

# UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATING STUDENT SURVEY 2019

## INTRODUCTION

The 2019 Graduating Student Survey was administered to all eligible graduating students in the Spring 2019 semester. This report summarizes the responses from the undergraduate seniors about their future education and employment plans, use of career services, and gains in knowledge and abilities. The survey responses from the students in the graduate program are available in a separate report.

A total of 733 undergraduate students were eligible for graduation at the time of commencement and survey administration. A total of 513 undergraduate students chose to participate in the 2019 Graduating Senior Survey, yielding a response rate of 70%.

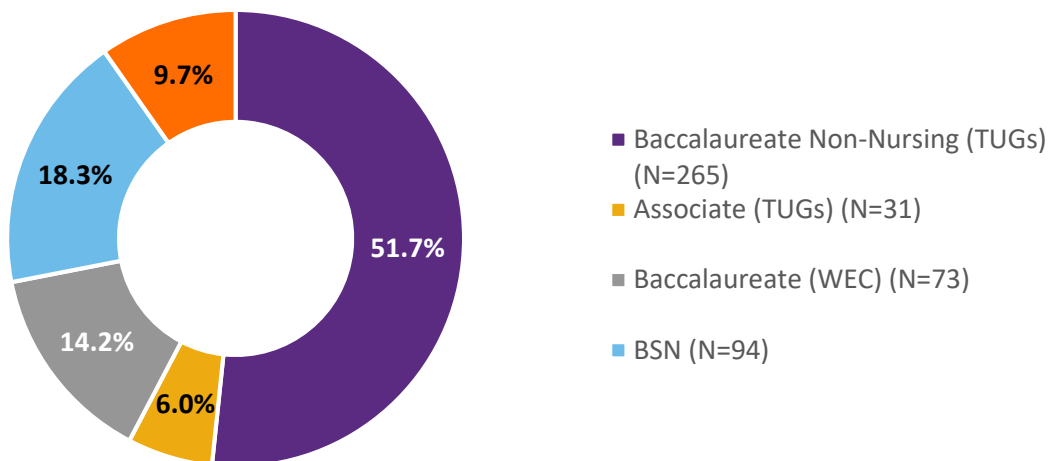
## KEY FINDINGS

- When asked about their plans for the next six months, 60.0% of the respondents reported that they intend to work full-time, and 37.4% planned to attend or apply to graduate school.
- More than 30% of the students used the MSMU Career Services resources.
- Over 39% of the students completed internships while enrolled at MSMU.
- Over 43% of students were employed while attending MSMU.
- Over 95% of respondents reported being “Much Stronger” or “Stronger” in gains of knowledge and ability.

## RESPONSE DISTRIBUTION BY ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Of the respondents who completed non-Nursing degrees, the majority of them earned a Bachelor's degree, including 73 students from Weekend and Evening College, while a few earned an Associate's degree. More than 18% (N=94) of the students earned a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing, and almost ten percent graduated with an Associates in Nursing (see Figure 1).

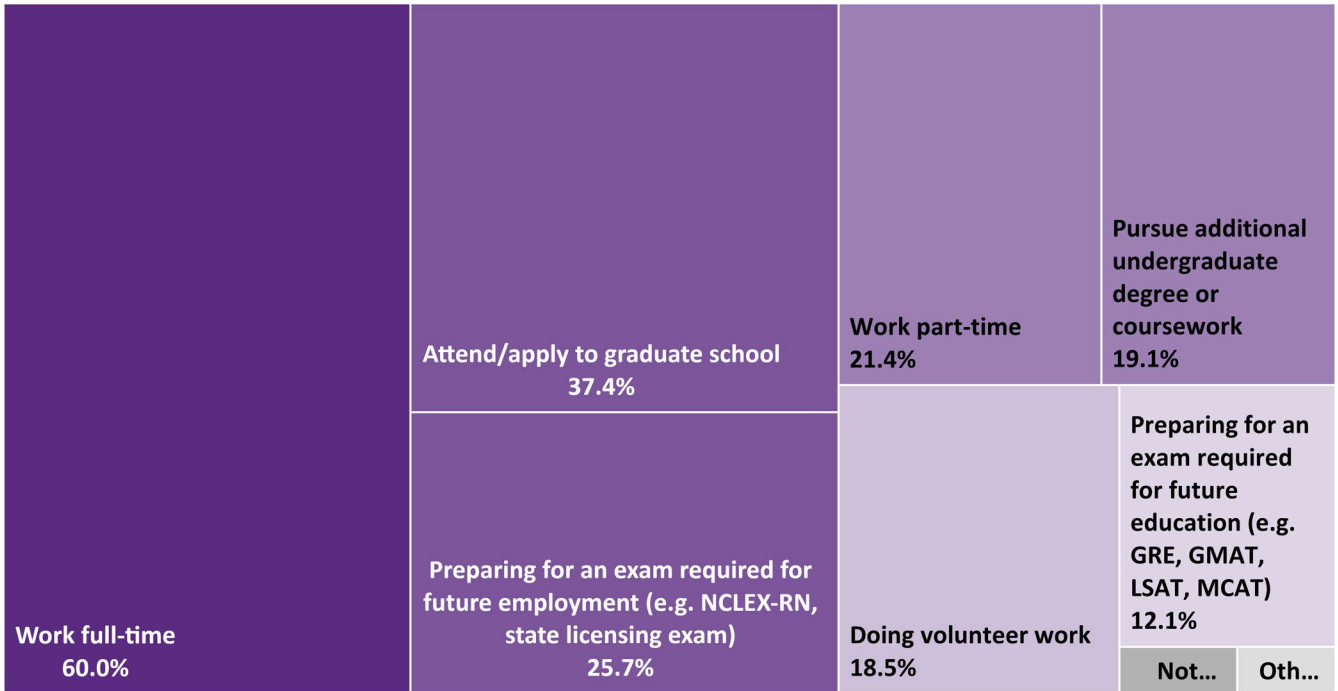
**Figure 1: Distribution by Academic Programs**



## POST GRADUATION PLANS - 6 MONTHS OUT

At the time they completed the survey, almost all respondents reported having a plan after graduation. Most reported that they planned to pursue work either full-time (60%) or part-time (21.4%). Fifty-six percent reported that they planned to either "pursue additional undergraduate degree or coursework" or that they were planning to "attend or apply to graduate school", while 38% reported that they planned on "preparing for an exam required for future employment" or "preparing for an exam required for future education" (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: What is your main plan for the next six months?

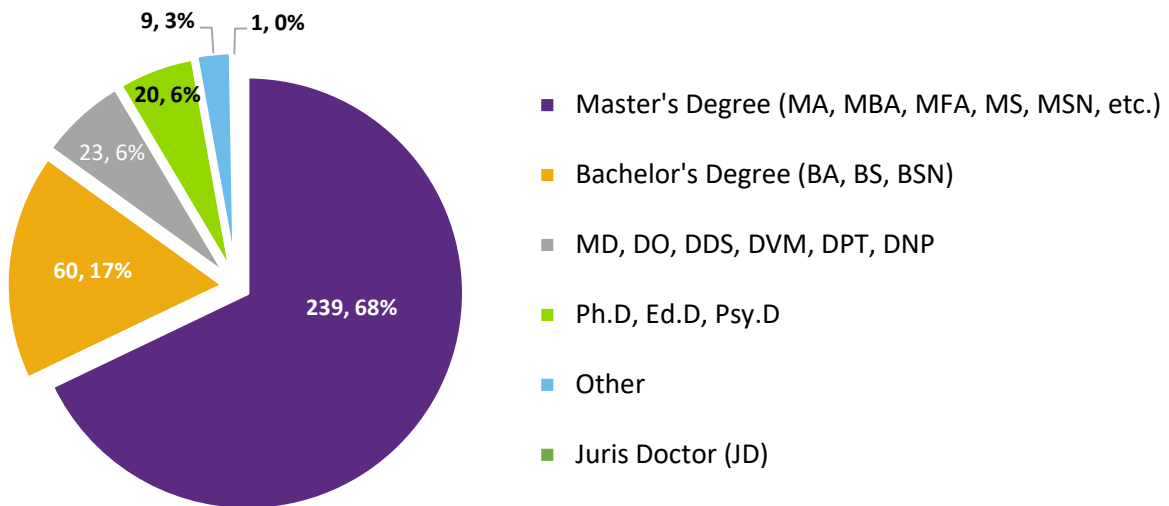


## EDUCATIONAL PLANS

### Additional Degrees

Sixty-eight percent of respondents who indicated they were planning to pursue additional degrees had plans to pursue some type of Master’s Degree in the next six months, and 17% of respondents had plans to pursue further undergraduate degrees. Others planned to pursue medical degrees while others doctorate degrees, including, JD, Ph.D., Ed. D, and Psy.D (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Type of Additional Degree Planned

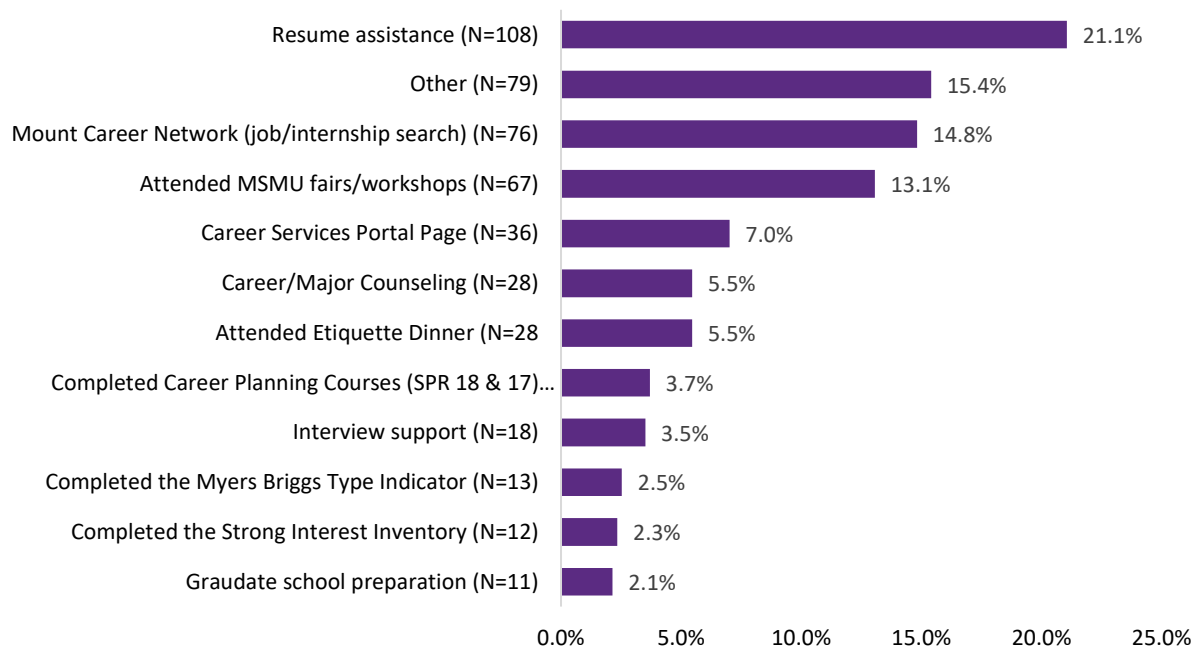


## CAREER SERVICES

### Career Service Resources

More than 30% (N=160) of the total respondents reported that they used the MSMU Career Services resources. Twenty-one percent of the respondents reported that they had received resume assistance, and more than 13% attended MSMU fairs and/or workshops. Almost 15% reported that they had used the Mount Career Network for a job or internship search. More than 15% reported they used “Other” services throughout the years. Ten percent or less of the respondents reported to using the majority of the services, including: the Career Services Portal Page, Attended Etiquette Dinner, Career/Major counseling, Interview support, Graduate school preparation, the Strong Interest Inventory, the Myers Briggs Type Indicator, or Career Planning Courses (see Figure 4).

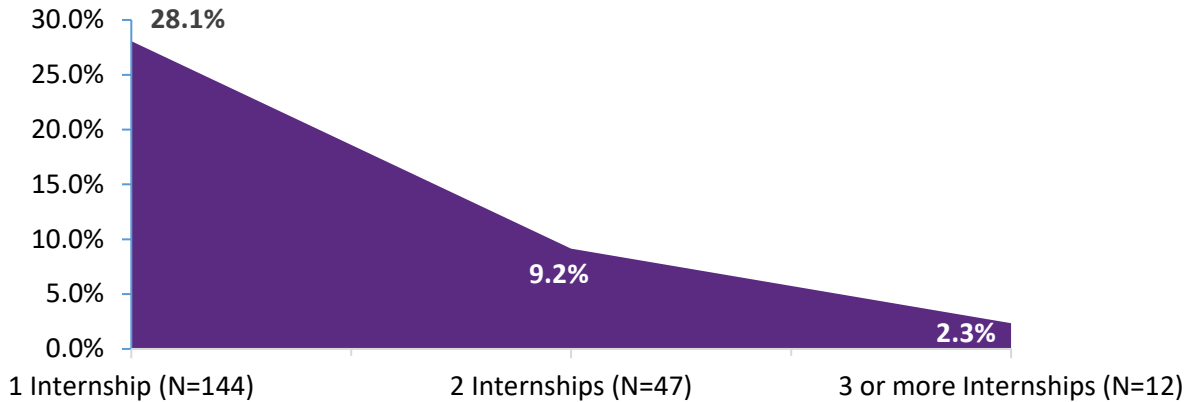
**Figure 4: Career Center Services Utilization**



## Internships Completed

Over 39.5% (N=203) of the respondents completed internships while enrolled at MSMU. Twenty-eight percent of the respondents that completed internships completed one, nine percent completed two, and two percent completed three or more (see Figure 5).

**Figure 5: Number of Internships Completed While Enrolled**



## Internship Organizations

Respondents listed approximately 159 unique organizations where they had interned while enrolled at MSMU. Table 1 lists the organizations by the number of MSMU student interns (see Table 1).

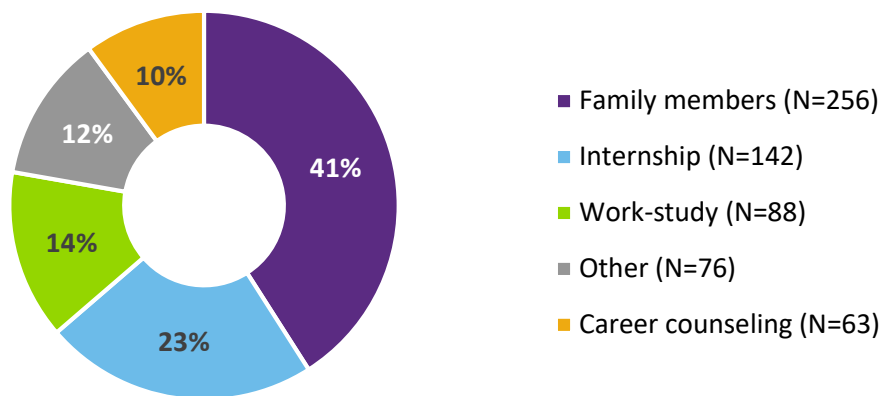
**Table 1: Internship Organizations**

Organization	Number MSMU Student Interns
Mount Saint Mary's University	13
UCLA	10
Carondelet Center	6
USC	5
VA Greater Los Angeles Health	4
A Place Called Home	3
Dream Catchers	3
Cedars Sinai	3
Kaiser	3
Montebello Senior Center	3
COPE Health Solutions	2
Health Scholar Program	2
John Tracy Center	2
Children's Hospital Los Angeles	2
Valley Presbyterian Hospital	2
LAPD	2

## Major/Career Selection

Out of the factors that contributed towards the students major/career selection, 41% of the responses attributed family members as the predominant influence. Twenty-three percent of the total responses cited internships as the second most important factor that contributed to their major/career selection. Work-study was chosen by 14% of the respondents, 10% selected career counseling, while “Other” was chosen by 12% of students. Some of the most popular entries for “Other” included the student’s current job, volunteer work, personal experience, or a specific class or professor (Figure 6).

**Figure 6: Factors that Contributed to Major/Career Selection**



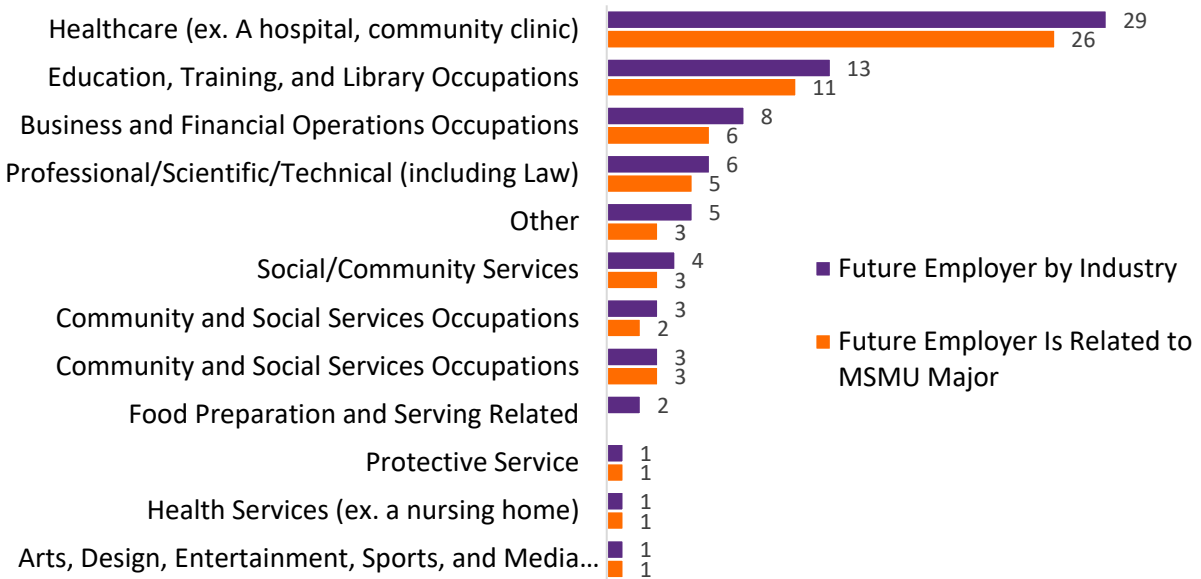
## EMPLOYMENT

### Industry of Future Employer

Over 18% of the respondents identified the industry of their future employer. Healthcare, Education/ Training/Library, and Business/ Financial Operations Occupations were among the top industries that respondents identified as future employers (see Figure 7).

Over 82% of the students who identified their future employer indicated that it was related to their respective majors at MSMU. Among the students in the largest major, Nursing, all of them reported that they will be working in Healthcare field, and 100% of Child Development and Early Childhood Education majors will be working in Education/Training/Library occupations. While other majors tend to branch out among more industries, the majority are still related to the student’s major. Over 85% of Business majors will be working in either Business/Financial Operations Occupations, Education/Training/Library Occupations, Healthcare, and Sales/Retail (see Figure 7).

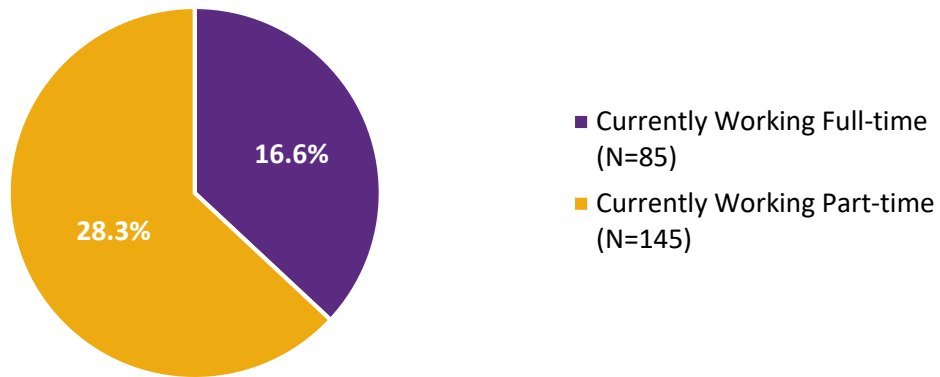
**Figure 7: Industry of future employer/relationship to MSMU Major**



**Current Employment**

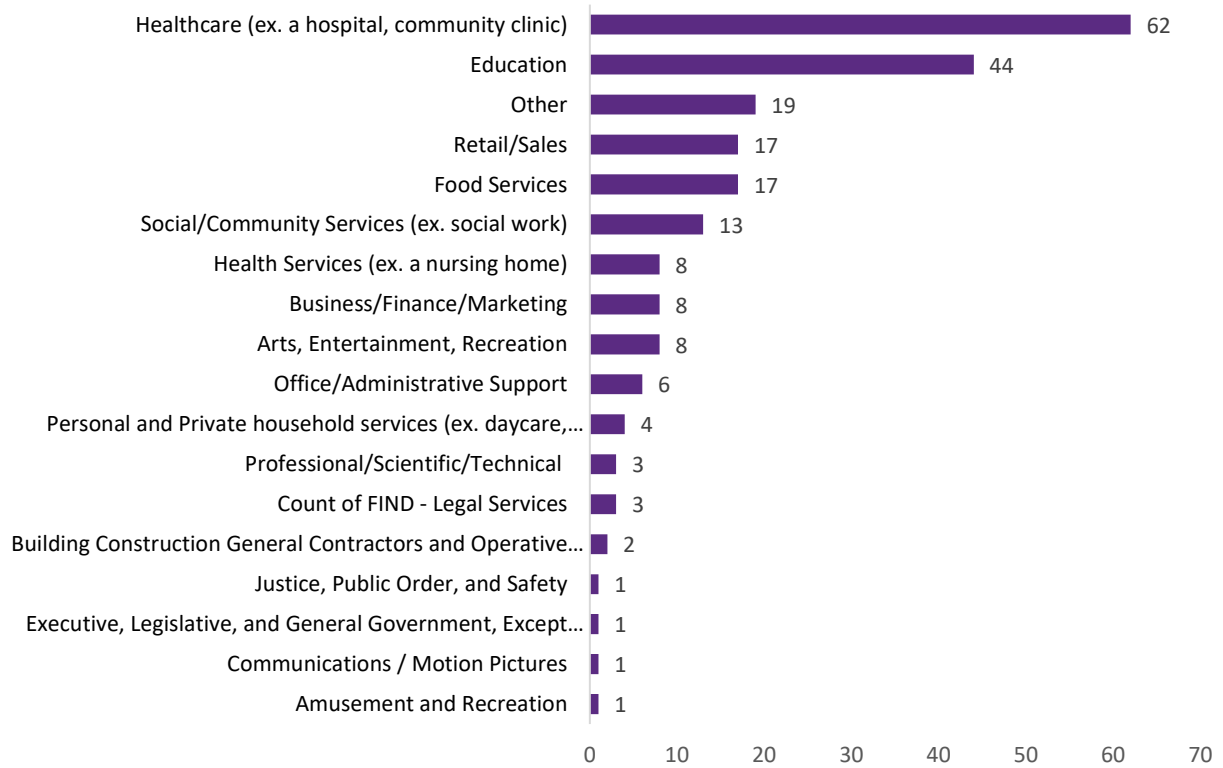
More than 16% of the respondents indicated that they were working full-time while enrolled, and over 28% of the total respondents indicated that they were working part-time (see Figure 8).

**Figure 8: Current employment status**



Almost one-half of the students that identified as employed indicated they were currently employed in either Healthcare or Education/Training/Library Occupations (see Figure 9).

**Figure 9: Industry of current employer**





## GAINS IN KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY

Students were asked to evaluate gains they experienced in knowledge and ability during their attendance at MSMU, using a scale from 1 (“Much Weaker”) to 4 (“Much Stronger”). Overall, students were very positive about the gains they experienced since the start of college. More than 95% of respondents reported being “Much Stronger” or “Stronger” in gains of knowledge and ability.

Respondents reported the greatest gains in their ability to work with others (mean = 3.6), understanding of personal and group behavior (mean = 3.6) (see Figure 10), and their understanding of social classes and social structure in diverse societies (mean = 3.5) (see Figure 11). Respondents reported the least gains in their understanding of, and appreciation for, music and visual arts (mean = 3.2) (see Figure 11), ability to recognize patterns of thought used in science and mathematics and ability to use history to help interpret human events (mean = 3.3) (see Figure 10), and curiosity about investigating the natural universe (mean = 3.3) (see Figure 11).

Figure 10: Overall Gains in Ability

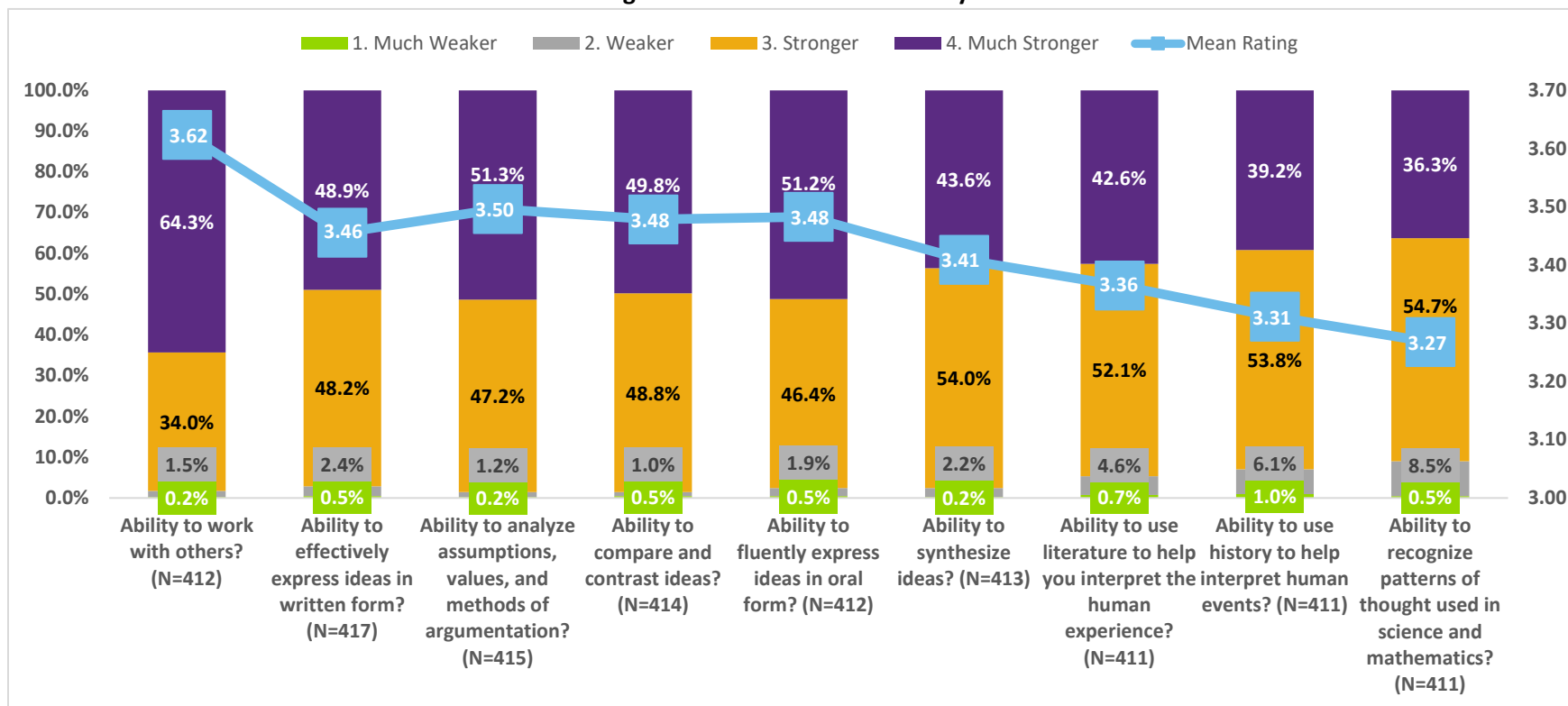
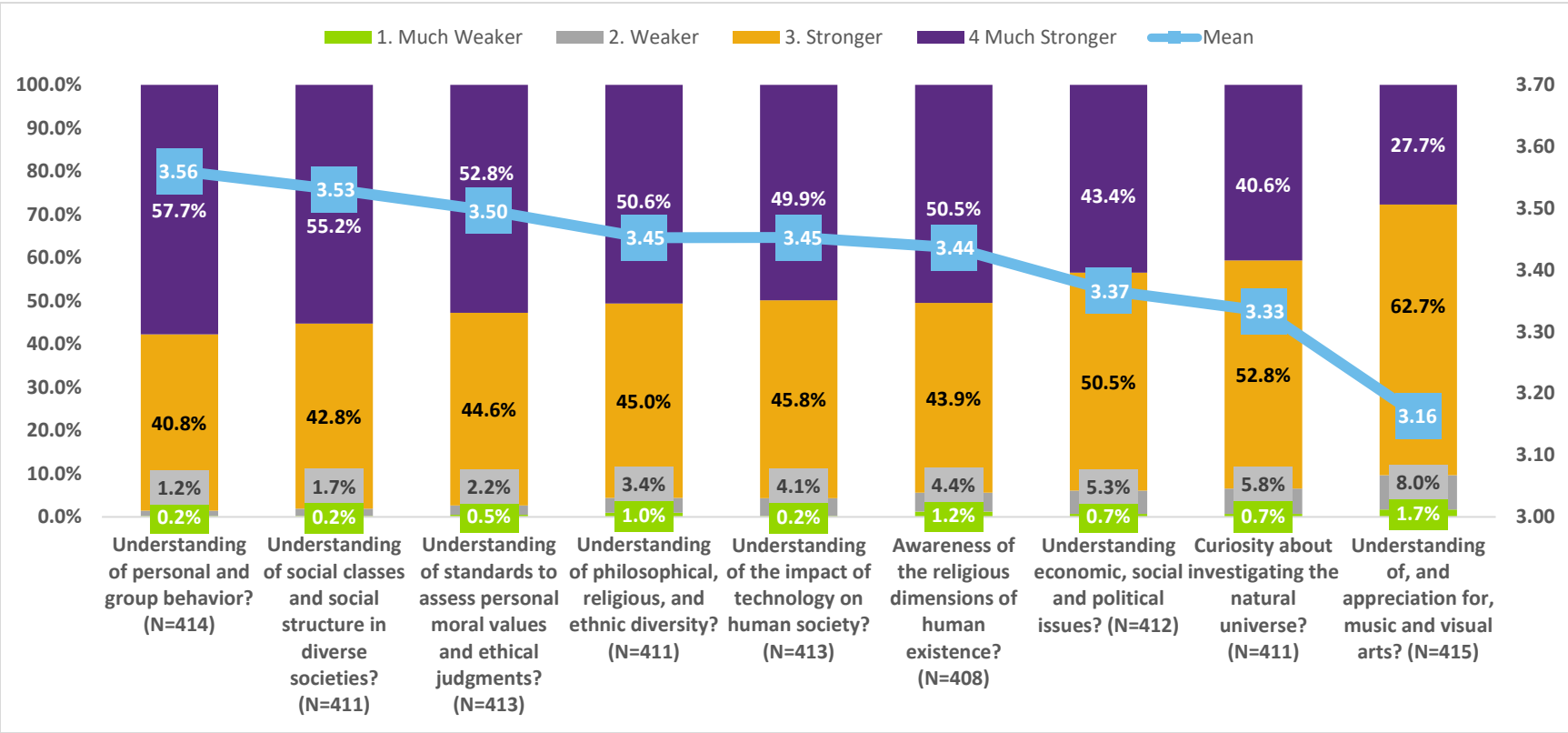


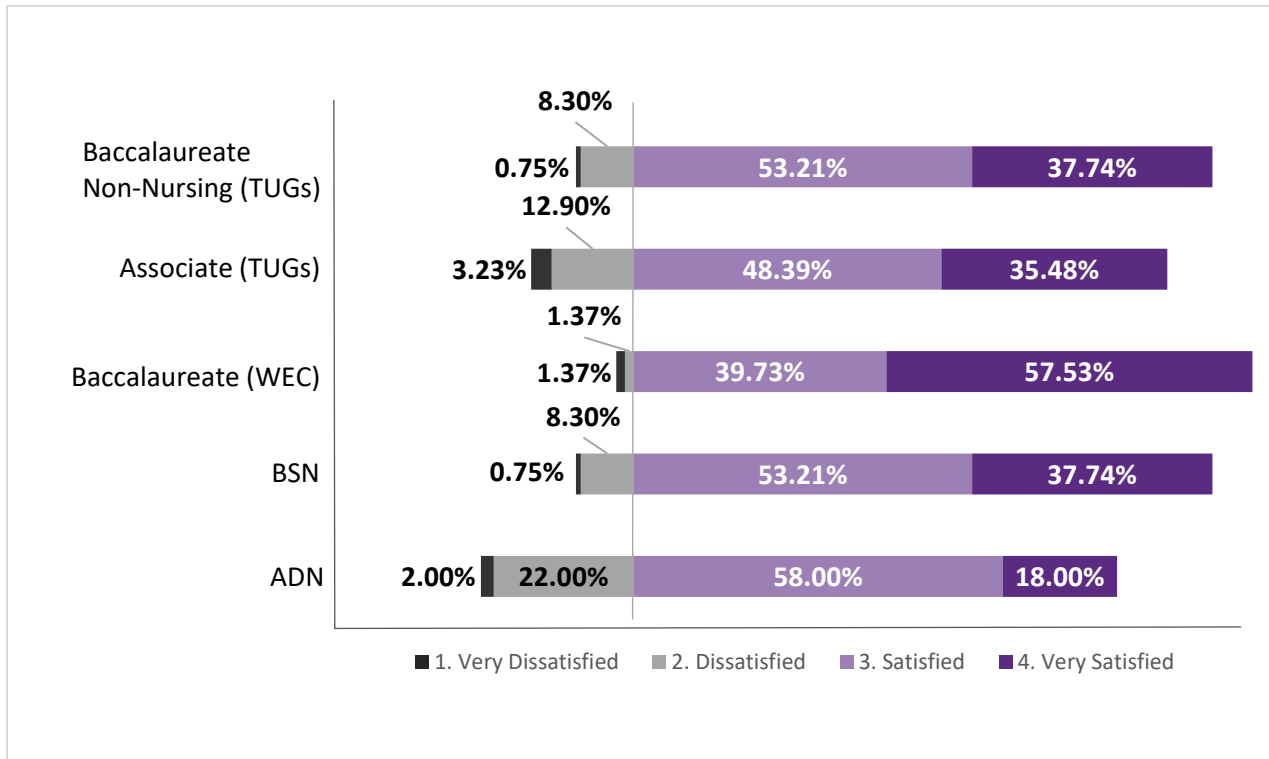
Figure 11: Overall Gains in Understanding and Awareness



### Overall Rate with College Experience and Meeting Expectations

Students were asked to evaluate their overall college experience during their attendance at MSMU, using the 4-point scale: “*Very Satisfied*,” “*Satisfied*,” “*Dissatisfied*,” and “*Very Dissatisfied*”. In general, most of the 513 respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall college experience (see Figure 12).

**Figure 12. Overall Rate of College Experience**



Students were then asked to rate MSMU in regards with meeting their expectations, using the 5-point scale: “Exceeded my expectations”, “Met all my expectations”, “Met some of my expectations”, “Met few of my expectations”, and “Met none of my expectations”. From the respondents (N=513), 58.3% (N=299) said that MSMU had met or exceeded their expectations.

**Figure 13: Overall Rate of Meeting Expectations**

