

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

Respondents Results: Five-Years Post Graduation Class of 2006-2007 Executive Summary

Background Information

- ❖ 1,364 alumni invited to participate
- ❖ 250 responses; response rate of 18.33%
- ❖ Survey emailed to graduates from August 2006, December 2006, and May 2007
- ❖ Survey administered June 18, 2012 – July 3, 2012 using Qualtrics online survey tool

Employment

- ❖ 92% of respondents are currently employed or continuing their education.
- ❖ The majority of respondents (37%) are employed in the field of business and industry.
- ❖ 80% of respondents have a job that requires at least a Bachelor's Degree.
- ❖ 62% of respondents work in jobs that are moderately or highly related to their undergraduate major.
- ❖ The estimated mean annual income of respondents is \$42,100.
- ❖ The majority of respondents (51%) did not owe anything in student loans at the time of their graduation.

First Full Time Job

- ❖ 79% of respondents have found a full time job since graduating.
- ❖ 72% of respondents found their first full time job before or within the first three months of graduation.
- ❖ 57% of respondents' first full time job was moderately or highly related to their major.
- ❖ 53% of respondents' first full time job was in South Carolina.

Graduate/Professional School

- ❖ 47% of respondents are attending, have completed, or have been accepted to graduate school.
- ❖ 54% of respondents enrolled in graduate school are seeking or have earned Master's Degrees.
- ❖ 25% of respondents who continue their education receive an assistantship or fellowship.
- ❖ The graduate institutions most frequently attended by respondents are: College of Charleston, University of South Carolina, MUSC, Charleston School of Law, and University of Georgia.
- ❖ The academic disciplines most frequently mentioned by respondents are: Law, Education, Business Administration, and Medicine.

Reflections on the College Experience

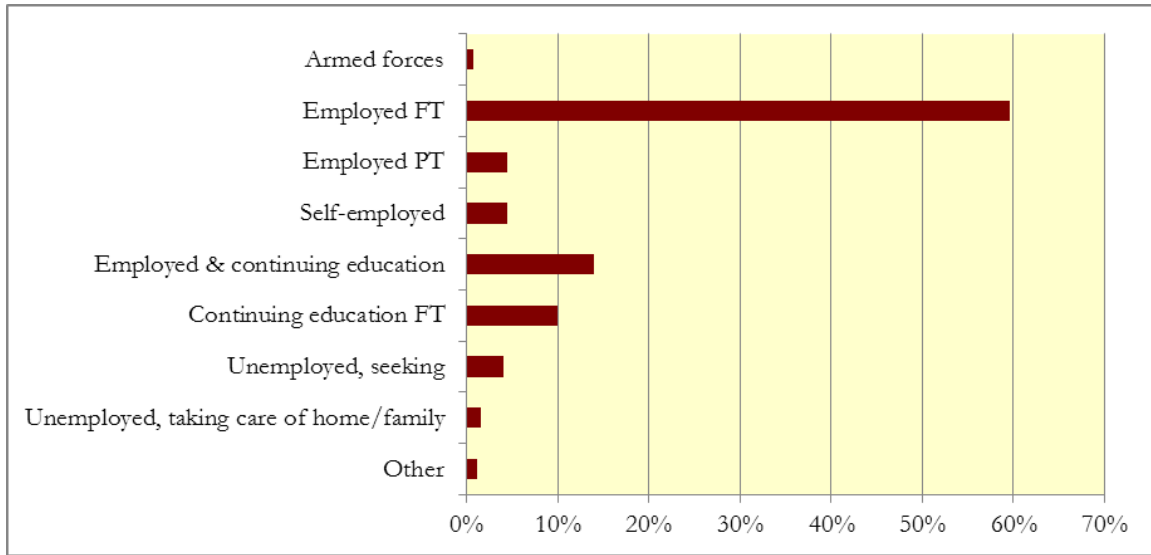
Respondents' satisfaction with...	% Very satisfied + Satisfied
Major	86%
Instruction in major	88%
General education program of study	78%
Instruction in general education program of study	77%
College of Charleston overall	90%
Office of Alumni Relations	24%

- ❖ 93% of respondents would choose to attend CofC again
- ❖ 54% of respondents would choose the same major again

Appendix A: Response Rate by Major

I. Employment Information

Current Employment Status

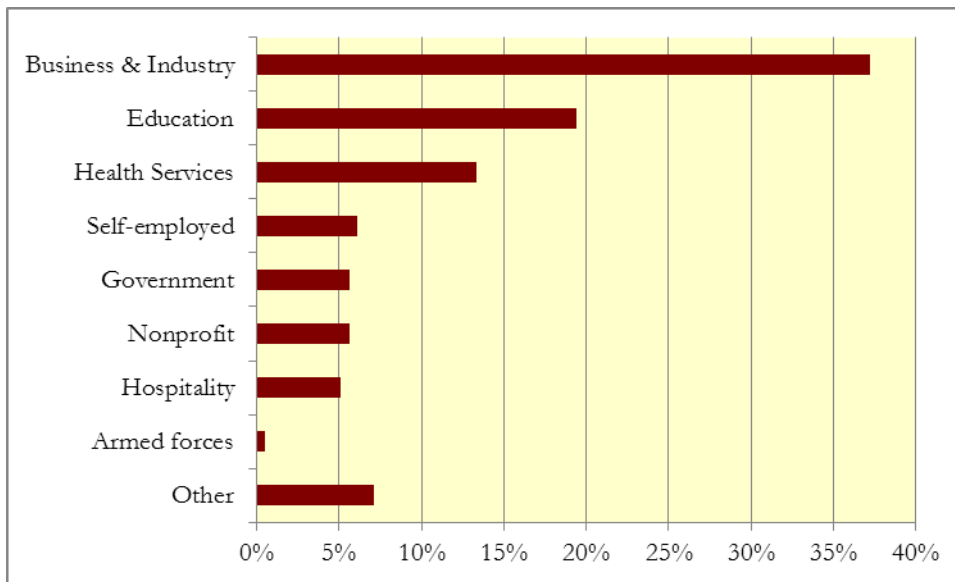


Employment Status	N	%
Armed forces	2	0.8%
Employed FT	149	59.6%
Employed PT	11	4.4%
Self-employed	11	4.4%
Employed & continuing education	35	14.0%
Continuing education FT	25	10.0%
Unemployed, seeking	10	4.0%
Unemployed, taking care of home/family	4	1.6%
Other	3	1.2%
Total	250	100.0%

❖ 92% of respondents are employed or continuing their education.

- ❖ *Other* responses include:
- Have a conditional job offer
 - Studying for Bar exam

Category of Current Employment



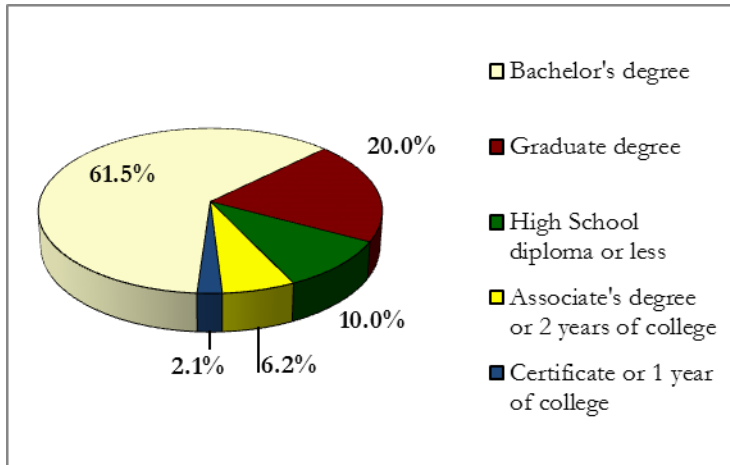
Employment Category	N	%
Business & Industry	73	37.2%
Education	38	19.4%
Health Services	26	13.3%
Self-employed	12	6.1%
Government	11	5.6%
Nonprofit	11	5.6%
Hospitality	10	5.1%
Armed forces	1	0.5%
Other	14	7.1%
Total	196	100.0%

❖ The majority of respondents (37) currently hold jobs in the business and industry sector.

❖ *Other* responses include:

- Legal
- Technology
- Media
- Politics
- Architecture

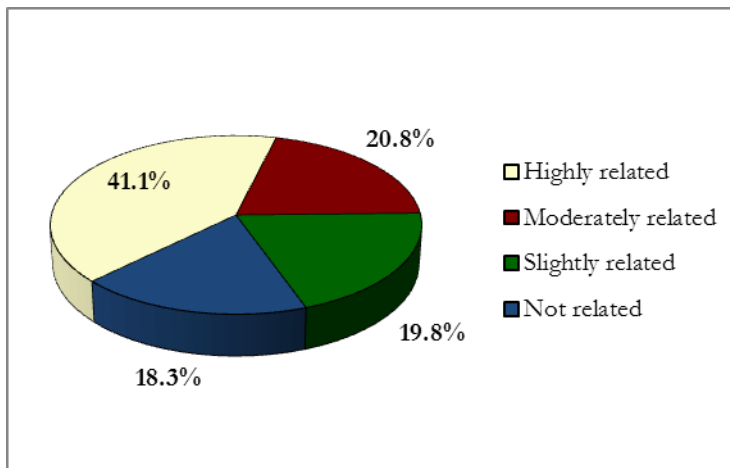
Minimum Educational Requirements for Current Occupation



Minimum Education	N	%
High School diploma or less	20	10.3%
Certificate or 1 year of college	4	2.1%
Associate's degree or 2 years of college	12	6.2%
Bachelor's degree	120	61.5%
Graduate degree	39	20.0%
Total	195	100.0%

❖ 80% of respondents have a job that requires at least a Bachelor's Degree.

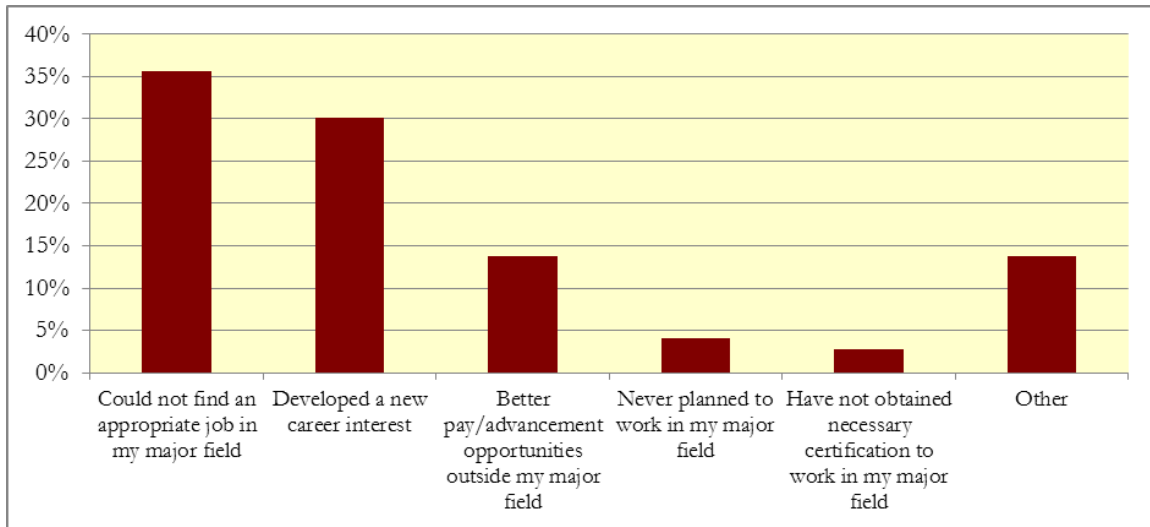
Relation of Current Occupation to College Major



Relation to Major	N	%
Highly related	81	41.1%
Moderately related	41	20.8%
Slightly related	39	19.8%
Not related	36	18.3%
Total	197	100.0%

❖ 62% of respondents have a job that is highly or moderately related to their major.

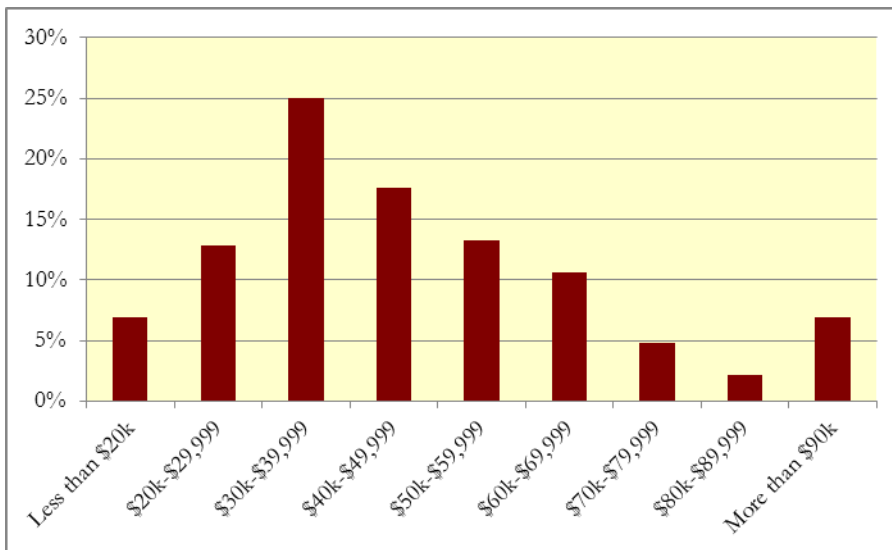
Reason Current Job is not Related to Major



If not related to major, why?	N	%
Could not find an appropriate job in my major field	26	35.6%
Developed a new career interest	22	30.1%
Better pay/advancement opportunities outside my major field	10	13.7%
Never planned to work in my major field	3	4.1%
Have not obtained necessary certification to work in my major field	2	2.7%
Other	10	13.7%
Total	73	100.0%

- ❖ The majority (63%) of respondents work in jobs unrelated to their majors because they could not find an appropriate job in their major field.

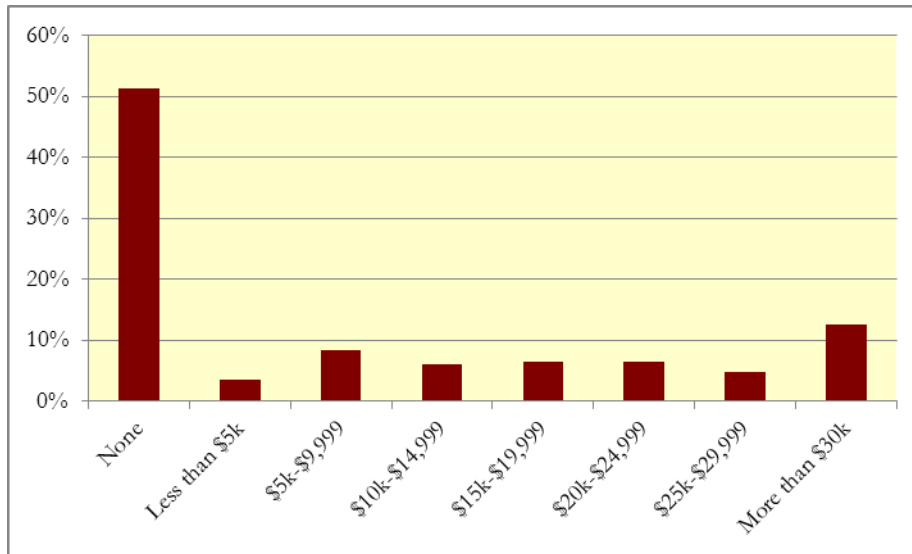
Reported Annual Income



Annual Income Range	N	%
Less than \$20k	13	6.9%
\$20k-\$29,999	24	12.8%
\$30k-\$39,999	47	25.0%
\$40k-\$49,999	33	17.6%
\$50k-\$59,999	25	13.3%
\$60k-\$69,999	20	10.6%
\$70k-\$79,999	9	4.8%
\$80k-\$89,999	4	2.1%
More than \$90k	13	6.9%
Total	188	100.0%

- ❖ The majority (25%) of respondents reported making between \$30,000 and \$39,999 a year.
- ❖ The estimated mean income for all respondents is \$42,100.

Total Amount of Student Loans Owed at the Time of Graduation

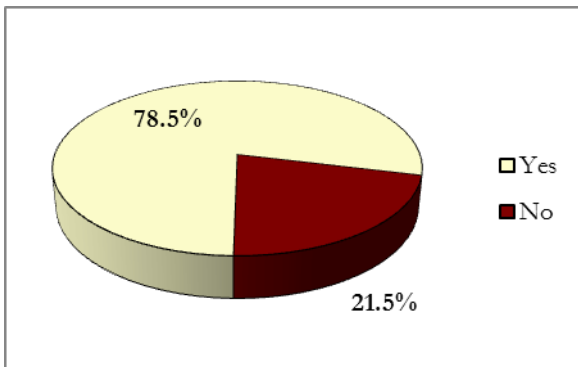


Loans	N	%
None	127	51.4%
Less than \$5k	9	3.6%
\$5k-\$9,999	21	8.5%
\$10k-\$14,999	15	6.1%
\$15k-\$19,999	16	6.5%
\$20k-\$24,999	16	6.5%
\$25k-\$29,999	12	4.9%
More than \$30k	31	12.6%
Total	247	100.0%

- ❖ Approximately 51% of respondents did not owe anything in student loans at the time of their graduation
- ❖ 18% owed \$25,000 or more.

II. First Full Time Job

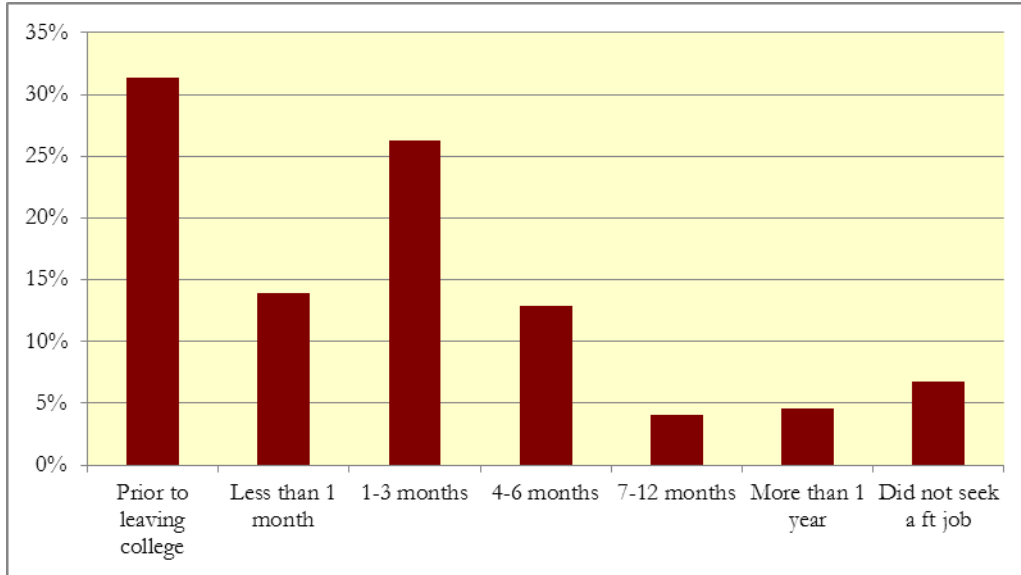
Have you had a full time job since graduating?



Full Time Job	N	%
Yes	193	78.5%
No	53	21.5%
Total	246	100.0%

- ❖ 79% of respondents have had a full time job since graduating

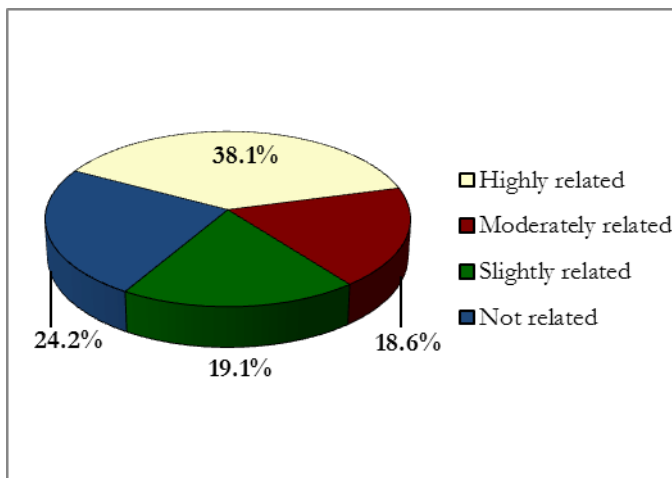
Time Taken to Find First Full Time Job



How Long	N	%
Prior to leaving college	61	31.4%
Less than 1 month	27	13.9%
1-3 months	51	26.3%
4-6 months	25	12.9%
7-12 months	8	4.1%
More than 1 year	9	4.6%
Did not seek a ft job	13	6.7%
Total	194	100.0%

❖ 72% of respondents were able to find their first full time job before or within the first three months of graduation.

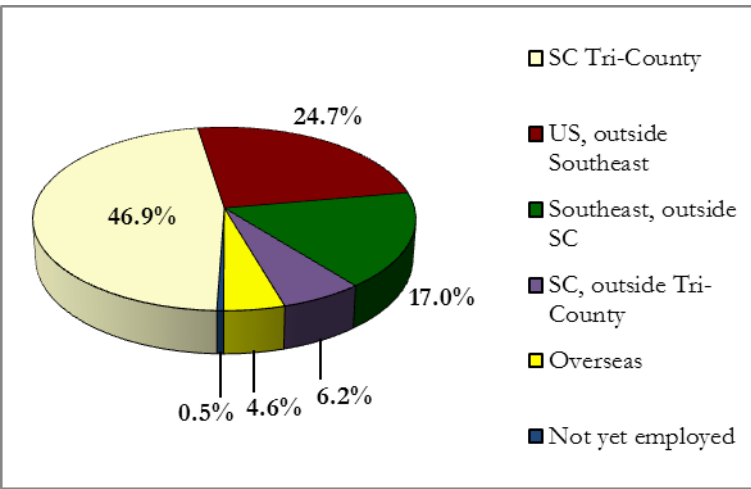
Relation of First Full Time Job to Major



Relation to Major	N	%
Highly related	74	38.1%
Moderately related	36	18.6%
Slightly related	37	19.1%
Not related	47	24.2%
Total	194	100.0%

❖ 57% of respondents' first full time job was highly or moderately related to their major.

Location of First Full Time Job

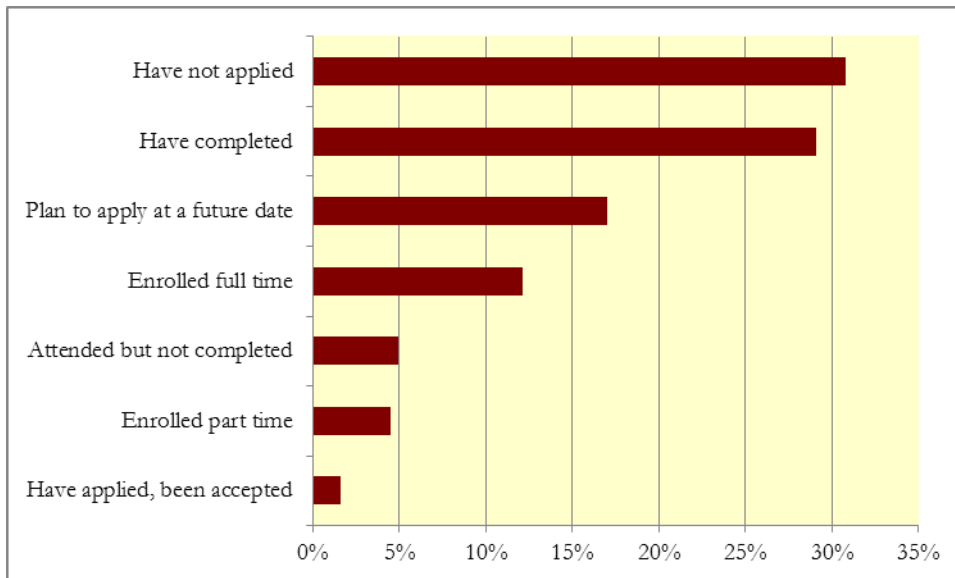


First FT job location	N	%
SC Tri-County	91	46.9%
SC, outside Tri-County	12	6.2%
Southeast, outside SC	33	17.0%
US, outside Southeast	48	24.7%
Overseas	9	4.6%
Not yet employed	1	0.5%
Total	194	100.0%

❖ 53% of respondents' first full time job was in South Carolina.

III. Graduate/Professional School Information

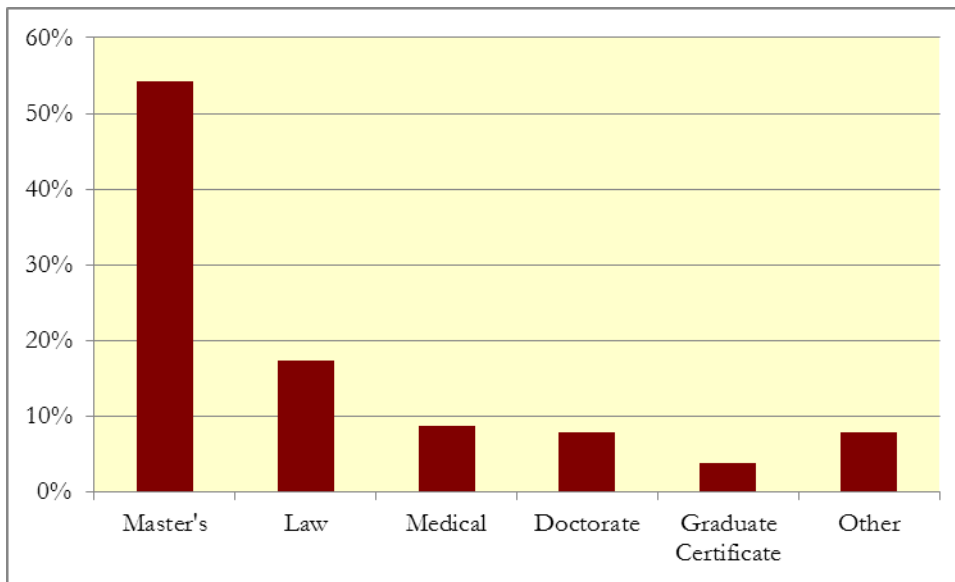
Graduate School Status



Graduate School Status	N	%
Have not applied	76	30.8%
Have completed	72	29.1%
Plan to apply at a future date	42	17.0%
Enrolled full time	30	12.1%
Attended but not completed	12	4.9%
Enrolled part time	11	4.5%
Have applied, been accepted	4	1.6%
Total	247	100.0%

❖ 47% of respondents are attending, have completed, or have been accepted to graduate school.

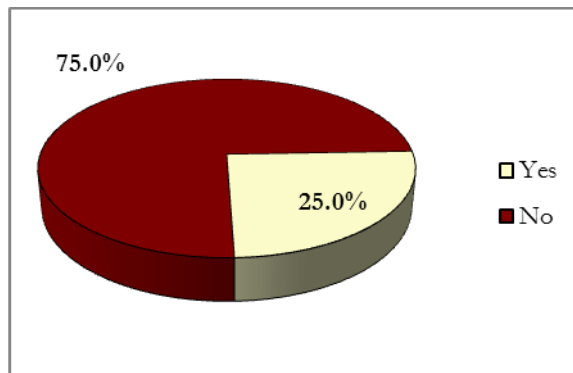
Type of Degree Seeking or Earned



Degree Type	N	%
Master's	69	54.3%
Law	22	17.3%
Medical	11	8.7%
Doctorate	10	7.9%
Graduate Certificate	5	3.9%
Other	10	7.9%
Total	127	100.0%

❖ 54% of respondents are currently seeking or have already earned a Masters' Degree.

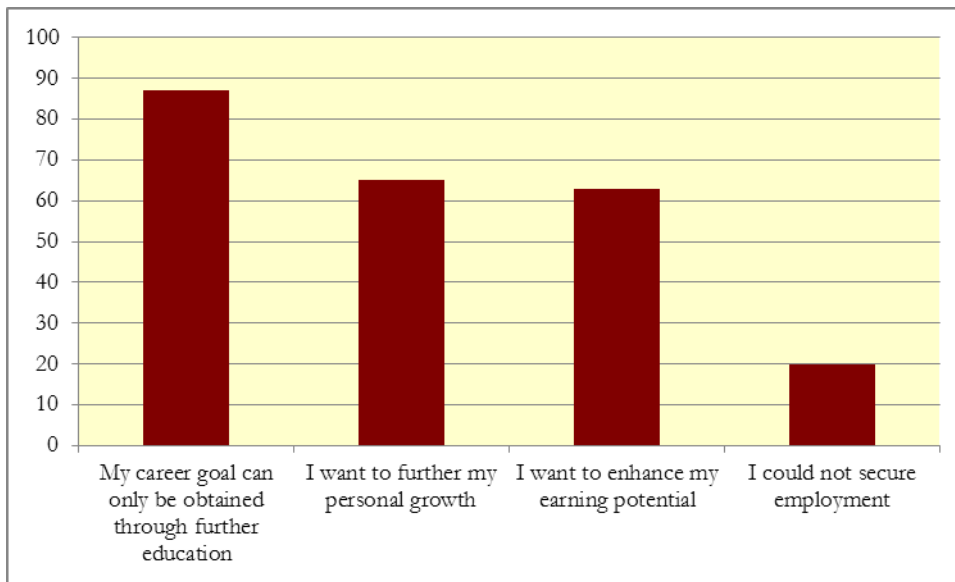
Did You Receive a Graduate Assistantship or Fellowship?



Assistantship/Fellowship	N	%
Yes	32	25.0%
No	96	75.0%
Total	128	100.0%

❖ 25% of respondents who continued their education received an assistantship or fellowship.

Why Are You Seeking Further Education?



Reasons for continuing education	Count*
My career goal can only be obtained through further education	87
I want to further my personal growth	65
I want to enhance my earning potential	63
I could not secure employment	20

- ❖ The majority (87) of respondents in graduate school sought to continue their 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
College of Charleston	15
University of South Carolina	8
MUSC	5
Charleston School of Law	3
University of Georgia	3
Arizona State University	2
Auburn University	2
DePaul University	2
Emory University	2
Florida State University	2
George Mason University	2
University of Maryland	2
University of San Francisco	2
University of Virginia	2
Webster University	2

Other Institutions Mentioned:

American College of Education, Arcadia University, Augusta State University, California Institute of Integral Studies, Capella University, CFA Institute, Charleston Southern University, Circle in the Square Professional Theater School, City University of New York, Clemson University, Cleveland State University, Columbia College, Columbia University, Elon University School of Law, Florida Coastal School of Law, Florida International University, Francis Marion University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, George Washington University, Harrington College of Design, Horry Georgetown Tech, Johns Hopkins Carey Business School, Kean University, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, London School of Economics, Loyola University New Orleans, Loyola University Chicago, Loyola University Maryland, McGeorge School of Law, Mercer University, Mira Costa College, New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, New York Institute of Technology, North Georgia College and State University, North Seattle Community College, Pratt Institute, South University, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southern Wesleyan, Stetson University, Texas A&M University, Ohio State University College of Medicine, Thunderbird School of Global Management, Touro College, Universidad Central del Caribe School of Medicine, University of Alabama School of Law, University of California Berkeley, University of Cologne, University

of Delaware, University of Louisiana Lafayette, University of Louisville, University of Maine, University of Manchester, University of North Carolina School of Law, University of Oregon School of Law, University of Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh, University of Richmond School of Law, University of Rochester, University of San Diego School of Law, University of Tennessee, University of Toronto, University of Victoria, University of Washington, University of Southern California, Vermont Law School, Virginia Commonwealth University

Academic Disciplines Most Frequently Cited for Graduate Study

Discipline	N
Law	19
Education	7
Business Administration	6
Medicine	6
Elementary Education	5
Nursing	5
Chemistry	3
Dentistry	3
Public Administration	3
Urban Planning	3
Accounting	2
English	2
History	2
International Business	2
International Relations	2
Language and Literacy	2
Optometry	2
Social Sciences	2
Social Work	2

Other disciplines Mentioned:

Acting, Administration, Anthropology, Biology, Biology and Aquatic Ecology, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Communication Arts, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Communications Management, Counseling, Creative Writing, Cross Cultural Communication, Cultural and Social Anthropology, Curriculum and Instruction in Education, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education, English and the Digital Humanities, Finance, Geophysics, Historic Preservation and Architectural Conservation, Human Resource Development, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Interior Design, Latin American Literature, Marketing, Modern European History, Museum Studies, Nautical Archaeology, Organic Chemistry, Pharmacy, Philosophy and Religion, Physical Chemistry, Physician Assistant Studies, Public Health, Public Policy, School Psychology, Speech Language Pathology, Strategic Public Relations, Teacher of Students with Disabilities

IV. Reflections on the College Experience

Satisfaction

Satisfaction with...	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	N
Major	44.6%	41.3%	10.4%	2.1%	1.3%	0.4%	240
Instruction in major	43.5%	44.8%	9.6%	0.4%	0.8%	0.8%	239
General education program of study	27.1%	50.4%	17.1%	3.3%	1.7%	0.4%	240
Instruction in general education	23.3%	53.3%	18.3%	2.9%	1.7%	0.4%	240
CofC overall	45.0%	45.0%	6.3%	2.1%	1.3%	0.4%	240
Office of Alumni Relations	0.0%	23.9%	47.5%	27.7%	0.8%	0.0%	238

- ❖ 98% of respondents are very satisfied, satisfied, or somewhat satisfied with the instruction in the major.
- ❖ None of the respondents were very satisfied 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	18.1%	20.4%	27.4%	13.7%	20.4%	226
Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s)	24.5%	17.9%	27.4%	17.9%	15.2%	223
Professional or service organizations	5.9%	25.2%	31.1%	19.4%	18.5%	222
Volunteer, public, or community service	9.4%	18.8%	37.2%	20.6%	13.9%	223
Social or recreational organization	28.4%	30.2%	18.0%	7.7%	15.8%	222
Support or participation in the arts	12.2%	27.6%	25.8%	21.7%	12.7%	221

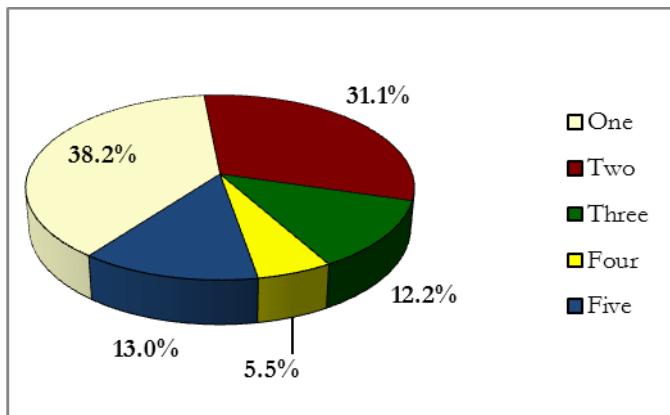
- ❖ 59% of respondents participated in social or recreational organizations weekly or monthly
- ❖ 38% of respondents participated in professional or service organizations less often or never.

CofC's Influence on the Participation of Activities

Activities	Strongly	Moderately	Somewhat	Not at all	N
Career related advanced education or training	4.1%	18.3%	25.2%	52.3%	218
Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s)	8.8%	18.5%	32.9%	39.8%	216
Professional or service organizations	5.1%	23.3%	27.4%	44.2%	215
Volunteer, public, or community service	8.8%	17.6%	31.5%	42.1%	216
Social or recreational organization	15.3%	26.9%	22.2%	35.6%	216
Support or participation in the arts	19.0%	20.8%	24.1%	36.1%	216

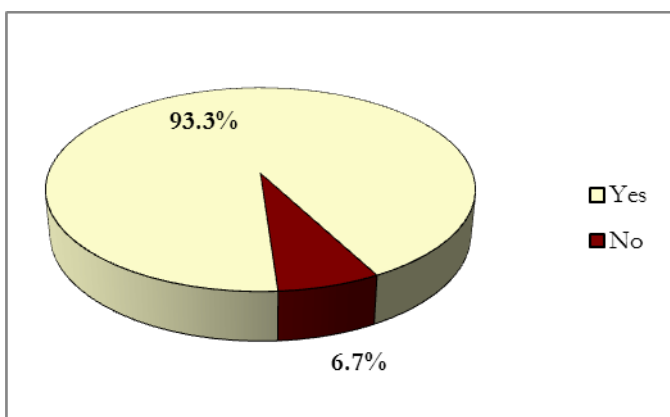
- ❖ 42% of respondents feel that CofC strongly or moderately influenced their participation in social of recreation organizations.
- ❖ 52% of respondents feel that CofC had no influence on their participation in career related advanced education or training.

Number of Elections You've Voted in Since Graduating



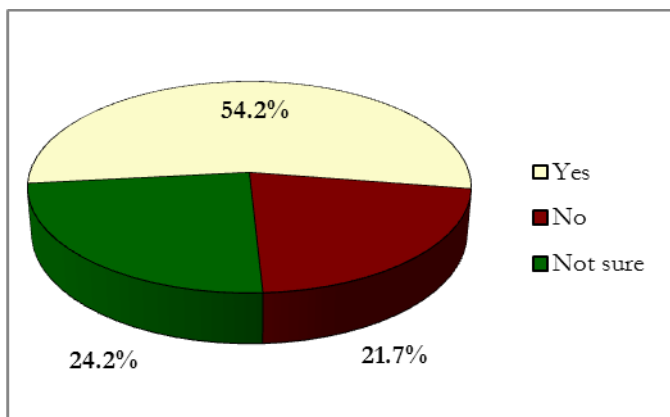
❖ The majority of respondents (38%) have only participated in one election since graduating.

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



❖ 93% of respondents would choose to attend CofC again.

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



❖ 54% of respondents would choose the same major again.

V. Appendix A

Response Rate by Major*

Major	N (Graduates)	N (Respondents)	%
Accounting	24	3	12.5%
Anthropology	24	6	25.0%
Art History	25	6	24.0%
Arts Management	23	9	39.1%
Athletic Training	2	2	100.0%
Biochemistry	16	5	31.3%
Biology	98	24	24.5%
Business Administration	201	38	18.9%
Chemistry	7	8	114.3%
Classics	5	1	20.0%
Communication	178	45	25.3%
Computer Information Sciences	2	-	0.0%
Computer Science	12	1	8.3%
Discovery Informatics	1	-	0.0%
Early Childhood Education	27	1	3.7%
Economics	23	6	26.1%
Elementary Education	25	4	16.0%
English	38	11	28.9%
French	13	6	46.2%
Geology	4	1	25.0%
German	9	3	33.3%
Historic Preservation/Community Planning	25	4	16.0%
History	50	11	22.0%
Hospitality and Tourism Management	19	7	36.8%
International Business	32	8	25.0%
Latin American and Caribbean Studies	4	1	25.0%
Marine Biology	15	2	13.3%
Mathematics	17	1	5.9%
Middle Level Education	13	2	15.4%
Music	12	1	8.3%
Philosophy	15	6	40.0%
Physical Education	43	5	11.6%
Physics	5	2	40.0%
Political Science	81	25	30.9%
Psychology	122	16	13.1%
Religious Studies	10	-	0.0%
Sociology	41	5	12.2%
Spanish	34	12	35.3%
Special Education	14	5	35.7%
Studio Art	32	3	9.4%
Theatre	20	6	30.0%
Urban Studies	3	2	66.7%
Total	1364	304	

*double majors counted twice