

**Sociology 211
Fall 2004**

Attitudes on issues of multiculturalism

The following figures come from *Survey of Student Attitudes and Experiences*, conducted in the Fall 1998 semester. The survey was conducted at the University of Regina as part of the Social Studies 306 class. The questionnaire contained a wide variety of questions – the figures that follow come from the set of questions on multiculturalism and immigration.

Each of the figures had possible responses from 1, indicating strongly disagree, to 5, indicating strongly agree. A response of 3 can be regarded as a neutral response.

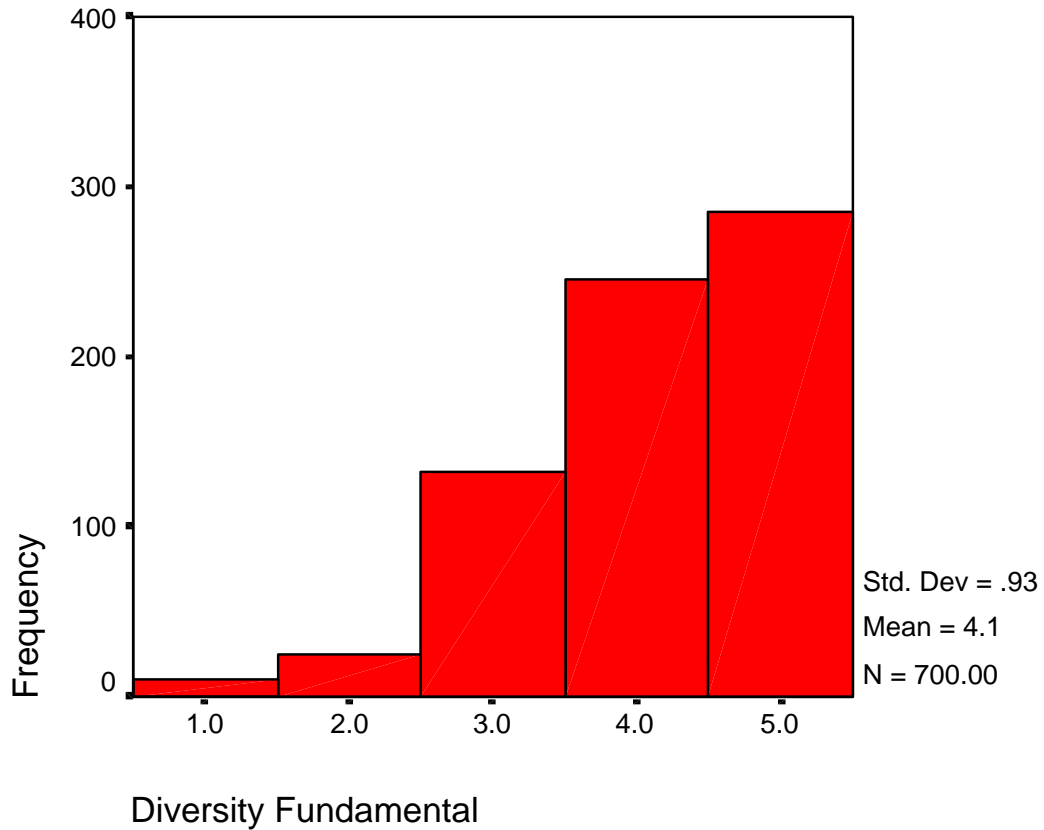
The survey was administered in a variety of classes across campus. While this was not a random sample of students, it was reasonably representative by sex, year of program, and faculty. However, these data provide a summary of a cross-section of views of undergraduate students. Even if all students had been surveyed, it is likely responses would not have been all that different.

Below each of the following figures is the statement that students read. As noted above, 1 represents strongly disagree and 5 represents strongly agree. I have written short summaries of the responses below the figures.

If any questions, contact me and I can explain more fully.

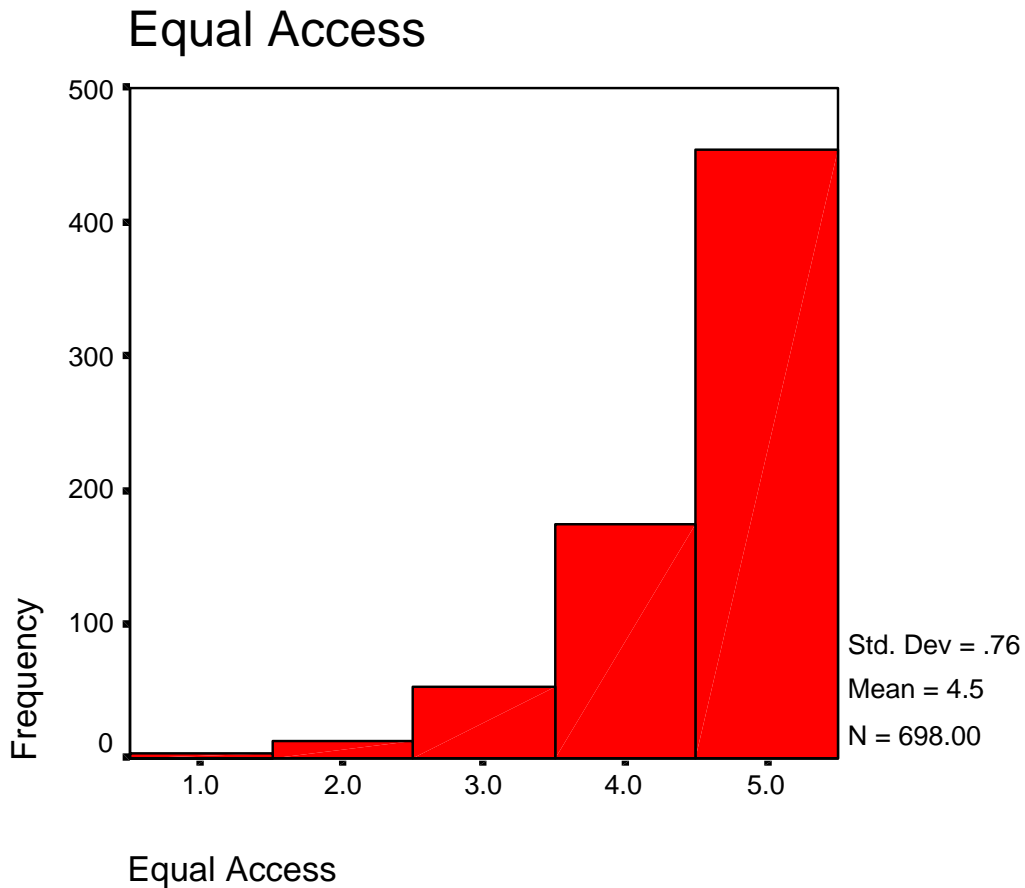
Paul Gingrich
October 8, 2004

Diversity Fundamental



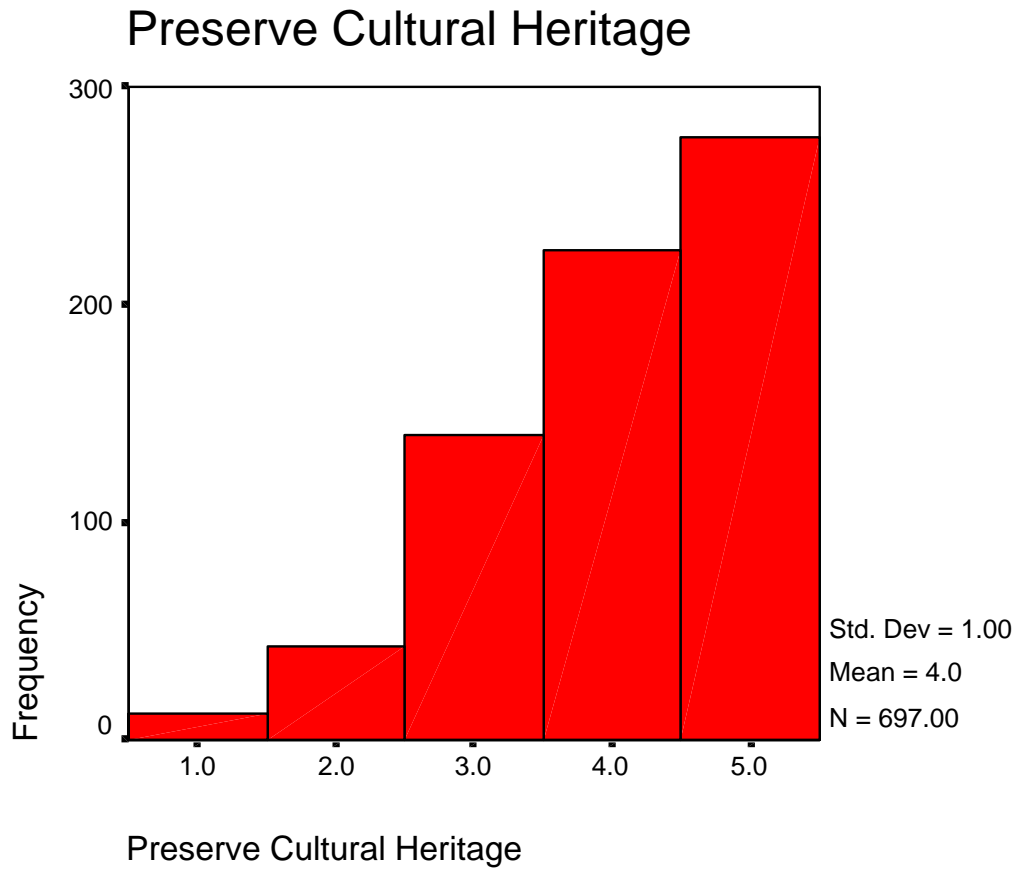
Ethnic, racial and cultural diversity is a fundamental characteristic of Canadian society.

Summary: Many more agreed (response 4 or 5) than disagreed (response 1 or 2).



Canadian institutions should provide equal access, regardless of ethnic, racial, or cultural background.

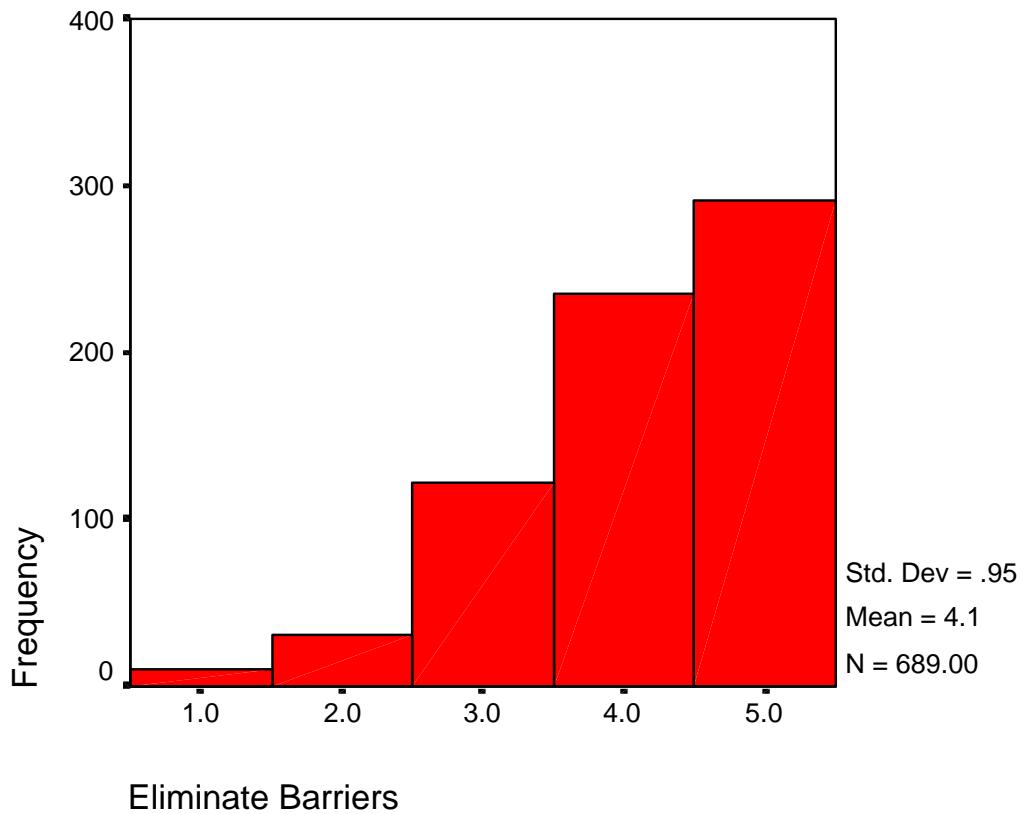
Summary: General agreement to strong agreement. Most responses were 4 or 5, indicating a high degree of agreement with this statement.



Ethnic and racial minorities should be given opportunities to preserve their cultural heritage.

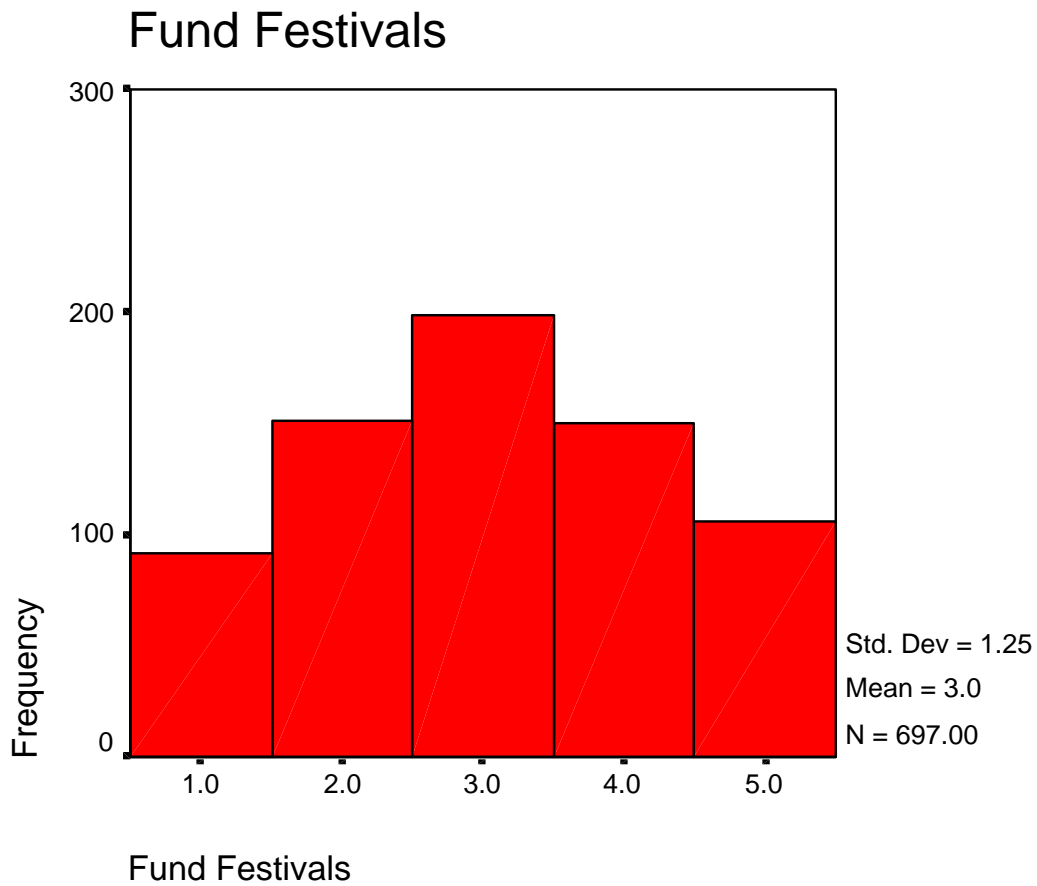
Summary: Medium to strong disagreement.

Eliminate Barriers



Canadian institutions should eliminate barriers that make it difficult for some to participate.

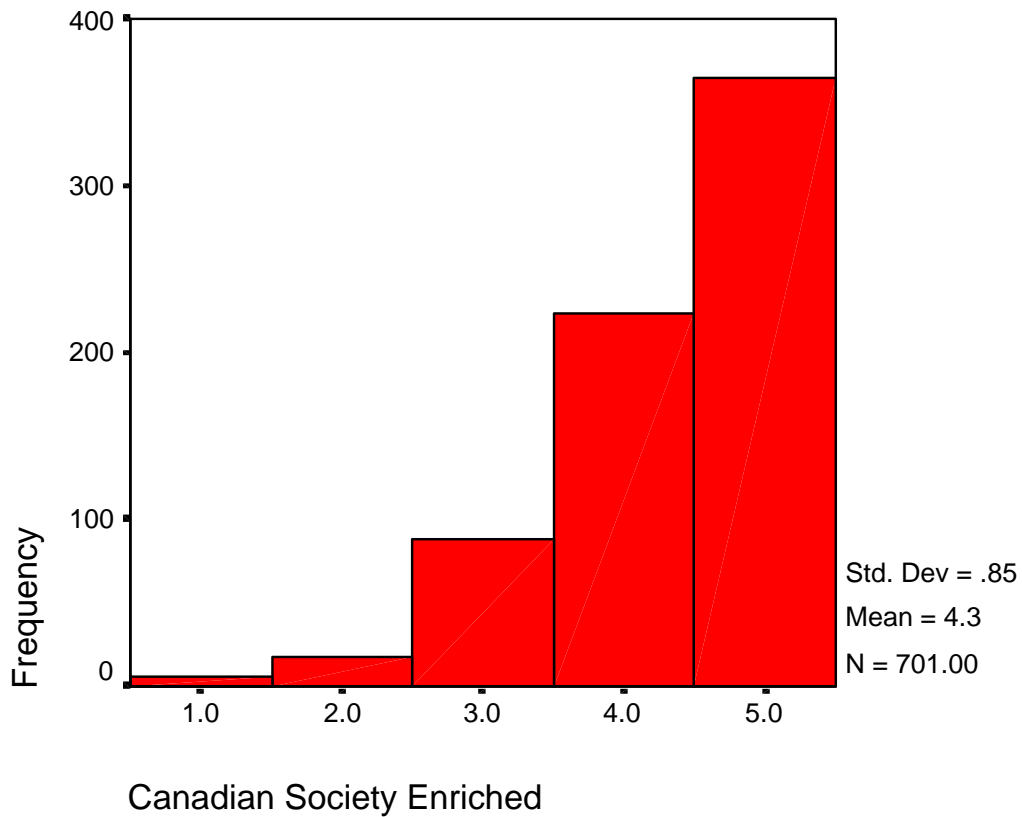
Summary: Medium to strong agreement.



The government should fund festivals and special events celebrating different cultures.

Summary: Students are split almost equally between disagreement and agreement.

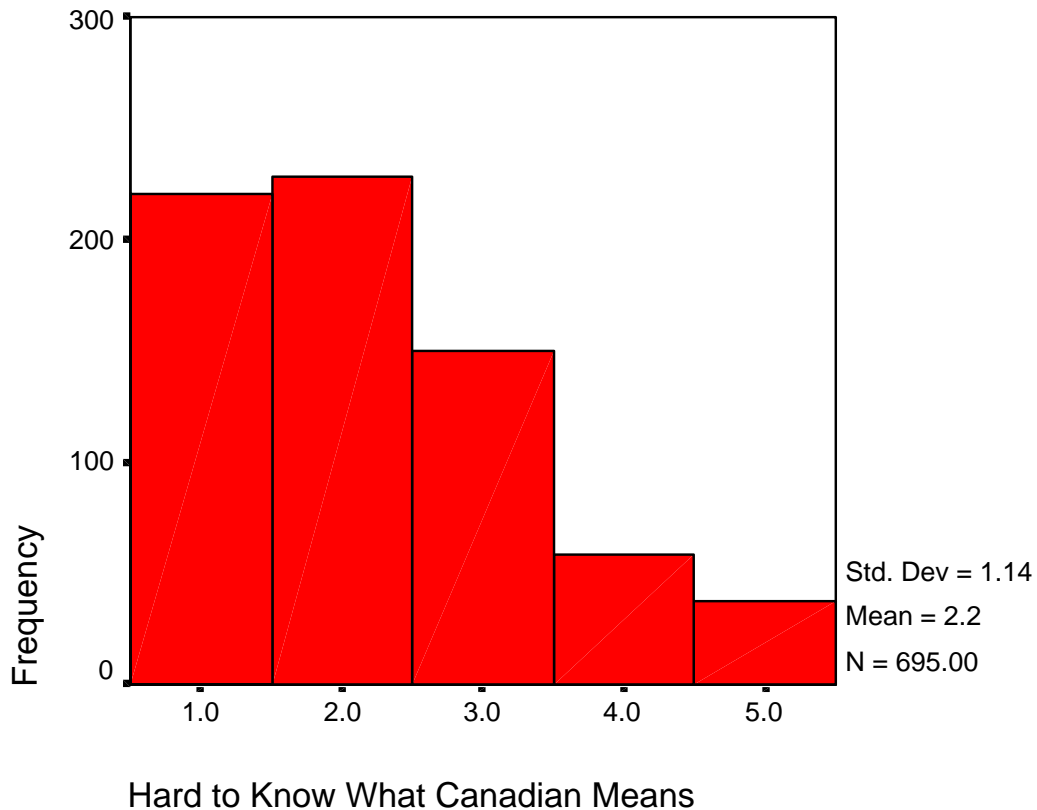
Canadian Society Enriched



Canadian society is enriched by having people from many cultural backgrounds.

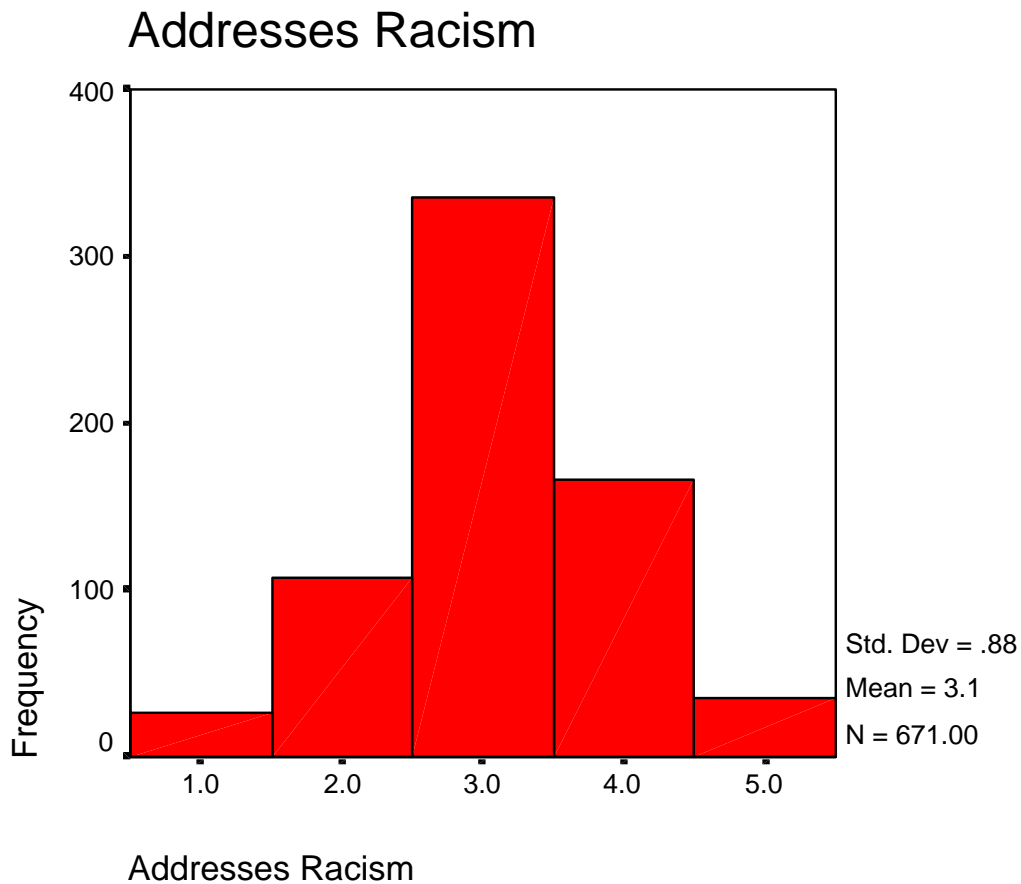
Summary: Strong agreement.

Hard to Know What Canadian Means



Multiculturalism makes it hard to know what it means to be a Canadian.

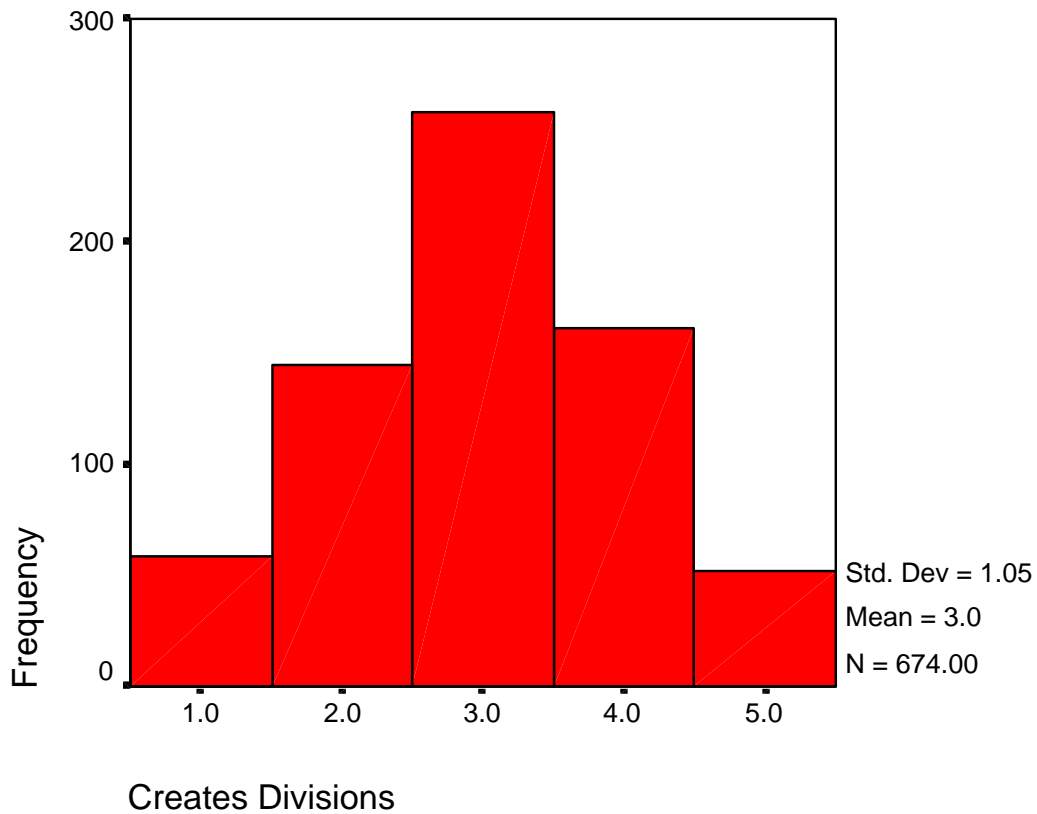
Summary: Mild disagreement. More disagree (1 or 2) than agree (4 or 5).



Multicultural policy addresses problems of racism and discrimination.

Summary: More agree than disagree, but not strong agreement.

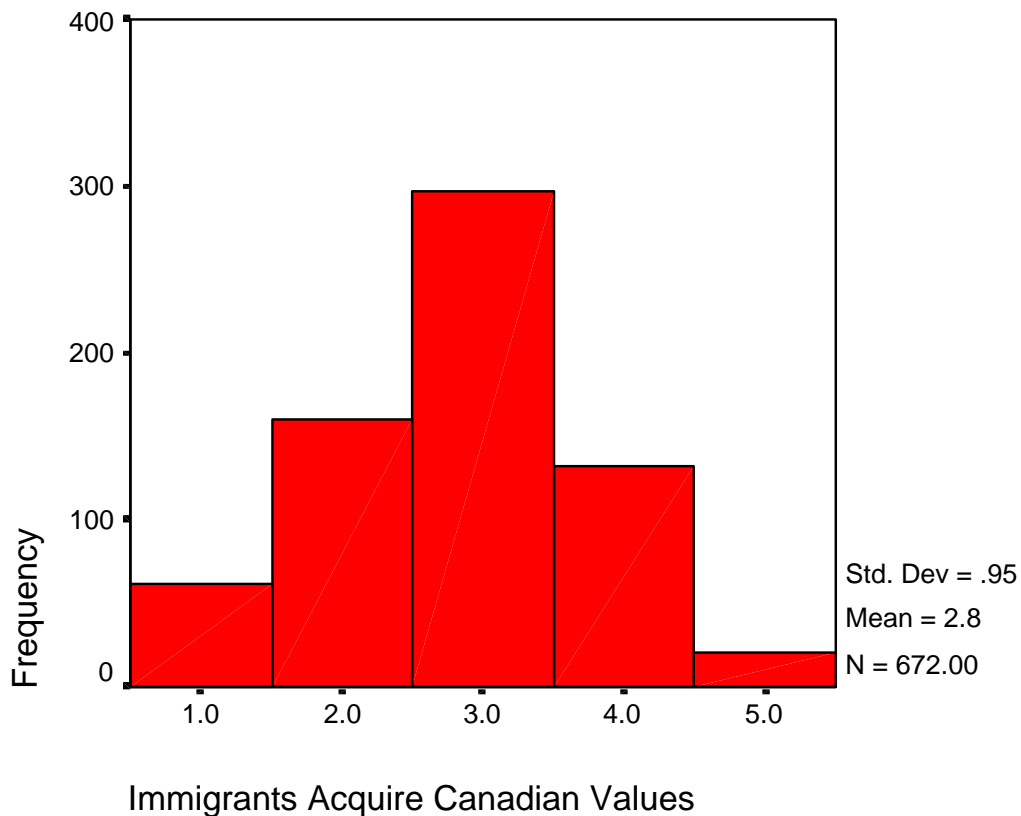
Creates Divisions



Multicultural policy creates divisions in Canadian society.

Summary: Almost equally split between disagree and agree.

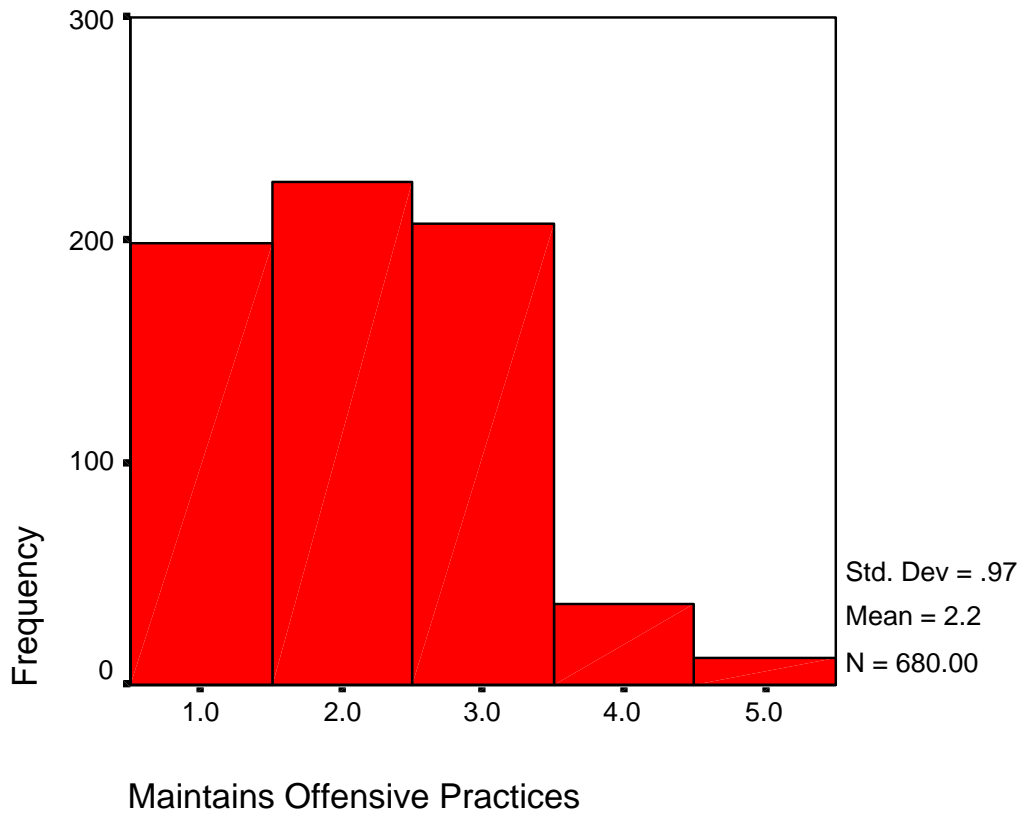
Immigrants Acquire Canadian Values



Multiculturalism policy encourages immigrants to acquire Canadian values.

Summary: About equally split between disagree and agree.

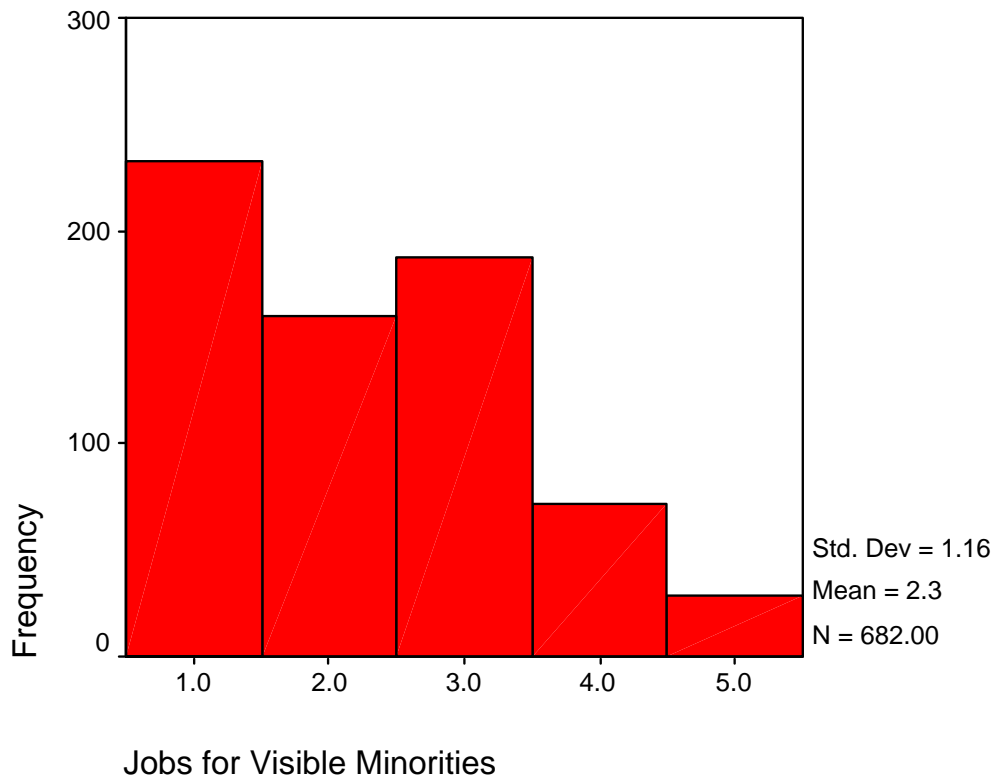
Maintains Offensive Practices



Multiculturalism maintains ethnic and cultural practices that are offensive to Canadian ways of life.

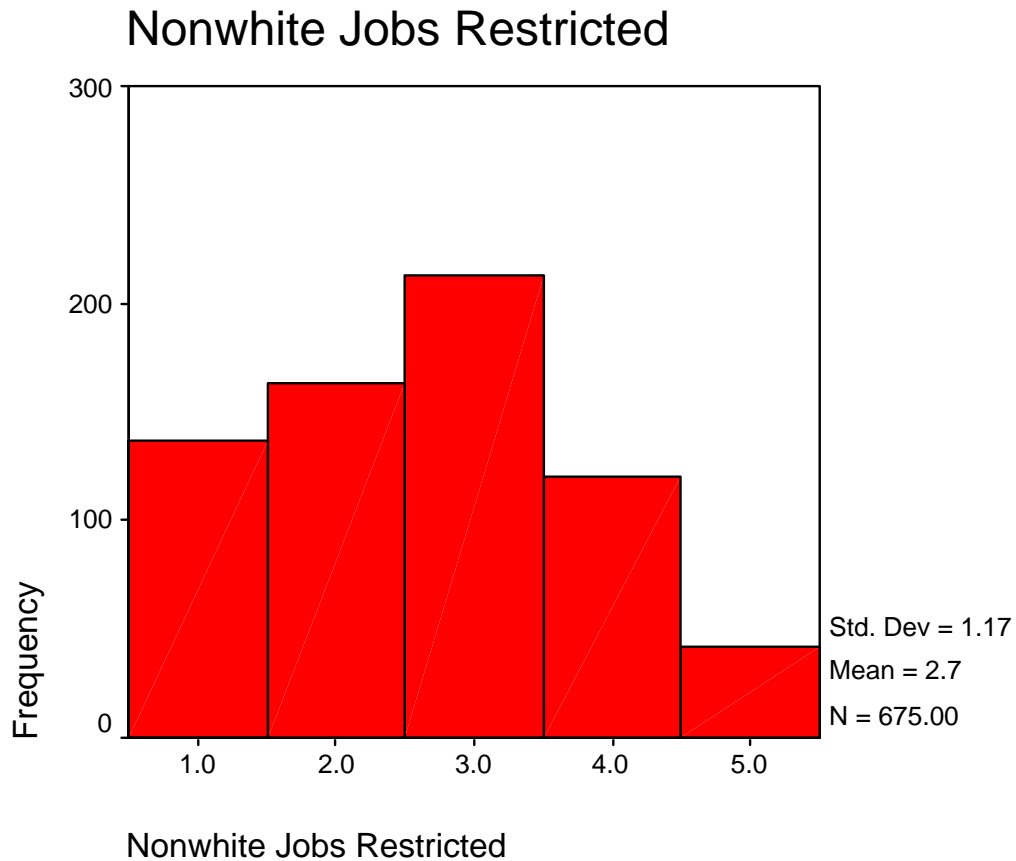
Summary: Strong disagreement.

Jobs for Visible Minorities



Employers should be required to provide a specified number of jobs to qualified visible minorities.

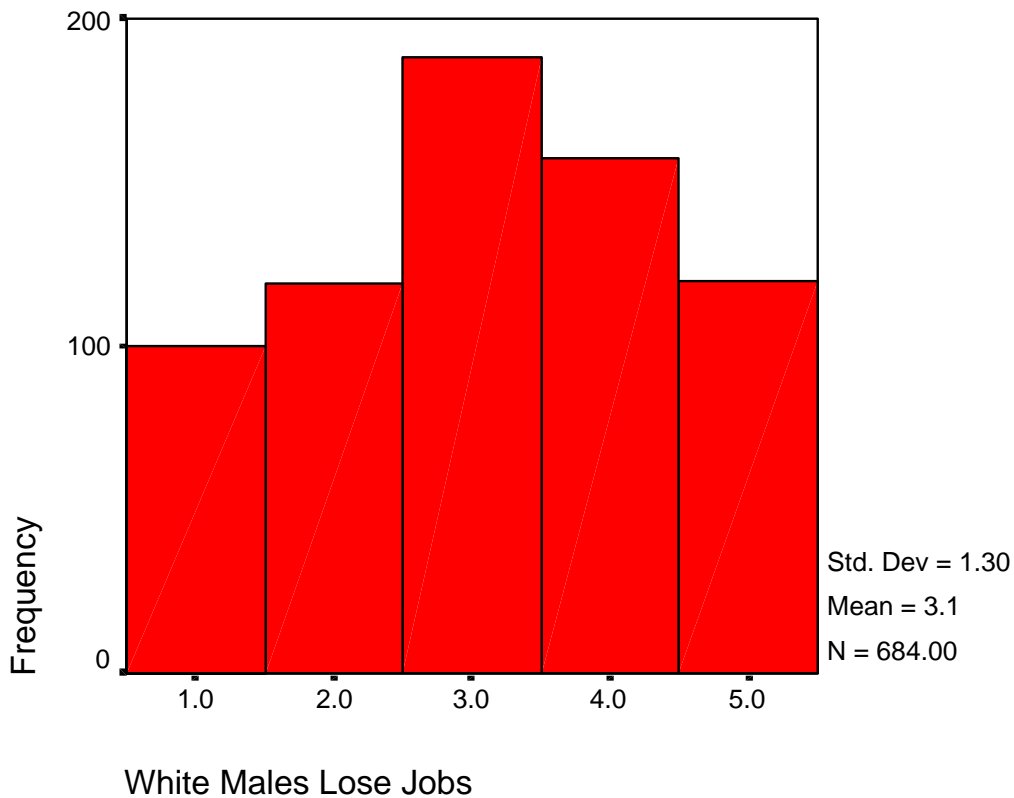
Summary: Strong disagreement with this type of program.



Employment and educational opportunities for non-white are often restricted.

Summary: More disagree than agree. There is not general support for the view that opportunities for non-whites are restricted.

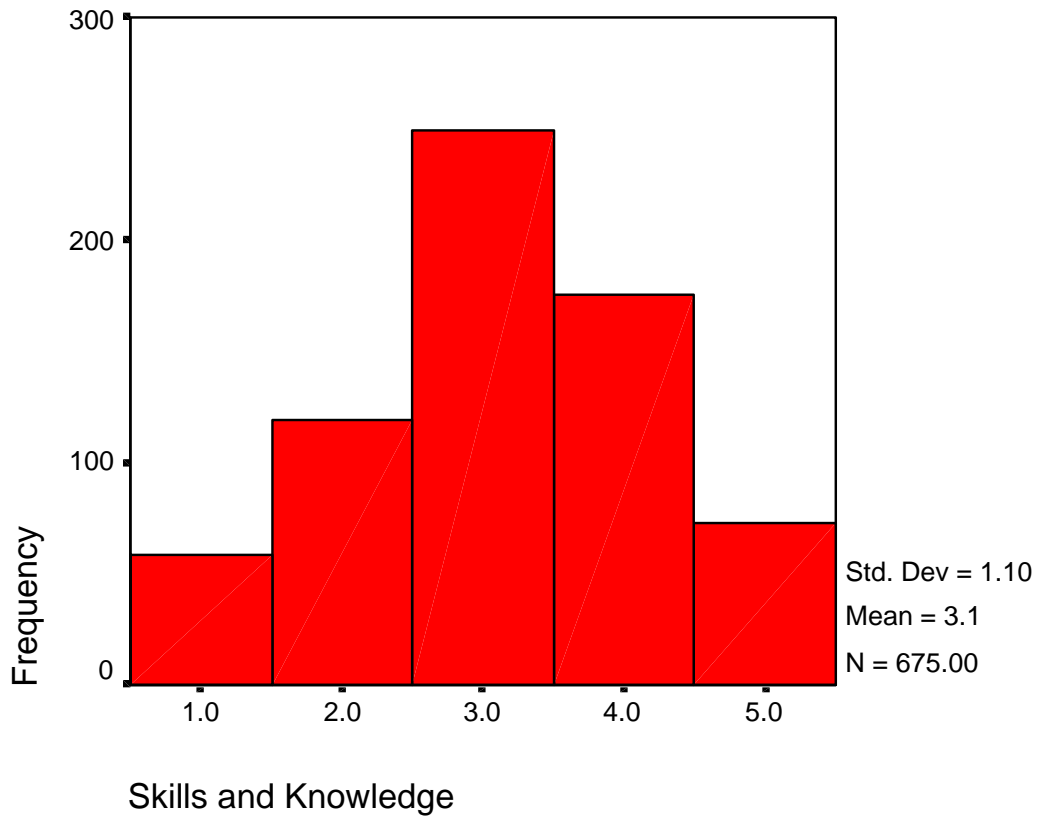
White Males Lose Jobs



White males are losing jobs because of employment equity requirements.

Summary: More in agreement than disagreement with this statement. See last figure for the difference between female and male responses.

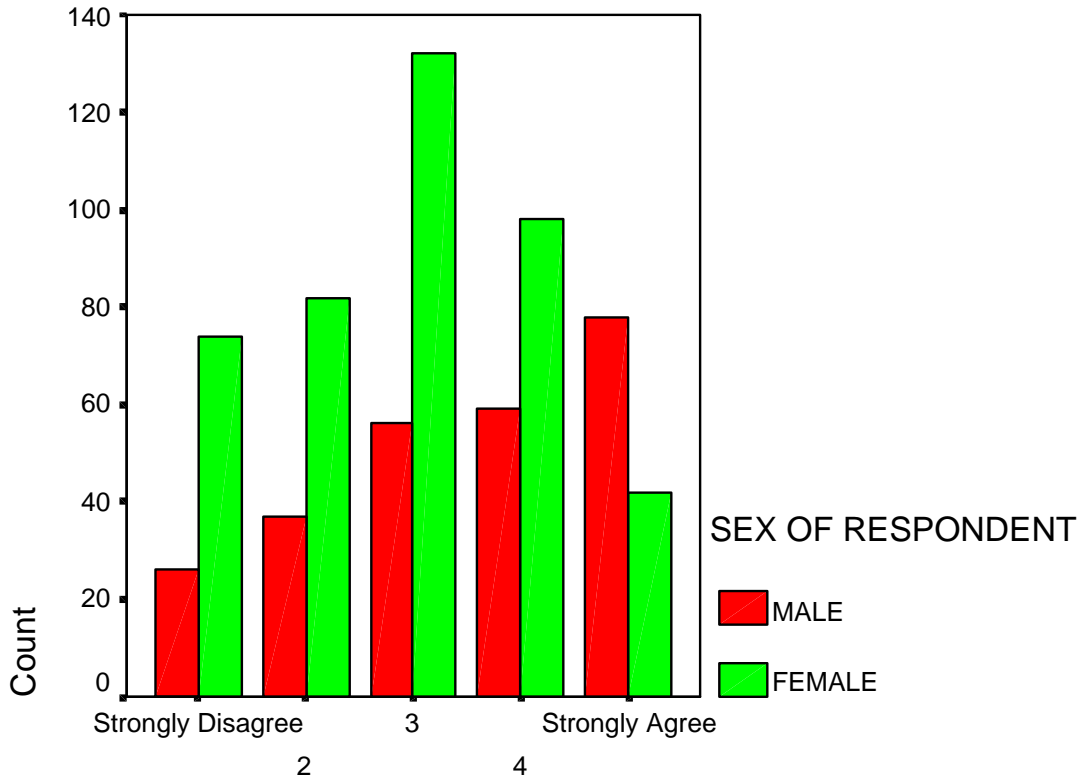
Skills and Knowledge



Government should assist immigrants in developing the skills and knowledge they require to fill jobs.

Summary: More agree than disagree, but almost equally split between agree and disagree.

University of Regina, Department of Sociology and Social Studies
Survey of Student Attitudes and Experiences – Fall 1998



White Males Lose Jobs

White males are losing jobs because of employment equity requirements.

Summary: Males more in agreement than disagreement; females split between disagree and agree.