

# University of Northern Iowa Graduate Program Survey 2017 – 2018

Report by Megan Vogt-Kostner, Research Analyst  
Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness



# Table of Contents

---

## Overview: Graduate College and Degrees Awarded

---

---

- Page 1** ----- UNI Graduate College Staff
- Page 2** ----- Graduate Degrees Awarded from Summer 2017 – Spring 2018
- Page 3** ----- Demographic Information of Summer 2017 – Spring 2018 Graduates
- Page 4** ----- Number of Degrees Awarded over 5 Years
- Page 5** ----- Number of Degrees Awarded over 5 Years (Breakdown by College)

## Graduate Program Survey

---

---

- Page 6** ----- Survey Methodology
- Page 7** ----- Response Rate with Demographics
- Page 8** ----- Principal Activity and Location After Graduation
- Page 9** ----- Activities Students Engaged in at UNI
- Page 10** ----- Reasons for Going to Graduate School
- Page 11-12** ---- Graduation Education Experience
- Page 13** ----- Paying for a Graduate Education at UNI
- Appendix I** --- Survey Form

# UNI Graduate College Staff

---

**Dr. Patrick Pease**, Interim Dean of the Graduate College

**Dr. Gabriela Olivares**, Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate College

**Susie Schwieger**, Director of Graduate Student Life

**Rubina Chowdhury**, Secretary II

**Lisa Steimel**, Secretary IV

**Janet Witt**, Thesis and Dissertation Reviewer

---

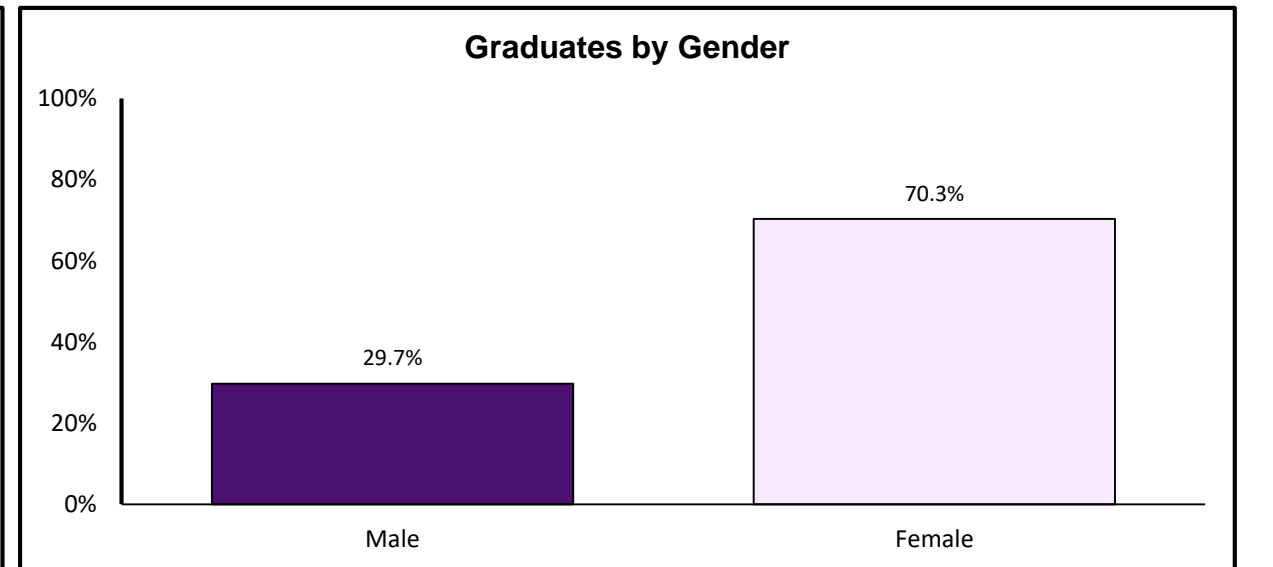
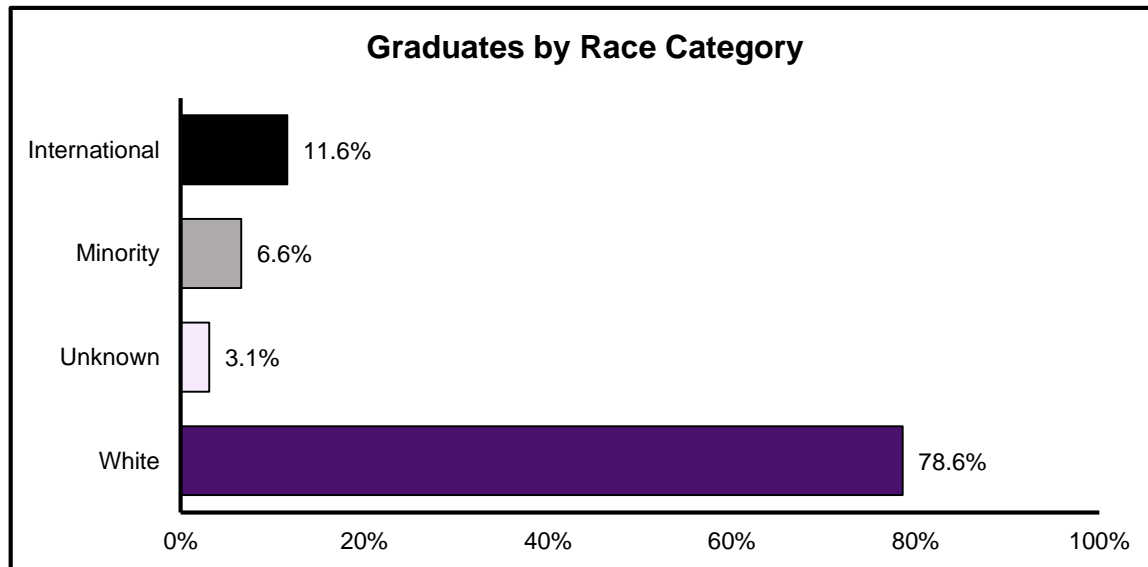
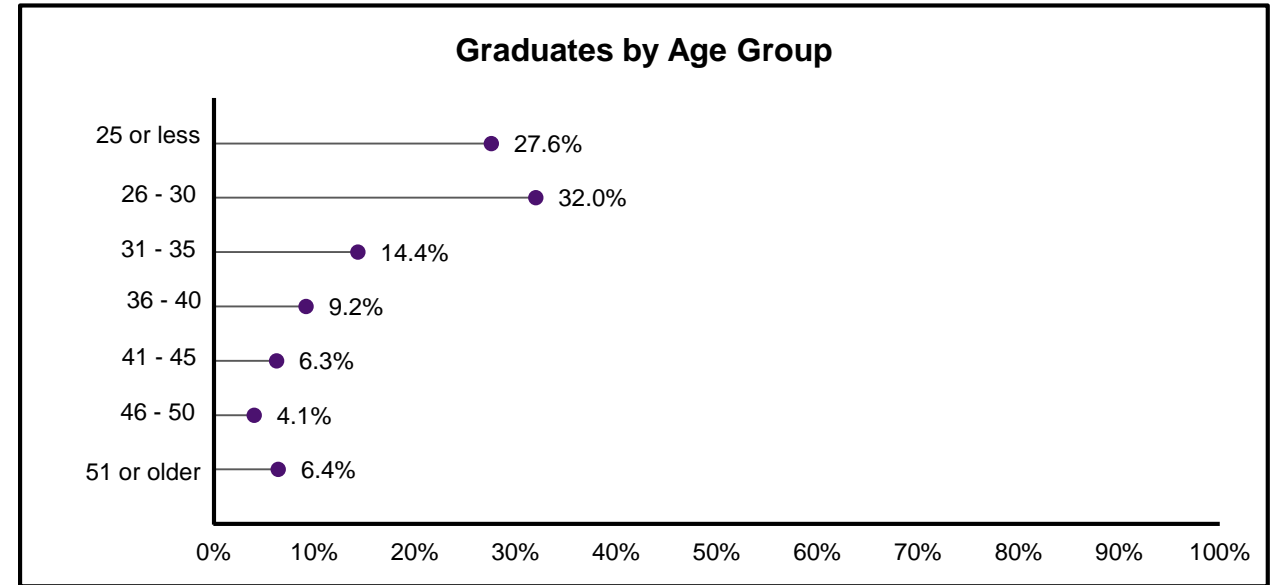


Program	Degree Count	Program	Degree Count	Program	Degree Count
Accounting	18	English: English Studies	3	Piano Performance & Pedagogy	1
Allied Health, Recreation & Community Services	4	English: Literature	2	Post-Secondary Education: Student Affairs	13
Athletic Training	5	English: TESS-Mid/Junior & Senior High	1	Performance: Wind/Percussion/Keyboard/String	7
Biology	7	Geography	9	Principalship	22
Business Administration	37	History	9	Psychology: Clinical Science	2
Communication Studies: Mass Communication	1	Health Education: Community Health Education	2	Psychology: Social Psychology	3
Communication Studies: Organizational Communication	2	Health Education: Health Promotion/Fitness Management	2	Public Policy	11
Communication Studies: Public Relations	1	Industrial Mathematics	3	School Library Studies	9
Communication Studies: Performance Studies	1	Instructional Technology	10	Science Education: Physics Education	1
Community Health Education	1	Jazz Pedagogy	2	Science Education	9
Conducting	2	Leisure, Youth & Human Services	12	Social Science	13
Counseling: Clinical Mental Health	9	Literacy Education	3	Special Education: Consultant	2
Counseling: School Counseling	11	Math for the Middle Grades 4-8	7	Special Education: Field Specialization	8
Doctor of Industrial Technology	1	Mathematics: Community College Teaching	14	Special Education	1
Early Childhood Education	5	Mathematics: Math Emphasis	2	Speech - Language Pathology	52
Educational Psychology: Context & Techniques Assessment	6	Mathematics: Secondary Teaching	13	Social Work	38
Educational Psychology: School Psychology	7	Music Education	6	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages	18
Educational Psychology: Professional Development for Teachers	11	Performance: Voice	8	Teacher Leadership International Educators	26
Education (Curriculum & Instruction)	9	Philanthropy/Nonprofit Development	15	Teaching English in Secondary Schools	17
Education (Leadership)	5	Physical Education: Kinesiology	8	Technology	5
English: Creative Writing	3	Physical Education: Teaching - Pedagogy	2	Women's and Gender Studies	6

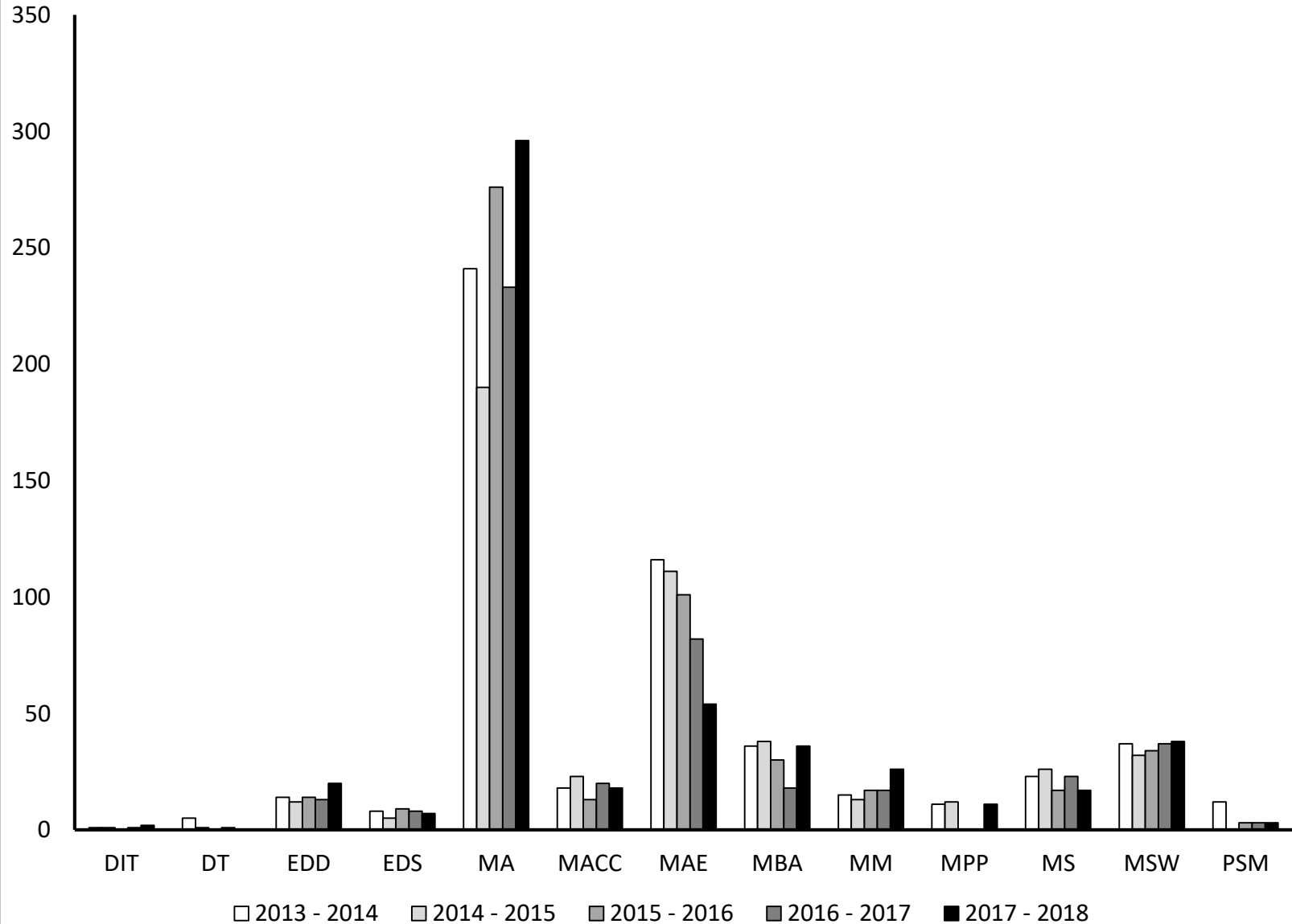
**Total Degrees Awarded from Summer 2017 – Spring 2018: 543**

# 2017 – 2018 Graduates

Graduation Date	
Summer 2017	173 (31.9%)
Fall 2017	169 (31.1%)
Spring 2018	201 (37.0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>543</b>



**Degrees Awarded: 5-Year Comparison**



	13 – 14	14 – 15	15 – 16	16 – 17	17 – 18
DIT	1 (0.2%)	1 (0.2%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.2%)	1 (0.2%)
DT	5 (0.9%)	1 (0.2%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.2%)	0 (0.0%)
EDD	14 (2.6%)	12 (2.6%)	14 (2.6%)	13 (2.9%)	22 (4.1%)
EDS	8 (1.5%)	5 (1.1%)	9 (1.7%)	8 (1.8%)	7 (1.3%)
MA	242 (44.8%)	190 (40.9%)	286 (54.1%)	233 (51.1%)	306 (56.4%)
MACC	18 (3.3%)	23 (4.9%)	13 (2.5%)	20 (4.4%)	18 (3.3%)
MAE	118 (21.9%)	112 (24.1%)	106 (20.0%)	82 (18.0%)	57 (10.5%)
MBA	36 (6.7%)	38 (8.2%)	30 (5.7%)	18 (3.9%)	37 (6.8%)
MM	15 (2.8%)	13 (2.8%)	17 (3.2%)	17 (3.7%)	26 (4.8%)
MPP	11 (2.0%)	12 (2.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	11 (2.0%)
MS	23 (4.3%)	26 (5.6%)	17 (3.2%)	23 (5.0%)	17 (3.1%)
MSW	37 (6.9%)	32 (6.9%)	34 (6.4%)	37 (8.1%)	38 (7.0%)
PSM	12 (2.2%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (0.6%)	3 (0.7%)	3 (0.6%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>543</b>

### Degrees Awarded: 5-Year Comparison – Breakdown by College



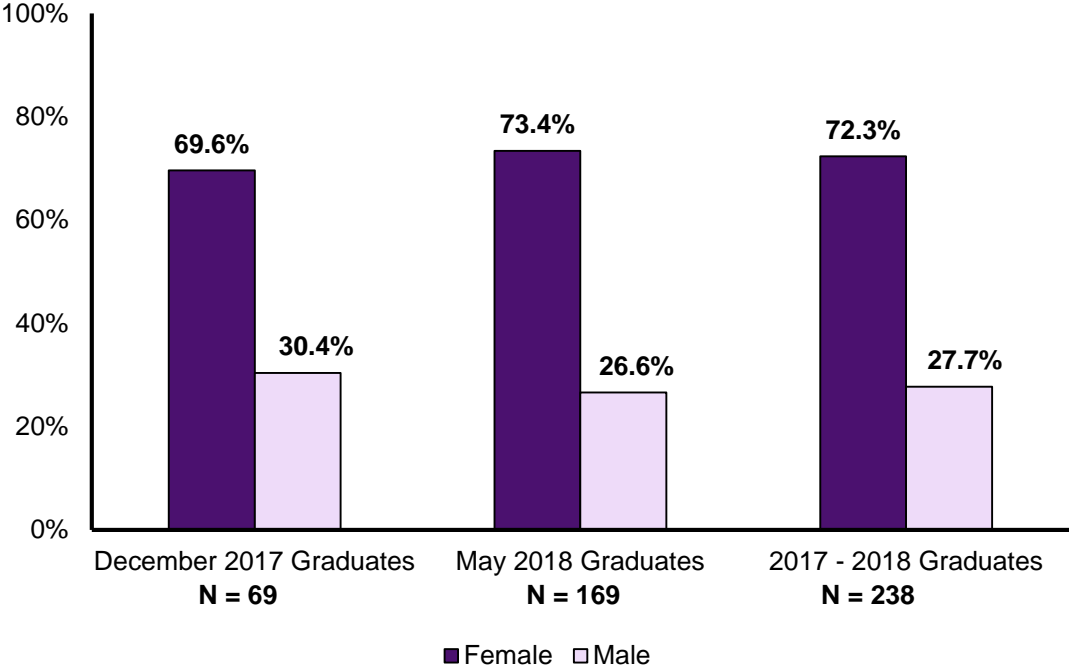
	2013 – 2014	2014 – 2015	2015 – 2016	2016 – 2017	2017 – 2018
College of Business Administration (CBA)	54 (10.0%)	61 (13.1%)	43 (8.1%)	38 (8.3%)	55 (10.1%)
College of Education (COE)	193 (35.7%)	182 (39.1%)	213 (40.3%)	194 (42.5%)	173 (31.9%)
College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences (CHAS)	176 (32.6%)	122 (26.2%)	173 (32.7%)	146 (32.0%)	195 (35.9%)
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences (CSBS)	104 (19.3%)	100 (21.5%)	84 (15.9%)	77 (16.9%)	105 (19.3%)
Interdisciplinary	13 (2.4%)	0 (0.0%)	16 (3.0%)	1 (0.2%)	15 (2.8%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>543</b>

# Graduate Program Survey | Survey Methodology

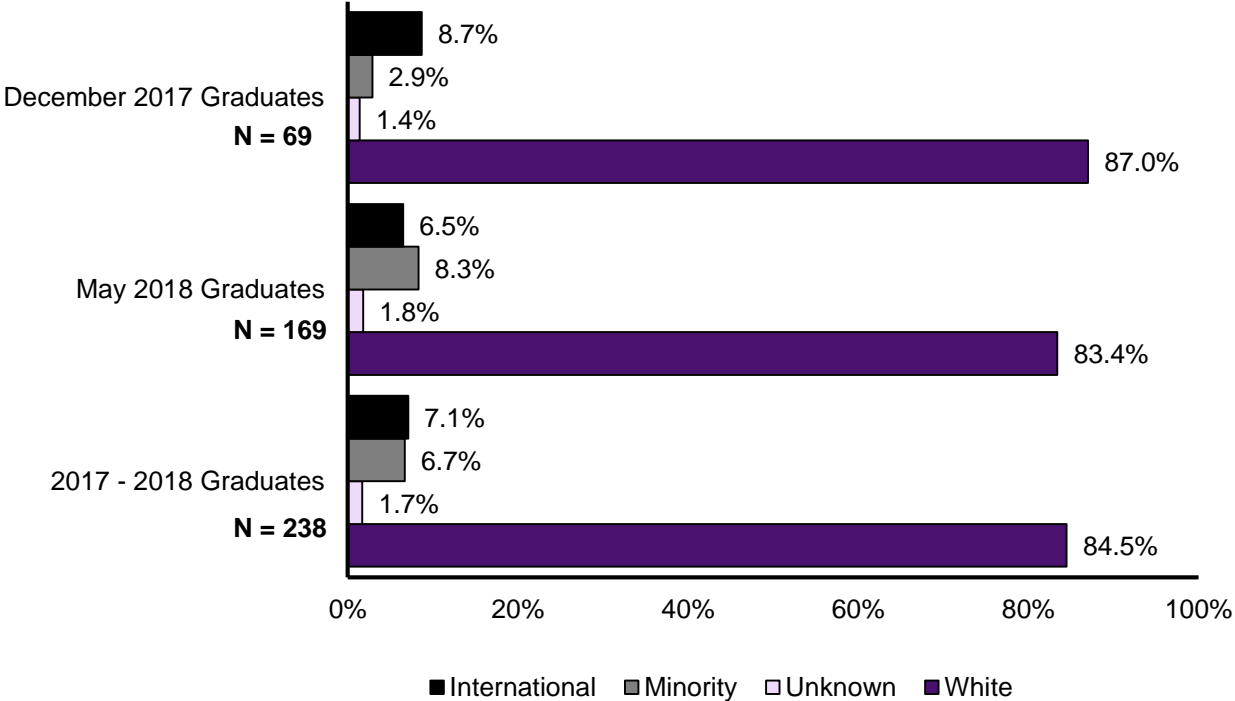
In 2017-2018, the Graduate Program Survey was administered by the University of Northern Iowa’s Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness using the online survey tool, Qualtrics. The purpose of the study was to gain feedback about the educational experiences of UNI graduates. The survey results help the university provide a better graduate experience for future students.

The survey was e-mailed to all graduate students who were eligible to graduate in Fall 2017, Spring 2018 or Summer 2018. These students received a campus email starting approximately one month prior to graduation. Students were sent an invitation e-mail along with several reminders to complete the survey. In December 2017, 125 students were eligible for graduation with 69 students (55.2%) completing the survey. In May 2018, 270 students were eligible for graduation, this includes both spring and summer graduates, with 169 students (62.6%) completing the survey. Overall, 238 students completed the survey with a 60.3% response rate.

**Response Rate by Gender**



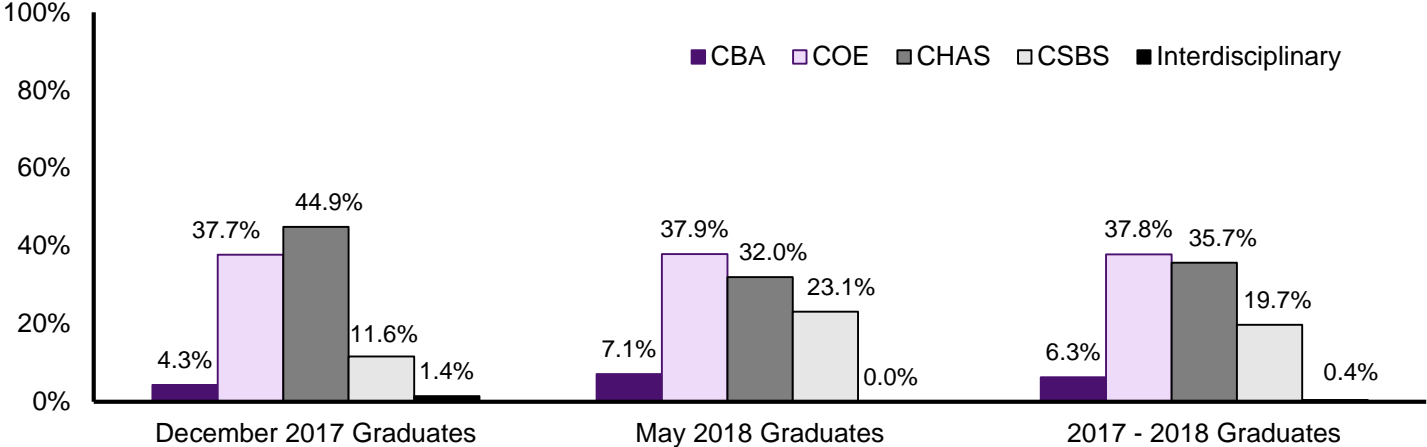
**Response Rate by Race Category**





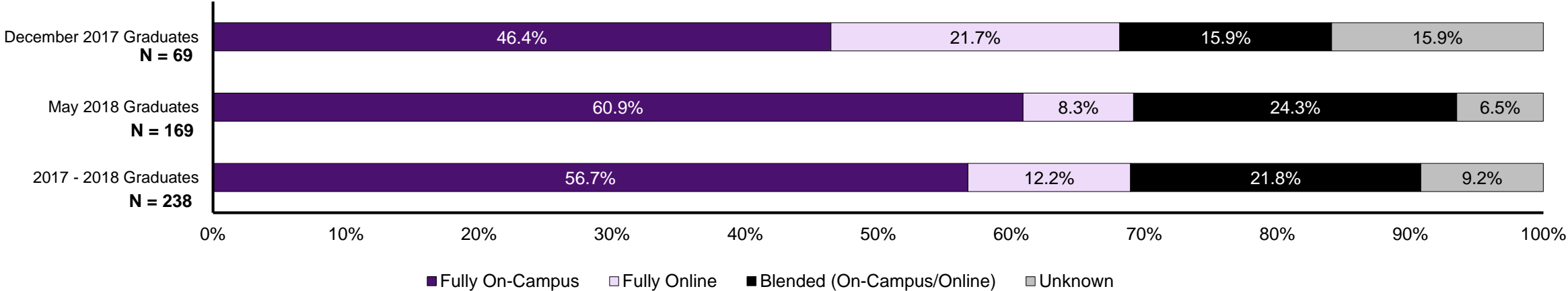
# Graduate Program Survey | Response Rate with Demographics

**Response Rate by College**



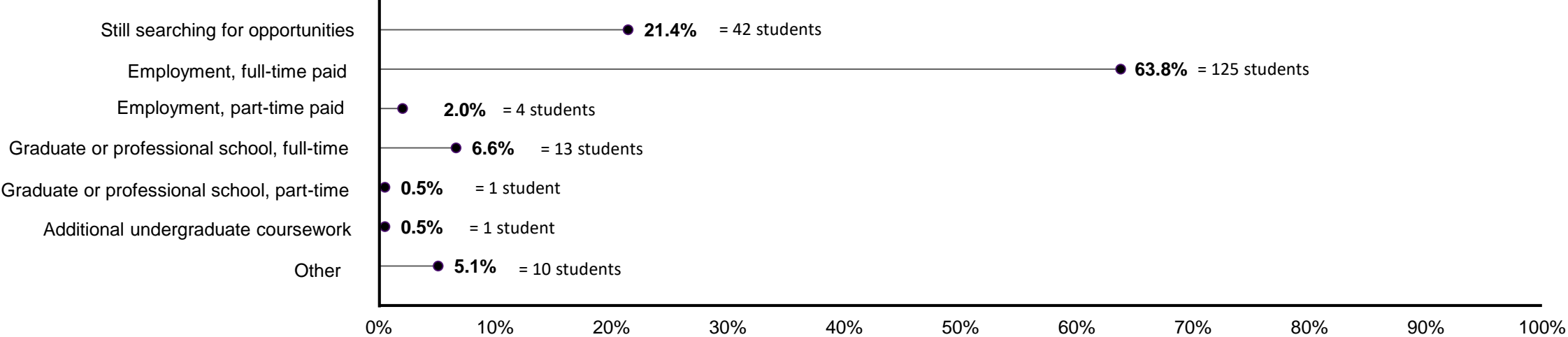
	Dec 2017	May 2018	2017 -2018
Business Admin (CBA)	3 (4.3%)	12 (7.1%)	15 (6.3%)
Education (COE)	26 (37.7%)	64 (37.9%)	90 (37.8%)
Humanities, Arts & Science (CHAS)	31 (44.9%)	54 (32.0%)	85 (35.7%)
Social & Behavioral Science (CSBS)	8 (11.6%)	39 (23.1%)	47 (19.7%)
Interdisciplinary	1 (1.4%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>238</b>

**Types of programs students were involved in:**

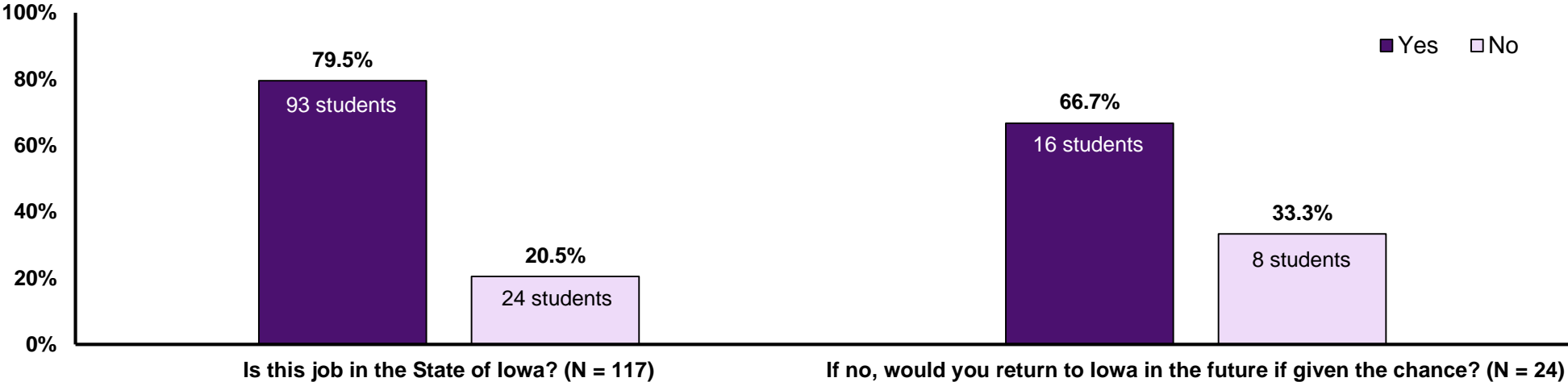


# Graduate Program Survey | Principal Activity and Location After Graduation

What is most likely to be your **PRINCIPAL** plan upon graduation from UNI? (N = 196)

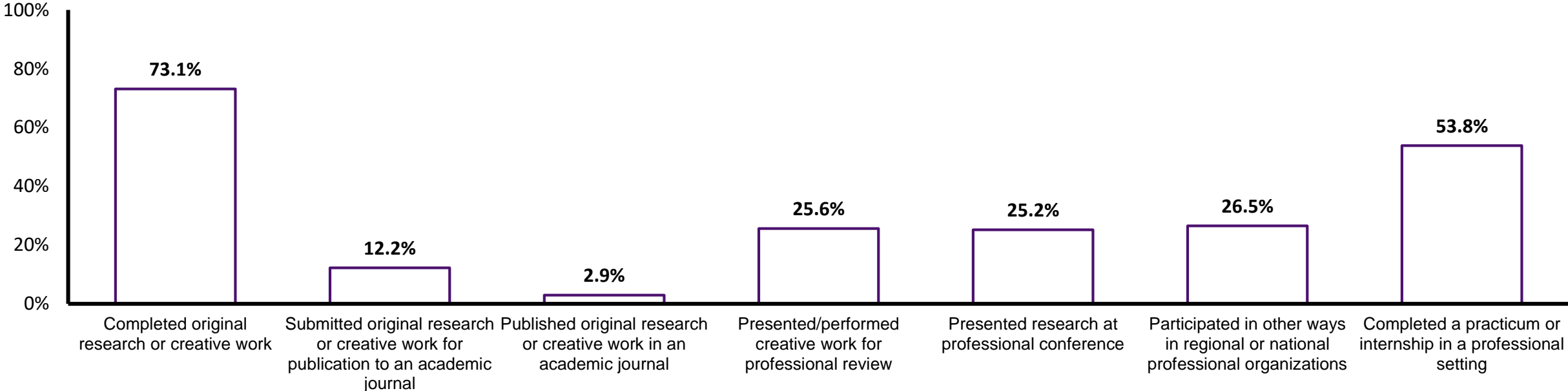


If students chose employment as their principal activity following graduation, they were asked the following questions:



# Graduate Program Survey | Activities Students Engaged in at UNI

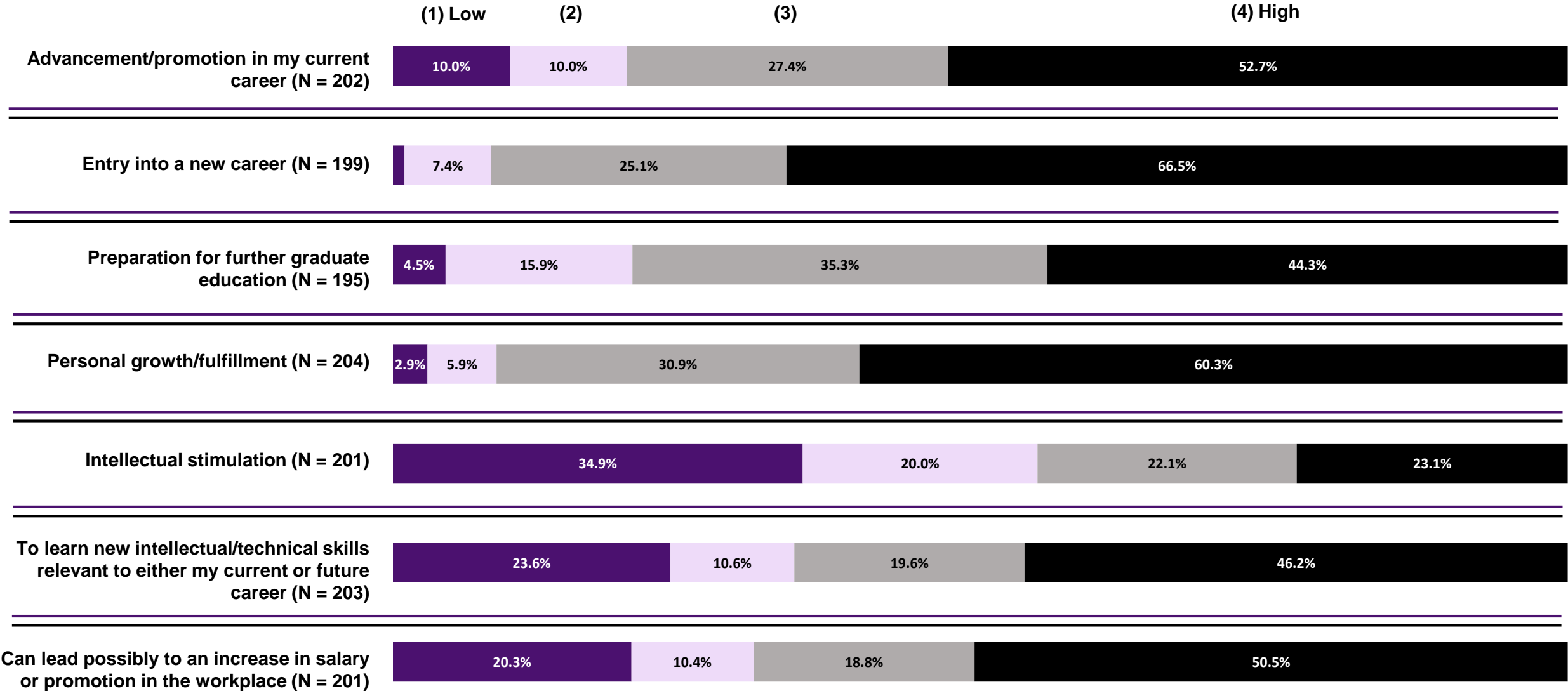
Activities students participated in during their graduate education at UNI. (N = 238)



Completed original research or creative work	174 (73.1%)
Submitted original research or creative work for publication to an academic journal	29 (12.2%)
Published original research or creative work in an academic journal	7 (2.9%)
Presented/performed creative work for professional review	61 (25.6%)
Presented research at professional conference	60 (25.2%)
Participated in other ways in regional or national professional organizations	63 (26.5%)
Completed a practicum or internship in a professional setting	128 (53.8%)

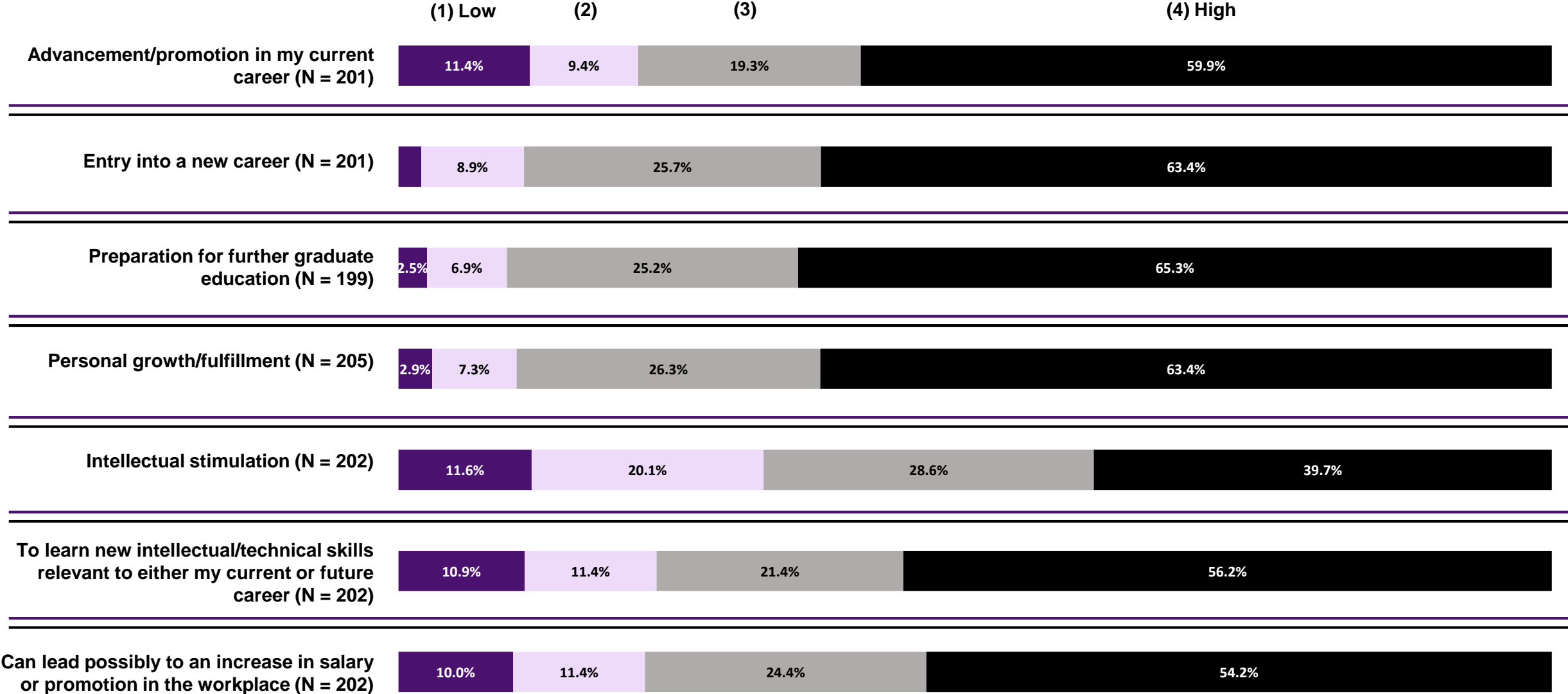
# Graduate Program Survey | Reasons for Going to Graduate School

Select the reasons why you decided to attend graduate school:



# Graduate Program Survey | Graduate Education Experience

Please indicate your level of confidence that your graduate experience at UNI will help you achieve the following goals:



# Graduate Program Survey | Graduate Education Experience

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

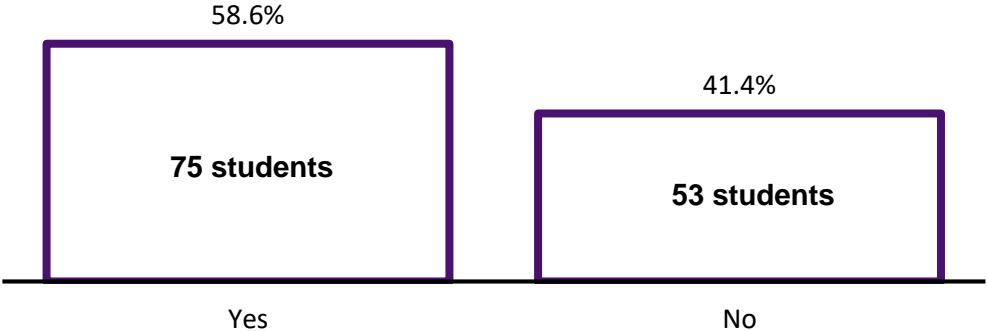
	N	Strongly Disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Agree (3)	Strongly Agree (4)	Not Sure	Mean*
Most of the graduate courses I took at UNI were intellectually demanding.	201	3 (1.5%)	11 (5.5%)	88 (43.8%)	99 (49.3%)	0 (0.0%)	3.41
Most of the graduate instructors were intellectually stimulating.	200	3 (1.5%)	11 (5.5%)	85 (42.5%)	101 (50.5%)	0 (0.0%)	3.42
My graduate learning experience was cumulative over a series of courses in my program.	201	3 (1.5%)	9 (4.5%)	71 (35.3%)	112 (55.7%)	6 (3.0%)	3.50
The overall quality of graduate teaching at UNI is excellent.	200	4 (2.0%)	11 (5.5%)	89 (44.5%)	95 (47.5%)	1 (0.5%)	3.38
The faculty in my graduate program were committed to advancing student learning.	201	5 (2.5%)	5 (2.5%)	64 (31.8%)	123 (61.2%)	4 (2.0%)	3.55
At least one graduate faculty member showed an active interest in my education/career goals.	201	1 (0.5%)	4 (2.0%)	36 (17.9%)	151 (75.1%)	9 (4.5%)	3.76
Most of my courses in my graduate program were readily available when I wanted to take them.	201	3 (1.5%)	11 (5.5%)	67 (33.3%)	110 (54.7%)	10 (5.0%)	3.49
The UNI community encourages the examination of diverse/controversial ideas in its graduate programs.	201	4 (2.0%)	7 (3.5%)	87 (43.3%)	95 (47.3%)	8 (4.0%)	3.41
I believe I have received a high-quality graduate education from UNI.	199	4 (2.0%)	8 (4.0%)	65 (32.7%)	116 (58.3%)	6 (3.0%)	3.52
I experienced a strong sense of community with other students in the program.	201	7 (3.5%)	13 (6.5%)	76 (37.8%)	98 (48.8%)	7 (3.5%)	3.37
I would recommend my graduate program to a prospective graduate student.	200	8 (4.0%)	11 (5.5%)	52 (26.0%)	116 (58.0%)	13 (6.5%)	3.48
Because of my experience at UNI, I intend to be involved in volunteer service after graduation.	201	18 (9.0%)	42 (20.9%)	70 (34.8%)	26 (12.9%)	45 (22.4%)	2.67

\*Students who responded "Not Sure" to any of the statements above were removed from the mean score calculation.

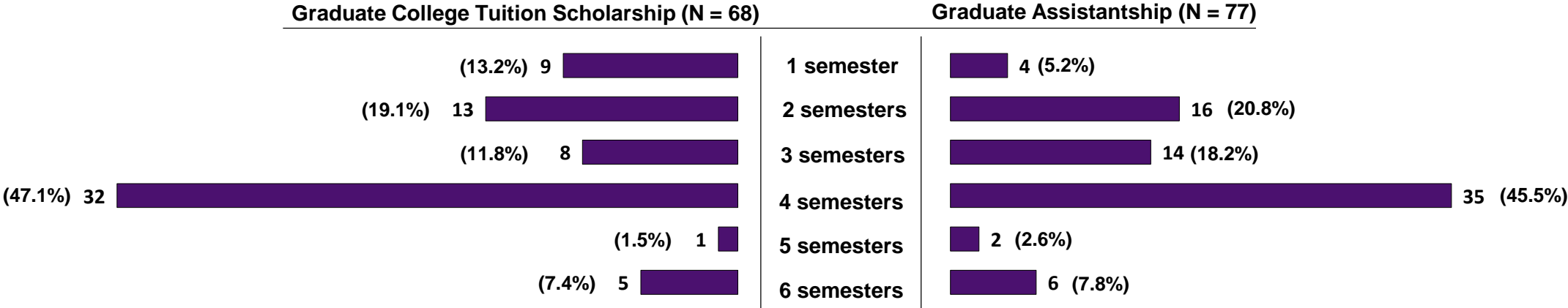
# Graduate Program Survey | Paying for a Graduate Education at UNI

How did you finance your graduate education? (N = 238)	
Financial Aid	86 (36.1%)
Employer Reimbursement	18 (7.6%)
Loans (public and private)	76 (31.9%)
Graduate College Tuition Scholarship	68 (28.6%)
Graduate College Assistantship(s)	77 (32.4%)
Other Scholarships	38 (16.0%)
Self-Financed	118 (49.6%)
Other	16 (6.7%)

## Did you receive a Graduate Assistantship? (N = 128)



## How many semesters were you awarded the following:



---

---

# Appendix A

---

---



## Graduate Program Survey

---

**CONGRATULATIONS on your graduation! Thank you for completing this survey. Your responses will be used for graduate program improvement and will not be linked in any way to your records. Individual responses to this survey will be confidential. Survey findings will be reported in aggregate only.**

### Background Information

---

#### Student Information

Student Name:

Student ID:

Types of program you were in:

- Fully On-Campus (Face-to-Face)
- Fully Online
- Blended (Online/Some On-Campus)

Name of program:

#### Scholarly and Academic Activities

---

Please mark each of the following activities that you participated in during your graduate education at UNI.

- Completed original research or creative work
- Submitted original research or creative work for publication to an academic journal
- Published original research or creative work in an academic journal
- Presented/performed creative work for professional review (recital, reading, etc.)
- Presented research at professional conference
- Participated in other ways in regional or national professional organizations (leadership positions, membership, etc.)
- Completed a practicum or internship in a professional setting

**Below are some reasons for going to graduate school. Select the reason why you decided to attend UNI for your graduate education.**

	(Low) 1	2	3	4 (High)
Advancement or promotion in my current career				
Entry into a new career				
Preparation for further graduate education				
Personal growth/fulfillment				
Intellectual stimulation				
To learn new intellectual/technical skills relevant to either my current or future career				
Can lead possibly to an increase in salary or promotion in the workplace				

**Please indicate your level of confidence that your graduate experience at UNI will help you achieve the following goals:**

	(Low) 1	2	3	4 (High)
Advancement or promotion in my current career				
Entry into a new career				
Preparation for further graduate education				
Personal growth/fulfillment				
Intellectual stimulation				
To learn new intellectual/technical skills relevant to either my current or future career				
Required for entry to work in desired field				

**Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Sure
Most of the graduate courses I took at UNI were intellectually demanding					
Most of my graduate instructors were intellectually stimulating					
My graduate learning experience was cumulative over a series of courses in my program					
The overall quality of graduate teaching at UNI is excellent					
The faculty in my graduate program were committed to advancing student learning					
At least one graduate faculty member showed an active interest in my educational/career goals					
Most of my courses in my graduate program were readily available when I wanted to take them					
The UNI community encourages the examination of diverse and controversial ideas in its graduate programs					
Because of my experiences at UNI, I intend to be involved in volunteer service after graduation					
I believe I have received a high quality graduate education from UNI					
I experienced a strong sense of community with other students in the program					
I would recommend my graduate program to a prospective graduate student					

Did you receive a graduate assistantship award?

- Yes
- No

If yes, how did the assistantship contribute to your graduate educational experiences with regard to professional development?

How did you finance your graduate education?

- Please select all that apply:
- Financial Aid
- Self-Financed
- Employer Reimbursement
- Loans (public and private)
- Graduate College Tuition Scholarship
- Graduate College Assistantship(s)
- Other Scholarships
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

How many semesters were you awarded a Graduate College Tuition Scholarship?



How many semester were you awarded a Graduate College Assistantship?



## Plans following graduation

What is MOST LIKELY to be your PRINCIPAL activity upon graduation from UNI?

- Still searching for opportunities
- Employment, full-time paid
- Employment, part-time paid
- Graduate or professional school, full-time
- Graduate or professional school, part-time
- Additional undergraduate coursework
- Military service
- Volunteer activity
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

## Employment Information

Job Title:

Name of Employing Organization:

City:

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Start Date:

Annual Salary Range (\$)

- Under \$30,000
- \$30,000 - \$50,000
- \$50,000 - \$75,000
- \$75,000 - \$100,000
- Over \$100,000

Is this job in the state of Iowa?

- Yes
- No

Would you return to Iowa in the future if given the chance?

- Yes
- No

## Plans for Further Education

---

What are your continuing education plans?

- Accepted to another graduate/professional program
- Currently applying to programs, not yet accepted

Which best describes your educational status?

- Full-time
- Part-time

Please provide the following:

Institution Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City:

State:

Degree Program:

Start Date:

Degree Level Sought:

## Additional Information

---

Please list the name(s) of any faculty members who have had a positive influence on your development as a graduate student at UNI.

Please list the name(s) of any staff members who have had a positive influence on your development as a graduate student at UNI.

NOTE: By clicking the arrow right, you will be completed with the survey. You are allowed to go back and change any answers before you submit, but after clicking the arrow right, you will have submitted this survey.