



EQUITABLE ACCESS STUDENT SURVEY

- FOCUS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS -

Out of the 491 respondents, 349 were undergraduate students.

The survey responses reveal that the undergraduate participants are predominantly Fourth/Fifth-year students (30%), Third-year students (27%), and First-Year students (23%). Most of these respondents are Full-Time students (85%). The leading majors among undergraduates are Health Professions & Related Clinical Sciences (16%), Social Sciences (14%), and Business-Related fields (12%).

Cost is a concern for undergraduates when purchasing course materials, with 23% identifying it as their top factor. There is a considerable range in spending on required course materials in a semester, with 29% spending between \$201 and \$300 and 21% spending between \$301 and \$400. A notable minority (12.2%) spend over \$500 per semester, indicating variability in costs.

When asked about not obtaining required materials last year, 55% of respondents indicated this question did not apply to them. Among those who did not obtain materials, the most common reasons were “Price (it was too expensive)” (18%) and “Instructor said it was not necessary or needed for the course” (13%).

For preferred course material formats, undergraduates are divided between “Depends on the course” (30%), “Digital textbook” (21%), and “Print textbook with a digital component” (19%). Preferences for digital formats are driven by the convenience of not carrying physical books (15%), access on multiple devices (14%), and immediate availability (12%).

During the 2023-2024 academic year, 88% of undergraduates used digital course materials, with a majority using them Moderately (34%), Frequently (27%), or All the time (25%). While most respondents (78%) were initially unaware of the Equitable Access program, 60% expressed support for it, and 34% declared needing more information before forming an opinion. Overall, 65% of respondents view the flat-fee program positively, with 27% considering it a significant improvement and 38% seeing it as a somewhat better alternative.

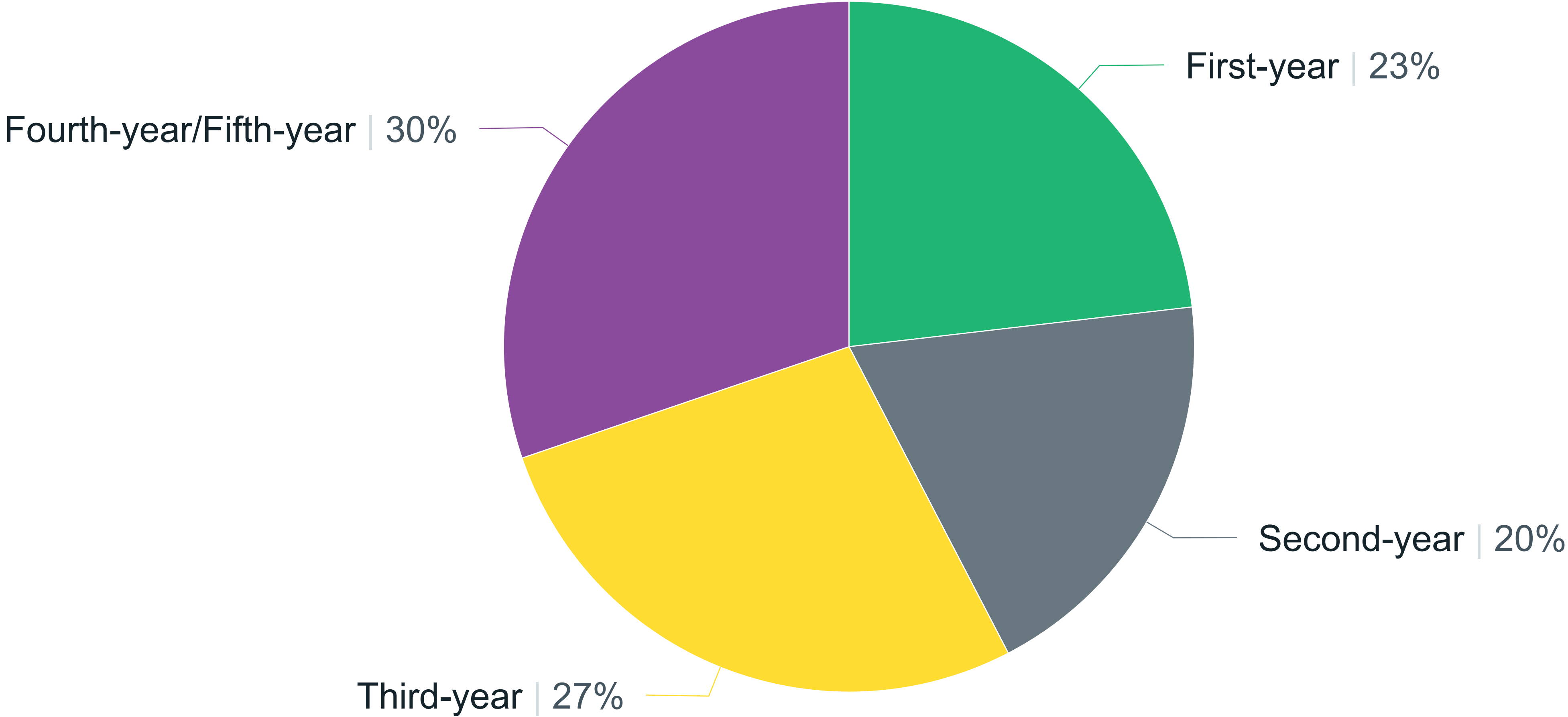
The detailed charts showcasing the results of each questions are organized in 4 categories:

Our audience	P. 2	Course materials	P. 5
Digital format	P. 9	Equitable Access	P. 13

OUR AUDIENCE

Which of the following best describes your current student status?

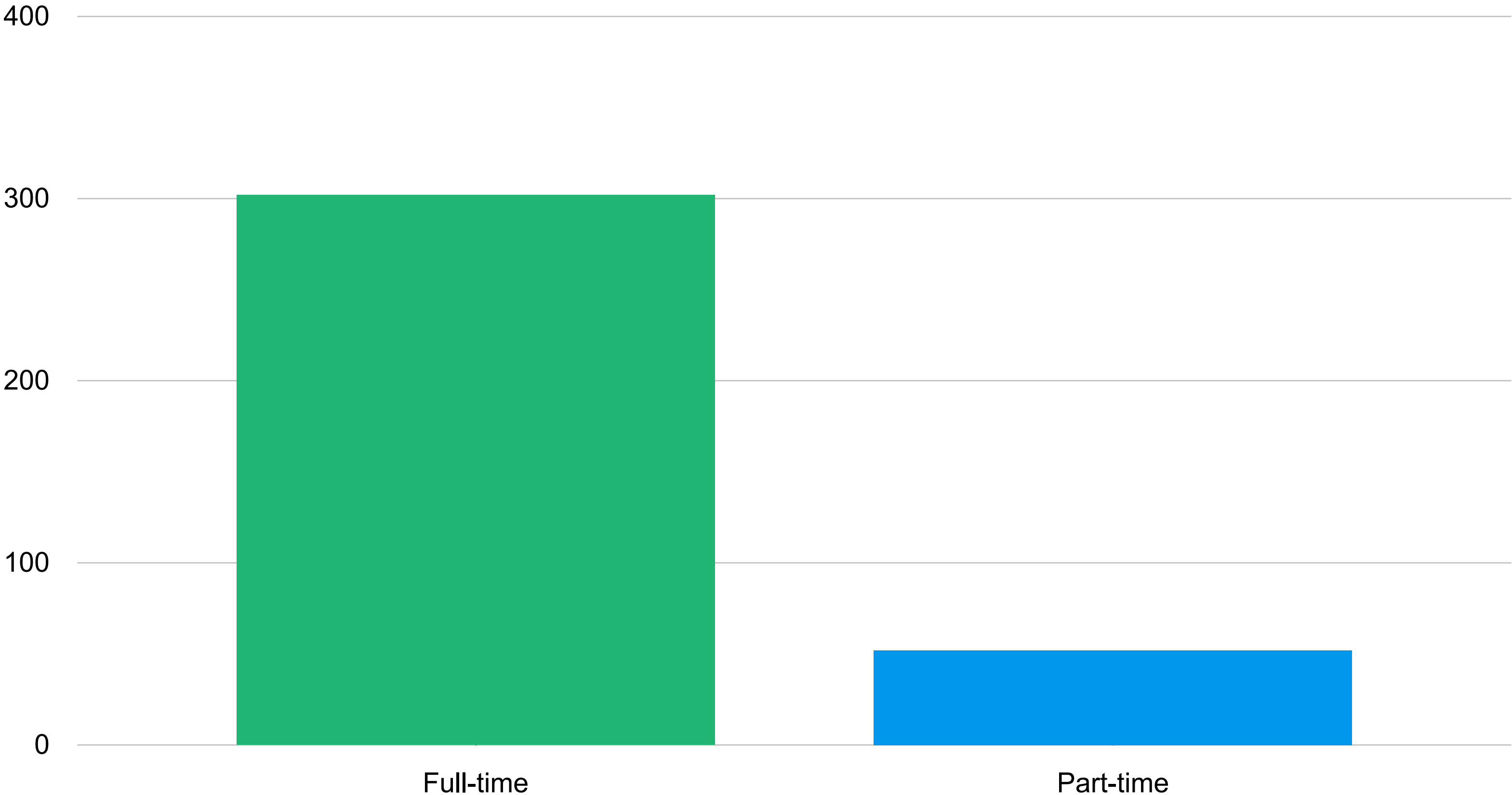
A majority of undergraduate respondents are Fourth/Fifth year (30%), Third-year(27%) and First-Year (23%) students.



OUR AUDIENCE

What best describes your class load?

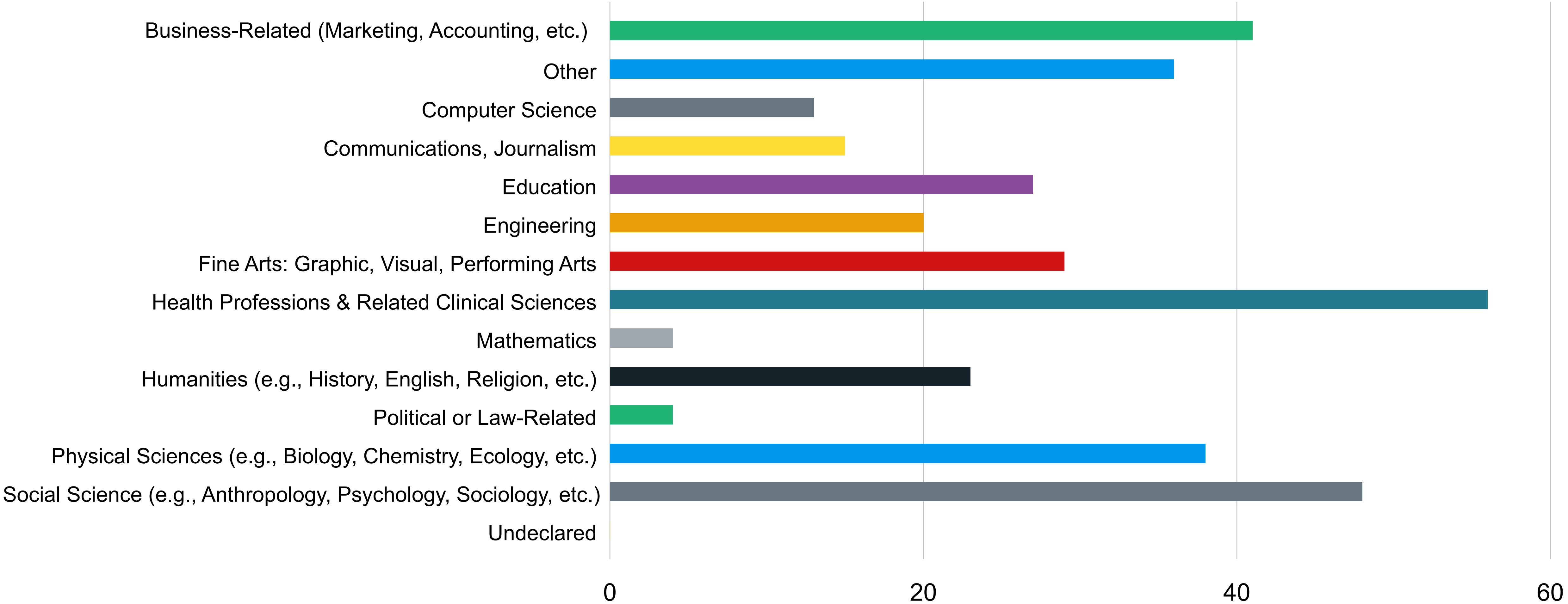
A majority of the undergraduate students are Full-Time students (85%).



OUR AUDIENCE

Which of the following BEST describes your major course of study?

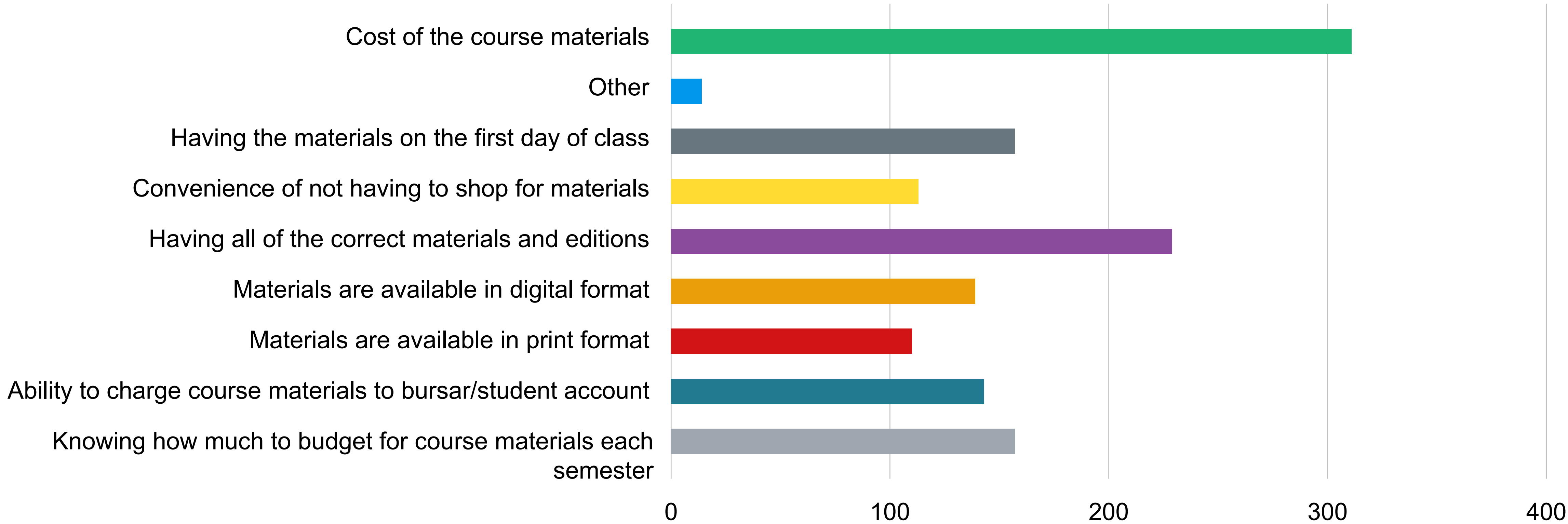
The top 3 majors that answered the survey are: Health Professions & Related Clinical Sciences (16%), Social Science (e.g., Anthropology, Psychology, Sociology, etc.) (14%) and Business-Related (Marketing, Accounting, etc.) (12%).



COURSE MATERIALS

When purchasing course materials for your classes, what are the most important factors you consider?
(please select all that apply)

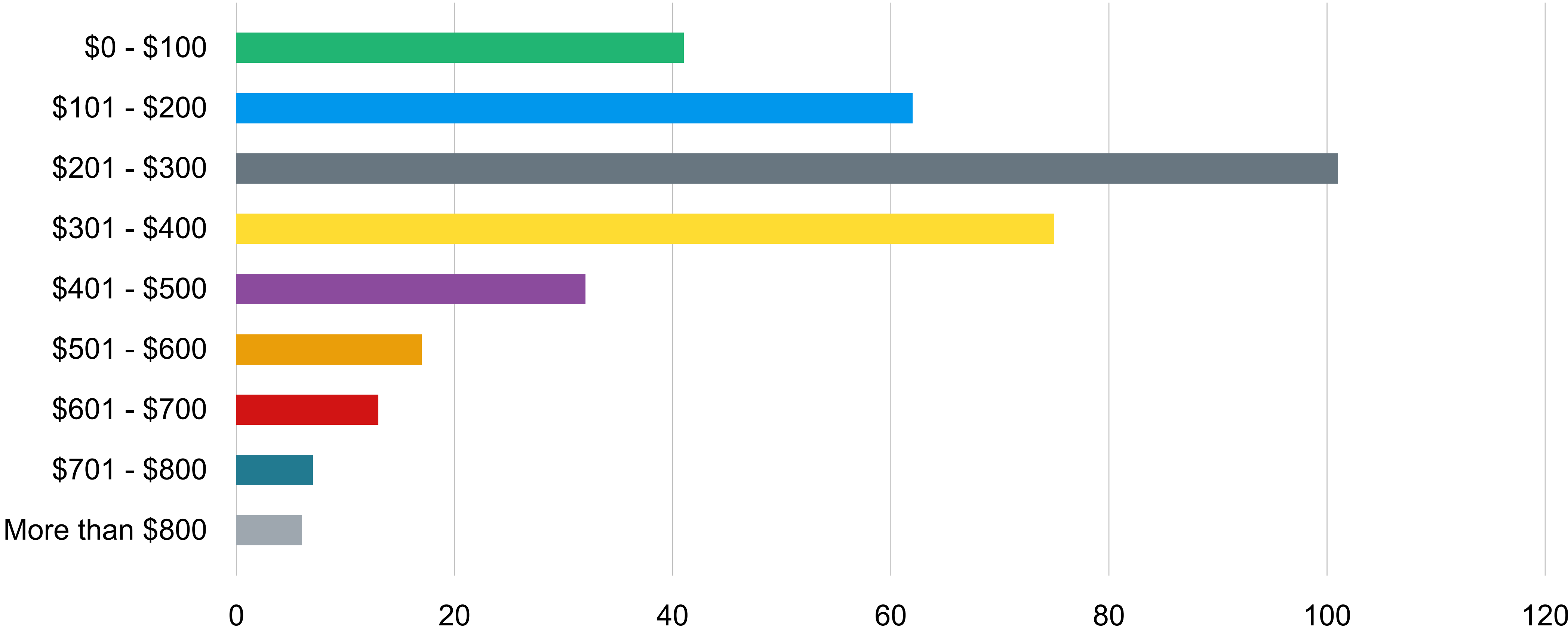
A majority of respondents have selected “cost” as the most important factor when purchasing their course materials (23%), followed by “Having all of the correct materials and editions” (17%).



COURSE MATERIALS

On average, how much do you currently spend on all of your required course materials in a single semester?

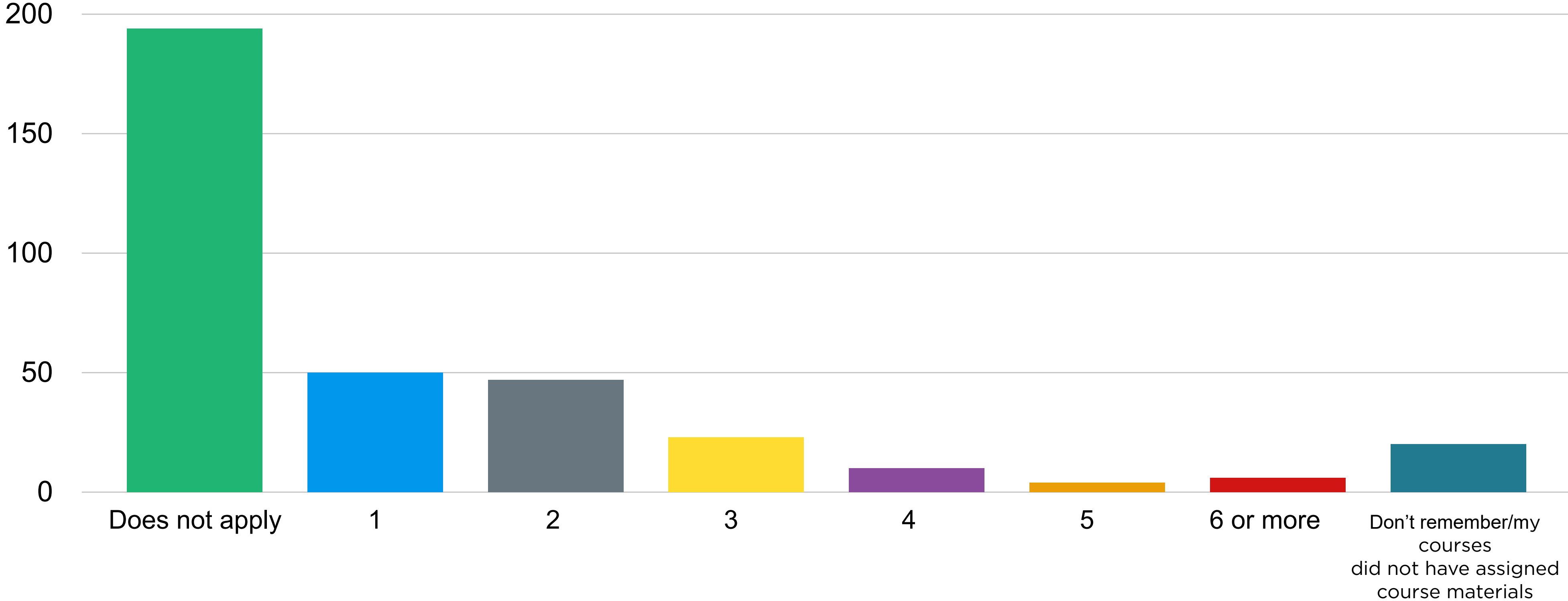
Overall, the responses indicate a wide range of spending on required course materials. The 2 biggest categories are \$201-\$300 (29%) and \$301-\$400 (21%). There is also a minority facing relatively high expenses (12.2% spend more than \$500) reflecting the varied costs associated with obtaining course materials.



COURSE MATERIALS

During the 2023-2024 academic year, how many of your assigned course materials did you NOT obtain?

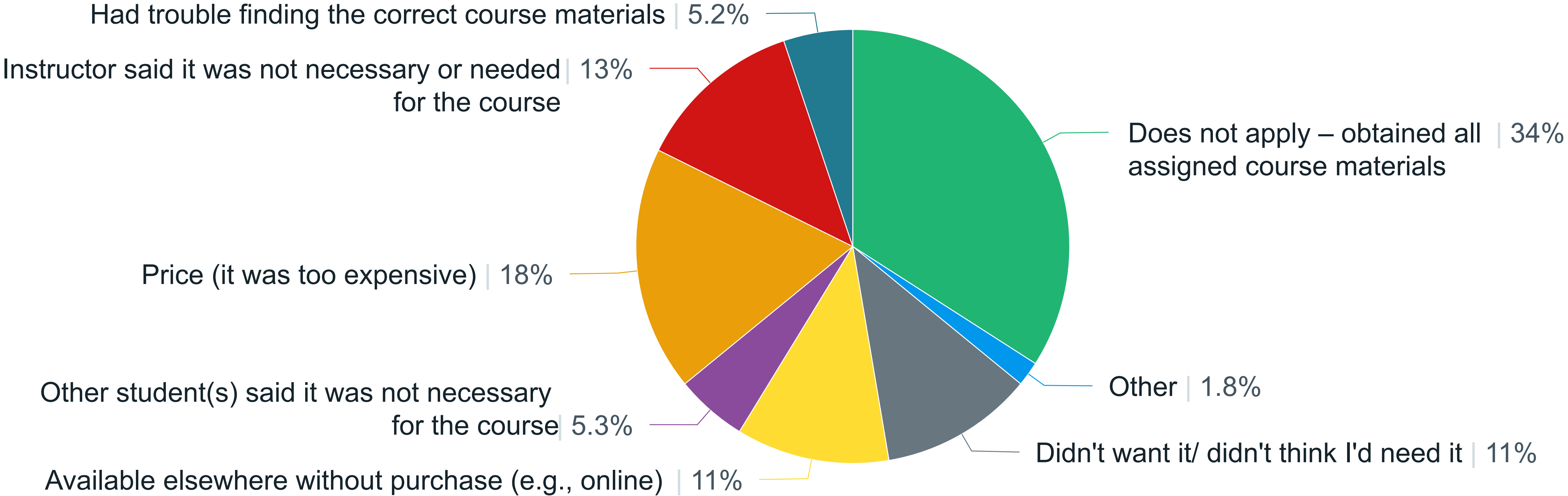
For a majority of the respondents this question did not apply (55%). For the rest, the top answers were 1 (14%), 2 (13%) and 3 (6.5%).



COURSE MATERIALS

What were your primary reasons for NOT purchasing some of your required course materials this year? (please select all that apply)

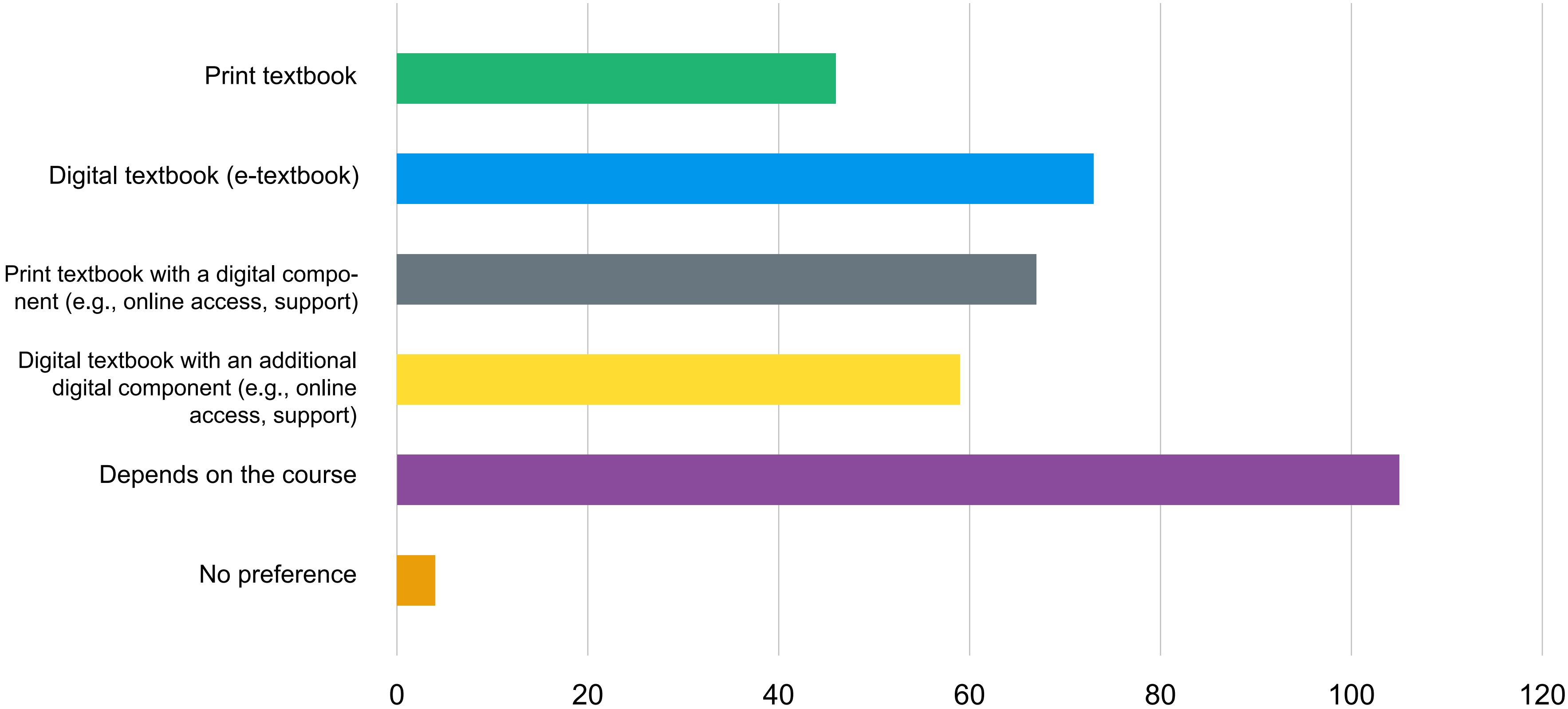
For a majority of the respondents this question did not apply. For the rest, the top answers were the “Price (it was too expensive)” and “Instructor said it was not necessary or needed for the course”.



DIGITAL FORMAT

If you could choose the course material format, what would be your preferred option?

For their preferred course material format, a majority of respondents answered “depends on the course” (30%), “digital textbook” (21%) or “Print textbook with a digital component” (19%).

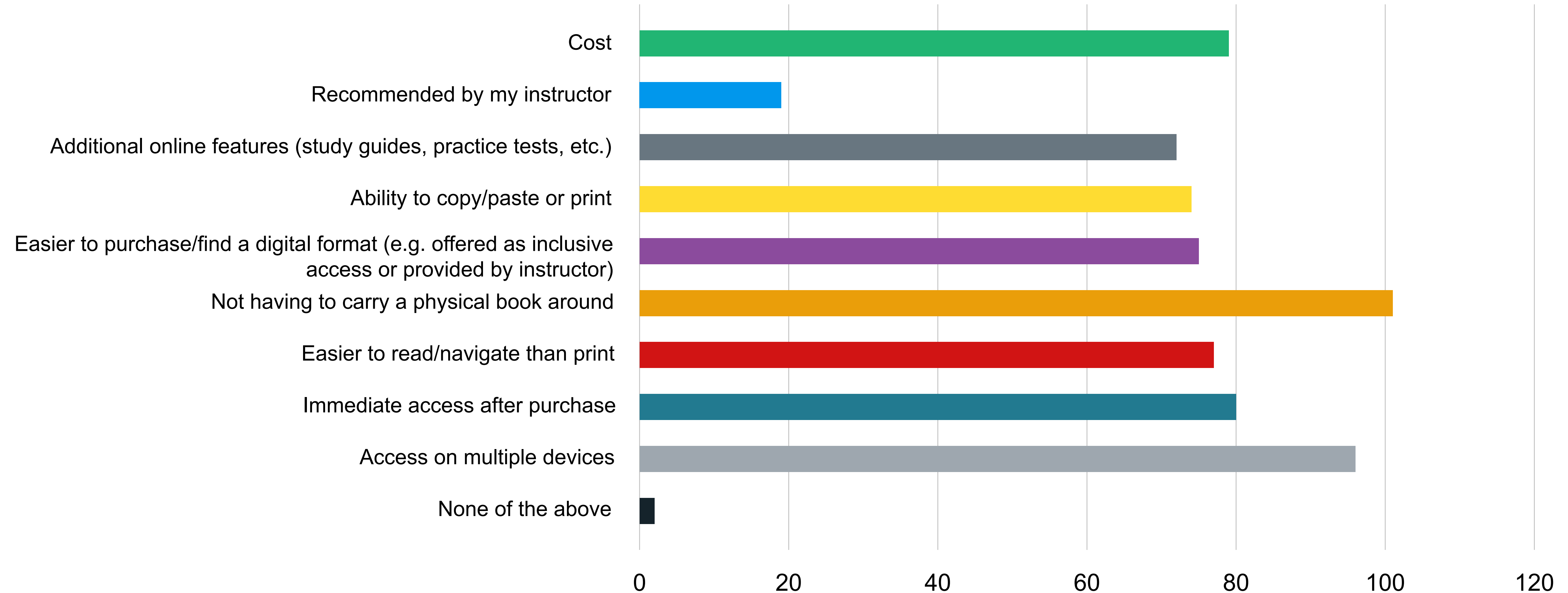


DIGITAL FORMAT

For responders that selected digital formats:

Why did you prefer digital? (please select all that apply)

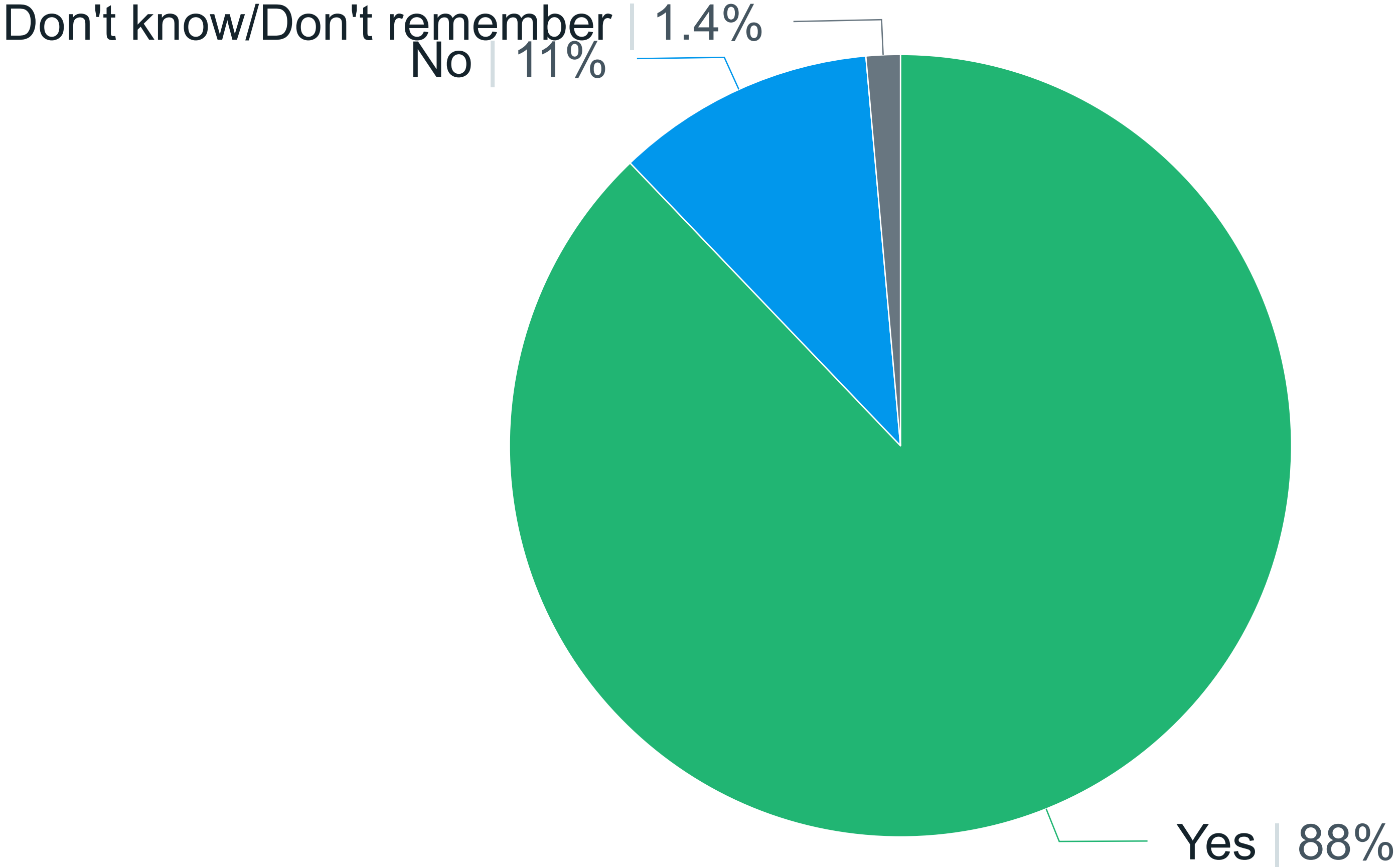
The majority of reasons to prefer digital formats are “Not having to carry a physical book around” (15%), “Access on multiple devices” (14%) and “Immediate access after purchase” (12%).



DIGITAL FORMAT

Did you use any digital course materials (e.g. e-books, Inclusive Access, free materials from the library or your instructor) during the 2023-2024 academic year?

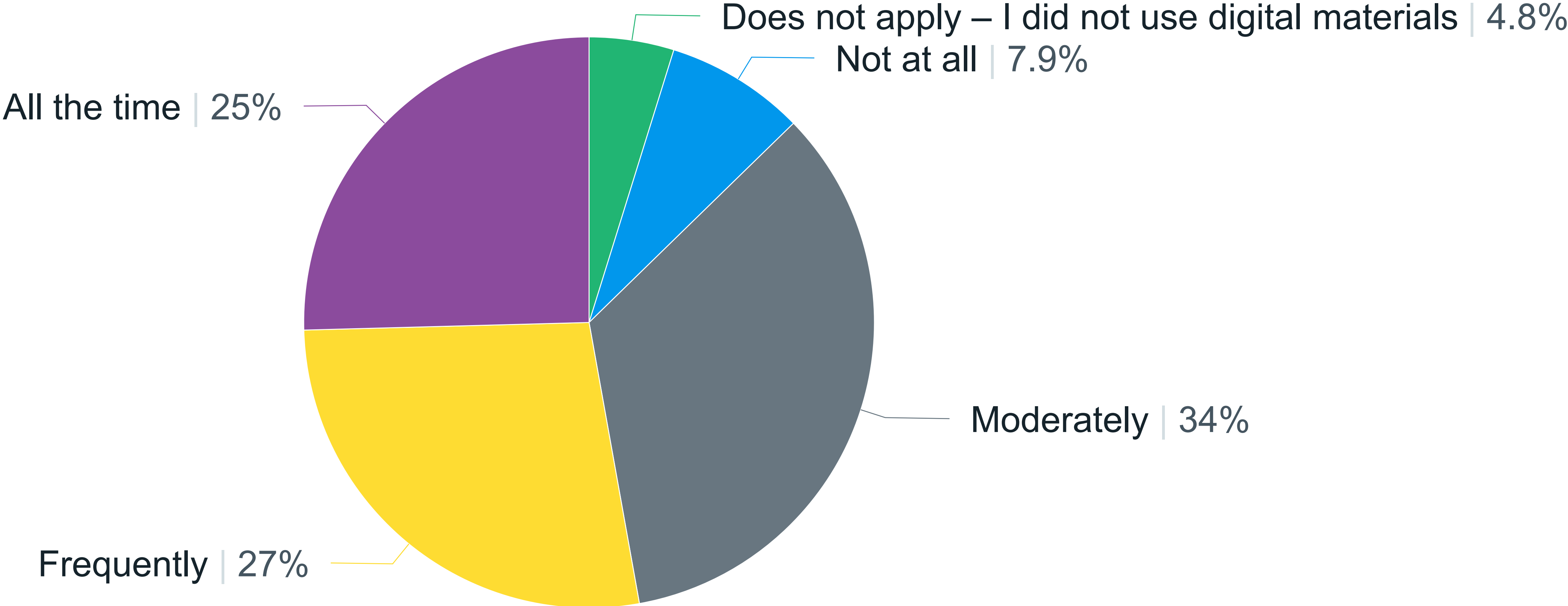
During the 2023-2024 academic year, a vast majority of respondents (88%) utilized digital course materials.



DIGITAL FORMAT

During the 2023-2024 academic year, how much did you engage with your digital course materials?

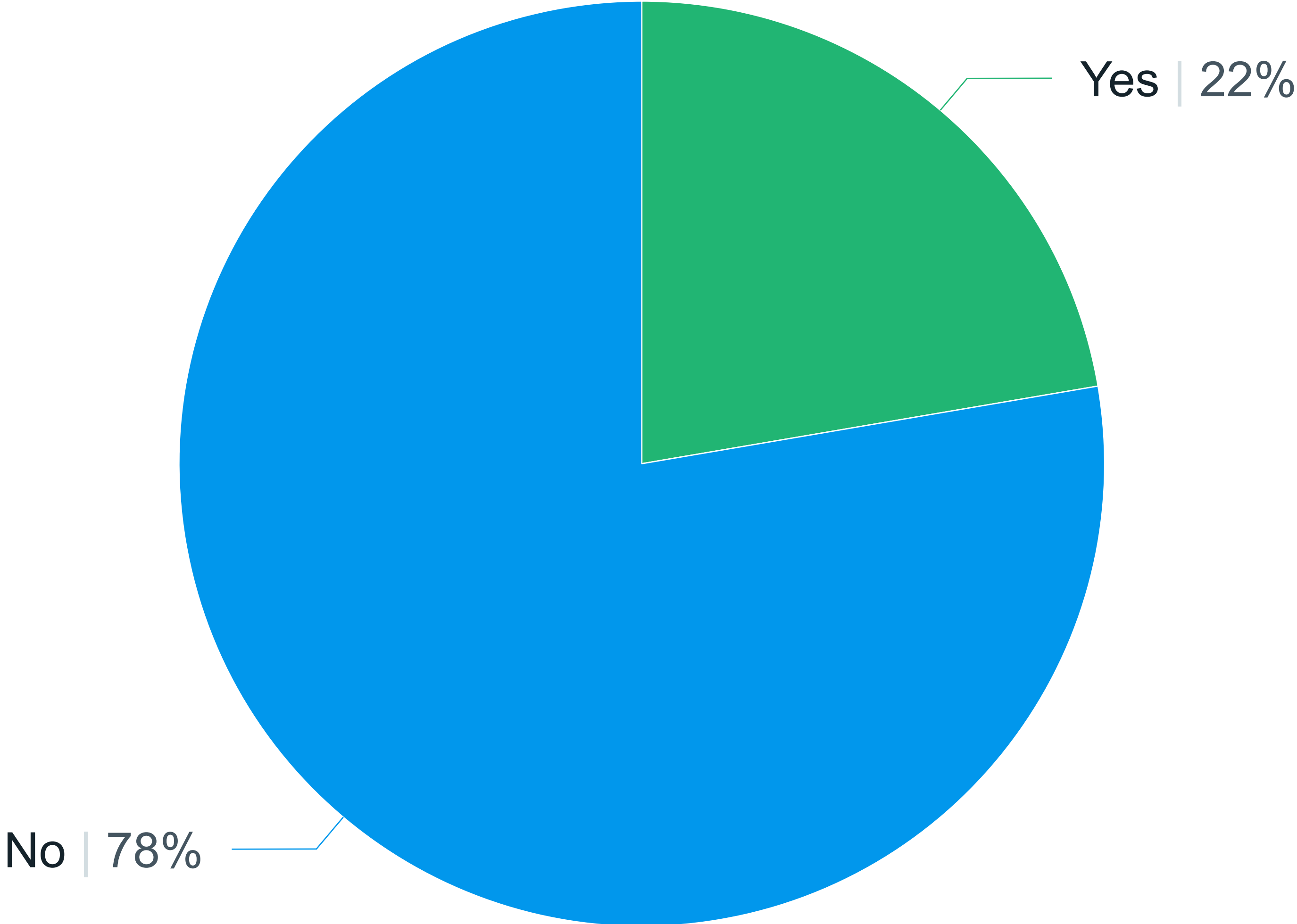
A majority of respondents have used their digital course materials Moderately (34%), Frequently (27%) or All the time (25%).



EQUITABLE ACCESS

Prior to this email, have you heard of Equitable Access?

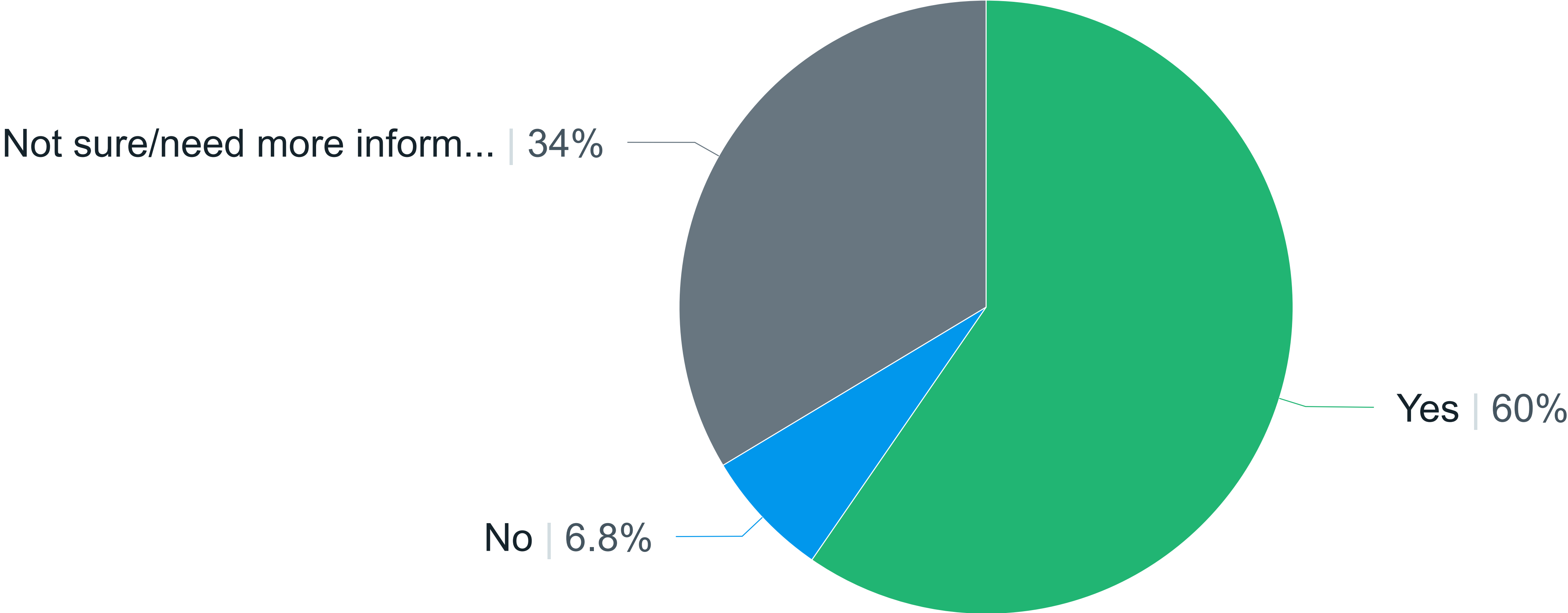
A majority of respondents had not heard of Equitable Access before this email (78%).



EQUITABLE ACCESS

If the University of New Mexico decided to implement an Equitable Access program campus-wide for undergraduate students, would you be in favor of such a program?

60% of respondents expressed support for such a program, while 34% indicated a need for more information before forming an opinion.



EQUITABLE ACCESS

Do you think a flat-fee program as described in the Equitable Access program would be better or worse than the traditional model of obtaining course materials via standard purchasing/renting?

Overall, the majority of respondents (65%) express some level of positivity towards the flat-fee program, with 27% believing it would be much better and 38% seeing it as somewhat better.

