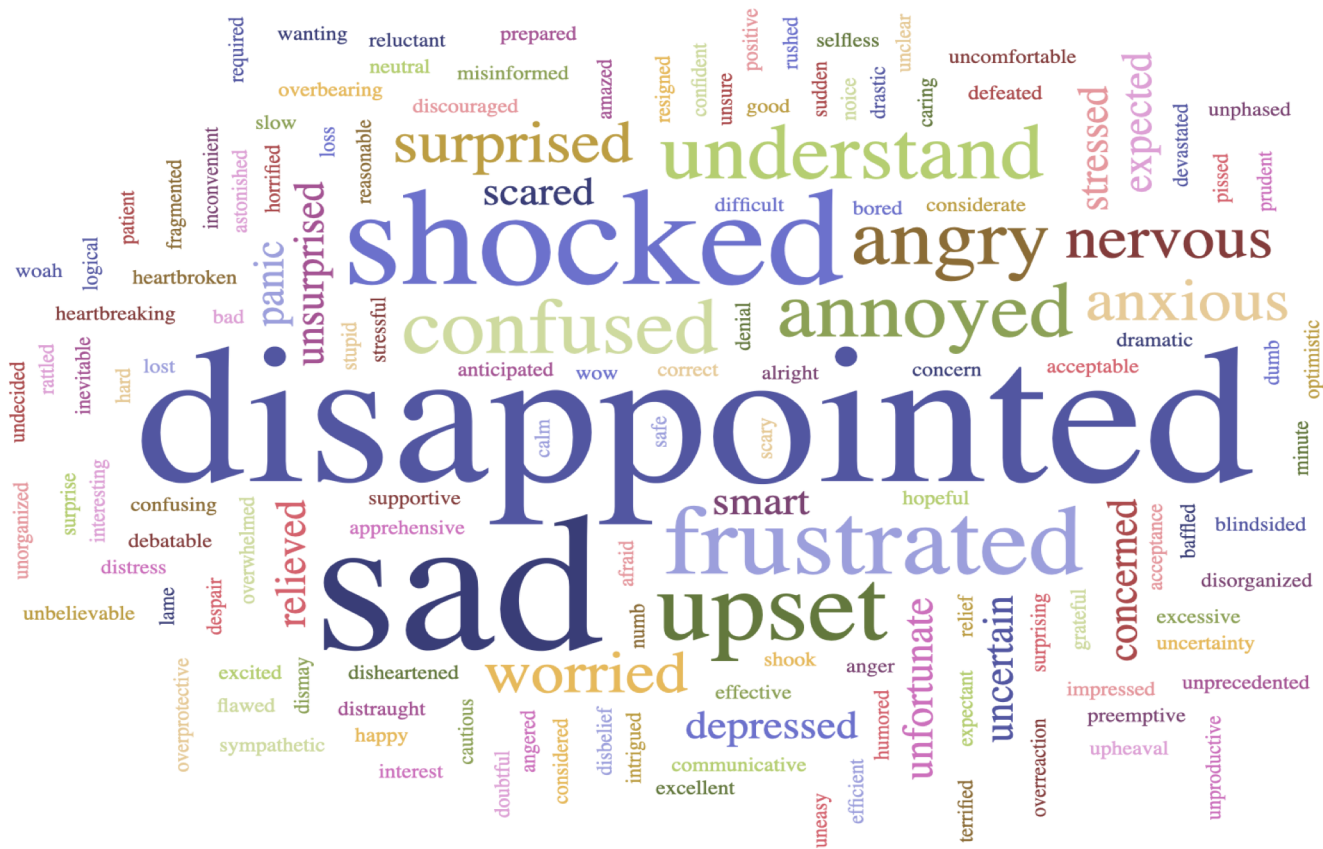


Transitioning During COVID-19: Student Perspectives

Nicholas Boggiano
Olivia Lattanzi
Megan McCoole



How did you feel initially in two words?





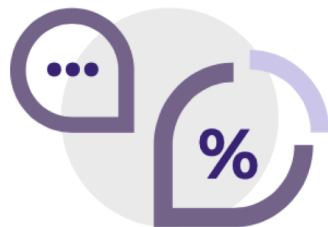
How do you feel now?

[illegible]

Our Mission & Objectives



Determine college student's perspectives, reactions, and transition leading up to, during, and after their college's change in operations, and compare WPI responses to other higher education institutes in New England.



Analyze WPI
Student Responses
Survey & Interview



Examine
Other Responses
in NE Interview

COVID-
19

Compare Responses

Interviews with Students at Other Universities



1889

SAINT ANSELM
COLLEGE



University of
Massachusetts
Lowell

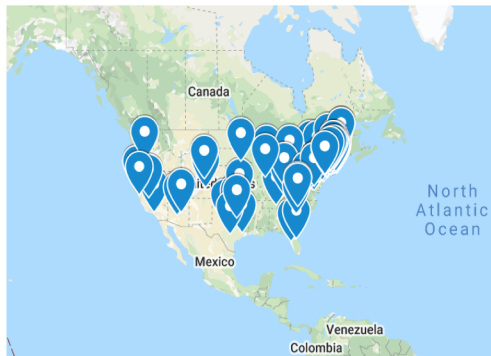
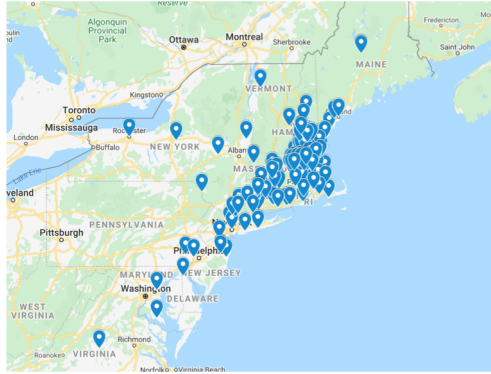


Northeastern
University



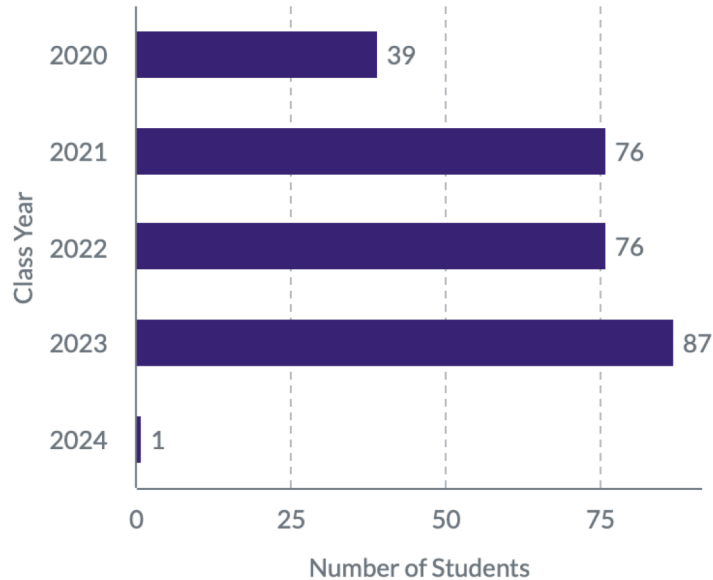
EMERSON
COLLEGE

Students are Learning Remotely All Over the World

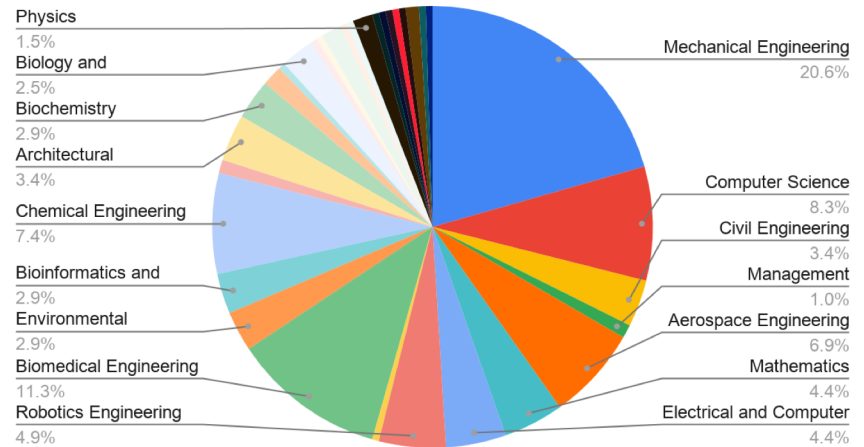


Respondents are from Varying Class Years and Majors

Graduation Year



Majors Of Respondents

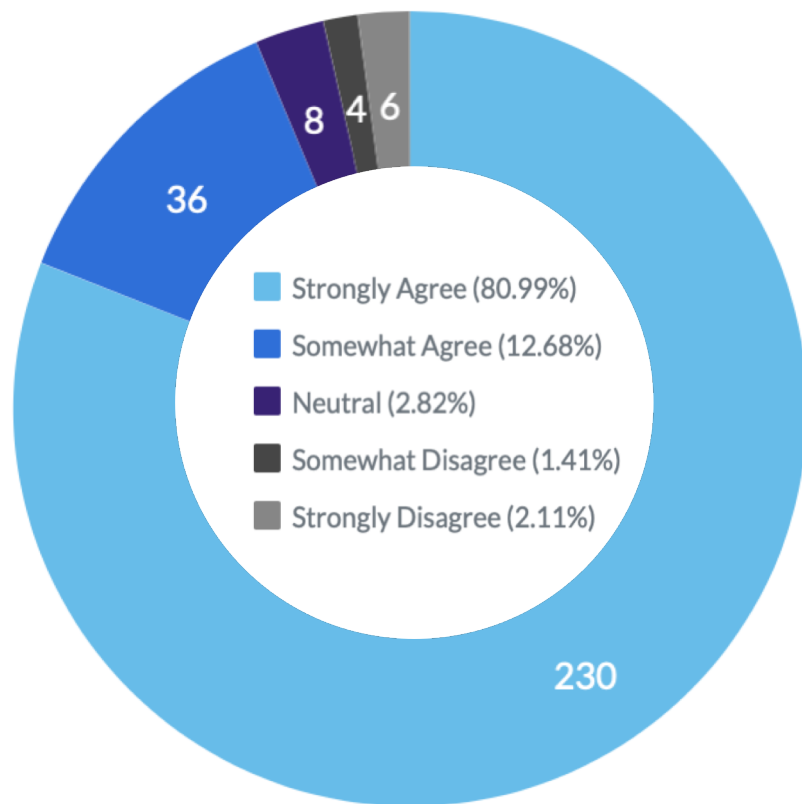


Overall, WPI made the Right Decision

94%

AGREE

“WPI did what it needed to do for all things COVID. What WPI did wrong, in my opinion, was prepare the students on possible decisions being made ... They forgot to be compassionate and emotional at first and didn't advertise resources like the SDCC until later.”- WPI Class of 2020 MS Student



WPI Adapted Well to Online Learning

But... varied by school. These factors played a role...



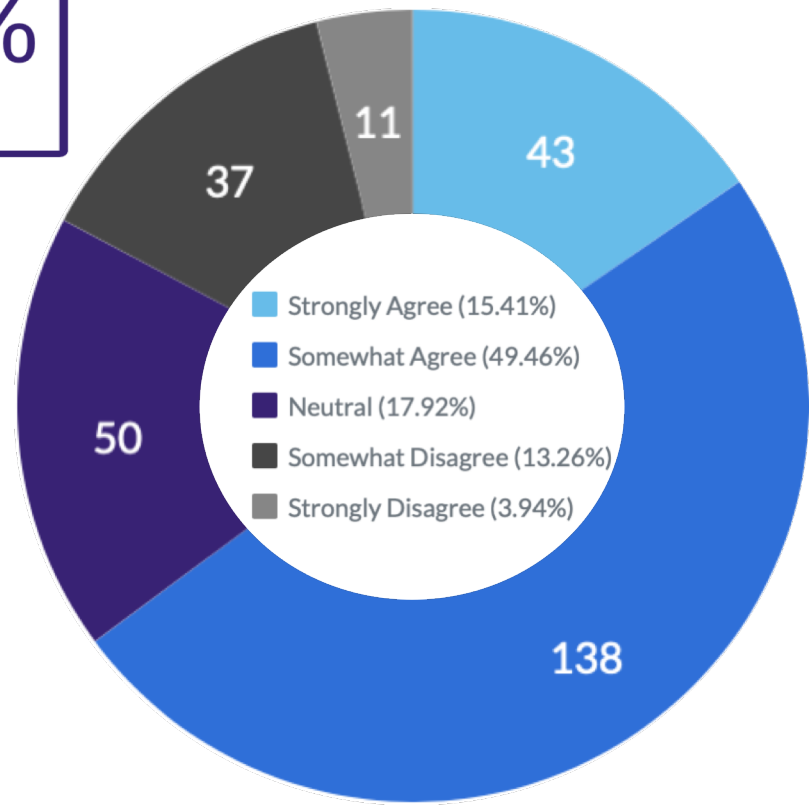
Amount
of Time
Given to
Transition



Resources
Provided

64%

AGREE

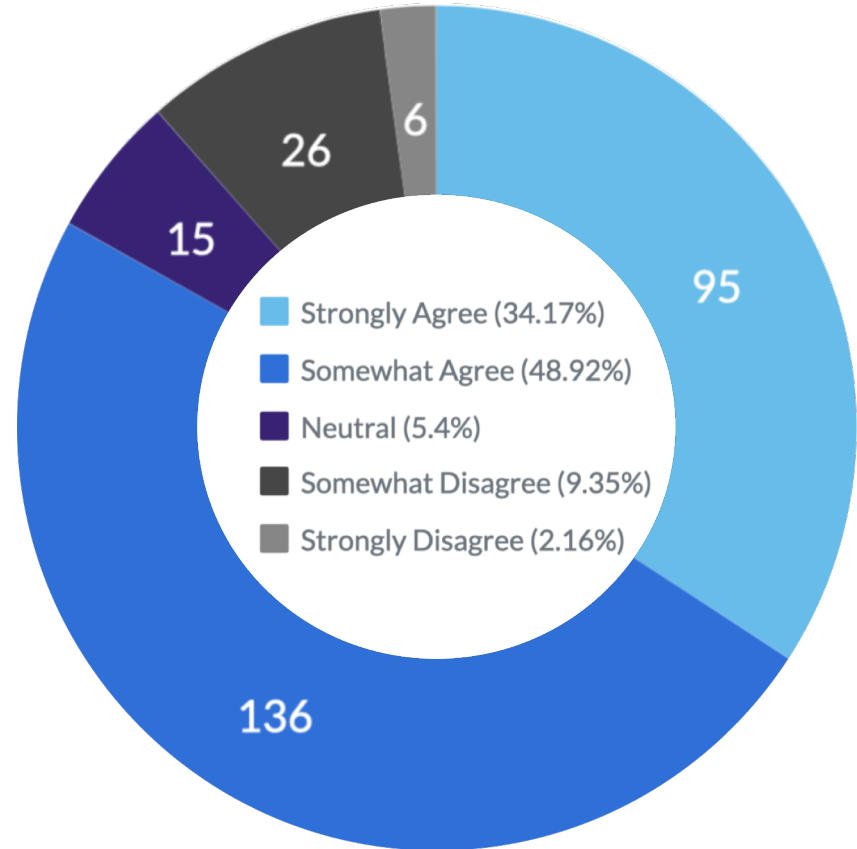


But... the Quality of Online Education is Not the Same

83%
AGREE

“I really want this experience to lay to rest the idea that online classes are an equivalent substitute to in person learning.”

– WPI Class of 2022 BCB Student



Are some learners more likely to succeed online over others?



Field-Independent Learners

- ☐ Perceive objects as separate from their environment
- ☐ Use their own values and structures
- ☐ Set self-defined goals
- ☐ Process information efficiently
- ☐ Motivated from within
- ☐ **Best for:** Lecture-based learning and adapting to new environments



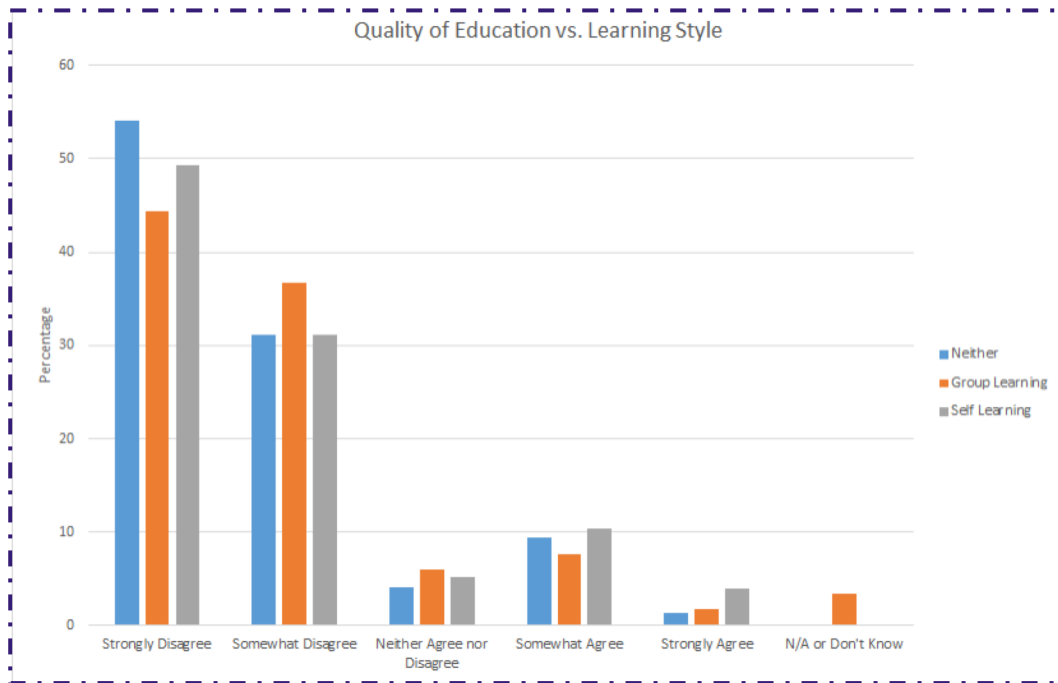
Field-Dependent Learners

- ☐ Rely on environment to give clues about object
- ☐ Prefer provided structure
- ☐ Define goals externally
- ☐ Motivated by others
- ☐ **Best for:** Class discussions and group work, understanding larger social context

Quality is Lower, Regardless of Learning Style

"It's harder because you don't have your classmates and your teachers. You don't have as much interaction and support of 'you should be doing this' because people care about how much effort you put into it. Now I don't see a single one of them... People are tired and stressed and don't know how to put effort in."

-5th Year Biology Student
Northeastern University



All learners face similar challenges online, but in varying degrees.

"I definitely don't like online learning. I'd like listening and taking notes and not needing a whole lot of in-person interaction. Usually during classes I didn't ask too many questions... It's not the worst, but also it would be a lot better to have that in-person connection. It's just easier to focus and understand things overall."

-Junior Theater Design and Technology Student
Emerson College



"My learning styles relies heavily on bouncing ideas off people, which is increasingly difficult when learning remotely."

"I focus better and I learn better in person, and I miss my friends who would help me study."

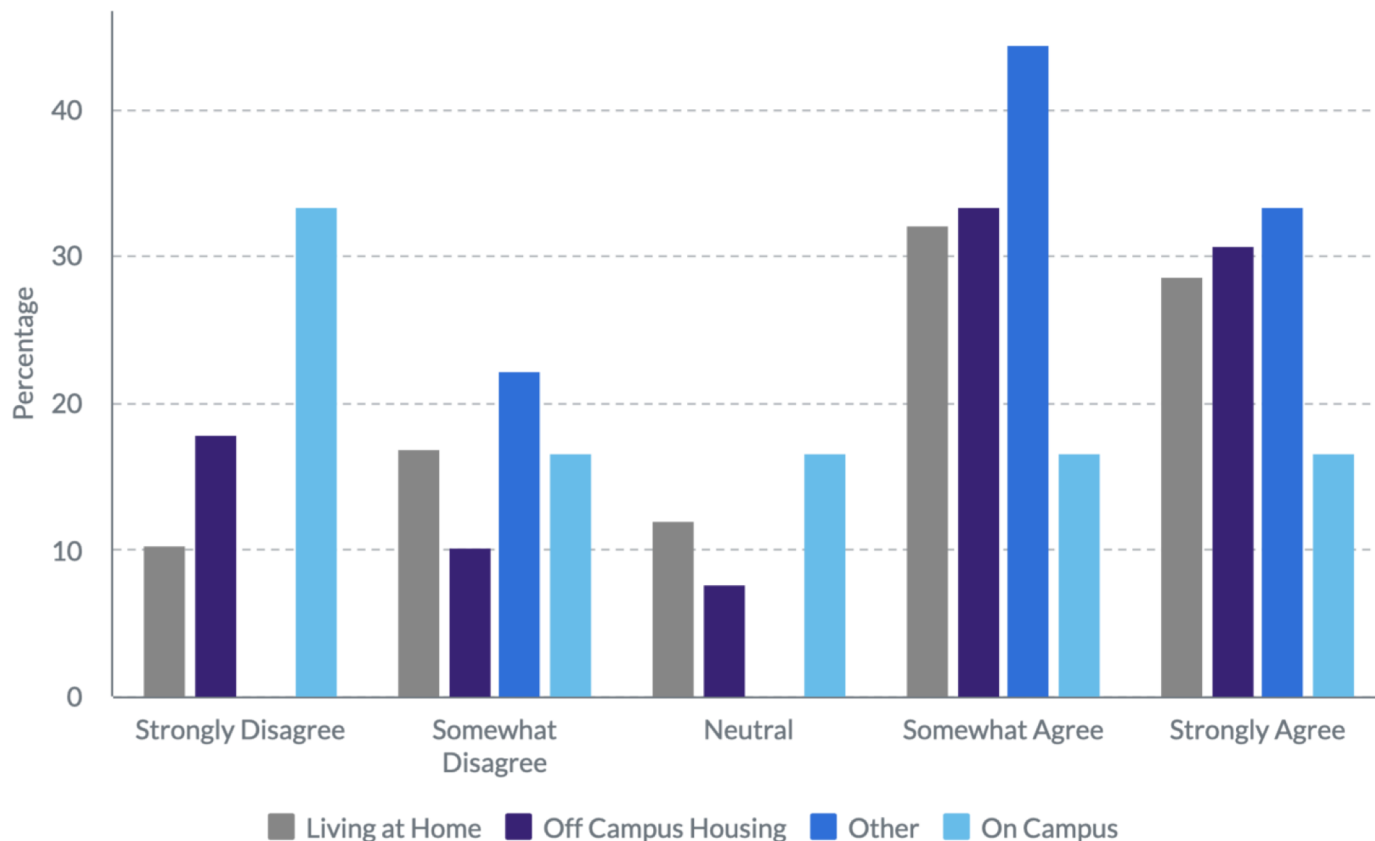
"I am more of a traditional learner and I really value being able to interact with my professors and going to their office hours... My professors have been good at responding to emails but it still doesn't replace going to lecture and interacting with them in person."

-Various WPI Students

Class Work is Negatively Affected by Living Situations

61%

Agree



Initially: Disappointed Sad & Now: Understand

Schools that provided



Time to Transition



Resources

had smoother transitions



Quality of Education



VS



Options Satisfy More Learning Styles

Students Futures are Uncertain



The Future

*Remote A-Term
Announcement*

Advancements

A -Term IQP

Expansion

*Online Learning
Quality*

Improvements

*Crisis
Communication*

Development

Questions?

Thank you to our advisors, fellow Denmark members, survey and interview respondents, and everyone who has helped with the transition of our project.

“Friday the 13th, a horrible omen... So prior to that, they were updating us throughout the week pretty much saying, ‘There's no way you're being sent home. We're still conducting classes, don't worry.’ They sent one [notification] on that Thursday. Then the next day, they were like, ‘Just kidding! You have to go home by Sunday.’ So, I feel if they prepared us a little bit better, and we're more open about the possibility of it, I would feel a little different. But still, I think it was abrupt.”

- St. A's Class of 2020 Elementary Education Student

“If classes are going to go online in the fall there is no point in doing it.”

-Northeastern 5th Year Political Science Major

“People are able to ignore text messages, calls, and hide behind their computers, whereas in person you are forced to see each other twice a week in class.”

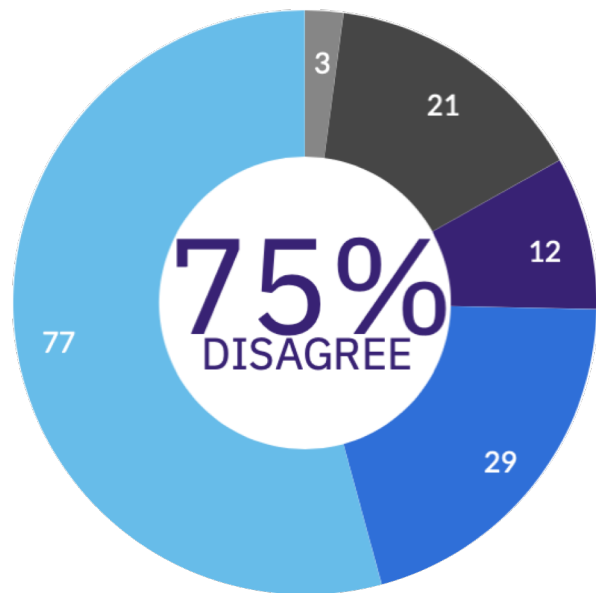
“With the option to pass-fail, group work is hard, as some students are trying to get good grades for grad school, and others are slacking as they just need above a 60.”

- St. A's Class of 2020 Business and Marketing Student

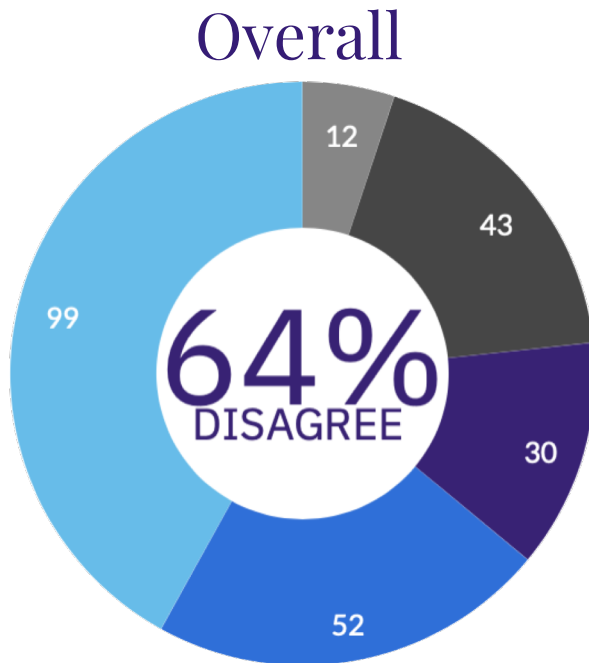
“I want to be angry but I can’t. Most of the current situation is no one’s fault and I’m not just going to pick someone to be mad at for reasons that are unfair. A disease doesn’t care if you’re angry.”

- WPI Class of 2022 Physics and ME Student

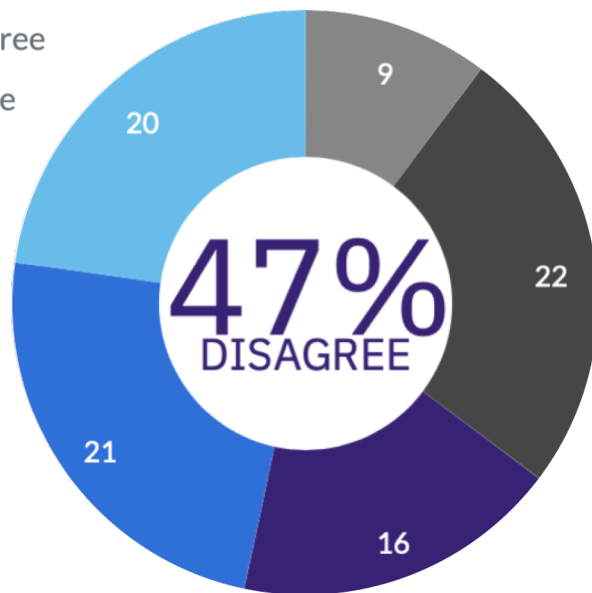
Did WPI Students Have Enough Time to Move Out?



On Campus
Students



Overall



Off Campus
Students

WPI Residents are More Frustrated than Other Schools

St. A's:

March 13-15, 48 hours
to move out

Emerson:

March 13-20, 1 week to
move out

WPI:

Beginning May 8th
in-state students
move out. Everyone
else has **NOT** moved
out at this time

Northeastern:

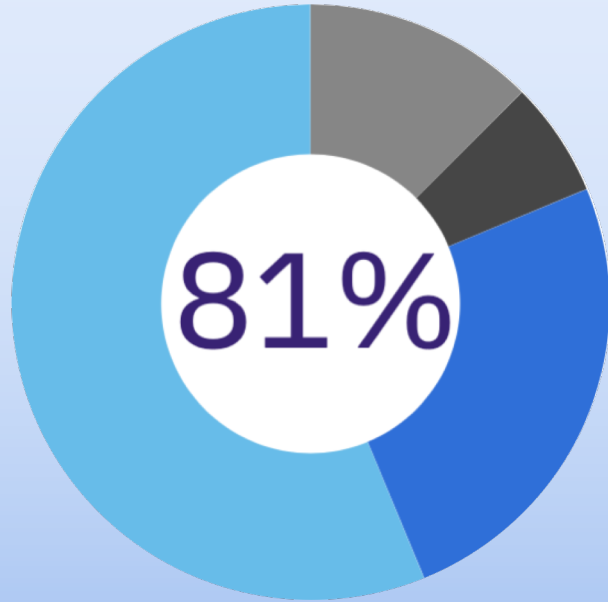
March 14-17, 48 hours
to move out

UMass Lowell:

March 14, 2 hour time
slots to move out

“I don't know when we are going to be getting [our stuff], but then they offered some sort of packaging that was really expensive where you can ship it. I'm like, I'm not doing that, I live an hour away. When you let me come back, I'll get my stuff... I mean, I appreciate it, but also, Nooo.”

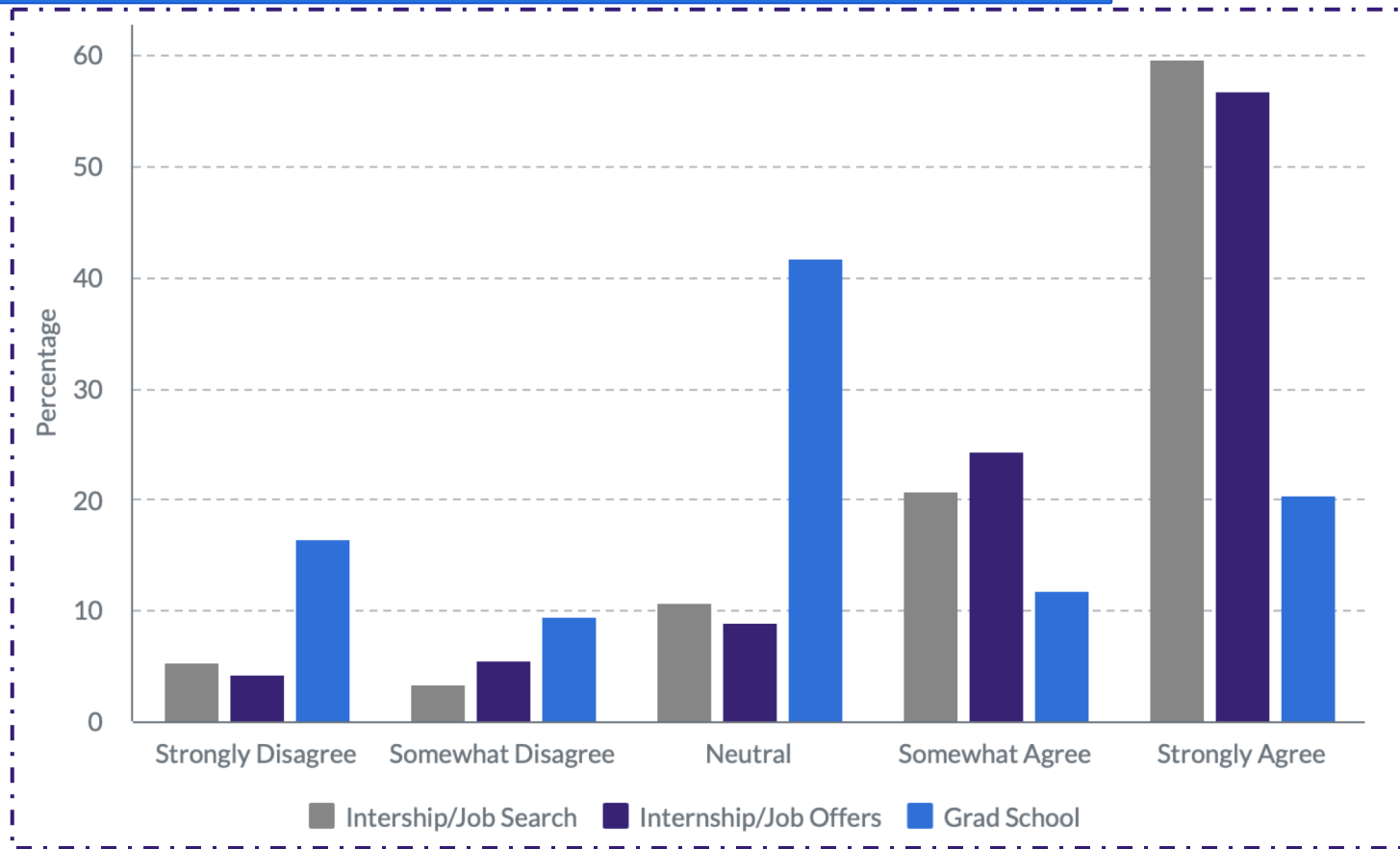
- WPI Class of 2022 BCB Student



- Strongly Agree (12.5%)
- Somewhat Agree (6.25%)
- Somewhat Disagree (25%)
- Strongly Disagree (56.25%)

Students Most
Affected
Financially
are Not
Getting
Satisfactory
Compensation

Students' Futures are Impacted



“Will I get to move back to Massachusetts in August? Will I actually get to work at my summer job? etc... All of the unknowns are very stressful to deal with right now.”

- WPI Class of 2023 Civil and Environmental Engineering Student

Questions?

Thank you to our advisors, fellow Denmark members, survey and interview respondents, and everyone who has helped with the transition of our project.