

**INTRODUCTION**

The Undergraduate Alumni Survey examines post-graduation outcomes of recent Marquette University undergraduate alumni. The survey asks respondents about their current life situation, pursuit of additional education, current employment status, their reflection on institutional learning outcomes, and overall satisfaction with Marquette. The data are used to inform prospective undergraduate students about Marquette, improve the Marquette undergraduate experience, and aid in assessment and accreditation efforts.

Most recently, the survey was administered from June 18, 2019 through August 21, 2019 to target populations of undergraduate alumni who graduated one year ago (the 2017-2018 graduating class), five years ago (the 2013-2014 graduating class), and 10 years ago (the 2008-2009 graduating class). Invitees were emailed a link to an online questionnaire if they had an email address.

**KEY FINDINGS**

- Ninety-six percent of alumni one year after graduation and 98% of alumni five and 100% of alumni 10 years after graduation were **engaged in an activity full-time** or were not seeking full-time employment.
- Seventy-two percent of alumni one year out, 87% five years out alumni, and 90% ten years out were **employed full-time**.
- Seventeen percent of alumni one year after graduation and 6% of alumni five years after graduation were enrolled in a **full-time graduate/professional program** compared to only one percent of alumni 10 years after graduation.
- Of those employed full-time, 93% of alumni one year out, 83% of alumni five years out, and 78% of alumni ten years out with full-time employment reported that they considered their job to be **related to their major**.
- Of those employed full-time, 94% of alumni one year out and five years out, and 92% ten years out with full-time employment reported that they consider their job to be **related to their career goals and/or an entry-level path** that will allow them to achieve their career goals.
- Ninety-one percent of alumni one year out who were also employed full-time felt Marquette **prepared them** “a great deal” or “somewhat” for their **current position** compared to 83% of alumni five years out and 84% for alumni ten years out.
- Ninety-one percent of alumni five years out and 97% of alumni ten years out who had completed a graduate/professional degree within five years of graduation reported that their Marquette education had **prepared them** “a great deal” or “somewhat” **for their graduate/professional program**.
- Ninety-seven percent of alumni one, five, and ten years after graduation indicated they were **satisfied** with their overall undergraduate education.
- Eighty-seven percent of alumni one year out, 85% of alumni five years out, and 80% of alumni ten years out reported either “some connection” or a “very strong connection” to Marquette.

**RESULTS**

**Response Rates**

The overall response rate for the survey was 28%. This response rate is lower to that of previous years, which may be due to converting to a completely online survey distribution. The table below shows response rates by college. Respondents to the survey represent the full population fairly well, though the group of respondents is slightly skewed female and white.

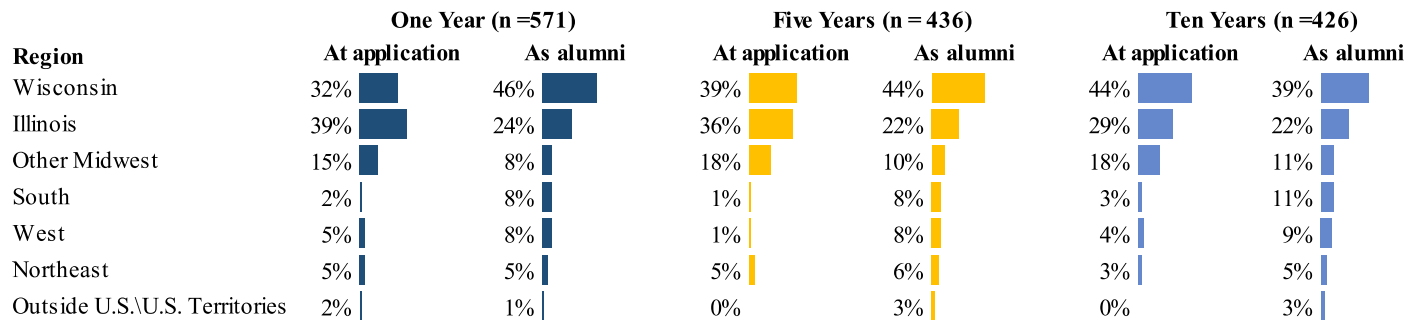
College	One year			Five years			Ten years		
	# of Graduate	# of Respondent	Response Rate	# of Graduate	# of Respondent	Response Rate	# of Graduate	# of Respondent	Response Rate
Arts and Sciences	473	131	28%	494	121	24%	570	147	26%
Business Administration	425	115	27%	362	94	26%	362	103	28%
Communication	251	98	39%	240	57	24%	223	60	27%
Education	54	12	22%	82	22	27%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Engineering	268	85	32%	238	58	24%	201	43	21%
Health Sciences	248	90	36%	274	72	26%	205	51	25%
Nursing	150	72	48%	115	31	27%	120	26	22%
Professional Studies	12	2	17%	22	3	14%	22	4	18%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>1,827</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>25%</b>

n/a = The College of Education was not created until Fall 2008.

## Geographical Region

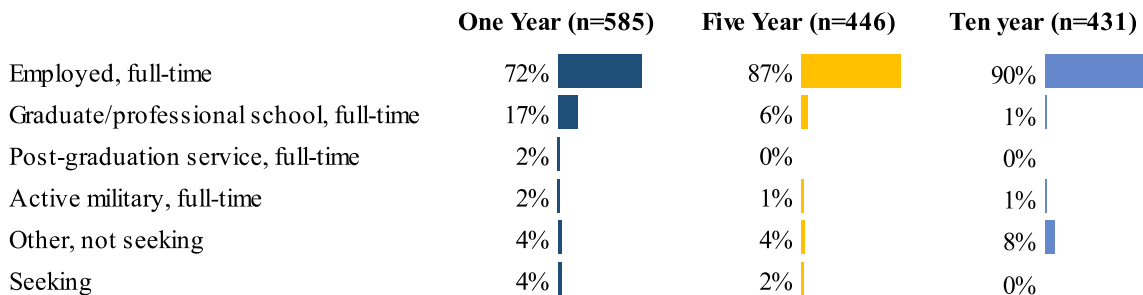
Alumni were asked to indicate their current location. As a comparison, alumni location at the time of application to Marquette is also shown.

One year after graduation, it appears that more graduates are choosing to remain in Wisconsin; however, this probably reflects students who continue in their graduate/professional studies at Marquette. At five years, the percentage of respondents in Wisconsin as alumni is higher than the percentage of respondents originally from Wisconsin. At ten years, the percentage of respondents who shift out of Wisconsin is just below the percentage who were in Wisconsin at the time of application. For both the five year and ten-year cohorts there is a shift in the distributions from the Midwest, including Illinois, to the south, west, northeast and locations outside the U.S.



## One-Year, Five-Year, and Ten-Year Post-Graduation Outcomes - Overall

Graduates were grouped into one of several post-graduation outcomes based on their survey response. Each category is mutually exclusive



- **Employed, full-time** represents alumni who indicated full-time employment. The alumnus/a may have also indicated participation in another activity (such as graduate/professional school); in such cases, the respondent’s outcome was only included in ‘employed, full-time’.
- **Graduate/professional school, full-time** represents alumni who indicated current full-time enrollment in graduate professional school and who are not working full-time.
- **Post-graduation service** represents alumni who are participating in a stipend-paid post-graduation service position such as the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, or the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.
- **Active military, full-time** represents alumni who currently serve in the armed forces full-time.
- **Other, not seeking** represents alumni who indicated they were not engaged in an activity full-time or were not actively seeking employment. This includes alumni who were at-home parents, working part-time and/or attending school part-time, or retired.
- **Seeking** indicates those who were not engaged in any activity above and were still seeking employment as of either one, five, or ten years post-graduation.

### One-Year, Five-Year, and Ten-Year Post-Graduation Outcomes by College

The information below shows the post-graduation outcomes rates for the undergraduate colleges at Marquette. The College of Professional Studies is excluded from the table due to a small number of respondents. Percentages for each college may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

	Respondents			Employed, full-time			Graduate/professional school, full-time		
	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years
Arts and Sciences	127	119	147	50%	81%	91%	30%	10%	1%
Business Administration	114	92	101	91%	96%	97%	3%	3%	0%
Communication	96	55	59	81%	89%	93%	4%	2%	2%
Education	11	20	<i>n/a</i>	82%	85%	<i>n/a</i>	18%	5%	<i>n/a</i>
Engineering	83	58	43	86%	97%	91%	10%	3%	2%
Health Sciences	83	70	51	35%	83%	78%	53%	9%	2%
Nursing	69	30	26	97%	80%	73%	0%	10%	0%

	Respondents			Post-graduation service, full-time			Active military, full-time		
	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years
Arts and Sciences	127	119	147	6%	0%	0%	3%	2%	1%
Business Administration	114	92	101	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Communication	96	55	59	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Education	11	20	<i>n/a</i>	0%	0%	<i>n/a</i>	0%	0%	<i>n/a</i>
Engineering	83	58	43	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	2%
Health Sciences	83	70	51	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Nursing	69	30	26	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%

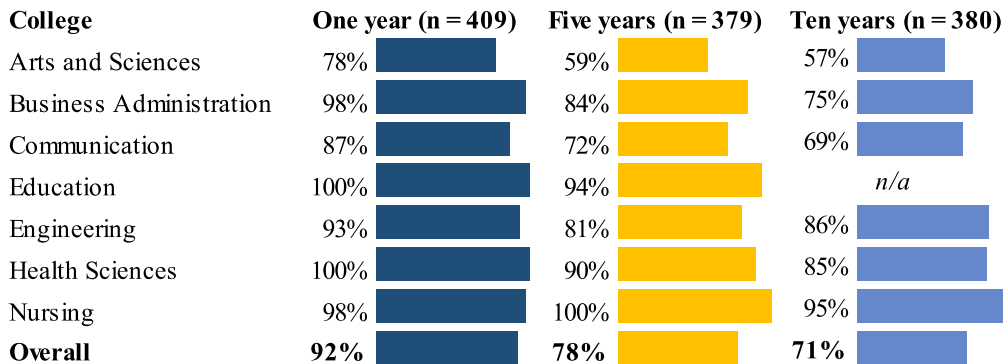
  

	Respondents			Other, Not Seeking			Seeking		
	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years
Arts and Sciences	127	119	147	8%	5%	6%	4%	3%	0%
Business Administration	114	92	101	1%	0%	2%	3%	0%	1%
Communication	96	55	59	5%	4%	5%	7%	5%	0%
Education	11	20	<i>n/a</i>	0%	10%	<i>n/a</i>	0%	0%	<i>n/a</i>
Engineering	83	58	43	1%	0%	5%	1%	0%	0%
Health Sciences	83	70	51	5%	9%	20%	6%	0%	0%
Nursing	69	30	26	0%	7%	27%	0%	3%	0%

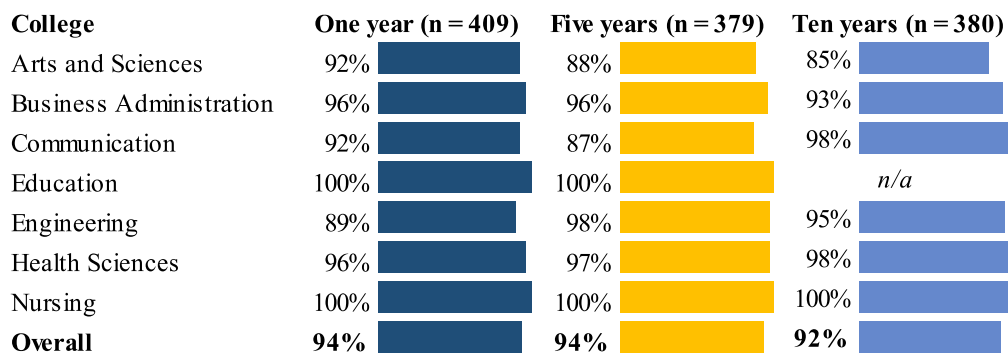
### Full-time Employment

Respondents were asked to indicate the relationship of their current position to their undergraduate major and their career goals. The College of Professional Studies is excluded from the table due to a small number of respondents.

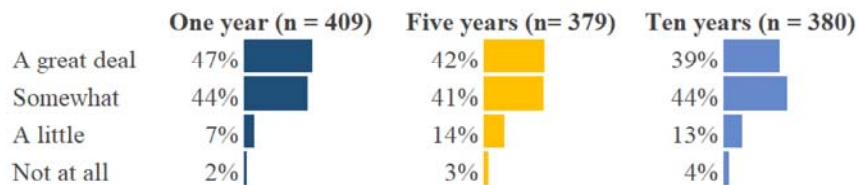
Overall, 93% of alumni one year out, 83% of alumni five years out, and 78% of alumni ten years out with full-time employment reported that they considered their job to be **related to their major**.



Overall, 95% of alumni one year out, 95% of alumni five years out, and 95% of alumni ten years out with full-time employment reported that they consider their job to be **related to their career goals and/or an entry-level path** that will allow them to achieve their career goals.

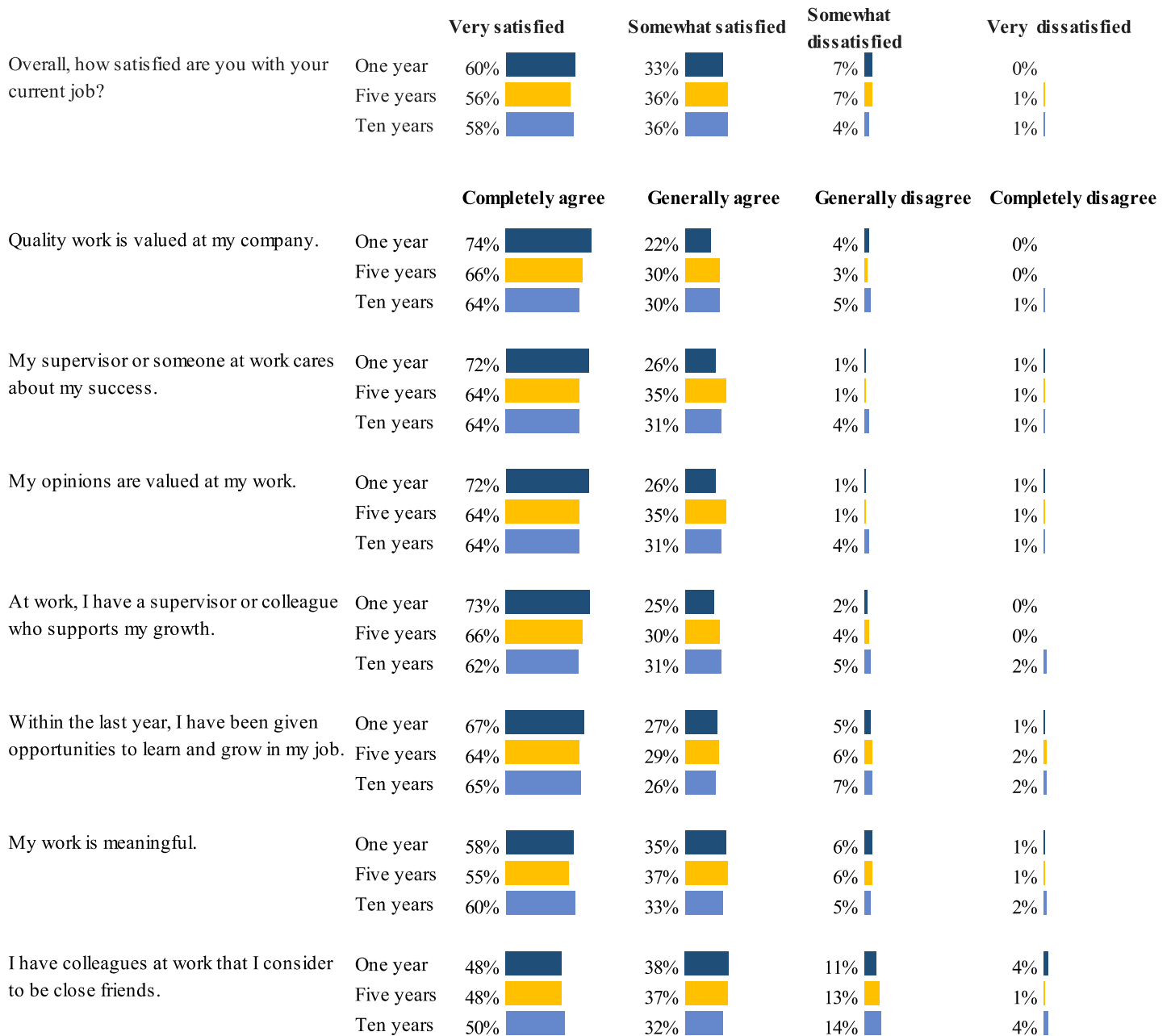


Alumni employed full-time were asked about the extent to which Marquette prepared them for their current position. The College of Professional Studies is excluded from the table due to a small number of respondents. Overall, 86% of respondents felt Marquette prepared them “a great deal” or “somewhat” for their current position.



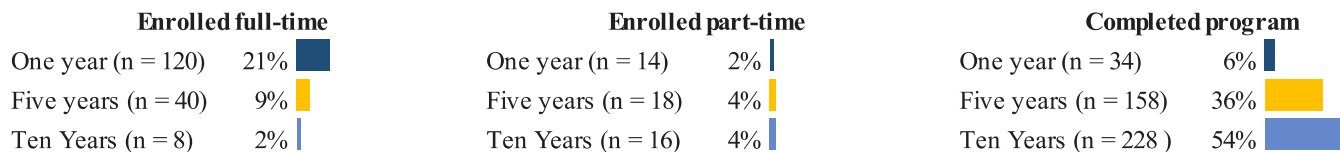
## Workplace Engagement

Alumni who were employed full-time were asked about to indicate their satisfaction with their current position and their workplace engagement.

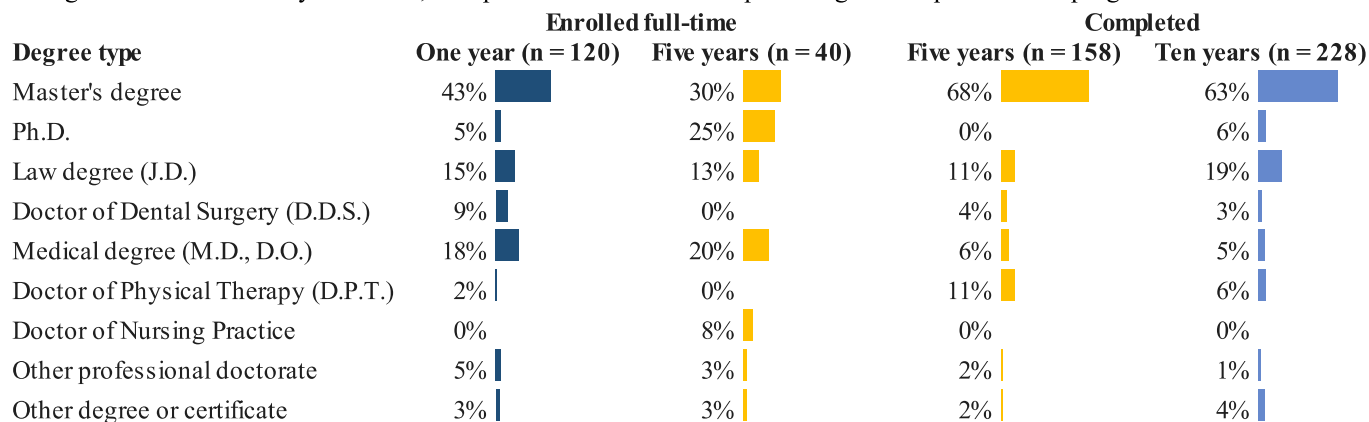


### Graduate and Professional Education

Alumni were asked whether they had completed or were currently pursuing graduate/professional school. The categories below are not mutually exclusive. For example, a respondent could have completed a graduate/professional program and be enrolled in a program. The information about alumni enrolled full-time or part-time are not directly comparable to the post-graduation outcome categories above, as these numbers include all alumni enrolled who may also be working full-time.

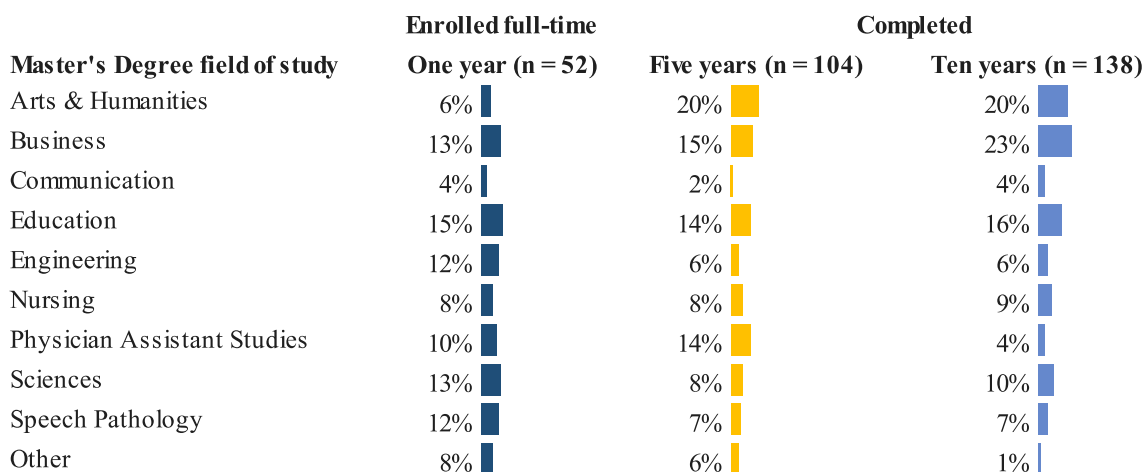


Those pursuing graduate/professional school full-time were asked to indicate the type of degree they are pursuing and the field of study of the degree. The survey also collected the name of the school, although that information is not included within this report. These categories are not mutually exclusive; a respondent could have completed a graduate/professional program and be enrolled.

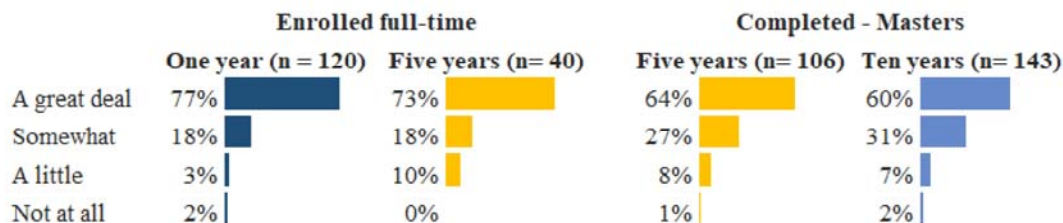


Alumni pursuing either Master's or Ph.D. degrees were asked to indicate their field of study. Results for alumni who were pursuing Ph.D. degrees and alumni who were five and ten years out enrolled full-time are not shown due to a small number of respondents.

\*The "Other" category indicates Master's Degree fields that do not fall under any other category listed, such as Occupational Therapy, Public Health, Urban Planning, and Library Information Science.

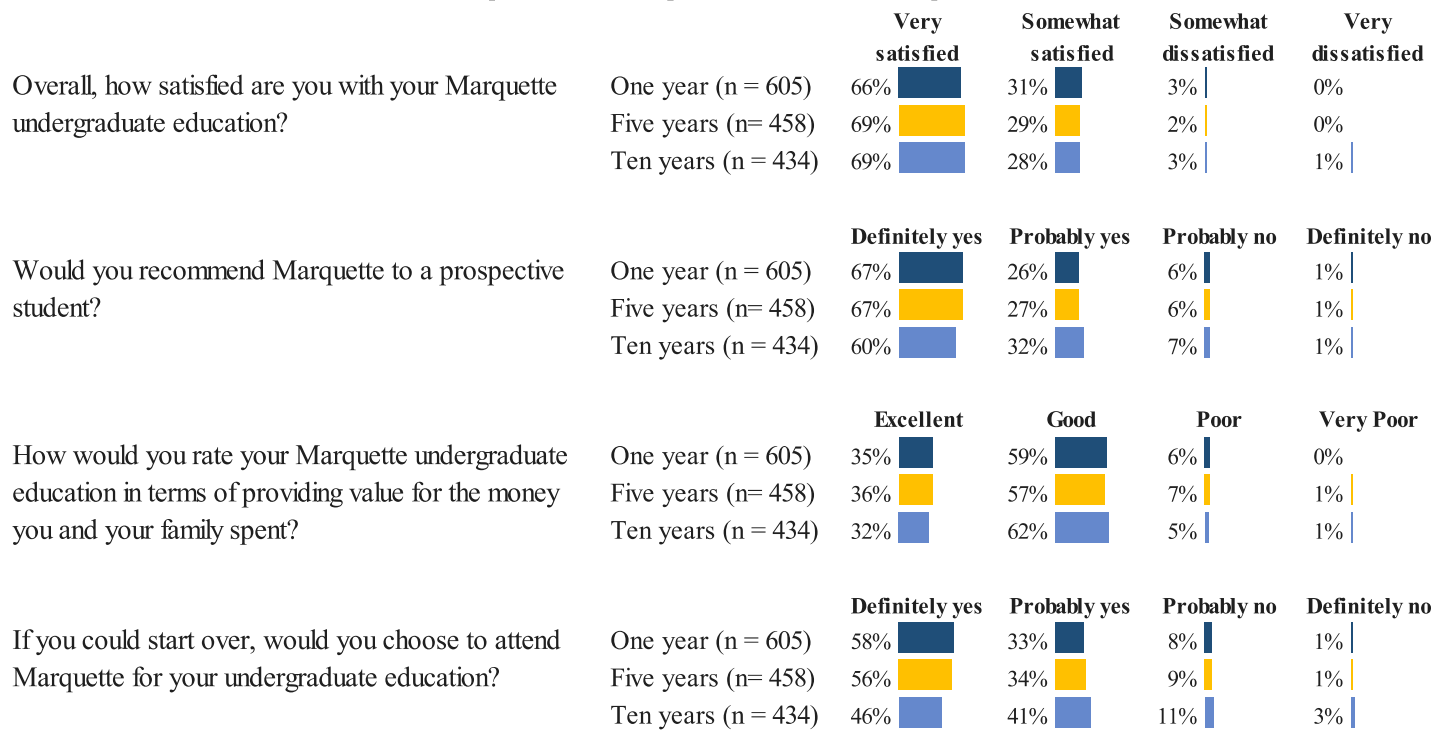


Alumni who were attending or who had completed a graduate/professional school program were also asked about the extent to which Marquette prepared them for the program.



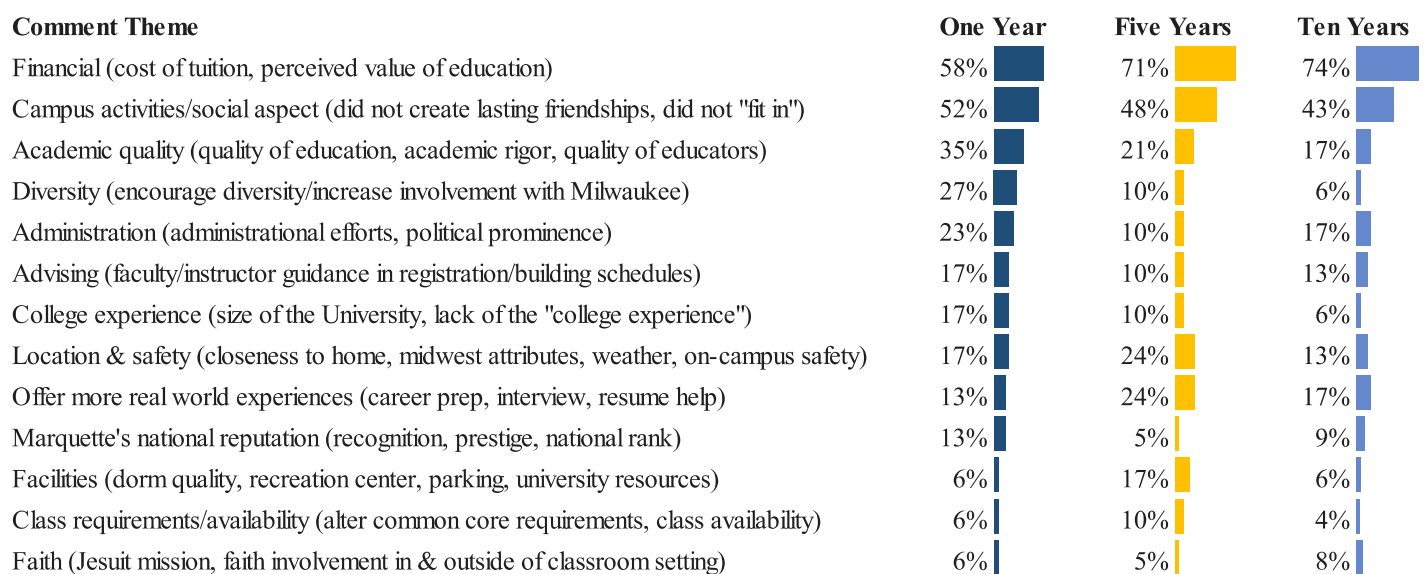
## Satisfaction

Alumni indicated their satisfaction with Marquette in their responses to four different questions.



Alumni that indicated they would not choose to attend Marquette again were asked to indicate as to why they would not choose Marquette again. In total, 143 alumni responded. Out of those who said they would not attend Marquette again and who provided a response to the reason why, the themes for the most commonly cited responses (in order of greatest frequency) were:

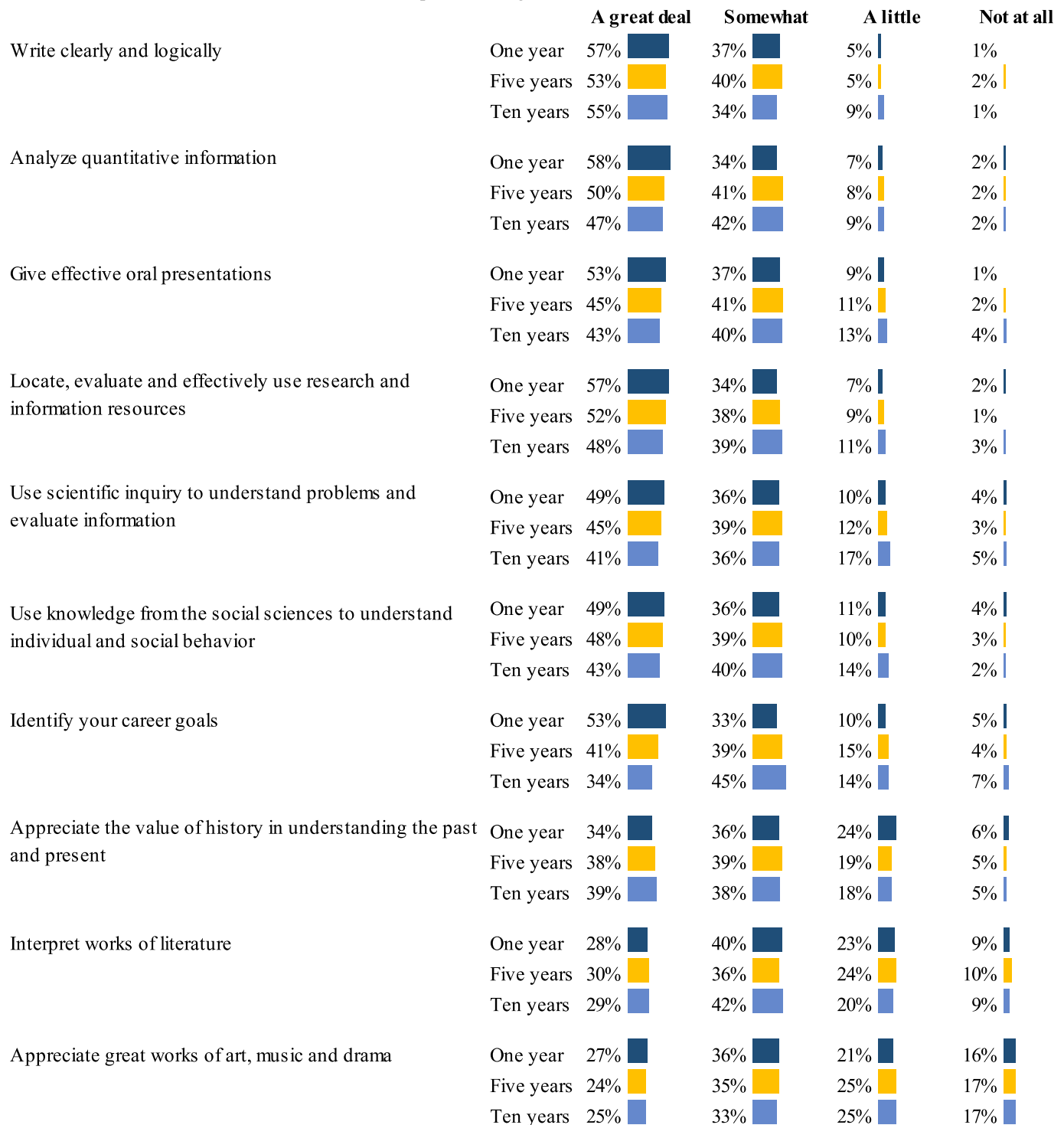
### Please tell us why you would not choose to attend Marquette.





## Development of Abilities

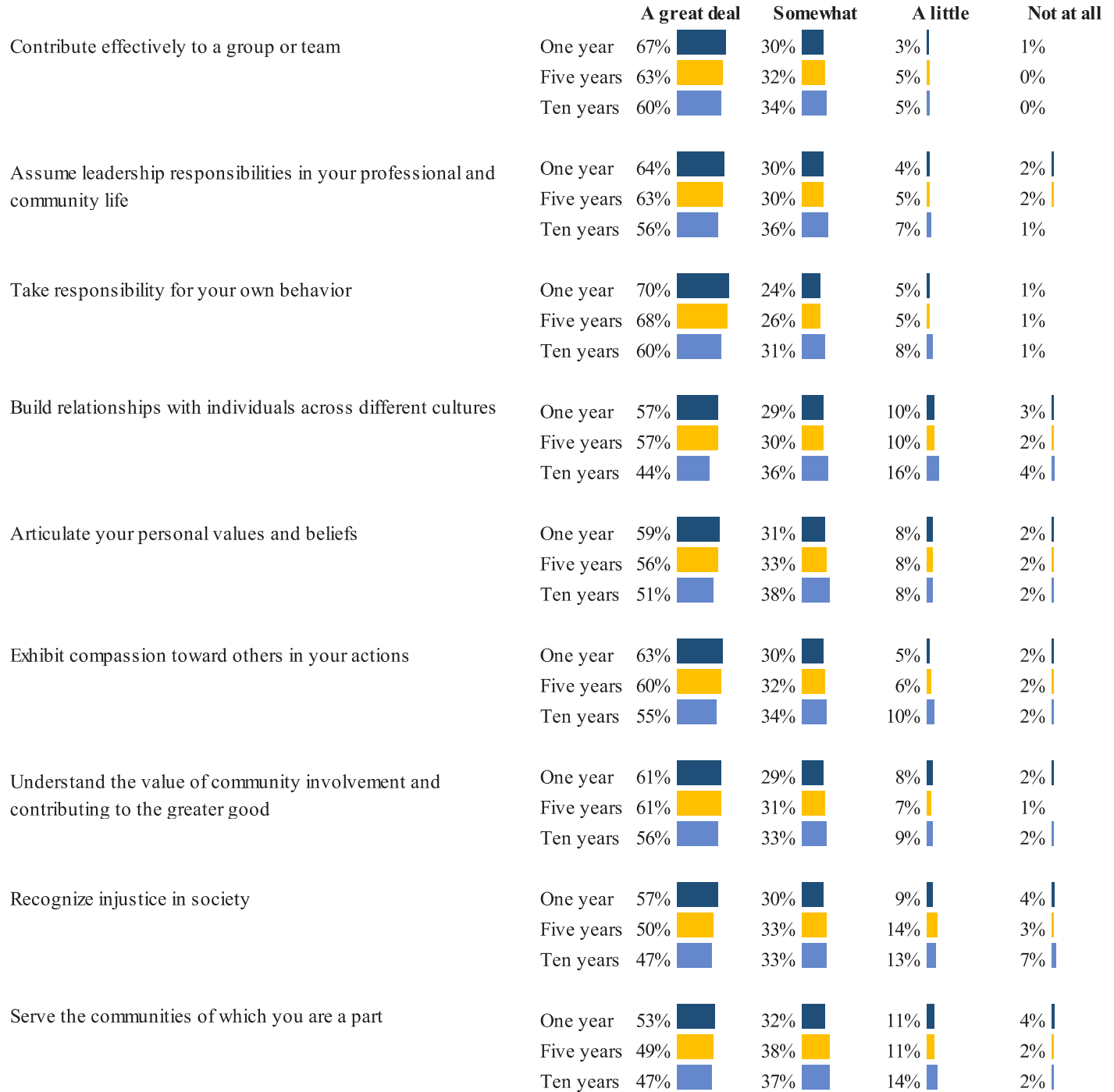
Alumni were asked to indicate how much their Marquette undergraduate education contributed to their abilities in several domains.



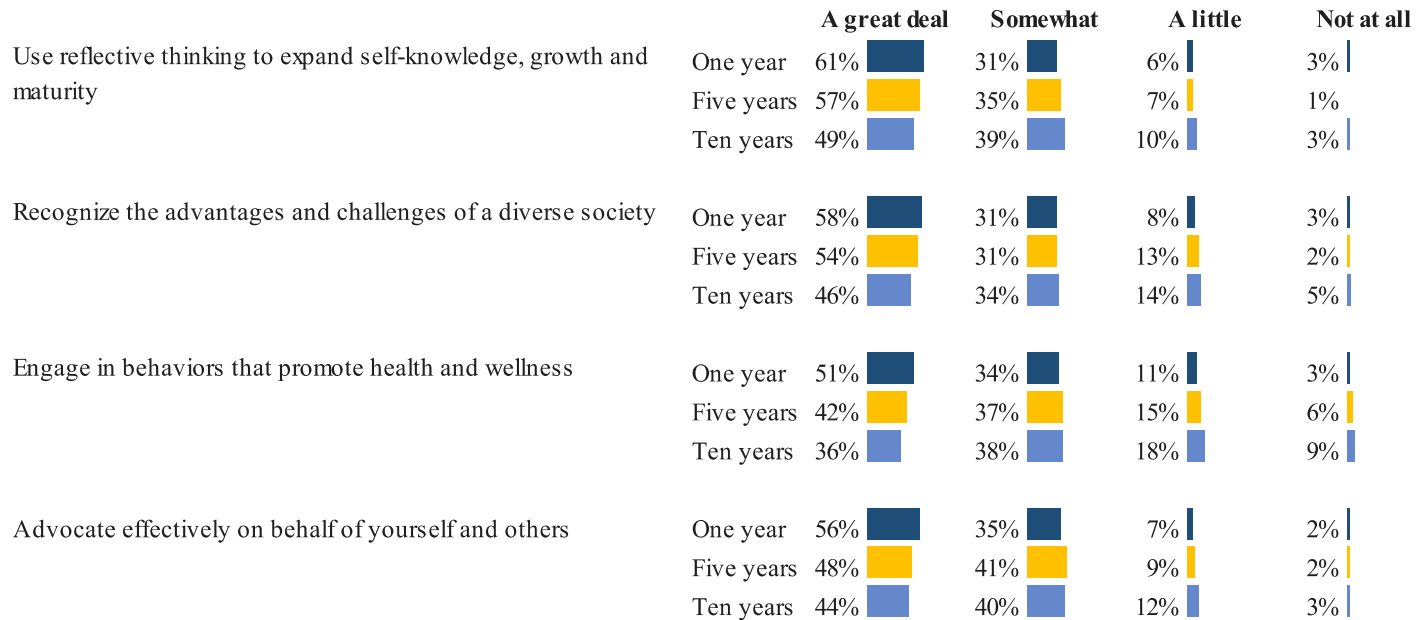


**Growth of Abilities**

Alumni were asked how much they have grown in their abilities in several areas compared to when they entered Marquette as undergraduates.

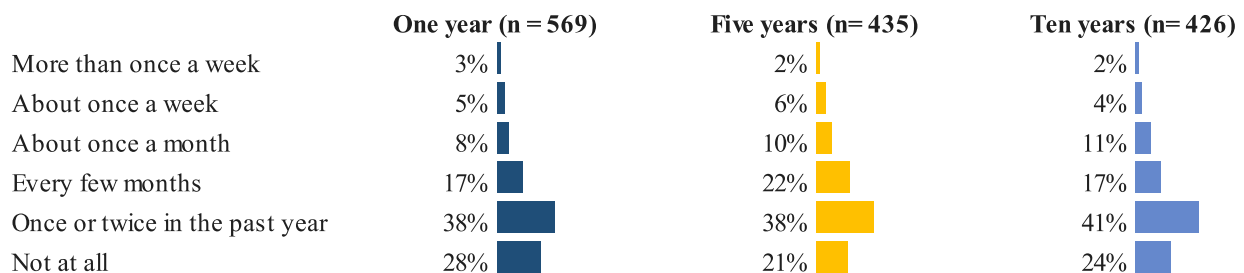


**Growth of Abilities (cont.)**

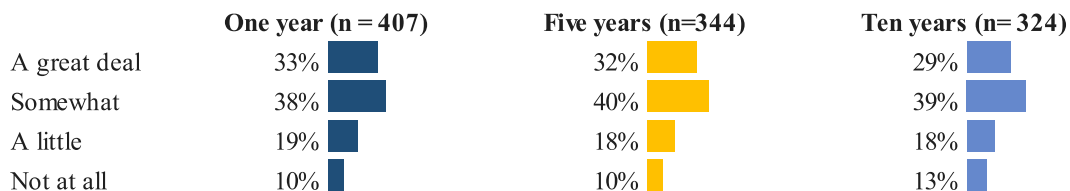


**Community Service**

Alumni were asked whether they had engaged in any community service or volunteer work in the past twelve months. Overall, most alumni had participated in community service at least once in the past year.

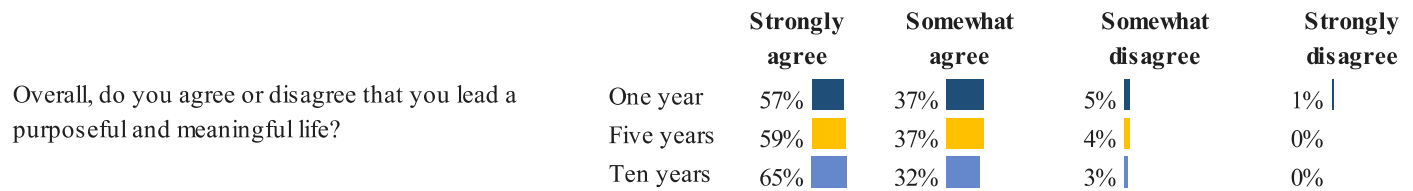


Those that participated in service in the last year were asked the extent Marquette contributed to their interest in their community service or volunteer work participation. Overall, 71% of alumni felt that their experiences at Marquette contributed to their interest.

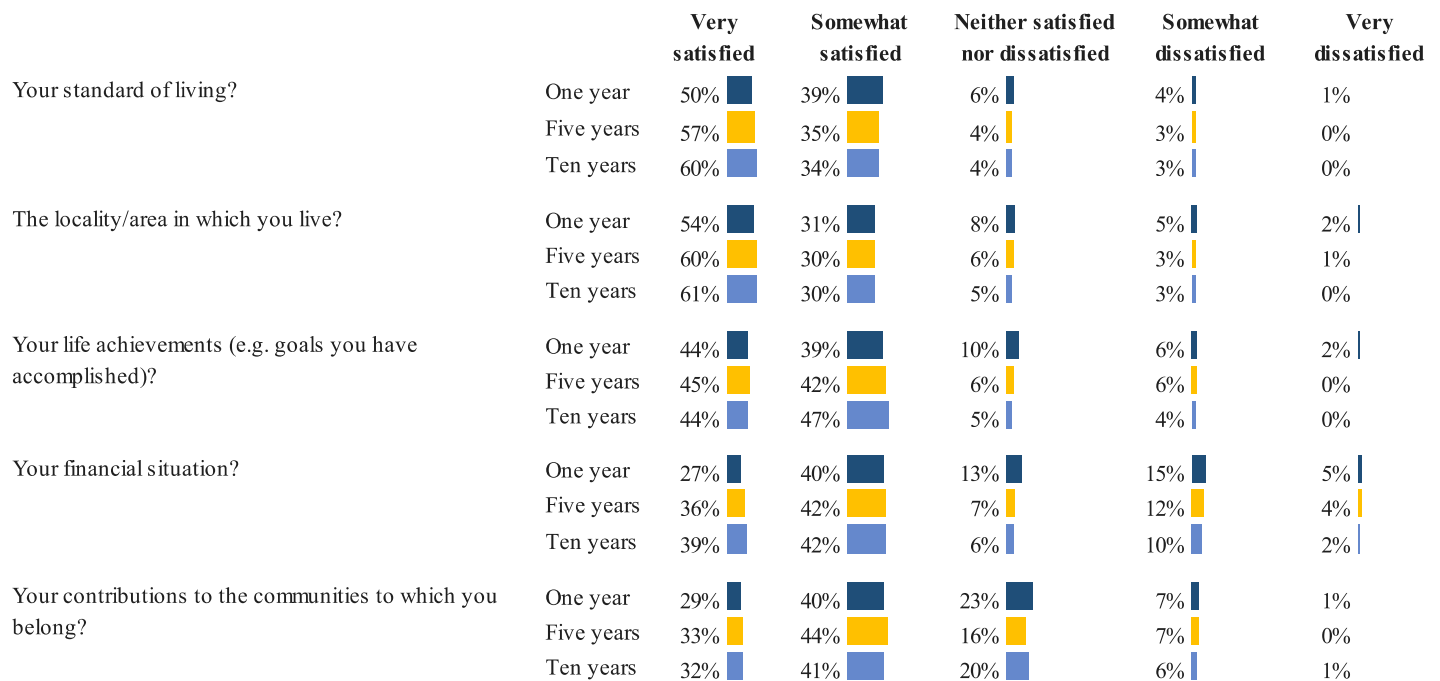


## Life Satisfaction

Alumni who were asked to indicate their satisfaction with various aspects of their life to understand better their well-being.

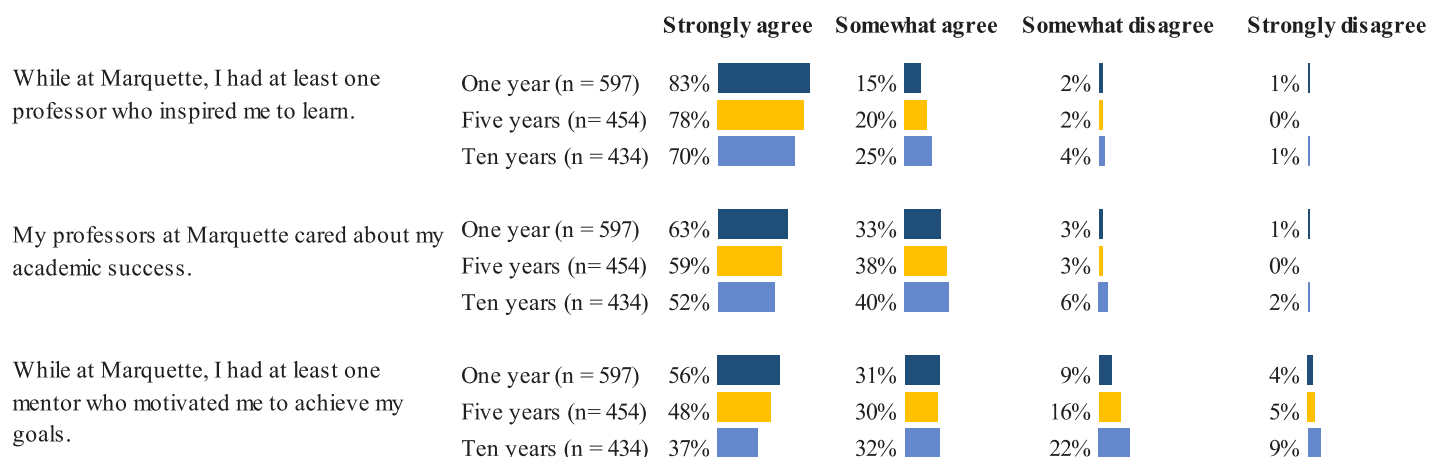


Overall, how satisfied would you say you are with:



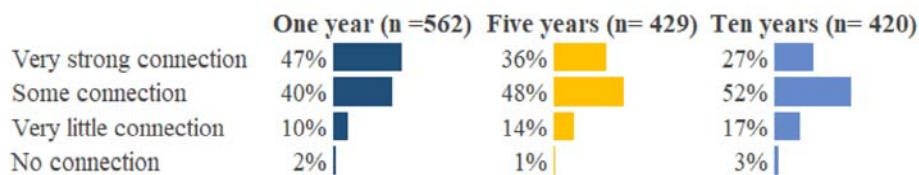
## Academic Experience

Alumni were asked about their experience as an undergraduate at Marquette. Overall, over 95% of alumni agree they had at least one professor that inspired them and that the professors at Marquette cared about their success. Most alumni also indicated that they had at least one mentor that motivated them.

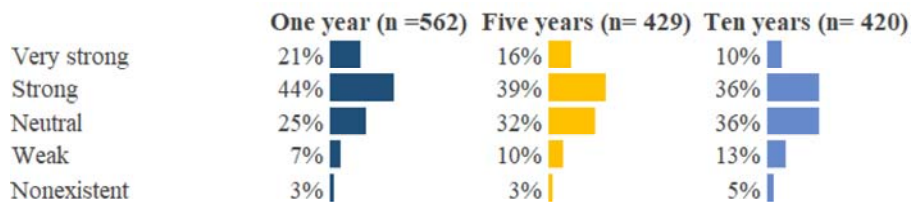


### Connection to Marquette

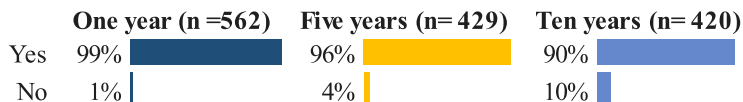
Alumni were asked how connected they felt to Marquette. Overall, 87% of alumni one year out, 84% of alumni five years out, and 79% of alumni ten years out reported either “some connection” or a “very strong connection” to Marquette.



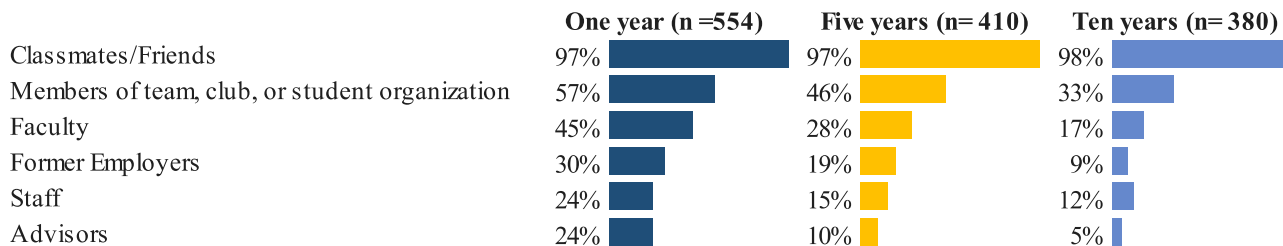
Alumni were also asked to describe their current relationship with Marquette. Overall, 65% of alumni one year out, 55% of alumni five years out and 46% of alumni ten years out reported either a “very strong” or “strong” relationship with Marquette.



Alumni were asked whether they had stayed connected with anyone that they had met while an undergraduate student at Marquette. Overall, over 95% of respondents reported that they have stayed connected with someone they met while they were an undergraduate student at Marquette.



Those who reported that they stayed connected with someone they met while they were an undergraduate student at Marquette were asked to indicate with whom they kept in contact. These categories are not mutually exclusive.



## Open Response Items

Two questions on the survey invited alumni to summarize their feedback for the university as they reflected on their experiences at Marquette as an undergraduate. Some comments made covered multiple themes; as a result, percentages for themes do not add up to a full one hundred percent.

The first open-response item asked alumni to identify one way in which the undergraduate experience could be improved for future students. In total, 745 alumni responded; themes for the most commonly cited responses (in order of the greatest frequency) were:

### What is at least one way that the overall Marquette undergraduate experience could be improved for future students?

Comment Theme	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years
Class requirements/availability (alter common core requirements, class availability)	28%	26%	21%
Offer more real world experiences (career prep, interview, resume help)	25%	26%	33%
Campus activities/social aspect (did not create lasting friendships, did not "fit in")	20%	18%	17%
Improve/increase diversity (encourage diversity/increase involvement with Milwaukee)	20%	17%	15%
Improve financial burden (cost of tuition, perceived value of education)	16%	21%	29%
Improve professor/faculty/instructor quality	12%	11%	8%
Improve facilities including dorm quality, food options on and off campus, recreation center	12%	12%	8%
Advising (faculty/instructor guidance in registration/building schedules)	11%	7%	6%
Wellness (increase student wellness, offer more mental health assistance)	9%	5%	10%
Improve alumni network & involvement (engage alumni/encourage informal mentorship)	7%	8%	11%
Other*	18%	14%	13%

\*The "Other" comment theme includes additional themes analyzed in which returned small percentages of the respondent population that commented on those topics. These themes include Encouragement, Non-traditional student concerns, Rules, Safety, Campus technology, and Administration.

The second open-response item asked alumni to identify the most valuable learning experience at Marquette. In total, 760 alumni responded; themes for the most commonly cited responses (in order of greatest frequency) were:

### What was your most valuable learning experience?

Comment Theme	One Year	Five Years	Ten Years
Real world experiences (internships, teaching assistance, research opportunities)	36%	35%	34%
Campus activities/social aspect (athletic events, orientation, friendships made)	32%	32%	34%
Personal development/life lessons (learned the value of hard work, make the best of difficult situations)	28%	28%	31%
In-class/academic experiences (specific class content, skills such as public speaking, management, etc.)	28%	30%	27%
Service experience/volunteering (Volunteer Corps, Mardi Gras trips, Global Brigades, etc.)	21%	23%	22%
Student organizations (Greek life, clubs, leadership opportunities)	20%	18%	19%
Improve professor/faculty/instructor quality	15%	16%	15%
Out-of-classroom academic experiences (student programs, tutoring)	14%	16%	17%
Improve alumni network & involvement (engage alumni/encourage informal mentorship)	14%	11%	8%
Study abroad (academic experiences/opportunities in other countries)	8%	11%	12%
Experiences with diversity (cultural involvement, interactions with Milwaukee/outside community)	8%	6%	6%

## DISCUSSION

Results from this biennial survey are distributed to many campus constituency groups and are used to inform current and future students of post-graduation outcomes. Additional information, such as employers, job titles, graduate/professional school names, and comments from the respondents are available upon request.

For additional information about the report, contact:

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