

Career Services at Virginia Tech

Post-Graduation Report 2010-2011 Executive Summary

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2010-2011 grads: Who was surveyed and responded, and when:

- WHO: We surveyed all bachelor's and associate's degree grads (N=5,481) completing in academic year 2010-2011; Dec. '10, May + summer '11 (based on Application For Degree [AFD] records with University Registrar). Response N=3,110; rate=57% (63% in 09-10; 69% in 08-09 & 07-08). [Methodology](#).
- WHEN: Survey opens prior to commencement and closes six months after for each sub-cohort (Dec | May+sum). Respondents whose plans are not firm are periodically asked to update responses.
- DEFINITION: All stats refer to respondents, so "grads" or "graduates" means responding graduates.
- UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE / MAJOR DATA: Stats are for whole university, unless noted. Full report online: stats viewable by college and major. Reports in the same format, and thus comparable, for eight years: grads of academic years 2003-2004 through 2010-2011.

2010-2011 firm plans: 78%.

- Up 2 percentage points from prior year. Up for all colleges except one.

Who	Continuing education % (prior year %)	Employed % (prior year %)	Firm plans: continuing education or employed % (prior yr %)
Total Univ.	25% (down from 27%)	53% (up from 49%)	78% (up from 76%)
AGLS	42 (45)	42 (35)	84 (80)
ARCH	13 (13)	56 (52)	69 (65)
BUS	16 (12)	66 (67)	82 (79)
ENGR	18 (19)	63 (60)	81 (79)
LAHS	27 (31)	49 (42)	76 (73)
NRE	15 (22)	49 (45)	64 (67)
SCI	44 (45)	34 (30)	78 (75)

- See eight years for trends: [Firm plans university and college, eight years](#).

2010-2011 grads continuing education: 25%.

- Down 2 percentage points from prior year. Back to 06-07 level after trending upward since 03-04.
- By college continuing education rates range from 13% - 44% for 10-11 grads. 10-11 rates down for five colleges; up for two. SCI and AGLS grads continued education at the highest percentages (42%, 45%). LAHS follows at 27%. For all eight years, more SCI grads continue education than go to work. ARCH and BUS grads continue education at the lowest percentages for all eight years.
- Type of post-undergrad degree remains steady: master's degree=61%; M.D. and other medical=14%; law=6%; another bachelor's degree=6%; Ph.D.=6%; D.V.M.-3%

2010-2011 grads employment: 53%.

- Up 4 percentage points from prior year. At highest point since 06-07 (59%).
- Up for all colleges except one, BUS, where continuing education is up by 4 percentage points.
- "Plan to seek employment, but haven't yet started": 3% (has been 2% or 3% in recent years).
- Total still seeking / looking at options: 15%; down from 21% in 09-10 and 25% in 08-09 (the eight-year high). Eight-year low of 14% in both 07-08 and 06-07.
- Quality of employment? Trending a bit better than prior two years:
 Employment related to career goals? "Very" 70% (prior 2 years=69%). "Somewhat" 30%. "Not" 0%.
 Employment related to major? "Very" 62% (prior 2 years=58%). "Somewhat" 26%. "Not" 12%.
 Slightly stronger data 07-08 and prior years.

See: [Highlights, eight years](#).

How 2010-2011 employed grads found jobs:

#1 Networking=26% (contacts through friends, family, employers, faculty/staff, alumni, fellow org members)

#2 Worked for employer in the past=25% (through internship, summer or p-t job, volunteer work, etc.)

- **This is NOT new news!**
Eight years of data for seven colleges + whole-university, give us 64 sets of rankings.
- **Networking is 1st or 2nd place over eight years in 56 of 64 rankings.**
By college: job source for **19% to 38%** of the 10-11 grads. 17% to 45% over eight years.
For ENGR: job source for 15% to 20% over eight years; 3rd place method for six years.
For all other colleges: job source for more than 20% of the grads in 52 out of 56 rankings.
1st place for SCI all eight years, and for LAHS and AGRI for seven years.
- **Worked for the employer in past is 1st or 2nd place in 49 of 64 rankings over eight years.**
Trending up: 1st or 2nd place method for ALL colleges and univ. for recent four years; 32 of 32 rankings.
By college: job source for **20% to 35%** of the 10-11 grads.
- **Career fairs: 15% for total university for 10-11 grads.**
Variance by college 10-11: ENGR 24%, ARCH & BUS 14%, AGLS and SCI 11%.
For past five years, 3rd place method for total univ; otherwise, no clear trend/pattern by year or college.
These events represent a segment, NOT all, of the job market and career fields for new graduates.
- [*How employed grads found jobs, by university and colleges, eight years.*](#)

Salary median:

- Highest in eight years: \$48,500 (N=1,232 reporting salary) for 10-11. Follows two-year plateau of \$47,000 (09-10 and 08-09), after \$48,000 in 07-08. 10-11 middle 50% range: \$35,000 to \$59,000.
- 24% of those who reported employment did not report salary data.
- [*Salary medians, university and colleges, eight years.*](#)

Career-related experience during college? Yes. Regrets about career planning? Yes.

- **58% wished they had done something differently related to planning for life after college.**
Consistently over eight years, half or more say yes; 58% said yes in the most recent three years.
- **90% of all respondents had one or more types of career-related experience.**
33% of all respondents **wished they'd gotten MORE** (same as 09-10; trending upward since 04-05).
- **28% of all respondents wished learned more/earlier about career options; upward trend since 04-05.** [*What grads wished they had done, university, 8 years.*](#)

Who employs our grads?

- **Over 900 organizations** were reported by the 1600+ 10-11 grads who stated they are employed.
- Almost **10%** of those who claimed employment **declined to name their employing organization.**
- **Most-frequently-named employer**, cited by N=36 grads, 2.25% of all employed, is **Virginia Tech**, which has been in the top five every year since 04-05.
- 2nd place is a three-way tie with N=20 grads reporting each: Deloitte, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army.
3rd place is U.S. Navy with N=18.
- [*Most-reported employers, eight-year list*](#) shows employers reported by 5 or 6 or more grads over 8 years.
- List of all employers, job titles, locations, **by major** in [annual reports online](#).

The [full annual reports online](#) – viewable by **university, colleges and majors** – also include:

- Advice sources regarding graduate school planning.
- Sources of learning job search skills.
- Number of job offers and when grads began the job search.
- Whether a bonus came with the job offer (does for only 18% of employed), and amount, if so.
- Full list of employing organizations, job titles and locations, by undergrad major.
- Full list of degrees, programs of study, institutions and locations, by undergrad major.