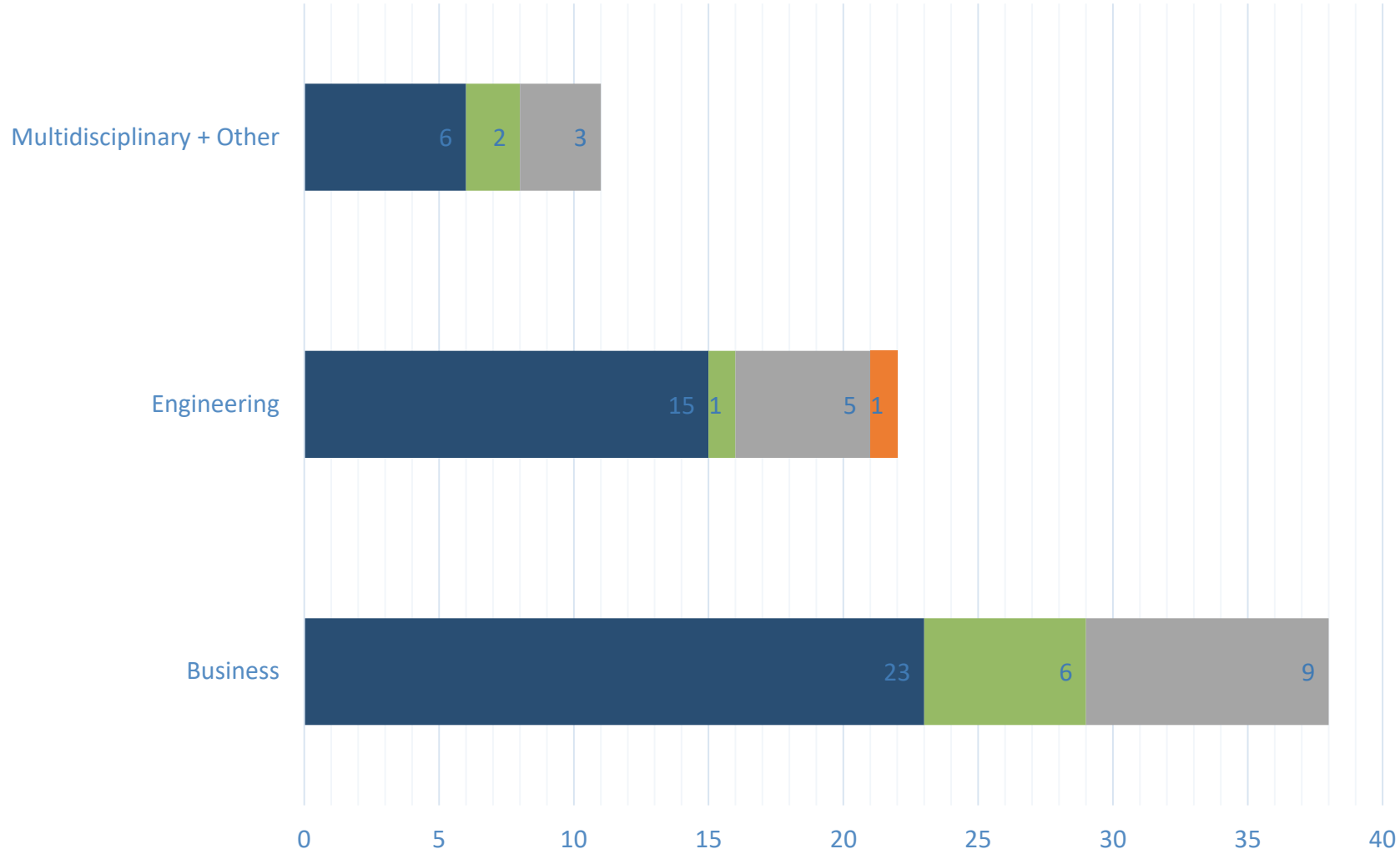


2019 Experiential PBL Annual Survey EduSourced

Business Schools | Multidisciplinary | Engineering Schools



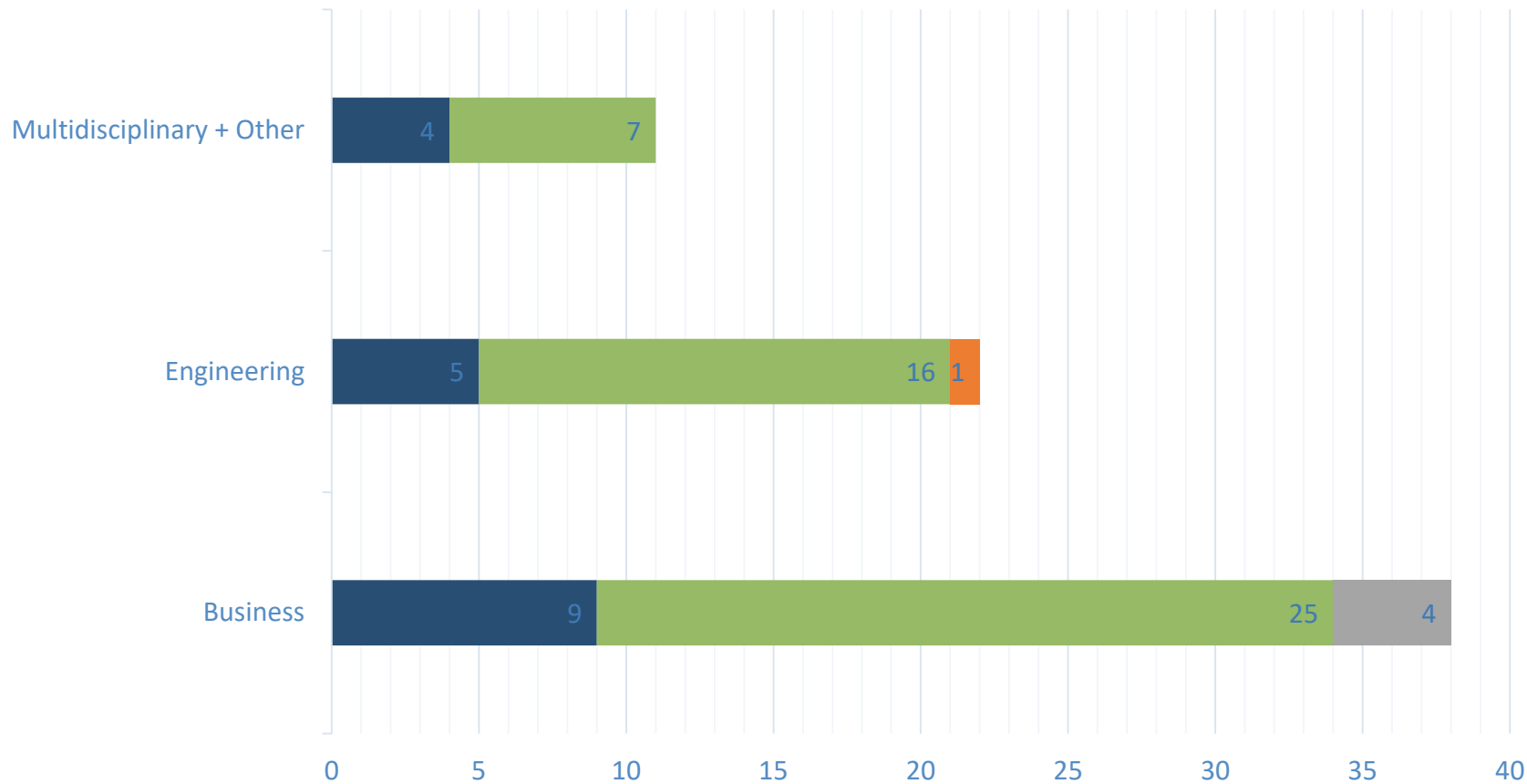
■ Faculty ■ Staff ■ Leadership ■ Other



72
Participants
83%
Directly Involved with
Experiential

Does your School have an Experiential Program with Live Clients?

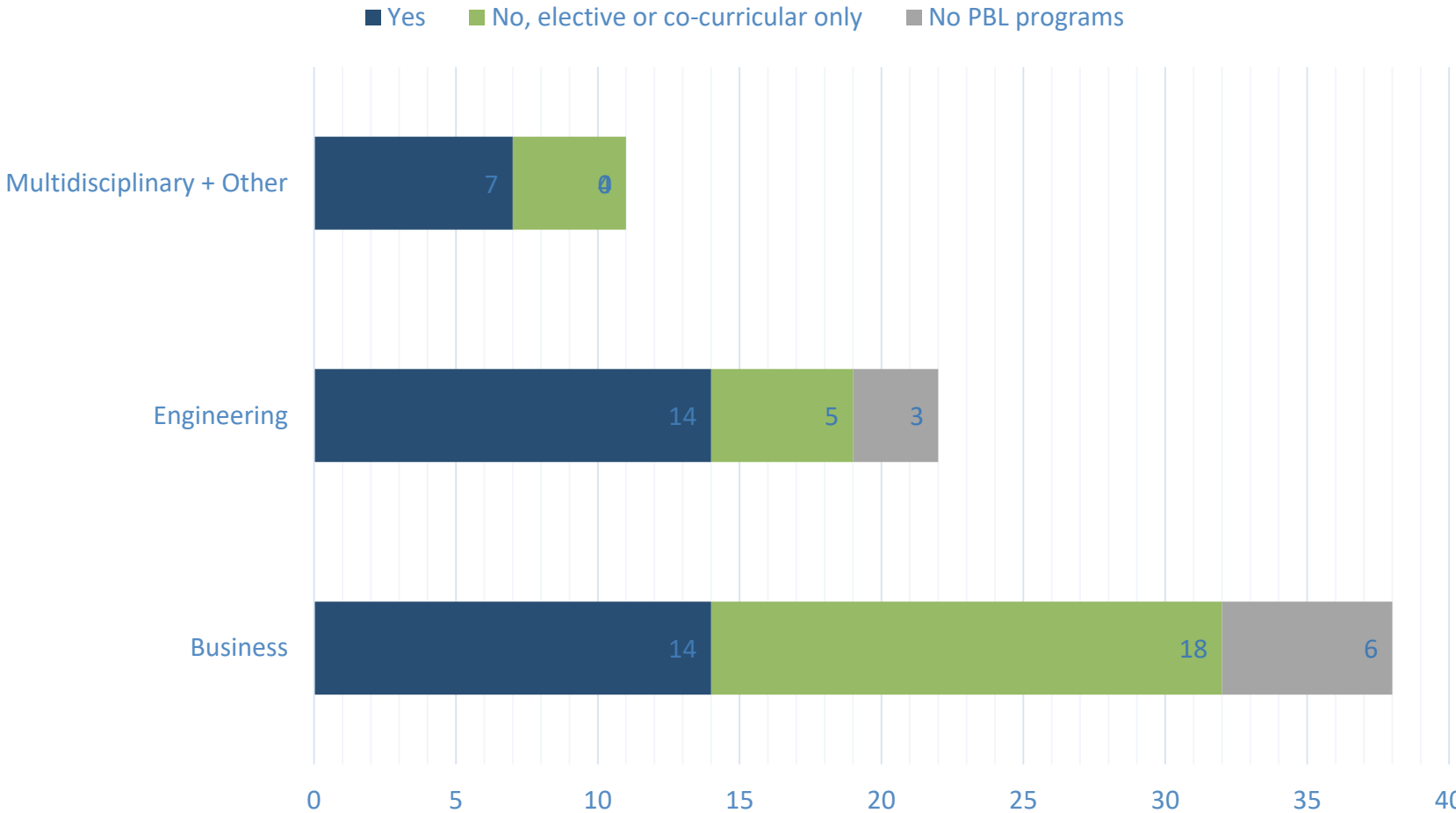
■ Yes, for All Projects ■ Yes, for Some Projects ■ No, our projects are internal ■ No, we do not use live projects



**Business Schools
more likely than
engineering to
exclude industry
clients by 2x
(10.5% v 4.5%)**

N: 71

Does your School Have a Mandatory Experiential PBL Program?

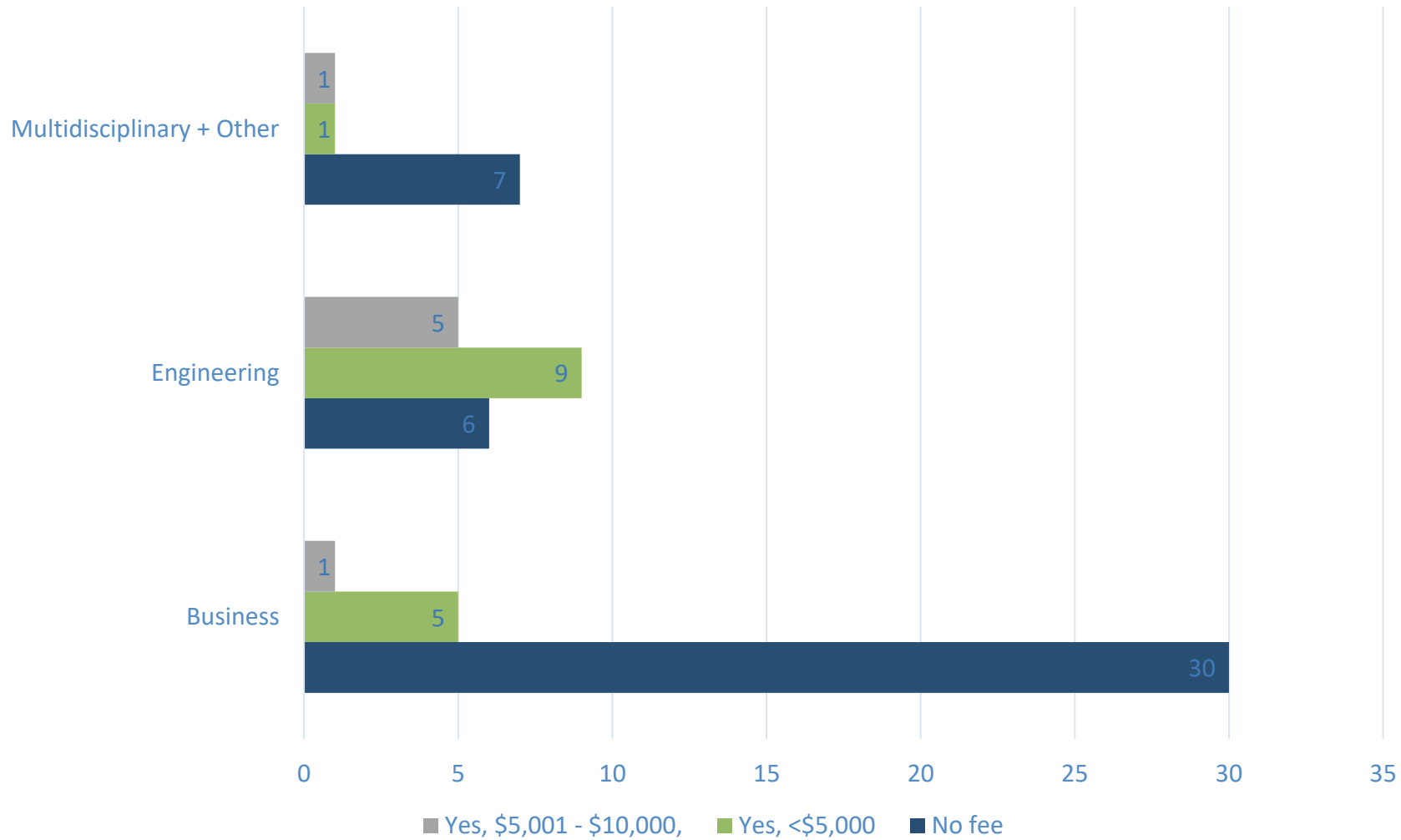


↑ 64%
Engineering Programs Requiring PBL

↓ 24%
Business programs Requiring PBL

N: 71

Do you Charge a Fee for your Projects?



↑ 71%
Engineering Programs Charge

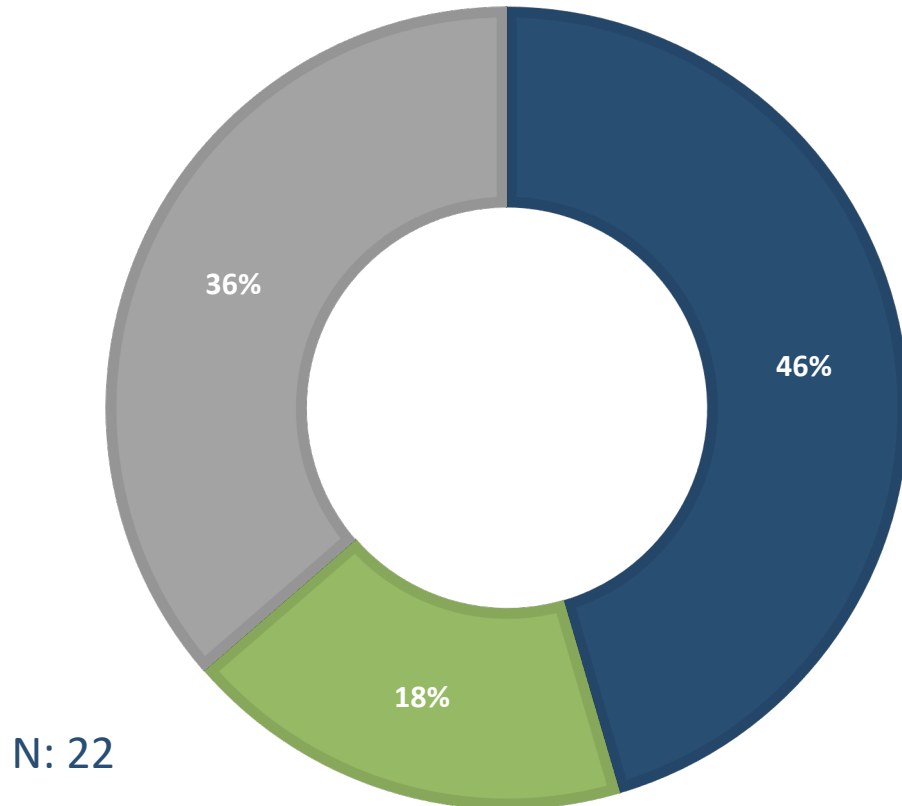
↓ 24%
Business programs Charge

N: 69

Does your Program Include Multi-disciplinary Projects?

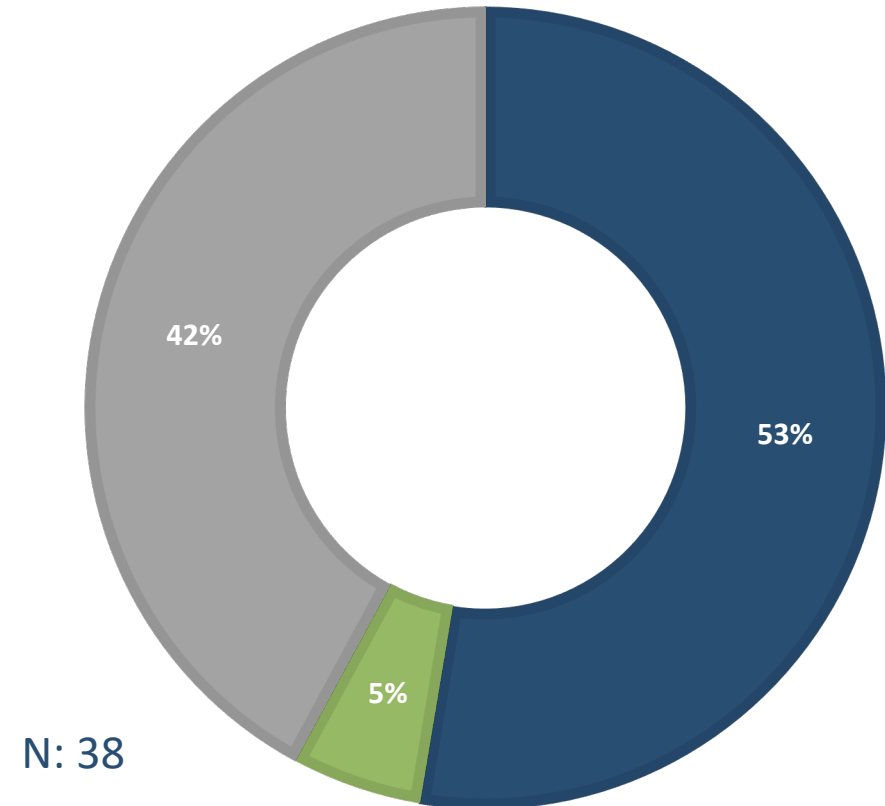
ENGINEERING

■ Yes, within the college ■ Yes, across colleges ■ No



BUSINESS

■ Yes, within the college ■ Yes, across colleges ■ No



Formal Director or Office of Experiential Learning?

29% Yes

71% No

Business

18% Yes

82% No

Engineering

N: 60

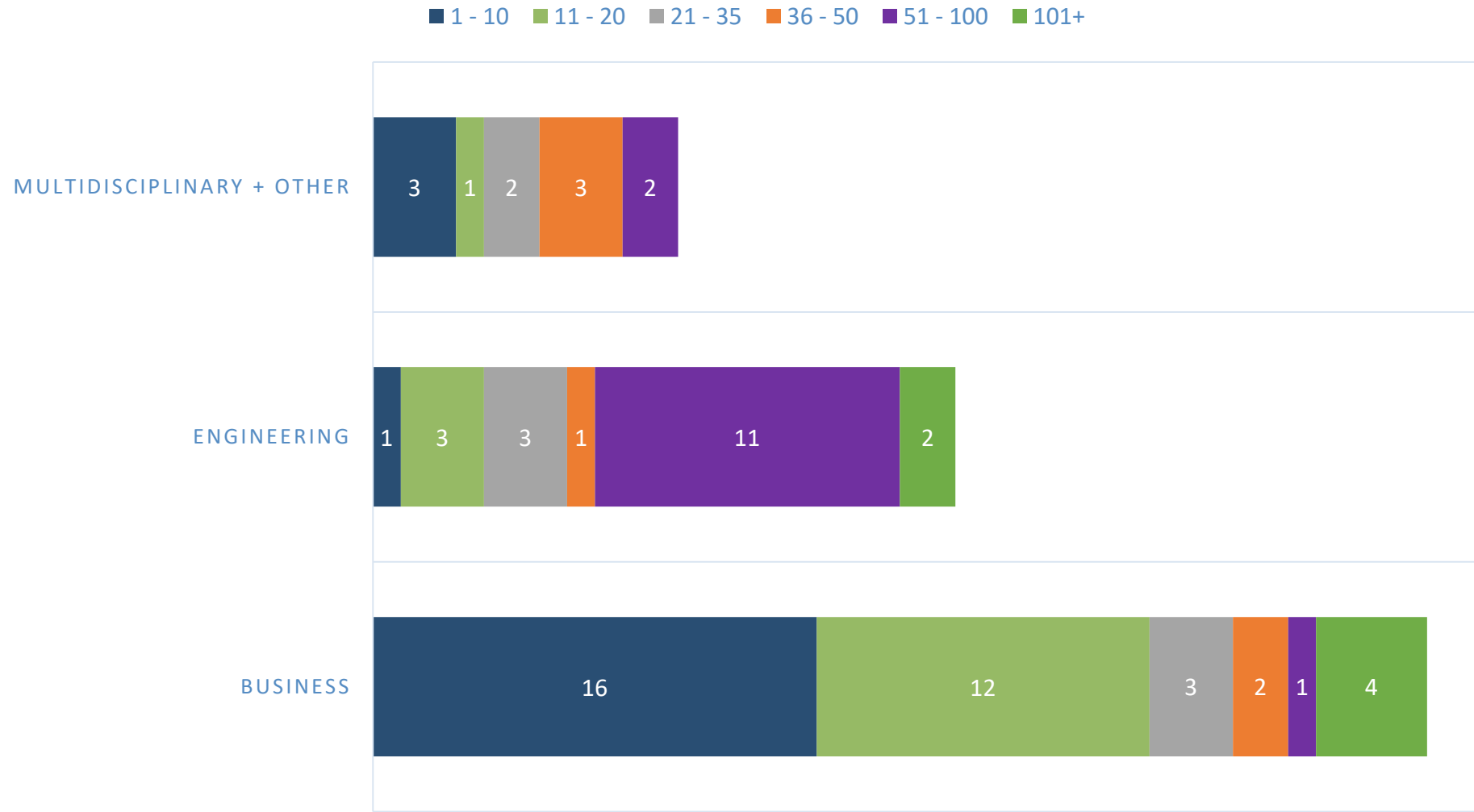
What is your Top Source for Industry Projects?

Faculty Referral
Business

Alumni
Engineering

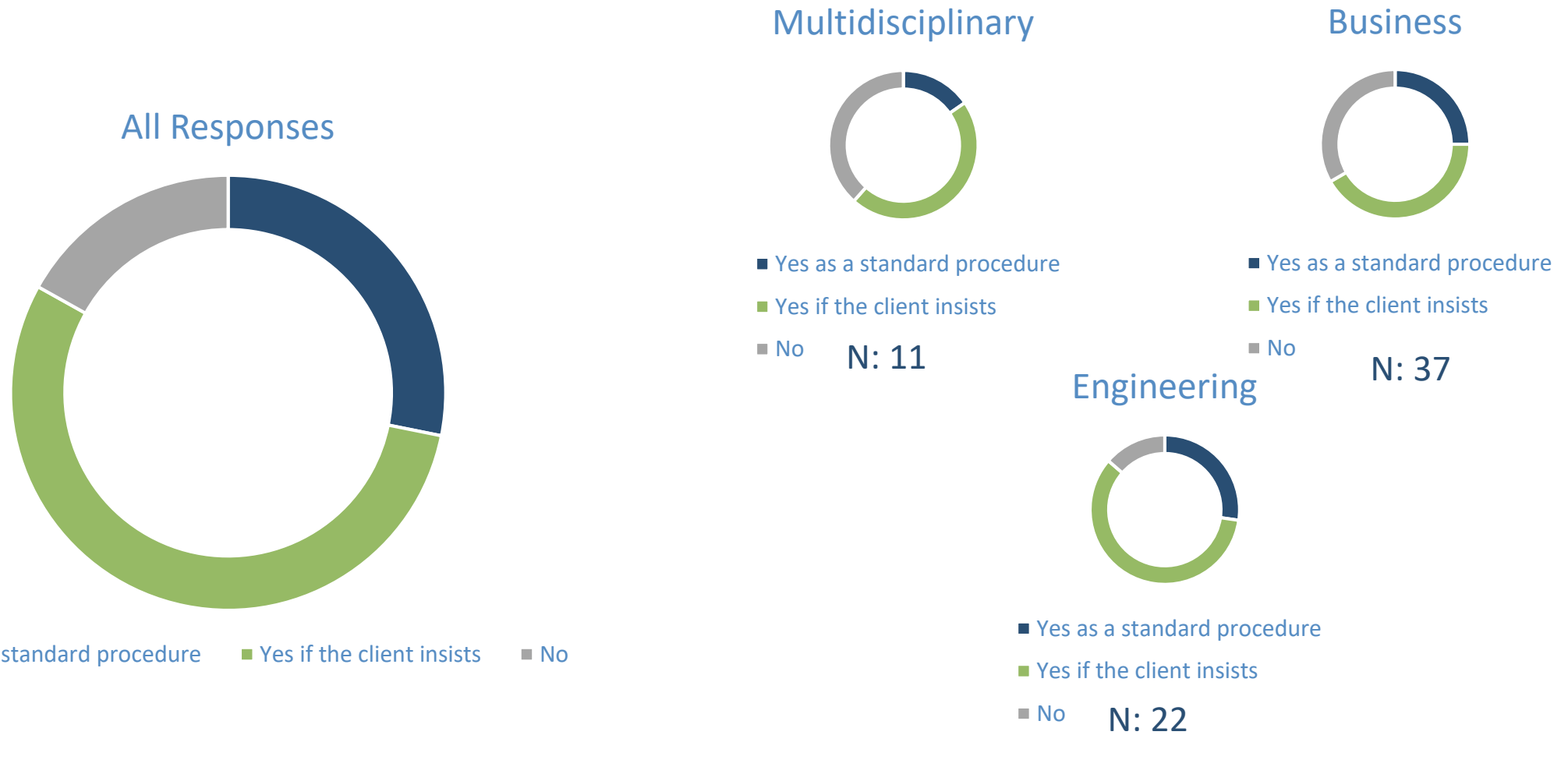
N: 65

NUMBER OF PROJECTS COMPLETED EACH YEAR WITHIN THE COLLEGE

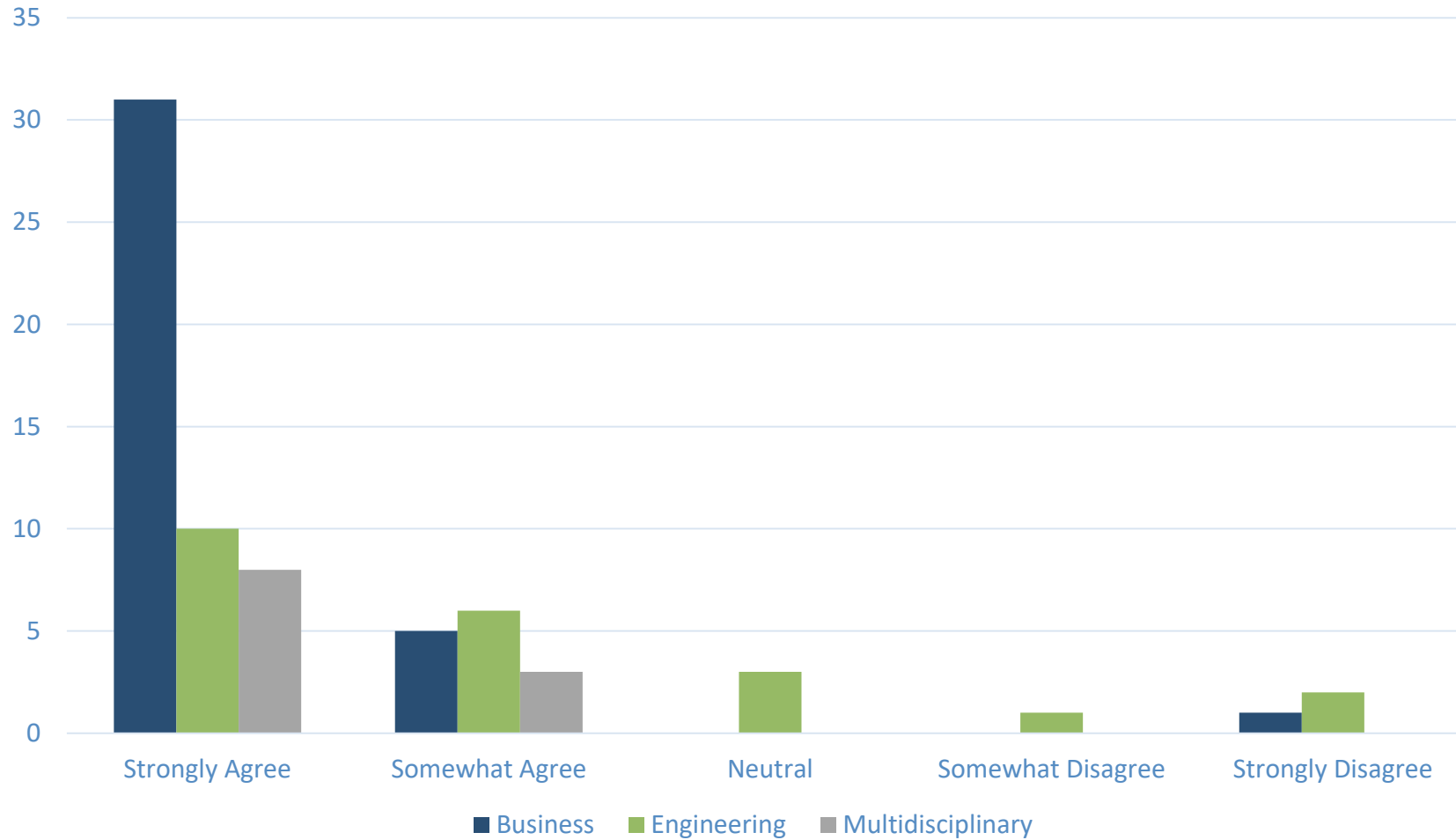


N: 71

Do you use an NDA or other confidentiality agreement?



In General, you Believe Industry Projects in the Classroom are Growing in Importance.



N: 71

Are there any innovations or new components to your experiential initiatives that you are excited about?



Joint capstone between engineering and business



A real consulting project for Freshman to serve as a sounding board for future learning and career choices. It's also team based to help connect students right away.



Our program remains somewhat unique as a multi-year (open to first year through graduate level) and multidisciplinary (within and outside engineering) program

Are there any innovations or new components to your experiential initiatives that you are excited about?



There is [now] a stronger initiative at the college level to complete projects with industry support and to generate revenue from these projects.



Making Lab sessions part of course registration to guarantee availability for students. Creating a Letter of Understanding with the client prior to starting the project has been helpful. Integrating team building exercises to build team trust.



We will be expanding it to our Executive MBA program, working with not for profit community service organizations.

Are there any innovations or new components to your experiential initiatives that you are excited about?



We have a classification scheme of projects. In our MBA we now have a strategy for projects across courses. Varying from simple to complex. The latter is the semester-long client project which we do in our capstone and in a couple of other courses.



Cross-institutional and cross-cultural project teams



Yes, the collaborative projects that exist between the College of Business and the College of Engineering and NASA.

Are there any innovations or new components to your experiential initiatives that you are excited about?



Creating an undergraduate Business Curriculum built entirely on tenets of Experiential Learning Theory



Formal leadership training is also included as part of our capstone design course.



2-year capstones, starting with juniors and including an internship with the sponsor between the junior and senior year.



Using truly multidisciplinary teams (all majors and years).

What is the biggest challenge with experiential projects in your program?



Staffing and getting faculty to include in their courses



Teamwork in general is a problem because not all students contribute equally



Finding projects that are relevant



Consistency in projects across program

What is the biggest challenge with experiential projects in your program?



Each project and each group of students presents different challenges. I learn from them as much as the students do.



Only 1 staff assisting with projects across all the campus - need a strategy to prioritize which classes are priority. Faculty function independently - need unified ownership for an overarching strategy.



Instructor evaluations don't accurately account for experiential learning projects, also risk management, and student fatigue.

What is the biggest challenge with experiential projects in your program?



Managing them. When they are many projects, it is difficult to maintain them with only one instructor.



Accounting - keeping track of expenses and making sure they are charged to the right group.



heavy reliance on the external funding to operate the program

What is the biggest challenge with experiential projects in your program?



Having clients stay actively involved throughout the projects. This affects student motivation in the projects and the resulting effort and quality of their work.



Staffing, equipment, space, and safety



Faculty participation



There is initiative at the college level to complete more projects with industry support, but no tangible support to the faculty to do so.

What is the biggest challenge with experiential projects in your program?



Finding challenging projects with fully engaged partners.



The development of relationships with the community so that they will come to us with projects. It takes time to build relationships, trust and a reputation.



Disclosure of information between the client



finding external partners whose projects are equally challenging across the program.

What is the biggest challenge with experiential projects in your program?



Tracking campus partnerships at a large institution (organizations are often contacted by multiple units at the same university).



Timing of the project need as compared to our academic schedule



Getting clients that understand that this is ultimately a learning experience for the students. Not just hired help.



Assessing who has done what when determining grades.



Making sure the projects are true, guided learning experiences for students, and not just free labor.

One piece of advice you would share with other schools who either have experiential programs, or are considering launching one?



Have a dedicated champion



Keep expectations clear and restricted to a subject matter. Clients and teacher need to agree on project scope. Assign students randomly so they don't know each other. Put a grade for initiative and cooperation.



Have a consistent voice to clients - different faculty teach different courses so have at least one person to track what is going on and build relationships across semesters.



Reach out to your alumni. They will see the value of such a program. Have someone be your project champion at the company. Always keep the company in the loop. We have update meetings every month on-site.

One piece of advice you would share with other schools who either have experiential programs, or are considering launching one?



I recommend launching one. The skills students gain from learning by doing are terrific.



Create a system to manage the activity. Piece milling through emails and word documents is clunky and time consuming.



Start early. Students should start doing projects from their sophomore year.



One step at a time. Make sure you have a core group of faculty, administrators, and staff who understand, support, and champion EL.



Systematic program-based or college-based, instead of lots of one-off course specific projects that are "cult of personality" with specific faculty members, or specific degree programs within a college.

What is one piece of advice you would like to share with other schools who either have experiential programs, or are considering launching one?



Use external faculty advisors; charge clients



Random events that make you think it is all going to crash and burn is going to happen -- that's the real world and it is valuable experience for the students to be guided through without you solving it for them.



Running projects through either a career office, or experiential learning office is easier for businesses looking to interact with the college for projects. Having multiple point people clouds the process.



Just that the payoff for students is outstanding. Keep data and don't give in to administrative pressures to cut the quality of the experiences and change the curriculum for cost savings.