

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

2015 Alumni Survey Results Class of 2011-2012

Background

- ❖ 1,910 alumni invited to participate.
- ❖ 378 responses; response rate of 20%.
- ❖ Survey emailed to students who graduated in August 2011, December 2011, and May 2012 with a B.A., B.S., or A.B. Degree.
- ❖ Survey administered June 18, 2015 - July 18, 2015 using Qualtrics online survey tool.

Current Employment

- ❖ 65% of respondents are currently employed full-time.
- ❖ 7% of respondents are employed part-time or have multiple jobs.
- ❖ 28% of respondents are employed in the field of management, business, and finance.
- ❖ 67% of respondents have a job that requires at least a Bachelor's Degree.
- ❖ 40% of respondents' current annual income range is \$20,000 - \$39,999.
- ❖ 27% of respondents' current annual income range is \$40,000 - \$59,999.
- ❖ 61% of respondents' employment is moderately or highly related to their major.

Employment History

- ❖ 84% of respondents were able to find their first paying job while enrolled as an undergraduate or during the first six months after graduation.
- ❖ 58% of respondents' first paying job was in South Carolina.
- ❖ 23% of respondents have had only one paying job since graduation.

Graduate/Professional School

- ❖ 19% of respondents are attending graduate/professional school full-time or part-time.
- ❖ 26% of respondents completed a post baccalaureate degree program (Master's, Law, Medical, PhD, or Certificate).
- ❖ 30% of respondents continuing their education received an assistantship or fellowship.
- ❖ The graduate institutions most frequently attended by respondents are: University of South Carolina, College of Charleston, Medical University of South Carolina, and The Citadel.
- ❖ The academic disciplines most frequently mentioned for continuing education are: Medicine, Social Sciences, Business, and Education.

College of Charleston Undergraduate Experience

- ❖ 88% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall academic experience.
- ❖ 89% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with the instruction in their major.
- ❖ 72% of respondents would choose the same major field of study again.
- ❖ 78% 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.
- ❖ 51% of respondents graduated with no student loans.

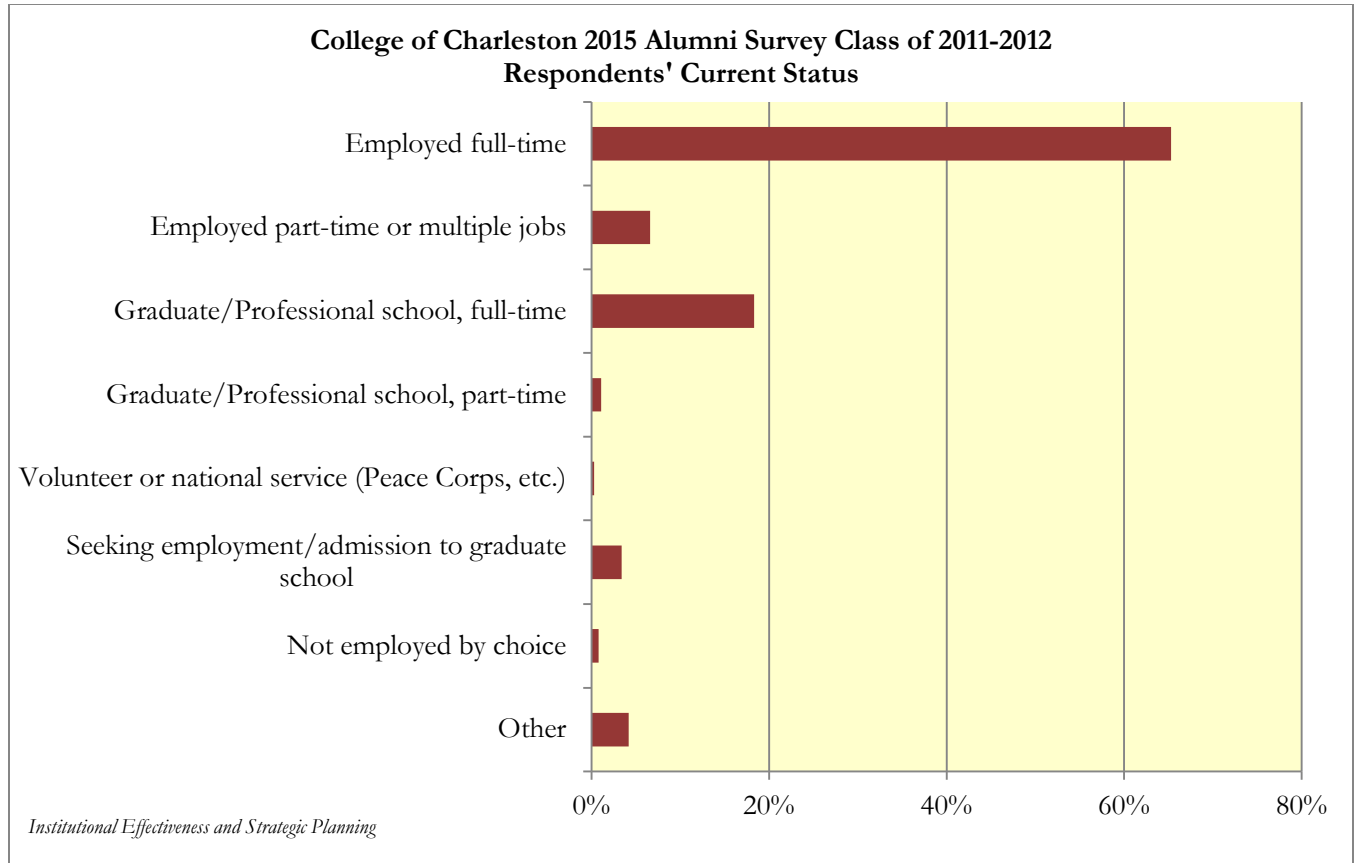
[*View full report*](#)

[*View survey instrument*](#)

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

2015 Alumni Survey Results
Class of 2011-2012

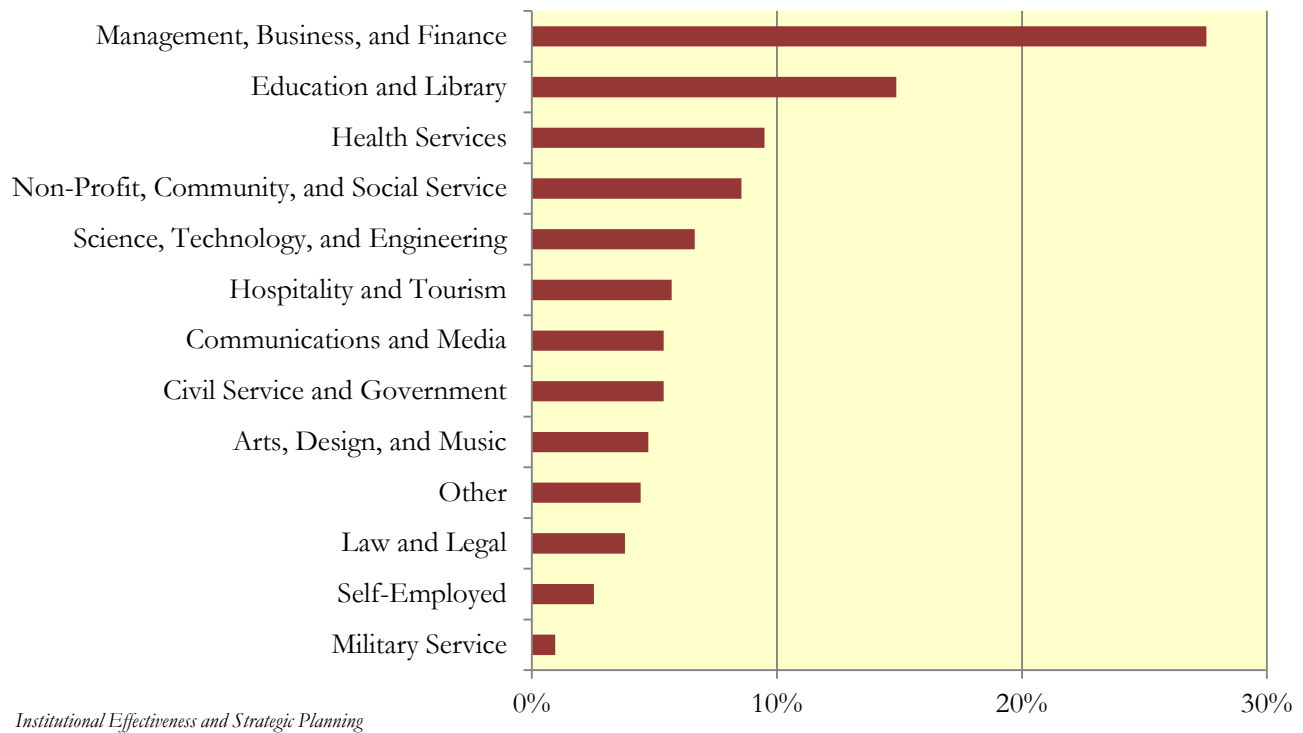
Current Employment



| Current Status | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Employed full-time | 247 | 65.3% |
| Employed part-time or multiple jobs | 25 | 6.6% |
| Graduate/Professional school, full-time | 69 | 18.3% |
| Graduate/Professional school, part-time | 4 | 1.1% |
| Volunteer or national service (Peace Corps, etc.) | 1 | 0.3% |
| Seeking employment/admission to graduate school | 13 | 3.4% |
| Not employed by choice | 3 | 0.8% |
| Other | 16 | 4.2% |
| Total | 378 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

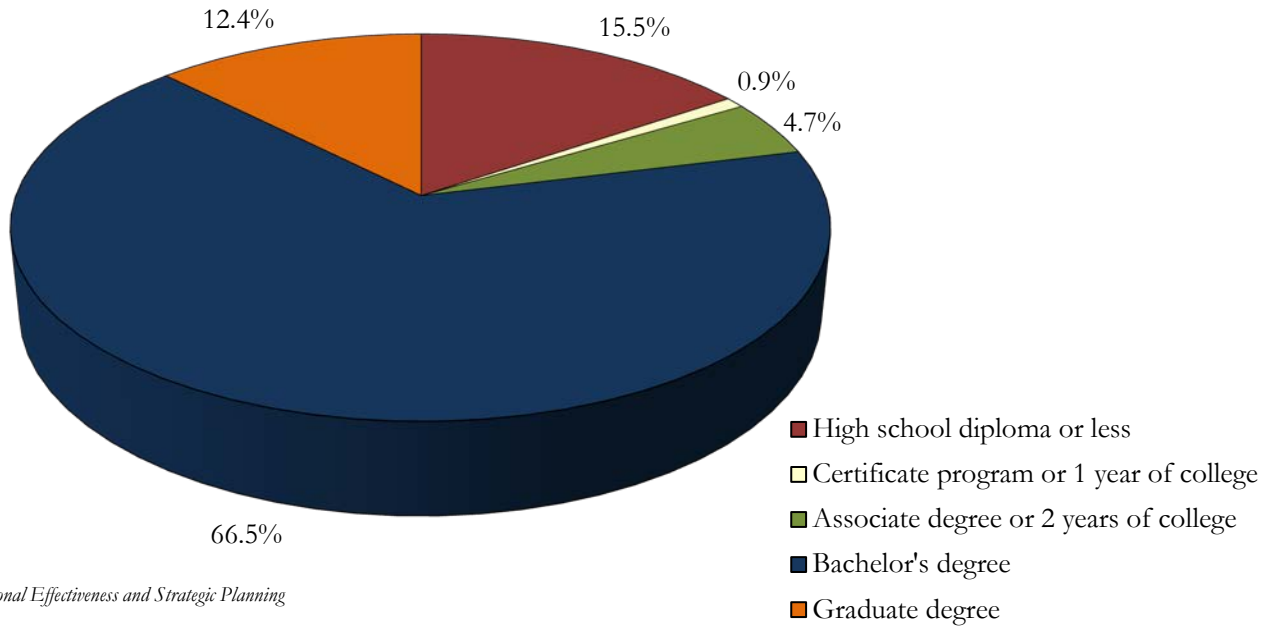
**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
Respondents' Category of Current Employment**



| Category of Current Employment | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Management, Business, and Finance | 87 | 27.5% |
| Education and Library | 47 | 14.9% |
| Health Services | 30 | 9.5% |
| Non-Profit, Community, and Social Service | 27 | 8.5% |
| Science, Technology, and Engineering | 21 | 6.6% |
| Hospitality and Tourism | 18 | 5.7% |
| Communications and Media | 17 | 5.4% |
| Civil Service and Government | 17 | 5.4% |
| Arts, Design, and Music | 15 | 4.7% |
| Other | 14 | 4.4% |
| Law and Legal | 12 | 3.8% |
| Self-Employed | 8 | 2.5% |
| Military Service | 3 | 0.9% |
| Total | 316 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

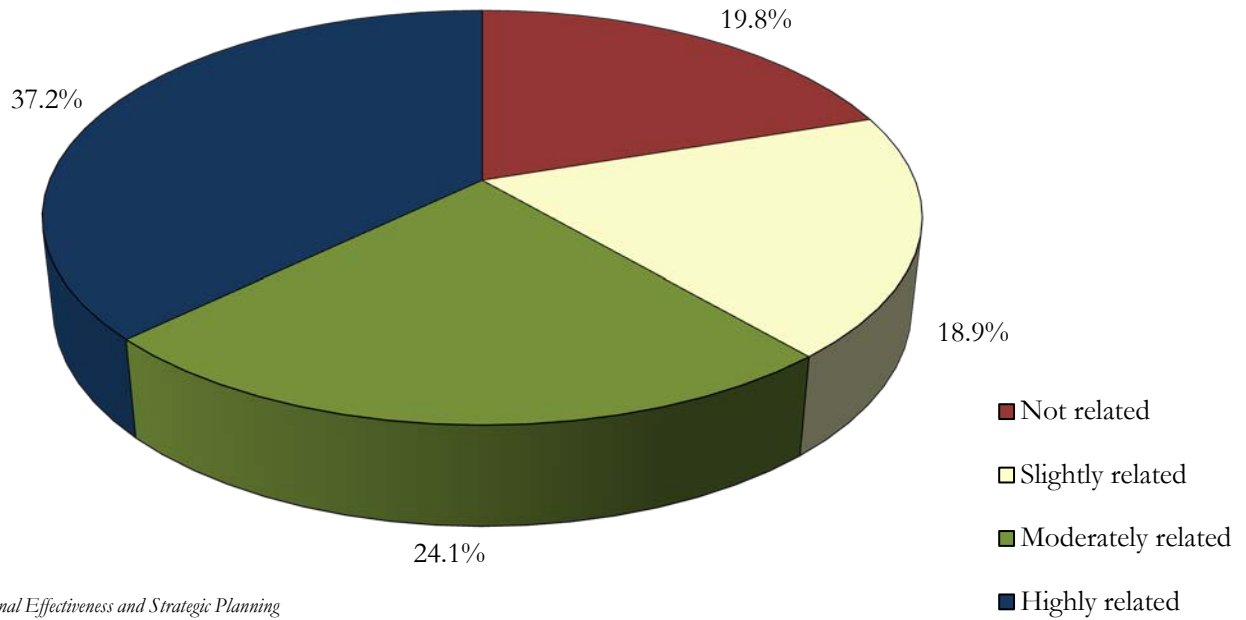
College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
 Minimum Educational Requirements for Respondents' Current Employment Position



| Minimum Educational Requirements for Current Employment Position | N | % |
|--|------------|---------------|
| High school diploma or less | 50 | 15.5% |
| Certificate program or 1 year of college | 3 | 0.9% |
| Associate degree or 2 years of college | 15 | 4.7% |
| Bachelor's degree | 214 | 66.5% |
| Graduate degree | 40 | 12.4% |
| Total | 322 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

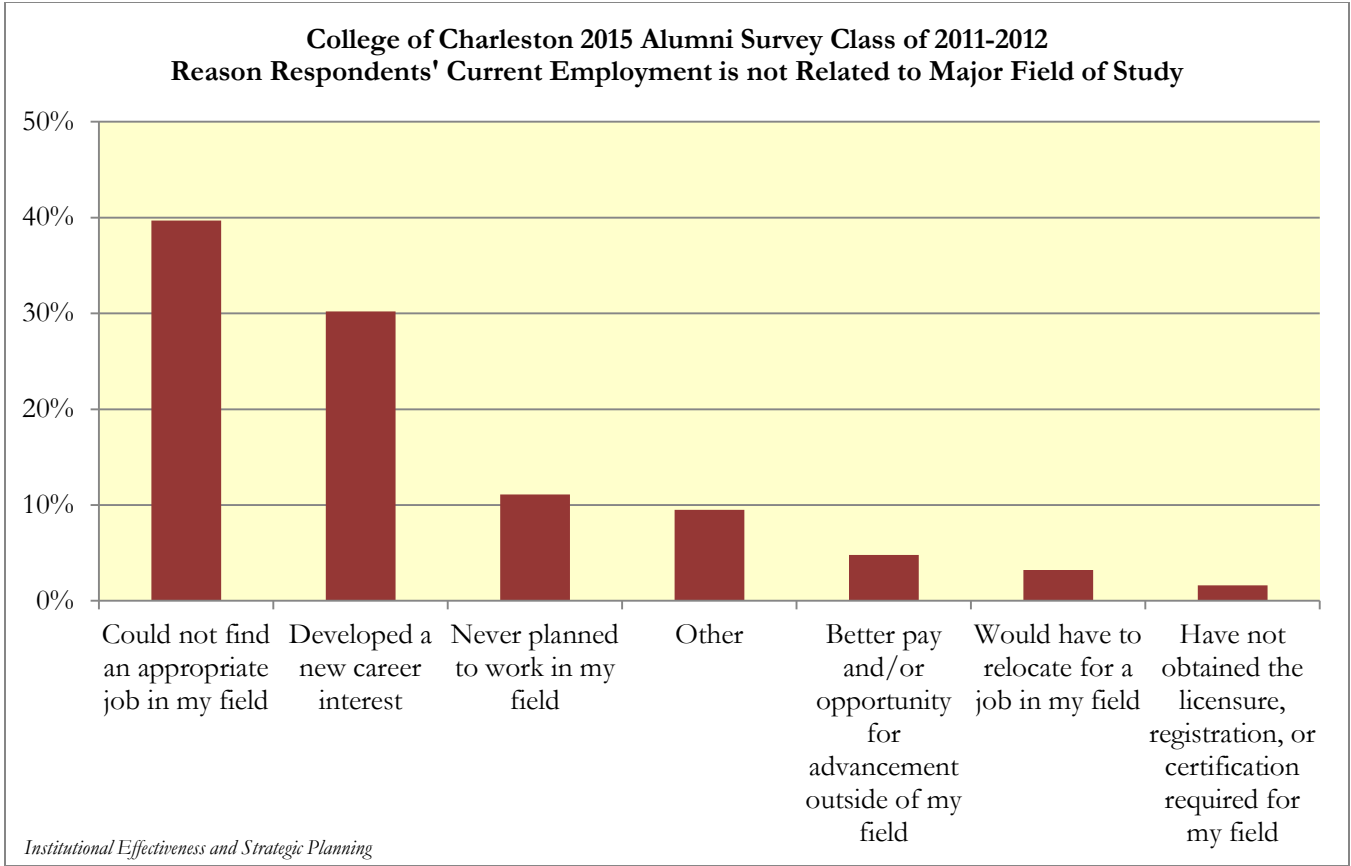
College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
 Relationship Between Respondents' Major and Current Employment



Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Relationship Between Major and Current Employment | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Not related | 64 | 19.8% |
| Slightly related | 61 | 18.9% |
| Moderately related | 78 | 24.1% |
| Highly related | 120 | 37.2% |
| Total | 323 | 100.0% |

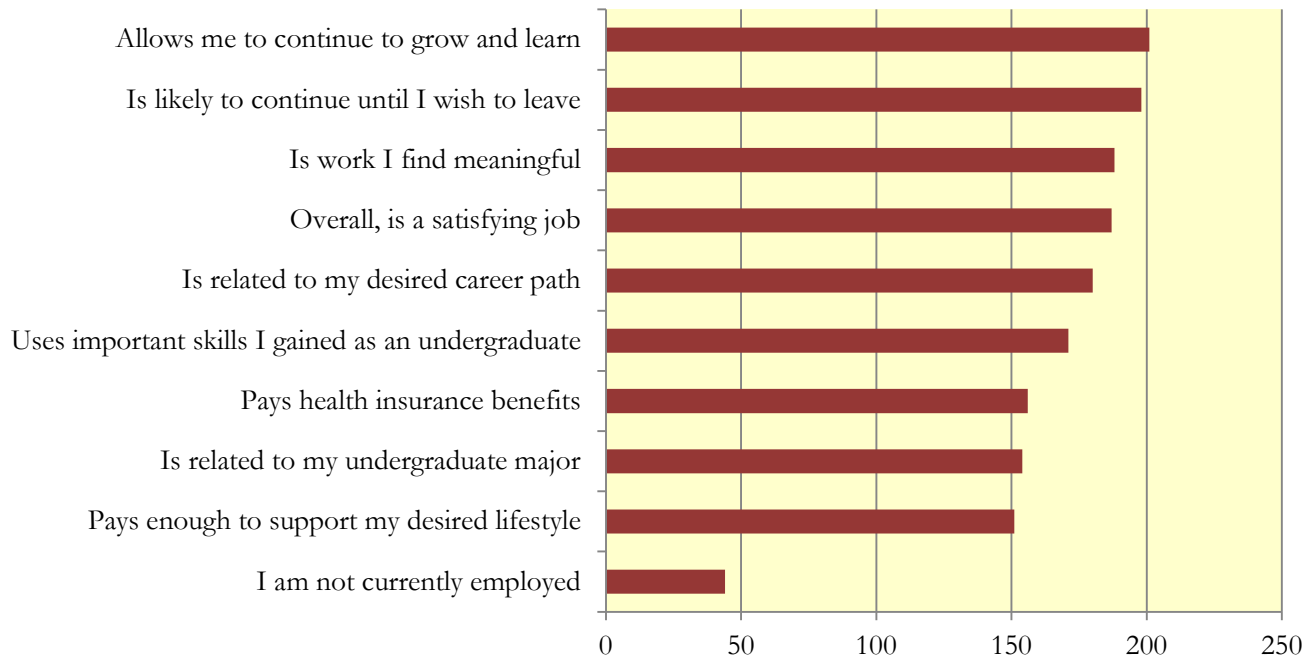
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



| Main Reason Current Employment is not Related to Major Field of Study | N | % |
|---|-----------|---------------|
| Could not find an appropriate job in my field | 25 | 39.7% |
| Developed a new career interest | 19 | 30.2% |
| Never planned to work in my field | 7 | 11.1% |
| Other | 6 | 9.5% |
| Better pay and/or opportunity for advancement outside of my field | 3 | 4.8% |
| Would have to relocate for a job in my field | 2 | 3.2% |
| Have not obtained the licensure, registration, or certification required for my field | 1 | 1.6% |
| Total | 63 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
Respondents' Current Job***

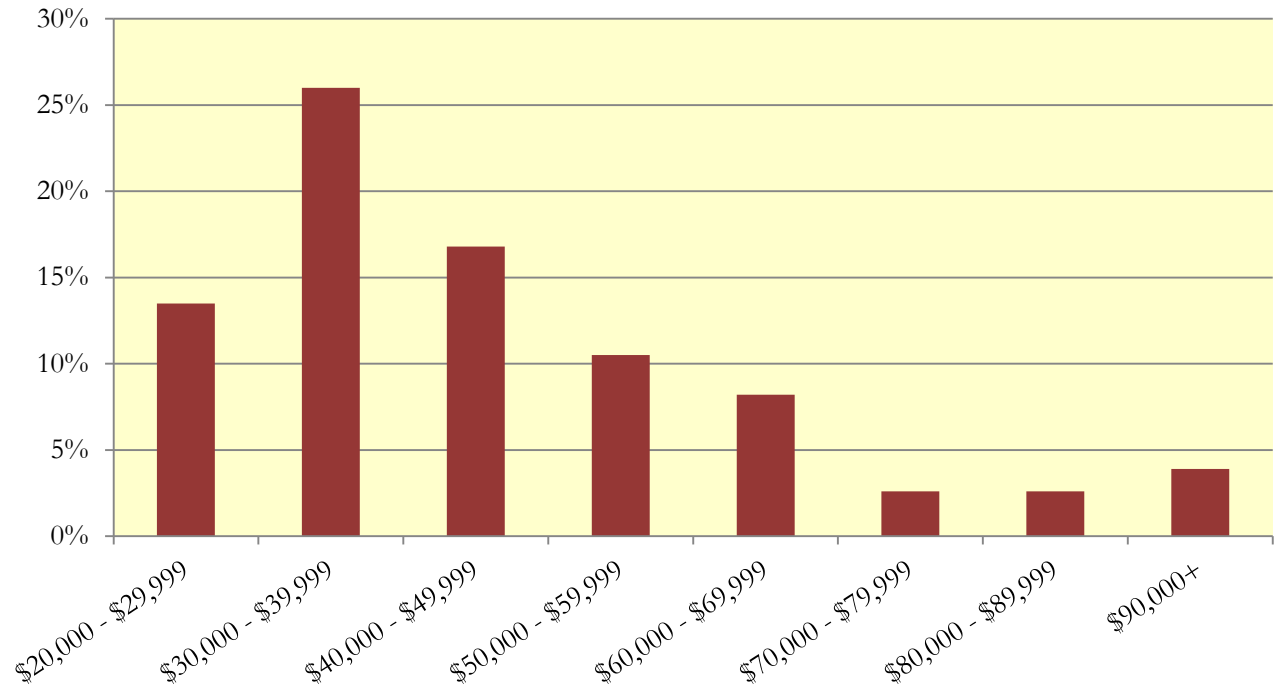


**Because respondents could select multiple responses, counts rather than percentages are reported.
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*

| Respondents' Current Job | N |
|--|----------|
| Allows me to continue to grow and learn | 201 |
| Is likely to continue until I wish to leave | 198 |
| Is work I find meaningful | 188 |
| Overall, is a satisfying job | 187 |
| Is related to my desired career path | 180 |
| Uses important skills I gained as an undergraduate | 171 |
| Pays health insurance benefits | 156 |
| Is related to my undergraduate major | 154 |
| Pays enough to support my desired lifestyle | 151 |
| I am not currently employed | 44 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
Respondents' Reported Annual Income Range**

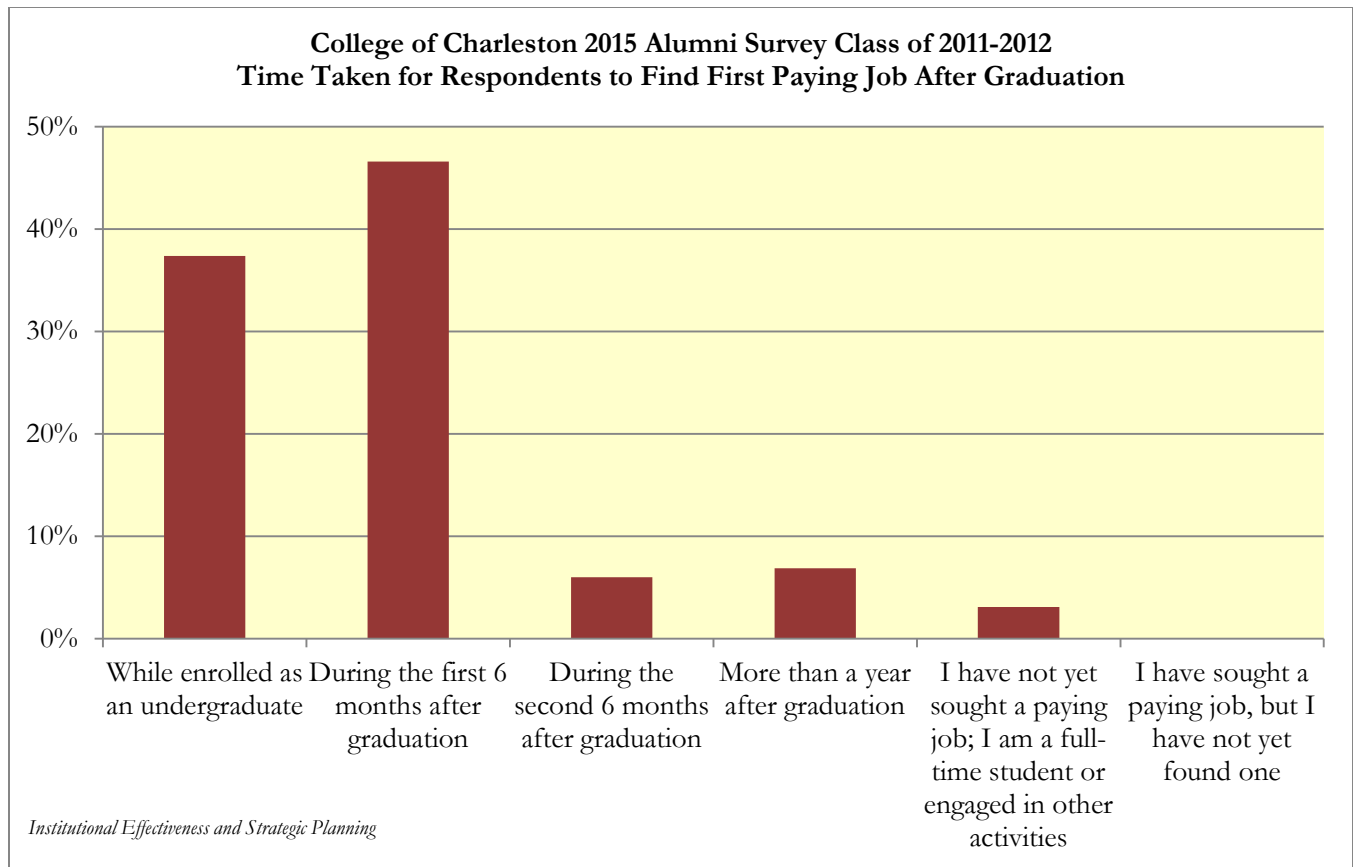


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Reported Annual Income Range | N | % |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Below \$20,000 | 48 | 15.8% |
| \$20,000 - \$29,999 | 41 | 13.5% |
| \$30,000 - \$39,999 | 79 | 26.0% |
| \$40,000 - \$49,999 | 51 | 16.8% |
| \$50,000 - \$59,999 | 32 | 10.5% |
| \$60,000 - \$69,999 | 25 | 8.2% |
| \$70,000 - \$79,999 | 8 | 2.6% |
| \$80,000 - \$89,999 | 8 | 2.6% |
| \$90,000+ | 12 | 3.9% |
| Total | 304 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

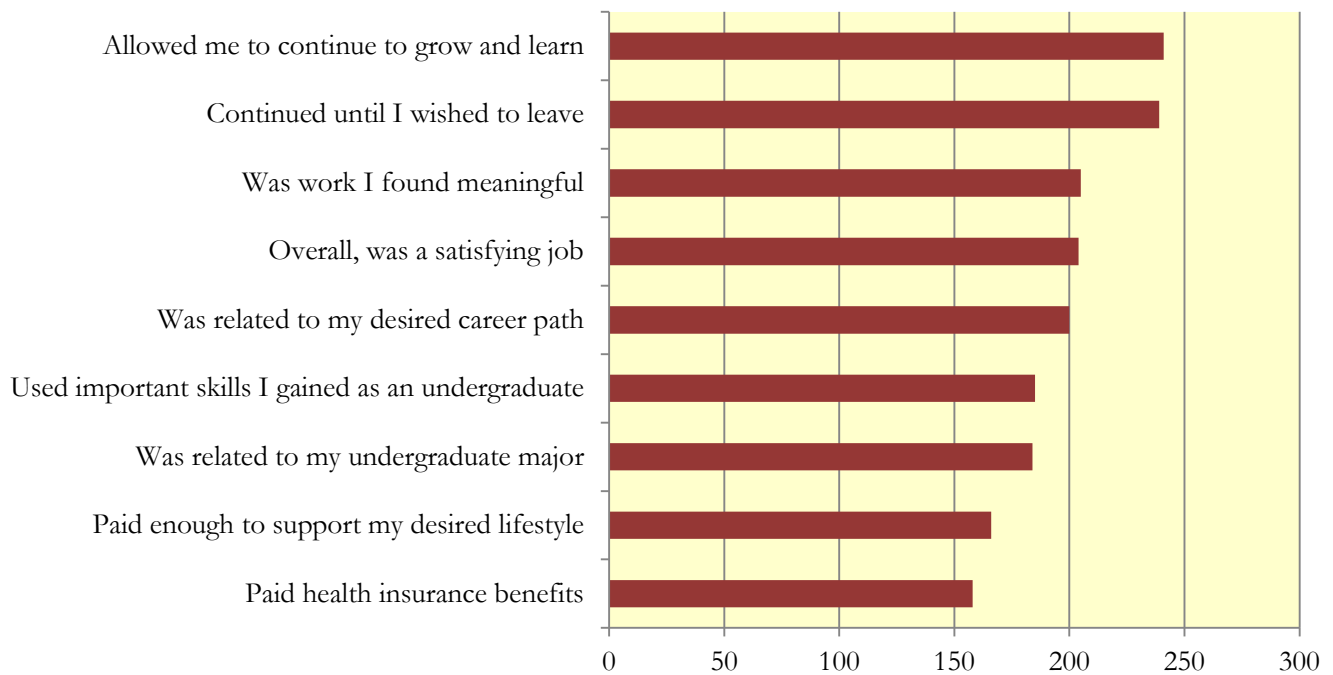
Employment History



| Time Taken to Find First Paying Job After Graduation | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| While enrolled as an undergraduate | 131 | 37.4% |
| During the first 6 months after graduation | 163 | 46.6% |
| During the second 6 months after graduation | 21 | 6.0% |
| More than a year after graduation | 24 | 6.9% |
| I have not yet sought a paying job; I am a full-time student or engaged in other activities | 11 | 3.1% |
| I have sought a paying job, but I have not yet found one | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total | 350 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
Respondents' First Paying Job After Graduation***

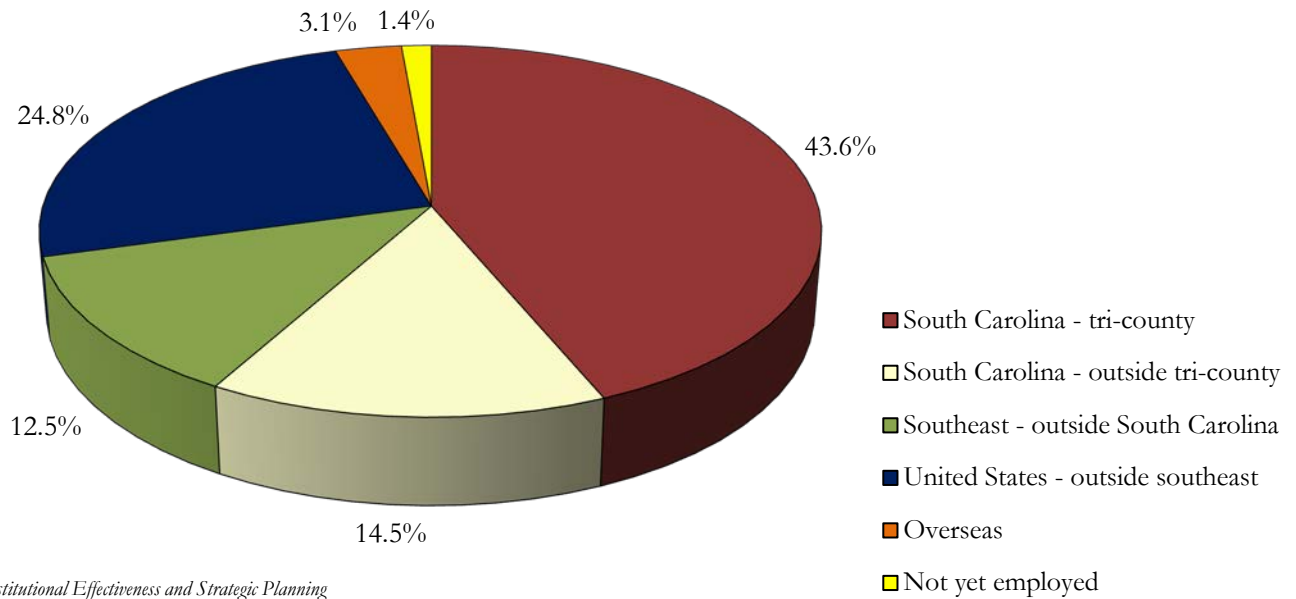


**Because respondents could select multiple responses, counts rather than percentages are reported.
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning*

| Respondents' First Paying Job After Graduation | N |
|---|----------|
| Allowed me to continue to grow and learn | 241 |
| Continued until I wished to leave | 239 |
| Was work I found meaningful | 205 |
| Overall, was a satisfying job | 204 |
| Was related to my desired career path | 200 |
| Used important skills I gained as an undergraduate | 185 |
| Was related to my undergraduate major | 184 |
| Paid enough to support my desired lifestyle | 166 |
| Paid health insurance benefits | 158 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

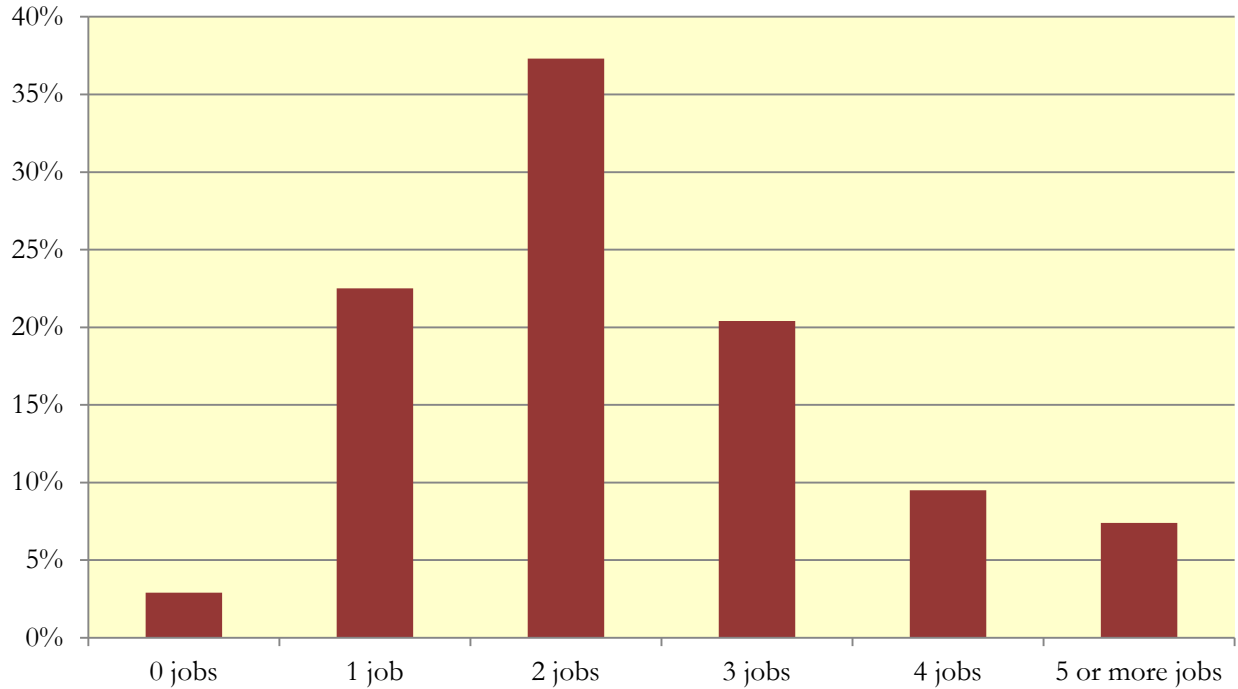
**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
Location of First Paying Job After Graduation**



| Location of First Paying Job After Graduation | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| South Carolina - tri-county | 153 | 43.6% |
| South Carolina - outside tri-county | 51 | 14.5% |
| Southeast - outside South Carolina | 44 | 12.5% |
| United States - outside southeast | 87 | 24.8% |
| Overseas | 11 | 3.1% |
| Not yet employed | 5 | 1.4% |
| Total | 351 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
Respondents' Number of Paying Jobs Since Graduation**

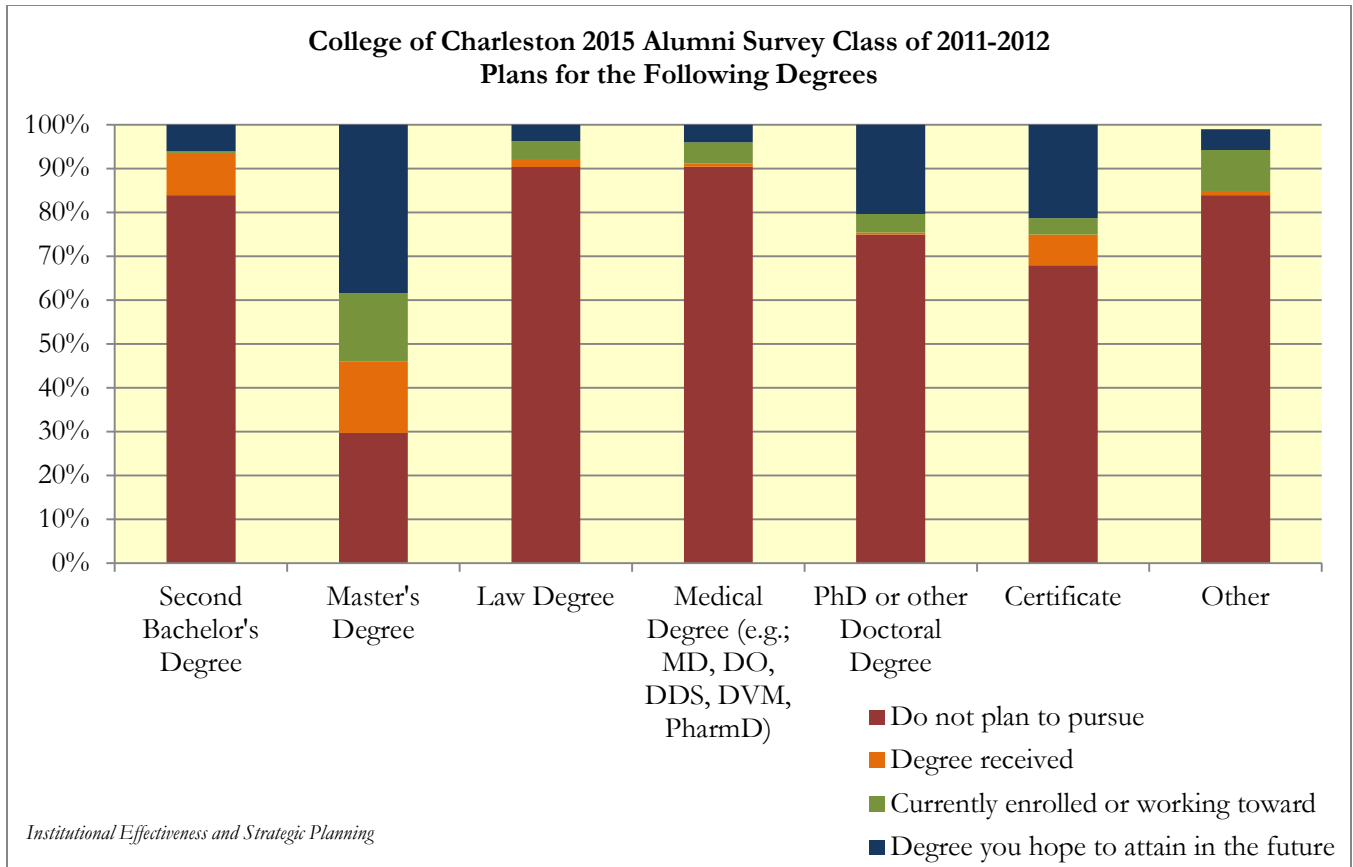


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Number of Paying Jobs Held Since Graduation | N | % |
|--|------------|---------------|
| 0 jobs | 11 | 2.9% |
| 1 job | 85 | 22.5% |
| 2 jobs | 141 | 37.3% |
| 3 jobs | 77 | 20.4% |
| 4 jobs | 36 | 9.5% |
| 5 or more jobs | 28 | 7.4% |
| Total | 378 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

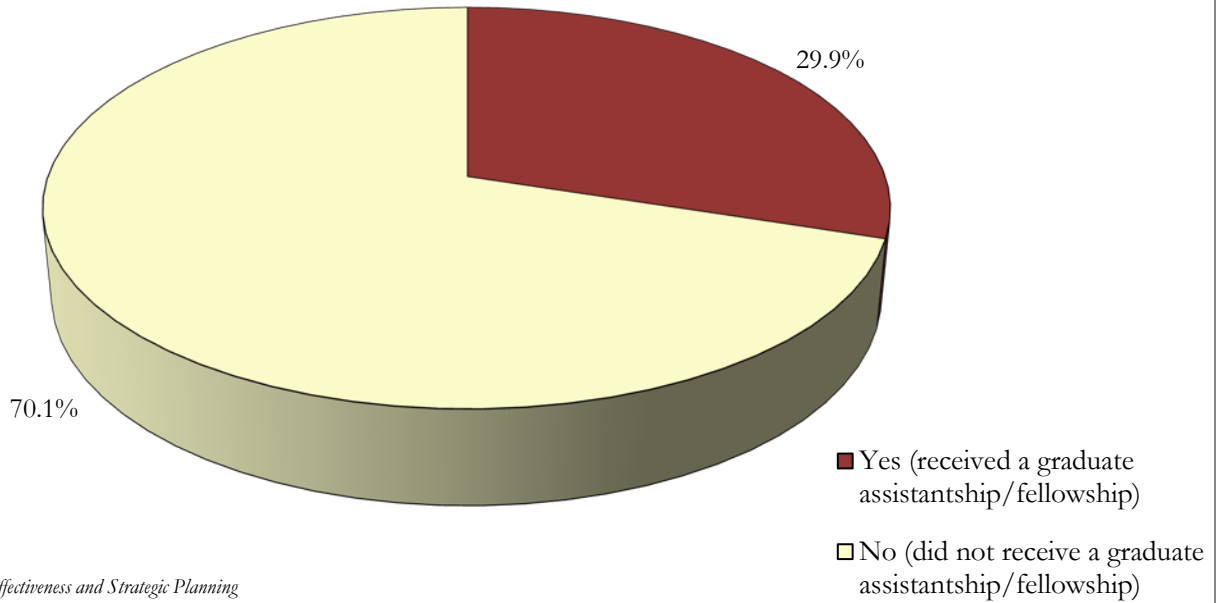
Graduate/Professional School



| 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 | 84.0% | 9.6% | 0.4% | 6.0% | 281 |
| Master's Degree | 29.7% | 16.4% | 15.5% | 38.4% | 323 |
| Law Degree | 90.4% | 1.8% | 4.1% | 3.7% | 271 |
| Medical Degree (e.g.; MD, DO, DDS, DVM, PharmD) | 90.5% | 0.7% | 4.8% | 4.0% | 273 |
| PhD or other Doctoral Degree | 75.0% | 0.4% | 4.3% | 20.4% | 280 |
| Certificate | 68.0% | 7.0% | 3.7% | 21.3% | 272 |
| Other | 84.0% | 0.9% | 9.4% | 4.7% | 105 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

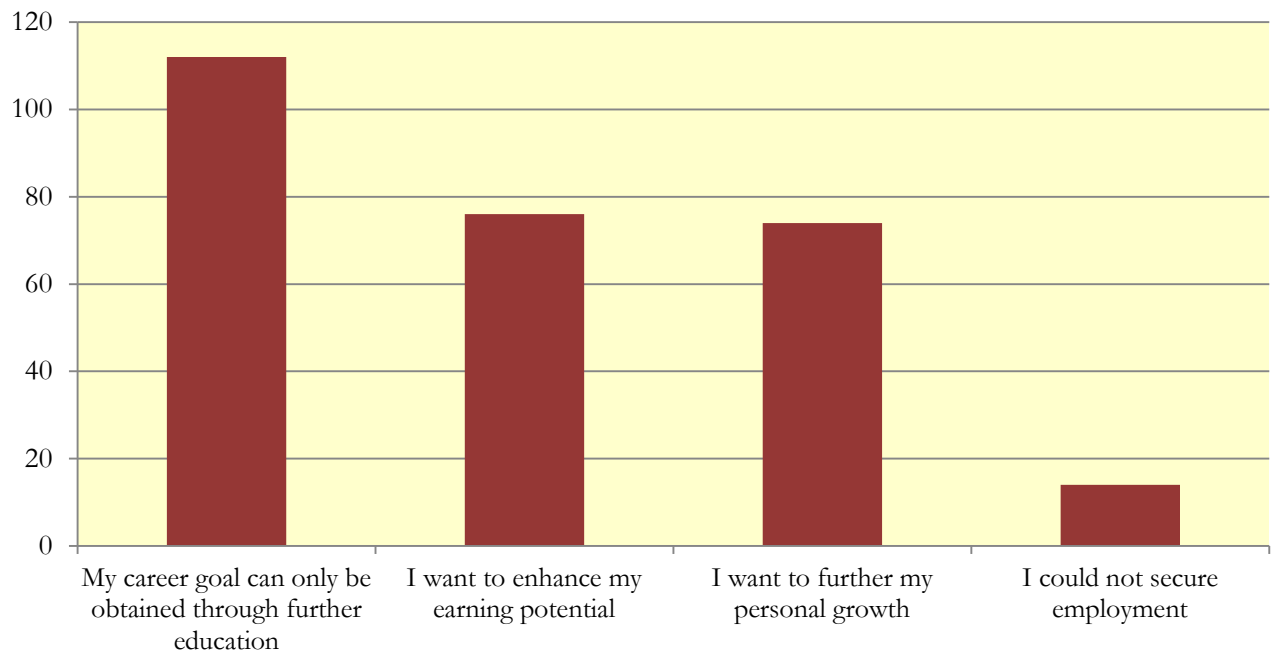
**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
 Respondents who Received a Graduate Assistantship/Fellowship**



| Received a Graduate Assistantship/Fellowship | N | % |
|--|------------|---------------|
| Yes (received a graduate assistantship/fellowship) | 44 | 29.9% |
| No (did not receive a graduate assistantship/fellowship) | 103 | 70.1% |
| Total | 147 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
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 | 112 |
| I want to enhance my earning potential | 76 |
| I want to further my personal growth | 74 |
| I could not secure employment | 14 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Graduate Institutions Most Frequently Attended | N |
|---|----------|
| University of South Carolina | 15 |
| College of Charleston | 12 |
| Medical University of South Carolina | 10 |
| The Citadel | 8 |
| University of Georgia | 4 |
| CCIM Institute | 2 |
| Charleston School of Law | 2 |
| Clemson University | 2 |
| Coastal Carolina University | 2 |
| East Carolina University | 2 |
| Florida Atlantic University | 2 |
| Georgia State University | 2 |
| Tulane University | 2 |
| University of Florida | 2 |
| University of Maryland-College Park | 2 |
| University of North Carolina-Charlotte | 2 |
| University of Pittsburgh | 2 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Other Graduate Institutions Reported:

American University, Armstrong University, Auburn University, Birmingham Theological Seminary, Boston College, Carnegie Mellon University, Central Piedmont Technical College, Charleston Southern University, Charlotte School of Law, Chestnut Hill College, City University of New York, Cleveland Institute of Music, Columbia College, Curry College, DePaul University, Drexel University, Duke University, FH Wien (Vienna, Austria), Georgetown University, Hood College, Hunter College, Indiana University, James Cook University (Australia), Kennesaw State University, Liberty University, LIM College, Loyola University, Chicago, Max Planck Florida Institute, MGH Institute of Health Professions, Michigan Technological University, Mississippi College, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, North Carolina State University, Oklahoma State University, Park University, Pennsylvania State University, Rutgers University, San Jose State University, Seton Hall University, Simmons College, Stanford University, Syracuse University, Tel Aviv University, Temple University, The Ohio State University, Trident Technical College, Universidad Alcalá de Henares, University of Alabama-Birmingham, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs, University of Connecticut, University of Edinburgh, University of Massachusetts-Boston, University of Melbourne, University of Nevada-Reno, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, University of St. Augustine, University of the Rockies, University of Washington, Virginia Commonwealth University, Webster University, Western Michigan University, William Paterson University, and Winthrop University.

| Academic Disciplines Most Frequently Studied | N |
|---|----------|
| Medicine | 25 |
| Social Sciences | 25 |
| Business | 24 |
| Education | 20 |
| Math and Sciences | 13 |
| Law | 12 |
| Health Sciences | 7 |
| Arts | 4 |
| Other | 4 |
| Humanities | 3 |
| Library Sciences | 3 |
| Religious Studies | 1 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Other Academic Disciplines reported:

Energy and Environmental Policy, Homeland Security, Leadership Studies, and Medieval Studies.

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% | 3.6% | 6.0% | 46.6% | 42.4% | 335 |
| Instruction in your major | 1.5% | 4.5% | 5.1% | 41.9% | 47.0% | 334 |
| Curriculum in your general education program | 1.2% | 3.6% | 19.8% | 49.2% | 26.1% | 333 |
| Instruction in your general education program | 1.5% | 4.5% | 16.2% | 48.9% | 28.8% | 333 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Satisfaction with | Very Dissatisfied | Dissatisfied | Neutral | Satisfied | Very Satisfied | N |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------|-----------|----------------|-----|
| Your overall academic experience | 1.8% | 2.1% | 8.1% | 43.8% | 44.1% | 333 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

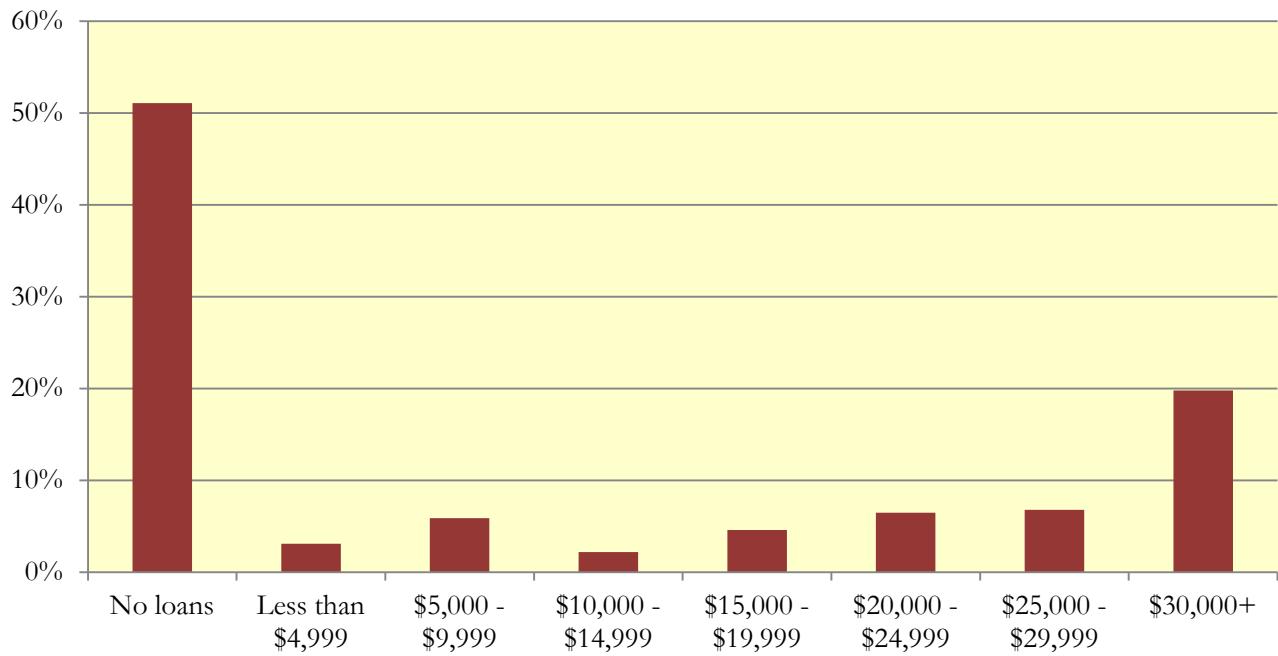
| Frequency of Participation in Activities | Never | Less often | Annually | Monthly | Weekly | N |
|--|-------|------------|----------|---------|--------|-----|
| Career related advanced education or training | 12.3% | 12.6% | 24.6% | 27.8% | 22.7% | 317 |
| Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s) | 9.1% | 21.1% | 24.5% | 22.0% | 23.3% | 318 |
| Professional or service organizations | 17.9% | 21.7% | 24.0% | 27.5% | 8.9% | 313 |
| Volunteer, public, or community service | 10.2% | 23.6% | 35.0% | 21.7% | 9.6% | 314 |
| Social or recreational organization | 10.9% | 16.7% | 19.0% | 25.1% | 28.3% | 311 |
| Support or participation in the arts | 14.9% | 21.0% | 27.0% | 22.2% | 14.9% | 315 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| College of Charleston's Influence on Participation in Activities | Not at all | Some-what | Moderately | Strongly | N |
|--|------------|-----------|------------|----------|-----|
| Career related advanced education or training | 34.7% | 30.2% | 21.9% | 13.2% | 288 |
| Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s) | 30.3% | 25.2% | 25.5% | 19.0% | 290 |
| Professional or service organizations | 37.1% | 26.1% | 25.1% | 11.7% | 283 |
| Volunteer, public, or community service | 33.2% | 27.3% | 26.9% | 12.6% | 286 |
| Social or recreational organization | 29.8% | 23.2% | 26.0% | 21.1% | 285 |
| Support or participation in the arts | 31.8% | 20.8% | 28.0% | 19.4% | 289 |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
Total Amount of Undergraduate Loans Accrued at the Time of Graduation**

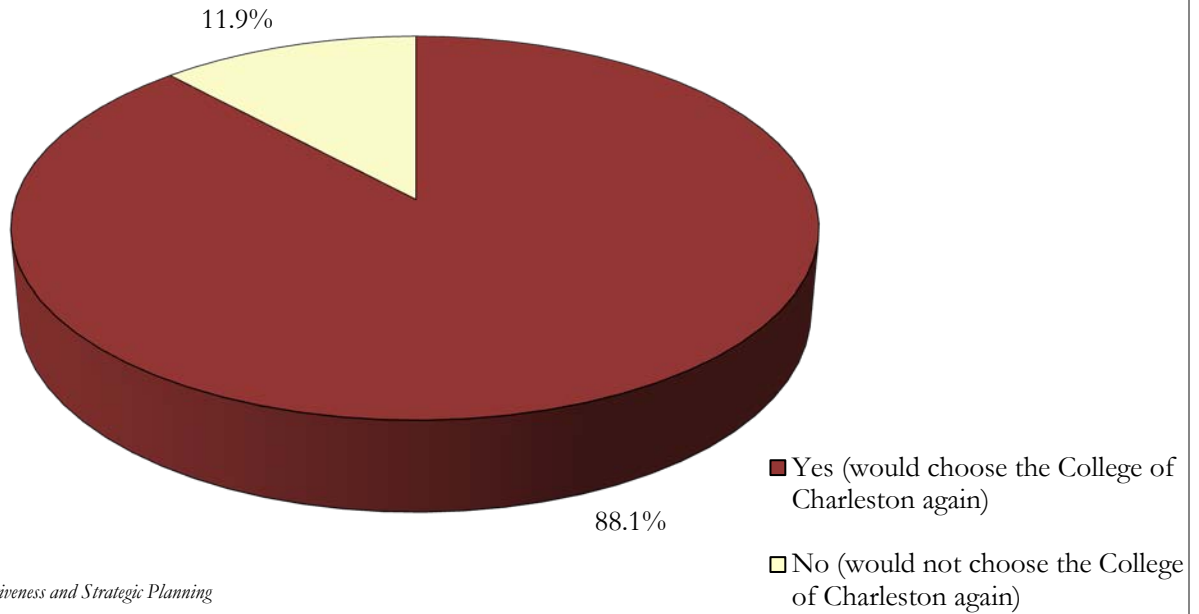


Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

| Total Amount of Undergraduate Loans Accrued at the Time of Graduation | N | % |
|--|------------|---------------|
| No loans | 165 | 51.1% |
| Less than \$4,999 | 10 | 3.1% |
| \$5,000 - \$9,999 | 19 | 5.9% |
| \$10,000 - \$14,999 | 7 | 2.2% |
| \$15,000 - \$19,999 | 15 | 4.6% |
| \$20,000 - \$24,999 | 21 | 6.5% |
| \$25,000 - \$29,999 | 22 | 6.8% |
| \$30,000+ | 64 | 19.8% |
| Total | 323 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

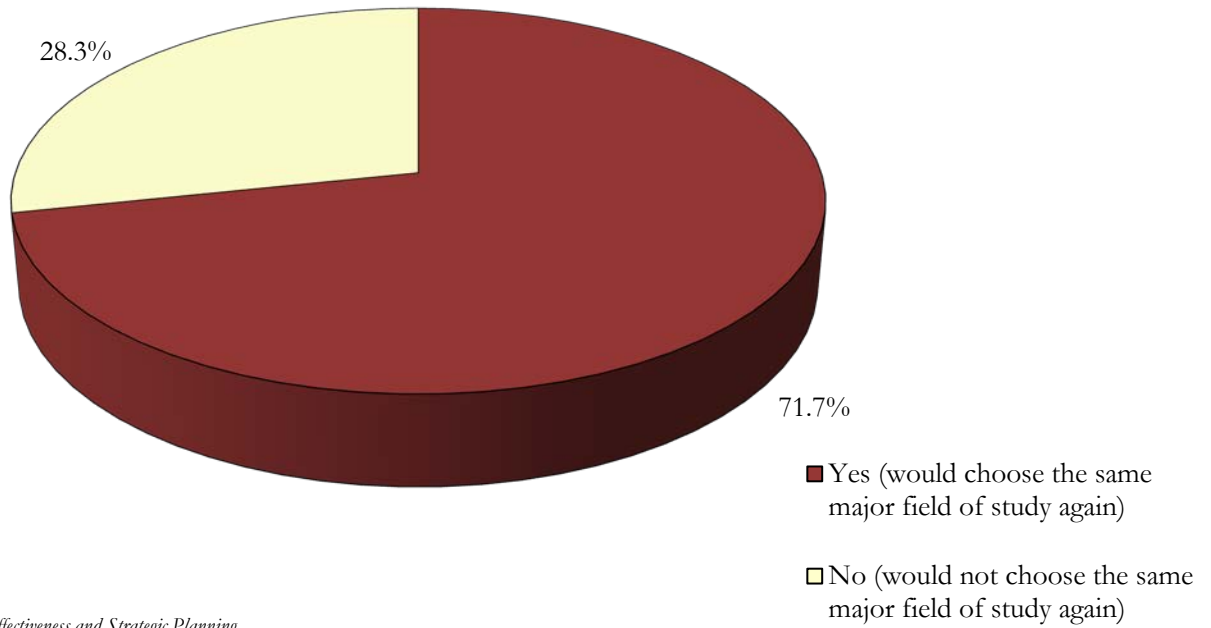
**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
Would Choose the College of Charleston Again**



| Would Choose the College of Charleston Again | N | % |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Yes (would choose the College of Charleston again) | 295 | 88.1% |
| No (would not choose the College of Charleston again) | 40 | 11.9% |
| Total | 335 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012
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) | 241 | 71.7% |
| No (would not choose the same major field of study again) | 95 | 28.3% |
| Total | 336 | 100.0% |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Appendix A - Response Rate by Major*

| Major | N (Graduates) | N (Respondents) | % |
|--|---------------|-----------------|-------|
| Accounting | 42 | 13 | 31.0% |
| Anthropology | 31 | 5 | 16.1% |
| Art History | 38 | 11 | 28.9% |
| Arts Management | 65 | 15 | 23.1% |
| Astronomy | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Astrophysics | 6 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Athletic Training | 11 | 5 | 45.5% |
| Biochemistry | 13 | 5 | 38.5% |
| Biology | 168 | 29 | 17.3% |
| Business Administration | 281 | 54 | 19.2% |
| Chemistry | 15 | 2 | 13.3% |
| Classics | 6 | 3 | 50.0% |
| Communication | 207 | 38 | 18.4% |
| Computer Information Sciences | 1 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Computer Science | 17 | 4 | 23.5% |
| Computing in the Arts | 4 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Dance | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Data Science | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Discovery Informatics | 3 | 2 | 66.7% |
| Early Childhood Education | 32 | 8 | 25.0% |
| Economics | 53 | 14 | 26.4% |
| Elementary Education | 26 | 5 | 19.2% |
| English | 73 | 15 | 20.5% |
| Exercise Science | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Finance | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| French | 12 | 5 | 41.7% |
| Geology | 25 | 4 | 16.0% |
| German | 6 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Historic Preservation and Community Planning | 44 | 7 | 15.9% |
| History | 55 | 8 | 14.5% |
| Hospitality and Tourism Management | 75 | 16 | 21.3% |

College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2011-2012

| | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------|-------|
| International Business | 67 | 20 | 29.9% |
| International Studies | 9 | 3 | 33.3% |
| Jewish Studies | 1 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Latin American and Caribbean Studies | 5 | 1 | 20.0% |
| Marine Biology | 23 | 8 | 34.8% |
| Marketing | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Mathematics | 11 | 2 | 18.2% |
| Middle Grades Education | 14 | 3 | 21.4% |
| Music | 19 | 4 | 21.1% |
| Philosophy | 20 | 4 | 20.0% |
| Physical Education | 95 | 14 | 14.7% |
| Physics | 14 | 3 | 21.4% |
| Political Science | 108 | 27 | 25.0% |
| Psychology | 146 | 32 | 21.9% |
| Public Health | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Religious Studies | 13 | 2 | 15.4% |
| Secondary Education Certificate (English) | 10 | 2 | 20.0% |
| Secondary Education Certificate (History) | 6 | 2 | 33.3% |
| Secondary Education Cognate | 12 | 4 | 33.3% |
| Sociology | 38 | 7 | 18.4% |
| Spanish | 21 | 3 | 14.3% |
| Special Education | 23 | 3 | 13.0% |
| Studio Art | 57 | 8 | 14.0% |
| Theatre | 25 | 2 | 8.0% |
| Urban Studies | 9 | 3 | 33.3% |
| Women's and Gender Studies | 10 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total | 2,065** | 425** | |

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**Double majors counted twice*

***Total N for Graduates and Respondents higher because of counting of double majors*