

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

2014 Alumni Survey Results Class of 2008-2009

Background

- ❖ 1,225 alumni invited to participate.
- ❖ 294 responses; response rate of 24%.
- ❖ Survey emailed to students who graduated in August 2008, December 2008, and May 2009 with a B.A., B.S., or A.B. Degree.
- ❖ Survey administered June 15, 2014 - July 11, 2014 using Qualtrics online survey tool.

Current Employment

- ❖ 80% of respondents are currently employed full-time.
- ❖ 4% of respondents are employed part-time or have multiple jobs.
- ❖ 23% of respondents are employed in the field of business and industry.
- ❖ 67% of respondents have a job that requires at least a Bachelor's Degree.
- ❖ 35% of respondents' current annual income range is \$20,000 - \$39,999.
- ❖ 36% of respondents' current annual income range is \$40,000 - \$59,999.
- ❖ 60% of respondents' employment is moderately or highly related to their major.

Employment History

- ❖ 77% of respondents were able to find their first paying job while enrolled as an undergraduate or during the first six months after graduation.
- ❖ 61% of respondents' first paying job was in South Carolina.
- ❖ 16% of respondents have had only one paying job since graduation.

Graduate/Professional School

- ❖ 16% of respondents are attending graduate/professional school full-time.
- ❖ 41% of respondents completed a post baccalaureate degree program (Master's, Law, Medical, PhD, or Certificate).
- ❖ 22% of respondents continuing their education received an assistantship or fellowship.
- ❖ The graduate institutions most frequently attended by respondents are: College of Charleston, Medical University of South Carolina, University of South Carolina, and The Citadel.
- ❖ The academic disciplines most frequently mentioned for continuing education are: Business, Medicine, Social Sciences, and Education.

College of Charleston Undergraduate Experience

- ❖ 93% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall academic experience.
- ❖ 90% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with the instruction in their major.
- ❖ 73% of respondents would choose the same major field of study again.
- ❖ 76% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with the instruction in their general education program.
- ❖ 88% of respondents would choose to attend the College of Charleston again.
- ❖ 48% of respondents graduated with no student loans.

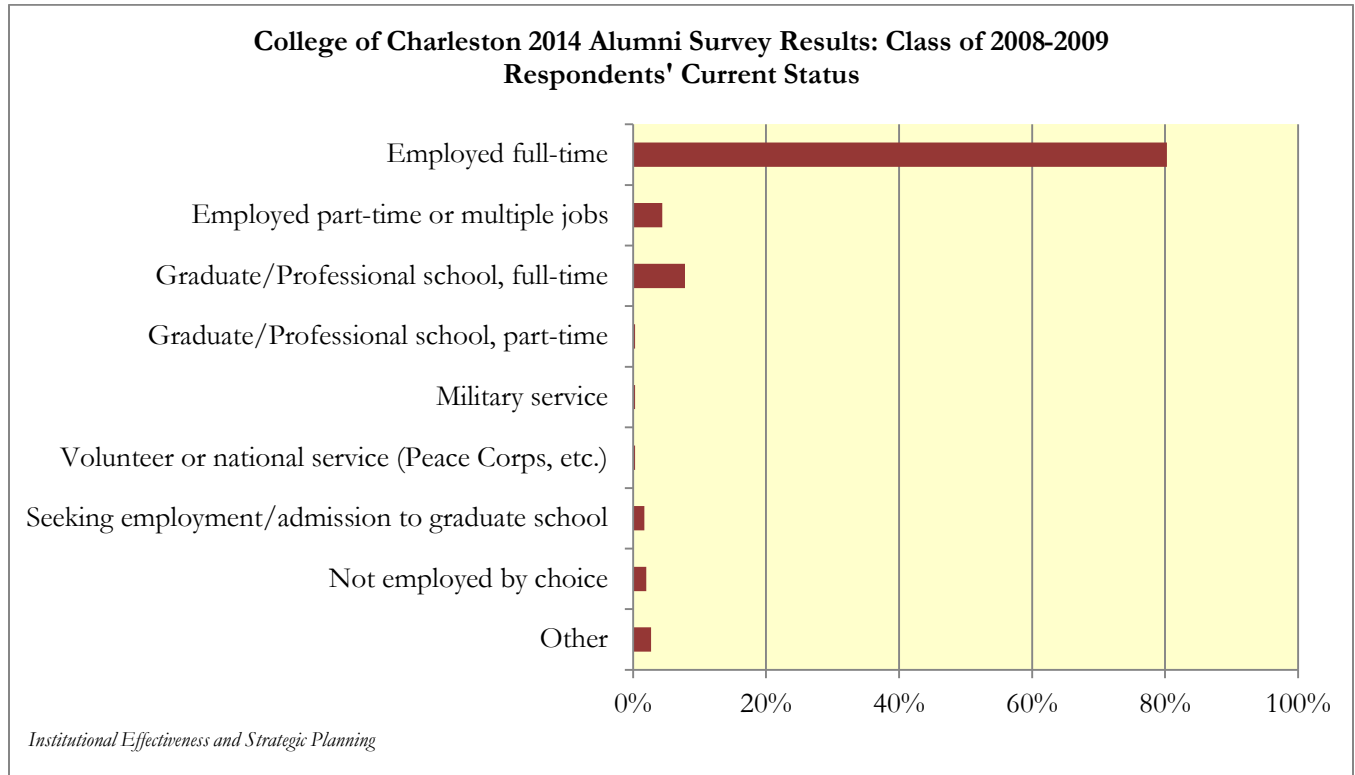
[*View full report*](#)

[*View survey instrument*](#)

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

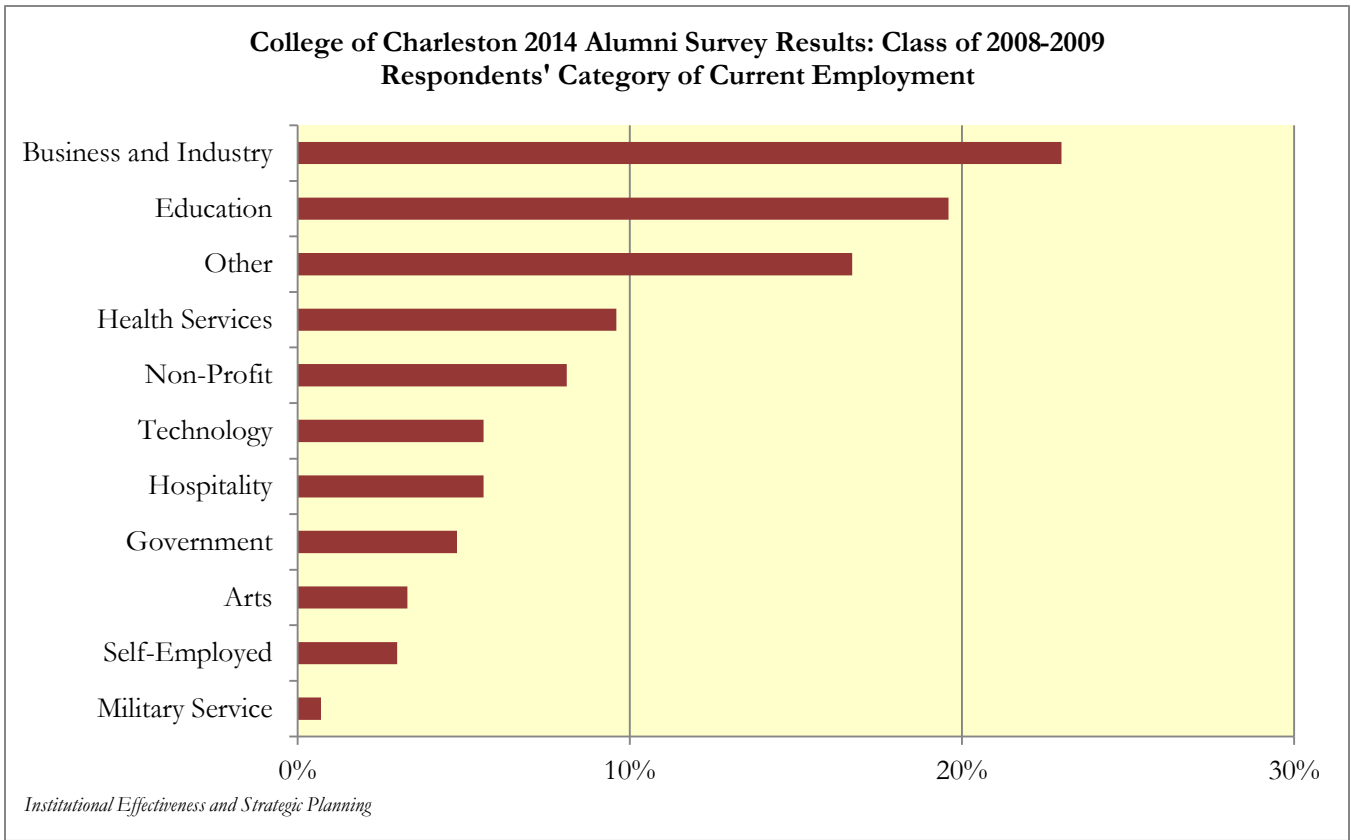
2014 Alumni Survey Results Class of 2008-2009

Current Employment



| Current Status | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Employed full-time | 236 | 80.3% |
| Employed part-time or multiple jobs | 13 | 4.4% |
| Graduate/Professional school, full-time | 23 | 7.8% |
| Graduate/Professional school, part-time | 1 | 0.3% |
| Military service | 1 | 0.3% |
| Volunteer or national service (Peace Corps, etc.) | 1 | 0.3% |
| Seeking employment/admission to graduate school | 5 | 1.7% |
| Not employed by choice | 6 | 2.0% |
| Other | 8 | 2.7% |
| Total | 294 | 100.0% |

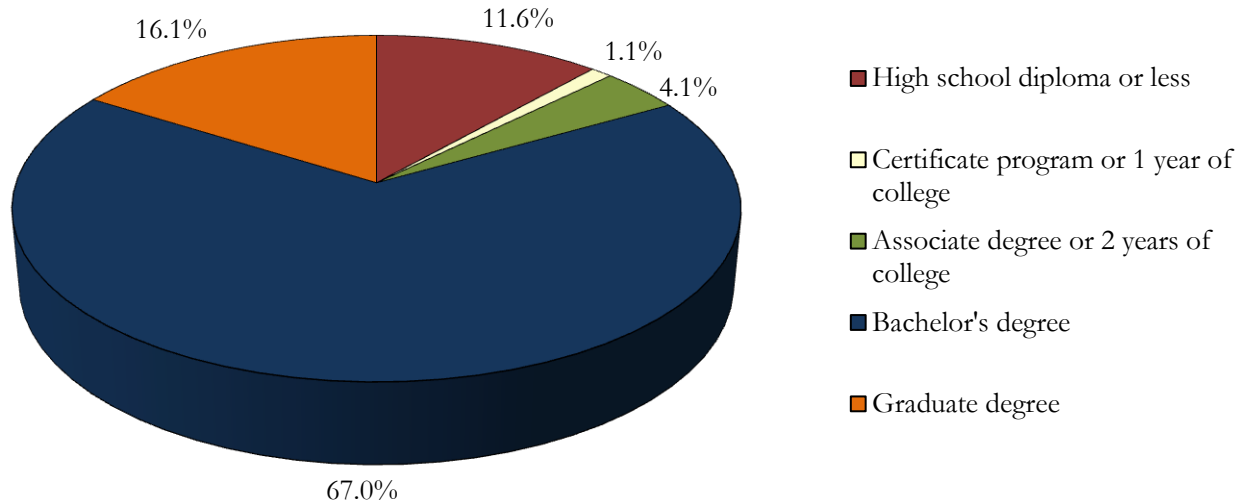
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



| Category of Current Employment | N | % |
|--------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Business and Industry | 62 | 23.0% |
| Education | 53 | 19.6% |
| Other | 45 | 16.7% |
| Health Services | 26 | 9.6% |
| Non-Profit | 22 | 8.1% |
| Technology | 15 | 5.6% |
| Hospitality | 15 | 5.6% |
| Government | 13 | 4.8% |
| Arts | 9 | 3.3% |
| Self-Employed | 8 | 3.0% |
| Military Service | 2 | 0.7% |
| Total | 270 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Minimum Educational Requirements for
Respondents' Current Employment Position

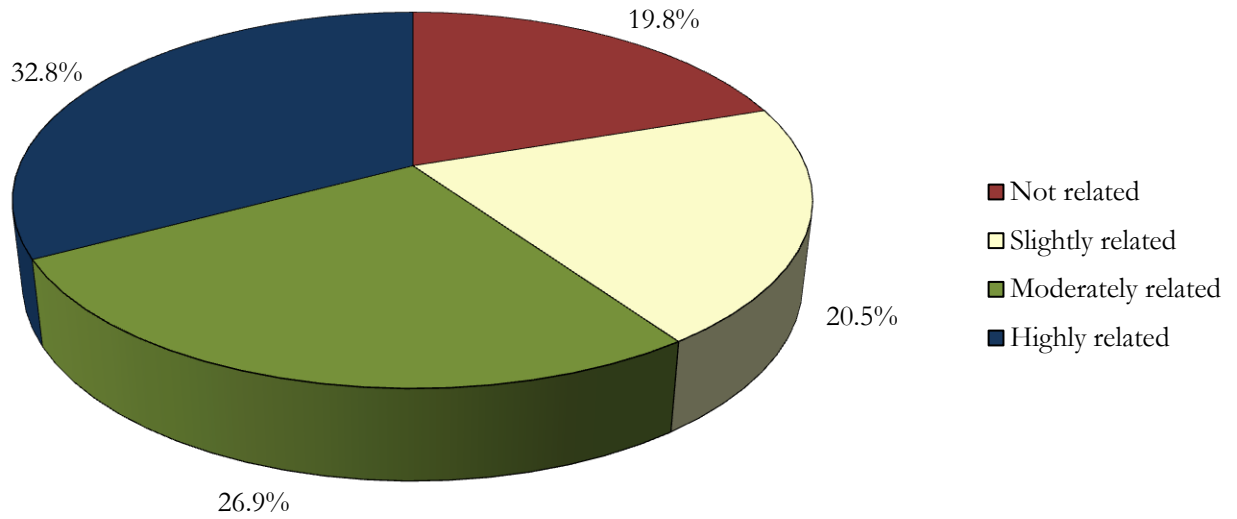


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Minimum Educational Requirements for Current Employment Position | N | % |
|--|-----|--------|
| High school diploma or less | 31 | 11.6% |
| Certificate program or 1 year of college | 3 | 1.1% |
| Associate degree or 2 years of college | 11 | 4.1% |
| Bachelor's degree | 179 | 67.0% |
| Graduate degree | 43 | 16.1% |
| Total | 267 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

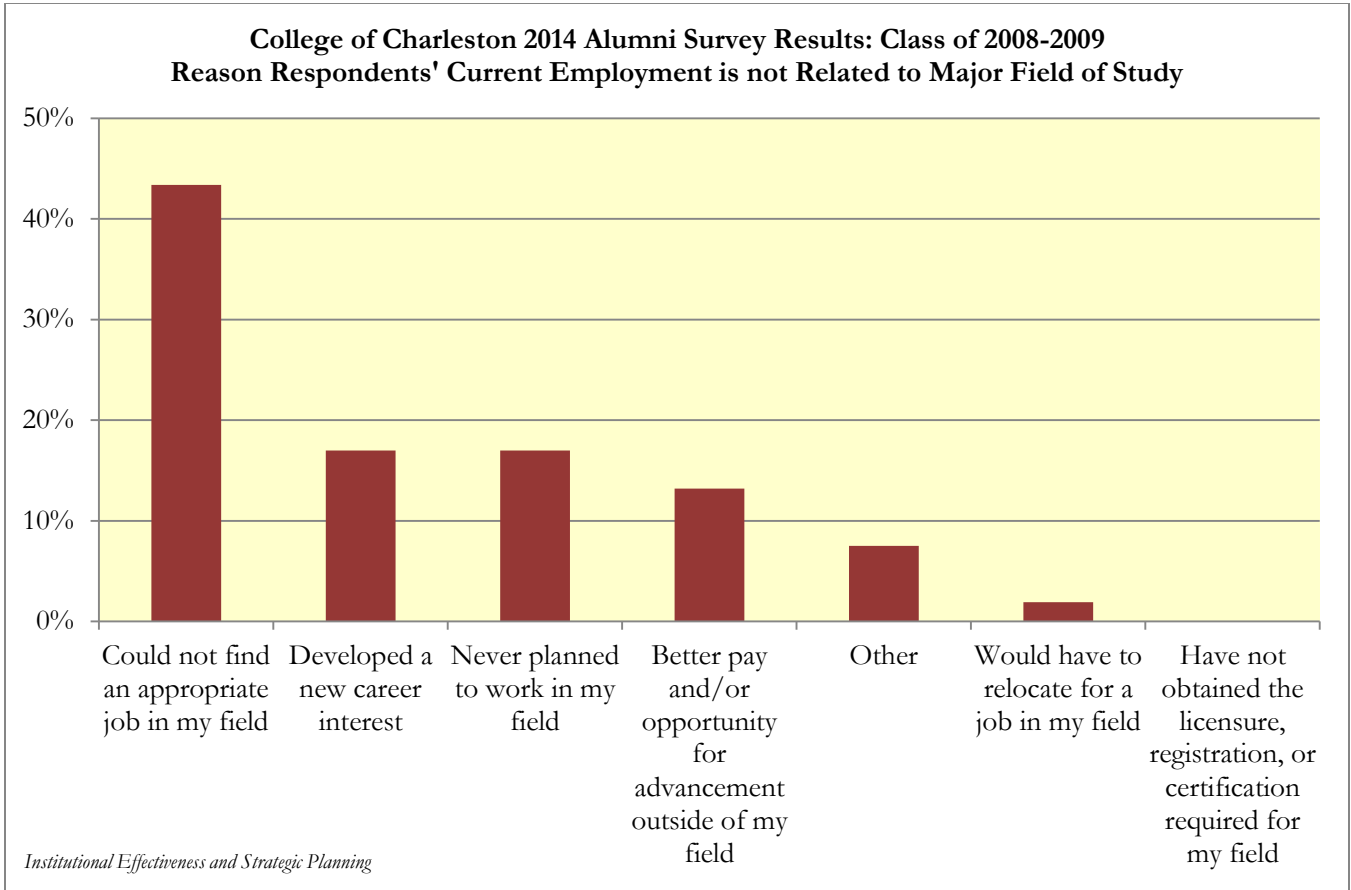
**College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Relationship Between Respondents' Major and Current Employment**



Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Relationship Between Major and Current Employment | N | % |
|---|-----|--------|
| Not related | 53 | 19.8% |
| Slightly related | 55 | 20.5% |
| Moderately related | 72 | 26.9% |
| Highly related | 88 | 32.8% |
| Total | 268 | 100.0% |

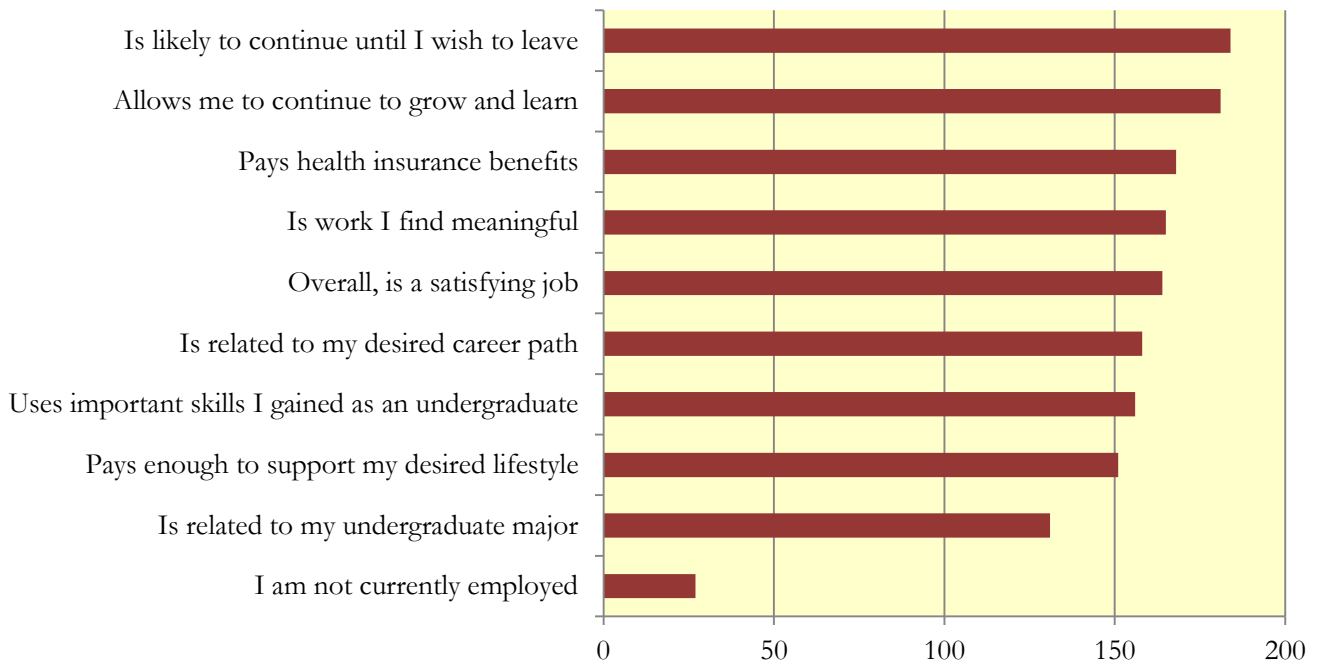
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



| Main Reason Current Employment is not Related to Major Field of Study | N | % |
|---|-----------|---------------|
| Could not find an appropriate job in my field | 23 | 43.4% |
| Developed a new career interest | 9 | 17.0% |
| Never planned to work in my field | 9 | 17.0% |
| Better pay and/or opportunity for advancement outside of my field | 7 | 13.2% |
| Other | 4 | 7.5% |
| Would have to relocate for a job in my field | 1 | 1.9% |
| Have not obtained the licensure, registration, or certification required for my field | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total | 53 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

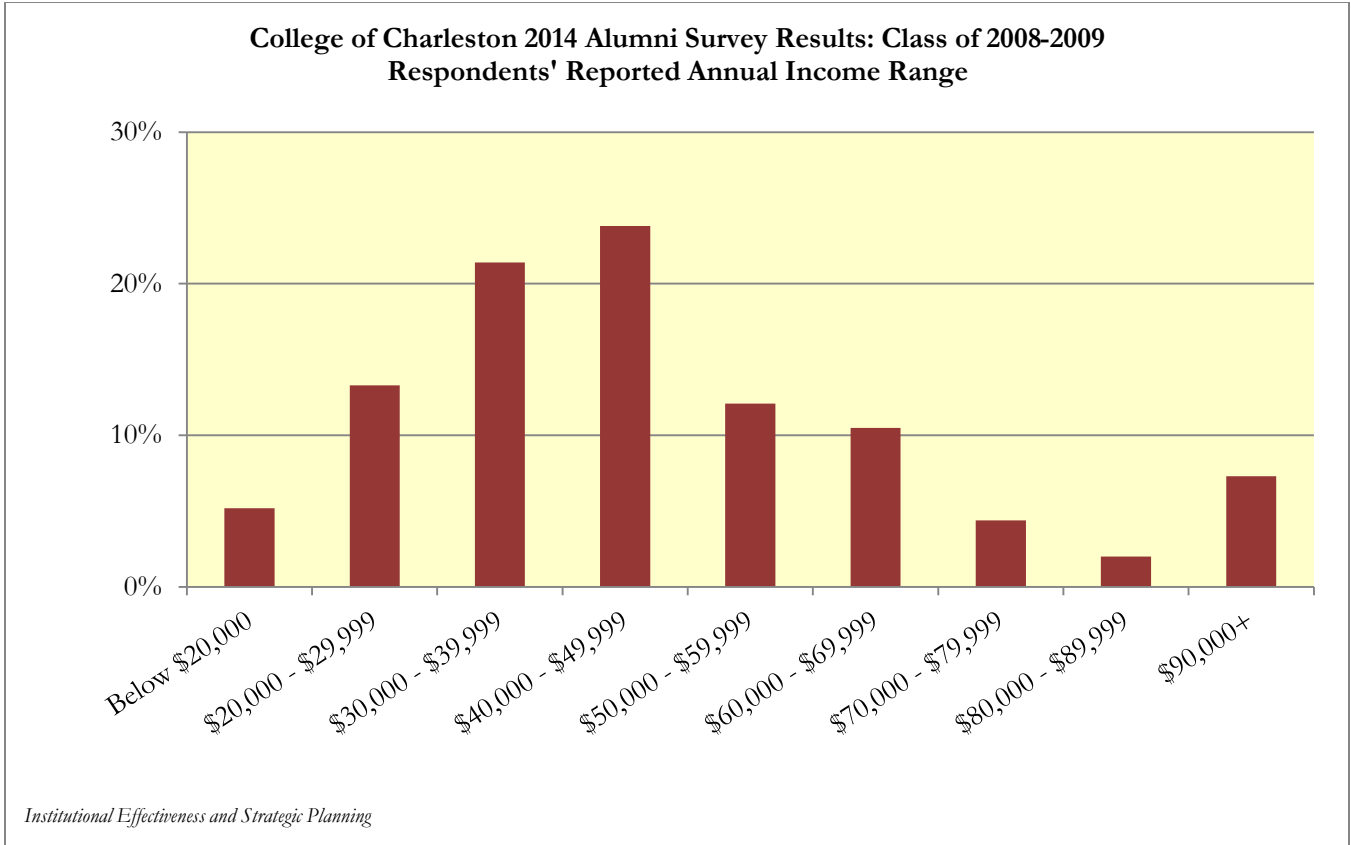
**College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Respondents' Current Job***



**Because respondents could select multiple responses, counts rather than percentages are reported.
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*

| Respondents' Current Job* | N |
|--|----------|
| Is likely to continue until I wish to leave | 184 |
| Allows me to continue to grow and learn | 181 |
| Pays health insurance benefits | 168 |
| Is work I find meaningful | 165 |
| Overall, is a satisfying job | 164 |
| Is related to my desired career path | 158 |
| Uses important skills I gained as an undergraduate | 156 |
| Pays enough to support my desired lifestyle | 151 |
| Is related to my undergraduate major | 131 |
| I am not currently employed | 27 |

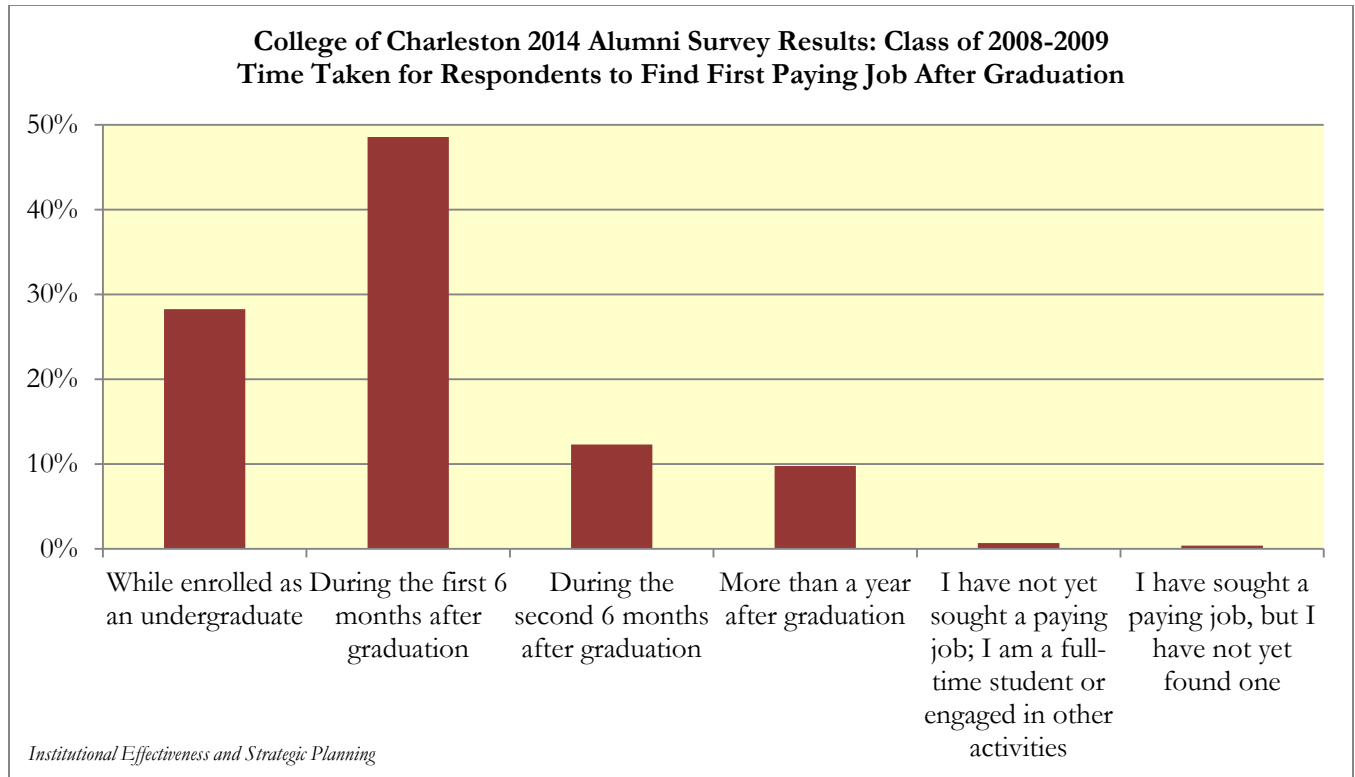
**Because respondents could select multiple responses, counts rather than percentages are reported.
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*



| Reported Annual Income Range | N | % |
|------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Below \$20,000 | 13 | 5.2% |
| \$20,000 - \$29,999 | 33 | 13.3% |
| \$30,000 - \$39,999 | 53 | 21.4% |
| \$40,000 - \$49,999 | 59 | 23.8% |
| \$50,000 - \$59,999 | 30 | 12.1% |
| \$60,000 - \$69,999 | 26 | 10.5% |
| \$70,000 - \$79,999 | 11 | 4.4% |
| \$80,000 - \$89,999 | 5 | 2.0% |
| \$90,000+ | 18 | 7.3% |
| Total | 248 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

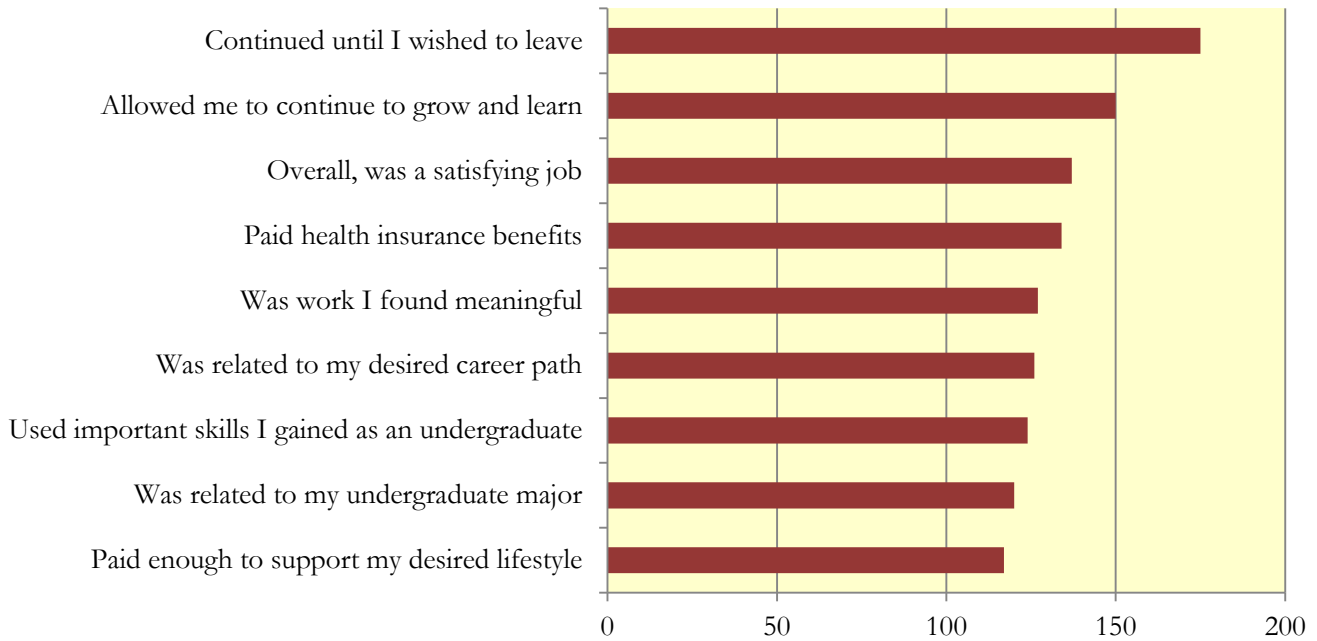
Employment History



| Time Taken to Find First Paying Job After Graduation | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| While enrolled as an undergraduate | 78 | 28.3% |
| During the first 6 months after graduation | 134 | 48.6% |
| During the second 6 months after graduation | 34 | 12.3% |
| More than a year after graduation | 27 | 9.8% |
| I have not yet sought a paying job; I am a full-time student or engaged in other activities | 2 | 0.7% |
| I have sought a paying job, but I have not yet found one | 1 | 0.4% |
| Total | 276 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Respondents' First Paying Job After Graduation***

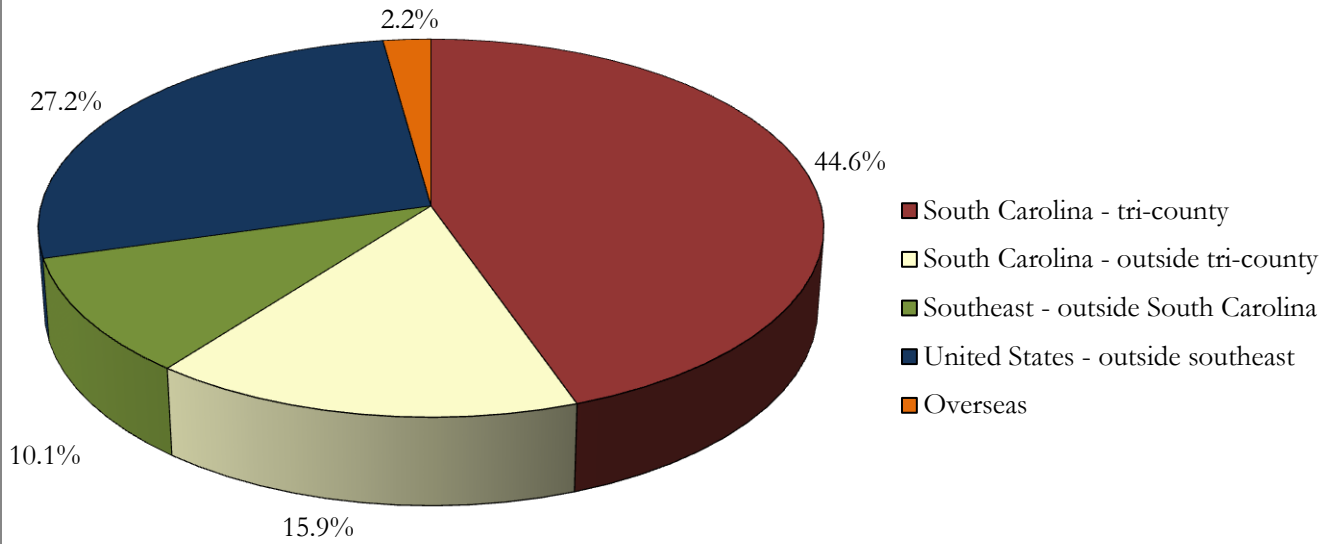


**Because respondents could select multiple responses, counts rather than percentages are reported.
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*

| Respondents' First Paying Job After Graduation* | N |
|--|----------|
| Continued until I wished to leave | 175 |
| Allowed me to continue to grow and learn | 150 |
| Overall, was a satisfying job | 137 |
| Paid health insurance benefits | 134 |
| Was work I found meaningful | 127 |
| Was related to my desired career path | 126 |
| Used important skills I gained as an undergraduate | 124 |
| Was related to my undergraduate major | 120 |
| Paid enough to support my desired lifestyle | 117 |

**Because respondents could select multiple responses, counts rather than percentages are reported.
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*

College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Location of First Paying Job After Graduation

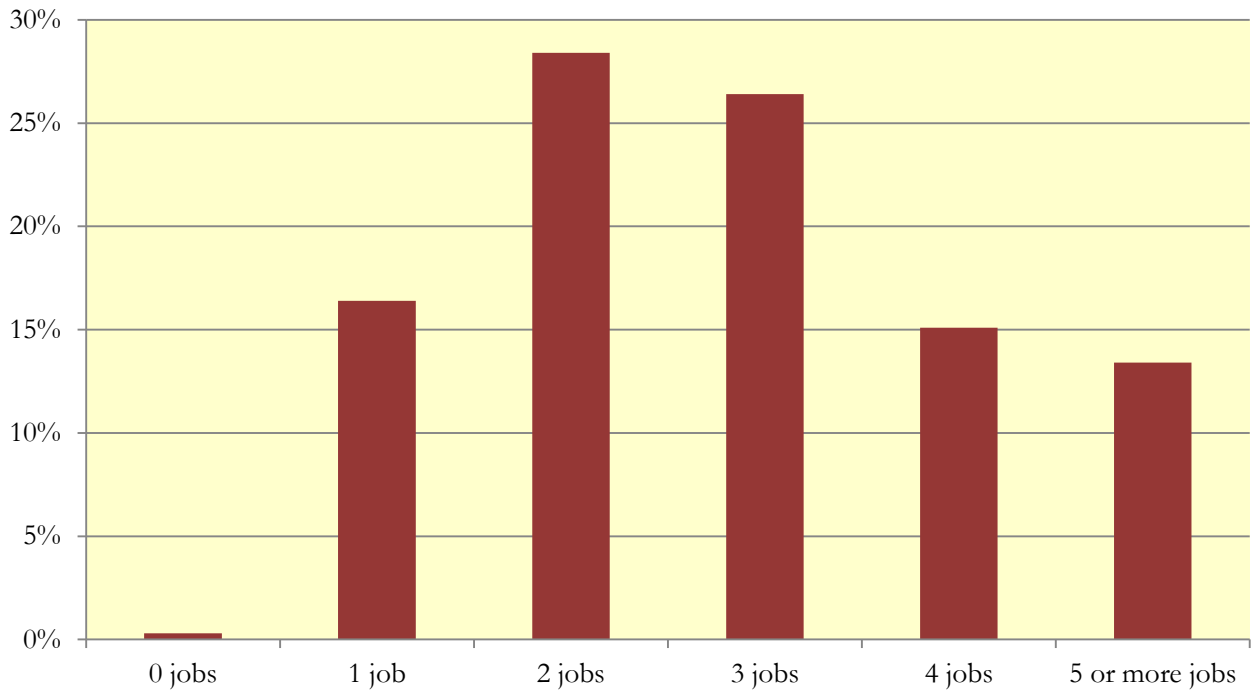


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Location of First Paying Job After Graduation | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| South Carolina - tri-county | 123 | 44.6% |
| South Carolina - outside tri-county | 44 | 15.9% |
| Southeast - outside South Carolina | 28 | 10.1% |
| United States - outside southeast | 75 | 27.2% |
| Overseas | 6 | 2.2% |
| Not yet employed | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total | 276 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Respondents' Number of Paying Jobs Held Since Graduation

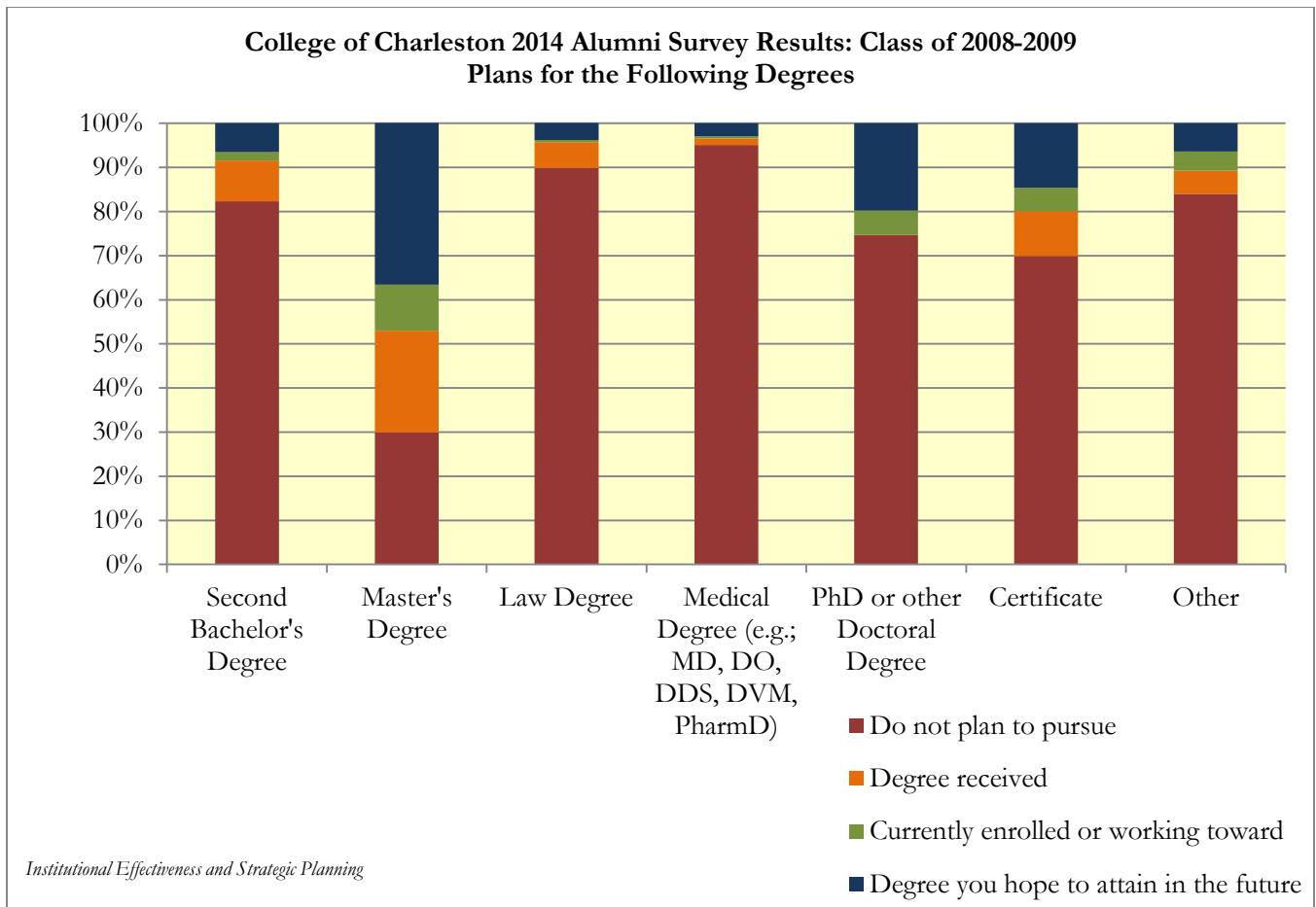


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Number of Paying Jobs Held Since Graduation | N | % |
|---|-----|--------|
| 0 jobs | 1 | 0.3% |
| 1 job | 48 | 16.4% |
| 2 jobs | 83 | 28.4% |
| 3 jobs | 77 | 26.4% |
| 4 jobs | 44 | 15.1% |
| 5 or more jobs | 39 | 13.4% |
| Total | 292 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

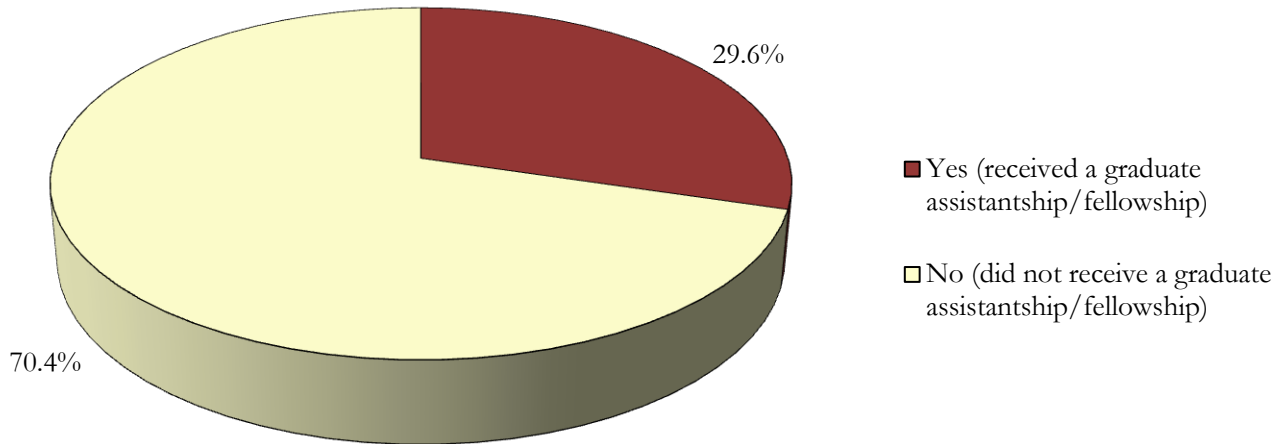
Graduate/Professional School



| Plans For The Following Degrees | Do not plan to pursue | Degree received | Currently enrolled or working toward | Degree you hope to attain in the future | N |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----|
| Second Bachelor's Degree | 82.3% | 9.3% | 1.9% | 6.5% | 215 |
| Master's Degree | 29.9% | 23.1% | 10.4% | 36.7% | 251 |
| Law Degree | 89.9% | 5.8% | 0.5% | 3.9% | 207 |
| Medical Degree (e.g.; MD, DO, DDS, DVM, PharmD) | 95.1% | 1.5% | 0.5% | 2.9% | 206 |
| PhD or other Doctoral Degree | 74.7% | 0.0% | 5.5% | 19.8% | 217 |
| Certificate | 69.9% | 10.2% | 5.3% | 14.6% | 206 |
| Other | 84.0% | 5.3% | 4.3% | 6.4% | 94 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Respondents who Received a Graduate Assistantship/Fellowship

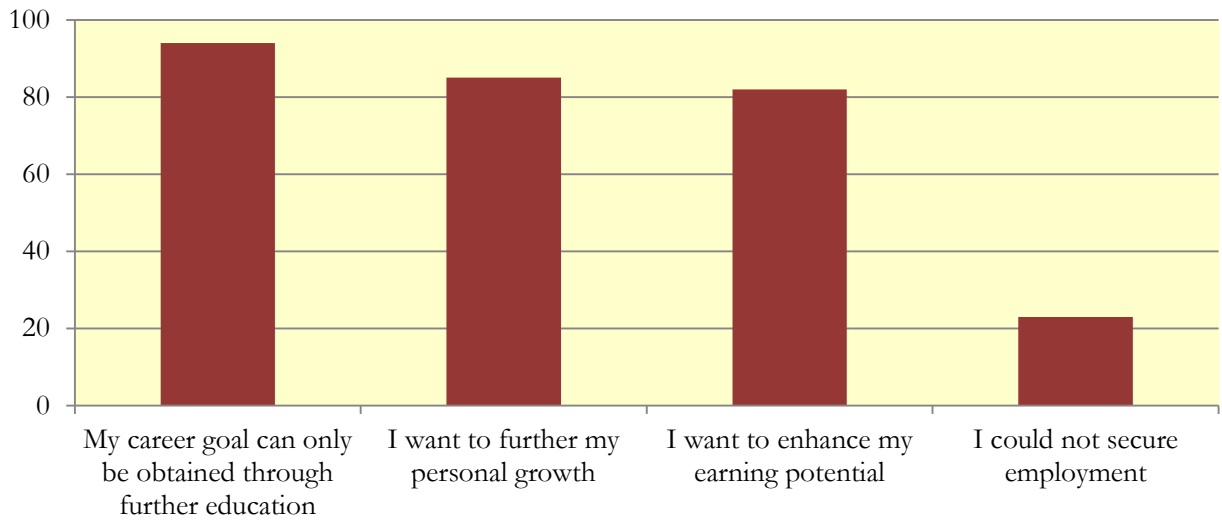


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Received a Graduate Assistantship/Fellowship | N | % |
|--|-----|--------|
| Yes (received a graduate assistantship/fellowship) | 40 | 29.6% |
| No (did not receive a graduate assistantship/fellowship) | 95 | 70.4% |
| Total | 135 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Respondents' Reason For Seeking Further Education***



**Because respondents could select multiple responses, counts rather than percentages are reported.
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*

| Reason for Seeking Further Education* | N |
|---|----------|
| My career goal can only be obtained through further education | 94 |
| I want to further my personal growth | 85 |
| I want to enhance my earning potential | 82 |
| I could not secure employment | 23 |

**Because respondents could select multiple responses, counts rather than percentages are reported.
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*

| Graduate Institutions Most Frequently Attended | N |
|---|----------|
| College of Charleston | 12 |
| University of South Carolina | 8 |
| Medical University of South Carolina | 4 |
| The Citadel | 4 |
| University of Georgia | 3 |
| The Charleston School of Law | 2 |
| Clemson University | 2 |
| Charleston Southern University | 2 |
| Tulane University | 2 |
| University of Texas | 2 |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | 2 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Other Graduate Institutions Reported:

Appalachian State University, Auburn University, Bellevue University, Boston University, Capella University, College of William and Mary, Columbia College, Creative Circus, CUNY Hunter College, DePaul University, Drexel University, FH Kempten, Francis Marion, George Washington University, Georgetown University, Harvard University, Indiana University, Bloomington, International School of Pedorthics, Jekyll Island Management Institute, John Marshal Law School, Johns Hopkins University, Kaplan University, Lander University, Naropa University, New England Law Boston, Ohio State University, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Quinnipiac University, Southeast Missouri State University, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southern Wesleyan University, Strayer University, Suffolk University, Temple University, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, University of California; Davis, University of Cape Town, University of Cincinnati, University of Maryland Baltimore, University of Massachusetts, University of Michigan, University of North Carolina; Charlotte, University of North Florida, University of Northern Colorado, University of Notre Dame, University of the Virgin Islands, University of Western Ontario, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Wake Forest University, Walden University, Webster University, Widener University, Winthrop University

| Academic Disciplines Most Frequently Cited | N |
|---|----------|
| Business | 20 |
| Education | 17 |
| Social Sciences | 16 |
| Math and Sciences | 14 |
| Law | 8 |
| Health Sciences | 8 |
| Medicine | 5 |
| Humanities | 3 |
| Arts | 3 |
| Other | 2 |
| Religious Sciences | 1 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Other Academic Disciplines reported:

Library and Information Systems

College of Charleston Undergraduate Experience

| Satisfaction with the College of Charleston's Quality of: | Very Dissatisfied | Dissatisfied | Neutral | Satisfied | Very Satisfied | N |
|---|-------------------|--------------|---------|-----------|----------------|-----|
| Curriculum in your major | 1.5% | 3.5% | 6.5% | 44.2% | 44.2% | 260 |
| Instruction in your major | 1.5% | 1.9% | 7.3% | 41.9% | 47.3% | 260 |
| Curriculum in your general education program | 2.3% | 3.5% | 19.2% | 47.3% | 27.7% | 260 |
| Instruction in your general education program | 1.9% | 3.8% | 17.3% | 48.1% | 28.8% | 260 |

| Satisfaction with: | Very Dissatisfied | Dissatisfied | Neutral | Satisfied | Very Satisfied | N |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------|-----------|----------------|-----|
| Your overall academic experience | 1.9% | 2.3% | 8.1% | 40.3% | 47.3% | 258 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

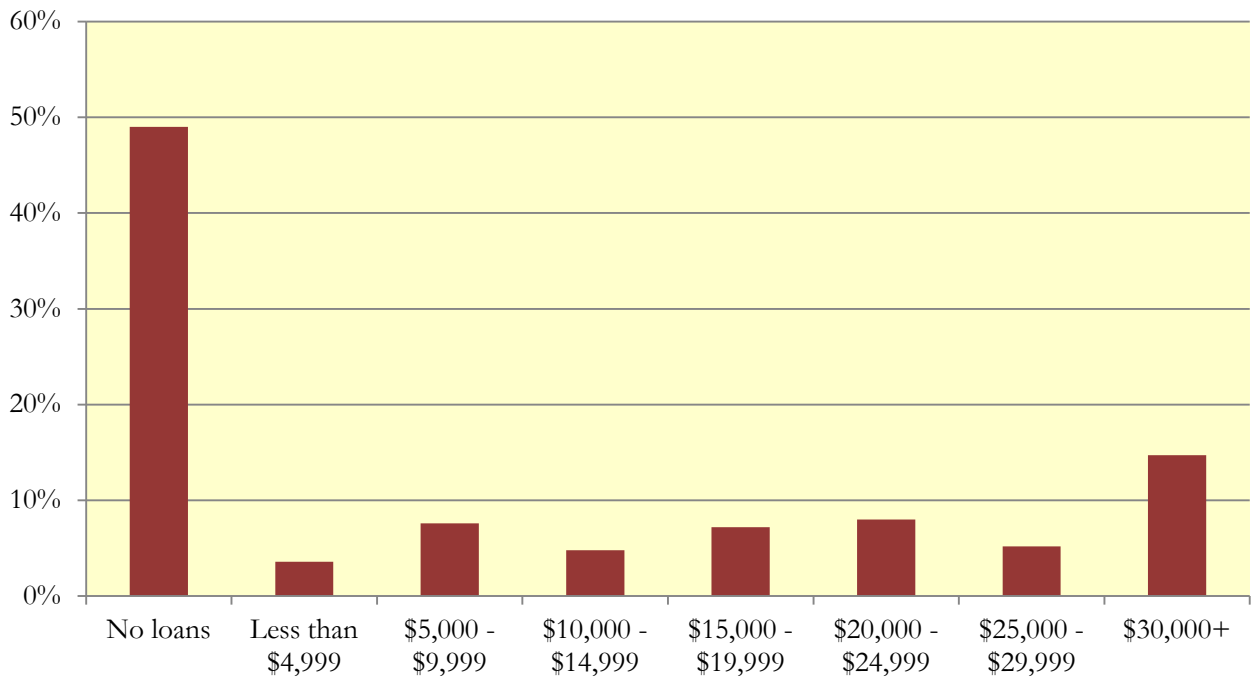
| Frequency of Participation in Activities | Never | Less often | Annually | Monthly | Weekly | N |
|--|-------|------------|----------|---------|--------|-----|
| Career related advanced education or training | 14.3% | 13.5% | 27.8% | 27.8% | 16.7% | 245 |
| Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s) | 12.2% | 21.2% | 26.9% | 20.8% | 18.8% | 245 |
| Professional or service organizations | 20.5% | 23.4% | 26.2% | 23.8% | 6.1% | 244 |
| Volunteer, public, or community service | 14.3% | 23.3% | 27.8% | 25.7% | 9.0% | 245 |
| Social or recreational organization | 13.7% | 16.6% | 13.7% | 31.1% | 24.9% | 241 |
| Support or participation in the arts | 18.3% | 20.7% | 22.0% | 27.4% | 11.6% | 241 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| College of Charleston's Influence on Participation in Activities | Not at all | Somewhat | Moderately | Strongly | N |
|--|------------|----------|------------|----------|-----|
| Career related advanced education or training | 43.5% | 25.6% | 22.4% | 8.5% | 223 |
| Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s) | 31.5% | 29.2% | 23.7% | 15.5% | 219 |
| Professional or service organizations | 39.3% | 29.7% | 21.0% | 10.0% | 219 |
| Volunteer, public, or community service | 35.8% | 32.6% | 21.1% | 10.6% | 218 |
| Social or recreational organization | 32.3% | 25.9% | 22.7% | 19.1% | 220 |
| Support or participation in the arts | 31.1% | 27.5% | 23.9% | 17.6% | 222 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Total Amount of Undergraduate Loans Accrued at the Time of Graduation

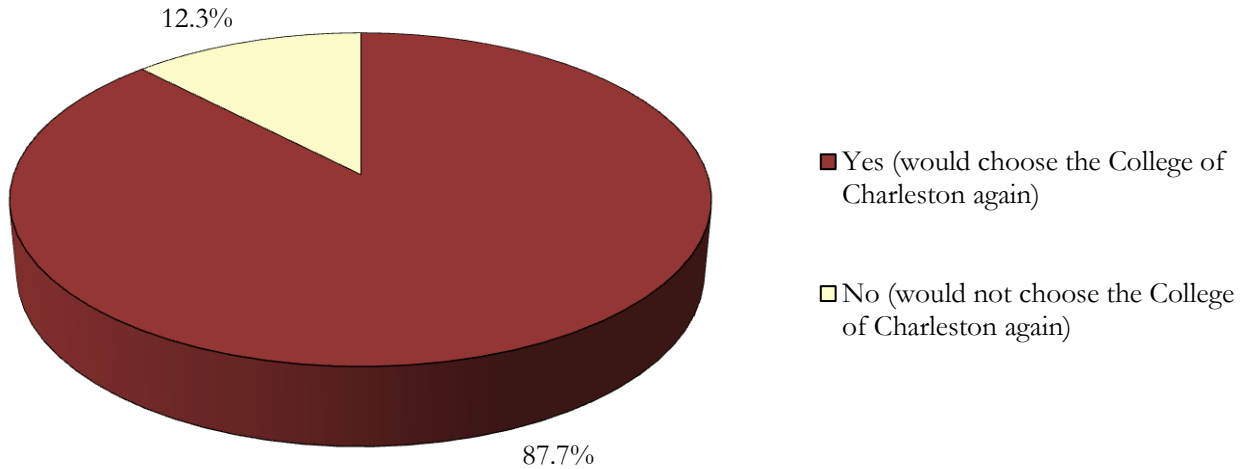


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Total Amount of Undergraduate Loans Accrued at the Time of Graduation | N | % |
|---|-----|--------|
| No loans | 123 | 49.0% |
| Less than \$4,999 | 9 | 3.6% |
| \$5,000 - \$9,999 | 19 | 7.6% |
| \$10,000 - \$14,999 | 12 | 4.8% |
| \$15,000 - \$19,999 | 18 | 7.2% |
| \$20,000 - \$24,999 | 20 | 8.0% |
| \$25,000 - \$29,999 | 13 | 5.2% |
| \$30,000+ | 37 | 14.7% |
| Total | 251 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Would Choose the College of Charleston Again

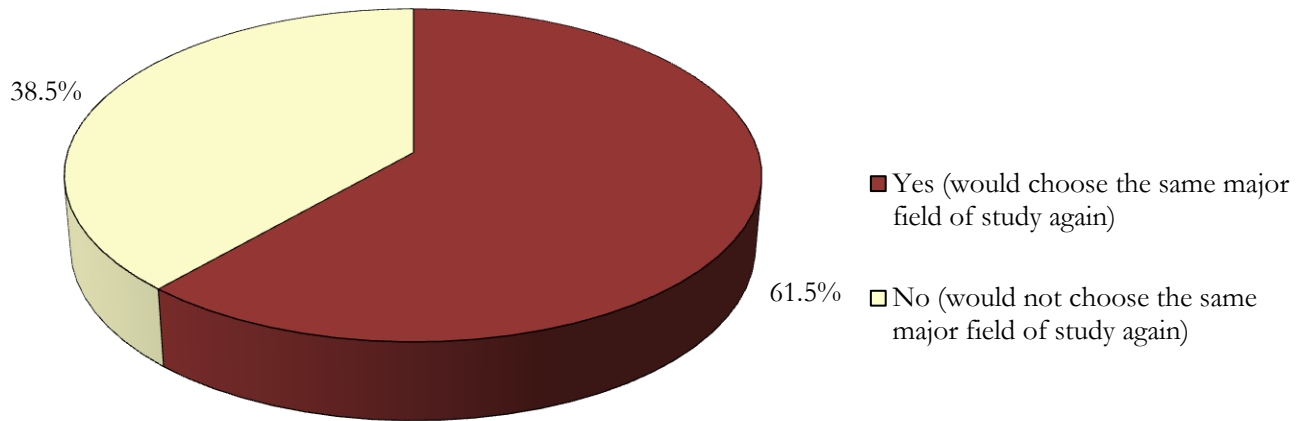


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Would Choose the College of Charleston Again | N | % |
|---|----------|----------|
| Yes (would choose the College of Charleston again) | 228 | 87.7% |
| No (would not choose the College of Charleston again) | 32 | 12.3% |
| Total | 260 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Results: Class of 2008-2009
Would Choose the Same Major Field of Study Again**



Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Would Choose the Same Major Field of Study Again | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Yes (would choose the same major field of study again) | 160 | 61.5% |
| No (would not choose the same major field of study again) | 100 | 38.5% |
| Total | 260 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Appendix A - Response Rate by Major*

| Major | N (Graduates) | N (Respondents) | % |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Accounting | 32 | 4 | 12.5% |
| Anthropology | 20 | 4 | 20.0% |
| Art History | 19 | 6 | 31.6% |
| Arts Management | 30 | 7 | 23.3% |
| Astrophysics | 1 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Athletic Training | 5 | 2 | 40.0% |
| Biochemistry | 1 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Biology | 106 | 21 | 19.8% |
| Business Administration | 180 | 39 | 21.7% |
| Chemistry | 19 | 6 | 31.6% |
| Classics | 3 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Communication | 184 | 57 | 31.0% |
| Computer Information Sciences | 2 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Computer Science | 10 | 1 | 10.0% |
| Early Childhood Education | 30 | 6 | 20.0% |
| Economics | 31 | 13 | 41.9% |
| Elementary Education | 22 | 5 | 22.7% |
| English | 46 | 9 | 19.6% |
| French | 6 | 3 | 50.0% |
| Geology | 11 | 1 | 9.1% |
| German | 3 | 1 | 33.3% |
| Historic Preservation and Community Planning | 23 | 8 | 34.8% |
| History | 34 | 9 | 26.5% |
| Hospitality and Tourism Management | 52 | 14 | 26.9% |
| International Business | 32 | 7 | 21.9% |
| Latin American and Caribbean Studies | 4 | 1 | 25.0% |

College of Charleston 2014 Alumni Survey Class of 2008-2009

| Major | N (Graduates) | N (Respondents) | % |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------|
| Marine Biology | 14 | 4 | 28.6% |
| Mathematics | 10 | 3 | 30.0% |
| Middle Grades Education | 8 | 1 | 12.5% |
| Music | 14 | 4 | 28.6% |
| Philosophy | 12 | 5 | 41.7% |
| Physical Education | 52 | 9 | 17.3% |
| Physics | 5 | 1 | 20.0% |
| Political Science | 69 | 22 | 31.9% |
| Psychology | 83 | 14 | 16.9% |
| Religious Studies | 9 | 3 | 33.3% |
| Sociology | 30 | 9 | 30.0% |
| Spanish | 28 | 5 | 17.9% |
| Special Education | 16 | 7 | 43.8% |
| Studio Art | 33 | 4 | 12.1% |
| Theatre | 9 | 1 | 11.1% |
| Urban Studies | 3 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total | 1,301** | 316** | |

**Double Majors counted twice*

***Total N for Graduates and Respondents higher because of counting of double majors
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*