



Utah Women and  
Education Project

# Utah Women and Education

*Research Study Information  
2010*





# Purpose

The purpose of the two-year Utah Women and Education Project (UWEP) is to lead efforts within the state to understand and then motivate more young women to enter and stay in school long enough to obtain college degrees.

*May 2009-May 2011*





# UWEP Critical Components

1. Primary research
2. Briefs and reports (*[www.uvu.edu/wep](http://www.uvu.edu/wep)*)
3. Online resource database (*released October 4, 2010 on Utah 2-1-1*)
4. Dissemination of findings:  
conferences, other presentations, and  
materials (marketing)





# Instrument and Data Collection

- Protocol
  - Survey (quantitative)
  - Interview (open-ended; qualitative)
- Participants spent between 45 minutes to 3 hours to complete instrument
  - Average time was about 1 hour 30 minutes
- In-depth study
  - Many participants told us they had never thought so deeply about why they made the choices they made regarding college and what influenced them





# Recruiting (1)

## Live data collection sites:

- Snow College
- Center for Education, Business, and the Arts—  
Kanab (with Dixie State College)
- Box Elder High School
- Salt Lake Community College
- Southern Utah University
- University of Utah
- Utah Valley University





# Recruiting (2)

## Online recruits:

- Referrals (from college/university employees all over the state)
- Postcards (Community Action; DWS, LDS Employment Center, WIC)
- Online ads (*Daily Herald*, Craigslist, KSL, Survey Monkey)
- Blogs
- Cold calls from institutional lists
- UVU homepage





# Participant Information

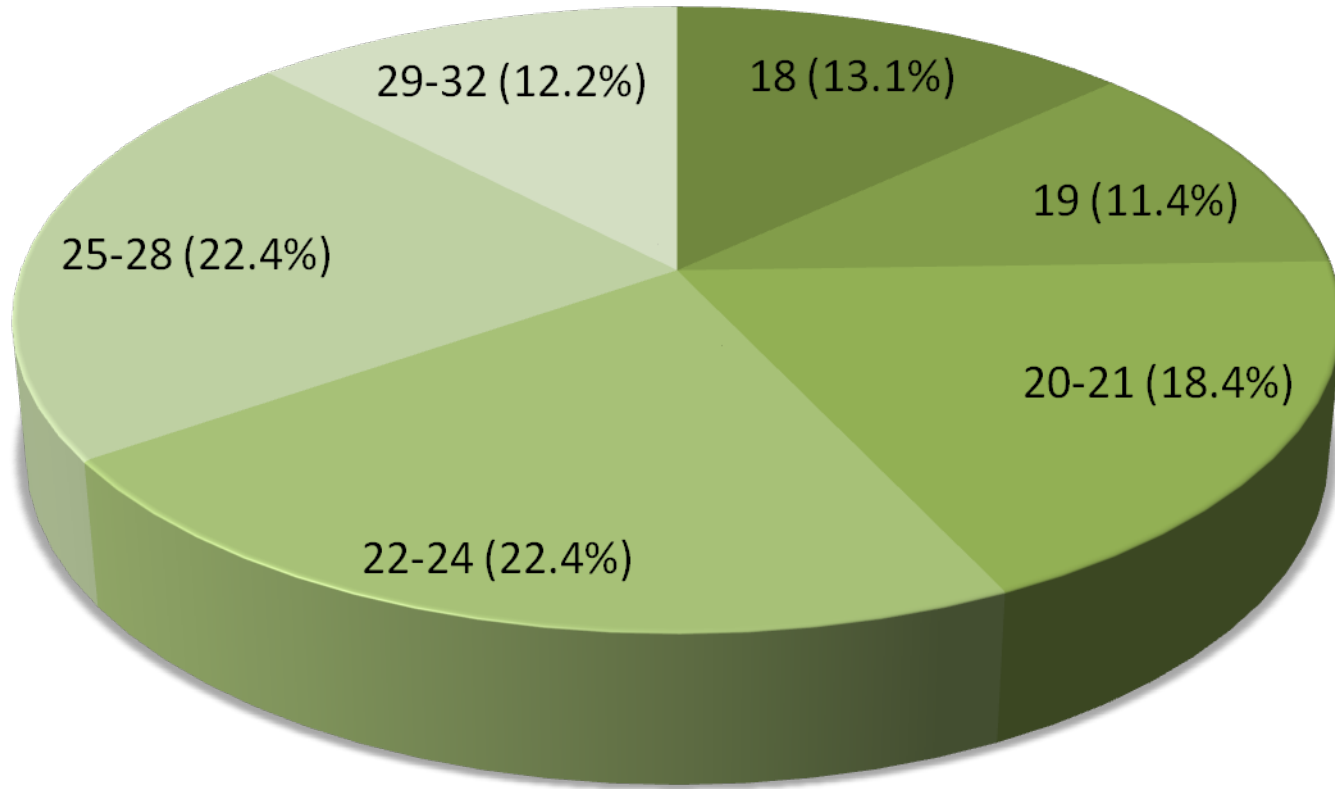
245 participants

- Age
- Marital status
- Race/ethnicity
- Religion
- High school type
- Parents estimated income
- Region/counties
- Years in Utah/family years in Utah





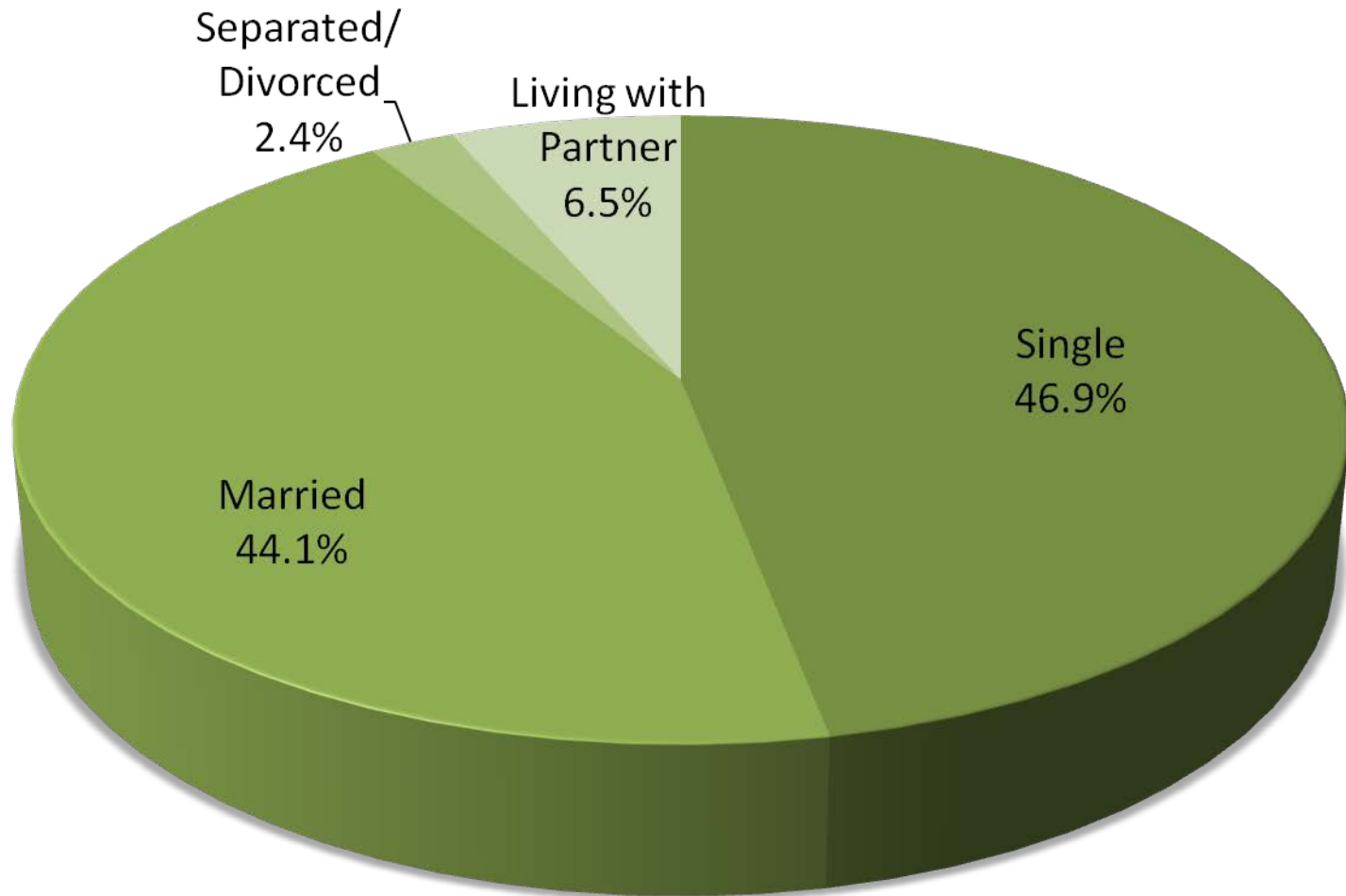
# Ages





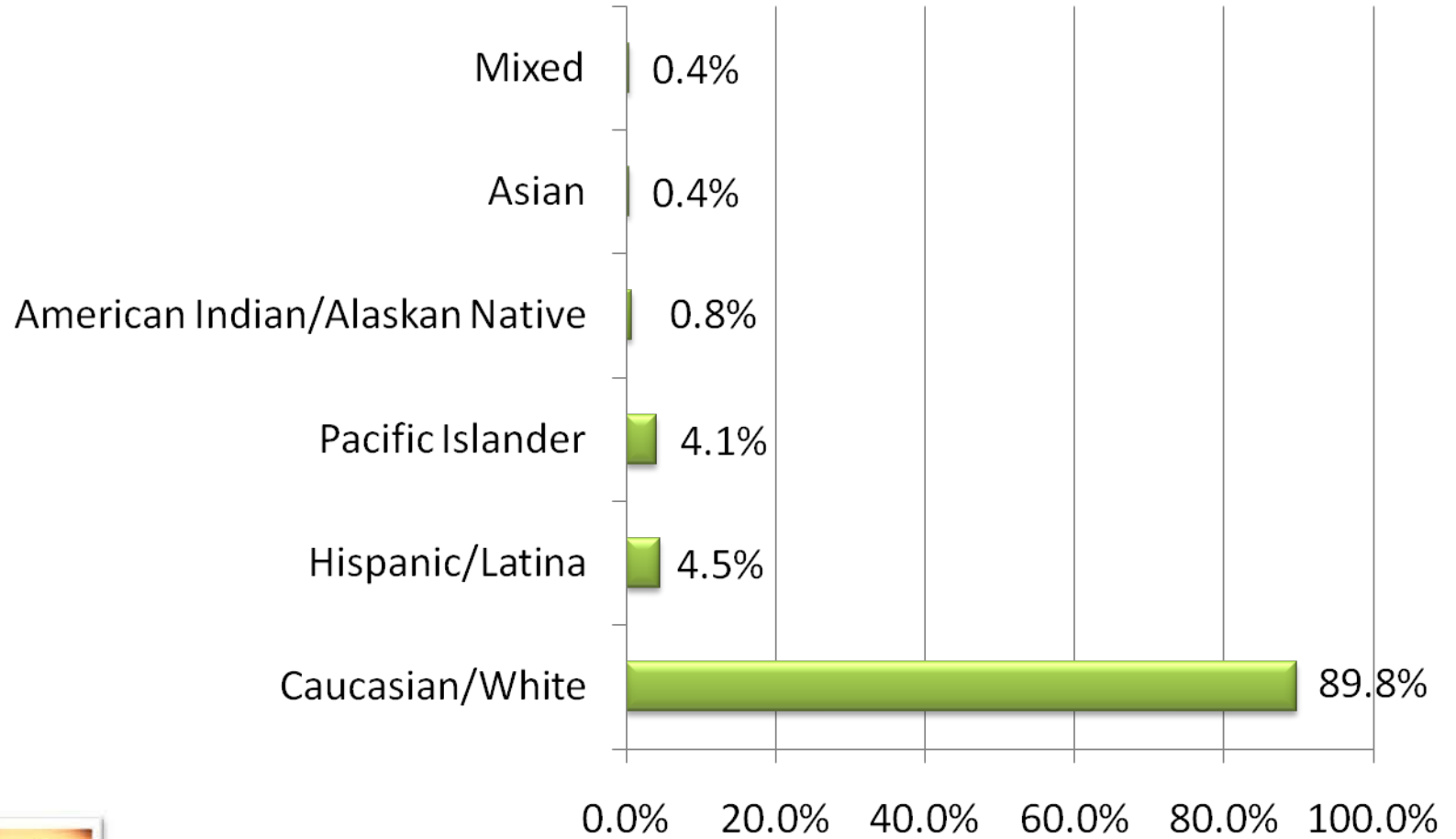


# Marital Status



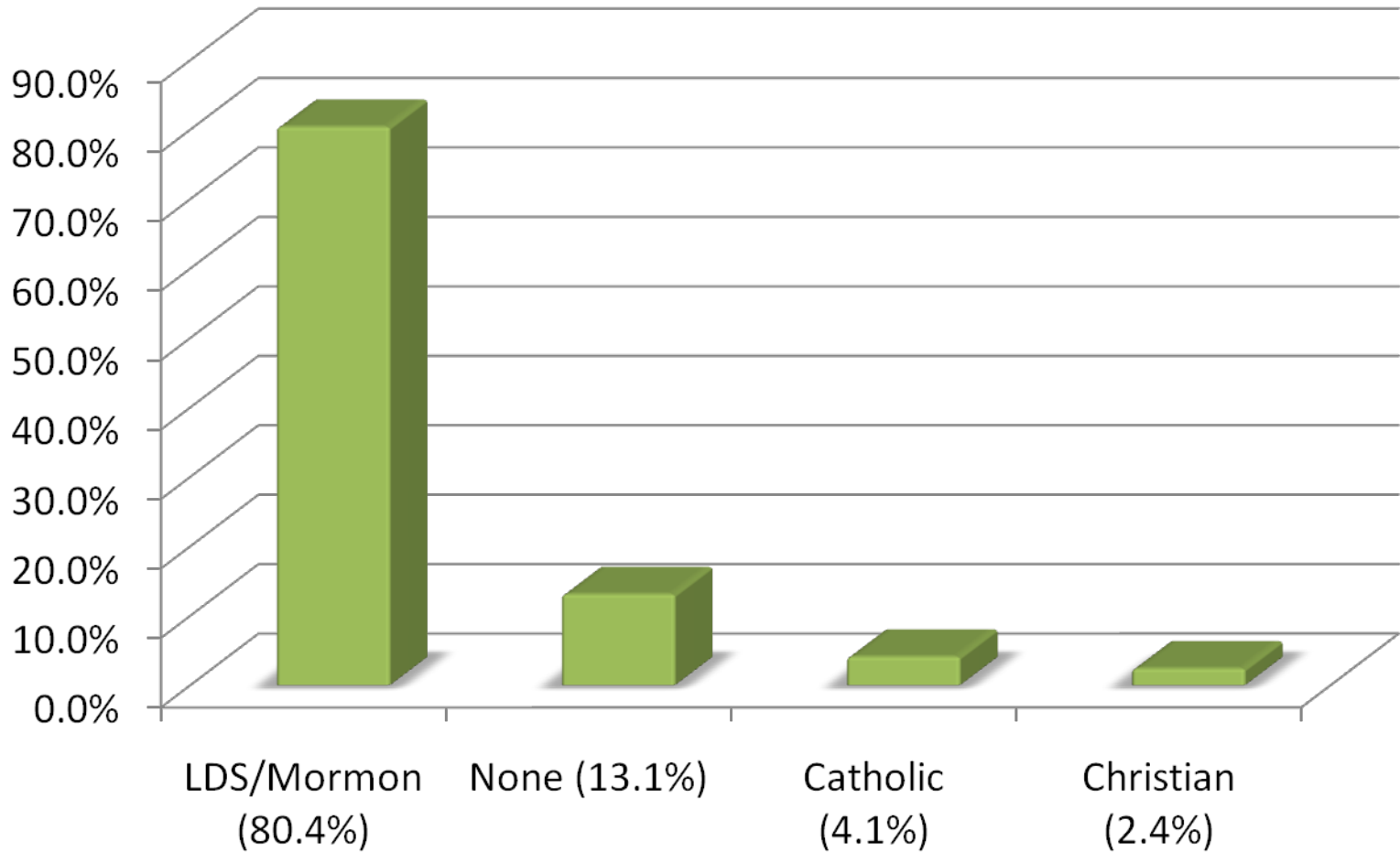


# Race/Ethnicity



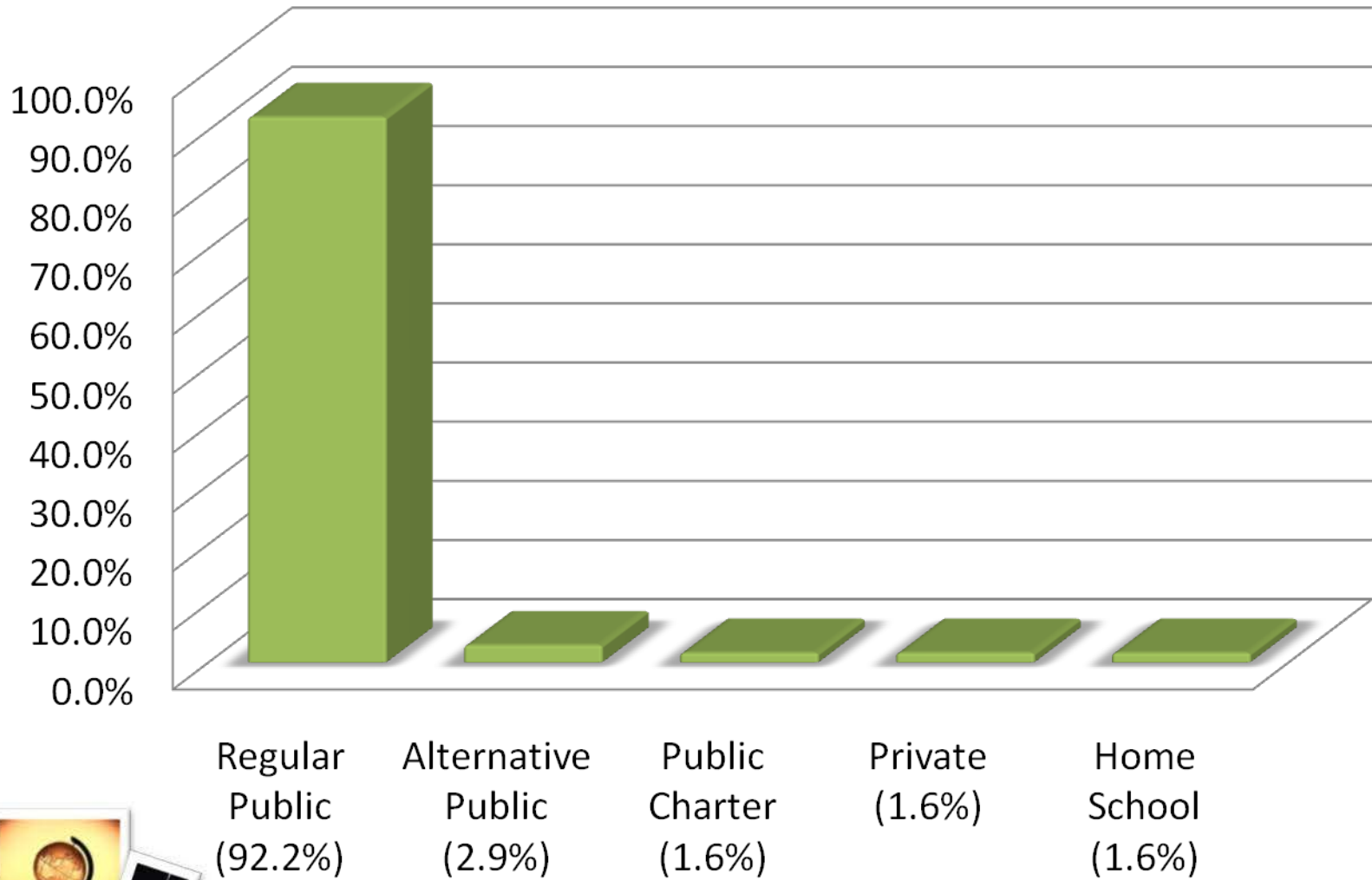


# Religion



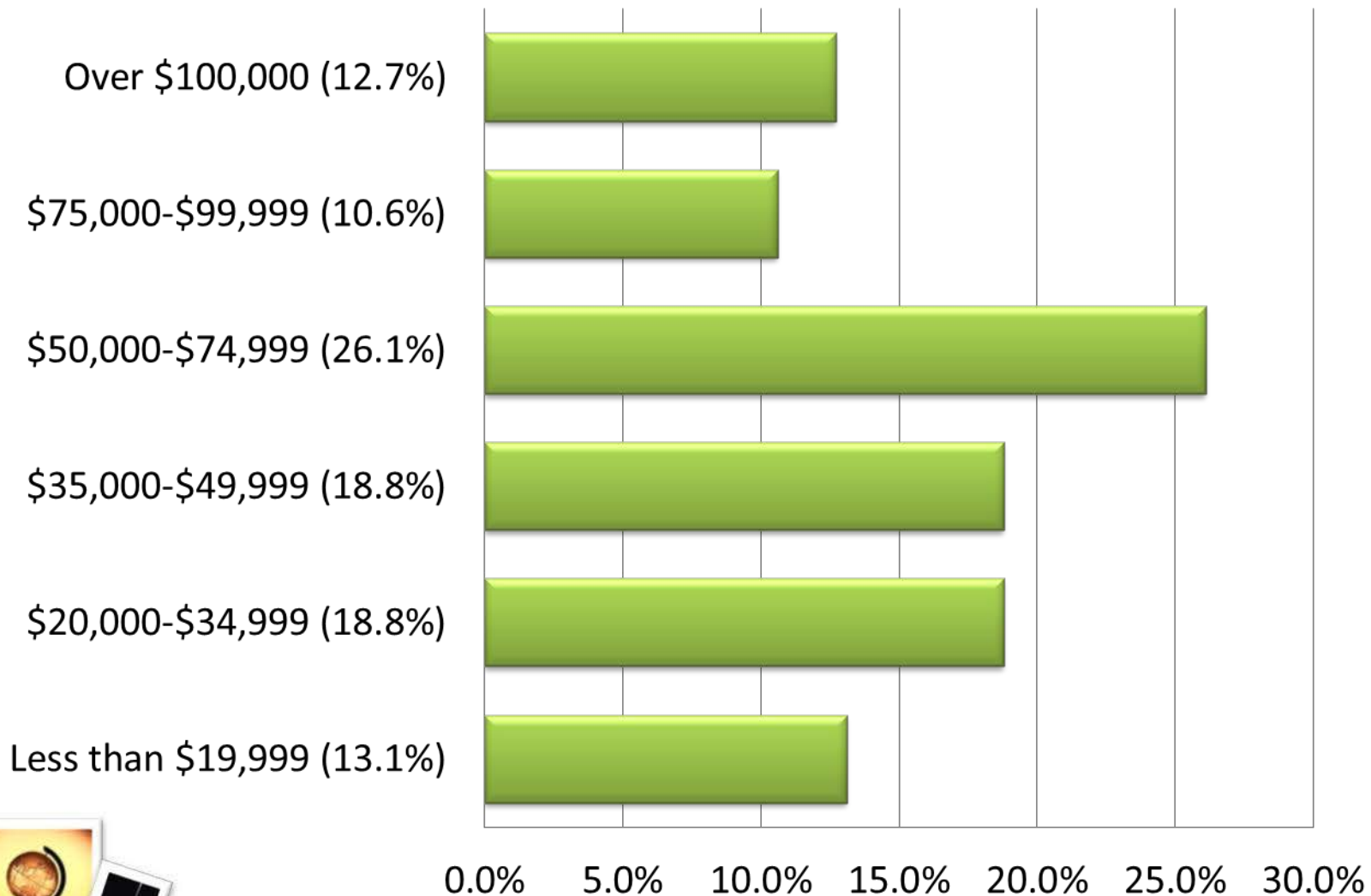


# High School Type





# Parent's Estimated Income





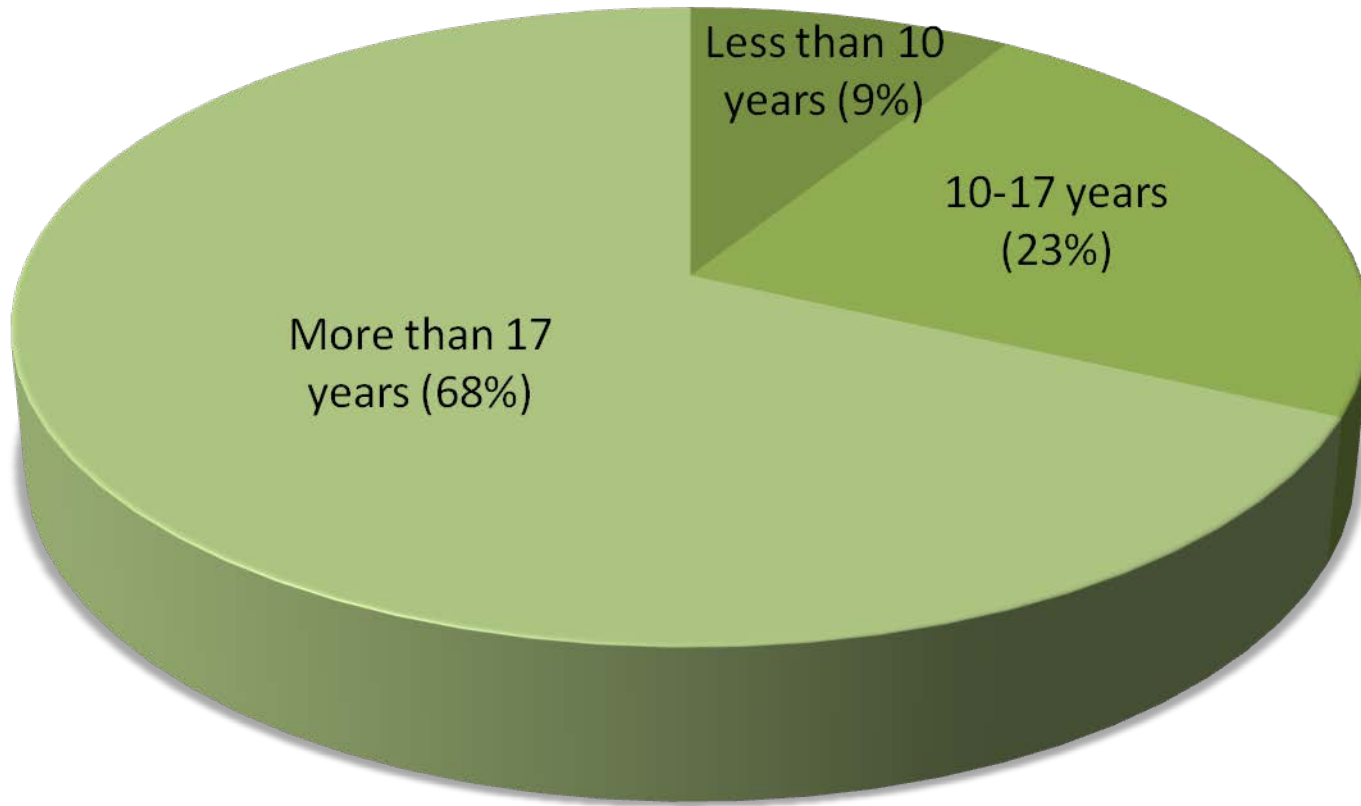
# Counties/Regions

- *Counties:* Box Elder, Cache, Davis, Emery, Grand, Iron, Kane, Millard, Salt Lake, Sanpete, Sevier, Tooele, Uintah, Utah, Washington, Weber
- *Regions:*
  - Bear River (8.6%)
  - Central (7.4%)
  - Mountainland (32.4%)
  - Southeastern (0.8%)
  - Southwestern (14.8%)
  - Uintah Basin (0.4%)
  - Wasatch Front (34.8%)



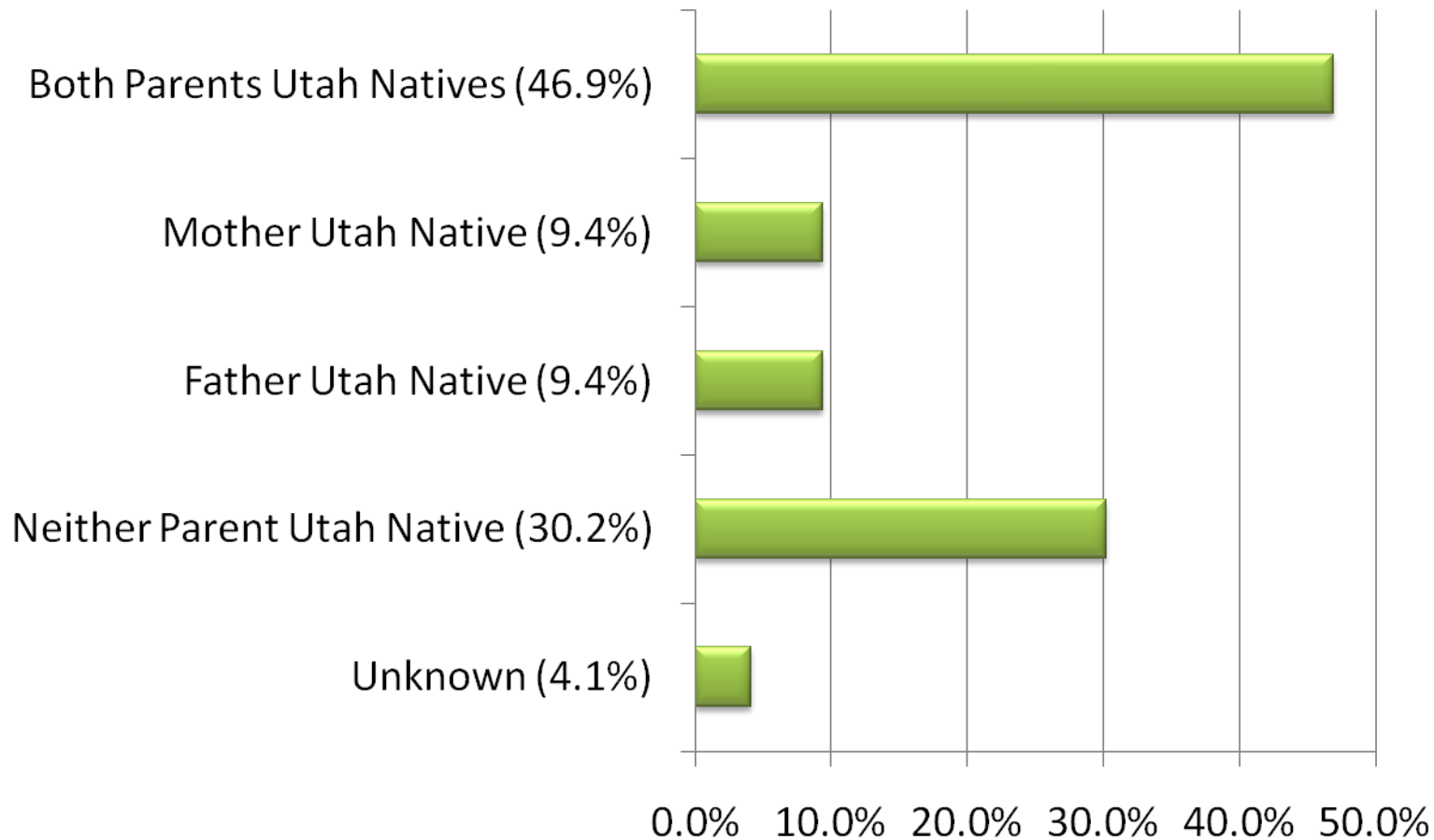


# Years in Utah





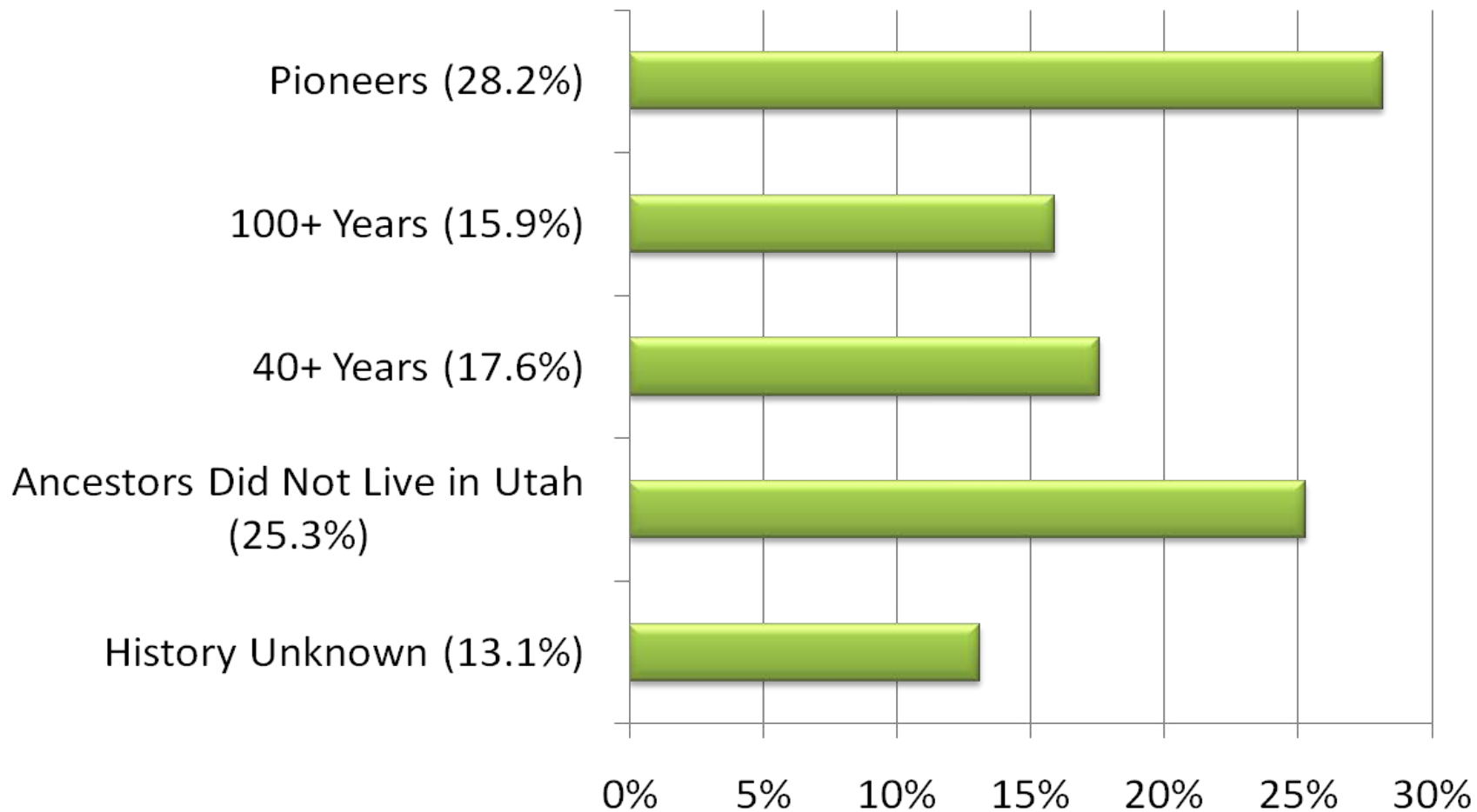
# Family Years in Utah







# Ancestors in Utah





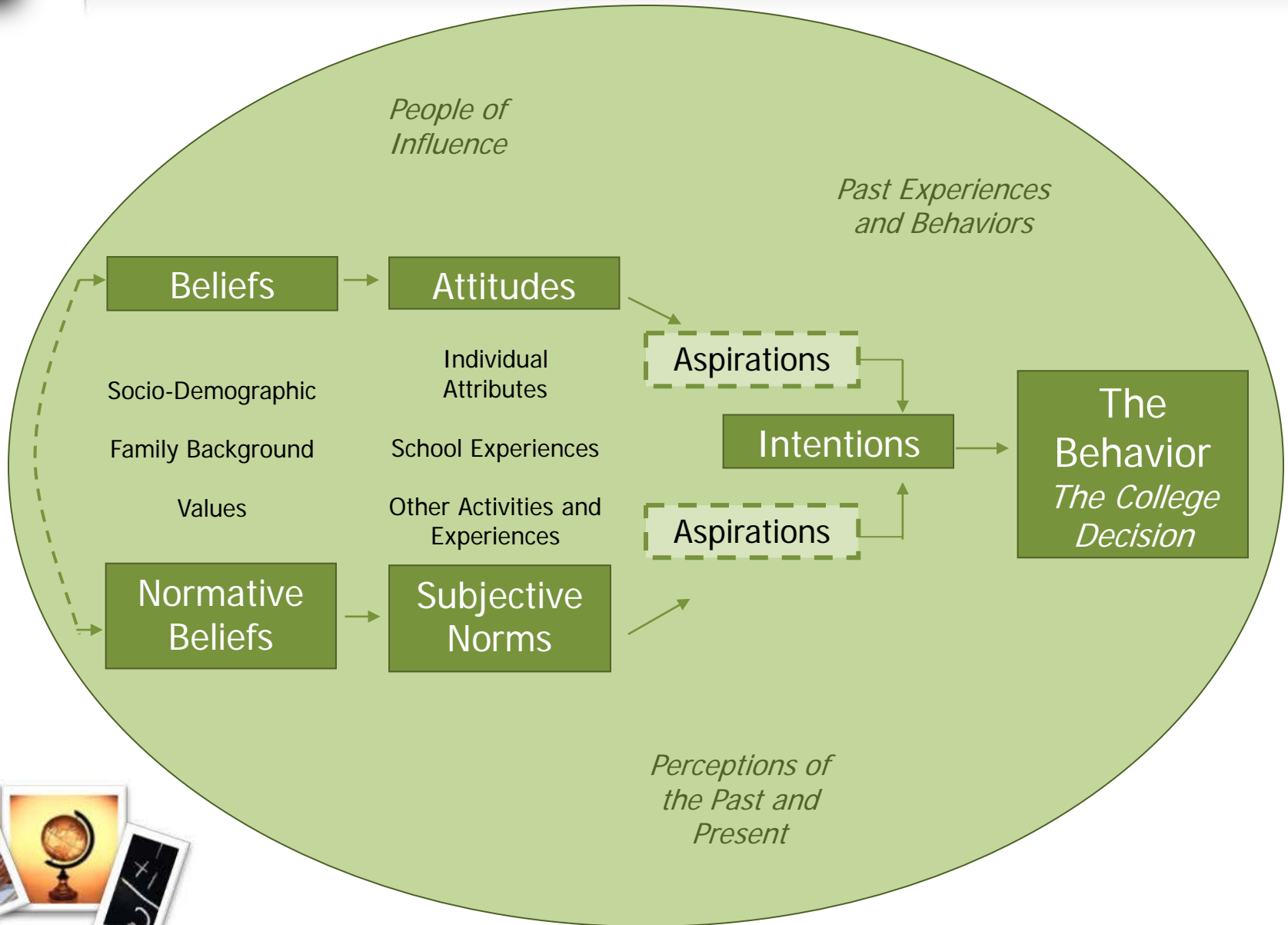
# Study Limitations

- Lack of participants in minority populations
- Recruiting strategies (not random sample)
- Perceptions (past, present, future)
- Quantified qualitative data (coding)
- Use caution when generalizing
- Causality





# UWEP Model





# Utah Women and Education Project

May 2009-May 2011

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