

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

2015 Alumni Survey Results Class of 2013-2014

Background

- ❖ 2,000 alumni invited to participate.
- ❖ 392 responses; response rate of 20%.
- ❖ Survey emailed to students who graduated in August 2013, December 2013, and May 2014 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

- ❖ 59% of respondents are currently employed full-time.
- ❖ 9% of respondents are employed part-time or have multiple jobs.
- ❖ 21% of respondents are employed in the field of management, business, and finance.
- ❖ 66% of respondents have a job that requires at least a Bachelor's Degree.
- ❖ 48% of respondents' current annual income range is \$20,000 - \$39,999.
- ❖ 24% of respondents' current annual income range is \$40,000 - \$59,999.
- ❖ 57% of respondents' employment is moderately or highly related to their major.

Employment History

- ❖ 88% of respondents were able to find their first paying job while enrolled as an undergraduate or during the first six months after graduation.
- ❖ 61% of respondents' first paying job was in South Carolina.
- ❖ 42% 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.
- ❖ 6% of respondents completed a post baccalaureate degree program (Master's, Law, Medical, PhD, or Certificate).
- ❖ 19% of respondents continuing their education received an assistantship or fellowship.
- ❖ The graduate institutions most frequently attended by respondents are: College of Charleston, Medical University of South Carolina, University of South Carolina, and The Citadel.
- ❖ The academic disciplines most frequently mentioned for continuing education are: Medicine, Business, Social Sciences, and Education.

College of Charleston Undergraduate Experience

- ❖ 91% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall academic experience.
- ❖ 91% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with the instruction in their major.
- ❖ 71% of respondents would choose the same major field of study again.
- ❖ 77% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with the instruction in their general education program.
- ❖ 89% of respondents would choose to attend the College of Charleston again.
- ❖ 43% of respondents graduated with no student loans.

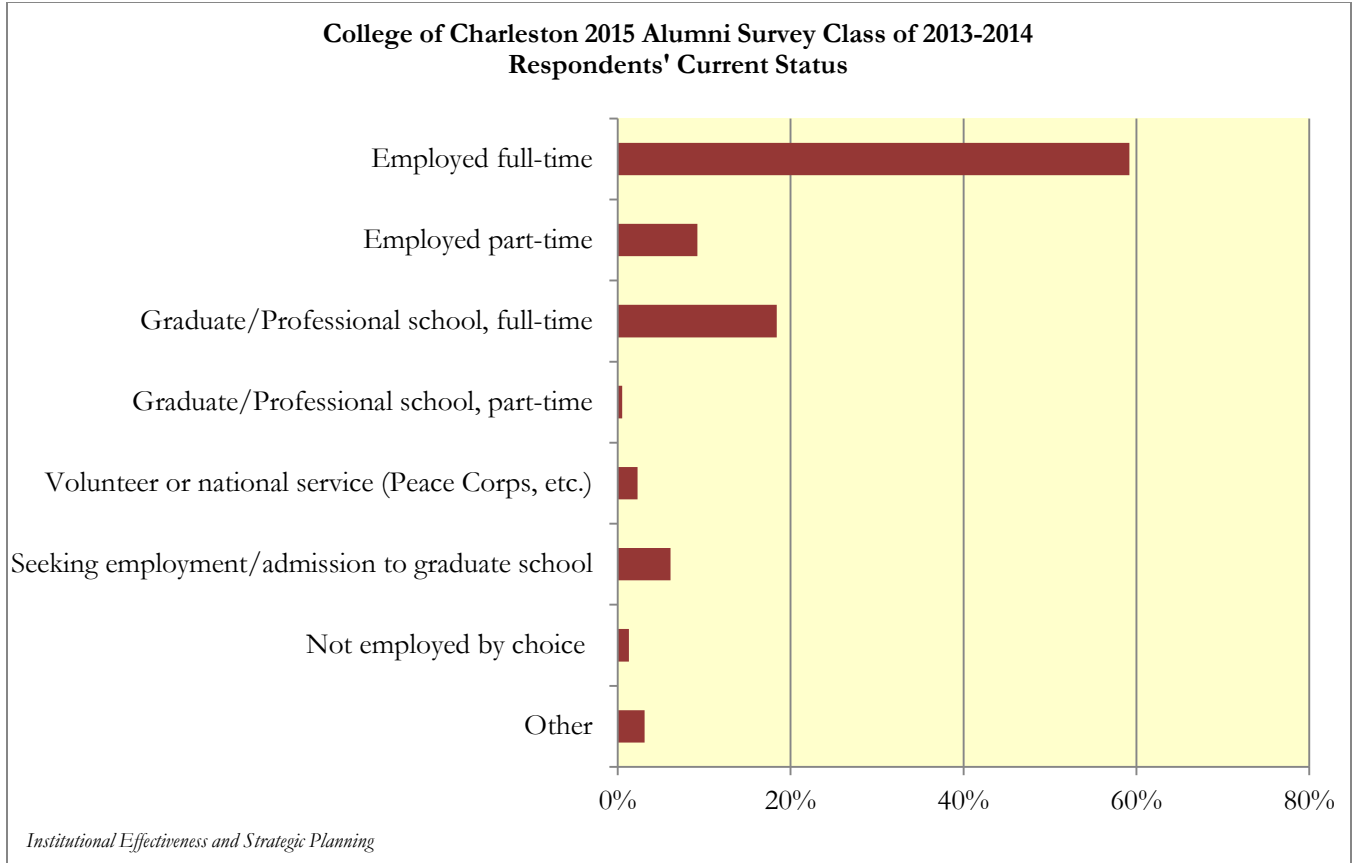
[*View full report*](#)

[*View survey instrument*](#)

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

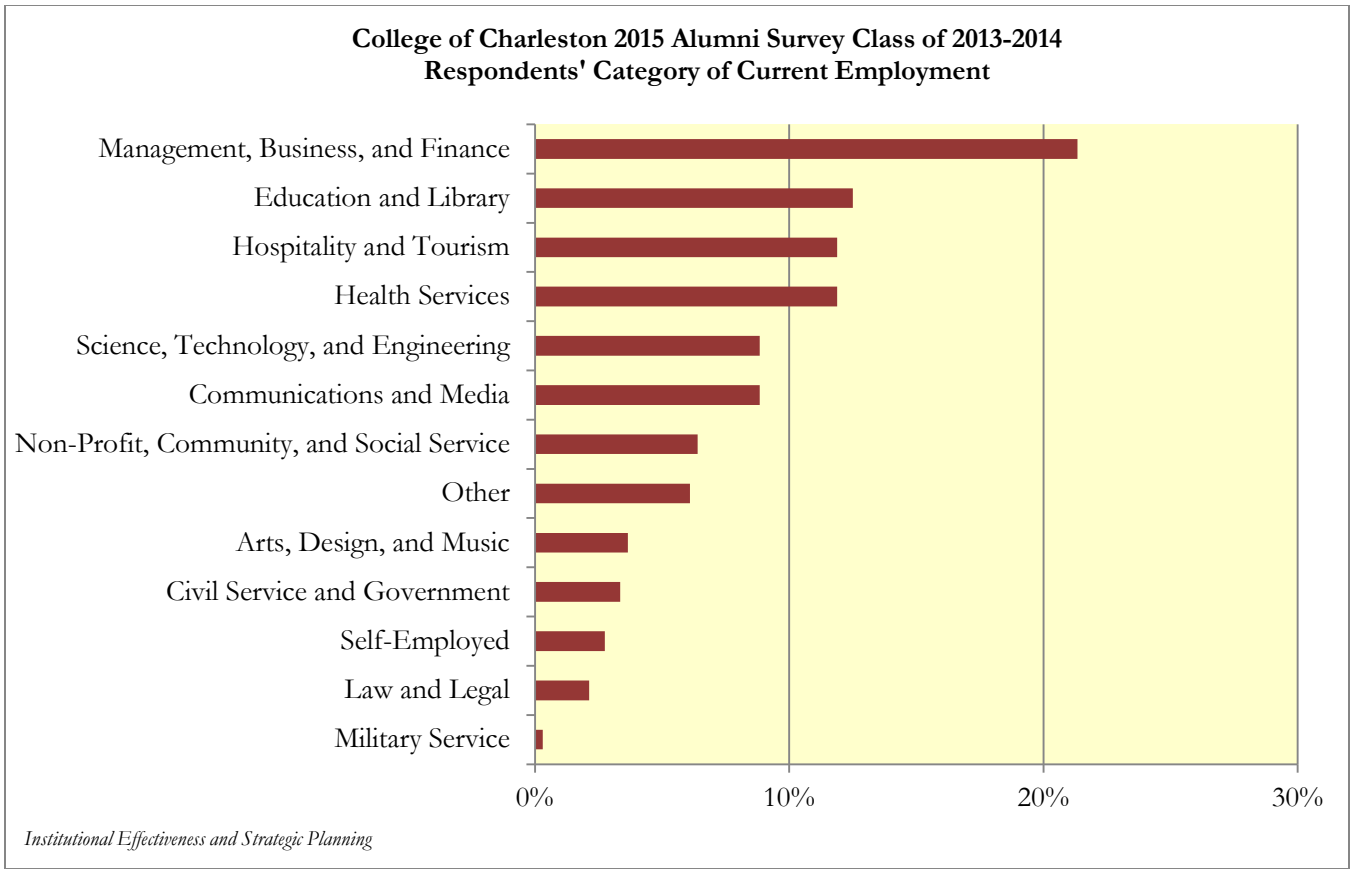
2015 Alumni Survey Results Class of 2013-2014

Current Employment



Current Status	N	%
Employed full-time	232	59.2%
Employed part-time	36	9.2%
Graduate/Professional school, full-time	72	18.4%
Graduate/Professional school, part-time	2	0.5%
Volunteer or national service (Peace Corps, etc.)	9	2.3%
Seeking employment/admission to graduate school	24	6.1%
Not employed by choice	5	1.3%
Other	12	3.1%
Total	392	100.0%

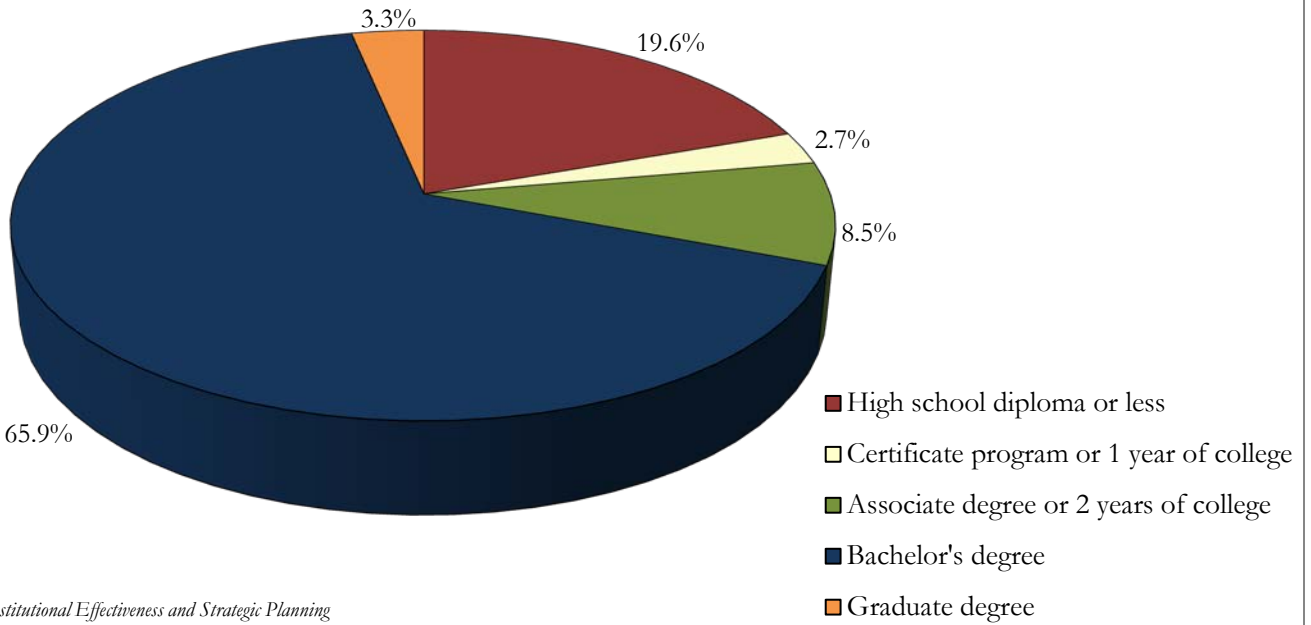
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



Category of Current Employment	N	%
Management, Business, and Finance	70	21.3%
Education and Library	41	12.5%
Hospitality and Tourism	39	11.9%
Health Services	39	11.9%
Science, Technology, and Engineering	29	8.8%
Communications and Media	29	8.8%
Non-Profit, Community, and Social Service	21	6.4%
Other	20	6.1%
Arts, Design, and Music	12	3.7%
Civil Service and Government	11	3.4%
Self-Employed	9	2.7%
Law and Legal	7	2.1%
Military Service	1	0.3%
Total	328	100.0%

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

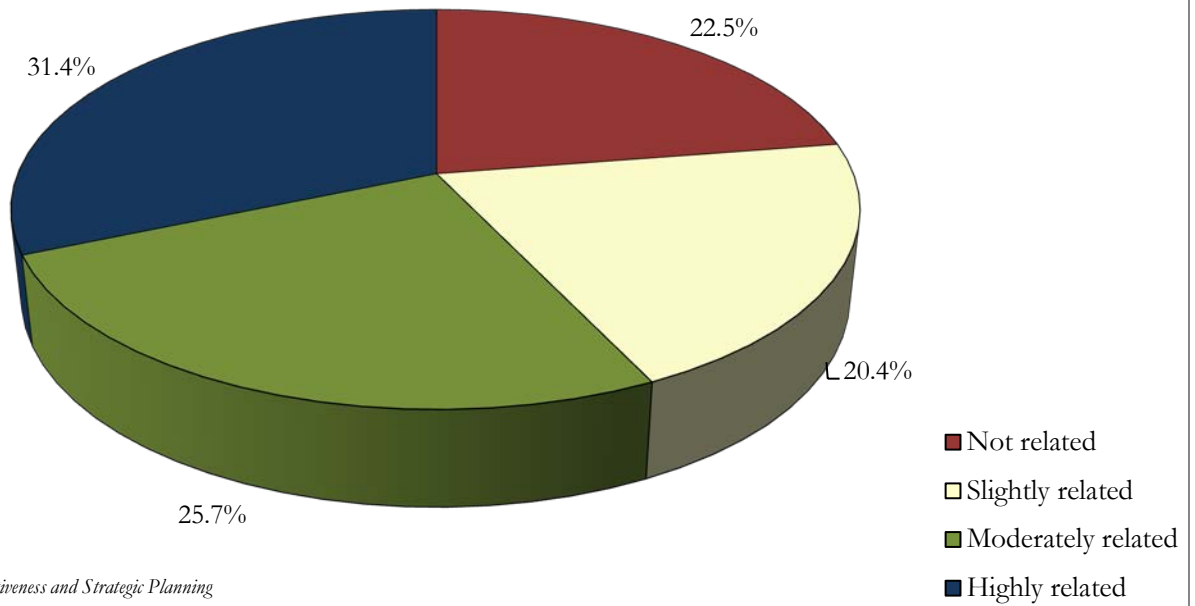
College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2013-2014
 Minimum Educational Requirements for Respondents' Current Employment Position



Minimum Educational Requirements for Current Employment Position	N	%
High school diploma or less	65	19.6%
Certificate program or 1 year of college	9	2.7%
Associate degree or 2 years of college	28	8.5%
Bachelor's degree	218	65.9%
Graduate degree	11	3.3%
Total	331	100.0%

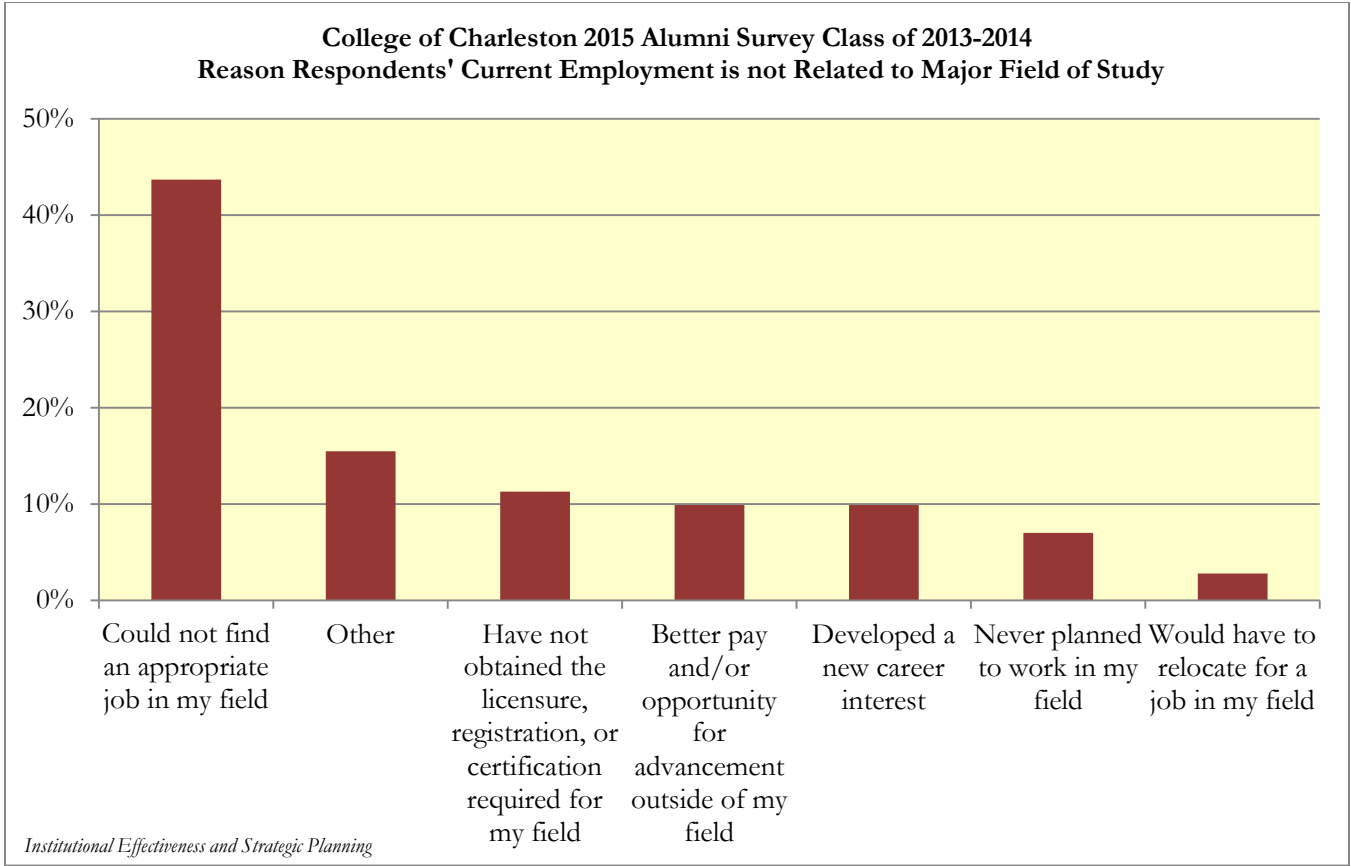
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2013-2014
 Relationship Between Respondents' Major and Current Employment



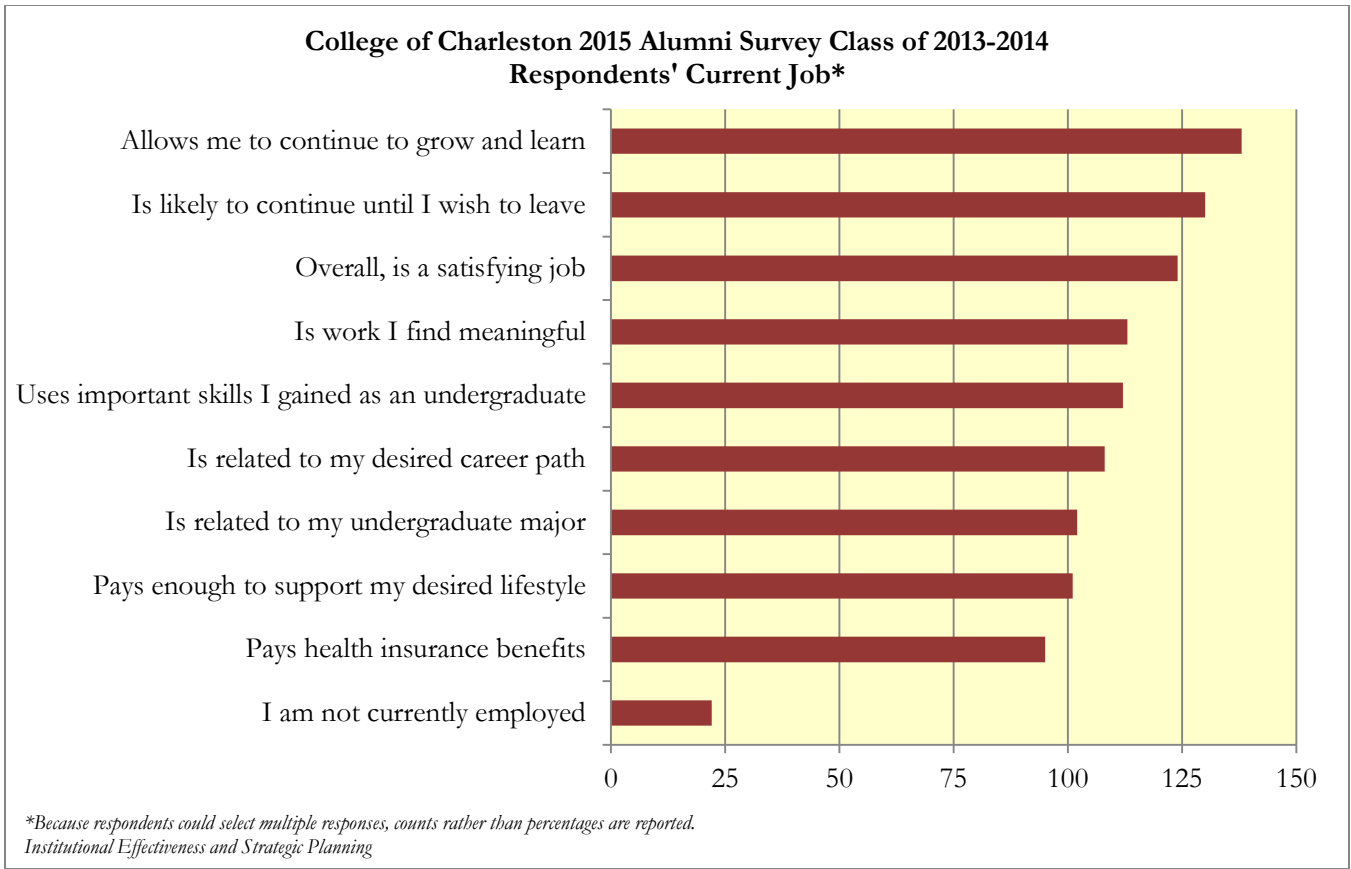
Relationship Between Major and Current Employment	N	%
Not related	75	22.5%
Slightly related	68	20.4%
Moderately related	86	25.7%
Highly related	105	31.4%
Total	334	100.0%

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



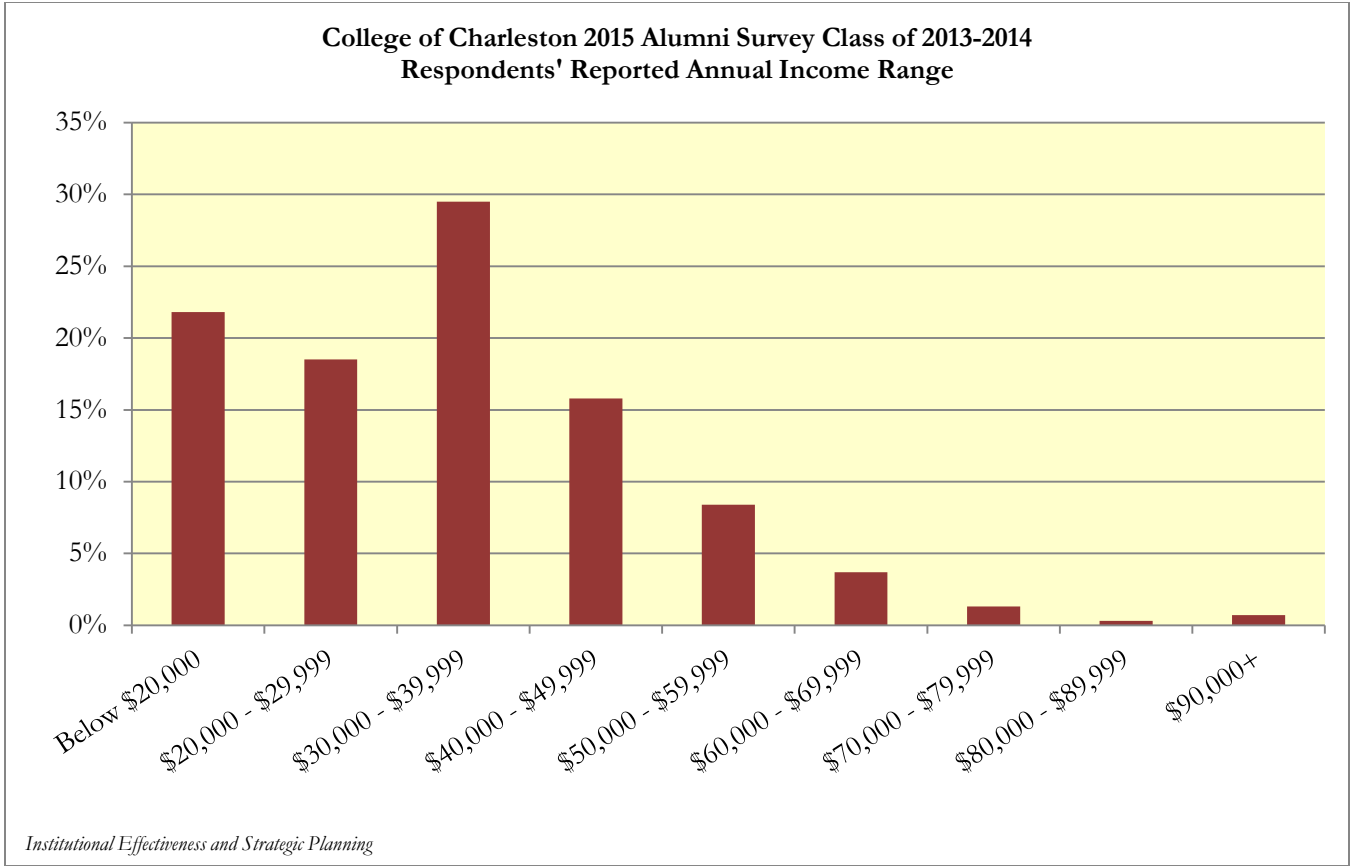
Main Reason Current Employment is not Related to Major Field of Study	N	%
Could not find an appropriate job in my field	31	43.7%
Other	11	15.5%
Have not obtained the licensure, registration, or certification required for my field	8	11.3%
Better pay and/or opportunity for advancement outside of my field	7	9.9%
Developed a new career interest	7	9.9%
Never planned to work in my field	5	7.0%
Would have to relocate for a job in my field	2	2.8%
Total	71	100.0%

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



Respondents' Current Job*	N
Allows me to continue to grow and learn	138
Is likely to continue until I wish to leave	130
Overall, is a satisfying job	124
Is work I find meaningful	113
Uses important skills I gained as an undergraduate	112
Is related to my desired career path	108
Is related to my undergraduate major	102
Pays enough to support my desired lifestyle	101
Pays health insurance benefits	95
I am not currently employed	22

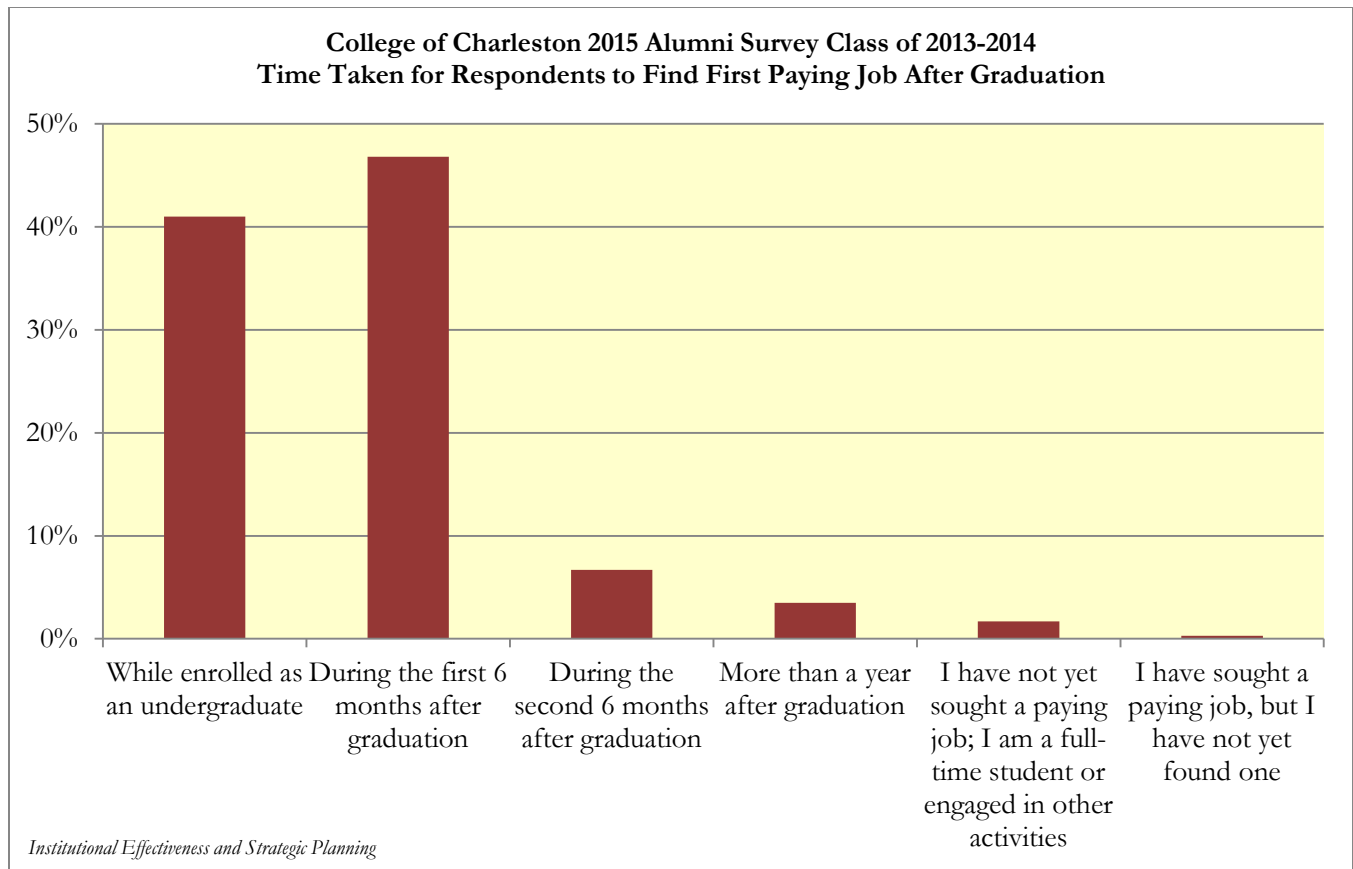
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



Reported Annual Income Range	N	%
Below \$20,000	65	21.8%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	55	18.5%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	88	29.5%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	47	15.8%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	25	8.4%
\$60,000 - \$69,999	11	3.7%
\$70,000 - \$79,999	4	1.3%
\$80,000 - \$89,999	1	0.3%
\$90,000+	2	0.7%
Total	298	100.0%

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

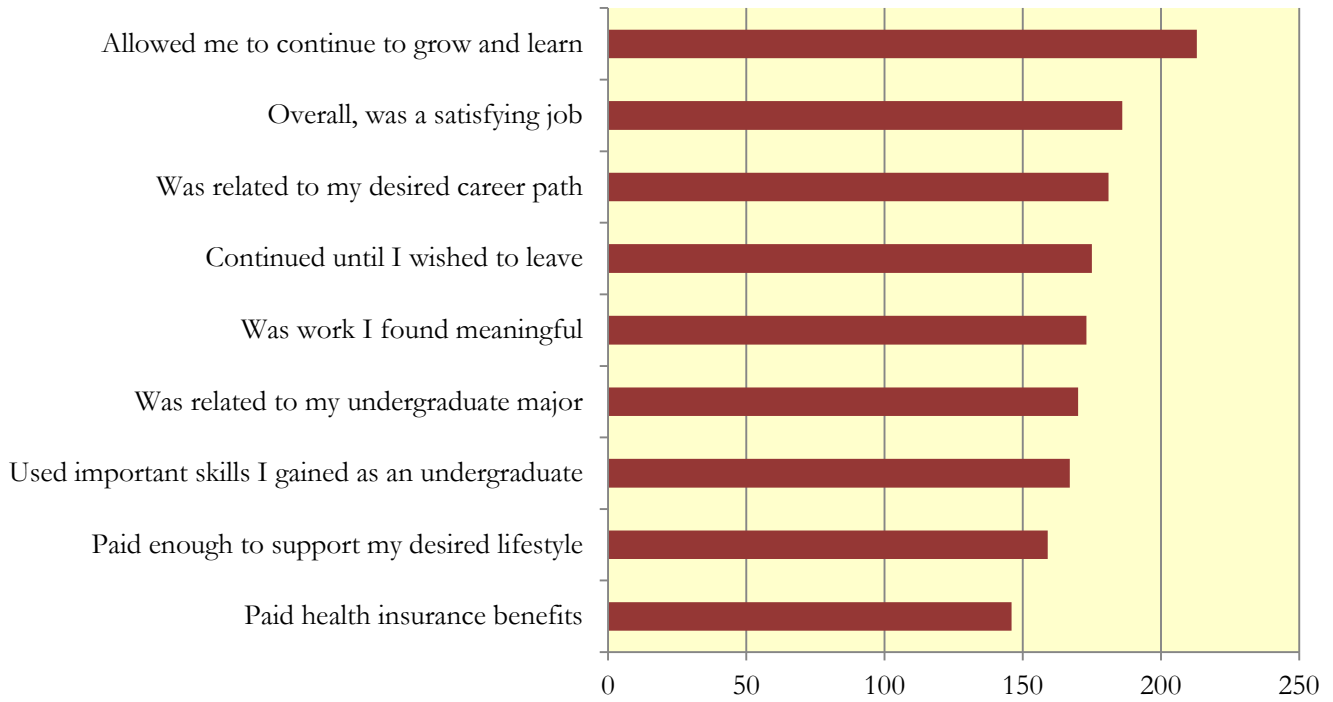
Employment History



Time Taken to Find First Paying Job After Graduation	N	%
While enrolled as an undergraduate	141	41.0%
During the first 6 months after graduation	161	46.8%
During the second 6 months after graduation	23	6.7%
More than a year after graduation	12	3.5%
I have not yet sought a paying job; I am a full-time student or engaged in other activities	6	1.7%
I have sought a paying job, but I have not yet found one	1	0.3%
Total	344	100.0%

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

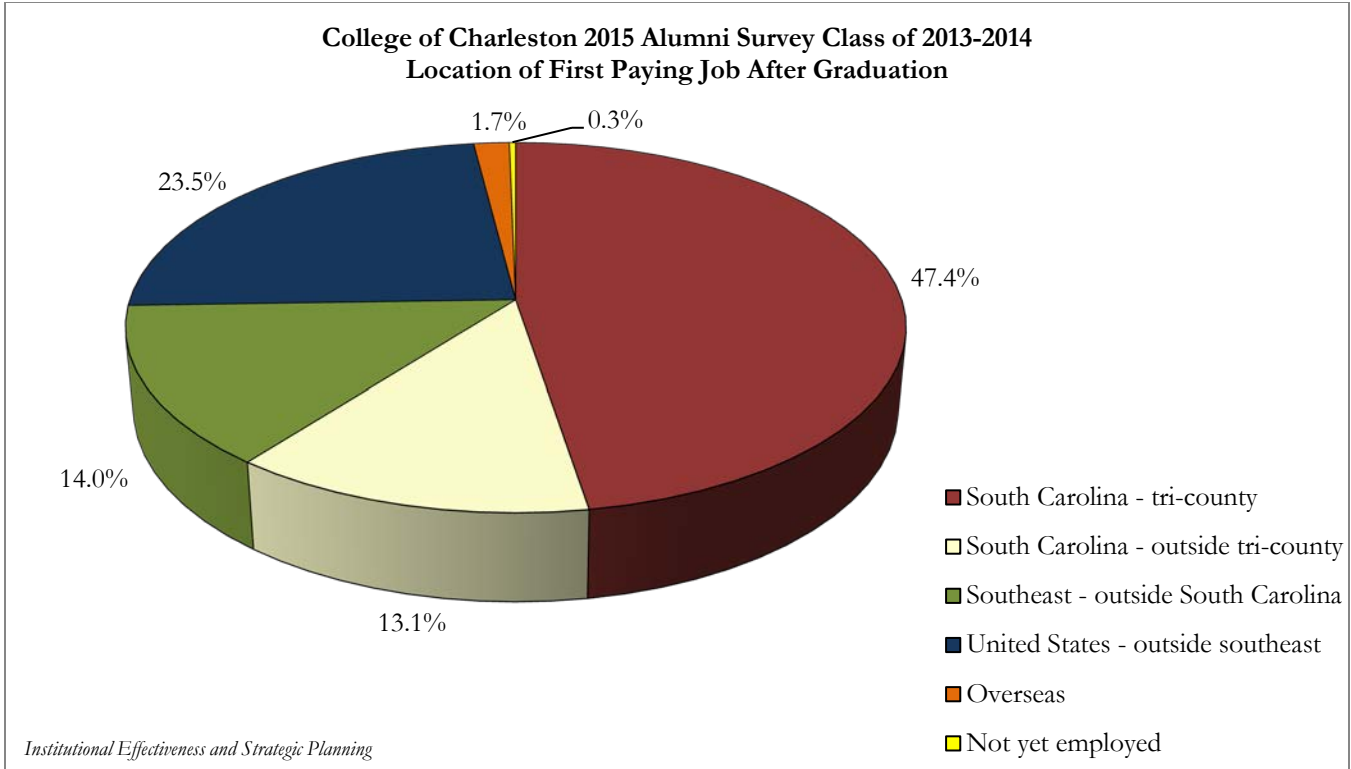
**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2013-2014
Respondents' First Paying Job After Graduation***



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

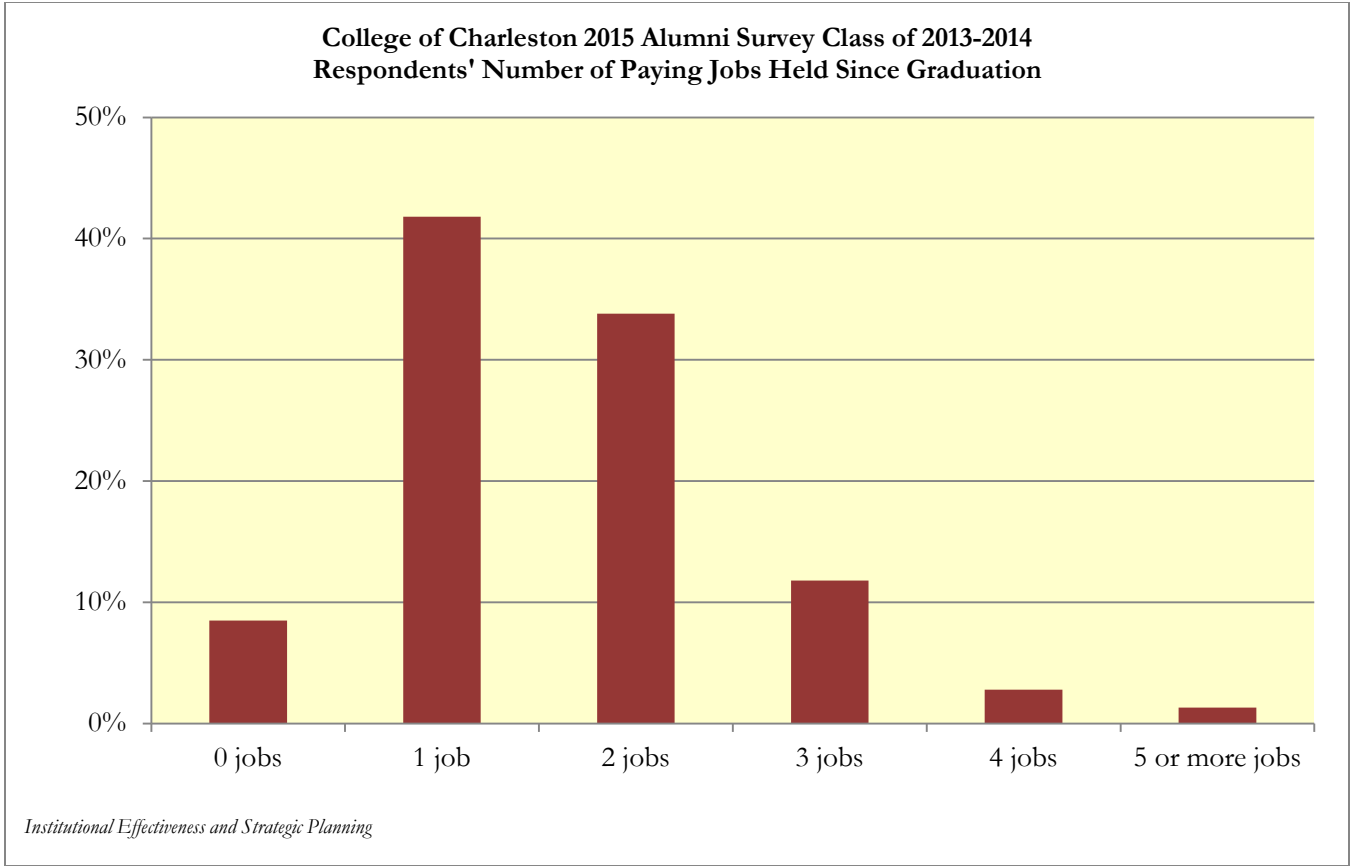
Respondents' First Paying Job After Graduation	N
Allowed me to continue to grow and learn	213
Overall, was a satisfying job	186
Was related to my desired career path	181
Continued until I wished to leave	175
Was work I found meaningful	173
Was related to my undergraduate major	170
Used important skills I gained as an undergraduate	167
Paid enough to support my desired lifestyle	159
Paid health insurance benefits	146

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



Location of First Paying Job After Graduation	N	%
South Carolina - tri-county	163	47.4%
South Carolina - outside tri-county	45	13.1%
Southeast - outside South Carolina	48	14.0%
United States - outside southeast	81	23.5%
Overseas	6	1.7%
Not yet employed	1	0.3%
Total	344	100.0%

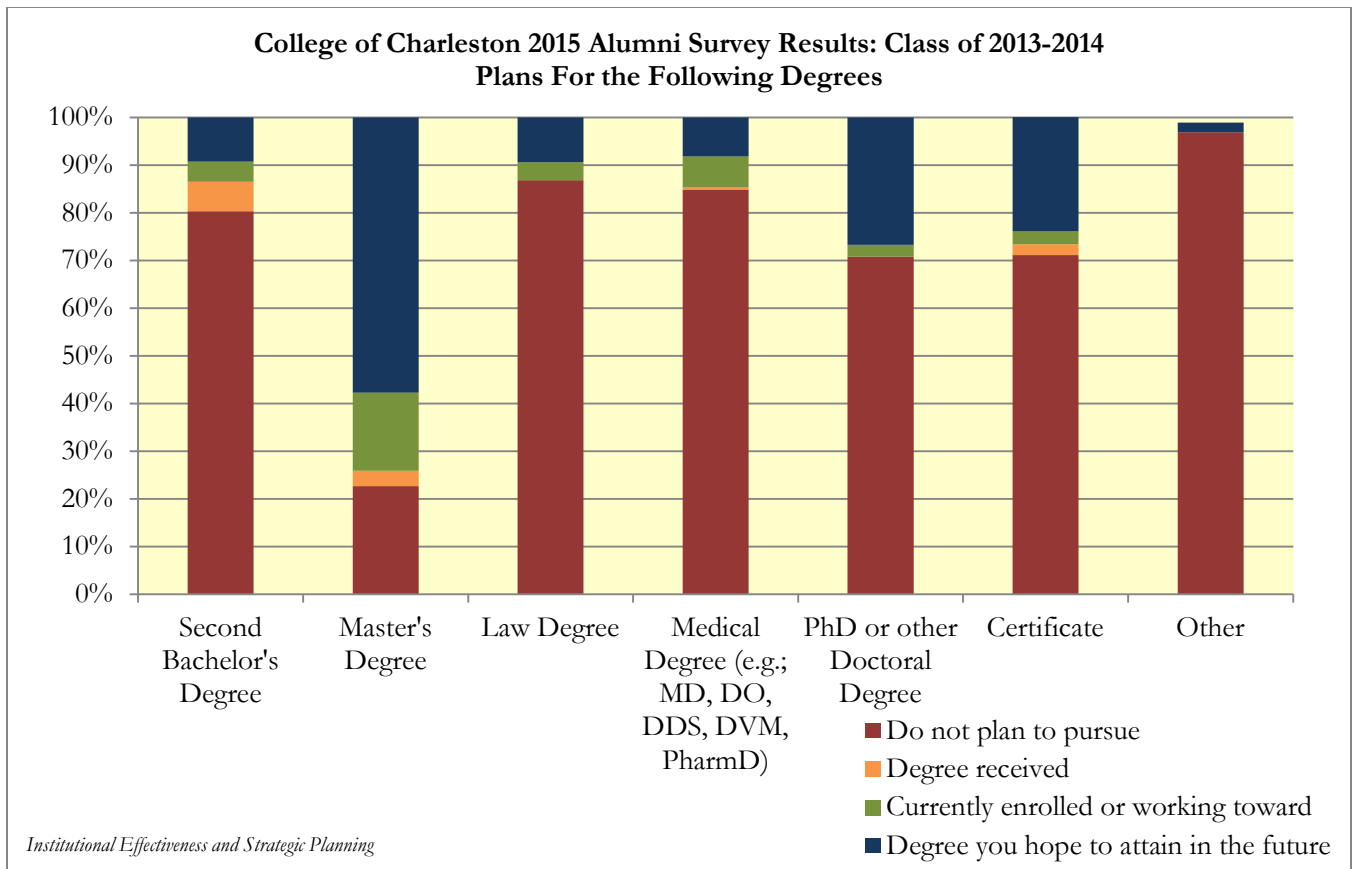
Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



Number of Paying Jobs Held Since Graduation	N	%
0 jobs	33	8.5%
1 job	163	41.8%
2 jobs	132	33.8%
3 jobs	46	11.8%
4 jobs	11	2.8%
5 or more jobs	5	1.3%
Total	390	100.0%

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

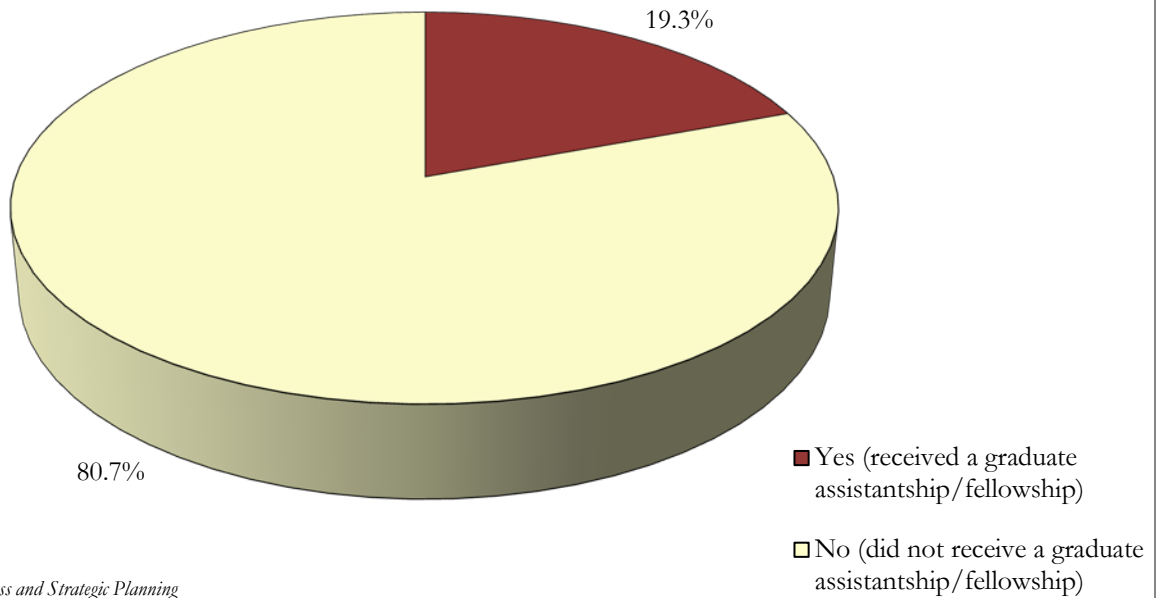
Graduate/Professional School



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	80.3%	6.2%	4.2%	9.3%	289
Master's Degree	22.7%	3.2%	16.4%	57.7%	317
Law Degree	86.8%	0.0%	3.8%	9.4%	266
Medical Degree (e.g.; MD, DO, DDS, DVM, PharmD)	84.9%	0.4%	6.5%	8.2%	279
PhD or other Doctoral Degree	70.8%	0.0%	2.5%	26.7%	277
Certificate	71.1%	2.3%	2.7%	24.0%	263
Other	96.9%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	97

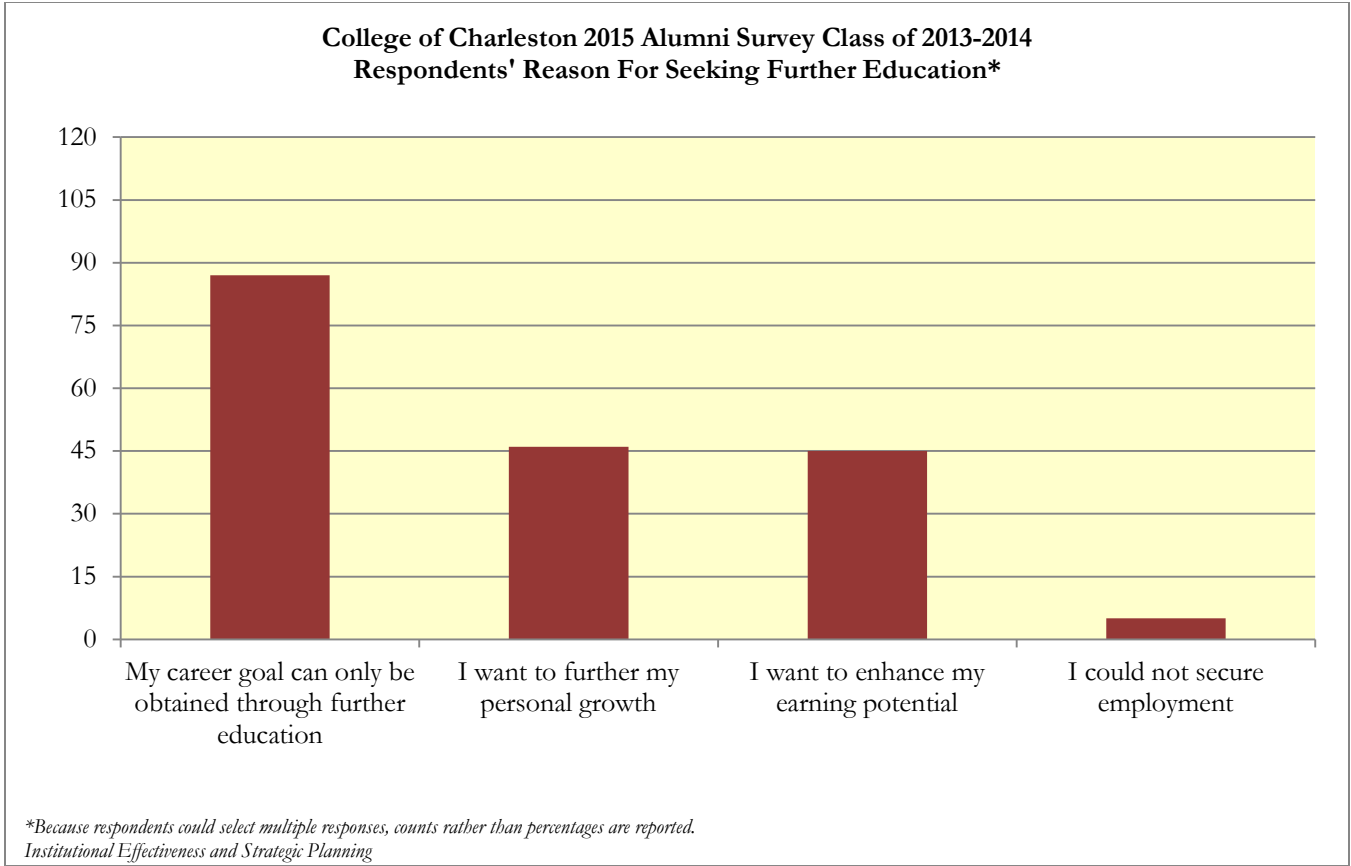
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**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2013-2014
 Respondents who Received A Graduate Assistantship/Fellowship**



Received A Graduate Assistantship/Fellowship	N	%
Yes (received a graduate assistantship/fellowship)	21	19.3%
No (did not receive a graduate assistantship/fellowship)	88	80.7%
Total	109	100.0%

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Reason For Seeking Further Education	N
My career goal can only be obtained through further education	87
I want to further my personal growth	46
I want to enhance my earning potential	45
I could not secure employment	5

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Graduate Institutions Most Frequently Attended	N
College of Charleston	12
Medical University of South Carolina	8
University of South Carolina	7
The Citadel	3
Charlotte School of Law	2
Emory University	2
Georgetown University	2
Temple University	2
University of Georgia	2
University of Louisville	2
University of Pittsburgh	2
Wake Forest University	2

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Other Graduate Institutions Reported:

Anderson University, Boston College, California University of Pennsylvania, Charleston School of Law, Drexel University, Duke University, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine-Carolinas, Eichstätt-Ingolstadt University, Elon University, Florida Institute of Technology, Full Sail University, General Assembly, Hunter College, Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya, Johns Hopkins University, Liberty University, Limestone College, Lipscomb University, London School of Economics and Political Science, Marietta College, Methodist University, Morehouse School of Medicine, Norfolk State University, Northeastern University, Pennsylvania State University, Portland State University, Queen's University, Relay Graduate School of Education, SAGE Graduate School, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, The Portfolio Center, Trident Technical College, Tufts University, Tulane University, Universiteit Utrecht, University of Arkansas, University of Miami, University of Minnesota, University of Mississippi, University of North Florida, University of North Texas, University of Pennsylvania, University of Saint Joseph, University of Virginia, University of Washington, Uppsala University, Valdosta State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Webster University, and Western Carolina University

Academic Disciplines Most Frequently Studied	N
Medicine	24
Business	17
Social Sciences	14
Education	8
Law	8
Math and Sciences	8
Health Sciences	6
Arts	4
Other	4
Humanities	1

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Other Academic Disciplines reported:

Government – Counterterrorism and Homeland Security, New Media Journalism, Sustainable Development, and Urban Planning

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	2.3%	4.0%	7.2%	43.5%	42.9%	347
Instruction in your major	1.4%	2.9%	5.2%	39.8%	50.7%	347
Curriculum in your general education program	1.4%	5.5%	18.0%	51.0%	24.1%	345
Instruction in your general education program	1.4%	2.9%	19.0%	51.9%	24.8%	347

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Satisfaction with	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied	N
Your overall academic experience	2.3%	0.6%	6.1%	46.5%	44.5%	346

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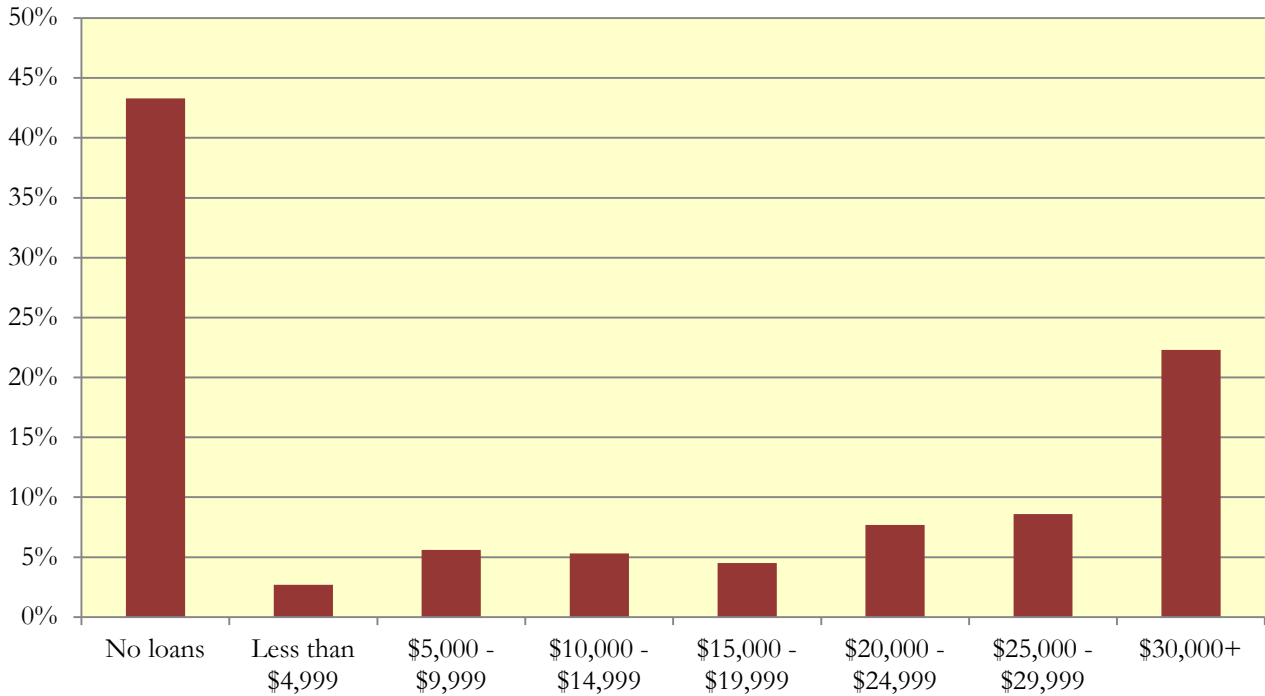
Frequency of Participation in Activities	Never	Less often	Annually	Monthly	Weekly	N
Career related advanced education or training	20.1%	16.6%	16.6%	25.1%	21.6%	319
Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s)	16.0%	19.8%	17.3%	25.5%	21.4%	318
Professional or service organizations	27.7%	24.8%	18.5%	19.7%	9.2%	314
Volunteer, public, or community service	18.0%	22.4%	27.1%	22.1%	10.4%	317
Social or recreational organization	17.7%	17.4%	11.7%	28.8%	24.4%	316
Support or participation in the arts	20.3%	24.8%	21.0%	20.6%	13.3%	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	37.7%	22.8%	22.1%	17.3%	289
Lifelong learning or personal enrichment studies outside your career area(s)	33.9%	19.2%	26.9%	19.9%	286
Professional or service organizations	39.0%	20.2%	26.6%	14.2%	282
Volunteer, public, or community service	37.1%	21.2%	27.6%	14.1%	283
Social or recreational organization	34.0%	21.1%	24.2%	20.7%	285
Support or participation in the arts	33.6%	23.3%	28.6%	14.5%	283

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

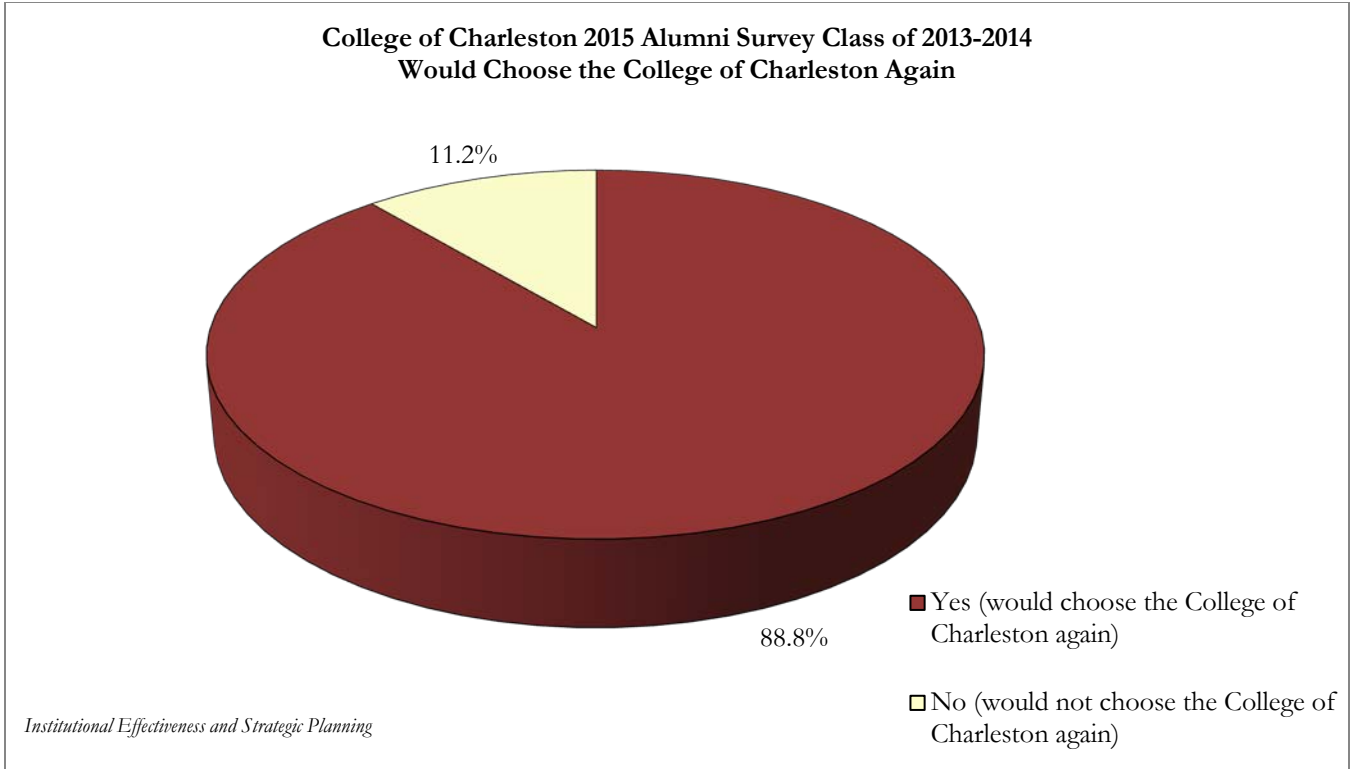
**College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2013-2014
Total Amount of Undergraduate Loans Accrued at the Time of Graduation**



Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

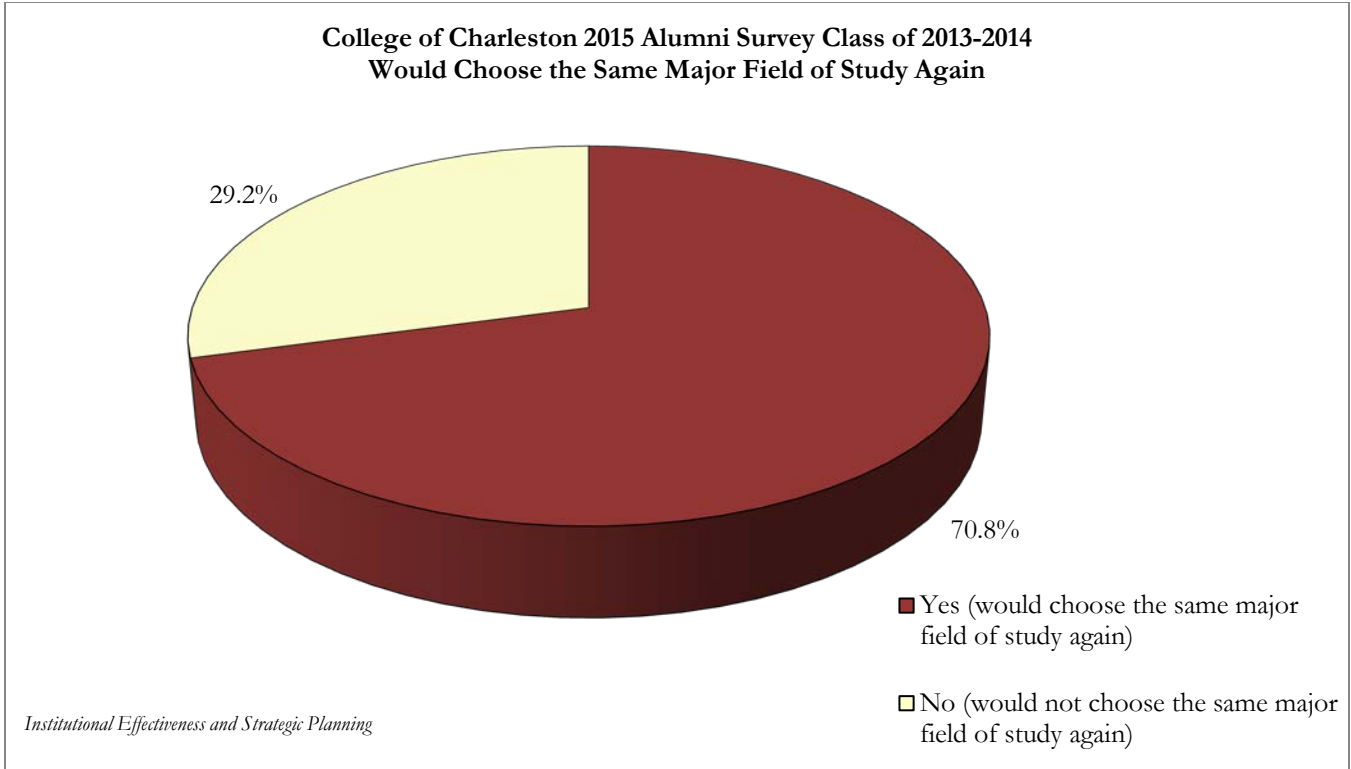
Total Amount of Undergraduate Loans Accrued at the Time of Graduation	N	%
No loans	146	43.3%
Less than \$4,999	9	2.7%
\$5,000 - \$9,999	19	5.6%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	18	5.3%
\$15,000 - \$19,999	15	4.5%
\$20,000 - \$24,999	26	7.7%
\$25,000 - \$29,999	29	8.6%
\$30,000+	75	22.3%
Total	337	100.0%

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning



Would Choose the College of Charleston Again	N	%
Yes (would choose the College of Charleston again)	310	88.8%
No (would not choose the College of Charleston again)	39	11.2%
Total	349	100.0%

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)	247	70.8%
No (would not choose the same major field of study again)	102	29.2%
Total	349	100.0%

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

Appendix A - Response Rate by Major*

Major	N (Graduates)	N (Respondents)	%
Accounting	60	17	28.3%
Anthropology	27	5	18.5%
Art History	20	3	15.0%
Arts Management	57	11	19.3%
Astronomy	0	0	0.0%
Astrophysics	2	0	0.0%
Athletic Training	11	4	36.4%
Biochemistry	14	3	21.4%
Biology	169	39	23.1%
Business Administration	278	52	18.7%
Chemistry	9	4	44.4%
Classics	7	2	28.6%
Communication	202	42	20.8%
Computer Information Sciences	1	0	0.0%
Computer Science	29	8	27.6%
Computing in the Arts	3	1	33.3%
Dance	4	1	25.0%
Data Science	6	2	33.3%
Early Childhood Education	40	6	15.0%
Economics	41	8	19.5%
Elementary Education	33	5	15.2%
English	67	13	19.4%
Exercise Science	53	10	18.9%
Finance	28	4	14.3%
French & Francophone Studies	8	1	12.5%
Geology	20	4	20.0%
German	7	2	28.6%
Historic Preservation and Community Planning	25	2	8.0%
History	47	12	25.5%
Hospitality and Tourism Management	78	18	23.1%
International Business	50	6	12.0%

College of Charleston 2015 Alumni Survey Class of 2013-2014

International Studies	56	15	26.8%
Jewish Studies	0	0	0.0%
Latin American and Caribbean Studies	2	0	0.0%
Marine Biology	27	5	18.5%
Marketing	11	3	27.3%
Mathematics	18	5	27.8%
Middle Grades Education	28	4	14.3%
Music	18	2	11.1%
Philosophy	5	1	20.0%
Physical Education	21	2	9.5%
Physics	12	1	8.3%
Political Science	90	23	25.6%
Psychology	169	33	19.5%
Public Health	44	11	25.0%
Religious Studies	11	3	27.3%
Secondary Education Certificate (English)	4	1	25.0%
Secondary Education Certificate (Political Science)	1	0	0.0%
Secondary Education Certificate (History)	7	2	28.6%
Secondary Education Cognate	6	2	33.3%
Sociology	52	12	23.1%
Spanish	26	5	19.2%
Special Education	34	4	11.8%
Studio Art	47	5	10.6%
Theatre	26	2	7.7%
Urban Studies	3	1	33.3%
Women's and Gender Studies	9	1	11.1%
Total	2,123**	428**	

Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Planning

**Double majors counted twice*

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