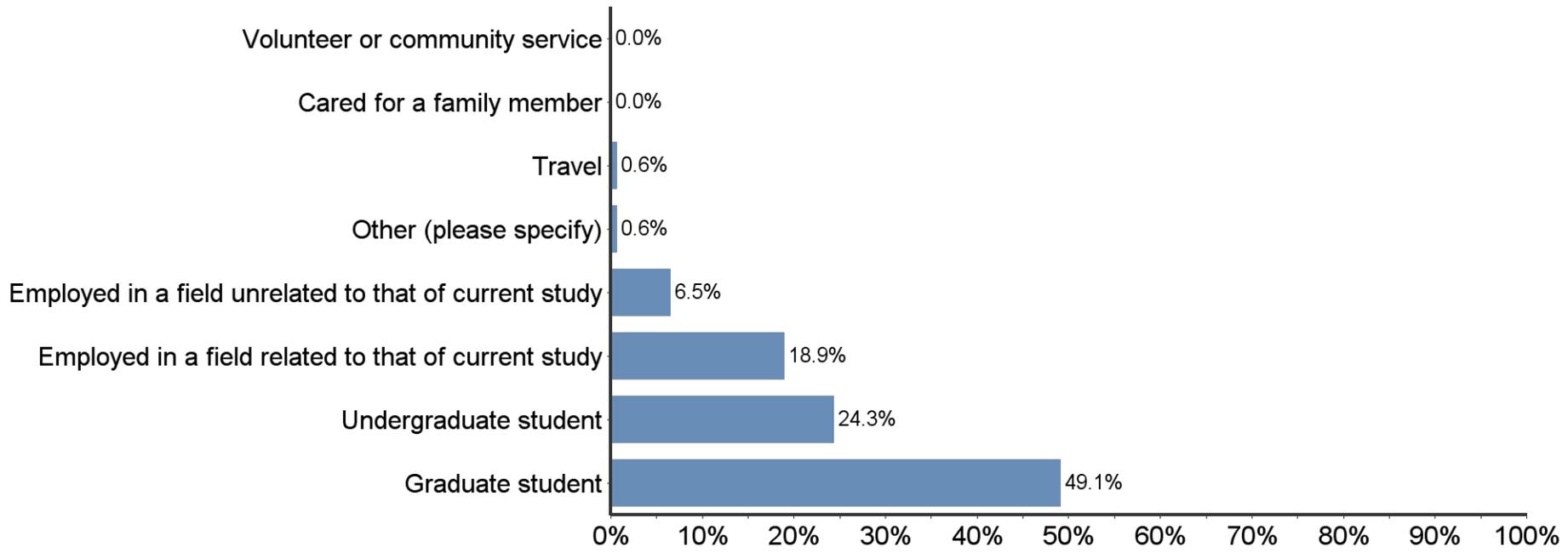


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University of California, Merced
2013-2014 Graduate Student Survey Results
Last modified: October 17, 2014
Prepared by: Institutional Research and Decision Support

General Notes: of the 340 students invited to complete the survey, 170 (50%) started but may not have completed the survey and 159 (47%) completed the survey. Students could choose not to answer particular questions, thus, response rates for each question varied.

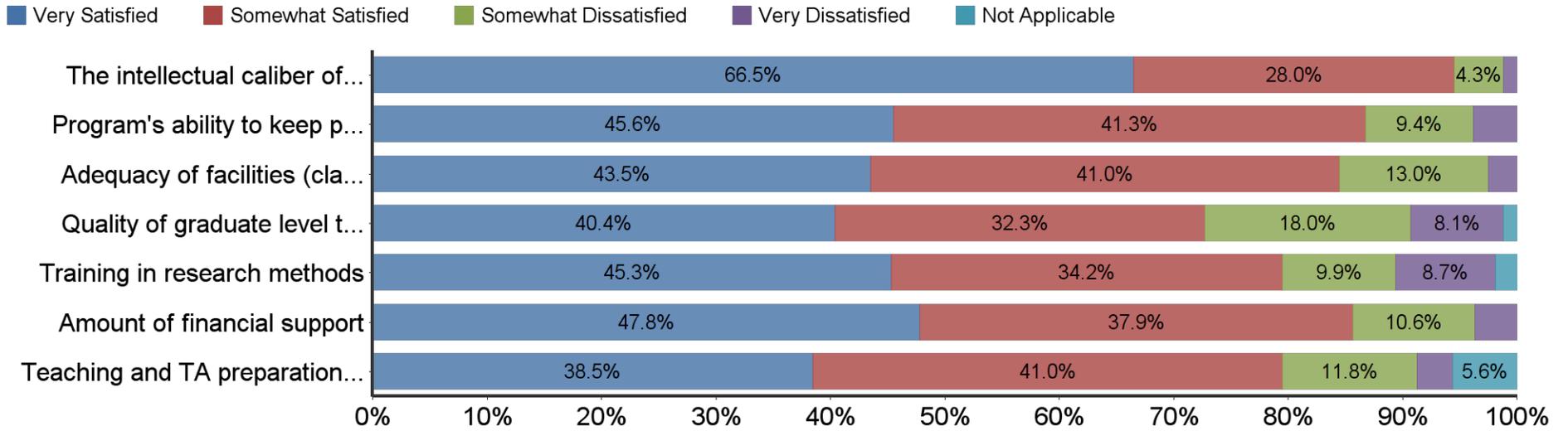
What was your primary activity immediately prior to enrolling in this program?



Answer	Frequency
Graduate student	83
Undergraduate student	41
Employed in a field related to that of current study	32
Employed in a field unrelated to that of current study	11
Other (please specify)	1
Travel	1
Cared for a family member	0
Volunteer or community service	0
Total	169

How satisfied are you with each of the following?

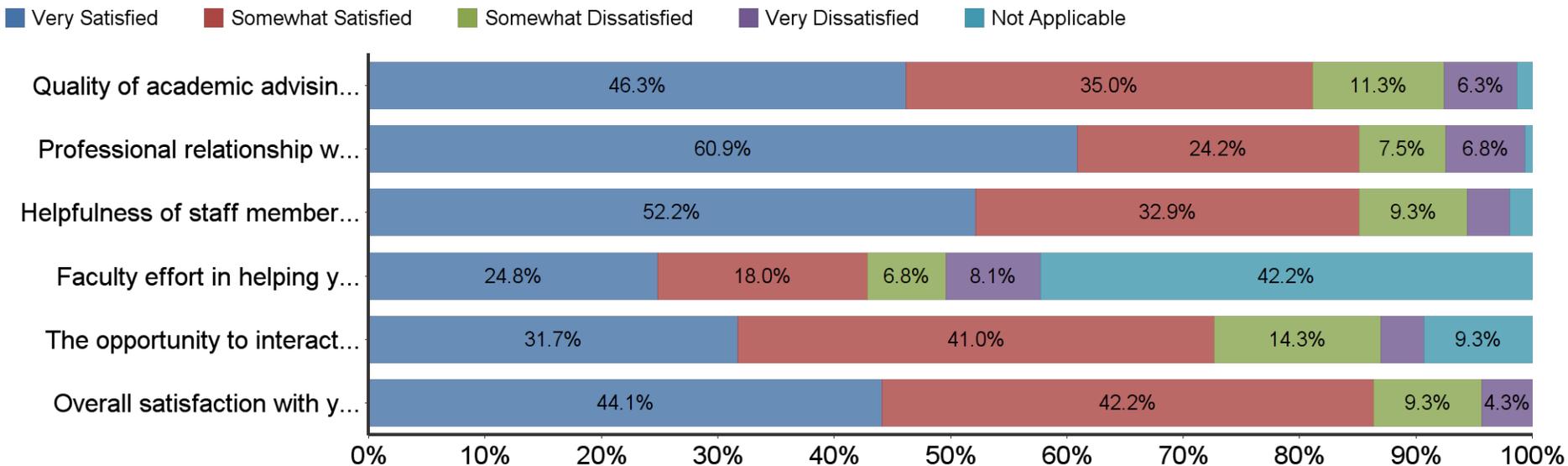
Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



#	Question	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Not Applicable	Total Responses
1	The intellectual caliber of the faculty in your program	107	45	7	2	-	161
2	Program's ability to keep pace with recent developments in your field	73	66	15	6	-	160
3	Adequacy of facilities (classrooms, labs, etc.)	70	66	21	4	-	161
4	Quality of graduate level teaching by faculty	65	52	29	13	2	161
5	Training in research methods	73	55	16	14	3	161
6	Amount of financial support	77	61	17	6	-	161
7	Teaching and TA preparation offered by your academic program	62	66	19	5	9	161

How satisfied are you with each of the following?

Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.

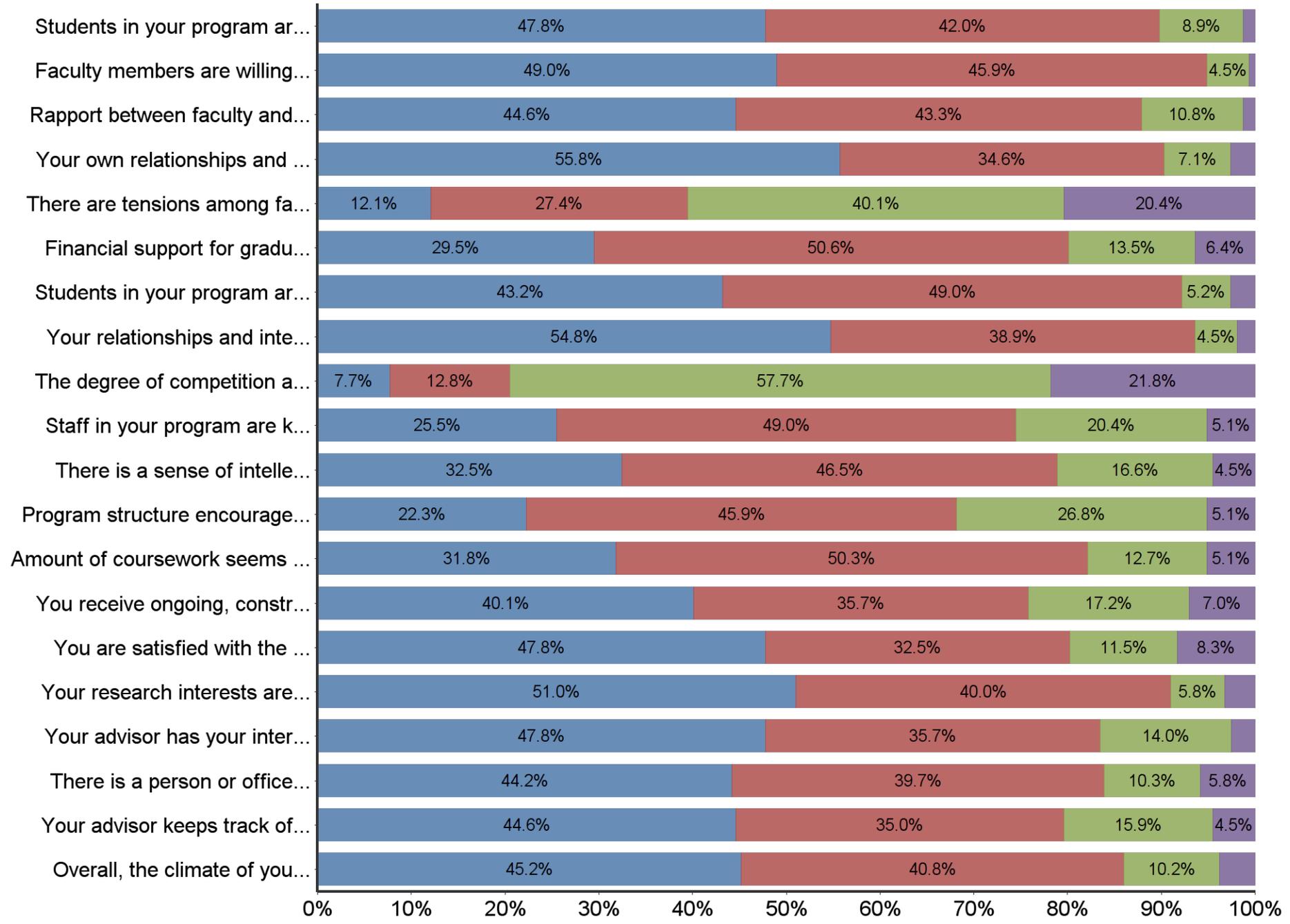


#	Question	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Not Applicable	Total Responses
1	Quality of academic advising and guidance	74	56	18	10	2	160
2	Professional relationship with your faculty advisor	98	39	12	11	1	161
3	Helpfulness of staff members in your school or program	84	53	15	6	3	161
4	Faculty effort in helping you find employment	40	29	11	13	68	161
5	The opportunity to interact across disciplines	51	66	23	6	15	161
6	Overall satisfaction with your program	71	68	15	7	-	161

To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

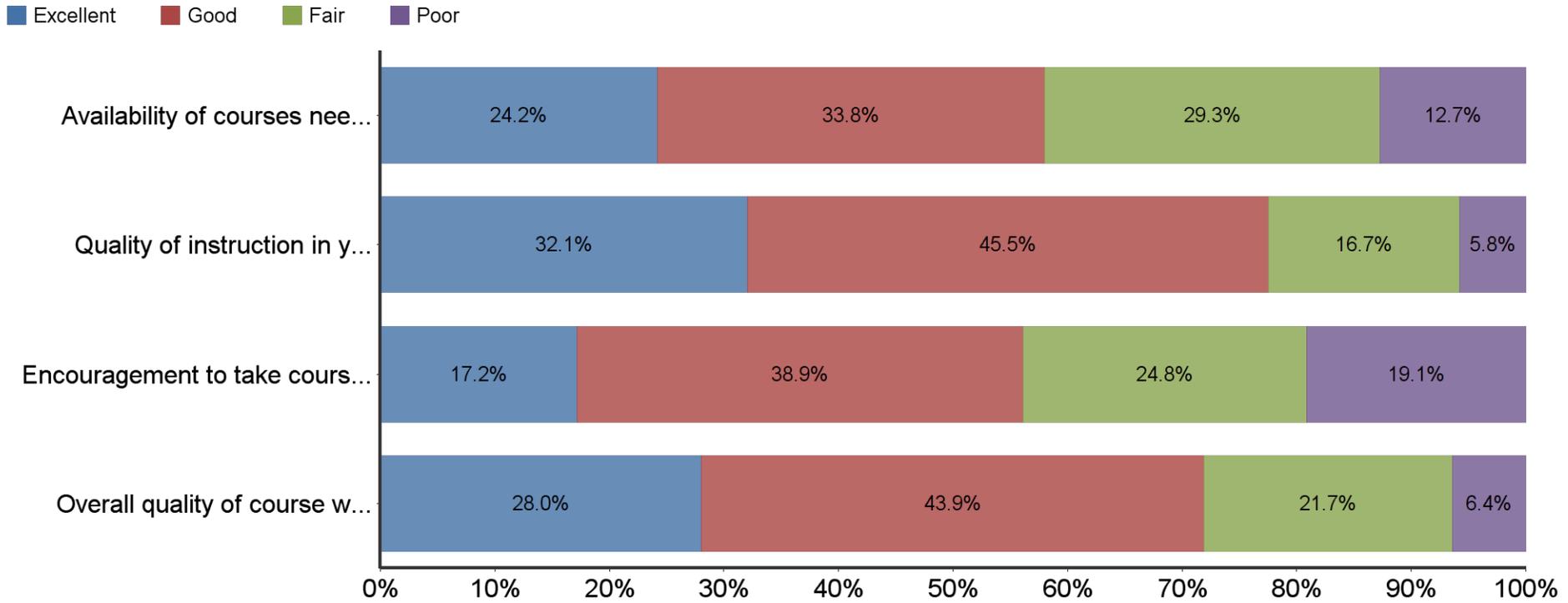


To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

#	Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Responses
1	Students in your program are treated with respect by faculty	75	66	14	2	157
2	Faculty members are willing to work with students	77	72	7	1	157
3	Rapport between faculty and graduate students in your program is good	70	68	17	2	157
4	Your own relationships and interactions with faculty are good	87	54	11	4	156
5	There are tensions among faculty that affect students	19	43	63	32	157
6	Financial support for graduate students is distributed fairly	46	79	21	10	156
7	Students in your program are collegial	67	76	8	4	155
8	Your relationships and interaction with other students in your graduate program are good	86	61	7	3	157
9	The degree of competition among students is excessive	12	20	90	34	156
10	Staff in your program are knowledgeable about rules and regulations that affect graduate students	40	77	32	8	157
11	There is a sense of intellectual community in your program	51	73	26	7	157
12	Program structure encourages student collaboration or teamwork	35	72	42	8	157
13	Amount of coursework seems appropriate to the degree	50	79	20	8	157
14	You receive ongoing, constructive feedback on progress toward your degree from your advisor	63	56	27	11	157
15	You are satisfied with the amount of time spent with your advisor	75	51	18	13	157
16	Your research interests are incorporated into your thesis work	79	62	9	5	155
17	Your advisor has your interests in mind	75	56	22	4	157
18	There is a person or office you could trust to report perceived abuse or misconduct in your program by your advisor or committee member	69	62	16	9	156
19	Your advisor keeps track of your research progress and will help determine when you have accomplished enough work for your degree	70	55	25	7	157
20	Overall, the climate of your program is positive	71	64	16	6	157

How would you rate your graduate group on each of the following?

Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.

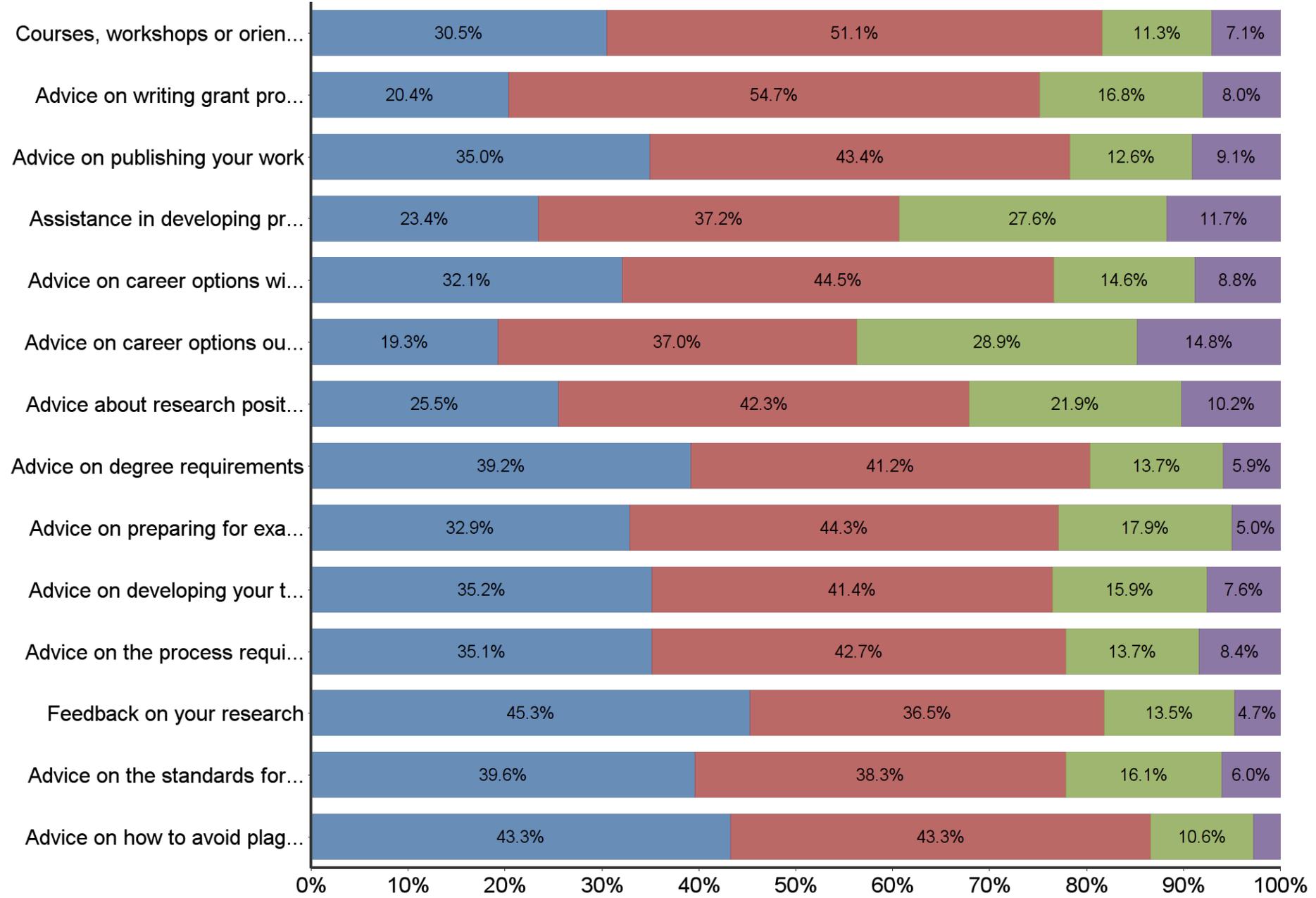


#	Question	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total Responses
1	Availability of courses needed to complete your program	38	53	46	20	157
2	Quality of instruction in your courses	50	71	26	9	156
3	Encouragement to take courses outside your program	27	61	39	30	157
4	Overall quality of course work in your program	44	69	34	10	157

Please indicate (where applicable) your level of satisfaction in the following areas.

Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.

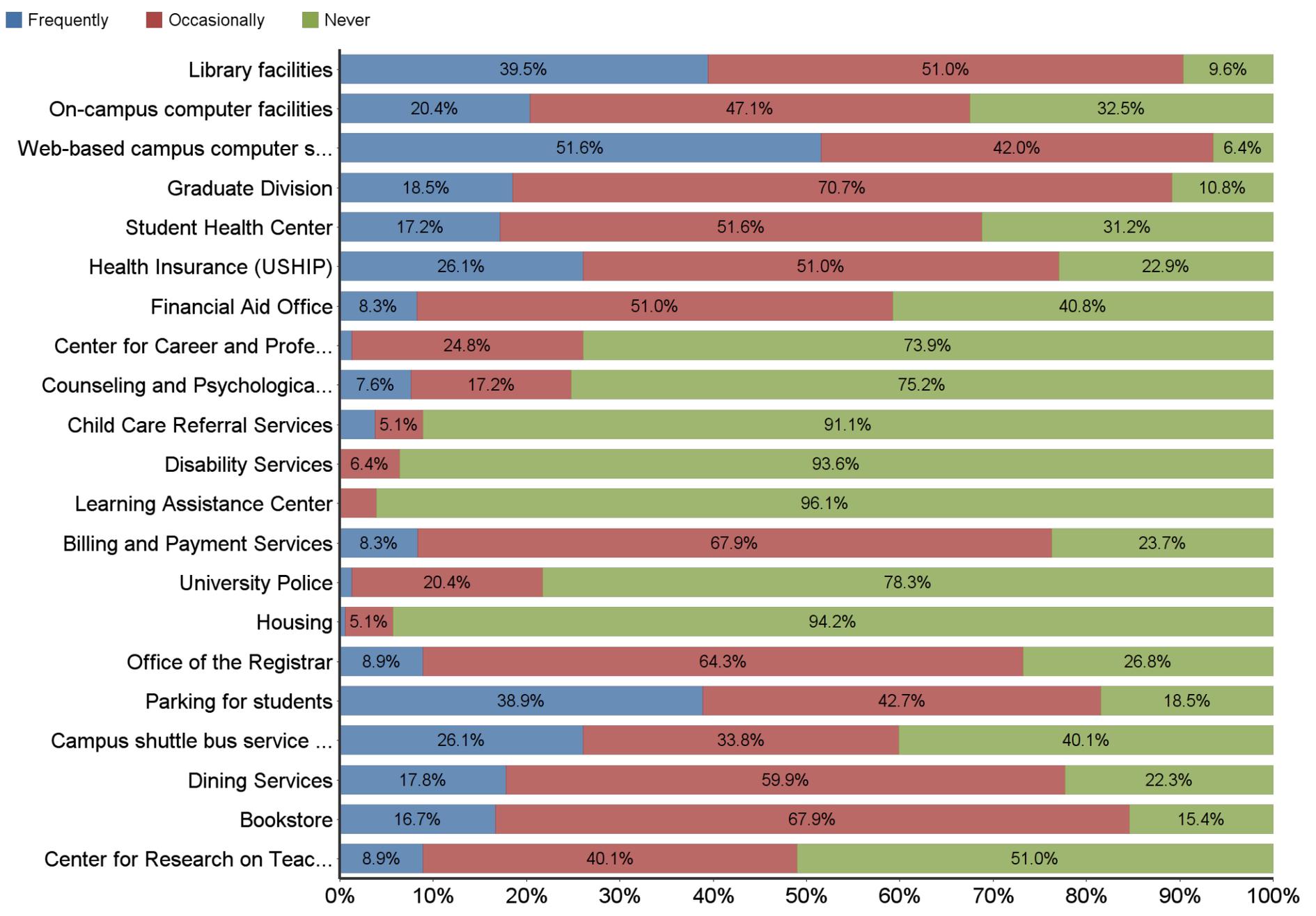
Very Satisfied Somewhat Satisfied Somewhat Dissatisfied Very Dissatisfied



Please indicate (where applicable) your level of satisfaction in the following areas.

#	Question	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Total Responses
1	Courses, workshops or orientations on teaching offered by your academic program	43	72	16	10	141
2	Advice on writing grant proposals	28	75	23	11	137
3	Advice on publishing your work	50	62	18	13	143
4	Assistance in developing professional contacts outside your program	34	54	40	17	145
5	Advice on career options within academia	44	61	20	12	137
6	Advice on career options outside academia	26	50	39	20	135
7	Advice about research positions	35	58	30	14	137
8	Advice on degree requirements	60	63	21	9	153
9	Advice on preparing for examinations	46	62	25	7	140
10	Advice on developing your thesis or dissertation proposal	51	60	23	11	145
11	Advice on the process required to select a thesis advisor	46	56	18	11	131
12	Feedback on your research	67	54	20	7	148
13	Advice on the standards for academic writing in your field	59	57	24	9	149
14	Advice on how to avoid plagiarism and other violations of the standards of academic integrity	61	61	15	4	141

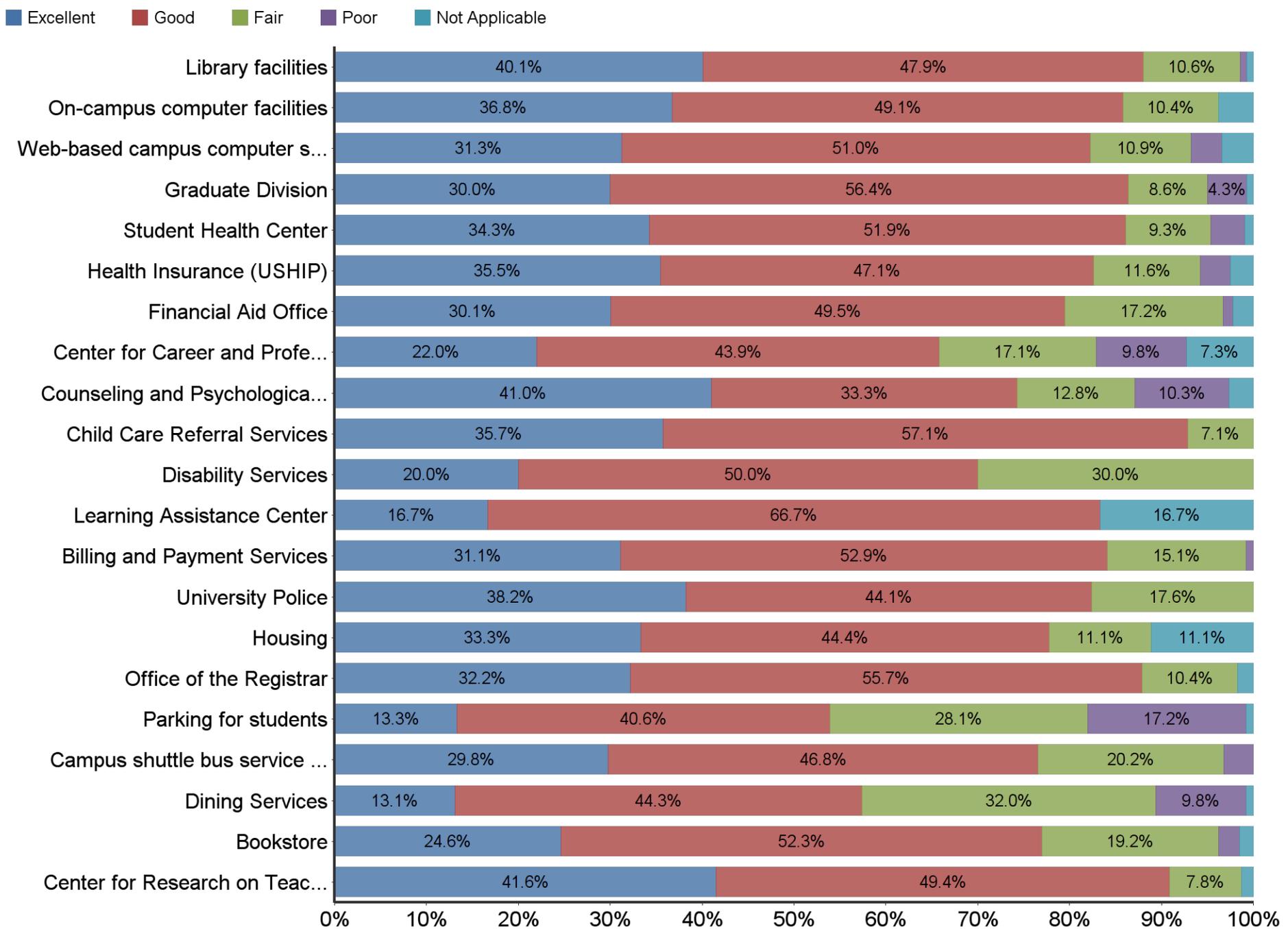
10 Please indicate how frequently you used the following services during your most recent year's experience in graduate school at UC Merced. Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



Please indicate how frequently you used the following services during your most recent year's experience in graduate school at UC Merced.

#	Question	Frequently	Occasionally	Never	Total Responses
1	Library facilities	62	80	15	157
2	On-campus computer facilities	32	74	51	157
3	Web-based campus computer services (e.g., for registration)	81	66	10	157
4	Graduate Division	29	111	17	157
5	Student Health Center	27	81	49	157
6	Health Insurance (USHIP)	41	80	36	157
7	Financial Aid Office	13	80	64	157
8	Center for Career and Professional Advancement	2	39	116	157
9	Counseling and Psychological Services	12	27	118	157
10	Child Care Referral Services	6	8	143	157
11	Disability Services	-	10	146	156
12	Learning Assistance Center	-	6	149	155
13	Billing and Payment Services	13	106	37	156
14	University Police	2	32	123	157
15	Housing	1	8	147	156
16	Office of the Registrar	14	101	42	157
17	Parking for students	61	67	29	157
18	Campus shuttle bus service (Cat Tracks)	41	53	63	157
19	Dining Services	28	94	35	157
20	Bookstore	26	106	24	156
21	Center for Research on Teaching Excellence (CRTE)	14	63	80	157

12 Please rate the quality of your experience.
 Notes: Only students who indicated that they used the service either Frequently or Occasionally 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.

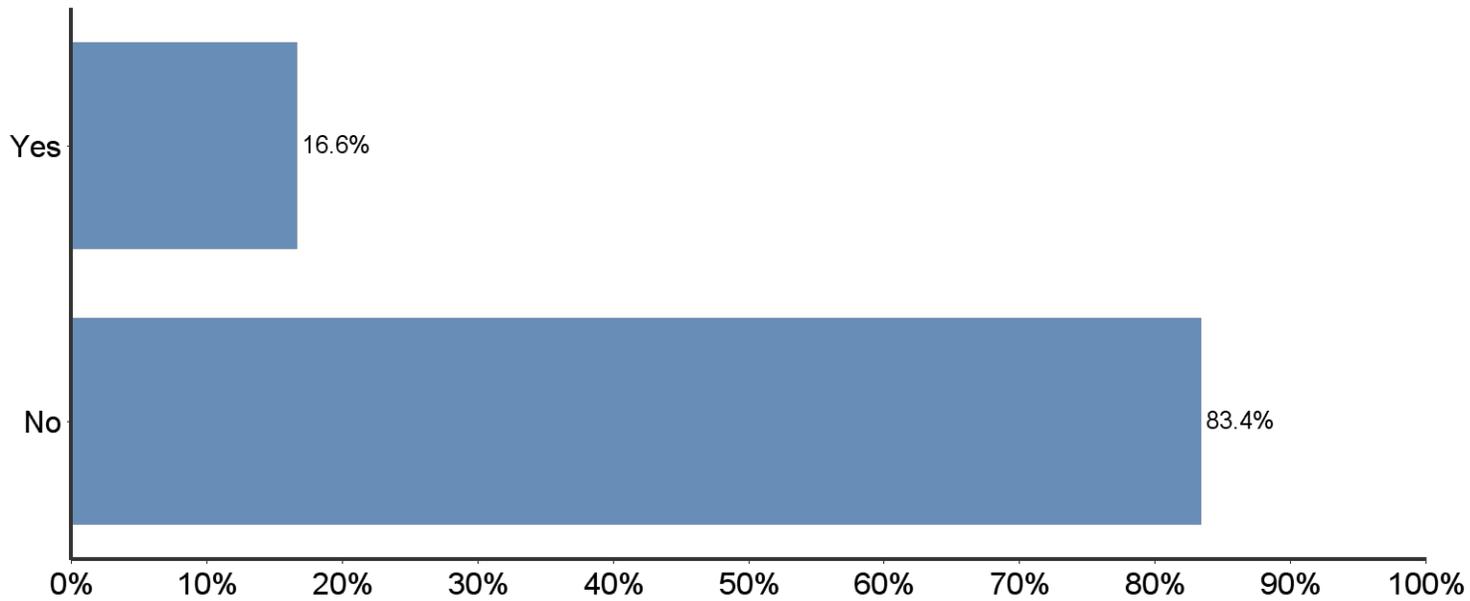


13 Please rate the quality of your experience.

Note: Only students who indicated that they used the service either Frequently or Occasionally could answer this question.

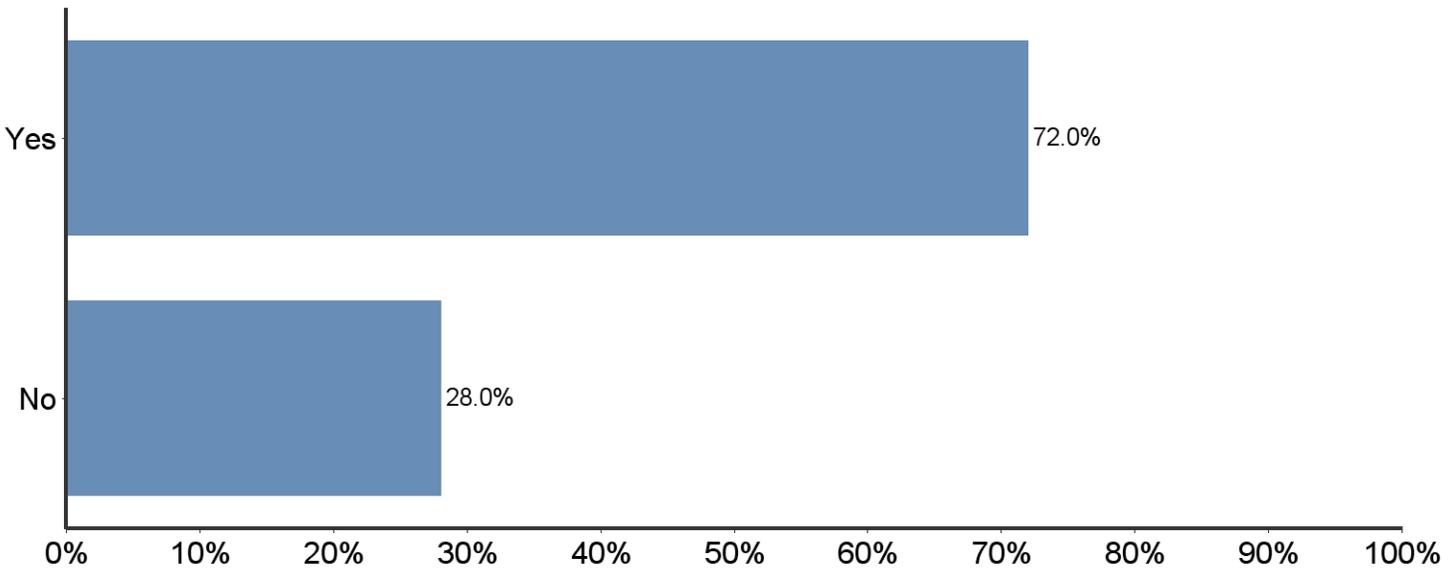
#	Question	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Not Applicable	Total Responses
1	Library facilities	57	68	15	1	1	142
2	On-campus computer facilities	39	52	11	-	4	106
3	Web-based campus computer services (e.g., for registration)	46	75	16	5	5	147
4	Graduate Division	42	79	12	6	1	140
5	Student Health Center	37	56	10	4	1	108
6	Health Insurance (USHIP)	43	57	14	4	3	121
7	Financial Aid Office	28	46	16	1	2	93
8	Center for Career and Professional Advancement	9	18	7	4	3	41
9	Counseling and Psychological Services	16	13	5	4	1	39
10	Child Care Referral Services	5	8	1	-	-	14
11	Disability Services	2	5	3	-	-	10
12	Learning Assistance Center	1	4	-	-	1	6
13	Billing and Payment Services	37	63	18	1	-	119
14	University Police	13	15	6	-	-	34
15	Housing	3	4	1	-	1	9
16	Office of the Registrar	37	64	12	-	2	115
17	Parking for students	17	52	36	22	1	128
18	Campus shuttle bus service (Cat Tracks)	28	44	19	3	-	94
19	Dining Services	16	54	39	12	1	122
20	Bookstore	32	68	25	3	2	130
21	Center for Research on Teaching Excellence (CRTE)	32	38	6	-	1	77

Did you attend any library-sponsored workshops during the 2013-14 academic year?



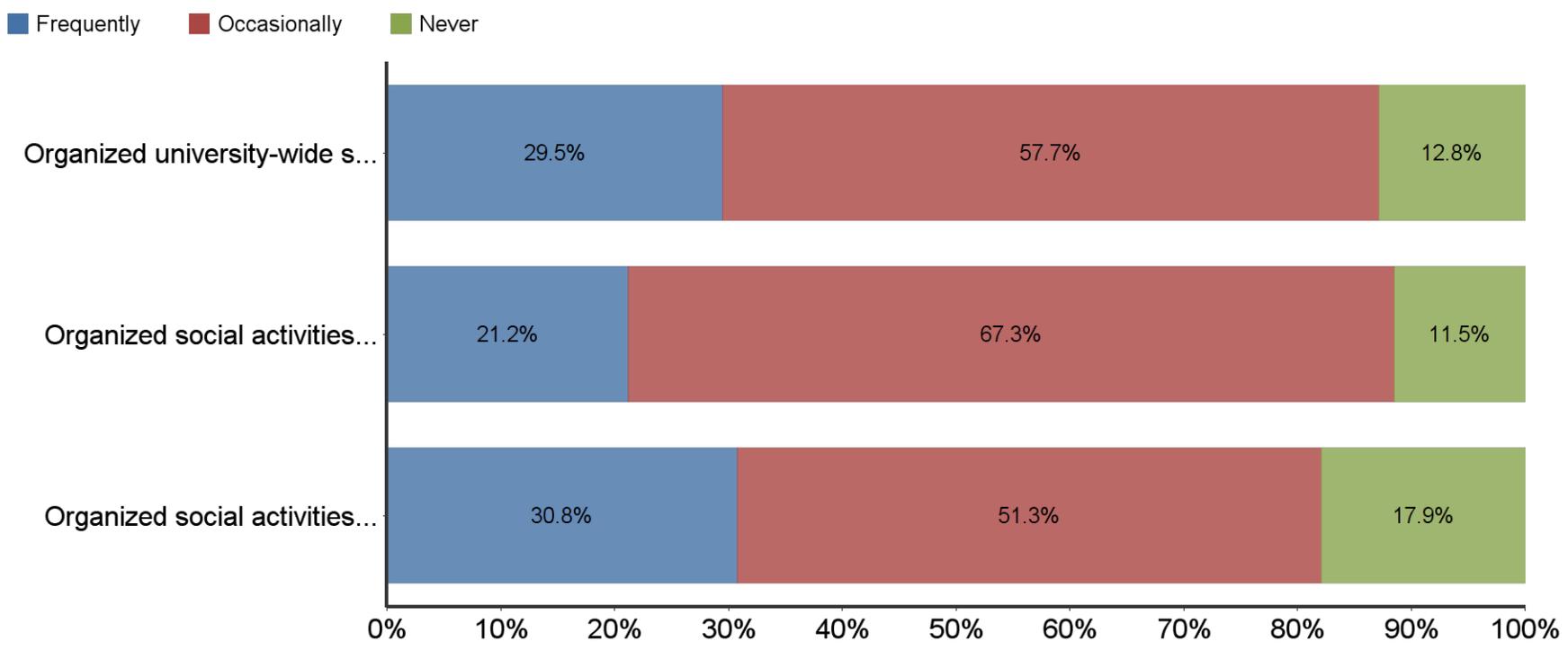
Answer	Frequency
Yes	26
No	131
Total	157

15 Have you since used any of the information from the library-sponsored workshop(s) in your own scholarly work (research and/or teaching)?
Note: Only students who indicated that they had attended a library-sponsored workshop could answer this question.



Answer	Frequency
Yes	18
No	7
Total	25

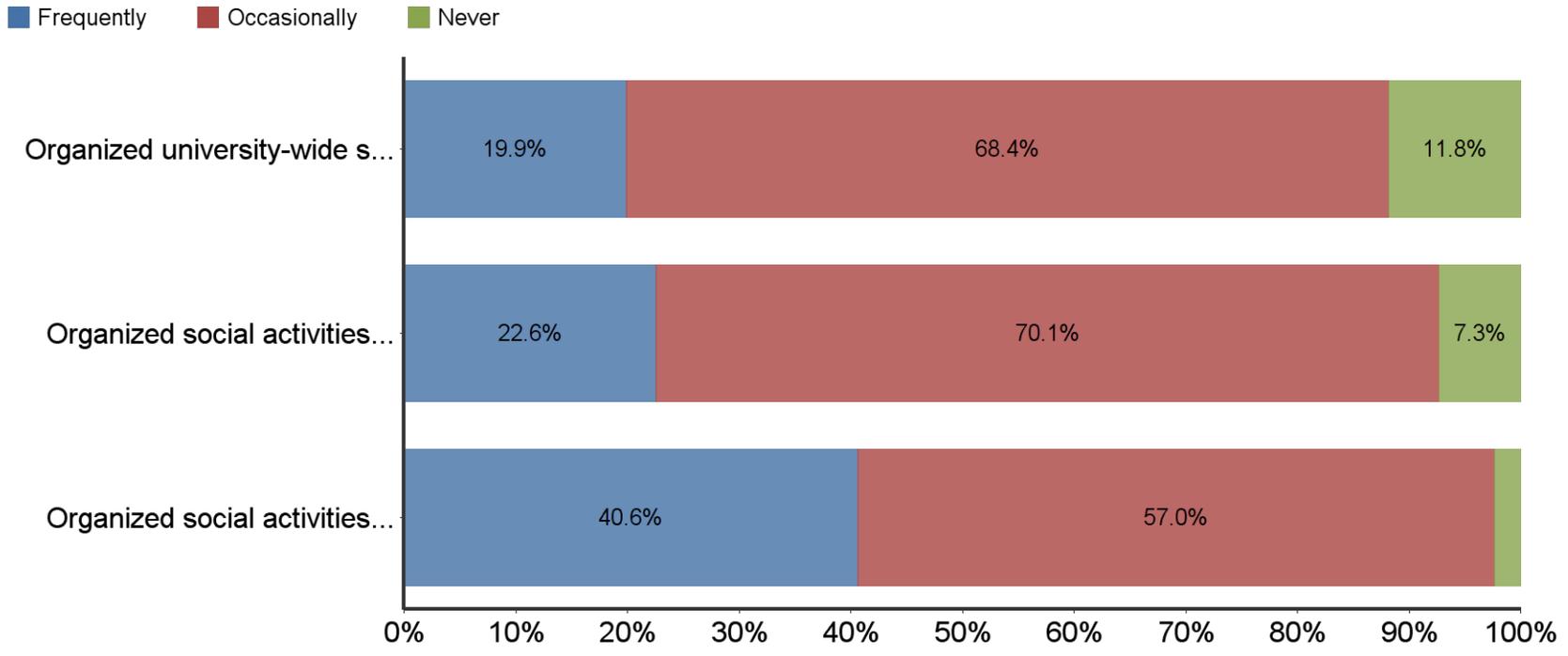
16 How often do the following social activities occur on campus? (Frequently is defined as more than once a month and occasionally is defined as once a month or less).
 Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



#	Question	Frequently	Occasionally	Never	Total Responses
1	Organized university-wide social activities	46	90	20	156
2	Organized social activities within your school	33	105	18	156
3	Organized social activities within your research group	48	80	28	156

17 How often do you attend social activities on campus?

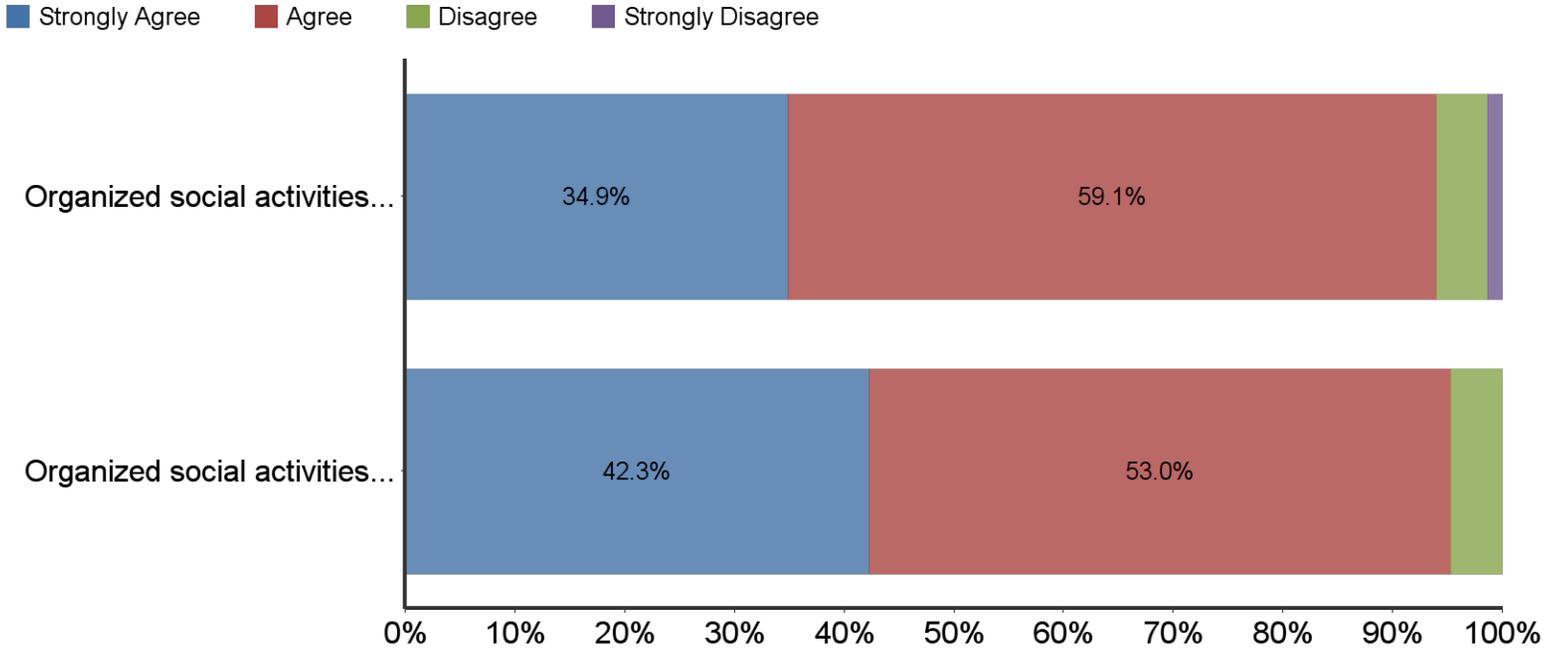
Note: Only students who indicated that an activity occurs Frequently or Occasionally could answer this question. To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



#	Question	Frequently	Occasionally	Never	Total Responses
1	Organized university-wide social activities	27	93	16	136
2	Organized social activities within your school	31	96	10	137
3	Organized social activities within your research group	52	73	3	128

To what extent do you agree with the following statements about organized social activities on campus?

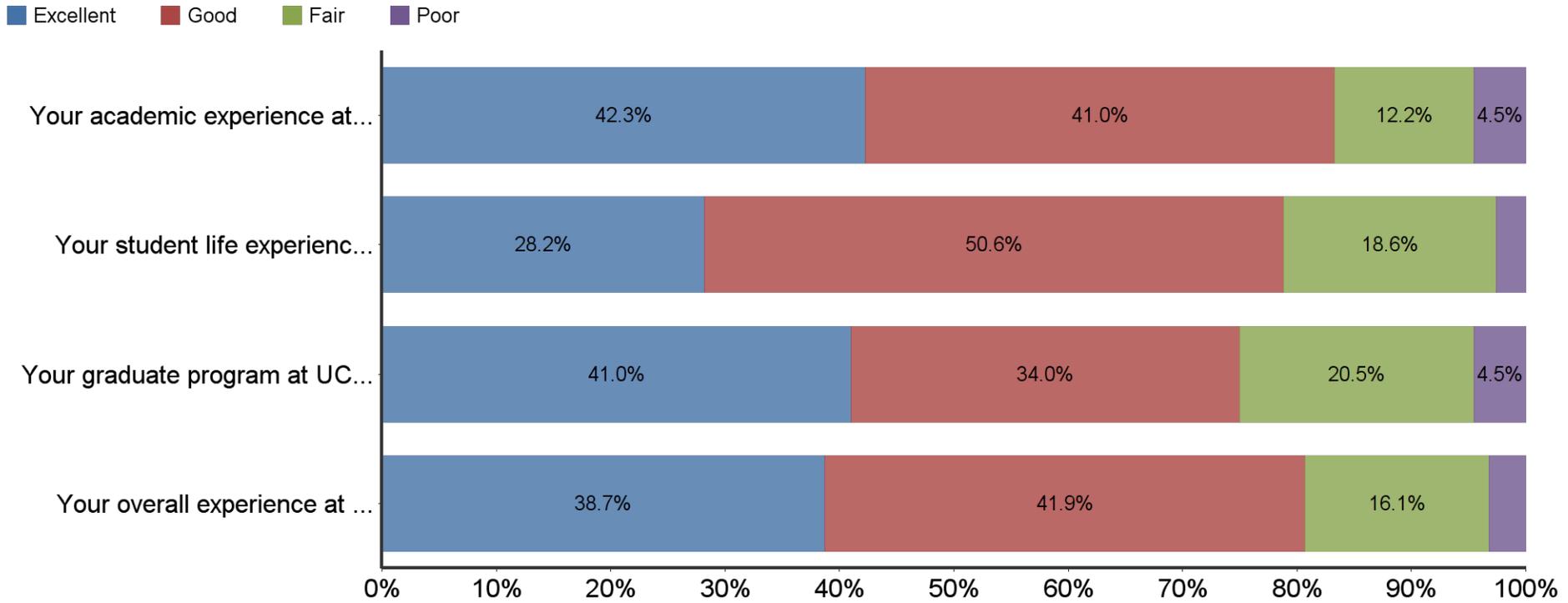
Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



#	Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Responses
1	Organized social activities allow you to meet graduate students outside your graduate group	52	88	7	2	149
2	Organized social activities help build a UC Merced community of graduate students	63	79	7	-	149

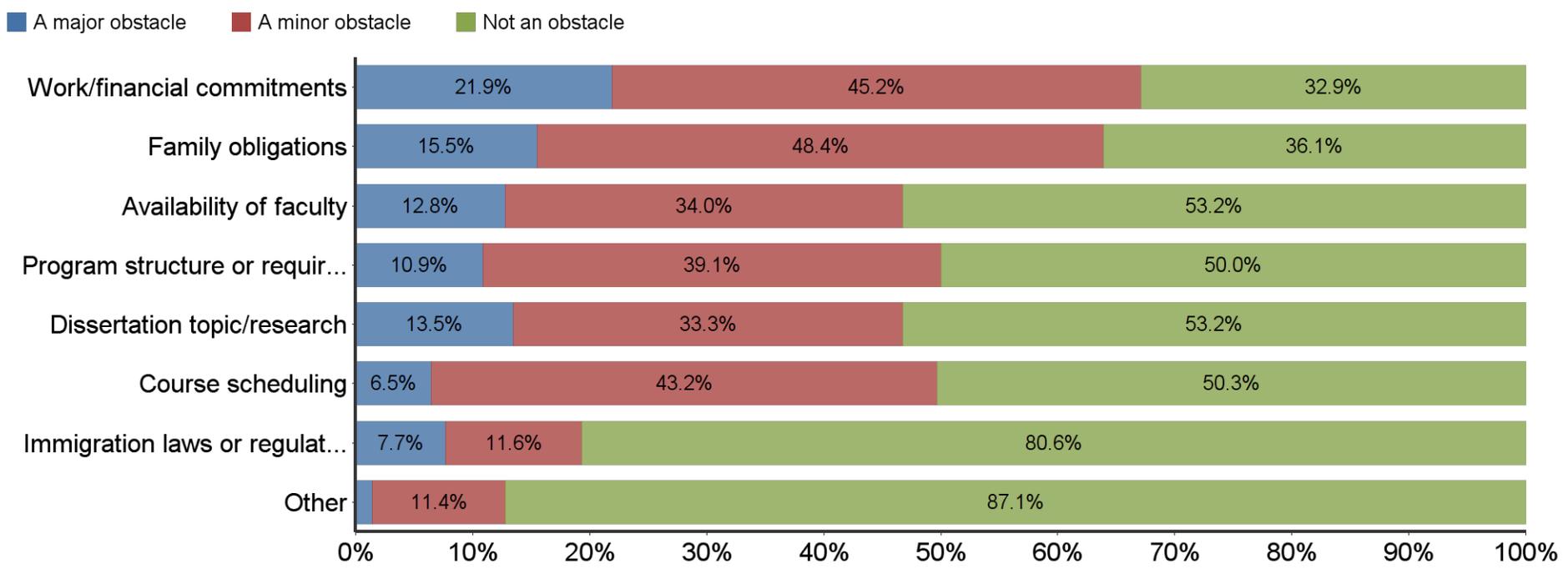
How would you rate the quality of:

Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



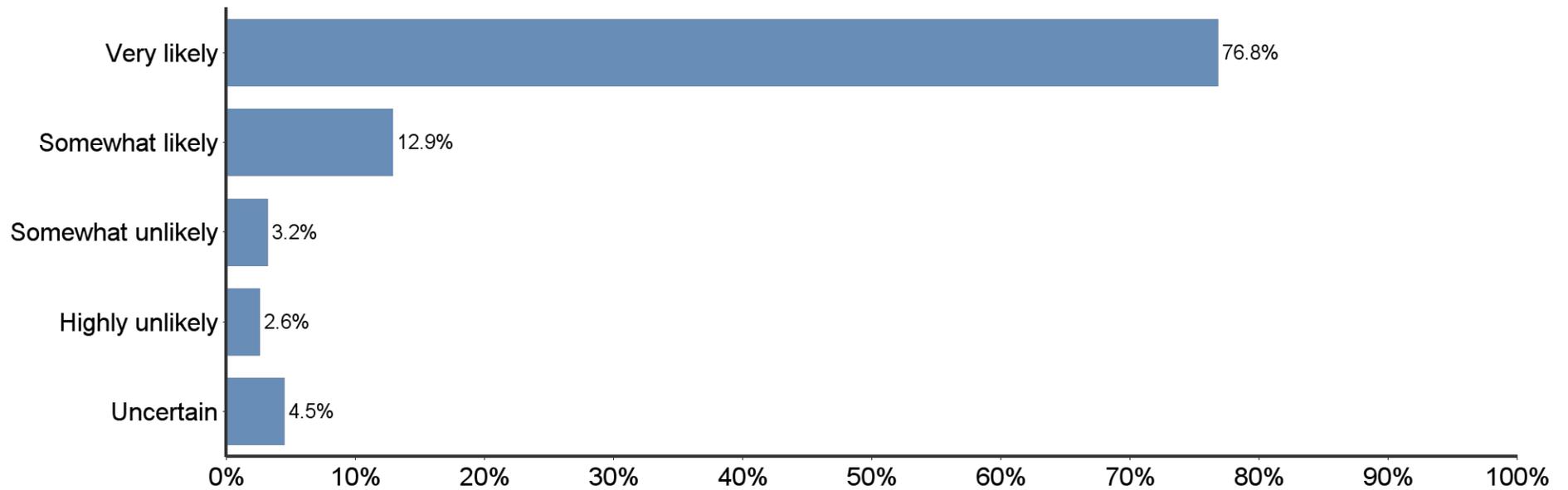
#	Question	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total Responses
1	Your academic experience at UC Merced	66	64	19	7	156
2	Your student life experience at UC Merced	44	79	29	4	156
3	Your graduate program at UC Merced	64	53	32	7	156
4	Your overall experience at UC Merced	60	65	25	5	155

Please rate the extent to which these factors are or have been an obstacle to your academic progress:
 Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



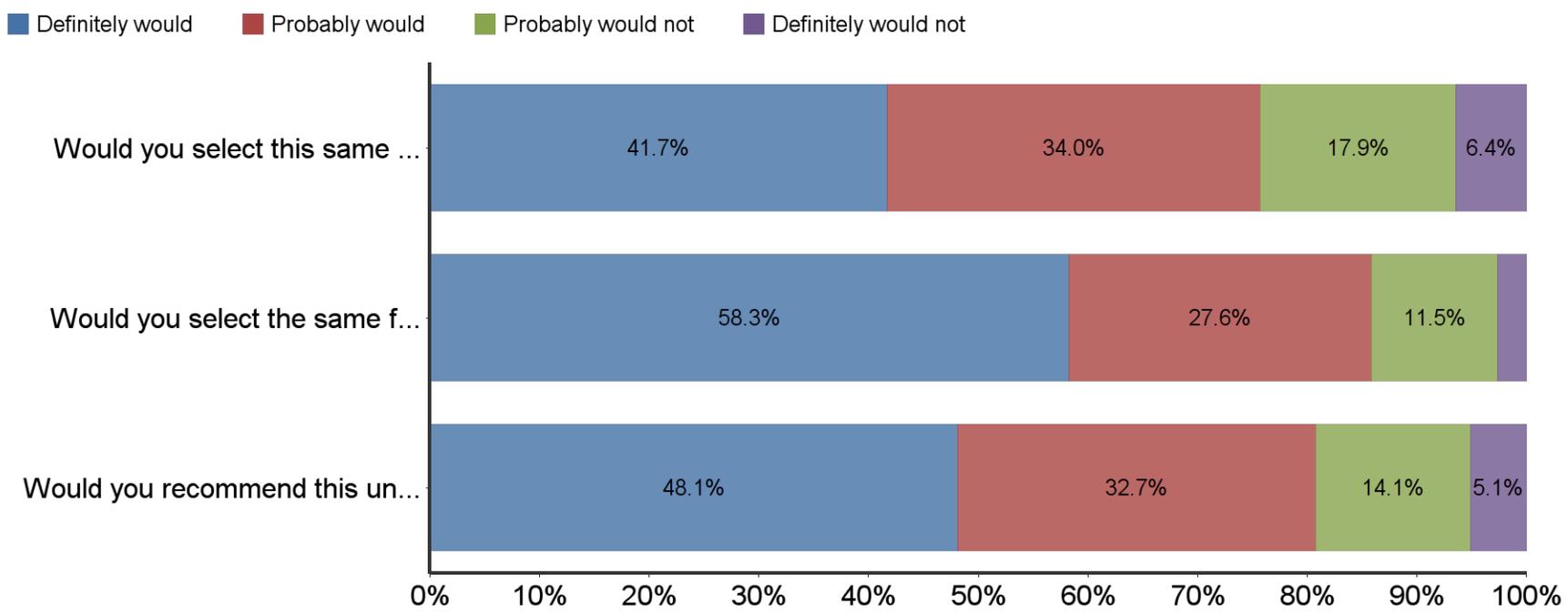
#	Question	A major obstacle	A minor obstacle	Not an obstacle	Total Responses
1	Work/financial commitments	34	70	51	155
2	Family obligations	24	75	56	155
3	Availability of faculty	20	53	83	156
4	Program structure or requirements	17	61	78	156
5	Dissertation topic/research	21	52	83	156
6	Course scheduling	10	67	78	155
7	Immigration laws or regulations	12	18	125	155
8	Other	2	16	122	140

How likely are you to stay in your program until you receive your ultimate degree objective?



Answer	Frequency
Very likely	119
Somewhat likely	20
Somewhat unlikely	5
Highly unlikely	4
Uncertain	7
Total	155

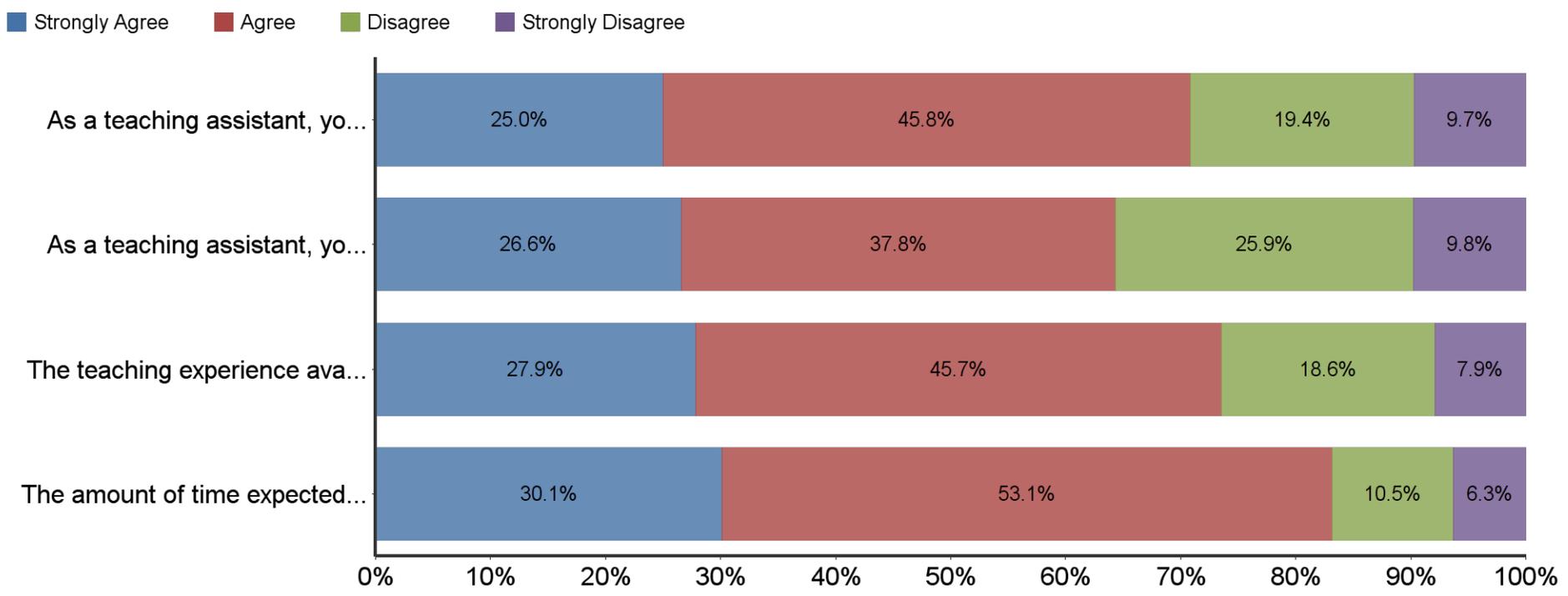
22 Please answer the following questions about the university and your program. If you were to do it again:
 Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



#	Question	Definitely would	Probably would	Probably would not	Definitely would not	Total Responses
1	Would you select this same university?	65	53	28	10	156
2	Would you select the same field of study?	91	43	18	4	156
3	Would you recommend this university to someone considering your graduate program?	75	51	22	8	156

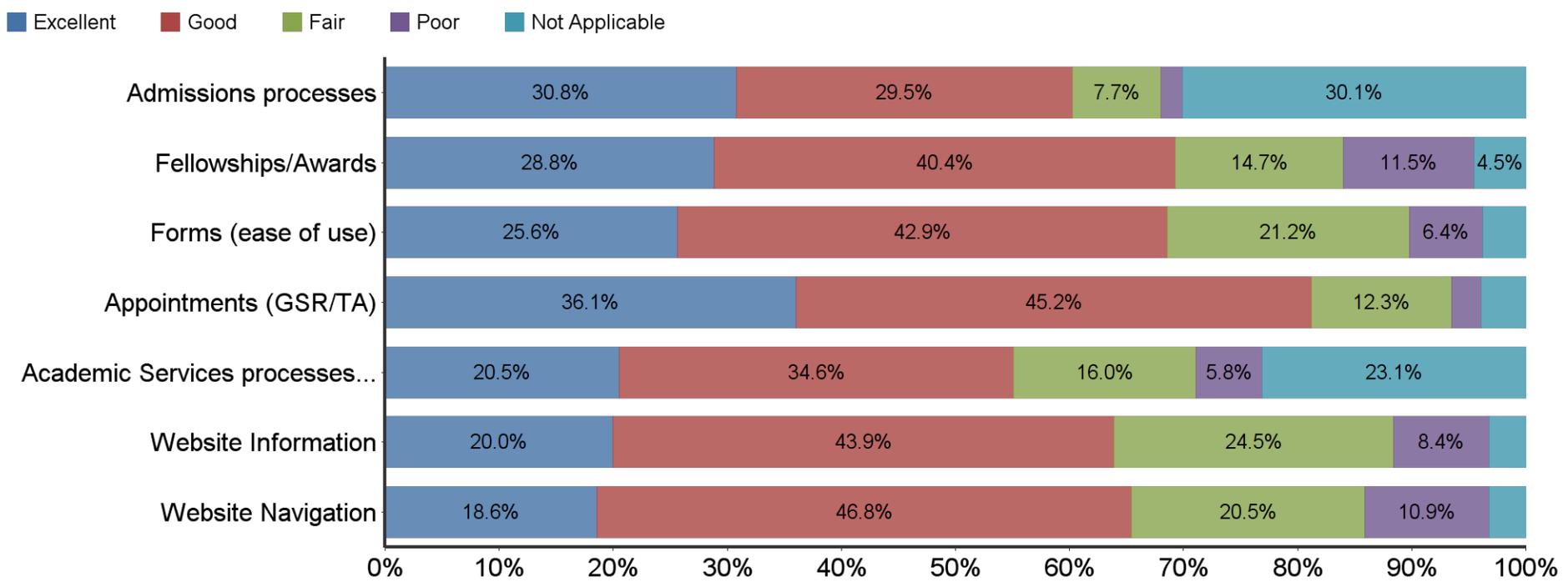
Please answer the following questions about teaching and your TA preparation.

Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



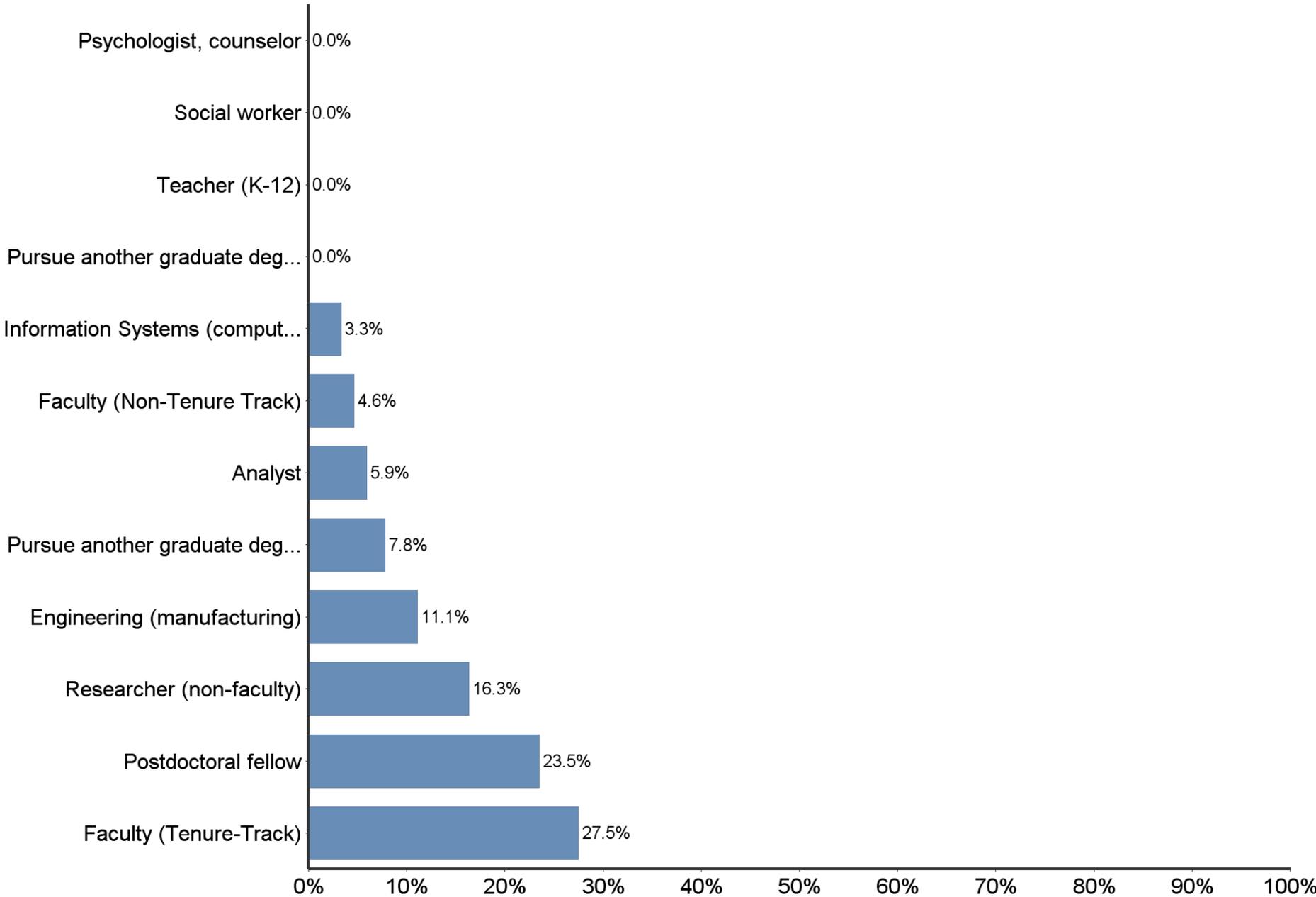
#	Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Responses
1	As a teaching assistant, you were appropriately prepared and trained before entering the classroom by your academic program	36	66	28	14	144
2	As a teaching assistant, you were appropriately supervised to help improve your teaching skills	38	54	37	14	143
3	The teaching experience available through your program is adequate preparation for an academic/teaching career	39	64	26	11	140
4	The amount of time expected of as a TA was about right	43	76	15	9	143

24 During the past year (2013-2014), please rate your overall satisfaction level in the following areas:
 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	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Not Applicable	Total Responses
1	Admissions processes	48	46	12	3	47	156
2	Fellowships/Awards	45	63	23	18	7	156
3	Forms (ease of use)	40	67	33	10	6	156
4	Appointments (GSR/TA)	56	70	19	4	6	155
5	Academic Services processes (advancement to candidacy/change of major, etc.)	32	54	25	9	36	156
6	Website Information	31	68	38	13	5	155
7	Website Navigation	29	73	32	17	5	156

25 Which of the following best describes your expectation for professional plans immediately after completing your education at UC Merced?
Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.

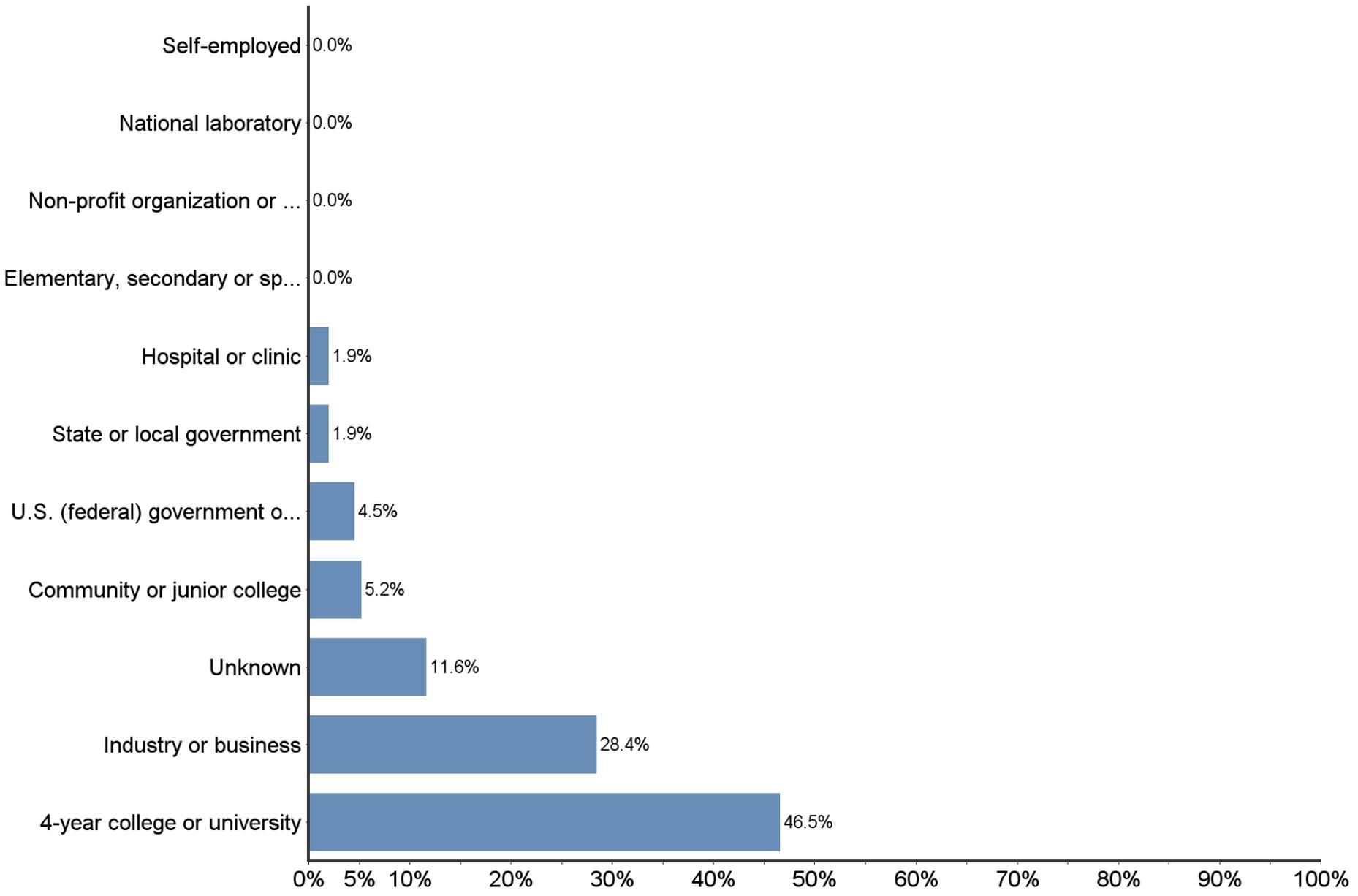


Which of the following best describes your expectation for professional plans immediately after completing your education at UC Merced?

Answer	Frequency
Faculty (Tenure-Track)	42
Postdoctoral fellow	36
Researcher (non-faculty)	25
Engineering (manufacturing)	17
Pursue another graduate degree (not at UC Merced)	12
Analyst	9
Faculty (Non-Tenure Track)	7
Information Systems (computer programmer)	5
Pursue another graduate degree (at UC Merced)	0
Psychologist, counselor	0
Social worker	0
Teacher (K-12)	0
Total	153

How would you categorize the type of employer you expect to work for after you complete your final graduate degree?

Note: To improve readability, some question text is truncated in the figure. Full question text can be found in the table below the figure.



How would you categorize the type of employer you expect to work for after you complete your final graduate degree?

Answer	Frequency
4-year college or university	72
Industry or business	44
Unknown	18
Community or junior college	8
U.S. (federal) government or your home country if not the U.S.	7
State or local government	3
Hospital or clinic	3
Self-employed	0
Non-profit organization or foundation	0
Elementary, secondary or special focus school	0
National laboratory	0
Total	155