

Izmir University of Economics  
Instructional Technologies  
Faculty Evaluation Report  
SPRING 2023

## Introduction

The purpose of this survey is to collect feedback from the instructors about technology-enhanced face to face/ online/hybrid education and find out about the level of comfort they feel when using various features and functionalities of the online education systems. Blackboard Learn, Zoom and Panopto platforms are used during the face-to-face/ online/hybrid education at IUE. Blackboard is a learning management system that IUE has utilized to support the teaching and learning process since Fall 2015. Blackboard is a powerful instruction, communication, and assessment tool that allows faculty to connect with students, share course material and lecture notes, administer assignments and exams, and give feedback on students' work. Zoom is the virtual classroom (or web conferencing) tool which enables voice, video and text interaction between students and instructors and used for online education intensely. Panopto is a video platform that allows instructors to record audio, video, and applications on their computer screen. These systems are used to increase the quality of education in both online/hybrid and face-to-face delivery of instruction.

A web-based survey was sent to all instructors enrolled in Blackboard LMS at the end of **2022-2023 Spring term**. These users were offered the opportunity to respond to the instructor feedback survey which included a total of 23 questions. The survey included closed-ended questions as well as opportunities for providing open-ended comments on important issues of relevance that may have been missed in the survey. 84 responses were received.

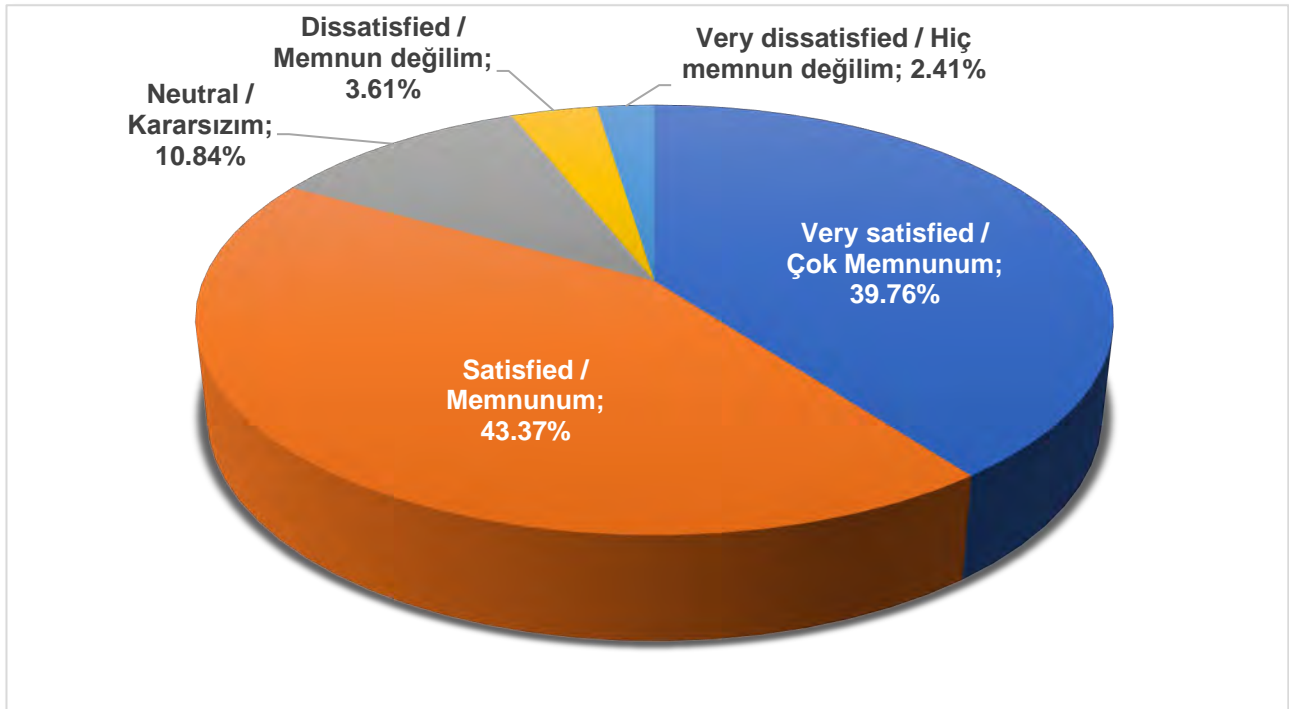
The following **key findings** have been reached based on the accumulated results of this study.

IUE Faculty members.

- are generally satisfied with Blackboard Learn and Panopto,
- find Blackboard Learn easy to use,
- favor Blackboard Learn increases access to course materials (lecture notes, course videos, assignments)
- mostly use Item, File attachment and Announcement features in the Blackboard system,
- do not fully exploit the wide variety of tools Blackboard offers,
- are generally satisfied with using assessment tools, which facilitates grading students' work.
- are satisfied with their own technology skills and quality of synchronous classes on Blackboard.
- have an overall satisfaction with their online/hybrid education experience.

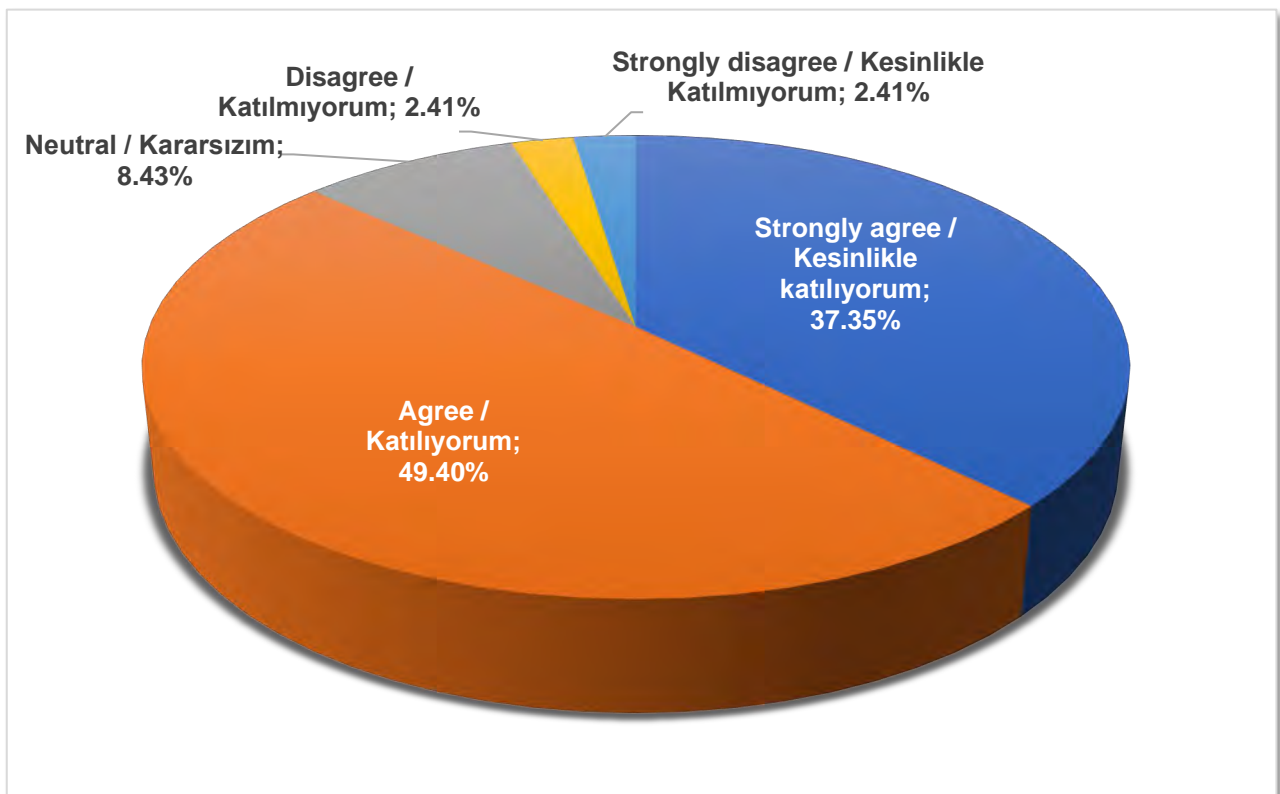
### *How satisfied are you with the Blackboard Learn Management System?*

When asked how satisfied they were with Blackboard Learn, 40% of respondents said they were very satisfied with the system, the majority of respondents, 43%, said they were satisfied, 11% remained neutral with the system, and only 6% said they were dissatisfied.



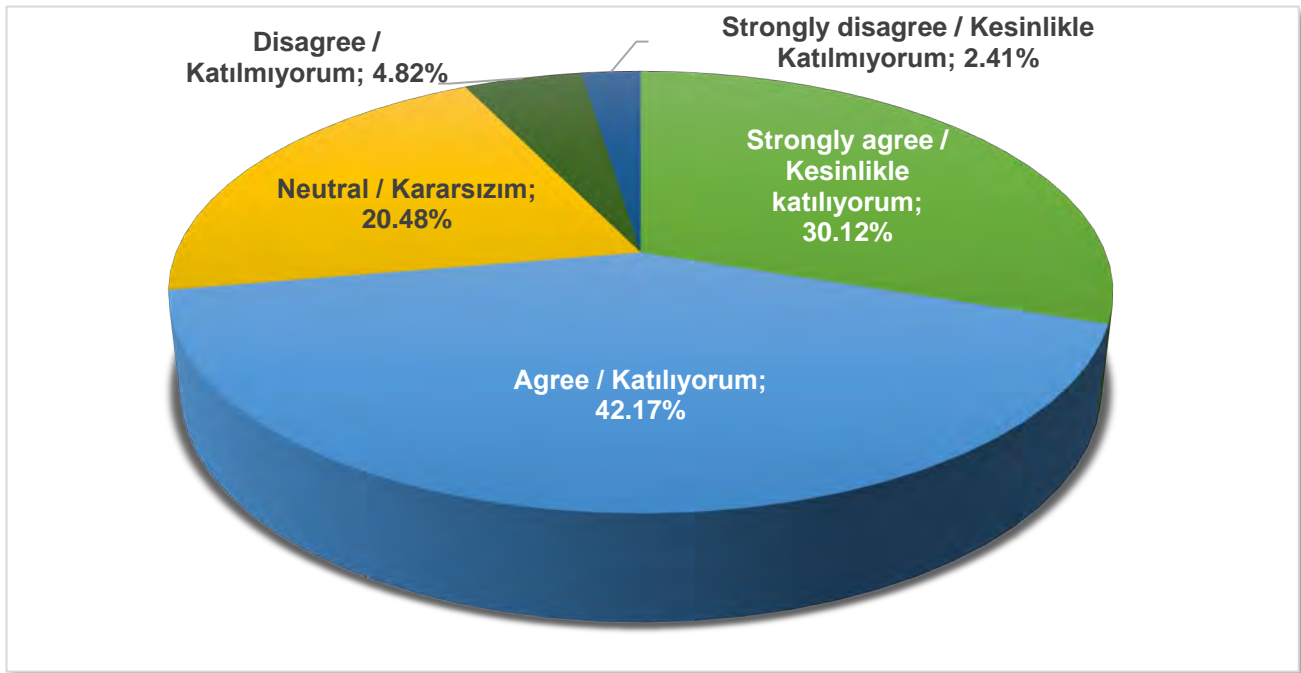
### *I find Blackboard Learn easy to use.*

The survey also measures how easy participants think the system is to use. According to the graph below, 37% of respondents strongly agree that Blackboard Learn is easy to use, 49% agree and 5% disagree that Blackboard Learn is easy to use.



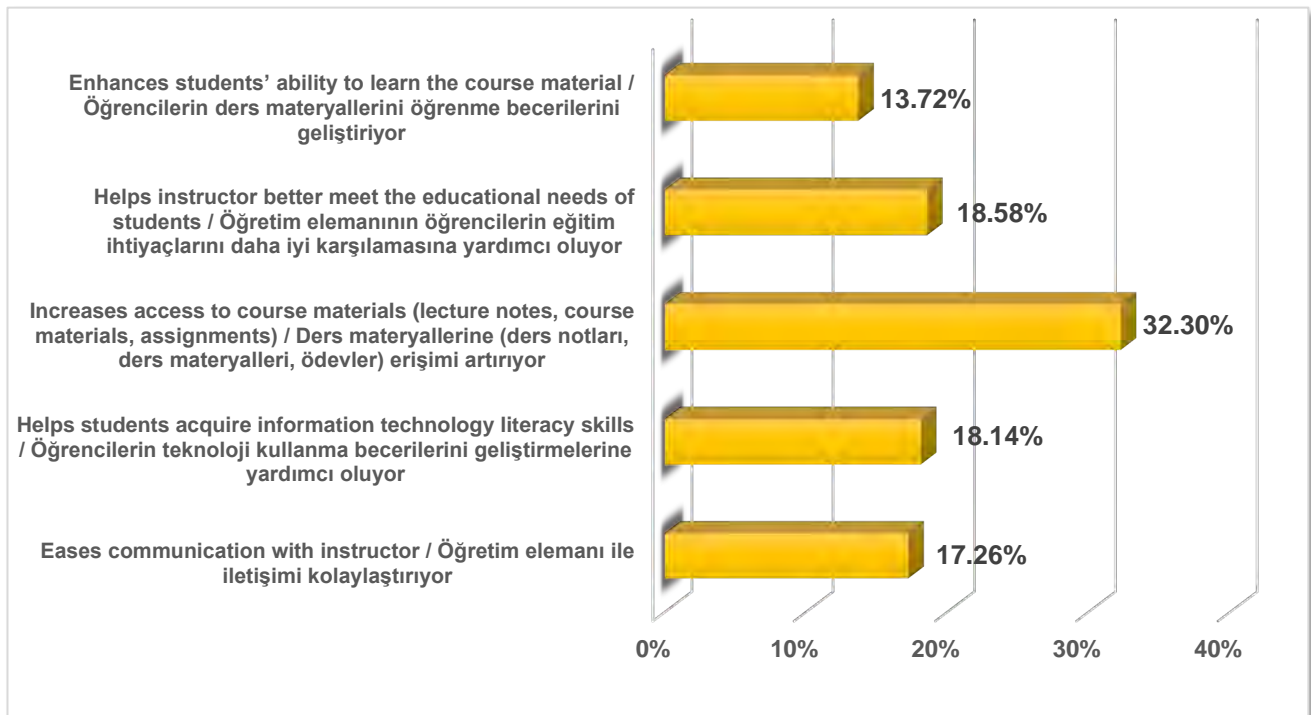
### *In my opinion, my students find Blackboard Learn easy to use.*

Instructors think that 42% of their students find it easy to use Blackboard, 30% strongly agree with this opinion, 20% are undecided and 7% disagree.



### *How do you perceive Blackboard Learn benefiting your students?*

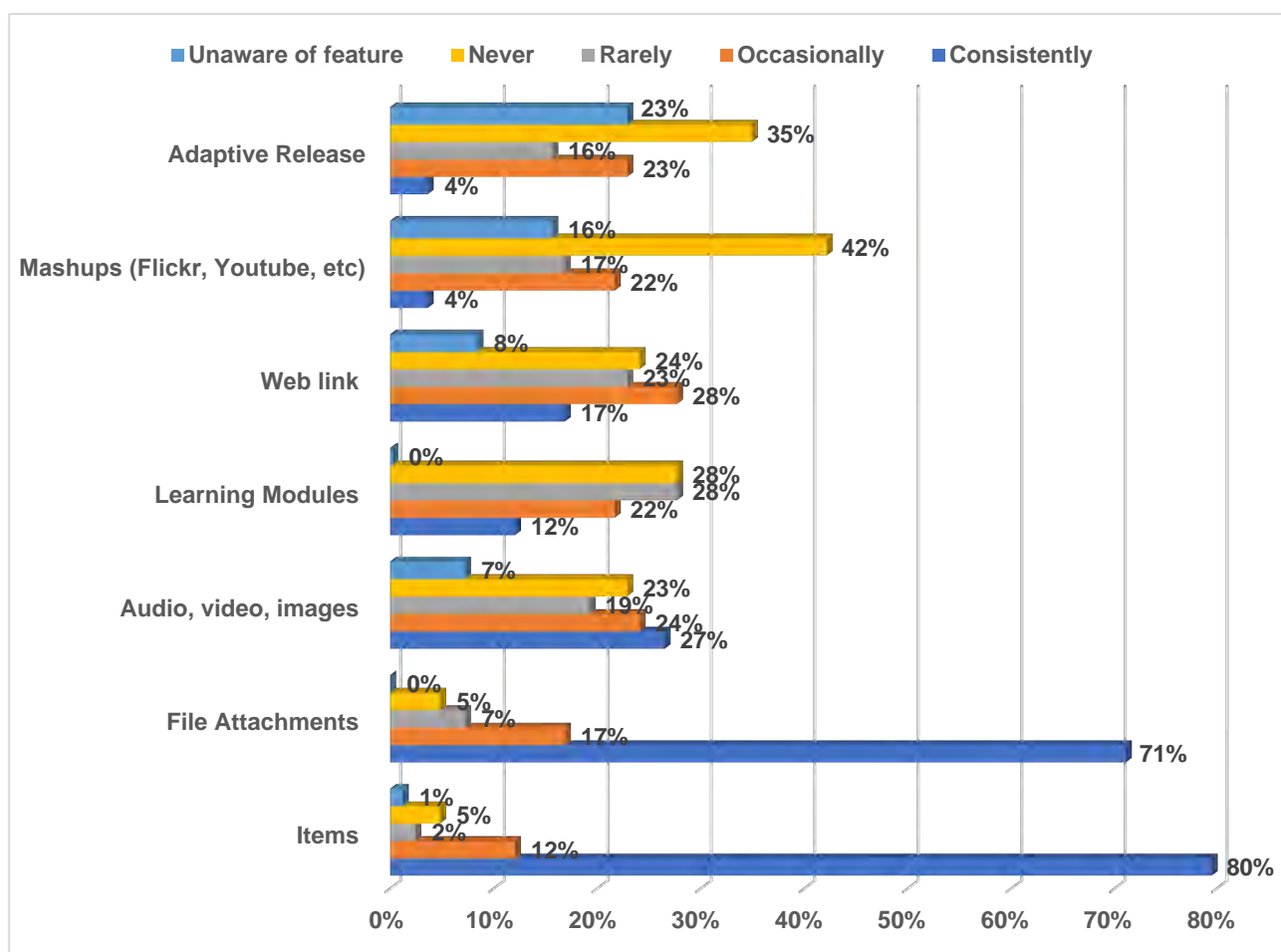
Instructors were asked how they perceive Blackboard Learn benefiting students and allowed to select more than one option. The graph below indicates that the majority of faculty members consider Blackboard Learn a good way to increase access to course material, including lecture notes and assignments.



## Blackboard Learn Features

### CONTENT

*How often did you use the following 'Content' features of Blackboard Learn?*



The survey aimed to find out the level of utilization of some of the most popular *Content* features in Blackboard Learn. The responses allow us to conclude that **Items** and **File Attachments** are consistently used by instructors with 80% and 71% of usage, respectively, making them the most popular Content features.

The **Audio, Video, Images** feature doesn't seem to be very popular among IUE instructors, with only 27% of them using the feature consistently, 24% occasionally, 19% rarely, and 23% have never used the feature.

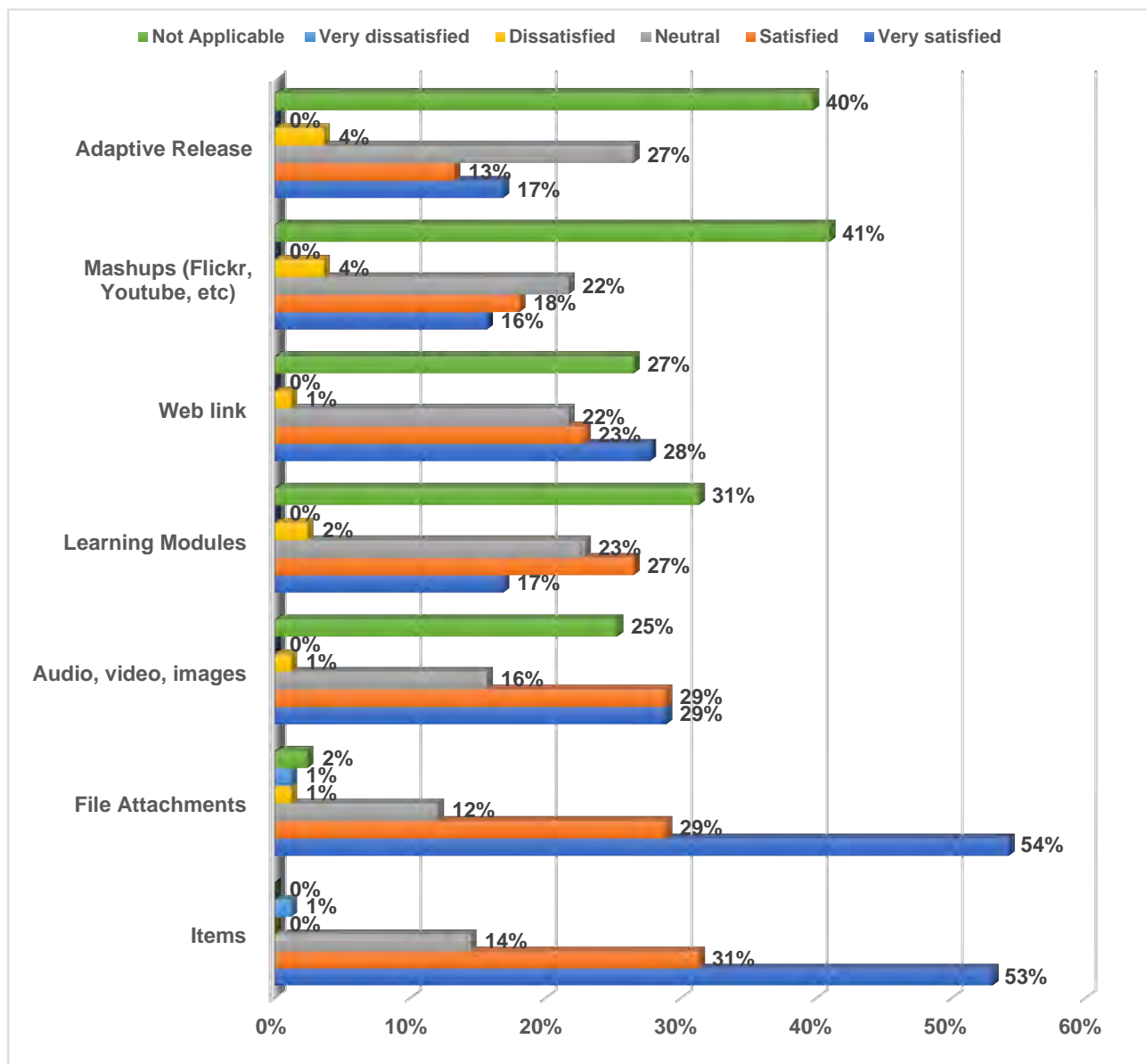
**Learning Modules** is not a feature very much used by instructors either, with only 12% of respondents consistently using it.

The **Web Link** feature does not seem to be a very popular feature among instructors, either, as only 17% of respondents consistently use the feature, while 28% occasionally use it, 23% rarely utilizes the feature, and 24% never use it.

The feature that the instructors have the least knowledge about is the **Adaptive Release** feature. Only 4% of instructors consistently use this feature, while 23% occasionally use it.

### How satisfied are you with the following 'Content' features of Blackboard Learn?

According to the following graph, there seems to be a good level of satisfaction among instructors with the use of the most popular **Content** features of Blackboard Learn, which are **File Attachments** and **Items**. The latter very much satisfies 53% of instructors who responded to the survey, while the former very much satisfies 54% of respondents.



As we continue with the rest of the features on the list, we notice that levels of satisfaction decline and levels of neutrality increase. This could be partly explained by the fact that these other features are rarely or never used by respondents. For instance, a combined 58% of respondents said they were either very satisfied or satisfied with the **Audio, Video, Images** feature.

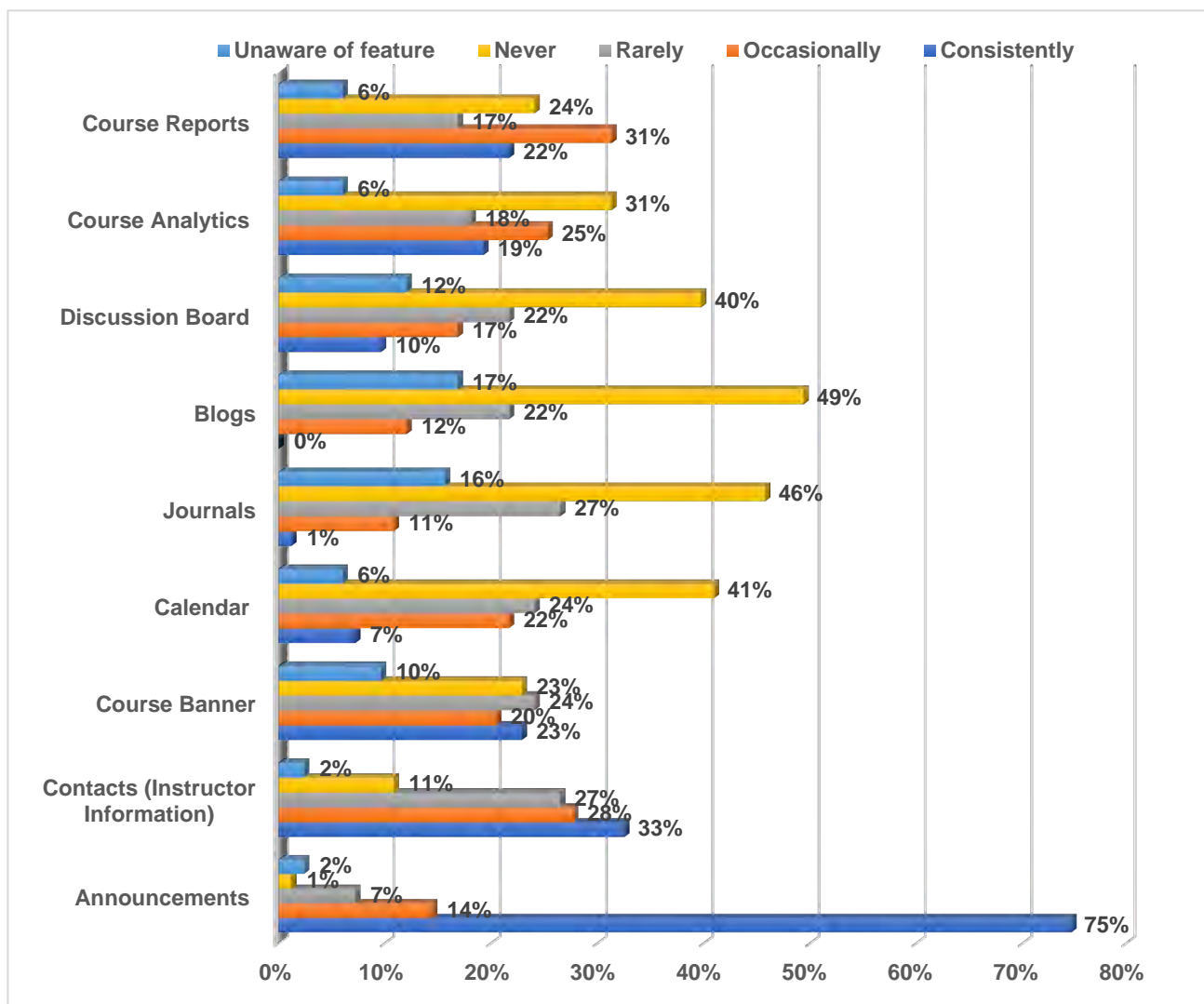
**Adaptive Release, Mashups** and **Learning Modules** are the least used features and, as it can be seen in the graph, a significant percentage of respondents, 27%, 22% and 23% respectively, found them neutral.

Regarding the **Web Link** feature, 28% of those who responded said they were very satisfied with it, while 23% said they were satisfied and 22% said they were neutral.

## TOOLS

### How often did you use the following 'Tools' of Blackboard Learn?

Another purpose of the survey is to get an idea of how often certain Blackboard Learn tools are used by instructors. The chart below shows that the most used Blackboard Learn tool is **Announcements**, with 75% of respondents saying they use it constantly, 14% sometimes, 7% rarely, and 1% never. 2% stated that they did not know about this vehicle.

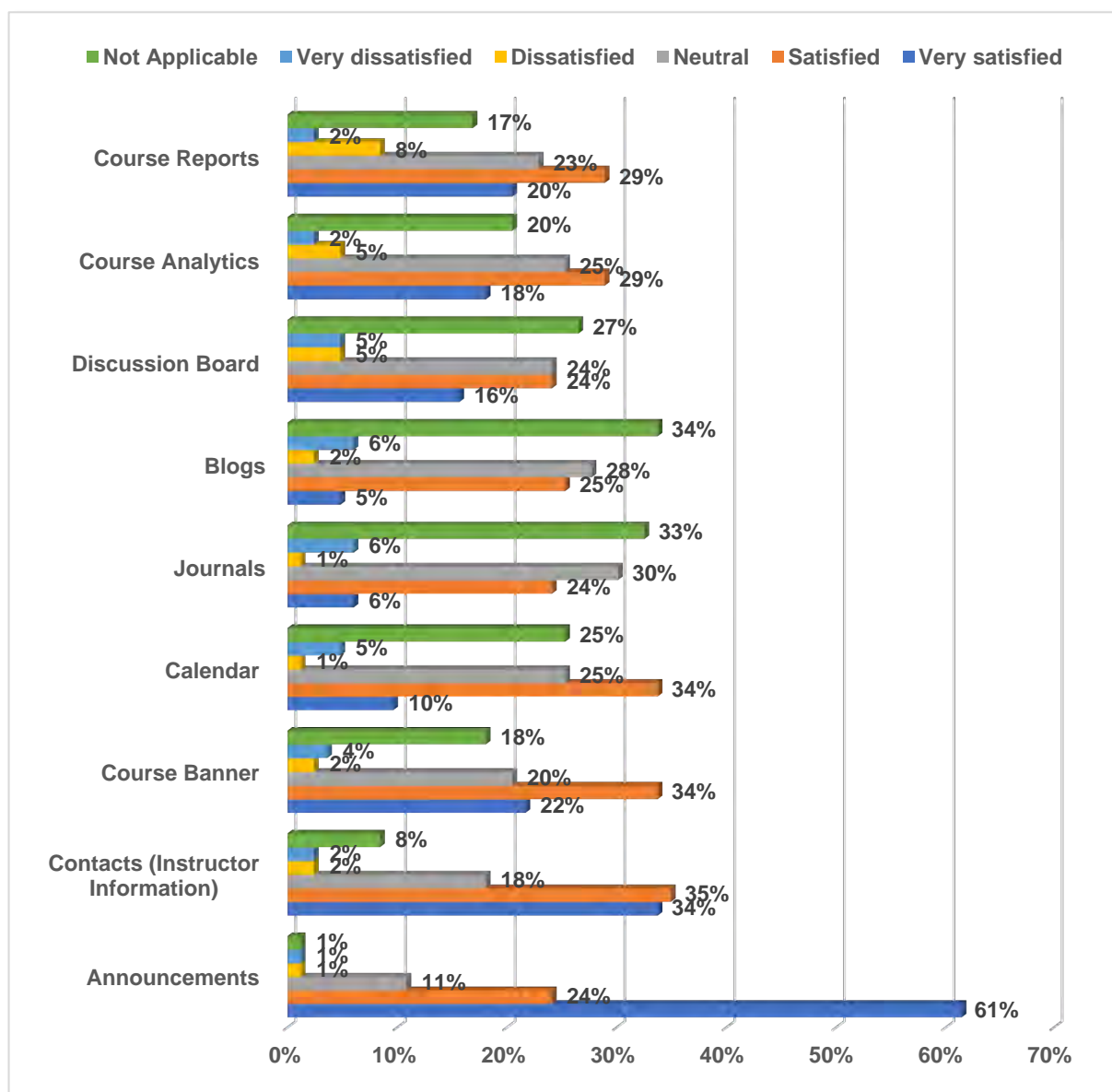


On the other side of the spectrum, as the results of the survey indicate, the tool that received the most votes in the never-used category is **Blogs** with 49%, closely followed by **Journals** with 46% and **Calendar** with 41%. These tools are followed by **Discussion Board** and **Course Analytics** with 40% and 31% of respondents saying that's how often they use the feature.

**Course Reports** and **Course Analytics** are occasionally used by about 31% and 25% of instructors, respectively.



### How satisfied are you with the following 'Tools' of Blackboard Learn?



The fact that the most used Blackboard Learn tool received the highest levels of satisfaction among instructors comes as no surprise. **Announcements** and **Contacts** obtained the highest percentages with 61% and 34% of respondents saying they are very satisfied with the tool.

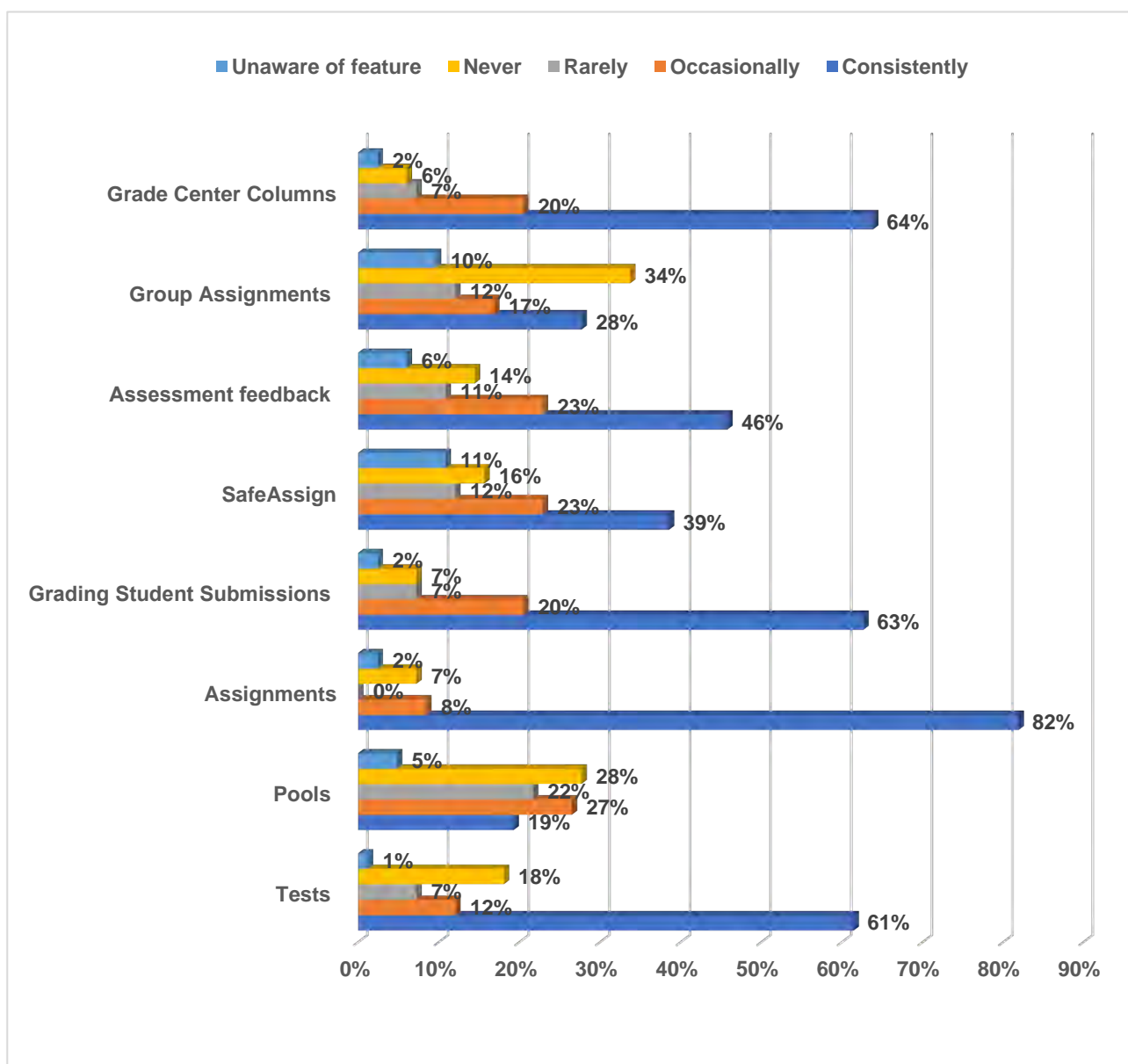
Three other tools that enjoy high levels of satisfaction are **Course Banner**, **Course Reports** and **Course Analytics** and with 22%, 20% and 18%, respectively.

Overall, dissatisfaction levels appear to be low. **Journals** has a maximum dissatisfaction rate of 6%. However, this should not be seen as a positive outcome. Because there are high levels of indecision in the tools that are not popular among the instructors such as **Journals** 30%, **Blogs** 28%. Instructors stated that they were undecided at a rate of 25% for the **Calendar**, 24% of all **Discussion Board** and 23% of all **Course Reports** tools.

## ASSESSMENT

### *How often do you use the following 'Assessment' features of Blackboard Learn?*

Of all the assessment features, the one that came out on top as the most consistently used assessment was **Assignments** (82%). This was followed by **Grade Center Columns** (64%) and **Grading Student Submissions** (63%). Other popular tools, **Tests** have 61%, **Assessment Feedback** 57%. The respondents stated that they regularly use the **Assessment Feedback** and **SafeAssign** assessment tool.

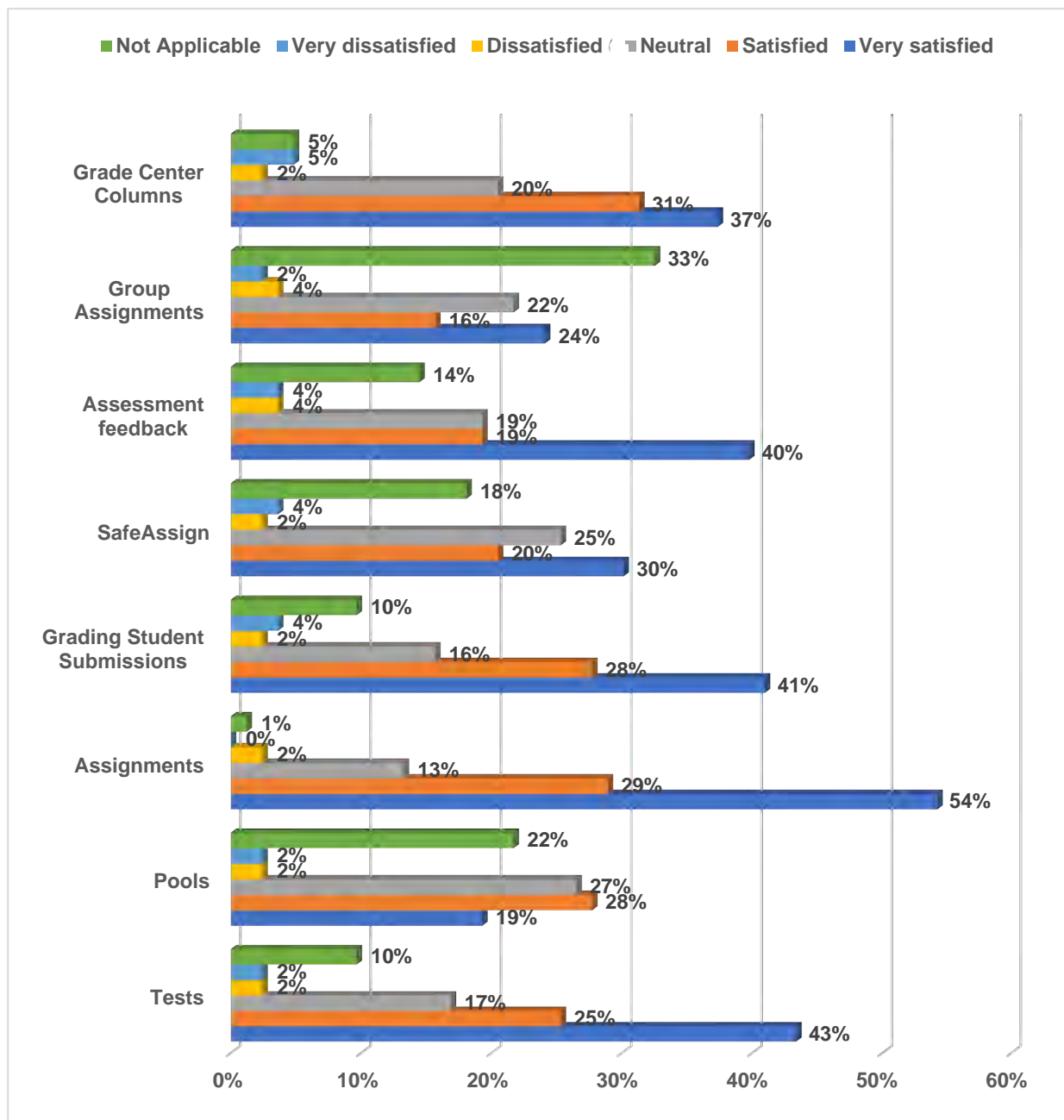


Other assessment features that require more work to be created are **Pools** and **Group Assignments**, and they seem to be less popular. **Pools** are consistently used by 19% of respondents, and occasionally by 27%. **Group Assignments** are consistently used by only 28% of respondents, and occasionally used by 17%.



### How satisfied are you with the following 'Assessment' features of Blackboard Learn?

According to the graph below, **Assignments** are the feature that has the highest levels of satisfaction, with a combined 83% of respondents saying they are satisfied with the feature. 41% of respondents saying they are very satisfied and 28% saying they are satisfied with **Grading Student Submissions**.

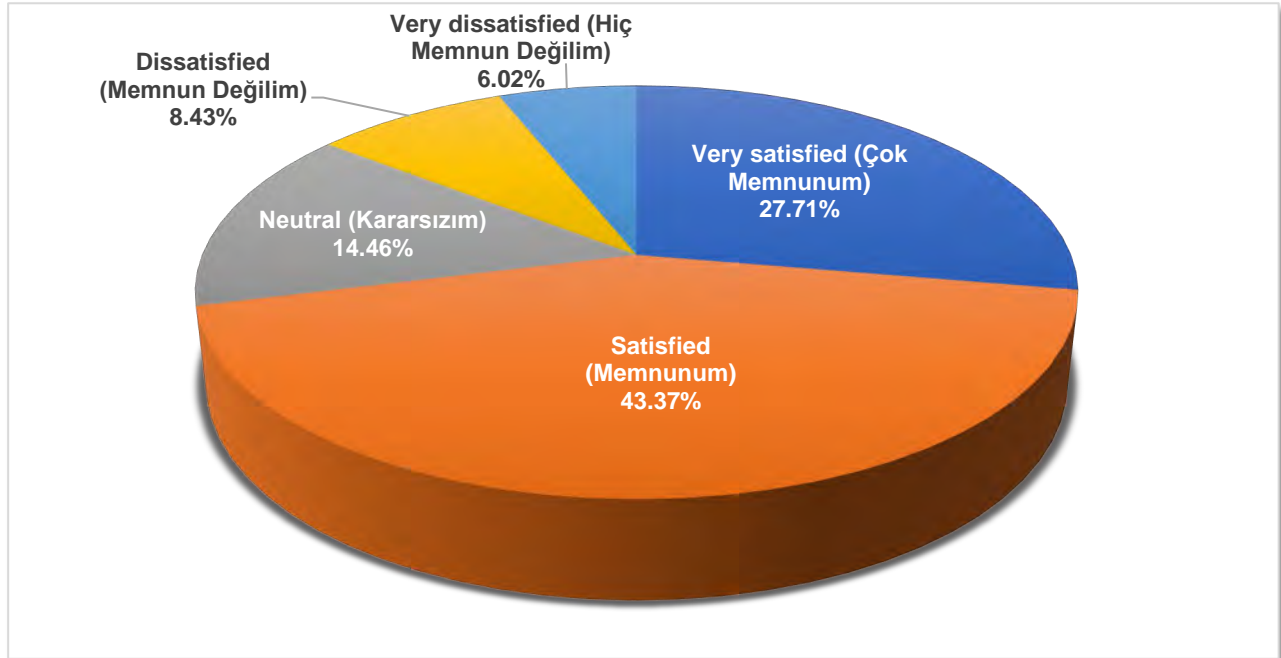


**Tests**, a feature that came in third in terms of popularity, also showed high levels of satisfaction with a combined 68%.

The **Grade Center Columns** and **Assessment Feedback** features were found to be very satisfying by 37% and 40% of respondents, respectively. **SafeAssign** and **Group Assignments** are very satisfying for 30% and 24%, respectively. And last is the **Pools** tool with 19% of respondents saying they are very satisfied and 28% saying they are satisfied.

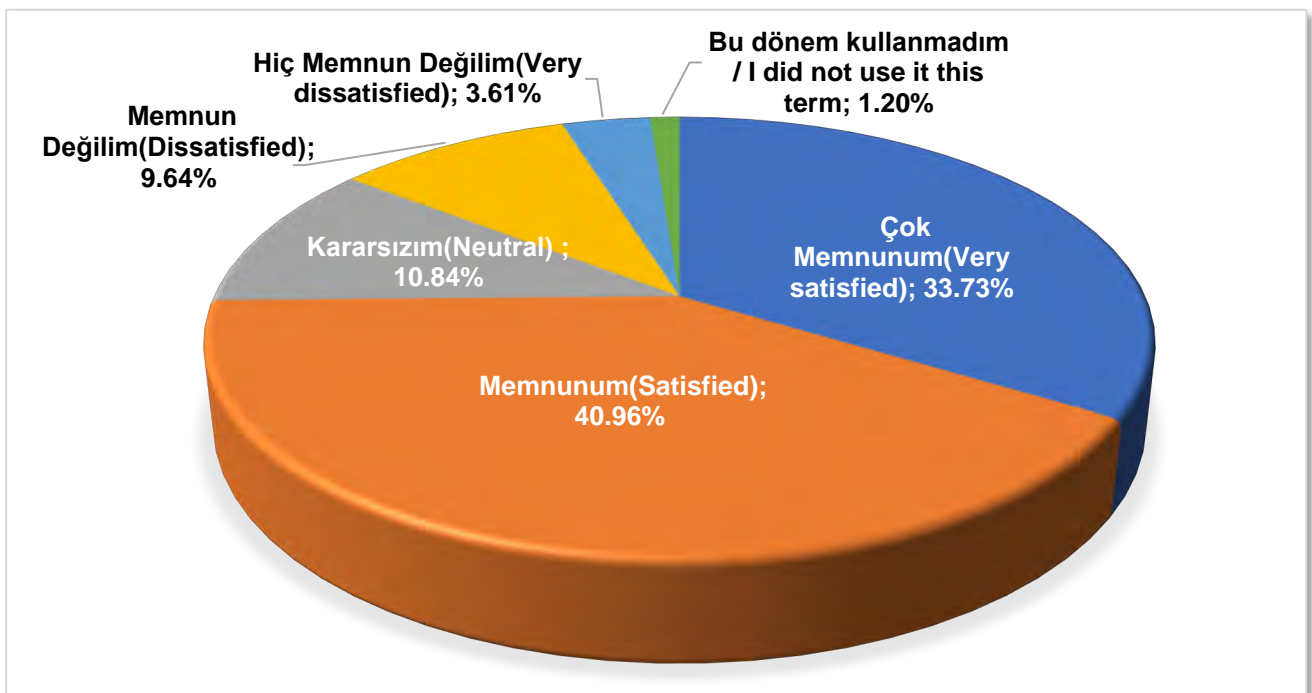
### How satisfied are you with the Panopto Lecture Capture Software?

The following question in the survey was about the satisfaction levels of instructors with using the Panopto Lecture Capture Software. According to the graph below, 43% of the respondents are satisfied using the Panopto lecture capture software. 28% of respondents are very satisfied, 6% are dissatisfied with the application, 14% are neutral and 8% stated that they are not at all satisfied.



### How satisfied are you with the Zoom App?

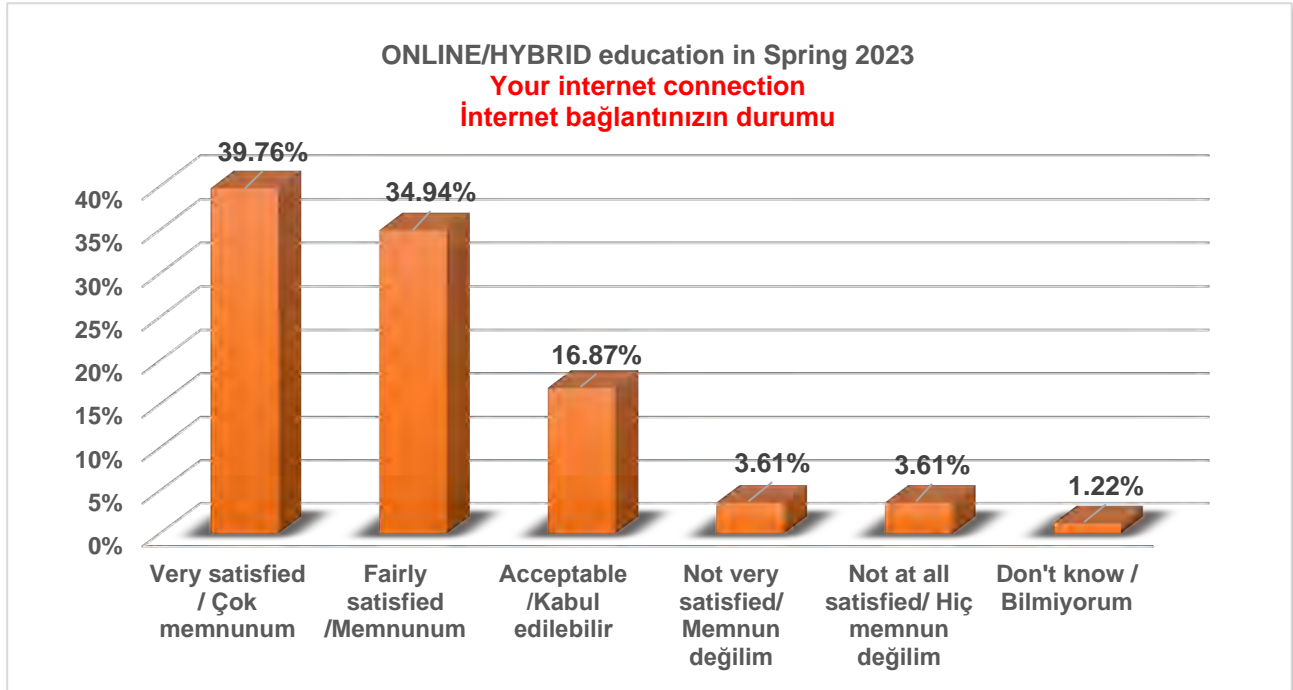
According to the graphic below, 41% of respondents stated that they are satisfied with using the Zoom application. 34% of the participants stated that they were very satisfied, 10% were not satisfied with the application, 11% were undecided and 4% were not satisfied at all. 1% of the participants stated that they did not use the Zoom application during this period.



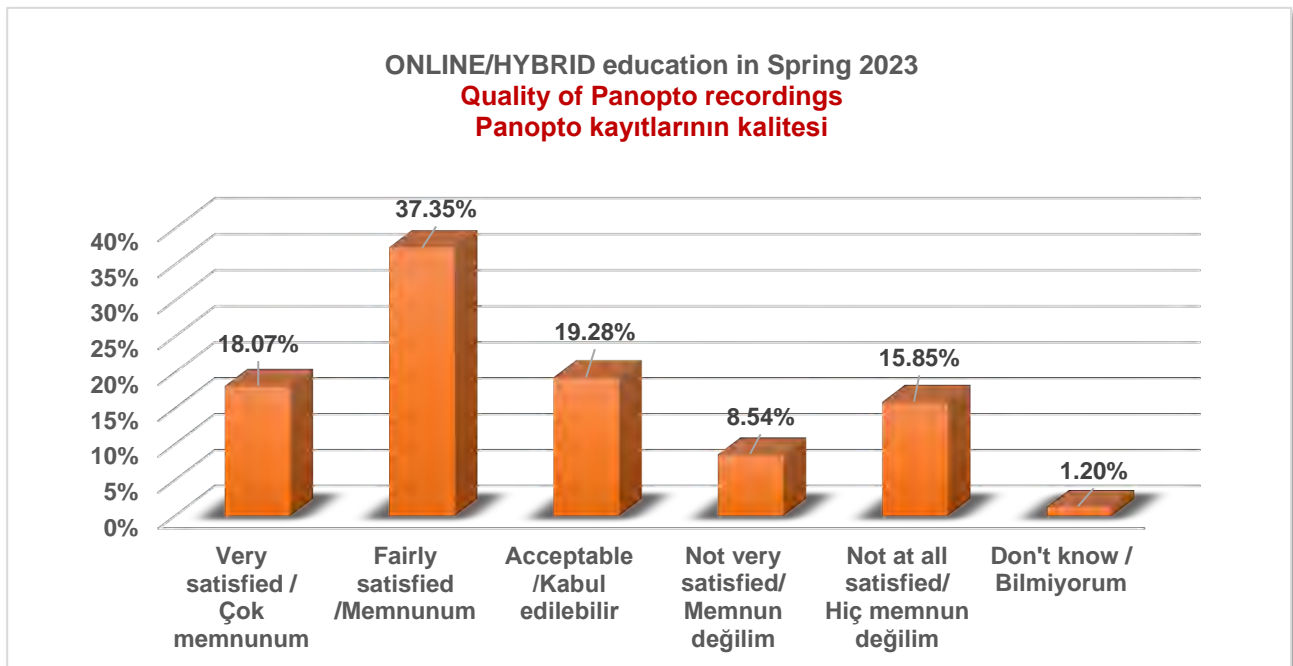
## Your Satisfaction Level with Online/Hybrid Education in Spring 2023

### Your Internet Connection

According to the graph, a total of 75% of the respondents said they were satisfied, 17% said their internet connection was acceptable, 4% said they were very dissatisfied, and 4% said they were not at all satisfied. A mere 1% of respondents said they did not know.



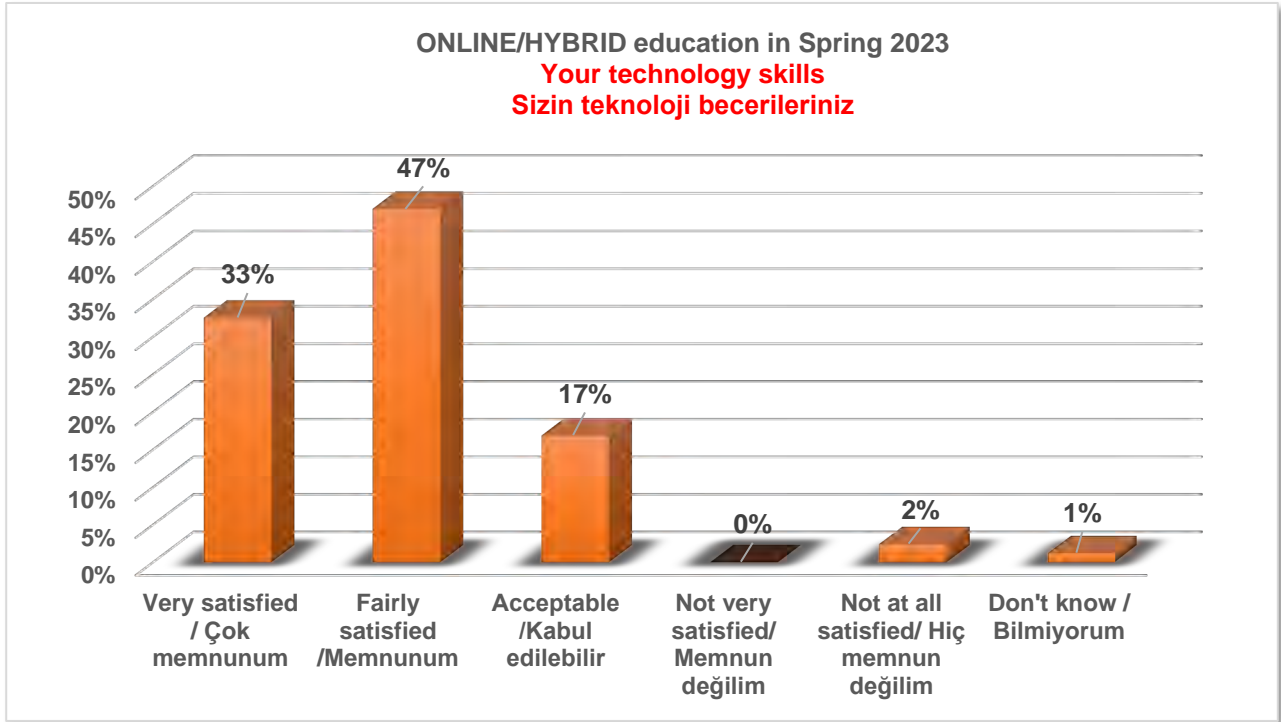
### Quality of Panopto recordings



According to the graph, 37% of respondents are fairly satisfied with the quality of Panopto recordings. 18% are very satisfied, 20% said quality is acceptable, 20% are not satisfied. A mere 1% of respondents said they did not know.

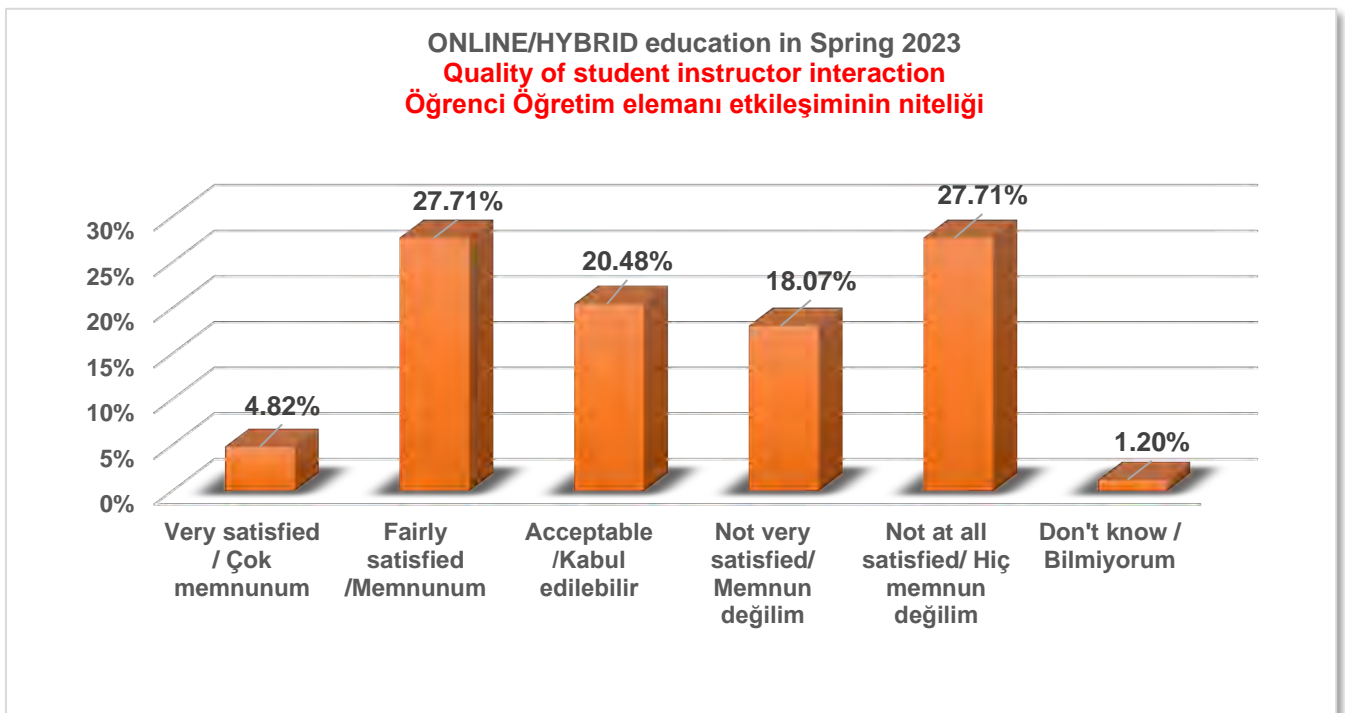
### ***Your Technology Skills***

According to the graph, 47% of respondents are fairly satisfied with their own use of technology skills. 33% are very satisfied, 17% said it is acceptable, 2% not satisfied at all. A mere 1% of respondents said they did not know.



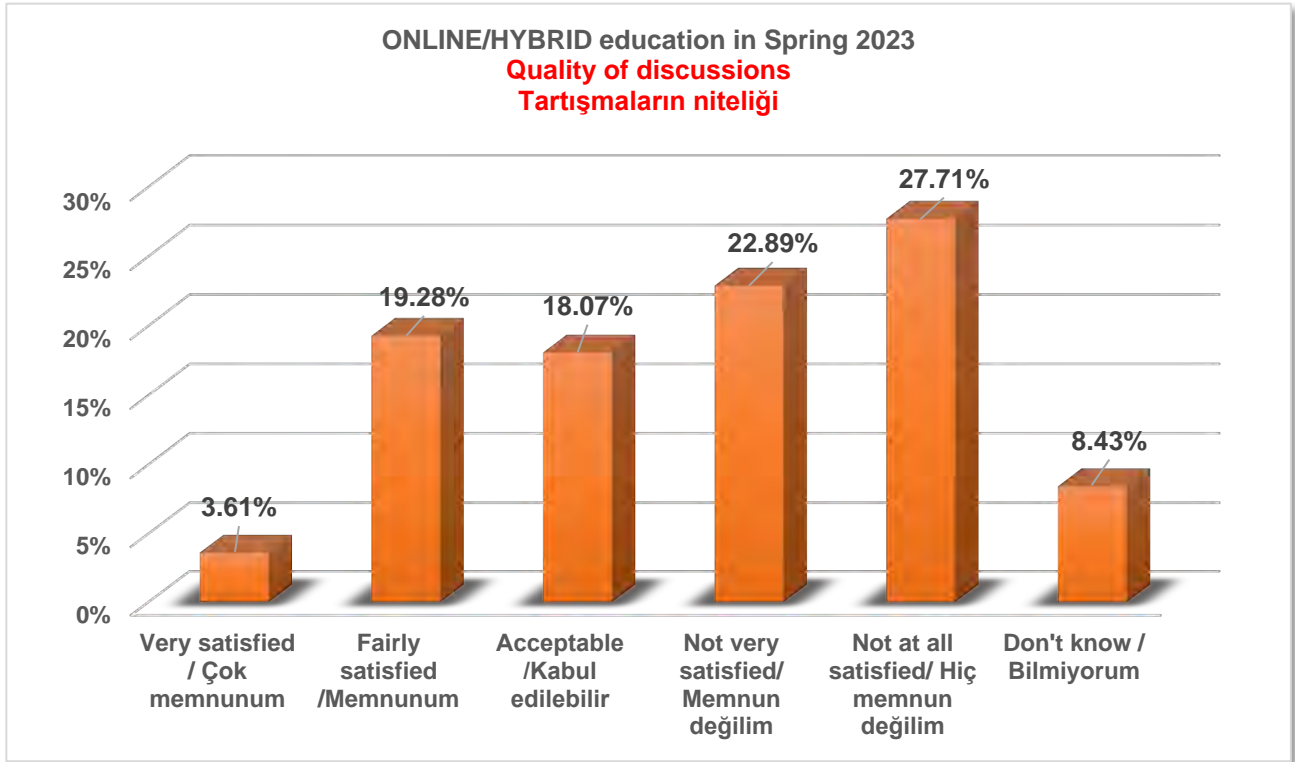
### ***Quality of student-instructor interaction***

According to the graph, 28% of respondents are fairly satisfied with student-instructor interaction. 5% are very satisfied, 21% said interaction is acceptable, 18% are not very satisfied, and 28% are not at all satisfied. A mere 1% of respondents said they did not know.



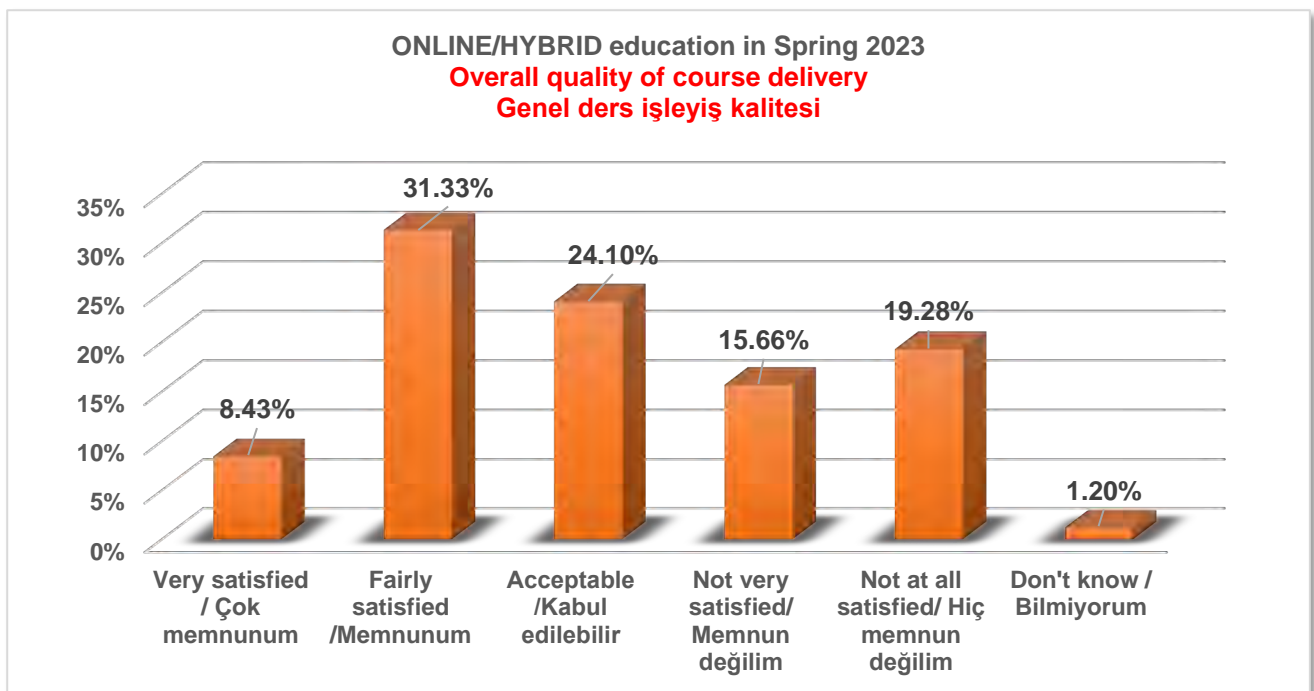
### Quality of discussions

According to the graph, 19% of respondents are fairly satisfied with the quality of discussions. 4% are very satisfied, 18% said it is acceptable, 51% stated that they would not be satisfied. A low percentage, 8% of respondents, said they did not know.



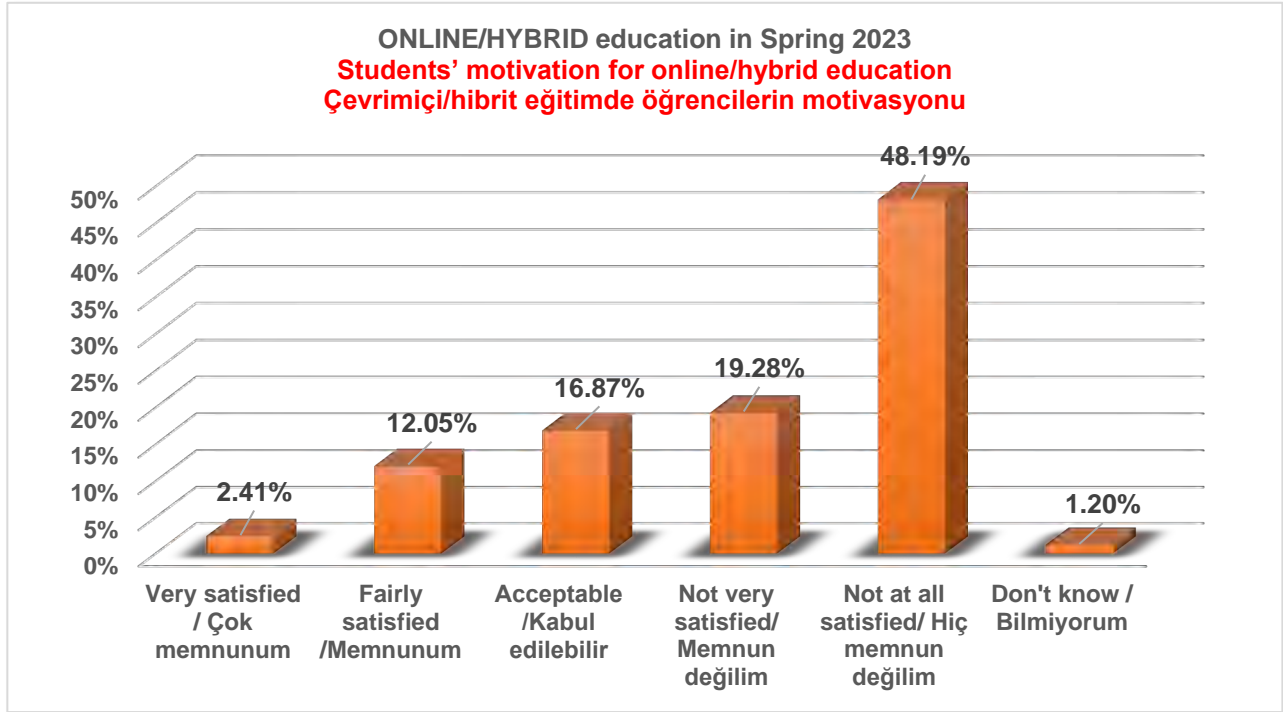
### Overall Quality of Course Delivery

According to the graph, 40% of respondents were highly satisfied with the overall quality of the course delivery. 35% stated that they were not satisfied.



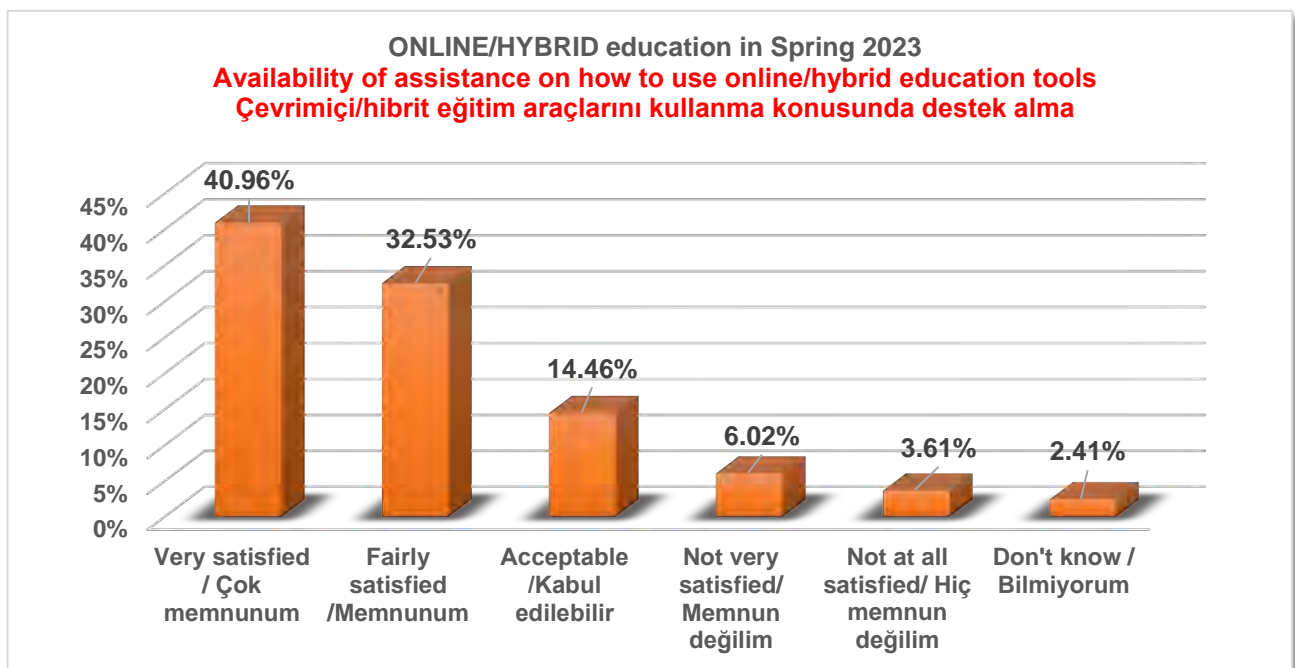
### **Students' motivation for online/hybrid education**

According to the graph, 12% of respondents are fairly satisfied with students' motivation for online/hybrid education. 2% are very satisfied, 17% said it is acceptable, 67% are not satisfied. A mere 1% of respondents said they did not know.



### **Availability of assistance on how to use distance education tools.**

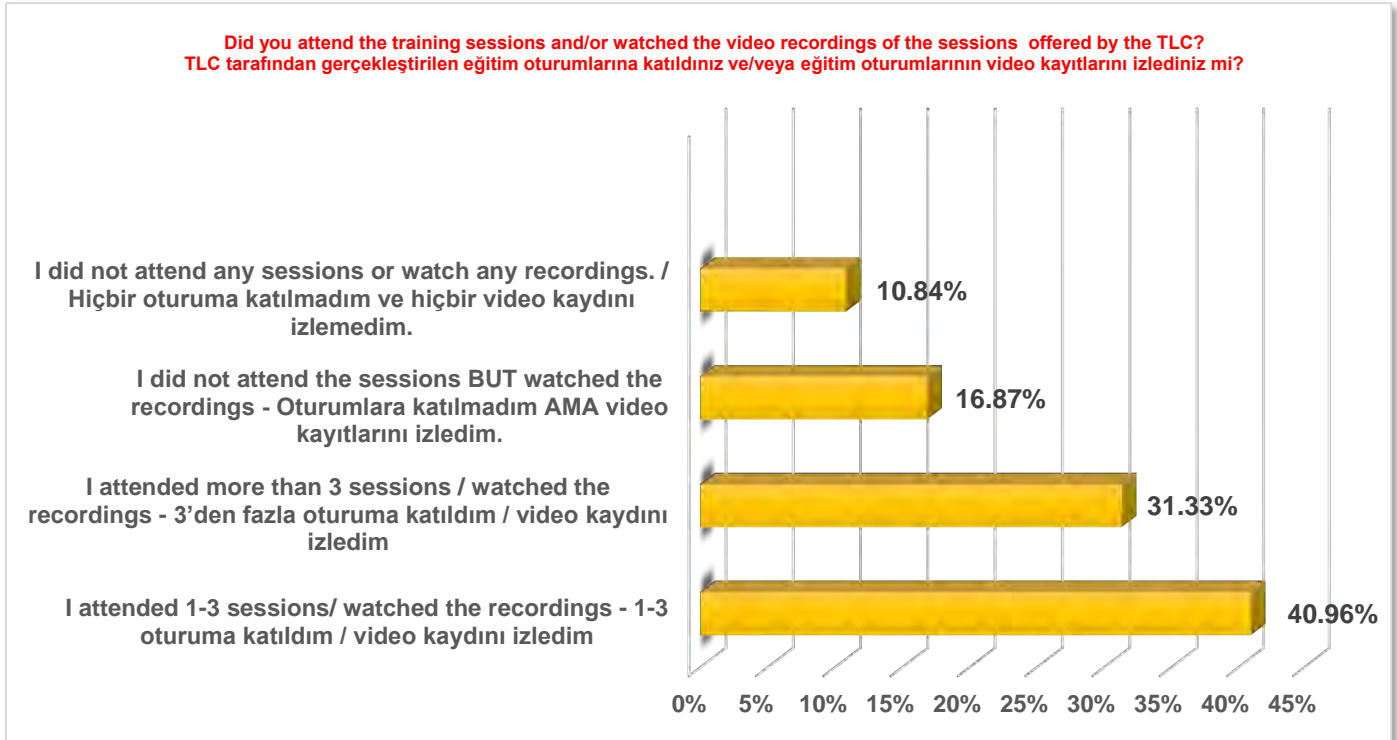
According to the graph, 33% of respondents are fairly satisfied with assistance on how to use distance education tools. 41% are very satisfied, 14% said it is acceptable, 10% are not very satisfied.. A mere 2% of respondents said they did not know.





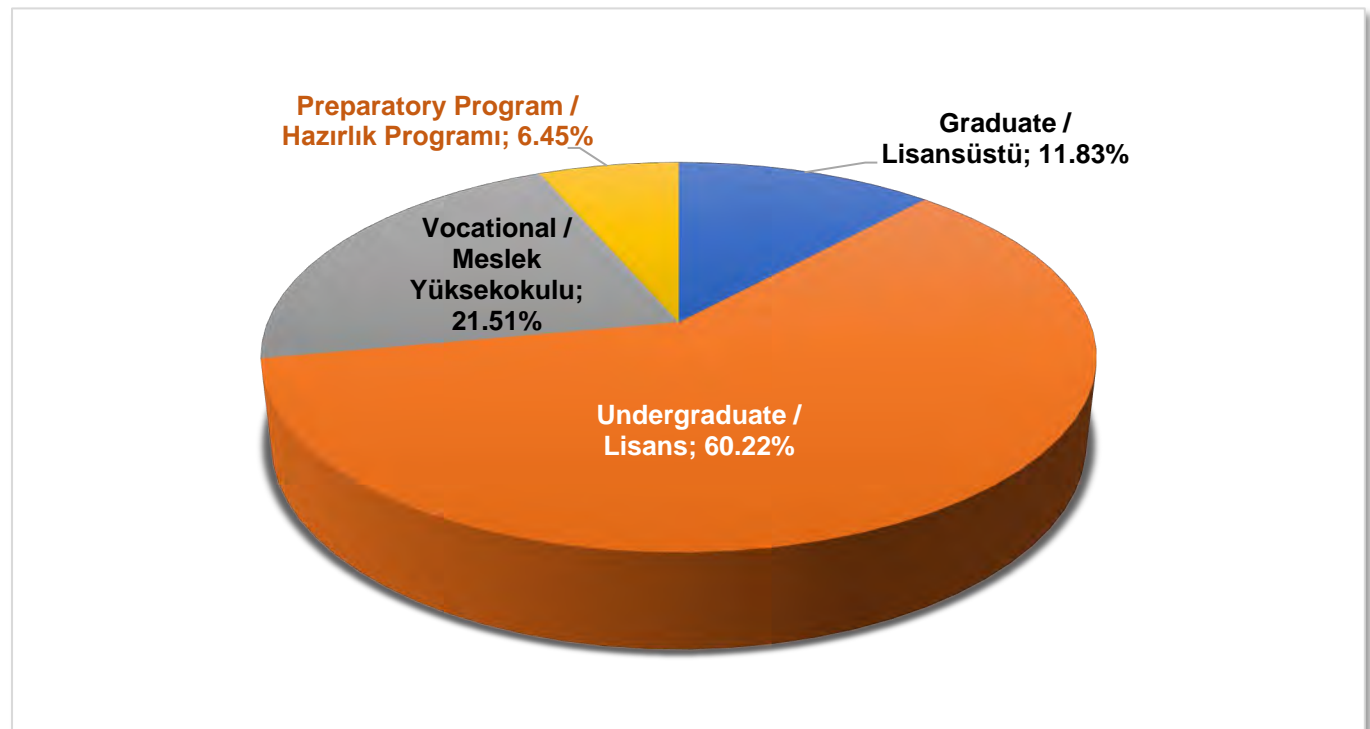
### *Did you attend the training sessions and/or watched the video recordings of the sessions offered by the TLC?*

As part of the implementation of Blackboard Learn in the university, a series of training sessions is offered to instructors at the beginning of every term. The following graph shows a list of training sessions that have been made available to instructors, as well as attendance to these sessions.



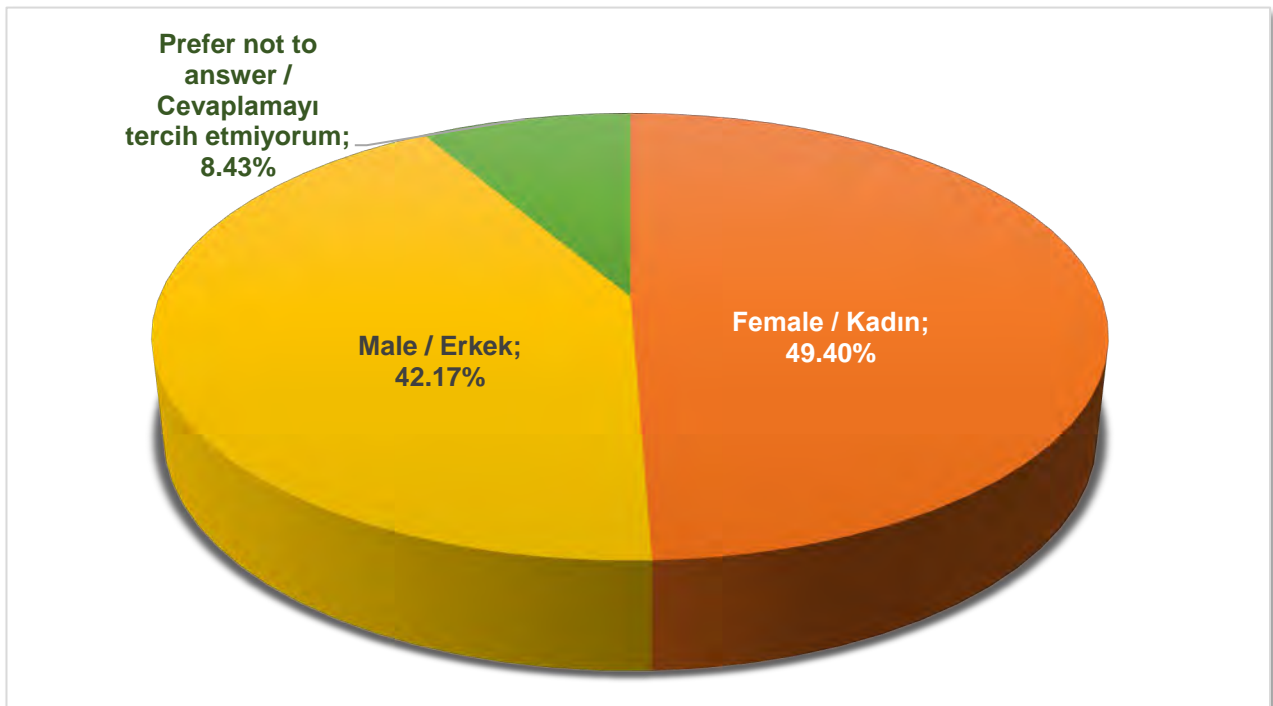
### *What level of classes did you teach in the Spring term?*

In the spring term, 60% of the instructors taught undergraduate classes, 22% vocational school classes, 12% graduate and 6% taught classes in the preparatory program.



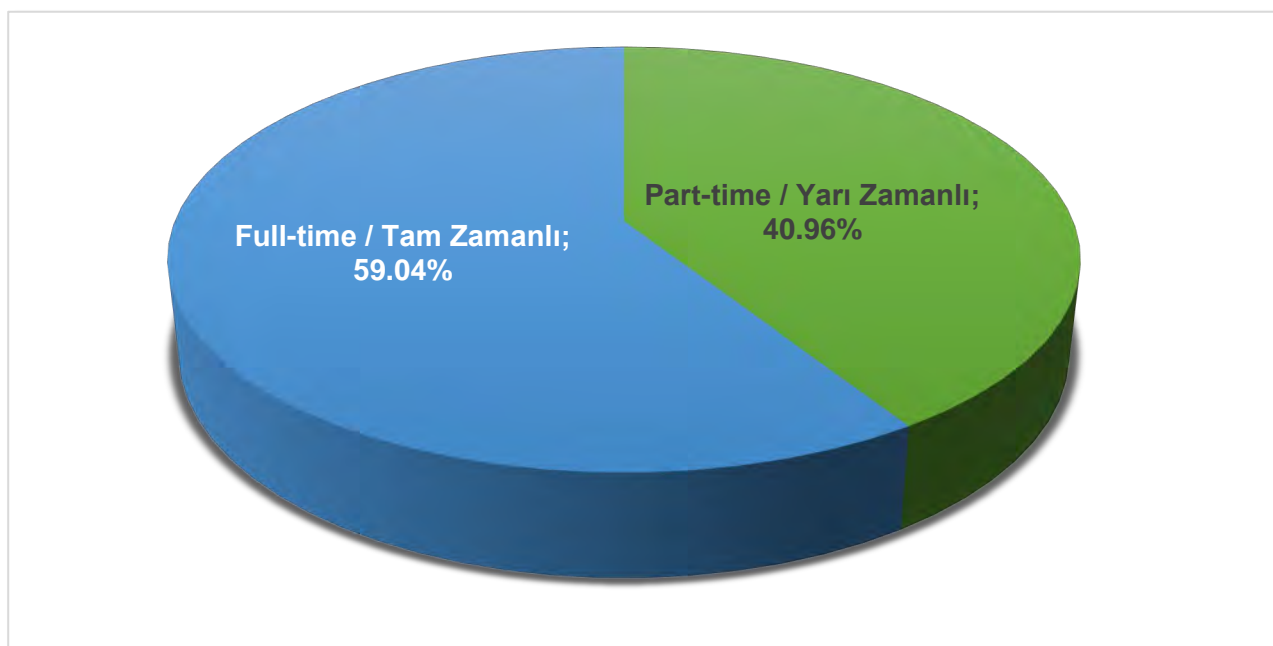
## Gender

Of all instructors who answered the survey, 50% are female and 42% are male. Eight percent of participants preferred not to specify their gender.



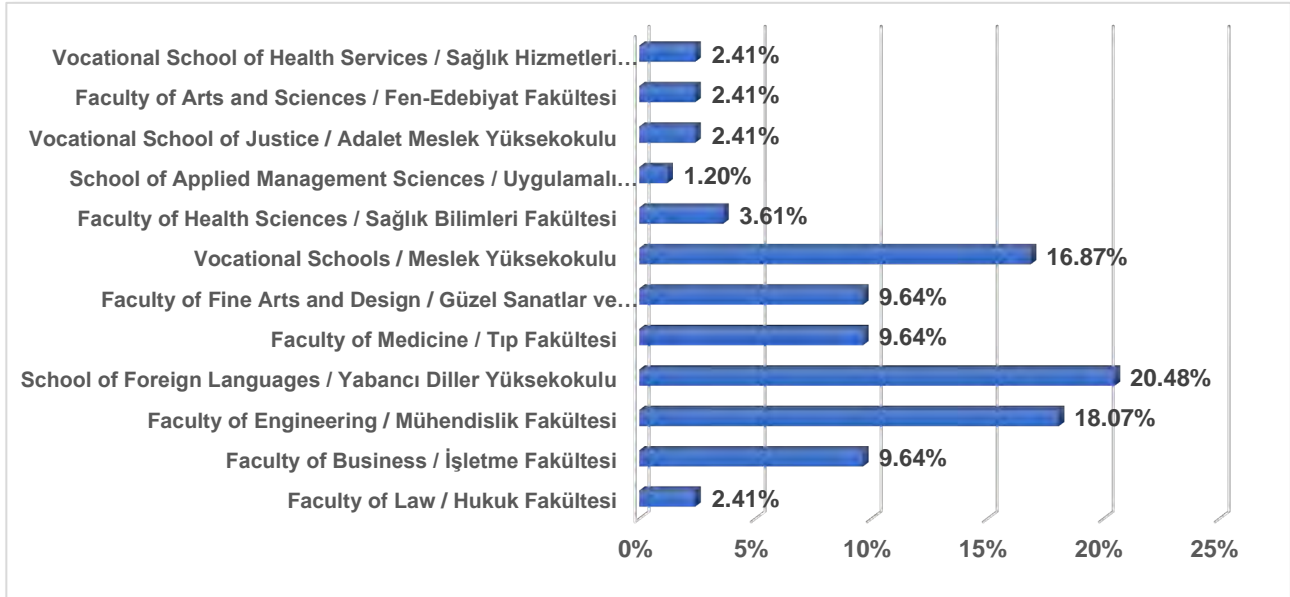
## Employment Status

According to the graph below, which represents the distribution between full-time and part-time instructors, 59% of respondents identified themselves as full-time and 41% as part-time.



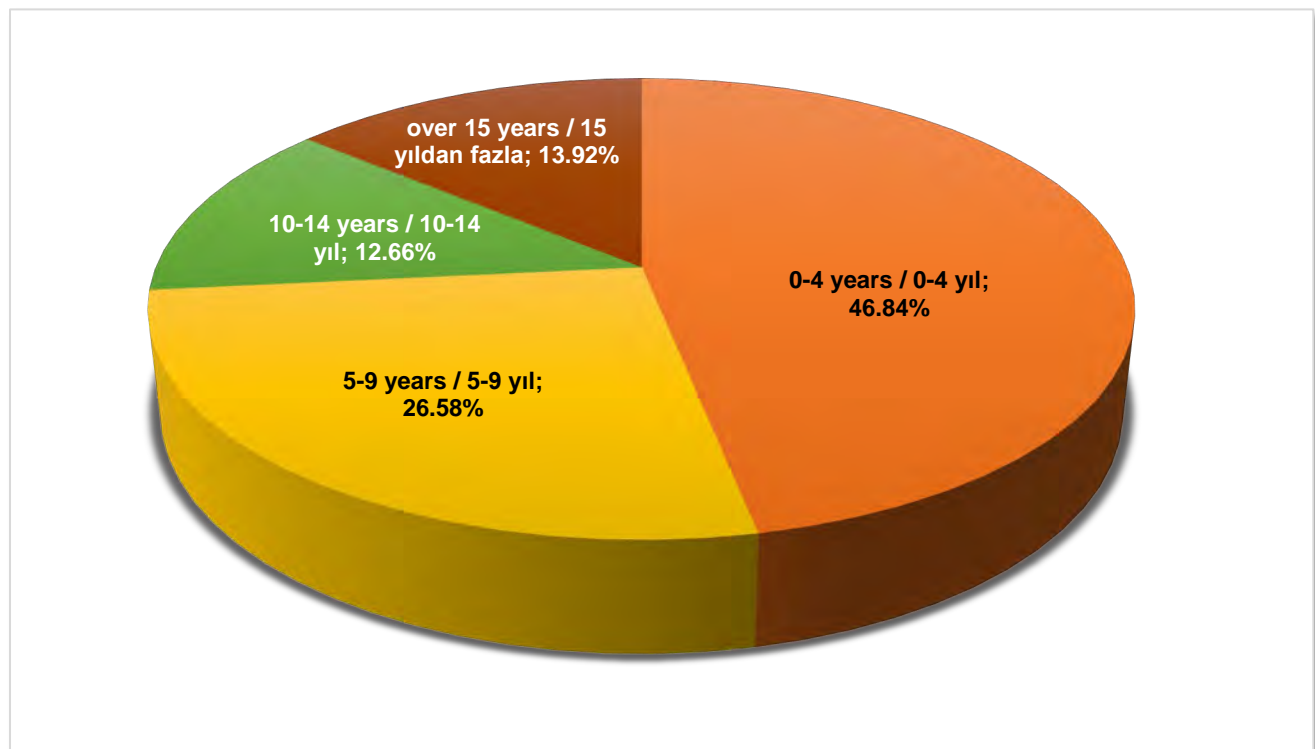
### *Your Faculty/School/Institute*

Twenty percent of instructors who answered the survey are from the School of Foreign Languages, %18 are from the Faculty of Engineering, 16% are from Vocational School and 10% are from Faculty of Business.



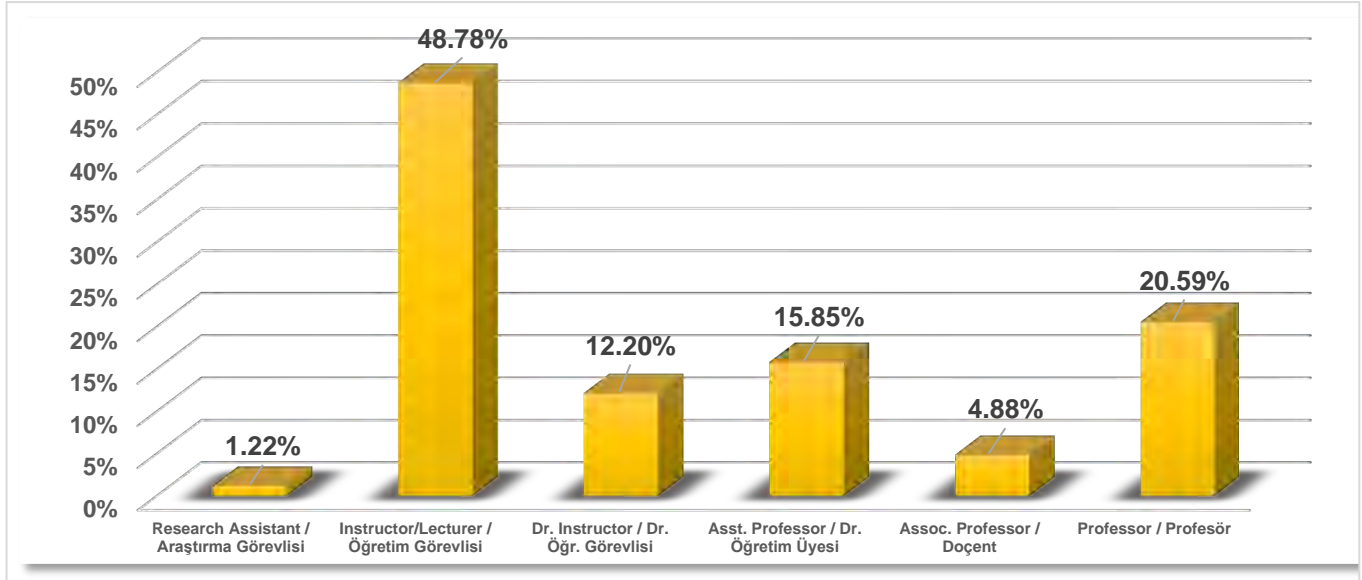
### *How many years have you been teaching at IUE?*

According to the following graph, 47% of respondents have been teaching at the university level for less than four years, 27% have been teaching five to nine years, 14% of respondents have been teaching for 10 to 14 years, and 14% have been teaching at the university level for over 15 years.



## Your Academic Rank

Survey results also reveal the distribution of academic rank among faculty members in IUE. The graph below shows that 49% of respondents are Lecturers, 21% are Professor, 5% are Assoc. Professor, 16% are Asst. Professor, 12% are Dr. Instructor and 1% of them are Research Assistants.



## Common Themes from Open-Ended Questions

**Instructors expressed their general satisfaction with the Blackboard Learn Learning Management System.**

- Çok memnunum, teşekkür ederim
- İyi bir sistem ve iyi bir yardımcı.
- Gayet kullanışlı bir sistem hatta Zoom yerine eğitim ile ilgili tüm işlemlerin blackboard üzerinden yapılması çok daha güzel olacaktır.
- Öğretim elemanının eğitim süreçlerini planlamasını destekleyen bir sistem olduğunu düşünüyorum ve değiştirilmemesini diliyorum

**Some of the lecturers made suggestions for improvement in the following areas.**

- Sorulara geri dönüş hakkı verilmeyen çevrimiçi sınavlarda soruları öğrencilerin karşısına rastgele getirmek istendiğinde tüm soruların sırası karıştırılıyor. Örneğin ilk 20 sorusu çoktan seçmeli, son üç sorusu yazılı olan bir sınavda çoktan seçmelileri kendi içinde, yazılı soruları da kendi içinde karıştırma özelliğinin eklenmesi öğrencilerin sınav sürelerini daha verimli kullanabilmeleri açısından faydalı olacaktır.
- Assessment feedback has to be connected to a grade. However I don't grade over Blackboard. It would be more convenient if the two (grading and feedback) could be independent from one another.
- As I have written repeatedly, LaTeX arrived to the world in the 1980s. Wake up and implement it, please! Even Word has a LaTeX window these days.
- Software very outdated, not user friendly, new features cannot be used confidently unless one gets specific training.

### Instructors expressed their general satisfaction with the Panopto Lecture Capture System

- *Ders sonrasında dersle ilgili kendi kendini değerlendirebildiğim bir uygulama, değiştirilmemesini isterim.*
- *Yoktur, teşekkürler.*
- *Uzaktan eğitimi teşvik ediyor. Uzaktan eğitim ne kadar iyiye, Panopto'da o kadar iyi. Ses, video ve tahta sorunları var.*
- *Yararlı ve kolay kullanılabilir bir sistem.*

### Some of the lecturers made suggestions for improvement in the following areas.

- *Panopto videolarının sadece sınavlardan önce izlendiğini gözlemliyorum. Ders içi not alma alışkanlığının önüne geçen bir durum teşkil ediyor. Öğrencilerim Panopto kaydı esnasında kendilerini açıkça ifade etmekten çekindiklerini de aktardılar. "Hocam kaydı durdurursanız yorum yapmak istiyorum" şeklinde ifadeler çok sık kullanılıyor. Derslerde Panopto kullanma zorunluluğunun ciddi anlamda gözden geçirilmesini öneriyorum.*
- *Dersi başlatmadan önce yaşanan aksaklıklar (örn: MB160), dersin vaktinden ve dersi anlatacak kişinin zamanından çalarak, yorucu bir efora neden oluyor. Aksilik olunca da ders başlayamıyor. Bunun yanı sıra, öğrenciler ders aralarında bir çok kere kayıt altında hep izledikleri düşüncesiyle rahat olmadıklarını ve rahat diyalog da kuramadıklarını dile getirdiler. Derse katılım göstermemiş öğrenciler ise derste anlatılan önemli süreleri bulma konusunda zorlanıyorlar ve derste başka öğrencilerin proje değerlendirmelerini dinlerken ders arasında anlatılan esas bilgiye de kaçırıyorlar. Kim öğrenciler ise, sonradan izlerim düşüncesiyle derse odağını tam olarak sağlamıyor. Önerim, ders kayıtlarının sadece ders içeriklerini anlatırken kayıt altına alınması olacaktır. Özellikle proje derslerinde sadece brief verirken, teorik bir anlatım yaparken, örnekler veya program uygulama gösterirken kayıt altına alınabilir. Böylece derse gelemeyen öğrenci, gerekli bilgiye de daha hızlı ve sağlıklı ulaşacaktır.*
- *Dersliklerde sesler yankılı geliyor bu durumda öğrencilerin daha sonradan dersi dinlememelerine yol açıyor.*
- *Sınıfta alınan kayıtlarda ses ve görüntü kalitesi çok düşük oluyor. Hibrit derslerde çevrimiçi katılan öğrencilerin tahtayı görmesi zor oldu. Hibrit derslerde çok zorlandık. Bazen çevrimiçi öğrenciler için tablete, sınıftaki öğrenciler için tahtaya yazarak ders anlattım.*
- *Yüz yüze derse devamı ve katılımı azaltıyor. Sınıf içi eğitimi değersizleştiriyor.*
- *After pausing during brakes, panopto would be frozen, would not go back into recording. In a few cases, shut itself down, resulting in the loss of the already recorded lecture!*
- *I think that Panopto application negatively affects student success..*