

Florida State University

Graduate Success Report

Graduating Senior Survey:
2012-13 Findings

Florida State University Graduating Senior Survey Findings 2012-2013

Overview

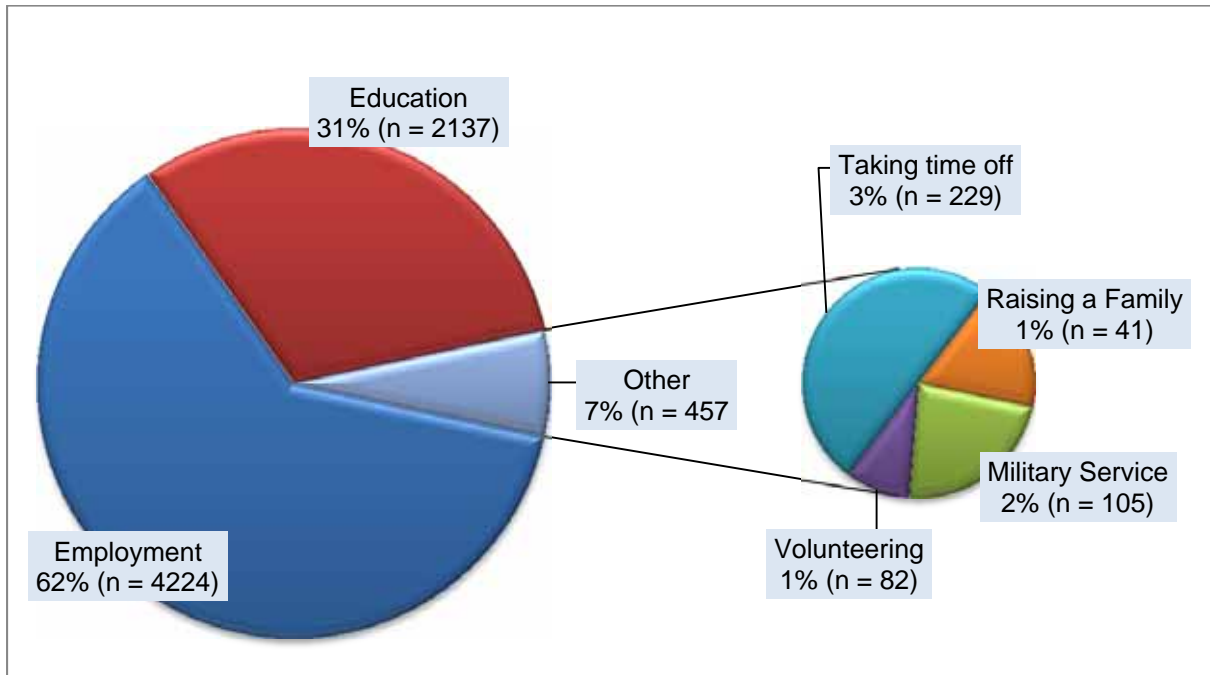
Florida State University is focused on ways to enhance the success of our graduates, with success defined as advancing graduates to the next step along the career path of their choice. For students whose immediate post-graduation plans are to enter the workforce, success is securing a paid position that allows them to advance toward their long-term career goals. For students whose career choice requires an advanced degree, success is gaining admission to graduate or professional school. For other students, the next step may be military service, volunteer work, a focus on family, or some other activity that is unique to achieving their chosen personal and professional goals. It is important for the university to get feedback on how we are doing in preparing students for success in achieving their post-graduation plans. One source of feedback is students' responses to the Graduating Senior Survey (GSS).

The GSS is an online survey administered to all undergraduate students a few weeks before they graduate. The GSS includes questions about students' post-graduation plans, whether or not they've applied and received offers of employment or admission to continuing education programs, their satisfaction with their FSU experiences, as well as questions about their participation in curricular and extracurricular activities (for a full description of the GSS, go to: <http://fla.st/1krmGq8>). At the point of graduation, some students have not yet received feedback regarding their applications for employment or continuing education or have not yet begun the application process. The university administers a follow-up survey six months post-graduation so that our recent graduates may update us on their current status as it relates to their post-graduation plans.

This report focuses on students who were awarded bachelor's degrees in fall 2012 and spring 2013. Response rates to the GSS were above 90% at the time of graduation. Response rates to the follow-up survey were 32% and 34% for the fall and spring semester graduates, respectively. The data presented in this report are based on responses to the GSS at the point of graduation with data on employment and continuing education outcomes updated for graduates who responded to the follow-up survey. This means that outcomes for approximately two-thirds of our graduates are based only on information provided at the time of graduation. Consequently, the findings presented in this report should be interpreted as conservative estimates of recent graduates' success in securing employment or admission to continuing education programs.

Post-Graduation Plans of 2012-13 Bachelor's Degree Recipients

The first question of the GSS asks students to identify, from the following options, their primary and immediate post-graduate plan: 1) Employment; 2) Continuing Education; 3) Other (military service, volunteering, starting/raising a family, or taking time off). The chart below presents the primary plans of 2012-13 bachelor's degree recipients for the entire university.

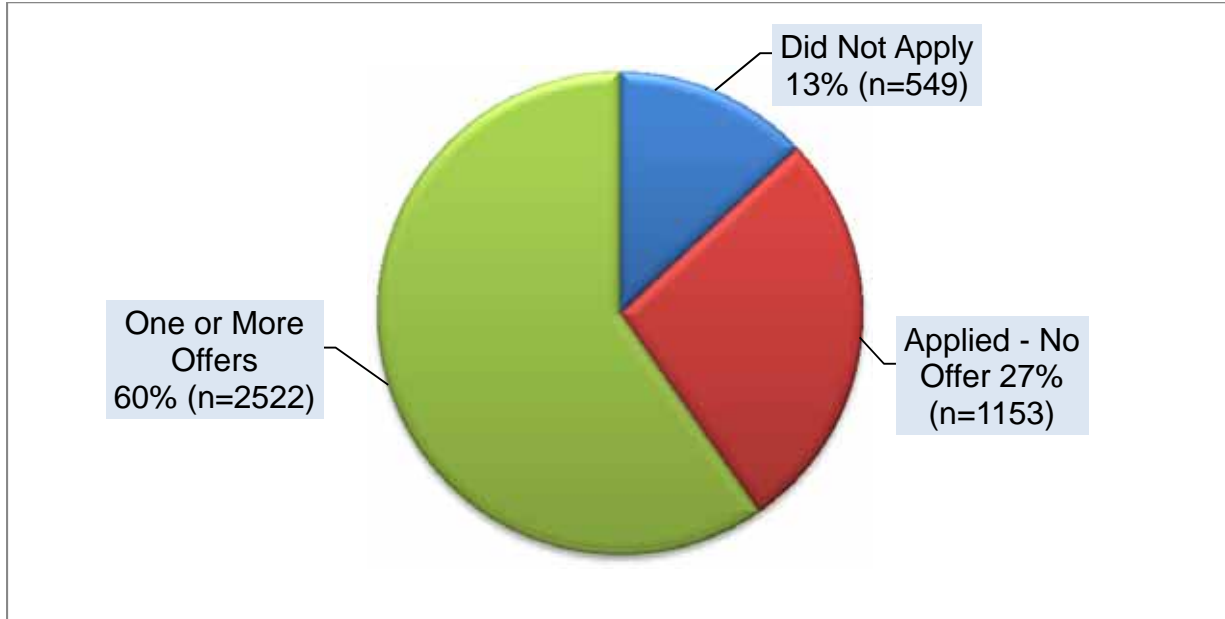


Below are the Post-graduation Plans of graduates from each college:

College	Employment		Education		Other	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Applied Studies	9	64%	5	36%	0	---
Arts & Sciences	960	51%	756	40%	161	9%
Business	1059	78%	259	19%	37	3%
Communication & Information	252	63%	123	31%	23	6%
Criminology & Criminal Justice	192	61%	93	30%	29	9%
Education	212	76%	58	21%	9	3%
Engineering	159	72%	50	23%	11	5%
Human Sciences	278	48%	261	45%	37	6%
Motion Picture Arts	23	100%	0	---	0	---
Music	76	66%	32	28%	7	6%
Nursing	101	89%	4	4%	8	7%
Social Sciences & Public Policy	685	56%	415	34%	118	10%
Social Work	34	40%	45	54%	5	6%
Visual Arts, Theatre & Dance	184	79%	36	16%	12	5%

Employment Outcomes

Graduates whose primary plan was employment were asked about their success in obtaining employment. Below are the findings for their employment status:

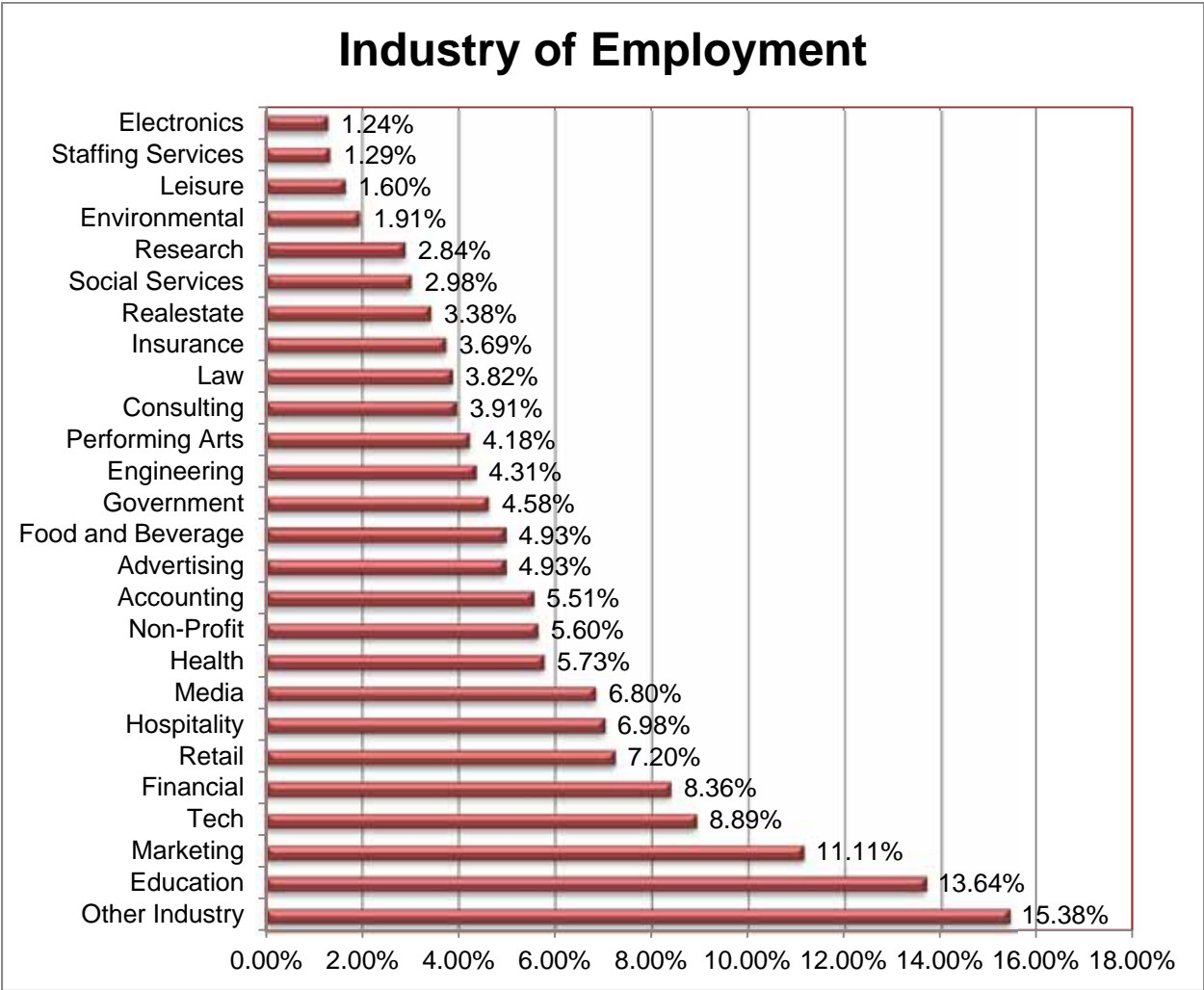
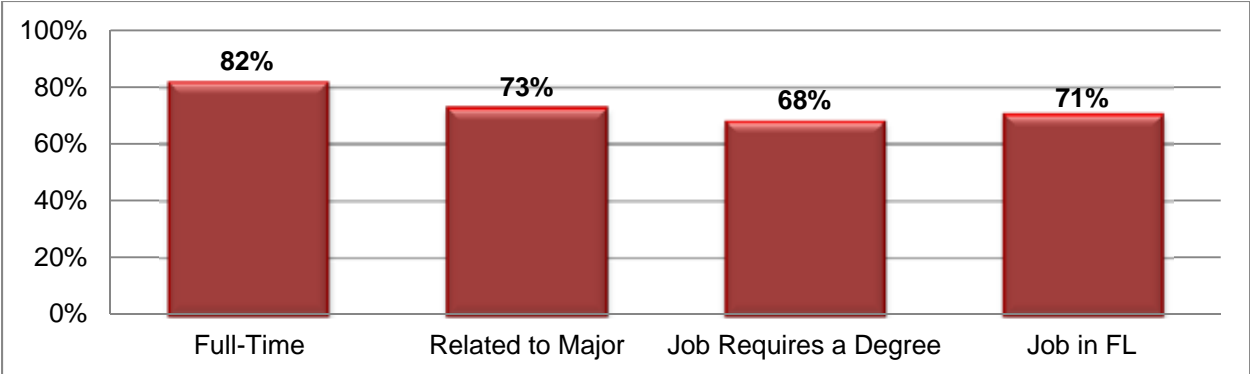


Below are the employment outcomes for each college:

College	Not Yet Applied		Applied, No Offers		One or More Offers	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Applied Studies	3	33%	1	11%	5	56%
Arts & Sciences	153	16%	276	29%	531	55%
Business	83	8%	224	21%	752	71%
Communication & Information	18	7%	66	26%	168	67%
Criminology & Criminal Justice	27	14%	82	43%	83	43%
Education	34	16%	67	32%	111	52%
Engineering	10	6%	56	35%	93	58%
Human Sciences	41	15%	75	27%	162	58%
Motion Picture Arts	0	---	5	22%	18	78%
Music	10	13%	19	25%	47	62%
Nursing	15	15%	38	38%	48	48%
Social Sciences & Pub. Policy	123	15%	187	27%	375	55%
Social Work	5	15%	9	26%	20	59%
Visual Arts, Theatre & Dance	27	15%	48	26%	109	59%

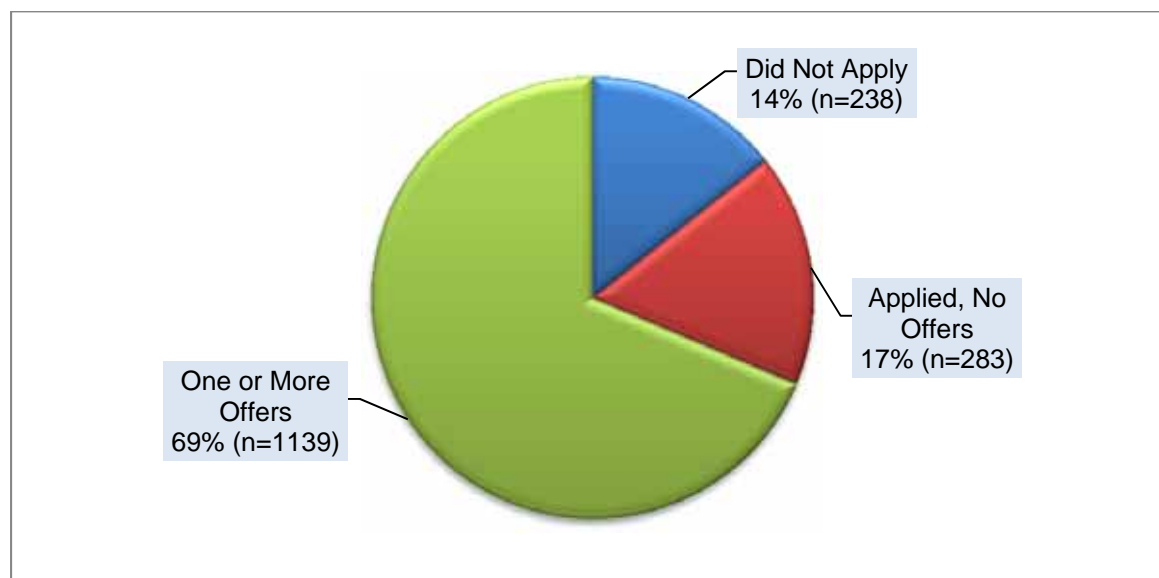
Employment Outcomes: Characteristics of Secured Employment

Graduates who secured employment at the time of the survey were asked to provide information about their jobs. Below are the findings for responses to questions about key characteristics of their employment.



Continuing Education Outcomes

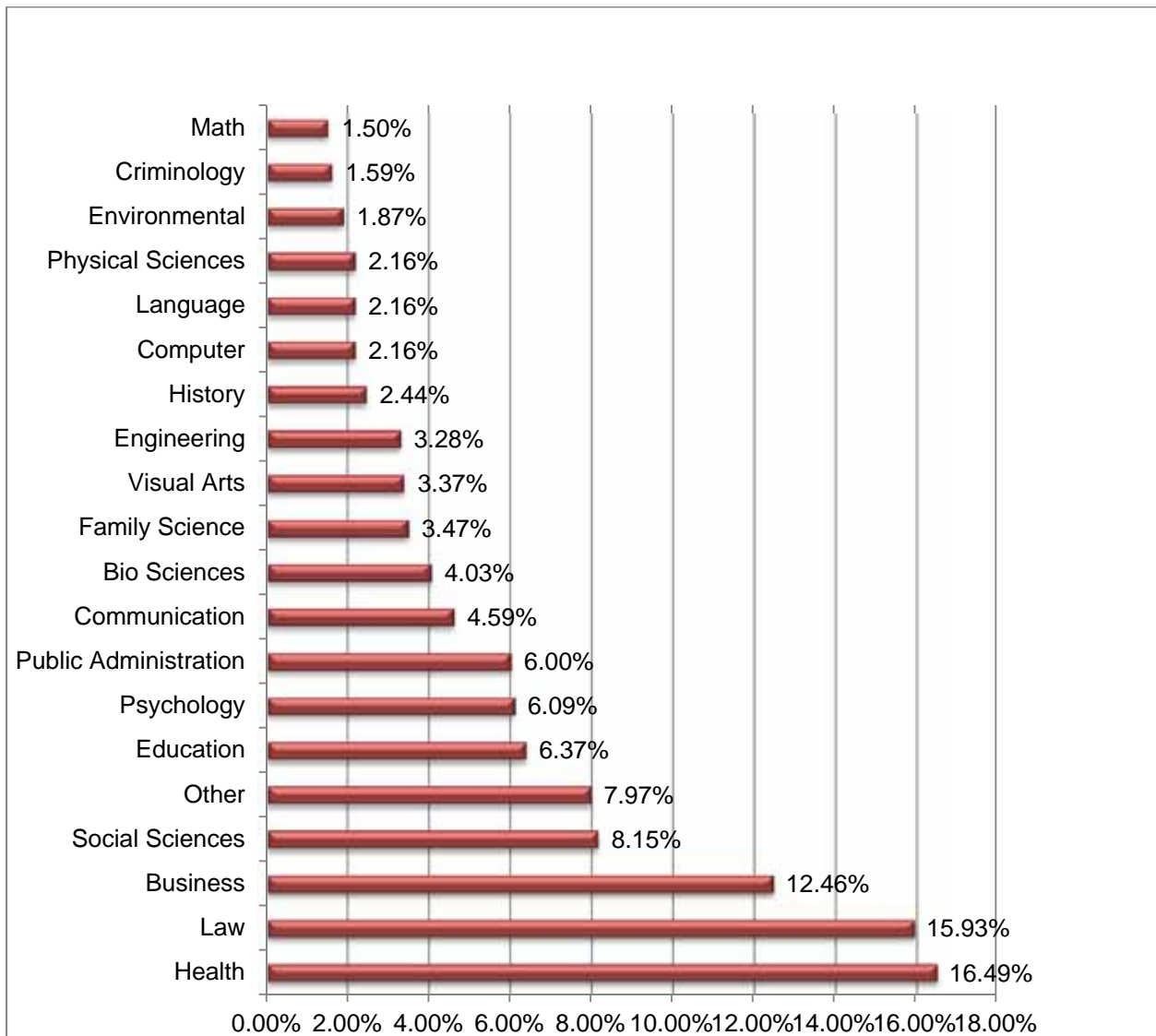
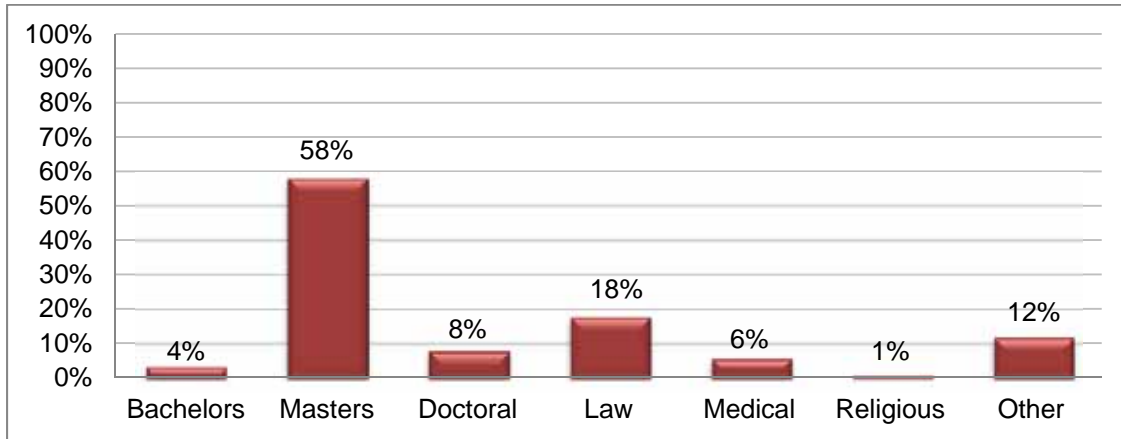
Graduates whose primary plan was to continue their education were asked about their success in gaining admission to continuing education programs. Admissions decisions for most graduate and professional schools are made in late spring which means those who graduate in the fall semester would probably not know the status of their applications at the time of the GSS. For this reason, continuing education outcomes reported here are limited to the spring graduates (n=1,660).



Below are the continuing education outcomes for each college:

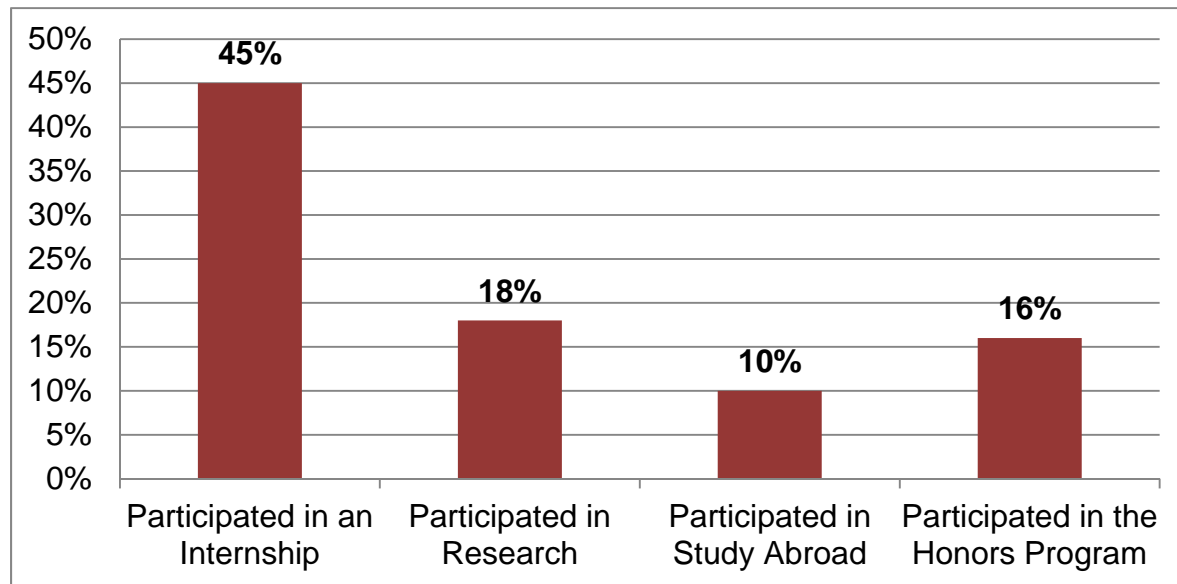
College	Not Yet Applied		Applied, No Offers		One or More Offers	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Applied Studies	0	----	2	40%	3	60%
Arts & Sciences	97	16%	102	17%	392	66%
Business	23	11%	37	18%	149	71%
Communication & Information	8	7%	19	17%	85	76%
Criminology & Criminal Justice	14	23%	8	13%	38	63%
Education	8	17%	7	15%	31	67%
Engineering	4	9%	5	11%	35	80%
Human Sciences	31	16%	45	23%	121	61%
Motion Picture Arts	0	---	0	---	0	---
Music	0	---	1	4%	24	96%
Nursing	2	50%	0	---	2	50%
Social Sciences & Pub. Policy	43	14%	49	16%	214	70%
Social Work	6	18%	4	12%	23	70%
Visual Arts, Theatre & Dance	2	7%	4	14%	22	79%

Continuing Education: Types of Degrees & Fields of Study



Participation in Select Educational Programs & Activities

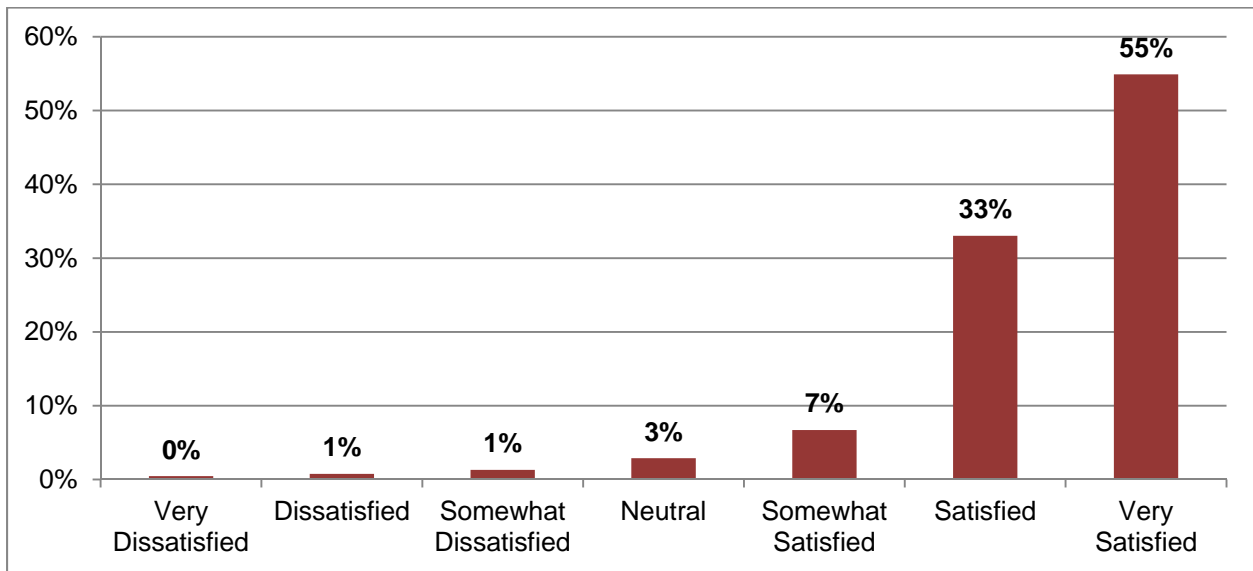
The GSS includes a number of questions about graduates' participation in academic programs and co-curricular activities during their years at FSU. Participation in four programs is summarized here: 1) Internship (completion of an internship, practicum, field experience, or clinical assignment); 2) Research (completion of a Directed Individual Study, Honors Thesis, or having presented, performed or exhibited a formal research project); 3) Intensive International Experience (Study Abroad); and 4) FSU Honors Program. Below are the participation rates for all graduates followed by a table that presents results by college.



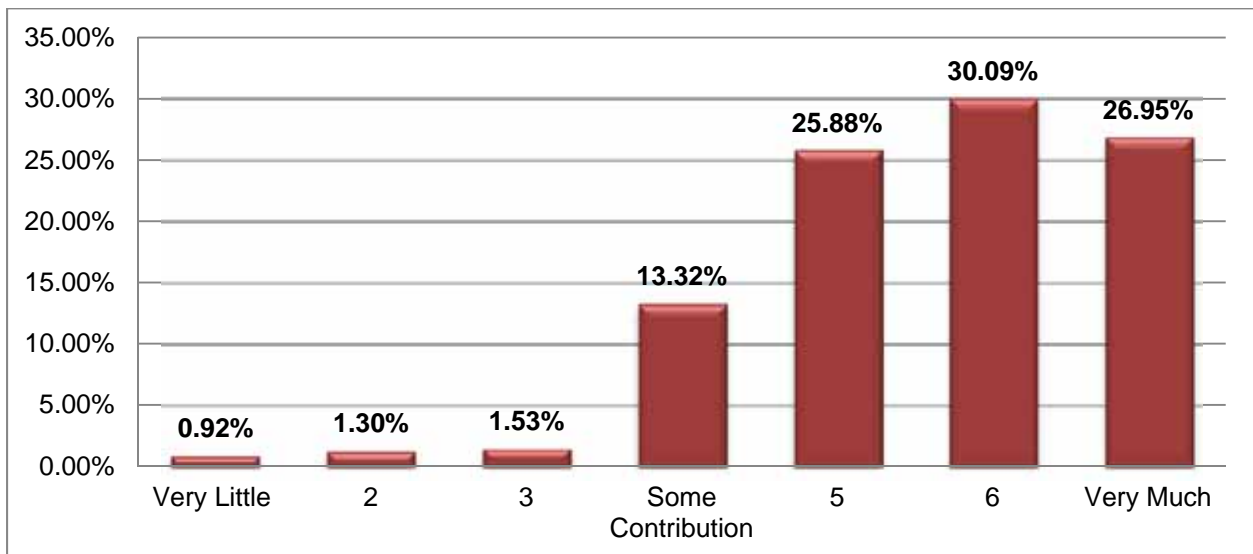
College	Internship		Research		Int'l Study		Honors	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Applied Studies	5	36%	1	7%	0	---	1	7%
Arts & Sciences	699	37%	625	33%	185	10%	379	20%
Business	719	53%	76	6%	126	9%	179	13%
Comm. & Info.	264	66%	68	17%	45	11%	75	19%
Criminology	127	40%	40	12%	17	5%	24	7%
Education	195	70%	12	4%	7	3%	40	14%
Engineering	61	28%	35	16%	10	5%	26	12%
Human Sciences	341	58%	109	19%	46	8%	68	12%
Motion Picture Arts	8	35%	2	9%	0	---	7	30%
Music	52	45%	40	34%	7	6%	26	22%
Nursing	85	75%	10	9%	12	11%	25	22%
SSPP	392	32%	133	11%	153	12%	184	15%
Social Work	74	88%	6	7%	5	6%	11	13%
VATD	105	45%	51	22%	53	23%	46	20%

Satisfaction with their FSU Experience

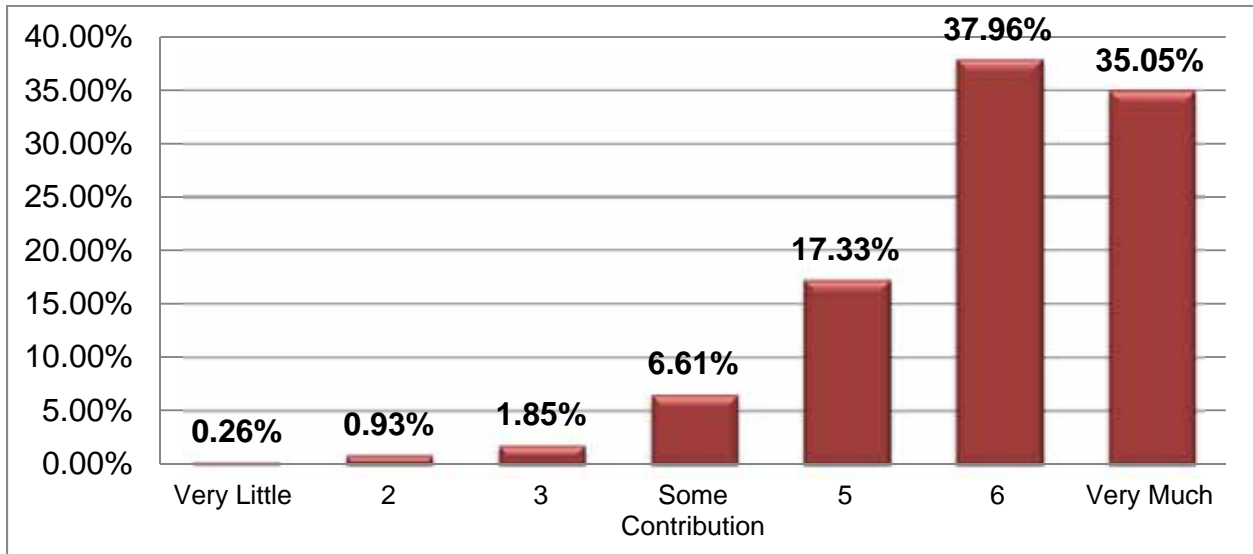
To assess graduates' perceptions of their experiences as a student, they were asked: **“Overall, how would you rate your satisfaction with your entire experience (educational and co-curricular) at FSU?”** As the chart below shows, the great majority of graduates reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their experiences at FSU.



At follow-up, graduates who had secured employment were asked: **“To what extent did your FSU course of study prepare you for employment after college?”** As shown below, a high proportion of our graduates felt that FSU had prepared them well for their employment.



Graduates who were enrolled in post-graduate education at follow-up were asked: “**To what extent did your FSU course of study prepare you for post-college education?**” As shown below, a high proportion of our graduates felt well prepared for their continuing education programs.



Summary

The intent of this report is to summarize some of the main findings of the Graduating Senior Survey as well as to inform the academic community of the availability of information the university has gathered on recent graduates via this survey. It is hoped that this information will be a useful resource to academic units as they evaluate their programs, advise their students, and track the success of their graduates. Please note that this report summarizes findings for a subset of items from the GSS. Academic units are welcome to request additional survey information about their graduates (send requests to: https://fsu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6EbG8AZ4ZicKtCZ). A report summarizing the GSS findings for 2013-14 graduates will be distributed in January, 2015. Please direct any questions you may have about this report or about the GSS to Janet Kistner (jkistner@fsu.edu).