Employment after graduation

As Figure 1 shows, three-quarters of respondents have full-time employment, with 12.3% being employed part-time. Among those reporting full-time employment, 84% indicated their job is related to their UMaine degree.

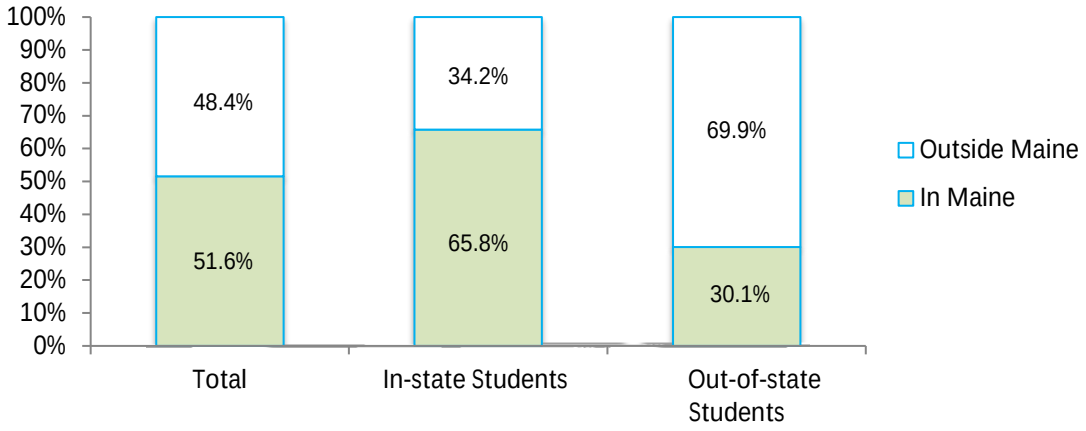
Figure 2 reveals the variability among colleges[2] in the percentage of respondents who are employed full-time. The highest employment rates are seen for ENGR and MBS graduates: 88% and 84%, respectively. In contrast, 68% of LAS graduates reported full-time employment.

[2] The departmental composition of each college reflects its composition as of fall 2019. (EHD = College of Education and Human Development; ENGR = College of Engineering; LAS

Where are the jobs?

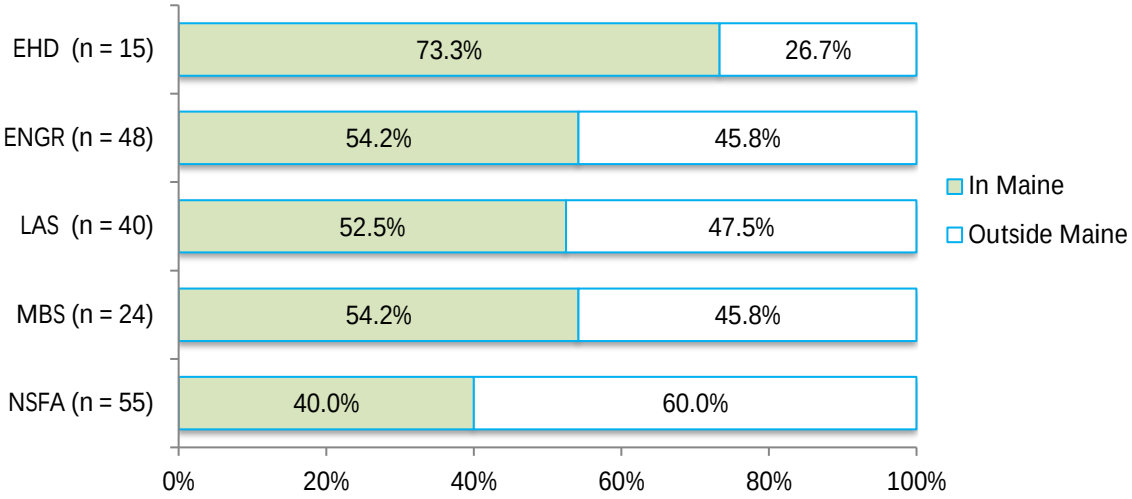
A little more than half of the respondents who are working full-time are doing so in Maine (Figure 3). Not surprisingly, location of employment is related to one's roots. Among respondents rooted in Maine, 65.8% of the full-time employed have remained in Maine; for those "from away," 30.1% have.

Figure 3. Where Students Found Full-time Jobs



As Figure 4 shows, there are differences across the UMaine colleges with respect to location of employment among the full-time employed. For example, slightly less than three fourths of EHD graduates remained in Maine for full-time employment compared with 40% of NSFA graduates.

Figure 4. Where UMaine Graduates Found Full-time Employment:



What occupational sectors are represented?

Using the place of employment and occupation/job title provided by employed respondents, we grouped the full-time employed according to occupational sector.[4] As shown in Table 2, more than half (60%) of those employed full time are working in occupations related to architecture/engineering, healthcare, business, or education. Reported median salary for respondents is shown for each occupation sector.* These range from a low of $32,000 per year for those working in educational instruction and library occupations to a high of $67,000 per year for those working in architecture and engineering occupations.

Table 2. Broad Occupation Sectors (Employed Full-Time).

Sector	*n*	% of all full-time employed	Median salary	
			n	$
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	36	18.3%	30	67,000
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	31	15.7%	26	47,000
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	26	13.2%	24	49,000
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	25	12.7%	23	32,000
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	11	5.6%	9	51,000
Management Occupations	8	4.1%	7	55,000

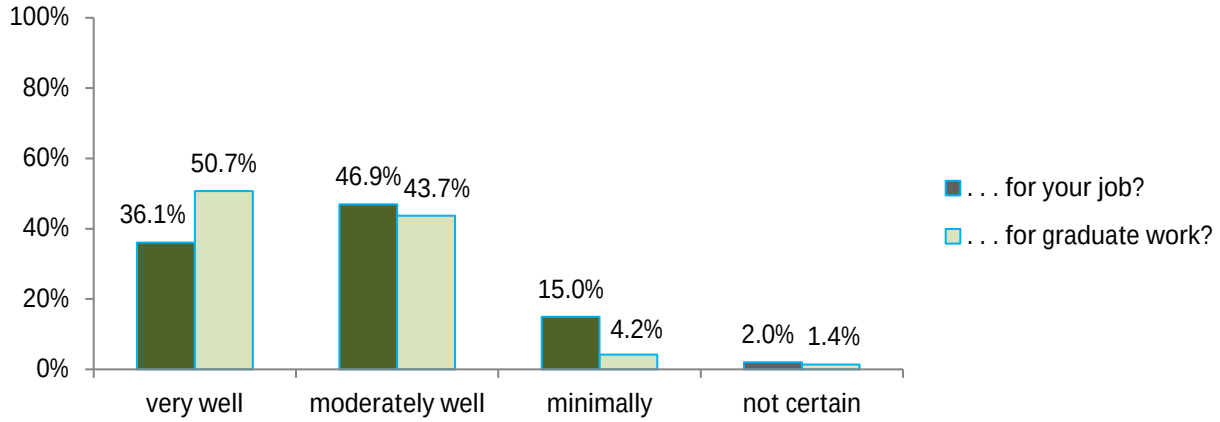
Who is attending graduate school?

Nearly one-fourth of respondents are enrolled either part-time (6.2%

How well did UMaine prepare its graduates?

Of the respondents employed full-time in a job related to their UMaine degree, 83% believe their UMaine experience prepared them "very well" or "moderately well" for their job (Figure 6). This general sentiment is shared by those enrolled in graduate school (irrespective of employment status): 94% believing UMaine prepared them "very well" or "moderately well" for graduate studies, and 6% feeling they were "minimally prepared" or "uncertain."

Figure 6. How well did your UMaine experience prepare you?



Life After UMaine Machias (UMM)

OIRA contacted 63 baccalaureate degree recipients who graduated from UMM during the same timeframe[6]. We received usable responses from 15 graduates corresponding to a return rate of 24%.

Employment after graduation

As Figure 7 shows, more than four-fifths of the 15 respondents have full-time employment, with the remainder being employed part-time. Among those reporting full-time employment, everyone indicated their job is related to their UMM degree.

How well did UMM prepare its graduates?

Of the respondents employed full-time in a job related to their UMM degree, 90% believe their UMM experience prepared them “very well” or “moderately well” for their job, and 10% feel that them

shows, more than

Part II. Graduate Program Matriculation

The National Student Clearinghouse is a non-

Looking Ahead: Transition to First Destination Survey

Moving forward, UMaine and UMM are transitioning to using the First Destination Survey. The First Destination Survey is a process of data collection for recent graduates that not only relies on a survey, but also can include information collected from phone call campaigns, LinkedIn scraping, and the National Student Clearinghouse. The protocols for the First Destination Survey, which were designed by National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), suggest surveying at graduation and then again six months later. The ultimate goal is to achieve a 65% knowledge rate, which is "the percent of graduates for which the institution has reasonable and verifiable information concerning graduates' post-graduation career activities" (First Destination Survey Standards and Protocols). The First Destination Survey should include a base set of common items (e.g., current employment status, salary), as well as institution-specific items if relevant. Institutions that achieve a 65% knowledge rate can submit information collected through the common items to NACE and in return be able to benchmark against other institutions.

UMaine and UMM conducted a pilot of the First Destination Survey with the May 2021 graduates (report will be published later this summer) and will be fully implementing the survey for the August 2021, December 2021, and May 2022 undergraduate degree recipients this year.