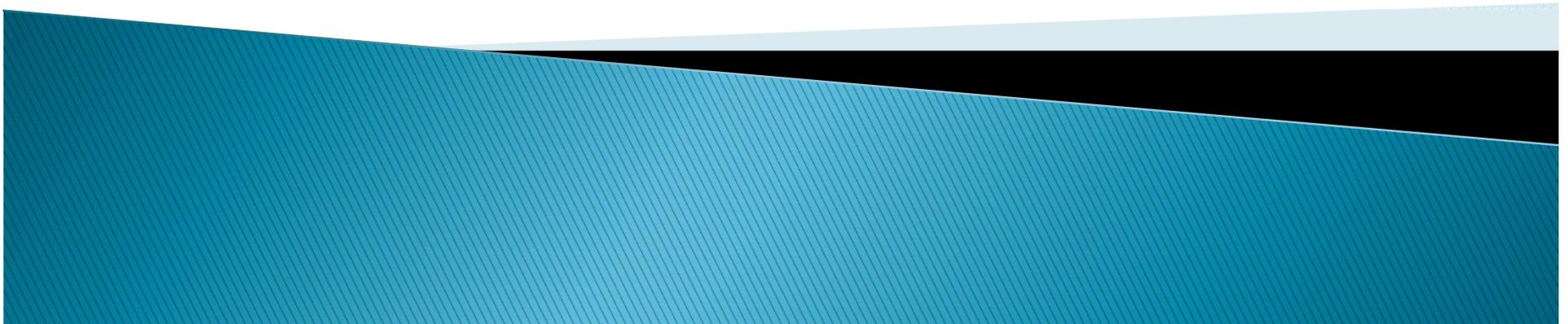
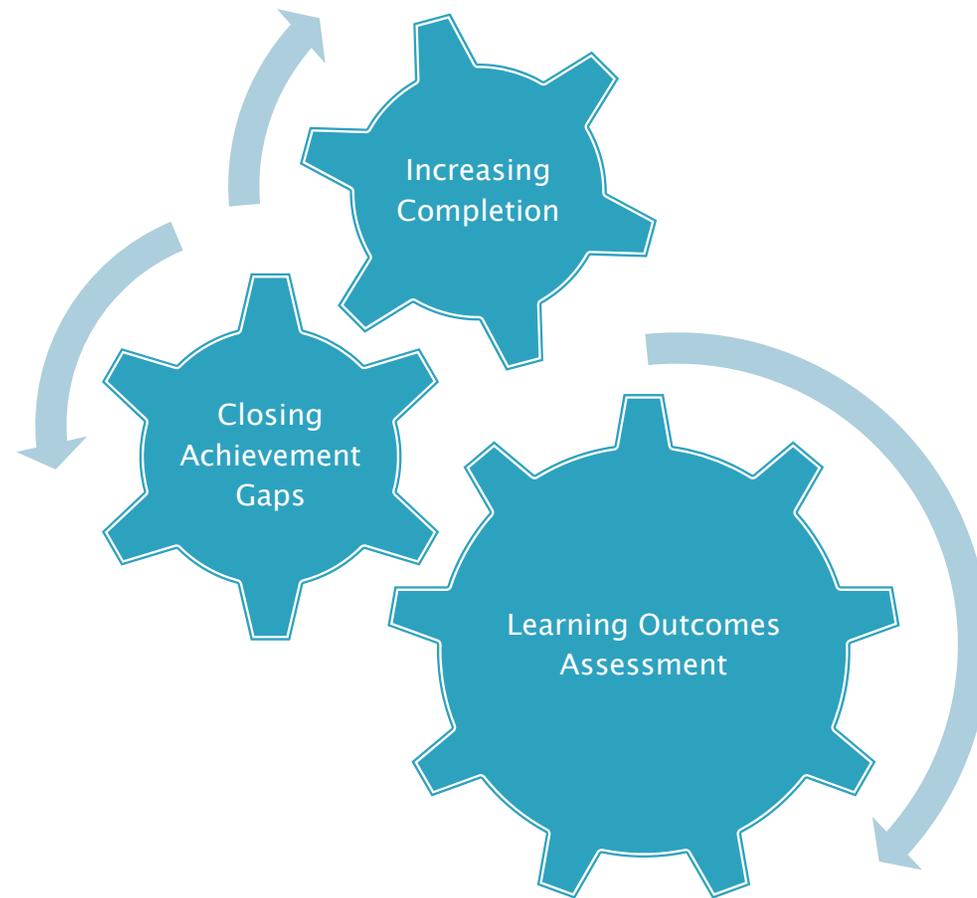


DHE Learning Outcomes Assessment

Dr. Robert Awkward
Director of Learning Outcomes Assessment
Amcoa Team Meeting
September 29, 2017



Alignment of Assessment and the Big Three Higher Education Goals



Assessment Update: 2016–2017

▶ Convenings:

- Amcoa Team: Met 9/29/16 at UMass Lowell, 12/2/2016 at Holyoke Community College, 2/2/2017 at Middlesex Community College, and 3/31/2017 at Quinsigamond Community College
- Topics included:
 - NEASC new accreditation standards
 - Inter-rate reliability
 - MSC Demonstration Year results
 - Transparent assignment design
 - Emerging trends in assessment technology



Assessment Update: 2016–2017

▶ Convenings:

- Task Force on Statewide Assessment: Met 10/18/2016 at Framingham State University, 1/19/2017 at Quinsigamond Community College, and 3/10/2017 at Worcester State University
- Topics included:
 - Current state of assessment
 - MSC Demonstration Year results
 - NILOA's *Excellence in Assessment* certification
 - Campus success stories (MCAD, MMA, and The Q)



Assessment Update: 2016–2017

- ▶ Sixth Annual Assessment Conference: April 21, 2017 at Westborough Doubletree
 - 100 registrants
 - Headliners included Dr. Susan Albertine from AAC&U and Dr. Natasha Jankowski from NILOA
 - Participant feedback (based on 44% response rate) was:
 - Overall: 4.8 out of 5.0 (96%)
 - Format: 4.75 out of 5.0 (95%)
 - Topics presented: 4.73 out of 5.0 (94.6%)
 - Presenters: 4.8 out of 5.0 (96%)
 - Site: 4.85 out of 5.0 (97%)



Multi-State Collaborative (MSC) to Advance Quality Student Learning

- ▶ Increased participating institutions from seven (2015–2016) to eleven for the Refinement Year
- ▶ This represents 8 of 10 segments required for a representative sample
- ▶ Held regular MSC–MA Steering Committee meetings: 10/27/2016, 1/18/2017, and 4/19/2017
- ▶ Provided institutional funds support to participating institutions (albeit down 16.7% from the prior year)
- ▶ Shared results with the Amcoa Team, the Task Force, and the Board of Higher Education



MassTransfer Pathways

- ▶ Developed learning outcomes for 25 foundational courses for seven disciplines working with 21 discipline-based, segment leaders, and MassTransfer faculty selected to represent their respective institutions:
 - Biology
 - Chemistry (General and Organic)
 - Economics
 - History
 - Political Science
 - Psychology (two of eight completed)
 - Sociology



Assessment Update: 2016–2017

- ▶ **Funded Assessment Professional Development Seminars for the:**
 - **Western Region on April 28, 2017**
 - Assignment Design at Westfield State University
 - **Southeast Region on May 23, 2017**
 - Information Literacy Charrette at Massasoit Community College
 - **Central Region on July 10, 2017**
 - NEASC E Series Forms and Meaningful Campus Assessment at UMass Lowell



Assessment Update: 2016–2017

- ▶ Informational Presentations conducted by Dr. Lane Glenn, President, Northern Essex Community College; Dr. Patricia Marshall, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs & Student Success; and Bob Awkward for:
 - Community College Council of Presidents on February 17, 2017
 - The Board of Higher Education on March 21, 2017
 - Council of State University Presidents on April 14, 2017



Institutional Assessment Survey

- ▶ Survey Overview:

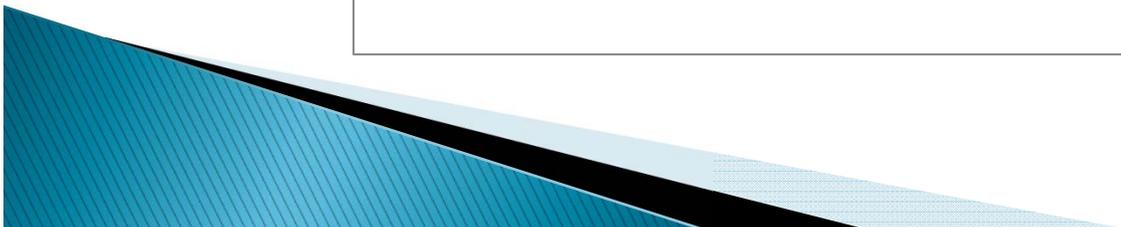
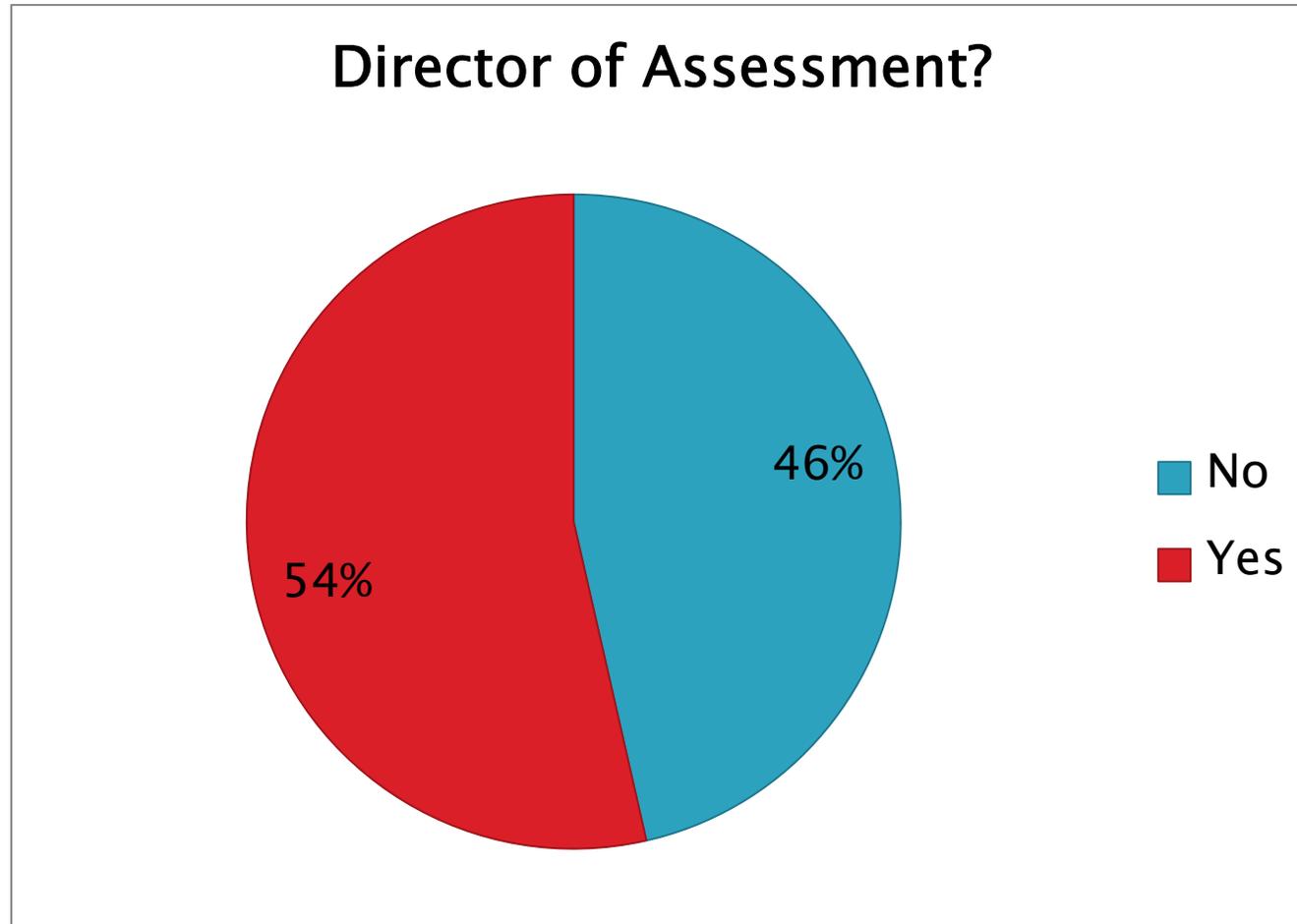
- Survey monkey conducted during the month of August 2017.
- Responses from 27 out of 28 (96.4%) institutions

- ▶ Objective:

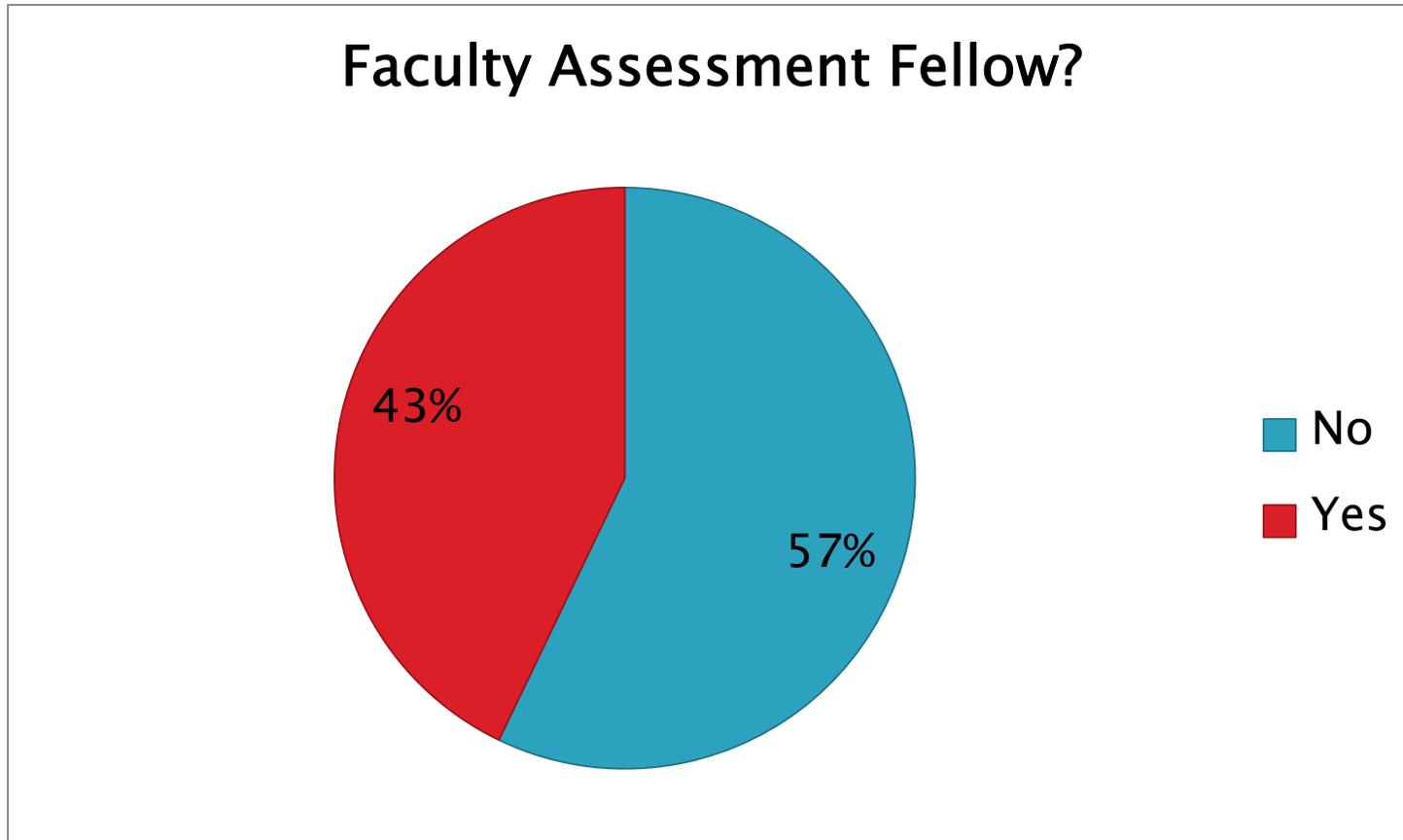
- To assess how much we have advanced a culture of assessment in Massachusetts and to identify opportunities to deepen and strengthen the practice of assessment



Campus Reported Data

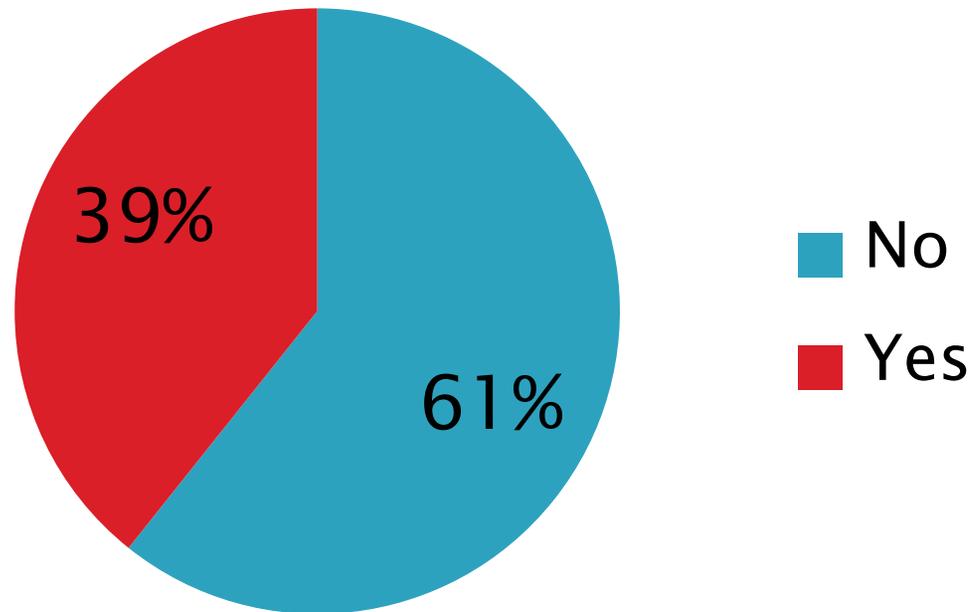


Campus Reported Data



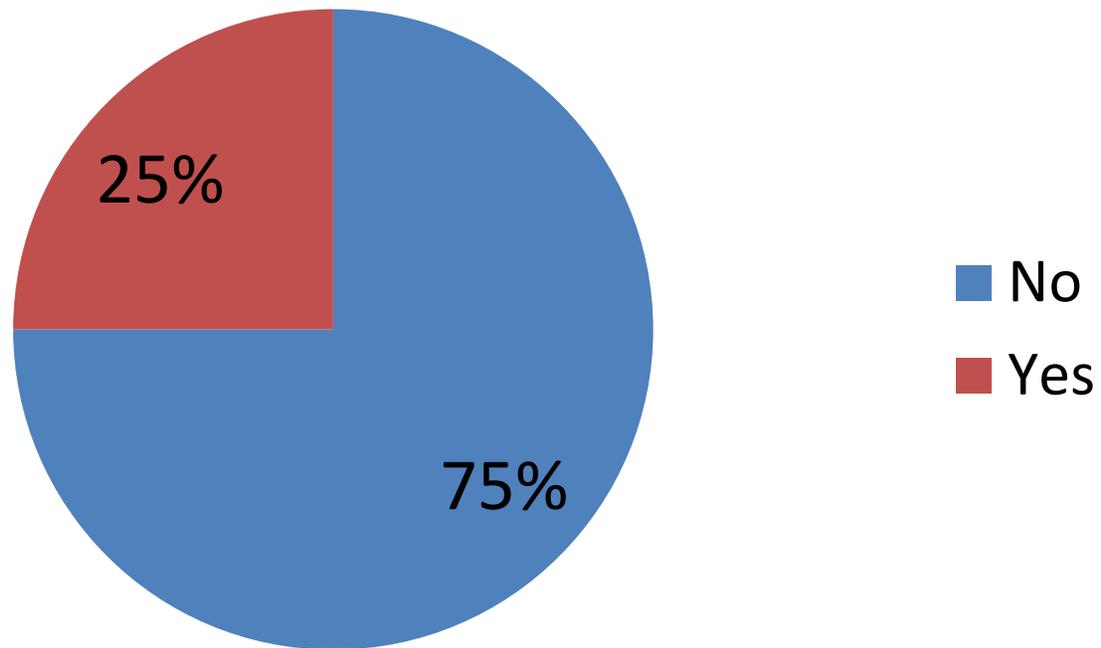
Campus Reported Data

Members of the MSC?



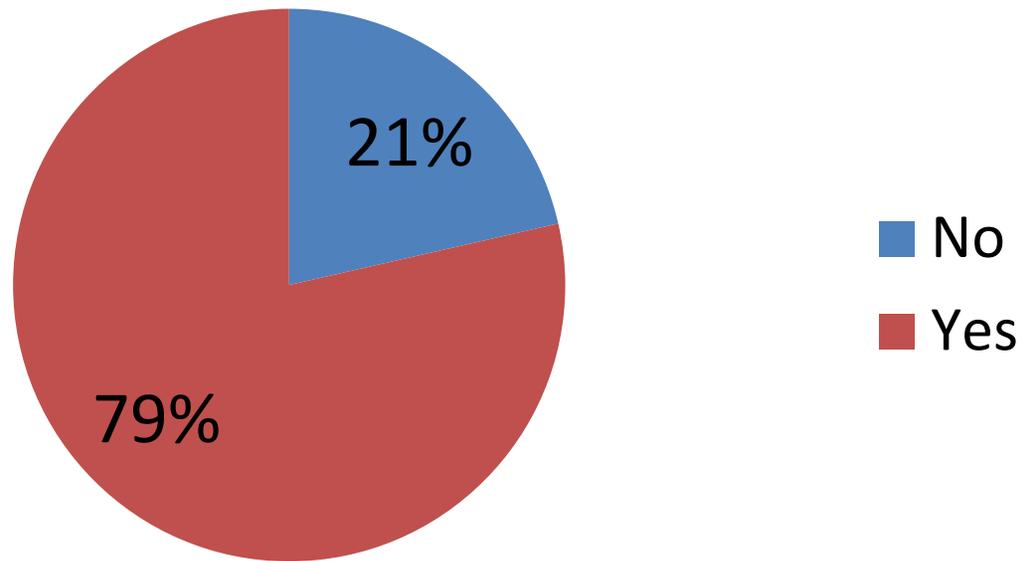
Campus Reported Data

Host an assessment day?



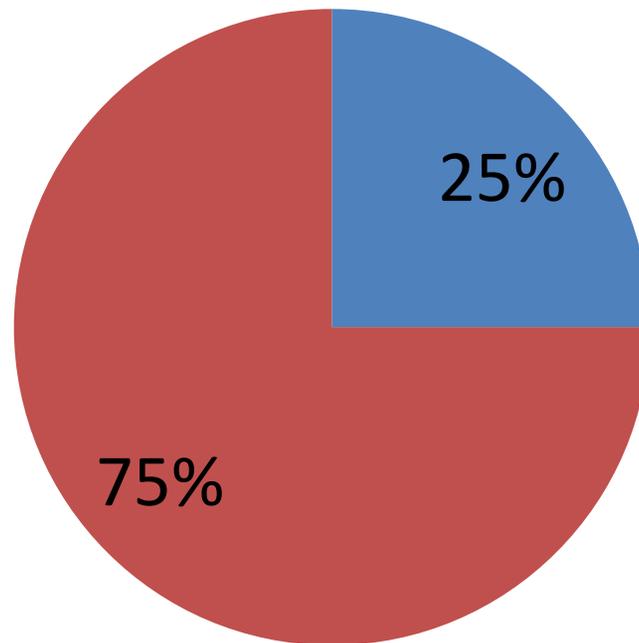
Campus Reported Data

**Has assessment
committee?**



Campus Reported Data

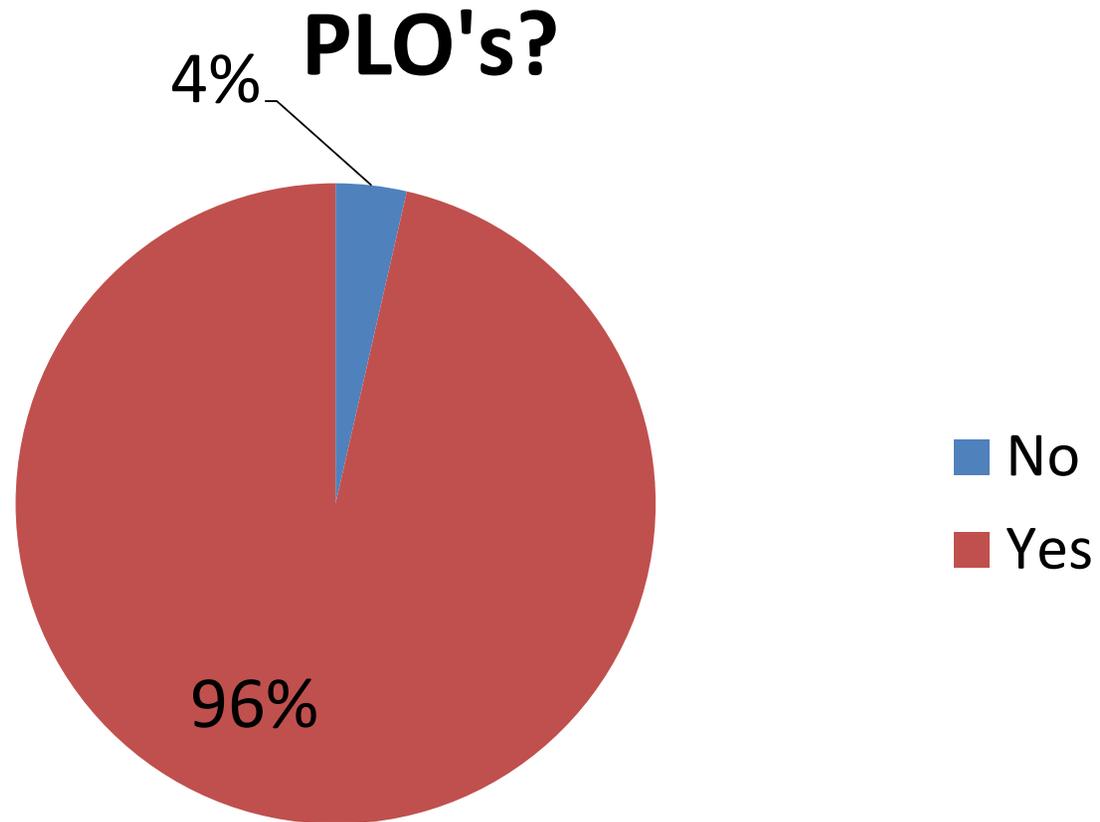
ISLO's?



- No
- Yes



Campus Reported Data



Objective for 2017–2018

- ▶ Shift from viewing assessment as only a form of compliance and advancing a culture of assessment to institutionalizing an improvement paradigm while recognizing:
 - Cutbacks in state spending for higher education
 - Loss of external funding for assessment
 - Some continued faculty and union resistance to assessment
 - Work-to-Rule at the state universities
 - Assessment is an ongoing and essential educational excellence practice expected by key stakeholders



Planning for 2017–2018

▶ Convenings:

◦ Amcoa Team:

- Fri., Sept. 29 at Worcester State University
- Thurs., Nov. 30 at Quinsigamond Community College
- Fri., Feb. 2, 2018 at Quinsigamond Community College
- Thurs., Mar. 29, 2018 at Quinsigamond Community College

◦ Task Force on Statewide Assessment:

- Tues., Oct. 17 at Worcester State University
- Thurs., Jan. 18, 2018 at Worcester State University
- Fri., Mar. 9, 2018 at Worcester State University

◦ Annual Assessment Conference

- Fri., April 20, 2018 at Westborough Doubletree Hotel



Planning for 2017–2018

- ▶ Multi-State Collaborative (MSC):
 - MA–MSC Steering Committee Refinement 2.0 Planning Meeting held at Quinsigamond Community College, Sept. 8
 - Increase participation, especially of small institutions to achieve the state sample (i.e., 10 of 10)
 - Conduct comparative analysis of the Demonstration Year (2015–2016) to the Refinement Year (2016–2017) data, and develop specific strategies as a result



Planning for 2017–2018

- ▶ MassTransfer Pathways;
 - Continued work on foundational disciplines including:
 - Business Administration
 - Communication & Media Studies
 - Computer Science
 - Early Childhood Education
 - English
 - Liberal Arts (General Education Foundation)
 - Physics
 - Psychology (6 of 8; 2 already completed)



Planning for 2017–2018

- ▶ Institutionalizing Assessment:
 - Developing ISLOs
 - Focusing on Departmental Assessment as a pocket of readiness
 - Encouraging the creation of Assessment Days
 - Strengthening Faculty Teaching Skills
 - Improving the Utility of MSC Data Statewide and at the Campus Level



Planning for 2017–2018

- ▶ **Regional Professional Development**
 - Begin regional professional planning earlier
 - Resize the regional structure to encourage greater collaboration
 - Utilize these sessions to expand the conversations about assessment to a larger audience
- ▶ **Continued Education of Key Stakeholders:**
 - The Board of Higher Education
 - Presidents of State Universities and Community Colleges
 - Chancellors in the University of Massachusetts System



Conclusion

