

# Instructor Survey on Accommodations Report

October 2023

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## Overview

The Division of Undergraduate Education in collaboration with the Graduate Division, Academic Senate, Vice Provost for the Faculty, and Division of Equity & Inclusion administered a survey to instructors teaching courses in Fall 2023 (N = 3,892). The survey was open from September 27 to October 10, 2023 and asked about the accommodations instructors made for students in their classes as well as their needs relating to these accommodations. There were 473 responses to the survey (12% response rate).

## Key Findings

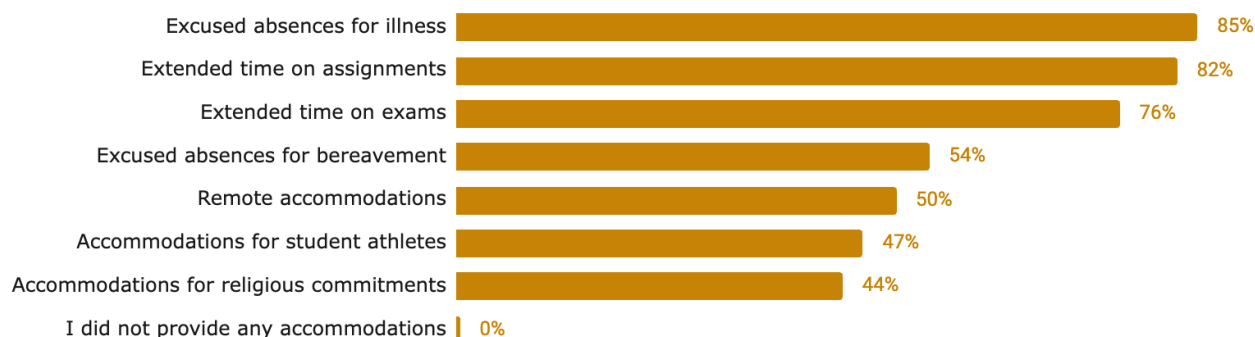
- The majority of instructors are providing accommodations for students
- Additional staff and GSI hours are needed to make it easier for instructors to provide accommodations for students
- Instructors report that their time and resource constraints are not well understood by DSP staff
- Timely communication with students is a problematic component to meeting their accommodation requests
- The majority of instructors are willing to redesign their classes to address most requests for accommodations

## Accommodations Provided in Academic Year 2022-23

The majority of instructors had, in the last academic year, excused absences due to illness (85%, n = 401) and provided extended time on exams (76%, n = 359) and assignments (82%, n = 390). About half (50%, n = 238) provided remote accommodations.

**"Which of the following accommodations and/or adjustments do you recall providing in the last year?"**

Percentages sum to greater than 100% because respondents selected all that apply (N = 473)



## Hours Dedicated to Accommodations for Students

The majority (80%, n = 343) of instructors estimated that they and their instructional team spent at least one but less than 50 hours per semester per course on accommodations for students. A sizable minority (20%, n = 87) spent 50 or more hours with one percent (n = 5) reporting 500 or more hours spent per semester per course.

**"On average, how many hours per semester per course would you estimate you and/or your instructional team devoted to accommodations and/or adjustments for students?"**

N = 430

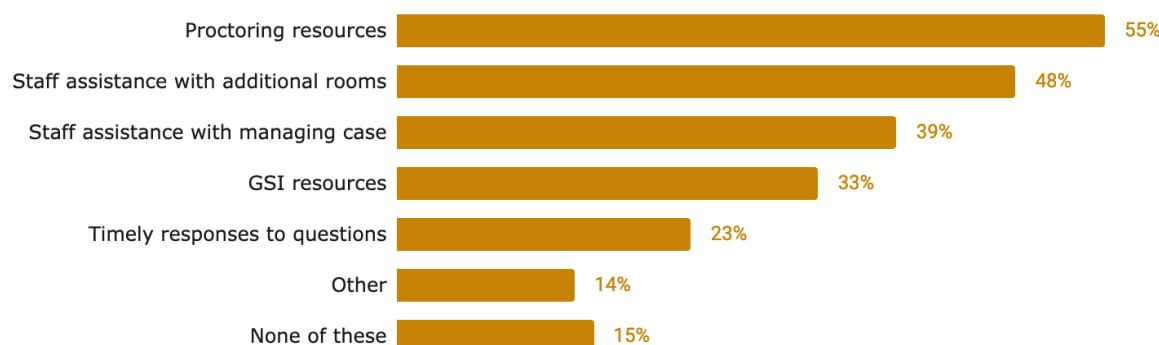


# Accommodations Support for In-Person Exams and At-Home Assignments

When asked about supports that would make providing accommodations easier, instructors most often mentioned staff and GSI hours: proctoring resources, staff assistance, GSI resources.

## "For in-person exams, what supports would make it easier to provide students with the necessary accommodations and/or adjustments?"

Percentages sum to greater than 100% because respondents were able to select all that apply (N = 473)



## "For at-home assignments and exams, what supports would make it easier to provide students with the necessary accommodations and/or adjustments?"

Percentages sum to greater than 100% because respondents were able to select all that apply (N = 473)

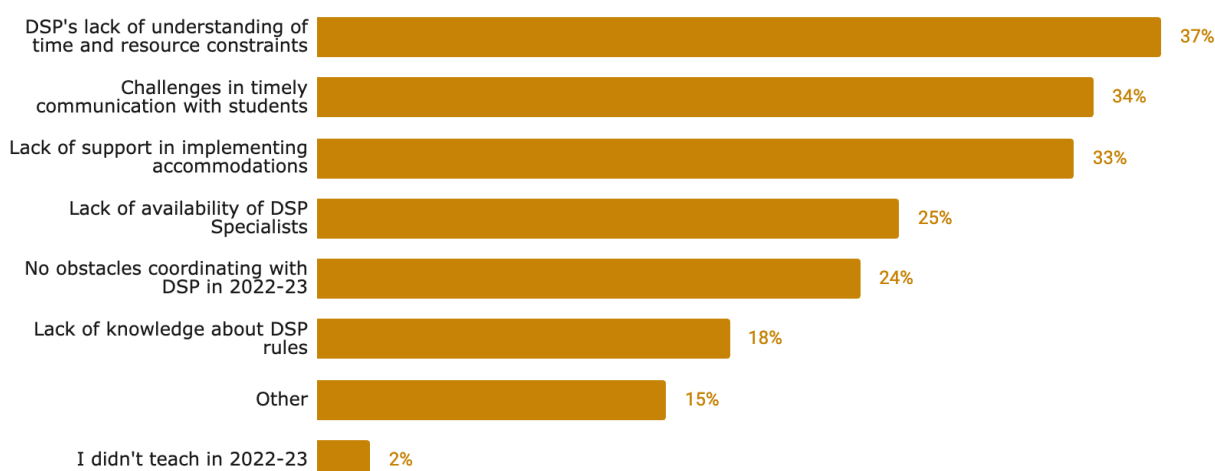


## Barriers to Coordination with the Disabled Students' Program

When asked about barriers to coordinating with DSP, instructors see the need for more understanding of their time and resource constraints (37%, n = 174), timely communications with students (34%, n = 160), and additional support in implementing accommodations (33%, n = 156).

**"In the past academic year (Fall 2022 and Spring 2023), which of the following have limited or prevented your coordination with the Disabled Students' Program (DSP)?"**

Percentages sum to greater than 100% because respondents were able to select all that apply (N = 473)



## Resource Unfamiliarity

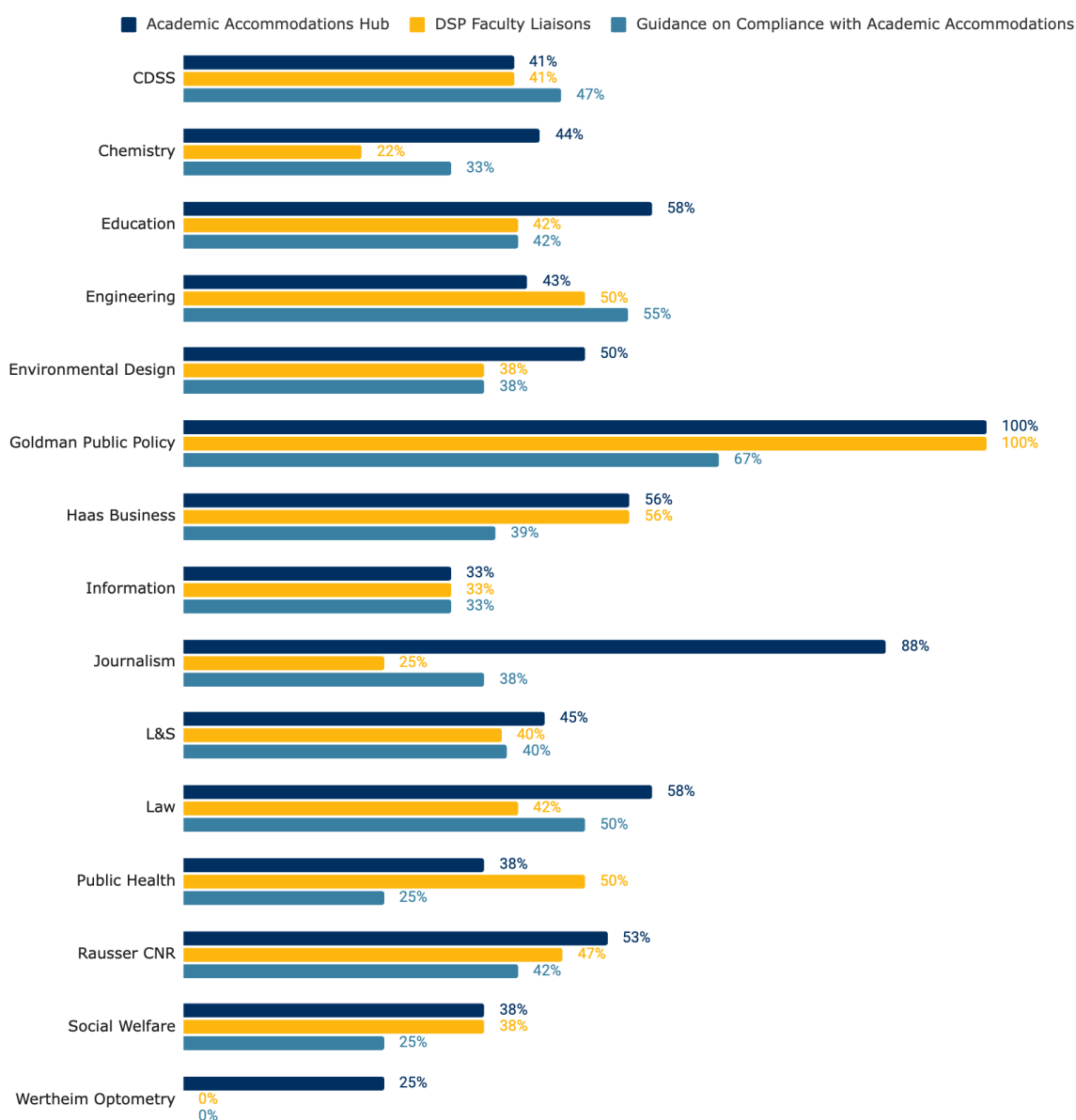
Instructors teaching courses in specific schools and colleges had less familiarity with DSP accommodation resources. More than half of the instructors from Goldman School of Public Policy, Journalism, Haas School of Business, School of Education, School of Law, and Rausser College of Natural Resources were not familiar with the Academic Accommodations Hub.

Percent of instructors unfamiliar with a resource, by college / school

| College / School                              | Academic Accommodations Hub | DSP Faculty Liaisons | Guidance on Compliance with Academic Accommodations | Instructor Guide to DSP Accommodations | Addressing DSP Accommodations in Your Syllabus | Guidelines Concerning Scheduling Conflicts with Academic Requirements | Accommodations of Religious Creed |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Computing, Data Science, and Society (N = 17) | 41%                         | 41%                  | 47%                                                 | 24%                                    | 24%                                            | 29%                                                                   | 29%                               |
| Chemistry (N = 9)                             | 44%                         | 22%                  | 33%                                                 | 22%                                    | 11%                                            | 11%                                                                   | 11%                               |
| Education (N = 12)                            | 58%                         | 42%                  | 42%                                                 | 8%                                     | 33%                                            | 58%                                                                   | 25%                               |
| Engineering (N = 56)                          | 43%                         | 50%                  | 55%                                                 | 34%                                    | 23%                                            | 48%                                                                   | 29%                               |
| Environmental Design (N = 8)                  | 50%                         | 38%                  | 38%                                                 | 25%                                    | 13%                                            | 38%                                                                   | 25%                               |
| Goldman Public Policy (N = 3)                 | 100%                        | 100%                 | 67%                                                 | 67%                                    | 33%                                            | 67%                                                                   | 0%                                |
| Haas Business (N = 18)                        | 56%                         | 56%                  | 39%                                                 | 33%                                    | 33%                                            | 39%                                                                   | 11%                               |
| Information (N = 3)                           | 33%                         | 33%                  | 33%                                                 | 33%                                    | 0%                                             | 33%                                                                   | 0%                                |
| Journalism (N = 8)                            | 88%                         | 25%                  | 38%                                                 | 38%                                    | 38%                                            | 63%                                                                   | 25%                               |
| Letters & Science (N = 280)                   | 45%                         | 40%                  | 40%                                                 | 26%                                    | 29%                                            | 36%                                                                   | 17%                               |
| L&S, Arts & Humanities (N = 8)                | 42%                         | 40%                  | 40%                                                 | 25%                                    | 29%                                            | 39%                                                                   | 13%                               |
| L&S Biological Sciences (N = 36)              | 47%                         | 28%                  | 22%                                                 | 25%                                    | 28%                                            | 33%                                                                   | 22%                               |
| L&S Math & Physical Sciences (N = 8)          | 49%                         | 44%                  | 44%                                                 | 31%                                    | 31%                                            | 33%                                                                   | 21%                               |
| L&S Social Sciences (N = 4)                   | 47%                         | 44%                  | 47%                                                 | 28%                                    | 32%                                            | 35%                                                                   | 17%                               |
| L&S Undergraduate Studies (N = 17)            | 43%                         | 33%                  | 43%                                                 | 24%                                    | 14%                                            | 38%                                                                   | 19%                               |
| Law (N = 12)                                  | 58%                         | 42%                  | 50%                                                 | 33%                                    | 50%                                            | 58%                                                                   | 50%                               |
| Public Health (N = 8)                         | 38%                         | 50%                  | 25%                                                 | 13%                                    | 38%                                            | 38%                                                                   | 25%                               |
| Rausser CNR (N = 36)                          | 53%                         | 47%                  | 42%                                                 | 36%                                    | 25%                                            | 31%                                                                   | 17%                               |
| Social Welfare (N = 8)                        | 38%                         | 38%                  | 25%                                                 | 25%                                    | 25%                                            | 50%                                                                   | 25%                               |
| Wertheim Optometry (N = 4)                    | 25%                         | 0%                   | 0%                                                  | 0%                                     | 25%                                            | 50%                                                                   | 25%                               |

## Percent of instructors who are not familiar with an accommodations resource, by school and college

Percentage relative to respondents' college / school

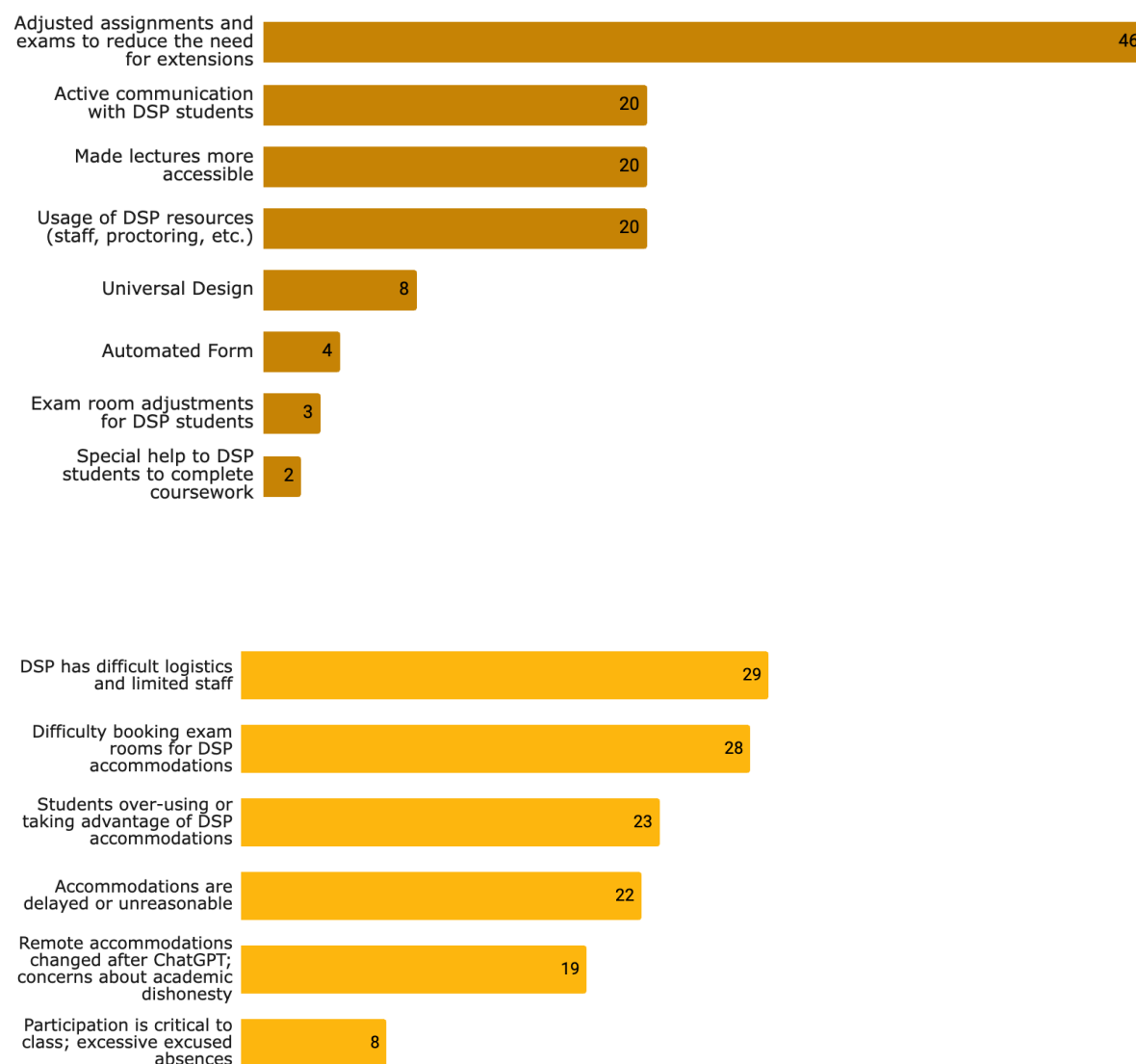


# Best Practices for Accommodating Students

Many instructors (n = 213) wrote in responses for a prompt about best practices. In addition to best practices, respondents wrote in negative issues associated with accommodations (light gold on the graph below).

## Count of respondents by theme: "Please share best practices that you have used or would like to use for accommodating students"

Best practices in dark gold; unsolicited responses in light gold

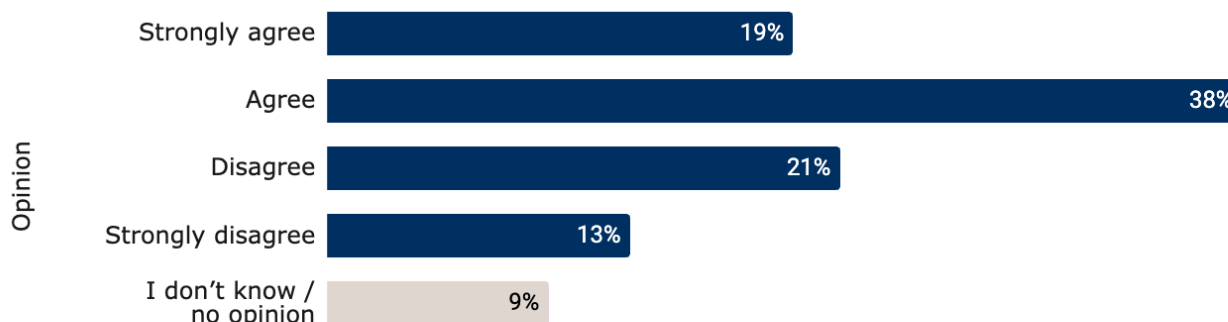


# Opinions and Preferences Regarding Course Redesigns

Most instructors believe it's possible and are willing to redesign a course to accommodate students. However, one third of respondents (34%, n = 140) thought it was not possible to redesign a course to address most requests for accommodations and over one quarter (27%, n = 11) were not willing to redesign a course to accommodate students.

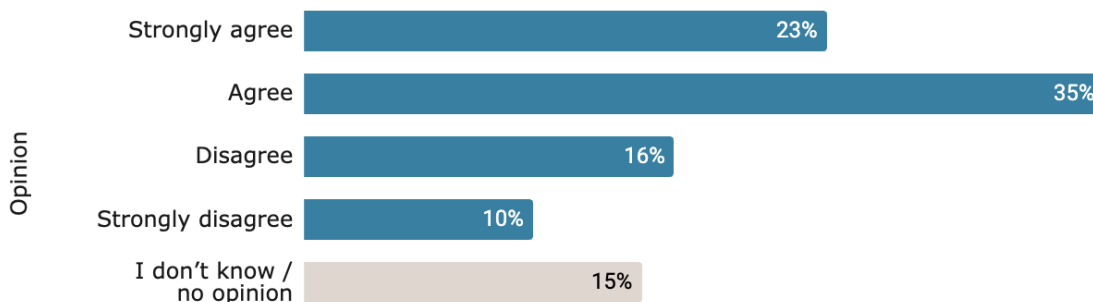
## Possible to redesign a course to address most requests for accommodations

N = 415



## Willing to redesign course to accommodate students

N = 415

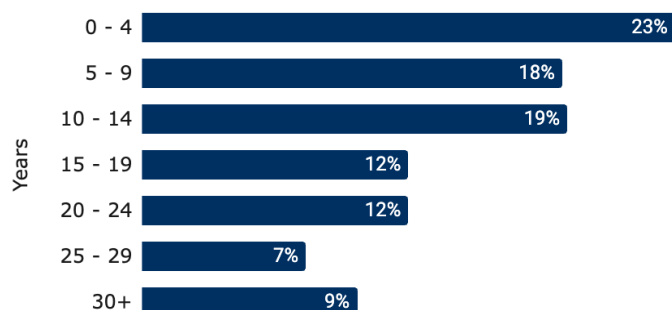


## Respondent Characteristics

| In which College(s) or School(s) are the classes you are teaching in Fall 2023? |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>College/School</i>                                                           | <i>Frequency</i> |
| Computing, Data Science, and Society                                            | 17               |
| Chemistry                                                                       | 9                |
| Education                                                                       | 12               |
| Engineering                                                                     | 56               |
| Environmental Design                                                            | 8                |
| Goldman Public Policy                                                           | 3                |
| Haas Business                                                                   | 18               |
| Information                                                                     | 3                |
| Journalism                                                                      | 8                |
| L&S Arts & Humanities                                                           | 109              |
| L&S Biological Sciences                                                         | 36               |
| L&S Math & Physical Sciences                                                    | 39               |
| L&S Social Sciences                                                             | 75               |
| L&S Undergraduate Studies                                                       | 21               |
| Law                                                                             | 12               |
| Public Health                                                                   | 8                |
| Rausser CNR                                                                     | 36               |
| Social Welfare                                                                  | 8                |
| Wertheim Optometry                                                              | 4                |

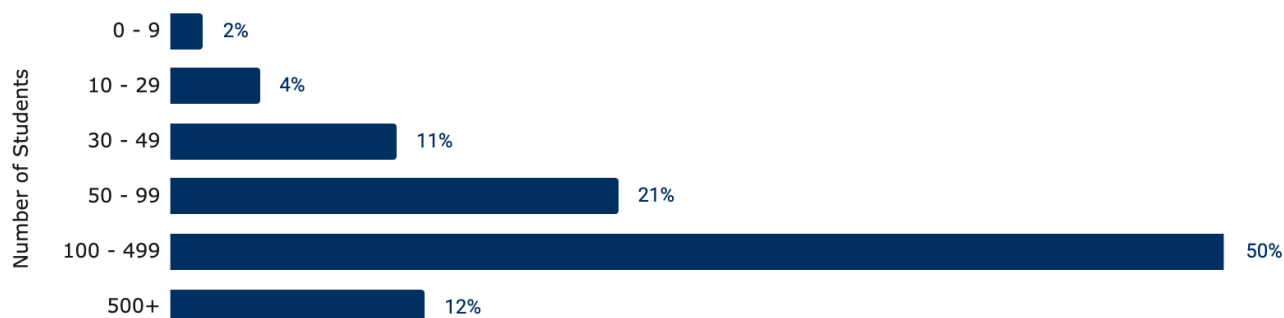
**"How many years have you been teaching at Berkeley?"**

Instructors (N = 447)



**"Approximately how many undergraduate and graduate students do you teach each year?"**

N = 447



**"What is the typical enrollment of each individual course you teach each year?"**

Percentages sum to greater than 100% because respondents were able to select all class sizes that apply (N = 473)

