



National Report on Undergraduate Career Outcomes: Spring 2014 Graduates: Six Months after Graduation

Executive Summary

Data Disclaimer: *The Outcomes Survey® Six Month National Report includes sanitized aggregated data from 36 institutions that met The Outcomes Survey® Gold Badge standard for following data collection protocols and using standardized questions resulting in an undergraduate population of population of 18,086 graduates. The undergraduate response rate for The Outcomes Survey® Spring Class of 2014 was over 38%. With nearly 7,000 responses (6,898) from 36 institutions in 19 states from across the country using The Outcomes Survey®, this data represents perhaps the most comprehensive overview of post-graduation outcomes collected in a truly standardized fashion for this class available.*

Occupational Status for Spring Class of 2014 Graduates

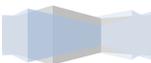
Employment

Employment rates look strong for the undergraduate spring Class of 2014 with 48% of respondents, the largest single grouping of respondent for this question, indicating their primary status as full time employment and an additional 10.3% indicating their primary status as part-time employment as of the end of data collection six months post-graduation.

These employment numbers are even stronger when considering all occupation statuses (occupations held by the alum/student other than that indicated as their primary occupation) with 50.8% of respondents indicating they held full-time positions 20.1% indicating they held part-time positions. This sums to a total of 70.9% reporting employment, nearly 12% more than when only the primary occupation is considered.

(Note: Military service is also counted as employment, but is not included in these figures. Military service accounted for 1% or less of employed respondents for both primary and multiple measures of occupation).

Compared to those reporting unemployment (see below), these numbers suggest a positive outcome for the spring Class of 2014. As of six months post-graduation, 15.6% of respondents had indicated that they were primarily unemployed and seeking employment with an additional 0.6% indicating they were unemployed, but were not seeking employment.



Enrollment in Additional Education

Many undergraduate students are returning to higher education in order to obtain additional credentials. After full-time employment, the next largest group of respondents (16.7%) indicated that their primary occupation was enrollment in additional education (accepted to program) and an additional 5.6% indicated that their primary occupation was seeking additional education (not yet accepted) for a total of 22.1% planning on continuing their education.

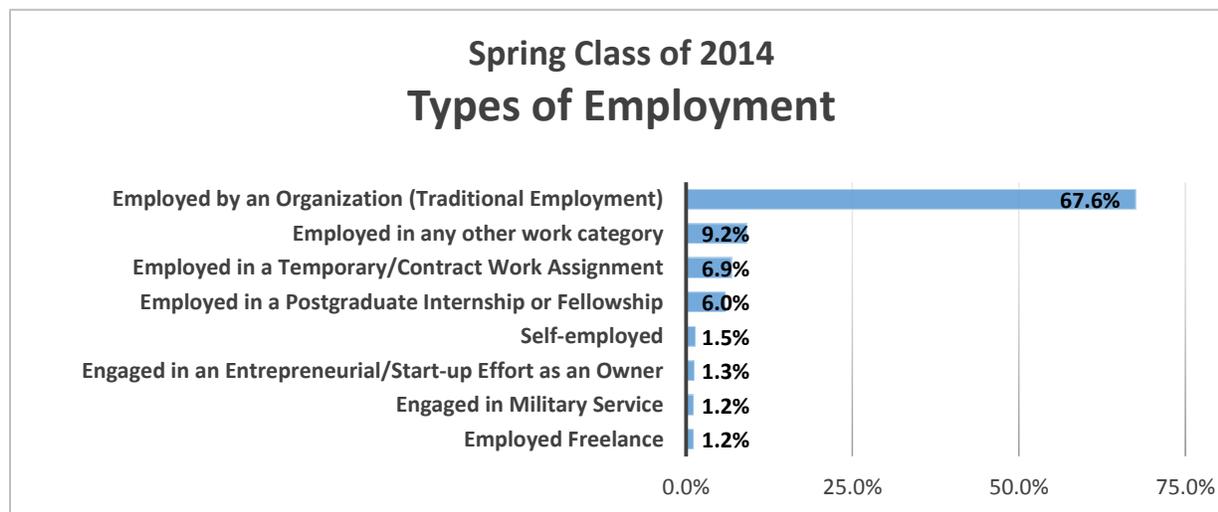
These numbers are even higher when looking beyond the primary reported status with 19.6% indicating enrollment and 14.5% indicating they are still seeking. This sums to a total of 34.1% planning on continuing their education, a full 12% more than when only primary status is considered.

Graduates pursue multiple post-graduation occupations simultaneously

It is notable that the proportion of respondents selecting each category was higher when respondents were allowed to select multiple options, in some cases two or three times the primary only proportion (See “Working part-time”, “Seeking Additional Education”, and “Engaged in Volunteer Service”). This would seem to indicate that many graduates are pursuing multiple post-graduation occupations simultaneously and that asking about primary occupation only may lead to the underrepresentation of some occupational outcomes.

Types of Employment for Spring 2014 Graduates

The majority of those who indicated they were employed (67.6%) reported that they were employed by an organization (traditional employment). No other employment category (see chart) was selected by more than 10% of the respondents. Even in the changing employment landscape, traditional employment by an organization is the primary type of occupation reported for recent graduates. While traditional



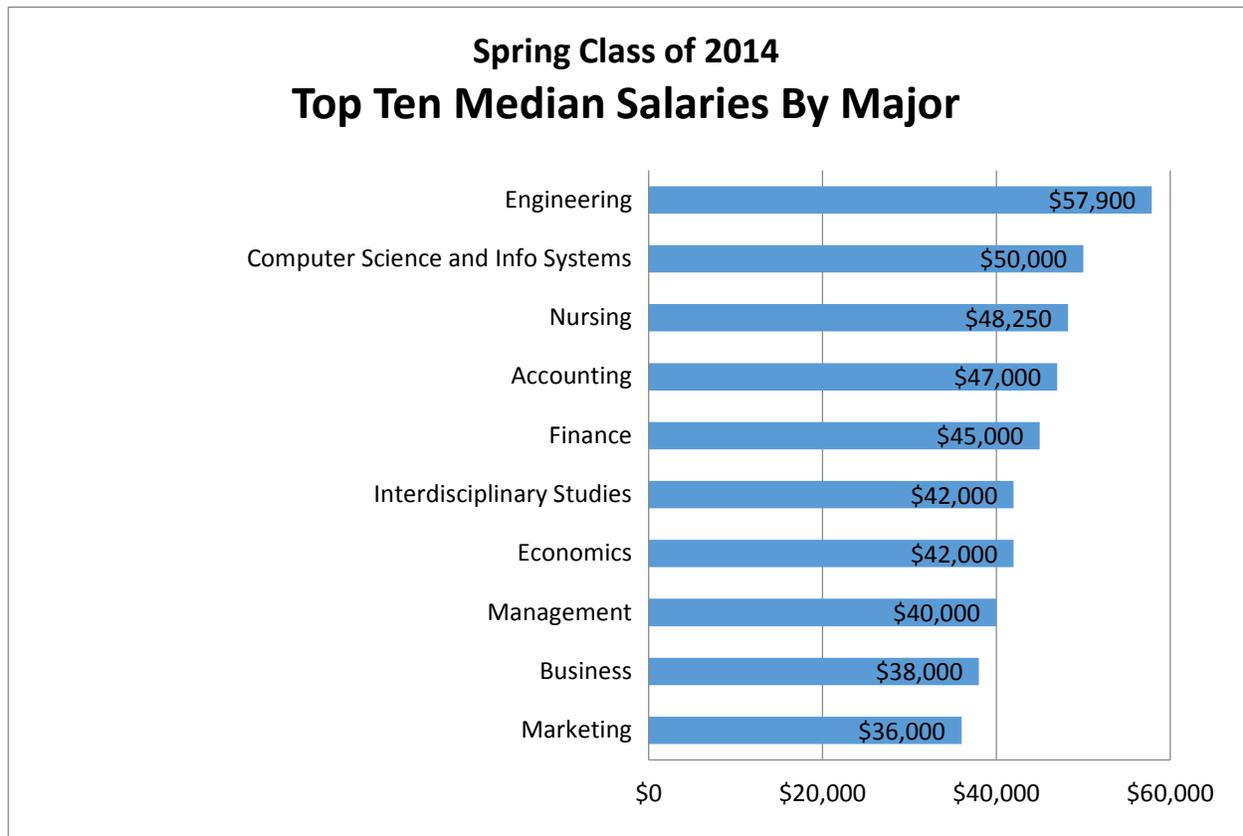
employment accounted for most of the reported positions, 9.2% of respondents indicated their employment did not fall into any of the pre-determined categories. The next largest group, 6.9%, indicated they were employed in temporary or contract work followed by the 6% who indicated they were employed in postgraduate internships or fellowships. While all of self-employment categories



("Engaged in an entrepreneurial/start-up effort as an owner", "Employed freelance", and "Self-employed") were selected by less than 2%, together these categories account for 4% of the respondents.

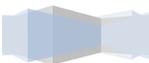
Compensation: Median Incomes for Spring 2014 Graduates

Salary/compensation data was reported by 3,170 of the graduates who indicated they were employed full or part time, or engaged in military service. The largest single group of graduates (24.2%) reported salaries between \$30,000 and \$39,999. The median reported salary for spring Class of 2014 undergraduates is \$34,000. The highest median salary was reported for Engineering majors with a reported median of \$57,900. Engineering majors were followed by Computer Science and Information Systems (\$50,000), Nursing (\$48,250), Accounting (\$47,000) and Finance (\$45,000), to round out the top five majors by income. A full breakdown of the top ten median salaries by major can be found in the chart below.



Why Some Spring 2014 Graduates Are Unemployed

There are a number of reasons that graduates may find themselves unemployed. The Outcomes Survey® asks graduates who are unemployed, regardless of whether they reported seeking employment, for the primary reason contributing to their unemployment.



Only 11% of unemployed undergraduates indicated they were not able to obtain employment of any type, and only 5.1% indicated that an inadequate level of compensation was the primary factor contributing to their unemployment.

The majority of students indicated reasons that were not necessarily related pay or availability of employment. For example, 27.7%, the largest single group, indicated their unemployment stemmed from being unable to find employment related to their career goals or area of study, and 9.4% indicated that their unemployment was because they had not found a position in the location they live or wanted to live.

Respondents also indicated other factors not directly related to the availability of employment with 12.6% indicating that their unemployment stemmed from future plans to obtain additional education and not necessarily an inability to find employment, and 7.8% indicating that their unemployment is due to personal or family reasons.

When and Where Spring 2014 Undergraduates Sought Post-graduation Occupations

Undergraduate respondents to The Outcomes Survey® Spring 2014 surveys started looking for employment early, with the majority (52.1%) beginning their search for an occupation at least three months prior to graduation and over 30% (31.7%) beginning their search six or more months prior. The majority of these graduates (54.3%) sought an occupation near their hometowns with the second largest group of graduates (24.9%) seeking positions near their alma mater. Many students also structured their searches more broadly and looked geographically with 23.5% searching in a specific city or cities in the U.S, 16.8% searching in a specific state or states and 20.5% searching either regionally or countrywide.

Additional Insights on the Spring Class of 2014

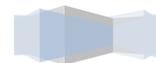
In addition to the standard outcomes questions, spring 2014 graduates who responded to The Outcomes Survey® shared information on their priorities and motivations in seeking employment, the impact of experiential education (i.e., internships) on their job search; and their engagement in the process of seeking a post-graduation occupation.

The large majority of employed graduates found positions that are related to their career goals and their undergraduate major.

79% reported employment in a position related to their major area of study
82% reported employment in a position related to their career goals
80% reported satisfaction (satisfied or very satisfied) with their current occupation

A complete list of institutions using The Outcomes Survey® can be on the following page.

For additional information and data on the Class of Spring 2014, contact Max Wartel, Head of Research & Analysis, CSO Research, Inc., at outcomes@csoresearch.com or 1-866-705-4201 x 134.



Institutions using The Outcomes Survey®

(Asterisk “*” indicates that institution’s data is included in the Spring Class of 2014 National Report)

Ashland University	Massachusetts College of Art & Design	Skidmore College
Barry University	Meredith College*	St. Ambrose University
Black Hills State University*	Metropolitan State University of Denver*	St. Edwards University
Bunker Hill Community College*	Midwestern State University	St. John Fisher College*
Carlow University	Millsaps College	St. Mary's University of San Antonio*
Chaminade University of Honolulu	Montana Tech of The University of Montana*	St. Norbert College*
Columbus College of Art and Design	Nazareth College of Rochester	Stonehill College
Concordia University - Texas*	Nevada State College	SUNY Geneseo
Curry College*	Newman University*	Texas Lutheran University*
Dalton State College	Northeastern State University*	The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
DePauw University*	Northwestern College*	The University of Findlay*
Des Moines Area Community College	Ohio Dominican University*	The University of Montana*
East Central University*	Palm Beach Atlantic University	The University of Texas at Brownsville
Elms College	Peirce College	The University of Texas at Dallas
Emory & Henry College	Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology	Transylvania University
Ferrum College	Pratt Institute	Tufts University
Fisher College	Radford University*	University of Detroit Mercy
Flagler College*	Randolph College	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
George Fox University*	Rhode Island School of Design	University of North Dakota
Hampden-Sydney College*	Career Services	University of North Texas*
Harding University*	Rider University	University of Oregon Lundquist College of Business*
Hardin-Simmons University	Ringling College of Art and Design	University of Saint Joseph*
Hartwick College	Roger Williams University*	University of South Carolina - Columbia
Hollins University	Rollins College*	University of St. Thomas - Houston
Huston-Tillotson University*	Saint Martin's University*	Virginia Commonwealth University*
John Carroll University*	Saint Mary of the Woods College	Western New England University
Johnson & Wales University	Salem State University*	Wisconsin Lutheran College*
LaGrange College	School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston	Wright State University
Longwood University	Seattle Pacific University*	
Louisiana State University	Simmons College	
Shreveport		
Lynn University		
Marian University Wisconsin*		
Maryland Institute College of Art		



About The Outcomes Survey®: Since its launch in early 2014, 90 institutions in 34 States have selected [The Outcomes Survey®](#) to collect nationally standardized career outcomes data on their graduates that exceed National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) standards and recommendations, meet reporting standards set forth by the MBA CSEA, US News & World Report, and Bloomberg/Business Week, and address the emerging federal reporting standards related to the White House College Scorecard.



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