



Results of the First Administration of the “Your First College Year” Survey

Executive Summary

Office of Institutional Research
November 15, 2012

What is YFCY?

- Designed and administered by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) at the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at UCLA.
- Designed to provide admin., faculty, and researchers with comprehensive information on the academic and personal development of first-year college students

What Does It Examine?

- **Adjustment to college**
 - satisfaction with aspects of campus life, institutional facilities, and student services; transition from high school to college; feelings of personal success at the end of the first year
- **Academic experiences and achievement**
 - classroom activities; academic engagement and disengagement; interaction with faculty; overall academic capabilities
- **Extracurricular experiences**
 - social commitments, study habits, volunteer and service work, student employment, residential life experiences, involvement in campus organizations, religious practices, and family obligations
- **Specific first-year programs**
 - orientation, honors courses, first-year seminars, remedial coursework, service learning opportunities, academic advising, and learning communities , interaction with advisors, counselors, and other support personnel
- **Student change**
 - how their students have changed since entering college, with survey of freshmen

Survey Administration

- Online survey to all first-time, full-time freshmen (Fall 2011 freshmen, returning for Spring 2012): n=1075
- Invitation from VP Student Affairs sent out on May 6, three reminders, closed June 2.
- Incentive was chocolate for all respondents, provided by Student Life.
- Trial implementation
 - AUC: First-time, full-time freshman = 92; non first-time, full-time freshmen = 162
 - Comparison Group: First-time, full-time freshman, public/private universities, public 4-yr. colleges = 3,994; non first-time, full-time freshmen = 1,020
- Asked 19 additional, customized questions
- All responses reported by gender

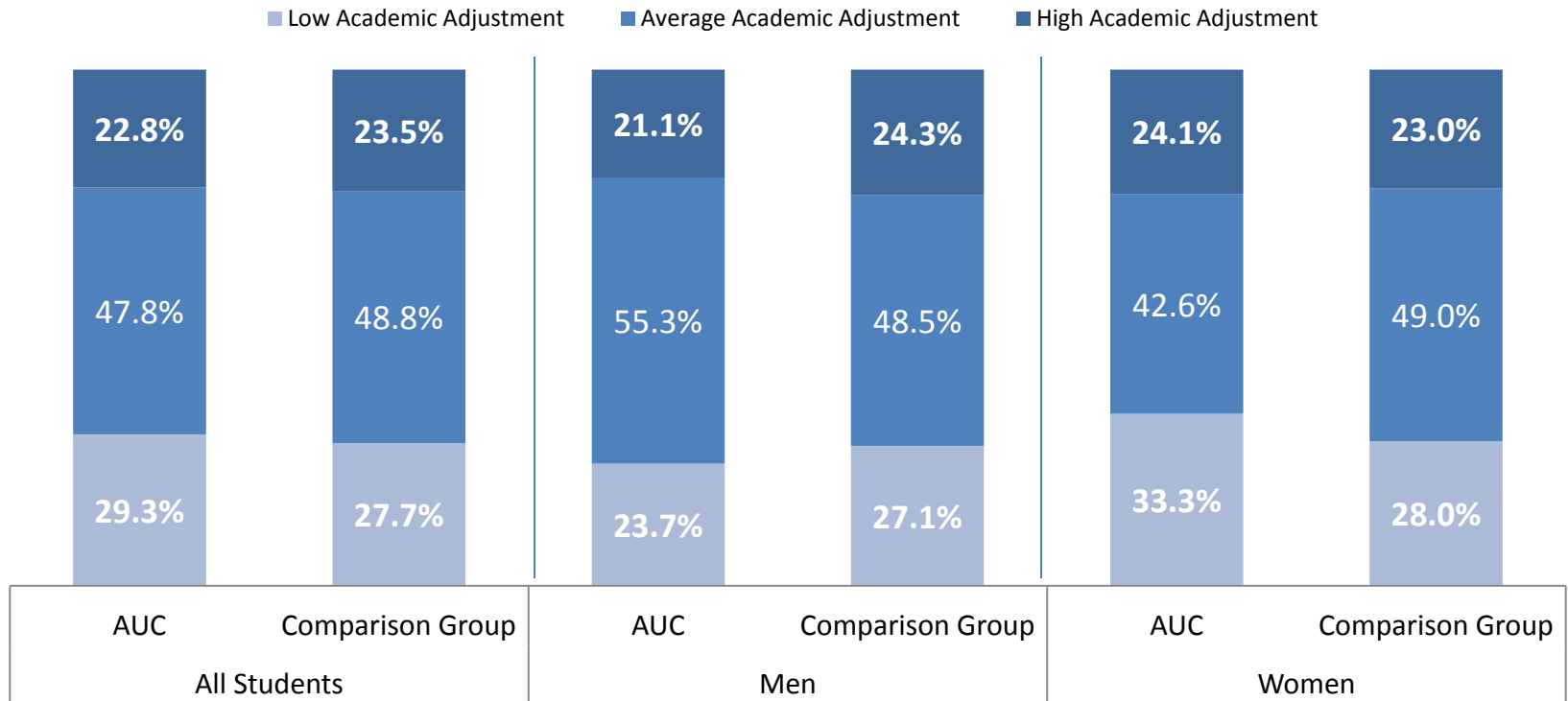
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TRANSITION TO COLLEGE

CIRP Construct: **Academic Adjustment**

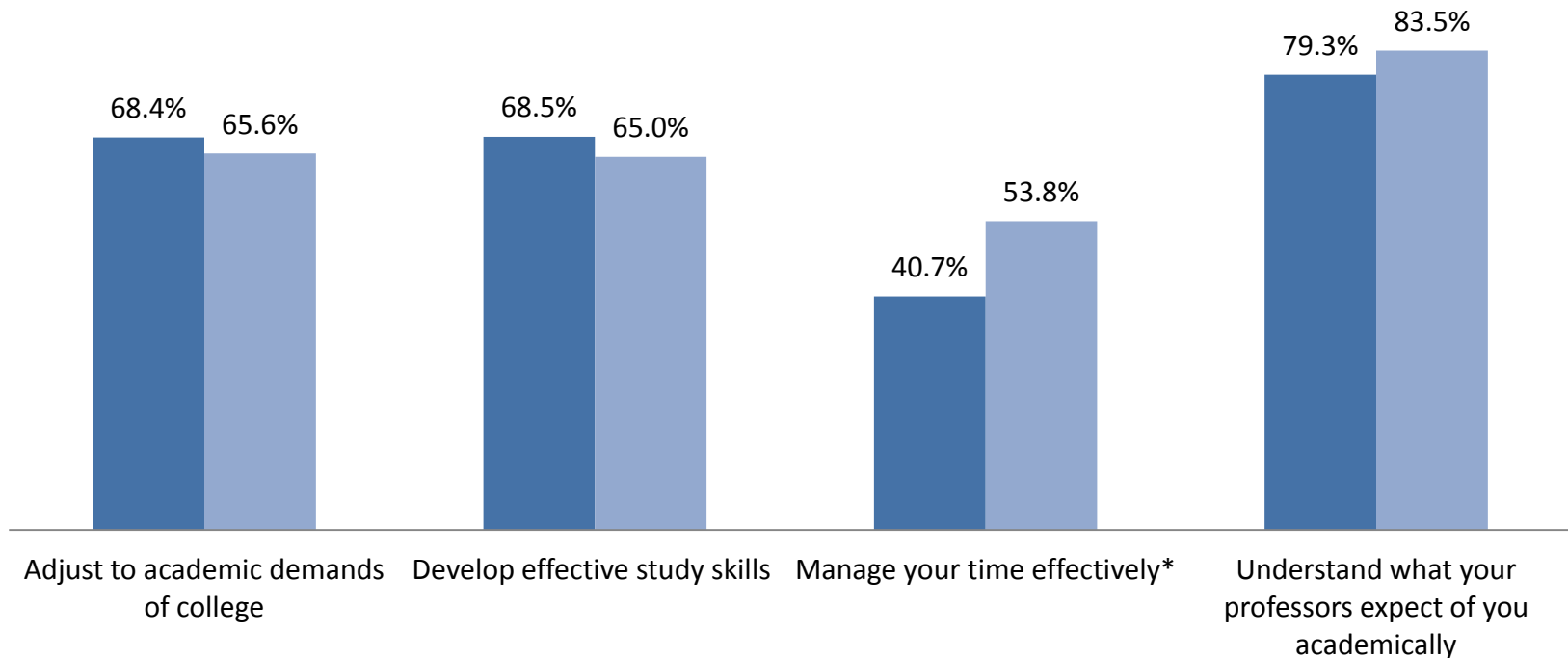


- Unified measure of behaviors and traits, measures ease of adjustment to academic demands of college: adjusting to academic demands of college, developing effective study skills, managing time effectively, understanding professors' expectations
- 70.6% of first-time, full-time freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- No significant difference of mean with comparison groups in US

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Academic Adjustment**

Since entering this college, how has it been to: (very easy/somewhat easy)

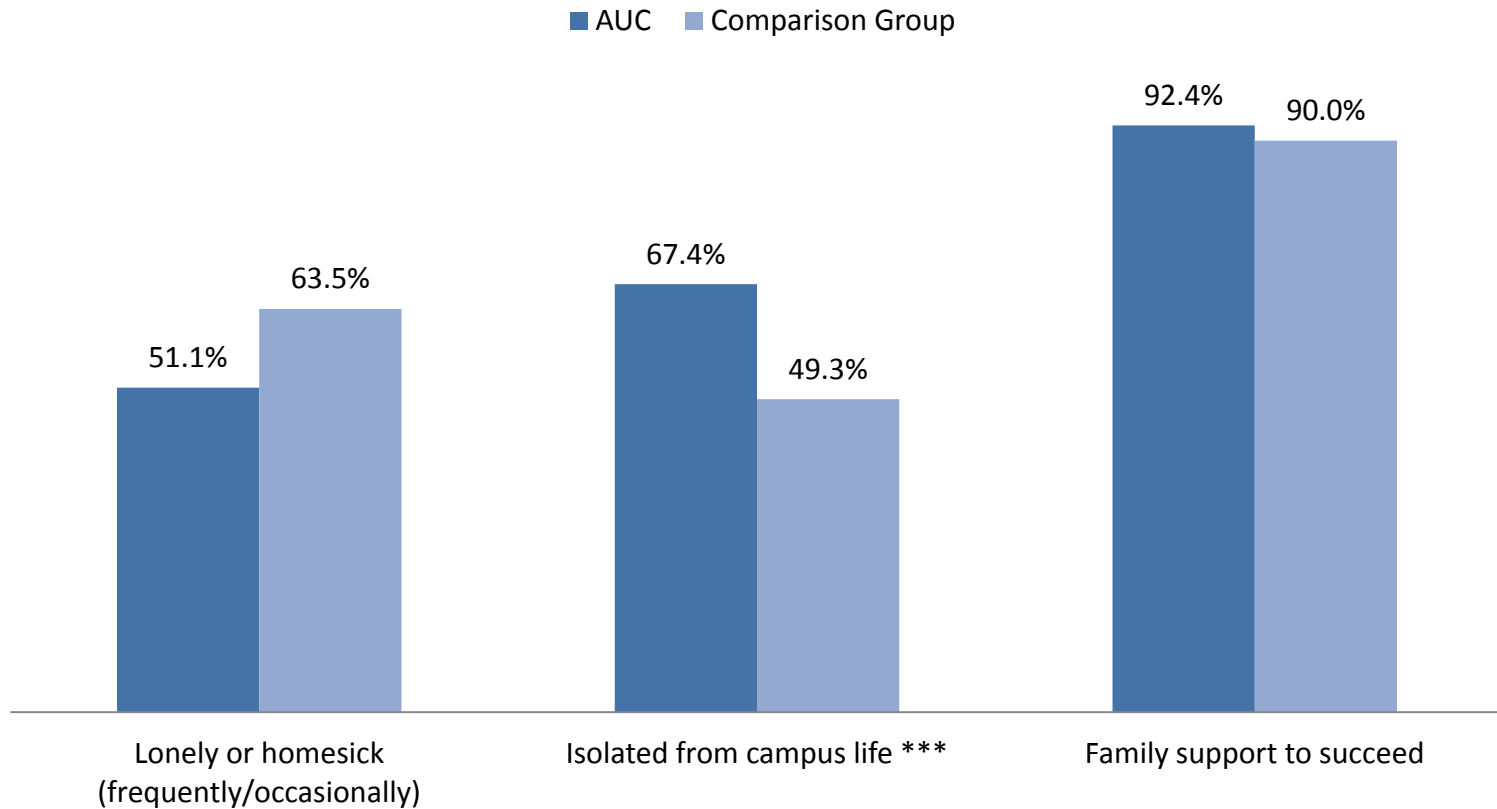
■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Transition to College**

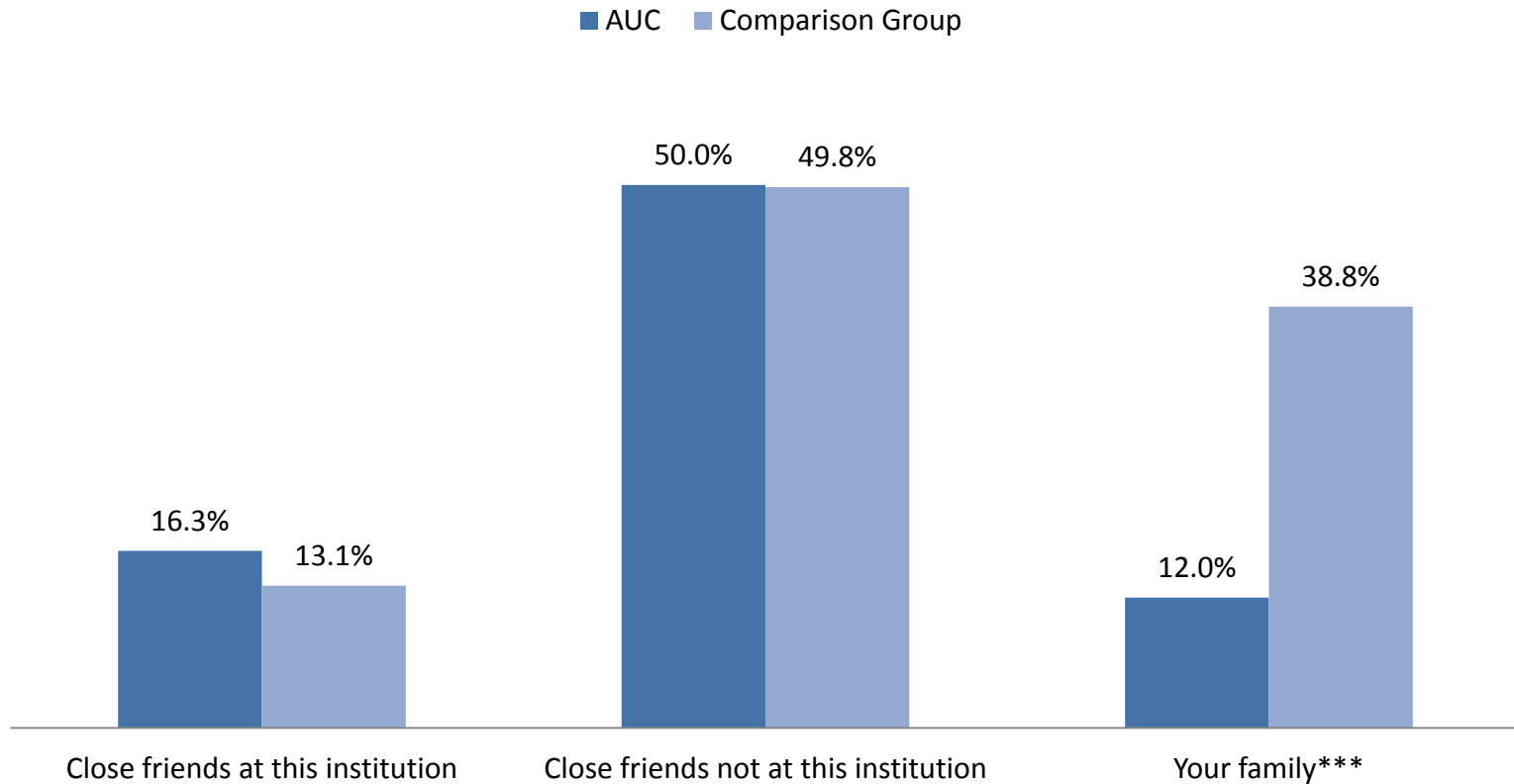
Since entering college, how often have you felt:
(frequently/occasionally)



* Indicates level of significance

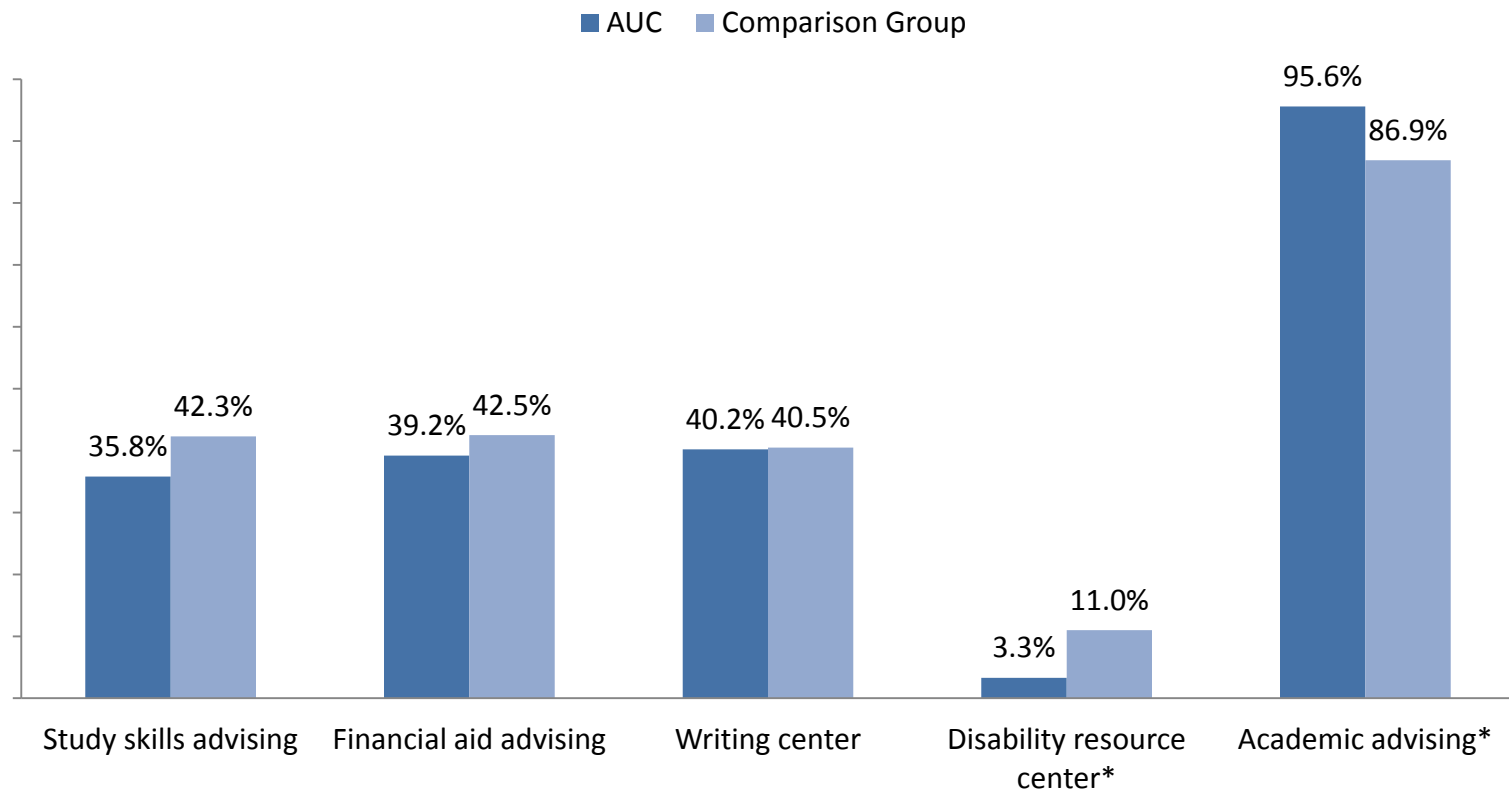
CIRP Theme: **Transition to College**

Since entering this college, how often have you interacted with the following people: (once a week or less)



CIRP Theme: **Transition to College**

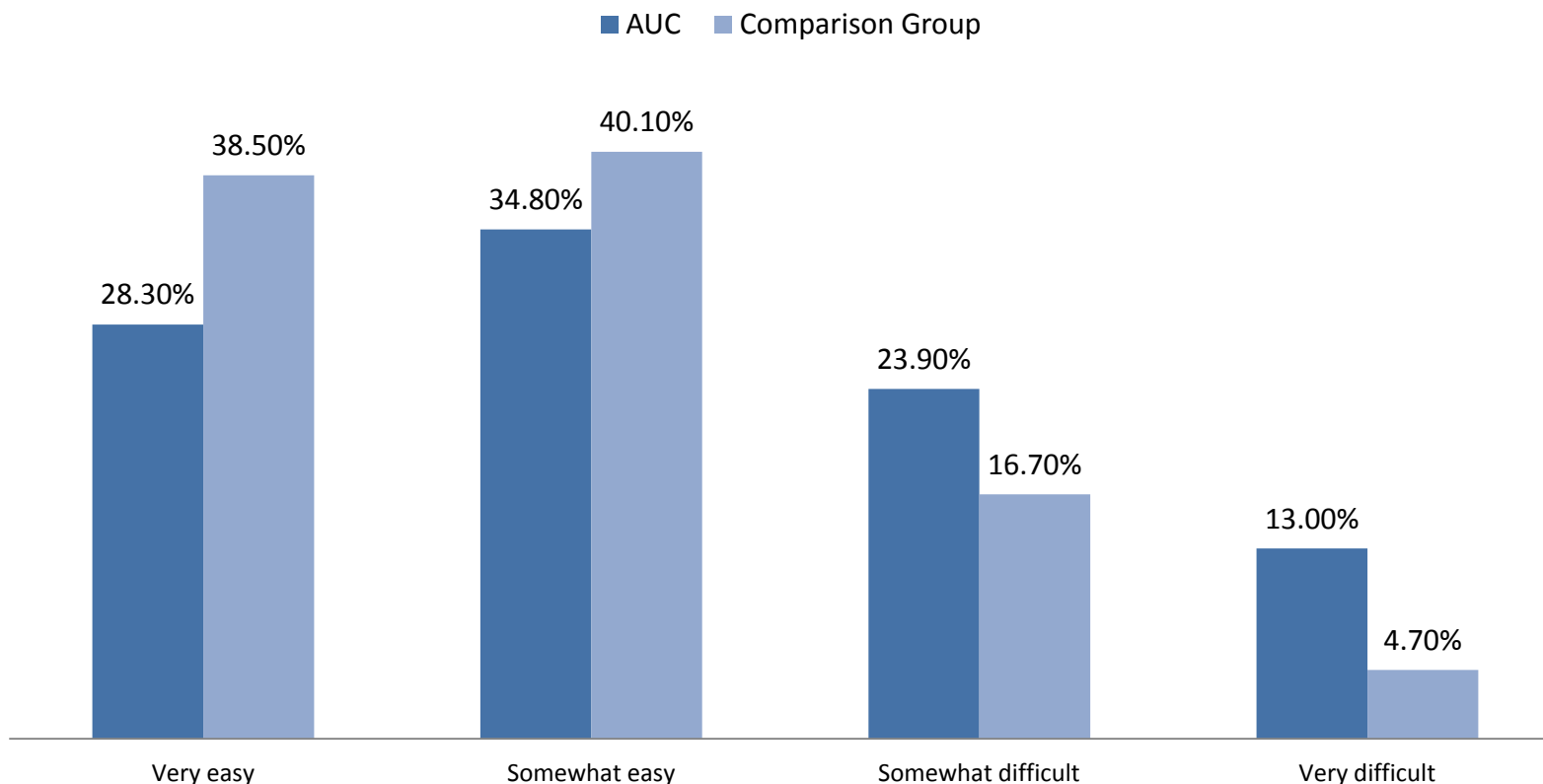
Since entering this college, how often have you utilized the following services: (frequently/occasionally)



* Indicates level of significance

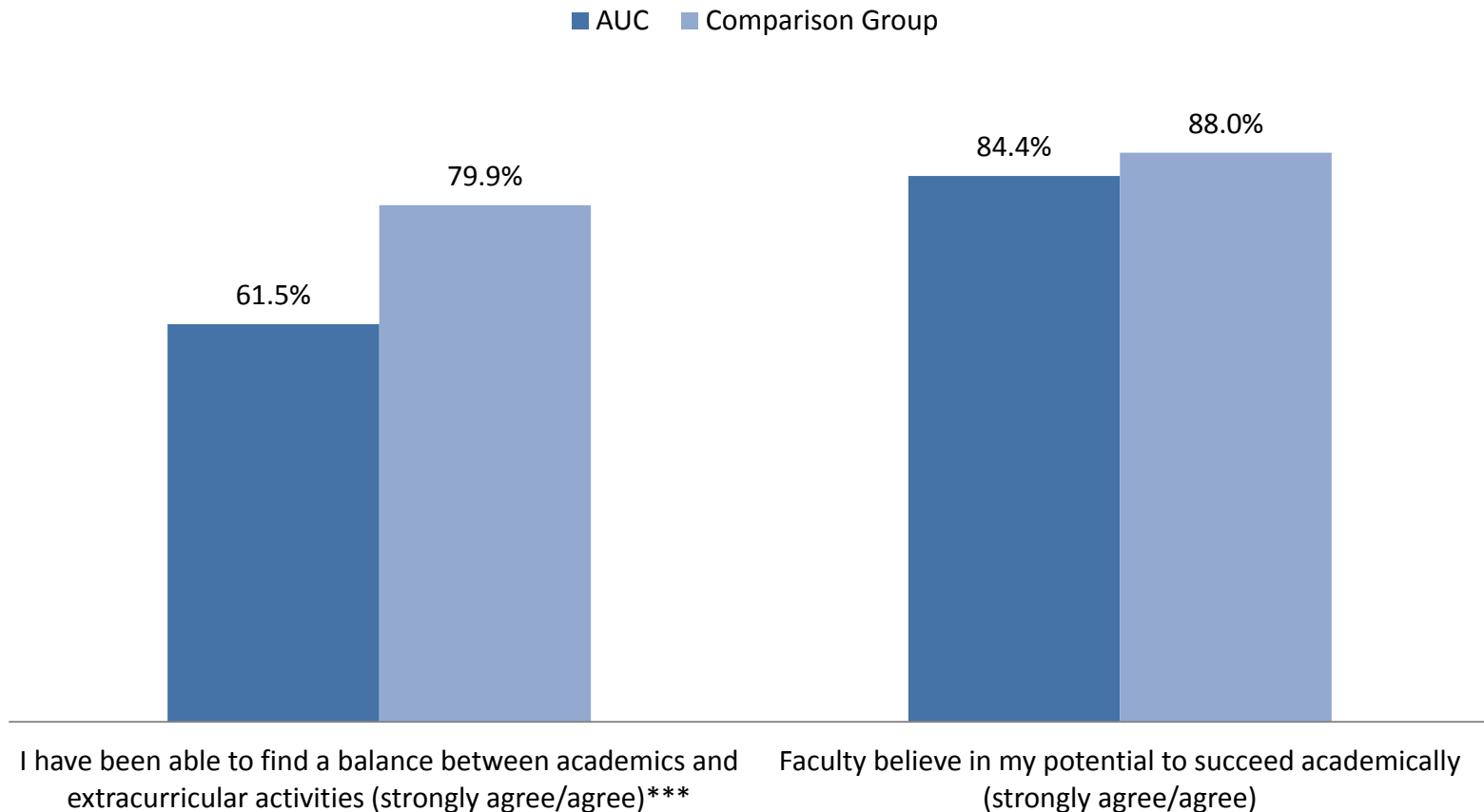
CIRP Theme: **Transition to College**

Since entering this college, how has it been to:
Develop close friendships with other students***



* Indicates level of significance

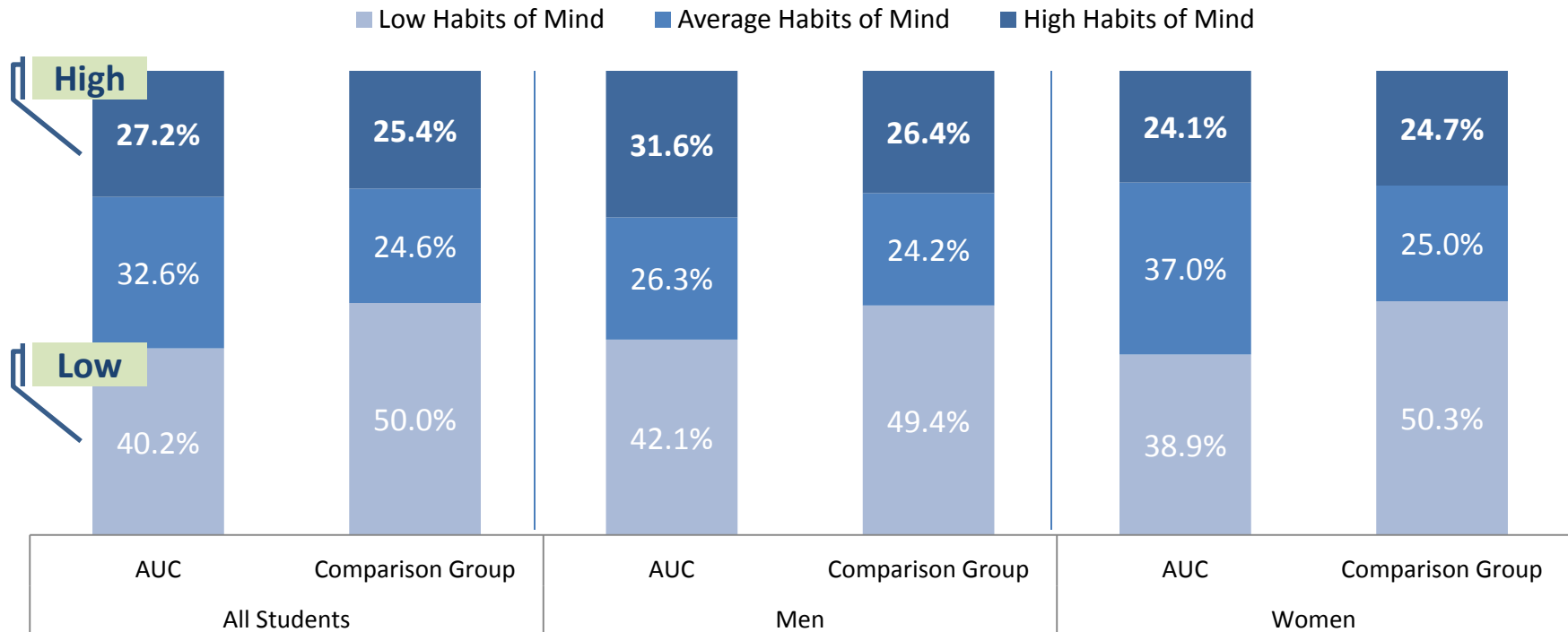
CIRP Theme: **Transition to College**





ACADEMIC OUTCOMES

CIRP Construct: Habits of Mind

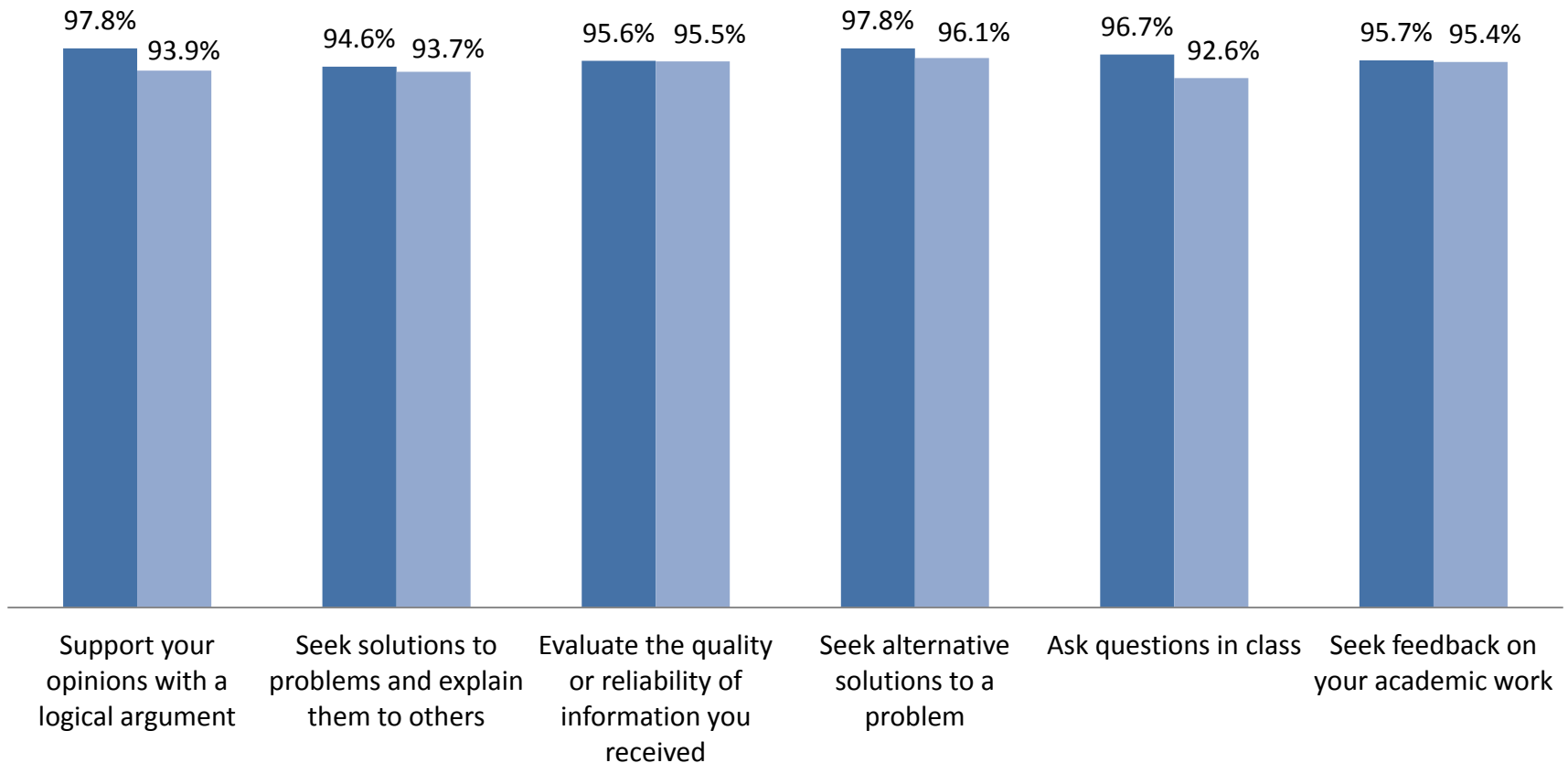


- Unified measure of behaviors and traits associated with academic success, foundation of lifelong learning
- 59.8% of first-time, full-time freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- No significant difference of mean with comparison groups in US

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Habits of Mind**

How often in the past year did you: (frequently/occasionally)

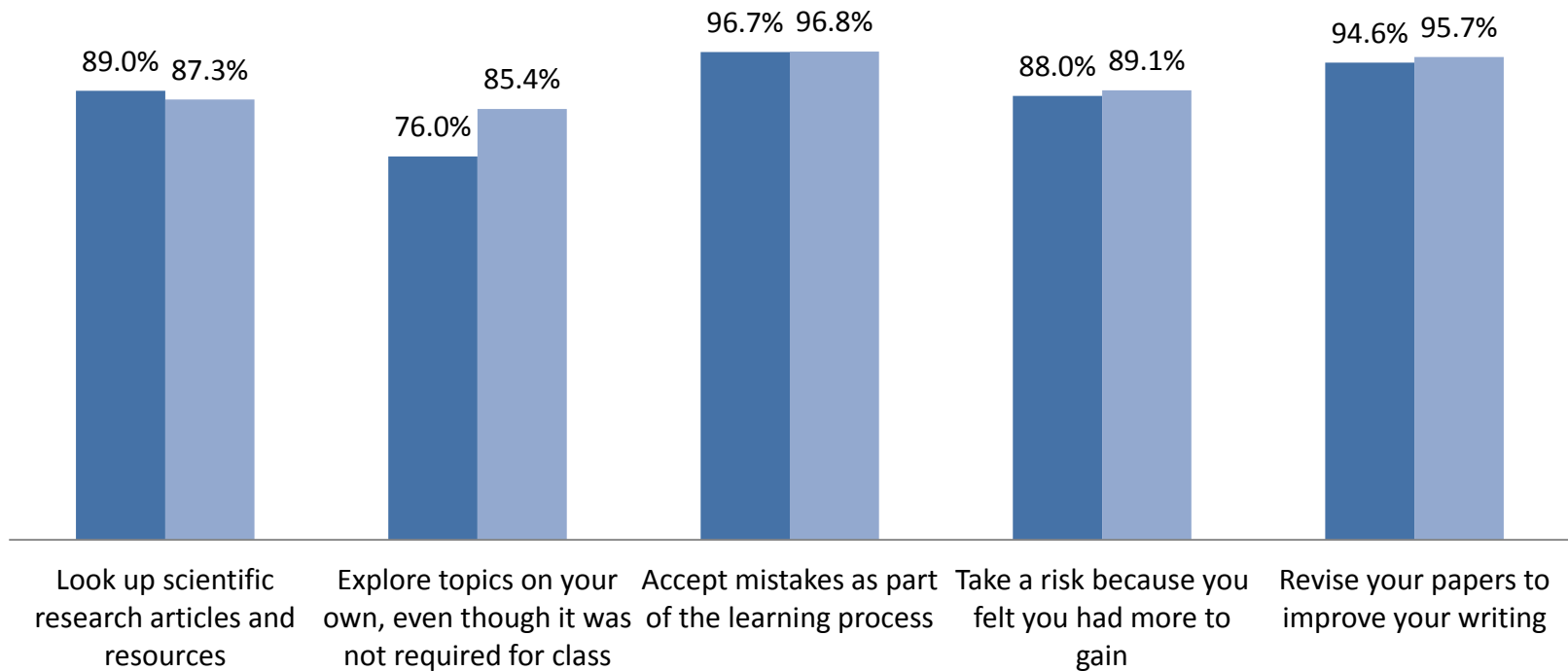
■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



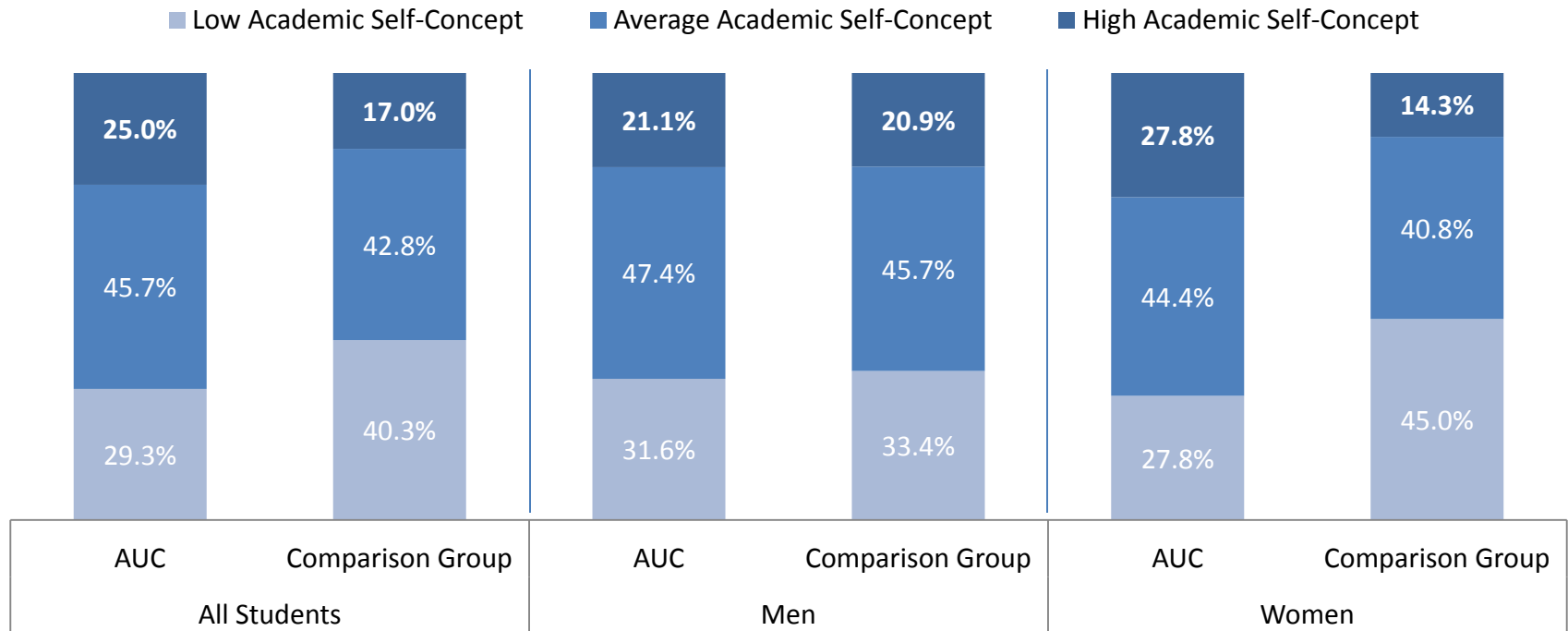
CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Habits of Mind**

How often in the past year did you: (frequently/occasionally)

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



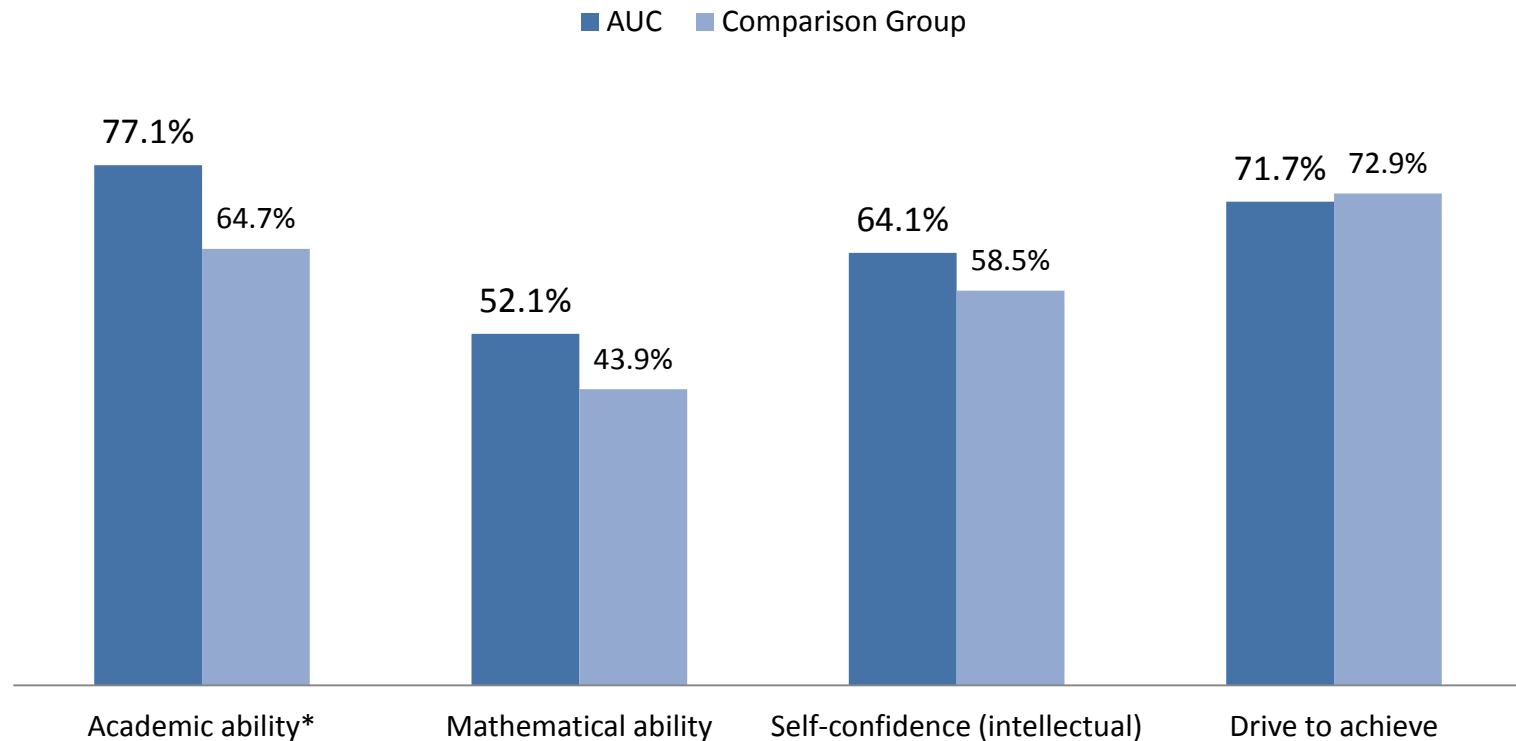
CIRP Construct: **Academic Self-Concept**



- Unified measure of students' beliefs about their abilities and confidence in academic environments
- 70.7% in high or average score groups
- No significant difference with comparison groups in the US

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Academic Self-Concept**

Rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average person your age: (highest 10%/above average)

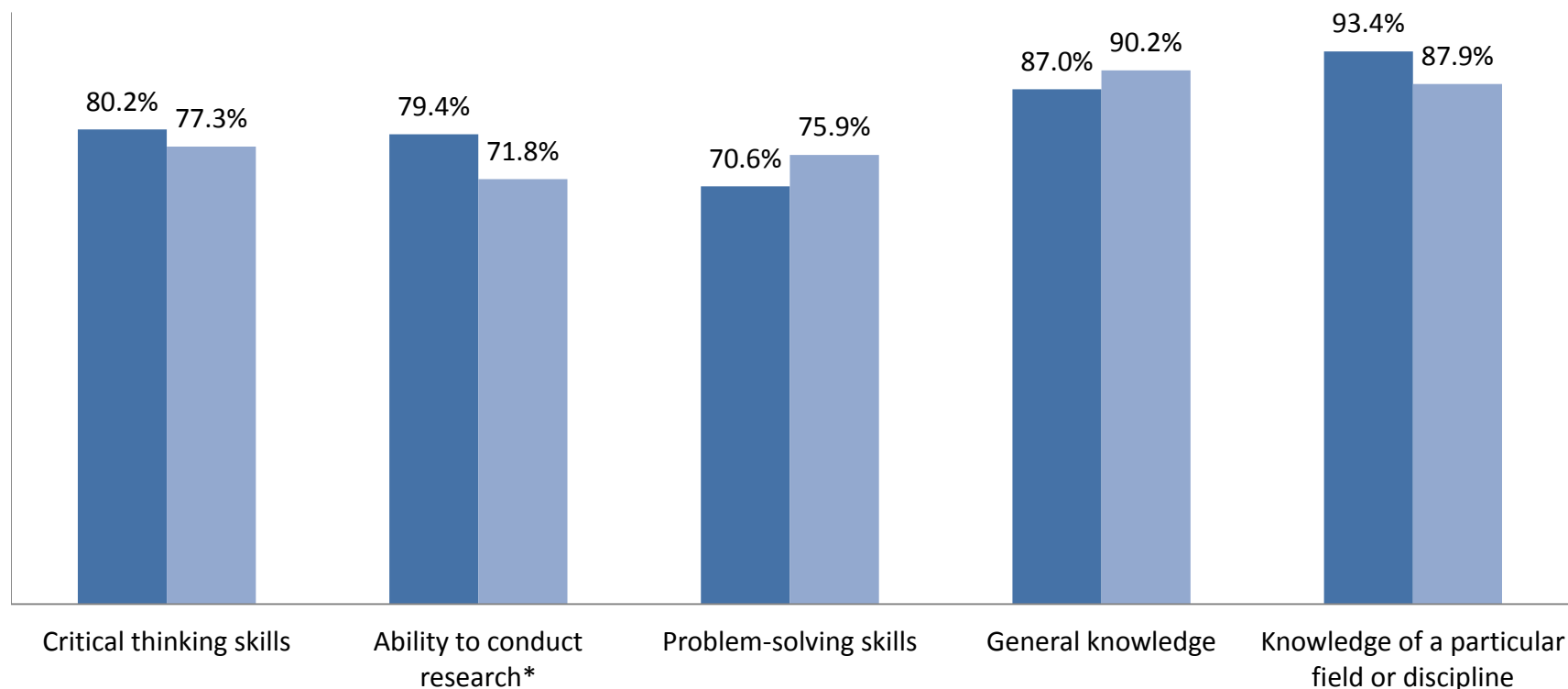


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Academic Outcomes**

Compared with when you entered this college, how would you now describe your: (much stronger/stronger)

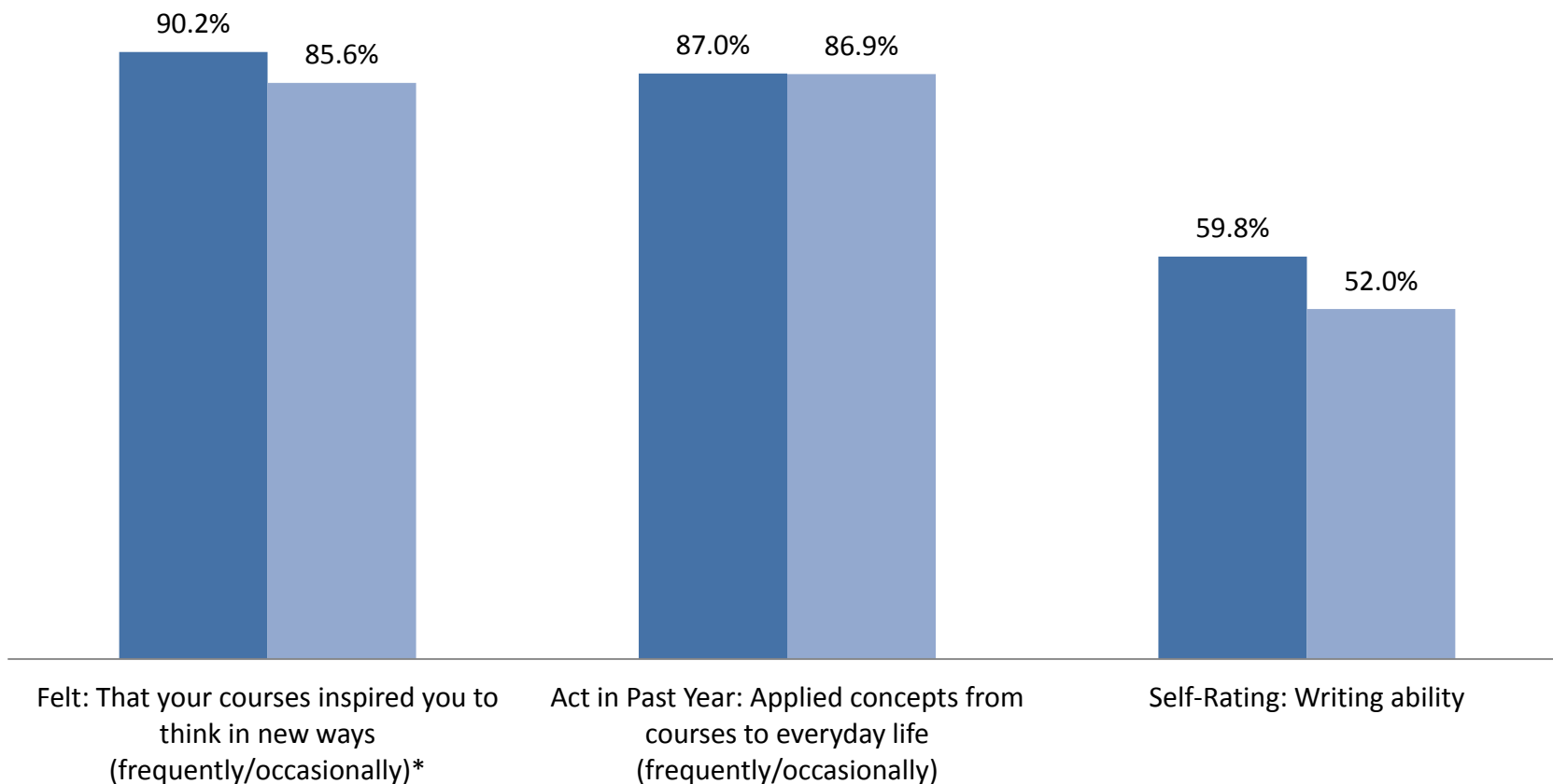
■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Academic Outcomes**

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group

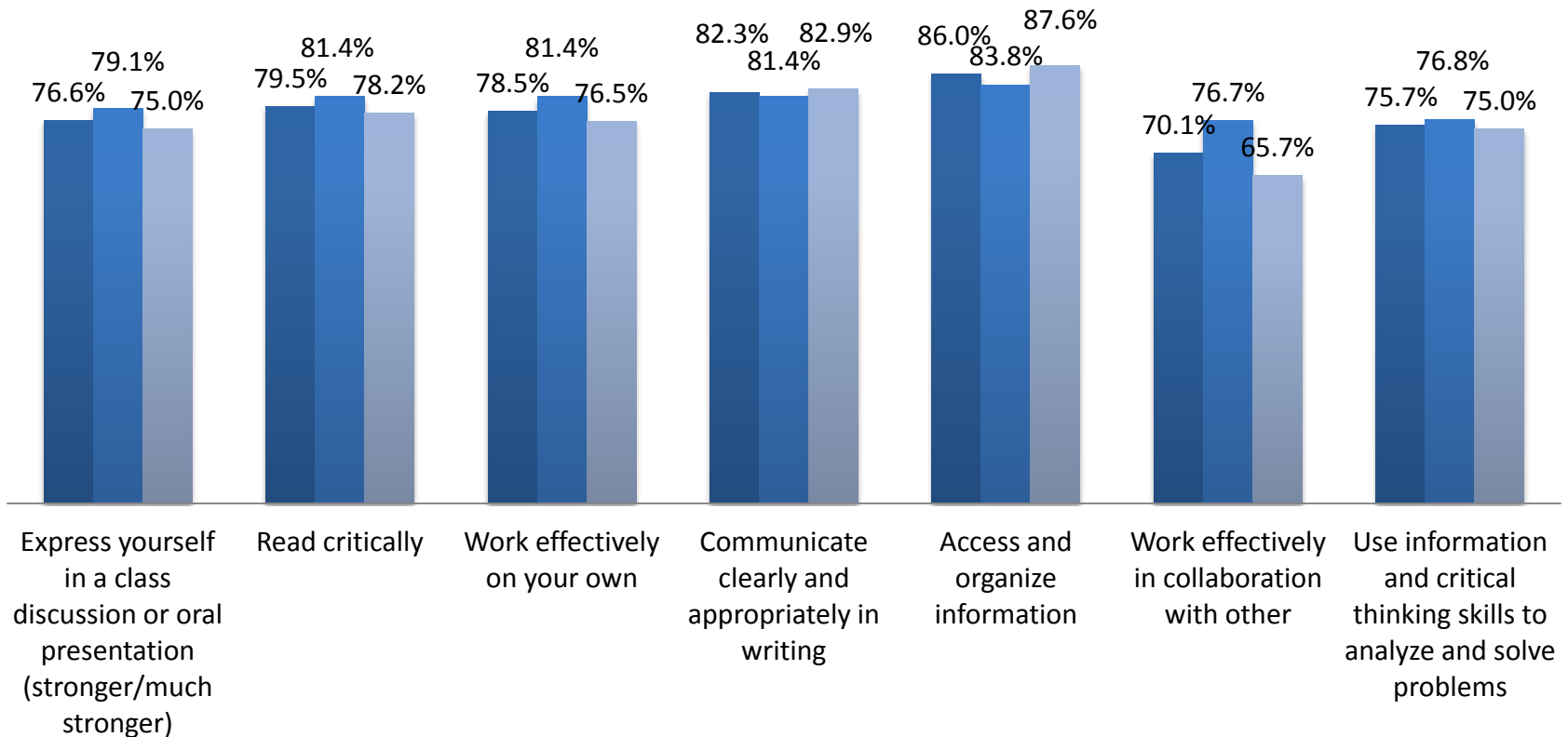


* Indicates level of significance

Additional Questions (AUC – all respondents): **First-Year Outcomes**

After completing your first year at AUC, how would you now describe your ability to do the following? (stronger/much stronger, n=107)

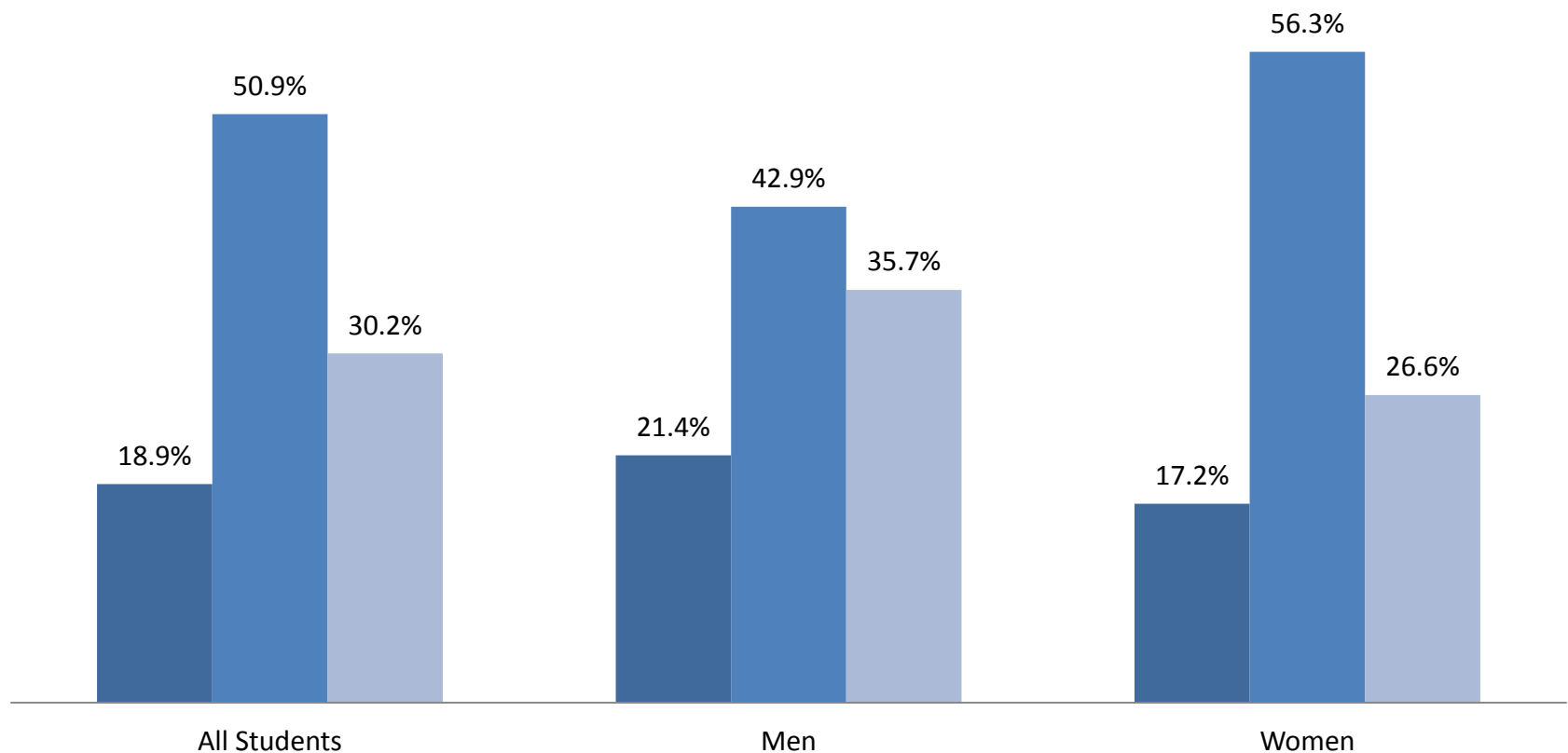
■ All Students ■ Men ■ Women



Additional Questions (AUC – all respondents): Reading Habits

Since you entered AUC, how often have you read a book that was not assigned in class? (n=107)

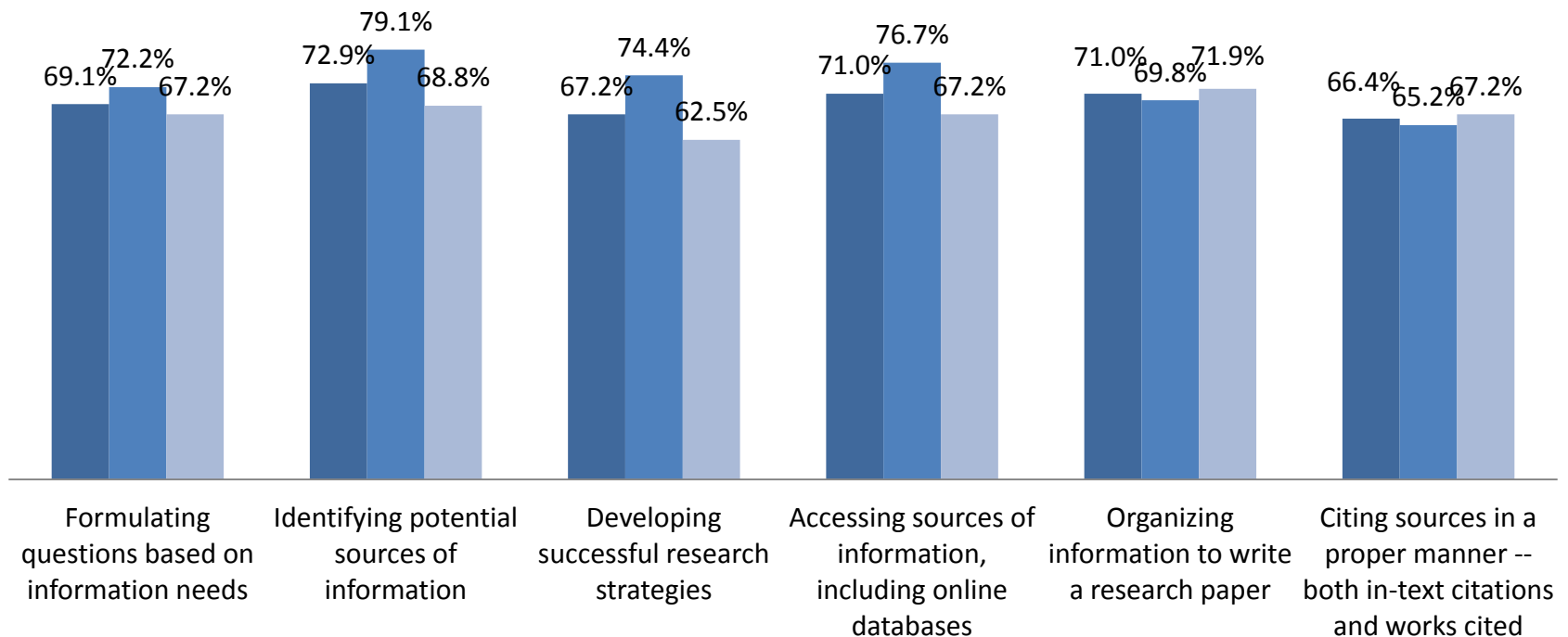
■ Frequently ■ Occasionally ■ Not at all



Additional Questions (AUC – all respondents): Research Skills

Please rate your ability in the following research skills: (strong/very strong, n=107)

■ All Students ■ Men ■ Women



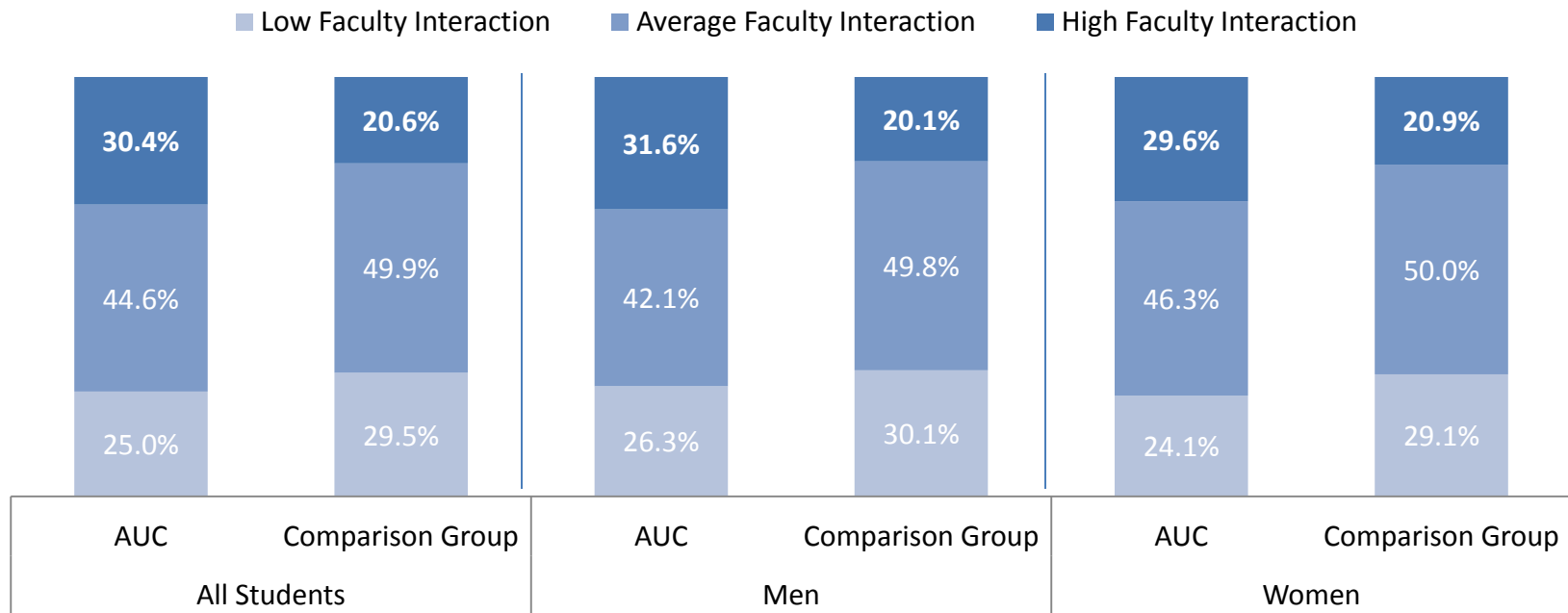


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ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

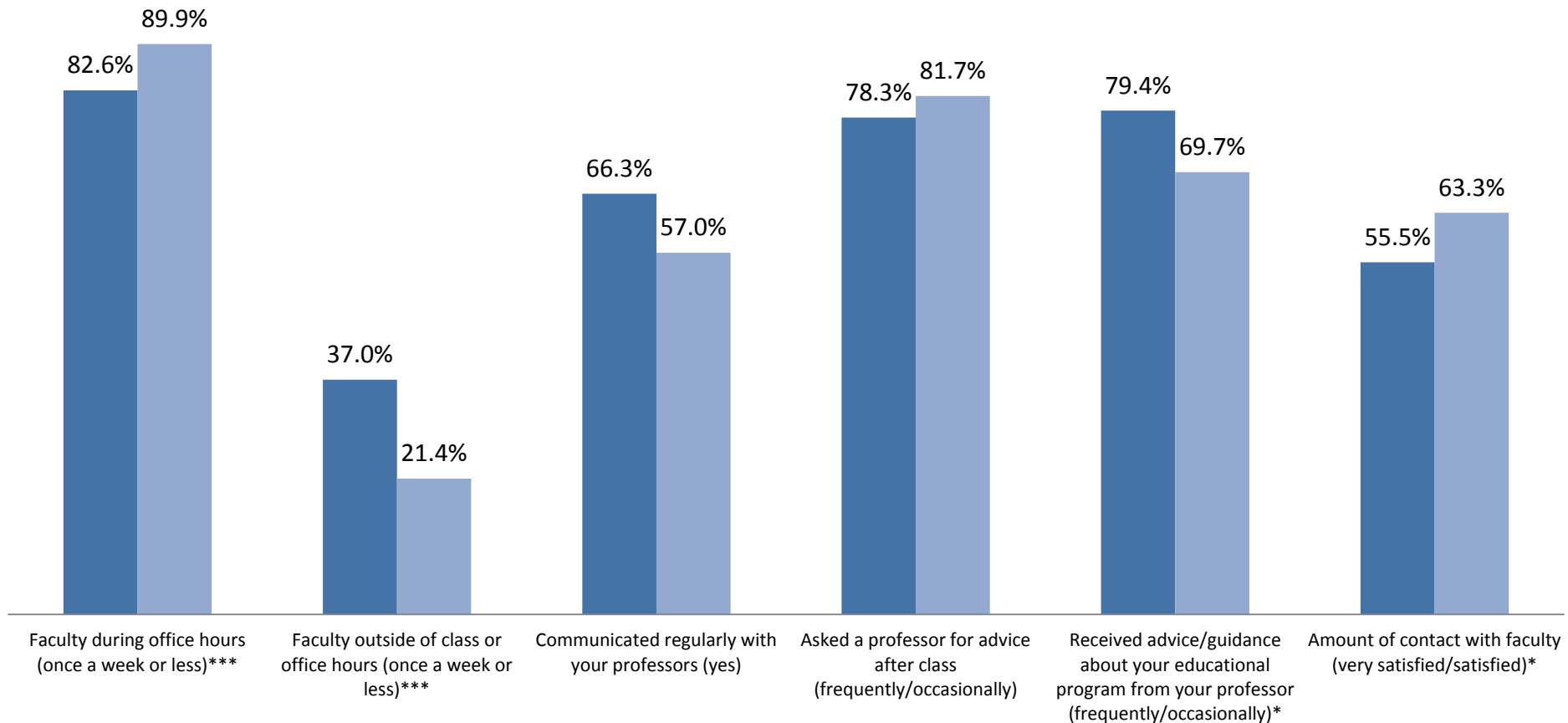
CIRP Construct: **Faculty Interaction -- Contact and Communication**



- Measures amount and type of interactions students have with faculty that are appropriate for first-years, as well as satisfaction with interactions
- 75% of freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- No significant difference of mean with comparison groups in US

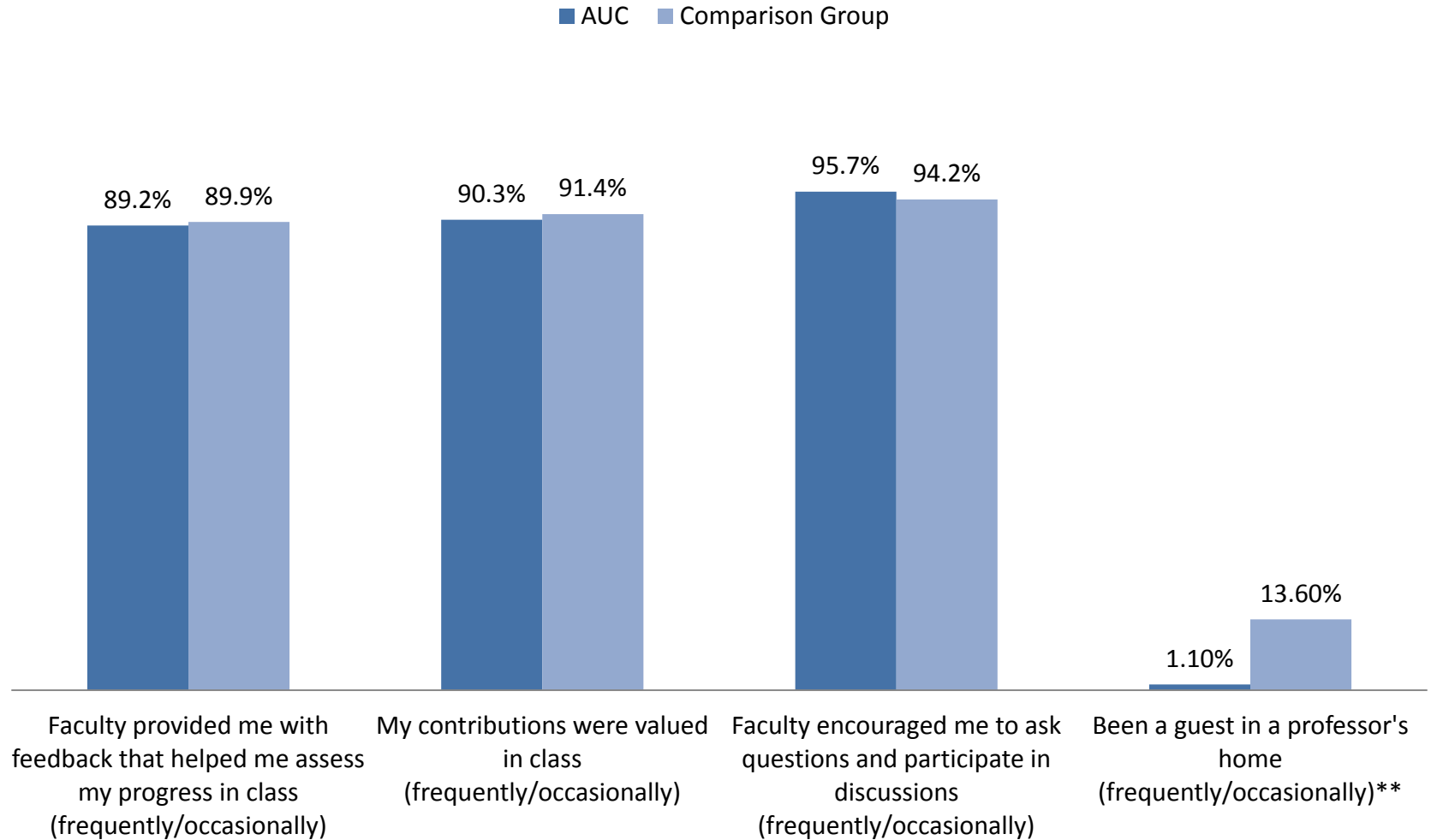
CIRP Construct Survey Items: Faculty Interaction -- Contact and Communication

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



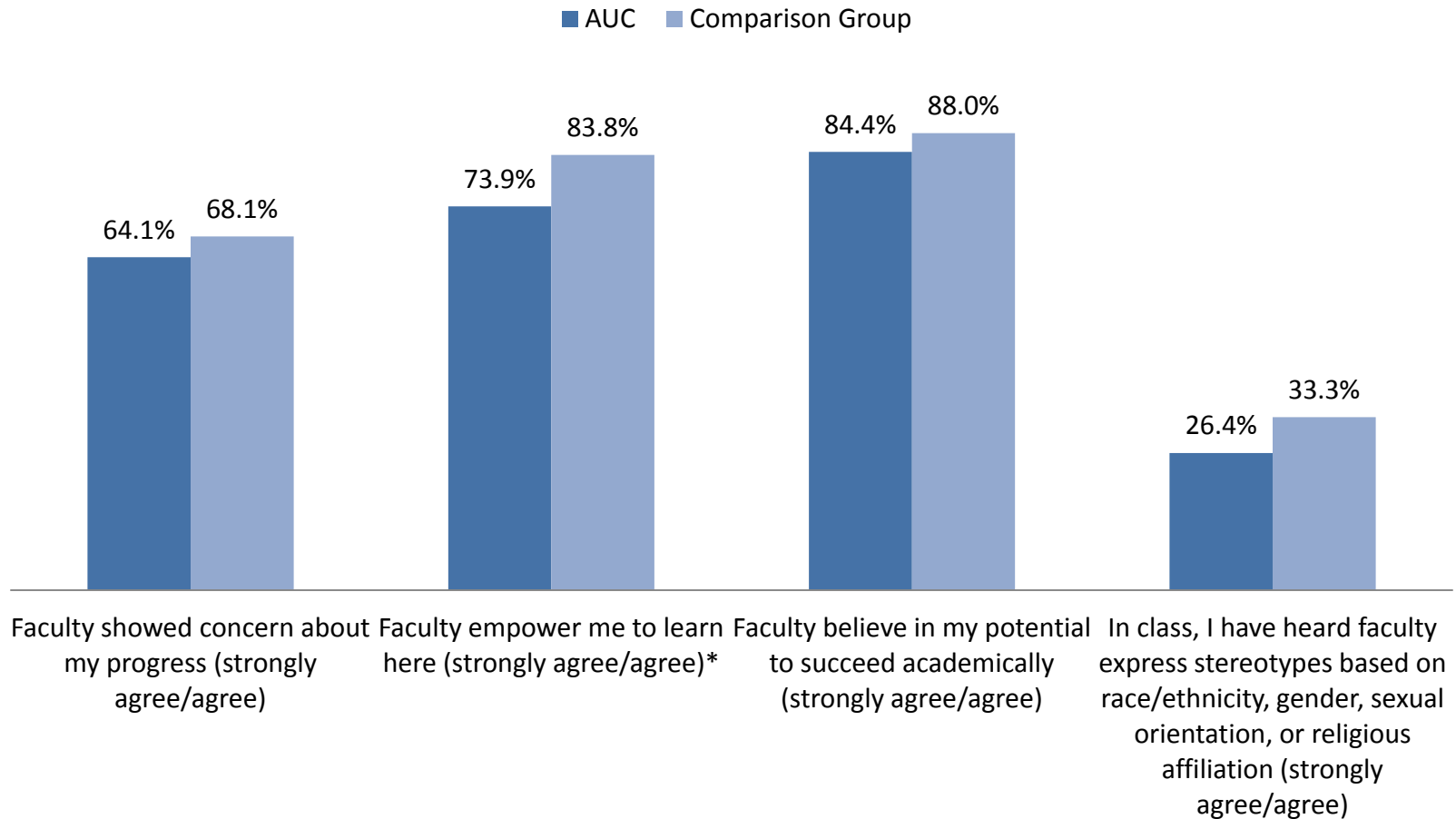
* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: Faculty Interaction



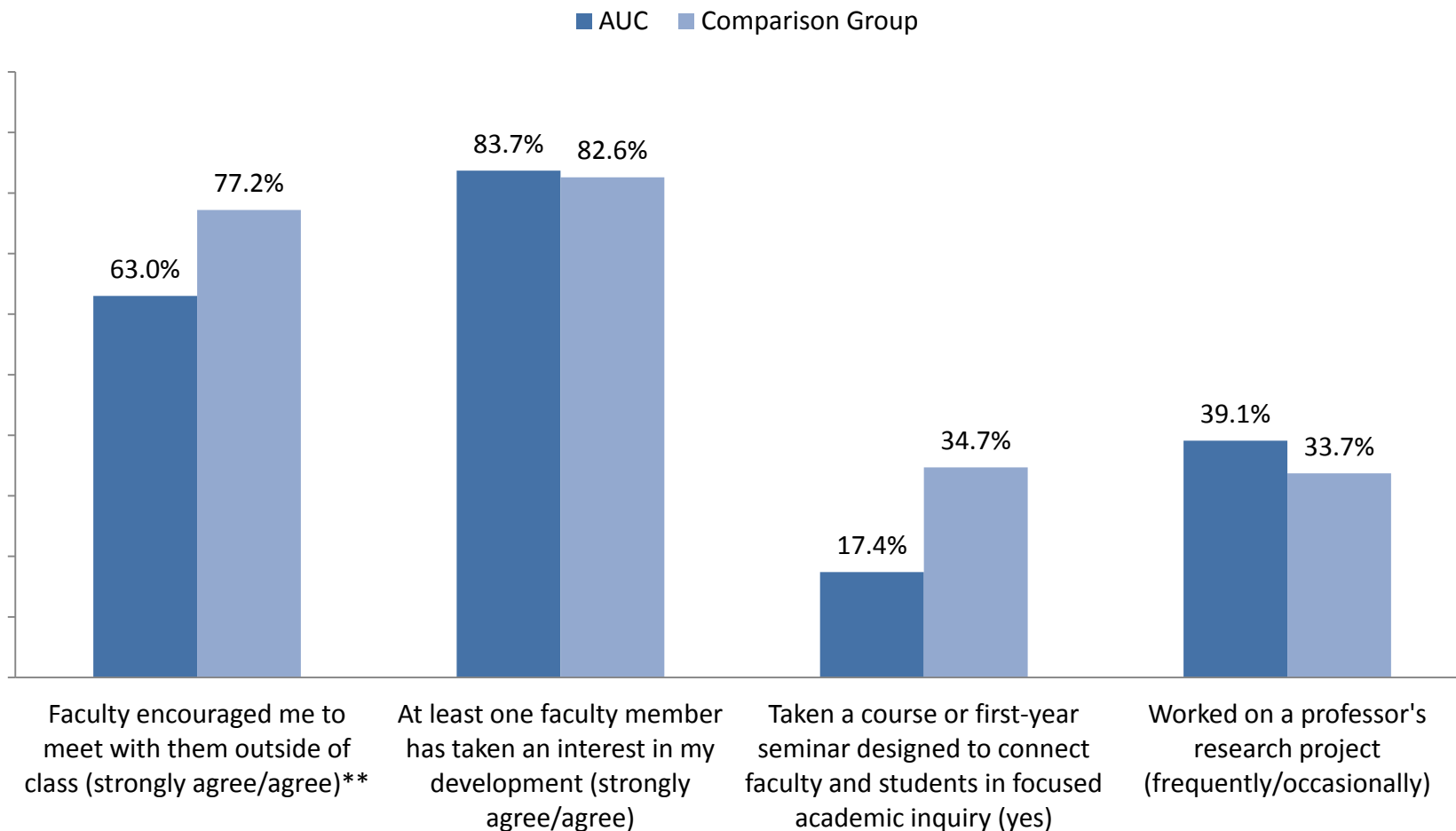
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CIRP Theme: Faculty Interaction



* Indicates level of significance

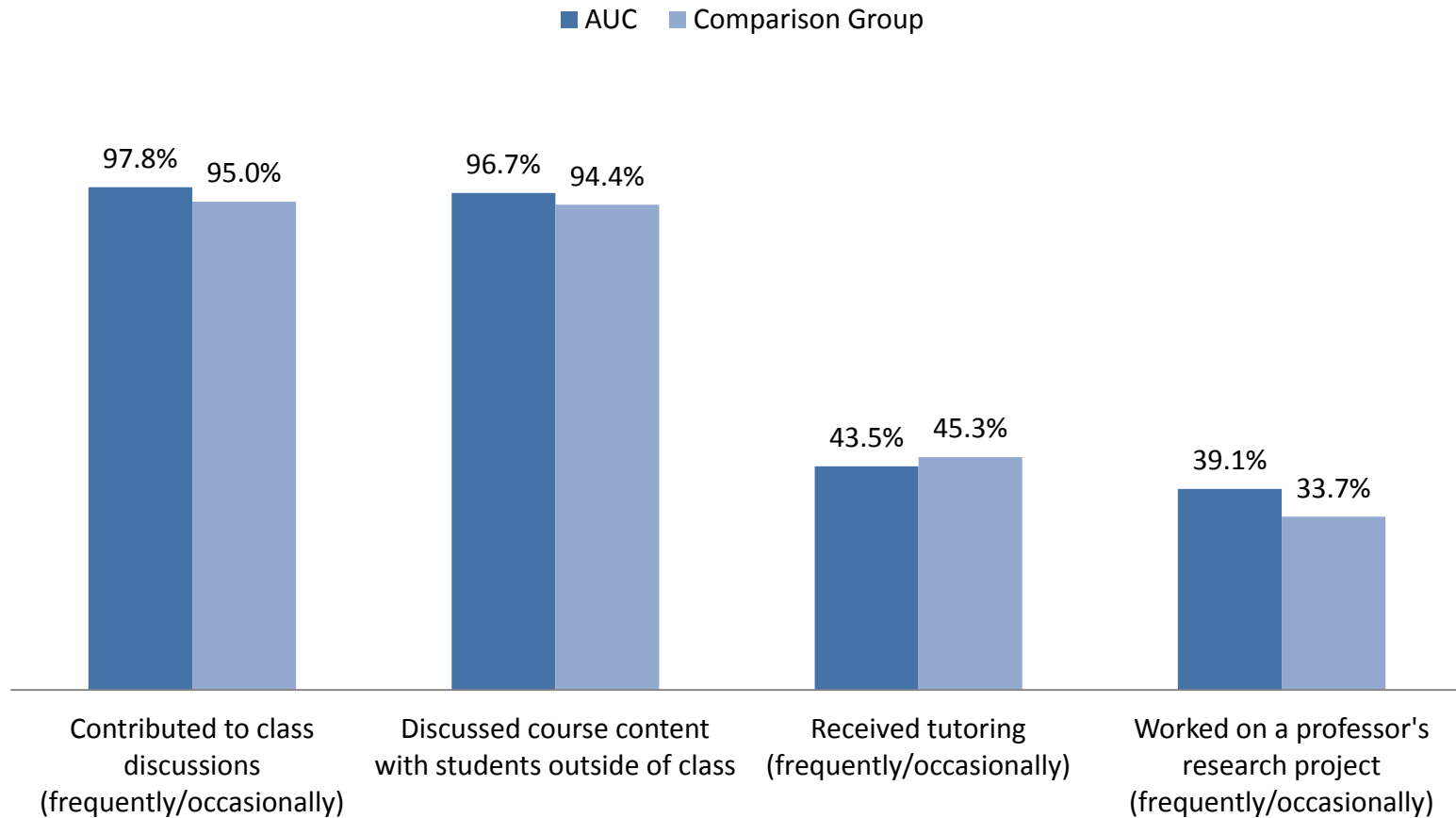
CIRP Theme: Faculty Interaction



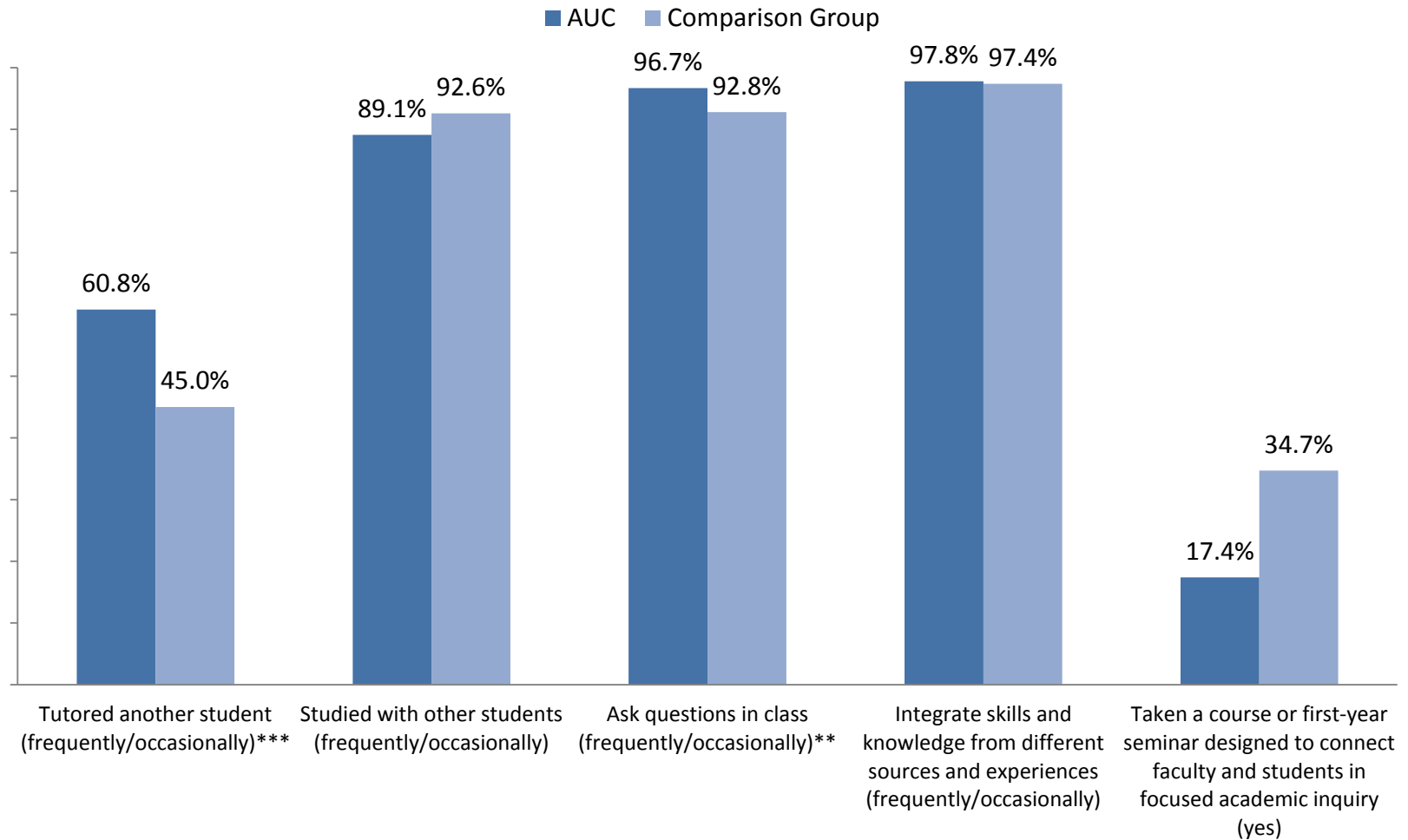
* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Active and Collaborative Learning**

Since entering this college, indicate how often you:



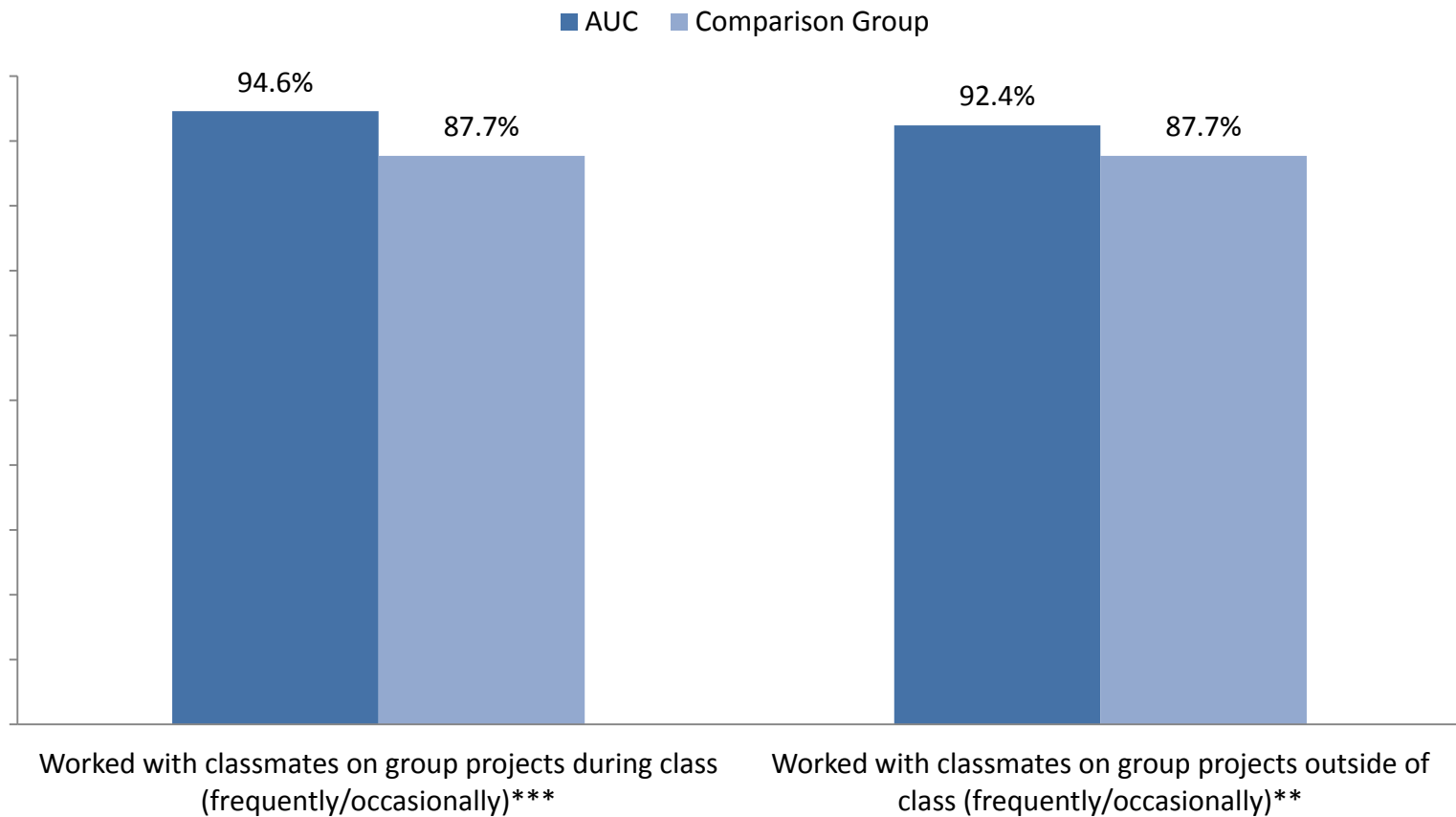
CIRP Theme: Active and Collaborative Learning



* Indicates level of significance

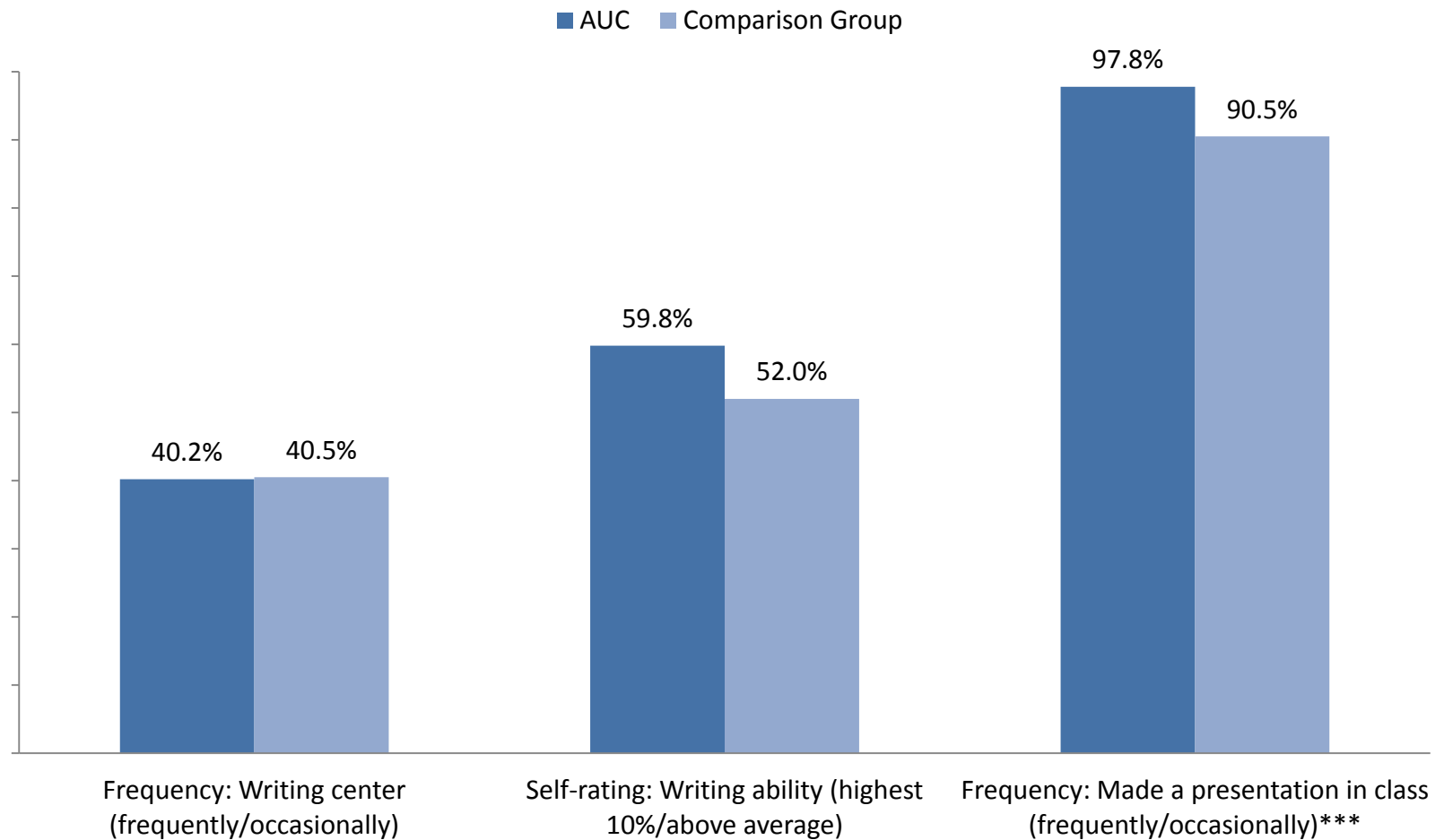
CIRP Theme: **Active and Collaborative Learning**

Since entering this college, indicate how often you have:



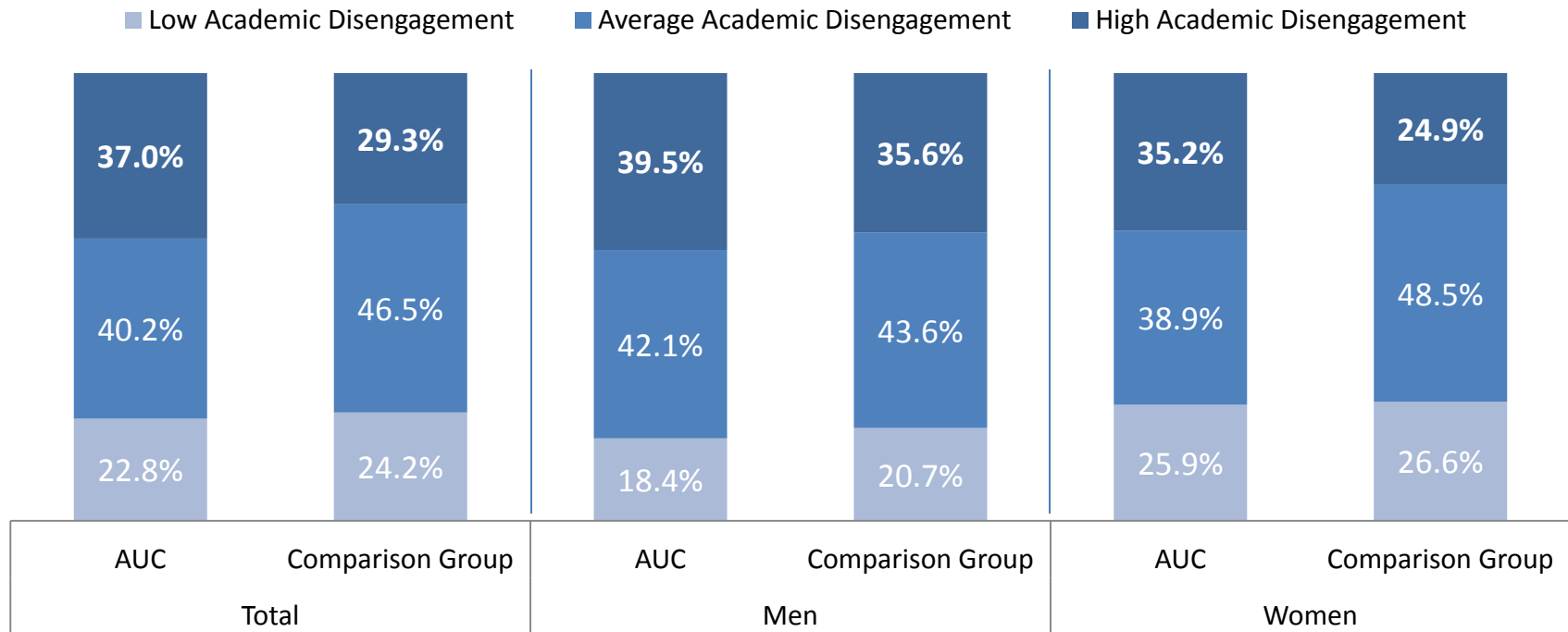
* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Written and Oral Communication**



* Indicates level of significance

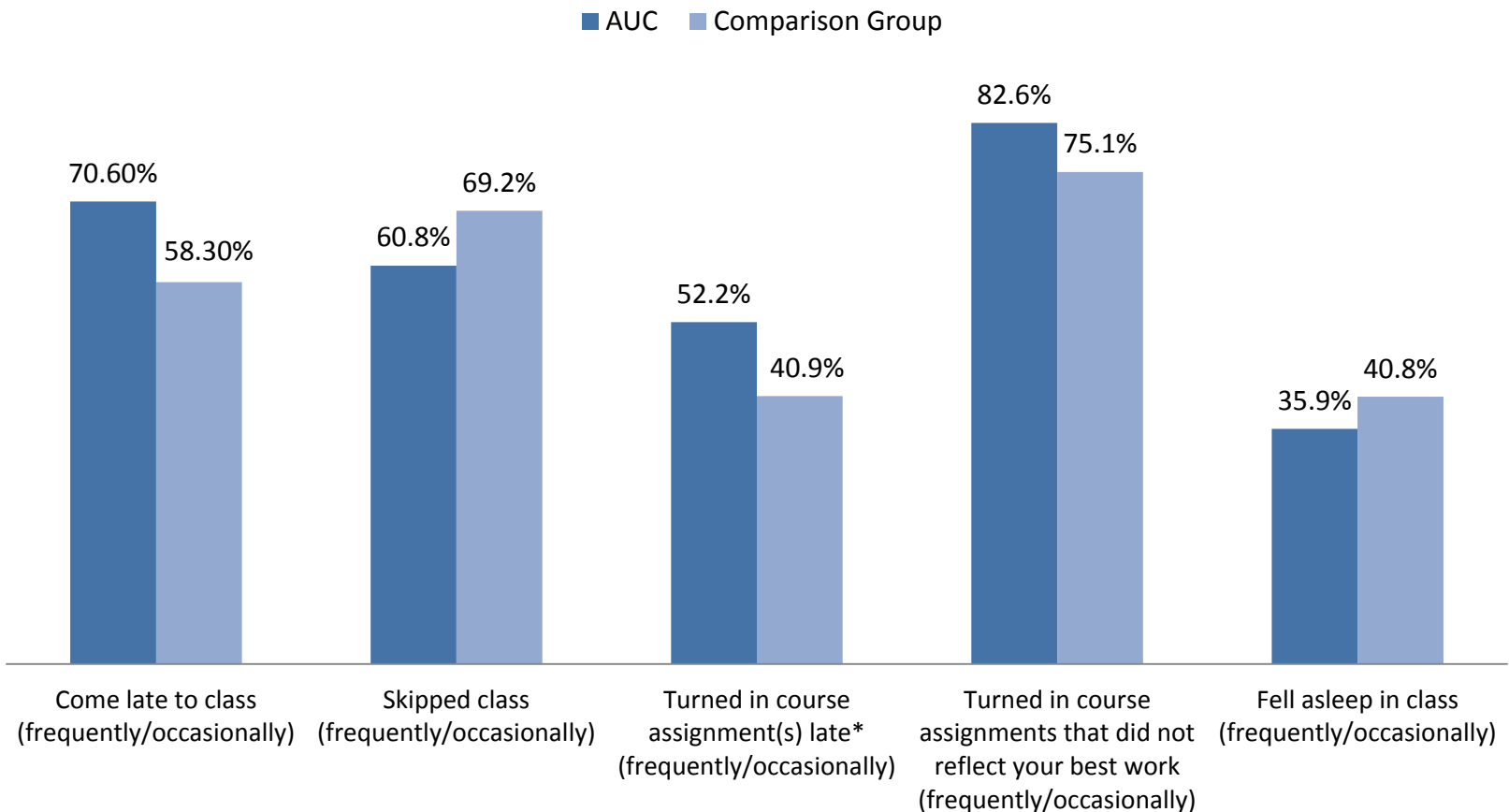
CIRP Construct: **Academic Disengagement**



- Measures extent to which students engage in behaviors inconsistent with academic success: coming late, skipping class, turning in assignments late, turning in assignments that don't reflect best work, falling asleep in class
- 77.2% of freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- No significant difference of mean with comparison groups in US

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Academic Disengagement**

Since entering this college, indicate how often you have:

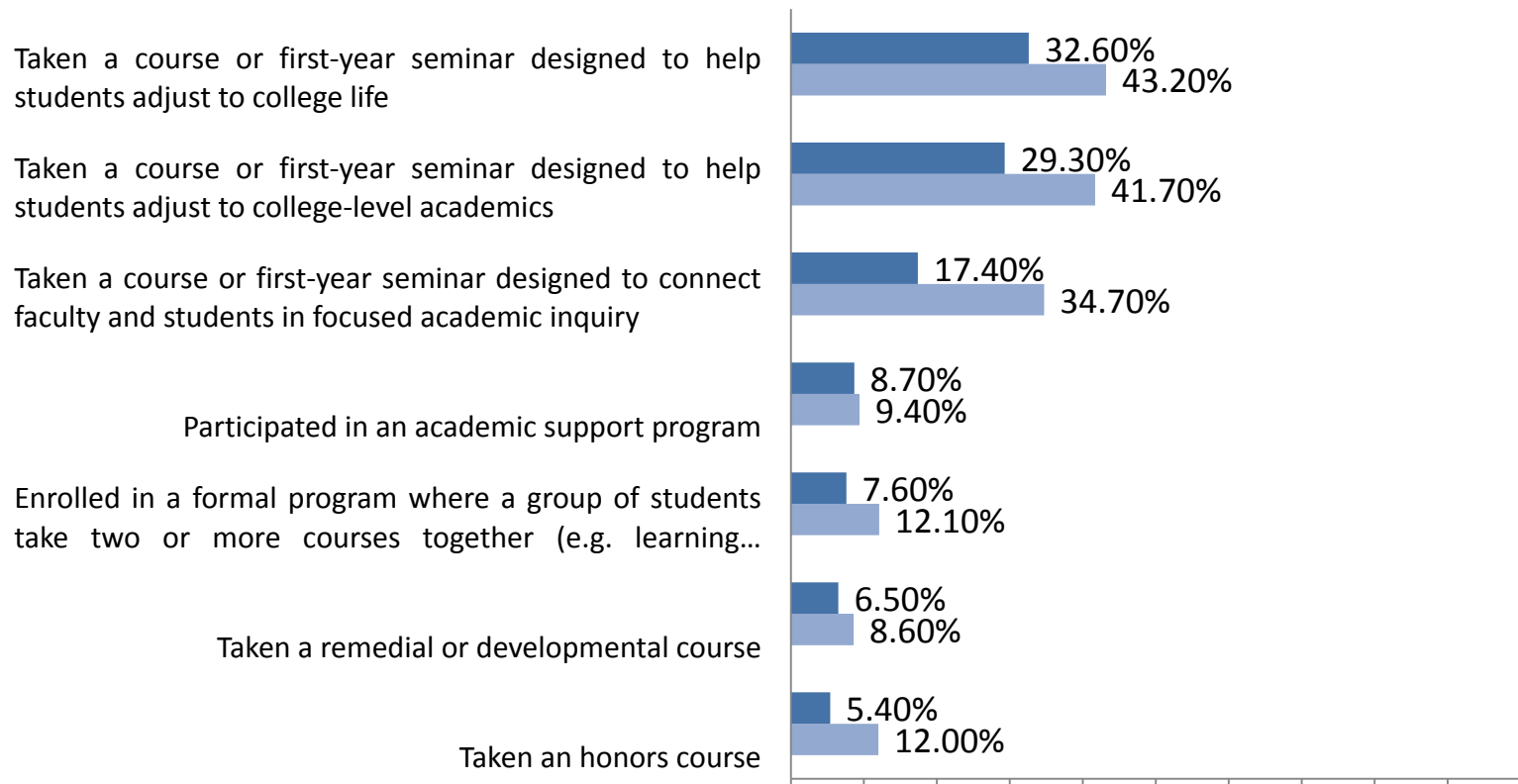


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Academic Enhancement Experiences**

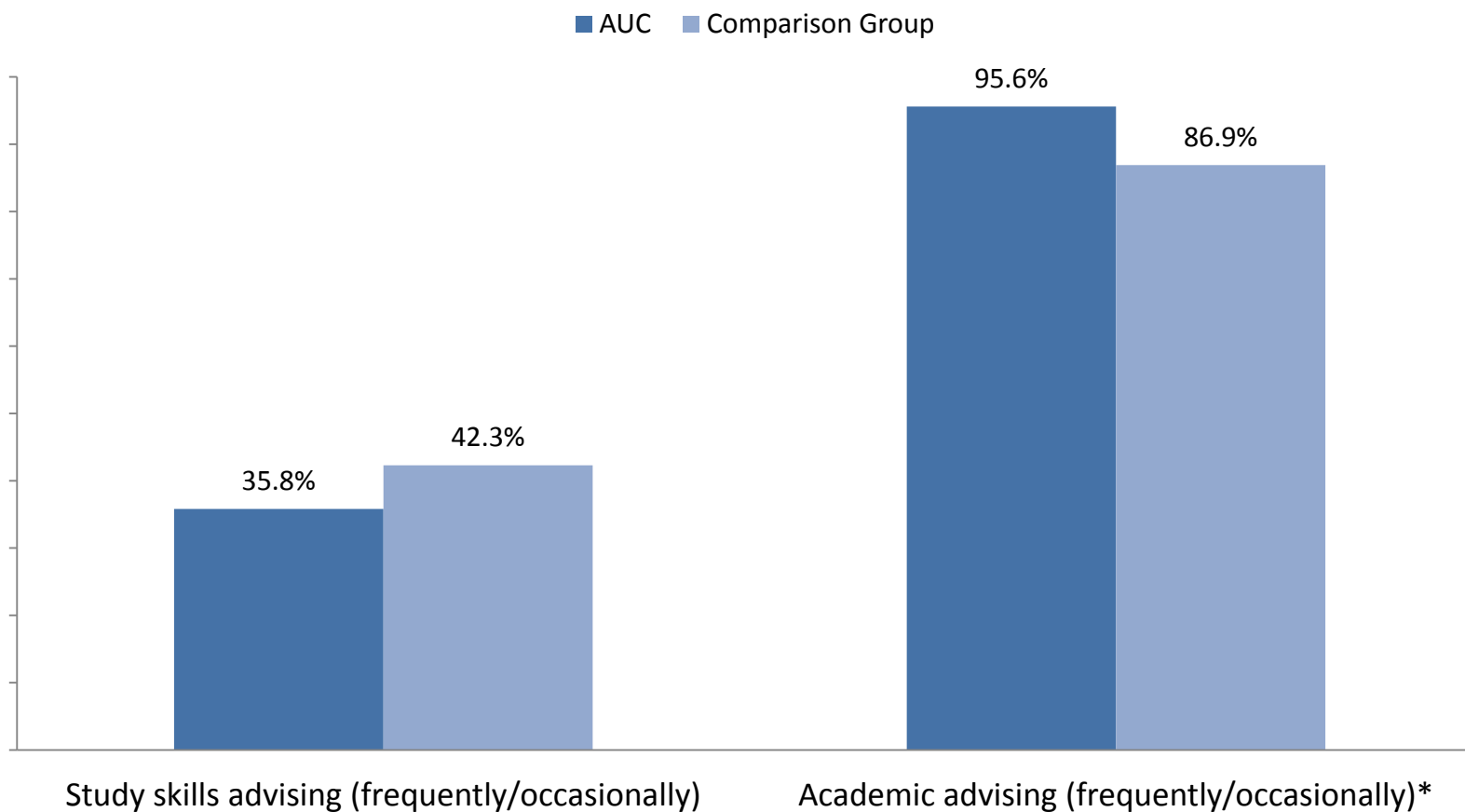
Since entering this college have you:

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



CIRP Theme: **Academic Enhancement Experiences**

Since entering this college, indicate how often you used:



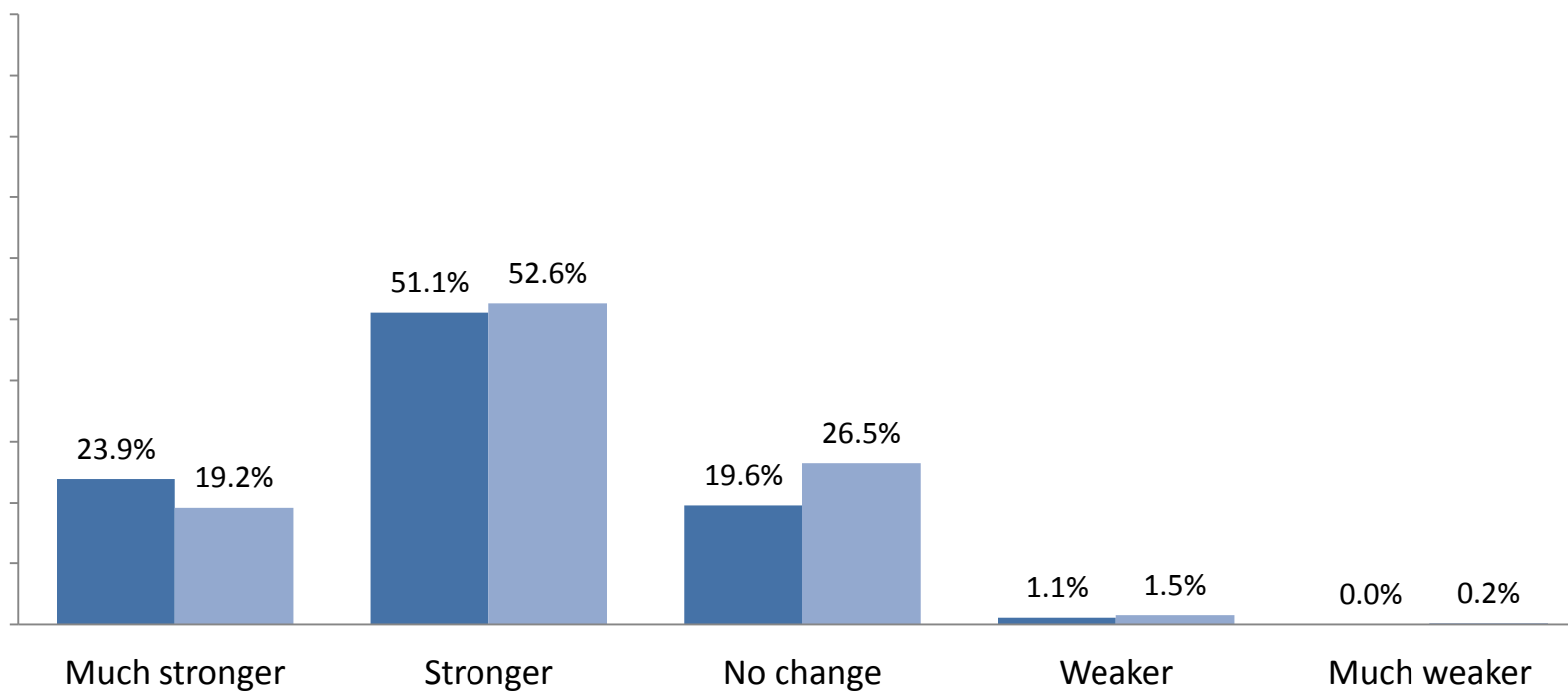
* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Academic Enhancement Experiences**

Compared with when you entered this college, how would you now describe your:

Ability to work as part of a team

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group

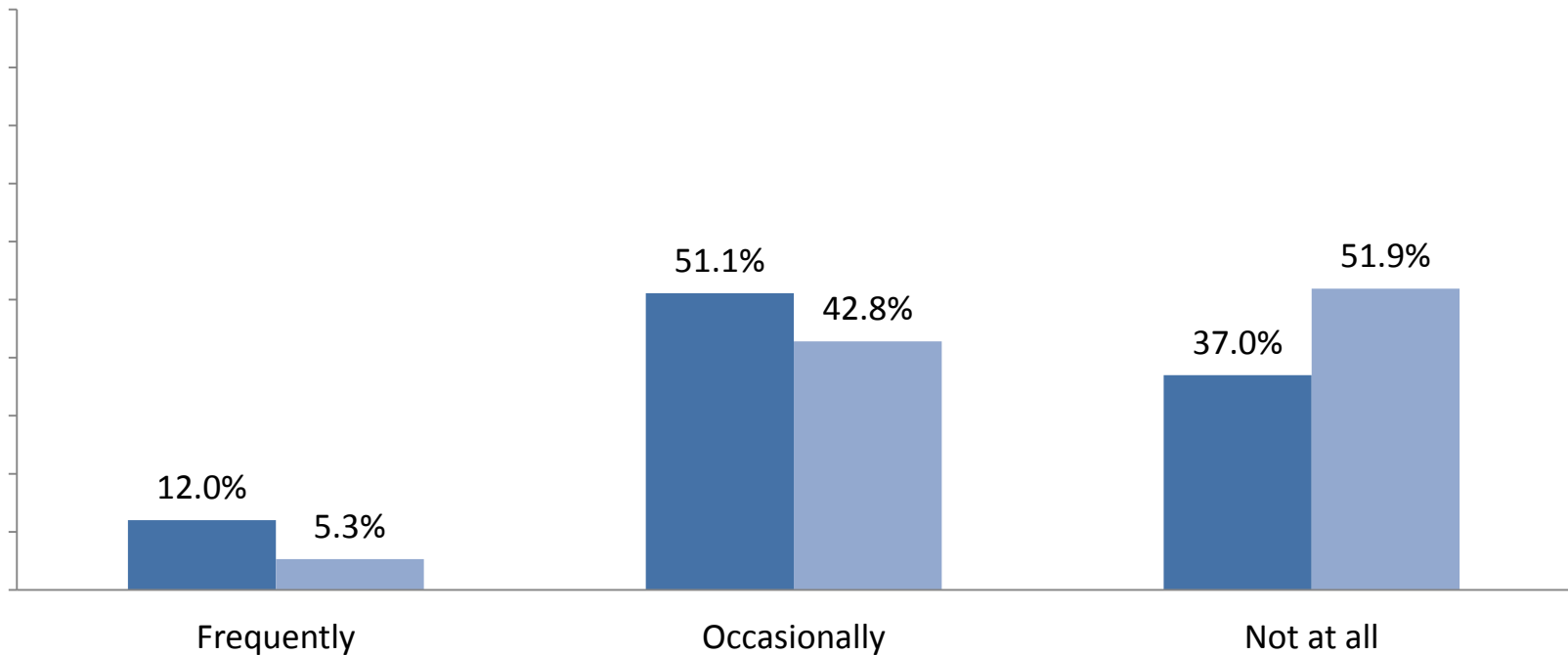


* Indicates level of significance

Academic Integrity

Since entering this college, indicate how often you witnessed academic dishonesty/cheating:

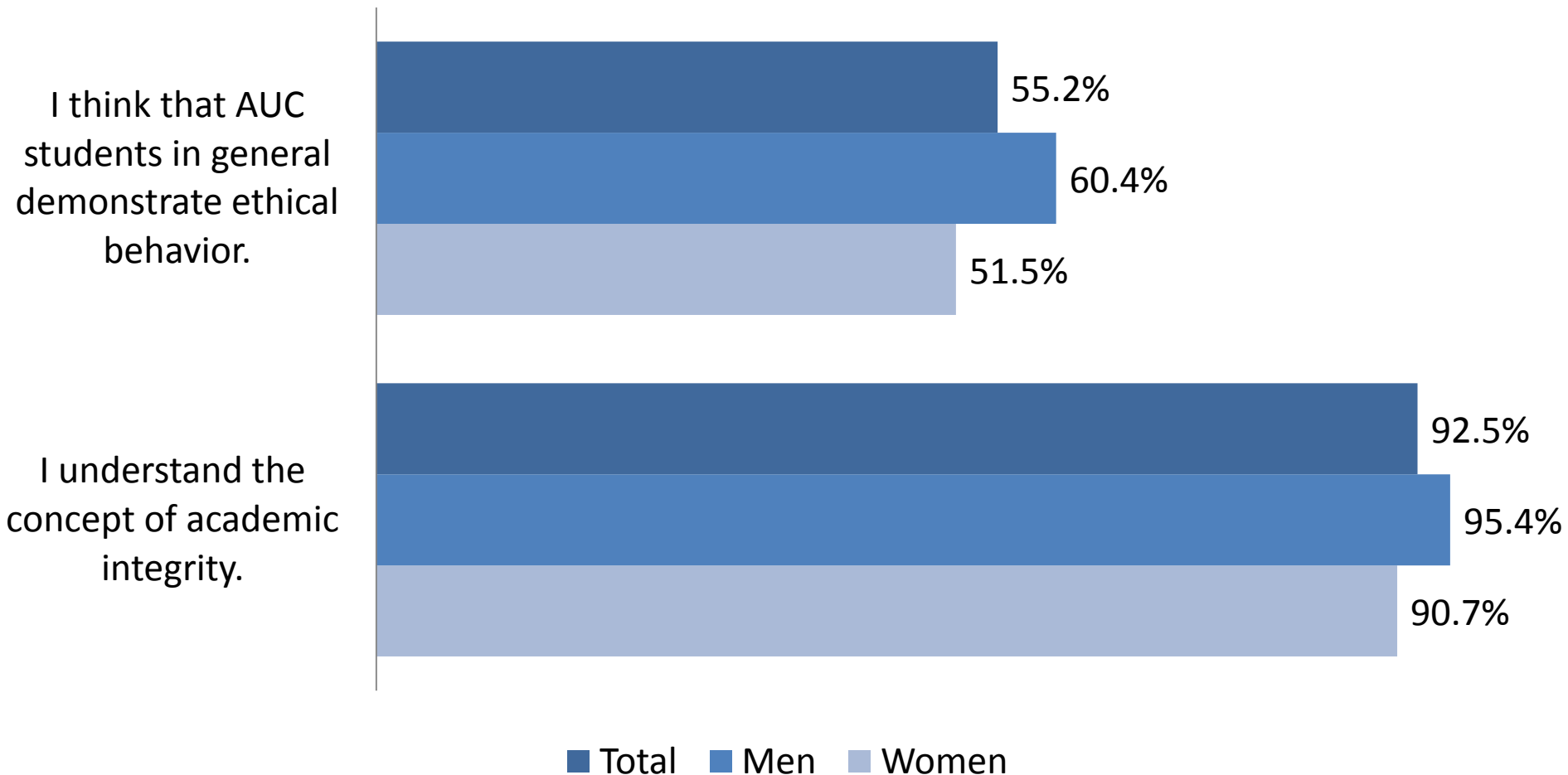
■ AUC ■ Comparison Group***



* Indicates level of significance

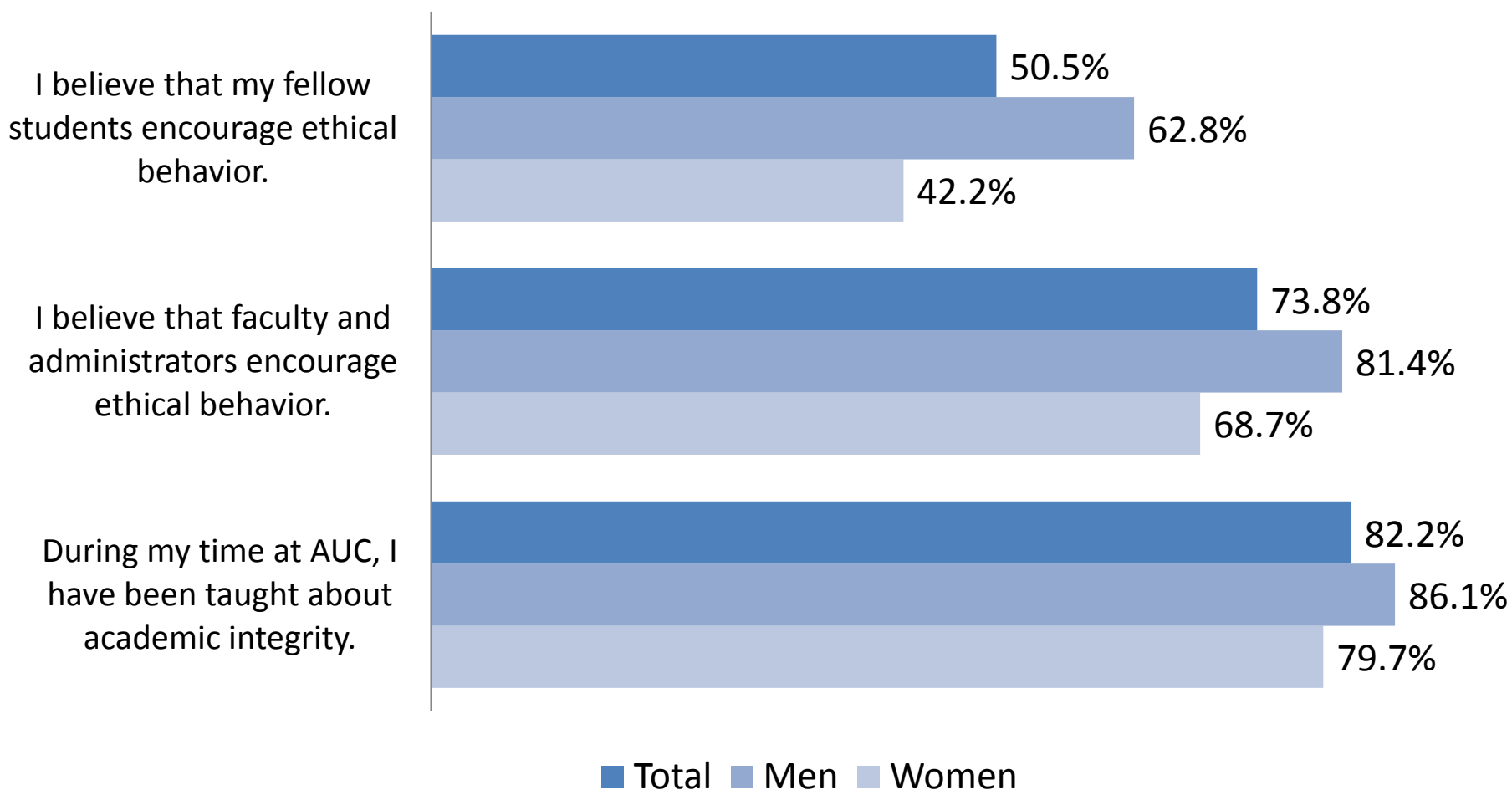
Additional Questions (AUC – All Respondents): **Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity (agree/strongly agree, n=107)



Additional Questions (AUC – All Respondents): **Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity (agree/strongly agree, n=107)



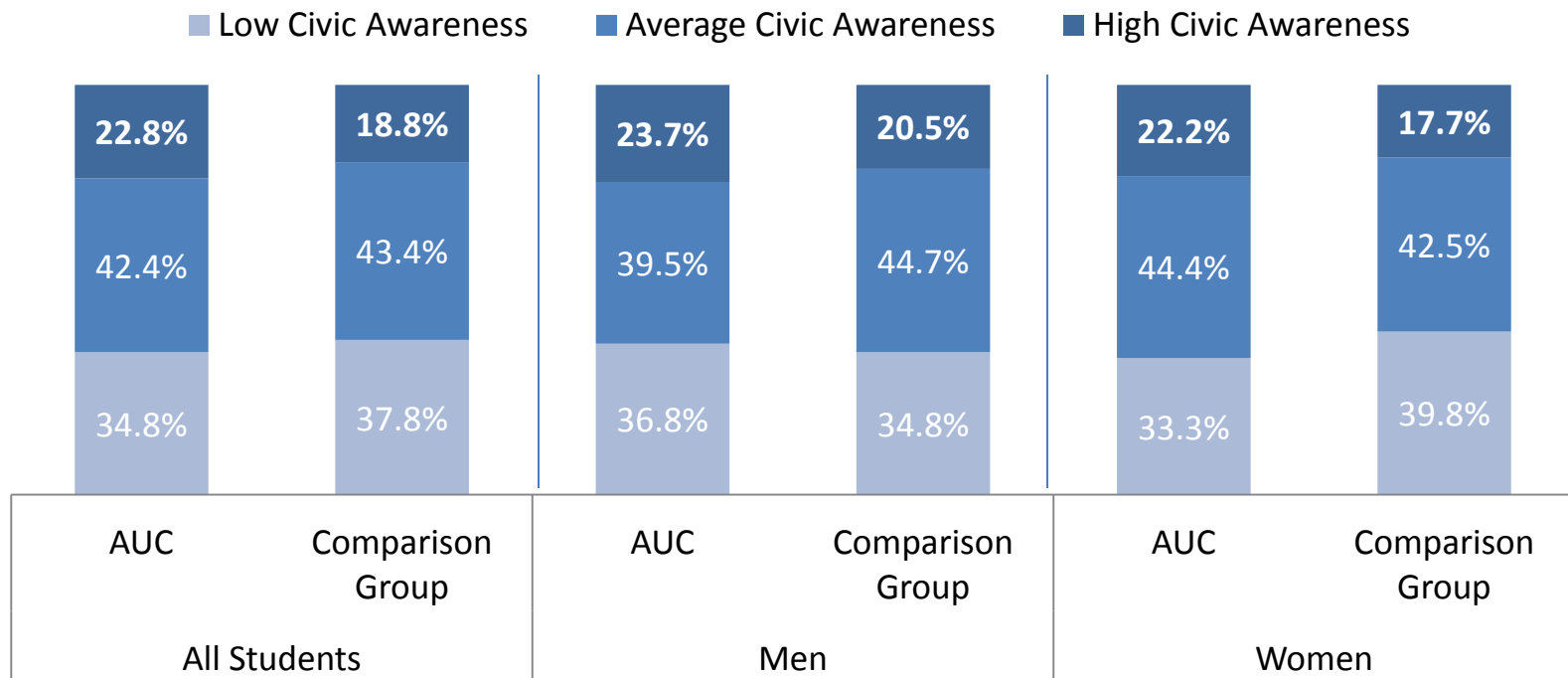


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CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

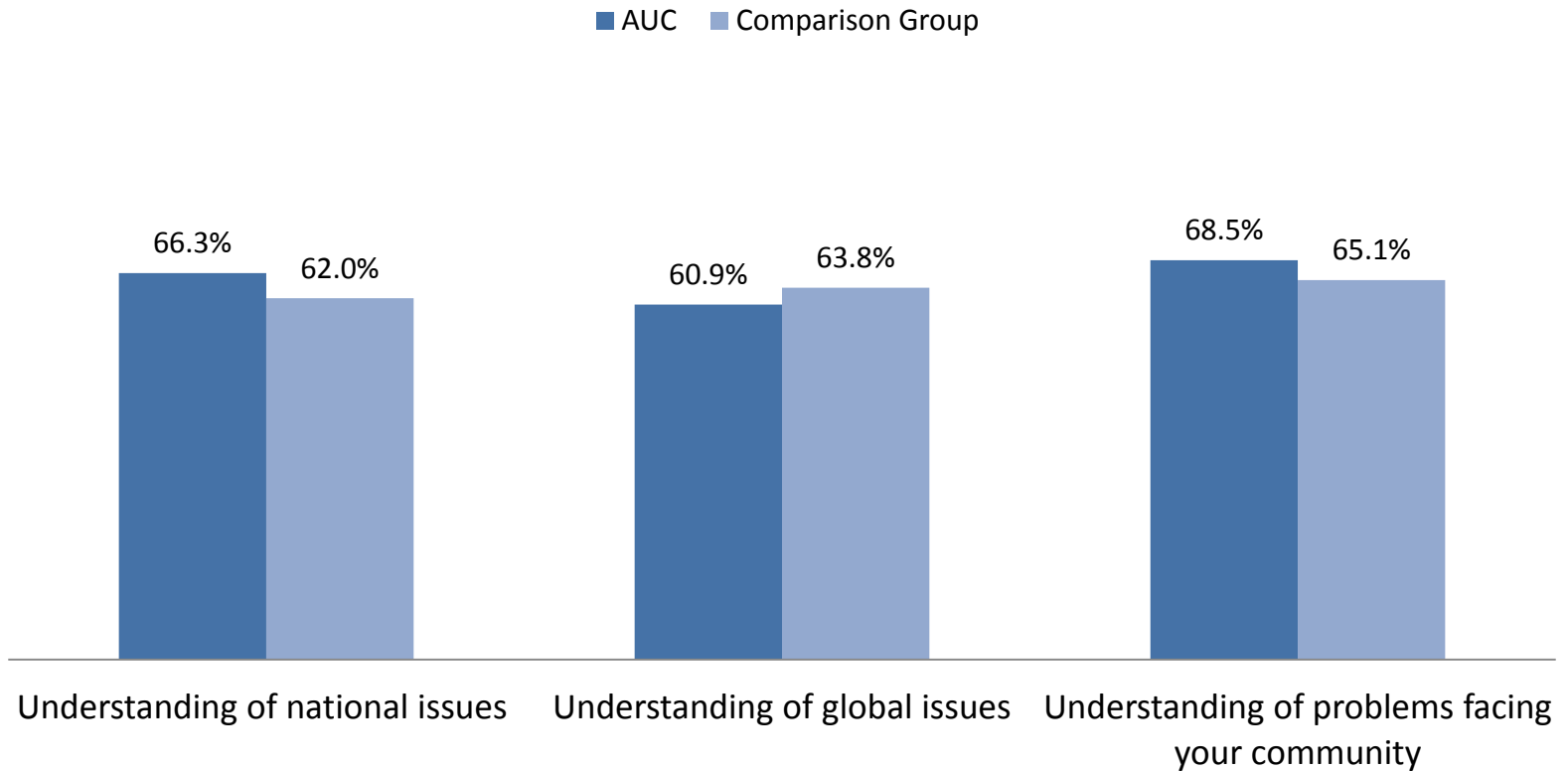
CIRP Construct: Civic Awareness



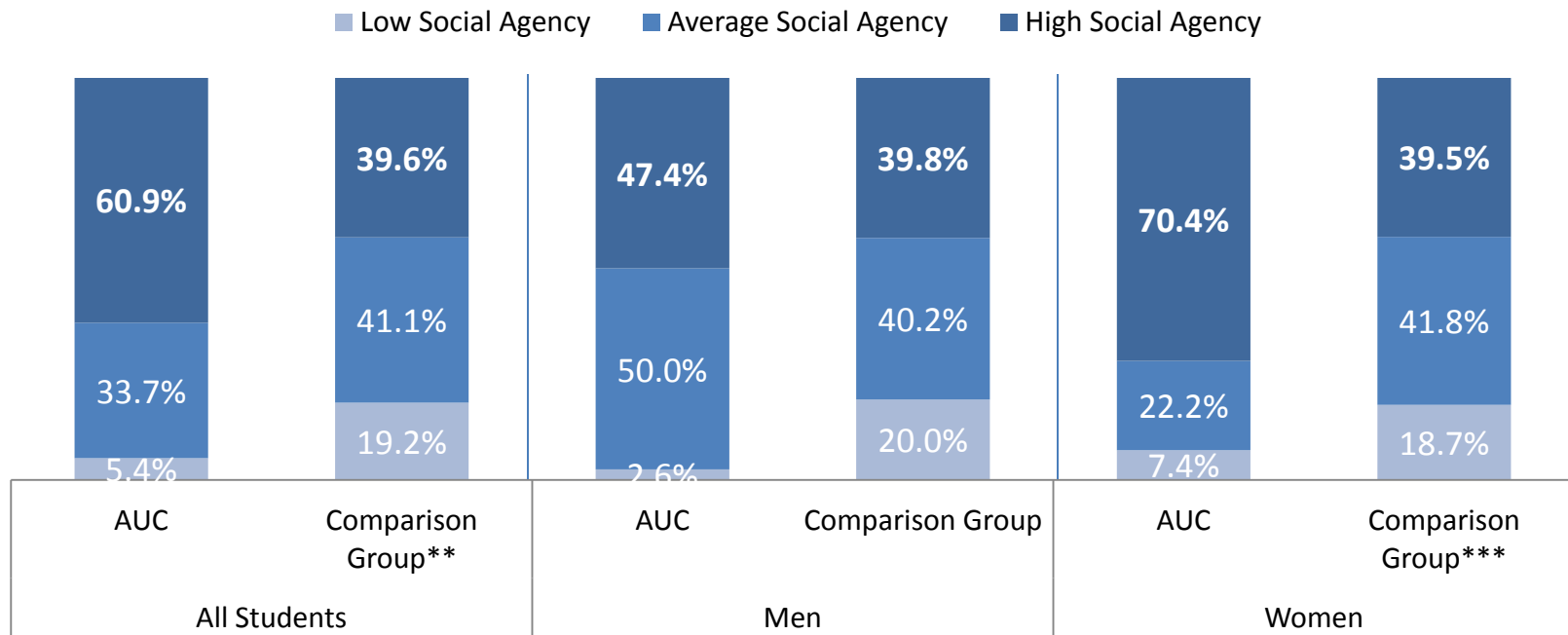
- Measures changes in students' understanding of the issues facing their community, nation, and the world.
- 65.2% of freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- No significant difference in mean with comparison groups in US

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Civic Awareness**

Compared with when you entered this college, how would you now describe your: (much stronger/stronger)



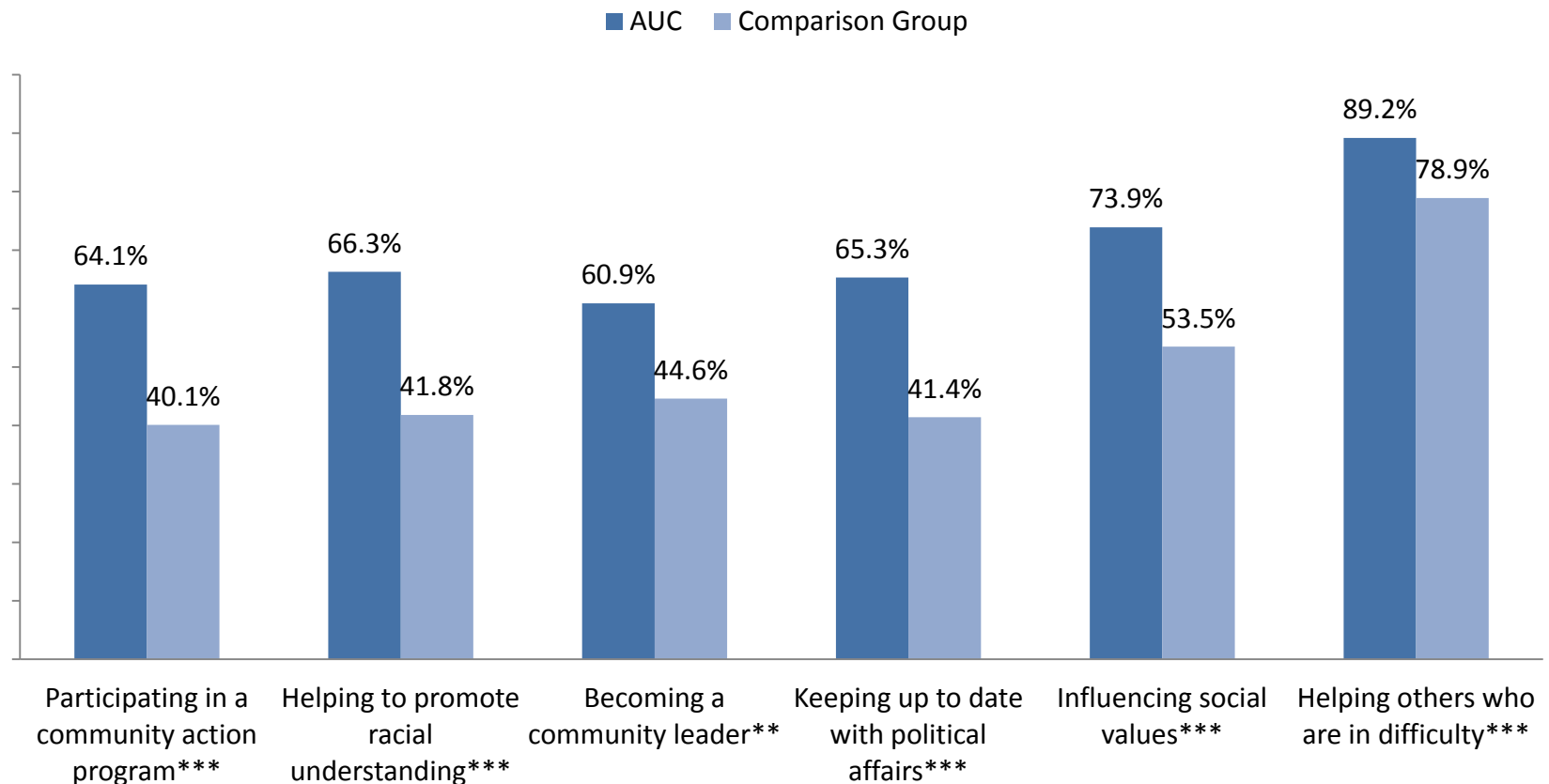
CIRP Construct: **Social Agency**



- Measures the extent to which students' value political and social involvement as a personal goal
- 94.6% of freshmen respondents score in high or average score groups
- Significantly different mean from comparison groups in US

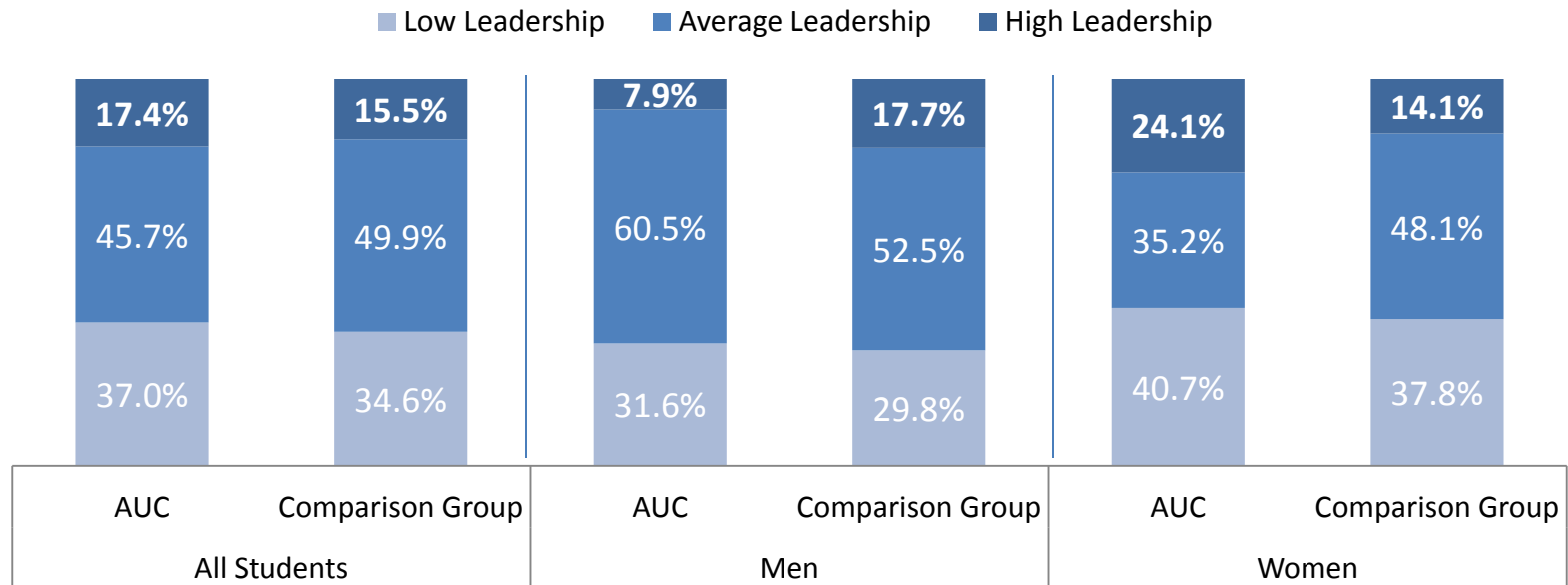
CIRP Construct Survey Items: Social Agency

Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following:



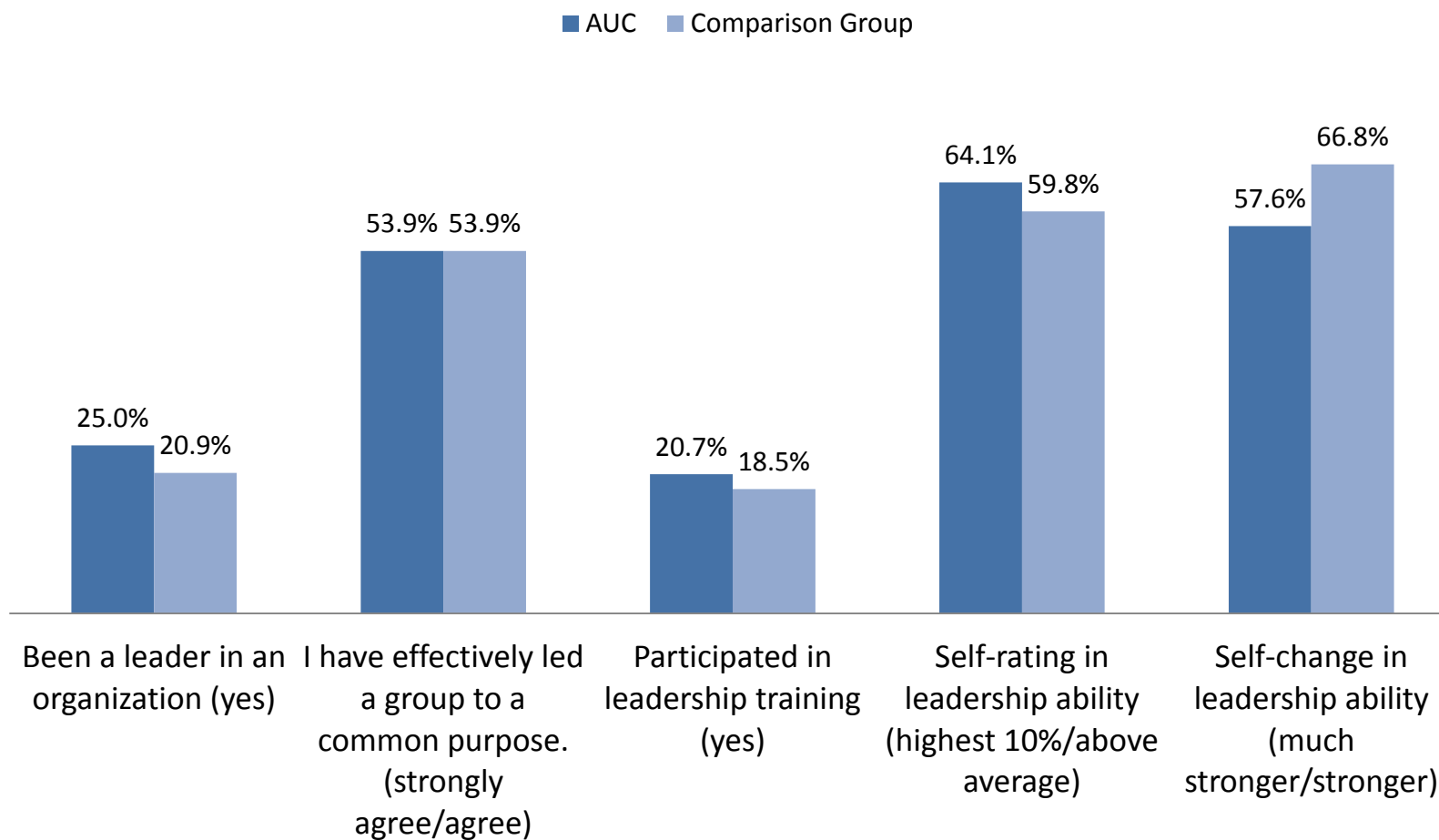
* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct: Leadership



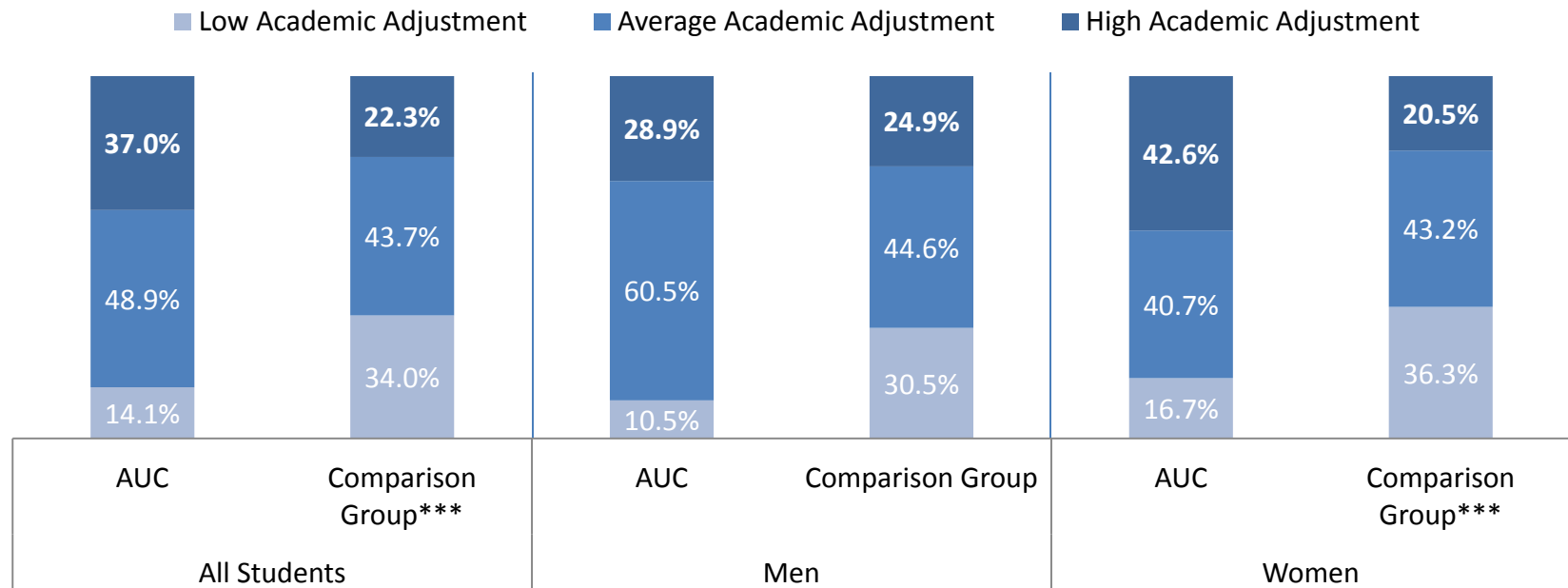
- Unified measure of students' beliefs about their leadership development and capability and their experiences as a leader
- 63.1% of freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- No significant difference of mean with comparison groups in US

CIRP Construct Survey Items: Leadership



* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct: Civic Engagement



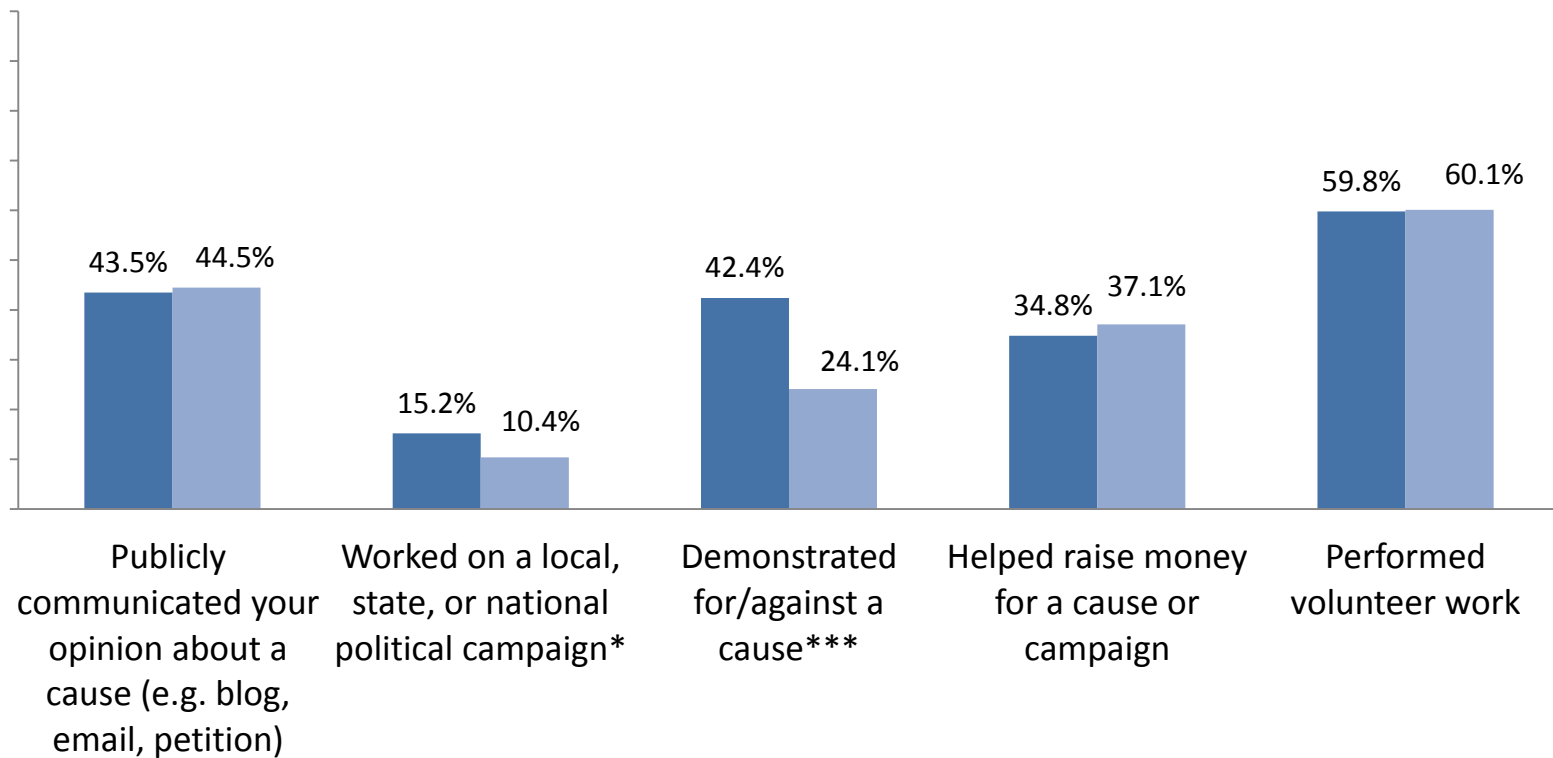
- Measures the extent to which students are motivated and involved in civic, electoral, and political activities
- 85.9% of freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- Significant difference in mean with comparison groups in US

* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct Survey Items: Civic Engagement

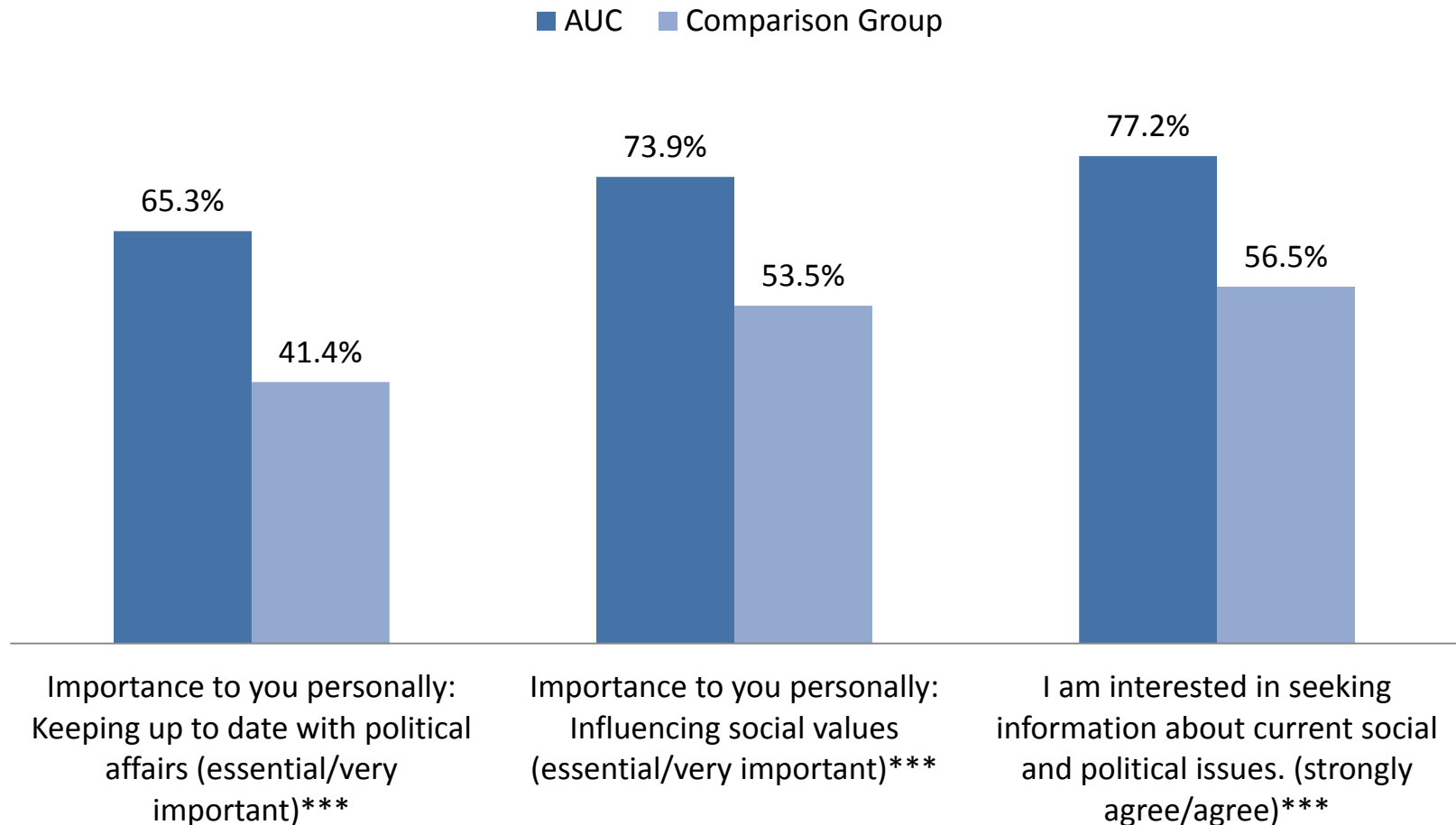
Since entering college, how often have you:
(frequently/occasionally)

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



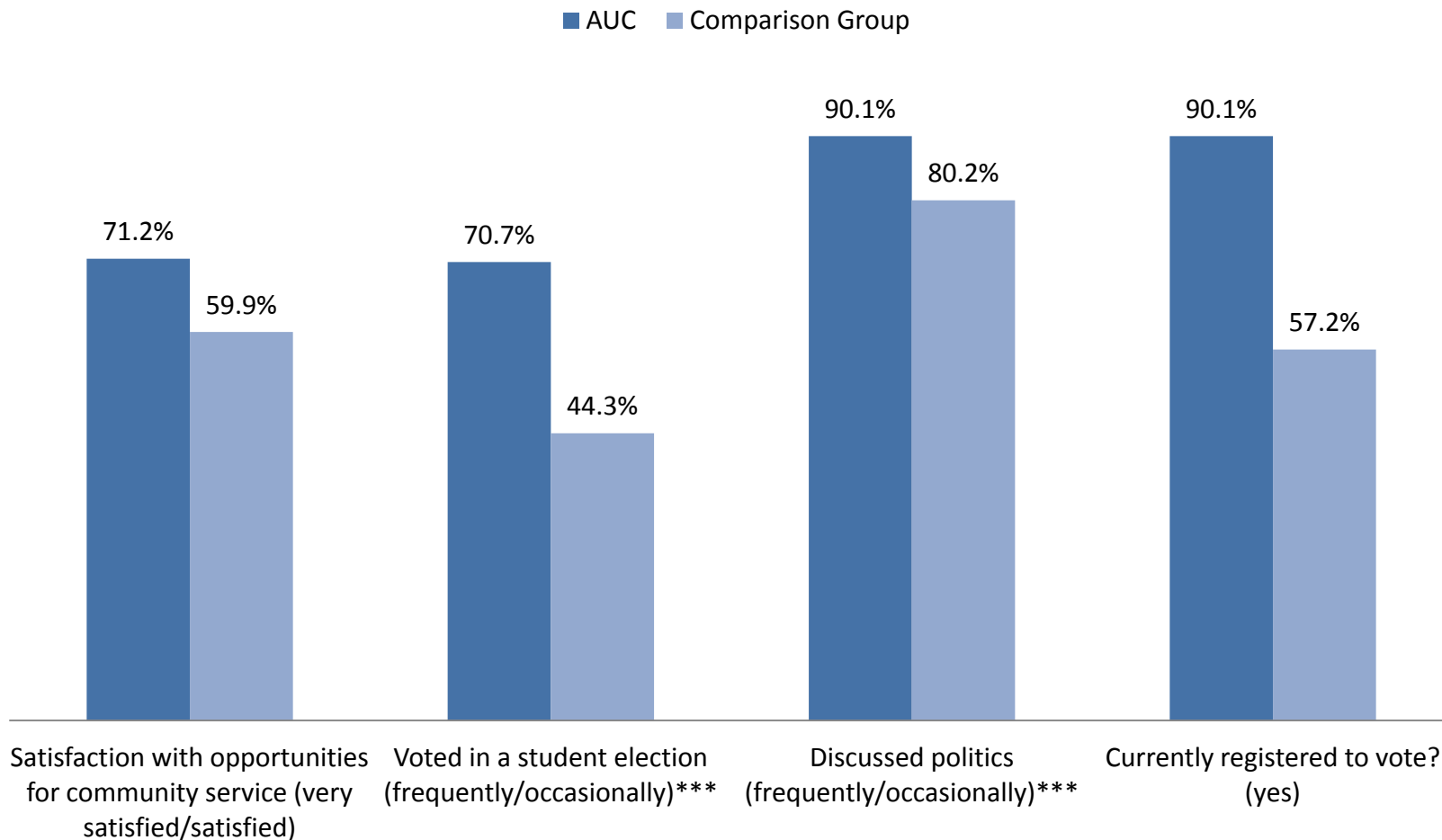
* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct Survey Items: Civic Engagement



* Indicates level of significance

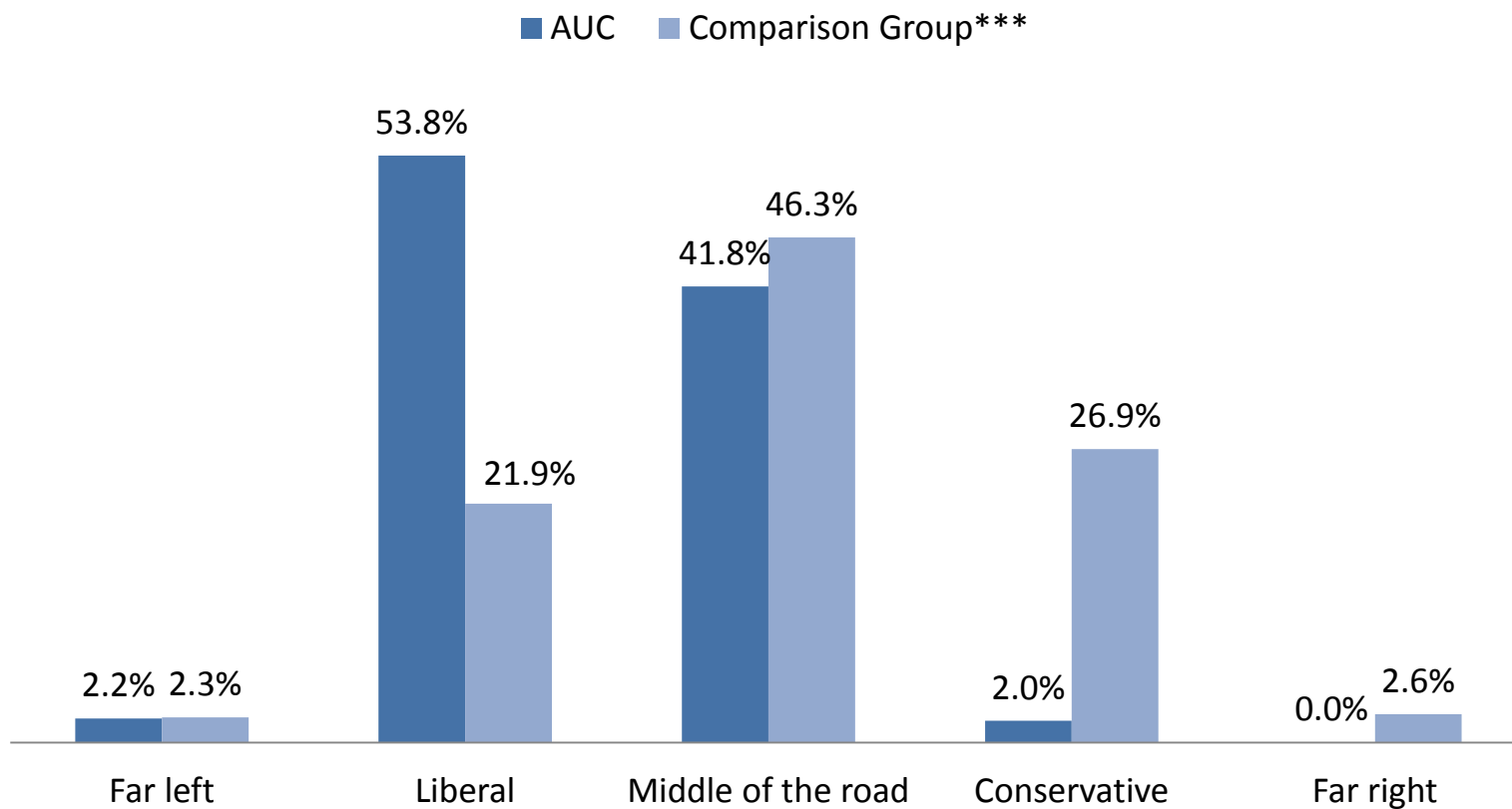
CIRP Theme: Civic Engagement



* Indicates level of significance

Political Views

How would you characterize your political views?

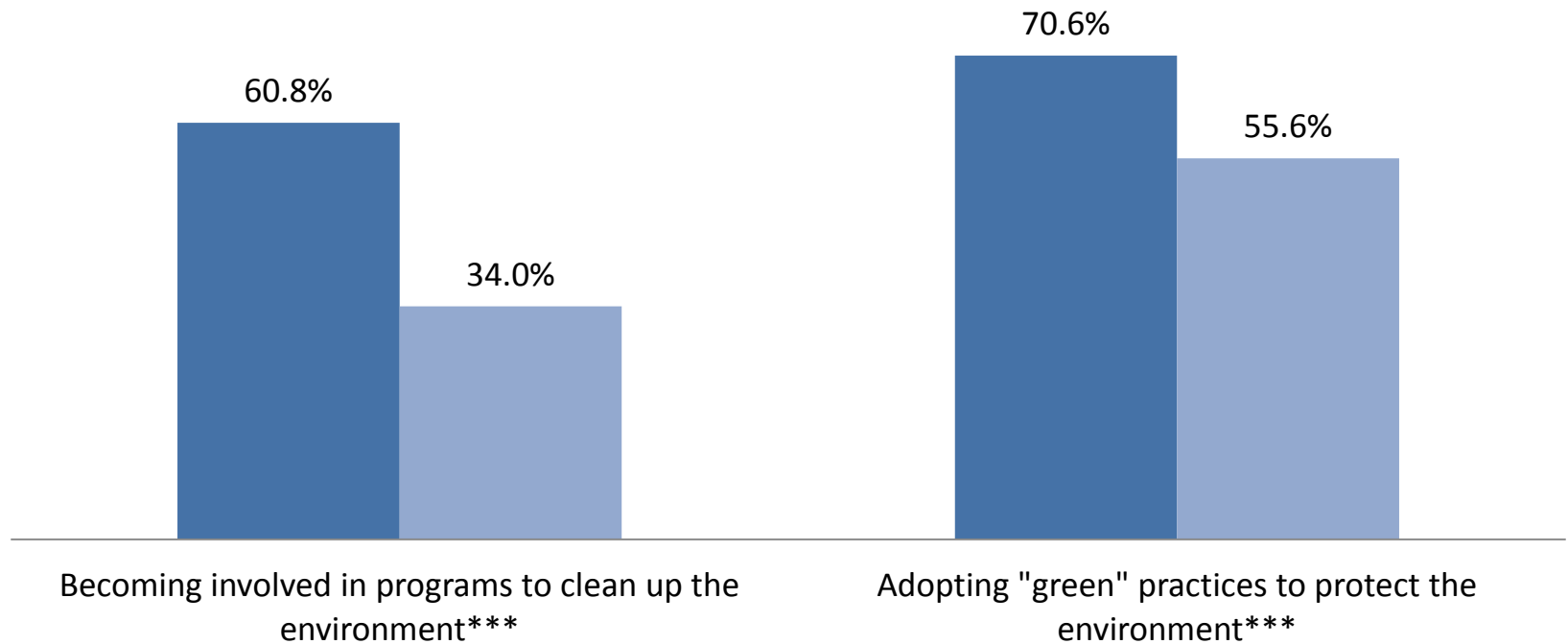


* Indicates level of significance

Environmental Awareness

Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following:
(essential/very important)

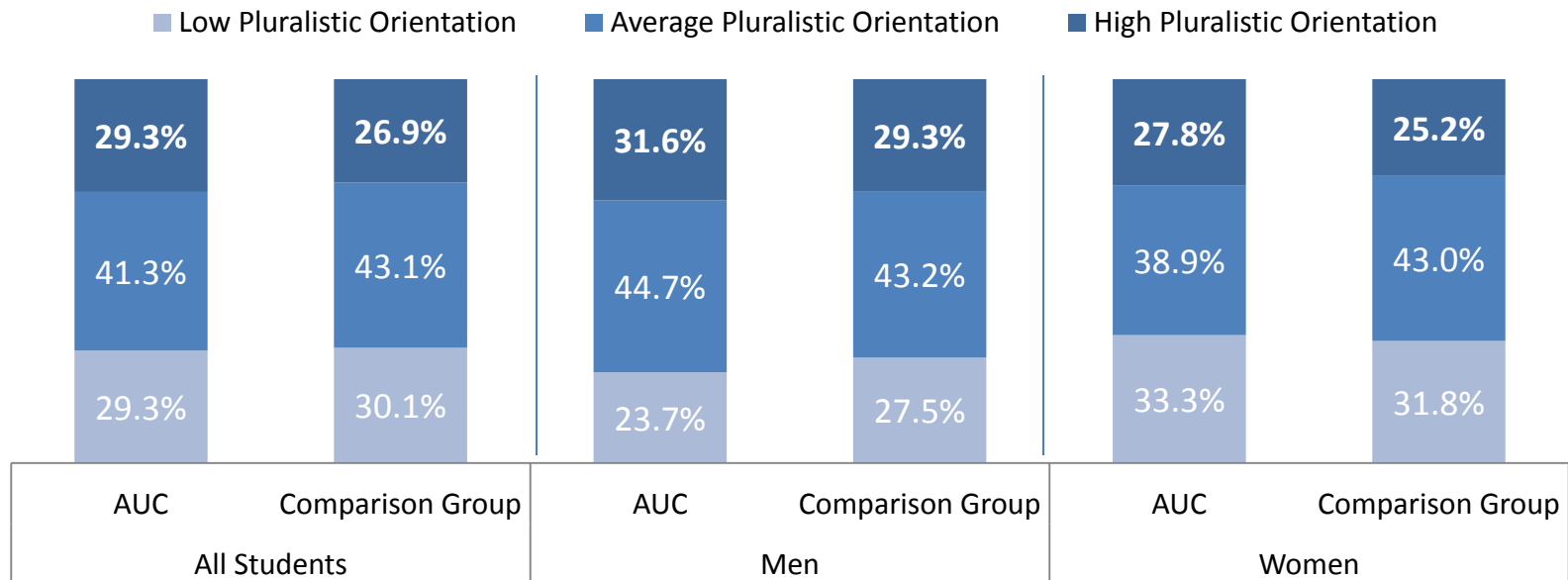
■ AUC ■ Comparison Group





DIVERSITY

CIRP Construct: Pluralistic Orientation

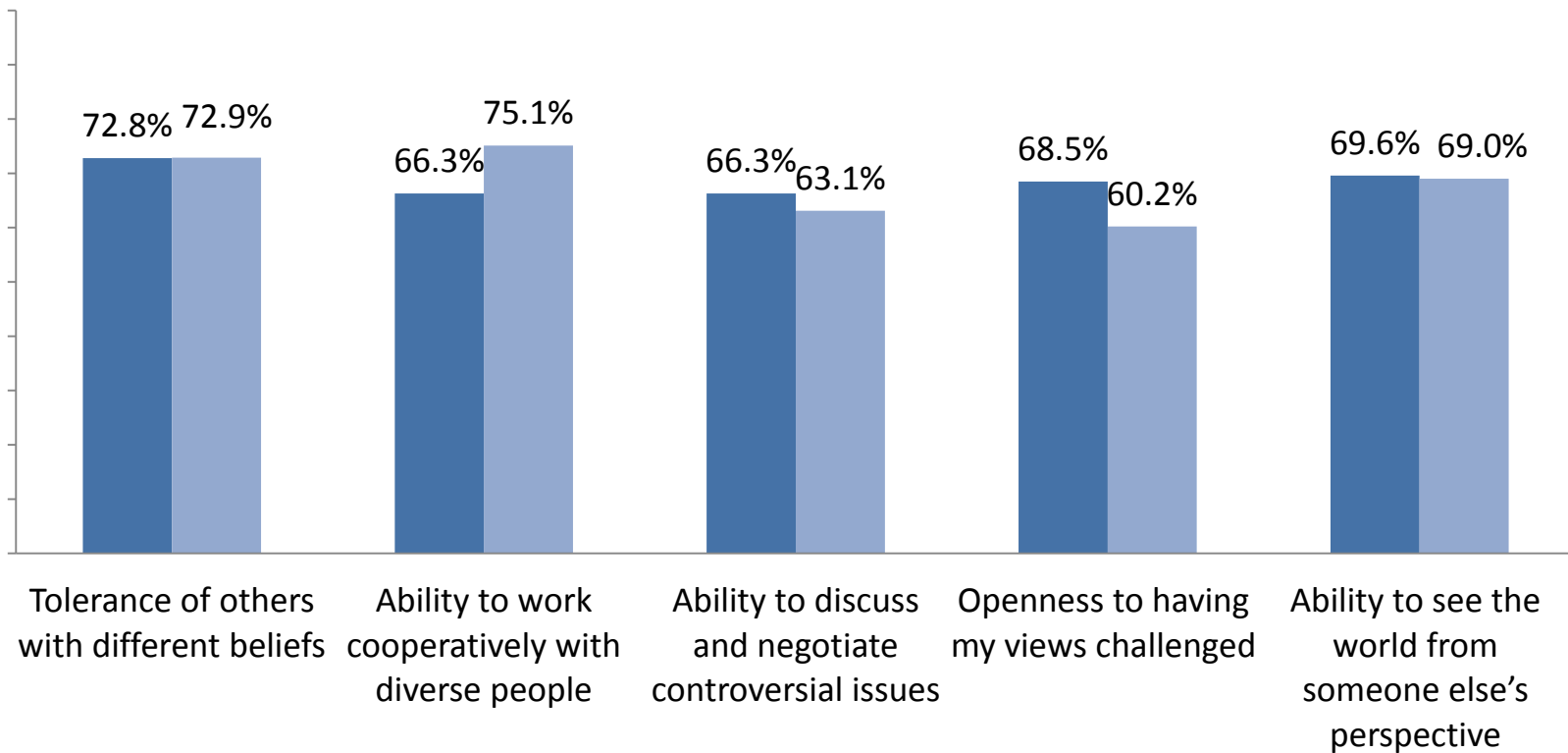


- Measures skills and dispositions appropriate for living and working in a diverse society
- 70.6% of freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- No significant difference of mean with comparison groups in US

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Pluralistic Orientation**

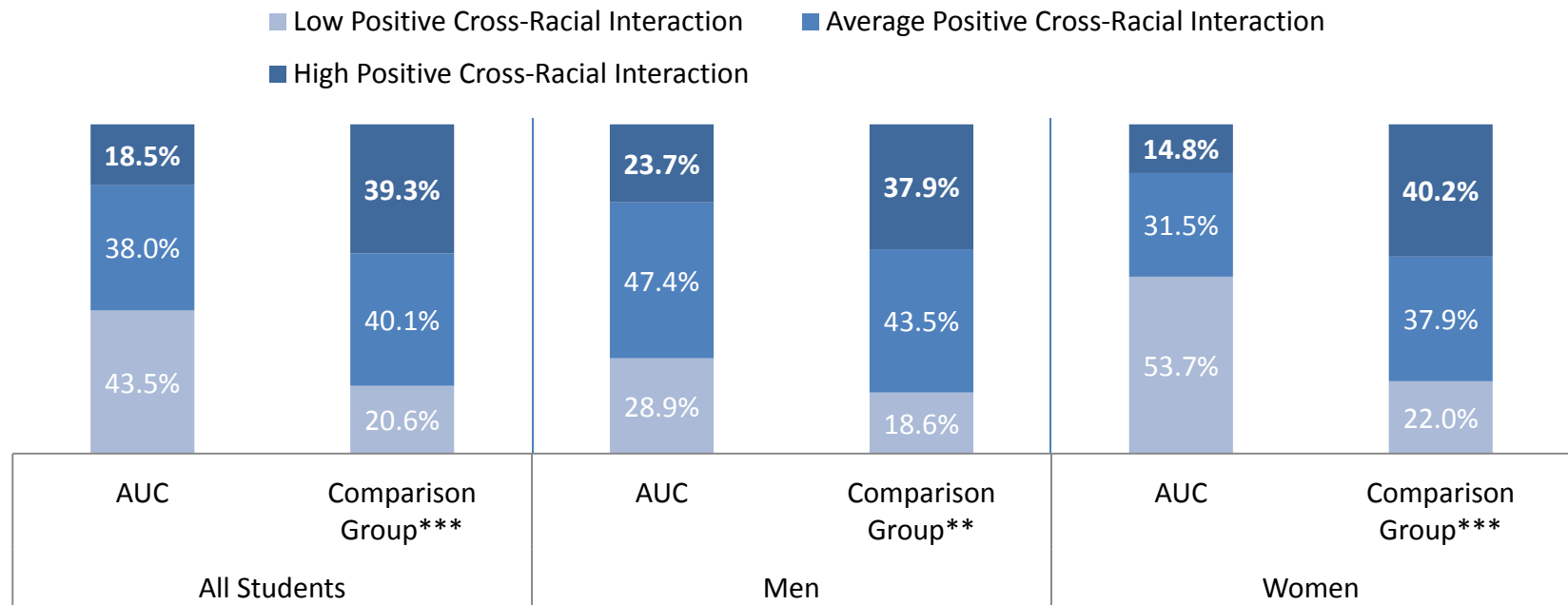
Rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average person your age: (highest 10%/average)

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct: **Positive Cross-Racial Interaction**

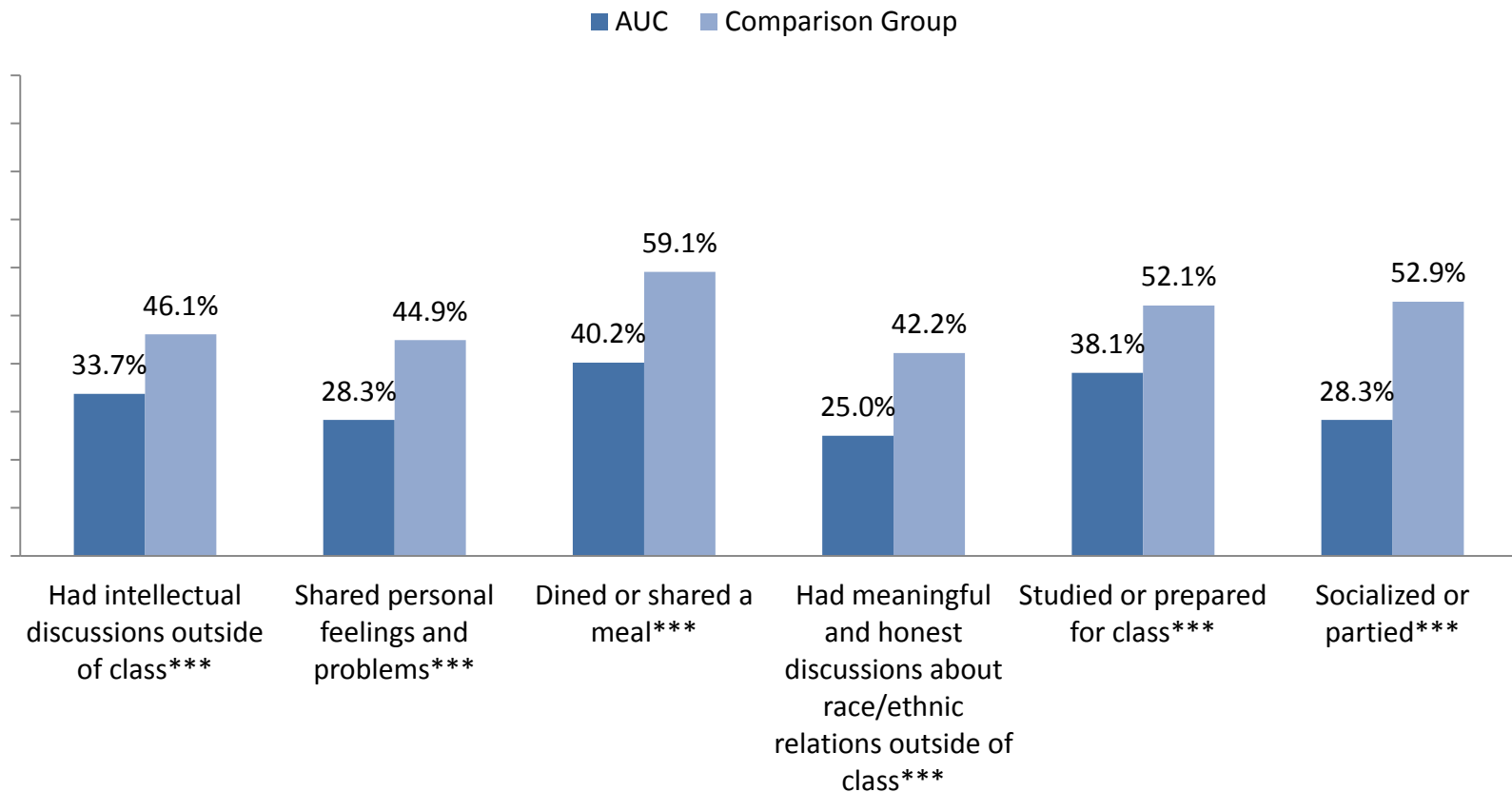


- Unified measure of students' level of positive interaction with diverse peers
- 56.5% of first-time, full-time freshmen respondents in high or average score groups, compared to 79.4% in comparison group
- Significant difference in mean with comparison groups in US

* Indicates level of significance

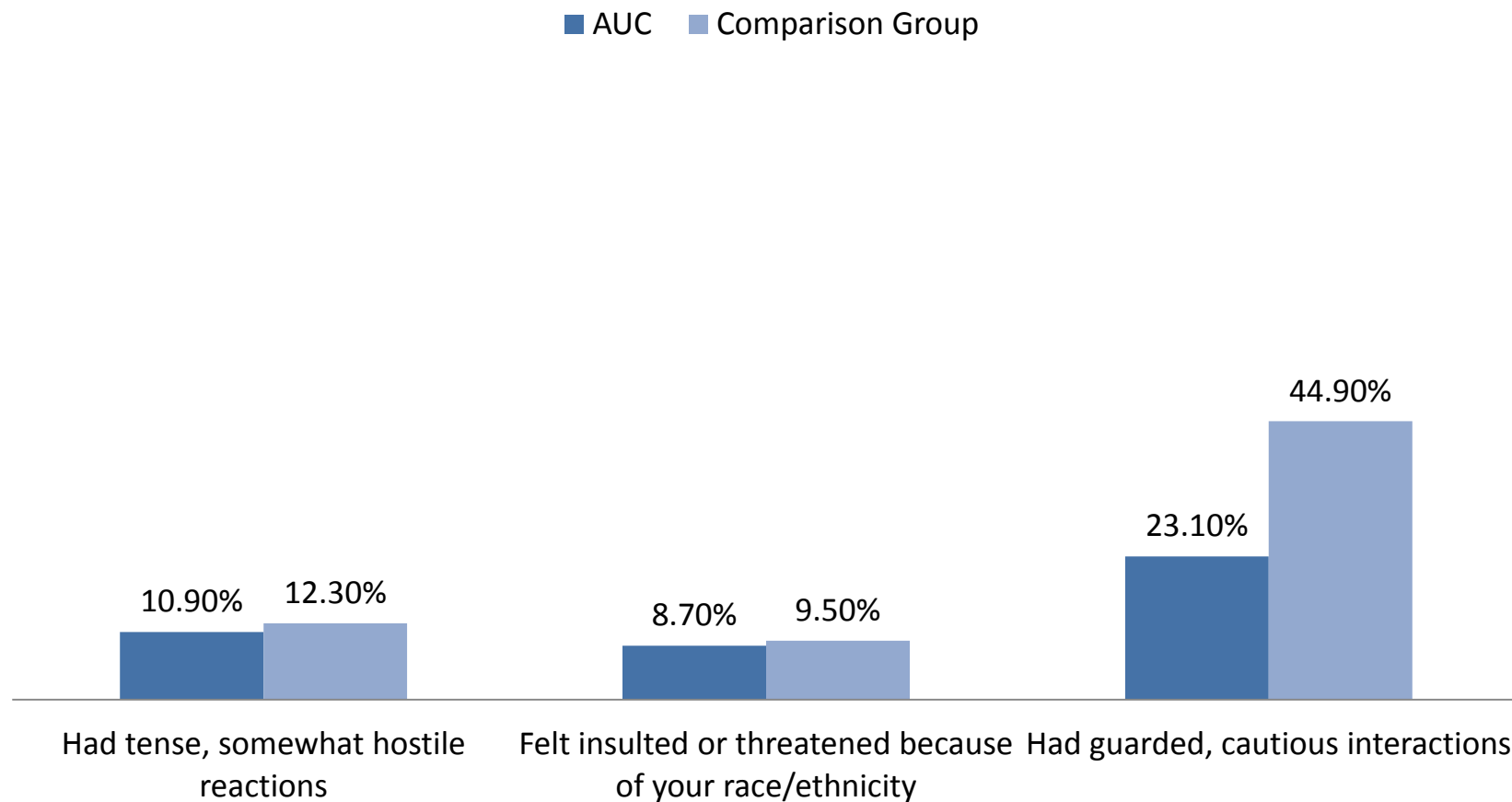
CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Positive Cross-Racial Interaction**

To what extent have you experienced the following with students from a racial/ethnic group other than your own? (very often/often)



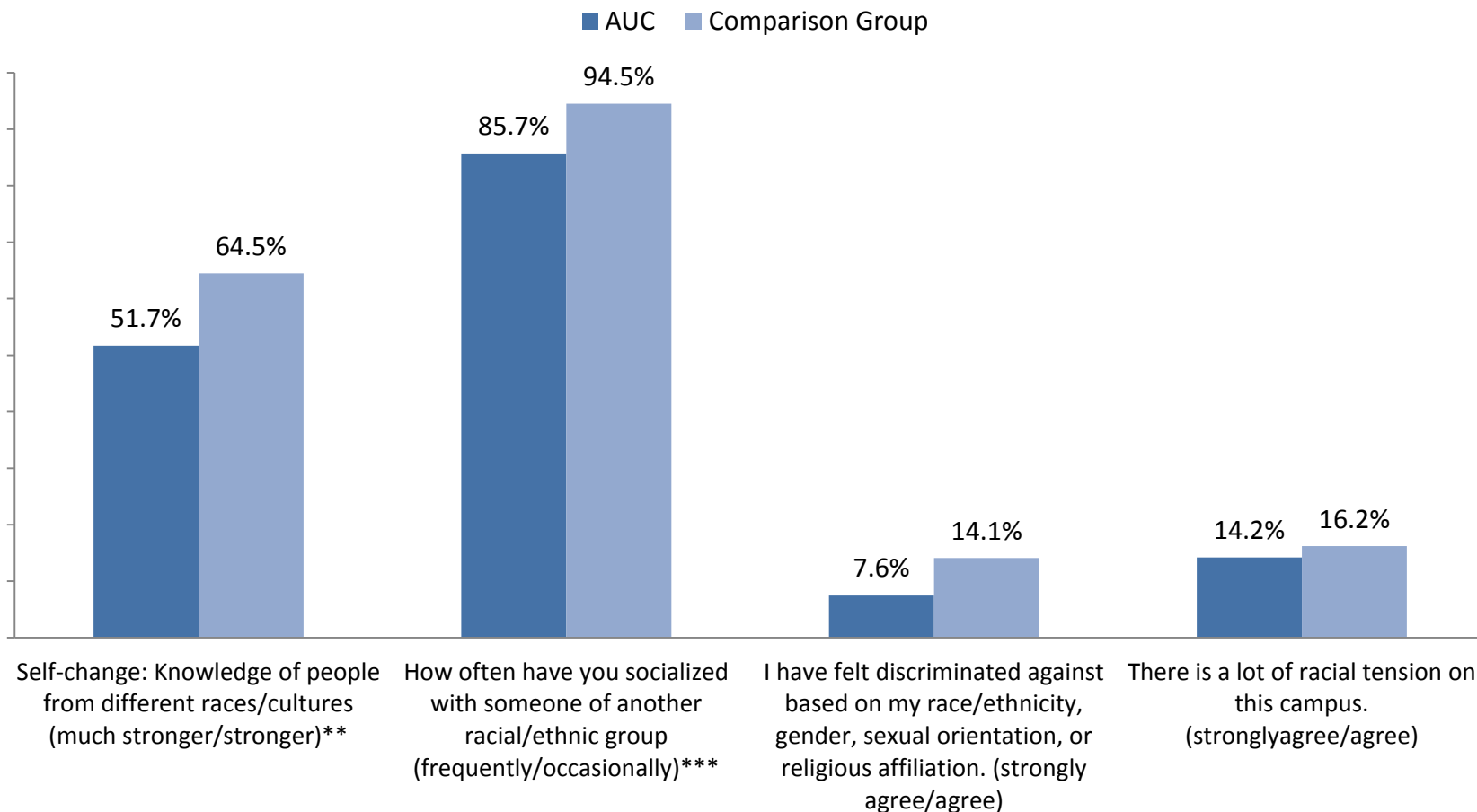
* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct: **Negative Cross-Racial Interaction**



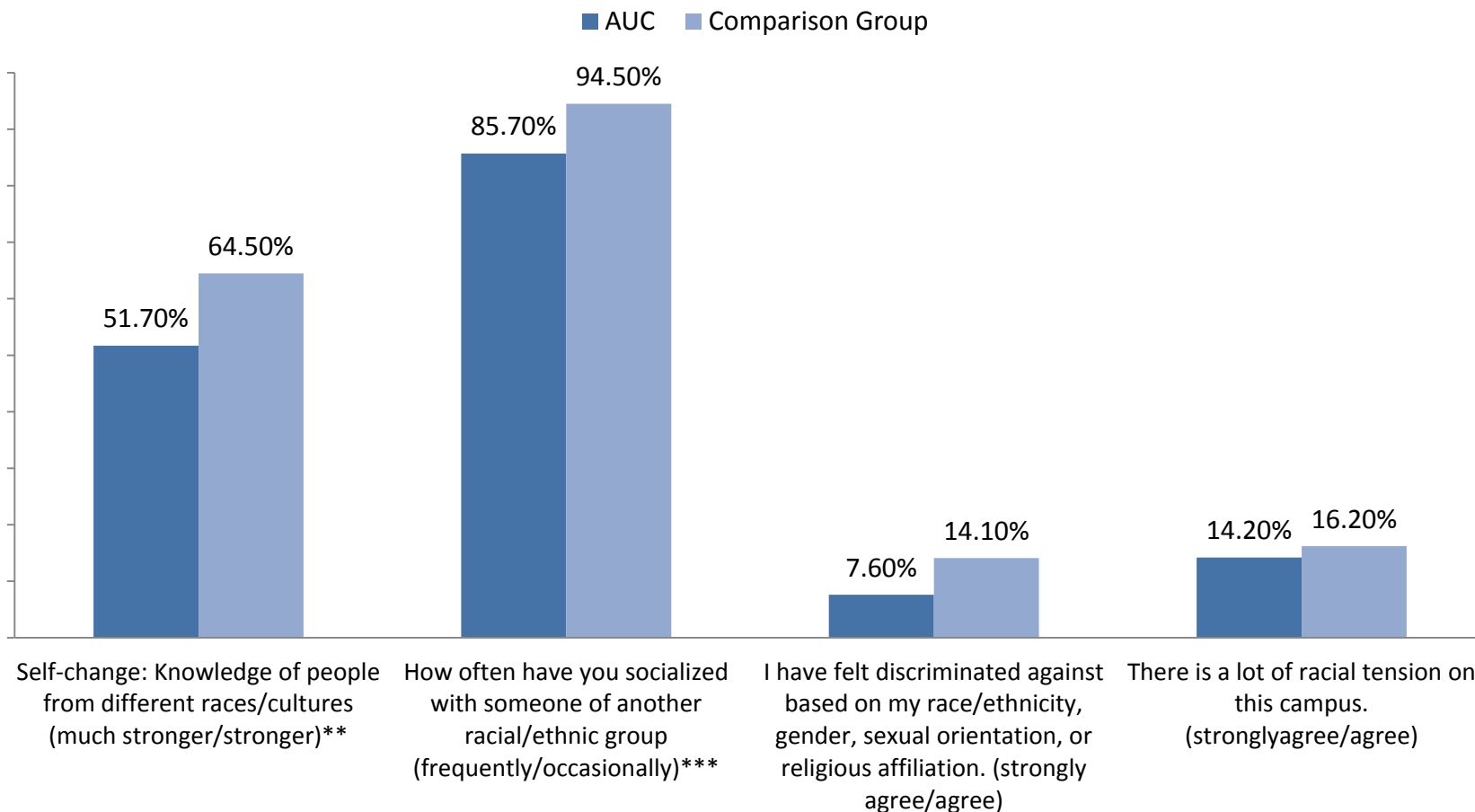
* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: Diversity



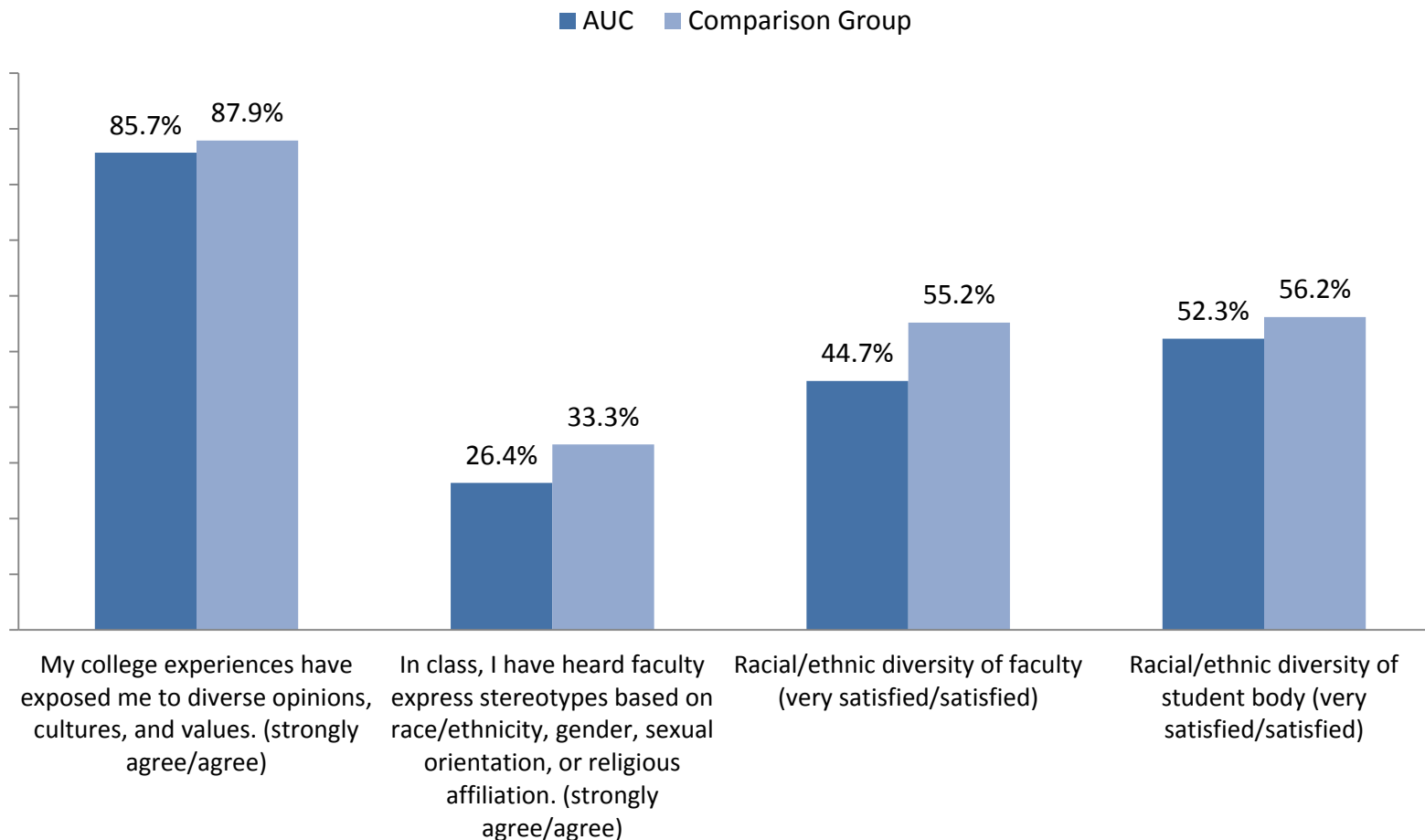
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CIRP Theme: Diversity



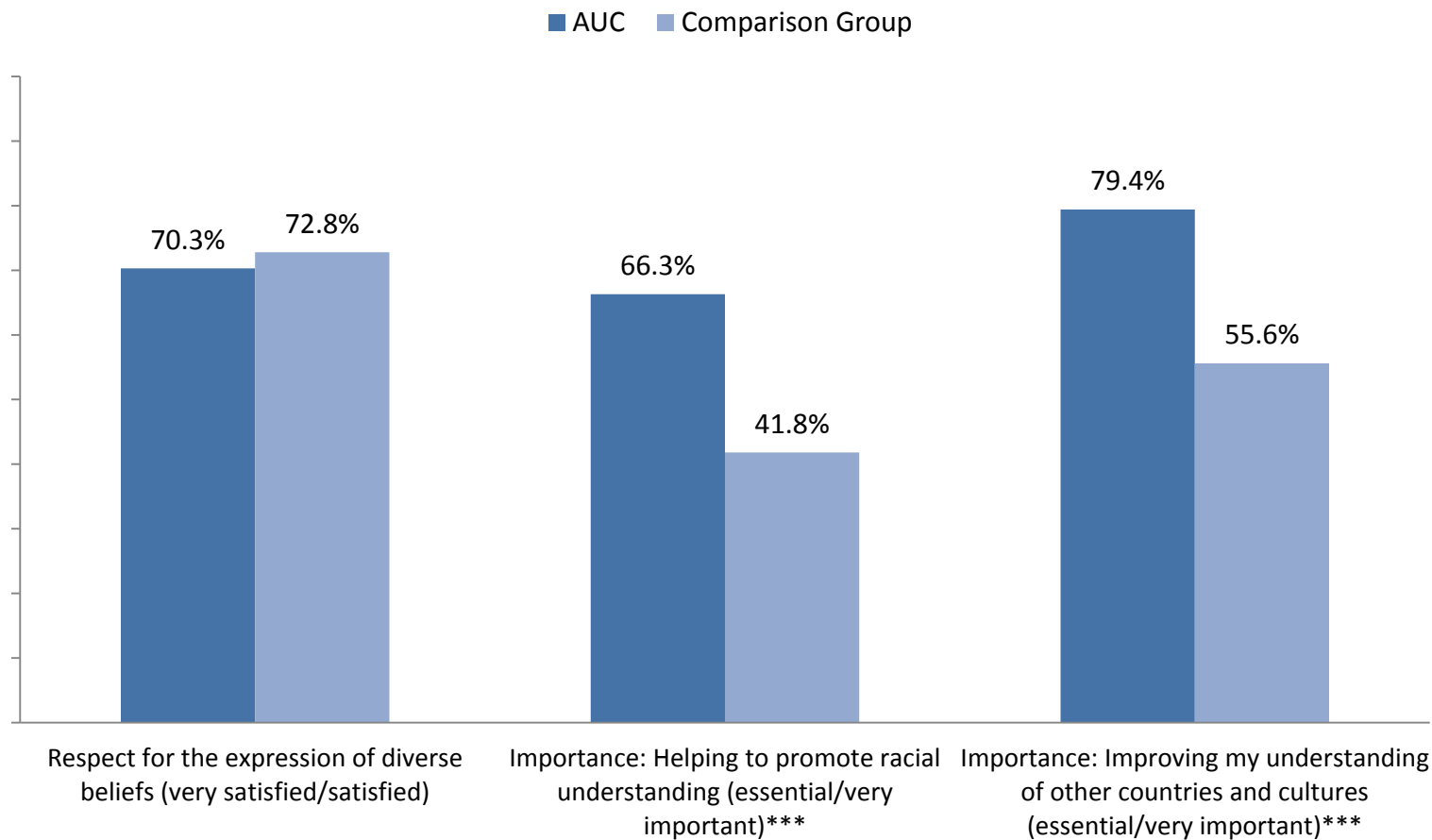
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CIRP Theme: Diversity



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CIRP Theme: Diversity



* Indicates level of significance

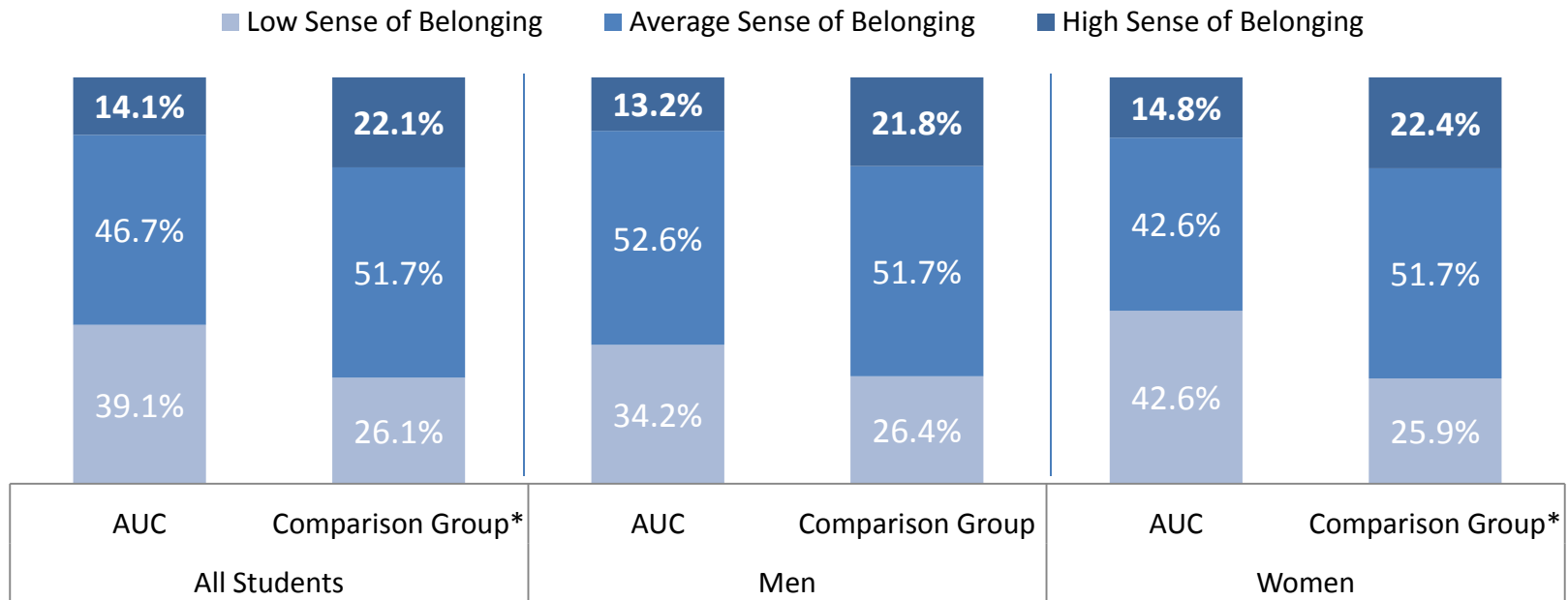


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CAMPUS CLIMATE

CIRP Construct: **Sense of Belonging**

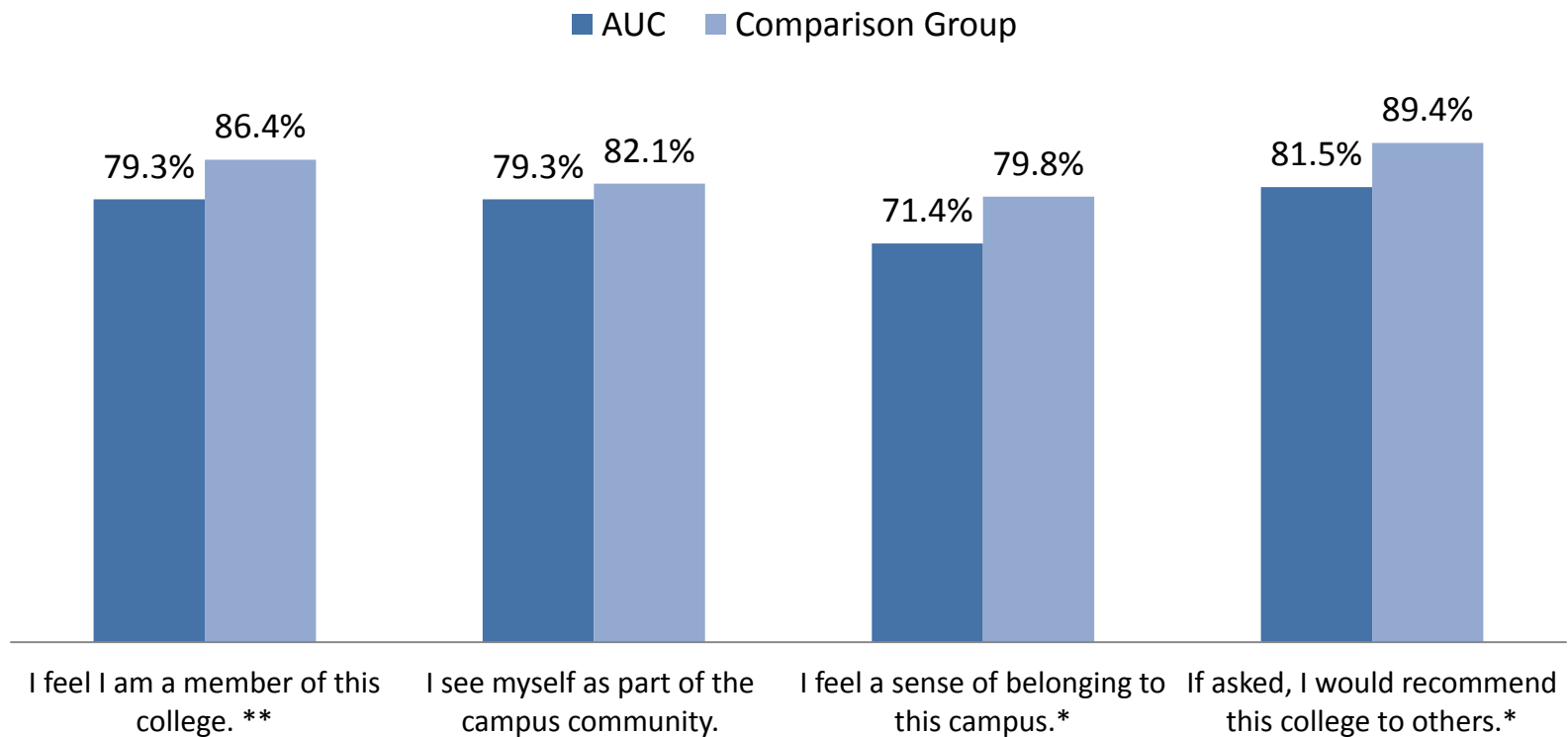


- Measures the extent to which students feel a sense of academic and social integration on campus
- 60.8% of freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- Slight difference of mean with comparison groups in the US

* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Sense of Belonging**

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements: (strongly agree/agree)

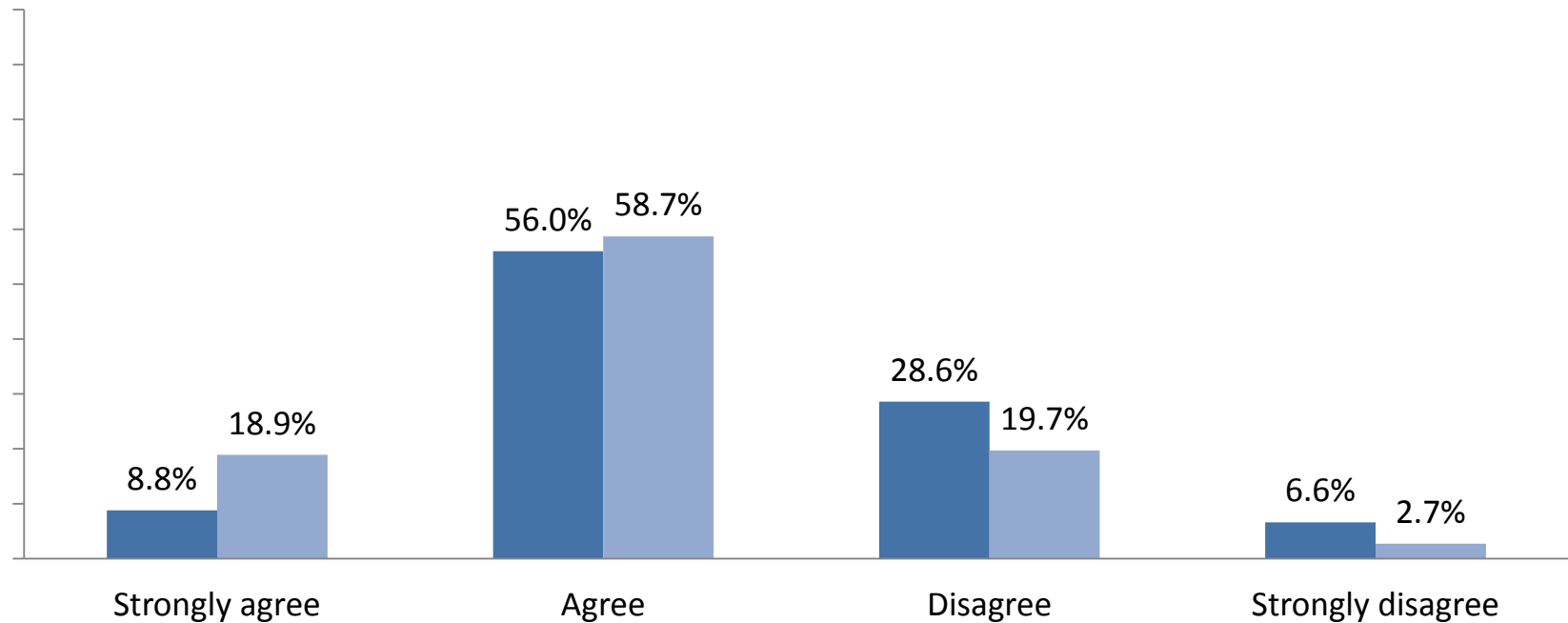


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Survey Items: **Sense of Belonging**

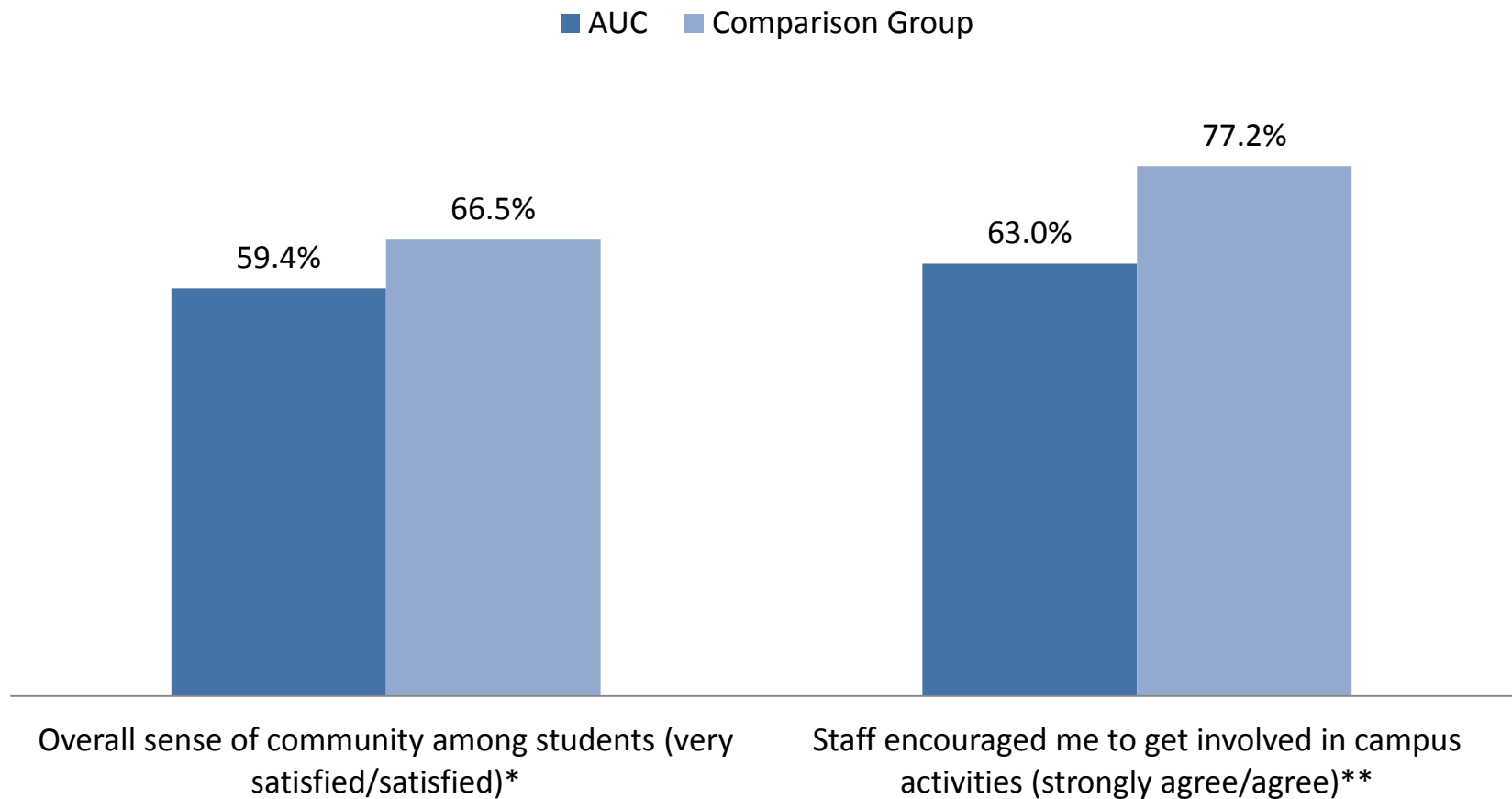
I feel valued at this institution.***

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



* Indicates level of significance

Sense of Community



* Indicates level of significance

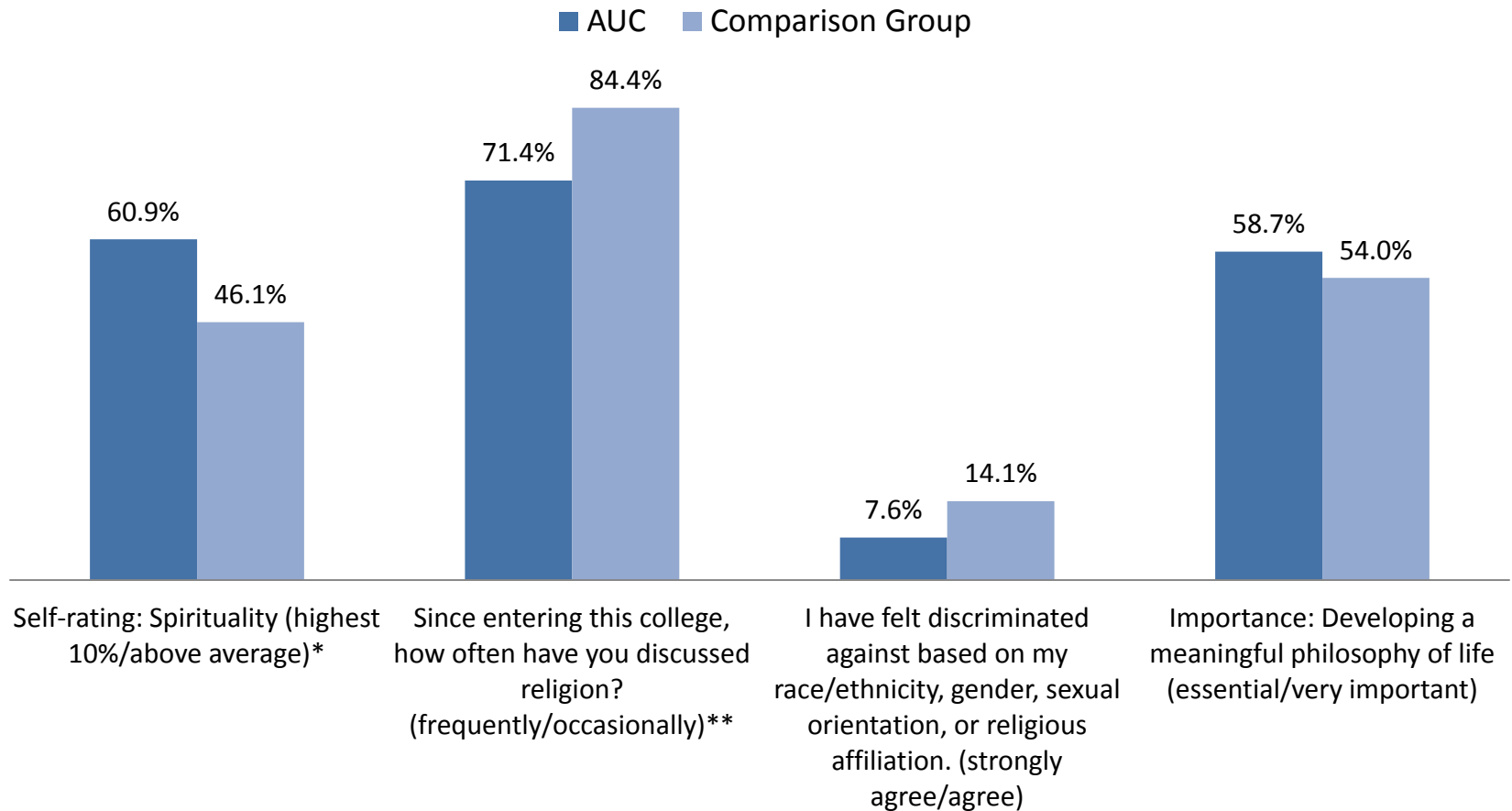


THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO



RELIGIOSITY/SPIRITUALITY

CIRP Theme: **Religiosity/Spirituality**



* Indicates level of significance

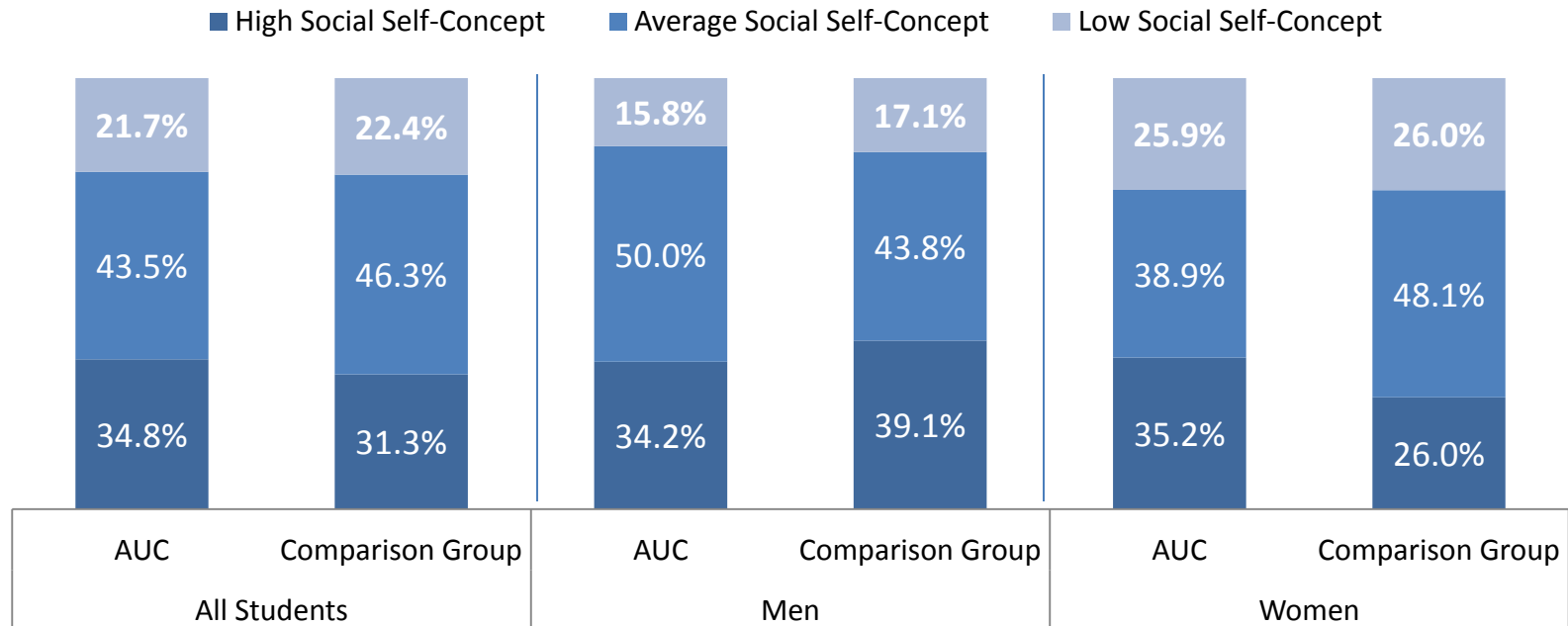


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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

CIRP Construct: Social Self-Concept

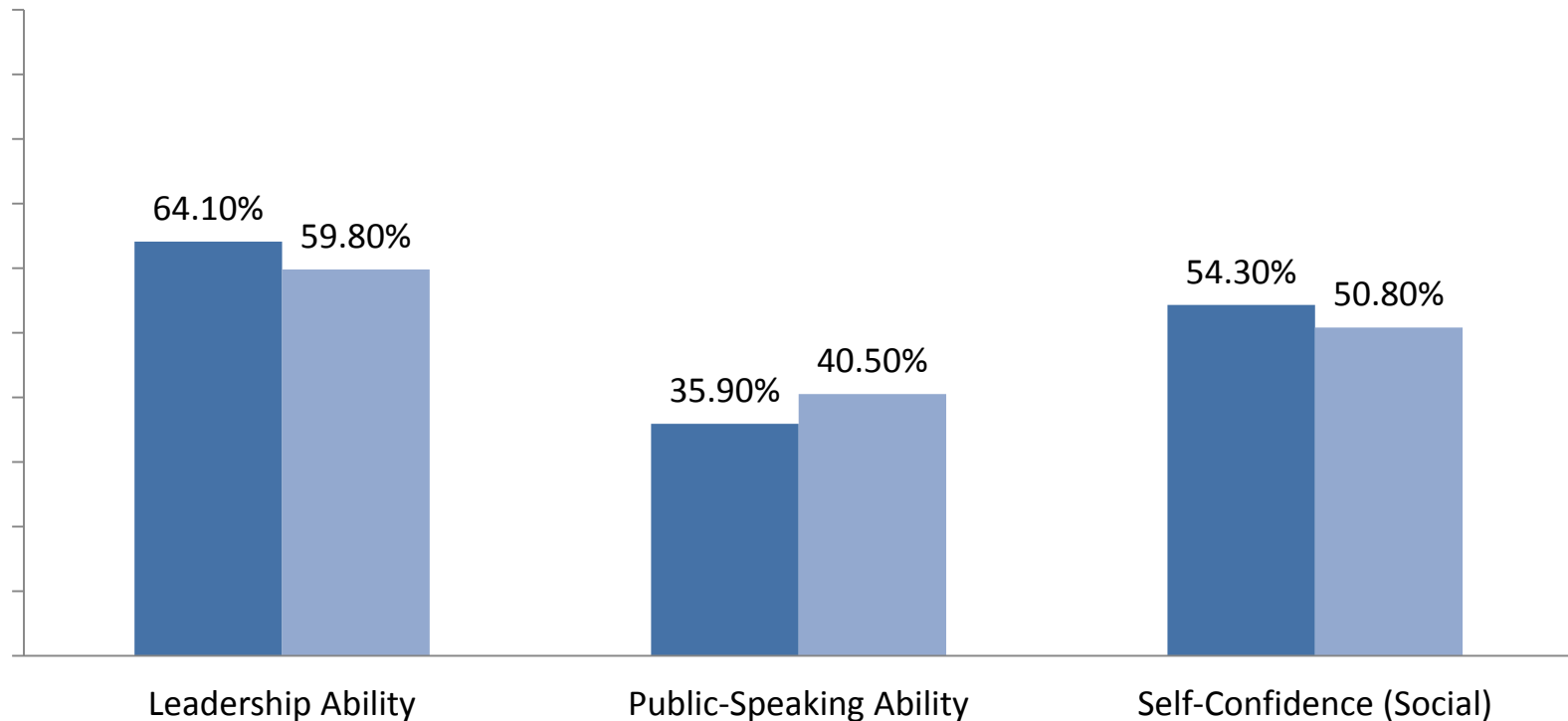


- Unified measure of students' beliefs about their abilities and confidence in social situations
- 65.2% of first-time, full-time freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- No significant difference of mean with comparison groups in the US

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Social Self-Concept**

Rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average person your age: (highest 10%/above average)

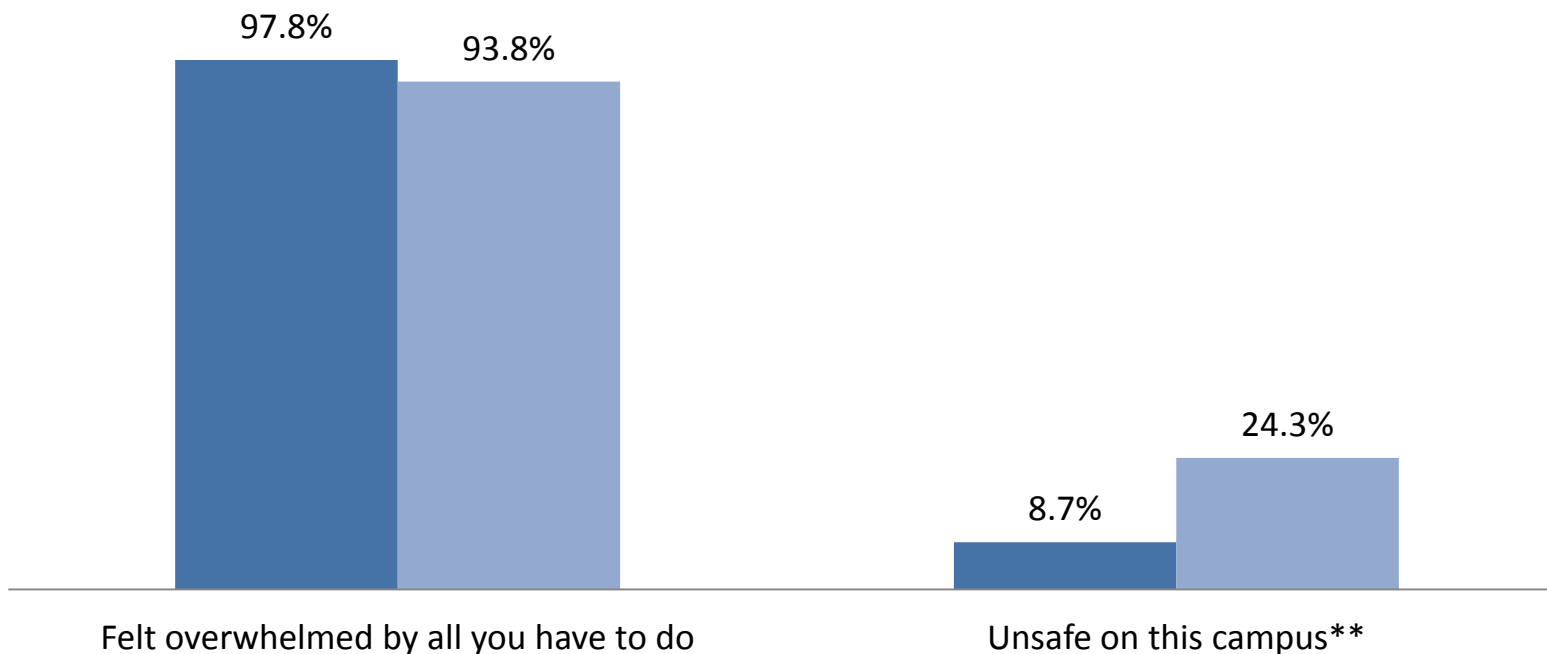
■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



CIRP Theme: **Health and Wellness**

Since entering this college, indicate how often you have:
(frequently/occasionally)

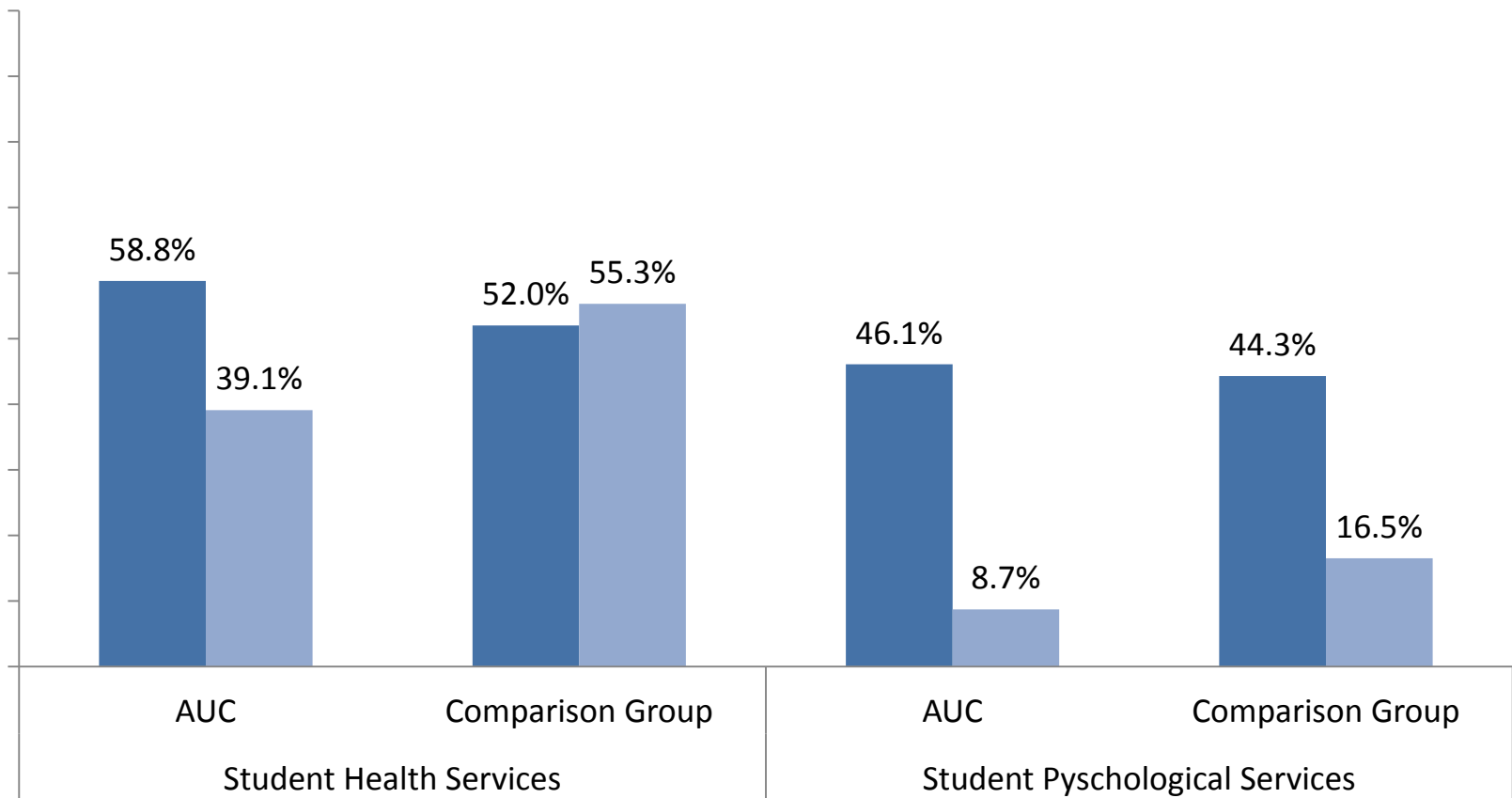
■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Health and Wellness**

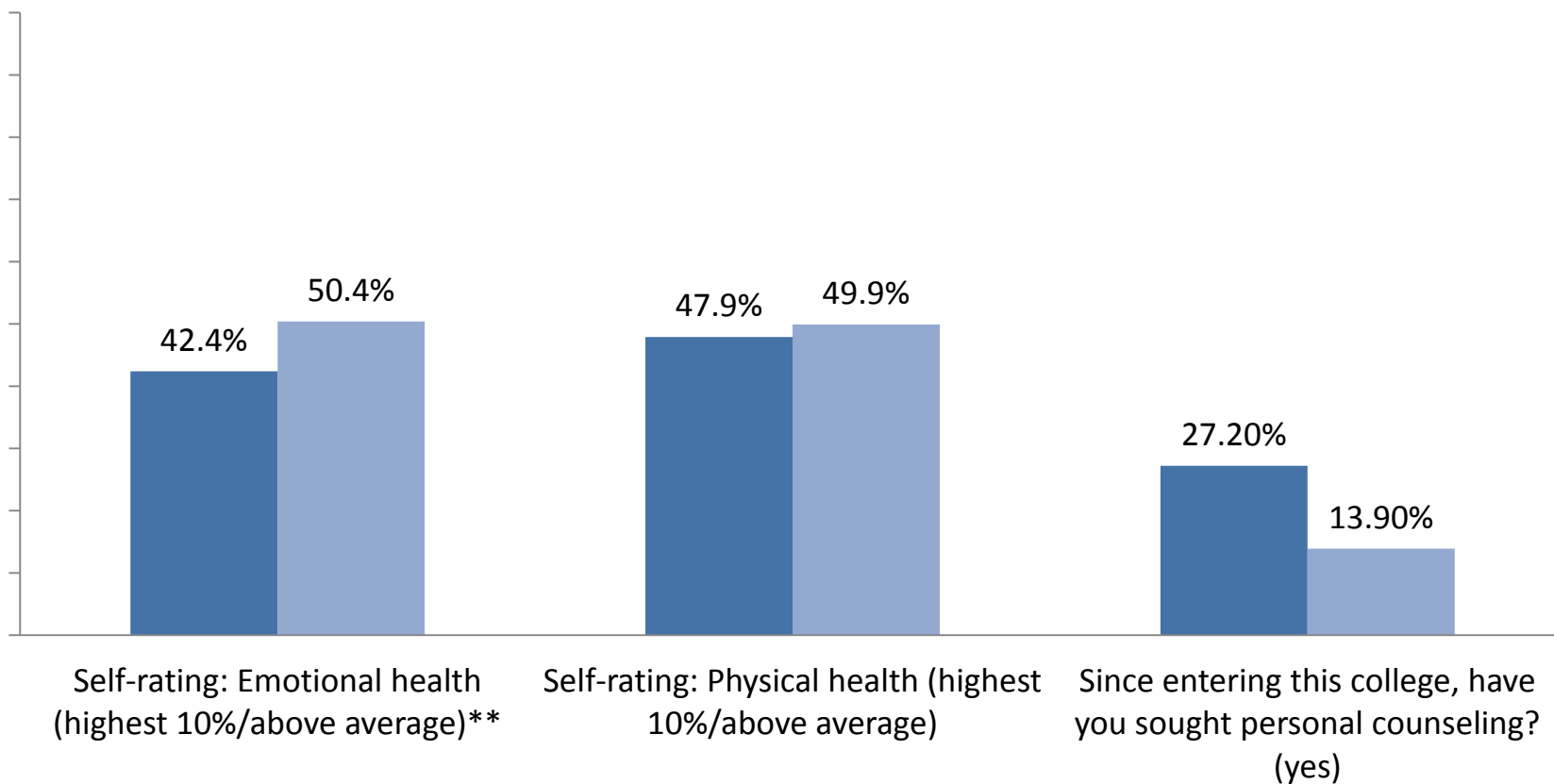
■ Satisfaction (Satisfied/Very Satisfied) ■ Use (Frequently/Occasionally)



* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Health and Wellness**

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group

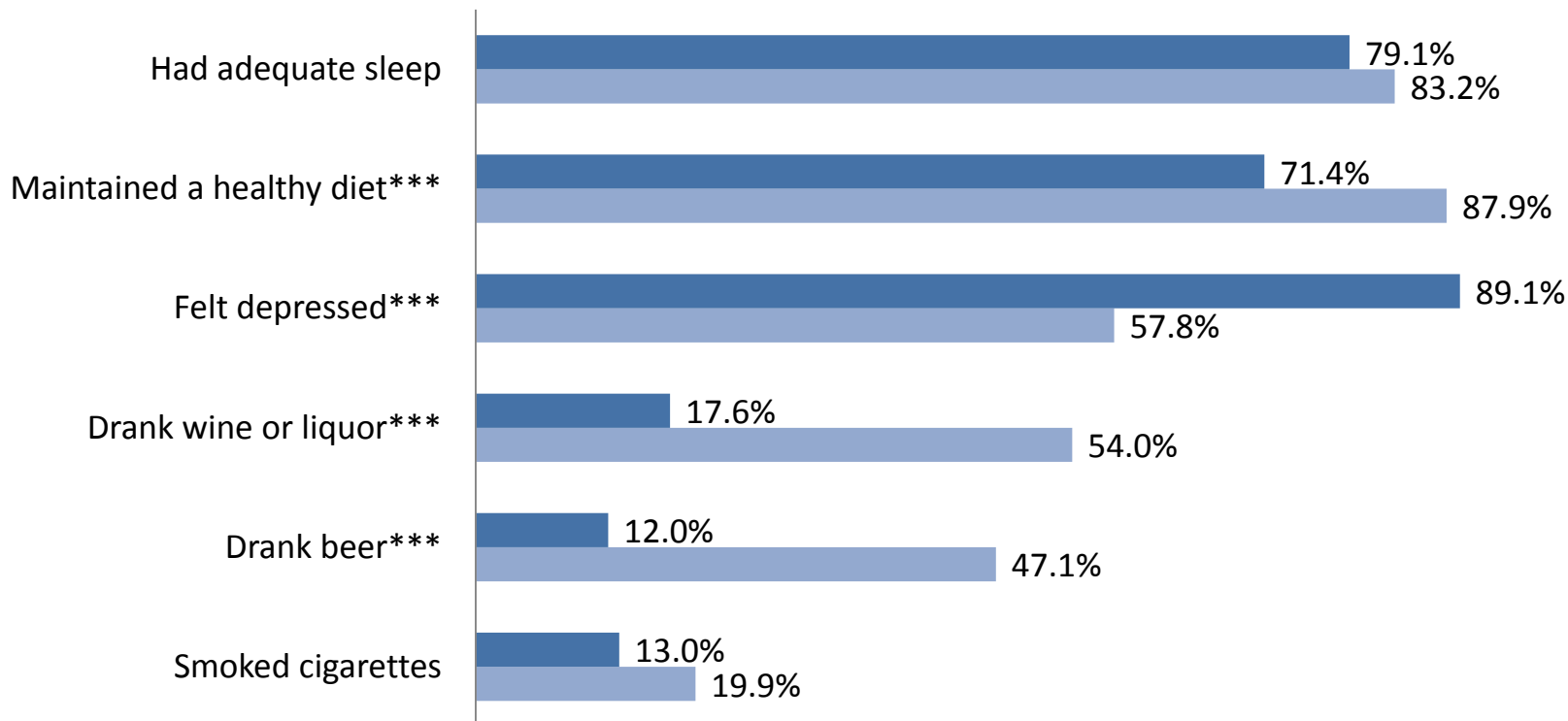


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Health and Wellness**

Since entering this college, how often have you:
(frequently/occasionally)

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group

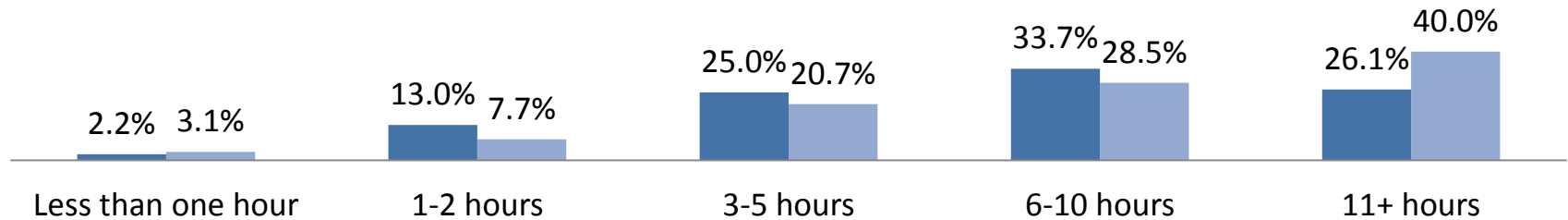


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Health and Wellness**

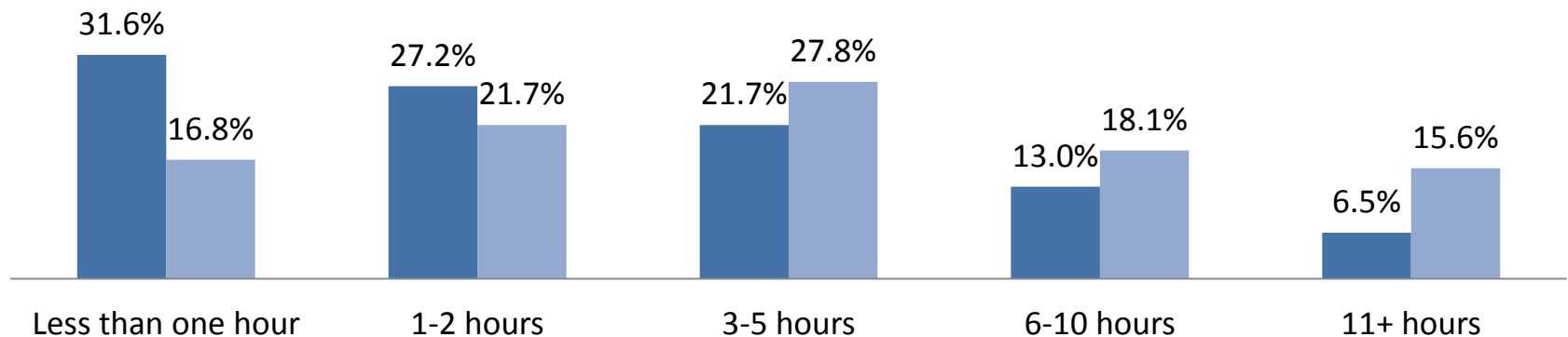
Socializing with friends

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group***



Exercising or sports

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group***

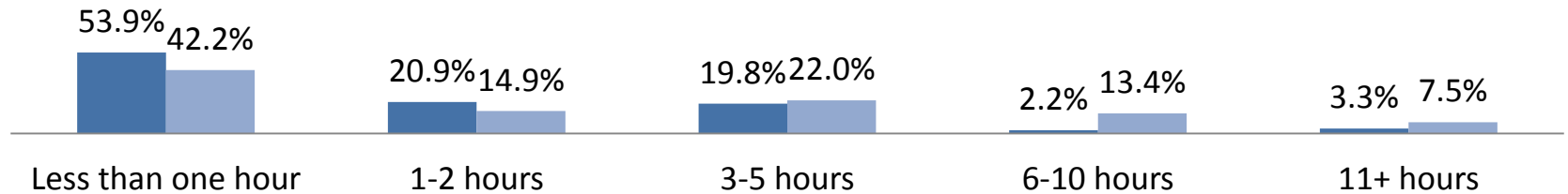


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Health and Wellness**

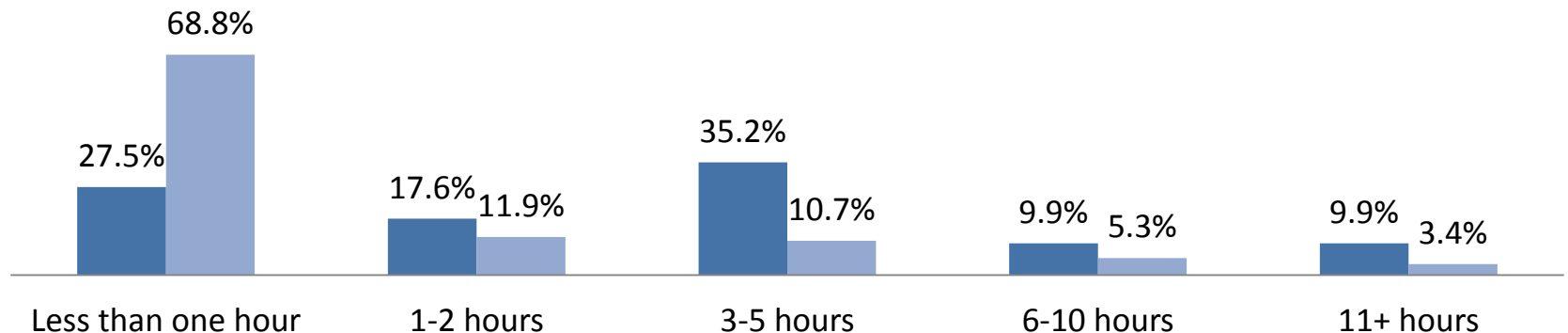
Partying

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group**



Commuting

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group***

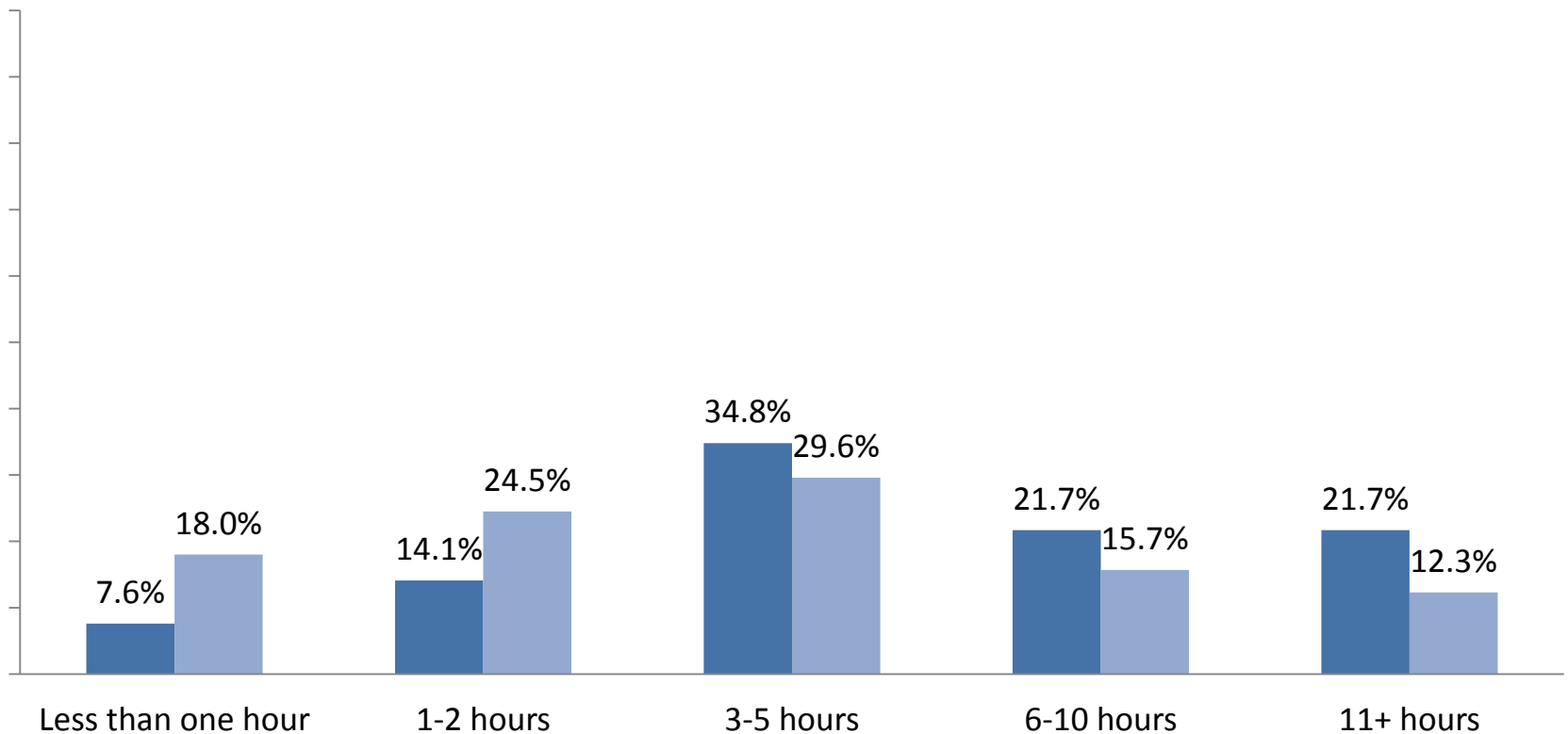


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: **Health and Wellness**

Online social networks (Myspace, Facebook, etc.)

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group***



* Indicates level of significance

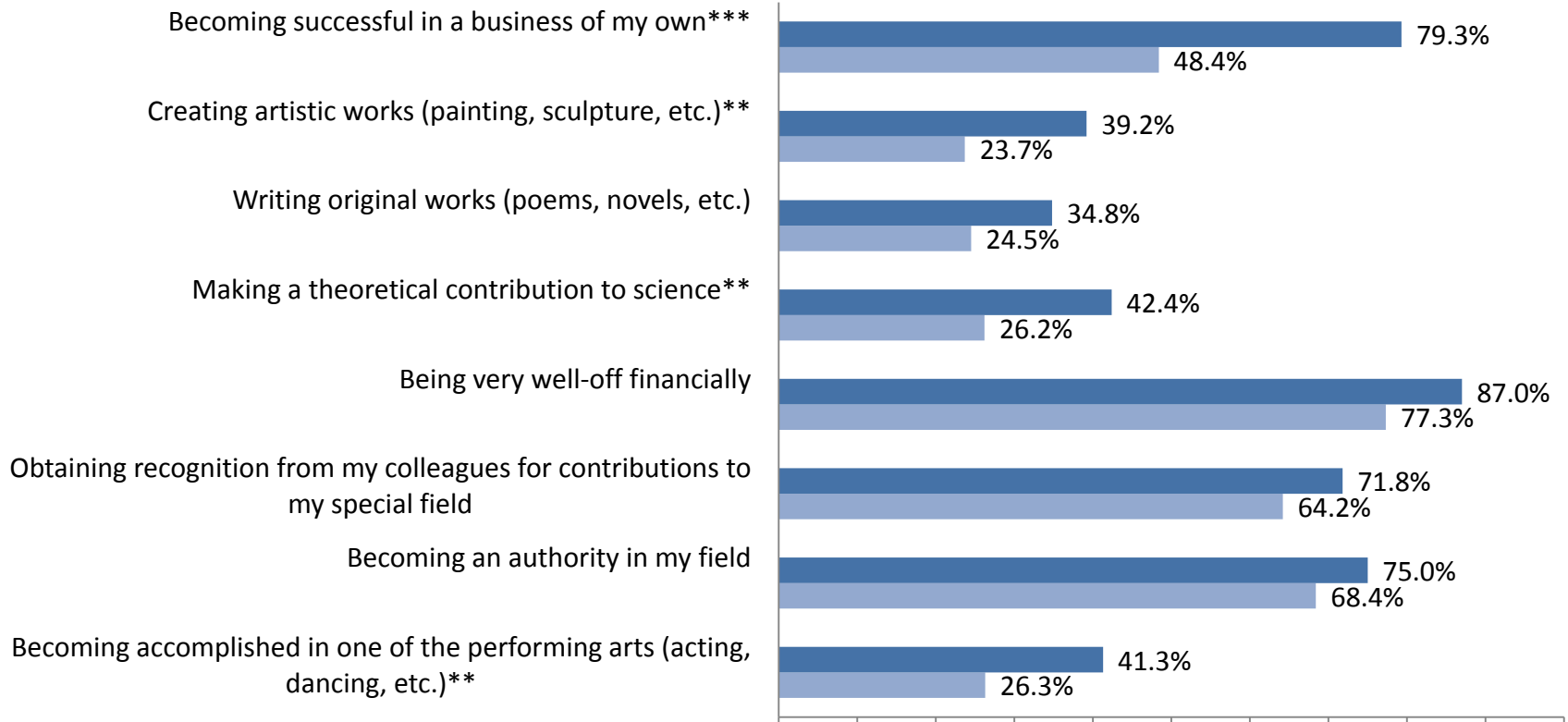


CAREER PLANNING

CIRP Theme: Career Planning

Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following: (essential/very important)

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group

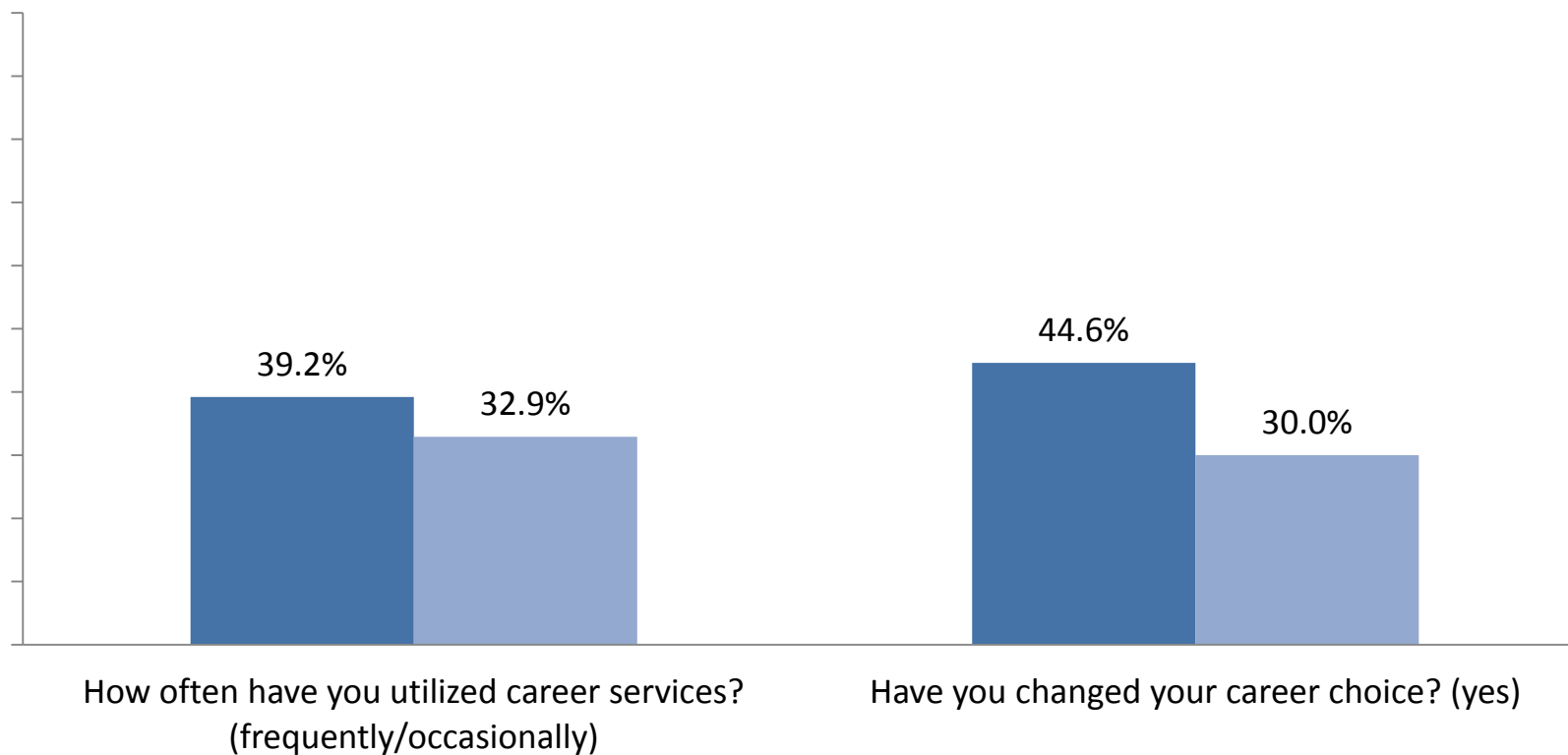


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: Career Planning

Since entering this college:

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group

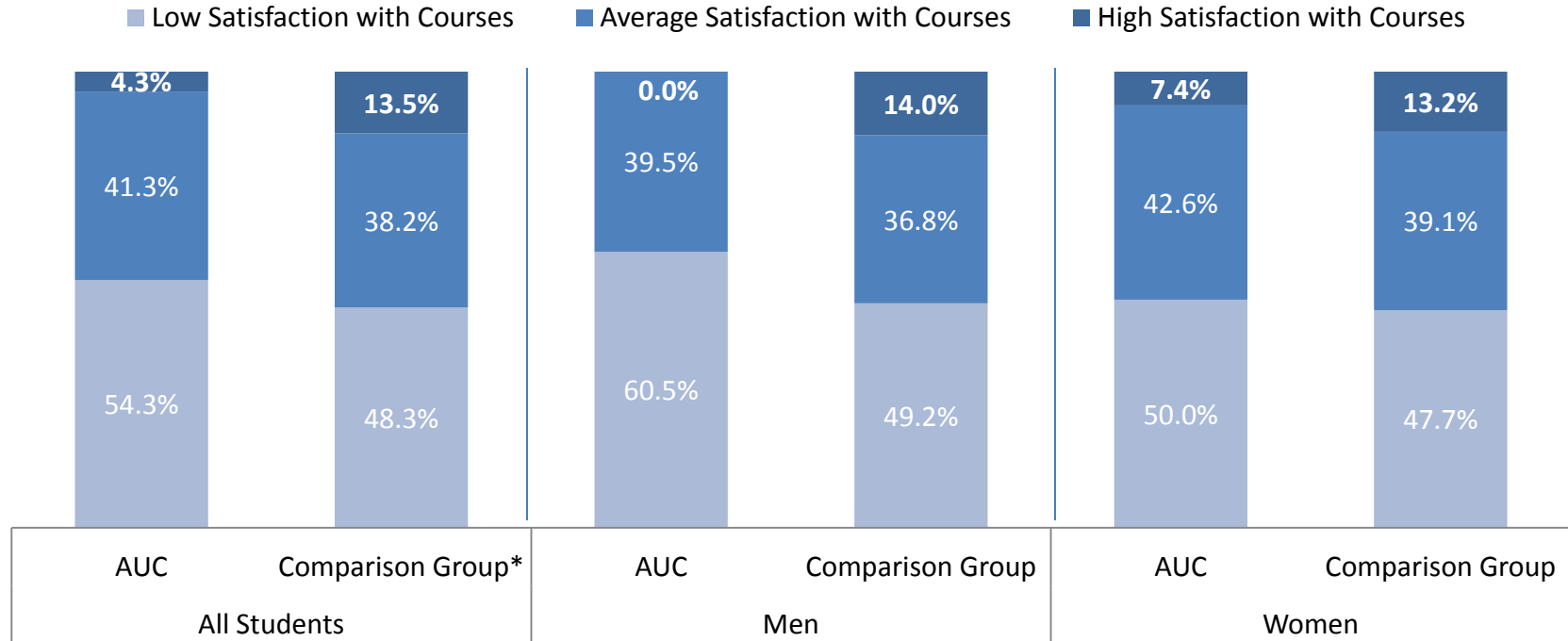


* Indicates level of significance



OVERALL SATISFACTION

CIRP Construct: Satisfaction with Coursework

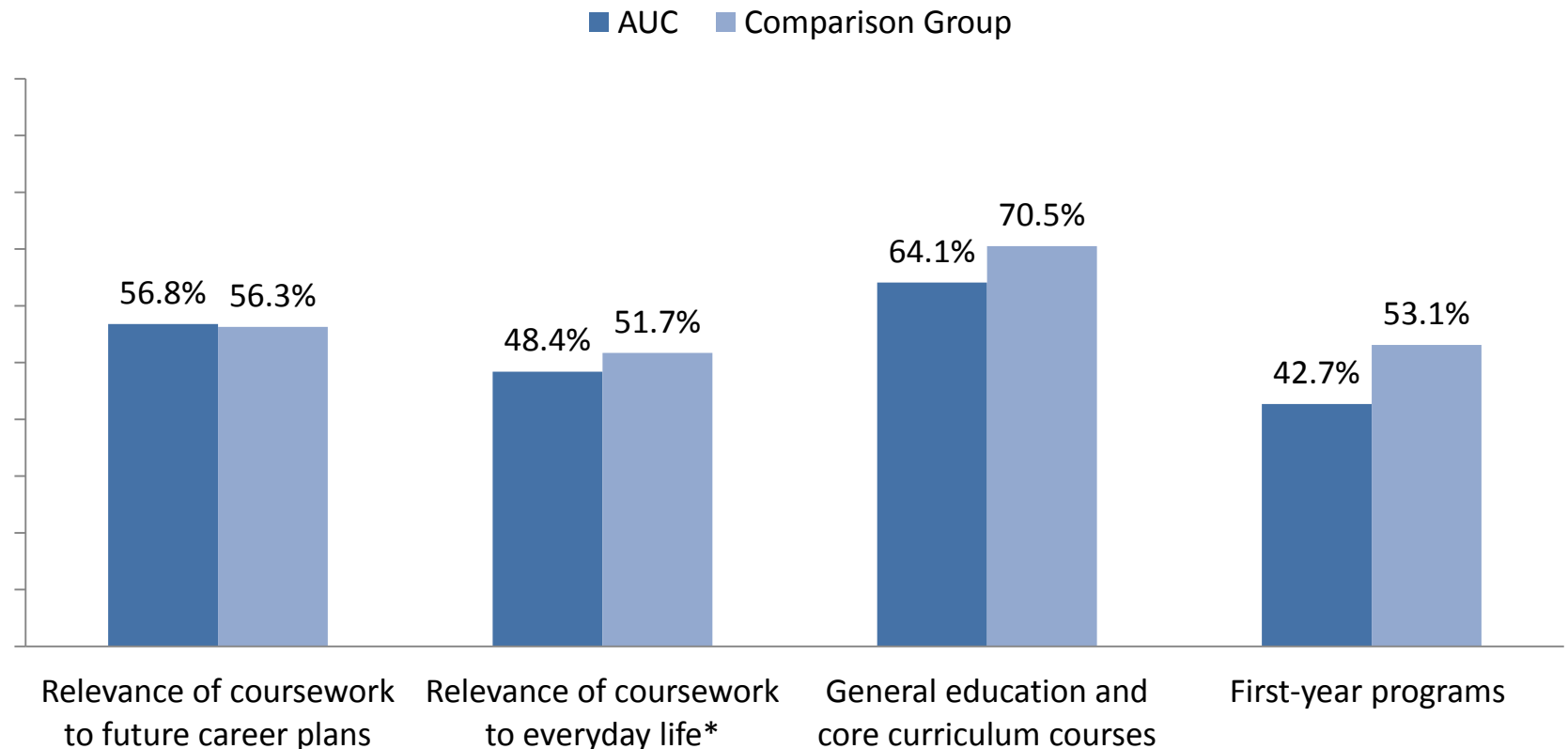


- Measures the extent to which students see their coursework as relevant, useful, and applicable to their academic success and future plans
- 45.6% of first-time, full-time freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- Slight difference of mean with comparison groups in US

* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct Survey Items: **Satisfaction with Coursework**

Please rate your satisfaction with the institution on each of the aspects of college life listed here: (very satisfied/satisfied)

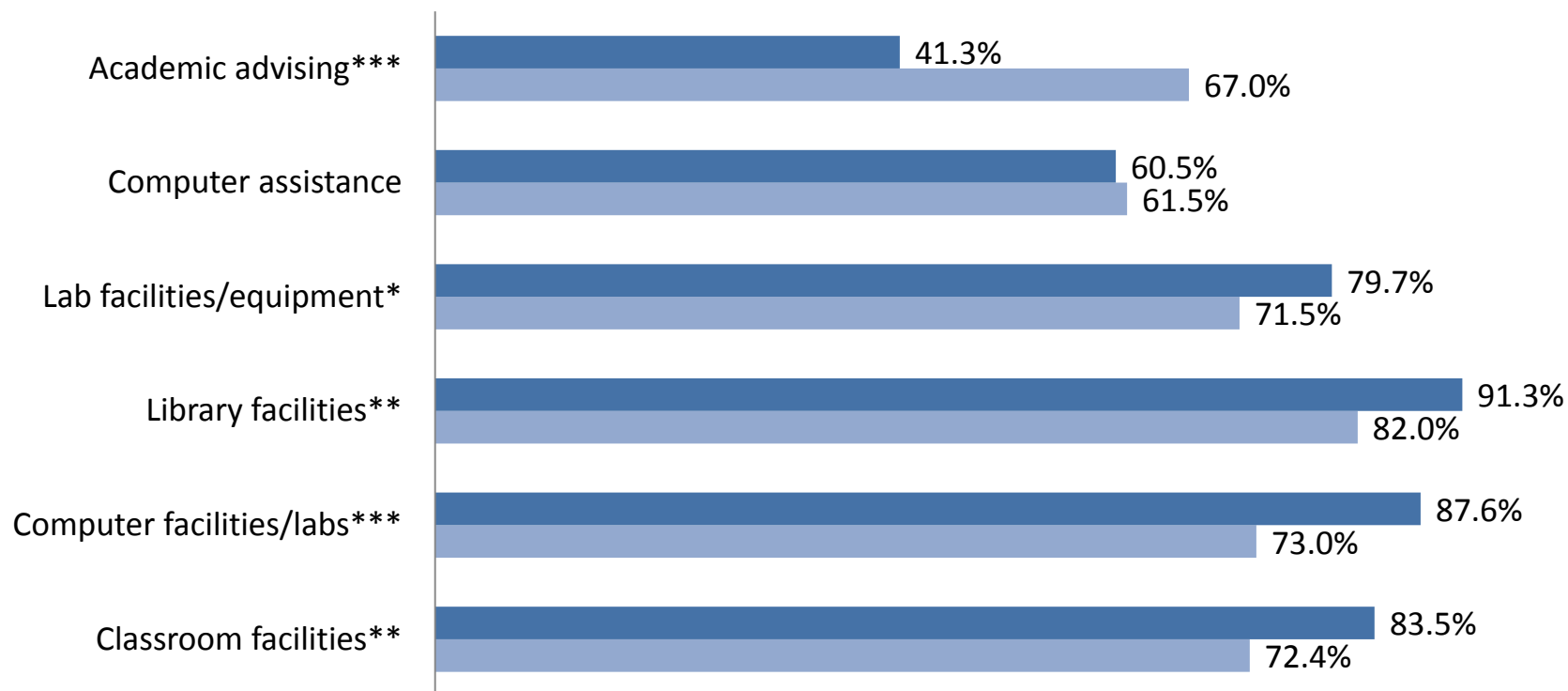


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: Satisfaction with Services and Community

Satisfaction (Satisfied/Very satisfied)

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group

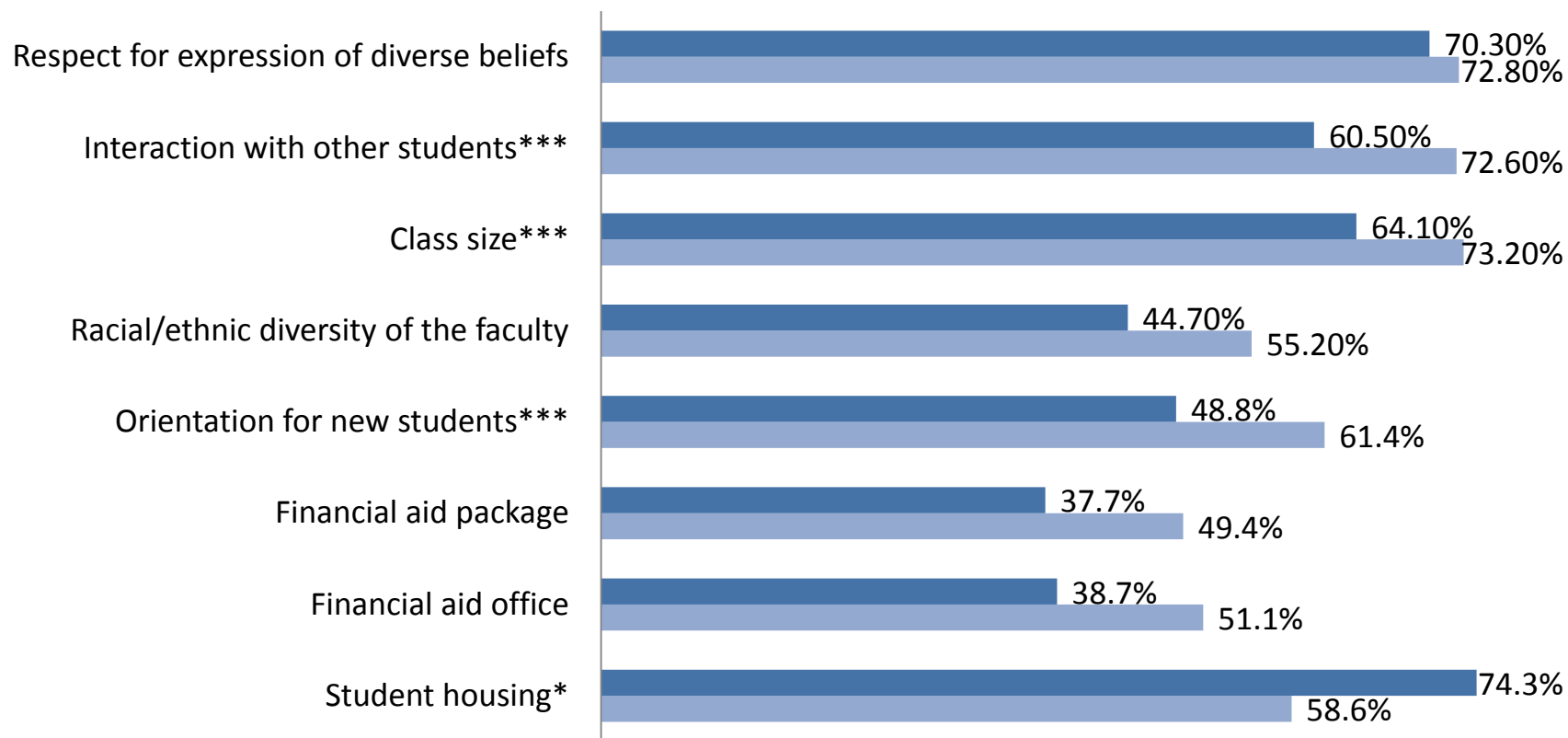


* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Theme: Satisfaction with Services and Community

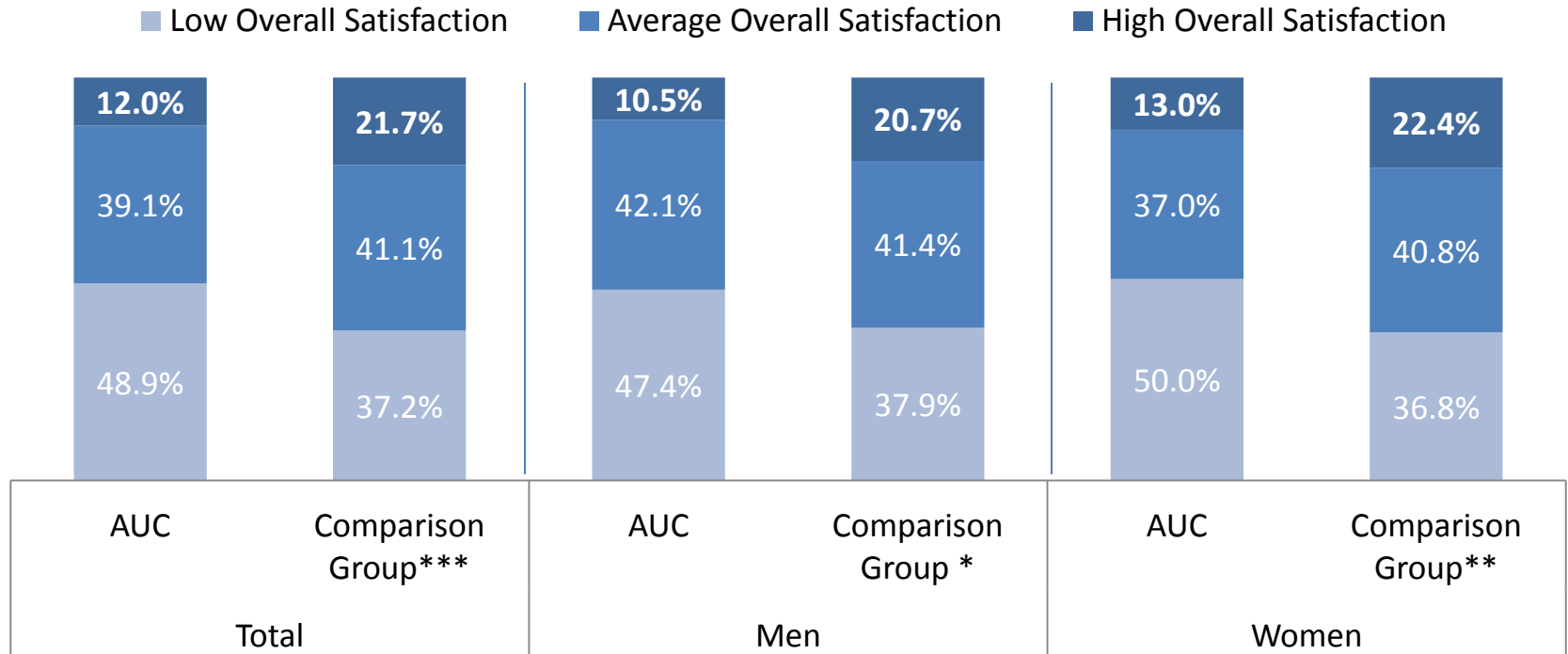
Satisfaction (Satisfied/Very satisfied)

■ AUC ■ Comparison Group



* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct: Overall Satisfaction



- Unified measure of student's satisfaction with college experience
- 51.5% of first-time, full-time freshmen respondents in high or average score groups
- Significantly lower mean (44.7) from comparison group in the US (47.8, 47.7)

* Indicates level of significance

CIRP Construct: **Overall Satisfaction**

Satisfaction (Satisfied/Very satisfied)

