NIU Alumni Survey
Graduate Students
Academic Year 2016-2017

Employment,
Additional Education,
Satisfaction, and
Internships

Accreditation, Assessment and Evaluation
Background

Sample

- Graduate alumni
  - Graduated in Fall 2016, Spring 2017, and Summer 2017

Method

- Surveys distributed to alumni via email, texts, and phone calls
- Surveyed post-graduation, in 2019

Survey Highlights

- Alumni employment and additional education
- Alumni satisfaction with NIU
- Alumni internships while attending NIU
Response Rates

Overall: 24% \( n = 413 \)
College of Business: 23% \( n = 112 \)
College of Education: 21% \( n = 90 \)
College of Engineering & Engineering Technology: 31% \( n = 48 \)
College of Health & Human Sciences: 16% \( n = 24 \)
College of Law: 30% \( n = 20 \)
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences: 30% \( n = 107 \)
College of Visual & Performing Arts: 21% \( n = 57 \)

Number of Respondents/Alumni Surveyed

- Overall: \( n = 1728 \)
- College of Business: \( n = 492 \)
- College of Education: \( n = 436 \)
- College of Engineering & Engineering Technology: \( n = 157 \)
- College of Health & Human Sciences: \( n = 154 \)
- College of Law: \( n = 70 \)
- College of Liberal Arts & Sciences: \( n = 362 \)
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: \( n = 24 \)

Number of Respondents
- College of Business: 112
- College of Education: 90
- College of Engineering & Engineering Technology: 48
- College of Health & Human Sciences: 24
- College of Law: 20
- College of Liberal Arts & Sciences: 107
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: 57

Number of Alumni Surveyed
- College of Business: 492
- College of Education: 436
- College of Engineering & Engineering Technology: 157
- College of Health & Human Sciences: 154
- College of Law: 70
- College of Liberal Arts & Sciences: 362
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: 24
Alumni Employment and Additional Education
Employment Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Percent of Respondents</th>
<th>n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, full-time</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, part-time</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, but am seeking employment</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, and am not seeking</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Respondents = 397
Pursuing or Completed Additional Education

Total Respondents = 352

- Yes, n = 98 (28%)
- No, n = 254 (72%)

NIU Alumni Survey Graduate Students | Academic Year 2016-2017
Types of Additional Degrees Pursued*

*Respondents could check multiple categories

Total Respondents = 81

- Certificate (specify) 49% n = 40
- Doctorate (PhD, EdD, DA, DBA, PsyD...) 30% n = 24
- Academic Master's (MA, MS, MSEd, MPH, MPA...) 14% n = 11
- Professional Master's (MBA, MSW, MFA...) 7% n = 6
- Other (specify) 6% n = 5
- Medicine (MD, DO) 2% n = 2
- Education Specialist (EdS...) 2% n = 2
- Law (JD, Paralegal) 1% n = 1
- Theology/Divinity 1% n = 1
- Health Professional (AuD, DDS, DNP, DVM, RN, PA...) 0% n = 0
- Additional undergraduate degree 0% n = 0

Percent of Respondents

Total Respondents = 81
Sector of Current Employment

- Business (industry, commercial, service): 34% (n = 119)
- Elementary/secondary school (including cooperatives): 15% (n = 54)
- College or university: 13% (n = 47)
- Professional firm (engineering, law): 13% (n = 45)
- Health agency (hospital, clinic): 8% (n = 27)
- Government (federal, state, local): 7% (n = 23)
- Non-profit (non-government): 4% (n = 14)
- Other: 3% (n = 11)
- Military/Armed services: 2% (n = 6)
- Self-employed or private practice: 1% (n = 5)

Total Respondents = 351
Location of Employment

Total Respondents = 298

- IL: 62% (n = 186)
- Other states: 38% (n = 112)
Time to Employment

**Total Respondents** = 411

- Less than 6 months: 58% (n = 240)
- More than 6 months but less than 1 year: 6% (n = 25)
- One year or more: 5% (n = 22)
- Held the same job while enrolled at NIU: 26% (n = 106)
- Have not secured a job yet: 4% (n = 18)
Relatedness of NIU Degree to Job

- Related: 95% (n = 335)
- Unrelated, by choice: 3% (n = 10)
- Unrelated, NOT by choice: 2% (n = 6)

Total Respondents = 351
Satisfaction With Job

**Total Respondents** = 333

- **Strongly agree:** 41% (n=136)
- **Agree:** 43% (n=143)
- **Slightly agree:** 9% (n=30)
- **Slightly disagree:** 4% (n=12)
- **Strongly disagree:** 2% (n=6)
- **Disagree:** 2% (n=6)

**Percent of Respondents**

- **Agree = 93%**
- **Disagree = 7%**
Preparedness For Job

Total Respondents = 346

Percent of Respondents

- Strongly agree: 35% (n = 122)
- Agree: 47% (n = 162)
- Slightly agree: 12% (n = 41)
- Slightly disagree: 1% (n = 5)
- Disagree: 2% (n = 6)
- Strongly disagree: 3% (n = 10)

Agree = 94%
Disagree = 6%
Alumni Satisfaction with NIU
Overall Satisfaction with NIU

I would recommend NIU to a prospective student.

- **Agree** = Slightly Agree, Agree, and Strongly Agree; **Disagree** = Slightly Disagree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree

- **n = 319**
  - **92%**
  - **n = 28**
  - **8%**

- **n = 28**

I am satisfied with my overall experience as a graduate student at NIU.

- **n = 324**
  - **94%**
  - **n = 21**
  - **6%**

- **n = 21**

Percent of Respondents

- **0%**
- **10%**
- **20%**
- **30%**
- **40%**
- **50%**
- **60%**
- **70%**
- **80%**
- **90%**
- **100%**

**Agree** = Slightly Agree, Agree, and Strongly Agree; **Disagree** = Slightly Disagree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree
Satisfaction with NIU’s Services

I am satisfied with the career advising I received at NIU.

\[ N = 265 \]

I felt safe while on campus at NIU.

\[ N = 324 \]

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{I am satisfied with the career advising I received at NIU.} & \quad 75\% \quad n = 198 \\
\text{I felt safe while on campus at NIU.} & \quad 91\% \quad n = 296
\end{align*} \]

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{I am satisfied with the career advising I received at NIU.} & \quad 25\% \quad n = 67 \\
\text{I felt safe while on campus at NIU.} & \quad 9\% \quad n = 28
\end{align*} \]

\[ \text{Agree} = \text{Slightly Agree, Agree, and Strongly Agree}; \quad \text{Disagree} = \text{Slightly Disagree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree} \]
# Satisfaction with NIU Degree

I am satisfied with the academic advising I received within my graduate degree program.  
\( N = 328 \)

I believe my graduate degree from NIU represents a good value for the investment I made.  
\( N = 341 \)

I am satisfied with the educational experiences I had within my major at NIU.  
\( N = 347 \)

Considering my circumstances, I am satisfied with the amount of time it took me to complete my graduate degree.  
\( N = 347 \)

![Graph showing agreement levels for various statements related to satisfaction with NIU degree.](image)

### Agree = Slightly Agree, Agree, and Strongly Agree; Disagree = Slightly Disagree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree
Internships Completed While Attending NIU
Internships While Attending NIU

Completed An Internship

- Total Respondents = 357
- Yes: 38% (n = 136)
- No: 62% (n = 221)

Number of Internships Completed

- Total Respondents = 132
- One: 73% (n = 97)
- Two: 19% (n = 25)
- Three or more: 8% (n = 7)
Characteristics of Internships Completed

Paid: 57% (n = 76)
For credit: 58% (n = 77)
Within your discipline: 63% (n = 84)

Total Respondents = 133

Note: Question specifies “check all that apply”; therefore total does not add to 100%
For more information, please contact:

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