

# BAYLOR

UNIVERSITY

IRT Series

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## Enrolled Students Survey, Spring 2016

### Background

Student-centered, data-driven decision-making has become embedded in the ethos at Baylor University. One of the means of supporting this ethos is a commitment to soliciting input from students in a manner that enables the institution's decision-makers to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of curricular and co-curricular programs. As part of this process, the *Enrolled Student Survey* is administered to all undergraduate students in their Spring semester every three years. A total of 13,033 undergraduate students were invited to complete the survey. Of this total, 2,934 responded for a response rate of 22.5%. It should be noted that not all students responded to all items on the survey.

### Results

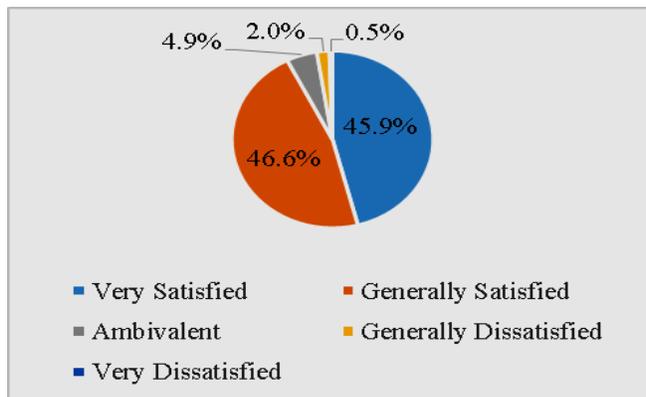
#### General Findings

- **Students expressed a great deal of satisfaction with (above 90% said *very satisfied* or *generally satisfied*)** overall quality of instruction, opportunities for class discussion, out of class availability of faculty, campus recreational facilities, computer resources and support, opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities, and level of intellectual excitement on campus.
- **Areas where students expressed there was room for improvement (more than 20% of respondents said *dissatisfied* or *very dissatisfied*)** included course availability, administration's responsiveness to student concerns, and opportunities to interact with people from different racial or socioeconomic backgrounds.

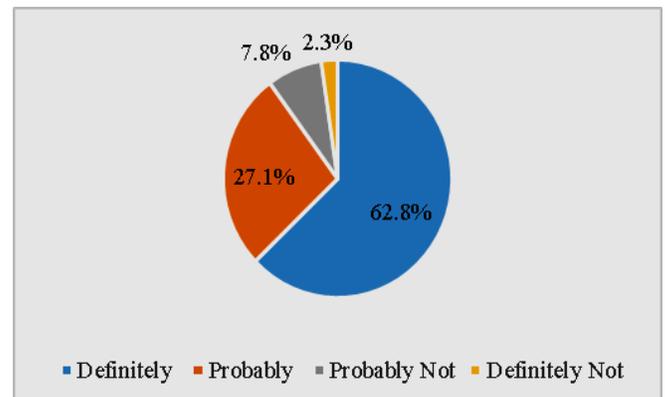
#### Overall Satisfaction

- The majority of students (**92.5%,  $n = 2,715$** ) indicated that they were satisfied with their undergraduate education so far.

Overall, how satisfied are you with your undergraduate education so far?

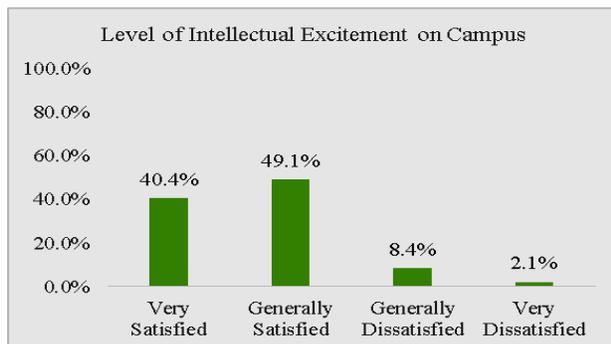
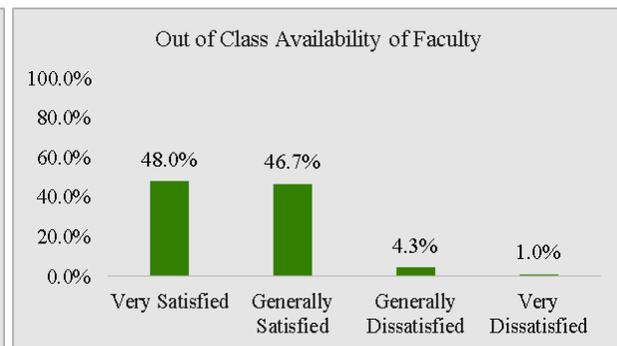
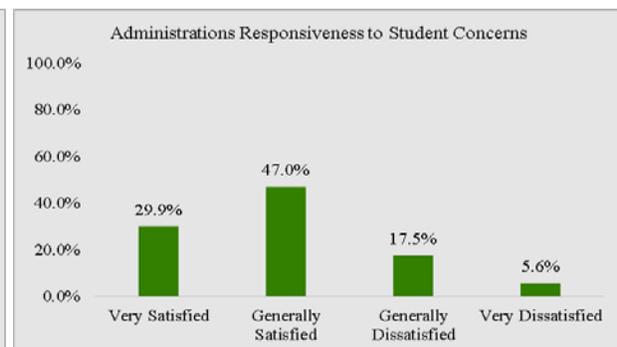
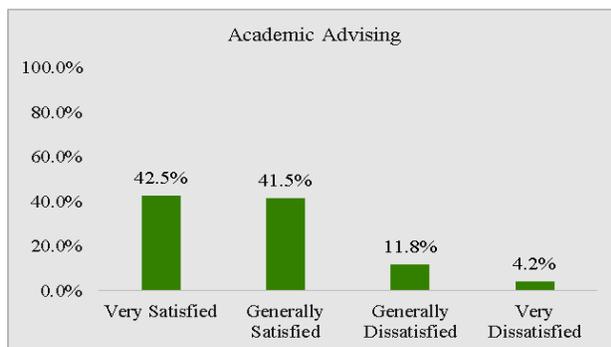
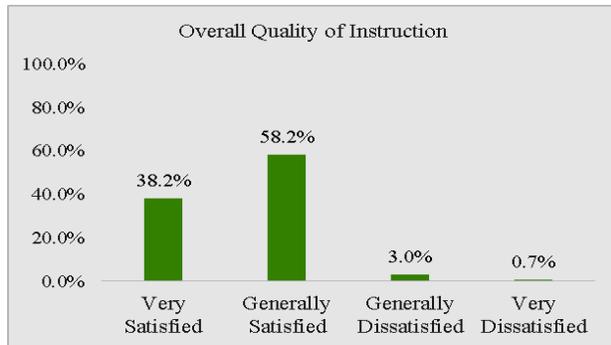


If you could start all over again, would you attend Baylor University?



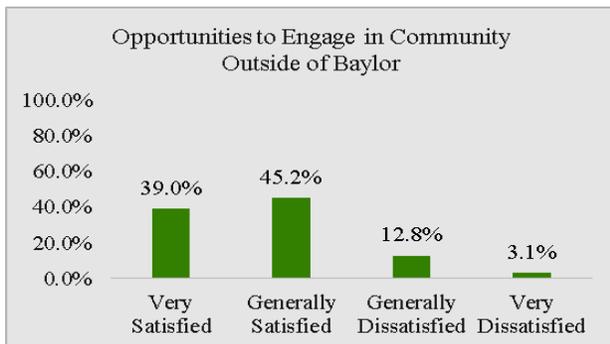
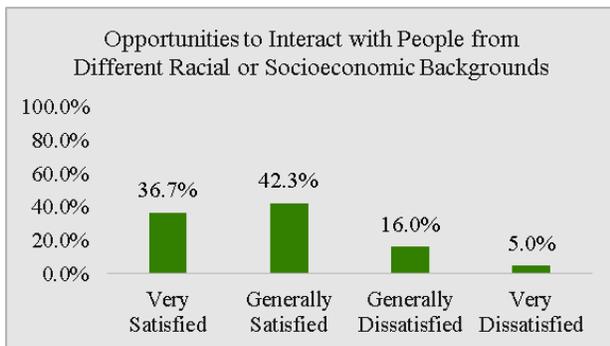
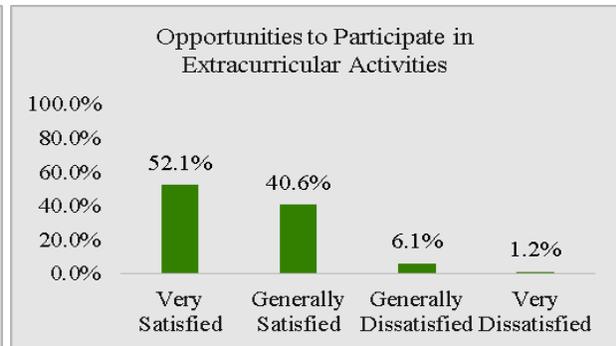
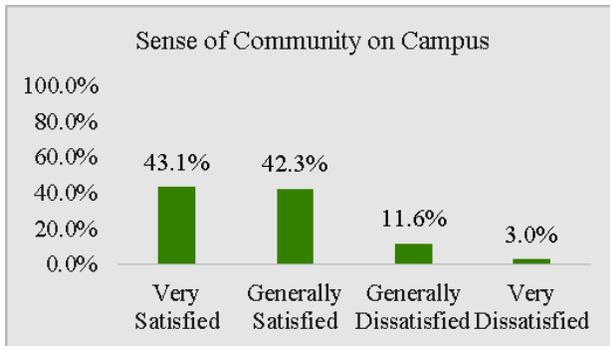
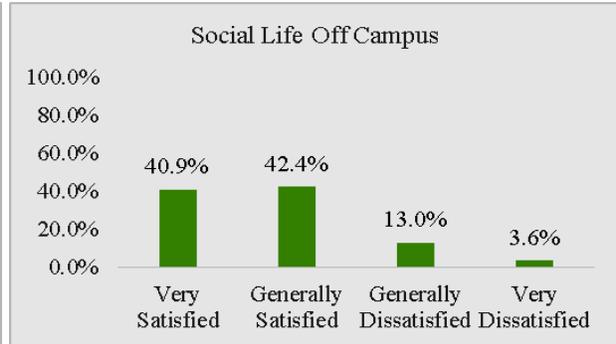
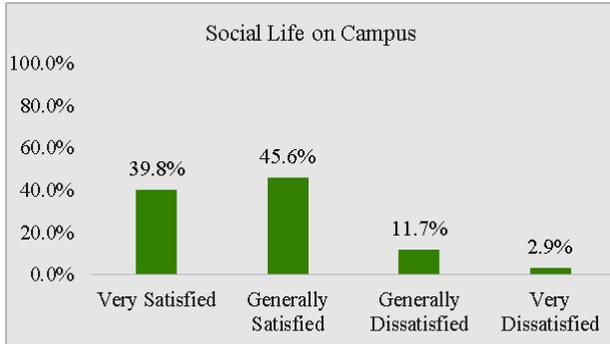
## Satisfaction with Academic Experience During Current Academic Year

- When asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with specific areas of their undergraduate experience during the current academic year, the following results were obtained:



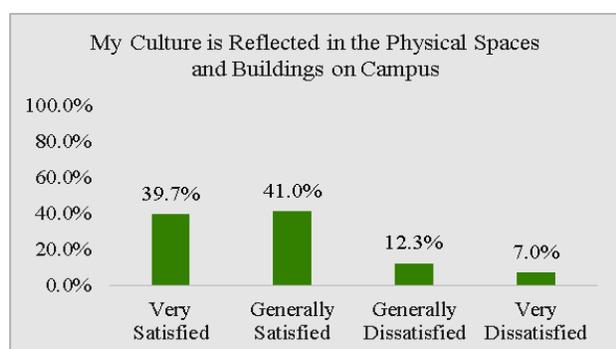
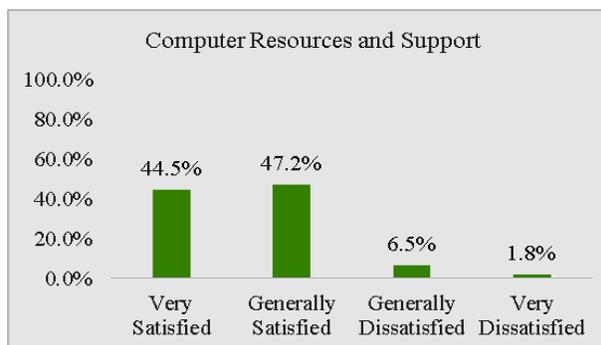
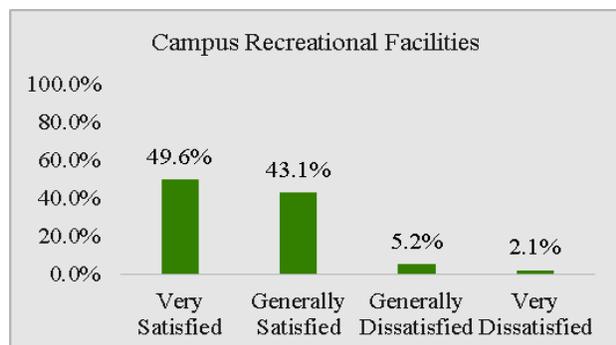
**Satisfaction with Quality of Campus Life During Current Academic Year**

When asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with specific areas of their undergraduate experience during the current academic year, the following results were obtained



### Satisfaction with Campus Services and Facilities During Current Academic Year

When asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with specific areas of their undergraduate experience during the current academic year, the following results were obtained



### What They Have Done or Plan to Do

- Students were asked to indicate certain activities that they have done or plan to do during their time at Baylor. The following results were obtained

Activities	Done	Plan to Do
Prepare a thesis, honors or other significant research	18.1% (n = 483)	31.4% (n = 839)
Conduct research with a faculty member	11.9% (n = 318)	22.7% (n = 605)
<b>Have an internship</b>	<b>26.0%</b> (n = 694)	<b>54.6%</b> (n = 1,459)
Study abroad	14.3% (n = 380)	28.1% (n = 750)
Participate in a service or community-based learning course or program	38.6% (n = 1,030)	23.3% (n = 621)
Engage in a leadership development workshop, seminar, class etc.	35.1% (n = 937)	21.5% (n = 575)
Hold an on-campus job	36.5% (n = 975)	18.7% (n = 499)
<b>Volunteer in the community, not as part of a course</b>	<b>65.3%</b> (n = 1,612)	<b>20.4%</b> (n = 504)
<b>Hold a leadership role on-or off - campus</b>	<b>52.0%</b> (n = 1,284)	<b>26.1%</b> (n = 643)
Participate in politics beyond voting	10.1% (n = 249)	18.3% (n = 450)
<b>Regularly attend a church in the Waco community</b>	<b>58.4%</b> (n = 1,440)	<b>13.2%</b> , (n = 326)

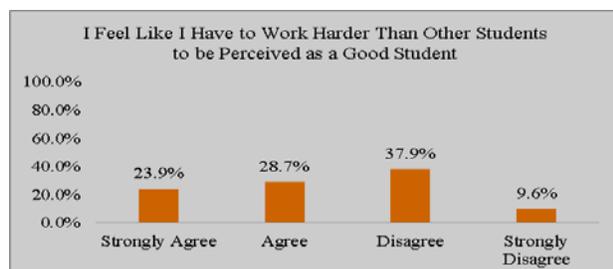
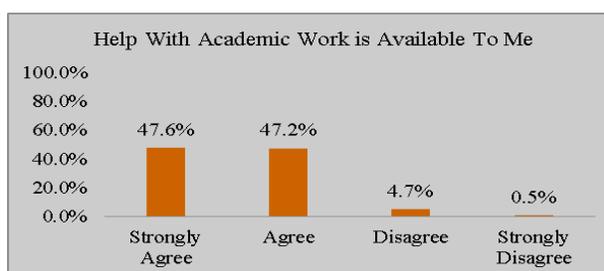
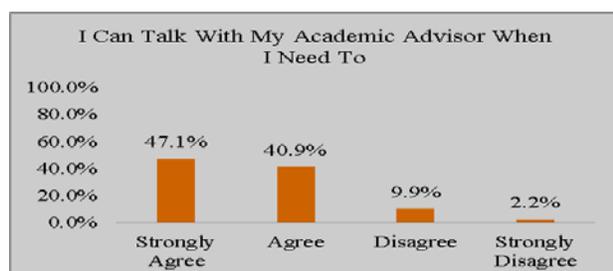
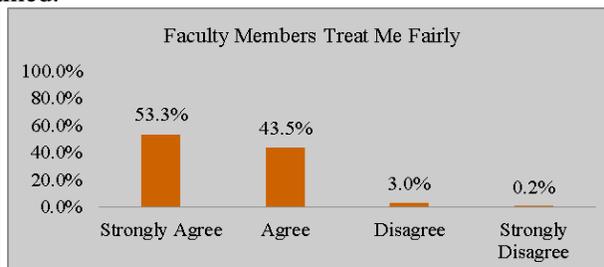
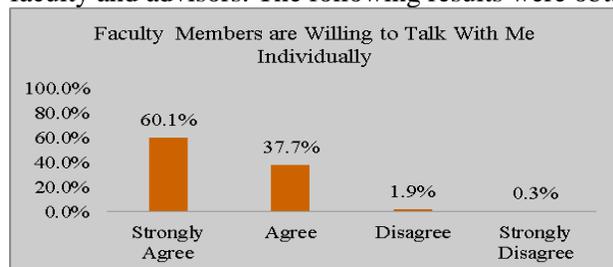
- Students were further asked to indicate the frequency with which they have done certain academic activities. Academic activities where **70% or more said *Often*** are indicated below.

Activities	Frequency
<b>Been prepared for class (completed readings and homework before going to class)</b>	<b>91.4%</b> ( $n = 1,995$ )
Participated in class discussions	77.7% ( $n = 2,067$ )
Had an intellectual discussion with a faculty member outside of class	75.7% ( $n = 2,013$ )
Been excited by a class	74.9% ( $n = 1,997$ )
Worked on a paper or project that required integrating ideas or information from various sources	74.8% ( $n = 1,995$ )
Participated in hands on activities (lab work, experiments, project-based)	72.8% ( $n = 1,934$ )

- Students were further asked to indicate *Yes* or *No* to certain academic activities that they have done during the current term or will do by the end of the term. Activities to which majority of the students said *Yes* include:
  - Made a formal presentation in class (**75.0%**,  $n = 1,862$ )
  - Worked with others on a group assignment, project, or presentation (**85.7%**,  $n = 2,127$ )

### Faculty and Advisors

Students were asked to indicate their level of agreement as it relates to certain statements concerning their faculty and advisors. The following results were obtained.

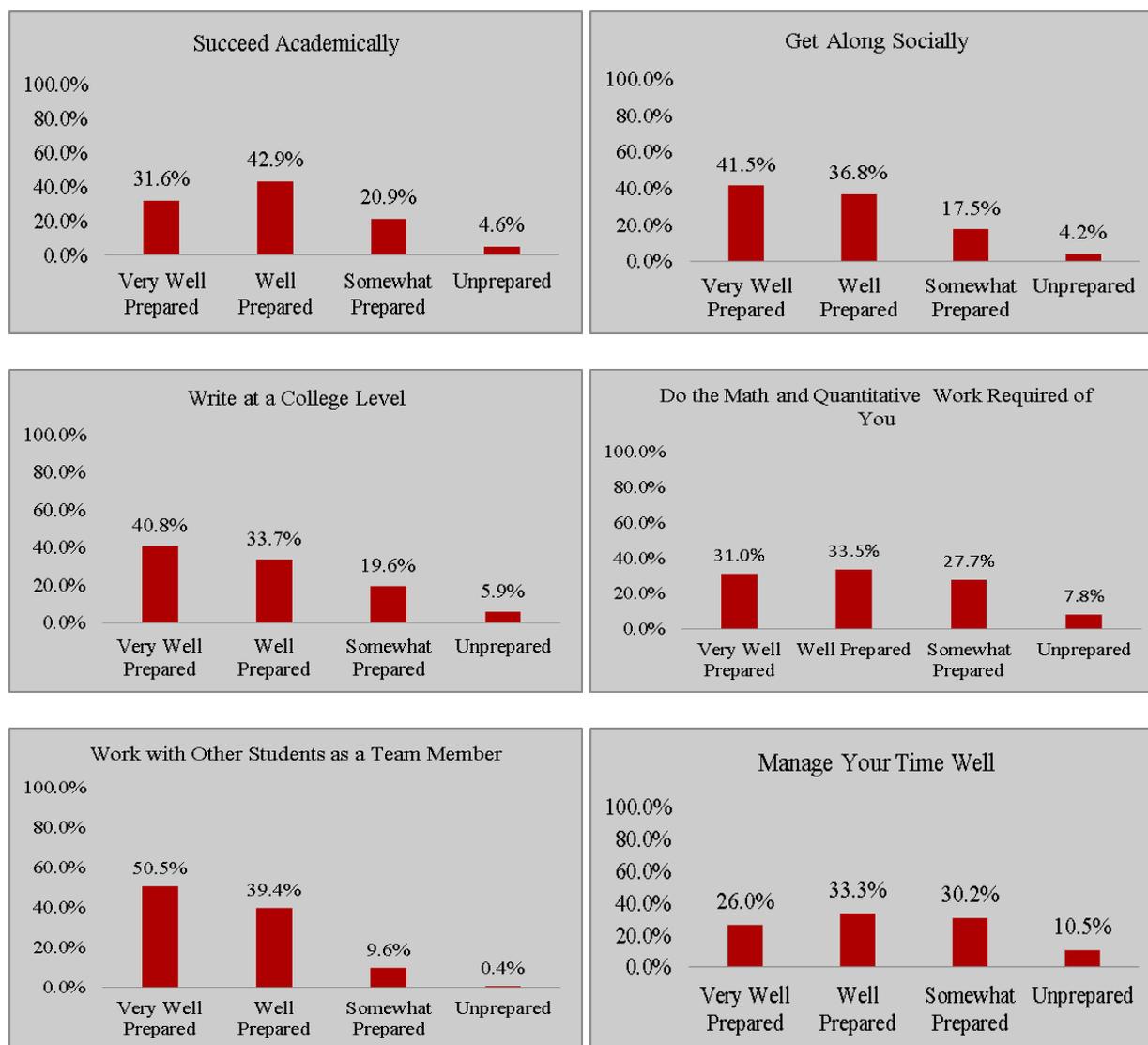


In addition, most students (25.3%,  $n = 662$ ) indicated that they knew at least two faculty members well enough who could provide a letter or recommendation in support of an application for a job, internship or fellowship or advanced degree work. The majority of students (70.8%,  $n = 1,849$ ) also indicated that there is at least one

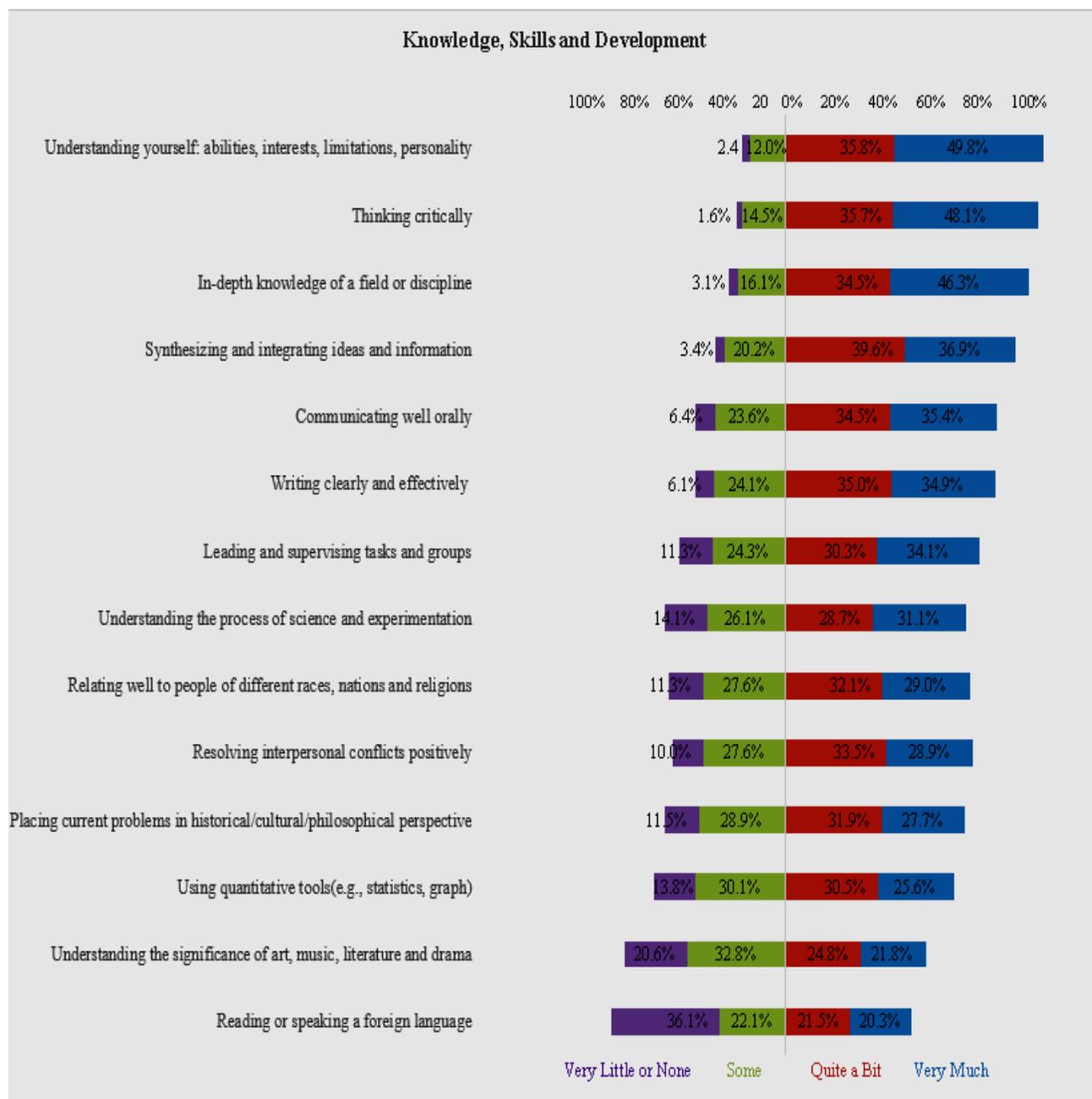
faculty member who has taken a personal interest in their success. Most students also indicated that they sought advice (36.8%,  $n = 961$ ) and that it helped some. On the other hand, the majority of students indicated that they did not seek tutoring or academic assistance during the current year (57.6%,  $n = 1506$ ).

### Their Preparation and Progress (Freshmen Only)

- Freshmen were asked to indicate the extent to which they thought they were prepared to undertake certain academic activities at Baylor. The following results were obtained.

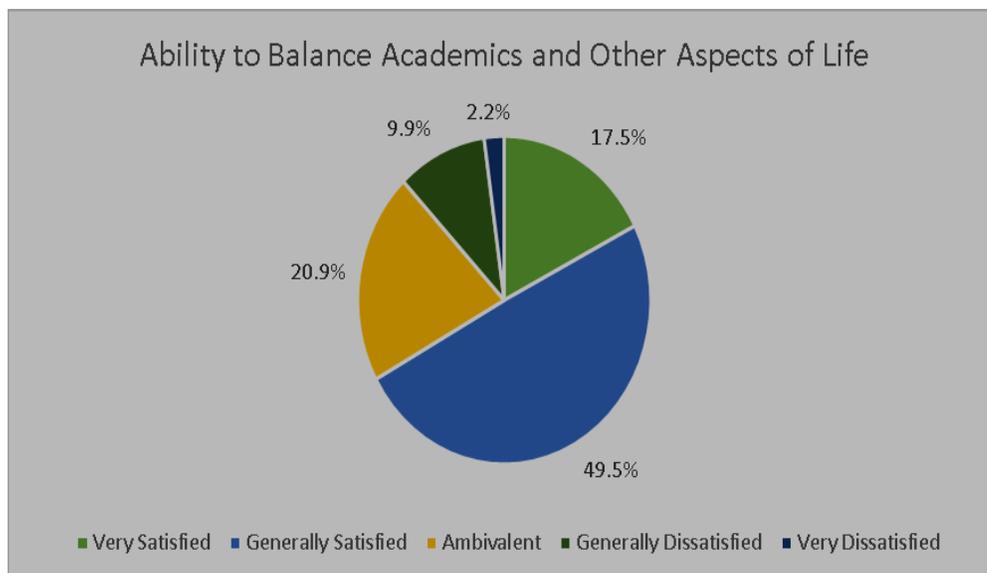


- Respondents were asked to evaluate how much they have learned in 22 areas relating to their knowledge, skills and development. They responded on a four-point likert scale ranging from 1- *very little or none* to 4 - *very much*. Items to which 75% and above said *very much/quite a bit* are included as well as items to which more than 30% said *some/very little or none*.



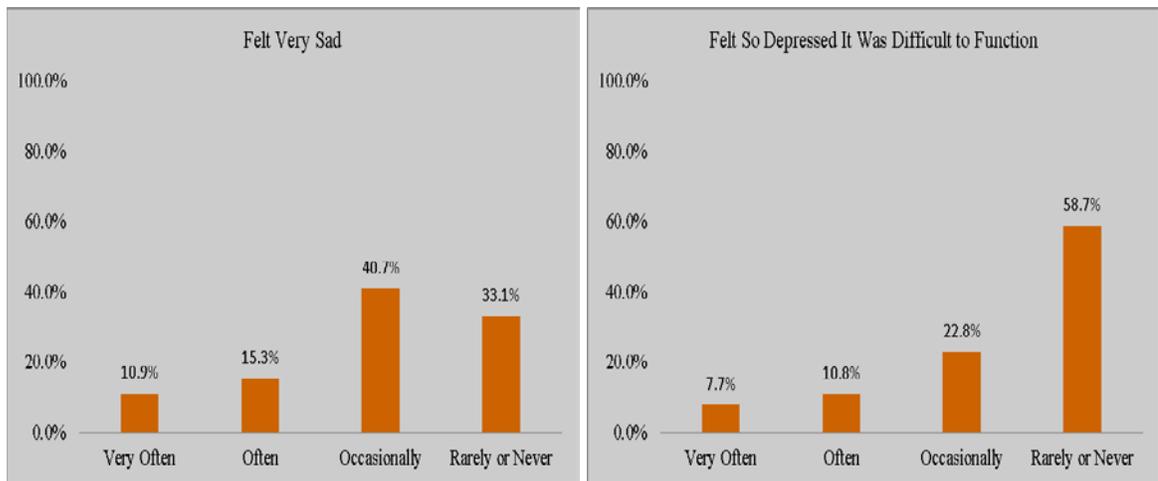
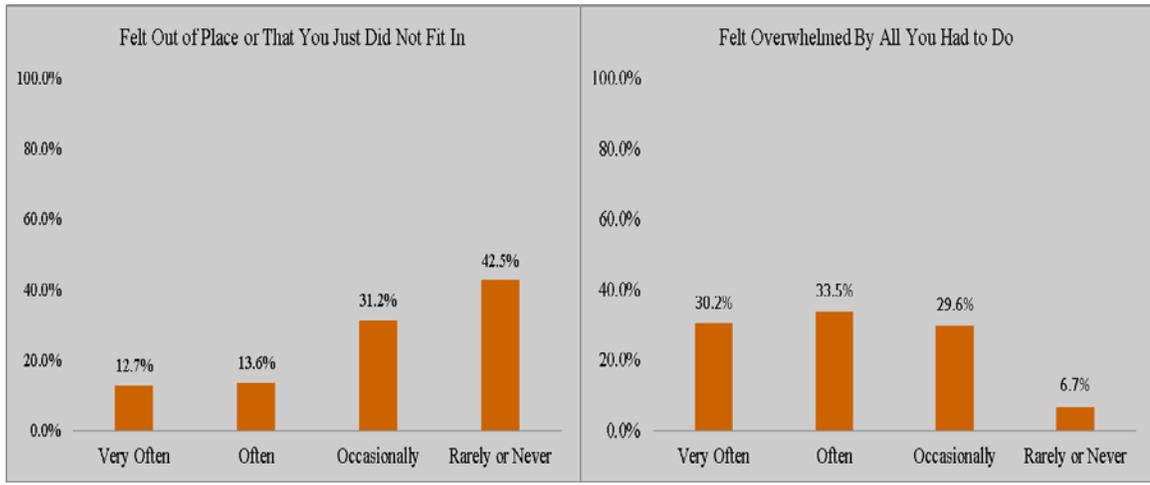
## Their Health and Well Being

- Students were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with their ability to balance academics and other aspects of their life. The following results were obtained.

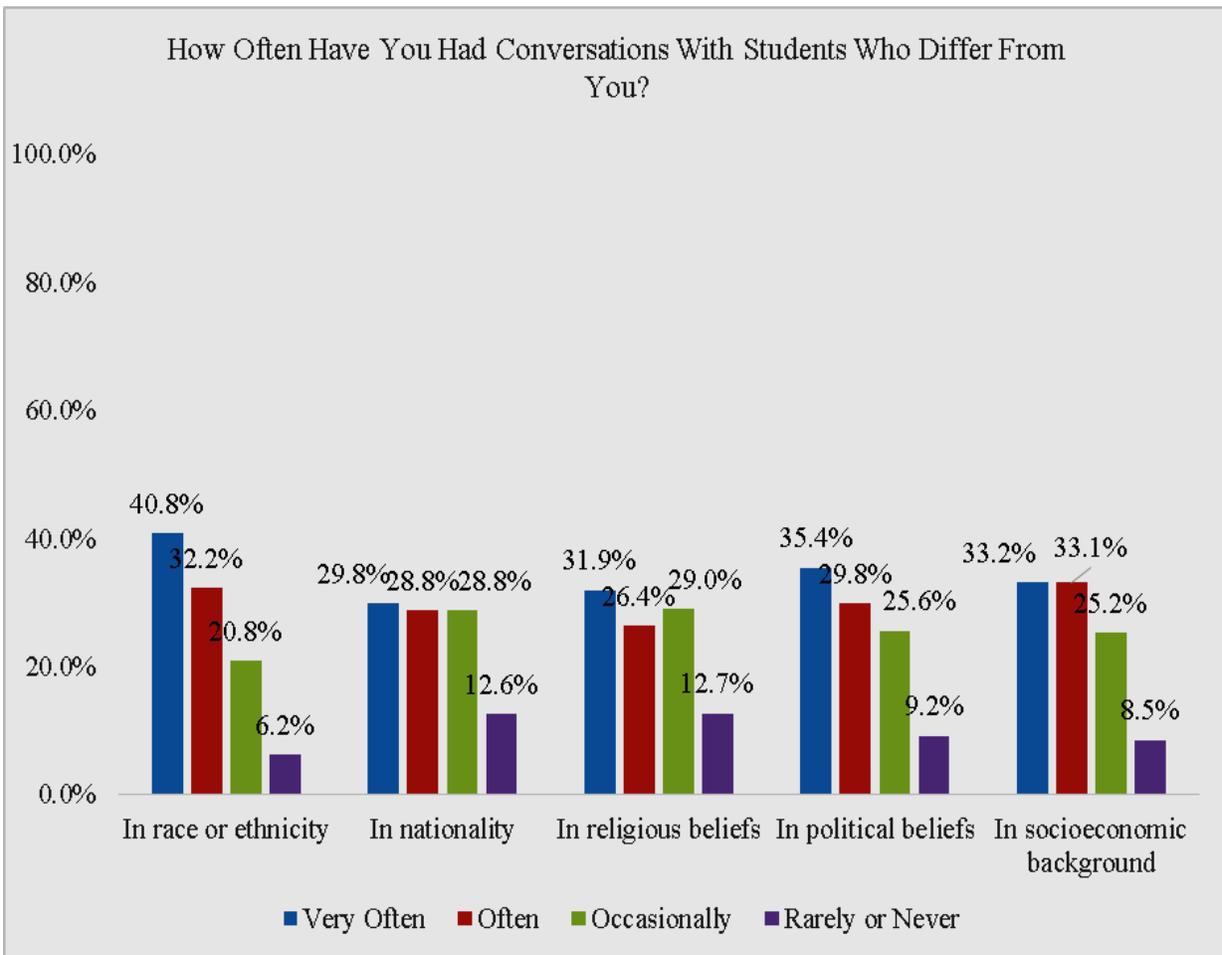


- Students were further asked to indicate sources of stress that they may experience as a student that affected them during the current academic year. The following results were obtained.
  - Most students indicated that **connecting to the campus community** was not a source of stress (**49.8%, n = 1,216**)
  - Areas that were considered to be stressful included:
    - Managing the workload for your course (74.0%, n = 1,810)**
    - Concerns about future plans (69.0%, n = 1,687)
    - Balancing multiple commitments (66.2%, n = 1,620)
    - Concerns about finances (50.2%, n = 1,229)
    - Personal difficulties with family, intimate relationships, or friends (40.4%, n = 989)
- Students were also asked to indicate their level of agreement with statements pertaining to belongingness. More than 70% of the students agreed with the following statements:
  - I feel comfortable expressing myself in terms of my cultural identity (88.5%, n = 2,168)**
  - I feel comfortable expressing myself in terms of my religious beliefs (85.0%, n = 2,082)
  - I feel like part of the community at Baylor University (83.4% , n = 2,042)
  - Students are able to demonstrate inclusivity, acceptance, and understanding of people's differences (79.4%, n = 1,945)
  - Baylor University's Christian identity was a positive factor in my decision to enroll (79.2%, n = 1,942)

- Students were also asked to indicate how often they had certain feelings during the current academic year at Baylor. The following results were obtained.



- Students were further asked to indicate how often they conversations with those who were different from them. The following results were obtained.



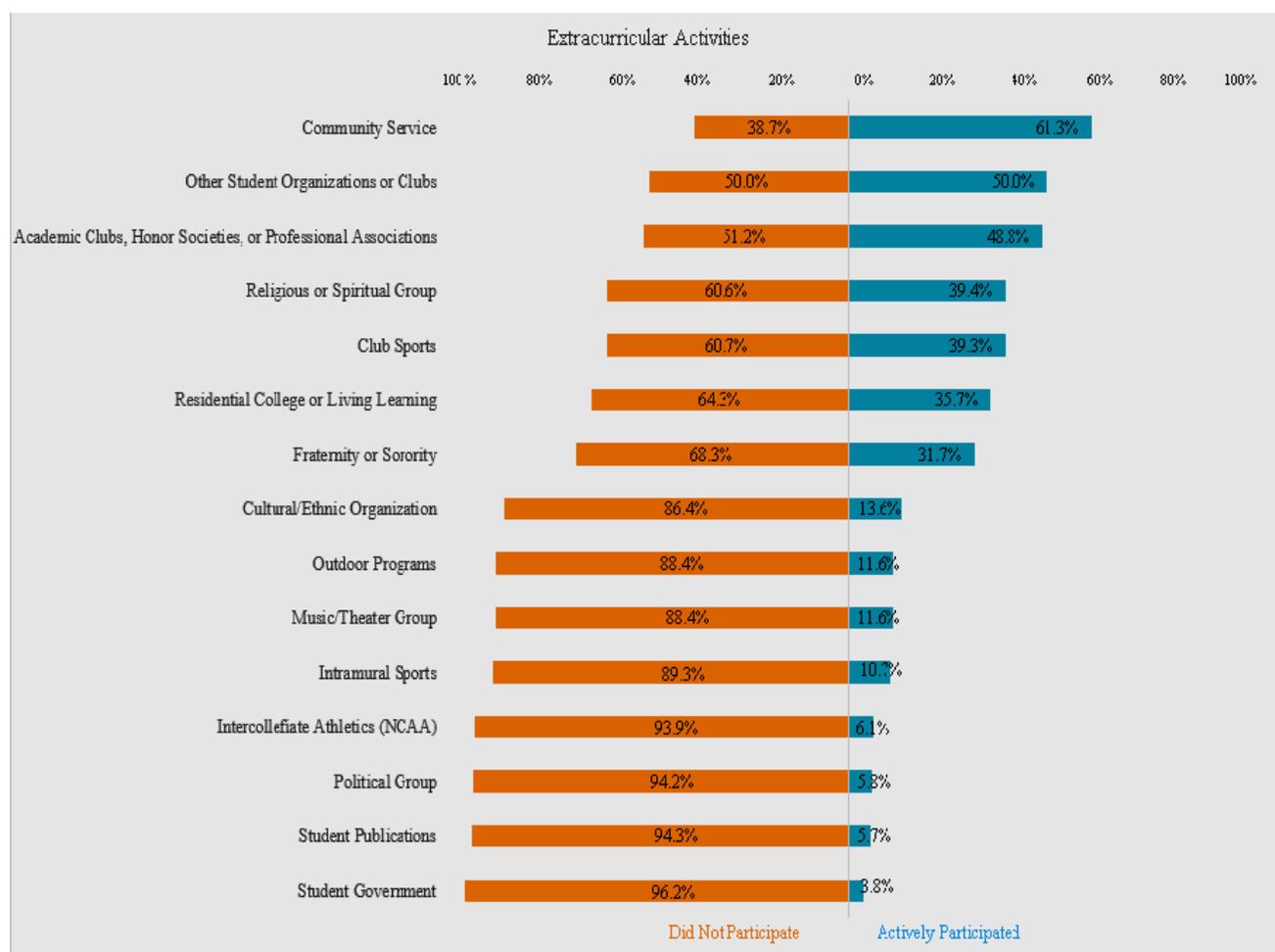
### Their Global Awareness and Engagement

As it relates to global awareness and engagement, the majority of students agreed that:

- **I can articulate my own cultural values to people from other cultures in a respectful manner (95.5%,  $n = 2,335$ )**
- **I am able to take into account different perspectives before drawing conclusions about the world around me (95.1% ,  $n = 2,323$ )**
- I consider different cultural perspectives when evaluating global problems (89.5%,  $n = 2,188$ )
- I understand how various cultures of this world interact socially (88.2%,  $n = 2,156$ )
- I have an increased interest in learning about different cultures (83.0%,  $n = 2,029$ )
- I am able to discuss cultural differences from an informed perspectives (82.4% ,  $n = 2,017$ )
- **I understand Baylor's global engagement mission (74.2%,  $n = 1,815$ )**

### Their Extracurricular Activities

Students were asked to indicate the extracurricular activities that they actively participated in (as more than a spectator) as well as ones in which they did not participate. The following results were obtained.



### Their Paid Employment

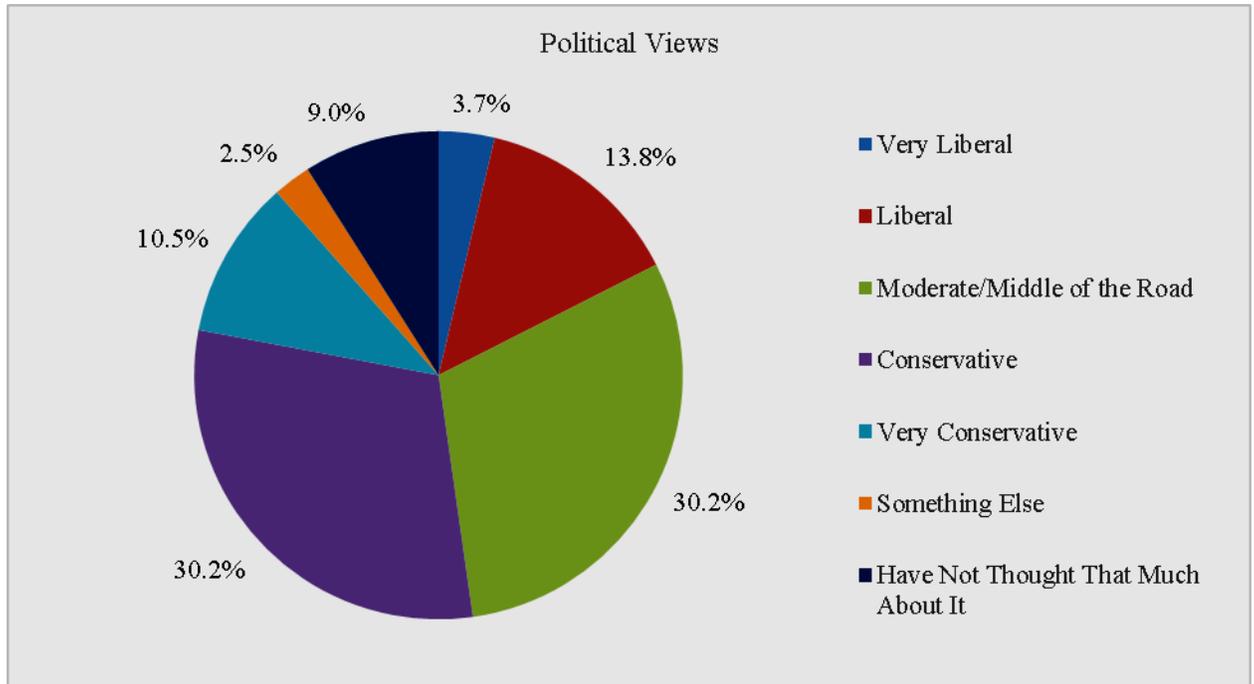
Students were asked to respond to two questions pertaining to their paid employment, the following results were obtained.

- *Did you work for pay this year?*
  - **No (51.7%, n = 1,288)**
  - Yes, the majority of my hours were on campus (28.7%, n = 716)
  - Yes, the majority of my hours were off campus (19.6%, n = 488)
  
- *During a typical week this academic year, how many total hours did you spend working for pay?*
  - **10 – 20 hours (53.7, n = 647)**
  - Less than 10 hours (33.8%, n = 407)
  - More than 20 hours (12.5%, n = 150)

### Their Background

Students were asked to respond to questions pertaining to their background. The following results were obtained.

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- Most students indicated that they had a parent who completed graduate or professional degree (42.9%,  $n = 1,050$ )
- Most students also indicated that they had did not have a parent who attended Baylor University (84.9%,  $n = 2,073$ )
- Most Students indicated that the total before-tax income of their parents and or stepparents were \$100,000 – \$149,999 (23.4%,  $n = 561$ )

### Qualitative Response

Students were finally asked to elaborate on any questions on the survey and to comment on any other aspect of their undergraduate experience not covered in the questionnaire. A few comments are quoted below.

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*“Baylor University has been challenging, but it has also been greatly rewarding. Every time I come back to campus, I am reminded not only of the beauty of the school, but of God's promises and how He has been guiding me all along. I could not have asked for a better university; I have watched myself grow spiritually, physically, intellectually, and in community with a diversity of majors and beliefs. The professors have been an outstanding example of Christianity but also of mentorship and guidance. Thank you, Baylor University, for helping shape the person God has called me to be, and to guide me on my educational journey.”*

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*“Baylor University's "Christian Mission" alienates many students and doesn't stand as a strong positive example to students who seek out Baylor because of its Christian values. You can't put a pig in a duck costume and call it a duck. You can't make decisions out of hate, arrogance, ignorance, or bias and call it Christian. Baylor needs to move beyond these stereotypical conservative, Christian morals into the 21st century. Furthermore, Baylor needs to see students for what they are: students. We are not dollar signs. We are not a way to make money. We are not a way to push your agenda. We are people who pay an exorbitant amount of money to fund a somewhat sub par educational experience, so we, at the very least, deserve to be heard.”*

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