



**Submitted between October 1, 2008 – February 28, 2009**

## **STATE SCHOLARS INITIATIVE**

### **Perception Survey Results - Louisiana**

---

SSI is administered by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), based in Boulder, CO, and funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 at \$6.6 million. The work reported herein was supported under State Scholars Initiative, PR/Award Number (V051U050006) as administered by the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the Office of Vocational and Adult Education or the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

## SSI Perception Survey – State Aggregate Report

In this report you will find data on perception survey responses for Louisiana State Scholars Initiative events returned between October 1, 2008 and February 28, 2009. There are two types of perception survey summaries provided: state aggregate summaries (which include adult stakeholder responses); and student perception summaries for each individual event for which surveys were returned. State aggregate summaries were necessary to ensure that there were adequate numbers of adult stakeholder respondents to provide anonymity to those who completed and returned the survey. The number of student surveys returned was large enough that each individual event has a summary file that can be returned to the school or school district that hosted the event.

Examples of some of the data findings you will see include:

- Eighty-six percent of Louisiana students said that they would tell a friend about State Scholars.
- Seventy-nine percent of the 71 Louisiana parents said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception of the importance of rigorous courses in high school to their child's ability to get a well-paying job after high school.
- Ninety-four percent (15 of 16) of the Louisiana business people surveyed believed that students should start taking rigorous courses in 9th grade.

### State Aggregate Summary of Perception Surveys

The data charts presented in the state aggregate survey summary are broken down by sections that represent different stakeholders, including:

- Students
- Parents
- Teachers
- Business people

Data presented in the charts represent totals for all perception surveys submitted between October 2008 and February 2009 by these stakeholders in Louisiana.

Each section in the summary contains one chart for each question asked on the corresponding stakeholder perception survey. The layout for each question includes a sentence highlighting the key finding, a chart with corresponding percentages, and a frequency table with absolute number of people responding by answer category.

### Individual Event Summary of Student Perception Surveys

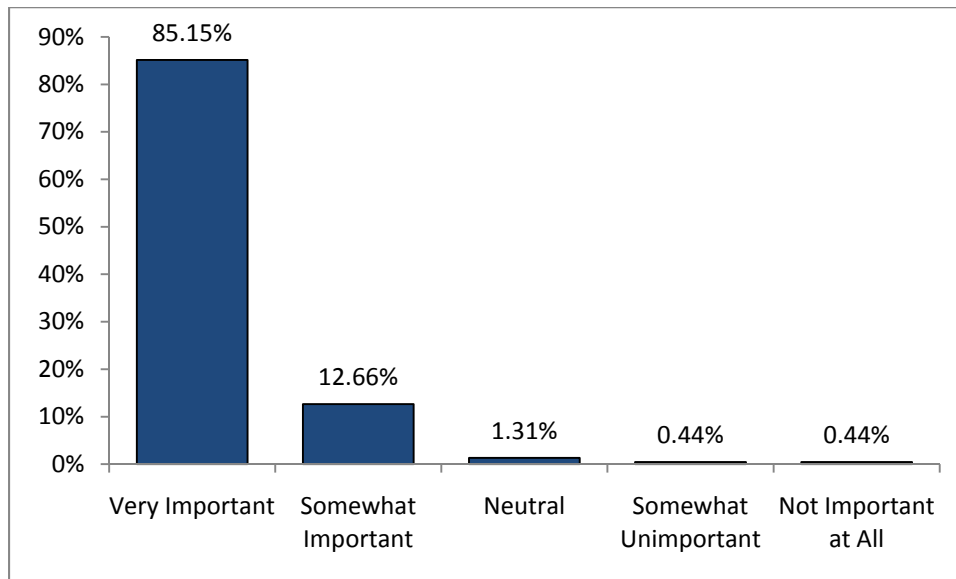
There is a total of seven charts in each individual event summary of student perception surveys. The file name contains the location and date of the corresponding State Scholars Initiative event. You can distribute these individual event summaries to the appropriate schools or school districts. Each chart corresponds to a single question on the State Scholars Initiative student perception survey. The layout for each question is similar to the format used for the state aggregate summaries.



**Question 1 - How important do you think taking rigorous courses in high school is to getting a well-paying job after high school? (Please mark one answer.)**

**Key Point**

Eighty-five percent of Louisiana students (195 of 229 students) believed that taking rigorous courses in high school is very important to getting a well-paying job after high school.



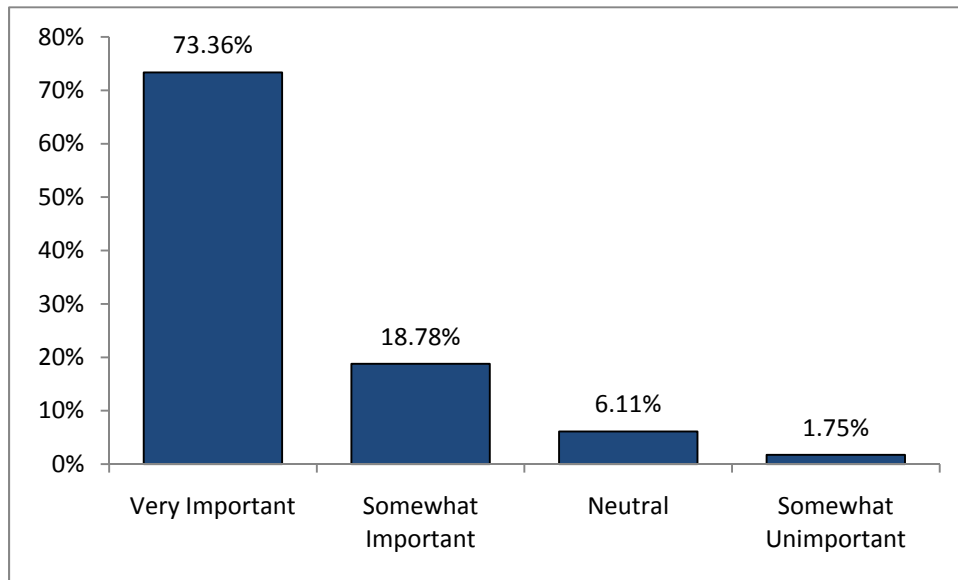
**Frequency Table**

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Very Important</b>	195	85.15	195	85.15
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	29	12.66	224	97.82
<b>Neutral</b>	3	1.31	227	99.13
<b>Somewhat Unimportant</b>	1	.44	228	99.56
<b>Not Important At All</b>	1	.44	229	100.00

## Question 2: How important do you think taking rigorous courses in high school is to going to a community college, technical institute, or university after high school?

### Key Point

Seventy-three percent of Louisiana students (168 of 229 students) believed that taking rigorous courses in high school is very important to attending a community college, technical institute, or university after high school.



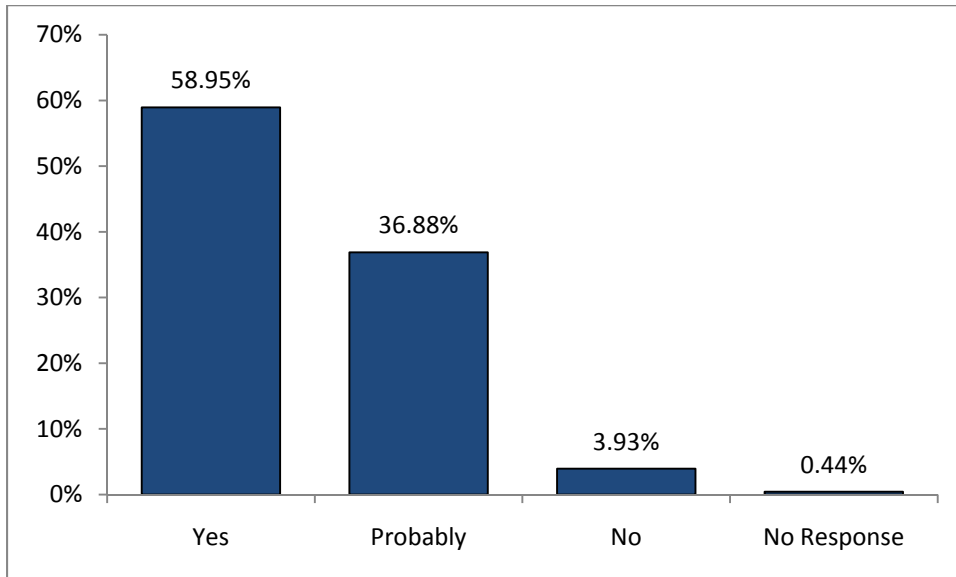
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Very Important</b>	168	73.36	168	73.36
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	43	18.78	211	92.14
<b>Neutral</b>	14	6.11	225	98.25
<b>Somewhat Unimportant</b>	4	1.75	229	100.00

**Question 3: At this point in time, are you planning on taking rigorous courses in high school? (Please mark one answer.)**

**Key Point**

Fifty-nine percent of Louisiana students (135 of 229 students) were planning on taking rigorous courses in high school at the time the survey was administered.



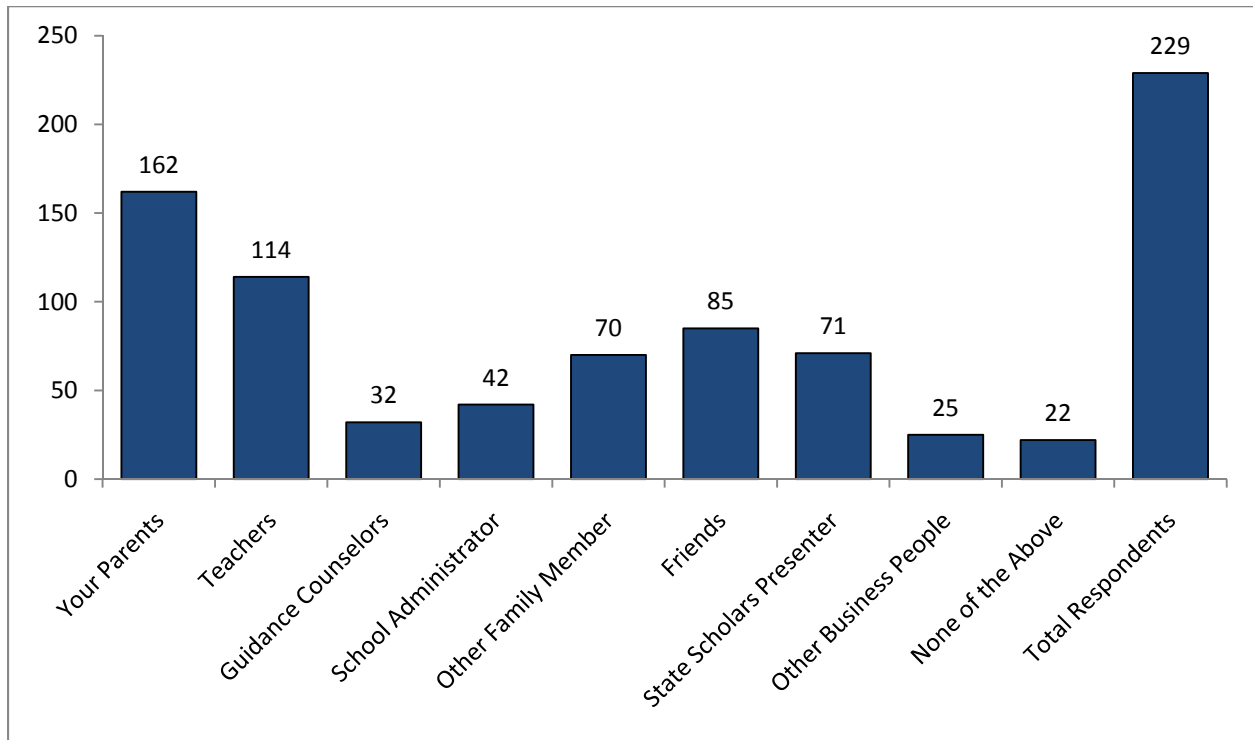
**Frequency Table**

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Yes</b>	135	58.95	135	58.95
<b>Probably</b>	84	36.68	219	95.63
<b>No</b>	9	3.93	228	99.56
<b>No Response</b>	1	.44	229	100.00

### Question 4: Who has encouraged you to take rigorous courses in high school? (Mark all that apply.)

**Key Point**

When asked who had encouraged them to take rigorous courses in high school, the highest two percentage responses were: 71% (162 of 229 students) said their parents, and 50% (114 of 229 students) said their teachers. About 10% (22 of 229 students) responded that none of the groups listed had encouraged them to take rigorous courses in high school.



**Note**

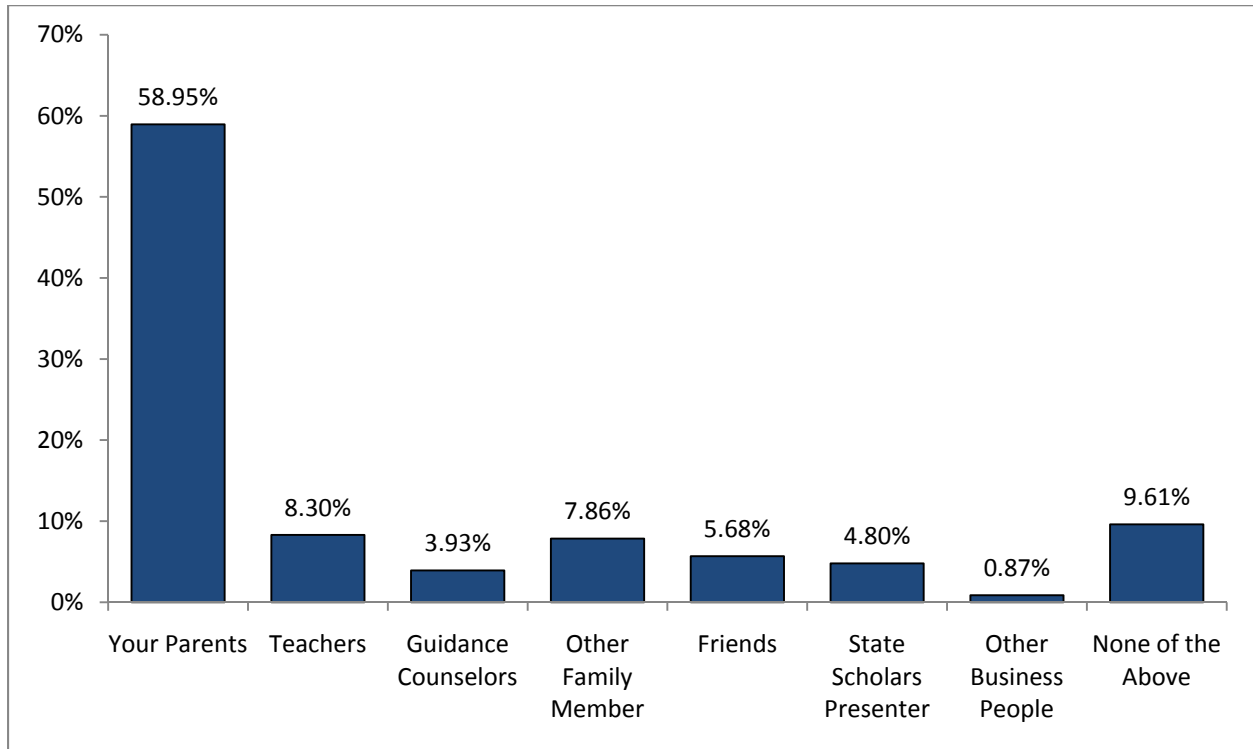
Due to the nature of the question, responses, and the statistical software package used to analyze these data, there is no frequency table for question four of the student survey.



### Question 5 - Who has been the SINGLE biggest influence on which courses you take in high school? (Please mark one answer.)

**Key Point**

When asked which group had been the single biggest influence on which courses they took in high school, 59% of Louisiana students chose their parents. About 10% of students responded that none of the groups listed were the biggest influence on their course taking.



**Frequency Table**

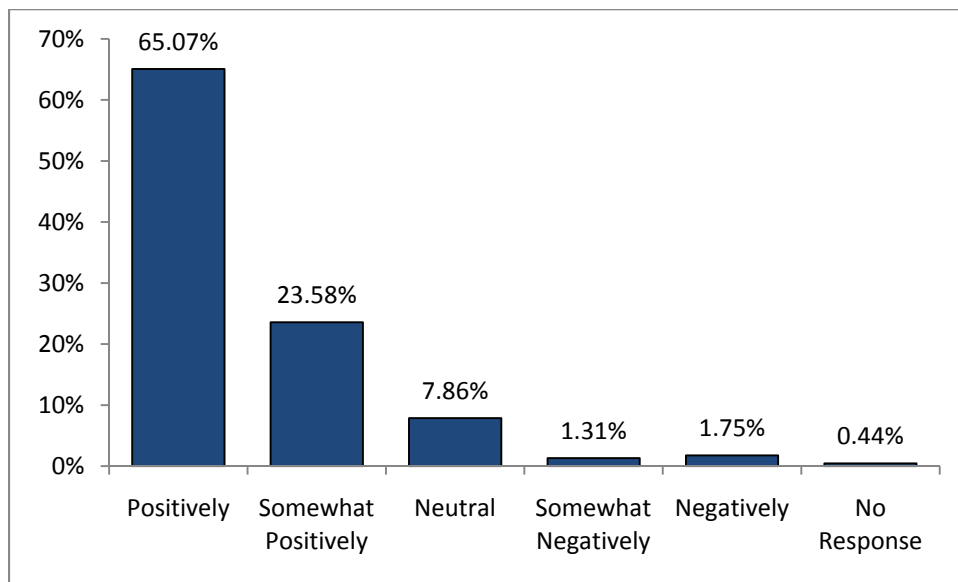
	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Your Parents</b>	135	58.95	135	58.95
<b>Teachers</b>	19	8.30	154	67.25
<b>Guidance Counselors</b>	9	3.93	163	71.18
<b>Other Family Member</b>	18	7.86	181	79.04
<b>Friends</b>	13	5.68	194	84.72
<b>State Scholars Presenter</b>	11	4.80	205	89.52
<b>Other Business People</b>	2	.87	207	90.39
<b>None of the Above</b>	22	9.61	229	100.00



## Question 6 - How has this State Scholars presentation influenced your decision to take rigorous courses in high school? (Please mark one answer.)

### Key Point

Sixty-five percent of Louisiana students (149 of 229 students) replied that the State Scholars presentation had positively influenced their decision to take rigorous courses in high school; another 24% (54 students) said that the State Scholars presentation somewhat positively influenced their decision to take rigorous courses in high school.



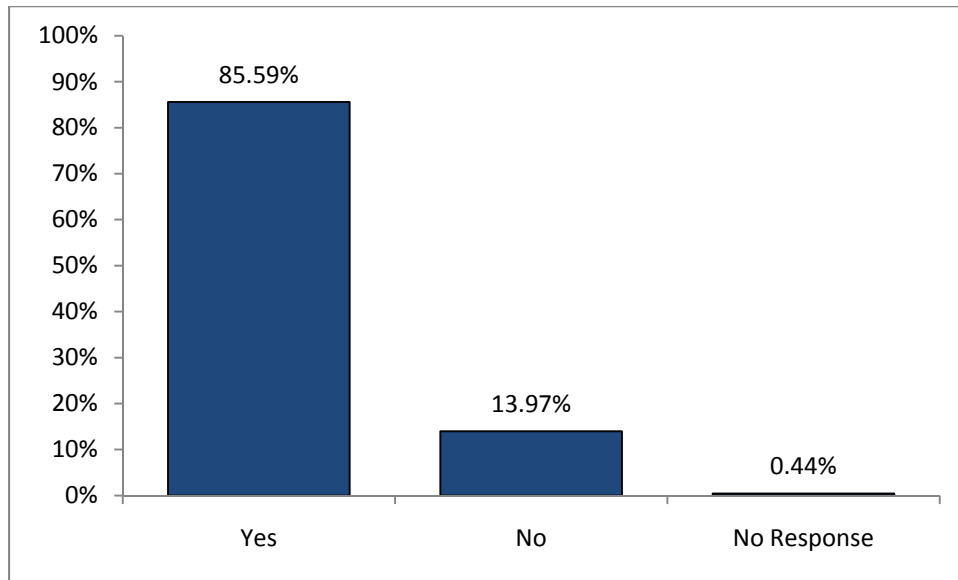
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	149	65.07	149	65.07
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	54	23.58	203	88.65
<b>Neutral</b>	18	7.86	221	96.51
<b>Somewhat Negatively</b>	3	1.31	224	97.82
<b>Negatively</b>	4	1.75	228	99.56
<b>No Response</b>	1	.44	229	100.00

### Question 7 - Would you tell a friend about State Scholars? (Please mark one answer.)

**Key Point**

Eighty-six percent of Louisiana students said that they would tell a friend about State Scholars.



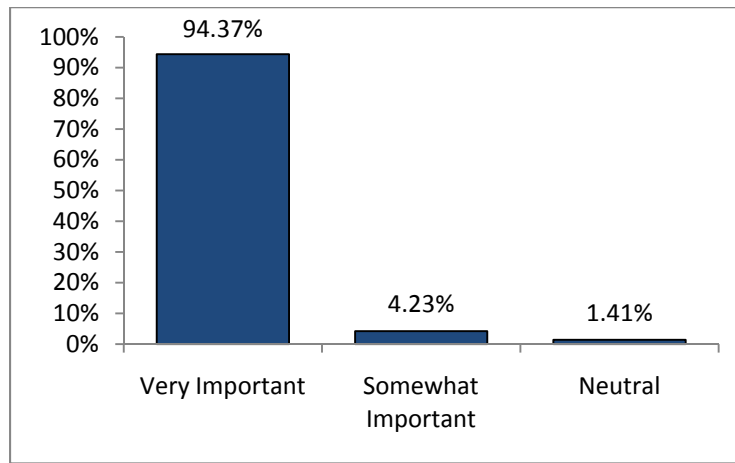
**Frequency Table**

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Yes</b>	196	85.59	196	85.59
<b>No</b>	32	13.97	228	99.56
<b>No Response</b>	1	.44	229	100.00

## Question 1 - How important do you think taking rigorous courses in high school is to your child's ability to get a well-paying job after high school?

### Key Point

Ninety-four percent of Louisiana parents (67 of 71) believed that taking rigorous courses in high school is very important to their child's ability to get a well-paying job after high school.



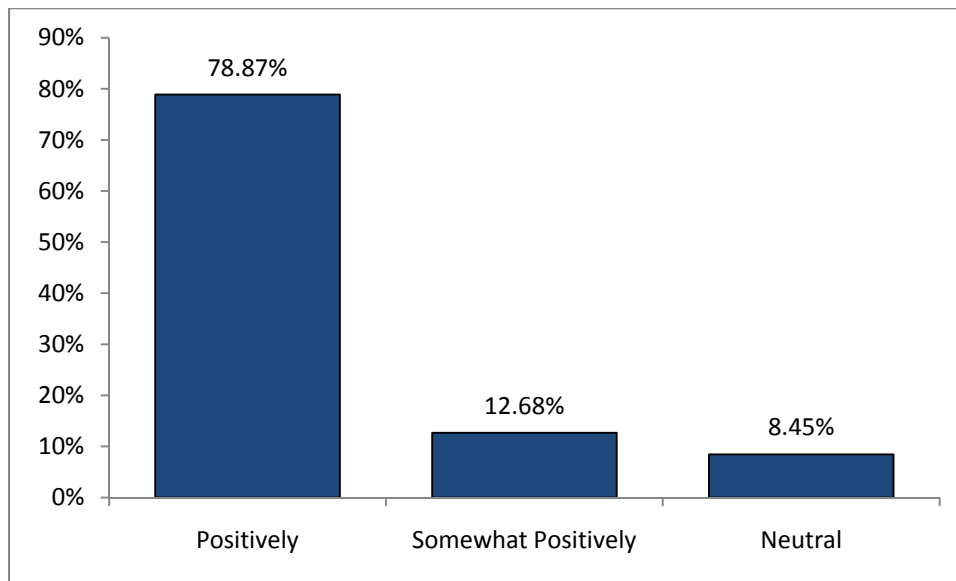
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Very Important</b>	67	94.37	67	94.37
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	3	4.23	70	98.59
<b>Neutral</b>	1	1.41	71	100.00

## Question 2 - How has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Seventy-nine percent of the 71 Louisiana parents said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception of the importance of rigorous courses in high school to their child’s ability to get a well-paying job after high school.



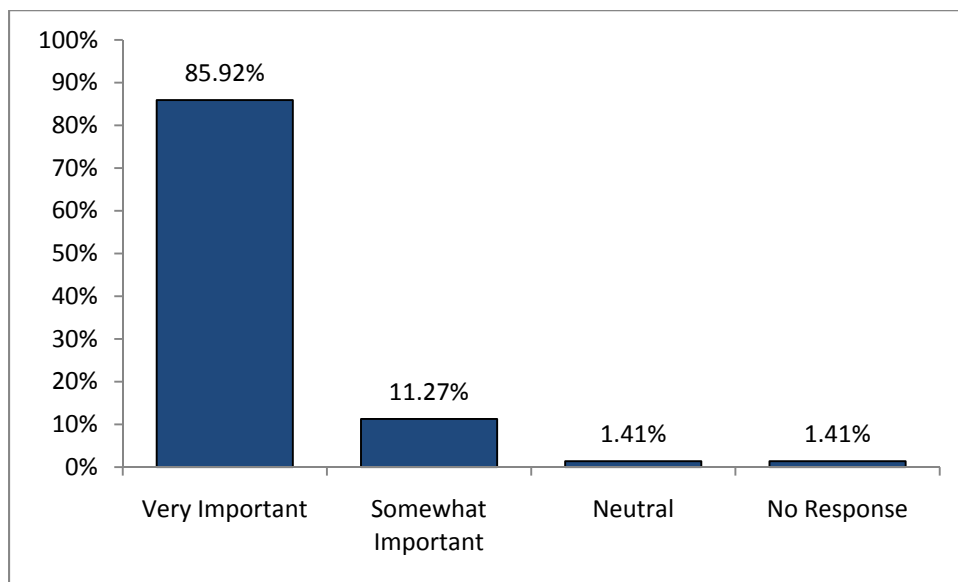
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	56	78.87	56	78.87
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	9	12.68	65	91.55
<b>Neutral</b>	6	8.45	71	100.00

### Question 3 - How important do you think taking rigorous courses in high school is to your child's ability to go to a community college, technical institute, or university after high school?

**Key Point**

Eighty-six percent of Louisiana parents surveyed believed that taking rigorous courses in high school is very important to their child’s ability to attend a community college, technical institute, or university after high school. An additional 11% believed taking rigorous courses in high school was somewhat important in this regard.



**Frequency Table**

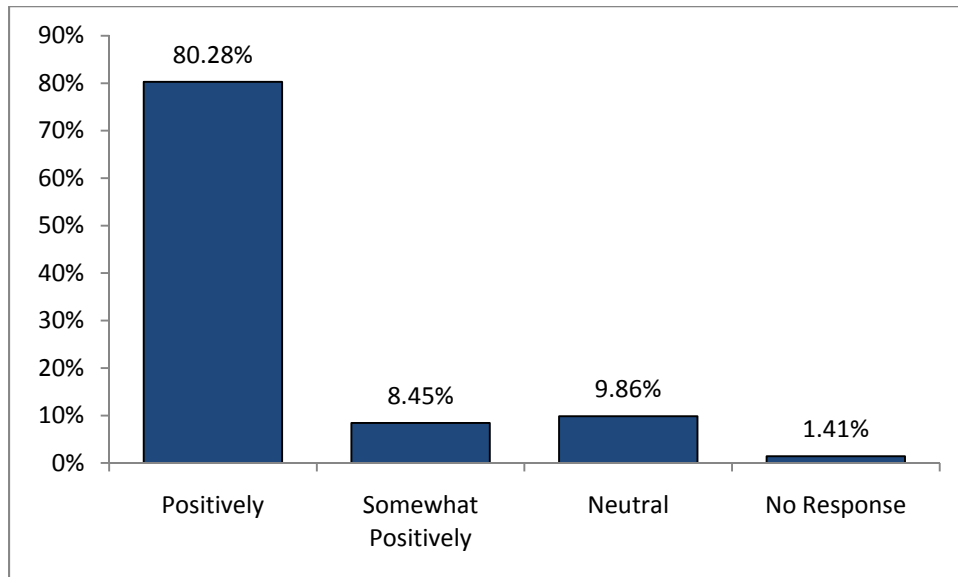
	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Very Important</b>	61	85.92	61	85.92
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	8	11.27	69	97.18
<b>Neutral</b>	1	1.41	70	98.59
<b>No Response</b>	1	1.41	71	100.00



## Question 4 - How has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Eighty percent of these 71 Louisiana parents said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception and another eight percent said that SSI had somewhat positively influenced their perception regarding the importance of rigorous courses in high school to their child’s ability to attend a community college, technical institute, or university after high school.



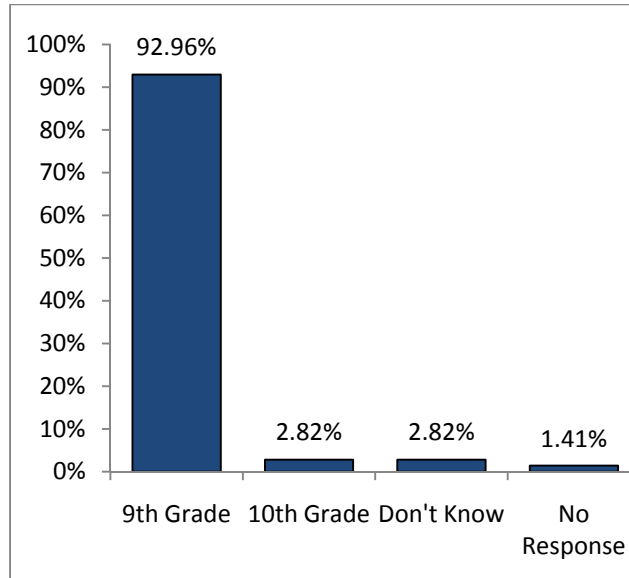
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	57	80.28	57	80.28
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	6	8.45	63	88.73
<b>Neutral</b>	7	9.86	70	98.59
<b>No Response</b>	1	1.41	71	100.00

## Question 5 - In what grade should students start taking rigorous courses?

### Key Point

Ninety-three percent of the Louisiana parents surveyed believe that their children should start taking rigorous courses in 9th grade.



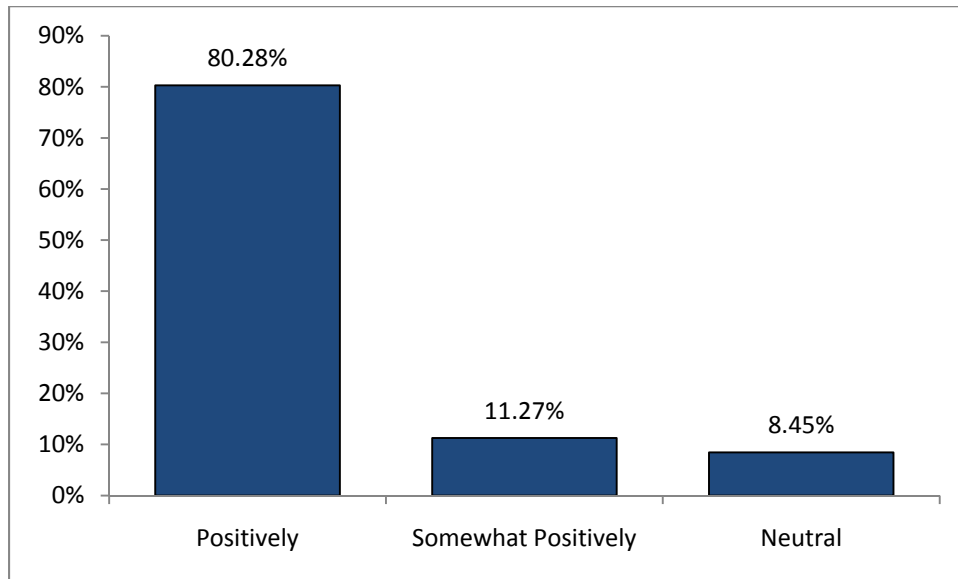
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	66	92.96	66	92.96
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	2	2.85	68	95.77
<b>Don't Know</b>	2	2.82	70	98.59
<b>No Response</b>	1	1.41	71	100.00

## Question 6 - To what extent has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Eighty percent of these Louisiana parents said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception and another 11% said that SSI had somewhat positively influenced their perception regarding when their children should start taking rigorous courses in high school.



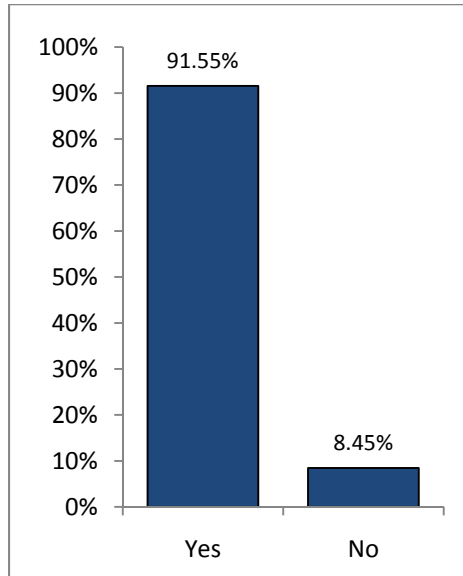
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	57	80.28	57	80.28
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	8	11.27	65	91.55
<b>Neutral</b>	6	8.45	71	100.00

## Question 7 - Have you actively encouraged your child to take rigorous courses in high school?

### Key Point

Ninety-two percent of these Louisiana parents responded that they have actively encouraged their children to take rigorous courses in high school.



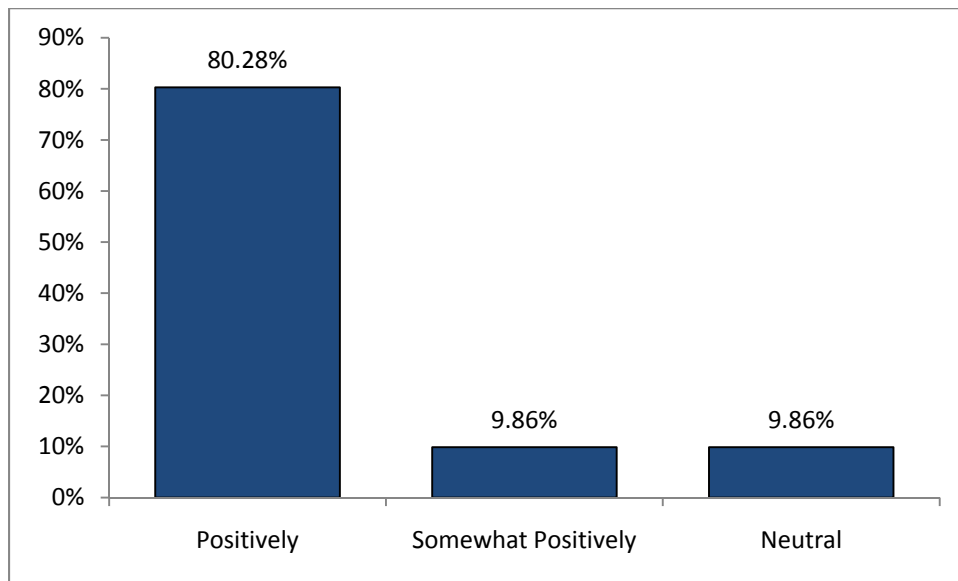
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Yes</b>	65	91.55	65	91.55
<b>No</b>	6	8.45	71	100.00

## Question 8 - To what extent has the State Scholars Initiative influenced your encouraging your child to take rigorous courses?

### Key Point

Eighty percent of these parents were positively influenced and an additional ten percent were somewhat positively influenced by State Scholars in how much they encourage their children to take rigorous courses in high school.



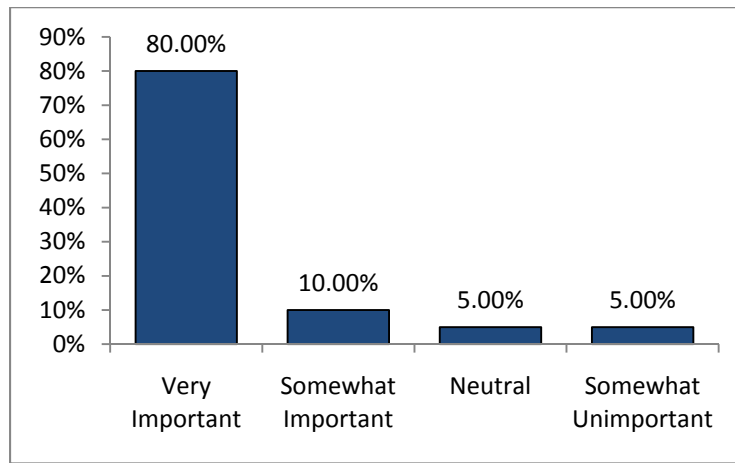
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	57	80.28	57	80.28
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	7	9.86	64	90.14
<b>Neutral</b>	7	9.86	71	100.00

## Question 1 - How important do you think taking rigorous courses in high school is to a student's ability to get a well-paying job after high school?

### Key Point

Eighty percent of Louisiana teachers (16 of 20) believe that taking rigorous courses in high school is very important to a student's ability to get a well-paying job after high school.



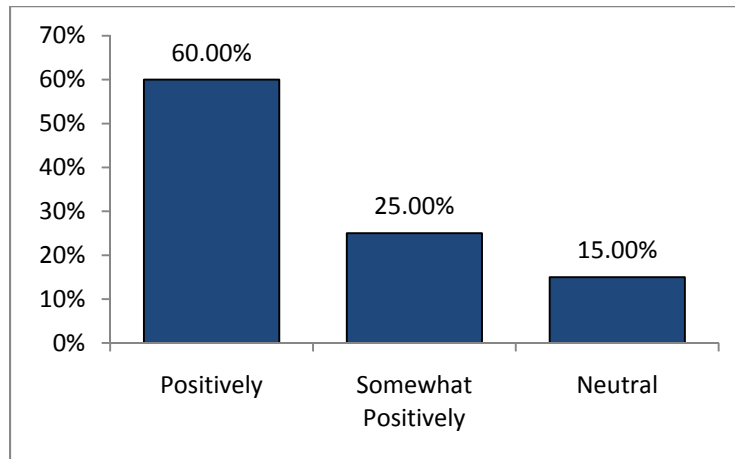
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Very Important</b>	16	80.00	16	80.00
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	2	10.00	18	90.00
<b>Neutral</b>	1	5.00	19	95.00
<b>Somewhat Unimportant</b>	1	5.00	20	100.00

## Question 2 - How has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Sixty percent of the Louisiana teachers surveyed said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception of the importance of taking rigorous courses in high school to a student’s ability to get a well-paying job after high school; an additional 25% were somewhat positively influenced.



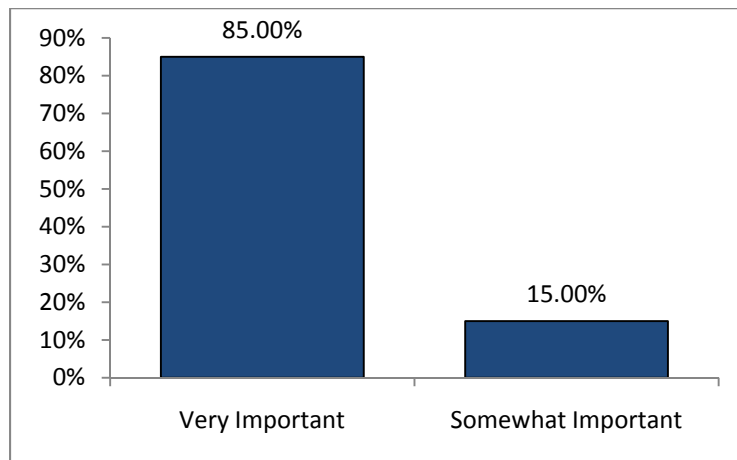
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	12	60.00	12	60.00
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	5	25.00	17	85.00
<b>Neutral</b>	3	15.00	20	100.00

### Question 3 - How important do you think taking rigorous courses in high school is to a student's ability to go to a community college, technical institute, or university after high school?

**Key Point**

Eighty-five percent of the 20 Louisiana teachers surveyed believed that taking rigorous courses in high school is very important to a student’s ability to attend a community college, technical institute, or university after high school.



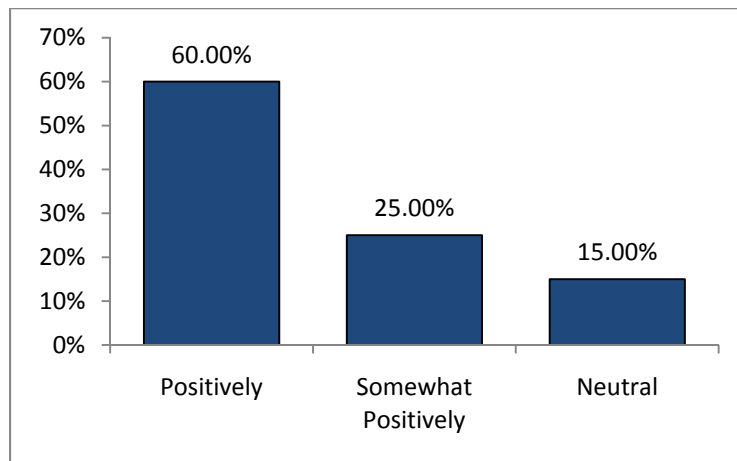
**Frequency Table**

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Very Important</b>	17	85.00	17	85.00
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	3	15.00	20	100.00

## Question 4 - How has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Sixty percent of these Louisiana teachers said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception and another 25% said that SSI had somewhat positively influenced their perception regarding the importance of taking rigorous courses in high school to a student’s ability to attend a community college, technical institute, or university after high school.



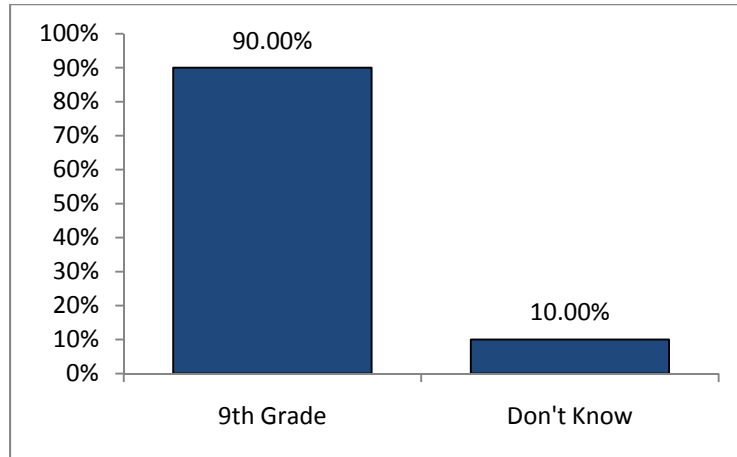
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	12	60.00	12	60.00
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	5	25.00	17	85.00
<b>Neutral</b>	3	15.00	20	100.00

## Question 5 - In what grade should students start taking rigorous courses?

### Key Point

Ninety percent of these Louisiana teachers believed that students should start taking rigorous courses in 9th grade.



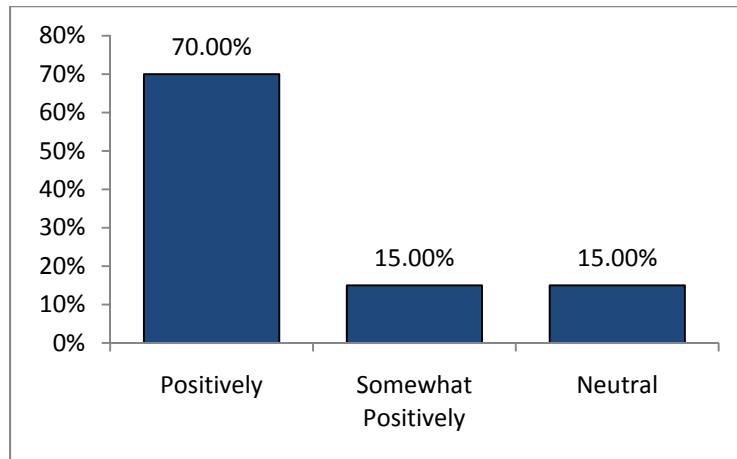
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	18	90.00	18	90.00
<b>Don't Know</b>	2	10.00	20	100.00

## Question 6 - To what extent has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Seventy percent of the 20 Louisiana teachers said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception and another 15% said that SSI had somewhat positively influenced their perception regarding when students should start taking rigorous courses in high school.



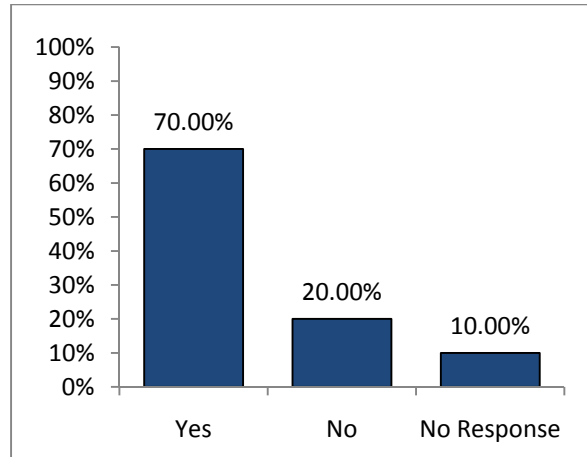
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	14	70.00	14	70.00
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	3	15.00	17	85.00
<b>Neutral</b>	3	15.00	20	100.00

## Question 7 - Have you actively encouraged students to take rigorous courses in high school?

### Key Point

Seventy percent of Louisiana teachers surveyed responded that they have actively encouraged students to take rigorous courses in high school.



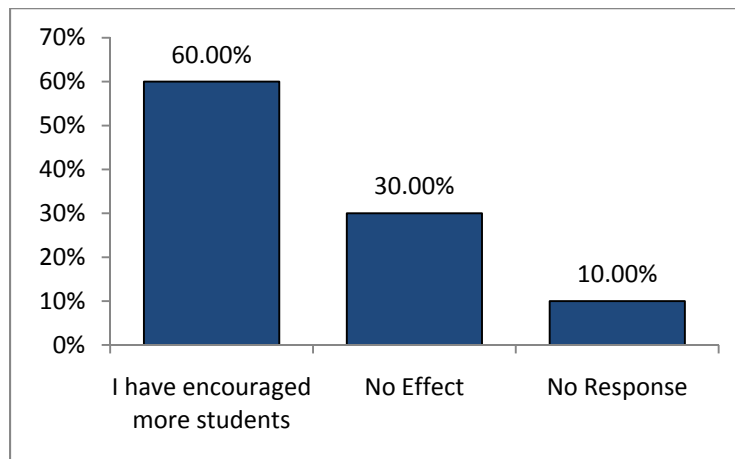
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Yes</b>	14	70.00	14	70.00
<b>No</b>	4	20.00	18	90.00
<b>No Response</b>	2	10.00	20	100.00

## Question 8 - How has the State Scholars Initiative influenced your encouraging students to take rigorous courses?

### Key Point

Sixty percent of the 20 teachers indicated they had encouraged more students to take rigorous courses because of State Scholars' influence. Thirty percent said that State Scholars had no effect on whether they encourage students to take rigorous courses in high school.



### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>I have encouraged more students</b>	12	60.00	12	60.00
<b>No Effect</b>	6	30.00	18	90.00
<b>No Response</b>	2	10.00	20	100.00

---

**No Guidance Counselor Perception Surveys were returned during this period.**

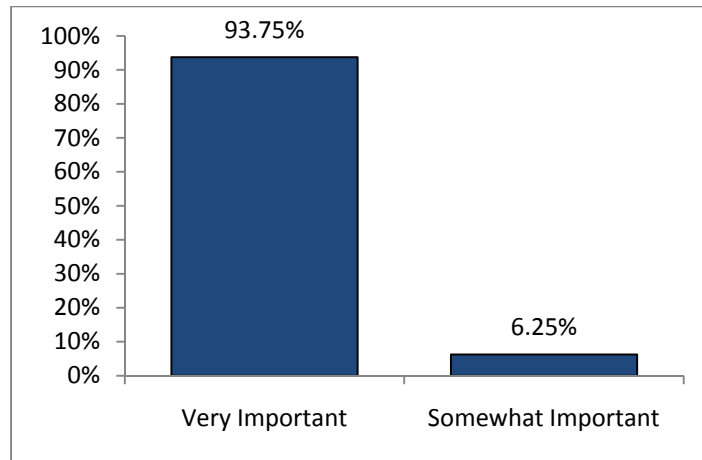
---



## Question 1 - How important do you think taking rigorous courses in high school is to a student's ability to get a well-paying job after high school?

### Key Point

Ninety-four percent of Louisiana business people (15 of 16) taking the survey believed that taking rigorous courses in high school is very important to a student’s ability to get a well-paying job after high school.



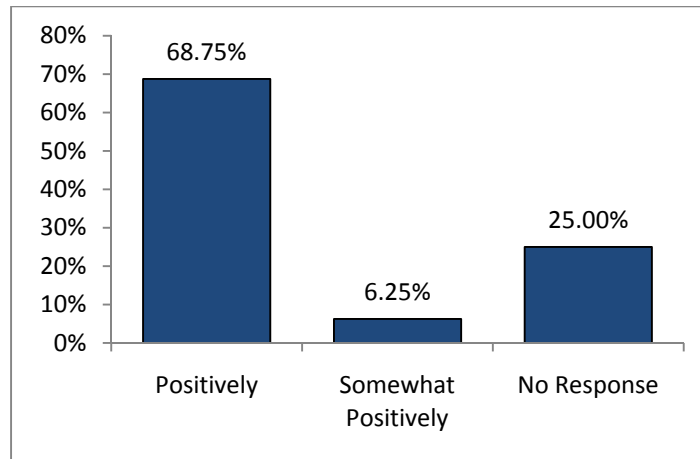
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Very Important</b>	15	93.75	15	93.75
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	1	6.25	16	100.00

## Question 2 - How has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Sixty-nine percent of Louisiana business people (11 of 16) said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception of the importance of rigorous courses in high school to a student’s ability to get a well-paying job after high school. Another six percent were somewhat positively influenced in their perception by State Scholars.



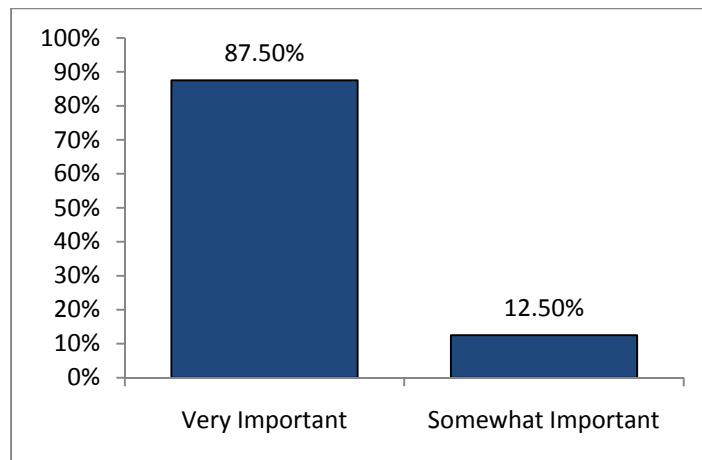
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	11	68.75	11	68.75
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	1	6.25	12	75.00
<b>No Response</b>	4	25.00	16	100.00

### Question 3 - How important do you think taking rigorous courses in high school is to a student's ability to go to a community college, technical institute, or university after high school?

**Key Point**

Eighty-eight percent of these Louisiana business people believed that taking rigorous courses in high school is very important to a student’s ability to attend a community college, technical institute, or university after high school.



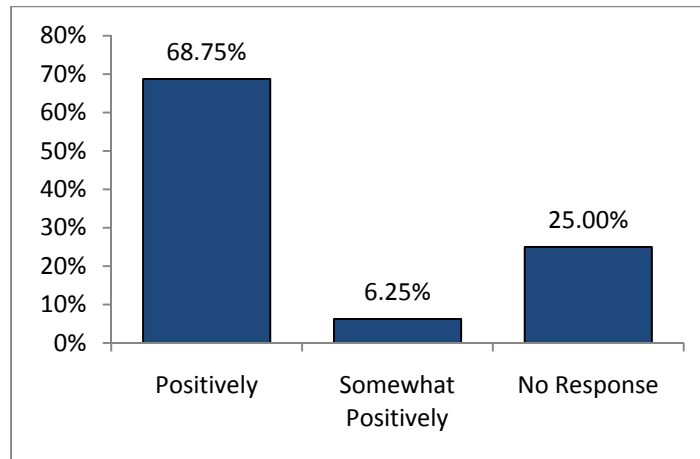
**Frequency Table**

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Very Important</b>	14	87.50	14	87.50
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	2	12.50	16	100.00

## Question 4 - How has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Sixty-nine percent of Louisiana business people taking the survey said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception and another six percent said that SSI had somewhat positively influenced their perception regarding the importance of rigorous courses in high school to a student’s ability to attend a community college, technical institute, or university after high school.



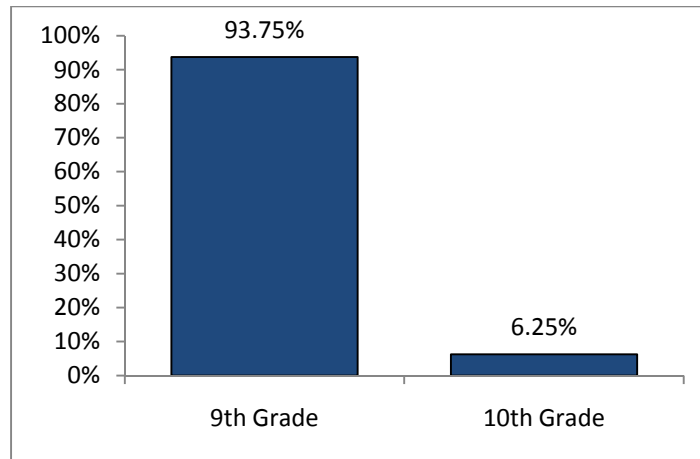
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	11	68.75	11	68.75
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	1	6.25	12	75.00
<b>No Response</b>	4	25.00	16	100.00

## Question 5 - In what grade should students start taking rigorous courses?

### Key Point

Ninety-four percent (15 of 16) of the Louisiana business people surveyed believed that students should start taking rigorous courses in 9th grade.



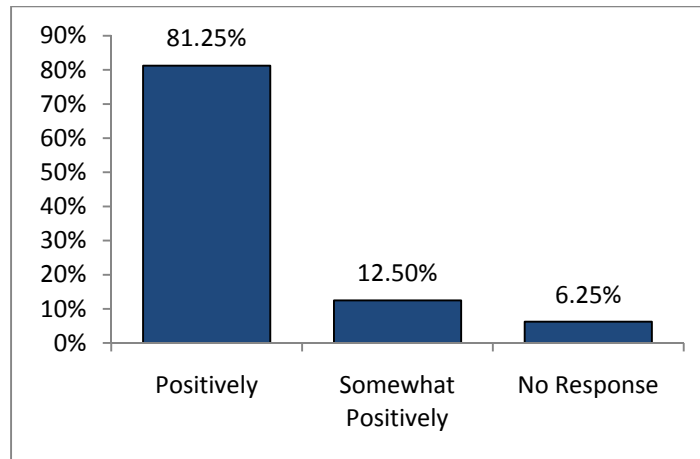
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	15	93.75	15	93.75
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1	6.25	16	100.00

## Question 6 - To what extent has the State Scholars Initiative influenced this perception?

### Key Point

Eighty-one percent of these Louisiana business people said that State Scholars had positively influenced their perception and another 13% said that SSI had somewhat positively influenced their perception regarding when students should start taking rigorous courses in high school.



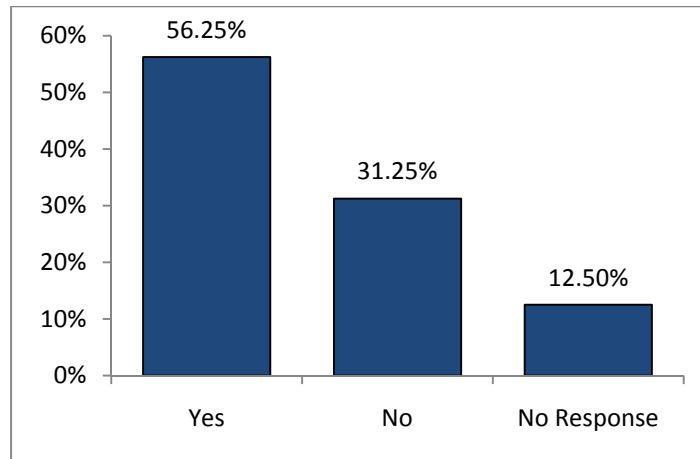
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Positively</b>	13	81.25	13	81.25
<b>Somewhat Positively</b>	2	12.50	15	9.75
<b>No Response</b>	1	6.25	16	100.00

## Question 7 - Have you actively encouraged students to take rigorous courses in high school?

### Key Point

Fifty-six percent of Louisiana business people responded that they have actively encouraged students to take rigorous courses in high school.



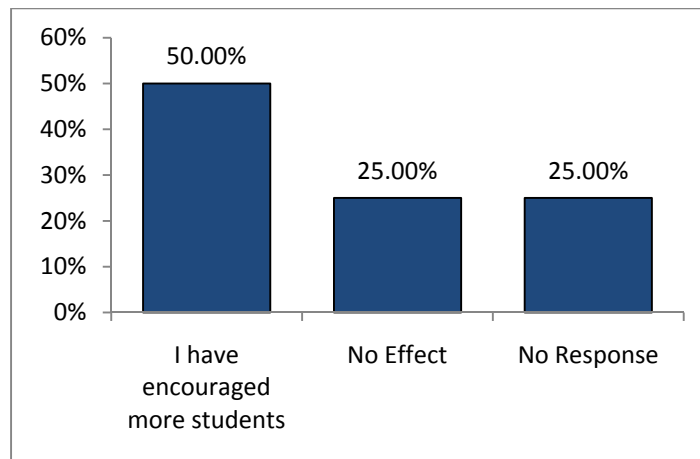
### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>Yes</b>	9	56.25	9	56.25
<b>No</b>	5	31.25	14	87.50
<b>No Response</b>	2	12.50	16	100.00

## Question 8 - How has the State Scholars Initiative influenced your encouraging students to take rigorous courses?

### Key Point

Fifty percent of these business people encouraged more students to take rigorous courses because of State Scholars' influence. Twenty-five percent said that State Scholars had no effect on whether they encourage students to take rigorous courses in high school.



### Frequency Table

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<b>I have encouraged more students</b>	8	50.00	8	50.00
<b>No Effect</b>	4	25.00	12	75.00
<b>No Response</b>	4	25.00	16	100.00