



Graduation Survey

2014-2019 Trend Report

Center for the Study of Student Life

June 2019



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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INTRODUCTION

The Ohio State University Undergraduate and Master's/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.

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. Graduate students completing PhDs are not surveyed because PhD graduates are invited to take the Survey of Earned Doctorates, which duplicates many of items on the Graduation Survey.

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

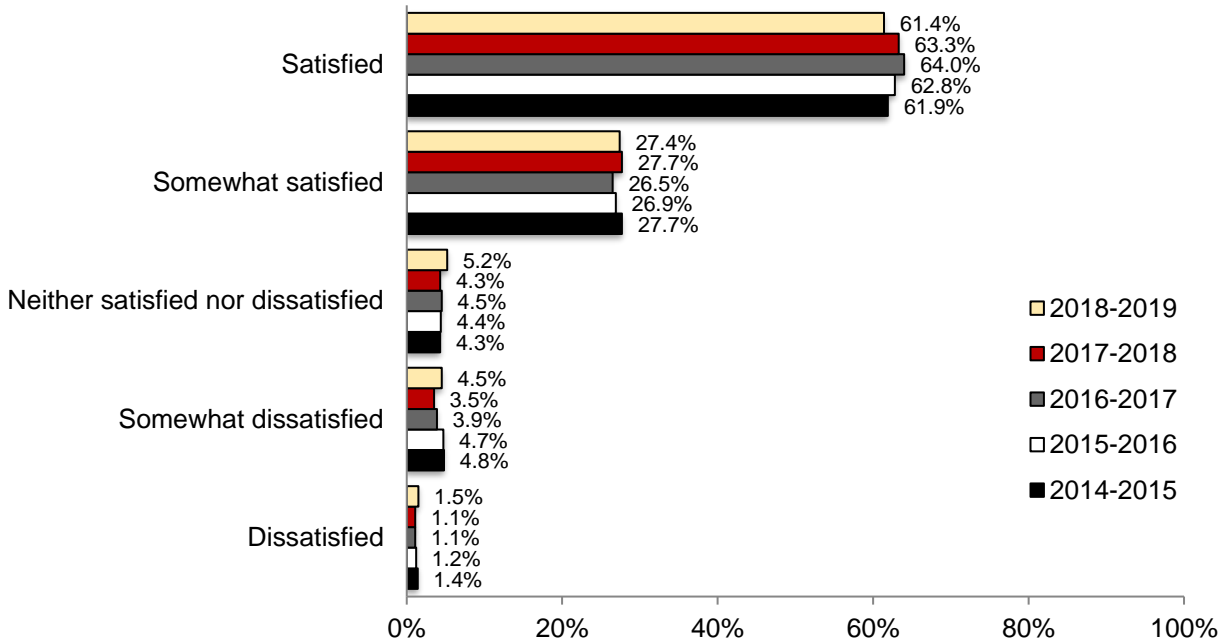
Students who applied to graduate each term were invited to take the appropriate survey. If students planned to graduate with more than one degree, they received only one invitation. If students planned to graduate with both an undergraduate and graduate degree in the same major, they were invited to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

		Undergraduate	Master's	Professional
2014 - 2015	Invited	10,765	2,860	897
	Responded	3,969	946	315
	Response Rate	36.9%	33.1%	35.1%
2015 - 2016	Invited	10,916	2,810	837
	Responded	4,388	1,123	336
	Response Rate	40.2%	40.0%	40.1%
2016 - 2017	Invited	10,975	2,986	783
	Responded	5,183	1,289	348
	Response Rate	47.2%	43.2%	44.4%
2017 - 2018	Invited	10,520	2,778	667
	Responded	4,833	1,119	261
	Response Rate	45.9%	40.3%	39.1%
2018 - 2019	Invited	11,458	2,968	828
	Responded	6,626	1,232	293
	Response Rate	57.8%	41.5%	35.4%

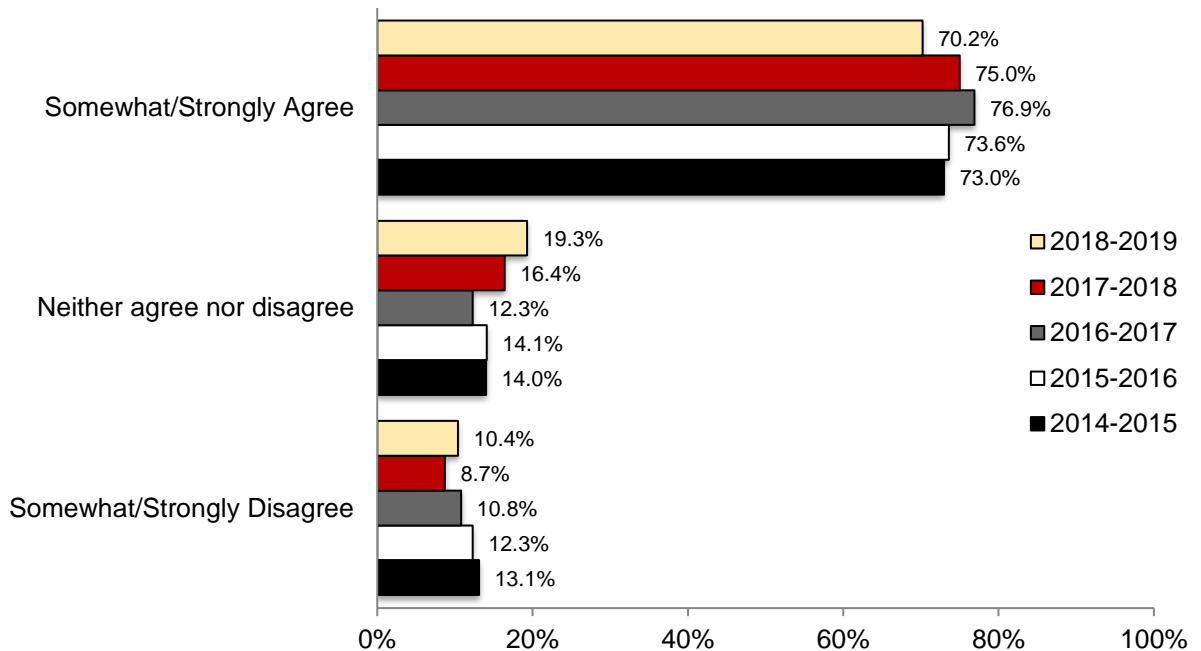
UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS

SATISFACTION WITH OHIO STATE

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



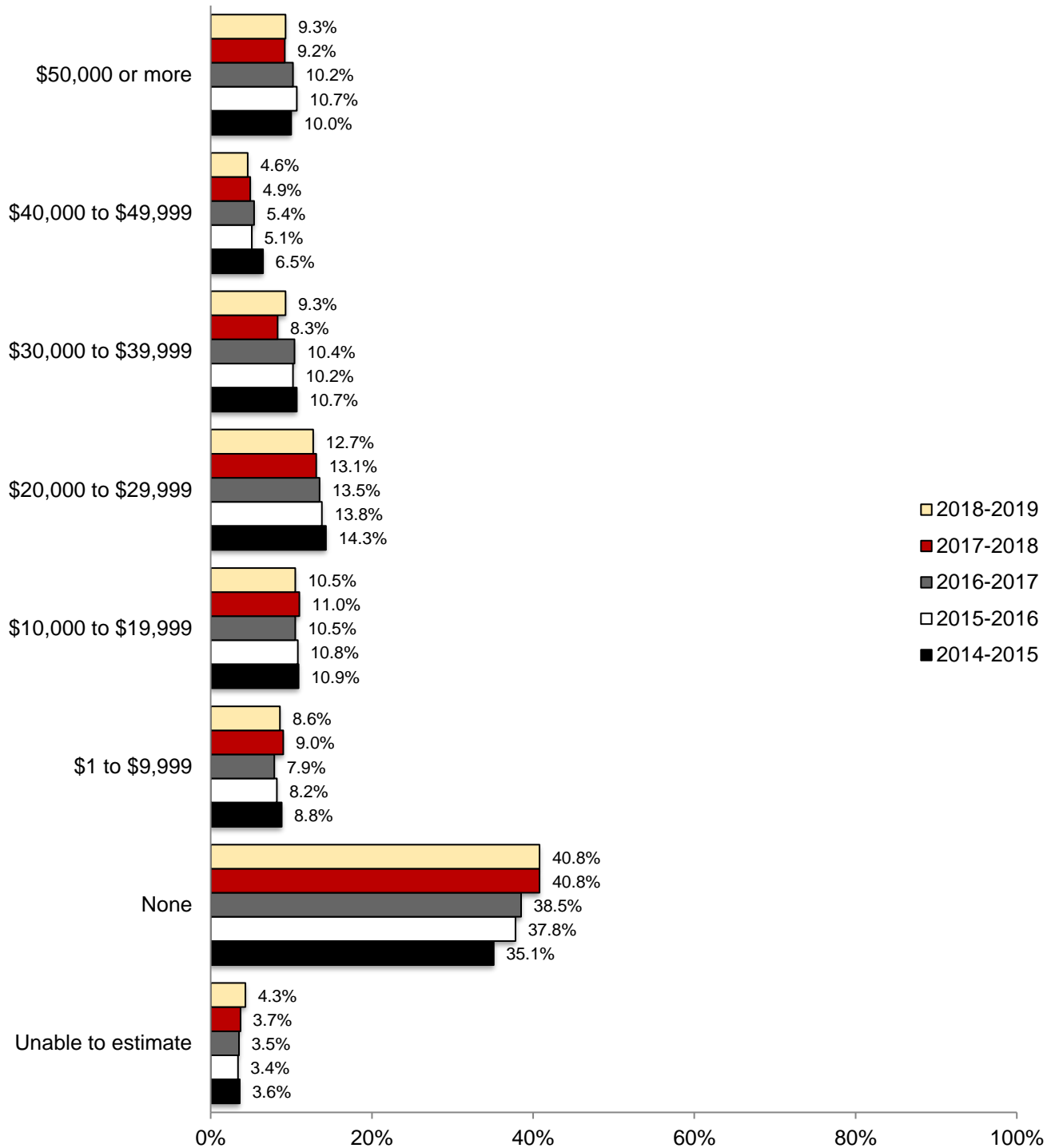
Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family? (Undergraduates)¹



¹In 2017-2018, "Somewhat agree" was changed to "Agree" and "Somewhat disagree" was changed to "Disagree."

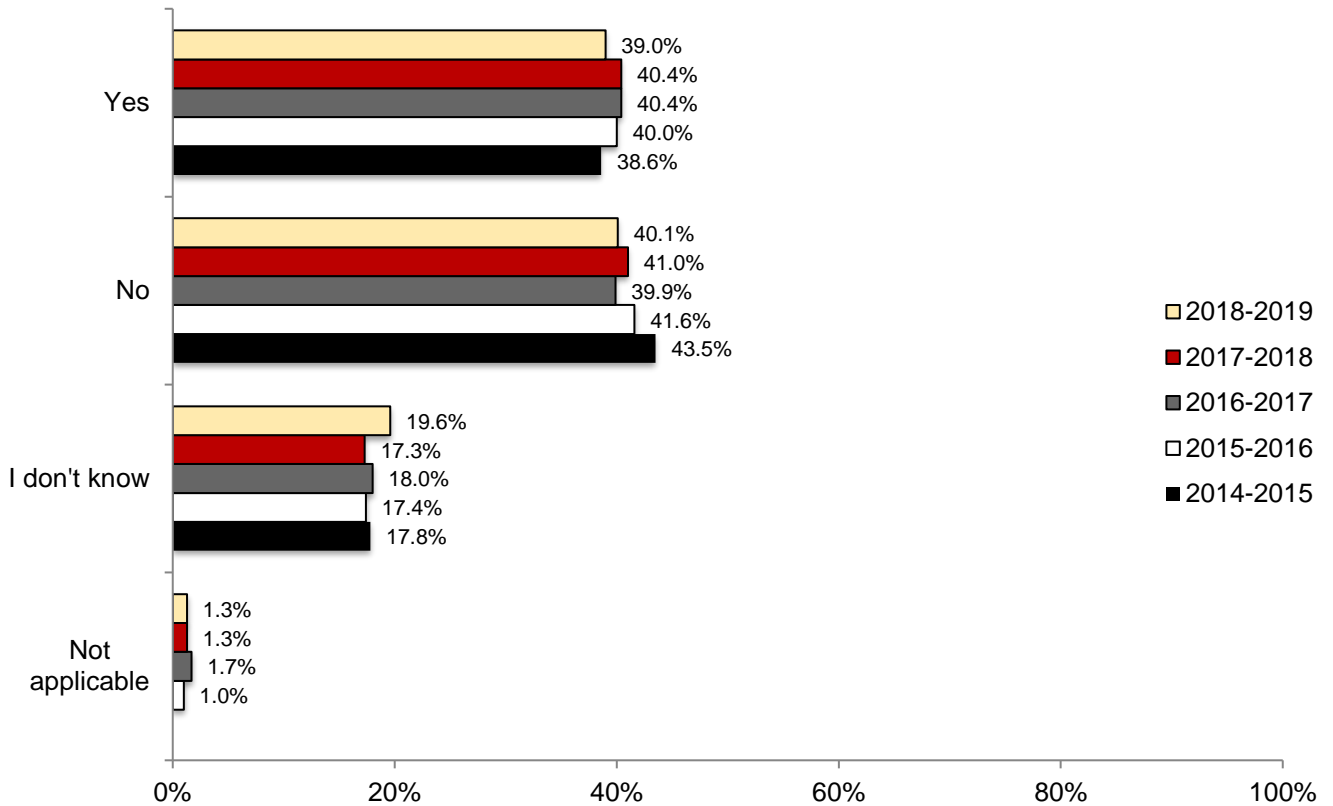
DEBT

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

Do you plan to stay in the Columbus, Ohio area after graduation?
(Undergraduates)²



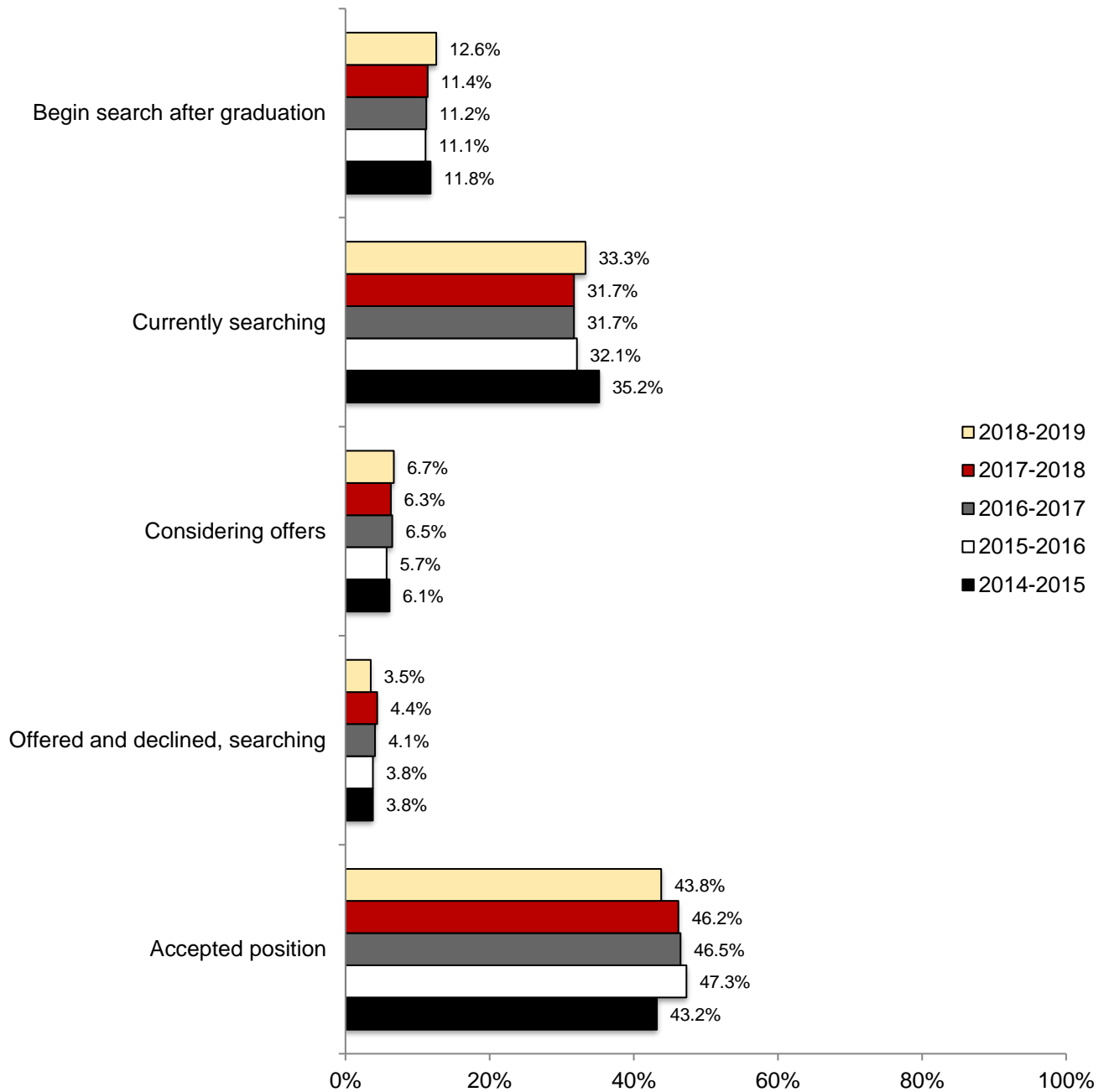
What is MOST LIKELY to be your principal activity upon graduation?	Undergraduates				
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Employment, full-time paid	63.7%	65.6%	65.3%	63.5%	64.4%
Employment, part-time paid	6.2%	6.1%	6.0%	5.4%	6.2%
Graduate or professional school, full-time	24.7%	22.8%	23.0%	26.2%	24.5%
Graduate or professional school, part-time	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%	1.3%	1.1%
Additional undergraduate coursework	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.0%	1.3%
Military service	1.1%	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Volunteer activity (e.g., Peace Corps)	1.5%	1.6%	1.3%	1.1%	1.0%
Starting or raising a family	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%

²The "Not applicable" response was included in the survey beginning in the 2015-2016 academic year.

EMPLOYMENT PLANS

Only respondents who reported that they would either be employed part-time or full-time following graduation were asked the following items.

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

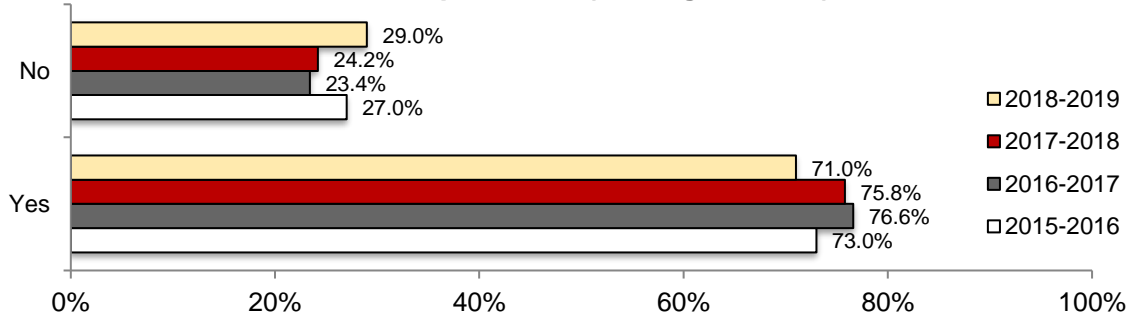


If you have accepted a position, in what type of organization or sector will you work?	Undergraduates				
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018 ³	2018-2019 ³
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	41.7%	43.6%	44.0%	72.9%	75.7%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	7.4%	8.0%	7.1%	10.0%	9.3%
Self-employed, own business, or professional practice (non-group)	2.3%	2.0%	2.2%	2.1%	2.9%
Government or other public institution/agency	7.9%	8.5%	8.4%	10.2%	11.7%
Not applicable (have not accepted)	40.7%	37.8%	38.3%	4.8%	0.5%
Is your prospective position related to your undergraduate field(s) of study?					
Same field as major(s)	40.7%	38.8%	40.4%	46.6%	42.4%
Related to major(s)	28.9%	27.9%	28.0%	35.7%	38.6%
Related to minor(s)	2.6%	2.4%	2.4%	3.4%	3.1%
Not related to major(s) or minor(s)	8.5%	9.1%	6.9%	8.4%	10.6%
Not applicable	19.4%	21.8%	22.3%	6.0%	5.3%
How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?					
Very well	20.5%	27.3%	29.7%	27.0%	27.2%
Generally well	52.6%	48.5%	47.6%	49.2%	47.4%
Neutral	17.8%	14.0%	13.3%	14.7%	14.9%
Inadequately	6.0%	6.6%	6.4%	6.4%	7.1%
Very inadequately	2.3%	2.9%	2.3%	2.1%	2.5%
Not applicable	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%	0.8%
How important have university resources been in helping you to find a job?					
Essential	10.4%	11.7%	11.3%	12.4%	12.9%
Very important	19.2%	26.0%	26.8%	27.7%	24.4%
Neutral	18.6%	21.2%	23.1%	23.3%	25.5%
Somewhat important	27.6%	19.4%	18.5%	18.1%	17.2%
Not important	17.3%	16.1%	14.6%	15.2%	16.2%
Not applicable	7.0%	5.6%	5.6%	3.4%	3.8%
Where will you be employed? (Top location listed)					
Ohio	66.1%	72.3%	71.8%	71.6%	69.7%

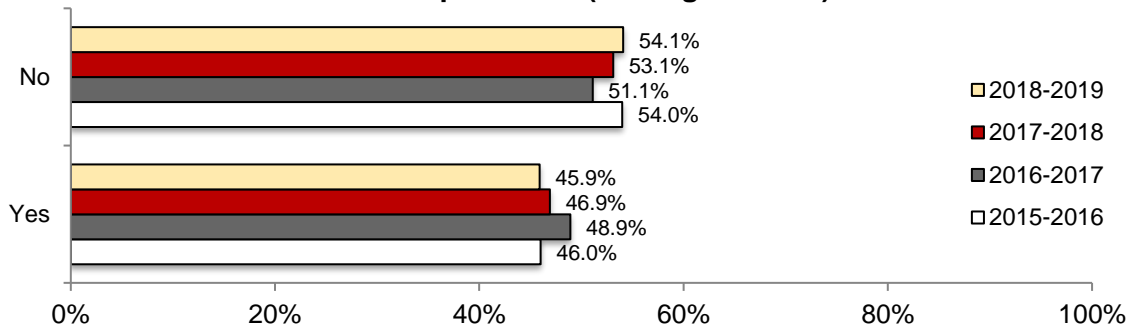
³In 2017-2018 and after, only students who selected "Have accepted a position" or "Will remain in my current position" saw this question.

INTERNSHIPS

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

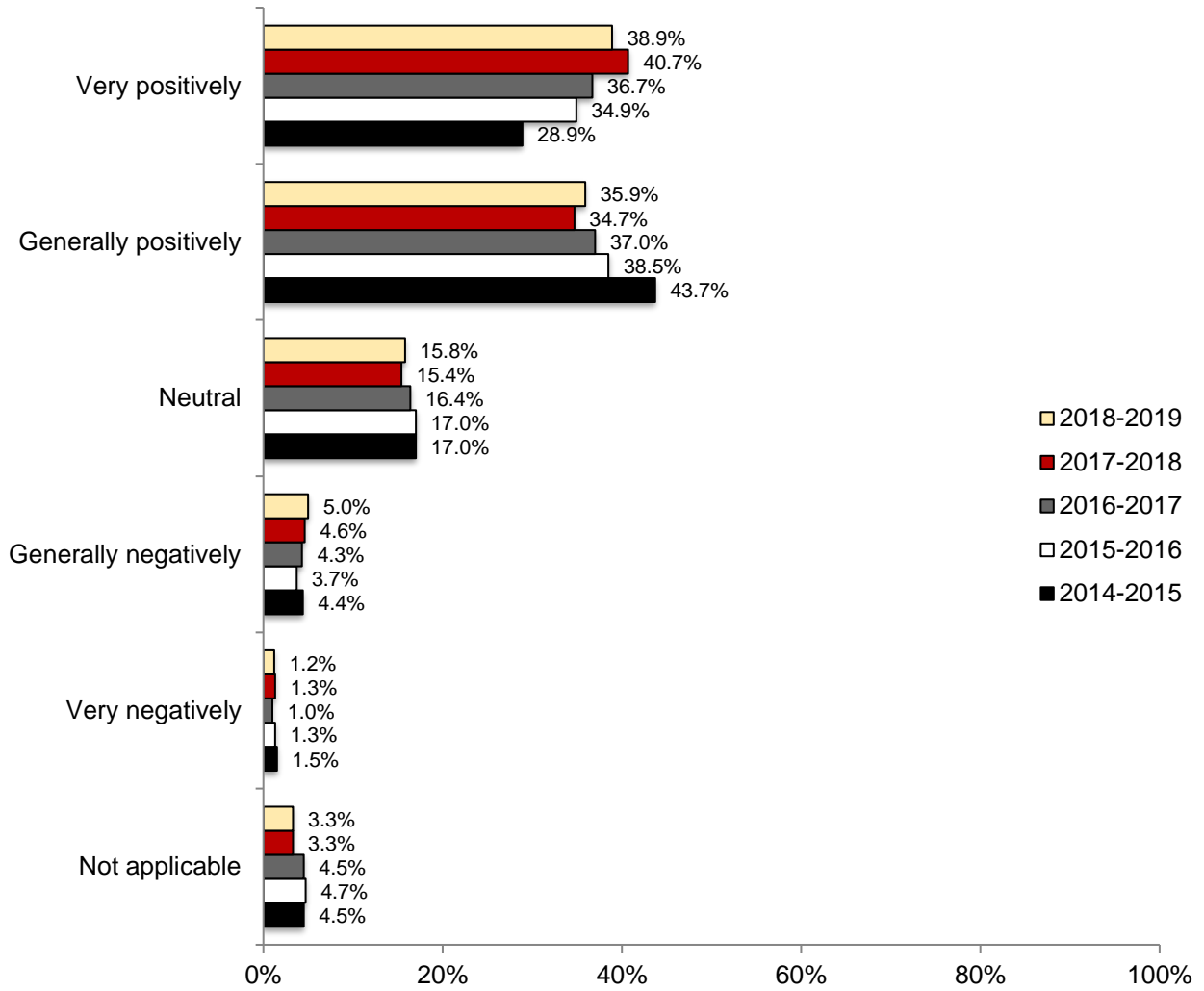


FUTURE EDUCATION

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

2014-2015	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not answer
Law	1.7%	6.1%	92.2%
Medicine (MD)	2.1%	4.1%	93.9%
Other Medical	3.2%	4.3%	92.5%
Second Bachelor's	1.3%	5.4%	93.3%
Master's	13.8%	48.9%	37.3%
Doctorate	2.6%	15.2%	82.1%
2015-2016	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not answer
Law	1.6%	6.5%	91.8%
Medicine (MD)	2.4%	4.0%	93.7%
Other Medical	3.3%	4.6%	92.1%
Second Bachelor's	1.2%	4.9%	93.9%
Master's	12.8%	48.0%	39.2%
Doctorate	2.9%	15.1%	82.0%
2016-2017	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	2.3%	6.0%	91.7%
Medicine (MD)	2.0%	4.4%	93.6%
Other Medical	3.4%	5.2%	91.4%
Second Bachelor's	1.1%	5.6%	93.3%
Master's	12.9%	47.9%	39.2%
Doctorate	2.8%	14.7%	82.4%
2017-2018	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	1.9%	5.9%	92.2%
Medicine (MD)	1.7%	3.9%	94.4%
Other Medical	2.9%	4.0%	93.1%
Second Bachelor's	0.8%	5.1%	94.1%
Master's	12.2%	49.6%	38.1%
Doctorate	3.2%	16.5%	80.3%
2018-2019	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	2.0%	6.6%	91.4%
Medicine (MD)	1.9%	5.1%	93.0%
Other Medical	3.1%	6.5%	90.4%
Second Bachelor's	0.8%	5.1	94.1%
Master's	12.2%	49.6%	38.2%
Doctorate	2.2%	18.9%	78.9%

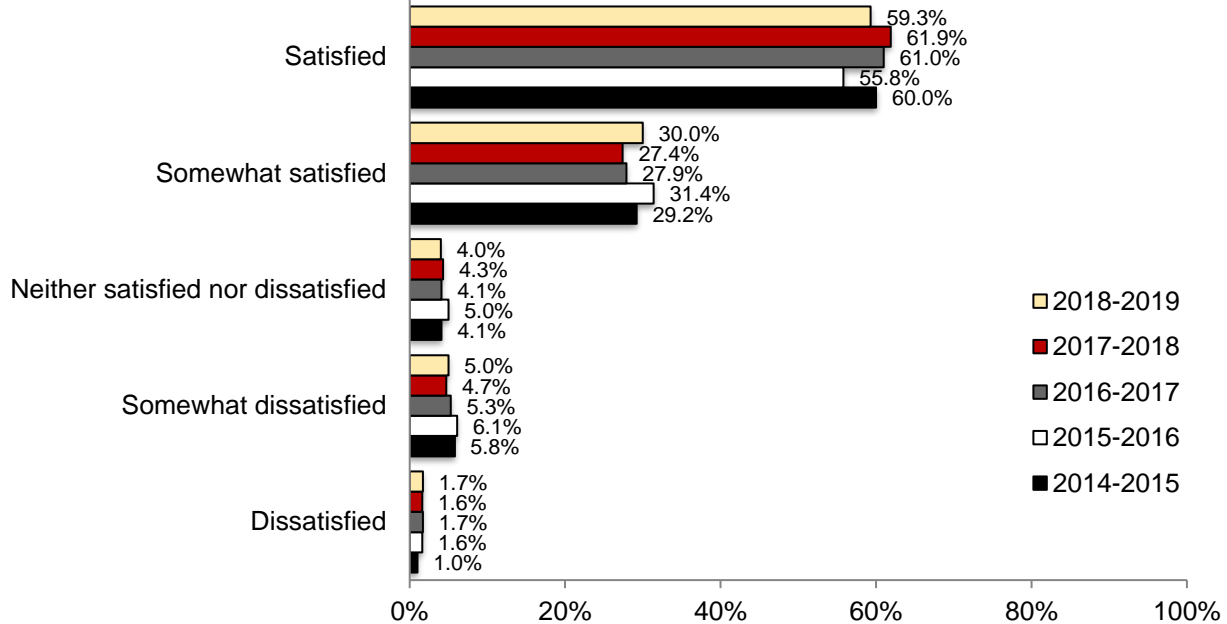
To what extent have your overall undergraduate experiences influenced your plans for graduate or professional studies? (Undergraduates)



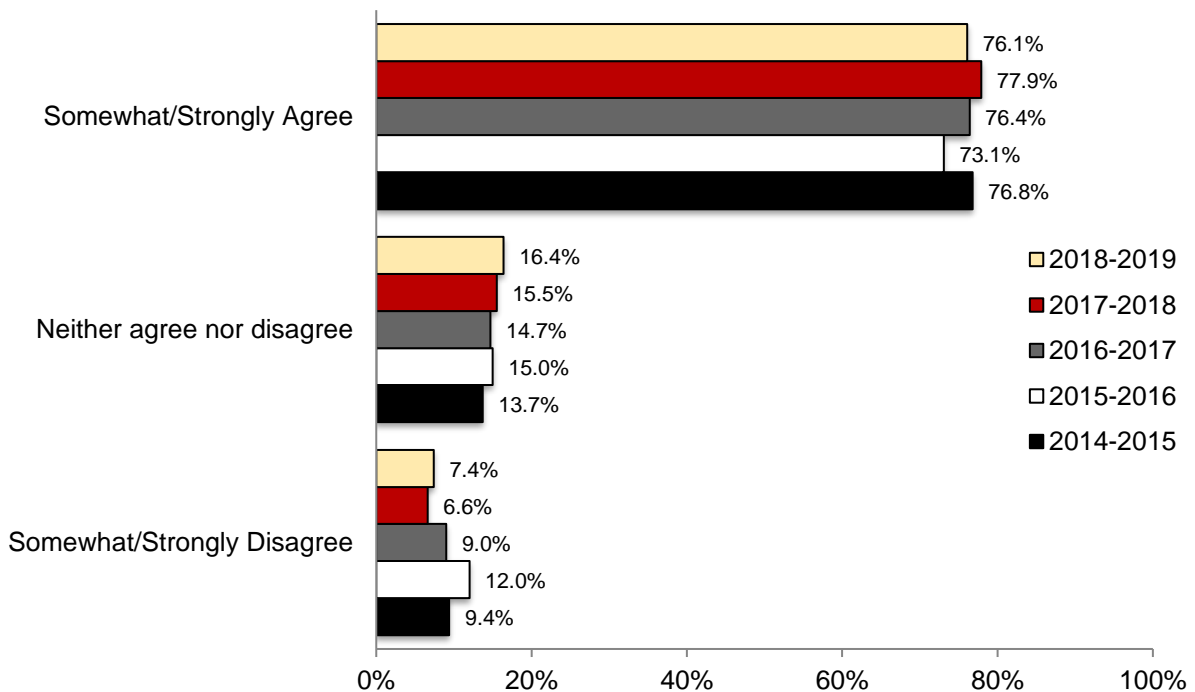
MASTER'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS

SATISFACTION WITH OHIO STATE

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



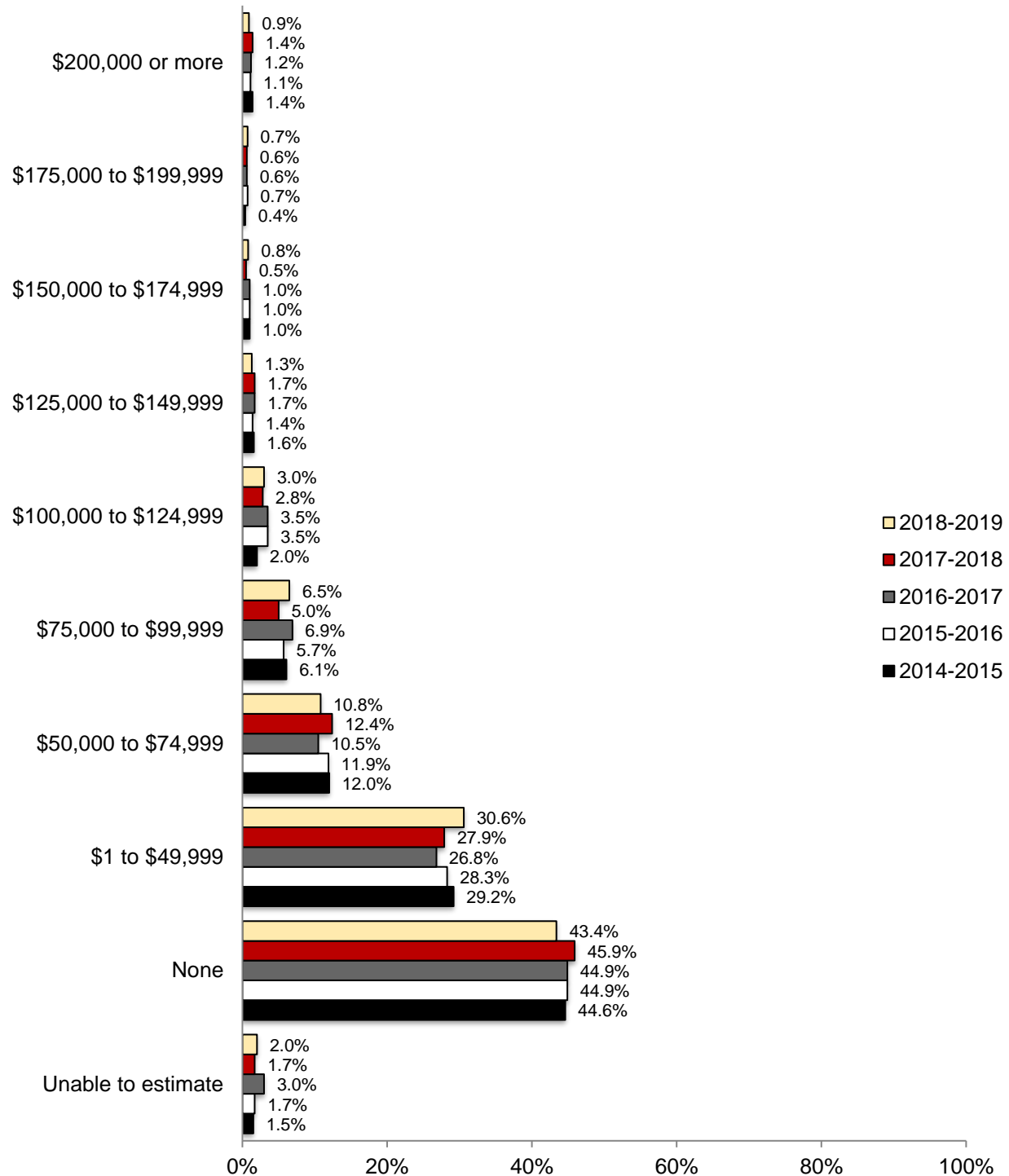
Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family? (Master's)⁴



⁴In 2017-2018, "Somewhat agree" was changed to "Agree" and "Somewhat disagree" was changed to "Disagree."

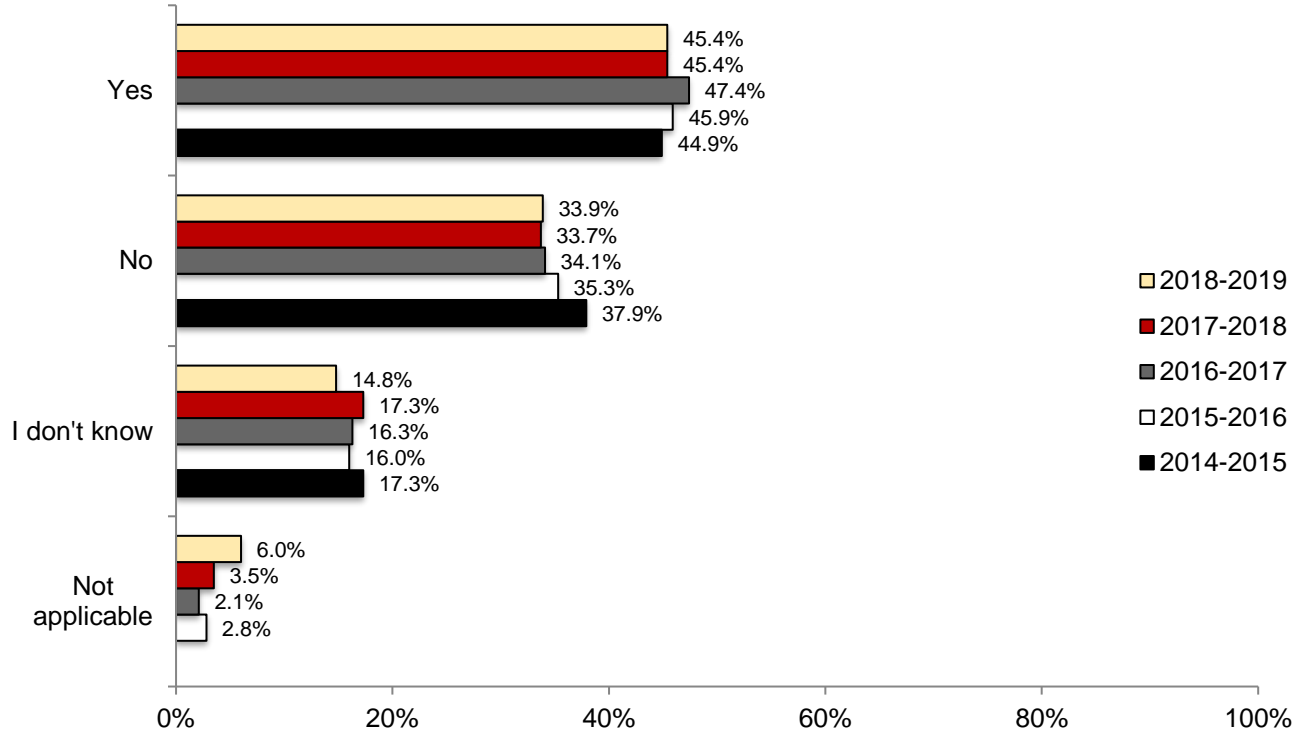
DEBT

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

Do you plan to stay in the Columbus, Ohio area after graduation?
(Master's)⁵



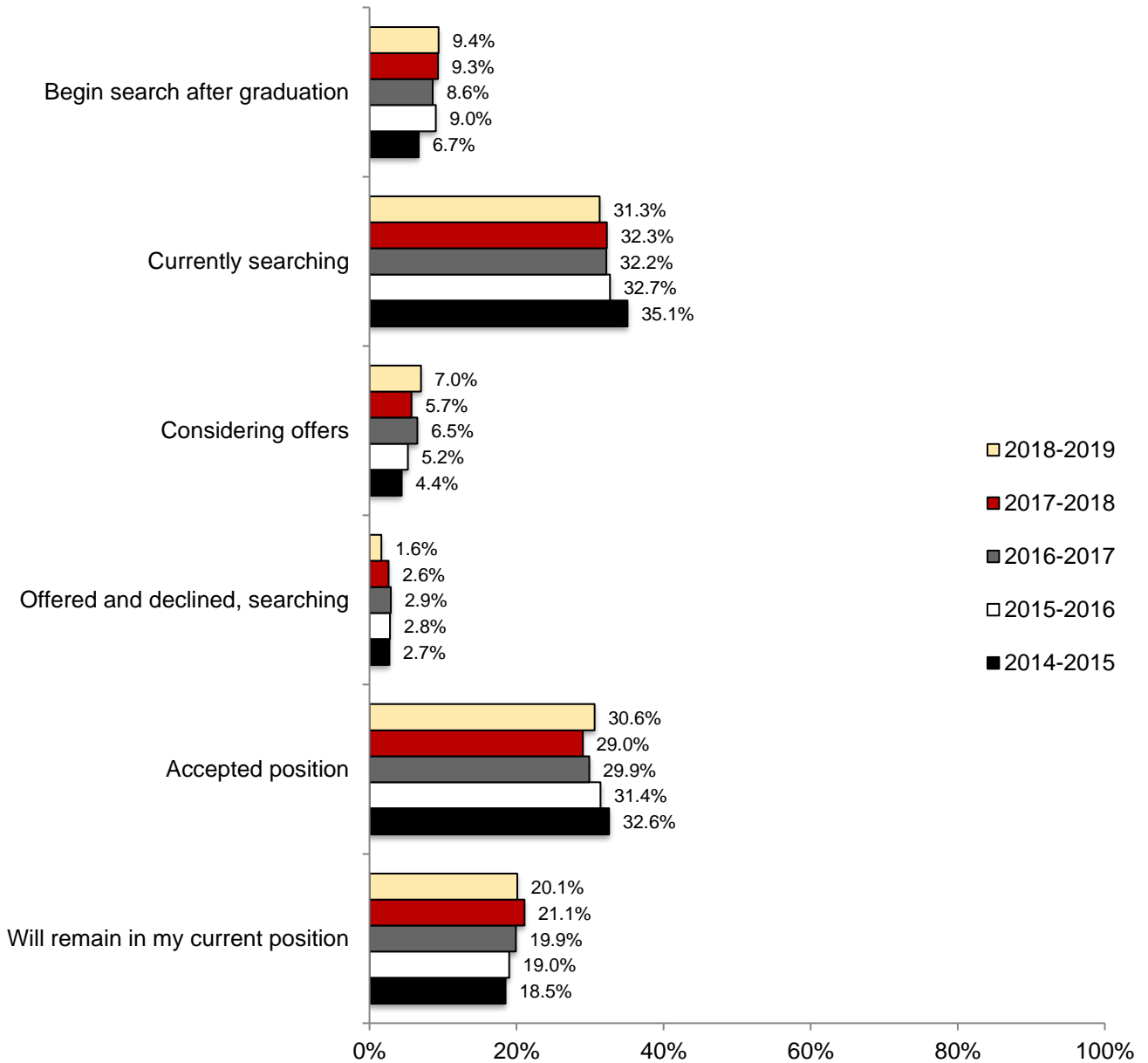
What is MOST LIKELY to be your principal activity upon graduation?	Master's				
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Employment, full-time paid	80.9%	80.1%	81.5%	80.3%	82.3%
Employment, part-time paid	3.5%	4.7%	3.5%	2.8%	3.3%
Graduate or professional school, full-time	13.9%	13.3%	13.2%	14.9%	12.2%
Graduate or professional school, part-time	0.1%	0.7%	0.3%	0.6%	0.2%
Military service	0.2%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%
Volunteer activity (e.g., Peace Corps)	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.7%
Starting or raising a family	0.9%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%

⁵The "Not applicable" response was included in the survey beginning in the 2015-2016 academic year.

EMPLOYMENT PLANS

Only respondents who reported that they would either be employed part-time or full-time following graduation were asked the following items.

Which of the following best describes your current state of plans for employment after graduation? (Master's)⁶



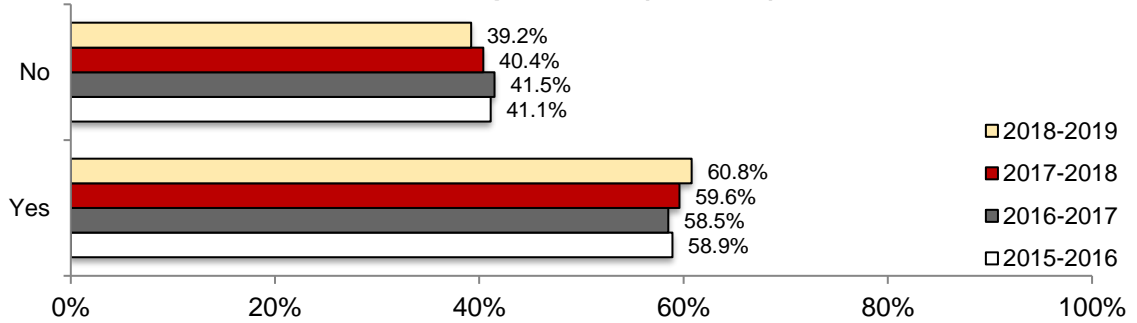
⁶The 2013-2014 data only represent Autumn 2013 and Spring 2014 as the item was asked differently in Summer 2013.

If you have accepted a position, in what type of organization/sector will you work?	Master's				
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018 ⁷	2018-2019 ⁷
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	30.7%	30.9%	30.3%	28.9%	51.3%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	15.4%	15.2%	16.9%	16.8%	25.7%
Self-employed, own business, or professional practice (non-group)	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	0.6%	1.6%
Government or other public institution/agency	18.2%	16.7%	15.1%	15.9%	20.1%
Not applicable (have not accepted)	34.4%	35.9%	36.5%	37.8%	1.3%
Is your prospective position related to your graduate/professional field(s) of study?					
Same field	67.7%	56.2%	54.6%	57.7%	69.9%
Related to field of study	25.9%	20.6%	24.1%	22.4%	24.6%
Not related to field of study	3.7%	2.4%	2.3%	1.8%	2.9%
Not applicable	2.7%	20.8%	19.0%	18.0%	2.7%
How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?					
Very well	27.9%	32.8%	33.8%	34.9%	35.7%
Generally well	51.0%	43.9%	44.3%	44.3%	46.9%
Neutral	15.4%	13.7%	12.0%	10.9%	10.8%
Inadequately	4.6%	5.8%	5.5%	6.5%	3.7%
Very inadequately	1.2%	2.6%	2.7%	1.5%	1.3%
Not Applicable	-	1.1%	1.8%	1.9%	1.7%
How important have university resources been in helping you to find a job?					
Essential	7.4%	9.3%	8.4%	12.1%	10.5%
Very important	19.0%	20.1%	22.1%	23.6%	22.6%
Neutral	18.8%	18.3%	22.9%	23.9%	23.1%
Somewhat important	26.2%	18.2%	15.2%	13.3%	13.9%
Not important	18.4%	21.4%	19.2%	19.6%	20.0%
Not applicable	10.1%	12.6%	12.2%	7.4%	9.8%
Where will you be employed? (Top location listed)					
Ohio	60.4%	64.9%	67.1%	65.3%	64.5%

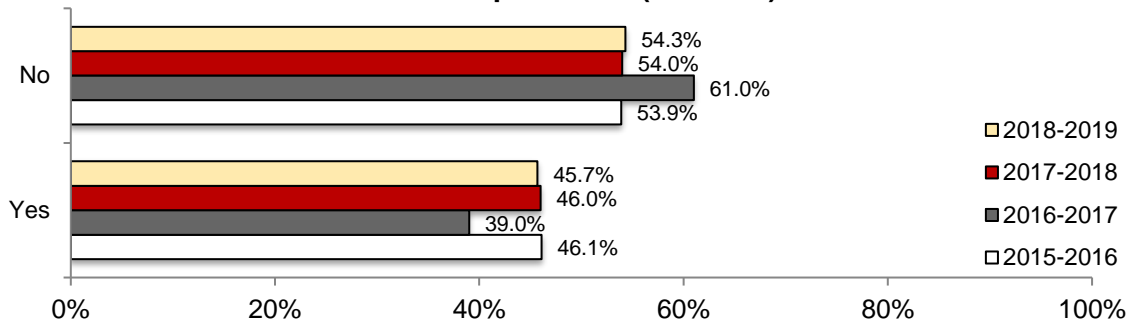
⁷In 2017-2018, only students who selected "Have accepted a position" or "Will remain in my current position" saw this question.

INTERNSHIPS

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

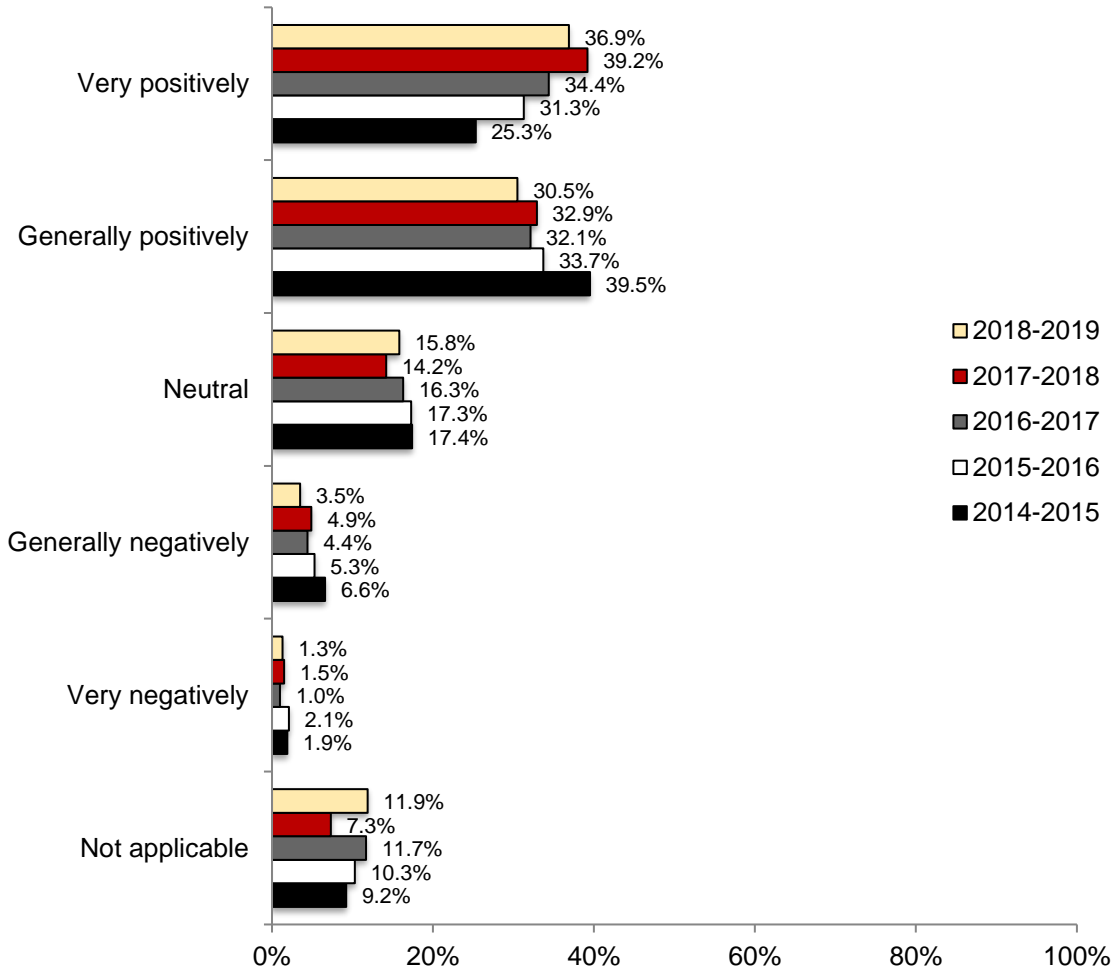


FUTURE EDUCATION

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

2014-2015	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not answer
Law	0.1%	2.8%	97.1%
Medicine (MD)	0.3%	1.1%	98.6%
Other Medical	0.8%	1.7%	97.6%
Master's	4.4%	6.4%	89.2%
Doctorate	14.6%	26.7%	58.4%
2015-2016	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not answer
Law	0.4%	3.7%	95.9%
Medicine (MD)	0.8%	1.3%	97.9%
Other Medical	1.7%	1.8%	96.5%
Master's	5.5%	9.1%	85.4%
Doctorate	12.8%	27.0%	60.2%
2016-2017	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	0.3%	3.1%	96.6%
Medicine (MD)	0.7%	1.8%	97.5%
Other Medical	1.2%	2.1%	96.8%
Master's	6.6%	7.1%	86.3%
Doctorate	12.4%	28.0%	59.6%
2017-2018	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	0.1%	2.4%	97.5%
Medicine (MD)	0.3%	0.4%	99.2%
Other Medical	0.7%	1.3%	98.1%
Master's	4.2%	7.8%	88.0%
Doctorate	13.9%	24.8%	61.2%
2018-2019	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	0.2%	2.8%	97.0%
Medicine (MD)	0.1%	0.7%	99.2%
Other Medical	0.7%	1.3%	98.0%
Master's	3.9%	7.0%	89.1%
Doctorate	12.1%	23.7%	64.2%

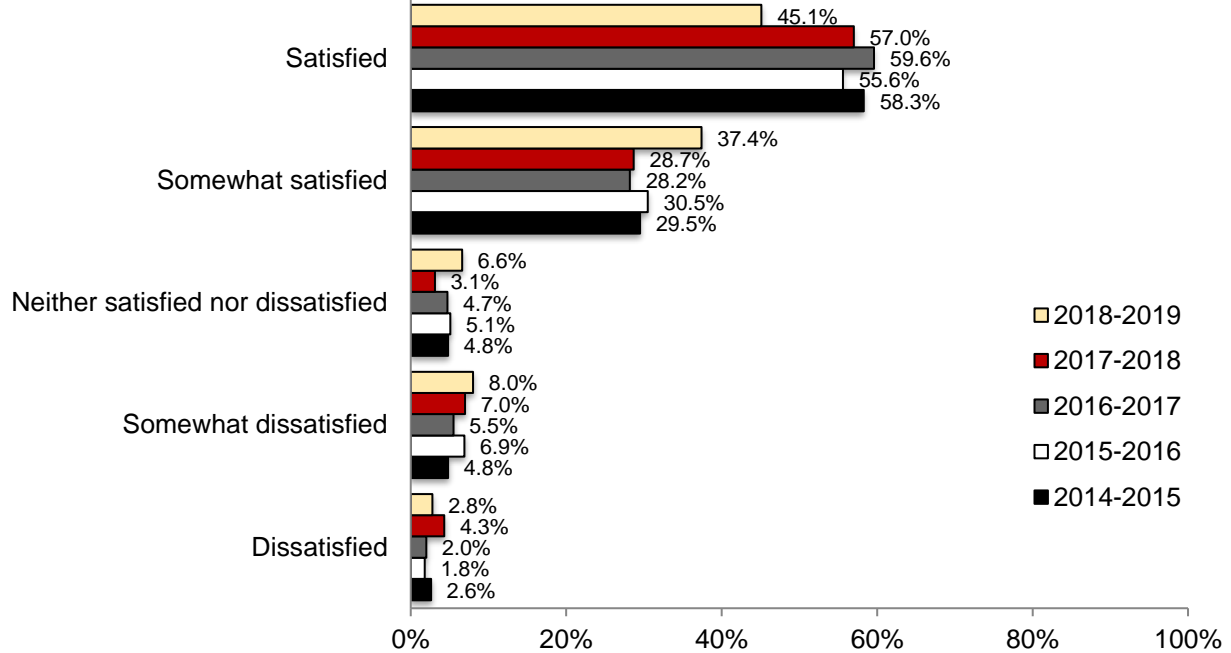
**To what extent have your overall undergraduate experiences influenced your plans for graduate or professional studies?
(Master's)**



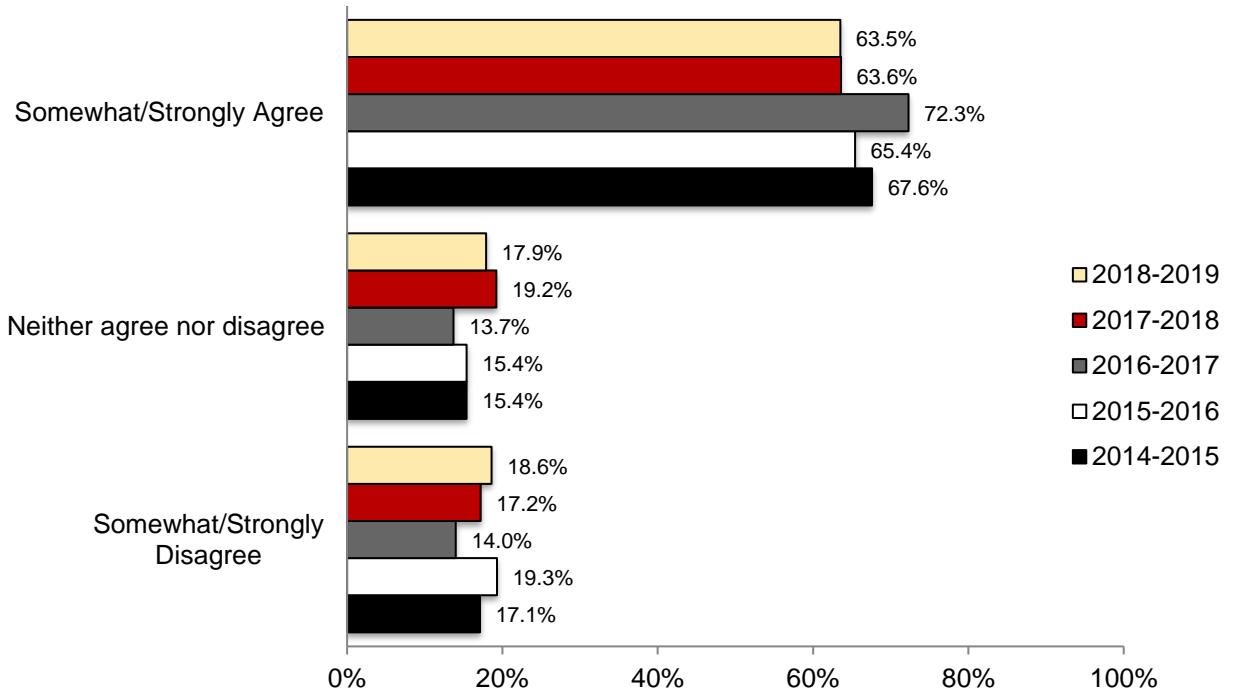
PROFESSIONAL DEGREE RECIPIENTS

SATISFACTION WITH OHIO STATE

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



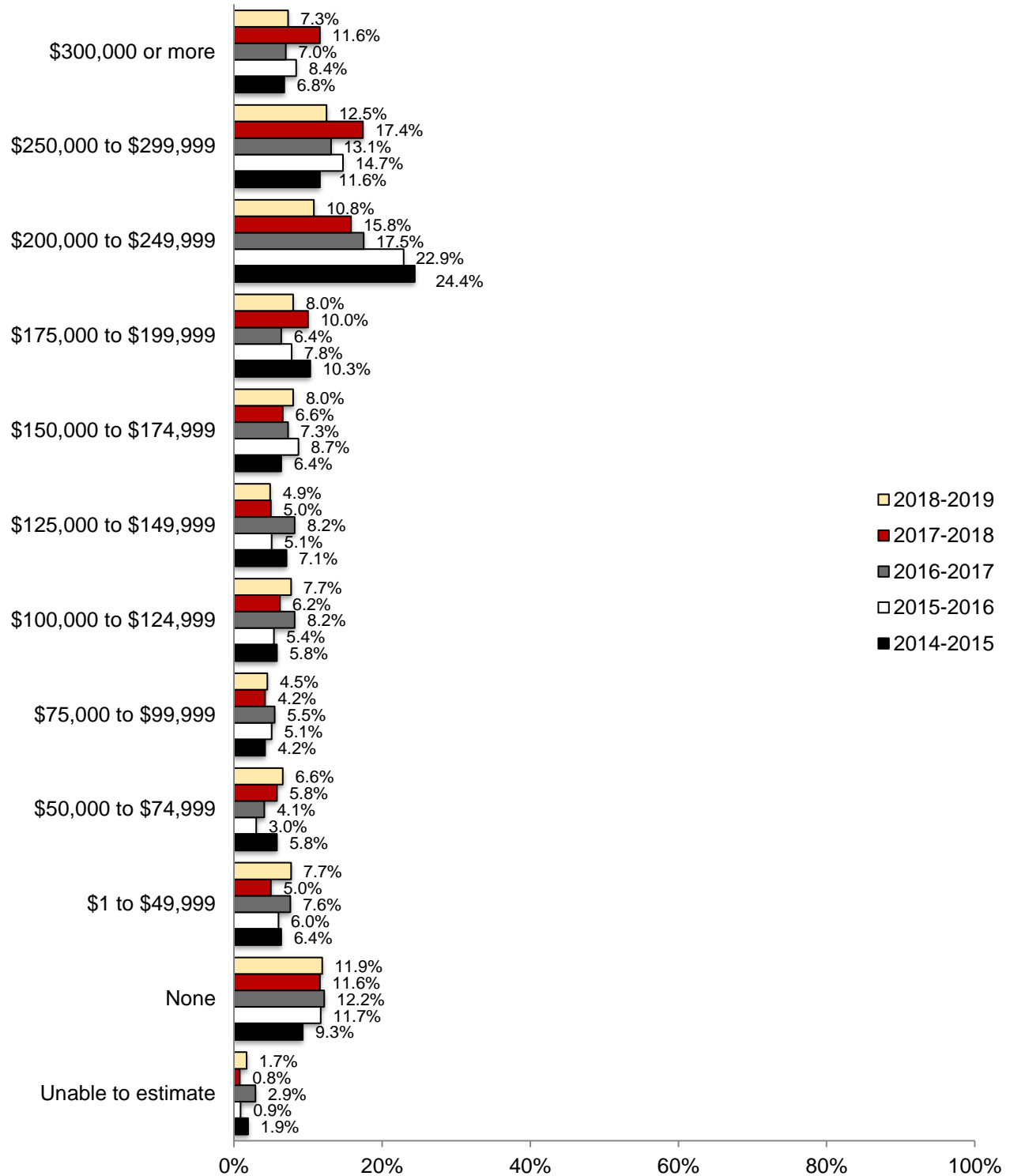
Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family? (Professionals)⁸



⁸In 2017-2018, "Somewhat agree" was changed to "Agree" and "Somewhat disagree" was changed to "Disagree."

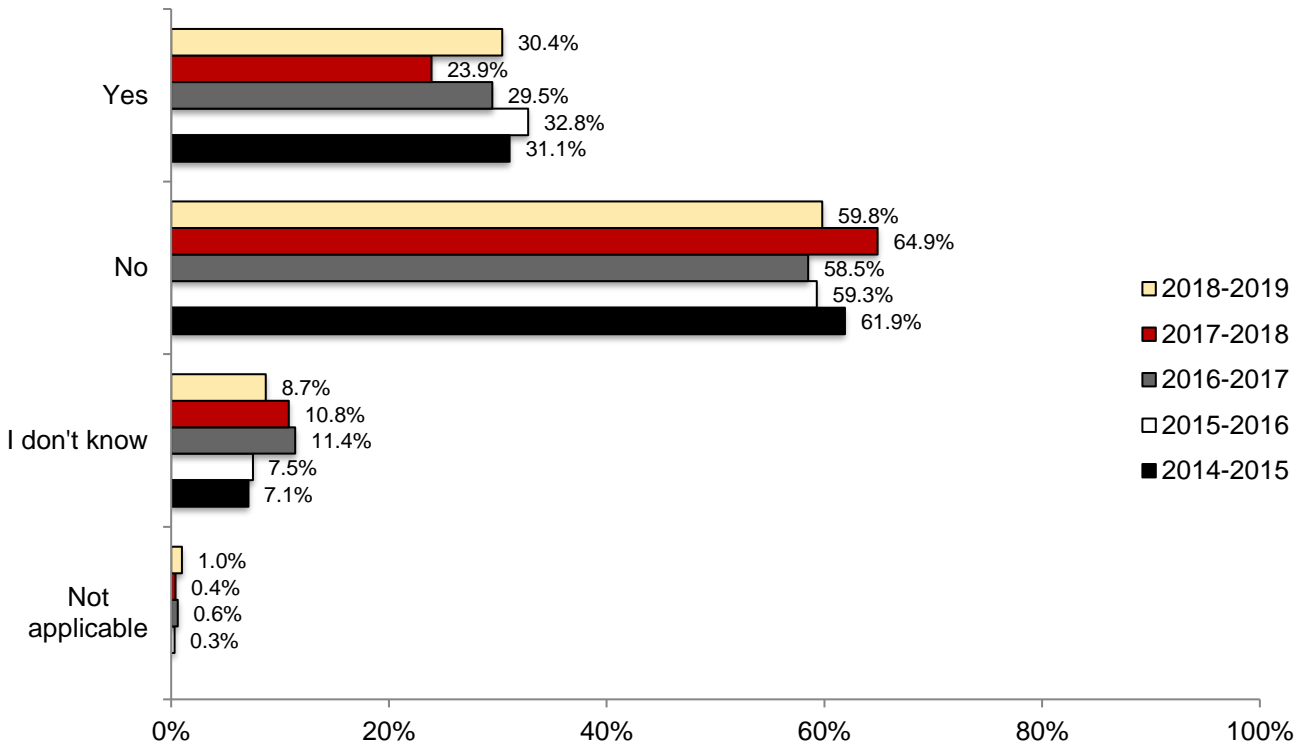
DEBT

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



POST-GRADUATION PLANS

Do you plan to stay in the Columbus, Ohio area after graduation?
(Professionals)⁹



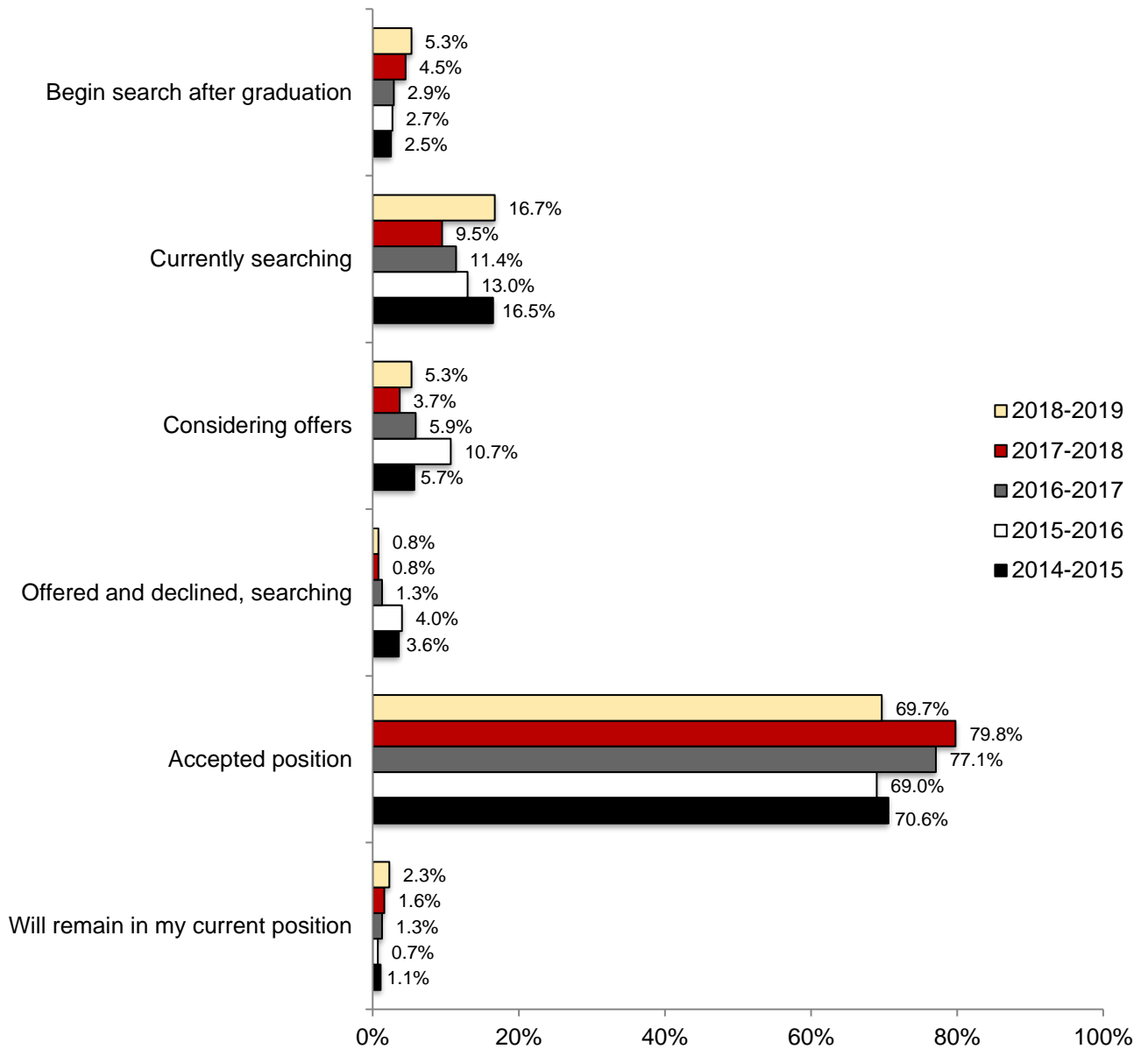
What is MOST LIKELY to be your principal activity upon graduation?	Professionals				
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Employment, full-time paid	87.5%	88.6%	88.6%	92.6%	89.1%
Employment, part-time paid	1.9%	2.7%	2.1%	2.3%	3.9%
Graduate or professional school, full-time	7.1%	5.7%	5.3%	3.1%	4.6%
Graduate or professional school, part-time	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%
Military service	3.5%	2.7%	3.5%	1.2%	1.8%
Volunteer activity (e.g., Peace Corps)	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
Starting or raising a family	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%

⁹The 2015-2016 data contained an additional response for “Not applicable”, which received 0.3% of professional student’s responses.

EMPLOYMENT PLANS

Only respondents who reported that they would either be employed part-time or full-time following graduation were asked the following items.

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

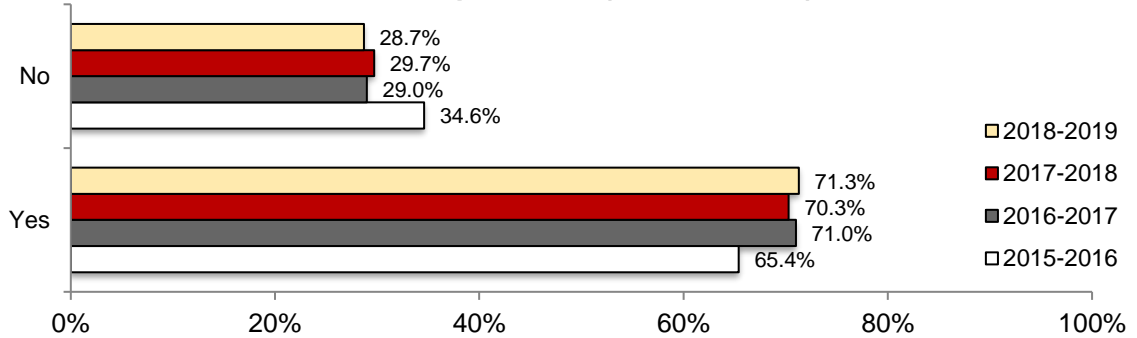


If you have accepted a position, in what type of organization or sector will you work?	Professionals				
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018 ¹⁰	2018-2019 ¹⁰
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	44.8%	46.7%	52.6%	46.4%	65.0%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	16.5%	13.4%	13.6%	18.5%	13.3%
Self-employed, own business, or professional practice (non-group)	7.2%	4.1%	6.3%	6.0%	5.6%
Government or other public institution/agency	14.7%	17.5%	13.6%	18.0%	16.1%
Not applicable (have not accepted)	16.8%	18.2%	13.9%	11.2%	0.0%
Is your prospective position related to your graduate or professional field(s) of study?					
Same field	93.2%	89.6%	89.1%	93.9%	91.9%
Related to field of study	2.9%	3.7%	3.0%	1.7%	7.3%
Not related to field of study	1.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Not applicable	2.9%	6.4%	7.9%	4.4%	0.8%
How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?					
Very well	26.5%	33.0%	40.5%	37.3%	30.5%
Generally well	56.6%	48.5%	44.0%	44.2%	51.0%
Neutral	12.2%	11.0%	8.2%	9.0%	11.6%
Inadequately	2.9%	3.8%	5.2%	7.3%	4.6%
Very inadequately	1.8%	3.1%	1.4%	0.9%	1.5%
Not Applicable	-	0.7%	0.7%	1.3%	0.8%
How important have university resources been in helping you to find a job?					
Essential	7.9%	8.6%	8.5%	13.2%	10.9%
Very important	17.6%	24.3%	25.5%	26.8%	26.8%
Neutral	17.2%	19.9%	22.4%	21.9%	21.8%
Somewhat important	31.2%	19.5%	18.4%	11.0%	17.1%
Not important	20.8%	22.9%	19.7%	19.7%	19.1%
Not applicable	5.4%	4.8%	5.4%	7.5%	4.3%
Where will you be employed? (Top location listed)					
Ohio	58.5%	64.0%	65.2%	62.4%	59.4%

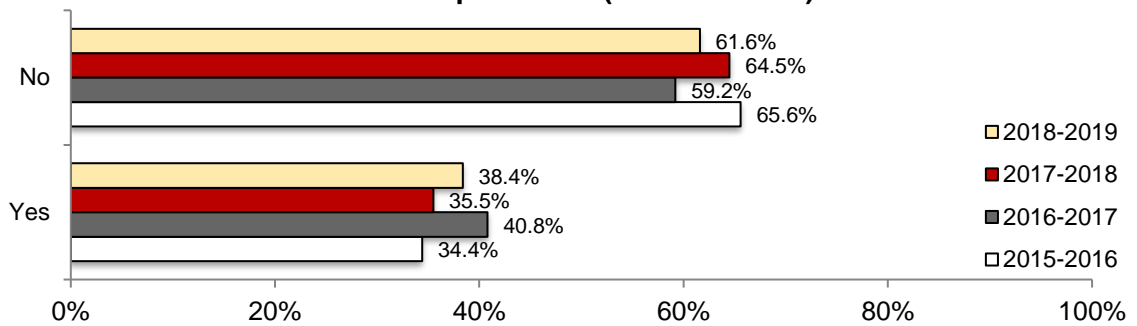
¹⁰Starting in 2017-2018 and continuing thereafter, only students who selected “Have accepted a position” or “Will remain in my current position” saw this question.

INTERNSHIPS

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



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



FUTURE EDUCATION

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

2014-2015	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not answer
Law	2.0%	3.0%	95.0%
Medicine (MD)	3.6%	3.0%	93.4%
Other Medical	16.6%	2.0%	81.5%
Master's	2.3%	8.9%	88.7%
Doctorate	2.0%	2.6%	95.4%
2015-2016	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not answer
Law	2.2%	1.6%	96.3%
Medicine (MD)	4.0%	0.6%	95.3%
Other Medical	11.5%	3.1%	85.4%
Master's	5.6%	5.6%	88.8%
Doctorate	1.2%	3.4%	95.3%
2016-2017	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	1.8%	2.1%	96.0%
Medicine (MD)	2.1%	2.4%	95.4%
Other Medical	12.5%	3.0%	84.5%
Master's	4.3%	8.2%	87.5%
Doctorate	1.8%	5.8%	92.4%
2017-2018	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	0.8%	1.1%	98.1%
Medicine (MD)	4.6%	0.4%	95.0%
Other Medical	8.0%	0.4%	91.5%
Master's	3.4%	8.0%	88.6%
Doctorate	0.8%	2.3%	97.0%
2018-2019	Immediately upon graduation	Future plans	Did not select
Law	2.0%	2.0%	96.0%
Medicine (MD)	0.0%	1.0%	99.0%
Other Medical	11.6%	1.0%	87.4%
Master's	4.1%	5.5%	90.4%
Doctorate	1.4%	5.1%	93.5%

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

