

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

University of Washington - Tacoma

New Student Survey

AUTUMN 2025



UW Tacoma - New Student Survey - Autumn 2025

Methodology

This survey of incoming students was conducted as part of New Student Orientation. It was presented as an assignment in their online orientation transition course.

What is the purpose of this report?

This report is intended to give UW Tacoma academic and student support units information about our incoming student population so that they can better design programs to meet student needs.

What is in this report?

The figures in this report are descriptive statistics that outline student responses to questions in the New Student Survey.

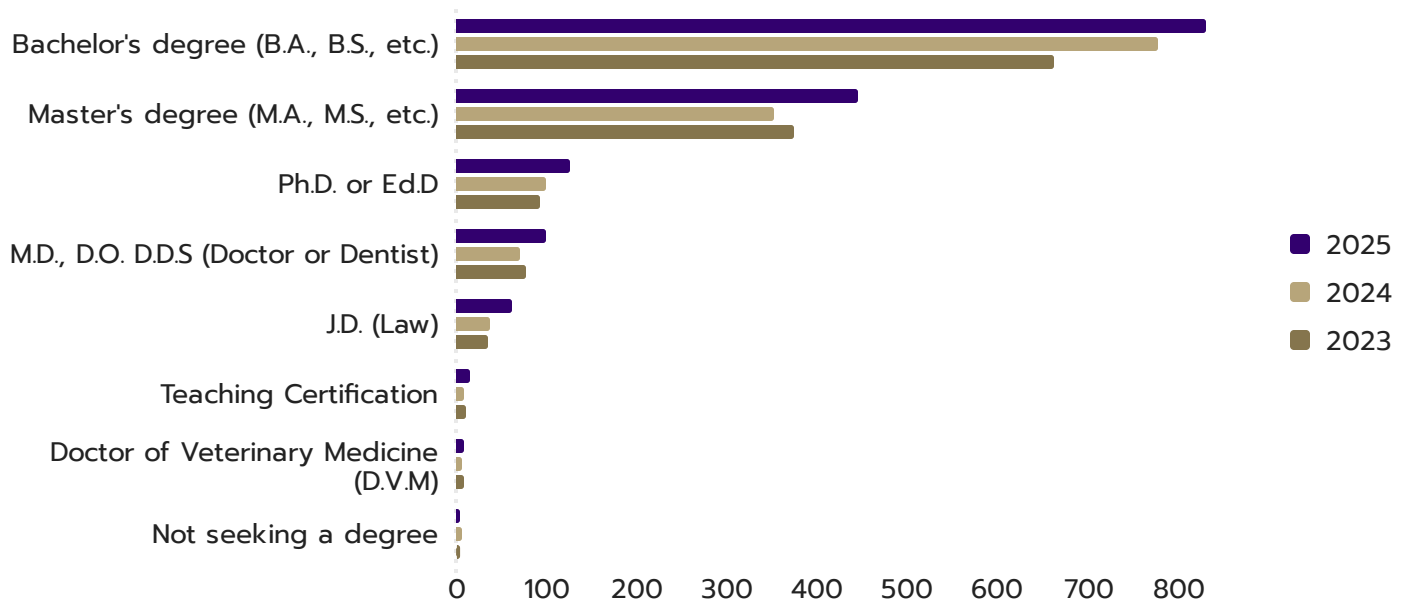
How was the survey developed?

A group comprised of representatives from Student Transitions & Success and Institutional Research developed these questions from previous surveys, but added questions that we believed would help units improve student services. We examined each questions for how the answer could help in that desire to improve student experience at UW Tacoma.

Survey Responses

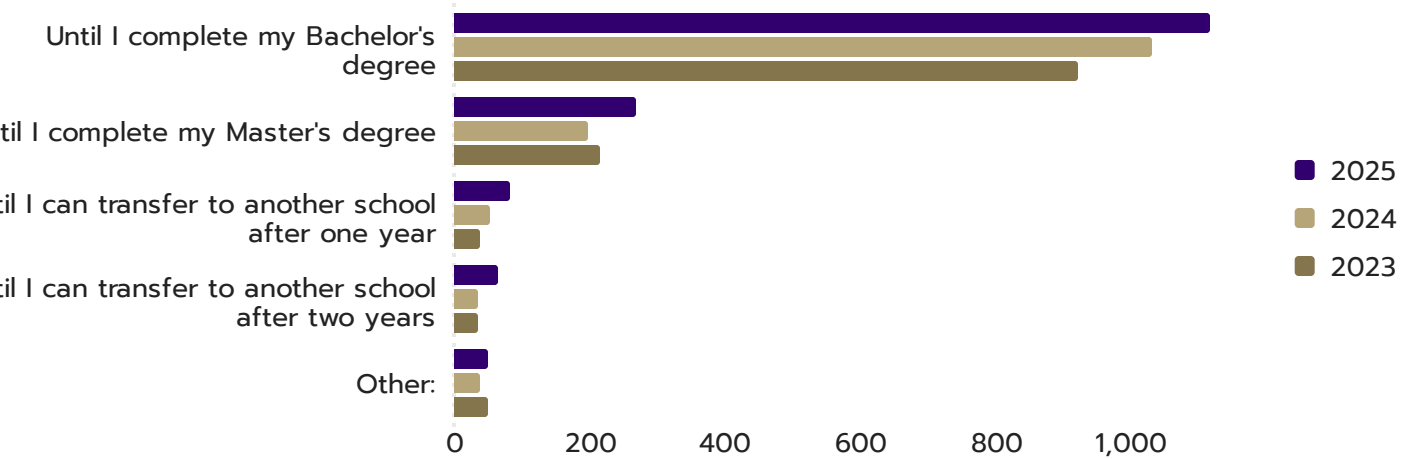
We had 1597 responses to this survey of incoming students.

What is the highest degree you hope to attain?



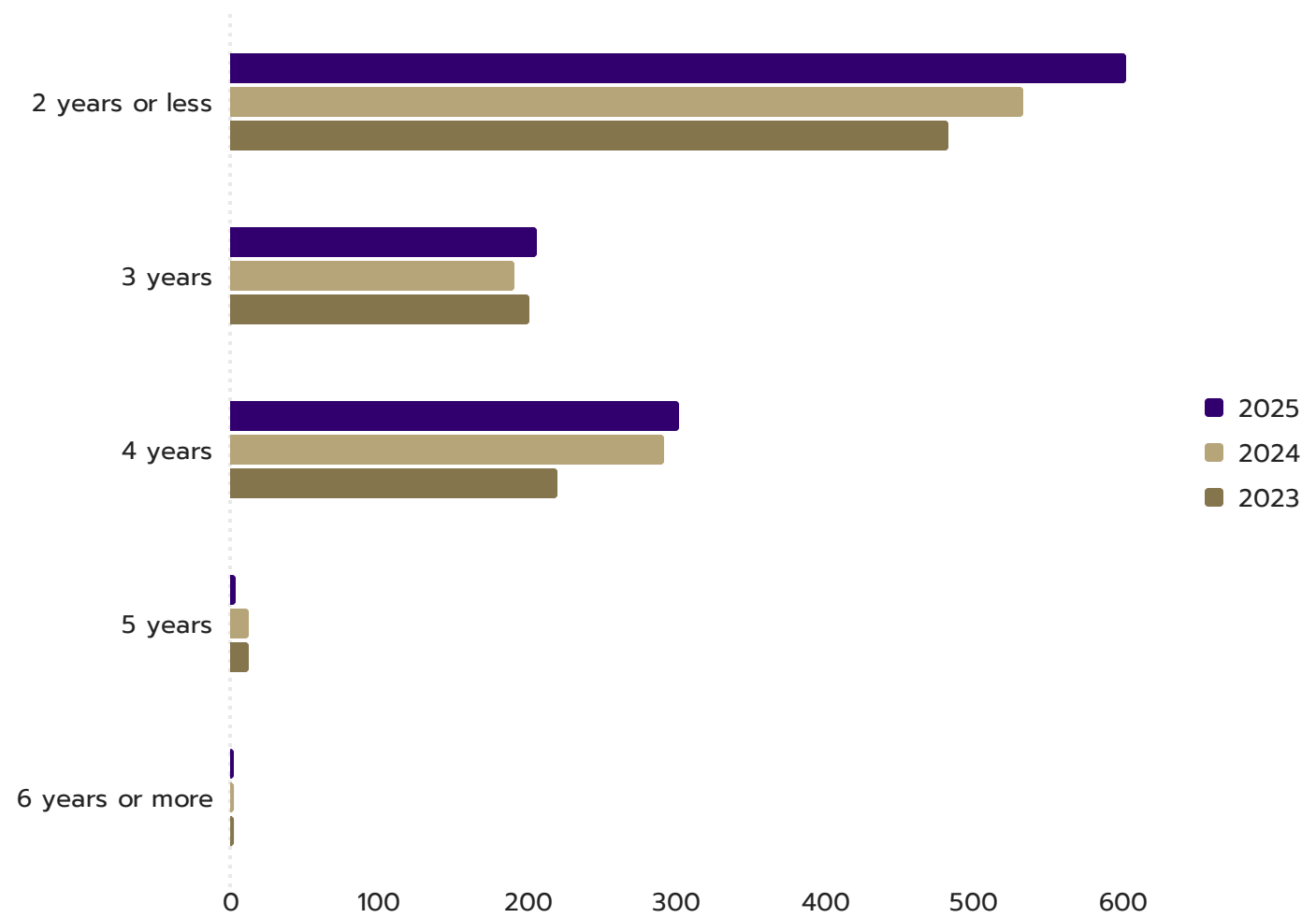
Field	Not seeking a degree	Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S., etc.)	Master's degree (M.A., M.S., etc.)	Ph.D. or Ed.D	M.D., D.O. D.D.S (Doctor or Dentist)	J.D. (Law)	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M)	Teaching Certification
2025	4	832	447	127	99	62	8	15
2024	6	779	353	100	72	37	7	8
2023	3	664	374	93	77	35	8	12
Total	13	2275	1174	320	248	134	23	35

Having said you are seeking a degree, how long do you intend to stay at UW Tacoma? (Please select one answer)



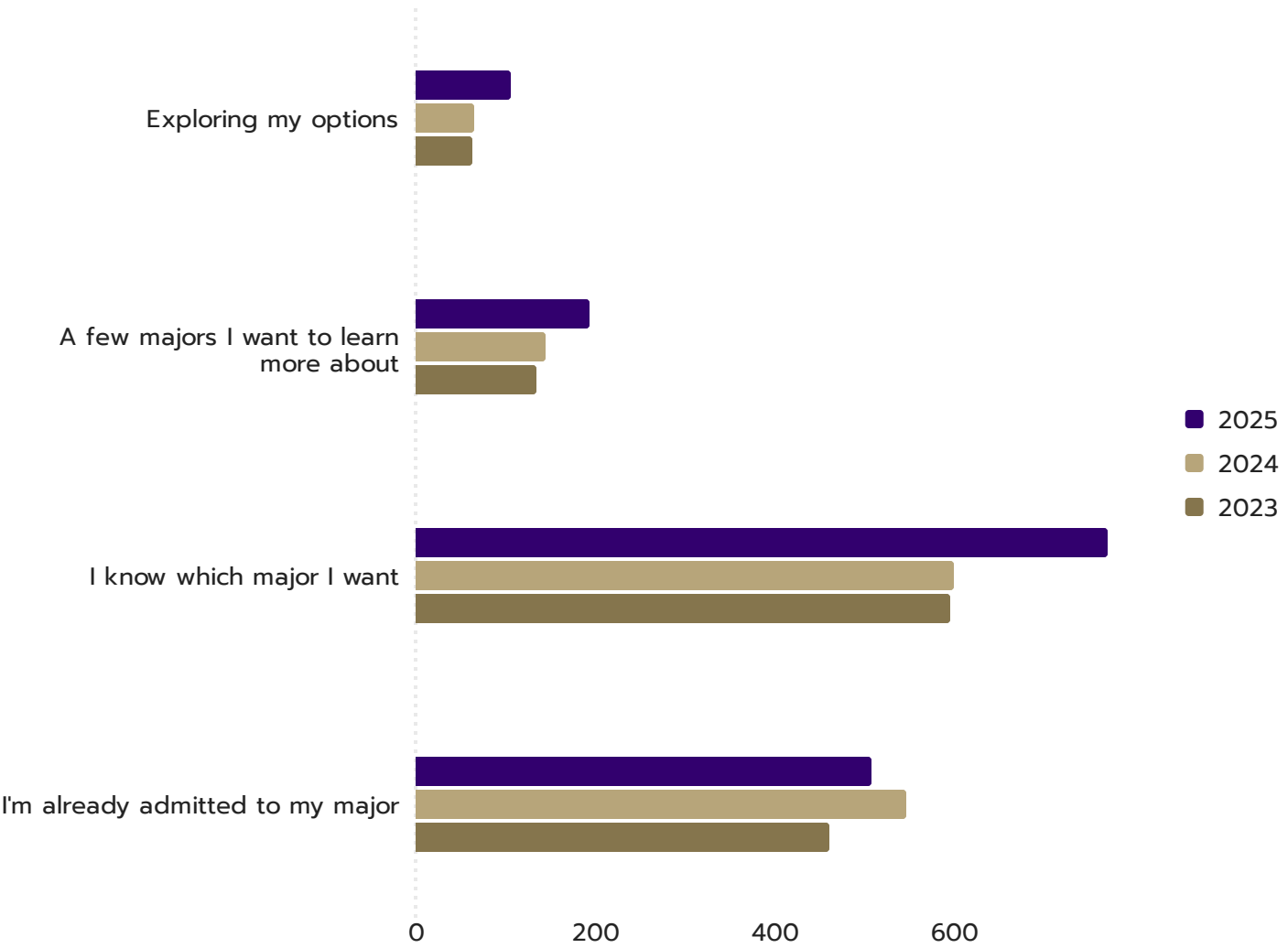
Field	Until I complete my Bachelor's degree	Until I complete my Master's degree	Until I can transfer to another school after one year	Until I can transfer to another school after two years	Other:
2025	1,118	270	83	65	49
2024	1,030	197	53	34	39
2023	923	215	38	34	51

Please tell us how long you think it will take you to complete your BA/BS degree.



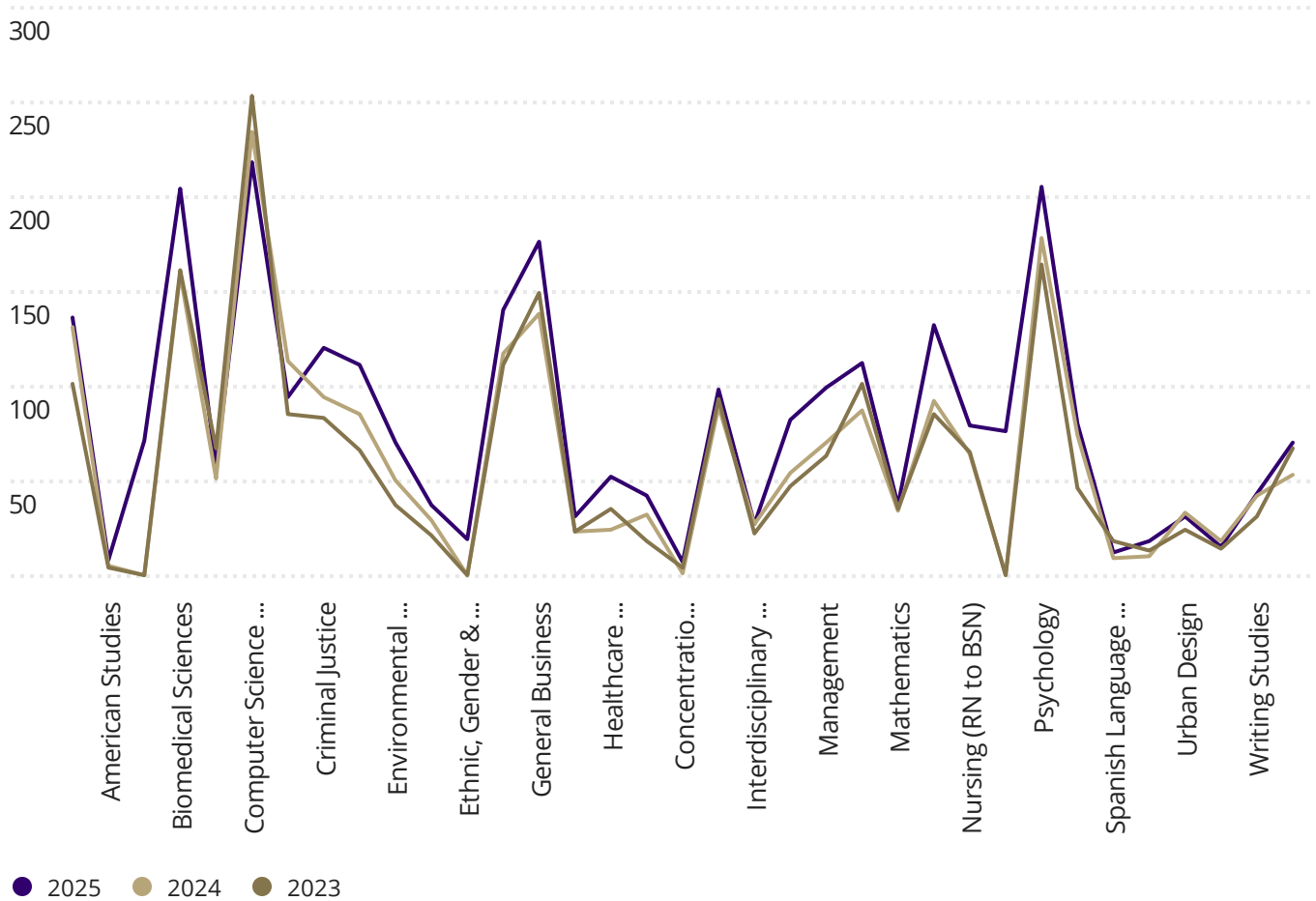
Field	2 years or less	3 years	4 years	5 years	6 years or more
2025	603	206	302	4	2
2024	534	191	292	12	1
2023	484	201	220	13	1

Where are you in the process of selecting a major?



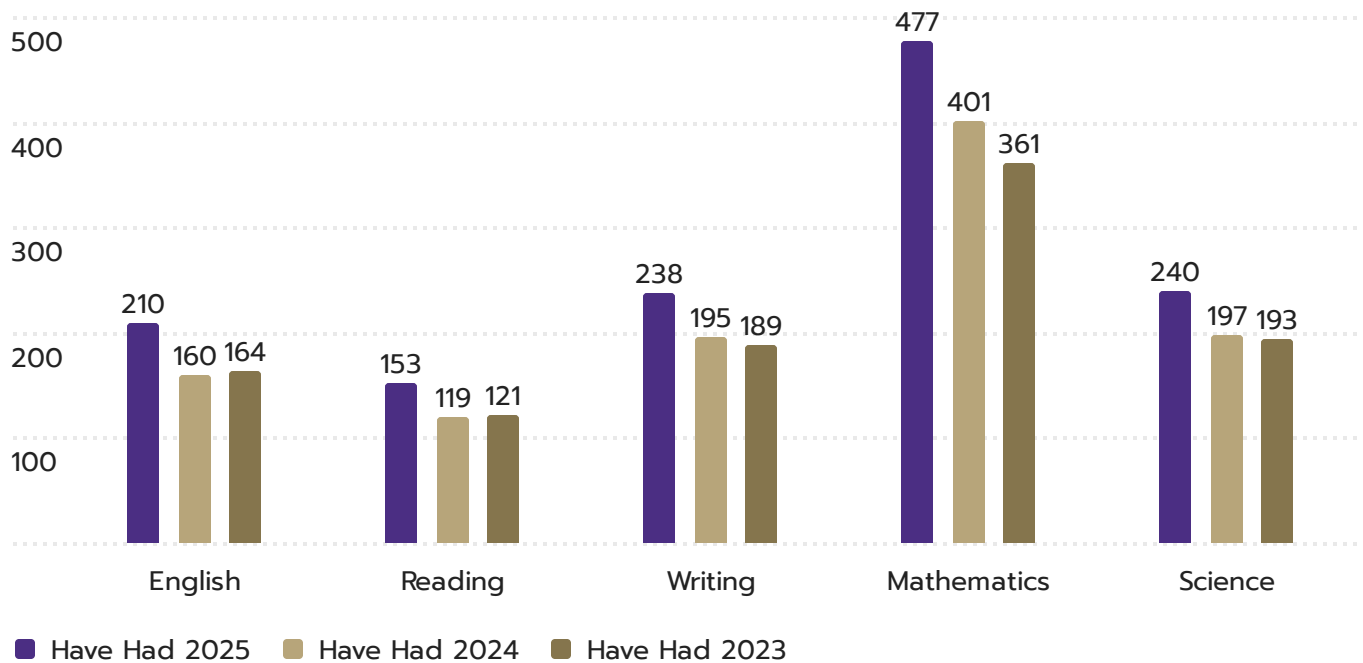
Field	Exploring my options	A few majors I want to learn more about	I know which major I want	I'm already admitted to my major
2025	106	193	771	507
2024	65	145	599	546
2023	64	134	595	461

While a student at UW Tacoma, which of the following majors or concentrations are you interested in or planning to pursue? (Select all that apply.)

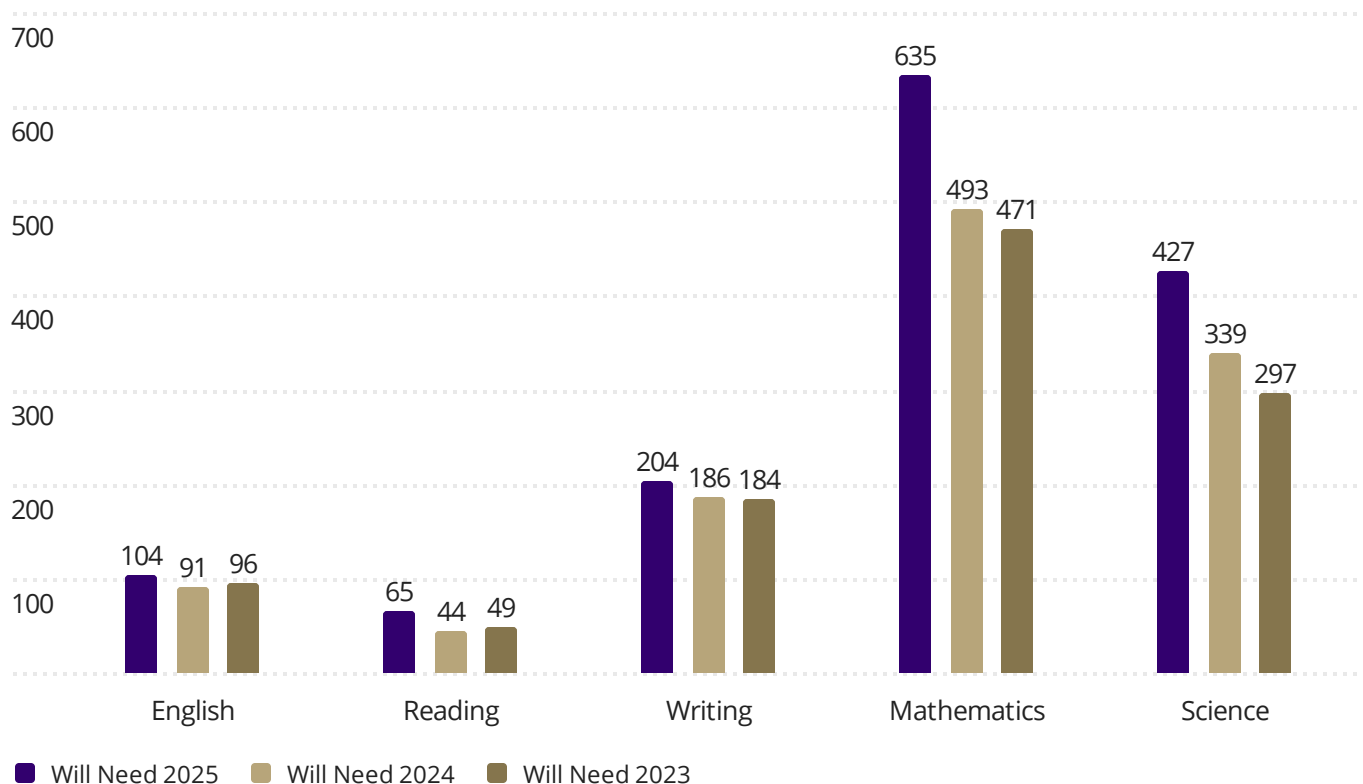


Field	Computer Science and Systems	Psychology	Biomedical Sciences	General Business	Finance	Accounting	Mechanical Engineering	Criminal Justice
2025	218	205	204	176	140	136	132	120
2024	234	178	159	138	117	131	92	94
2023	253	164	161	149	111	101	85	83

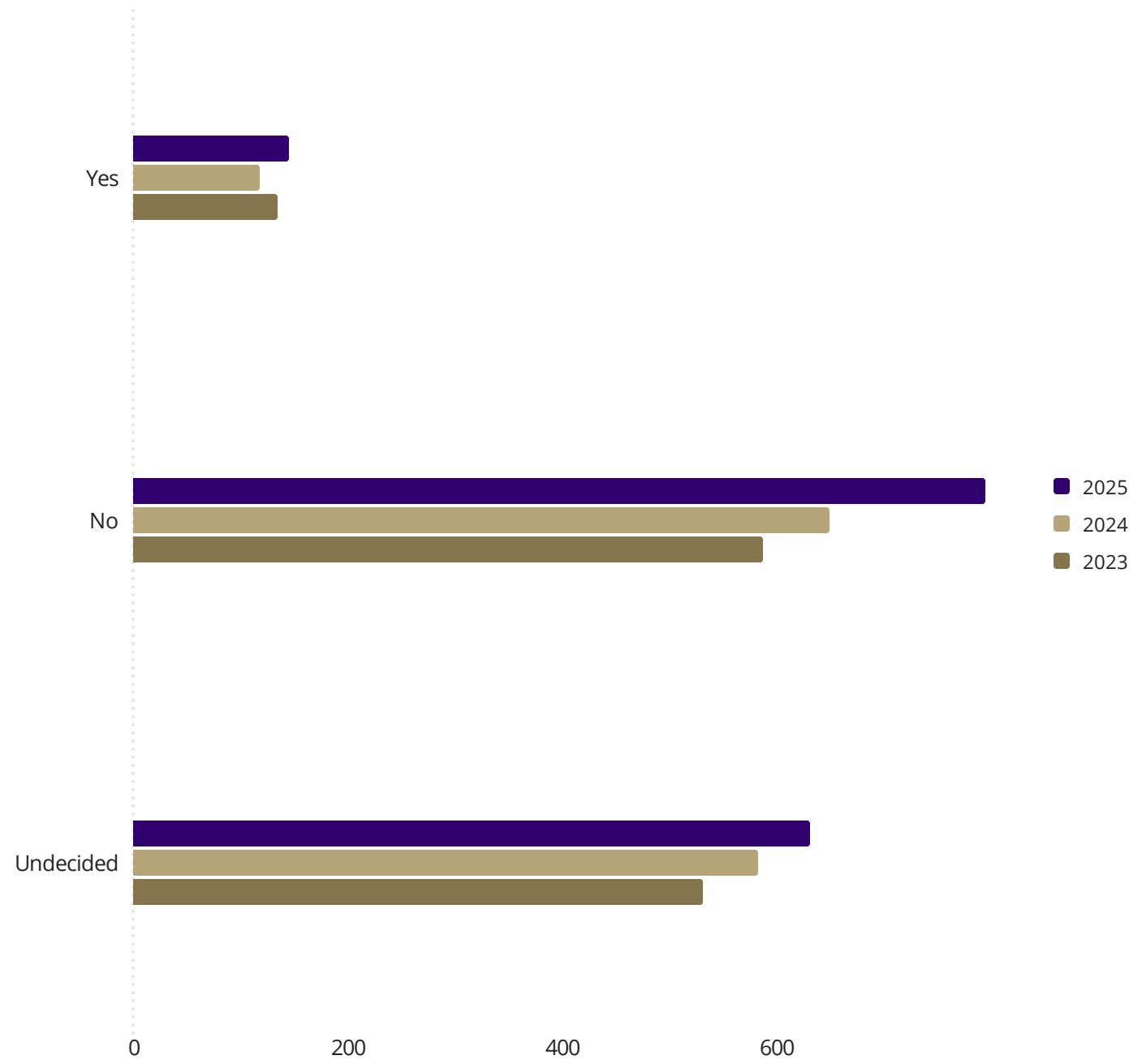
Have you had, or do you think you will need, tutoring or help in any of the... Have Had



Will Need

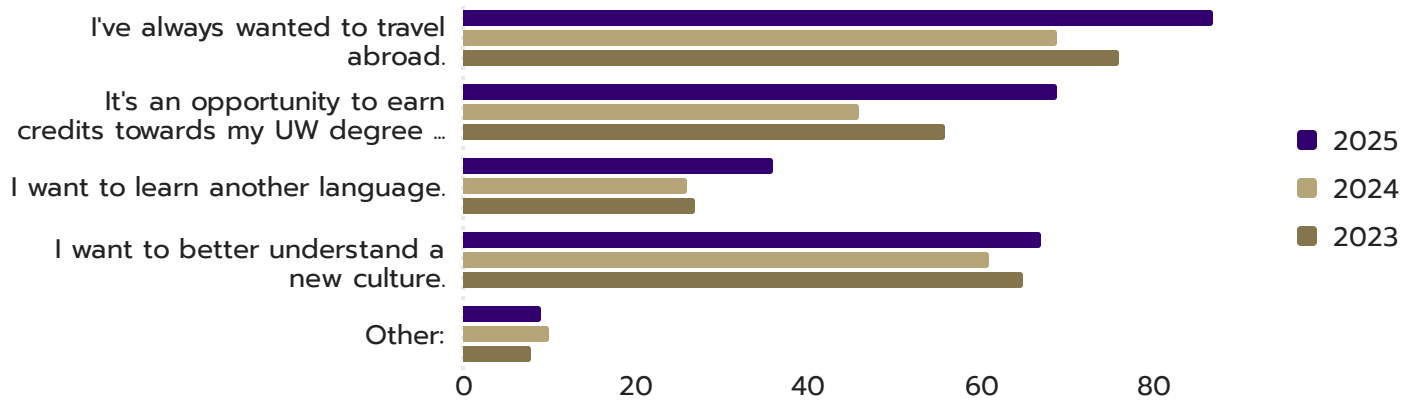


Do you plan to participate in a study abroad program while at UW Tacoma?



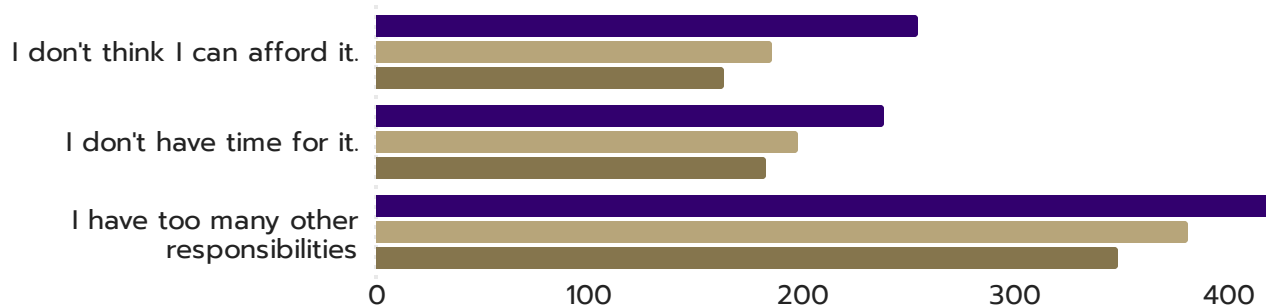
Field	Yes	No	Undecided
2025	145	796	633
2024	118	650	584
2023	135	589	532

Tell us about why you're interested in study abroad. - Selected Choice



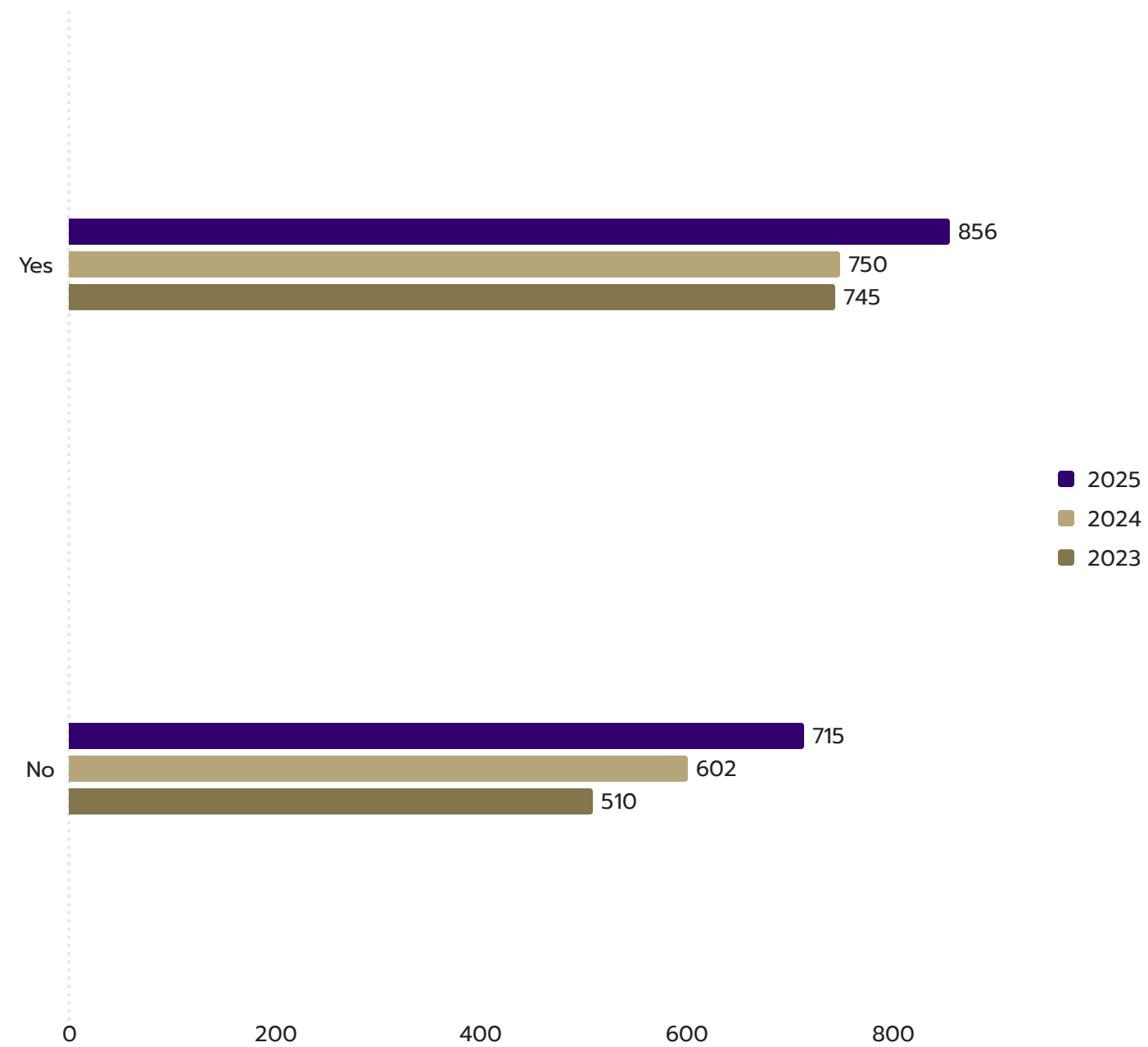
Field	I've always wanted to travel abroad.	It's an opportunity to earn credits towards my UW degree in another country.	I want to learn another language.	I want to better understand a new culture.	Other:
2025	87	69	36	67	9
2024	69	46	26	61	10
2023	76	56	27	65	8

Why don't you plan on participating in a study abroad program?



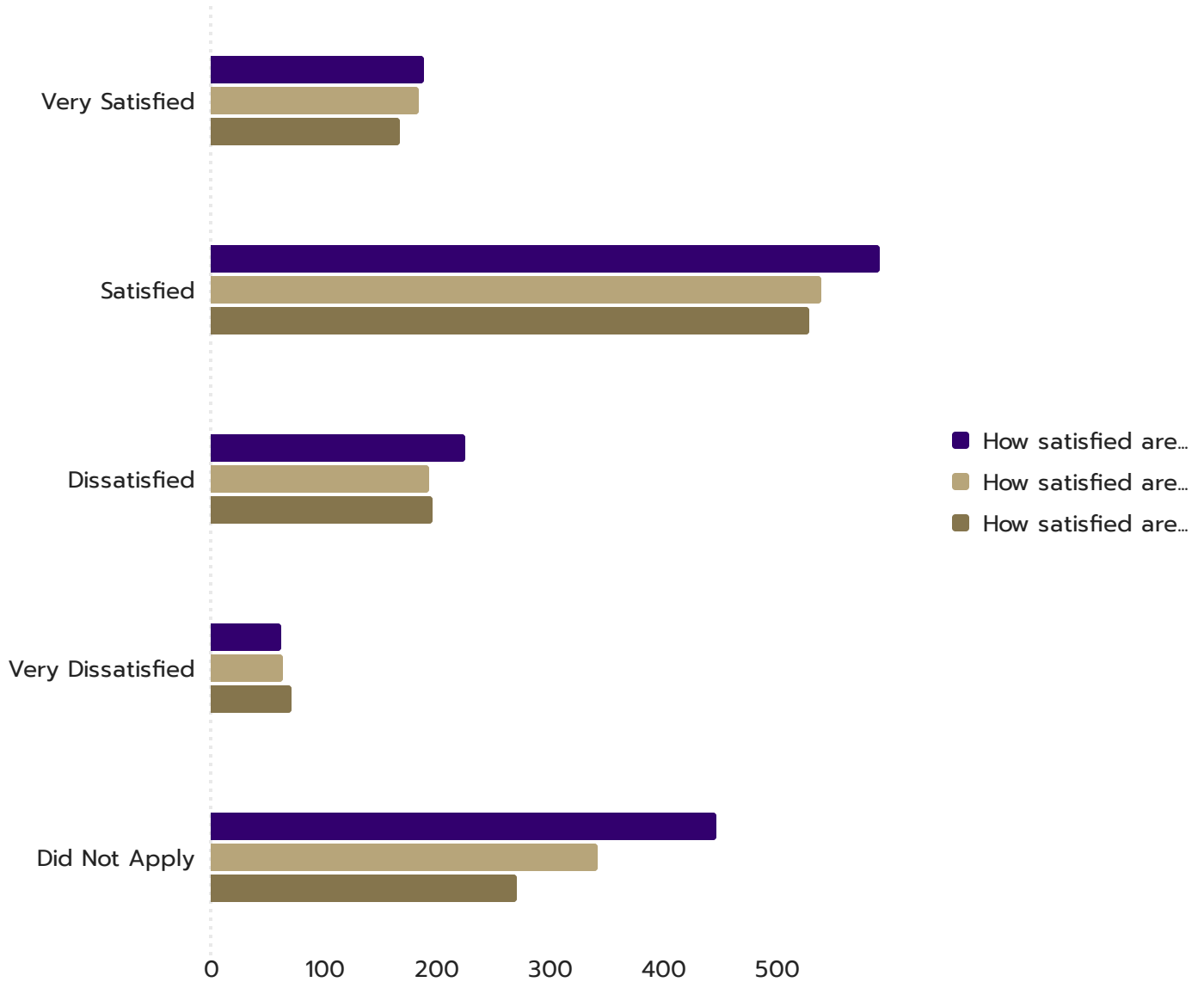
Field	I don't think I can afford it.	I don't have time for it.	I have too many other responsibilities
2025	255	239	423
2024	186	198	382
2023	164	183	349

Are you currently employed?



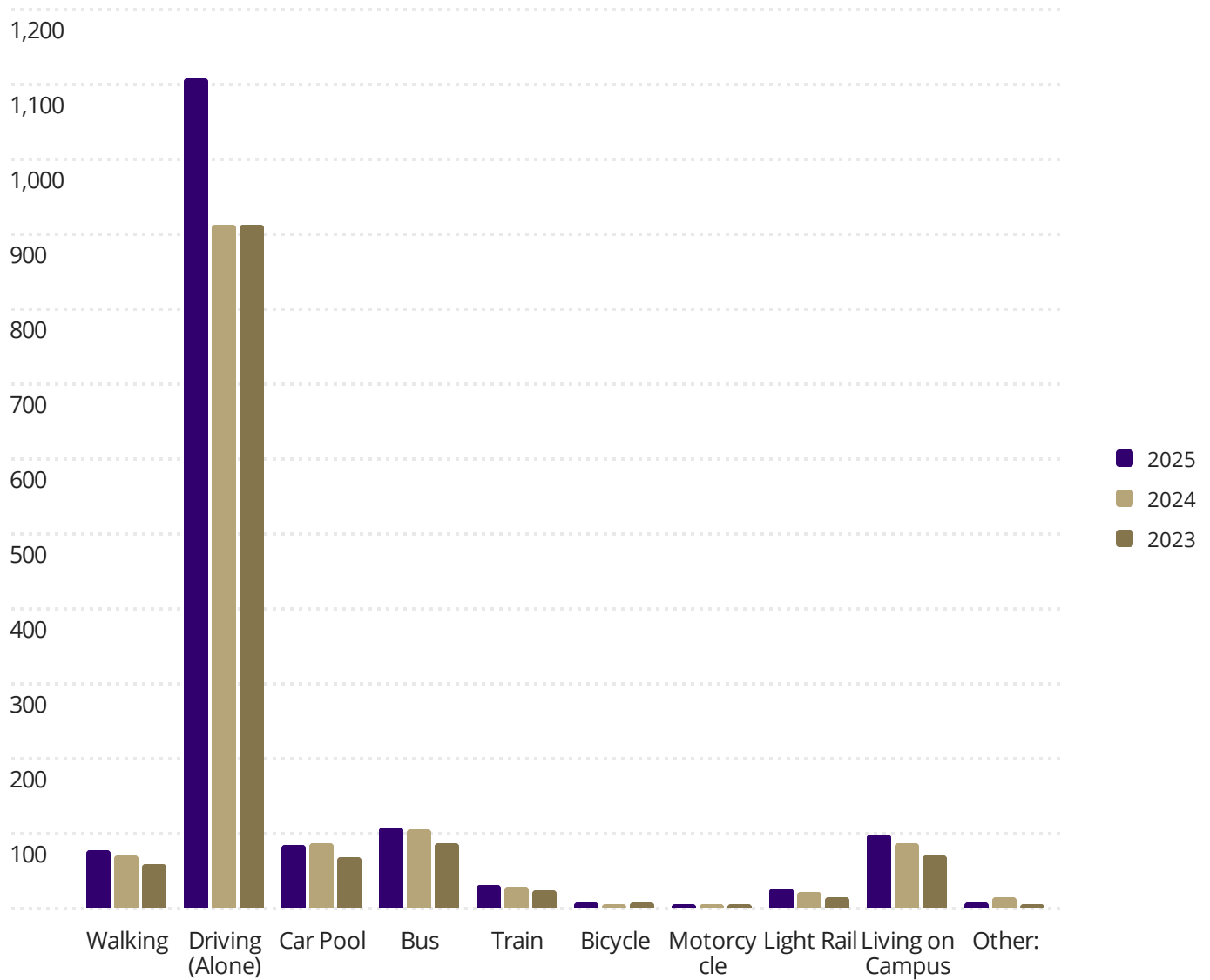
Field	Yes	No
2025	856	715
2024	750	602
2023	745	510

Q13 - How satisfied are you with the financial aid amount you are receiving from UW Tacoma?



Field	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Did Not Apply
2025	188	592	225	63	448
2024	184	541	194	64	342
2023	167	530	197	72	271

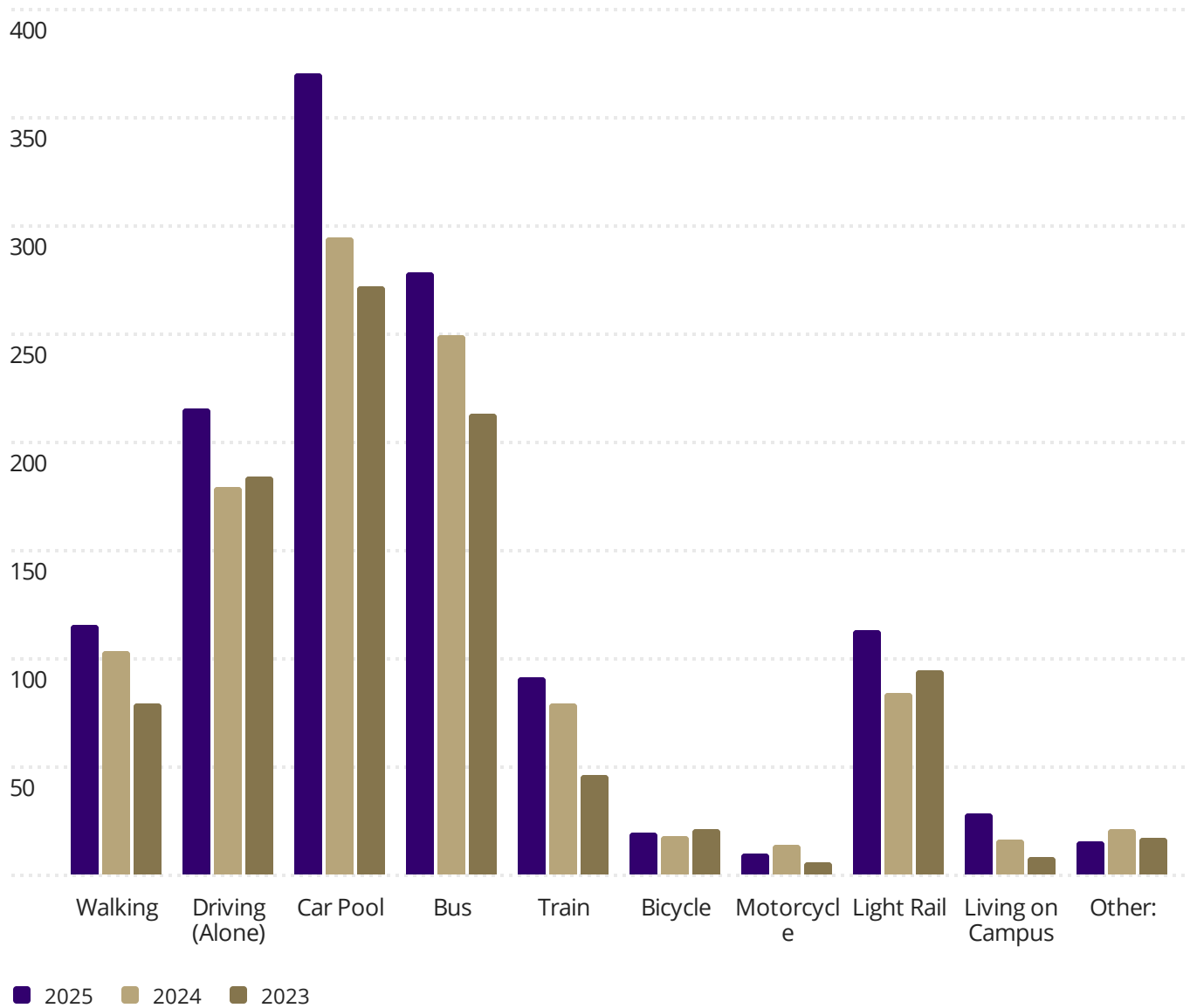
What is your most likely mode of transportation? Answer for all methods up... Response 1



What is your most likely mode of transportation? Answer for all methods up... Response 1

Field	Walking	Driving (Alone)	Car Pool	Bus	Train	Bicycle	Motorcycle	Light Rail	Living on Campus	Other:
2025	77	1,108	84	108	31	7	2	25	98	6
2024	69	911	85	104	29	5	1	21	85	15
2023	57	912	68	85	24	7	0	13	70	5

What is your most likely mode of transportation? Answer for all methods up... Response 2



What is your most likely mode of transportation? Answer for all methods up... Response 2

Field	Walking	Driving (Alone)	Car Pool	Bus	Train	Bicycle	Motorcycle	Light Rail	Living on Campus	Other:
2025	115	215	370	278	91	19	10	113	28	15
2024	103	179	294	249	79	18	14	84	16	21
2023	79	184	272	213	46	21	6	94	8	17

What Zip Code will you be commuting from? (2025)

1511 Responses



What Zip Code will you be commuting from? (2024)

1316 Responses

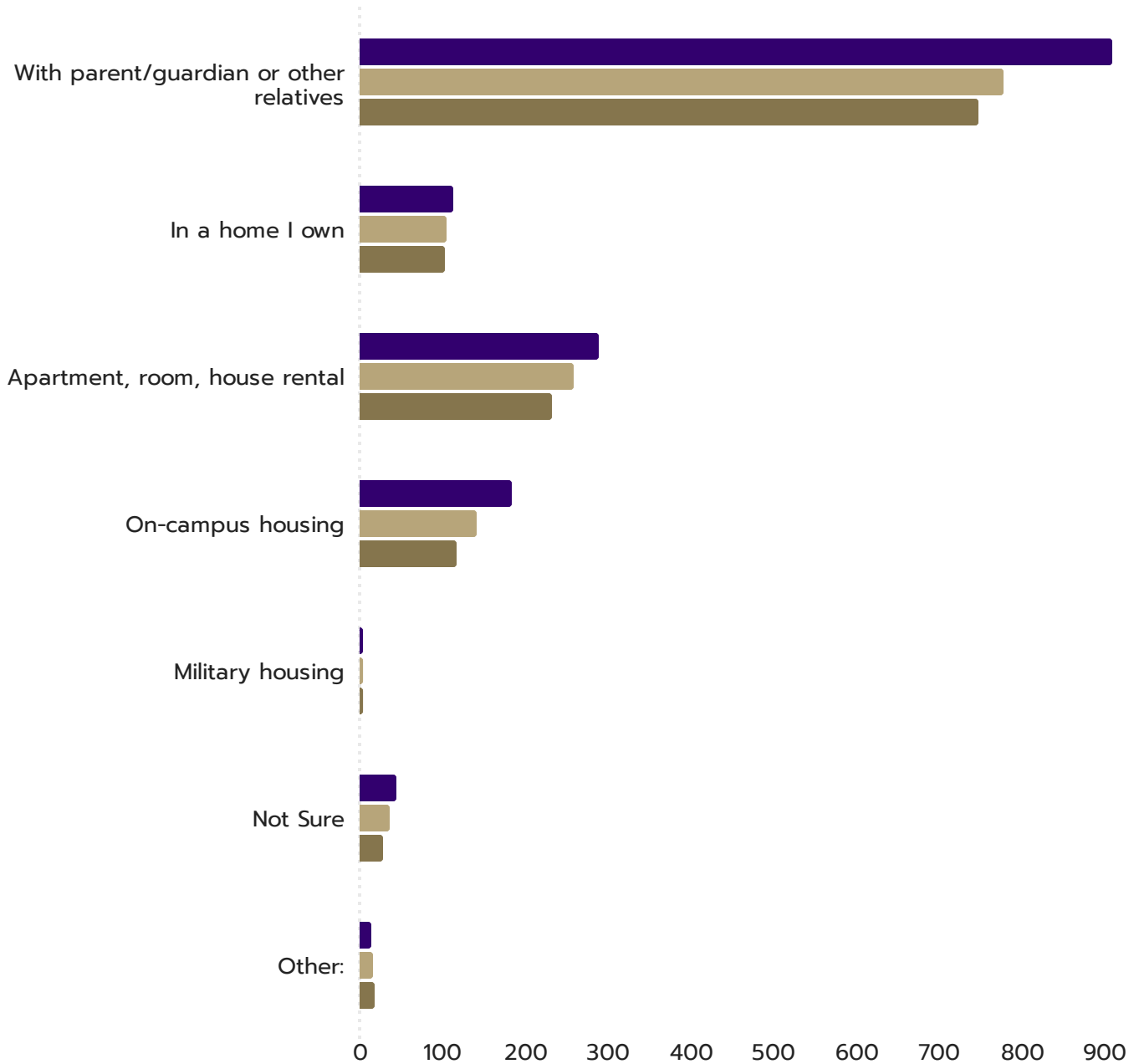


What Zip Code will you be commuting from? (2023)

1226 Responses

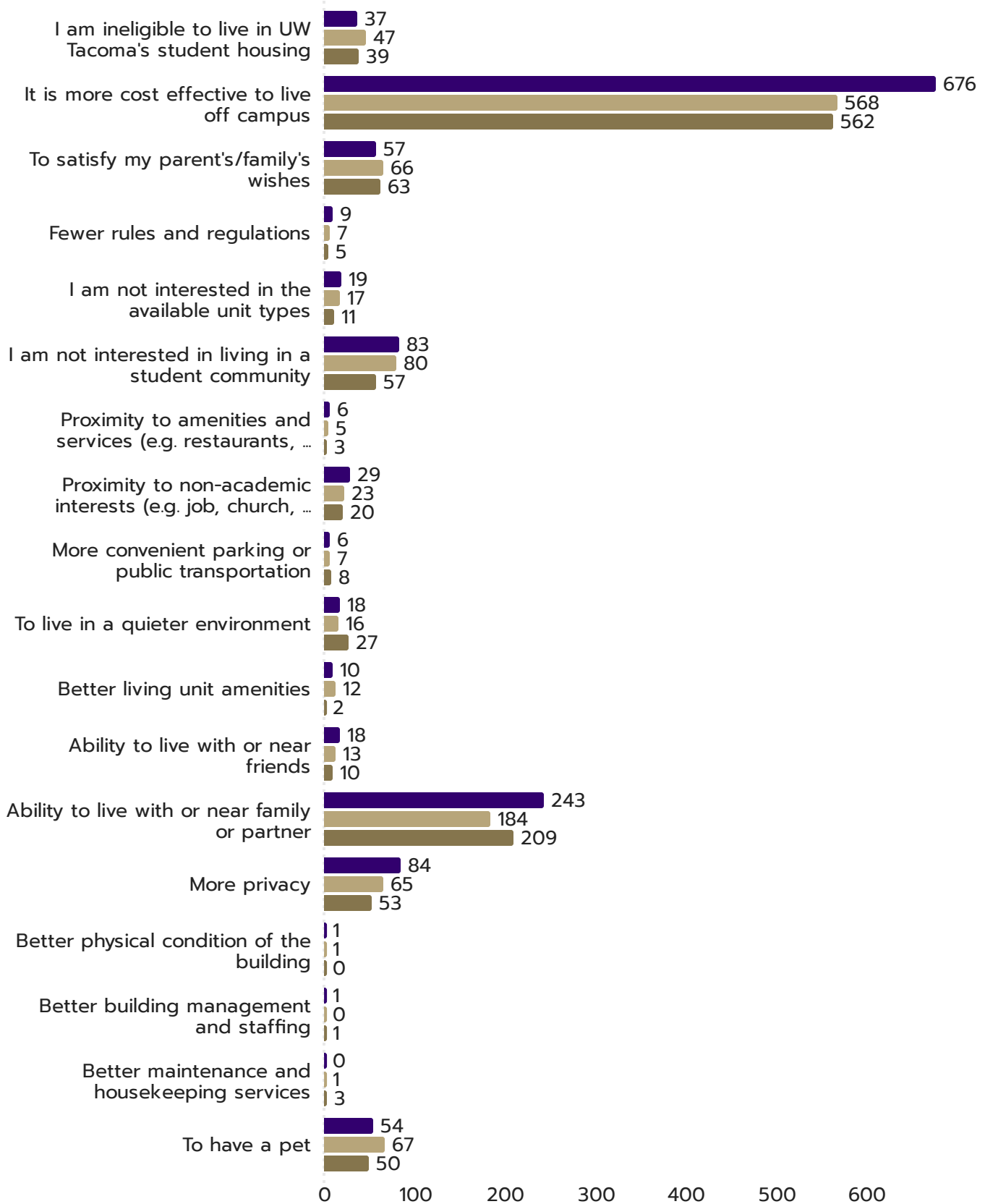


Where do you plan to live while enrolled at UW Tacoma?

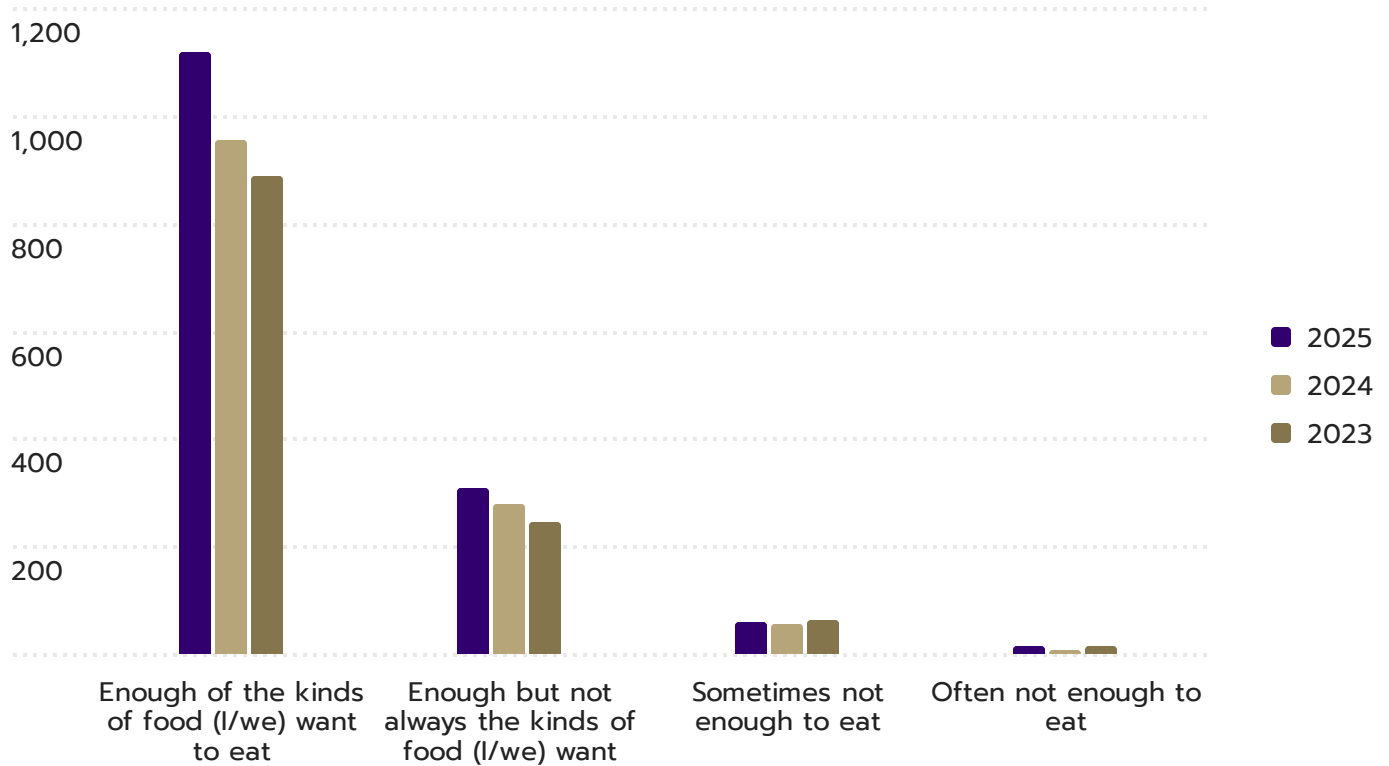


Field	With parent/guardian or other relatives	In a home I own	Apartment, room, house rental	On-campus housing	Military housing	Not Sure	Other:
2025	910	113	290	184	4	45	14
2024	779	106	258	142	2	36	17
2023	748	104	233	117	2	28	19

What are the main reasons for your decision to live off campus? Select up to five (5)

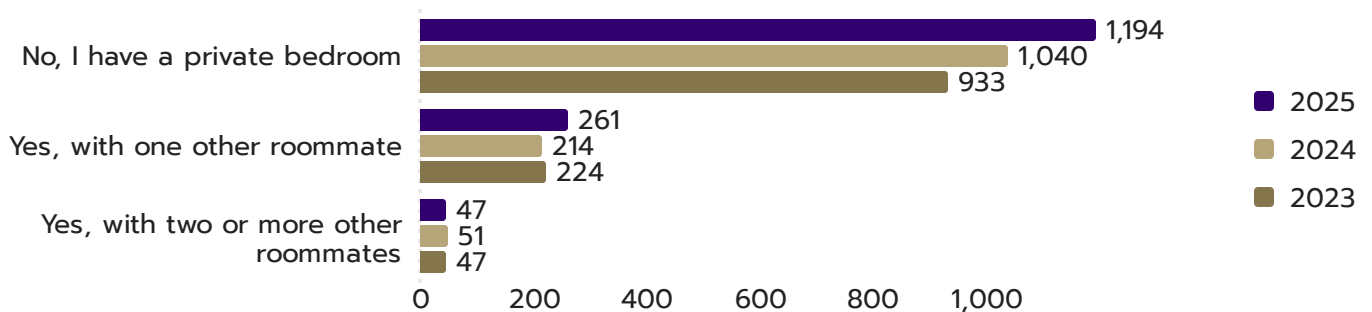


Which of these statements best describes the food eaten in your household in the last 12 months:

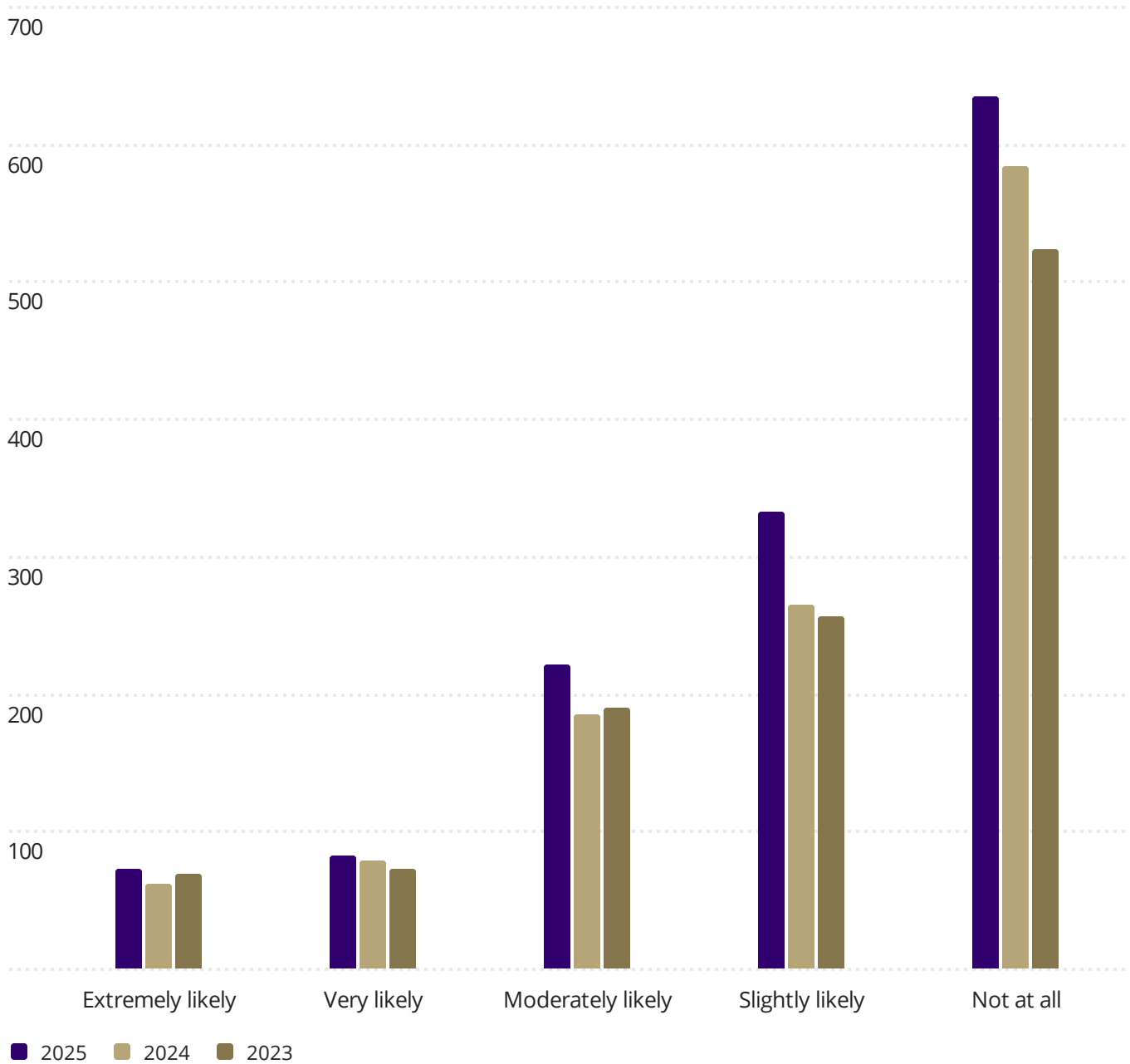


Field	Enough of the kinds of food (I/we) want to eat	Enough but not always the kinds of food (I/we) want	Sometimes not enough to eat	Often not enough to eat
2025	1,119	310	58	14
2024	956	280	56	9
2023	887	246	62	14

Do you share a bedroom?

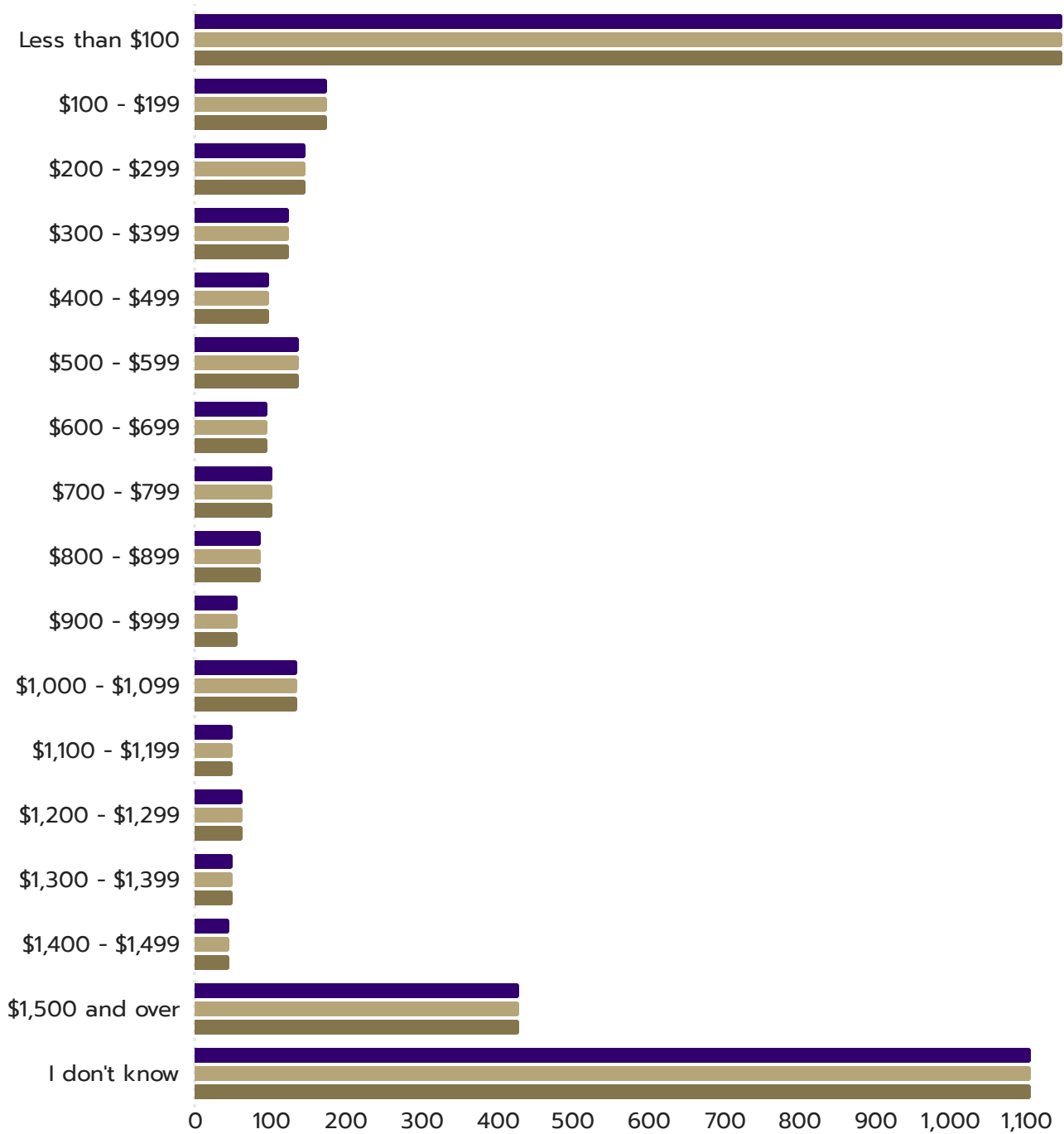


If more on-campus housing were available (dorms), how likely is it that you would consider living on-campus?

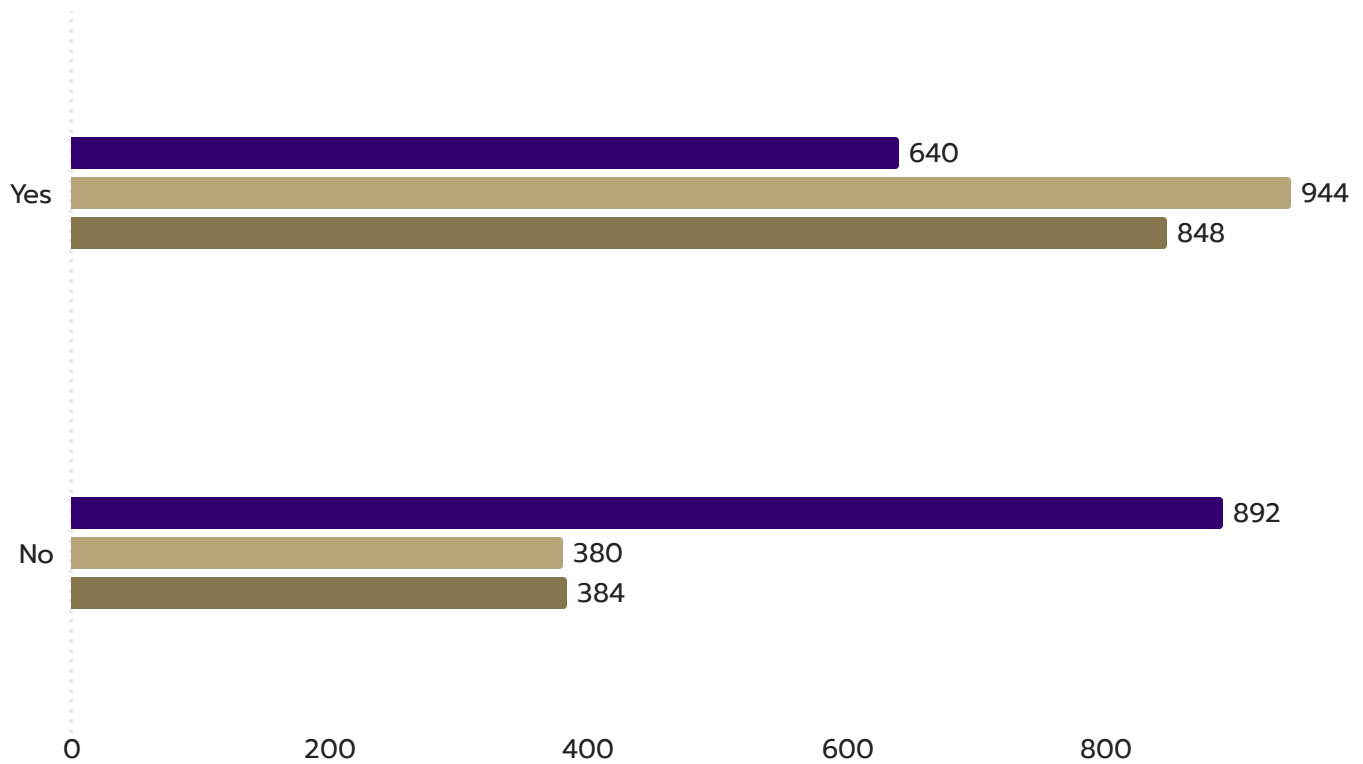


Field	Extremely likely	Very likely	Moderately likely	Slightly likely	Not at all
2025	72	82	221	333	635
2024	62	78	185	265	584
2023	69	72	190	256	524

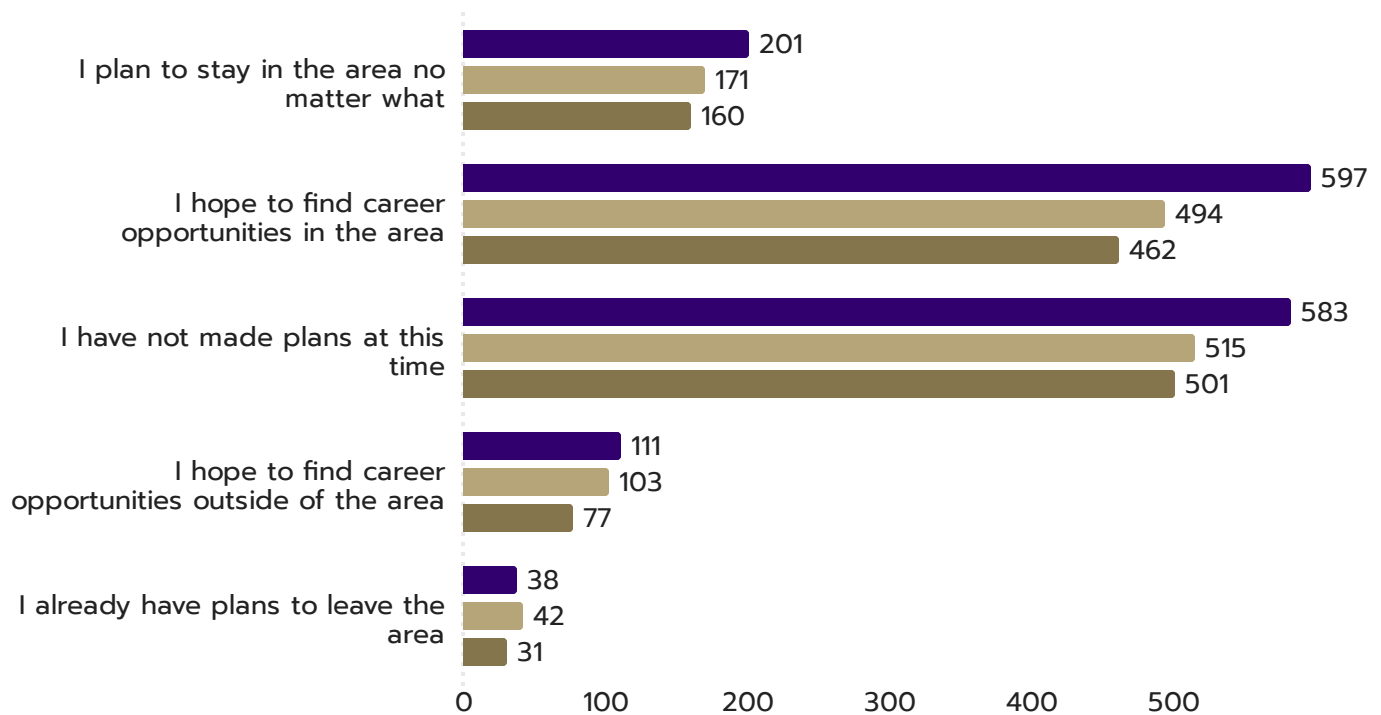
What is your personal share of monthly rent/housing costs excluding utilities for the current academic year?



Do you know who your academic advisor is?



Are you planning on staying in the Puget Sound area after completing your education?



How Concerned are you with each of the Following? (2025)

Field	Extremely	Very	Moderately	Slightly	Not at All
Financing my education	422	325	427	197	152
Getting good grades	419	424	377	197	99
Balancing studies with work and/or family responsibilities	391	430	427	184	86
Graduating on time	374	282	289	252	321
Finding a job	363	291	351	213	299
School workload	341	474	458	165	78
Finding an internship or practicum	312	304	426	238	236
Balancing my social life with my studies	267	327	466	246	212
Housing (having an affordable place to live)	227	263	332	189	505
My performance might disappoint my family	195	187	291	310	530
Feeling safe on campus	165	161	316	342	529
Choosing classes	165	335	452	324	244
Transportation to and from campus	147	161	331	304	574
Academic transition from previous institution to university	145	233	428	299	413
Feeling welcomed and included on campus	136	183	356	349	490
Classes might be academically too challenging	134	316	582	319	170
Learning to find and use campus resources	132	250	467	406	263
Whether my decision to attend the UW Tacoma is the right one for me	119	133	251	321	692
Availability of support services like tutoring and academic counseling	103	186	398	414	411
Choosing a major	89	152	293	278	705
Taking classes that are too large	75	175	425	348	494
Living away from home	64	113	328	209	803

Taking classes that are too small	22	49	318	313	812
Classes might not be academically challenging enough	21	52	280	293	871

For each of the following statements, indicate how much you agree or disagree... (2025)

Field	Strongly Agree	Moderately Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I hope to build strong connections, friendships and relationships during my time at UWT	826	442	211	18	13	5
Building connections with other students is important to my success in college	628	477	310	59	27	12
I expect to join a club or student organization during my time at UW Tacoma	411	366	415	177	75	67
I plan on spending time on campus outside of classes to hang out with friends	366	392	418	156	98	80
I will hangout out on campus outside of classes if there is a good reason	515	527	345	48	39	35