



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Survey of University of Michigan Graduate-level Area Studies Alumni/ae & FLAS Recipients from 1996-2006: Selected Findings

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The Ohio State University

Presentation Outline

- Area Studies & Title VI at U-M
- Survey Overview
- Selected results
 - Basic Demographics
 - Educational Attainment
 - Employment Outcomes
 - Use of Language & Area Studies Skills
- Summary Findings
- Q&A

Area Studies & Title VI at U-M

- International Institute
- Interdisciplinary Area Studies Centers
 - 9 Units: Very Heterogeneous
 - 6 National Resource Centers
 - 6 FLAS Centers
 - 6 Area Studies MA Programs
 - 5 Area Studies Graduate Certificates
 - Dual Degrees: Business, Law, Public Policy, NRE
 - Undergraduate Majors & Minors
- Language and Literature/Culture Departments

Overview of the Survey

- Collaborative Effort of U-M's 6 NRCs
- Common Survey Instrument
- Online & Paper Versions
- Administered in AY2009-10 (mostly fall)
- FLAS Fellows (all NRCs): AY95-96 to Summer 2006
- Non-FLAS Area Studies MA, Graduate Certificate & Affiliated PhD Recipients (some)

Purposes of the Survey

- Feedback on Center Programs
- Baseline data
 - Education & Employment Outcomes
 - Use of Language & Area Studies Skills
- Comparisons
 - Across NRCs
 - Funding: FLAS vs. Non-FLAS, Center, External
 - Degree Types: Master's, Doctoral, Professional

Survey Questions – 1/3

- Postsecondary Education
 - Institutions
 - Degrees & Field of Specialization
 - Dates of Enrollment
- Country(ies) & language(s) of specialization
- Student Experience
 - Types of Connection to NRC (6)
 - Types of Funding Received (12)
 - Aspects of Educational Experience (7; 5-point scale)
 - Most important thing learned (open ended)
 - What they did not learn but wish they did (open ended)

Survey Questions – 2/3

- Four Language Skills: Self-Evaluation (5-point scale)
 - At Graduation
 - At Time of Survey
- Professional Experience: Up to 7 Most Relevant
 - Organization Name & Position Title
 - Dates
 - Use of Language & Area Studies Skills
- Use of Language & Area Studies Skills: (5-point scale)
 - Language: 1 scale
 - Area Studies: Political, Economic, Social, History, Culture
 - Reasons NOT Used in Job (open ended)
 - Use in Volunteer Setting: 5 point scale
- Current Key Issues in the Region (open ended)

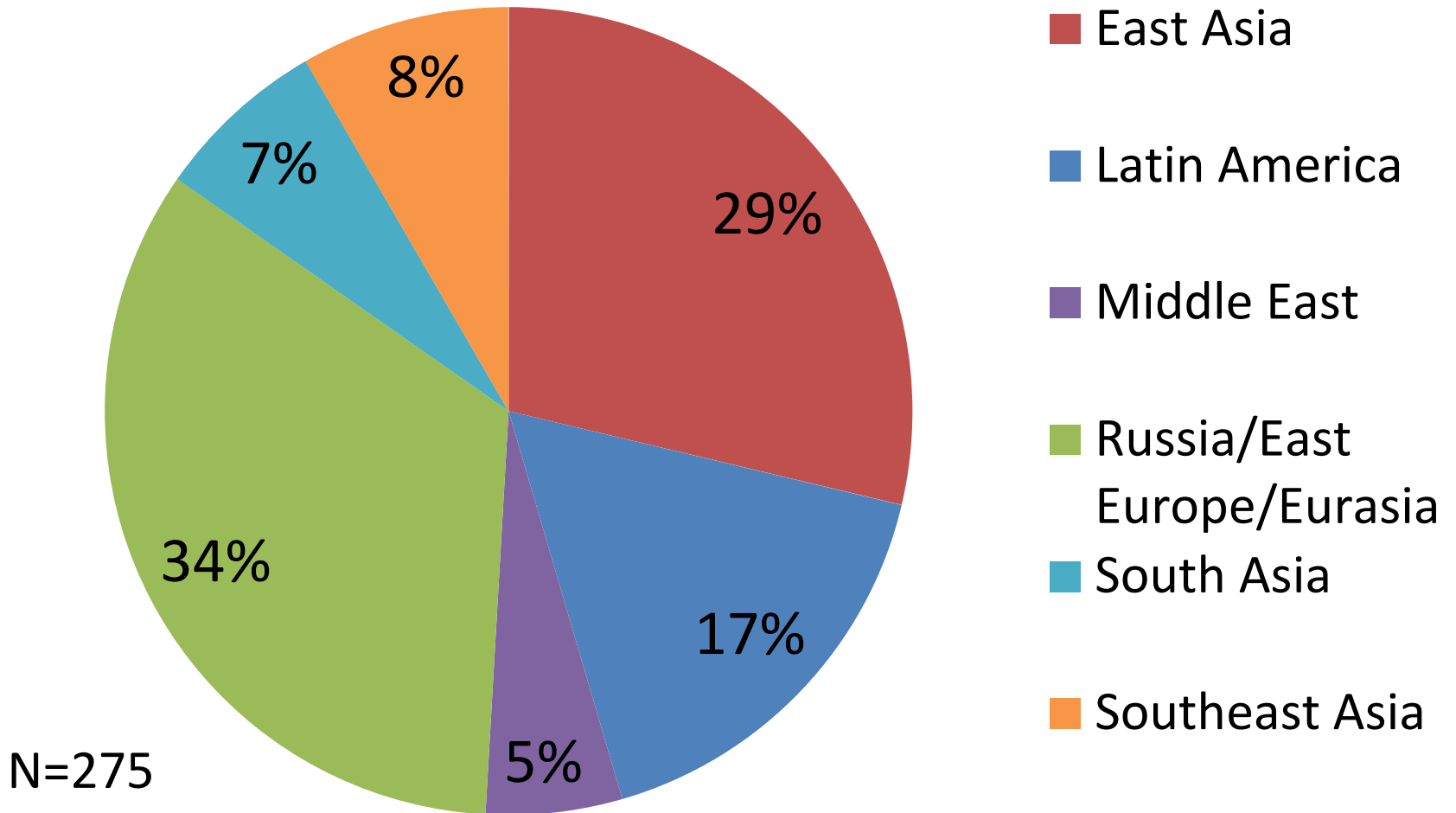
Survey Questions – 3/3

- Basic Demographic Data
 - Citizenship
 - Gender
 - Ethnicity
- Interest in Mentoring Current Students

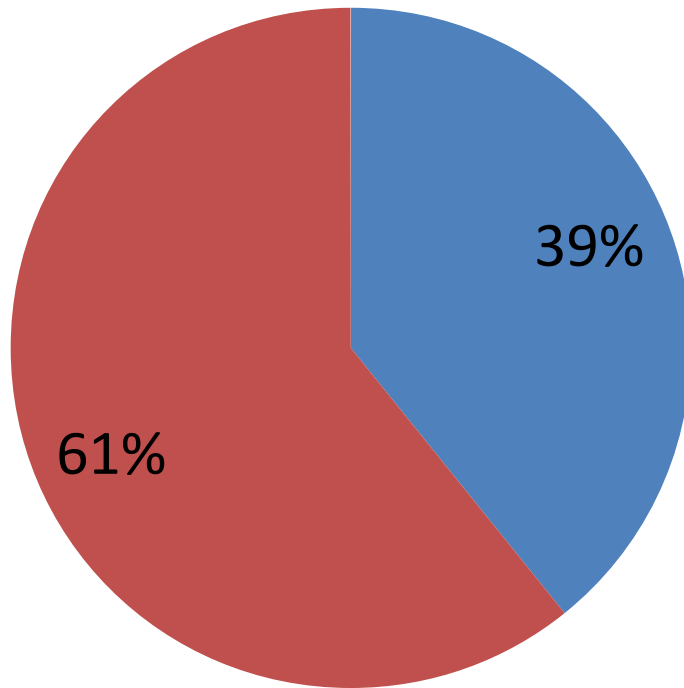
Response Rate

NRC	Recipients	Respondents	Response Rate
East Asia	253	79	31.2%
Latin America	242	46	19.0%
Middle East	80	15	18.8%
Russia/Eastern Europe/Eurasia	290	93	32.0%
South Asia	41	19	46.3%
Southeast Asia	153	23	15.0%
Total	1,059	275	26.0%

NRC Affiliation

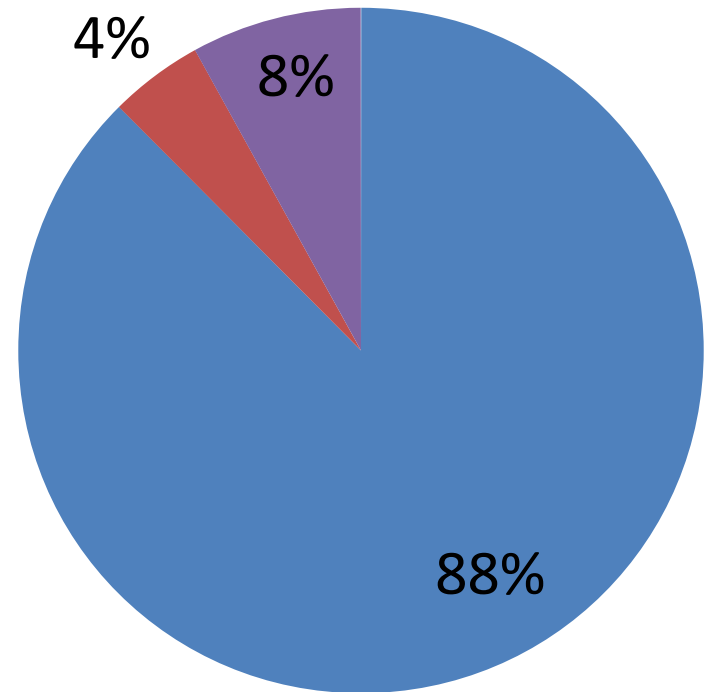


Gender & Citizenship



■ Male
■ Female

N=250



■ US Citizen
■ Permanent Resident
■ Non-US Citizen

N=249

Funding Received

Type	Received N (%)	Did Not Receive N (%)
FLAS Fellowship	152 (55%)	123 (45%)
Center Funding	109 (40%)	166 (60%)
Fulbright or Fulbright-Hays	58 (21%)	217 (79%)
Other External Funding	100 (36%)	175 (64%)

N=275

Education

Degree		N of Respondents	%
Master's Degree		189	69%
	Area Studies	79	42%
	U-M Degree	143	76%
PhD		178	65%
	Area Studies Related Discipline	146	82%
	U-M Degree	168	94%
Professional Degree		58	21%

N=275

Doctoral Degrees by Field of Study

Field	N of Respondents	%
Language & Literature	25	14%
Other Humanities	16	9%
History	27	15%
Other Social Science	80	45%
Anthropology	33	41%
Sociology	16	20%
Political Science	18	23%
Sciences & Engineering	7	4%
Professional Fields	14	8%
Other	9	5%
Total	178	

Language Proficiency

Number of Languages Reported

	N	%
1	101	37
2	76	28
3	47	17
4	27	9
5	8	3
Total	259	

Proficiency Self-Rating: First Language

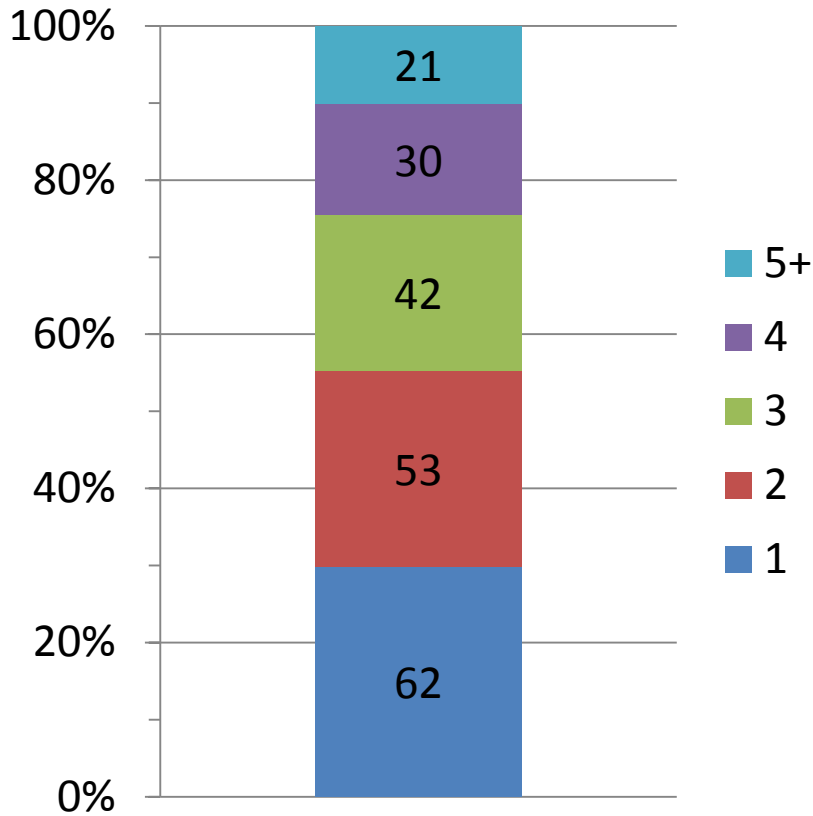
Skill	At Graduation		At Time of Survey	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Reading	3.78	0.96	3.64	1.20
Writing	3.34	1.05	3.12	1.27
Speaking	3.66	0.96	3.56	1.14
Listening	3.78	0.98	3.68	1.17

Languages

Russian	64	Ukrainian	10	Thai	4	Tatar	2	Lao	1
French	63	Persian	7	Latin	3	Arabic, Classical	1	Latvian	1
Japanese	58	Urdu	6	Serbian	3	Bulgarian	1	Macedonian	1
Spanish	50	Bengali	5	Uzbek	3	Buryat	1	Marathi	1
English	45	Hebrew	5	Vietnamese	3	Croatian	1	Mari	1
Chinese	35	Quechua	5	Dutch	3	Danish	1	Mongolian	1
German	23	Romanian	5	Greek	2	Estonian	1	Nepali	1
Arabic	19	Turkish	5	Hungarian	2	Finnish	1	Punjabi	1
Indonesian	15	Armenian	4	Kazakh	2	Georgian	1	Slavonic, Old Church	1
Polish	15	Chinese, Classical	4	Khmer	2	Haitian Creole	1	Slovak	1
Portuguese	13	Korean	4	Lithuanian	2	Italian	1	Swedish	1
Hindi	12	Tamil	4	Sanskrit	2	Javanese	1	Yucatec	1
Czech	10	61 languages; 34 US/ED priority LCTLs are displayed in bold italics							

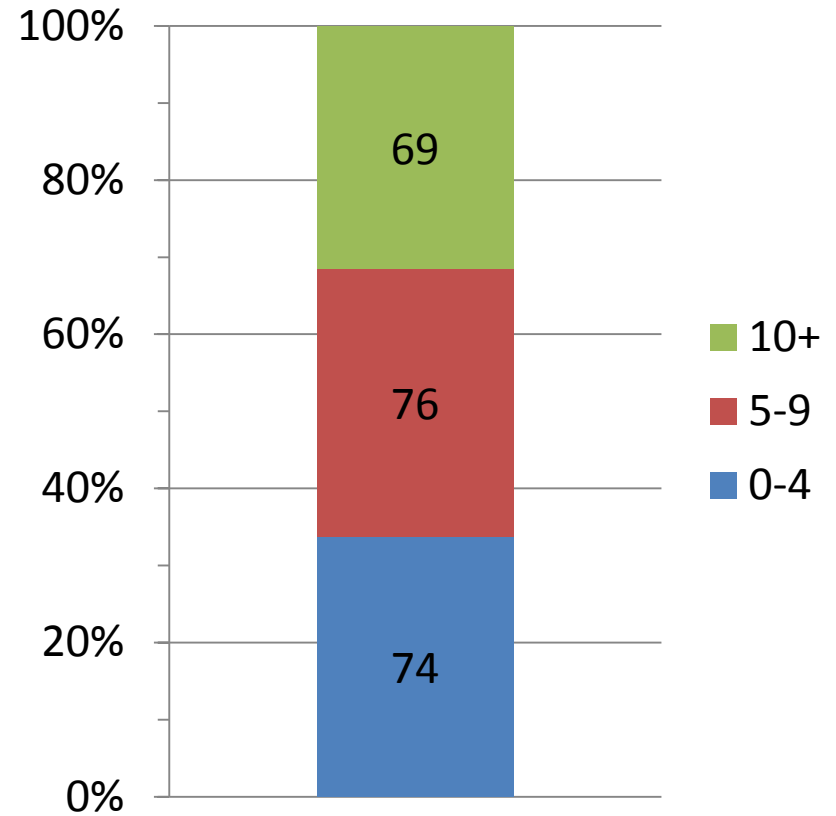
Work Experience

Number of Positions



N=208

Years in the Workforce

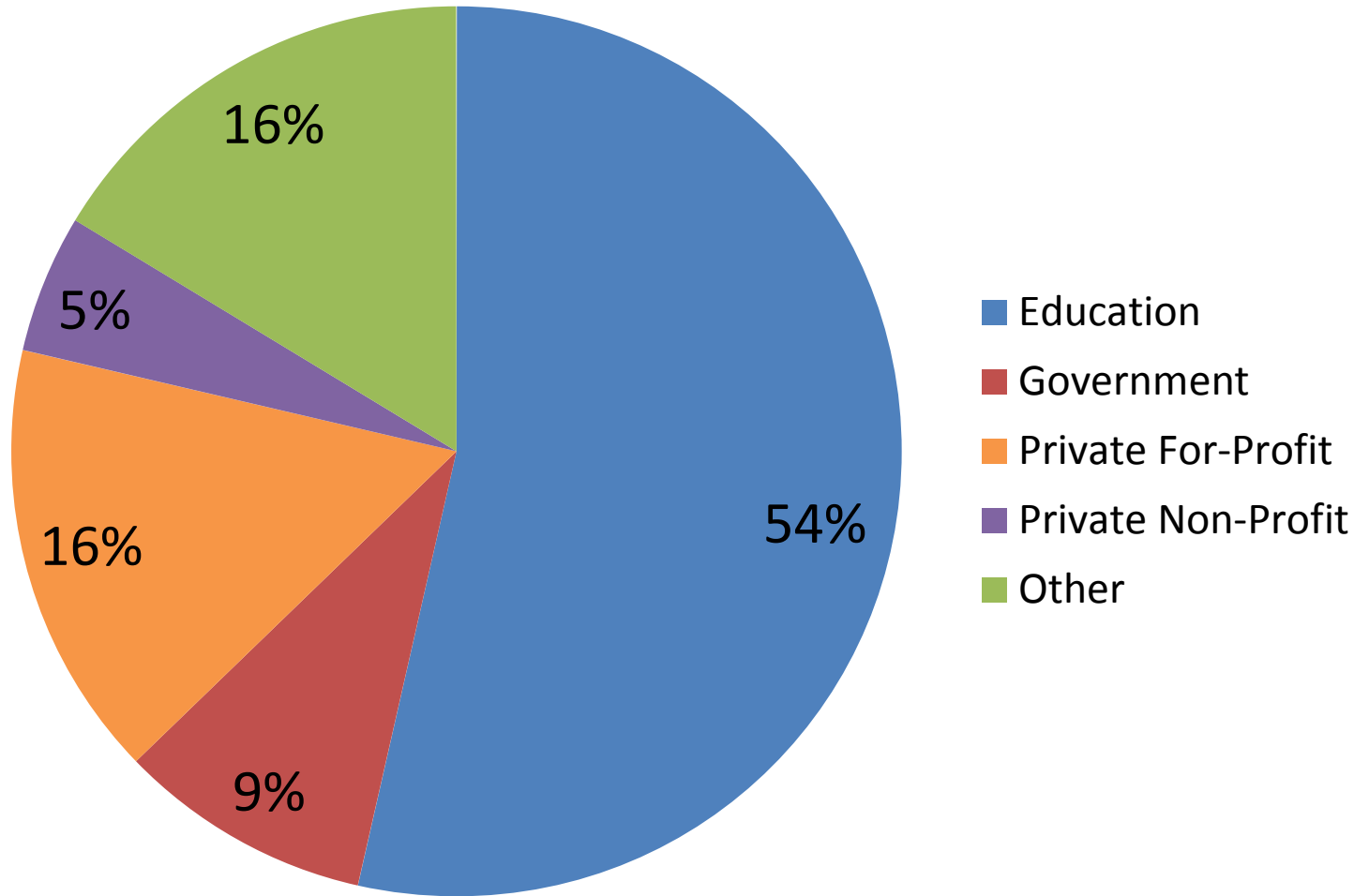


N=219

Current or Most Recent Job Sector, by Center

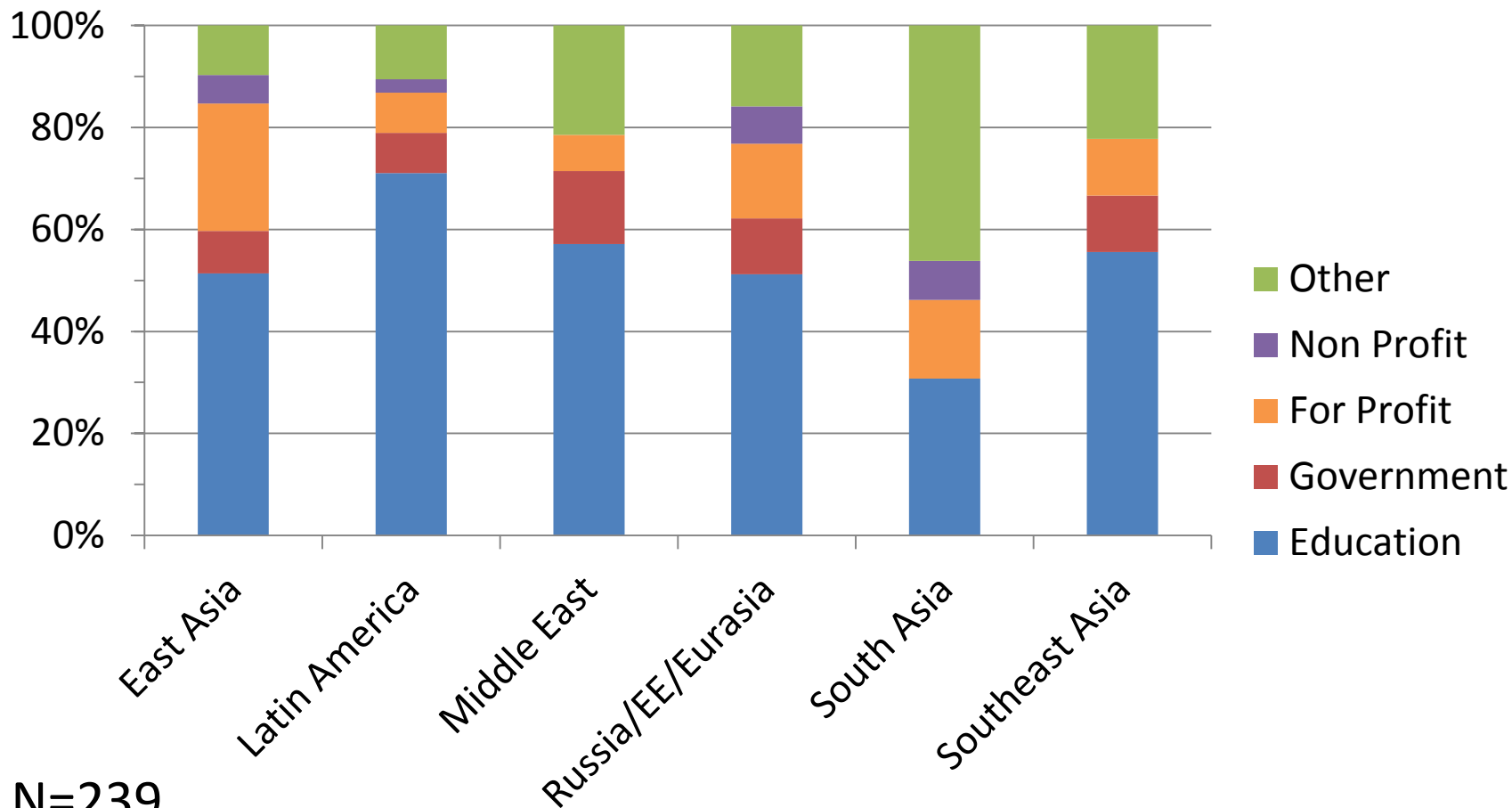
NRC	Higher Educ	K-12	Gov't	Military	Private, for profit	Private, non-profit	Int'l org	Grad study
EA <i>N=72</i>	49% <i>(35)</i>	3% <i>(2)</i>	6% <i>(4)</i>	3% <i>(2)</i>	25% <i>(18)</i>	6% <i>(4)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	10% <i>(7)</i>
LACS <i>N=39</i>	67% <i>(26)</i>	3% <i>(1)</i>	8% <i>(3)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	8% <i>(3)</i>	3% <i>(1)</i>	3% <i>(1)</i>	10% <i>(4)</i>
CMENAS <i>N=14</i>	57% <i>(8)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	14% <i>(2)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	7% <i>(1)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	21% <i>(3)</i>
CREES <i>N=82</i>	40% <i>(41)</i>	1% <i>(1)</i>	11% <i>(9)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	16% <i>(13)</i>	7% <i>(6)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	16% <i>(13)</i>
CSAS <i>N=13</i>	31% <i>(4)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	17% <i>(2)</i>	8% <i>(1)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	46% <i>(6)</i>
CSEAS <i>N=19</i>	53% <i>(10)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	11% <i>(2)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	16% <i>(3)</i>	0% <i>(0)</i>	5% <i>(1)</i>	21% <i>(4)</i>
All <i>N=239</i>	52% <i>(124)</i>	2% <i>(4)</i>	8% <i>(20)</i>	1% <i>(2)</i>	16% <i>(38)</i>	5% <i>(12)</i>	1% <i>(2)</i>	11% <i>(37)</i>

Current or Most Recent Job by Sector



N=239

Current or Most Recent Job Sector by NRC Affiliation

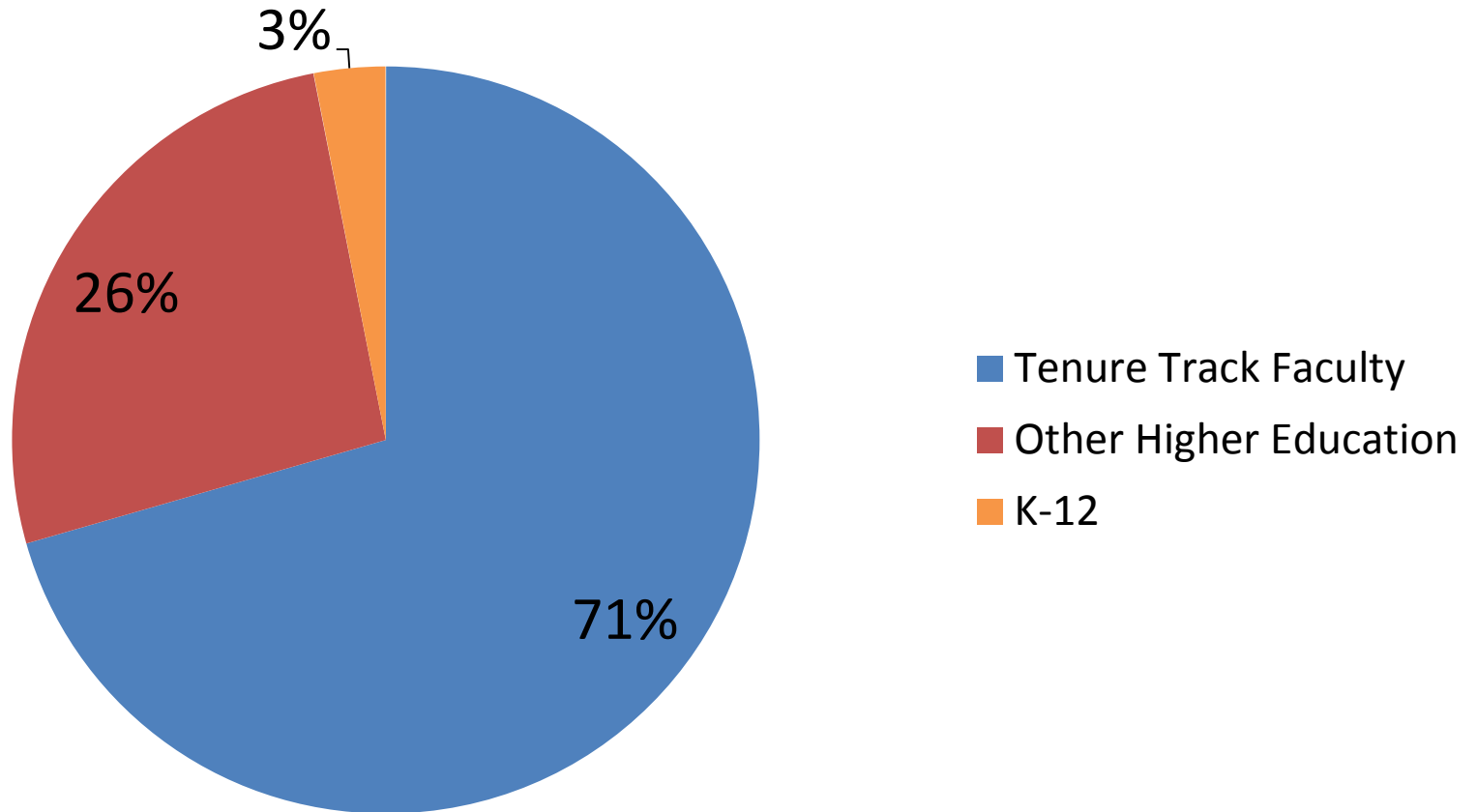


N=239

Employment in Federal Government

Department/Agency	Position Titles	N
Defense	Senior Country Director (China); Senior Military Advisor for China Affairs; Lawyer; Inspector General (Army); Instructor (Army)*; Presidential Management Fellow*	6
State	China Desk Officer; International Exchange Specialist*	2
Agriculture	Russia, Europe & Near Asia Program Coordinator (U.S. Forest Service)*	1
Treasury	Analyst	1
Council of Economic Advisors	Senior Economist*	1
Government Accountability Office	Senior Analyst*	1
National Science Foundation	Program Director (Arctic Social Science Program)*	1
USAID	Program Evaluator*	1
U.S. Government: Not specified	Analyst*; Foreign Media Specialist*	2
Total	*FLAS Fellowship Recipient	16

Employment in Education

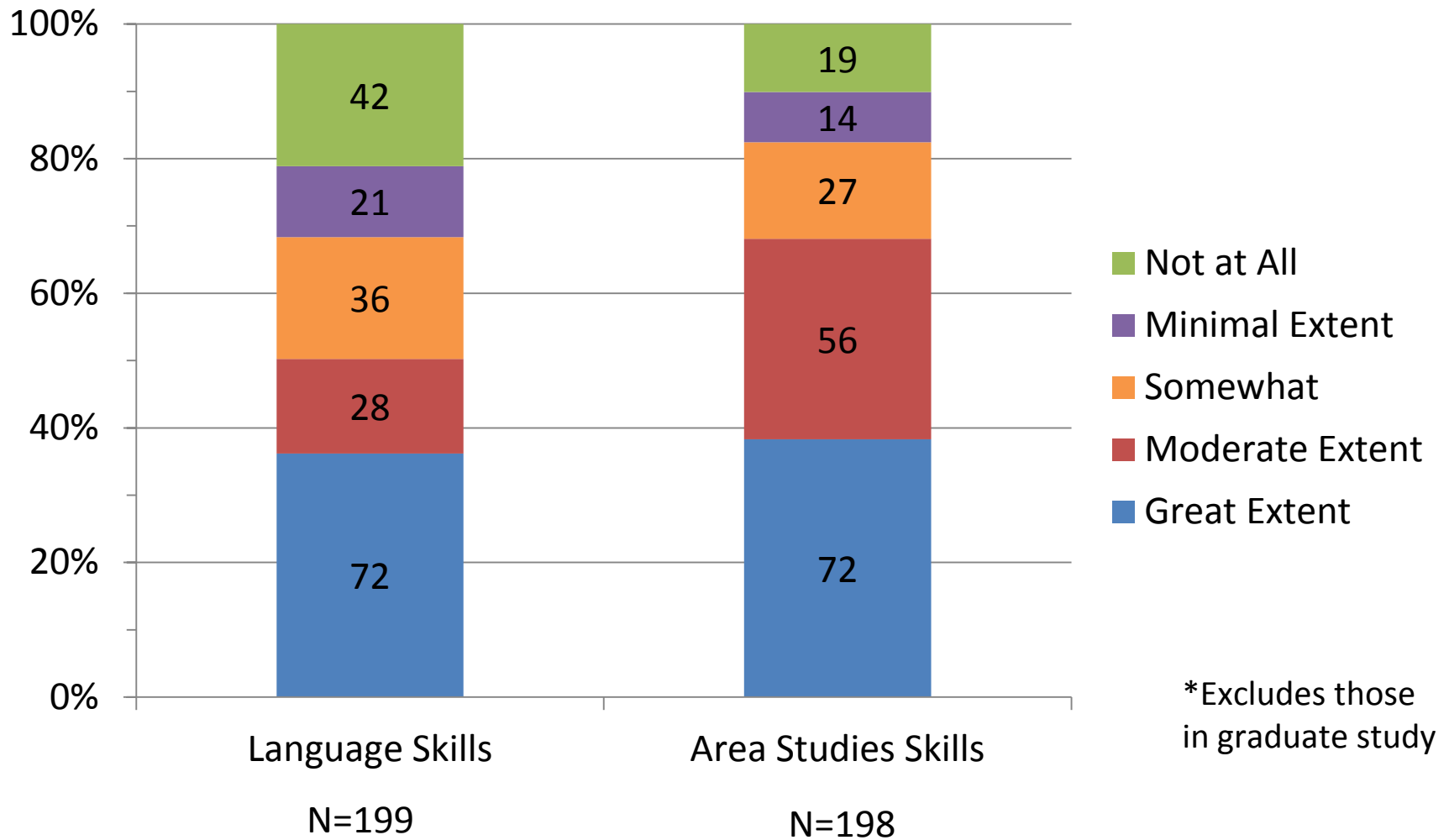


N=129

Higher Education Employment at U.S. Institutions with Title VI-funded Centers

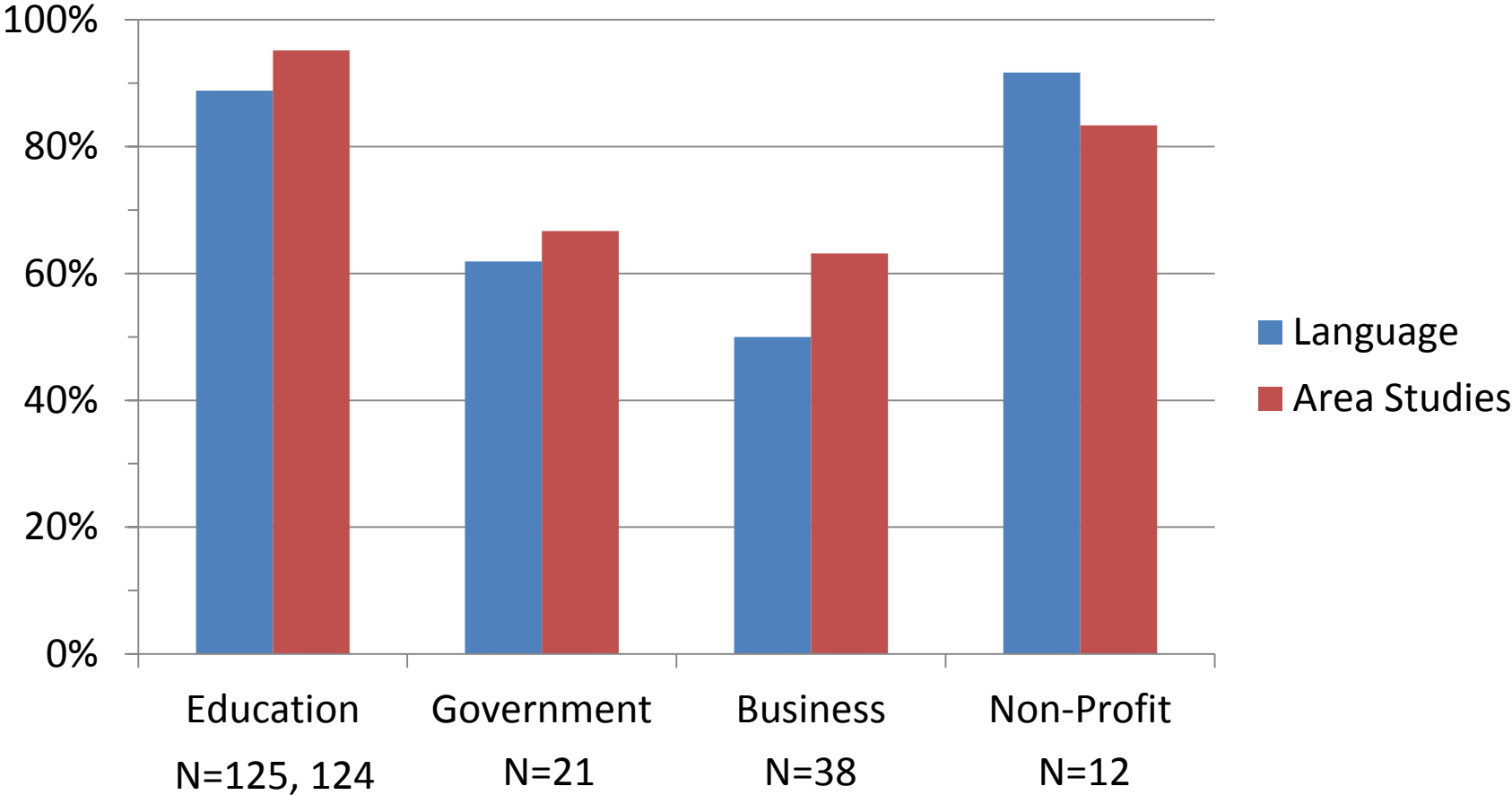
NRC	w/ Any Title VI Center		w/ Relevant Area Studies NRC	
East Asia N=31	14	45%	10	32%
Latin America N=21	5	24%	4	19%
Middle East N=6	2	33%	2	33%
Russia/EE/Eurasia N=27	16	59%	8	30%
South Asia N=4	1	25%	1	25%
Southeast Asia N=8	5	63%	4	50%
Total N=97	43	44%	29	30%

Use of Language & Area Studies Skills in Current/Most Recent Job*



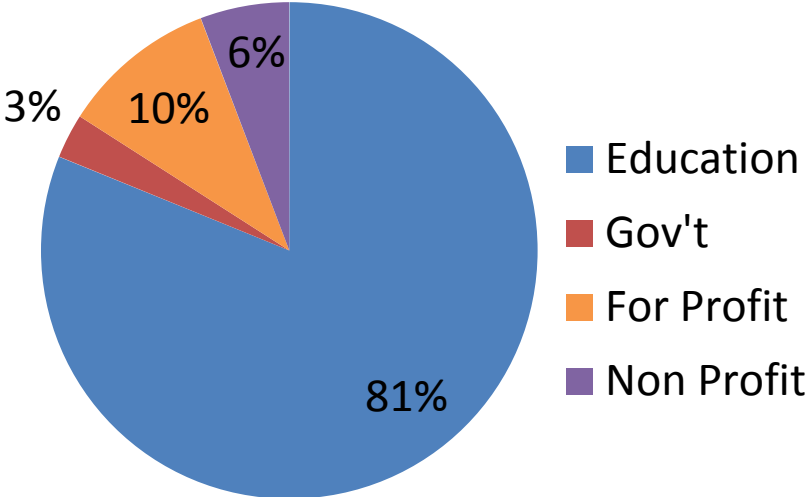
Use of Language & Area Studies Skills in Current/Most Recent Job by Sector

% Respondents who Use Skills at Least to Minimal Extent



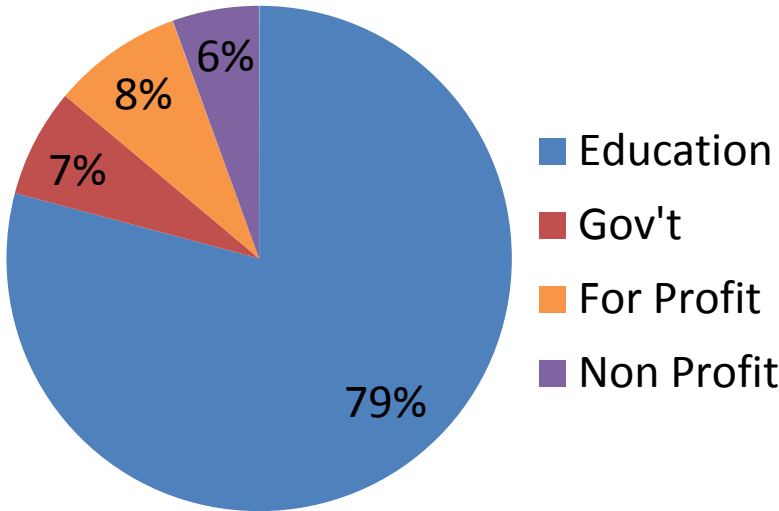
Use of Language & Area Studies Skills in Current/Most Recent Job by Sector

Use Language Skills to Great Extent



N=72

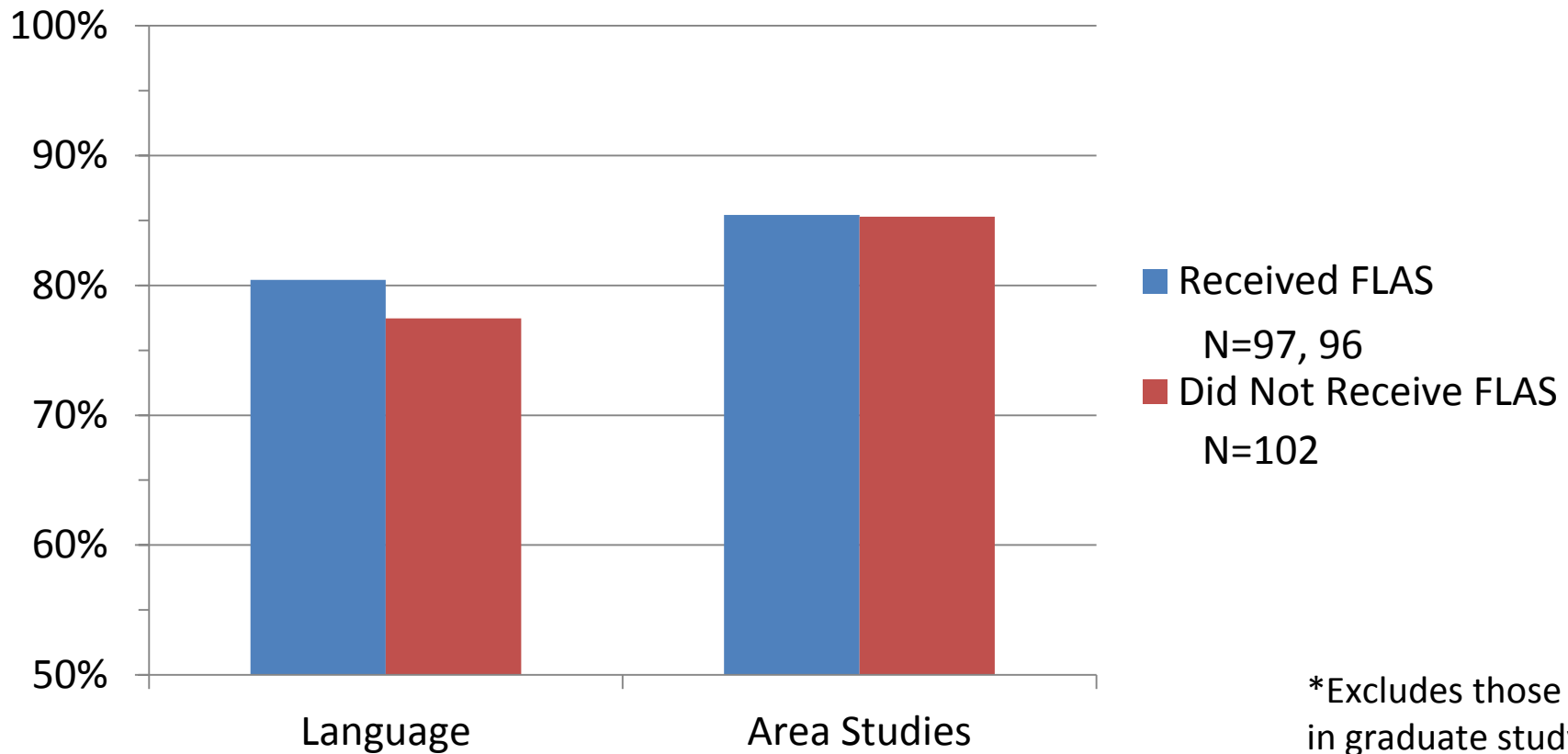
Use Area Studies Skills to Great Extent



N=72

Use of Language & Area Studies Skills in Current/Most Recent Job by FLAS Status*

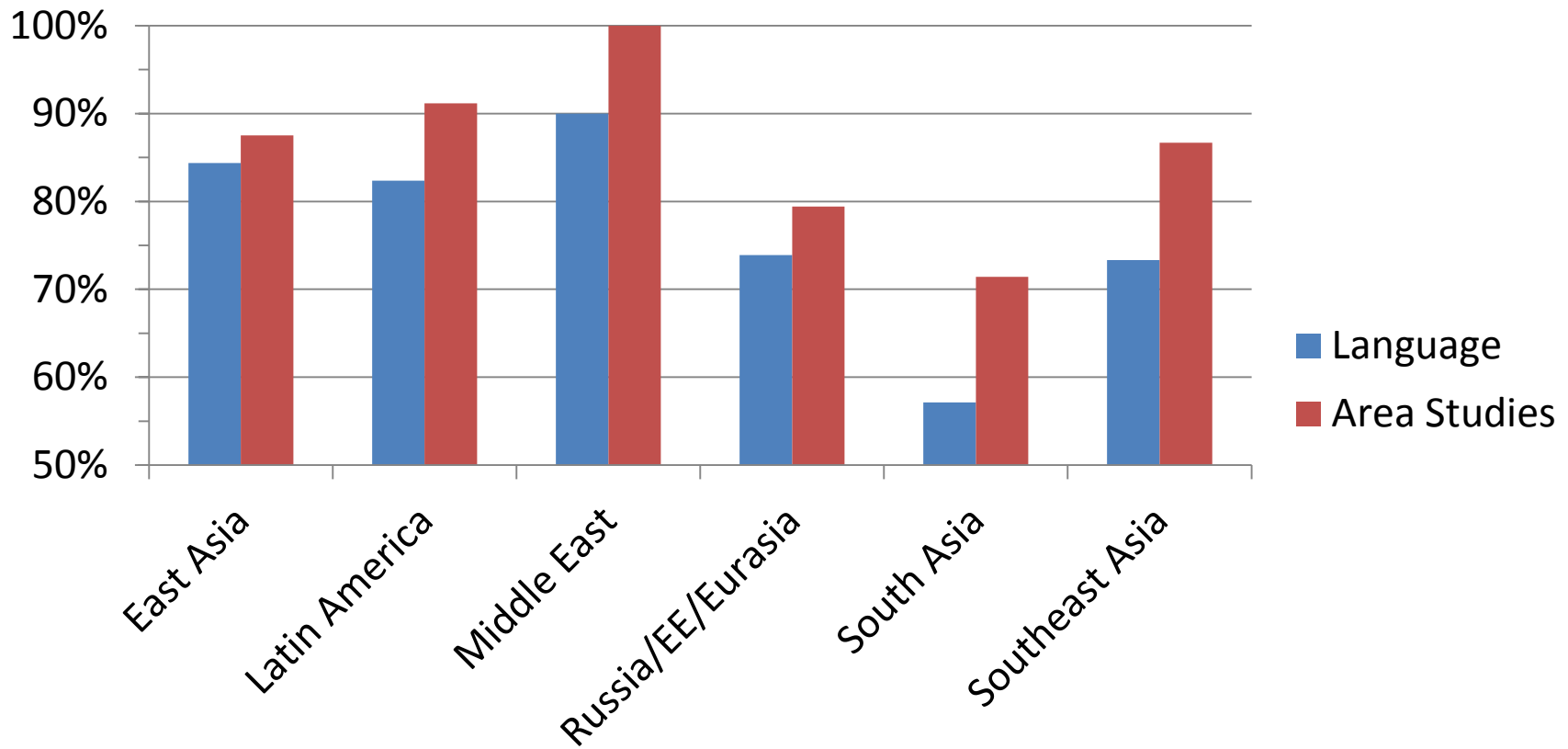
% Respondents who Use Skills at Least to Minimal Extent



*Excludes those in graduate study

Use of Language & Area Studies Skills in Current/Most Recent Job by NRC*

% Respondents who Use Skills at Least to Minimal Extent



N: EA: 64 ;LA: 34; ME: 10; REE: 69/68; SA: 7; SEA: 15; *Excludes those in graduate study

Extent of Use of Language & Area Studies Skills in Current/Most Recent Job

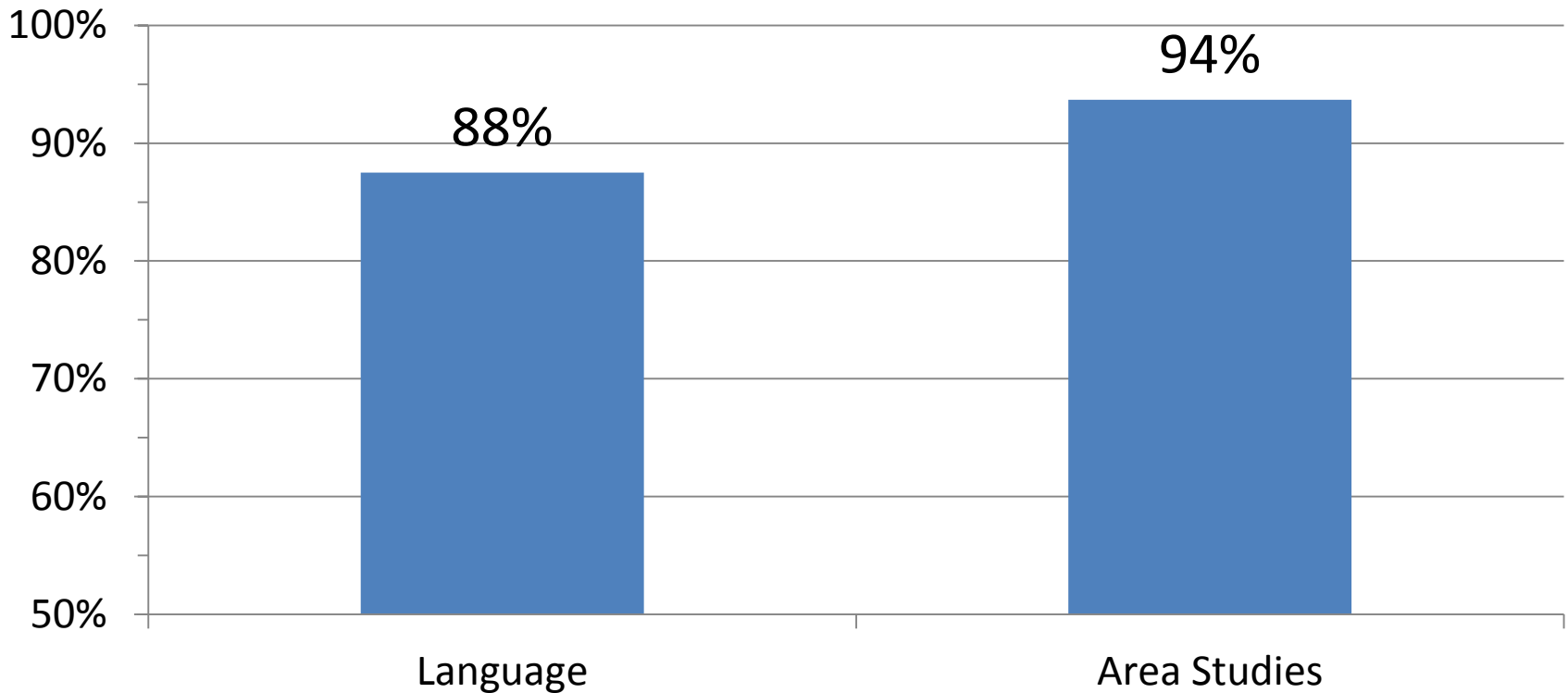
Language Skills

Area Studies Skills

	Great Extent	Moderate Extent	Somewhat	Minimal Extent	Not at All	Total
Great Extent	44	13	9	1	4	71
Moderate Extent	21	9	14	8	4	56
Somewhat	4	4	8	6	5	27
Minimal Extent	2	1	2	4	5	14
Not at All	0	0	3	2	24	29
Total	71	27	36	21	42	197

Use of Language & Area Studies Skills: All Positions*

**% Respondents with at Least One Position
That Use Skills at Least to Minimal Extent**



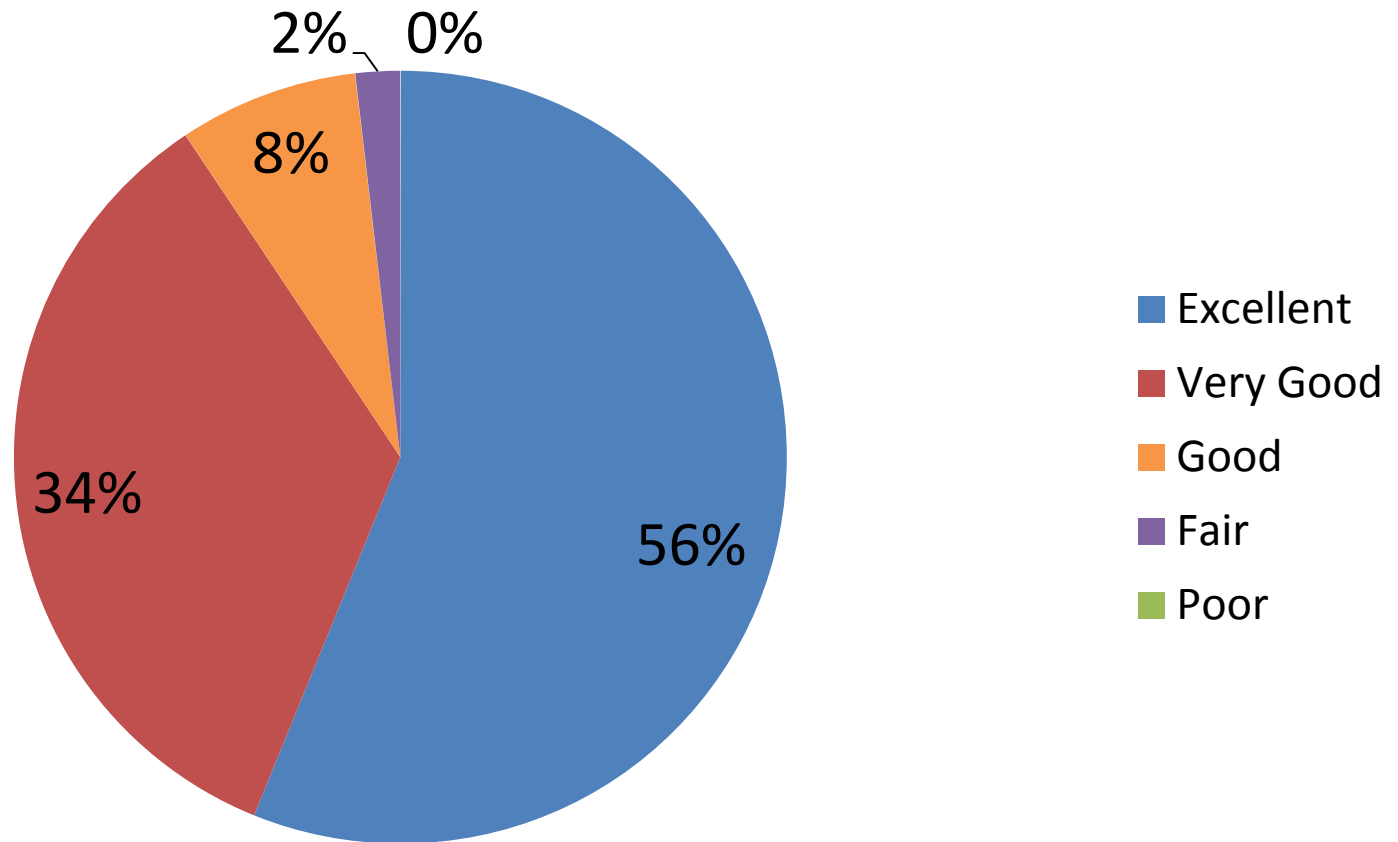
N=208, 206; *Excludes those in graduate study

Reasons for Not Using Language & Area Studies Skills in Job

Reason	N	%
Language and/or area studies skills not needed	20	33%
Jobs in the field not available	14	23%
Change in career or professional interests	9	15%
Family related reasons (e.g., children, spouse's job moved)	3	5%
Health	1	1.6%
Job location	1	1.6%
Pay and/or promotion opportunities	1	1.6%
Continuing graduate study	11	18%
Total	60	

*N coded from open ended responses

Rating of Overall U-M Educational Experience



N=267

Summary 1/2

➤ Education

- Majority have PhD, over 80% in area studies related disciplines

➤ Careers

- About half in education
- Differences across NRCs require further investigation
- Difficult to distinguish positions in “areas of need”

Summary 2/2

- Use of Language & Area Studies Skills
 - Almost all have used language and/or area studies skills in at least one job
 - FLAS Fellowship recipients are marginally more likely to use language & area studies skills (not statistically significant)
 - Area studies skills consistently used more than language skills across many dimensions
- Overall satisfaction with U-M education
- Next Steps
 - Further analysis to explain differences
 - Linking to academic record
 - Follow-up survey?

QUESTIONS?

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