

INTRODUCTION

The Undergraduate First Destination Survey investigates the employment and enrollment in graduate/professional school activities of recent bachelor’s degree recipients with the goal of estimating post-graduation outcomes rates. The target population is bachelor’s degree recipients who graduated between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

Initial data were gathered just before graduation via an online instrument. Students participating in May commencement completed the survey while waiting to pick up their caps and gowns for the graduation ceremony. For those who did not respond to the initial survey, or indicated they were still seeking employment, an online survey was sent to the graduate via email. A third follow-up to non-responders and those still seeking employment involved contacting the graduate via social media or phone. National Student Clearinghouse and Marquette University enrollment data were also utilized to place non-responders into the outcome category related to enrollment in graduate/professional school. Data collection ended on December 31, 2018; thus, outcomes represent the first destination of the graduates up to that date.

RESULTS

Response Rates

The overall response rate for those who graduated in the 2017-2018 academic year, including all follow-up contact, was 90%, similar to the response rate for the 2016-2017 cohort (89%) and the 2015-2016 cohort (89%). The table below shows response rates by college.

College	Number of Graduates	Number of Respondents	Response Rate
Arts and Sciences	473	401	85%
Business Administration	425	386	91%
Communication	251	232	92%
Education	54	52	96%
Engineering	268	245	91%
Health Sciences	248	231	93%
Nursing	150	146	97%
Professional Studies	12	7	58%
Overall	1,881	1,700	90%

First Destination Post-Graduation Outcomes





















































Graduates were grouped into one of several post-graduation outcomes based on their survey response. The categories are mutually exclusive. Post-graduation service represents students who are participating in a stipend-paid post-graduation service position such as the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, or the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled represents those not actively seeking employment and planning to enroll in a graduate/professional program. Not employed or in school, not seeking employment represents students who indicated they were not engaged in an activity and were not actively seeking employment or enrollment in a graduate/professional program. Seeking employment indicates those who were not engaged in any activity above and were still seeking employment as of December following graduation.

	2014-2015 (n=1,636)	2015-2016 (n=1,718)	2016-2017 (n=1,652)	2017-2018 (n=1,700)
Employed, full-time	57%	56%	58%	58%
Employed, part-time	3%	3%	3%	2%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	24%	24%	23%	22%
Graduate/professional school, part-time	1%	1%	1%	1%
Post-graduation service, full-time	3%	2%	2%	2%
Active military	2%	2%	2%	2%
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	2%	3%	3%	3%
Not employed or in school, not seeking employment	1%	1%	1%	0%
Seeking Employment	8%	8%	7%	9%

First Destination Post-Graduation Outcomes by College:

The information below shows the post-graduation outcome rates for each of the eight undergraduate colleges at Marquette.

	2015-2016 (n = 399)	2016-2017 (n = 408)	2017-2018 (n=401)
College of Arts and Sciences			
Employed, full-time	33%	37%	39%
Employed, part-time	5%	5%	1%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	34%	33%	29%
Graduate/professional school, part-time	2%	2%	2%
Post-graduation service, full-time	4%	6%	4%
Active military	3%	3%	5%
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	7%	6%	7%
Not employed or in school, not seeking employed	2%	<1%	<1%
Seeking	11%	8%	11%
College of Business Administration			
	(n = 414)	(n = 417)	(n=386)
Employed, full-time	78%	82%	79%
Employed, part-time	0%	2%	<1%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	12%	9%	9%
Graduate/professional school, part-time	0%	<1%	<1%
Post-graduation service, full-time	1%	1%	1%
Active military	1%	<1%	1%
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	2%	1%	1%
Not employed or in school, not seeking employed	1%	1%	<1%
Seeking	5%	3%	9%
College of Communication			
	(n = 224)	(n=213)	(n=232)
Employed, full-time	67%	66%	58%
Employed, part-time	7%	6%	9%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	10%	12%	10%
Graduate/professional school, part-time	1%	1%	1%
Post-graduation service, full-time	1%	0%	3%
Active military	2%	<1%	1%
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	0%	1%	1%
Not employed or in school, not seeking employed	1%	0%	1%
Seeking	10%	14%	16%
College of Education			
	(n = 85)	(n=62)	(n=52)
Employed, full-time	74%	79%	77%
Employed, part-time	4%	0%	8%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	8%	8%	8%
Graduate/professional school, part-time	1%	2%	0%
Post-graduation service, full-time	7%	2%	2%
Active military	1%	0%	0%
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	1%	0%	2%
Not employed or in school, not seeking employed	1%	0%	0%
Seeking	2%	8%	4%

	2015-2016 (n = 233)	2016-2017 (n=208)	2017-2018 (n = 245)
College of Engineering			
Employed, full-time	67% 	69% 	73% 
Employed, part-time	1%	0%	0%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	18% 	16% 	15% 
Graduate/professional school, part-time	0%	1%	<1%
Post-graduation service, full-time	0%	<1%	0%
Active military	2% 	3% 	2% 
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	1%	<1%	0%
Not employed or in school, not seeking employed	1%	<1%	<1%
Seeking	10% 	10% 	9% 
College of Health Sciences	(n = 228)	(n=221)	(n = 231)
Employed, full-time	14% 	13% 	16% 
Employed, part-time	2% 	3% 	1%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	66% 	66% 	70% 
Graduate/professional school, part-time	1%	2% 	1%
Post-graduation service, full-time	1%	2% 	1%
Active military	0%	<1%	1%
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	8% 	11% 	4% 
Not employed or in school, not seeking employed	0%	0%	0%
Seeking	7% 	3% 	4% 
College of Nursing	(n = 112)	(n = 112)	(n = 146)
Employed, full-time	90% 	88% 	91% 
Employed, part-time	1%	2% 	0%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	1%	0%	0%
Graduate/professional school, part-time	0%	0%	0%
Post-graduation service, full-time	2% 	2% 	1%
Active military	3% 	5% 	3% 
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	1%	0%	0%
Not employed or in school, not seeking employed	1%	2% 	2% 
Seeking	2% 	1%	5% 
College of Professional Studies	(n = 23)	(n = 11)	(n = 7)
Employed, full-time	61% 	82% 	86% 
Employed, part-time	0%	9% 	0%
Graduate/professional school, full-time	4% 	0%	0%
Graduate/professional school, part-time	4% 	0%	0%
Post-graduation service, full-time	0%	0%	0%
Active military	0%	0%	0%
Planning to continue education, not admitted/enrolled	4% 	0%	0%
Not employed or in school, not seeking employed	13% 	0%	0%
Seeking	13% 	9% 	14% 

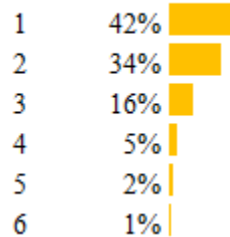
Undergraduate Internships, Co-ops, and Research Experiences

Respondents from certain colleges were asked to report whether or not they participated in an internship, co-op, or research experience during their undergraduate career. Overall, 76% responded to this question set. The chart below shows this breakdown by college. Respondents may be counted in the multiple activity categories *or* “None of the above,” so the totals across rows will not sum to 100%. Note that the College of Education and the College of Nursing chose not to ask this question of their students because of practical experience requirements built into their curriculum.

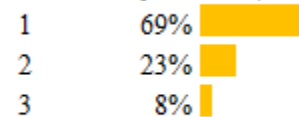
College	Year	Number of Respondents	High Impact Practice (select all that apply)			
			Internship	Co-op	Research Experience	None of the Above
2017-2018						
Arts and Sciences		333	54%	1%	33%	27%
Business Administration		350	89%	2%	3%	8%
Communication		210	89%	0%	3%	10%
Engineering		226	59%	52%	25%	6%
Health Sciences		161	32%	1%	37%	41%
Professional Studies		5	0%	0%	0%	100%
2016-2017						
Arts and Sciences		317	50%	0%	32%	33%
Business Administration		335	87%	1%	2%	12%
Communication		151	85%	1%	5%	13%
Engineering		187	60%	45%	16%	16%
Health Sciences		187	24%	0%	40%	42%
Professional Studies		10	10%	0%	0%	90%

Respondents who indicated that they participated in at least one internship were asked how many internships they had (up to six). Respondents who indicated that they participated in at least one research experience were asked how many research experiences they had (up to three). A team of representatives from each college helped to determine what the maximum number of internships and research experiences should be and noted that students almost never participate in more than one co-op; hence, the number of co-ops was not asked. For this survey, a research experience was defined as an experience in which a student conducted or helped to conduct research and was mentored by or worked closely with a faculty member, graduate student, or research group. Respondents were instructed not to include class projects, capstone projects, or independent study work.

Number of Internships (n = 864)

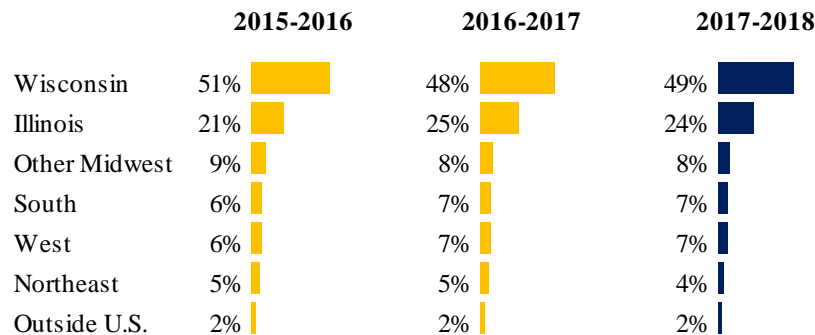


Number of Research Experiences (n = 241)



Starting Region

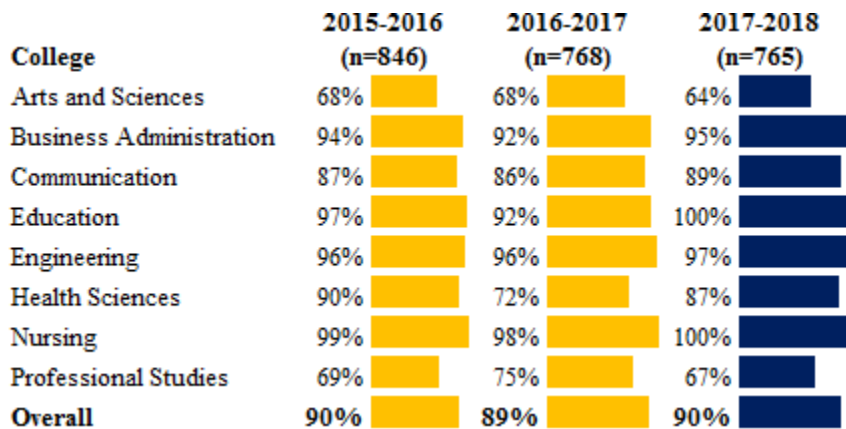
Graduates indicated their current location. In 2017-2018, 73 percent are located in Wisconsin or Illinois post-graduation, compared with 73% in 2016-2017 and 72% in 2015-2016.



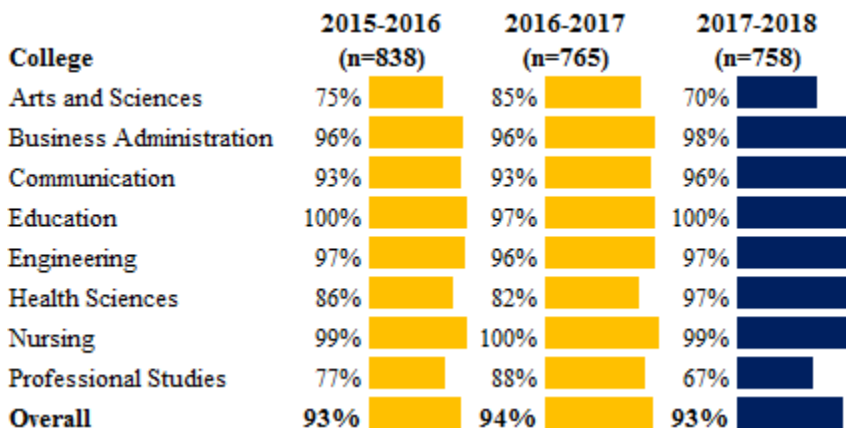
Full-time Employment

Respondents were asked to indicate the relationship of their position to their major and to their career goals. Respondents in the military or in post-graduation stipend-paid service positions are excluded from this section.

Overall, 90% of students with full-time employment reported that they considered their job to be **related to their major**, compared with 89% in 2016-2017 and 90% in 2015-2016.



In 2017-2018, 93% of students with full-time employment reported that they consider their job to be **related to their career goals and/or an entry-level path** that will allow them to achieve their career goals. This is a slight decrease from 2016-2017 (94%) and the same amount as 2015-2016 (93%) graduates.



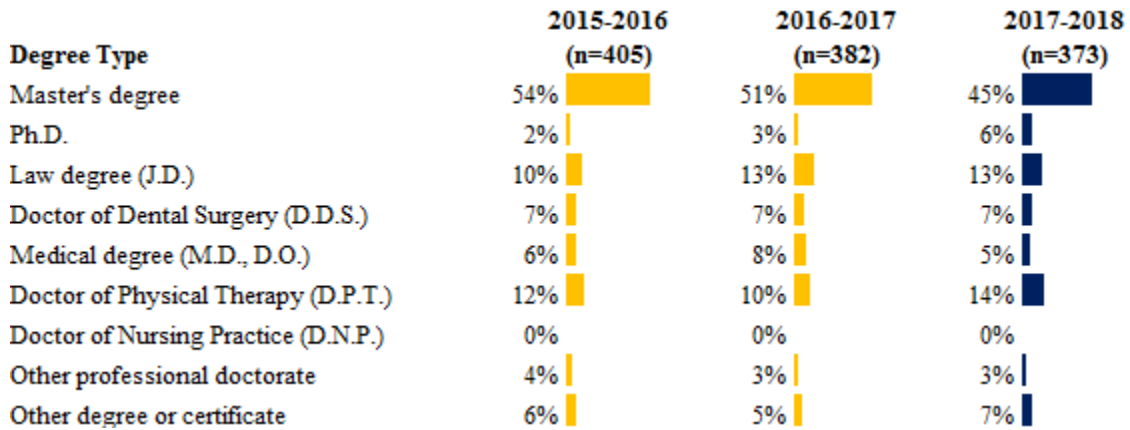
The table below shows gross starting salaries of full-time, non-temporary employed graduates by college. Respondents in the College of Professional Studies are excluded due to a small number of respondents. The salary numbers exclude those active in the military, those in a post-graduation stipend-paid service position, those in a temporary position, and those employed as Medical Scribes. About 68 percent of full-time employed respondents reported salary information on the survey (compared with 69% in 2016-2017 and 67% in 2015-16).

College	Year	Number of Respondents	Starting Salary		
			25th percentile	Median	75th percentile
Overall	2015-2016	579	\$40,000	\$52,000	\$60,000
	2016-2017	579	\$42,000	\$52,000	\$60,000
	2017-2018	622	\$42,000	\$53,000	\$60,000
Arts and Sciences	2015-2016	64	\$30,000	\$35,500	\$43,050
	2016-2017	68	\$32,000	\$38,000	\$44,500
	2017-2018	73	\$32,760	\$40,000	\$47,500
Business Administration	2015-2016	225	\$47,500	\$53,000	\$60,000
	2016-2017	225	\$46,000	\$53,000	\$59,000
	2017-2018	224	\$45,000	\$53,250	\$60,000
Communication	2015-2016	60	\$30,500	\$37,350	\$42,000
	2016-2017	54	\$32,000	\$38,000	\$47,000
	2017-2018	56	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$46,000
Education	2015-2016	26	\$31,000	\$35,000	\$40,000
	2016-2017	27	\$33,050	\$39,040	\$45,000
	2016-2017	21	\$35,000	\$38,000	\$40,000
Engineering	2015-2016	116	\$55,000	\$60,000	\$65,000
	2016-2017	115	\$58,000	\$61,000	\$67,000
	2017-2018	120	\$60,000	\$63,000	\$66,202
Health Sciences	2015-2016	14	\$30,000	\$43,475	\$50,000
	2016-2017	10	\$31,000	\$36,500	\$48,000
	2017-2018	23	\$30,000	\$48,000	\$55,000
Nursing	2015-2016	74	\$50,000	\$54,440	\$60,000
	2016-2017	80	\$50,000	\$53,000	\$60,000
	2017-2018	105	\$50,000	\$55,000	\$60,000

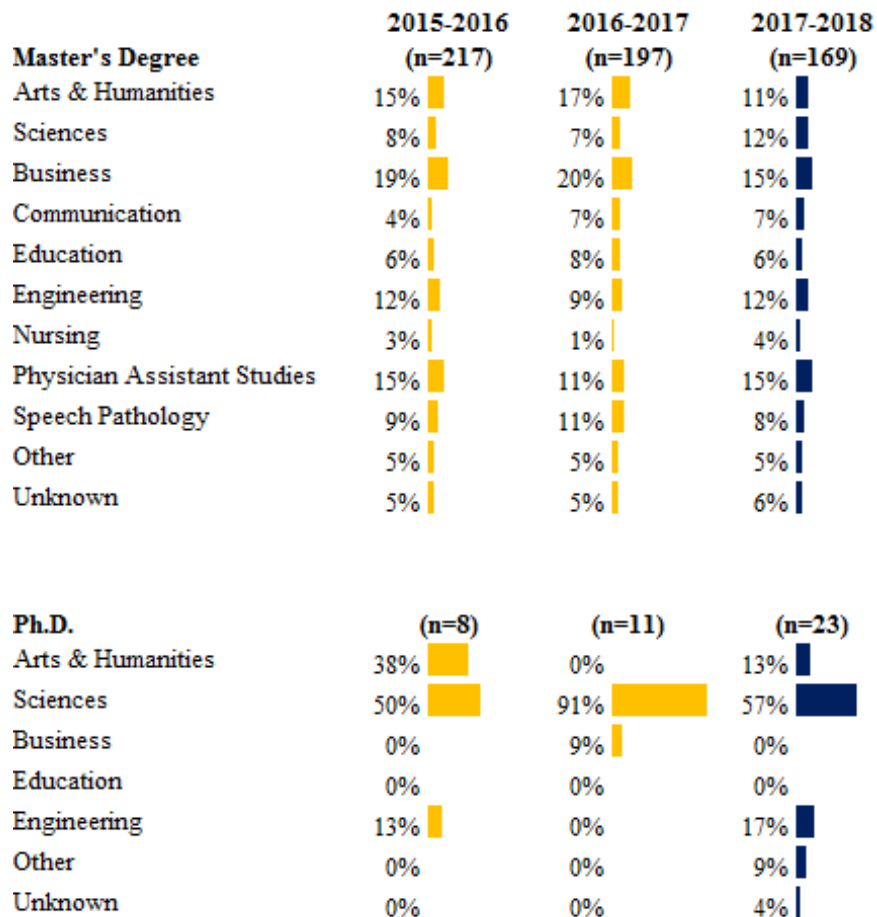
Graduate and Professional Education

Those pursuing graduate/professional school were asked to indicate the type of degree they are pursuing and the field of study of the degree. The survey also collected the name of the school, although that information is not included within this report.

About 45% of those pursuing graduate/professional school are pursuing a Master's degree. The "Other professional doctorate" category includes degrees such as Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) and Doctor of Audiology (AuD). The "Other" category primarily includes second bachelor's degrees and certificates.



Students pursuing either Master's or Ph.D. degrees were asked to indicate their field of study. The "Other" category in the Master's Degree chart includes fields such as social work, public health, and occupational therapy.



Seeking Employment and Planning on Continuing Education

Graduates who indicated they were either seeking employment or planning to continue education were asked to comment on their job search or graduate/professional program search process. For respondents reporting that they were seeking employment and who responded to this follow-up question (n = 136), they had the option to choose from a list of seven options to describe where they are in the process. Respondents could check all that applied to them, therefore, the row will not add up to 100%.

		Job Search Process - Seeking Employment (select all that apply)						
Number of Respondents	Year	Applying	Interviewing	Planning to Relocate First	Taking a Gap-Year	Researching Jobs	Have Not Started	Other
136	2017-2018	74%	38%	5%	7%	21%	7%	4%
152	2016-2017	80%	32%	5%	12%	23%	0%	4%

For respondents reporting that they were planning to continue education and who responded to this follow-up question (n = 123), they had the option to choose from a list of seven options to describe where they are in the process.

		Program Search Process - Planning to Continue Education (select all that apply)						
Number of Respondents	Year	Applied & Waiting to Hear Back	Studying for Tests	Researching Programs	Taking a Gap-Year	Thinking but Not Committed	Applying	Other
123	2017-2018	17%	29%	24%	50%	14%	40%	7%
118	2016-2017	21%	41%	29%	57%	14%	43%	3%

DISCUSSION

Results from this annual survey are distributed to many campus constituency groups and are used to inform current and future students of first destination post-graduation outcomes.

Data collection procedures follow the National Association of Colleges and Employers ([NACE standards and protocols](#)) for the collection of graduating student initial career outcomes information for undergraduates. Marquette’s Career Services Center submits Undergraduate First Destination Survey outcomes data, aggregated at the major level, to NACE for inclusion in NACE’s yearly report on first destination outcomes, including national hiring and continuing education trends.

For additional information about the report, contact:

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