



Class of 1981 Survey Results

# MIT Class of 1981 25<sup>th</sup> Year Reunion Survey Results

Conducted by the Reunion Committee  
Reported by Lew Bender



# Demographics

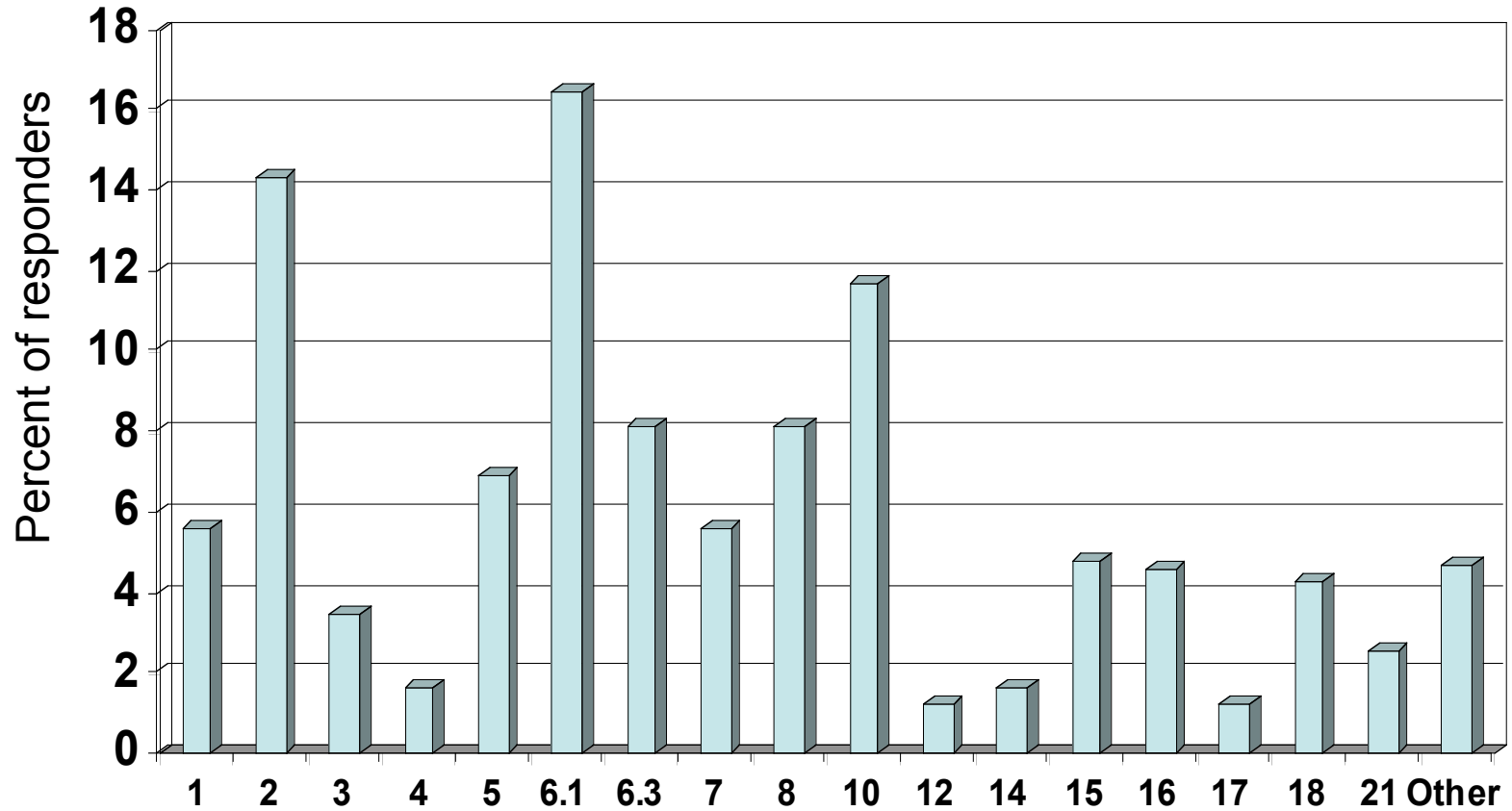
- 234 responders (5<sup>th</sup> reunion had 279 responders)
- 79% men, 21% women (16% women in class)
- 31% from New England (22% of class live in NE)
- West (25%) Mid Atlantic (17%), Midwest (12%)
- 29% have lived outside US for > 6 months
- 6% (of responders) currently live outside the US





## Class of 1981 Survey Results

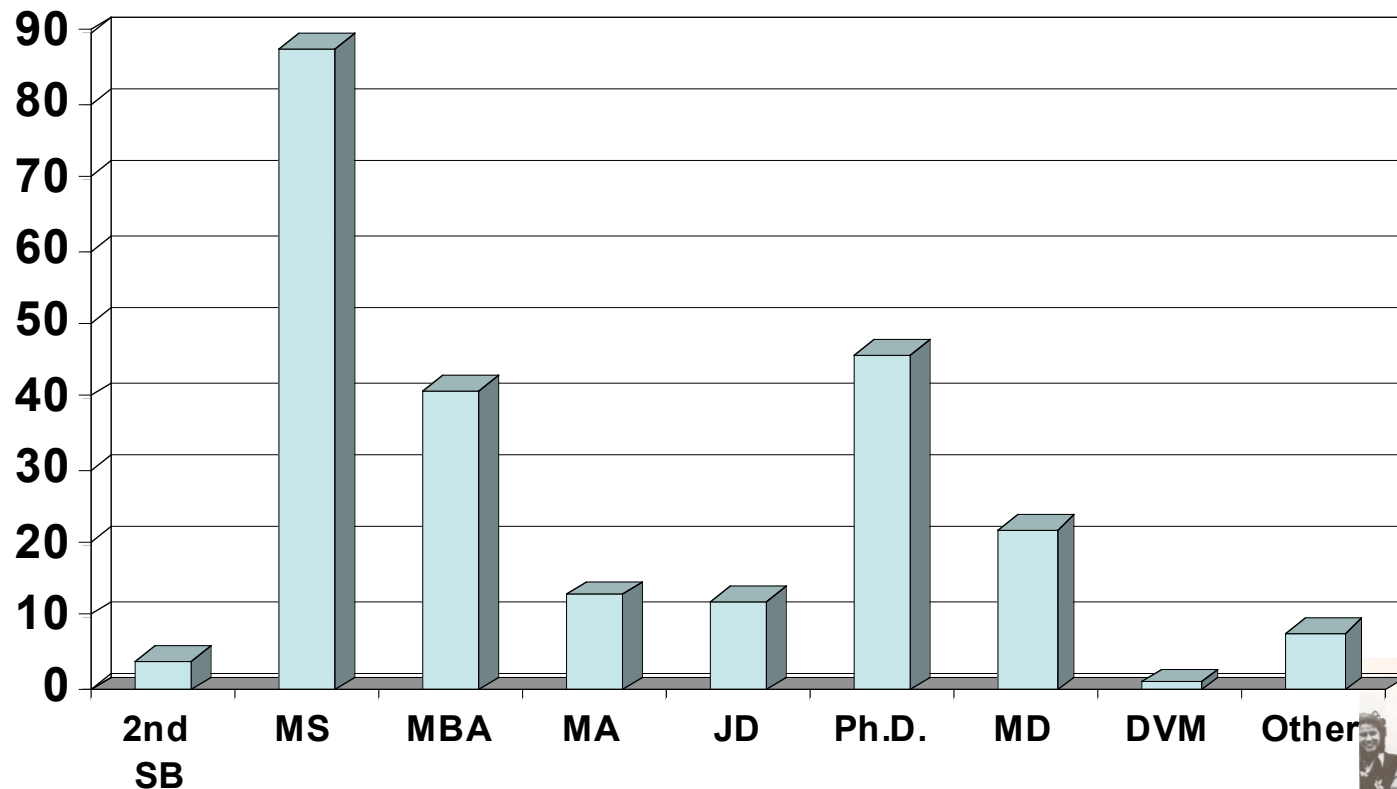
# Departments





# Departments

- 181 responders (80%) had a second degree
- 40 had 2 or more degrees beyond 1<sup>st</sup> SB





# Married

- 89% have been married
- 84% are currently married
- 91% have spouse as college graduate
- 60% of MIT spouses work outside the home

How many times have you been married?

0 times – 11%

2 times – 9%,

1 time – 80%

3 times – 1 person,





# Children

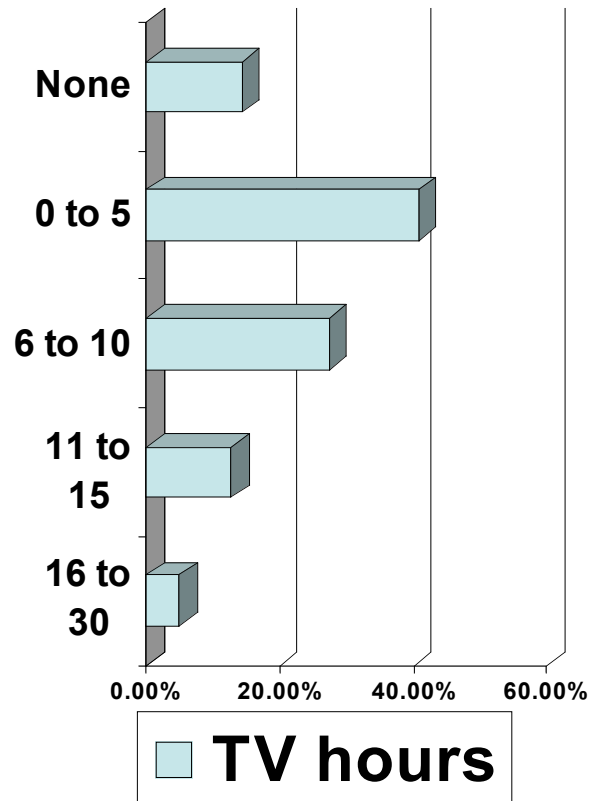
- 75% have children (227 responders)
- 55% are girls (217 v 176)
- 2.68 children per responder on average (1.42 g)
- 9 have adopted 1 child
- 4 have adopted 3
- 1 responder has 3 adopted





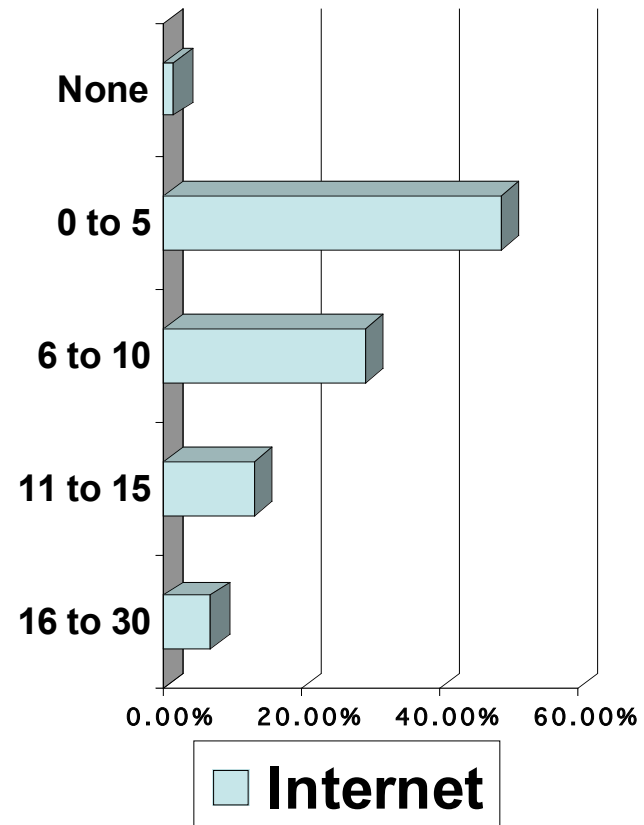
# Leisure (Hours)

223 responders



70% do not own a Tivo or similar device

224 responders



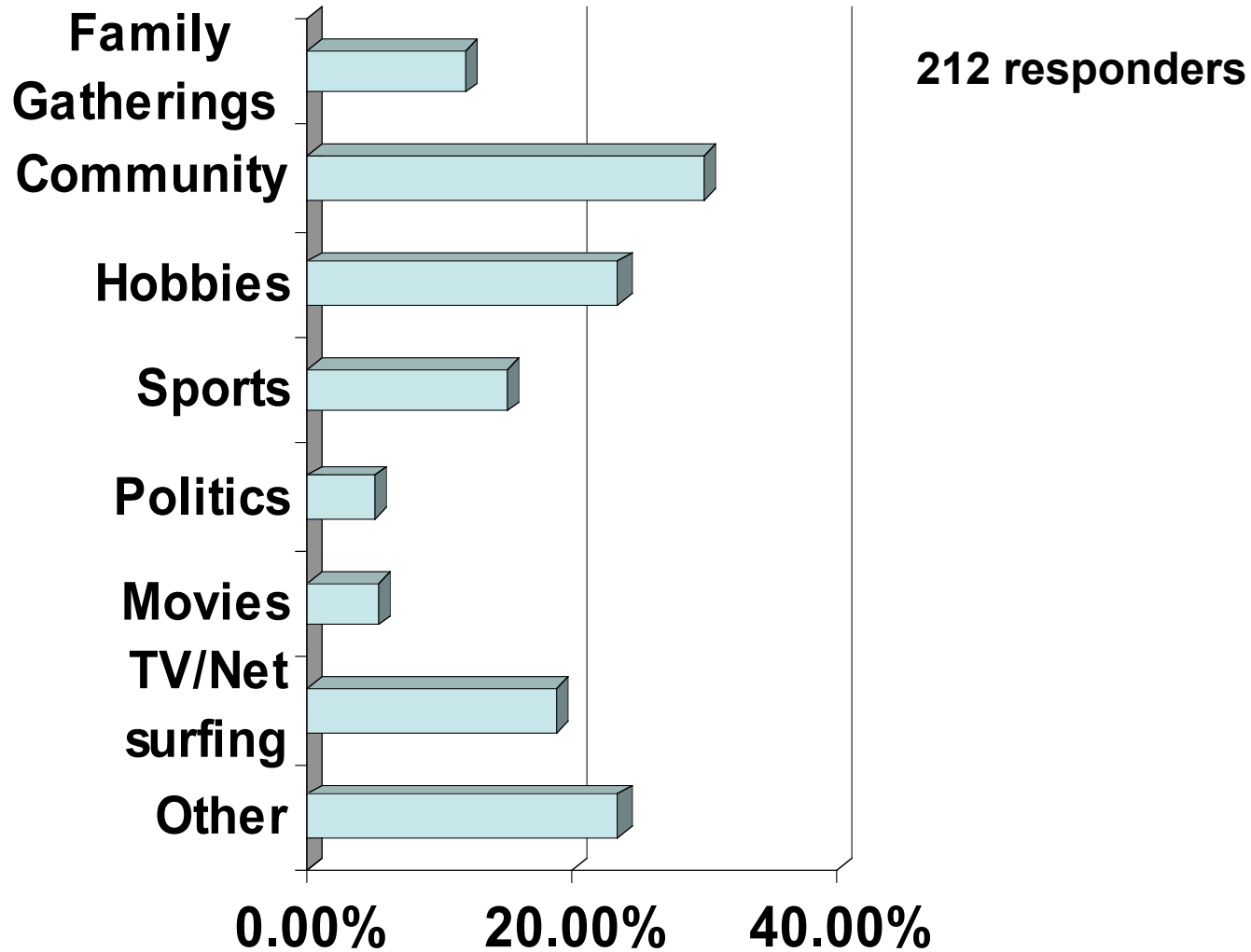
Dell is the overwhelming choice for computers 38%





## Class of 1981 Survey Results

# Leisure (% of time)





# Leisure

- Plays, Concerts: 53% saw 1 to 5 events, 27% : 6 to 10 events
- Politics: 45% Democrat, 31% Ind., 17% Republican; 7% other
- Sports: 52% other??; 51% of respondents hike; 37% gym;

- Books read:

2% : read none;      23%: read 1 to 5;      26% read 6 to 10  
18% : read 11 to 15;    9% : read 16 to 20;    8% read 21 to 30  
six people have read more than 75 books

## What is the single most important item to you now?

Family – 77%

Strong correlation with marriage & children

Career –

11%

Personal Activities – 7%





# Wealth

- 89% of the class live in a house
- 90% own their home (225 responders)
- 18% own a second home
- 11% own a boat
- 5 responders have their own airplane or jet

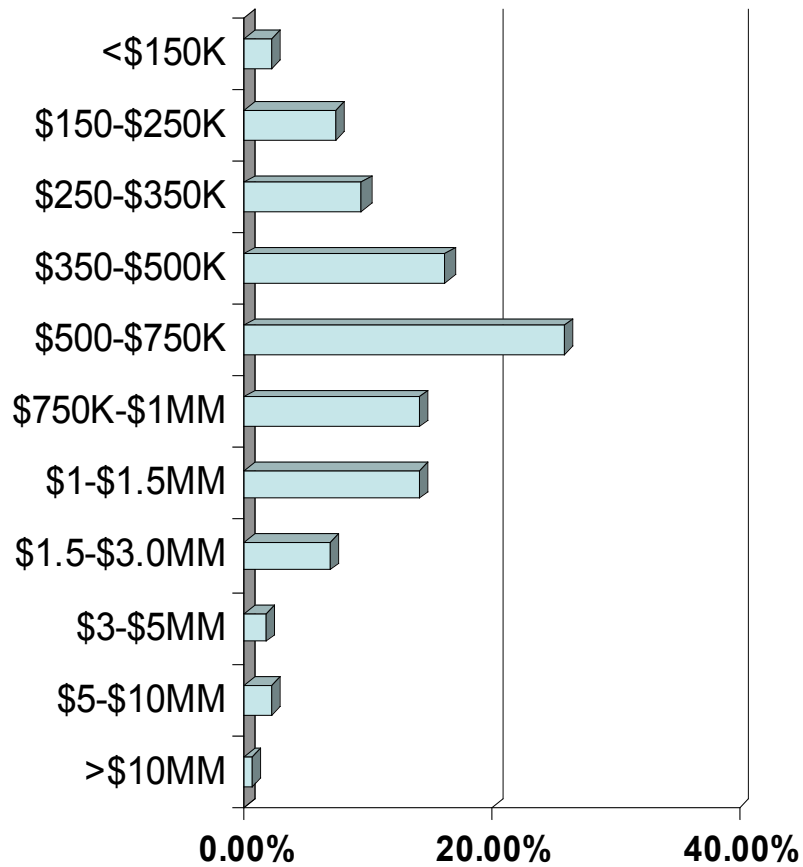




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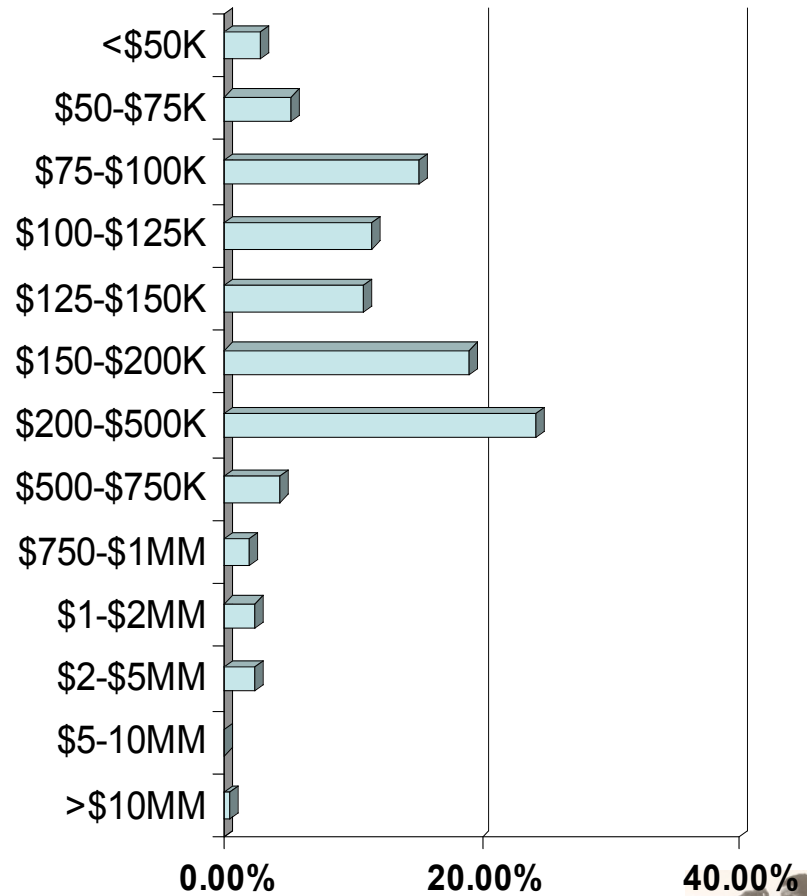
# Wealth

191 responders



Home value

211 responders



Income





# Careers

- 77% are doing the type of work they like
- 55% are in a line of work directly related to their major
- 51% work for a company <500 employees (with 31% of the class working in an organization of less than 50 people)
- 20% are in engineering, 19% in R&D,
- 19% in executive mgmt, 9% physicians



# Work (220 responders)

## Hours Working

- <20 hours : 2.3%
- 21 to 30 hours : 5.9%
- 31 to 40 hours : 9.5%
- 41 to 50 hours : 38.9%
- 51 to 60 hours : 28.1%
- 61 to 80 hours : 12.2%
- > 80 hours : 2 people

## Miles one way

- 0 miles : 12.3%
- 1 to 5 miles : 25.6%
- 6 to 20 miles : 40.2%
- 21 to 30 miles : 11.9%
- 31 to 45 miles : 5.9%
- 46 to 60 miles : 1.8%
- > 60 miles : 2.3%

## How many times have you been involuntarily unemployed?

- |               |                |                |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 0 times : 67% | 1 time : 19%   | 2 times : 9.9% |
| 3 times : 3%  | 4 times : 0.9% | 5 times : 0%   |

One person has been terminated more than 5 times



# Management

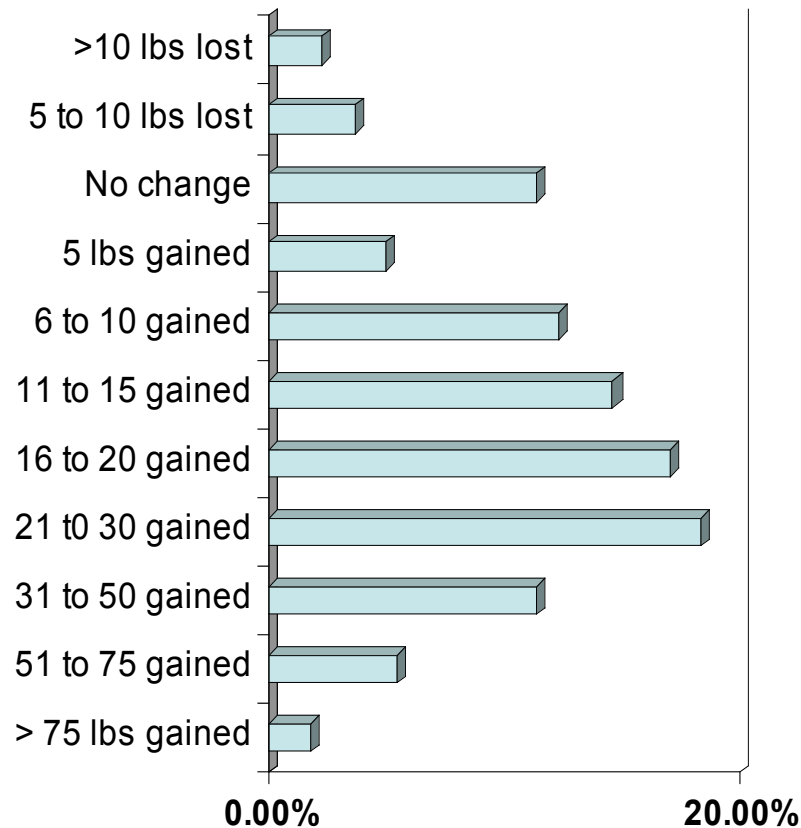
- 23% own or significantly own their business
- 29% have started their own business
- 110 responders indicated they were supervisors;
  - 35% manage 6 to 20 people,
  - 26% manage 2 to 5 people
  - 13% manage 21 to 50 people
  - 1 person manages more than 5000 people





# Secrets

219 responders



Weight change

Do you consider yourself healthy?

YES : 86.4%

Have you ever cheated on your taxes?

YES : 3.7%

Have you had an EM affair?

YES : 7%

(1996 & 2001 this was 9%)

Average weight change : + 20 lbs  
Or 22,000 lbs or 130 new classmates





# Expectations

Has your life lived up to the expectations you had since graduation?

2006

214

Responders

	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>Below</b>
<b>Professionally</b>	36%	42%	22%
<b>Socially/Friends</b>	16%	60%	24%
<b>Family/Marriage</b>	42%	36%	21%
<b>Living/Community</b>	27%	63%	11%

1991

273

Responders

	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>Below</b>
<b>Professionally</b>	32%	49%	18%
<b>Socially/Friends</b>	17%	65%	18%
<b>Family/Marriage</b>	43%	34%	22%
<b>Living/Community</b>	22%	62%	9%





# Outlook

Given the present course of national and world events, how do you feel towards:

2006

216 Responders

	Optimistic	Neutral	Pessimistic
<b>Your personal future</b>	<b>67%</b>	28%	5%
<b>Your children's future</b> (181r)	<b>50%</b>	32%	18%
<b>America's future</b>	21%	29%	50%
<b>Mankind's future</b>	25%	<b>39%</b>	36%

1991

273 Responders

	Optimistic	Neutral	Pessimistic
<b>Your personal future</b>	75%	24%	2%
<b>Your children's future</b>	49%	32%	19%
<b>American's future</b>	31%	34%	35%
<b>Mankind's future</b>	41%	33%	25%





# MIT

- Is MIT better or worse than it was 25 years ago?

Better : 26.1 %

Worse : 6.4 %

Don't Know : 67.4%

See handouts on other comments.  
Thanks for participating !!!

