



SENIORS' PERCEPTIONS OF
THEIR EXPERIENCES
AT VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

SUMMARY RESULTS FROM THE
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
SENIOR EXIT QUESTIONNAIRE
2007-2008

Strategic Research & Analysis
Valdosta State University
July 2008

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Introduction

This report is a visual summary of the perceptions of 1,089 VSU seniors who completed their degrees during the 2007-2008 academic year and returned the Valdosta State University Senior Exit Questionnaire. It is anticipated that these results will be used by colleges and departments as one indicator of the effectiveness of the University's programs and services.

Graduate Assistants Rhien Cooper, Amber Mize, and Nicole Reynolds coded and entered the survey data necessary to produce this report. Data analysis and creation of the report were created by Angela Elder Henderson, Data Resource Specialist, and Amber Mize, Graduate Assistant. The report was proofread by Linda Gooden, Associate Director, and Dr. Kristina Cragg, Assistant to the President for Strategic Research & Analysis.

We invite you to explore the results shown on the following pages and welcome any comments and suggestions for future analyses.

**Kristina M. Cragg, Ph.D
Assistant to the President for Strategic Research & Analysis**

Summary Highlights

Overall satisfaction with VSU was indicated by the following:

- 98% of respondents would recommend VSU to others.
- 97% of respondents rate their overall experience at VSU as excellent or good.
- 96% of respondents rate their academic experience at VSU as excellent or good.
- 93% of respondents rate their social experience at VSU as excellent or good.
- 93% of respondents would choose VSU if they started school over.

Of the VSU services/facilities that at least 15% of seniors responded to, the five with the highest percentage of "excellent" quality of service ratings were:

- Athletics and recreation facilities (63%)
- Sororities and fraternities (59%)
- VSU Home page (43%)
- Clubs and student organizations (37%)
- VSU undergraduate bulletin/catalog (35%)

The five academic personnel support experiences with the highest percentage of "excellent" responses in the major field of study were:

- Helpfulness of academic advisor (65%)
- Availability of academic advisor (59%)
- Overall quality of faculty (57%)
- Opportunities for interaction with faculty (57%)
- Attitude of faculty towards students (54%)

The five academic instructional support experiences with the highest percentage of "excellent" responses in the major field of study were:

- Appearance of printed information about program (63%)
- Practicum or internship experiences (51%)
- Study abroad experiences (51%)
- Courses as preparation for graduate school (51%)
- Availability of research support (51%)

The five academic facilities with the highest percentage of "excellent" responses in the major field of study were:

- Library facilities (56%)
- Computer lab facilities (51%)
- Library collection/resources (48%)
- Laboratory facilities (48%)
- Computer lab availability (47%)

Note: Percentages may differ from those on tables due to rounding and grouping of responses.

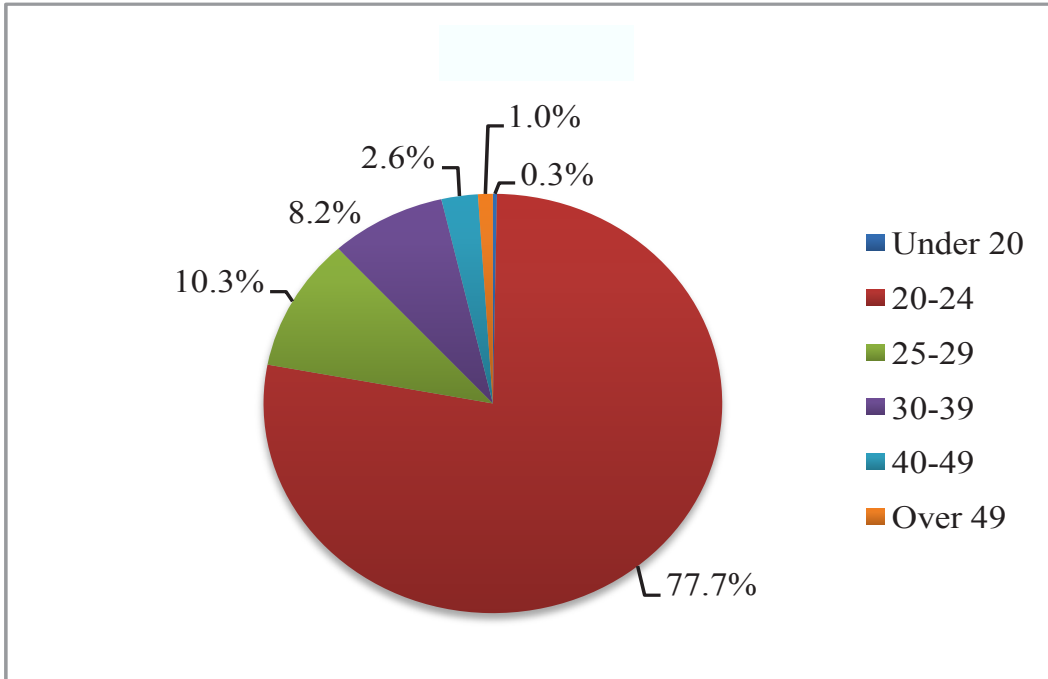
Description of the Responding Seniors

Number of Respondents: 1,089

(All percentages are based on valid responses. Not all respondents answered every question.)

Background Characteristics

EXHIBIT 1: Age of Respondents



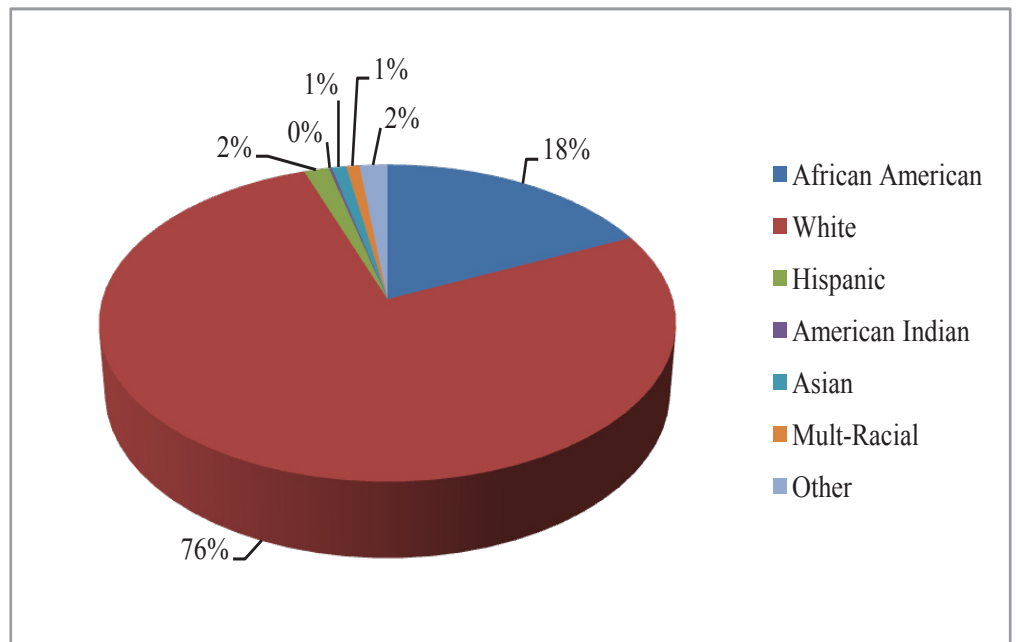
- 926 responding seniors were between the ages of 20-29.

- 124 responding seniors were age 30 or above.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

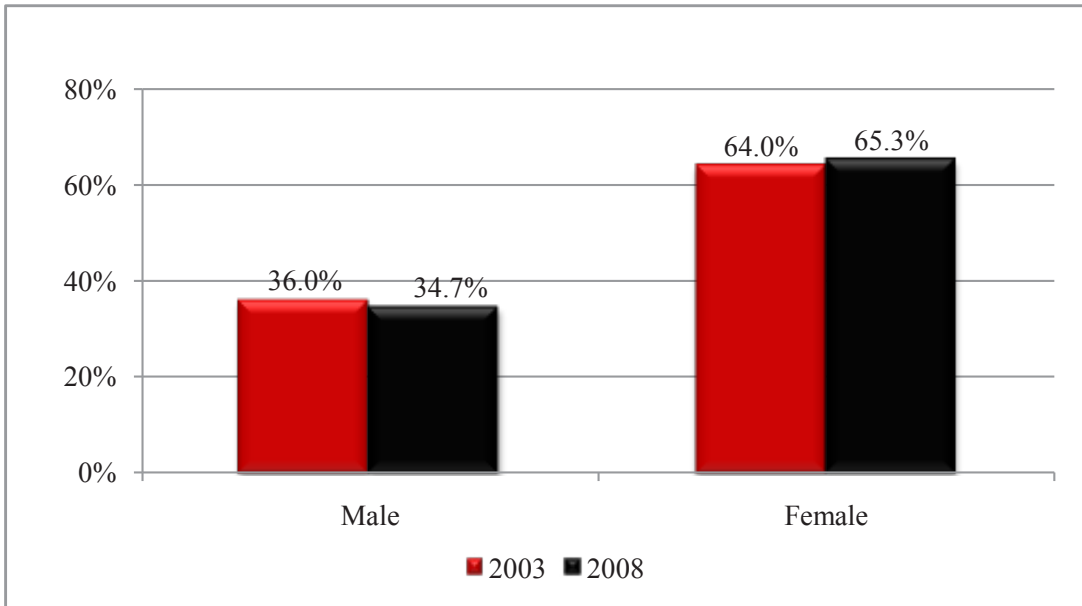
EXHIBIT 2: Race/Ethnicity

- 190 responding seniors were African American, Non-Hispanic.
- 803 responding seniors were White, Non-Hispanic.
- 57 responding seniors represented other races/ethnicities.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 3: Gender

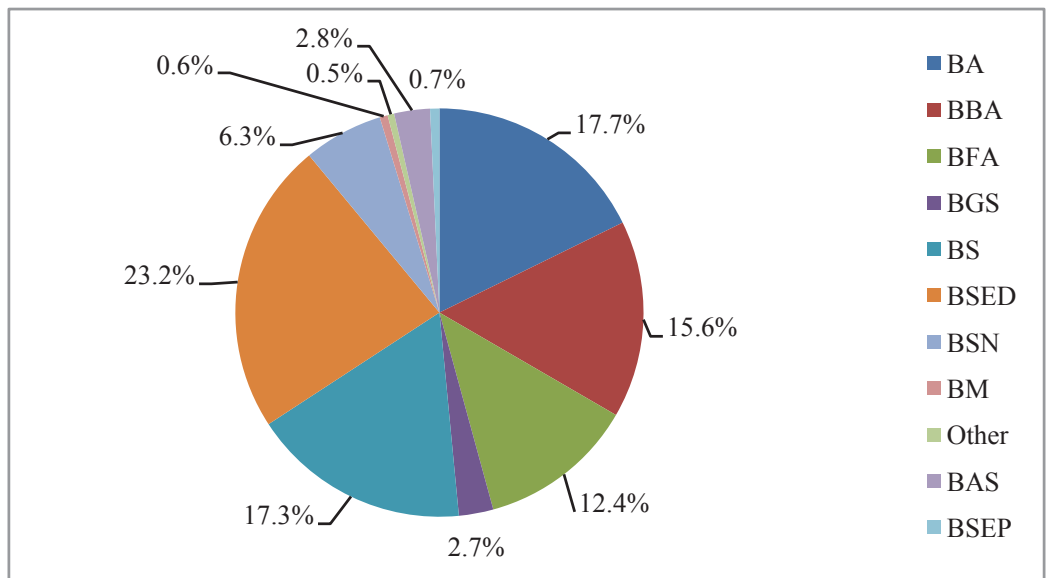


- 365 responding seniors were male.
- 688 responding seniors were female.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 4: Anticipated Degree by College

- College of Education, 374 (35%)
- College of Arts & Sciences, 281 (26%)
- College of Business, 187 (18%)
- College of Arts, 150 (14%)
- College of Nursing, 66 (6%)



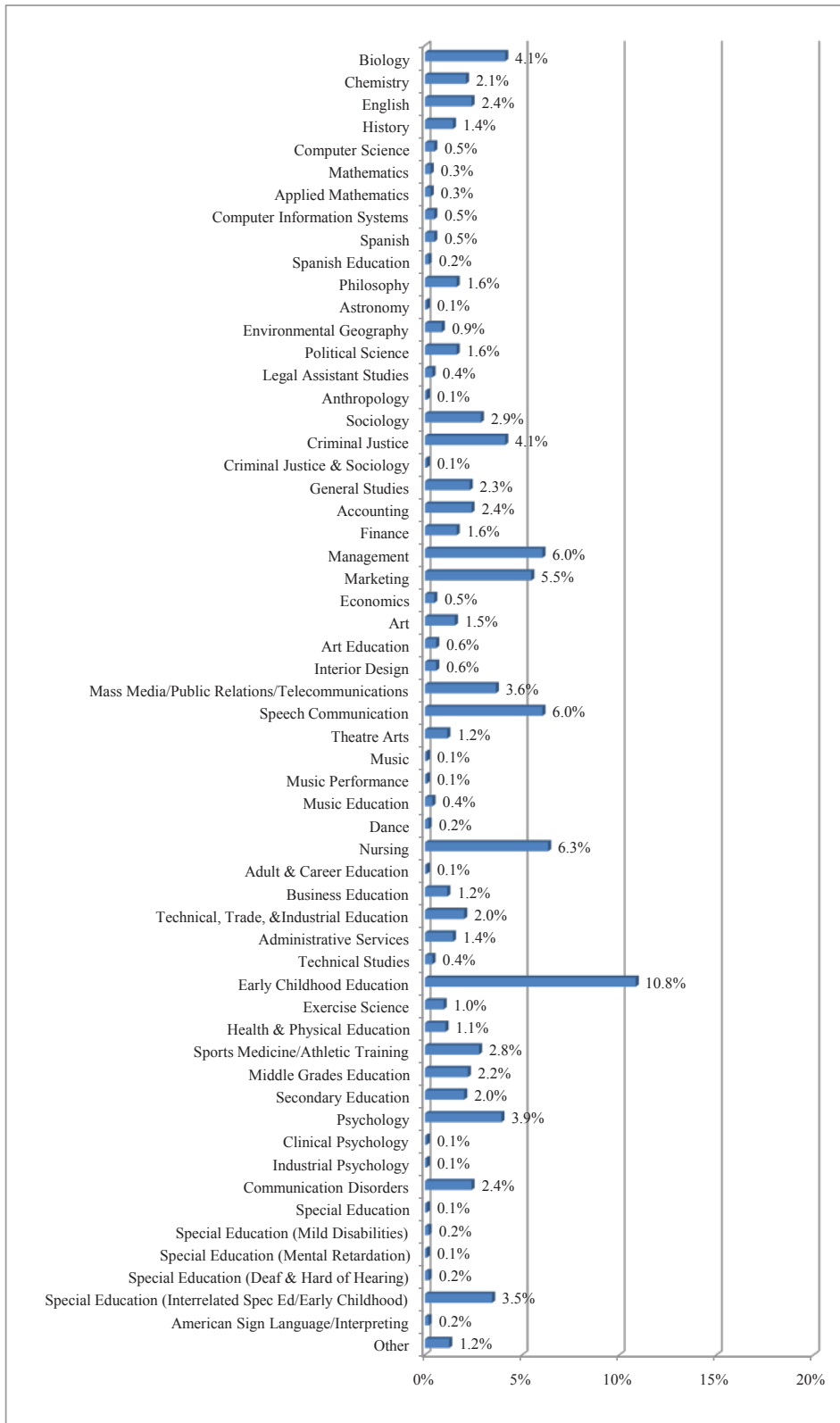
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

Degree Abbreviations

BA: Bachelor of Arts
 BBA: Bachelor of Business Administration
 BFA: Bachelor of Fine Arts
 BGS: Bachelor of General Studies
 BS: Bachelor of Science

BSED: Bachelor of Science in Education
 BSN: Bachelor of Science in Nursing
 BM: Bachelor of Music
 BAS: Bachelor of Applied Science
 BSEP: Bachelor of Exercise Physiology

EXHIBIT 5: Major Field of Study at VSU



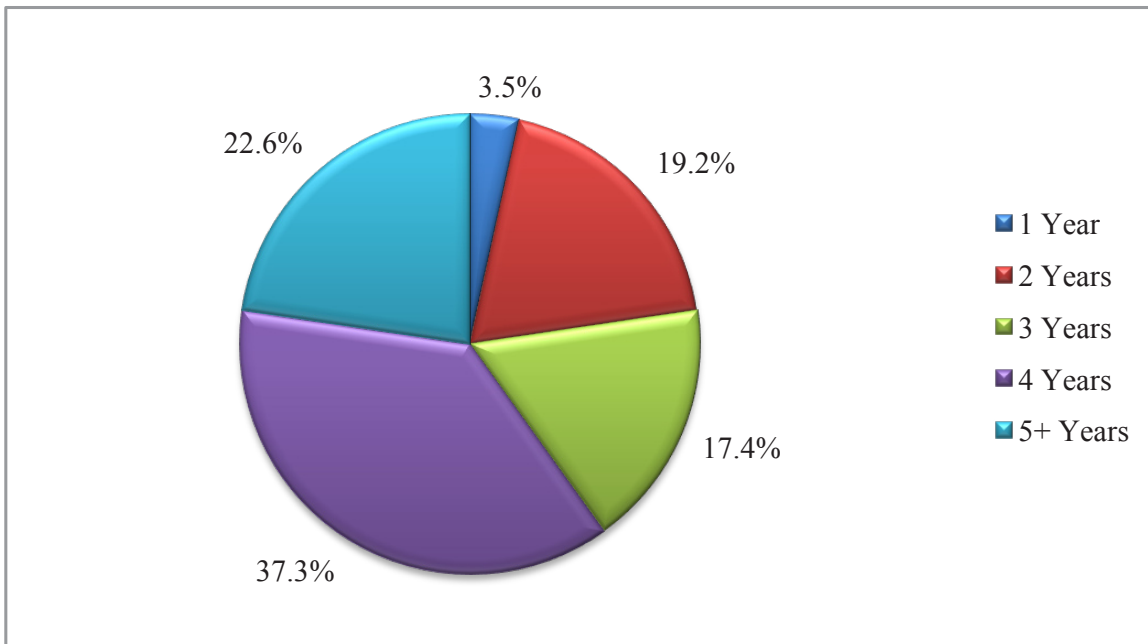
- Early Childhood Education had the largest number of seniors responding: 113 students.

- Nursing had the second largest numbers of seniors responding: 66 students.

- Management, Marketing, and Speech Communication all had more than 50 seniors responding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 6: Length of Attendance at VSU

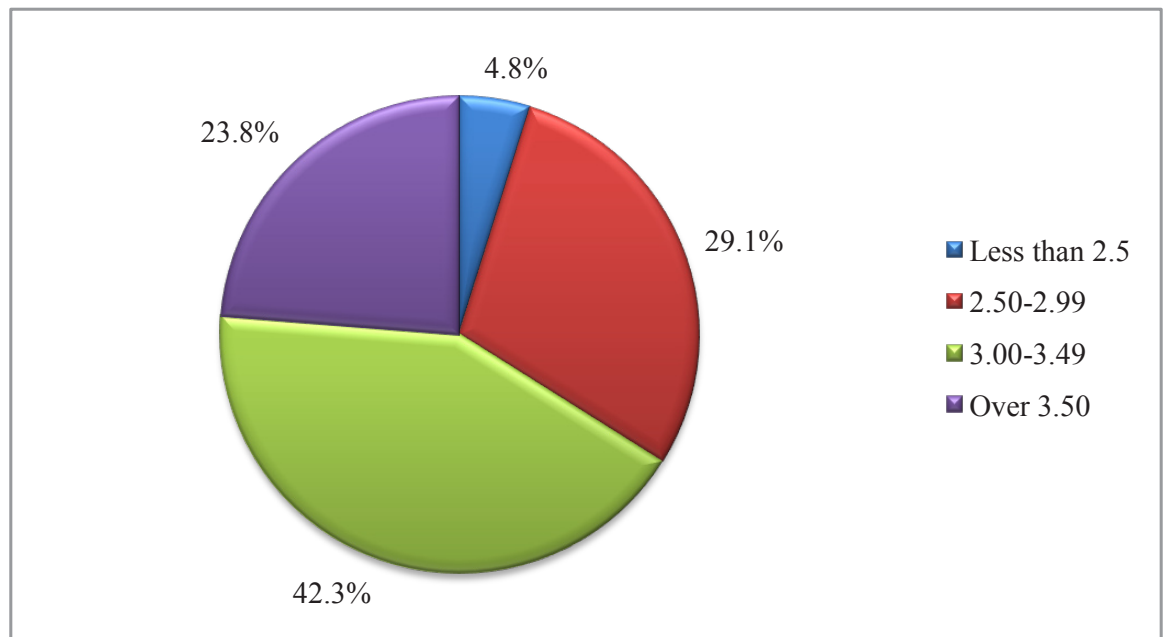


- 803 respondents attended VSU for three or more years.
- 199 respondents attended VSU for two years.
- 36 respondents attended VSU for only one year.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

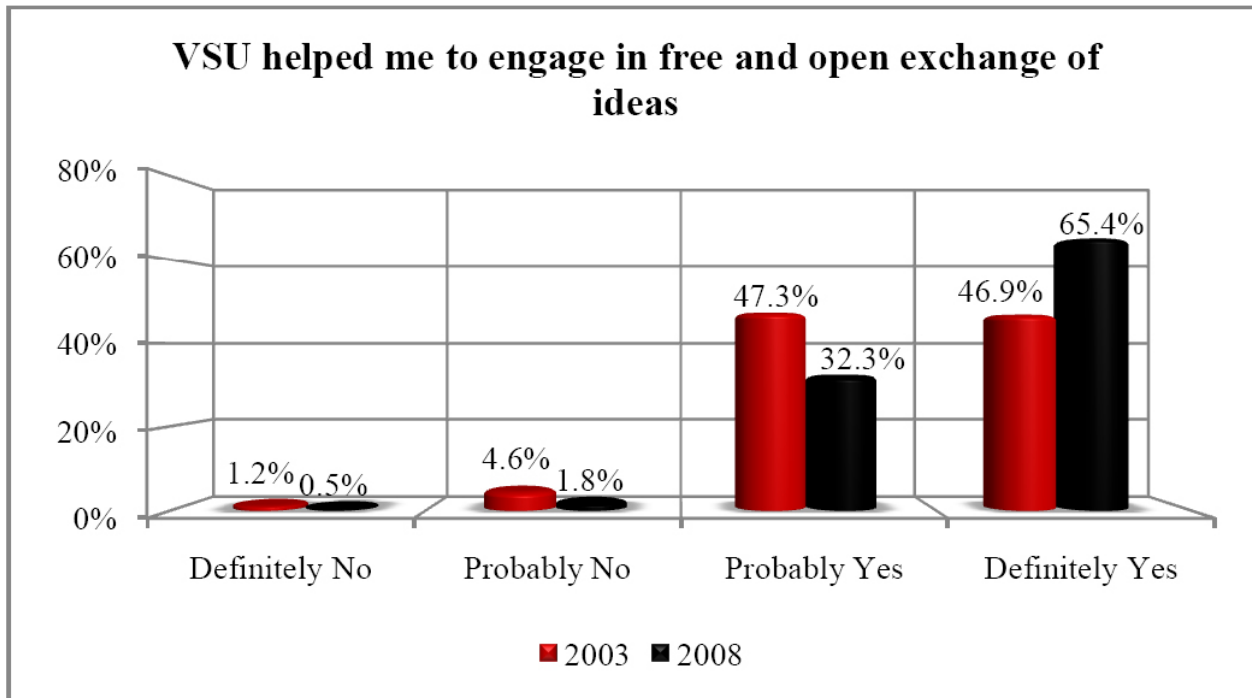
EXHIBIT 7: Overall Graduate GPA

• 243 responding seniors reported earning a GPA of over 3.50 in their program.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

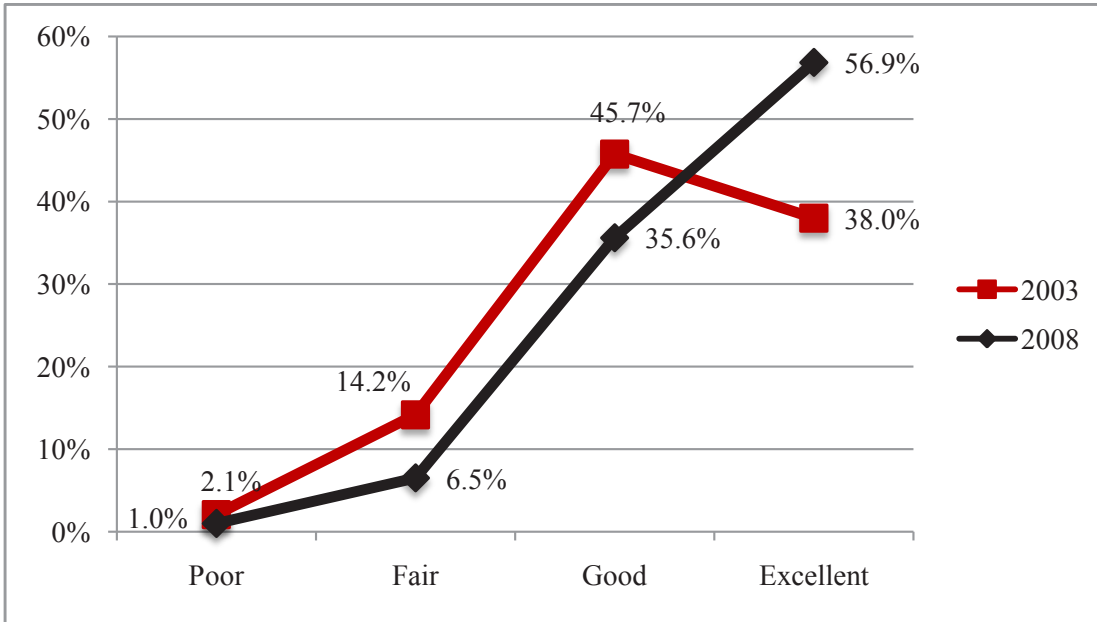
EXHIBIT 8: Atmosphere for Learning



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

- In 2008, a majority (611) of responding seniors felt that VSU definitely helped them to function in a professional setting and to act with ethical awareness.
- In 2008, a majority (478) of responding seniors felt that VSU definitely helped them to engage in free and open exchange of ideas.

EXHIBIT 9: Overall VSU Experience



2008 Responses

A majority of responding seniors rated their experiences at VSU as excellent or good:

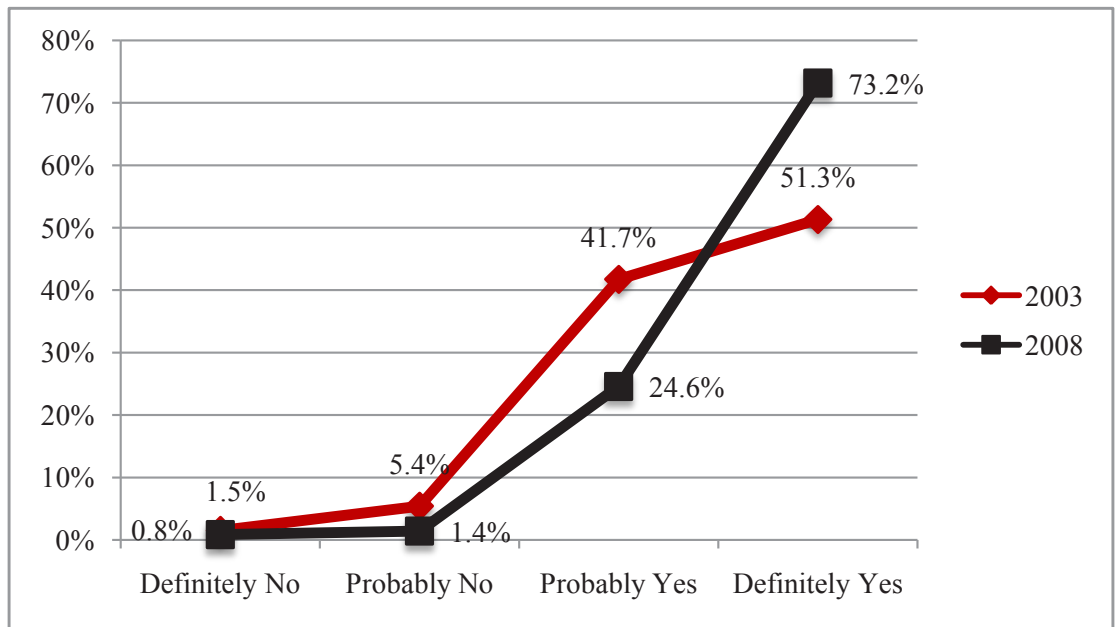
- Overall VSU Experience: 97% (576 students).
- Social Experience: 92% (553 students).
- Academic Experience: 96% (605 students).

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 10: Would Recommend or Choose to Attend VSU Again

2008 Responses

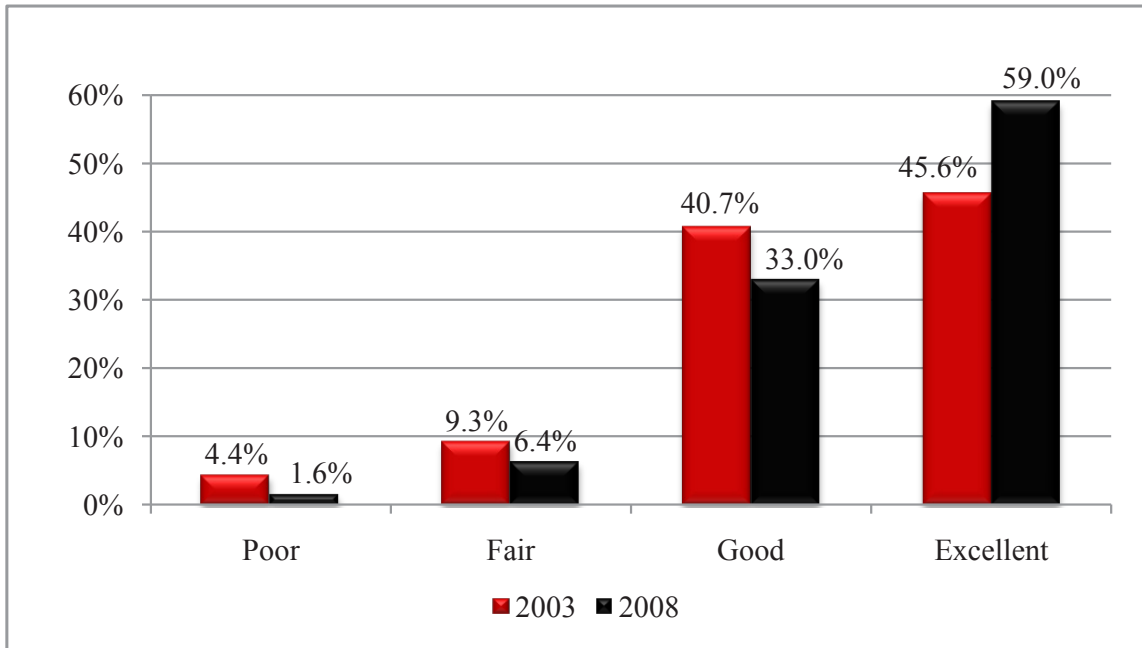
- 381 of 645 responding seniors would definitely choose VSU if they had to start college over.
- 524 of 716 responding seniors would definitely recommend VSU to others.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

University Services and Facilities: Quality Ratings

EXHIBIT 11: Quality of Sororities and Fraternities



2008 Responses

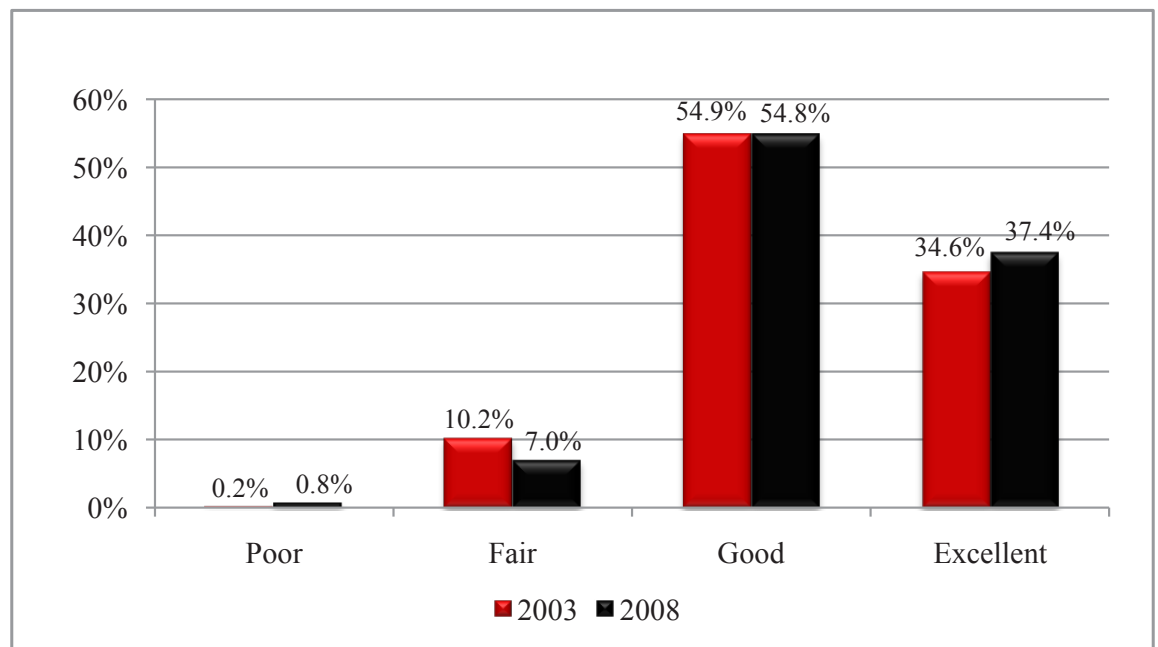
- 16% of responding seniors participated in sororities or fraternities.
- 173 of 188 respondents rated the quality of sororities or fraternities as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 12: Quality of Clubs and Student Organizations

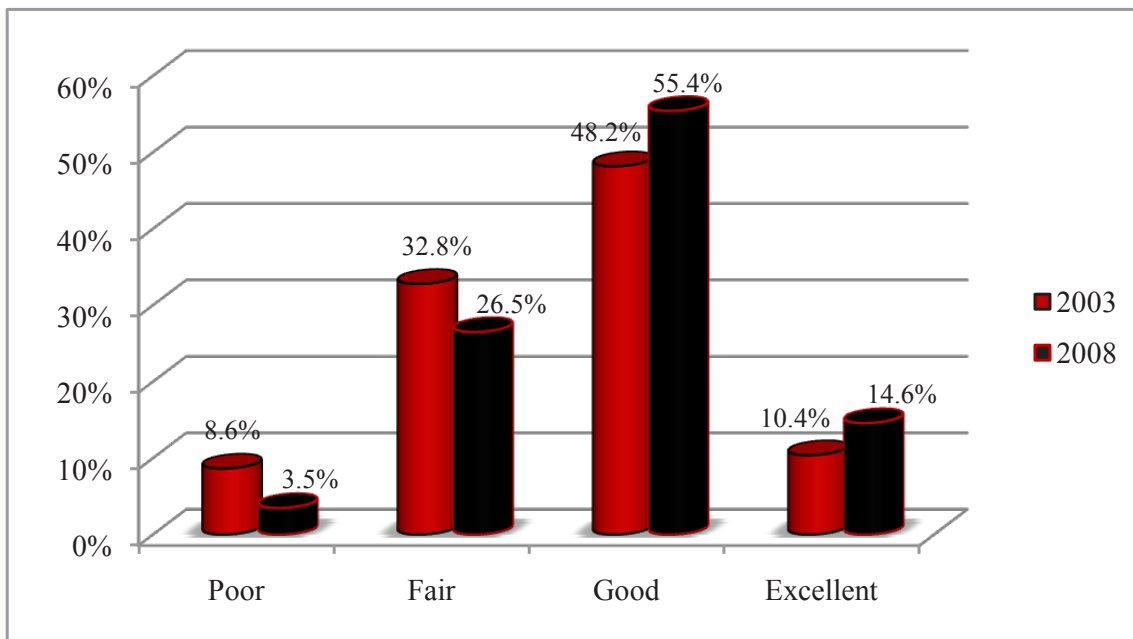
2008 Responses

- 50% of responding seniors participated in clubs and student organizations.
- 473 of 513 respondents rated the quality of clubs and student organizations as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 13: Quality of VSU Food Services

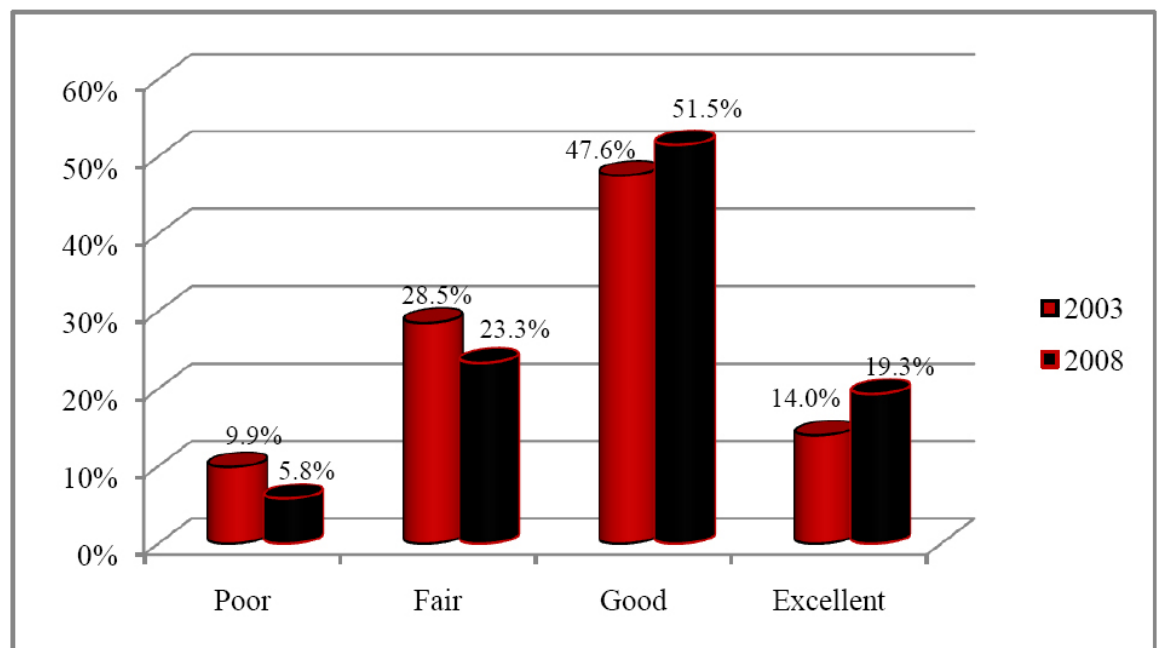


2008 Responses

- 74% of responding seniors reported using VSU Food Services.
- 523 of 747 respondents rated the quality of VSU Food Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 14: Quality of VSU Bookstore

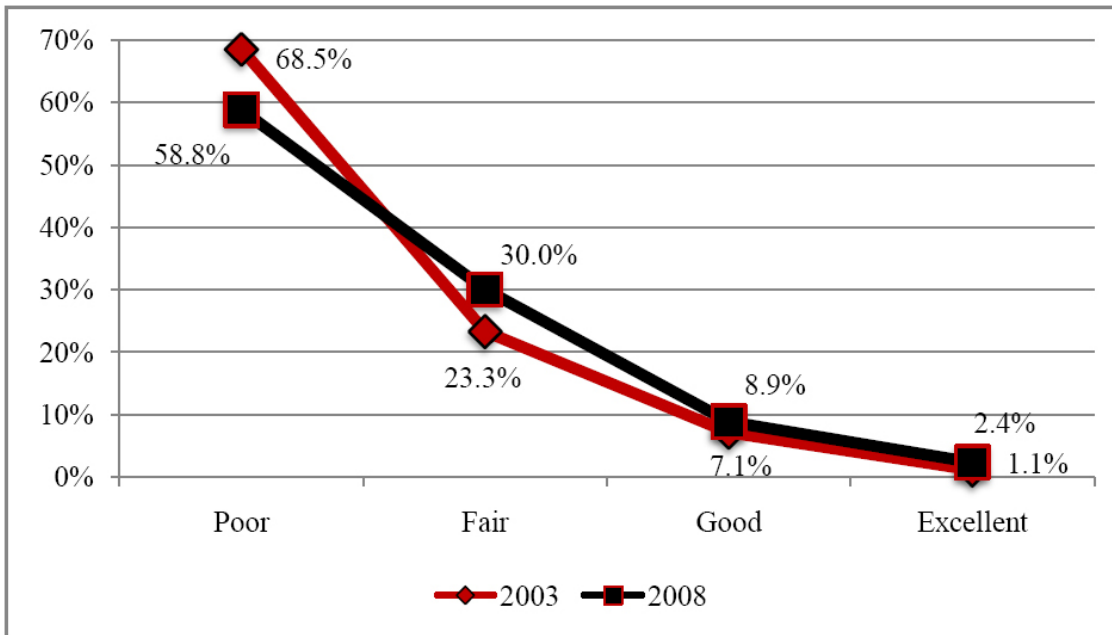


2008 Responses

- 96% of responding seniors used the VSU Bookstore.
- 707 of 998 respondents rated the quality of the VSU Bookstore as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 15: Quality of Parking

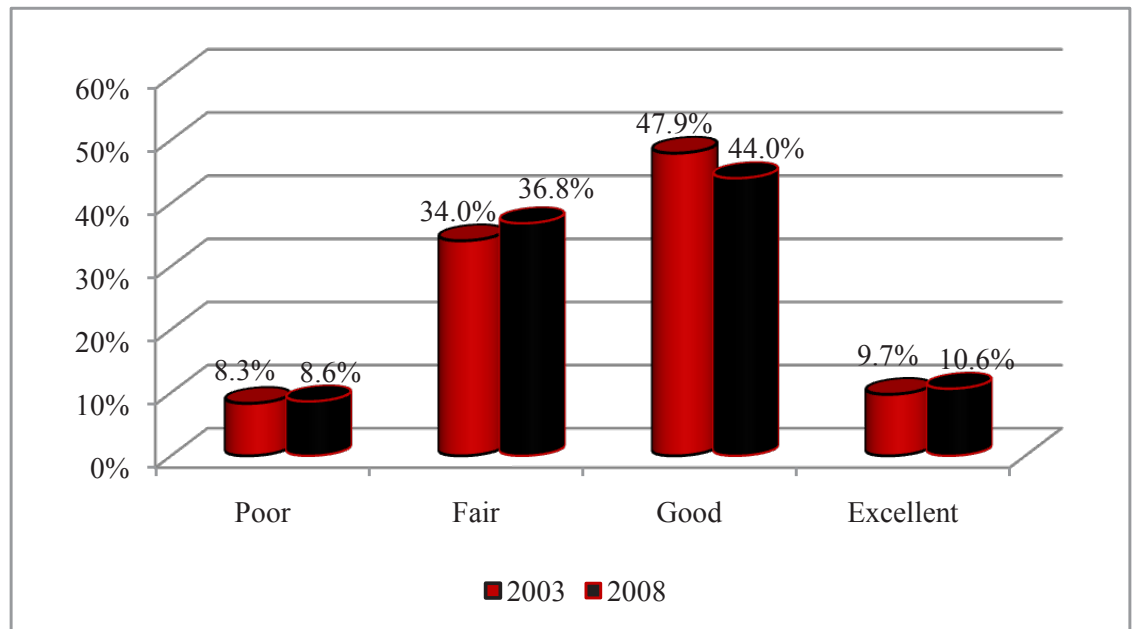


2008 Responses

- 91% of respondents used VSU Parking.
- 831 of 936 responding seniors rated the quality of VSU Parking as fair or poor.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 16: Quality of Shuttle Bus Services

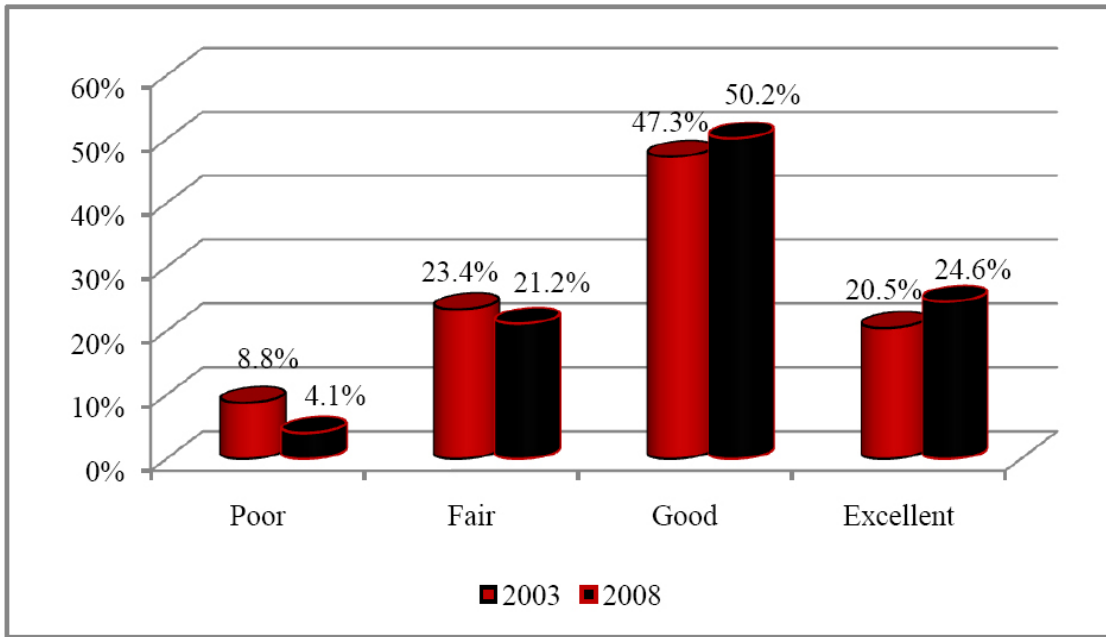


2008 Responses

- 74% of responding seniors reported using the VSU Shuttle Bus Service.
- 298 of 546 respondents rated the quality of the shuttle buses as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2007

EXHIBIT 17: Quality of Health Services

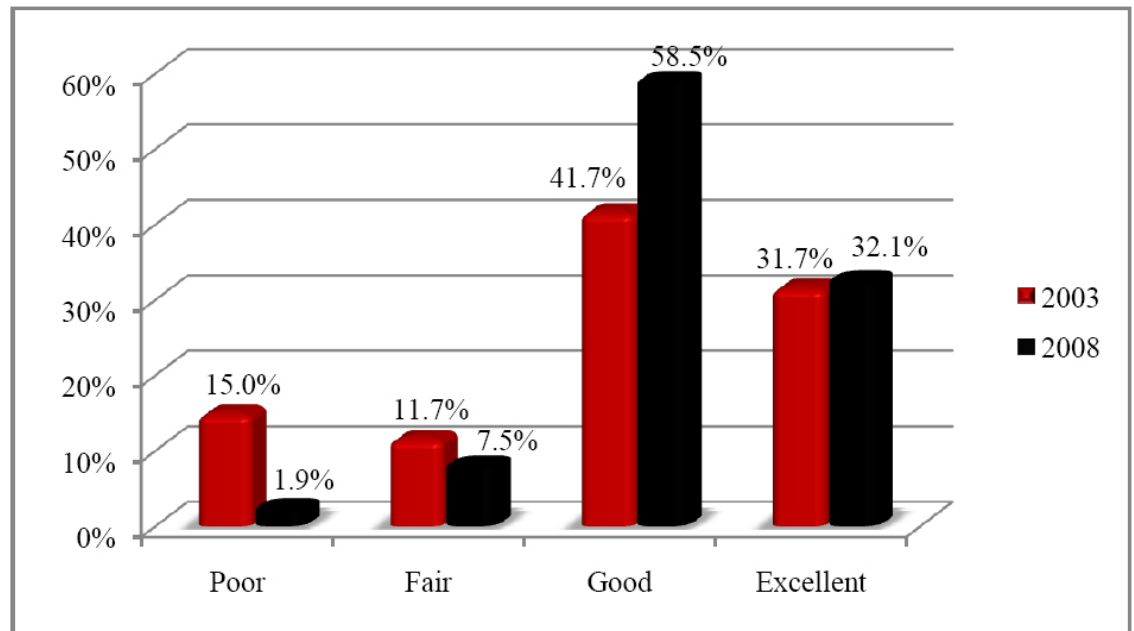


2008 Responses

- 63% of respondents used VSU Health Services.
- 47% of 638 responding seniors rated the quality of Health Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 18: Quality of Special Needs Services

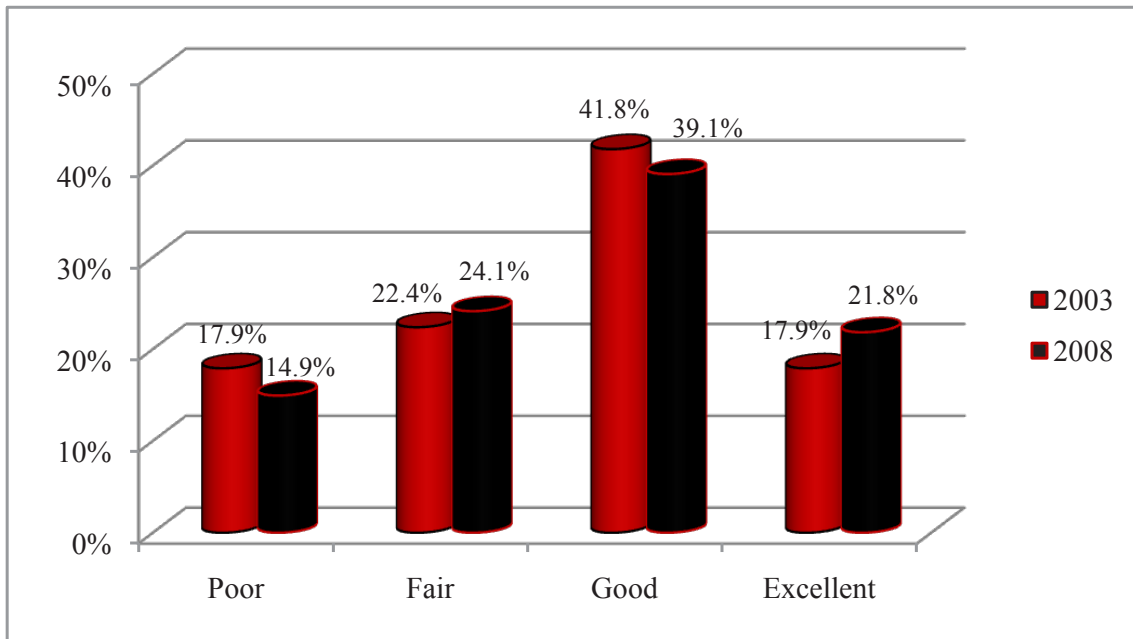


2008 Responses

- 2% of responding seniors reported using Special Needs Services.
- 48 of 53 respondents rated the quality of Services for Special Needs as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 19: Quality of Support for International Students

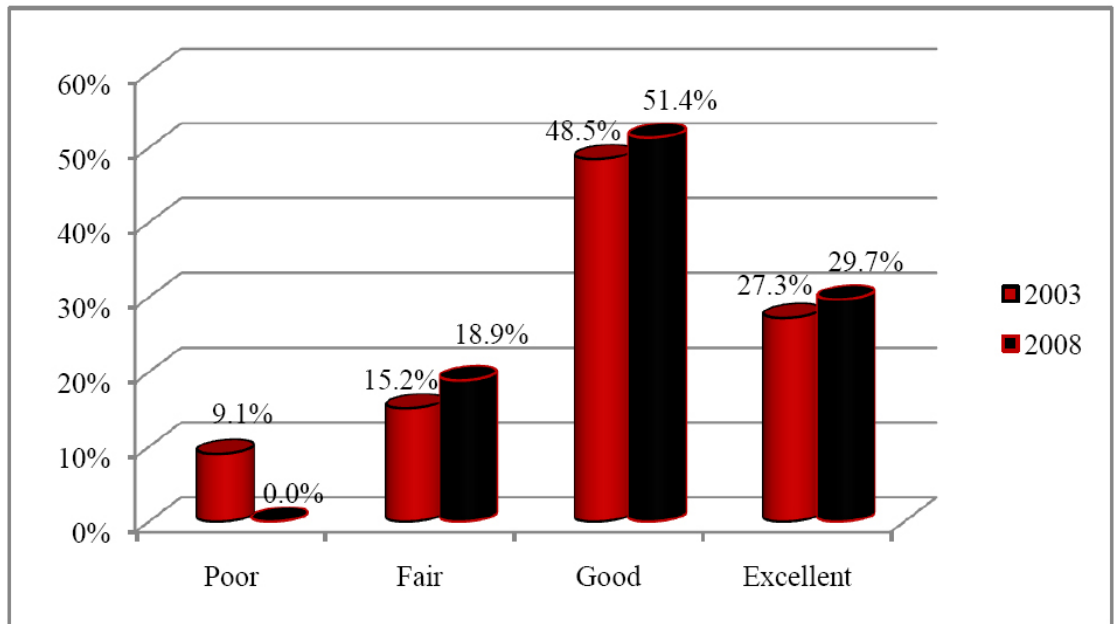


2008 Responses

- 4% of responding seniors reported using International Student Support Services.
- 53 of 87 respondents rated Support Services for International Students as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 20: Quality of Minority Programs

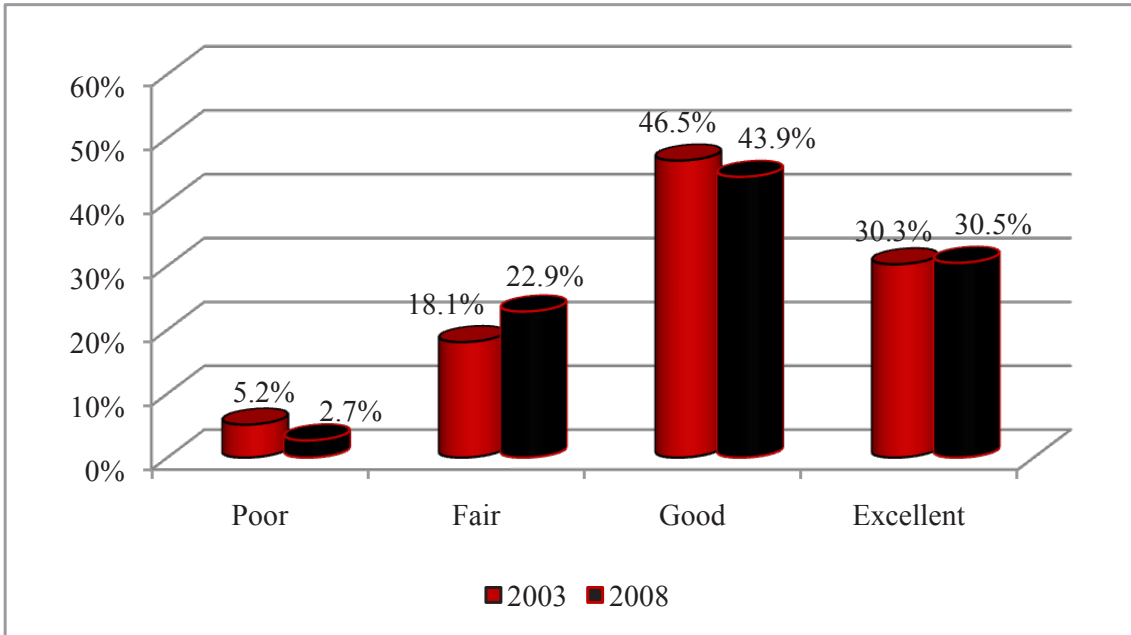


2008 Responses

- 2% of respondents reported using Minority Programs.
- 30 of 37 responding seniors rated Minority Programs as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 21: Quality of Campus Student Employment

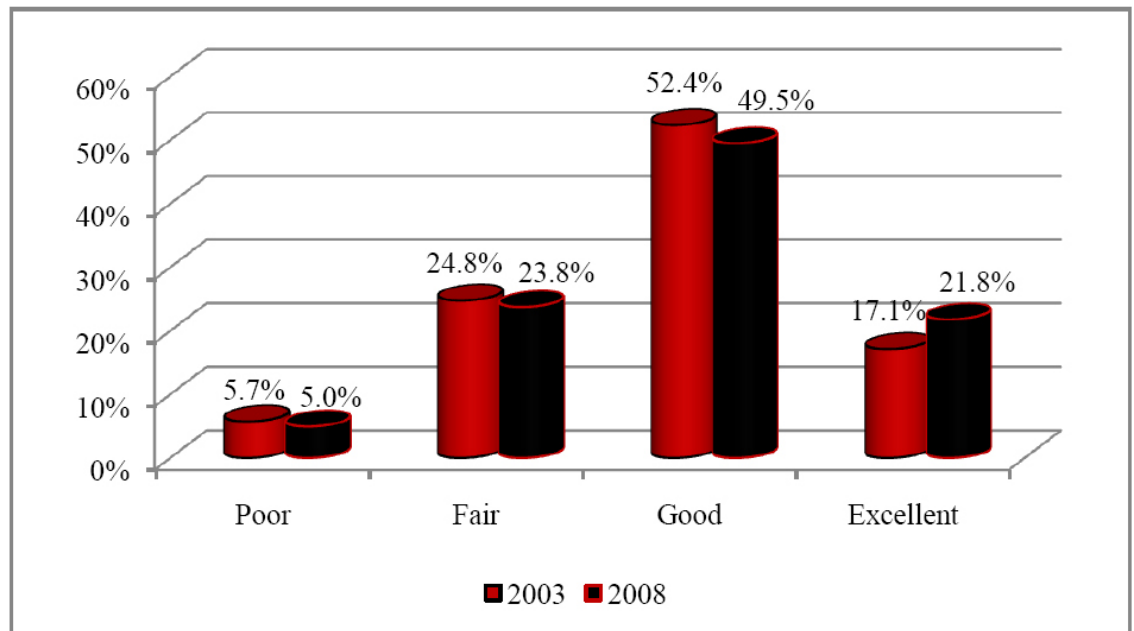


2008 Responses

- 20% of respondents used Campus Student Employment Services.
- 166 of 223 responding seniors rated the quality of Campus Student Employment as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 22: Quality of Job Placement Services

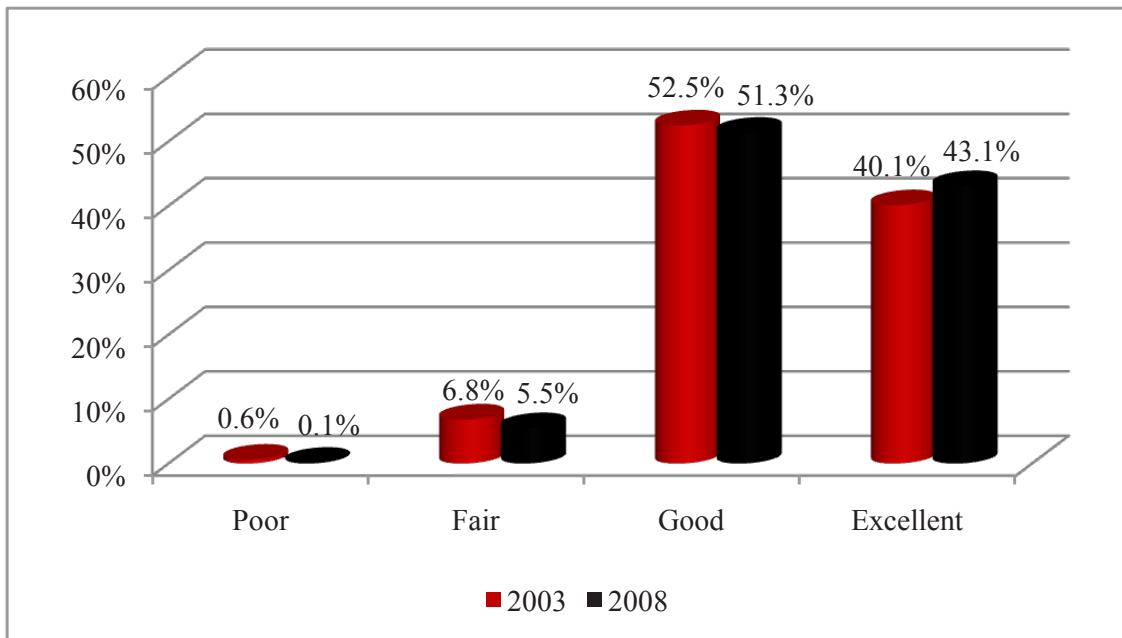


2008 Responses

- 7% of respondents used VSU's Job Placement Services.
- 72 of 101 responding seniors rated the quality of VSU's Job Placement Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 23: Quality of VSU Home Page



2008 Responses

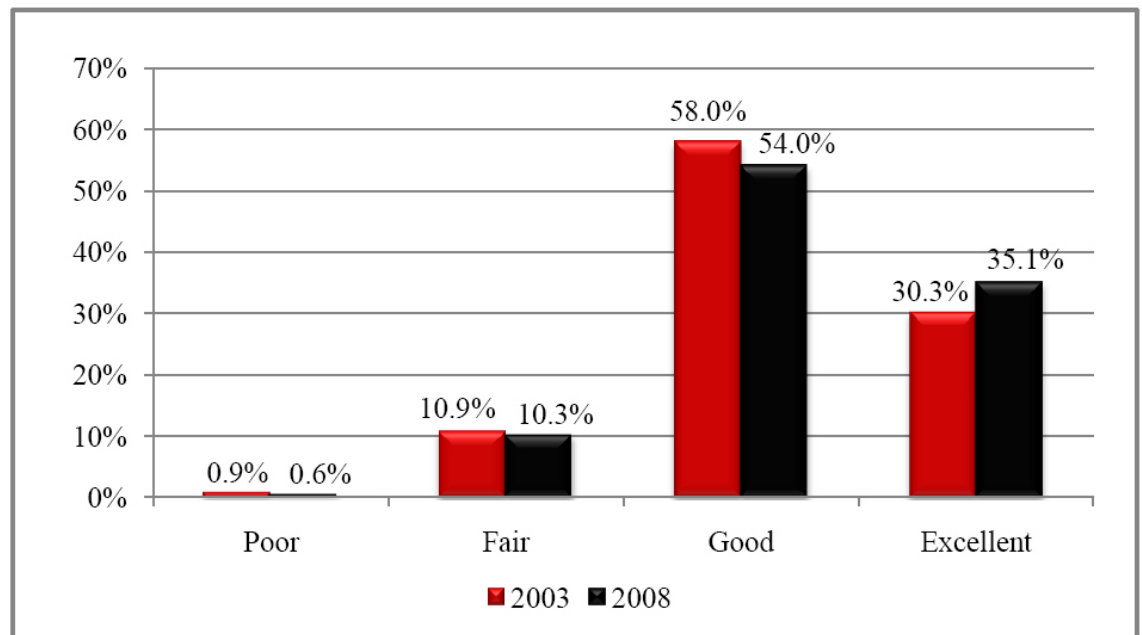
- 96% of respondents used the VSU Home Page.
- 947 of 1,003 responding seniors rated the quality of the VSU Home Page as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 24: Quality of VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/Catalog

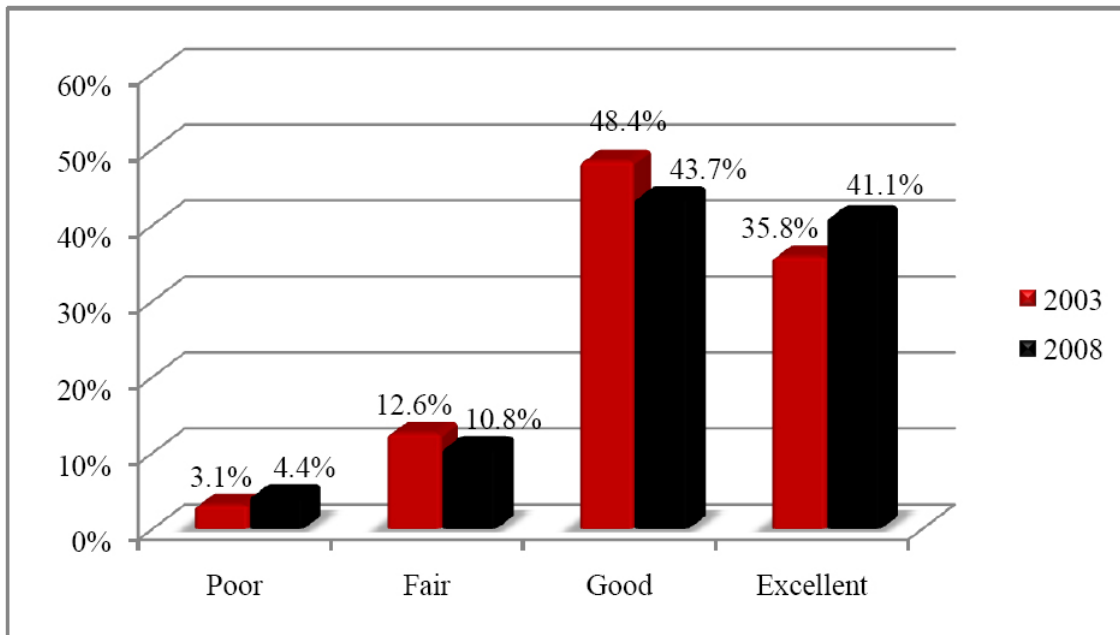
2008 Responses

- 60% of respondents reported using the VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/Catalog.
- 569 of 639 responding seniors rated the quality of the VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/Catalog as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 25: Quality of Counseling Center

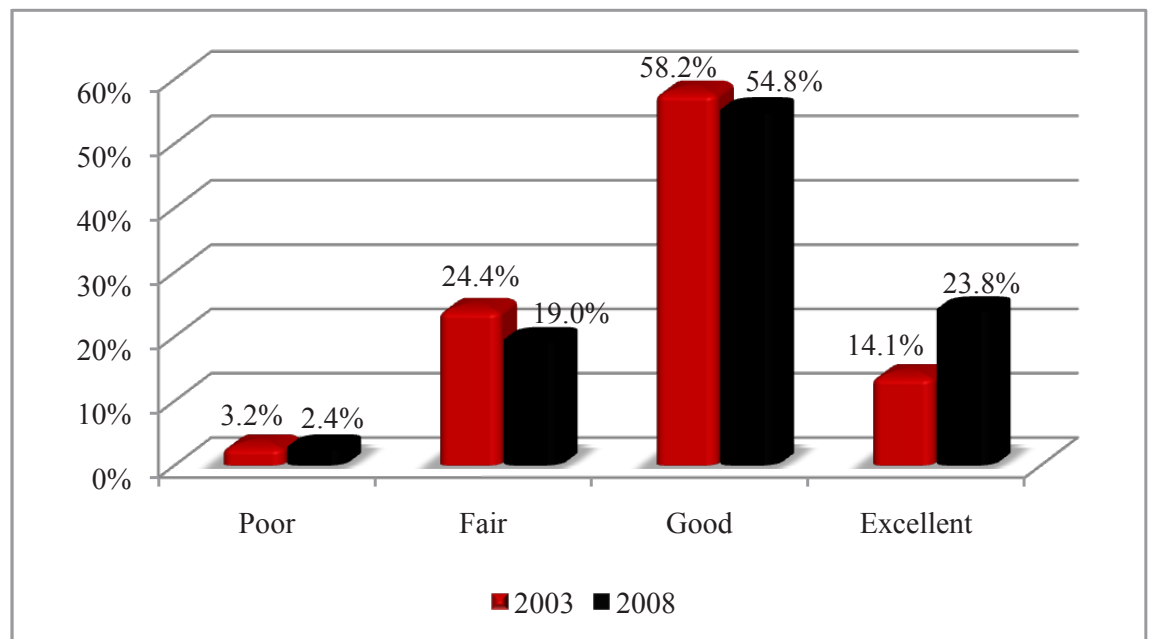


2008 Responses

- 14% of respondents used VSU Counseling Center Services.
- 134 of 158 responding seniors rated the quality of VSU Counseling Center Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 26: Quality of Testing Services

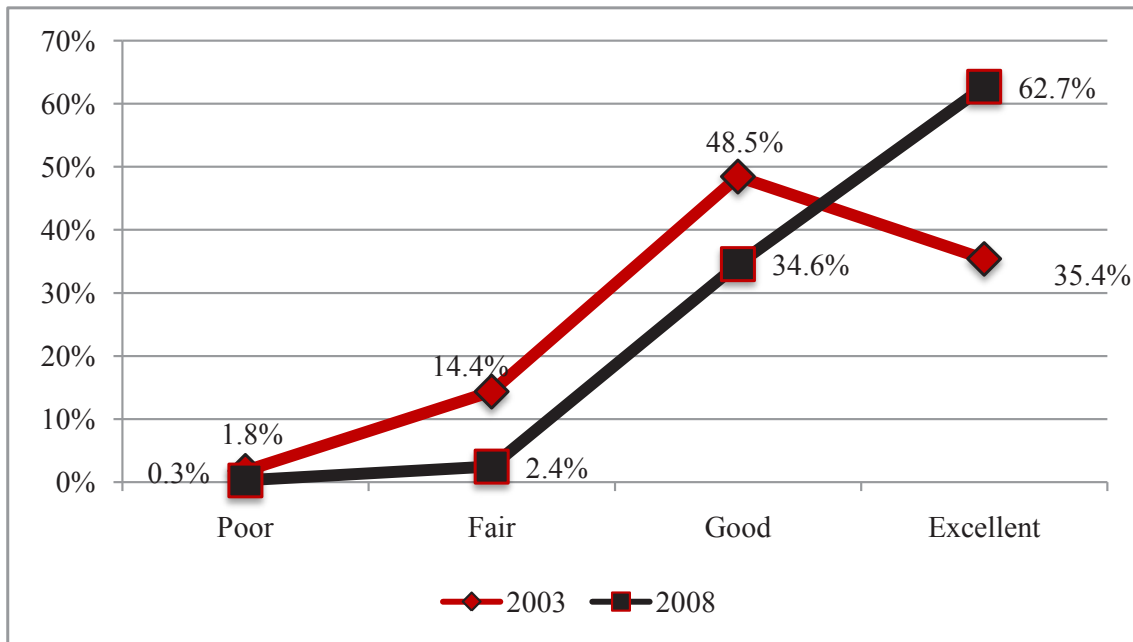


2008 Responses

- 19% of respondents used VSU Testing Services.
- 165 of 210 responding seniors rated the quality of VSU Testing Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 27: Quality of Athletic Facilities



2008 Responses

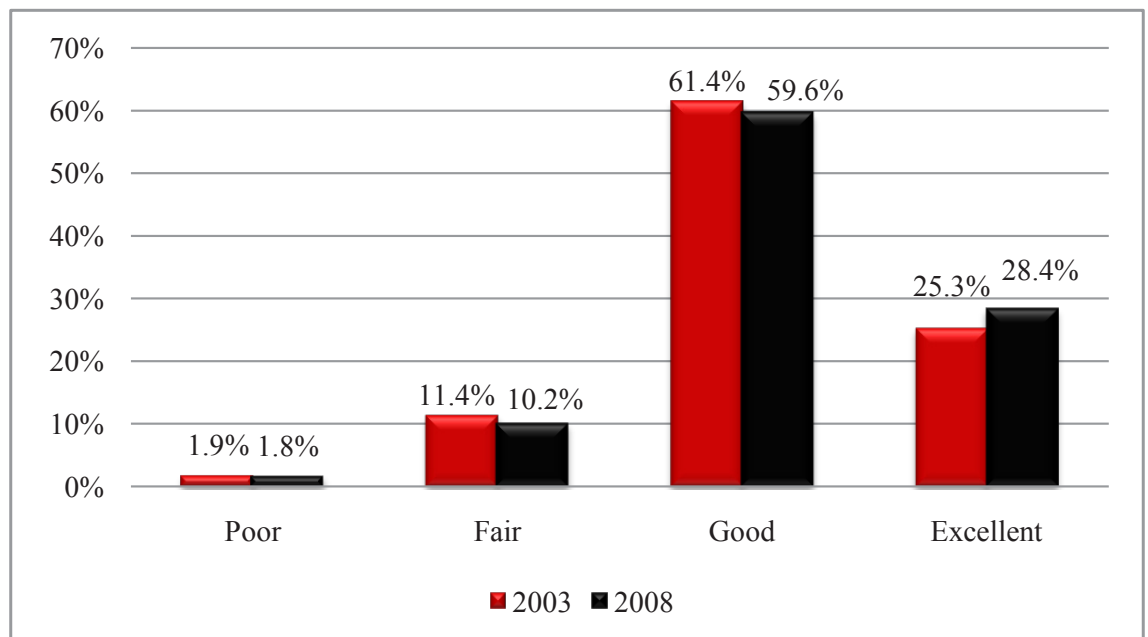
- 73% of responding seniors used Athletic & Recreation Facilities.
- 715 of 735 respondents rated the quality of the Athletic & Recreation Facilities as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 28: Quality of Intramural Programs

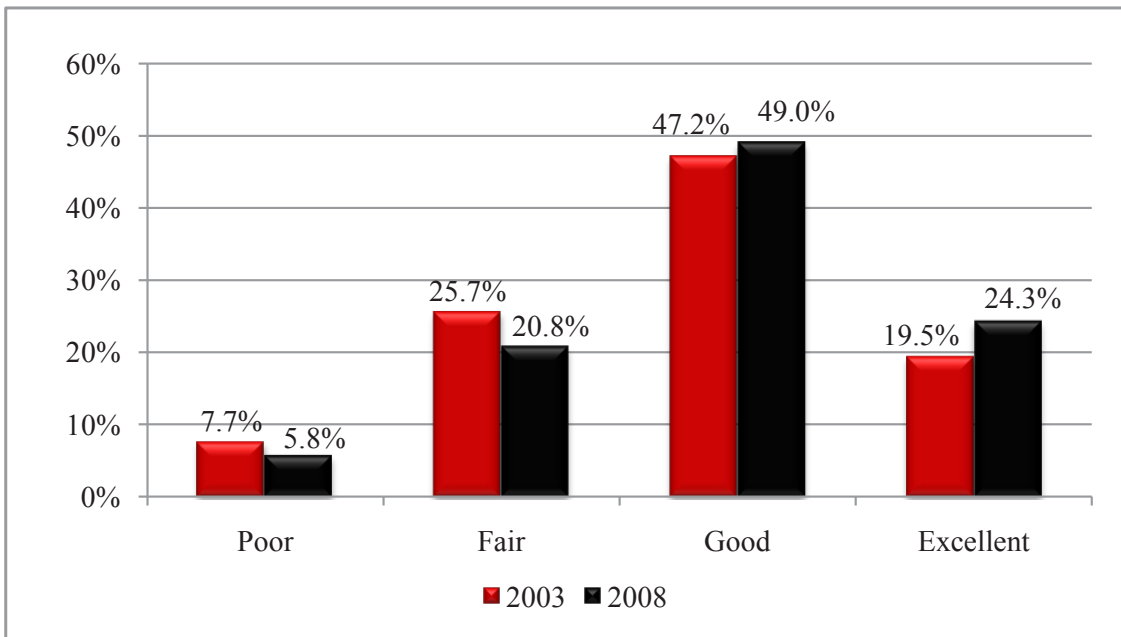
2008 Responses

- 33% of responding seniors used Intramural Programs.
- 294 of 334 responding seniors rated the quality of Intramural Programs as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 29: Quality of Public Safety

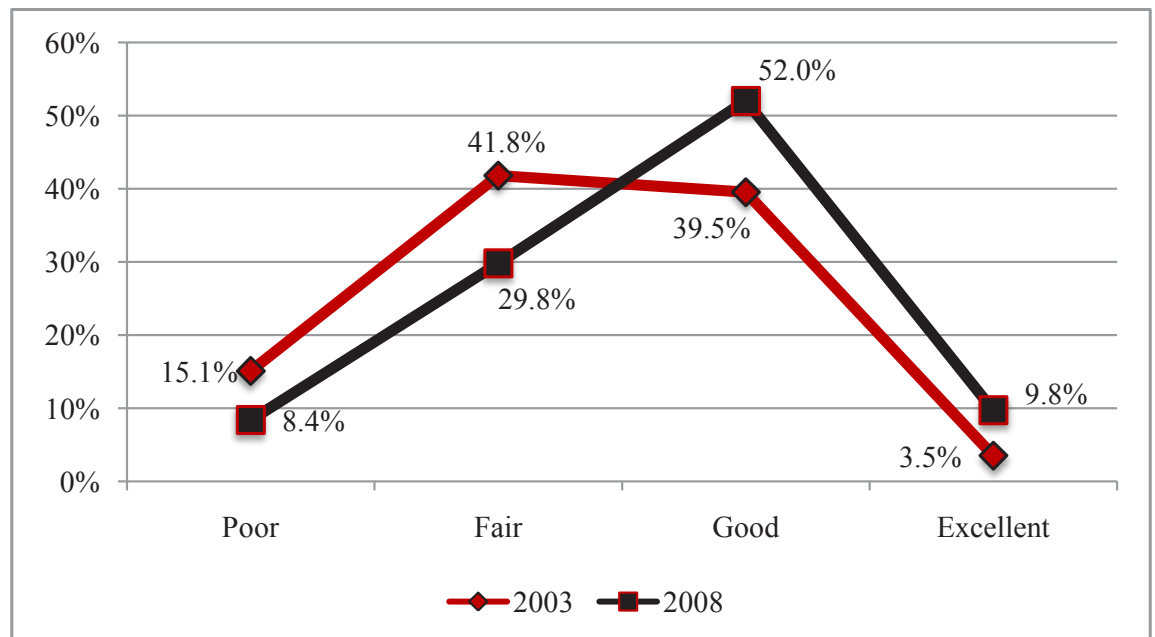


2008 Responses

- 22% of respondents used Public Safety Services.
- 190 of 259 responding seniors rated the quality of Public Safety Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 30: Quality of Housing and Residence Halls



2008 Responses

- 37% of responding seniors used Housing & Residence Halls.
- 228 of 369 responding seniors the quality of Housing & Residence Halls as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

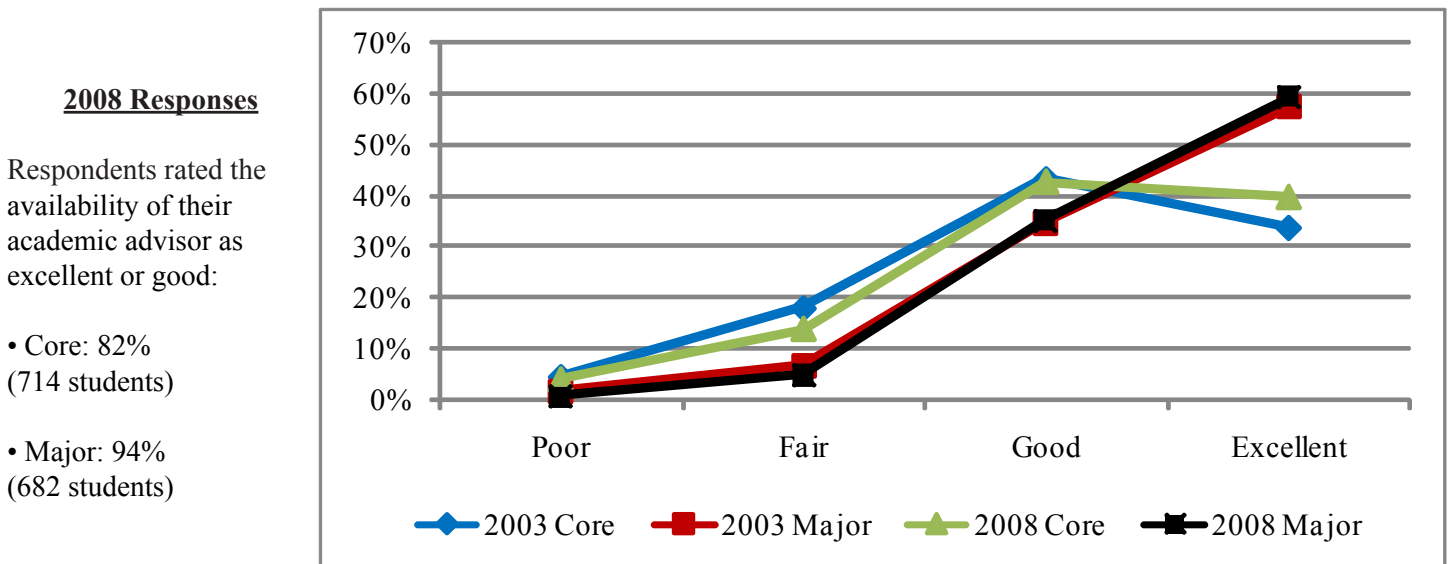
Core and Major Academic Experiences: Use and Quality Rating Comparison: 2003 to 2008

EXHIBIT 31: Helpfulness of Academic Advisor



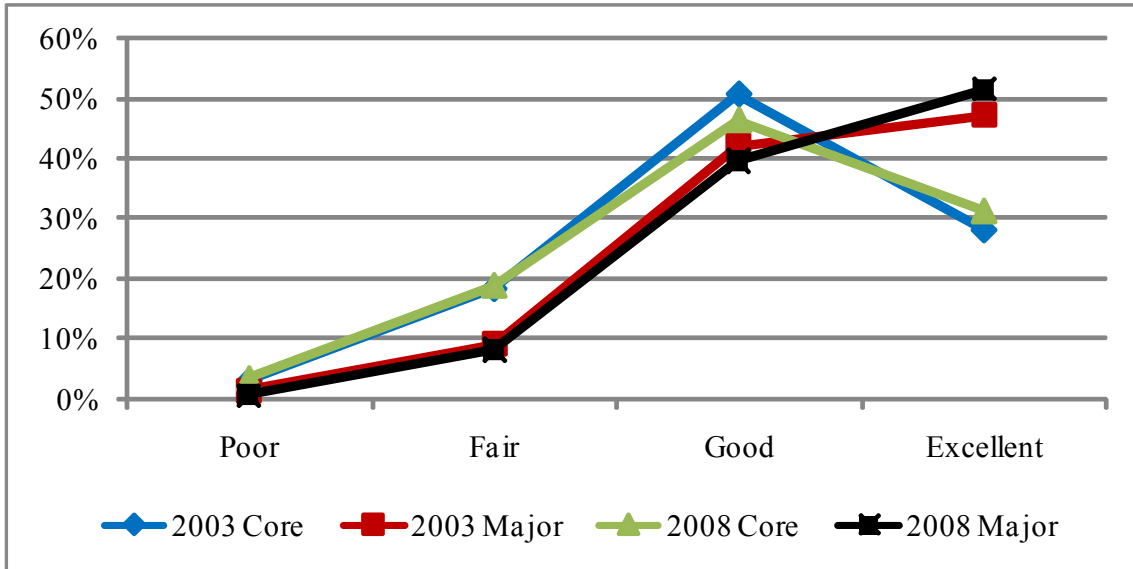
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 32: Availability of Academic Advisor



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 33: Helpfulness of Departmental Office Staff



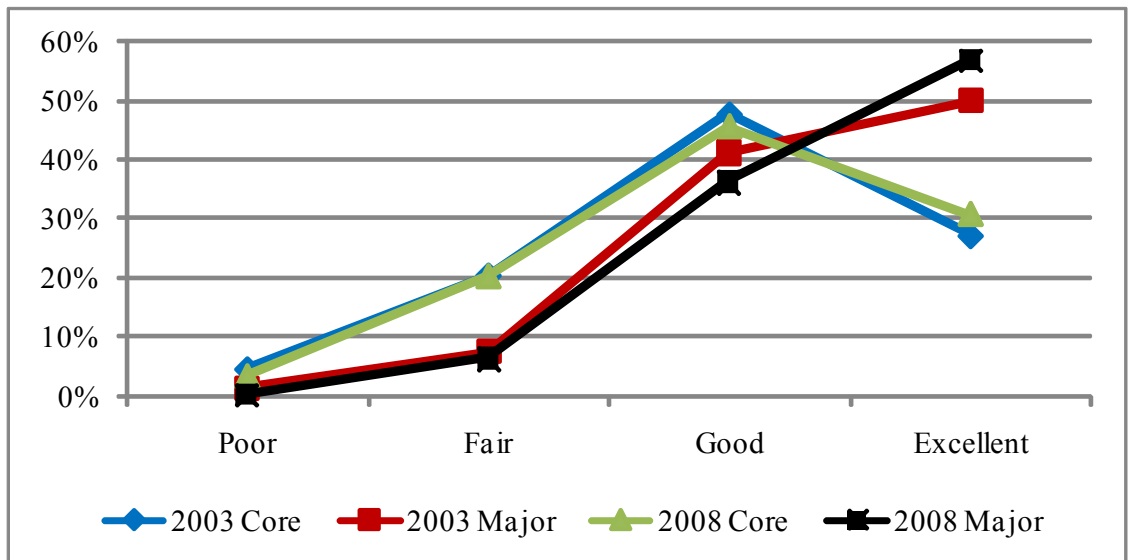
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the helpfulness of their departmental office staff as excellent or good:

- Core: 78% (648 students)
- Major: 91% (630 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 34: Opportunities for Interaction with Faculty



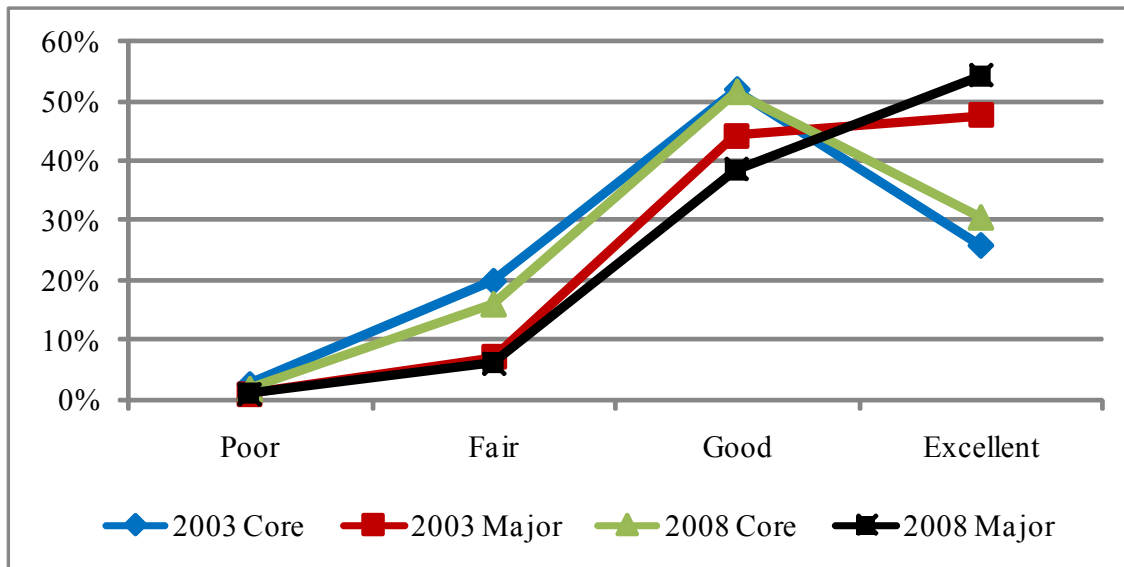
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the opportunities for interaction with faculty as excellent or good:

- Core: 76% (660 students)
- Major: 93% (690 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 35: Overall Attitude of Faculty Towards Students



2008 Responses

Respondents rated the overall attitude of faculty towards students as excellent or good:

- Core: 82% (725 students)
- Major: 93% (667 students)

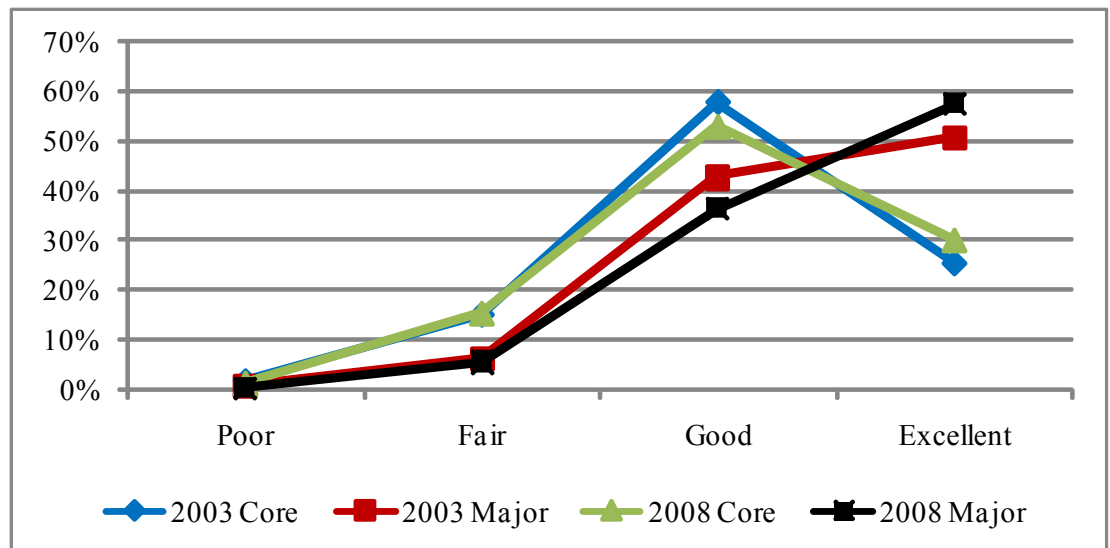
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 36: Overall Quality of Faculty

2008 Responses

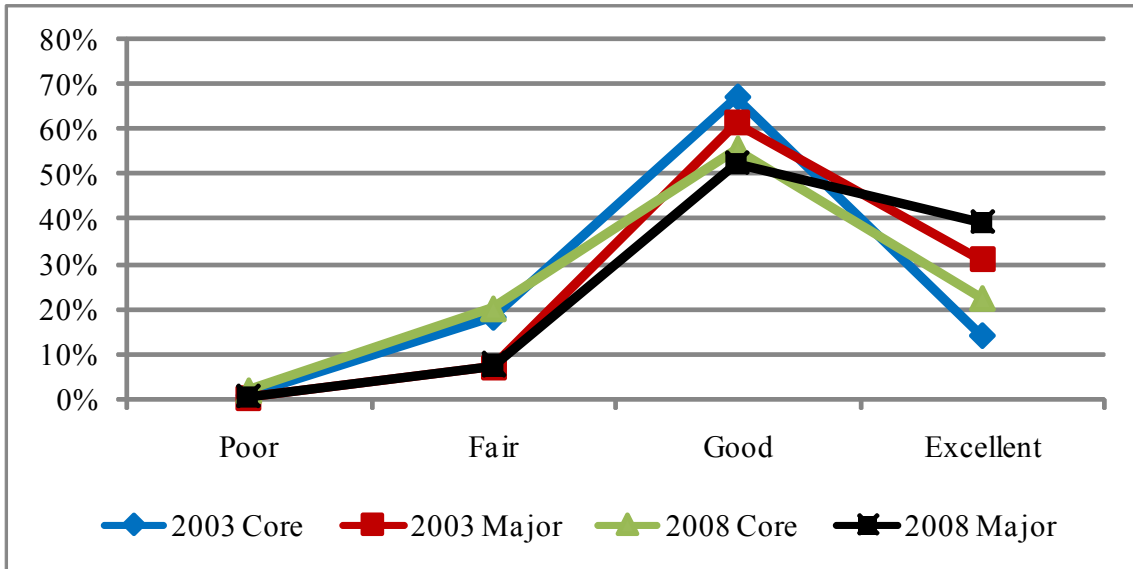
Respondents rated the overall quality of faculty as excellent or good:

- Core: 83% (739 students)
- Major: 94% (700 students)



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 37: Courses as Preparation for Liberal Education



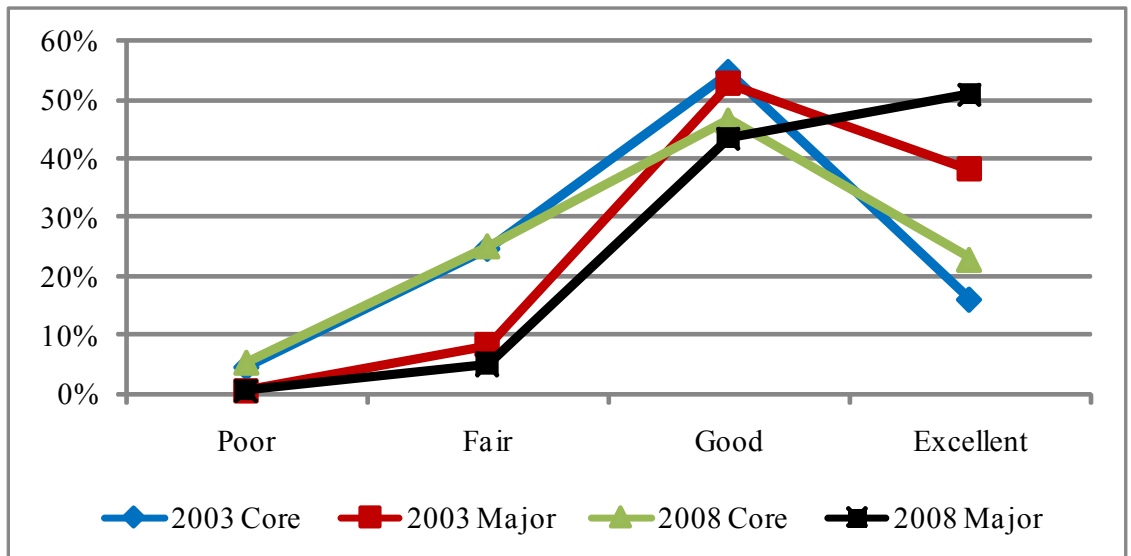
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the courses as preparation for liberal education as excellent or good:

- Core: 78% (575 students)
- Major: 92% (527 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 38: Courses as Preparation for Graduate School



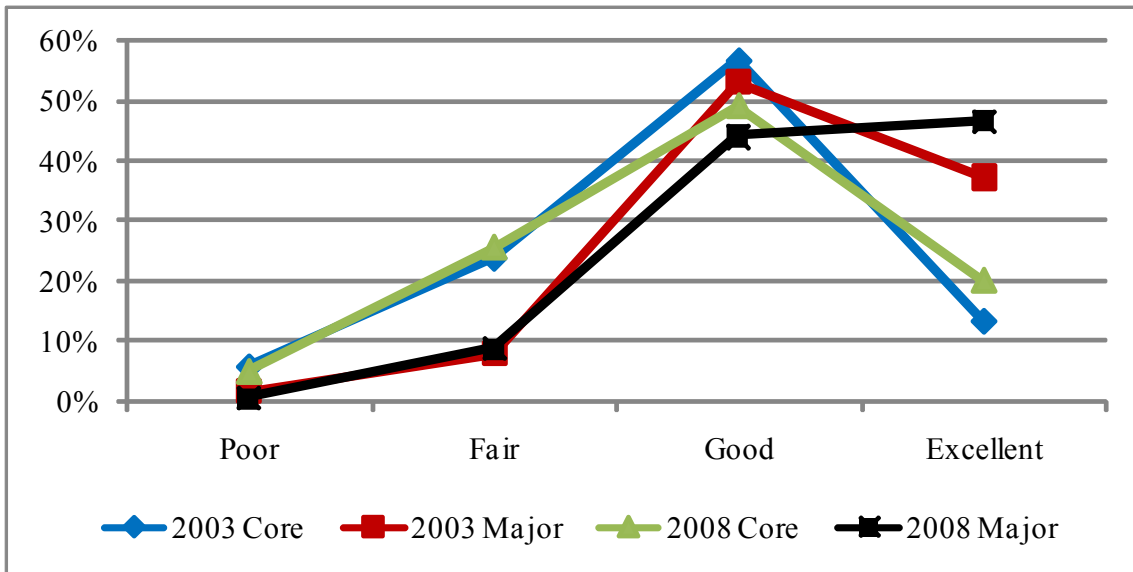
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the courses as preparation for graduate school as excellent or good:

- Core: 69% (480 students)
- Major: 94% (578 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 39: Courses as Preparation for Initial Employment



2008 Responses

Respondents rated the courses as preparation for initial employment as excellent or good:

- Core: 69% (518 students)
- Major: 91% (586 students)

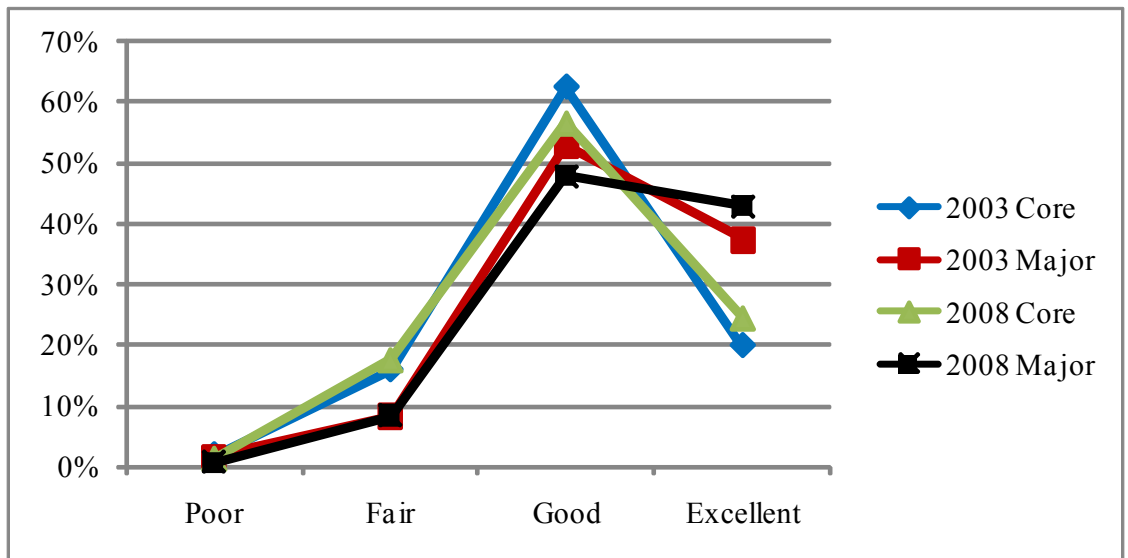
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 40: Fairness of Grading

2008 Responses

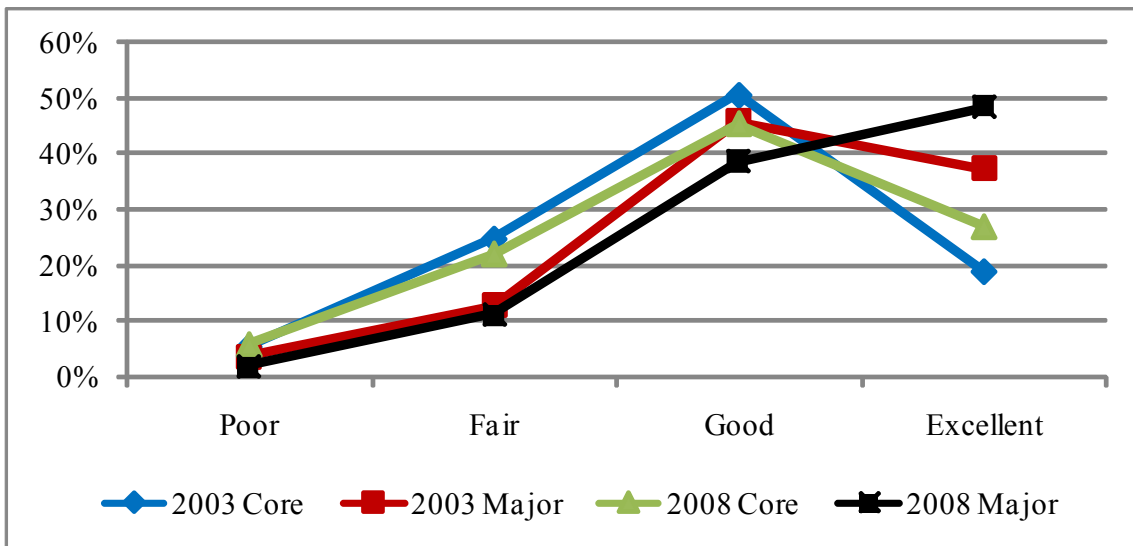
Respondents rated the fairness of grading as excellent or good:

- Core: 81% (695 students)
- Major: 92% (636 students)



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 41: Access to Required Courses



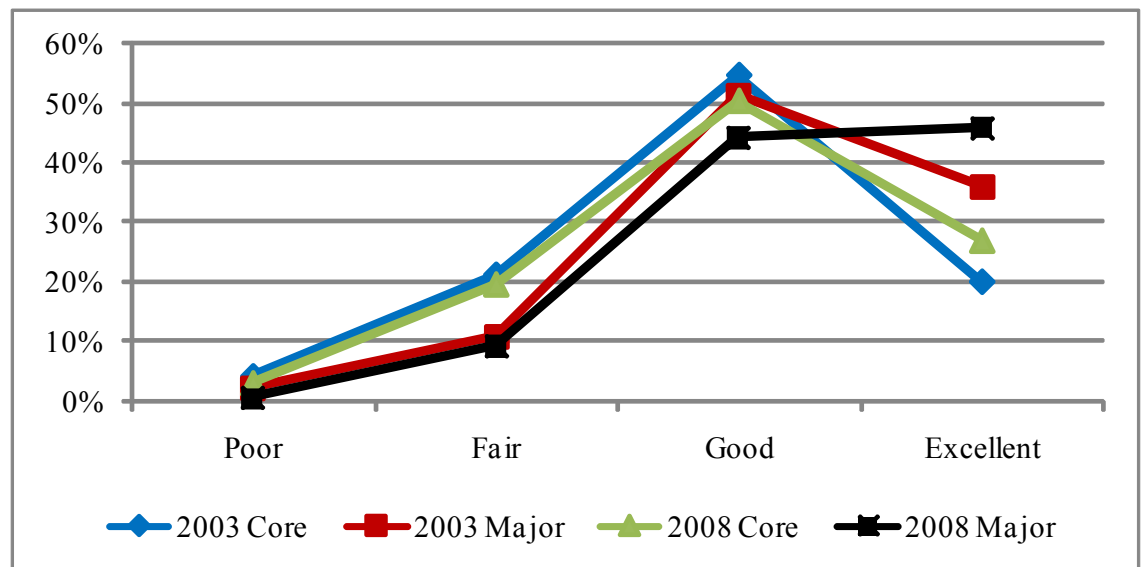
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the access to required courses as excellent or good:

- Core: 72% (625 students)
- Major: 87% (595 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 42: Access to Elective Courses



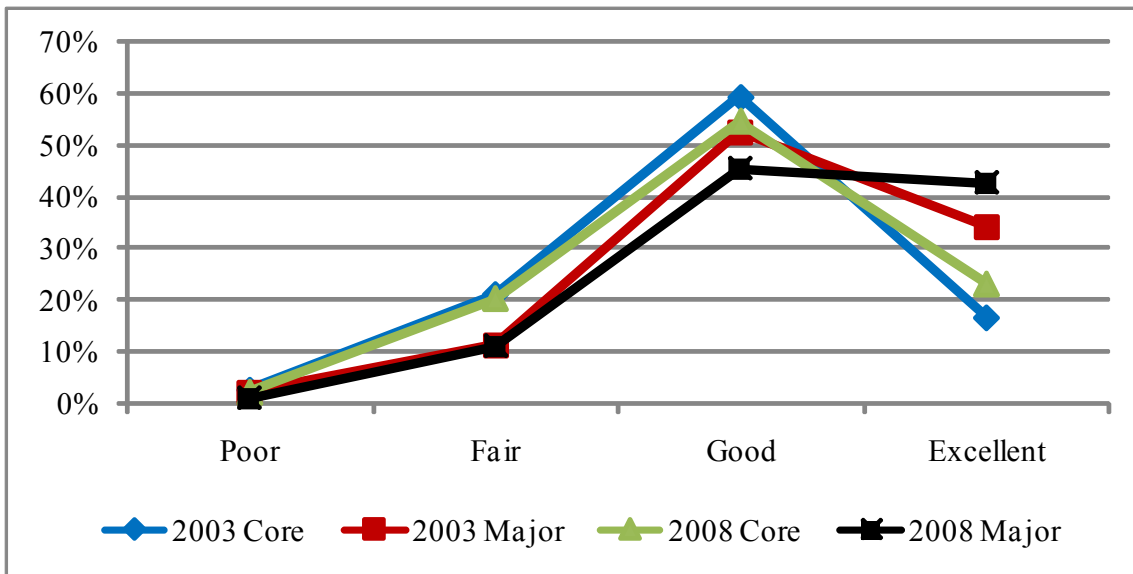
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the access to elective courses as excellent or good:

- Core: 77% (654 students)
- Major: 90% (607 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 43: Organization of Curriculum



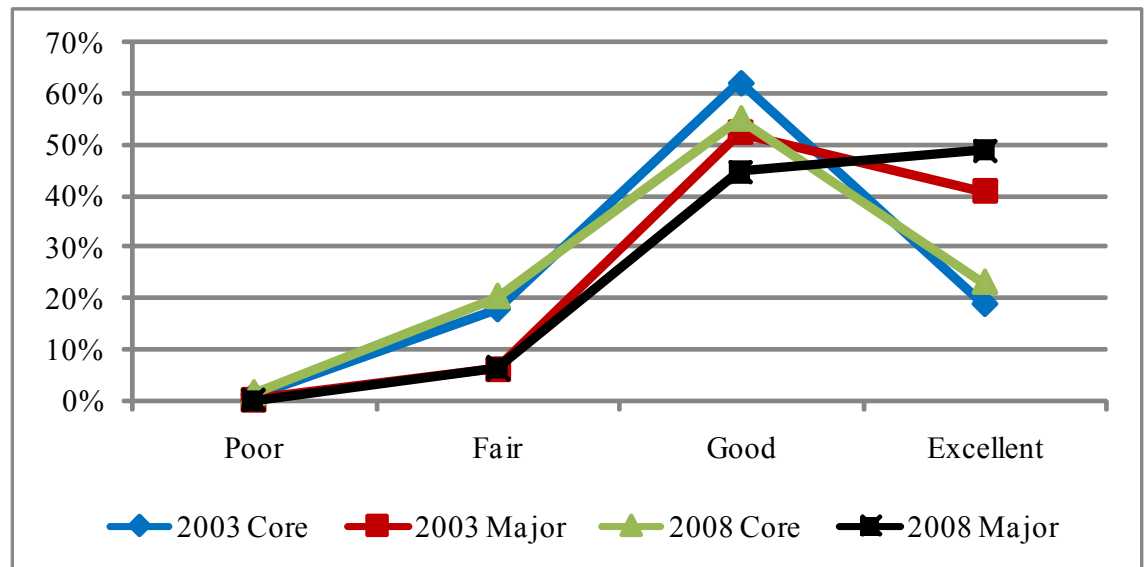
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the organization of the curriculum as excellent or good:

- Core: 78% (665 students)
- Major: 88% (642 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 44: Quality of Instruction



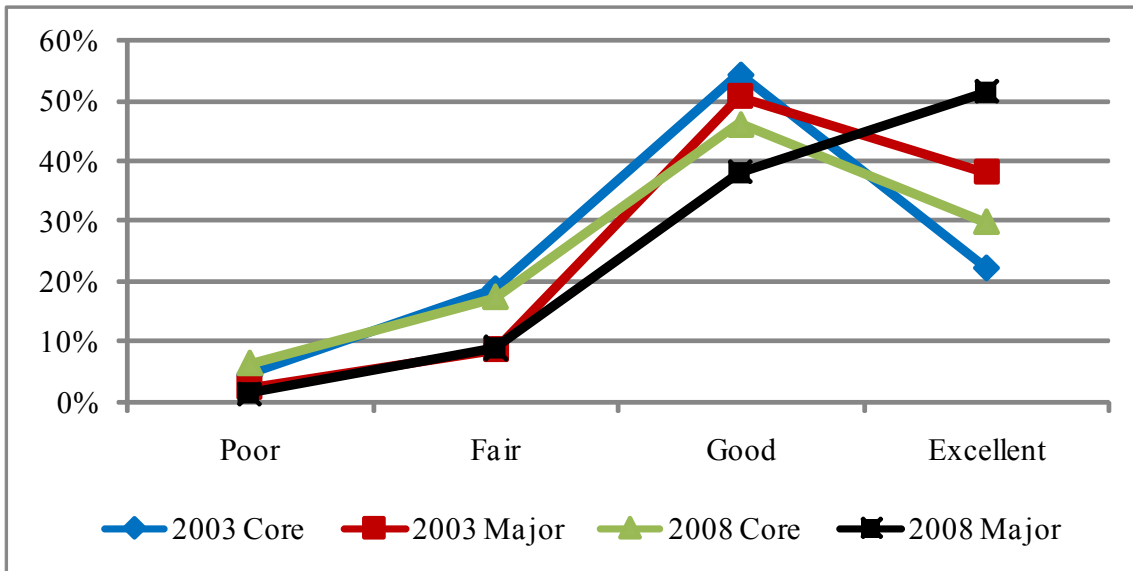
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the quality of instruction as excellent or good:

- Core: 78% (676 students)
- Major: 94% (666 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 45: Practicum or Internship Experiences



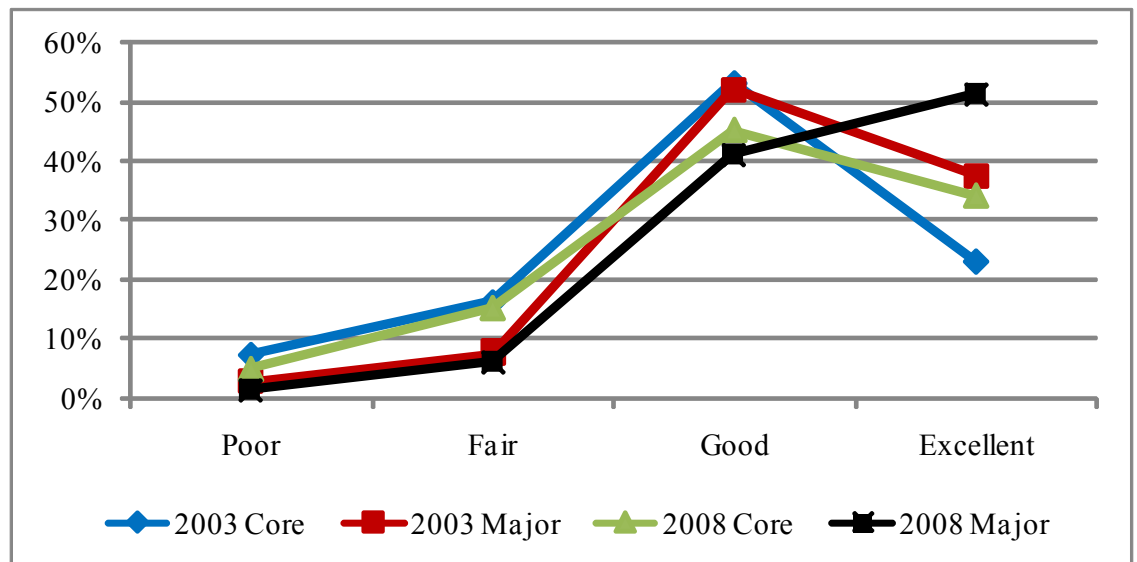
2008 Responses

Respondents rated their practicum and internship experiences as excellent or good:

- Core: 76% (310 students)
- Major: 89% (416 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 46: Study Abroad Experiences



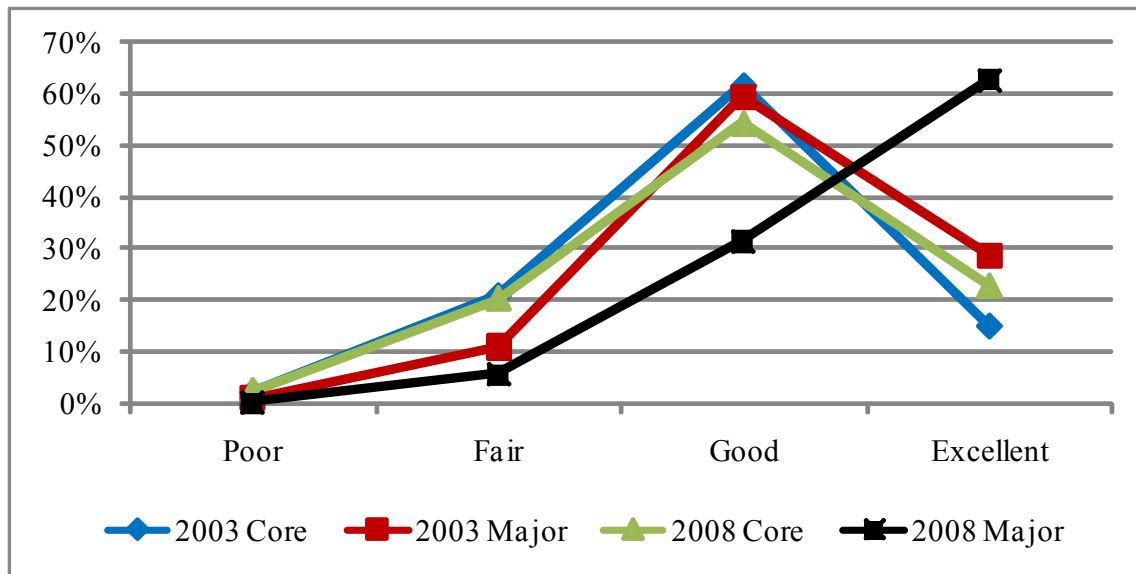
2008 Responses

Respondents rated their study abroad experiences as excellent or good:

- Core: 80% (202 students)
- Major: 92% (184 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 47: Appearance of Printed Information About Program



2008 Responses

Respondents rated the appearance of printed information about their programs as excellent or good:

- Core: 77% (565 students)
- Major: 94% (753 students)

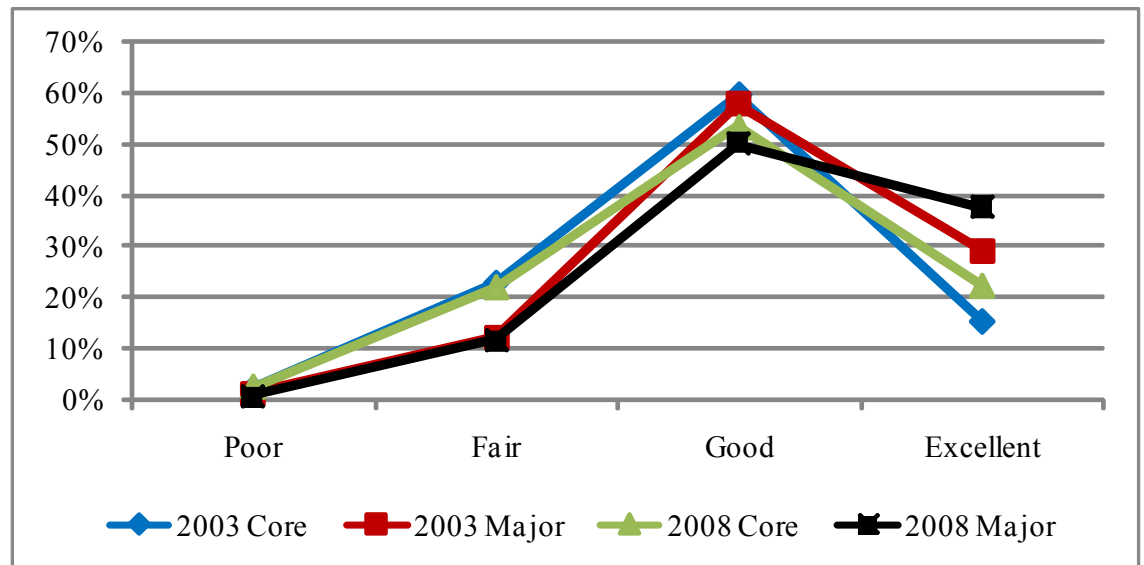
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 48: Usefulness of Printed Information About Program

2008 Responses

Respondents rated the usefulness of printed information about their programs as excellent or good:

- Core: 76% (552 students)
- Major: 88% (531 students)



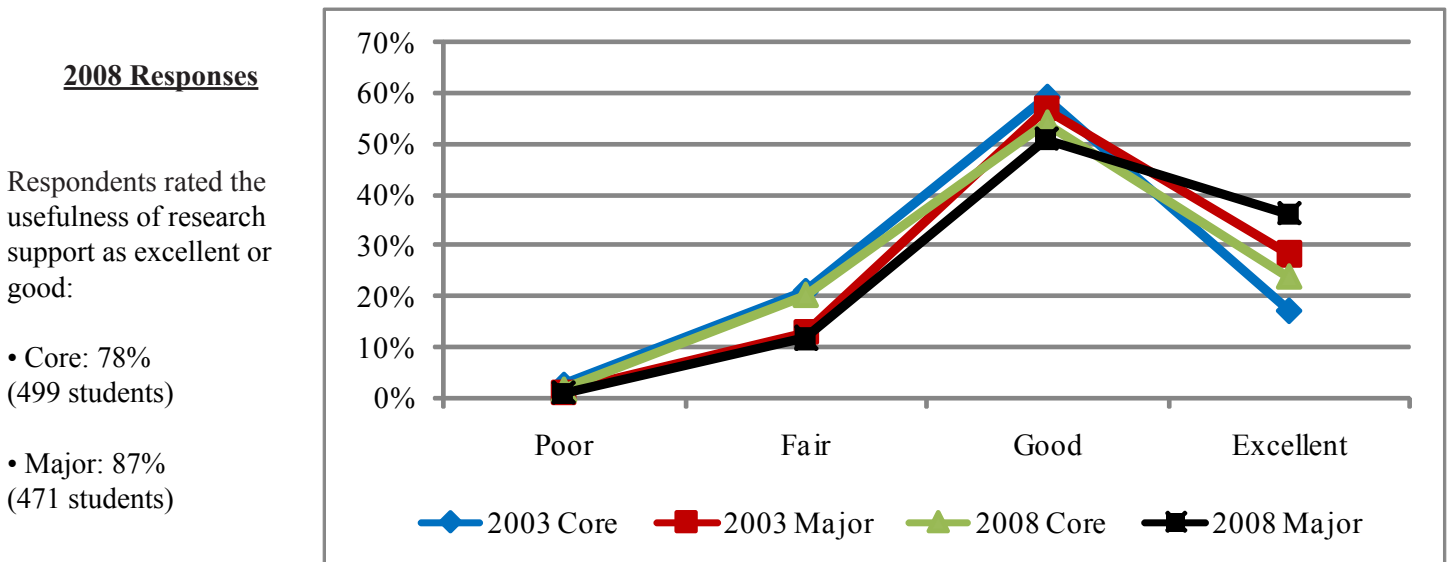
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 49: Availability of Research Support



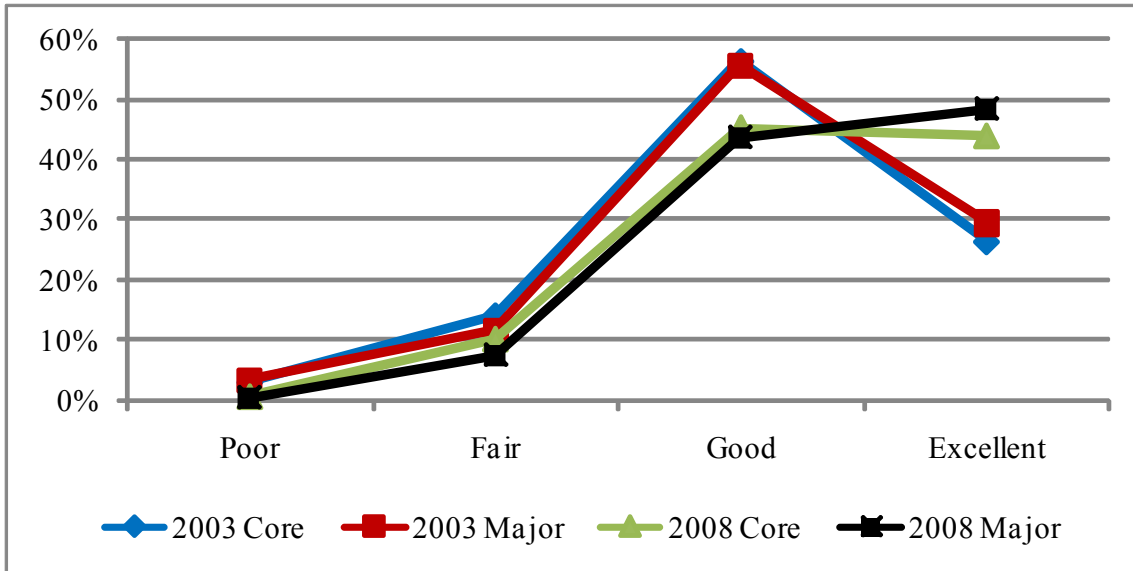
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 50: Usefulness of Research Support



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 51: Library Collection/Resources



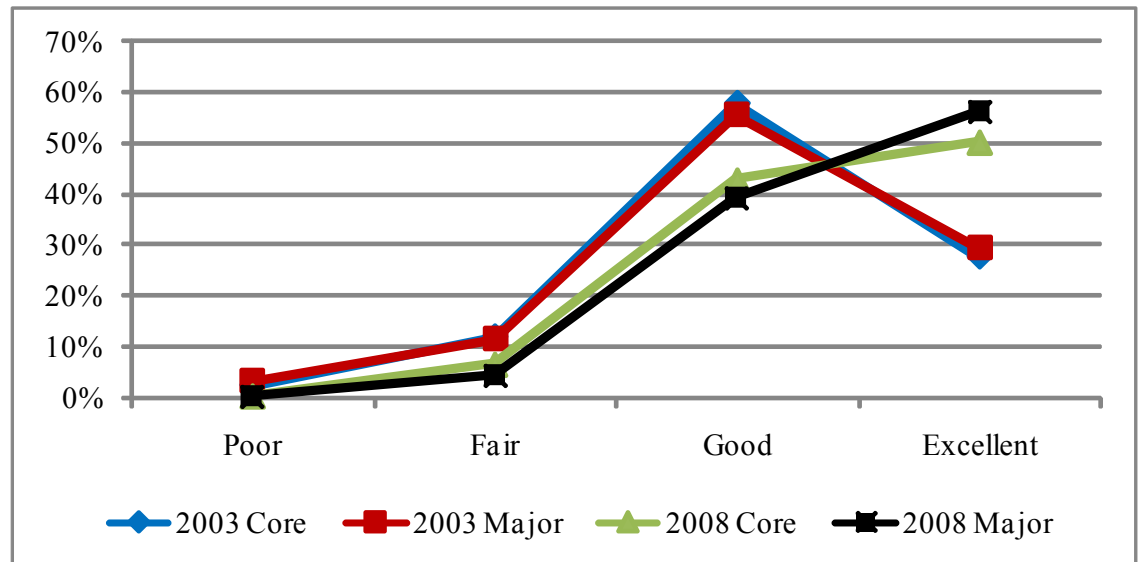
2008 Responses

Respondents rated library collections/resources as excellent or good:

- Core: 89% (719 students)
- Major: 92% (594 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 52: Library Facilities



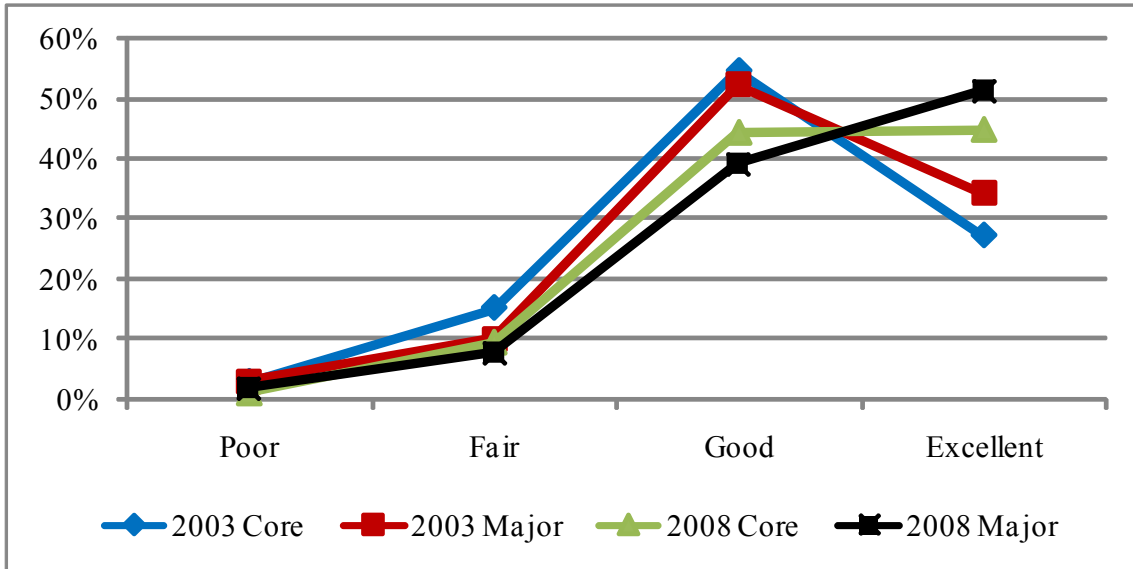
2008 Responses

Respondents rated library facilities as excellent or good:

- Core: 93% (776 students)
- Major: 95% (660 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 53: Computer Lab Facilities



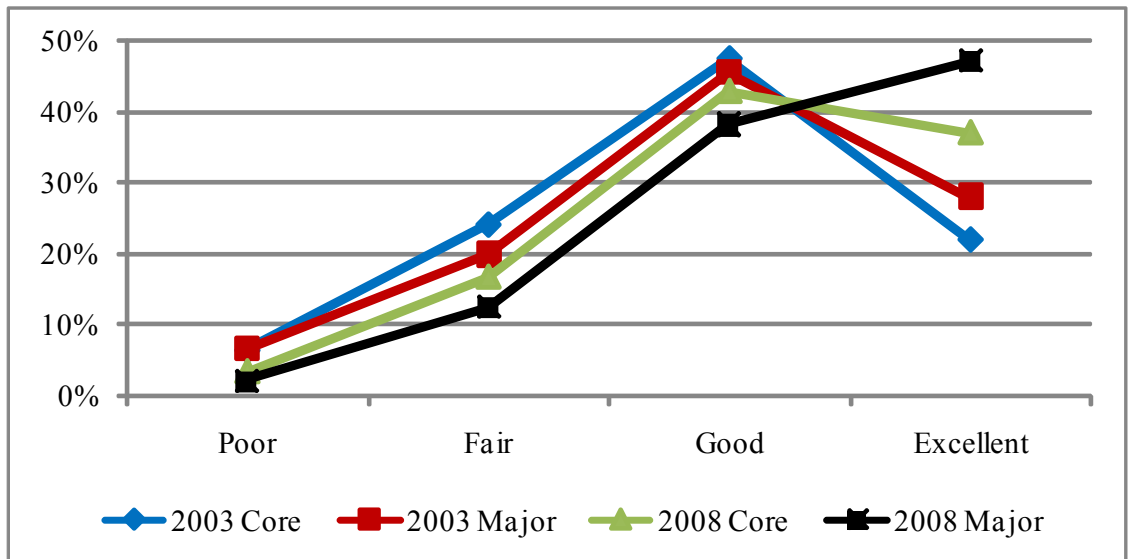
2008 Responses

Respondents rated the computer lab facilities as excellent or good:

- Core: 89% (752 students)
- Major: 90% (635 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 54: Computer Lab Availability



2008 Responses

Respondents rated the computer lab availability as excellent or good:

- Core: 80% (671 students)
- Major: 85% (596 students)

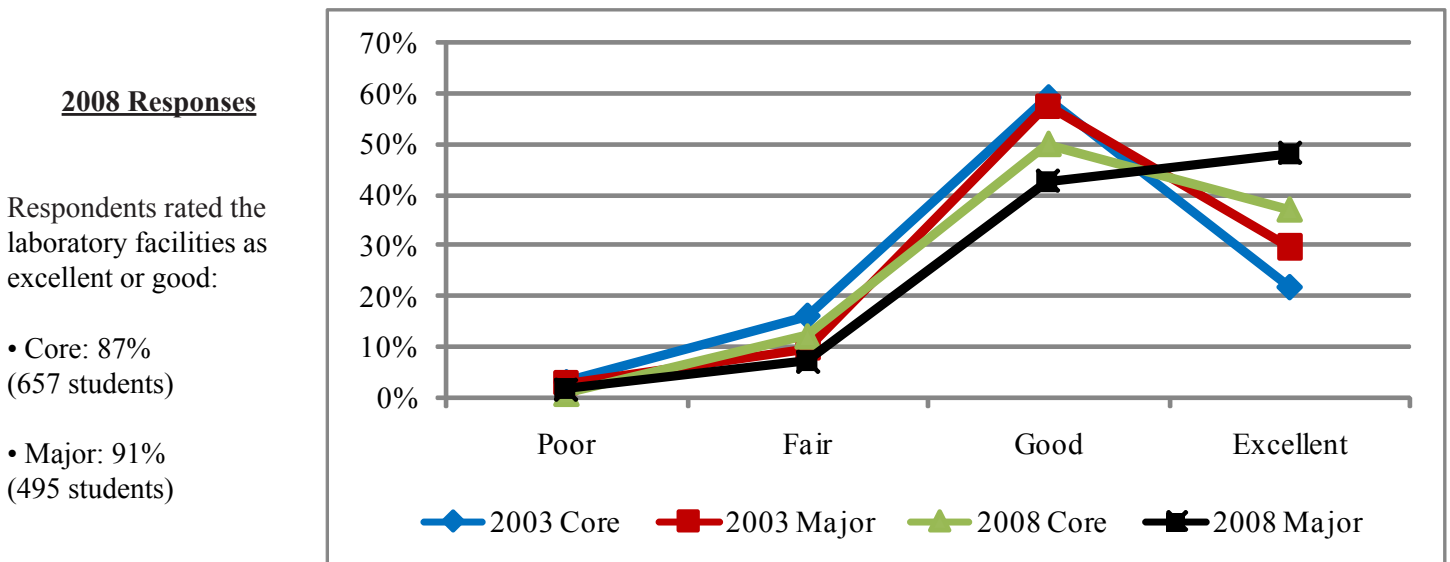
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 55: Classroom Facilities



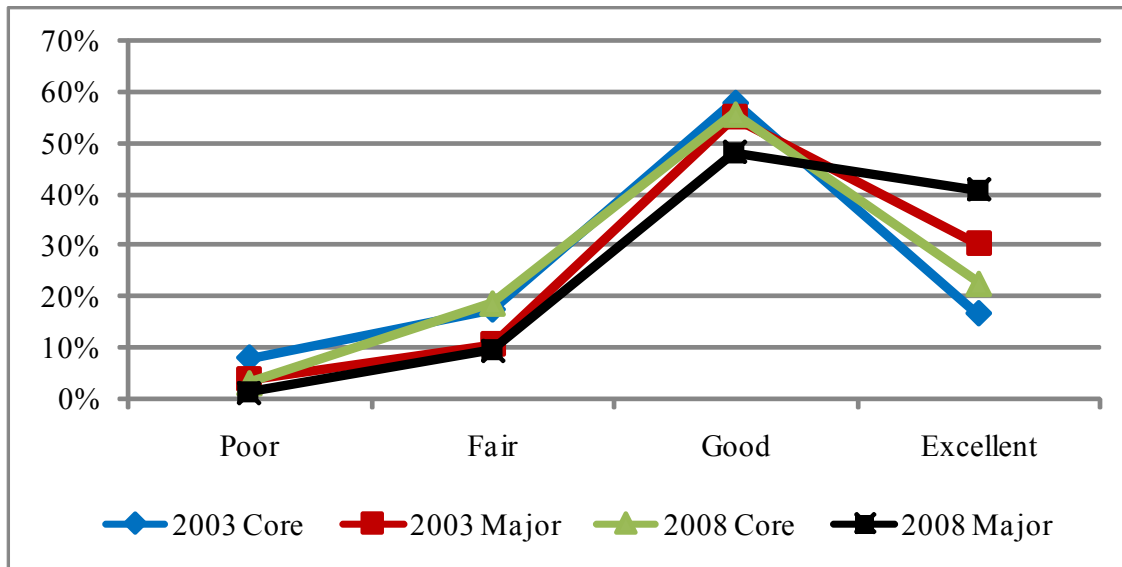
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 56: Laboratory Facilities (Not Computer)



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 57: Quality of Distance Learning Courses



2008 Responses

Respondents rated the distance learning courses as excellent or good:

- Core: 78% (285 students)
- Major: 89% (272 students)

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 58: Seniors' Ratings of the University's Services and Facilities

University Services and Facilities	n	Mean	Std. Deviation	Quality of Service			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
1. Housing & residence halls	369	2.63	0.77	9.8%	52.0%	29.8%	8.4%
2. Sororities & fraternities	188	3.49	0.69	59.0%	33.0%	6.4%	1.6%
3. Clubs & student organizations	513	3.29	0.63	37.4%	54.8%	7.0%	0.8%
4. Intramural program & services	334	3.15	0.66	28.4%	59.6%	10.2%	1.8%
5. Athletic and recreation facilities	735	3.60	0.55	62.7%	34.6%	2.4%	0.3%
6. VSU Undergraduate Bulletin/Catalog	639	3.23	0.65	35.1%	54.0%	10.3%	0.6%
7. VSU Food Services	747	2.81	0.72	14.6%	55.4%	26.5%	3.5%
8. Support services for international students	87	2.68	0.98	21.8%	39.1%	24.1%	14.9%
9. Parking	936	1.55	0.75	2.4%	8.9%	30.0%	58.8%
10. Shuttle bus services	546	2.57	0.79	10.6%	44.0%	36.8%	8.6%
11. Cooperative education program	99	2.99	0.80	26.3%	51.5%	17.2%	5.1%
12. University work-study program	102	3.11	0.79	33.3%	48.0%	14.7%	3.9%
13. Campus student employment	223	3.02	0.80	30.5%	43.9%	22.9%	2.7%
14. Career planning services	241	2.97	0.77	24.5%	51.5%	20.7%	3.3%
15. Job placement services	101	2.88	0.80	21.8%	49.5%	23.8%	5.0%
16. Counseling center services	158	3.22	0.81	41.1%	43.7%	10.8%	4.4%
17. Testing services	210	3.00	0.73	23.8%	54.8%	19.0%	2.4%
18. Minority programs/counseling	37	3.11	0.70	29.7%	51.4%	18.9%	0.0%
19. Veterans services	53	3.28	0.63	37.7%	52.8%	9.4%	0.0%
20. Public safety services	259	2.92	0.82	24.3%	49.0%	20.8%	5.8%
21. Bookstore	998	2.84	0.80	19.3%	51.5%	23.3%	5.8%
22. Post Office	345	3.08	0.72	27.2%	56.2%	13.6%	2.9%
23. Handicapped accessibility for VSU facilities	54	2.93	0.80	22.2%	53.7%	18.5%	5.6%
24. Services for special needs	53	3.21	0.66	32.1%	58.5%	7.5%	1.9%
25. Health services	638	2.95	0.79	24.6%	50.2%	21.2%	4.1%
26. VSU Home page	1003	3.37	0.59	43.1%	51.3%	5.5%	0.1%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 59: Seniors' Ratings of their Academic Experiences in the Core Curriculum

Academic Core	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
VSU Personnel Support							
1. Availability of academic advisor	868	3.18	0.812	39.6%	42.6%	13.8%	3.9%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	868	3.13	0.874	40.1%	37.9%	16.7%	5.3%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	835	3.05	0.799	31.3%	46.3%	18.9%	3.5%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	864	3.04	0.802	30.8%	45.6%	20.3%	3.4%
5. Attitude of faculty toward students	884	3.11	0.730	30.5%	51.5%	16.1%	1.9%
6. Overall quality of faculty	888	3.12	0.704	30.2%	53.0%	15.4%	1.4%
VSU Instructional Support							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	737	2.99	0.708	22.4%	55.6%	20.1%	1.9%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	748	2.84	0.799	20.2%	49.1%	25.7%	5.1%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	691	2.87	0.824	22.9%	46.6%	25.2%	5.4%
10. Ease of getting into required courses	867	2.93	0.849	26.9%	45.2%	22.0%	5.9%
11. Ease of getting into elective courses	846	3.01	0.768	27.0%	50.4%	19.6%	3.1%
12. Organization of the curriculum for your major	858	2.98	0.723	23.1%	54.4%	20.3%	2.2%
13. Quality of instruction	865	3.00	0.704	23.1%	55.0%	20.3%	1.5%
14. Fairness of grading	858	3.04	0.690	24.5%	56.5%	17.6%	1.4%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	407	3.00	0.855	30.0%	46.2%	17.4%	6.4%
16. Study abroad experiences	254	3.09	0.834	34.3%	45.3%	15.4%	5.1%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	732	2.98	0.728	22.8%	54.4%	20.4%	2.5%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	729	2.96	0.731	22.2%	53.5%	21.9%	2.3%
19. Availability of research support	649	2.98	0.723	13.9%	31.8%	12.9%	1.1%
20. Usefulness of research support	640	3.00	0.715	23.9%	54.1%	20.3%	1.7%
VSU Facilities							
21. Quality of distance learning courses	364	2.98	0.731	22.5%	55.8%	18.7%	3.0%
22. Library collection/resources	806	3.33	0.679	43.9%	45.3%	10.2%	0.6%
23. Library facilities	834	3.43	0.632	50.2%	42.8%	6.6%	0.4%
24. Computer lab facilities	843	3.33	0.696	44.8%	44.4%	9.6%	1.2%
25. Computer lab availability	839	3.14	0.808	37.1%	42.9%	16.7%	3.3%
26. Classroom facilities	851	3.19	0.713	35.4%	48.9%	14.7%	1.1%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	756	3.23	0.690	37.0%	49.9%	12.2%	0.9%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 60: Seniors' Ratings of their Academic Experiences in the Major Field of Study

Major Courses	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
VSU Personnel Support							
1. Availability of academic advisor	722	3.53	0.623	59.3%	35.2%	4.8%	0.7%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	748	3.57	0.658	65.0%	28.3%	5.3%	1.3%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	692	3.42	0.672	51.4%	39.6%	8.2%	0.7%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	741	3.50	0.636	56.8%	36.3%	6.5%	0.4%
5. Attitude of faculty toward students	719	3.46	0.662	54.2%	38.5%	6.1%	1.1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	745	3.51	0.622	57.4%	36.5%	5.6%	0.4%
VSU Instructional Support							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	575	3.30	0.638	39.3%	52.3%	7.7%	0.7%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	647	3.36	0.668	46.5%	44.0%	8.8%	0.6%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	613	3.45	0.623	50.9%	43.4%	5.1%	0.7%
10. Ease of getting into required courses	684	3.33	0.748	48.4%	38.6%	11.1%	1.9%
11. Ease of getting into elective courses	674	3.35	0.672	45.8%	44.2%	9.3%	0.6%
12. Organization of the curriculum for your major	730	3.30	0.699	42.6%	45.3%	11.1%	1.0%
13. Quality of instruction	712	3.42	0.616	48.9%	44.7%	6.3%	0.1%
14. Fairness of grading	700	3.33	0.659	43.0%	47.9%	8.4%	0.7%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	465	3.39	0.715	51.4%	38.1%	9.0%	1.5%
16. Study abroad experiences	199	3.42	0.676	51.3%	41.2%	6.0%	1.5%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	800	3.57	0.611	62.6%	31.5%	5.6%	30.0%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	605	3.25	0.677	37.7%	50.1%	11.6%	0.7%
19. Availability of research support	589	3.41	0.671	50.8%	40.2%	8.3%	0.7%
20. Usefulness of research support	541	3.22	0.690	36.2%	50.8%	11.8%	1.1%
VSU Facilities							
21. Quality of distance learning courses	305	3.29	0.690	41.0%	48.2%	9.5%	1.3%
22. Library collection/resources	645	3.40	0.646	48.4%	43.7%	7.4%	0.5%
23. Library facilities	692	3.51	0.595	56.2%	39.2%	4.3%	0.3%
24. Computer lab facilities	702	3.40	0.711	51.3%	39.2%	7.7%	1.9%
25. Computer lab availability	698	3.30	0.768	47.1%	38.3%	12.5%	2.1%
26. Classroom facilities	691	3.31	0.703	43.3%	45.3%	10.1%	1.3%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	544	3.37	0.699	48.2%	42.8%	7.2%	1.8%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 61: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Arts and Sciences

	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
VSU Personnel Support							
1. Availability of academic advisor	186	3.53	0.66	61.3%	31.7%	5.9%	1.1%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	199	3.59	0.69	68.8%	23.6%	5.5%	2.0%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	186	3.54	0.62	59.7%	34.9%	4.8%	0.5%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	193	3.52	0.64	59.6%	33.7%	6.2%	0.5%
5. Attitude of faculty toward students	189	3.50	0.63	56.1%	38.6%	4.2%	1.1%
6. Overall quality of faculty	201	3.55	0.60	59.7%	35.8%	4.0%	0.5%
VSU Instructional Support							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	154	3.29	0.72	42.2%	46.1%	9.7%	1.9%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	159	3.23	0.74	39.6%	45.9%	12.6%	1.9%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	157	3.39	0.68	48.4%	44.6%	5.1%	1.9%
10. Ease of getting into required courses	172	3.26	0.76	43.0%	41.3%	14.0%	1.7%
11. Ease of getting into elective courses	188	3.31	0.72	44.7%	42.6%	11.7%	1.1%
12. Organization of the curriculum for your major	189	3.26	0.72	40.2%	47.1%	11.1%	1.6%
13. Quality of instruction	190	3.43	0.61	48.9%	45.8%	4.7%	0.5%
14. Fairness of grading	183	3.28	0.66	39.3%	50.3%	9.8%	0.5%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	98	3.36	0.76	50.0%	38.8%	8.2%	3.1%
16. Study abroad experiences	69	3.41	0.71	50.7%	42.0%	4.3%	2.9%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	209	3.51	0.66	59.8%	32.1%	7.7%	0.5%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	149	3.19	0.69	34.2%	52.3%	12.1%	1.3%
19. Availability of research support	166	3.38	0.73	50.6%	38.6%	9.0%	1.8%
20. Usefulness of research support	149	3.13	0.76	32.2%	51.7%	12.8%	3.4%
VSU Facilities							
21. Quality of distance learning courses	76	3.26	0.68	38.2%	51.3%	9.2%	1.3%
22. Library collection/resources	178	3.37	0.66	46.6%	44.4%	8.4%	0.6%
23. Library facilities	190	3.54	0.56	57.4%	39.5%	3.2%	0.0%
24. Computer lab facilities	196	3.46	0.69	54.6%	39.3%	3.6%	2.6%
25. Computer lab availability	198	3.41	0.73	53.5%	36.4%	8.1%	2.0%
26. Classroom facilities	183	3.38	0.68	48.6%	42.1%	8.2%	1.1%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	157	3.41	0.69	50.3%	42.0%	5.7%	1.9%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 62: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Business Administration

	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
VSU Personnel Support							
1. Availability of academic advisor	102	3.52	0.54	53.9%	44.1%	2.0%	0.0%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	109	3.56	0.58	60.6%	34.9%	4.6%	0.0%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	95	3.45	0.61	51.6%	42.1%	6.3%	0.0%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	111	3.49	0.60	54.1%	40.5%	5.4%	0.0%
5. Attitude of faculty toward students	104	3.55	0.59	59.6%	35.6%	4.8%	0.0%
6. Overall quality of faculty	109	3.59	0.55	61.5%	35.8%	2.8%	0.0%
VSU Instructional Support							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	81	3.30	0.64	39.5%	50.6%	9.9%	0.0%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	94	3.43	0.61	48.9%	44.7%	6.4%	0.0%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	89	3.48	0.59	52.8%	42.7%	4.5%	0.0%
10. Ease of getting into required courses	95	3.37	0.67	47.4%	42.1%	10.5%	0.0%
11. Ease of getting into elective courses	92	3.41	0.61	47.8%	45.7%	6.5%	0.0%
12. Organization of the curriculum for your major	104	3.41	0.58	46.2%	49.0%	4.8%	0.0%
13. Quality of instruction	95	3.45	0.60	50.5%	44.2%	5.3%	0.0%
14. Fairness of grading	94	3.34	0.68	44.7%	45.7%	8.5%	1.1%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	47	3.28	0.77	44.7%	40.4%	12.8%	2.1%
16. Study abroad experiences	30	3.40	0.67	50.0%	40.0%	10.0%	0.0%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	134	3.73	0.54	77.6%	17.9%	4.5%	0.0%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	81	3.30	0.64	39.5%	50.6%	9.9%	0.0%
19. Availability of research support	82	3.51	0.65	58.5%	35.4%	4.9%	1.2%
20. Usefulness of research support	81	3.33	0.63	42.0%	49.4%	8.6%	0.0%
VSU Facilities							
21. Quality of distance learning courses	44	3.39	0.69	50.0%	38.6%	11.4%	0.0%
22. Library collection/resources	87	3.46	0.64	54.0%	37.9%	8.0%	0.0%
23. Library facilities	97	3.54	0.65	61.9%	29.9%	8.2%	0.0%
24. Computer lab facilities	106	3.45	0.65	53.8%	37.7%	8.5%	0.0%
25. Computer lab availability	102	3.31	0.73	45.1%	43.1%	9.8%	2.0%
26. Classroom facilities	99	3.30	0.69	43.4%	43.4%	13.1%	0.0%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	65	3.45	0.61	50.8%	43.1%	6.2%	0.0%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 63: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Arts

	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
VSU Personnel Support							
1. Availability of academic advisor	110	3.52	0.71	62.7%	28.2%	7.3%	1.8%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	104	3.48	0.78	62.5%	26.0%	8.7%	2.9%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	104	3.44	0.65	52.9%	38.5%	8.7%	0.0%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	105	3.66	0.57	69.5%	27.6%	1.9%	1.0%
5. Attitude of faculty toward students	101	3.57	0.61	62.4%	33.7%	3.0%	1.0%
6. Overall quality of faculty	105	3.59	0.55	61.9%	35.2%	2.9%	0.0%
VSU Instructional Support							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	100	3.37	0.68	42.9%	52.7%	4.4%	0.0%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	83	3.45	0.57	48.0%	41.0%	11.0%	0.0%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	93	3.19	0.82	48.2%	48.2%	3.6%	0.0%
10. Ease of getting into required courses	100	3.33	0.64	40.9%	41.9%	12.9%	4.3%
11. Ease of getting into elective courses	104	3.28	0.66	41.0%	52.0%	6.0%	1.0%
12. Organization of the curriculum for your major	101	3.47	0.56	39.4%	49.0%	11.5%	0.0%
13. Quality of instruction	104	3.41	0.65	49.5%	47.5%	3.0%	0.0%
14. Fairness of grading	58	3.47	0.68	49.0%	44.2%	5.8%	1.0%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	30	3.47	0.78	56.9%	32.8%	10.3%	0.0%
16. Study abroad experiences	108	3.56	0.59	60.0%	30.0%	6.7%	3.3%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	85	3.16	0.74	60.2%	35.2%	4.6%	0.0%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	90	3.38	0.65	35.3%	47.1%	16.5%	1.2%
19. Availability of research support	89	3.29	0.68	46.7%	44.4%	8.9%	0.0%
20. Usefulness of research support	44	3.16	0.91	41.6%	46.1%	12.4%	0.0%
VSU Facilities							
21. Quality of distance learning courses	44	3.16	0.91	43.2%	36.4%	13.6%	6.8%
22. Library collection/resources	91	3.32	0.66	42.9%	46.2%	11.0%	0.0%
23. Library facilities	110	3.46	0.62	52.7%	40.9%	6.4%	0.0%
24. Computer lab facilities	101	3.30	0.74	44.6%	42.6%	10.9%	2.0%
25. Computer lab availability	95	3.14	0.81	38.9%	36.8%	23.2%	1.1%
26. Classroom facilities	103	3.24	0.69	38.8%	46.6%	14.6%	0.0%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	85	3.29	0.70	43.5%	42.4%	14.1%	0.0%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 64: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Education

	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
VSU Personnel Support							
1. Availability of academic advisor	261	3.56	0.60	60.5%	34.9%	4.2%	0.4%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	275	3.60	0.62	66.2%	28.7%	4.0%	1.1%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	255	3.37	0.71	49.0%	40.0%	9.8%	1.2%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	276	3.45	0.64	53.3%	39.1%	7.2%	0.4%
5. Attitude of faculty toward students	266	3.42	0.69	51.9%	39.8%	6.8%	1.5%
6. Overall quality of faculty	271	3.47	0.65	55.4%	37.3%	6.6%	0.7%
VSU Instructional Support							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	202	3.28	0.61	35.6%	56.9%	6.9%	0.5%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	240	3.44	0.62	50.8%	42.9%	5.8%	0.4%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	233	3.49	0.61	54.5%	40.3%	4.7%	0.4%
10. Ease of getting into required courses	264	3.38	0.76	52.3%	35.6%	9.8%	2.3%
11. Ease of getting into elective courses	245	3.36	0.68	46.5%	42.9%	10.2%	0.4%
12. Organization of the curriculum for your major	274	3.34	0.70	46.0%	43.1%	9.9%	1.1%
13. Quality of instruction	268	3.42	0.62	49.3%	43.7%	7.1%	0.0%
14. Fairness of grading	261	3.34	0.65	43.3%	47.9%	8.4%	0.4%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	217	3.44	0.67	53.0%	39.2%	6.9%	0.9%
16. Study abroad experiences	55	3.44	0.60	49.1%	45.5%	5.5%	0.0%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	284	3.54	0.61	59.2%	35.6%	4.9%	0.4%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	238	3.31	0.65	41.2%	48.3%	10.5%	0.0%
19. Availability of research support	199	3.36	0.65	45.2%	45.2%	9.5%	0.0%
20. Usefulness of research support	179	3.21	0.66	33.5%	54.2%	11.7%	0.6%
VSU Facilities							
21. Quality of distance learning courses	114	3.29	0.59	36.0%	57.0%	7.0%	0.0%
22. Library collection/resources	240	3.41	0.64	48.8%	44.6%	5.8%	0.8%
23. Library facilities	240	3.50	0.60	54.6%	41.7%	2.9%	0.8%
24. Computer lab facilities	250	3.39	0.72	51.6%	37.6%	9.2%	1.6%
25. Computer lab availability	247	3.29	0.79	47.0%	38.1%	12.1%	2.8%
26. Classroom facilities	253	3.28	0.72	41.9%	47.0%	8.7%	2.4%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	188	3.37	0.72	48.4%	43.6%	4.8%	3.2%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 65: Seniors' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Nursing

	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
VSU Personnel Support							
1. Availability of academic advisor	49	3.45	0.61	51.0%	42.9%	6.1%	0.0%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	48	3.48	0.65	56.3%	35.4%	8.3%	0.0%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	40	3.08	0.80	32.5%	45.0%	20.0%	2.5%
4. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	42	3.31	0.72	45.2%	40.5%	14.3%	0.0%
5. Attitude of faculty toward students	45	3.16	0.74	35.6%	44.4%	20.0%	0.0%
6. Overall quality of faculty	46	3.22	0.79	43.5%	34.8%	21.7%	0.0%
VSU Instructional Support							
7. Courses as preparation for liberal education	37	3.30	0.62	37.8%	54.1%	8.1%	0.0%
8. Courses as preparation for initial employment	43	3.33	0.68	44.2%	44.2%	11.6%	0.0%
9. Courses as preparation for graduate school	41	3.32	0.65	41.5%	48.8%	9.8%	0.0%
10. Ease of getting into required courses	47	3.51	0.66	59.6%	31.9%	8.5%	0.0%
11. Ease of getting into elective courses	39	3.44	0.68	53.8%	35.9%	10.3%	0.0%
12. Organization of the curriculum for your major	43	3.00	0.87	34.9%	32.6%	30.2%	2.3%
13. Quality of instruction	43	3.26	0.76	44.2%	37.2%	18.6%	0.0%
14. Fairness of grading	46	3.24	0.71	37.0%	52.2%	8.7%	2.2%
15. Practicum or internship experiences	38	3.24	0.85	47.4%	31.6%	18.4%	2.6%
16. Study abroad experiences	11	3.45	0.69	54.5%	36.4%	9.1%	0.0%
17. Appearance of printed information about program	45	3.47	0.66	55.6%	35.6%	8.9%	0.0%
18. Usefulness of printed information about program	42	3.14	0.72	31.0%	54.8%	11.9%	2.4%
19. Availability of research support	39	3.56	0.64	64.1%	28.2%	7.7%	0.0%
20. Usefulness of research support	34	3.24	0.70	38.2%	47.1%	14.7%	0.0%
VSU Facilities							
21. Quality of distance learning courses	19	3.32	0.75	47.4%	36.8%	15.8%	0.0%
22. Library collection/resources	35	3.49	0.56	51.4%	45.7%	2.9%	0.0%
23. Library facilities	42	3.55	0.55	57.1%	40.5%	2.4%	0.0%
24. Computer lab facilities	39	3.23	0.84	43.6%	41.0%	10.3%	5.1%
25. Computer lab availability	43	3.19	0.82	41.9%	37.2%	18.6%	2.3%
26. Classroom facilities	38	3.24	0.75	39.5%	47.4%	10.5%	2.6%
27. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	38	3.26	0.79	44.7%	39.5%	13.2%	2.6%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 66: Seniors' Ratings of their Atmosphere for Learning

Atmosphere for Learning	n	Mean	Std. Deviation	Agreement with Statement			
				Definitely Yes	Probably Yes	Probably No	Definitely No
VSU helped me develop and demonstrate my ability to think critically and independently	760	3.61	.53	63.2%	35.5%	0.8%	0.5%
VSU helped me to engage in free and open exchange of ideas	731	3.63	.55	65.4%	32.3%	1.8%	0.5%
VSU helped me to acquire and draw upon knowledge embodied in the liberal arts	646	3.46	.63	52.6%	41.3%	5.3%	0.8%
VSU helped me to function in a professional setting and to act with ethical awareness	824	3.72	.49	74.2%	24.3%	1.3%	0.2%
VSU encouraged me to expand my range of human experience personally, culturally, socially, artistically, and politically	659	3.59	.62	65.3%	29.7%	3.9%	1.1%
If I started college over, I would choose to attend VSU	645	3.49	.71	59.1%	33.5%	5.0%	2.5%
I would recommend VSU to others	716	3.70	.54	73.2%	24.6%	1.4%	0.8%
Quality of Ratings							
	n	Mean	SD	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
I would rate my academic experiences at VSU as . . .	629	3.54	.58	58.0%	38.2%	3.7%	0.2%
I would rate my social experiences at VSU as . . .	598	3.48	.66	56.9%	35.6%	6.5%	1.0%
I would rate my overall experiences at VSU as . . .	596	3.54	.57	57.9%	38.8%	3.2%	0.2%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

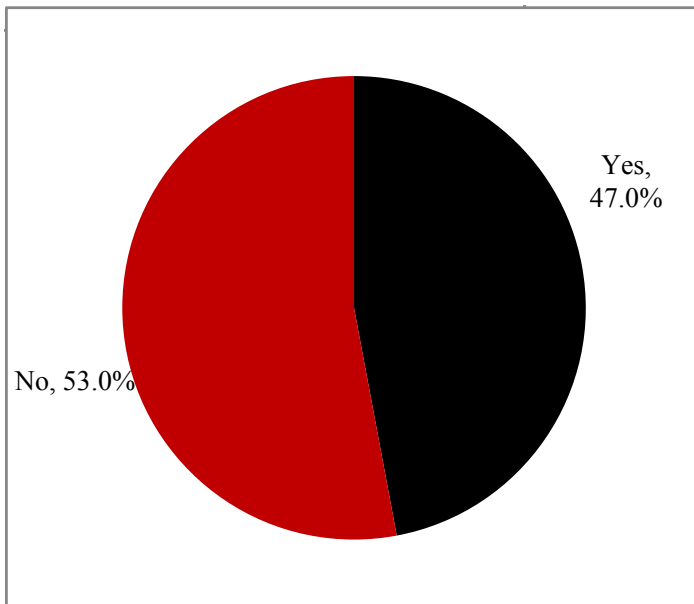
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 67: Seniors' Future Plans

	Total n	Full-time		Part-time	
		n	%	n	%
1. Working	999	735	73.6%	264	26.4%
2. Seeking employment	947	622	65.7%	325	34.3%
3. Pursuing further graduate work	967	365	62.3%	602	37.7%
	Total n	Yes		No	
		n	%	n	%
4. Continue employment in current career	865	359	41.5%	506	58.5%
5. Beginning/continuing military service	872	30	3.4%	842	96.6%
6. Caring for home/family	874	365	41.8%	509	58.2%

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

EXHIBIT 68: Seniors' Plans to Stay in Georgia



- 478 responding seniors plan to stay in the South Georgia area.
- 790 responding seniors plan to stay in the state of Georgia.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008