

Institutional Research attempted to contact all new-to-UVU students from the 2020-21 academic year who did not return to UVU (or graduate). This survey was conducted by phone in March for students who did not return for Spring 2021, and in November for students who did not return for Fall 2021.

We spoke with 962 of the 4,466 students whom we attempted to contact, which gave us a 21.5% response rate and a 2.8% margin of error. We spoke with another 954 parents or other adults speaking on behalf of the students, but only asked this group about post-UVU activities (42.9% response rate and 1.6% margin of error).

Where possible, results from past surveys are presented alongside 2021 results.

Key Findings

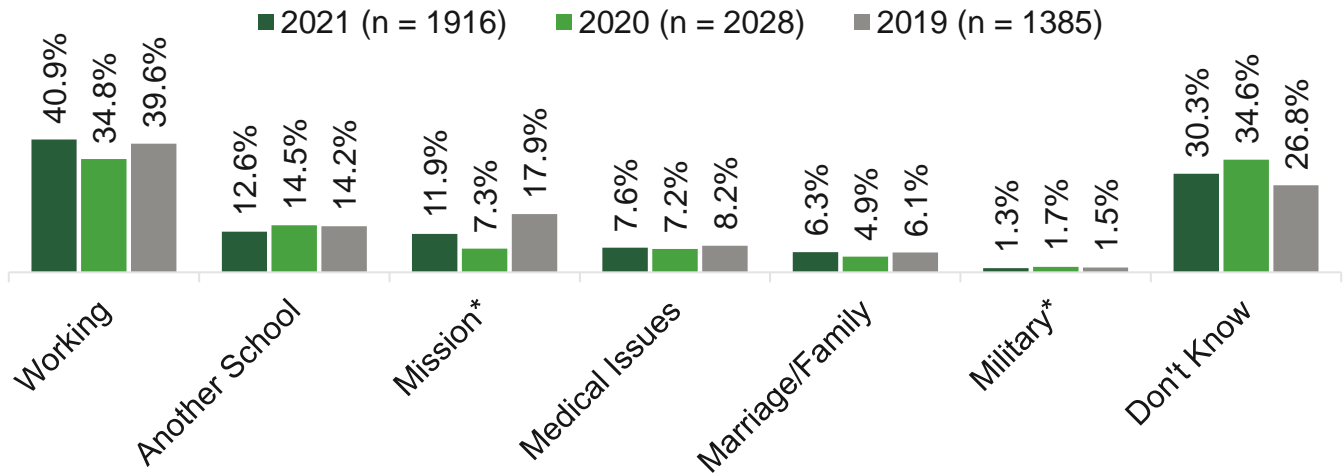
- The most common activities that non-returning students were doing instead of attending UVU were working (40.9%), attending another school (12.6%), and serving a religious mission (11.9%).
- The most common reasons why students chose not to return were preference for in-person classes (51.0%) and not being able to afford college (29.3%).
- 31.5% of non-returning students said that COVID-19 had at least a moderate contribution on their decision to not attend UVU. 46.9% said it had no contribution.
- 37.7% of non-returning students said that they plan on returning to UVU in less than a year.
- The most common ways that non-returning students paid for their first year at UVU were work (32.4%), savings (30.0%), and grants/scholarships (29.4%).
- 78.4% of non-returning students said that there was nothing UVU could have done to help them return. This is up from 63.4% in 2020.

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Post-UVU Activities

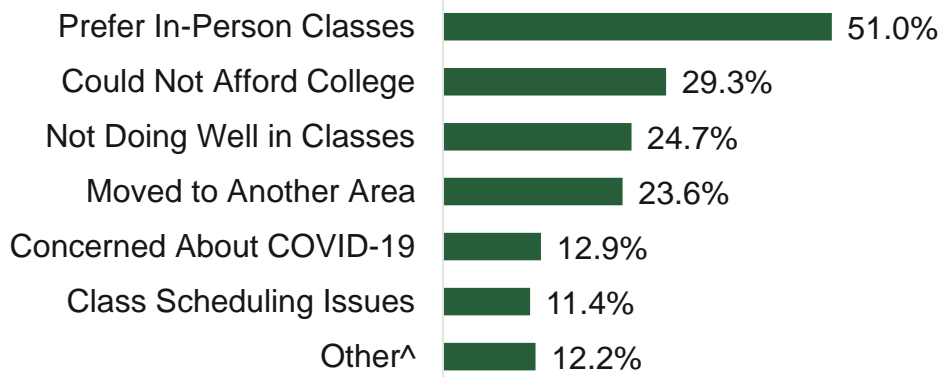
Students and Parents Combined, Multiple Responses Allowed



**When speaking with parents or other adults, we only ask specifically about these items.*

Reasons for Not Returning to UVU

Multiple Responses Allowed, n = 962

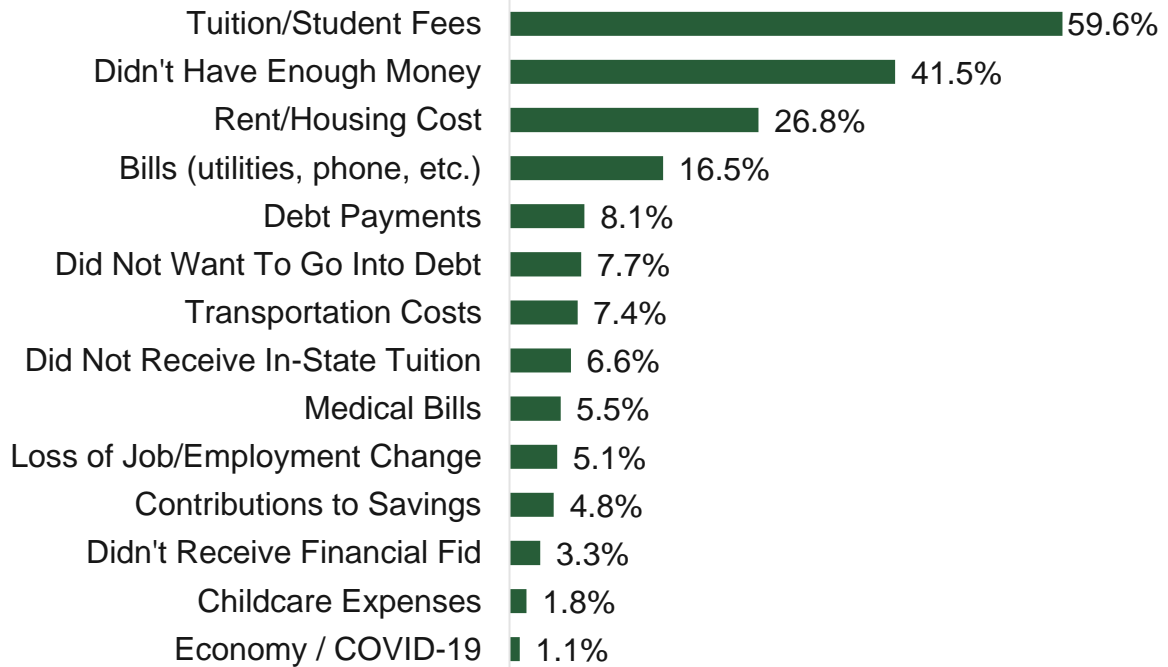


^Most commonly mentioned “Other” reasons for not returning:

- Mental health concerns (22 mentions)
- Taking a break (18)
- Stopped college altogether (16)
- Couldn't get residency (11)
- Personal/family issues (11)
- Issues registering for classes (9)

"What financial reasons were important in your decision to not attend UVU this Fall semester?"

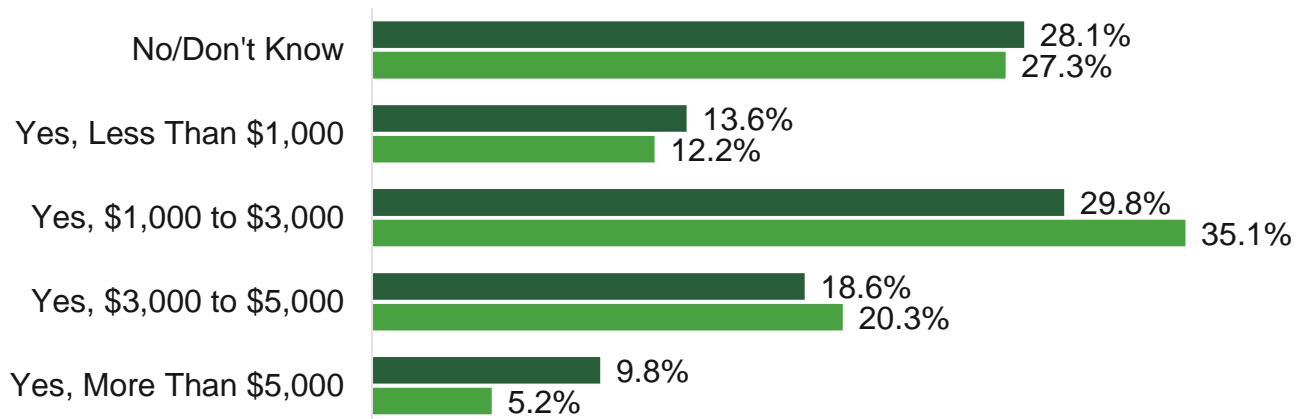
Only asked of students who cited "Could Not Afford College" as a reason for not returning to UVU. Multiple Responses Allowed, n = 267



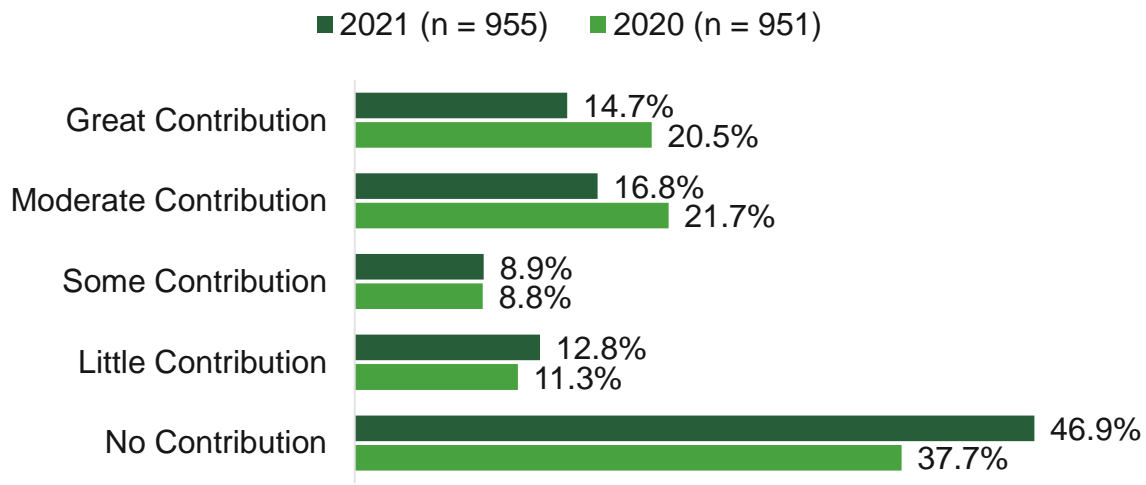
"Would financial assistance have made a difference in your decision to attend UVU? How much?"

Only asked of students who cited "Could Not Afford College" as a reason for not returning to UVU.

■ 2021 (n = 281) ■ 2020 (n = 271)

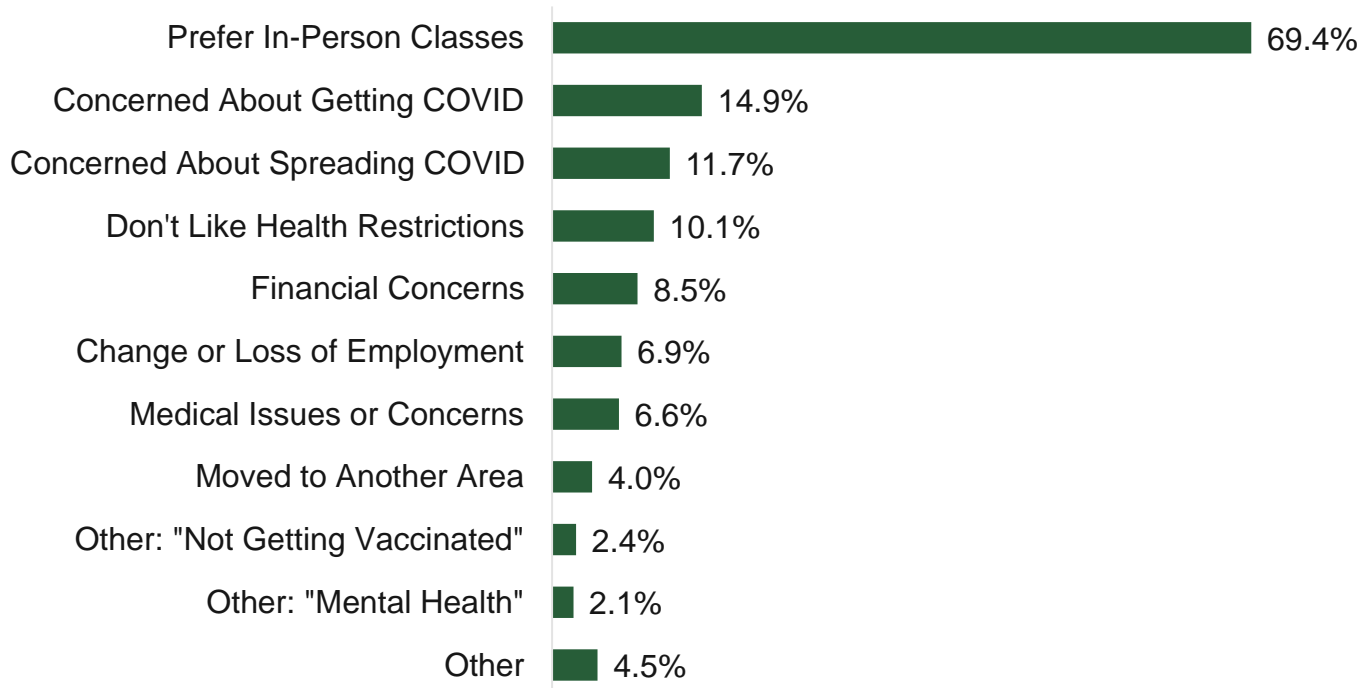


“How much did COVID-19 affect your decision to not attend UVU this semester?”

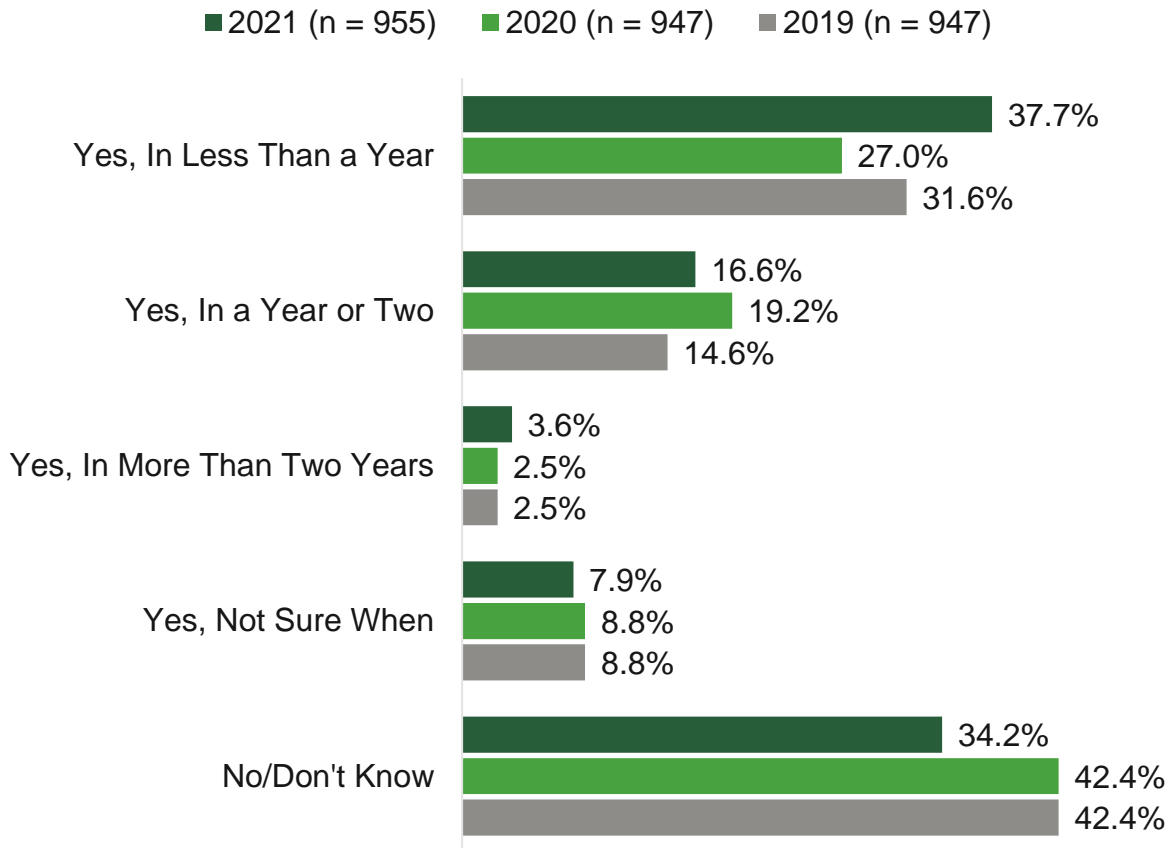


"What were the COVID-19 issues that contributed to your decision?"

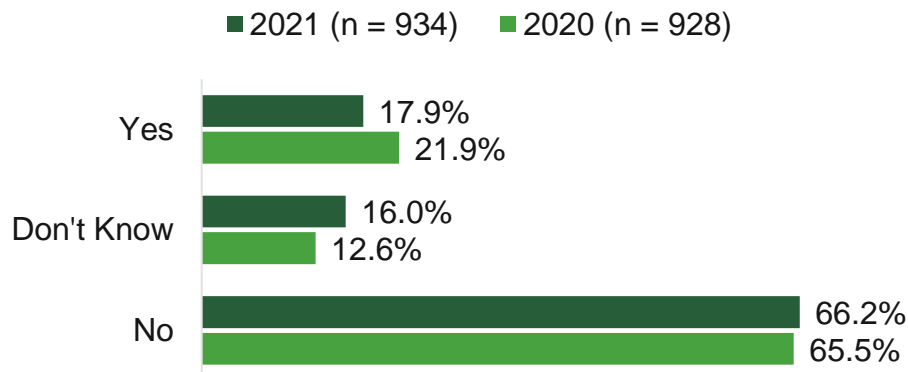
Only asked of students who said COVID-19 had at least "Some Contribution" on their decision to not attend. Multiple Responses Allowed, n = 376



"Do you plan to attend UVU in the future?"

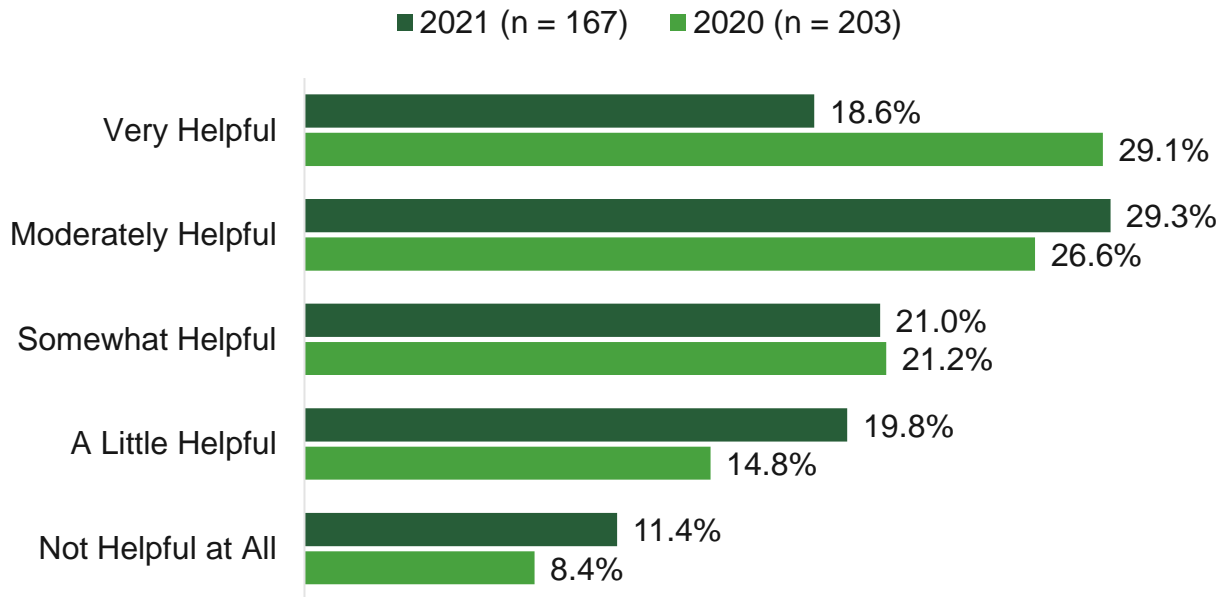


"During your first year at UVU, were you assigned a peer mentor?"



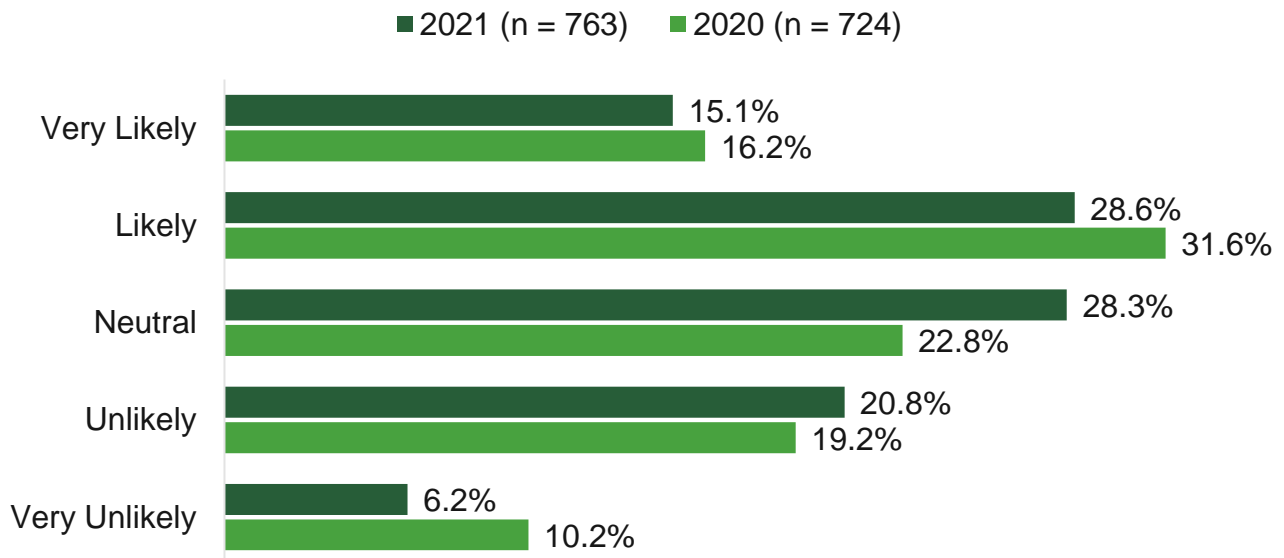
"How helpful was your mentor in increasing your sense of belonging at UVU?"

Only asked of students who said they had been assigned a peer mentor.



"If you had been assigned a mentor, how likely would you have been to reach out to them?"

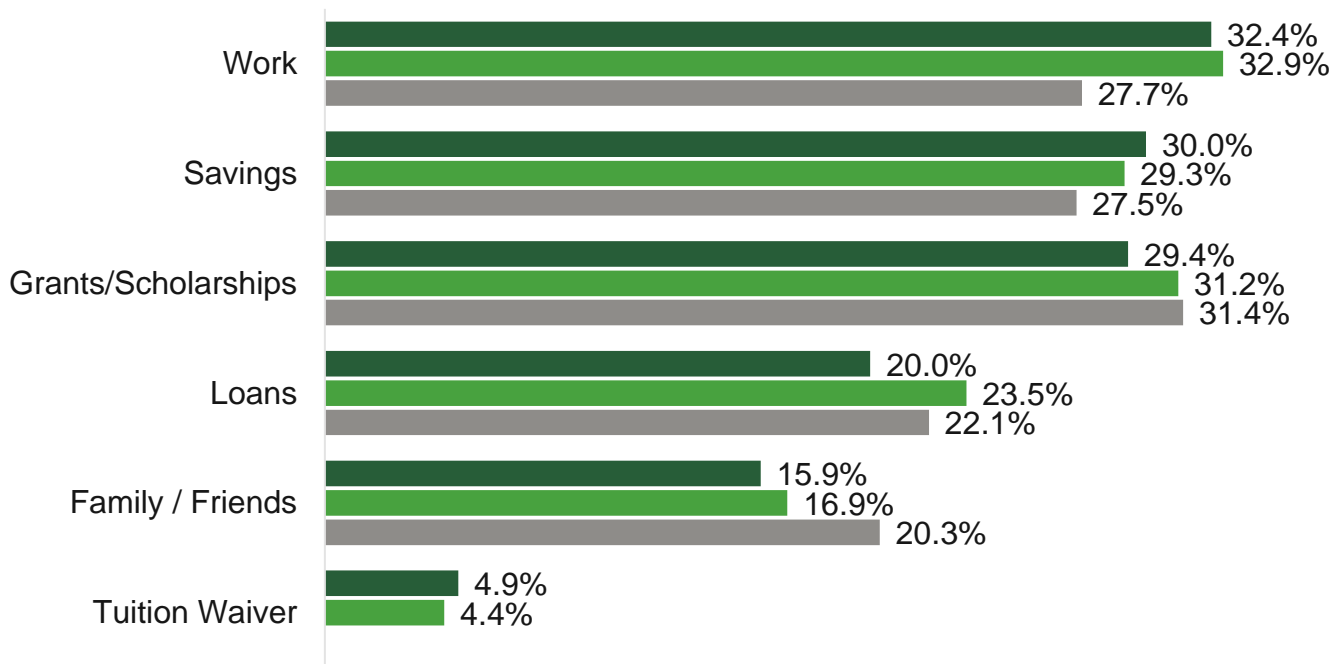
Only asked of students who DID NOT say they had been assigned a peer mentor.



"How did you finance your first year at UVU"

Multiple Responses Allowed

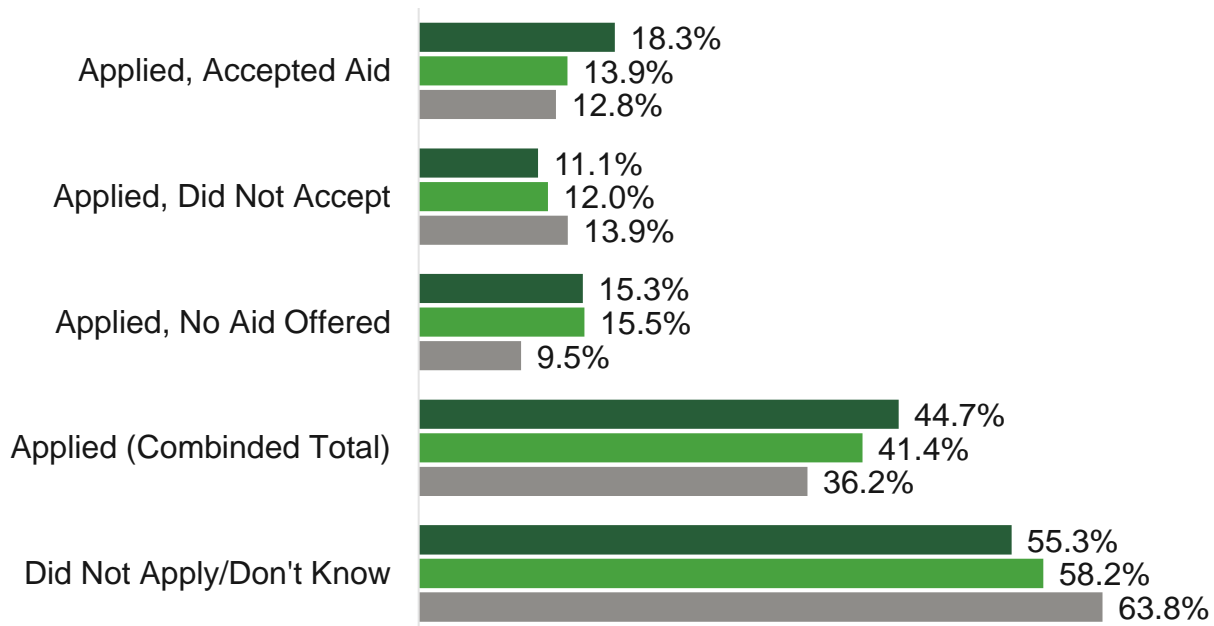
■ 2021 (n = 913) ■ 2020 (n = 905) ■ 2019 (n = 673)



"Did you apply for and accept any financial aid?"

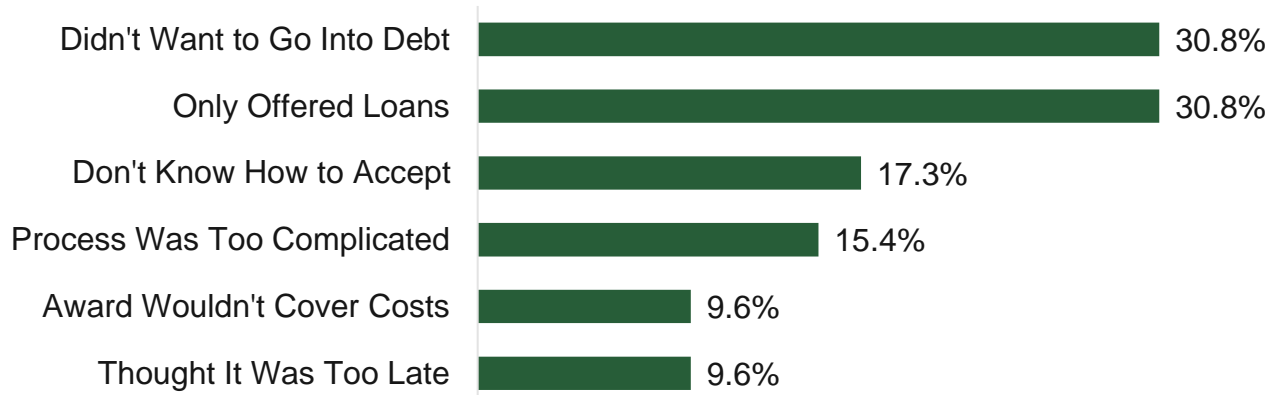
Only asked of students who did not use financial aid to pay for school.

■ 2021 (n = 503) ■ 2020 (n = 498) ■ 2019 (n = 367)



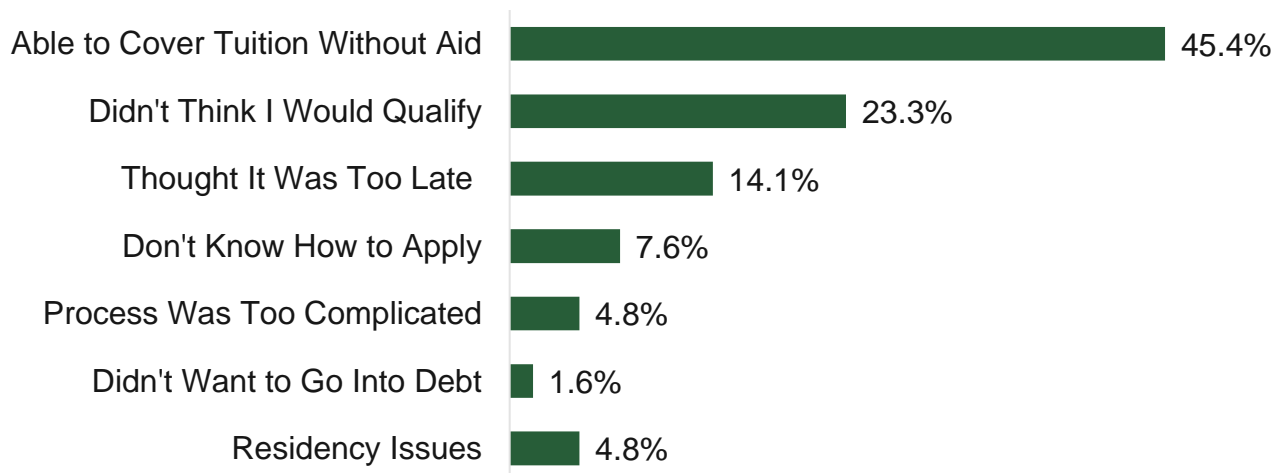
"Why didn't you accept your financial aid award."

Only asked of students who applied for but did not accept financial aid. Multiple Responses Allowed, n = 52



"Why didn't you apply for financial aid?"

Only asked of students who didn't apply for financial aid. Multiple Responses Allowed, n = 249



"Is there anything that UVU could have done to help you attend this semester?"

■ Yes ■ No



Most Common Responses to "What could UVU have done?"

Open Response, n = 200

Grants/Scholarships/Cheaper Tuition	31.0%
More In-Person Classes	22.5%
Help with Financial Aid	9.0%
More Guidance/Better Orientation	5.0%
Better Advising	4.5%
More Online Classes	3.5%
Communication	3.5%
More Classes Available	3.5%
Missing Major/Program	3.0%
Residency	3.0%