

GRADUATING STUDENT SURVEY

Spring 2023 and Spring 2024 Administrations

Survey Overview

- The Office of Institutional Research partnered with the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) to administer the Graduating Student Survey (GSS).
- HEDS is a community of colleges and universities sharing data, knowledge, and expertise to advance undergraduate liberal arts education, educational excellence, and student success.
- HEDS administered the survey to all undergraduate students who have received an award, have applied for graduation or are in pending status.
- The GSS evaluates teaching practices and institutional conditions.
- The question items seek to assess the impact of the student's experience on their intellectual growth and how well it prepared them for success after college, and to describe their plans after graduation.
- The benefit to the University in administering this survey is to get a better sense of what your students hope to achieve, and better monitor and address students' worries and concerns.

Survey Overview – Response Rates

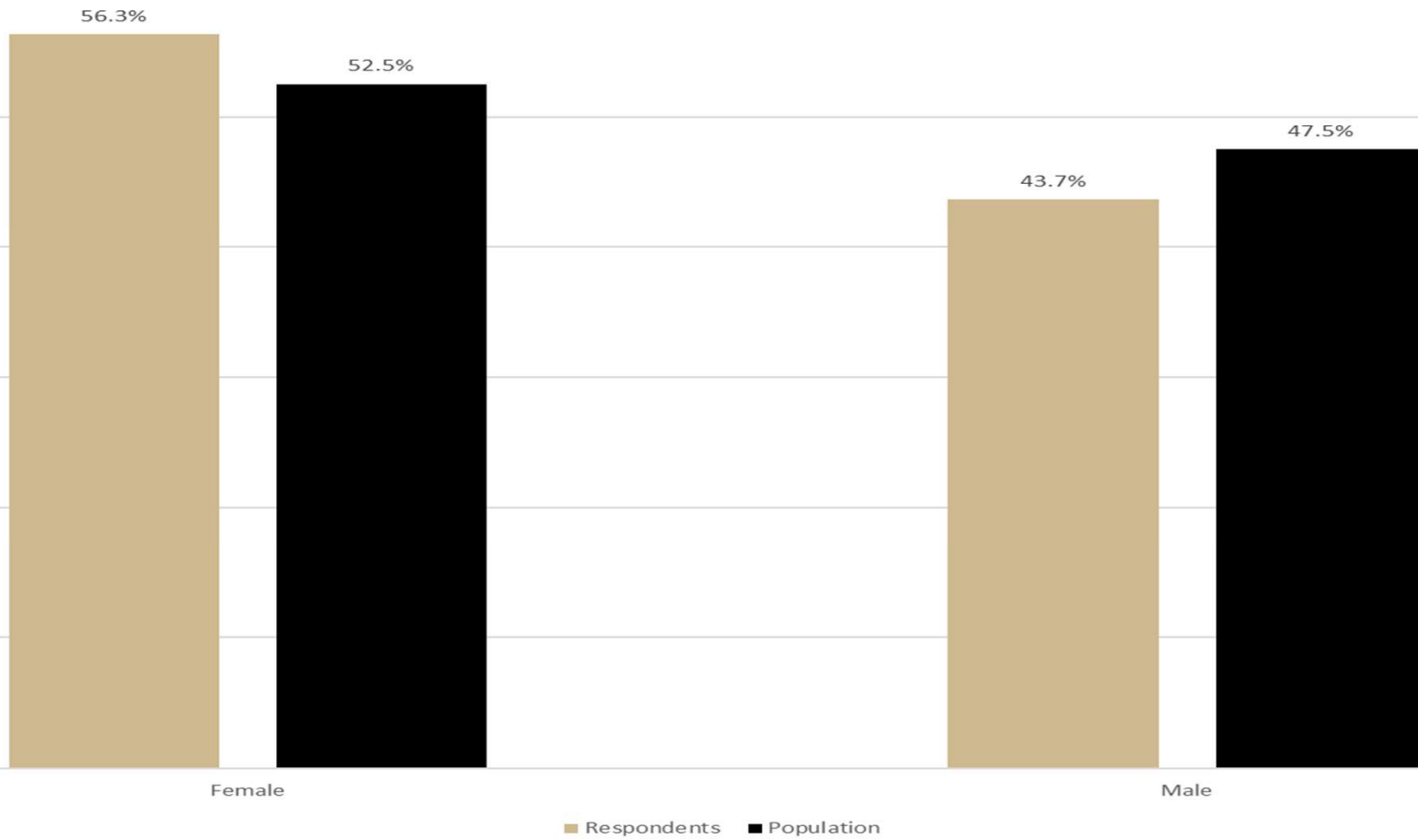
Response Rates

- Although the response rate is not particularly high, we believe the results provide valuable insights into students who are set to graduate.
- **Note:** The survey was distributed to every known email address on file for the student. In the Spring 2023 administration there were instances in which multiple responses were received from individual students. In such cases, if responses were exactly alike, the duplicate entry was removed from the dataset. If the response differed in anyway, the duplicate entry was kept in the data file.

Spring 2023	Spring 2024
Population: 1,147	Population: 1,057
Responses: 176	Responses: 183
Response Rate: 15.3%	Response Rate: 17.3%

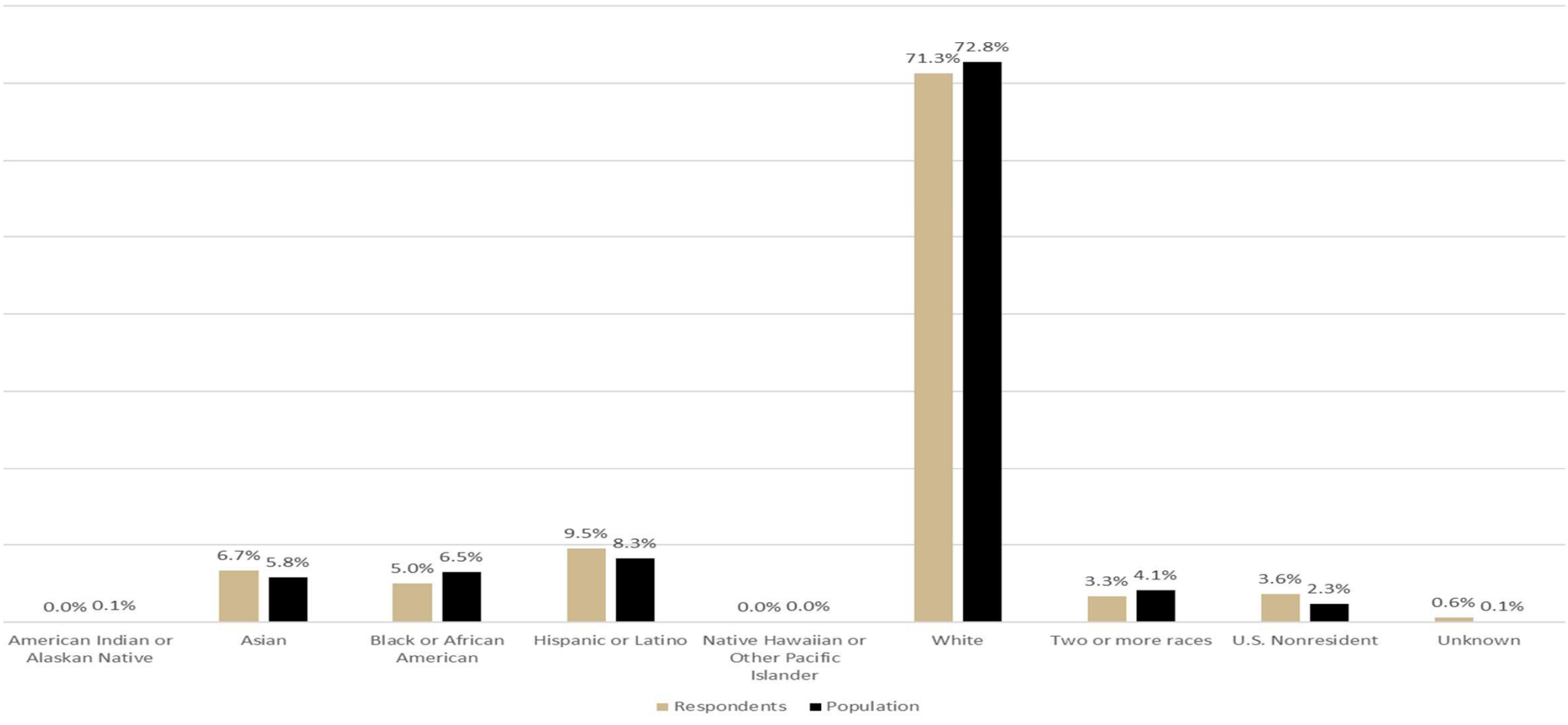
Survey Overview - Demographics

Gender Distribution of Survey Respondents Compared to the Graduating Student Population



Survey Overview - Demographics

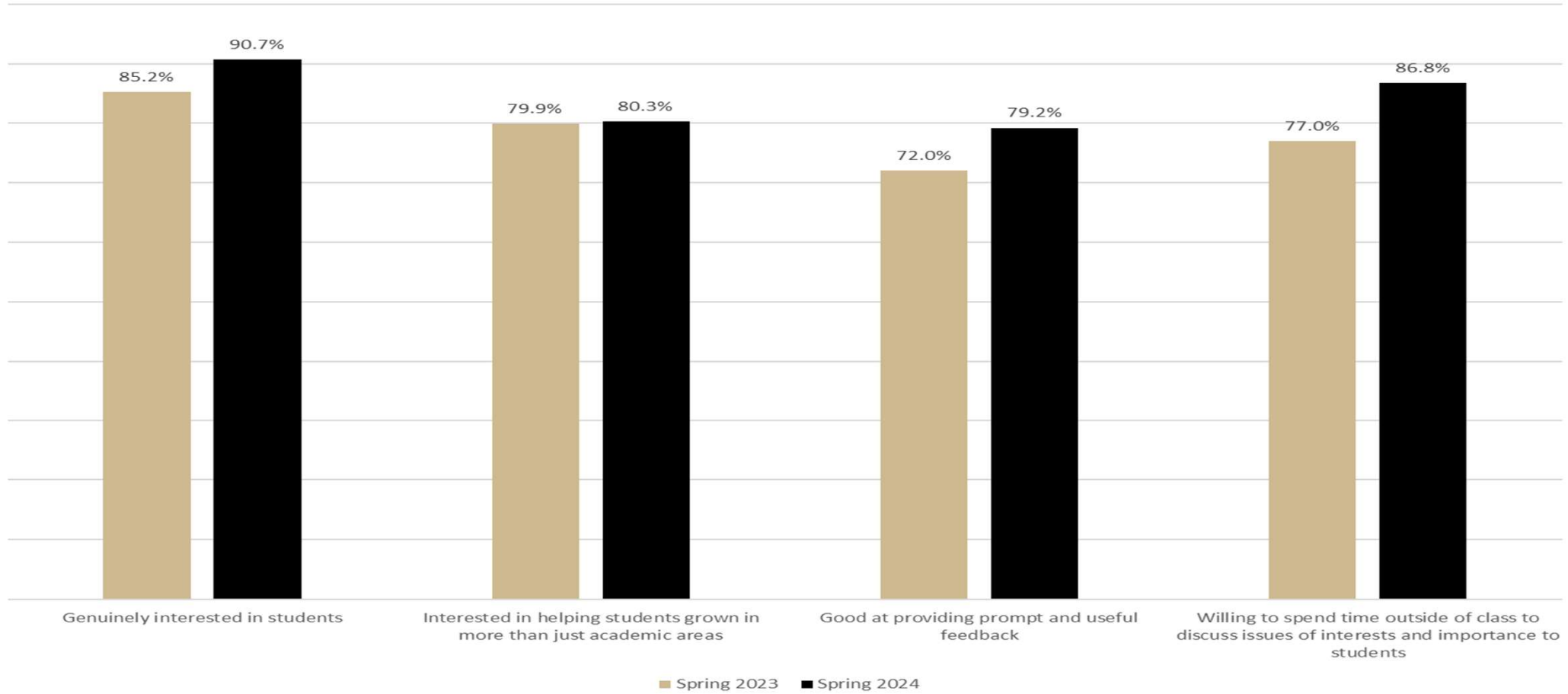
Ethnicity Distribution of Survey Respondents Compared to the Graduating Student Population



FACULTY INTERACTION

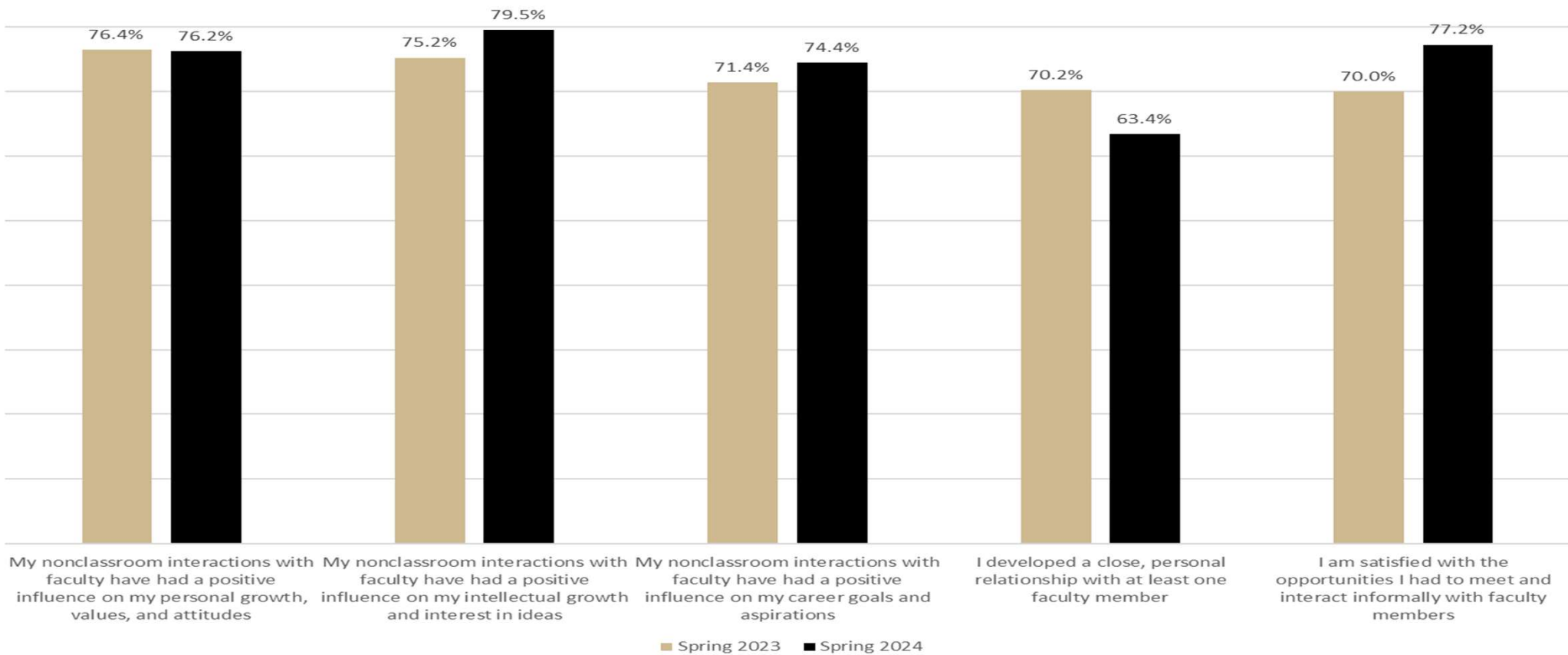
Faculty Interaction – Year to Year Comparisons

Most faculty with whom I have had contact at PFW were:
(% Agree or Strongly Agree)



Faculty Interaction – Year to Year Comparisons

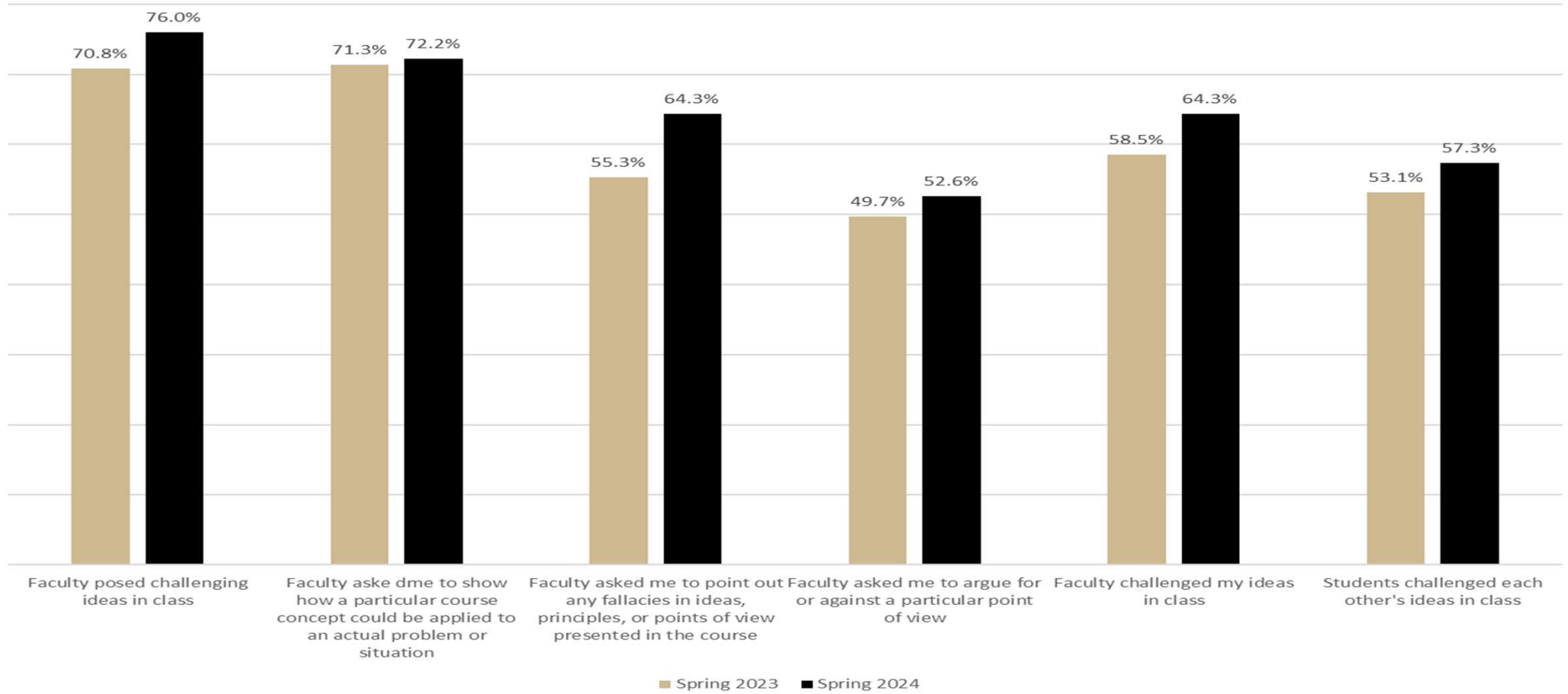
Below are statements about your contact and interactions with faculty at PFW
(% Agree or Strongly Agree)



CLASSROOM EXPERIENCES

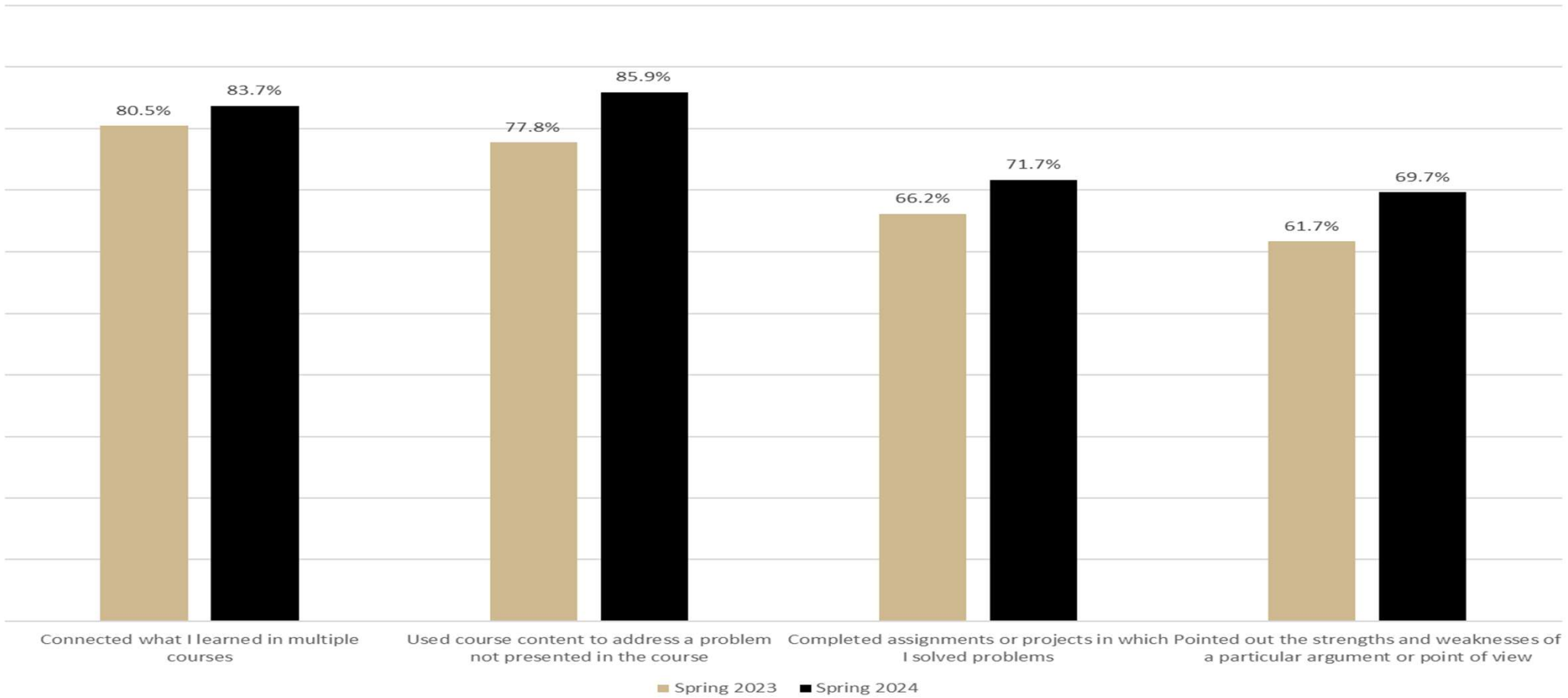
Classroom Experiences – Year to Year Comparisons

About how often have you experienced each?
(% Often or Very often)



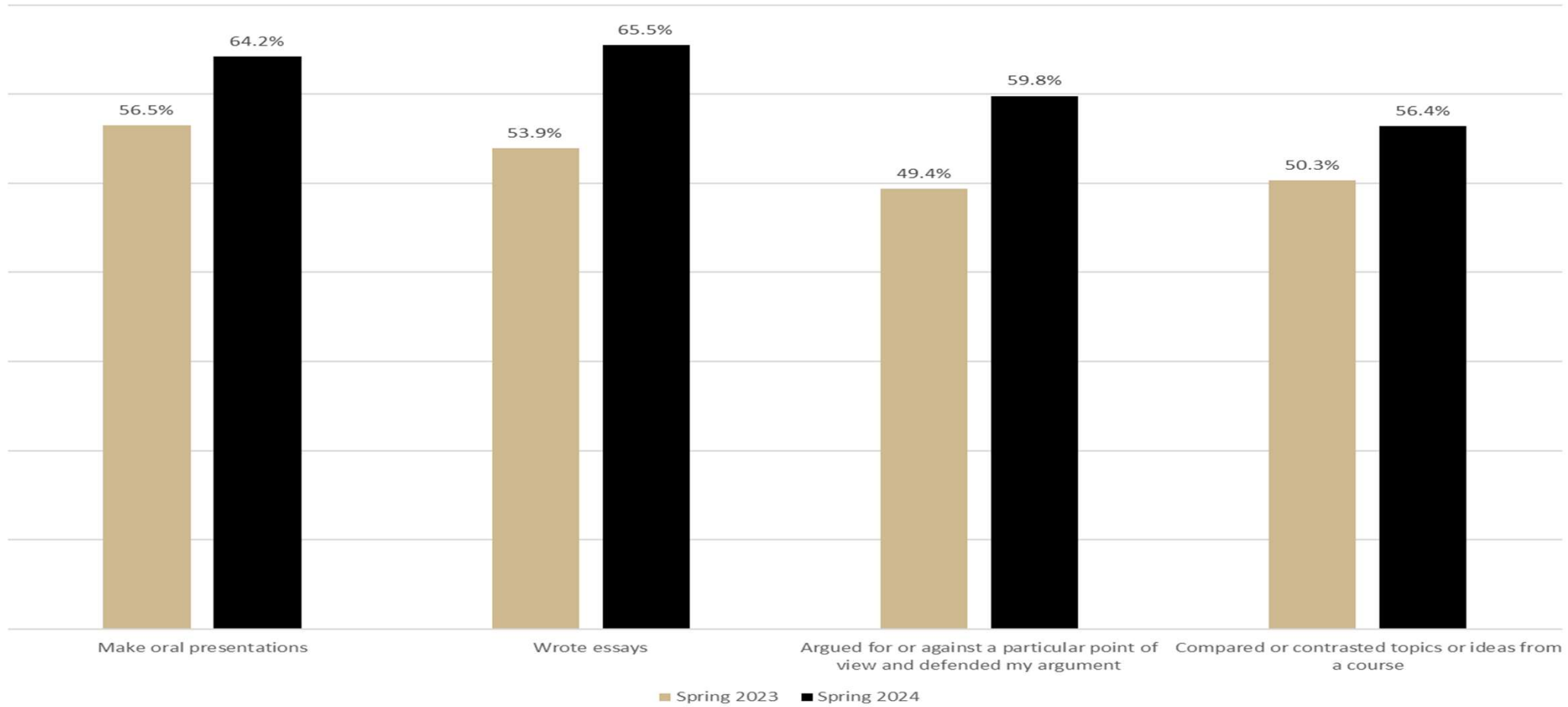
Classroom Experiences – Year to Year Comparisons

Below are descriptions of the types of exams or assignments you have had in your classes at PFW
(% Often or Very often)



Classroom Experiences – Year to Year Comparisons

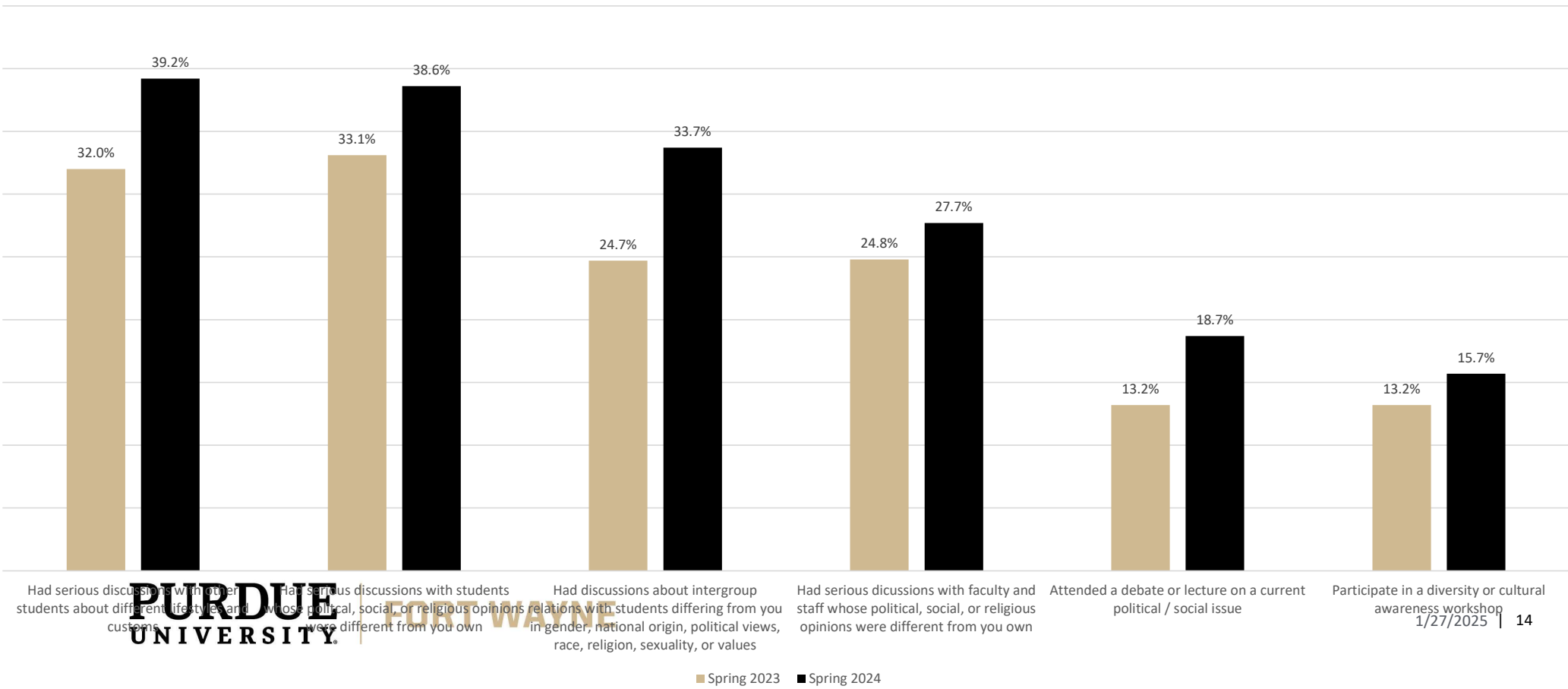
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GENERAL EXPERIENCES

General Experiences – Year to Year Comparisons

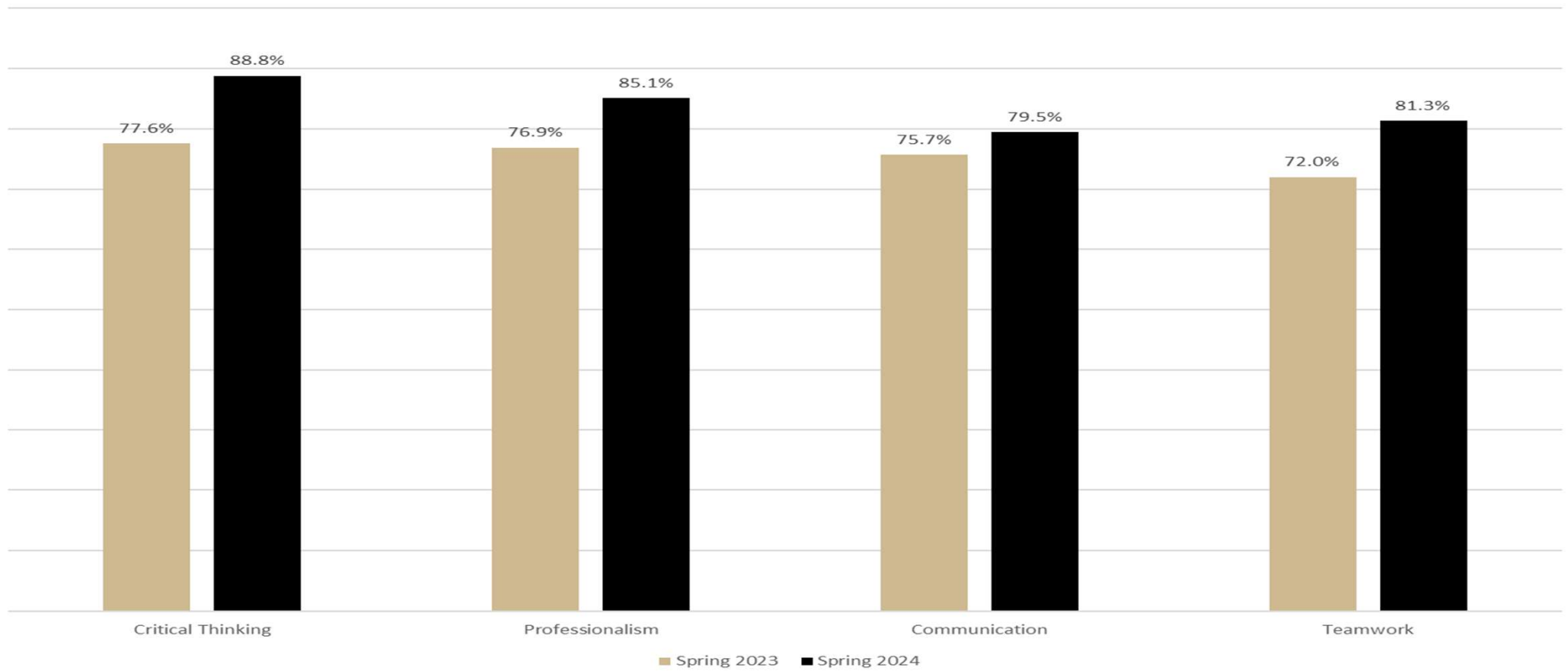
How often have you had the following experiences at PFW?
(% Often or Very often)



NACE OUTCOMES

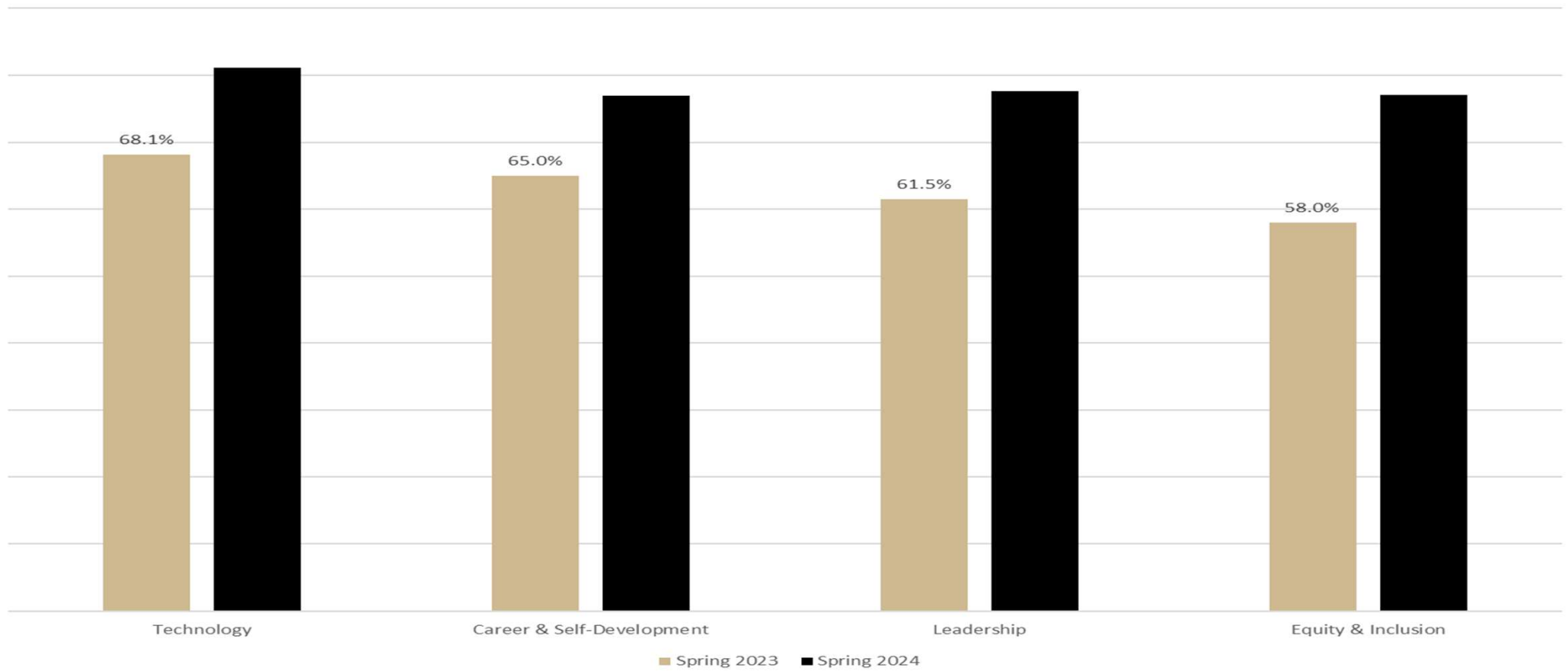
NACE Outcomes – Year to Year Comparisons

To what extent has your experience at PFW contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?
(% Very much or Quite a bit)



NACE Outcomes – Year to Year Comparisons

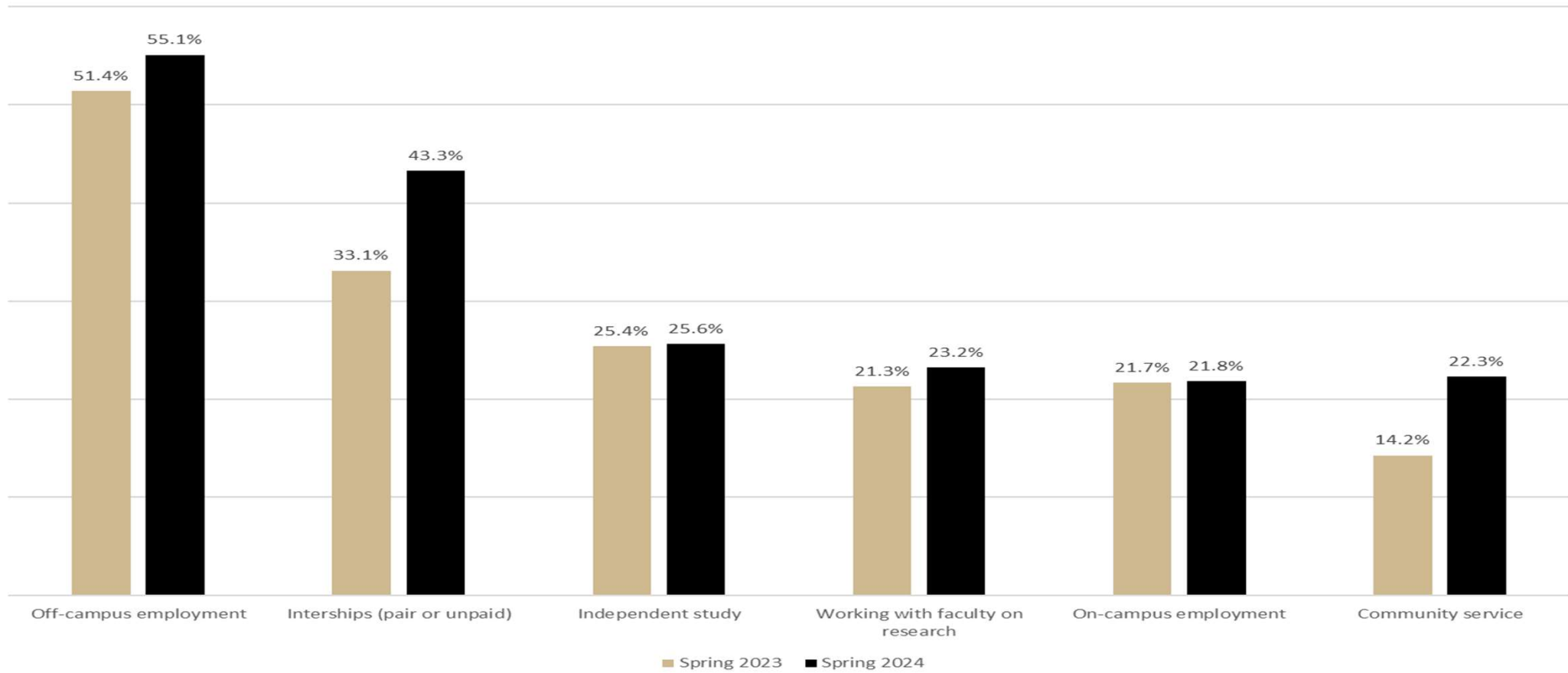
To what extent has your experience at PFW contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?
(% Very much or Quite a bit)



OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

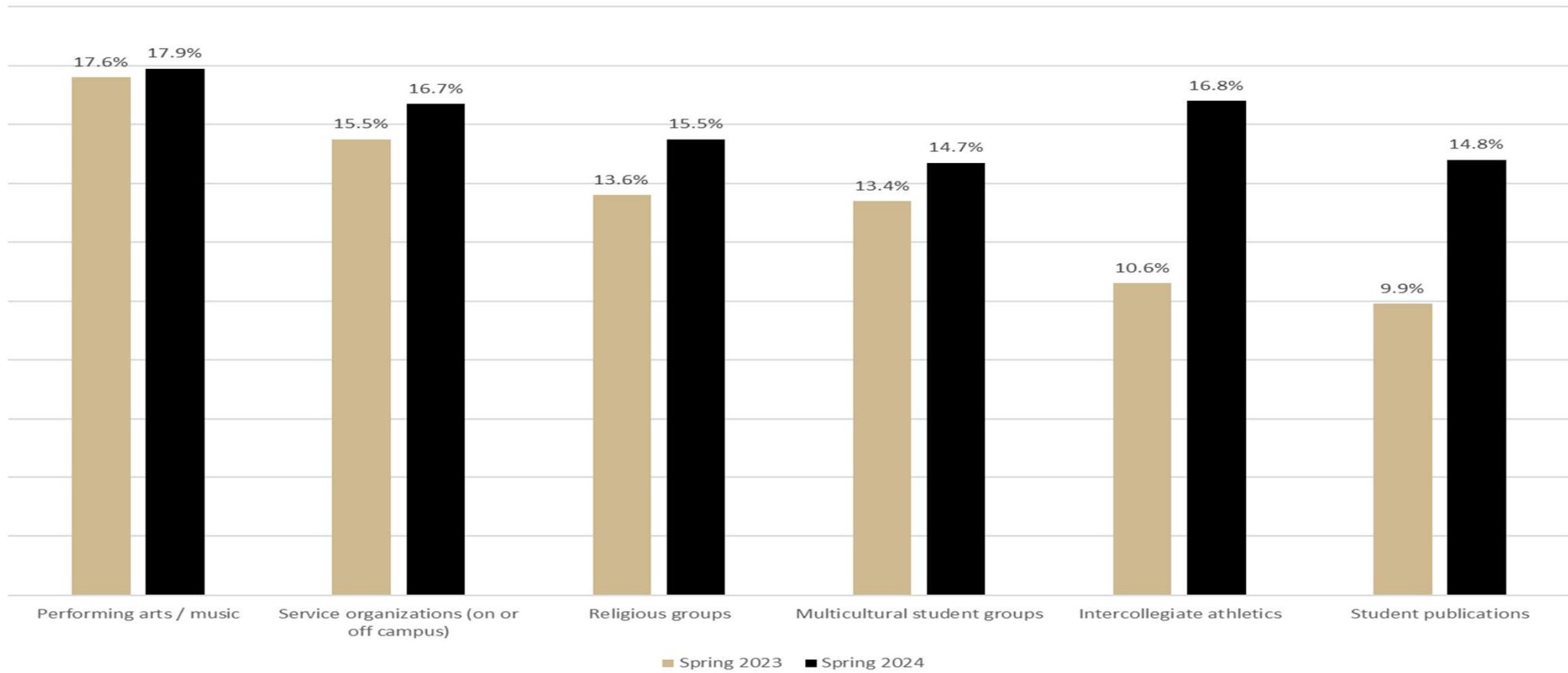
Outside of the Classroom – Year to Year Comparisons

To what extent has your experience with each of the following at PFW contributed to your learning and personal development?
(% Very much or Quite a bit)



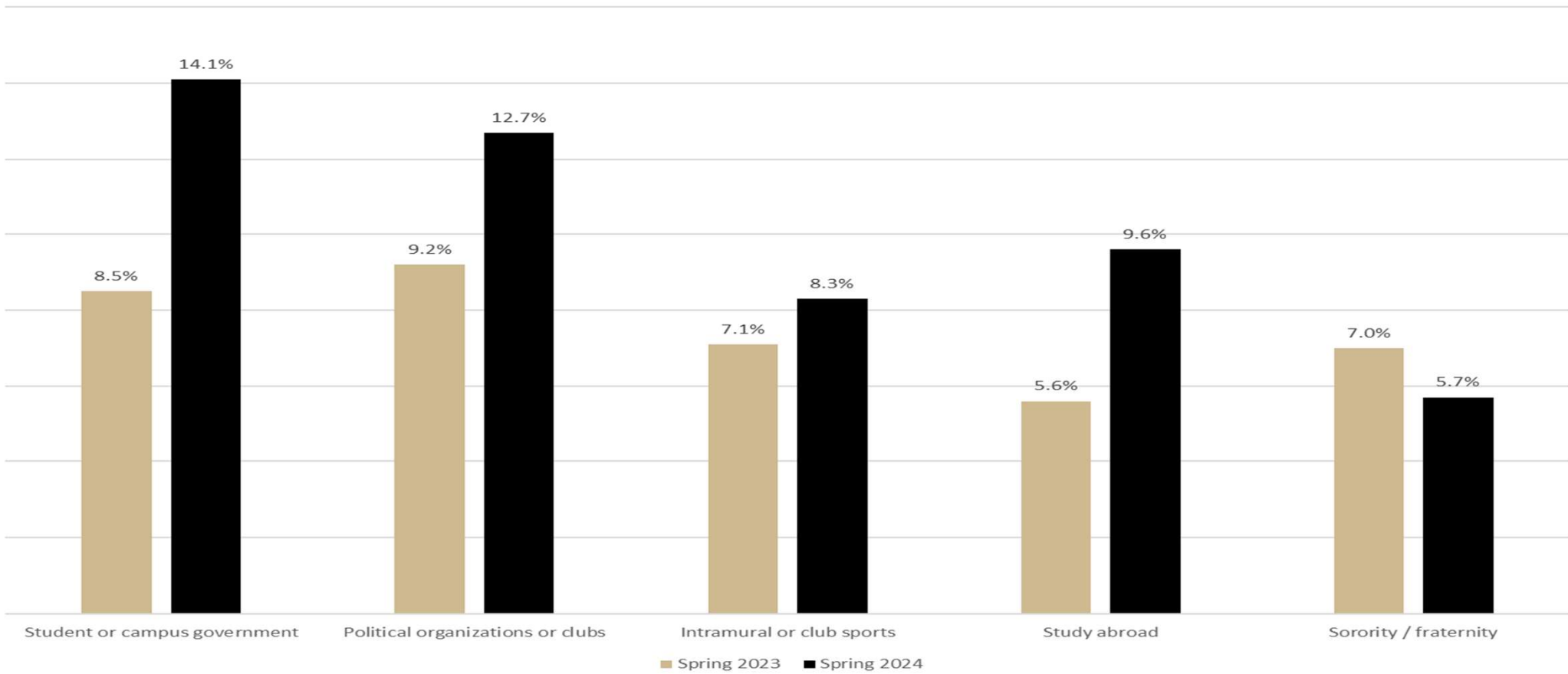
Outside of the Classroom – Year to Year Comparisons

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Outside of the Classroom – Year to Year Comparisons

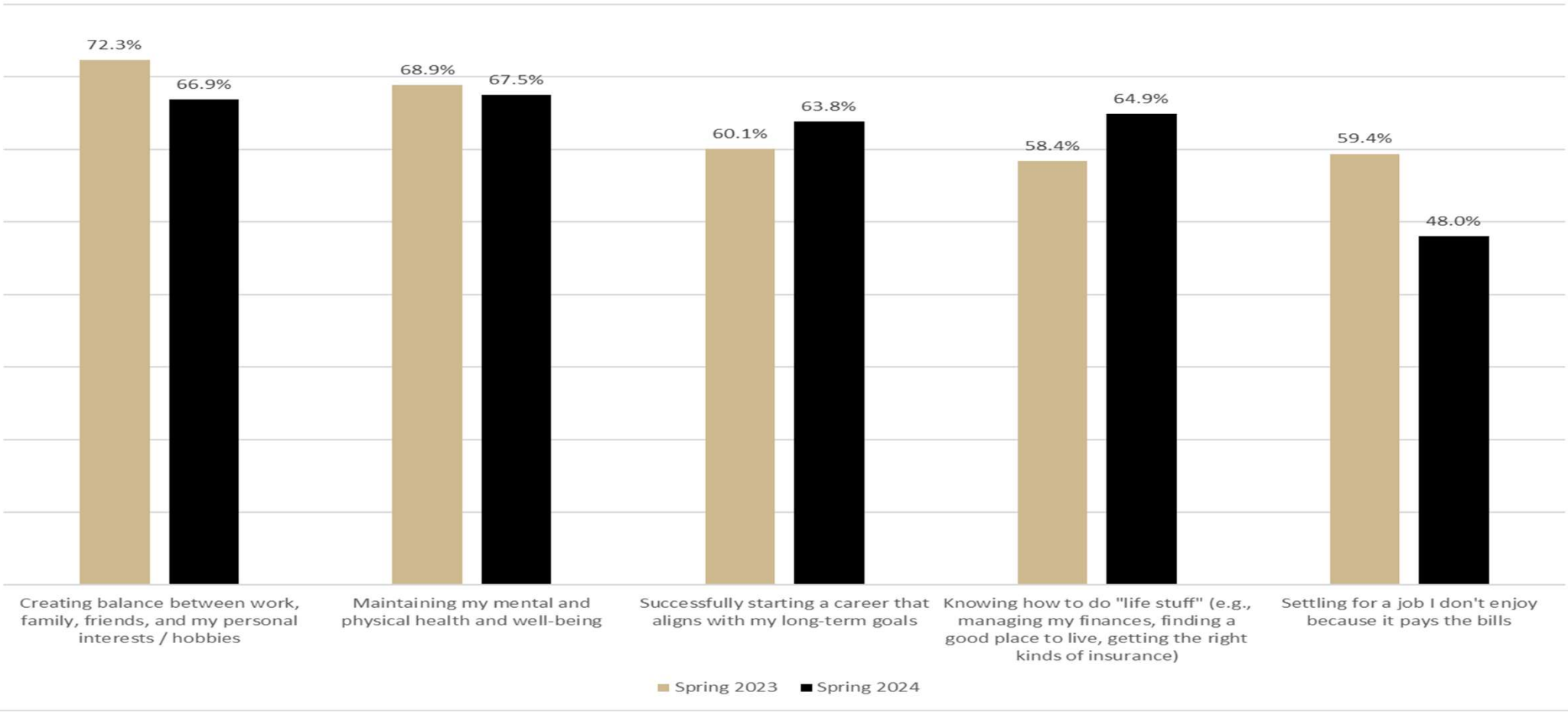
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(% Very much or Quite a bit)



STUDENT WORRIES

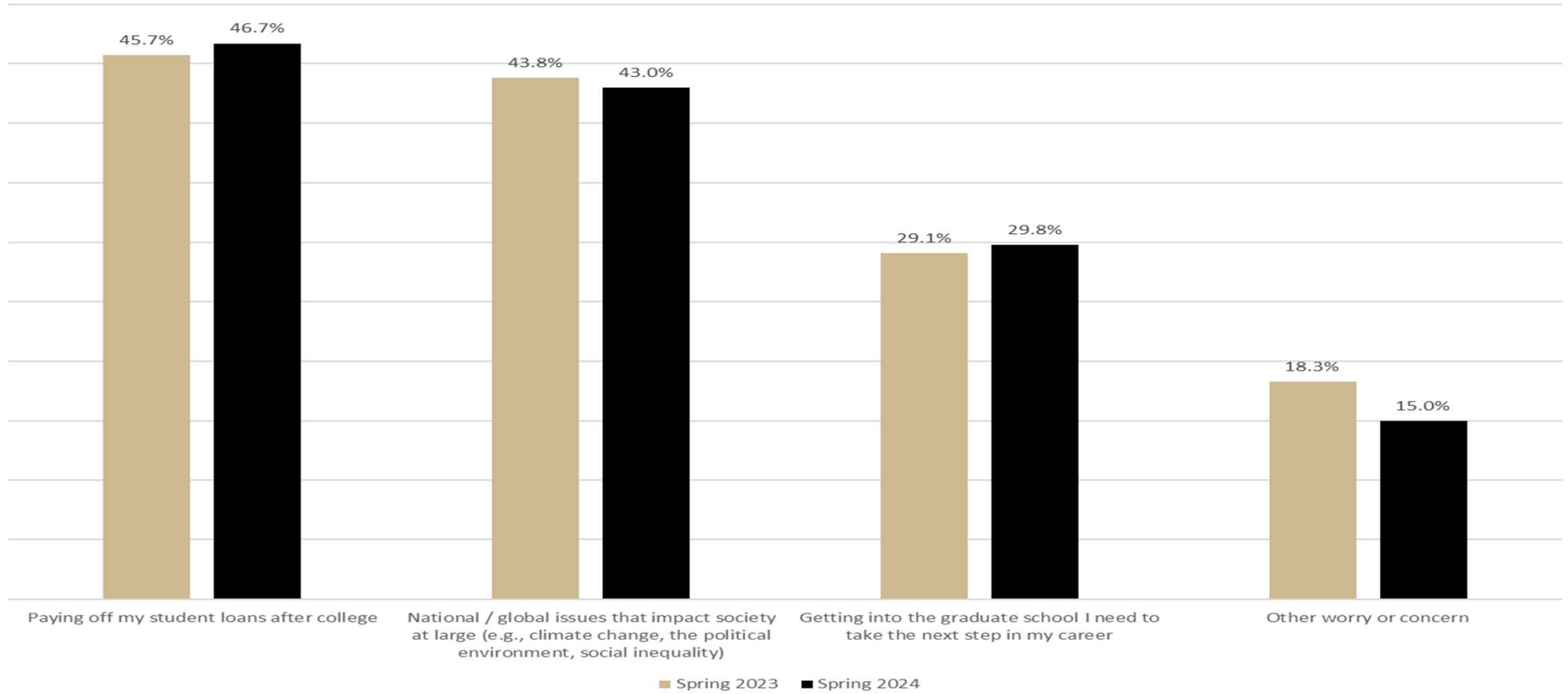
Student Worries – Year to Year Comparisons

How often do you worry about the following?
(% Very often or Often)



Student Worries – Year to Year Comparisons

How often do you worry about the following?
(% Very often or Often)



Student Worries – Open-Ended Responses

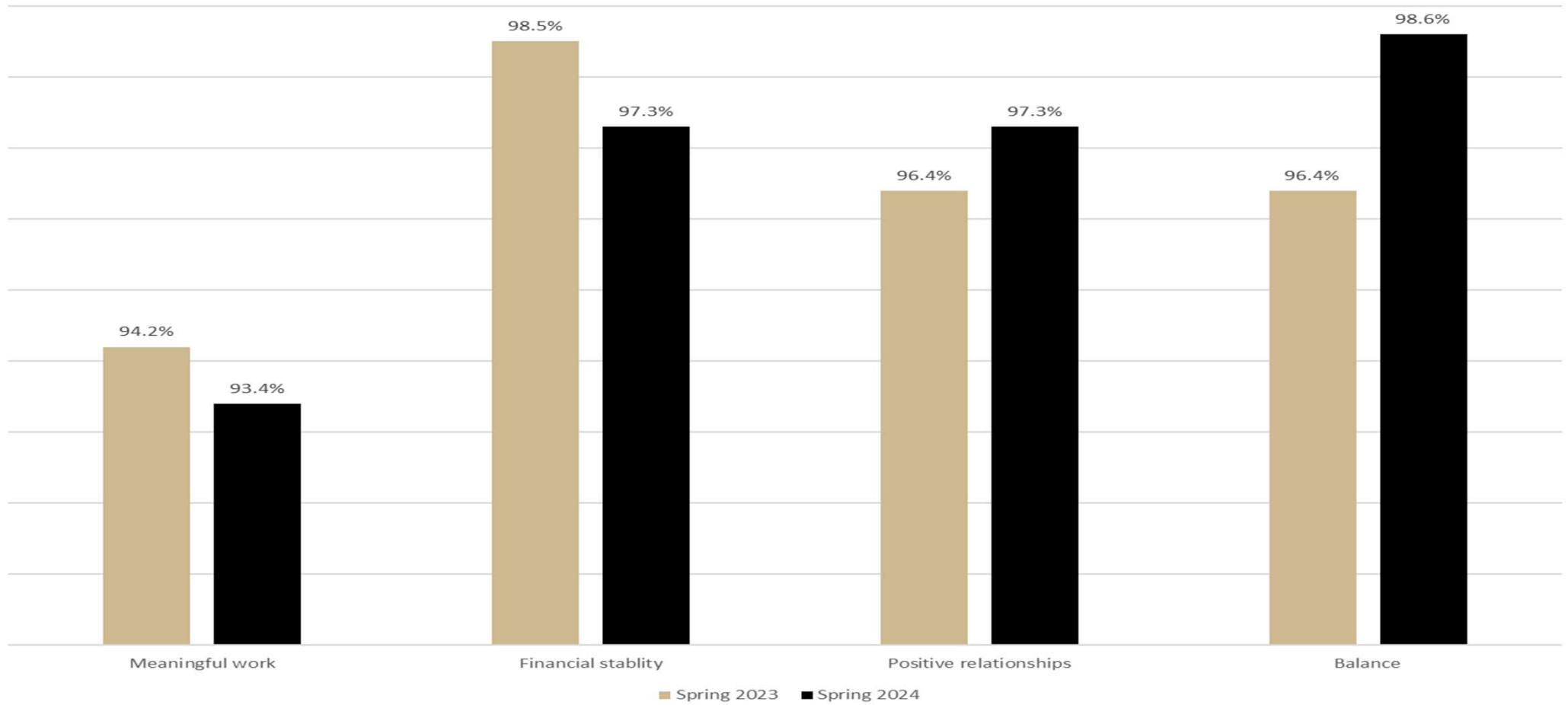
How often do you worry about the following

Cost of living	Life as LGBTQ+
covid ruined catalog fall 2018 year students motivation	Never finding my true passion in the workforce
Deciding my career, and trying to find a job.	Not being qualified enough in my major for a job after graduation
employment	random things that pop up sometimes
Everything. I'm anxious and school made it worse.	Relationships with friends/closer friendship
Explaining educational value to potential employers	Society collapsing
food scarcity	Talking to people
Getting hired for a job in general.	The economy/ inflation eventually making my goals unattainable
Health	will I get to eat today
How to afford to live while in school	"Woke" culture taking over the PFW campus. Leave the politics at home
I worry that some of my colleagues will not have the opportunities I had to pursue education in foreign language and the arts cuz of administration decline in interest for sustaining them	World safety

SUCCESSFUL LIFE AND PREPARATION

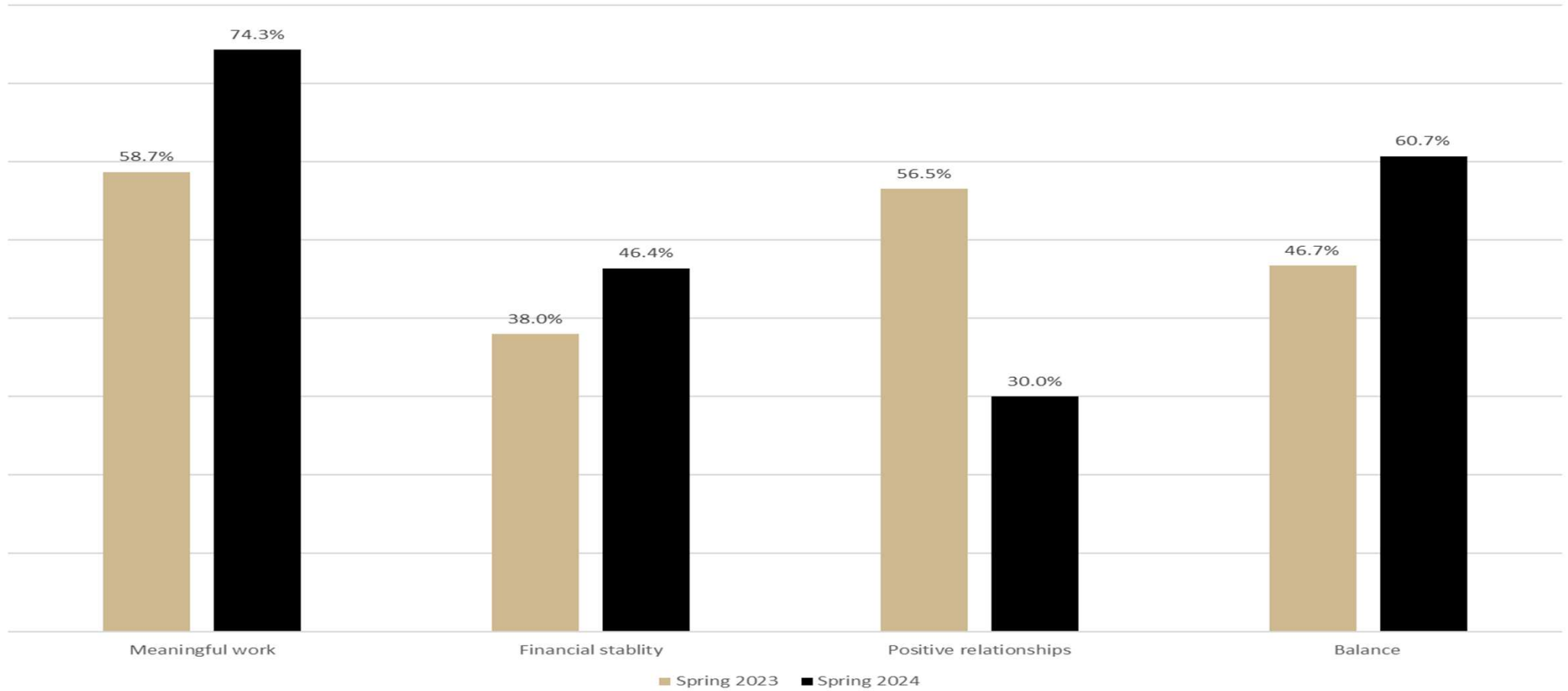
Successful Life and Preparation – Year to Year Comparisons

As you think about living a successful life after college, how important are each of the following?
(% Very important or Moderately important)



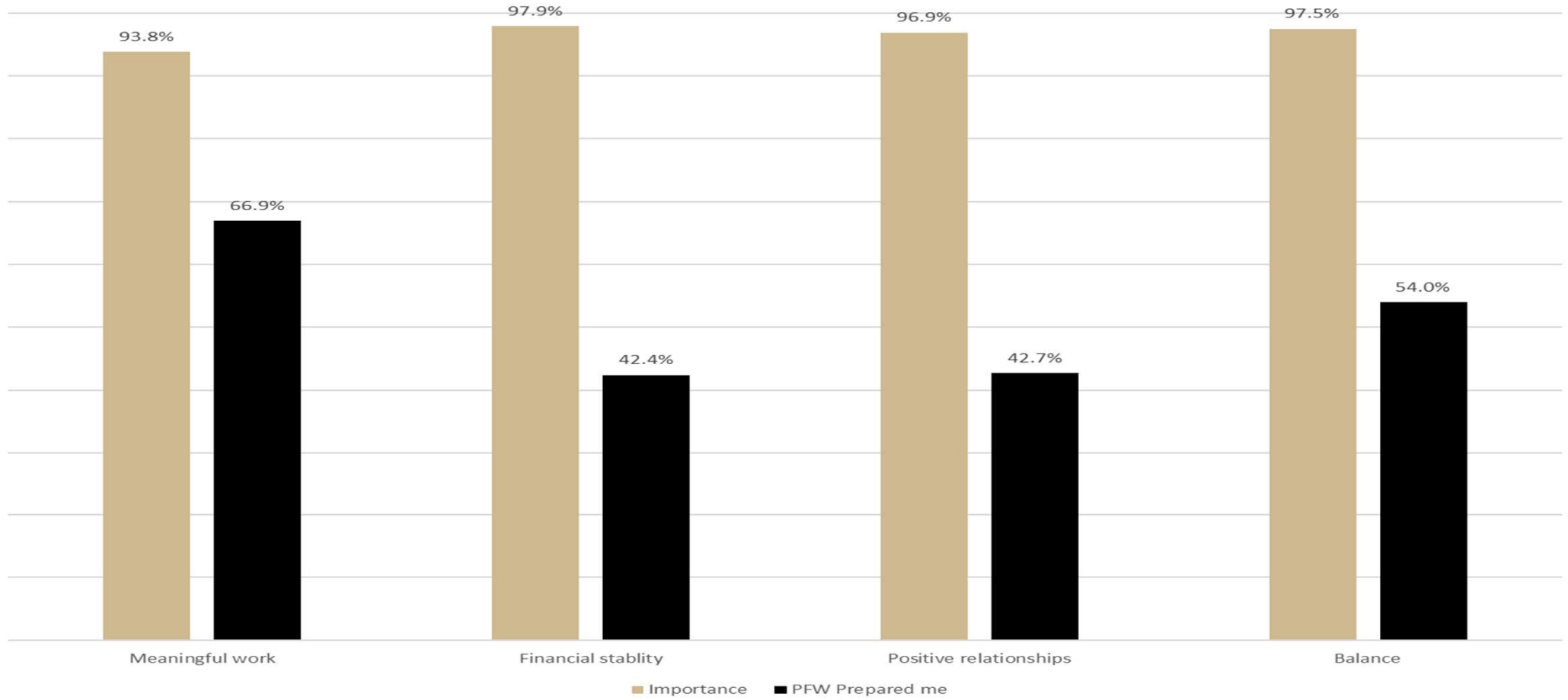
Successful Life and Preparation – Year to Year Comparisons

How much has your time at PFW prepared you for the following?
(% Very much or Quite a bit)



Successful Life vs PFW Preparation

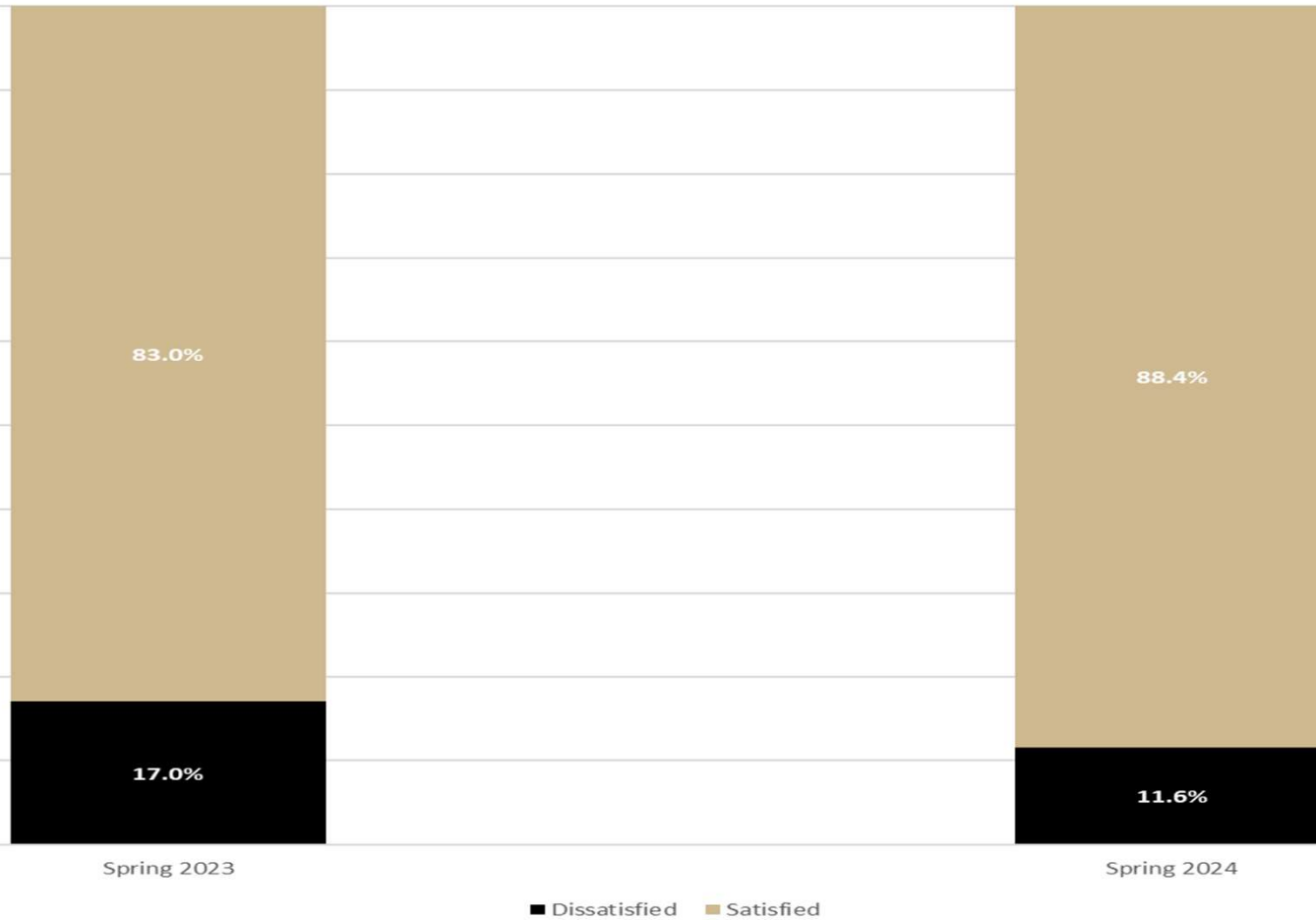
Importance vs PFW Preparation
(% Very much or Quite a bit)



OVERALL SATISFACTION

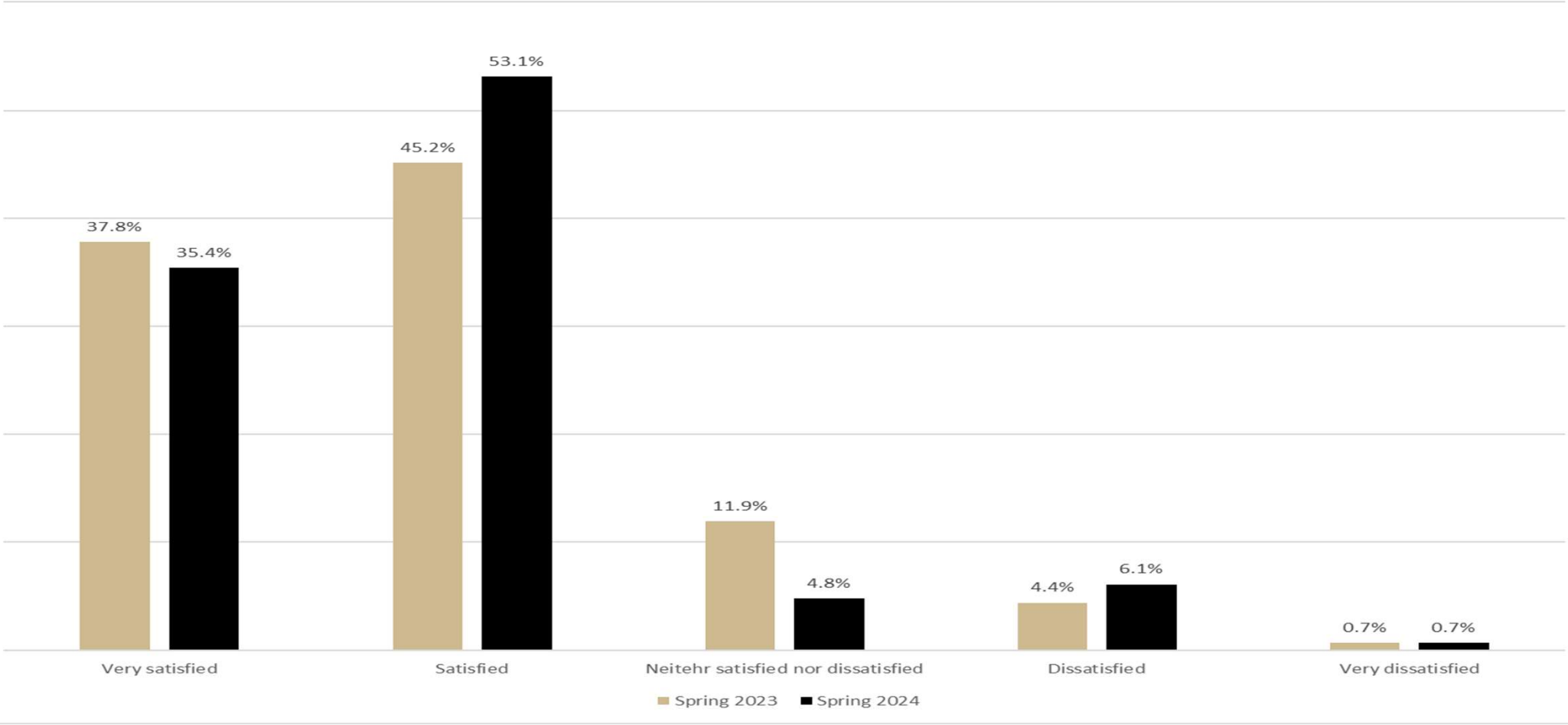
Overall Satisfaction – Year to Year Comparisons

Overall, how satisfied have you been with your undergraduate institution at PFW?



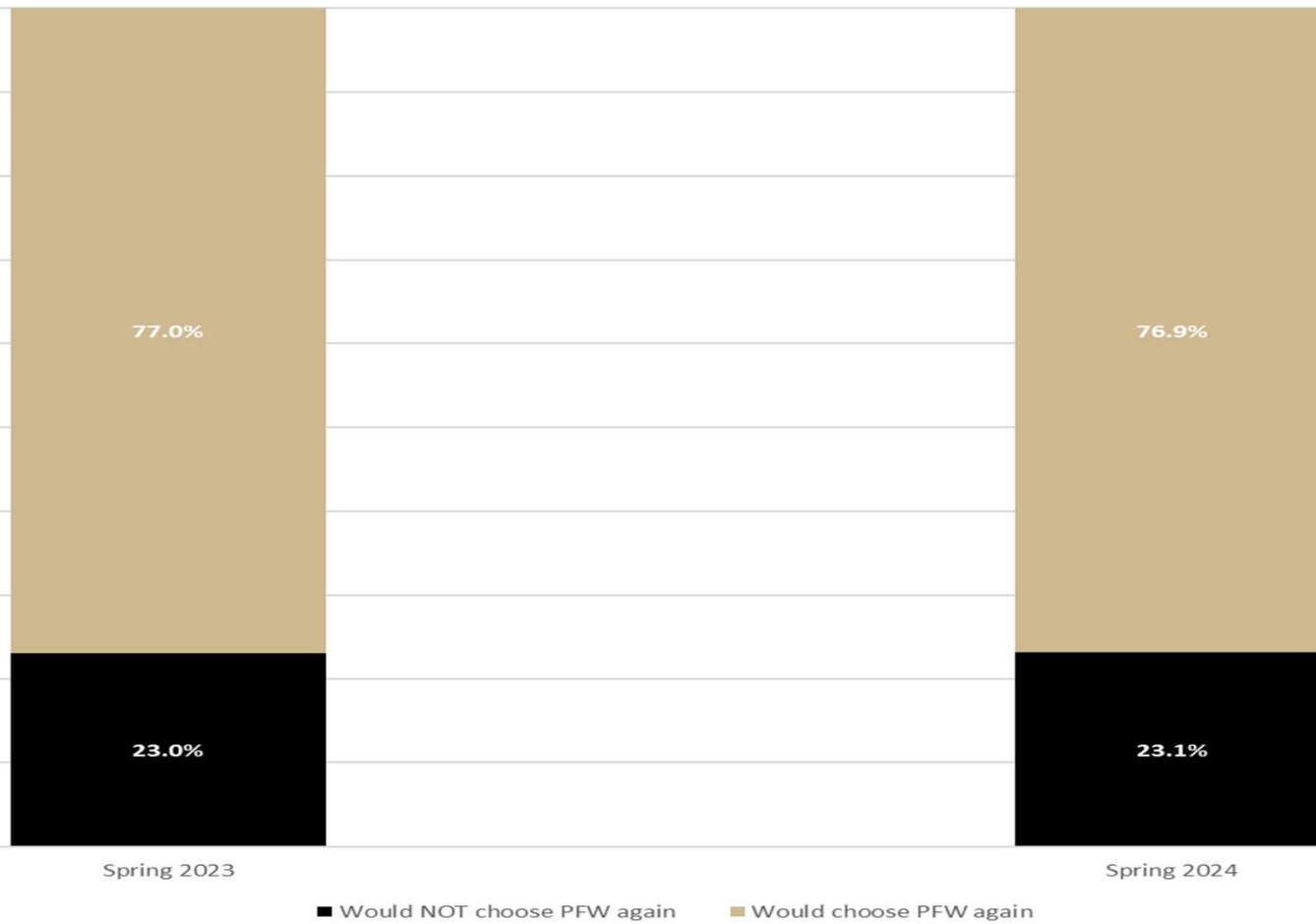
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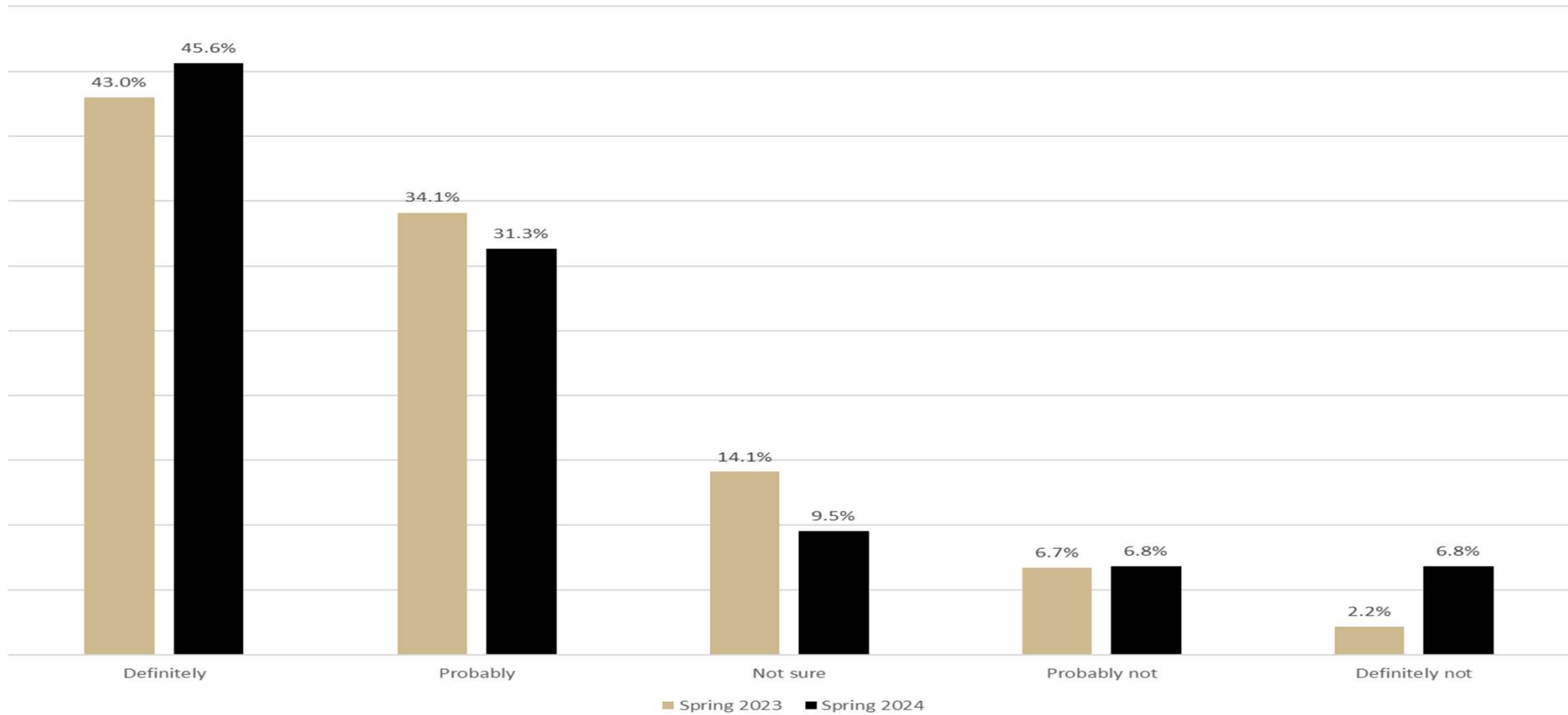
Overall Satisfaction – Year to Year Comparisons

If you had to do it all over again, would you choose to attend PFW?



Overall Satisfaction – Year to Year Comparisons

If you had to do it all over again, would you choose to attend PFW?



THEMATIC ANALYSIS: OPEN-ENDED PROMPTS

Thematic Analysis – Successful Life

What experiences at PFW have been most helpful in preparing you to be a successful and live the life you want to lead after college?

- **Community and Campus Culture:**
 - Desire for a stronger sense of community and team spirit, moving away from the commuter college feel.
- **Practical Workshops and Networking:**
 - Specific workshops, such as those focusing on social networking, are valued.
- **Academic Support:**
 - Respondents stressed the importance of academic advisors in guiding success.
- **Event Accessibility:**
 - Respondents suggested increasing advertisements and frequency of large student gatherings.
- **Flexible and Relevant Learning:**
 - There were frustrations with rigid classroom activities that didn't align with adult students' needs.

Thematic Analysis – PFW Preparation

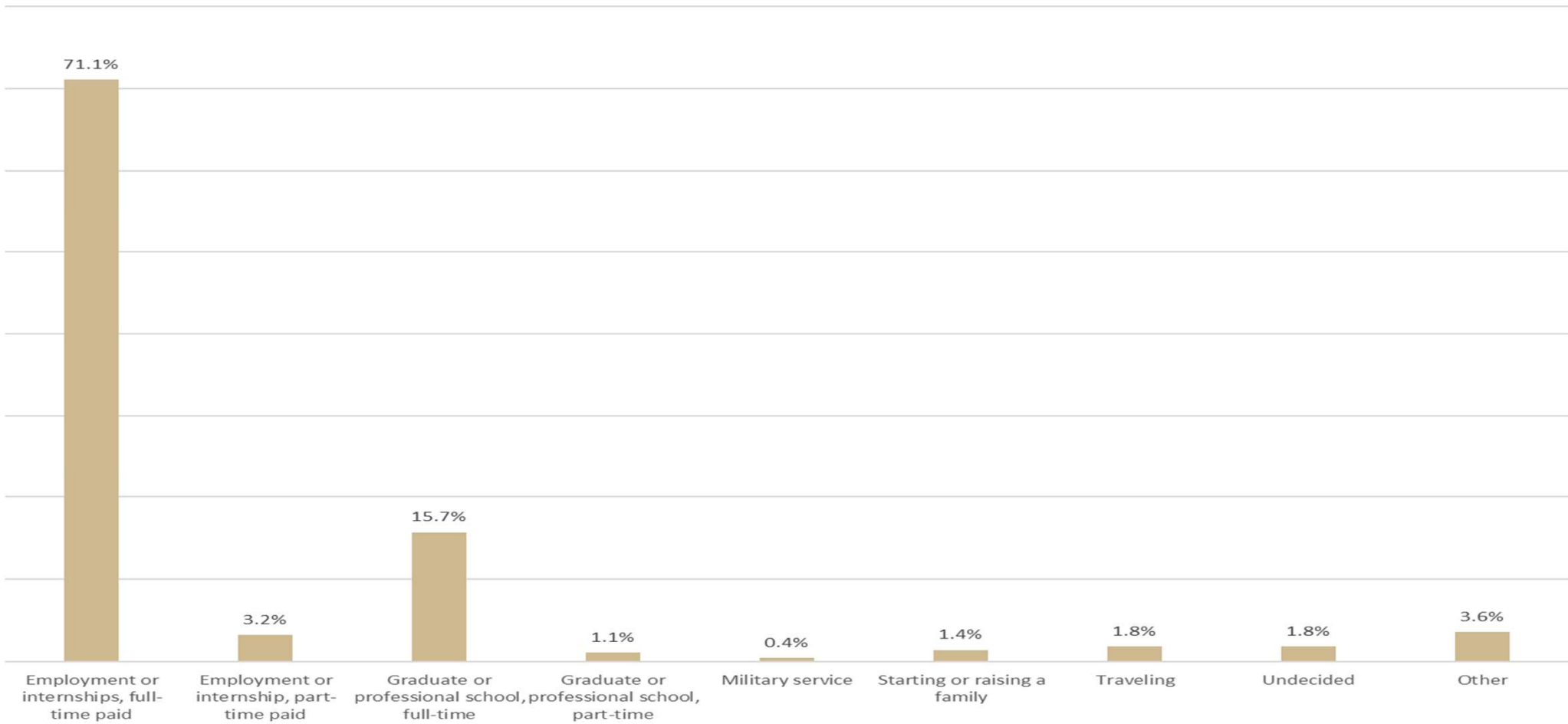
What could PFW have done to better prepare you to be successful?

- **Enhanced Academic Resources:**
 - Respondents emphasized the importance of stronger academic programs, scholarships, and student organizations in preparing for future success.
- **Improved Advising:**
 - A significant theme was the need for advisors with real-world experience in students' intended fields, to provide more tailored guidance.
- **Flexibility in Scheduling:**
 - Working students expressed a need for after-hours teacher availability and more opportunities for collaboration to fit their schedules.
- **Skill Development:**
 - Suggestions focused on building practical skills like multi-tasking and commitment, which are essential for professional success.
- **Inclusive Collaboration:**
 - Opportunities to collaborate with students from diverse backgrounds were highlighted as a missed opportunity that could have added value.

PRIMARY ACTIVITY AFTER GRADUATION

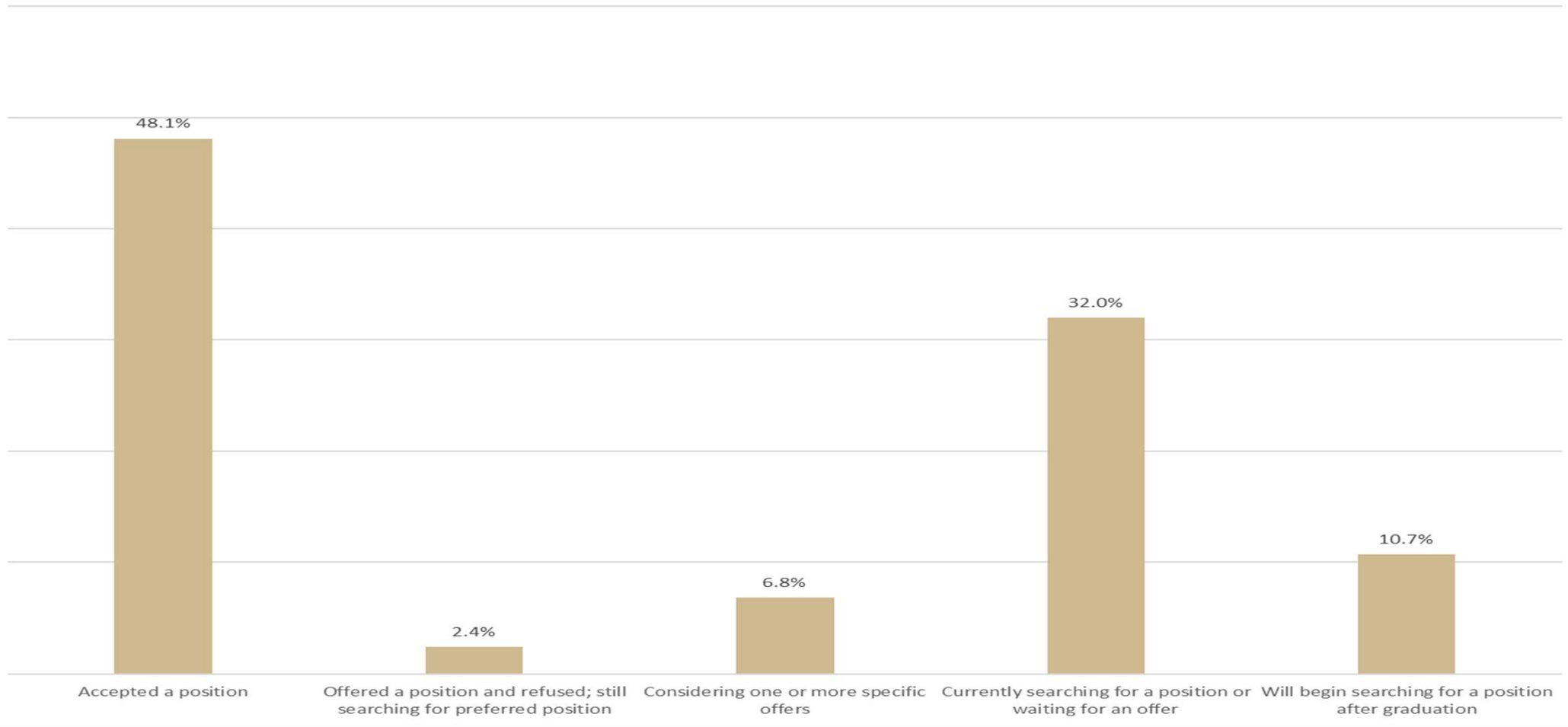
Primary Activities – Year to Year Comparisons

Please indicate ONE activity that you consider your PRIMARY plan after you graduate



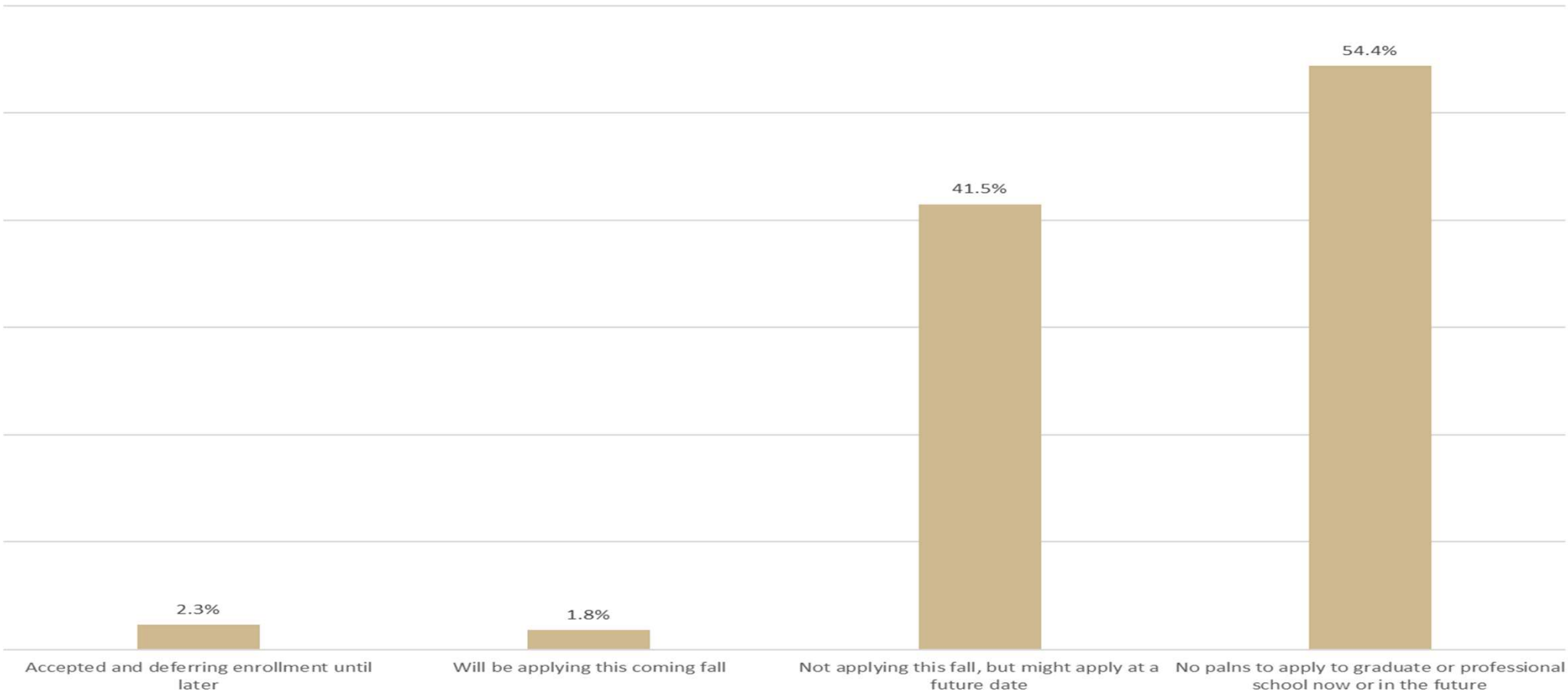
Primary Activities – Year to Year Comparisons

Which of the following BEST describes the current state of your employment plans?



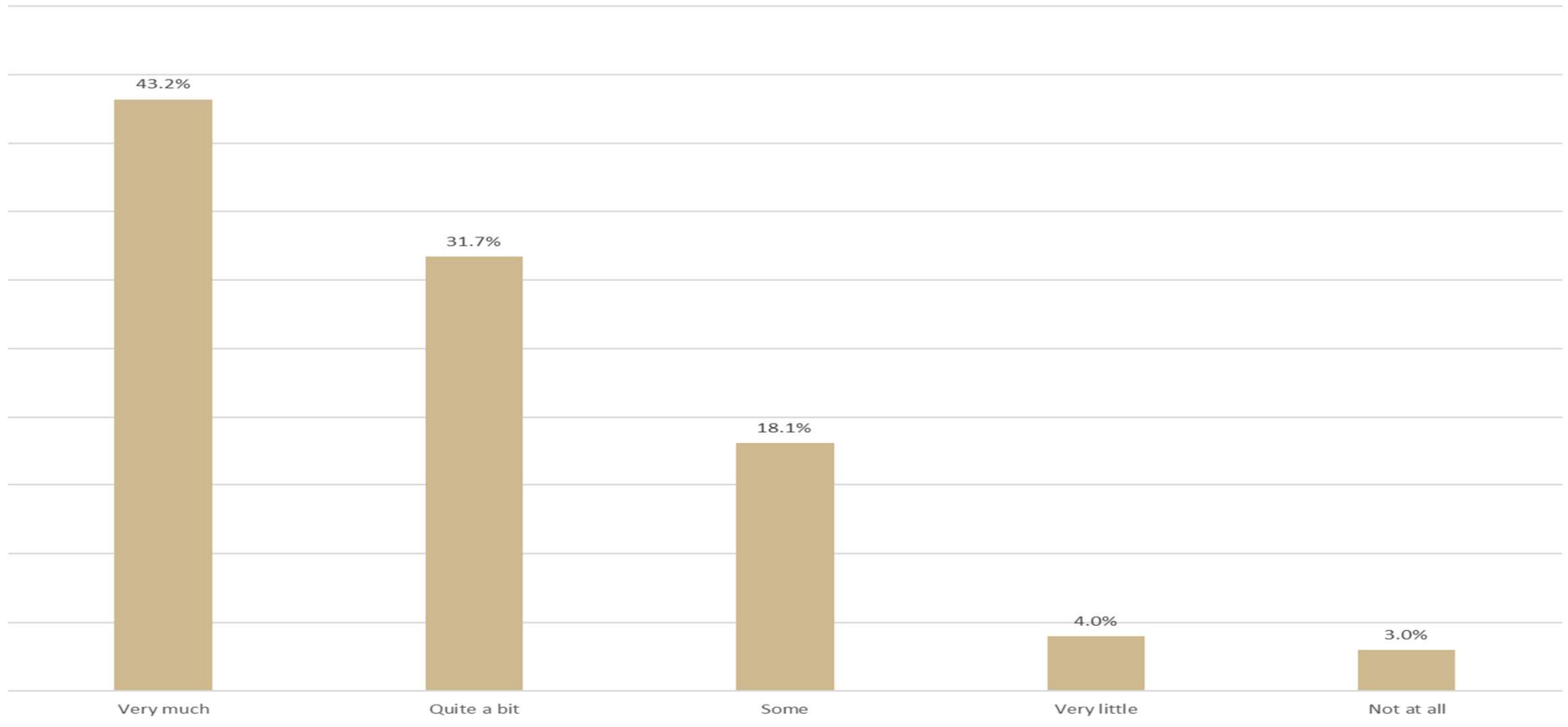
Primary Activities – Year to Year Comparisons

IF you are planning to attend graduate or professional school at any point in the future, which of the following BEST describes your educational plans?



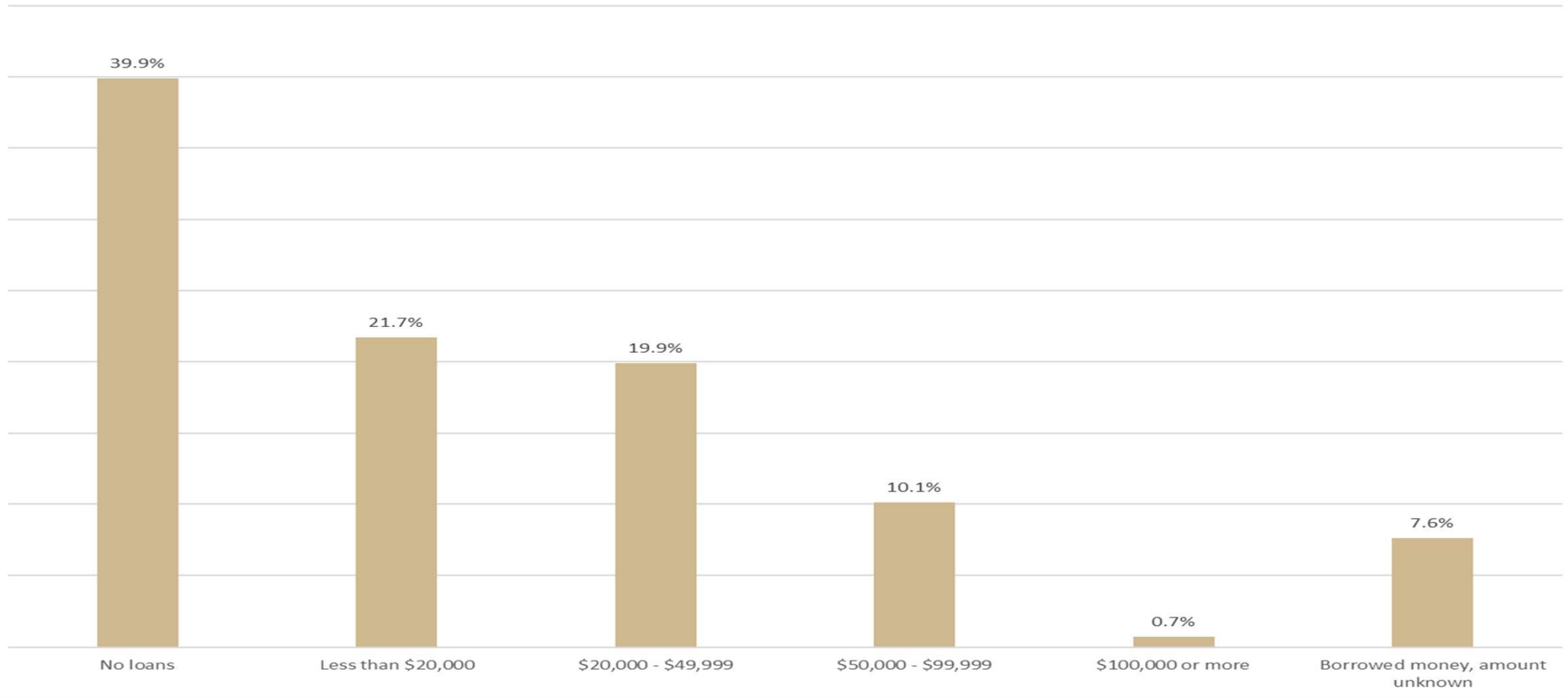
Primary Activities – Year to Year Comparisons

To what extent does your first job after graduation align with your long-term career interests?



Student Loans – Year to Year Comparisons

What is the total amount that you and / or your family have borrowed to finance your undergraduate education?



Student Loans – Year to Year Comparisons

Approximately what proportion of your total loan amount are you personally responsible for paying?

