



GRADUATE STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF  
THEIR EXPERIENCES  
AT VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

SUMMARY RESULTS FROM THE  
VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE EXIT QUESTIONNAIRE  
2007-2008

Strategic Research & Analysis  
Valdosta State University  
July 2008

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**Introduction**

**This report is a visual summary of the perceptions of 232 VSU graduate students who completed their degrees during the 2007-2008 academic year and returned the Valdosta State University Graduate Exit Questionnaire. It is anticipated that these results will be used by colleges and departments as one indicator of the effectiveness of the University's programs and services.**

**This report contains detailed data of academic experiences in the major field of study by college (beginning on page 39). Three colleges/divisions are not shown here due to no or low response rate: College of the Arts (zero survey respondents), College of Nursing (one survey respondent), and the Division of Library Science (one survey respondent).**

**Graduate Assistant Rhien Cooper and Student Assistant Zsavai Paige coded and entered the survey data necessary to produce this report. Data analysis and creation of the report were created by Angela Elder Henderson, Data Resource Specialist, and Amber Mize, Graduate Assistant. The report was proofread by Linda Gooden, Associate Director.**

**We invite you to explore the results shown on the following pages and welcome any comments and suggestions for future analyses.**

**Kristina M. Cragg, Ph.D  
Assistant to the President for Strategic Research & Analysis**

## Summary Highlights

Overall satisfaction with VSU was indicated by the following:

- 94% of respondents would recommend VSU to others.
- 94% of respondents rate their overall experience at VSU as excellent or good.
- 93% of respondents rate their academic experience at VSU as excellent or good.
- 93% of respondents would choose VSU if they started school over.
- 86% of respondents rate their social experience at VSU as excellent or good.

Of the VSU services/facilities that at least 15% of graduate students responded to, the four with the highest percentage of "excellent" quality of service ratings were:

- Athletics and recreation facilities (62%)
- VSU home page (48%)
- Clubs and student organizations (43%)
- Departmental home page (43%)

The four academic personnel support experiences with the highest percentage of "excellent" responses in the major field of study were:

- Helpfulness of thesis committee (67%)
- Helpfulness of departmental office staff (59%)
- Helpfulness of academic advisor (59%)
- Availability of academic advisor (57%)

The four academic instructional support experiences with the highest percentage of "excellent" responses in the major field of study were:

- Study abroad experiences (60%)
- Ease of getting into required courses (57%)
- Ease of getting into elective courses (56%)
- Courses as preparation for career advancement (52%)

The four academic facilities with the highest percentage of "excellent" responses in the major field of study were:

- Library facilities (49%)
- Laboratory facilities (not computer) (41%)
- Library collection/resources (41%)
- Computer lab facilities (38%)

*Note: Percentages may differ from those on tables due to rounding and grouping of responses.*

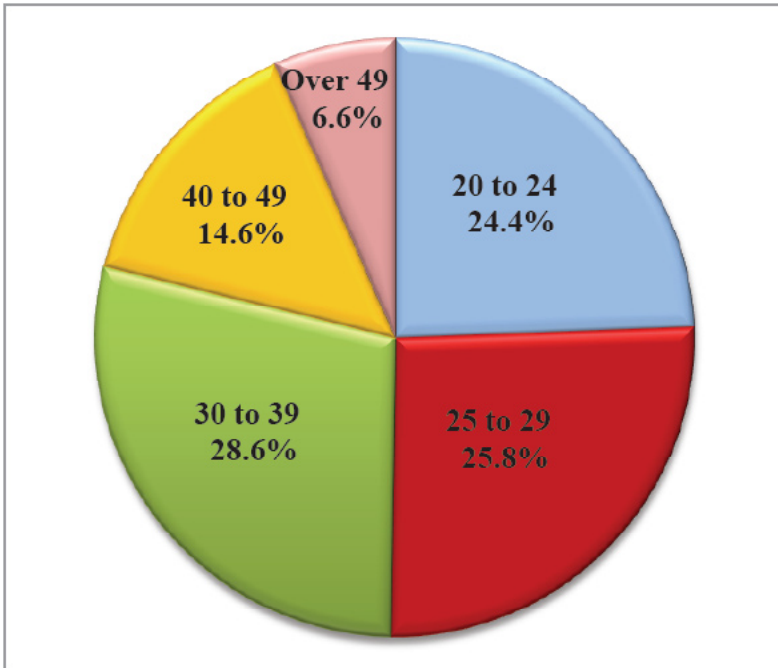
**Description of the Responding Graduate Students**

Number of Respondents: 232

(All percentages are based on valid responses. Not all respondents answered every question.)

**Background Characteristics**

**EXHIBIT 1: Age of Respondents**

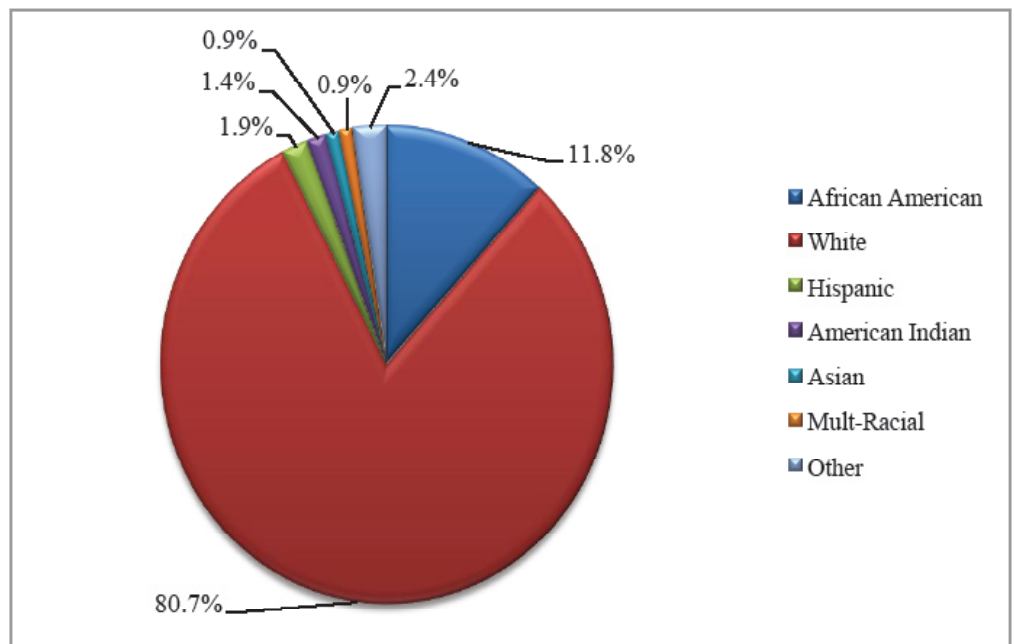


- 107 responding graduate students were between the ages of 20-29.
- 106 responding graduate students were age 30 or above.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

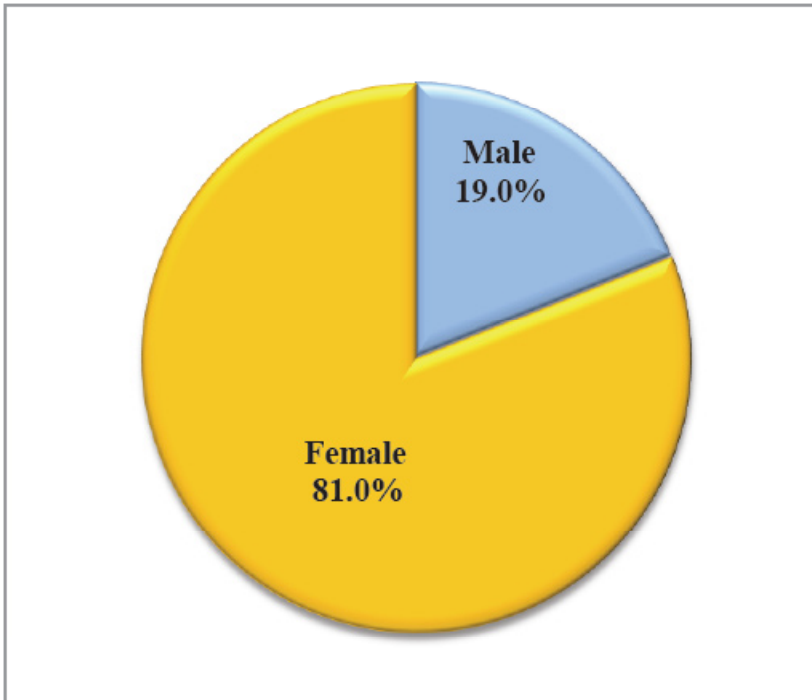
**EXHIBIT 2: Race/Ethnicity**

- 25 responding graduate students were African American, Non-Hispanic.
- 171 responding graduate students were White, Non-Hispanic.
- 16 responding graduate students represented other races/ethnicities.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 3: Gender**

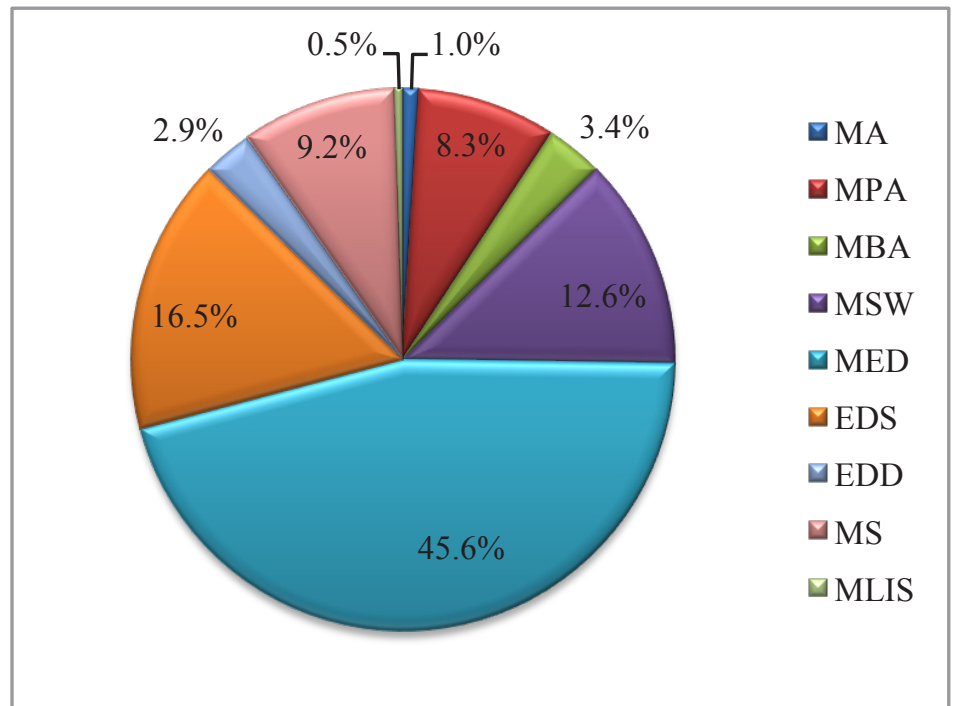


- 40 responding graduate students were male.
- 171 responding graduate students were female.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

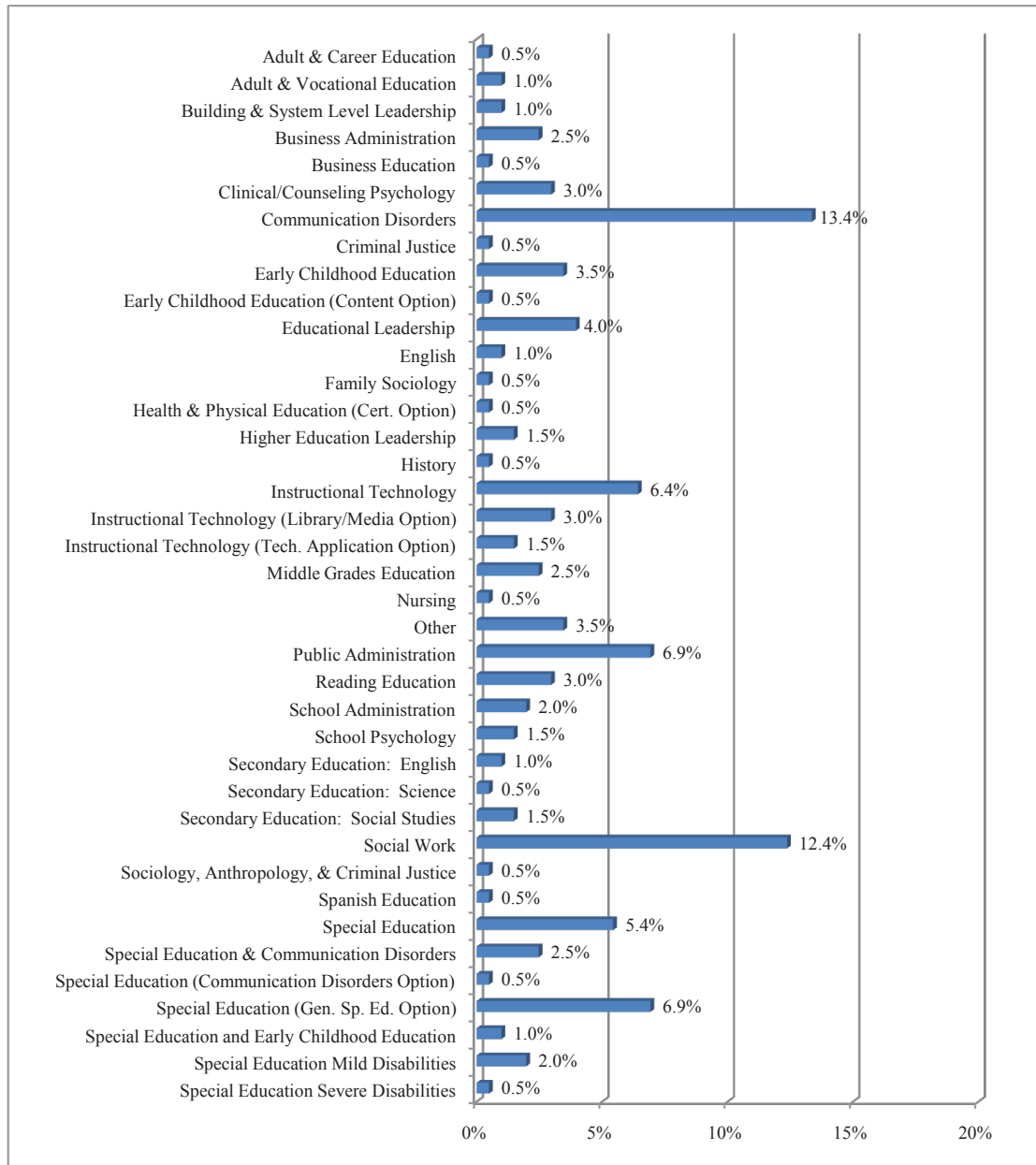
**EXHIBIT 4: Anticipated Degree by College**

- College of Education, 144 (71.3%)
- Social Work, 25 (12.4%)
- College of Arts & Sciences, 20 (8.6%)
- Other, 7 (3.5%)
- College of Business, 5 (2.5%)
- College of Nursing, 1 (0.5%)



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 5: Major Field of Study at VSU**

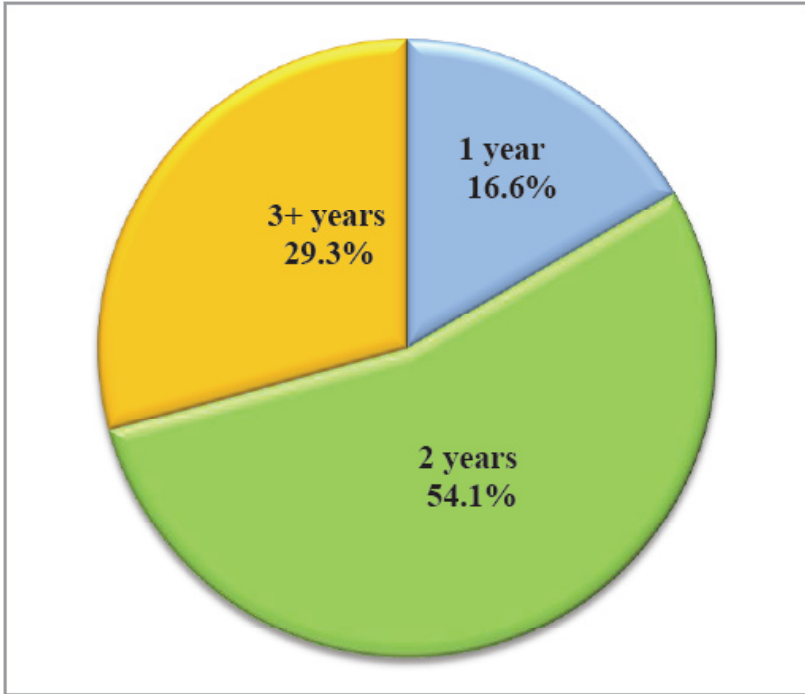


- Communication Disorders had the largest number of graduate students responding: 27 students.
- The Division of Social Work had the second largest number of graduate students responding: 25 students.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008



**EXHIBIT 6: Length of Attendance at VSU**

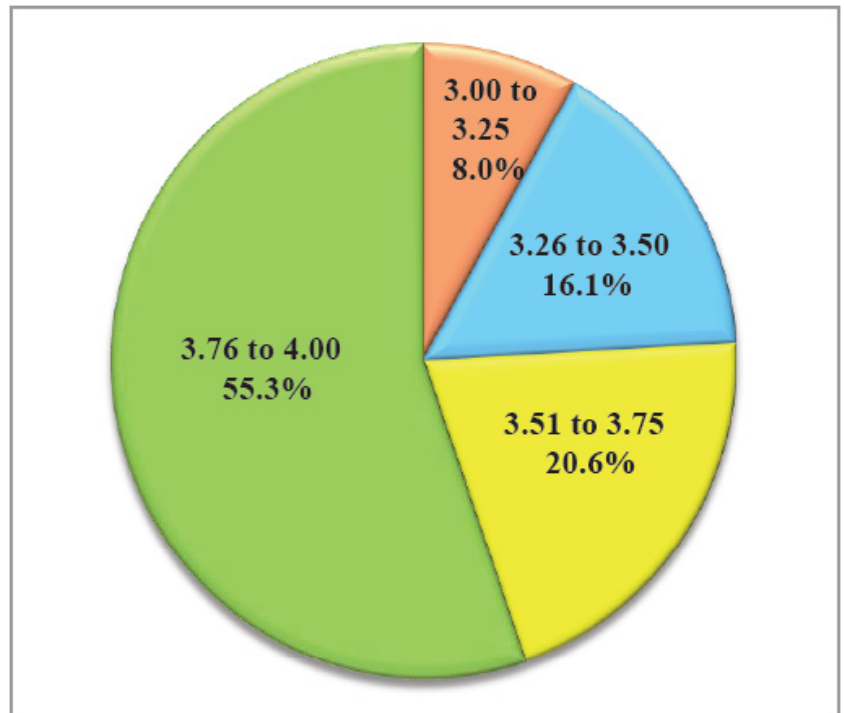


- 60 respondents attended VSU for three or more years.
- 111 respondents attended VSU for two years.
- 34 respondents attended VSU for only one year.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

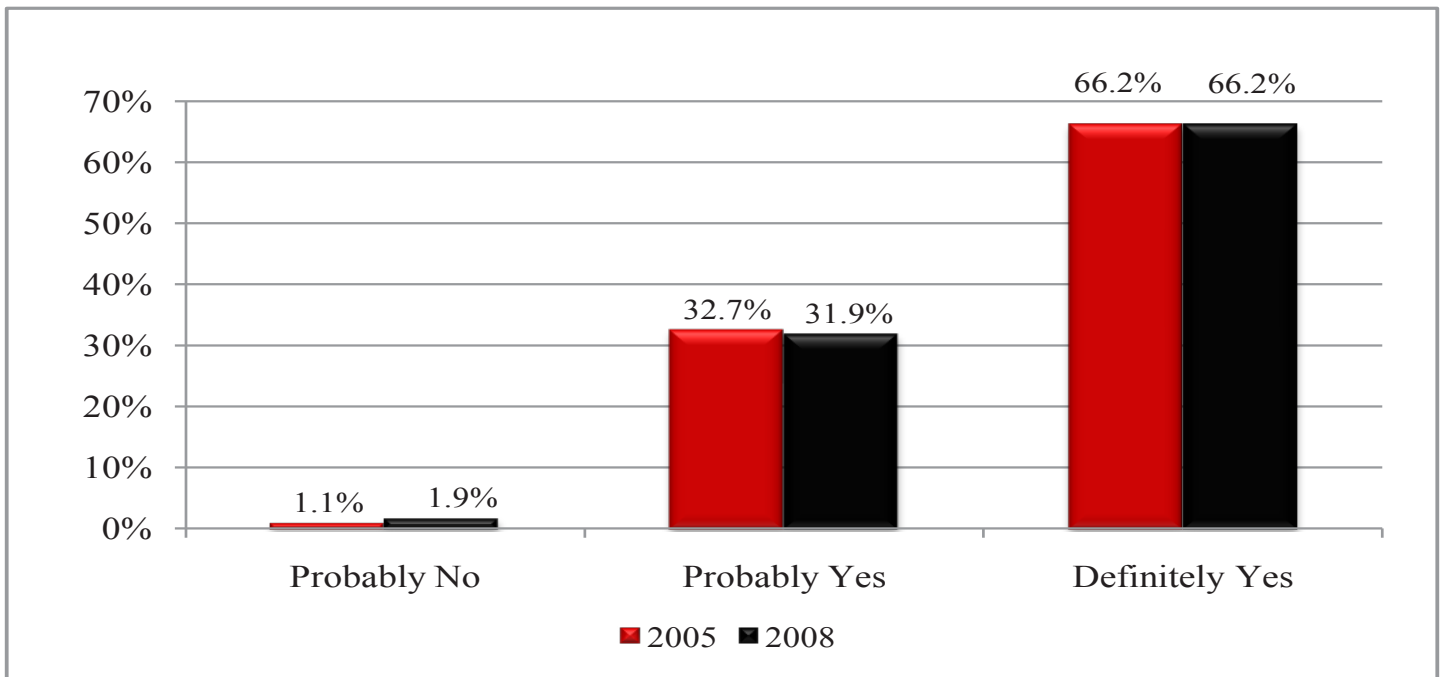
**EXHIBIT 7: Overall Graduate GPA**

- 183 responding graduate students reported earning a GPA of over 3.50 in their program.



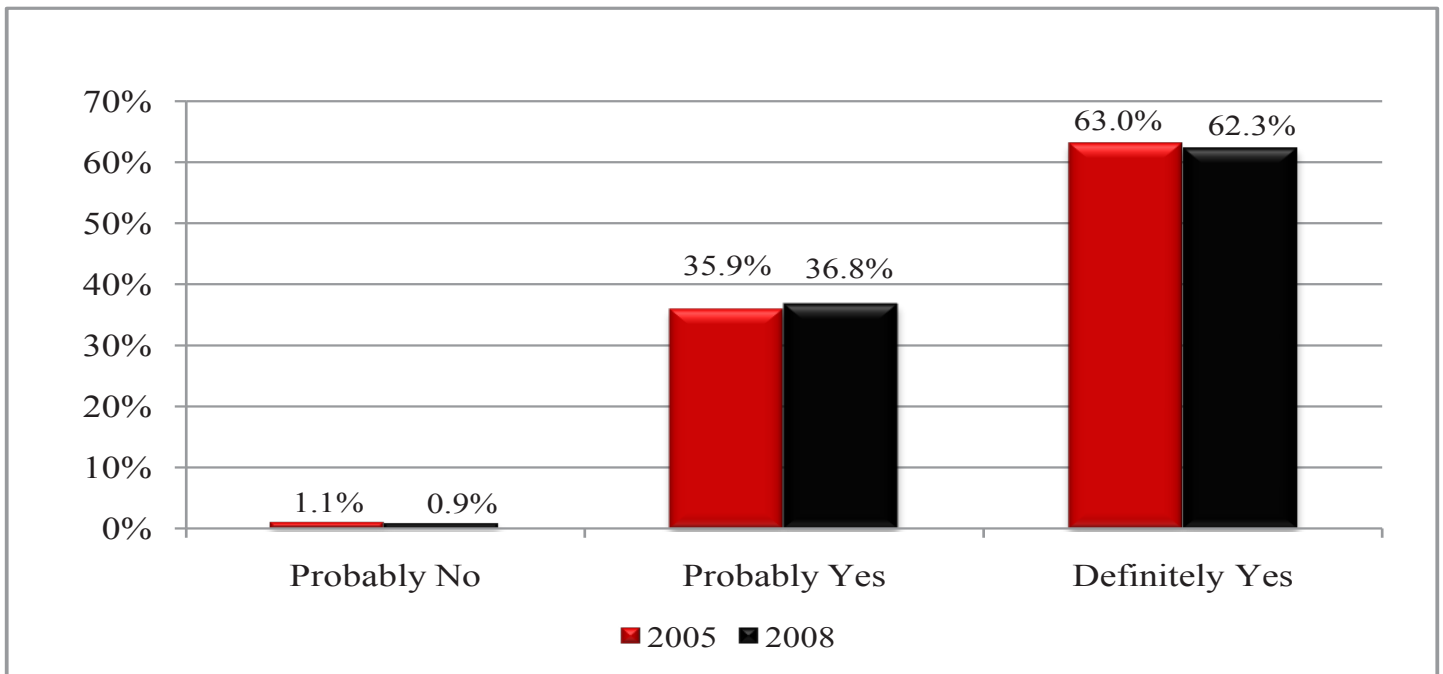
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 8: VSU helped me to function in a professional setting and to act with ethical awareness**



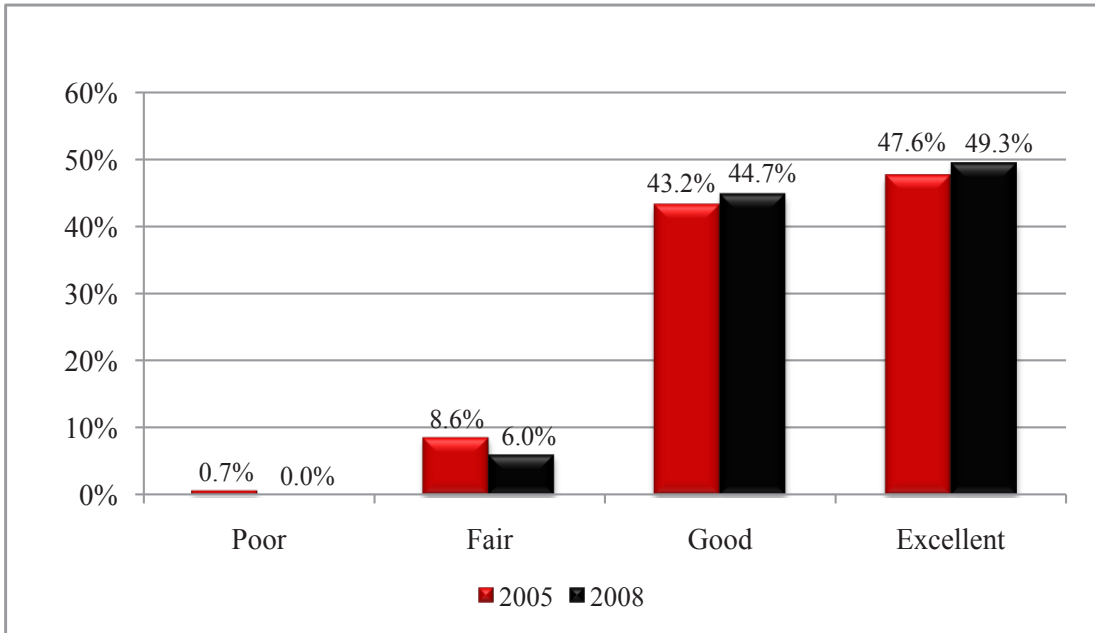
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 9: VSU definitely helped me to engage in free and open exchange of ideas**



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 10: Overall VSU Experience**



**2008 Responses**

A majority of responding graduate students rated their experiences at VSU as excellent or good:

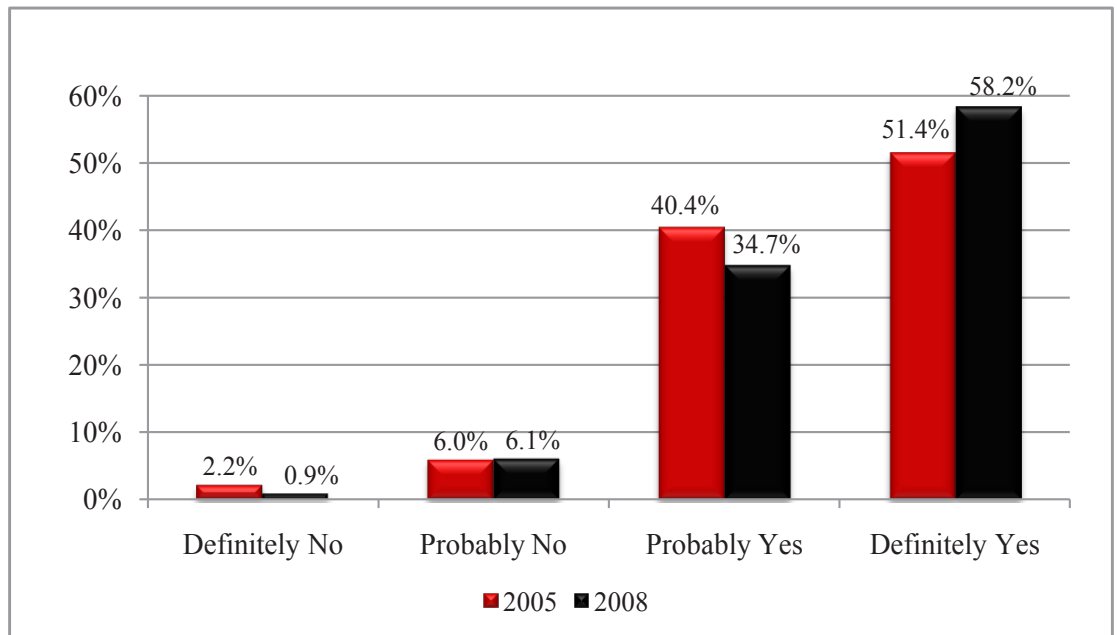
- Overall VSU Experience: 94% (204 students).
- Social Experience: 86% (186 students).
- Academic Experience: 93% (202 students).

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 11: Would Choose to Attend VSU Again**

**2008 Responses**

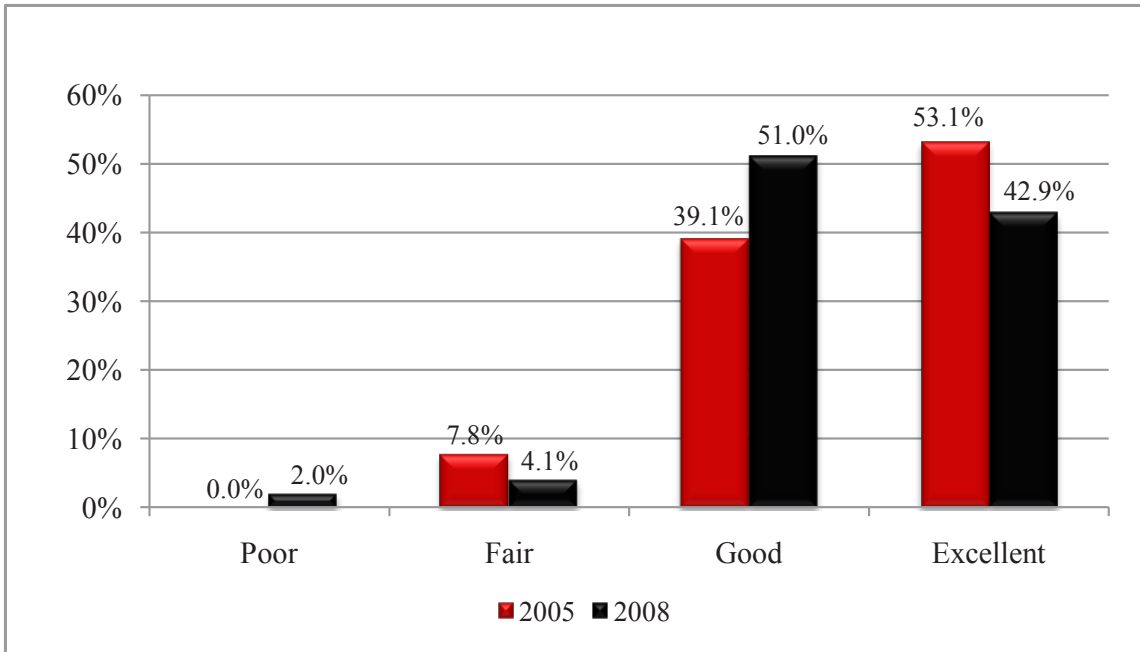
- 124 of 213 responding graduate students would definitely choose VSU if they had to start college over.
- 132 of 213 responding graduate students would definitely recommend VSU to others.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**University Services and Facilities: Use and Quality Ratings**

**EXHIBIT 12: Quality of Professional Student Organizations**



**2008 Responses**

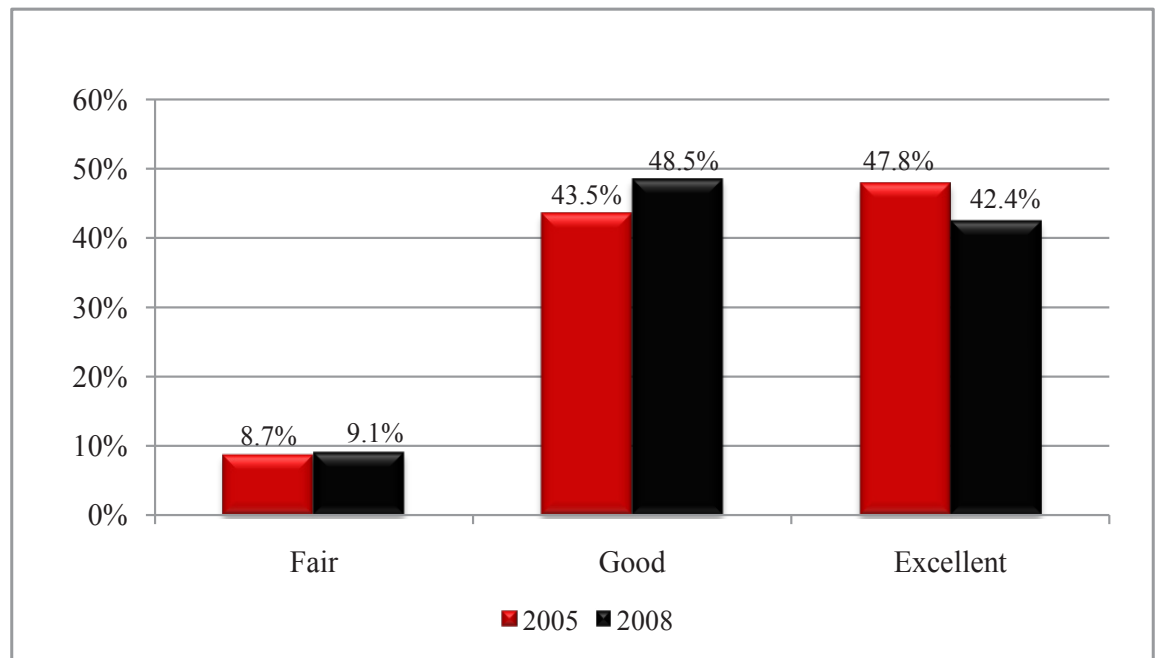
- 20% of responding graduate students used Professional Student Organizations
- 46 of 49 respondents rated the quality of Professional Student Organizations as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 13: Quality of Honor Societies**

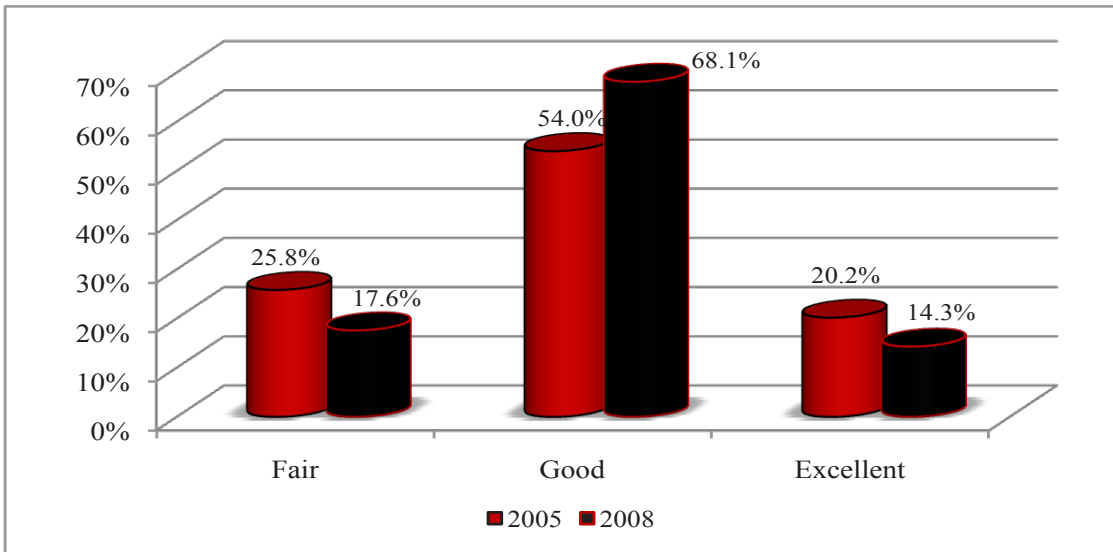
**2008 Responses**

- 15% of responding graduate students participated in Honor Societies.
- 30 of 33 respondents rated the quality of Honor Societies as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 14: Quality of VSU Food Services**



**2008 Responses**

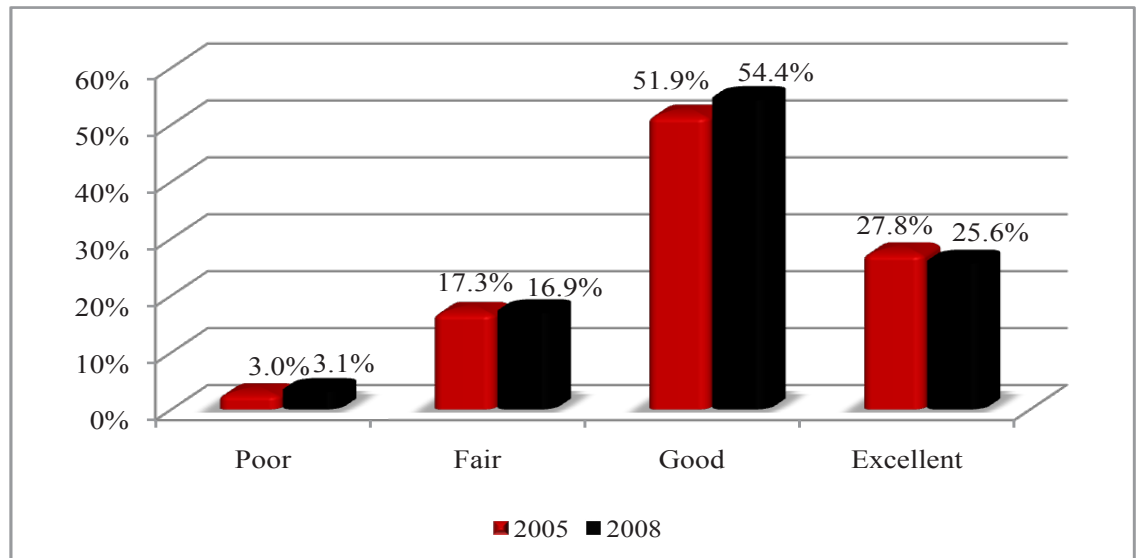
- 43% of responding graduate students used VSU Food Services.
- 75 of 91 respondents rated the quality of VSU Food Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 15: Quality of VSU Bookstore**

**2008 Responses**

- 89% of responding graduate students used the VSU Bookstore.
- 156 of 195 respondents rated the quality of the VSU Bookstore as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 16: Quality of Parking**



**2008 Responses**

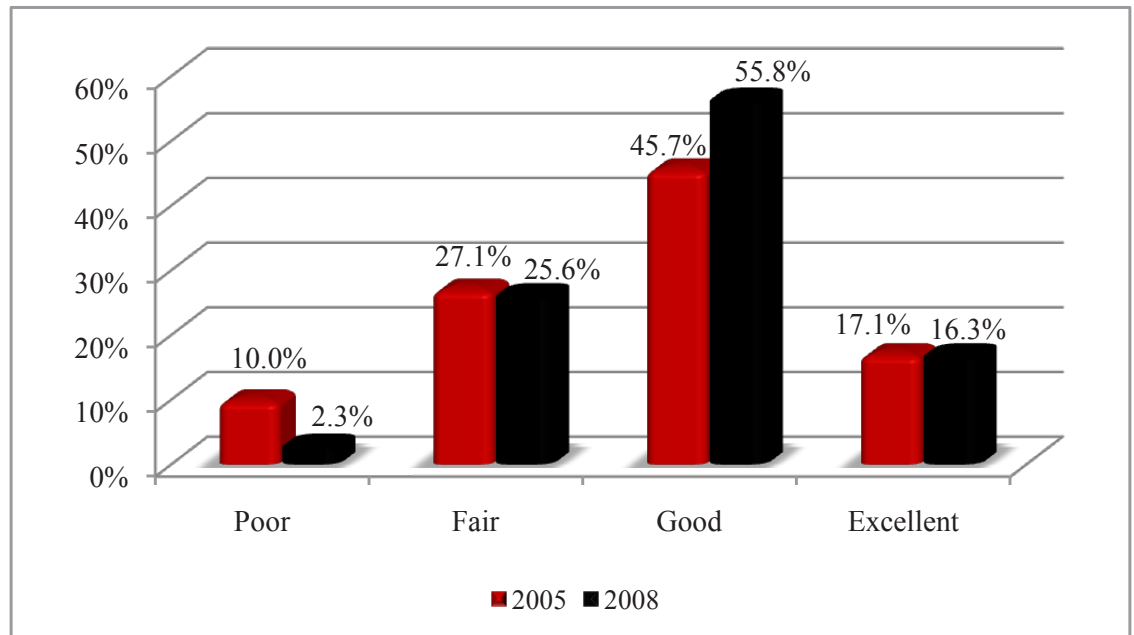
- 74% of respondents used VSU Parking.
- 107 of 154 responding graduate students rated the quality of VSU Parking as fair or poor.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 17: Quality of Shuttle Bus Services**

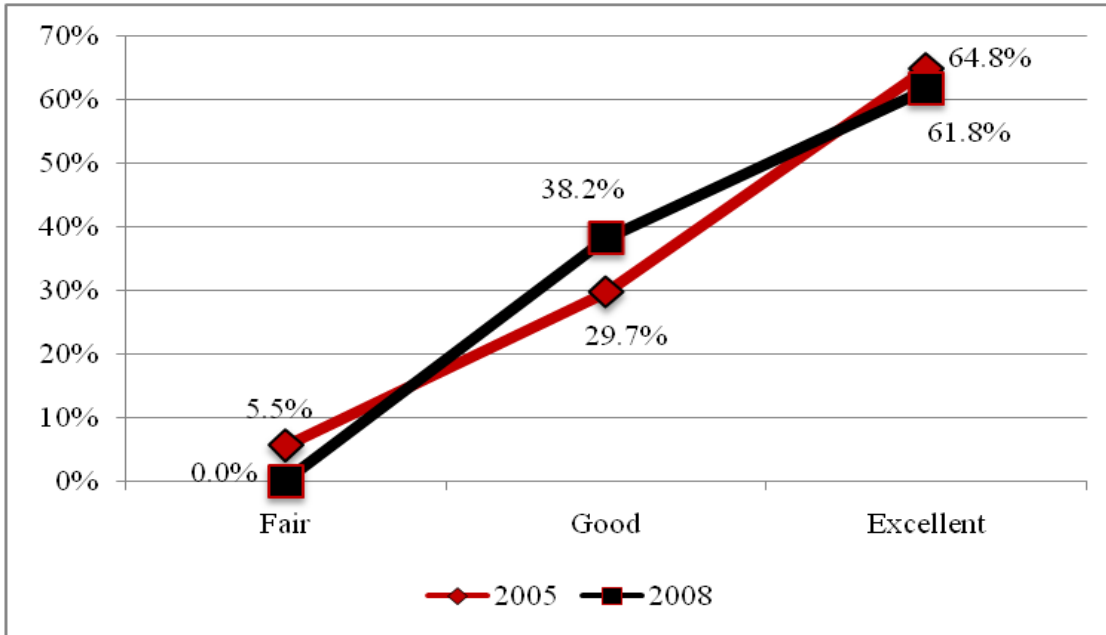
**2008 Responses**

- 18% of responding graduate students used the VSU Shuttle Bus Service.
- 31 of 43 respondents rated the quality of the VSU Shuttle Buses as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2007

**EXHIBIT 18: Quality of Athletic and Recreation Facilities**

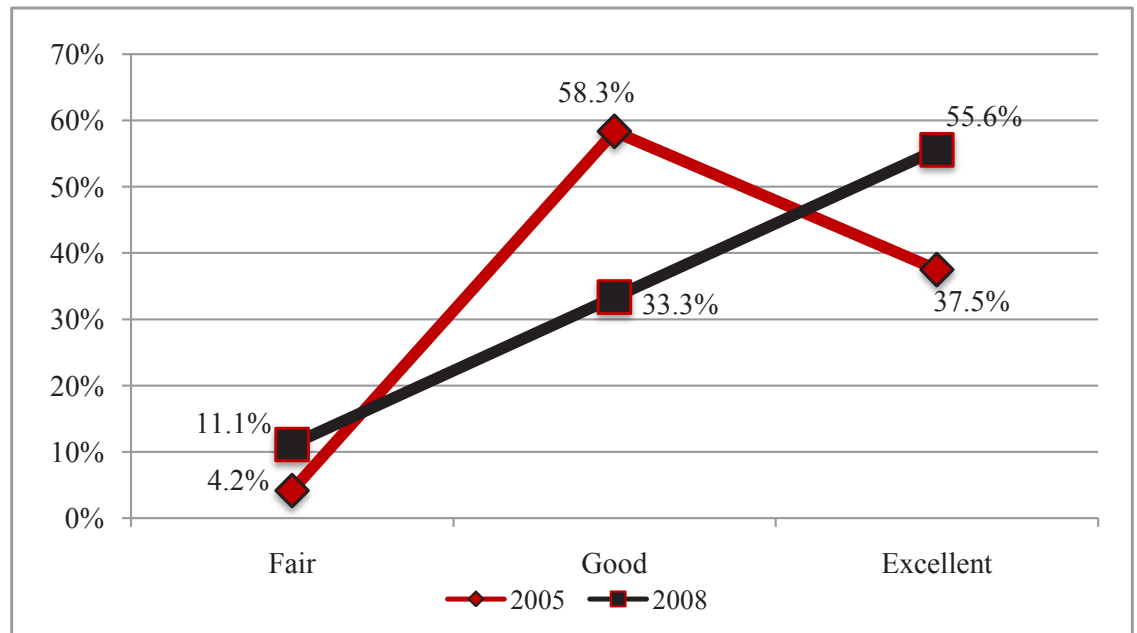


**2008 Responses**

- 33% of responding graduate students used Athletic & Recreation Facilities.
- 68 of 68 respondents rated the quality of the Athletic & Recreation Facilities as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 19: Quality of Special Needs Services**

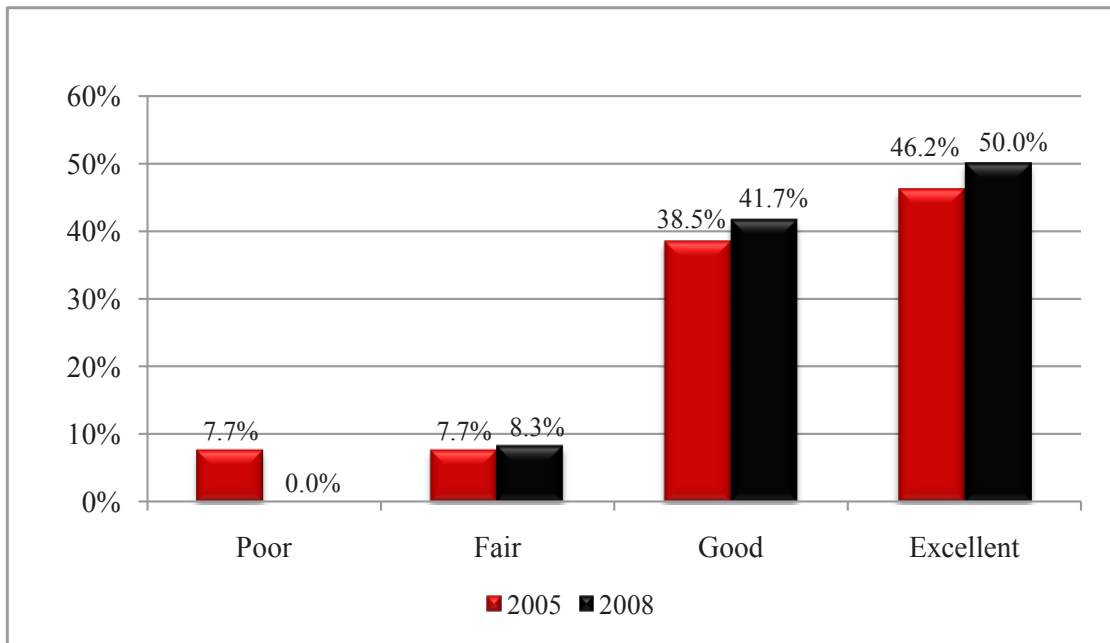


**2008 Responses**

- 4% of responding graduate students used Special Needs Services.
- 8 of 9 respondents rated the quality of Services for Special Needs as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 20: Quality of Support for International Students**

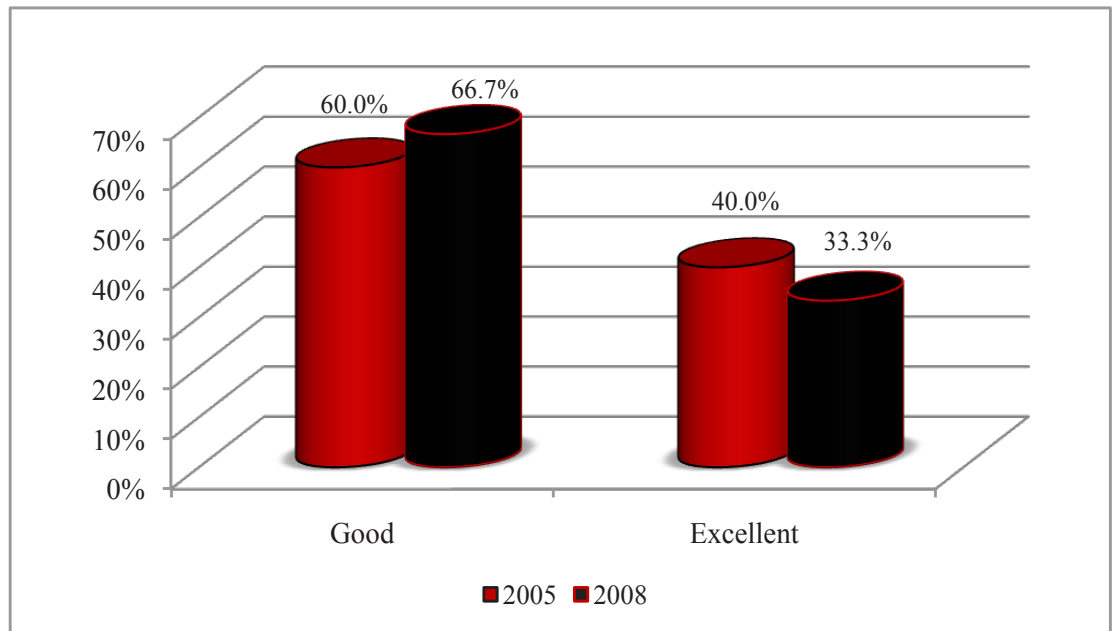


**2008 Responses**

- 4% of responding graduate students used International Student Support Services.
- 11 of 12 respondents rated Support Services for International Students as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 21: Quality of Minority Programs**



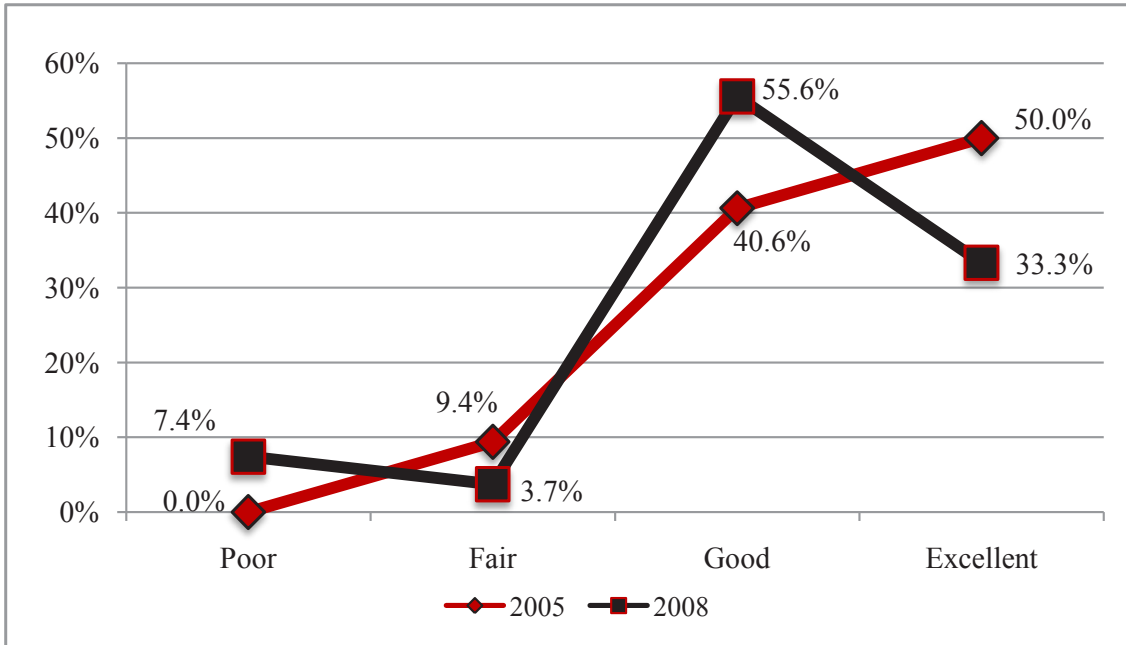
**2008 Responses**

- 2% of respondents reported using Minority Programs.
- 3 of 3 responding graduate students rated Minority Programs as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008



**EXHIBIT 22: Quality of Campus Student Employment**

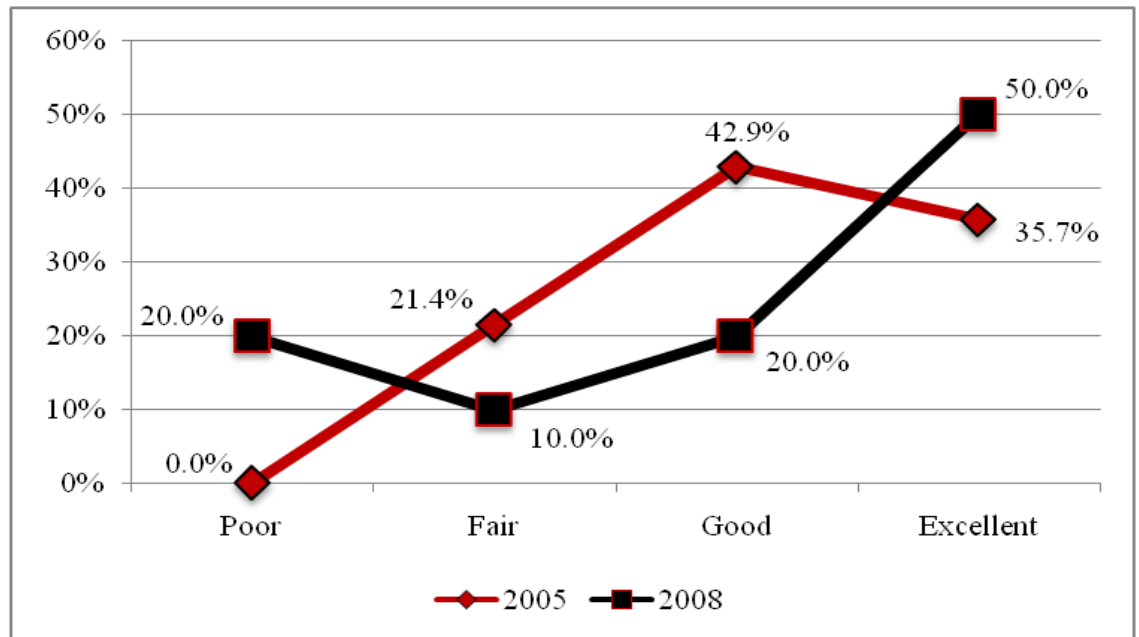


**2008 Responses**

- 13% of respondents used Campus Student Employment Services.
- 24 of 27 responding graduate students rated the quality of Campus Student Employment as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 23: Quality of Job Placement Services**

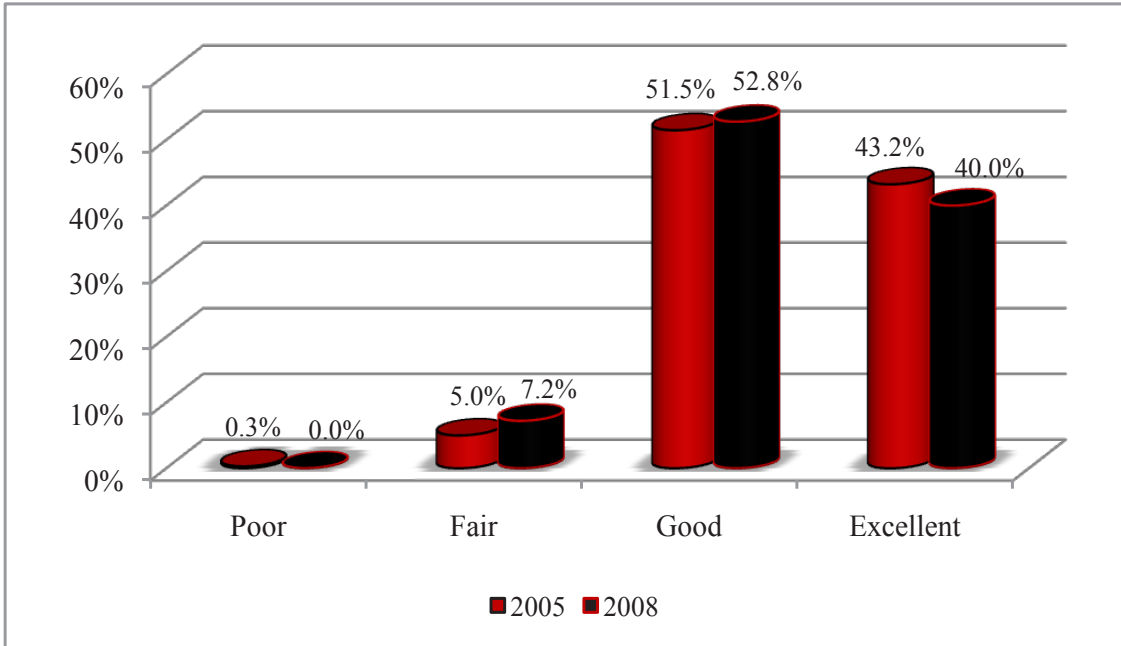


**2008 Responses**

- 6% of respondents used VSU's Job Placement Services.
- 7 of 10 responding graduate students rated the quality of VSU's Job Placement Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 24: Quality of VSU Graduate Home Page**



**2008 Responses**

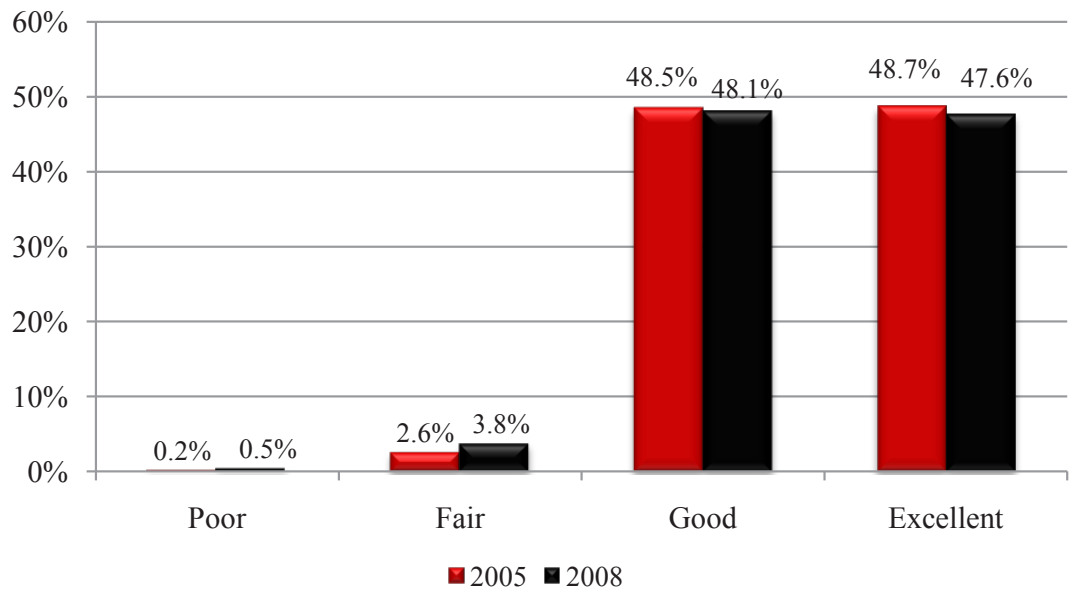
- 82% of respondents used the VSU Graduate Home Page.
- 167 of 180 responding graduate students rated the quality of the VSU Graduate Home Page as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 25: Quality of VSU Home Page**

**2008 Responses**

- 95% of respondents reported using the VSU Home Page
- 203 of 212 responding graduate students rated the quality of the VSU Home Page as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 26: Quality of Counseling Center**

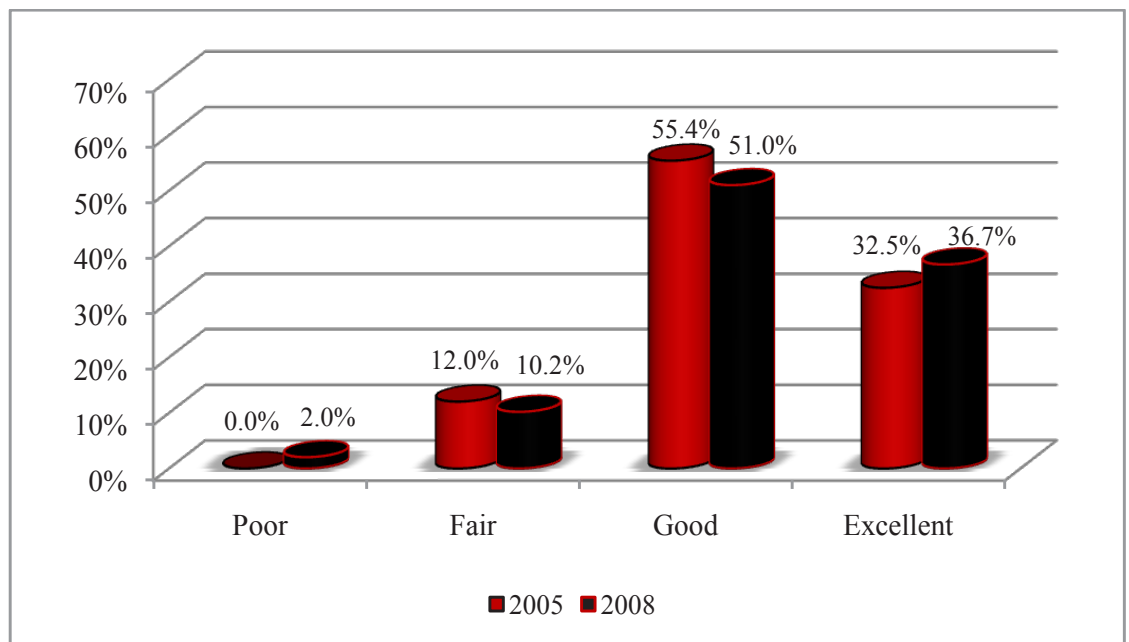


**2008 Responses**

- 7% of respondents used VSU Counseling Center Services.
- 16 of 16 responding graduate students rated the quality of VSU Counseling Center Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 27: Quality of Testing Services**

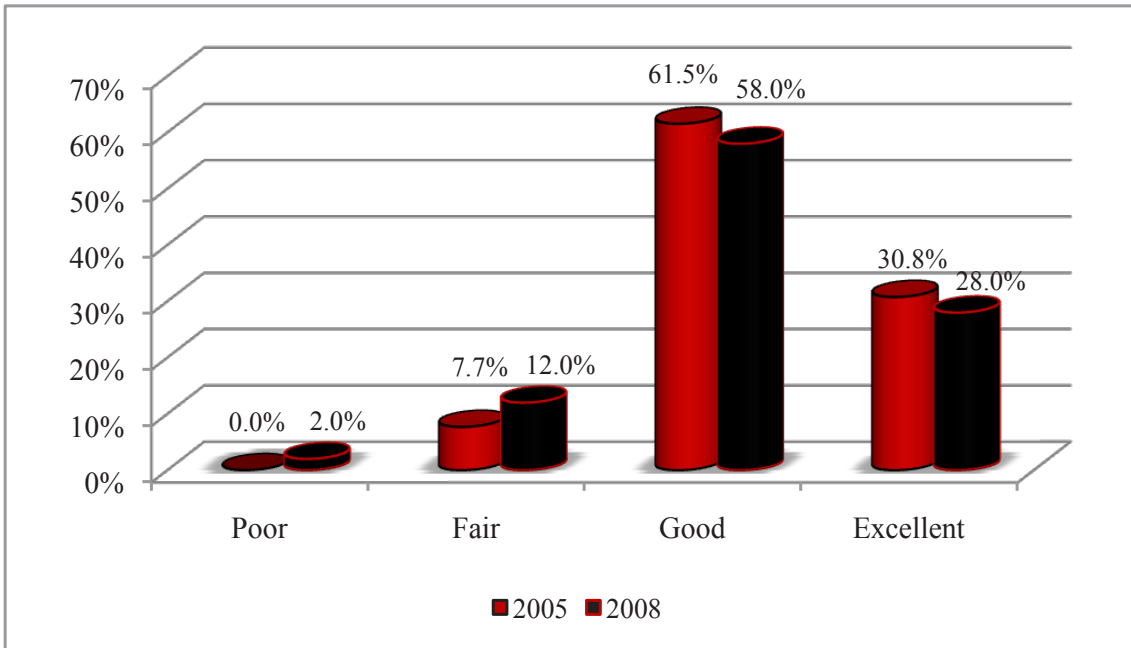


**2008 Responses**

- 24% of respondents used VSU Testing Services.
- 43 of 49 responding graduate students rated the quality of VSU Testing Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 28: Quality of VSU Graduate Bulletin/Catalog**



**2008 Responses**

- 58% of responding graduate students used VSU Graduate Bulletin/Catalog.
- 112 of 119 respondents rated the quality of the VSU Graduate Bulletin/Catalog as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 29: Quality of Cooperative Education Program**

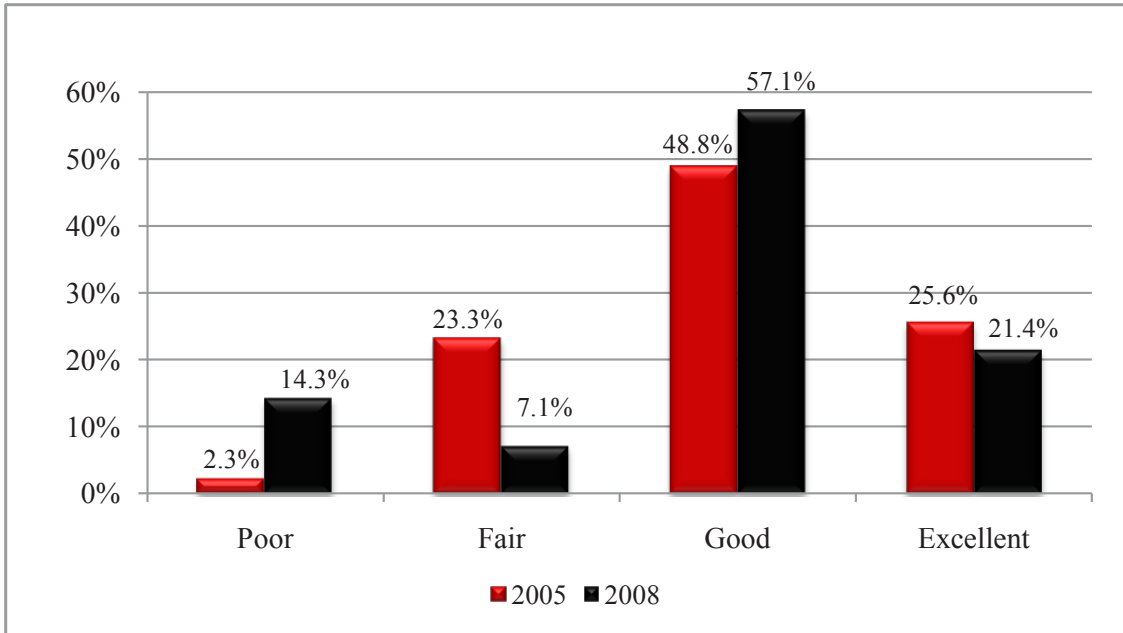
**2008 Responses**

- 5% of responding graduate students used Cooperative Education Program.
- 10 of 14 responding graduate students rated the quality of Cooperative Education Program as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 30: Quality of Public Safety**



**2008 Responses**

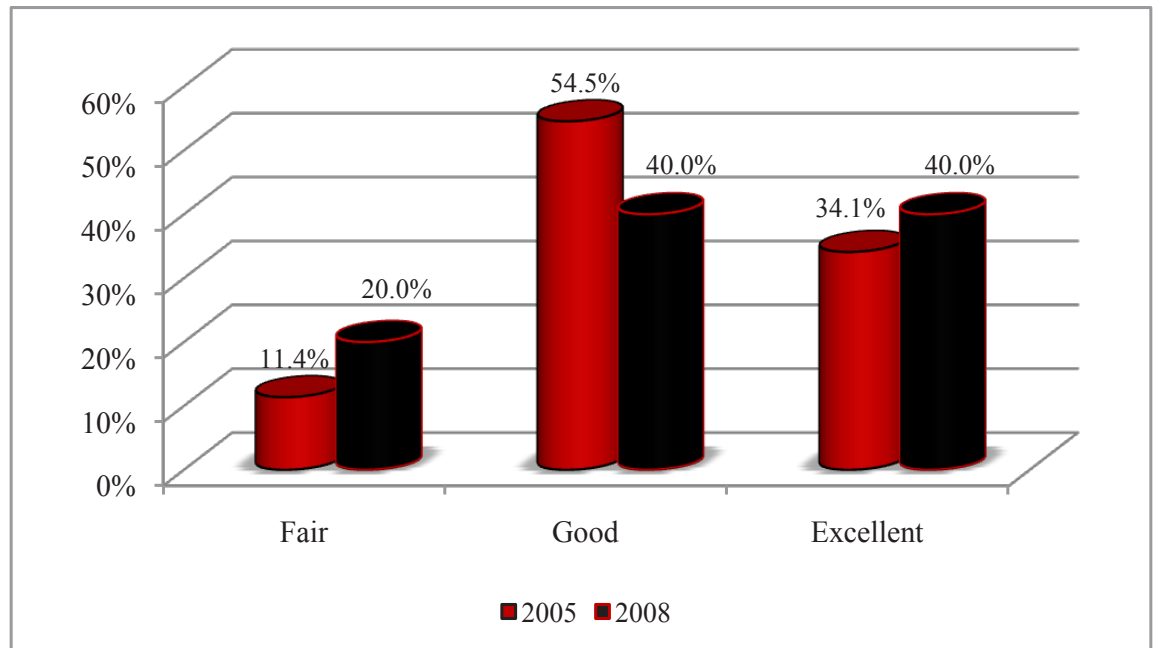
- 11% of respondents used Public Safety Services.
- 22 of 28 responding graduate students rated the quality of Public Safety Services as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 31: Quality of VSU Post Office**

**2008 Responses**

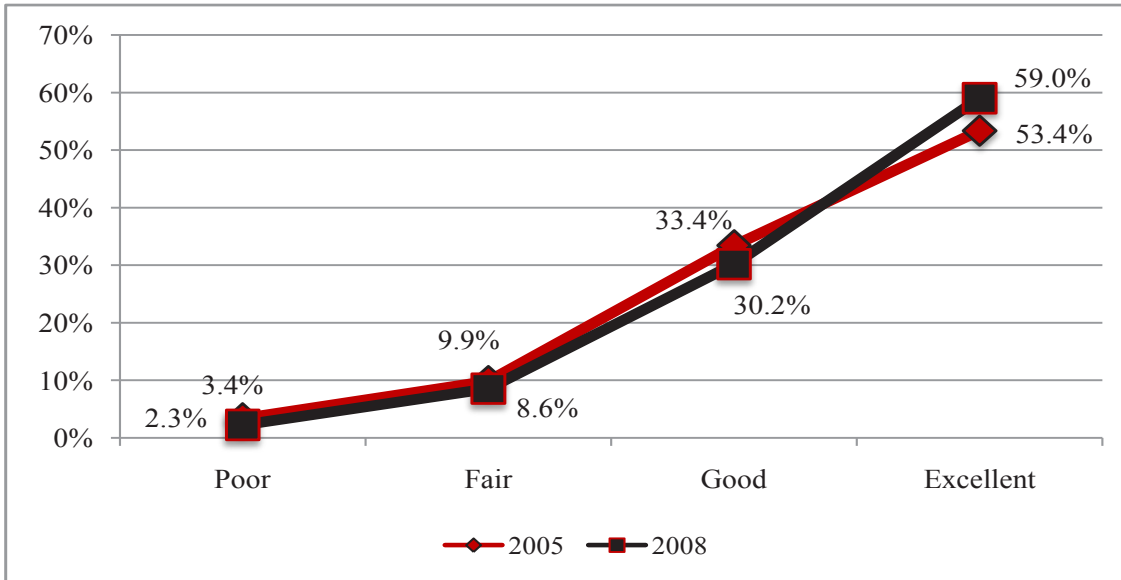
- 13% of responding graduate students used VSU Post Office
- 24 of 30 responding graduate students the quality of VSU Post Office as excellent or good.



Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**Academic Experiences: Quality Rating Comparison: 2005 to 2008**

**EXHIBIT 32: Helpfulness of Academic Advisor**

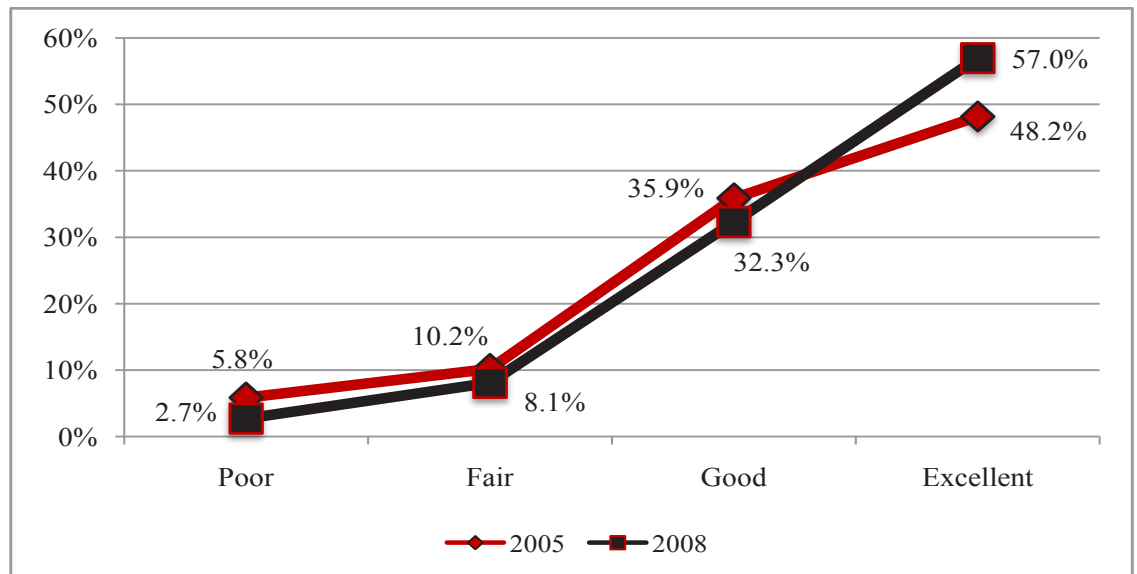


**2008 Responses**

89% of respondents (198 students) rated the helpfulness of their academic advisor as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 33: Availability of Academic Advisor**

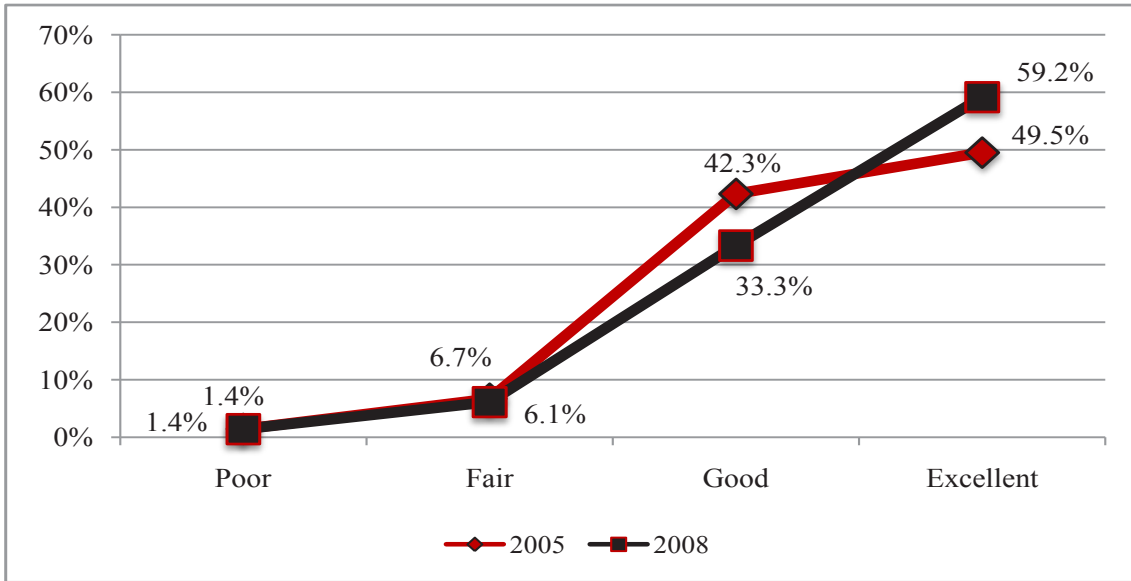


**2008 Responses**

89% of respondents (199 students) rated the availability of their academic advisor as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 34: Helpfulness of Departmental Office Staff**



**2008 Responses**

93% of respondents (197 students) rated the helpfulness of their departmental office staff as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 35: Opportunities for Interaction with Faculty**

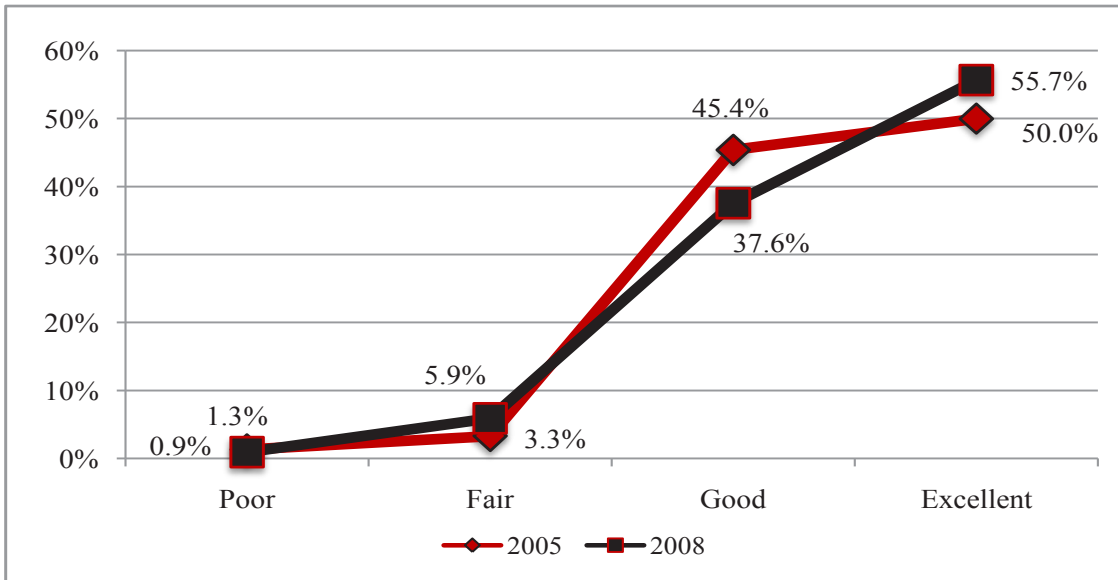


**2008 Responses**

90% of respondents (195 students) rated opportunities for interaction with faculty as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 36: Overall Attitude of Faculty Towards Students**

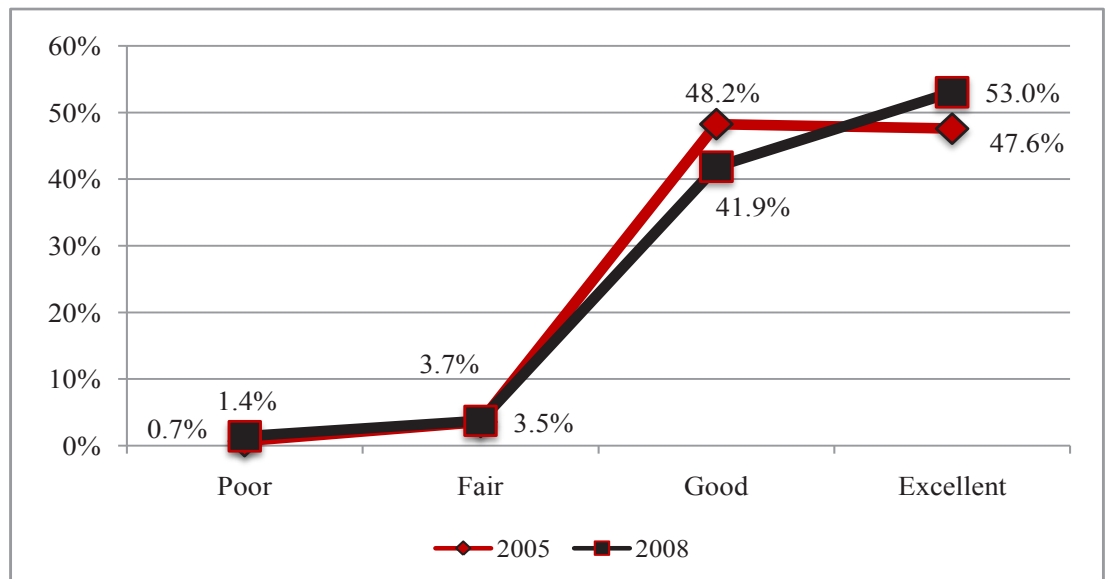


**2008 Responses**

93% of respondents (206 students) rated the overall attitude of faculty towards students as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 37: Overall Quality of Faculty**



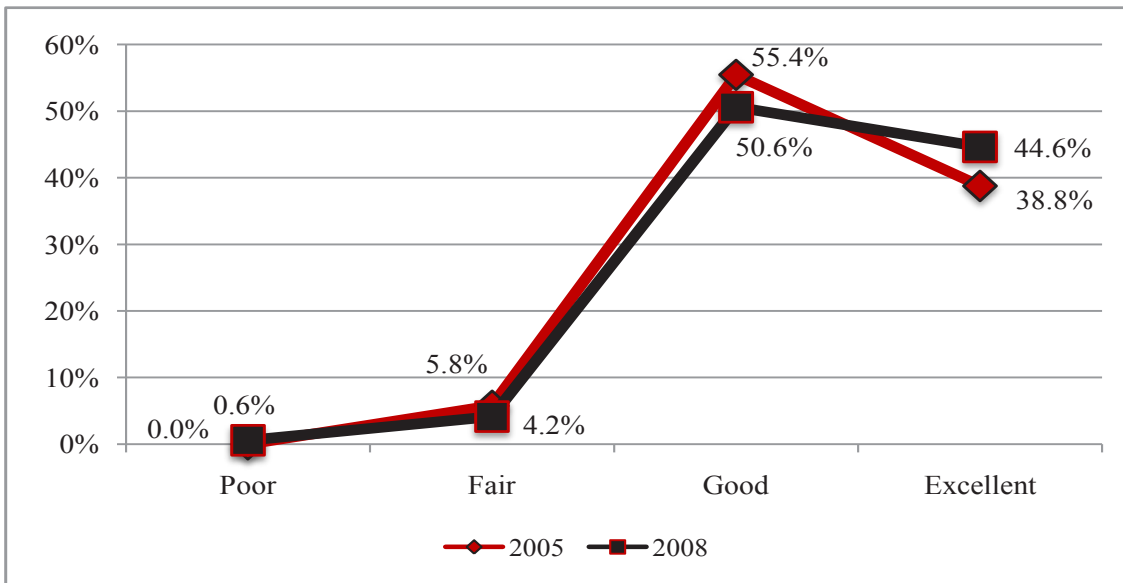
**2008 Responses**

95% of respondents (204 students) rated the overall quality of faculty as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008



**EXHIBIT 38: Courses as Preparation for Liberal Education**

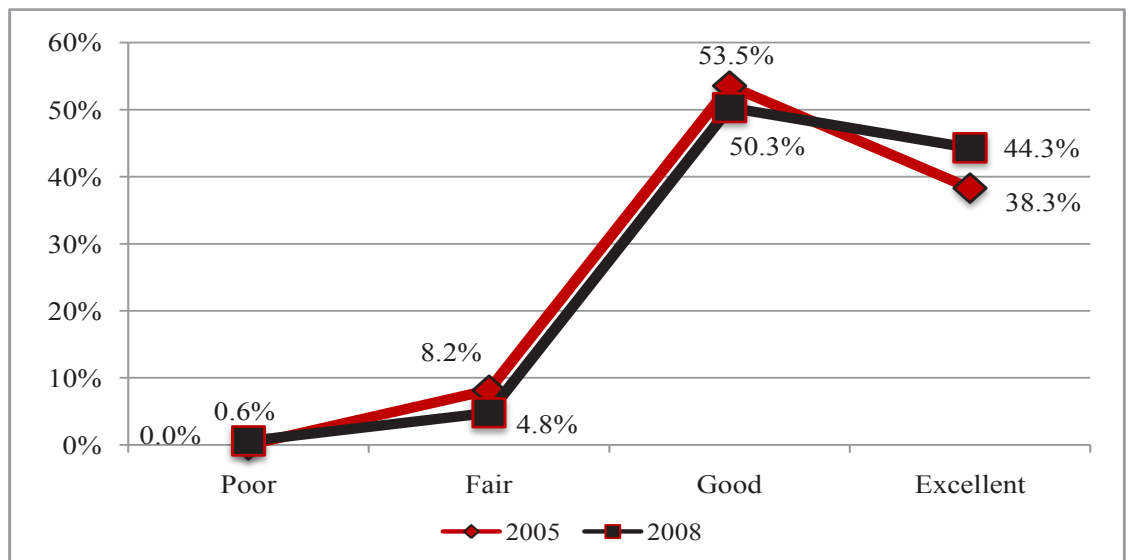


**2008 Responses**

95% of respondents (160 students) rated the courses as preparation for liberal education as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 39: Courses as Preparation for Initial Employment**

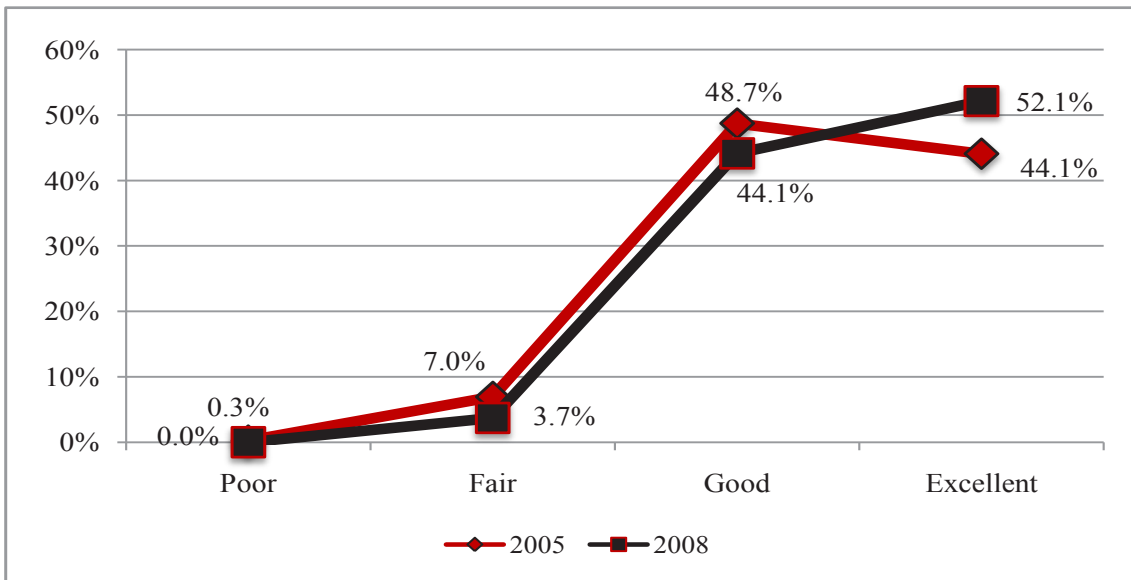


**2008 Responses**

95% of respondents (158 students) rated the courses as preparation for initial employment as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 40: Courses as Preparation for Career Advancement**

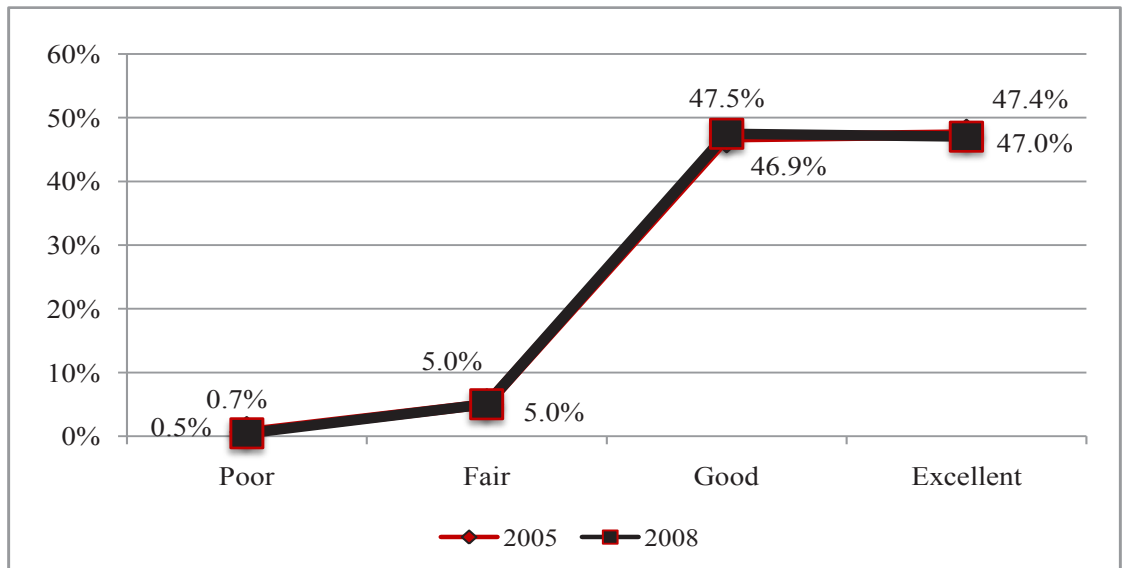


**2008 Responses**

96% of respondents (181 students) rated the courses as preparation for career advancement as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 41: Fairness of Grading**

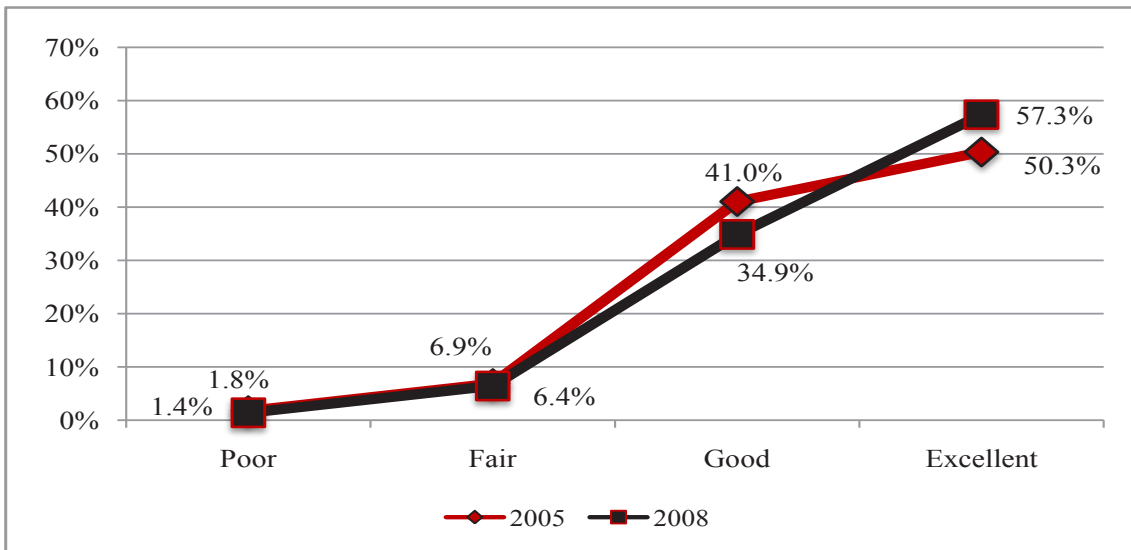


**2008 Responses**

95% of respondents (207 students) rated the fairness of grading as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 42: Access to Required Courses**

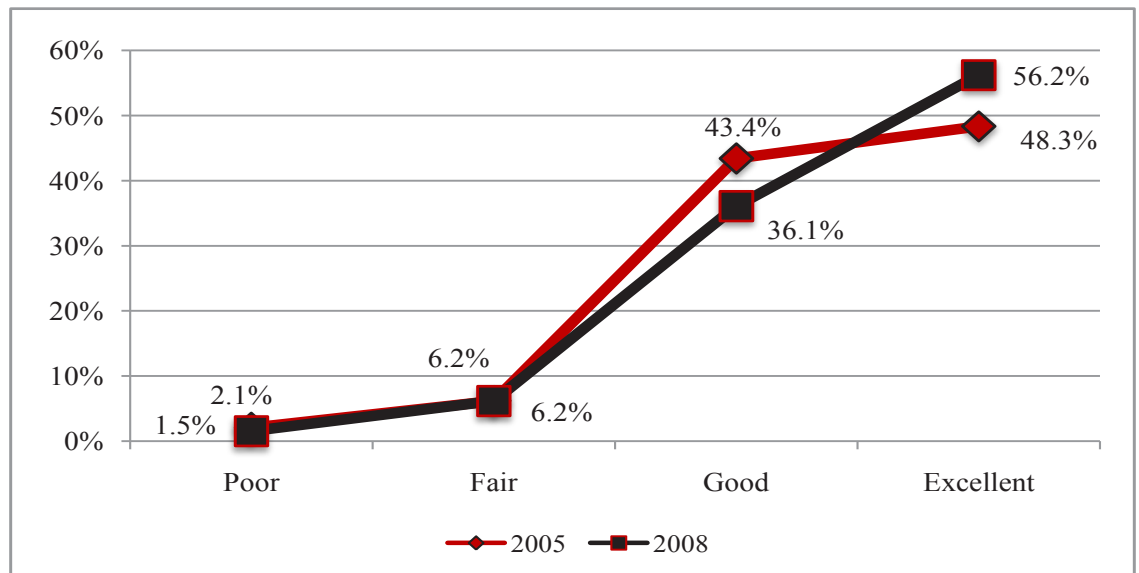


**2008 Responses**

92% of respondents (201 students) rated the access to required courses as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 43: Access to Elective Courses**

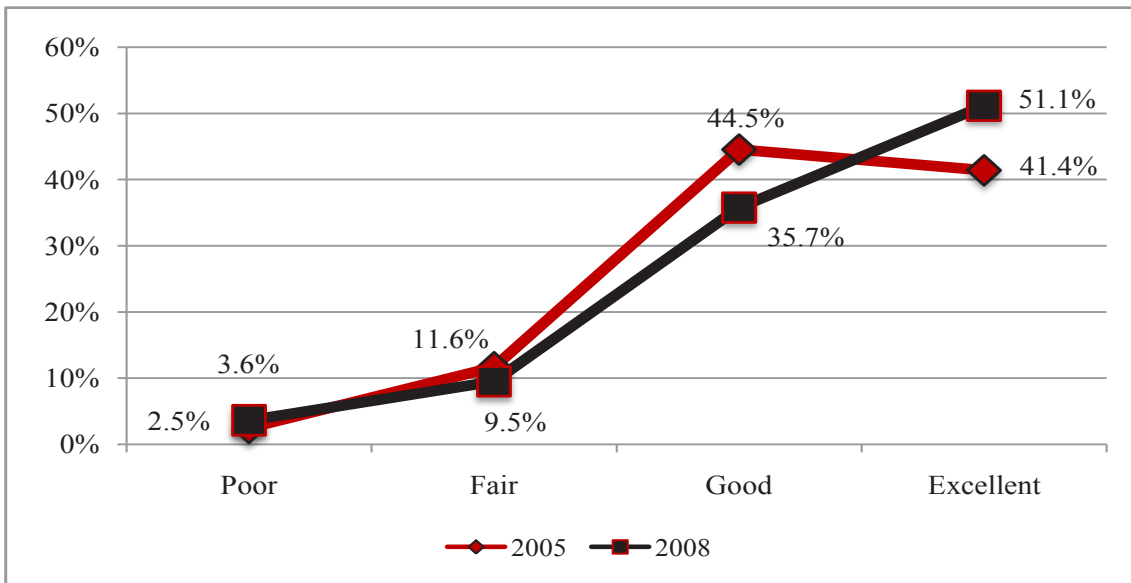


**2008 Responses**

92% of respondents (179 students) rated the access to elective courses as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 44: Organization of Curriculum**

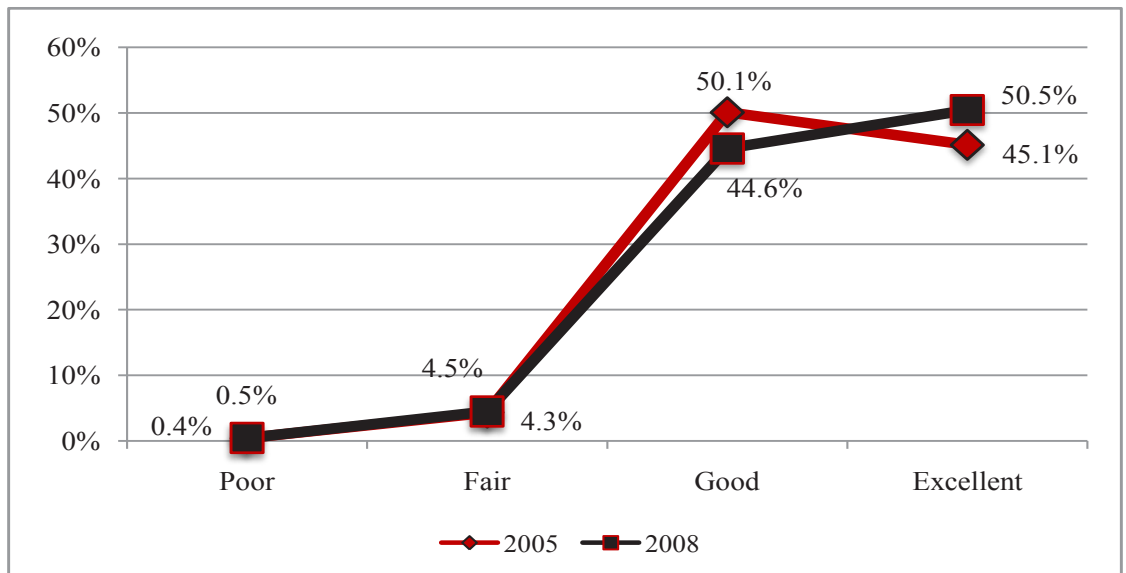


**2008 Responses**

87% of respondents (192 students) rated the organization of the curriculum as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 45: Quality of Instruction**

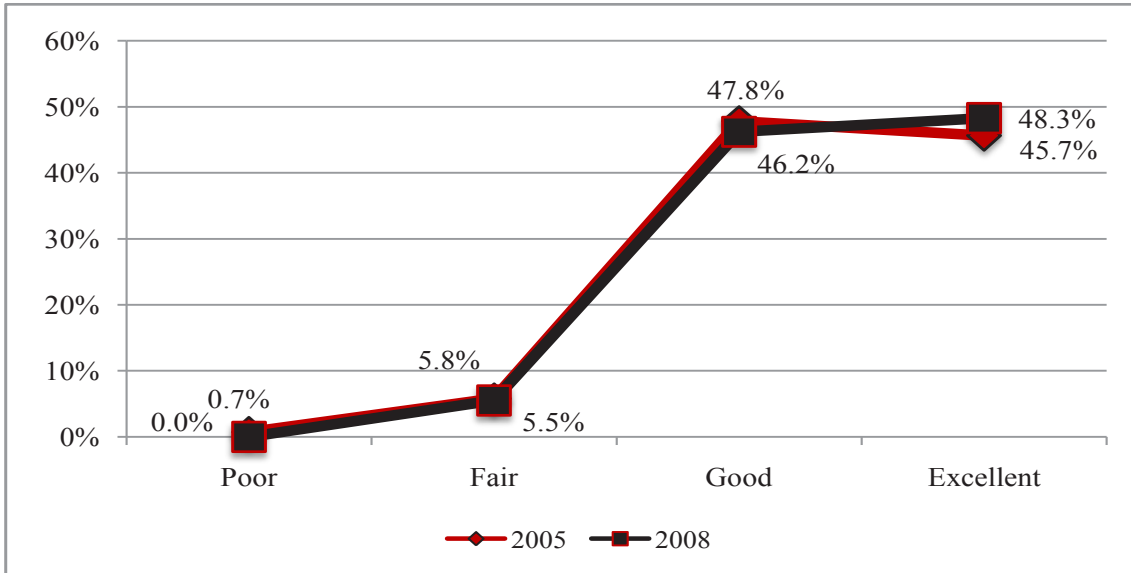


**2008 Responses**

95% of respondents (211 students) rated the quality of instruction as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 46: Practicum or Internship Experiences**

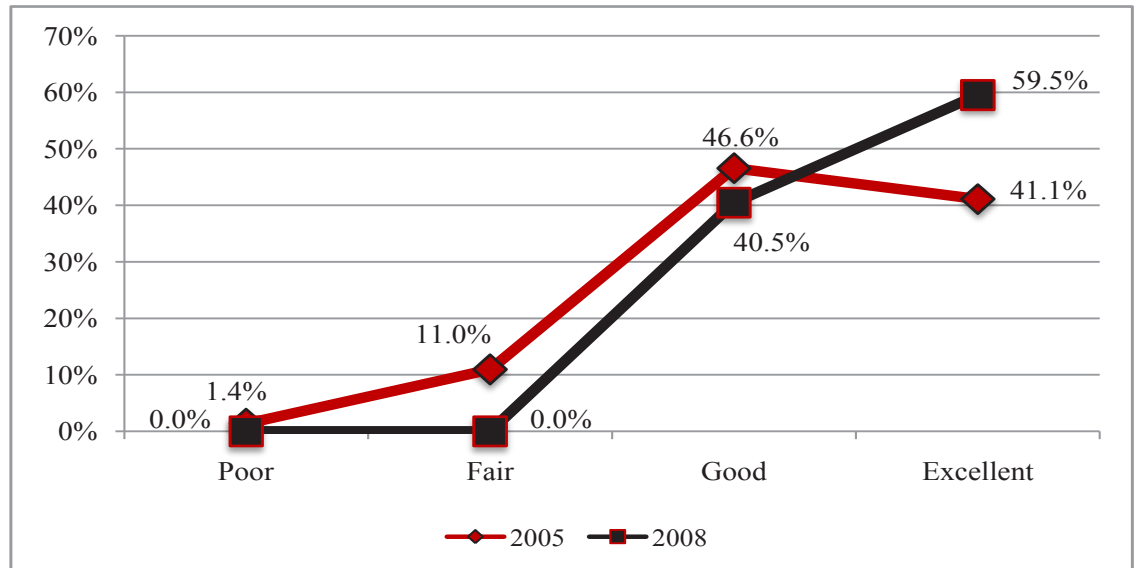


**2008 Responses**

95% of respondents (137 students) rated their practicum and internship experiences as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 47: Study Abroad Experiences**

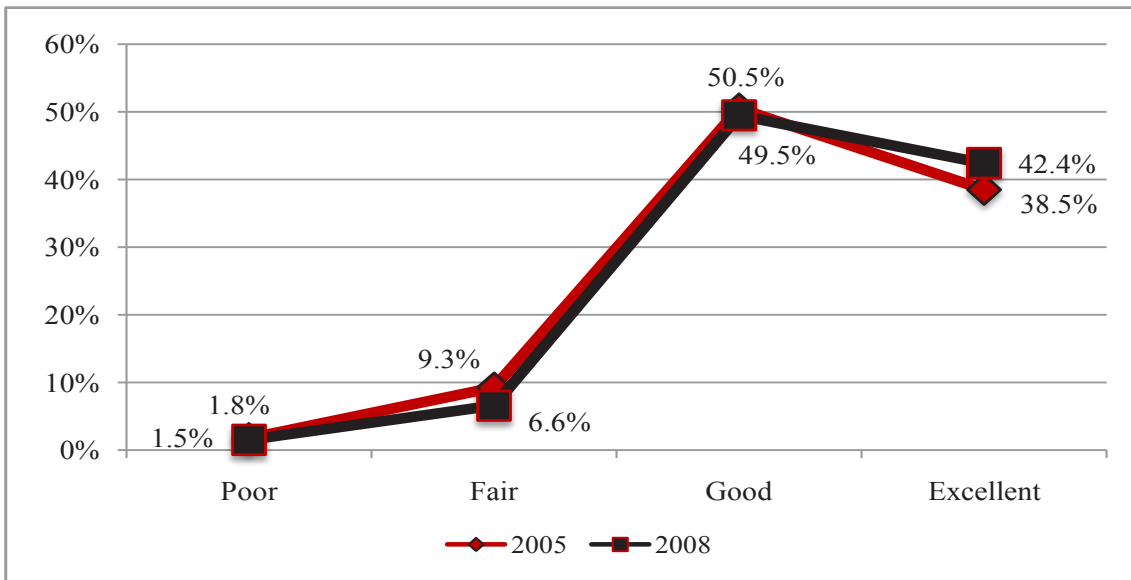


**2008 Responses**

100% of respondents (42 students) rated their study abroad experiences as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 48: Appearance of Printed Information About Program**



**2008 Responses**

92% of respondents (182 students) rated the appearance of printed information about their programs as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 49: Usefulness of Printed Information About Program**



**2008 Responses**

88% of respondents (178 students) rated the usefulness of printed information about their programs as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 50: Availability of Research Support**

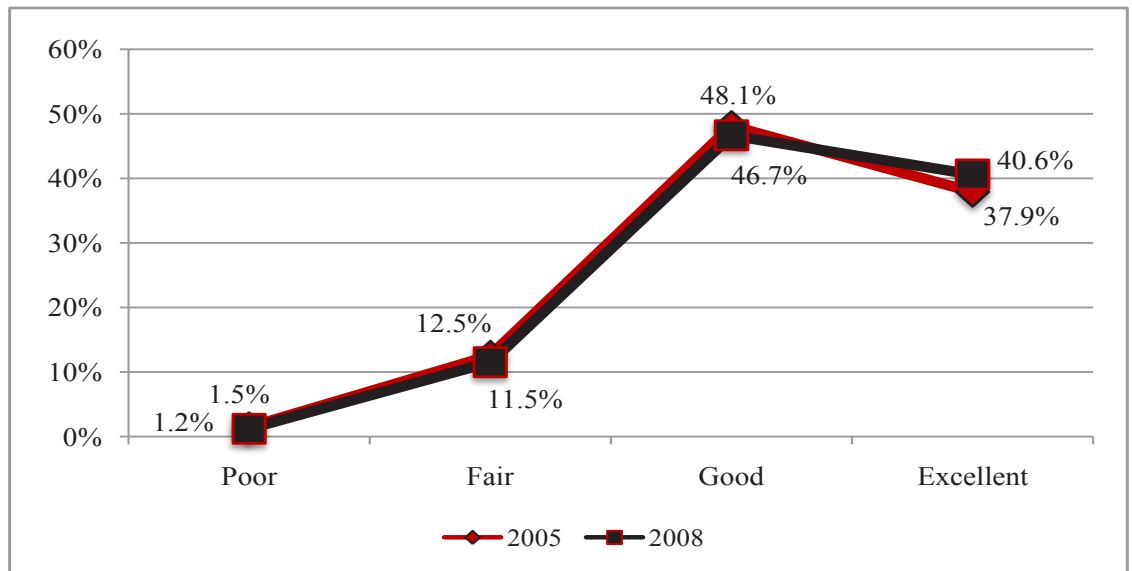


**2008 Responses**

88% of respondents (145 students) rated the availability of research support as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 51: Usefulness of Research Support**

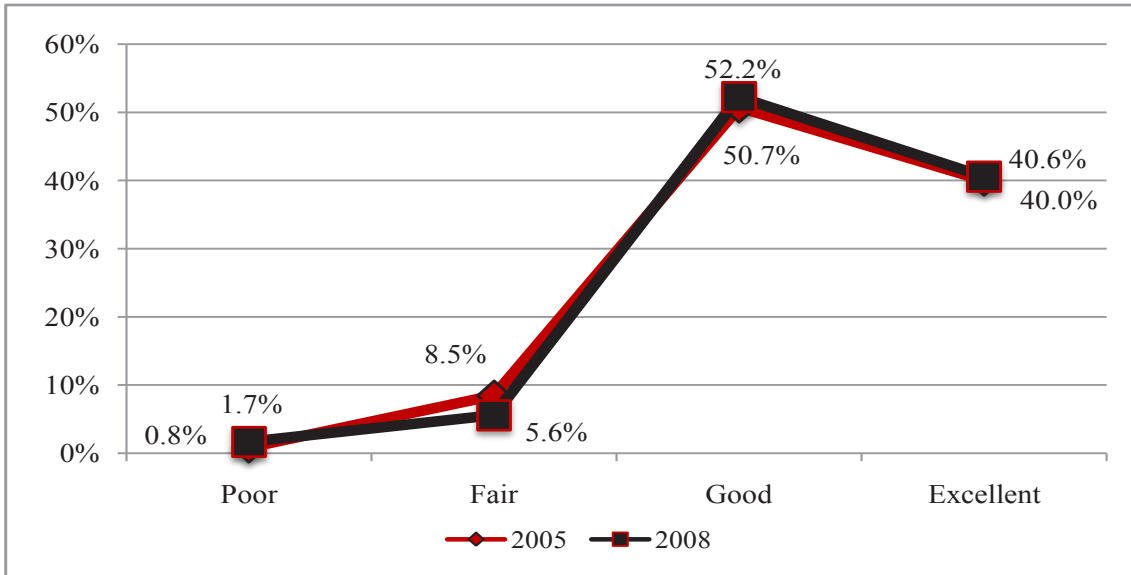


**2008 Responses**

87% of respondents (144 students) rated the usefulness of research support as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 52: Library Collection/Resources**

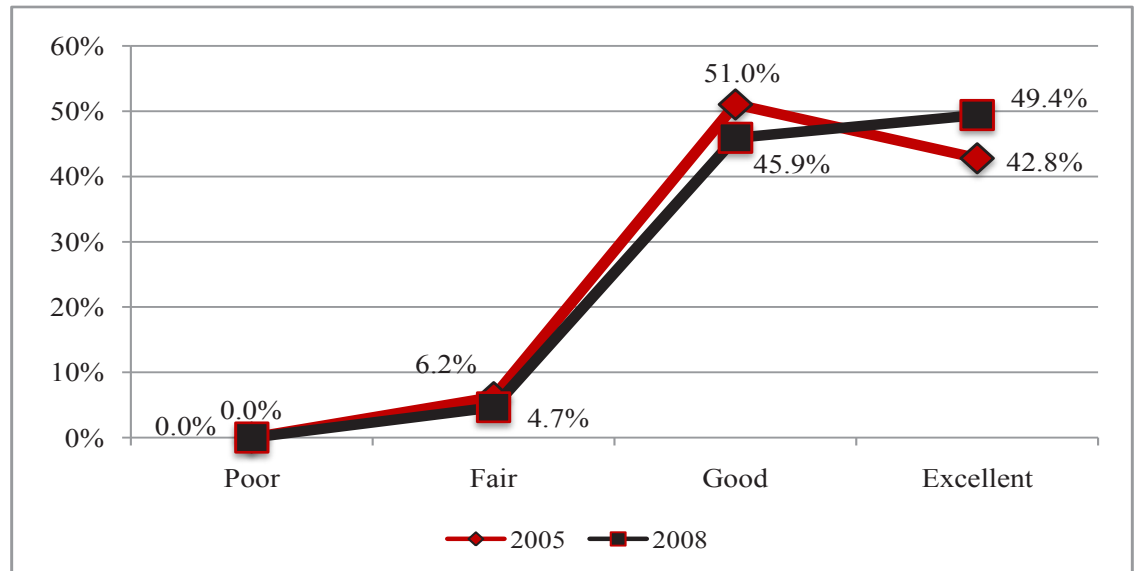


**2008 Responses**

93% of respondents (164 students) rated library collections/resources as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 53: Library Facilities**



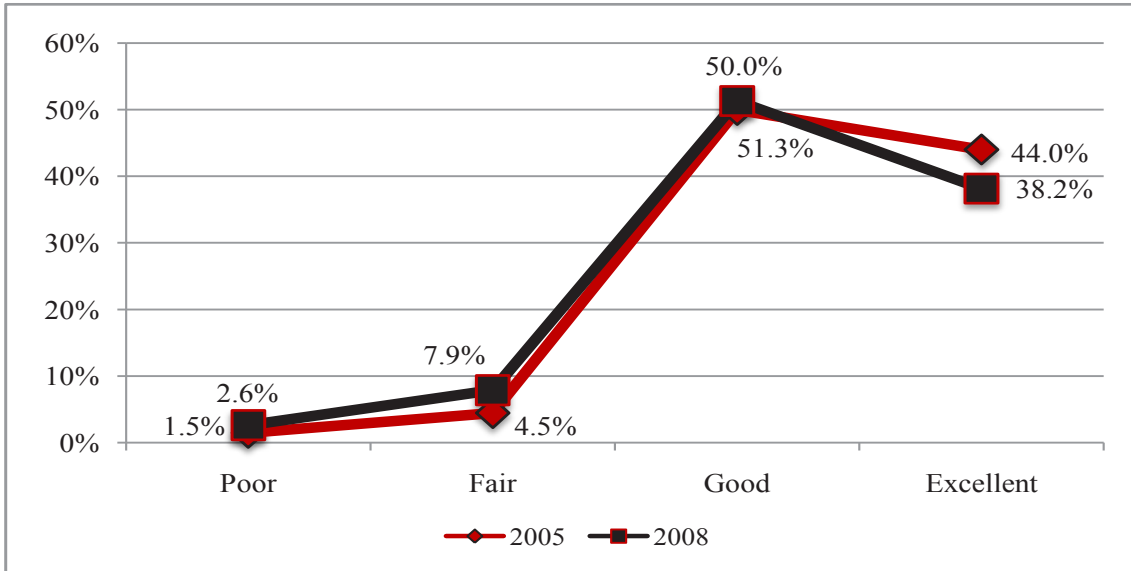
**2008 Responses**

95% of respondents (164 students) rated library facilities as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008



**EXHIBIT 54: Computer Lab Facilities**

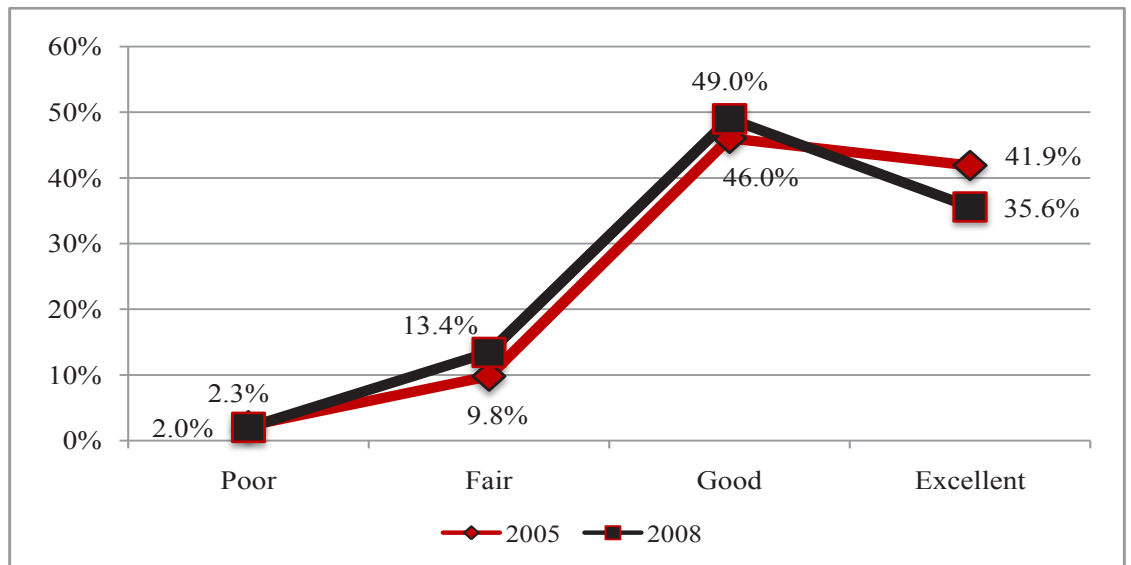


**2008 Responses**

90% of respondents (136 students) rated the computer lab facilities as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 55: Computer Lab Availability**

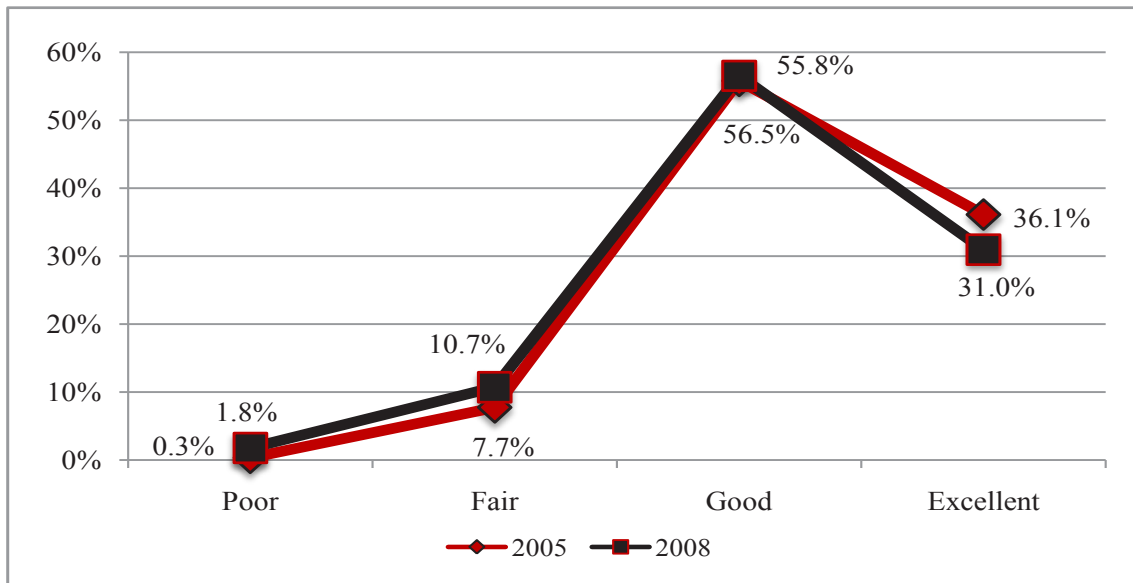


**2008 Responses**

85% of respondents (126 students) rated the computer lab availability as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 56: Classroom Facilities**

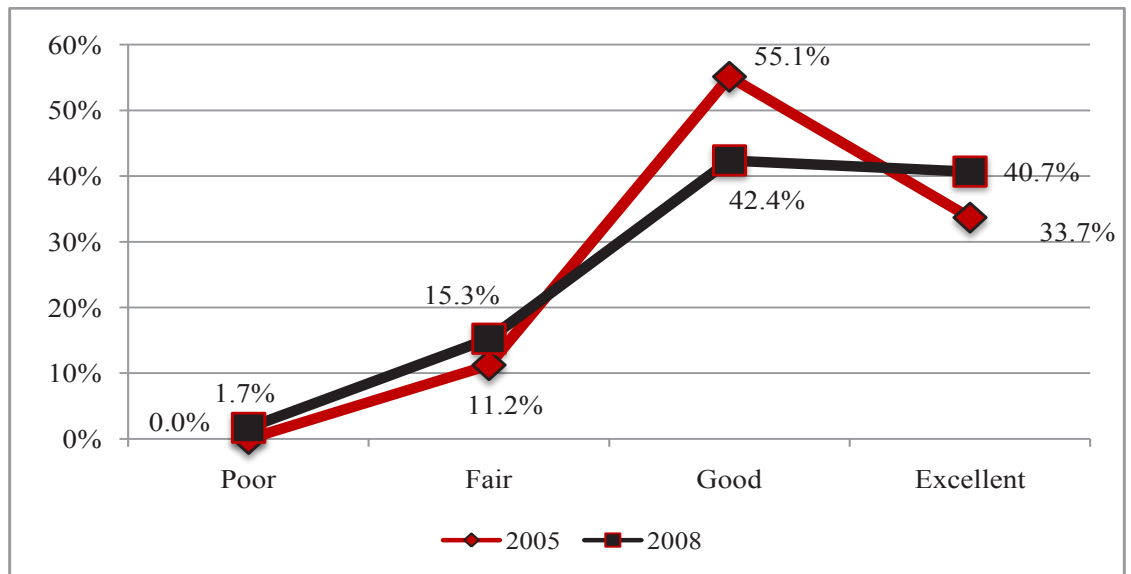


**2008 Responses**

88% of respondents (147 students) rated classroom facilities as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 57: Laboratory Facilities (Not Computer)**

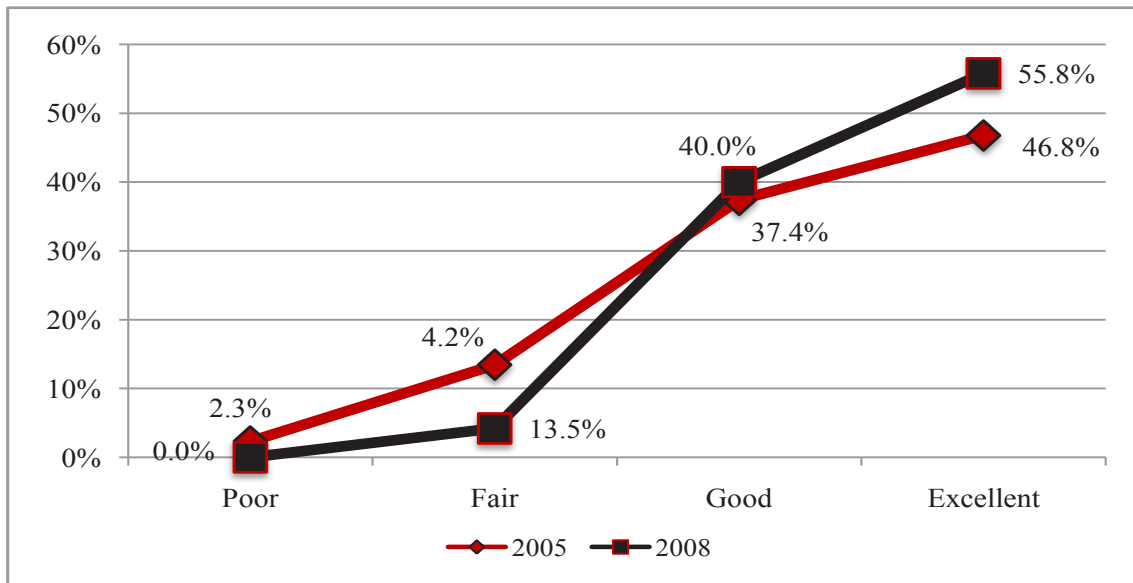


**2008 Responses**

83% of respondents (49 students) rated the laboratory facilities as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 58: Helpfulness of Committee Chair**

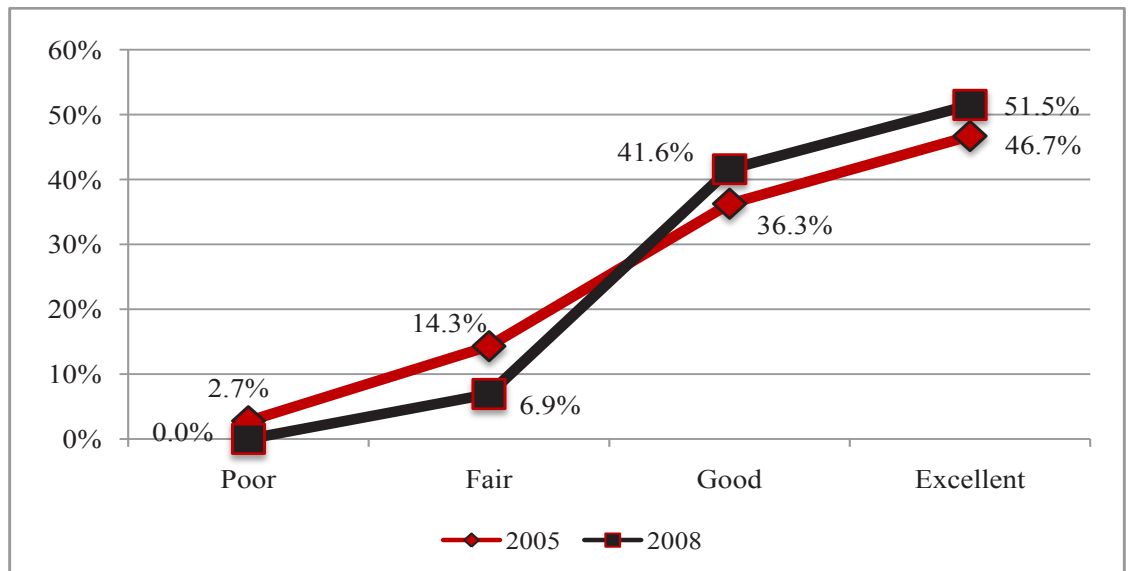


**2008 Responses**

96% of respondents (51 students) rated helpfulness of committee chair as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 59: Availability of Committee Chair**

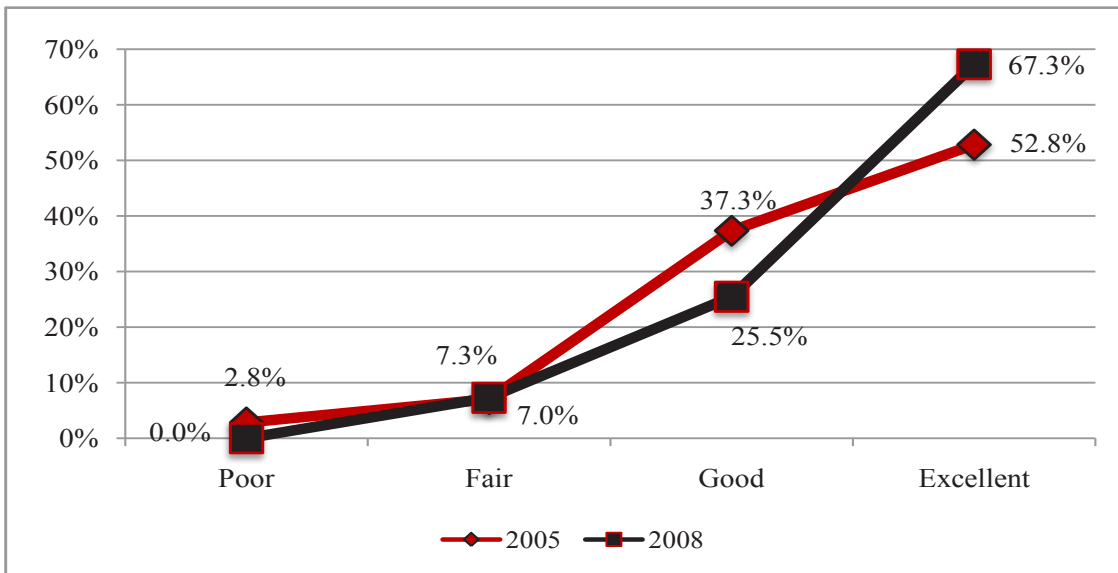


**2008 Responses**

93% of respondents (94 students) rated the availability of committee chair as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 60: Helpfulness of Thesis Chair**



**2008 Responses**

93% of respondents (51 students) rated the helpfulness of thesis chair as excellent or good.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 61: Graduate Students' Ratings of the University's Services and Facilities**

University Services and Facilities	n	Mean	Std. Deviation	Quality of Service			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Quality of professional student organizations	49	3.35	0.663	42.9%	51.0%	4.1%	2.0%
Quality of honor societies	33	3.33	0.645	42.4%	48.5%	9.1%	0.0%
Quality of athletic and recreation facilities	68	3.62	0.490	61.8%	38.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Quality of VSU food services	91	2.97	0.567	14.3%	68.1%	17.6%	0.0%
Quality of shuttle bus services	43	2.86	0.710	16.3%	55.8%	25.6%	2.3%
Quality of parking	154	2.01	0.915	5.8%	24.7%	34.4%	35.1%
Quality of VSU child care center	6	2.50	1.049	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%
Quality of support services for international students	12	3.42	0.669	50.0%	41.7%	8.3%	0.0%
Quality of VSU undergraduate bulletin/catalog	50	3.12	0.689	28.0%	58.0%	12.0%	2.0%
Quality of VSU graduate bulletin/catalog	119	3.33	0.612	39.5%	54.6%	5.0%	0.8%
Quality of cooperative education program	14	3.07	0.829	35.7%	35.7%	28.6%	0.0%
Quality of university work-study program	12	3.50	0.674	58.3%	33.3%	8.3%	0.0%
Quality of career planning services	19	3.11	0.809	36.8%	36.8%	26.3%	0.0%
Quality of job placement services	10	3.00	1.247	50.0%	20.0%	10.0%	20.0%
Quality of counseling center services	16	3.56	0.512	56.3%	43.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Quality of testing services	49	3.22	0.715	36.7%	51.0%	10.2%	2.0%
Quality of campus student employment	27	3.15	0.818	33.3%	55.6%	3.7%	7.4%
Quality of minority programs/counseling	3	3.33	0.577	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Quality of veterans services	4	3.25	0.957	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	0.0%
Quality of public safety services	28	2.86	0.932	21.4%	57.1%	7.1%	14.3%
Quality of bookstore	195	3.03	0.742	25.6%	54.4%	16.9%	3.1%
Quality of post office	30	3.20	0.761	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	0.0%
Quality of handicapped accessibility for VSU facilities	44	3.05	0.746	25.0%	59.1%	11.4%	4.5%
Quality of services for special needs	9	3.44	0.726	55.6%	33.3%	11.1%	0.0%
Quality of VSU home page	212	3.43	0.592	47.6%	48.1%	3.8%	0.5%
Quality of graduate school home page	180	3.33	0.606	40.0%	52.8%	7.2%	0.0%
Quality of departmental home page	187	3.37	0.604	42.8%	52.9%	3.2%	1.1%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 62: Graduate students' Ratings of their Academic Experiences**

	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
<b>VSU Personnel Support</b>							
1. Availability of academic advisor	223	3.43	0.756	57.0%	32.3%	8.1%	2.7%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	222	3.46	0.746	59.0%	30.2%	8.6%	2.3%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	213	3.50	0.677	59.2%	33.3%	6.1%	1.4%
4. Availability of committee chair	101	3.45	0.624	51.5%	41.6%	6.9%	0.0%
5. Helpfulness of committee chair	95	3.52	0.581	55.8%	40.0%	4.2%	0.0%
6. Helpfulness of thesis committee	55	3.60	0.627	67.3%	25.5%	7.3%	0.0%
7. Overall quality of faculty	215	3.47	0.639	53.0%	41.9%	3.7%	1.4%
8. Attitude of faculty toward students	221	3.48	0.651	55.7%	37.6%	5.9%	0.9%
9. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	217	3.40	0.733	52.1%	37.8%	7.8%	2.3%
<b>VSU Instructional Support</b>							
10. Courses as preparation for liberal education	168	3.39	0.600	44.6%	50.6%	4.2%	0.6%
11. Courses as preparation for initial employment	167	3.38	0.609	44.3%	50.3%	4.8%	0.6%
12. Courses as preparation for career advancement	188	3.48	0.571	52.1%	44.1%	3.7%	0.0%
13. Ease of getting into required courses	218	3.48	0.680	57.3%	34.9%	6.4%	1.4%
14. Ease of getting into elective courses	194	3.47	0.684	56.2%	36.1%	6.2%	1.5%
15. Organization of the curriculum for your major	221	3.34	0.797	51.1%	35.7%	9.5%	3.6%
16. Quality of instruction	222	3.45	0.605	50.5%	44.6%	4.5%	0.5%
17. Fairness of grading	219	3.41	0.610	47.0%	47.5%	5.0%	0.5%
18. Practicum or internship experiences	145	3.43	0.598	48.3%	46.2%	5.5%	0.0%
19. Study abroad experiences	42	3.60	0.497	59.5%	40.5%	0.0%	0.0%
20. Appearance of printed information about program	198	3.33	0.667	42.4%	49.5%	6.6%	1.5%
21. Usefulness of printed information about program	202	3.27	0.719	41.1%	47.0%	9.9%	2.0%
22. Availability of research support	164	3.27	0.693	39.6%	48.8%	10.4%	1.2%
23. Usefulness of research support	165	3.27	0.708	40.6%	46.7%	11.5%	1.2%
<b>VSU Facilities</b>							
24. Library collection/resources	180	3.32	0.656	40.6%	52.2%	5.6%	1.7%
25. Library facilities	172	3.45	0.585	49.4%	45.9%	4.7%	0.0%
26. Computer lab facilities	152	3.25	0.712	38.2%	51.3%	7.9%	2.6%
27. Computer lab availability	149	3.18	0.736	35.6%	49.0%	13.4%	2.0%
28. Classroom facilities	168	3.17	0.680	31.0%	56.5%	10.7%	1.8%
29. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	59	3.22	0.767	40.7%	42.4%	15.3%	1.7%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 63: Graduate students' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Arts and Sciences**

Arts & Sciences	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
<b>VSU Personnel Support</b>							
1. Availability of academic advisor	20	3.60	0.681	70.0%	20.0%	10.0%	0.0%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	20	3.70	0.571	75.0%	20.0%	5.0%	0.0%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	20	3.75	0.444	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%
4. Availability of committee chair	13	3.54	0.660	61.5%	30.8%	7.7%	0.0%
5. Helpfulness of committee chair	12	3.75	0.452	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%
6. Helpfulness of thesis committee	9	3.67	0.500	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
7. Overall quality of faculty	19	3.74	0.452	73.7%	26.3%	0.0%	0.0%
8. Attitude of faculty toward students	20	3.75	0.444	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%
9. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	19	3.63	0.597	68.4%	26.3%	5.3%	0.0%
<b>VSU Instructional Support</b>							
10. Courses as preparation for liberal education	19	3.53	0.513	52.6%	47.4%	0.0%	0.0%
11. Courses as preparation for initial employment	17	3.35	0.702	47.1%	41.2%	11.8%	0.0%
12. Courses as preparation for career advancement	18	3.61	0.502	61.1%	38.9%	0.0%	0.0%
13. Ease of getting into required courses	20	3.55	0.686	65.0%	25.0%	10.0%	0.0%
14. Ease of getting into elective courses	20	3.55	0.605	60.0%	35.0%	5.0%	0.0%
15. Organization of the curriculum for your major	20	3.60	0.598	65.0%	30.0%	5.0%	0.0%
16. Quality of instruction	20	3.80	0.410	80.0%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%
17. Fairness of grading	19	3.68	0.478	68.4%	31.6%	0.0%	0.0%
18. Practicum or internship experiences	14	3.50	0.650	57.1%	35.7%	7.1%	0.0%
19. Study abroad experiences	7	3.57	0.535	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%	0.0%
20. Appearance of printed information about program	19	3.63	0.496	63.2%	36.8%	0.0%	0.0%
21. Usefulness of printed information about program	18	3.44	0.616	50.0%	44.4%	5.6%	0.0%
22. Availability of research support	15	3.47	0.516	46.8%	53.3%	0.0%	0.0%
23. Usefulness of research support	16	3.44	0.512	43.8%	56.3%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>VSU Facilities</b>							
24. Library collection/resources	18	3.06	0.639	22.2%	61.1%	16.7%	0.0%
25. Library facilities	17	3.24	0.752	41.2%	41.2%	17.6%	0.0%
26. Computer lab facilities	13	3.38	0.650	46.2%	46.2%	7.7%	0.0%
27. Computer lab availability	13	3.31	0.630	38.5%	53.8%	7.7%	0.0%
28. Classroom facilities	17	3.24	0.664	35.3%	52.9%	11.8%	0.0%
29. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	11	3.36	0.674	45.5%	45.5%	9.1%	0.0%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 64: Graduate students' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Business Administration**

Business	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
<b>VSU Personnel Support</b>							
1. Availability of academic advisor	4	4.00	0.000	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	4	4.00	0.000	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	3	4.00	0.000	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
4. Availability of committee chair	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
5. Helpfulness of committee chair	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
6. Helpfulness of thesis committee	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
7. Overall quality of faculty	4	3.75	0.500	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%
8. Attitude of faculty toward students	4	3.75	0.500	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%
9. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	4	3.50	0.577	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>VSU Instructional Support</b>							
10. Courses as preparation for liberal education	4	3.25	0.500	25.0%	75.0%	0.0%	0.0%
11. Courses as preparation for initial employment	4	3.25	0.500	25.0%	75.0%	0.0%	0.0%
12. Courses as preparation for career advancement	4	3.75	0.500	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%
13. Ease of getting into required courses	4	4.00	0.000	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
14. Ease of getting into elective courses	3	3.67	0.577	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
15. Organization of the curriculum for your major	4	4.00	0.000	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
16. Quality of instruction	4	3.75	0.500	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%
17. Fairness of grading	4	3.25	0.500	25.0%	75.0%	0.0%	0.0%
18. Practicum or internship experiences	0	--	--	--	--	--	--
19. Study abroad experiences	1	3.00	--	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
20. Appearance of printed information about program	3	3.33	0.577	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	0.0%
21. Usefulness of printed information about program	3	3.33	0.577	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	0.0%
22. Availability of research support	3	3.33	0.577	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	0.0%
23. Usefulness of research support	4	3.25	0.500	25.0%	75.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>VSU Facilities</b>							
24. Library collection/resources	3	3.67	0.577	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
25. Library facilities	3	4.00	0.000	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
26. Computer lab facilities	3	4.00	0.000	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
27. Computer lab availability	3	3.67	0.577	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
28. Classroom facilities	3	3.33	0.577	33.3%	66.7%	0.0%	0.0%
29. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	1	4.00	--	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008



**EXHIBIT 65: Graduate students' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Education**

Education	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
<b>VSU Personnel Support</b>							
1. Availability of academic advisor	138	3.40	0.769	54.3%	34.1%	8.7%	2.9%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	137	3.44	0.736	56.2%	33.6%	8.0%	2.2%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	131	3.51	0.672	60.3%	31.3%	7.6%	0.8%
4. Availability of committee chair	60	3.47	0.650	55.0%	36.7%	8.3%	0.0%
5. Helpfulness of committee chair	58	3.53	0.599	58.6%	36.2%	5.2%	0.0%
6. Helpfulness of thesis committee	37	3.57	0.689	67.6%	21.6%	10.8%	0.0%
7. Overall quality of faculty	136	3.45	0.594	49.3%	47.1%	2.9%	0.7%
8. Attitude of faculty toward students	138	3.45	0.617	50.7%	44.2%	4.3%	0.7%
9. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	135	3.36	0.707	47.4%	42.2%	8.9%	1.5%
<b>VSU Instructional Support</b>							
10. Courses as preparation for liberal education	98	3.40	0.605	44.9%	51.0%	3.1%	1.0%
11. Courses as preparation for initial employment	102	3.41	0.569	45.1%	51.0%	3.9%	0.0%
12. Courses as preparation for career advancement	118	3.48	0.566	51.7%	44.9%	3.4%	0.0%
13. Ease of getting into required courses	135	3.44	0.642	51.1%	42.2%	5.9%	0.7%
14. Ease of getting into elective courses	113	3.42	0.678	51.3%	39.8%	8.0%	0.9%
15. Organization of the curriculum for your major	137	3.31	0.820	49.6%	36.5%	9.5%	4.4%
16. Quality of instruction	138	3.42	0.577	46.4%	49.3%	4.3%	0.0%
17. Fairness of grading	136	3.41	0.590	46.3%	48.5%	5.1%	0.0%
18. Practicum or internship experiences	84	3.42	0.564	45.2%	51.2%	3.6%	0.0%
19. Study abroad experiences	23	3.57	0.507	56.5%	43.5%	0.0%	0.0%
20. Appearance of printed information about program	121	3.26	0.690	38.0%	51.2%	9.1%	1.7%
21. Usefulness of printed information about program	125	3.19	0.748	36.8%	48.0%	12.8%	2.4%
22. Availability of research support	98	3.22	0.726	37.8%	49.0%	11.2%	2.0%
23. Usefulness of research support	97	3.25	0.750	41.2%	44.3%	12.4%	2.1%
<b>VSU Facilities</b>							
24. Library collection/resources	106	3.31	0.695	41.5%	50.9%	4.7%	2.8%
25. Library facilities	99	3.42	0.573	46.5%	49.5%	4.0%	0.0%
26. Computer lab facilities	88	3.28	0.660	38.6%	52.3%	8.0%	1.1%
27. Computer lab availability	86	3.24	0.667	37.2%	50.0%	12.8%	0.0%
28. Classroom facilities	96	3.23	0.657	34.4%	55.2%	9.4%	1.0%
29. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	26	3.19	0.749	38.5%	42.3%	19.2%	0.0%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 66: Graduate students' Ratings of Academic Program by College - Social Work**

Social Work	n	Mean	Std. Dev.	Quality of Experience			
				Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
<b>VSU Personnel Support</b>							
1. Availability of academic advisor	25	3.32	0.802	48.0%	40.0%	8.0%	4.0%
2. Helpfulness of academic advisor	25	3.20	0.866	44.0%	36.0%	16.0%	4.0%
3. Helpfulness of departmental office staff	25	3.28	0.792	44.0%	44.0%	8.0%	4.0%
4. Availability of committee chair	10	3.50	0.527	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%
5. Helpfulness of committee chair	9	3.56	0.527	55.6%	44.4%	0.0%	0.0%
6. Helpfulness of thesis committee	2	4.00	0.000	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
7. Overall quality of faculty	25	3.28	0.843	48.0%	36.0%	12.0%	4.0%
8. Attitude of faculty toward students	25	3.36	0.810	56.0%	24.0%	20.0%	0.0%
9. Opportunities for interaction with faculty	25	3.28	0.936	52.0%	32.0%	8.0%	8.0%
<b>VSU Instructional Support</b>							
10. Courses as preparation for liberal education	20	3.20	0.696	35.0%	50.0%	15.0%	0.0%
11. Courses as preparation for initial employment	18	3.28	0.669	38.9%	50.0%	11.1%	0.0%
12. Courses as preparation for career advancement	20	3.25	0.639	35.0%	55.0%	10.0%	0.0%
13. Ease of getting into required courses	25	3.76	0.523	80.0%	16.0%	4.0%	0.0%
14. Ease of getting into elective courses	25	3.56	0.768	68.0%	24.0%	4.0%	4.0%
15. Organization of the curriculum for your major	25	3.12	0.927	40.0%	40.0%	12.0%	8.0%
16. Quality of instruction	25	3.20	0.707	36.0%	48.0%	16.0%	0.0%
17. Fairness of grading	25	3.12	0.726	28.0%	60.0%	8.0%	4.0%
18. Practicum or internship experiences	25	3.32	0.690	44.0%	44.0%	12.0%	0.0%
19. Study abroad experiences	3	3.67	0.577	66.7%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
20. Appearance of printed information about program	24	3.38	0.576	41.7%	54.2%	4.2%	0.0%
21. Usefulness of printed information about program	24	3.33	0.565	37.5%	58.3%	4.2%	0.0%
22. Availability of research support	19	3.21	0.631	31.6%	57.9%	10.5%	0.0%
23. Usefulness of research support	19	3.21	0.631	31.6%	57.9%	10.5%	0.0%
<b>VSU Facilities</b>							
24. Library collection/resources	24	3.29	0.464	29.2%	70.8%	0.0%	0.0%
25. Library facilities	25	3.36	0.569	40.0%	56.0%	4.0%	0.0%
26. Computer lab facilities	21	2.81	0.981	23.8%	47.6%	14.3%	14.3%
27. Computer lab availability	21	2.81	1.030	28.6%	38.1%	19.0%	14.3%
28. Classroom facilities	25	2.96	0.841	24.0%	56.0%	12.0%	8.0%
29. Laboratory facilities (not computer)	8	3.13	0.641	25.0%	62.5%	12.5%	0.0%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 67: Graduate students' Ratings of their Atmosphere for Learning**

Atmosphere for Learning	n	Mean	Std. Deviation	Agreement with Statement			
				Definitely Yes	Probably Yes	Probably No	Definitely No
VSU helped me develop and demonstrate my ability to think critically and independently	218	3.62	0.51	62.8%	36.2%	0.9%	0.0%
VSU helped me to engage in free and open exchange of ideas	220	3.61	0.51	62.3%	36.8%	0.9%	0.0%
VSU helped me to function in a professional setting and to act with ethical awareness	216	3.64	0.52	66.2%	31.9%	1.9%	0.0%
VSU encouraged me to expand my range of human experience personally, culturally, socially, artistically, and politically	195	3.46	0.59	50.3%	46.2%	3.1%	0.5%
If I started graduate school over, I would choose to attend VSU	213	3.50	0.66	58.2%	34.7%	6.1%	0.9%
I would recommend VSU graduate programs to others	213	3.55	0.62	62.0%	31.9%	5.6%	0.5%
Quality of Ratings							
	n	Mean	SD	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
I would rate my academic experiences at VSU as . . .	217	3.47	0.62	54.4%	38.7%	6.9%	0.0%
I would rate my social experiences at VSU as . . .	216	3.26	0.73	41.7%	44.4%	12.5%	1.4%
I would rate my overall experiences at VSU as . . .	217	3.43	0.61	49.3%	44.7%	6.0%	0.0%

Note: Yellow indicates highest percent value for each question. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

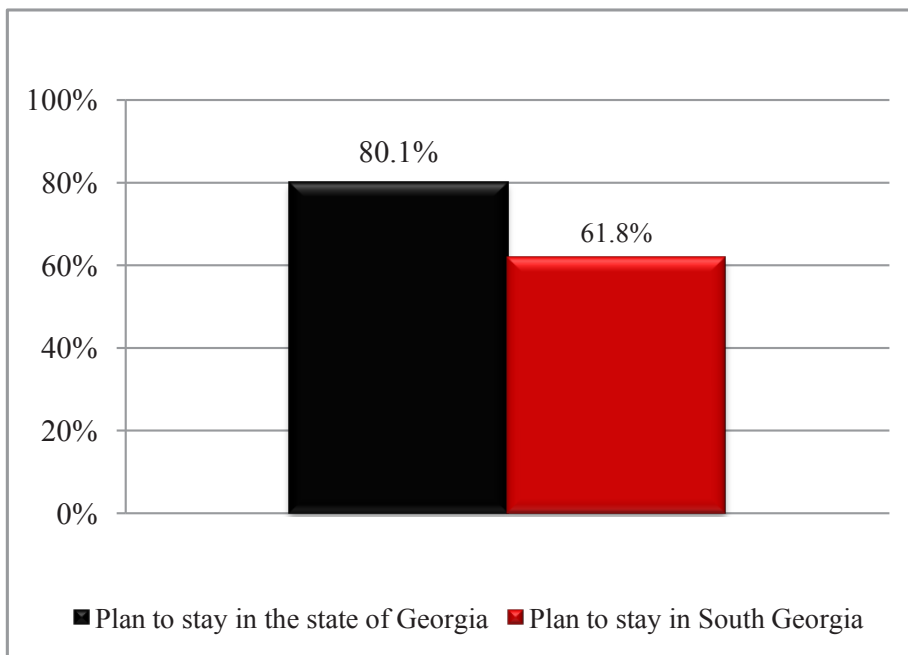
Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 68: Graduate students' Future Plans**

	Total n	Full-time		Part-time	
		n	%	n	%
1. Working	209	197	94.3%	12	5.7%
2. Seeking employment	110	102	92.7%	8	7.3%
3. Pursuing further graduate work	71	19	26.8%	52	73.2%
	Total n	Yes		No	
		n	%	n	%
4. Continue employment in current career	176	137	77.8%	39	22.2%
5. Beginning/continuing military service	133	3	2.3%	130	97.7%
6. Caring for home/family	149	90	60.4%	59	39.6%

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008

**EXHIBIT 69: Graduate students' Plans to Stay in Georgia**



- 128 responding graduate students plan to stay in the South Georgia area.
- 165 responding graduate students plan to stay in the state of Georgia.

Source: VSU Strategic Research & Analysis, 2008