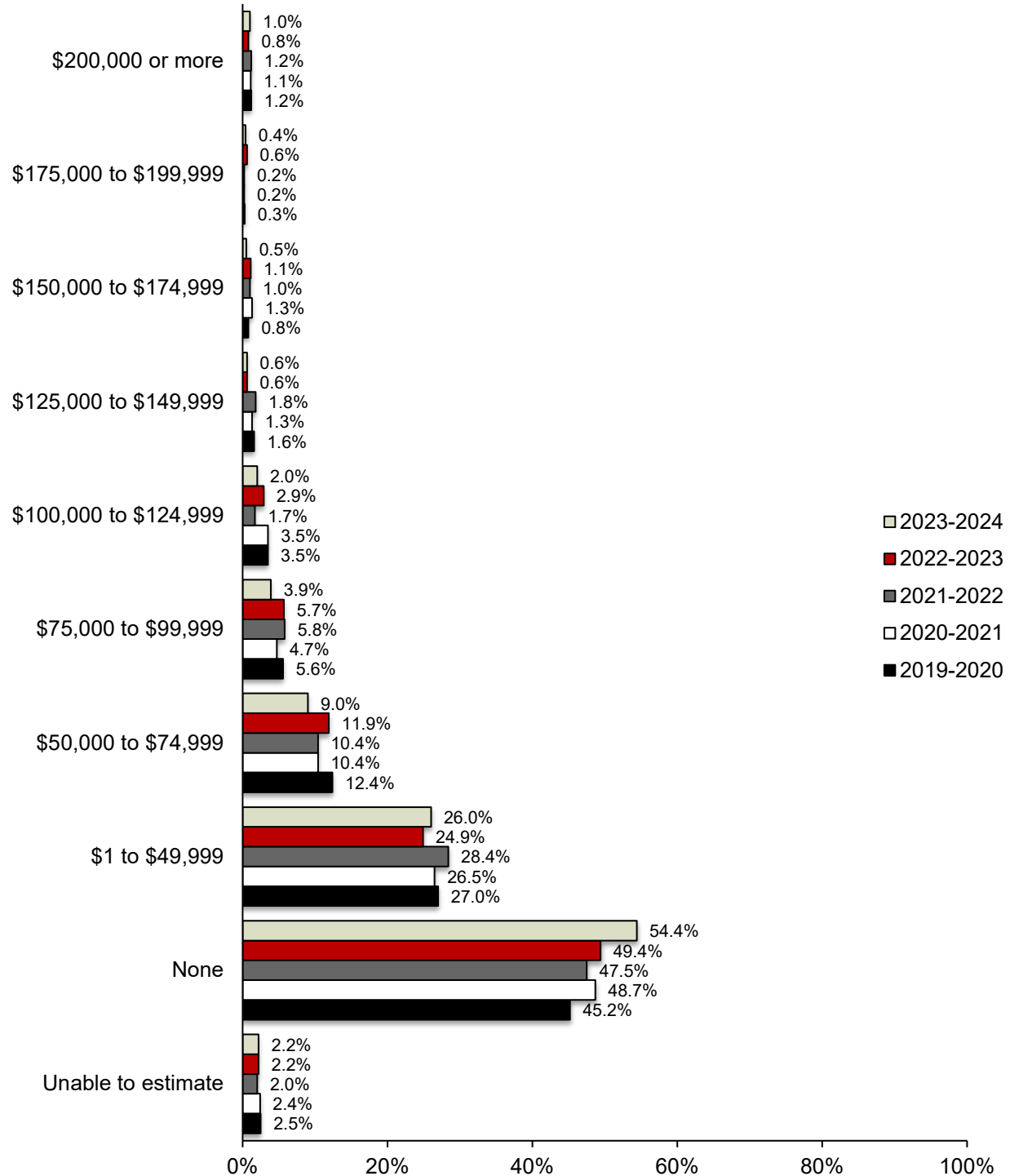


Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family? (Master's)



DEBT

At the time you graduate, approximately what will be the total amount borrowed to finance your education that you are personally responsible for repaying?
(Master's)



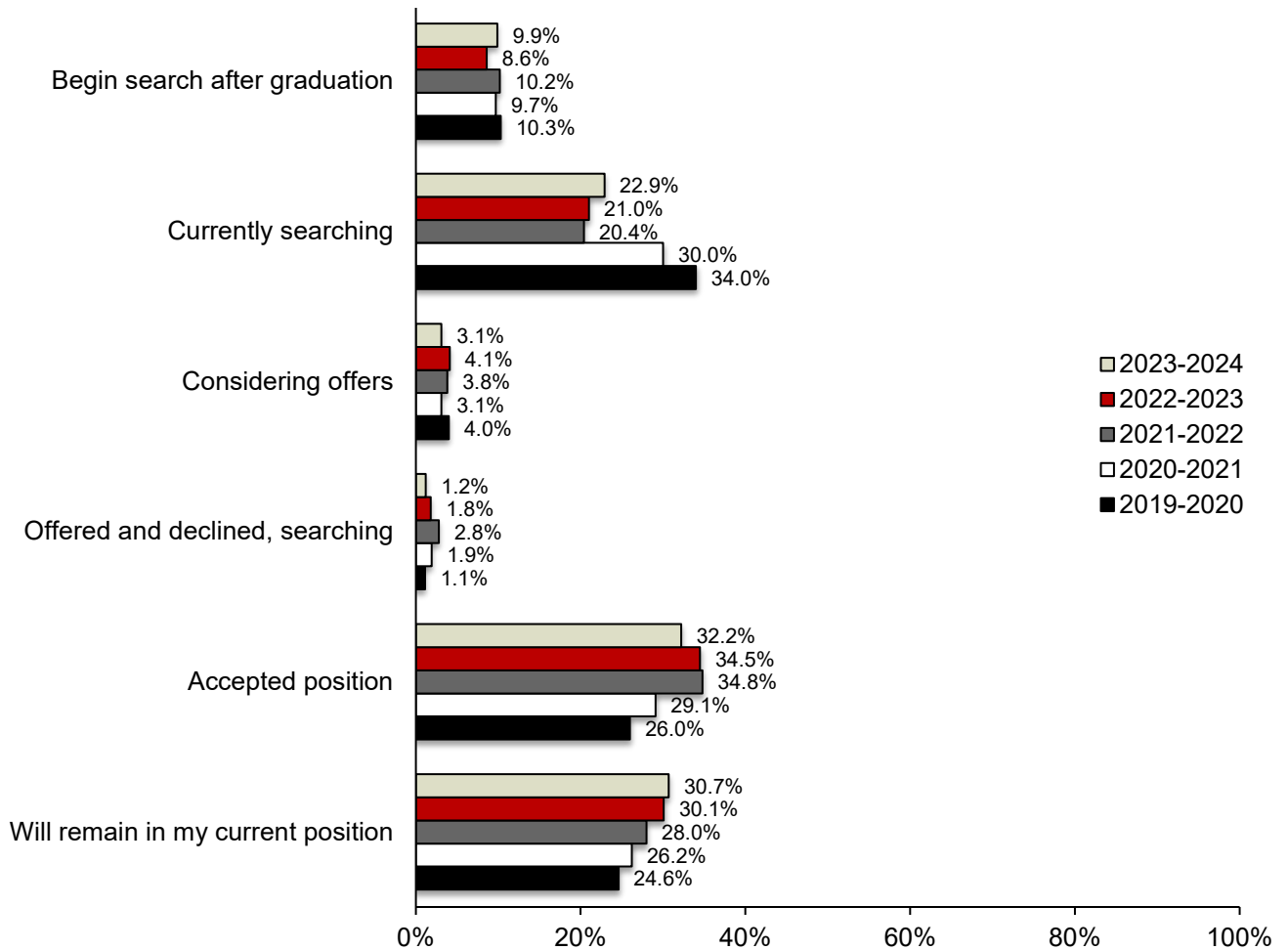
POST-GRADUATION PLANS

What is MOST LIKELY to be your principal activity upon graduation?	Master's				
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Employment	84.2%	84.6%	88.3%	87.2%	86.4%
Graduate or professional school	13.0%	11.3%	7.9%	9.6%	11.6%
Military service	0.5%	0.7%	0.1%	0.4%	0.6%
Volunteer activity (e.g., Peace Corps)	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Other plans (e.g., gap year, extended travel, starting a family, etc.)	2.3%	3.2%	3.6%	2.8%	1.3%

EMPLOYMENT PLANS

Only respondents who reported that they would either be employed part-time or full-time following graduation are included in the following chart.

Which of the following best describes your current state of plans for employment after graduation? (Master's)

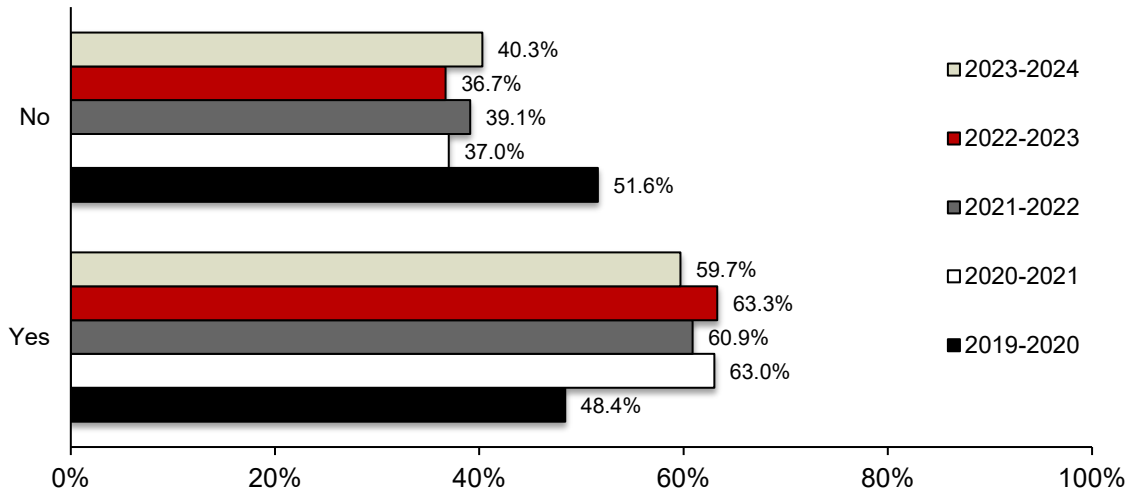


If you have accepted a position, in what type of organization/sector will you work?	Master's				
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	40.2%	38.7%	39.1%	45.7%	42.0%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	31.9%	30.7%	27.6%	20.1%	18.6%
Government or other public institution/agency	28.0%	30.5%	33.3%	34.1%	39.3%
How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?					
Very well	41.0%	38.3%	40.3%	35.1%	34.9%
Generally well	41.1%	40.2%	41.1%	44.4%	43.1%
Neutral	10.6%	13.5%	11.7%	12.7%	12.7%
Inadequately	3.6%	4.0%	3.2%	5.0%	3.9%
Very inadequately	2.1%	2.0%	1.8%	1.7%	2.4%
Not applicable	1.5%	1.9%	1.9%	1.2%	3.0%
How important have university or college resources been in helping you to find a job?²					
Essential	10.3%	12.2%	12.0%	11.7%	13.7%
Very important	24.3%	17.6%	19.1%	18.2%	17.7%
Somewhat important	11.3%	28.3%	25.1%	30.4%	26.4%
Not important	18.5%	26.6%	27.8%	26.0%	27.0%
Not applicable	9.3%	15.2%	16.0%	13.7%	15.2%
Where will you be employed? (Top location listed)					
Ohio	67.4%	65.0%	69.5%	65.9%	71.4%

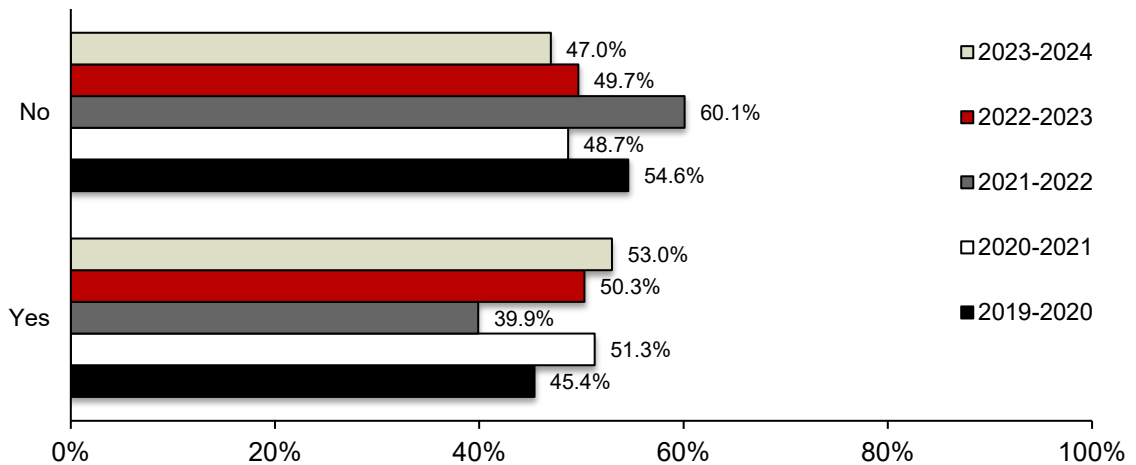
²Starting in 2020-2021, "Neutral" was removed; the percentages for the prior years will not add up to 100%.

INTERNSHIPS

While enrolled in your current degree program, did you complete an internship, co-op, practicum, apprenticeship or academic major-related work experience? (Master's)



Earlier you indicated you had accepted a job offer. Is your accepted position with the same organization where you completed your internship, co-op, practicum, apprenticeship or academic-major related work experience? (Master's)

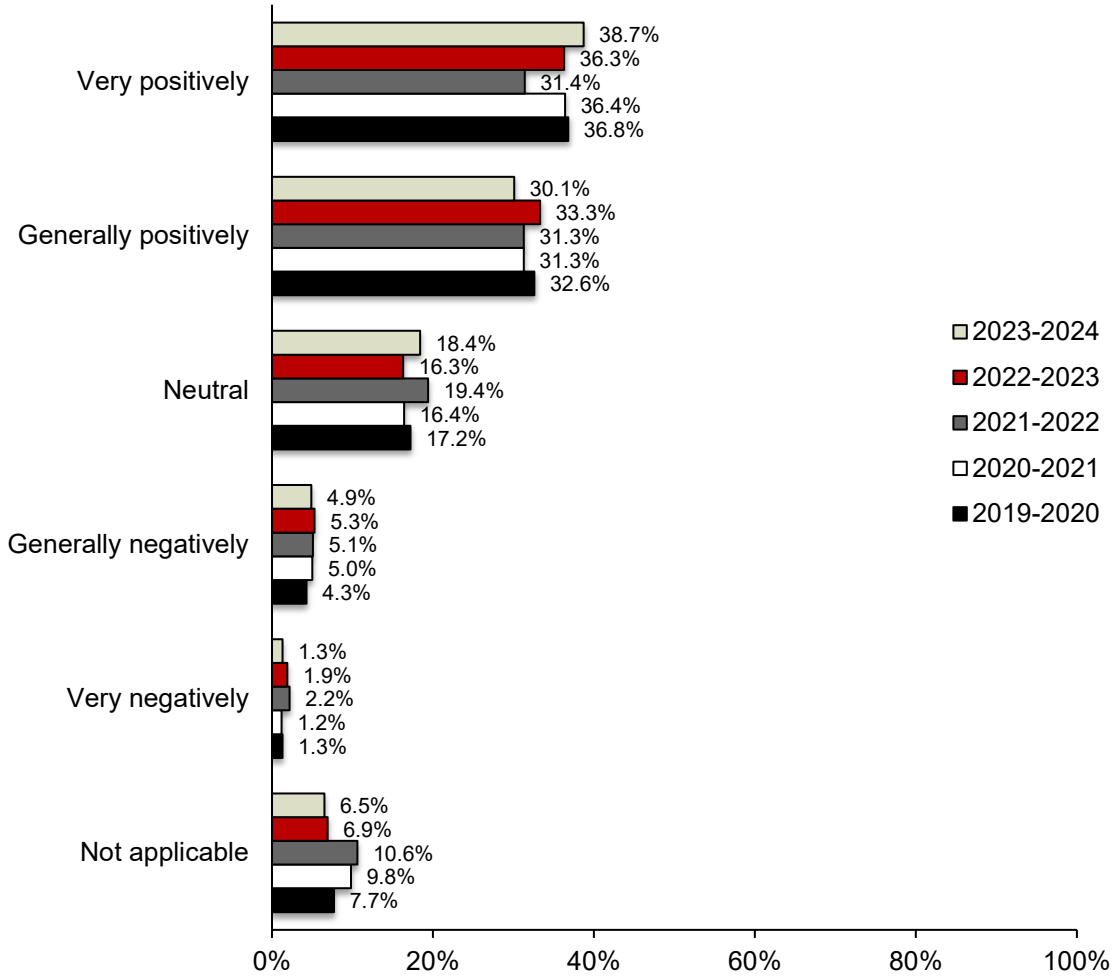


FUTURE EDUCATION

Which degrees do you plan to pursue upon graduation or in the future? (Master's)

2019-2020	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	0.2%	3.4%	96.4%
Medicine (MD)	0.7%	1.2%	98.2%
Other Medical	0.8%	1.7%	97.5%
Master's	4.7%	8.3%	87.1%
Doctorate	12.2%	28.2%	59.6%
2020-2021	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	0.2%	2.8%	97.0%
Medicine (MD)	0.9%	1.6%	97.6%
Other Medical	0.9%	2.6%	96.5%
Master's	5.2%	5.4%	89.4%
Doctorate	11.2%	25.8%	63.0%
2021-2022	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	0.1%	2.5%	97.4%
Medicine (MD)	0.3%	1.2%	98.5%
Other Medical	1.0%	1.2%	97.7%
Master's	5.2%	5.7%	89.2%
Doctorate	7.4%	22.4%	70.3%
2022-2023	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	0.6%	4.6%	94.8%
Medicine (MD)	2.2%	1.5%	96.3%
Other Medical	1.2%	2.3%	96.5%
Master's	8.0%	10.3%	81.7%
Doctorate	14.1%	32.2%	53.7%
2023-2024	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	1.1%	4.8%	94.0%
Medicine (MD)	1.6%	3.1%	95.3%
Other Medical	1.3%	2.9%	95.7%
Master's	6.9%	7.9%	85.1%
Doctorate	15.5%	30.3%	54.2%

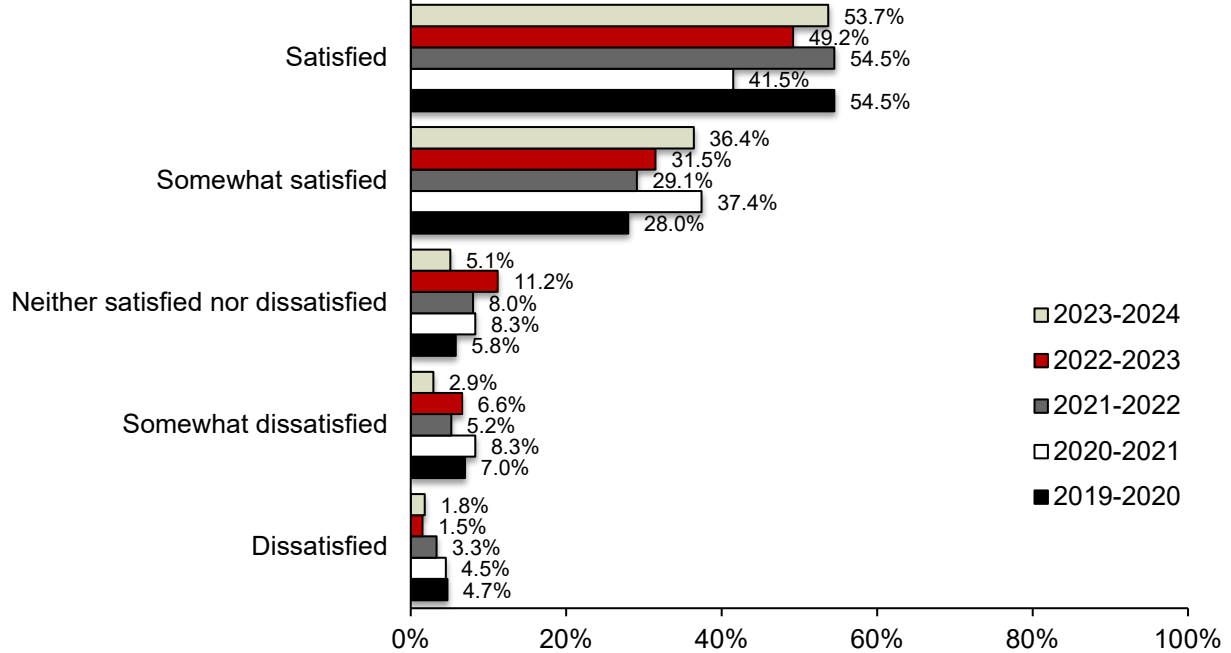
**To what extent have your overall graduate experiences
influenced your plans for graduate or professional studies?
(Master's)**



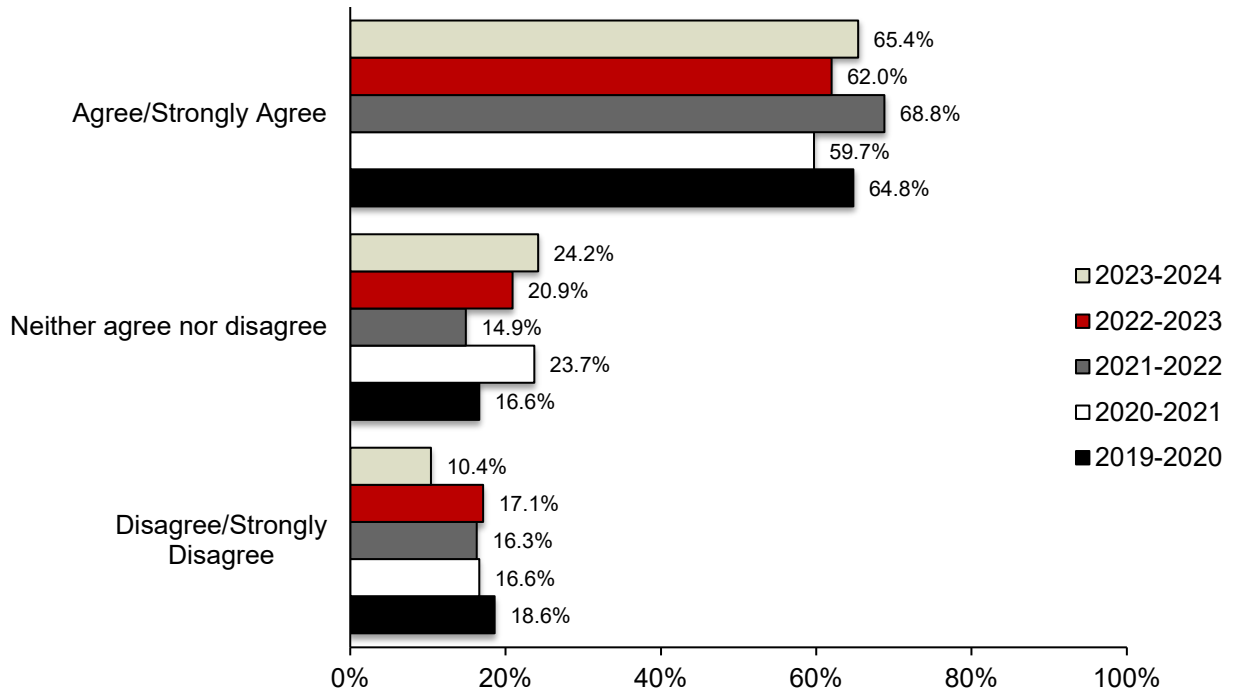
PROFESSIONAL DEGREE RECIPIENTS

SATISFACTION WITH OHIO STATE

Looking back, how satisfied are you with your experience as a student at Ohio State overall? (Professional)

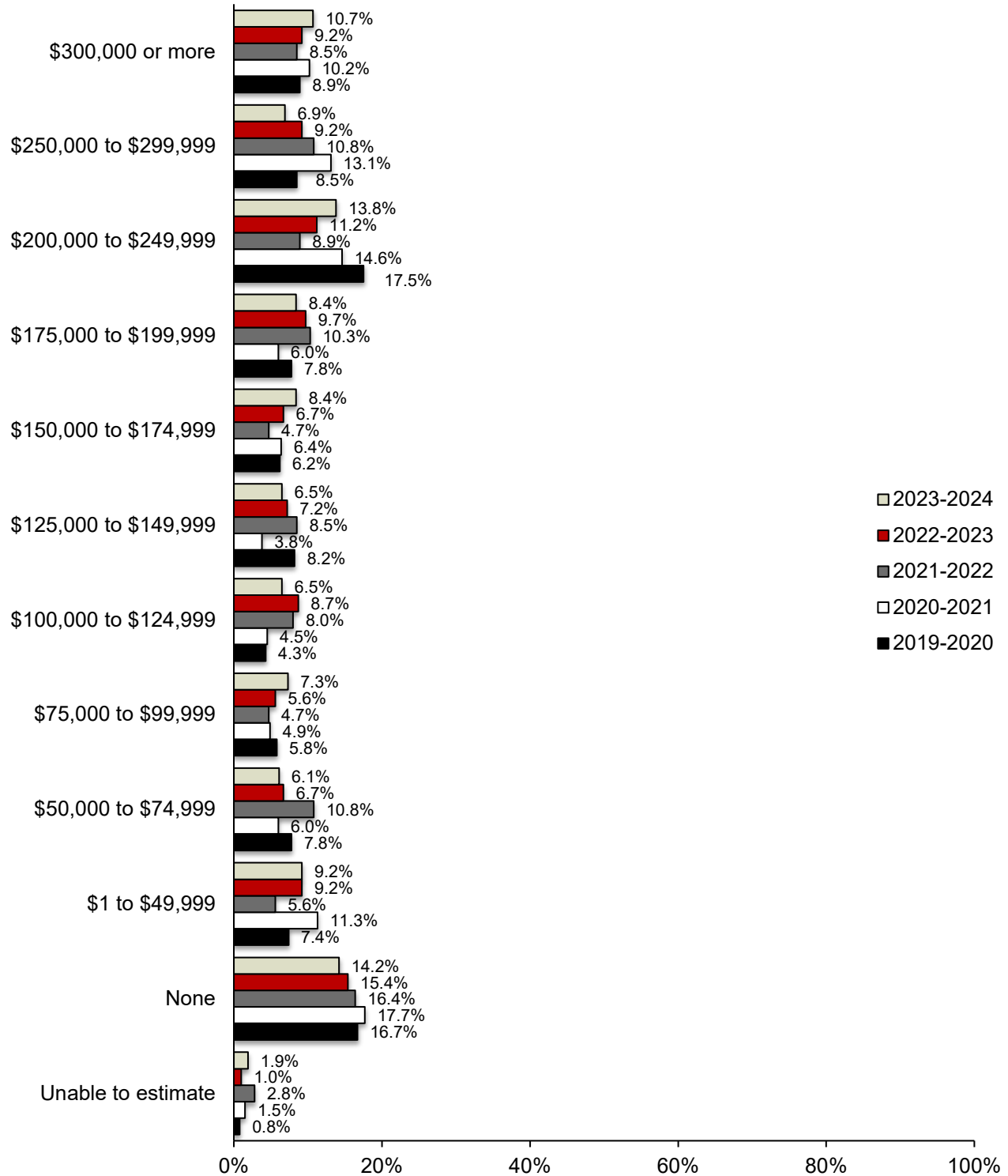


Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family? (Professional)



DEBT

At the time you graduate, approximately what will be the total amount borrowed to finance your education that you are personally responsible for repaying?
(Professional)



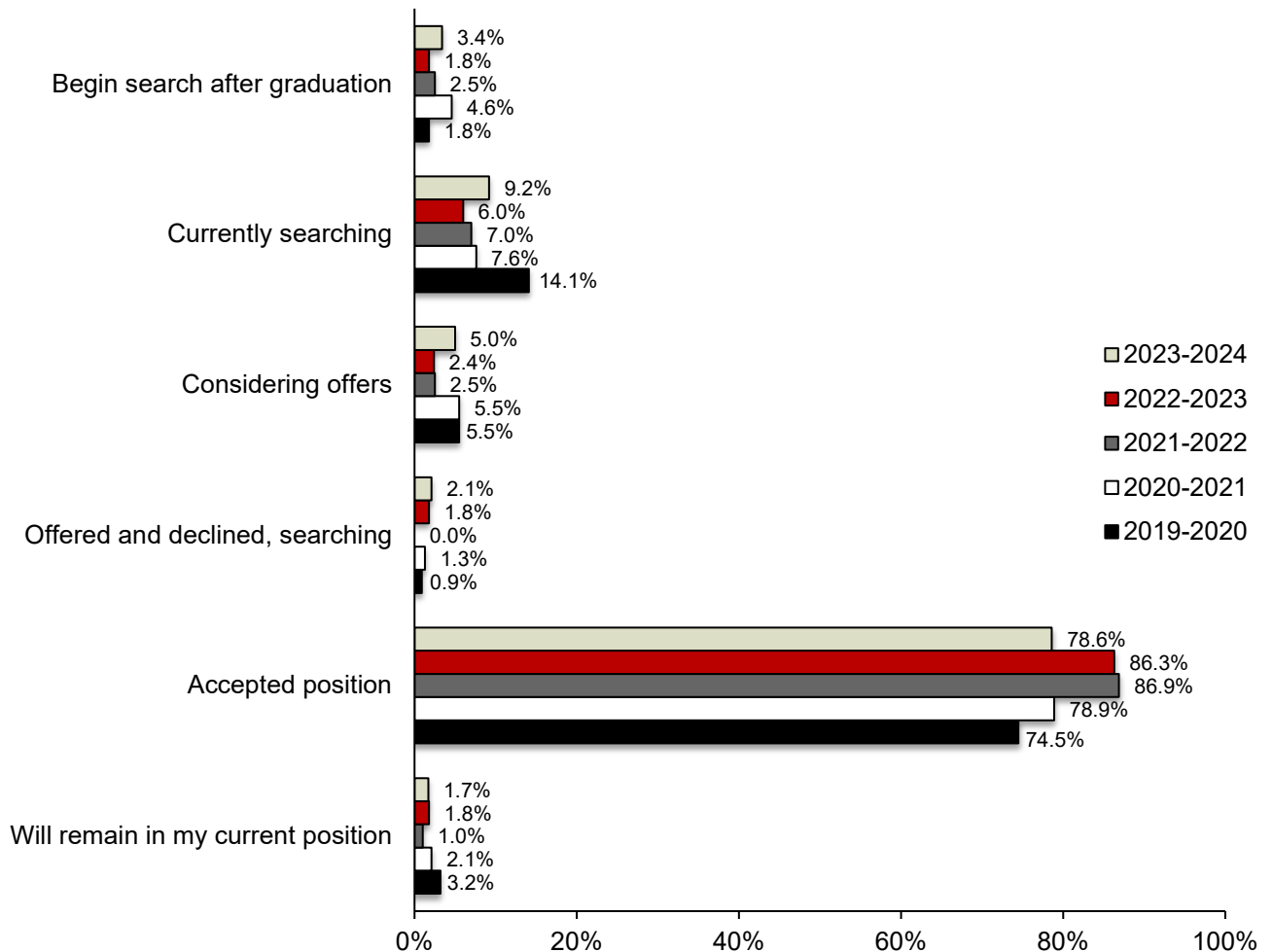
POST-GRADUATION PLANS

What is MOST LIKELY to be your principal activity upon graduation?	Professional				
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Employment	89.1%	89.1%	93.0%	89.8%	91.2%
Graduate or professional school	1.9%	4.1%	1.9%	2.1%	5.7%
Military service	3.9%	2.3%	0.9%	3.2%	1.9%
Volunteer activity (e.g., Peace Corps)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other plans (e.g., gap year, extended travel, starting a family, etc.)	5.0%	4.5%	4.2%	4.8%	1.1%

EMPLOYMENT PLANS

Only respondents who reported that they would either be employed part-time or full-time following graduation are included in the following chart.

Which of the following best describes your current state of plans for employment after graduation? (Professional)

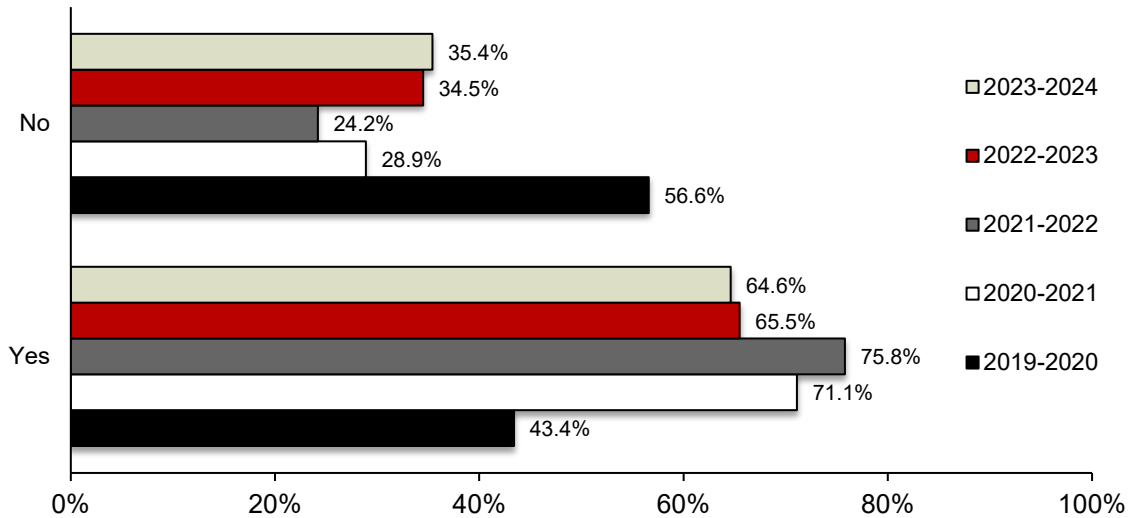


If you have accepted a position, in what type of organization or sector will you work?	Professional				
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	60.7%	64.7%	53.3%	53.6%	59.3%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	16.8%	13.4%	26.3%	24.6%	19.8%
Government or other public institution/agency	22.5%	21.9%	20.4%	21.7%	20.9%
How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?					
Very well	40.2%	33.5%	41.6%	44.1%	40.7%
Generally well	42.5%	44.9%	45.5%	33.6%	45.2%
Neutral	11.7%	12.3%	7.3%	14.5%	7.7%
Inadequately	4.2%	5.7%	3.4%	4.6%	2.7%
Very inadequately	0.9%	2.6%	1.7%	1.3%	1.8%
Not applicable	0.5%	0.9%	0.6%	2.0%	1.8%
How important have university or college resources been in helping you to find a job?³					
Essential	10.8%	14.2%	16.7%	12.8%	13.3%
Very important	27.7%	21.3%	22.4%	24.2%	27.1%
Somewhat important	17.4%	29.8%	25.9%	30.9%	28.9%
Not important	17.8%	31.6%	31.0%	24.2%	23.4%
Not applicable	1.9%	3.1%	4.0%	8.1%	7.3%
Where will you be employed? (Top location listed)					
Ohio	59.4%	62.3%	58.2%	48.9%	61.2%

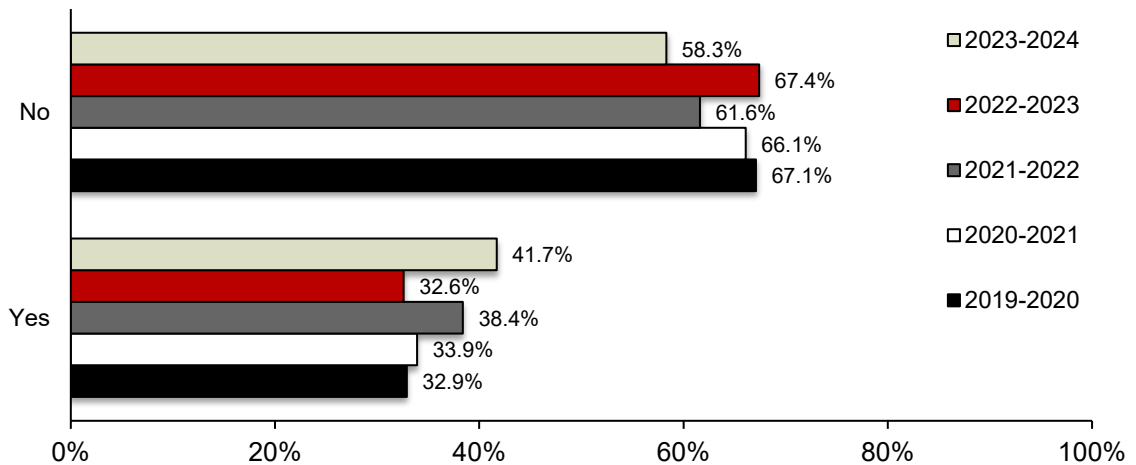
³Starting in 2020-2021, “Neutral” was removed; the percentages for the prior years will not add up to 100%.

INTERNSHIPS

While enrolled in your current degree program, did you complete an internship, co-op, practicum, apprenticeship or academic major-related work experience? (Professional)



Earlier you indicated you had accepted a job offer. Is your accepted position with the same organization where you completed your internship, co-op, practicum, apprenticeship or academic-major related work experience? (Professional)



FUTURE EDUCATION

Which degrees do you plan to pursue upon graduation or in the future? (Professional)

2019-2020	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	2.3%	1.9%	95.9%
Medicine (MD)	0.8%	0.0%	99.3%
Other Medical	11.0%	1.9%	87.1%
Master's	3.0%	10.2%	86.8%
Doctorate	1.1%	4.5%	94.4%
2020-2021	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	0.7%	2.2%	97.2%
Medicine (MD)	2.2%	0.7%	97.2%
Other Medical	19.0%	1.4%	79.6%
Master's	3.6%	9.0%	87.5%
Doctorate	3.2%	5.0%	91.8%
2021-2022	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	2.4%	0.0%	97.6%
Medicine (MD)	1.6%	1.6%	96.9%
Other Medical	7.5%	0.8%	91.7%
Master's	0.8%	7.9%	91.3%
Doctorate	2.0%	3.9%	94.1%
2022-2023	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	2.4%	0.0%	97.6%
Medicine (MD)	1.2%	0.0%	98.8%
Other Medical	23.5%	2.0%	74.5%
Master's	2.3%	11.6%	86.0%
Doctorate	0.0%	8.1%	91.9%
2023-2024	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Do not plan to pursue
Law	5.0%	1.4%	93.6%
Medicine (MD)	2.2%	0.0%	97.8%
Other Medical	22.1%	0.6%	77.3%
Master's	6.2%	10.3%	83.6%
Doctorate	4.1%	4.1%	91.9%

To what extent have your overall graduate experiences influenced your plans for graduate or professional studies? (Professional)

