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University of Iowa Faculty Senate

Education Faculty Survey: COVID-19 Response and Fall 2020 Planning

July 17, 2020

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Objectives

- To query faculty perceptions of the University of Iowa's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- To query faculty perceptions regarding the reopening of campus in Fall 2020.
- To utilize faculty-informed data to advocate for faculty and communicate faculty perspectives to campus.

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Survey Protocol

- Survey developed from a template shared by the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HED)—and modified with input from Faculty Senate Officers and individual representatives from Faculty Senate.
- The population was University of Iowa faculty holding 50% appointments or greater.
- The survey was distributed 5/27/2020, closed on 6/1/2020, and two reminders were sent.

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Results

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Respondent Characteristics

→ Response rate: 57.5%

- The survey was circulated to 150 faculty members
- 87 faculty members responded to the survey

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Respondent Characteristics

→ Academic Track/Rank

- Tenure-track/Tenured 69.4%
- Clinical 18.4%
- Instructional 8.2%
- Other 4.1%

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Respondent Characteristics

→ Age (years)

• <47	57.1%
• 48-59	14.3%
• 60+	28.6%

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Respondent Characteristics

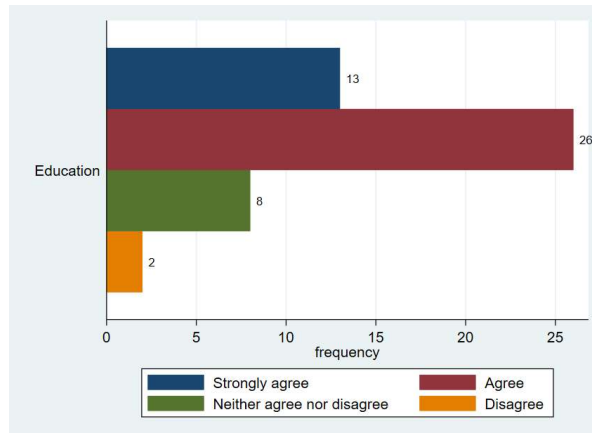
→ Gender

• Man	36.7%
• Woman	55.1%
• Prefer not to answer	8.2%

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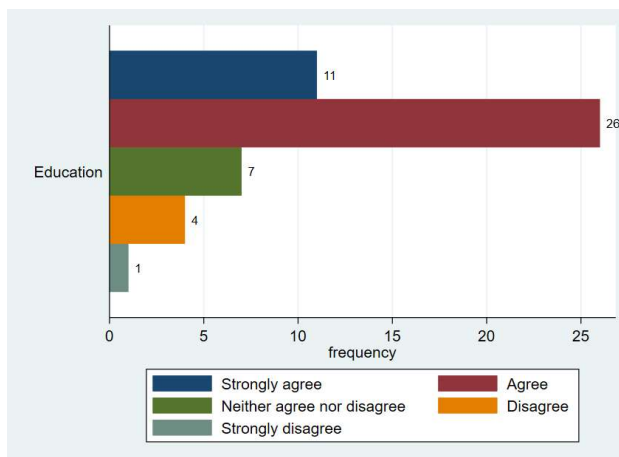
Overall, the University of Iowa has done a good job helping faculty adapt to the changes at the University brought on by the spread of Covid-19.



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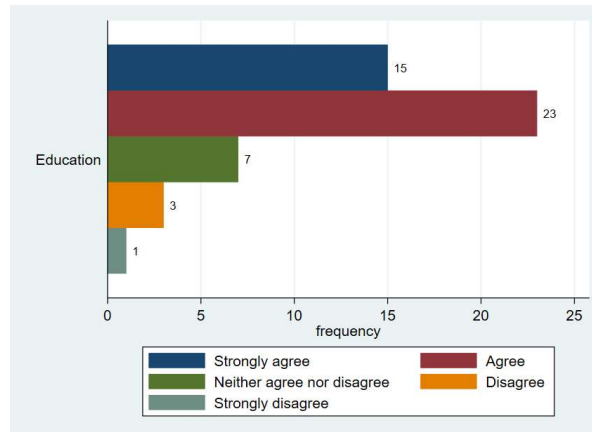
Overall, the University of Iowa has helped faculty understand their work priorities given the changes at the institution brought on by the spread of COVID-19.



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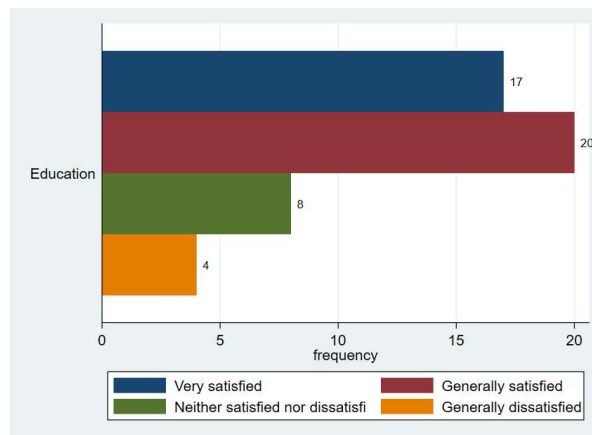
Overall, the University of Iowa has shown care and concern for faculty as they respond to the spread of COVID-19.



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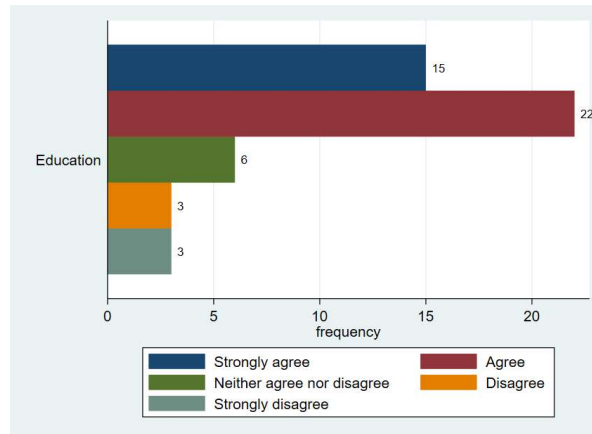
Overall, how satisfied are you with the resources offered from the University of Iowa to help you adjust to the changes brought on by the spread of COVID-19?



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I know who to contact if I have questions about how changes at the University of Iowa in response to COVID-19 will affect me.



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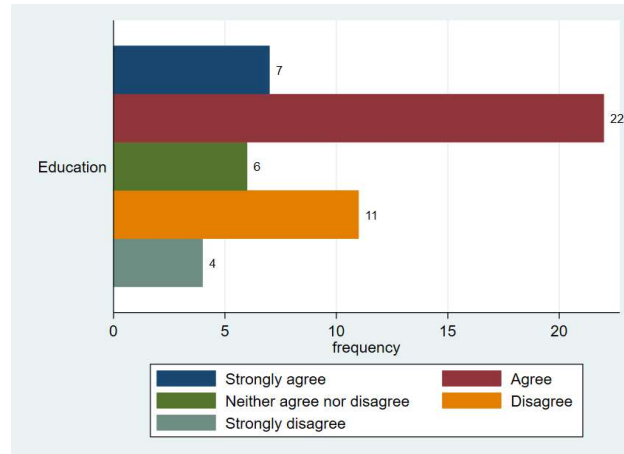
**For me to feel comfortable teaching or attending meetings/events in person, the following safety measures would need to be in place.
(choose all that apply) *Item #4***

Behavior	%
Mandatory cloth face masks for all	78
Mandatory plastic face shields for all	30
Hand hygiene/sanitizing stations in every room	80
Social Distancing	88
Health monitoring (i.e., temperature checks)	60
Testing, contact tracing, and isolation/quarantine capabilities	76
Ability to wipe down workstations between users	78
Deep cleaning of all public areas used each day	64
Physical barriers such as clear plastic panels within rooms	24
Nothing will make me feel comfortable returning to campus in Fall 2020	12

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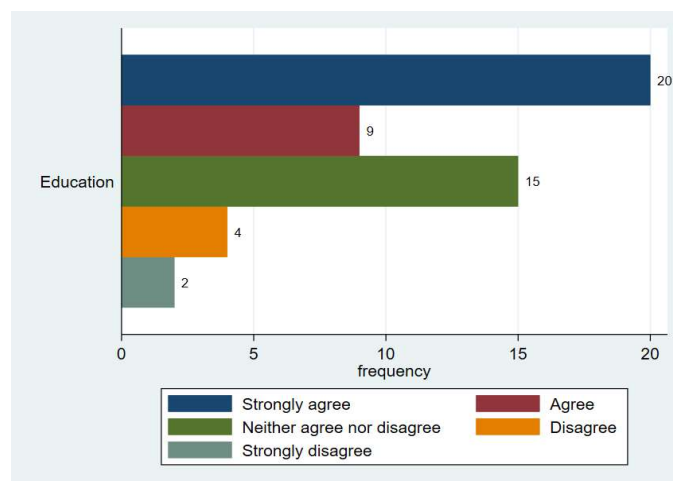
Assuming the conditions specified in Item #4 can be met, I am comfortable returning to in-person teaching in Fall 2020.



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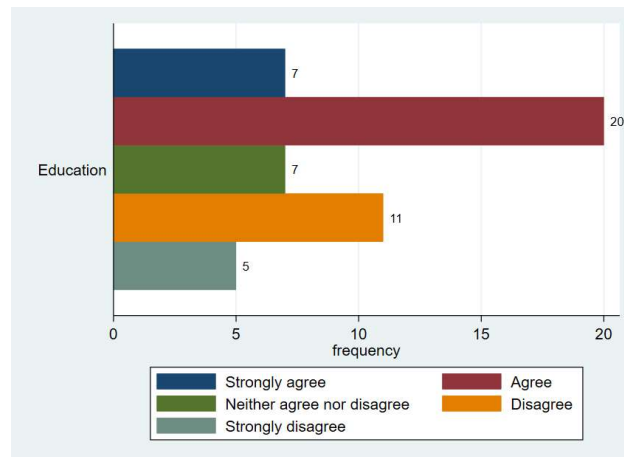
I would prefer to teach remotely in Fall 2020.



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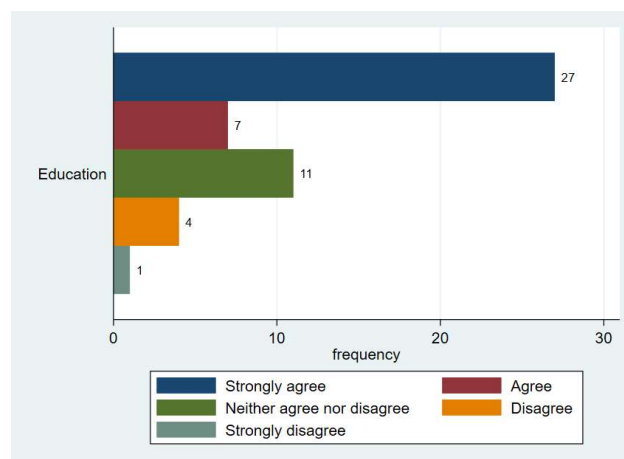
Assuming the conditions specified in Item #4 can be met, I am comfortable attending in-person meetings and campus events in Fall 2020.



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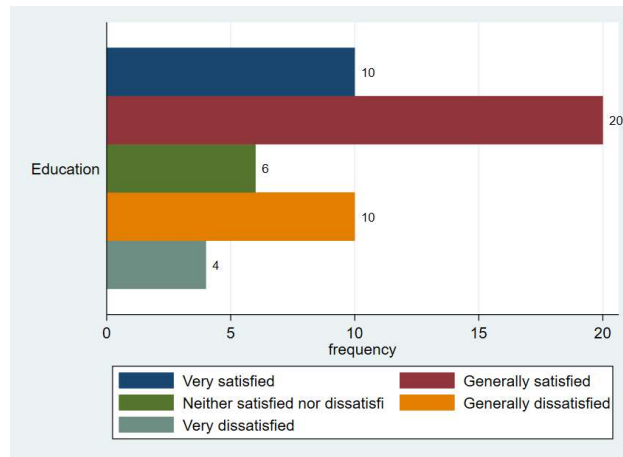
I would prefer to participate remotely in meetings and campus events in Fall 2020.



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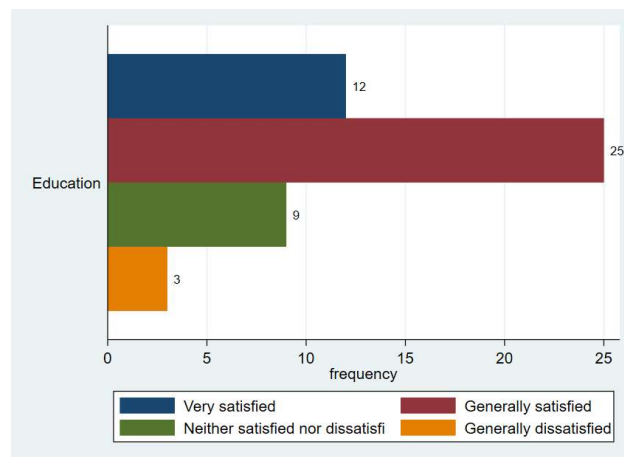
The information you have received about how changes at the institution in response to COVID-19 could impact your employment status.



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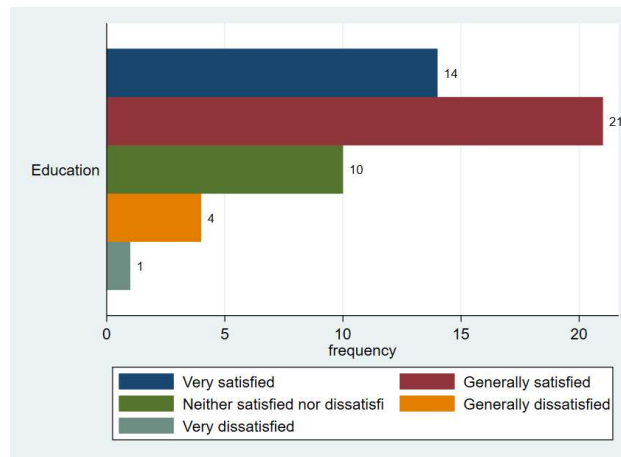
The timeliness of the communication you have received about the institution's ongoing responses to COVID-19.



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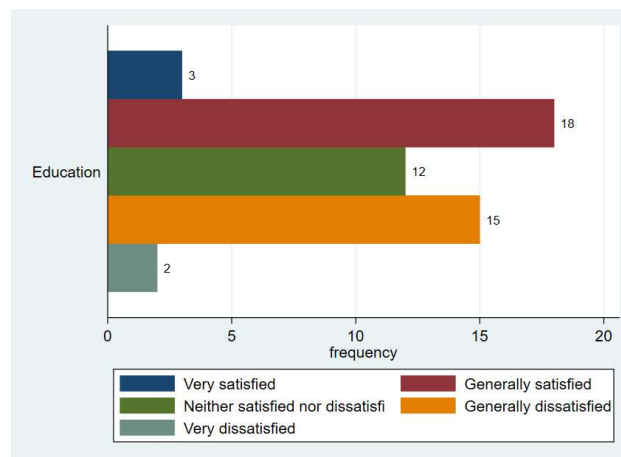
The clarity of the communication you have received from the institution about its ongoing responses to COVID-19.



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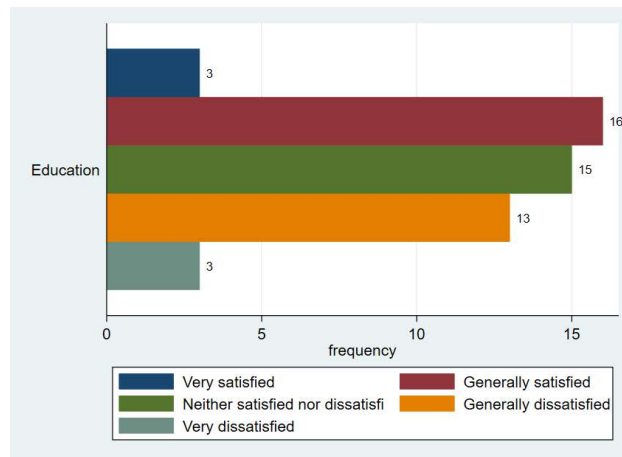
The timeliness of the communication you have received about the institution's academic planning for Fall 2020.



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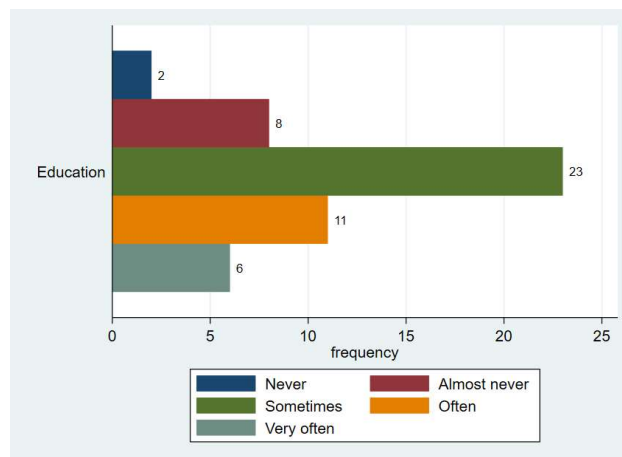
The clarity of the communication you have received about the institution's academic planning for Fall 2020.



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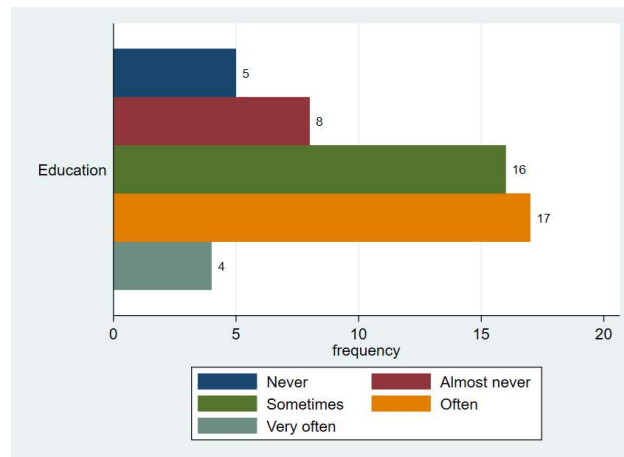
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about "Doing my job effectively".



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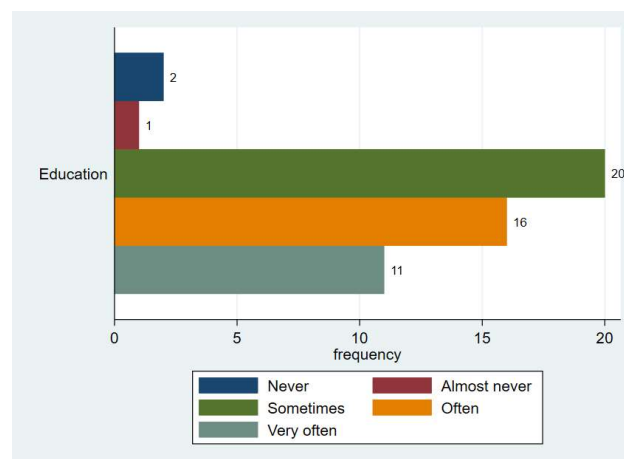
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “Losing connections with my colleagues.”



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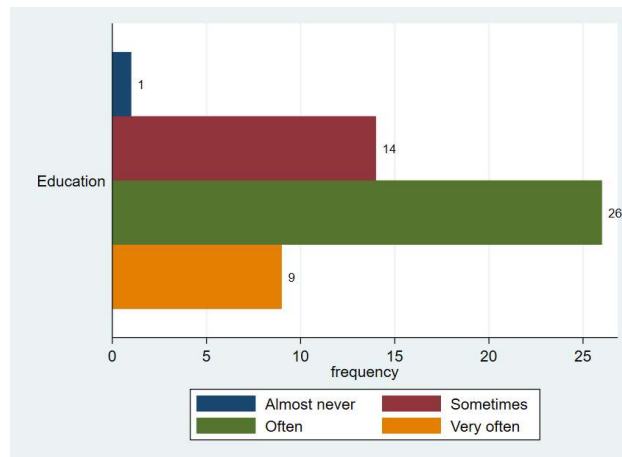
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “Losing connections with my students.”



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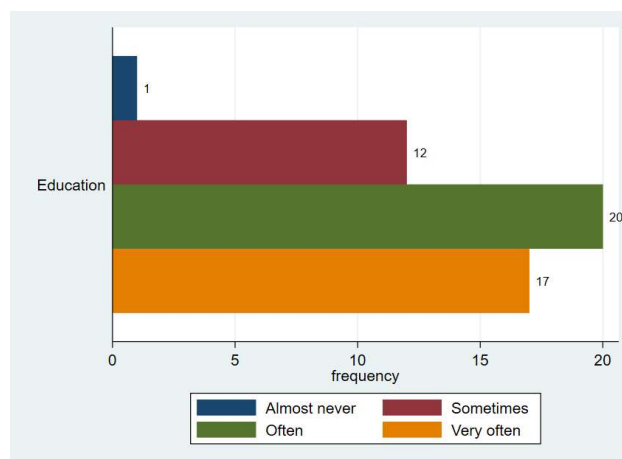
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “The health and well-being of my colleagues.”



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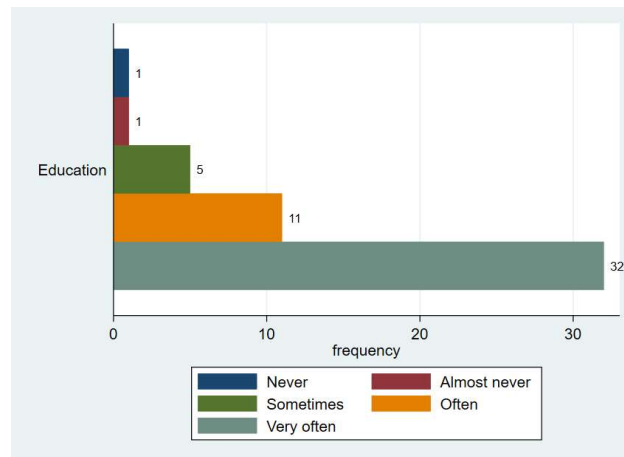
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “The health and well-being of my students.”



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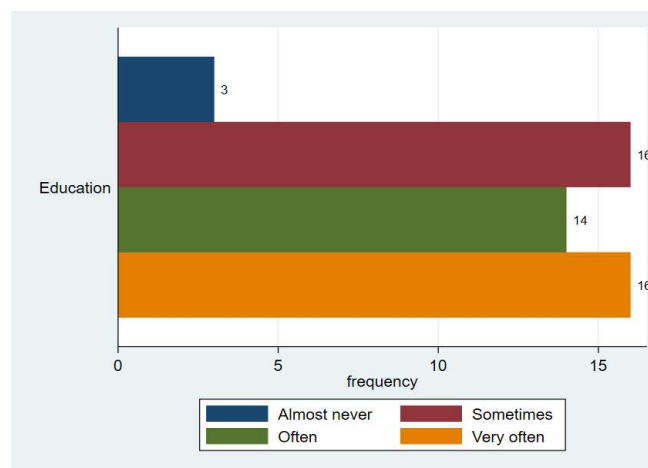
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “The health and well-being of my family.”



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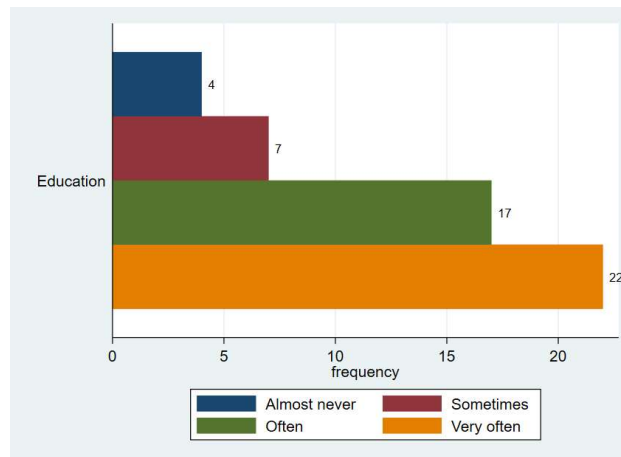
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “My personal health and well-being.”



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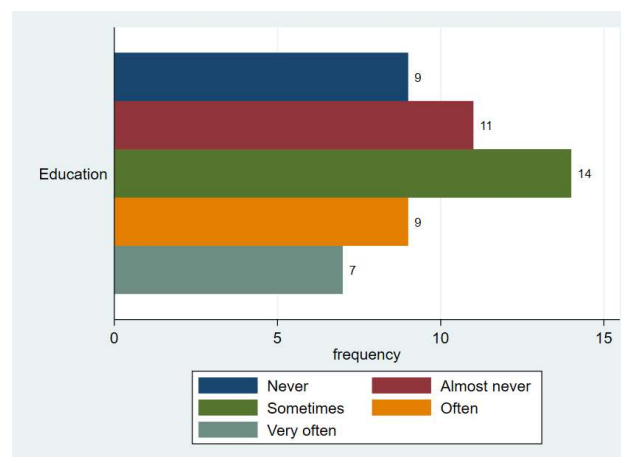
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “What the future holds for the University of Iowa.”



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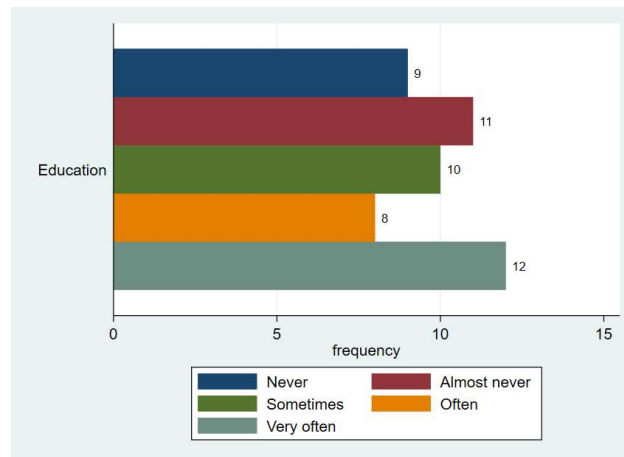
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “Having access to healthcare for myself.”



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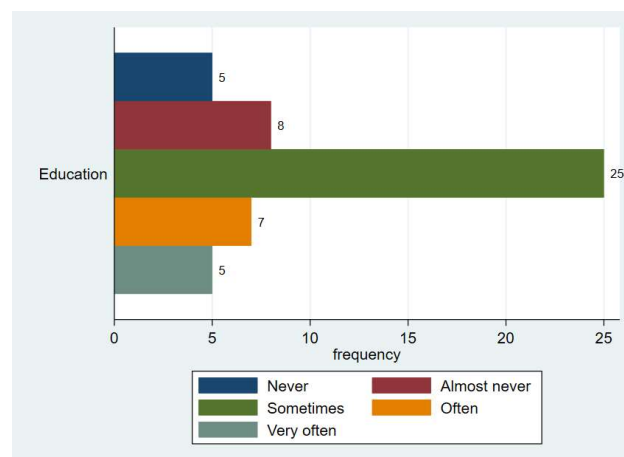
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “Having access to healthcare for my family.”



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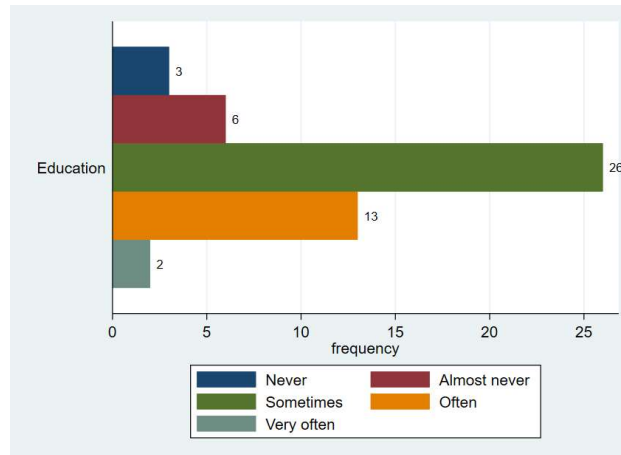
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “Paying my bills.”



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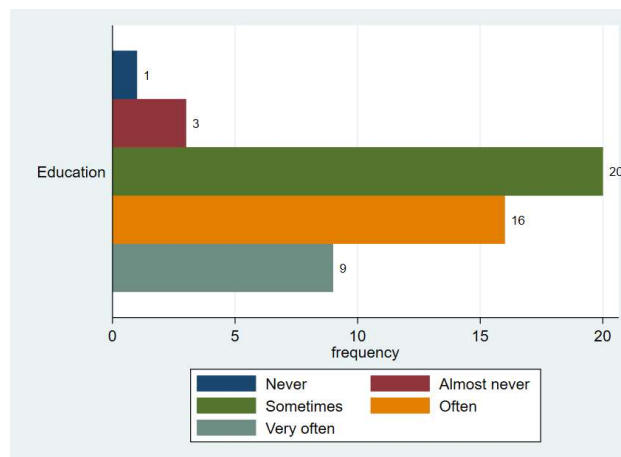
Given the challenges presented by the spread of COVID-19, how often do you worry about “Losing my job.”



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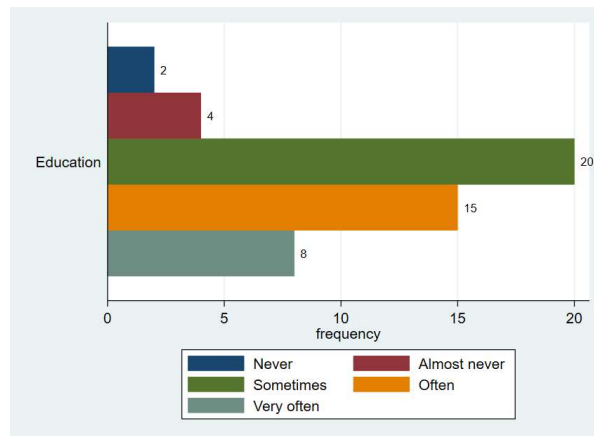
During the University of Iowa's response to Covid-19 in the Spring 2020 semester, how often did you “Feel overwhelmed by work-related responsibilities?”



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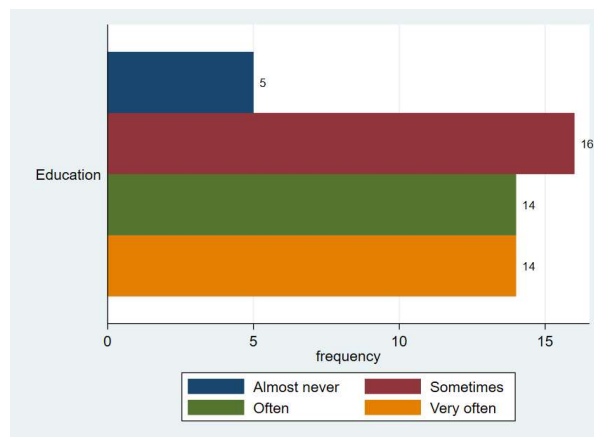
During the University of Iowa's response to Covid-19 in the Spring 2020 semester, how often did you "Feel overwhelmed by personal obligations?"



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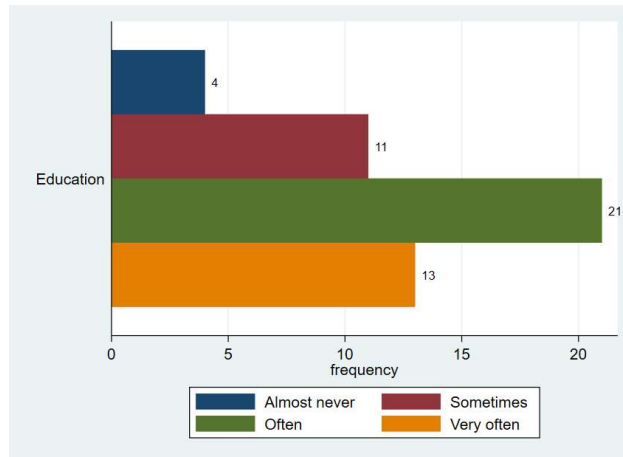
During the University of Iowa's response to Covid-19 in the Spring 2020 semester, how often did you "Feel under pressure from deadlines?"



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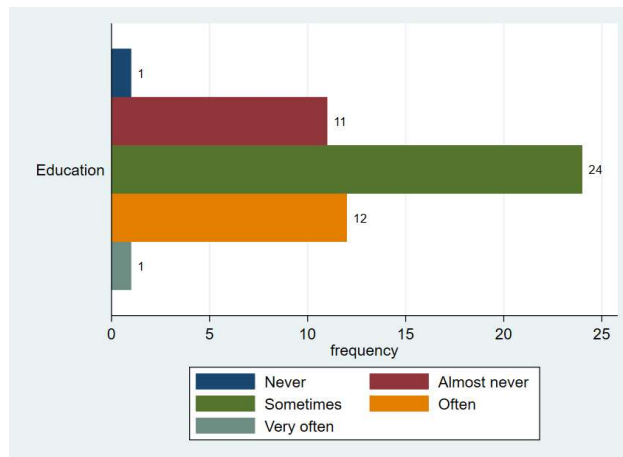
During the University of Iowa's response to Covid-19 in the Spring 2020 semester, how often did you "Feel in a hurry?"



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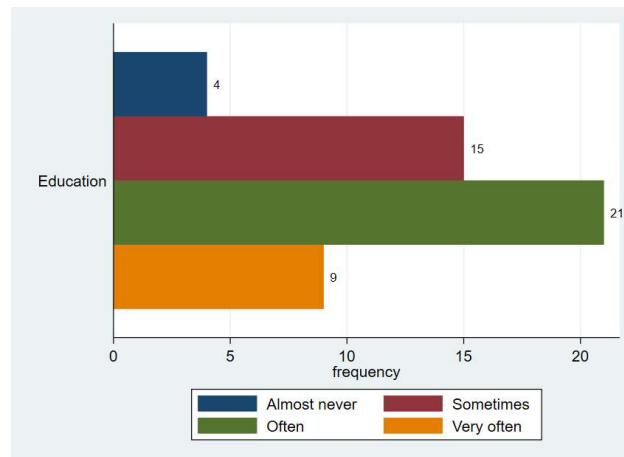
During the University of Iowa's response to Covid-19 in the Spring 2020 semester, how often did you "Feel in control?"



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During the University of Iowa's response to Covid-19 in the Spring 2020 semester, how often did you "Feel you had too many worries?"



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Lessons and Implications

- Faculty are concerned for the safety and well-being of others as much as they care about themselves.
- Faculty viewed communication about changes to UI operations and spread of Coronavirus favorably. However, communication about re-opening UI for the Fall needs improvement.
- If safety measures are taken, then the majority of faculty who participated in this survey are comfortable teaching face-to-face—however, 58% prefer to teach on-line.
- If safety measures are taken, then the majority of faculty who participated in this survey are comfortable attending meeting and campus events. However, 68% prefer to attend these events virtually.
- There is some confusion about when to wear a facemask vs a face shield.
- There are indications of stress. We're asking faculty to give more effort without compensation, and sometimes without recognition. Stress will likely be compounded over the summer and the next AY. We need to pay attention to this now.
- If we do not protect faculty, we will be unable to fulfill our academic mission.

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Limitations for the data

- Response rate skewed to tenure-track faculty
 - We've looked at data on total N/% of faculty per track and colleges, so cannot comment how representative the data are
- "Institution" is assumed to be UI, but some could have been referring to their College
- Combination of race, gender, and college made some faculty "identifiable"
- The survey occurred before colleges began talking about hiring practices and budget cuts

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Thank you.



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**With special thanks to the 1100+ faculty
who participated in this survey.**

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