



Graduation Survey 2021-2022

All University

Center for the Study of Student Life



June 2022



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the combined results for the Summer 2021, Autumn 2021 and Spring 2022 Ohio State Graduation Surveys. An invitation to the Graduation Survey was sent to all undergraduate, Master's and professional degree recipients who were scheduled to graduate in the summer, autumn or spring terms of the 2021-2022 academic year.

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS' HIGHLIGHTS

- The response rate for undergraduate students was **63.6%**; 7,385 submitted responses.
- **86.7%** were *satisfied* or *somewhat satisfied* with their experience at Ohio State.
- **46.8%** reported that they will graduate with no debt that they are personally responsible for repaying; **28.5%** reported their debt would be \$20,000 or more.
- **67.7%** *strongly agreed* or *agreed* that the benefits from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs.
- **37.9%** reported that they had accepted an employment position or were continuing with their current employer.
- **25.5%** reported that graduate or professional school was most likely to be their primary post-graduation plan.
- **73.2%** reported that Ohio State prepared them *very well* or *generally well* for the job market.

MASTER'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS' HIGHLIGHTS

- The response rate for Master's degree recipients was **38.3%**; 1,060 submitted responses.
- **89.0%** were *satisfied* or *somewhat satisfied* with their experience at Ohio State.
- **47.5%** reported that they will graduate with no debt that they are personally responsible for repaying; **22.0%** reported their debt would be \$50,000 or more.
- **71.4%** *strongly agreed* or *agreed* that the benefits from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs.
- **55.5%** reported that they had accepted an employment position or were continuing with their current employer.
- **81.3%** reported that Ohio State prepared them *very well* or *generally well* for the job market.

PROFESSIONAL DEGREE RECIPIENTS' HIGHLIGHTS

- The response rate for those earning a professional degree was **29.1%**; 254 submitted responses.
- **83.6%** were *satisfied* or *somewhat satisfied* with their experience at Ohio State.
- **16.4%** reported that they will graduate with no debt that they are personally responsible for repaying; **31.5%** reported their debt would be \$100,000-\$199,999 and **28.2%** reported their debt would be \$200,000 or more.
- **68.8%** *strongly agreed* or *agreed* that the benefits from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs.
- **81.8%** reported that they had accepted an employment position or were continuing with their current employer.
- **87.1%** reported that Ohio State prepared them *very well* or *generally well* for the job market.

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INTRODUCTION

The Ohio State University Undergraduate and Master's/Professional Graduation Surveys were first administered in the Spring term of 2011 and are administered at the end of each term by the Office of Student Life. The surveys gather information about the experiences, satisfaction and career and education plans of graduating students, as well as their permanent contact information. This report covers the combined results for the 2021-2022 academic year and includes demographic information about students who were invited to take the surveys, as well as the survey-takers.

Design

The surveys were designed by representatives from the Registrar's Office, the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, the Office of Student Life, University Communications and the Alumni Association. Two surveys were developed - one for undergraduates and one for students earning Master's or professional degrees. Graduate students completing PhDs are not surveyed because PhD graduates are invited to take the Survey of Earned Doctorates, which duplicates many of the items on the Graduation Survey.

The surveys include the following sections: future contact information, students' satisfaction with Ohio State, students' immediate career plans, students' future education plans and the amount of debt incurred in pursuit of their degrees. In addition, students are asked questions about the curriculum and about their co-curricular experiences.

The future education items for the undergraduate survey were taken from the Association of American Universities Data Exchange (AAUDE) survey. For the Master's and professional students' survey, the AAUDE items were adapted to reflect appropriate language (for example, "major" or "minor" was changed to "field") and the dollar ranges for the item about debt were adjusted to reflect more likely ranges for Master's and professional students.

Over the past few years, the survey has undergone several revisions. Some items have been added or changed, and some response options have been edited to better reflect student perspectives.

Invitations and Response Rates

Students who applied to graduate were invited to take the appropriate survey. If students planned to graduate with more than one degree, they received only one invitation. If students planned to graduate with both an undergraduate and graduate degree in the same major, they were invited to take the Master's/Professional survey. Graduating students from all campuses were invited to take one of the two surveys. Items with 9 or fewer responses are not reported.

	Invited	Responded	Response Rate
All University			
Undergraduate Degree Recipients	11,611	7,385	63.6%
Master's Degree Recipients	2,770	1,060	38.3%
Professional Degree Recipients	872	254	29.1%



UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Demographics

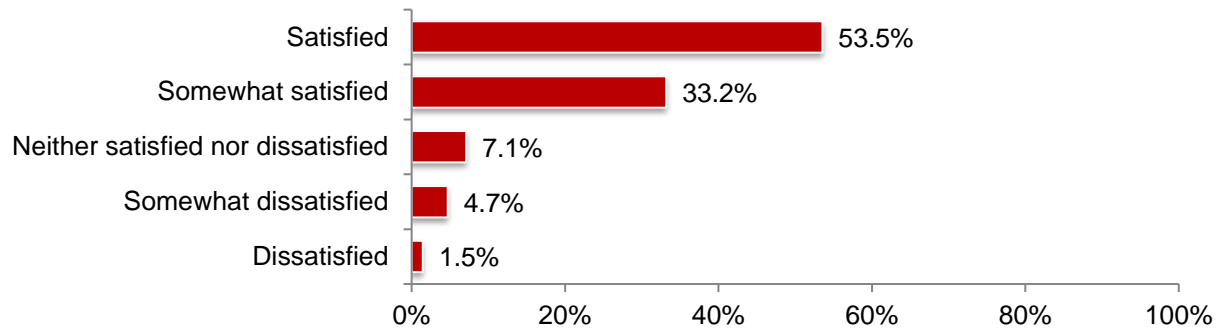
The following tables display sex and race/ethnicity information from the Student Information System for the students invited to take the survey and the students who completed the survey.

	Undergraduates - Invited <i>n</i> = 11,611	Undergraduates - Responded <i>n</i> = 7,385
Sex		
Female	51.6%	50.5%
Male	47.2%	48.5%
Undisclosed	1.2%	1.1%
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%
Asian	7.9%	8.2%
Black or African American	6.3%	5.5%
Hispanic	4.3%	4.2%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%
Non-Resident Alien	8.5%	9.1%
None Given/Race Unknown	2.2%	2.3%
Two or More Races	3.9%	3.9%
White	66.9%	66.8%

Satisfaction with Ohio State

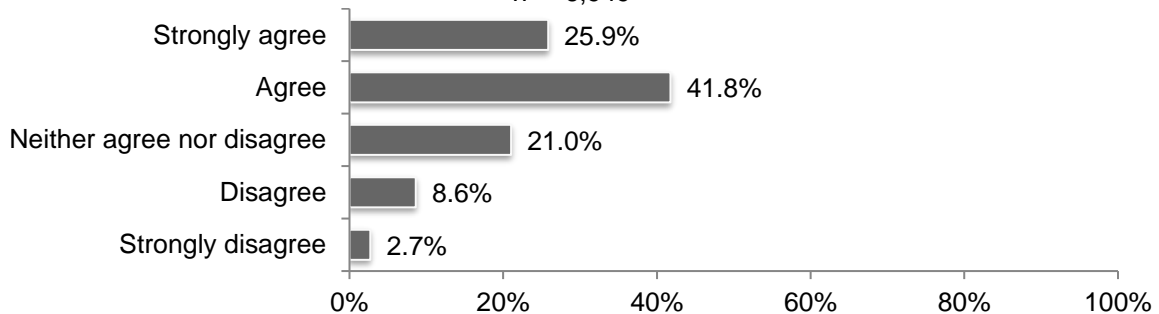
Looking back, how satisfied are you with your experience as a student at Ohio State overall?

n = 6,945



Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family?

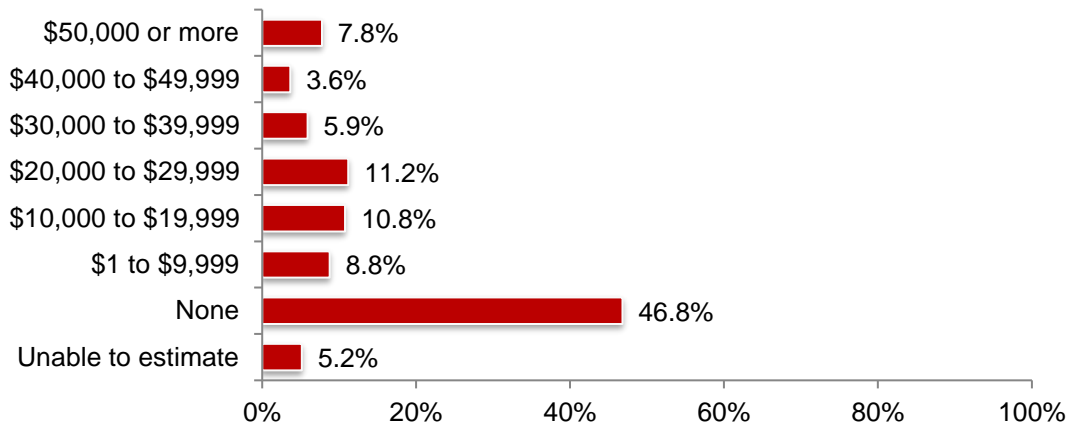
n = 6,949



Debt

At the time you graduate, approximately what will be the total amount borrowed to finance your education that you are personally responsible for repaying?

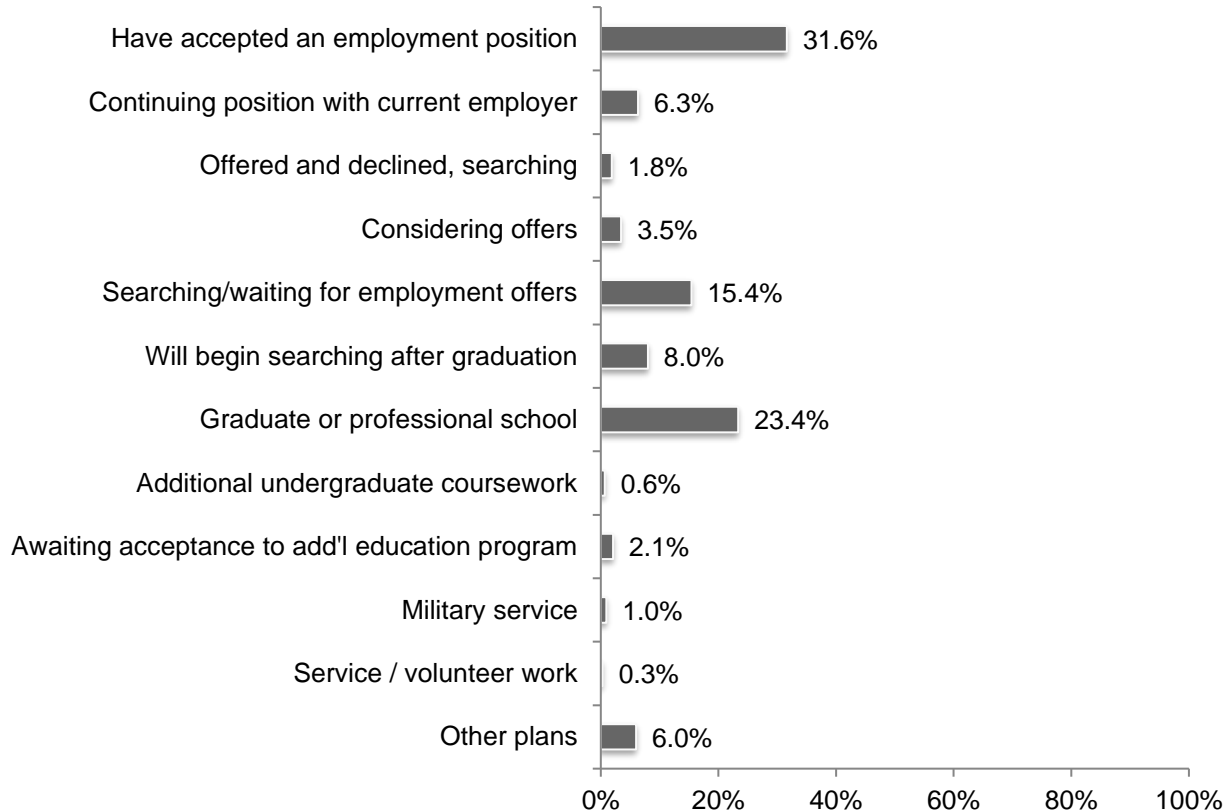
n = 6,911



Post-Graduation Plans

Which of the following best describes your PRIMARY post-graduation plans?

n = 6,942



Undergraduates remaining in Ohio	Percent
Will be employed in Ohio	<i>n</i> = 2,092 65.9%
Will attend graduate / professional school in Ohio	<i>n</i> = 545 47.5%



Future Career Plans

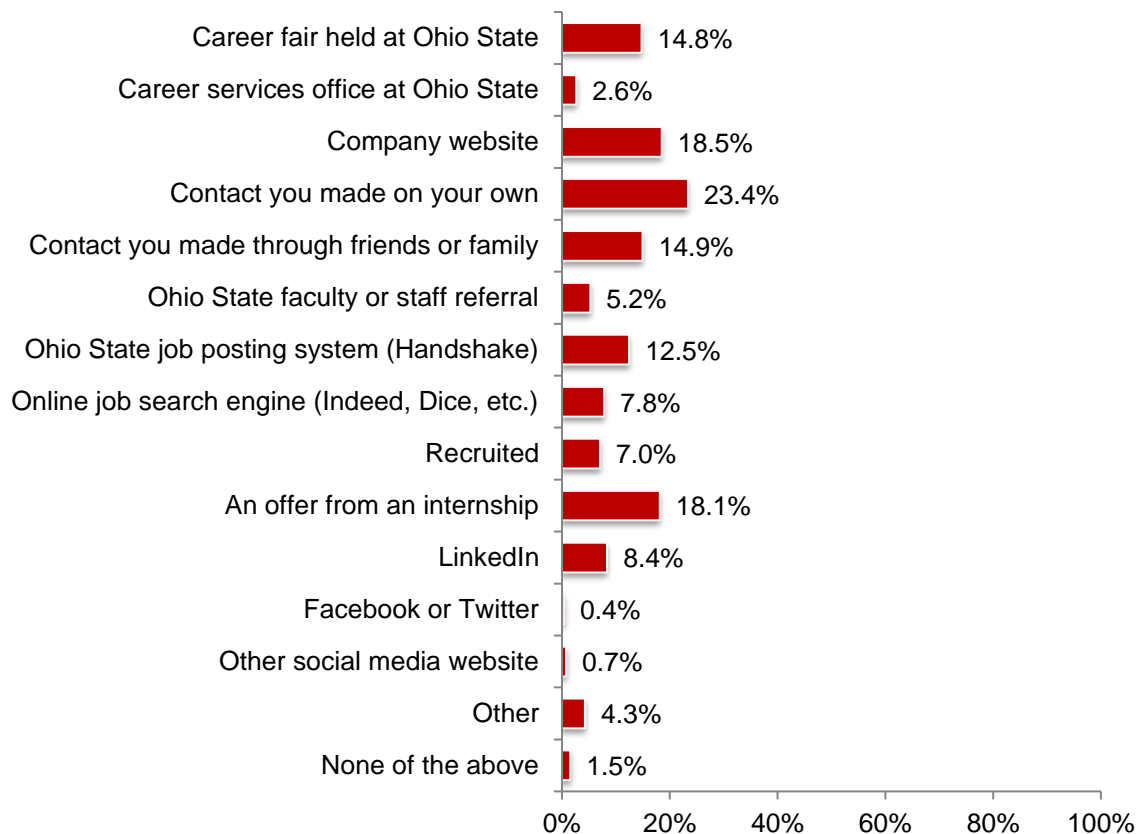
Only respondents who reported that they had accepted an employment position or were continuing in their position with a current employer following graduation were asked the items in this section.

If you have accepted a position or plan to continue with your current employer, in what type of organization or sector will you work?	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 2,572
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	77.6%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	10.1%
Government or other public institution/agency	12.3%
If you have accepted a position or plan to continue with your current employer, please select the category that BEST describes your future position:	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 2,487
Employed as an entrepreneur/starting own business	2.1%
Employed in temporary/contract work assignment	5.2%
Employed as a freelancer	0.4%
Employed in a postgraduate internship/fellowship	3.9%
Employed in any other work category (e.g., permanent employee)	88.4%
Is this position full-time or part-time employment?	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 2,536
Full-time (30 or more hours per week)	96.2%
Part-time (less than 30 hours per week)	3.8%

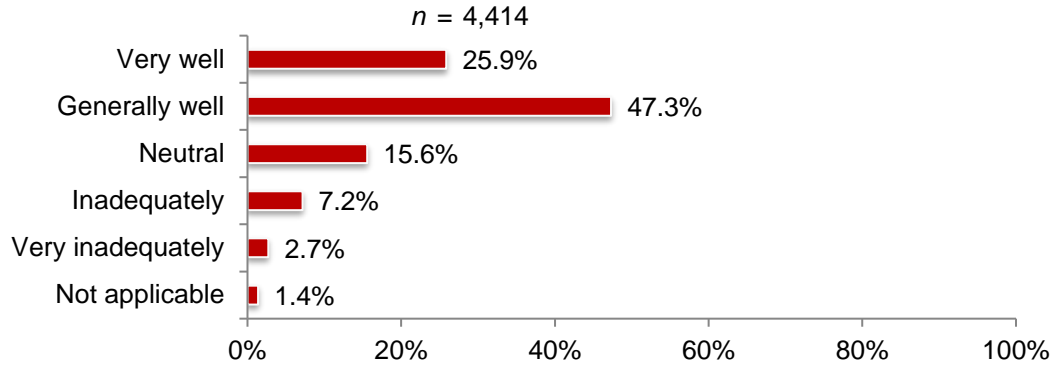
Where or how did you find your job?

(Select all that apply)

n = 2,461



How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?



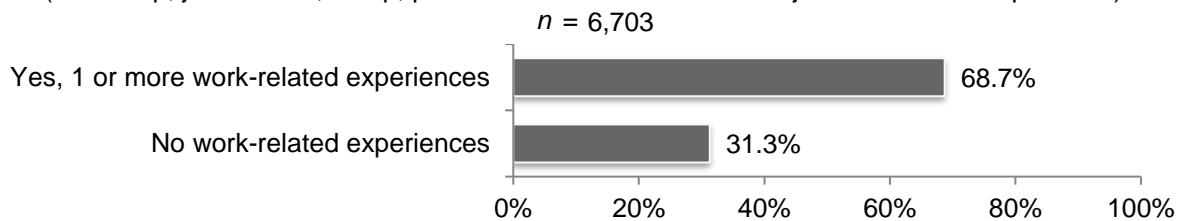
Is your prospective position related to your undergraduate field(s) of study?	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 4,369
Same field as major(s)	45.7%
Related to major(s)	35.4%
Related to minor(s)	2.5%
Not related to major(s) or minor(s)	8.0%
Not applicable	8.5%
How important have university or college resources been in helping you to find a job?	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 4,373
Essential	12.9%
Very important	20.3%
Somewhat important	36.5%
Not important	22.8%
Not applicable	7.6%

Note. Questions above on this page were answered by respondents who had accepted a position as well as respondents who were still searching for employment

Work-Related Experiences

Participation in work-related experiences

(internship, job shadow, co-op, practicum or other academic major-related work experience)



Only respondents who indicated completing a work-related experience and receiving a job offer were asked the following question.

Earlier you indicated you had accepted a job offer. Is your accepted position with the same organization where you completed your internship, job shadow, co-op, practicum or academic major-related work experience?	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 2,328
Yes	42.7%
No	57.3%



An entrepreneur is one who starts a new business. During your academic program, did you complete any courses (required or elective) for academic credit in which entrepreneurship was part of the overall instruction?	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 6,168
Yes	17.4%
No	73.5%
Not Sure	9.1%

Only respondents who indicated that they were going to be employed as entrepreneurs/starting their own business were shown the following questions.

During your academic program, did you participate in starting a business? (Please answer yes even if you started a new business with others, started a new business as part of a class and regardless of the size of the business).	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 51
Yes	21.6%
No	64.7%
Not Sure	13.7%

You've indicated that you had started a business and that you plan on being employed as an entrepreneur. Will you continue to manage the business you started during your academic program?	Undergraduates <i>n</i> = 11
Yes	81.8%
No	18.2%
Not Sure	0.0%

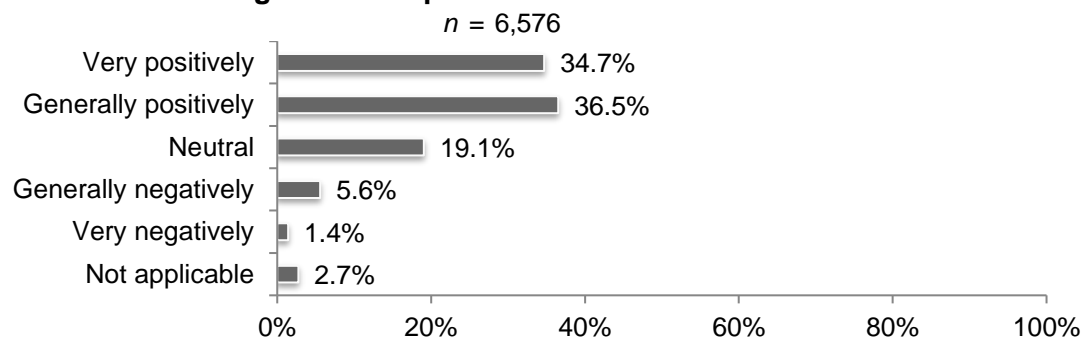
Note. Only students who responded Yes to the previous question were shown this question.

Future Education Plans

For the following six cases, which, if any, degrees do you plan to pursue either immediately upon graduation or at any time in the future? *n* = 7,385

Degree	Immediately upon graduation	Future Plans	Do not plan to pursue	Did not answer
Law	1.6%	5.4%	76.6%	16.3%
Medicine (MD)	1.1%	5.1%	77.4%	16.5%
Other Medical	2.5%	4.8%	76.1%	16.6%
Second Bachelor's	0.9%	4.1%	77.8%	17.3%
Master's	13.0%	42.6%	30.7%	13.6%
Doctorate	2.9%	17.7%	63.3%	16.0%

To what extent have your overall undergraduate experiences influenced your plans for graduate or professional studies?



Curricular and Co-Curricular Experiences

	<i>n</i>	1 - Not at all	2	3	4	5 - Great extent	0 - N/A
To what extent have you gained knowledge about key areas of study (for example, the arts, the sciences, your major), including how they are related to one another?	6,328	0.8%	3.4%	15.7%	40.4%	38.6%	1.0%
To what extent have you gained skills needed to:	<i>n</i>	1 - Not at all	2	3	4	5 - Great extent	0 - N/A
Acquire, comprehend and evaluate information and arguments	6,276	0.6%	2.4%	12.9%	38.4%	44.9%	0.8%
Communicate clearly, precisely and effectively	6,276	0.8%	2.8%	12.8%	36.9%	45.8%	0.8%
Analyze and assess using qualitative and quantitative methods	6,272	0.9%	2.9%	14.5%	37.0%	43.8%	1.0%
Integrate, create and apply knowledge	6,268	0.7%	2.3%	12.5%	38.8%	44.9%	0.8%
To what extent have you gained perspectives needed to:	<i>n</i>	1 - Not at all	2	3	4	5 - Great extent	0 - N/A
Interpret past and contemporary world cultures, events and issues	6,251	2.5%	6.8%	19.1%	32.3%	37.3%	1.9%
Make discriminating aesthetic judgments	6,222	6.3%	6.8%	20.3%	28.5%	29.2%	9.0%
Make considered and reasoned ethical judgments	6,237	1.5%	2.5%	12.9%	34.6%	46.7%	1.7%
Understand the roles of science and technology	6,240	1.1%	3.8%	15.8%	32.8%	45.1%	1.4%
Recognize and respect diversity	6,240	1.8%	2.6%	11.0%	27.5%	54.7%	2.4%
Based on your coursework experiences since you began your education at Ohio State:	<i>n</i>	1 - Not at all	2	3	4	5 - Great extent	0 - N/A
To what extent, through your major(s), minor(s), and other specialized study programs, have you gained in-depth knowledge skills, perspectives and way of thinking related to your specialized field(s) of study?	6,150	0.9%	2.1%	12.3%	35.7%	47.7%	1.3%
To what extent, through your General Education program, have you gained a breadth of knowledge, skills and perspectives that cross disciplines?	6,158	5.1%	13.0%	27.1%	30.7%	22.9%	1.3%



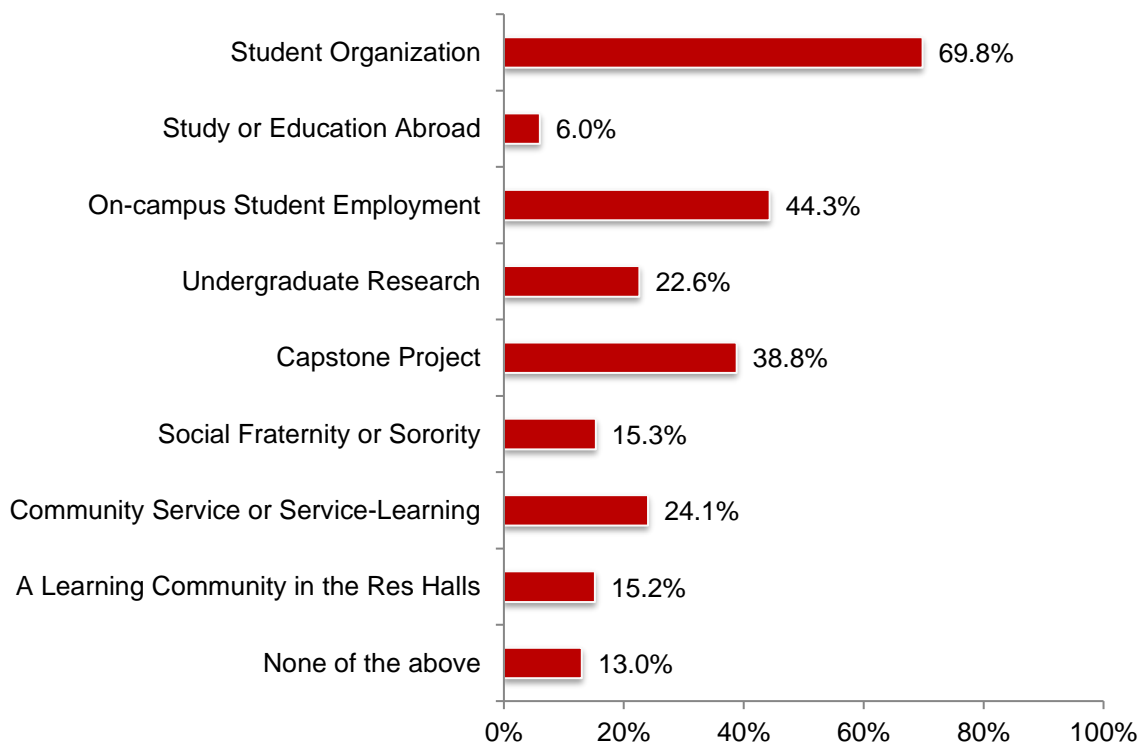
Based on your General Education program: To what extent have your knowledge, skills, and perspectives improved in the following areas?	<i>n</i>	1 - Not at all	2	3	4	5 - Great extent	0 - N/A
Written communication	5,907	3.6%	7.4%	21.5%	33.3%	31.3%	2.9%
Oral expression	5,907	6.4%	11.5%	24.7%	28.9%	22.5%	6.1%
Foreign language	5,908	22.7%	8.6%	16.4%	16.4%	17.5%	18.5%
Literature	5,907	7.2%	15.6%	28.4%	26.3%	18.7%	3.8%
The arts	5,906	9.6%	17.4%	26.5%	22.9%	19.0%	4.6%
Historical perspectives	5,904	7.2%	14.8%	26.9%	25.4%	20.2%	5.5%
Social diversity in the United States	5,908	6.4%	10.9%	24.7%	27.1%	25.6%	5.2%
Global studies	5,902	7.8%	13.8%	26.8%	24.6%	21.0%	6.0%
Social science	5,907	5.7%	11.1%	25.5%	27.9%	25.4%	4.5%
Natural science (biological and physical)	5,904	6.5%	12.7%	24.8%	24.3%	26.0%	5.7%
Logical analysis and analytical reasoning	5,905	4.1%	7.1%	21.1%	31.2%	32.4%	4.0%
Mathematical and quantitative skills	5,907	6.2%	10.6%	21.3%	25.7%	31.1%	5.1%

To what extent have your knowledge, skills, and perspectives improved through the following kinds of coursework?	<i>n</i>	1 - Not at all	2	3	4	5 - Great extent	0 - N/A
Education abroad courses or programs	5,854	16.7%	4.7%	8.5%	8.5%	11.4%	50.2%
Service learning courses	5,855	10.9%	6.7%	14.3%	11.8%	12.7%	43.6%
Culture and ideas coursework	5,853	5.6%	8.5%	21.9%	23.6%	20.8%	19.5%
Cross-disciplinary seminars	5,851	10.5%	7.7%	14.7%	13.2%	12.2%	41.8%

During your time at Ohio State, in which of the following did you participate?

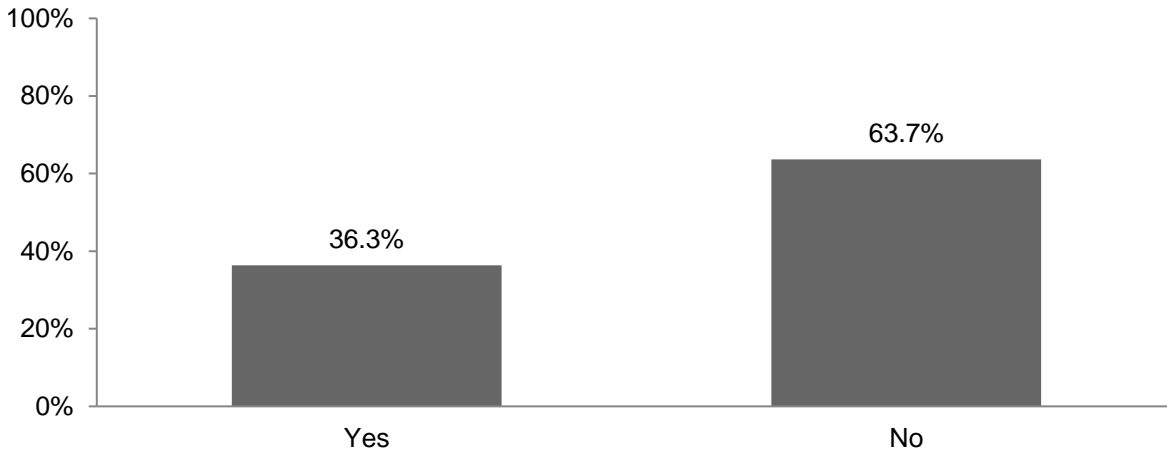
(Select all that apply)

n = 5,956



During your time at Ohio State, did you ever hold a formal leadership role in a student organization or in a social fraternity or sorority?

$n = 5,980$



MASTER'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Demographics

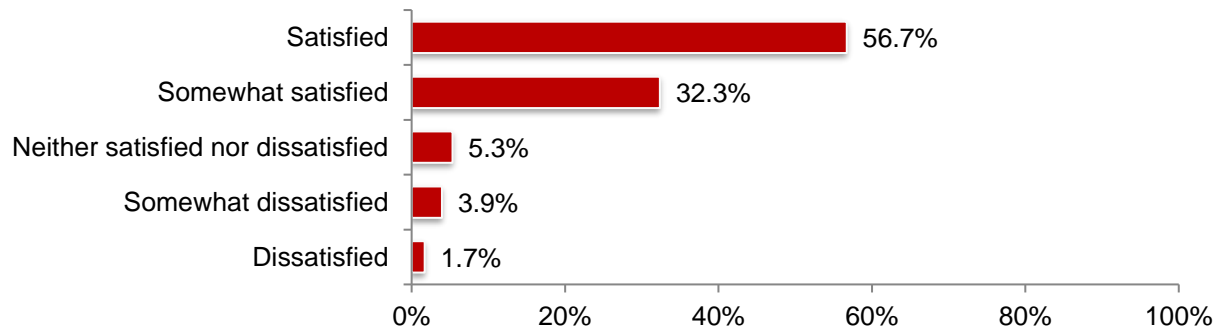
The following tables display sex and race/ethnicity information from the Student Information System for the students invited to take the survey and the students who completed the survey.

Sex	Master's - Invited <i>n</i> = 2,770	Master's - Responded <i>n</i> = 1,060
Female	62.8%	65.8%
Male	36.0%	32.5%
Undisclosed	1.3%	1.6%
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.0%	0.1%
Asian	4.6%	4.5%
Black or African American	6.6%	5.6%
Hispanic	4.8%	4.0%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.0%
Non-Resident Alien	12.6%	14.5%
None Given/Race Unknown	5.0%	5.0%
Two or More Races	3.0%	3.3%
White	63.2%	63.0%

Satisfaction with Ohio State

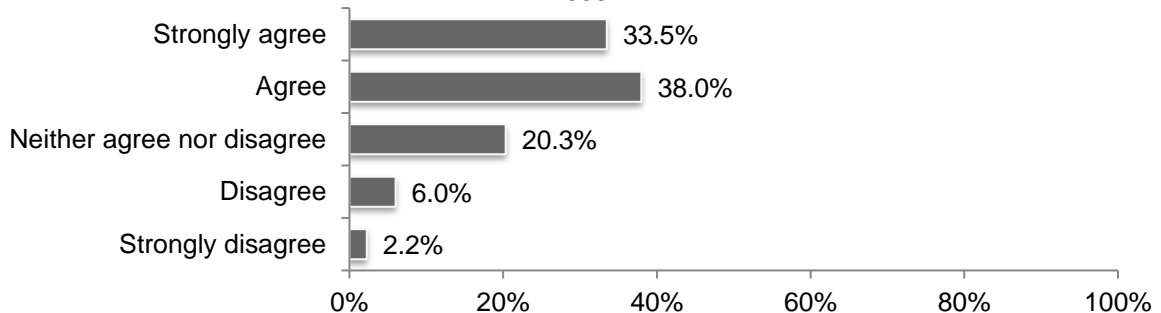
Looking back, how satisfied are you with your experience as a student at Ohio State overall?

n = 940



Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family?

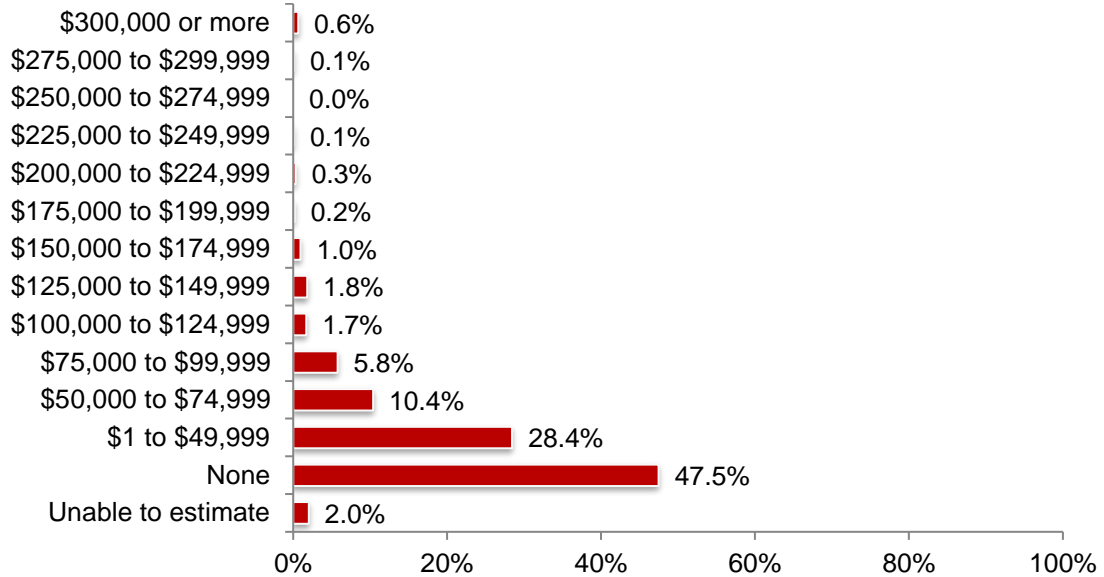
n = 935



Debt

At the time you graduate, approximately what will be the total amount borrowed to finance your education that you are personally responsible for repaying?

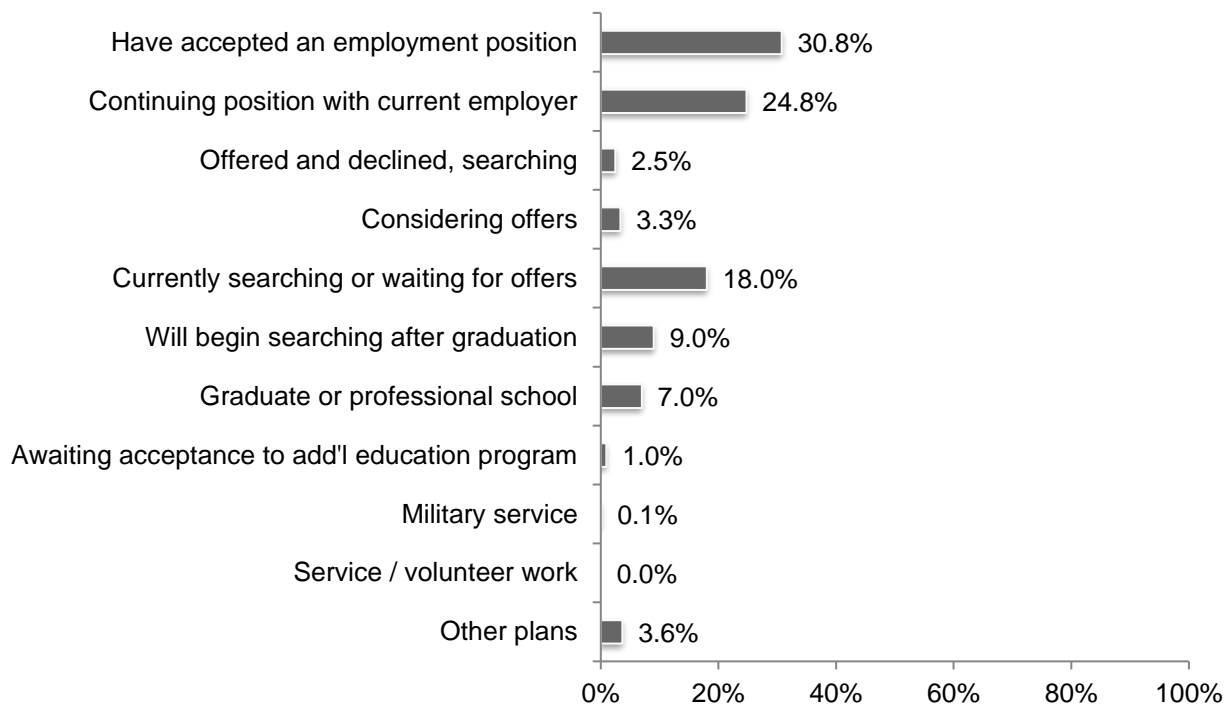
n = 935



Post-Graduation Plans

Which of the following best describes your PRIMARY post-graduation plans?

n = 933



Master's graduates remaining in Ohio	Percent
Will be employed in Ohio	n = 387 69.5%
Will attend graduate / professional school in Ohio	n = 45 76.3%



Future Career Plans

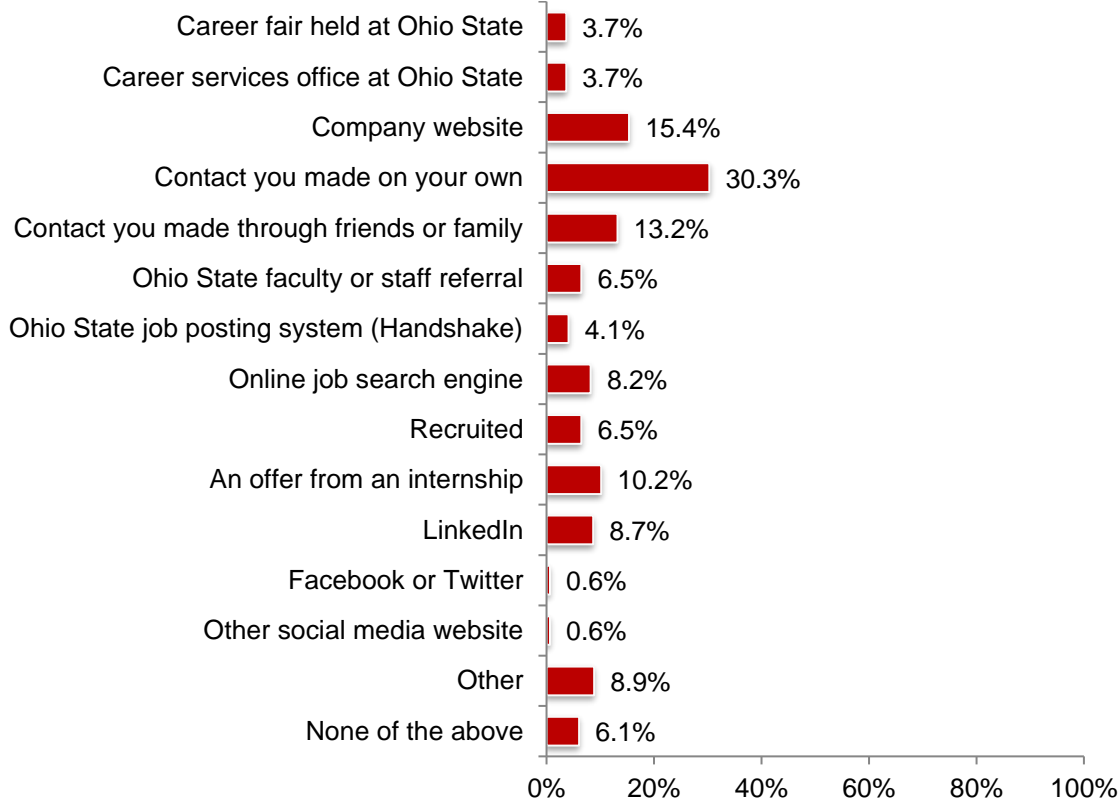
Only respondents who reported that they had accepted an employment position or were continuing in their position with a current employer following graduation were asked the items in this section.

If you have accepted a position or plan to continue with your current employer, in what type of organization or sector will you work?	Master's <i>n</i> = 496
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	39.1%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	27.6%
Government or other public institution/agency	33.3%
If you have accepted a position or plan to continue with your current employer, please select the category that BEST describes your future position:	Master's <i>n</i> = 481
Employed as an entrepreneur/starting own business	1.9%
Employed in temporary/contract work assignment	3.1%
Employed as a freelancer	0.4%
Employed in a postgraduate internship/fellowship	4.4%
Employed in any other work category (e.g., permanent employee)	90.2%
Is this position full-time or part-time employment?	Master's <i>n</i> = 498
Full-time (30 or more hours per week)	96.4%
Part-time (less than 30 hours per week)	3.6%

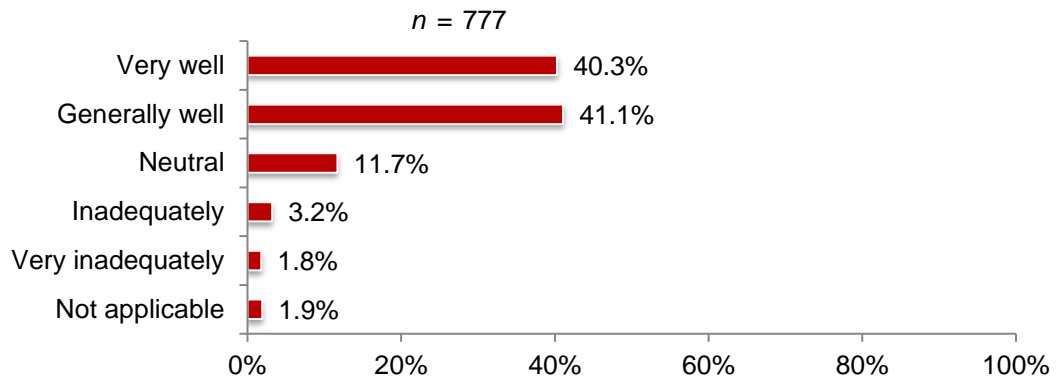
Where or how did you find your job?

(Select all that apply)

n = 462



How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?



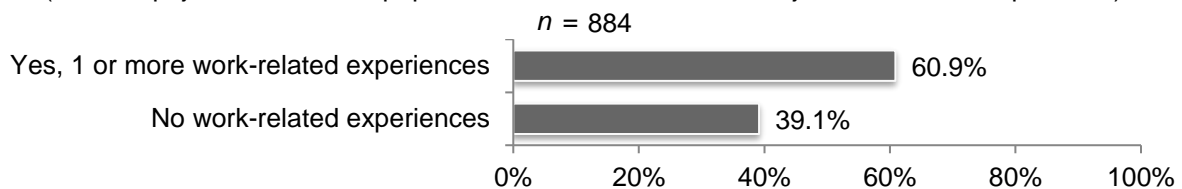
Is your prospective position related to your graduate field of study?	Master's <i>n</i> = 765
Same field	61.7%
Related to field of study	30.3%
Not related to field of study	3.8%
Not applicable	4.2%
How important have university or college resources been in helping you to find a job?	Master's <i>n</i> = 774
Essential	12.0%
Very important	19.1%
Somewhat important	25.1%
Not important	27.8%
Not applicable	16.0%

Note. Questions above on this page were answered by respondents who had accepted a position as well as respondents who were still searching for employment

Work-Related Experiences

Participation in work-related experiences

(internship, job shadow, co-op, practicum or other academic major-related work experience)



Only respondents who indicated completing a work-related experience and receiving a job offer were asked the following question.

Earlier you indicated you had accepted a job offer. Is your accepted position with the same organization where you completed your internship, job shadow, co-op, practicum or academic major-related work experience?	Master's <i>n</i> = 343
Yes	39.9%
No	60.1%

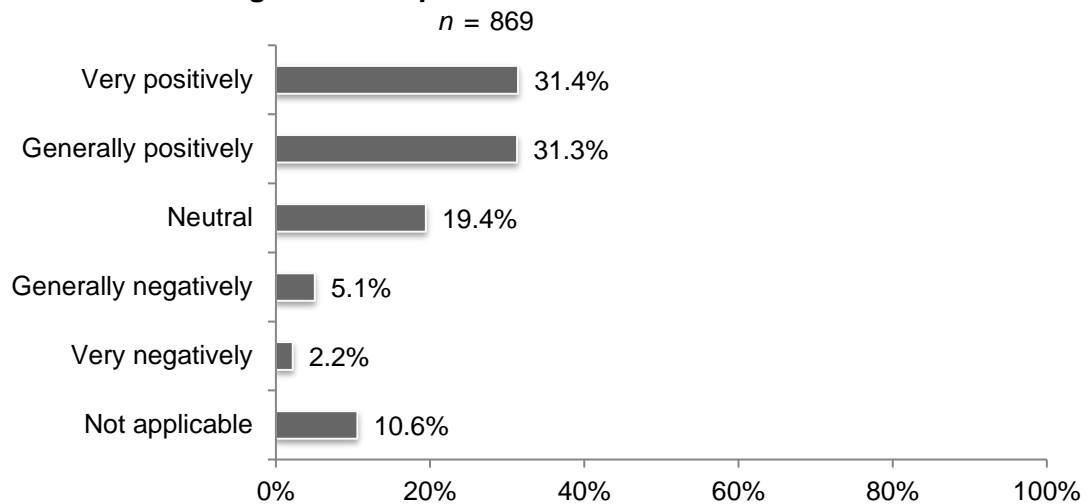


Future Education Plans

For the following five cases, which, if any, degrees do you plan to pursue either immediately upon graduation or at any time in the future? *n* = 1,060

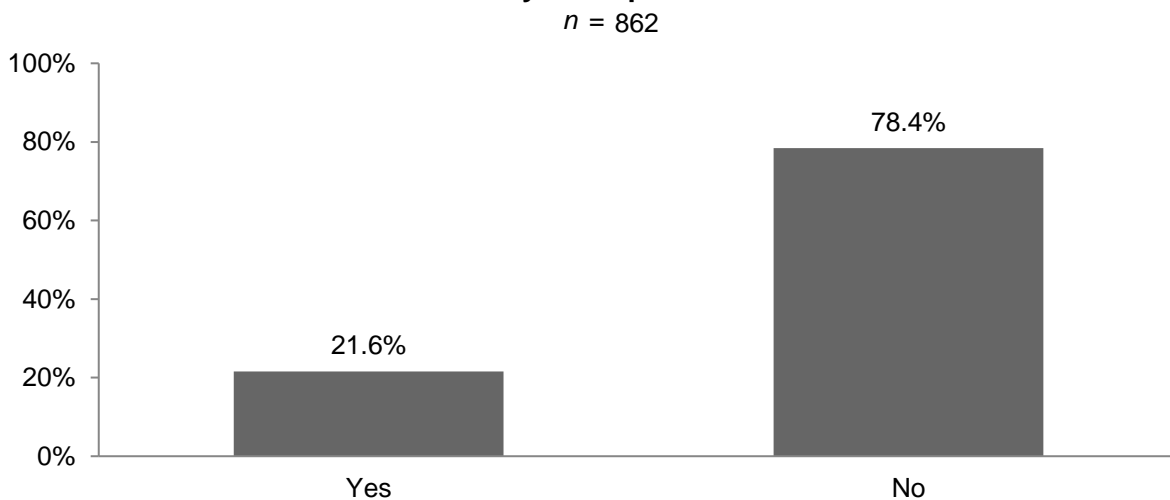
Degree	Immediately upon graduation	Future Plans	Do not plan to pursue	Did not answer
Law	0.1%	2.5%	68.3%	29.1%
Medicine (MD)	0.3%	1.2%	69.3%	29.2%
Other Medical	1.0%	1.2%	68.9%	28.9%
Master's	5.2%	5.7%	58.5%	30.7%
Doctorate	7.4%	22.4%	45.3%	25.0%

To what extent have your overall graduate experiences influenced your future plans for graduate or professional studies?



Curricular and Co-Curricular Experiences

In graduate school, did you ever hold a formal leadership role in a student organization or in your department?



PROFESSIONAL DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Students may earn both Master’s and professional degrees during the same term (2 this academic year). These students are reported twice only if their degrees are in different colleges.

Demographics

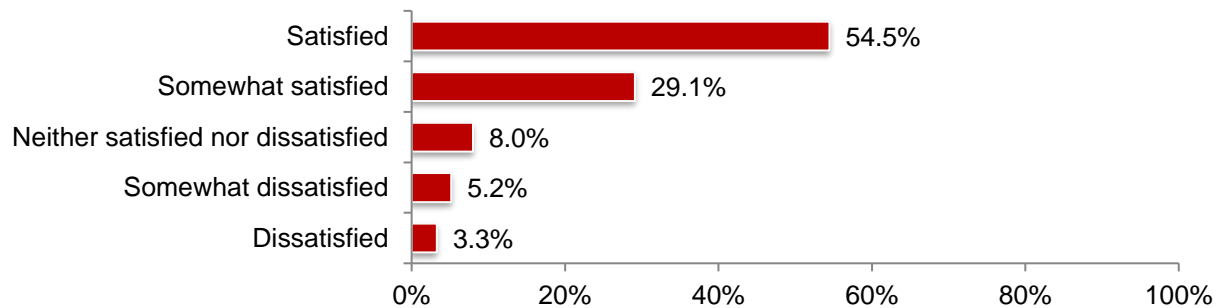
The following tables display sex and race/ethnicity information from the Student Information System for the students invited to take the survey and the students who completed the survey.

Sex	Professional - Invited <i>n</i> = 872	Professional - Responded <i>n</i> = 254
Female	57.6%	59.1%
Male	42.2%	40.9%
Undisclosed	0.2%	0.0%
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.1%	0.0%
Asian	13.0%	9.1%
Black or African American	5.3%	3.9%
Hispanic	8.5%	7.9%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%
Non-Resident Alien	2.4%	0.8%
None Given/Race Unknown	1.0%	0.8%
Two or More Races	4.5%	3.5%
White	65.3%	74.0%

Satisfaction with Ohio State

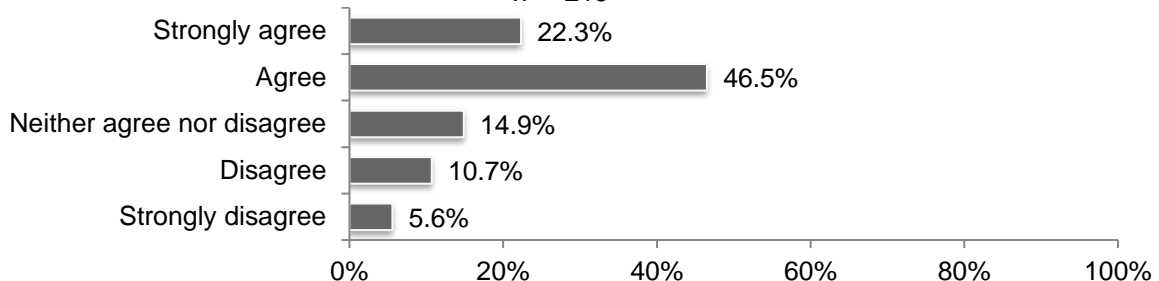
Looking back, how satisfied are you with your experience as a student at Ohio State overall?

n = 213



Reflecting back, to what extent do you agree that the benefits you have received from attending Ohio State were worth the financial costs to you and your family?

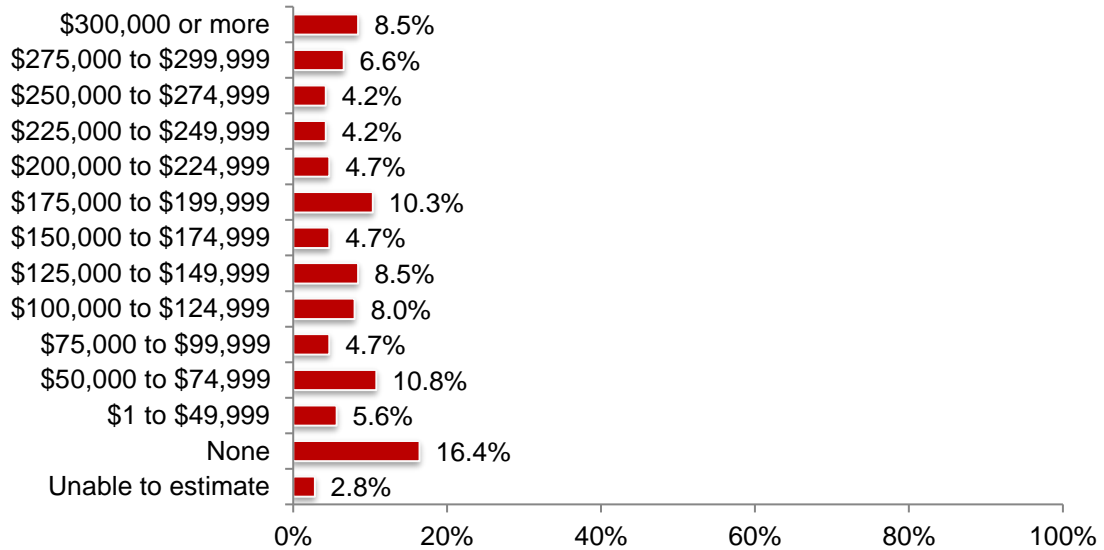
n = 215



Debt

At the time you graduate, approximately what will be the total amount borrowed to finance your education that you are personally responsible for repaying?

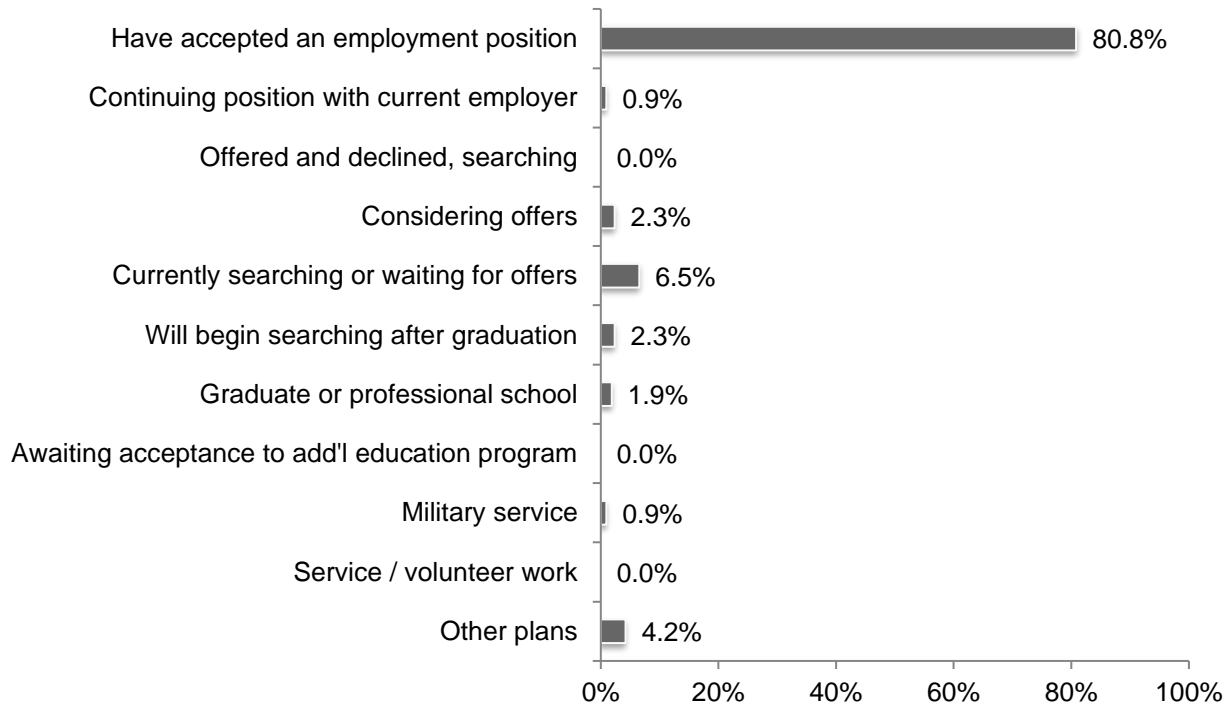
n = 213



Post-Graduation Plans

Which of the following best describes your PRIMARY post-graduation plans?

n = 214



Professional graduates remaining in Ohio	Percent
Will be employed in Ohio	n = 89 58.2%
Will attend graduate / professional school in Ohio	



Future Career Plans

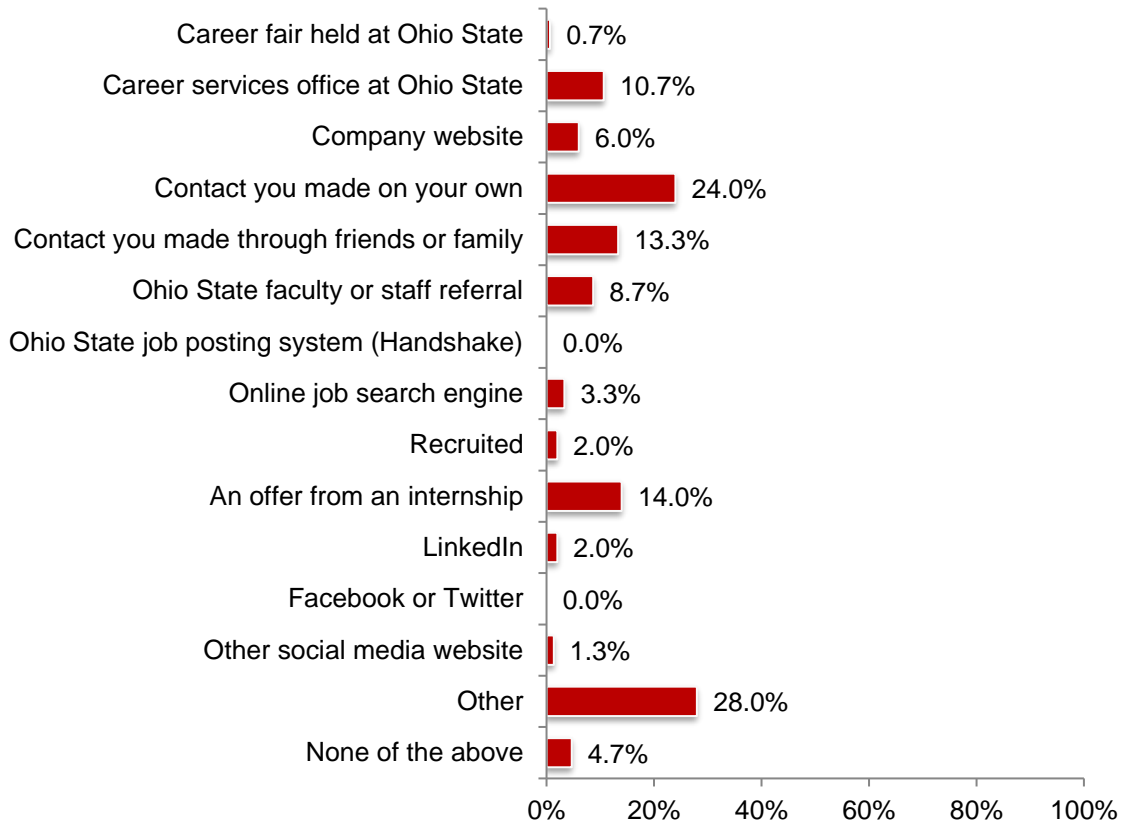
Only respondents who reported that they had accepted an employment position or were continuing in their position with a current employer following graduation were asked the items in this section.

If you have accepted a position or plan to continue with your current employer, in what type of organization or sector will you work?	Professional <i>n</i> = 167
Private for-profit corporation/company/group-practice	53.3%
Private non-profit (e.g., school, college, arts/cultural organization)	26.3%
Government or other public institution/agency	20.4%
If you have accepted a position or plan to continue with your current employer, please select the category that BEST describes your future position:	Professional <i>n</i> = 154
Employed as an entrepreneur/starting own business	1.9%
Employed in temporary/contract work assignment	6.5%
Employed as a freelancer	0.0%
Employed in a postgraduate internship/fellowship	35.1%
Employed in any other work category (e.g., permanent employee)	56.5%
Is this position full-time or part-time employment?	Professional <i>n</i> = 170
Full-time (30 or more hours per week)	98.2%
Part-time (less than 30 hours per week)	1.8%

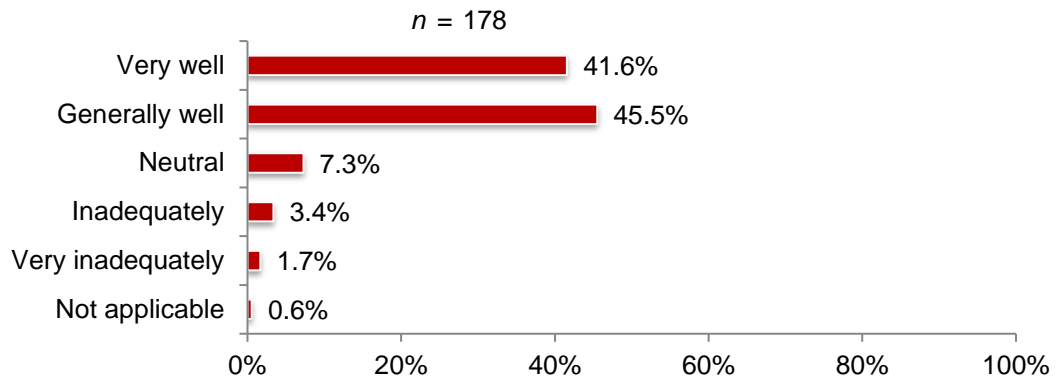
Where or how did you find your job?

(Select all that apply)

n = 150



How well do you think Ohio State has prepared you for the job market?



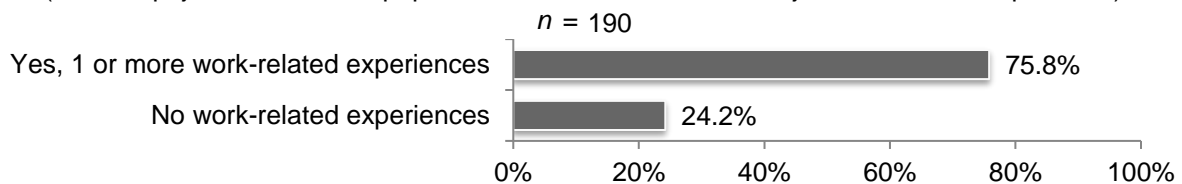
Professional	
<i>n</i> = 177	
Is your prospective position related to your field of study?	
Same field	93.2%
Related to field of study	5.6%
Not related to field of study	0.0%
Not applicable	1.1%
Professional	
<i>n</i> = 174	
How important have university or college resources been in helping you to find a job?	
Essential	16.7%
Very important	22.4%
Somewhat important	25.9%
Not important	31.0%
Not applicable	4.0%

Note. Questions above on this page were answered by respondents who had accepted a position as well as respondents who were still searching for employment

Work-Related Experiences

Participation in work-related experiences

(internship, job shadow, co-op, practicum or other academic major-related work experience)



Only respondents who indicated completing a work-related experience and receiving a job offer were asked the following question.

Professional	
<i>n</i> = 151	
Earlier you indicated you had accepted a job offer. Is your accepted position with the same organization where you completed your internship, job shadow, co-op, practicum or academic major-related work experience?	
Yes	38.4%
No	61.6%



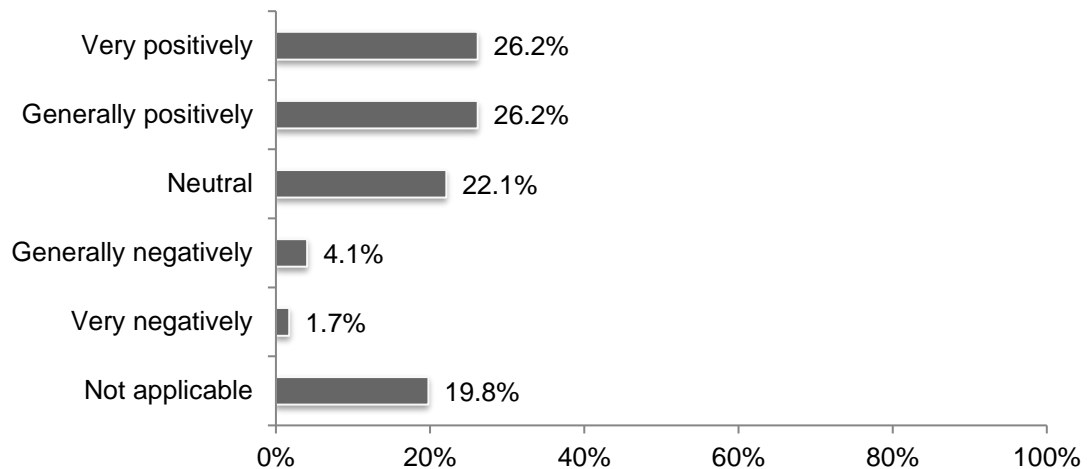
Future Education Plans

For the following five cases, which, if any, degrees do you plan to pursue either immediately upon graduation or at any time in the future? *n* = 254

Degree	Immediately upon graduation	Future Plans	Do not plan to pursue	Did not answer
Law	2.4%	0.0%	52.0%	45.7%
Medicine (MD)	1.6%	1.6%	49.6%	47.2%
Other Medical	7.5%	0.8%	48.0%	43.7%
Master's	0.8%	7.9%	46.9%	44.5%
Doctorate	2.0%	3.9%	49.2%	44.9%

To what extent have your overall professional school experiences influenced your future plans for graduate or professional studies?

n = 172



Curricular and Co-Curricular Experiences

In professional school, did you ever hold a formal leadership role in a student organization or in your department?

n = 176

