

## Chapter 1: FIRST-YEAR SURVEY

*Who takes it?*

All first-year students who start in the fall semester are invited to take the survey.

*When is it administered?*

It is normally administered during Truman Week. This year, it was administered early in the fall semester.

*How long does it take for the faculty to complete the instrument?*

15 to 25 minutes.

*What office administers it?*

The Student Success Center in conjunction with the Provost's Office administers the survey.

*Who originates this survey?*

The survey is a local instrument prepared by Truman faculty and administrators.

*When are results typically available?*

Late fall.

*What type of information is sought?*

The survey provides information on the student's perception of the admission process, summer orientation, and expectations of college. It also provides some basic demographic information on first-generation status and family income.

*From whom are the results available?*

The Provost's Office.

*To whom are the results regularly distributed?*

The University community through this *Almanac*.

*Are the results available by department or discipline?*

No.

*Are the results comparable to data of other universities?*

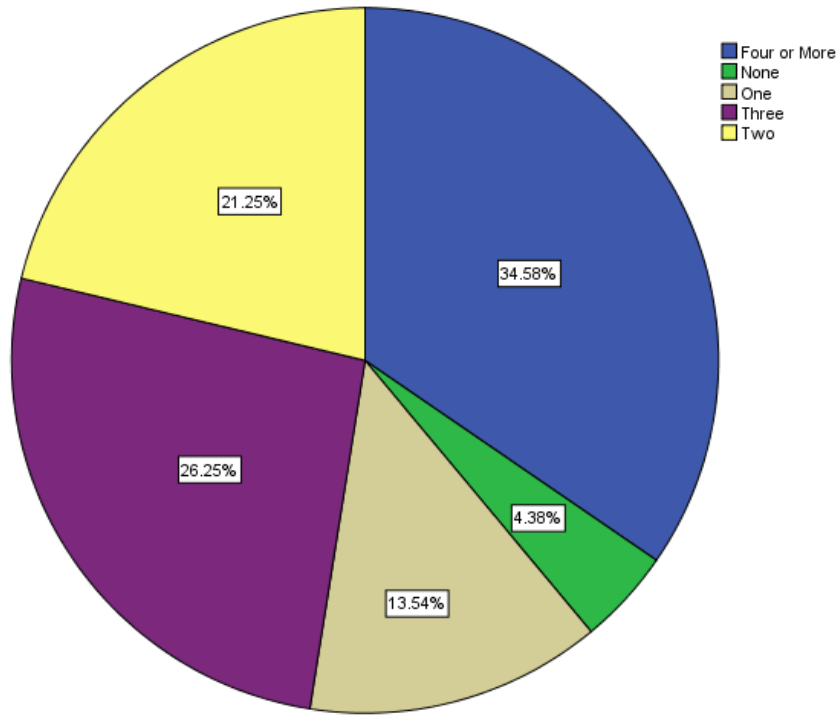
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## **FIRST YEAR SURVEY 2013 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

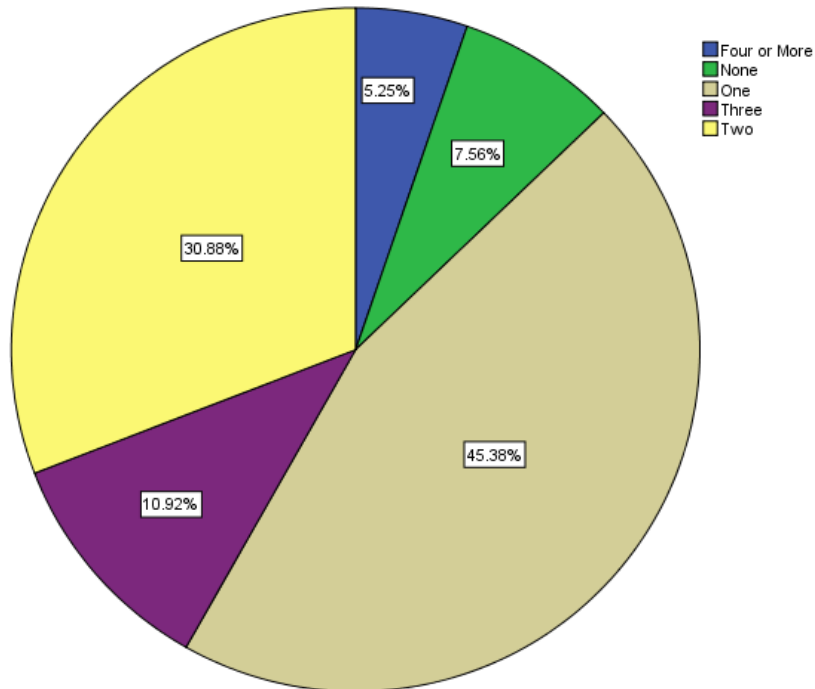
- Four hundred and ninety students completed the survey.
- Over 90% of visited the Truman campus at least once as part of the admission process.
- Approximately one third of first year students said the liberal arts mission of the University was influential in their decision to attend.
- One-half of respondents reported that Truman's academic reputation was the most important reason for attending. The cost of Truman and being offered financial assistance were the next most highly ranked.
- Approximately 16% indicated that they are first generation students while 54% indicated that both of their parents had graduated from college.
- 27% identified themselves as upper middle class, 50 % as middle class, 16% as working class, and 2% identified themselves as lower class.
- Over 81% expect to graduate from Truman knowing three or more faculty well enough to ask for a letter of recommendation.
- The most common expectation for first semester grades was A-/B+. Fewer than 2% of students expected to average lower than a B.
- Approximately 30% of students expect to spend less than 10 hours a week preparing for class.

Full results follow.

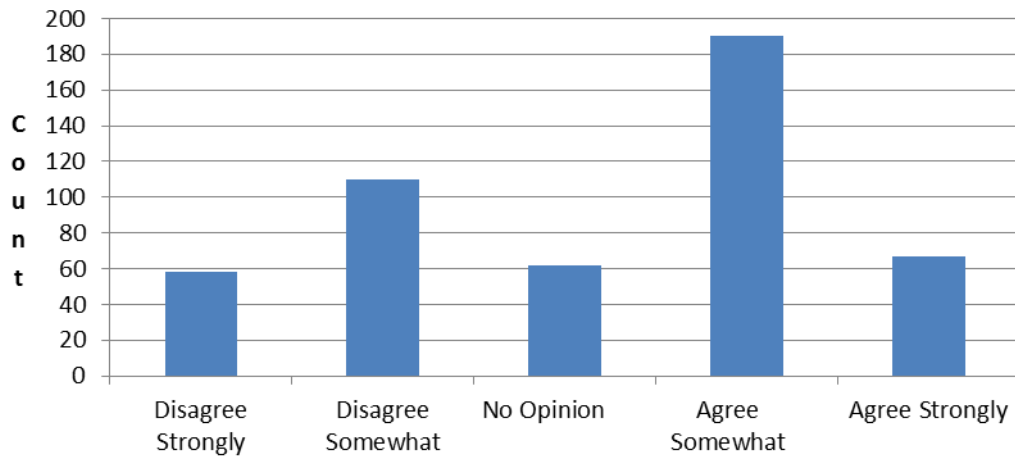
**In Selecting a College, How Many College or University Campuses Did You Visit?**



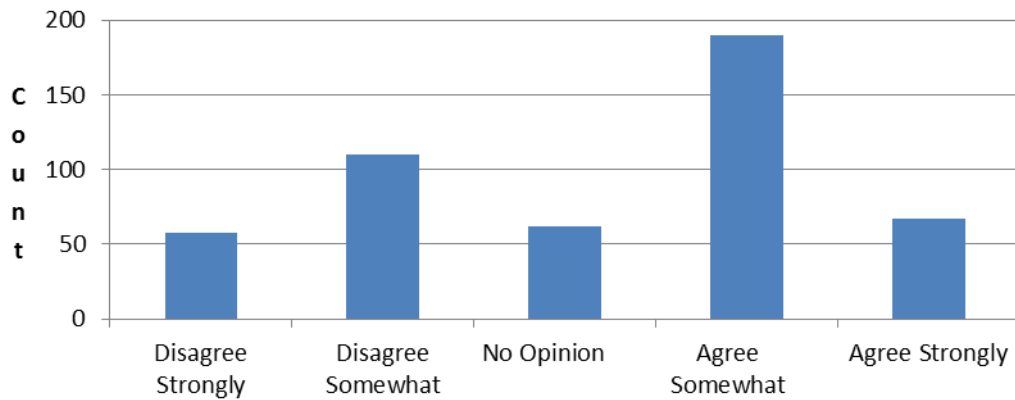
**In Making a College Decision, How Many Times Did You Visit Truman State University?**



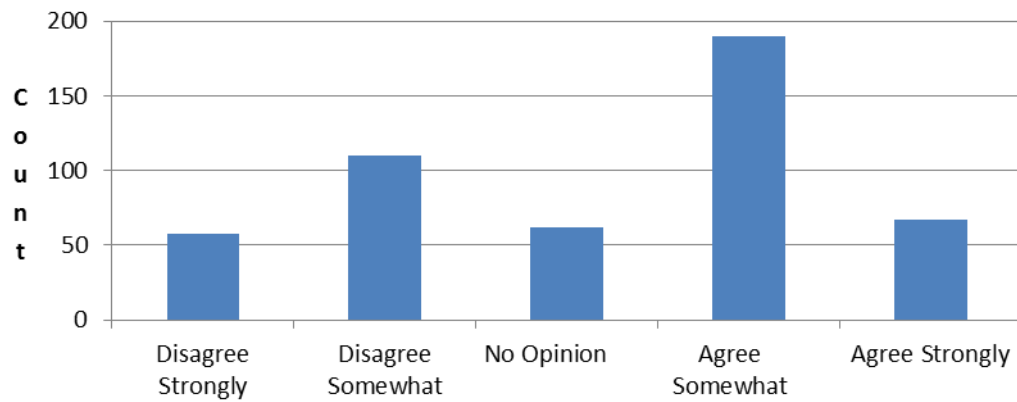
### My parents played a large role in deciding where I would attend college.



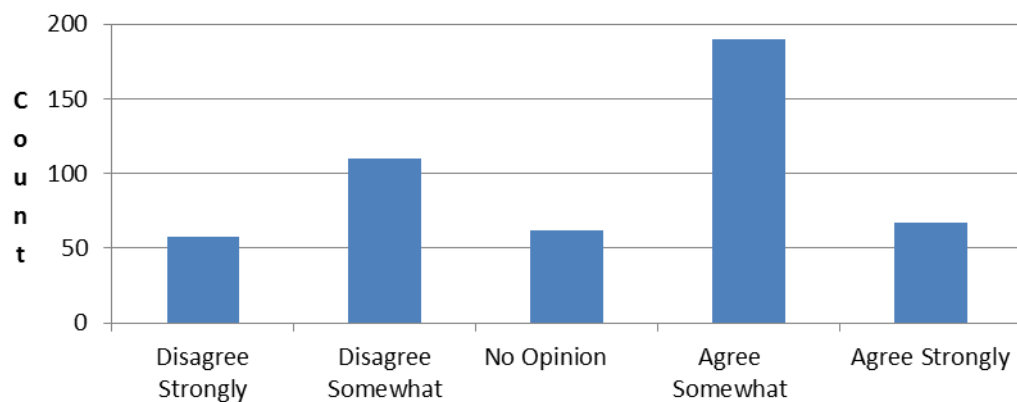
### Visiting the campus of Truman State University was influential in my final college decision.



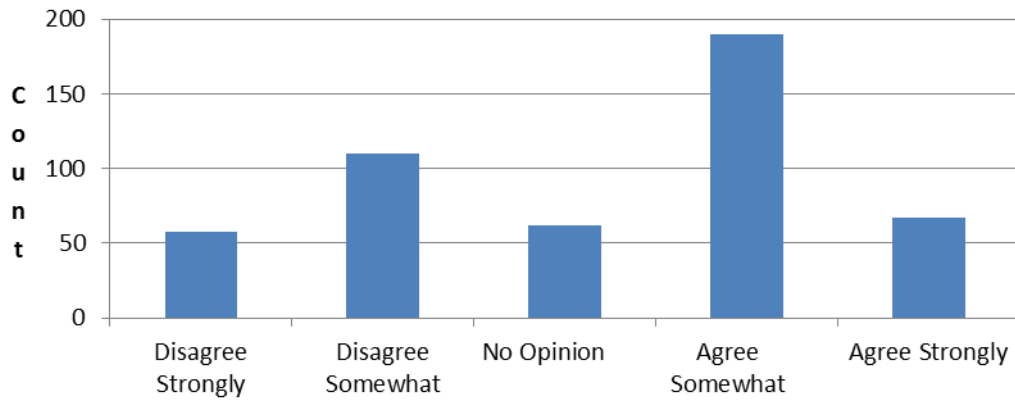
**The telephone calls I received from Truman, faculty, staff, and students were influential in my college decision.**



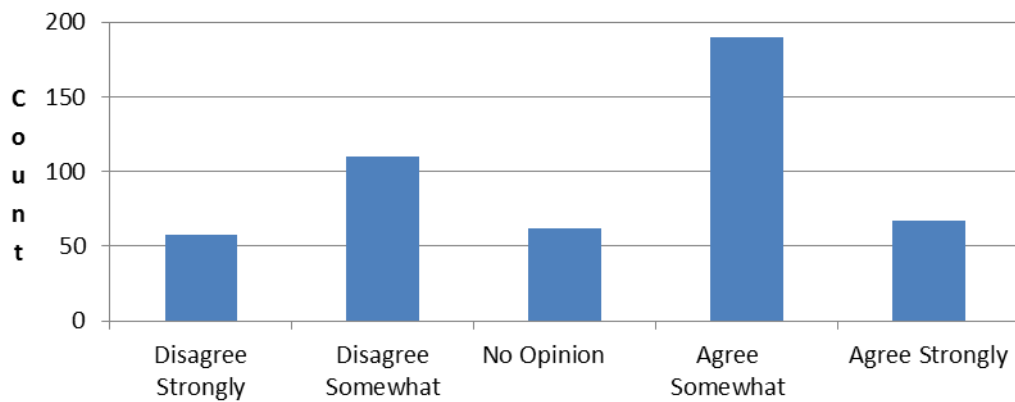
**The liberal arts and sciences mission influenced my decision to attend Truman State University.**



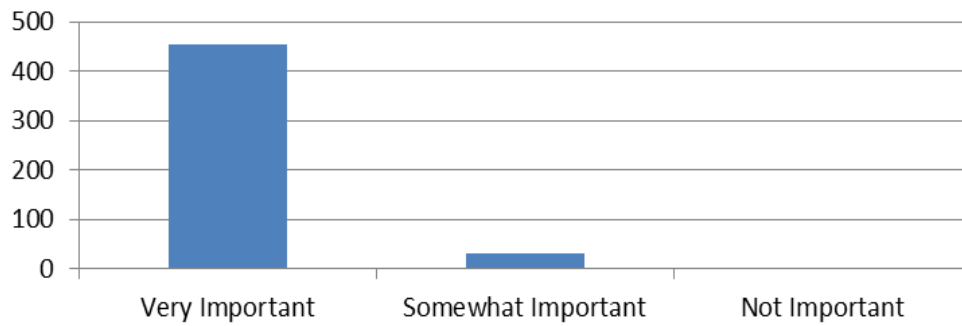
**The publications and correspondence I received from Truman State University were influential in my decision to attend**



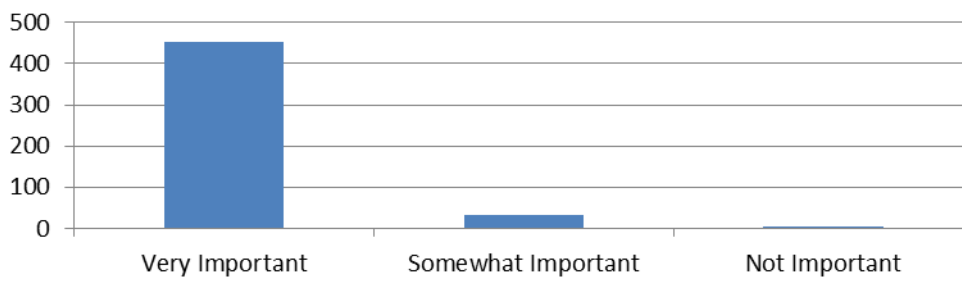
**The publications and correspondence I received from Truman State University were influential in my decision to attend**



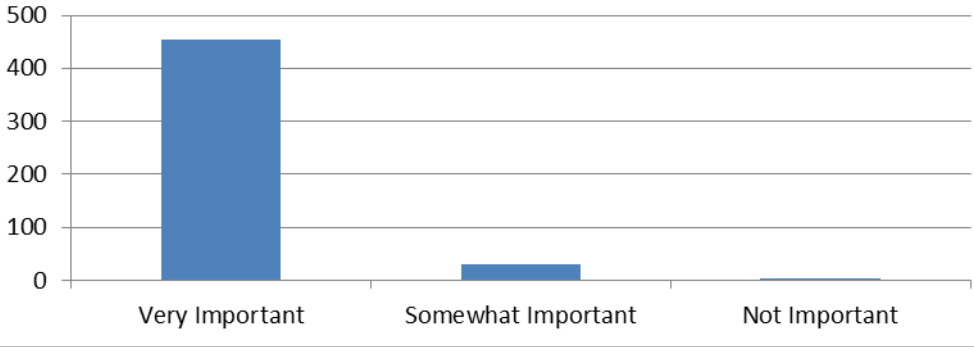
**How important were each of the following reasons in influencing your decision to attend Truman? \_Truman has a very good academic reputation**



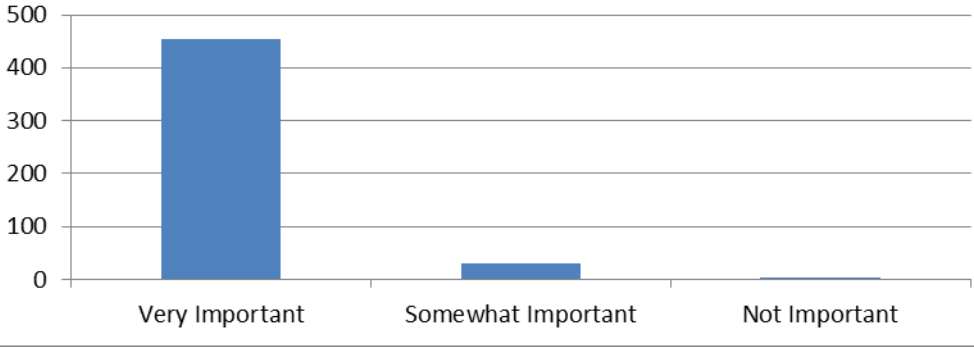
**How important were each of the following reasons in influencing your decision to attend Truman? \_Truman has a good reputation for its social activities**



**How important were each of the following reasons in influencing your decision to attend Truman? \_I was offered financial assistance**

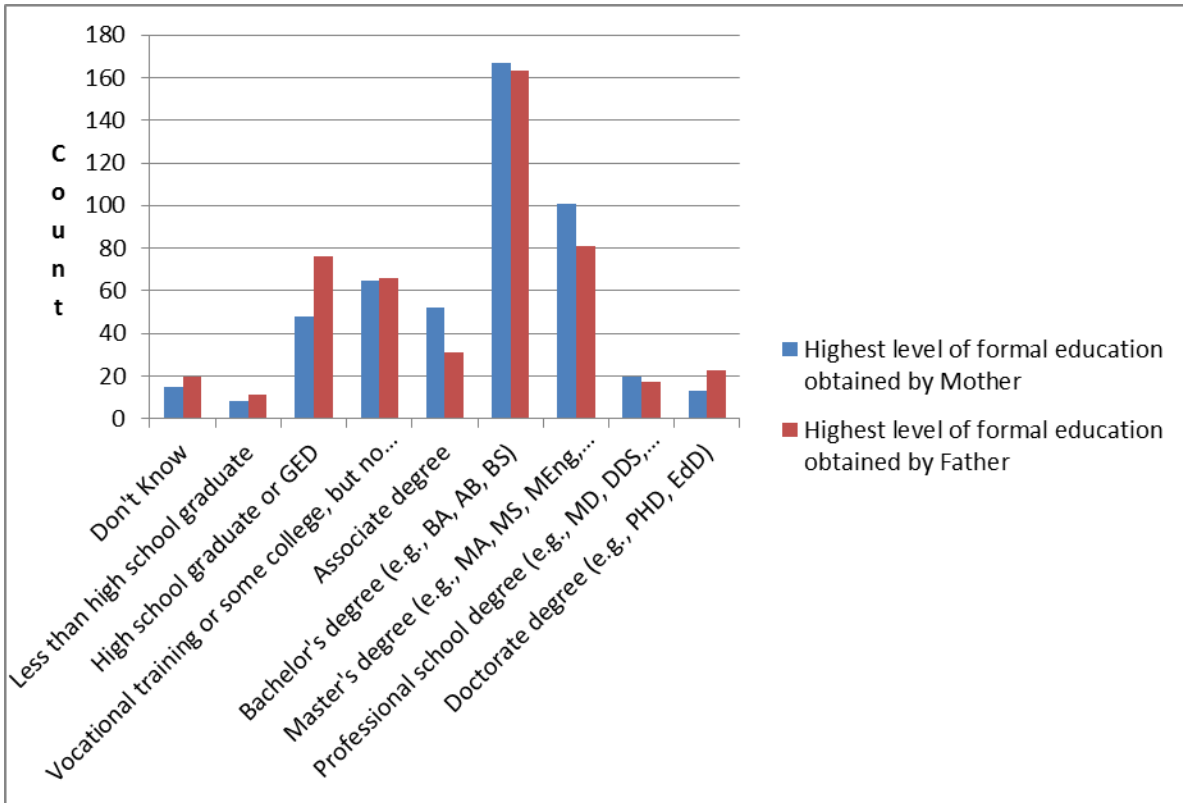
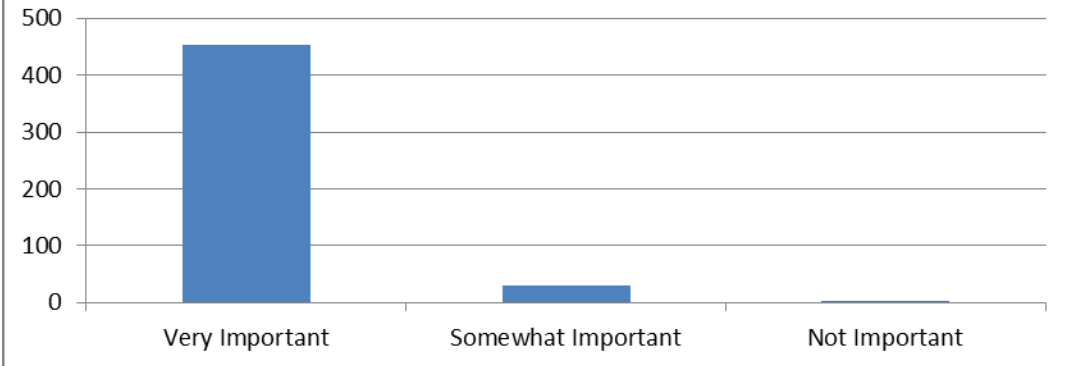


**How important were each of the following reasons in influencing your decision to attend Truman? \_The cost of attending Truman**

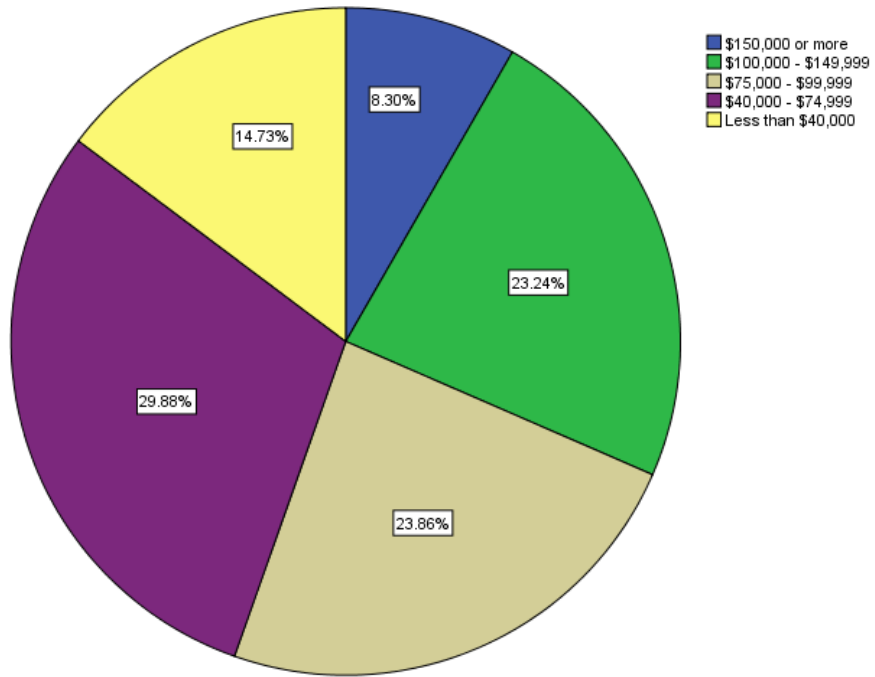




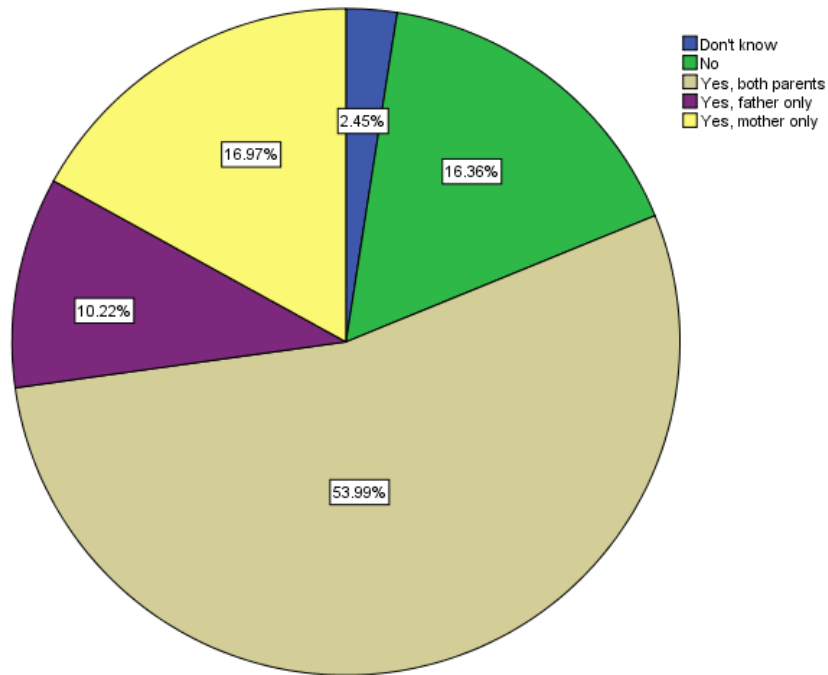
**How important were each of the following reasons in influencing your decision to attend Truman? \_Truman's graduates gain admission to top graduate/professional schools and get good jobs**



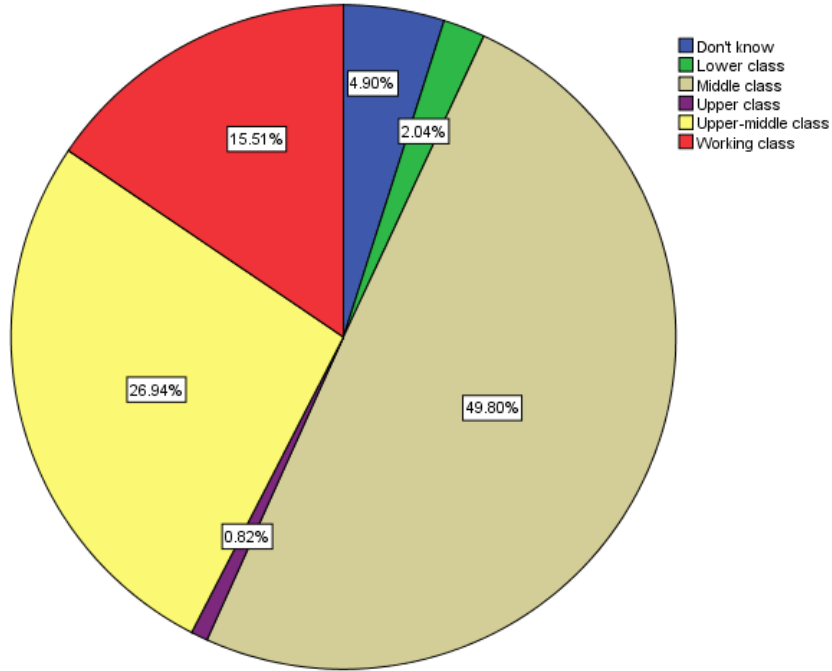
**What is Your Best Estimate of Your Parents' Total Income Last Year?**



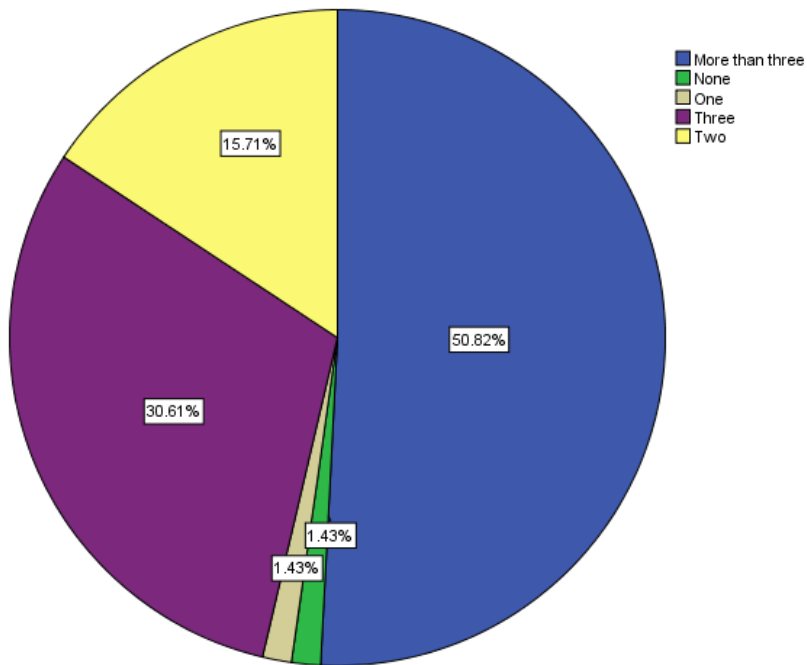
**Did Either of Your Parents Graduate from College?**



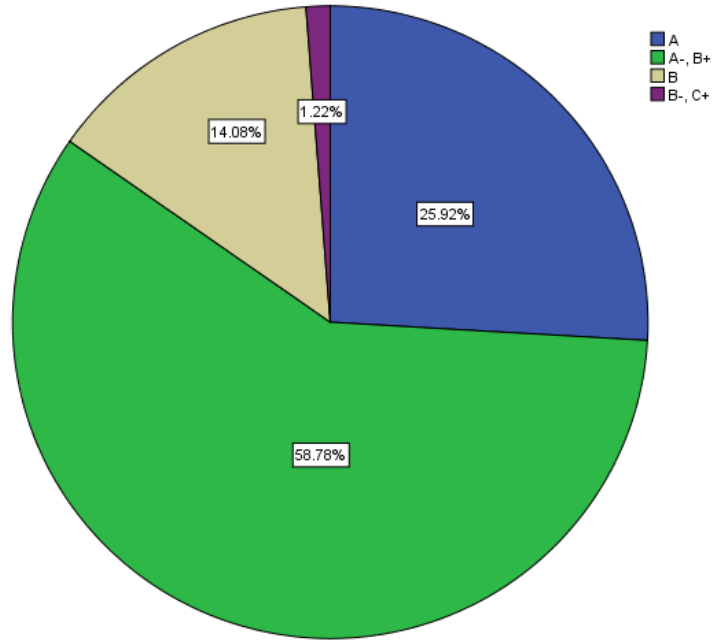
**Which of the Following Categories Best Describes Your Family's Social Class During Your Senior Year of High School?**



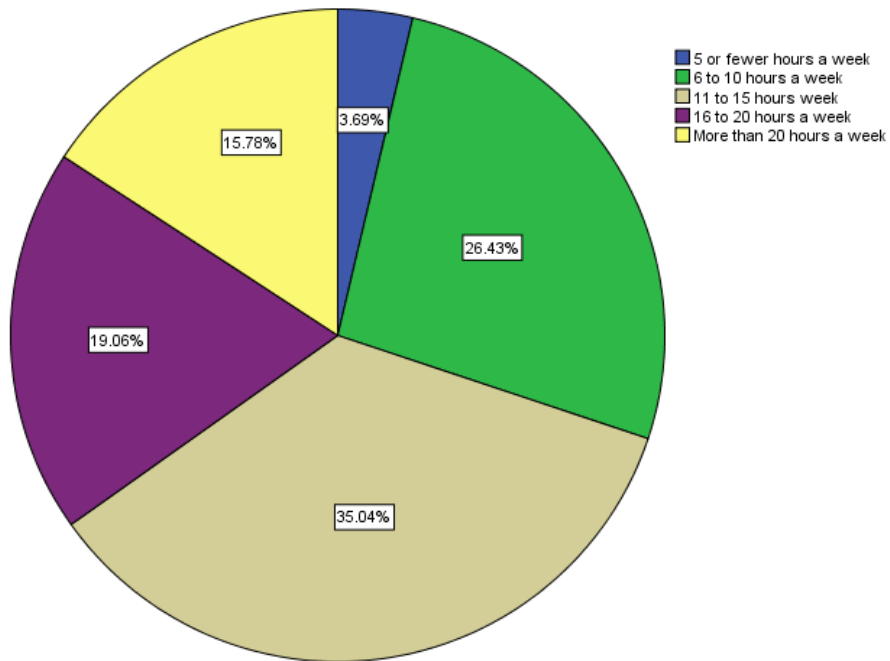
**Upon Graduation From Truman State University, How Many Faculty Members do You Expect to Know Well Enough that You Would Ask Them for a Letter of Recommendation?**



**What do You Expect Most of Your First Semester Grades at Truman to Be?**



**During the time Truman is in session, about how many hours a week do you expect to spend outside of class on activities related to your academic program, such as studying, writing, reading, lab work, rehearsing, etc.?**



**At the Present Time, What is Your General Attitude Toward Truman?**

