

Vytautas Magnus University First-year Student Survey Results

2020-2021 academic year



Purpose and respondents of the survey

The survey of bachelor and integrated studies' first-year students was conducted in January and February of 2021.

The aim was to identify the reasons for their study choice, expectations and opinion about the studies they had chosen as well as the activities they had been involved in.

593 first-year VMU students took part in the survey – 41.64 percent of bachelor and integrated studies' first-year students.

Respondents in academic units

Unit	Number of first-year students	Number of respondents	% of the total number of first year students
Faculty of Economics and Management	79	28	35.44
Faculty of Natural Sciences	42	24	57.14
Faculty of Humanities	180	88	48.89
Faculty of Informatics	63	22	34.92
Faculty of Catholic Theology	15	4	26.67
Faculty of Arts	152	46	30.26
Music Academy	40	13	32.50
Faculty of Political Science and Diplomacy	185	66	35.68
Faculty of Social Sciences	149	71	47.65
Education Academy	227	98	43.17
Faculty of Law	88	28	31.82
Agriculture Academy	204	105	51.47
Iš viso:	1424	593	41.64

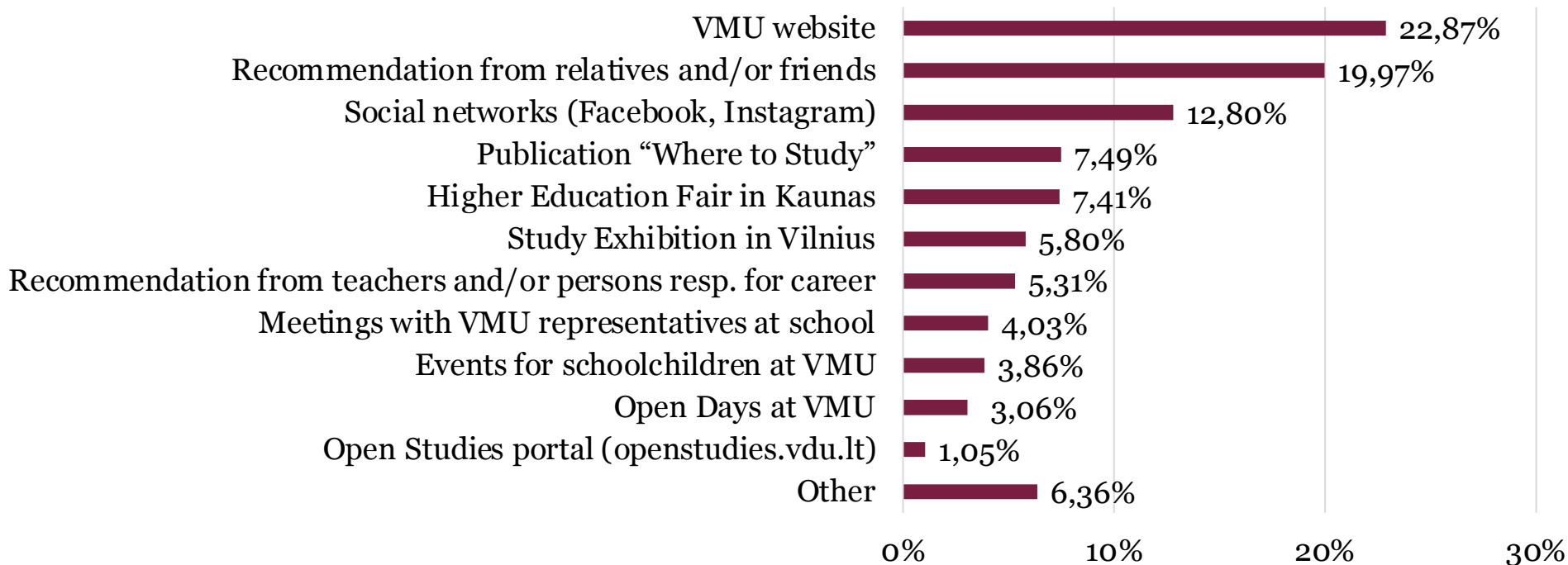
Survey results

Survey results are presented according to the questions given for the first-year students:

- What information sources were most important to you when deciding where to study (1)?
- Why did you choose studies at VMU? (2)?
- What skills would you like to develop while studying at VMU (3)?
- Evaluate VMU's introductory study week events (4).
- Evaluate your study experience at VMU (5).
- What is the average number of hours per week you study (including the whole work in studies) (6)?
- What do you do after your studies (7)?
- Do you know and participate in the activities of Vytautas Magnus University (8)?
- What could be improved at Vytautas Magnus University (9)?

What information sources were most important to you when deciding where to study (1)?

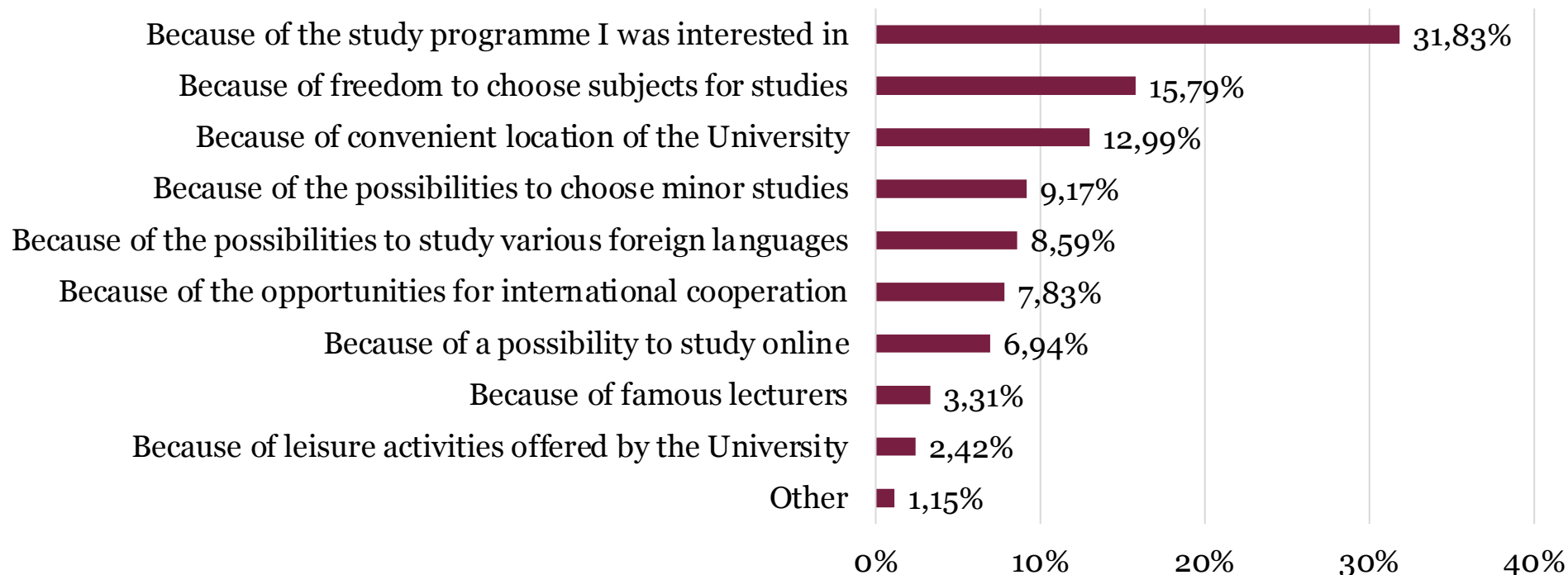
Choose 1–3 most important information sources.



When choosing "Other", the respondents named good feedback about Vytautas Magnus University on the Internet, telephone conversations with the staff responsible for studies and Vytautas Magnus University lecturers, google search, received advertisements by e-mail, mail, lectures to graduates to prepare for exams, QS ratings, SKVC program evaluations, participation in a summer camp.

Why did you choose studies at VMU (2)?

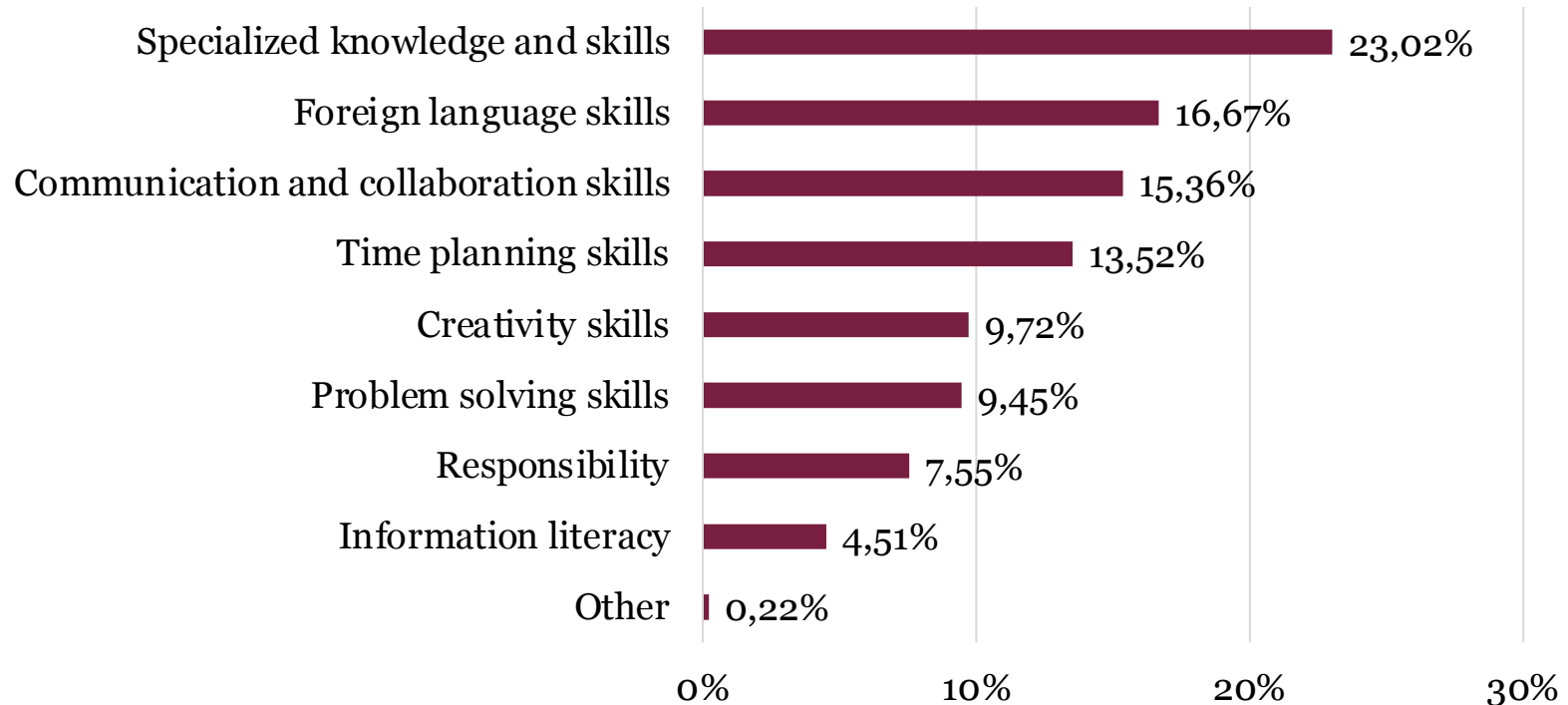
Choose 1–3 most important reasons.



When choosing "Other", the respondents mentioned that they chose to study at Vytautas Magnus University due to: the atmosphere and connection of the university, the possibility to combine studies with sports or work, the cost of studies, the scholarships received, the mobility and liberalism of the University and recommendations.

What skills would you like to develop while studying at VMU (3)?

Choose 1–3 most appropriate options.



When choosing "Other", respondents indicated that they plan to develop leadership, planning, and professional skills.

Evaluate VMU's introductory study week events (4).

Choose the evaluation next to each event.

Registration Day – the event when students make their study schedule and register for study subjects

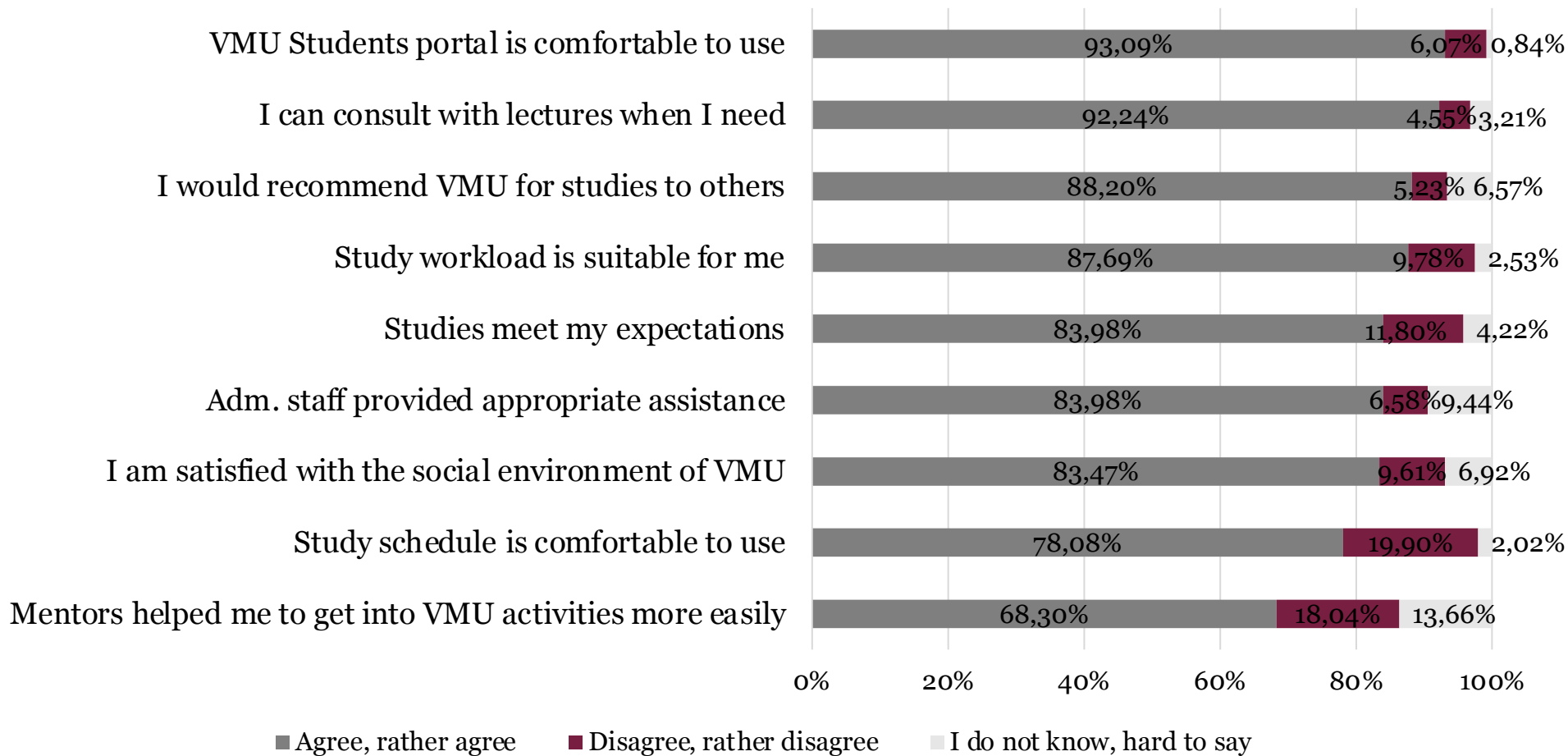


■ Useful, rather useful

■ Unuseful, rather unuseful

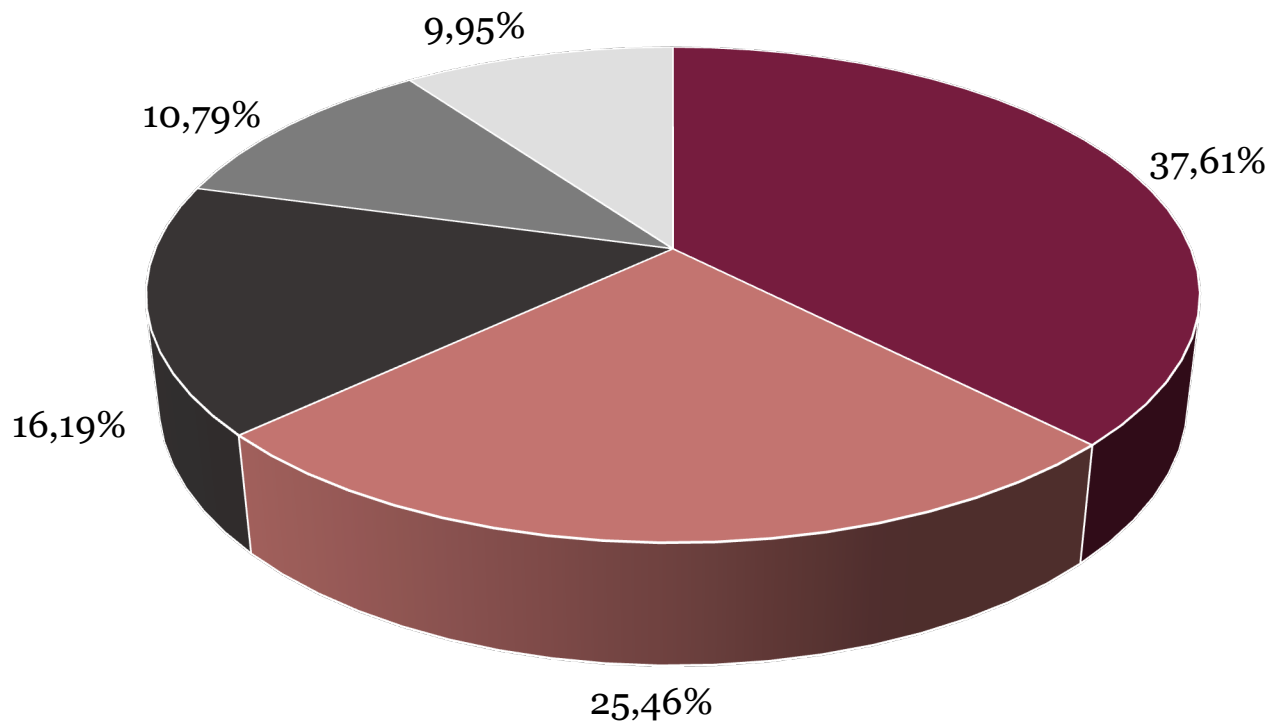
■ I do not know, hard to say

Evaluate your study experience at VMU (5).



What is the average number of hours per week you study (including the whole work in study) (6)?

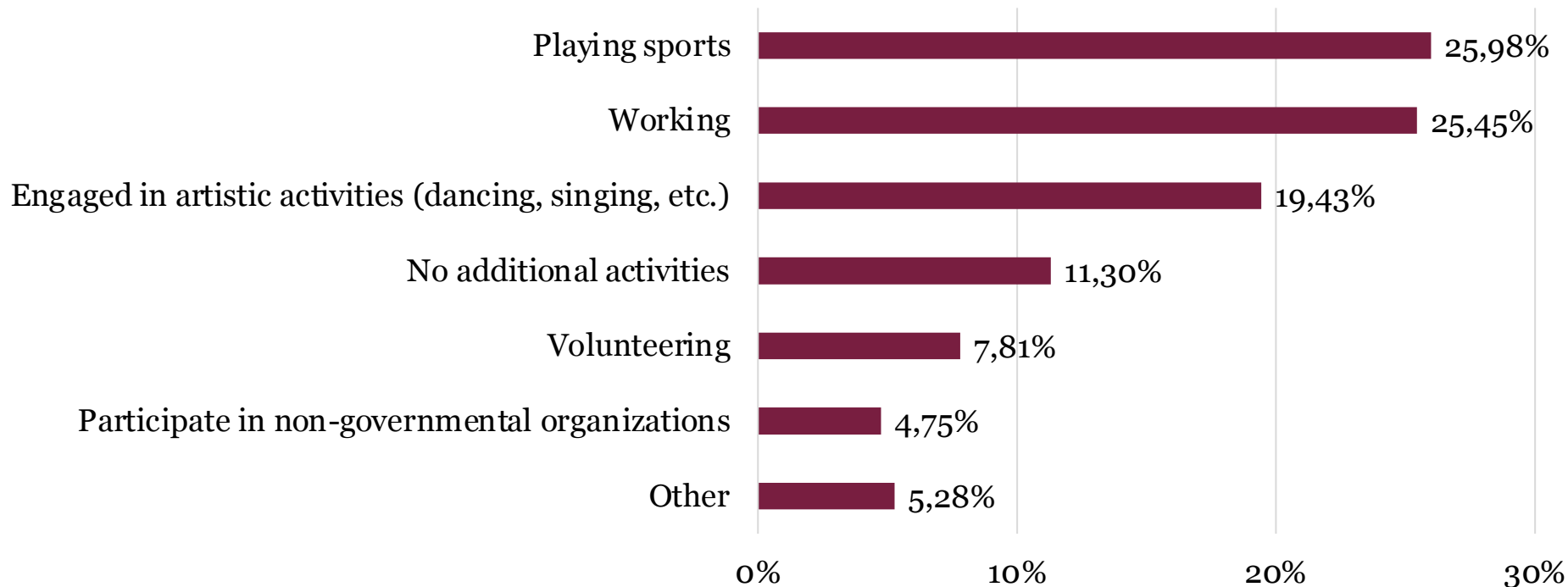
Choose 1 answer.



■ 20–29 hours ■ 10–19 hours ■ 30–39 hours ■ Up to 10 hours ■ 40 hours and more

What do you do after your studies (7)?

Choose all the suitable answers.



When choosing "Other", the respondents mentioned that in their free time after studies they spend time with friends, relax, read books, go for walks, participate in activities organized by the student representative office, raise children, do their business, learn additional foreign languages and continue to be interested in study-related activities.

Do you know and participate in the activities of VMU (8)?

Choose the answer next to each statement.

Universitete vykdomos veiklos	I participate already, %	I know and plan to participate, %	I know but I do not plan to participate, %	I do not know but it would be interesting, %	I do not know, hard to say, %
Academia cum laude (individual studies)	2.87	5.56	40.30	29.85	21.42
Entrepreneurship Academy	1.35	10.29	40.64	26.14	21.59
Psychology Clinic	2.36	10.46	23.78	39.29	24.11
Minor studies	10.12	32.72	29.17	15.68	12.31
International mobility programmes	1.52	19.06	22.77	30.19	26.48
Events promoting entrepreneurship	1.01	11.97	25.97	35.75	25.30
Career planning events	2.70	21.92	19.56	39.12	16.69
Voluntary and additional practice at VMU	2.02	29.68	18.04	34.57	15.68
Practice abroad	1.01	36.26	20.57	29.17	12.98
Volunteering at VMU	2.87	19.56	26.81	29.34	21.42
Academic pastoral care	0.84	5.40	38.62	21.25	33.90
University student organizations and clubs	7.93	18.04	29.51	24.96	19.56
Events for languages and cultures	3.20	19.56	25.80	31.20	20.24
Sports Center activities	5.40	19.22	31.70	22.26	21.42
Arts Center activities	4.72	14.50	33.90	27.32	19.56

What could be improved at VMU (9)?

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Registration for study courses: to make shorter registration for study courses; to increase the number of places in the most popular groups (especially in the subgroup of relevant foreign languages); review registration criteria (without giving preferences for higher year students; make ranking according to the marks of the autumn semester, not the entrance score); to supplement the list of Group A for distance studies.

Timetables: to better align the time of Group A classes with the schedule of Group C courses; to maintain the schedule stability; evenly distribute the time for classes throughout the week; to organize more foreign language classes in the afternoon and evening.

Communication: to provide more detailed information about registration for study courses, the required number of credits for the semester, opportunities to receive a scholarship in the future, etc.; teachers and faculty administration could communicate more actively with students (there is a lack of relevant information from the administration, teachers do not always respond to students' requests by e-mail); to better publicize the activities carried out at the University on the student portal.

Quality of teaching: to prepare teaching and learning material of some courses in a more clear way; teachers could be more motivated, work more closely with students; provide more up-to-date examples and practical tasks.

Other comments: create a more convenient section of evaluation and schedule in the student portal; provide records of distance lectures; to create opportunities for distance learning after the quarantine; to improve the choice of minor studies in Vilnius; apply the same platform for all classes in distance studies; to renew dormitories.

THANK YOU FOR COOPERATION

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