

Leading Through Disruption:

Higher Education Leaders Assess AI's Impacts on Teaching and Learning

November-December, 2024



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Generative AI and higher education survey

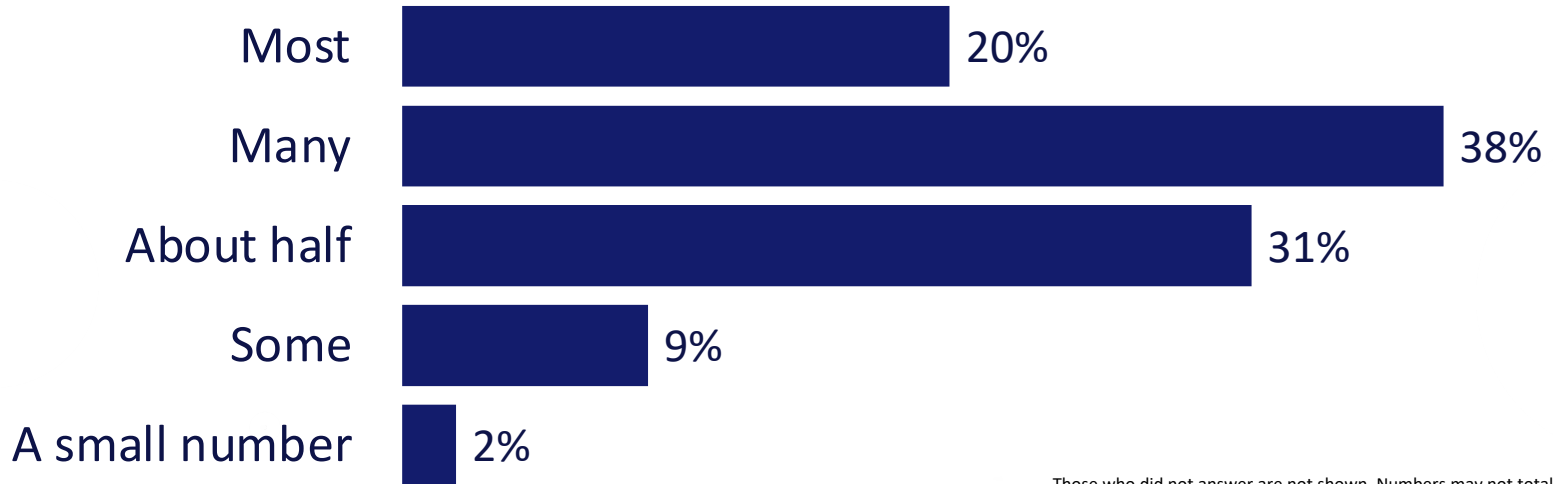
- Survey: Nov. 4 – Dec. 7, 2024
- Presidents, Chancellors, Provosts, VPs for Academic Affairs, Deans
- Combination of AAC&U and Elon mailing lists
- 337 academic leaders responded to the survey

The current state of AI on college campuses

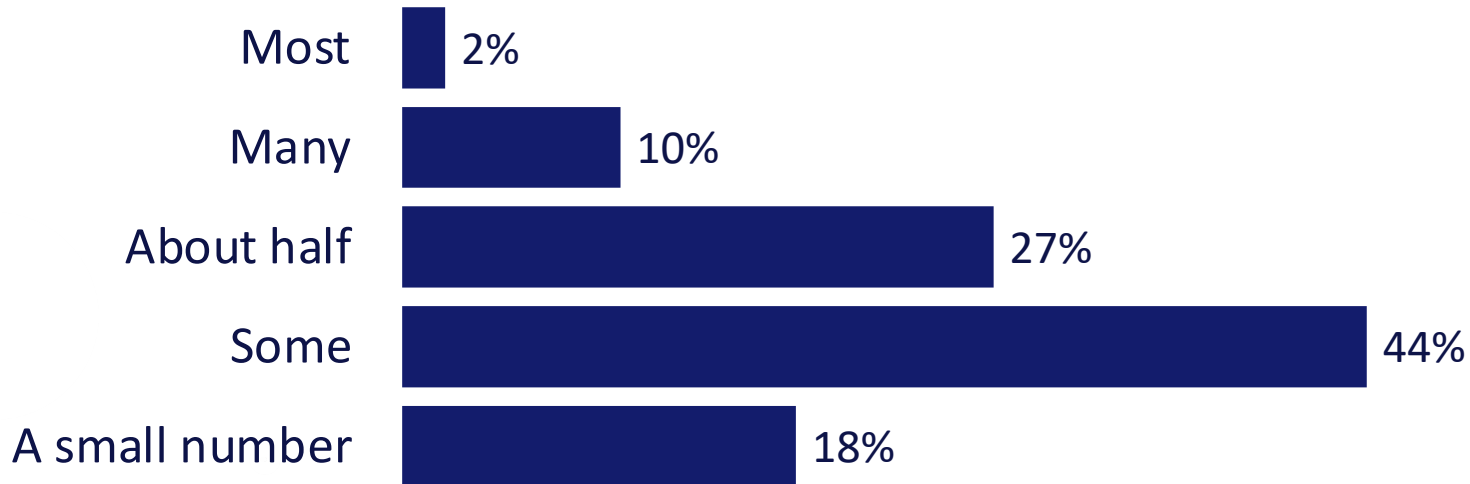


- High student adoption, lower faculty use
- Cheating has increased and detection strategies are not deemed effective
- General feeling of unpreparedness
- Many challenges and some resistance to GenAI adoption
- Many schools are creating policies and guidelines; some are increasing spending

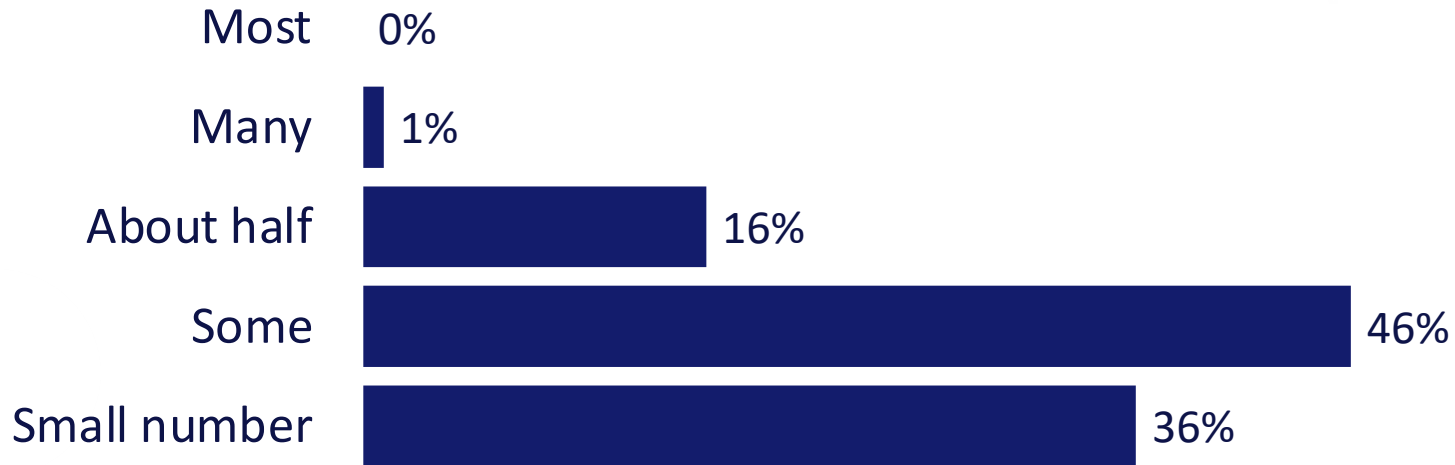
Based on what you know about your institution, what percentage of **undergraduates** do you think choose to use Generative AI tools as they are doing their coursework?



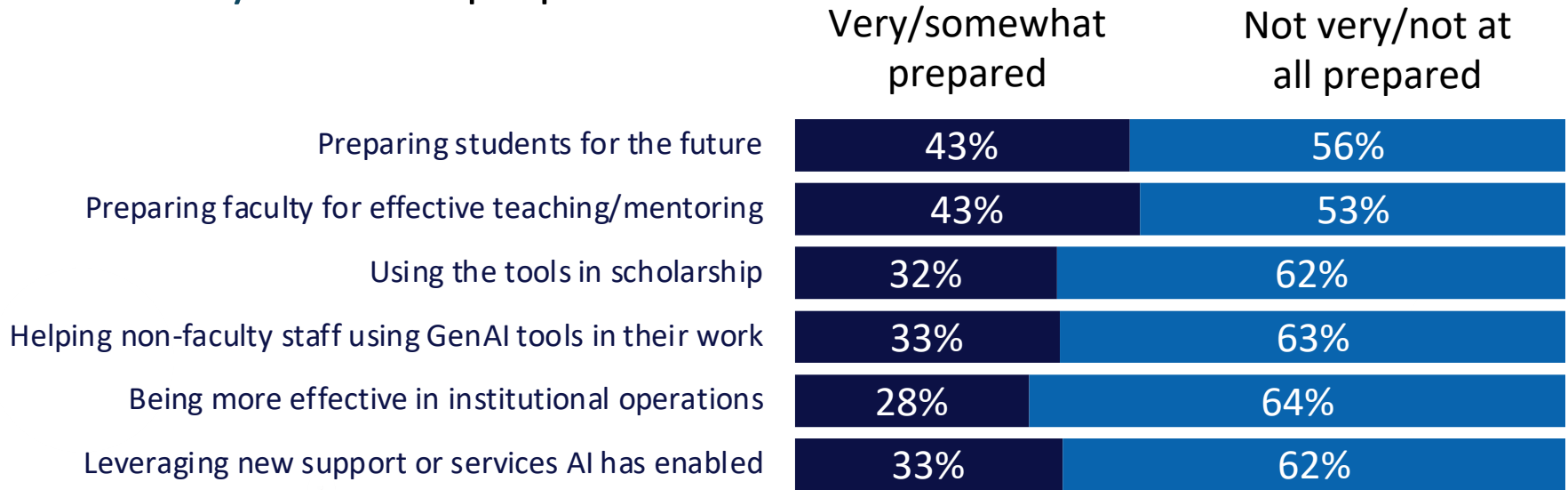
Based on what you know about your institution, what percentage of **faculty members** do you think use Generative AI tools as part of their jobs?



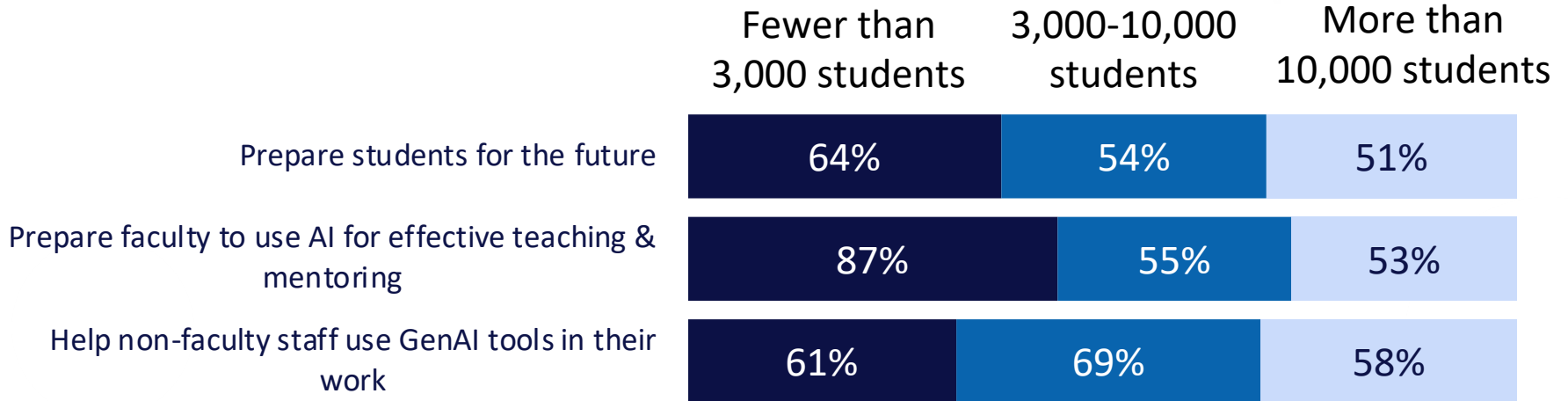
Overall, what proportion of faculty members at your institution are well-prepared to use Generative AI tools in their teaching?



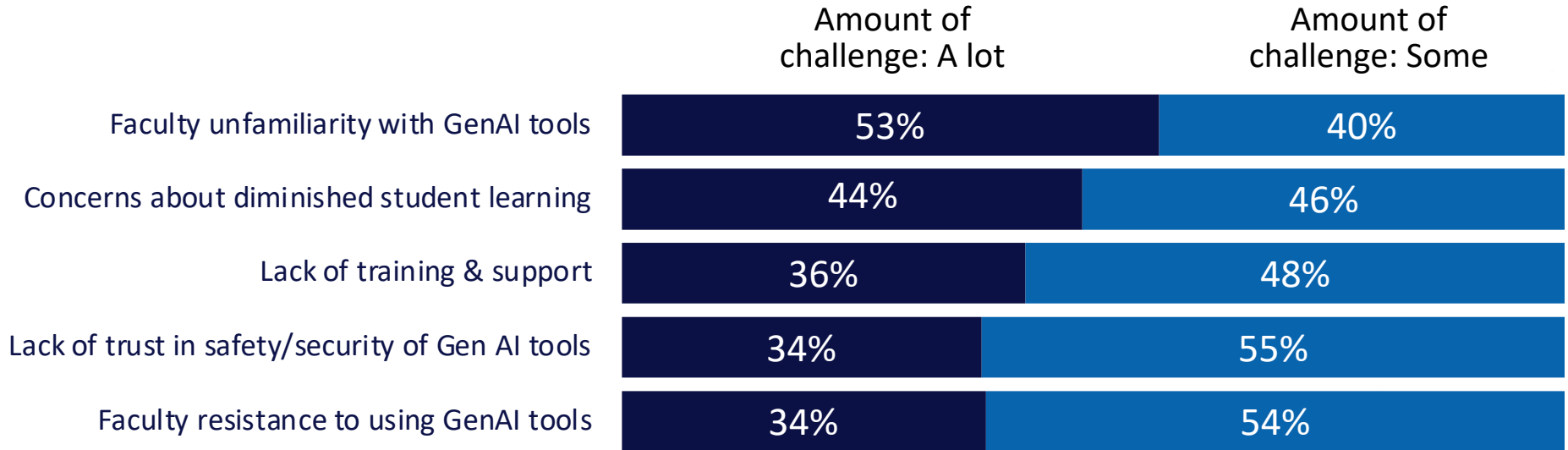
How prepared do you feel your institution is to use Generative AI tools effectively for these purposes?



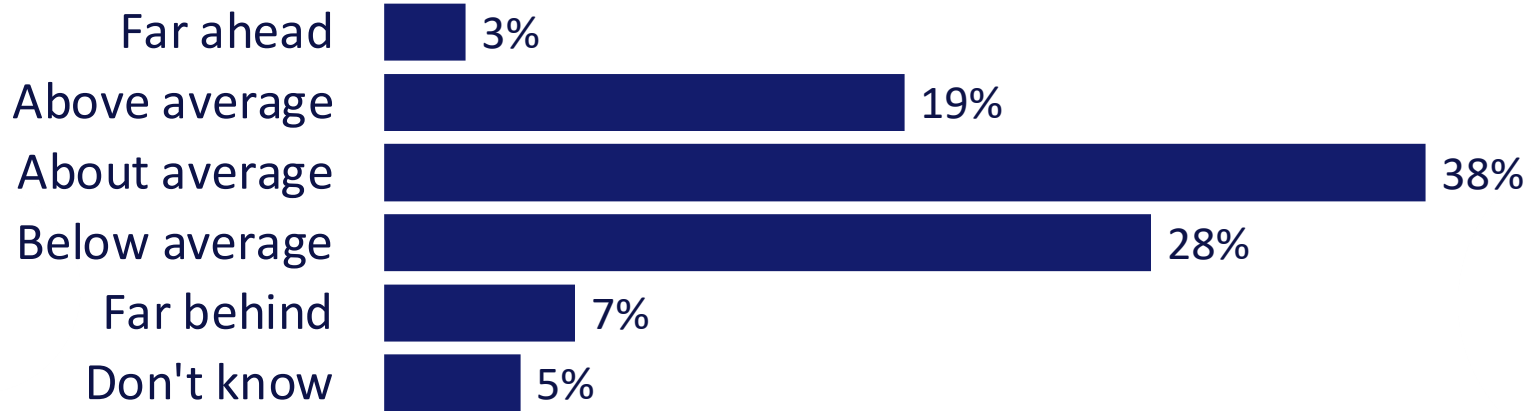
Comparing institutions: Percent of schools **not very/not at all** prepared to use GenAI effectively to...



Top five challenges to adopting Generative AI tools in existing courses



Compared with other U.S. colleges and universities, where do you think your institution stands when it comes to using Generative AI tools in teaching, learning and other campus activities?





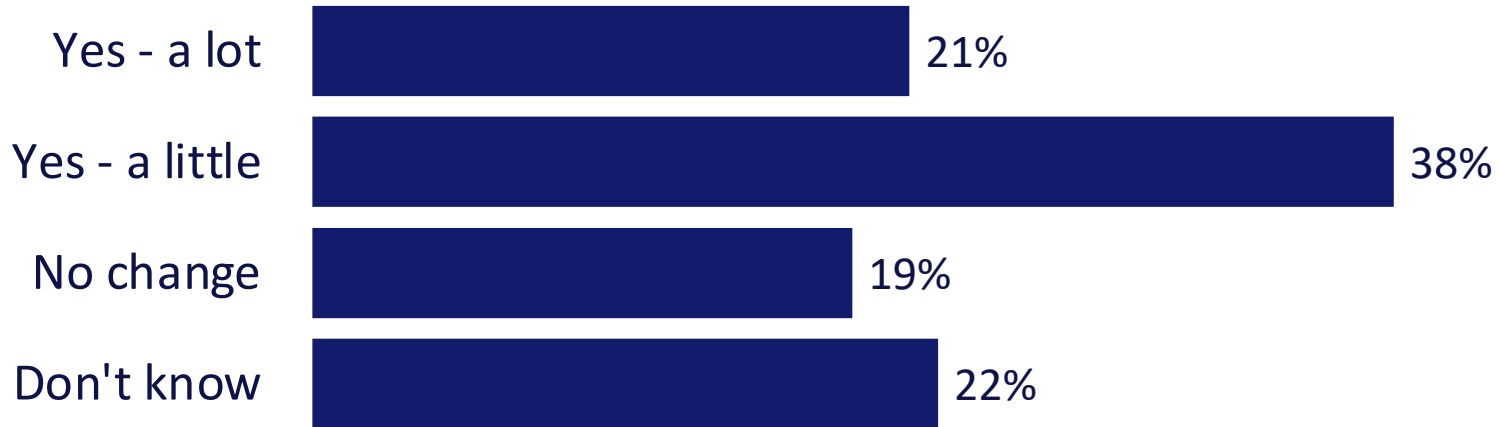
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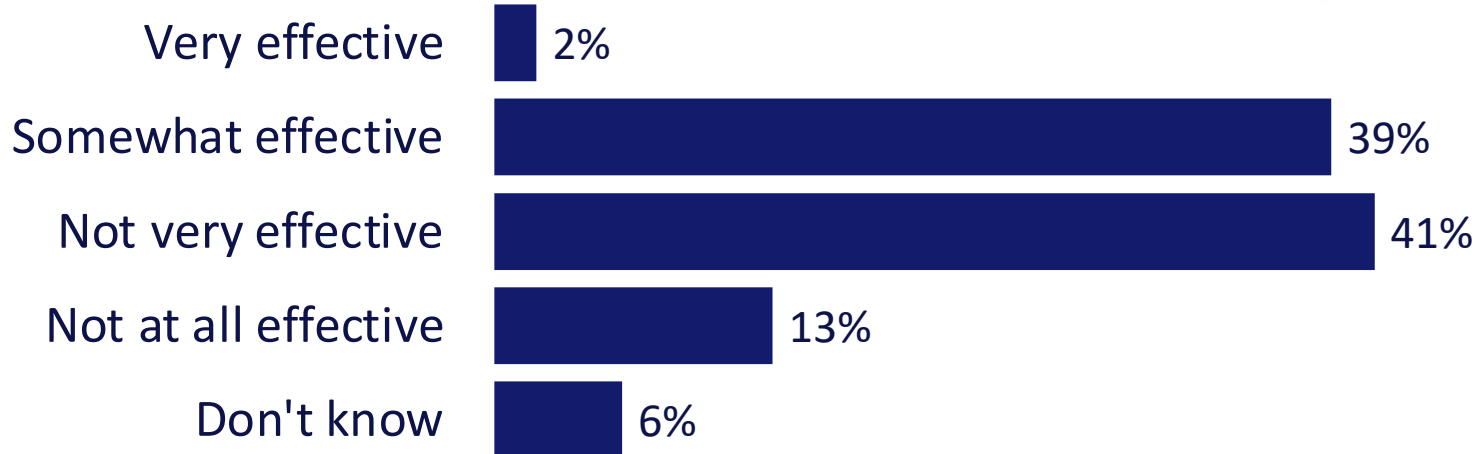
Generative AI and higher education survey

Has cheating increased on your campus since Generative AI tools have become widely available?



Those who did not answer are not shown. Numbers may not total 100% due to rounding.
Source: Survey by AAC&U and Elon University, Nov. 4-Dec. 7, 2024

How effective do you think your faculty members generally are in recognizing Generative AI tools-created content?



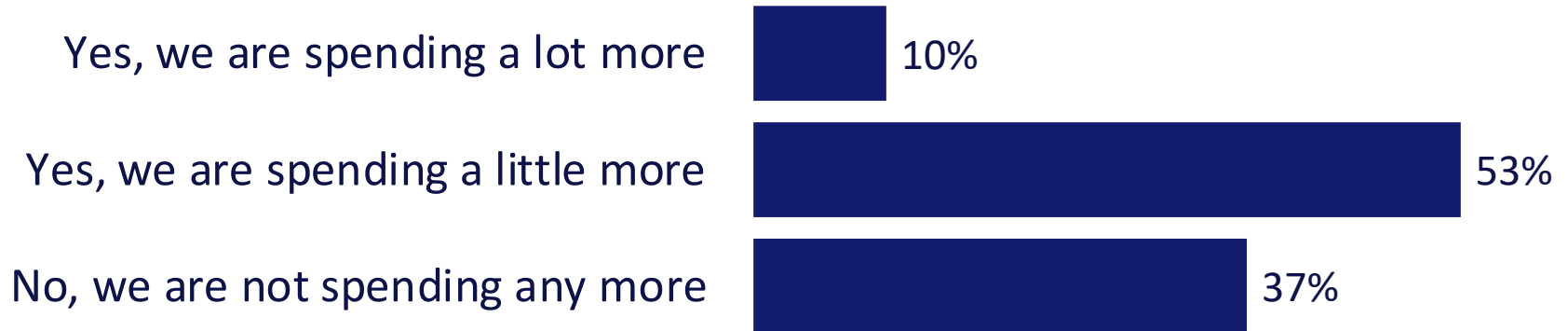
Have you done any of the following at your institution in response to the rise of generative AI tools?

	Yes	No
Written specific guidelines and policies about appropriate and inappropriate use of Generative AI tools in learning and teaching	69%	30%
Empaneled a task force or other group to oversee and manage the implementation of Generative AI across campus	63%	35%
Created specific new classes focused on AI	44%	49%
Created a discipline major or minor in AI	19%	76%
Adopted AI literacy as an institutional or general education learning outcome	14%	81%

Schools that have taken these steps:

	< 3,000 students	3,000-10,000 students	>10,000 students
Written specific guidelines and policies about appropriate and inappropriate use of Generative AI tools in learning and teaching	80%	69%	64%
Empaneled a task force or other group to oversee and manage the implementation of Generative AI across campus	58%	64%	71%
Created specific new classes focused on AI	38%	49%	51%
Created a discipline major or minor in AI	15%	20%	22%
Adopted AI literacy as an institutional or general education learning outcome	11%	15%	20%

In the current academic year, are you spending funds at your institution on personnel, hardware and software to integrate Generative AI tools into your institution?



83% of these leaders say they use Generative AI tools

- Some use daily, others are just exploring
- Most common uses:



Writing & Communications



Info Gathering & Summarization



Idea Generation/Brainstorming



Data analysis

Do you yourself use Generative AI tools?

“I use the tools to develop presentations, provide writing help, summarize PDFs and YouTube videos, and to help analyze data.”

“Often I'll write emails, letters of recommendation, executive summaries, etc., and then port it over to AI and ask it to tighten things up.”

“I use ChatGPT to stress almost any question that comes up in my work as a ‘colleague’ who gives me ideas (not cut and paste).”

“I do not use them willingly. Sometimes they are foisted on me as part of a Google search.”



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Do you yourself use Generative AI tools?

“I actively turn Generative AI tools off and do not voluntarily use any of the available tools on the market. I do not find them time-saving or efficiency-building; I find them alienating and annoying, and I worry they will lead to lack of connection between me and my work, and me and those I work for and with.”

“I use it for travel information when I visit other countries. I use it to translate foreign text to English, to summarize long documents, to draft job descriptions, contracts, and other documents.”

“I use Generative AI tools (such as Claude) almost every day. In fact, I'm worried I'm using it too much instead of taking the time to read everything.”

Expectations for changes ahead

- Enhanced, customized learning
- Improved student research skills
- Better student writing
- Increased creativity

But...

- Erosion of academic integrity
- Student dependence on GenAI
- Greater digital inequalities
- Decreased attention spans



Expectations for changes ahead

Also...

- Changes in teaching models
- Courses focused on ethical issues raised by GenAI
- Better assignments, teaching, learning and research
- Mostly minor reductions in faculty and staff employment

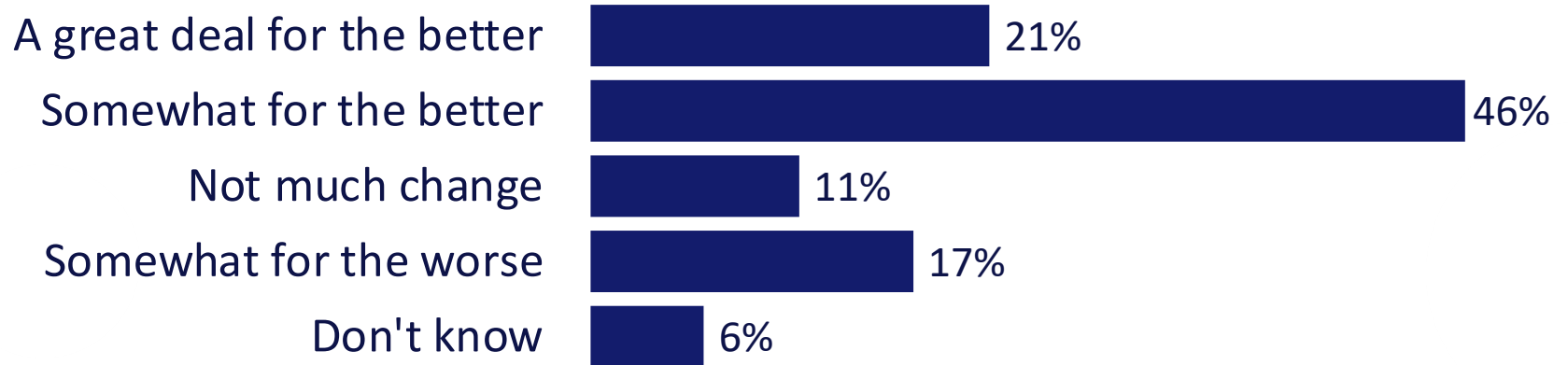


In the next five years, how much do you think Generative AI tools will affect the typical teaching model at your institution?

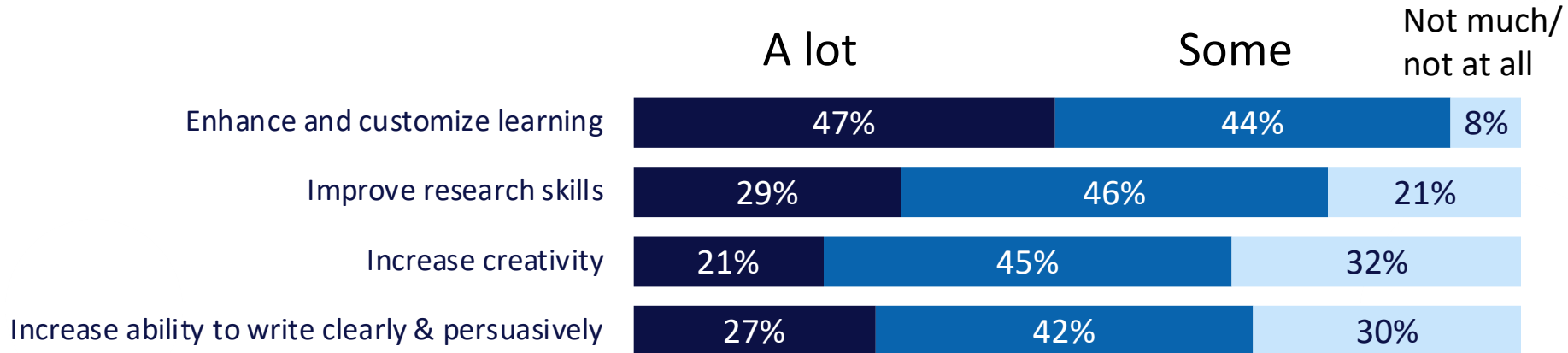


Note: Leaders of larger schools (>10,000 students) were far more likely to predict significant change than leaders of small or medium-sized schools.

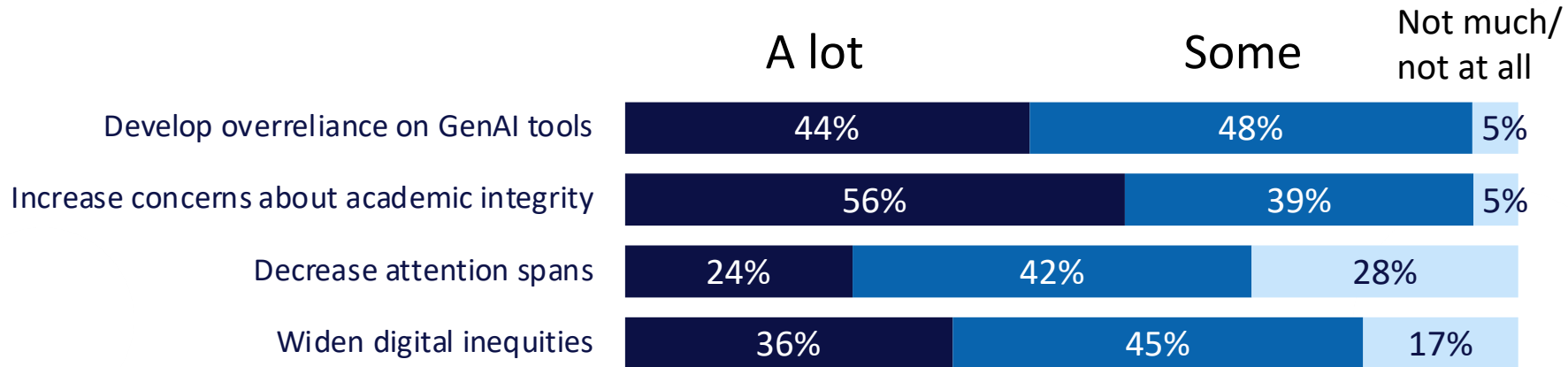
Considering the positives and negatives of Generative AI tools, in the next five years, how much do you think the use of these tools is most likely to impact student learning outcomes at your institution?



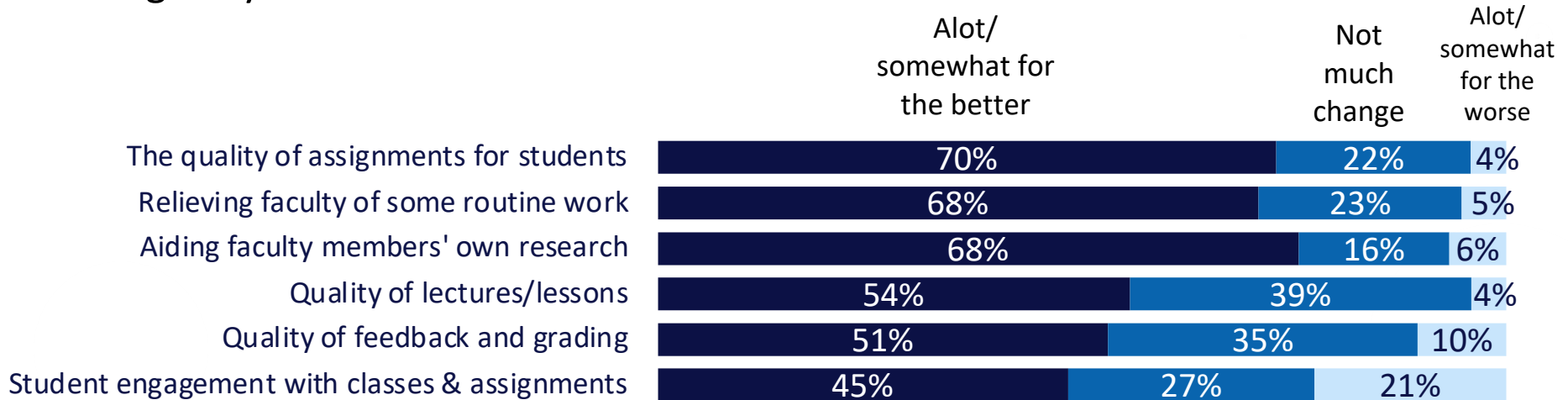
To what extent do you believe Generative AI tools may impact students in the future when it comes to these aspects of their academic lives?



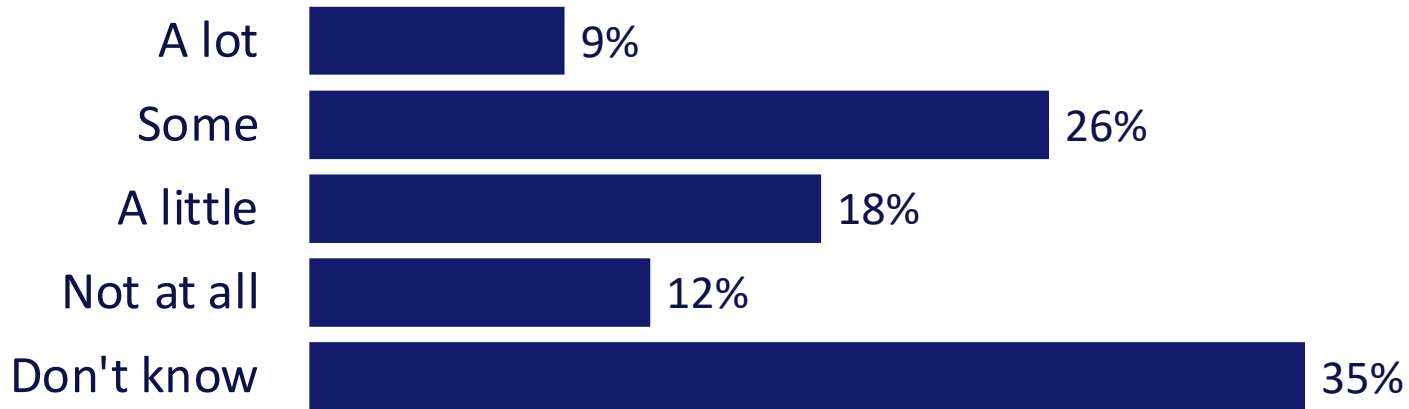
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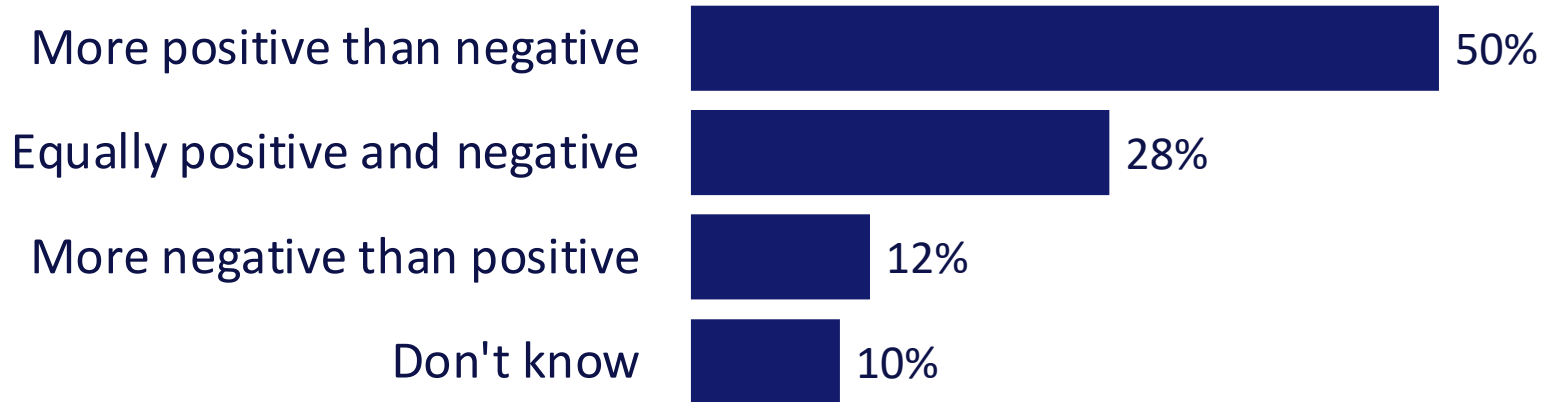
How much, if at all, do you think the use of Generative AI tools will change these things at your institution?



In the next five years, how much will you offer self-paced and personalized instruction built around GenAI tools?

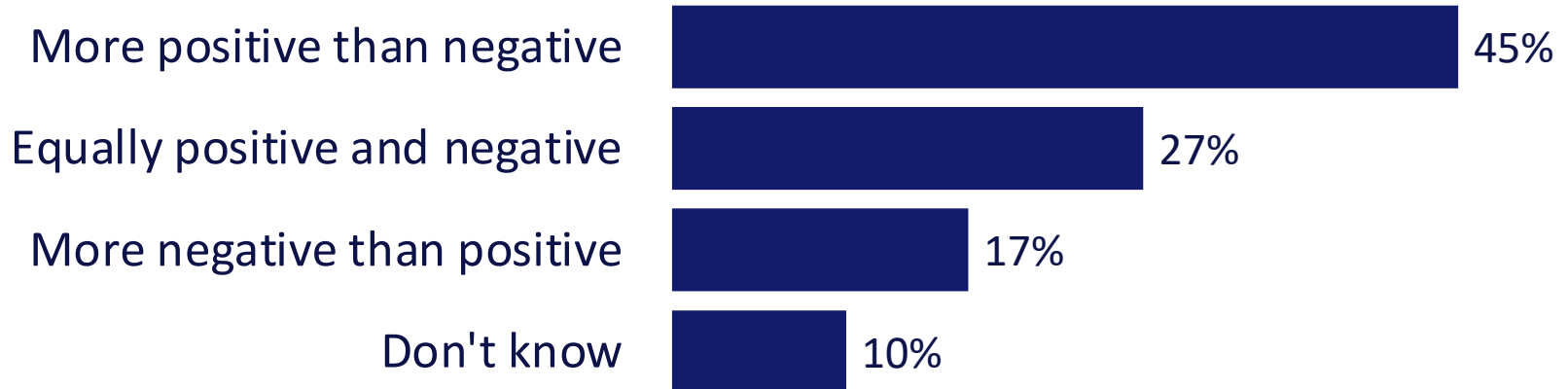


Overall, how do you think the increased use of Generative AI tools in the next five years is most likely to affect the overall lives of students at your institution? The impact of generative AI tools will be ...





Overall, how do you think the increased use of Generative AI tools in the broader society is most likely to affect **the future of your institution** over the next five years? The impact of generative AI tools will be:





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What impact do you expect GenAI tools will have in affecting the role of colleges and universities in society over the next five years?



Those who did not answer are not shown. Numbers may not total 100% due to rounding.
Source: Survey by AAC&U and Elon University, Nov. 4-Dec. 7, 2024

In the next five years, how much impact will the use of GenAI tools have on **the number of...**

	Faculty/teaching assistants	Staff
No change	65%	49%
Minor reduction	10%	26%
Major reduction	1%	3%
Minor or major increase	5%	2%
Not sure	19%	20%



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METHODOLOGY

Survey methodology and topline information is available on the Imagining the Digital Future website:
imagingthedigitalfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/AI-and-Higher-Ed-Survey-Topline-1_23_25.pdf

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