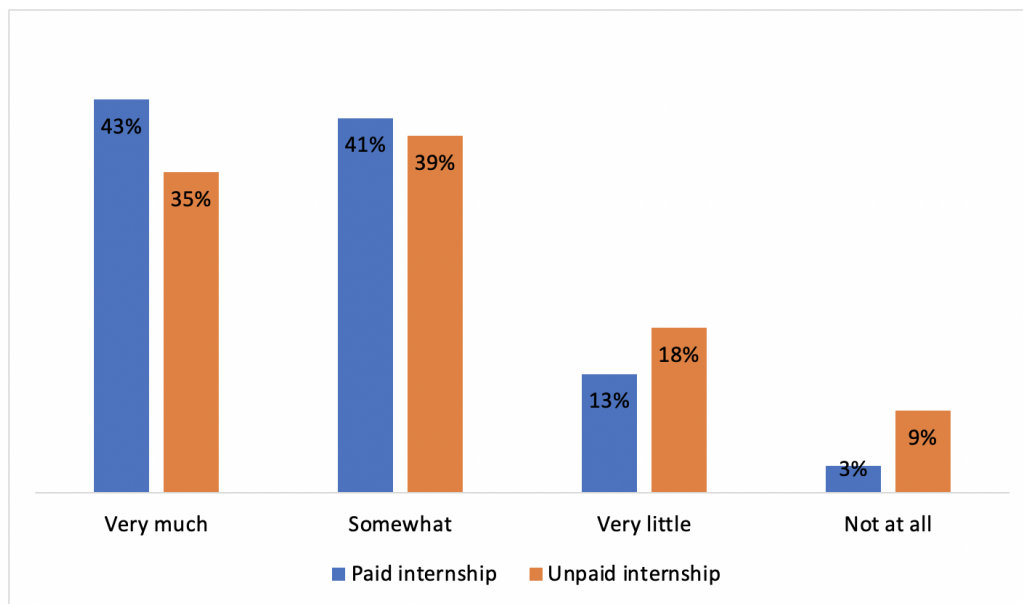


Figure 2. Internship included activities involving creative input or judgment

SNAAP 2015-2017 internship module: undergraduate and graduate alumni ($N = 3,633$)



Paid internships may lead to more positive career outcomes because these experiences are more likely to involve substantive work assignments carried out under close supervision. As educational experiences for newcomers to develop skills, learn about a field, test out career interests, and build a professional network, these results help explain why internships are [crucial for early careers](#), but not evenly so. With the recent rise of [online internships](#), arts schools must remain especially vigilant about the types of internship opportunities available to students, who has access to them, and how they are supervised. Interns are always at risk of [feeling isolated](#) during internships, but remote or online internships might exacerbate the mentorship and work assignment differences between paid and unpaid internships, which will have consequences for inequalities in the arts. After all, the 2015 SNAAP report not only suggested that paid internships positively impact careers more than unpaid ones, it also found that women are disproportionately likely to do unpaid internships and first-generation college students are less likely to intern at all.

This DataBrief was prepared by Alexandre Frenette, Associate Director, Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy at Vanderbilt University.

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