



**Aiken Technical College  
Graduation Survey Summary**

**June 2, 2021**

**Table of Contents:**

Summary:..... 1

Methodology:.....2

Results: .....3

## **Summary:**

The 2021 Graduation survey participation rate increased approximately one percentage point from the 2020 survey. Sixty-two graduates responded, yielding a response rate of 15.7%. Based on the participation rate, the results will not necessarily represent the view of the majority of graduates.

The majority of the students who responded rated items concerning their program of study as "very satisfied" and "satisfied." The graduates ranked *i*) overall quality of campus security, *ii*) your major program of study, and *iii*) instruction in your general education courses among their top three levels of satisfaction. Items like campus activities and instruction in your major program of study obtained the highest percentage of "neutral" or "dissatisfied" ratings.

There is a positive feeling regarding ATC's impact on skill development as "very helpful" and "helpful." The highest-scoring areas on this question were:

- 49 percent agree that ATC was "very helpful" in developing skills in oral communication.
- 47 percent agree that ATC was "very helpful" in formulate strategies to identify, collect, analyze, develop, and evaluate information and learn independently.
- 53 percent agree ATC was "helpful" in developing skills utilizing computers.
- 49 percent agree ATC was "helpful" in developing skills in determining personal and career goals and working cooperatively with others.

On the other hand, graduates recognized the following areas of improvement for ATC: *i*) understanding different philosophies and cultures; and *ii*) enhancing self-confidence.

The employment results indicate that approximately 60 percent of the respondents were employed at the time of their graduation ceremony. Seventy-two percent of those who responded as employed are working in their program field of study.

Ninety-eight percent of the graduates who answered question six would recommend ATC to someone interested in their education program. Ninety-five percent of the graduates who answered question sixteen would recommend ATC to someone interested in attending college.

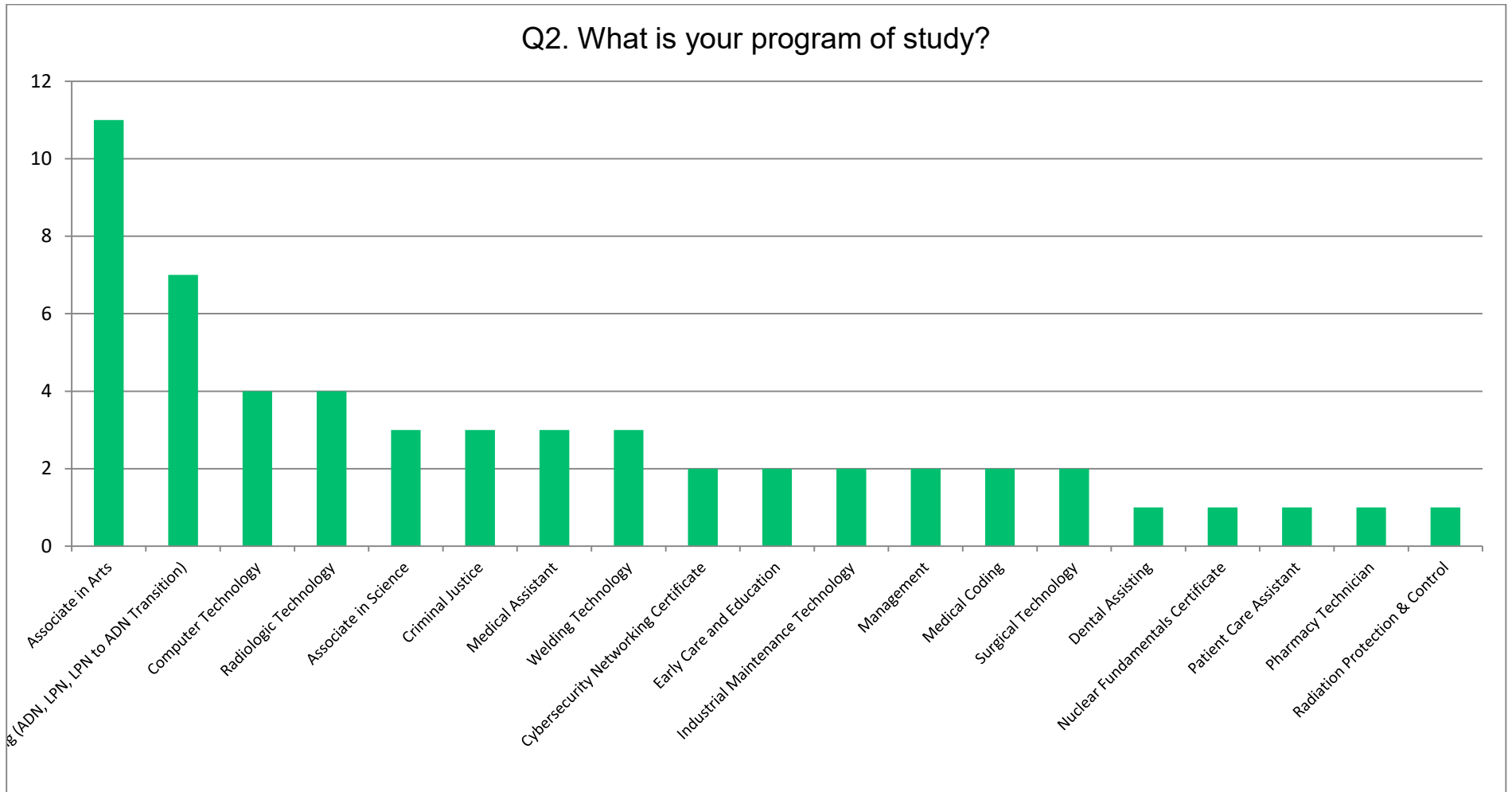
### **Methodology:**

The Institutional Effectiveness and Research Department administered the 2021 Graduation Survey via Survey Monkey for Aiken Technical College on behalf of the College's Recruitment and Student Experience Department. On April 5, 2021, a survey link was emailed and texted to 394 graduates. The announcement was also posted on the ATC portal.

This survey was closed on May 3, 2021, at 12:01 am. Sixty-two graduates responded, yielding a response rate of 15.7%. The purpose of the survey is to evaluate ATC's programs as they relate to employment opportunities.

Question 1 asks for contact information and is not included in this report. Results of the Graduation Survey questions 2 - 18 are provided below.

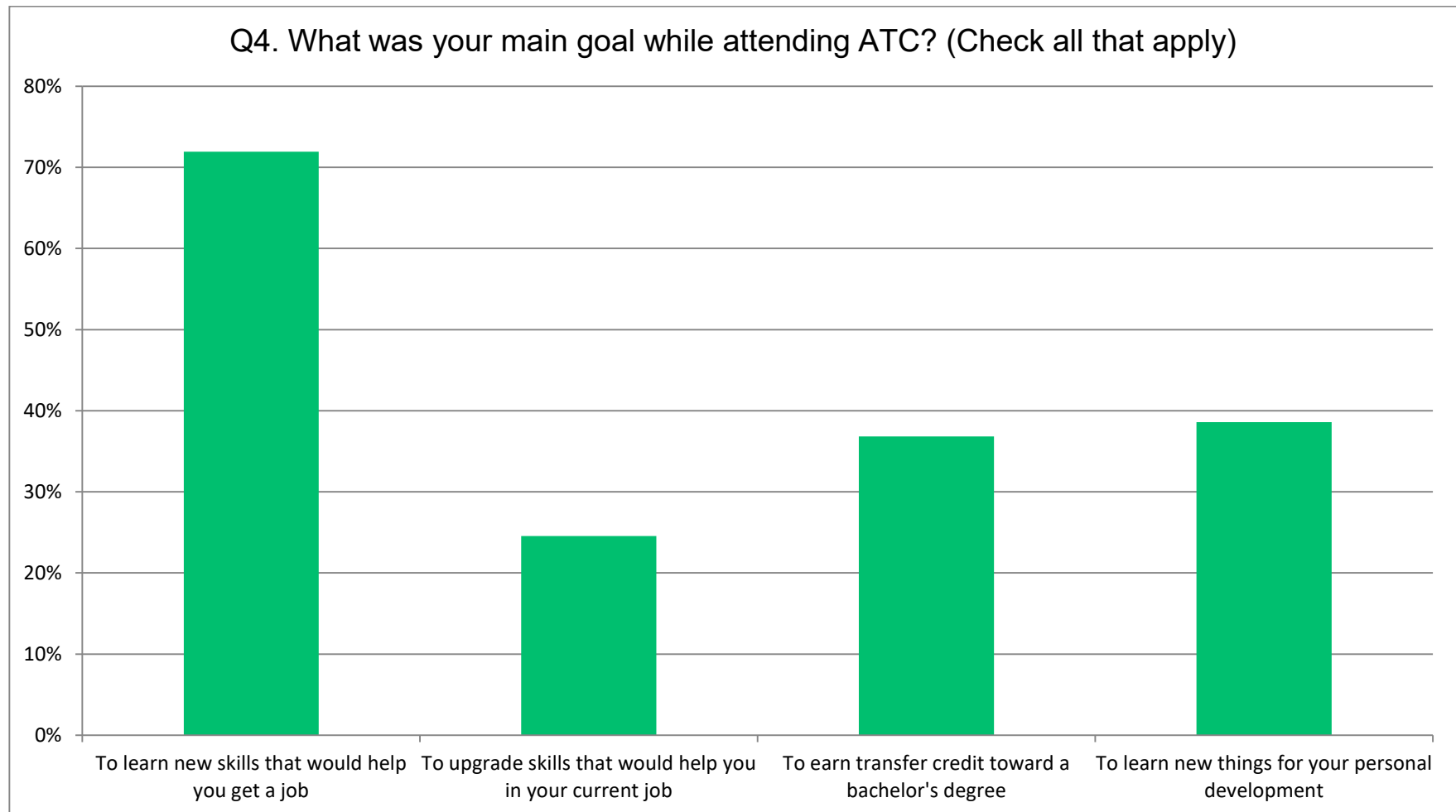
## **Results:**



Q2. What is your program of study?		
	Responses	
	Count	Percent
Associate in Arts	11	20%
Associate in Science	3	5%
Computer Technology	4	7%
Criminal Justice	3	5%
Cybersecurity Networking Certificate	2	4%
Dental Assisting	1	2%
Early Care and Education	2	4%
Industrial Maintenance Technology	2	4%
Management	2	4%
Medical Assistant	3	5%
Medical Coding	2	4%
Nuclear Fundamentals Certificate	1	2%
Nursing (ADN, LPN, LPN to ADN Transition)	7	13%
Patient Care Assistant	1	2%
Pharmacy Technician	1	2%
Radiation Protection & Control	1	2%
Radiologic Technology	4	7%
Surgical Technology	2	4%
Welding Technology	3	5%
<b>Answered</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Skipped</b>	<b>7</b>	

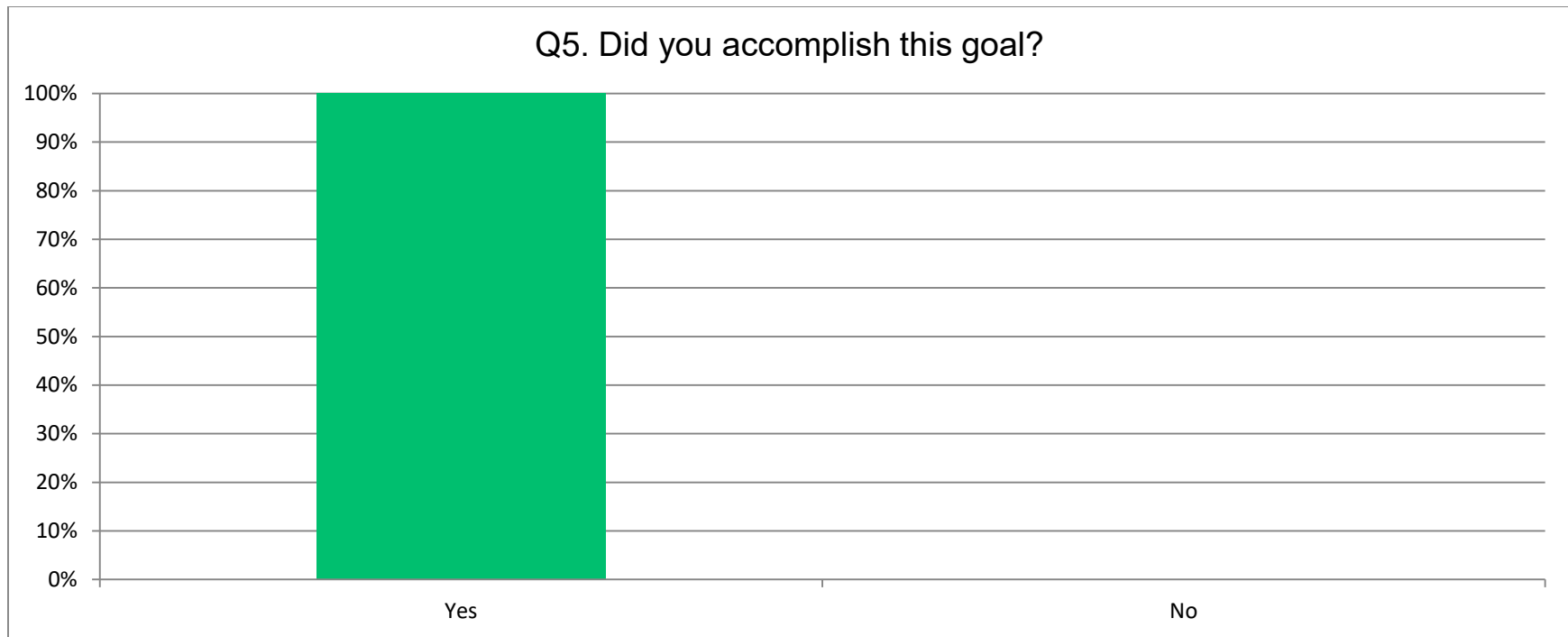
Q3. Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following:	Response	
	Count	Percent
Answered:	58	91%
Skipped	4	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100%</b>

	Very Satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Very Dissatisfied		Total
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Your major program of study	32	55%	24	41%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%	58
Instruction in your major program of study	31	53%	21	36%	5	9%	0	0%	1	2%	58
Your general education program of study	27	47%	26	45%	5	9%	0	0%	0	0%	58
Instruction in your general education courses	25	43%	29	50%	4	7%	0	0%	0	0%	58
Learning spaces/classrooms/labs	32	55%	21	36%	5	9%	0	0%	0	0%	58
Overall quality of the college	23	40%	29	51%	5	9%	0	0%	0	0%	57
Overall quality of Campus Security	32	55%	24	41%	1	2%	1	2%	0	0%	58
Campus activities	24	41%	20	34%	13	22%	1	2%	0	0%	58

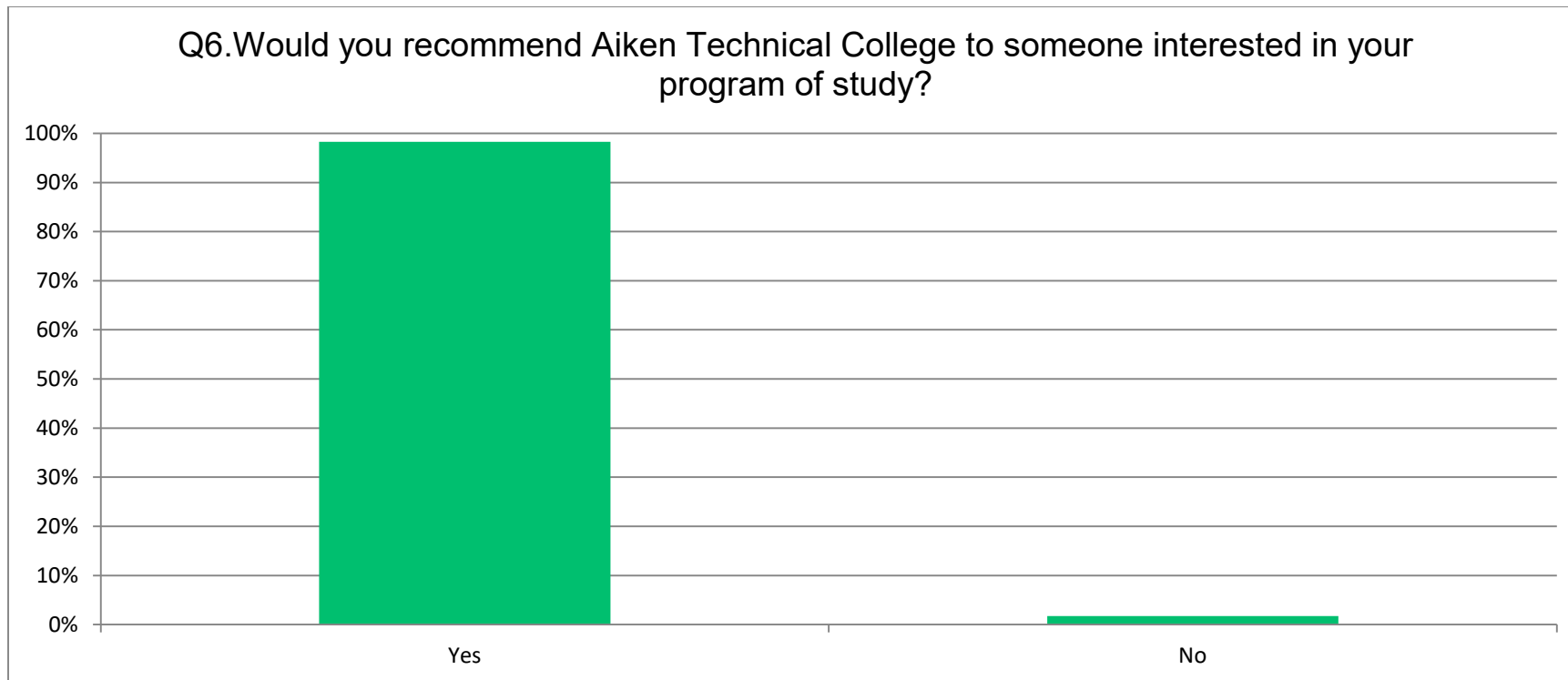




Q4. What was your main goal while attending ATC? (Check all that apply)		
	Response	
	Count	Percent
To learn new skills that would help you get a job	41	72%
To upgrade skills that would help you in your current job	14	25%
To earn transfer credit toward a bachelor's degree	21	37%
To learn new things for your personal development	22	39%
Other (please specify)	2	
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>100</b>	
Q4. Comments		
Graduate Early College		
To be the best I can be		



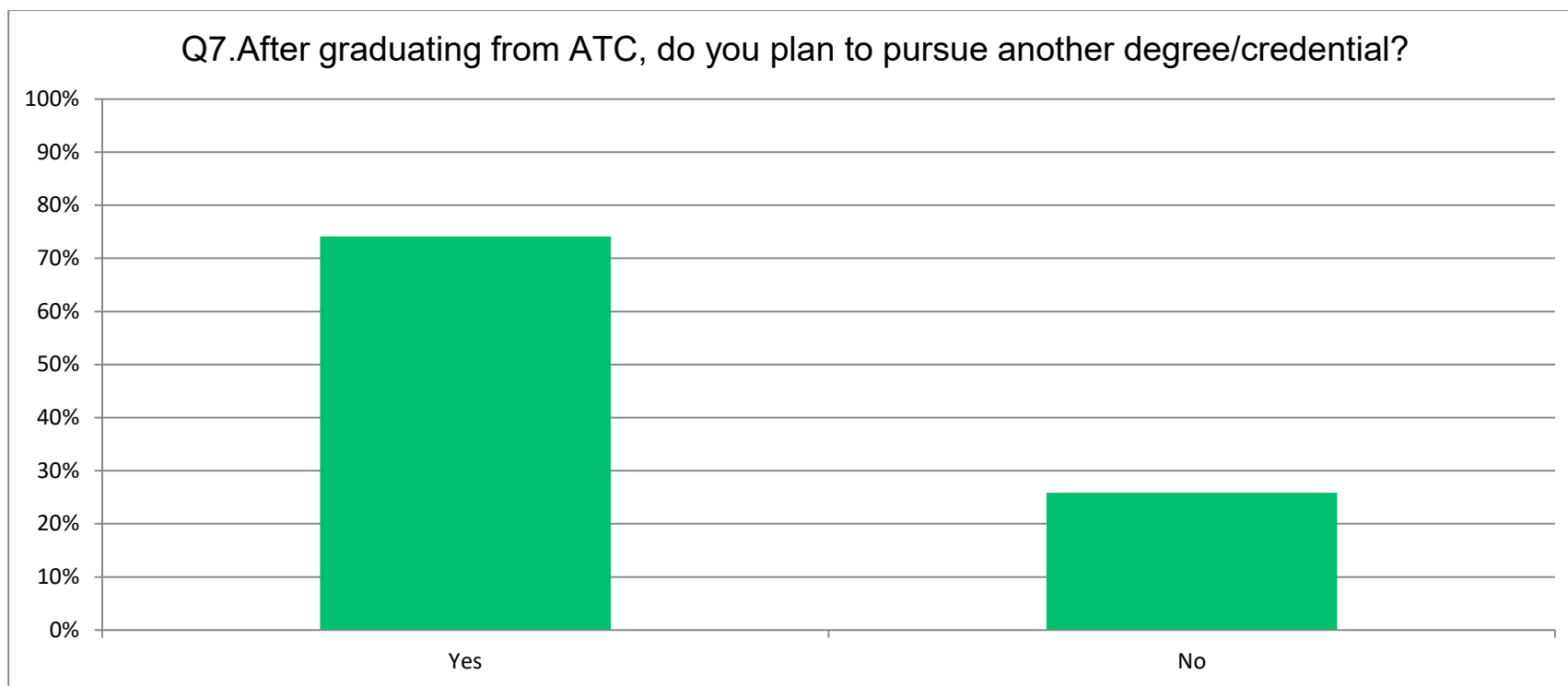
Q5. Did you accomplish this goal?		
Answer Choices	Response	
	Count	Percentage
Yes	58	100%
No	0	0%
<b>Answered</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Skipped</b>	<b>4</b>	



Q6. Would you recommend Aiken Technical College to someone interested in your program of study?		
Answer Choices	Response	
	Count	Percentage
Yes	57	98%
No	1	2%
Why?	23	
<b>Answered</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Skipped</b>	<b>4</b>	

<b>Q6. Would you recommend Aiken Technical College to someone interested in your program of study? (Comments)</b>
Because the program is of a high quality and is very affordable.
It was close to home and easy to start.
Convenient and cost effective for working students.
The professors did a great job teaching the information, they kept the class interested in the topics despite being hard since COVID-19 has begun.
Small school with big opportunities!
It's a great school, good environment and the teachers were all very helpful.
It's a great place to put you on track towards making money and being a functioning adult in society .
The Computer Programming program teaches the necessary skills to enter the job market.
Great school/environment! No judgement or down talking here!
Because of how simple and fun it has been. It is both cost effective and have online options.
It was an excellent program.
But this COVID-19 prevent clinical in program
Qualified instructor that cared about the program.
Aiken Technical College is a great place for people who are not sure what they want to specialize in or if they are interested in earning transfer credits towards a bachelor's degree. The tuition is very affordable and overall Aiken Tech provides scholarships that can make it possible to accomplish your goals.
The college has a spirit of excellence in all areas.
It's affordable and they provide generally great instruction and very good services for the students.
I think that ATC would be a great place to get an education, or at least start going to school at.

Q6. Would you recommend Aiken Technical College to someone interested in your program of study? (Comments cont'd)
I would recommend the college because they have small friendly classes. Also it is affordable and the campus is easy to access.
ATC is an inexpensive way to earn credits and earn an associate's degree. The professors are wonderful as well.
Mrs. Wade really puts forth the effort to see her students succeed. She helps in any way necessary.
I chose accounting when I was unsure of what I really wanted to do. I did this because it offers a wide range of job options. I actually really liked this program and plan on getting a bachelor's degree.



Q7. After graduating from ATC, do you plan to pursue another degree/credential?	Count	Percent
Answered:	58	94%
Skipped:	4	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

Response	Count	Percent
Yes	43	74%
No	15	26%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100%</b>

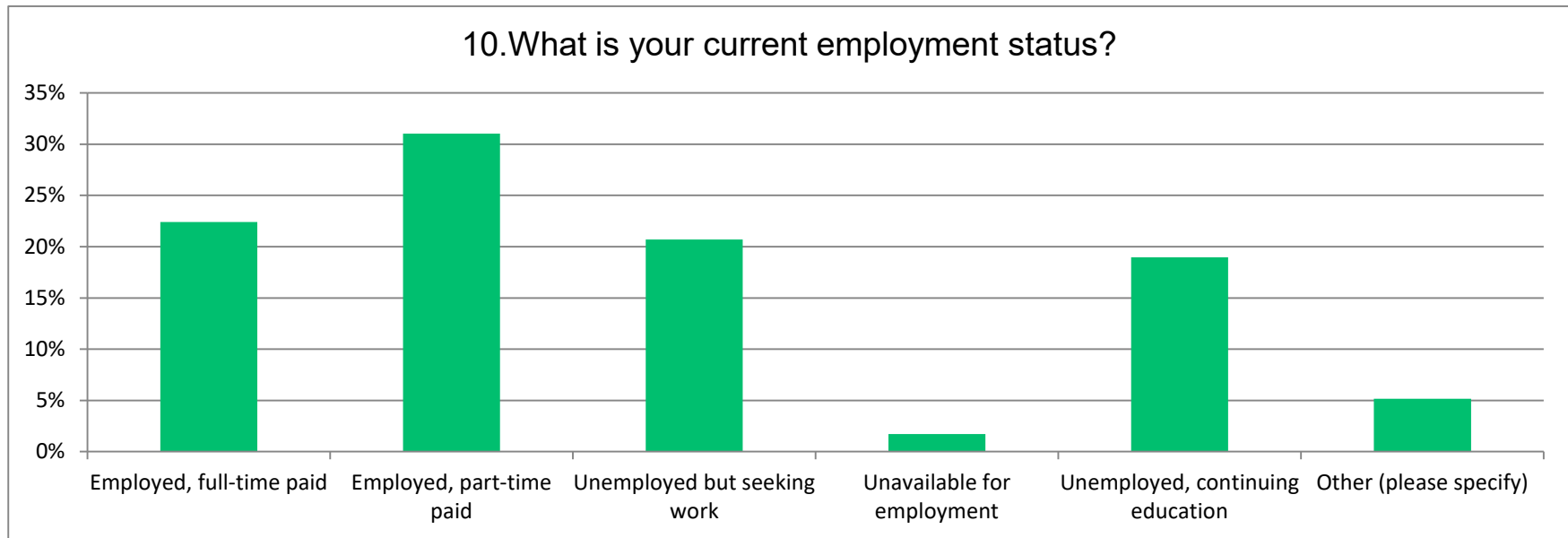
Q8. What college will you be attending?	Count	Percent
Answered:	39	63%
Skipped:	23	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

Responses	Count	Percent
Undecided	12	31%
Aiken Technical College	7	18%
University Of South Carolina Aiken	7	18%
Augusta University	3	8%
University Of South Carolina (Other campuses)	3	8%
N/A	3	8%
Lander University	2	5%
Anderson University	1	3%
Chamberlain University	1	3%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100%</b>

Q9. What will be your program of study?	Count	Percent
Answered:	40	65%
Skipped:	22	35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

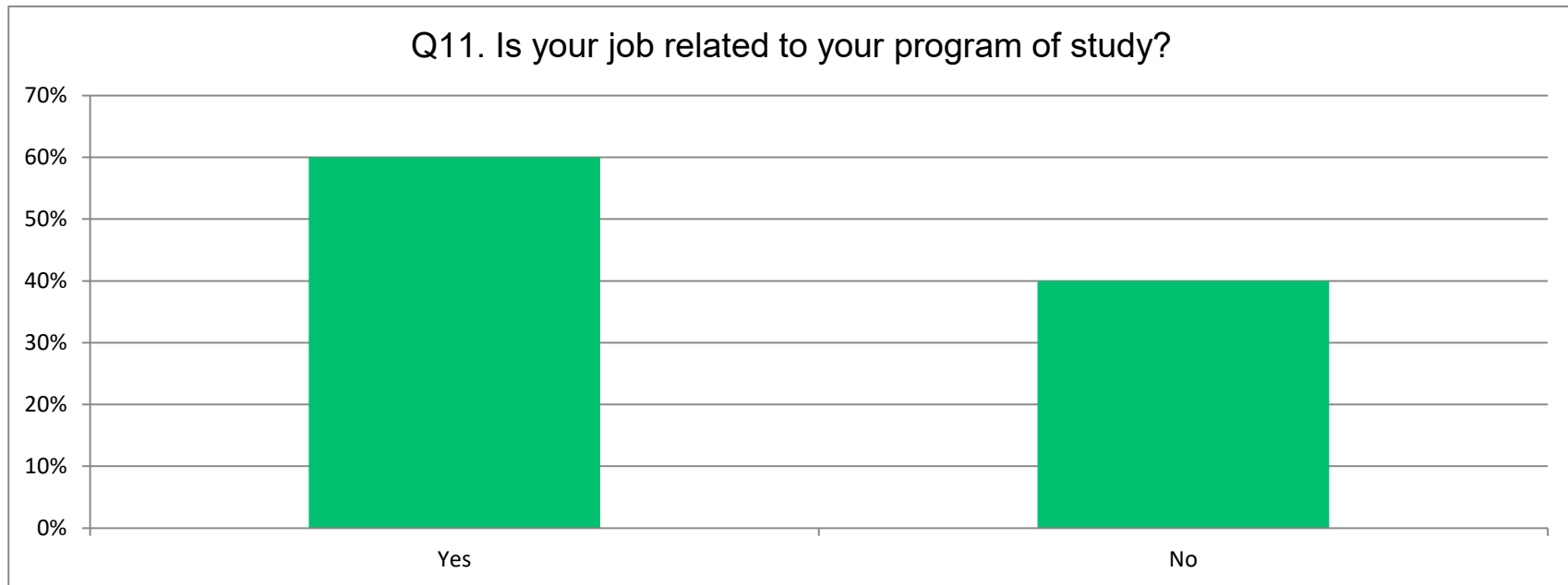
Responses					
Program	Count	Percent	Program	Count	Percent
Nursing	13	33%	Administration	1	3%
Undecided	5	13%	Management/Marketing	1	3%
Health Science	3	8%	CDL certification	1	3%
Computer/ IT	3	8%	Pharmacy	1	3%
Education	2	5%	Political Science	1	3%
Accounting	1	3%	Psychology	1	3%
Architecture	1	3%	Radiation therapy	1	3%
Associate in Arts	1	3%	Surgical technology	1	3%
Radiologic	1	3%			
Cybersecurity	1	3%			
Biology	1	3%			





<b>Q10. What is your current employment status?</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Answered:	58	94%
Skipped:	4	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

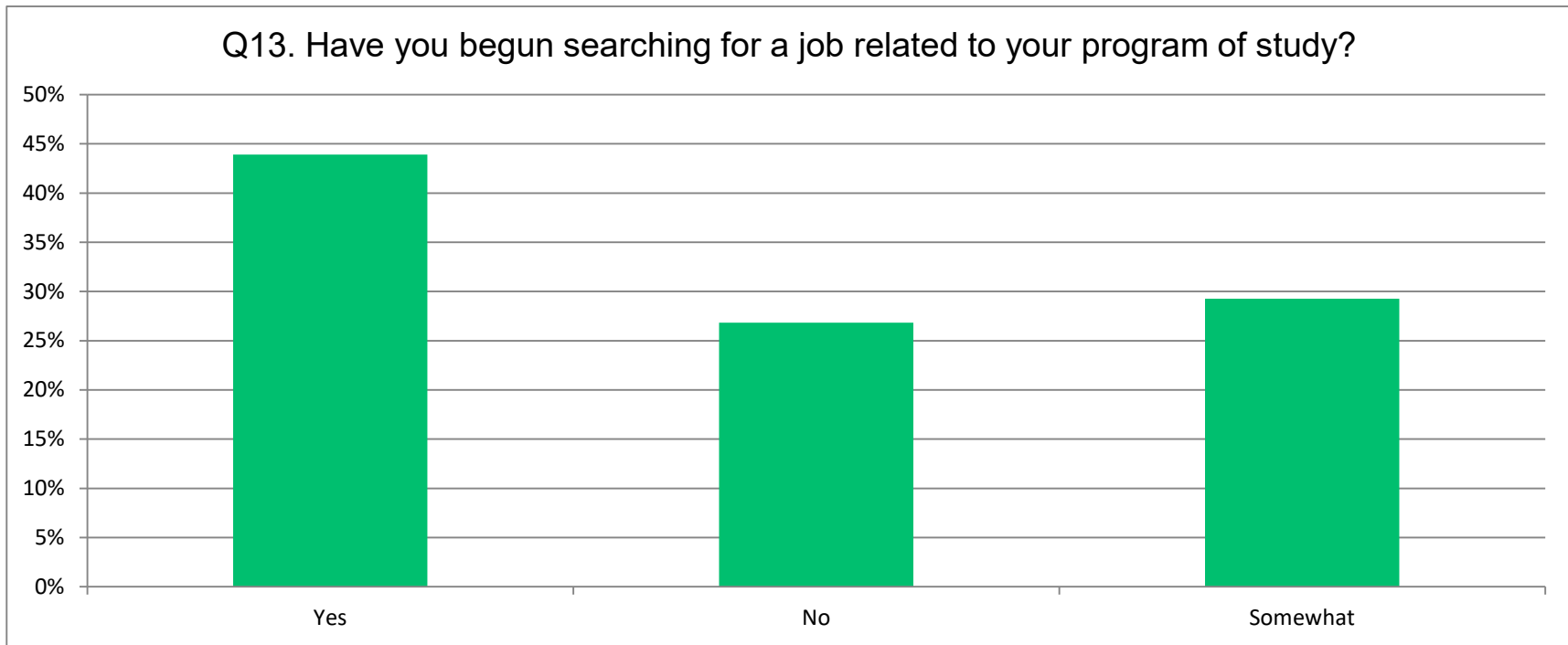
<b>Response</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Employed, part-time paid	18	31%
Employed, full-time paid	13	22%
Unemployed, but seeking work	12	21%
Unemployed, continuing education	11	19%
Other	3	5%
Unavailable for employment	1	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100%</b>



Q11. Is your job related to your program of study?	Count	Percent
Answered:	30	48%
Skipped:	32	52%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

Response	Count	Percent
Yes	18	60%
No	12	40%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100%</b>

Q12. Where is your job located?		Count	Percent	
Answered:		30	48%	
Skipped:		32	52%	
Total		62	100%	
Company	City	State	Count	Percent
Aiken Regional Medical Center	Aiken	South Carolina	4	13%
University Healthcare	Augusta	Georgia	3	10%
Daybreak Adult Care Services	Aiken	South Carolina	2	7%
Doctors hospital	Augusta	Georgia	2	7%
Augusta University	Augusta	Georgia	1	3%
AXL Bass Fishing Rods	Aiken	South Carolina	1	3%
Brock Left Egg Farm	Cordova	South Carolina	1	3%
Cabelas	Augusta	Georgia	1	3%
Carolina Musculoskeletal Institute	Aiken	South Carolina	1	3%
Dairy Queen	North Augusta	South Carolina	1	3%
Fairview Presbyterian Church	North Augusta	South Carolina	1	3%
Food Lion	North Augusta	South Carolina	1	3%
Frog Hollow Hospitality	Augusta	Georgia	1	3%
Lamar's Fabrication	North Augusta	South Carolina	1	3%
MTU America Inc.	North Augusta	South Carolina	1	3%
Remain At Home	Evans	Georgia	1	3%
Rescare	Aiken	South Carolina	1	3%
Savannah River Remediation	Aiken	South Carolina	1	3%
Sport's	Barnwell	South Carolina	1	3%
The Joint Chiropractic	Aiken	South Carolina	1	3%

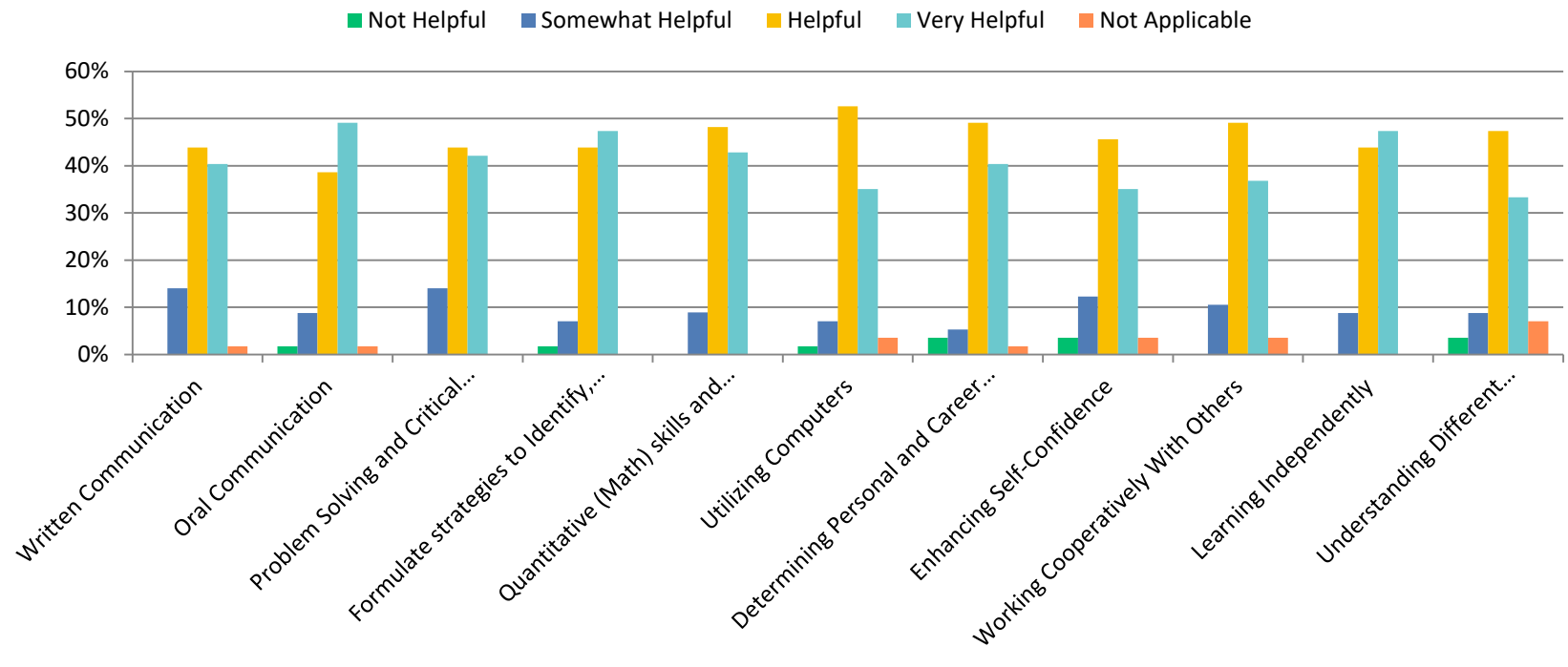


Q13. Have you begun searching for a job related to your program of study?	Count	Percent
Answered:	41	66%
Skipped:	21	34%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

Response	Count	Percent
Yes	18	44%
No	11	26%
Somewhat	12	30%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>100%</b>

Q14. Where are you looking for employment?			Count	Percent
Answered:			22	35%
Skipped:			40	65%
<b>Total</b>			<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>
Company Name	City	State	Count	Percent
Aiken Regional Medical Center	Aiken	South Carolina	4	21%
Savannah River Site	Aiken	South Carolina	4	21%
Aiken Technical College	Graniteville	South Carolina	1	5%
Children's hospital	Augusta	Georgia	1	5%
DaVita Aiken Dialysis	Aiken	South Carolina	1	5%
Edgefield County Sheriff's Office	Edgefield	South Carolina	1	5%
Fisher Tank Company	Batesburg-Leesville	South Carolina	1	5%
McGregor & Company LLP	Barnwell	South Carolina	1	5%
Orangeburg Dental Associates	Orangeburg	South Carolina	1	5%
South Aiken Baptist	Aiken	South Carolina	1	5%
Starbucks	Augusta	Georgia	1	5%
University Hospital	Augusta	Georgia	1	5%
I am employed	-	-	1	5%

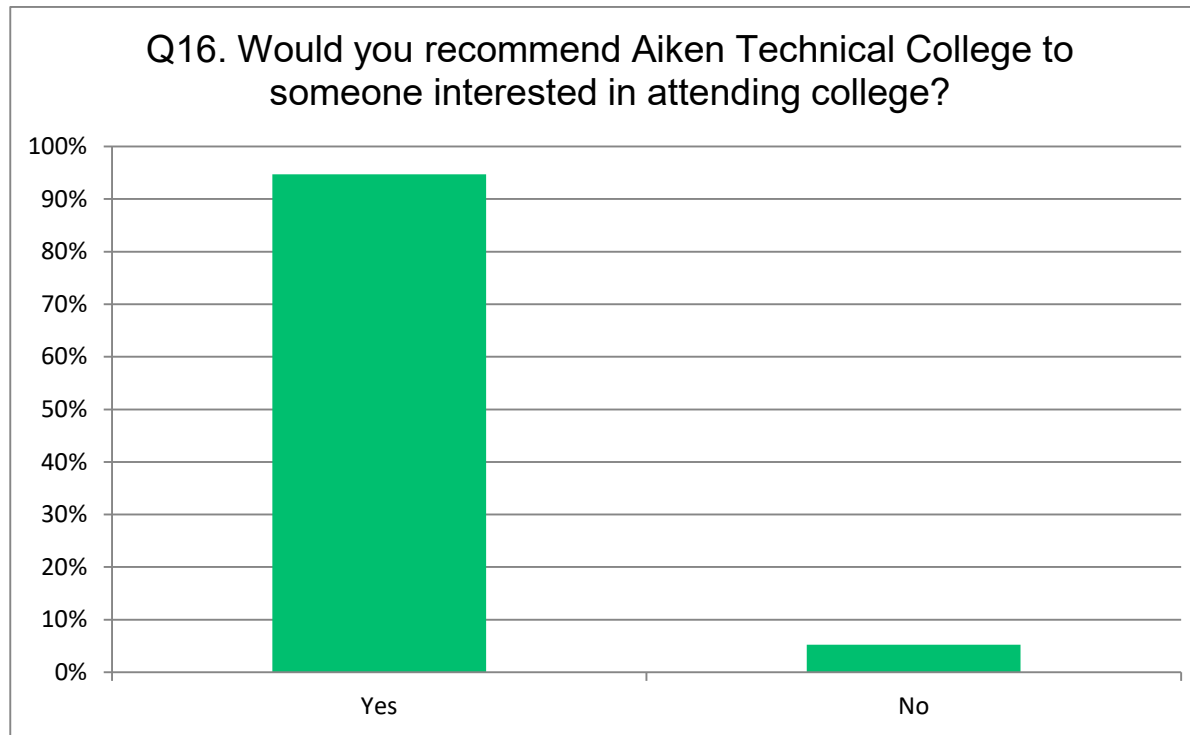
### Q15. Please rate ATC's impact on your skill development in the following areas:



Q15. Please rate ATC's impact on your skill development in the following areas:	Count	Percent
Answered	57	92%
Skipped	5	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

	Not Helpful		Somewhat Helpful		Helpful		Very Helpful		Not Applicable		Total
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Written Communication	0	0%	8	14%	25	44%	23	40%	1	2%	57
Oral Communication	1	2%	5	9%	22	39%	28	49%	1	2%	57
Problem Solving and Critical Thinking	0	0%	8	14%	25	44%	24	42%	0	0%	57
Formulate Strategies to Identify, Collect, Analyze, Develop, and Evaluate Information	1	2%	4	7%	25	44%	27	47%	0	0%	57
Quantitative (Math) Skills and Analysis	0	0%	5	9%	27	48%	24	43%	0	0%	56
Utilizing Computers	1	2%	4	7%	30	53%	20	35%	2	4%	57
Determining Personal and Career Goals	2	4%	3	5%	28	49%	23	40%	1	2%	57
Enhancing Self-Confidence	2	4%	7	12%	26	46%	20	35%	2	4%	57
Working Cooperatively With Others	0	0%	6	11%	28	49%	21	37%	2	4%	57
Learning Independently	0	0%	5	9%	25	44%	27	47%	0	0%	57
Understanding Different Philosophies and Cultures	2	4%	5	9%	27	47%	19	33	4	7%	57





Q16. Would you recommend Aiken Technical College to someone interested in attending college?	Count	Percent
Answered:	57	92%
Skipped:	5	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

Response	Count	Percent
Yes	54	95%
No	3	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>100%</b>

Q16. Would you recommend Aiken Technical College to someone interested in attending college? (Comments)
I personally believe it is a great school. There are also lots of great opportunities at this college.
Good School
It's a great college with good professors that actually care about you!
It's a good school overall, teachers are great.
Yes, it's a great place to determine the direction you want to go in life while taking core classes, and odds are you will finish once you find a field you're interested in.
It is a great place to build initial skills necessary for programming or general education prior to going to a 4-year degree.
I would recommend someone Aiken Tech due to its affordable tuition. They even have scholarships that can help you achieve this goal.
Everyone at ATC has gone above and beyond the call of duty to help me.
They are affordable and provide great service to their students.
If they were considering one of the majors that ATC offers, then yes I would.
I believe that Aiken Technical College is a great place to start a degree.
Yes, because the faculty and staff are very helpful and kind. Also, because the classes are small and it's affordable.
Aiken tech is very affordable and allows you to get credits under your belt.
Aiken Tech is a great school, and I believe anyone looking to start a career or trade, or even receive basic core studies to transfer to continue education that this school can open the door to excel in whichever route one is determined to take. It can be a stepping stone to a better and brighter future, or new beginning.
The professors are amazing and will help in any way they can.
It is a small college and you can get fast response from teachers.
Because of cost effectiveness as well as simplicity.

Q17. In the space below, please add any comments in reference to your experience at Aiken Technical College.	Count	Percent
Answered:	12	19%
Skipped:	50	81%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

Responses
The Customer service is fantastic and I was contacted not long after I reached out to them. The staff is great and does their jobs well.
I had a pretty good experience at Aiken Tech, besides a few bad professors. But the majority of my professors kept classes entertaining and made you want to learn. They listened to your problems and were always there for help!
The nursing program was a heavy load for a community college that's supposed to be designed for working adults.
I had a lot of fun and learned a lot in the welding program.
I really enjoyed my time here. The program has opened my eyes to many new fields involved with welding. Lots of different opportunities. The only thing I would have liked would have been to be able to get a certificate in welding versus an Associates.
The professors were always available when I needed help.
I enjoyed my time at ATC.
I would like all and any references and help in locating a good and dependable job from Aiken Tech.
The nursing program ruined my confidence in Aiken Tech. They destroyed my GPA that I worked so hard to maintain but ultimately help me decide another path would be more fruitful than becoming a nurse anesthetist.
My experience with Campus security (SGT McCord) made me feel secure and safe while I was there. He also was very helpful to me and he went over and beyond to do anything with me/ for me. He always did his job correctly and I saw him every day that I was there. Every building I went too I saw him guarding/watching every building.
The instructor is invested in the program and it shows in her work.
I have loved how all my teachers besides two were very commutative and were always willing to help after going to online. They made the transition very easy.

<b>Q18. In the space below, please add any suggestions to enhance/improve services and activities offered through Aiken Technical College.</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Answered:	11	18%
Skipped:	51	82%
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Comments</b>
I would not change a thing.
Some of my online classes had no video instruction, it would be tremendously if that was required especially since all of my classes were online due to COVID-19.
Aiken Tech needs to change its advisement system. It was difficult getting an appointment with an advisor, they always claimed to be busy. If you wanted to schedule an appointment with them, the appointment would be weeks later. This is not beneficial at all for the students who do not know how to register for classes by themselves. By the time they get to sit down with the counselor weeks later, the majority of the classes will not have available seats. What really helped is the faculty from USC-A that came to inform the students who were interested in transferring.
I don't have anything to add here.
Job recruiting. Job shops.
Listen more closely to the needs of the students.
One suggestion I have is the bookstore could order more food from Chick-fil-A and Pizza Hut because there were a few times I went to the bookstore and they were all sold out.
When new students come in, advisement should guide these new students better and help them with setting things up and searching for classes for their studies. My first year, my advisor did not give me the correct classes and did not seem to care about my career or the classes I needed. Luckily, I found Ms. Walker and she helped me tremendously. Advisement needs to do more as far as truly caring for their students, like Ms. Walker!
The online parts need some extra steps to make them more user friendly.
As I stated in the early part of the survey, I feel students in the Pharmacy program would benefit more if the classroom was actually set up or remodeled as an actual pharmacy replica to prepare students for the real world and clinicals. I was nervous going into clinical because I didn't know what to expect, our lab was set up different from the actual pharmacy itself. I feel if we had been in a pharmacy setting, it would be an easier adjustment going into a clinicals, or actual job because I would already have an idea as to what it would look like, how it operates, and training would be much more effective if it was done in a Pharmacy setting.
Utilize the kitchen. Perhaps add a culinary program. Create a work study position for the kitchen. Simple stuff. Burgers, hotdogs, sandwiches, side items such as french fries. Also, add a CDL program.