

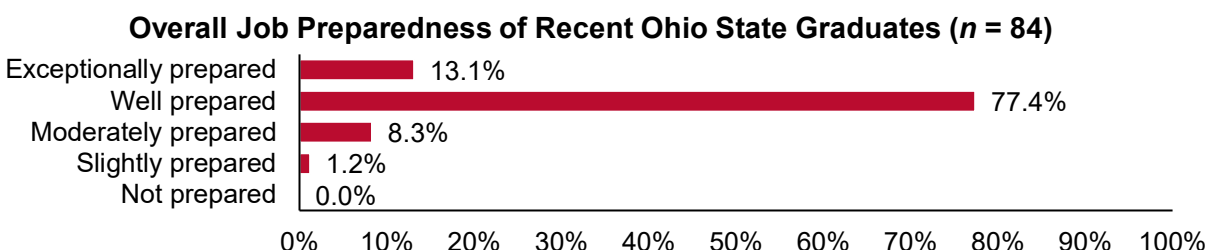
# THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY 2024 EMPLOYER SURVEY REPORT

This report highlights employment skills and experiences that employers value when hiring recent Ohio State graduates for full-time roles.

- Data were collected at the Buckeye Careers University-wide Career and Internship Fair on September 18, 2024 using iPads. A follow-up survey invitation was emailed to employers that were present at the fair but did not complete the survey.
- Of the 204 employers at the career fair, 96 responded, yielding a 47.1% response rate.
  - For 75% of employers that responded, the majority of their job openings were for jobs in Ohio.

## Findings

**91%** of employers rate Ohio State graduates as **well or exceptionally prepared** for work.



**Over half** of employers at the career fair think that Ohio State graduates excel at the following skills in relation to graduates from other universities:

- Professionalism (59%), Career & Self-Development (56%), Communication (51%)

**Which experiences make a recent Ohio State graduate stand out when you are considering hiring them for full-time employment? Select all that apply. (n = 91)**

	<i>n</i>	Percent
Internship, Co-op, Practicum, Apprenticeship or Academic Major-related Work Experience	73	80.2%
Student Organization Leader	43	47.3%
Service/Volunteer Work	41	45.1%
Student Organization Member	30	33.0%
Capstone Project	27	29.7%
On-campus Job	27	29.7%
Honors/Scholars Program	25	27.5%
Service-learning Coursework	23	25.3%
Undergraduate Research	22	24.2%
Athletics, Intramural Sports or Sports Clubs	16	17.6%
Study or Education Abroad	10	11.0%
Other	4	4.4%

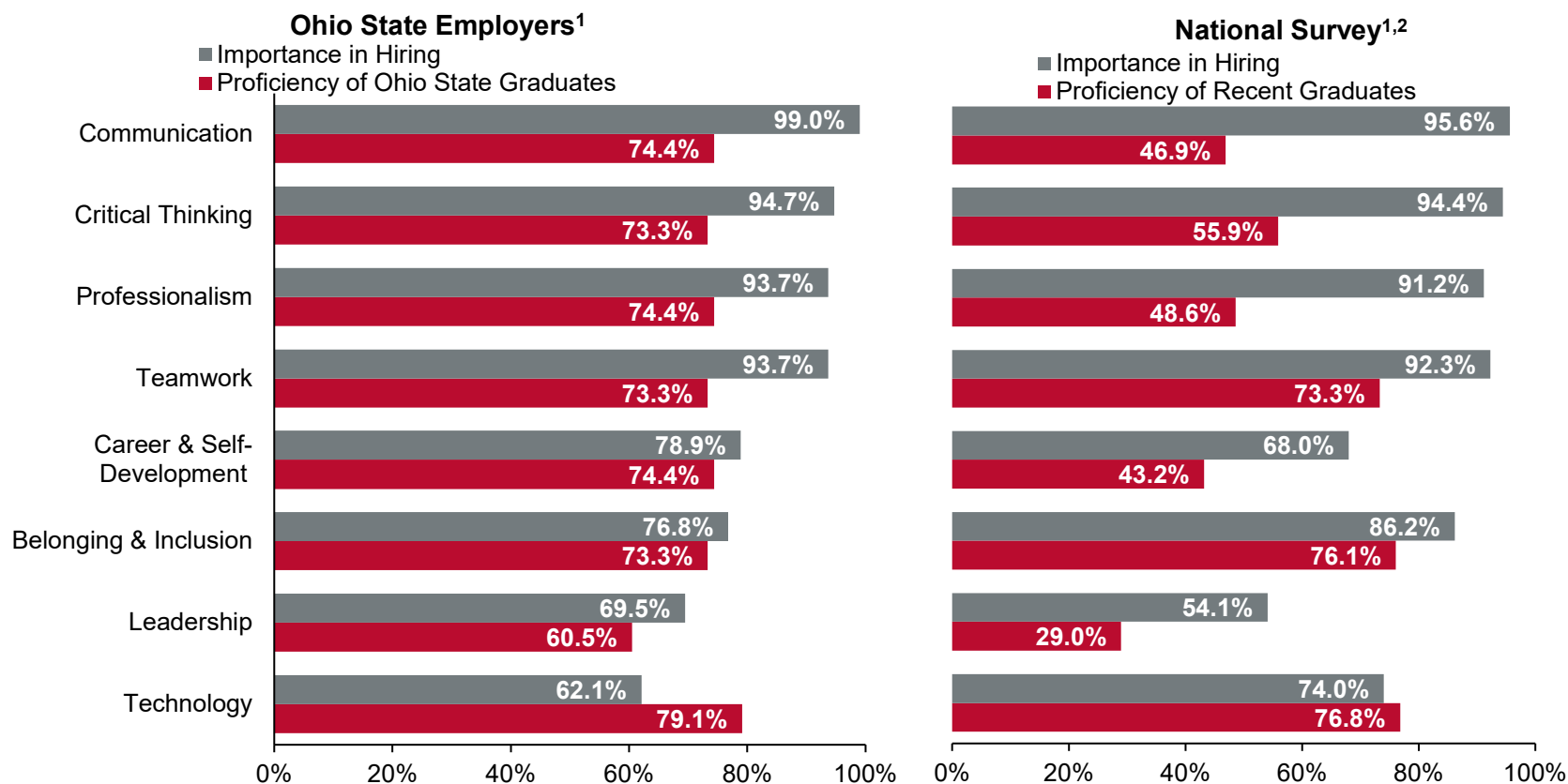
- Real-world experience (*n* = 1)
- Someone's character (*n* = 1)

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## Employer Importance Versus Recent Graduate Proficiency

Of Ohio State employers, **99%** consider communication skills **very/extremely important** for hiring recent graduates with three-quarters (**74%**) rating recent Ohio State graduates as **very/extremely proficient** in this area at graduation.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) found that **96%** of employers rate communication skills as **very/extremely important** when hiring recent graduates across the United States but only **47%** rate recent graduates nationally as **very/extremely proficient** in this area.



<sup>1</sup>Importance represents the percentage of employers that rated a competency as either “very important” or “extremely important” when hiring recent graduates. Proficiency represents the percentage of employers who found recent Ohio State graduates “very proficient” or “extremely proficient” in that competency.

<sup>2</sup>Source: *Job Outlook 2023*, National Association of Colleges and Employers.

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## Appendix - Employer Demographics

How many years have you personally attended Ohio State's career fair as an employer? (n = 92)

1 (first year)	42	45.7%
2	25	27.2%
3	10	10.9%
4	4	4.3%
5+	11	12.0%

What size company/organization do you work for? (n = 92)

	n	Percent
500 or less employees	33	35.9%
501 to 1,000 employees	9	9.8%
1,001 to 10,000 employees	20	21.7%
10,001 to 50,000 employees	17	18.5%
50,001 or more employees	13	14.1%

Which category best matches your company/organization's employment sector? (n = 91)

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For-profit corporation/company/group-practice	50	54.9%
Government or public institutions (e.g., public universities, military or national labs)	25	27.5%
Private non-profit (e.g., private universities or colleges, arts/cultural organization)	16	17.6%