

Alumni Survey 2020, Master of Urban Planning

Introduction

In October 2020, the faculty of the UB Department of Urban and Regional Planning launched the eighth annual survey of its graduates. We asked five years of graduates who had graduated at least a year earlier to rate us on how we have done so that we can formally track our outcomes and evolve in better directions as needed.

MUP alumni by the numbers

Number of MUP graduates between 2015 and 2019: 161.

Alumni were distributed as follows: 2015: 42; 2016: 30; 2017: 36; 2018: 31 and 2019: 22.

Number of such graduates with email addresses: 161

Survey process

We sent a letter via e-mail to our MUP alumni announcing the survey along with a link to the survey itself (the survey was administered through a third-party survey site, SurveyMonkey). The survey was open for three weeks and reminders were sent to alumni not completing the survey at the end of each week.

Confidentiality

Participation was voluntary. Survey subjects were not asked to provide personal information. Results are only presented in aggregate form. No individual responses are revealed.

Survey subjects are not charged to complete the survey, and they are not compensated. Names of survey subjects can never be connected to survey responses.



How we define planning and planning-related positions

We sought information on the types of jobs in which our graduates are employed. A *planning position* may take place at local, regional, state (province), national, or international levels. It may occur in the public sector, public authority, nonprofit organization, or private sector. Specific fields that constitute planning include: arts and culture planning, community activism/empowerment, community development, consulting, disaster planning, economic development, energy development and planning, environmental planning, GIS and other computer applications to planning, historic preservation and heritage, housing, international development, land use and code enforcement, legal practice related to planning, natural resources planning, neighborhood planning, parks and recreation, planning education, planning for training programs, planning within an architectural or engineering firm, planning management/finance, public health, real estate development, tourism development, transportation planning and analysis, urban design, and waste management. A *planning-related* position includes consulting, design, development, nonprofit management and administration, policymaking, policy analysis, corporate location, health policy analysis, and public administration that in some way uses your planning skills or contributes to planning objectives but does not fall under the first definition above.

Results

1. Survey Response Rate

Number of survey responses: 41

Survey response rate: 41/161 = 25.5%

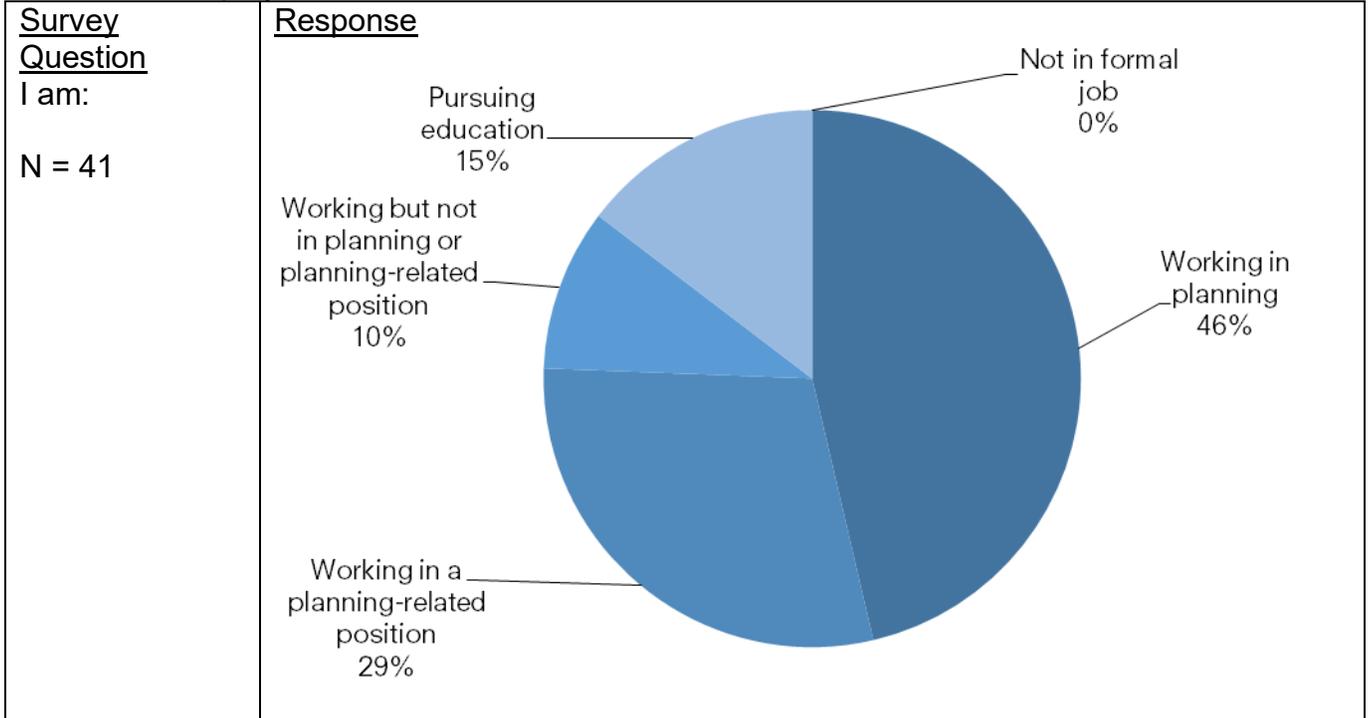
Survey response by alumni graduation year:

2015:	17.1%
2016:	12.2%
2017:	26.8%
2018:	26.8%
2019:	17.1%

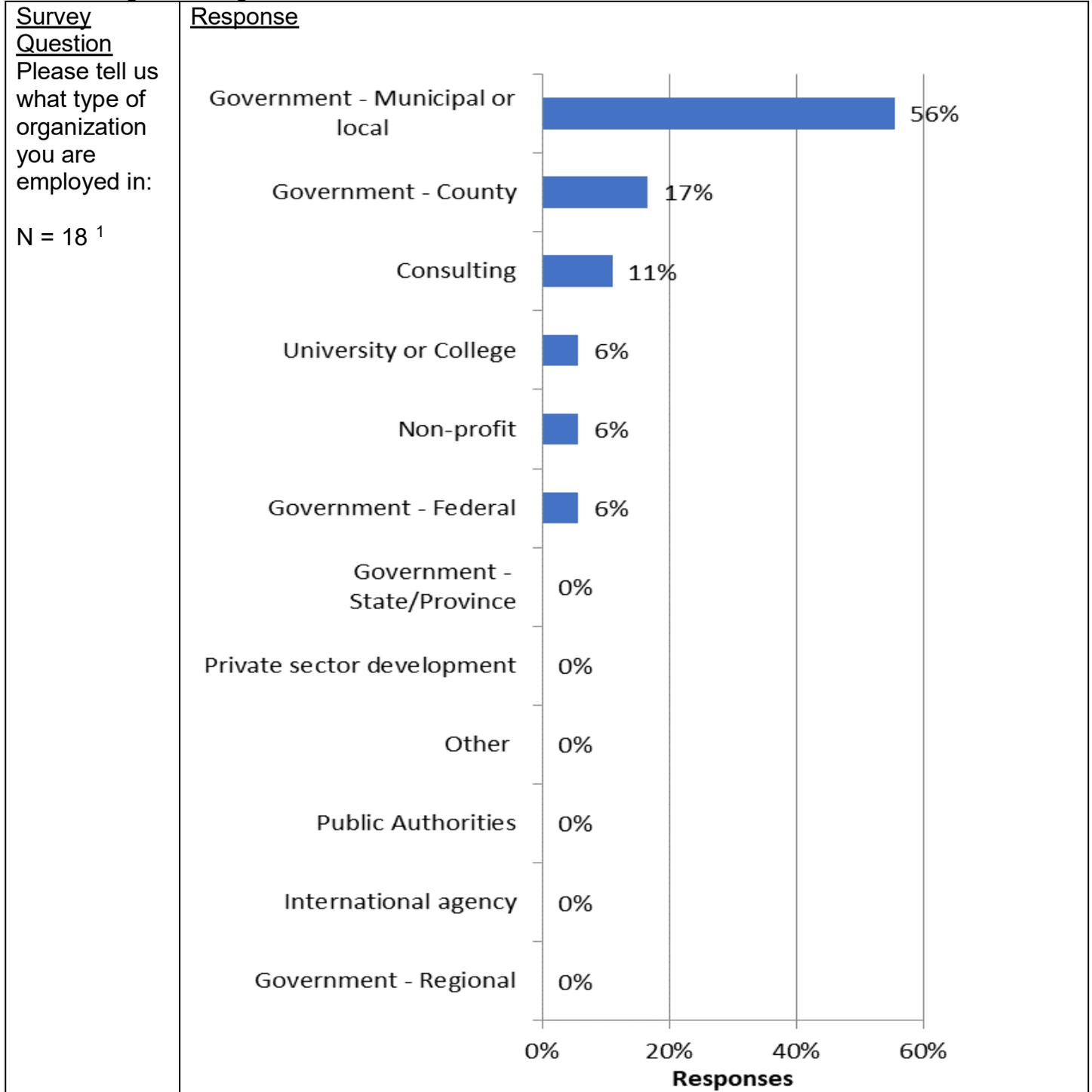


2. Employment

2.1 Current Employment



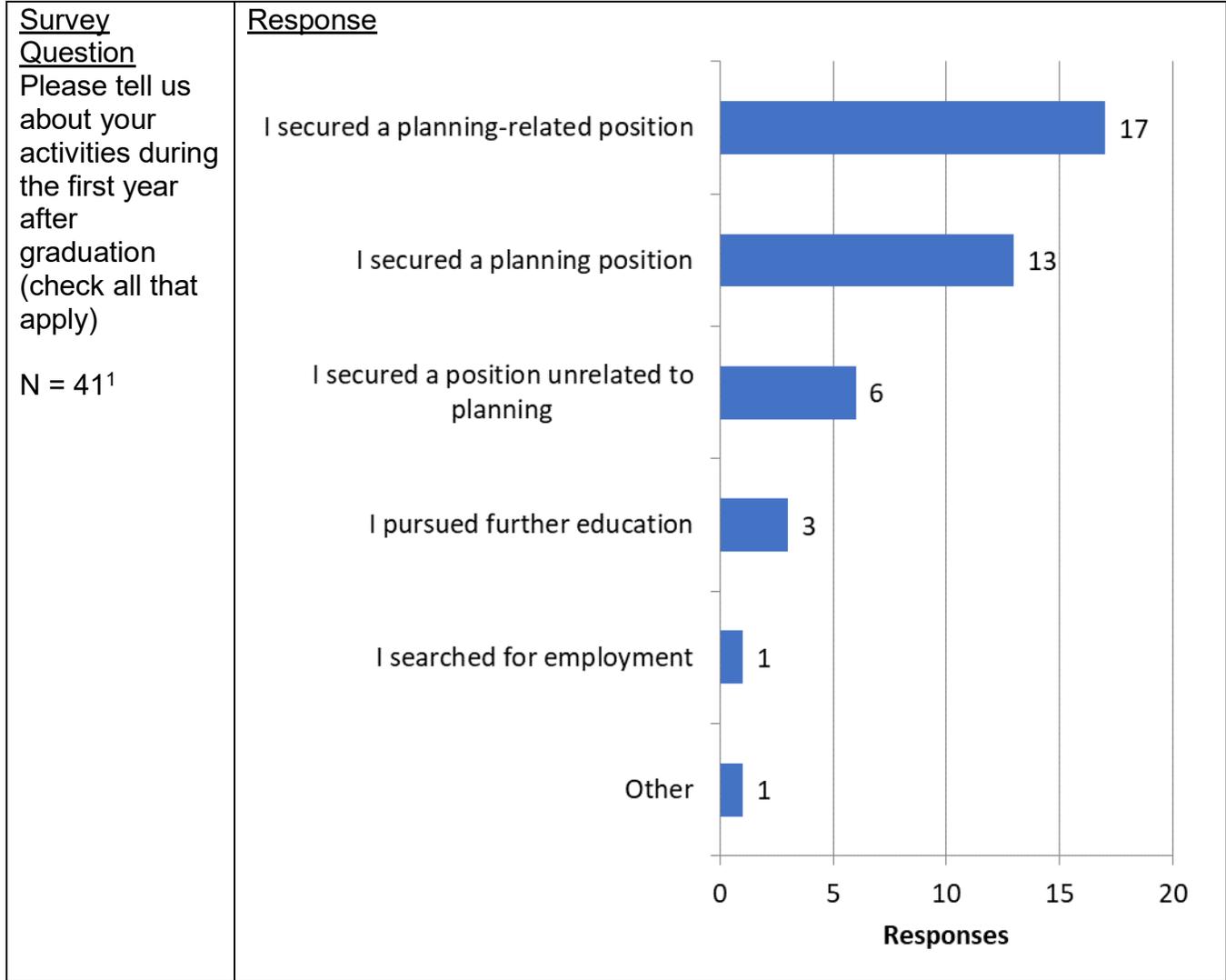
2.2 Planning Work Organization



¹ Non-responses for individual questions have been removed from the results and N updated accordingly.

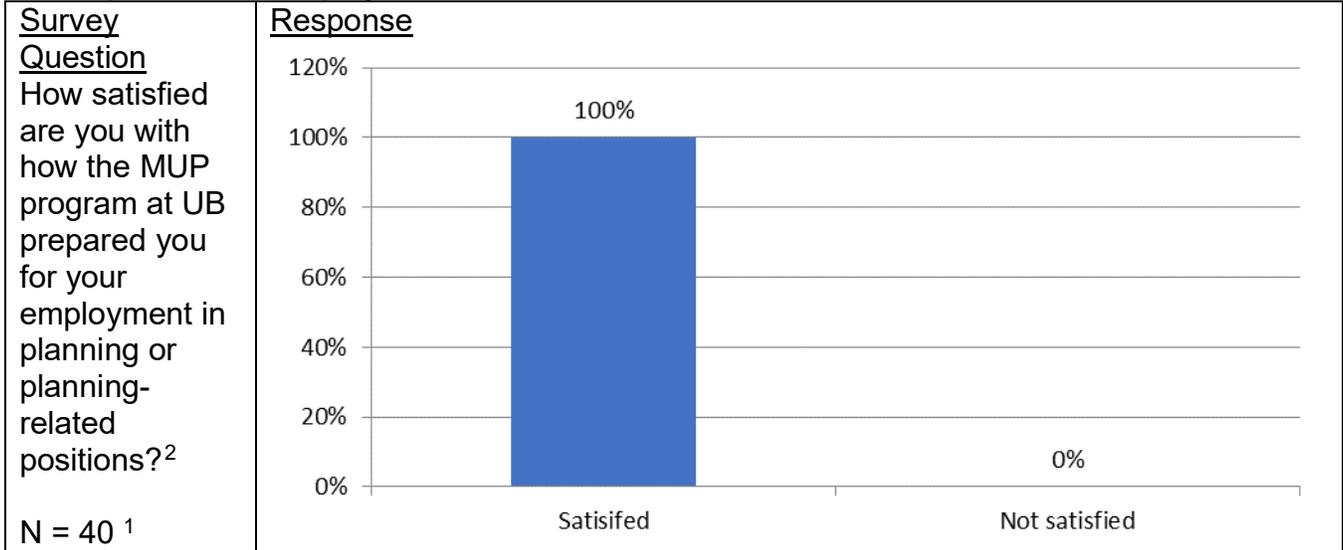


2.3 First Year Activities

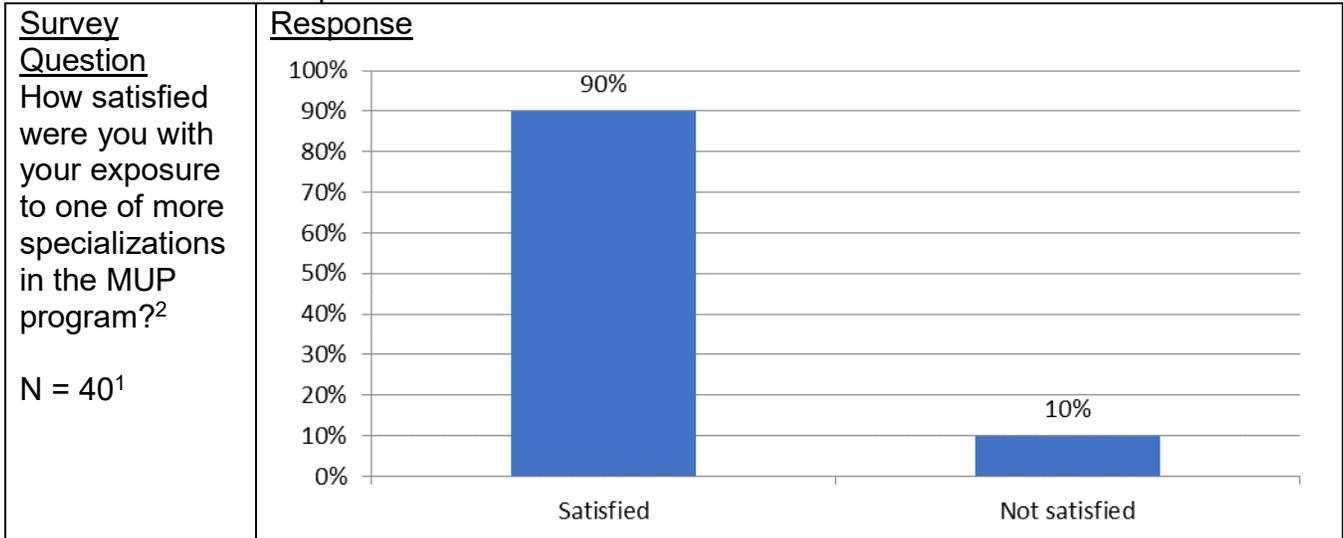


3. Satisfaction with MUP Program

3.1 Preparation for employment



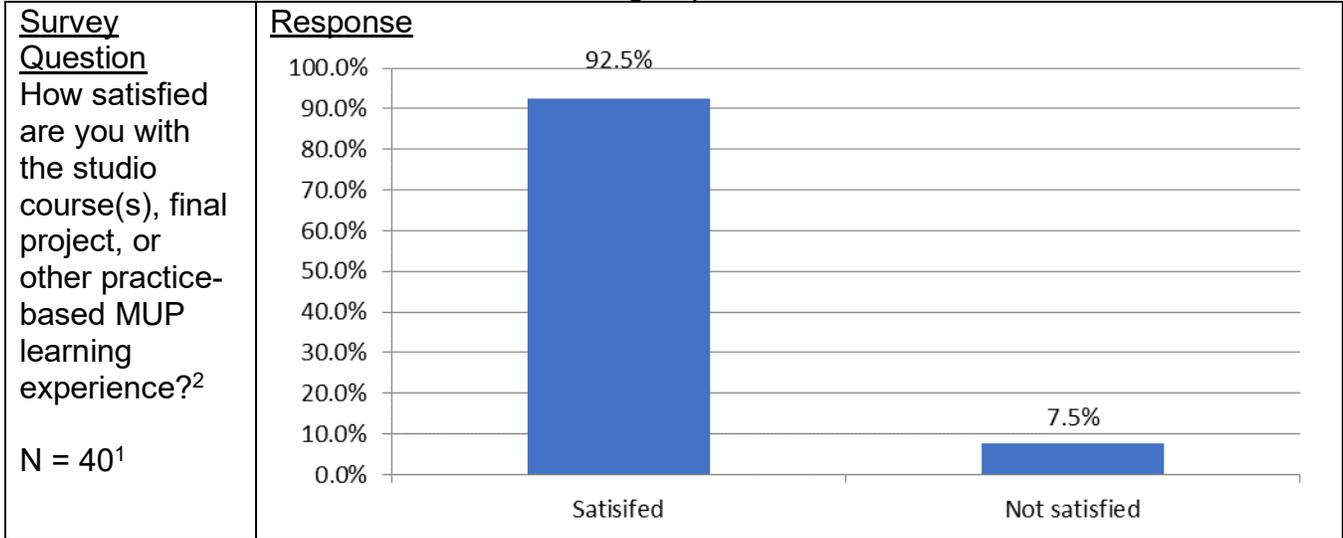
3.2 Satisfaction with Specializations



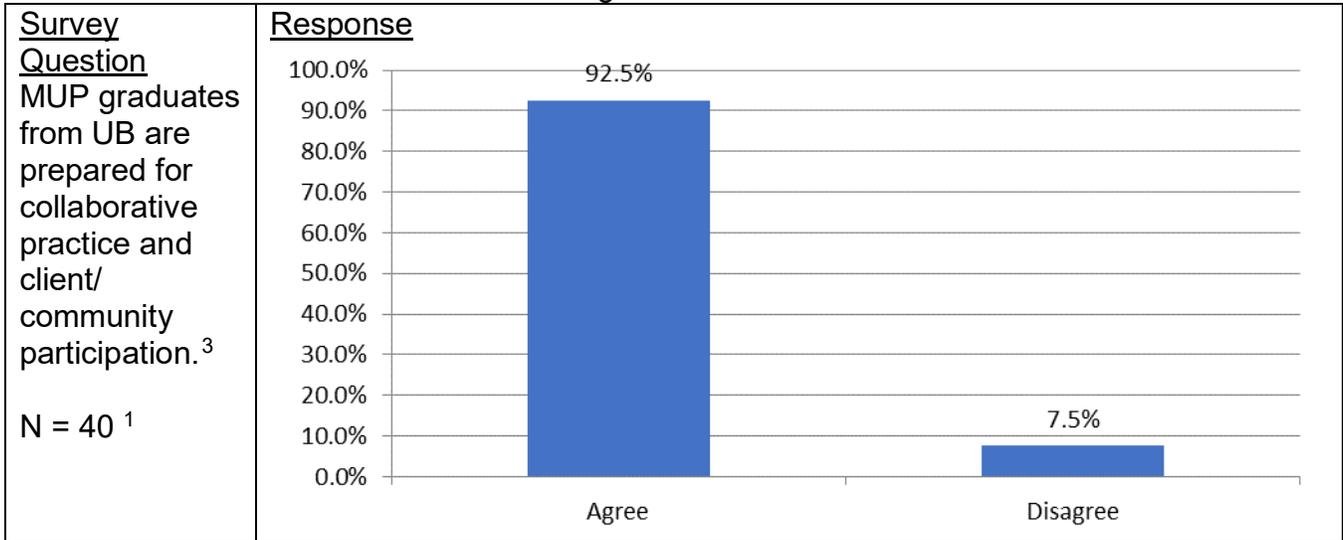
² Responses are aggregated for “Highly satisfied, “Satisfied” and “Somewhat satisfied.”



3.3 Satisfaction with Practice-Based Learning Experiences



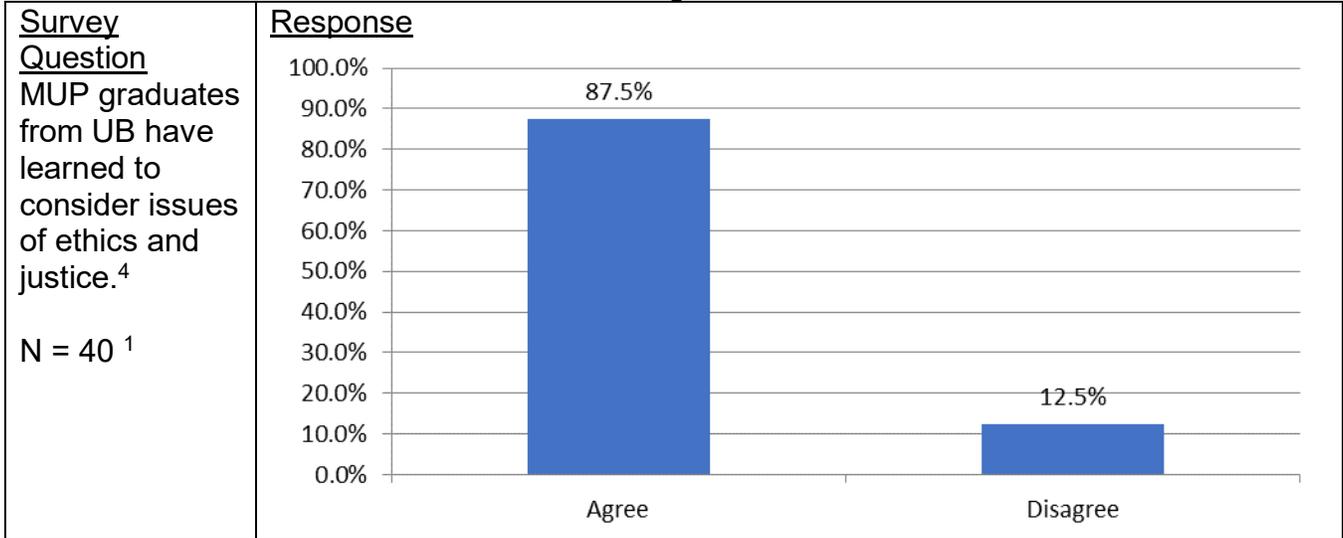
3.4 Satisfaction with Collaborative Learning



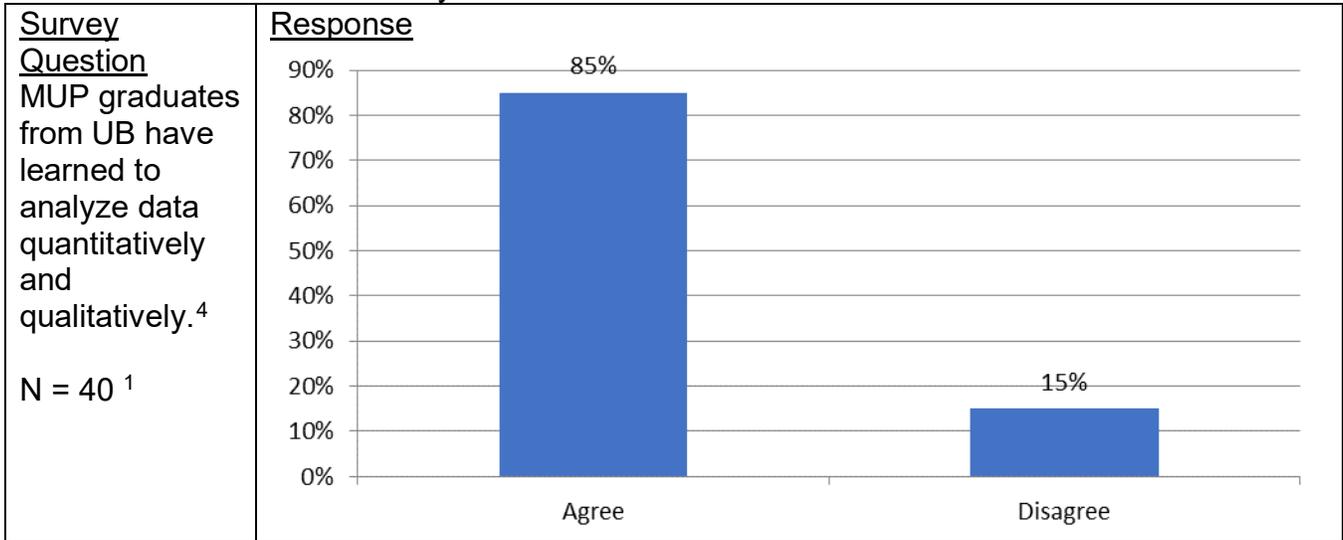
³ Responses are aggregated for “Strongly agree & “Somewhat agree” and for “Somewhat disagree” & “Strongly disagree.”



3.5 Satisfaction with Ethics and Justice Learning



3.6 Satisfaction with Data Analysis Skills

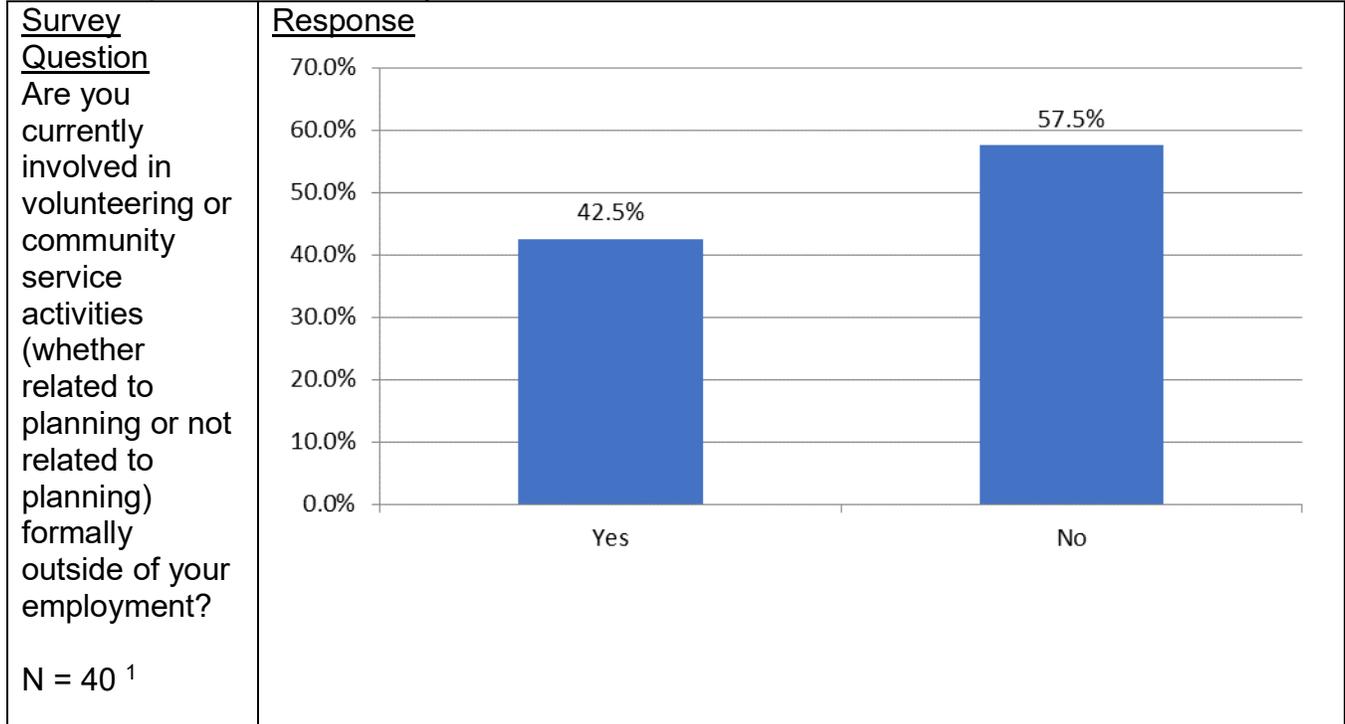


⁴ Responses are aggregated for “Strongly agree & “Somewhat agree” and for “Somewhat disagree” & “Strongly disagree.”



4. Engagement

4.1 Participation in Community Service Activities



Graduates volunteered and provided community service for University Heights Re-tree the District, the United Way, Western New York Urban Artists Collective, Fillmore Forward Inc., Eastside Garden Walk, Allen’s Lane Community Art Center, Your Street Your Voice, and the Ancient Order of the Hibernians. Graduates also served as board members for local non-profits, and assisted various groups, including a downtown development agency, a local community organization, a public arts planning organization, a mutual aid fund, and a housing block club.

