

Recent Graduates Class of 2016

February 2018

The Minnesota Private College Council annually surveys member institutions to collect data on the post-graduation outcomes of recent graduates. The Council compiles responses that member institutions receive from their own graduates.

The Council made several changes to the survey for the class of 2016 in order to collect data on primary status after graduation, including mutually exclusive data on employment and continuing education. Due to these changes we are unable to make comparisons with previous years of data.

These results reflect the experiences of a large majority of our graduates; we have data from 70% of the class of 2016 at 15 institutions. Response rates and participation differ by institution and question, and member institutions employed a variety of methodologies. For background and project limitations, please see pages 3 and 4.

Our graduates add to the quality of Minnesota's workforce.

- 71% of the class of 2016 stayed in Minnesota

Our institutions educate students to be ready to move on to careers and further education.

- 95% of the class of 2016 graduates were employed, in the military, pursuing additional education, or engaged in volunteer service (i.e., Peace Corps or mission work)
 - 75% of graduates listed employment as their primary activity
 - 68% were employed full-time
 - 7% were employed part-time
 - 16% listed continuing education as their primary activity
 - 4% listed volunteer service as their primary activity
 - 0.4% listed military service as their primary activity
- Of the remaining graduates:
 - 4% were seeking employment
 - 0.4% were seeking continuing education
 - 1% were not seeking employment or continuing education

Due to rounding totals may not equal 100%

Minnesota Private Colleges | Excellence within reach

Augsburg University
Bethany Lutheran College
Bethel University
Carleton College
College of Saint Benedict
The College of St. Scholastica

Concordia College, Moorhead
Concordia University, St. Paul
Gustavus Adolphus College
Hamline University
Macalester College
Minneapolis College of Art and Design

Saint John's University
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
St. Catherine University
St. Olaf College
University of St. Thomas

Many enrolled in continuing education seek master's degrees and attend Minnesota institutions.

- 16% of the class of 2016 were enrolled in continuing education. Of those continuing their education:
 - 92% were enrolled full-time
 - 52% were enrolled at Minnesota institutions
 - 26% at Minnesota Private Colleges
 - 14% at the University of Minnesota
 - 2% at Minnesota State universities
 - 9% at another Minnesota institution
 - Master's degrees were the most popular programs for those continuing their education
 - 51% were enrolled in a master's program
 - 20% were enrolled in a professional program
 - 16% were enrolled in a PhD program
 - 5% were enrolled in a certificate program
 - 4% were pursuing another bachelor's degree

Recent Graduates 2016 Response Rate by Institution

Institution	Total Undergraduate Degree Recipients	Number of Graduates with Data	Response/ Knowledge Rate	Survey time frame
Augsburg University	566	472	83%	Nov. 2015 to Sept. 2017
Bethany Lutheran College	na	na	na	na
Bethel University	584	207	35%	May 2017 to Oct. 2017
Carleton College	497	264	53%	April 2016
College of Saint Benedict	413	399	97%	Nov. 2015 to April 2017
St. Catherine University	690	529	77%	April 2016 to Jan. 2017
The College of St. Scholastica	843	528	63%	Jan. 2017 to May 2017
Concordia College, Moorhead	521	408	78%	April 2016 to Jan. 2017
Concordia University, St. Paul	639	349	55%	Feb. 2016 to May 2017
Gustavus Adolphus College	na	na	na	na
Hamline University	519	427	82%	March 2016 to June 2016
Macalester College	485	432	89%	May 2017 to Dec. 2017
Minneapolis College of Art and Design	151	66	44%	June 2017 to Oct. 2017
Saint John's University	372	351	94%	March 2016 to April 2017
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota	233	102	44%	May 2016 to May 2017
St. Olaf College	752	701	93%	April 2016 to Jan. 2017
University of St. Thomas	1,266	748	59%	July 2016 to Jan. 2017
<i>MPCC Total*</i>	8,531	5,983	70%	

Note: Response rates vary due to survey timing, number of contacts and method of contact. See Survey Method section for more information.

Survey Method

This report collects the results of surveys of recent graduates conducted by each member institution. We receive aggregate results for a set of items that are common to the surveys and combine them for sharing with the group. We also use this data to highlight our colleges' contribution to Minnesota's labor force and graduate degree enrollment in advocacy efforts. Fifteen member institutions were able to participate.¹ We know that:

- The total number of graduates with data was 5,983 (note not all questions have data for all graduates).
- The total number of 2016 graduates from the 15 participating institutions was 8,531.
- Our overall response/knowledge rate was 70%.

Different response rates among the participating colleges may mean that the results may not be representative of the full population of graduates. Data presented are not weighted by the number of graduates, as the survey response rates by institutions vary greatly.

Data collection methods vary among member institutions. A few institutions send a single mailing of the survey; others use mixed methods such as sending multiple mailings, request for web surveys and follow-up telephone calls. Additionally, there has been growth in the use of web-based surveys, and data from LinkedIn and Facebook. These different collection methods greatly impact the final response rate and ultimately affect how representative the survey results are of the graduating class. Not all survey respondents answered every question, so response rates varied by item as well. In the results reported above, we calculate percentages based on the number of responses to each question, not to the total number of surveys returned.

The timing of the survey distribution also varies widely among member institutions. Some institutions begin data collection before graduation, while other institutions start and conduct their survey six to twelve months after graduation. This variation contributes to inconsistencies in the data, particularly with respect to the employment items. Colleges that survey graduates after eight months are likely to see higher rates of employment and lower rates of "seeking employment" than are those that distribute the survey at graduation. Given these limitations in data collection and response rates, the results of the survey should be interpreted cautiously.

This project would not be possible without the cooperation and support of many contacts at our member institutions. If you have questions or comments about this report, please contact the Minnesota Private College Council.

¹ Bethany Lutheran College and Gustavus Adolphus College were not able to provide data for the 2016 class.