



**Higher Education
and the Federal Government**

University of Wisconsin

Terry Hartle

December 10, 2010

“In With the New”

	111 th Congress	112 th Congress
House Democrats	255	193
House Republicans	179	242
Senate Democrats	56	51
Senate Republicans	42	47
Senate Independents	2	2



Election Observations

- Income difference
- Education difference
- Independents switched



Election Observations (continued)

- Growing dissatisfaction with the political process
- “Lost Decade”

Election Observations (continued)

- Things “are rigged”
- Fear of large institutions with too much authority

Election Observations (continued)

- Elites are suspect
- Includes postsecondary educational institutions



The Last Two Years Were Good for Higher Education

- Pell Grant increases
- American Opportunity Tax Credit
- Conversion to Direct Lending
- NIH/NSF Funding



Three Key Words

- Partisan
- Deficit
- Election



Central Questions

- Can Republicans govern?
- Can Obama regain his edge?
- Can they work together?

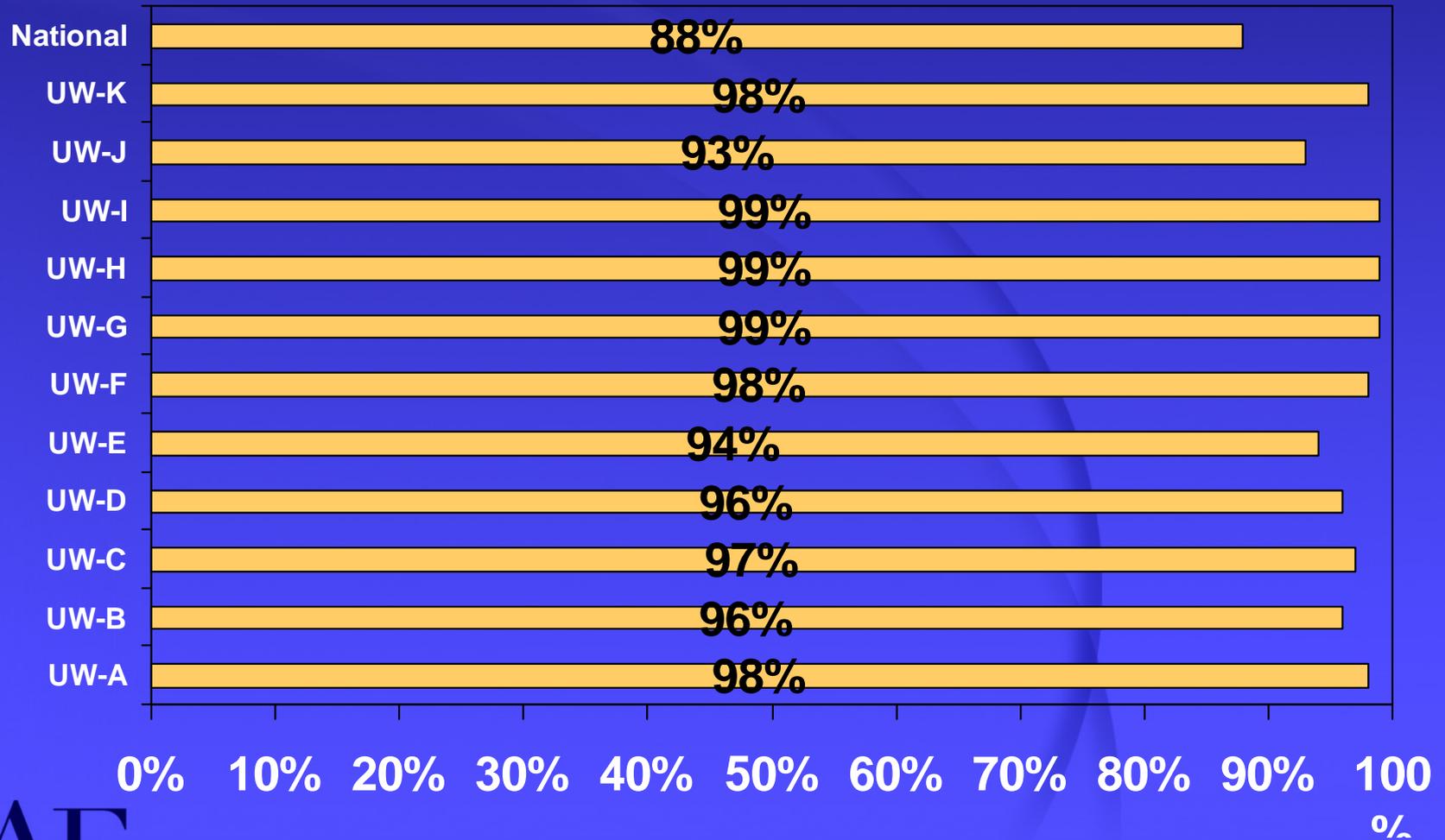


ACE Young Alumni Survey

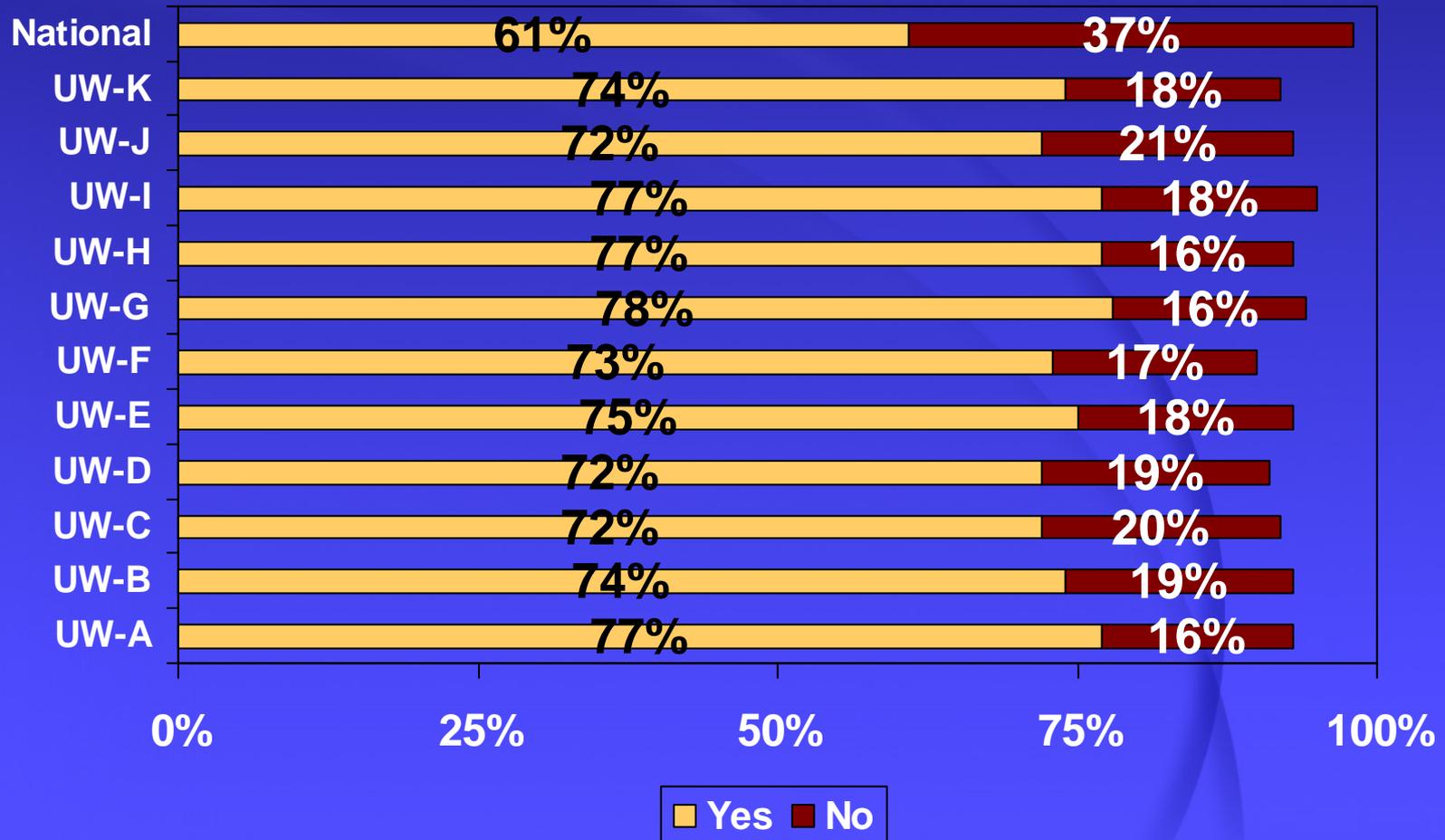
- Follow-up to national survey
- Twenty-two participating institutions
- Service to members



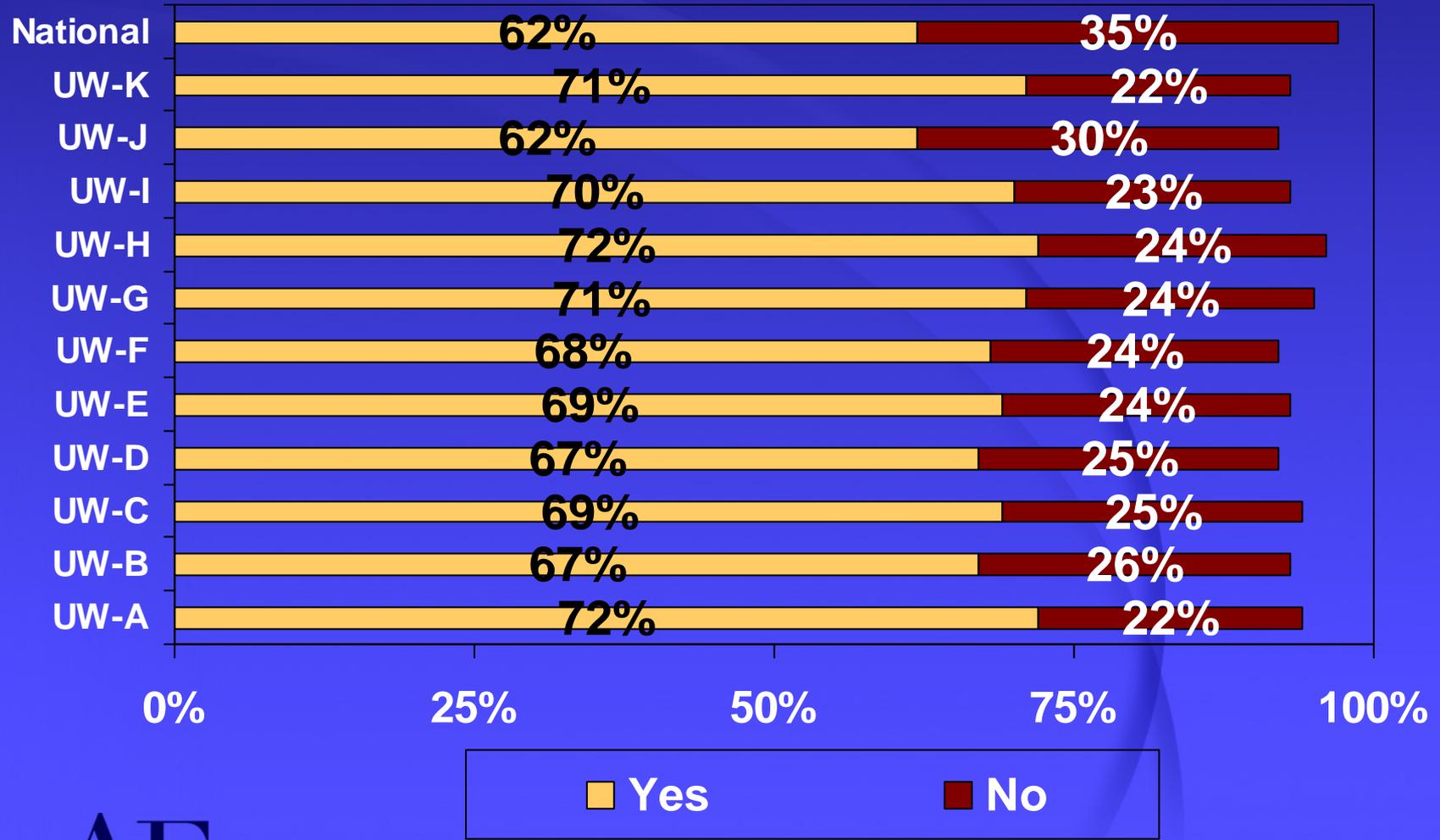
Favorable impression of institution attended



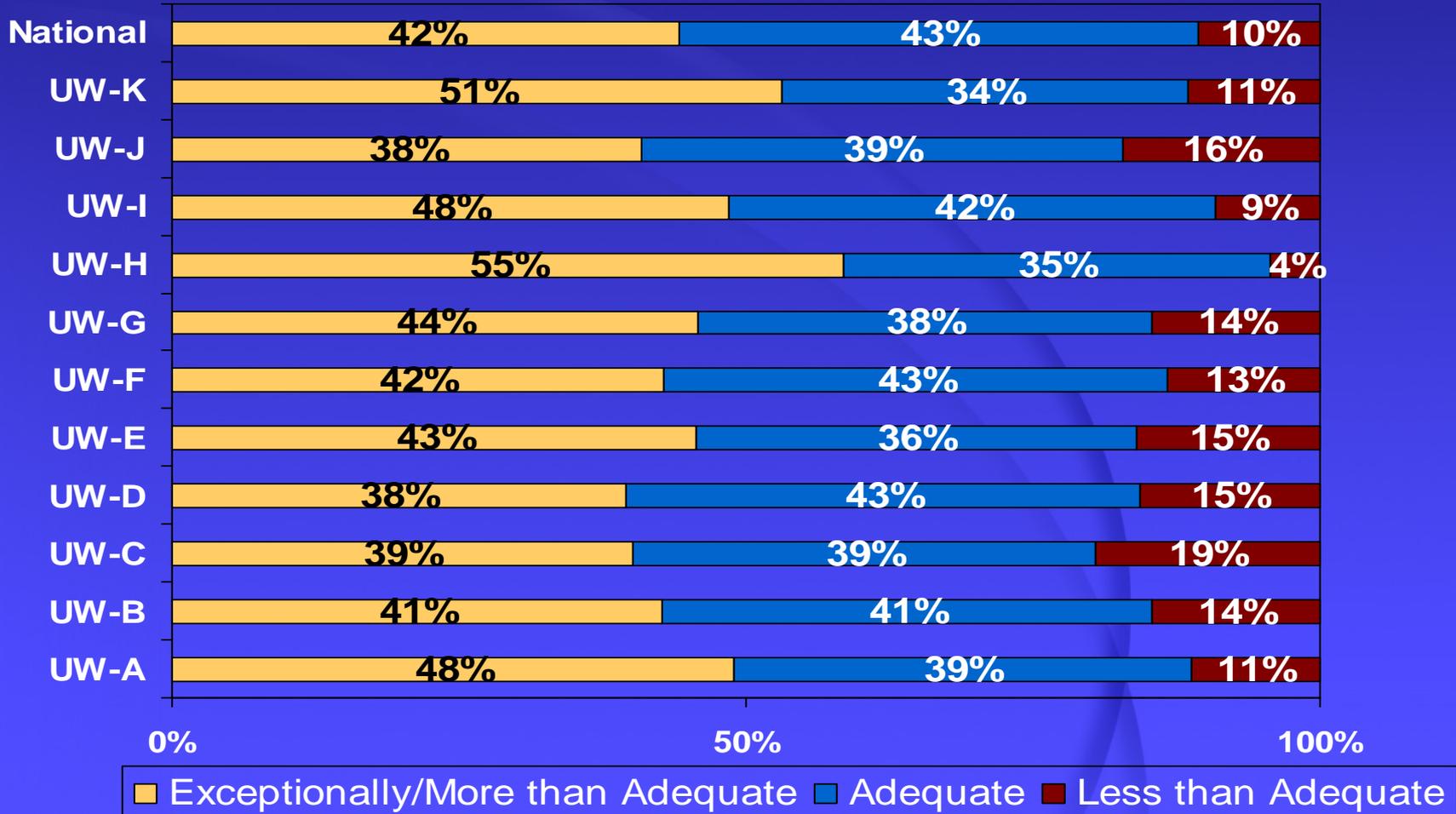
Are colleges prepared to meet challenges of the future?



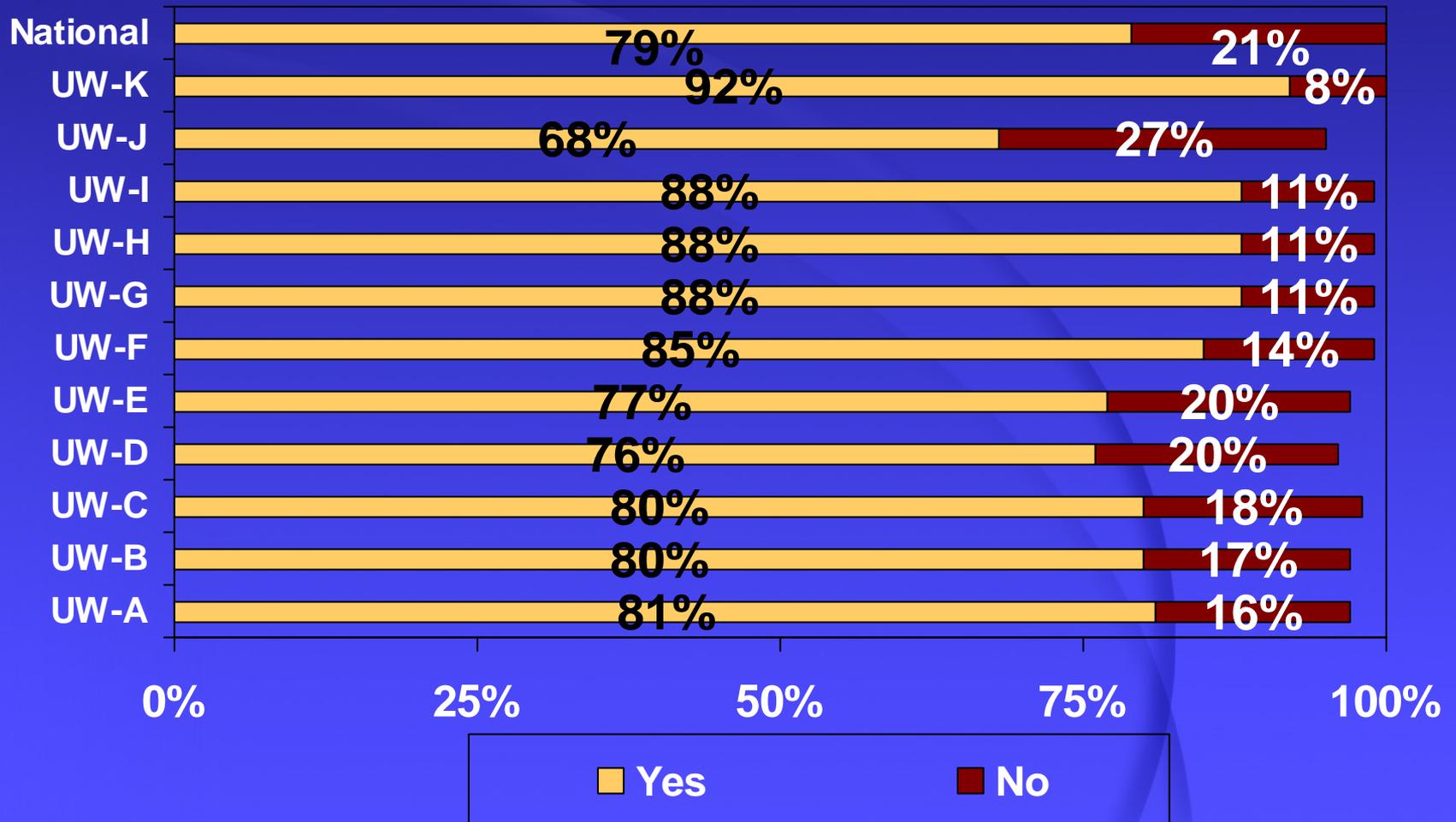
Are institutions preparing students for modern workforce?



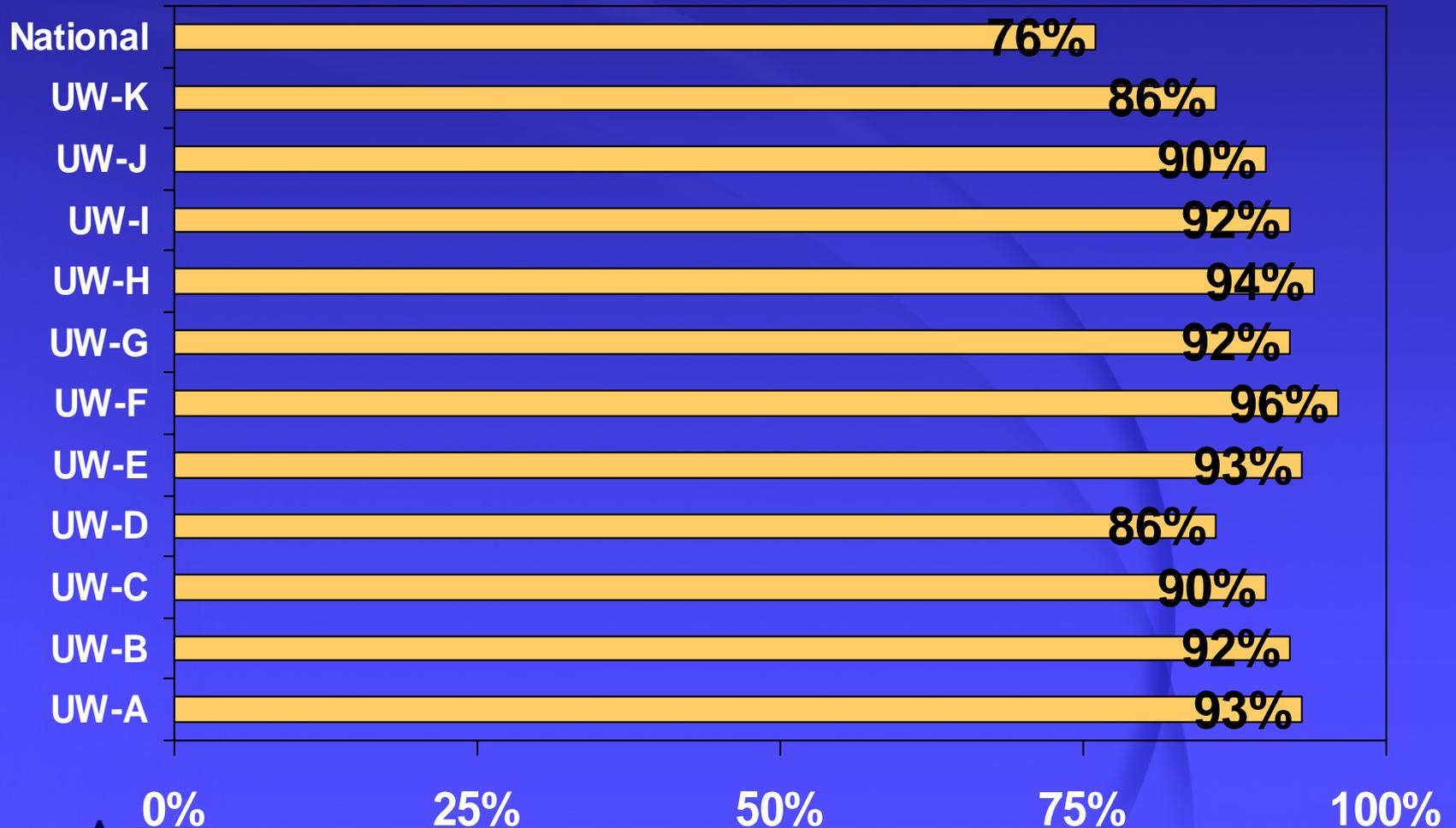
How well did your college experience prepare you for your current job?



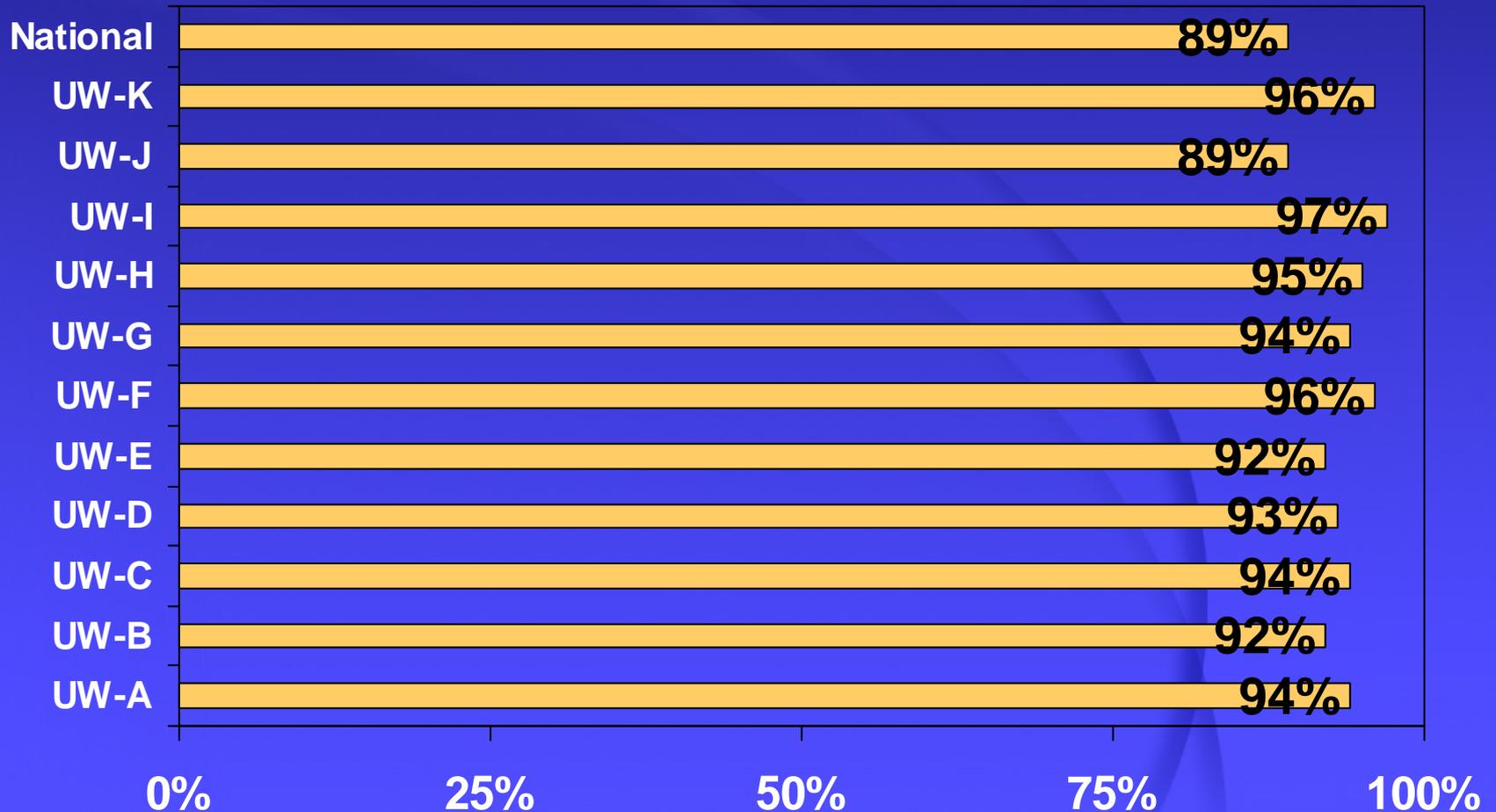
Would you attend the same school?



Did your college charge fair price?



Given time and money, was college education worth it?



Messages

- Exceptional level of alumni satisfaction
- Strong favorables
- Employment focus is critical
- Price/affordability vulnerability

