




# Big SUSU Survey

## Summary of Results



- 
-  Stand Strong
  -  Join Together
  -  Take Responsibility

# Introduction



An annual survey was run by SUSU to help better understand its student membership and their interactions with SUSU.

The online survey ran from 19th April to 2nd May 2021. It was promoted via email, social media, the SUSU website, text/SMS, Blackboard and University communication channels. The survey was open to all students studying at the University of Southampton.

A total of 1056 students engaged with the survey from a wide range of different groups.

# Key Findings



3 in 5 students (62%) feel SUSU positively adds to their experience of university.



Students with a neutral opinion of SUSU have the lowest levels of engagement with SUSU, with nearly 4 in 5 (79%) of all neutral respondents scoring their involvement between 0 and 3.



For the majority of students, academic success, work/life balance, mental health, and making friends are the main concerns during their time at university.



Students feel SUSU's top three priorities should be: providing advice & support to students, lobbying the university on behalf of students, and tackling discrimination, prejudice & inequality in the university.



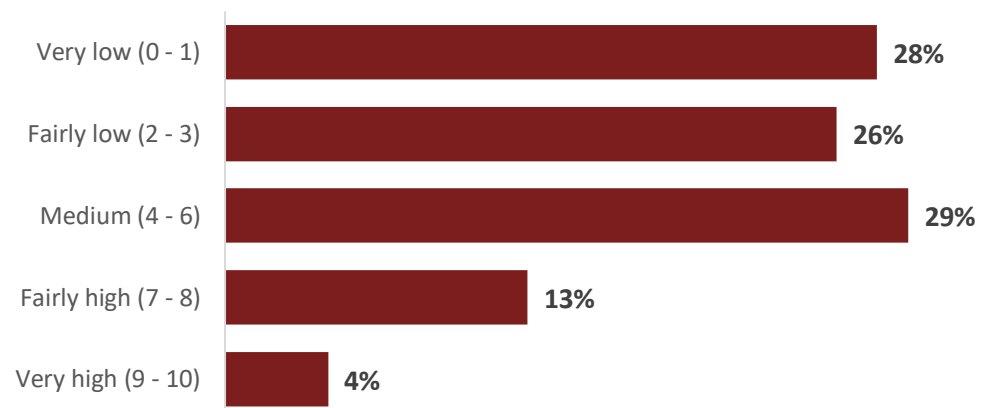
1 in 4 students mentioned events as being something SUSU should be doing to make sure they love their time at Southampton.

# Student Involvement

Overall, students gave an average score of 3.6 out of 10 with over half (54%) scoring their level of involvement as fairly or very low (i.e. a score of 3 or below).

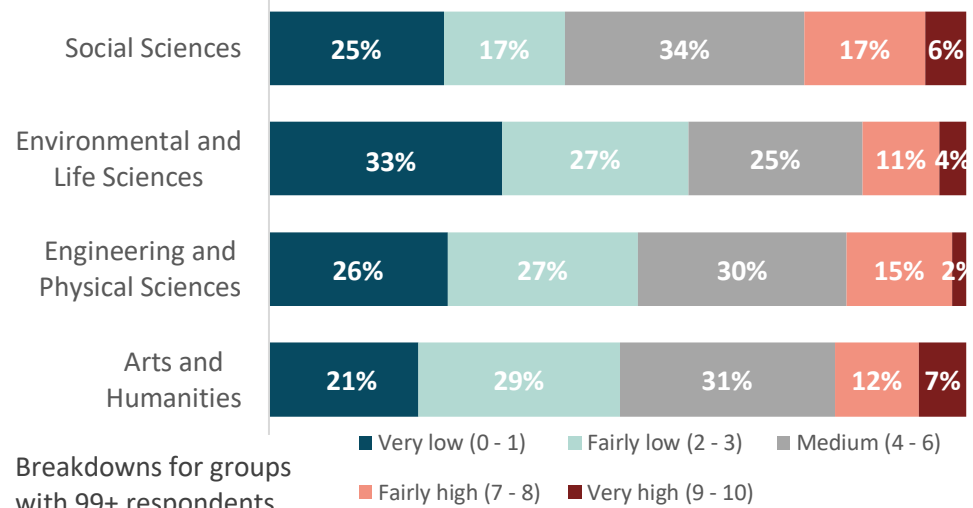
Some student groups said they were less involved with SUSU than the average including postgraduate researchers, students in their 4th year or above, students from the environmental science & life sciences faculty, mature students, commuter students.

What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU?  
(Scale of 0 -10)



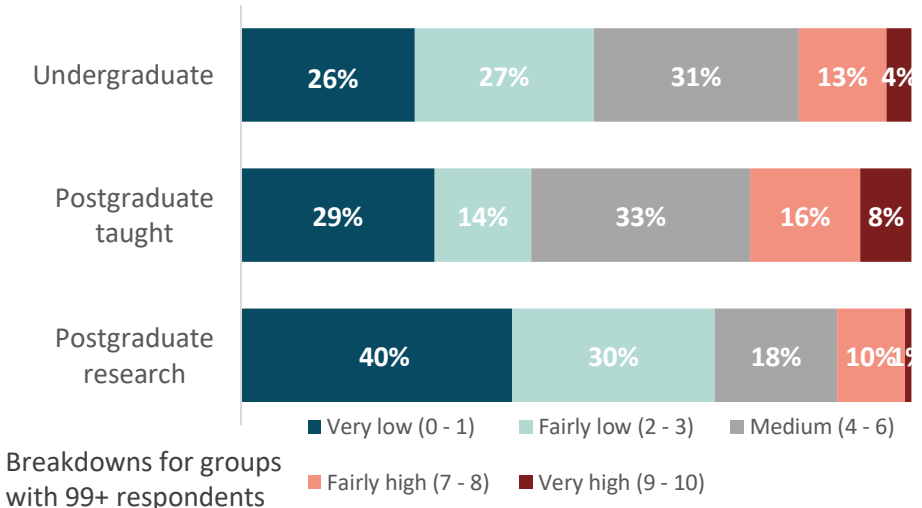
Base respondents: 1050

Faculty breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 -10)



Breakdowns for groups with 99+ respondents

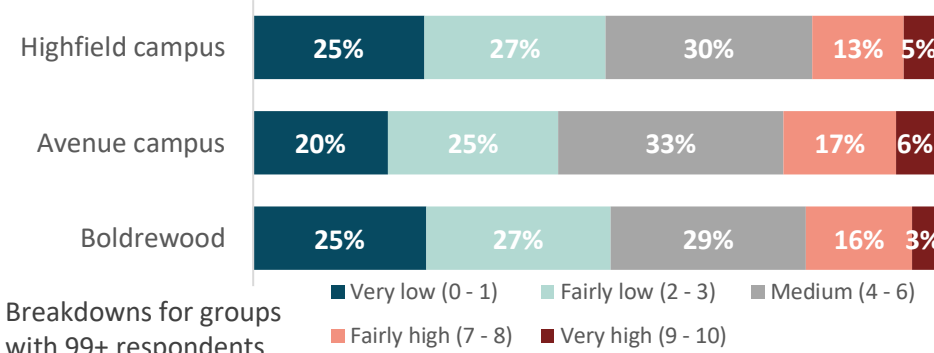
Level of Study breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 -10)



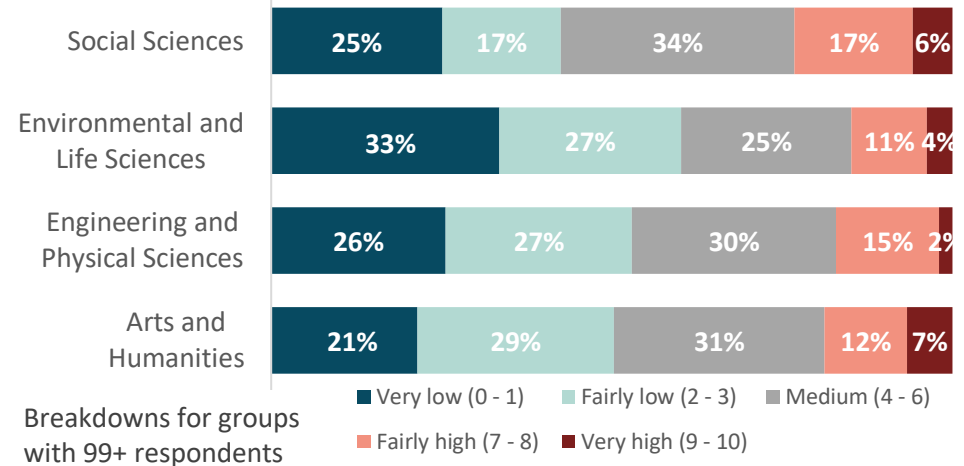
Breakdowns for groups with 99+ respondents

# Student Involvement

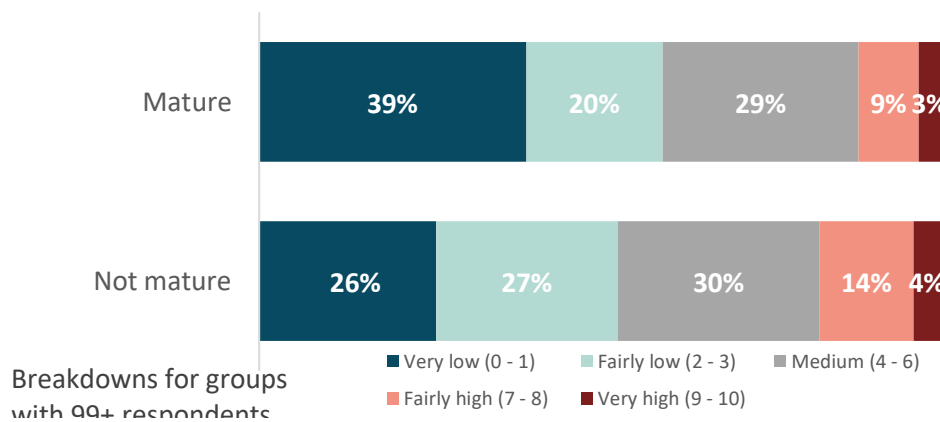
**Campus breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 -10)**



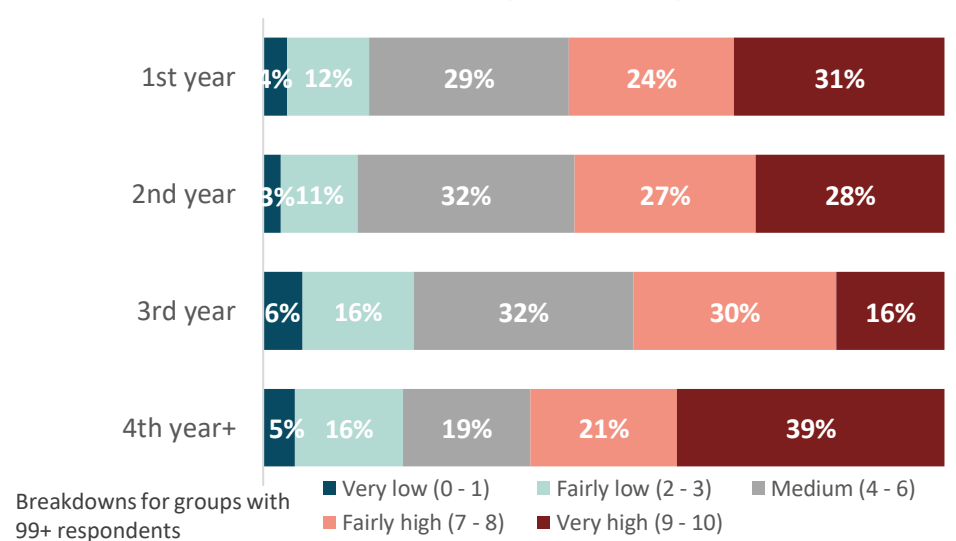
**Faculty breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 -10)**



**Mature vs not mature students: What level of involvement would**

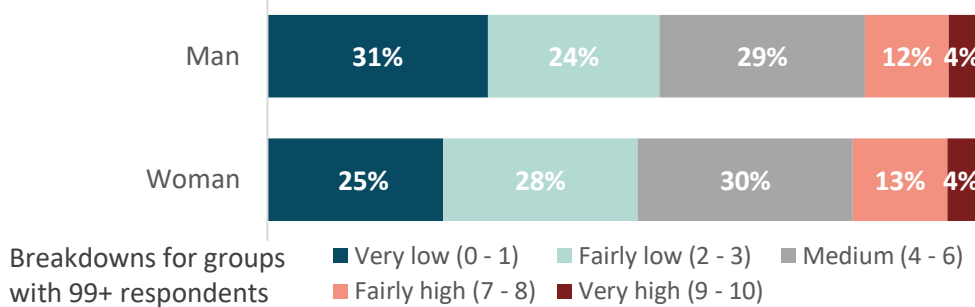


**Year of study breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 -10)**

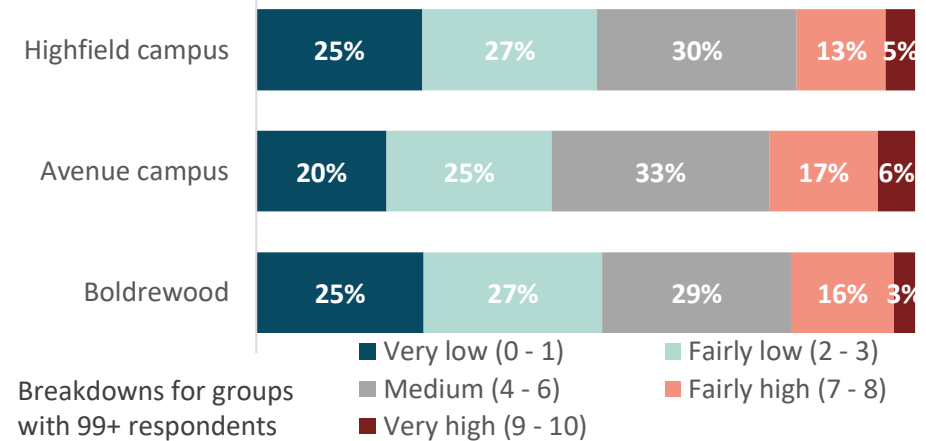


# Student Involvement

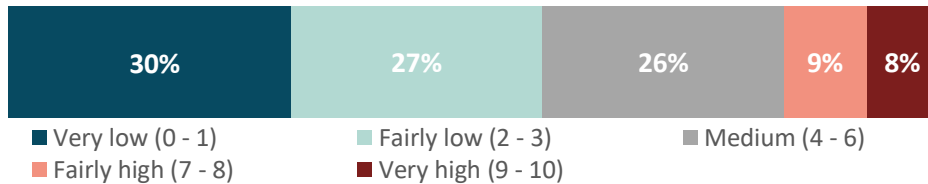
## Gender identity breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 - 10)



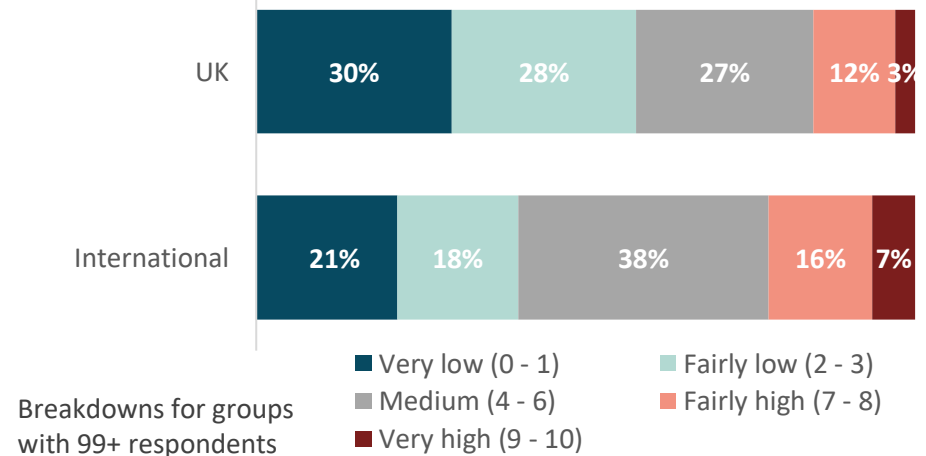
## Campus breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 - 10)



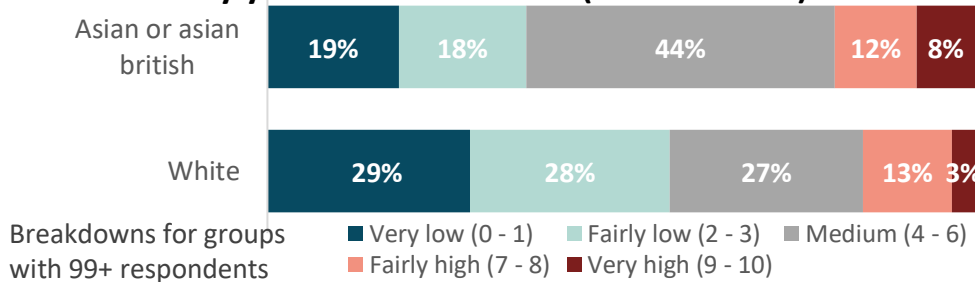
## Students with a mental health condition: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 - 10)



## UK vs. International students: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 - 10)

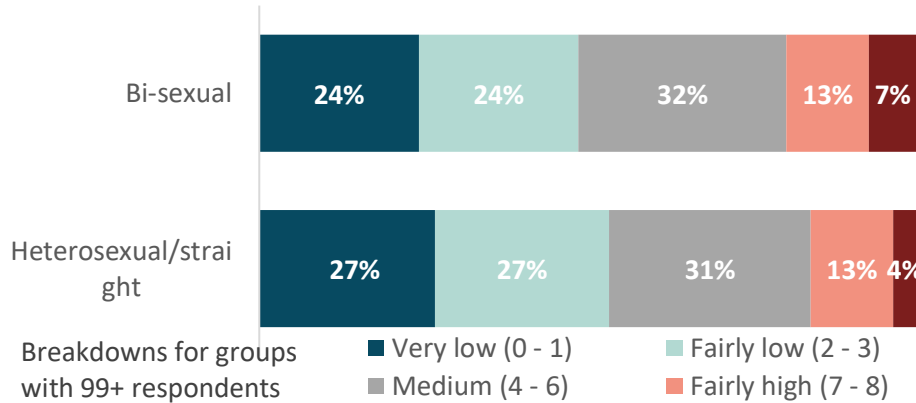


## Ethnicity breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 - 10)

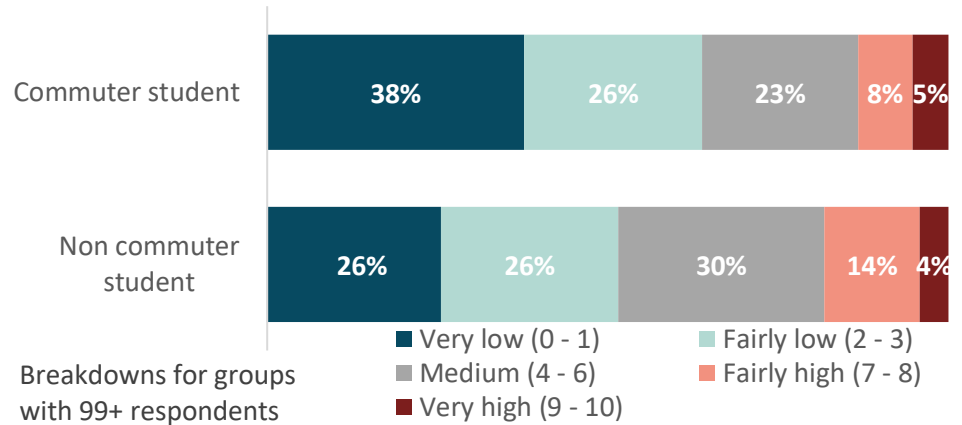


# Student Involvement

**Sexuality breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 -10)**



**Commuting breakdown: What level of involvement would you say you have with SUSU? (Scale of 0 -10)**



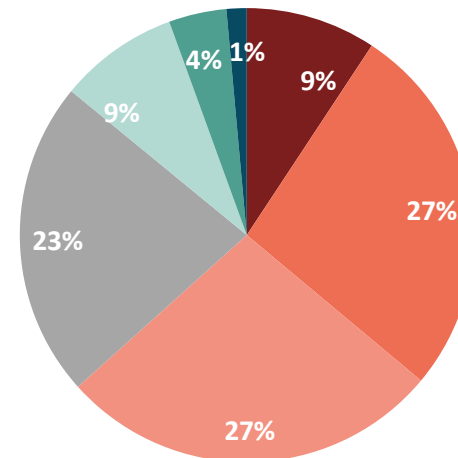
# Opinion of SUSU

Despite low levels of involvement, the view of SUSU amongst students appears to be generally positive with only 14% of students having a negative opinion of SUSU.

Students with a neutral opinion of SUSU also had low levels of engagement, with nearly 4 in 5 (79%) of all neutral respondents scoring their involvement between 0 and 3. Their levels of involvement were on average lower than that of students with a positive or negative opinion.

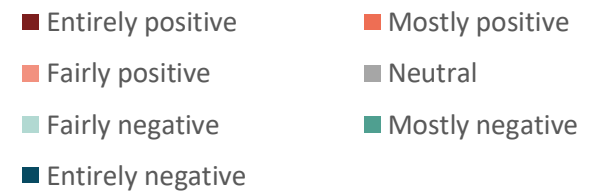
Some student groups were generally more positive than others including women, postgraduate taught students, 1<sup>st</sup> years, students in the social sciences faculty, and international students. There were some student groups who were more negative than others including: men, students in their 4<sup>th</sup> year or above, and students with mental health conditions.

Is your opinion of SUSU generally positive or negative?



**Overall positive - 63%**

**Overall negative - 14%**



Base respondents: 1045

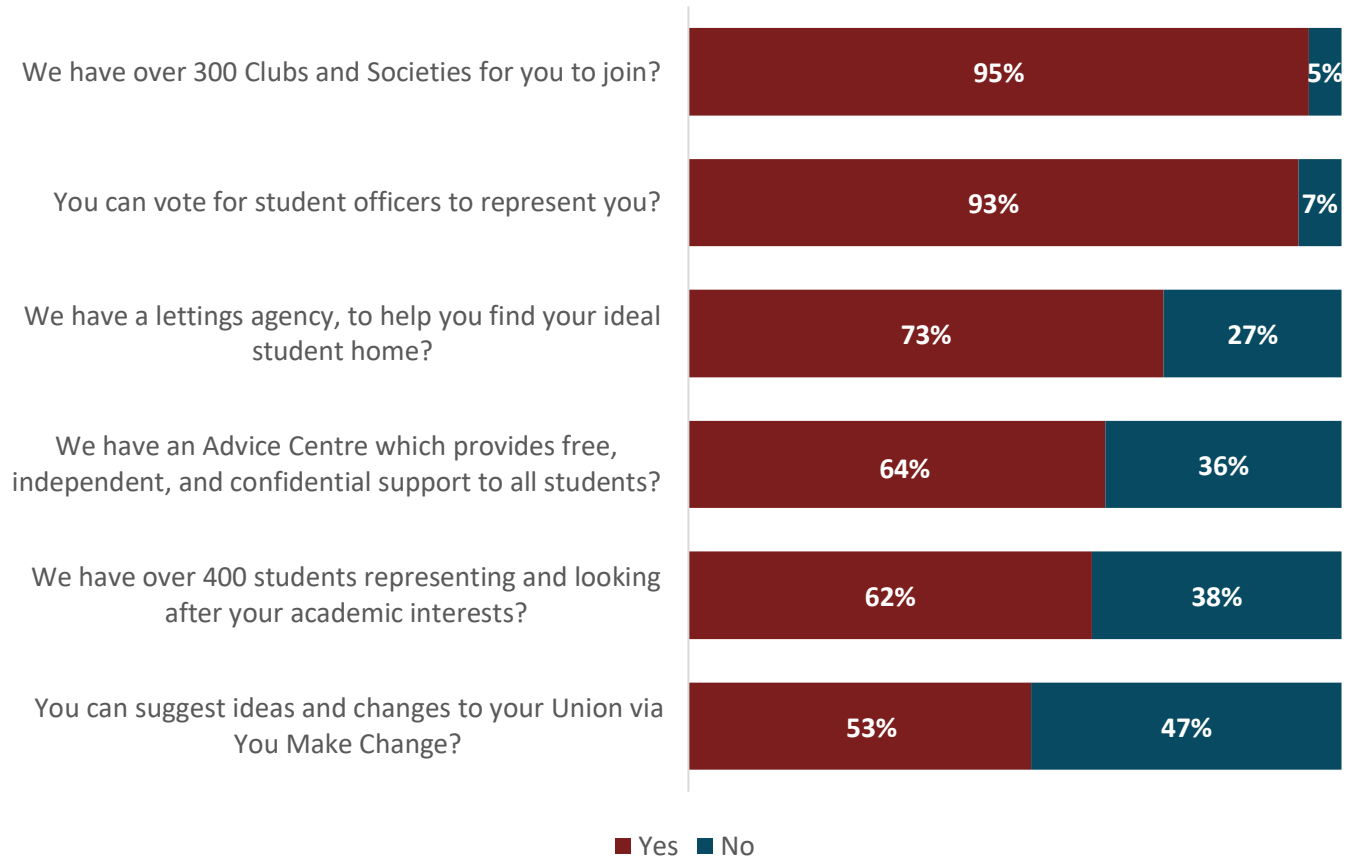


# Knowledge

Most students are aware of SUSU's various offers however there is greater awareness of some services than others. Nearly all respondents are aware of SUSU's clubs and societies on offer but only just over half are aware of You Make Change, SUSU's platform for any students to suggest ideas or changes. For those where there is previous years' data to compare, these levels of awareness have either increased or remained the same.

Awareness of services is generally higher amongst the older year groups (3rd year or above). Awareness of SUSU services tends to be lower for commuter students, mature students, postgraduate taught students, and 1st years.

## Did you know...?

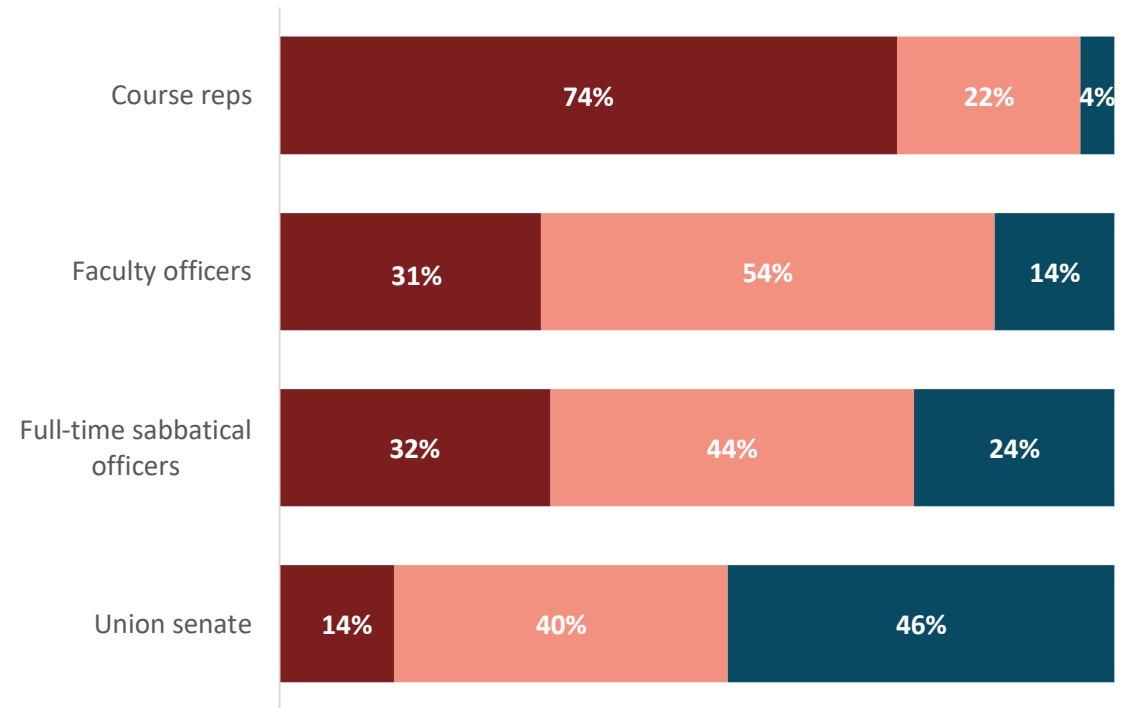


# Knowledge

When looking more closely at student awareness of representation, overall awareness of course reps is higher with 96% of students having heard of them. 86% of students have heard of faculty officers, 76% have heard of Sabbatical officers and 54% have heard of the Union Senate. With the exception of course reps, students who have heard of these representatives but don't know what they do outnumber those who know what these reps do.

For those where there is previous years' data to compare, levels of awareness have increased.

## What do you know about the following?

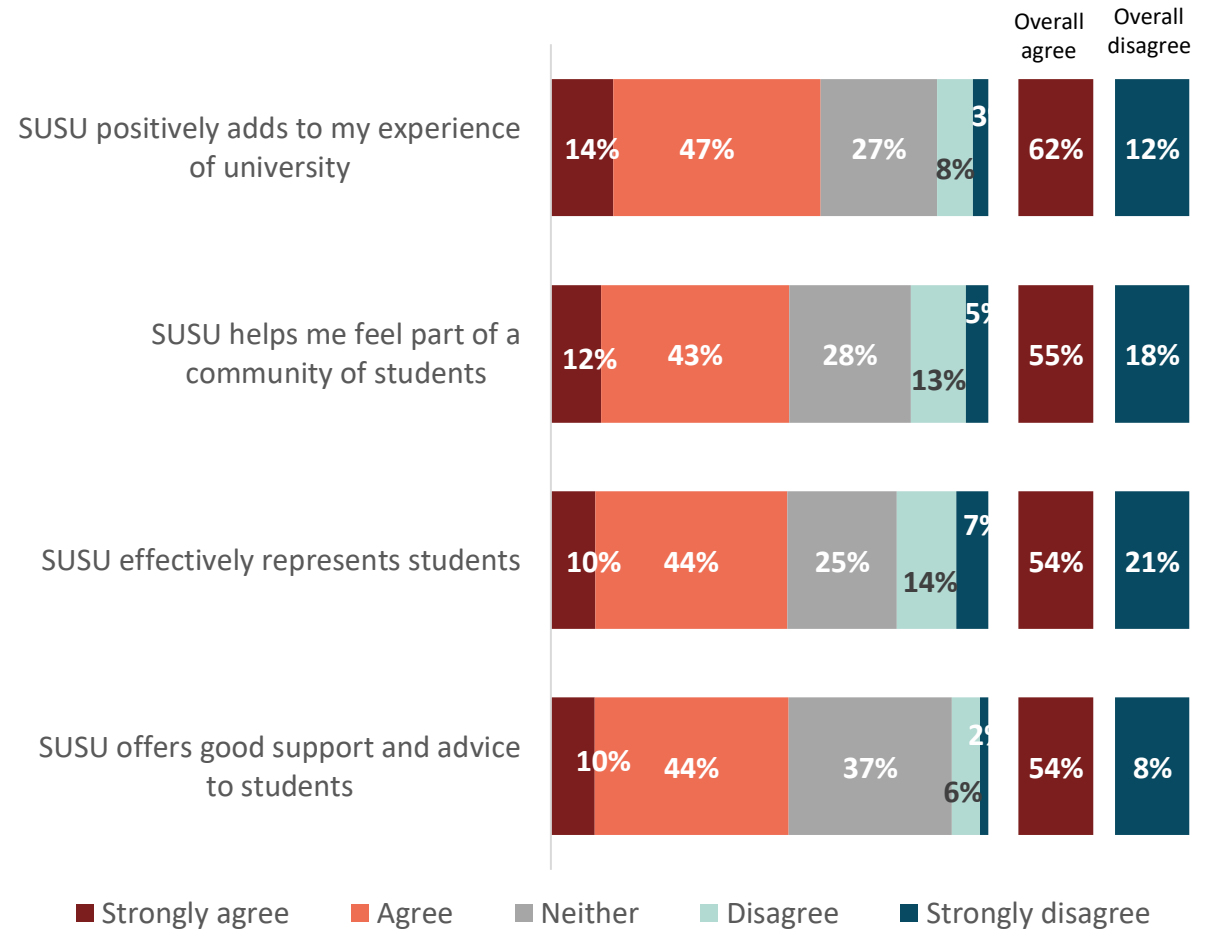


- I have heard of them and I know what they do
- I have heard of them but I don't know what they do
- I have never heard of them

# General Feeling

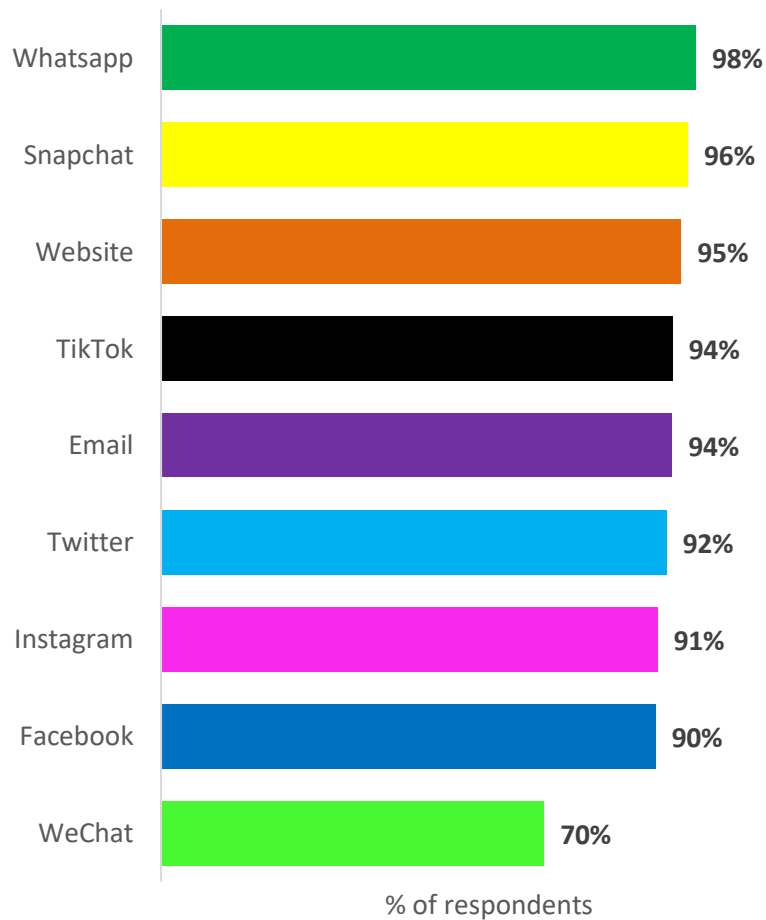
To measure how students feel SUSU is performing against our goals, each year we ask students the same following questions. Compared to last year's results, there was a 5%-point increase in the proportion of students feeling SUSU positively adds to their experience of university, from 57% to 62%. This brings SUSU in line with previous measures as a comparable question asked in 2018. The question asking about feeling part of a community of students also saw an increase from 44% to 55% however this increase may be due to the slight re-wording between years. The proportion of students that feel SUSU offers good support and advice and effectively represents students has reduced in the last year by 15%-point and 10%-point respectively. When looking at levels of disagreement for these two measures, the proportion has stayed at 8% for support and advice, whilst disagreement regarding representation has increased by 6%-point. .

## To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following?

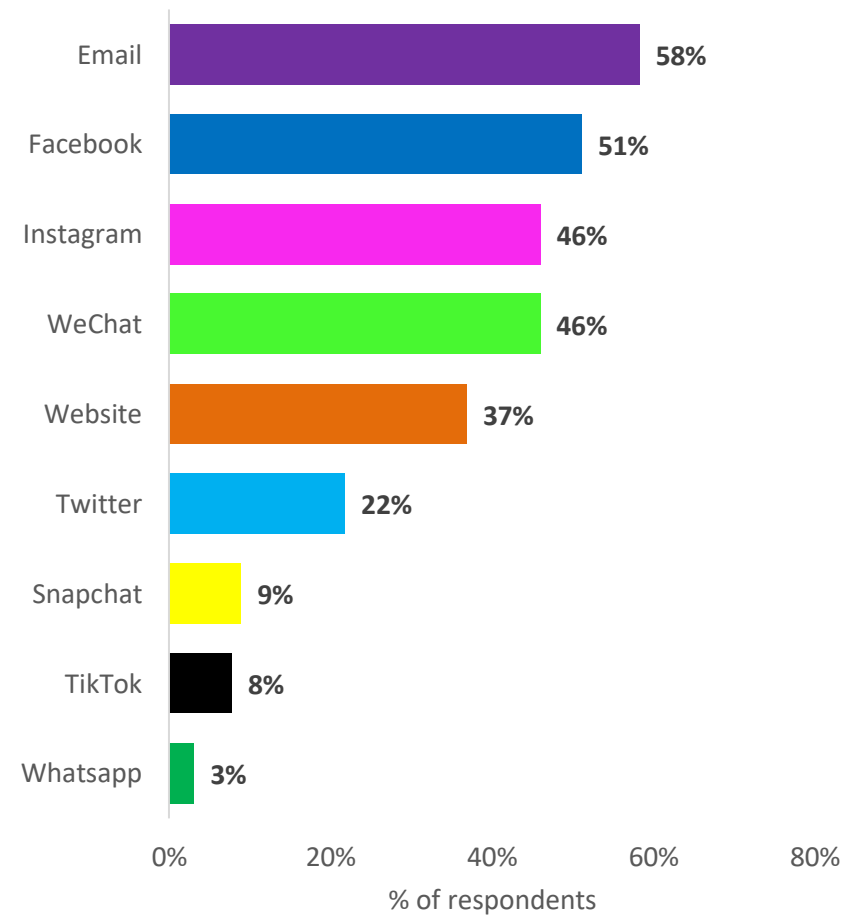


# Communication

Which of the following channels do you use?

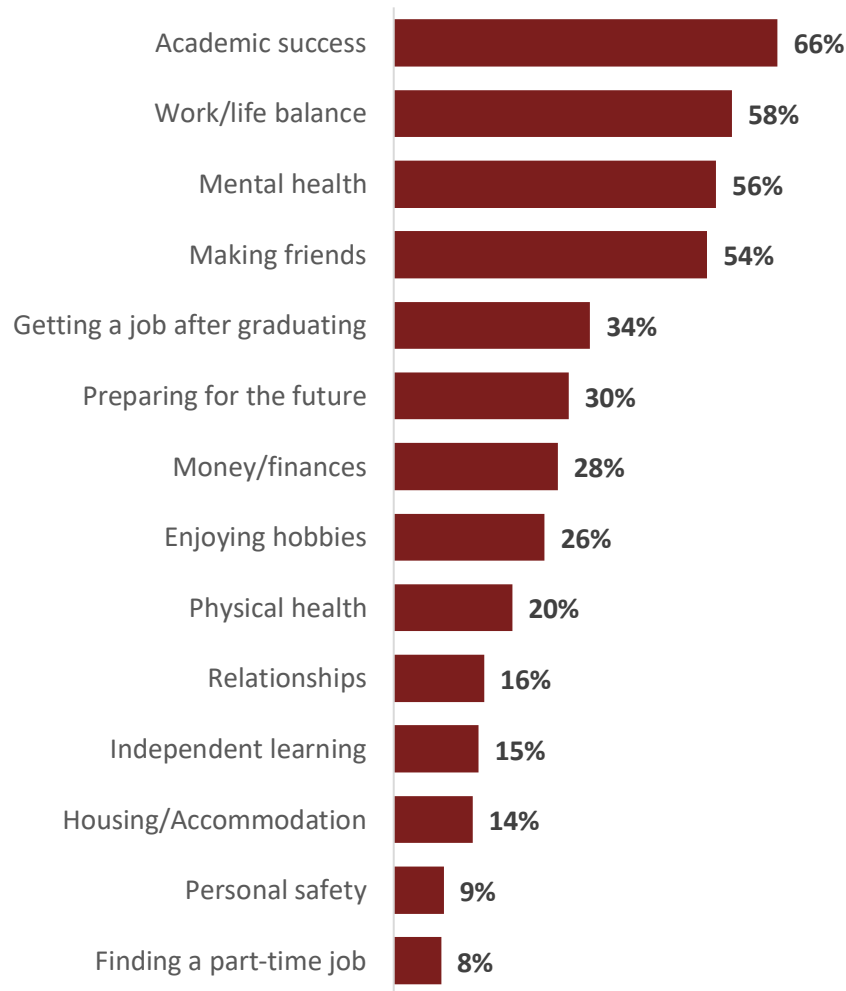


Do you follow SUSU on any of the following?



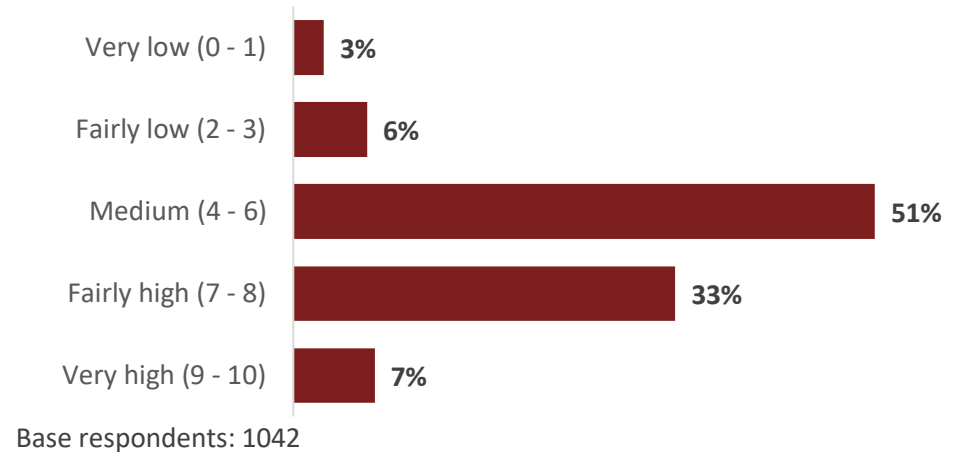
# Other Feedback

## What are your main concerns during your time at university?

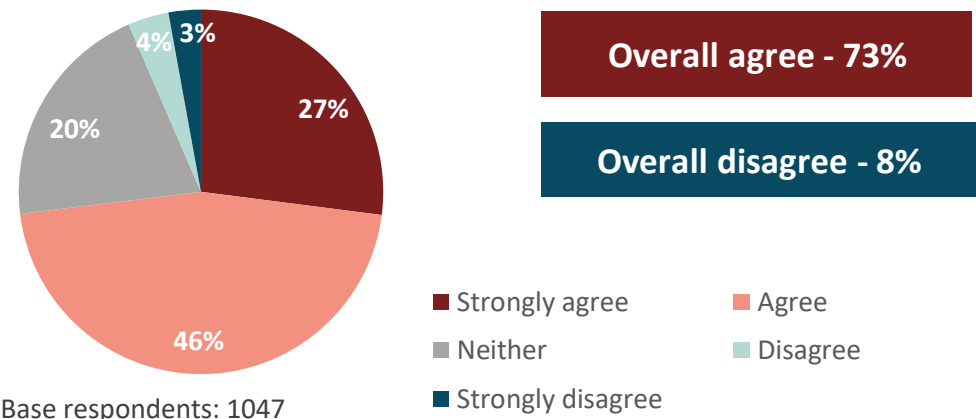


Base respondents: 1052

## How sustainable do you feel SUSU is? (Scale of 0 -10)



**As a member of SUSU, every student is respected, valued and treated equally irrespective of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation or religion.**



■ Strongly agree      ■ Agree  
■ Neither            ■ Disagree  
■ Strongly disagree