

The Adjunct Faculty Experience

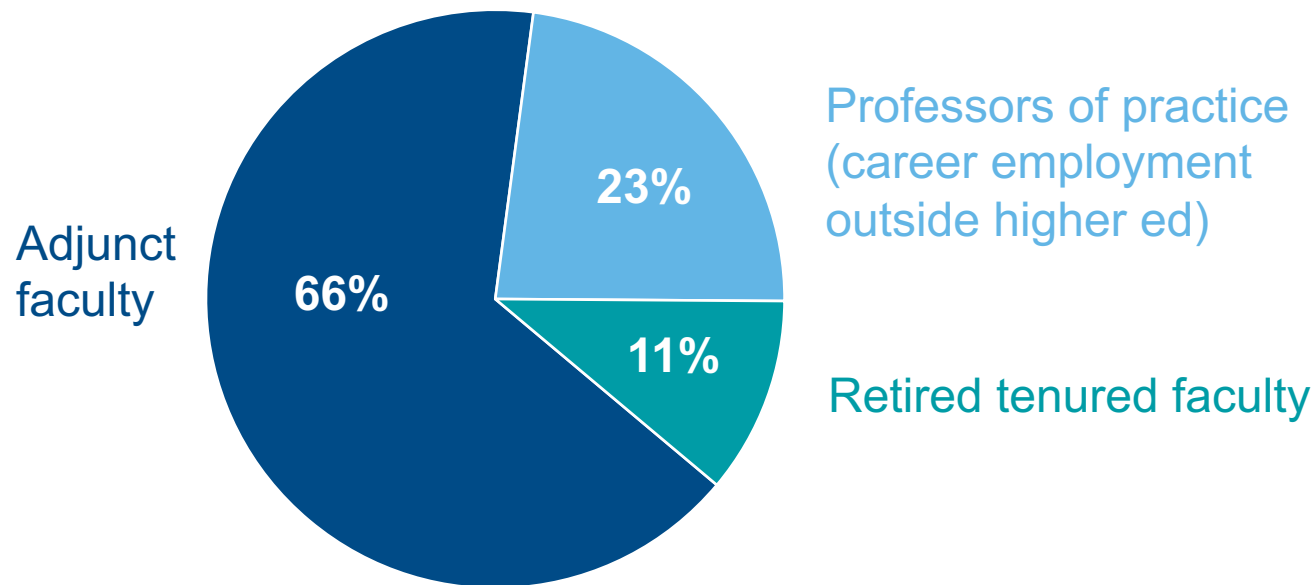
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A Fresh Look: Responding to Challenges in Higher Ed
TIAA Institute Fellows Symposium
November 1, 2019

- Relatively young.
- Recently attained their doctorate degree.
- Teaching multiple classes at multiple institutions.
- Pursuing a tenure-track position.

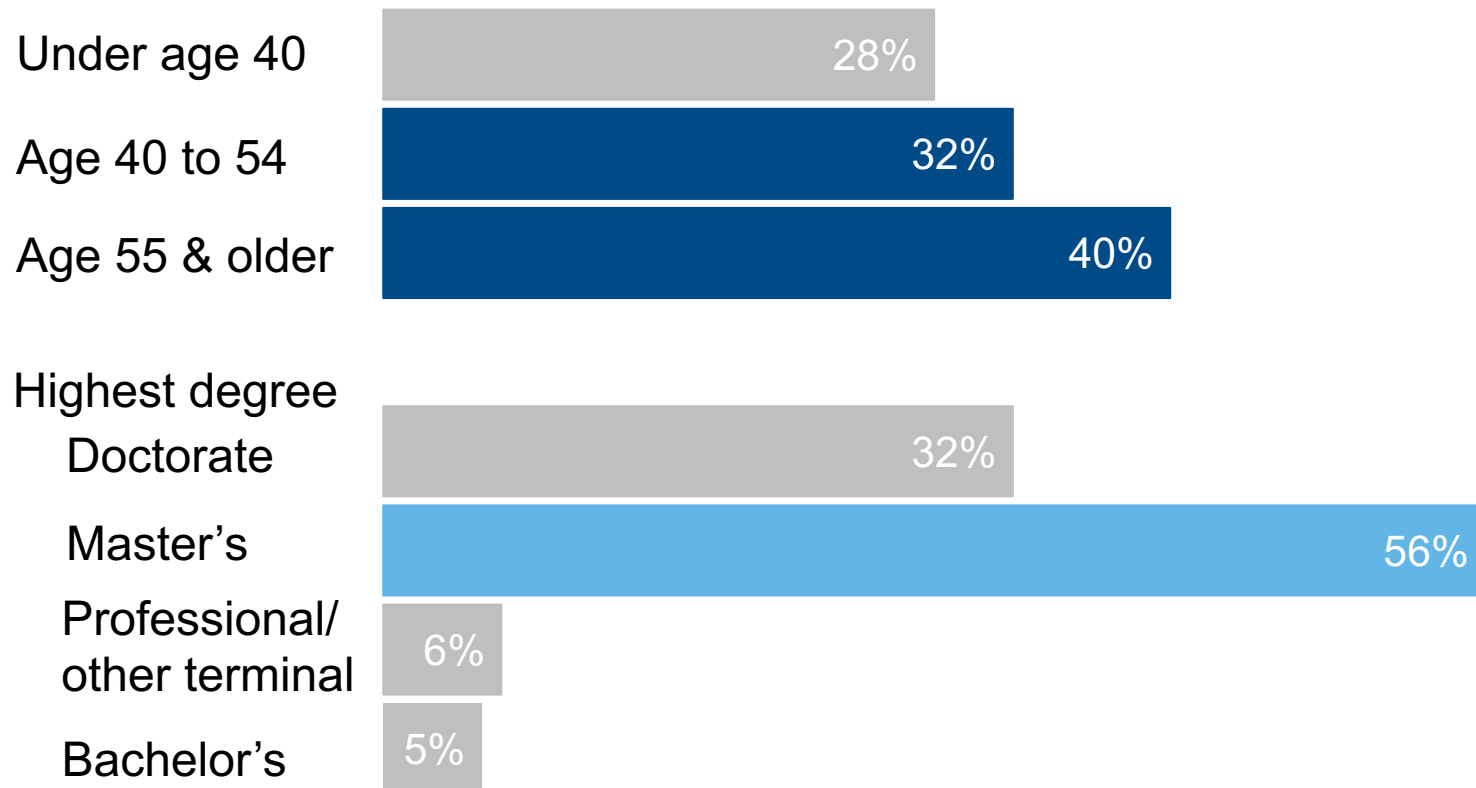
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Most part-time nontenure-track faculty are adjuncts.



Who are the adjunct faculty?

70% are over age 40; a Master's is the highest degree for most.



Over 1/2 teach one or two courses at a single institution.

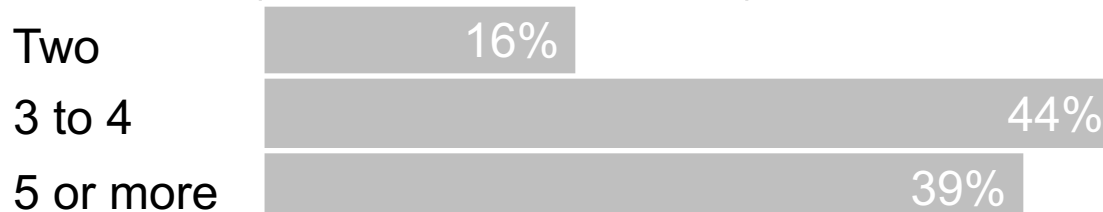
of institutions where teach



of courses (those at one institution)

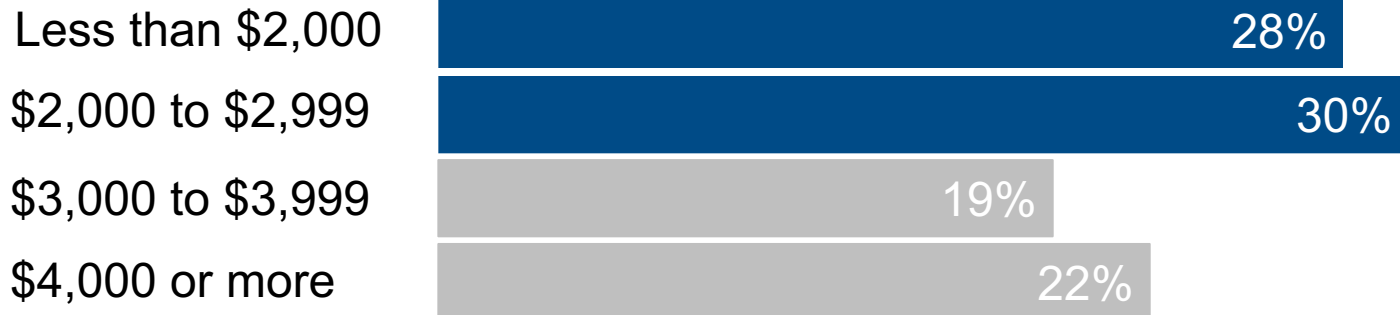


of courses (those at 2+ institutions)

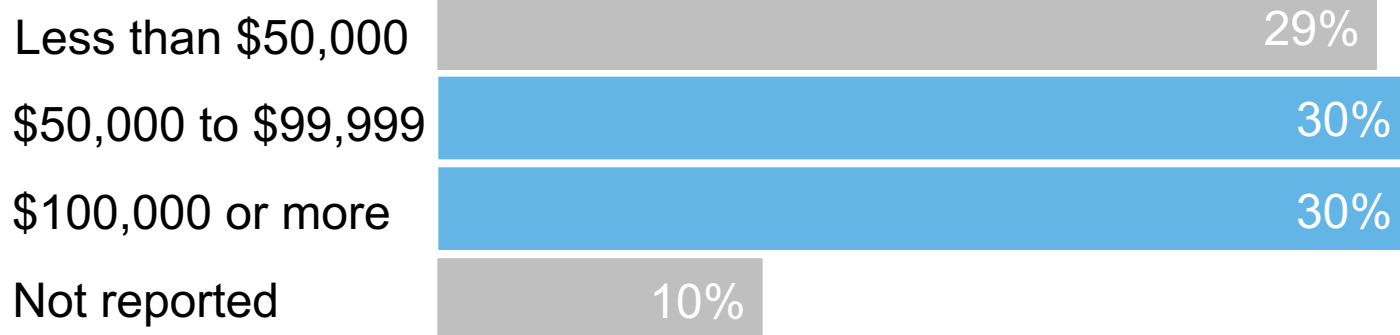


Average pay is \$3,000 per course, yet 60% of adjuncts have household incomes of \$50,000 or more.

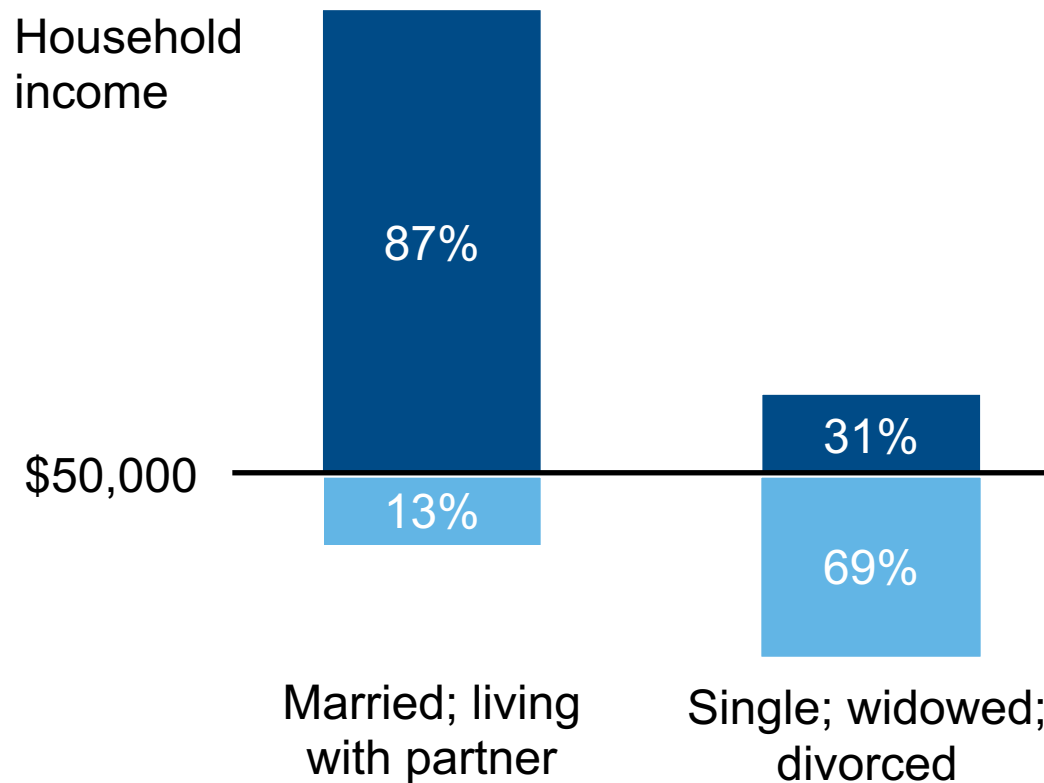
Pay per course



Household income

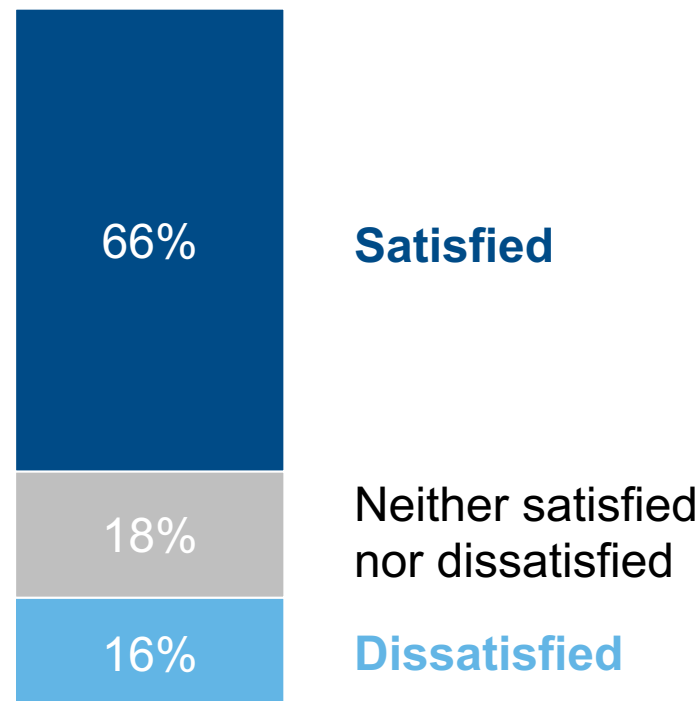


Married adjuncts and those living with partners have higher household incomes.



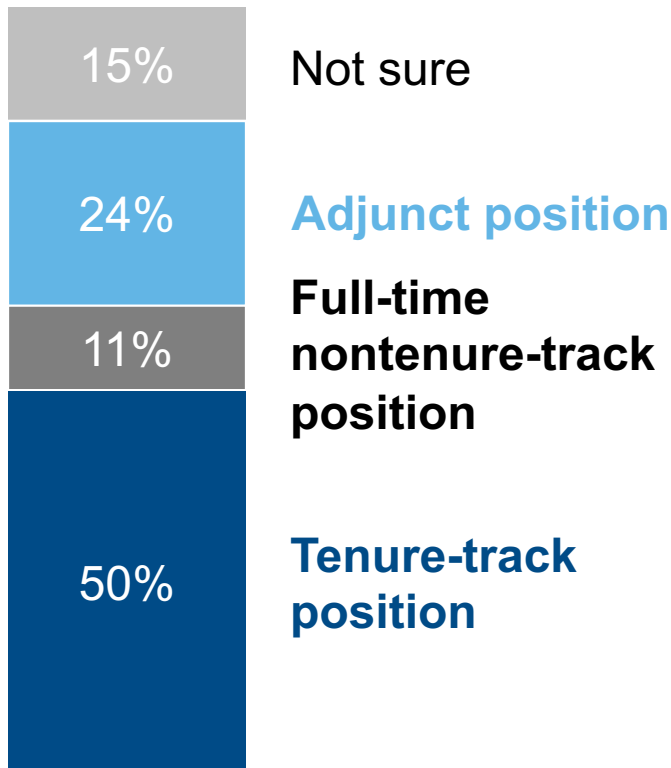
2/3 of adjunct faculty are satisfied with their academic career.

Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with your academic career?



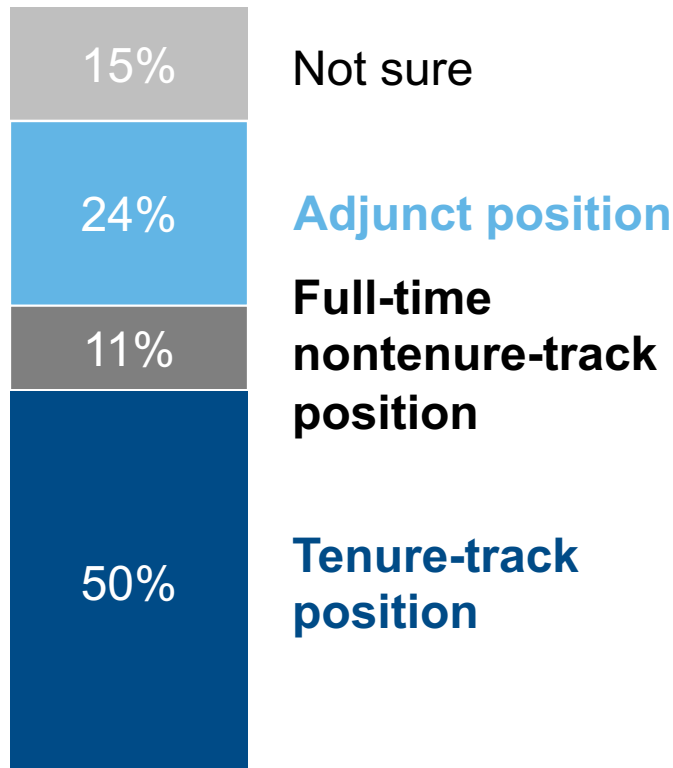
**1/2 of adjuncts would prefer a tenure-track position;
1/4 prefer an adjunct position.**

Prefer to have:



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1/4 prefer an adjunct position.**

Prefer to have:



Prefer tenure track, but...



- Most are over age 40.
- Most do not have a doctorate.
- Over 70% teach at one college or university.
- One-half would prefer a tenure-track position; 80% of these would likely accept a full-time nontenure-track position.
- Most are in households where adjunct earnings are not the primary income source.