

In early August 2009, the Office of the Provost, Institutional Research administered the bi-annual survey of incoming graduate students. Sixty-five percent of students invited participated in the survey (987 students out of 1,530). The survey gathers information on topics such as: admission offers and financial awards from other institutions, factors in students' choice to study at MIT, reasons for pursuing graduate study, students' self-perception, expectations, finances, and career plans. Item-by-item results follow. Highlights from this recent administration, with comparisons to previous administrations (2003, 2006, 2007):

- With regard to reasons for pursuing graduate study, factors in choosing MIT, self-perception and expectations, this year's incoming graduate students were remarkably similar to those who preceded them. They continue to identify "personal intellectual enrichment" as the top reason for pursuing graduate study. The reputation of their program and MIT's overall reputation continue to stand as the top factors in choosing the Institute. Students are most likely to perceive themselves among the top 10% of their peers in their drive to achieve and emotional health. Their highest expectations are in the areas of quality—the intellectual quality of the faculty and the overall quality of their respective programs.
- Despite the difficult global economic situation, it is interesting to note that "poor job market" did not stand as more of a factor in the decision to pursue graduate study now than in previous years. It remains the least important factor of those options presented in the instrument.
- Compared with prior years, MIT's financial support to doctoral students was more likely to be similar to offers from other schools. In 2009, the percentage of students who indicated MIT's offer was less generous or more generous than other offers they received declined.
- Current incoming master's students are painting a more challenging picture with regard to their finances than did previous students. On average, master's program entrants report anticipated educational loan payments of approximately \$6,000 for the upcoming academic year. This figure represents a 62% increase over average amounts reported on the 2007 administration of the survey. Not surprisingly, a greater portion of master's students this year reported that their total income will be insufficient to cover their expenses (54% currently vs. 48% in previous years). In covering the gap, students this year were more likely to report relying on loans than they were in prior years. 52% of incoming master's students anticipated borrowing, up from 46% in 2007. Finally, incoming master's students anticipate greater levels of debt to finance their graduate educations than previously. On average, this year's respondents anticipate completing their graduate education with approximately \$53,000 in debt. This figure represents a 36% increase over 2007 estimates.

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

COMING TO MIT

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
What were you doing immediately prior to entering this program?	Undergraduate student	20.5%	109	55.8%	239	36.3%	348
	Graduate student	13.2%	70	20.8%	89	16.6%	159
	Volunteer/community service	1.9%	10	.5%	2	1.3%	12
	Cared for a family	.6%	3	.0%	0	.3%	3
	Employed in a field related to that of current study	47.2%	251	17.3%	74	33.9%	325
	Employed in a field unrelated to that of current study	13.7%	73	3.3%	14	9.1%	87
	Other	3.0%	16	2.3%	10	2.7%	26
	Total	100.0%	532	100.0%	428	100.0%	960

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Including MIT, to how many programs at all schools were you admitted this year?	1	34.8%	183	10.3%	44	23.8%	227
	2	24.1%	127	13.3%	57	19.3%	184
	3	17.5%	92	17.6%	75	17.5%	167
	4	9.5%	50	12.9%	55	11.0%	105
	5 or more	14.1%	74	45.9%	196	28.3%	270
	Total	100.0%	526	100.0%	427	100.0%	953

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Including MIT, how many programs offered you financial support (excluding loans)?	0	38.6%	203	2.8%	12	22.6%	215
	1	27.0%	142	14.4%	61	21.3%	203
	2	16.3%	86	16.0%	68	16.2%	154
	3	10.1%	53	16.0%	68	12.7%	121
	4	4.4%	23	12.9%	55	8.2%	78
	5 or more	3.6%	19	37.9%	161	18.9%	180
	Total	100.0%	526	100.0%	425	100.0%	951

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Please indicate how MIT's financial offer compared to offers from other schools you seriously considered.	MIT's financial offer was less generous	18.2%	96	22.6%	96	20.2%	192
	MIT's financial offer was about the same	12.7%	67	48.9%	208	28.9%	275
	MIT's financial offer was more generous	19.2%	101	14.6%	62	17.1%	163
	Not applicable	49.9%	263	13.9%	59	33.8%	322
	Total	100.0%	527	100.0%	425	100.0%	952

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Is the program you are entering at MIT your first, second, or third choice?	Third or lower choice	2.1%	11	.2%	1	1.3%	12
	Second choice	11.9%	63	5.2%	22	8.9%	85
	First or only choice	86.0%	456	94.6%	404	89.9%	860
	Total	100.0%	530	100.0%	427	100.0%	957

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
What is the ultimate degree you are preparing for in this program?	Masters	82.1%	437	.0%	0	45.4%	437
	Masters in Engineering	16.7%	89	.0%	0	9.3%	89
	Engineer	1.1%	6	.0%	0	.6%	6
	Doctorate	.0%	0	100.0%	430	44.7%	430
	Total	100.0%	532	100.0%	430	100.0%	962

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
How long do you think it will take you to complete your degree?	One year	28.9%	154	.5%	2	16.3%	156
	Two years	65.2%	347	1.4%	6	36.8%	353
	Three years	4.1%	22	.5%	2	2.5%	24
	Four years	1.7%	9	13.8%	59	7.1%	68
	Five years	.0%	0	70.8%	303	31.6%	303
	Six years or more	.0%	0	13.1%	56	5.8%	56
	Total	100.0%	532	100.0%	428	100.0%	960

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

REASONS TO BEGIN GRADUATE PROGRAM

How important were each of the following factors in your decision to begin a graduate program now?

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Advanced degree needed to enter my career field	Not at all important	6.7%	34	2.6%	11	4.8%	45
	Not very important	19.1%	97	11.0%	46	15.4%	143
	Somewhat important	37.0%	188	30.7%	129	34.2%	317
	Extremely important	28.7%	146	54.3%	228	40.3%	374
	Not applicable	8.5%	43	1.4%	6	5.3%	49
	Total	100.0%	508	100.0%	420	100.0%	928
Advanced degree needed to advance in my career	Not at all important	1.9%	10	2.4%	10	2.1%	20
	Not very important	4.5%	23	7.4%	31	5.8%	54
	Somewhat important	34.6%	178	25.7%	108	30.6%	286
	Extremely important	55.1%	284	56.2%	236	55.6%	520
	Not applicable	3.9%	20	8.3%	35	5.9%	55
	Total	100.0%	515	100.0%	420	100.0%	935
Change of career	Not at all important	10.8%	55	24.6%	103	17.1%	158
	Not very important	14.4%	73	13.4%	56	13.9%	129
	Somewhat important	25.2%	128	9.1%	38	17.9%	166
	Extremely important	27.2%	138	5.0%	21	17.2%	159
	Not applicable	22.4%	114	47.8%	200	33.9%	314
	Total	100.0%	508	100.0%	418	100.0%	926
Increased income-earning potential	Not at all important	4.1%	21	12.3%	52	7.8%	73
	Not very important	12.6%	65	28.4%	120	19.7%	185
	Somewhat important	42.4%	218	41.8%	177	42.2%	395
	Extremely important	39.5%	203	13.7%	58	27.9%	261
	Not applicable	1.4%	7	3.8%	16	2.5%	23
	Total	100.0%	514	100.0%	423	100.0%	937
Life stage (e.g., still single, no children yet, children in school/grown)	Not at all important	7.4%	38	13.0%	55	9.9%	93
	Not very important	16.2%	83	23.2%	98	19.3%	181
	Somewhat important	39.2%	201	40.0%	169	39.5%	370
	Extremely important	30.8%	158	18.4%	78	25.2%	236
	Not applicable	6.4%	33	5.4%	23	6.0%	56
	Total	100.0%	513	100.0%	423	100.0%	936

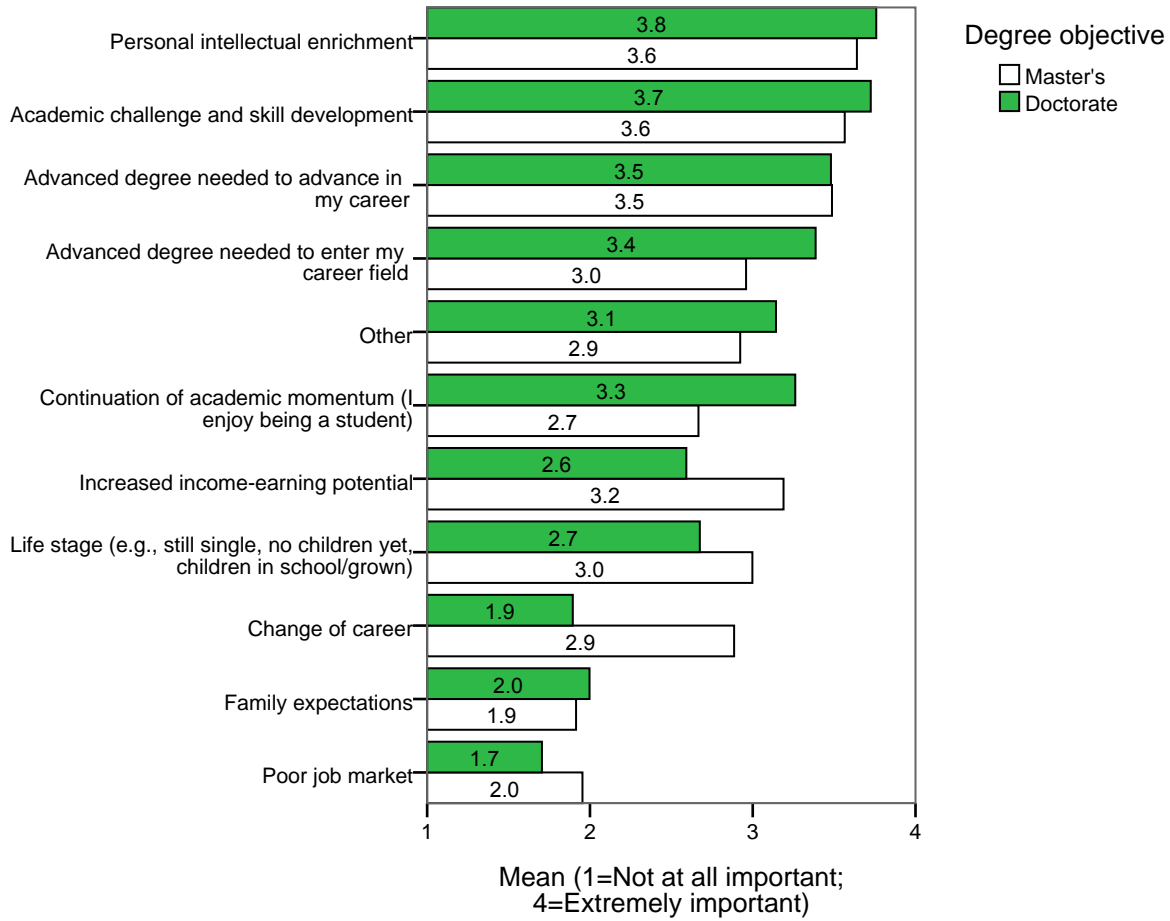
2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How important were each of the following factors in your decision to begin a graduate program now?(cont.)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Personal intellectual enrichment	Not at all important	.6%	3	.5%	2	.5%	5
	Not very important	3.9%	20	1.4%	6	2.8%	26
	Somewhat important	26.3%	136	19.8%	84	23.4%	220
	Extremely important	68.7%	355	77.9%	331	72.8%	686
	Not applicable	.6%	3	.5%	2	.5%	5
	Total	100.0%	517	100.0%	425	100.0%	942
Poor job market	Not at all important	36.2%	186	47.0%	199	41.1%	385
	Not very important	30.2%	155	31.0%	131	30.5%	286
	Somewhat important	21.4%	110	13.9%	59	18.0%	169
	Extremely important	5.3%	27	2.6%	11	4.1%	38
	Not applicable	7.0%	36	5.4%	23	6.3%	59
	Total	100.0%	514	100.0%	423	100.0%	937
Academic challenge and skill development	Not at all important	.8%	4	.5%	2	.6%	6
	Not very important	5.6%	29	.7%	3	3.4%	32
	Somewhat important	29.7%	153	24.5%	104	27.3%	257
	Extremely important	63.4%	327	73.6%	313	68.0%	640
	Not applicable	.6%	3	.7%	3	.6%	6
	Total	100.0%	516	100.0%	425	100.0%	941
Continuation of academic momentum (I enjoy being a student)	Not at all important	16.7%	86	4.2%	18	11.1%	104
	Not very important	21.9%	113	13.6%	58	18.2%	171
	Somewhat important	29.5%	152	33.2%	141	31.2%	293
	Extremely important	24.5%	126	48.0%	204	35.1%	330
	Not applicable	7.4%	38	.9%	4	4.5%	42
	Total	100.0%	515	100.0%	425	100.0%	940
Family expectations	Not at all important	38.4%	198	33.4%	141	36.2%	339
	Not very important	26.6%	137	32.2%	136	29.1%	273
	Somewhat important	21.4%	110	24.2%	102	22.6%	212
	Extremely important	4.7%	24	4.5%	19	4.6%	43
	Not applicable	8.9%	46	5.7%	24	7.5%	70
	Total	100.0%	515	100.0%	422	100.0%	937
Other	Not at all important	8.9%	7	4.7%	2	7.4%	9
	Not very important	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%	0
	Somewhat important	8.9%	7	.0%	0	5.7%	7
	Extremely important	15.2%	12	11.6%	5	13.9%	17
	Not applicable	67.1%	53	83.7%	36	73.0%	89
	Total	100.0%	79	100.0%	43	100.0%	122

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

Factors in decision to begin graduate study now



2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

ABOUT YOU

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
What is your gender?	Male	67.9%	345	75.7%	318	71.4%	663
	Female	32.1%	163	24.3%	102	28.6%	265
	Total	100.0%	508	100.0%	420	100.0%	928

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
What is your present citizenship status?	U.S. citizen	47.1%	239	53.7%	224	50.1%	463
	U.S. permanent resident (green card holder) and citizen of another country	4.5%	23	2.2%	9	3.5%	32
	Citizen of another country with a student visa or other nonimmigrant visa	48.3%	245	44.1%	184	46.4%	429
	Total	100.0%	507	100.0%	417	100.0%	924

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Are you Hispanic or Latino?	Yes, I am Hispanic or Latino	11.8%	60	6.1%	25	9.2%	85
	No, I am neither Hispanic nor Latino	88.2%	448	93.9%	387	90.8%	835
	Total	100.0%	508	100.0%	412	100.0%	920

What is your racial background? (Please choose one or more.)

		Degree objective					
		Master's			Doctorate		
		Responses	% of Responses	% of Respondents	Responses	% of Responses	% of Respondents
Race/Ethnicity (self-reported)	American Indian or Alaska Native	6	1.2%	1.2%	2	.5%	.5%
	Asian	201	39.4%	41.0%	149	36.1%	37.1%
	Black or African American	21	4.1%	4.3%	14	3.4%	3.5%
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	.4%	.4%	1	.2%	.2%
	White	280	54.9%	57.1%	247	59.8%	61.4%
	Overall	510	100.0%	104.1%	413	100.0%	102.7%

Percentages total more than 100% due to multiple responses.

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Do you have a spouse or domestic partner?	Yes	33.7%	173	16.4%	69	25.9%	242
	No	66.3%	341	83.6%	353	74.1%	694
	Total	100.0%	514	100.0%	422	100.0%	936

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
If applicable, which of the following best describes your spouse or partner?	Student or postdoc at MIT	3.6%	10	.6%	1	2.5%	11
	Student or postdoc at another school	13.3%	37	14.8%	24	13.8%	61
	Working	25.4%	71	10.5%	17	20.0%	88
	Not working (due to visa regulations)	10.4%	29	5.6%	9	8.6%	38
	Not working (by choice)	5.7%	16	2.5%	4	4.5%	20
	Not working and actively seeking employment	5.7%	16	11.1%	18	7.7%	34
	Other	1.8%	5	.0%	0	1.1%	5
	Not applicable	34.1%	95	54.9%	89	41.7%	184
Total		100.0%	279	100.0%	162	100.0%	441

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
How many children do you have in total?	None	90.6%	462	98.1%	410	94.0%	872
	1	5.3%	27	1.4%	6	3.6%	33
	2	3.7%	19	.0%	0	2.0%	19
	3	.4%	2	.5%	2	.4%	4
	4	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%	0
	5	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%	0
	More than 5	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%	0
	Total		100.0%	510	100.0%	418	100.0%

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

SELF-PERCEPTION

Please rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average entering graduate student at MIT. We want the most accurate estimate of how you perceive yourself

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Academic ability	Lowest 10%	.2%	1	.3%	1	.2%	2
	Below average	5.8%	29	3.5%	14	4.8%	43
	Average	41.6%	208	40.5%	162	41.1%	370
	Above average	34.8%	174	37.0%	148	35.8%	322
	Highest 10%	17.6%	88	18.8%	75	18.1%	163
	Total	100.0%	500	100.0%	400	100.0%	900
Artistic ability	Lowest 10%	5.2%	26	6.8%	27	5.9%	53
	Below average	27.7%	138	30.4%	121	28.9%	259
	Average	34.5%	172	35.2%	140	34.8%	312
	Above average	27.1%	135	21.6%	86	24.6%	221
	Highest 10%	5.6%	28	6.0%	24	5.8%	52
	Total	100.0%	499	100.0%	398	100.0%	897
Competitiveness	Lowest 10%	.8%	4	1.0%	4	.9%	8
	Below average	6.4%	32	11.6%	46	8.7%	78
	Average	36.5%	182	39.5%	156	37.8%	338
	Above average	39.3%	196	37.7%	149	38.6%	345
	Highest 10%	17.0%	85	10.1%	40	14.0%	125
	Total	100.0%	499	100.0%	395	100.0%	894
Cooperativeness (ability to work in teams)	Lowest 10%	.2%	1	.0%	0	.1%	1
	Below average	1.2%	6	1.8%	7	1.4%	13
	Average	21.4%	107	28.1%	112	24.4%	219
	Above average	49.0%	245	57.3%	228	52.7%	473
	Highest 10%	28.2%	141	12.8%	51	21.4%	192
	Total	100.0%	500	100.0%	398	100.0%	898
Creativity	Lowest 10%	.6%	3	.8%	3	.7%	6
	Below average	6.2%	31	8.0%	32	7.0%	63
	Average	37.3%	187	39.7%	158	38.4%	345
	Above average	40.3%	202	39.2%	156	39.8%	358
	Highest 10%	15.6%	78	12.3%	49	14.1%	127
	Total	100.0%	501	100.0%	398	100.0%	899

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

Please rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average entering graduate student at MIT. We want the most accurate estimate of how you perceive yourself(cont.)

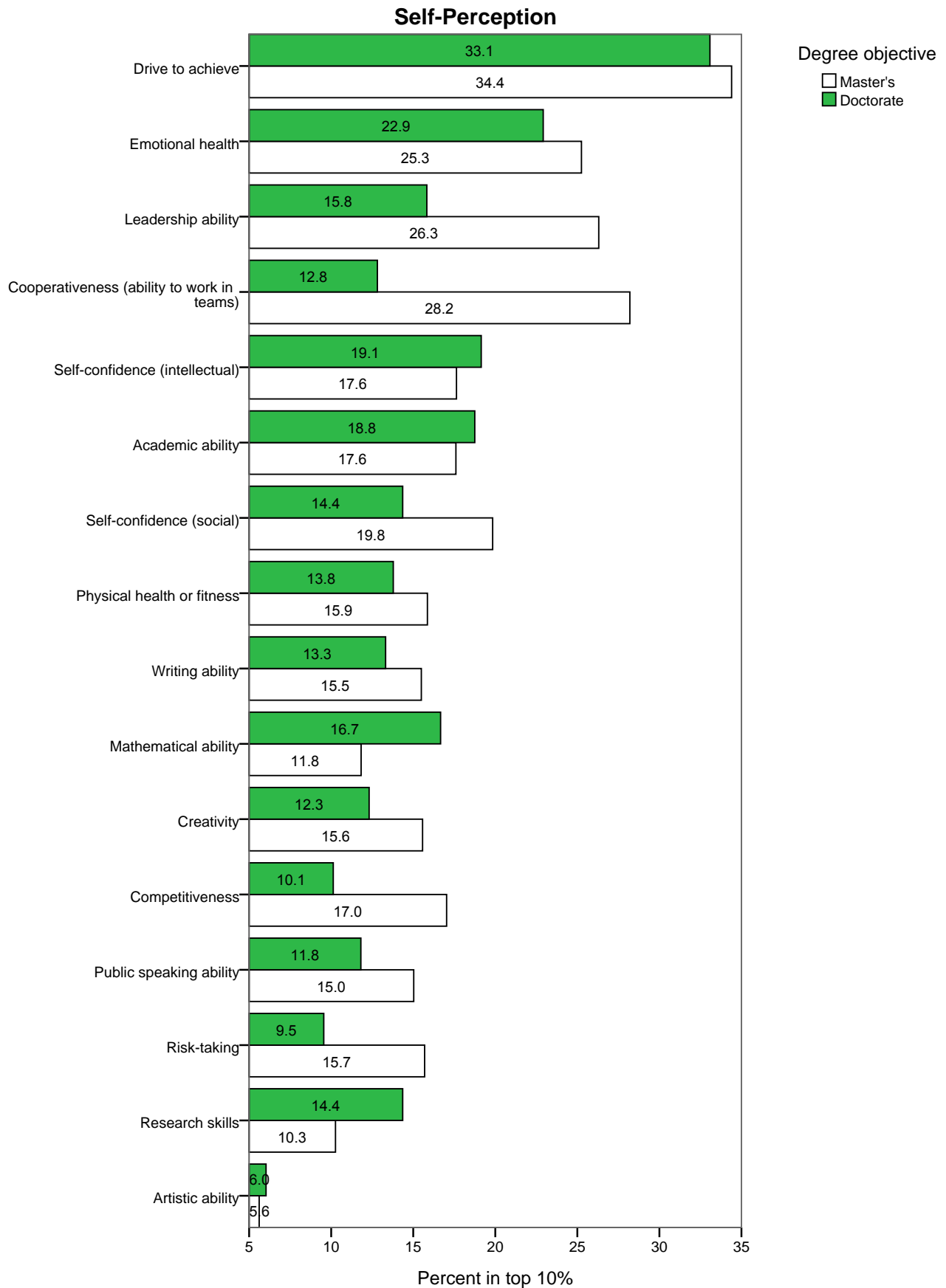
		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Drive to achieve	Lowest 10%	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%	0
	Below average	1.6%	8	2.8%	11	2.1%	19
	Average	23.4%	117	24.0%	95	23.7%	212
	Above average	40.6%	203	40.2%	159	40.4%	362
	Highest 10%	34.4%	172	33.1%	131	33.8%	303
	Total	100.0%	500	100.0%	396	100.0%	896
Emotional health	Lowest 10%	.4%	2	1.0%	4	.7%	6
	Below average	4.8%	24	3.8%	15	4.4%	39
	Average	27.9%	139	30.7%	122	29.1%	261
	Above average	41.7%	208	41.6%	165	41.6%	373
	Highest 10%	25.3%	126	22.9%	91	24.2%	217
	Total	100.0%	499	100.0%	397	100.0%	896
Leadership ability	Lowest 10%	.2%	1	.5%	2	.3%	3
	Below average	3.4%	17	8.3%	33	5.6%	50
	Average	23.1%	115	33.4%	133	27.7%	248
	Above average	47.0%	234	42.0%	167	44.8%	401
	Highest 10%	26.3%	131	15.8%	63	21.7%	194
	Total	100.0%	498	100.0%	398	100.0%	896
Mathematical ability	Lowest 10%	3.6%	18	2.0%	8	2.9%	26
	Below average	17.6%	88	13.6%	54	15.9%	142
	Average	38.5%	192	36.6%	145	37.7%	337
	Above average	28.5%	142	31.1%	123	29.6%	265
	Highest 10%	11.8%	59	16.7%	66	14.0%	125
	Total	100.0%	499	100.0%	396	100.0%	895
Physical health or fitness	Lowest 10%	1.0%	5	1.3%	5	1.1%	10
	Below average	5.0%	25	10.5%	42	7.5%	67
	Average	35.7%	178	40.4%	161	37.8%	339
	Above average	42.4%	211	34.1%	136	38.7%	347
	Highest 10%	15.9%	79	13.8%	55	14.9%	134
	Total	100.0%	498	100.0%	399	100.0%	897
Public speaking ability	Lowest 10%	.6%	3	1.8%	7	1.1%	10
	Below average	13.8%	69	13.1%	52	13.5%	121
	Average	35.5%	177	37.2%	148	36.2%	325
	Above average	35.1%	175	36.2%	144	35.6%	319
	Highest 10%	15.0%	75	11.8%	47	13.6%	122
	Total	100.0%	499	100.0%	398	100.0%	897

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

Please rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average entering graduate student at MIT. We want the most accurate estimate of how you perceive yourself(cont.)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Research skills	Lowest 10%	.8%	4	.3%	1	.6%	5
	Below average	15.3%	76	3.8%	15	10.2%	91
	Average	43.3%	215	34.0%	135	39.1%	350
	Above average	30.4%	151	47.6%	189	38.0%	340
	Highest 10%	10.3%	51	14.4%	57	12.1%	108
	Total	100.0%	497	100.0%	397	100.0%	894
Risk-taking	Lowest 10%	1.2%	6	1.0%	4	1.1%	10
	Below average	7.4%	37	12.8%	51	9.8%	88
	Average	39.8%	198	46.2%	184	42.7%	382
	Above average	35.8%	178	30.4%	121	33.4%	299
	Highest 10%	15.7%	78	9.5%	38	13.0%	116
	Total	100.0%	497	100.0%	398	100.0%	895
Self-confidence (intellectual)	Lowest 10%	.4%	2	1.0%	4	.7%	6
	Below average	4.4%	22	7.1%	28	5.6%	50
	Average	32.9%	164	32.0%	127	32.5%	291
	Above average	44.7%	223	40.8%	162	43.0%	385
	Highest 10%	17.6%	88	19.1%	76	18.3%	164
	Total	100.0%	499	100.0%	397	100.0%	896
Self-confidence (social)	Lowest 10%	.0%	0	1.0%	4	.4%	4
	Below average	7.0%	35	11.8%	47	9.2%	82
	Average	26.1%	130	37.0%	147	30.9%	277
	Above average	47.1%	235	35.8%	142	42.1%	377
	Highest 10%	19.8%	99	14.4%	57	17.4%	156
	Total	100.0%	499	100.0%	397	100.0%	896
Writing ability	Lowest 10%	1.4%	7	2.3%	9	1.8%	16
	Below average	10.7%	53	10.3%	41	10.5%	94
	Average	37.0%	184	40.5%	161	38.5%	345
	Above average	35.4%	176	33.7%	134	34.6%	310
	Highest 10%	15.5%	77	13.3%	53	14.5%	130
	Total	100.0%	497	100.0%	398	100.0%	895

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall



2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT MIT

How important were each of the following information sources in your decision to APPLY to MIT? (Web or Publications)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
MIT's internet websites (MIT, department/program, etc.)	Not at all important	5.5%	27	7.6%	31	6.4%	58
	Not very important	10.9%	54	14.0%	57	12.3%	111
	Somewhat important	38.9%	192	40.1%	163	39.4%	355
	Extremely important	43.5%	215	37.2%	151	40.7%	366
	Not applicable	1.2%	6	1.0%	4	1.1%	10
	Total	100.0%	494	100.0%	406	100.0%	900
Other internet websites (internet guides, etc.)	Not at all important	13.6%	67	21.8%	88	17.3%	155
	Not very important	30.3%	149	37.5%	151	33.5%	300
	Somewhat important	38.2%	188	29.8%	120	34.4%	308
	Extremely important	12.2%	60	6.5%	26	9.6%	86
	Not applicable	5.7%	28	4.5%	18	5.1%	46
	Total	100.0%	492	100.0%	403	100.0%	895
MIT's printed publications (program brochure, course catalog, etc.)	Not at all important	18.6%	91	32.2%	130	24.7%	221
	Not very important	31.8%	156	32.7%	132	32.2%	288
	Somewhat important	32.4%	159	19.6%	79	26.6%	238
	Extremely important	9.6%	47	3.2%	13	6.7%	60
	Not applicable	7.6%	37	12.4%	50	9.7%	87
	Total	100.0%	490	100.0%	404	100.0%	894
Other printed publications (graduate school guides, journals, etc.)	Not at all important	21.5%	106	31.5%	128	26.0%	234
	Not very important	33.3%	164	32.0%	130	32.7%	294
	Somewhat important	28.0%	138	20.4%	83	24.6%	221
	Extremely important	7.3%	36	4.9%	20	6.2%	56
	Not applicable	9.9%	49	11.1%	45	10.5%	94
	Total	100.0%	493	100.0%	406	100.0%	899
MIT's open courseware	Not at all important	24.6%	121	26.6%	107	25.5%	228
	Not very important	27.3%	134	23.8%	96	25.7%	230
	Somewhat important	25.1%	123	28.8%	116	26.7%	239
	Extremely important	9.0%	44	7.9%	32	8.5%	76
	Not applicable	14.1%	69	12.9%	52	13.5%	121
	Total	100.0%	491	100.0%	403	100.0%	894

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How important were each of the following information sources in your decision to APPLY to MIT? (Events)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Campus visit	Not at all important	12.9%	63	12.9%	52	12.9%	115
	Not very important	8.8%	43	6.9%	28	7.9%	71
	Somewhat important	20.8%	102	21.3%	86	21.0%	188
	Extremely important	33.3%	163	35.6%	144	34.3%	307
	Not applicable	24.3%	119	23.3%	94	23.8%	213
	Total	100.0%	490	100.0%	404	100.0%	894
Graduate fairs	Not at all important	22.8%	112	30.7%	123	26.3%	235
	Not very important	12.8%	63	11.0%	44	12.0%	107
	Somewhat important	17.7%	87	8.0%	32	13.3%	119
	Extremely important	5.3%	26	2.0%	8	3.8%	34
	Not applicable	41.3%	203	48.4%	194	44.5%	397
	Total	100.0%	491	100.0%	401	100.0%	892
Campus events at former institution	Not at all important	23.7%	116	31.3%	126	27.2%	242
	Not very important	12.1%	59	12.4%	50	12.2%	109
	Somewhat important	10.8%	53	5.5%	22	8.4%	75
	Extremely important	4.3%	21	1.2%	5	2.9%	26
	Not applicable	49.1%	240	49.5%	199	49.3%	439
	Total	100.0%	489	100.0%	402	100.0%	891

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How important were each of the following information sources in your decision to APPLY to MIT? (People)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Undergraduate advisor	Not at all important	25.6%	125	16.0%	64	21.3%	189
	Not very important	12.5%	61	13.5%	54	12.9%	115
	Somewhat important	15.0%	73	29.9%	120	21.7%	193
	Extremely important	7.0%	34	31.7%	127	18.1%	161
	Not applicable	40.0%	195	9.0%	36	26.0%	231
	Total	100.0%	488	100.0%	401	100.0%	889
Faculty in previous school or university	Not at all important	21.0%	103	9.2%	37	15.7%	140
	Not very important	13.5%	66	9.9%	40	11.9%	106
	Somewhat important	20.4%	100	34.2%	138	26.7%	238
	Extremely important	15.3%	75	40.0%	161	26.4%	236
	Not applicable	29.8%	146	6.7%	27	19.4%	173
	Total	100.0%	490	100.0%	403	100.0%	893
Specific faculty/researchers at MIT	Not at all important	12.7%	62	4.5%	18	9.0%	80
	Not very important	13.1%	64	7.2%	29	10.4%	93
	Somewhat important	24.8%	121	28.3%	114	26.4%	235
	Extremely important	27.5%	134	56.8%	229	40.7%	363
	Not applicable	21.9%	107	3.2%	13	13.5%	120
	Total	100.0%	488	100.0%	403	100.0%	891
Current students at MIT	Not at all important	10.8%	53	14.2%	57	12.4%	110
	Not very important	9.4%	46	16.2%	65	12.5%	111
	Somewhat important	31.5%	154	37.2%	149	34.0%	303
	Extremely important	37.8%	185	25.2%	101	32.1%	286
	Not applicable	10.4%	51	7.2%	29	9.0%	80
	Total	100.0%	489	100.0%	401	100.0%	890
MIT alumni (other than yourself)	Not at all important	12.6%	62	22.4%	89	17.0%	151
	Not very important	9.4%	46	18.1%	72	13.3%	118
	Somewhat important	27.5%	135	23.1%	92	25.5%	227
	Extremely important	38.3%	188	17.6%	70	29.0%	258
	Not applicable	12.2%	60	18.8%	75	15.2%	135
	Total	100.0%	491	100.0%	398	100.0%	889
Family (parents/relatives)	Not at all important	21.1%	103	28.0%	112	24.2%	215
	Not very important	21.3%	104	22.8%	91	22.0%	195
	Somewhat important	29.9%	146	31.5%	126	30.6%	272
	Extremely important	13.5%	66	8.8%	35	11.4%	101
	Not applicable	14.1%	69	9.0%	36	11.8%	105
	Total	100.0%	488	100.0%	400	100.0%	888

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How important were each of the following information sources in your decision to APPLY to MIT? (People)(cont.)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Spouse/partner/significant other	Not at all important	19.3%	94	24.1%	96	21.4%	190
	Not very important	13.7%	67	12.3%	49	13.1%	116
	Somewhat important	19.3%	94	14.6%	58	17.2%	152
	Extremely important	12.9%	63	10.1%	40	11.6%	103
	Not applicable	34.8%	170	38.9%	155	36.7%	325
	Total	100.0%	488	100.0%	398	100.0%	886

How important were each of the following information sources in your decision to APPLY to MIT? (Other)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
National ranking of MIT in your field	Not at all important	1.0%	5	1.0%	4	1.0%	9
	Not very important	3.0%	15	2.7%	11	2.9%	26
	Somewhat important	25.3%	125	36.5%	148	30.3%	273
	Extremely important	68.4%	338	59.4%	241	64.3%	579
	Not applicable	2.2%	11	.5%	2	1.4%	13
	Total	100.0%	494	100.0%	406	100.0%	900
Reputation of faculty at MIT in your field	Not at all important	.6%	3	.0%	0	.3%	3
	Not very important	2.0%	10	.7%	3	1.4%	13
	Somewhat important	23.3%	115	22.4%	91	22.9%	206
	Extremely important	72.4%	357	76.7%	312	74.3%	669
	Not applicable	1.6%	8	.2%	1	1.0%	9
	Total	100.0%	493	100.0%	407	100.0%	900
Specific research being done at MIT	Not at all important	5.5%	27	.5%	2	3.2%	29
	Not very important	13.0%	64	3.0%	12	8.5%	76
	Somewhat important	33.8%	166	25.8%	104	30.2%	270
	Extremely important	42.2%	207	70.0%	282	54.7%	489
	Not applicable	5.5%	27	.7%	3	3.4%	30
	Total	100.0%	491	100.0%	403	100.0%	894
Geographic area	Not at all important	14.5%	71	12.9%	52	13.7%	123
	Not very important	19.8%	97	26.5%	107	22.8%	204
	Somewhat important	36.7%	180	37.4%	151	37.0%	331
	Extremely important	26.5%	130	22.3%	90	24.6%	220
	Not applicable	2.6%	13	1.0%	4	1.9%	17
	Total	100.0%	491	100.0%	404	100.0%	895

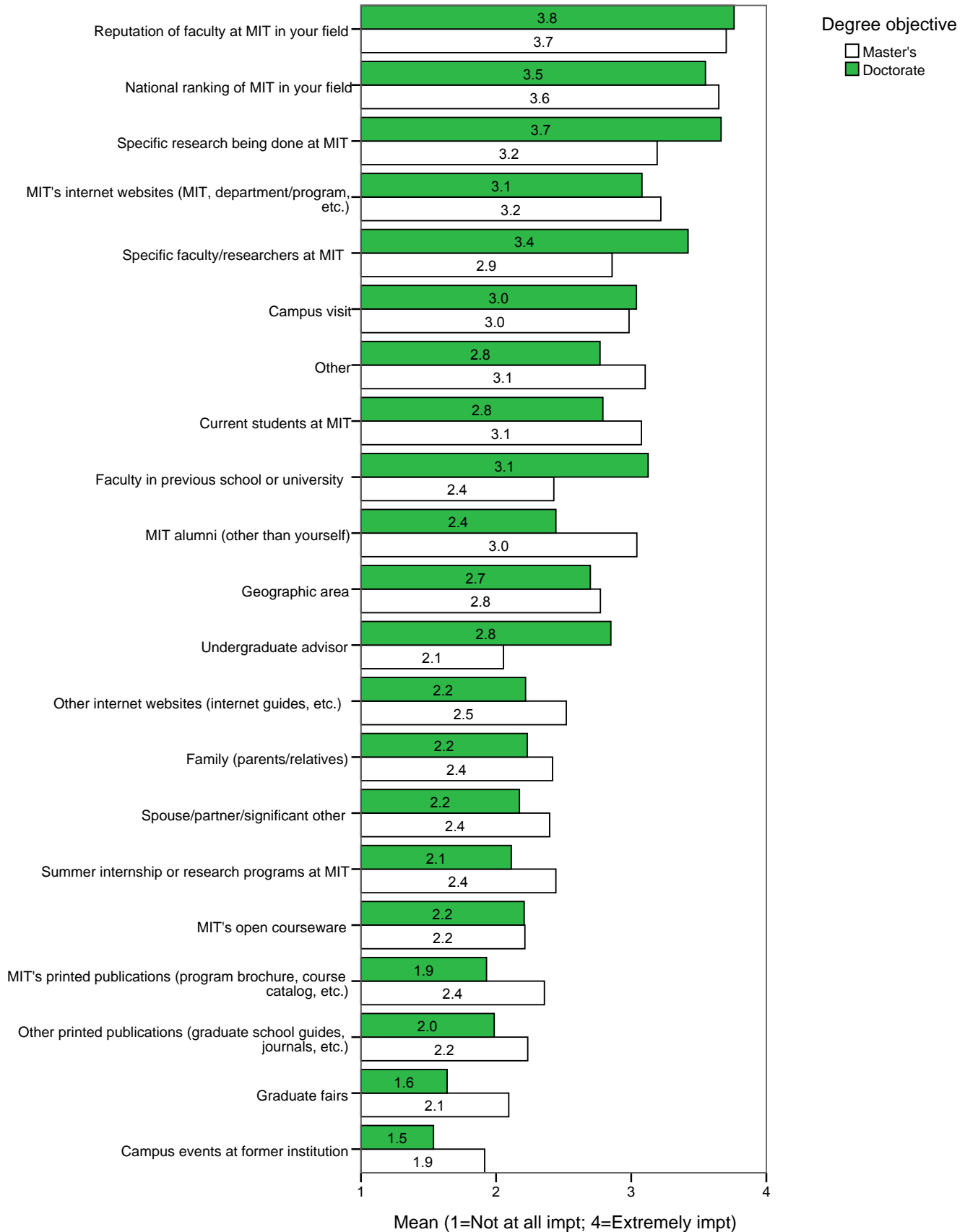
2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How important were each of the following information sources in your decision to APPLY to MIT? (Other)(cont.)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Summer internship or research programs at MIT	Not at all important	20.4%	100	21.3%	85	20.8%	185
	Not very important	16.3%	80	20.1%	80	18.0%	160
	Somewhat important	24.7%	121	9.5%	38	17.9%	159
	Extremely important	14.7%	72	9.3%	37	12.3%	109
	Not applicable	23.9%	117	39.8%	159	31.0%	276
	Total	100.0%	490	100.0%	399	100.0%	889
Other	Not at all important	6.7%	7	6.6%	4	6.6%	11
	Not very important	1.0%	1	1.6%	1	1.2%	2
	Somewhat important	2.9%	3	3.3%	2	3.0%	5
	Extremely important	17.1%	18	9.8%	6	14.5%	24
	Not applicable	72.4%	76	78.7%	48	74.7%	124
	Total	100.0%	105	100.0%	61	100.0%	166

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

Sources of Information About MIT



2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

DECISION TO ENROLL

How important were each of the following factors in your decision to ENROLL in your program at MIT?

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Opportunity to work with a particular faculty member	Not at all important	16.8%	81	1.0%	4	9.7%	85
	Not very important	23.7%	114	10.8%	43	17.8%	157
	Somewhat important	31.0%	149	37.8%	151	34.1%	300
	Extremely important	20.8%	100	48.9%	195	33.5%	295
	Not applicable	7.7%	37	1.5%	6	4.9%	43
	Total	100.0%	481	100.0%	399	100.0%	880
Reputation of my program	Not at all important	.4%	2	.0%	0	.2%	2
	Not very important	2.1%	10	1.3%	5	1.7%	15
	Somewhat important	20.9%	101	26.9%	107	23.6%	208
	Extremely important	76.2%	368	71.4%	284	74.0%	652
	Not applicable	.4%	2	.5%	2	.5%	4
	Total	100.0%	483	100.0%	398	100.0%	881
Areas of specialization in the program match my interests	Not at all important	.8%	4	.3%	1	.6%	5
	Not very important	1.9%	9	2.5%	10	2.2%	19
	Somewhat important	25.6%	123	24.6%	98	25.2%	221
	Extremely important	71.0%	341	72.4%	288	71.6%	629
	Not applicable	.6%	3	.3%	1	.5%	4
	Total	100.0%	480	100.0%	398	100.0%	878
MIT's financial support package	Not at all important	18.0%	86	5.3%	21	12.2%	107
	Not very important	12.8%	61	19.3%	77	15.7%	138
	Somewhat important	17.6%	84	41.9%	167	28.6%	251
	Extremely important	32.4%	155	30.3%	121	31.5%	276
	Not applicable	19.2%	92	3.3%	13	12.0%	105
	Total	100.0%	478	100.0%	399	100.0%	877
Recommendation of friend, acquaintance, or colleague	Not at all important	6.5%	31	7.5%	30	7.0%	61
	Not very important	15.1%	72	19.6%	78	17.2%	150
	Somewhat important	41.6%	198	43.7%	174	42.6%	372
	Extremely important	32.6%	155	23.4%	93	28.4%	248
	Not applicable	4.2%	20	5.8%	23	4.9%	43
	Total	100.0%	476	100.0%	398	100.0%	874

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How important were each of the following factors in your decision to ENROLL in your program at MIT?(cont.)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Recommendation of undergraduate advisor or faculty member in my field	Not at all important	20.6%	98	8.3%	33	15.0%	131
	Not very important	15.1%	72	14.5%	58	14.9%	130
	Somewhat important	18.3%	87	36.1%	144	26.4%	231
	Extremely important	12.4%	59	35.1%	140	22.7%	199
	Not applicable	33.6%	160	6.0%	24	21.0%	184
	Total	100.0%	476	100.0%	399	100.0%	875
Job opportunities are good for graduates of this program	Not at all important	4.0%	19	5.8%	23	4.8%	42
	Not very important	10.0%	48	15.2%	60	12.3%	108
	Somewhat important	28.5%	137	42.7%	169	34.9%	306
	Extremely important	52.8%	254	34.3%	136	44.5%	390
	Not applicable	4.8%	23	2.0%	8	3.5%	31
	Total	100.0%	481	100.0%	396	100.0%	877
Encouragement of MIT faculty while deciding	Not at all important	15.5%	74	4.8%	19	10.6%	93
	Not very important	17.8%	85	18.1%	72	17.9%	157
	Somewhat important	18.9%	90	39.7%	158	28.3%	248
	Extremely important	17.0%	81	28.1%	112	22.1%	193
	Not applicable	30.8%	147	9.3%	37	21.0%	184
	Total	100.0%	477	100.0%	398	100.0%	875
MIT's reputation	Not at all important	.2%	1	.0%	0	.1%	1
	Not very important	1.0%	5	1.0%	4	1.0%	9
	Somewhat important	18.4%	89	35.7%	142	26.2%	231
	Extremely important	79.8%	386	63.1%	251	72.2%	637
	Not applicable	.6%	3	.3%	1	.5%	4
	Total	100.0%	484	100.0%	398	100.0%	882
Campus visit	Not at all important	10.9%	52	6.5%	26	8.9%	78
	Not very important	11.7%	56	8.3%	33	10.1%	89
	Somewhat important	24.6%	118	28.1%	112	26.2%	230
	Extremely important	31.3%	150	42.2%	168	36.3%	318
	Not applicable	21.5%	103	14.8%	59	18.5%	162
	Total	100.0%	479	100.0%	398	100.0%	877
Location of campus (Boston area has a lot to offer)	Not at all important	11.3%	54	11.1%	44	11.2%	98
	Not very important	17.7%	85	20.9%	83	19.2%	168
	Somewhat important	40.9%	196	44.3%	176	42.5%	372
	Extremely important	26.3%	126	22.7%	90	24.7%	216
	Not applicable	3.8%	18	1.0%	4	2.5%	22
	Total	100.0%	479	100.0%	397	100.0%	876

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How important were each of the following factors in your decision to ENROLL in your program at MIT?(cont.)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Availability of on-campus housing	Not at all important	40.2%	192	30.9%	122	36.0%	314
	Not very important	21.5%	103	29.1%	115	25.0%	218
	Somewhat important	19.7%	94	27.1%	107	23.0%	201
	Extremely important	7.3%	35	8.9%	35	8.0%	70
	Not applicable	11.3%	54	4.1%	16	8.0%	70
	Total	100.0%	478	100.0%	395	100.0%	873
Availability of off-campus housing in the area	Not at all important	36.1%	172	30.8%	121	33.7%	293
	Not very important	25.6%	122	35.1%	138	29.9%	260
	Somewhat important	19.1%	91	22.9%	90	20.8%	181
	Extremely important	3.6%	17	2.8%	11	3.2%	28
	Not applicable	15.7%	75	8.4%	33	12.4%	108
	Total	100.0%	477	100.0%	393	100.0%	870
Quality of MIT-sponsored activities	Not at all important	20.1%	95	25.5%	100	22.5%	195
	Not very important	24.7%	117	30.6%	120	27.4%	237
	Somewhat important	35.1%	166	34.7%	136	34.9%	302
	Extremely important	11.6%	55	3.8%	15	8.1%	70
	Not applicable	8.5%	40	5.4%	21	7.1%	61
	Total	100.0%	473	100.0%	392	100.0%	865
Proximity of family	Not at all important	39.4%	188	46.6%	183	42.6%	371
	Not very important	18.7%	89	17.0%	67	17.9%	156
	Somewhat important	14.0%	67	13.5%	53	13.8%	120
	Extremely important	7.1%	34	5.9%	23	6.6%	57
	Not applicable	20.8%	99	17.0%	67	19.1%	166
	Total	100.0%	477	100.0%	393	100.0%	870
Proximity of spouse/partner/significant other	Not at all important	29.2%	139	34.2%	134	31.5%	273
	Not very important	8.0%	38	10.7%	42	9.2%	80
	Somewhat important	14.3%	68	7.9%	31	11.4%	99
	Extremely important	15.3%	73	11.2%	44	13.5%	117
	Not applicable	33.2%	158	36.0%	141	34.4%	299
	Total	100.0%	476	100.0%	392	100.0%	868
Availability of childcare	Not at all important	35.9%	170	38.4%	151	37.0%	321
	Not very important	5.1%	24	6.4%	25	5.7%	49
	Somewhat important	4.0%	19	3.3%	13	3.7%	32
	Extremely important	2.7%	13	.5%	2	1.7%	15
	Not applicable	52.3%	248	51.4%	202	51.9%	450
	Total	100.0%	474	100.0%	393	100.0%	867

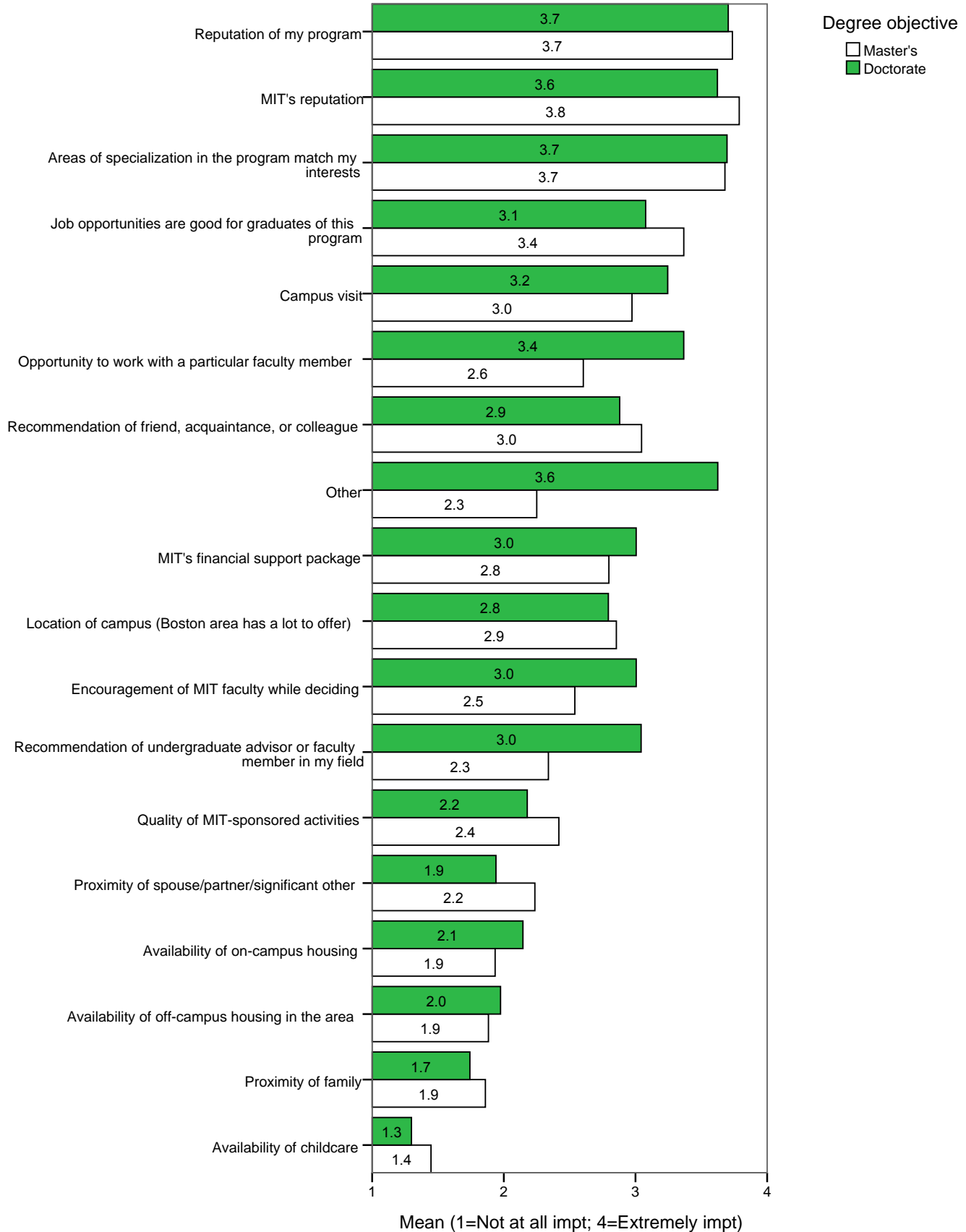
2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How important were each of the following factors in your decision to ENROLL in your program at MIT?(cont.)

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Other	Not at all important	7.1%	6	1.8%	1	4.9%	7
	Not very important	1.2%	1	.0%	0	.7%	1
	Somewhat important	1.2%	1	.0%	0	.7%	1
	Extremely important	4.7%	4	12.3%	7	7.7%	11
	Not applicable	85.9%	73	86.0%	49	85.9%	122
Total		100.0%	85	100.0%	57	100.0%	142

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

Factors in Decision to Enroll at MIT



2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

EXPECTATIONS OF YOUR PROGRAM

As an incoming graduate student, please rate your expectation of the following dimensions of your program.

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
The intellectual quality of the faculty	Poor	.0%	.0%	.0%
	Fair	.2%	.0%	.1%
	Good	1.0%	.5%	.8%
	Very good	16.1%	8.4%	12.7%
	Excellent	82.2%	90.6%	86.0%
	Don't know	.4%	.5%	.5%
	N	484	393	877
The intellectual quality of my fellow graduate/professional students	Poor	.0%	.0%	.0%
	Fair	.4%	.0%	.2%
	Good	3.5%	1.3%	2.5%
	Very good	30.9%	23.4%	27.6%
	Excellent	63.9%	72.8%	67.9%
	Don't know	1.2%	2.5%	1.8%
	N	485	393	878
The relationship between faculty and graduate/professional students	Poor	.0%	.0%	.0%
	Fair	.8%	1.0%	.9%
	Good	12.9%	11.2%	12.1%
	Very good	42.3%	43.5%	42.9%
	Excellent	41.7%	39.7%	40.8%
	Don't know	2.3%	4.6%	3.3%
	N	482	393	875
Program's ability to integrate recent developments in my field	Poor	.0%	.0%	.0%
	Fair	.8%	.3%	.6%
	Good	6.4%	3.6%	5.1%
	Very good	38.5%	30.8%	35.0%
	Excellent	52.2%	63.1%	57.1%
	Don't know	2.1%	2.3%	2.2%
	N	481	393	874
Program space and facilities	Poor	3.3%	.3%	1.9%
	Fair	7.9%	2.0%	5.3%
	Good	24.2%	14.2%	19.7%
	Very good	34.8%	36.9%	35.7%
	Excellent	27.1%	44.3%	34.8%
	Don't know	2.7%	2.3%	2.5%
	N	483	393	876

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

As an incoming graduate student, please rate your expectation of the following dimensions of your program.(cont.)

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
Overall quality of graduate level teaching by faculty	Poor	.0%	.0%	.0%
	Fair	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
	Good	7.1%	9.4%	8.1%
	Very good	34.4%	35.2%	34.8%
	Excellent	54.4%	49.0%	51.9%
	Don't know	3.1%	5.4%	4.1%
	N	482	392	874
Amount of financial support	Poor	14.3%	1.0%	8.3%
	Fair	14.7%	7.9%	11.6%
	Good	14.7%	26.2%	19.8%
	Very good	21.5%	37.4%	28.6%
	Excellent	22.5%	24.9%	23.6%
	Don't know	12.4%	2.5%	8.0%
	N	484	393	877
Quality of academic advising and guidance	Poor	.8%	.0%	.5%
	Fair	3.3%	1.5%	2.5%
	Good	20.5%	16.1%	18.5%
	Very good	38.1%	35.2%	36.8%
	Excellent	30.2%	40.1%	34.6%
	Don't know	7.0%	7.1%	7.1%
	N	483	392	875
Helpfulness of staff members in my department or program	Poor	.2%	.3%	.2%
	Fair	2.1%	1.8%	1.9%
	Good	16.1%	15.1%	15.7%
	Very good	41.9%	41.2%	41.6%
	Excellent	34.5%	37.6%	35.9%
	Don't know	5.2%	4.1%	4.7%
	N	484	391	875
Assistance in finding employment	Poor	3.1%	.8%	2.1%
	Fair	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%
	Good	14.0%	18.4%	16.0%
	Very good	29.5%	34.4%	31.7%
	Excellent	34.3%	20.2%	28.0%
	Don't know	14.9%	22.2%	18.2%
	N	484	392	876

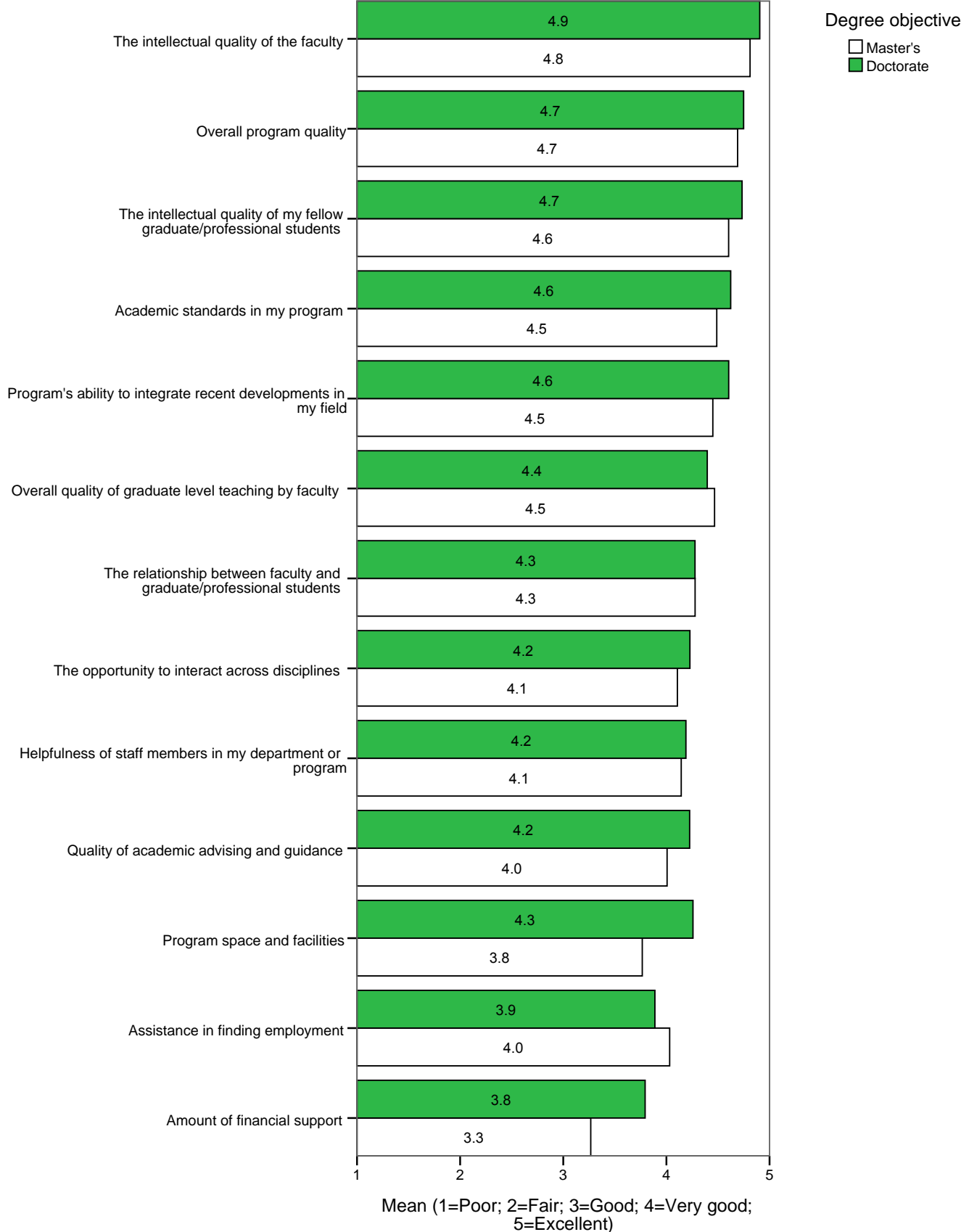
2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

As an incoming graduate student, please rate your expectation of the following dimensions of your program.(cont.)

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
The opportunity to interact across disciplines	Poor	.2%	.8%	.5%
	Fair	4.6%	3.3%	4.0%
	Good	15.1%	13.2%	14.3%
	Very good	38.7%	33.8%	36.5%
	Excellent	34.8%	43.7%	38.8%
	Don't know	6.6%	5.3%	6.0%
	N	483	394	877
Academic standards in my program	Poor	.2%	.0%	.1%
	Fair	.0%	.3%	.1%
	Good	7.7%	3.3%	5.7%
	Very good	33.6%	29.7%	31.9%
	Excellent	55.8%	65.4%	60.1%
	Don't know	2.7%	1.3%	2.1%
	N	482	390	872
Overall program quality	Poor	.0%	.0%	.0%
	Fair	.0%	.0%	.0%
	Good	2.1%	1.3%	1.7%
	Very good	26.5%	22.4%	24.7%
	Excellent	70.4%	75.8%	72.8%
	Don't know	1.0%	.5%	.8%
	N	483	392	875

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

Expectations of your Program



2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

How confident are you that you are well prepared for the following aspects of your graduate studies

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Coursework	Not very confident	7.3%	35	5.1%	20	6.3%	55
	Somewhat confident	48.1%	232	53.9%	213	50.7%	445
	Very confident	44.6%	215	40.8%	161	42.9%	376
	Not applicable	.0%	0	.3%	1	.1%	1
	Total	100.0%	482	100.0%	395	100.0%	877
Research or scholarly work	Not very confident	9.2%	44	5.6%	22	7.6%	66
	Somewhat confident	52.0%	249	51.9%	205	51.9%	454
	Very confident	27.6%	132	42.3%	167	34.2%	299
	Not applicable	11.3%	54	.3%	1	6.3%	55
	Total	100.0%	479	100.0%	395	100.0%	874
Teaching	Not very confident	10.3%	49	14.0%	55	11.9%	104
	Somewhat confident	38.2%	182	56.6%	223	46.5%	405
	Very confident	16.6%	79	22.8%	90	19.4%	169
	Not applicable	35.0%	167	6.6%	26	22.2%	193
	Total	100.0%	477	100.0%	394	100.0%	871

FINANCIAL MATTERS

What do you expect your total gross GROSS PERSONAL INCOME to be for this academic year, from this past September through this coming August, before taxes and any other deductions?

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
What do you expect your total gross personal income to be for this academic year, from September through next August, before taxes and any other deductions?	Mean	\$18,522	\$28,062	\$22,801
	Percentile 25	\$0	\$23,000	\$3,000
	Median	\$9,000	\$27,000	\$23,000
	Percentile 75	\$25,000	\$29,000	\$29,000
	N	455	370	825

Please include any income that you would normally report for tax purposes such as income from a TA, RA, fellowship, or salary / wages from an outside job. Do not include any tuition waivers you are receiving.

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

What do you expect your spouse's total gross income to be for this academic year, from this past September through this coming August, before taxes and any other deductions?

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
If applicable, what do you expect your spouse's total gross income to be for this academic year, from September through next August, before taxes and any other deductions?	Mean	\$17,551	\$8,757	\$14,426
	Percentile 25	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Median	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Percentile 75	\$25,000	\$16,000	\$21,000
	N	254	140	394

Please include any income that you would normally report for tax purposes such as income from a TA, RA, fellowship, or salary / wages from an outside job. Do not include any tuition waivers you are receiving.

How much in education loan payments will you and your spouse / partner (if applicable) pay this academic year?

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
How much in education loan payments will you and your spouse/partner (if applicable) pay this academic year?	Mean	\$5,995	\$588	\$3,702
	Percentile 25	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Median	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Percentile 75	\$1,500	\$0	\$0
	N	402	296	698

Did you receive an external fellowship?

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Did you receive an external fellowship?	Yes	18.5%	88	26.0%	101	21.9%	189
	No	75.4%	359	71.6%	278	73.7%	637
	Don't know	6.1%	29	2.3%	9	4.4%	38
	Total	100.0%	476	100.0%	388	100.0%	864

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Do you have a job or source of support outside of an RA / TA / fellowship?	Yes	20.5%	97	6.5%	25	14.2%	122
	No	75.5%	357	89.9%	348	82.0%	705
	Don't know	4.0%	19	3.6%	14	3.8%	33
	Total	100.0%	473	100.0%	387	100.0%	860

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Do you believe your total income will be sufficient to cover your expenses during this academic year (from September of this year to August the following year)?	Yes	35.4%	168	70.5%	273	51.2%	441
	No	53.6%	254	14.0%	54	35.8%	308
	Don't know	11.0%	52	15.5%	60	13.0%	112
	Total	100.0%	474	100.0%	387	100.0%	861

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
If not, what is the primary method you expect to use to resolve the gap between your expenses and your income?	Loans	51.8%	184	10.4%	18	38.3%	202
	Credit card debt	.8%	3	4.6%	8	2.1%	11
	Savings account, trust funds, stocks	24.2%	86	25.4%	44	24.6%	130
	Gifts from relatives, etc.	7.6%	27	13.9%	24	9.7%	51
	Other	4.2%	15	5.8%	10	4.7%	25
	Not applicable	11.3%	40	39.9%	69	20.6%	109
	Total	100.0%	355	100.0%	173	100.0%	528

How much debt do you expect to incur during your entire graduate education (not including any undergraduate debts)?

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
How much debt do you expect to incur during your entire graduate education (not including any undergraduate debts)?	Mean	\$52,938	\$2,883	\$30,903
	Percentile 25	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Median	\$27,500	\$0	\$0
	Percentile 75	\$105,000	\$0	\$42,500
	N	440	346	786

HOUSING

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Where will you be living this academic year? Do not consider any time away from MIT such as time spent on an internship.	On-campus housing	48.6%	237	72.6%	286	59.3%	523
	Off-campus housing	49.6%	242	26.4%	104	39.2%	346
	I am still looking for housing or haven't decided where to live	1.8%	9	1.0%	4	1.5%	13
	Total	100.0%	488	100.0%	394	100.0%	882

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

If you looked for off-campus housing, did you use any of the following resources for your housing search?

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
MIT's off-campus listings	Yes	25.5%	26.1%	25.7%
	No	38.1%	23.7%	32.2%
	Not applicable	36.5%	50.2%	42.1%
	N	373	257	630
Other off-campus listings	Yes	37.9%	32.3%	35.6%
	No	25.3%	16.3%	21.6%
	Not applicable	36.8%	51.4%	42.8%
	N	372	257	629
A realtor	Yes	31.3%	25.1%	28.8%
	No	32.9%	22.4%	28.6%
	Not applicable	35.8%	52.5%	42.7%
	N	371	255	626

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
At the moment, are you satisfied with your housing situation?	Yes	78.8%	382	75.7%	296	77.4%	678
	No	5.8%	28	6.4%	25	6.1%	53
	Don't know	15.5%	75	17.9%	70	16.6%	145
	Total	100.0%	485	100.0%	391	100.0%	876

How much debt do you (and your spouse/dependents if applicable) expect to spend on average PER MONTH on living expenses?

		Degree objective		
		Master's	Doctorate	Overall
How much do you (and your spouse /dependents if applicable) expect to spend on average PER MONTH on the following living expenses? (Rent/mortgage, Utilities, Food)	Mean	\$1,874	\$1,481	\$1,698
	Percentile 25	\$1,250	\$1,150	\$1,250
	Median	\$1,650	\$1,450	\$1,450
	Percentile 75	\$2,300	\$1,750	\$2,100
	N	448	363	811

-Rent or mortgage, residence fees, condo fees, dorm tax, property tax; -Utilities (heat, water, electricity, phone service, cable, internet); -Food (including both groceries and eating out)
Please include only your portion of the expense if you plan to share with non-dependent roommates.

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

POST PROGRAM PLANS

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Are you intending to pursue a career in academia?	No	54.5%	249	6.1%	23	32.7%	272
	Yes	12.5%	57	56.7%	212	32.4%	269
	Don't know	33.0%	151	37.2%	139	34.9%	290
	Total	100.0%	457	100.0%	374	100.0%	831

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Which of the following best describes your PLANS after graduating from your program at MIT?	Postdoc fellowship	1.5%	7	31.4%	121	15.0%	128
	Postdoc research associateship	.9%	4	6.2%	24	3.3%	28
	Traineeship	.0%	0	.3%	1	.1%	1
	Internship, clinical residency	.4%	2	.3%	1	.4%	3
	Other Training	1.3%	6	.3%	1	.8%	7
	Architect or Planner (City, Environmental)	8.4%	39	.0%	0	4.6%	39
	Analyst	2.8%	13	.5%	2	1.8%	15
	Consulting (Management, Financial)	17.0%	79	1.0%	4	9.8%	83
	Entrepreneur or Self-Employed	12.7%	59	2.3%	9	8.0%	68
	Engineer, Manufacturing	12.4%	58	3.1%	12	8.2%	70
	Faculty position	2.4%	11	14.8%	57	8.0%	68
	Finance, Accounting	7.5%	35	.0%	0	4.1%	35
	Manager or administrator	13.9%	65	.8%	3	8.0%	68
	Military service	2.8%	13	.5%	2	1.8%	15
	Researcher, academic setting	1.1%	5	10.4%	40	5.3%	45
	Researcher, nonacademic setting (e. g., national lab/industry/medical center)	3.4%	16	14.8%	57	8.6%	73
	Other Employment	3.2%	15	.5%	2	2.0%	17
	Not sure	8.4%	39	12.7%	49	10.3%	88
Total	100.0%	466	100.0%	385	100.0%	851	

2009 Incoming Graduate Student Survey - Overall

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Do you expect the position indicated above to be directly related to your graduate/professional training?	Yes	81.1%	381	80.1%	305	80.6%	686
	No	4.3%	20	2.4%	9	3.4%	29
	Not sure	13.2%	62	16.0%	61	14.5%	123
	Not applicable	1.5%	7	1.6%	6	1.5%	13
	Total	100.0%	470	100.0%	381	100.0%	851

		Degree objective					
		Master's		Doctorate		Overall	
		%	N	%	N	%	N
Which of the following best describes the TYPE of ORGANIZATION you will be working for or training with after graduating from your program at MIT?	U.S. 4-year college or university other than medical school	3.0%	14	36.7%	136	17.9%	150
	U.S. medical school (including university-affiliated hospital or medical center)	.6%	3	1.3%	5	1.0%	8
	U.S. university-affiliated research institute	1.1%	5	11.1%	41	5.5%	46
	U.S. community or two-year college	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%	0
	U.S. preschool, elementary, middle, secondary school or school system	.2%	1	.0%	0	.1%	1
	Foreign educational institution	2.8%	13	8.9%	33	5.5%	46
	Foreign government	2.6%	12	1.3%	5	2.0%	17
	U.S. federal government	3.2%	15	5.1%	19	4.1%	34
	U.S. state government	.0%	0	.0%	0	.0%	0
	U.S. local government	.9%	4	.0%	0	.5%	4
	Not for profit organization	5.2%	24	1.1%	4	3.3%	28
	Industry or business (for profit)	66.0%	307	16.7%	62	44.1%	369
	Self-employed	6.2%	29	1.3%	5	4.1%	34
	Other	1.1%	5	.8%	3	1.0%	8
	Not sure	7.1%	33	15.6%	58	10.9%	91
	Total	100.0%	465	100.0%	371	100.0%	836