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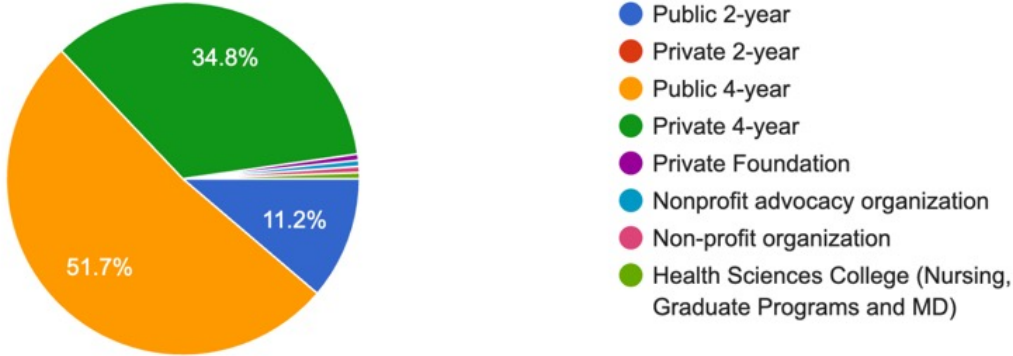
Student Affairs
Administrators in
Higher Education

**PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA
ADDENDUM
*2024-2026***

In response to the ever-changing public policy landscape of the United States, especially in a post-pandemic environment, the Public Policy Division (PPD) of NASPA wanted to create an addendum to the current Public Policy Agenda. This addendum would fill the gap between the lapsing of the [current Agenda](#), and the new NASPA Strategic plan being created for 2026. To better understand the current concerns of NASPA members the PPD conducted focus groups with various stakeholders and surveyed the general NASPA membership. Below are the focal points that the PPD will focus on for the 2024-2026 Public Policy addendum with hopes of administering the same survey to inform the development of the next Public Policy Agenda.

The survey was administered for several months between August 2023 and January 2024. There were 178 responses from NASPA members serving many different institution types. 51.7% of respondents served at 4-year public institutions, 34.8% at private 4-year institutions, and 11.2% at public 2-year institutions. The small number of other respondents worked in the non-profit sector, or private 2-year colleges.

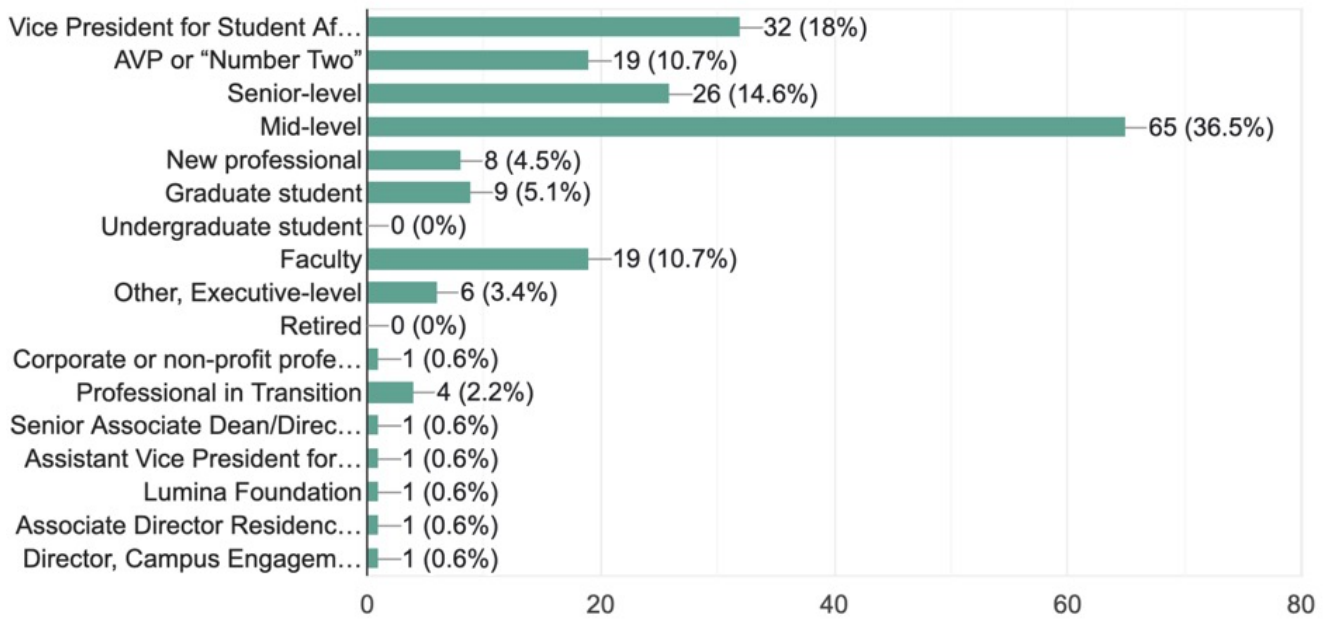
What institution type do you work for?
178 responses



Of those who responded 36.5% identified themselves as “Mid-level”, 18% as “Vice President for Student Affairs”, 14.6% as “Senior-level”, 10.7% as “AVP or “Number Two”, and 10.7% as “Faculty”, all other respondents composed less than 6% of respondents.

What describes your current role? (select all that apply)

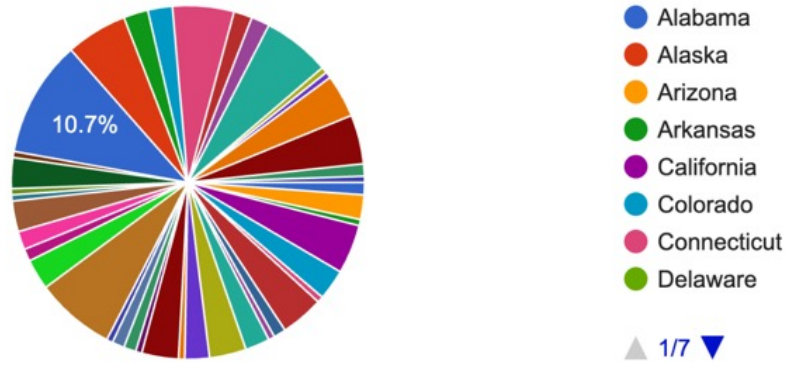
178 responses



40 of the 50 United States are represented by the respondents of the survey the four states with the most responses being New York (19), Massachusetts (13), Texas (11), Pennsylvania (10), and North Carolina (10).

Which state do you currently work in?

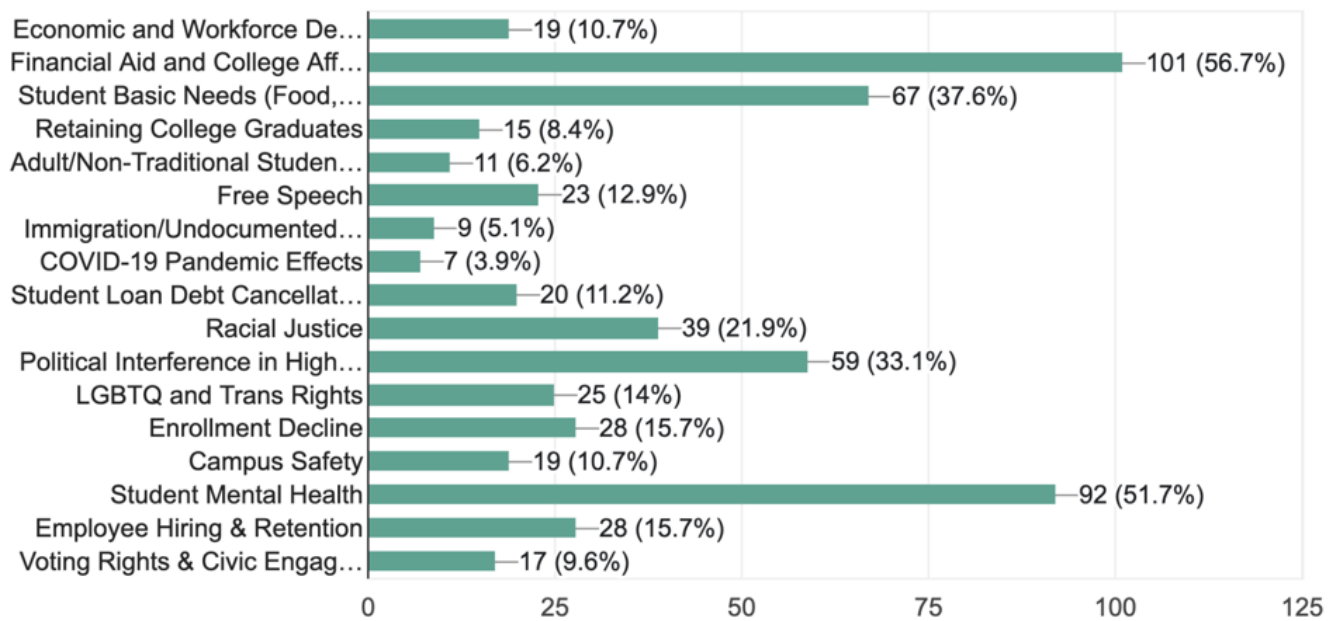
178 responses



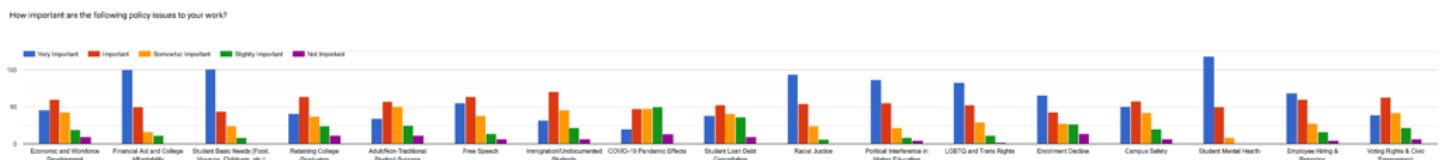
The top five policy issues that survey takers identified as “most relevant to the student experience” were, Financial Aid and College Affordability (101), Student Mental Health (92), Student Basic Needs (Food, Housing, Childcare, etc.) (67) Political Interference in Higher Education (59), and Racial Justice (39).

What policy issue do you find most relevant to the student experience. (Check only 3 boxes)

178 responses



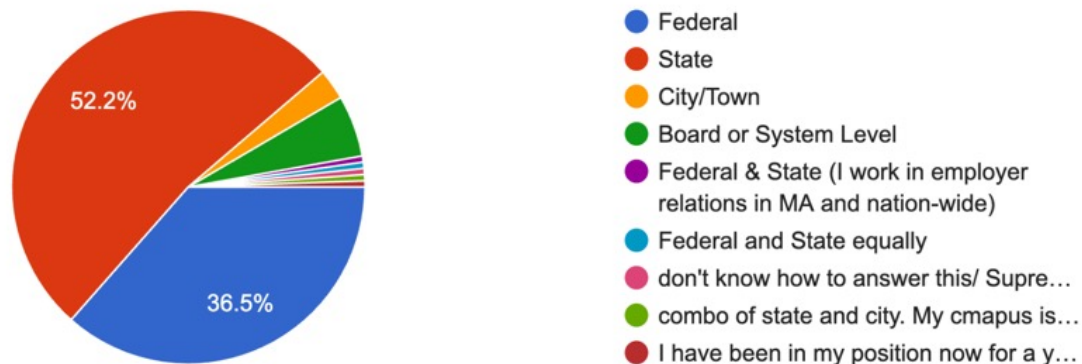
The top 5 ranked as “Very Important” policy issues were Student Mental Health (118), Student Basic Needs (101), Financial Aid and College Affordability (100), Racial Justice (94), and Political Interference in Higher Education (87) for Student Affairs professionals’ work based on a likert scale question.



As for what level of US policy is most relevant to respondents’ work 52.2% identified State policy as most relevant while 36.5% identified Federal policy as most relevant.

What level of US policy is most relevant to your work?

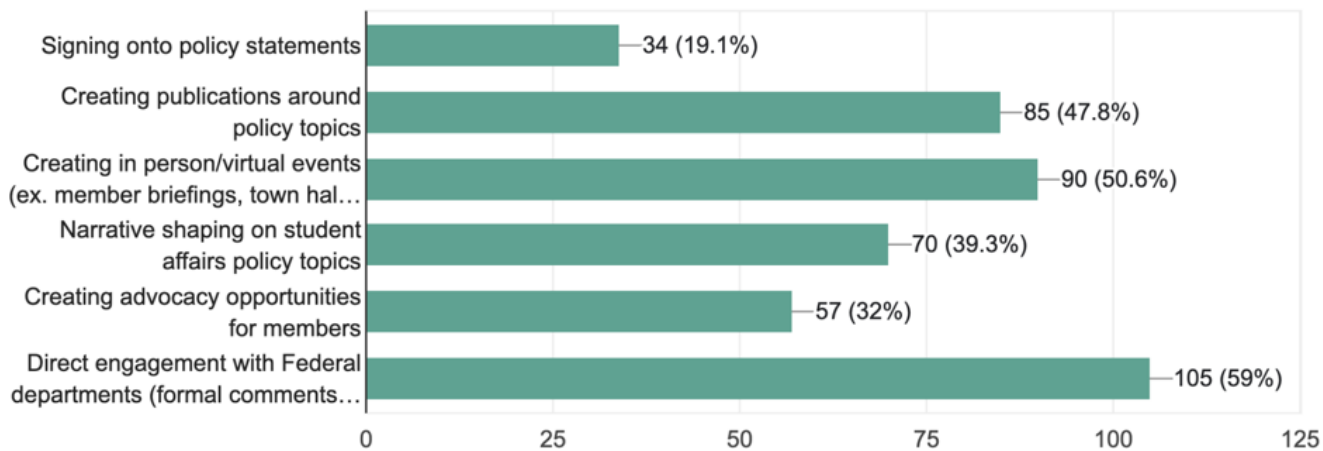
178 responses



As for the level of advocacy Student Affairs professionals saw the role of NASPA being the top two were, 59% "Direct engagement with Federal departments (formal comments, related to rulemaking/engaging in listening sessions)" and 50.6% "Creating in-person/virtual events (ex. member briefings, town halls, listening sessions) on current issues".

What level of advocacy do you see the role of NASPA being? (Check only 2 boxes)

178 responses



From the two short answer questions, “What virtual or in-person activities would you participate in related to policy advocacy and knowledge?” and “What tools or resources would you like to see provided to support policy advocacy and knowledge?” the following themes emerged.

The top 4 themes that emerged for the first short answer question were: Webinars, Advocacy events, Briefings, and Workshops. From what was shared NASPA members were interested in virtual events that were timely, brief in nature, and helpful in creating/interpreting policy that could have an impact on their campus.

The top 4 themes for the second short answer question were: Policy Education/Updates, Advocacy activities, White Papers/Scholarly publications, and Policy Briefs. These updates, activities, and white papers would be timely, easily shared with various stakeholders, and contain practical action steps.

A shared theme that emerged from both short answer questions was that NASPA members wanted information that was timely, concise, and easy to understand for stakeholders.

Considering this information, the Public Policy Division will focus on content from 2024-2026 that addresses the top themes identified in the survey, in modalities that fit our members’ needs that are both timely and easily shared with various stakeholders at Universities across the United States.



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