



## Survey Report

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The sixth annual Austin Independent School District (AISD) High School Exit Survey was administered online to seniors in every AISD high school during Spring 2009. Facilitators on each campus, primarily *Project ADVANCE* counselors, were responsible for ensuring that all graduating seniors were given the opportunity to complete the survey.

This report contains the results for the Garza High School Class of 2009. Where available, longitudinal data are presented to compare with the 2009 responses. In addition, average results from all AISD high schools are presented alongside results for Garza for comparison purposes. In total, 3,365 students in the Class of 2009 completed the survey, including 87 students from Garza. Longitudinal tests for statistical significance were conducted with district-level data (see district-level report). Table 1 presents longitudinal 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.

The report is structured as follows. First, a brief summary of key findings from the 2009 High School Exit Survey is provided. This summary is followed by a selection of open-ended student comments that capture the predominant themes that emerged from the student comments. Last, the detailed, item-specific results for each question from the survey are presented.

**Table 1. High School Exit Survey Response Rates, Classes 2007-2009**

	Class of 2007	Class of 2008	Class of 2009
All high schools	82.0%	74.8%	78.8%
Garza	63.1%	44.1%	54.0%

### Major Findings

Student responses are organized into seven general topics areas: Open-Ended Comments; Postsecondary Intentions and Family Support; High School Experiences, Campus Climate, and Civic Engagement; Instruction and Technology; Postsecondary Preparation and Advising; and Final Thoughts. Some of the notable trends at this campus include:

- **School climate.** Seniors at Garza seemed to rate the climate at their school more favorably than did other seniors. Garza seniors were more likely to report their classmates showed respect to each other, adults listened to students, and their teachers were fair.
- **Quality of instruction.** It appeared that Garza seniors rated the quality of instruction given by their teachers for subjects such as writing, mathematics, science, social studies, computer/technology, and foreign language more positively than did district seniors as a whole.
- **College preparation.** Compared to seniors district-wide, it seemed lower percentages of Garza seniors took the PSAT exam, AP/IB classes, college entrance tests, and ordered and submitted transcripts. Garza seniors also seemed less likely to report applying to 4-year colleges. However, among those who did participate in a college preparation program, a greater share of Garza seniors reported that staff were helpful in several stages of the college application process than seniors at other campuses.

**INDIVIDUAL ITEM RESPONSES FOR GARZA HIGH SCHOOL****OPEN ENDED COMMENTS**

The responses below are to the question, “*What is the ONE thing that you especially want the administration of AISD to know?*”

Fifty-eight (21%) provided a response. Many students mentioned general positive feelings about Garza High School and expressed gratitude to the teachers and staff. Other students expressed concern about the counseling services offered by Garza. Last, several students mentioned overcrowding issues at Garza. Commonly identified themes expressed by the Class of 2009<sup>1</sup> include:

- **Positive comments.** Students felt teachers and staff were generally positive and helpful to students. According to one student, “*I really enjoyed coming to Garza it's a great school I really like the teachers and how well they cared for the students. I am going to miss high school.*” “*High School was a great experience.*”
- **Counseling and career center.** Many students discussed how their counselors were unwilling to assist them. “*The school counselors at Garza High School did a very poor job overall this year with advising students about college and the financial aid process. They did not go out and find scholarships for students who are college-bound, nor did they help with anything college related. This not only goes for me, but many other people who I have talked to regarding this matter. Even some of the teachers feel the same way. It just seems like they don't care. Something needs to be done, and quickly.*” Another student said “*The counelors at Garza high school are inadaquete. My highschool counselor has been of no help to me.*”
- **School crowding.** Several students expressed concerns about overcrowding at Garza. “*That Garza high school is horribly overcrowded. Lines should be redrawn, not using I-35 as a boundary.*” And, “*Because Garza is so crowded, redistrict the schools*”

<sup>1</sup> All student quotes are taken directly from the survey, as typed in by the students. Examples are given to illustrate common themes.

## POSTSECONDARY INTENTIONS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

**Table 2. Within A Year After Graduating From High School, What Do You Plan To Do? (Item 6)**

	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Continue my education*	89.8%	79.7%	88.5%	89.0%	92.2%	93.1%
Go into the military	2.3%	4.7%	3.4%	2.6%	2.8%	3.9%
Be a full-time parent	5.7%	1.6%	2.3%	2.2%	2.2%	1.7%
Work full-time	19.3%	39.1%	23.0%	13.2%	13.5%	11.7%
Work part-time	45.5%	43.8%	44.8%	35.5%	41.1%	32.9%
No plans	8.0%	6.3%	5.7%	5.6%	2.4%	2.3%

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

\* Item was recoded to match longitudinal data. 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 7)**

	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Cannot afford to attend school	50.0%	7.7%	44.4%	30.6%	16.9%	33.0%
Childcare or family responsibilities	50.0%	7.7%	0.0%	9.8%	14.9%	11.4%
Don't like attending school	50.0%	23.1%	22.2%	22.4%	19.4%	17.6%
Grades/test scores aren't high enough	50.0%	0.0%	33.3%	23.0%	16.5%	21.6%
Don't feel academically prepared	0.0%	7.7%	11.1%	15.8%	13.7%	17.0%
Need income to support myself	100.0%	38.5%	33.3%	34.4%	21.8%	28.4%
Need income to support others	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.4%	6.0%	10.8%
Other	33.3%	30.8%	27.6%	16.8%	22.6%	12.9%

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

**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 8)**

	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Probably or definitely yes	93.3%	76.9%	90.0%	61.7%	59.2%	66.2%
Maybe	0.0%	7.7%	0.0%	20.6%	19.3%	24.1%
Probably or definitely no	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	6.2%	10.5%	4.2%
Don't know	6.7%	15.4%	0.0%	11.5%	11.0%	5.6%

*Note.* Response options were collapsed for ease in reporting.

**Table 5. To What Extent Were Your Parents Involved In The Following School-Related Things? (Item 9)**

<i>*Percentage who responded parents were involved at least Occasionally</i>	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
<b>Volunteering at your school</b>	18.4%	25.0%	25.3%	38.6%	40.0%	30.3%
<b>Working with you on homework or school projects</b>	41.9%	45.3%	47.7%	54.8%	54.6%	46.8%
<b>Helping you decide what classes to take</b>	44.2%	50.0%	42.4%	60.1%	60.2%	53.4%
<b>Attending school meetings</b>	50.0%	52.4%	43.7%	57.4%	54.9%	45.9%
<b>Communicating with your teachers</b>	69.8%	68.8%	63.2%	59.6%	60.6%	52.1%
<b>Participating in school leadership opportunities</b>	.	20.3%	19.5%	.	29.0%	17.9%
<b>Attending athletic events</b>	.	34.4%	27.6%	.	58.8%	51.5%
<b>Attending academic events and competitions</b>	.	29.7%	29.9%	.	36.9%	25.4%
<b>Attending performance events</b>	.	40.6%	41.4%	.	53.3%	45.0%
<b>Joining and participating in the PTA</b>	.	19.0%	14.9%	.	27.1%	16.5%

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

\* 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 Parents Go In School? Indicate Your Mother And Father's Highest Level Of Education. (Item 12)**

	Garza Mother	Garza Father	Garza Sibling*	All HS Mother	All HS Father	All HS Siblings
Did not finish high school	12.4%	14.5%	3.6%	18.4%	18.7%	11.2%
Graduated from high school or earned a GED	15.0%	15.9%	16.1%	19.6%	18.0%	22.9%
Attended a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school, but no degree	12.0%	6.2%	14.3%	8.5%	6.0%	10.3%
Graduated from a 2-yr community/junior college or vocational/technical school	8.2%	5.7%	7.1%	5.2%	4.1%	3.6%
Attended a 4-yr college, but did not complete a degree	18.5%	15.0%	12.5%	14.0%	13.2%	8.0%
Graduated from college	14.2%	11.9%	12.5%	13.7%	12.5%	15.5%
Completed a Master's degree or equivalent	13.3%	15.0%	1.8%	11.1%	12.1%	3.5%
Completed a Ph.D., M.D., or other advanced professional degree	2.6%	7.5%	3.6%	3.6%	6.3%	1.4%
Don't Know or Does Not Apply	3.9%	8.4%	28.6%	5.9%	9.1%	23.6%

\* New response option in 2009

## HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCES, CAMPUS CLIMATE, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Table 7. How Many Different High Schools Have You Attended? (Item 3)

	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
1	4.6%	7.8%	11.5%	76.1%	77.6%	70.1%
2	60.9%	56.3%	52.9%	16.8%	16.8%	18.4%
3 or more	34.5%	35.9%	35.6%	7.2%	5.6%	11.5%

Table 8. Please Indicate The Number Of Years Of High School In Which You Participated In Each Of These Extracurricular Activities. (Items 13 &amp; 15)

<i>*Percentage who reported at least 1 year of participation</i>	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
<i>In school</i>				
Music	37.5%	29.1%	35.1%	33.6%
Theater	30.2%	26.7%	20.4%	18.6%
Dance	19.7%	14.1%	23.2%	22.1%
Sports	41.0%	39.8%	58.8%	57.9%
UIL academic competitions	6.5%	18.6%	18.8%	20.0%
Speech/debate	20.6%	33.3%	21.2%	20.9%
Student government	14.5%	14.3%	16.4%	16.3%
Career and technical student organizations	.	11.6%	.	14.5%
<i>Outside school</i>				
Music	33.9%	47.1%	30.3%	30.5%
Theater	19.7%	10.5%	11.7%	7.9%
Dance	11.9%	18.3%	17.0%	15.0%
Sports	41.9%	44.7%	52.0%	50.9%
Community service/volunteering	56.5%	67.9%	57.1%	62.1%
Environmental project/activities	33.9%	32.2%	25.4%	28.0%
Boy/Girl Scouts	9.7%	11.8%	8.9%	8.0%
Family care	19.7%	23.5%	19.8%	22.4%

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

\*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 14 & 16)**

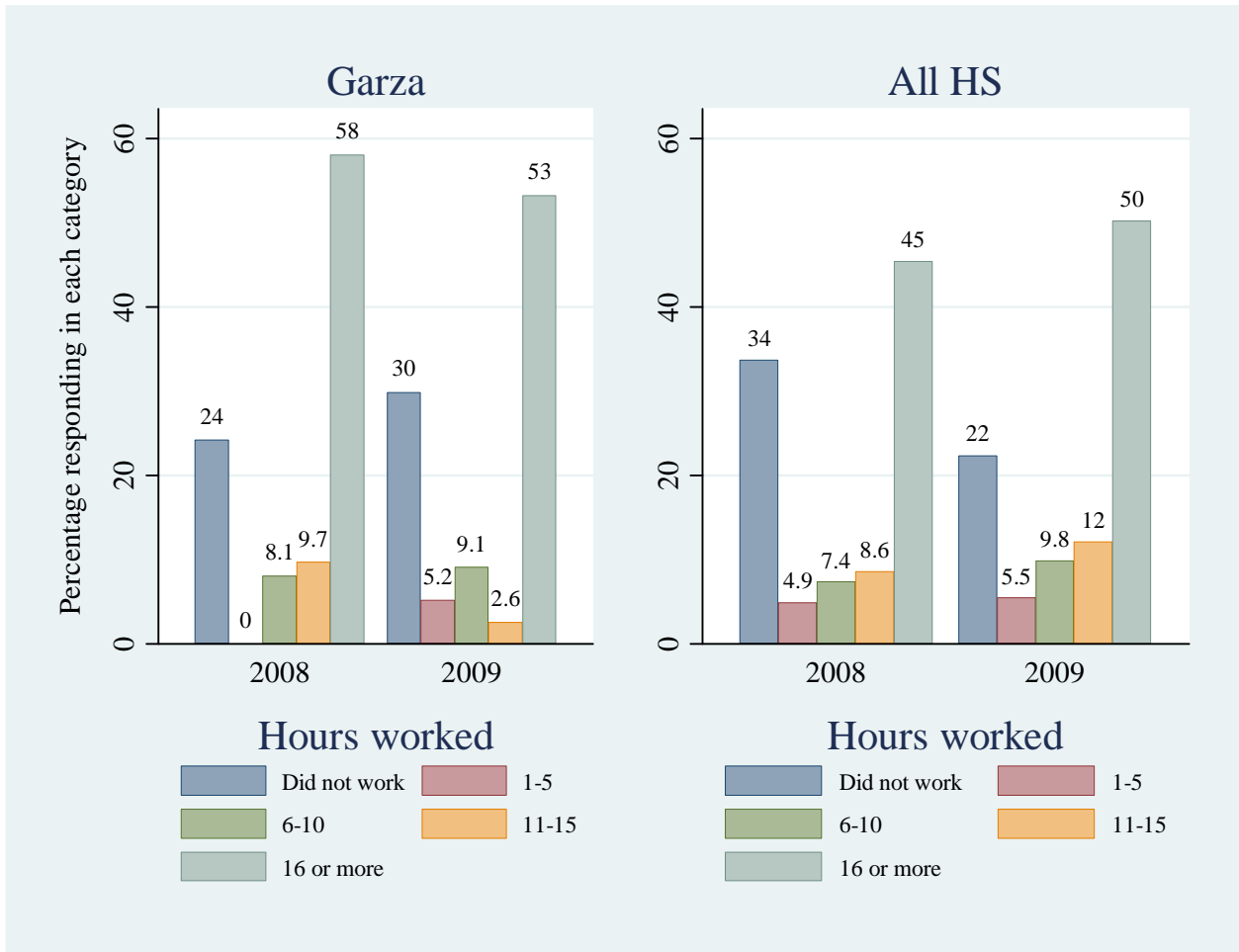
<i>*Percentage of seniors indicating they spent more than 10 hours per week on each activity.</i>	Garza 2009	All HS 2009
<i>Inside school</i>		
Music	1.2%	8.0%
Theater	3.5%	3.2%
Dance	0.0%	3.8%
Sports	4.7%	23.4%
UIL academic competitions	0.0%	2.3%
Speech/debate	0.0%	1.3%
Student government	2.4%	0.9%
Career and technical student organizations	4.8%	2.3%
<i>Outside school</i>		
Music	6.9%	6.6%
Theater	1.2%	1.5%
Dance	2.4%	2.9%
Sports	10.5%	19.1%
Community service/volunteering	5.9%	6.3%
Environmental project/activities	1.1%	1.8%
Boy/Girl Scouts	0.0%	0.6%
Family care	9.4%	7.2%

\* 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 17)**

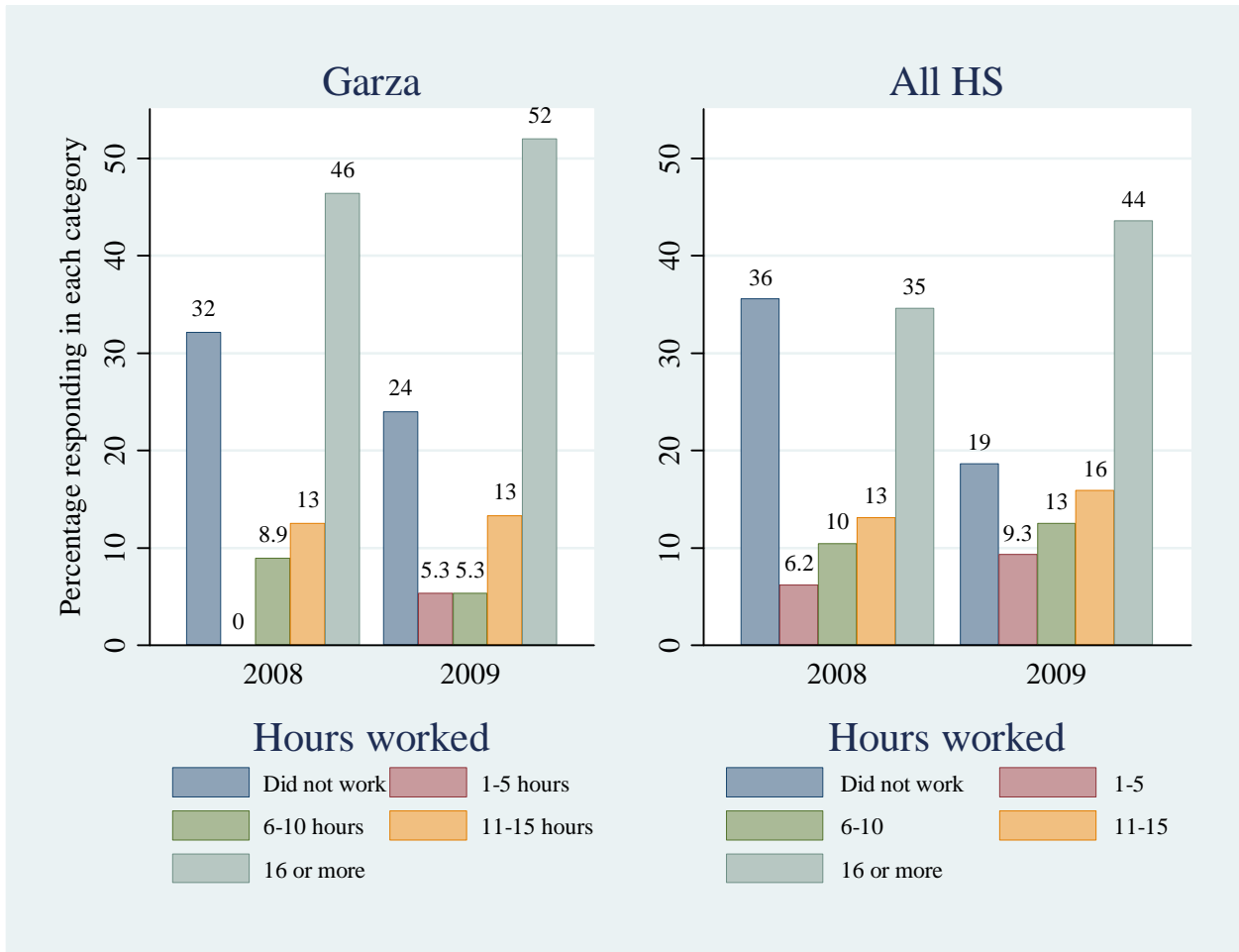
	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
0	17.2%	9.3%	24.4%	27.9%
1	34.4%	30.2%	28.2%	26.8%
2	17.2%	29.1%	26.2%	24.5%
3	18.8%	17.4%	13.7%	12.9%
4	12.5%	14.0%	7.5%	7.9%

**Figure 1. Now Indicate The Number Of Hours Per Week That You Have Worked During Last Summer. (Q18a)**

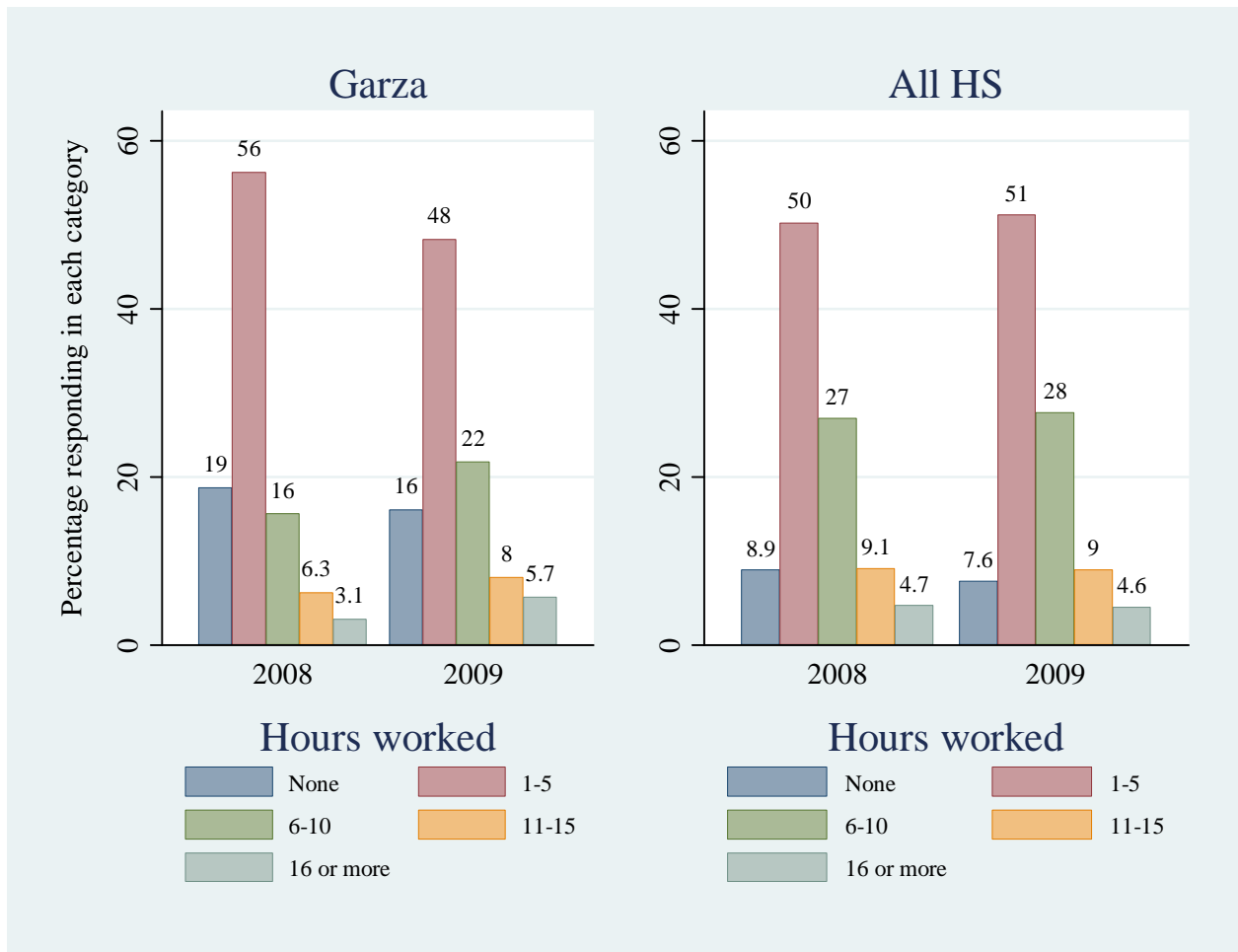




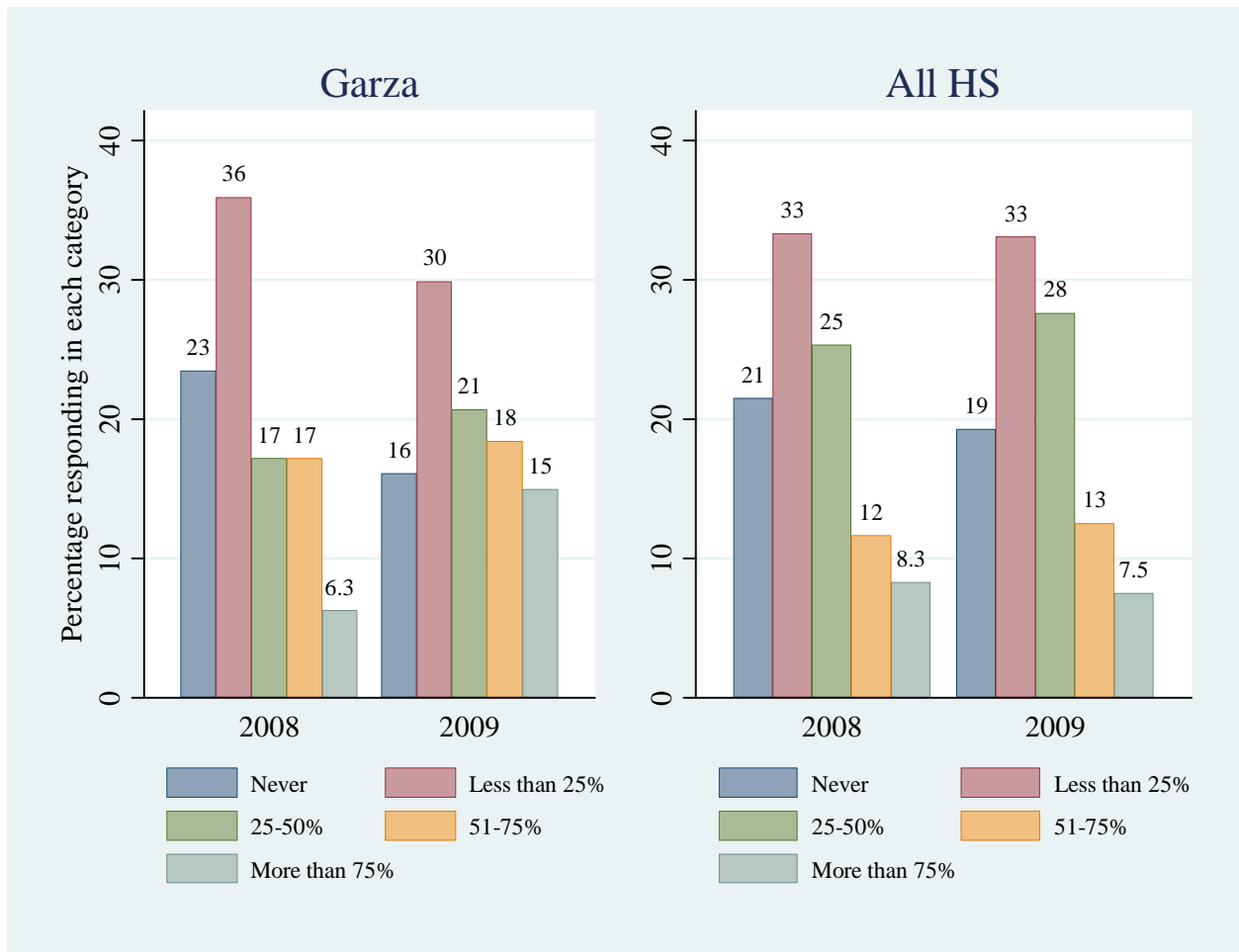
**Figure 2. Now Indicate The Number Of Hours Per Week That You Have Worked During Your Senior Year. (Q18b)**



**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 19)**



**Figure 4. On Average, What Percentage Of Your Study, Research And Homework Was Done Without Distractions (E.G., Television, Music, IM, Texting, Phone Calls)? (Item 20)**



**Table 11. Please Mark The Item That Best Indicates How You Feel: (Items 21a-21k)**

<i>*Percentage who responded Strongly agree or Agree</i>	<b>Garza 2009</b>	<b>All HS 2009</b>
I feel safe at my school	93.0%	78.7%
My classmates show respect to each other	93.0%	50.9%
The consequences for breaking school rules are the same for everyone	75.6%	41.1%
Adults at this school listen to student ideas and opinions	94.3%	53.1%
My homework helps me learn things I need to know	63.4%	58.6%
I know how I am doing in school	96.6%	82.9%
My teachers expected me to do my best work	96.5%	83.0%
My classes were rigorous and challenging	71.3%	59.6%
My high school coursework has been relevant to my life	62.8%	47.4%
There is at least one adult at my school who I can go to if I have a problem	89.5%	78.0%
My teachers are fair to everyone	85.1%	45.3%

\*Response options include *Strongly agree, Agree, Neither agree nor Disagree, Disagree, Strongly disagree, and Don't know*. Response options changed from 2008. Therefore, longitudinal data were not available.

**Table 12. Please Answer The Following Questions About Your Civic Engagement. (Items 4 & 5)**

	<b>Garza 2009</b>	<b>All HS 2009</b>
Are you registered to vote?*	51.7%	41.4%
Have you voted in any school board, city, county, state, or national election?*	34.7%	22.9%
Will you register to vote after your 18th birthday?***	88.9%	77.3%

\* 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>	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Teamwork	.	96.9%	88.5%	.	88.6%	89.7%
Creative thinking	97.7%	98.4%	94.3%	90.8%	90.6%	91.7%
Problem solving	98.8%	96.8%	98.9%	92.9%	91.5%	92.0%
Conflict resolution	95.4%	98.4%	95.4%	84.6%	82.8%	84.1%
Personal health/fitness	82.6%	82.8%	79.1%	78.5%	78.6%	81.0%
Time management	.	95.3%	85.1%	.	80.8%	81.2%
Technology	.	93.8%	93.0%	.	84.6%	84.2%

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

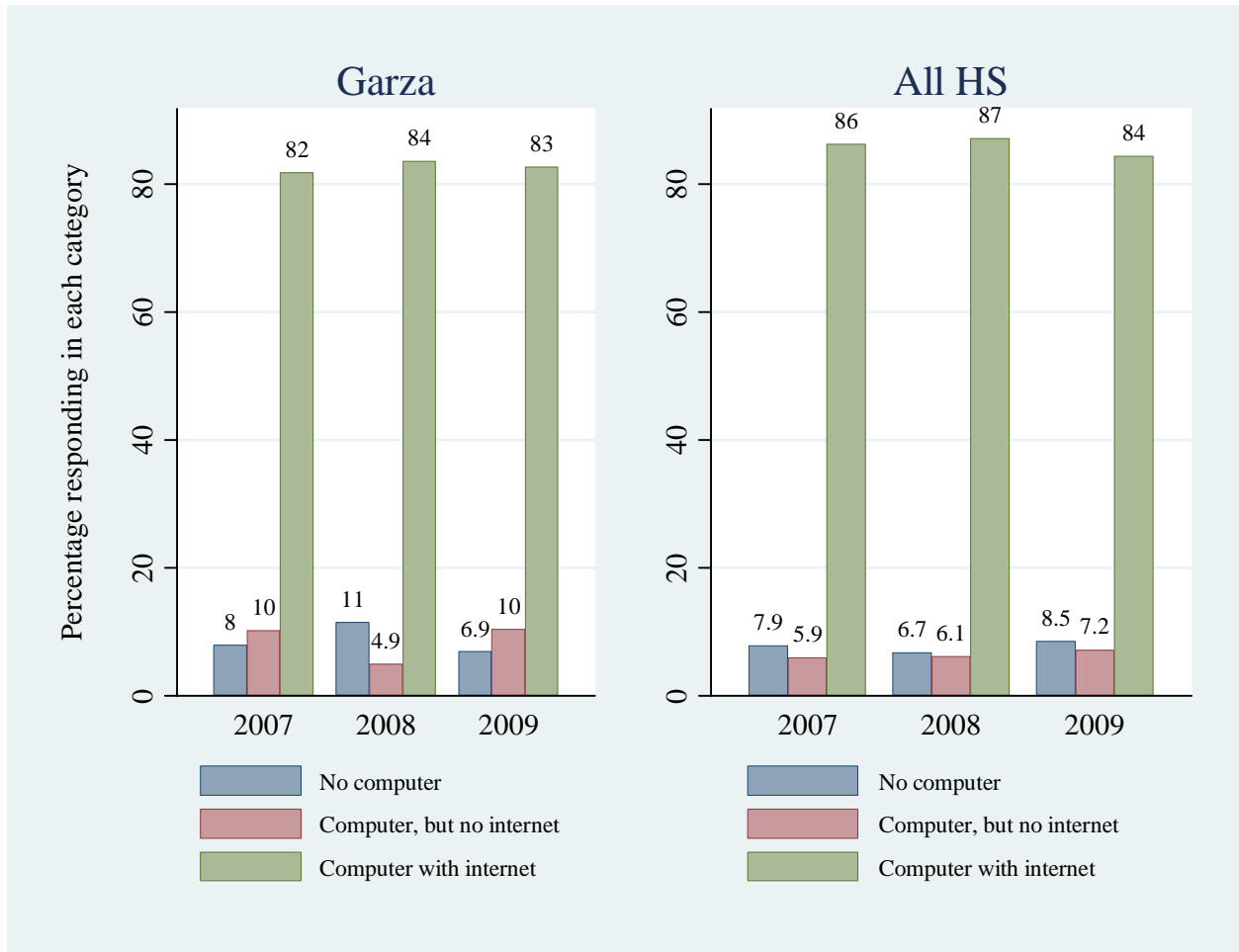
\*Responses were *Not well*, *Somewhat well*, and *Very well*.

**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>	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Writing	95.4%	93.7%	93.1%	82.6%	81.2%	81.6%
Mathematics	82.7%	93.5%	82.6%	71.3%	70.7%	70.8%
Science	82.3%	87.1%	83.7%	68.9%	69.5%	69.8%
Social Studies	95.1%	91.9%	83.7%	84.2%	82.8%	82.0%
Computer/Technology	80.3%	90.3%	83.5%	71.0%	71.8%	70.2%
Foreign Language	60.0%	72.9%	72.6%	64.5%	63.9%	64.3%
Performing/Fine Arts	75.4%	81.7%	79.0%	72.2%	73.8%	73.0%

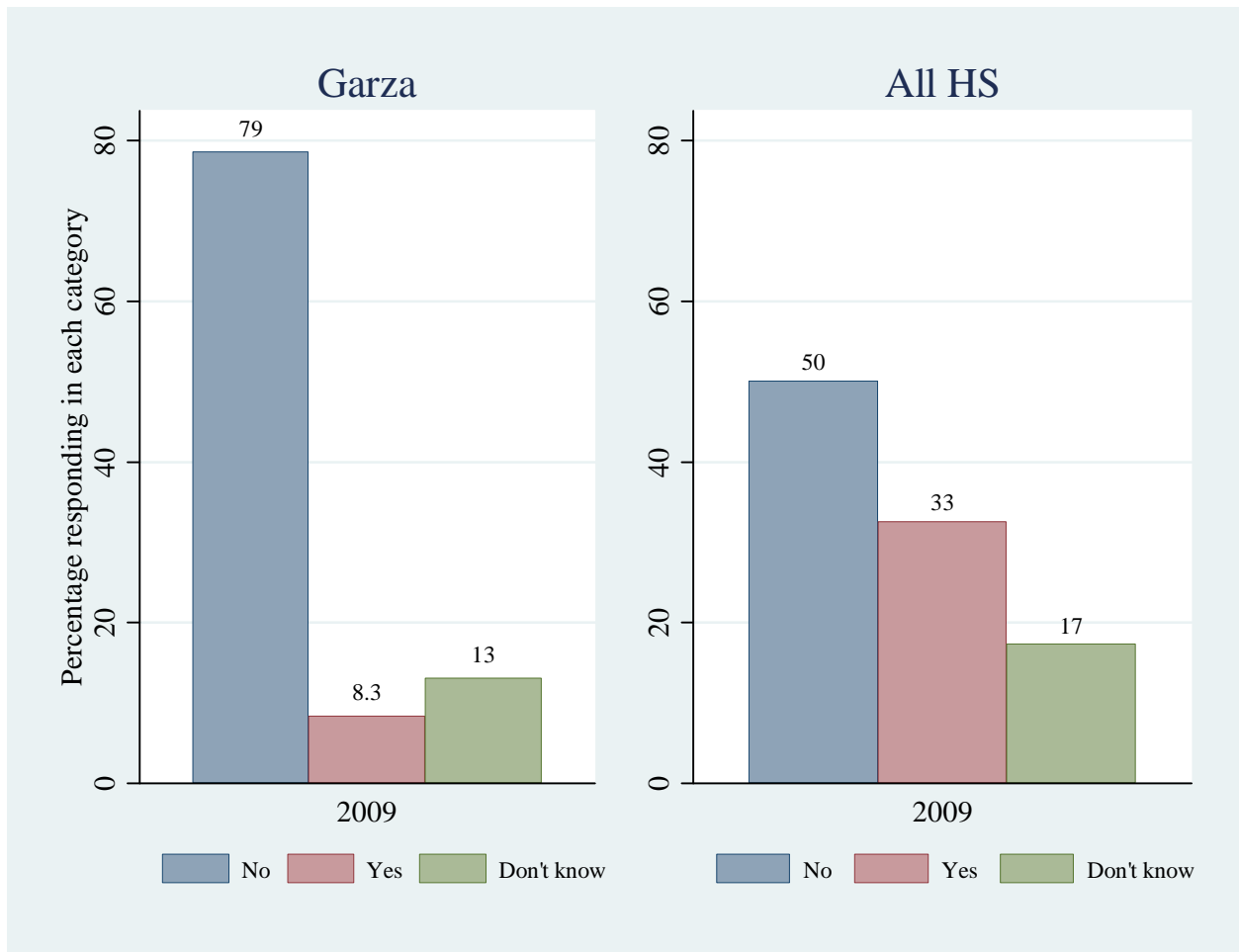
\* Responses were *Poor*, *Fair*, *Good*, and *Excellent*.

**Figure 5. 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 6. Do Your Parents Use Parentconnect/Gradespeed To Monitor Your Grades?  
(Item 27)**



Note. This item was new for 2009.

**Table 15. How Frequently Do You Use A Computer?: (Item 25)**

<i>*Percentage who responded At least once a week or more</i>	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
At home?	81.6%	78.1%	85.1%	86.4%	86.7%	83.9%
At school?	98.9%	92.2%	96.5%	70.8%	74.0%	73.1%
To present material in class, for example, using PowerPoint	43.0%	47.6%	43.0%	22.6%	23.5%	22.0%
To type a paper or class assignment?	95.3%	84.4%	90.7%	57.2%	55.3%	53.5%
To search the Internet to complete class-related assignments?	91.9%	90.6%	89.5%	62.3%	61.6%	62.7%
To research college/career choices?	58.1%	50.8%	48.8%	50.5%	50.6%	51.0%
To complete online forms or applications for college/employment?	39.1%	34.4%	38.8%	43.4%	44.0%	43.4%
To communicate with teachers (e.g., email, IM, etc.)?	11.5%	28.1%	21.2%	18.1%	20.8%	17.8%
To communicate with friends (e.g., email, IM, blog, Facebook, etc.)?	60.9%	59.4%	73.2%	74.1%	74.8%	72.5%
To monitor grades/progress in school?	.	.	23.3%	.	.	29.4%

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

\*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; in 2009, percentages represented the number of students reporting *At least once a week* or more.



**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>	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
My teachers effectively use the technology resources that are available.	100.0%	98.8%	85.7%	89.8%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my classmates as part of my schoolwork.	54.7%	62.8%	79.8%	82.3%
I would like to use more electronic communication with my teachers.	58.2%	70.2%	73.2%	76.0%
I would like to use more online resources.	73.2%	68.6%	82.1%	84.0%

\* Responses were *Strongly disagree, Disagree, Agree, Strongly disagree, and Don't know/Unsure.*

#### POSTSECONDARY PREPARATION AND ADVISING

**Table 17. At What Time In Your Life Did You Start Thinking About College As A Possibility After High School? (Item 29)**

	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
As long ago as I can remember	33.7%	44.4%	41.9%	39.1%	40.5%	38.7%
In elementary school	10.5%	14.3%	10.5%	12.0%	8.5%	7.6%
In middle/junior high school	23.3%	14.3%	16.3%	21.0%	21.9%	21.0%
In high school	26.7%	27.0%	29.1%	25.3%	26.9%	30.9%
I've never thought about college as an option after high school	5.8%	0.0%	2.3%	2.5%	2.3%	1.8%

\* Item changed from 2007 surveys, when it was "When I was a child."

**Table 18. High School Preparation For Post-Graduation Opportunities (Item 30a-D)**

<i>*Percentage who responded Somewhat well or Well</i>	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
How well prepared were you to plan your high school course selections?	94.3%	93.8%	87.2%	88.7%	91.2%	91.2%
How well prepared were you to meet your college and career goals?	90.9%	90.6%	80.2%	86.9%	88.4%	86.1%
How well prepared have you been for the college/technical/vocational school application process?	88.6%	90.3%	78.8%	84.6%	83.4%	82.0%
How well informed are/were you about obtaining financial aid for education after high school (whether or not you applied)?	92.0%	95.2%	89.5%	84.2%	81.6%	81.0%

\* Response options were *Not well*, *Somewhat well*, and *Very well*.

**Table 19. How Did You Prepare For Continuing Education? (Check All That Apply) (Item 32)**

	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Took the PSAT examination	44.3%	48.4%	52.9%	57.9%	67.9%	63.1%
Took AP/IB classes	20.5%	28.1%	25.3%	45.3%	48.6%	47.2%
Visited campuses	53.4%	64.1%	57.5%	44.0%	51.8%	55.8%
Attended college fairs	64.8%	56.3%	52.9%	44.4%	48.6%	45.3%
Completed and submitted a FASA	36.4%	40.6%	42.5%	41.3%	49.3%	48.6%
Completed and submitted a scholarship application	14.8%	28.1%	24.1%	30.8%	41.6%	40.3%
Took college entrance tests	50.0%	57.8%	49.4%	65.6%	72.4%	68.1%
Took test prep classes	31.8%	35.9%	29.9%	38.2%	41.7%	38.9%
Completed ACC courses	18.2%	20.3%	31.0%	23.3%	29.4%	33.1%
Ordered and submitted transcripts	27.3%	21.9%	24.1%	40.3%	50.3%	47.7%
Other college-level courses	.	.	3.4%	.	.	5.4%

*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 20. In Which Of The Following College Preparation Programs Did You Participate While In High School? (Item 33)**

	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Project ADVANCE	10.9%	20.7%	26.1%	17.9%
AVID	12.5%	6.9%	8.9%	8.8%
ACC College Connections	25.0%	27.6%	17.1%	18.0%
College Forward	1.6%	3.4%	3.0%	3.5%
Con mi MADRE	0.0%	1.1%	3.0%	1.9%
Talent Search/Trio	0.0%	1.1%	2.6%	2.6%
Upward Bound	1.6%	2.3%	1.8%	1.3%
Breakthrough	0.0%	2.3%	1.5%	1.3%
Immigrant College Access	.	3.4%	.	2.3%
I did not participate in any programs like this	48.4%	46.0%	41.6%	41.3%
Other	6.3%	4.6%	4.9%	3.0%

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

**Table 21. If You Participated In One Or More College Preparation Programs, What Did You Get Out Of It? (Item 34)**

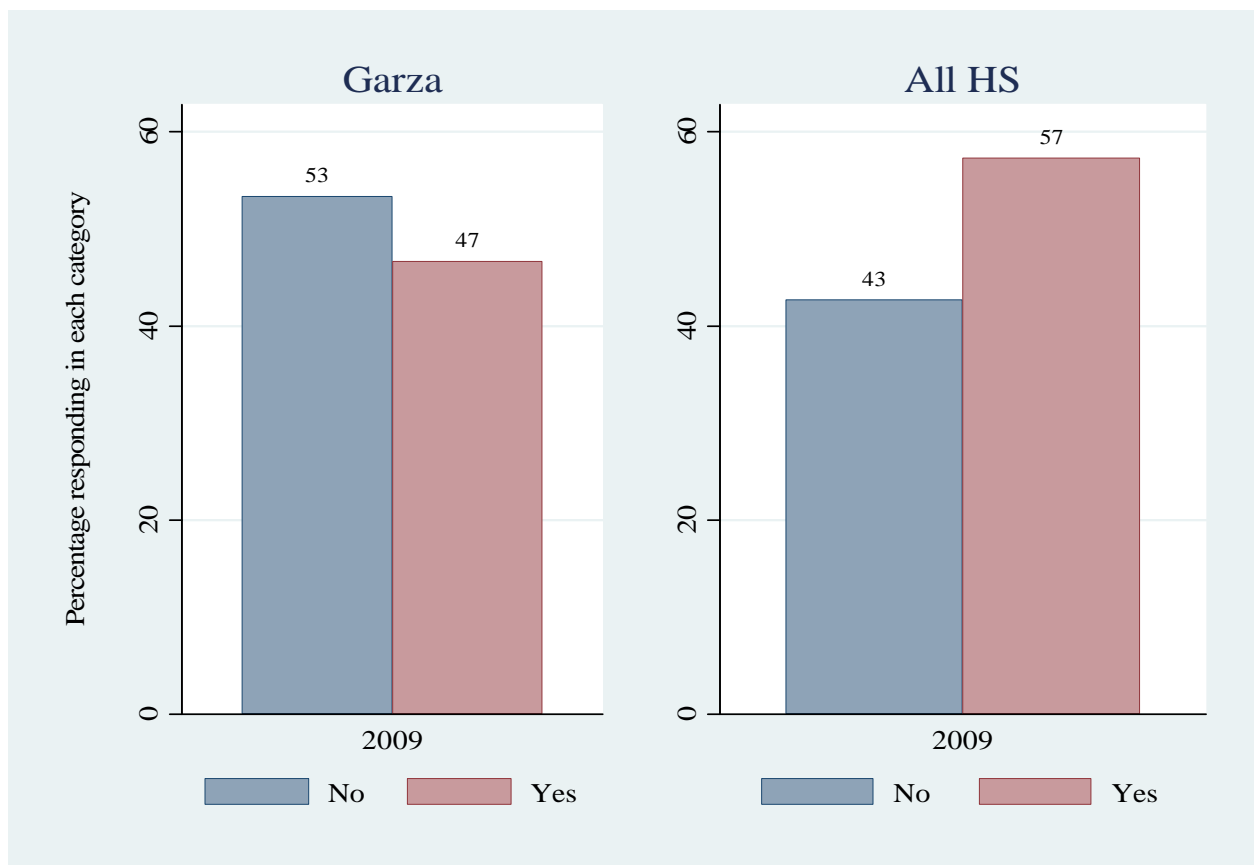
	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
They encouraged me to attend school regularly	60.6%	40.4%	35.3%	31.8%
They helped me choose the HS courses to prepare for college	48.5%	46.8%	31.8%	28.5%
They explained the financial aid process to me	54.5%	53.2%	37.9%	33.2%
They were available to help with school-related issues	45.5%	42.6%	29.1%	26.2%
They helped me deal with personal issues	33.3%	34.0%	18.7%	15.4%
They helped me believe that college was right for me	42.4%	42.6%	33.4%	30.9%
They helped me apply to college	51.5%	48.9%	47.3%	38.7%
Other	15.2%	0.0%	8.6%	1.9%

**Table 22. Have You Applied To The Following Types Of Postsecondary Institutions? (Items 35, 36, And 37)**

	Garza 2007	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2007	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Have you applied to a 2-year college	55.7%	62.5%	39.1%	49.8%	41.4%	41.3%
Have you applied to a 4-year college?	43.2%	31.3%	25.3%	69.1%	63.9%	62.7%
Have you applied to a business/technical/vocational school?	14.8%	7.8%	5.0%	13.7%	6.5%	8.5%

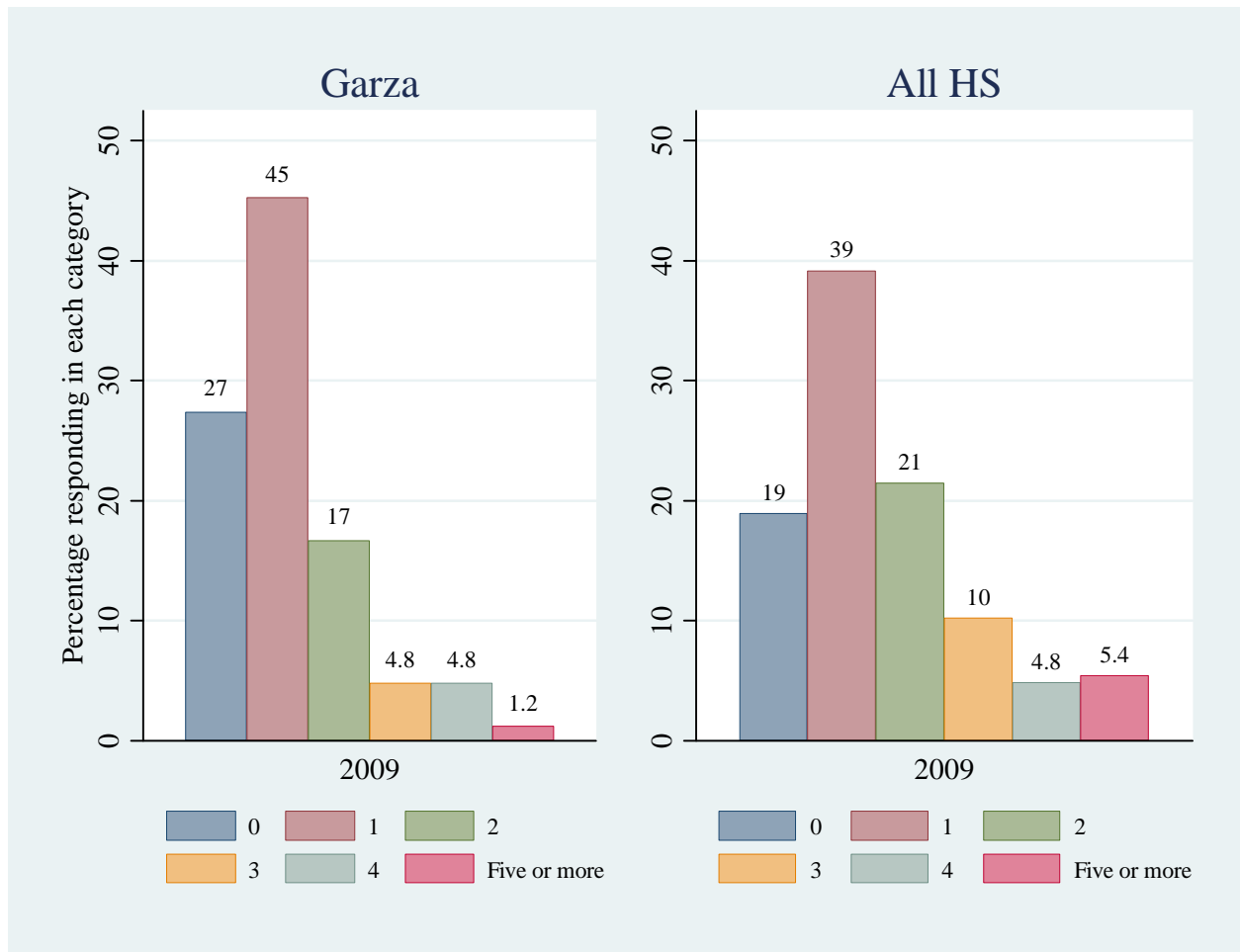
*Note.* On the 2009 survey, students were asked to indicate the number of schools to which they had applied, whereas in 2008, students were only prompted to indicate whether they had applied.

**Figure 7. Will You Be The First Of Your Siblings (Brothers Or Sisters) To Attend College? (Item 10)**



*Note.* This item was reworded for the 2009 survey. In past years, we asked students if they were the first person in their family to attend college. For 2009, we asked students separately about their siblings and parents. Therefore, no longitudinal data were available for this question.

**Figure 8. How Many Siblings (Brothers Or Sisters) Do You Have Who Are Either Enrolled In College Or Live With You (Item 11)**



*Note.* This item was new to the 2009 survey. This item is designed to gauge the number of dependent children either living at home or away at college.

**Table 23. How Easy Has It Been For You And Your Parents To Understand The Process Of Applying For Financial Aid? (Item 45)**

	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Difficult	11.1%	11.6%	11.8%	12.8%
Some parts easy, some parts difficult	30.2%	37.2%	36.3%	43.7%
Easy	41.3%	22.1%	38.0%	22.2%
Did not apply for financial aid	17.5%	29.1%	13.8%	21.4%

**Table 24. How Do You Plan To Pay For Your Education After High School? (Item 46)**

	Garza 2008	Garza 2009	All HS 2008	All HS 2009
Scholarships and/or grants	46.9%	58.6%	54.8%	56.3%
Loans	57.8%	37.9%	63.7%	38.0%
Family or personal savings	51.6%	50.6%	56.8%	49.5%
Working during the school year	54.7%	56.3%	47.0%	46.4%
Working during the summer	53.1%	52.9%	45.3%	48.2%
I don't know	10.9%	24.1%	14.9%	14.6%

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

**Table 25. Which Of The Following Did A Family Member Do To Help You Prepare For Life After High School Graduation? (Item 43)**

	Garza 2009	All HS 2009
Encouraged you to apply to several different colleges	55.2%	57.0%
Talked to you about what college would be like	64.4%	62.9%
Helped you complete college applications	34.5%	42.0%
Helped you find scholarships	26.4%	34.2%
Helped you complete a FAFSA	39.1%	45.6%
Helped you decide which college to attend	54.0%	53.0%
Helped you write college essays/personal statements	25.3%	29.6%
Did not help	20.7%	14.2%

*Note.* This item was new in 2009.

**Table 26. If You Did Not Submit A Financial Aid Application, Why Not? (Item 47)**

	Garza 2009	All HS 2009
I do not need financial aid to attend college	33.9%	23.4%
My parents were not willing to submit private financial information	3.4%	6.9%
My family did not think we would qualify for or were eligible for financial aid	22.0%	23.5%
I do not plan to go to college	15.3%	9.8%
I did not know about the financial aid process	25.4%	36.3%

*Note.* This item was new in 2009.

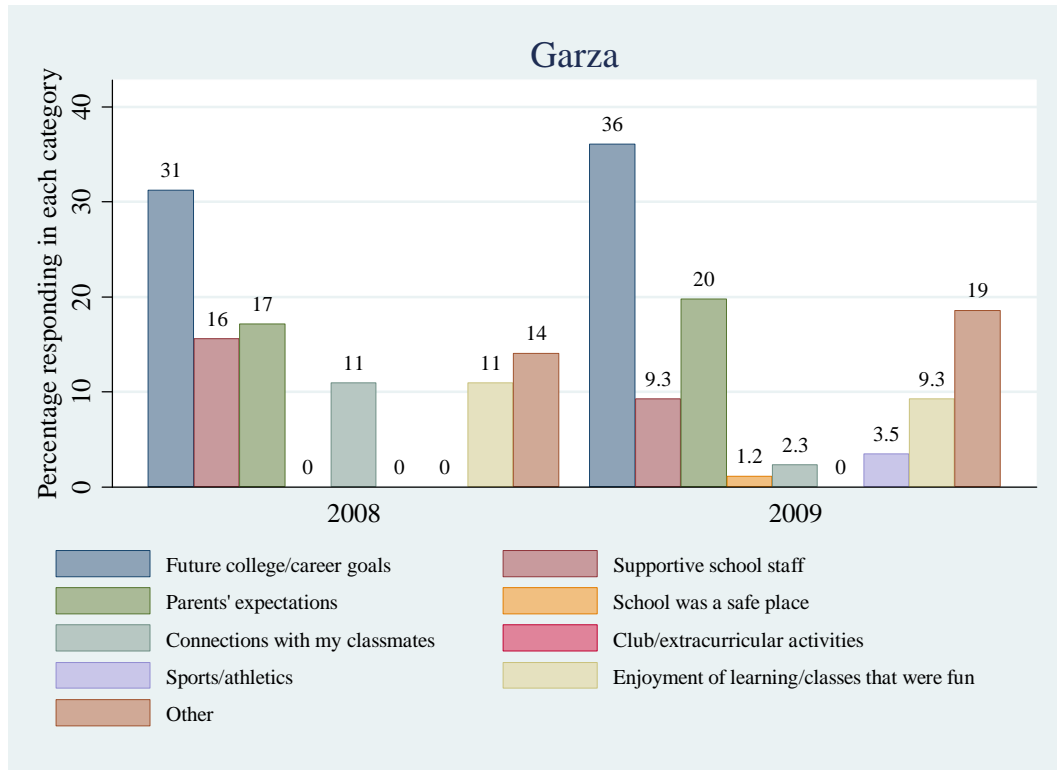
**Table 27. Which Of The Following Campus Staff Helped You With Any Of The Activities Listed Below: (Item 42)**

	Garza School counselor	Garza Advisory	Garza Teacher	Garza Advance Facilitator	Garza AVID Staff	Garza Early College Start Advisor	All HS School counselor	All HS Advisory	All HS Teacher	All HS Advance Facilitator	All HS AVID Staff	All HS Early College Start Advisor
<b>Selected courses for work or college</b>	62.0%	12.0%	28.3%	30.4%	6.5%	14.1%	48.3%	12.8%	28.0%	21.7%	4.2%	12.0%
<b>AP/honors courses</b>	42.4%	13.0%	46.7%	19.6%	5.4%	7.6%	35.4%	11.1%	47.4%	10.5%	3.8%	3.2%
<b>To continue education</b>	69.6%	26.1%	58.7%	44.6%	9.8%	18.5%	47.5%	22.6%	53.9%	26.1%	6.0%	9.8%
<b>Talked about colleges/schools</b>	59.8%	20.7%	40.2%	40.2%	6.5%	13.0%	37.7%	16.3%	37.1%	26.4%	4.7%	7.5%
<b>Discussed careers</b>	58.7%	23.9%	33.7%	38.0%	7.6%	9.8%	33.5%	16.8%	33.9%	24.1%	4.8%	7.6%
<b>Encouraged to apply to multiple schools</b>	50.0%	17.4%	27.2%	37.0%	4.3%	8.7%	37.6%	16.3%	34.4%	26.8%	4.9%	5.2%
<b>Helped complete applications for college</b>	31.5%	15.2%	22.8%	30.4%	4.3%	7.6%	25.2%	10.3%	20.3%	26.0%	3.8%	5.7%
<b>Helped find scholarships</b>	37.0%	13.0%	21.7%	31.5%	4.3%	7.6%	24.3%	9.8%	19.4%	26.2%	4.0%	4.1%
<b>Helped choose college</b>	35.9%	8.7%	25.0%	26.1%	3.3%	6.5%	22.8%	9.6%	22.9%	19.4%	3.0%	4.3%
<b>Helped plan for college expenses</b>	39.1%	10.9%	17.4%	27.2%	3.3%	7.6%	21.2%	10.3%	16.9%	21.7%	3.7%	4.5%
<b>Helped with college application essays or personal statements</b>	31.5%	8.7%	29.3%	27.2%	3.3%	6.5%	21.3%	9.3%	36.2%	19.9%	3.8%	3.9%

*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 their effectiveness in one of the above college preparation domains. On the 2009 survey, students were asked to indicate whether any of these staff members had helped them with any of the activities listed above.

**ADDITIONAL RESULTS**

**Figure 9a. What Is The *One Thing* That Was Most Important To Keeping You Going Through School All The Way To Graduation? (Item 48, Garza)**





**Figure 9b. What Is The *One Thing* That Was Most Important To Keeping You Going Through School All The Way To Graduation? (Item 48, All High Schools)**

