

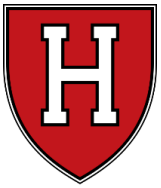


# The Real Class of '96: Twenty Years Out

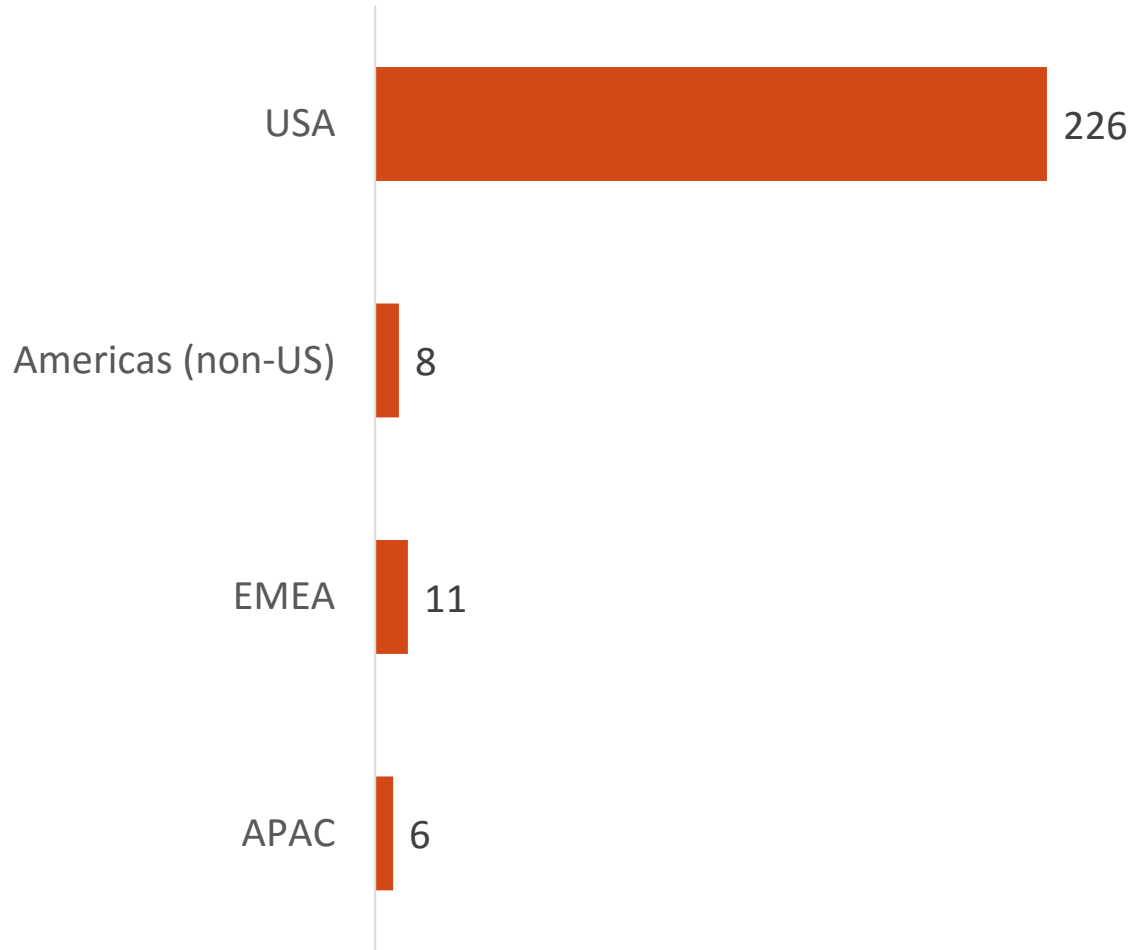
Class of 1996 Survey Results

May 2016

# We surveyed about 15% of our class ahead of the reunion



*In which part of the world do you currently live?*

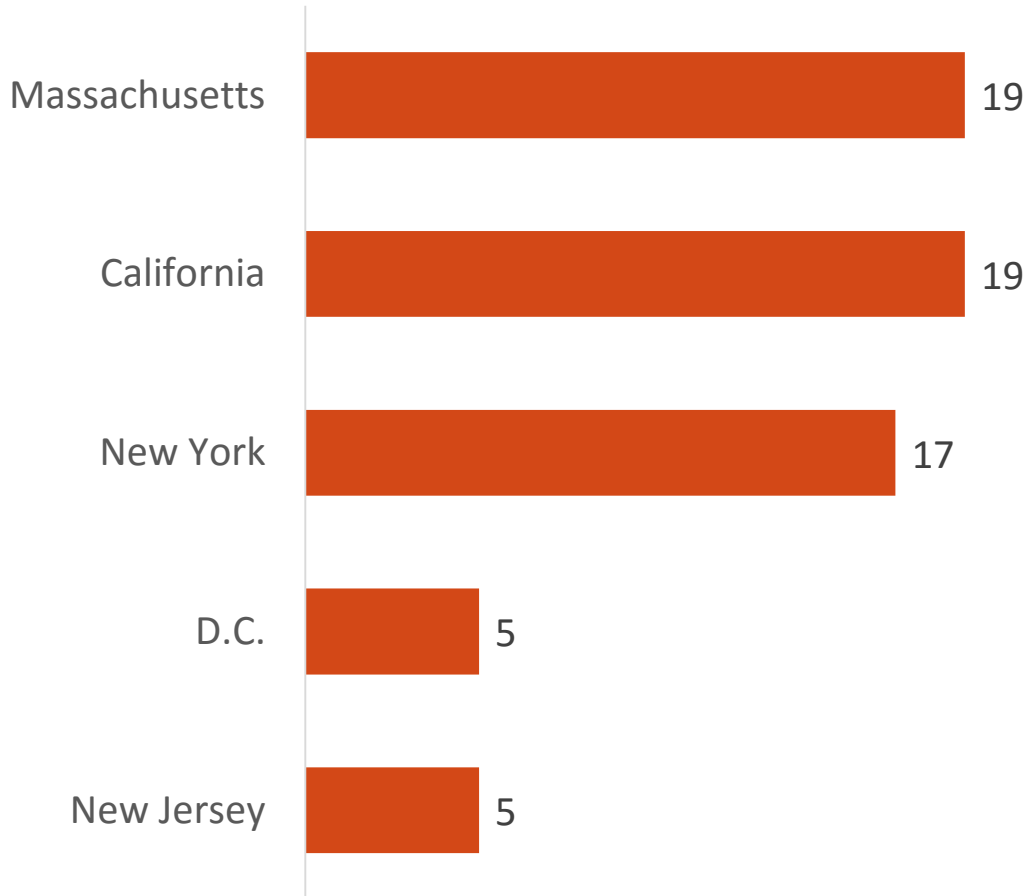


- Administered online between May 11th and May 25th
- Completed by 251 classmates (about 15% of the class)
- Most respondents reside in the U.S.
- Sample was 53% male / 47% female
- Survey margin of error: +/- 4.0%

# Most of our US respondents inhabit just three states



*In which state / territory do you currently live? (US only)*



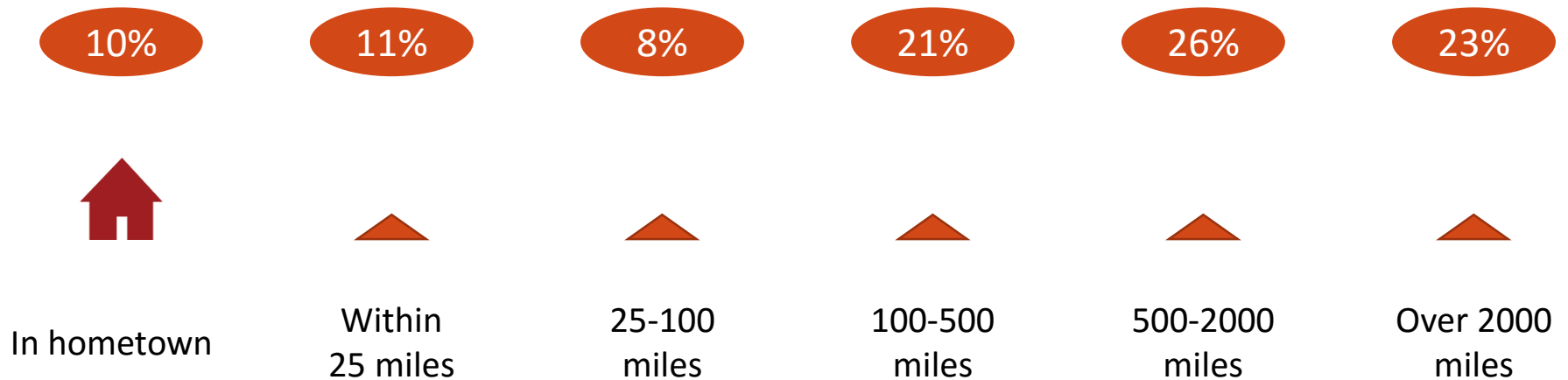
• Other notable mentions include:

- Texas
- Virginia
- Illinois
- Connecticut
- Washington
- Florida
- Pennsylvania

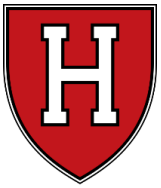
About a quarter of our class lives within a few hours' drive of their hometown, but most of us have settled far from home



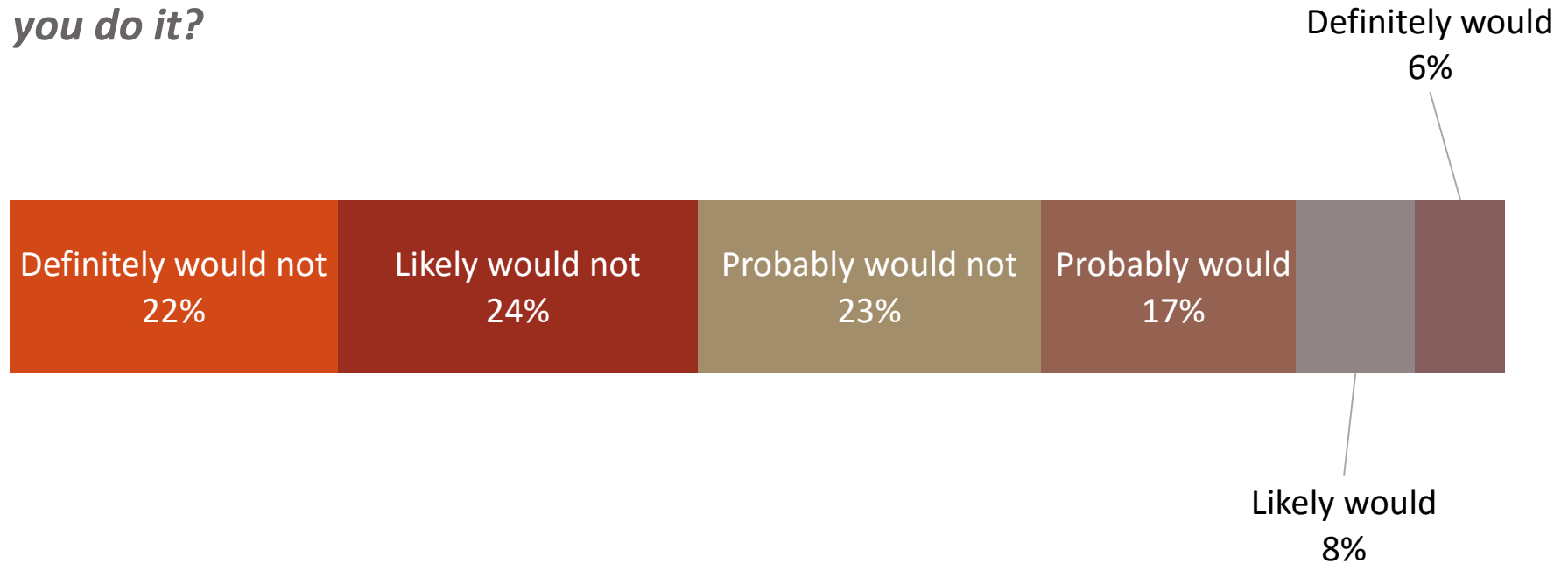
*How far from your childhood home or city do you currently live?*



# Most of us have had it with our hometowns

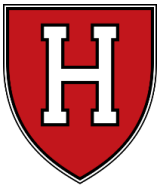


*If you had the opportunity to live in your hometown again, would you do it?*

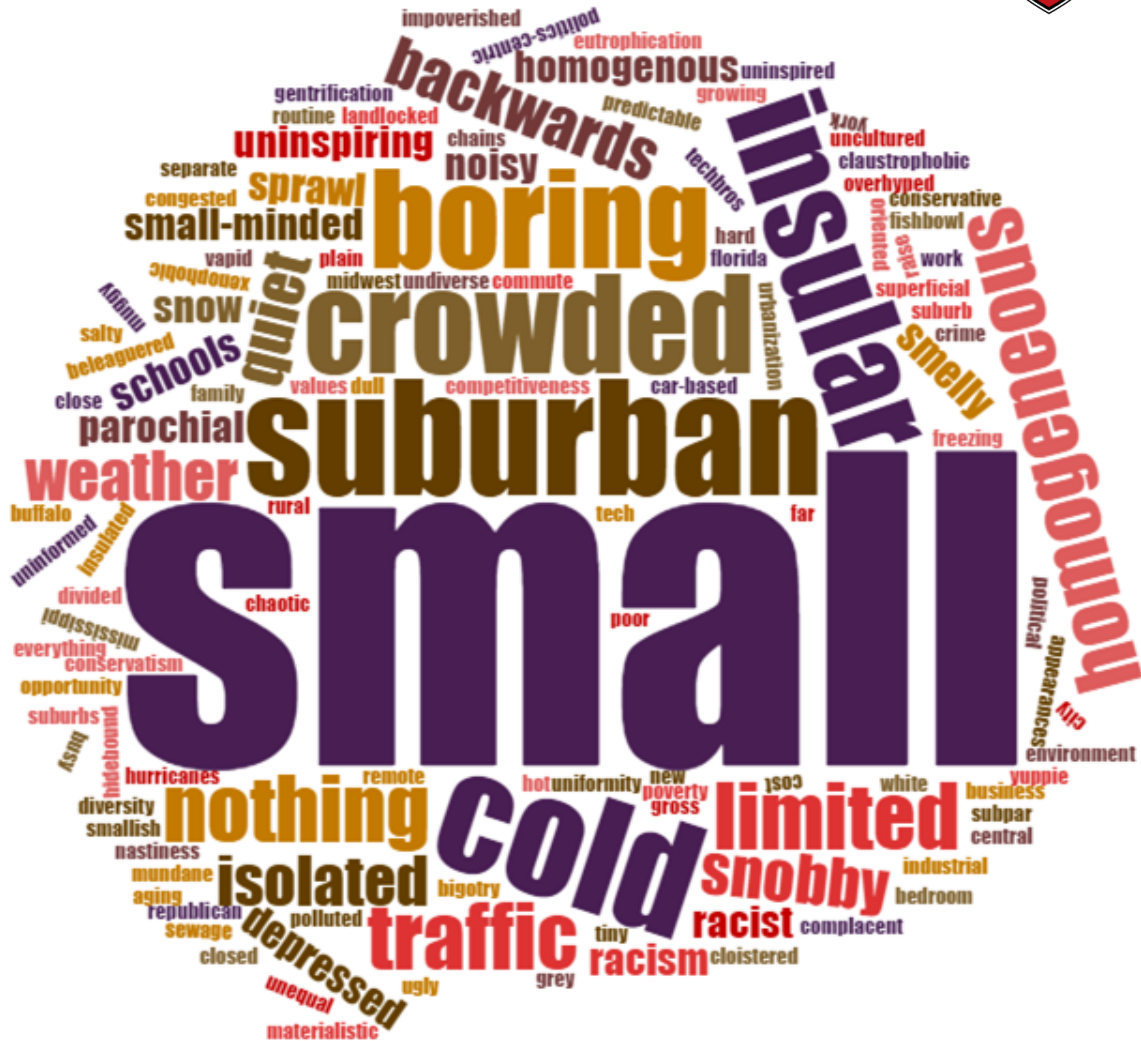




**... but also sharp criticisms about the smallness of home**



***In one word, describe something negative about your hometown***



# THE REAL CLASS OF '96

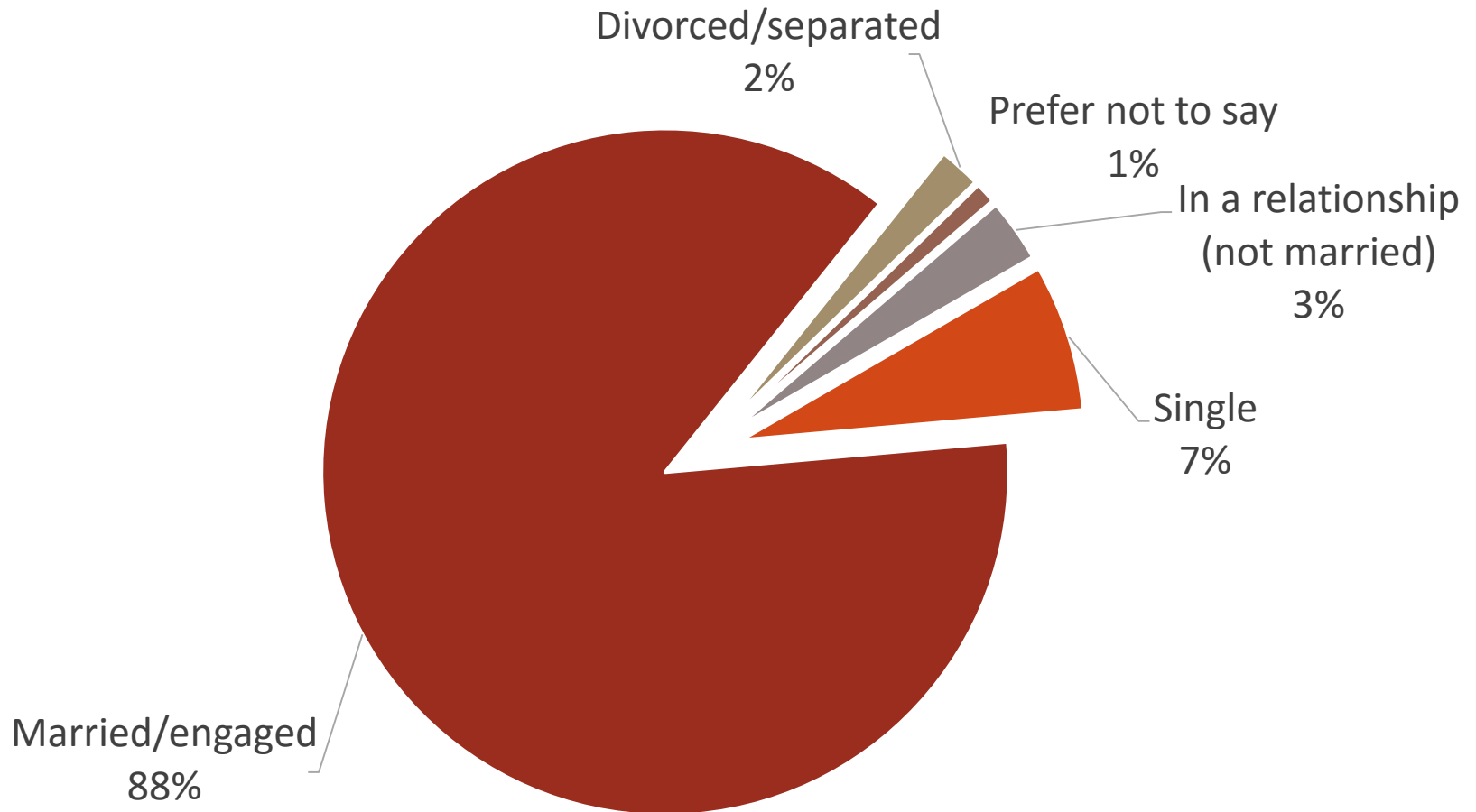


# Marriage and Family

# Most of us are married, but some remain single



*What is your current relationship status?*

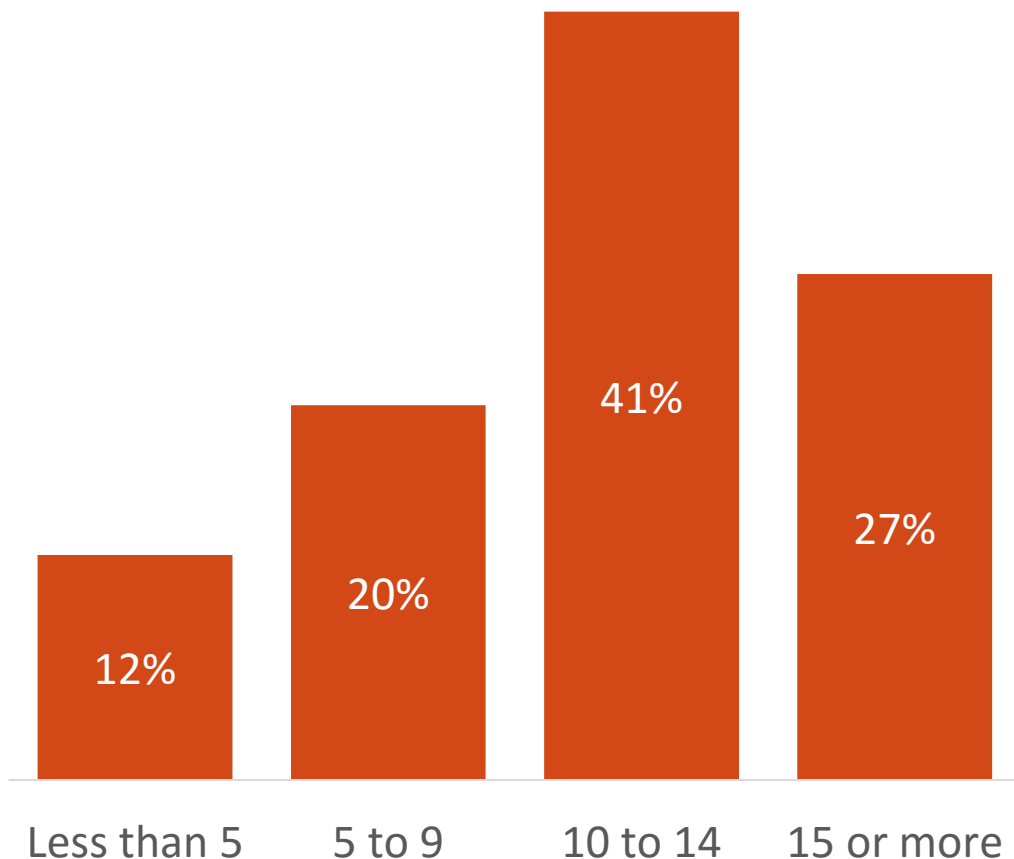


# Among those of us who are married, about 2/3 have been married for more than ten years



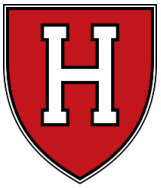
*How many years have you been married or engaged?*

- 208 / 251 respondents are married or engaged
- Average time married = **11.1 years**

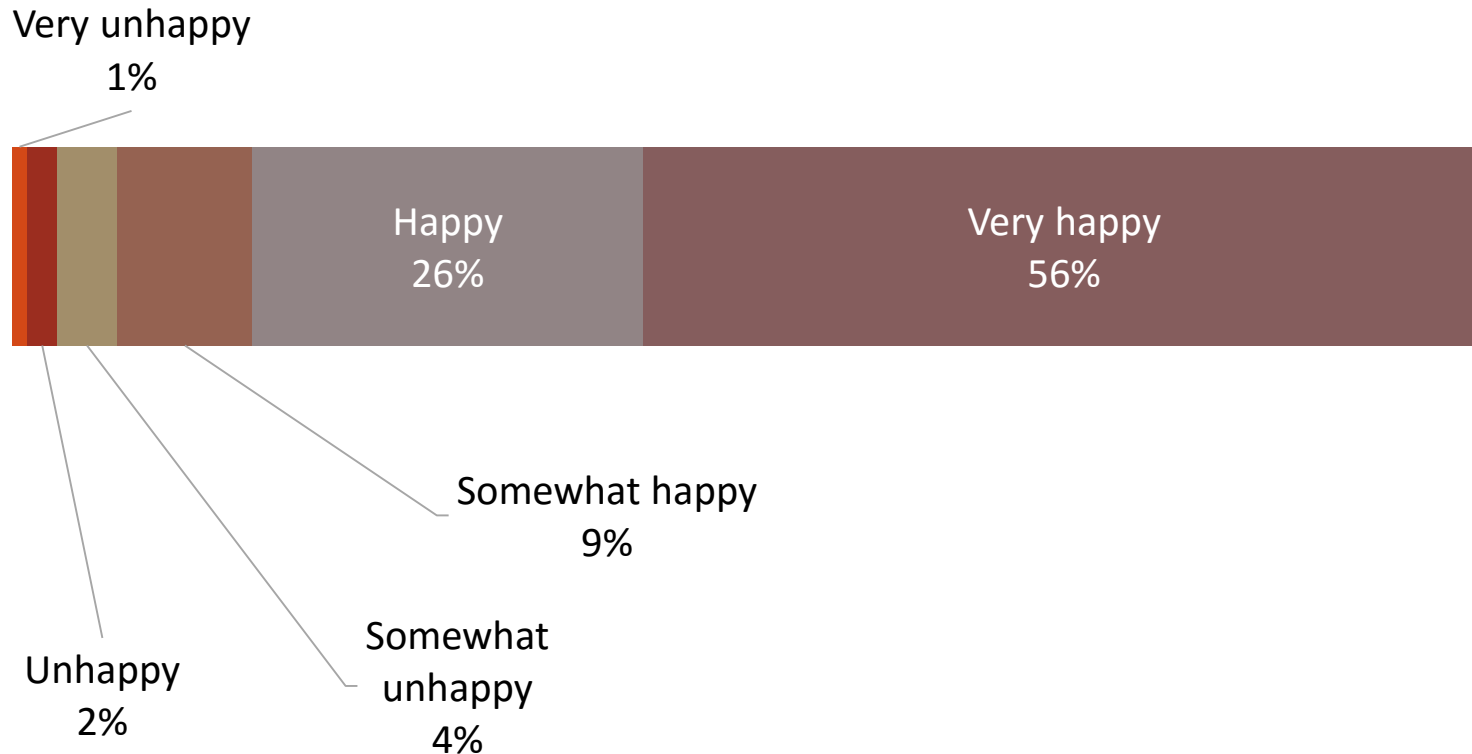


7% of respondents have divorced at some point since graduation

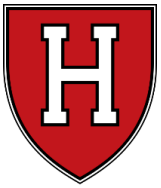
# Regardless, most of us are happy with our current love lives



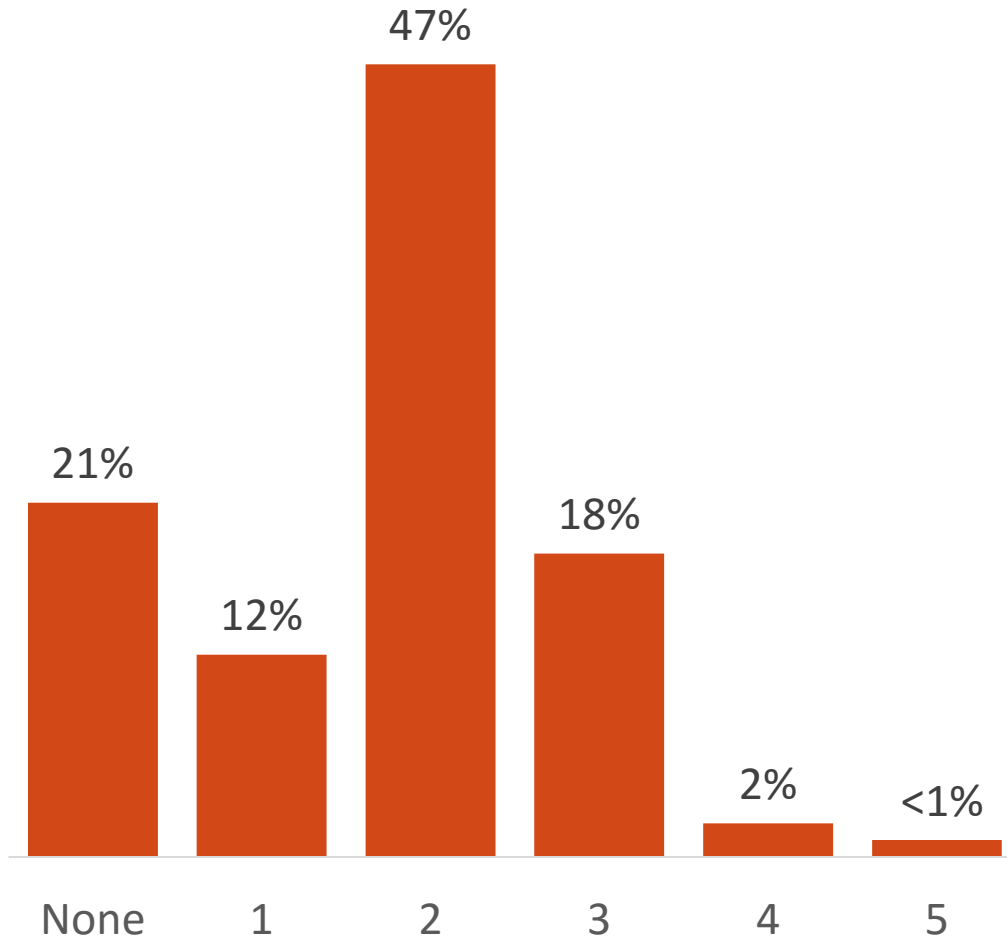
*How happy are you with your current love life?*



# About 80% of us are parents, most often of two children

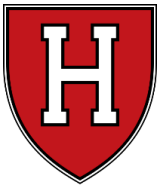


*How many children do you have?*

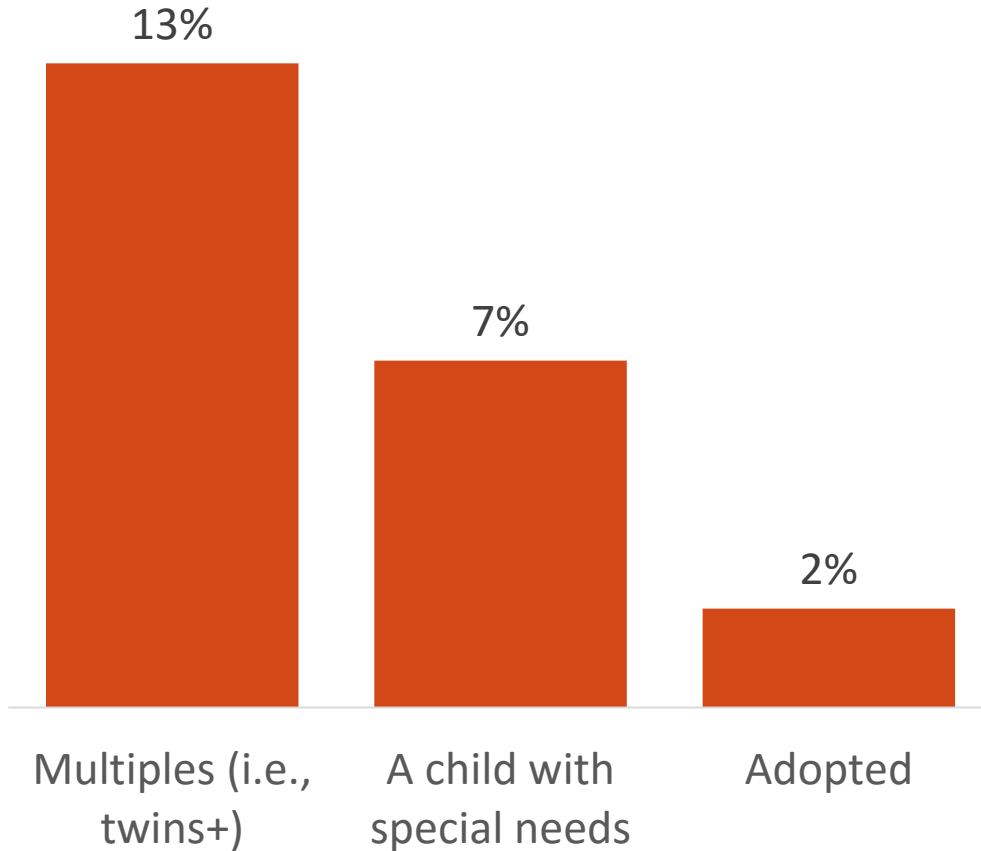


- The average classmate has 1.7 children, compared with the U.S. average of 1.86

## A bit more about our children . . .



*(Parents only) Are any of your children . . .*



- The multiple rate among respondents is about 3 times the U.S. average
- “Special needs” were defined as a physical, mental, or emotional disability

Number of respondents who have been a foster parent

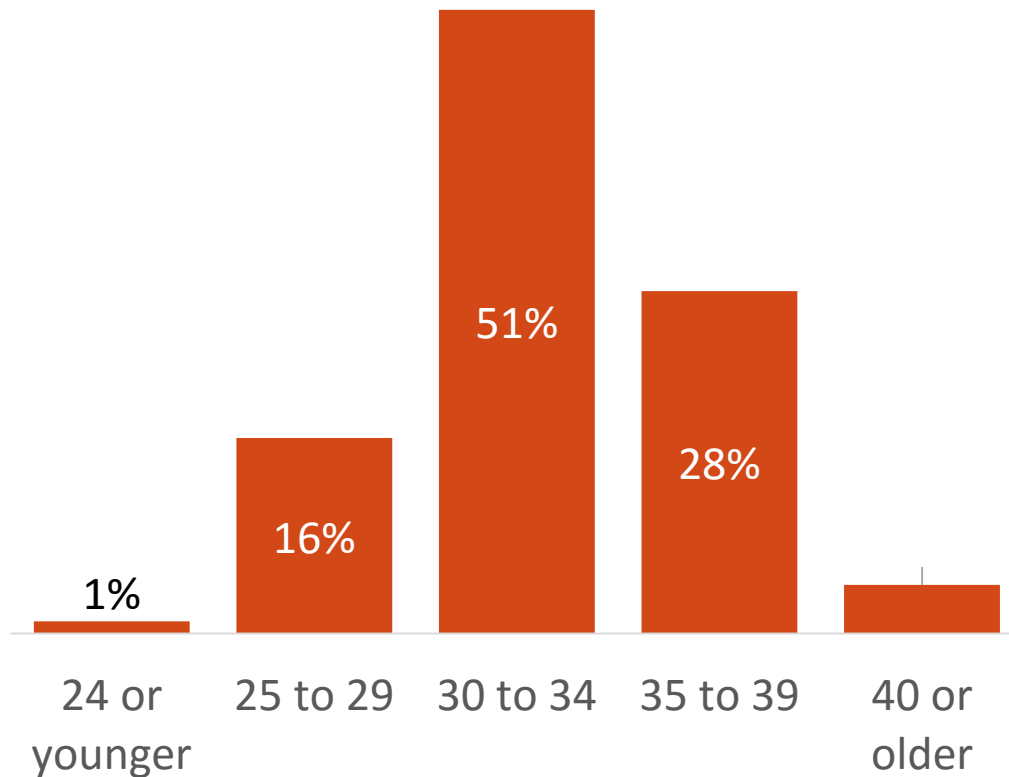
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# Compared to the rest of the U.S., we waited much longer to become parents



*At what age did you first become a parent?  
(parents only)*

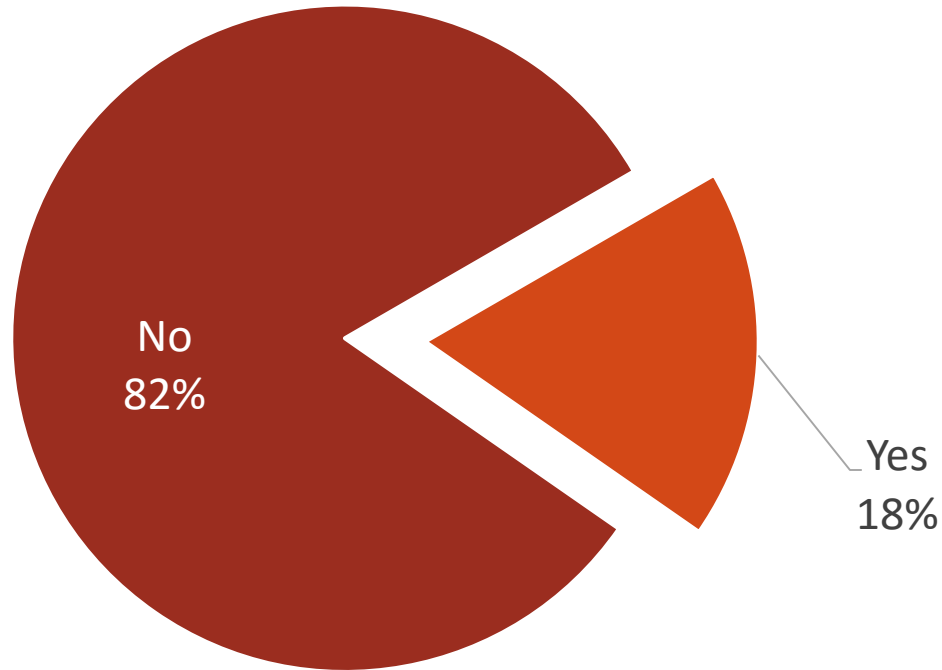
- Average age of new parents in our class is 32.8 years
- National average is 23.0 years for women and 25.1 years for men (2006–2010)





## Most parents have stayed in the workforce

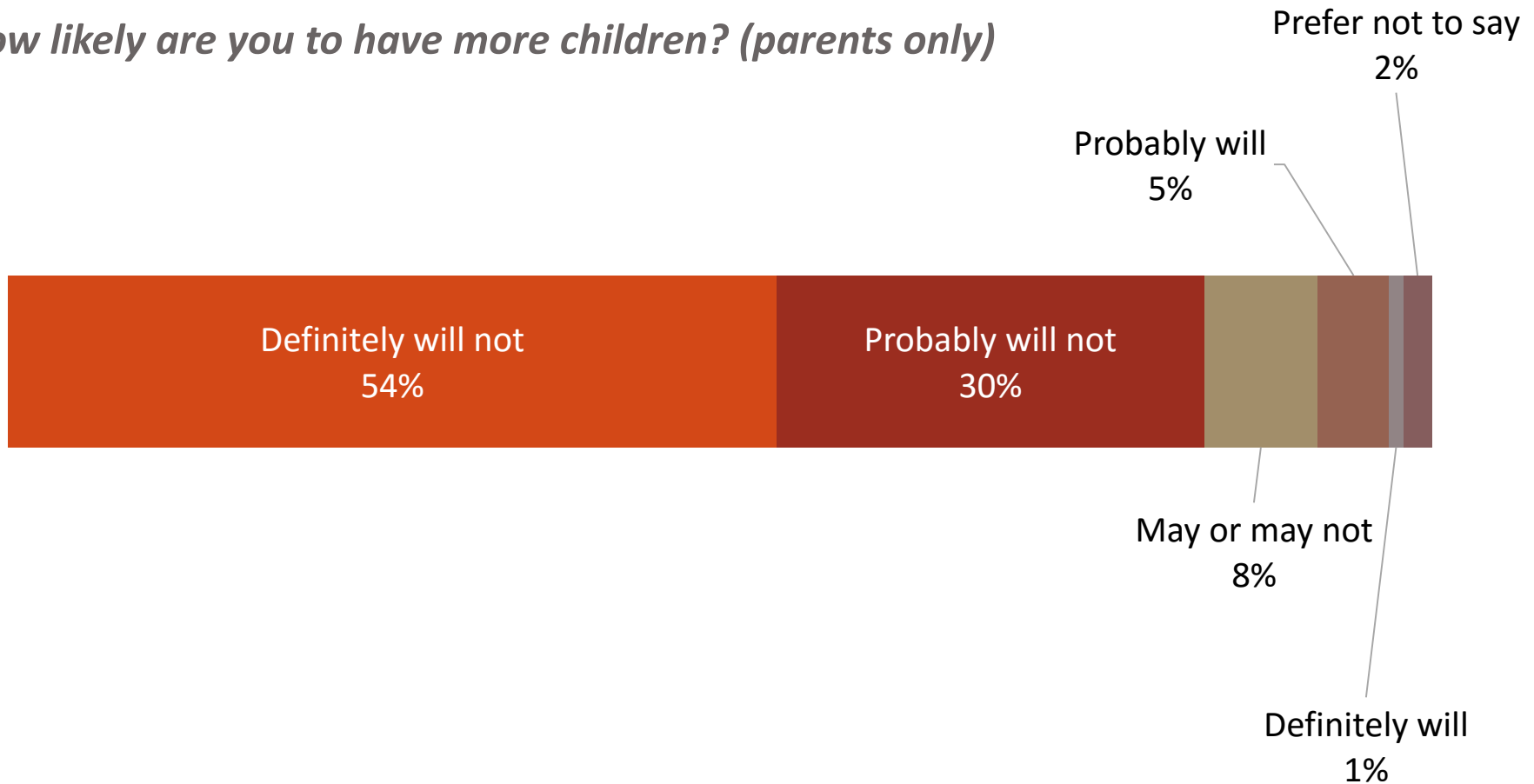
*Have you ever completely left the workforce to care for your children, for a continuous year or more? (parents only)*



# Most of our families are complete



*How likely are you to have more children? (parents only)*



# Among non-parents, opinions about having children are widely varied



*Do you want to have children someday, through either birth or adoption? (non-parents only)*



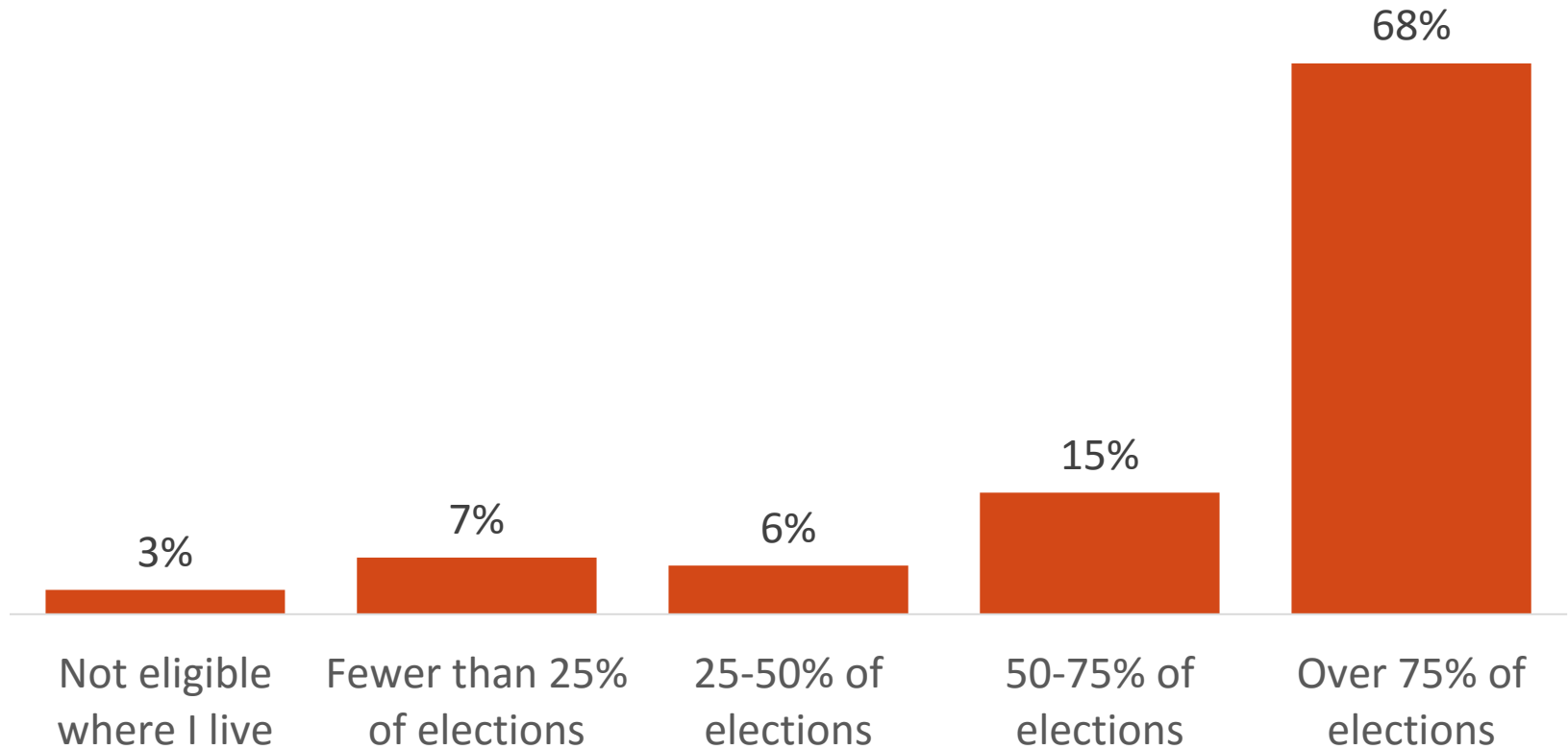


# Politics and Religion

# We are reliable voters



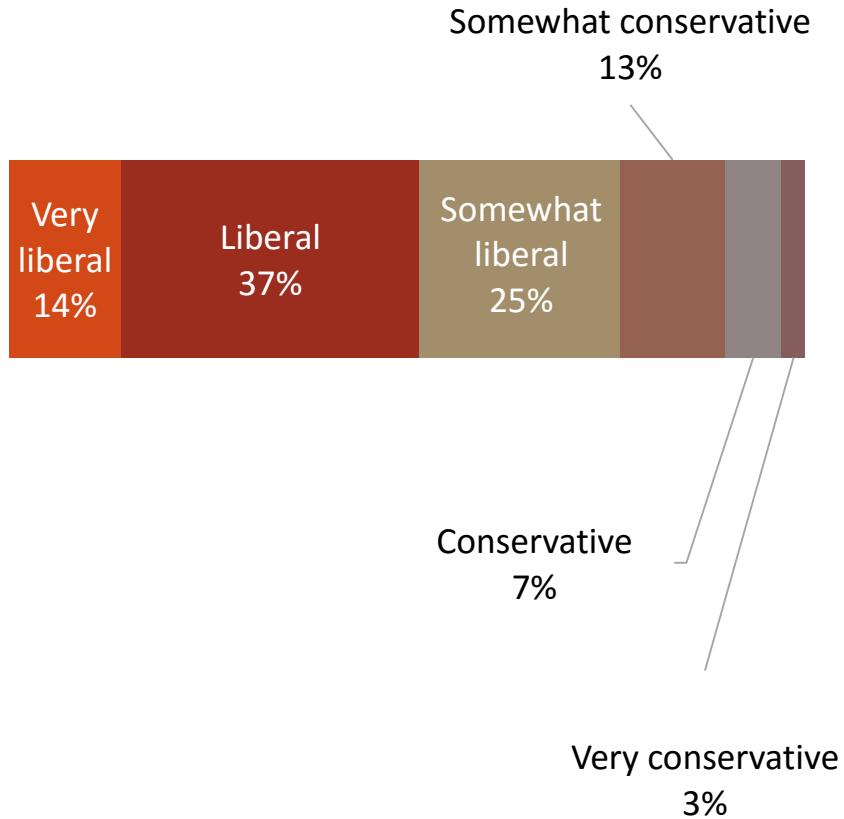
*How often do you vote?*



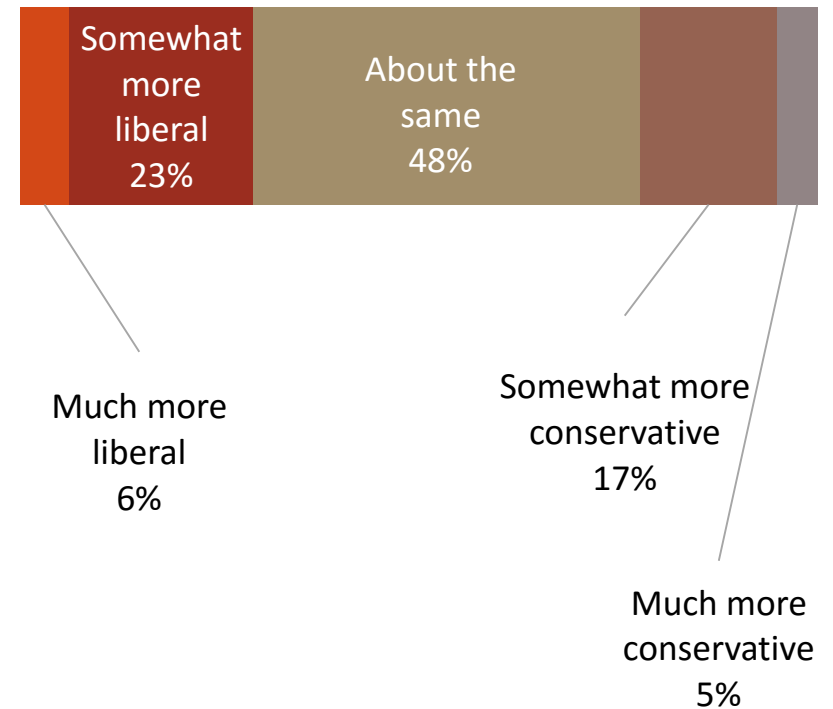
# We are also reliably liberal, and run in the same political circles



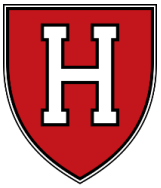
*How would you characterize your political orientation?*



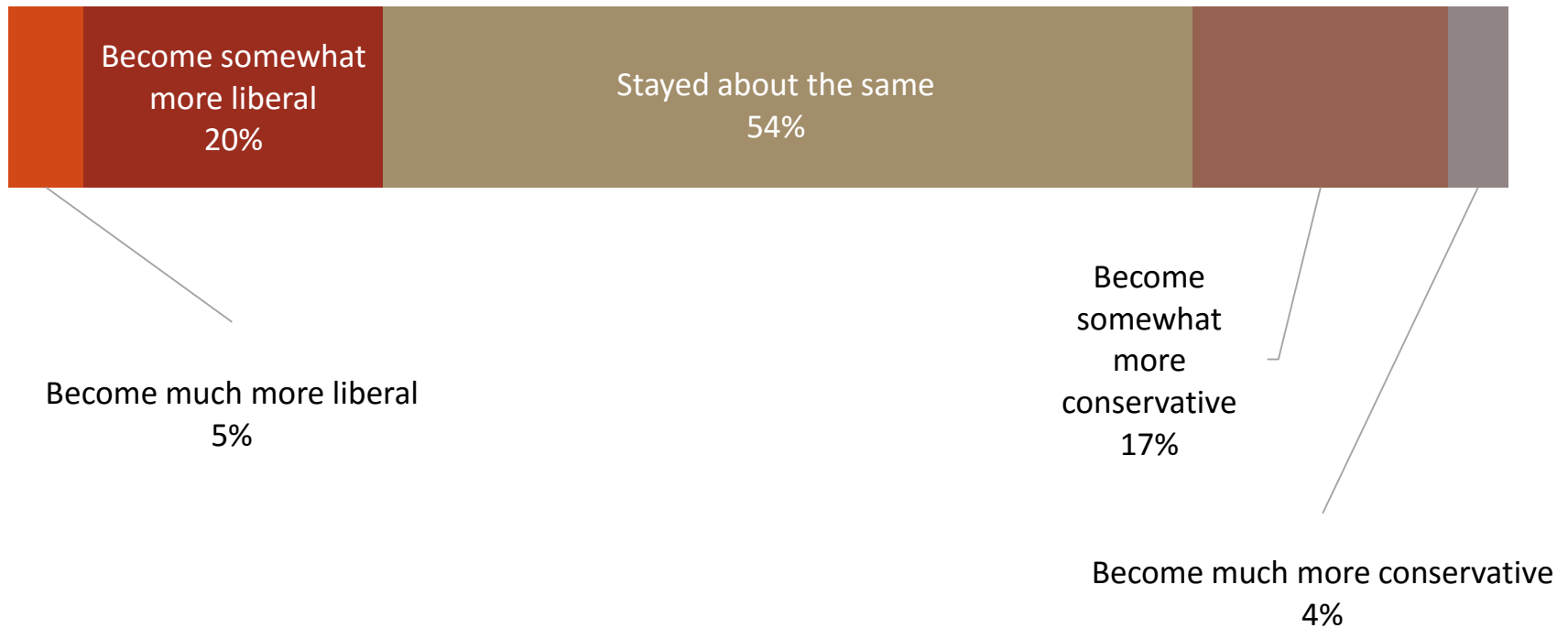
*Compared to friends, neighbors, and colleagues, is your political orientation . . .*



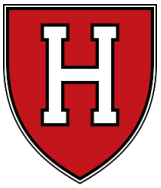
Regardless, our politics are pretty stable . . .



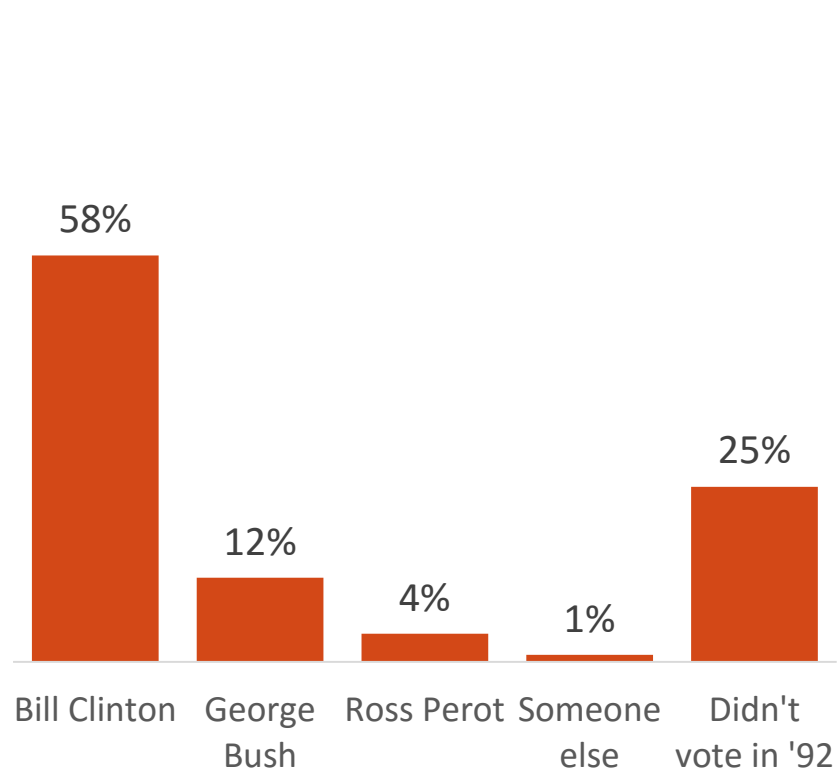
*Since graduating college, how has your political orientation changed?*



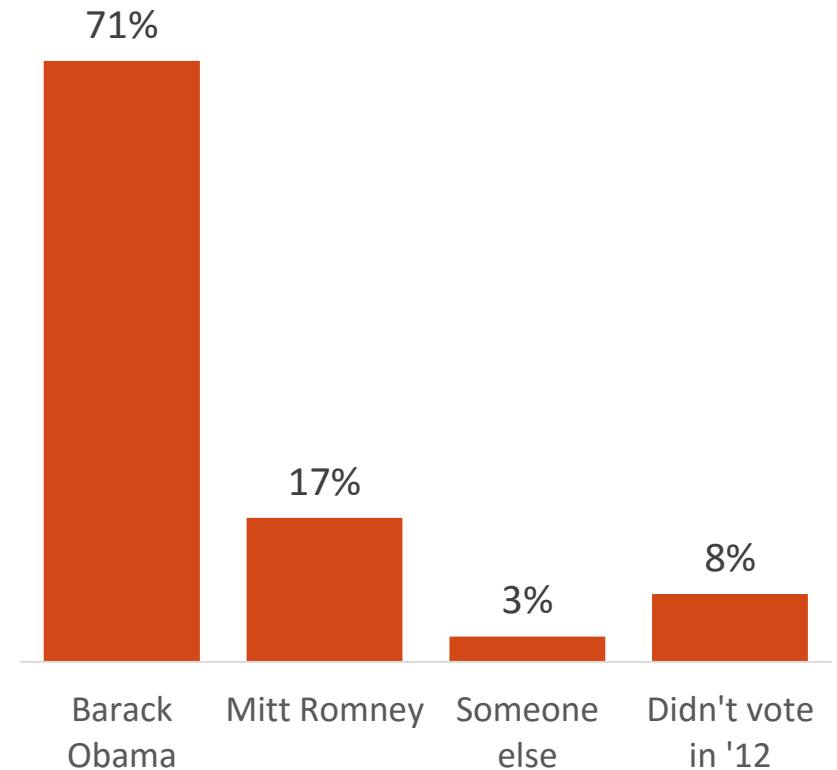
... as evidenced by our voting patterns



*For whom did you vote in the 1992 presidential election?*



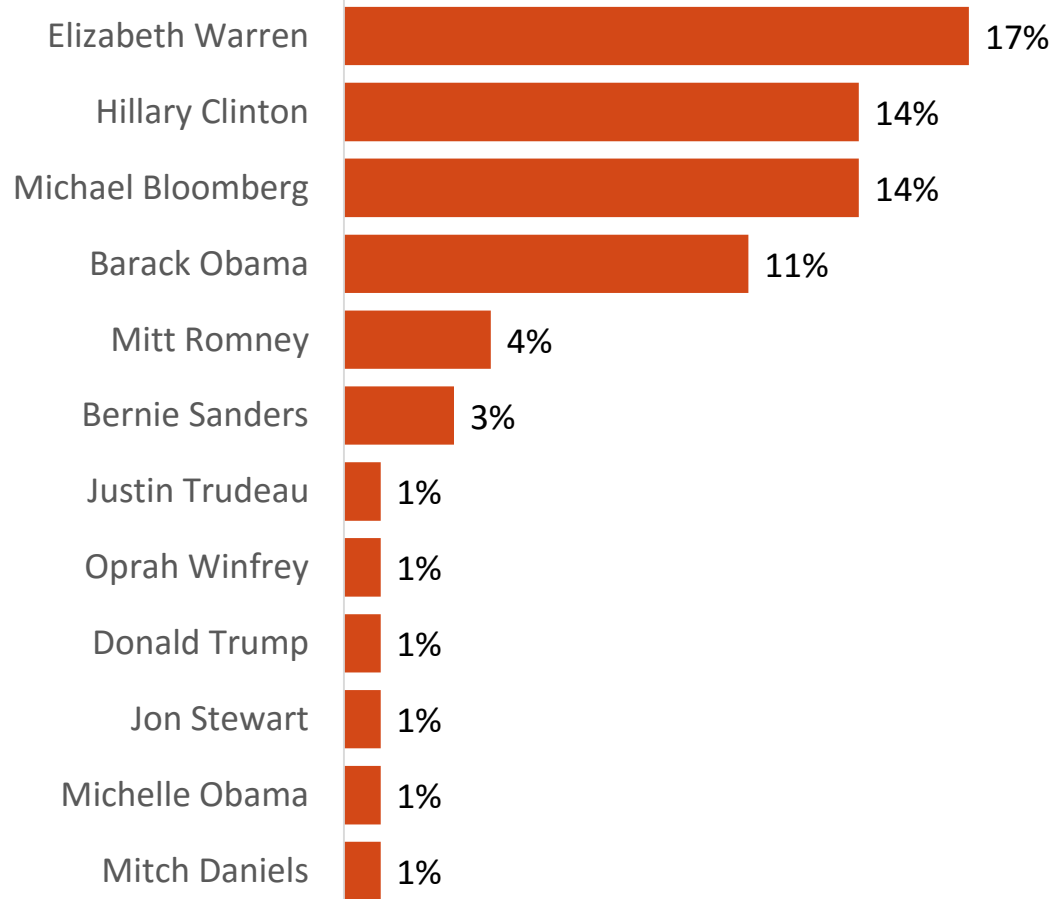
*For whom did you vote in the 2012 presidential election?*



# It does seem, however, that we only somewhat happy with this year's candidates

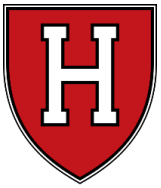


*If you could choose from anyone alive, who would you most like to see become U.S. President on Jan. 20, 2017?*

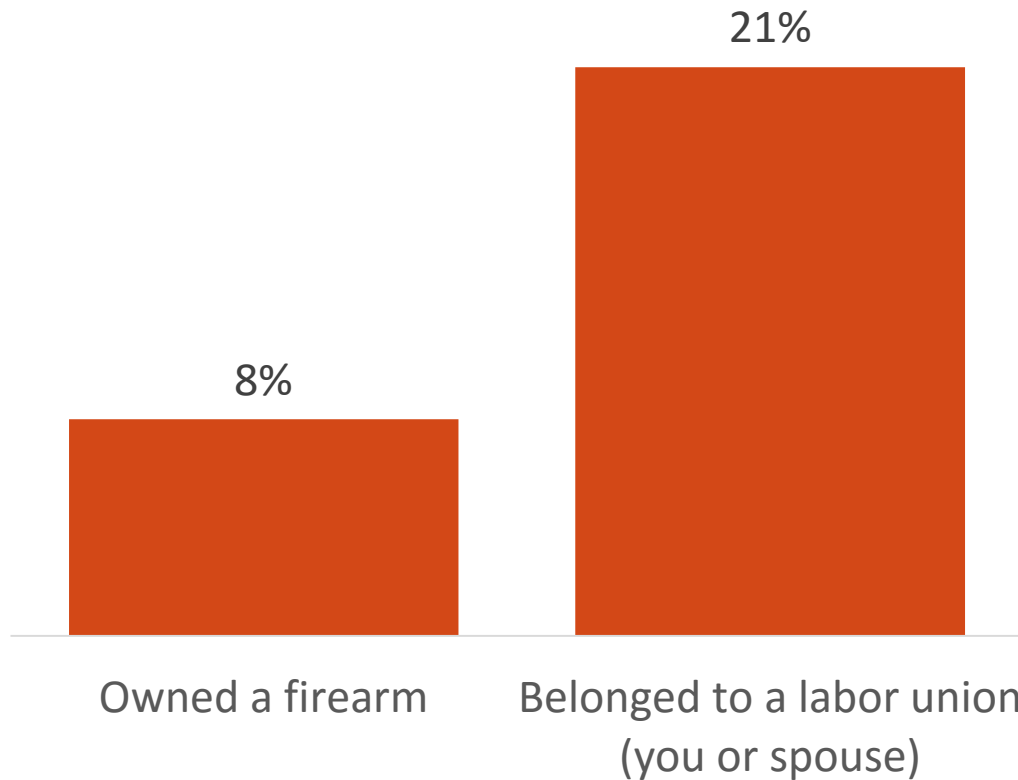


- Only those with 2 or more responses included in chart
- Other interesting choices include:
  - “Me”
  - “My wife”
  - Winston Churchill (he’s dead)
  - Jesse Ventura
  - Rush Limbaugh
  - Neil Rudenstine

# About three times as many have belonged to unions as have owned a gun



*Have you ever . . .*

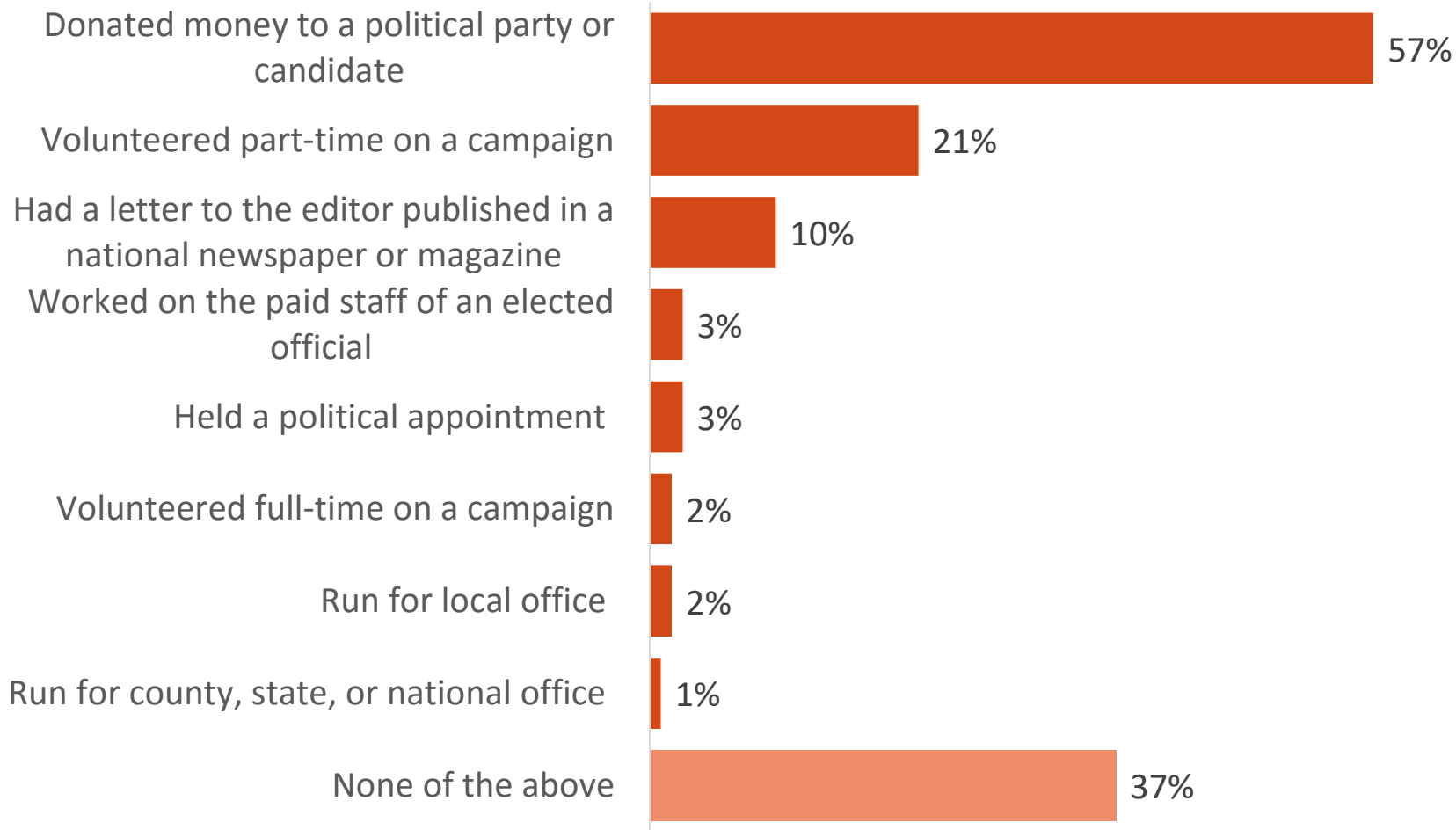


- 38% of American households own a firearm
- 11.1% of American workers are **currently** in a union

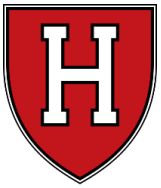
# Most of our political activity comprises giving money and occasional volunteer work, but many of us are not active



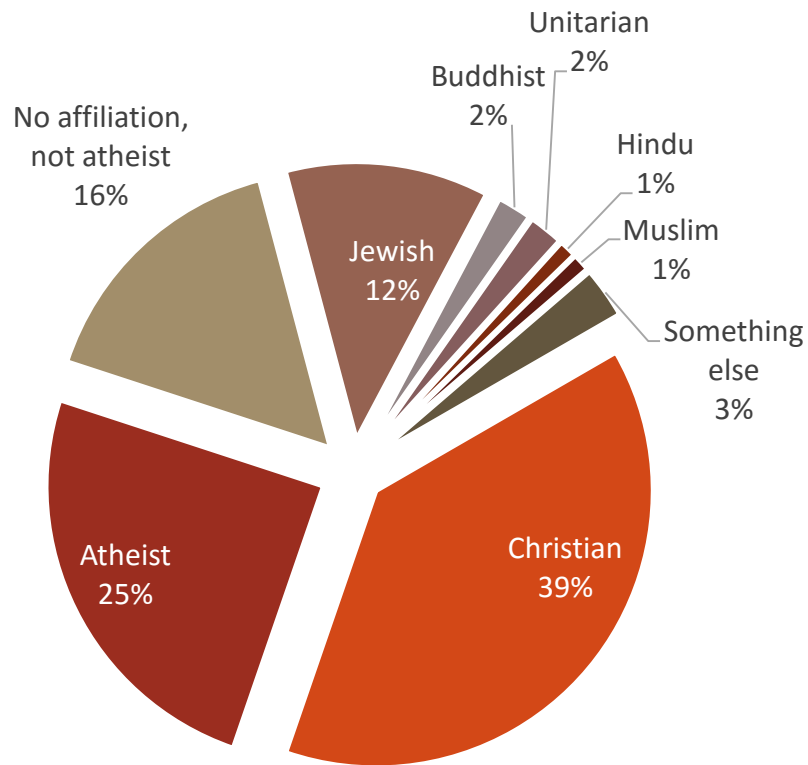
*Since graduation, have you done any of the following?*



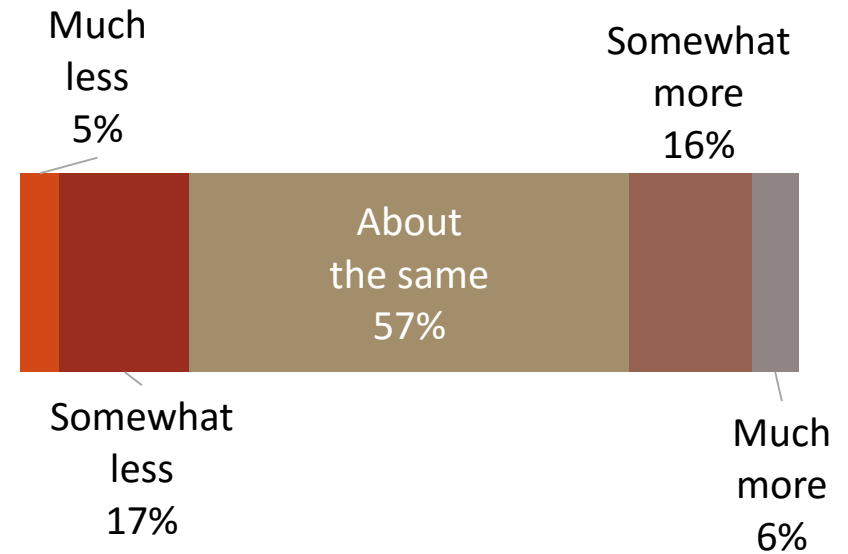
# A bit about our religious preferences



*With which religious preference do you identify?*



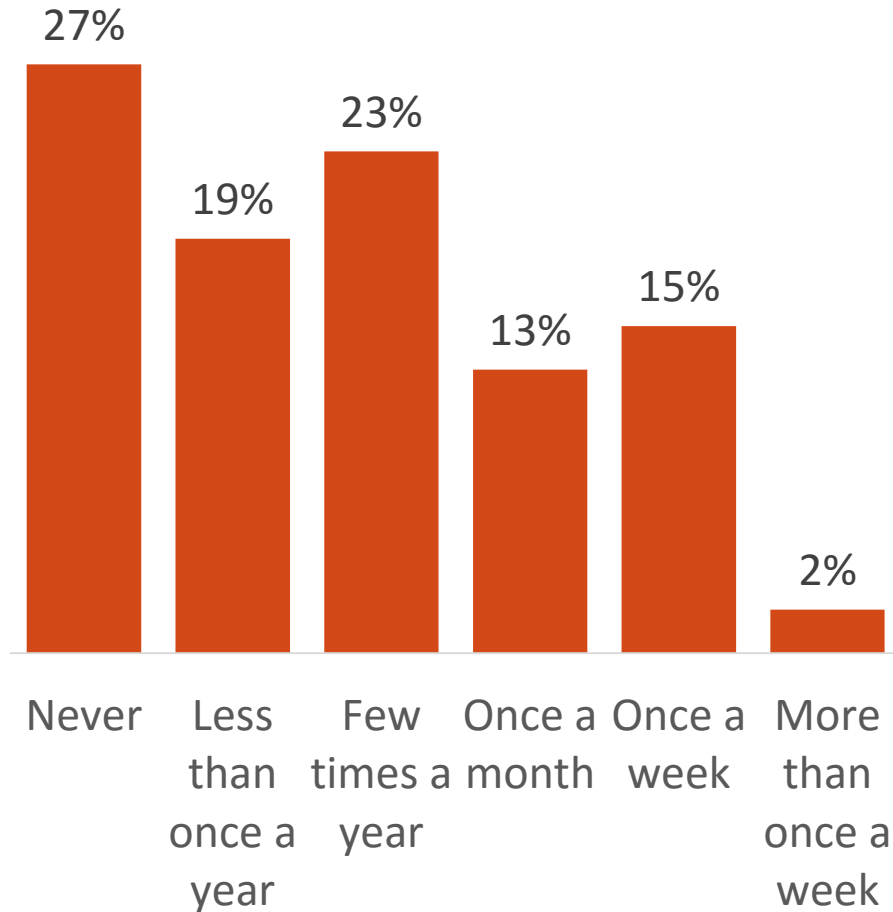
*Are you more or less religious than you were at graduation?*



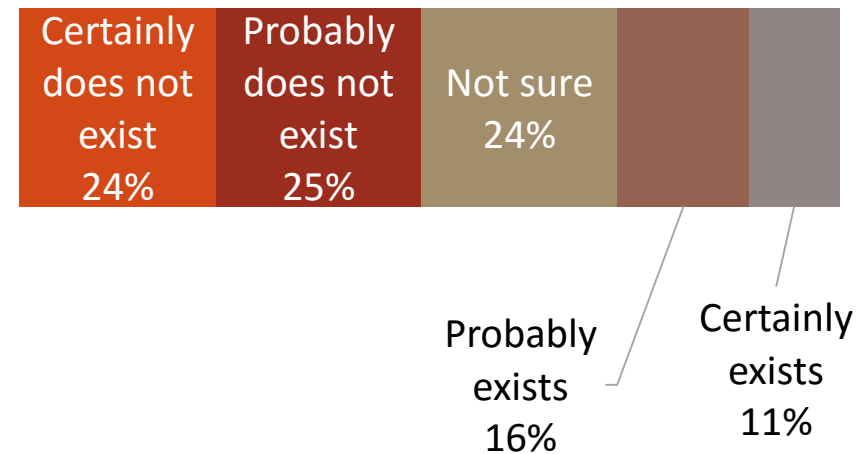
# Some more about our religious preferences

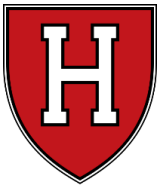


*How often do you attend religious services?*



*How confident are you in the existence of an afterlife?*



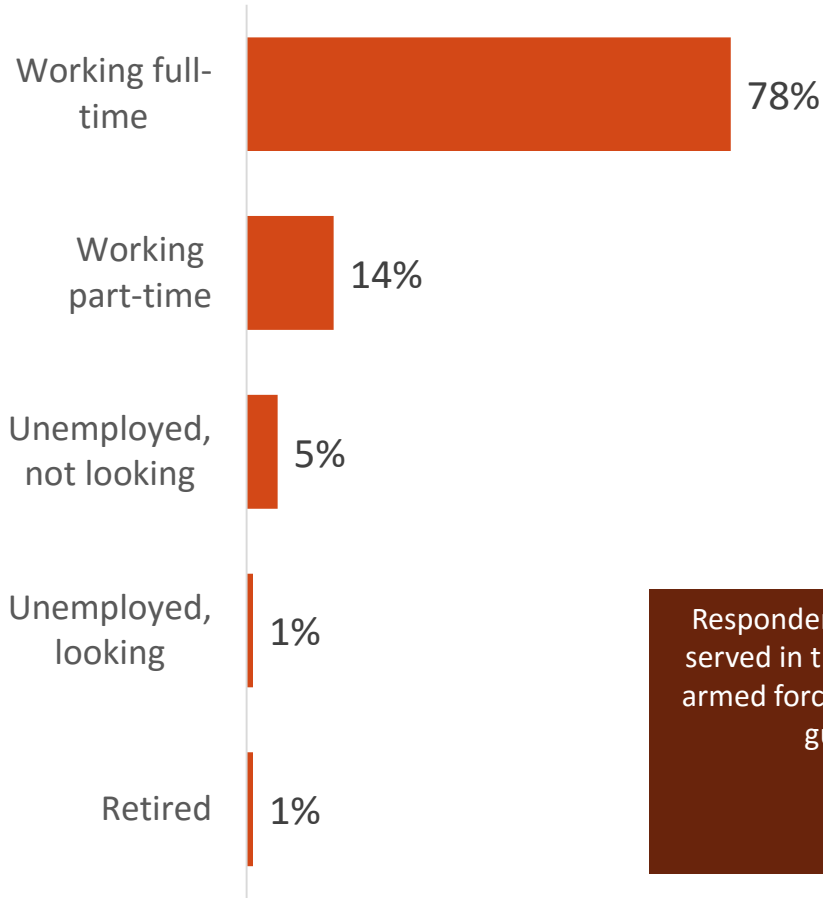


# Vocations & Avocations

# The vast majority of us are working, most often in healthcare, education, and law



## What is your current employment status?



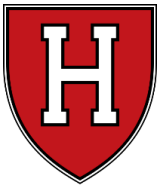
Respondents who have served in their country's armed forces or national guard

8

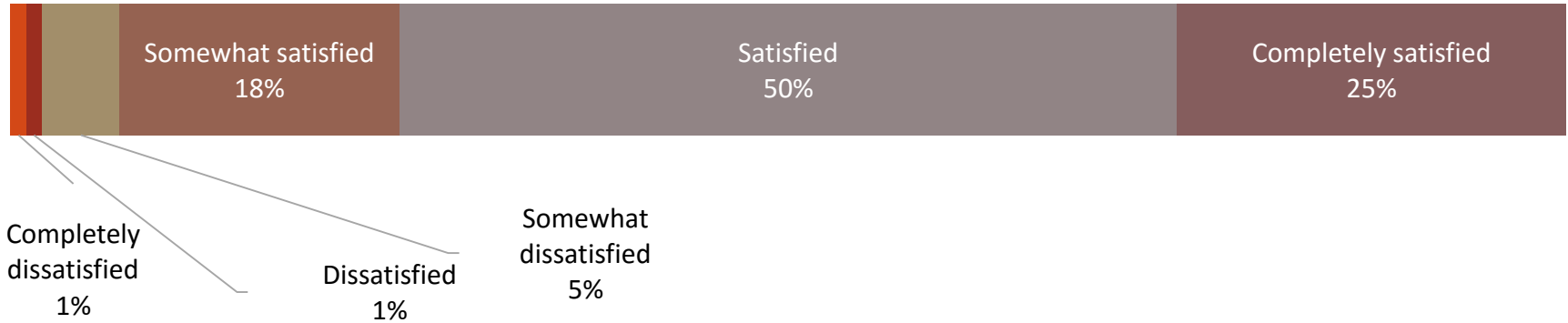
## In which field do you currently work?



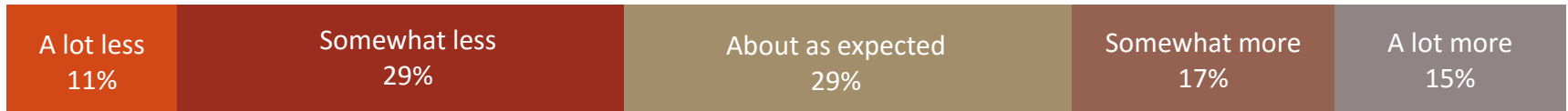
# We are mostly satisfied with our work, but our earnings vary greatly from what we expected



*How satisfied are you with your current career?*



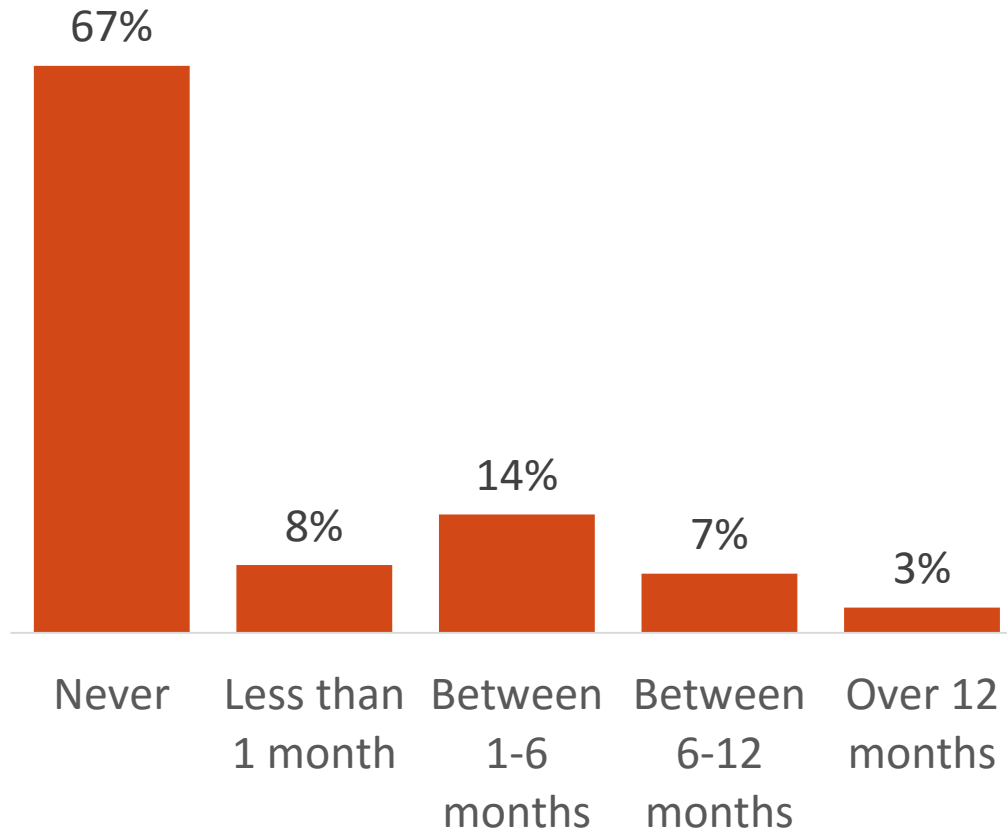
*Looking back, are you earning more or less than you expected you would be at this point in your career?*



# Most of us have weathered the years without being out of work, but some have not been so fortunate



*What is the longest you have been involuntarily out of work, since graduation?*

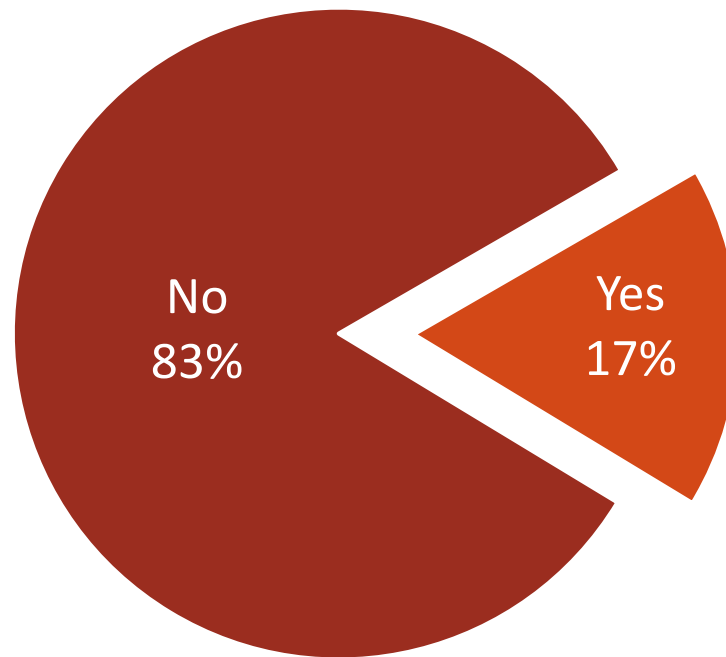


- “Involuntarily out of work” excludes time away from work for education, in between jobs, family / medical leave, and volunteer work



Almost 1 in 5 of us are self-employed or close to it

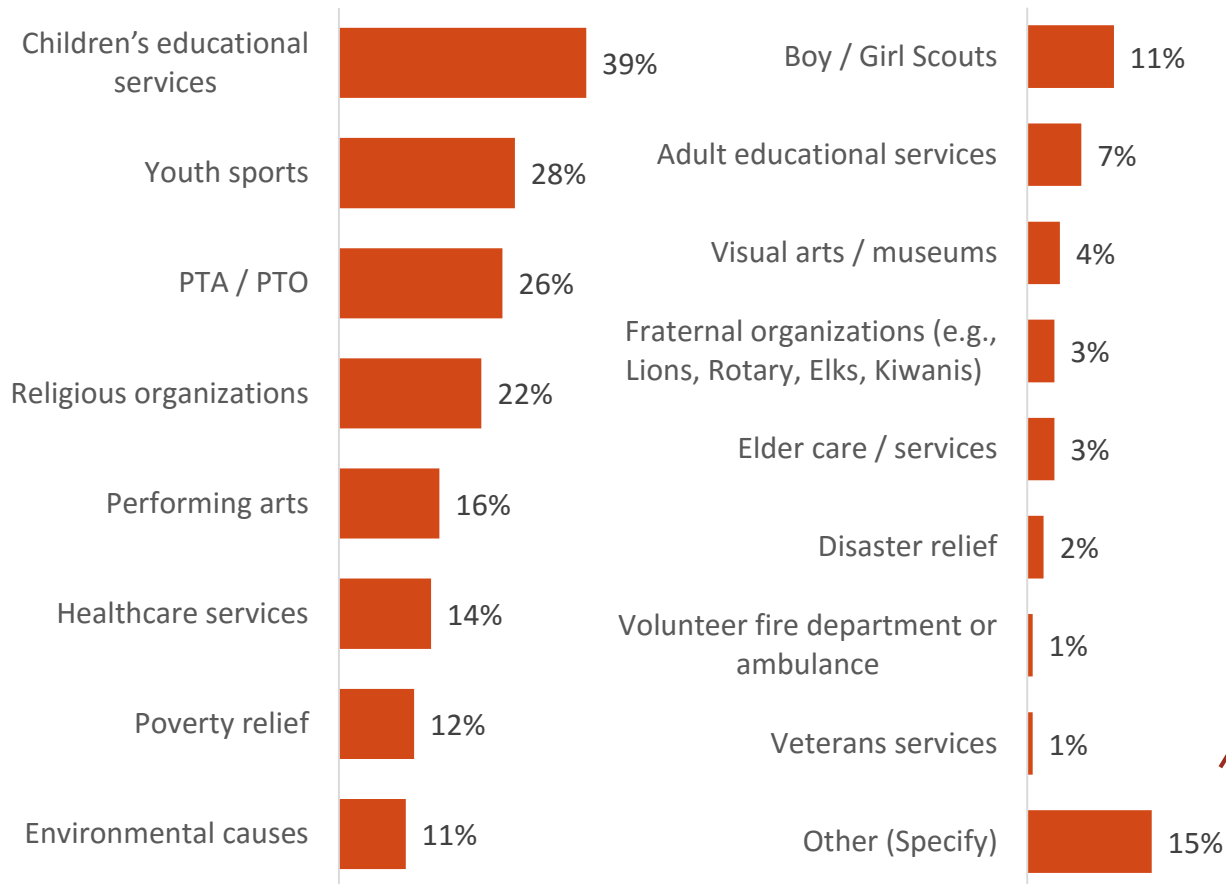
*Are you currently self-employed or working for a company in which you own at least a 10% stake?*



# Outside of work, we are most active in pursuits involving kids



*For which of the following causes do you regularly volunteer?*



Notable "Other":

- Marriage equality
- Juvenile justice
- Mentor entrepreneurs
- Harvard clubs
- Harvard interviewing



# Life: Harvard and Beyond

THE REAL CLASS OF '96

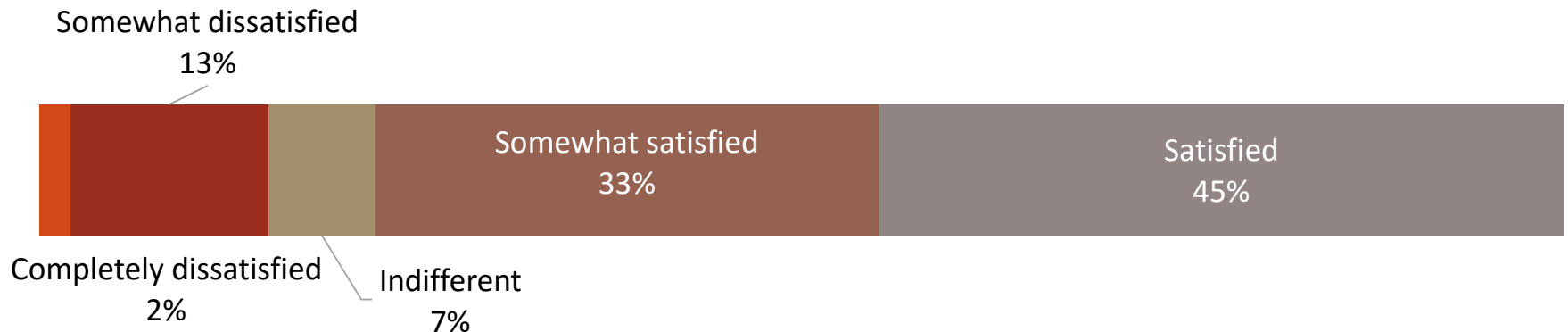
# Our concentrations and our careers are not always aligned, but mostly we don't regret it



*How closely would you say your career matches your chosen concentration?*



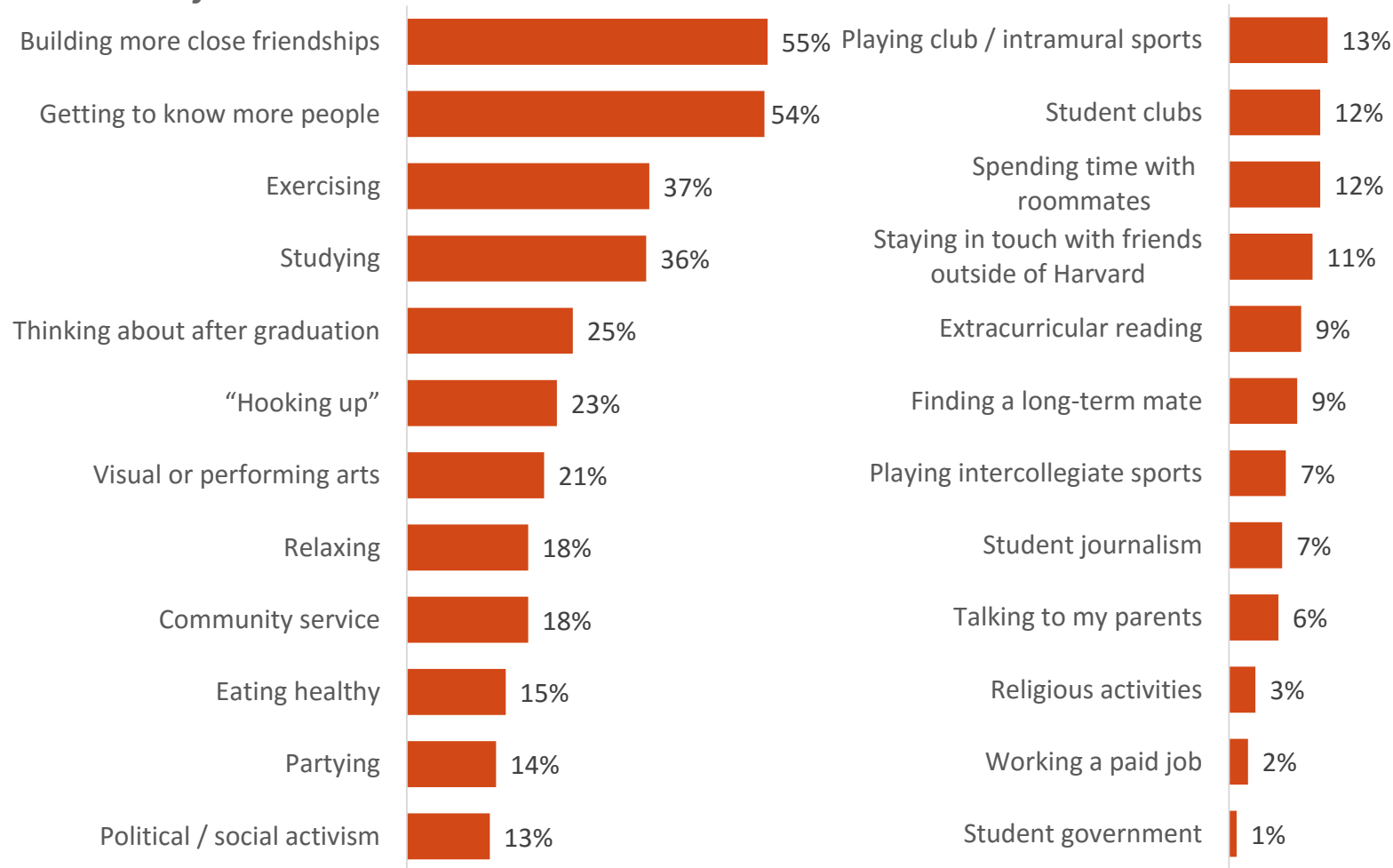
*How satisfied are you with your choice of concentration?*



# Our Harvard time was short, and we wish we spent more time making friends . . .



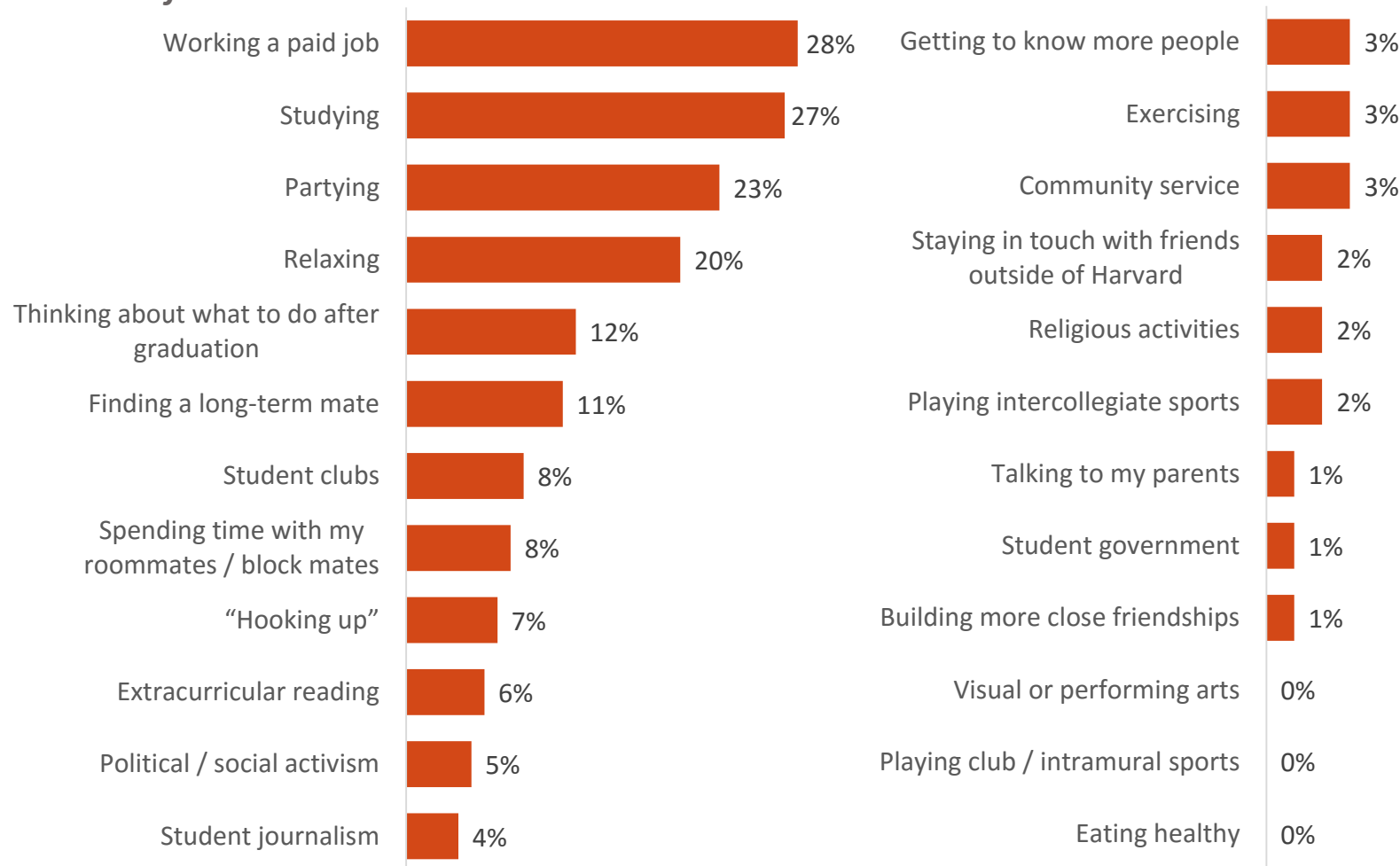
*Which of the following do you wish you did MORE of while at Harvard?*





# ... and less time working, partying, and relaxing

*Which of the following do you wish you did LESS of while at Harvard?*

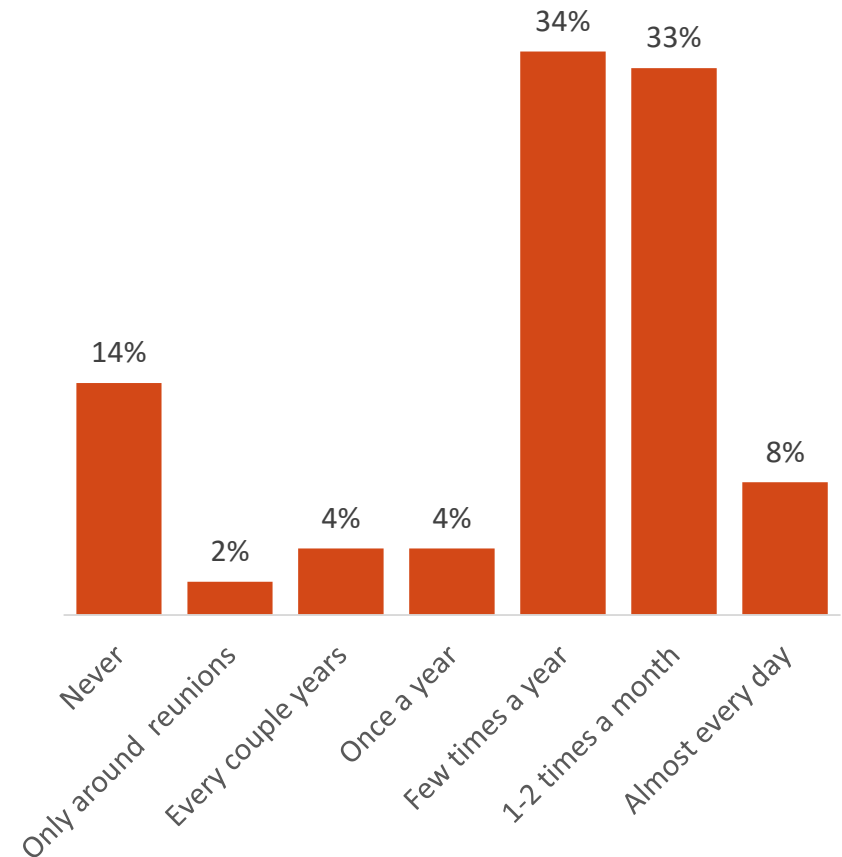
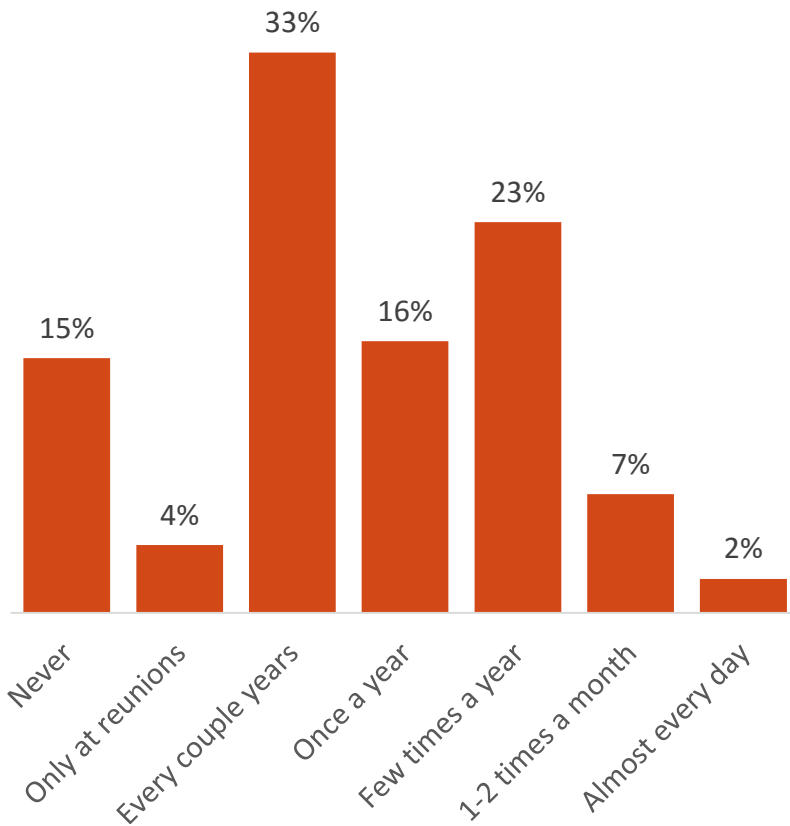


# Social media has helped us stay more connected with our friends . . .



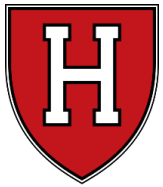
*How often do you see your best friend\* from Harvard?*

*How often do you interact on social media with your best friend from Harvard?*

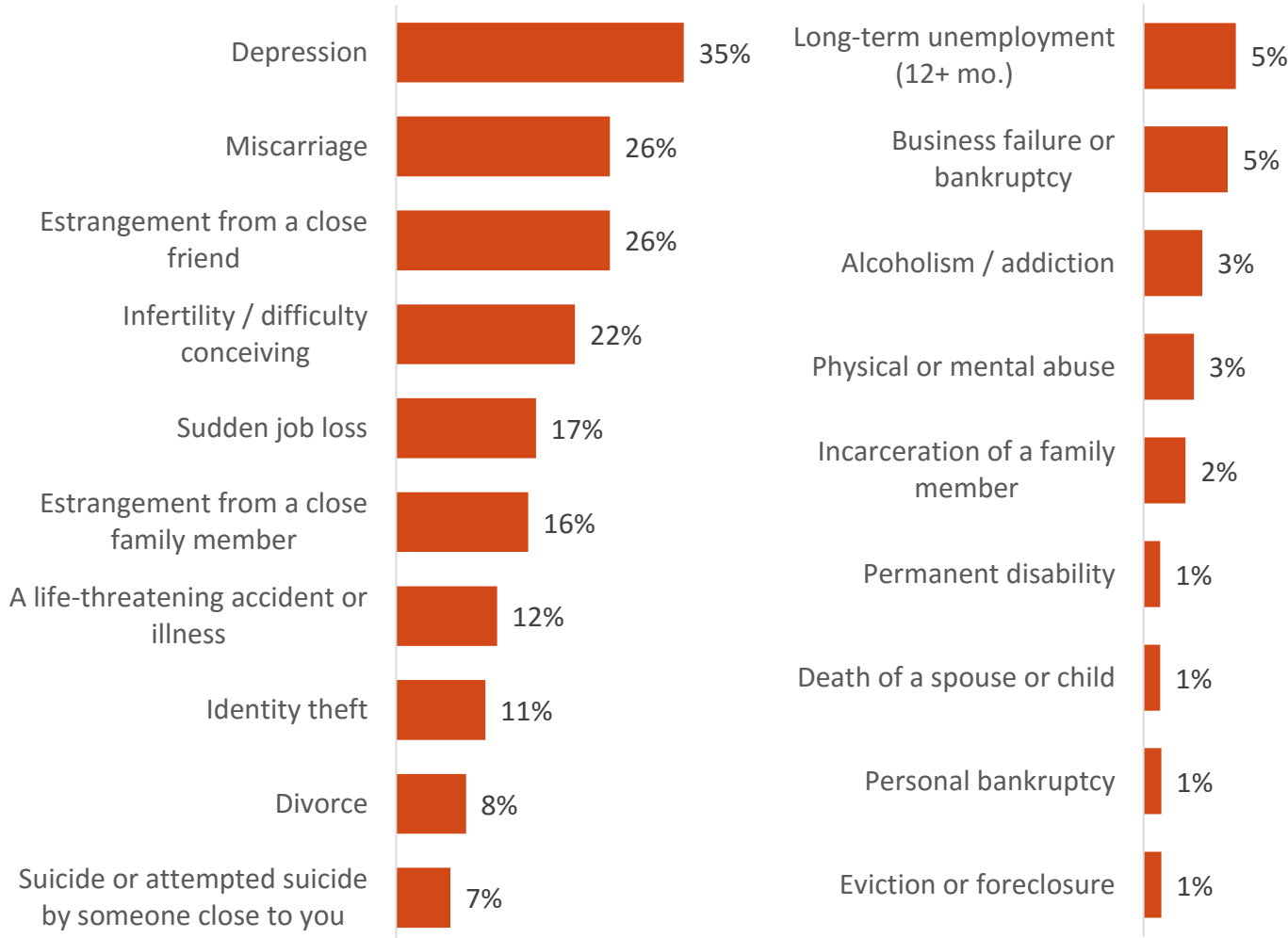


\* Past or present romantic partners excluded

# ... which may have helped us cope with some real hardships



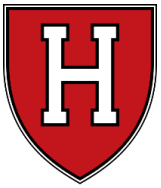
*Since graduation, have you or your spouse/partner experienced ... ?*



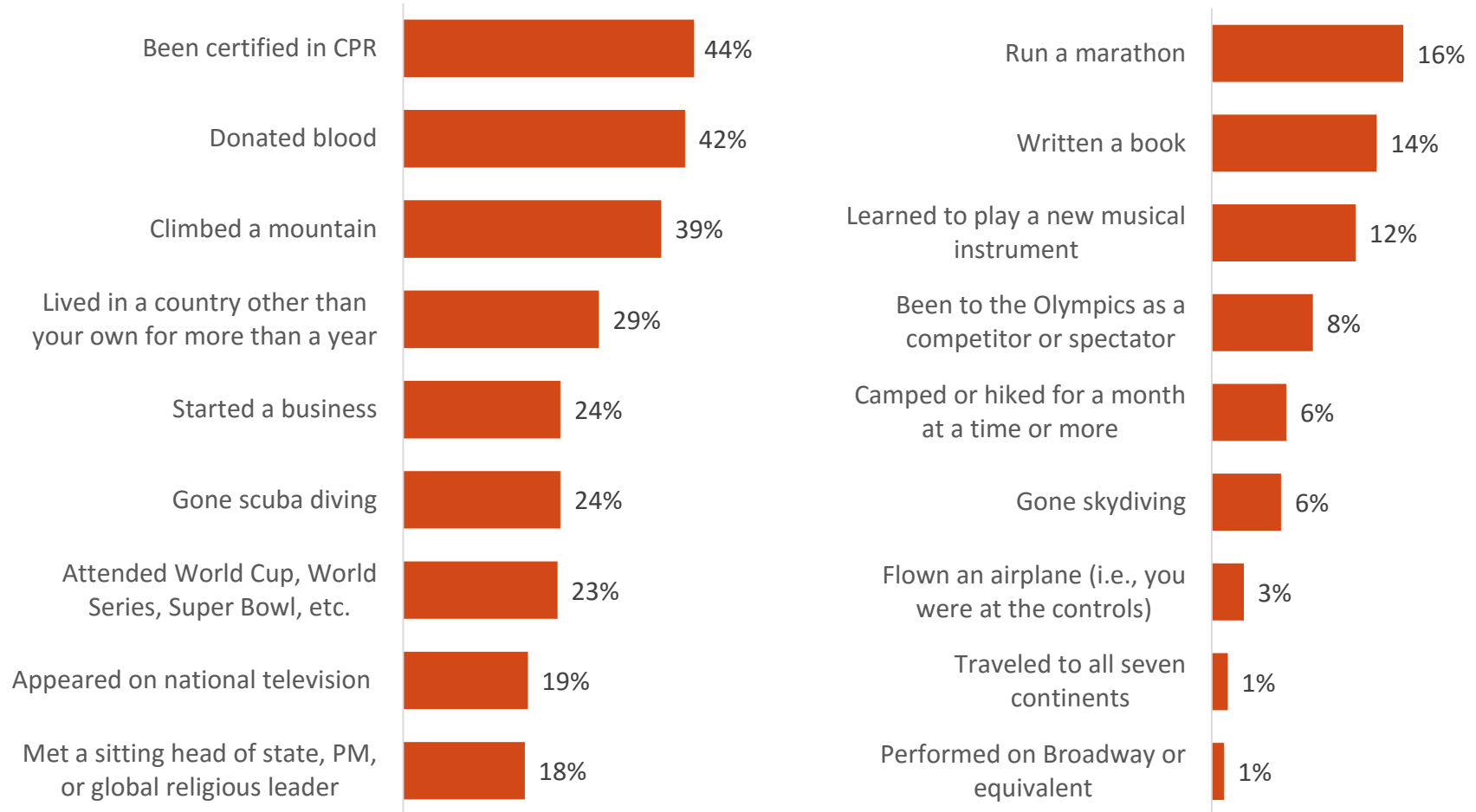
Percent of classmates experiencing at least one listed hardship

**81%**

# We have done some interesting and exciting things since Harvard



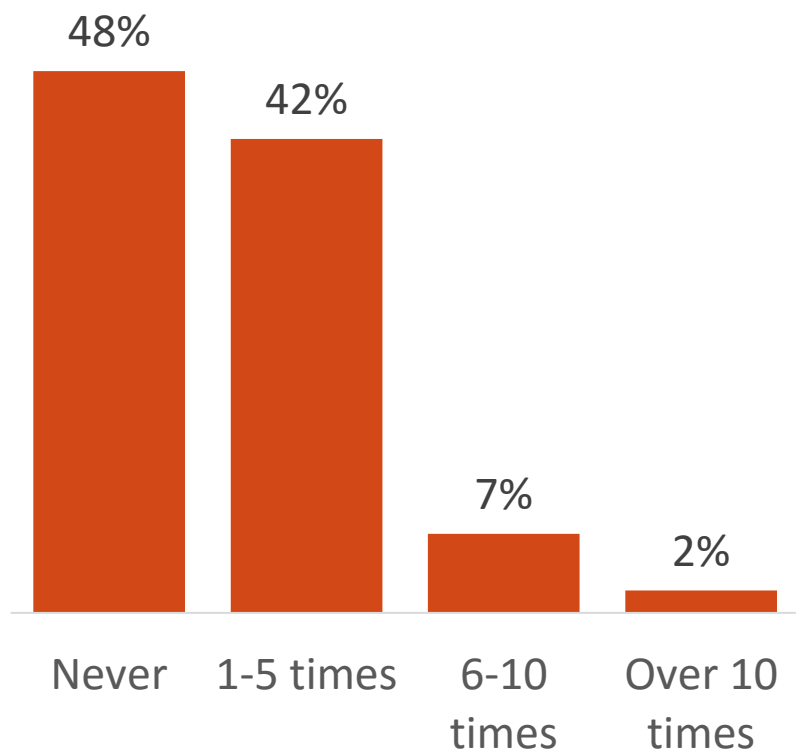
*Since graduation, have you done any of the following?*



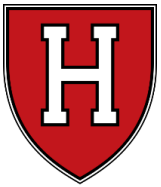
But about half of us have made it to The Game at least once . . .



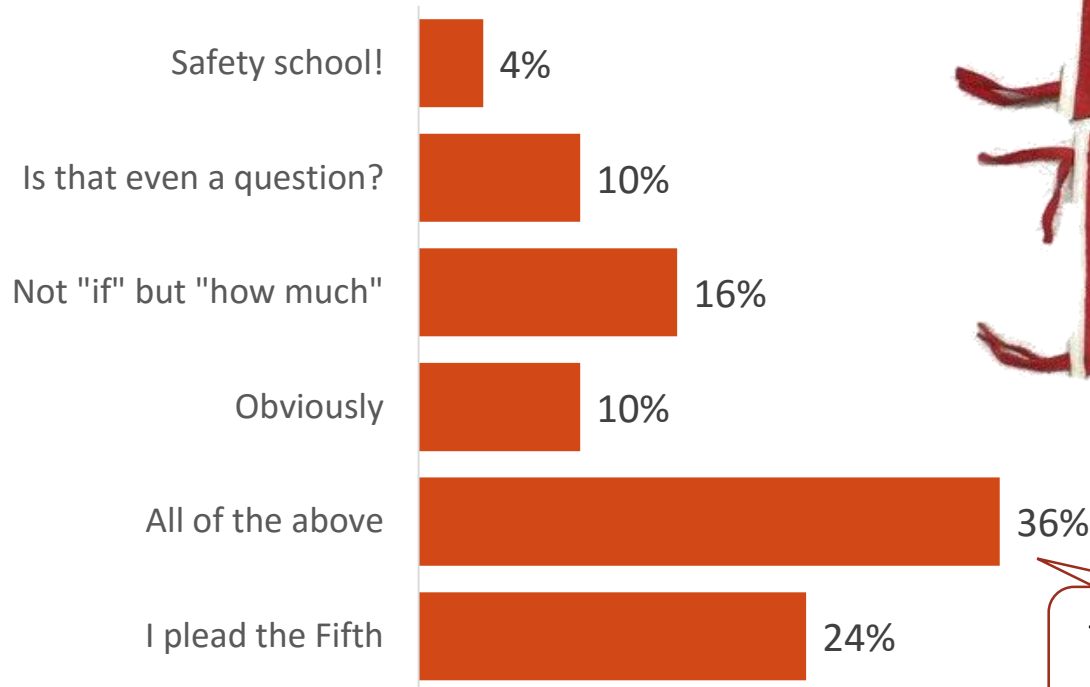
*Since graduation, many times have you been to The Game?*



... and most (but not all) agree on one thing!



## *Does Yale suck?*



The correct answer!

Lucky this survey is anonymous!