



2014 Graduating Senior Survey Report

Last updated: December 3, 2014  
Prepared by Institutional Research and Decision Support

Response rate: Of the 1,144 students invited to take the survey, 477 (42%) started but may not have completed the survey and 443 (39%) completed the survey. Because students could skip questions, response rates varied by question.

Race/Ethnicity: The majority of the respondents identified as Hispanic (35%), Asian (30%), or White (22%). The remaining respondents identified as African American (6%), Multi-racial (4%), Unknown (3%), American Indian (.4%), International (.4%), or Pacific Islander (.4%).

Many of the items in this survey were included for the purposes of program review for specific major and minor programs and so are not included in this general report.

The number of respondents within each school, major, and minor are shown in the tables on pages 1-2. **Note that respondents with multiple majors and minors are included in multiple counts such that the numbers in each table (pp. 1-2 only) may sum to a number larger than the total response rate.**

Number of Respondents by School

School	Number Respondents
SSHA – Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts	267
E – Engineering	94
NS – Natural Sciences	129

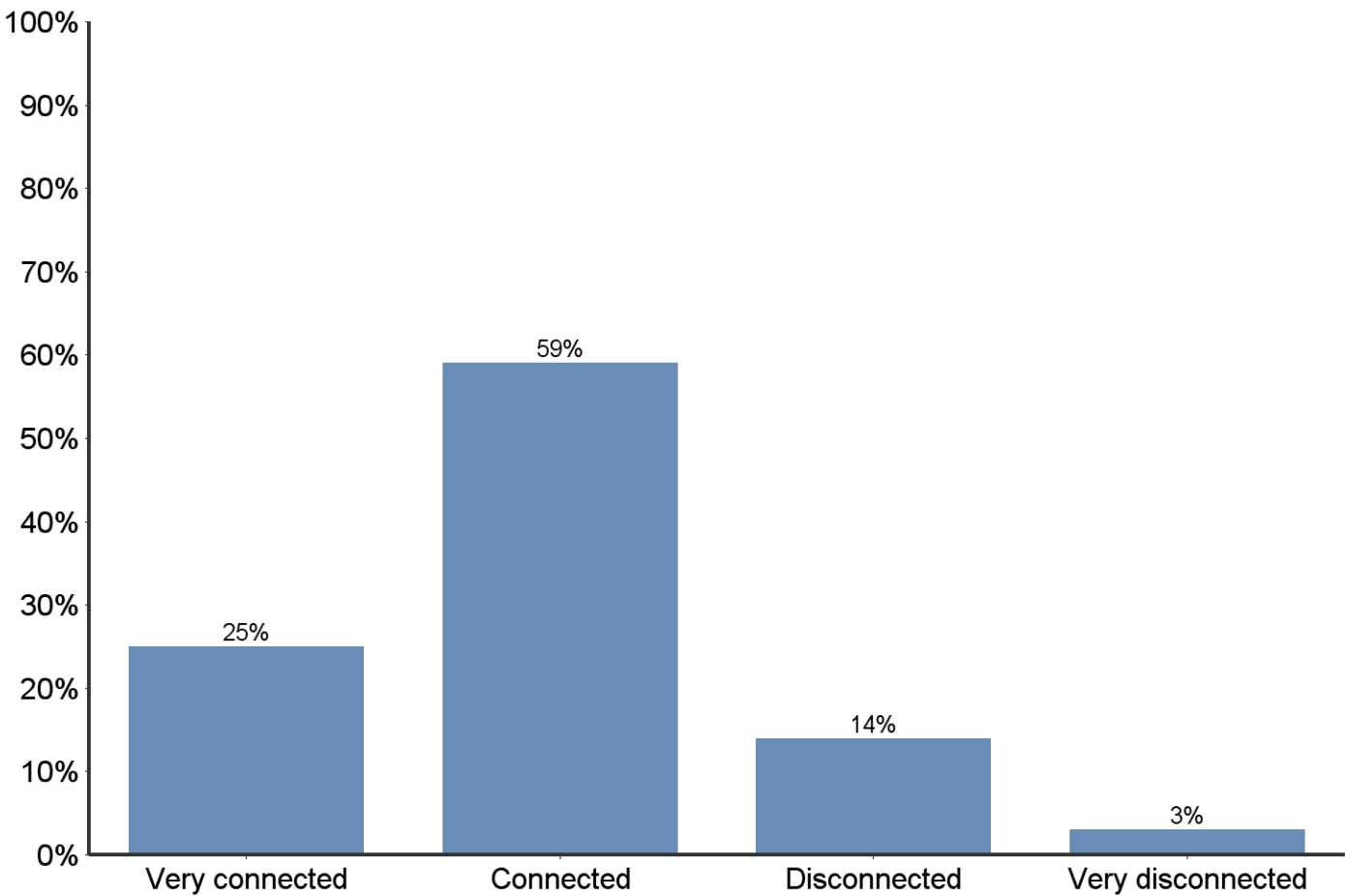
## Number of Respondents by Major

Major	Number Respondents
ANTH – Anthropology	16
BENG – Bioengineering	13
BIOS – Biological Sciences	100
CHEM – Chemical Sciences	11
COGS – Cognitive Science	22
CSE – Computer Science & Engineering	19
ECON – Economics	24
ENG – English	12
ENVE – Environmental Engineering	11
ESS – Earth Systems Science	2
HIST – History	16
MATH – Applied Mathematical Sciences	11
ME – Mechanical Engineering	47
MGMT – Management & Business Economics	38
MSE – Materials Science & Engineering	4
PHYS – Physics	5
POLI – Political Science	26
PSY – Psychology	97
SOC – Sociology	15
SPAN – Spanish	1

## Number of Respondents by Minor

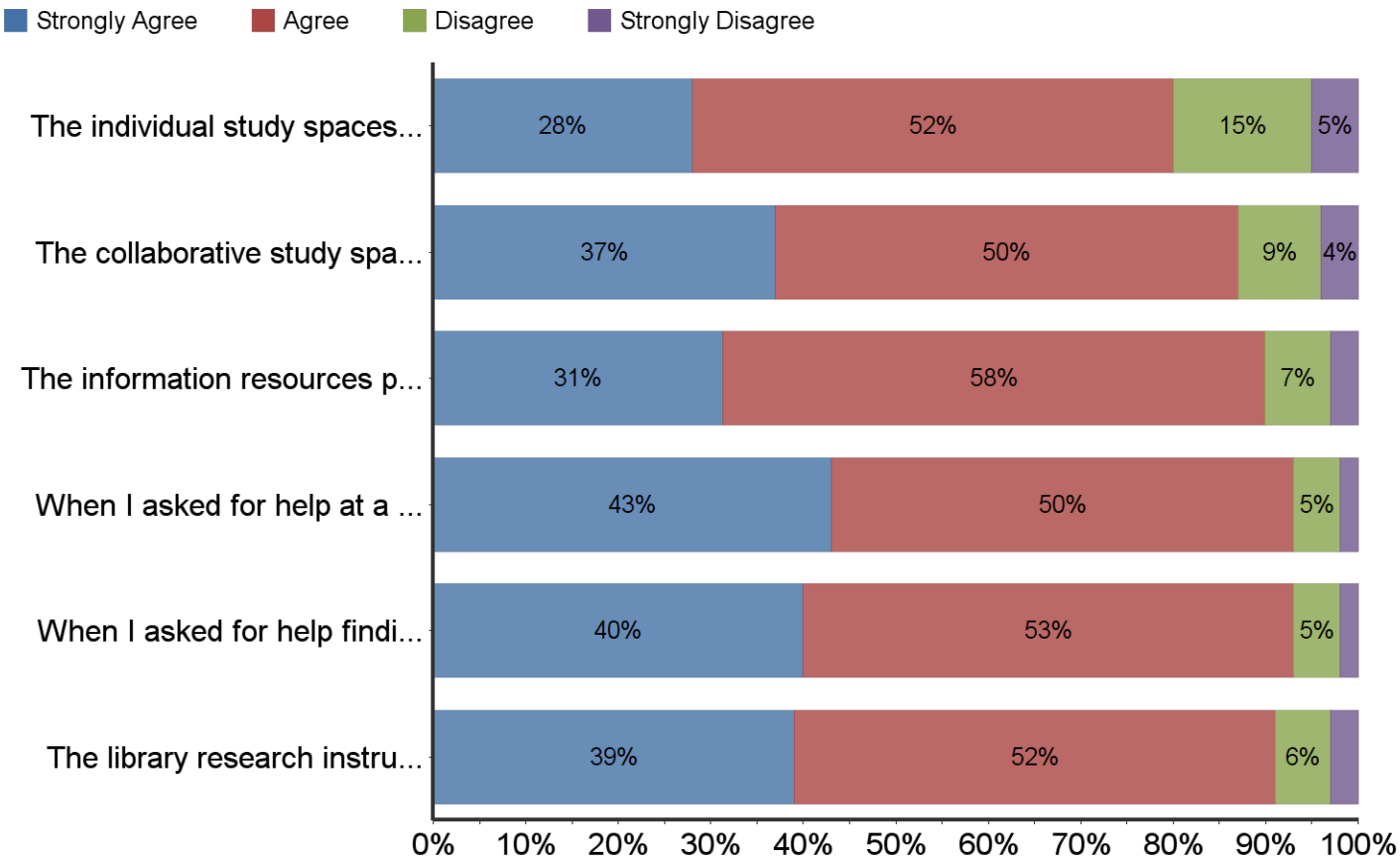
Minor	Number Respondents
AMER – American Studies	1
ANTH – Anthropology	1
ARTS – Arts	8
CCST – Chicano/Chicana Studies	1
CHEM – Chemical Sciences	1
COGS – Cognitive Sciences	10
ECON – Economics	2
ESSU – Environmental Science & Sustainability	1
HIST – History	5
LIT – Literatures & Cultures	2
MGMT – Management	20
MTHM – Applied Mathematics	7
NSED – Natural Sciences Education	9
PH – Public Health	18
PHIL – Philosophy	3
POLI – Political Science	8
PSY – Psychology	48
SOC – Sociology	34
SPAN – Spanish	16
SVSC – Services Science	3
WRI – Writing	14

Today, how connected or disconnected do you feel to UC Merced?



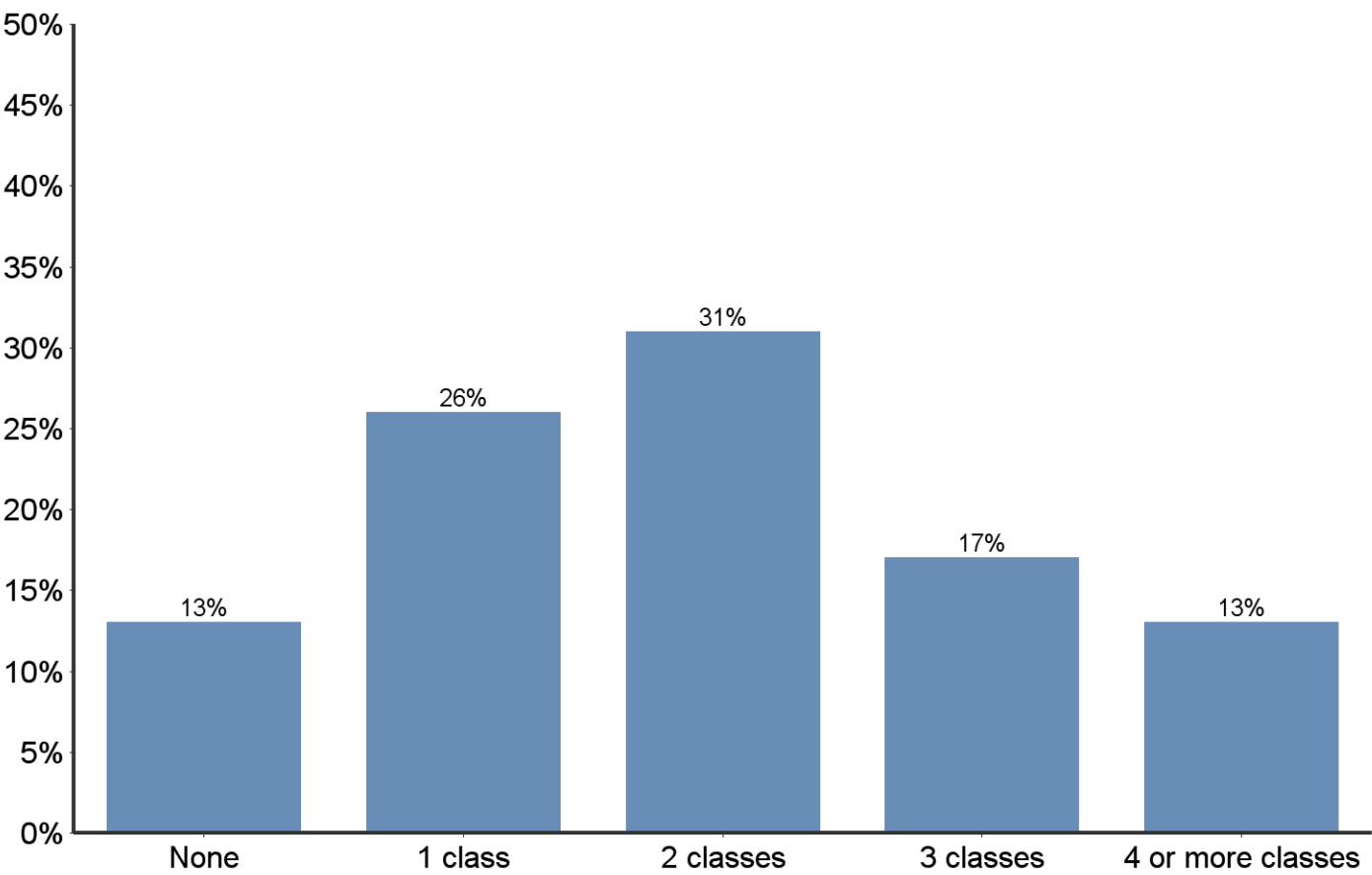
Answer	Frequency
Very connected	119
Connected	277
Disconnected	64
Very disconnected	13
Total	473

Please select your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements about UC Merced's Library. Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



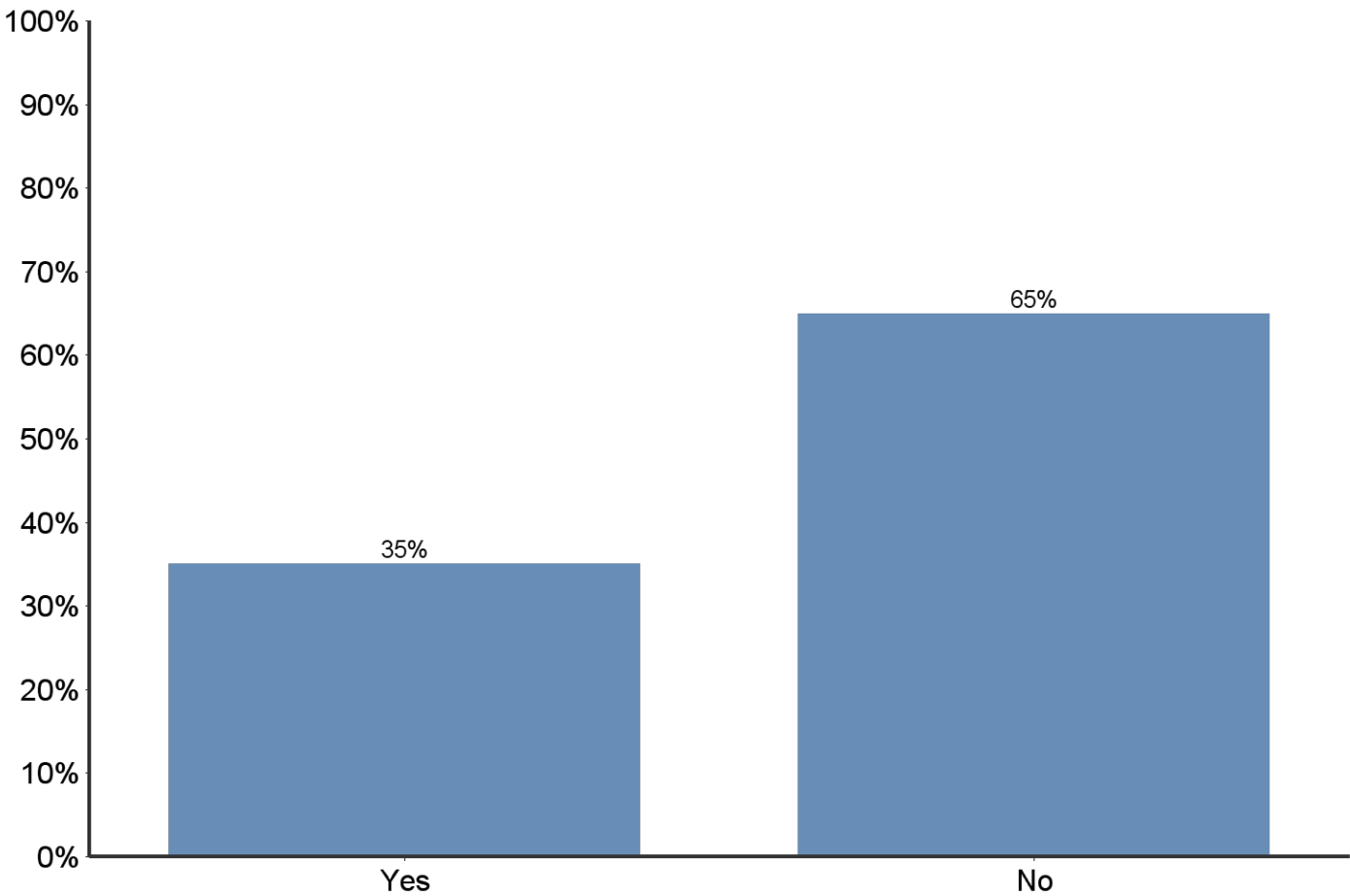
#	Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Responses
1	The individual study spaces in the library supported my academic progress.	123	227	68	22	440
2	The collaborative study spaces in the library supported my academic progress.	167	223	39	17	446
3	The information resources provided by the library supported my academic progress.	131	241	31	14	417
4	When I asked for help at a library service desk, I received satisfactory assistance from library staff.	176	208	19	9	412
5	When I asked for help finding information for my papers and projects, I received satisfactory assistance from library staff.	136	182	17	8	343
6	The library research instruction I received helped me find suitable information resources for my papers and projects.	152	203	23	13	391

In how many classes did you receive library research instruction from library staff during your time at UC Merced?



Answer	Frequency
None	60
1 class	120
2 classes	145
3 classes	79
4 or more classes	58
Total	462

Did you conduct research with a faculty member as an undergraduate at UC Merced?



Answer	Frequency
Yes	163
No	302
Total	465

Please complete the following information about your undergraduate research efforts (if you participated in more than one research effort, please consider the one you spent the most time on when completing this question).  
Notes: Only students who said they conducted research with a faculty member could answer this question.  
Responses that were 3 standard deviations from the mean or more were considered outliers and removed from analyses (n = 151 responses for number of months; n = 148 responses for hours per month).

Approximate number of months involved in research

Months	Frequency
1-3	20
4-6	42
7-9	13
10-12	22
13-15	11
16-18	14
19-21	7
22-24	15
25-27	1
28-30	2
More than 30	4
Average (Standard Deviation)	M = 11.5 (SD = 8.1)

Approximate number hours/month involved in research

Hours	Frequency
1-5	8
6-10	17
11-15	15
16-20	18
21-25	7
26-30	17
31-35	3
36-40	20
41-45	2
46-50	9
More than 50	32
Average (Standard Deviation)	M = 45.1 (SD = 58.1)



Please complete the following information about your undergraduate research efforts (if you participated in more than one research effort, please consider the one you spent the most time on when completing this question).

**Note:** Only students who said they conducted research with a faculty member could answer this question.

Numbers in parentheses indicate frequencies for responses given by more than one student (n = 154 responses).

## General field of research of the project in which you were involved

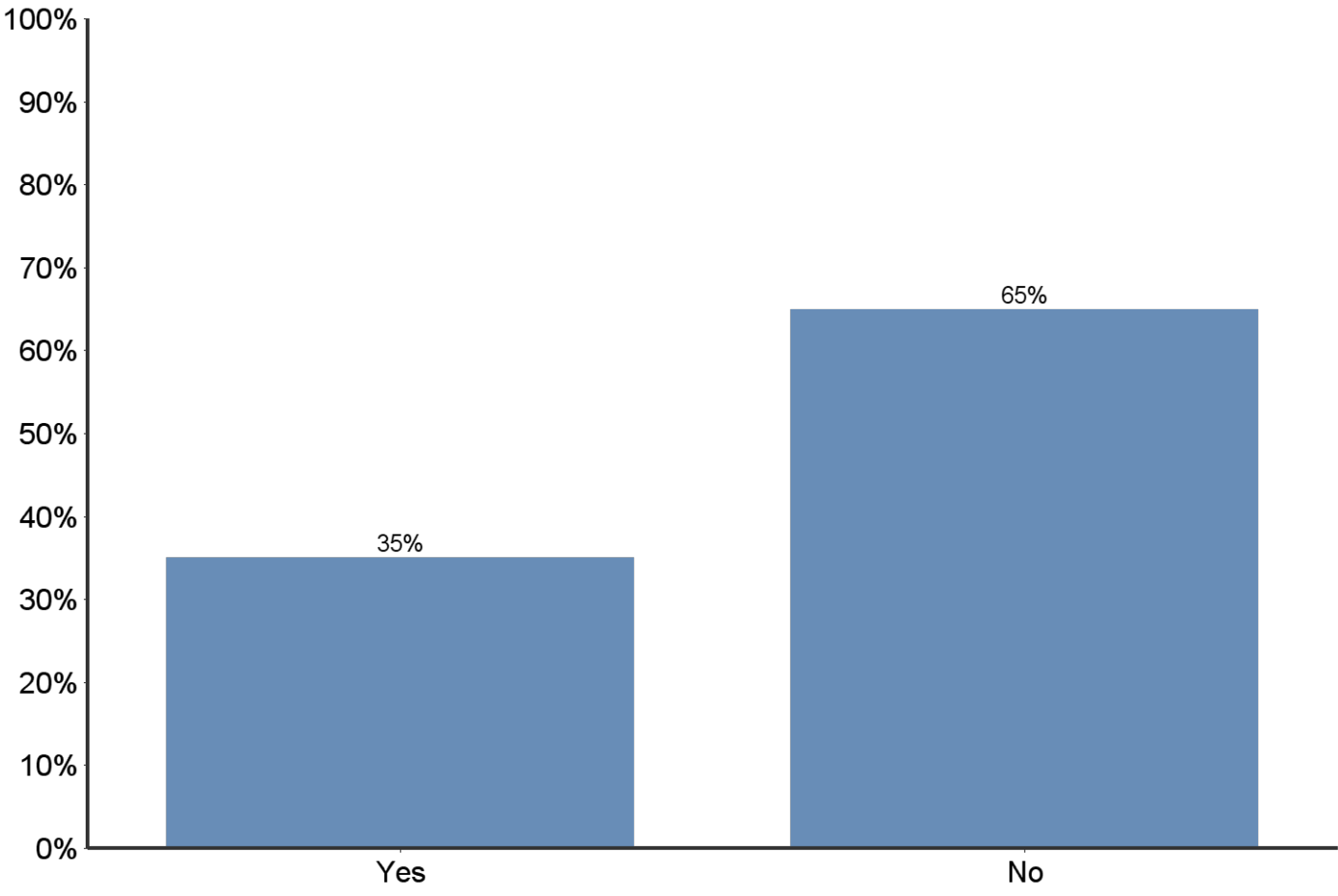
Air pollution	Developmental Immunology (3)
Algae	Digital media
Alzheimer's disease (2)	Early cognition and language
Anthropology (3)	ecology
Anthropology	Ecology and evolutionary biology
antibiotic resistance (3)	Economics (3)
Applied Mathematics	Engineering
Batteries/fuel cells (2)	English Literature
Biochemistry (3)	entomology
Bioengineering (5)	Evolution and Development
Bioinformatics	Evolutionary Biology of Rockfish
Biology (3)	Fashion in Literature
Biomass Conversion	Financial Services - Insurance, Stock Broker, and NASAA
Cancer Metabolism	Finding people to be interviewed
Chemistry	Gender
Child Development	Genetics
Cognitive Development in Children	GIS and Image Processing
Cognitive Science (10)	Health Economics
Computational Chemistry	Health Psychology (3)
Computational/Simulations	HVAC Efficiency
Computer Simulation on DNA Cross-linkage by Nitrogen Mustard	Hydrology
Condensed Matter Physics	Hypertension-obesity
control systems	Immunology
Controls	Instructed Undergraduates in course lab section
CSE	International Relations
Conducted interviews with community members	Interpersonal/Developmental Psychology

## General field of research of the project in which you were involved (continued)

Language and Cognitive Science	Project Protect
Language development	Psychology (12)
Latino health	Public health (4)
Light Propagation in Low Scattering Regions of Tissue	Quantum Matter Physics
Linguistics	Regeneration
Literature	Remote Sensing
Literature and Fashion	Remote Sensing and Visualization
Lithium Battery Research	Social Movements
Marine Evolution	Social Networking, Management, Modeling
Marine lake biodiversity	Sociology - Scientific Collaboration
Materials Chemistry	Sociology
Materials science (6)	Soil Physics
Materials Science & Engineering (2)	Soil Science
Materials Science/Chemistry	Spectroscopy
Mechanical Engineering (4)	Stem Cell Biology
Mechatronics (2)	Stem Cell Regulation
Molecular and cellular biology	Stem cells, biomaterial
Nanotechnology	Studying seed patterns from trees
Neurobio	Sustainability
Novel Heat and Mass Exchangers	the conversation between adults and children and the effects on a child's cognitive development
Organic chemistry	Theoretical Chemistry
Psychology	Thermodynamics
physics (2)	Tissue Engineering (2)
Political Science (2)	Valley Fever (2)
Population Genetics of Mosquito species	Youth Development

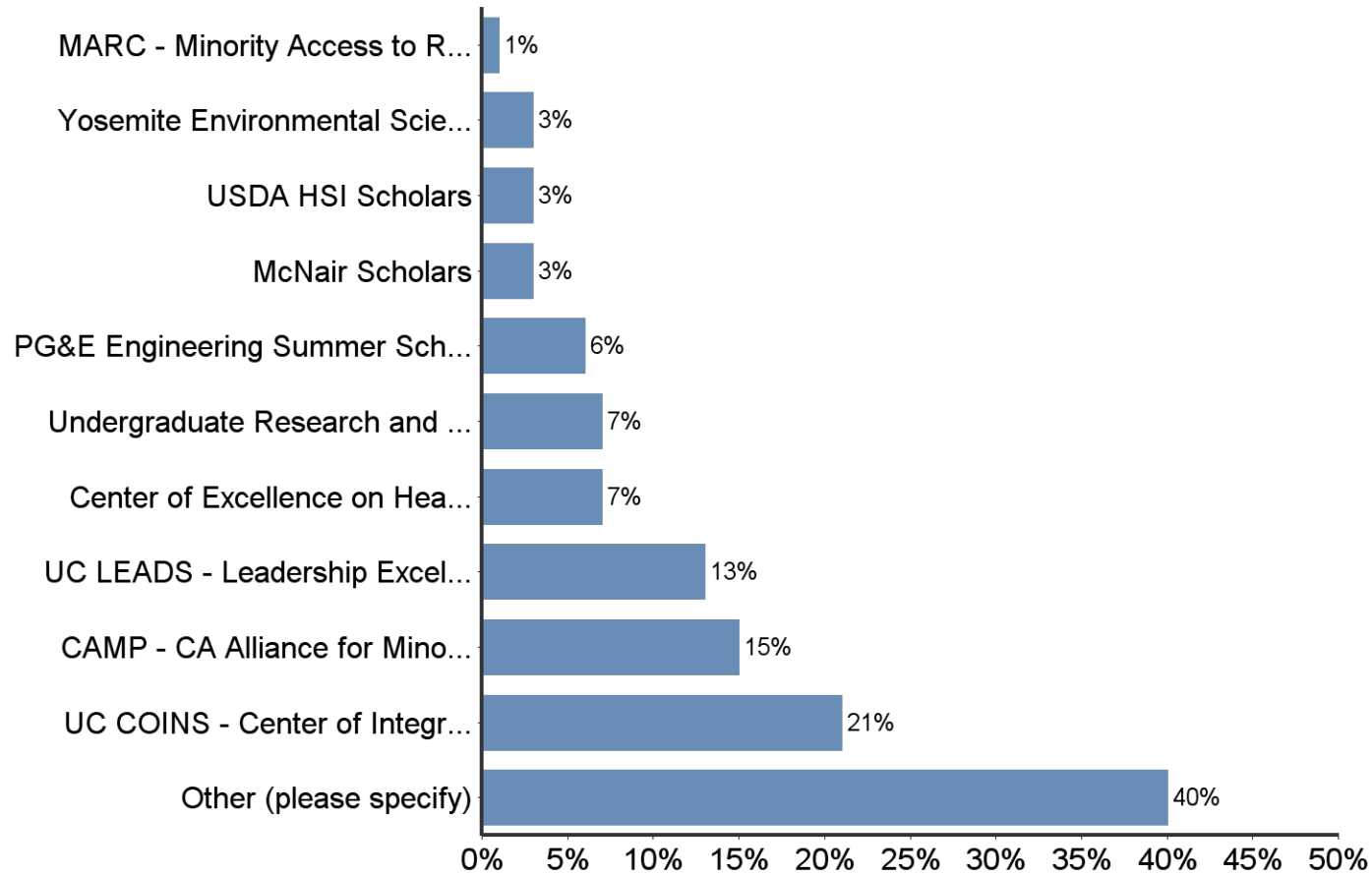


Did you present results from your research outside the classroom at UC Merced or elsewhere? (e.g. at UC Merced Research Week, in publications, at conferences)  
Note: Only students who said they conducted research with a faculty member could answer this question.



Answer	Frequency
Yes	55
No	101
Total	156

10 In which of the following formal undergraduate research / graduate preparation programs did you participate at UC Merced? (Please select all that apply.)  
 Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure. Open-ended Other responses are summarized on the next page.



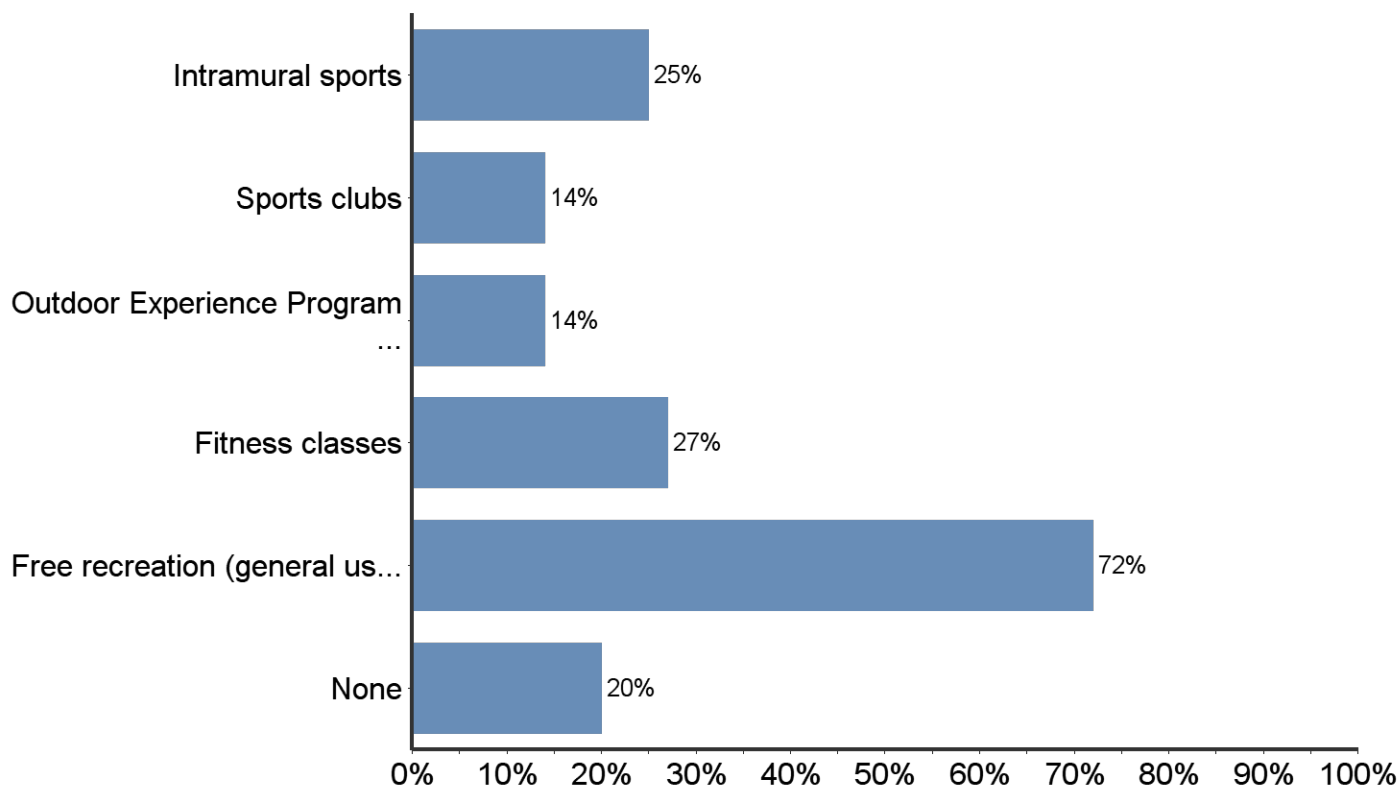
#	Answer	Frequency
9	MARC - Minority Access to Research Careers	1
12	Yosemite Environmental Science REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates)	2
10	USDA HSI Scholars	2
8	McNair Scholars	2
11	PG&E Engineering Summer Scholars	4
5	Undergraduate Research and Mentoring Program in Computational Biology	5
1	Center of Excellence on Health Disparities	5
2	UC LEADS - Leadership Excellence through Advanced Degrees	9
3	CAMP - CA Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Engineering and Mathematics	10
4	UC COINS - Center of Integrated Nanomechanical Systems	14
6	Other (please specify)	27
	Total	81

11 In which of the following formal undergraduate research / graduate preparation programs did you participate at UC Merced? (Please select all that apply.)  
Note: Open-ended Other responses are summarized below. Numbers in parentheses indicate frequencies for responses given by more than one student. (n = 24 responses)

# Other

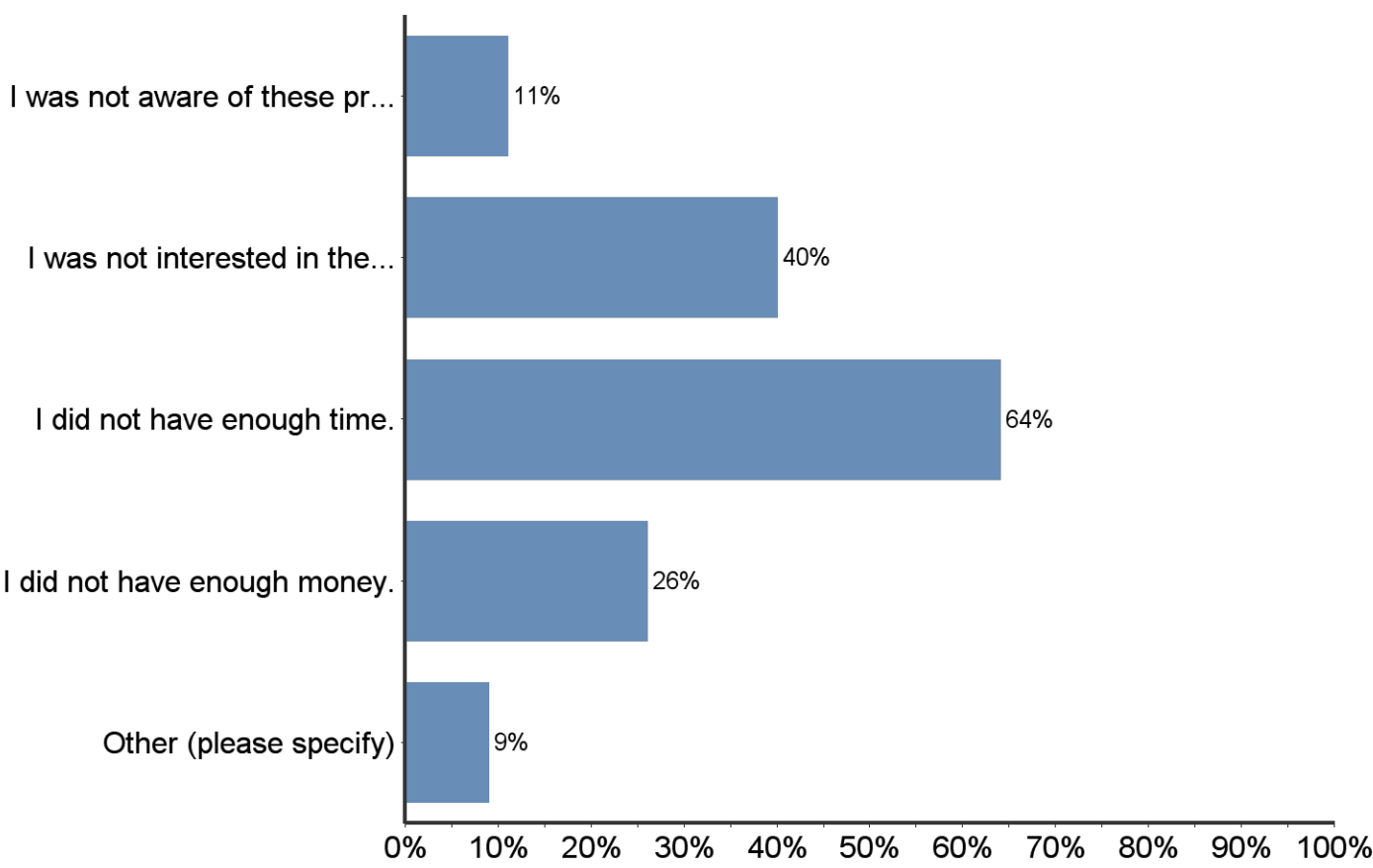
Campus Activities Board
Center for Early Cognition and Language
CITI Training
conferences at CSU Fresno
Engineering Service Learning
Health Sciences Research Institute
natural science
poster competition
Research Assistant/volunteer in lab (7)
Research week
SEED
Senior Thesis under faculty supervision
Sierra Nevada Research Institute
sona research participation system
Summer Research Program
Undergraduate Evolution 2013 Conference at Snowbird
UPSTaRT
Yosemite Leadership Program

12 In which Recreation and Athletics programs did you participate at any time during your undergraduate studies at UC Merced? (Please select all that apply.)  
Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



Answer	Frequency
Intramural sports	114
Sports clubs	62
Outdoor Experience Program (outdoor trips)	64
Fitness classes	125
Free recreation (general use of the Gallo Recreation Center)	330
None	92
Total	787

**Why did you choose not to participate in any Recreation and Athletics programs? (please select all that apply)**  
**Notes: Only students who did not participate could answer this question. To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure. Open-ended Other responses are summarized on the next page.**



Answer	Frequency
I was not aware of these programs.	10
I was not interested in these programs.	36
I did not have enough time.	58
I did not have enough money.	24
Other (please specify)	8
Total	136

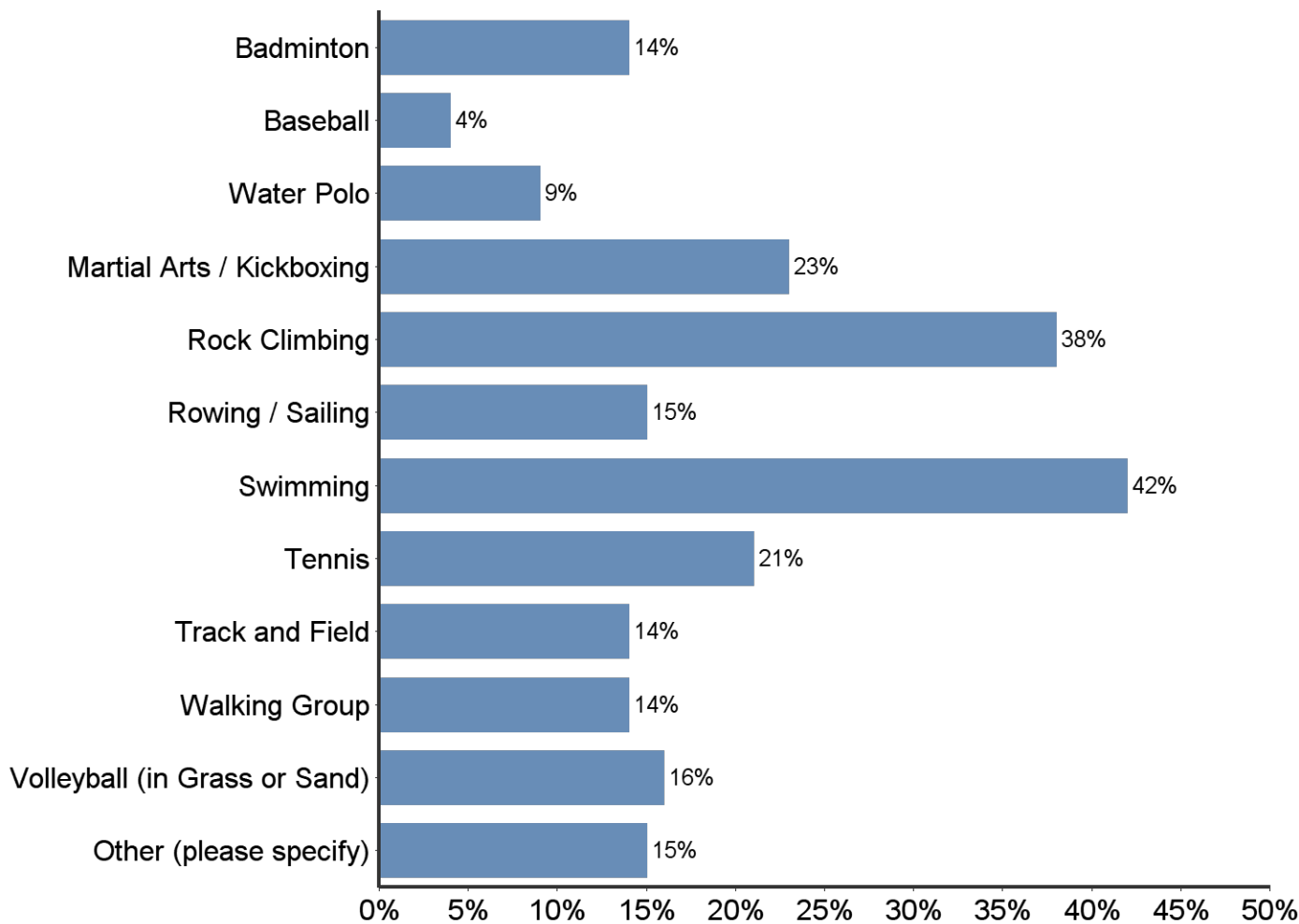
14 Why did you choose not to participate in any Recreation and Athletics programs? (please select all that apply)  
Notes: Only students who did not participate could answer this question. Open-ended Other responses are summarized below. Numbers in parentheses indicate frequencies for responses given by more than one student (n = 8 responses).

# Other

Did it on my own outside of the university (2)
Focused on grades
I live far from campus; drive is expensive
I live far from campus; too tired to participate
Personal injury
Too many other responsibilities (2)



What recreation and/or athletic programs would you have participated in had they been offered?  
Note: Open-ended Other responses are summarized on the next page.



Answer	Response
Badminton	54
Baseball	16
Water Polo	34
Martial Arts / Kickboxing	89
Rock Climbing	146
Rowing / Sailing	57
Swimming	161
Tennis	82
Track and Field	53
Walking Group	53
Volleyball (in Grass or Sand)	63
Other (please specify)	57
Total	865

What recreation and/or athletic programs would you have participated in had they been offered?  
Note: Open-ended Other responses are summarized below. Numbers in parentheses indicate frequencies for responses given by more than one student (n = 55 respondents; however, some students listed more than one response such that there were more total responses than respondents).

Other

Archery (5)	Logging Sports
Basketball (4)	Mountain biking
Cheerleading STUNT	Powerlifting
Cross Country (2)	Racquet Ball (2)
cycling (2)	SCUBA
dance	Snowboarding
equine	soccer (7)
Fencing	Softball (4)
fitness class	Ultimate Frisbee (3)
Football (2)	Weight Lifting Club
golf (2)	Women's Basketball
Gym	Wrestling (3)
Handball	yoga
Ice Hockey (2)	Zumba Classes
jiu jitsu	

**What are your current post-graduation plans? (Please select all that apply.)**  
**Note: Open-ended Other responses are summarized on the next page.**

Answer	Bar	Frequency	%
I am continuing employment in my current job.	<div></div>	50	11%
I have accepted full-time employment at a new employer.	<div></div>	29	6%
I have accepted part-time employment at a new employer.	<div></div>	16	4%
I have accepted an internship.	<div></div>	22	5%
I am reviewing a job offer.	<div></div>	40	9%
I have started my own business.	<div></div>	2	0%
I have accepted public service employment (military, Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.).	<div></div>	10	2%
I have been accepted into graduate or professional school.	<div></div>	44	10%
I have applied to graduate or professional school, but have not yet been accepted.	<div></div>	60	13%
I am continuing my education, but not in graduate school (e.g. second bachelor's, EMT, etc.).	<div></div>	63	14%
I will take time off before finding a job.	<div></div>	73	16%
I am an international student and will return to my home country.	<div></div>	2	0%
I am searching for full-time employment.	<div></div>	259	57%
I am searching for part-time employment.	<div></div>	109	24%
I have no plans for work.	<div></div>	8	2%
Other (please specify)	<div></div>	40	9%
Total		827	100%

**What are your current post-graduation plans? (Please select all that apply.)**  
**Note: Open-ended Other responses are summarized below. Numbers in parentheses indicate frequencies for responses given by more than one student (n = 40 responses).**

# Other

Apply to graduate school (2)
Apply to law school
Attend UCM for another semester in the Fall
Capital Fellows Programs (Senate, Assembly, and Executive)
Complete classess necessary for graduate school
Complete more coursework at extension/community college
Complete Pre-Requisites for Veterinary School
International Graduate School
Internship (3)
Marines Officer Program
Obtain teaching credentials (2)
Pursue hobbies; consider continuing education
pursue public service such as Peace Corps or AmeriCorps (2)
research
Searching graduate programs for right fit (2)
Starting own company
Study for LSAT
Studying for the MCAT; will apply for professional school
Take a year off while/before applying to graduate school (3)
Teach abroad
Travel then start new job
Will apply to graduate school in the future (4)
Work while looking for job in field
Work/volunteer/internship for 1-2 years then apply to graduate school (6)

19 **What are the details of your employment?**  
**Note: Only students who said they obtained employment or an internship could answer this question. Numbers in parentheses indicate frequencies for responses given by more than one student (n = 104 responses in Employers table).**

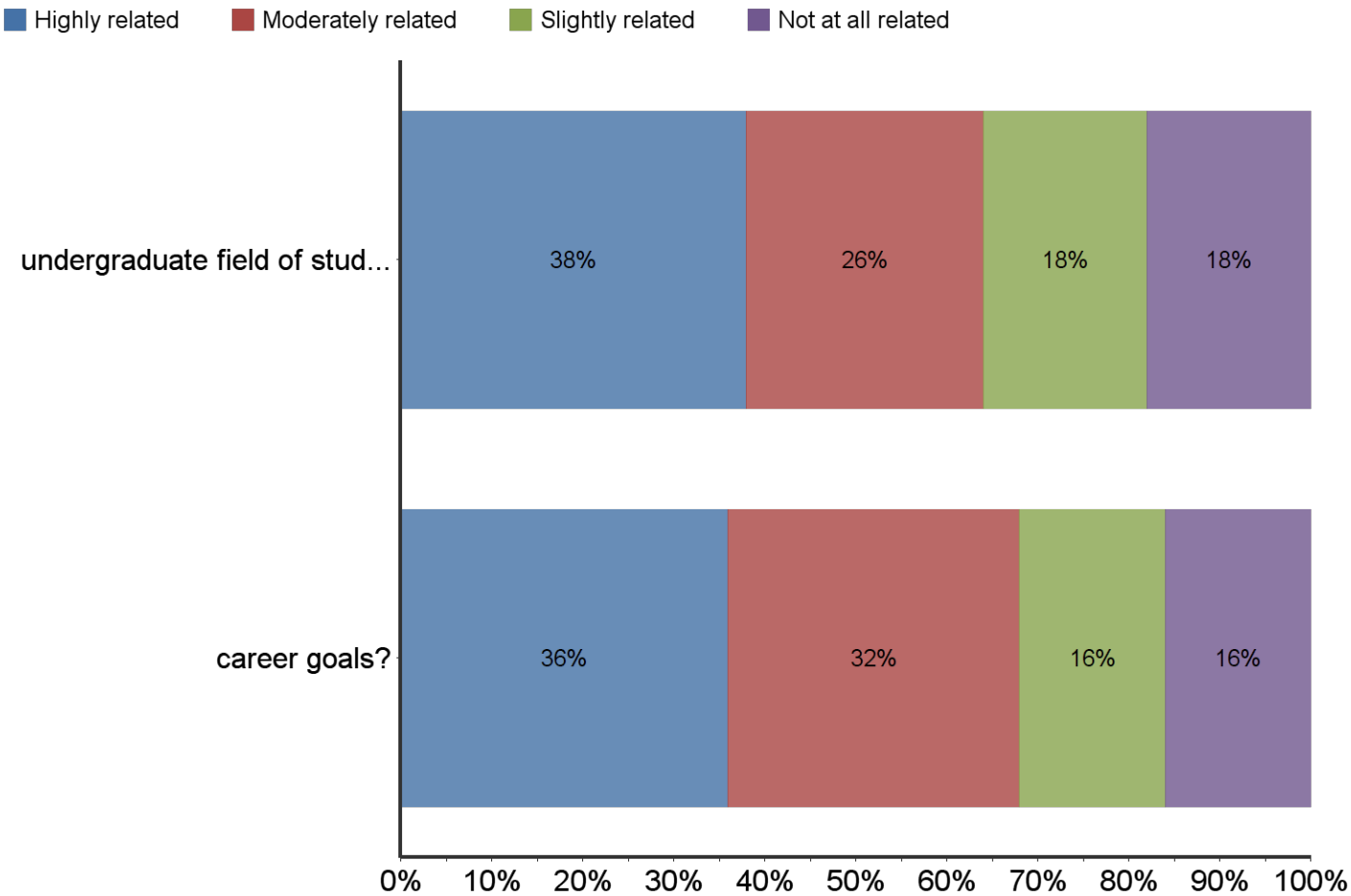
# Employers

Alejandro Delgadillo	Kolligian Library	SEIU
Americorps	Konecranes	Sergio Pindea
Atwater Elementary School District	Kristin Hlubik	Serramonte Kumon
Bass Pro Shops	Lakeside Catering	SFPUC
Bema Electronics	Lawrence Berkeley Labs	Sizzler
biocleaner	Le Bonheur Children's Hospital	Staples
Boys and Girls Club of Merced	Learning Arts	State of California EDD
California Teaching Fellows Foundation	Madera County Office of Education	Supreme Lending
California Teaching Fellows Fresno-Woodlake	Mariposa Museum and History Center, Inc.	Target Corporation
Carmen Middleton	MCOE	Teach for America (2)
Chipotle	Merced County Office of Education	Teenie Matlock
City of Martinez	Microsoft	Therapeutic Pathways
CityYear	miners roadhouse 140	Thermo Fisher Scientific
Donald McDonald	NB Perfumes	Treetop
E & J Gallo Winery (6)	NCCC FEMA CORPS	Turlock Unified School District
EMANUEL MEDICAL CENTER	Pacific Gas and Electric (2)	UBS bank
EMSS	Panera Bread	UC Merced (8)
Excell Center	Phoenix Engineering	UC Merced Center for Educational Partnerships
Family member	Preston Pipelines, Inc.	UC Merced Housing
		UC Merced Resource Center for Community Engaged Scholarship
Genentech	Private family	UC Merced- Facilities Management
Green Grub	Public For the Funds Interest	UC Merced Disability Services Department
HR Block	Raley's	UC San Francisco (2)
Irvine Sensors	Reynolds American	UL
Ismael Serrano	Ria Valas	United States Navy
Jantz Cafe and Bakery	Ridge Vineyards	United Technologies Corporation Aerospace Systems
John Hancock Financial services	Robert Iskander	victor treatment center
Kappa Sigma Fraternity	Rosa's Auto And Truck Parts	Vinent Yung
Kidzjet	Safeway	walmart
Kohl's	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission	Western Digital
	Sano, Inc.	

# Employer Locations

Location	Frequency
California	95
Other State	6
International	0
Unknown	3

20 How closely related is this job to your:  
Notes: Only students who said they obtained employment or an internship could answer this question. To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



#	Question	Highly related	Moderately related	Slightly related	Not at all related	Total Responses
1	undergraduate field of study/major?	52	36	24	25	137
2	career goals?	48	43	21	22	134



21 What are the details of your graduate or professional school plans?  
 Notes: Only students who said they had been accepted to graduate or professional school could answer this question.  
 Numbers in parentheses indicate frequencies for responses given by more than one student (n = 40 School and Field responses).

## Name of School

American School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University	San Francisco Sate University
American University of Antigua-College of Medicine	University of California, Davis
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	University of California, Irvine
Carnegie Mellon University	University of California, Los Angeles (3)
CSU Stanislaus	University of California, Merced (6)
De la salle	University of California, Riverside (2)
Fresno Pacific University (2)	University of California, San Francisco (2)
Fresno State	University of California, Santa Cruz
Indiana University	University of Chicago
John F. Kennedy University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2)
Keck Graduate Institute	University of San Diego
	University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine
London School of Economics	
Portland State University	University of the Pacific
Rensselear Polytechnic Institute	University of Vermont
Sacramento State	

## Field of Study

Biochemistry	Mechanical Engineering (5)
Bioengineering (2)	Medicine (2)
Biology	Museum Studies
Biomedical Engineering	Pharmacy (2)
Chemistry	Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Child development	Physical Chemistry
Clinical Psychology (2)	Physics
Computer Science	Political Economy
Credentialing	public health in infectious disease
Doctor of Medicine	Social Psychology
Ecology and evolutionary biology	Sociology
Education (2)	Special Education
English	World Cultures
Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration (2)	Writing
Material Science & Engineering (2)	

What are the details of your graduate or professional school plans?  
Note: Only students who said they had been accepted to graduate or professional school could answer this question (n = 40 responses).

## Pursued Degree

Degree	Frequency
Master's	11
JD	0
MD or other medical degree	3
PhD	17
PharmD	3
PsyD	2
Other/not specified	3