

INSPIRING INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

The Student Experience throughout the Pandemic and Beyond

Greg Hum, Director of Student Housing & Residence Life

Nadia Rosemond, Assistant Dean, Co-Curricular Programs and Student Leadership

Sheila John, Assistant Dean, Wellness, Recreation & Sport

May 3, 2021

OVERVIEW: SUPPORTING STUDENTS DURING THE PANDEMIC

- Virtual programming and events
- Utilizing web-based platforms and technology
- In-person engagement for students living in residence, as public safety measures allowed
- Collaborative and integrated support across all divisions

Student Housing & Residence Life

RESIDENCE HIGHLIGHT

- In person/online community meetings and one-on-ones
- Paint nights
- Toronto Zoo virtual tour
- Halloween maze
- Improv / mocktail / movie night
- Interdepartmental collaborations

ES!





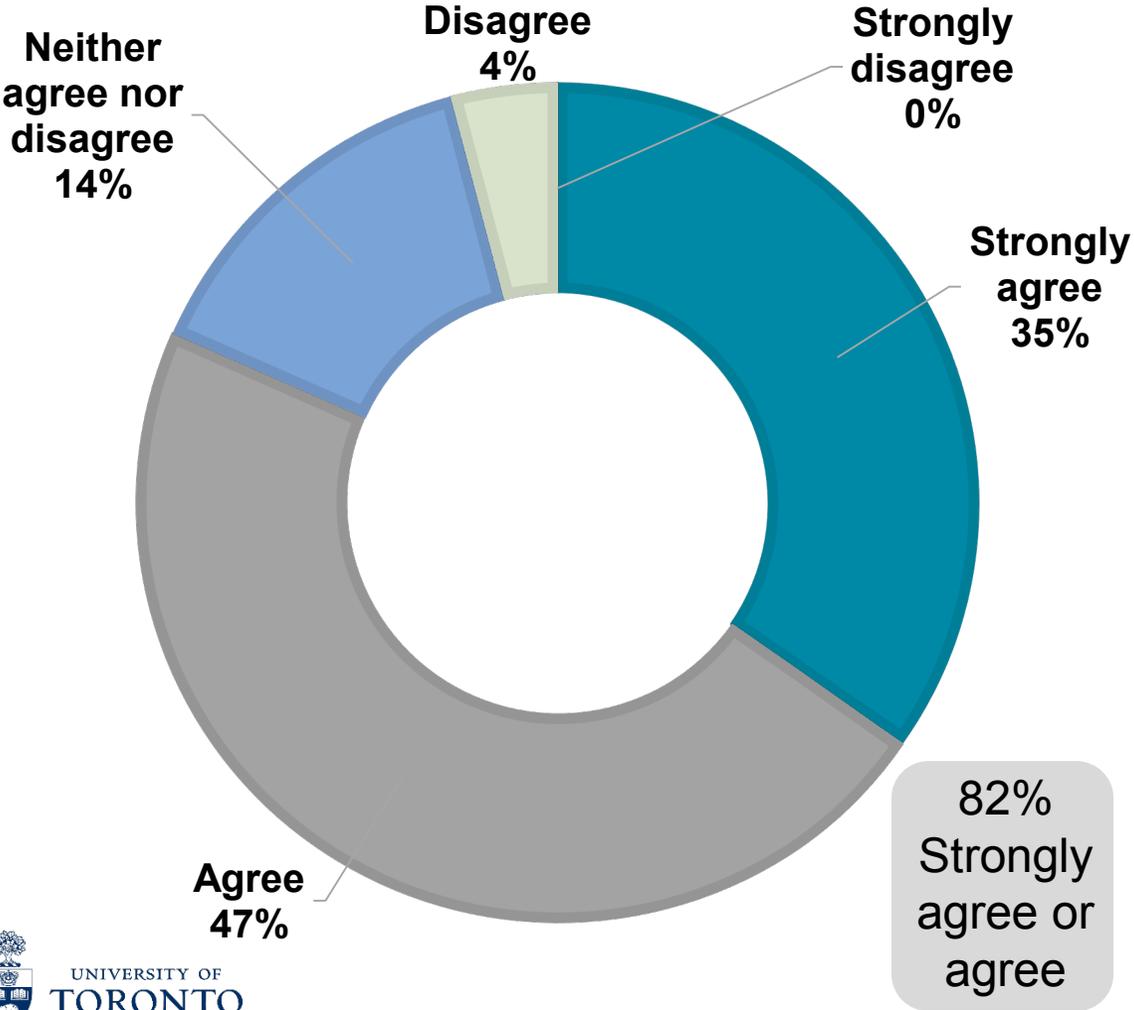
COLLABORATIONS

- Care packages
- Free meals
- Beaver Tails
- Outdoor activities/sports
- Mental health phone calls
- UTSC Cooks
- And many more!

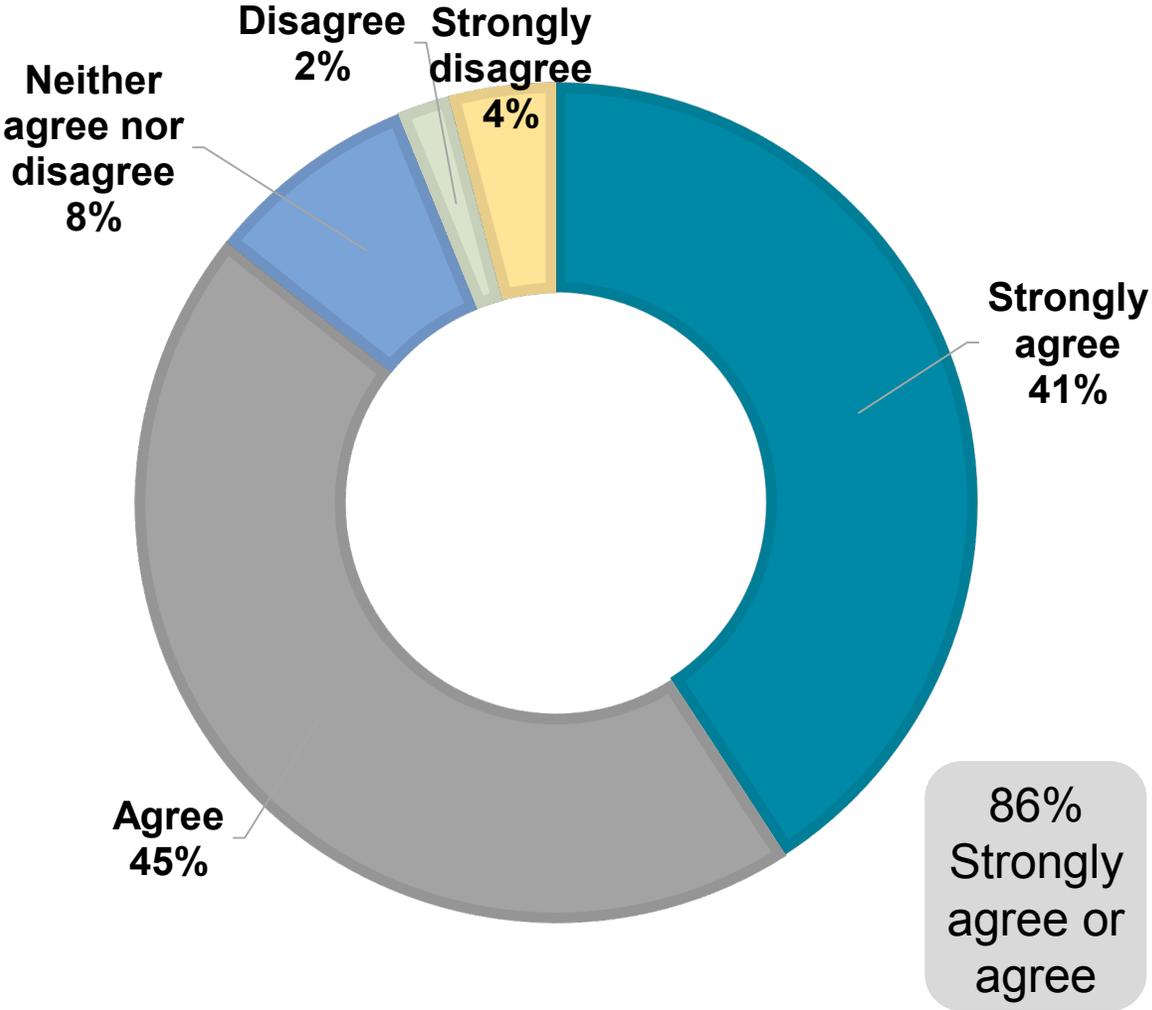


RESIDENCE SURVEY

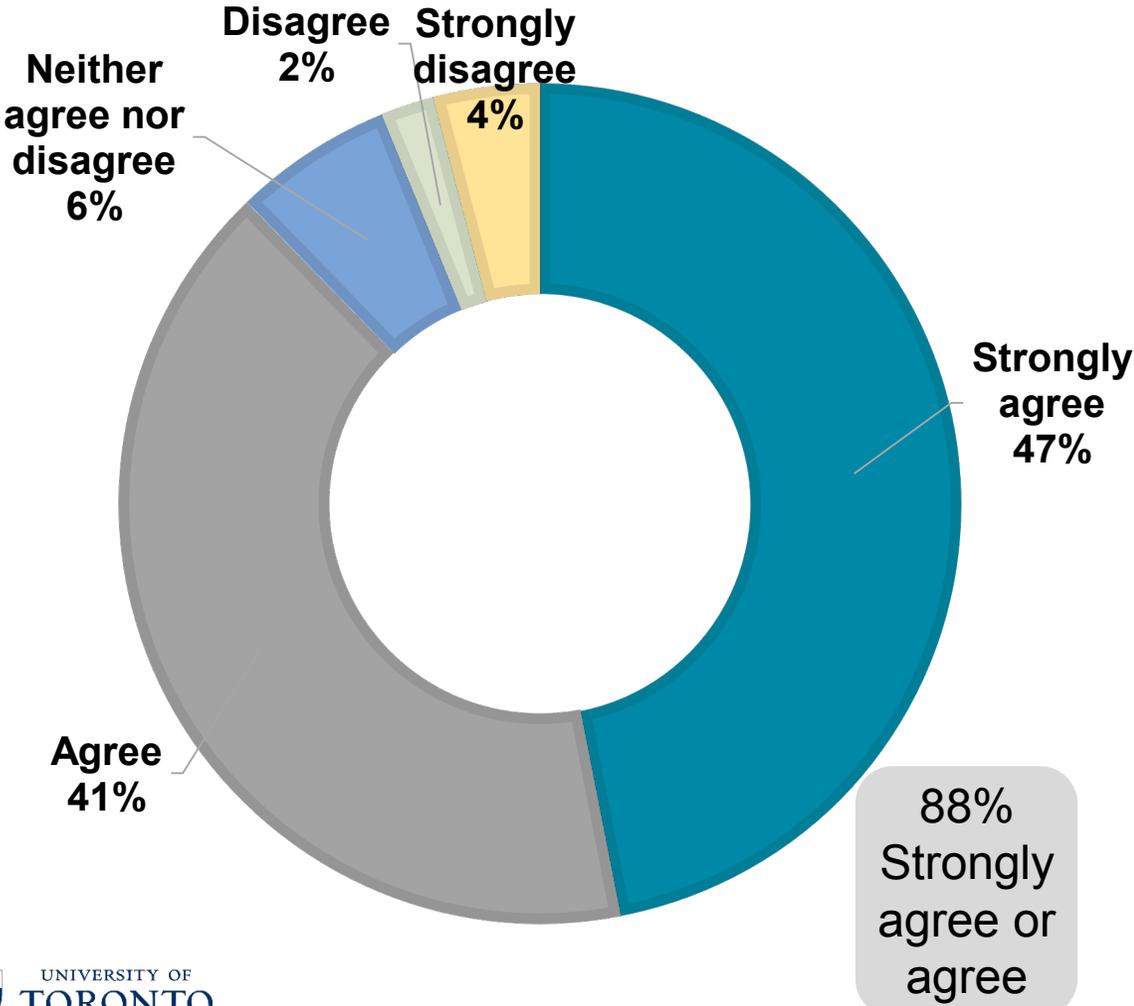
I feel safe living in residence with precautions and safety measures put in place regarding COVID-19



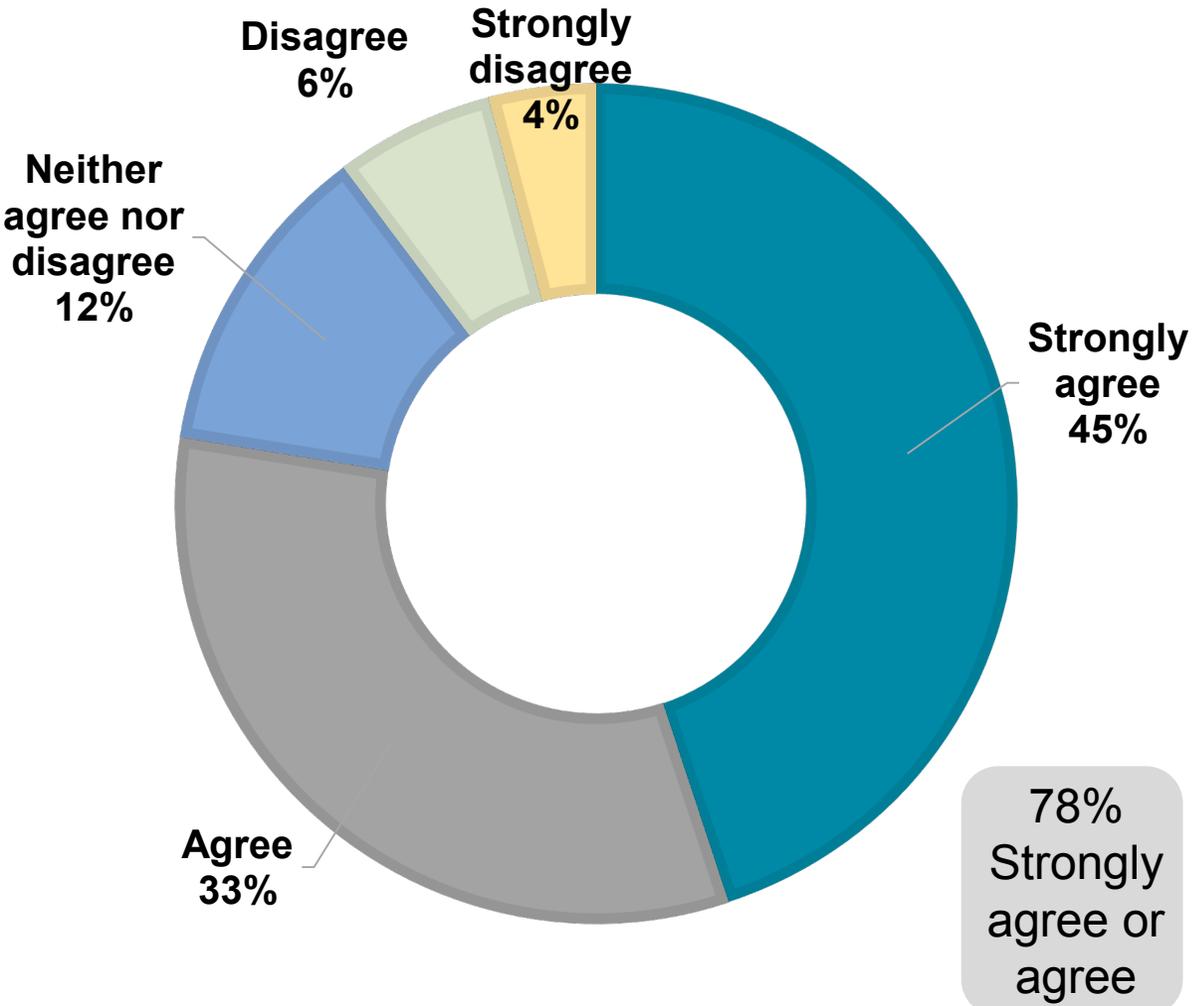
Overall, living in residence has been a positive experience



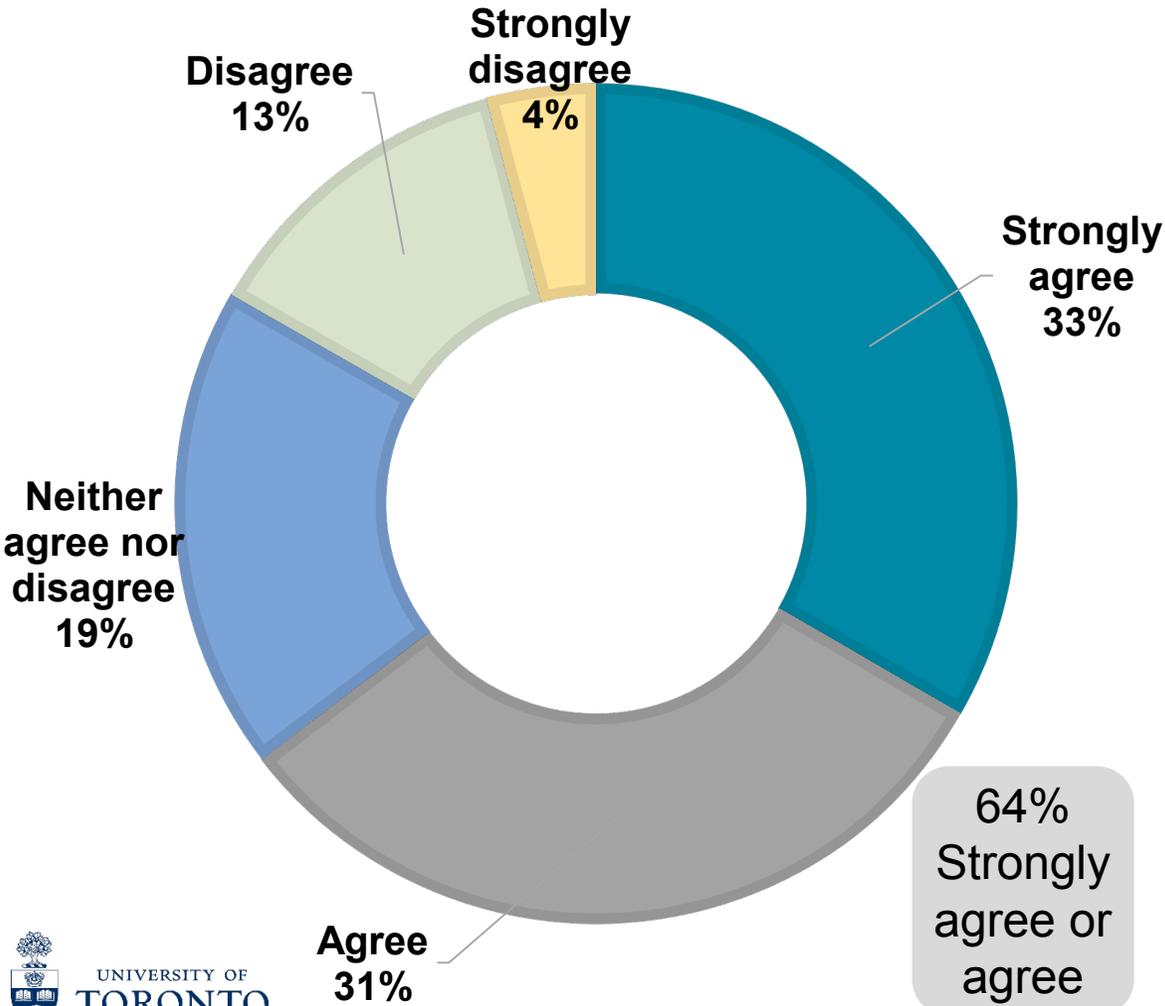
Living in residence has eased my transition to university life



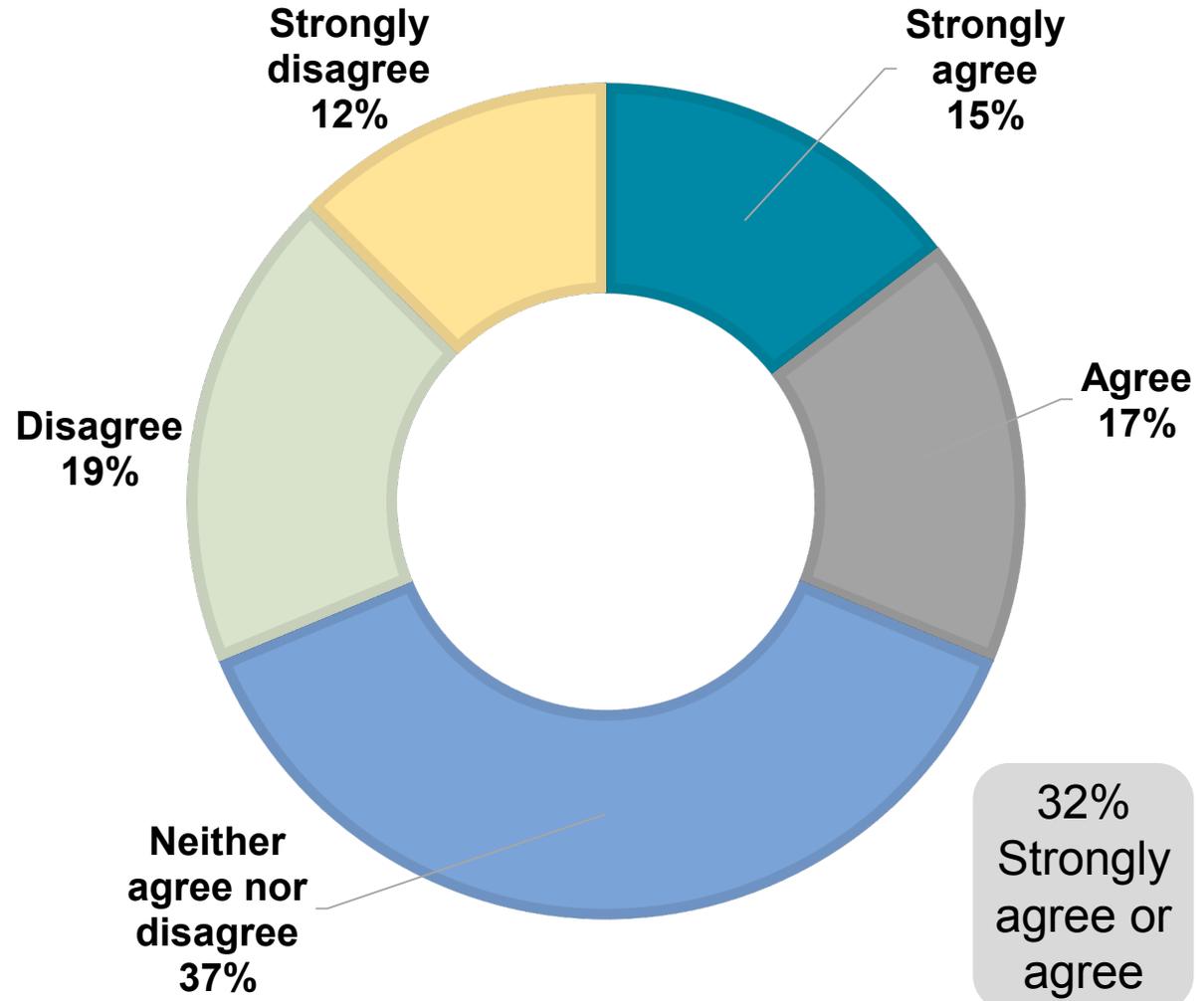
Living in residence, I feel more connected to UTSC



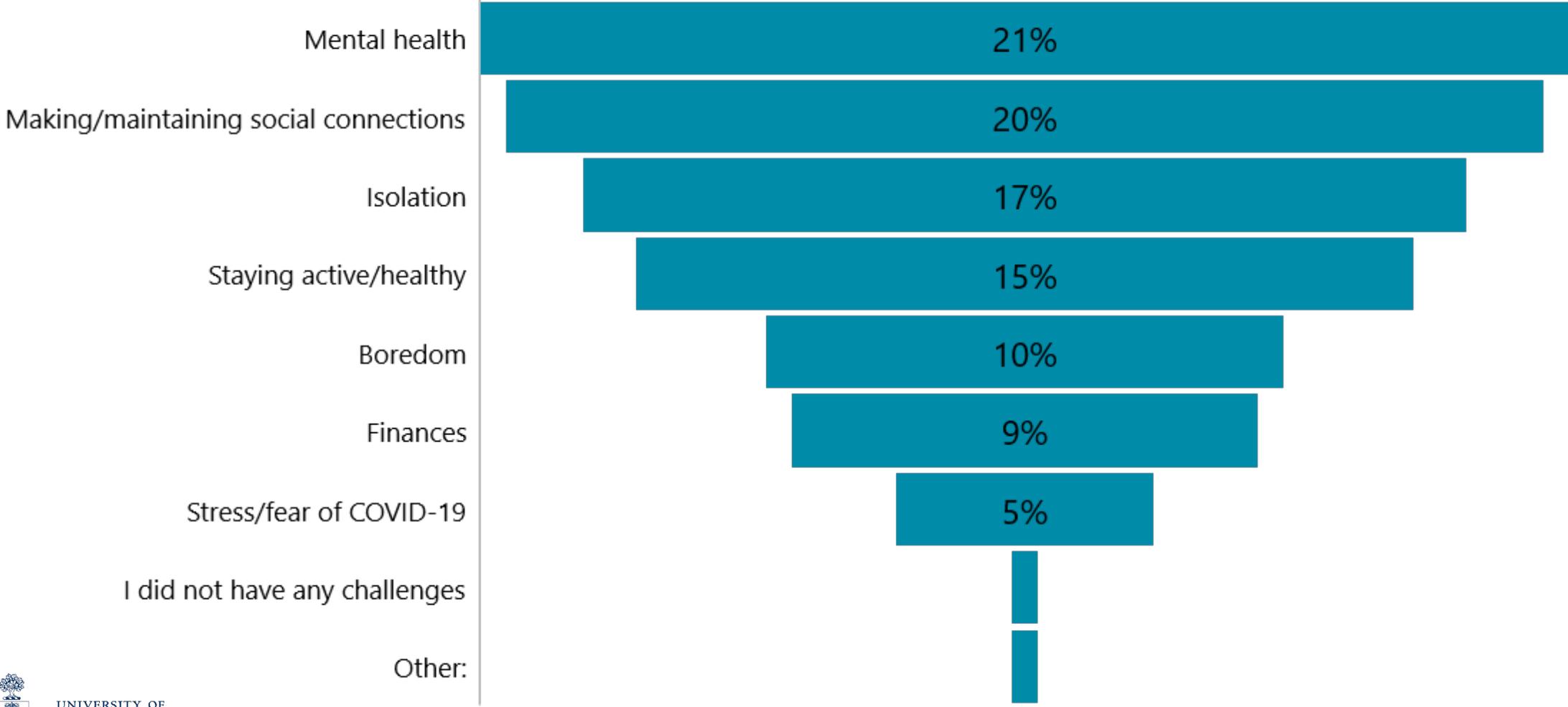
Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of Residence events/ programming.



Did you find virtual programming engaging?



What were your top three challenges during the pandemic? (select all that apply)



RESIDENCE LIFE: 21/22 PLANNING

Health & safety protocols based on current recommendations

Single bedroom occupancy

Reduced total occupancy

Emergency/isolation houses

Virtual and in-person orientation & programming

• Staggered move-in

• Expecting large FY and UY demand

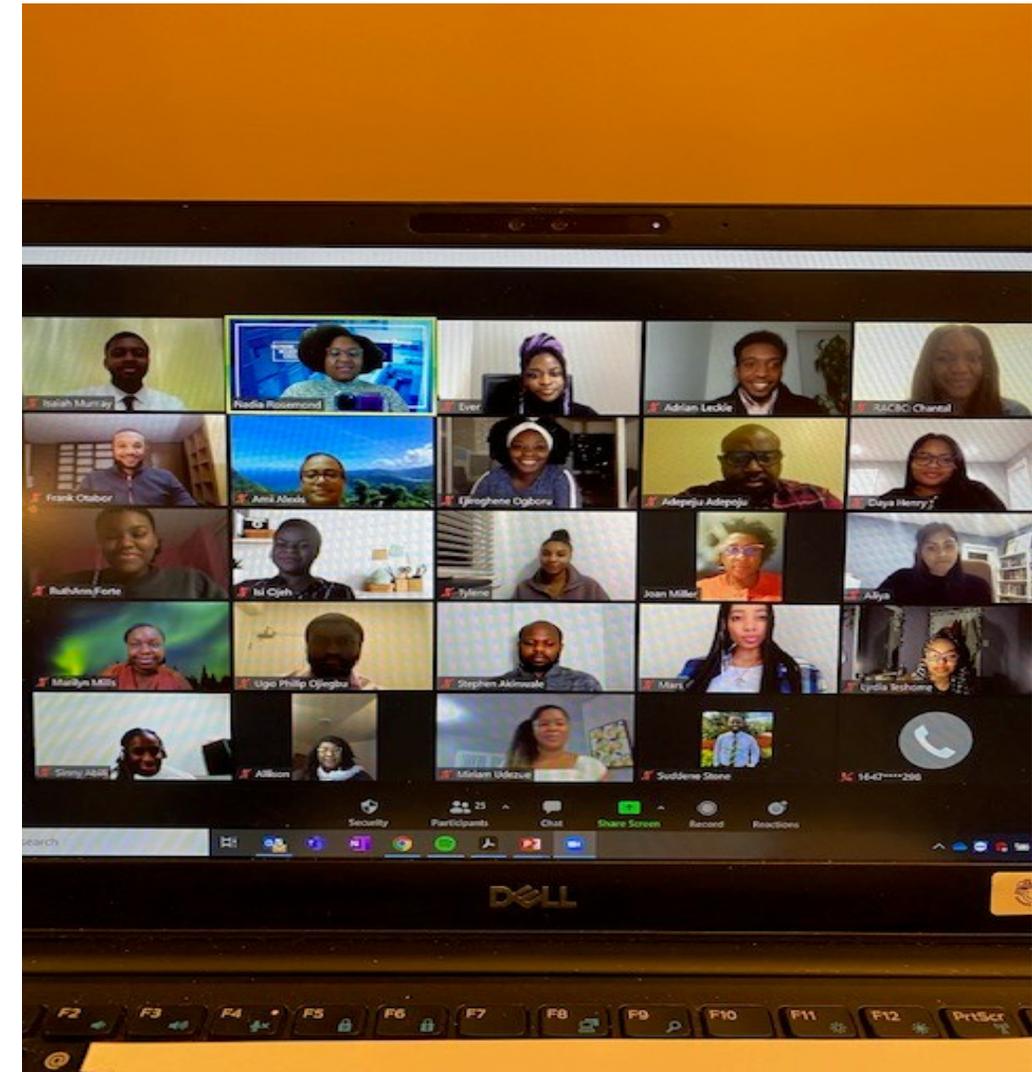
Student Life Programs

VIRTUAL CAMPUS LIFE

HIGHLIGHTS

Events like Artsideout, African Impact Initiative and International Development Conference transitioned on-line

An increase in tri-campus collaborations: the creation of communities of practice, and opening events to all U of T students



“When I realized my first year of university was online, I was scared of what that meant for the first year of “the most memorable time of my life”. How can I make friends, figure out what career path I want to follow and do well academically? When I started university, I was impressed by all the events and resources taking place and I was determined to participate in them. A lot of what I learned about moving forward and my next steps came from the first-year experience program. I learned all about balancing academics with extra-curriculars and hobbies. The first-year learning community was definitely one of the most memorable experiences and I am really glad I signed up for it. It was a time to relax, mingle with other first years and be assisted by super dedicated upper year students. I loved every part of the first experience from receiving first year peer emails, to the first-year learning communities to attending socials meant for first years! In the end, although it was a strange year to say the least, the resources and events at hand definitely made it so that I officially felt a part of UTSC. Change is scary, but when you’re surrounded by the right people, it turns into an exciting opportunity.” –

Lyn Nassif, First Year Student

STUDENT LIFE: PROGRAM AND EVENTS

First Year Experience Program: 1000 students attended the 25 Prep Yourself workshops from July to September

Indigenous Engagement: Collaborations with faculty in ACM-“Community Music for Social Change”

Community Engagement: Imani Academic Mentorship launched a tri-mentoring pilot

Campus Groups: Virtual equity training a success (2021 include Anti-Semitism and Anti-Black training)

Co-curricular Programming: Let's Connect weekly sessions and Community Building Training for staff, faculty and students

STUDENT LIFE: FALL PLANNING

Hybrid planning: Adding outdoor, small in person activities (following health and safety guidelines)

Risk assessment support for campus group activities

Continuing our successes (offer pre-recordings, virtual events, etc.)

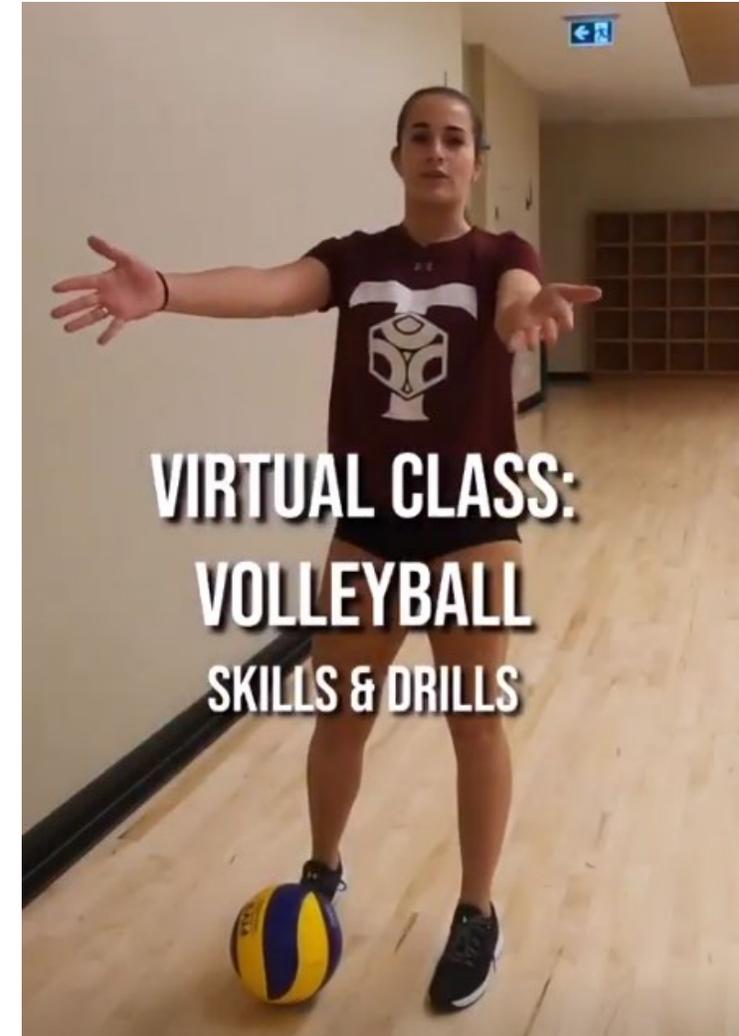
Focus on supporting for Black and Indigenous students returning to campus

Focus on supporting 2nd year students – on campus for the first time

Athletics and Recreation

ATHLETICS & RECREATION DURING THE PANDEMIC

- **Movement Breaks**
- **Virtual instructional classes**
- **Virtual fitness consultations**
- Social medial challenges
- Virtual game nights
- E-Sport leagues and tournaments
- Fantasy sport leagues



ATHLETICS & RECREATION: RESIDENCE PROGRAMMING

- 45 Days of activities hosted over 13 weeks
- Encourage students living in Residence to engage in physical activity



ATHLETICS & REC: FALL PLANNING

Offer a hybrid of in person classes in a phased approach (continue virtual classes)

Use of outdoor facilities for classes on the fields

Focus on supporting Black and Indigenous students returning to campus

Focus on supporting 2nd year students – on campus for the first time

Engage students to determine needs and program accordingly

THANK YOU!

Any Questions?