



香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

First-year Student Survey 2011-12



Office of Student Affairs

Foreword

The Chinese University of Hong Kong places equal emphasis on the intellectual and moral aspects of education. To this end, students are provided with a wide range of support and services to facilitate their whole-person development. The acquisition of accurate information about the students' background is vital under this context.

Every year, the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) of the University conducts surveys of the profile of the first-year undergraduate students aiming at providing relevant data for better planning of student enrichment programmes and deployment of resources. In 2011-12, three surveys were conducted, with the first one targeted at the local undergraduate students, the second targeted at the mainland undergraduate students and the third targeted at the international undergraduate students. This report presents the key findings of the surveys.

Your comment and feedback will be welcomed. Please feel free to direct your valuable opinion to the OSA.

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Report on the Profile of First-year Undergraduate Students 2011-12

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Summary of Findings

1. Every year, the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) conducts surveys of the profile of the first-year undergraduate students. In 2011, three surveys were conducted, targeted at the local students, Mainland students and international students. Findings of these surveys are summarised as below, to be followed by a comparison among the three groups of students.

Part 1: Local undergraduate students

Response Rate

2. Of the 3,078 newly admitted full-time local students, a total of 2,236 responded to this survey, representing a response rate of 72.6%.

Personal Particulars

3. The majority (49.3%) of the respondents are aged 19, and the male to female ratio is 1 to 1.20. The majority (80.6%) of the respondents were born in Hong Kong, while 15.6% were born in Mainland China.
4. 71.0% of the respondents professed no religious belief, while 21.8% are Protestant/Christian and 4.6% are Catholic.

Experience

5. About 77.4% of the respondents had either part-time or summer working experience, whereas 0.6% had full-time working experience.

Family Background

6. The survey reveals that 22.2% of fathers and 14.7% of mothers have received tertiary education.
7. A total of 29.9% of respondents come from families with fathers' monthly income ranged between HK\$10,000 and HK\$19,999, while 35.2% of the respondents' mothers have no income. The majority (25.5%) of respondents come from families with monthly household income between HK\$10,000 and HK\$19,999.
8. Of the respondents, 49.0% live in private housing (either purchased or rented), 28.0% reside in public rental housing and 19.6% live in owned housing from Hong Kong Housing Authority or Hong Kong Housing Society.
9. Students depend on a mixture of financial support for University education. 89.1% of the respondents have to depend wholly or partially on family contributions to support their university education, 53.2% would also take up summer or part-time jobs, and 43.5% would rely on government grants and loans.

Choice of Major Subjects

10. The respondents considered various factors when choosing their major subjects. 86.8% of them chose their major programmes based on their own interests, whereas 52.1% of them considered their personal goals. 46.5% and 45.8% of them stated that their choices were made in accordance with their admission examination results and career opportunities/prospects respectively.

Preference for Extra-curricular Activities

11. The three most preferred extra-curricular activities reported by the respondents are
- overseas exchange programmes (81.3%)
 - internship training in Hong Kong (74.3%), and
 - academic activities (59.4%)

Self-assessment

12. With regard to possible difficulties in university life, the three most significant difficulties are:
- attaining course requirements (36.5%),
 - adapting to the university teaching method (35.0%), and
 - participating actively in extra-curricular activities (27.0%).
13. 59.2% of the respondents expressed that they do not need any counselling service. Among those who professed the need for counselling service, the following are the key areas which require assistance: study matters (82.9%), career development (78.0%) and personal growth (47.3%).

Career Preferences

14. The three most common factors for the respondents to choose their future career are:
- job nature (84.9%),
 - personal abilities (75.5%), and
 - salary and fringe benefits (75.2%).

Part 2: Mainland undergraduate students

Response Rate

15. There are 290 undergraduate students recruited from Mainland China in the year. All students responded to this survey.

Personal Particulars

16. The average age of the respondents is 18, and the top three birthplaces of the respondents are Jiangsu (6.5%), Henan and Beijing (6.2%). The male to female ratio is 1 to 1.20.

Family Background

17. The majority of the respondents (75.6%) have a small household size of three persons.
18. A total of 89.3% of the respondents' fathers and 81.4% of the respondents' mothers have received tertiary education.
19. 26.1% of the respondents come from families with a monthly household income below RMB10,000. On the other hand, 11.0% of the respondents reported a monthly household income of more than RMB50,000.

Choice of Major Subjects and Expectation

20. Respondents chose their major subjects out of interest (69.4%), personal goals (59.1%) and the potential career opportunities/prospects (50.5%). Some 68.0% of the respondents hope to broaden their global perspectives at university.

Self-assessment

21. On self-assessment of abilities, 87.6% of the respondents regard that they are weak or very weak in using Cantonese to communicate.
22. More than half of the respondents (55.3%) indicated that they need guidance and support from the University on career development and developing leadership and organisational skills, whereas 40.6% of the respondents also look for language training and 37.1% for support in academic adjustment.

Plans after Graduation

23. Nearly half of the respondents (43.6%) planned to pursue further studies overseas after graduation from CUHK, while about 21.3% would like to work in Hong Kong.

Part 3: International undergraduate students

Response Rate

24. There are 130 undergraduate students recruited through the “International Students Admission Scheme” in the year, and 93 students responded to this survey, representing a response rate of 71.5%.

Personal Particulars

25. The average age of the respondents is 18, and the top three birthplaces of the respondents are South Korea (35.5%), Mainland China (19.4%) and Macau (12.9%). The male to female ratio is 1 to 1.16.

Choice of Major Subjects and Expectation

26. Respondents chose their major subjects based on their interest (81.7%), followed by personal goals (41.9%). The vast majority of the respondents hope to study interested subjects and broaden their global perspectives at university (both 96.8%).

Self-assessment

27. Students’ main anticipated difficulties in university life are as follows:
 - understanding and using Chinese (36.6%),
 - adapting to teaching methods (28.0%), and
 - financial support (23.7%).
28. Respondents indicated that they need guidance or support from the University on job/career prospects (80.2%), language training (67.4%), academic adjustment or developing leadership/organisational skill (both 53.5%).

Plans after Graduation

29. A total of 32.3% of the respondents plan to find jobs in Hong Kong after graduation from CUHK, while 29.0% would like to go overseas to pursue further studies.

* All figures in the report are rounded off to one decimal place except those relating to ratio. Besides, there may be a slight discrepancy between the sum of individual items and the total in the graphs and tables of this report owing to rounding off of figures.

Comparison among First-year Local, Mainland and International Students 2011-12

Findings Aspect	Local Students	Mainland Students	International Students
Average age	19	18	18
Sex			
- % of male respondents	45.5%	45.5%	46.2%
- % of female respondents	54.5%	54.5%	53.8%
Work experience prior to entering university			
-Part time/summer job experience	77.4%	17.2%	48.3%
-No work experience	22.0%	82.5%	45.2%
Travelling experience	91.6%	48.8%	N/A
Educational attainment of parents receiving tertiary education			
-Father	22.2%	89.3%	62.4%
-Mother	14.7%	81.4%	51.6%
The most important factor that affects the choice of major subjects	Interest in the subject (86.8%)	Interest in the subject (69.4%)	Interest in the subject (81.7%)
Expectation of university education of majority of the respondents	Study interested subjects (97.9%)	Broaden global perspectives (68.0%)	Broaden global perspectives/study interested subjects (96.8%)
The most preferred extra-curricular activities in university	Overseas exchange (81.3%)	N/A	N/A
The aspect in which most students anticipated to have difficulty	Attaining course requirements (36.5%)	Understanding and using English (41.9%)	Understanding and using Chinese (36.6%)
The weakest area identified in the self assessment of abilities			
-First weakest area	Computer/ software application (23.9%)	Cantonese (87.6%)	Cantonese (67.7%)
-Second weakest area	Putonghua (22.0%)	Computer/ software application (45.1%)	Chinese writing skill (39.8%)

Part 1: Survey of First-year Local Undergraduate Students 2011-12

1. Response Rate

Of the 3,078 first-year local students who registered for full-time undergraduate degree programmes in the academic year of 2011-12, a total of 2,236 responded to this survey, representing a response rate of 72.6%.

Table 1: Response Rate by Faculty

Faculty	Number of Enrolment (as of Sep 2011)	Number of Respondents (%)	
Arts (ART)	447	330	(73.8%)
Business Administration (BSA)	551	421	(76.4 %)
Education (EDU)	105	74	(70.5%)
Engineering (ERG)	451	304	(67.4%)
Law (LAW)	66	54	(81.8%)
Medicine (MED)	497	343	(69.0%)
Science (SCI)	499	367	(73.5%)
Social Science (SSC)	462	343	(74.2%)
Total	3,078	2,236	(72.6%)

2. Personal Particulars

2.1 *Sex*

45.5% of the respondents are male, while 54.5% are female. The male to female ratio is 1 to 1.20.

Table 2: Sex Distribution by Faculty

Sex	Percentage of Respondents (%)								Total
	ART	BSA	EDU	ERG	LAW	MED	SCI	SSC	
Female	70.0	57.2	75.7	33.6	79.6	65.0	32.7	58.9	54.5
Male	30.0	42.8	24.3	66.4	20.4	35.0	67.3	41.1	45.5

2.2 *Age*

The majority of the respondents (49.3 %) are aged 19. 136 respondents are aged below 18 or above 21.

Table 3: Age Distribution

Age	Female	Male	Total Number of Respondents
16	7	1	8
17	41	35	76
18	360	298	658
19	595	508	1103
20	124	88	212
21	72	55	127
22	12	18	30
Others	7	15	22
Total	1,218	1,018	2,236

2.3 Ethnicity

99.1% of the respondents are Chinese. The rest of the respondents are of mixed ethnicity and others.

2.4 Place of Birth

80.6% of the respondents were born in Hong Kong and 15.6% in Mainland China.

Table 4: Place of Birth

Place of Birth	Percentage of Respondents (%)		
	Female	Male	Total
Hong Kong	79.3	82.2	80.6
Mainland China	16.3	14.6	15.6
Macau	0.2	0.3	0.2
Others	4.2	2.8	3.6
Total	100	100	100

2.5 Years of Residence in Hong Kong

97.0% of the respondents have been residing in Hong Kong for 7 years or more.

Table 5: Years of Residence in Hong Kong

Years of Residence in Hong Kong	Percentage of Respondents (%)
<i>Respondents Born in Hong Kong</i>	
Since birth	75.2
7 years or more (not since birth)	5.1
3 to less than 7 years	0.3
Less than 3 years	0.1
<i>Respondents not Born in Hong Kong</i>	
7 years or more	16.7
3 to less than 7 years	2.5
Less than 3 years	0.1
Total	100

2.6 Spoken Language at Home

98.9% of the respondents speak in Chinese while 0.8% speak in English at home.

2.7 Religious Background

71.0% of the respondents have no religious belief, while 21.8% are Protestant/Christian and 4.6% are Catholic.

Table 6: Religious Background

Religious Background	Percentage of Respondents (%)		
	Female	Male	Total
No religious belief	69.0	73.4	71.0
Protestant/Christian	22.5	21.0	21.8
Catholic	5.6	3.4	4.6
Buddhist	2.1	1.4	1.7
Traditional Chinese religion (other than Buddhist)	0.4	0.6	0.5
Others	0.4	0.2	0.3
Total	100	100	100

2.8 Highest Academic Qualification Attained before being Admitted into the University

Before being admitted into the University, 80.0% of the respondents attained Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) and 5.9% of the respondents attained Associate Degree/Higher Diploma/Certificate or equivalent. (The figure breakdowns by faculty are shown in Appendix 1)

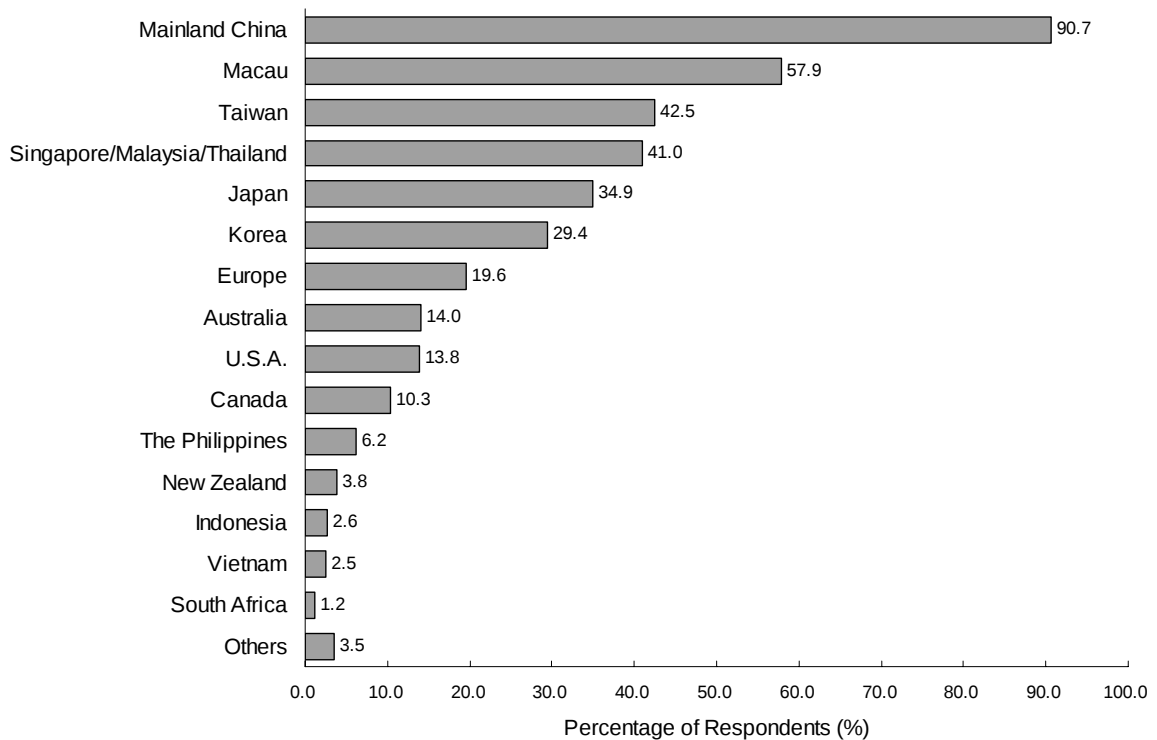
Table 7: Highest Academic Qualification Attained before being Admitted into the University

Type of Qualification	Percentage of Respondents (%)		
	Female	Male	Total
Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) —			
JUPAS entrant (including all sub-schemes of main round)	80.6	79.3	80.0
Associate Degree/Higher Diploma/Certificate or equivalent	4.8	7.2	5.9
Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE)			
through the Early Admission Scheme for Secondary Six Students (EAS)	2.6	4.9	3.7
General Certificate of Education/General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCE/GSE)	4.1	2.1	3.2
Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE)	2.0	3.4	2.6
Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) —			
non JUPAS entrant	2.0	1.4	1.7
International Baccalaureate	1.9	0.8	1.4
Ordinary Diploma/Certificate or equivalent	0.3	0.1	0.2
National Joint College Entrance Examination (JEE) of Mainland			
China	0.1	0.1	0.1
Others	1.6	0.8	1.2
Total	100	100	100

2.9 Travel Experience

91.6% of the respondents reported they had travelled outside Hong Kong for study or leisure purpose. Among those with travel experience, 90.7% of them had been to Mainland China. In general, more respondents have been to Asian countries than Western countries.

Figure 1: Travel Experience

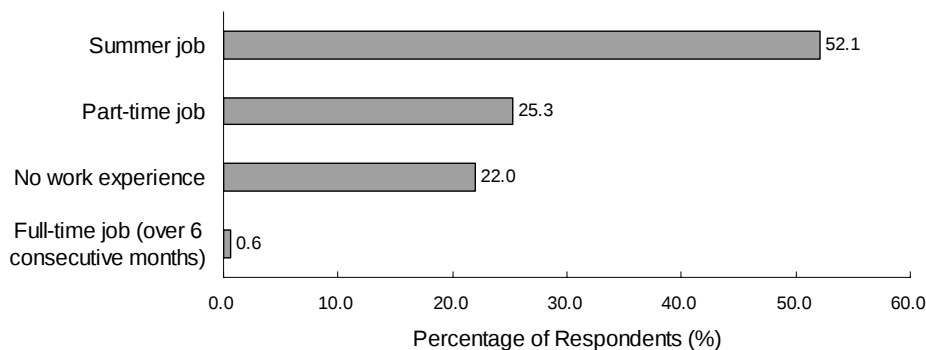


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

2.10 Work Experience

77.4% of the respondents indicated that they had either part-time or summer work experience prior to entering the University. 0.6% of them had full-time work experience.

Figure 2: Work Experience Prior to Entering the University



3. **Family Particulars**

3.1 ***Basic Information about Parents***

3.1.1 ***Family Condition***

87.9% of the respondents have their parents living together, while 7.6% have their parents divorced/separated. 4.0% of the respondents indicated that either or both of their parents has/have passed away.

Table 8: Parents' Condition

Parents' Condition	Percentage of Respondents (%)
Living together	87.9
Divorced/separated	7.6
Father deceased	3.1
Mother deceased	0.8
Both deceased	0.1
Others	0.4
Total	100

3.1.2 ***Education Attainment of Parents***

22.2% of the respondents' fathers and 14.7% of the respondents' mothers have received tertiary education.

Table 9: Education Attainment of Parents

Education Attainment	Percentage of Respondents (%)	
	Father	Mother
Tertiary education	22.2	14.7
Secondary/matriculation education	51.5	60.6
Primary education	23.3	21.2
No formal education	2.3	3.1
Others	0.8	0.4
Total	100	100

3.1.3 ***Employment of Parents***

80.0% of the respondents' fathers and 44.4% of the respondents' mothers are engaged in full-time job, whereas 3.7% of the fathers and 1.3% of the mothers are unemployed. 41.4% of the mothers are full-time housewives.

Table 10: Employment of Parents

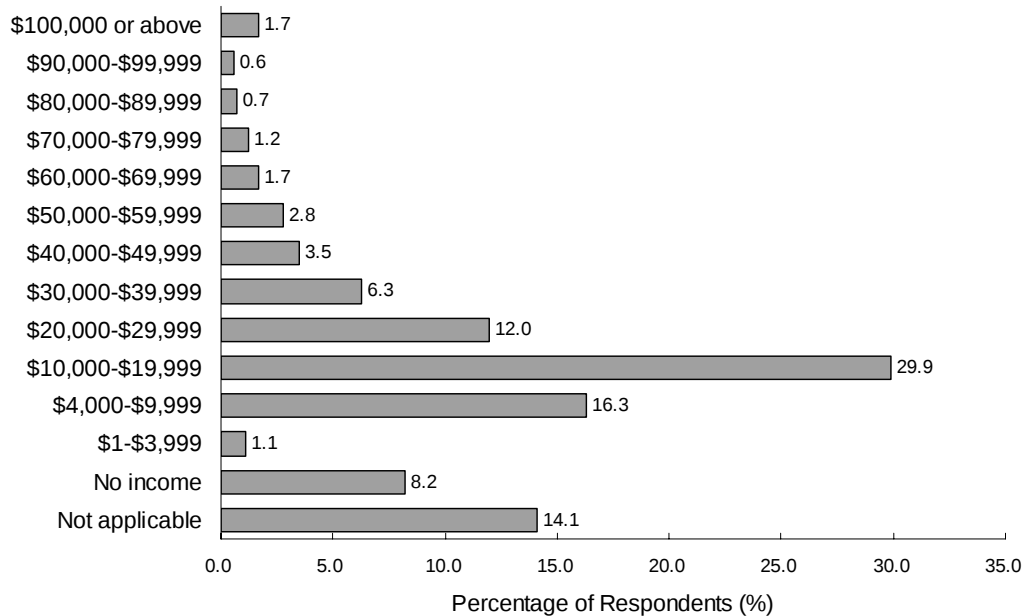
Employment	Percentage of Respondents (%)	
	Father	Mother
Full-time	80.0	44.4
Part-time	3.8	10.4
Retired	8.7	1.9
Unemployed	3.7	1.3
Full-time housework	1.2	41.4
Others	2.6	0.6
Total	100	100

3.2 Household Income

3.2.1 Monthly Income of Fathers

17.4% of the respondents' fathers have a monthly income of less than HK\$10,000. 8.7% of the respondents come from families with fathers' monthly income at HK\$50,000 or more. 8.2% do not have any income.

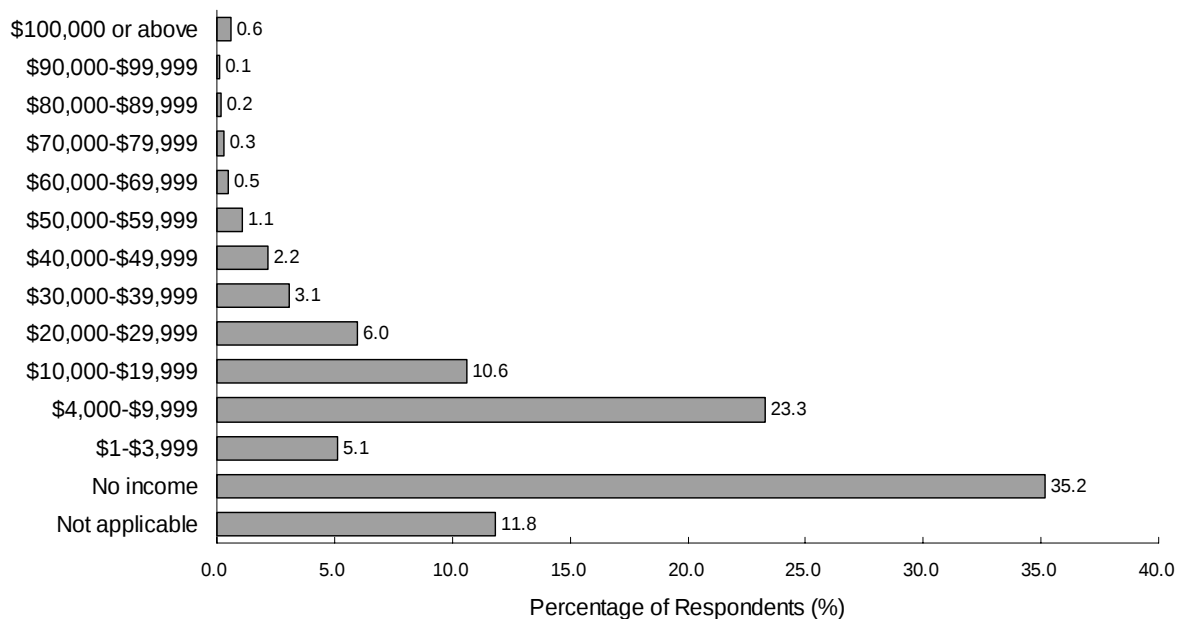
Figure 3: Monthly Income of Fathers



3.2.2 Monthly Income of Mothers

28.4 % of the respondents' mothers have a monthly income of less than HK\$10,000. 2.8% of the respondents come from families with mothers' monthly income at HK\$50,000 or more. 35.2% do not have any income.

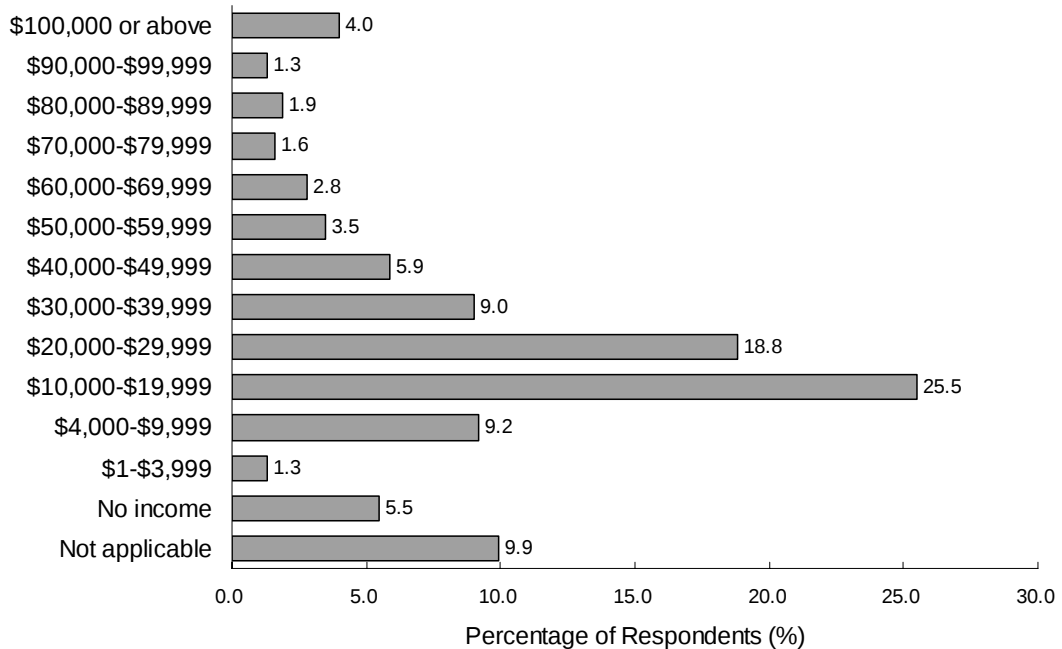
Figure 4: Monthly Income of Mothers



3.2.3 Monthly Income of Household

The majority (25.5%) of the respondents have a household income ranged between HK\$10,000 and HK\$19,999. 10.5% of the respondents come from families with monthly household income of less than HK\$10,000, while 4.0% of the respondents come from families with monthly household income of HK\$100,000 or above.

Figure 5: Monthly Income of Household



4 Home Environment

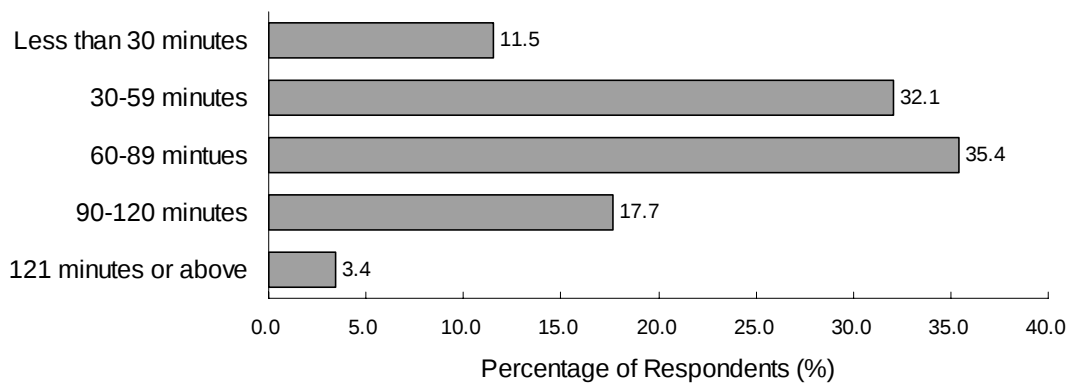
4.1 District of Residence

The survey revealed that 16.0% of the respondents live on Hong Kong Island, 28.2% and 55.5% live in Kowloon and the New Territories/Islands respectively. (The figure breakdowns by district are shown in Appendix 2)

4.2 Travelling Time from Home to Campus

The majority of the respondents (67.5%) spend 30 to 89 minutes travelling from home to campus. 3.4% of the respondents have to spend more than two hours travelling from home to campus.

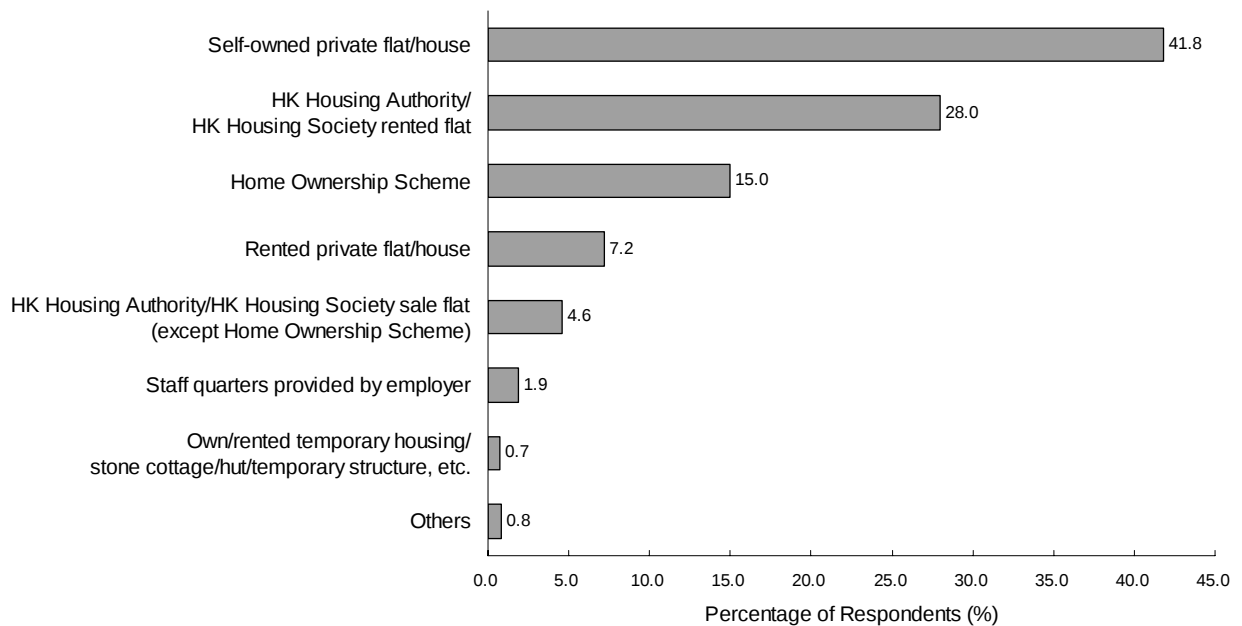
Figure 6: Travelling Time from Home to Campus



4.3 Types of Housing

41.8% of the respondents live in self-owned private flat/house. 28.0% live in rented flat of the Hong Kong Housing Authority/Hong Kong Housing Society.

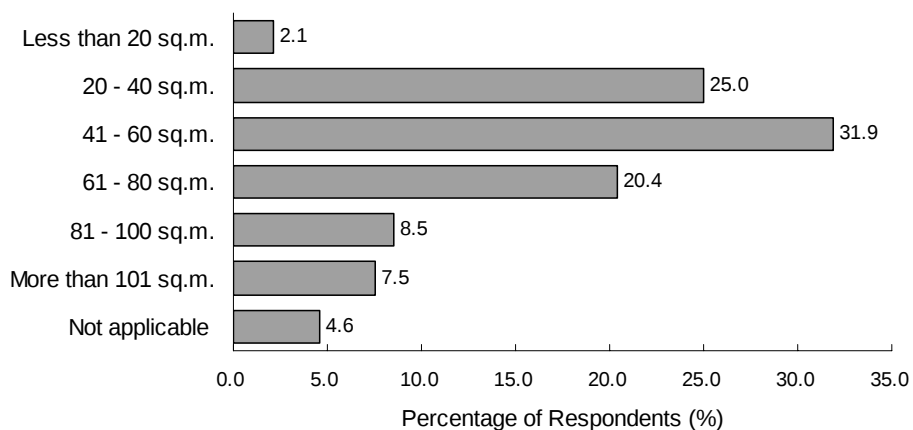
Figure 7: Types of Housing



4.4 Living Area at Home

56.9% of the respondents occupy a living area ranged between 20 sq.m. and 60 sq.m., while 36.4% occupy a living area of more than 60 sq.m.. 48.7% of the respondents have their own rooms at home.

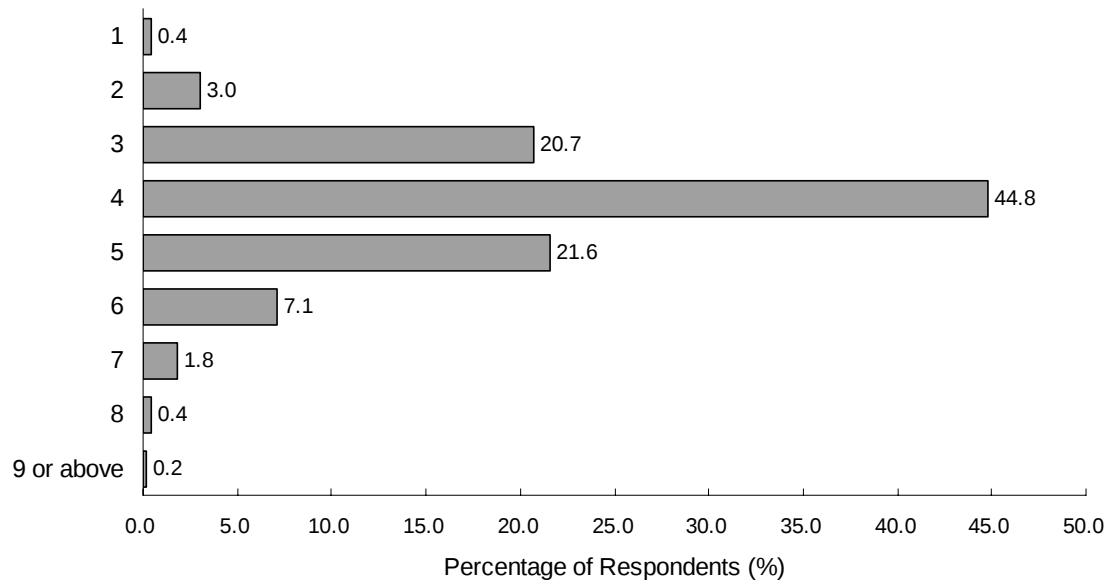
Figure 8: Living Area at Home



4.5 ***Household Size***

The majority of the respondents (44.8%) have a family size of four persons. 9.5% come from households of more than five persons. 24.1% of the respondents have a family size of three or fewer persons.

Figure 9: Household Size

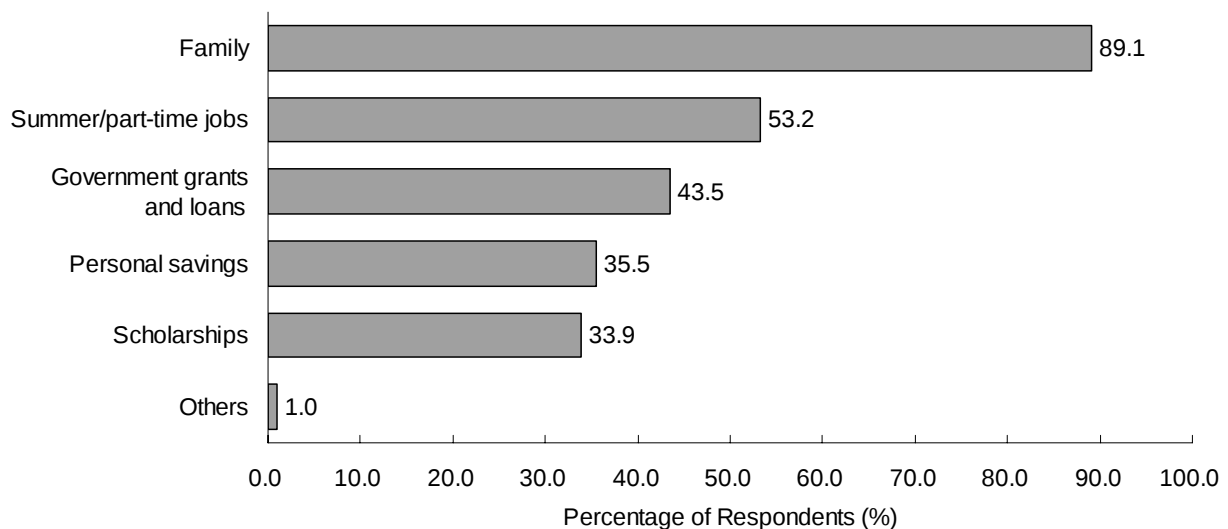


5 ***University Studies***

5.1 ***Expected Sources of Financial Support for University Education***

89.1% of the respondents indicated that they relied wholly or partially on family for financial support, 53.2% indicated that they would take up summer or part-time jobs for supporting university education, and 43.5% expected financial support from government grants and loans.

Figure 10: Sources of Financial Support

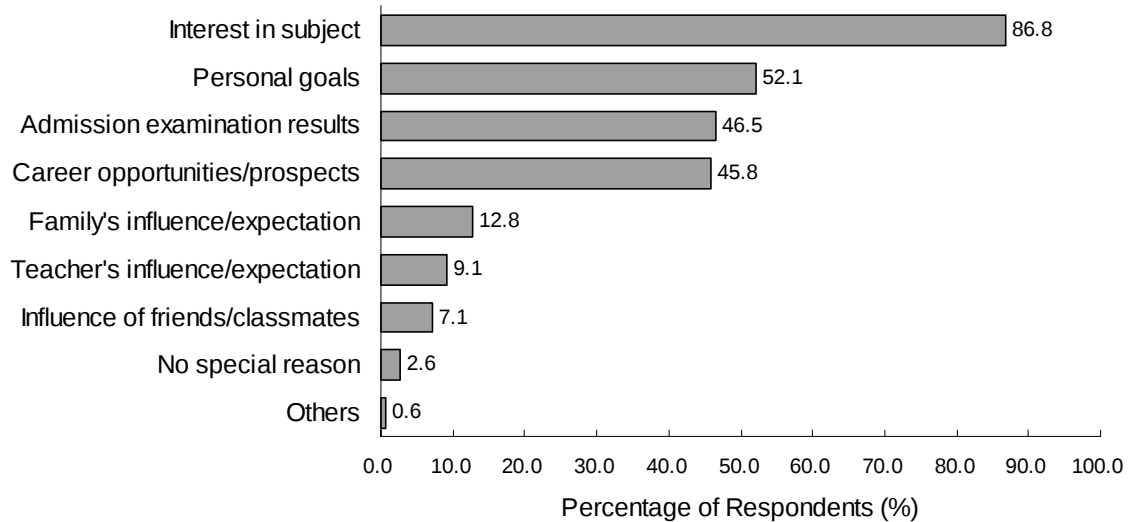


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.2 Factors Affecting Choice of Major Subjects

Among many possible factors for the respondents to choose their major subjects, the top four factors outnumber the rest significantly. 86.8% of the respondents chose their major subjects based on their own interests in the subject. 52.1% of the respondents considered personal goals. 46.5% and 45.8% of the respondents stated that their choices were made based on their admission examination results and career opportunities or prospects respectively.

Figure 11: Factors Affecting Choice of Major Subjects

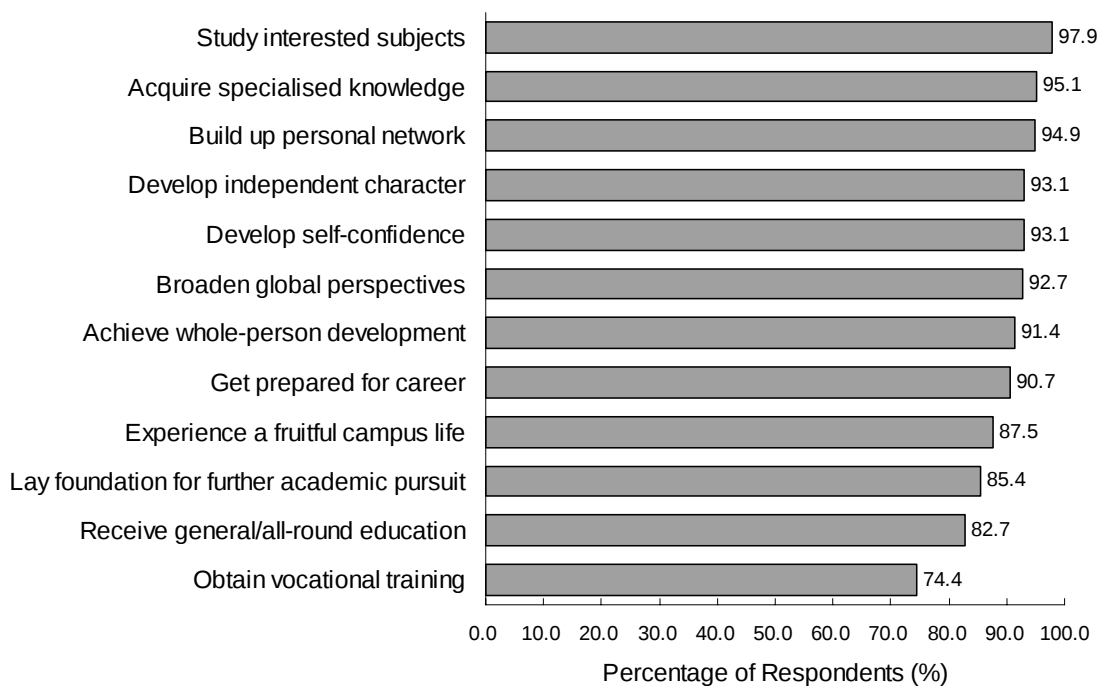


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.3 Expectation of University Education

Students have different expectations of university education. (The detailed figures are shown in Appendix 3)

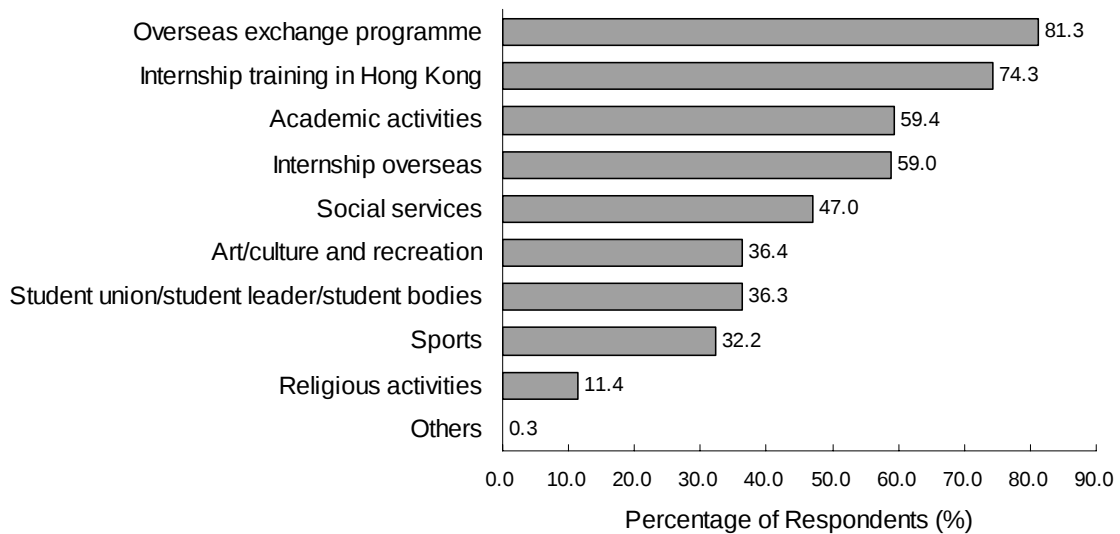
Figure 12: Expectation of University Education



5.4 Preference for Extra-curricular Activities at the University

The three most preferred extra-curricular activities reported by the respondents are overseas exchange programmes (81.3%), internship training in Hong Kong (74.3%) and academic activities (59.4%).

Figure 13: Preference for Extra-curricular Activities at the University

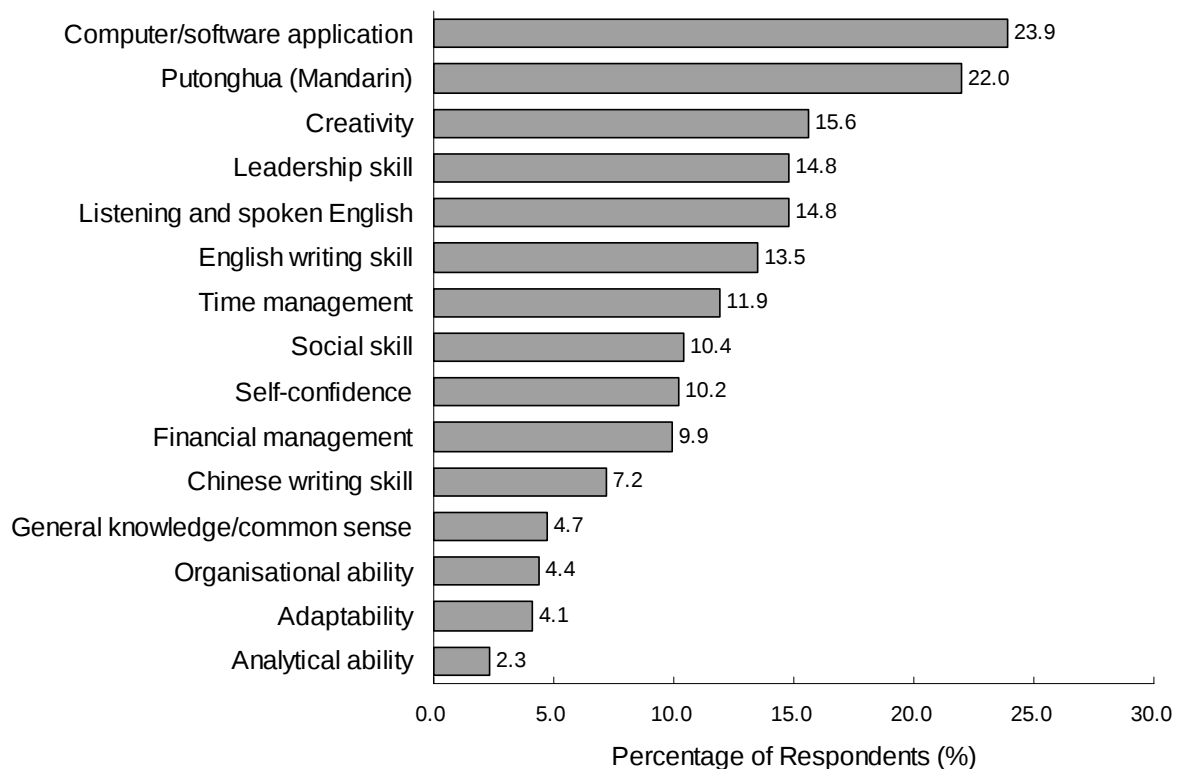


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.5 Self-assessment of Abilities

23.9% of the respondents considered they are weak or very weak in computer or software application followed by Putonghua (22.0%). (The detailed figures are shown in Appendix 4)

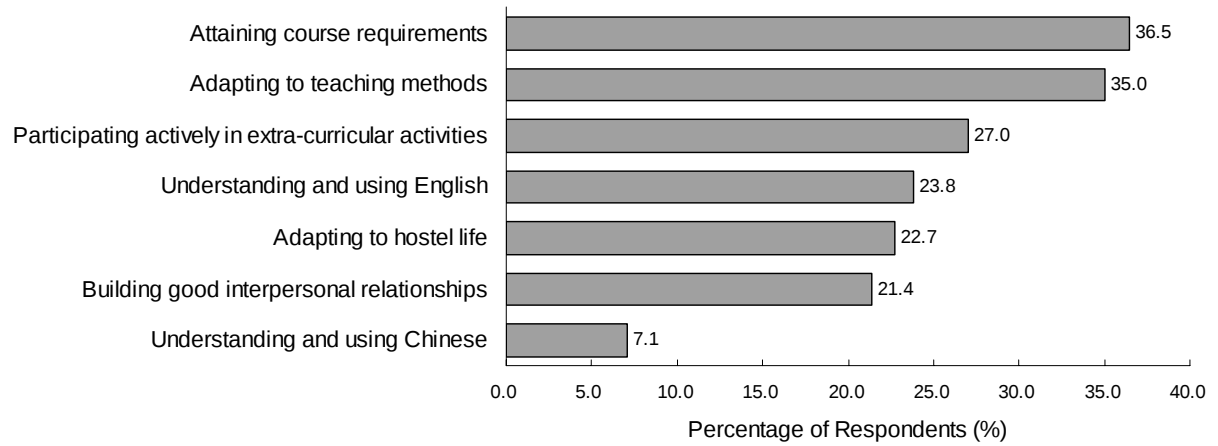
Figure 14: Abilities that Respondents Self-assessed to be Weak/Very Weak



5.6 Anticipated Difficulties in University Life and Learning

36.5% of the respondents anticipated that it would be difficult or very difficult to attain course requirements. 35.0% and 27.0% indicated their anticipated difficulties in adapting to university teaching methods and participating actively in extra-curricular activities respectively. (The detailed figures are shown in Appendix 5)

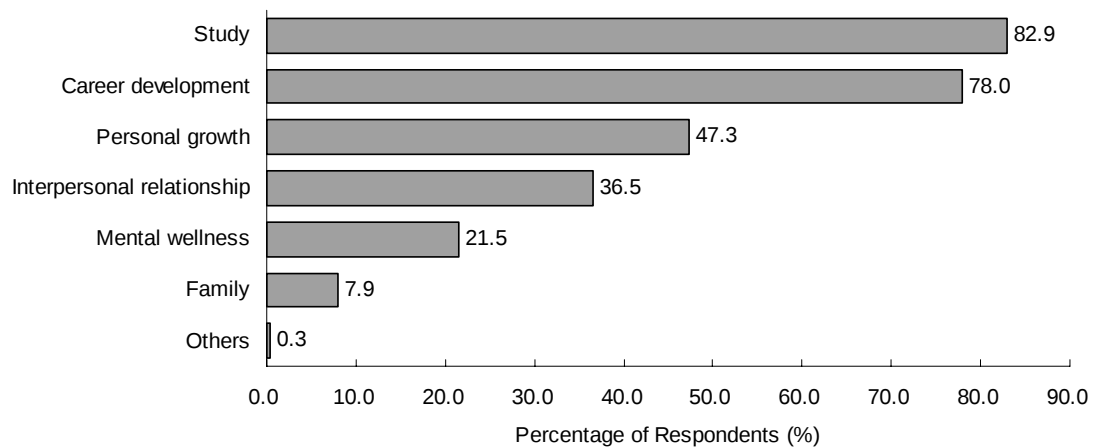
Figure 15: Anticipated Difficulties in University Life and Learning



5.7 Anticipated Needs for Counselling Service

59.2% of the respondents expressed that they do not need any counselling service. Among those who professed the need for counselling service, 82.9% indicated that the reason is related to study, followed by career development (78.0%) and personal growth (47.3%).

Figure 16: Anticipated Needs for Counselling Service

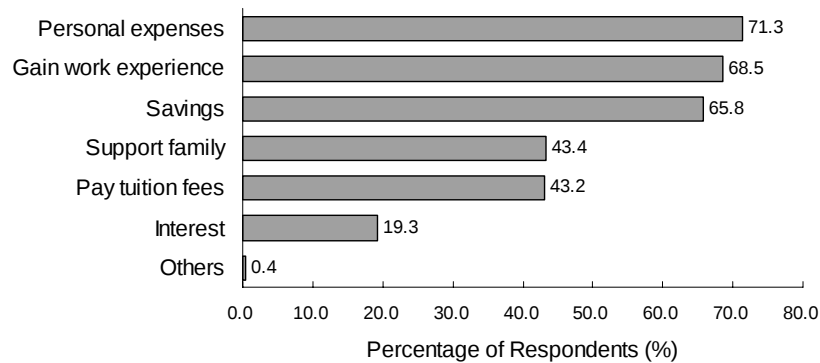


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.8 Reasons for Taking up Part-time Jobs

The major reasons of the respondents finding part-time jobs are supporting personal expenses (71.3%), gaining work experience (68.5%) and for savings (65.8%).

Figure 17: Reasons for Taking up Part-time Jobs

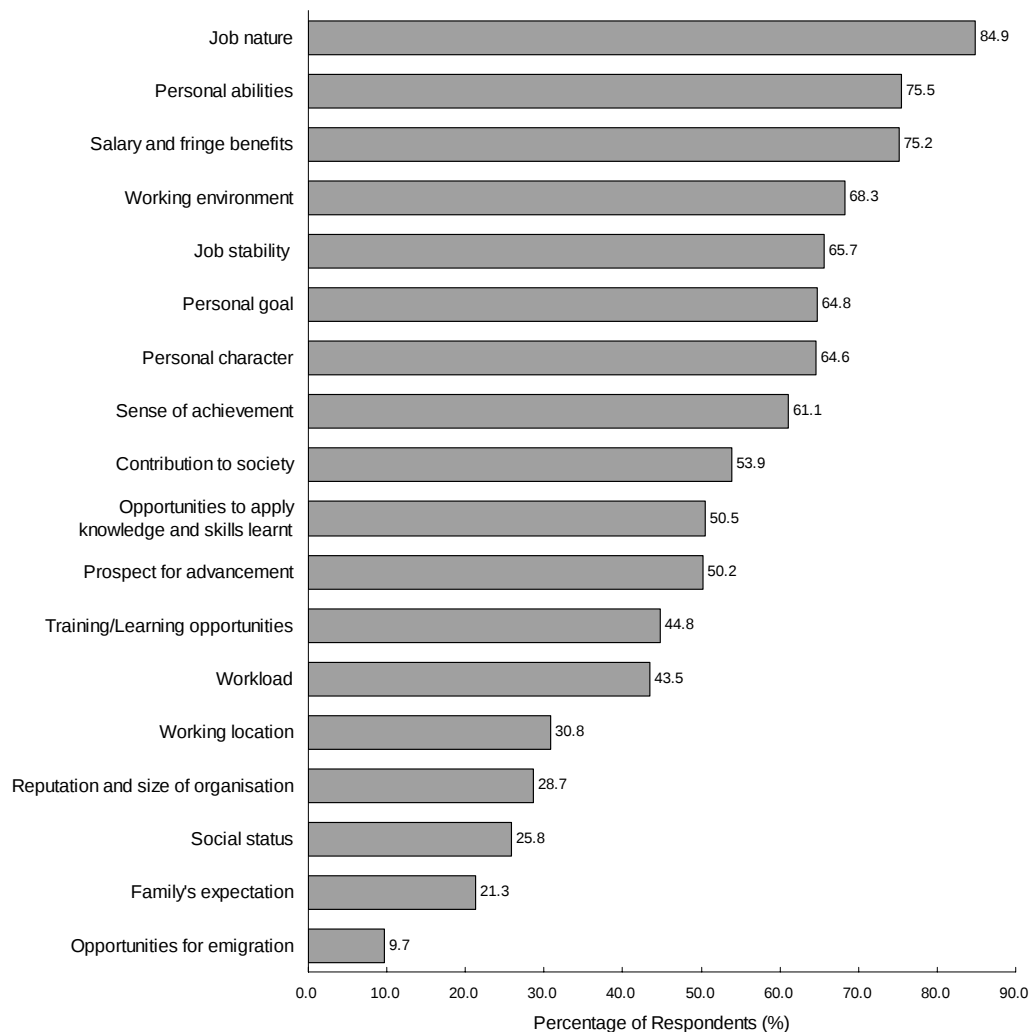


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.9 Factors Affecting Choice of Future Career

Students considered different factors when choosing their future careers.

Figure 18: Factors Affecting Choice of Future Career



Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

Part 2: Survey of First-year Mainland Undergraduate Students 2011-12

1. **Response Rate**

Of the 290 first-year Mainland students who registered for full-time undergraduate degree programmes in the academic year of 2011-12, all responded to this survey, representing a response rate of 100%. Among them, 97 respondents have been awarded scholarship.

Table 1: Response Rate by Stream

Stream	Number of Respondents
Arts/Social Science/Law/Education (ART/SSC/LAW/EDU)	55
Business Administration (BSA)	120
Engineering (ERG)	59
Science/Medicine (SCI/MED)	56
Total	290

2. **Personal Particulars**

2.1 ***Sex***

On the sex distribution of the respondents, 45.5% are male and 54.5% are female. The male to female ratio is 1 to 1.20.

Table 2: Sex Distribution by Stream

Sex	Percentage of Respondents by Stream (%)				
	ART/SSC/ LAW/EDU	BSA	ERG	SCI / MED	Total
<i>Male</i>					
Scholarship	3.6	22.5	5.1	12.5	13.4
Fee-paying	30.9	17.5	50.8	44.6	32.1
Sub-total	34.5	40.0	55.9	57.1	45.5
<i>Female</i>					
Scholarship	18.2	32.5	3.4	12.5	20.0
Fee-paying	47.3	27.5	40.7	30.4	34.5
Sub-total	65.5	60.0	44.1	42.9	54.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100

2.2 ***Age***

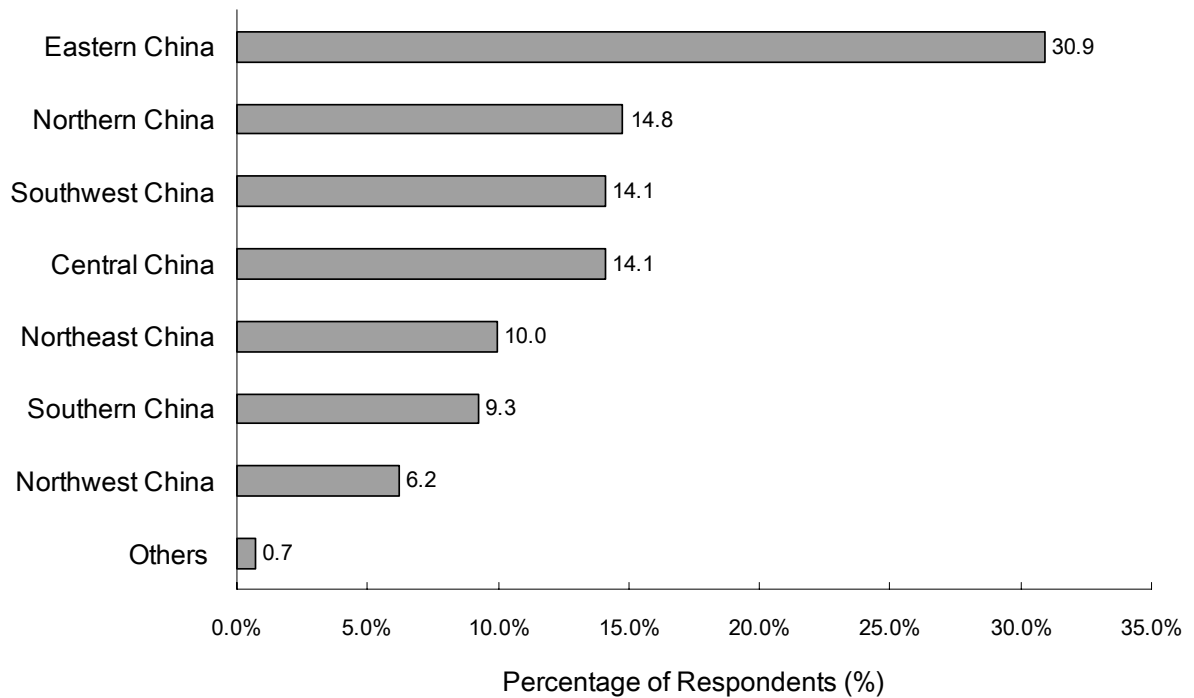
57% of the respondents are aged 18. There are 50 respondents under the age of 18 at the time of survey. Both the male and female averages are 18.

2.3 ***Place of Birth***

The respondents were born in 29 provinces and cities of Mainland China. Only one was born overseas.

As shown in the following **Table 3**, the top three ranking of birthplaces of the respondents this year are Jiangsu (6.5%), Henan and Beijing (6.2%). Jiangsu remains the top one for these two years.

Figure 1: Place of Birth – by Region



Remarks: The regions cover the following provinces and cities:

Central China: Henan, Hubei, Hunan

Eastern China: Anhui, Fujian, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Shandong, Shanghai, Zhejiang

Northern China: Beijing, Hebei, Inner Mongolia, Shanxi, Tianjin

Northeast China: Heilongjiang, Jilin, Liaoning

Northwest China: Gansu, Ningxia, Qinghai, Shaanxi

Southern China: Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan

Southwest China: Chongqing, Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan

Table 3: Place of Birth – Top Ten among the Mainland Provinces & Cities

Province / City	Region	Total
Jiangsu 江蘇	Eastern China	6.5%
Henan 河南	Central China	6.2%
Beijing 北京	Northern China	6.2%
Sichuan 四川	Southwest China	5.8%
Shandong 山東	Eastern China	5.8%
Guangdong 廣東	Southern China	5.5%
Zhejiang 浙江	Eastern China	5.2%
Hubei 湖北	Central China	4.5%
Liaoning 遼寧	Northeast China	3.8%
Hunan 湖南	Central China	3.4%
Fujian 福建	Eastern China	3.4%
Shanxi 山西	Northern China	3.4%
Jiangxi 江西	Eastern China	3.4%
Anhui 安徽	Eastern China	3.4%
Jilin 吉林	Northeast China	3.4%

2.4 Mother Tongue

The mother tongue of the majority of respondents (96.2%) is Putonghua. 1.4% indicated Cantonese as their mother tongue, while the remaining 2.4% of the respondents spoke other languages/dialects.

2.5 Religious Background

96.2% of the respondents have no religious belief.

Table 4: Religious Background

Religious Background	Percentage of Respondents (%)		
	Female	Male	Total
No religious belief	95.6	97.0	96.2
Buddhist	2.5	0.8	1.7
Protestant/Christian	1.3	1.5	1.4
Traditional Chinese religion (other than Buddhist)	0.0	0.8	0.3
Catholic	0.0	0.0	0.0
Islam	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	0.6	0.0	0.3
Total	100	100	100

2.6 Work Experience

The majority (82.5%) of the respondents had no work experience at all. Only 15.1% and 2.1% of the respondents had summer work and part-time work experience respectively.

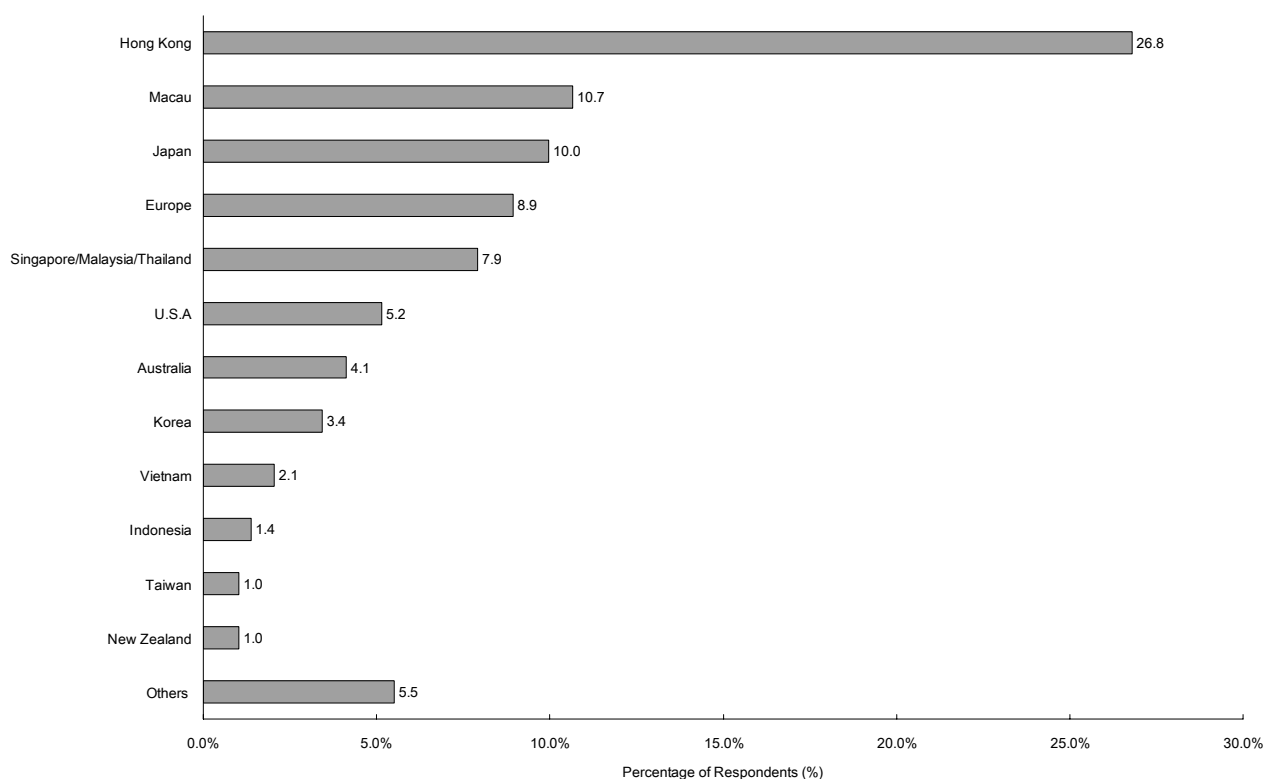
Figure 2: Work Experience



2.7 Travel Experience

About 48.8% of the respondents expressed that they had travel experience (outside Mainland China) before entering the university. Same as that of the last year, Hong Kong (26.8%) is the most popular travel destination.

Figure 3: Travel Experience



Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

3. Family Particulars

3.1 Basic Information about Parents

3.1.1 Family Condition

93.5% of the respondents' parents are living together, while 3.8% have their parents separated/divorced. 1.3% of the respondents indicated that either of their parents has passed away.

3.1.2 Education Attainment of Parents

According to the survey findings, up to 89.3% of the respondents' fathers and 81.4% of the respondents' mothers have received tertiary education.

Table 5: Education Attainment of Parents

Education Attainment	Percentage of Respondents (%)	
	Father	Mother
Tertiary education	89.3	81.4
Secondary education	8.6	15.5
Primary education	0.7	1.7
No formal education	0.0	0.0
Others	1.4	1.4
Total	100	100

Comparisons of parents' education attainment among the 2 sub-groups are shown in **Figure 4** and **Figure 5**. 90.3% of fee-paying respondents' fathers attained tertiary education level, comparing to 87.4% of scholarship respondents' fathers. 84.2% and 75.8% of fee-paying and scholarship respondents' mothers received tertiary education respectively.

Figure 4: Fathers' Education Attainment

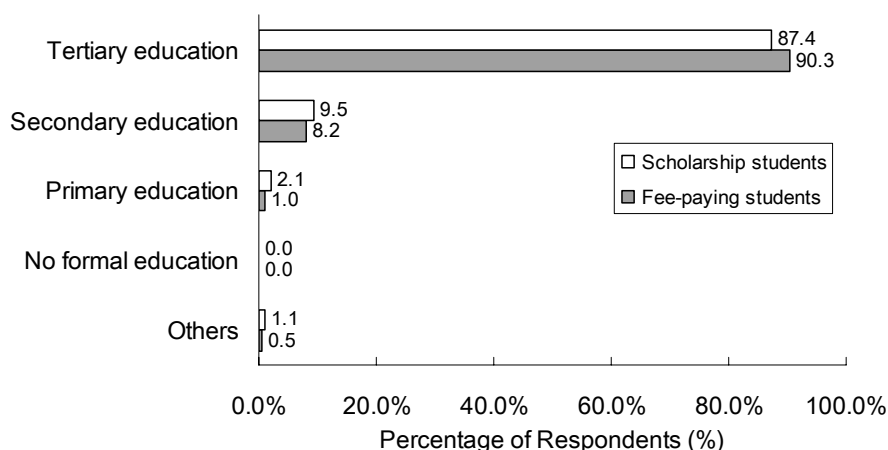
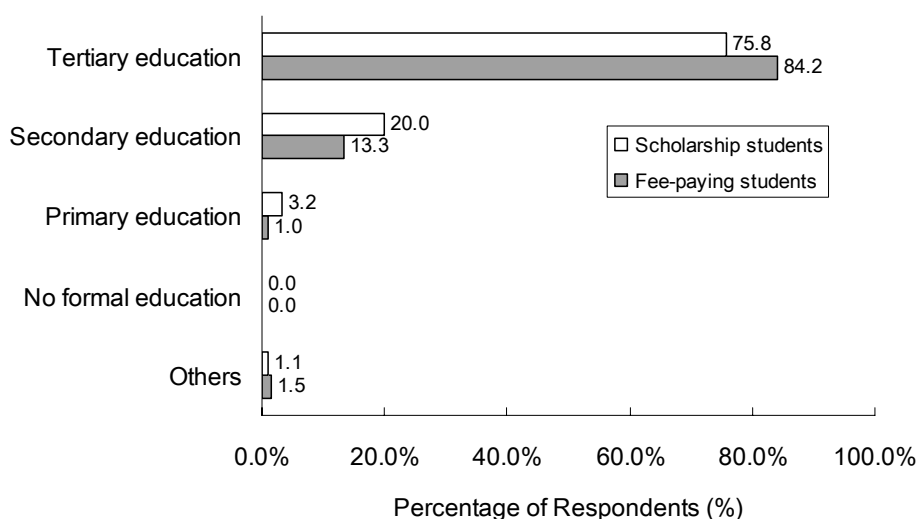


Figure 5: Mothers' Education Attainment



3.1.3 Employment of Parents

With respect to the parents' employment status, 90.4% of the fathers and 80.1% of the mothers are engaged in full-time employment.

Table 6: Employment of Parents

Employment	Percentage of Respondents (%)	
	Father	Mother
Full-time	90.4	80.1
Part-time	3.4	2.4
Retired	1.0	0.7
Unemployed	0.3	0.7
Full-time housework	0.7	13.4
Others	4.1	2.7
Total	100	100

3.2 Household Income

3.2.1 Monthly Income of Fathers

14.1% of respondents indicated that their fathers' monthly income is below RMB4,000. At the other end of the scale, 1.0% of the respondents' fathers earn a monthly income of RMB100,000 or more.

3.2.2 Monthly Income of Mothers

33.4% of respondents' mothers' monthly income is below RMB4,000. At the other end of the scale, 0.7% of the respondents' mothers earn a monthly income of RMB100,000 or more.

3.2.3 Monthly Income of Household

A total of 26.1% of the respondents come from families with a monthly household income below RMB10,000, among which 5.1% below RMB4,000. At the other end of the scale, 11.0% of the respondents reported a monthly household income of more than RMB50,000. The most common range (30.2%) of the monthly household income is RMB10,000-19,999.

Table 7: Monthly Income of Household

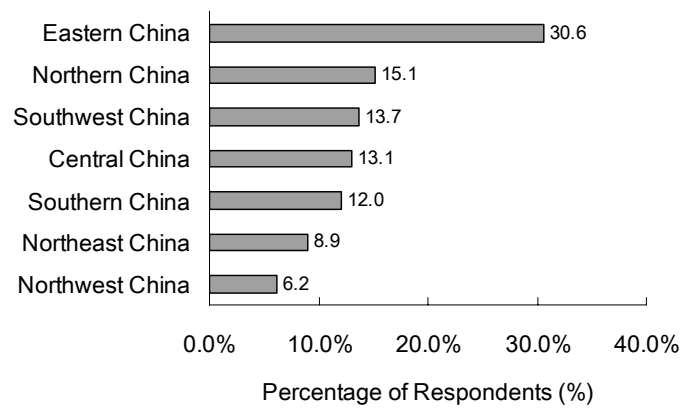
Household Income (RMB)	Percentage of Respondents (%)	
	Scholarship	Fee-paying students
0	2.1	1.5
1-3,999	9.5	0.5
4,000-9,999	37.9	12.8
10,000-19,999	23.2	33.7
20,000-29,999	7.4	16.3
30,000-39,999	3.2	8.2
40,000-49,999	3.2	7.7
50,000-59,999	2.1	1.0
60,000-69,999	1.1	2.6
70,000-79,999	1.1	1.0
80,000-89,999	1.1	0.0
90,000-99,999	0.0	2.6
above 100,000	0.0	6.6
Not Applicable	8.4	5.6
Total	100	100

4. Home Environment

4.1 Place of Residence

The largest group of respondents live in Eastern China (30.6%), whereas places of residence are evenly distributed (around 15%) in Northern China, Central China, Southern China and Southwest China. Compared with the findings shown in **Figure 1** about respondents' place of birth, their places of residence are similar.

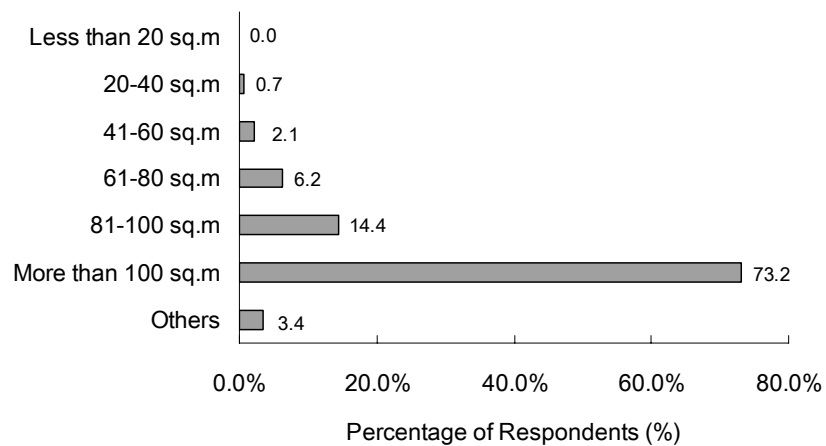
Figure 6: Place of Residence – by Region



4.2 Living Area at Home

The majority of the respondents (73.2%) reported that the size of their home living area is larger than 100 sq.m. 92.4% of the respondents have their own rooms.

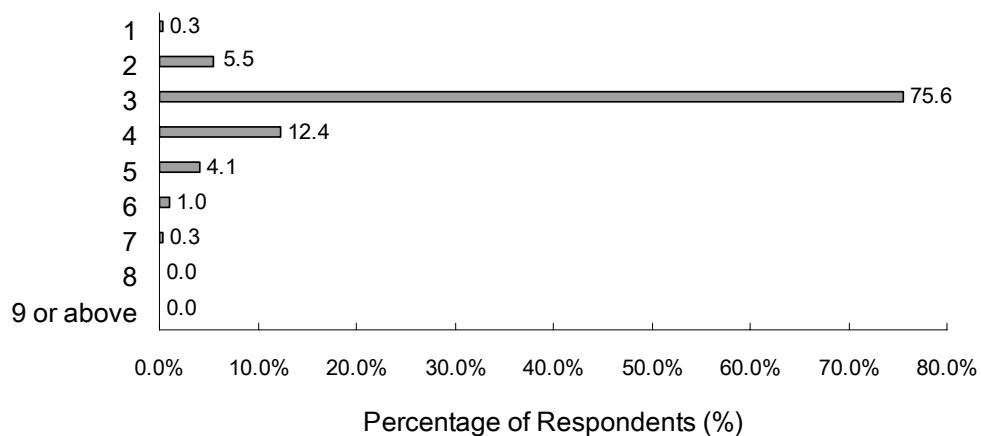
Figure 7: Living Area at Home



4.3 Household Size

The majority of the respondents (75.6%) have a small household size of three persons.

Figure 8: Household Size

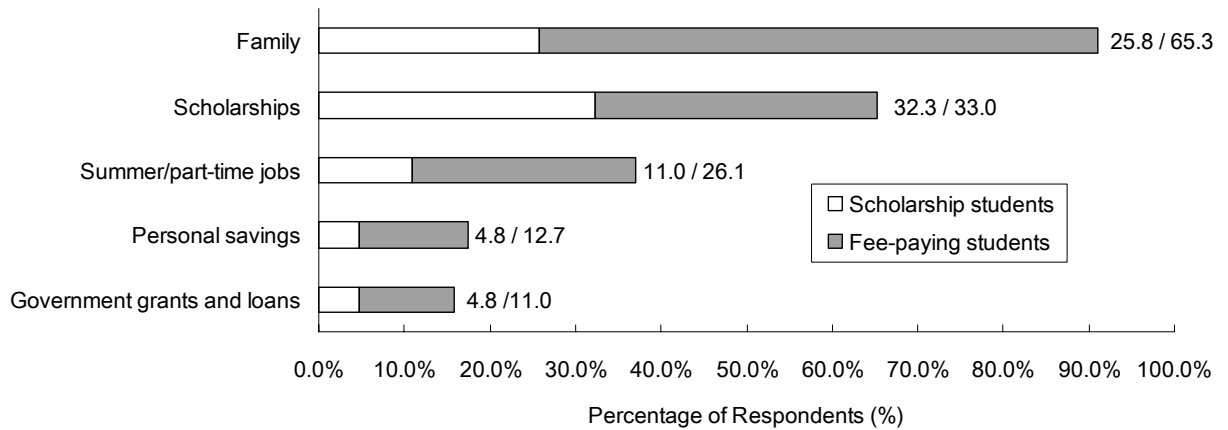


5. University Studies

5.1 *Expected Sources of Financial Support for University Education*

The respondents indicated that they would rely on family support and other incomes.

Figure 9: Sources of Financial Support

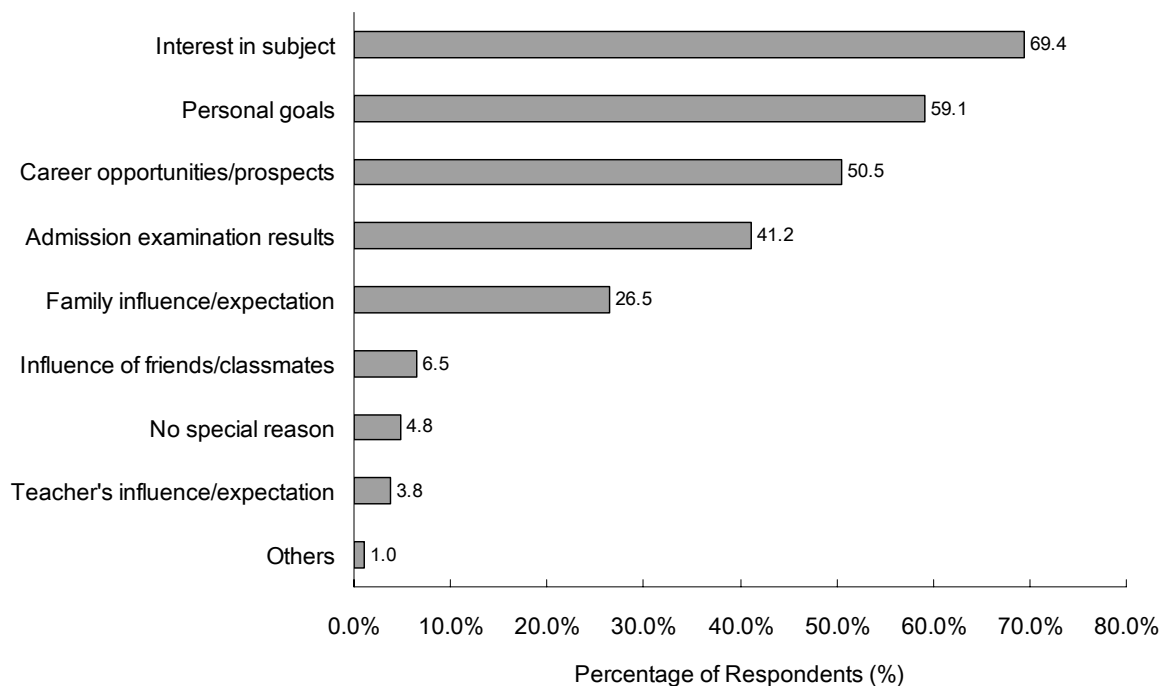


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.2 *Factors Affecting Choice of Major Subjects*

The three most significant factors that affect the respondents' choice of major subjects are their interest in the subject (69.4%), personal goals (59.1%) and career opportunities/prospects (50.5%).

Figure 10: Factors Affecting the Choice of Major Subjects

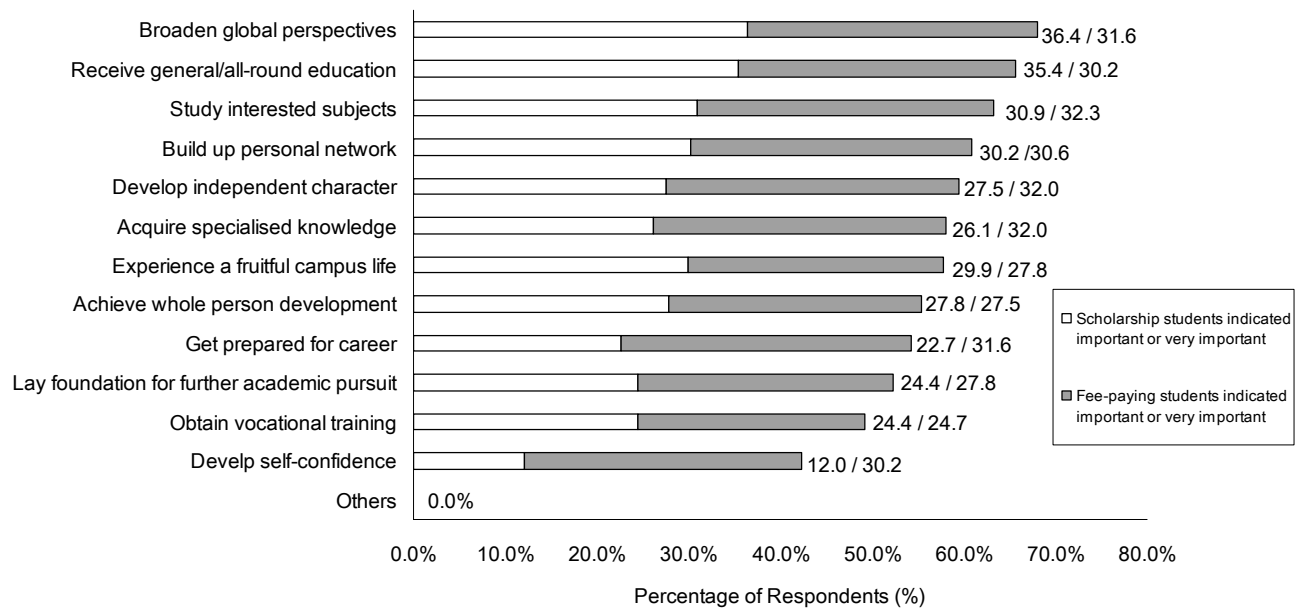


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.3 *Expectation of University Education*

Respondents showed different expectations of university education.

Figure 11: Expectation of University Education



Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.4 *Plan for Extra-curricular Activities at the University*

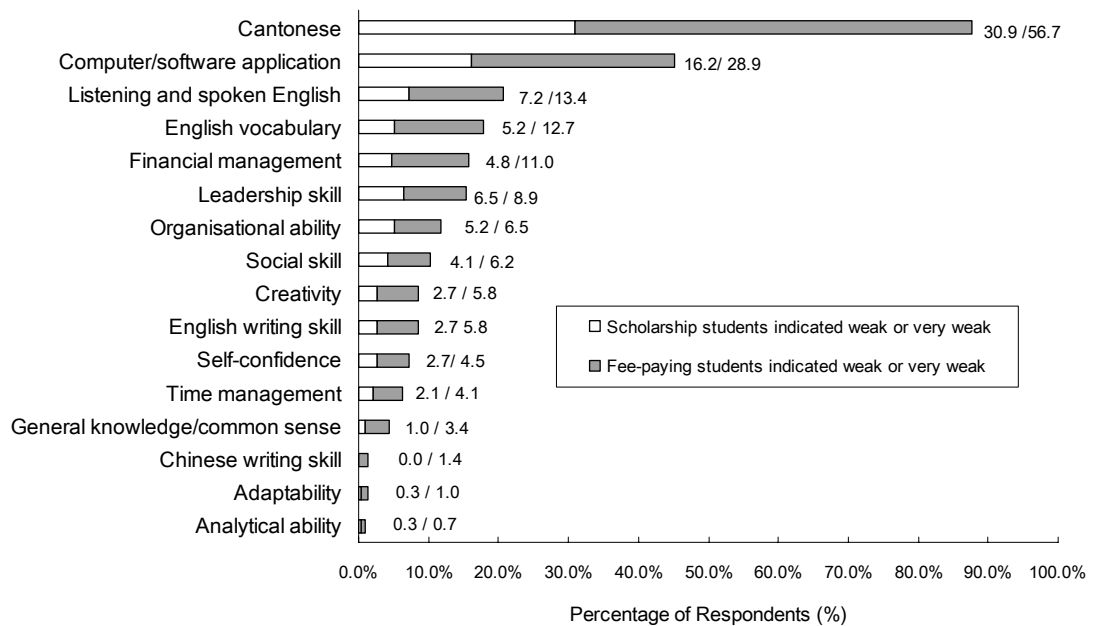
A vast majority (97.9%) of the respondents planned to join extra-curricular activities, exchange or internship programmes at the University.

6. Self Assessment and Anticipated Difficulties

6.1 *Self-assessment of Abilities*

87.6% of the respondents considered that they are weak or very weak in using Cantonese to communicate.

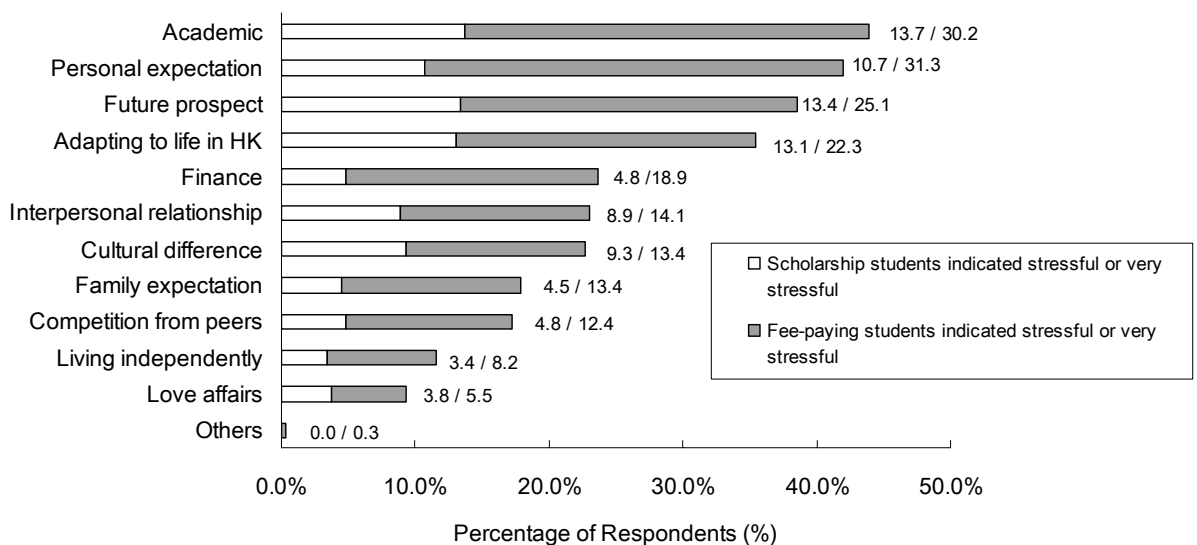
Figure 12: Abilities that Respondents Self-assessed to be Weak/Very Weak



6.2 *Stress Level of Various Aspects of Campus Life*

Among the various aspects of campus life, the respondents' stress levels mostly come from academic results (43.9%), then followed by personal expectation (42.0%) and future prospects (38.5%).

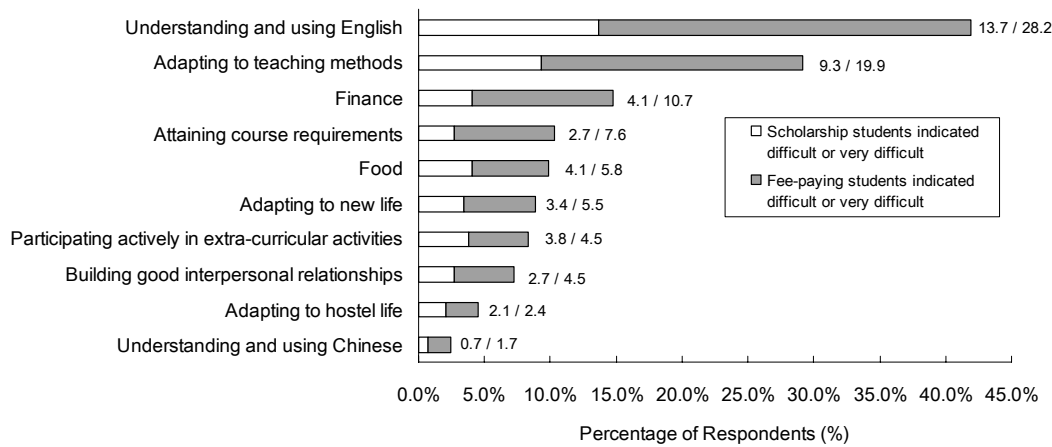
Figure 13: Stress Level of Various Aspects of Campus Life



6.3 Anticipated Difficulties in University Life and Learning

Understanding and using of English is regarded as challenge by the respondents (41.9%), while 29.2% of respondents anticipated there would be difficulties from teaching methods.

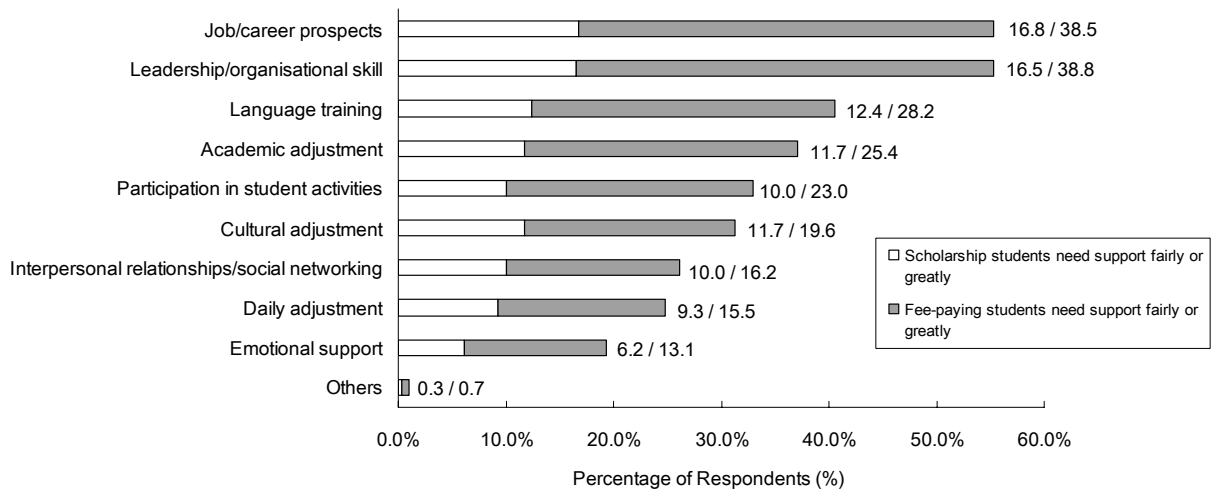
Figure 14: Anticipated Difficulties in University Life and Learning



6.4 Support Solicited from the University

More than half of respondents (55.3%) indicated that they fairly or greatly need guidance and support from the University on career development and developing leadership and organisational skills.

Figure 15: Support to be solicited from the University

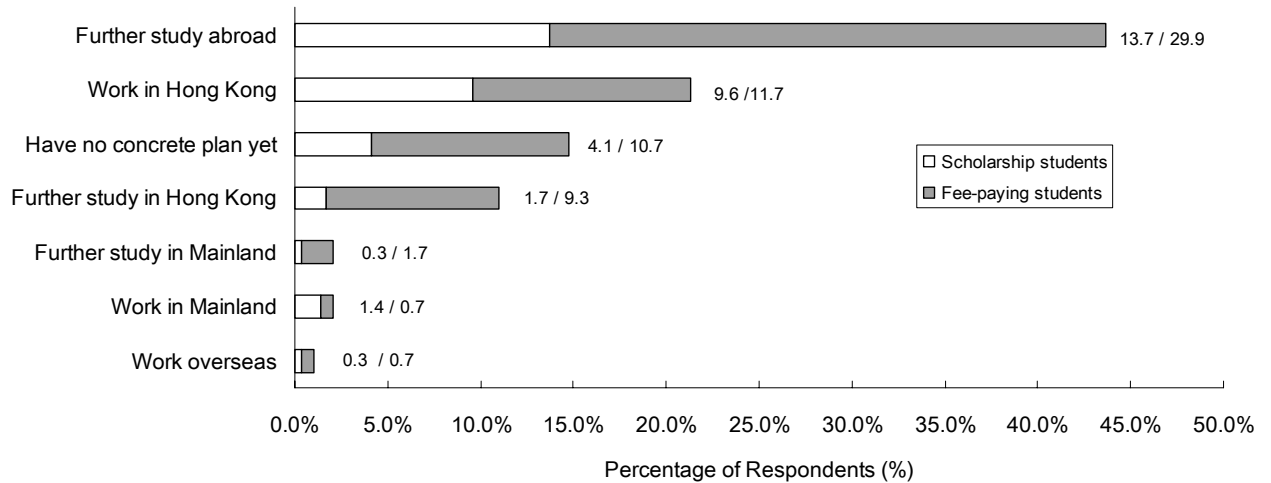


7. Career Aspirations

7.1 Plans after Graduation from CUHK

Nearly half of respondents (43.6%) planned to pursue further studies overseas after graduation from CUHK, while about 21.3% of respondents would like to work in Hong Kong after graduation.

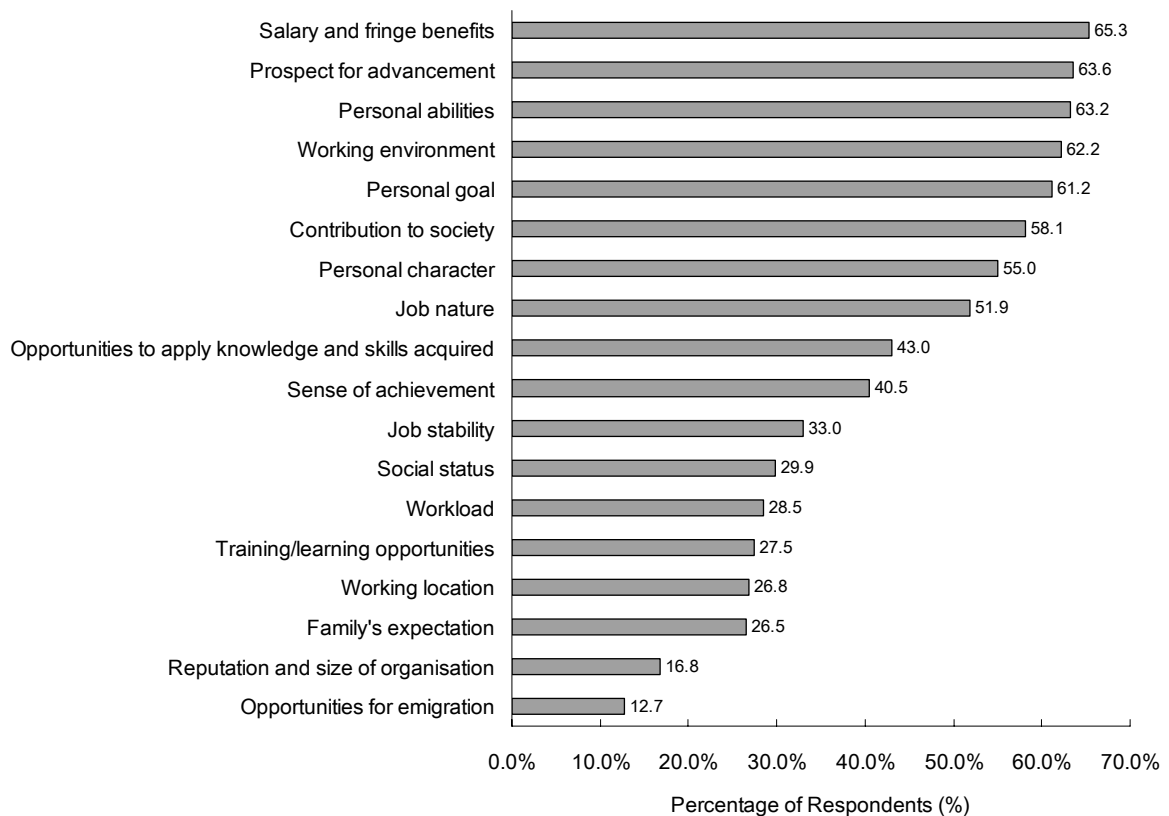
Figure 16: Plans after Graduation from CUHK



7.2 Factors Affecting Choice of Future Career

When respondents consider accepting a job offer, various factors will be considered.

Figure 17: Factors Affecting Choice of Future Career



Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

Part 3: Survey of First-year International Undergraduate Students 2011-12

1. **Response Rate**

Out of the 130 international first-year respondents admitted through the “International Students Admission Scheme”, 93 responded to this survey. The response rate is 71.5%.

Table 1: Response Rate by Faculty/Programme

Faculty/Programme	Number of Enrolment (as of Sep 2011)	Number of Respondents (%)	
Arts (ART)	6	6	(100%)
Business Administration (BSA)	46	40	(87.0%)
Chinese Studies (CHE)	16	14	(87.5%)
Engineering (ERG)	22	12	(54.5%)
Law (LAW)	1	1	(100%)
Science (SCI)	21	5	(23.8%)
Social Science (SSC)	18	15	(83.3%)
Total	130	93	(71.5%)

2. **Personal Particulars**

2.1 ***Sex***

46.2% of the respondents are male, while 53.8% are female. The male to female ratio is 1:1.16.

2.2 ***Age***

38.7% of the respondents are aged 18. 13 respondents (14.0%) are under 18, while 16 (17.2%) are at the age of 20 or above.

2.3 ***Ethnicity***

Chinese takes up more than half (52.6%), while Korean comes second with 36.5%.

Table 2: Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Percentage of Respondents (%)		
	Female	Male	Total
Chinese	54.0	51.2	52.6
Korean	36.0	37.2	36.5
Caucasian	4.0	4.7	4.3
Japanese	2.0	2.3	2.2
Mixed ethnicity	4.0	0.0	2.2
Indian	0.0	2.3	1.1
Filipino	0.0	2.3	1.1
Total	100	100	100

2.4 *Place of Birth*

35.5% of the respondents were born in South Korea, followed by Mainland China (19.4%) and Macau (12.9%).

Table 3: Place of Birth

Place of Birth	Percentage of Respondents (%)		
	Female	Male	Total
South Korea	34.0	37.2	35.5
Mainland China	24.0	13.9	19.4
Macau	10.0	16.3	12.9
Taiwan	6.0	6.9	6.5
Malaysia	4.0	4.7	4.3
Indonesia	4.0	4.7	4.3
Others	18.0	16.3	17.1
Total	100	100	100

2.5 *Religious Background*

Half of the respondents (50.5%) have no religious belief, while 22.6% are Protestants/Christians, 14.0% are Buddhists and 8.6% are Catholics.

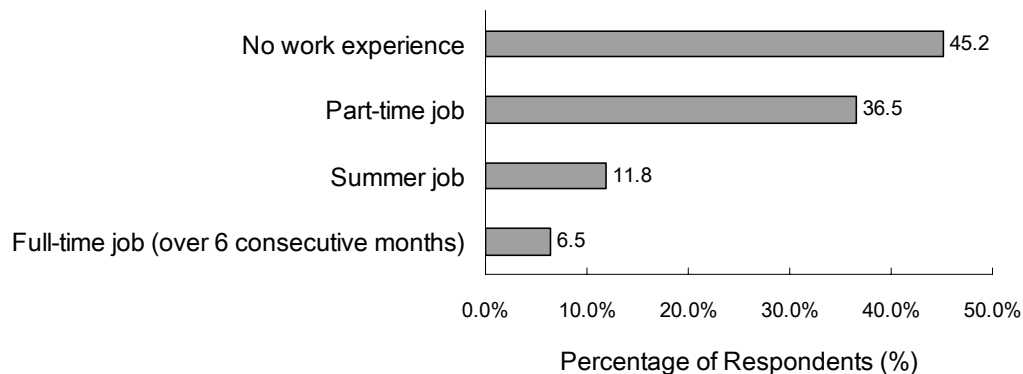
Table 4: Religious Background

Religious Background	Percentage of Respondents (%)		
	Female	Male	Total
No religious belief	50.0	51.2	50.5
Protestant/Christian	22.0	23.3	22.6
Catholic	16.0	0.0	8.6
Buddhist	10.0	18.6	14.0
Taoist	2.0	4.6	3.2
Others	0.0	2.3	1.1
Total	100	100	100

2.6 Work Experience

More than half (54.8%) of the respondents had work experience.

Figure 1: Work Experience



3. Family Particulars

3.1 Basic Information about Parents

3.1.1 Family Condition

98.9% of the respondents' parents are living. 93.5% of the respondents' parents are living together, while 5.4% are divorced/separated.

3.1.2 Education Attainment of Parents

62.4% and 51.6% of the fathers and the mothers respectively have received tertiary education.

Table 5: Education Attainment of Parents

Education Attainment	Percentage of Respondent (%)		
	Father	Mother	Both Parents
Tertiary education	62.4	51.6	47.3
Secondary/Matriculation education	24.7	36.5	19.4
Primary education	2.2	6.5	0.0
No formal education	2.2	0.0	0.0
Others	8.5	5.4	2.2
Total	100	100	68.9

3.1.3 Employment of Parents

In terms of the parents' employment status, 84.8% and 33.3% of the fathers and mothers respectively have a full-time job.

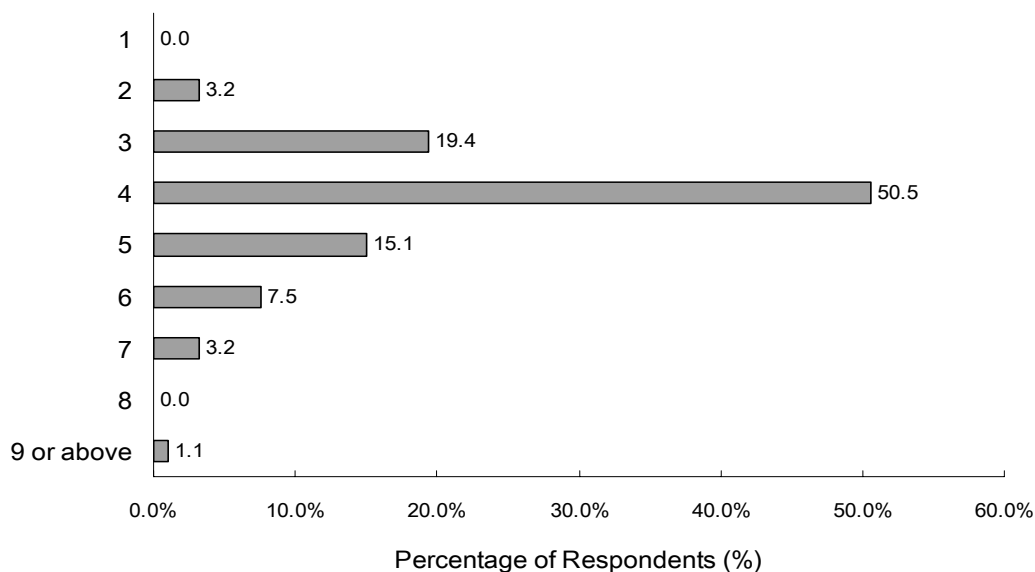
Table 6: Employment of Parents

Employment	Percentage of Respondent (%)		
	Father	Mother	Both Parents
Full-time	84.8	33.3	14.0
Part-time	0.0	4.3	0.0
Retired	6.5	2.2	2.2
Unemployed	2.2	3.2	0.0
Full-time housework	0.0	54.8	0.0
Others	6.5	2.2	0.0
Total	100	100	16.2

3.2 Household Size

Half of the respondents (50.5%) have a household size of four persons.

Figure 2: Household Size

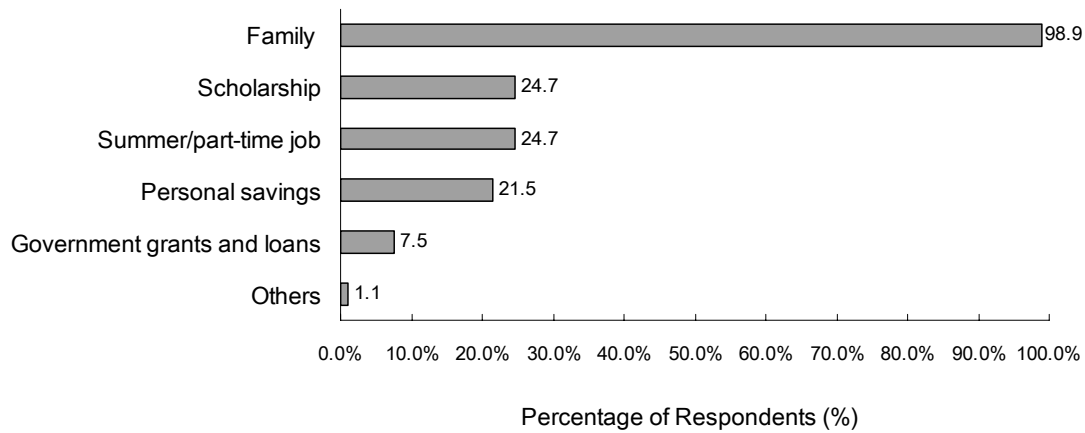


4. University Studies

4.1 *Expected Sources of Financial Support for University Education*

To the respondents interviewed, family's financial support is the biggest source for their university study.

Figure 3: Sources of Financial Support

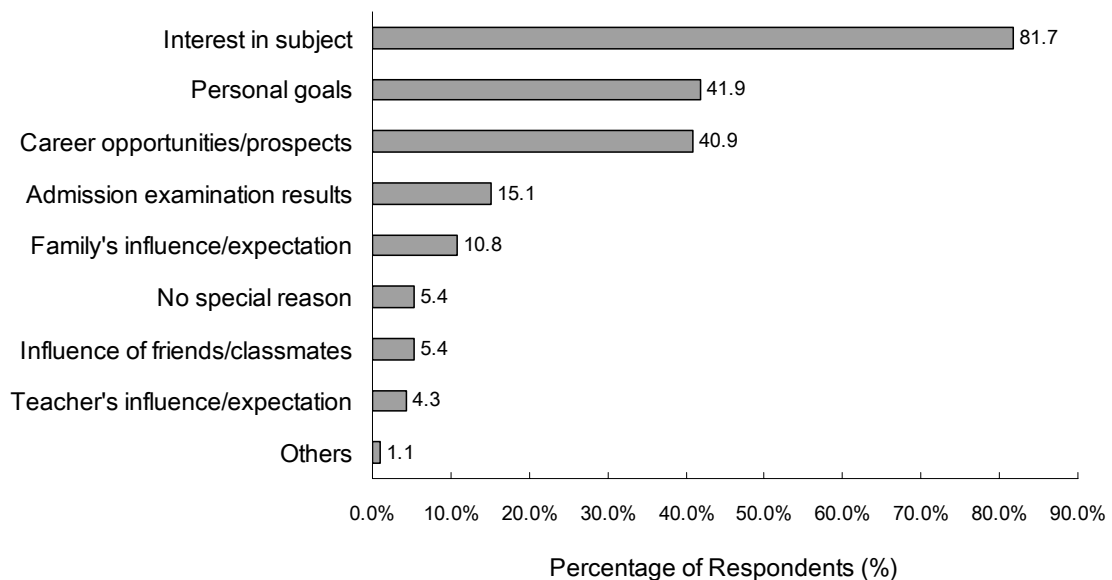


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

4.2 *Factors Affecting Choice of Major Subjects*

Most respondents (81.7%) indicated that they chose their major subjects out of interest.

Figure 4: Factors Affecting Choice of Major Subjects

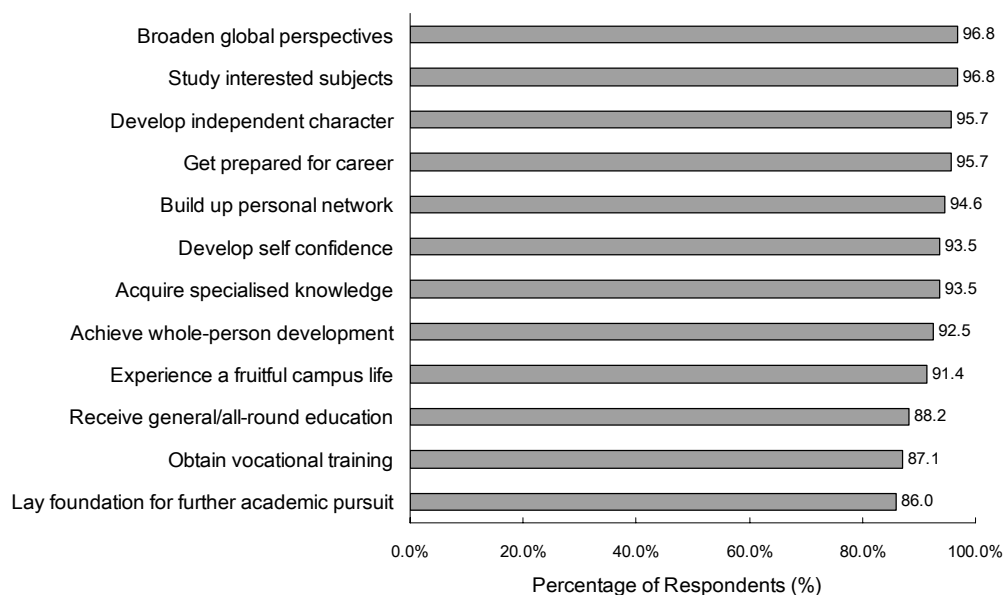


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

4.3 Expectation of University Education

The respondents' expectations of university education are evenly distributed.

Figure 5: Expectation of University Education



Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

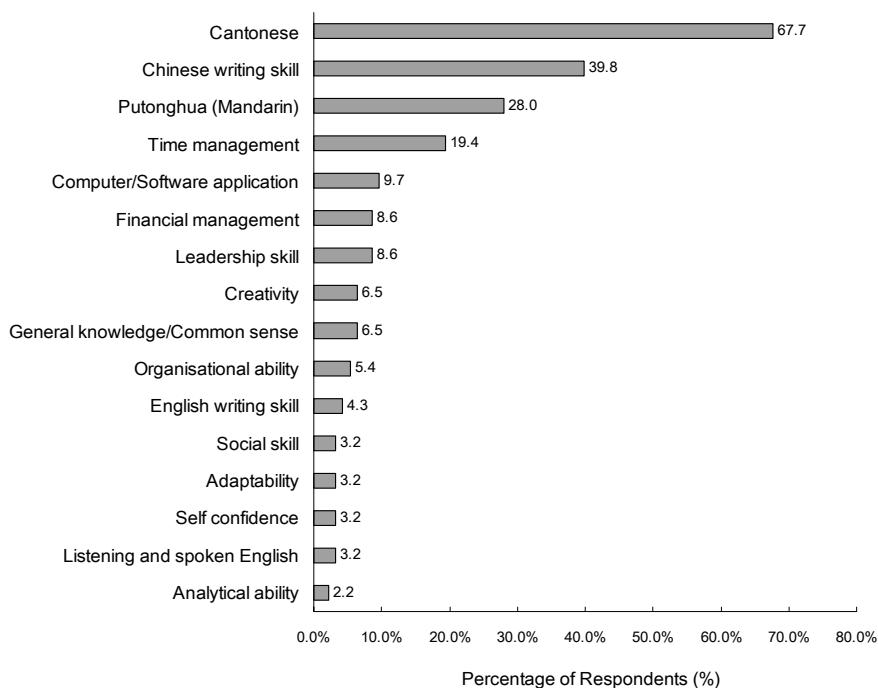
4.4 Plan for Extra-curricular Activities at the University

A vast majority (92.5%) of the respondents showed interest in joining extra-curricular activities, exchange or internship programmes at the University.

4.5 Self-assessment of Abilities

67.7% of the respondents rated their command of Cantonese weak or very weak.

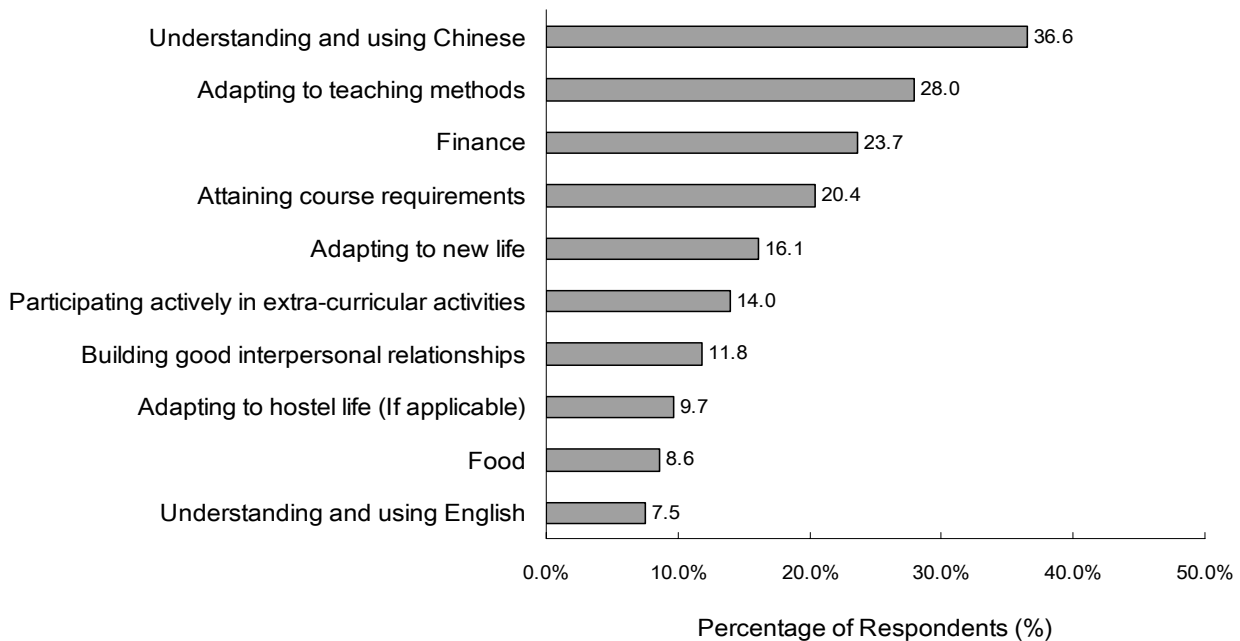
Figure 6: Abilities that Respondents Self-assessed to be Weak/Very Weak



4.6 Anticipated Difficulties in University Life and Learning

Students anticipated different difficulties in their university life.

Figure 7: Anticipated Difficulties in University Life and Learning



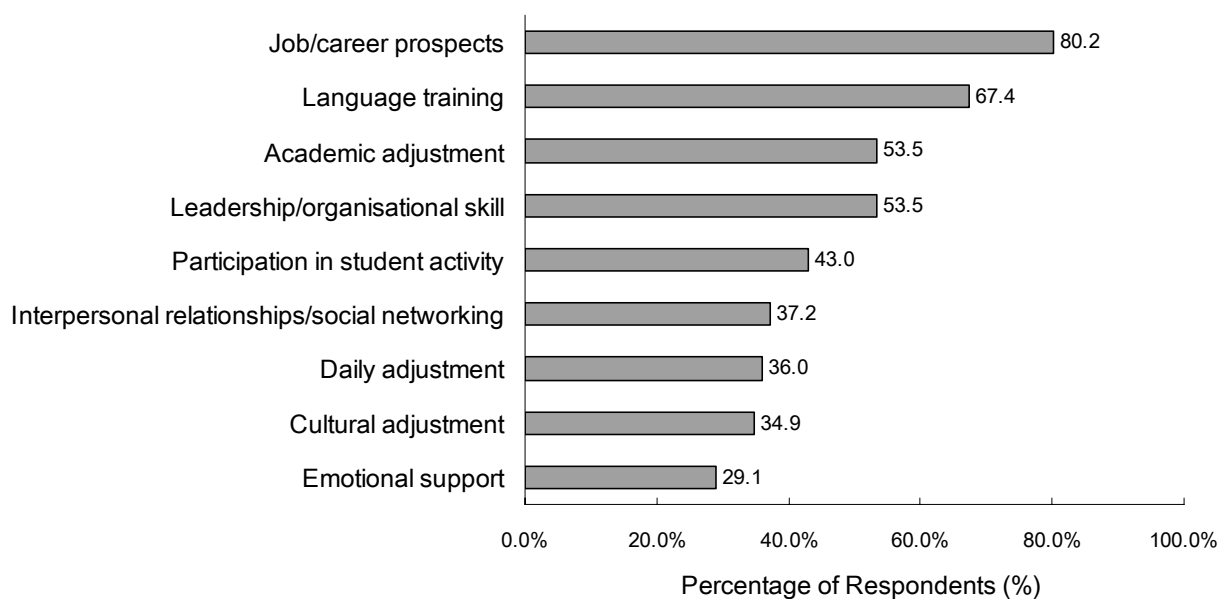
4.7 Plan for Taking Up Part-time Jobs

67.7% of the interviewees have plans to do part-time job during their college education.

4.8 Support Solicited from the University

Students expected to receive various support from the University.

Figure 8: Support Solicited from the University

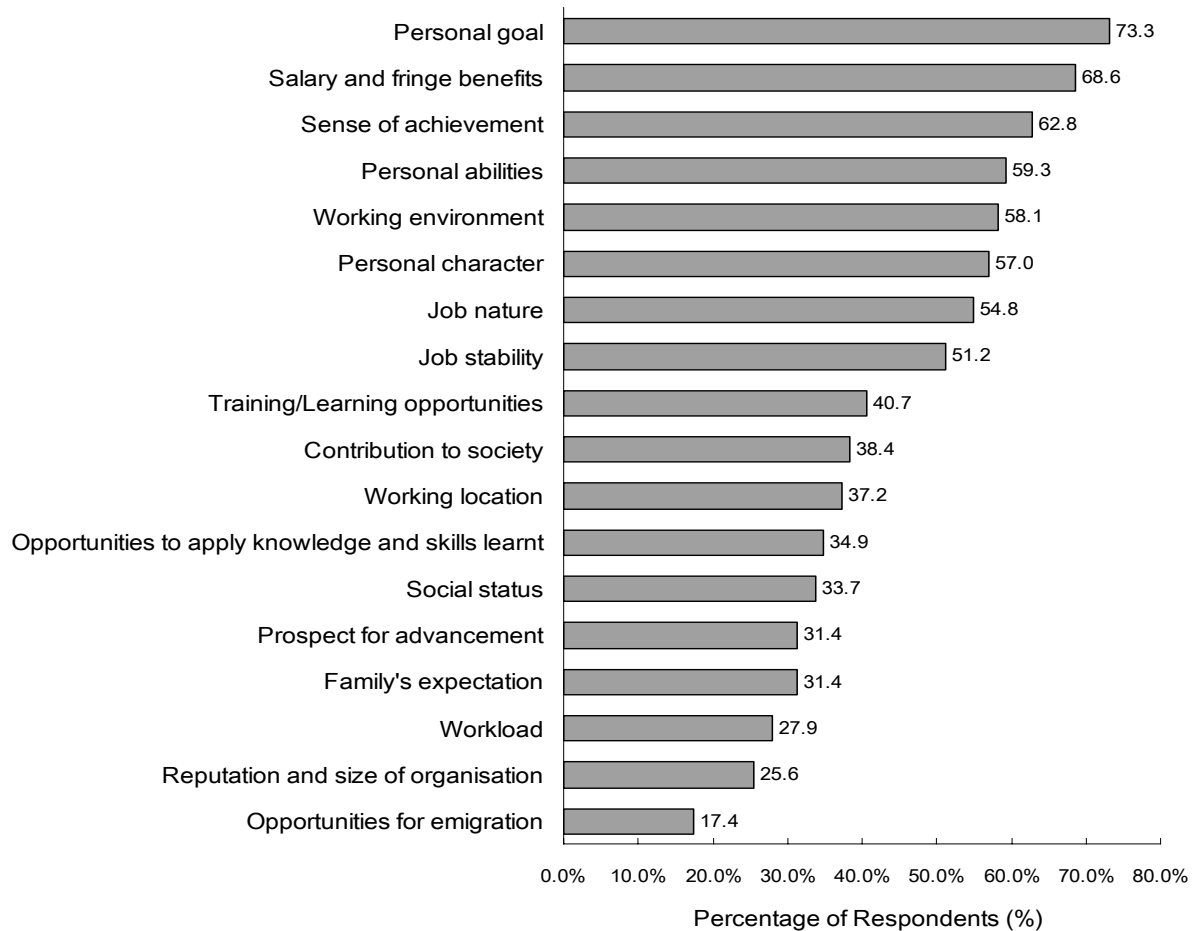


5. Career Aspirations

5.1 *Factors Affecting Choice of Future Career*

Students considered different factors when choosing their future careers.

Figure 9: Factors Affecting Choice of Future Career

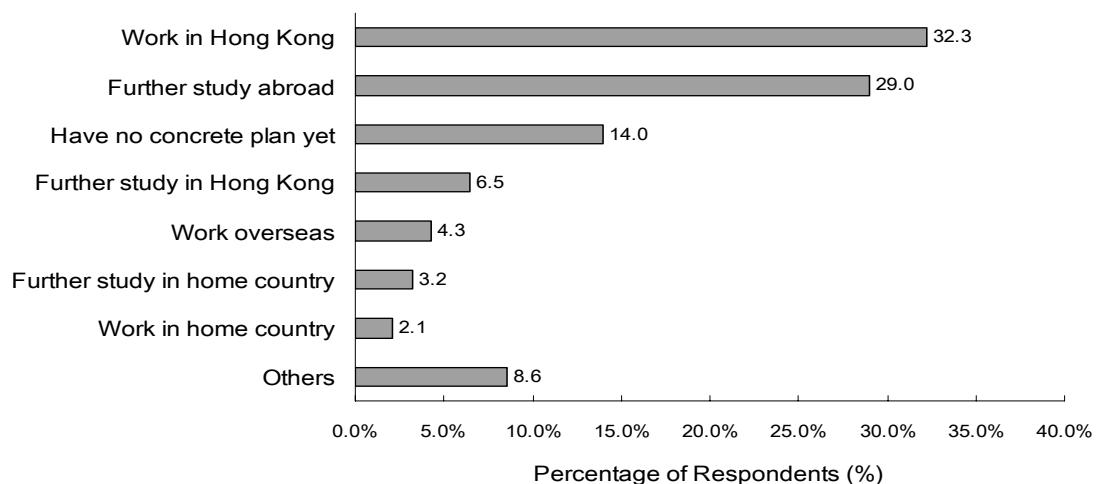


Remarks: A respondent may give more than one answer.

5.2 *Plan after Graduation from CUHK*

32.3% of the respondents considered finding jobs in Hong Kong after graduation.

Figure 10: Plans after Graduation from CUHK



Appendix 1

Highest Academic Qualification Attained before being Admitted into the University

Faculty Type of Qualification	Percentage of Respondents (%)								
	ART	BSA	EDU	ERG	LAW	MED	SCI	SSC	Total
Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) — JUPAS entrant (including all sub-schemes of main round)	86.7	79.1	91.9	77.0	64.8	66.8	83.1	87.2	80.0
Associate Degree/Higher Diploma/Certificate or equivalent	8.8	2.4	5.4	16.1	0.0	6.4	2.7	2.3	5.9
Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE) through the Early Admission Scheme for Secondary Six Students (EAS)	1.2	5.9	0.0	0.0	1.9	9.0	4.9	0.9	3.7
General Certificate of Education/ General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCE/GSE)	0.6	4.3	0.0	2.3	22.2	3.5	1.9	3.8	3.2
Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE)	0.3	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	2.5	0.9	2.6
Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) — non JUPAS entrant	1.5	0.2	1.4	4.3	0.0	1.7	2.5	0.9	1.7
International Baccalaureate	0.3	1.4	1.4	0.0	9.3	2.0	0.5	2.6	1.4
Ordinary Diploma/Certificate or equivalent	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.2
National Joint College Entrance Examination (JEE) of Mainland China	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Others	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.9	3.5	1.9	1.2	1.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

- * ART = Arts
BSA = Business Administration
EDU = Education
ERG = Engineering
LAW = Law
MED = Medicine
SCI = Science
SSC = Social Science

Appendix 2
Students' District of Residence

District	Description	Number of Respondents (%)	Sub-total	Sub-total in (%)
Hong Kong Island	Central and Western District	58	358	16.0
	Wanchai	35		
	Eastern	199		
	Southern	66		
Kowloon	Yaumatei, Tsim Sha Tsui and Mong Kok	94	631	28.2
	Sham Shui Po	100		
	Kowloon City	109		
	Wong Tai Sin	134		
	Kwun Tong	194		
New Territories/ Islands	Kwai Tsing	149	1241	55.5
	Tsuen Wan	102		
	Tuen Mun	193		
	Yuen Long (including Tin Shui Wai)	181		
	North (including Fanling and Sheung Shui)	116		
	Tai Po	85		
	Shatin	244		
	Sai Kung (including Cheung Kwan O)	132		
	Islands	37		
	Marine	2		
Others	Others	6	6	0.3
Total		2,236	2,236	100

Appendix 3

Expectation of University Education

Degree Type of Expectation	Percentage of Respondents (%)					
	Very Important	Important	Indifferent	Unimportant	Unimportant at all	Total
Study interested subjects	64.8	33.2	1.9	0.1	0.0	100
Acquire specialised knowledge	49.2	45.9	4.4	0.4	0.0	100
Build up personal network	53.8	41.1	4.7	0.3	0.1	100
Develop independent character	50.7	42.4	6.2	0.5	0.2	100
Develop self-confidence	48.9	44.1	6.5	0.3	0.1	100
Broaden global perspectives	48.8	43.9	6.7	0.5	0.1	100
Achieve whole-person development	48.5	42.9	7.7	0.7	0.2	100
Get prepared for career	48.8	41.8	8.1	1.0	0.3	100
Experience a fruitful campus life	45.5	42.0	11.0	1.2	0.3	100
Lay foundation for further academic pursuit	32.4	53.0	13.4	1.2	0.0	100
Receive general/all-round education	32.2	50.5	15.1	1.8	0.4	100
Obtain vocational training	26.2	48.3	21.4	3.5	0.7	100

Appendix 4

Self-assessment of Abilities

Degree Ability	Percentage of Respondents (%)					
	Very Strong	Strong	Fair	Weak	Very Weak	Total
Computer/software application	3.3	21.7	51.1	20.0	3.9	100
Putonghua (Mandarin)	6.6	27.8	43.6	17.2	4.8	100
Creativity	6.3	30.3	47.9	14.1	1.4	100
Leadership skill	6.1	33.3	45.8	13.3	1.5	100
Listening and spoken English	8.2	33.2	43.7	13.1	1.7	100
English writing skill	5.3	30.5	50.7	11.8	1.7	100
Time management	8.7	39.3	40.1	10.3	1.6	100
Social skill	6.9	39.4	43.3	9.3	1.2	100
Self-confidence	8.3	38.8	42.7	9.2	1.0	100
Financial management	11.3	39.0	39.8	8.5	1.4	100
Chinese writing skill	10.5	45.0	37.3	6.0	1.2	100
General knowledge/common sense	7.5	43.2	44.7	4.2	0.4	100
Organisational ability	10.6	50.5	34.5	4.2	0.3	100
Adaptability	15.2	51.2	29.6	3.6	0.5	100
Analytical ability	12.5	52.9	32.3	2.2	0.1	100

Appendix 5
Anticipated Difficulties in University Life and Learning

Degree Type of Difficulty	Percentage of Respondents (%)				
	Very Difficult	Difficult	A Little Difficult	Not Difficult	Total
Attaining course requirements	4.9	31.6	50.7	12.7	100
Adapting to teaching methods	3.4	31.6	54.2	10.7	100
Participating actively in extra-curricular activities	4.1	22.9	47.8	25.2	100
Understanding and using English	5.0	18.8	41.5	34.7	100
Adapting to hostel life	3.1	19.5	49.5	27.8	100
Building good interpersonal relationships	3.0	18.4	51.1	27.5	100
Understanding and using Chinese	1.6	5.5	25.9	67.0	100