

# **Stop Out Survey Report 2017**

**August 28, 2017**

**Survey Results**

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**Office of Assessment**

## About the Stop Out Survey:

Every summer, the Office of Assessment at North Carolina State University (NCSU) e-mails a survey to students who were enrolled at NCSU during the previous school year, but did not re-enroll for the following academic semester. Students leave college for a variety of reasons, and the Stop Out Survey seeks to gain a better understanding of why our students decide to dis-enroll.

The 2017 Stop Out sample consisted of 840 students. Roughly 10% (n=83) of students in the 2017 Stop Out sample submitted a complete or partial response. The following is a summary of the results of that survey. The questions provided students with a list of reasons they may have decided to leave; students were asked to rank the effect of each particular reason on their decision to dis-enroll. They were also provided space to share reasons that may have not been on the list provided. Students were asked to name any office or person on campus who they reached out to for assistance with their decision. Other factors were addressed as well, including employment status while at NCSU, future plans to continue their postsecondary education, and overall experience while enrolled.

## Survey Highlights:

\*Results suggest 2017 Stop Out survey respondents' decision not to enroll in Fall 2017 was greatly influenced by personal environment, academic policy, and personal academic reasons.

- **Approximately 39% of survey respondents** noted the desire to “**transfer to another institution**” as having influenced their decision not to enroll “A Great Deal” or “Somewhat”.
- A large number of students indicated **financial reasons (37%), feeling alone or isolated (34%), emotional health related problem (33%), and not being sure what they wanted to do (27%)** as being central to their decision not to persist.
- Most common personal academic reasons selected were **dissatisfaction with my academic performance (36%), stress of school work (34%) and poor academic choices (25%)**.
- Students also suggested **dissatisfaction with major or program (27%), a lack of connection with faculty (27%), and dissatisfaction with living environment (28%)** as affecting the decision to leave NCSU.

Notably, approximately 84% of students agreed with the statement “I could succeed at NC State”. However, **less than half of survey respondents (47%)** said they planned to return to NCSU.

*\*Percentages in Survey Highlights reflect rounding to the nearest whole number.*

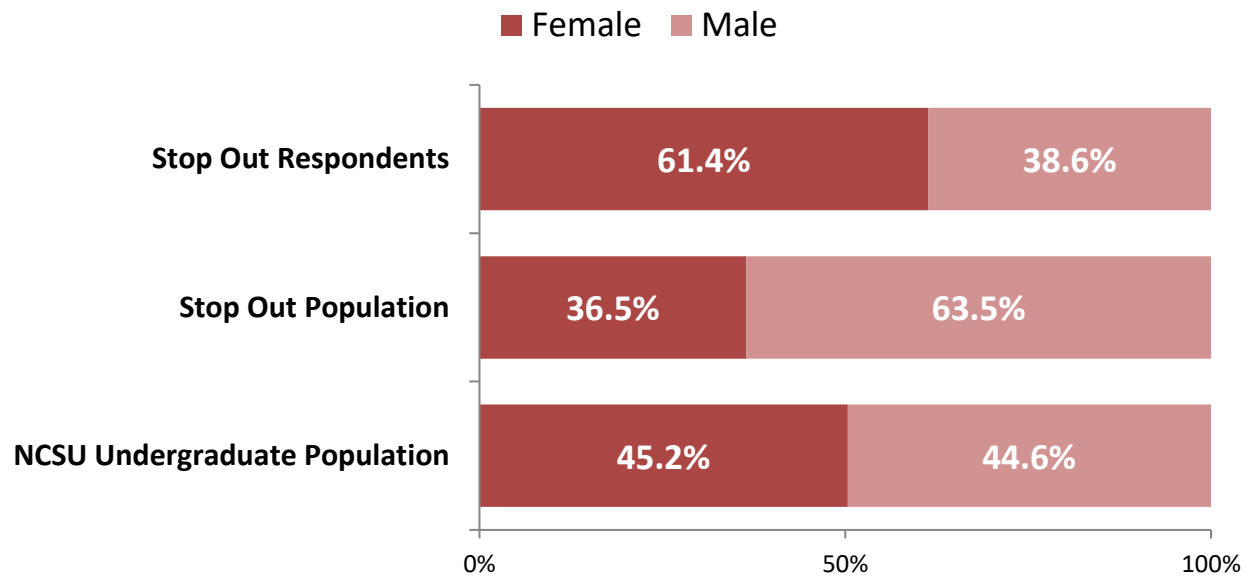
**\*\*Because 83 students responded to the survey (n=83), any percentage throughout the report is rounded to one decimal place unless otherwise noted. Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100.**

## Demographics

### Respondents (n=83)\*\*

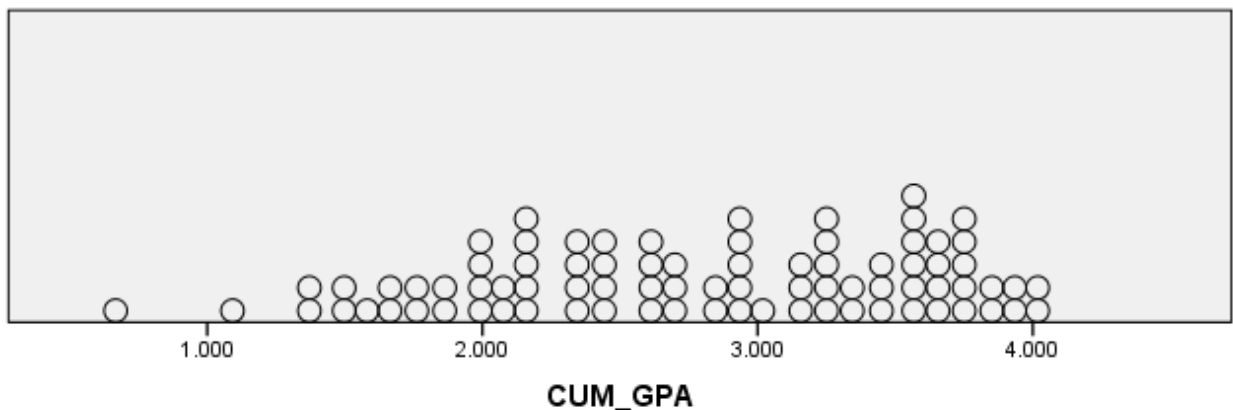
The gender distribution of the respondents indicates female students are overrepresented compared to the distribution in the survey population and overall NCSU undergraduate population.

**Figure 1. Gender Distribution for 2017 Stop Out Respondents, Stop Out Population and NCSU Undergraduate Population:**



**Figure 2. Distribution of Academic Performance of 2017 Stop Out Respondents:**

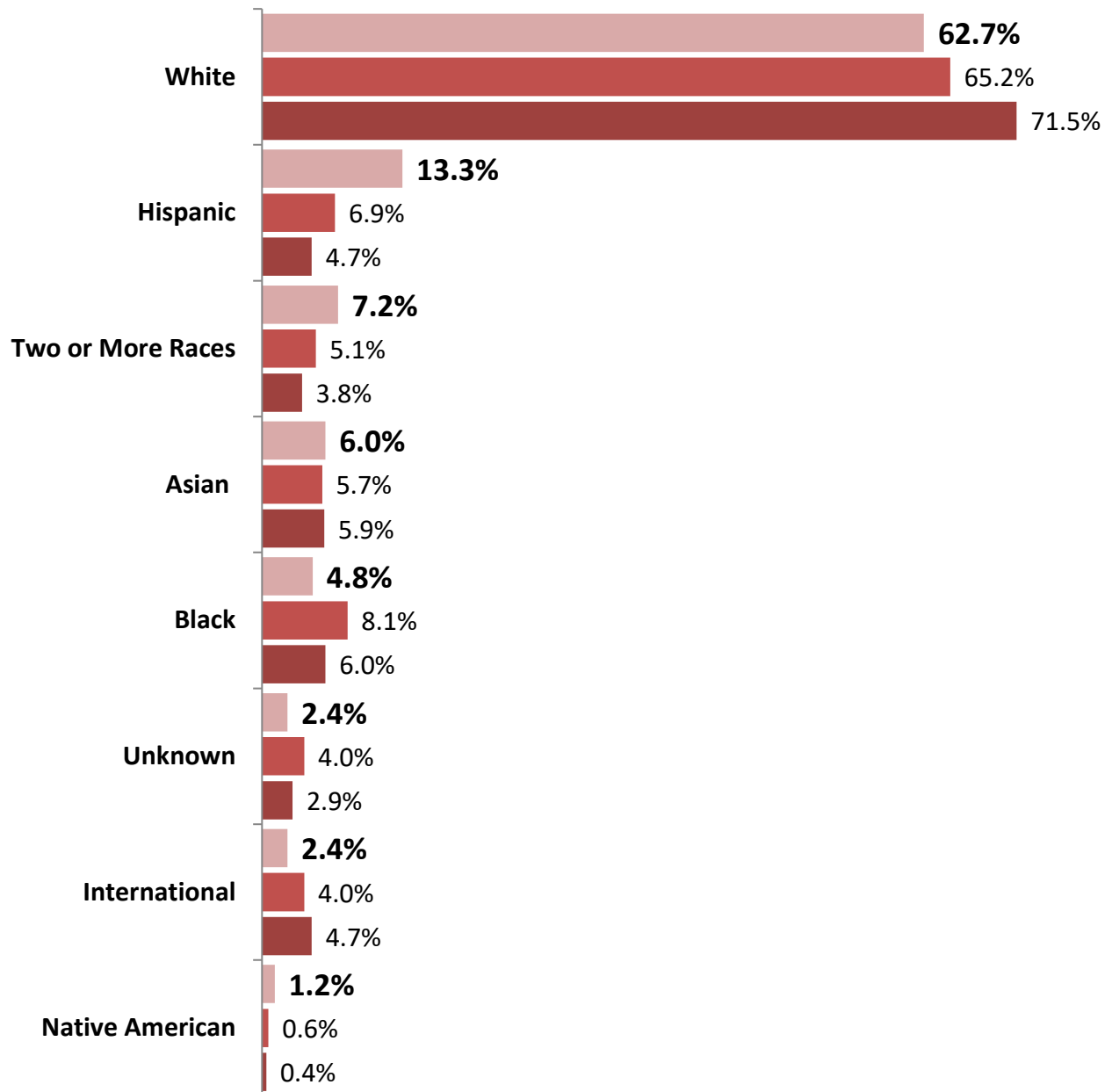
The average GPA for 2017 Stop Out respondents was 2.8 and 2.4 for non-respondents.



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**Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity of 2017 Stop Out Respondents, Stop Out Population and Overall NCSU Undergraduate Population:**

■ Stop Out Respondents ■ Stop Out Population ■ NCSU Undergraduate Population

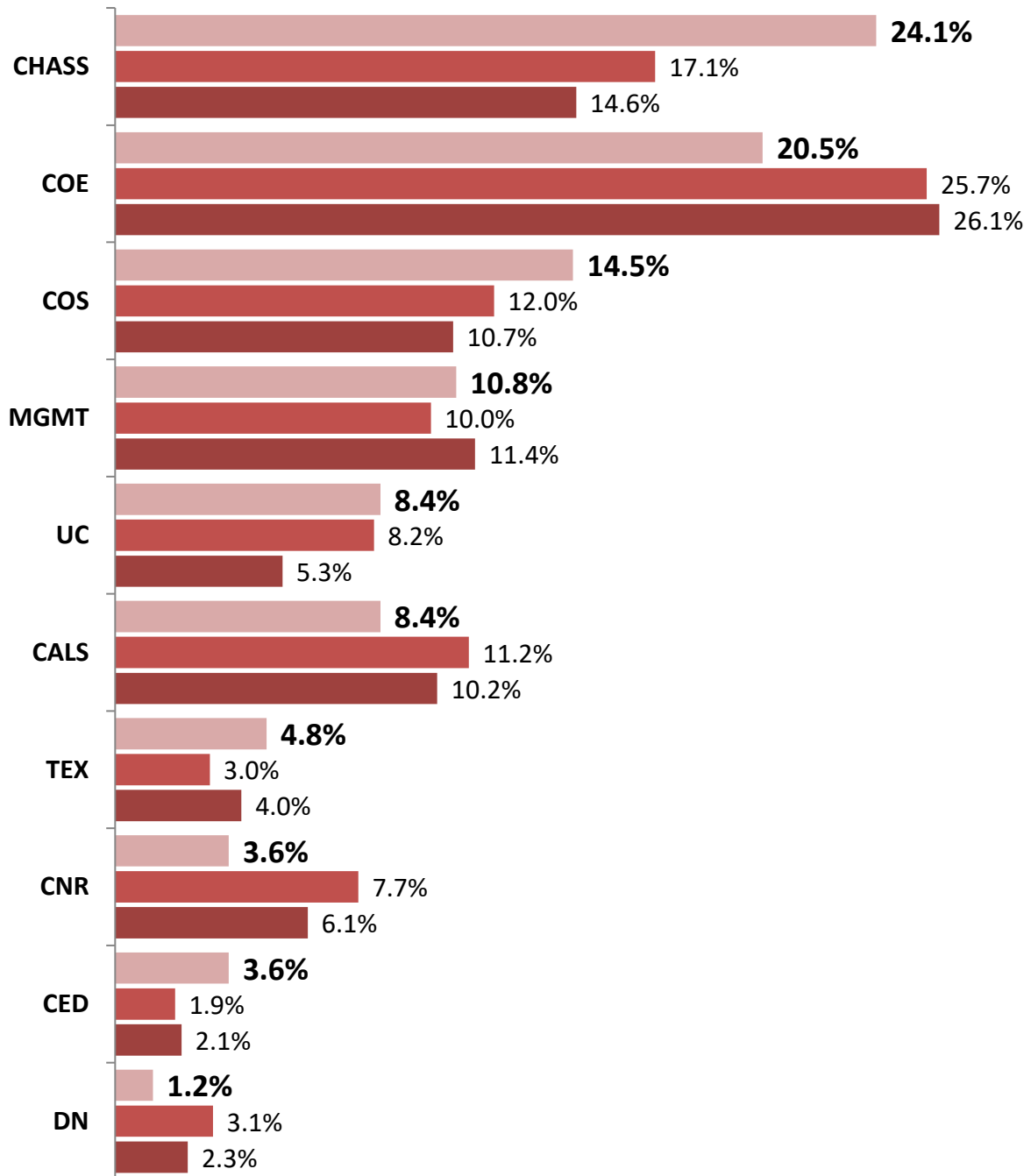


\* Pacific Islander was not reported due to lack of representation among survey respondents.

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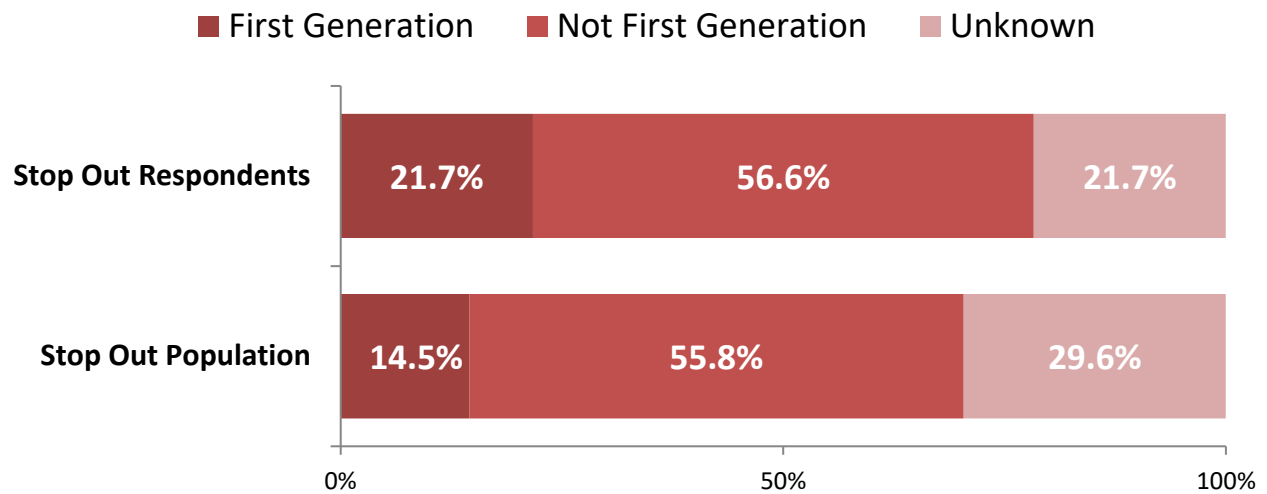
**Figure 4. Distribution of Students by Academic College for 2017 Stop Out Respondents, Stop Out Population and Overall NCSU Undergraduate Population:**

■ Stop Out Respondents ■ Stop Out Population ■ NCSU Undergraduate Population

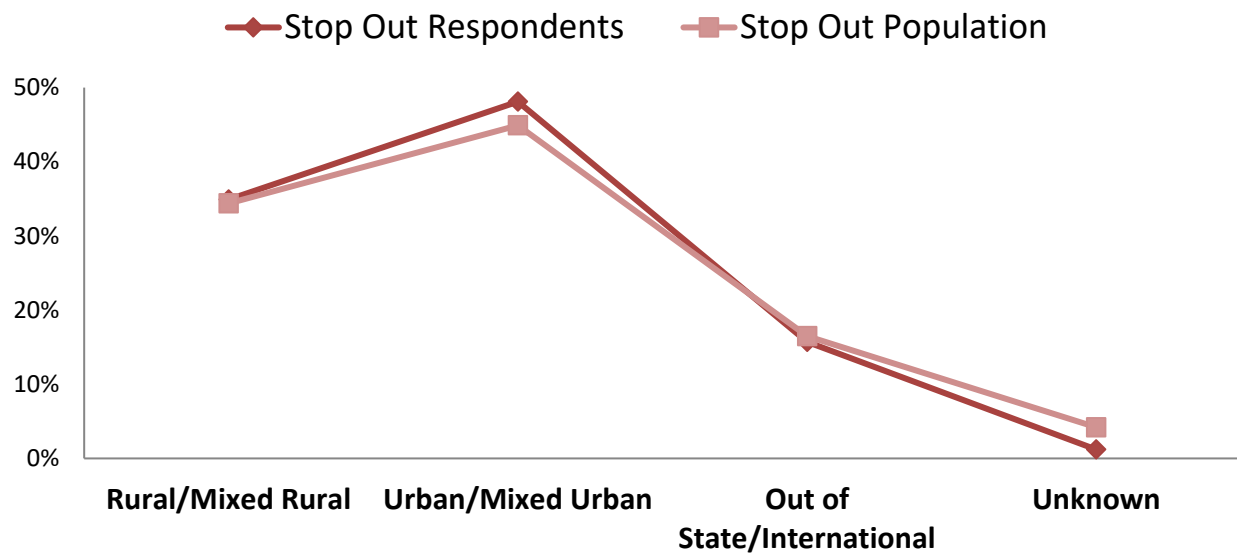


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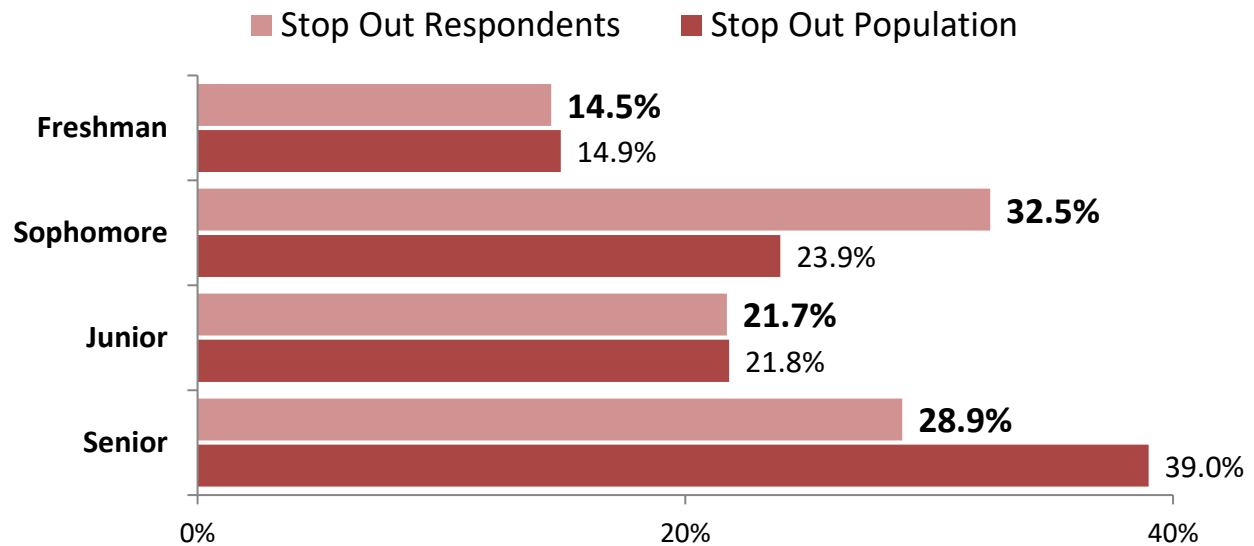
**Figure 5. First Generation Status of 2017 Stop Out Respondents and Stop Out Population.**



**Figure 6. Degree of Rurality for 2017 Stop Out Respondents and Stop Out Population**



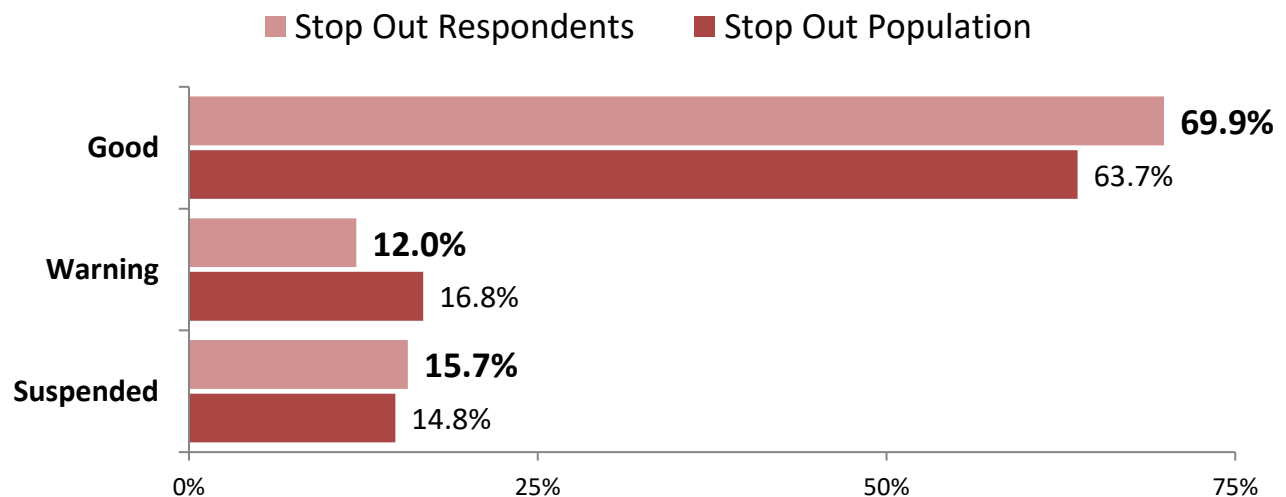
\*\*Because 83 students responded to the survey (n=83), any percentage throughout the report is rounded to one decimal place unless otherwise noted. Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100.

**Figure 7. Class Standing of 2017 Stop Out Respondents and Stop Out Population**

Percentages are displayed only for class standing categories represented among Stop Out respondents. Additionally, class standing information was missing for 2.4% (n=2) of Stop Out respondents and 0.2% (n=2) of Stop Out population. Consequently, percentages will not total 100.

**Class Standing of 2017 Stop Out Respondents:**

- 14.5% (n=12) of respondents were freshmen
- 32.5% (n=27) of respondents were sophomores.
- 21.7% (n=18) of respondents were juniors.
- 28.9% (n=24) of respondents were seniors.

**Figure 8. Academic Standing of 2017 Stop Out Respondents and Stop Out Population**

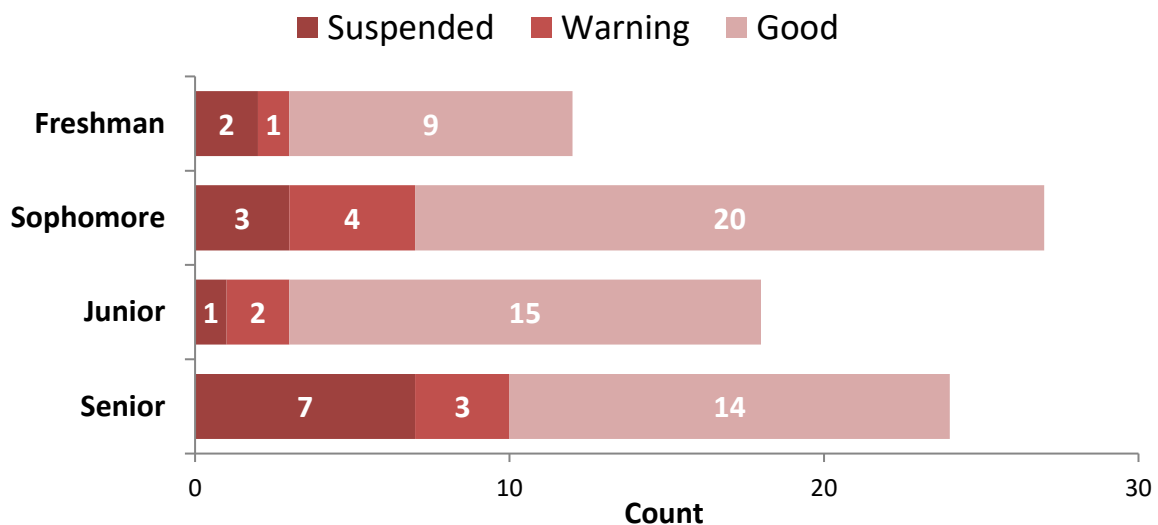
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Percentages are displayed only for academic standing categories represented among Stop Out respondents. Additionally, academic standing information was missing for 2.4% (n=2) of Stop Out respondents and 4.3% (n=36) of Stop Out population. Consequently, percentages will not total 100.

**Academic Standing of 2017 Stop Out Respondents:**

- 69.9% (n=58) of students surveyed were in “Good” academic standing.
- 12% (n=10) of students surveyed were in “Warning” academic standing.
- 15.7% (n=13) of students surveyed were in “Suspended” academic standing.

**Figure 9. Distribution Count of Student Class Standing by Academic Standing for 2017 Stop Out Respondents**



Class standing and academic standing information were missing for 2.4% (n=2) of respondents.

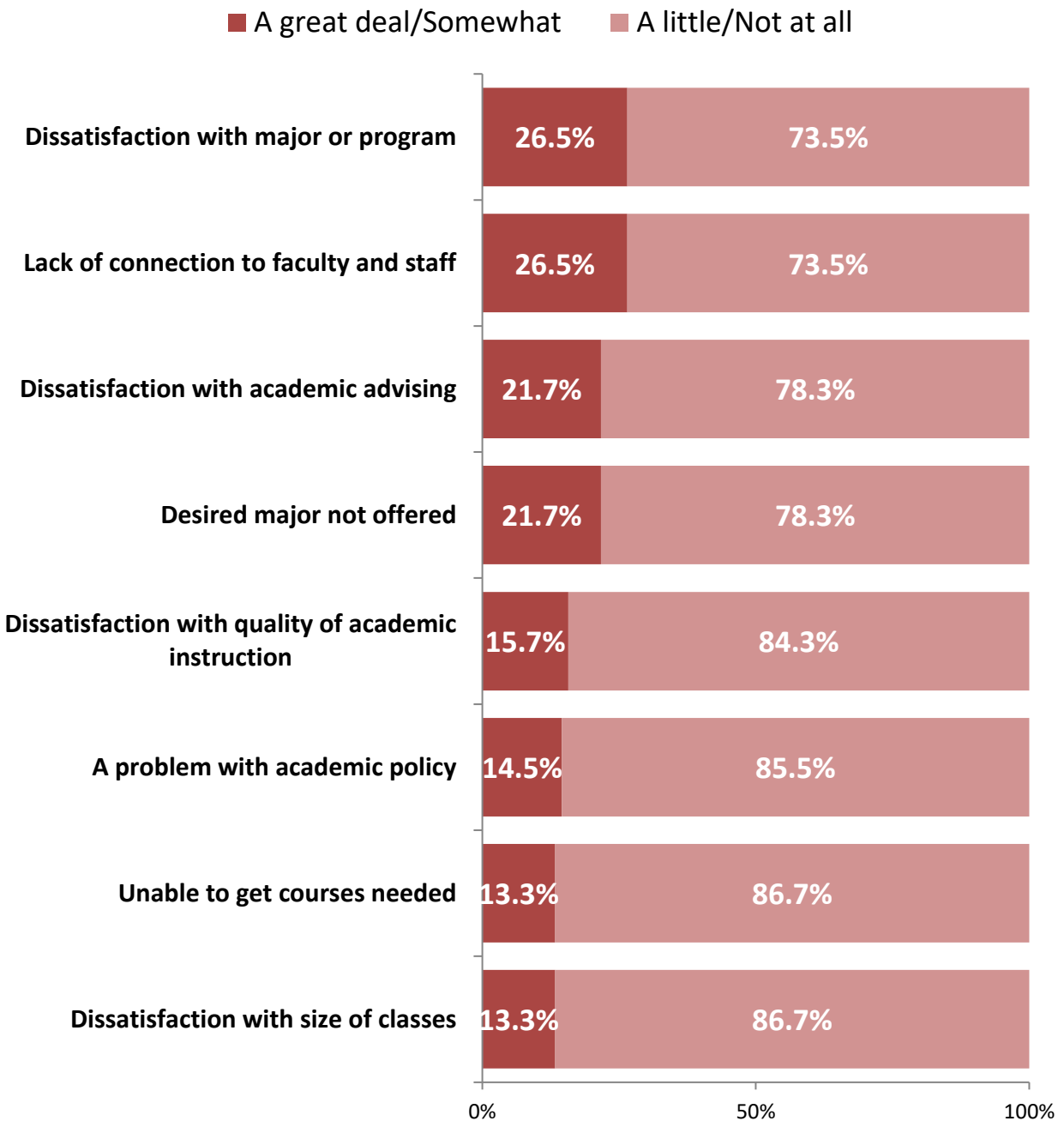
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### Reasons for not Returning

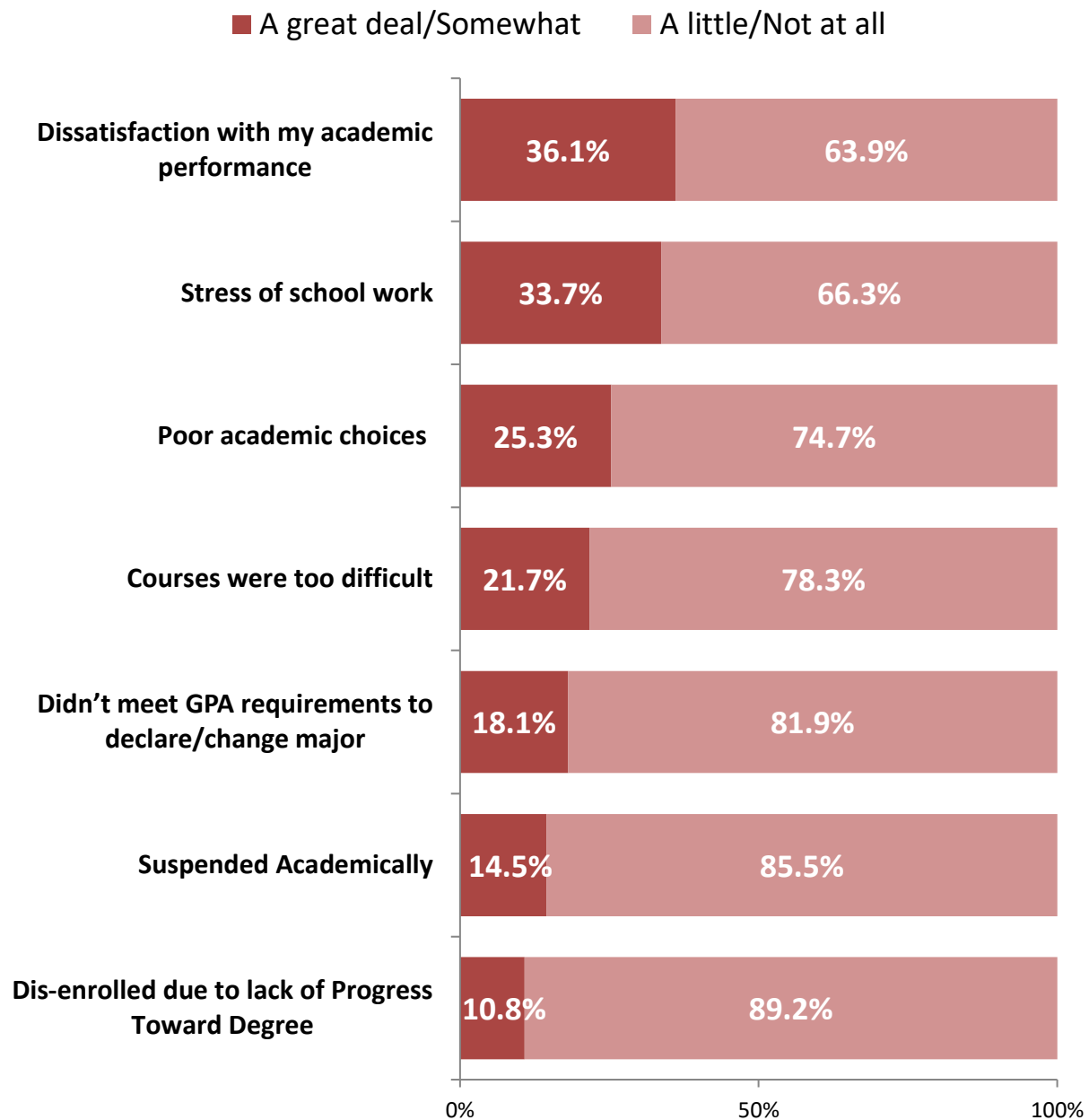
Students were asked to indicate the extent to which each of the following was a reason in deciding not to enroll for fall 2017.

**Figure 10. Academic Policy Related Reasons Endorsed by 2017 Stop Out Respondents as Influencing Their Decision not to Enroll in Fall 2017**



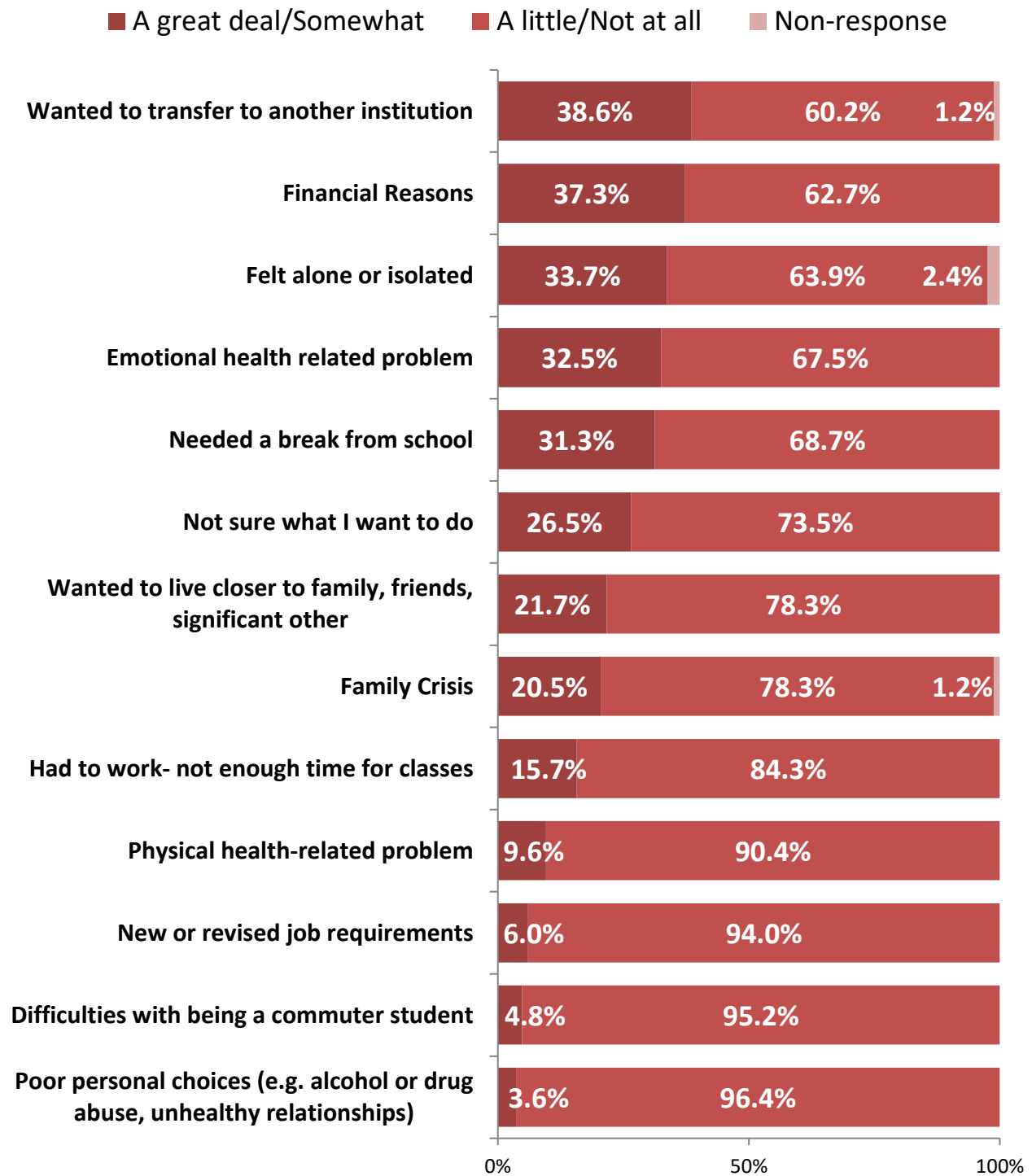
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**Figure 11. Personal Academic Reasons Endorsed by 2017 Stop Out Respondents as Influencing Their Decision not to Enroll in Fall 2017**



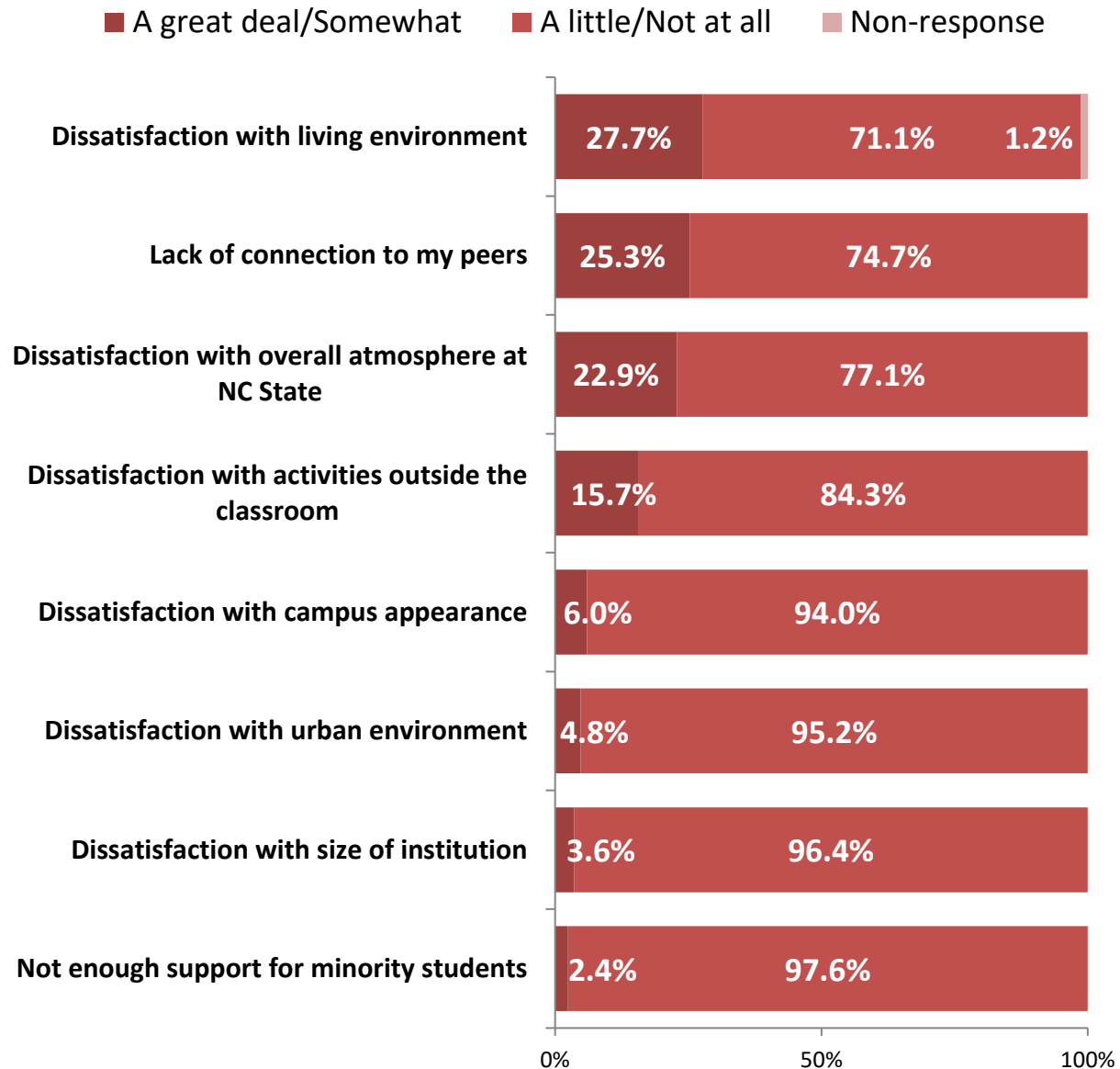
\*\*Because 83 students responded to the survey (n=83), any percentage throughout the report is rounded to one decimal place unless otherwise noted. Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100.

**Figure 12. Personal Environment Reasons Endorsed by 2017 Stop Out Respondents as Influencing Their Decision not to Enroll in Fall 2017**



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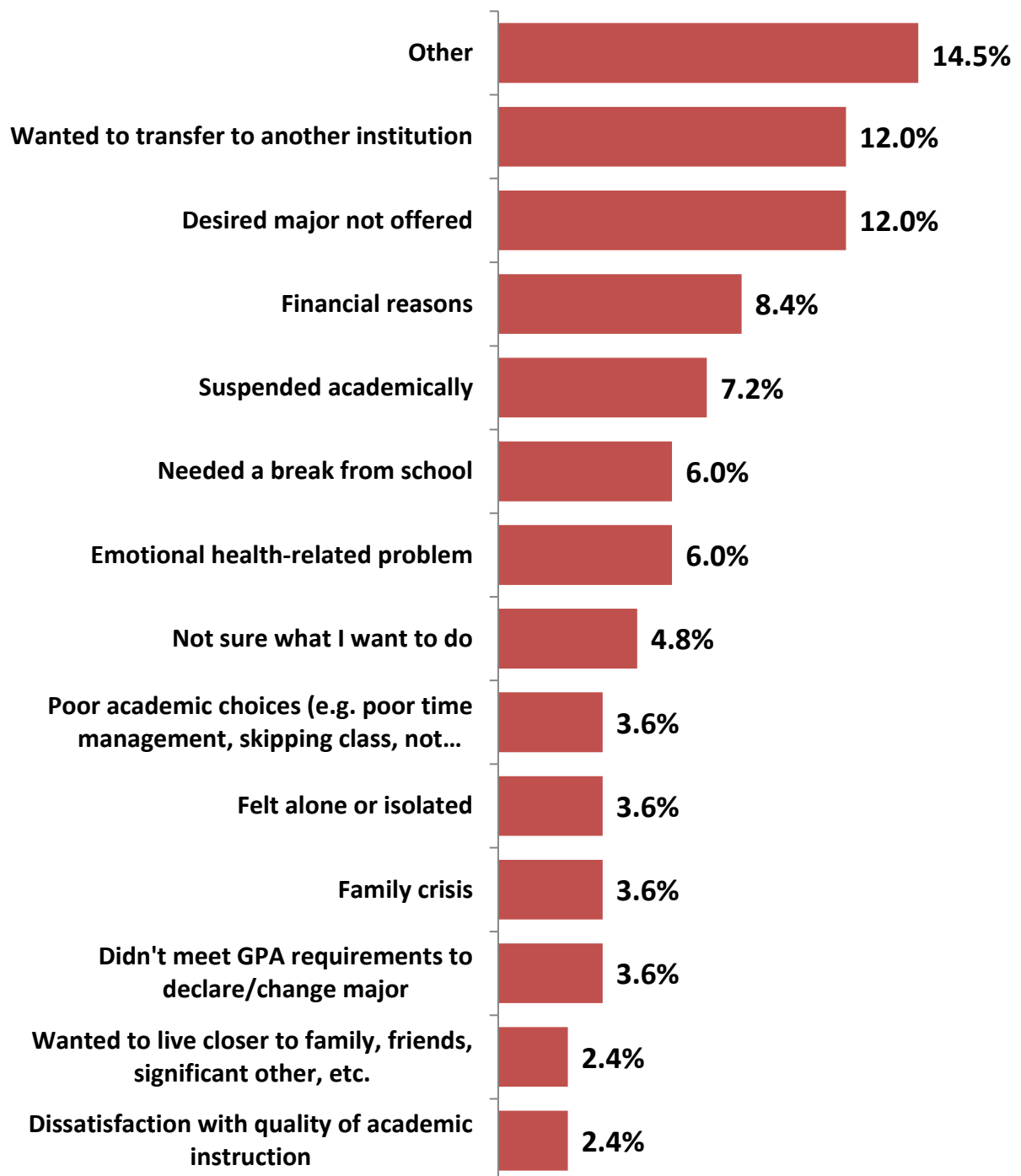
**Figure 13. College Environment Reasons Endorsed by 2017 Stop Out Respondents as Influencing Their Decision not to Enroll in Fall 2017:**



Additionally, 14.5% (n=12) of survey respondents indicated another reason beyond those listed influenced their decision “a great deal” or “somewhat” and 32.5% (n=27) “a little” or “not at all”.

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**Figure 14. Single Most Important Reason for not Reenrolling Endorsed by 2017 Stop Out Respondents**

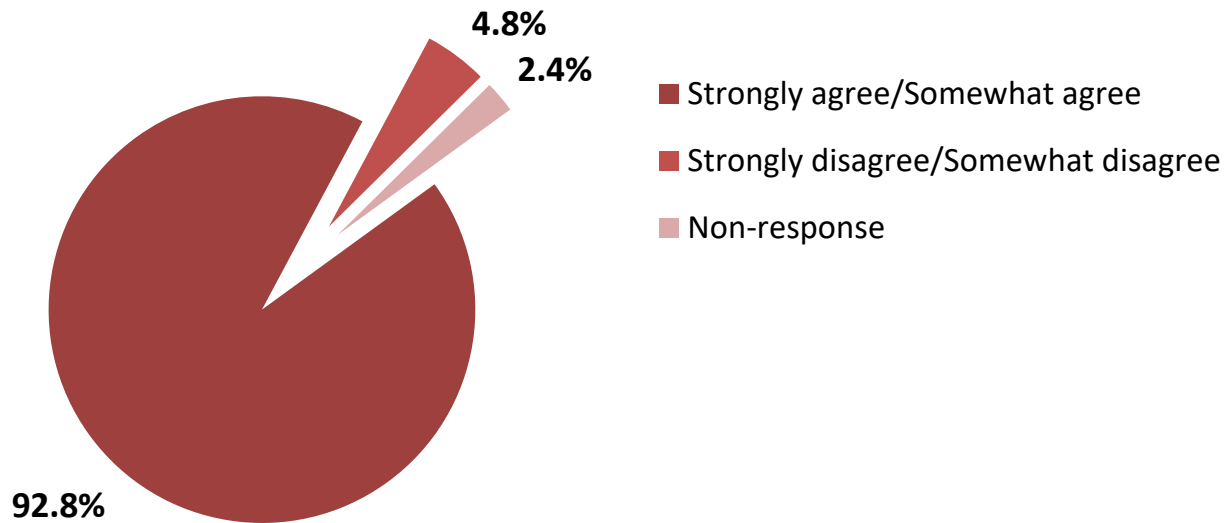


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**NC State Experience**

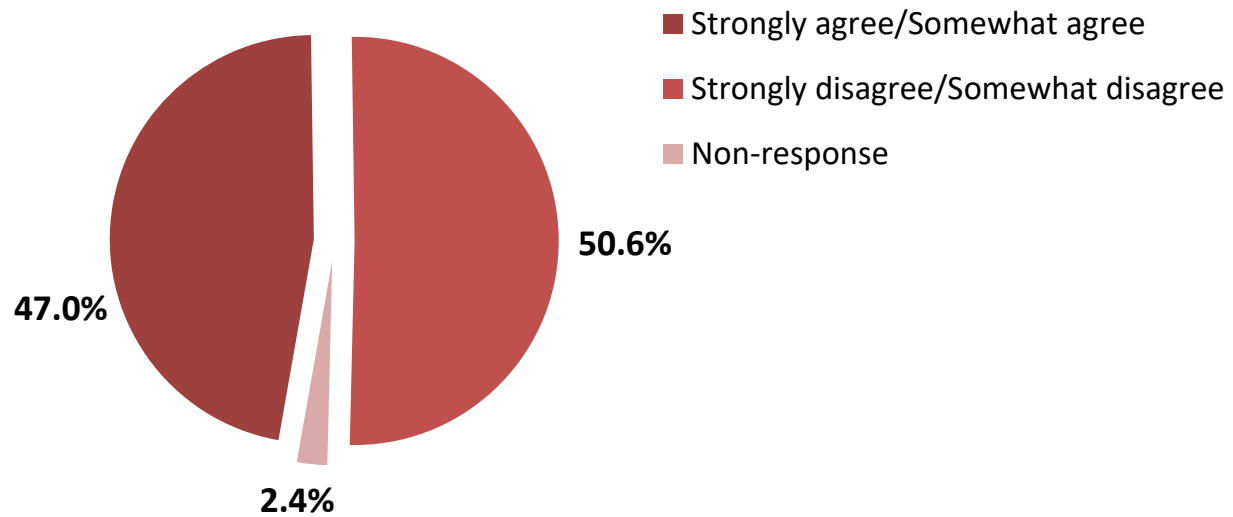
Students were asked to indicate if they agreed or disagreed with the statements “I plan to return to NC State”, “I could succeed at NC State”, and “When I first enrolled at NC State, I intended to complete a degree from NC State”.

**Figure 15. Percent of 2017 Stop Out Respondents Who Intended to Complete a Degree from NC State When They First Enrolled at NC State:**

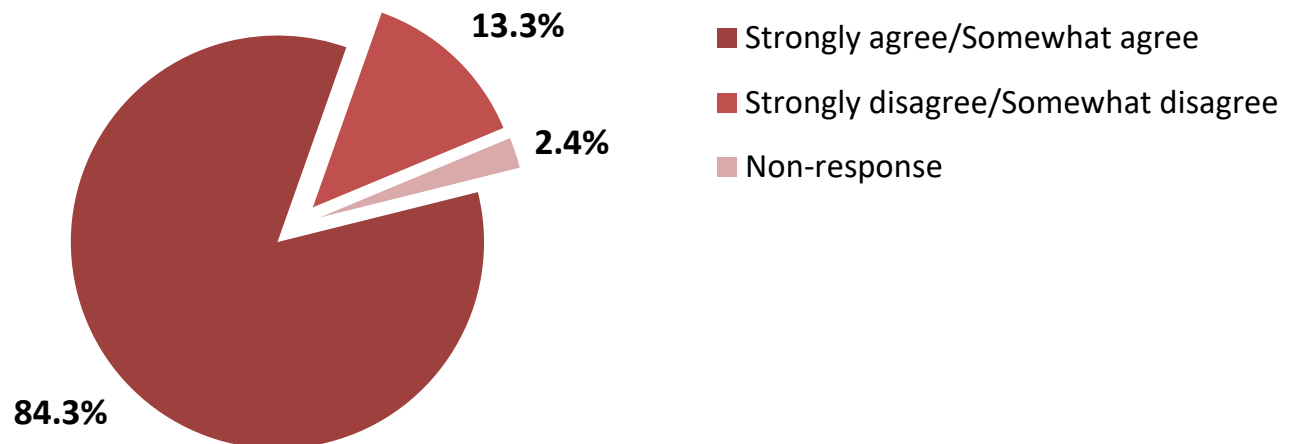


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**Figure 16. Percent of 2017 Stop Out Respondents Planning to Return to NC State**



**Figure 17. Percent of 2017 Stop Out Respondents Who Thought They Could Succeed at NC State**

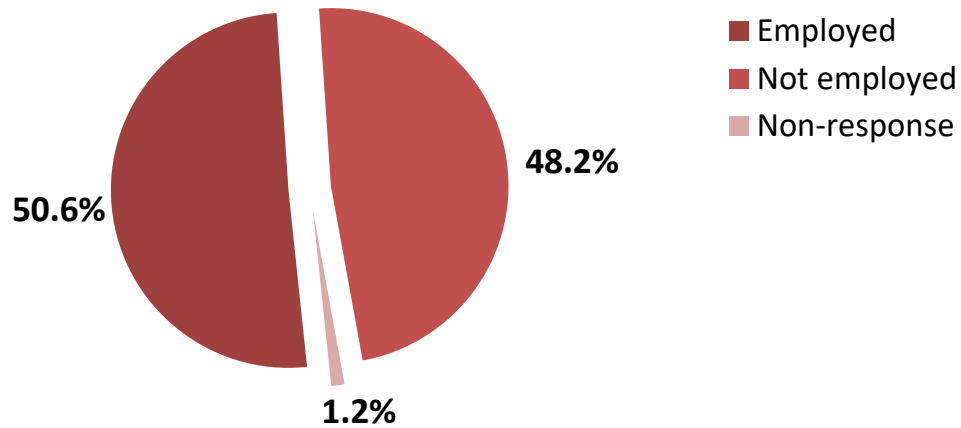


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**Employment while at NC State**

Students were asked if they were employed during the 2016-2017 school year while still a student at NC State.

**Figure 18. Percent of 2017 Stop Out Respondents Who Were Employed During the 2016-2017 School Year While Enrolled at NC State**

**Hours worked on campus:**

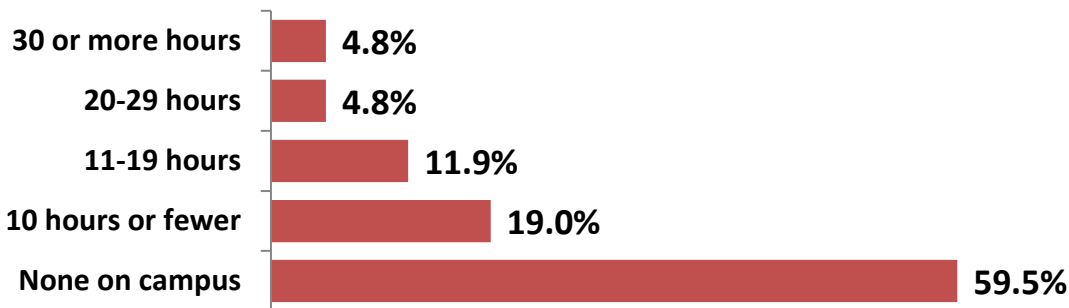
Students who said they were employed while at NC State (n=42) were asked how many hours they worked a week on campus.

- 19% (n=8) of respondents who worked said they worked 10 hours or fewer on campus.
- 11.9% (n=5) of respondents who worked said they worked 11 to 19 hours on campus.
- 4.8% (n=2) of respondents who worked said they worked 20 to 29 hours on campus
- 4.8% (n=2) of respondents who worked said they worked 30 or more hours on campus
- 59.5% (n=25) of respondents who worked said they did not work any hours on campus

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**Figure 19. Hours Worked on Campus by 2017 Stop Out Respondents During the 2016-2017 Academic Year**



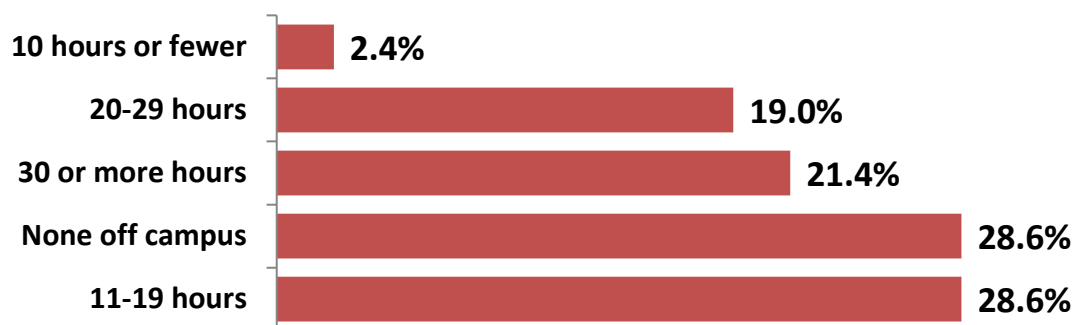
*Percentages were calculated based on the number of respondents who reported being employed (n=42).*

**Hours worked off campus:**

Students who said they were employed while at NC State (n=42) were asked how many hours they worked a week off campus.

- 2.4% (n=1) of respondents who worked said they worked 10 hours or fewer off campus.
- 28.6% (n=12) of respondents who worked said they worked 11 to 19 hours off campus.
- 19% (n=8) of respondents who worked said they worked 20 to 29 hours off campus.
- 21.4% (n=9) of respondents who worked said they worked 30 or more hours off campus.
- 28.6% (n=12) of respondents who worked said they did not work any hours off campus.

**Figure 20. Hours Worked off Campus by 2017 Stop Out Respondents During the 2016-2017 Academic Year**



*Percentages were calculated based on the number of respondents who reported being employed (n=42).*

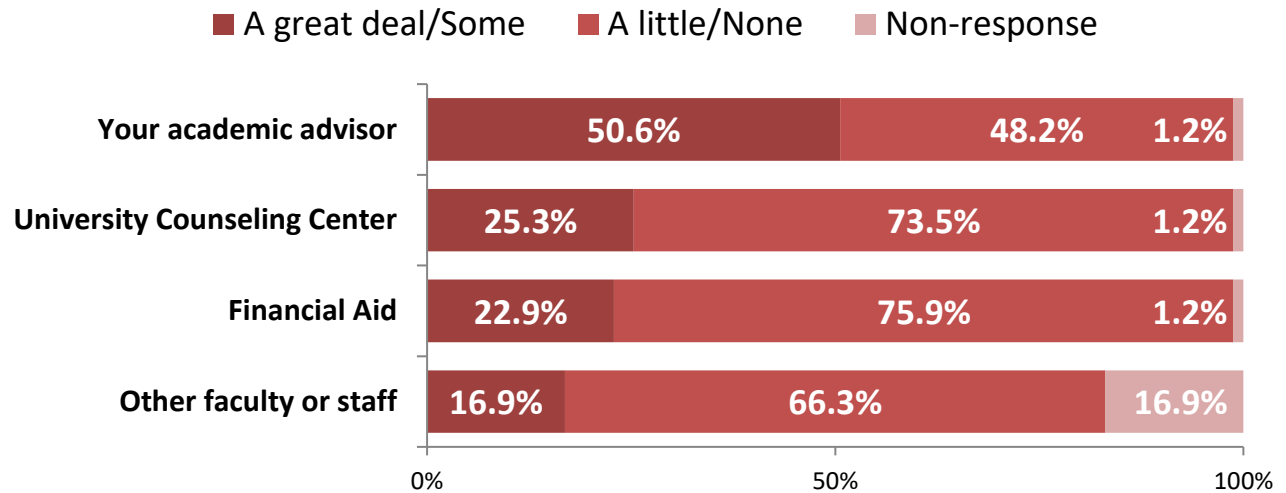
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Assistance with Decision not to Re-enroll

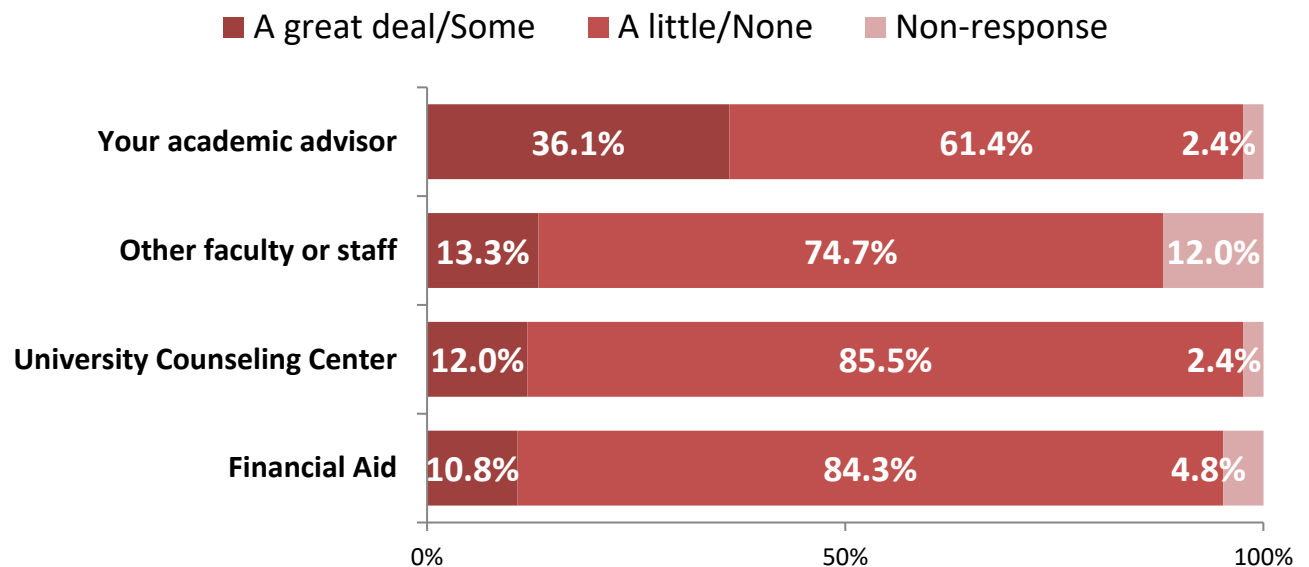
Students were asked if they sought out assistance/guidance from any of the following.

**Figure 22. How Much Assistance/Guidance 2017 Stop Out Respondents Sought When Deciding not to Reenroll**



Students were asked “how much assistance/guidance [they] receive[d] from each of the following”.

**Figure 23. How Much Assistance/Guidance 2017 Stop Out Respondents Received upon Deciding not to Reenroll**



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Of the students who indicated “financial reasons” played at least some part in their decision to leave (n=41), 44% (n=18) indicated they sought some assistance from Financial Aid; of these students, 50% (n=9) indicated they received no assistance.

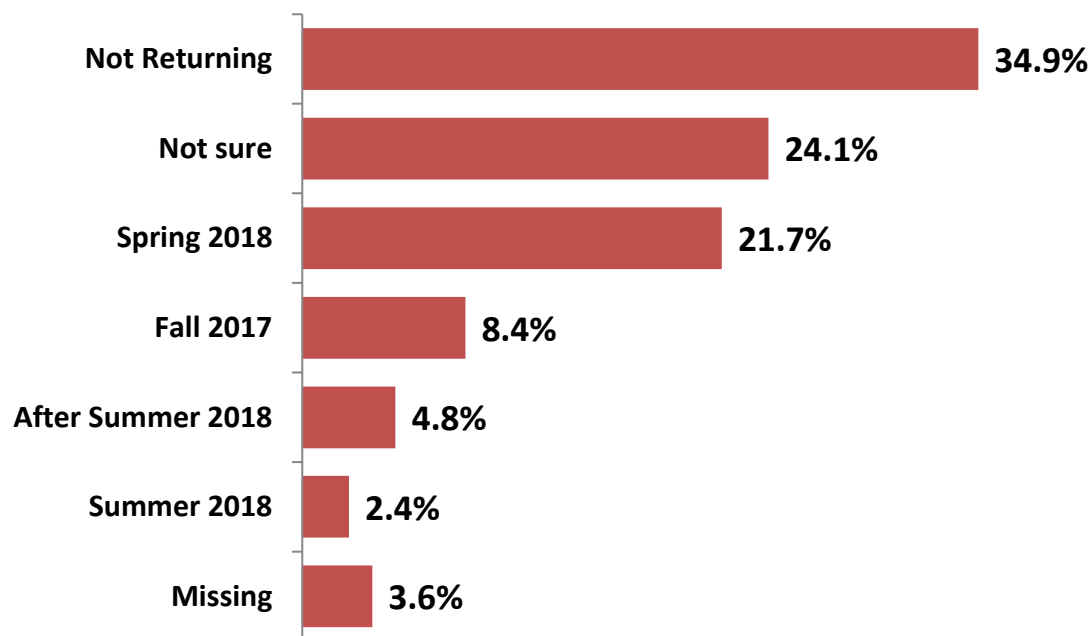
Of the students who indicated emotional health related problems or family crisis as playing at least some part in their decision to leave (n=50), 48% (n=24) indicated they sought some assistance from the University Counseling Center; of these students, 42% (n=10) said they received no assistance.

## **Future Intentions**

### **Re-enrollment**

Students were asked to indicate in which semester they will re-enroll if they plan to return.

**Figure 24. Semester in Which 2017 Stop Out Respondents Intending to Return Planned to Re-enroll**



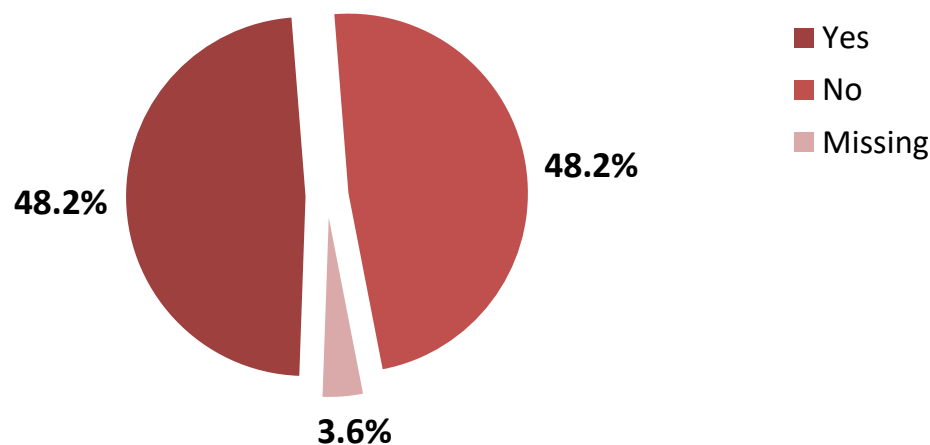
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**Immediate Persistence for 2017:**

Students were asked if they are “currently attending another postsecondary institution or will [they] be attending another postsecondary institution in the fall”.

- 48.2% (n=40) of respondents indicated “Yes”.
- 48.2% (n=40) of respondents indicated “No”.
- 3.6 (n=3) of respondents did not provide an answer to this question.

**Figure 25. Percent of 2017 Stop Out Respondents Attending Another Postsecondary Institution in Summer 2017 or Fall 2017**

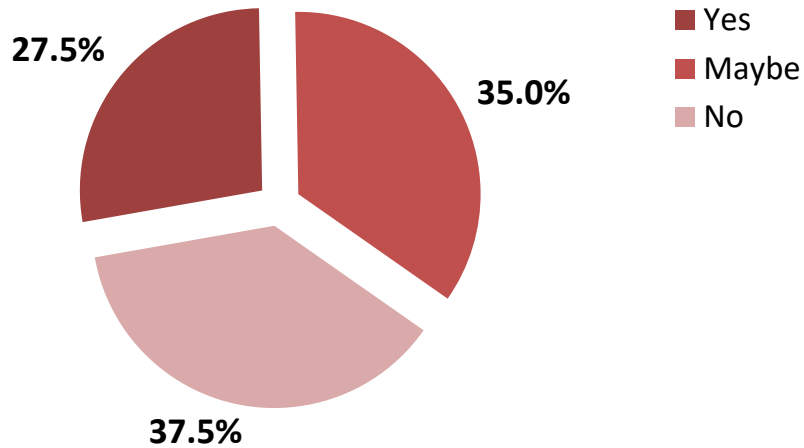
**Future Persistence for 2017**

Students who answered “No” to the previous question were asked if they are “planning to attend another postsecondary institution in the future”.

- 27.5% (n=11) of students responded “Yes”.
- 35% (n=14) of students responded “Maybe”
- 37.5% (n=15) of students responded “No”.

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**Figure 26. Percent of 2017 Stop Out Respondents not Attending Another Postsecondary Institution in Summer 2017 or Fall 2017 but Planning to Attend Another Postsecondary Institution in the Future**



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