

## 2011-2012 Graduating Senior Survey Results

Number of graduates in 2011-12	2,278
Respondents to survey:	1,529
Response rate	67%

Dear Senior Students,

### 1. What do you plan to do your first year after leaving New Paltz? Please select the MOST relevant.

I am seeking employment	632	41%
I am going to graduate school	410	27%
I have a professional job or job offer	184	12%
I am unsure of what I will do	147	10%
I am seeking an internship	85	6%
I will be self-employed	37	2%
I am going to volunteer	34	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1529</b>	<b>100%</b>

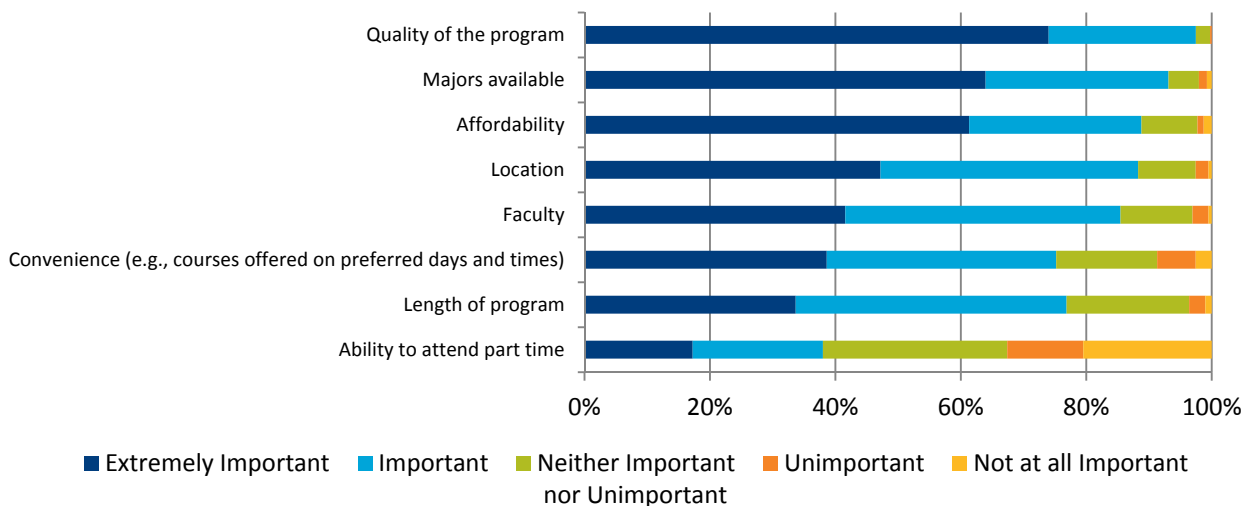
41% of graduates are seeking employment, compared to 56% in 2003 and 37% in 2002.

### Going to Graduate School

#### 2. What graduate degree will you seek?

Master's degree (MA, MS, MSED, MAT, MSW, etc.)	297	75%
Master's of Business Administration (MBA)	39	10%
First Professional (J.D., M.D., etc.)	21	5%
Doctorate degree (Ph.D., Ed.D., Au.D., etc.)	18	5%
Master's of Fine Arts (MFA)	11	3%
Other, please specify (see page 12 )	9	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Q.3. In considering a graduate school, how important to you is each of the following?  
Only for those going to graduate school**



**3. In considering a graduate school, how important to you is each of the following?**

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Extremely Important	Important	Neither Important nor Unimportant	Unimportant	Not at all Important	N/A	Average 5 = Extremely Important
	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	
Quality of the program	293 74%	93 23%	9 2%	1 0%	0 0%	0 0%	4.7
Majors available	250 63%	114 29%	19 5%	5 1%	3 1%	7 2%	4.5
Affordability	241 61%	108 27%	35 9%	4 1%	5 1%	1 0%	4.5
Location	185 47%	161 41%	36 9%	8 2%	2 1%	2 1%	4.3
Faculty	163 41%	172 44%	45 11%	10 3%	2 1%	2 1%	4.2
Convenience (e.g., courses offered on preferred days and times)	151 38%	143 36%	63 16%	24 6%	10 3%	4 1%	4.0
Length of program	131 33%	168 43%	76 19%	10 3%	4 1%	6 2%	4.1
Ability to attend part time	64 16%	77 19%	109 28%	45 11%	76 19%	24 6%	3.0

**4. If you are not going to SUNY New Paltz for graduate school, please indicate why not. Select all that apply.**

Program not available	137	52%
Proximity to home/work	64	24%
Relocation to another area	55	21%
Cost	11	4%
Other, please specify (see page 12)	49	19%

**Employed / Job Offer / Self-employed**

<b>5. Is this a full time or a part time job?</b>		
Full time	163	76%
Part time	52	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>6. Is this job related to your field of study?</b>		
Yes	152	71%
No	63	29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>100%</b>

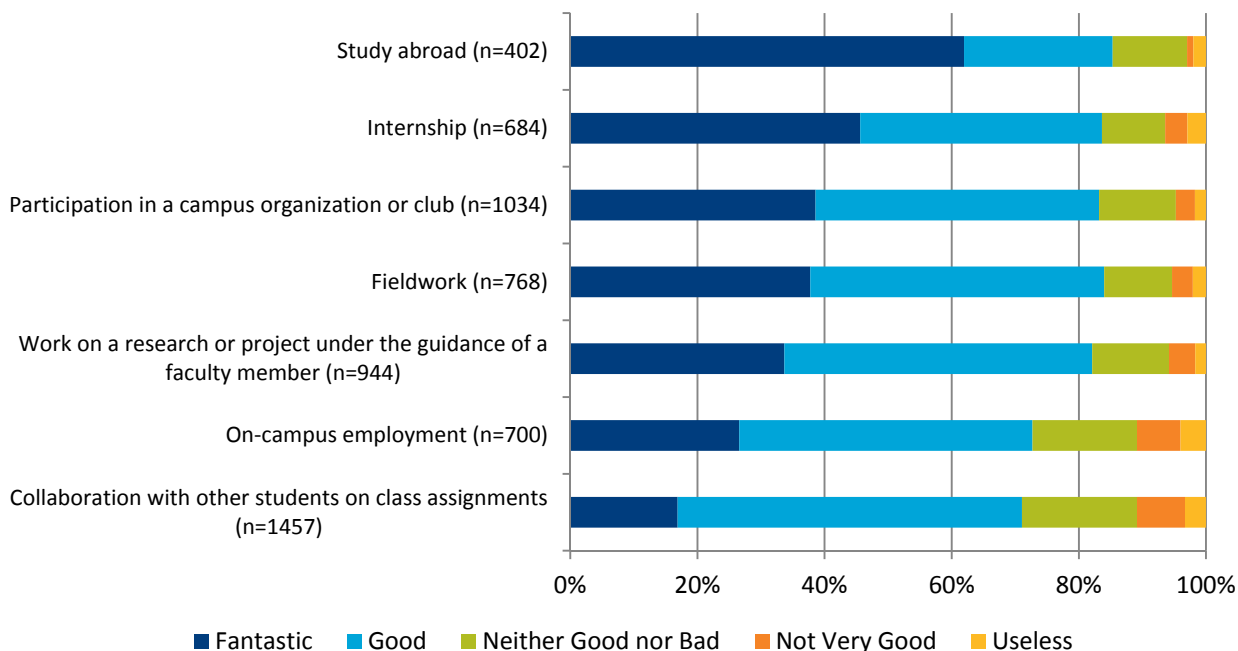
112 of the graduates with a job or job offer have full-time employment in their field of study. That is 51% of those with a job or job offer and 7% of the entire survey population.

**7. Where are you/will you be working? (see page 13)**

<b>8. What resources did you use to find this job? Please select all that apply.</b>		
Personal contacts (family, friend, etc.)	109	50%
Your own research/resources	84	39%
Internship	44	20%
Other, please specify (see page 17)	26	12%
Faculty member (advisor or other)	21	10%
Want ads online	17	8%
Employer event/job fair on the campus	12	6%
Career Resource Center (resume, cover letter, etc.)	9	4%
Industry-related job board	8	4%
Social networking sites such as LinkedIn	8	4%
Employer event/job fair off campus	7	3%
Alum of SUNY New Paltz	6	3%
Networking event	6	3%
Informational interview	3	1%
Professional or student club	2	1%
Want ads in print	1	0%

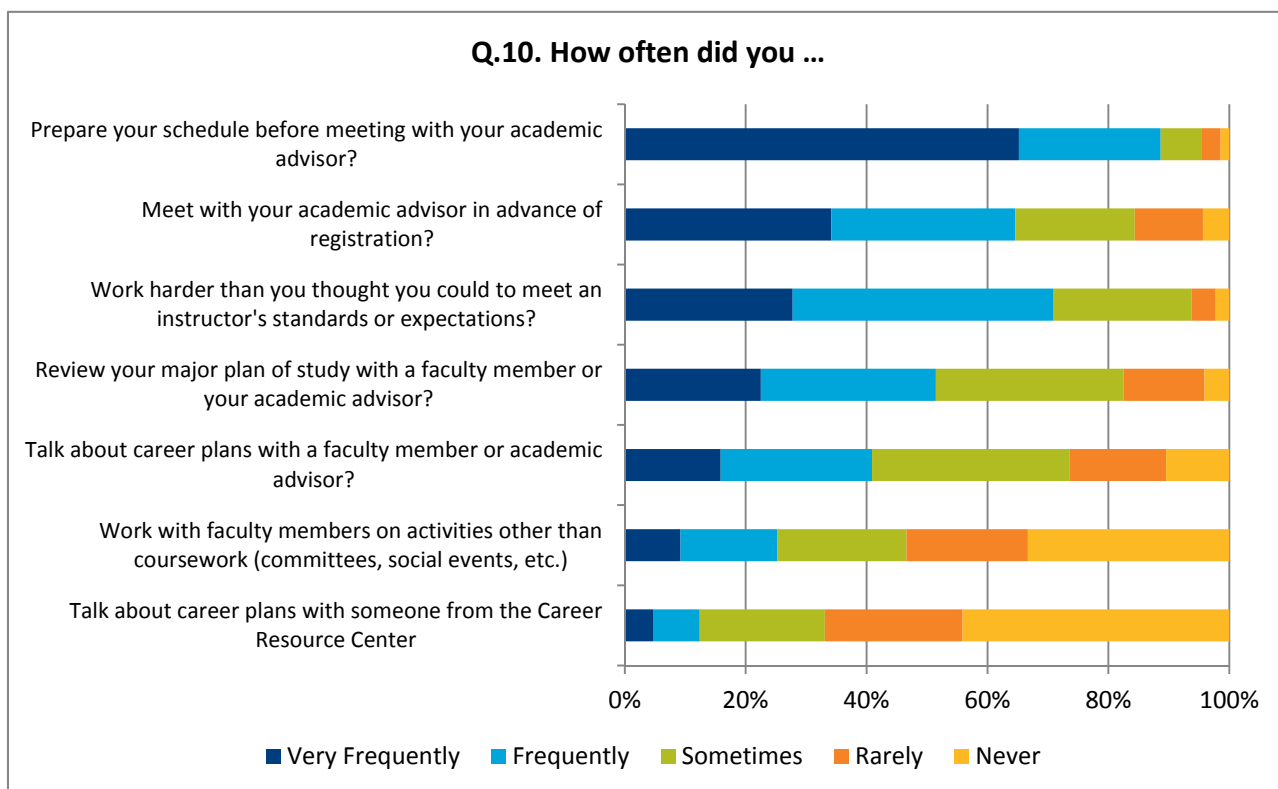
Your Experiences at SUNY New Paltz

**Q.9. How would you rate these activities as learning experiences?**  
*Only for those that participated in the activity*



**9. How would you rate these activities as learning experiences? If you did not take part, select N/A.**

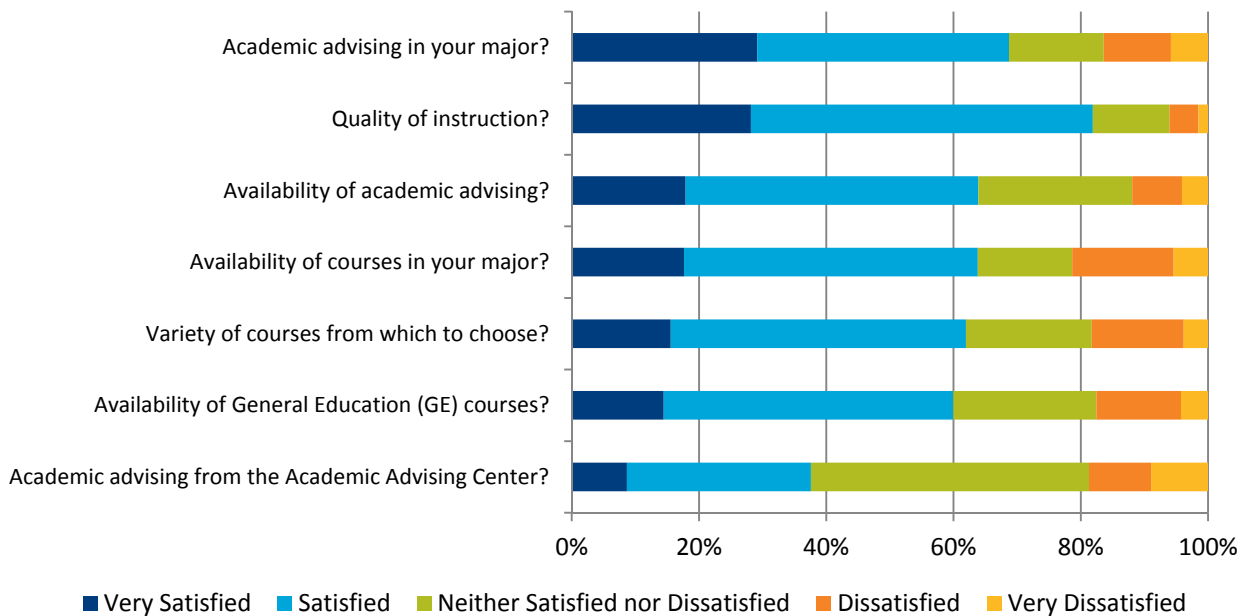
	Fantastic	Good	Neither Good nor Bad	Not Very Good	Useless	N/A	
	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.							Average 5 = Fantastic
Study abroad	249 17%	94 6%	47 3%	4 0%	8 1%	1064 73%	4.4
Participation in a campus organization or club	399 27%	461 31%	125 8%	31 2%	18 1%	441 30%	4.2
Internship	312 21%	260 18%	68 5%	24 2%	20 1%	786 53%	4.2
Work on a research or other creative project under the guidance of a faculty member	318 21%	457 31%	114 8%	39 3%	16 1%	536 36%	4.1
Fieldwork	290 20%	355 24%	82 6%	25 2%	16 1%	703 48%	4.1
On-campus employment	186 13%	323 22%	115 8%	48 3%	28 2%	778 53%	3.8
Collaboration with other students on class assignments	246 17%	789 53%	264 18%	110 7%	48 3%	22 1%	3.7



10. Overall, how often did you...						
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very Frequently	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Average
	5	4	3	2	1	5 = Very Frequently
Prepare your schedule before meeting with your academic advisor?	954 65%	343 23%	100 7%	45 3%	21 1%	4.5
Work harder than you thought you could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations?	407 28%	633 43%	334 23%	59 4%	33 2%	3.9
Meet with your academic advisor in advance of registration?	500 34%	446 30%	289 20%	165 11%	64 4%	3.8
Review your major plan of study with a faculty member or your academic advisor?	330 22%	425 29%	455 31%	197 13%	60 4%	3.5
Talk about career plans with a faculty member or academic advisor?	232 16%	366 25%	477 33%	234 16%	153 10%	3.2
Work with faculty members on activities other than coursework (committees, social events, etc.)	135 9%	234 16%	313 21%	294 20%	488 33%	2.5
Talk about career plans with someone from the Career Resource Center	68 5%	113 8%	302 21%	333 23%	644 44%	2.1

Satisfaction questions...

**Q.11. Overall, how satisfied were you with ...**

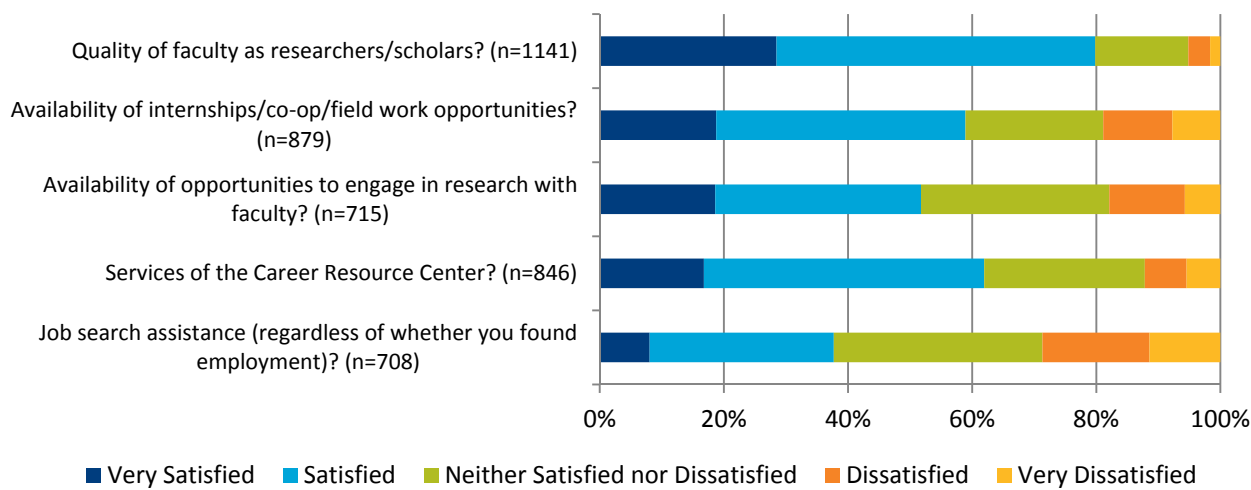


**11. Overall, how satisfied were you with...**

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Average
	5	4	3	2	1	5 = Very Satisfied
Quality of instruction?	409 28%	780 54%	175 12%	66 5%	22 2%	4.0
Academic advising in your major?	425 29%	577 40%	217 15%	154 11%	85 6%	3.8
Availability of academic advising?	261 18%	671 46%	352 24%	114 8%	60 4%	3.7
Availability of courses in your major?	257 18%	672 46%	216 15%	232 16%	79 5%	3.6
Variety of courses from which to choose?	227 16%	677 46%	288 20%	211 14%	56 4%	3.6
Availability of General Education (GE) courses?	211 14%	664 46%	328 22%	194 13%	62 4%	3.5
Academic advising from the Academic Advising Center?	126 9%	420 29%	635 44%	142 10%	130 9%	3.2

**Q.12. Overall, how satisfied were you with ...  
Only for those that participated in the activity**



**12. Overall, how satisfied were you with the following? If you did not participate, choose N/A.**

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A	
	5	4	3	2	1	N/A	
Quality of faculty as researchers/scholars?	325 22%	586 40%	171 12%	40 3%	19 1%	317 22%	4.0
Services of the Career Resource Center?	142 10%	382 26%	219 15%	57 4%	46 3%	606 42%	3.6
Availability of internships/co-op/field work opportunities?	165 11%	353 24%	195 13%	98 7%	68 5%	579 40%	3.5
Availability of opportunities to engage in research with faculty?	133 9%	237 16%	217 15%	87 6%	41 3%	746 51%	3.5
Job search assistance (regardless of whether you found employment)?	57 4%	210 14%	238 16%	122 8%	81 6%	754 52%	3.1

Average  
5 = Very  
Satisfied

Two CONTRIBUTION questions...

13. How much of a contribution did your SUNY New Paltz experience make to the following?						
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very Large Contribution	Large Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Small Contribution	No Contribution	Average 5 = Very Large Contribution
	5	4	3	2	1	
Acquiring knowledge and skills for intellectual growth throughout your life	559 39%	566 39%	248 17%	55 4%	22 2%	4.1
Acquiring information, ideas and concepts	544 38%	578 40%	247 17%	51 4%	22 2%	4.1
Acquiring knowledge and skills for further academic study	530 37%	601 42%	232 16%	58 4%	24 2%	4.1
Understanding yourself	566 39%	480 33%	253 17%	84 6%	68 5%	4.0
Acquiring analytical thinking skills	493 34%	562 39%	295 20%	60 4%	34 2%	4.0
Developing an openness to the opinions of others	504 35%	528 37%	275 19%	76 5%	54 4%	3.9
Acquiring knowledge and skills needed for a career	445 31%	551 38%	304 21%	106 7%	42 3%	3.9
Writing clearly and effectively	429 30%	559 39%	326 23%	93 6%	39 3%	3.9
Working with others	426 29%	532 37%	341 24%	107 7%	43 3%	3.8
Developing leadership skills	420 29%	500 35%	327 23%	120 8%	71 5%	3.8
Speaking clearly and effectively	410 28%	541 37%	335 23%	111 8%	51 4%	3.8
Understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds	463 32%	457 32%	311 21%	114 8%	103 7%	3.7
Using computer and information technology effectively	299 21%	498 34%	391 27%	177 12%	86 6%	3.5
Understanding political and social issues	309 21%	458 32%	415 29%	156 11%	101 7%	3.5
Understanding your rights and responsibilities as a citizen	282 20%	429 30%	416 29%	185 13%	133 9%	3.4

14. How much of a contribution did SUNY New Paltz make to your knowledge, skills and personal development in the following areas?					
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very Much	Quite a Bit	Some	Very Little	Average 4=Very Much
	4	3	2	1	
Acquiring a broad, general education	567 39%	605 42%	235 16%	46 3%	3.2
Solving complex, real-world problems	400 28%	560 39%	381 26%	109 8%	2.9
Analyzing quantitative problems	374 26%	565 39%	382 26%	129 9%	2.8



**Overall Evaluation**

<b>15. If you could start over again, would you choose...</b>				
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	<b>Definitely Yes</b>	<b>Probably Yes</b>	<b>Probably No</b>	<b>Definitely No</b>
	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
...to attend SUNY New Paltz?	701 48%	536 37%	159 11%	55 4%
...the same major or field of study?	662 46%	513 36%	184 13%	78 5%

<b>16. How would you evaluate ...?</b>						
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>	
	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	Average 5=Excellent
Your entire educational experience	535 37%	702 48%	130 9%	59 4%	22 2%	4.2
Academic advising	263 18%	542 38%	335 23%	156 11%	145 10%	3.4
Social environment/activities	510 35%	550 38%	259 18%	79 5%	41 3%	4.0

**IV. Time to Graduation**

<b>17. Did you graduate within four years, if you entered as a first year student, or within an appropriate time if you entered as a transfer student?</b>		
Yes	1174	80%
No	300	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1474</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>18. Which of the following circumstances extended your time to graduation? Please check all that apply.</b>		
Personal issues	127	44%
Changed my major	120	42%
Availability of courses to fulfill major requirements	112	39%
Academic performance issues	59	21%
Loss of credits while transferring	56	20%
Availability of courses to fulfill General Education (GE) requirements	48	17%
Work/employment issues	43	15%
Financial issues	33	11%

<b>19. Think of a world in which there is no SUNY campus at New Paltz. Where would you have gone to college?</b>		
Upstate	356	25%
Out of state	258	18%
Somewhere else in the Hudson Valley	236	16%
Within the five boroughs or on Long Island	229	16%
No opinion	205	14%
Somewhere else downstate	101	7%
Western New York	41	3%
I would not have gone to college	12	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1438</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>20. What is your primary major? Pick your area - Business, Education, Fine and Performing Arts, Liberal Arts and Sciences or Science Engineering - even if your exact major is not on the list.</b>		
Business (Accounting, Business Administration, Finance, General Business, International Business, Management, Marketing)	161	11%
Education (Educational Administration, Education Studies, Elementary Education, Foreign Languages, Secondary Education, Special Education)	243	17%
Fine and Performing Arts (Art Studio, Art Education, Art History, Music, Theater)	211	14%
Liberal Arts and Sciences (Anthropology, Black Studies, Communication and Media, Communication Disorders, Economics, English, Foreign Languages, Geography, History, Interdisciplinary, Nursing, Philosophy, Political Science and International Relations, Psychology, Sociology, Women's Studies)	733	50%
Science and Engineering (Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Geology, Interdisciplinary, Math, Physics)	124	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1472</b>	<b>100%</b>

These questions are for Education majors only.

**21. To what degree did your Education major enhance your ability to do the following? If it does not apply, choose N/A.**

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Extremely	label	Moderately	label	Not At All	N/A	Average 5= Extremely
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	
Employ a variety of instructional strategies to encourage student critical thinking, problem-solving and performance skills.	97 41%	81 35%	26 11%	17 7%	13 6%	0 0%	4.4
Be a responsible advocate so that all your students receive appropriate instruction and services in school.	100 43%	74 31%	36 15%	13 6%	12 5%	0 0%	4.3
Assume a leadership role among your colleagues to promote student learning.	86 37%	83 35%	35 15%	17 7%	11 5%	2 1%	4.3
Use appropriate assessments to analyze and document K-12 student learning.	75 32%	95 41%	31 13%	16 7%	16 7%	1 0%	4.3
Adapt instruction and work effectively with students with special needs.	77 33%	69 29%	52 22%	27 12%	5 2%	4 2%	4.1
Teach effective in high needs or urban schools.	62 26%	68 29%	51 22%	37 16%	11 5%	6 3%	4.1