

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

Respondents Results: Three-Years Post Graduation Class of 2008-2009 Executive Summary

Background Information

- ❖ 1,580 alumni invited to participate
- ❖ 303 responses; response rate of 19.18%
- ❖ Survey emailed to graduates from August 2008, December 2008, and May 2009
- ❖ Survey administered June 18th, 2012 - July 3, 2012 using Qualtrics online survey tool

Employment

- ❖ 90% of respondents are currently employed or continuing their education.
- ❖ The majority of respondents (35%) are employed in the field of business and industry.
- ❖ 77% of respondents have a job that requires at least a Bachelor's Degree.
- ❖ 61% of respondents work in jobs that are moderately or highly related to their undergraduate major.
- ❖ The estimated mean annual income of respondents is \$36,500.
- ❖ The majority of respondents (46%) did not owe anything in student loans at the time of their graduation.

First Full Time Job

- ❖ 72% of respondents have found a full time job since graduating.
- ❖ 61% of respondents were able to find their first full time job before or within the first three months of graduation.
- ❖ 45% of respondents' first full time job was moderately or highly related to their major.
- ❖ 50% of respondents' first full time job was in South Carolina.

Graduate/Professional School

- ❖ 39% of respondents are attending, have completed, or have been accepted to graduate school.
- ❖ 63% of respondents enrolled in graduate school are seeking or have earned Master's Degrees.
- ❖ 30% of respondents who continue their education receive an assistantship or fellowship.
- ❖ The graduate institutions most frequently attended by respondents are: The Citadel, University of South Carolina, College of Charleston, MUSC, and University of Georgia.
- ❖ The academic disciplines most frequently mentioned by respondents are: Business Administration, Law, Education, Accounting, and Medicine.

Reflections of the College Experience

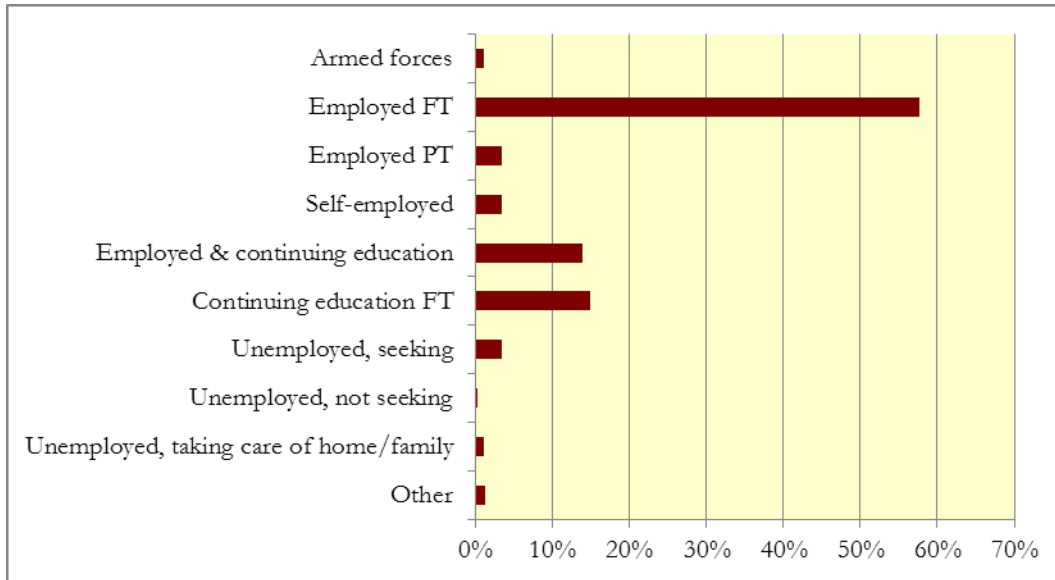
Satisfaction with...	Very Satisfied + Satisfied
Major	86%
Instruction in major	87%
General education program of study	72%
Instruction in general education program of study	75%
CofC overall	90%
Office of Alumni Relations	69%

- ❖ 92% of respondents would choose to attend CofC again.
- ❖ 59% of respondents would choose the same major again.

Appendix A: Response Rate by Major

I. Employment Information

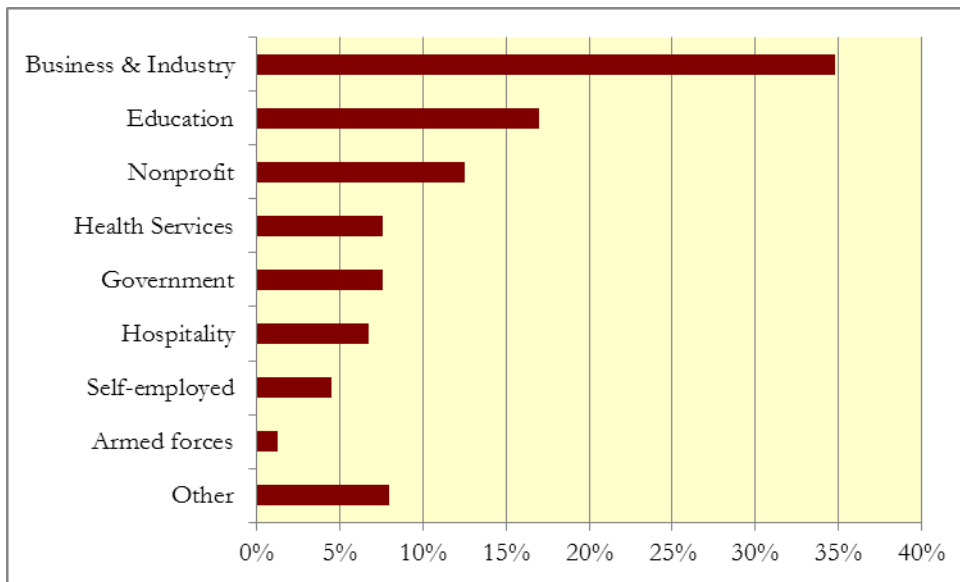
Current Employment Status



Employment Status	N	%
Armed forces	3	1.0%
Employed FT	174	57.6%
Employed PT	10	3.3%
Self-employed	10	3.3%
Employed & continuing education	42	13.9%
Continuing education FT	45	14.9%
Unemployed, seeking	10	3.3%
Unemployed, not seeking	1	0.3%
Unemployed, taking care of home/family	3	1.0%
Other	4	1.3%
Total	302	100.0%

- ❖ 90% of respondents are currently employed or continuing their education.
- ❖ *Other* includes:
 - Studying for the Bar exam
 - Retired
 - Taking care of home and family and seeking employment

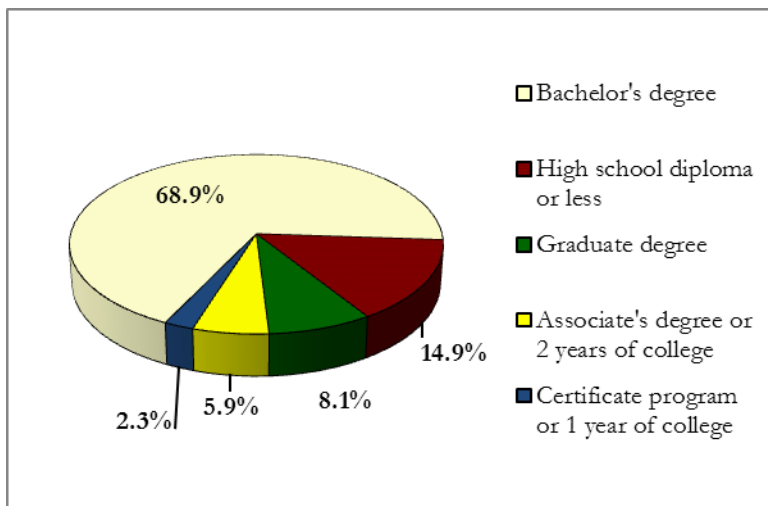
Category of Current Employment



Employment Category	N	%
Business & Industry	78	34.8%
Education	38	17.0%
Nonprofit	28	12.5%
Government	17	7.6%
Health Services	17	7.6%
Hospitality	15	6.7%
Self-employed	10	4.5%
Armed forces	3	1.3%
Other	18	8.0%
Total	224	100.0%

- ❖ 35% of respondents are employed in the field of business and industry.
- ❖ *Other* includes:
 - Professional sports
 - Legal
 - Political
 - Agriculture
 - Media

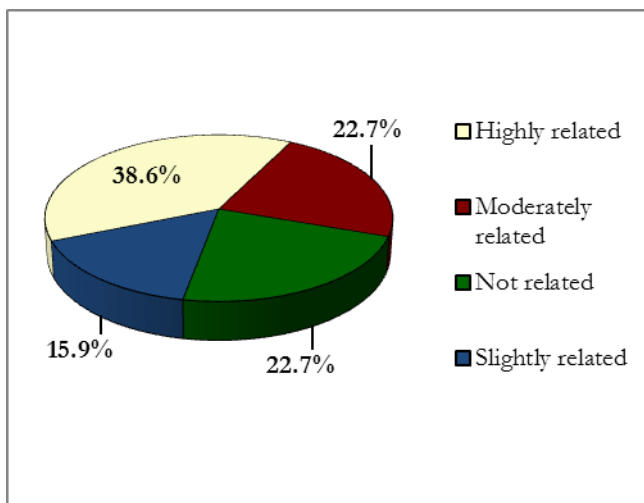
Minimum Educational Requirements for Current Occupation



Minimum Education	N	%
High school diploma or less	33	14.9%
Certificate program or 1 year of college	5	2.3%
Associate's degree or 2 years of college	13	5.9%
Bachelor's degree	153	68.9%
Graduate degree	18	8.1%
Total	222	100.0%

- ❖ 77% of respondents have a job that requires at least a Bachelor's degree.

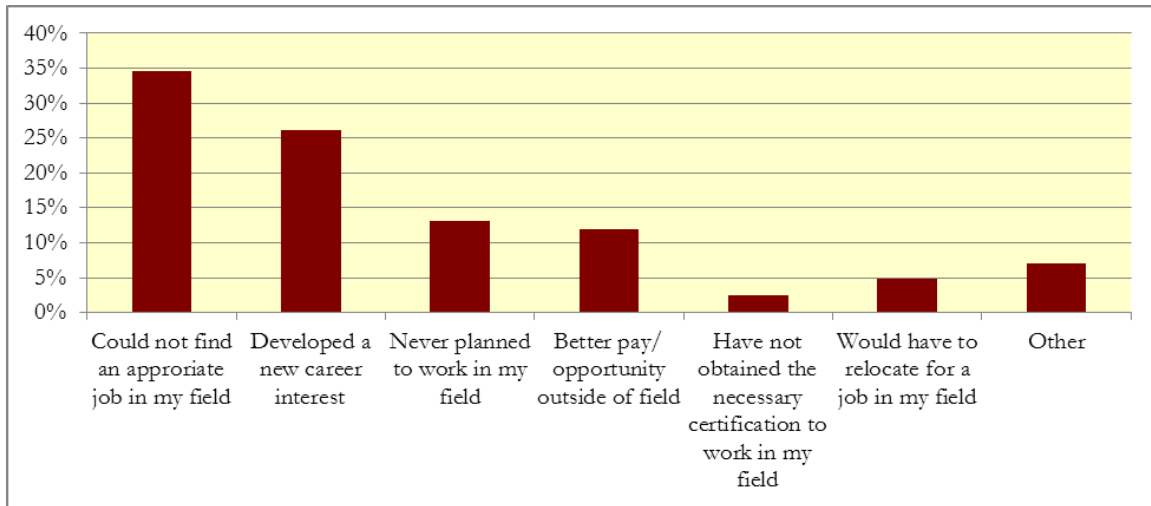
Relation of Current Occupation to College Major



Relation to Major	N	%
Highly related	85	38.6%
Moderately related	50	22.7%
Slightly related	35	22.7%
Not related	50	15.9%
Total	220	100.0%

- ❖ 61% of respondents work in jobs that are moderately or highly related to their undergraduate major.

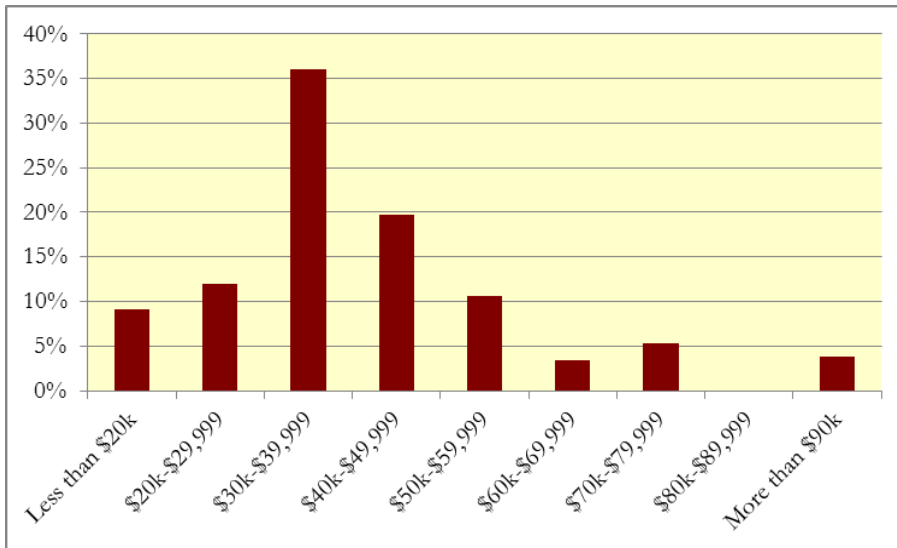
Reason Current Job is not Related to Major



If not related to major, why?	N	%
Could not find an appropriate job in my field	29	34.5%
Developed a new career interest	22	26.2%
Never planned to work in my field	11	13.1%
Better pay/ opportunity for advancement outside of field	10	11.9%
Have not obtained the necessary license, registration, or certification to work in my field	6	2.4%
Would have to relocate for a job in my field	4	4.8%
Other	2	7.1%
Total	84	100.0%

- ❖ The majority (35%) of respondents who work in jobs unrelated to their majors do so because they could not find an appropriate job in their field(s).

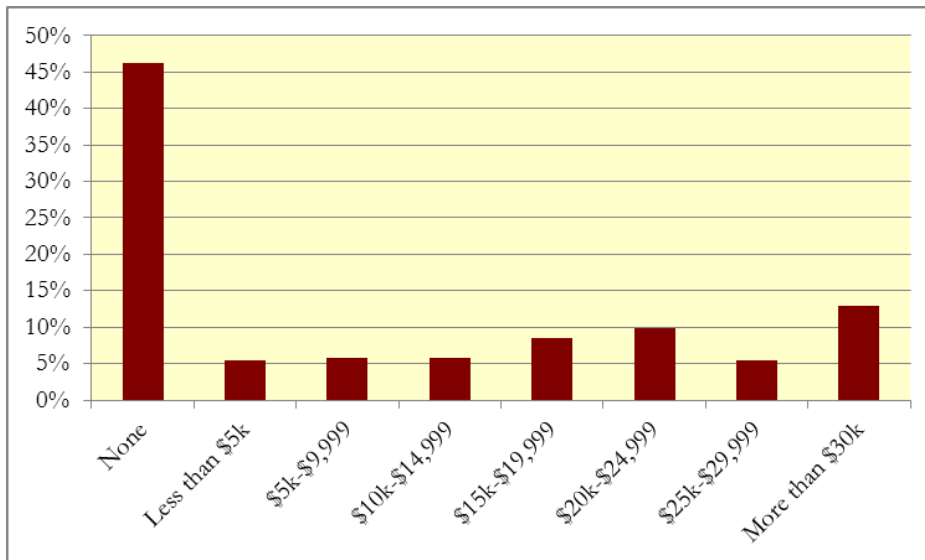
Reported Annual Income



Annual Income	N	%
Less than \$20k	19	9.1%
\$20k-\$29,999	25	12.0%
\$30k-\$39,999	75	36.1%
\$40k-\$49,999	41	19.7%
\$50k-\$59,999	22	10.6%
\$60k-\$69,999	7	3.4%
\$70k-\$79,999	11	5.3%
\$80k-\$89,999	0	0.0%
More than \$90k	8	3.8%
Total	208	100.0%

- ❖ The majority (36%) of respondents make between \$30,000 and \$39,999 a year.
- ❖ The estimated mean income for all respondents is \$36,500.

Total Amount of Student Loans Owed at the Time of Graduation

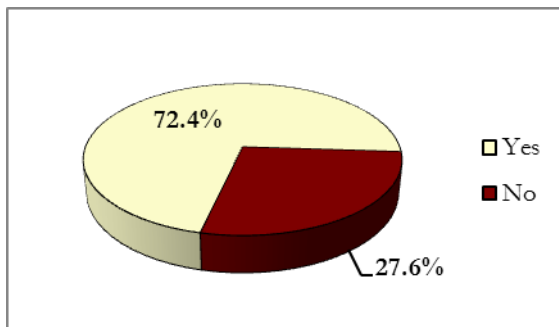


Student Loans	N	%
None	136	46.3%
Less than \$5k	16	5.4%
\$5k-\$9,999	17	5.8%
\$10k-\$14,999	17	5.8%
\$15k-\$19,999	25	8.5%
\$20k-\$24,999	29	9.9%
\$25k-\$29,999	16	5.4%
More than \$30k	38	12.9%
Total	294	100.0%

- ❖ The majority (46%) of respondents did not owe any students loans at the time of their graduation.
- ❖ 18% owed over \$25,000.

II. First Full Time Job

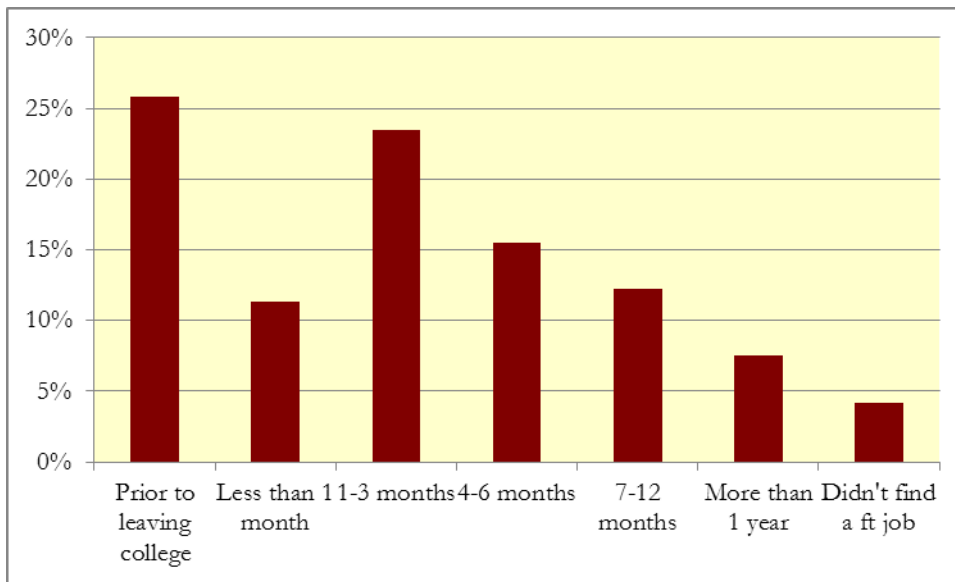
Have you had a full time job since graduating?



FT Job	N	%
Yes	213	72.4%
No	81	27.6%
Total	294	100.0%

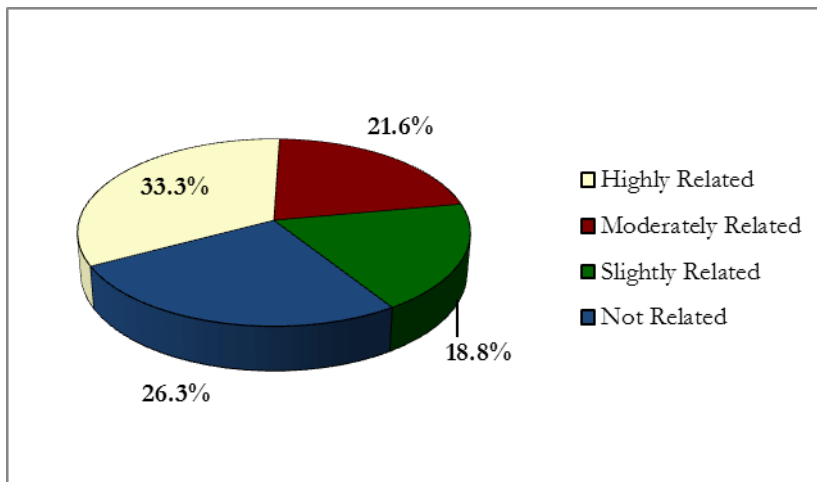
- ❖ 72% of respondents have found a full time job since graduating.

Time Taken to Find First Full Time Job



- ❖ 61% of respondents were able to find their first full time job before or within the first three months of graduating.

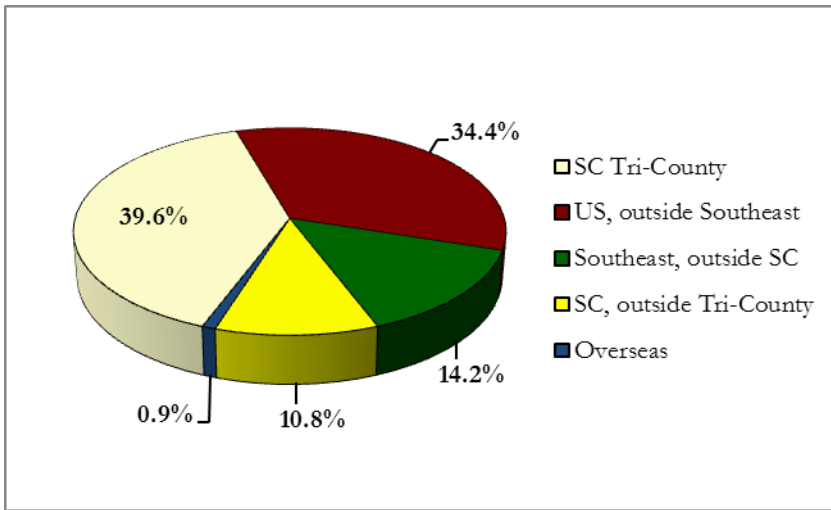
Relation of First Full Time Job to Major



Relation to Major	N	%
Highly Related	71	26.3%
Moderately Related	46	18.8%
Slightly Related	40	21.6%
Highly Related	56	33.3%
Total	213	100.0%

- ❖ 45% of respondents' first full time job was moderately or highly related to their major.

Location of First Full Time Job

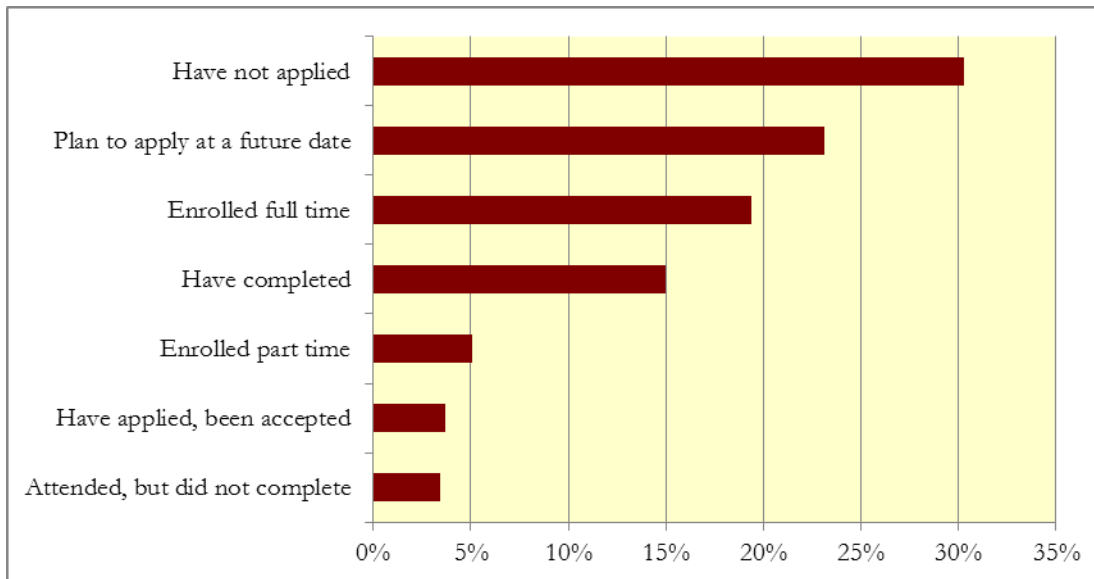


First FT job location	N	%
SC Tri-County	84	39.6%
SC, outside Tri-County	23	10.8%
Southeast, outside SC	30	14.2%
US, outside Southeast	73	34.4%
Overseas	2	0.9%
Total	212	100.0%

- ❖ 50% of respondents' first full time job was in South Carolina.

III. Graduate/Professional School Information

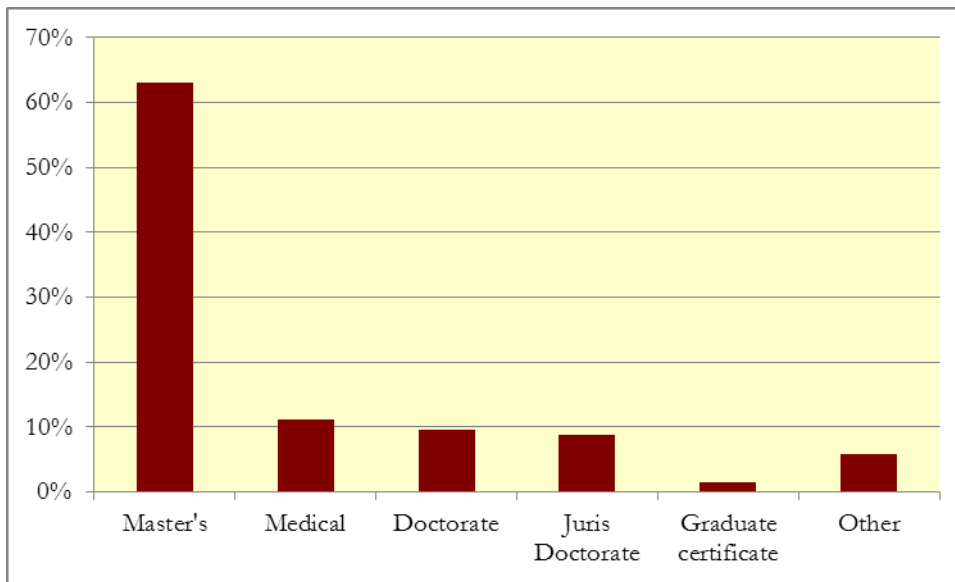
Graduate School Status



Graduate School Status	N	%
Have not applied	89	30.3%
Plan to apply at a future date	68	23.1%
Enrolled full time	57	19.4%
Have completed	44	15.0%
Enrolled part time	15	5.1%
Have applied, been accepted	11	3.7%
Attended, but did not complete	10	3.4%
Total	294	100.0%

- ❖ 39% of respondents are currently attending, have completed, or have been accepted to graduate school.

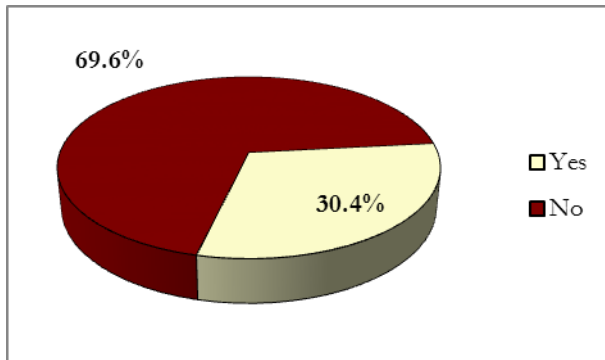
Type of Degree Seeking or Earned



Degree Type	N	%
Master's	85	63.0%
Medical	15	11.1%
Doctorate	13	9.6%
Juris Doctorate	23	8.9%
Graduate certificate	2	1.5%
Other	8	5.9%
Total	135	100.0%

❖ 63% of respondents enrolled in graduate school are seeking or have earned Master's Degrees.

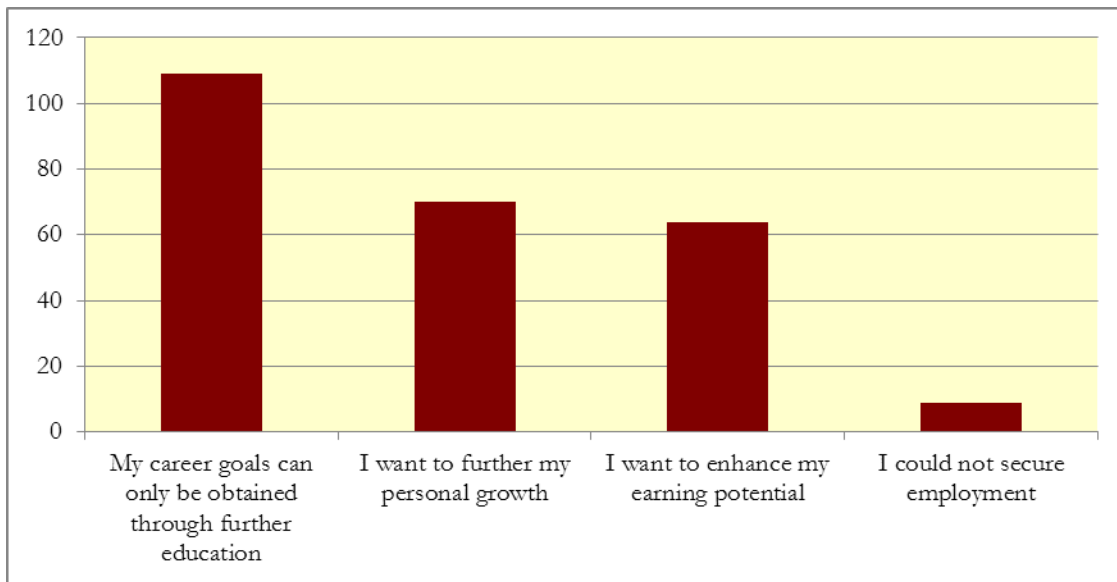
Did You Receive a Graduate Assistantship or Fellowship?



Assistantship/Fellowship	N	%
Yes	41	30.4%
No	94	69.6%
Total	168	100.0%

❖ 30% of respondents who have continued their education received graduate assistantships or fellowships.

Why Are You Seeking Further Education?



Reasons for continuing education	Count*
My career goals can only be obtained through further education	109
I want to further my personal growth	70
I want to enhance my earning potential	64
I could not secure employment	9

- ❖ The majority (109) of respondents in graduate school sought further education because their career goals could only be obtained through further education.

**Because each respondent was able to select multiple responses, count rather than percentages is reported.*

Academic Institutions Most Frequently Attended for Graduate Study

Institution	N
The Citadel	13
University of South Carolina	10
College of Charleston	8
MUSC	5
University of Georgia	5
Clemson University	4
University of Virginia	3
Charleston School of Law	2
Louisiana State University	2
Suffolk University Law School	2
University of Notre Dame	2
USC Upstate	2

Other Institutions Mentioned:

Auburn University, Bastyr University, Bellarmine University, Belmont University, Cal State Long Beach, Capella, Central Michigan University, Charleston Southern University, College of William and Mary, Columbia College, CUNY Hunter, CUNY Hunter, Curtin University, Drexel University, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Emory University School of Law, FH Kempten, Florida Coastal School of Law, Florida Gulf Coast University, Georgetown University School of Medicine, Georgia State University, Harvard University, Hollins University, IESEG School of Management, Institute for Integrative Nutrition, Johns Hopkins University, Kaplan University, Kean University, Longy School of Music, Michigan State University, Midwestern University, Molloy College, New York University, Radford University, Saint Louis University, SCAD, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Seton Hall University, South Carolina College of Pharmacy, Southeast Missouri State University, Southern Methodist University, Southern New Hampshire University, Stanford University, Stony Brook University, Strayer University, Texas A&M University, The Chicago School of professional Psychology, The George Washington University, Trident Technical College, Tulane University, University of North Carolina, University of Alabama, UCLA, University of Cape Town, University of Colorado, University of Georgia School of Law, University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Maryland, University of Maryland Baltimore County, University of Massachusetts Boston, University of New Orleans, University of Oklahoma, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, University of Saint Joseph, University of Southern Mississippi, University of Tennessee, University of Texas, university of the Virgin Islands, University of Virginia School of Law, University of Western Ontario, Virginia Commonwealth University, Wake forest University, Western State College, Westminster Choir College, William Carey University, Yale University

Academic Disciplines Most Frequently Cited for Graduate Study

Discipline	N
Business Administration	13
Law	12
Education	10
Medicine	10
Accounting	5
Nursing	4
Counseling	3
Physician's Assistant Program	3
Communication	2
Higher Education Administration	2
Historic Preservation	
Library and Information Science	2
Museum Studies	2
Nutrition and Exercise Science	2
Pharmacy	2
Physical Therapy	2
School Psychology	2
Social Work	2

Other disciplines Mentioned:

Administration with Leadership Concentration, Applied Sociology, Athletic Training, Bioengineering, Biology, Biotechnology, Child and Family Studies, Childhood education with Specialization in Math/ Science, Clinical Psychology, Computer Science, Creative Writing, Divergent Learning, Osteopathy, Ecology, English Literature, Environmental Studies, Experimental Psychology, finance, Forensic Sexology, French and Francophone Studies, Geology, Health Policy, Health, Exercise, and Sport Science, Interior Design, International Business, Latin, Literary Translation, Counseling Education, Management Information Technology, Marine Science, Marketing, Music, Naturopathic Medicine, Pharmacy, Physics/ Nanotechnology, Poetry Writing, Political Studies, Public Administration, Public Health, Public Policy, Reading and Literacy Education, Registered Nurse, Sacred Music, Sociology, Spanish, Speech Language Pathology, Sport Administration, Sports Management, Sustainable Studies, Teaching, Theatrical Lighting Design, Urban and Environmental Planning, Visual Impairment

IV. Reflections on the College Experience

Satisfaction

Satisfaction with...	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	N
Major	53.3%	32.6%	8.8%	3.2%	1.1%	1.1%	285
Instruction in major	53.7%	33.0%	9.1%	2.5%	0.7%	1.1%	285
General education program of study	23.5%	48.1%	22.1%	3.9%	1.1%	1.4%	285
Instruction in general education program of study	24.2%	50.5%	20.0%	2.8%	1.1%	1.4%	285
CofC overall	48.4%	42.0%	6.0%	1.8%	1.4%	0.4%	283
Office of Alumni Relations	0.0%	23.3%	45.2%	29.7%	1.8%	0.0%	283

- ❖ 96% of respondents were very satisfied, satisfied, or somewhat satisfied with CofC overall.
- ❖ None of the respondents were very satisfied or very dissatisfied with the efforts of the Office of Alumni Relations to keep them informed about the College.

Frequency of Participation in Activities

Activities	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	Less Often	Never	N
Career related advanced education or training	24.1%	17.2%	23.0%	15.7%	20.1%	274
Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s)	18.7%	22.3%	21.6%	20.5%	16.8%	273
Professional or service organization	12.4%	23.0%	28.5%	16.8%	19.3%	274
Volunteer, public, or community service	12.0%	27.3%	26.9%	20.0%	13.8%	275
Social or recreational organizations	19.4%	30.4%	19.0%	14.3%	16.8%	273
Support or participation in the arts	11.3%	27.6%	26.2%	19.6%	15.3%	275

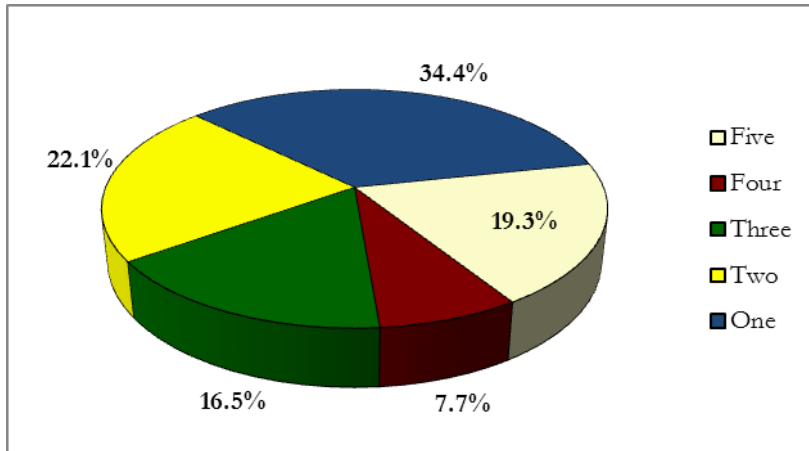
- ❖ 50% of respondents participate in social or recreational organizations weekly or monthly.

CofC's Influence on the Participation of Activities

Activities	Strongly	Moderately	Somewhat	Not at all	N
Career related advanced education or training	10.7%	20.3%	21.5%	47.5%	261
Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s)	14.3%	24.8%	24.8%	36.0%	258
Professional or service organization	11.9%	22.2%	27.2%	38.7%	261
Volunteer, public, or community service	14.2%	20.7%	24.1%	41.0%	261
Social or recreational organizations	16.6%	23.2%	23.6%	36.7%	259
Support or participation in the arts	17.9%	24.8%	22.5%	34.7%	262

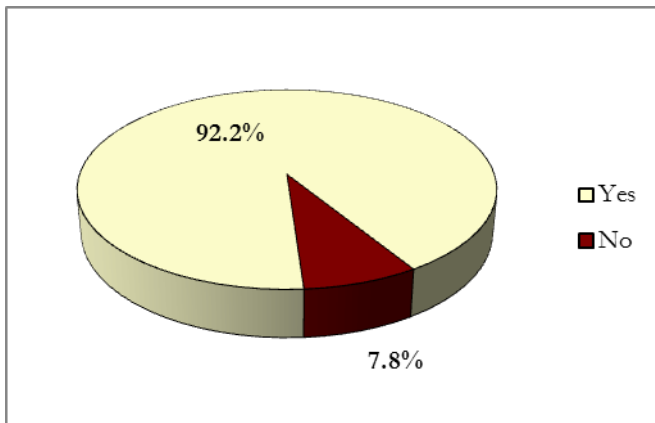
- ❖ Only 31% of respondents felt CofC strongly or moderately influenced their participation in career-related advanced education or training.

Number of Elections You've Voted in Since Graduating



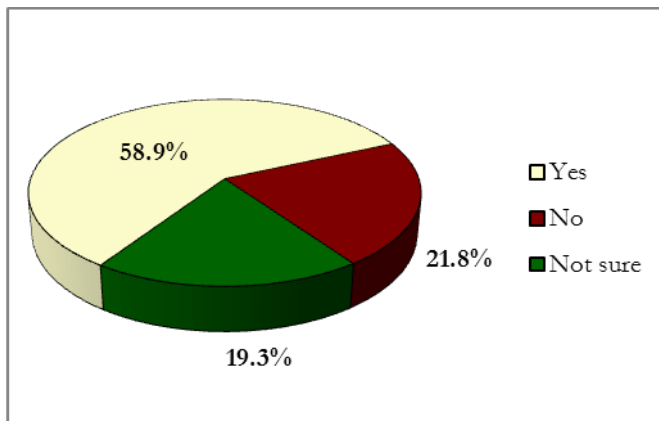
- ❖ The majority of respondents (34%) have voted in only one election since graduating.

If you could do it again would you still choose to attend CofC?



- ❖ 92% of respondents would choose to attend CofC again.

If you could do it again would you still choose your same major?



- 59% of respondents would choose the same major again.

V. Appendix A

Response Rate by Major*

Major	N (Graduates)	N (Respondents)	%
Accounting	42	9	21.4%
Anthropology	24	3	12.5%
Art History	28	9	32.1%
Arts Management	36	11	30.6%
Astrophysics	1	-	0.0%
Athletic Training	5	2	40.0%
Bilingual Medical and Health Care Interpret	1	-	0.0%
Biochemistry	5	4	80.0%
Biology	142	31	21.8%
Business Administration	210	46	21.9%
Chemistry	16	2	12.5%
Classics	6	2	33.3%
Communication	217	43	19.8%
Computer Information Sciences	2	1	50.0%
Computer Science	10	-	0.0%
Early Childhood Education	34	11	32.4%
Economics	37	13	35.1%
Elementary Education	22	-	0.0%
English	61	17	27.9%
French	7	5	71.4%
Geology	19	2	10.5%
German	4	1	25.0%
Historic Preservation/Community Planning	26	8	30.8%
History	42	8	19.0%
Hospitality and Tourism Management	39	18	46.2%
International Business	49	11	22.4%
Latin American and Caribbean Studies	1	1	100.0%
Marine Biology	15	3	20.0%
Mathematics	11	4	36.4%
Middle Level Education	9	2	22.2%
Music	21	3	14.3%
Philosophy	10	3	30.0%
Physical Education	64	6	9.4%
Physics	3	1	33.3%
Political Science	88	22	25.0%
Psychology	120	19	15.8%
Religious Studies	7	2	28.6%
Science with Medicine	1	-	0.0%
Sociology	43	9	20.9%
Spanish	27	7	25.9%
Special Education	20	8	40.0%
Studio Art	36	3	8.3%
Theatre	14	2	14.3%
Urban Studies	5	-	0.0%
Total	1,580	352	

*double majors counted twice