



Survey Report

The seventh annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2010. Facilitators on each campus, primarily Project ADVANCE counselors, were responsible for ensuring that all graduating seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey. Funding for this report was provided by district local funds.

This report contains the results for the Akins High School Class of 2010. Where available, data are presented from previous senior classes to compare with the 2010 responses. In addition, average results from all AISD high schools are presented alongside results for Akins for comparison purposes. In total, 3,574 students in the Class of 2010 completed the survey, including 441 students from Akins. Tests for statistical significance were conducted with district-level data only (see district-level report). Table 1 presents yearly response rates, by campus and by district. Next, major findings are presented, followed by open-ended campus-level responses, and finally responses to the multiple-choice items from the survey.

Table 1. High School Exit Survey Response Rates, Classes 2008–2010

	Class of 2008	Class of 2009	Class of 2010
All high schools	74.8%	78.8%	82.0%
Akins	75.6%	53.6%	79.9%

Major Findings

Some of the notable trends at this campus include:

- Postsecondary preparation and plans.** Similar to district results, a lower percentage of Akins seniors in 2010 than in previous years planned to continue their education after high school. A higher percentage of Akins seniors than district seniors planned to go into the military or work. Unlike students' reasons district wide, the most common reason chosen by Akins seniors for not continuing their education after high school was that their grades or test scores were not high enough; the next most common reason was that seniors did not feel academically prepared. Compared with seniors district wide, Akins seniors appeared to have less college preparation. Lower percentages of Akins seniors than of seniors district wide indicated taking college entrance tests, taking test preparation classes, completing financial aid or scholarship applications, and completing community college classes. Akins seniors were more likely to have applied to 2-year colleges and business/technical/vocational

schools, but were less likely to have applied to a 4-year institution, than were seniors district wide.

- **Extracurricular activities.** A higher percentage of Akins seniors than of students district wide participated in Career and Technical student organizations. Akins seniors spent less time on sports and other extracurricular activities in school than did other seniors in the district.

OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS

At the end of the survey, students were asked for additional comments and “What is the ONE thing that you especially want the administration of AISD to know?” Of the 441 respondents, 37% provided comments that could be categorized as either positive or critical feedback, and subcategorized according to emerging themes.

POSITIVE FEEDBACK

Thirty-three percent of the seniors’ comments were categorized as positive feedback, and three major themes emerged: school pride and accomplishment (44%), helpful teachers (35%), and helpful college and career preparation (19%).

- **School pride and accomplishment.** Students expressed generally positive feelings about their school. Most of their comments were similar to the following students’ statements:
“I moved here my junior year. I have to say it has been a fun experience. I met new people and met awesome teachers.”
“Things are not always perfect but my school does what it can to approach perfection in that all students attend college. My teachers, advisers, administrators, and principal are all commended for their robust work. Once again thank you!”
- **Helpful teachers.** Many students recognized the helpfulness of teachers, and most students referenced their teachers by name. A student said, “Having the choices that I did in the Akins academies and the mentoring from the exceptional teachers helped me choose my life’s career.” Another student said, “I will never forget the support from all my teachers. There was not one teacher I had that I did not feel supported by.”
- **Helpful college and career preparation.** Students found their academy experiences to be especially helpful in preparing them for college and careers. Examples of their comments follow.
“Akins’ academies helped me a lot throughout high school. Had it not been for the Social Services Academy, I probably wouldn’t have realized that the medical field is my calling.”

“I want you to know that Akins High School’s Academy system is the main reason I am able to leave this school better off than most students. Through the academy system I have been able to focus on courses and material that I will be majoring in, in college, and have received career training in my EMT class.”

“The new Project Lead the Way is what pushed me towards wanting to pursue a career in engineering. Educational courses like that are fun and exciting to learn about. I think more courses like those will help students find an idea of what they want.”

CRITICAL FEEDBACK

The majority of the seniors’ comments (66%) were categorized as critical feedback, and three major themes were identified: college and career support (33%), curriculum and instruction (27%), and school climate (21%).

- **College and career support.** Students expressed the need for additional preparation for college and careers. One student wrote, “I don’t know how to apply for scholarships and would like help getting into a college. I felt that I could have been better prepared and aided in the process of applying for colleges and scholarships.” Another said, “I understand that the CCC [College and Career Center] staff knows what they are doing and how the process of applying works, but as a student, I have never done this before and I would have felt more eased with patient explanation of the process.”
- **Curriculum and instruction.** Students requested more passionate and caring teachers. They complained about the instructional practices of individual teachers. One student wrote, “I want to let the administration know that they should select their teachers better and make sure the teachers are passionate and sincere about teaching.” Another student said, “I don’t like having teachers that act as if they don’t like to teach or can’t stand kids. It would make for a better class environment and that way students would actually want to come to school and learn.”
- **School climate.** Students requested that school rules be enforced consistently across student groups and expressed personal frustration with the treatment received from individual school administrators and counselors.

INDIVIDUAL ITEM RESPONSES FOR AKINS HIGH SCHOOL

This section provides item-level data for the campus and the district. Seniors’ responses to the multiple-choice questions were organized into seven general topic areas: postsecondary intentions and family support; high school experiences, campus climate and civic engagement; instruction and technology; postsecondary preparation and advising; and additional results.

POSTSECONDARY INTENTIONS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Table 2. Within a Year After Graduating From High School, What Do You Plan to Do? (Item 8)

	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Continue my education	89.3%	91.8%	88.4%	92.2%	93.1%	91.4%
Go into the military	5.8%	6.7%	6.1%	2.8%	3.9%	4.3%
Be a full-time parent	3.7%	1.8%	0.9%	2.2%	1.7%	1.2%
Work full-time	25.2%	15.2%	15.0%	13.5%	11.7%	11.5%
Work part-time	42.9%	36.2%	36.5%	41.1%	32.9%	34.8%
No plans/Not sure	4.3%	3.5%	5.9%	2.4%	2.3%	5.1%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

* Item was recoded to match data from previous years. In 2008, this was two items: “Attend a school or college for a business, technical, trade, or vocational certificate” and “Attend a college or university for a degree.” The percentage represents all students who chose either or both options.

Table 3. If You Are Not Planning to Pursue Further Education at This Time, What Are Your Primary Reasons? (Item 9)

	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Cannot afford to attend school	14.3%	23.5%	20.0%	16.9%	33.0%	27.2%
Childcare or family responsibilities	17.1%	5.9%	2.5%	14.9%	11.4%	9.2%
Don't like attending school	14.3%	17.6%	17.5%	19.4%	17.6%	18.4%
Grades/test scores aren't high enough	17.1%	17.6%	25.0%	16.5%	21.6%	22.6%
Don't feel academically prepared	22.9%	17.6%	22.5%	13.7%	17.0%	18.4%
Need income to support myself/others	22.9%	35.3%	12.5%	25.0%	34.1%	25.9%
My goals don't require additional education	.	.	20.0%	.	.	13.8%
Other	25.7%	11.7%	16.2%	22.6%	12.9%	22.1%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

Table 4. If You Are Not Planning to Pursue Further Education at This Time, Do You Intend to Pursue It at a Later Time? (Item 10)

	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Probably or definitely yes	59.4%	71.4%	67.3%	59.2%	66.2%	63.0%
Maybe	15.6%	23.8%	18.4%	19.3%	24.1%	27.0%
Probably or definitely no	12.5%	0.0%	6.1%	10.5%	4.2%	3.0%
Don't know	12.5%	4.8%	8.2%	11.0%	5.6%	7.0%

Note. Response options were collapsed for ease in reporting.

Table 5. To What Extent Were Your Parents Involved in the Following School-Related Activities? (Item 11)

<i>*Percentage who responded parents were involved at least Occasionally</i>	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Volunteering at your school	32.3%	28.9%	21.1%	40.0%	30.3%	28.7%
Working with you on homework or school projects	55.6%	54.0%	42.2%	54.6%	46.8%	44.3%
Helping you decide what classes to take	57.6%	55.2%	46.8%	60.2%	53.4%	51.6%
Attending school meetings	43.8%	39.4%	34.2%	54.9%	45.9%	44.5%
Communicating with your teachers	57.7%	54.9%	48.9%	60.6%	52.1%	48.5%
Participating in school leadership opportunities	25.2%	17.6%	10.9%	29.0%	17.9%	17.0%
Attending athletic events	50.8%	42.8%	40.8%	58.8%	51.5%	50.1%
Attending academic events and competitions	35.4%	20.4%	19.0%	36.9%	25.4%	24.7%
Attending performance events	46.6%	42.0%	34.9%	53.3%	45.0%	43.9%
Joining and participating in the PTA	14.6%	5.5%	4.8%	27.1%	16.5%	16.4%

*Response options were *never, rarely, occasionally, and often*. In 2008, *consistently* was an additional response option; in 2009, it was removed. Thus, results may not be equivalent between years.

Table 6. How Far Did Your Mother, Father, and Older Sibling Go in School? Indicate Their Highest Level of Education. (Item 13)

	Akins Mother	Akins Father	Akins Sibling	All HS Mother	All HS Father	All HS Siblings
Did not finish high school	27.5%	29.0%	8.2%	19.2%	21.3%	8.0%
Graduated from high school or earned a GED	25.4%	24.9%	23.3%	19.1%	18.8%	20.6%
Attended a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school, but no degree	9.1%	8.8%	14.4%	7.4%	5.5%	10.7%
Graduated from a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school	5.7%	4.9%	6.8%	5.0%	3.8%	4.6%
Attended a 4-yr college, but did not complete a degree	4.3%	5.4%	7.5%	6.2%	6.4%	8.8%
Graduated from college	14.4%	13.9%	9.9%	20.7%	18.2%	17.6%
Completed a Master's degree or equivalent	4.1%	3.2%	2.7%	11.4%	11.7%	3.8%
Completed a Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced professional degree	2.6%	1.7%	2.4%	4.5%	6.0%	1.3%
Don't know or Does not apply	6.9%	8.3%	24.7%	6.5%	8.2%	24.6%

Note. In 2010, "older" was added to describe on which sibling to report.

HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCES, CAMPUS CLIMATE, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Table 7. How Many Different High Schools Have You Attended? (Item 5)

	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
1	75.2%	60.1%	65.8%	77.6%	70.1%	71.9%
2	18.4%	24.5%	22.2%	16.8%	18.4%	18.6%
3 or more	6.4%	15.4%	12.0%	5.6%	11.5%	9.5%

Table 8. Please Indicate the Number of Years of High School in Which You Participated in Each of These Extracurricular Activities. (Items 14 and 16)

<i>*Percentage who reported at least 1 year of participation</i>	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
<i>In school</i>				
Music	35.4%	28.7%	33.6%	33.7%
Theater	18.5%	16.0%	18.6%	18.8%
Dance	25.2%	19.7%	22.1%	21.5%
Sports	50.7%	49.9%	57.9%	55.6%
UIL academic competitions	17.9%	15.6%	20.0%	20.0%
Speech/debate	18.2%	15.3%	20.9%	21.0%
Student government	11.8%	14.3%	16.3%	17.3%
Career and technical student organizations	23.4%	22.3%	14.5%	15.5%
<i>Outside school</i>				
Music	30.9%	25.5%	30.5%	29.9%
Theater	6.5%	7.6%	7.9%	8.7%
Dance	15.8%	12.3%	15.0%	13.7%
Sports	44.2%	44.3%	50.9%	49.6%
Community service/volunteering	56.6%	53.2%	62.1%	60.2%
Environmental project/activities	26.3%	18.0%	28.0%	25.9%
Boy/Girl Scouts	3.9%	6.8%	8.0%	10.2%
Family care	27.7%	20.7%	22.4%	21.1%

*Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

Table 9. For Each of These Extracurricular Activities, Did You Spend More Than 10 Hours per Week During Your Senior Year on Them? (Items 15 and 17)

<i>*Percentage of seniors indicating they spent more than 10 hours per week on each activity.</i>	Akins 2010	All HS 2010
<i>Inside school</i>		
Music	6.8%	8.3%
Theater	1.9%	3.2%
Dance	5.3%	4.0%
Sports	19.0%	23.5%
UIL academic competitions	2.6%	2.3%
Speech/debate	0.7%	1.3%
Student government	1.2%	1.1%
Career and technical student organizations	2.8%	2.2%
<i>Outside school</i>		
Music	6.5%	7.0%
Theater	2.0%	1.9%
Dance	2.7%	2.8%
Sports	15.1%	17.8%
Community service/volunteering	8.1%	6.9%
Environmental project/activities	3.2%	2.5%
Boy/Girl Scouts	1.5%	1.0%
Family care	7.8%	7.1%

* Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

Table 10. Please Indicate the Number of Years of High School That You Have Been Employed (Either During the Year or During the Summer) (Item 18)

	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
0	26.4%	46.7%	27.9%	37.3%
1	32.9%	24.3%	26.8%	23.7%
2	23.5%	16.7%	24.5%	20.6%
3	13.4%	8.5%	12.9%	10.9%
4	4.0%	3.9%	7.9%	7.5%

Figure 1. Now Indicate the Number of Hours Per Week That You Worked During Last Summer. (Item 19a)

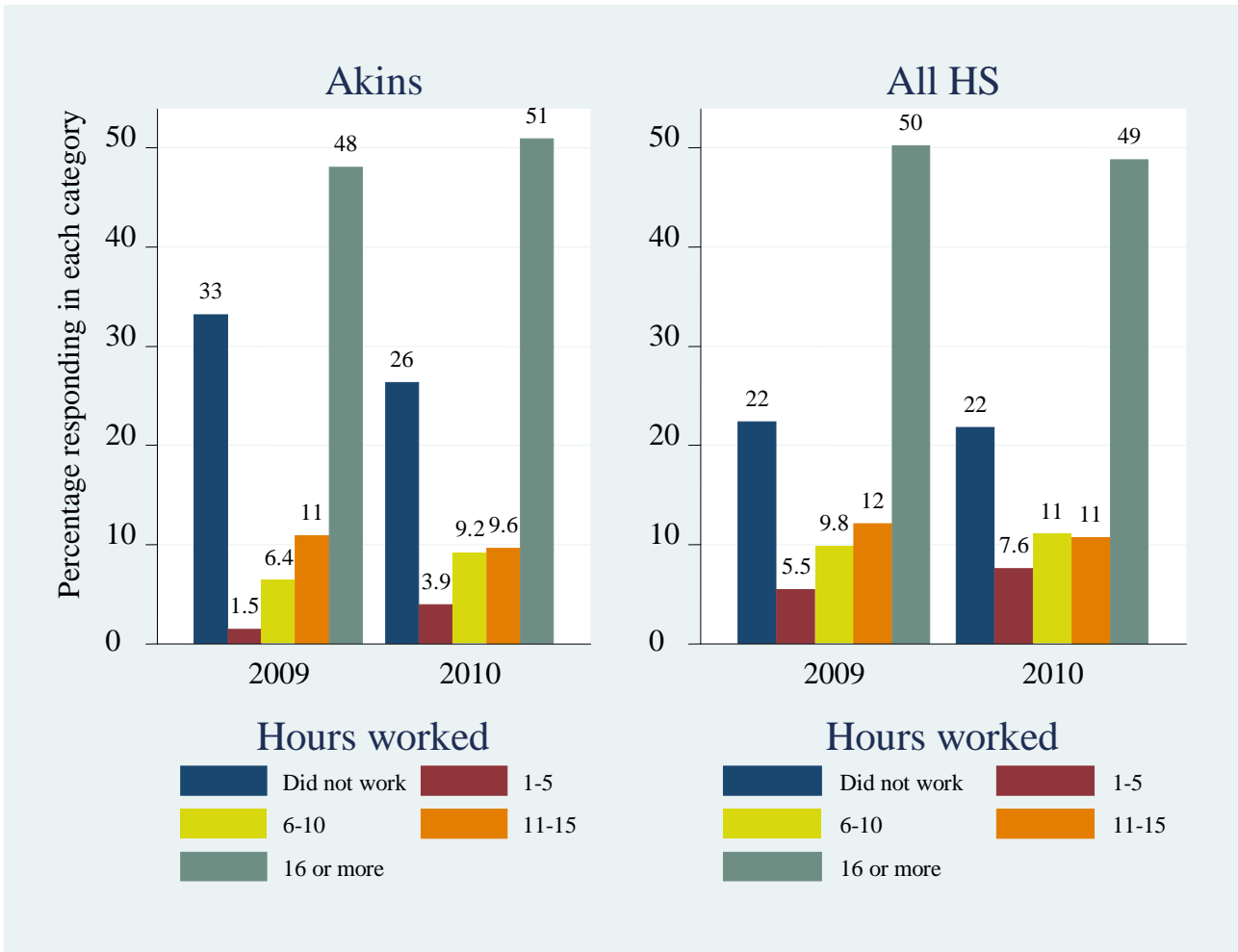


Figure 2. Now Indicate the Number of Hours per Week That You Worked During Your Senior Year. (Item 19b)

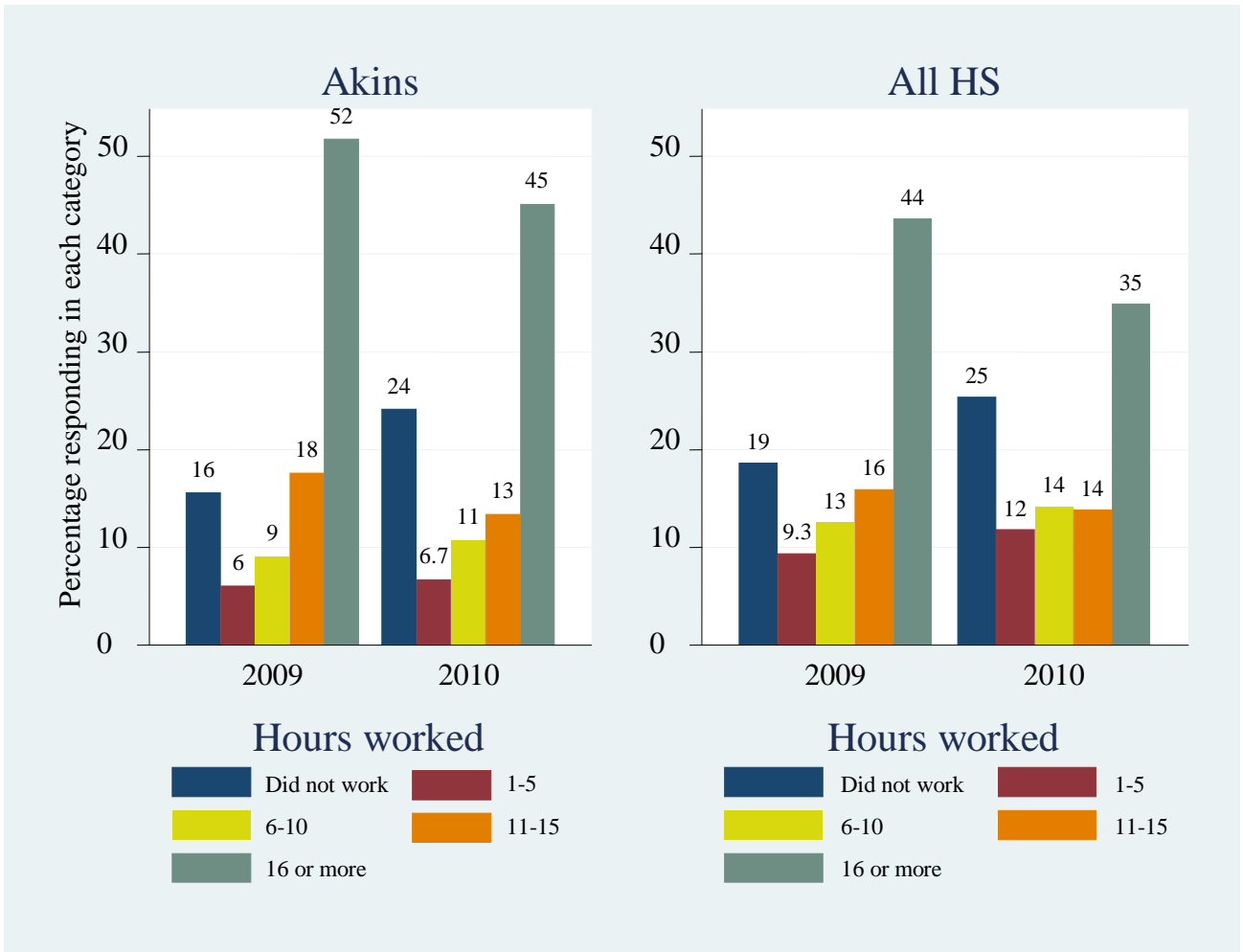


Figure 3. Thinking Back on Your Years in High School, How Many Hours per Week Did You Typically Spend Studying, Doing Research, or Completing Homework Assignments Outside of Class? (Item 20)

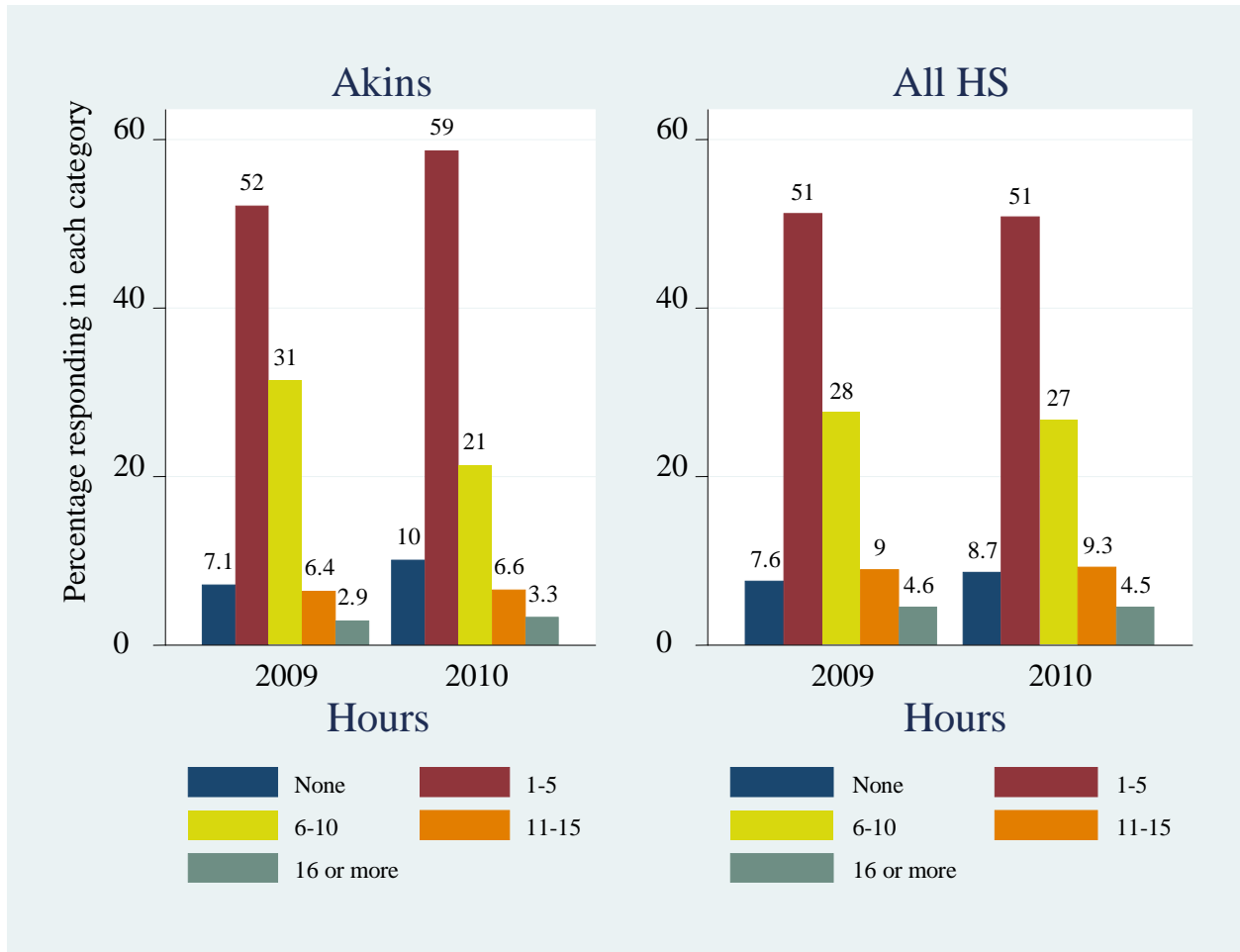


Table 11. Please Mark the Answer That Best Indicates How You Feel: (Item 21)

<i>*Percentage who responded Sometimes or Always</i>	Akins 2010	All HS 2010
I can do even the hardest schoolwork if I try	92.6%	91.8%
I enjoy doing my schoolwork	64.7%	58.6%
I feel/felt well prepared for TAKS	87.4%	89.3%
I try hard to do my best work	91.0%	89.5%
I feel successful in my schoolwork	89.1%	90.3%
I can reach the goals I set for myself	96.0%	95.4%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know	78.0%	75.9%
I know how I'm doing in school	94.3%	92.2%
My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways	69.5%	68.4%
I have fun learning in my classes	77.3%	76.5%
My teachers connect what I am learning to my life outside of the classroom	62.6%	66.1%
I like to come to school	70.9%	71.4%

Note. Response options included *never, not a lot, sometimes, always, and don't know*. Response options changed from 2009; therefore, trend data were not available.

**Table 12. Please Answer the Following Questions About Your Civic Engagement
 (Items 6 and 7)**

	Akins 2010	All HS 2010
Are you registered to vote?*	22.5%	31.4%
Have you voted in any school board, city, county, state, or national election?*	2.0%	7.0%
Will you register to vote after your 18th birthday?***	61.4%	66.6%

* Only asked to students who were 18 years old or older

** Only asked to students who were not 18 years or older at the time they completed the survey

INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY

Table 13. How Well Did Your High School Help You to Actively Develop Knowledge and Skills in the Following Areas? (Item 22)

<i>*Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Well</i>	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Teamwork	89.8%	94.2%	89.2%	88.6%	89.7%	89.3%
Creative thinking	92.3%	95.6%	89.7%	90.6%	91.7%	90.0%
Problem solving	92.5%	94.2%	91.0%	91.5%	92.0%	91.8%
Conflict resolution	84.9%	88.3%	84.6%	82.8%	84.1%	83.8%
Personal health/fitness	86.3%	87.5%	83.6%	78.6%	81.0%	81.2%
Time management	82.0%	86.3%	83.4%	80.8%	81.2%	82.7%
Technology	84.8%	88.6%	84.8%	84.6%	84.2%	84.4%

*Responses were *not well*, *somewhat well*, and *very well*.

Table 14. Please Rate the Quality of Instruction That You Feel That You Received in the Following Areas: (Item 23)

<i>*Percentage who responded Good or Excellent</i>	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
English Language Arts	84.5%	80.8%	82.8%	81.2%	81.6%	84.5%
Mathematics	67.0%	69.2%	67.8%	70.7%	70.8%	70.3%
Science	59.6%	59.3%	62.6%	69.5%	69.8%	67.1%
Social Studies	86.9%	81.3%	81.4%	82.8%	82.0%	79.7%
Computer/Technology	76.1%	70.7%	71.7%	71.8%	70.2%	68.7%
Foreign Language	60.9%	67.4%	61.1%	63.9%	64.3%	62.0%
Performing/Fine Arts	71.9%	71.5%	67.5%	73.8%	73.0%	71.8%
Career and Technology	.	.	58.3%	.	.	58.9%

*Responses were *poor*, *fair*, *good*, and *excellent*. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

**Figure 4. Which of the Following Describes Your Computer and Internet Access at Home?
 (Item 24)**



Note. This item was recoded to match longitudinal data. In prior years' surveys, students were asked to indicate the type of Internet service they had at home.

Figure 5. Do Your Parents Use ParentConnect / GradeSpeed to Monitor Your Grades?

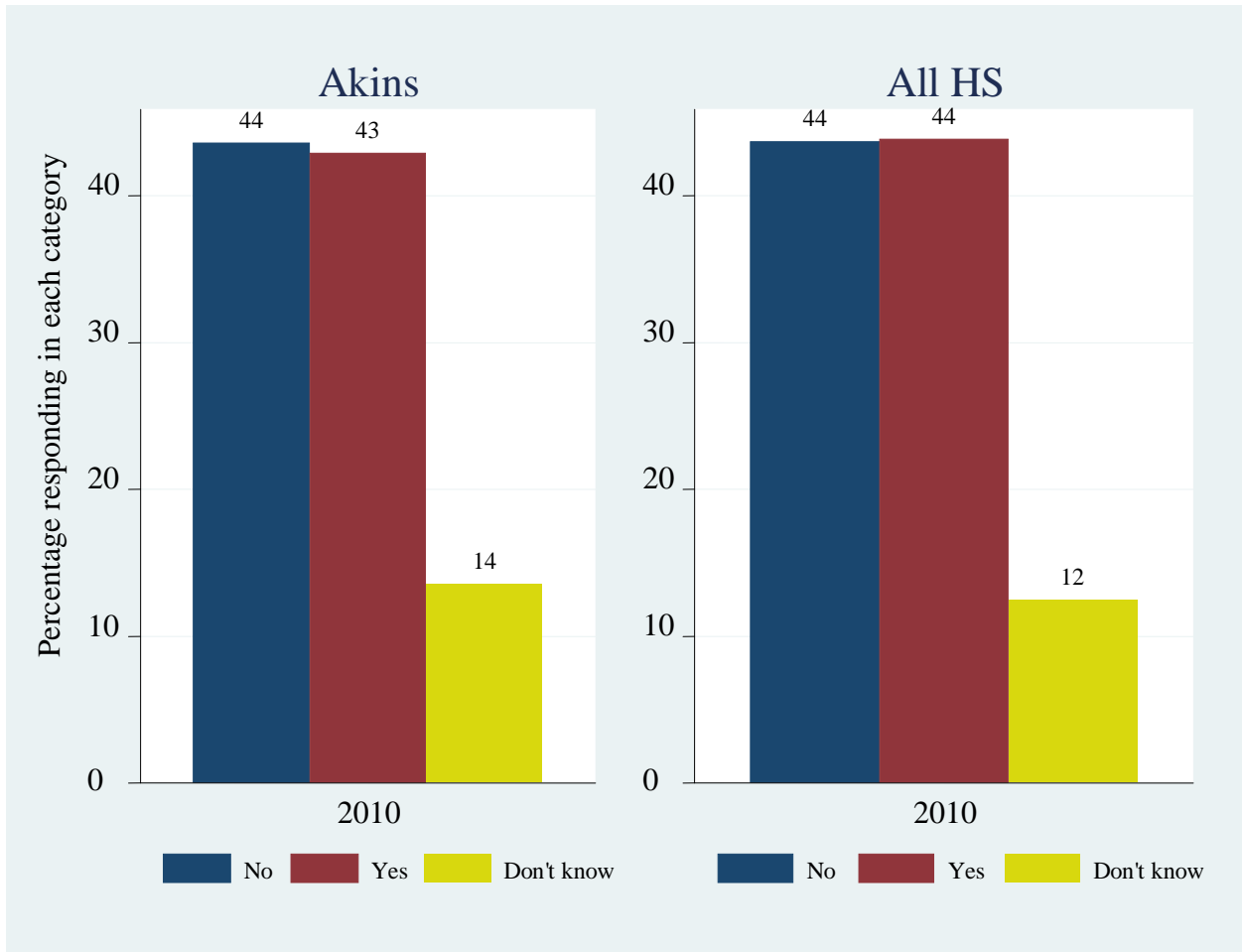


Table 15. How Frequently Do You Use a Computer or Other Internet-Capable Devices (For Example, an iPhone) (Item 25)

<i>*Percentage who responded At least once a week or more</i>	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
At home?	81.7%	81.7%	84.1%	86.7%	83.9%	88.0%
At school?	75.5%	69.7%	78.3%	74.0%	73.1%	80.7%
To present material in class, for example, using PowerPoint	25.1%	26.4%	29.8%	23.5%	22.0%	27.9%
To type a paper or class assignment?	48.4%	47.8%	53.1%	55.3%	53.5%	56.9%
To search the Internet to complete class-related assignments?	60.0%	56.7%	58.8%	61.6%	62.7%	66.5%
To research college/career choices?	48.1%	50.2%	49.5%	50.6%	51.0%	53.3%
To complete online forms or applications for college/employment?	39.9%	41.5%	41.7%	44.0%	43.4%	46.5%
To communicate with teachers (e.g., email, IM, etc.)?	25.2%	18.8%	25.5%	20.8%	17.8%	26.6%
To monitor grades/progress in school?	.	33.6%	51.7%	.	29.4%	50.5%

*Responses were *never, less than once a week, once or twice a week, every day, and almost every day*. Reports prior to 2008 indicated item means.

Note. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

Table 16. Indicate How Much You Agree With Each of the Following Statements About Technology Use at School: (Item 26)

<i>*Percentage who responded Agree or Strongly agree</i>	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
My teachers effectively use the technology resources that are available.	92.0%	91.4%	89.8%	90.4%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my classmates as part of my schoolwork.	85.1%	87.2%	82.3%	83.1%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my teachers.	82.2%	82.1%	76.0%	78.8%
I would like to use more online resources.	88.0%	88.4%	84.0%	84.4%

* Responses were *strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly disagree, and don't know/unsure*.

Table 17. How Frequently Do You Log onto Naviance / Family Connection for the Following Activities? (Item 28)

<i>*Percentage who responded Once a week or more</i>	Akins 2010	All HS 2010
College search	15.4%	18.0%
Resume building	7.4%	8.7%
Career exploration	11.6%	11.9%
College visit sign up	11.0%	12.1%
Class rank and GPA inquiry	13.9%	15.4%
Counselor directed activities, such as personality questionnaires	7.5%	8.2%
Other	9.2%	10.7%

* Response options were *never, less than once a week, once or twice a week, and every day or almost every day*. Percentages are of the number of students who said *once or twice a week, or every day or almost every day*.
 Note. This was a new item in 2010.

POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION AND ADVISING

Table 18. At What Time in Your Life Did You Start Thinking about College as a Possibility After High School? (Item 30)

	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
As long ago as I can remember	27.6%	28.1%	26.0%	40.5%	38.7%	37.8%
In elementary school	7.8%	7.2%	9.1%	8.5%	7.6%	8.4%
In middle/junior high school	23.9%	23.7%	25.1%	21.9%	21.0%	20.3%
In high school	37.6%	38.1%	35.3%	26.9%	30.9%	31.5%
I've never thought about college as an option after high school	3.1%	2.9%	4.4%	2.3%	1.8%	2.1%

Table 19. High School Preparation for Post-Graduation Opportunities (Item 31)

<i>*Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Well</i>	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
How well prepared were you to plan your high school course selections?	91.0%	89.5%	88.4%	91.2%	91.2%	92.1%
How well prepared were you to meet your college and career goals?	82.3%	84.4%	81.1%	88.4%	86.1%	86.0%
How well prepared have you been for the college/technical/vocational school application process?	77.4%	78.2%	76.3%	83.4%	82.0%	82.3%
How well informed are/were you about obtaining financial aid for education after high school (whether or not you applied)?	76.3%	81.9%	78.8%	81.6%	81.0%	81.8%

*Response options were *not well*, *somewhat well*, and *very well*.

Table 20. How Did You Prepare for Continuing Education? (Check All That Apply) (Item 33)

	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Took the PSAT examination	55.5%	55.3%	49.7%	67.9%	63.1%	58.8%
Took AP/IB classes	39.0%	35.5%	36.3%	48.6%	47.2%	45.7%
Visited campuses	42.0%	42.6%	49.7%	51.8%	55.8%	53.1%
Attended college fairs	63.5%	52.5%	51.0%	48.6%	45.3%	49.2%
Completed and submitted a FAFSA	42.6%	39.7%	43.1%	49.3%	48.6%	49.9%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	30.4%	26.2%	30.4%	41.6%	40.3%	39.8%
Took college entrance tests	59.8%	54.3%	53.3%	72.4%	68.1%	65.6%
Took test prep classes	33.1%	32.6%	29.9%	41.7%	38.9%	38.1%
Completed ACC courses	13.8%	18.4%	26.1%	29.4%	33.1%	33.3%
Ordered and submitted transcripts	37.7%	31.9%	35.6%	50.3%	47.7%	45.9%
Senior ACC application process	.	.	38.3%	.	.	38.2%
Other college-level courses	.	2.5%	4.8%	.	5.4%	6.0%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%. Missing values, denoted by a period, indicate the item was not included on the respective year's survey.

Table 21. In Which of the Following College Preparation Programs Did You Participate While in High School? (Item 34)

	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Project ADVANCE	7.1%	6.1%	17.9%	15.1%
AVID	8.2%	8.8%	8.8%	7.0%
ACC College Connections	16.0%	17.7%	18.0%	16.5%
College Forward	1.1%	1.1%	3.5%	3.8%
Con mi MADRE	0.7%	1.4%	1.9%	1.9%
Talent Search/Trio	0.0%	0.5%	2.6%	2.4%
Upward Bound	0.0%	0.7%	1.3%	1.1%
Breakthrough	2.1%	1.1%	1.3%	1.6%
Immigrant College Access	2.5%	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%
I did not participate in any programs like this	44.7%	48.5%	41.3%	45.0%
Other	4.3%	4.1%	3.0%	3.7%

Table 22. If You Participated in One or More College Preparation Programs, What Did You Get Out of It? (Item 35)

	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
They encouraged me to attend school regularly	31.4%	32.2%	31.8%	30.5%
They helped me choose the HS courses to prepare for college	24.4%	26.9%	28.5%	26.2%
They explained the financial aid process to me	25.0%	33.0%	33.2%	31.1%
They were available to help with school-related issues	23.7%	23.8%	26.2%	26.5%
They helped me deal with personal issues	12.8%	13.7%	15.4%	14.7%
They helped me believe that college was right for me	29.5%	27.3%	30.9%	30.0%
They helped me apply to college	32.7%	32.6%	38.7%	35.5%
Other	1.3%	5.3%	1.9%	5.4%

**Table 23. Have You Applied to the Following Types of Postsecondary Institutions?
 (Items 36, 37, and 38)**

	Akins 2008	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2008	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Have you applied to a 2-year college	52.1%	46.8%	56.9%	41.4%	41.3%	49.5%
Have you applied to a 4-year college?	46.0%	44.0%	48.3%	63.9%	62.7%	63.9%
Have you applied to a business/technical/vocational school?	7.4%	12.1%	16.3%	6.5%	10.7%	11.3%

Note. On the 2009 and 2010 surveys, students were asked to indicate the number of schools to which they had applied, whereas in 2008, students were only prompted to indicate whether they had applied.

**Figure 6. Will You Be the First of Your Siblings (Brothers Or Sisters) to Attend College?
 (Item 12)**

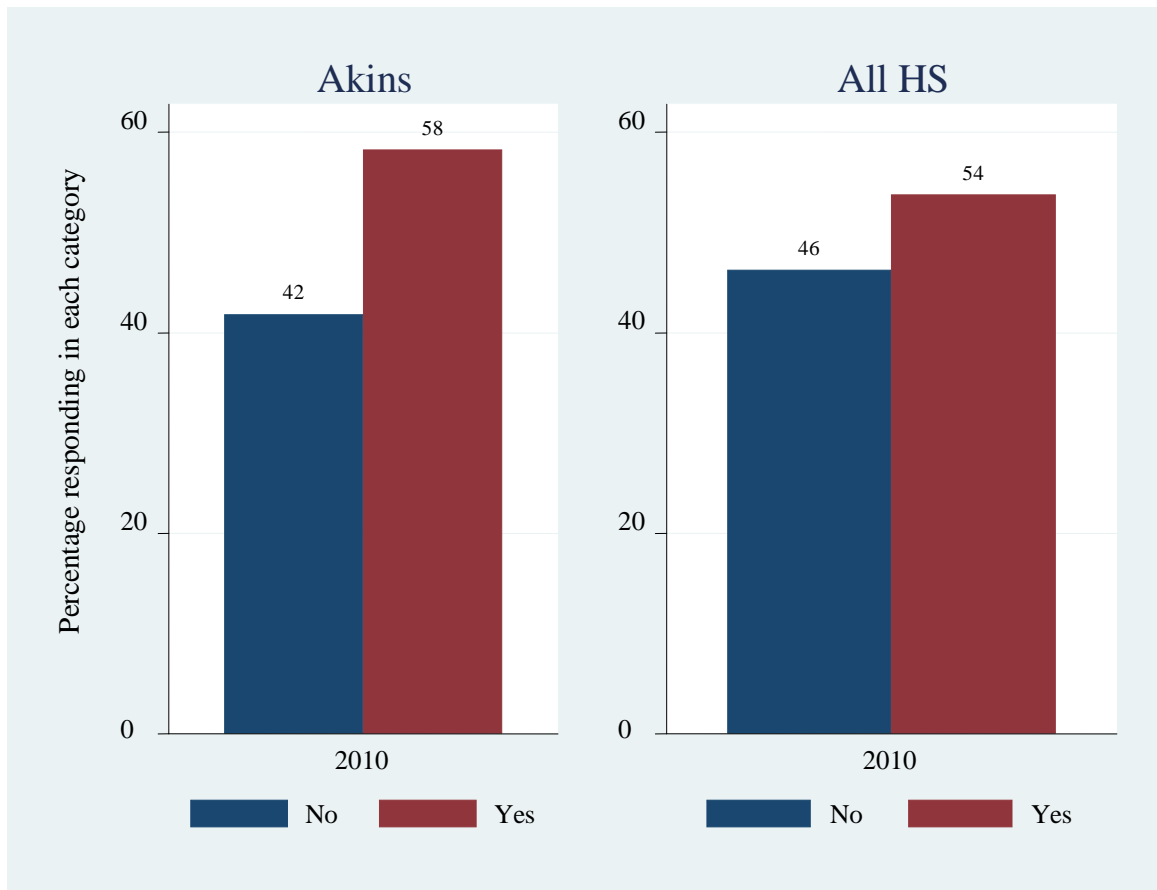


Table 24. How Easy Has It Been for You and Your Parents to Understand the Process of Applying for Financial Aid? (Item 46)

	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Difficult	13.2%	11.5%	12.8%	13.9%
Some parts easy, some parts difficult	39.6%	39.0%	43.7%	42.5%
Easy	24.5%	23.0%	22.2%	24.2%
Did not apply for financial aid	22.6%	26.6%	21.4%	19.5%

Table 25. How Do You Plan to Pay For Your Education After High School? (Item 47)

	Akins 2009	Akins 2010	All HS 2009	All HS 2010
Scholarships and/or grants	60.6%	56.2%	56.3%	57.6%
Loans	39.0%	42.2%	38.0%	37.8%
Family or personal savings	35.5%	39.0%	49.5%	50.2%
Working during the school year	51.4%	53.7%	46.4%	45.6%
Working during the summer	48.6%	54.4%	48.2%	48.2%
I don't know	13.8%	15.2%	14.6%	14.0%

Note. Respondents could select more than one option, so percentages may not total 100%.

Table 26. Which of the Following Did a Family Member Do to Help You Prepare for Life After High School Graduation? (Item 44)

	Akins 2010	All HS 2010
Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges	50.6%	57.7%
Talked to you about what college would be like	56.2%	61.0%
Helped you complete college applications	29.9%	41.4%
Helped you find scholarships	24.9%	34.1%
Helped you complete a FAFSA	40.8%	47.9%
Helped you decide which college to attend	45.6%	54.0%
Helped you write college essays/personal statements	18.4%	30.6%
Did not help	19.0%	15.4%

Table 27. If You Did Not Submit a Financial Aid Application, Why Not? (Item 48)

	Akins 2010	All HS 2010
I do not need financial aid to attend college	11.0%	20.9%
My parents were not willing to submit private financial information	7.5%	7.7%
My family did not think we would qualify for or were eligible for financial aid	26.6%	22.1%
I do not plan to go to college	12.1%	10.1%
I did not know about the financial aid process	42.8%	39.2%

Table 28. Which of the Following Campus Staff Helped You With Any of the Activities Listed Below? (Item 43)

	Akins School counselor	Akins Advisory	Akins Teacher	Akins College and Career Center advisor	Akins AVID staff	Akins Early College Start advisor	All HS School counselor	All HS Advisory	All HS Teacher	All HS College and Career Center advisor	All HS AVID staff	All HS Early College Start advisor
Selected courses for work or college	47.2%	21.1%	34.9%	22.7%	3.6%	14.7%	50.1%	15.8%	32.9%	27.1%	3.4%	10.8%
Advanced placement/honors courses	32.4%	14.7%	46.3%	8.8%	3.9%	1.8%	34.6%	14.0%	51.8%	11.3%	3.4%	2.5%
Encouraged to continue education	51.2%	30.8%	63.9%	28.8%	7.5%	10.9%	50.4%	27.6%	59.4%	31.3%	6.2%	9.3%
Talked about colleges/schools	35.8%	22.0%	49.2%	26.8%	4.3%	6.3%	39.1%	19.9%	41.2%	30.5%	3.4%	5.7%
Discussed careers	31.3%	22.9%	44.7%	21.5%	3.4%	6.1%	34.1%	19.5%	36.5%	28.2%	3.5%	5.5%
Encouraged to apply to multiple schools	36.5%	20.9%	47.2%	27.9%	4.8%	4.1%	38.5%	19.2%	38.6%	31.4%	3.7%	4.2%
Helped complete applications for college	20.0%	10.9%	25.2%	22.9%	3.4%	6.6%	25.9%	11.4%	22.4%	28.7%	3.4%	4.9%
Helped find scholarships	15.9%	10.9%	24.0%	25.9%	4.3%	3.4%	24.7%	11.1%	19.6%	29.7%	3.4%	2.9%
Helped choose college	18.1%	13.4%	31.5%	15.4%	3.4%	3.6%	22.1%	11.0%	24.9%	22.4%	2.9%	3.6%
Helped plan for college expenses	17.2%	12.7%	22.9%	24.7%	3.4%	3.9%	20.6%	11.3%	18.0%	25.9%	3.2%	3.9%
Helped with college application essays or personal statements	12.2%	8.6%	33.6%	13.2%	2.9%	2.7%	20.6%	10.2%	36.1%	22.9%	2.9%	2.7%

Note. The design of this question changed from what it was in 2008. In past years, students were asked to rate each type of staff member according to his or her effectiveness in one of the above college preparation domains. On the 2009 and 2010 surveys, students were asked to indicate whether any of these staff members had helped them with any of the activities listed above.

Table 29. How Much Do You Think Tuition, Fees, and Books Would Cost For a Year of Full-Time Enrollment at the Types of In-State Postsecondary Institutions Listed Below? Please Do Not Consider Living Expenses in Your Estimate.

Akins							
	Under \$1,000	\$1,001- \$3,000	\$3,001- \$5,000	\$5,001- \$7,000	\$7,001- \$9,000	Greater than \$9,000	Don't Know
Public junior or community college	14.1%	29.4%	15.8%	7.7%	1.0%	3.0%	29.1%
Public 4-year	2.5%	5.7%	14.0%	16.0%	17.0%	17.2%	27.7%
Private 4-year	1.5%	3.1%	6.1%	9.7%	10.2%	38.9%	30.4%

All HS							
	Under \$1,000	\$1,001- \$3,000	\$3,001- \$5,000	\$5,001- \$7,000	\$7,001- \$9,000	Greater than \$9,000	Don't Know
Public junior or community college	13.3%	27.2%	16.3%	7.3%	3.1%	2.5%	30.3%
Public 4-year	2.3%	6.5%	9.7%	13.3%	19.2%	23.4%	25.6%
Private 4-year	1.8%	2.9%	4.7%	6.1%	7.7%	48.4%	28.4%

ADDITIONAL RESULTS

Figure 7a. What Is the *One Thing* That Was Most Important to Keeping You Going Through School All the Way to Graduation? (Item 50, Akins)

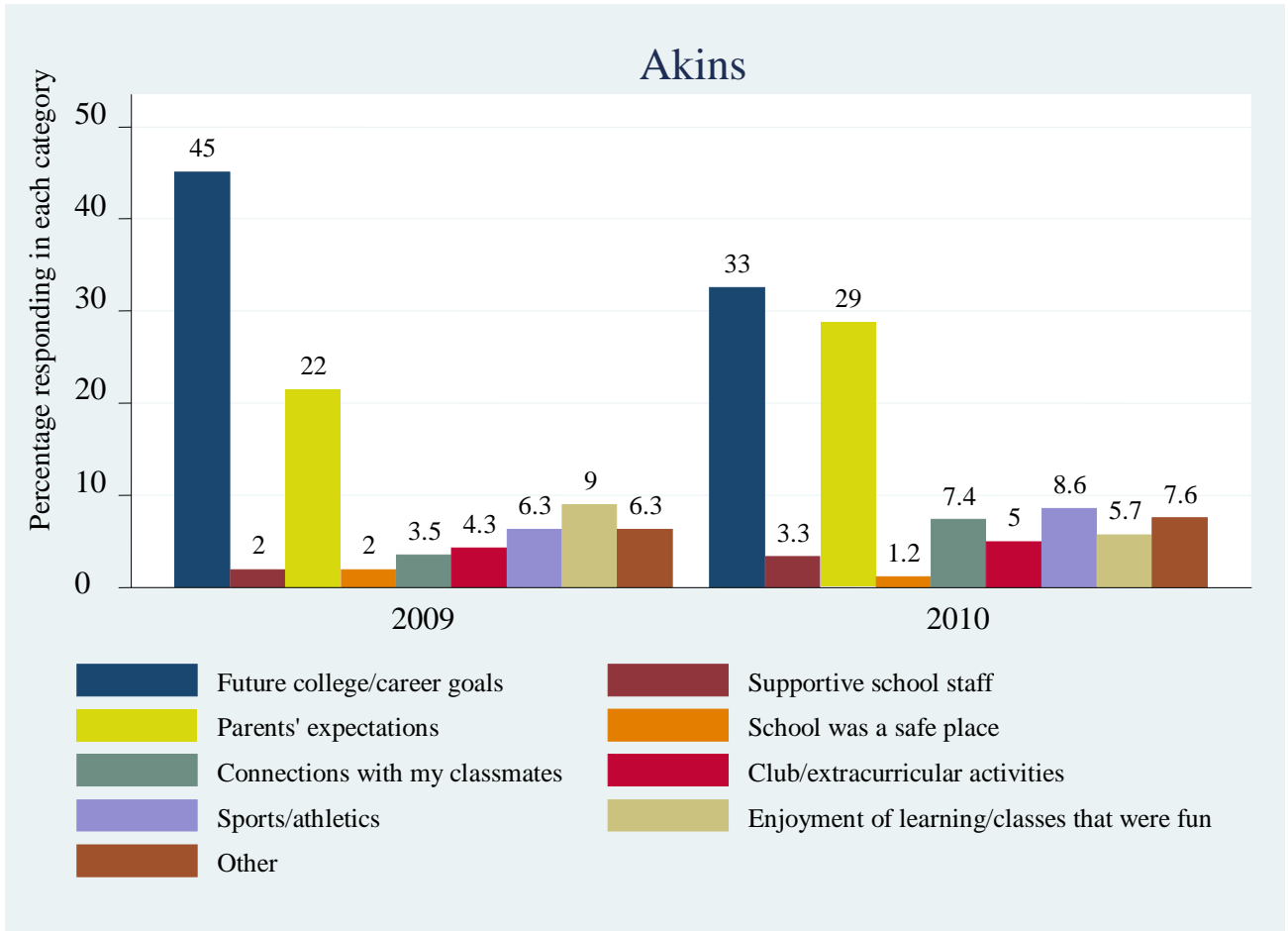


Figure 7b. What Is the *One Thing* That Was Most Important to Keeping You Going Through School All the Way to Graduation? (Item 50, All High Schools)

