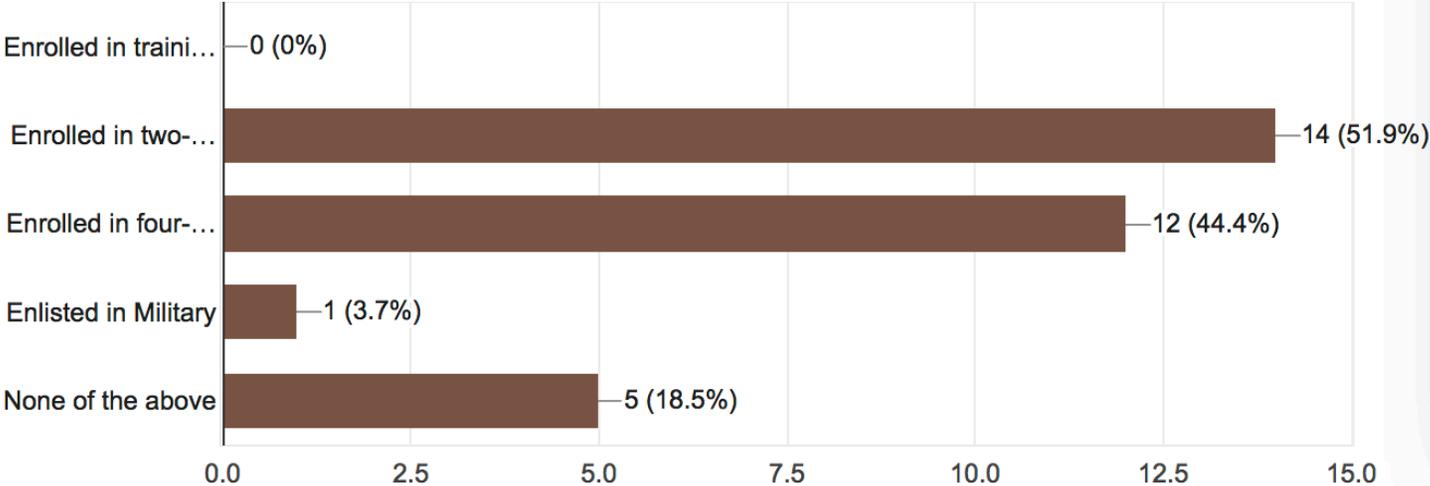


WHS CLASS OF 2015 POST GRADUATE SURVEY

SPRING 2017

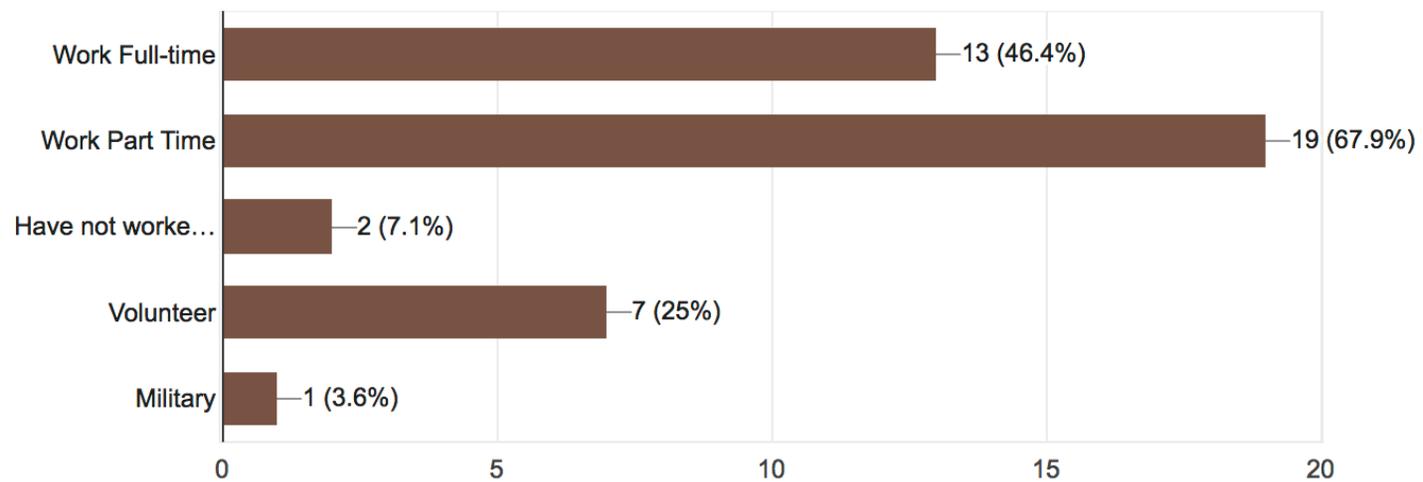
Which programs/schools have you attended since you left Woodland High School? (check all that apply)

27 responses



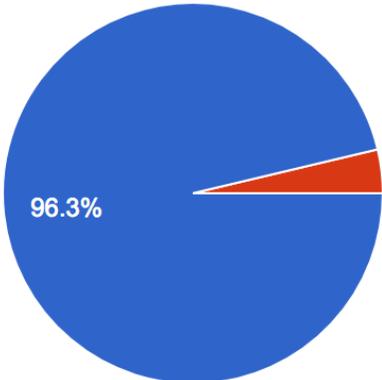
What employment have you had after you graduated from high school? (check all that apply):

28 responses



How would you classify your ethnicity:

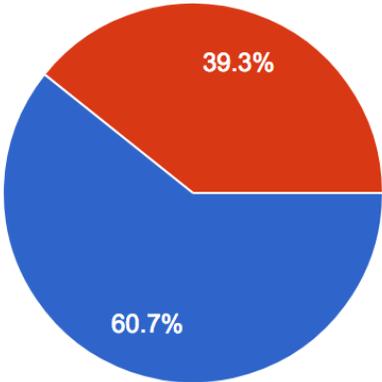
27 responses



- White
- Hispanic
- African American
- Asian
- Mixed Race
- Other

How satisfied are you with your high school experience?

28 responses



- Very Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Can you elaborate on your answer? (Satisfaction with HS)

20 responses

There were some really well-rounded teachers who cared for students, however there were a few who had their own agenda and if students didn't adhere, they seemed to penalize them.

I felt I was well prepared for college

Generally did well in English and US History classes

I was very lucky to have enjoyed my High School experience. The staff and my class are amazing people.

Could have been better. More classes geared to life interests.

small school feel, friends around, K-12 same school & same friends

Friends & activities

Liked the small school. I felt connected and was involved.

Likes american high school system. If you do your work, you're prepared.

Personal issues

Can you elaborate on your answer? (Satisfaction with HS)

20 responses

fun time is high school.

I had a very good high school experience for the most part. It was very influential and gave me a good start to my college career.

It was everything it should have been.

I liked baseball and Mr. Shoup.

Good education, good friends & sports.

I liked the teachers, but not so much the environment/some of the students.

The teachers were great.

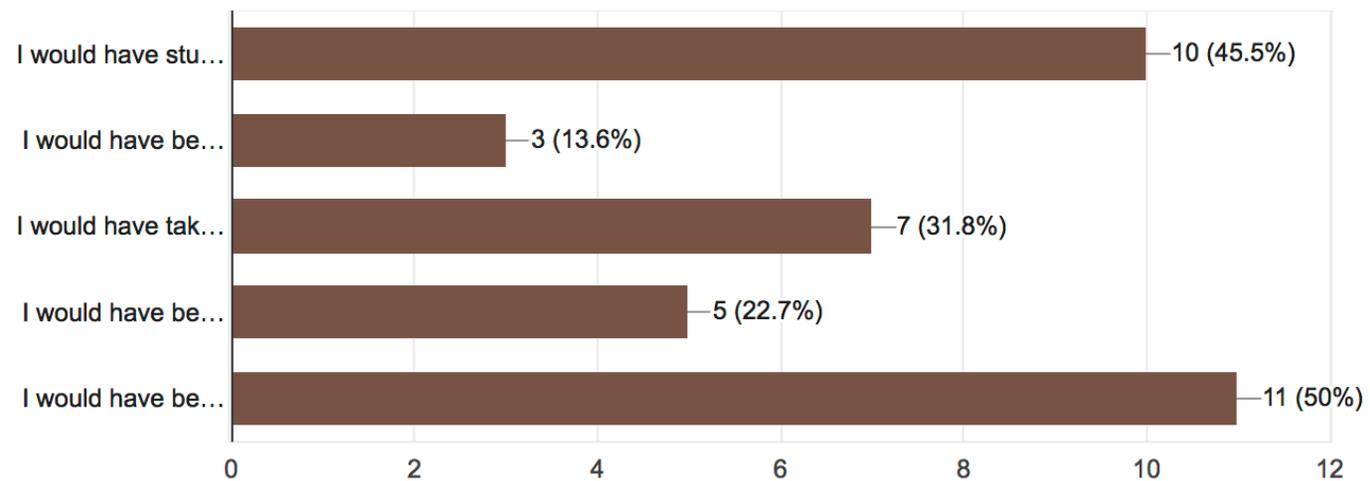
I enjoyed high school overall. There were ceratinkly downsides occasionally but for the most part it was fun.

There was a lot of bullying.

I had a really strong and supportive network of teachers. I liked how most of my classes were small so I could get one-on-one help if needed. I liked how I knew my peers pretty well and could talk to them about our classes. I personally disliked how sports-oriented the school was and I felt that it was over the top. However, a lot of people really like that about the school.

Knowing what you do now, what would you change, if anything about your high school experience if you could (check any that apply?)

22 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (change about HS experience)

20 responses

My experiences were good for me.

I was already active and in Running Start.

I was never very involved in extracurricular activities. Sometimes I think that if I had, I would have gotten a "taste" of more things, so to speak.

I was satisfied with all of it.

I enjoyed baseball and cross country.

I was failing 9th-11th, but in 12th my GPA was a 3.9

I would have taken AP classes.

I would have gone to Running Start, been a better student and learned how to learn.

I am content with the way I spent my time in high school.

I was really involved in extracurricular activities.

I got decent grades in high school but I ended up failing the last semester of Advanced Algebra before I went to college. I believe I also did poorly in chemistry. I wish I would have asked for more help from teachers and worked harder in those subjects. It would have probably helped my math skills in college.

Can you elaborate on your answer? (change about HS experience)

20 responses

When I was in high school i did running Start, thinking I knew what I wanted to do. When I got to college and li had to take to get the degree, I decided I didn't want to do that anymore because I knew I wouldn't get through the classes. I wouldn't take Running Start again because as a junior in high school I really didn't know what I wanted my major to be. I wish I would have done the junior research project, so I would have know what kind of schooling I needed.

Really good experience, and I wouldn't change it.

None apply to me

I took a lot of AP classes and paid for them and now that I changed my career path they are just used as electives.

I would have taken more AP classes and been more social.

Sports

Would have done Running Start

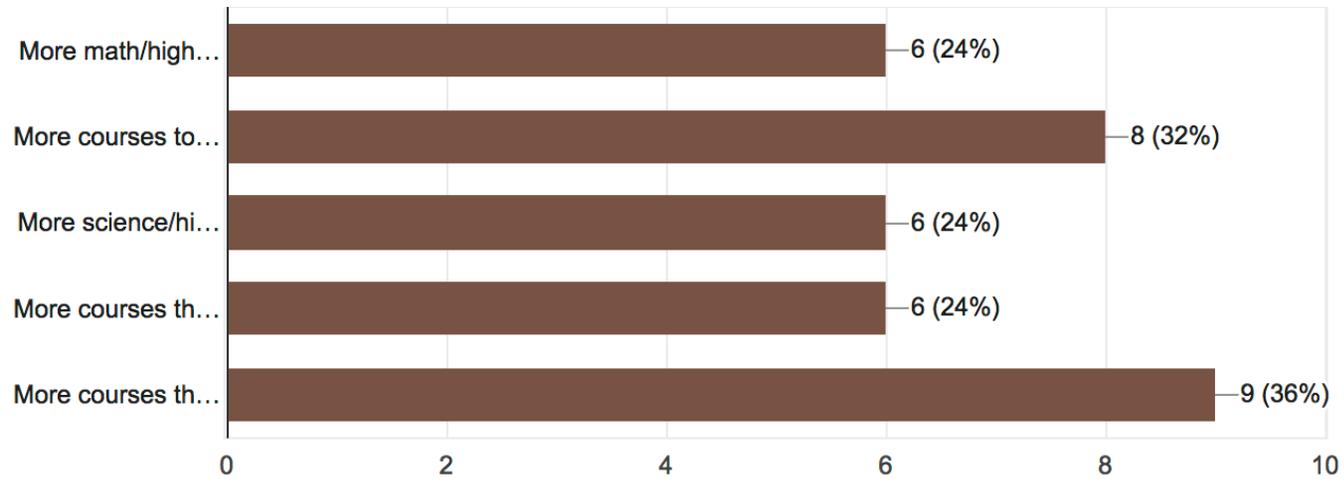
4.0 in college-maybe because I'm paying and more responsible.

More prep for the SAT

My experiences were good for me.

I wish I had taken (check any that apply):

25 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Wish I had taken)

16 responses

Specific Marketing/business classes.

Math helped with the critical thinking.

I am now a English Creative Writing major. I never really thought about becoming an English major in high school. I wish I could have taken more writing classes to have found my love of writing sooner.

I think everyone should take Algebra. I absolutelty wish I had specific job training and taken physics.

I did take AP Calculus and did well in college English.

I wish there was more computer/IT classes.

I was happy with the courses.

Critical thinking is arguably more important than any other subject. It is easy to look up how to do something on the internet but to be able to apply it and think about things is much more valuable than a single skill set.

I ould have like to see more classes on life skills that dealt with taxes, changing tires etc.

I wish I would have taken physics specifically in high school because I took an astronomy class in college and the physics was hard to understand. I am majoring in psychology in college and have had to take classes on critical thinking and scientific analysis of data. maybe if i had taken classes like that in high school I would have been more familiar with the concept.

Can you elaborate on your answer? (Wish I had taken)

16 responses

Woodland taught MLA format only, but all my classes in college require APA format.

I was working towards a different career when I was in High School.

More anatomy

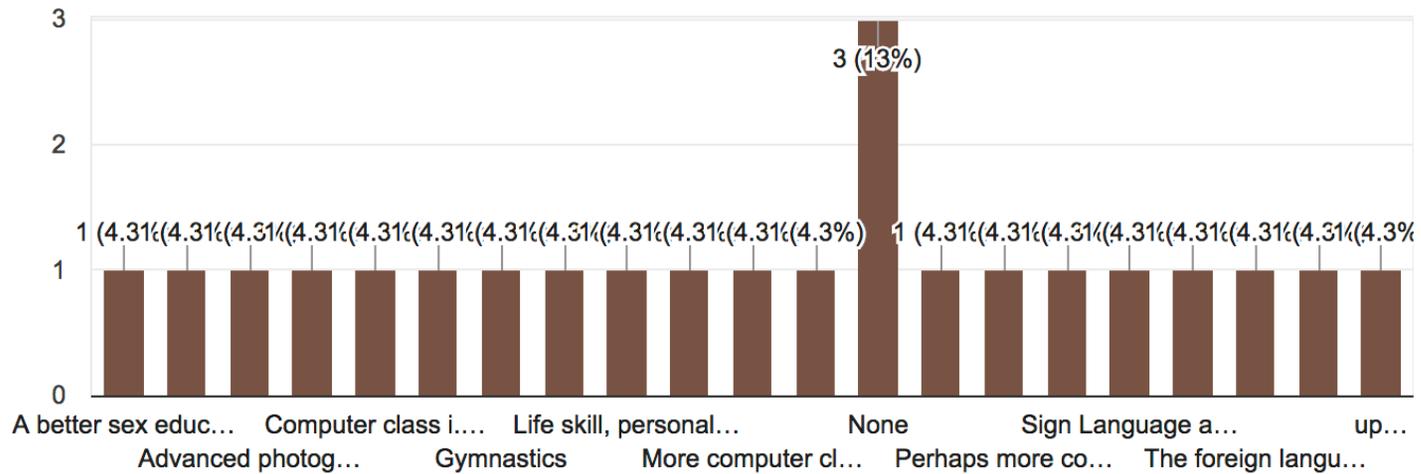
Any course in computer science-or more difficult ones.

I wasn't prepared for how in-depth writing is-what it it involves.

Some AP classes to feel challenged.

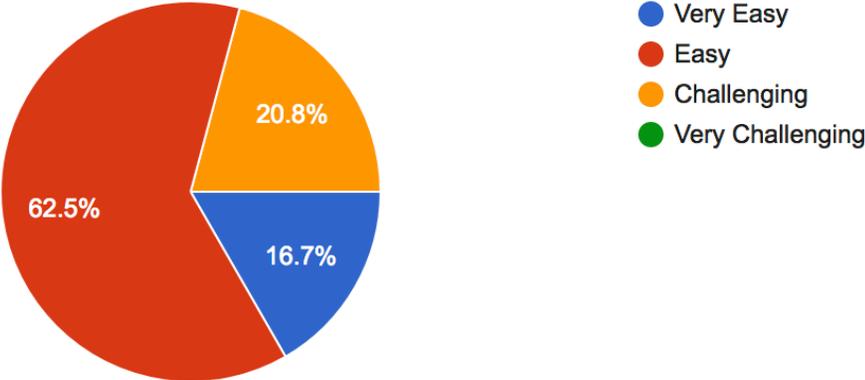
Were there any classes or programs not offered at WHS, that you would have like to have participated in? Please be specific:_____

23 responses



The requirements for graduating high school, including courses and state tests I had to pass were:

24 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Requirements)

16 responses

State tests were challenging.

I felt prepared.

Somewhat challenging

Stressful while taking

I needed to pay attention and study

I had to work hard in every class I had in high school. Some subjects came easier than others, but they still challenged me in some way.

WHS did prepare me for the tests.

WHS test were fine. The state tests were tough.

Some were easy, some were challenging.

Except for presentations.

Except for Math.

I didn't have too much trouble meeting all the criteria for graduation.

Can you elaborate on your answer? (Requirements)

16 responses

Definitely required studying

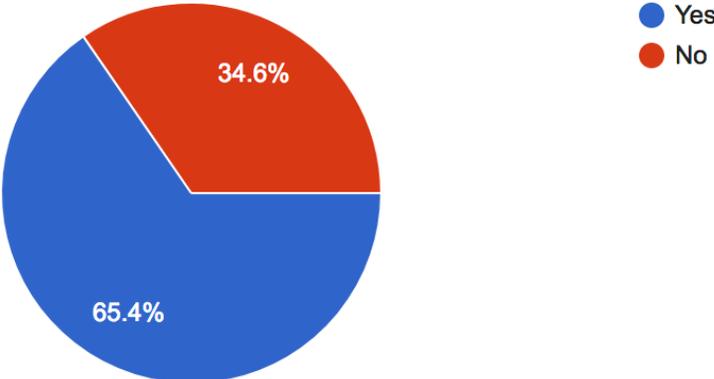
Didn't challenge me.

Some things were unnecessary-senior project.

The senior project wasn't easy and not necessary unless going to college.

High School prepared me for my current and future plans:

26 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Preparation)

20 responses

The teachers that helped me the most were Mrs. Conditt & Mrs. Saari

Did not show me what I needed to know for life.

Interestingly enough, I never considered being an English major in high school. However, WHS prepared me very well. I took Honors English classes my first three years and took AP English my Senior year. I even received 4 college credits from that class. It put me on the right path for my major and I am very grateful.

WHS mostly prepared me for my future plans. There were key teachers that taught beyond curriculum.

I want to go into nursing. It was a big change from high school to college.

Teachers helped, especially Mrs. Miller.

I got some skills, but as a business major I could have used more.

I needed more public speaking, study habits; not just how to pass a test.

I needed more skills such as how to budget, taxes how to fix a flat etc.

I'm a server who wants to go into HR. I would have liked to have more career exploration. I did like the Student Store and Marketing.

High school taught me study skills and time management skills that prepared me for college.

Can you elaborate on your answer? (Preparation)

20 responses

Not to be rude, but I think the classes I took just got me through high school. They didn't teach me anything about the life after school. The classes just teach science, math, history and English(how to write a paper) and some Spanish.I hung out in Mrs. Ruff's class that taught about checks and taxes and thought that was more beneficial than the other classes. I thought that classes should have been required.

It helped to build character, discipline, experience helped develop life skills.

It helped, but was undecided about career selection

Taking AP classes prepared me, but if I didn't I wouldn't have benefited as much.

I had a baby. Nothing prepared me for that.

yes for college
no for future plans-basics i.e. insurance, check writing, loans, budgets etc.

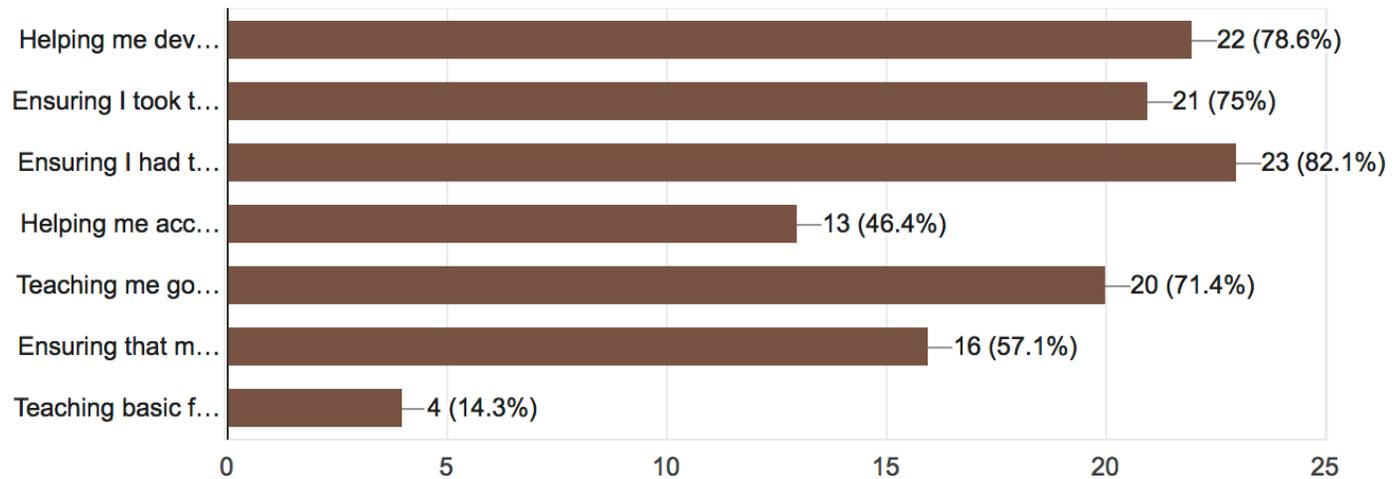
Need info on paying bills, getting loans etc.

I'm getting a general degree right now, but not sure what I will do.

Hard to say since I went to Running Start.

Check all that you believe Woodland High School did a good job on:

28 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (WHS Did Well)

22 responses

I didn't know my career path. I learned how to write a resume but I didn't learn about credit, loans, budgets etc.

Could use more on budgets

WHS really pushed me to think beyond high school. I sometimes thought they pushed a little too hard considering we were still in high school. But in the end, the classes and teachers helped prepare me for my college experience.

I wanted more hands on classes. WHS did a good job if you were going to college. There needed to be more day-to-day living activities/real life situations.

Staff tried to teach me good study habits.

No. 2-I changed career paths. No. 6-some of my school work connected to after high school goals. No. 7-There was no help with teaching basic financial skills.

No 4. I didn't take advantage of the resources. I really could have used more life skills i.e. taxes, budget, loans, cooking & auto. We also need more one-on-one with counselors.

Really needed life skills.

The last one didn't exist at WHS.

FBLA was a huge help.

Can you elaborate on your answer? (WHS Did Well)

22 responses

Only 1 class specifically addressed study habits, the rest just threw assignments at you and expected you to get them done. Unless enrolled in specifically addressed financial skills, there was no guidance.

More oral presentations and writing feedback would have helped. Hard to apply to specific career, but good job in College prep and unless enrolled in the "financial aid" class, there was no emphasis on financial skills.

Career Path online was terrible, not a good investment of time.

I had a hard time finding help through the counseling at WHS.

Helped for college.

I wish we did more life skills. I can't remember doing any of that i.e. financial skills, budget etc. I think people should learn to write checks.

Need to encourage applying for outside scholarships, not just local. Advisory was good for planning.

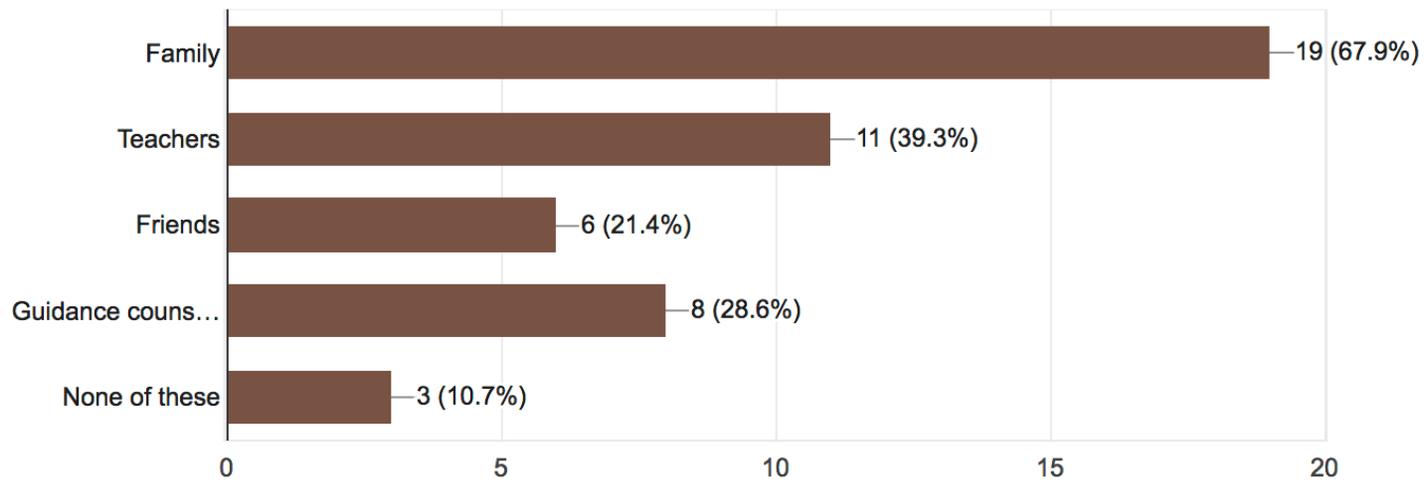
there was more focus on universities not Community colleges or a back up plan. I would have liked more info on resumes writing and job interviews. I think Life Skills should be required for seniors.

Life Skills class should be required.

Definitely no. 4

While in high school, which of these did you rely on for the most guidance to help you identify and achieve your goals after high school?

28 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Guidance)

12 responses

Guidance counsleors came in a close second, w/Mr. Kotchis being very helpful my senior year.

Ms. Conditt, Ms. Thorson, and Mr. Kochis were particularly helpful.

Mr. Kochis and Mrs. Sturdivan in particular

I really just figured it all out myself because nobody was there to help me. I just knew I needed to go to college, and that's why I started out at a Community College.

2 teachers- Blackwelder and Nelson

Hadn't identified future goals and getting married within a month.

I'm the kind of person to go to my friends and family for advice when it comes to my goals. However, I know the teachers would have been there to help if I had asked.

Also coaches.

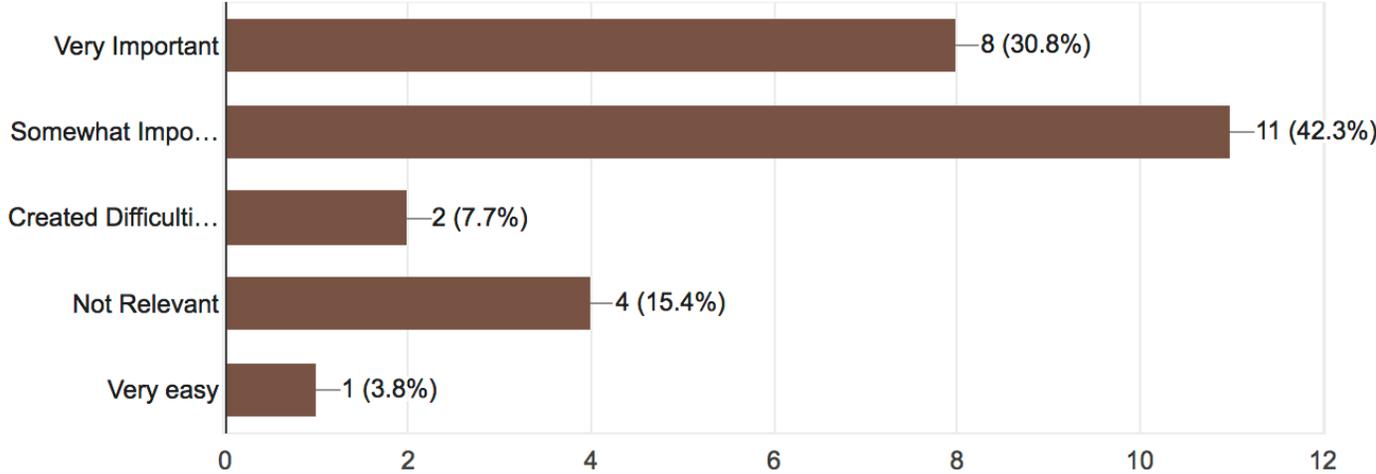
Mr. Lindsay

phone call was cut off.

AND mRS. MILLER.

Was online access to learning resources at home an important part of your educational experience:

26 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Online Access)

8 responses

Rarely did teachers use online resources.

I was more comfortable working at school because teacher were available.

I didn't find the internet as important to have in High School as I do now in College.

for English classes

If I used it.

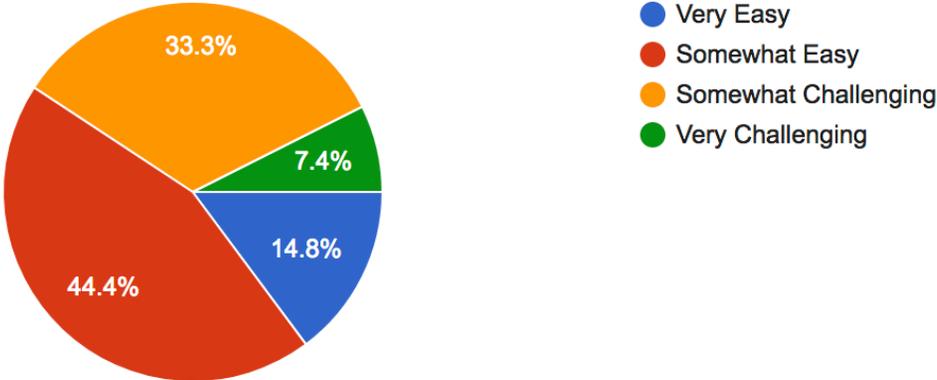
I think the online resources we were required to take part in only confused me. It made me even less certain of what I wanted to do when I got to college and beyond.

I didn't have internet at home.

It was helpful to access my grades.

I found the transition from high school to my current position to be:

27 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Transition from HS)

11 responses

Becoming an adult in general is difficult.

It was challenging to make the adjustment to being accountable.

Transition is never easy but I felt prepared.

Didn't feel school prepared students for world that they graduate into. I met the bare minimum of state requirements.

It was certainly different and that made it challenging. However, the school that I attend now has class sizes similar to WHS. The professors are great resources and really want to see students succeed--also similar to WHS. This made it a lot easier of a transition.

I didn't have the life skills needed.

I went to LCC and no attending Concordia.

I wasn't ready for the difficulty and responsibility of deadlines. I didn't have the life skills to live on my own.

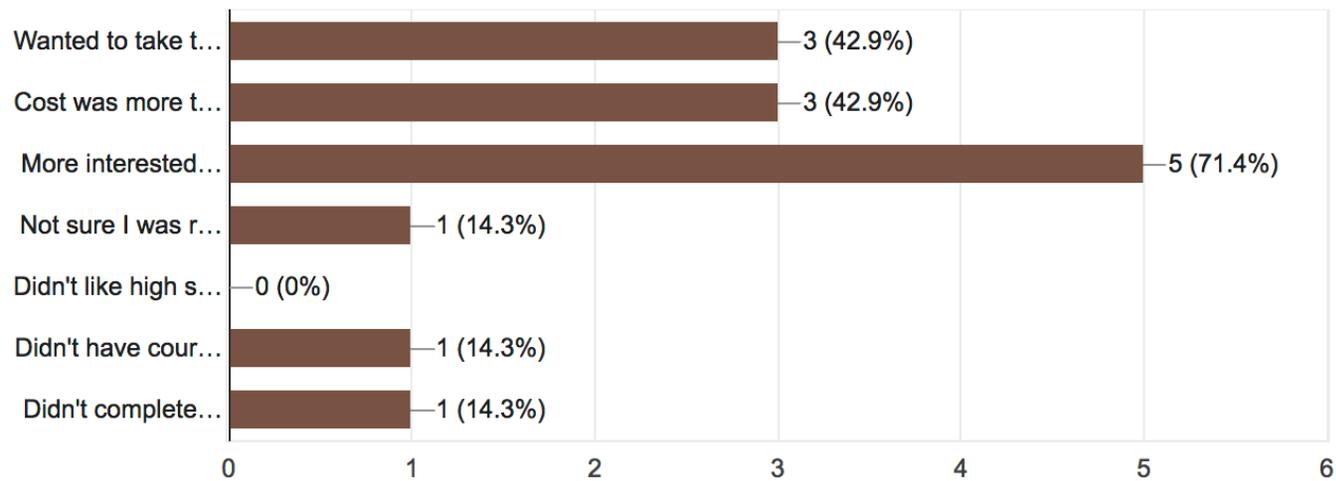
Life stuff was difficult such as budgets, loans etc.

I didn't have the adult skills I needed. I would like to see more mock interviews.

Study skills, time management etc.

FOR STUDENTS NOT ENROLLED IN COLLEGE POST-HIGH SCHOOL
Considerations in my decision not to enroll in college after graduation.
(Check all that apply)

7 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Why not college?)

5 responses

Baby

I had a great job offer.

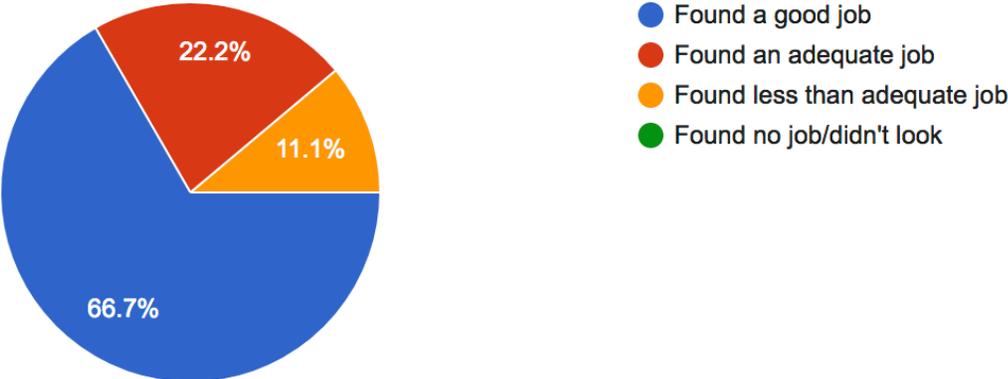
Wasn't interested in going to college

I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. I do want to go to college and maybe play sports, so I can't wait too long.

I wanted to earn some money before going to college.

How would you respond to the following list regarding your employment situation if you DID NOT enroll in college/training program after high school?

9 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (employment)

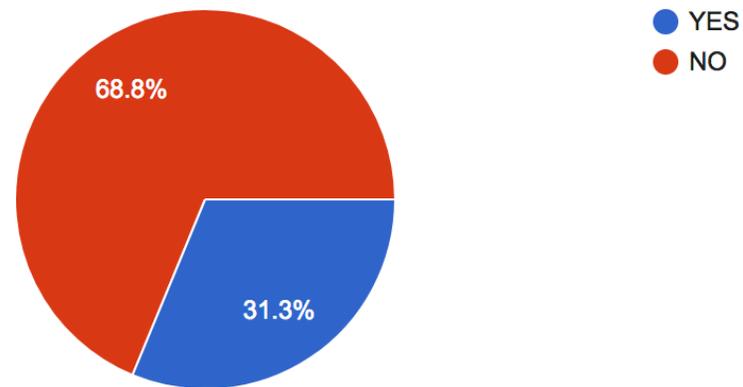
2 responses

I didn't have a any pressure to work. I ended up quitting.

I had to stop going to college to work so I could live, but I plan on returning to Clark College.

Were you required to take any non-credit developmental/remedial course because the college determined you weren't ready for college-level work in a particular subject?

16 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Remedial)

5 responses

Math and English because of placement tests. English 98 was harder than 101(due to profs.)

I had 2 terms of high school level Math and Eng. It was difficult because it made me feel like I wasn't really in college.

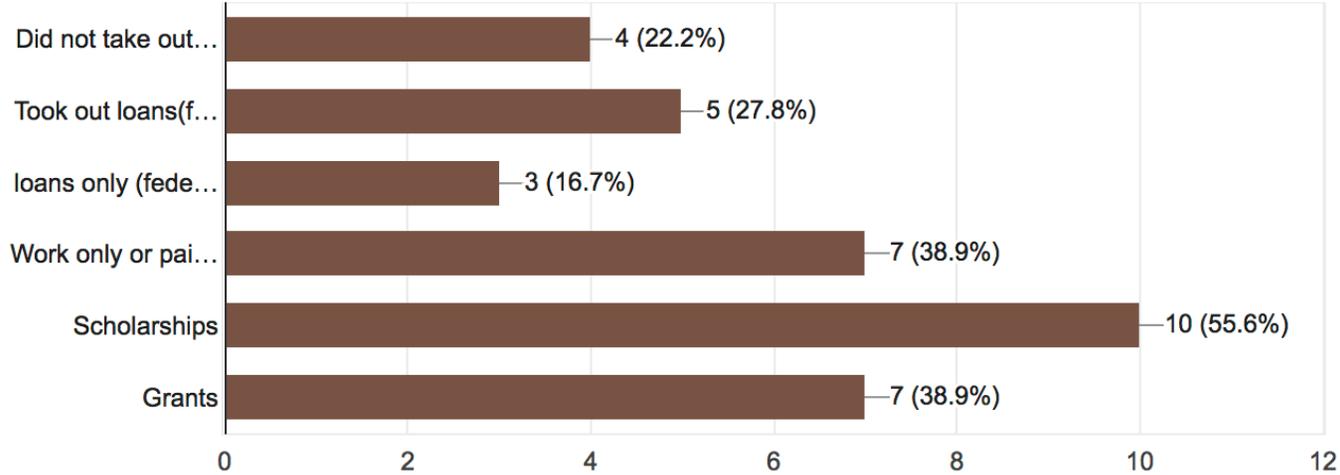
In Math I didn't place in college level Math so I took it at the high school. (Running Start)

extra Math. I didn't pass the class in high school.

I had to take one pre-college math course because I did not pass advanced algebra and did not test into college level math initially.

How did you generally pay for college/vocational training (if applicable)

18 responses



Can you elaborate on your answer? (Pay for College)

3 responses

My first year was paid for but now I have to take out loans.

I also work part time. I'm in ITS.

My parents are able to pay for my school. I work part-time to afford my books and supplies as well as living expenses.

Any additional comments

14 responses

Maybe too much stress about senior project.

Loved my experience.

I had a good high school experience.

Overall I enjoyed high school. It was beneficial in preparing me for college and life.

Good staff. Nice and knowledgeable.

I felt good about the last class to graduate from the old high school. I hope kids have the same good experience in the high school.

I thought WHS was a good school. i only went there my senior year. The staff was very helpful.

After high school I changed my mind about what I wanted to do so it was difficult to answer some of the questions.

Any additional comments

14 responses

If I would have had 24 credits, I would have felt graduation was impossible because there would have been no room for error. I would have given up.

John Studivan was the best interviewer.

WHS tends to focus a lot on sports. Example: why not have signing for students being accepted into college, not just the athletes?

Skill Center was a huge help. It gave me skills for my current job. I want to return to Clark and finish my AA, then work my way up in Illini managing restaurants and events.

There is definitely room for improvement for WHS. The foreign language programs do not exist essentially. Some teachers were obviously out of their area of study. Could use a boost in vocational classes whether it's shop, woodworking, or others. Newer curriculum everywhere would definitely be a boost. Many teachers truly cared about the students and were a great resource for nearly anything. STEM classes were decently well done. WHS created a welcoming environment for many but passion and interest drops over time for both certain groups of students and teachers. It would be great to find a way to keep key teachers engaged to help keep students engaged.

I took an AP history class my junior year and it was difficult to get college credit for taking the class. I wish it would be a little easier to gain credit for AP courses once I got into college.

Also, it was hard to take the activities we did in homeroom seriously. I know they were designed to help us figure out what to do after high school but they weren't very effective in my opinion. I wish the teacher would have just explained all that stuff to us instead of giving us little worksheets.

