Post-Graduation Activity Report
2014–15

Compiled by WMU Career and Student Employment Services
Ellsworth Hall | (269) 387–2745 | wmich.edu/career

Survey design, data collection and analysis, and report preparation:
Ewa Urban, Ph.D., Associate Director – Assessment | Ewa.L.Urban@wmich.edu
Amy Galick, Graduate Assistant for Assessment | Amy.E.Galick@wmich.edu

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Executive Summary

Career and Student Employment Services surveyed all (N=5217) WMU students graduating with bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees between August 2014 and June 2015. Data was obtained for 75% of the population (N=3929).

88% of WMU graduates were actively engaged within three months of graduation.

“Active engagement” is defined as full-time employment (including self-employment and post-graduate internships/fellowships); part-time employment; military service; and continuing education. Categories not included in active engagement are unemployed and seeking employment; not seeking employment; and volunteering.

Primary Activity Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actively Engaged</th>
<th>count</th>
<th>percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed full time</td>
<td>2510</td>
<td>63.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed part time</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing education</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military service</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not Actively Engaged</th>
<th>count</th>
<th>percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed and seeking employment</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not seeking employment</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteering</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full-Time Employment Highlights

- 64% of respondents were employed full time.
- The median salary was $40,000–$45,000 based on 1580 reported salaries.
- 87% have a job that is related to their degree based on 1636 responses.
- 93% are satisfied with their job based on 1426 responses.
- 75% work in Michigan; 22% work in 46 other U.S. states; and 3% work in 22 countries outside the U.S.

Continuing Education

- 15% of respondents are pursuing further education after graduating from WMU.
- 54% are continuing education at WMU, and the remaining 46% will attend 118 different institutions.

Experiential Education

- 75% of respondents completed an experiential education activity at WMU based on 3758 responses.
About The Data

Career and Student Employment Services conducts the annual Post-Graduation Activity Survey on behalf of the University. The survey is conducted in accordance with the “Standards and Protocols for the Collection and Dissemination of Graduating Student Initial Career Outcomes Information” published by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).

Three weeks before each graduation, all graduating students receive an email from their college dean, department chairperson, or program director with a personalized link to the Post-Graduation Activity Survey. Nonrespondents receive at least four reminder messages via email. The questionnaire asks students to select one post-graduation activity category from a list: “working”; “pursuing further education or further study”; “military service”; “volunteering full time (e.g., Peace Corps)”; “unemployed and seeking employment”; and “not seeking employment or further education within six months after graduation.”

For those students who have not responded to the survey after multiple invitations, we ask department chairpersons and faculty who know the students to provide any post-graduation activity information they are aware of. Additionally, Career and Student Employment Services gathers employment data from public LinkedIn profiles of graduates who do not respond. Overall, 78% of the data in this report was obtained through the online questionnaire and 22% was obtained through LinkedIn or by contacting department chairpersons, faculty, and staff.

Post-graduation activity data was also updated throughout the year by following up with respondents who indicated that they were seeking employment at the time of completing the survey. The data collection cycle ended on October 15, 2015.

Sixty-two percent (62%, N=1580) of respondents working full time reported a salary range. Where salary information is reported, all salaries provided by those working full time are included, including any salaries from full-time jobs located outside the United States. We publish median salary ranges for majors/programs with at least five reported salaries.

The report lists all WMU majors for which sufficient data has been collected. Names of majors in the report align with those listed at wmich.edu/academics. If there are fewer than five primary activity responses for a program (or for one degree level of a program), data from 2013–14 was added and/or similar majors were combined. If there are fewer than five responses for a program from 2013–14 and 2014–15 together, the program is not included in the report. Similarly, two years of employment data (i.e., salary, job satisfaction, etc.) are reported together when fewer than five responses are available from 2014–15. Data from 2013–14 was added only to the individual reports for the majors, not to the overall college or university reports.

There were 316 students who completed two or more undergraduate majors and 4 who completed two master’s degrees during the graduation period. They are included once in each section of the report that corresponds to one of their degrees. No student’s data is ever counted twice in the same report section.

One purpose of this report is to help students with career exploration. To that end, reports for individual majors and programs include sample job titles and employer names. This information was provided by survey respondents from both 2013–14 and 2014–15.

NACE and Career and Student Employment Services acknowledge that the positive impact of a college education cannot be measured merely in terms of employment, earnings, or continued education. The most significant and substantive outcomes of personal and professional growth occur over the lifetime of the individual graduate.
University Studies

Survey Population 2014–15
Students graduating between August 2014 and June 2015 were surveyed.

Bachelor’s degree recipients: 254
Post-Graduation data was obtained for 162 graduates (64%)

Post-Graduation Activity 2014–15
87% of graduates were actively engaged.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actively Engaged</th>
<th>count</th>
<th>percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed full time</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed part time</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing education</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not Actively Engaged</th>
<th>count</th>
<th>percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed and seeking employment</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not immediately seeking employment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
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Employment Information
Survey respondents who indicated they were employed were asked to provide additional information about their employment, including salary range, job location, a rating of their satisfaction with the job, and the extent to which the job is related to their degree.

Median Salary Range**
$35,000–$40,000
(based on 60 responses; full-time employment only)

57% reported that their job was related to their degree
(based on 64 responses; includes ratings of 3, 4, and 5 out of 5)

79% said they were satisfied with their job
(based on 53 responses; includes ratings of 3, 4, and 5 out of 5)

Experiential Education
Students who responded to the survey were asked whether they “participated in an experiential education activity” (such as an internship, co-op, practicum, faculty-directed research, or other work experience related to their field of study) while enrolled at WMU.

While enrolled at WMU, did you participate in an experiential education activity? 42% Yes
(based on 141 responses)

* “Active engagement” is defined as any type of employment (including full-time, part-time, or temporary employment, self-employment, and post-graduate internships/fellowships); continuing education; or military service. Categories not included in active engagement are unemployed and seeking employment; not seeking employment; and volunteering.

** Salary data is self-reported and is not fact-checked. Median reported salary ranges are provided for informational purposes only.
Sample Job Titles and Employers

Account Executive Trainee at PLS Logistics Services
Administrative Assistant at WMU
Administrator at Spectrum Health
Anesthesia Technician at UofM Health Systems
Animal Care Specialist at Kalamazoo Nature Center
Assistant Daycare Provider at Friendship Corners
Assistant Director at Gilden Woods Preschool
Assistant Equipment Manager at Davidson College
Assistant Program Coordinator at Residential Opportunities
Assistant Soccer Coach at University at Buffalo
Assistant Teacher at Kindercare Learning Center
Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach at Paw Paw HS
Branch and Marketing Manager at Marshall Community Credit Union
Brand Ambassador at Winston Grey
Broadcast Engineer at WWMT(CBS)/CW7(CW)
Business Banker at PNC Bank
Captain at Allegan County Sheriff's Office
Care Provider at Pine Rest
Carrier Sales Representative at Echo Global Logistics
Child Watch Coordinator at YMCA of Greater Kzoo
Client Administrator at The Plexus Group
Coach at Beachbody
Content Editor at Gracenote
Costume Designer at Shaw Weber Studios
Credit Card Consultant at PNC Bank
Customer Service at Accretive Health
Customer Service at Farmers Insurance Group
Customer Service Consultant at PNC Bank
Customer Support Associate at Aerotek
Debt Solutions Representative at ECCU
Defense Movement Coordinator at Army National Guard
Demand Planning Manager at Wolverine Worldwide
Designer at Dart Container
Director of IT at Donald W. Reynolds Foundation
Documentation Specialist at Accident Fund Insurance
Engineering Recruiter at Aerotek
En-Route Air Traffic Controller at the FAA
Event Coordinator at University of Georgia
Executive Assistant at Finn's Insurance
Executive Chef at Territorial Brewing
Field Technician at Forum Extended Care Services
Financial Service Representative at Flagstar Bank
Flight Coordinator at Gate Gourmet
Funeral Director at Ridley Funeral Home
Gaming Inspector at Pokagon Band Gaming Commission
General Manager at Sage Management
General Manager at Millennium Restaurant Group
HR Project Coordinator at Humphrey Products
Inbound Logistics Coordinator at Big Dutchman
Income Auditor at FireKeepers Casino Hotel
Interpreter IV at Palm Beach County School District
IT Tech at Van Buren County Government
JV and Varsity Coach at Gull Lake High School
Lead Business Systems Analyst at Amway
Lead Provider at Tam's Sunshine House Daycare
Lead Web Developer at Yupoyo Web Design
Logistics Account Executive at Total Quality Logistics
Logistics Account Representative at MidLink Logistics
Medical Records Technician at WM Cancer Center
Medical Research Associate 2 at MPI Research
Midwest Hub Communications Coordinator at BASF
Nutrition Services Assistant at McLaren Port Huron
Operations Estimator at Quality Air Service
Operations Manager at Symantec
Outreach Coordinator at Reach Studio Art Center
Packaging Engineer at Perrigo
Partner at New York Life Insurance
Patient Service Associate at Borgess Health
Perioperative Blood Management Technician at CCS Perfusion
Personal Trainer at Macatawa Legends
Personal Trainer at Equinox Fitness
Prepress, Webpage and Graphic Design at iPartnerMedia
Process Engineer at Evergreen Packaging
Professional Basketball Player at Indiana Pacers
Program Assistant at Fort Wainwright CYSS Youth Center
Project Manager at Boddy Construction
Property Management at Bainbridge Companies
Quality Assurance Specialist at US Army, Japan
Quality Manager at mophie
Quality Operations Lab Technician at Pfizer
Recruiter at Aerotek
Regional Sales Manager at Halogen Software
Rescue Ministry at Kalamazoo Gospel Mission
Researcher and Administrator at Jacob Fine Art
Resident Artist at Kalamazoo Education For the Arts
Site Coordinator at Communities In Schools Kalamazoo
Special Assistant to the Lt. Governor at State of Michigan
Specialist at Michigan Army National Guard
Superintendent of Public Works at City of Wayland
Supply Chain Analyst at Veritiv
Talent Acquisition Specialist at Arrow Strategies
Teacher at Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña
Technical Services Assistant at Lockton Companies
Technical Solution Architect Manager at Accenture
Technician at Eaton
Tooling Engineer at Superior Design and Engineering
XS Project Coordinator at Amway