



Survey Results of UG Hall Allocation Policy Review

by Task Force on UG Hall Allocation Policy Review



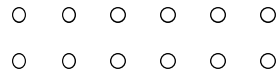
Survey of Current UG Hall Allocation Policy



- Feedback from UG students for further discussion of the Task Force
- Survey sent to All UG students in early May 2021
- Total valid responses: 1,111
- Response rate: 11%

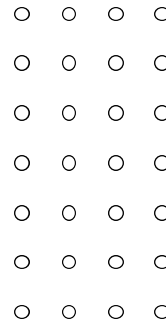


* No. of UG students enrolled as of Sep 2020: 10,305





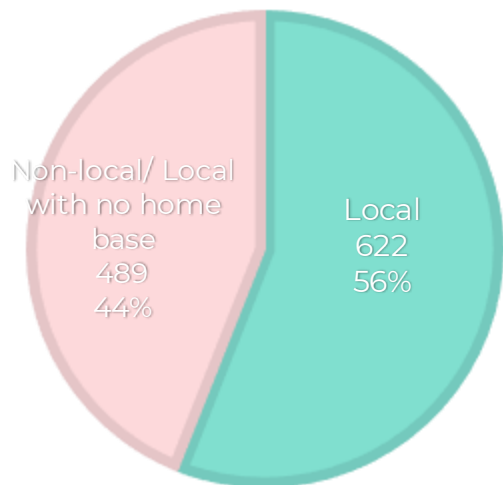
Survey Results



Demographic

Q1) Student type:

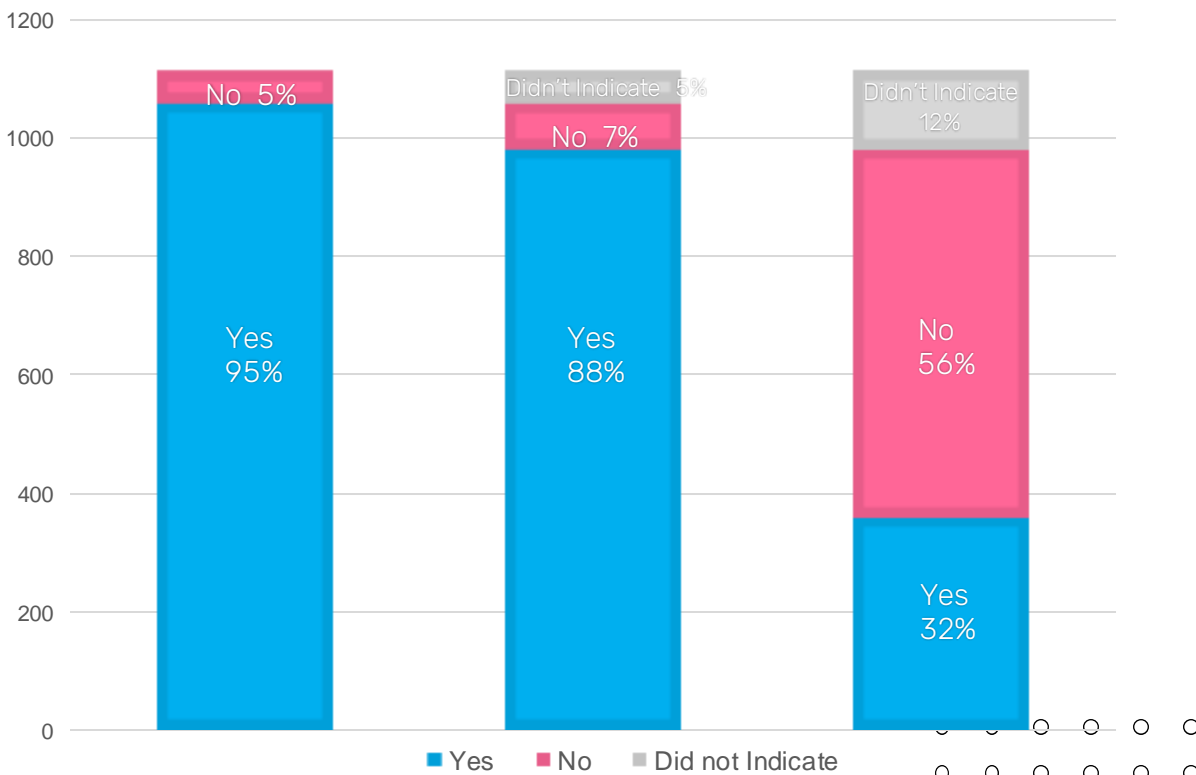
Local Non-local/ Local with no home base



Q2) Have you ever applied for a housing offer?

Q3) Have you ever received a housing offer?

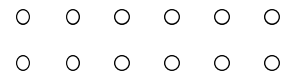
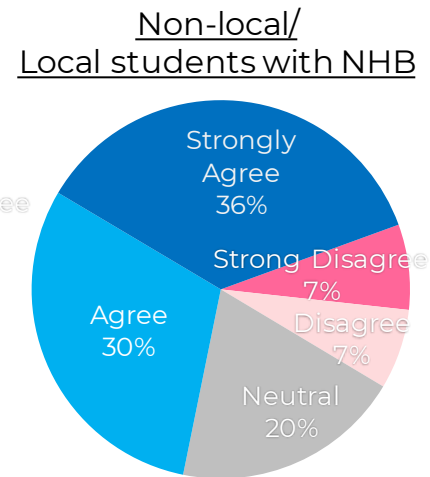
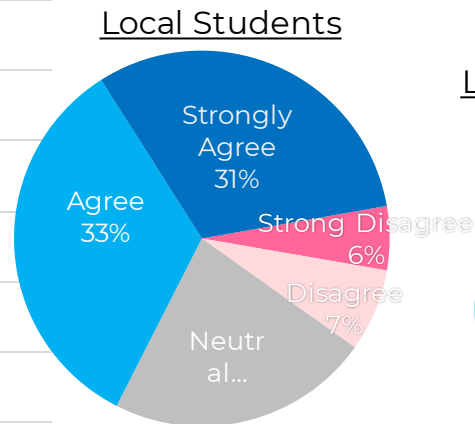
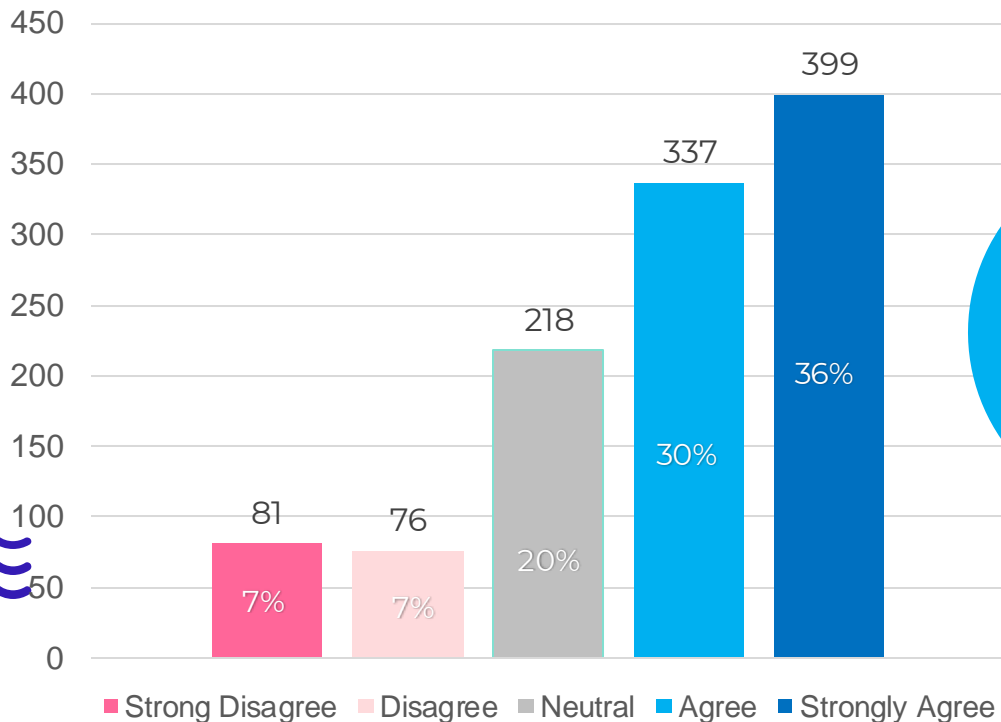
Q4) Have you ever been received a 2nd housing offer?



Priority Housing



Q5) The University should change the mechanism of Priority Housing/modify the existing categories of students who are entitled guaranteed housing.



Factors in Priority Housing



Q6) Other factors that should be taken into consideration in Priority Housing.

Count	Comments
129	Prioritize non-locals and locals with no home base in Year 3-4 as well
86	Home condition (household income, living environment/home size, no. of family members)
62	Home distance to UST (more realistic travelling time including waiting time & no. of transit)
52	School teams, Ex-co members in societies and engagement in school activities
29	FYP/ Capstone Project/ Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), Credit load
26	Contribution to school and hall
20	Hall life experience (students with no previous hall experience should be prioritized)
18	Academic performance (e.g. CGA) and conduct
17	Others (e.g. COVID-19, students back from gap year/exchange, need to socialize, cancel 2st year experience)
14	High expenses/rent/cost of living off-campus
9	Seniority (Year 4 students to be prioritized)
7	Actual time/ no. of nights stayed in hall in previous year
6	Transportation cost
6	Students with special needs (medical condition, disabilities, mental health)



Comments for Priority Housing

Q7) Comments about the current arrangement of Priority Housing/ how it should be modified.

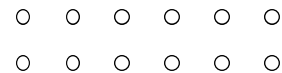
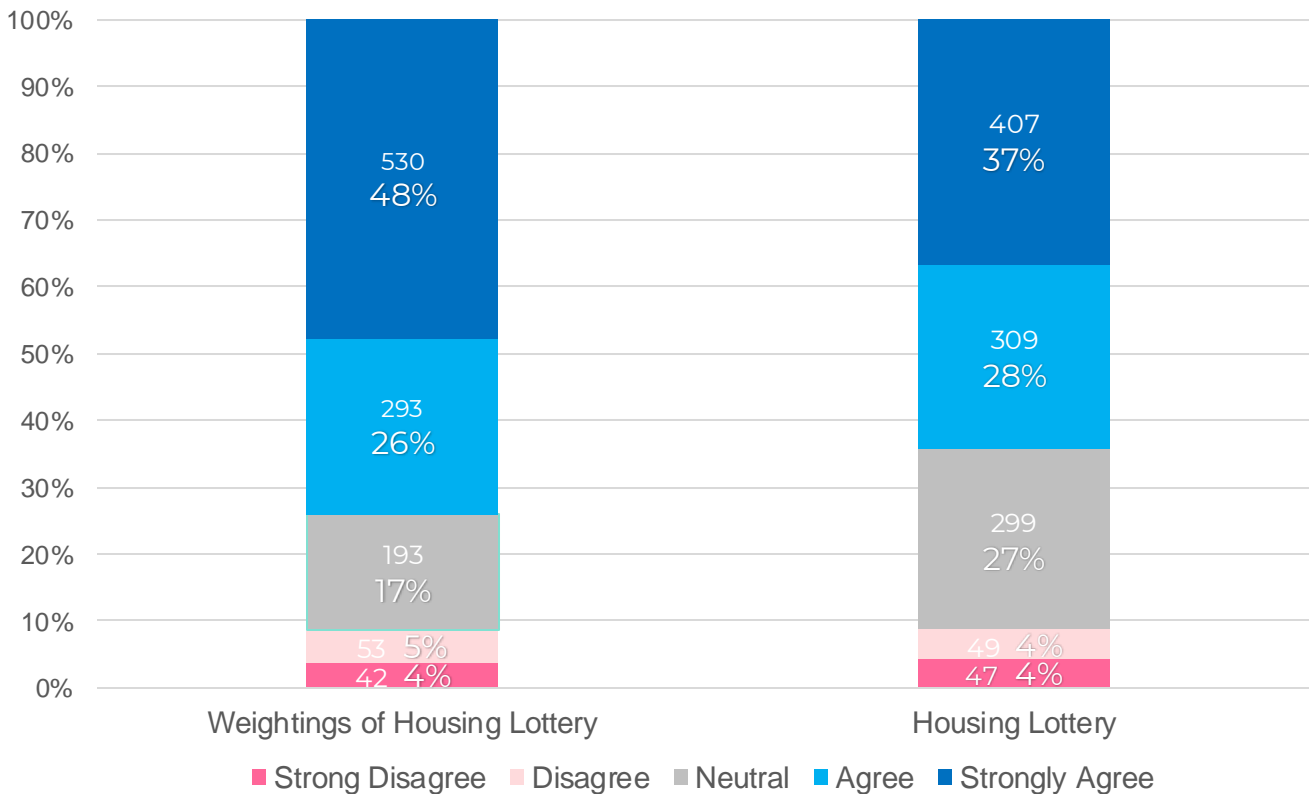
Count	Comments
149	Guarantee 3 year housing to non-locals & locals with no home base; or prioritize Year 3-4 NL/NHB students before locals
92	Non-locals and students with no home base should have guaranteed housing for all 4 years
56	Calculation of TT (eMobility) is inaccurate and unrealistic. Should include waiting time and not only the fastest routes.
29	Change 1st year experience to UG experience. Students in who have never lived on hall should be given min. 1 term hall place
28	Consider the needs of local students more
25	Prioritize students with long traveling time for Year 3-4 as well in descending order
21	Lower the TT threshold in Priority Housing (e.g. from 120mins to 90-100mins)
14	Current mechanism is fair/ reasonable
9	Bad/ not transparent enough
7	Prioritize students with family issue or small home size/ poor home condition
8	Prioritize students who have engagement in societies/ School/activities in University
6	Less hall places for House Associations
6	Full year offer for Year 1 students
4	Some students who use others' non-local address actually have home base in Hong Kong
5	Increase involvement of SU in Task Force and House Associations in hall allocation
2	Students who live nearby should not get hall



Housing Lottery



Q8) HKUST should change the Housing Lottery weightings Q9) HKUST should change the current **mechanism of Housing Lottery**



Comments for Housing Lottery



Q10) Comments about the current mechanism of the Housing Lottery and its weightings of different categories; and/or how it should be modified.

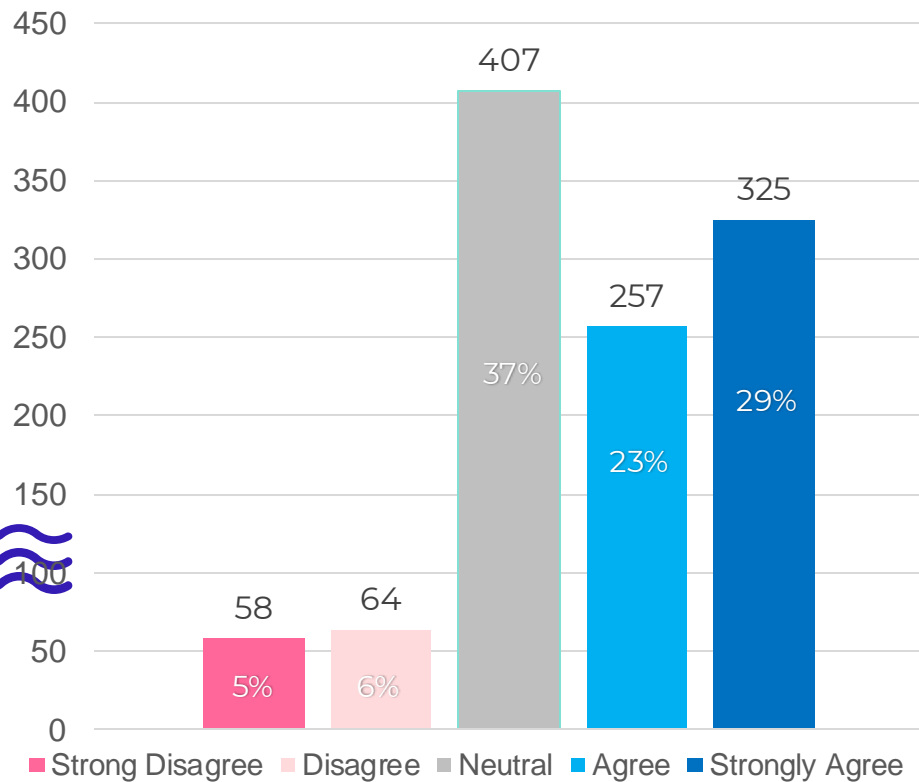
Count	Comments
245	Higher weightings for non-locals/students with no home base vs local students with home base (e.g. increase to 10 or above)
67	Progressive/ scoring of TT or use different weightings for smaller TT groups. Current TT range is too wide (e.g. Students who live in TKO get same weighting as those with 60 mins TT)
38	Current TT calculation is inaccurate/unrealistic. Should use other ways or consider the cheapest transportation and waiting time
32	Housing lottery is unfair and should be cancelled. Hall offer should not be determined by luck
20	Score/point system should be used; take more factors into calculation (e.g. contribution, school projects, etc.)
17	Guarantee housing for non-local students
11	Higher weightings for local students with home base
10	Higher weightings for students with proven difficulties (e.g. medical, family issues, financial)
5	Current weightings are good.
4	Take traffic cost into consideration
3	Higher weightings for students with no prior hall experience



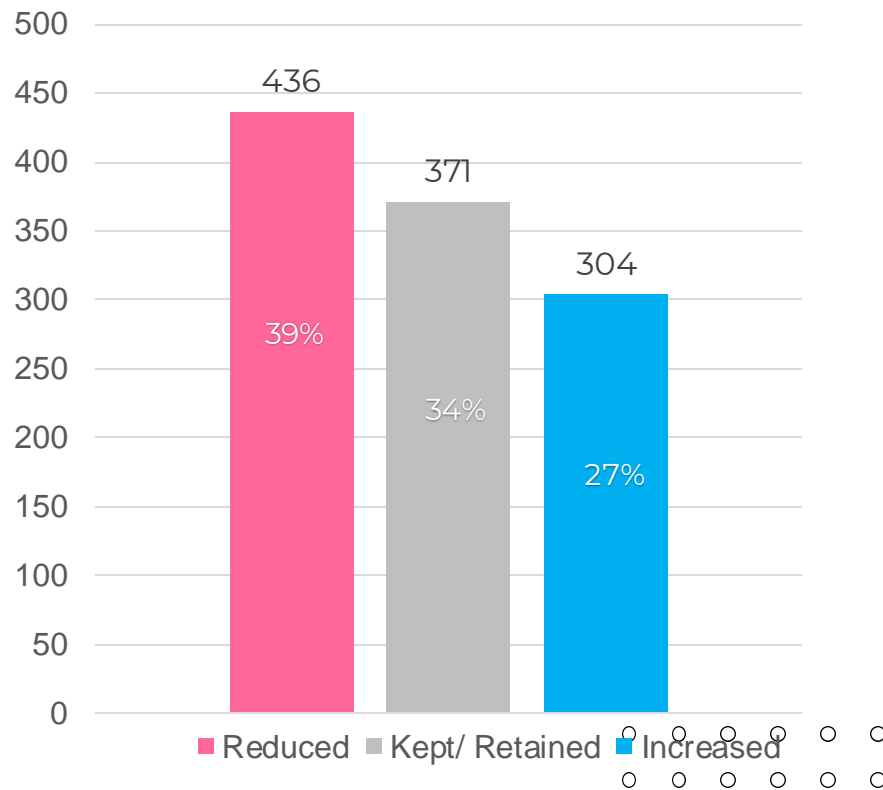
Mechanism of Quota for Groups



Q11) HKUST should change/modify current mechanism of allocating hall places via Quota for Groups.



Q12) The **reserved** hall places in Quota for Groups should be:



Comments for Quota for Groups



Q13 Comments regarding the current mechanism of Quota for Groups that should be considered in allocating the reserved quota.

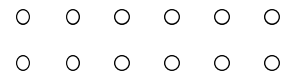
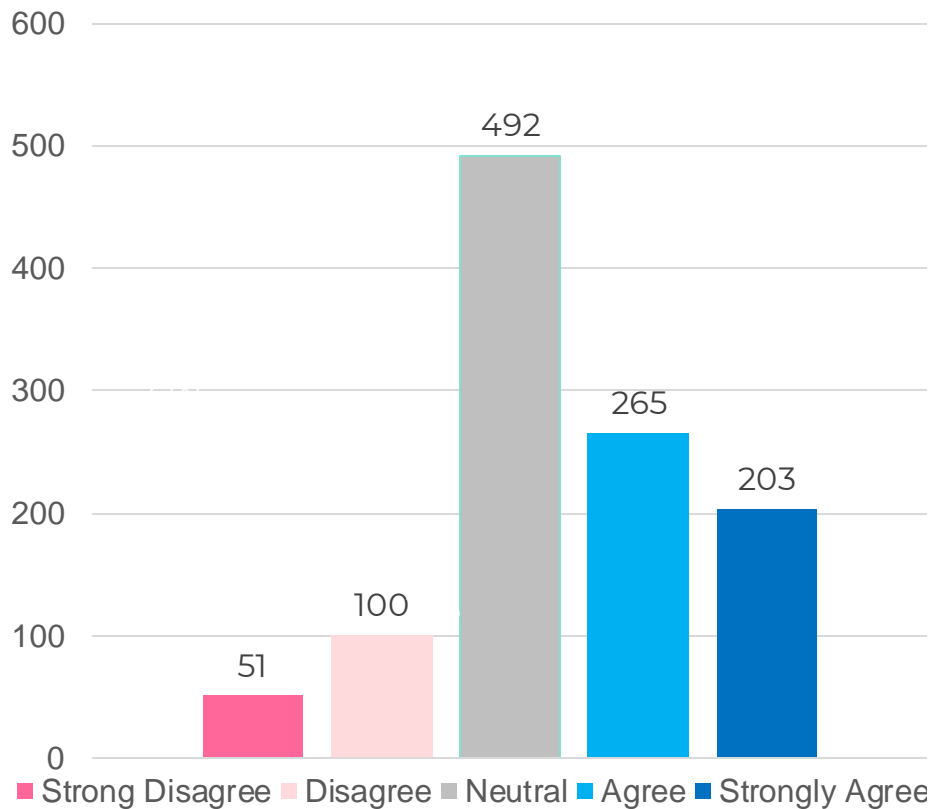
Count	Comments
53	Reduce quota for SU
42	Reduce overall quota, give more places to students in need
23	With more hall places, total quota should increase to reward group members. Current quota not enough.
18	Increase quota for non-local student groups, e.g. MSSS and ISA
18	More quota for School societies & teams (e.g. student ambassadors, UROP, Robotic team, Aero team)
16	Depends of size and activeness of the groups; level/time of participation of each member
12	Quota should not be given to those who live nearby/ Quota given out should also consider TT
12	Increase quota for Sports teams
10	Current quota and allocation is fair/alright
10	Current mechanism only benefits a small groups of people and is in favour of locals
9	Many students only joined groups for getting hall places and had little contribution
5	Reduce quota for Sports teams
5	Merit based/score system or random drawing/lottery should be used



Ranking Method of Waiting List



Q14) HKUST should change/modify the current ranking method of waiting list.



Comments for Waiting List



Q15) Comments regarding the current waiting list ranking arrangement & suggestions for the future.

Count	Comments
32	Non-local/No-Home-Base should be put in higher priority
27	Faster/ More frequent/ timely update of the waiting list ranking
23	Rank according to travelling time to UST (not only TT>120mins)
22	Improve transparency of waiting list mechanism and ranking status
21	Other comments (Non-local students should have 4-yr housing, different waiting lists for local and non-local, no top-up offers in pandemic)
17	Based on other factors (e.g. special needs, hall preference, home condition, competition/commitment at UST)
6	Use same weighting as Housing Lottery
5	Current waiting list mechanism is fair and reasonable. "The only thing that makes sense in the hall allocation system."
4	Random drawing for all students
2	Rank according to year of study/seniority



Other comments



Q16) Other issues to be addressed in the Task Force in the coming meetings:

Count	Comments
19	Subsidize, provide extra support or discounted off-campus housing to students who do not get halls
17	Improve hall facilities and services
13	Current method/calculation of TT is inaccurate, cannot reflect the actual travel time.
11	Include SU in the Task Force
9	Build more halls/ provide more hall offers
9	Extend visiting hours/ resume guest pass, or even weekly pass
8	Incorporate more factors to balance the needs of students, consider score system
6	More hall places to locals, reduce offers to Mainland students
4	Be more transparent about the distribution of students who get hall offers and historical data of waiting list no.
3	Top-up more frequently before the start of the term
3	Reduce hall places for SU-affiliated groups
2	Interview applicants of discretionary hall places
1	Shuffle UG and PG hall places together.
1	Allow mixed teaching mode to reduce the demand for halls





The End

