

# Report: Enrolling Student Survey Fall 2003

October 2003

*Office of Institutional Research and Planning*  
New Jersey Institute of Technology

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Enrolling Student survey has been substantially revised for Fall 2003. The instrument now collects more information from students while reducing the number of questions from 81 to 64. Tables and graphics summarizing the results are attached. Highlights of the findings include:

### **Goals**

- As with past surveys, NJIT students are very focused on career and pecuniary interests. The top three goals are: *attain skills that will be useful on a job, prepare for a career and improve ability to make more money.*
- In terms of importance of goals, female students reported significantly higher mean scores for all goals except *prepare for a career and develop an understanding and appreciation of science/technology.*

### **Enrollment**

- NJIT's academic reputation is still foremost in student's decision to enroll. Other top ranked items include: *reasonable cost, availability of financial aid, academic facilities, quality of instruction and coop/internship programs.*
- The top four sources of learning about NJIT are still *relatives, friends or acquaintances; internet; guidance counselor; and college visit /attendance at an open house.* Fifty-eight percent of the students reported, that a *campus visit/information session* (38%) or *attendance at an open house* (20%), most influenced their decision to apply. Seventy-two percent of students visited the campus before making the decision to enroll. Parents most influenced their decision to apply (33%) and to attend (44%).

### **Comparison to Other Colleges**

- Like Fall 2002, NJIT was the first choice for 62% of the students. The most frequently reported other first choices were: Rutgers University, Steven's Institute of Technology, New York University and Drexel University.
- In comparison to other colleges, NJIT was rated high on *contact after you were admitted* and above average on *contact after first inquiry, the website and visit to campus.*

### **Academic Situation**

- First generation college students comprised 38% of the respondents. Thirty-seven percent of all students already had credits towards advance standing.

### **Commitment**

- The majority of students (76%) were very strongly committed to finishing their degree. Fifty-eight percent intend to attain a Masters while 21% intend to attain a Doctorate.

### **Financial Situation**

- Fifty-six percent of the students reported that they plan to work. The majority of students (88%) will work less than 20 hours per week. Only 11% of the students indicated that they would not need financial aid.

### **Campus Life**

- Twenty-four percent of the students plan to be involved in athletics. Only 14% plan to pledge a fraternity or sorority. Those, who plan to pledge, were going to be significantly more involved in extra-curricular activities, and in clubs and organizations. They expressed a positive perception of Greek-life organizations.

### **PC Program**

- Eighty percent of students have a computer for primary use. The majority of students have a Windows based desktop which is a year or less in age. Ninety-six percent of the students would still attend NJIT if the computer lease program was not available. Only 2% indicated that the computer lease program was extremely influential in their decision to attend NJIT.

# ***Table of Contents***

	<u>Page</u>
<b>Procedures and Sample.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Section I: Goals.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Section II: Enrollment Factors/Influences.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Section III: Comparison to Other Colleges.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Section IV: Academic Situation.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Section V: Commitment.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Section VI: Financial Situation.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Section VII: Campus Life.....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Section VIII: PC Program.....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Appendix</b>	

## Procedures and Sample

The enrolling student survey was administered in all sections of the Freshman Seminar during fall of 2003. An envelope with op-scan survey forms and #2 pencils was sent to each freshman seminar section faculty, and the forms were administered for completion during the class within the first two weeks of the semester. A sample size of 682 was achieved, representing 95 % of first-time, full-time freshmen. Forms were electronically processed using scanning technology and the SAS statistical package.

The summary of student demographics is shown on Figure 1.

Figure 1: Description of Sample

### 1. *Sample size by school*

	n	% of total	Actual n	% of total
Newark College of Engineering	353	51.76	367	51
College of Computing Sciences	123	18.04	139	19
School of Architecture	123	18.04	129	18
College of Science and Liberal Arts	44	6.45	50	7
School of Management	34	4.98	36	5
No response	5	0.73	0	0
Total:	682	100%	721	100%

Albert Dorman Honors College	117	17.33%
------------------------------	-----	--------

### 2. *Enrollment Status*

The majority of the students are full-time day students (99.41%).

### 3. *Gender*

	n	% of total
Male	550	80.65
Female	129	18.91
No response	3	0.44
Total:	682	100%

### 4. *Citizenship*

	n	% of total
U.S. Citizenship	571	83.72
Permanent Resident	81	11.88
F1 Visa	15	2.20
Other	11	1.61
No response	4	0.59
Total:	682	100%

5. *Ethnicity*

	n	% of total
Non-Resident Alien	10	1.47
Black Non-Hispanic	52	7.63
American Indian/Alaskan Native	3	0.44
Asian/Pacific Islander	156	22.87
Hispanic	74	11.01
White Non-Hispanic	301	44.13
Other	76	11.14
No response	<u>10</u>	<u>1.47</u>
Total:	682	100%

6. *E.O.P Program Enrollment*

	n	% of total
Yes	107	15.69
No	556	81.52
No Response	<u>19</u>	<u>2.79</u>
Total	682	100%

7. *Living on Campus*

	n	% of total
Yes	385	56.45
No	292	42.82
No Response	<u>5</u>	<u>0.73</u>
Total	682	100%

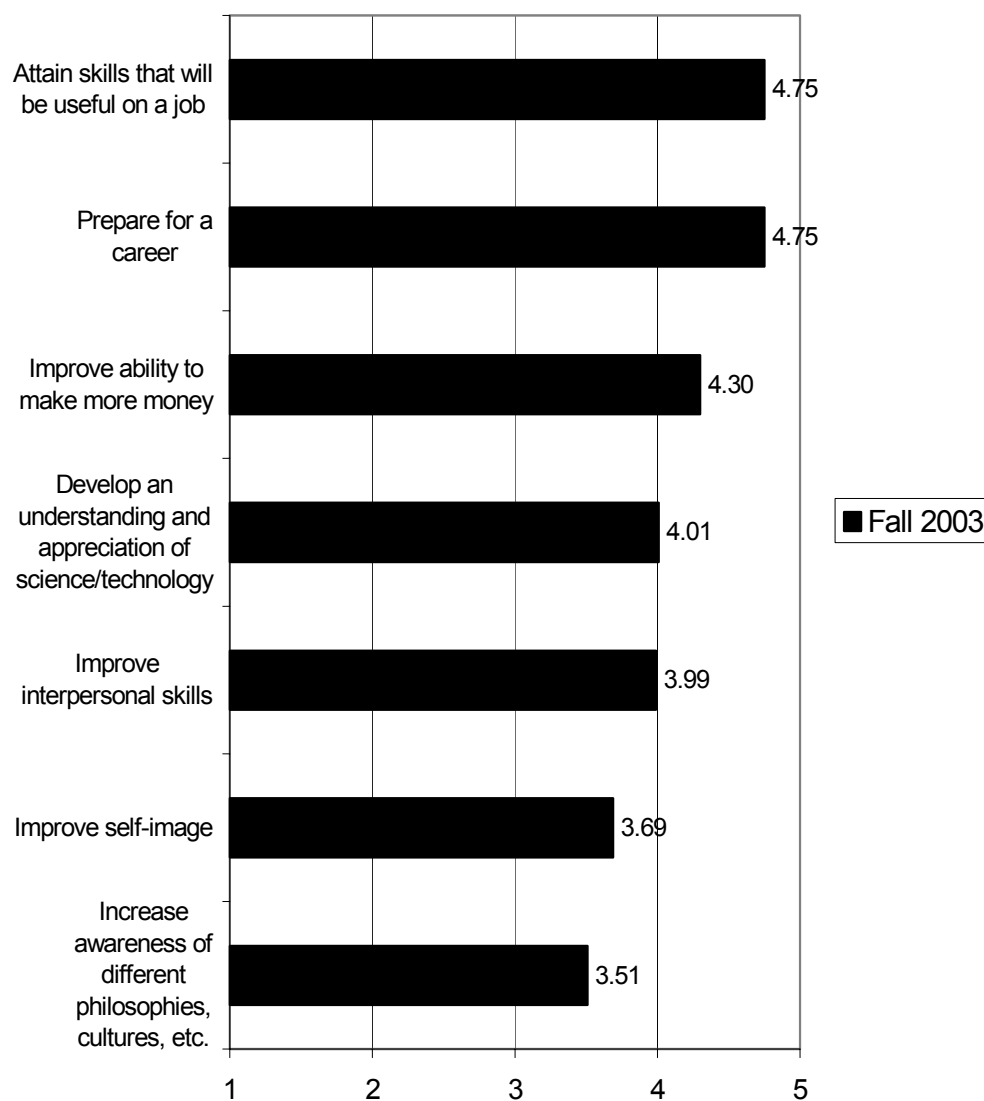
8. *Department Programs*

	n	% of total
Architecture	122	17.89
Biomedical Engineering	48	7.04
Chemical Engineering	25	3.67
Chemistry	3	0.44
Civil and Environmental Engineering	34	4.98
Computer Science	74	10.85
Electrical & Computer Engineering	113	16.57
Engineering Technology	8	1.17
History	1	0.15
Humanities & Social Sciences	1	0.15
Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering	6	0.88
Information Technology	45	6.60
Management	34	4.98
Mathematical Sciences	3	0.44
Mechanical Engineering	74	10.85
Physics	1	0.15
Don't Know	32	4.69
Other*	47	6.89
No Response	11	1.61
Total:	682	100%

\* See Appendix

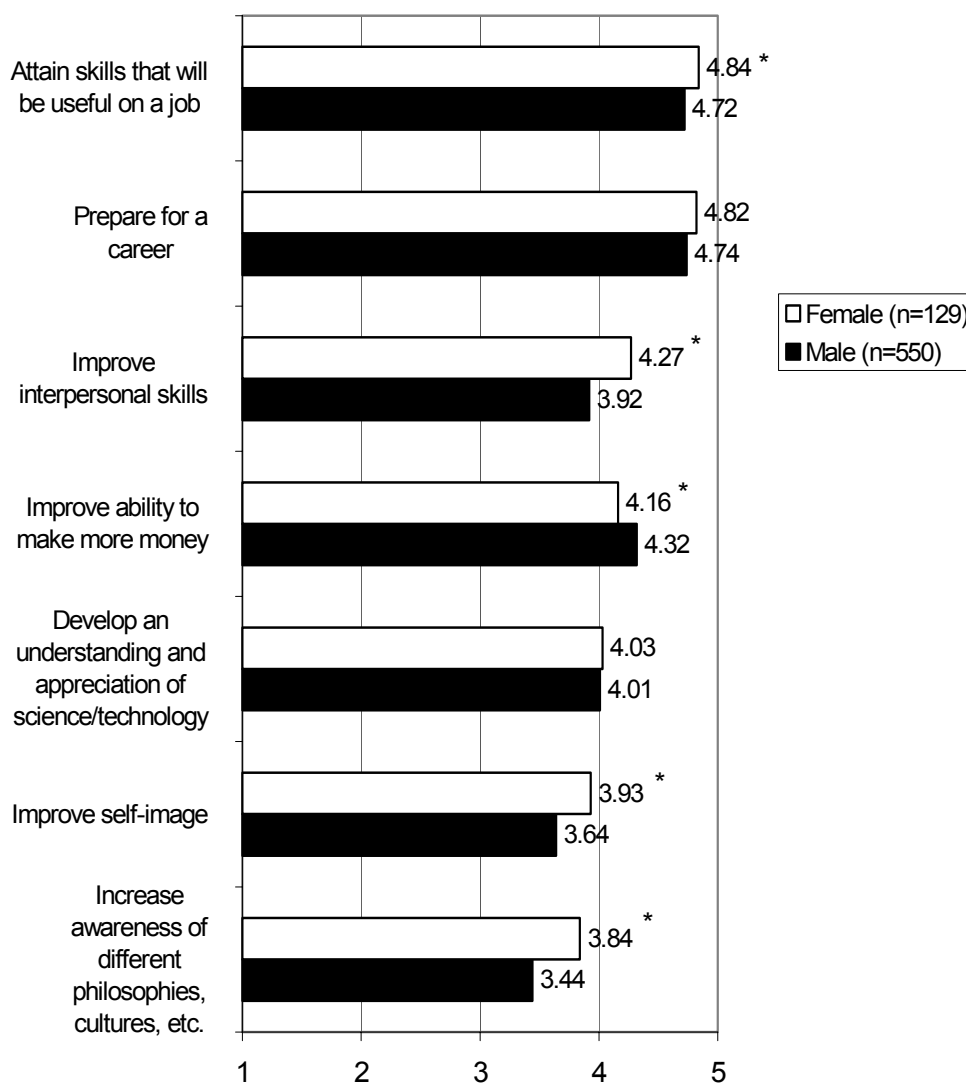
## ***Section I: Goals***

## Student Mean Ratings of Importance of Goals at NJIT (n = 682)



(Scale: 1 = Not at all Important, 2 = A Little Important, 3 = Moderately Important, 4 = Important, 5 = Very Important)

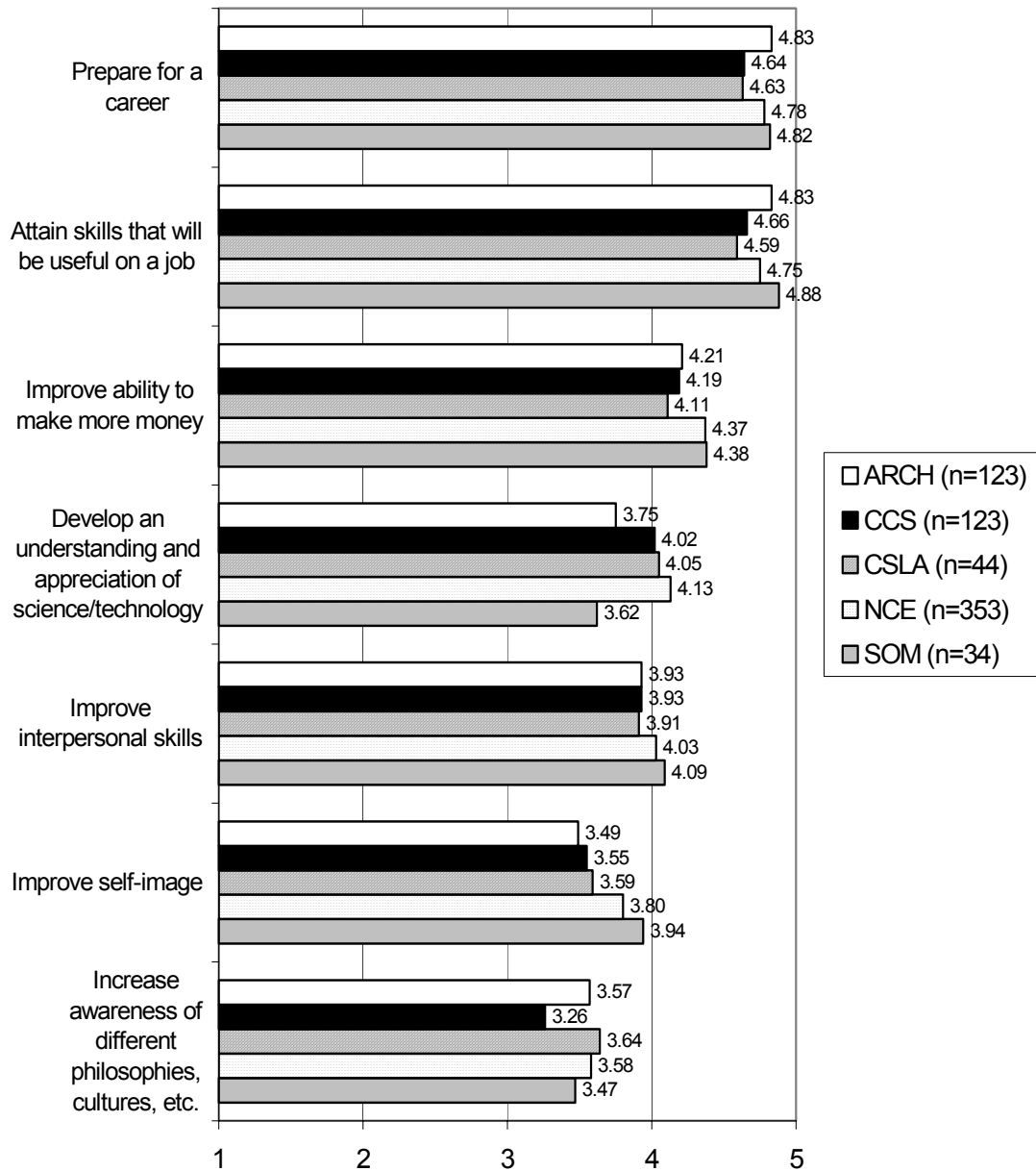
## Student Mean Ratings of Importance of Goals at NJIT by Gender



\* Significant at  $p < 0.05$

(Scale: 1 = Not at all Important, 2 = A Little Important, 3 = Moderately Important, 4 = Important, 5 = Very Important)

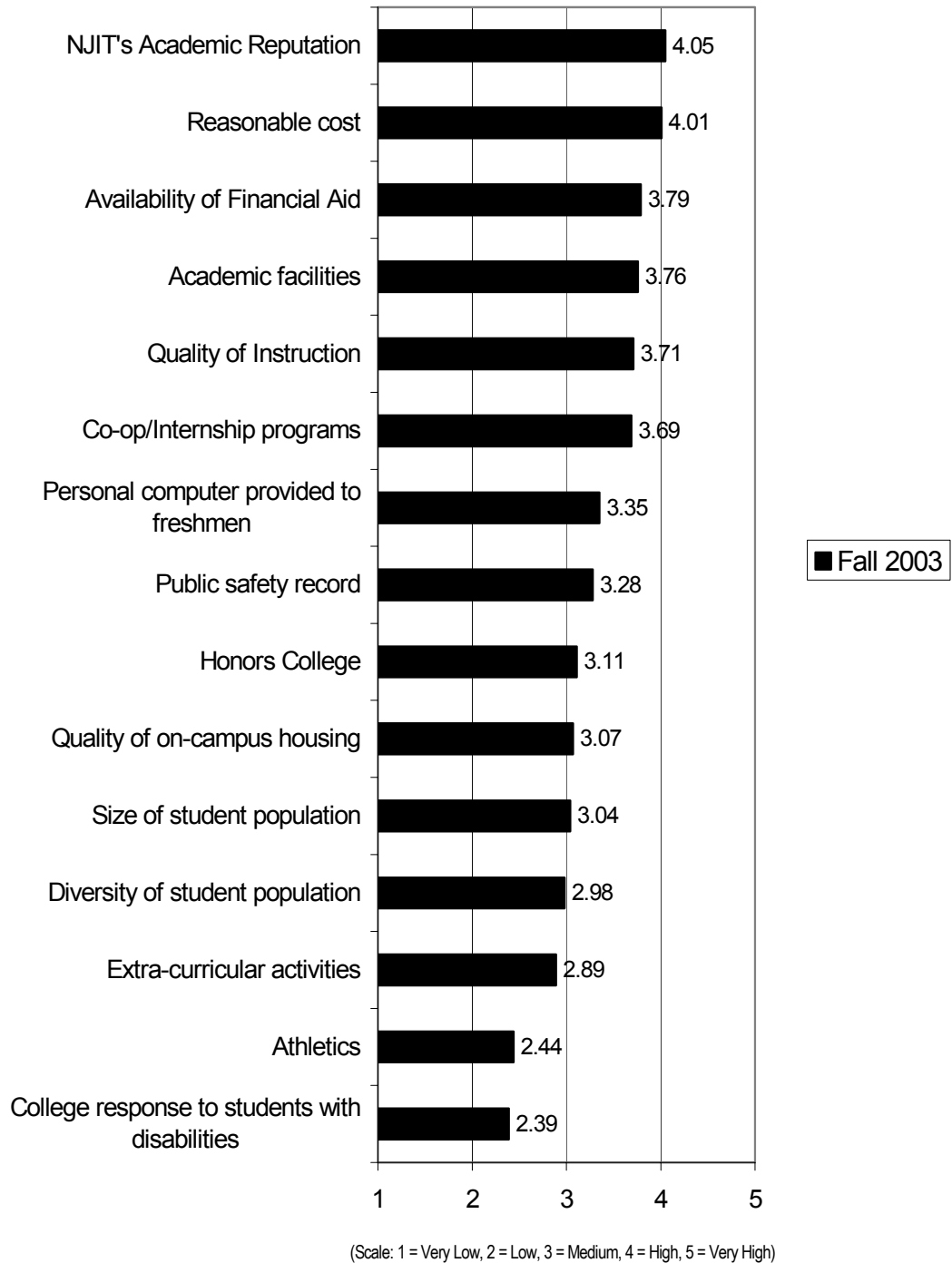
## Student Mean Ratings of Importance of Goals at NJIT by School



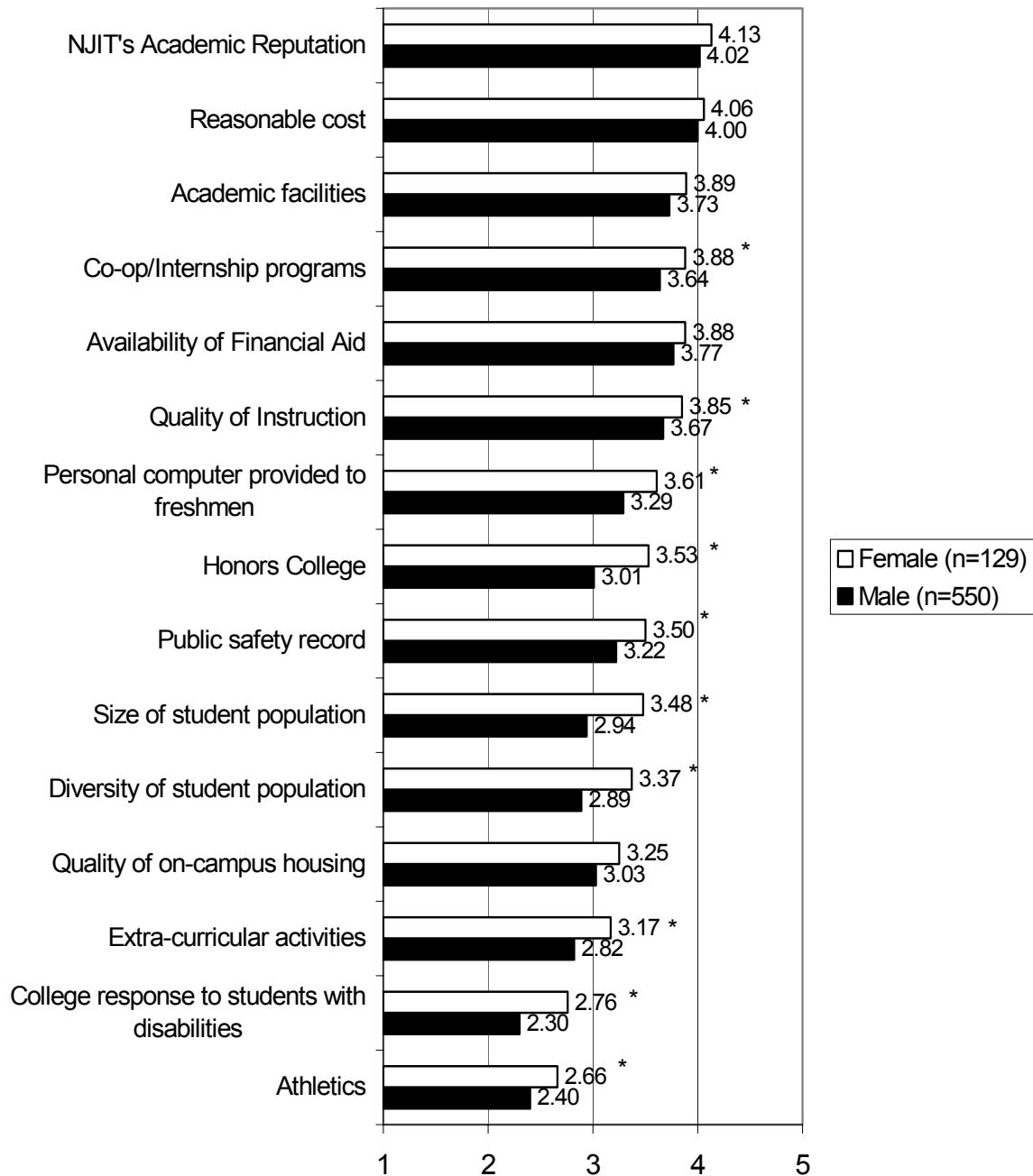
(Scale: 1= Not at all Important, 2= A Little Important, 3= Moderately Important, 4= Important, 5= Very Important)

## ***Section II: Enrollment Factors/Influences***

## Importance of Factors in Enrollment Decision (n = 682)



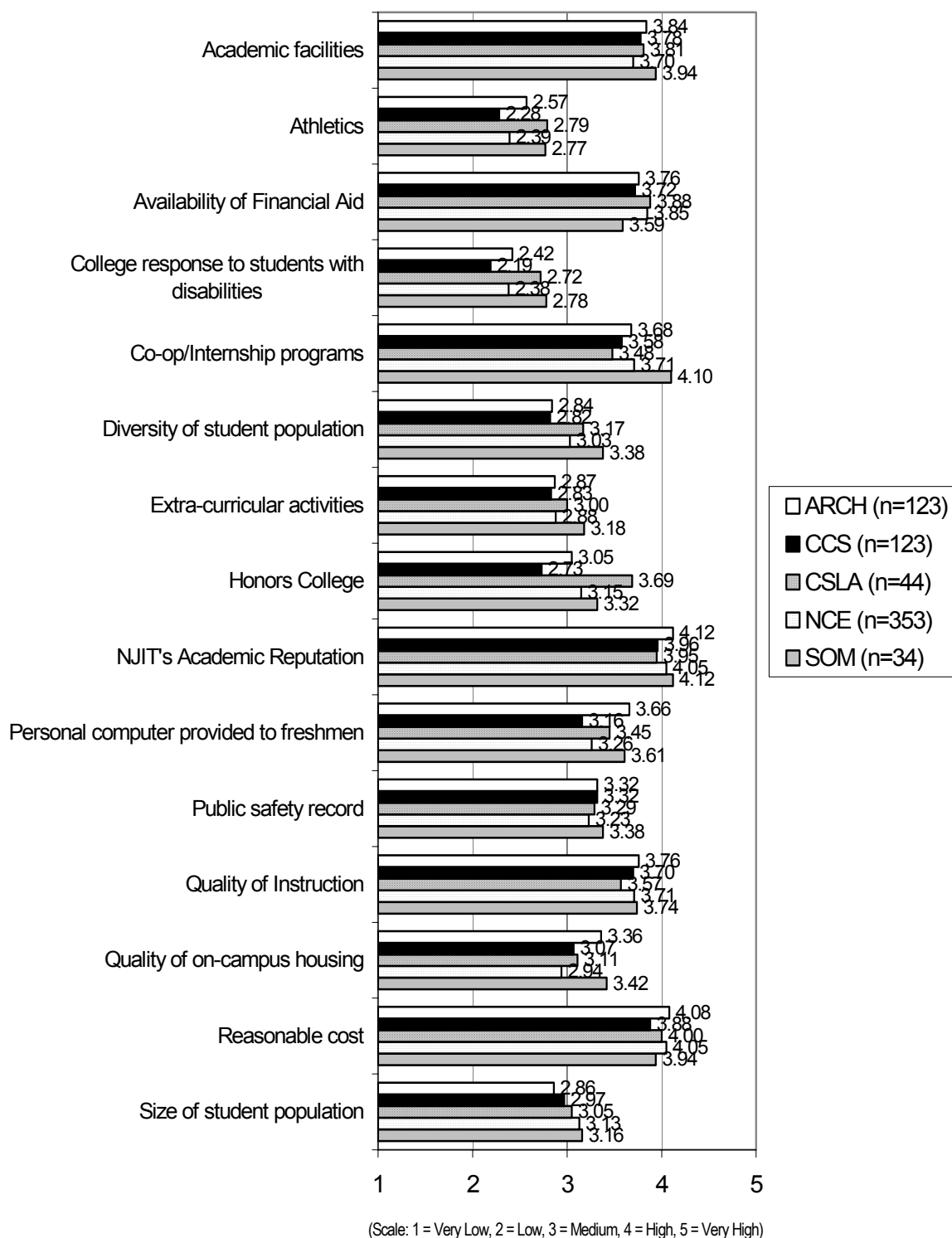
## Importance of Factors in Enrollment Decision at NJIT by Gender



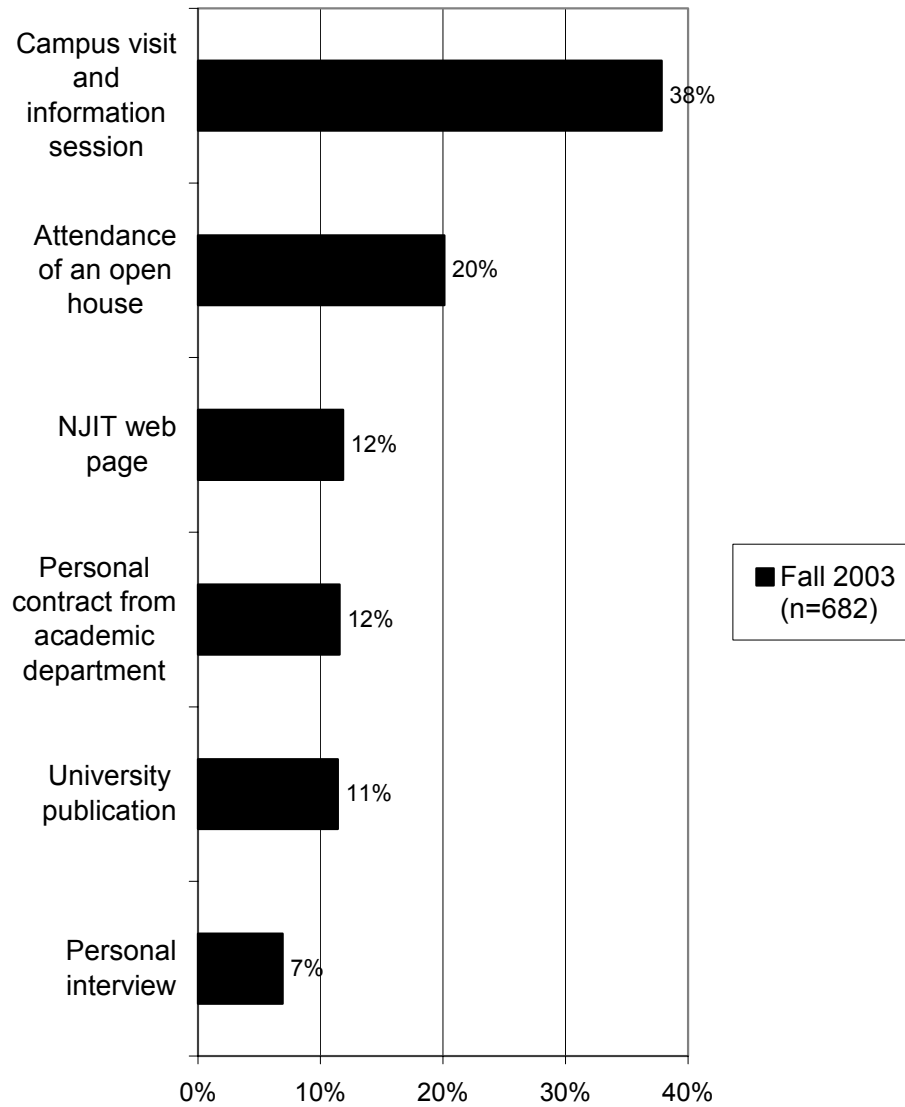
\* Significant at  $p < 0.05$

(Scale: 1 = Very Low, 2 = Low, 3 = Medium, 4 = High, 5 = Very High)

## Importance of Factors in Enrollment Decision at NJIT by School



**Q-36: Which most influenced your decision to apply?**



### Q-36: Which Most Influenced your Decision to Apply by Ethnicity

	Non-Resident Alien (n=10)	Black Non-Hispanic (n=52)	American Indian/Alaskan Native *(n=3)	Asian Pacific Islander (n=156)	Hispanic (n=74)	White Non-Hispanic (n=301)
Attendance of an open house	13%	16%	67%	11%	13%	29%
Campus visit and information session	38%	31%	0%	44%	43%	35%
NJIT web page	38%	12%	0%	12%	6%	12%
personal contact from academic department	0%	20%	0%	10%	21%	8%
Personal interview	13%	14%	0%	5%	7%	5%
University publications	0%	6%	33%	17%	8%	10%

\* Results should be disregarded due to an extremely low "n"

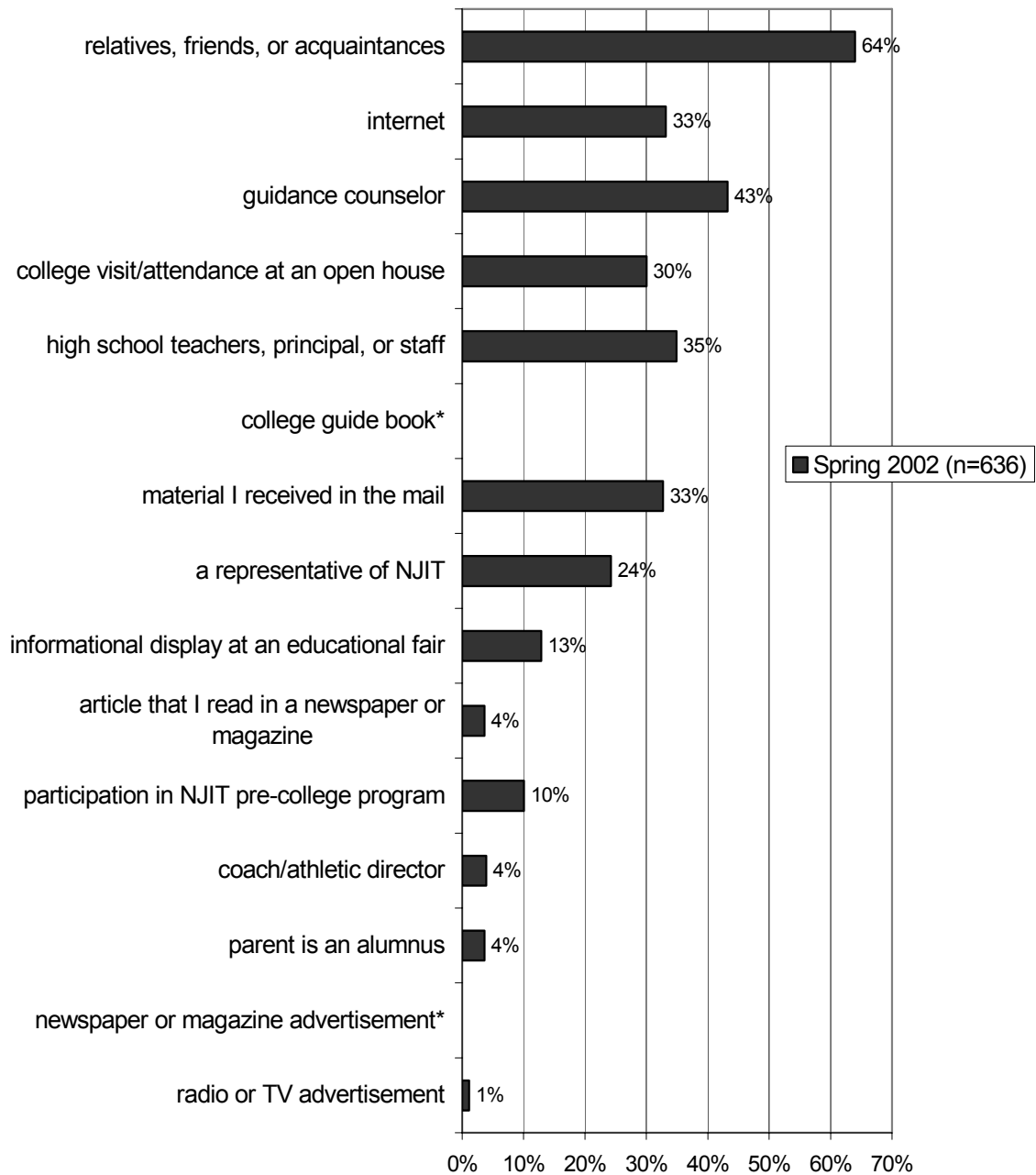
### Q-36: Which Most Influenced your Decision to Apply by Gender

	Male (n=550)	Female (n=129)
Attendance of an open house	22%	13%
Campus visit and information session	38%	39%
NJIT web page	12%	13%
personal contact from academic department	11%	13%
Personal interview	6%	10%
University publications	12%	11%

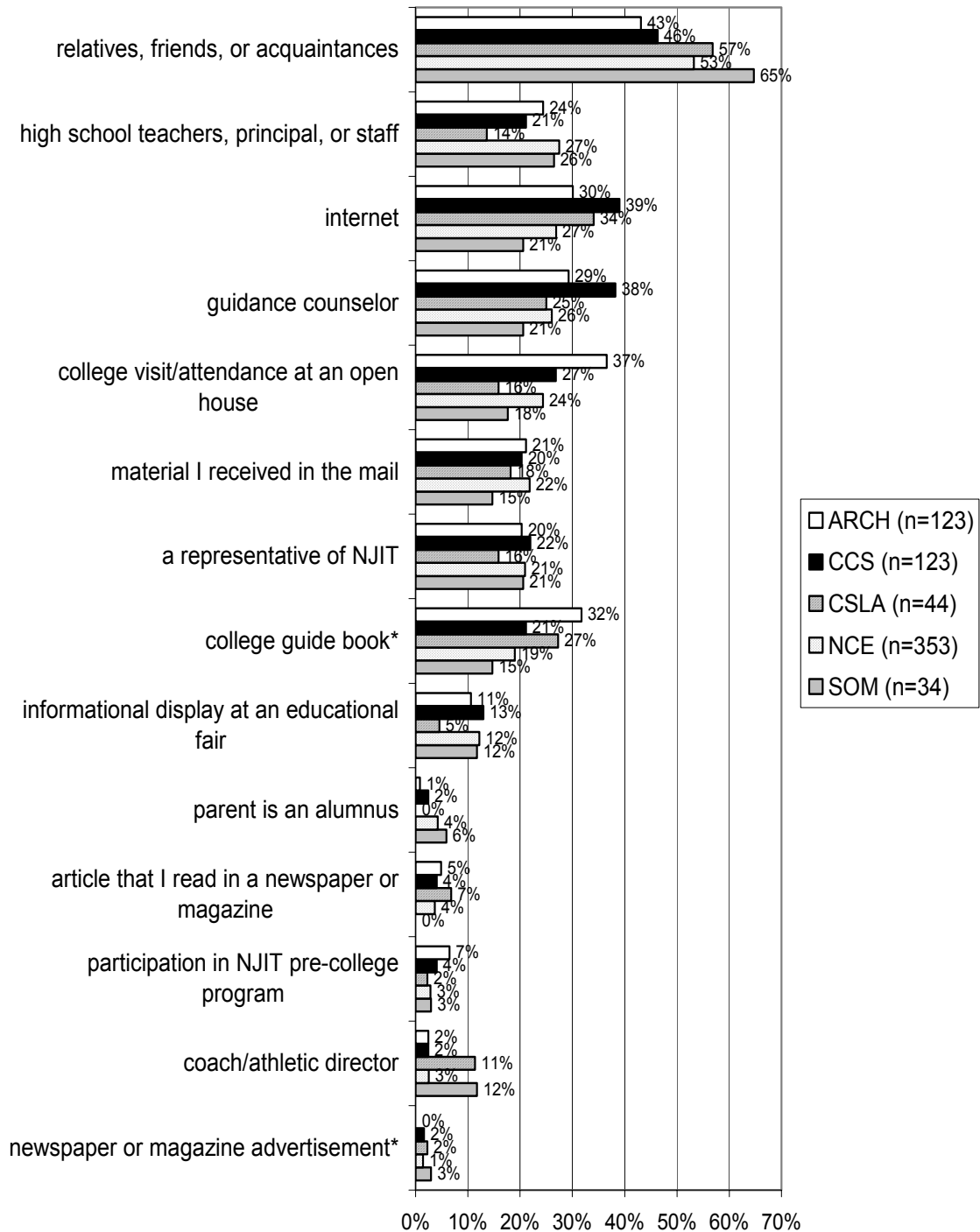
### Q-36: Students' Percentage of Influence on Application Decision by School

	ARCH (n=123)	CCS (n=123)	CSLA (n=44)	NCE (n=353)	SOM (n=34)
Attendance of an open house	23%	21%	11%	21%	12%
Campus visit and information session	42%	38%	45%	36%	39%
NJIT web page	8%	11%	9%	12%	27%
Personal contact from academic department	8%	11%	9%	13%	9%
Personal interview	7%	8%	14%	6%	3%
University publications	12%	11%	11%	12%	9%

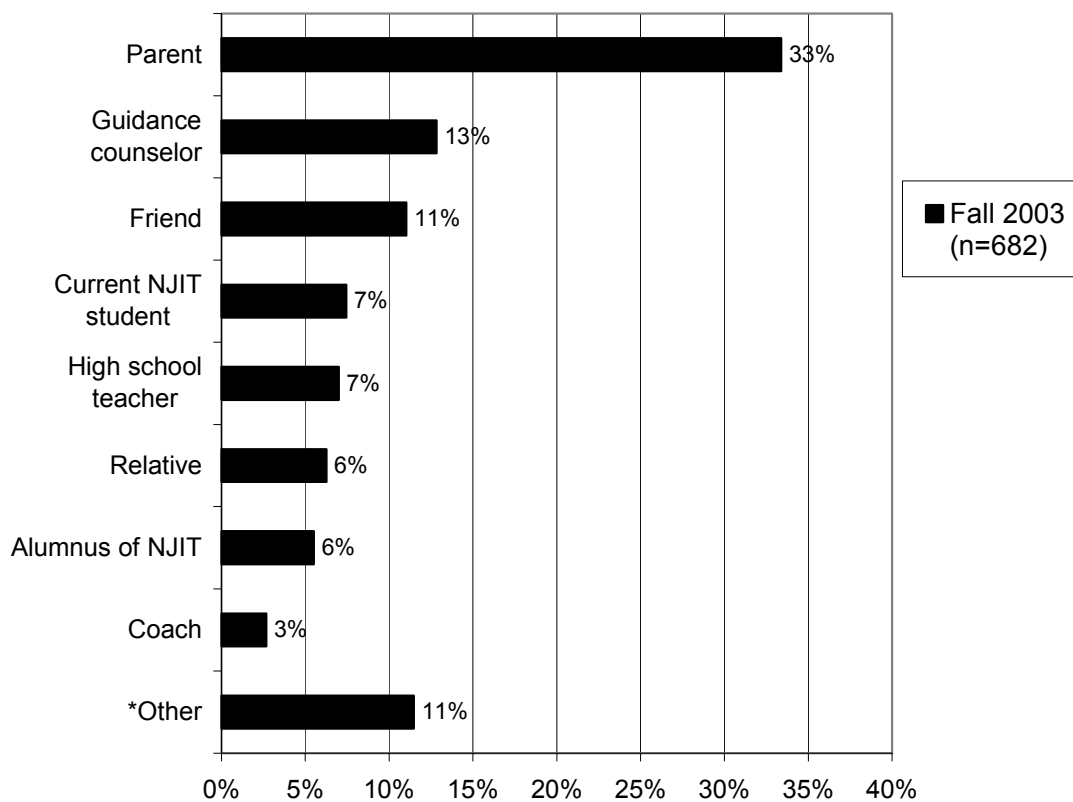
## Percent of Students Indicating Sources of Learning about NJIT



## Percent of Students Indicating Sources of Learning about NJIT by School



### Q-38: Who most influenced your decision to apply?



\* See appendix

### Q-38: Who Most Influenced your Decision to Apply by Ethnicity

	Non-Resident Alien (n=10)	Black Non-Hispanic (n=52)	American Indian/Alaskan Native *(n=3)	Asian Pacific Islander (n=156)	Hispanic (n=74)	White Non-Hispanic (n=301)
Alumnus of NJIT	0%	4%	0%	3%	1%	8%
Coach	0%	8%	0%	0%	3%	4%
Current NJIT student	10%	6%	0%	7%	6%	9%
Friend	10%	4%	33%	16%	13%	11%
Guidance counselor	10%	10%	33%	12%	14%	11%
High school teacher	0%	10%	0%	3%	18%	6%
Parent	40%	30%	0%	39%	19%	36%
Relative	20%	8%	0%	7%	7%	4%
Other <sup>+</sup>	10%	18%	33%	11%	15%	10%

\* Results should be disregarded due to an extremely low "n"

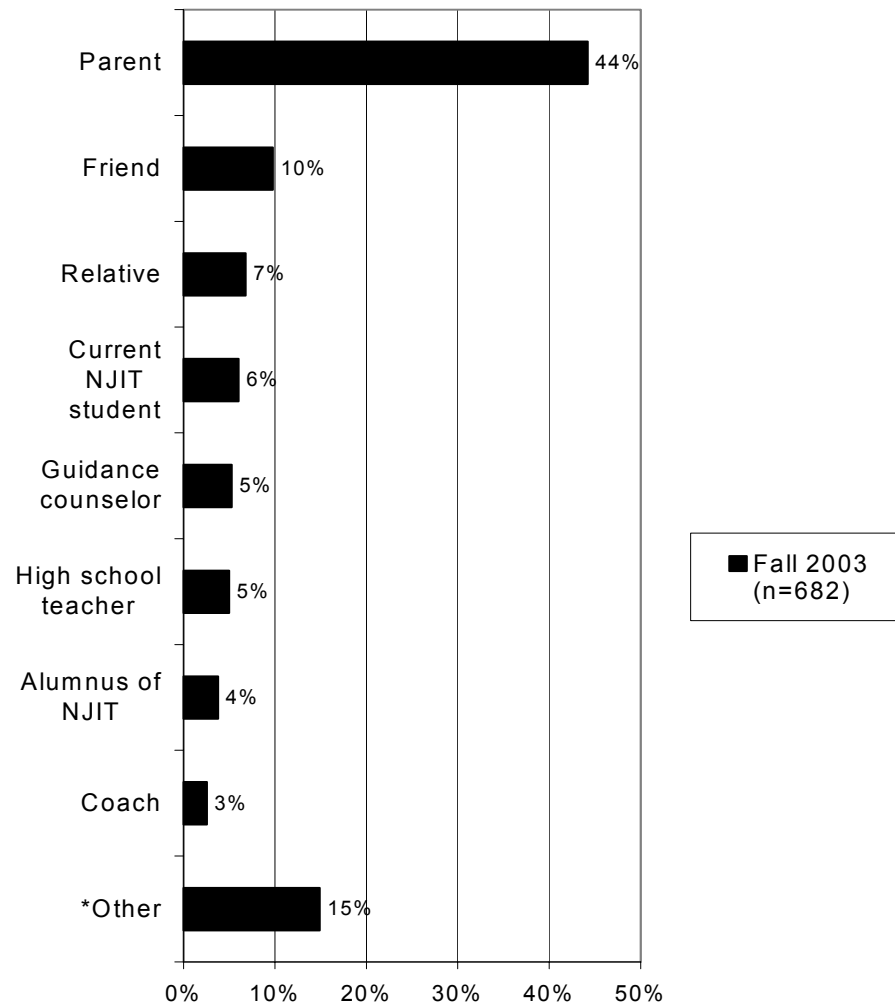
+ See Appendix

### Q-38: Who Most Influenced your Decision to Apply by Gender

	Male (n=550)	Female (n=129)
Alumnus of NJIT	6%	3%
Coach	2%	4%
Current NJIT student	7%	8%
Friend	11%	12%
Guidance counselor	14%	9%
High school teacher	8%	5%
Parent	33%	38%
Relative	6%	7%
Other <sup>+</sup>	12%	11%

+ See Appendix

**Q-39: Who most influenced your decision to attend?**



**\* See Appendix**

### Q-39: Who Most Influenced your Decision to Attend by Ethnicity

	Non-Resident Alien (n=10)	Black Non-Hispanic (n=52)	American Indian/Alaskan Native *(n=3)	Asian Pacific Islander (n=156)	Hispanic (n=74)	White Non-Hispanic (n=301)
Alumnus of NJIT	0%	4%	0%	3%	3%	5%
Coach	0%	6%	0%	0%	1%	4%
Current NJIT student	10%	6%	0%	6%	8%	5%
Friend	0%	6%	33%	11%	9%	10%
Guidance counselor	0%	6%	0%	5%	9%	3%
High school teacher	0%	8%	0%	2%	9%	5%
Parent	50%	37%	67%	49%	31%	47%
Relative	40%	8%	0%	8%	11%	3%
Other+	0%	16%	0%	15%	15%	16%

\* Results should be disregarded due to an extremely low "n"

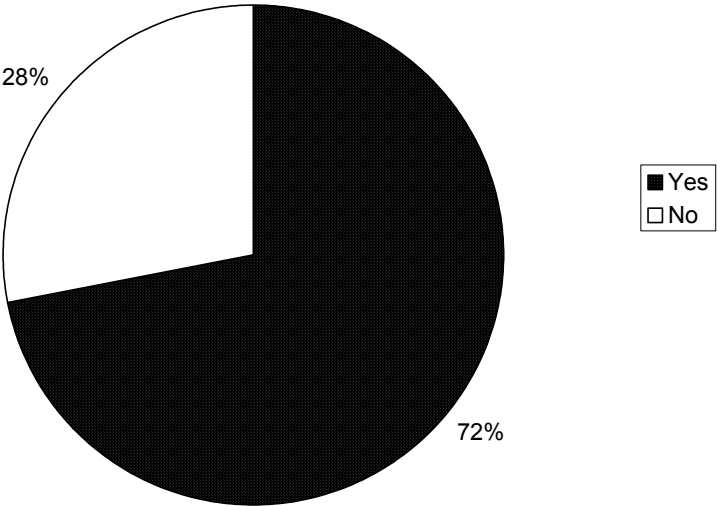
+ See Appendix

### Q-39: Who Most Influenced your Decision to Attend by Gender

	Male (n=550)	Female (n=129)
Alumnus of NJIT	4%	4%
Coach	2%	4%
Current NJIT student	6%	7%
Friend	10%	7%
Guidance counselor	6%	4%
High school teacher	6%	2%
Parent	44%	45%
Relative	7%	8%
Other <sup>+</sup>	15%	16%

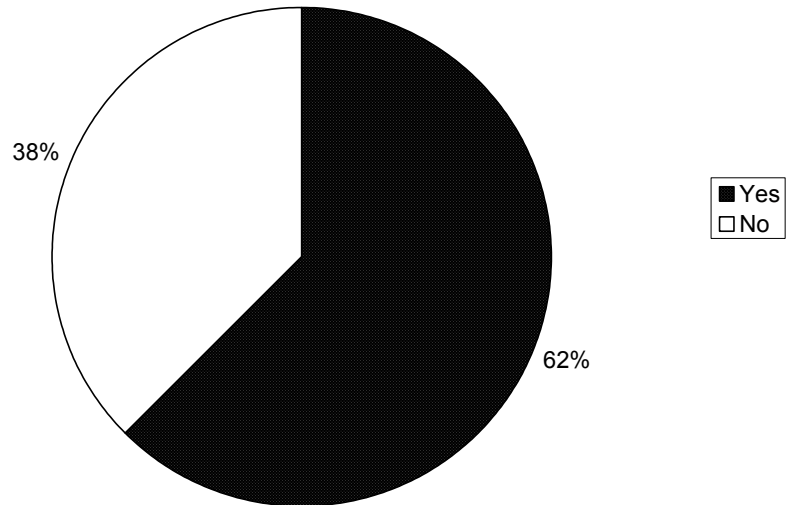
+ See Appendix

**Q-41: Did you visit the NJIT campus before making your decision to enroll? (n = 673)**



### ***Section III: Comparison to Other Colleges***

**Q-40: Was NJIT your first choice?**  
(n = 677)

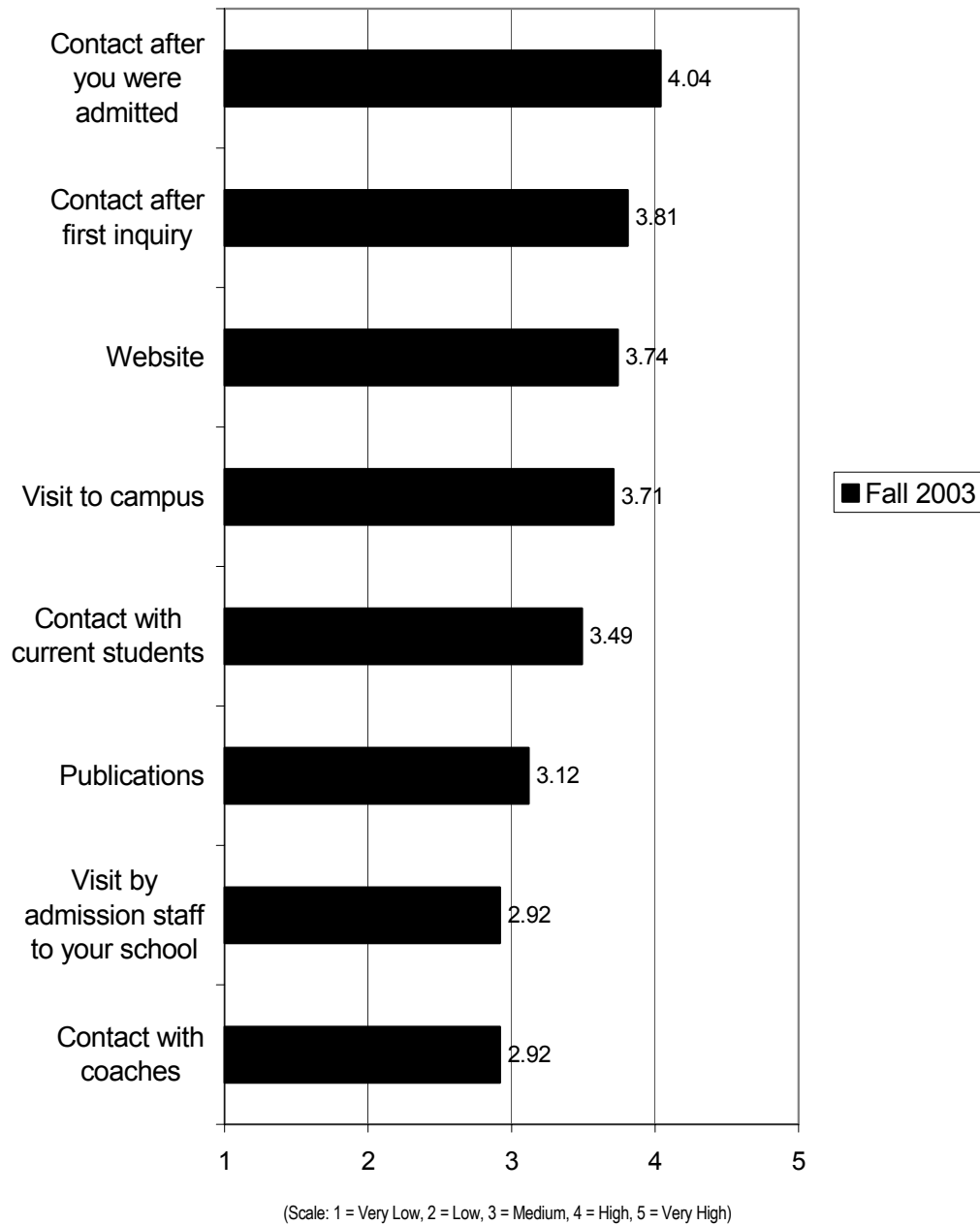


**Q-40: If NJIT was not your first choice, Top 4 choices:**

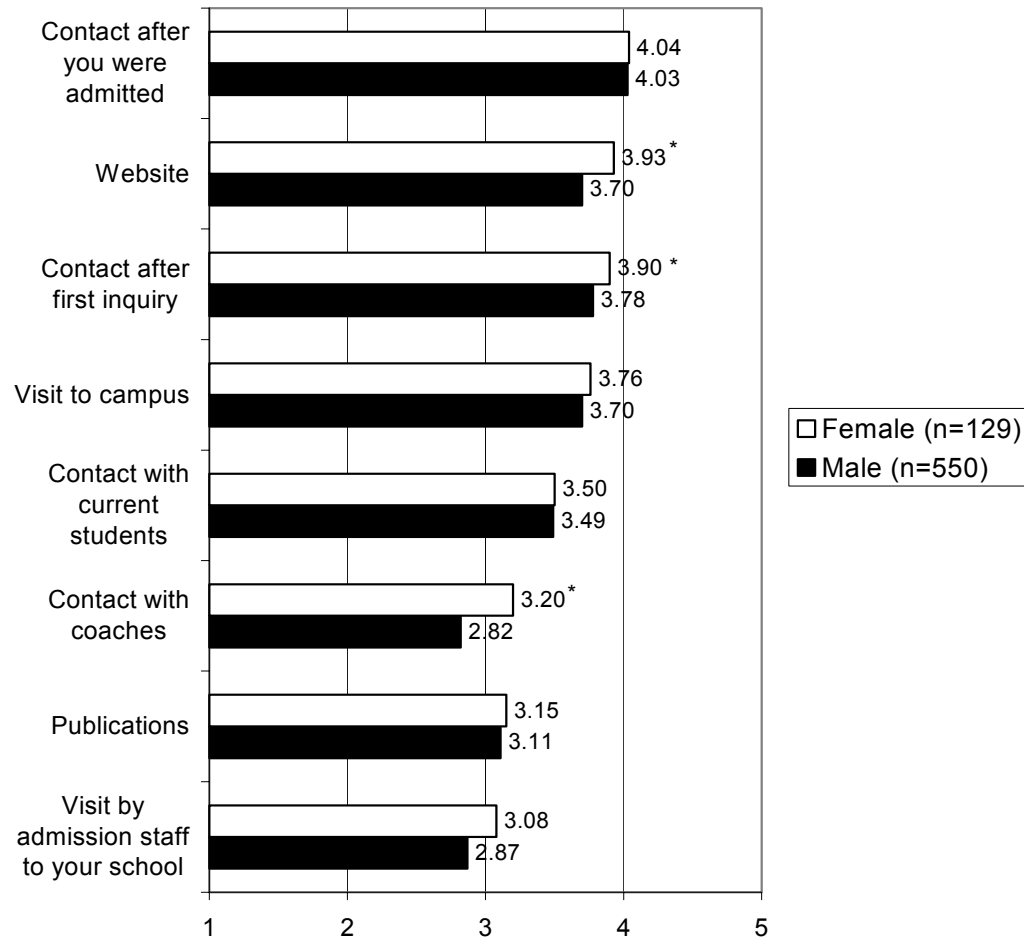
<i>University</i>	<i># of responses</i>
Rutgers University	53
Steven's Institute of Technology	33
New York University	13
Drexel University	12

\* See Appendix for other responses

**Rate NJIT in comparison to other colleges  
(n = 682)**



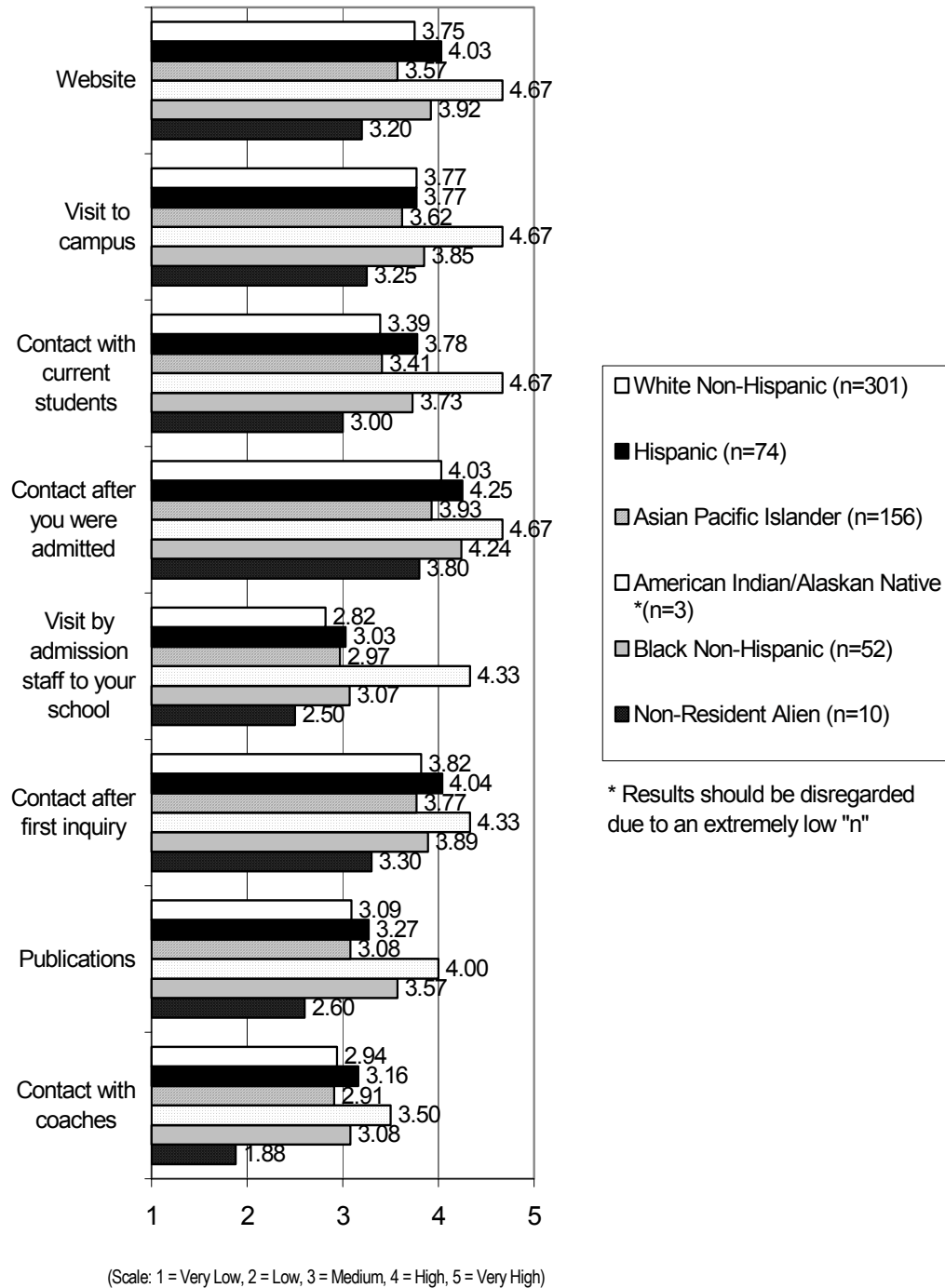
## Rate of NJIT in comparison to other colleges by Gender



\* Significant at  $p < 0.05$

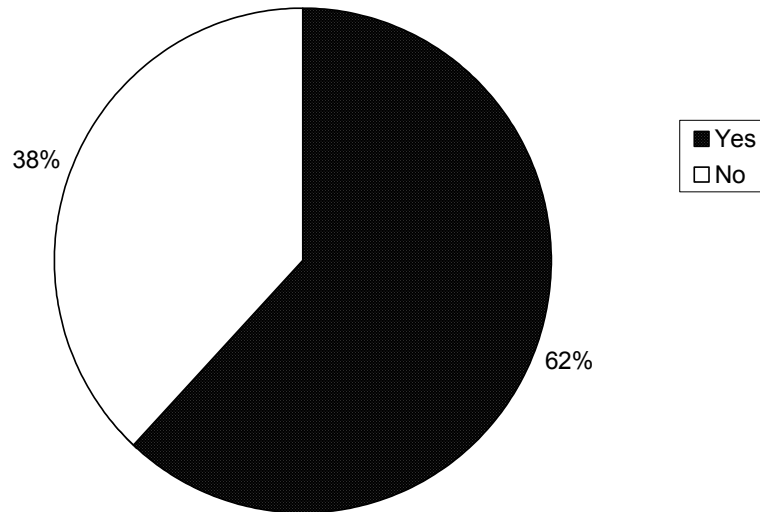
(Scale: 1 = Very Low, 2 = Low, 3 = Medium, 4 = High, 5 = Very High)

## Rate of NJIT in comparison to other colleges by Ethnicity

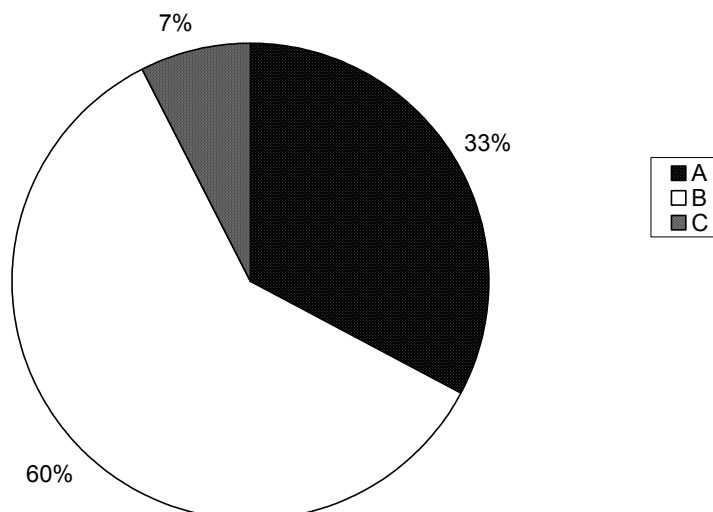


#### ***Section IV: Academic Situation***

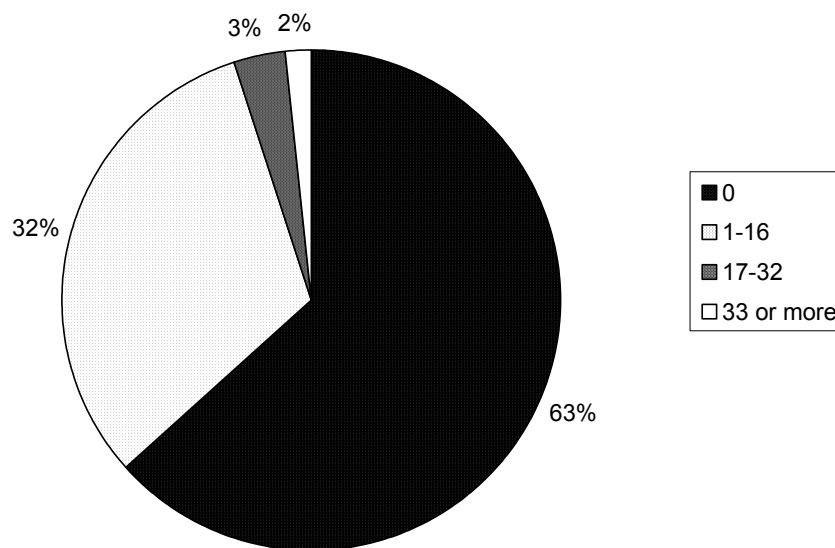
**Q-31: Parents graduated from college**  
(n = 680)



**Q-33: High school average**  
(n = 680)

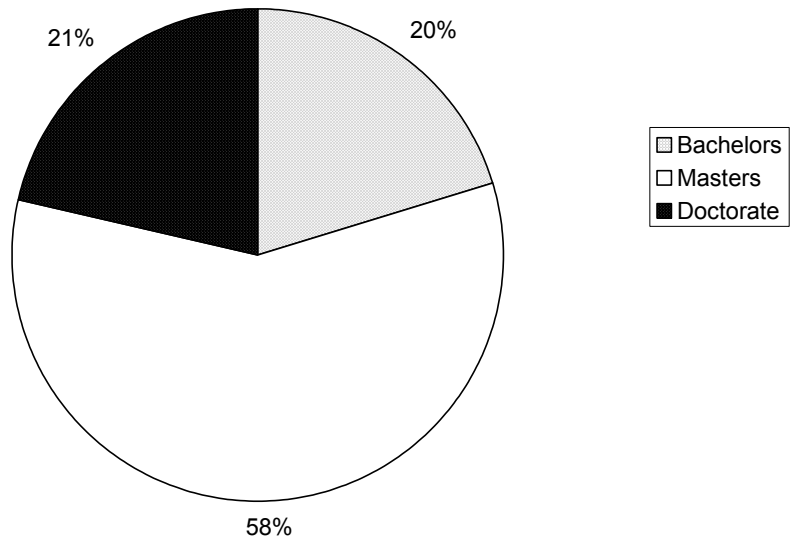


**Q-53: Number of credits towards advanced standing  
(n = 658)**

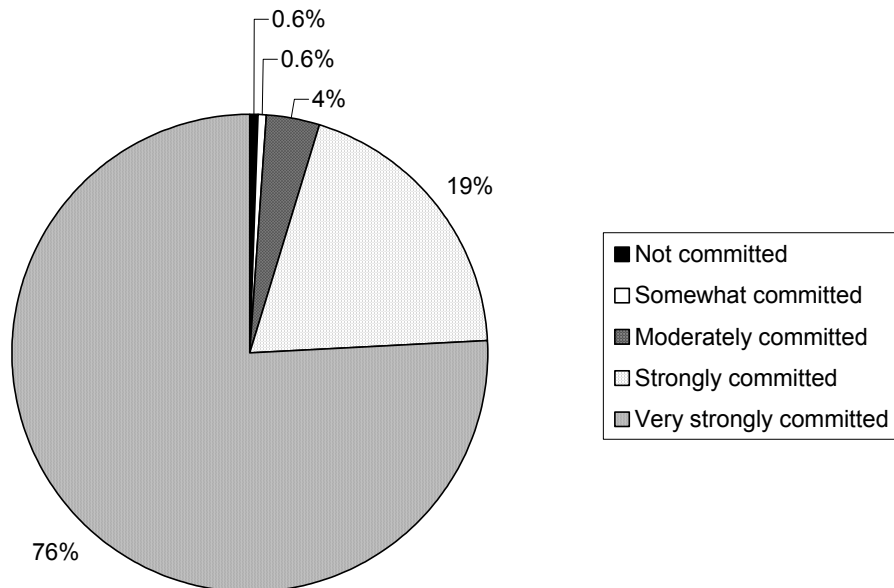


## *Section V: Commitment*

**Q-32: Highest Degree you intend to attain**  
(n = 660)

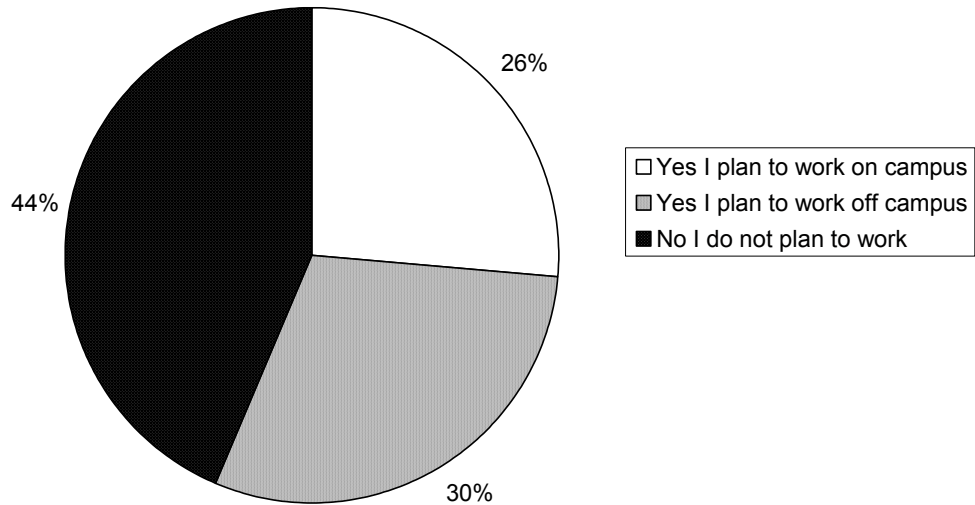


**Q-42: How committed are you to finishing your degree?**  
(n = 673)

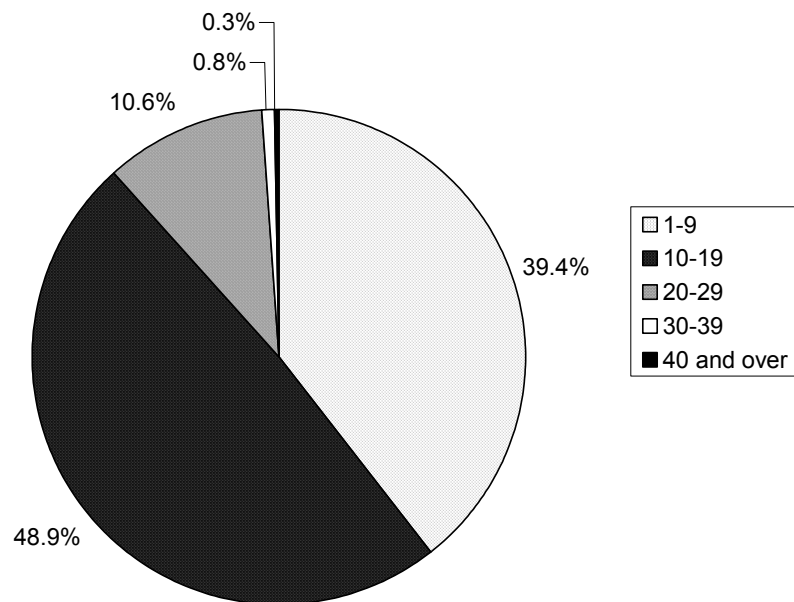


***Section VI: Financial Situation***

**Q-54: Do you plan to work during the school year?**  
(n = 671)

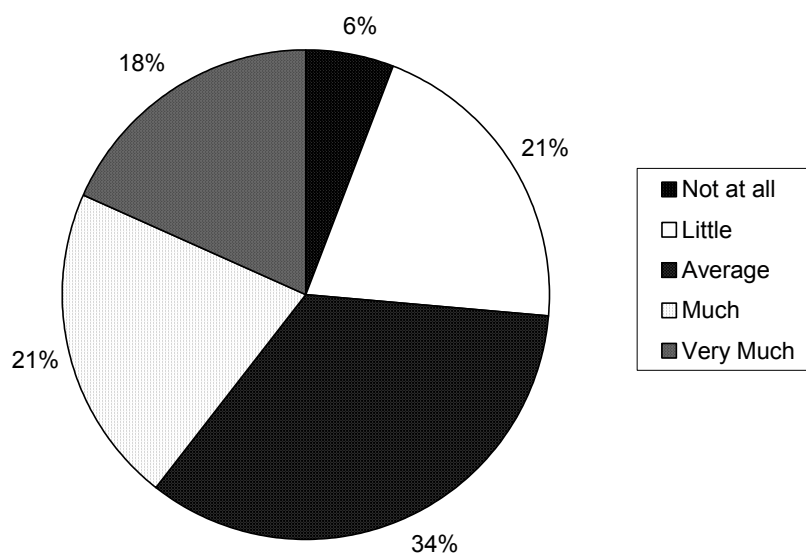


**Q-54a: The number of work hours**  
(n = 378)

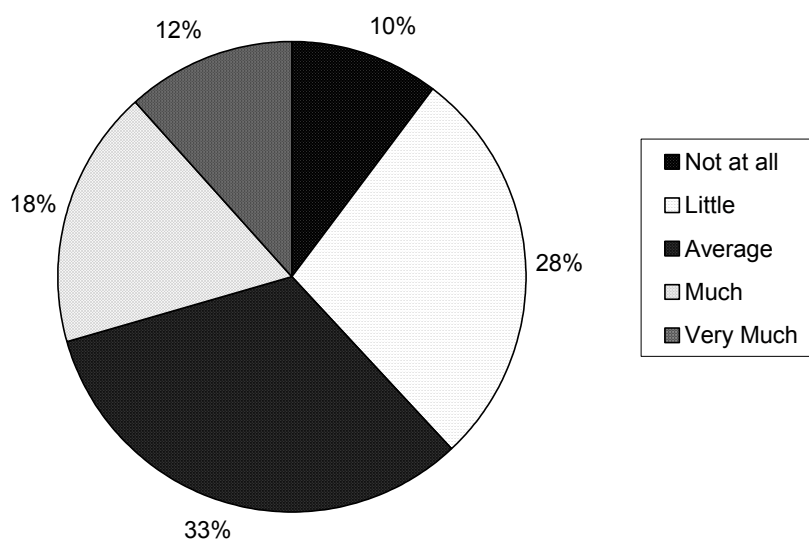


## ***Section VII: Campus Life***

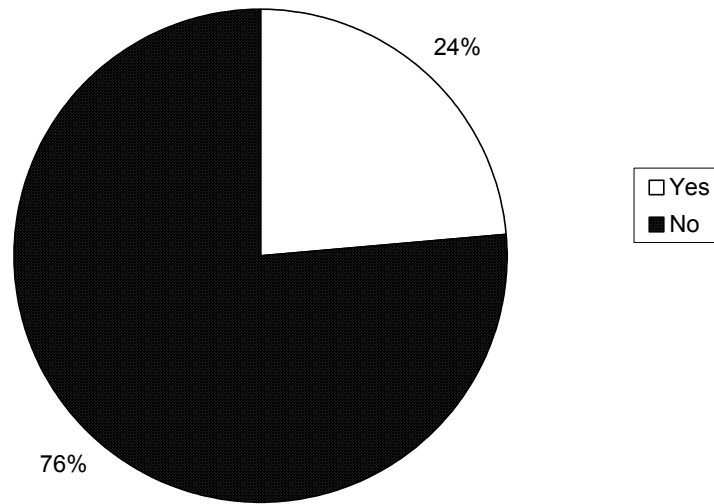
**Q-34: How involved were you in high school extracurricular activities (n = 680)**



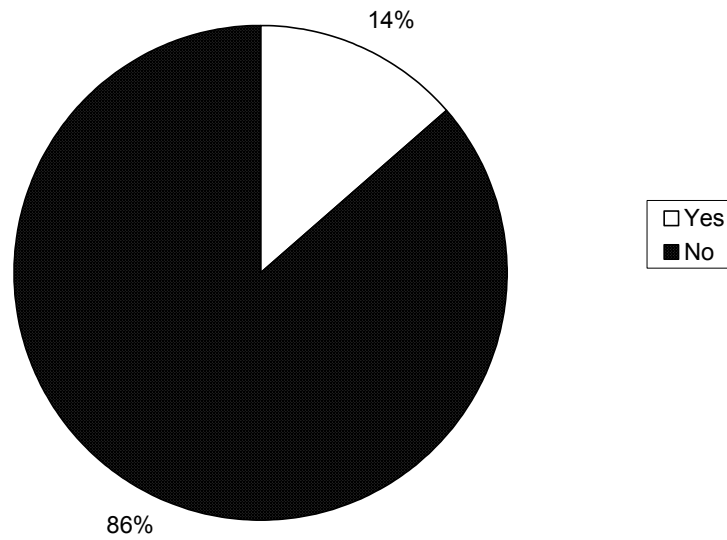
**Q-35: How involved are you generally in clubs, church and other organizations outside school? (n = 681)**



**Q-58: Involvement in athletics**  
(n = 671)



**Q-59: Plan to pledge a fraternity or sorority**  
(n = 664)



### Q-60: The Extent to which Greek Life Contributes to College Experience

	Planning to Pledge (n=84)	Not Pledging (n=580)
Academic performance	3.54	2.50*
Community Service	3.47	2.63*
Friendship	4.14	2.91*
Just having a good time	4.18	3.07*
Leadership development	3.86	2.71*
Networking	4.21	3.01*
Personal development	4.06	2.75*
Social opportunities	4.14	3.02*
Other <sup>+</sup>	3.30	1.54*

<sup>+</sup> See Appendix

\* Significant at  $p < 0.0001$

(Scale: 1 = Not at all, 2 = Little, 3 = Average, 4 = Much, 5 = Very Much)

### Perception & Involvement by Planning to Pledge a Greek Organization

	Will Pledge (n=84)	Will not Pledge (n=580)
Q-56: During your freshman year, do you plan to be involved in extracurricular activities?	3.38	2.90*
Q-57: During your freshman year, do you plan to be involved in clubs and organizations on campus?	3.37	2.90*
Q-61: What is your current perception of Greek-life organizations?	3.89	3.11*

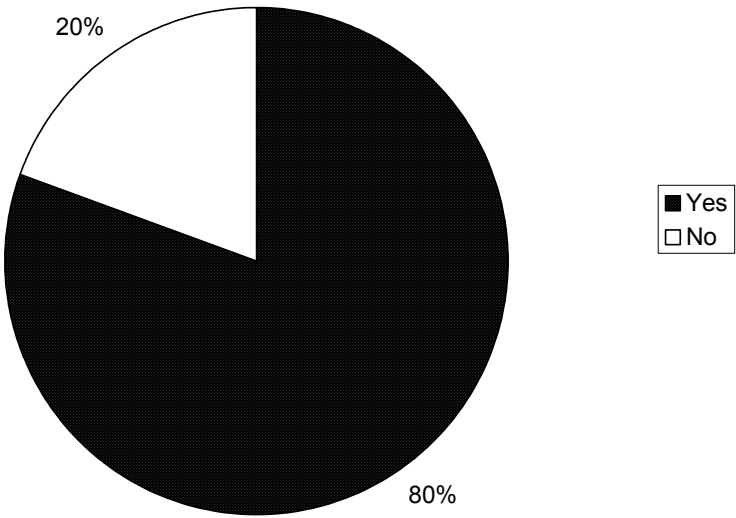
\* Significant at  $p < 0.0001$

(Scale Q-56 & Q-57: 1 = Not at all, 2 = Little, 3 = Somewhat, 4 = Much, 5 = Very Much)

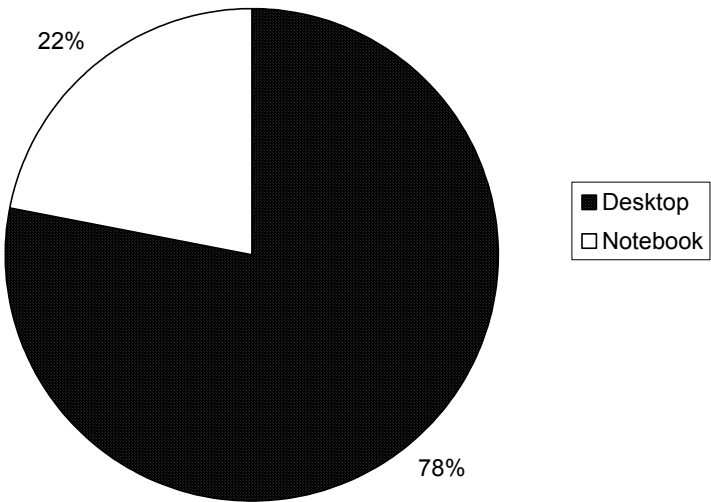
(Scale Q-61: 1 = Very Negative, 2 = Negative, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Positive, 5 = Very positive)

***Section VIII: PC Program***

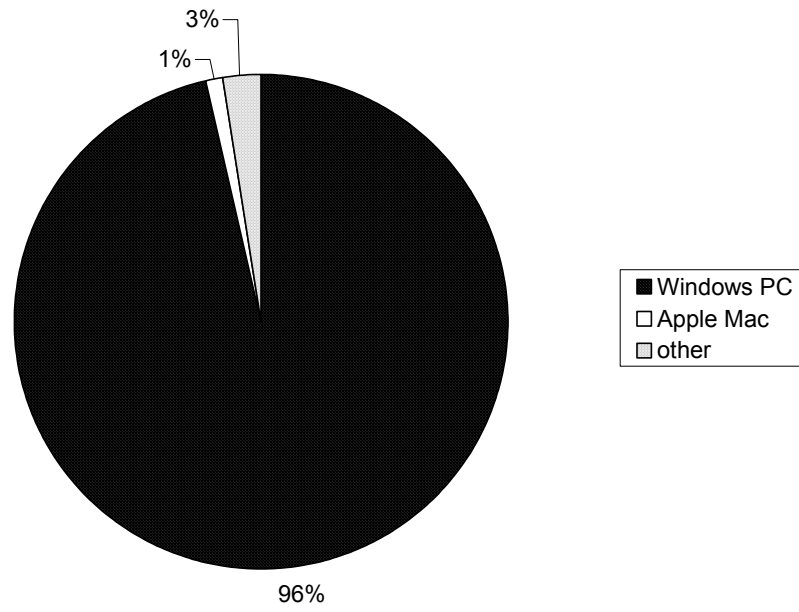
**Q-62: Have a computer for primary use**  
(n = 675)



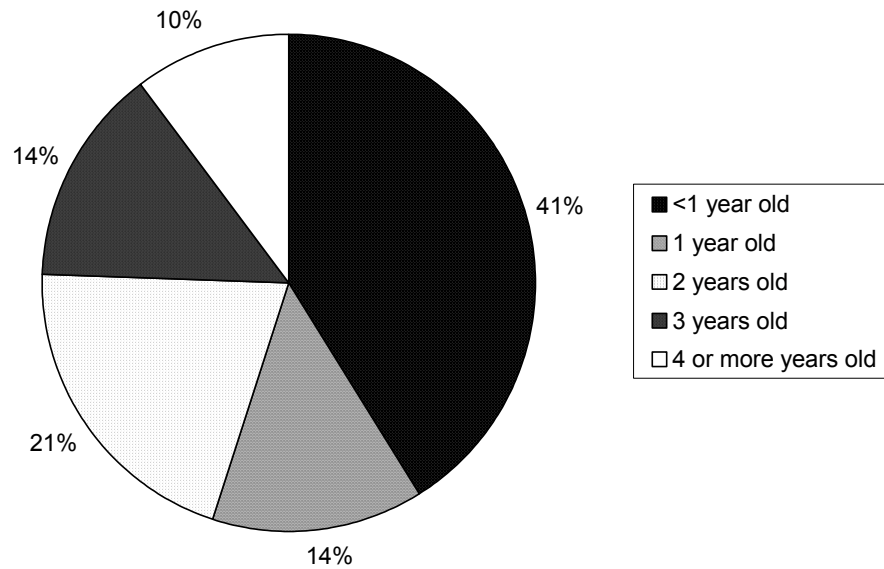
**Q-62a: Model**  
(n = 516)



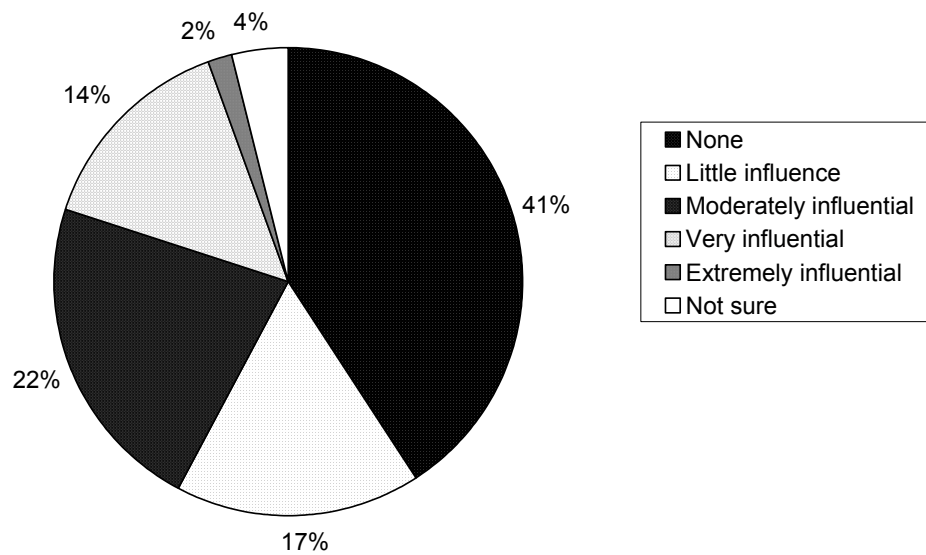
**Q-62b: Type of computer**  
(n = 535)



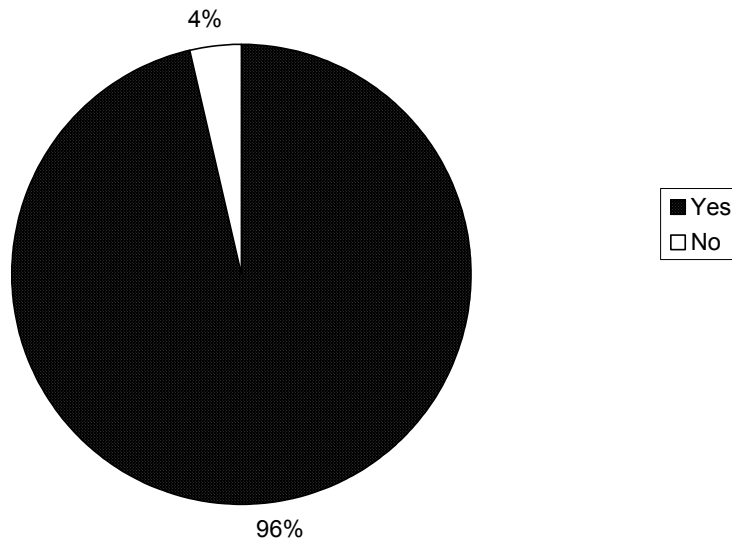
**Q-62c: Age of computer  
(n = 534)**



**Q-63: How influential was the computer lease program on  
your decision to attend? (n = 653)**



**Q-64: Would you still attend if the computer lease program were not available? (n = 666)**



## *Appendix*

### ***Entering Student Survey Fall 2003: Comments***

#### **Q-37: How did you learn about NJIT? (Mark all that apply)/Other**

Alumni	7
NJIT student	3
College Search Web page	2
E.O.P.	2
Friend	2
Brochures	1
Campus Visit	1
I live in Newark	1
Inroads Seminar	1
Internship	1
Math Olympics	1
Myself	1
Relative	1
Reputation	1
Research	1
Robotic Team	1

#### **Q-38: Who most influenced your decision to apply? (Mark only one)/Other**

Myself	42
Based on major/program	4
E.O.P. staff	4
Mr. Ontaneda	4
NJIT Representative	3
God	2
My College Research	2
Reputation	2
Dr. Medermott	1
H.S. Representative	1
Limited choice of schools within NJ	1
Location	1
No one	1
Relative	1
Tuition	1

**Q-39: Who most influenced your decision to attend? (Mark only one)/Other**

Myself	56
Mr. Ontaneda	4
Financial Aid	3
No one	3
E.O.P. staff	2
God	2
No other acceptances	2
Acceptance Letter	1
Alumnus	1
Architecture program	1
Best school out of the ones accepting me	1
Closeness to home	1
Dr. Foulds	1
Everyone	1
Information obtained during visit	1
NJIT Representative	1
Reputation for my major	1
SAA	1
Scholarship	1
Sister	1
Tuition	1
Uncle Sam	1
Urs Gauchat	1

**Q-40: Was NJIT your first choice?/No**

Rutgers University	53
Steven's Institute of Technology	33
New York University	13
Drexel University	12
Penn State University	9
Princeton University	8
Rowan University	8
The Cooper Union	8
Carnegie Mellon	6
Rochester Institute of Technology	6
University of Pennsylvania	5

Virginia Tech	5
Georgia Institute of Technology	4
Montclair State University	4
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	4
Lehigh University	3
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	3
Seton Hall University	3
Temple University	3
University of Massachusetts	3
Columbia University	2
Northeastern University	2
Purdue University	2
Stony Brook University	2
Syracuse University	2
University of Michigan	2
University of Rhode Island	2
Villanova University	2
Air Force Academy	1
Bergen Community	1
Boston University	1
Brigham Young University	1
Brown University	1
Central Connecticut State	1
Cornell University	1
Embry-Riddle University	1
Fordham University	1
Hampton University	1
Illinois Institute of Technology	1
John's Hopkins University	1
Kean University	1
Louisiana State University	1
Michigan State University	1
Middlesex County College	1
Monmouth University	1
Morehouse College	1
New York Institute of Technology	1
Philadelphia University	1
Ramapo College of New Jersey	1
Saint Peter's College	1
Smith College	1
The College of New Jersey	1

University of Connecticut	1
University of Delaware	1
University of Illinois	1
University of Maryland	1
University of Notre Dame	1
University of Tampa	1
University of Texas	1
US Coast Guard Academy	1
Washington University	1
Wentworth Institute of Technology	1
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	1
North Carolina A&T State University	1
North Central New Jersey	1

**Q-51: Your department/program/Other**

Biology	13
Undecided, Engineering	10
Undecided	8
Information Systems	6
HCI	3
Applied Mathematics	1
BA/MD	1
BS/OD program	1
COE	1
Dentistry	1
Engineering	1
Engineering Science	1
English	1
Environmental Science	1
Geoscience Engineering	1
PTC	1
STS	1

**Q-60: Using the following scale, please rate the extent to which Greek-life organizations may contribute to your college experience./Other**

Being Involved	1
Experience	1
Frats are dumb	1
No interest	1
Not at all	1
Time consuming	1
Time management	1
What the hell is Greek Life?	1