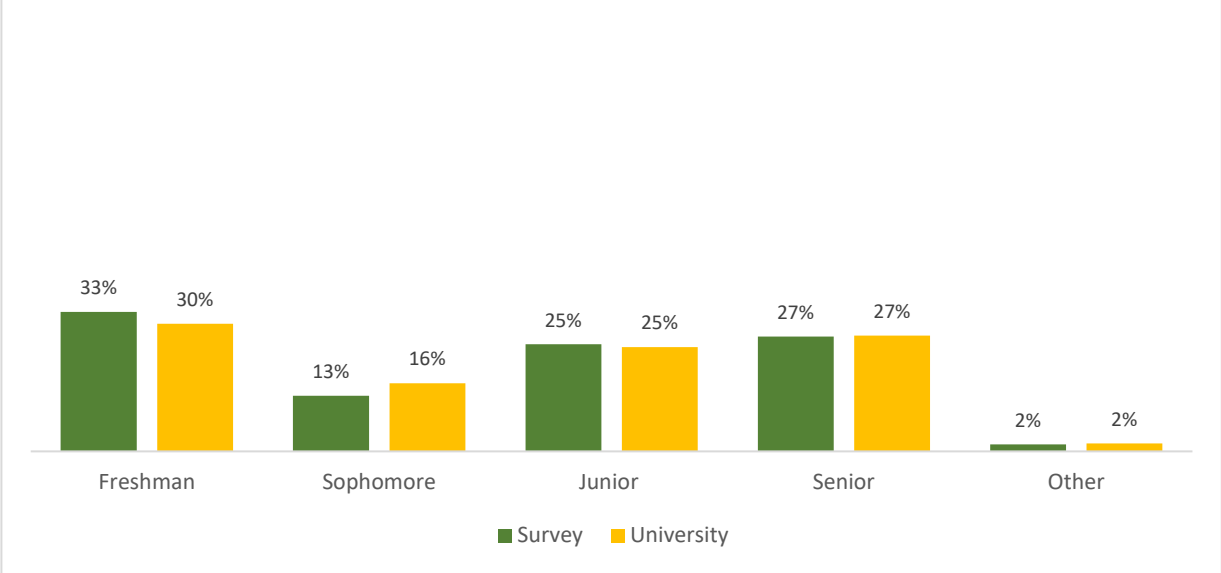
Fall 2018 Undergraduate Survey

Introduction

In November 2018, all 6237 undergraduate students were invited to share information about themselves and their experiences to date at NJCU. A total of 1422 students participated, 23% of the undergraduate population.

The respondents were representative of class-level and college of major. Students who entered as freshmen were slightly under-represented, and those who entered as transfers were slight over-represented. Comparisons are displayed below.

Respondents, by Class Level



Respondents, by College of Major

See appendix for distribution by department of major

Respondents, by Admission Type

Living Arrangements

Students shared where and with whom they lived.

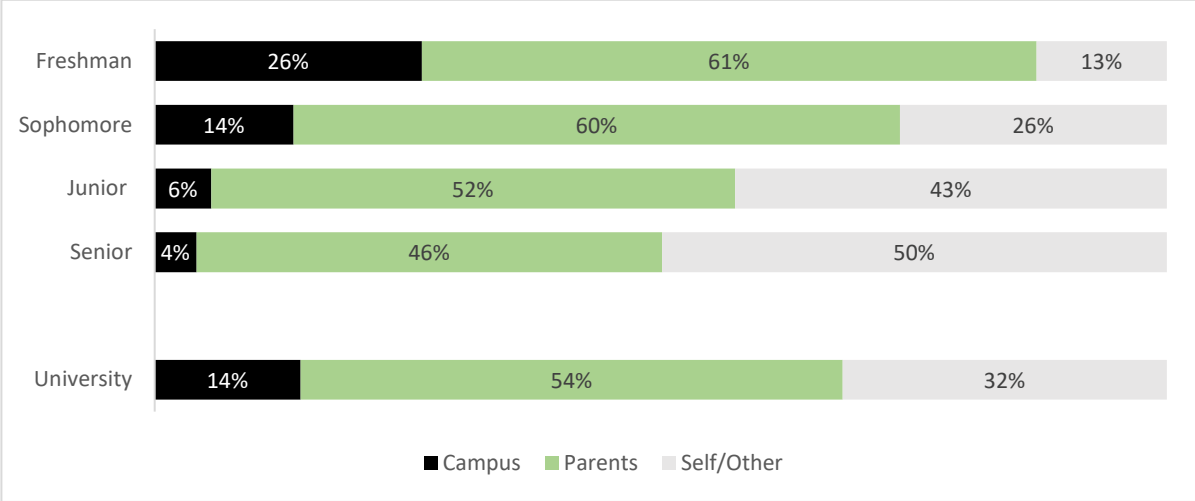
Housing

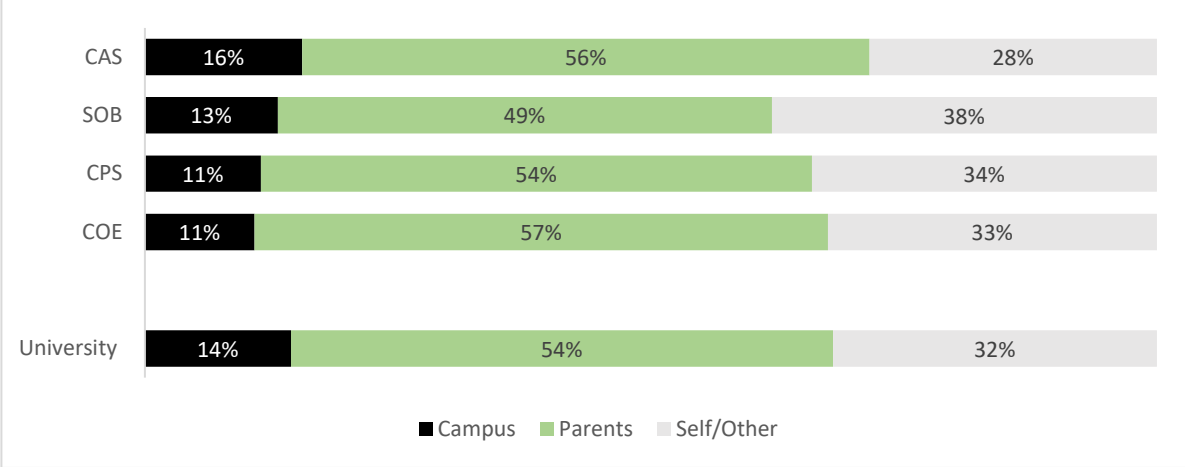
Students indicated their living arrangements as: dorming, living with parents, or living with self or others. The self/other category includes living along, with roommate(s), or one's own family. Key findings include:

- Overall, the majority of students live with their parents. Juniors and seniors have a greater tendency to live on their own.
- More freshman and sophomores live in the dorms, compared to juniors or seniors.
- Living with parents is the most common arrangement in all colleges. Students in the College of Arts and Sciences are slightly more likely than others to live on campus, and those in the School of Business are more likely to live by themselves.

	Dorm	Parents	Self/ Other
Freshman	26%	61%	13%
Sophomore	14%	60%	26%
Junior	6%	52%	43%
Senior	4%	46%	50%
University	14%	54%	32%

	Dorm	Parents	Self/ Other
Arts and Sciences (CAS)	16%	56%	28%
Business (SOB)	13%	49%	38%
Professional Studies (CPS)	11%	54%	34%
Education (COE)	11%	57%	33%
University	14%	54%	32%





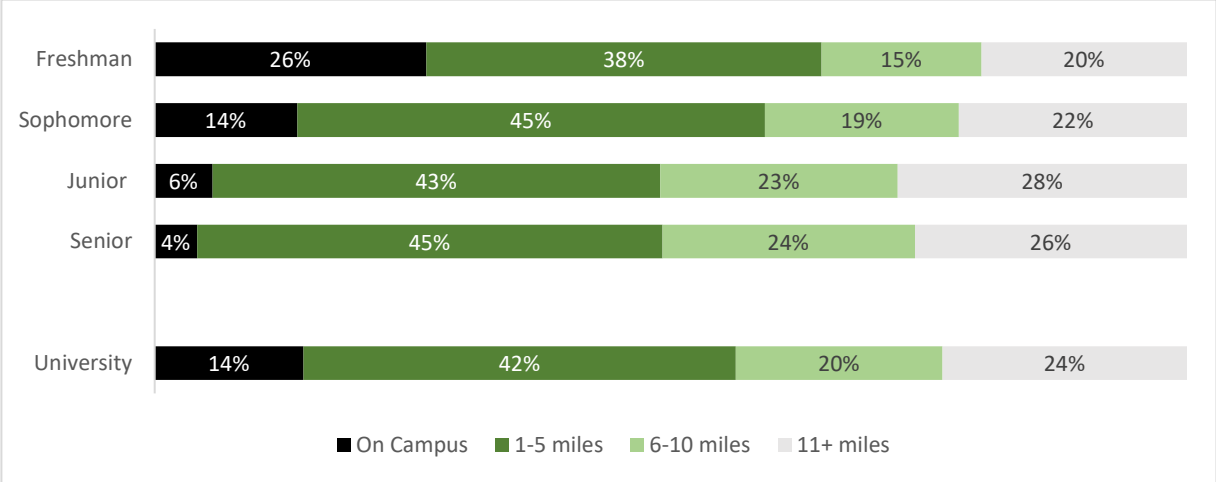
Distance Live from School

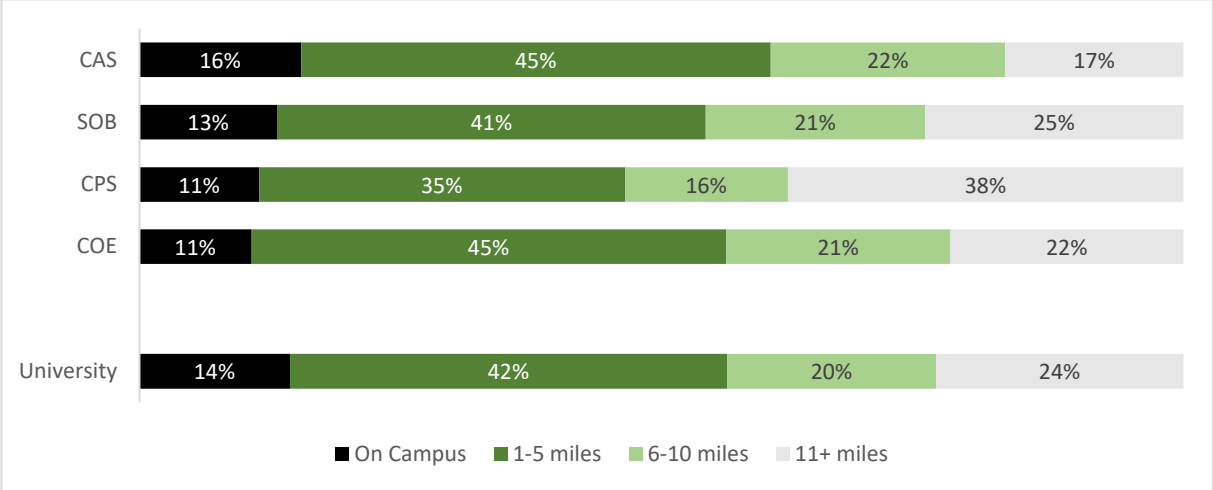
Students indicated how far they live from the campus at which they take most of their classes – main campus, School of Business, Wall. Key findings include:

- Overall, 56% of students live within 5 miles of campus. Upperclassmen tend to live farther from campus.
- Individuals from the College of Professional Studies live farthest away. Almost 40% live 11 or more miles from the Campus, compared to less than 20% for Arts and Sciences majors, 22% for Education majors and 25% for Business majors.

	On Campus	1-5 miles	6-10 miles	11+ miles
Freshman	26%	38%	15%	20%
Sophomore	14%	45%	19%	22%
Junior	6%	43%	23%	28%
Senior	4%	45%	24%	26%
University	14%	42%	20%	24%

	On Campus	1-5 miles	6-10 miles	11+ miles
CAS	16%	45%	22%	17%
SOB	13%	41%	21%	25%
CPS	11%	35%	16%	38%
COE	11%	45%	21%	22%
University	14%	42%	20%	24%





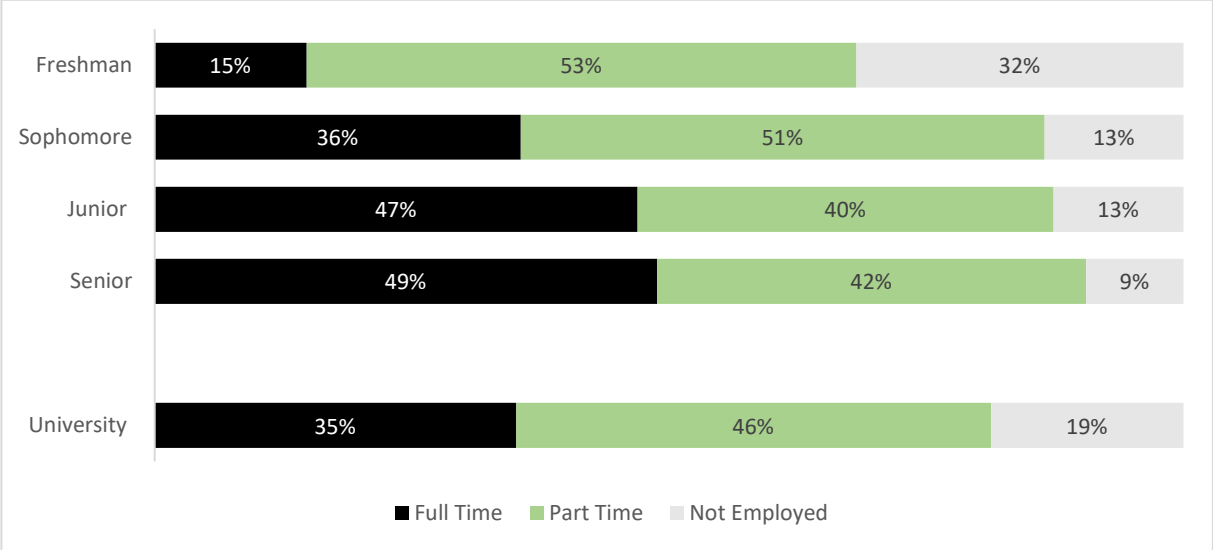
Employment

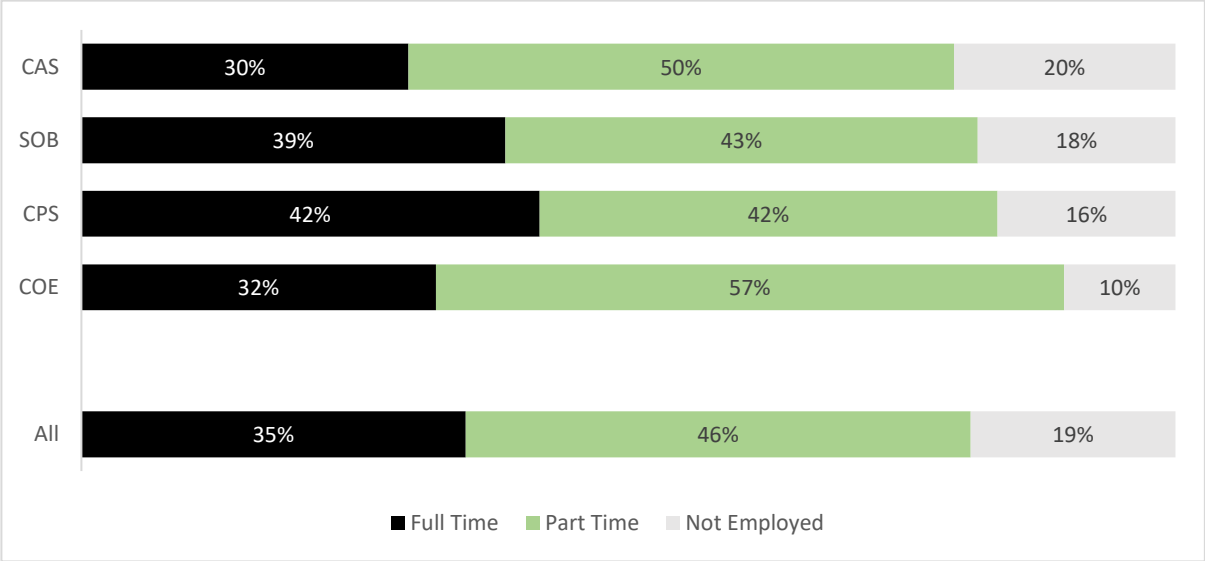
Students responded to several questions about their employment. Key findings include:

- Overall, over 80% of NJCU students are employed; 35% work full time.
- Freshman are less likely than others to work; over 30% of freshman are not employed.
- Over 90% of Education student are employed, whereas almost one-third of students in Arts and Sciences are not employed.

	Full Time	Part Time	Not Employed
Freshman	15%	53%	32%
Sophomore	36%	51%	13%
Junior	47%	40%	13%
Senior	49%	42%	9%
University	35%	46%	19%

	Full Time	Part Time	Not Employed
CAS	30%	50%	20%
SOB	39%	43%	18%
CPS	42%	42%	16%
COE	32%	57%	10%
University	35%	46%	19%





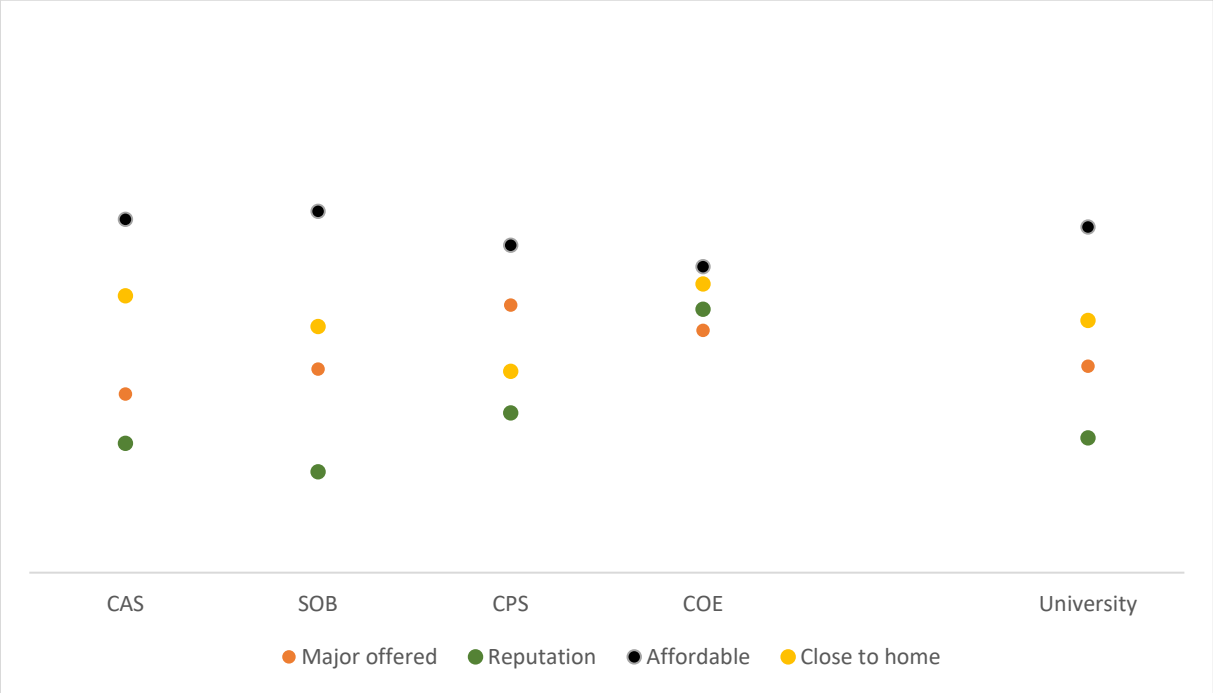
Why NJCU

Students were asked to indicate the reasons they chose NJCU. Multiple reasons were permitted. Key findings include:

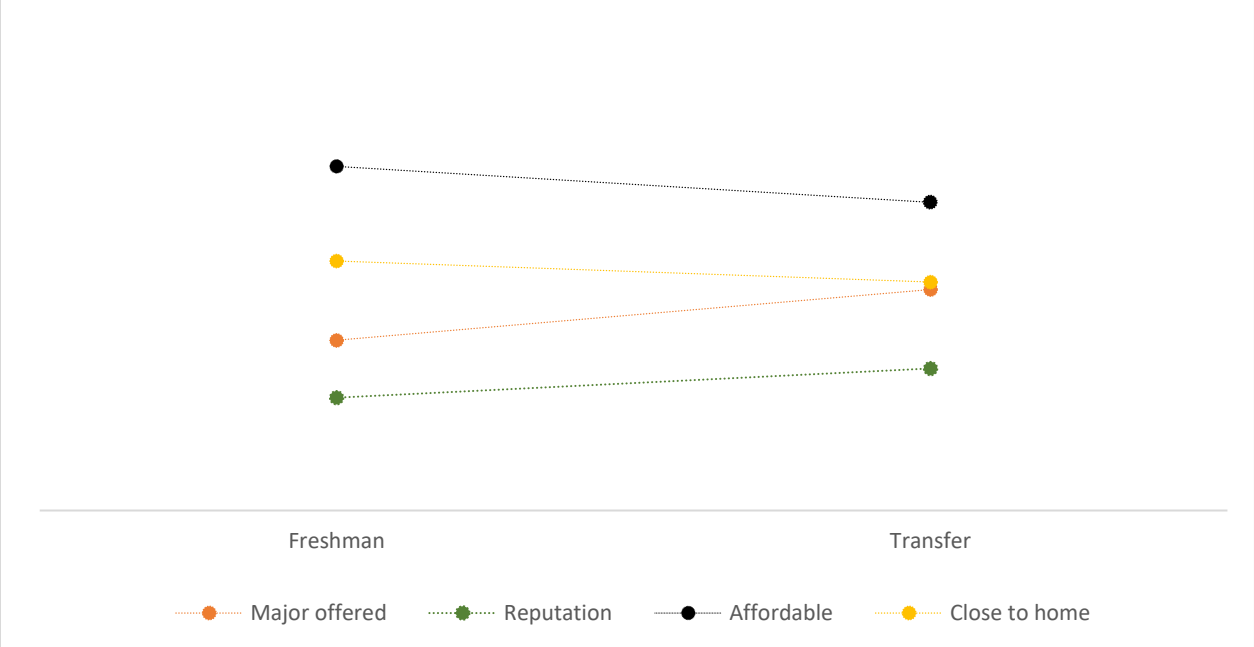
- Affordability is the strongest reason students chose NJCU. This is true for students regardless of class level, college, or admit type.
- Proximity to home was the second most popular reason overall, and for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. In the case of freshmen, location and availability of major were rated of similar importance.
- Reputation was of generally of least importance, selected by 25% of students overall. The one exception is Education students, for whom reputation and major were rated similarly.
- Although the rankings were the same for transfer students and students admitted as freshmen – affordability, close to home, major, and reputation – there were group differences. More freshman focused on affordability and location, and more transfers selected major and reputation.

	Major offered	Reputation	Affordable	Close to home
Freshman	39%	25%	65%	41%
Sophomore	35%	22%	73%	49%
Junior	43%	27%	62%	50%
Senior	35%	24%	61%	50%
University	38%	25%	64%	46%

	Major offered	Reputation	Affordable	Close to home
CAS	33%	24%	65%	51%
SOB	37%	19%	66%	45%
CPS	49%	29%	60%	37%
COE	45%	48%	56%	53%
University	38%	25%	64%	46%



	Major offered	Reputation	Affordable	Close to home
Freshman	34%	22%	68%	49%
Transfer	43%	28%	61%	45%



Scheduling

Students indicated the times that they preferred to take classes. They also indicated any difficulties they have had with registering for classes. Key findings include:

Preferred Class Start Times

- Class start times between 10:00am and 12:30pm are preferred overall, and for students at each class level and in each college.
- Preference for classes starting 4:00pm or later increases as students progress from freshmen to seniors.
- Over one-fifth of junior and senior students would prefer all online courses.
- More students in Professional Studies prefer classes that start from 8:00am through 12:30pm and 1:00pm or later.
- In addition to a 10:00am-12:30pm start time, Education students also prefer start times from 4:00pm – 6:30pm.
- Over one-fourth of Business students seek online courses.

	8am-8:30am	9am-9:30am	10am-12:30pm	1pm-3:30pm	4pm-6:30pm	7pm	Online
Freshman	22%	40%	66%	23%	10%	3%	9%
Sophomore	20%	28%	62%	28%	30%	14%	14%
Junior	15%	24%	44%	22%	31%	24%	21%
Senior	14%	21%	40%	21%	34%	25%	22%
University	18%	29%	53%	23%	25%	16%	16%

	8am-8:30am	9am-9:30am	10am-12:30pm	1pm-3:30pm	4pm-6:30pm	7pm	Online
CAS	13%	26%	57%	26%	29%	14%	12%
SOB	17%	31%	49%	21%	21%	21%	27%
CPS	30%	35%	46%	17%	19%	15%	15%
COE	9%	19%	51%	23%	36%	20%	12%
University	18%	29%	53%	23%	25%	16%	16%

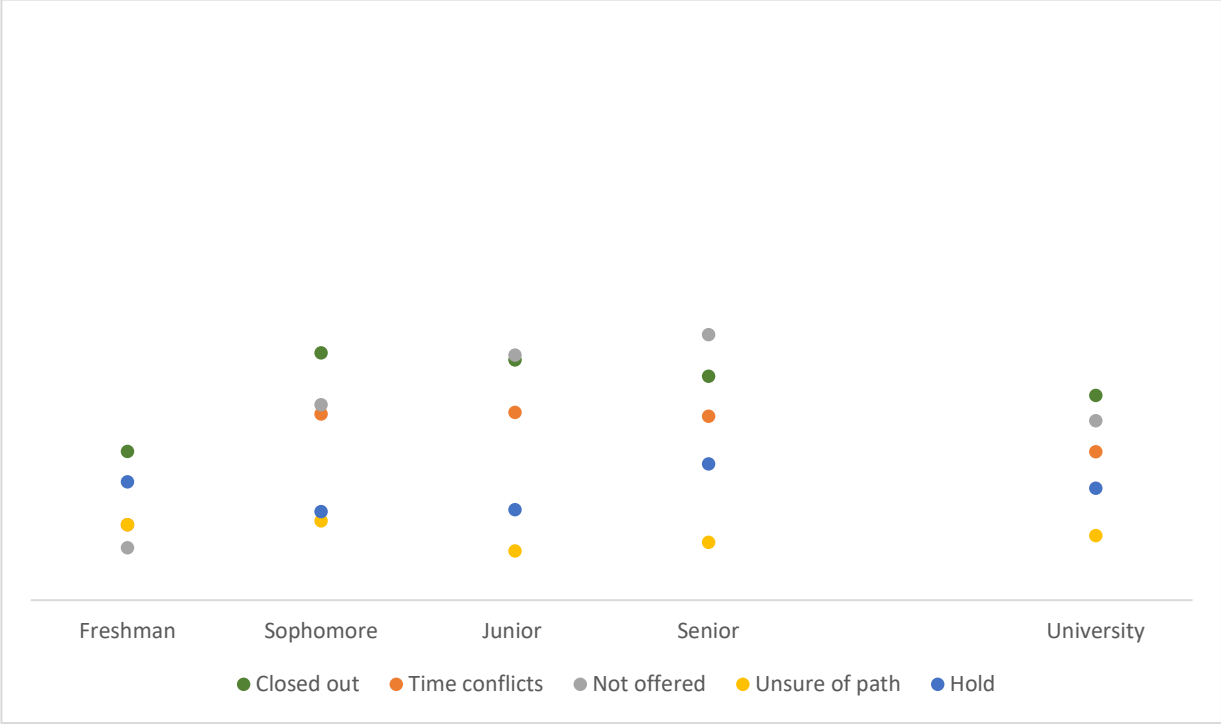
Scheduling Difficulties

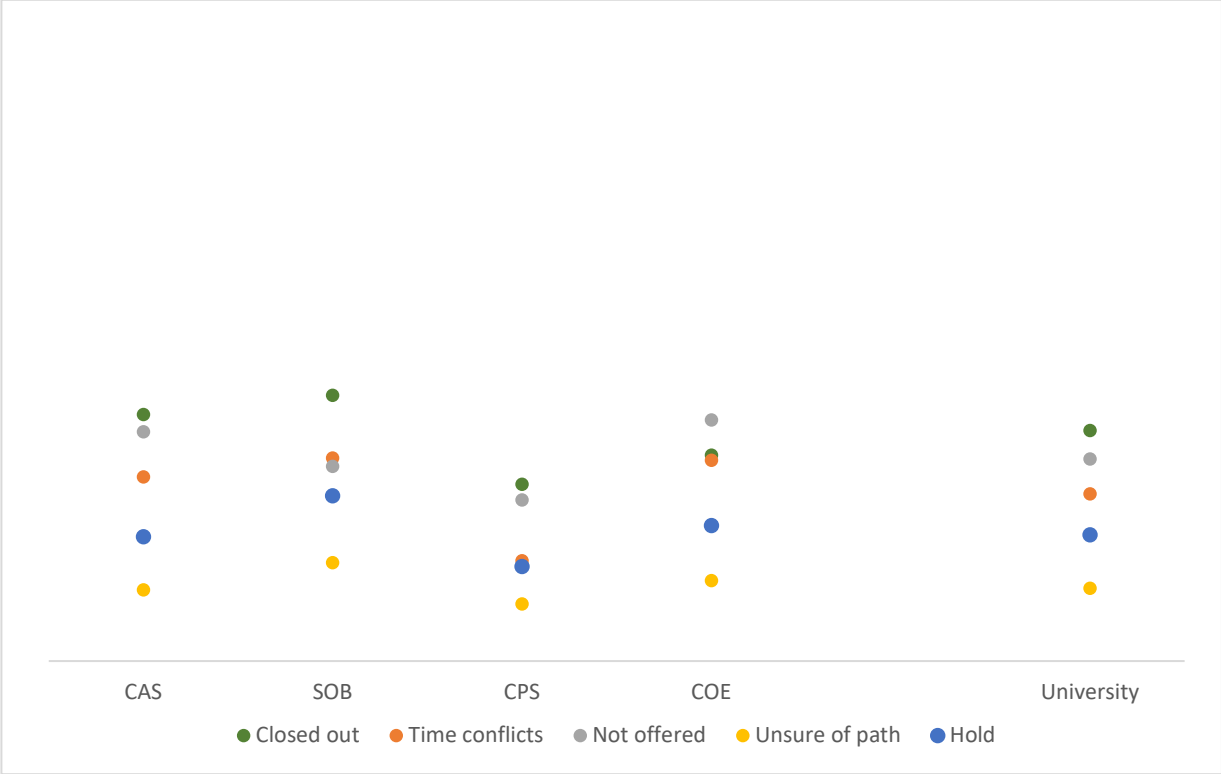
- Almost one-fourth of students indicated that they no problems with their courses; for freshmen it was over one-third. Almost one third for Professional Studies students had no problems.
- The most common difficulties were classes not being offered or being closed out of classes. This is true overall and for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Freshman had trouble with being closed out, but did not encounter instances when a class was not offered.
- Approximately one-third for sophomores, juniors, and seniors experienced time conflicts with required courses.

- By major, being closed out of classes was the largest problem for students in Business. For Arts and Sciences, being closed on out and having classes not offered were cited the most. In Education, classes not being offered were the largest concern.
- Few students were hindered by not knowing what courses to take.
- In the write-in section, 45 students indicated classes being cancelled 'at the last minute' and 68 students mentioned that the time classes were offered were not conducive to their work/life obligations.

	Closed out	Time conflicts	Not offered	Unsure of path	Hold	None
Freshman	26%	13%	9%	13%	21%	34%
Sophomore	43%	33%	34%	14%	16%	19%
Junior	42%	33%	43%	9%	16%	16%
Senior	39%	32%	46%	10%	24%	17%
University	36%	26%	31%	11%	20%	23%

	Closed out	Time conflicts	Not offered	Unsure of path	Hold	None
CAS	38%	29%	36%	11%	19%	21%
SOB	41%	32%	30%	15%	26%	17%
CPS	28%	16%	25%	9%	15%	31%
COE	32%	31%	38%	13%	21%	19%
University	36%	26%	31%	11%	20%	23%





Quality of Experiences

Students rated the quality of their experiences with several offices or departments. Key findings include:

- Two departments – the Library and the Health and Wellness Center – were rated good/excellent by over three-fourths of students.
- Five units had positive ratings below 60% and poor/terrible ratings at least 10%. They are: Student Accounts/Bursar, the Parking Shuttle, Financial Aid, Career Planning and Placement, and Dining Services.
- The University Advising Center also had negative ratings over 10%. However, the Center was also rated positively by almost two-thirds of the respondents.

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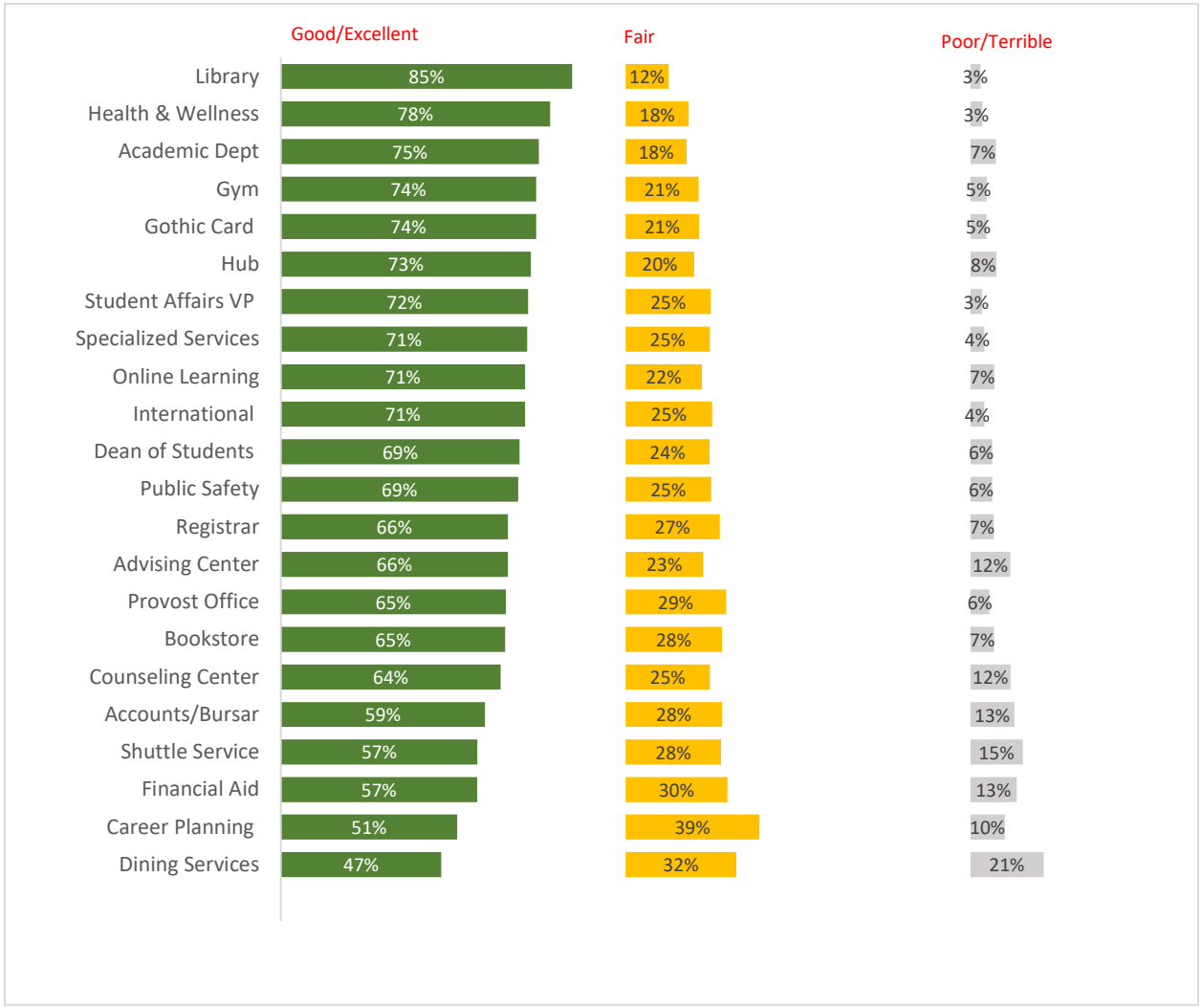

Appendix

	Survey		University
	Responses	Percentage	Percentage
Arts and Sciences	740	52%	51%
Art	72	5%	5%
Biology	152	11%	11%
Chemistry	10	1%	1%
Computer Science	59	4%	5%
Earth and Environmental Science	6	0%	1%
English	49	3%	3%
History	23	2%	2%
Mathematics	26	2%	2%
Media Arts	32	2%	3%
Modern Languages	9	1%	1%
Music, Dance & Theatre	45	3%	3%
Philosophy	3	0%	0%
Physics	5	0%	1%
Political Science	16	1%	1%
Psychology	162	11%	9%
Sociology	67	5%	3%
Women and Gender Studies	4	0%	0%
Business	307	22%	21%
Accounting	96	7%	6%
Economics	5	0%	1%
Finance	43	3%	3%
Management	130	9%	9%
Marketing	33	2%	3%
Professional Studies	327	23%	24%
Criminal Justice	125	9%	9%
Fire Science	10	1%	2%
Health Sciences	51	4%	3%
Nursing	101	7%	6%
Security Studies	40	3%	3%
Education (Co-Major)	128	9%	8%
Undecided	9	1%	1%
Unduplicated Total	1422	100%	100%