# I. Your AFS Membership

Question 1:

## How long have you been an AFS member?
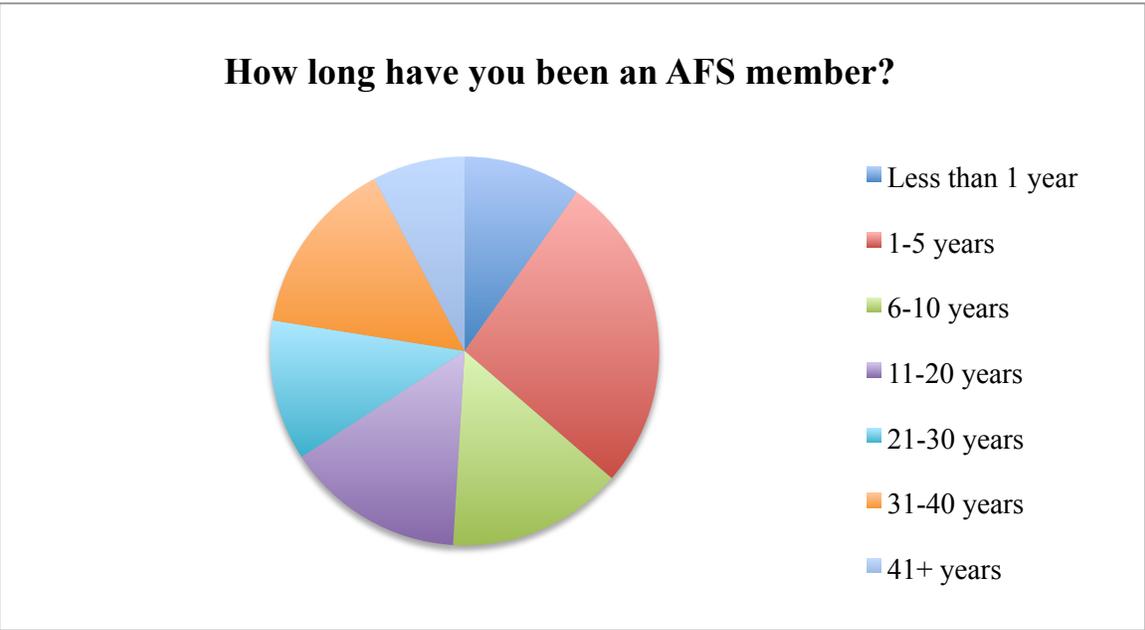


| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Less than 1 year | 9.8% | 51 |
| 1-5 years | 26.6% | 139 |
| 6-10 years | 14.6% | 76 |
| 11-20 years | 14.9% | 78 |
| 21-30 years | 11.7% | 61 |
| 31-40 years | 14.8% | 77 |
| 41+ years | 7.7% | 40 |
| *answered question* | | 522 |
| *skipped question* | | 4 |

Question 2:

## How important is your membership in AFS for each of the following?
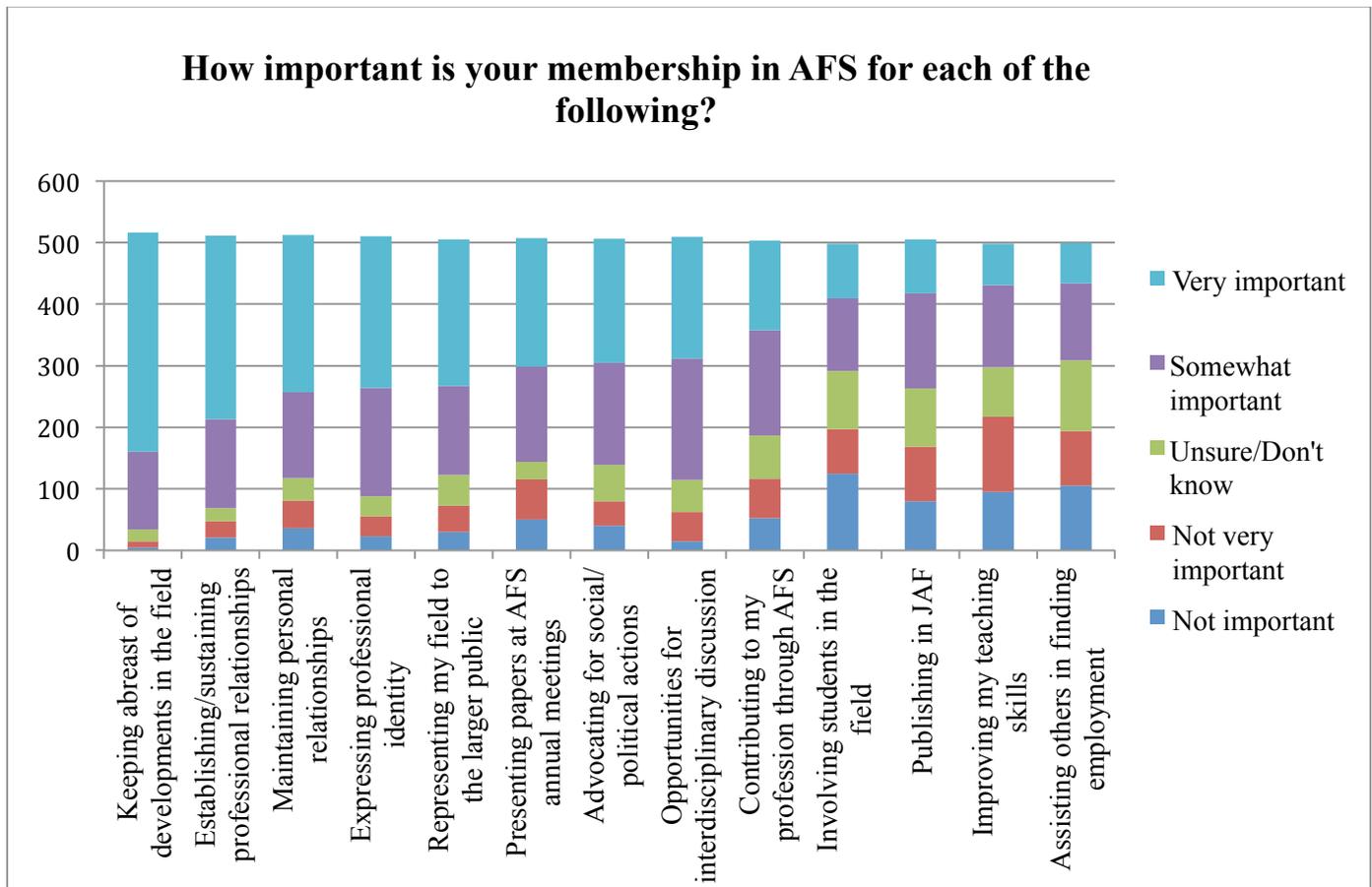


| Answer Options | Very important | Somewhat important | Unsure/Don't know | Not very important | Not important | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Keeping abreast of developments in the field | 356 | 126 | 19 | 10 | 5 | 516 |
| Establishing/sustaining professional relationships | 298 | 144 | 22 | 26 | 21 | 511 |
| Maintaining personal relationships | 255 | 140 | 36 | 45 | 36 | 512 |
| Expressing professional identity | 246 | 176 | 33 | 32 | 23 | 510 |
| Representing my field to the larger public | 238 | 144 | 50 | 43 | 30 | 505 |
| Presenting papers at AFS annual meetings | 208 | 155 | 29 | 65 | 50 | 507 |
| Advocating for social/political actions | 201 | 166 | 59 | 40 | 40 | 506 |
| Opportunities for interdisciplinary discussion | 197 | 198 | 51 | 48 | 15 | 509 |
| Contributing to my profession through AFS service | 145 | 171 | 71 | 64 | 52 | 503 |
| Involving students in the field | 89 | 118 | 94 | 72 | 125 | 498 |
| Publishing in JAF | 87 | 155 | 95 | 88 | 80 | 505 |
| Improving my teaching skills | 67 | 134 | 80 | 122 | 95 | 498 |
| Assisting others in finding employment | 65 | 125 | 115 | 89 | 105 | 499 |
| | | | | | *answered question* | 522 |
| | | | | | *skipped question* | 4 |

# II. Present AFS Activities

## Question 3: Annual Meeting

**When have you engaged in the following AFS annual meeting activities?**
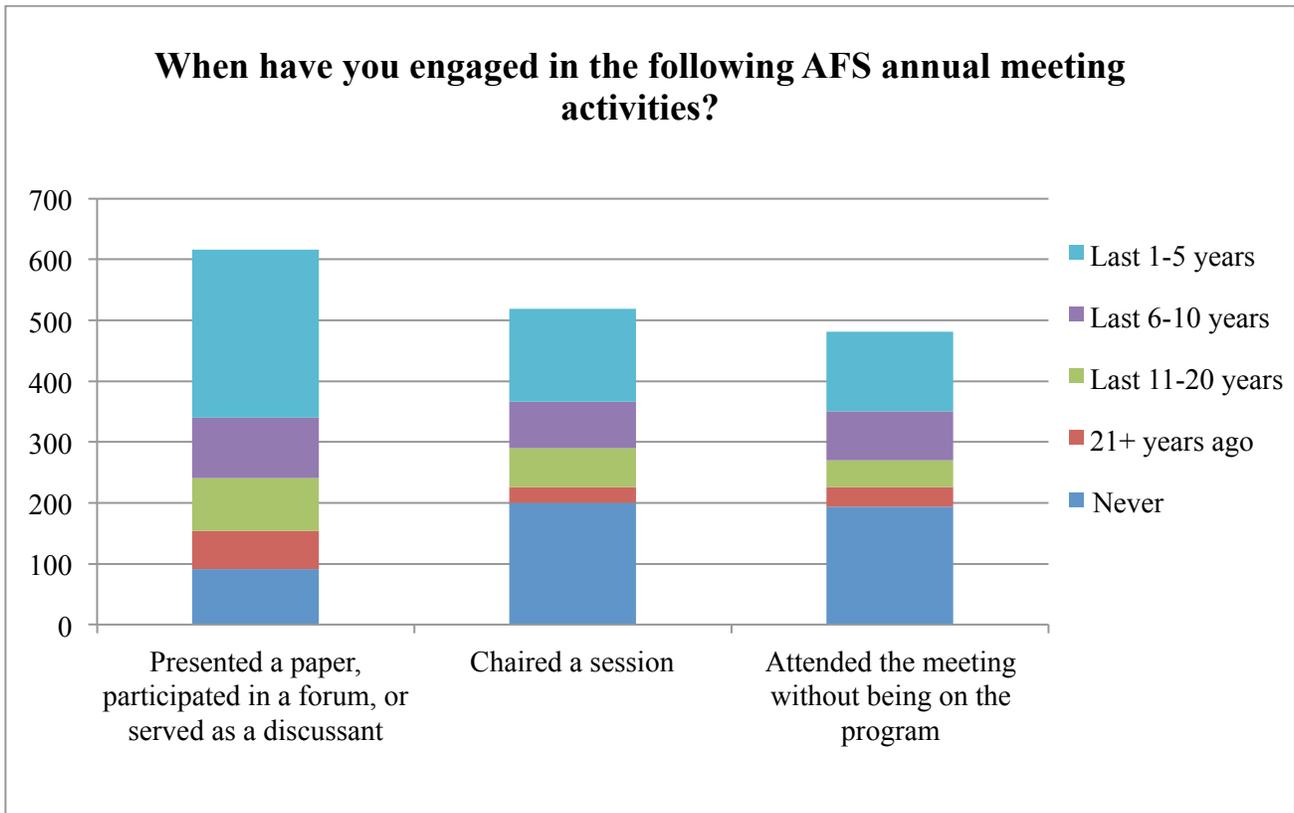


| Answer Options | Last 1-5 years | Last 6-10 years | Last 11-20 years | 21+ years ago | Never | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Presented a paper, participated in a forum, or served as a discussant** | 276 | 99 | 87 | 63 | 91 | 456 |
| **Chaired a session** | 153 | 76 | 64 | 26 | 200 | 432 |
| **Attended the meeting without being on the program** | 130 | 81 | 44 | 32 | 194 | 440 |
| | | | | | *answered question* | 459 |
| | | | | | *skipped question* | 67 |

Question 4: Annual Meeting

In recent years, AFS annual meeting participants have made it clear that it is important to them to present at the annual meeting, and that they prefer to include as many presenters from the widest breadth of the field as possible. However, every year, the most common complaint attendees express in annual meeting surveys is that there are too many concurrent sessions. Please rate below for each dimension to indicate how much you would support a change in each factor named:

| Answer Options | Very important to decrease | Decrease somewhat | Keep the same/Not sure | Increase somewhat | Very important to increase | Total Number of Respondents |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Number of presenters in the meeting as a whole** | 4% (17 respondents) | 18% (79) | 60% (255) | 15% (63) | 3% (14) | 431 |
| **Number of presentations per session** | 3% (14) | 12% (50) | 72% (310) | 11% (48) | 1% (6) | 428 |
| **Number of concurrent sessions** | 11% (46) | 38% (165) | 43% (184) | 7% (31) | 1% (5) | 431 |
| **Number of program time slots per day** | 4% (14) | 14% (61) | 62% (268) | 18% (77) | 2% (8) | 429 |
| **Number of conference days** | 1% (5) | 3% (12) | 72% (314) | 21% (92) | 3% (11) | 434 |
| **Number of meeting attendees** | 1% (3) | 2% (9) | 56% (240) | 27% (117) | 14% (59) | 428 |

*Note that the majority of survey respondents selected the "Keep the same/Not sure" category (highlighted in red) for each factor.

Question 5: Annual Meeting

If, in addition to what you just recommended, AFS could make one or two more changes in the annual meeting to improve the professional and social exchanges there, what one or two changes would make the greatest improvement?

*195 participants (37% of all respondents) made recommendations. We have grouped suggestions made by 10 or more people into the following categories. The calculations below indicate a percentage of those who responded to this particular question:*

Schedule More Social Events: Have more evening mixers, cash bars and receptions; have a final dinner and/or dance event; allow more free time in the schedule during the day for networking and socializing:                                                     34 (17%)

Fine-tune Scheduling: Ensure that sessions are scheduled to avoid overlapping topics; avoid scheduling scholars from the same institutions in the same time slots; avoid scheduling major scholars in the same time slots:                              26 (13%)

Diversify Presentations: Program fewer traditional paper sessions; encourage alternative formats such as the shorter paper option, more forums, roundtables, Diamond sessions, poster presentations, etc.:                                              21 (11%)

Make the Annual Meeting More Affordable: Meet in more affordable hotels; reduce the registration rates; provide more financial assistance for presenters, especially international, student and unaffiliated members:                                   11 (6%)
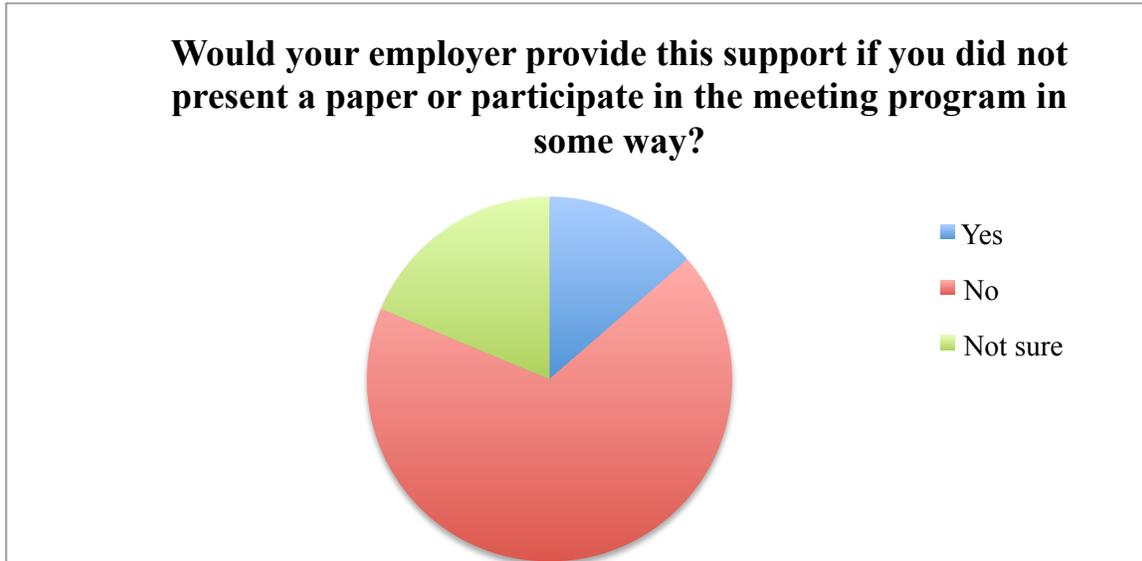
Consider Different Meeting Locations: Choose to meet in cities and hotels that are more accessible to members, both in terms of cost and travel; try alternative types of meeting locations, e.g., on a Native American reservation:                          10 (5%)

Question 6: Annual Meeting

**Does your employer provide financial support for you to attend the annual meeting?**



| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | 46.8% | 210 |
| **No** | 46.1% | 207 |
| **Not sure** | 7.1% | 32 |
| | *answered question* | 449 |
| | *skipped question* | 77 |

Question 7: Annual Meeting

**Would your employer provide this support if you did not present a paper or participate in the meeting program in some way?**



| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | 13.6% | 59 |
| **No** | 67.7% | 294 |
| **Not sure** | 18.7% | 81 |
| | *answered question* | **434** |
| | *skipped question* | **92** |

Question 8: Annual Meeting

**Would this lack of financial support keep you from attending the annual meeting?**



Yes

No

Not sure

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | 51.8% | 230 | |
| **No** | 24.5% | 109 | |
| **Not sure** | 23.6% | 105 | |
| | | *answered question* | **444** |
| | | *skipped question* | **82** |

Question 9: AFS Participation

**When have you engaged in the following AFS activities?**
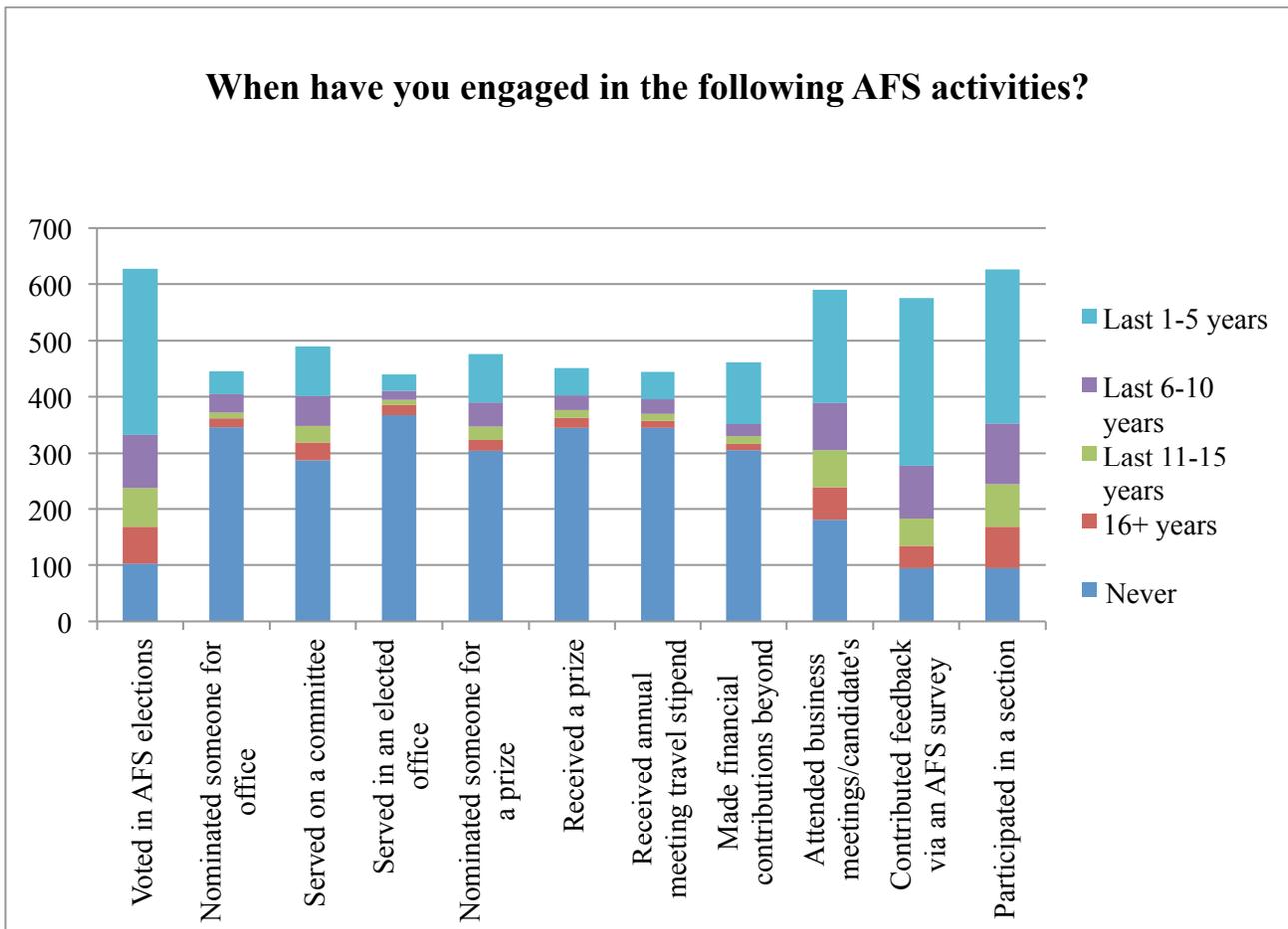


| Answer Options | Last 1-5 years | Last 6-10 years | Last 11-15 years | 16+ years | Never | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Voted in AFS elections** | 294 | 96 | 69 | 66 | 102 | 451 |
| **Nominated someone for AFS office** | 40 | 33 | 10 | 16 | 346 | 435 |
| **Served on an AFS committee** | 89 | 53 | 29 | 31 | 288 | 440 |
| **Served in an elected AFS office** | 29 | 16 | 9 | 18 | 368 | 434 |
| **Nominated someone for an AFS or section prize** | 86 | 43 | 23 | 20 | 304 | 446 |
| **Received an AFS prize or section prize** | 48 | 26 | 14 | 18 | 345 | 441 |
| **Received an annual meeting travel stipend** | 48 | 26 | 13 | 12 | 345 | 440 |
| **Made financial contributions to AFS beyond your dues** | 109 | 22 | 13 | 11 | 306 | 437 |
| **Attended or participated in AFS business meetings or candidate's forum** | 201 | 83 | 68 | 58 | 180 | 446 |
| **Contributed feedback via the annual meeting and member surveys** | 299 | 94 | 48 | 39 | 95 | 448 |
| **Participated in an AFS section** | 273 | 109 | 76 | 73 | 95 | 445 |
| | | | | | *answered question* | 454 |
| | | | | | *skipped question* | 72 |

Question 10: Journal of American Folklore (JAF)

**When have you engaged in the following JAF activities?**
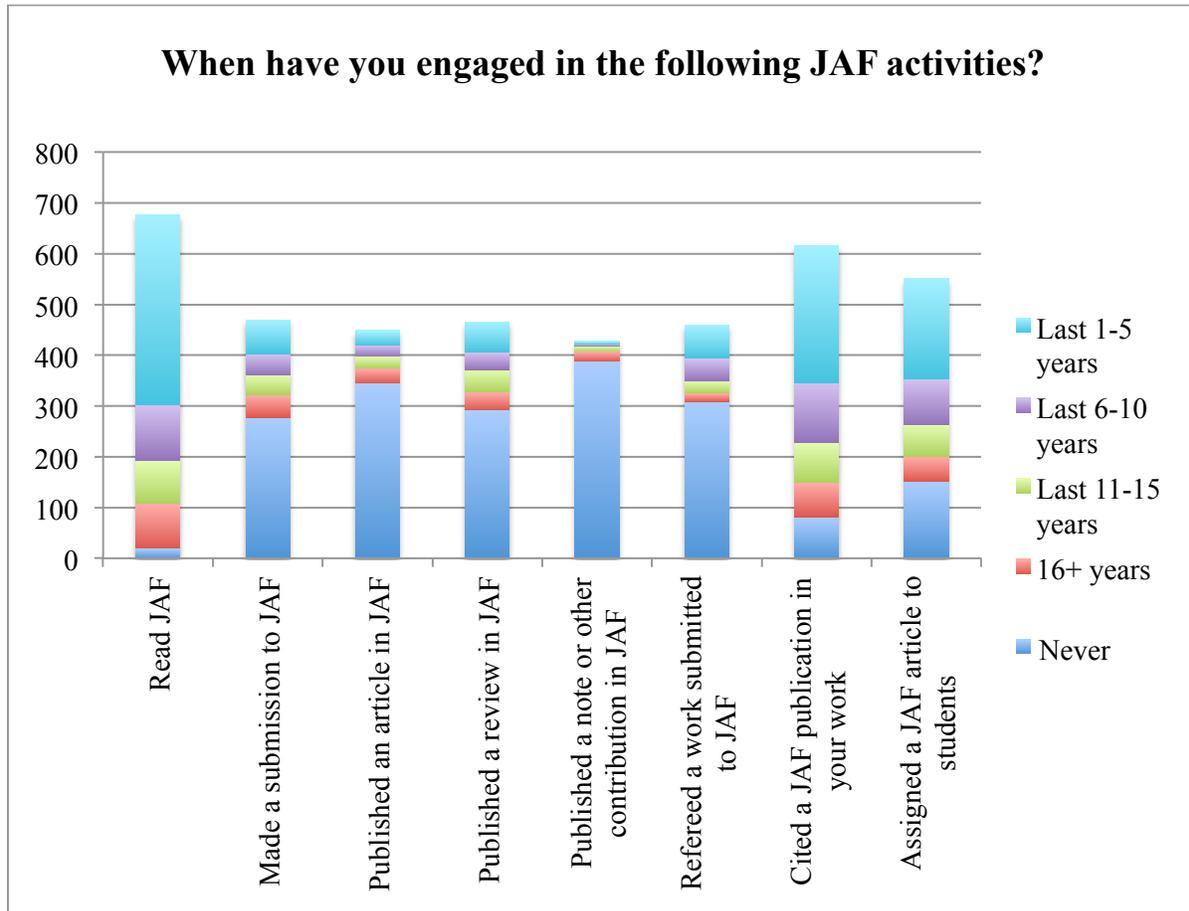


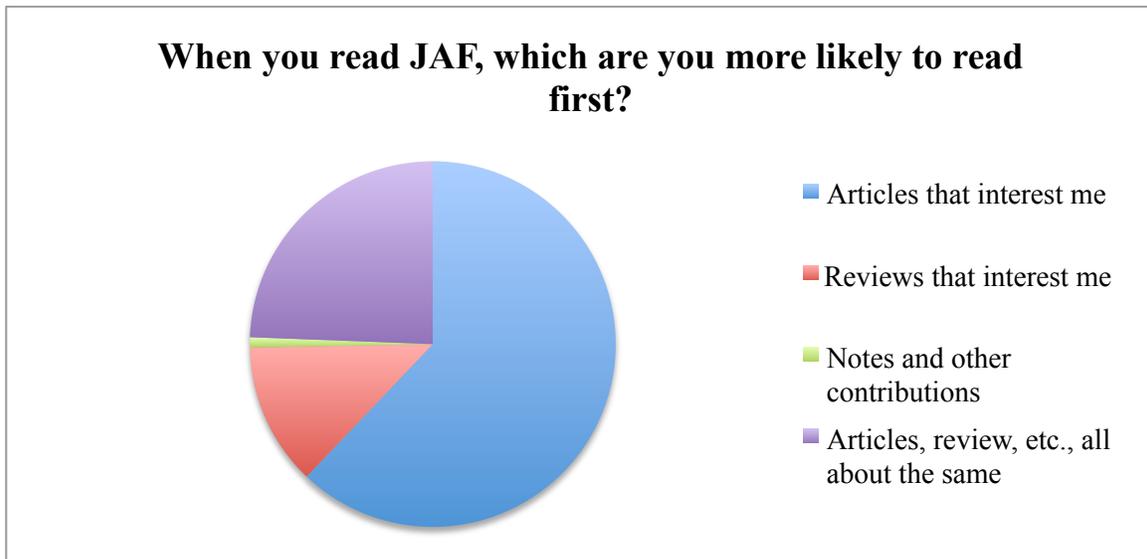| Answer Options | Last 1-5 years | Last 6-10 years | Last 11-15 years | 16+ years | Never | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Read JAF** | 375 | 109 | 85 | 88 | 20 | 453 |
| **Made a submission** | 66 | 42 | 38 | 45 | 278 | 441 |
| **Published an article** | 29 | 22 | 23 | 30 | 345 | 434 |
| **Published a review** | 59 | 34 | 44 | 36 | 292 | 439 |
| **Published a note or other contribution** | 6 | 3 | 11 | 19 | 389 | 427 |
| **Refereed a work submitted to JAF** | 66 | 44 | 24 | 17 | 309 | 433 |
| **Cited a JAF publication in your work** | 270 | 118 | 78 | 68 | 82 | 447 |
| **Assigned a JAF article to students** | 199 | 89 | 63 | 49 | 152 | 442 |
| | | | | | *answered question* | 456 |
| | | | | | *skipped question* | 70 |

Question 11: Journal of American Folklore (JAF)

**When you use JAF, are you more likely to use a paper copy or an online version?**

- Paper
- Online
- Both about the same
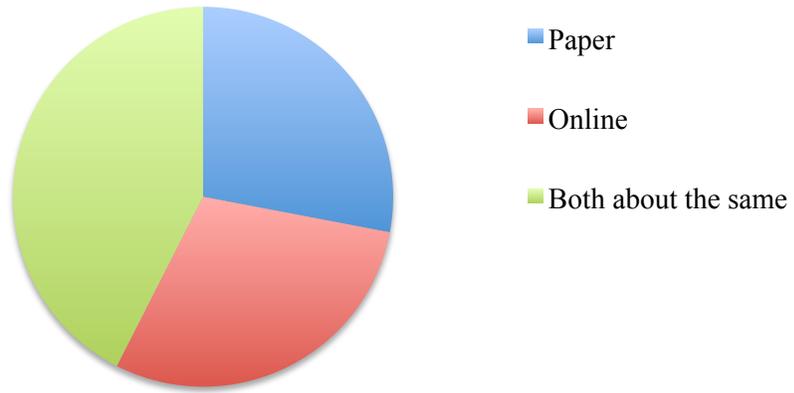
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Paper** | 28.0% | 128 |
| **Online** | 29.5% | 135 |
| **Both about the same** | 42.5% | 194 |
| | *answered question* | 457 |
| | *skipped question* | 69 |

Question 12: Journal of American Folklore (JAF)

**When you read JAF, which are you more likely to read first?**

■ Articles that interest me

■ Reviews that interest me

■ Notes and other contributions

■ Articles, review, etc., all about the same

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Articles that interest me** | 62.1% | 282 |
| **Reviews that interest me** | 12.6% | 57 |
| **Notes and other contributions** | 0.9% | 4 |
| **Articles, review, etc., all about the same** | 24.4% | 111 |
| | *answered question* | 454 |
| | *skipped question* | 72 |

<u>Question 13: Journal of American Folklore (JAF)</u>

If you have submitted or published articles in other journals, which ones? If you have published in both JAF and other journals, was it easier or harder to publish an article, review, or contribution to this journal than JAF? (Please explain).

*215 respondents (41% of all respondents) provided information on what other journals they have published in, which included a wide-variety of publications across a wide-range of disciplines (224 journals in total were listed). The chart below represents the six most frequent journals that AFS members have published in:*



**The Top 6 Other Journals AFS Members Publish in**
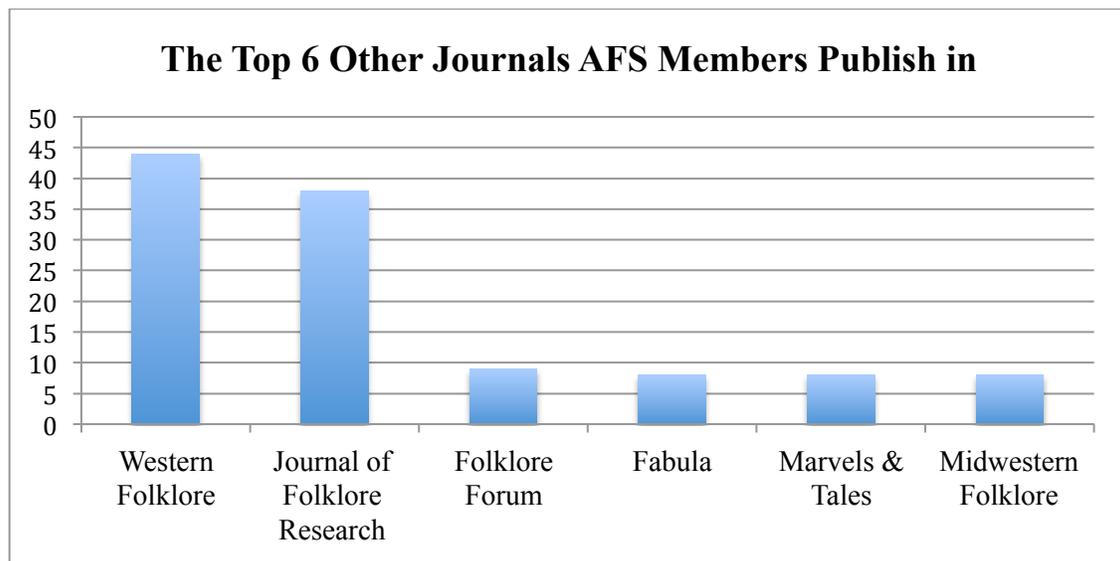
*Only 68 individuals (13% of all survey respondents) responded to the part of question 13 which asked whether they found publishing in JAF easier or harder than publishing in other journals. The results are as follows:*



**Is it easier to publish in other journals?**
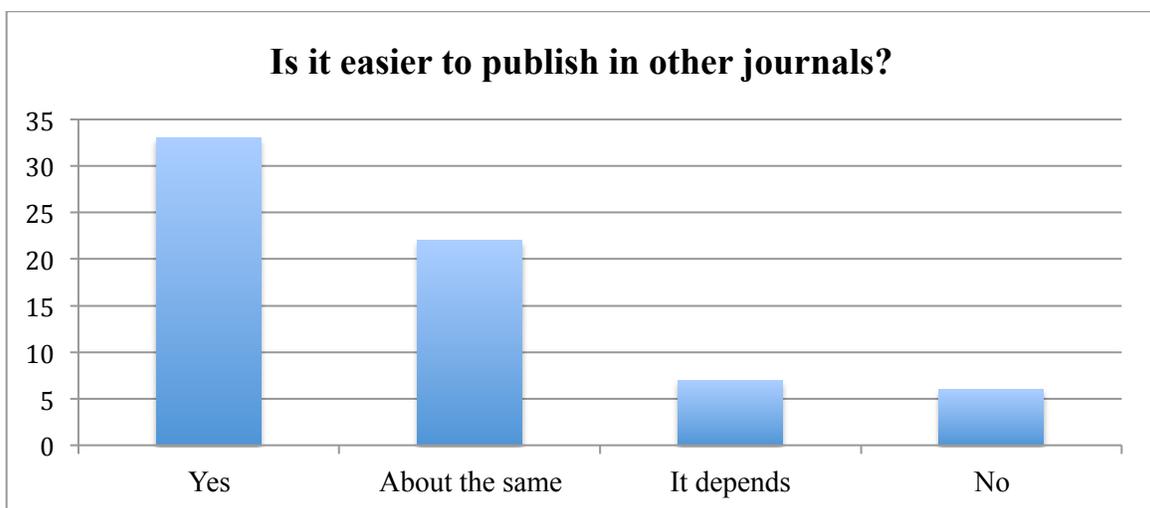
Question 14: Journal of American Folklore (JAF)

If AFS could make one or two changes to the Journal of American Folklore, what one or two changes would make the greatest positive difference?

*192 respondents (36.5% of all respondents) made recommendations. We have grouped suggestions made by 10 people or more into the following categories. The calculations below indicate a percentage of those who responded to this particular question:*

Broaden Range of Topics: Publish more articles and more special issues dealing with specific topics (e.g., creative writing, material culture, international issues and perspectives, interdisciplinary issues and perspectives, etc.):  31 (16%)

Encourage a Grounded Ethos: Emphasize the readability of articles; don't privilege contributions that rely on professional jargon and high theory; publish work that will be relevant and compelling to a wider range of readers:  21 (11%)

Have a Faster Turnaround: Respond to and publish article submissions faster; review books as they are coming out or soon after their publication; move book reviews to a timelier online venue:  16 (8%)

Refocus on American Folklore: Include more articles dealing with US topics and fewer articles with international foci; focus on folklore-specific work by acknowledged folklorists:  14 (7%)

Publish More Articles: Increase the number of substantive articles per issue; increase the number of issues per year:  13 (7%)

Devote More Attention to Public and Applied Work: Create a better balance between articles that deal with academic research and those that deal with professional practice and public or applied folklore work:  12 (6%)

Question 15: Website



## How often do you use the following website resources?
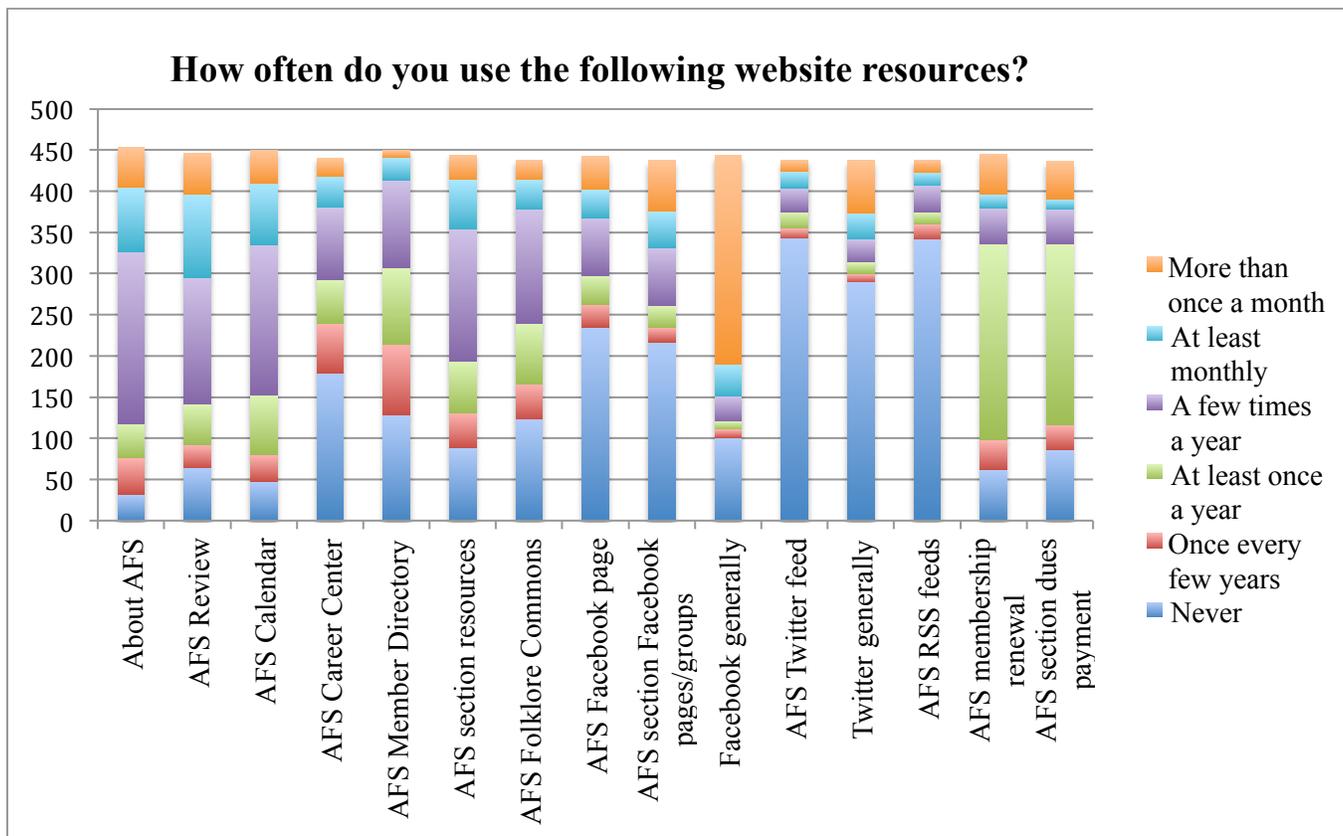
| Answer Options | More than once a month | At least monthly | A few times a year | At least once a year | Once every few years | Never | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| About AFS (information about the Society and its activities) | 48 | 79 | 208 | 42 | 44 | 32 | 449 |
| AFS Review (news and opinions about the field) | 49 | 102 | 153 | 50 | 28 | 64 | 445 |
| AFS Calendar (conferences and events) | 39 | 75 | 182 | 73 | 32 | 48 | 442 |
| AFS Career Center (jobs and other professional opportunities) | 22 | 37 | 88 | 54 | 60 | 179 | 438 |
| AFS Member Directory | 9 | 28 | 106 | 93 | 86 | 128 | 441 |
| AFS section resources (group pages, section email, news, forum, shared files and photos) | 30 | 60 | 160 | 63 | 43 | 88 | 441 |
| AFS Folklore Commons (knowledge base about folklore and folklore studies) | 24 | 36 | 139 | 73 | 43 | 123 | 436 |
| AFS Facebook page | 40 | 34 | 70 | 35 | 28 | 235 | 438 |
| AFS section Facebook pages or groups | 61 | 45 | 70 | 26 | 18 | 217 | 436 |
| Facebook generally | 253 | 39 | 30 | 10 | 10 | 101 | 442 |
| AFS Twitter feed | 14 | 20 | 29 | 20 | 12 | 343 | 434 |
| Twitter generally | 63 | 32 | 28 | 14 | 10 | 290 | 432 |
| AFS RSS feeds (for AFS Review, Calendar, or Career Center) | 15 | 16 | 32 | 15 | 18 | 342 | 434 |
| AFS membership renewal | 49 | 16 | 44 | 238 | 36 | 62 | 440 |
| AFS section dues payment | 45 | 13 | 42 | 220 | 30 | 86 | 436 |
| | | | | | | *answered question* | 453 |
| | | | | | | *skipped question* | 73 |

Question 16: Website

If AFS could make one or two changes to its website, what one or two changes would make the greatest positive difference?

*135 respondents (26% of all respondents) made recommendations. We have grouped suggestions made by 10 or more people into the following categories. The calculations below indicate a percentage of those who responded to this particular question:*

Increase User-friendliness: Organize information more intuitively to ease navigation; decrease the amount of text and make better use of graphic elements; improve readability and reduce clutter; make it easier to log on; improve the messaging feature:
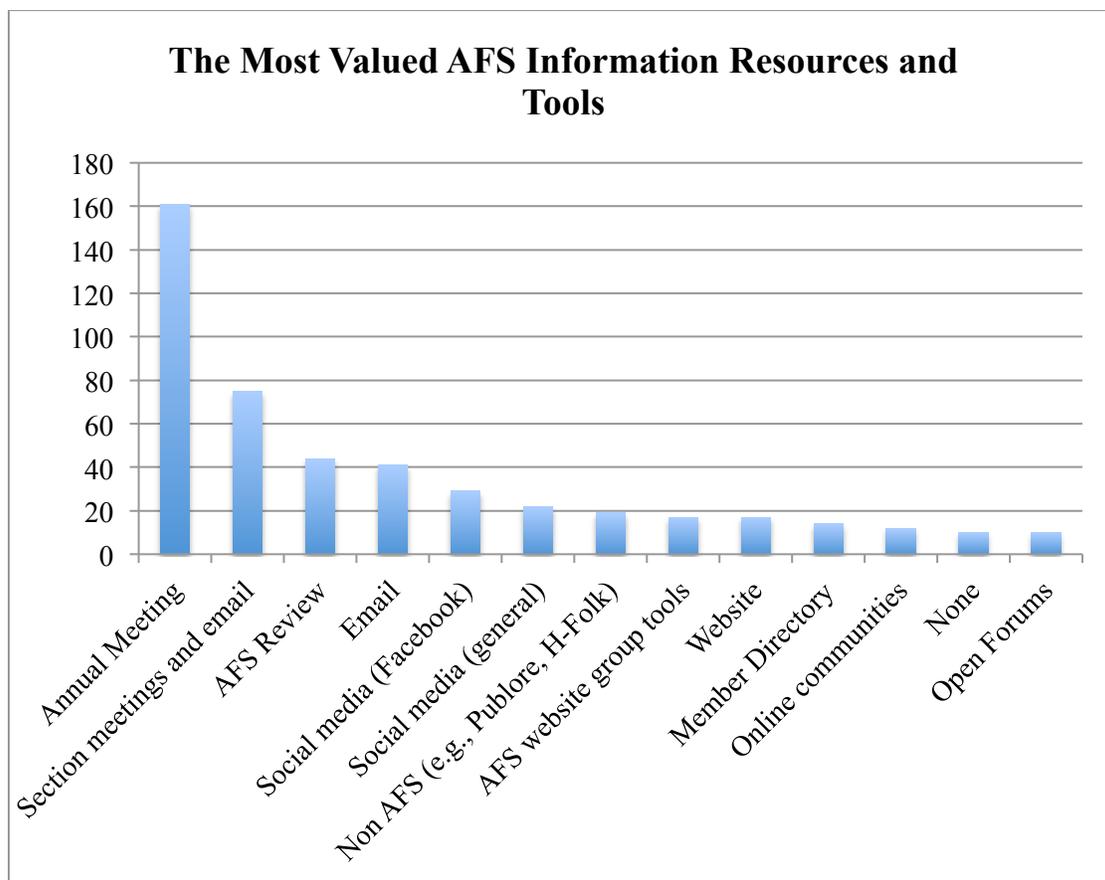
42 (31%)

Add New Content and Resources: Add audio-visual media; feature members' work and perspectives; and provide more downloadable resources, particularly for students:

15 (11%)

*\*A number of respondents made suggestions for making improvements to the website that already exist, suggesting that they are simply unaware of these features and/or that the Society needs to do a better job of communicating about them.*

Question 17: Communications

AFS currently offers folklorists several ways to communicate, including: --Section meetings and email--AFS website group tools, including email, forums, blogs, and webpages --Online communities on Facebook, Google groups, etc. managed by AFS Sections--AFS social media via Twitter and Facebook--Annual Meeting--AFS Review, Open Forums, Folklore Wiki, Member Directory Which of these do you use/value most? Why?
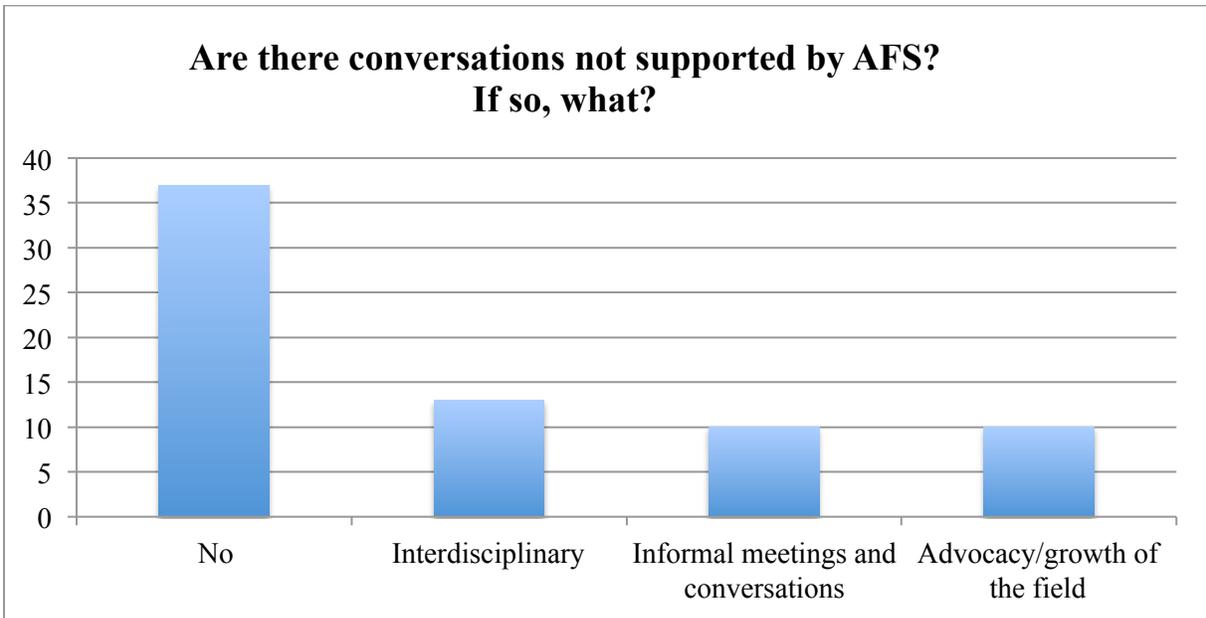
*282 respondents (54% of all respondents) answered this question. The most popular responses (those with 10 or more respondents) are included in descending order in the graph below:*

**The Most Valued AFS Information Resources and Tools**

A bar chart titled "The Most Valued AFS Information Resources and Tools" with a y-axis ranging from 0 to 180 in increments of 20. The bars in descending order are:
- Annual Meeting: ~161
- Section meetings and email: ~75
- AFS Review: ~44
- Email: ~41
- Social media (Facebook): ~30
- Social media (general): ~22
- Non AFS (e.g., Publore, H-Folk): ~20
- AFS website group tools: ~17
- Website: ~17
- Member Directory: ~15
- Online communities: ~12
- None: ~10
- Open Forums: ~10

<u>Question 18: Communications</u>

Are there kinds of conversation within the field that are important to you but are not being supported by these venues?
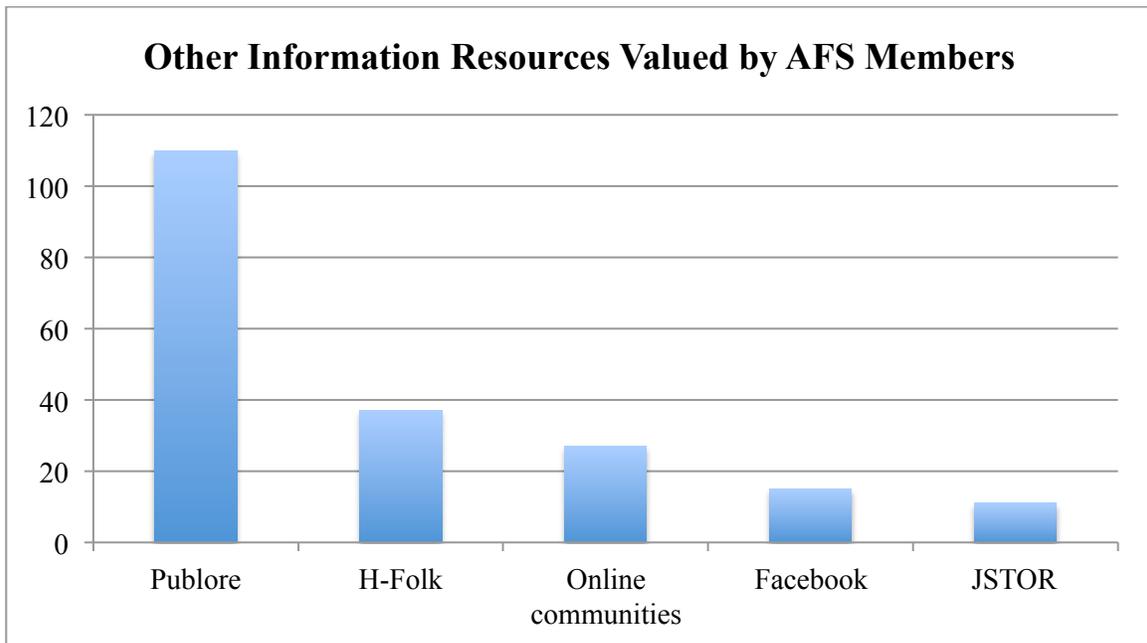
*143 respondents (27% of all respondents) answered this question, and some provided suggestions for types of conversations that should be better supported by AFS. The data is summarized in the graph below:*

**Are there conversations not supported by AFS? If so, what?**

Question 19: Communications

What other information resources do you use most to support your work in the field? (e.g., Publore, H-Folk, online communities, etc.)

*210 respondents (40% of all respondents) answered this question. The most popular responses (those with 10 or more respondents) are included below:*

**Other Information Resources Valued by AFS Members**

| Resource | Respondents |
|---|---|
| Publore | 110 |
| H-Folk | 37 |
| Online communities | 27 |
| Facebook | 15 |
| JSTOR | 11 |

## II. Potential AFS Activities

Question 20: Cultural Diversity

AFS seeks increased participation from people of color, women, differently abled, and members of the LGBTQA communities not just as AFS members, but also as leaders in the field and Society. What new activities might AFS undertake to achieve this goal?

*189 respondents (36% of all respondents) offered suggestions. We have grouped suggestions made by 10 or more people into the following categories. The calculations below indicate a percentage of those who responded to this particular question:*

Outreach: Engage in outreach to elementary, high school, undergraduate and graduate students to draw more diverse students to the field; better publicize the field to students and to the broader public; actively recruit students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, community colleges, and other institutions that serve the groups in question:
32 (17%)

Increase Financial Support*: Provide more annual meeting stipends and travel grants for scholars from underrepresented groups; provide scholarships and offer more awards for members of underrepresented groups; provide membership discounts: 23 (12%)

*\* AFS already provides several of these forms of support.*

Support Relevant Research: Invite and publish more research articles in *JAF* on aspects of folklore pertaining to targeted groups; have more *JAF* special issues on relevant topics; invite scholars from underrepresented groups to give more lectures, plenaries and other kinds of presentations at the annual meeting; update the curriculum of university folklore programs: 24 (13%)

Partner with Like-minded Organizations and Fields: Hold joint meetings, workshops and other types of events with academic societies that serve underrepresented populations and/or that have been successful in fostering a diverse membership and leadership; communicate with and undertake initiatives in collaboration with these groups:
21 (11%)

Facilitate Discussion at the Annual Meeting: Organize and solicit more annual meeting sessions, forums, plenaries, round table discussions, and other scholarly presentations on diversity issues; host more annual meeting social events, such as mixers, that bring diverse groups together; select future conference themes that target these issues:
20 (11%)

<u>Question 21: Cultural Diversity</u>

AFS currently tries to increase this participation through various initiatives such as prizes and awards like the Gerald L. Davis Award and the work of the Cultural Diversity Committee. How might we improve our current initiatives?

*129 respondents (25% of all respondents) answered this question. The responses varied widely and largely echoed responses to the previous question. The most popular suggestions (those with 10 or more responses) were as follows:*

Increase the financial support and number of awards already offered:           29 (23%)
Promote and publicize the present initiatives better:                          16 (12%)

Question 22A: Priorities

Which activities are most important for AFS to undertake in the next five years?

| Answer Options | Highest Priority | Important but not highest priority | Ambivalent/ Undecided | Lowest Priority | Poor investment of resources | Total Number of Respondents |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Bringing younger people into the field** | 48% (199 respondents) | 43% (177) | 8% (31) | 1% (3) | 0.2% (1) | 411 |
| **Advocacy concerning the importance and contributions of our field** | 48% (195) | 38% (154) | 11% (46) | 2.5% (10) | 0.5% (2) | 407 |
| **Increasing the diversity of AFS membership** | 42% (173) | 43% (175) | 13% (53) | 0.5% (2) | 1.5% (6) | 409 |
| **Supporting publishing in the field** | 38% (152) | 45% (181) | 13% (54) | 4% (16) | 0.5% (2) | 405 |
| **Increasing our engagement with allied fields** | 36% (148) | 48% (197) | 14% (57) | 2% (7) | 0.00% 0 | 409 |
| **Increasing the diversity of AFS leadership** | 36% (147) | 44.5% (181) | 17% (68) | 1% (4) | 2% (7) | 407 |
| **Advocacy concerning issues affecting practice in our field** | 36% (147) | 46% (185) | 15% (61) | 1.5% (6) | 1.5% (6) | 405 |
| **Advocacy concerning community cultural issues** | 35.5% (145) | 43% (175) | 18% (72) | 2% (9) | 2% 8() | 409 |
| **Mentoring** | 36% (145) | 44% (174) | 18% (71) | 1.5% (6) | 1% (3) | 399 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Increasing our engagement with other organizations in our field** | 32% (130) | 50% (206) | 17% (68) | 1.5% (6) | 0.00% 0 | 410 |
| **Providing financial and/or professional development support to AFS members** | 30.5% (121) | 47% (185) | 18% (70) | 4% (15) | 1.5% (6) | 397 |
| **Supporting new forms of meetings and exchange in the field** | 29% (116) | 48% (194) | 20% (82) | 3% (12) | 0.5% (2) | 406 |
| **Increasing the participation of international scholars in the Society** | 24% (98) | 50% (203) | 23% (94) | 3% (12) | 0.5% (2) | 409 |
| **Increasing our engagement with annual meeting communities** | 23% (92) | 42% (172) | 27% (110) | 6% (25) | 2% (7) | 406 |

<u>Question 22B: Priorities (Other Comments):</u>

*In addition to ranking the above activities, 82 respondents (16% of all respondents) made further suggestions for additional activities that AFS should take on. We have grouped suggestions made by 8 people or more into the following categories. The calculations below indicate a percentage of those who responded to this particular question:*

<u>Advocate Folklore in the Academic Sphere and to the General Public:</u> Work to improve the status of the field within the academy; promote the importance of the field to administrators; strengthen the appeal of the field to undergraduates; increase the presence of AFS and the field in the public:                                                                                        12 (15%)

<u>Provide More Support for Members-in-need:</u> Empower and aid younger scholars especially as they transition from graduate school into the workforce; provide more professional training to help younger scholars find folklore-related work; provide better support for those in adjunct positions or folklorists working outside the field; motivate senior and retired folklorists and help them stay connected; provide increased financial and emotional support to these and other groups in need:                                    10 (12%)

<u>Host Events Outside the Annual Meeting:</u> Organize more workshops, seminars, and training events on practical applications and professional development; hold more joint meetings to help extend affiliations with allied fields; support regional and local gatherings of folklorists:                                                                                                   8 (10%)

*\*12 respondents (15%) felt that AFS is already involved in enough or too many activities, and therefore should not take on any new ones.*
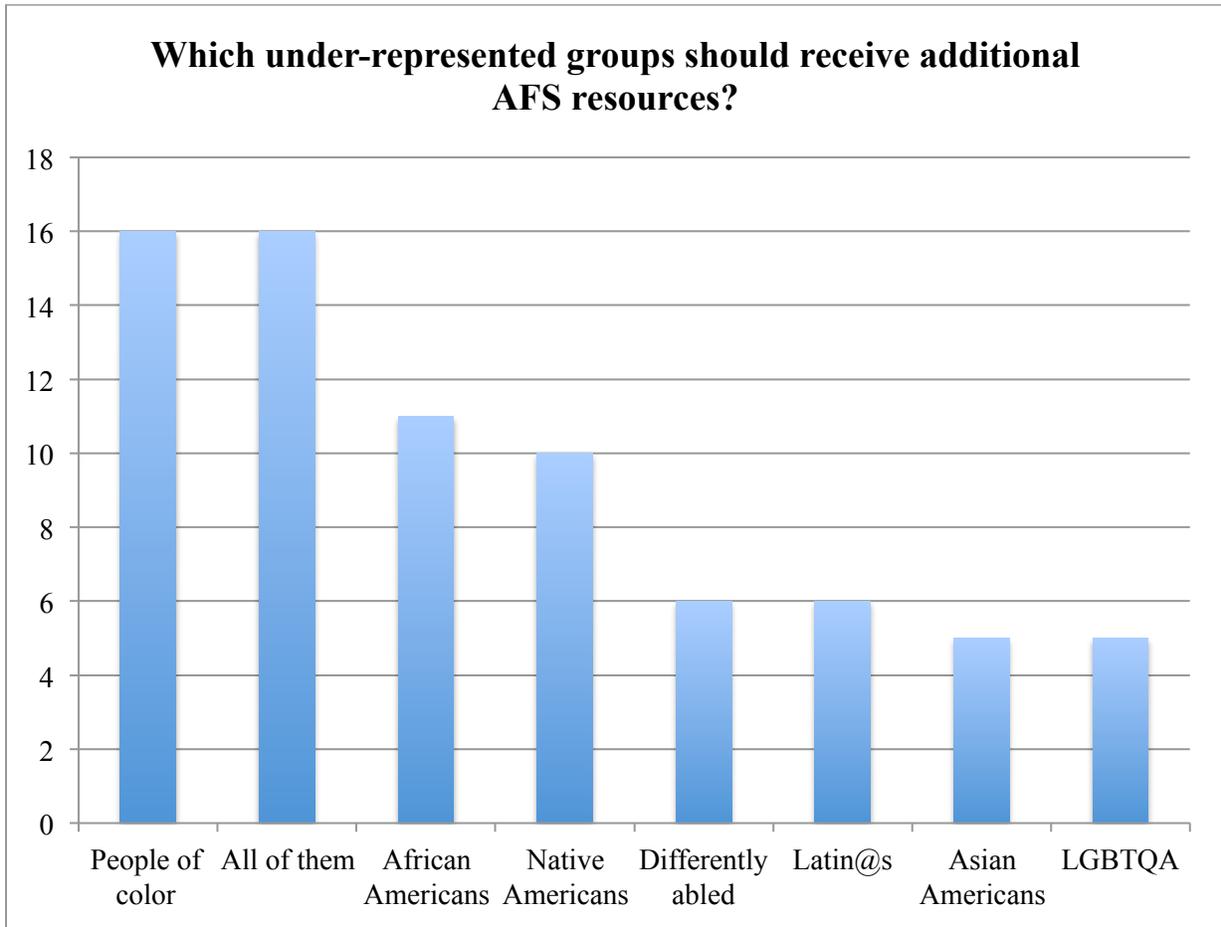
Question 23: Priorities

As the AFS Executive Board considers priorities for new work over the next five years, how important do you think it is for the following groups to receive additional investments of AFS financial and human resources?

| Answer Options | Very Important | Important | Ambivalent/ Undecided | Not Important | Waste of resources | Total Number of Respondents |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Early Career Folklorists [1-5 years after school)** | 62% (247) | 32% (127) | 6% (23) | 0.25% (1) | 0.00% 0 | 398 |
| **Students** | 50% (176) | 41% (143) | 8% (28) | 1% (3) | 0.00% 0 | 350 |
| **Under-waged folklorists (e.g., adjunct, hourly, non-tenure track, part-time)** | 46% (189) | 44% (180) | 7% (30) | 1.5% (6) | 1% (4) | 409 |
| **Community scholars, folk artists, and cultural organizations** | 37% (152) | 43% (175) | 16% (66) | 2.5% (10) | 1% (4) | 407 |
| **Independent folklorists** | 33% (135) | 48% (194) | 17% (68) | 1% (5) | 1% (3) | 405 |
| **Representatives of under-represented groups (specified in question 24)** | 33% (121) | 33% (120) | 27% (98) | 4% (13) | 4% (13) | 365 |
| **International folklorists** | 24% (94) | 44% (173) | 24% (96) | 7% (28) | 1.5% (6) | 397 |
| **Mid-career folklorists (e.g., 5-15 years after school, post-tenure academics)** | 18% (72) | 51% (204) | 25% (100) | 6% (24) | 0.5% (2) | 402 |
| **Senior folklorists** | 9% (37) | 32.5% (131) | 40% (161) | 15% (62) | 3% (12) | 403 |
| **Retired folklorists** | 7% (29) | 33% (132) | 38% (154) | 16% (66) | 5% (21) | 402 |

Question 24: Other Comments

*Those who responded to question 23 (see previous page) were asked to specify which under-represented groups should receive additional investments of AFS financial and human resources. 116 respondents (22% of all respondents) offered input. Suggestions made by 5 or more people have been represented in the survey below:*
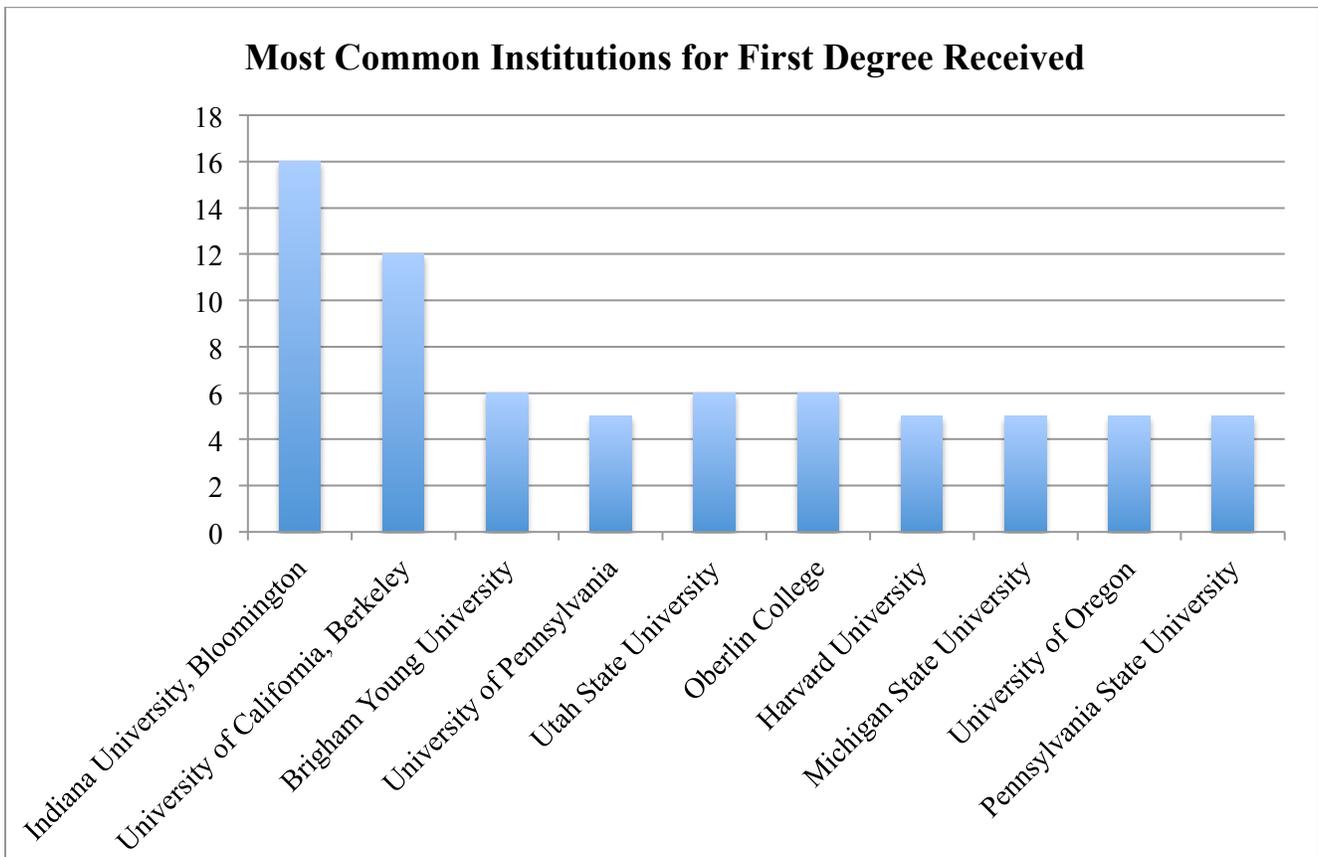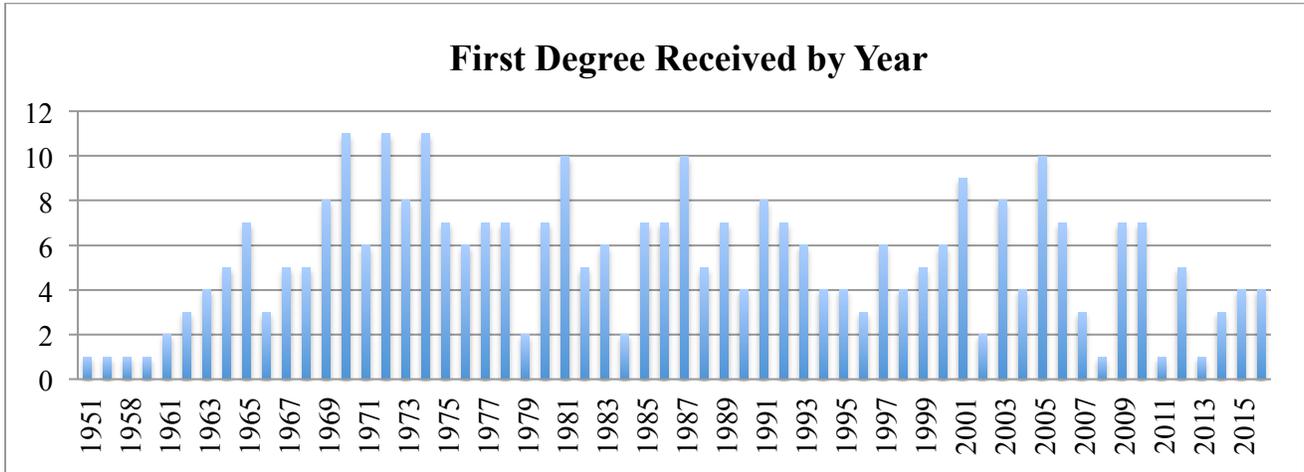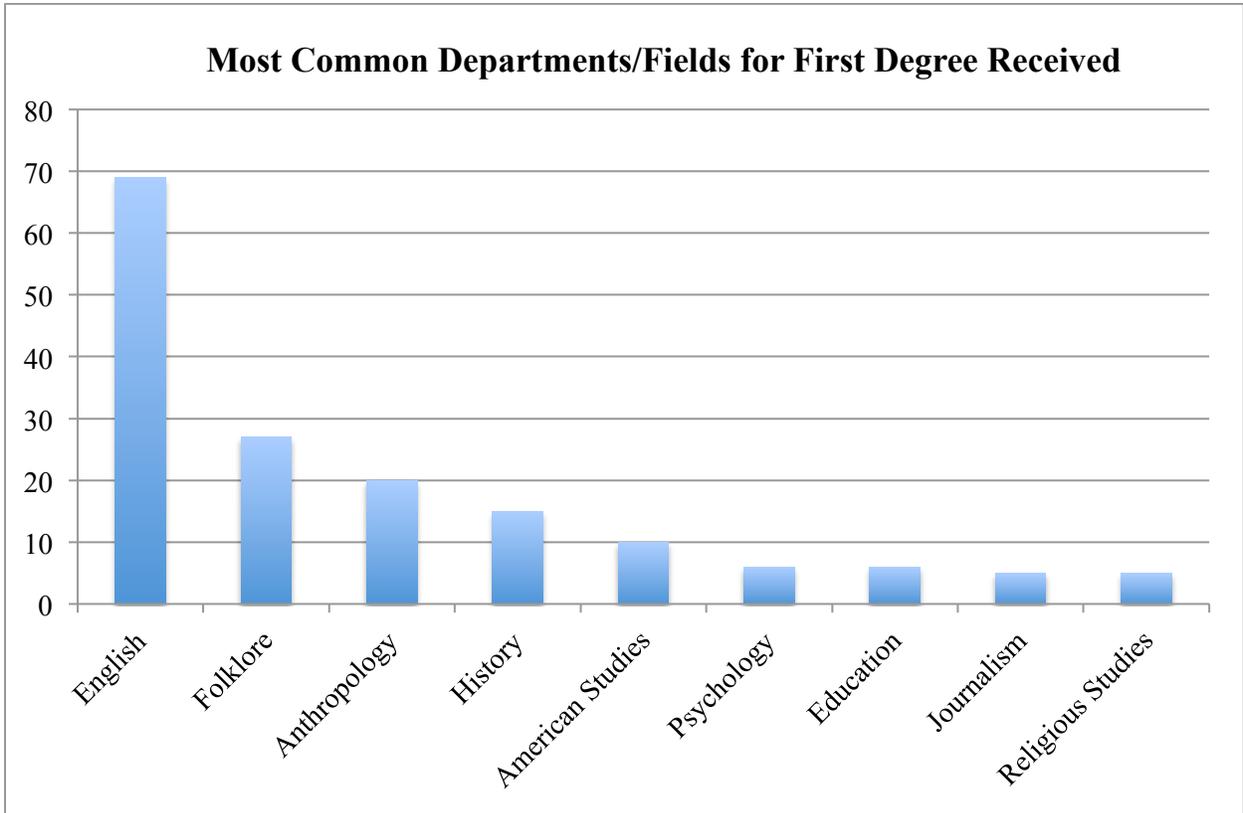
**Which under-represented groups should receive additional AFS resources?**

| Group | Count |
|---|---|
| People of color | 16 |
| All of them | 16 |
| African Americans | 11 |
| Native Americans | 10 |
| Differently abled | 6 |
| Latin@s | 6 |
| Asian Americans | 5 |
| LGBTQA | 5 |

# IV: Education and Training

## Question 25: Degrees Already Received

*365 respondents (69% of all respondents) provided some information about their previous education. Respondents provided the year of graduation, institution, and department/field for up to three degrees. The following graphs summarize this data:*
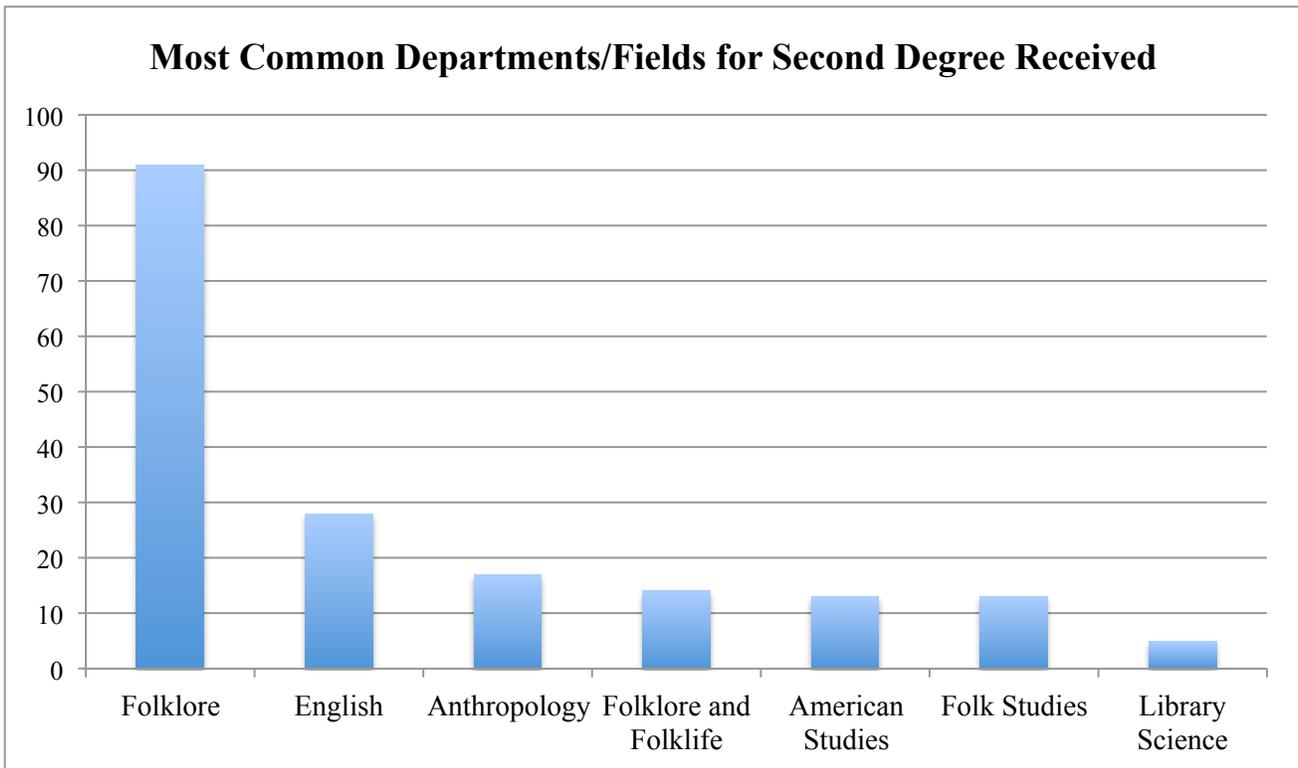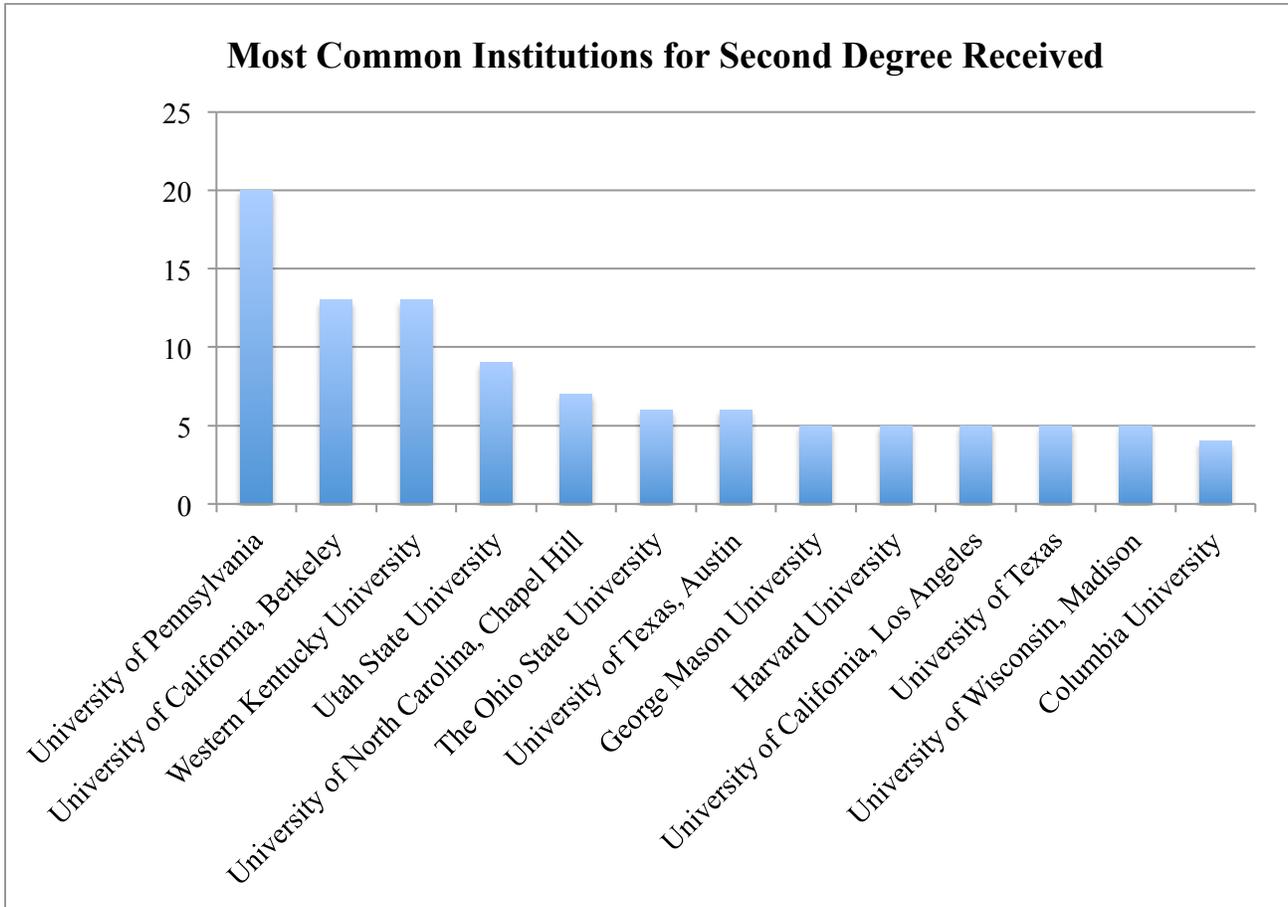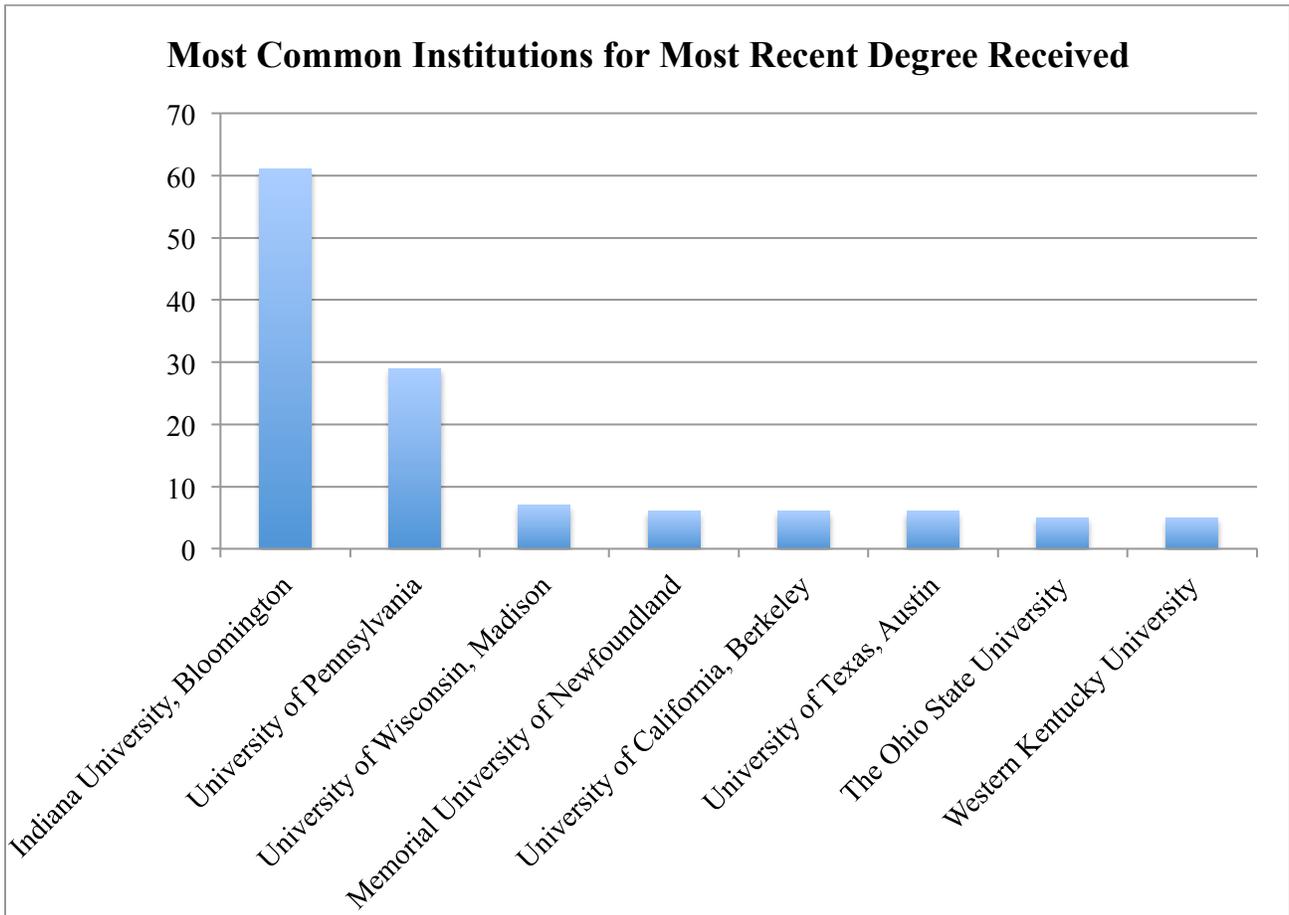
## 1) First Degree Received

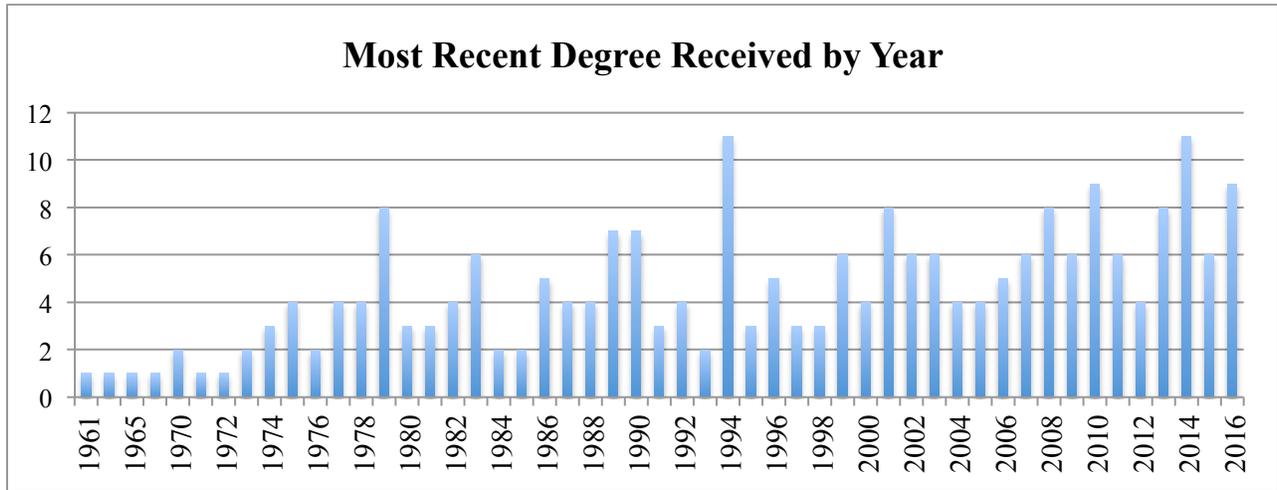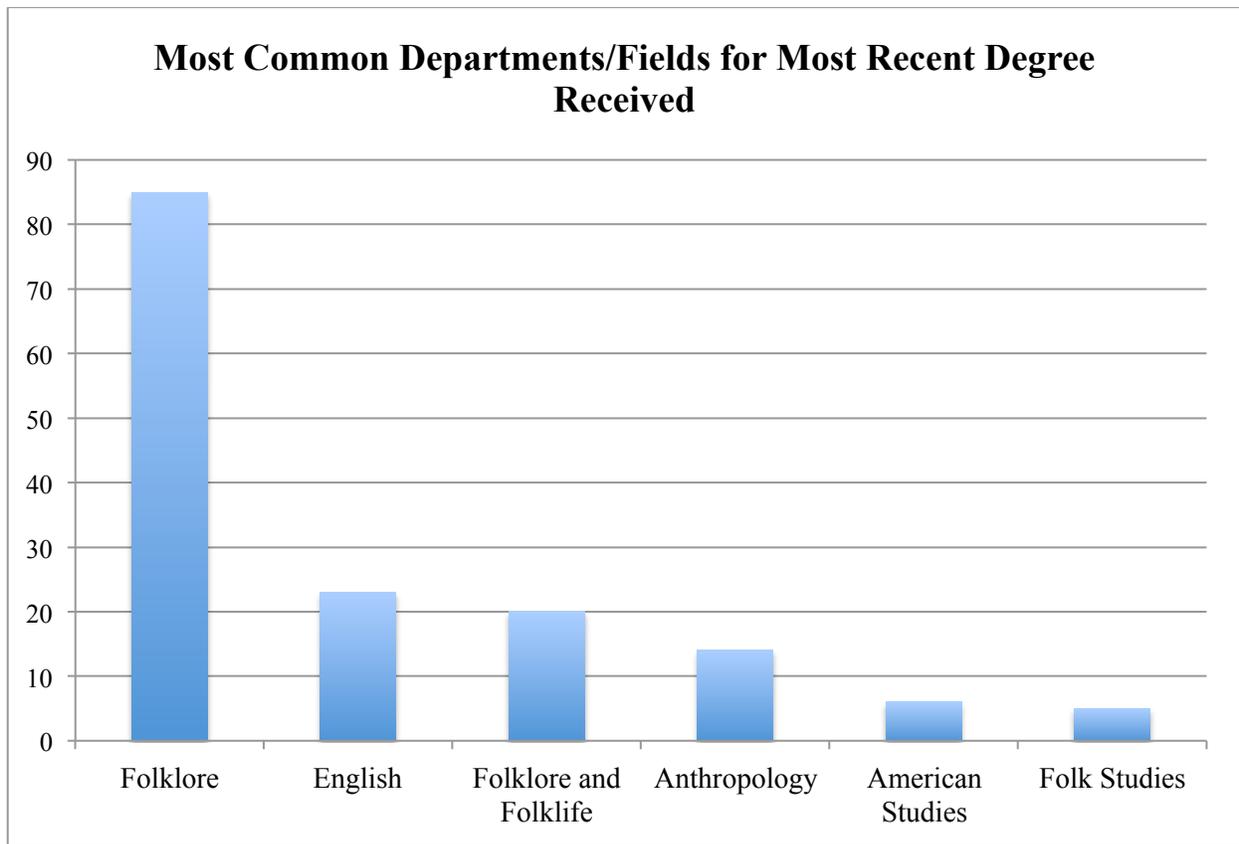**First Degree Received by Year**

**Most Common Institutions for First Degree Received**

## Most Common Departments/Fields for First Degree Received



## 2) Second Degree Received

### Second Degree Received by Year

## Most Common Institutions for Second Degree Received



## Most Common Departments/Fields for Second Degree Received

## 3) Most Recent Degree Received

### Most Recent Degree Received by Year



### Most Common Institutions for Most Recent Degree Received

## Most Common Departments/Fields for Most Recent Degree Received

| | |
|---|---|
| Folklore | 85 |
| English | 23 |
| Folklore and Folklife | 20 |
| Anthropology | 14 |
| American Studies | 6 |
| Folk Studies | 5 |

Question 26: Other Certifications or Training

*103 respondents (20% of all respondents) provided information about their other certifications or training. The most common responses (those listed by 5 or more people) are represented in the graph below:*

**Other Certifications or Training**

A bar chart with the following values:

| Category | Value |
|---|---|
| EFL/ESL/TESOL | 7 |
| Languages | 7 |
| Museums | 7 |
| Film | 6 |
| Teaching | 6 |
| Area studies | 5 |

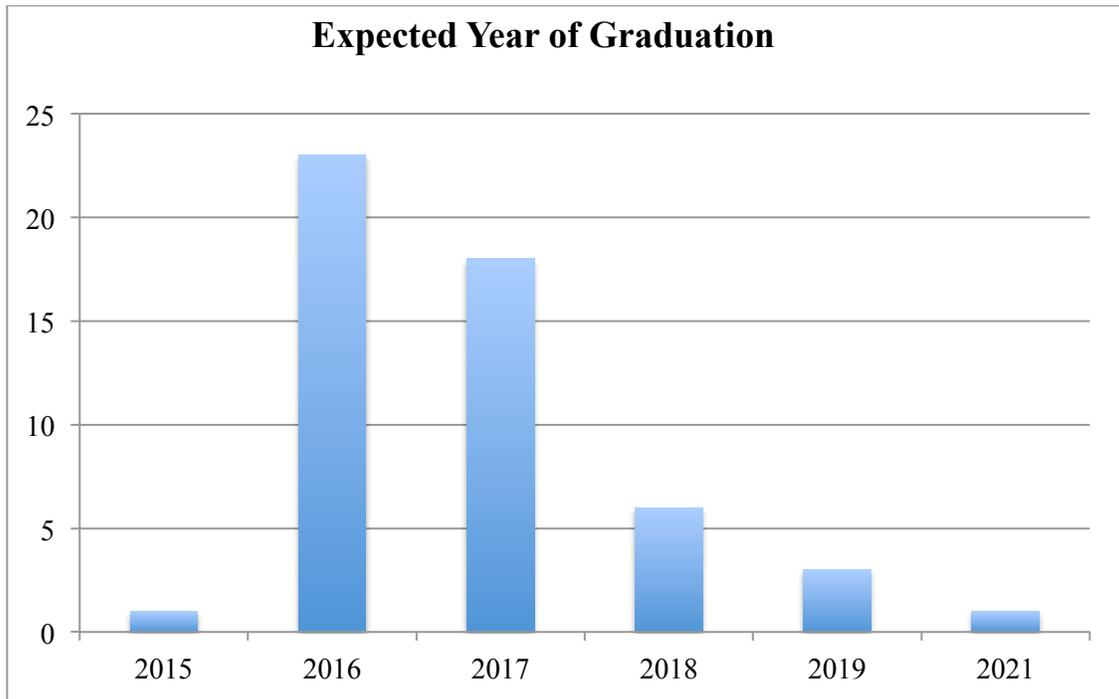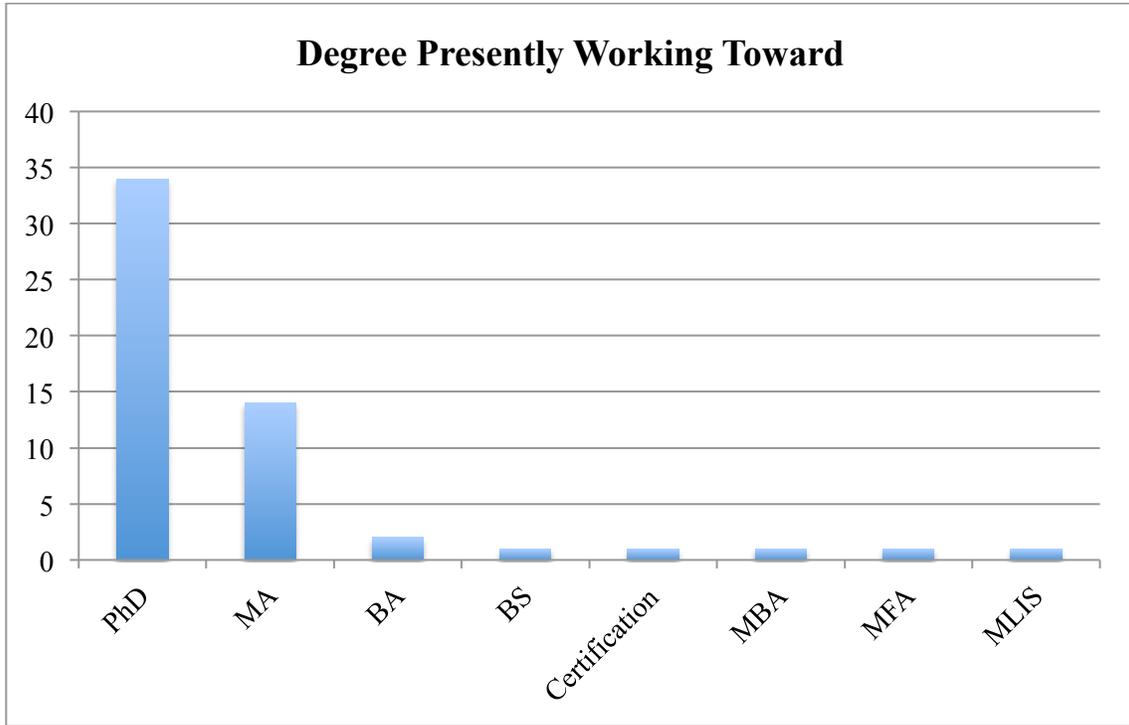*EFL/ESL/TESOL are all training programs for teaching the English language to non-native speakers of English.

Question 27:

**Are you now a student?**
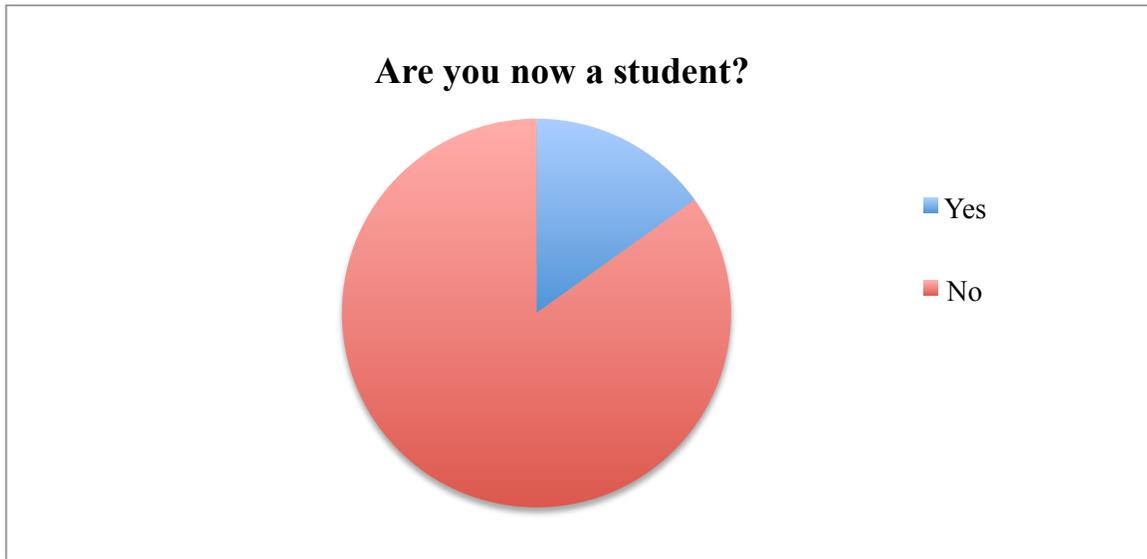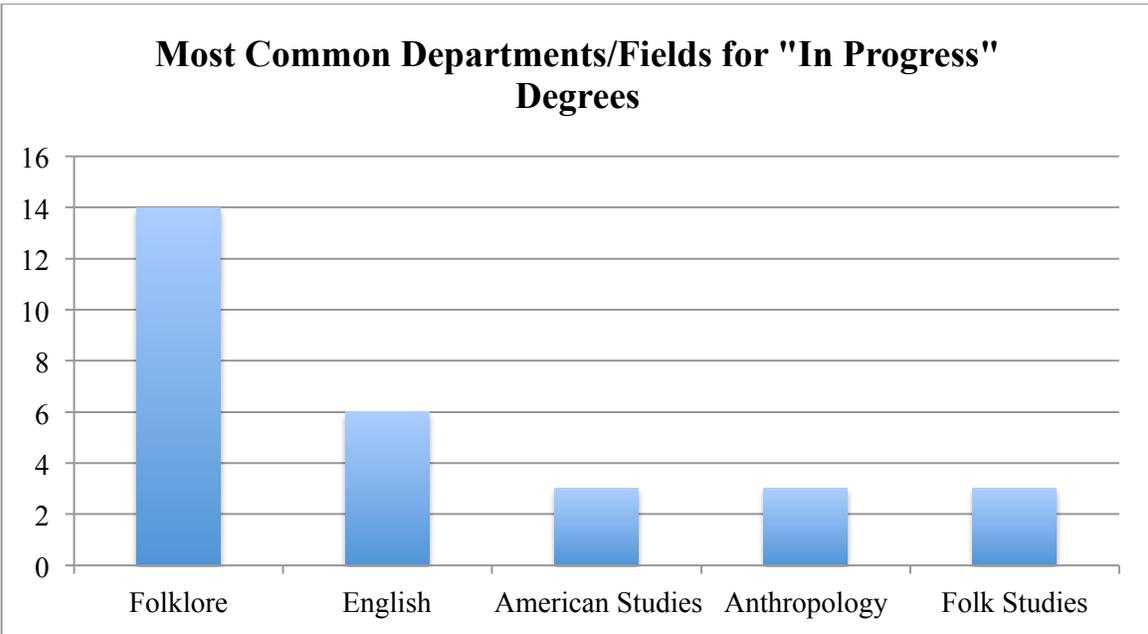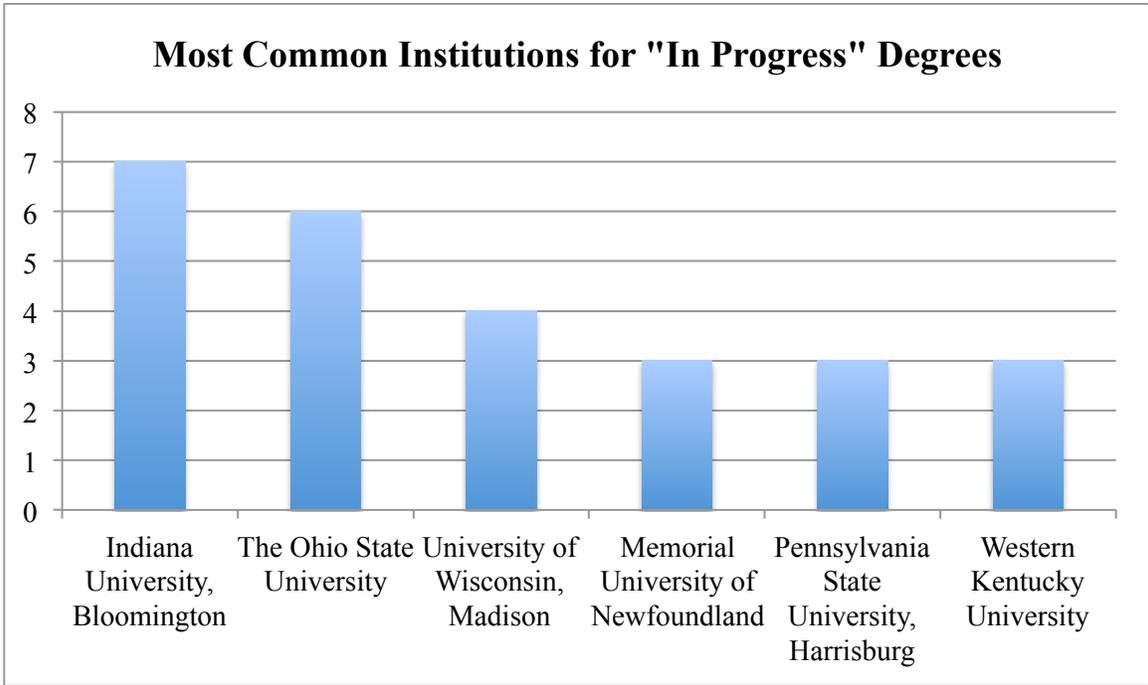


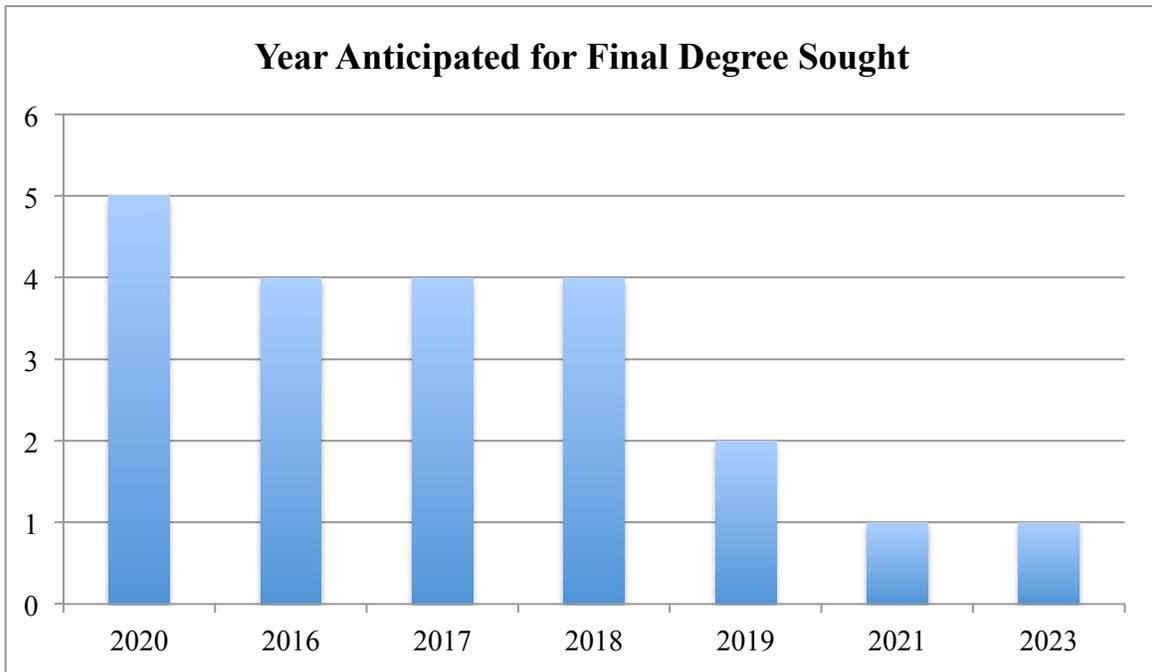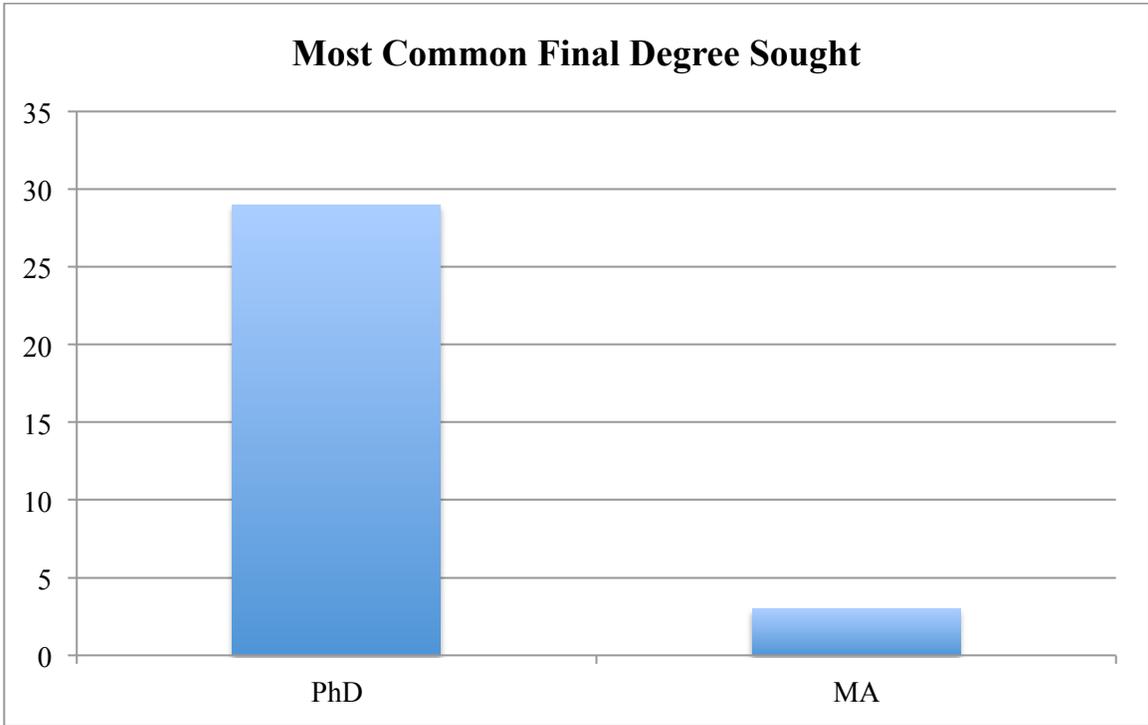| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 15.1% | 61 |
| No | 84.9% | 342 |
| | *answered question* | 403 |
| | *skipped question* | 123 |

Question 28: Degree Presently Working Toward

*55 respondents (10.5% of all respondents) provided information about the degree they are presently working toward. Respondents provided the degree, year anticipated, institution, and department or field. The following graphs summarize this data:*

**Degree Presently Working Toward**



**Expected Year of Graduation**

**Most Common Institutions for "In Progress" Degrees**

| Institution | Count |
|---|---|
| Indiana University, Bloomington | 7 |
| The Ohio State University | 6 |
| University of Wisconsin, Madison | 4 |
| Memorial University of Newfoundland | 3 |
| Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg | 3 |
| Western Kentucky University | 3 |

**Most Common Departments/Fields for "In Progress" Degrees**

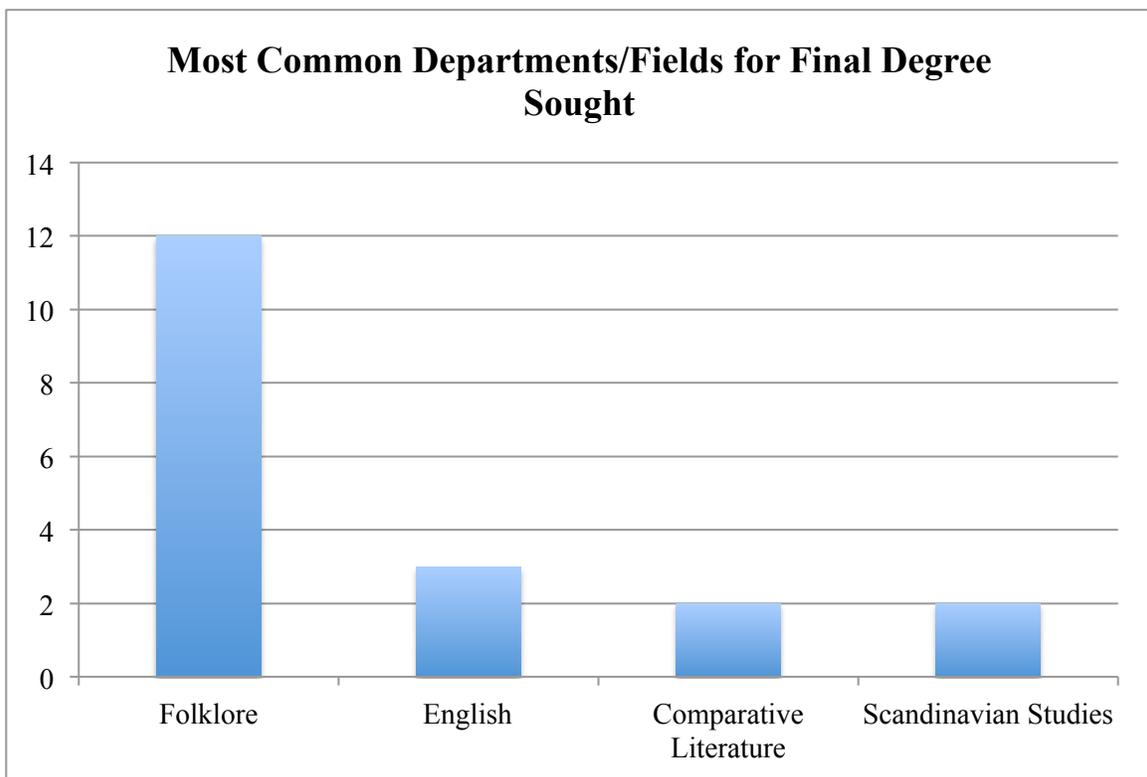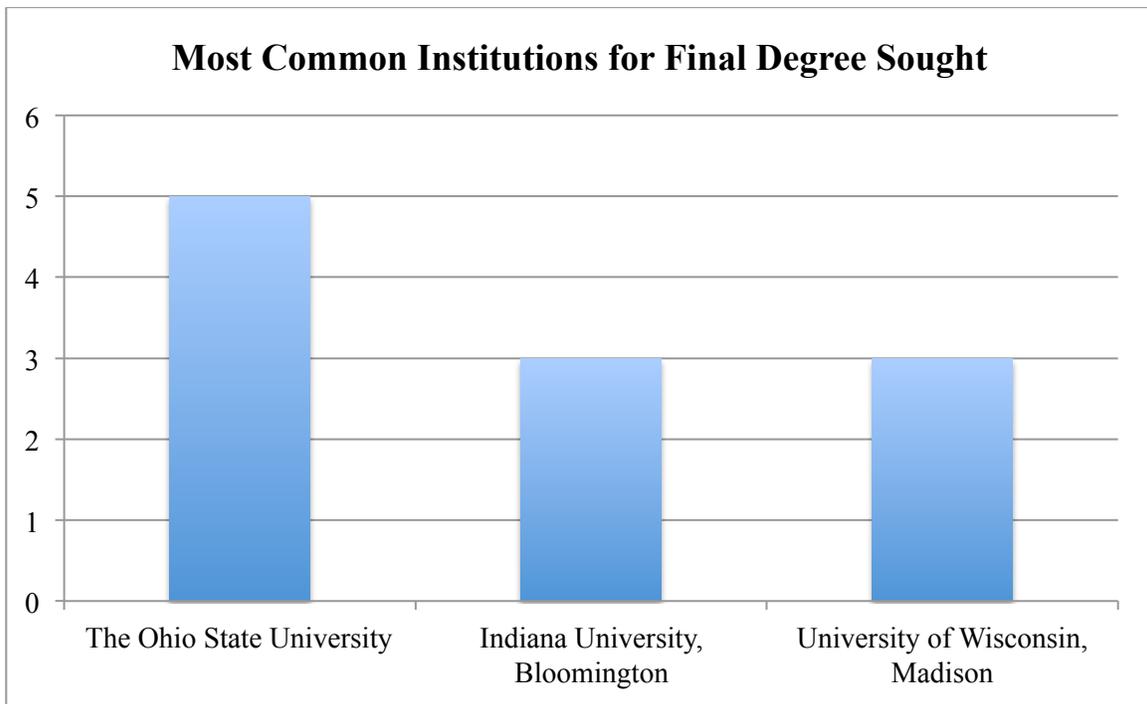| Department/Field | Count |
|---|---|
| Folklore | 14 |
| English | 6 |
| American Studies | 3 |
| Anthropology | 3 |
| Folk Studies | 3 |

Question 29: Final Degree Expected

*35 respondents (7% of all respondents) provided information about the final degree they expect to seek. Respondents provided the degree, year anticipated, institution, and department or field. The following graphs summarize this data:*

**Most Common Final Degree Sought**

PhD: 29
MA: 3

**Year Anticipated for Final Degree Sought**

2020: 5
2016: 4
2017: 4
2018: 4
2019: 2
2021: 1
2023: 1

## Most Common Institutions for Final Degree Sought

Bar chart showing final degree institutions:
- The Ohio State University: 5
- Indiana University, Bloomington: 3
- University of Wisconsin, Madison: 3

## Most Common Departments/Fields for Final Degree Sought

Bar chart showing departments/fields:
- Folklore: 12
- English: 3
- Comparative Literature: 2
- Scandinavian Studies: 2

<u>Question 30: Position Sought After Final Degree</u>

*85 respondents (16% of all respondents) provided information about the sort of position they plan to seek after receiving their final degree.*
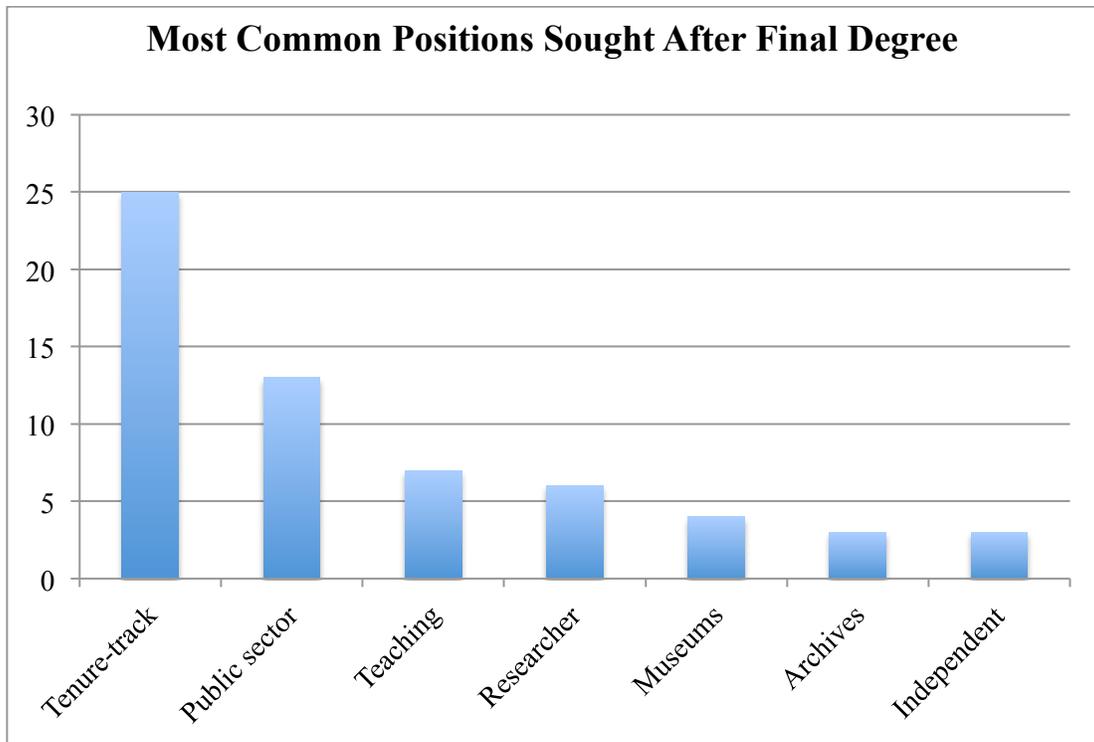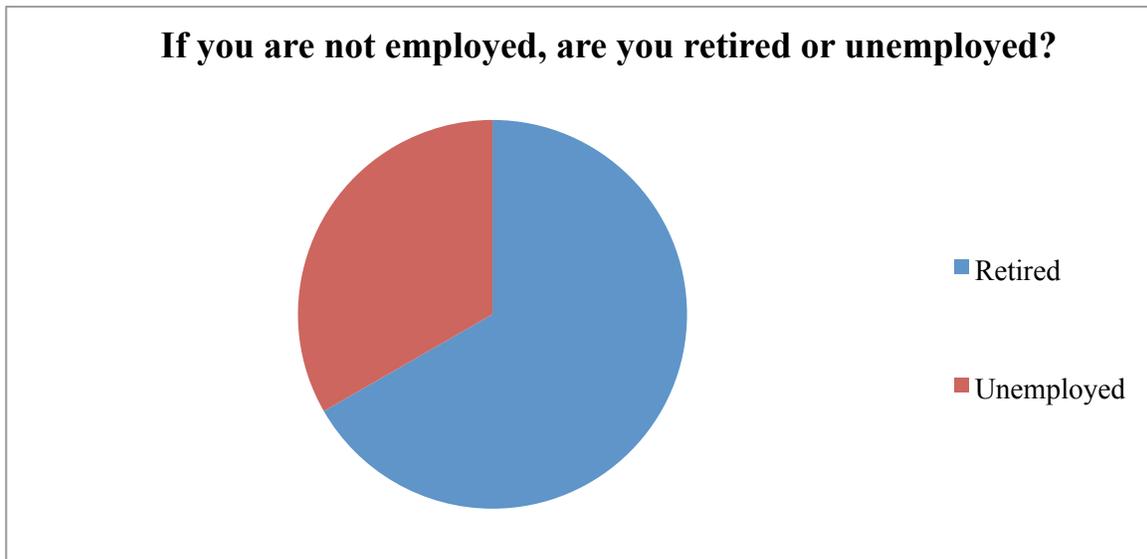
# V. Professional Employment

Question 31:

**Are you employed at the present time?**



- ■ Yes
- ■ No

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | 79.3% | 287 |
| **No** | 20.7% | 75 |
| | *answered question* | 362 |
| | *skipped question* | 164 |

Question 32:

**If you are not employed, are you retired or unemployed?**



| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Retired | 66.7% | 52 |
| Unemployed | 33.3% | 26 |
| | answered question | 78 |
| | skipped question | 448 |

Question 33:

**Is your employment related, at least in part, to folklore?**
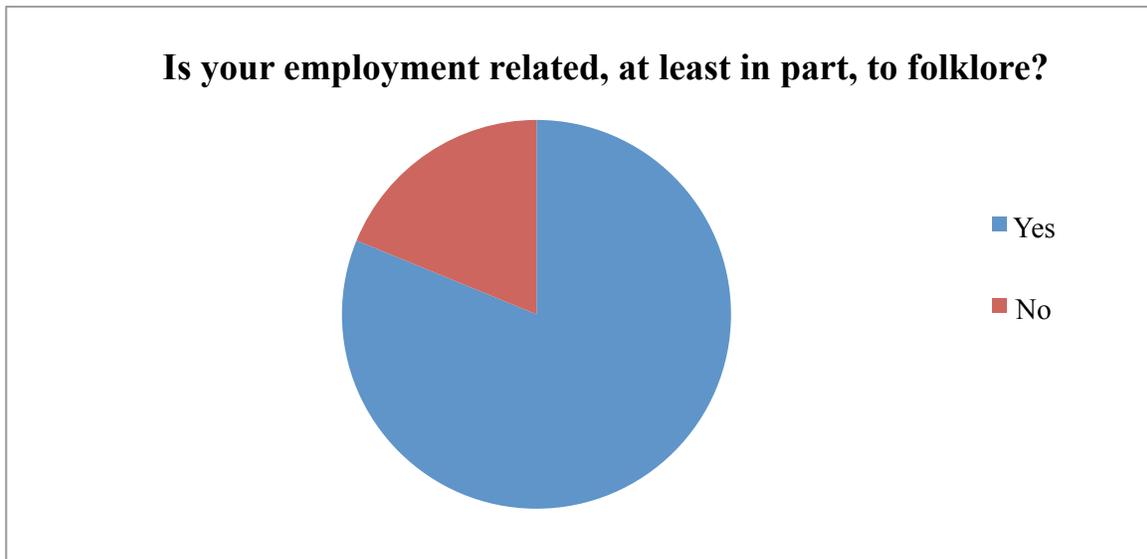


| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 81.2% | 276 |
| No | 18.8% | 64 |
| | *answered question* | **340** |
| | *skipped question* | **186** |

Question 34:

**Is your folklore-related employment full-time or part-time?**
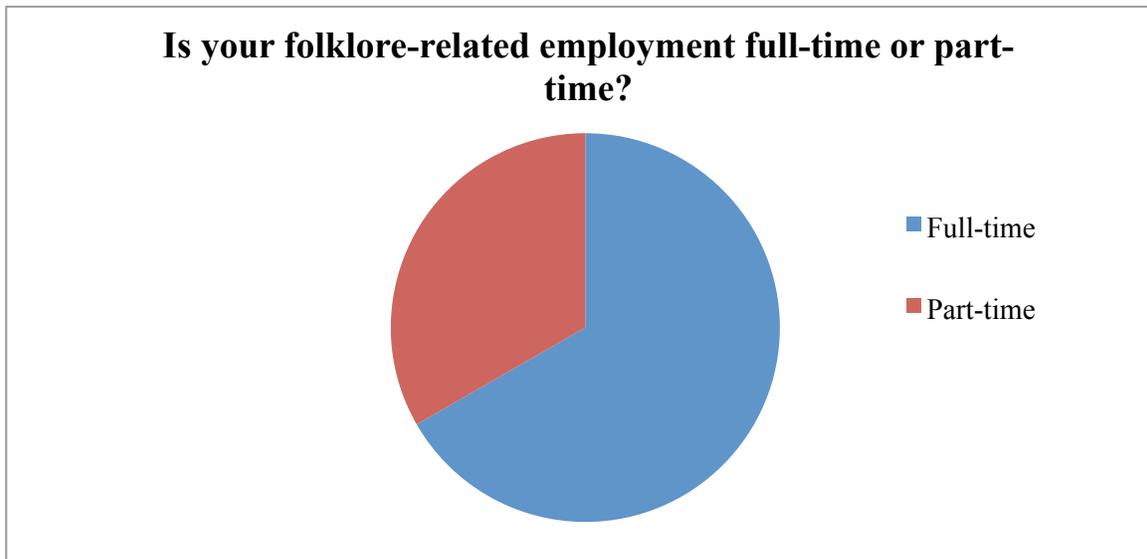


| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Full-time** | 66.7% | 198 |
| **Part-time** | 33.3% | 99 |
| | *answered question* | **297** |
| | *skipped question* | **229** |

Question 35:

Please indicate your present categories of folklore-related employer(s) by selecting the approximate percentage of the total time you spend working for each. If you do not work for a particular type of employer, please select 0%:
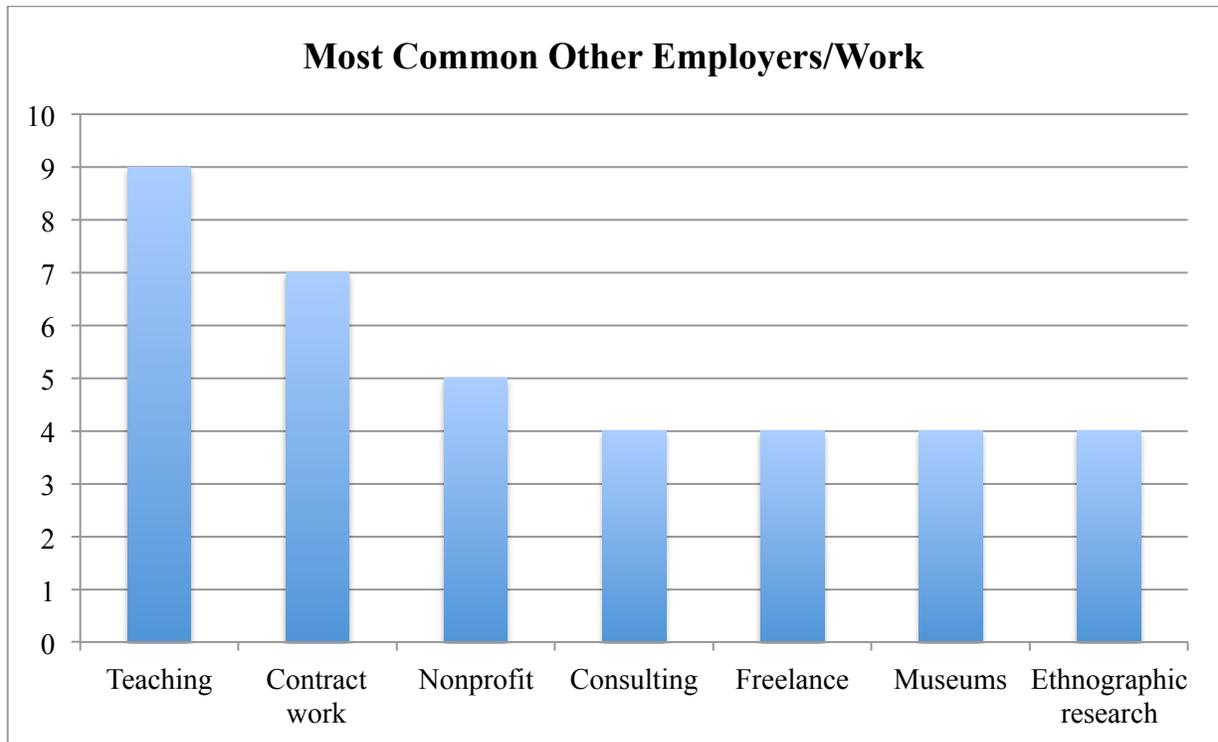
## % of Time I Work Here:

| | 0% | 10% | 20% | 30% | 40% | 50% | 60% | 70% | 80% | 90% | 100% | Total Respondents |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Arts organization** | 65% 91 respondents | 7% 10 | 5% 7 | 4% 5 | 2% 3 | 4% 6 | 2% 3 | 1% 2 | 0% 0 | 1% 1 | 9% 13 | 141 |
| **Community development organization** | 73% 91 | 6.5% 8 | 9% 11 | 2% 3 | 1% 1 | 4% 5 | 1% 1 | 0% 0 | 1% 1 | 0% 0 | 2% 3 | 124 |
| **Cultural organization (humanities, museum, etc.)** | 53% 77 | 13% 19 | 6% 9 | 1% 2 | 2% 3 | 3% 4 | 0% 0 | 3% 4 | 2% 3 | 4% 6 | 12% 18 | 145 |
| **Government agency** | 69% 93 | 9% 12 | 2% 3 | 1% 1 | 0% 0 | 0% 0 | 1% 1 | 0% 0 | 1% 1 | 1% 1 | 16% 22 | 134 |
| **Independent folklore organization** | 70% 90 | 11% 14 | 3% 4 | 2% 3 | 0% 0 | 2% 2 | 1% 1 | 0% 0 | 2% 2 | 2% 2 | 8% 10 | 128 |
| **Self-employed (freelance, consulting, etc.)** | 58% 84 | 7% 10 | 6% 9 | 3% 4 | 3% 4 | 6% 9 | 2% 3 | 1% 1 | 1% 2 | 2% 3 | 11% 16 | 145 |
| **University or college (administration or staff)** | 64% 107 | 3% 5 | 6% 10 | 2% 4 | 4% 7 | 2% 4 | 1% 1 | 2% 4 | 2% 4 | 1% 1 | 12% 20 | 167 |
| **University or college (faculty)** | 23% 51 | 7% 15 | 3% 7 | 6% 13 | 1% 3 | 5% 10 | 4% 8 | 2% 5 | 4% 9 | 3% 6 | 43% 94 | 221 |
| **University or college (graduate assistant)** | 74% 92 | 1% 1 | 3% 4 | 2% 3 | 0% 0 | 3% 4 | 1% 1 | 1% 1 | 2% 2 | 0% 0 | 13% 16 | 124 |

Question 36:

If you do folklore work for other sorts of employers, please describe that work and indicate the percentage of your total work time you spend on it.
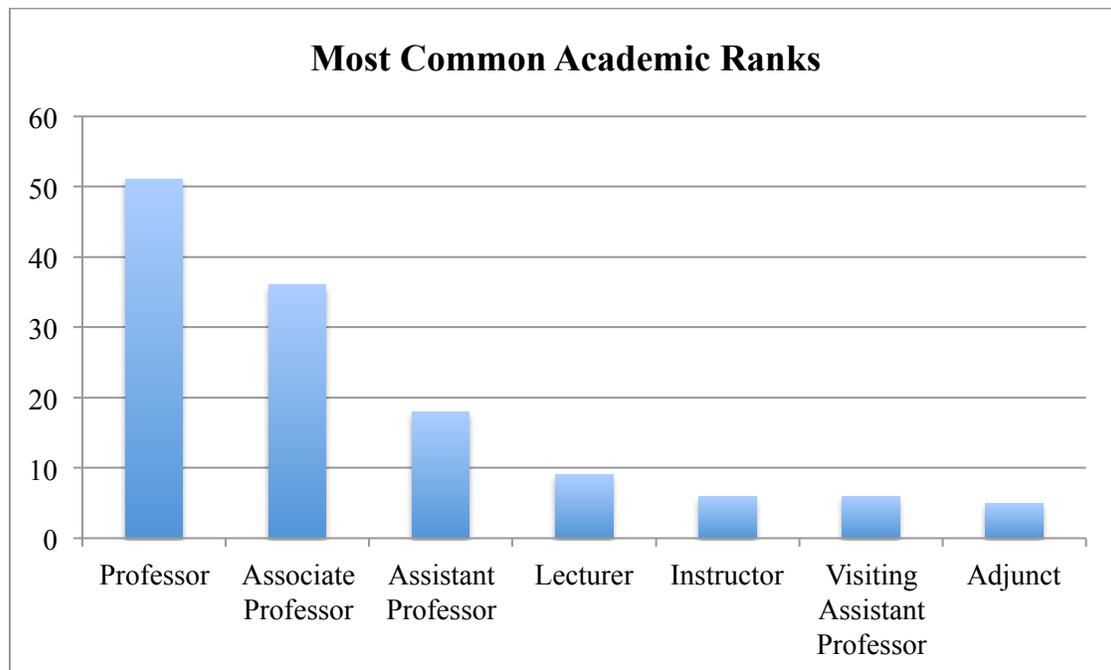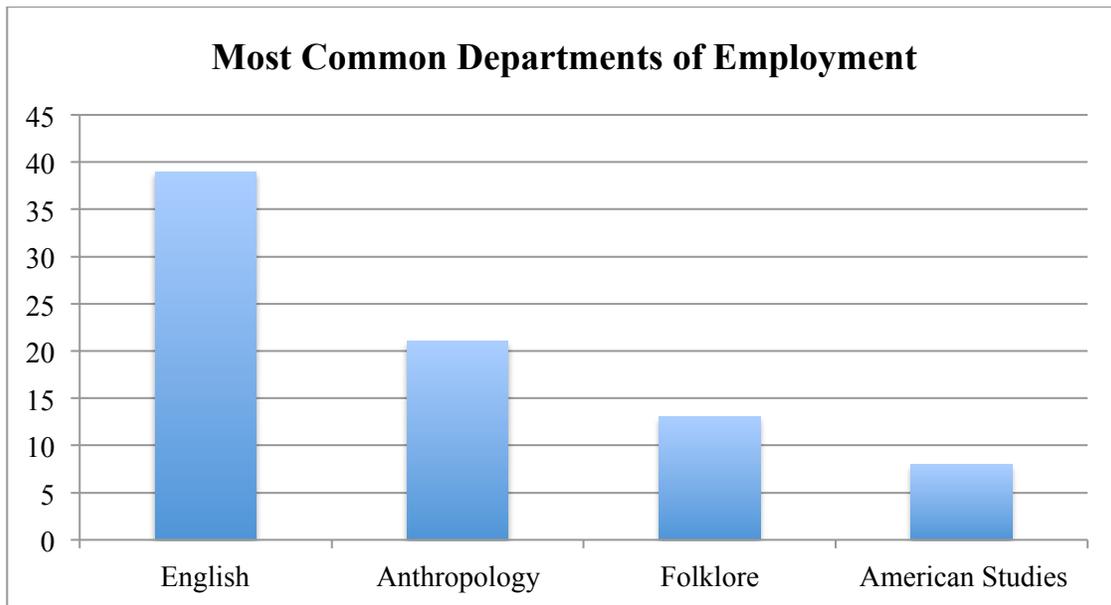
*88 respondents (17% of all respondents) answered this question. However, very few people indicated the percentage of total work time they spend on the work listed. As such, the following chart indicates the most commonly reported other kinds of employers or work reported:*

**Most Common Other Employers/Work**

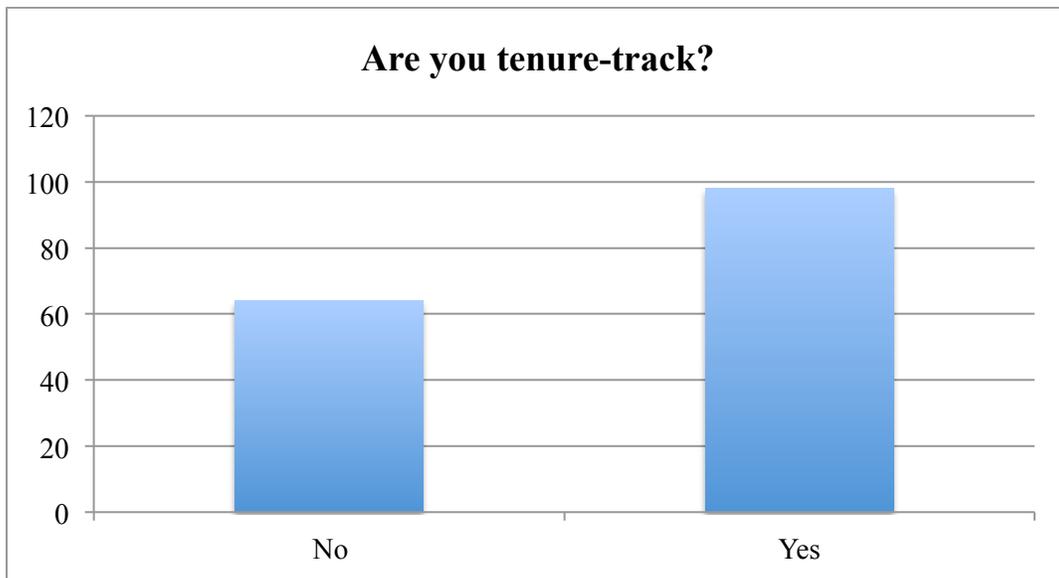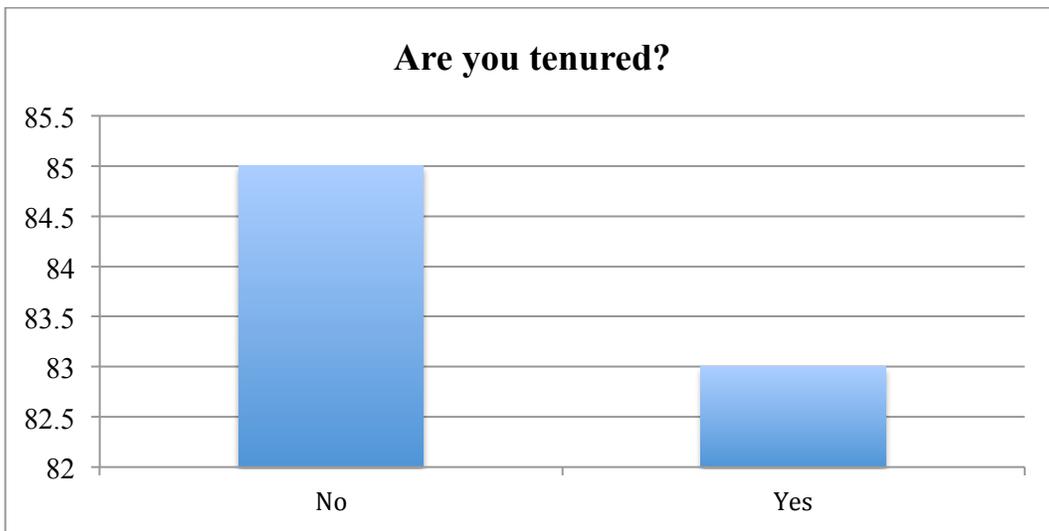| Category | Value |
| --- | --- |
| Teaching | 9 |
| Contract work | 7 |
| Nonprofit | 5 |
| Consulting | 4 |
| Freelance | 4 |
| Museums | 4 |
| Ethnographic research | 4 |

Question 37:

If you are a university or college faculty member, please answer this question. Otherwise, please skip to question 38.

*University or college faculty members were asked to supply information on which department or other academic unit they work for, their academic rank, whether they are adjunct or contingent faculty, and whether they are tenured or tenure-track. 181 respondents (34% of all respondents) provided this information, which is summarized in the following graphs:*

**Most Common Departments of Employment**

**Most Common Academic Ranks**

## Are you adjunct or contingent faculty?

A bar chart with two bars. The y-axis ranges from 0 to 140 in increments of 20. The "No" bar reaches approximately 129. The "Yes" bar reaches approximately 50.

## Are you tenured?

A bar chart with two bars. The y-axis ranges from 82 to 85.5 in increments of 0.5. The "No" bar reaches 85. The "Yes" bar reaches 83.

## Are you tenure-track?

A bar chart with two bars. The y-axis ranges from 0 to 120 in increments of 20. The "No" bar reaches approximately 64. The "Yes" bar reaches approximately 98.

Question 38:

## Years in Current Position/s

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **0 to 10** | 54% | 152 |
| **11 to 20** | 19% | 54 |
| **21 to 30** | 17% | 48 |
| **31 to 40** | 8% | 23 |
| **41 to 50** | 2% | 5 |
| | *answered question* | **285** |
| | *skipped question* | **241** |

Question 39:

*231 respondents (44% of all respondents) provided data about their approximate 2015 salary. The overall average salary reported was $50,711.*

**Approximate 2015 Salary from Folklore-Related Work**
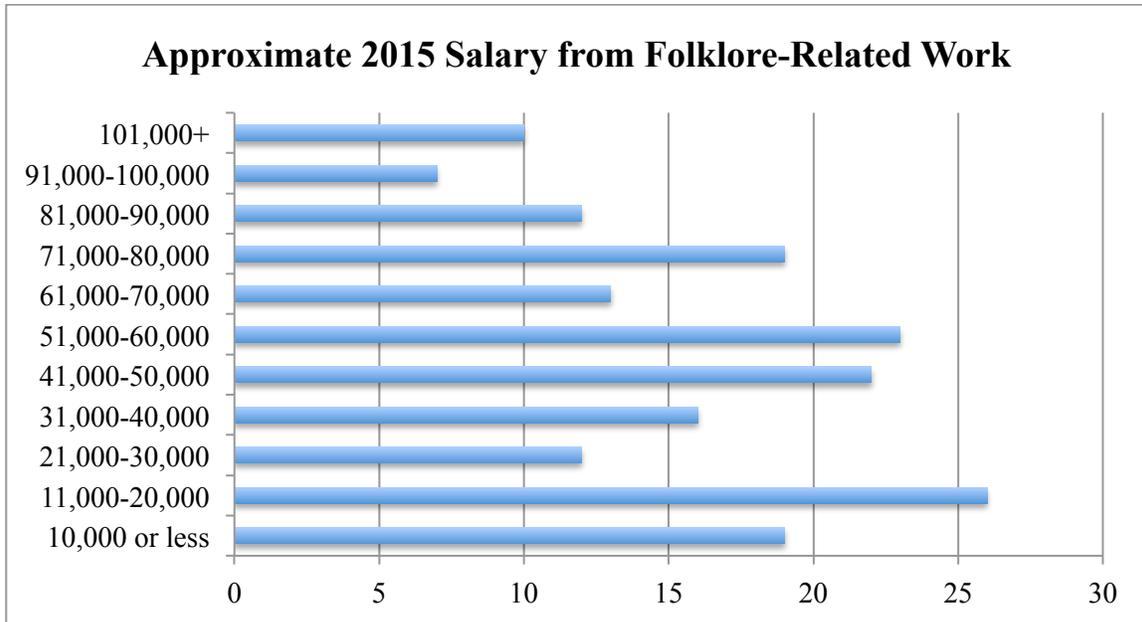


Question 40:

*221 respondents (42% of all respondents) provided data about their average annual salary. The overall average salary reported was $46,000.*

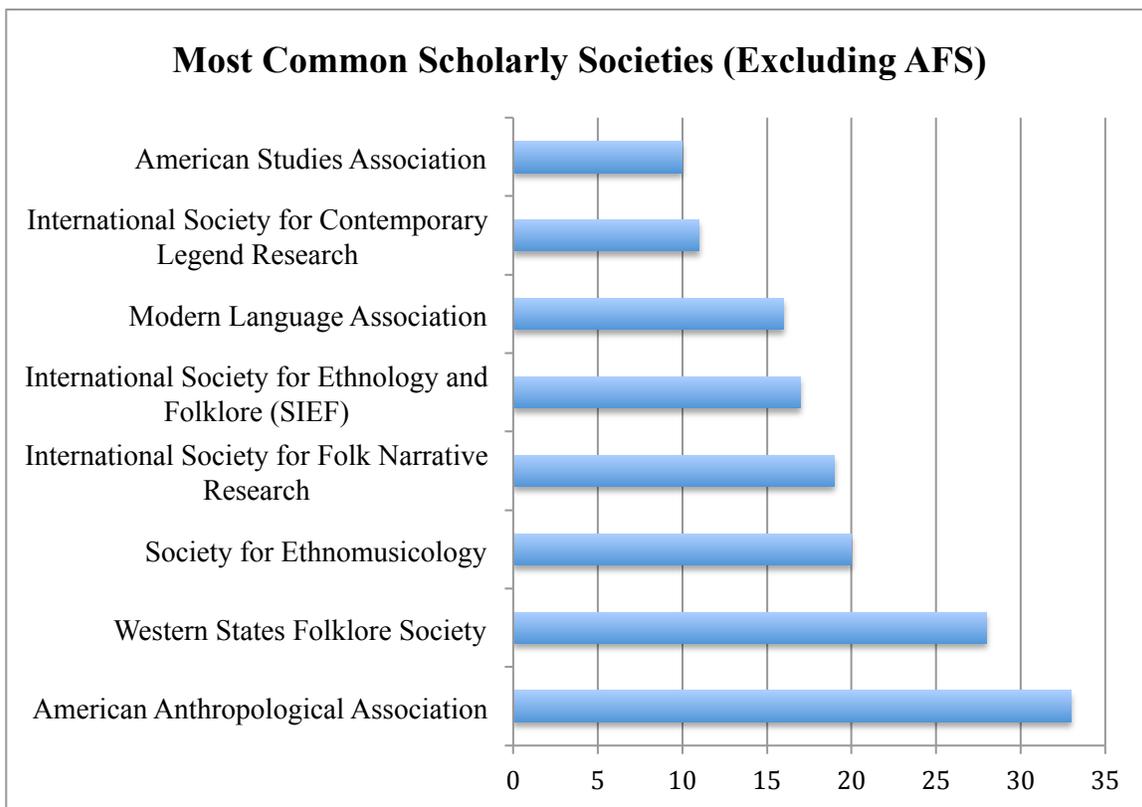**Average Annual Salary from Folklore-Related Work (2011-2015)**
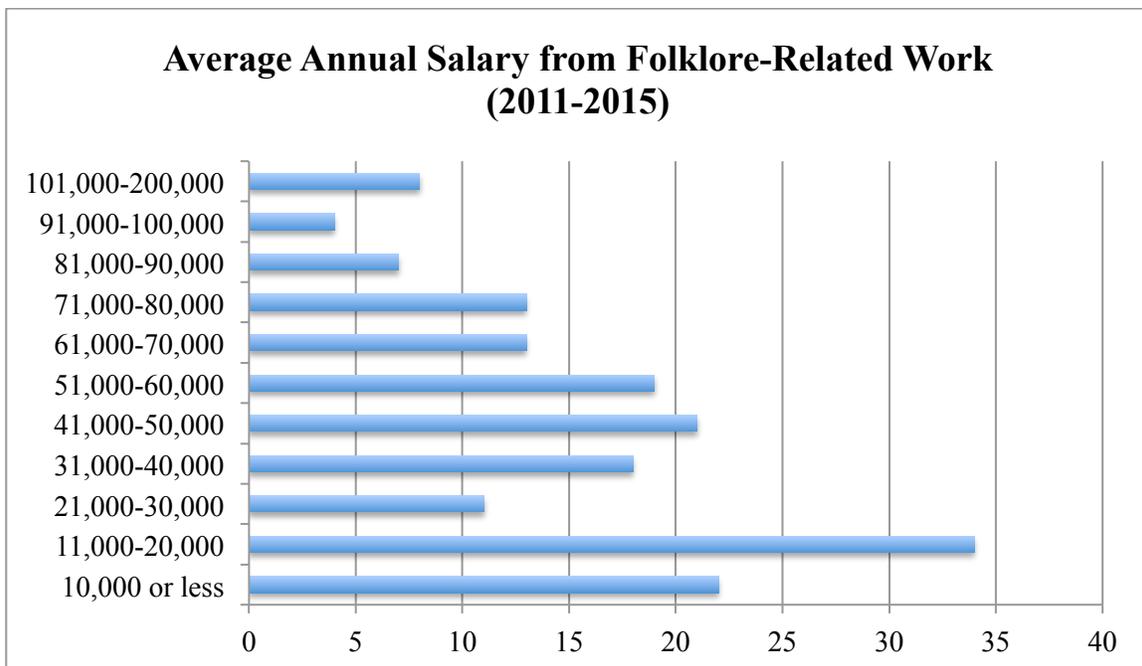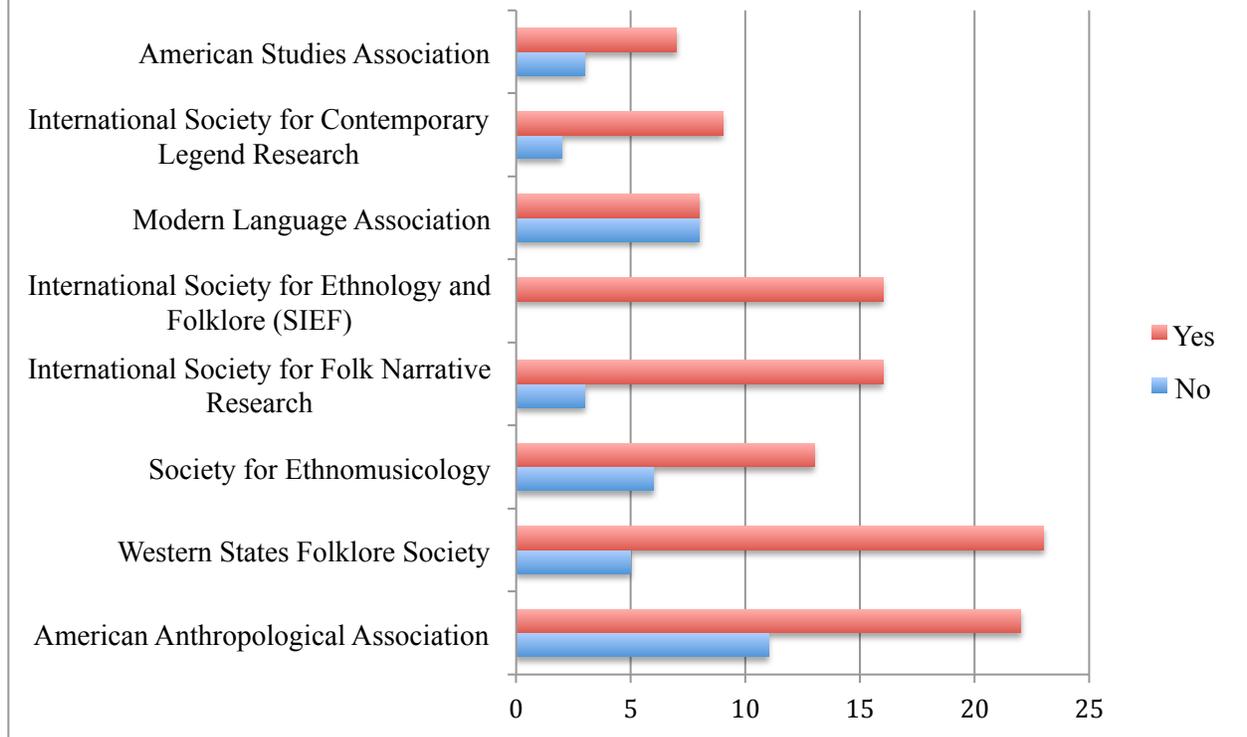
# VI: Other Society Memberships

Question 41:

If you belong to other scholarly or professional societies, associations, or other sorts of groups (inside or outside the field of folklore) that are important to your professional identity, please answer this question and the next one. If not, please skip to the next page of the survey: VII. YOUR PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION.

*255 respondents (48% of all respondents) answered this question. Respondents supplied the names of up to three societies, associations or groups and stated whether or not they read its publications, attend its meetings, and/or have served as a board or committee member, editor, etc. The following graphs summarize this data:*

**Most Common Scholarly Societies (Excluding AFS)**

| Society | Count |
|---|---|
| American Studies Association | 10 |
| International Society for Contemporary Legend Research | 11 |
| Modern Language Association | 16 |
| International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF) | 17 |
| International Society for Folk Narrative Research | 19 |
| Society for Ethnomusicology | 20 |
| Western States Folklore Society | 28 |
| American Anthropological Association | 33 |

## Do you attend the society's meeting?



Bar chart showing "Yes" (red) and "No" (blue) responses by society:

- American Studies Association
- International Society for Contemporary Legend Research
- Modern Language Association
- International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF)
- International Society for Folk Narrative Research
- Society for Ethnomusicology
- Western States Folklore Society
- American Anthropological Association

Horizontal axis: 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25

## Do you read the society's publications?



Bar chart showing "Yes" (red) and "No" (blue) responses by society:

- American Studies Association
- International Society for Contemporary Legend Research
- Modern Language Association
- International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF)
- International Society for Folk Narrative Research
- Society for Ethnomusicology
- Western States Folklore Society
- American Anthropological Association

Horizontal axis: 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35

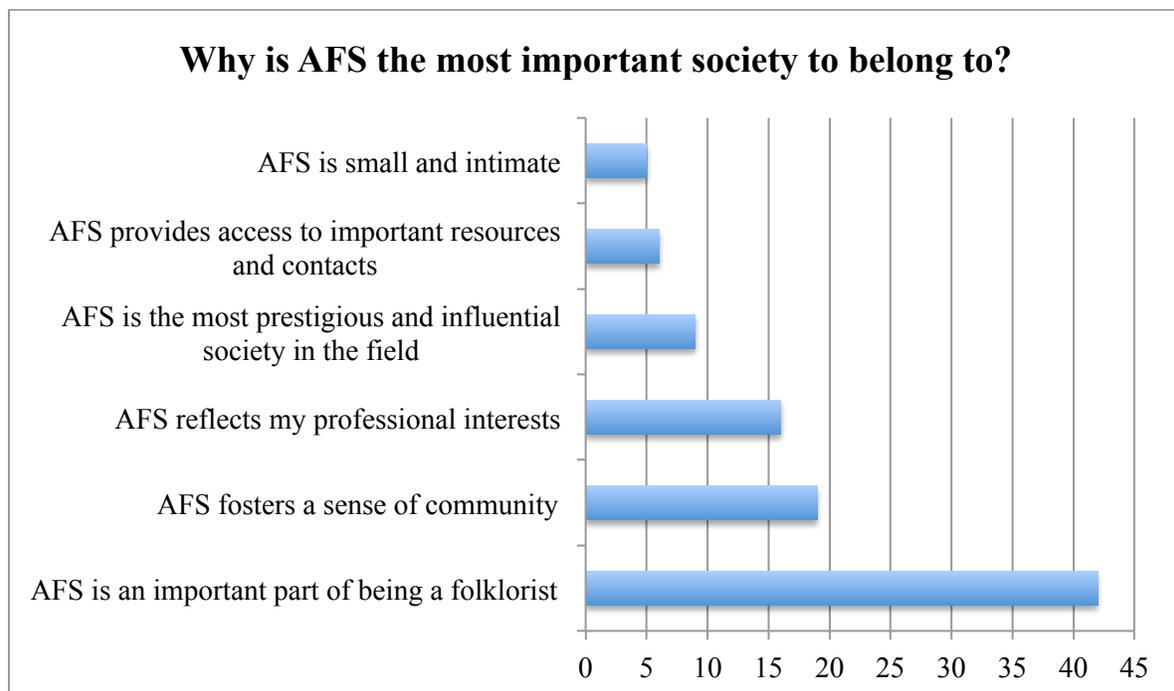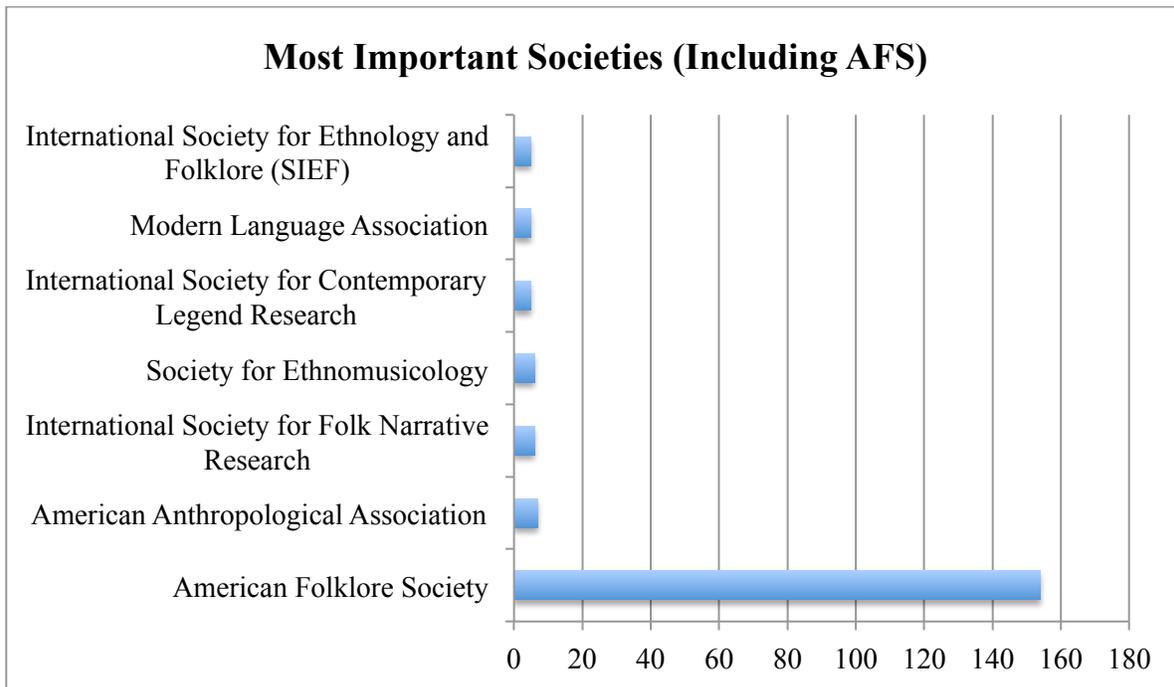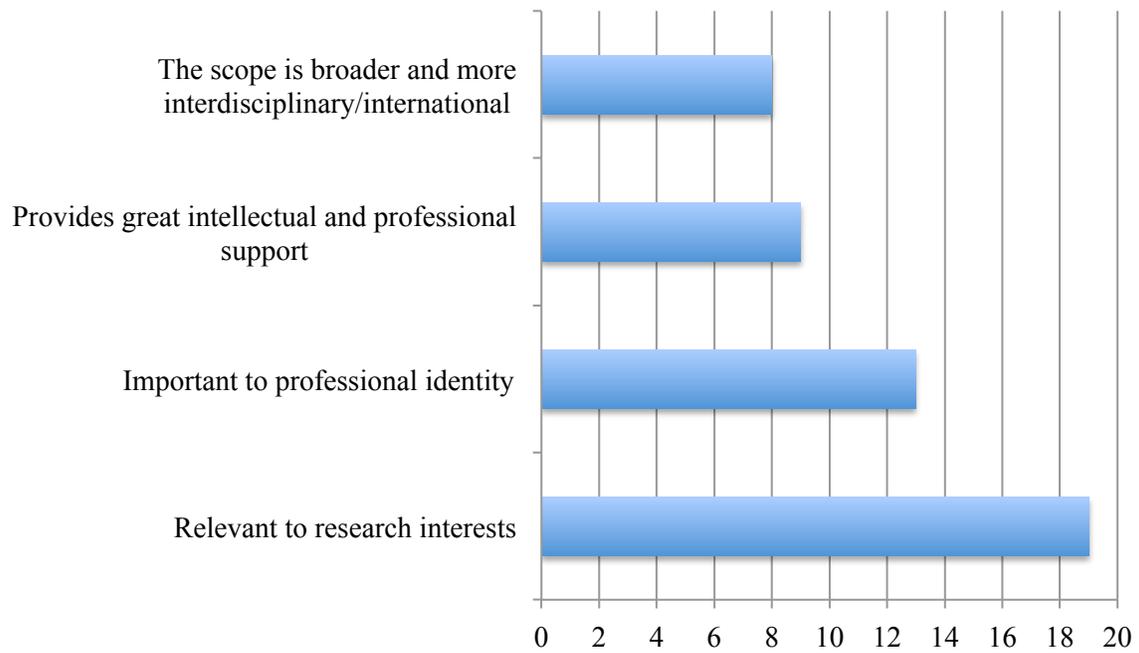# Have you served as a board or committee member, etc.?

Question 42:

Of all the societies, associations, or groups to which you belong, including AFS, which is the most important to your professional identity, and why?

*232 respondents (44% of all respondents) answered the question. The results are as follows:*

**Most Important Societies (Including AFS)**

| Society | Count |
|---|---|
| International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF) | ~5 |
| Modern Language Association | ~5 |
| International Society for Contemporary Legend Research | ~5 |
| Society for Ethnomusicology | ~6 |
| International Society for Folk Narrative Research | ~6 |
| American Anthropological Association | ~7 |
| American Folklore Society | ~155 |

**Why is AFS the most important society to belong to?**

| Reason | Count |
|---|---|
| AFS is small and intimate | ~5 |
| AFS provides access to important resources and contacts | ~6 |
| AFS is the most prestigious and influential society in the field | ~9 |
| AFS reflects my professional interests | ~16 |
| AFS fosters a sense of community | ~19 |
| AFS is an important part of being a folklorist | ~42 |

**Why is your membership in another society the most important to you?**
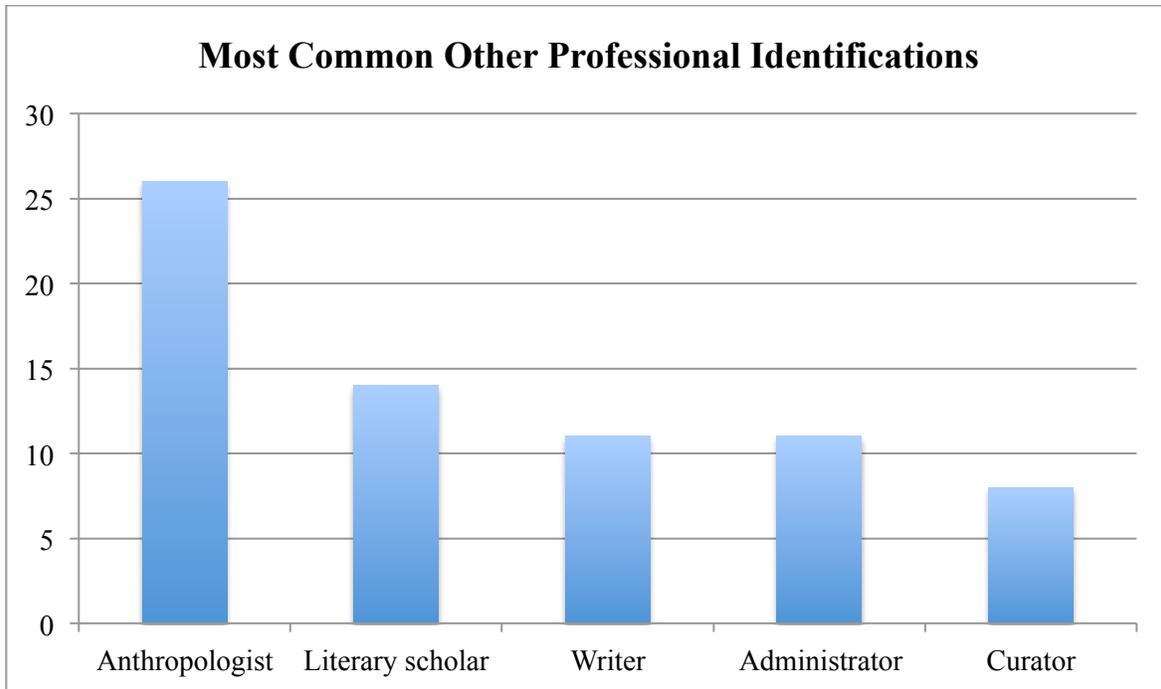
# VII: Professional Identification

Question #43:

**Do you identify yourself as a folklorist?**
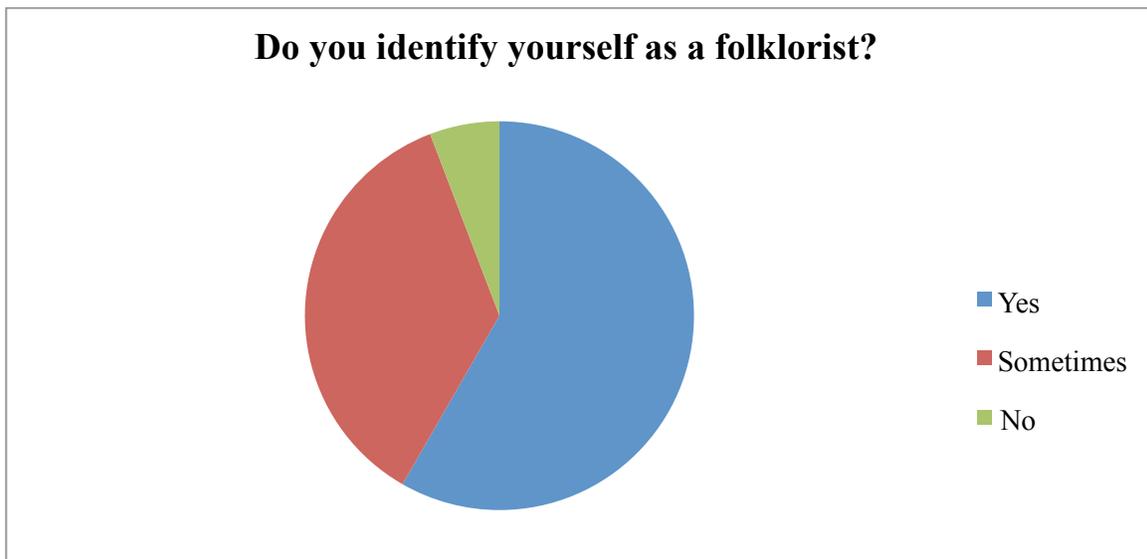


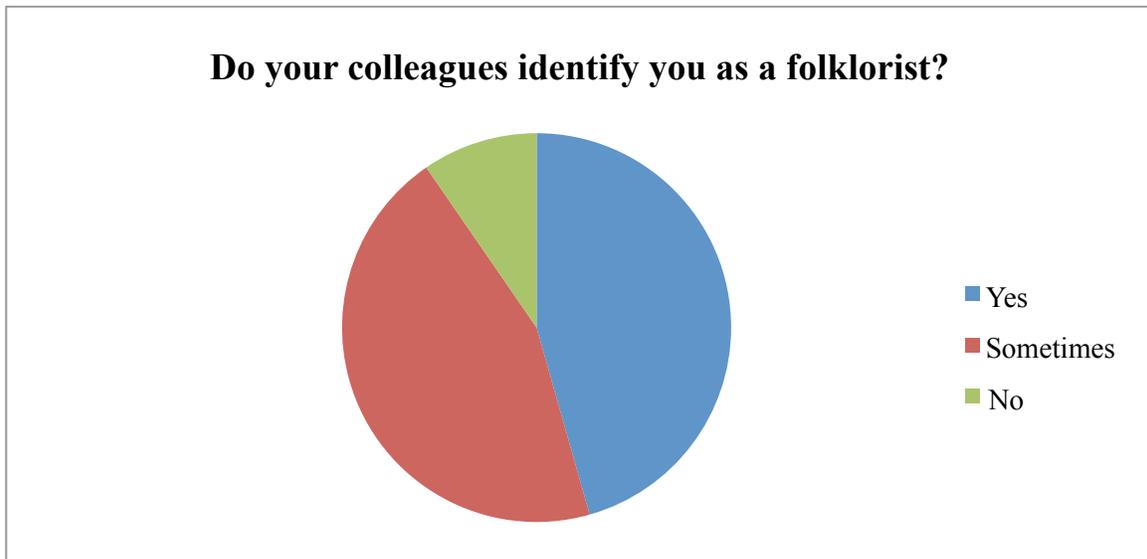| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | 58.3% | 232 |
| **Sometimes** | 35.9% | 143 |
| **No** | 5.8% | 23 |
| | *answered question* | **398** |
| | *skipped question* | **128** |

Question #44:

If you answered sometimes or no to the previous question, how (or how else) do you identify yourself professionally, and why?

*141 respondents (27% of all respondents) answered this question representing a total of 68 other professional identifications. The most common professional identifications are represented in the graph below:*
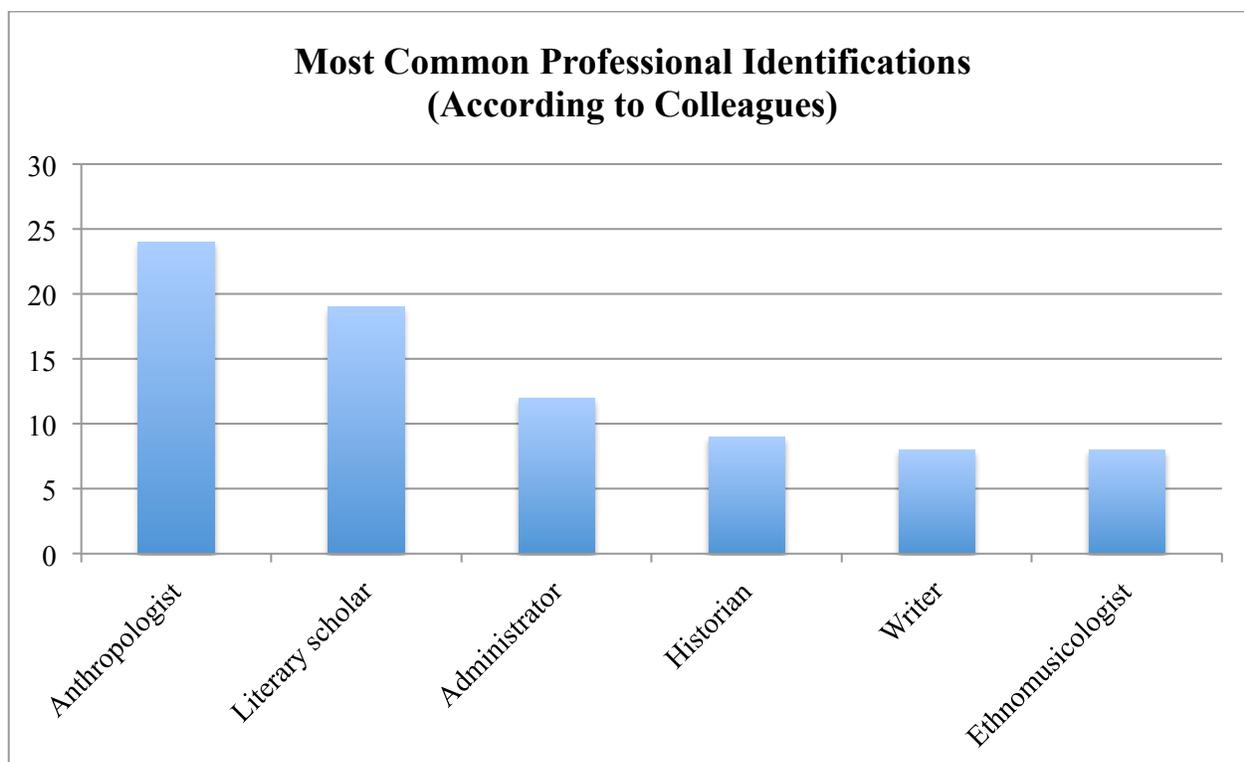
**Most Common Other Professional Identifications**

| Category | Value |
|---|---|
| Anthropologist | 26 |
| Literary scholar | 14 |
| Writer | 11 |
| Administrator | 11 |
| Curator | 8 |

Question #45:

**Do your colleagues identify you as a folklorist?**



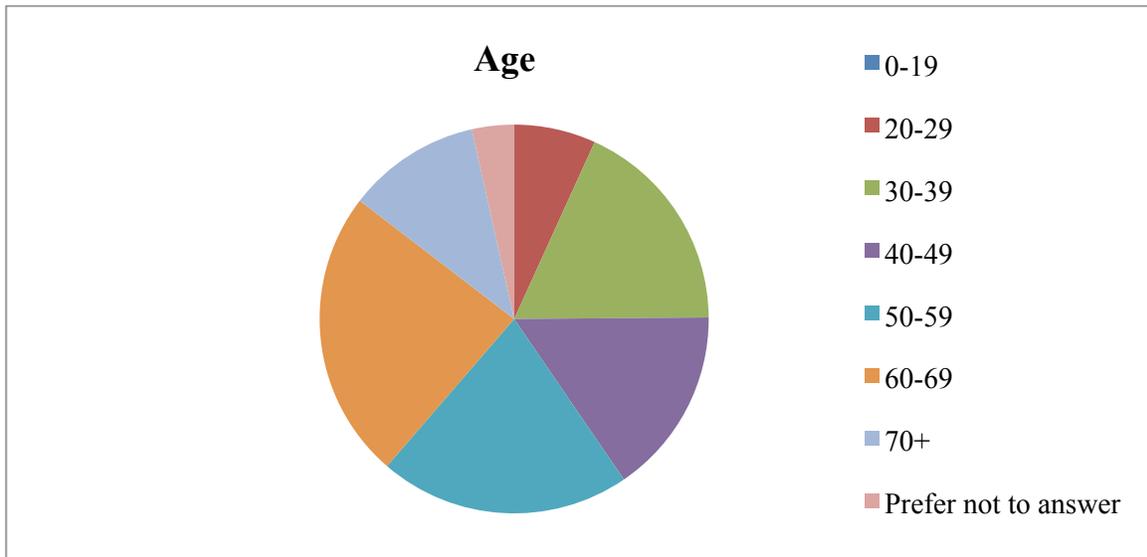| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 45.6% | 180 |
| Sometimes | 44.8% | 177 |
| No | 9.6% | 38 |
| | *answered question* | **395** |
| | *skipped question* | **131** |

Question #46:

If you answered sometimes or no to the previous question, how (or how else) do your colleagues identify you professionally, and why?

*163 respondents (31% of all respondents) answered this question representing a total of 48 different professional identifications. The most common are represented in the graph below:*

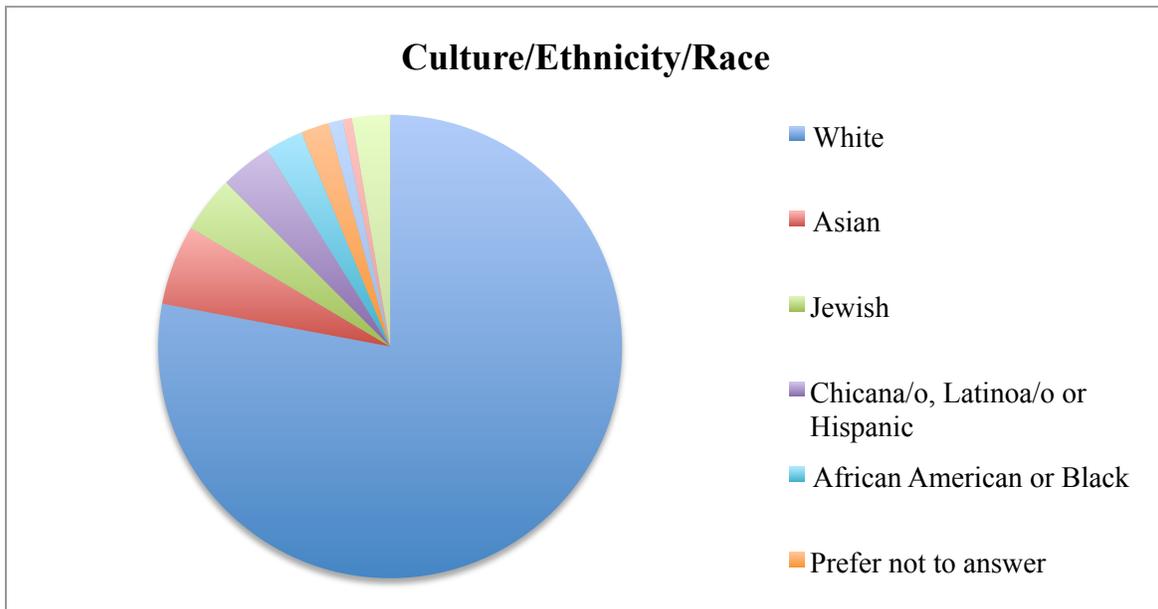**Most Common Professional Identifications (According to Colleagues)**

| Identification | Count |
| --- | --- |
| Anthropologist | 24 |
| Literary scholar | 19 |
| Administrator | 12 |
| Historian | 9 |
| Writer | 8 |
| Ethnomusicologist | 8 |

# VIII: Demographics

Question #47:



| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **0-19** | 0.0% | 0 |
| **20-29** | 6.8% | 27 |
| **30-39** | 18.1% | 72 |
| **40-49** | 15.6% | 62 |
| **50-59** | 20.9% | 83 |
| **60-69** | 24.1% | 96 |
| **70+** | 11.1% | 44 |
| **Prefer not to answer** | 3.5% | 14 |
| | *answered question* | 398 |
| | *skipped question* | 128 |

Question #48:

## Gender



- ■ Female
- ■ Male
- ■ Prefer not to answer
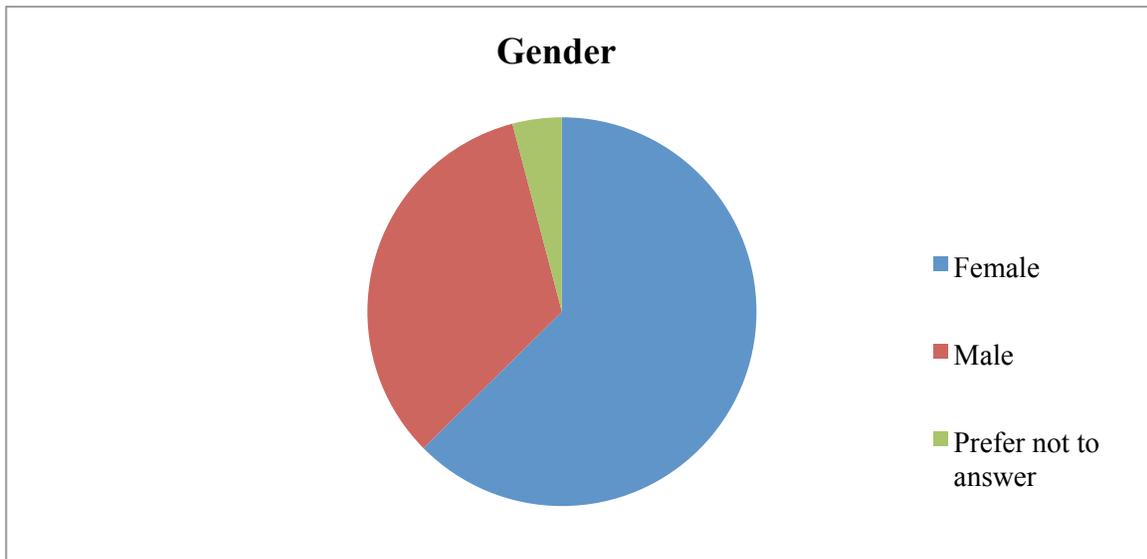
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Female** | 62.6% | 246 |
| **Male** | 33.3% | 131 |
| **Prefer not to answer** | 4.1% | 16 |
| **Other** | | 3 |
| | *answered question* | **393** |
| | *skipped question* | **133** |

Question #49:

## Culture/Ethnicity/Race

- White
- Asian
- Jewish
- Chicana/o, Latinoa/o or Hispanic
- African American or Black
- Prefer not to answer

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| White | 78% | 237 |
| Asian | 6% | 17 |
| Jewish | 4% | 12 |
| Chicana/o, Latina/o or Hispanic | 4% | 11 |
| African American or Black | 2.60% | 8 |
| Native American | 0.70% | 2 |
| Mixed | 1% | 3 |
| Other | 2.60% | 8 |
| Prefer not to answer | 2% | 6 |
| *answered question* | | **304** |
| *skipped question* | | **222** |

Question #50:

*334 respondents (63% of all respondents) provided information about their place of residence. The following three graphs represent the data collected. In total, 47 US states plus the District of Columbia and 21 countries outside of the US were represented.*

**Most Common States of Residence**
**(In the United States)**

USA (state not specified) — 28
California — 23
Indiana — 23
New York — 16
Ohio — 13
Pennsylvania — 13
Oregon — 11
Utah — 11
Virginia — 10

**Most Common Countries of Residence**
**(Excluding the United States)**

Canada — 11
India — 10
United Kingdom — 5
Sweden — 4
Ireland — 3
Israel — 3
Japan — 3

## Most Common Countries of Residence
## (Including the United States)
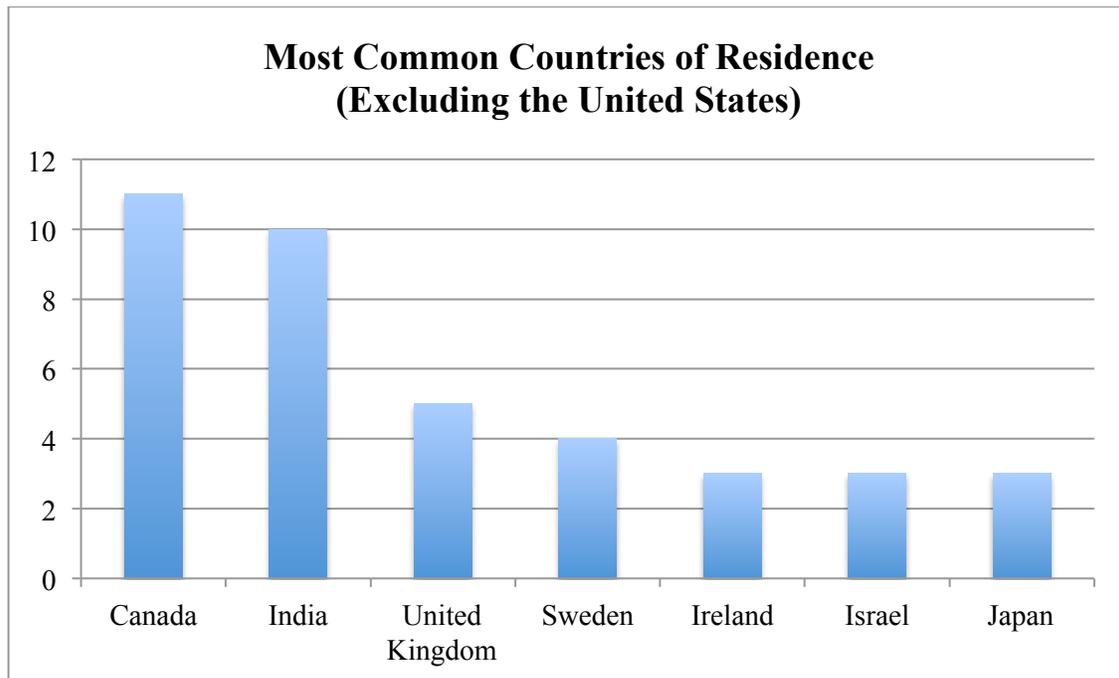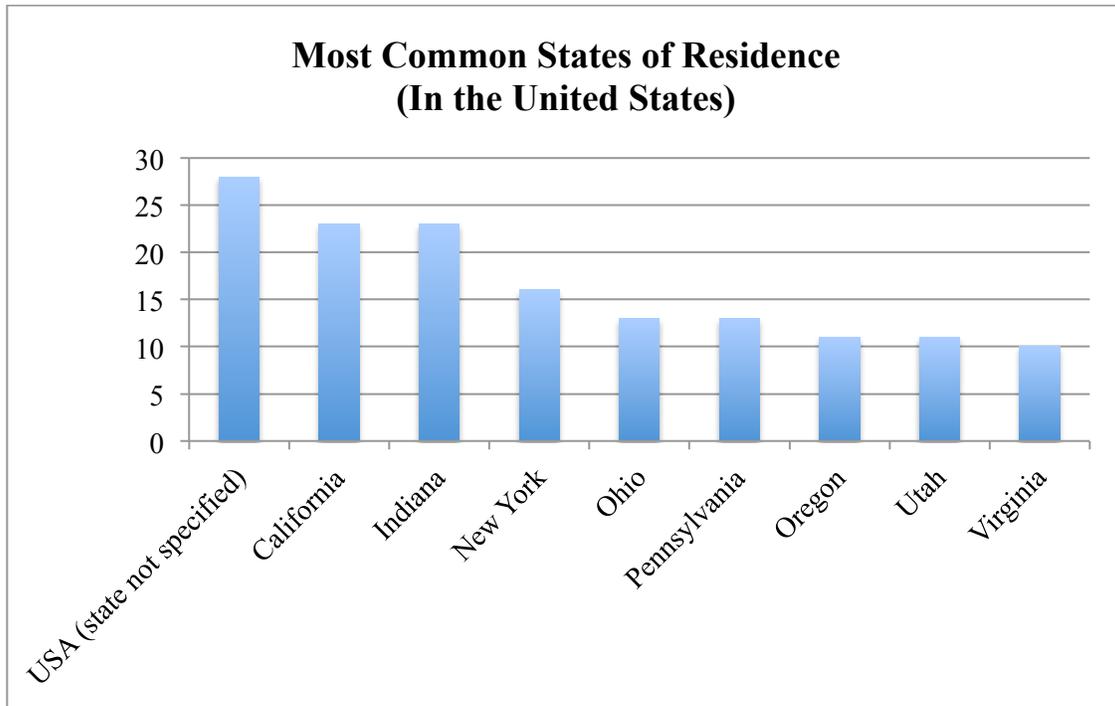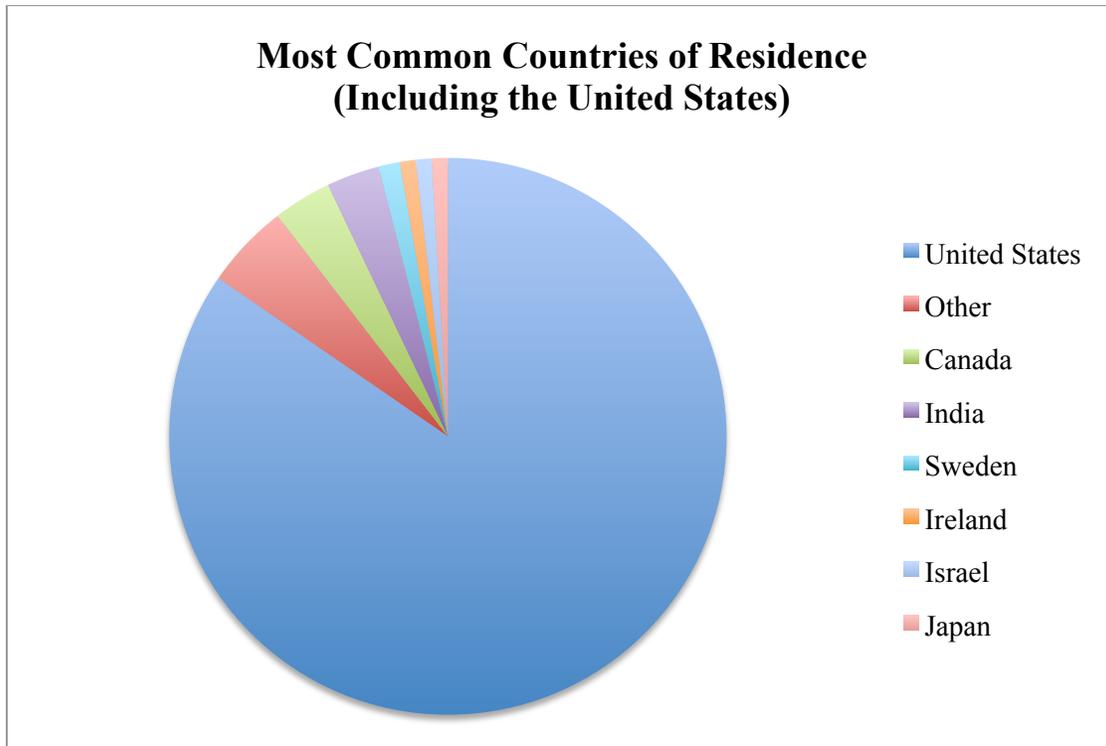


| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **United States** | 85% | 275 | |
| **Canada** | 3% | 11 | |
| **India** | 3% | 10 | |
| **Sweden** | 1% | 4 | |
| **Ireland** | 1% | 3 | |
| **Israel** | 1% | 3 | |
| **Japan** | 1% | 3 | |
| **Other** | 5% | 16 | |
| | *answered question* | | **325** |
| | *skipped question* | | **201** |

Question #51: Other Comments

*55 respondents (10% of all respondents) offered "other comments." We have grouped responses made by 8 people or more into the following categories. The calculations below indicate a percentage of those who responded to this particular question:*

Appreciation for the AFS Staff and Board:                                     27 (49%)
Suggestions for Improving Future Membership Surveys:              8 (15%)