

# EVERY MEMBER COUNTS

## Exploring AAAE Student Membership

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### INTRODUCTION

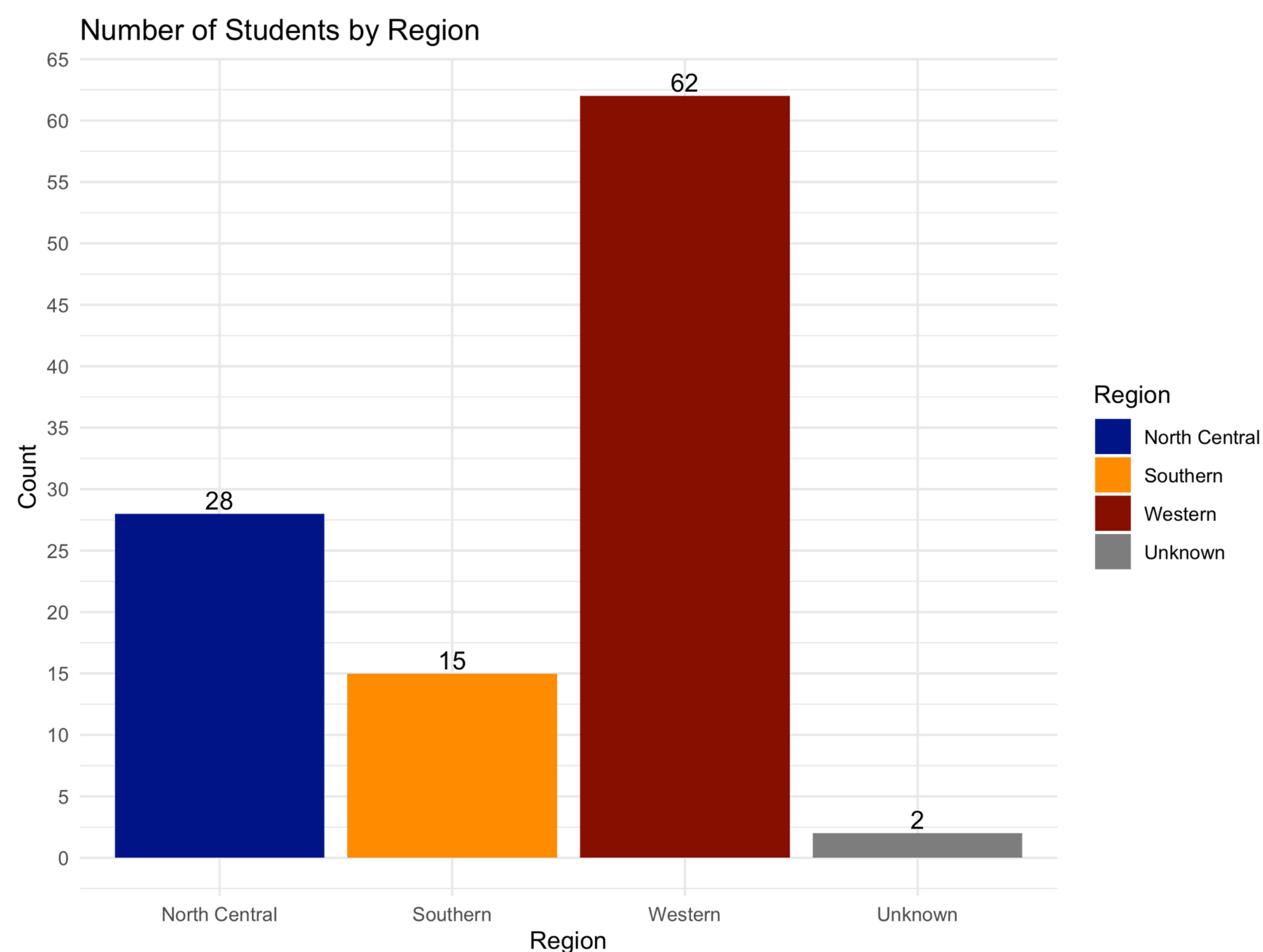
- Graduate student involvement in professional organizations provides significant benefits (Desmond & Symens, 1997; Mullen, 2000)
- Despite benefits, involvement is often limited, undocumented, and undervalued (Delamont & Aktinson, 2001; Farley et al., 2011; Gardner & Barnes, 2007; Warwick & Kaiser, 2005)
- Lack of visibility and data on graduate student involvement restricts opportunities (Guiffrida et al., 2012; Santiago, 2012)

### METHODS

- Employed Exploratory Data Analysis to identify distributions, outliers, and anomalies, and visualize data using graphical representations (Komorowski et al., 2016)
- Used Secondary Analysis to gain a comprehensive understanding and to structure the data for frequency tables (Cheng & Phillips, 2014)
- Accessed the AAAE Directory and considered institutions offering an Agricultural Education-related Master's or PhD degree

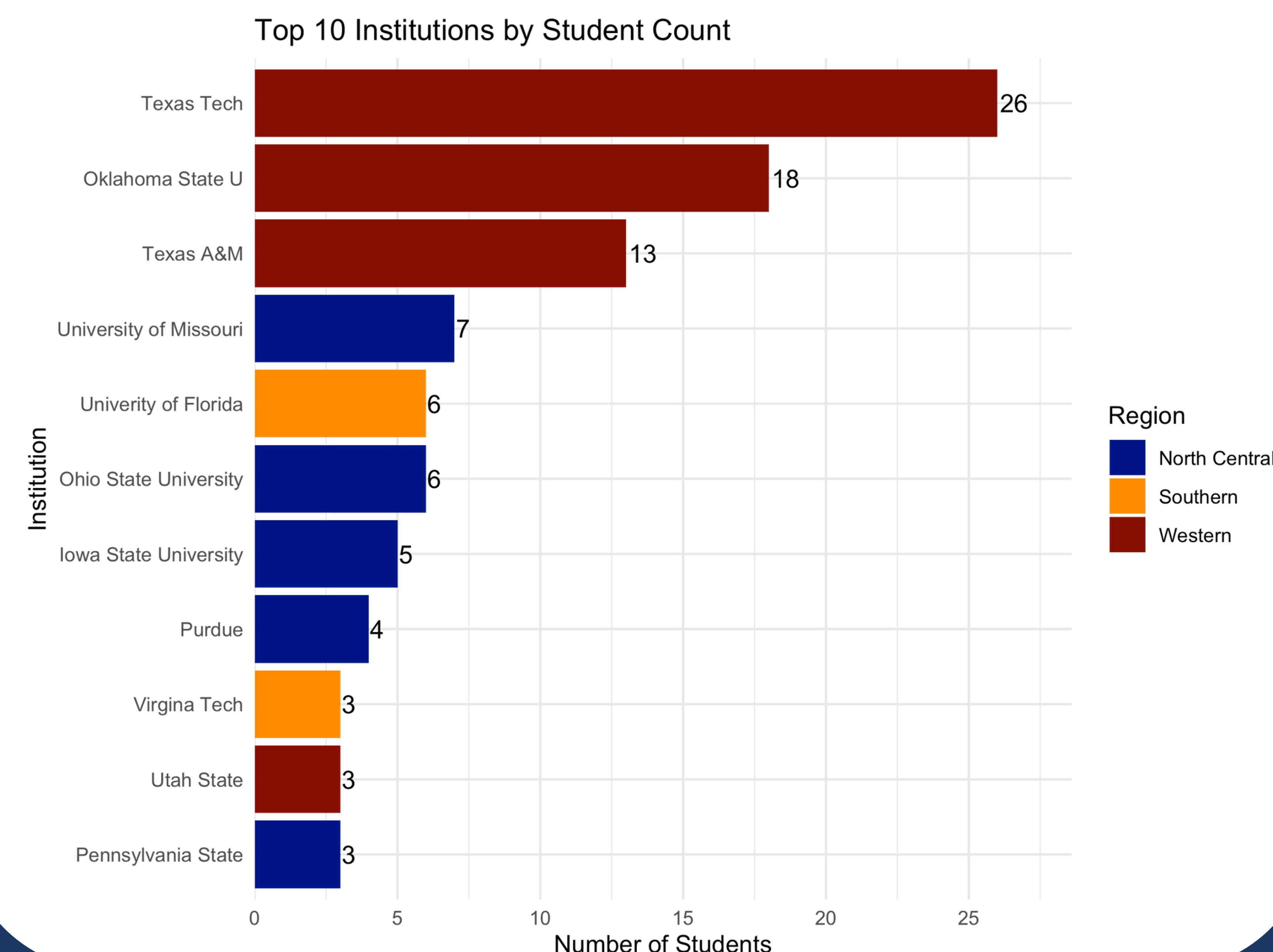
### RESULTS

**17%**  
OF AAAE  
MEMBERSHIP  
ARE STUDENTS



The 2024-2025 AAAE Directory resulted in 615 total AAAE members

17 institutions represented



Number of Institutions: Western = 5, North Central = 8, Southern = 6

Average AAAE Student Memberships: Western = 12.4, North Central = 3.5, Southern = 2.5

### IMPLICATIONS

- Add program type (e.g., undergraduate, Master's, PhD) to AAAE membership data
- Identify factors other than limited data restricting graduate student involvement in AAAE
- Study the work-life balance of graduate students, particularly parent graduate students



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