

2014 IUPUI Graduate Alumni Survey

Summary of Results

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Executive Summary

Current Employment and Student Debt

- The majority of graduate student alumni respondents have full-time employment that is directly related to their major at IUPUI.
- The most prominent fields of employment include educational institutions and healthcare organizations.
- Nearly a third (30%) of graduate student alumni respondents have accrued at least \$50,000 of debt related to their graduate degree.

IUPUI Experience

- Overall, respondents are satisfied with their academic experiences at IUPUI.
- Areas alumni would like to see improvement include advising/mentorship and an increase in opportunities to participate in faculty members' research.
- The large majority of respondents (86%) report that they either probably or definitely choose IUPUI if they could repeat their graduate student career.
- Nearly half (48%) of all respondents completed an internship or an externship while a graduate student at IUPUI.

Knowledge and Skills Gained at IUPUI

- Overall, graduate student alumni rate themselves as effective on skills and abilities related to the PGPLs.
- A noticeable percentage of respondents rate themselves as ineffective or very ineffective in regards to marketing themselves effectively (30%) and understanding research/scholarship in their discipline (35%)

Further Education

- The majority of alumni (61%) consider themselves to be finished with their academic careers.
- More than half (58%) of alumni respondents currently pursuing another degree are doing so at an IU institution.

Connection to School/Program

- The majority of alumni that obtain information regarding their specific School/department do so by email.
- Most respondents feel either some (44%) or very little (30%) of a connection to their specific School/department.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|------|
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | 2 |
| SECTION 1: EMPLOYMENT | 5 |
| Figure 1: Current Employment Status | 5 |
| Figure 2: Type of Employer | 6 |
| SECTION 2: STUDENT LOAN DEBT | 7 |
| Figure 3: Student Loan Debt (from all sources)..... | 7 |
| SECTION 3: IUPUI EXPERIENCE..... | 8 |
| Table 1: Satisfaction with Academics, Instruction, and the Learning Environment | 8 |
| Table 2: Satisfaction with Co-Curricular Experiences and Other Services | 9 |
| Figure 4: Would you go again to IUPUI? | 9 |
| Table 3: Satisfaction with Assistantships & Internships/Externships | 10 |
| SECTION 4: IMPACT OF IUPUI ON YOUR LEARNING | 11 |
| Table 4: Knowledge & Skills | 11 |
| SECTION 5: FURTHER EDUCATION | 12 |
| Figure 5: Current Educational Status | 12 |
| SECTION 6: COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ENGAGEMENT..... | 13 |
| Figure 6: Method of obtaining information about School/program | 13 |

PURPOSE: To measure indicators related to current alumni employment, satisfaction with experiences at IUPUI, effectiveness of IUPUI on learning, further education, and connection to IUPUI.

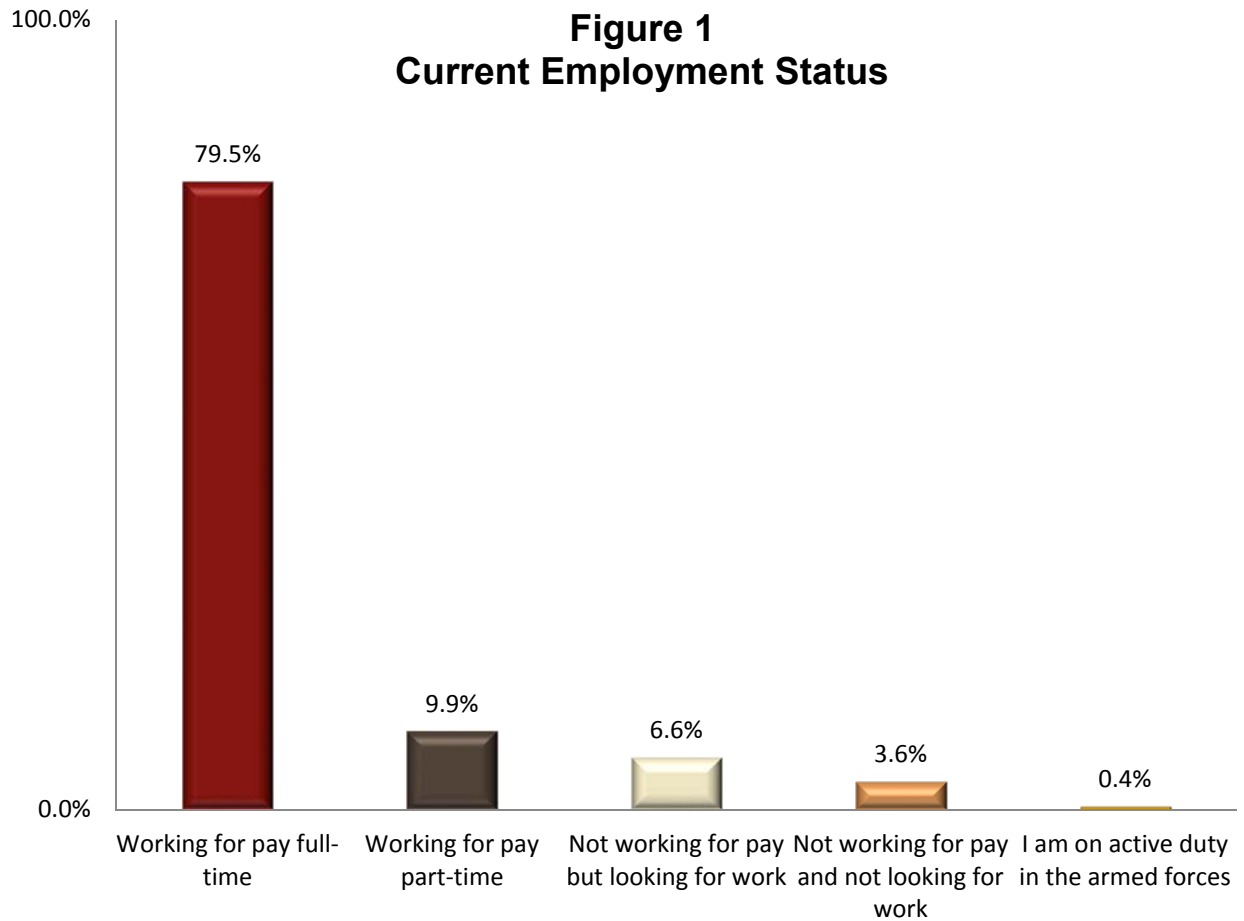
METHODS: Survey administered to graduate student alumni who graduated from Fall 2011 to Spring 2014 for which the Office of Alumni Relations had up-to-date contact information. All graduates from Summer 2014 were included in the sample.

RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS:

| | All Respondents | Sample | Population |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>Female</i> | 58.7% | 57.7% | 56.7% |
| <i>Male</i> | 41.2% | 42.3% | 43.3% |
| <i>White</i> | 69.3% | 66.5% | 66.2% |
| <i>Black</i> | 6.8% | 6.3% | 6.0% |
| <i>Hispanic</i> | 1.1% | 1.8% | 2.0% |
| <i>Asian</i> | 4.2% | 5.9% | 5.9% |
| <i>Other</i> | 0.2% | 0.6% | 0.4% |
| <i>International</i> | 16.0% | 15.4% | 15.1% |
| <i>Refused</i> | 2.4% | 3.5% | 4.4% |
| <i>Law</i> | 15.5% | 12.6% | 14.4% |
| <i>Medicine</i> | 11.0% | 16.3% | 17.5% |
| <i>Liberal Arts</i> | 10.5% | 5.8% | 6.0% |
| <i>Social Work</i> | 8.8% | 10.3% | 8.7% |
| <i>Science</i> | 7.8% | 8.5% | 7.6% |
| <i>SPEA</i> | 7.2% | 3.7% | 3.6% |
| <i>Business</i> | 7.5% | 7.8% | 8.0% |
| <i>Public Health</i> | 6.2% | 2.3% | 1.9% |
| <i>ENGT</i> | 5.5% | 5.4% | 4.8% |
| <i>Nursing</i> | 4.6% | 5.2% | 4.7% |
| <i>Informatics</i> | 4.4% | 4.1% | 3.5% |
| <i>Education</i> | 3.6% | 6.1% | 6.1% |
| <i>SHRS</i> | 2.6% | 3.5% | 3.2% |
| <i>Dentistry</i> | 2.5% | 4.5% | 5.6% |
| <i>Library Science</i> | 2.2% | 2.0% | 2.3% |
| <i>Philanthropy</i> | 1.5% | 0.7% | 0.7% |
| <i>Herron</i> | 1.0% | 0.6% | 0.8% |
| <i>PETM</i> | 0.2% | 0.6% | 0.5% |
| N | 938 | 5291 | 7082 |
| Response Rate | 19% | | |

- Roughly one out of every five alumni contacted completed the survey.
- The gender of respondents is comparable to the gender split of the sample provided.
- There is a slight overrepresentation of white alumni respondents.
- Most schools are similarly represented in the survey responses compared to the sample. The most notable exceptions are the overrepresentation of Liberal Arts alumni and the underrepresentation of the School of Medicine alumni.
- 17% of respondents also attended IUPUI for their undergraduate degree.

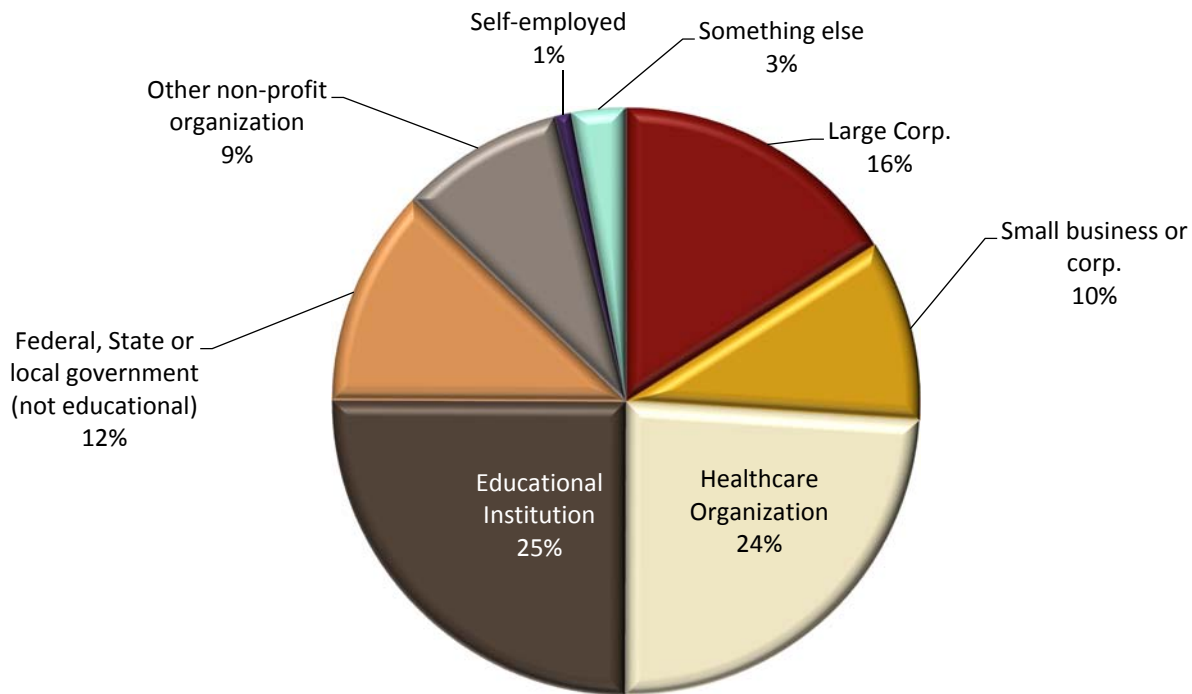
Section 1: Employment



N=898

- Roughly 89% of all graduate student alumni are working either full-time or part-time. The majority of which currently have full-time employment.
- Nearly three-quarters (73%) of those currently working are employed in Indiana.

Figure 2
Type of Employer

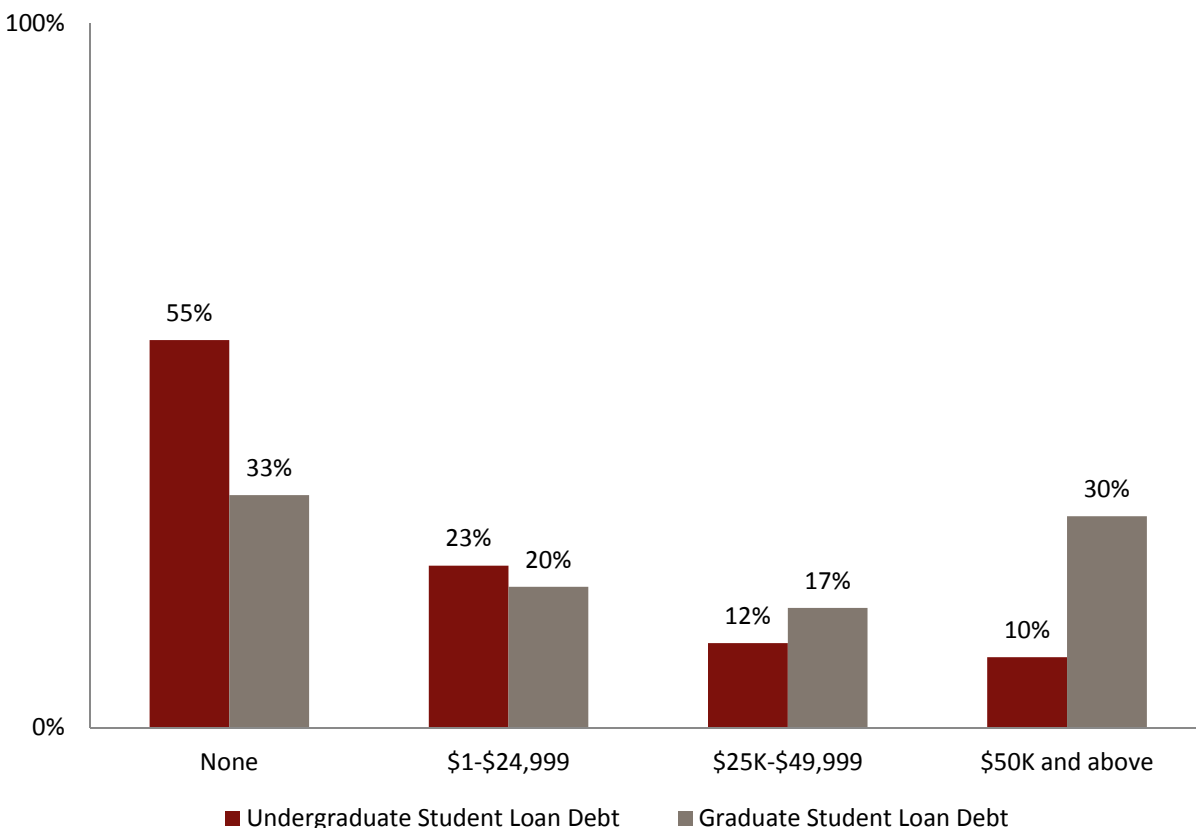


N=801

- Roughly half (49%) of all graduate student alumni respondents are working for either an educational institution or a healthcare organization.
- The majority of respondents (69%) report that their current job is directly related to their major at IUPUI, while the large majority (92%) say it is at least somewhat related.
- The majority of graduate student alumni (74%) also agree with the statement, “The job I have is the job I want.”
- Approximately half of respondents report that their IUPUI education prepared them for their current job very well (49%) as well as enhancing their prospects for career advancement (52%).
- The vast majority believe their IUPUI education assisted them with preparing them for their job and enhancing their prospects for career advancement at least somewhat at rates of 90% and 92% respectively.
- Nearly three out of four graduate student alumni respondents (73%) have an annual salary of at least \$40,000. The majority of employed respondents have a salary either in the range of \$40,000 to \$59,999 (38%) or \$60,000 to \$79,999 (17%).

Section 2: Student Loan Debt

Figure 3
Student Loan Debt (from all sources)



N=878

- Over half (55%) of all respondents report having no debt related to their undergraduate degree while this is true for only one-third of alumni regarding their graduate degree.
- The percentage of students having student loan debt up to \$24,999 and between \$25,000 and \$49,999 are very similar.
- A larger percentage of students have student loan debt \$50,000 or more for their graduate degree (30%) than for an undergraduate degree (10%).
- One out of five (21%) of all respondents state that they are not at all confident that they will be able to pay off their student loans on time.
- Two-thirds of graduate student alumni are at least somewhat confident they will be able to pay off their student loans on time.

Section 3: IUPUI Experience

Table 1
Satisfaction with Academics, Instruction, and the Learning Environment ^a

| Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your IUPUI experience. | Very Dissatisfied | Dissatisfied | Satisfied | Very Satisfied | Mean | N |
|--|--------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|------|-----|
| | <i>Percentages</i> | | | | | |
| Overall quality of your academic experiences at IUPUI | 2% | 8% | 59% | 32% | 3.21 | 938 |
| Your social experiences at IUPUI | 2% | 17% | 62% | 19% | 2.98 | 931 |
| Quality of teaching by faculty in your major area | 2% | 12% | 50% | 37% | 3.21 | 937 |
| Quality of advising or mentorship | 9% | 25% | 43% | 23% | 2.80 | 938 |
| Quality of courses in your major area | 3% | 14% | 53% | 30% | 3.09 | 938 |
| Personal attention from those in your major department | 5% | 15% | 47% | 33% | 3.08 | 934 |
| Opportunities for community engagement (projects, research, exhibitions, etc.) | 4% | 17% | 54% | 25% | 3.01 | 926 |
| Opportunities to participate in faculty members' research | 9% | 26% | 48% | 17% | 2.72 | 911 |
| Opportunities to participate in personal research | 5% | 19% | 57% | 20% | 2.91 | 912 |
| Consultations about thesis, dissertation, or creative project. | 6% | 14% | 56% | 23% | 2.96 | 909 |
| General helpfulness of faculty | 2% | 10% | 54% | 35% | 3.21 | 937 |
| Tutoring and other academic support services | 3% | 14% | 64% | 19% | 2.98 | 897 |
| Use of technology in the classroom | 2% | 9% | 63% | 27% | 3.14 | 931 |
| The extent to which faculty and staff helped you become oriented to your program | 5% | 17% | 52% | 27% | 3.00 | 930 |

^a 1 = Very Dissatisfied, 2 = Dissatisfied, 3 = Satisfied, 4 = Very Satisfied

- The large majority (91%) of graduate student alumni respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the overall quality of their academic experiences.
- The lowest satisfaction is in regards to quality of advising or mentorship as well as the opportunity to participate in faculty members' research. Roughly one-third of all respondents report being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with these aspects of their academic experience.
- In regards to faculty, the quality of teaching in major area and the general helpfulness of faculty are both rated highly by respondents with 87% and 89% respectively being satisfied or very satisfied.

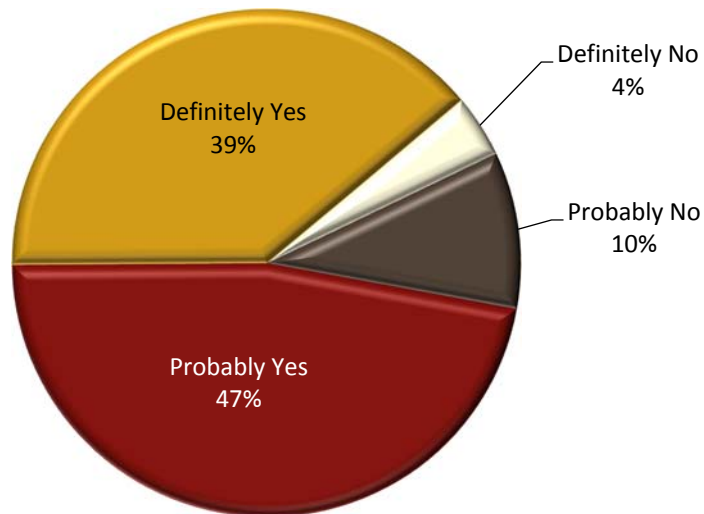
Table 2
Satisfaction with Co-Curricular Experiences and Other Services ^a

| Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your IUPUI experience. | Very Dissatisfied | Dissatisfied | Satisfied | Very Satisfied | Mean | N |
|---|-------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|------|-----|
| | Percentages | | | | | |
| Opportunities to develop appreciation for diversity (outside speakers, programs, films, book discussions, etc.) | 3% | 12% | 58% | 28% | 3.10 | 929 |
| Opportunities to develop leadership skills (in class) | 3% | 16% | 58% | 23% | 3.01 | 928 |
| Opportunities to develop leadership skills (outside the classroom) | 4% | 20% | 54% | 22% | 2.94 | 920 |
| Opportunities for career development (externship, job shadowing, career workshops, internships, etc.) | 10% | 20% | 43% | 26% | 2.86 | 923 |
| Opportunities to participate in international activities on campus (participating in courses or programs with international students, using the global classroom, etc.) | 6% | 21% | 56% | 17% | 2.83 | 896 |

^a 1 = Very Dissatisfied, 2 = Dissatisfied, 3 = Satisfied, 4 = Very Satisfied

- Overall, respondents are satisfied with the co-curricular experience at IUPUI.
- Graduate student alumni report that they would like to have more opportunities for career development and to participate in international activities on campus. More than one-quarter of respondents report being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with these two items.

Figure 4
If You Could Start Over Again, Would You Go To IUPUI?



N=880

- The majority of alumni respondents (86%) would either probably or definitely attend IUPUI if they had an opportunity to start over again.

Table 3
Satisfaction with Assistantships & Internships/Externships ^a

| Percentage who are very satisfied/ satisfied with... | Teaching Assistantship | Research Assistantship | Internship/ Externship |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| The extent to which it complemented your coursework | 88% | 89% | 88% |
| The extent to which it corresponded to your career goals | 83% | 83% | 89% |
| The extent to which it prepared you for the job market | 74% | 75% | 84% |
| The extent to which you were mentored/ supervised | 78% | 83% | 81% |
| N | 80 | 128 | 448 |

^a 1 = Very Dissatisfied, 2 = Dissatisfied, 3 = Satisfied, 4 = Very Satisfied

- Respondents were asked if they completed an assistantship or internship/externship while at IUPUI. Nearly half (48%) of all respondents completed an internship or externship while slightly less than one-quarter (23%) of graduate student alumni had an assistantship while in school.
- Among students who did not have an assistantship, most did not desire one, but there were a noticeable amount that wanted an assistantship but their department did not offer them (16%) or they did not receive one from their department (8%).
- The large majority of respondents are satisfied with how assistantships (88%) and internships/externships (81%) are assigned.
- Overall alumni are satisfied with their assistantships and internships/externships, with a larger percentage of respondents who completed an internship/externship being satisfied with how it prepared them for the job market compared to alumni who completed an assistantship.

Section 4: Impact of IUPUI on Learning.

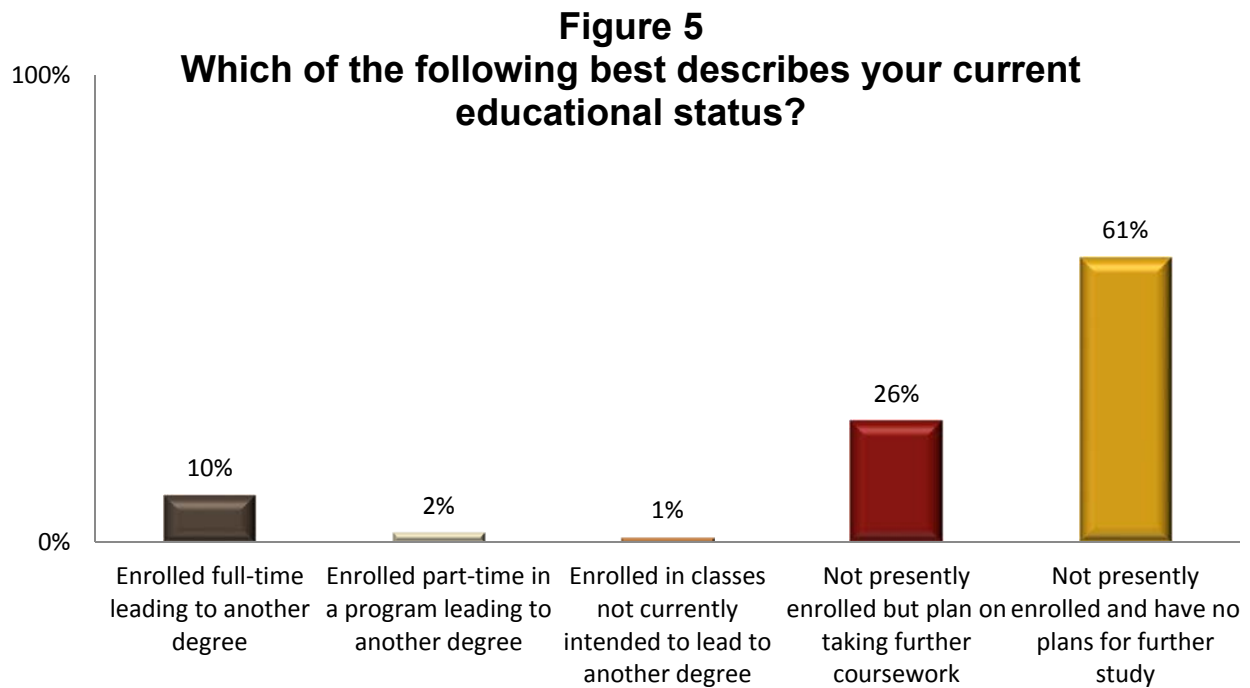
Table 4
Knowledge and Skills ^a

| Please indicate your level of effectiveness in each of the following skills/abilities. | Not at all Effective | Somewhat Effective | Effective | Very Effective | Mean | N |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|-----------|----------------|------|-----|
| | <i>Percentages</i> | | | | | |
| Acquiring in-depth knowledge in your discipline | 1% | 14% | 48% | 37% | 3.20 | 909 |
| Conducting original research and scholarship | 8% | 27% | 42% | 23% | 2.81 | 904 |
| Understanding research/scholarship in your discipline | 3% | 18% | 47% | 32% | 3.08 | 910 |
| Communicating effectively with others in your discipline | 1% | 10% | 49% | 40% | 3.27 | 912 |
| Communicating effectively with the general public | 3% | 11% | 50% | 36% | 3.19 | 909 |
| Thinking critically | 1% | 5% | 42% | 52% | 3.45 | 912 |
| Thinking creatively | 2% | 11% | 46% | 41% | 3.25 | 911 |
| Applying good judgement in both professional and personal situations | 1% | 6% | 48% | 45% | 3.38 | 894 |
| Solving problems in your discipline | 1% | 8% | 48% | 43% | 3.33 | 898 |
| Conducting research in an ethical manner | 1% | 8% | 42% | 49% | 3.39 | 890 |
| Behaving in an ethical way | 0% | 3% | 36% | 60% | 3.56 | 892 |
| Using the knowledge gained in college to address social issues or problems | 4% | 12% | 48% | 37% | 3.18 | 890 |
| Understanding contemporary social issues | 2% | 13% | 47% | 39% | 3.22 | 894 |
| Exercising your responsibilities as a citizen (e.g. voting, actively participating in community and political issues) | 5% | 14% | 45% | 37% | 3.13 | 890 |
| Marketing yourself effectively | 8% | 22% | 46% | 25% | 2.87 | 896 |

^a 1 = Not at all Effective, 2 = Somewhat Effective, 3 = Effective, 4 = Very Effective

- Alumni respondents rate themselves as mostly effective on skills and abilities that are related to the principles of graduate and professional student learning (PGPLs).
- Respondents rate themselves highest on the skills/abilities of behaving in an ethical way (96%) and thinking critically (94%) where the vast majority believe they are either effective or very effective.
- Graduate student alumni rate themselves lowest regarding marketing themselves effectively and conducting original research. But even the large majority rate themselves as at least somewhat effective on these two skills/abilities.
- In regards to current involvement in their community 84% of alumni report that they are at least somewhat active within the community. However only one-quarter of respondents state that educational activities through their School contributed quite a bit (17%) or very much (8%) to their current involvement.

Section 5: Further Education

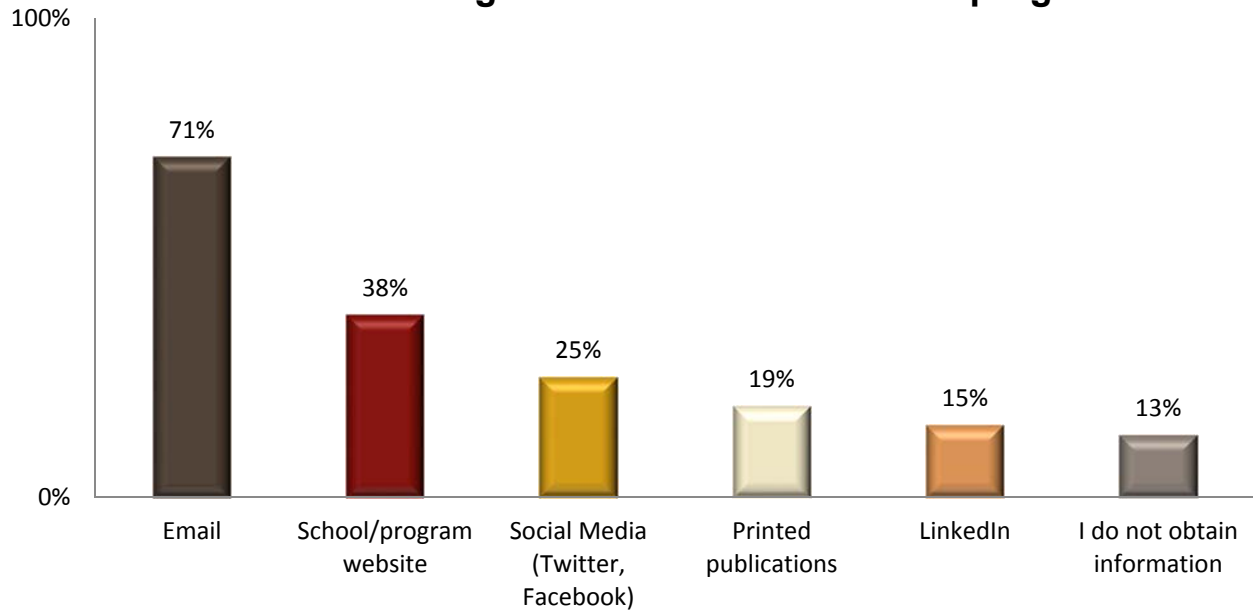


N=905

- The majority of respondents (61%) are not currently enrolled in an institution and consider themselves as done with their studies.
- Only 12% of respondents are currently enrolled in classes leading to another degree. Of those that are enrolled, a majority (58%) are enrolled in an IU program.
- More than half (55%) believe their IUPUI education prepared them very well to pursue their new degree while the large majority (89%) report that it prepared them at least somewhat.
- Of those alumni who are enrolled in an institution leading to another degree, more than two-thirds (68%) were accepted to their 1st choice school and 90% were admitted to at least their 2nd choice.

Section 6: Connection with School

Figure 6
Method of obtaining information about School/program



N=898

- The large majority (87%) of graduate student alumni respondents obtain information about their school or program.
- By far the most common method of obtaining information is email (71%), followed by School/program website (38%) and social media (25%).
- Less than one out of five respondents (17%) report feeling a very strong connection toward their specific School.
- The majority of alumni report feeling either some (44%) or very little (30%) of a connection to their specific School.