



**AFFORDABLE
LEARNING PA**



PALCITM
Partnership for Academic Library
Collaboration and Innovation



OLC InnovateTM
EDUCATION REIMAGINED 2024

COURSE MATERIALS COST STUDENTS MORE THAN MONEY

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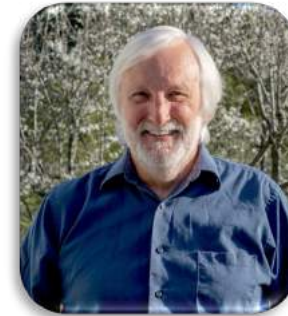
WELCOME

Agenda

1. Project Introduction
2. Survey Results
3. Q&A



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bayviewanalytics.com/CourseMaterials



INTRODUCTION TO BAY VIEW ANALYTICS

Bay View Analytics offers a comprehensive suite of consulting services in survey design and statistical research. Our services build on nearly two decades of research and survey design, sampling, and statistical analysis expertise.



Julia Seaman, Ph.D.
Director of Research



Jeff Seaman, Ph.D.
Director



PROJECT INTRODUCTION

How do course material costs affect students?

PROJECT DETAILS

Goal:

To present a **compelling narrative and benchmark data** that resonates with decision makers, students, higher education administrators, parents, and other stakeholders.

The ultimate aspiration is that stakeholders in affordable education can use the survey results **to enhance affordability initiatives in meaningful ways**, creating a more affordable and equitable course material landscape for students

PROJECT DETAILS

Process:



Institutions voluntarily participate.



Each institution responsible for communications to their own students.



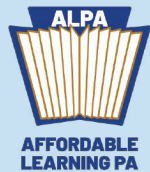
All institutions use a common questionnaire.



Central organization administers the surveys and processes the data.



Central organization produces reports and presentations of the findings.



Collaboration between ALPA, PALCI, and Bay View Analytics

PROJECT RESULTS



14 Institutions



4,306 Students

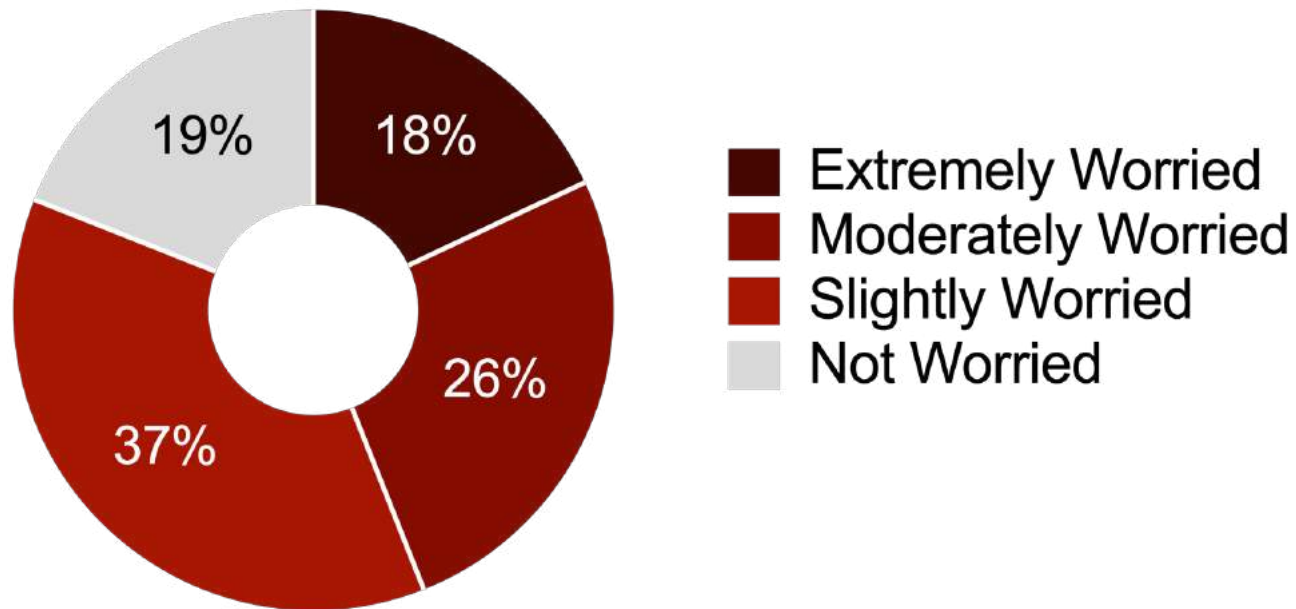
National

500 Students

A vertical rectangular box containing the word "National" at the top, a map of the United States with a location pin in the center, and a smaller box at the bottom containing the text "500 Students".

STUDENTS WORRY ABOUT COURSE MATERIAL COSTS

How worried were you about meeting your course material costs this term?



81% of students are worried at some level

Not all students have the same level of worry. Students that reported higher levels of worry were:

- Black
- Hispanic
- Women
- Had a full-time job off campus
- Were a Pell Grant recipient.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS - WORRY

It has drained me.

Didn't buy groceries for two weeks because I spent my grocery budget on textbooks.

Stress me out cause sometimes I am short on funds.

Two jobs just to afford book, then I can't study properly because I'm too busy working.

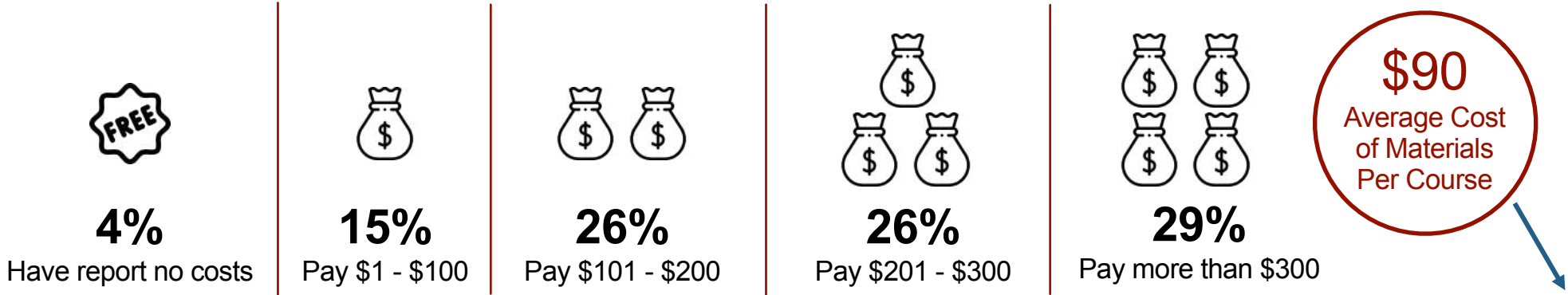
It has made me chose between eating and buying course materials.

The cost of stopping me from continuing my education, because I just cannot afford it.



MAJORITY SPEND HUNDREDS PER TERM

How much did you spend on course materials during this term?

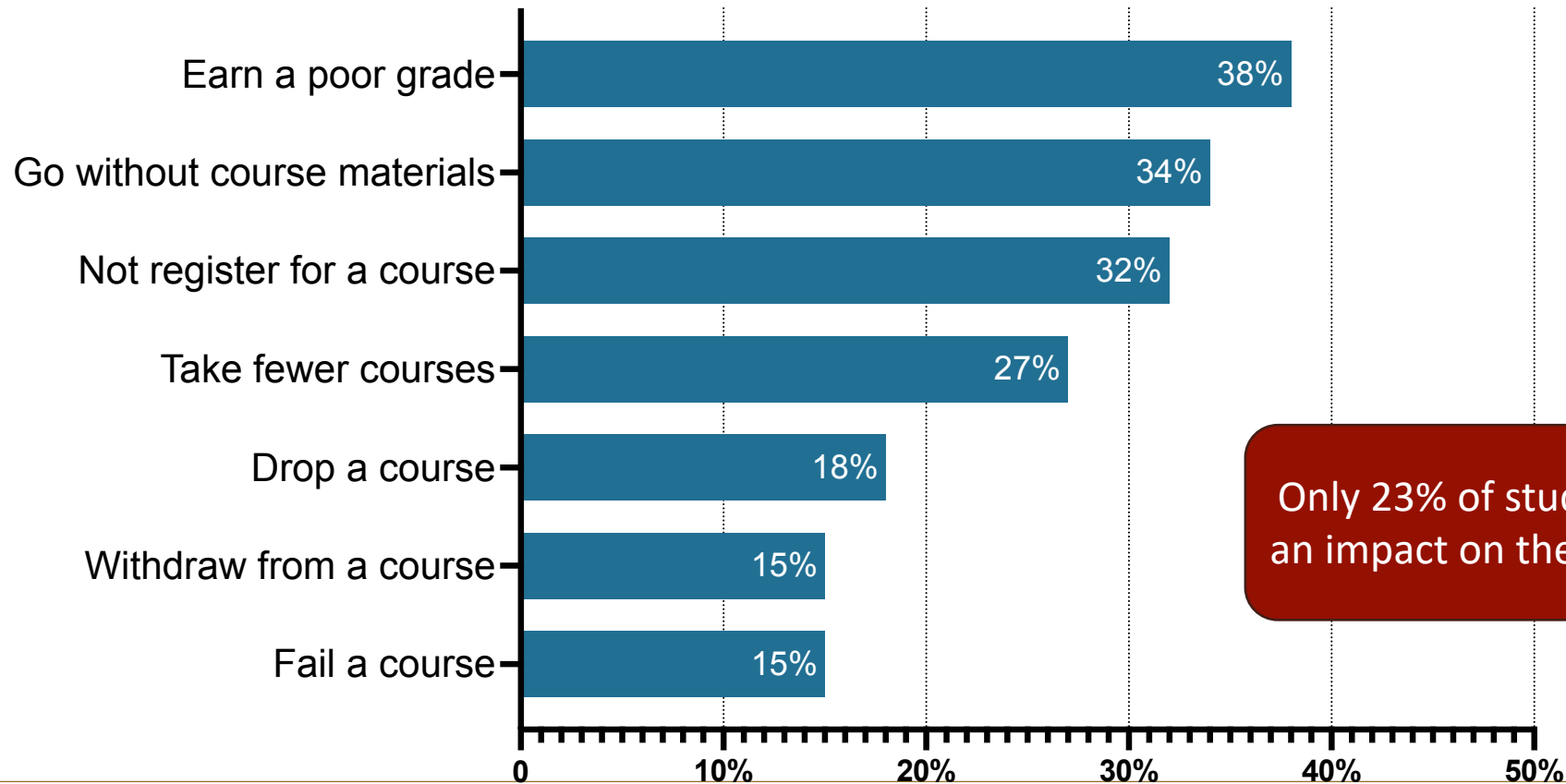


Majority of students do have financial aid, but for many it does not cover course materials costs. Only 13% of students report financial aid covers over 50% or more of their costs

Course Load	Average Cost
1	\$90
2	\$180
3	\$270
4	\$360
5	\$450

COURSE MATERIAL COSTS DIRECTLY AND NEGATIVELY IMPACT STUDENT ACADEMICS

In your academic career, has the cost of required course materials caused you to:



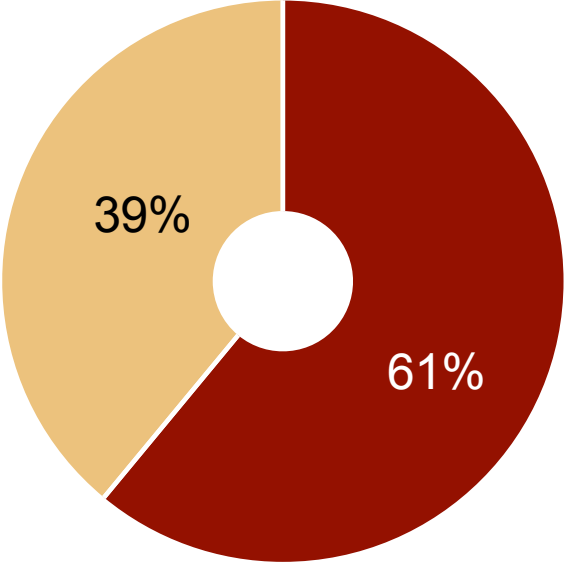
Only 23% of students have not had an impact on their academic career.



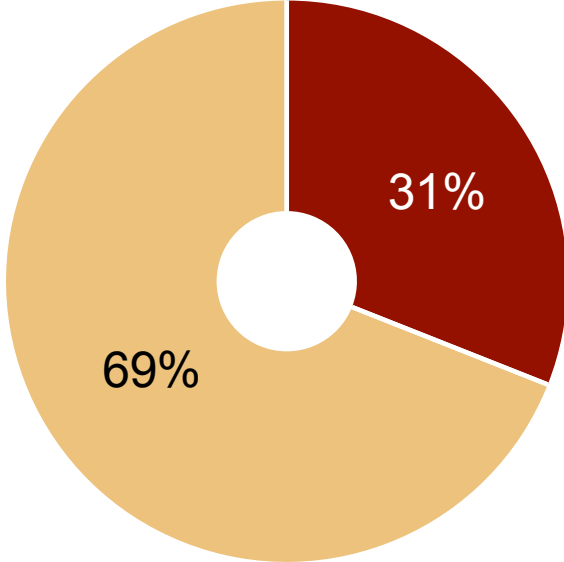
MATERIAL COSTS IMPACT ACADEMIC DECISIONS, TOO

In your academic career, has the cost of required course materials affected:

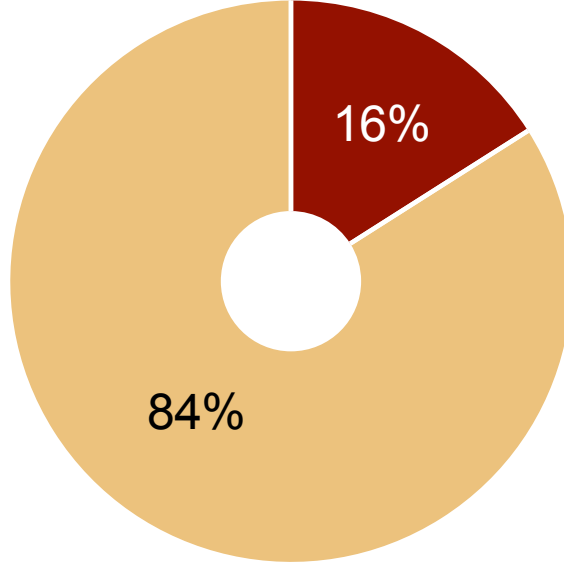
Selecting your Institution



Selecting your Major



Selecting your Minor



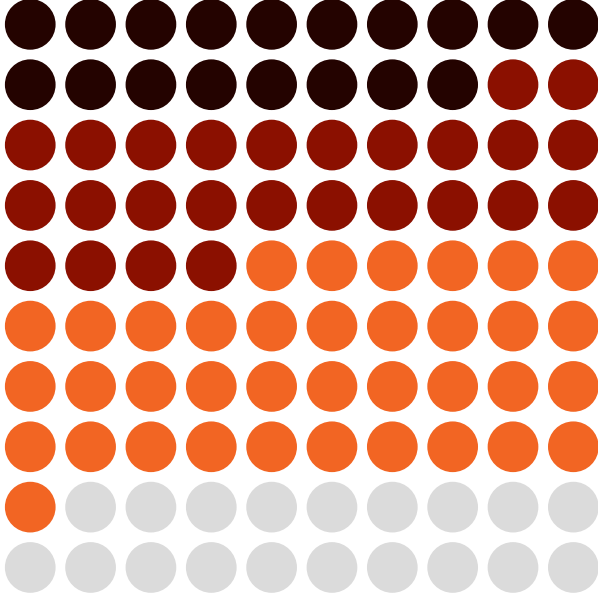
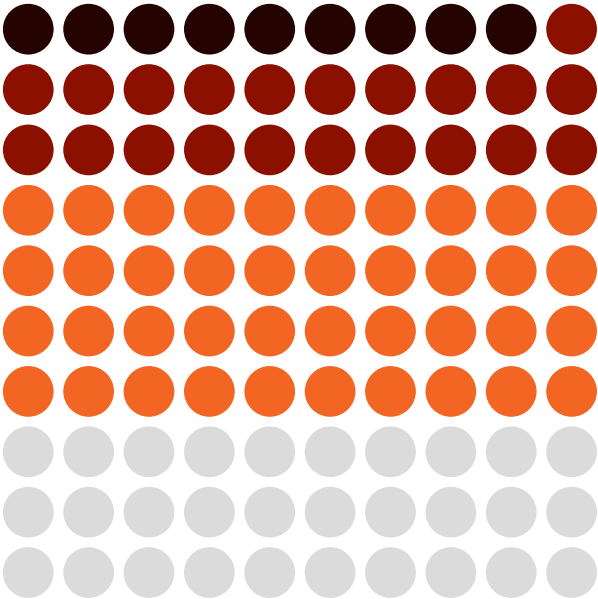
■ Yes, affected ■ No, not affected

PA STUDENTS FACE UNIQUE CHALLENGES

How worried were you about meeting your course material costs this term?

National

Pennsylvania



The overall level of worry is **11% higher** in Pennsylvania compared to the national level. Pennsylvania students report **2x levels of “extremely worried.”**

■ Extremely Worried ■ Moderately Worried ■ Slightly Worried ■ Not Worried

CONCLUSION

Course materials costs are a **significant issue** for students. The high cost of materials causes **high levels of worry** and impacts their academic success negatively and directly.

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ADDITIONAL RESEARCH

This project is based on research started by Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC) and continued by other states and organizations.



FUTURE RESEARCH

Bay View Analytics, with state organizations of FLVC, VIVA, CARLI, PALCI and education organizations SPARC and WCET, are **working to create a student survey toolkit.**

In the meantime, we are all happy **to advise or support** individual and group efforts to expand this research wherever you are.



THANK YOU!

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