

## Recent Graduates Class of 2020

February 2022

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.

These results reflect the experiences of a large majority of our graduates. Fifteen of our seventeen member institutions participated in the survey. For the participating institutions, we have data on 72% of the class of 2020. 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.**

- 68% of the class of 2020 stayed in Minnesota

### **Our graduates are ready to move on to careers and further education.**

- 91% of the class of 2020 graduates were employed, in the military, pursuing additional education, or engaged in volunteer service (i.e., Peace Corps or mission work)
  - 72% of graduates listed employment as their primary activity
    - 65% were employed full-time
    - 7% were employed part-time
  - 16% listed continuing education as their primary activity
  - 2% listed volunteer service as their primary activity
  - 0.7% listed military service as their primary activity
- Looking at the remaining 9% of the class of 2020:
  - 7.4% were seeking employment
  - 0.4% were seeking continuing education
  - 0.9% were not seeking employment or continuing education

**Half of graduates continuing their education attended Minnesota institutions. Nearly 60% of those graduates continuing their education enrolled in master's degree programs.**

- 16% of the class of 2020 were enrolled in continuing education. Of those continuing their education:
  - 87% were enrolled full-time
  - 50% were enrolled at Minnesota institutions
    - 29% at Minnesota Private College Council member institutions
    - 12% at the University of Minnesota
    - 3% at Minnesota State universities
    - 6% at another Minnesota institution
  - Master's degrees were the most popular programs for those continuing their education
    - 58% were enrolled in a master's program
    - 18% were enrolled in a professional program
    - 15% were enrolled in a PhD program
    - 2% were pursuing an additional bachelor's degree
    - 2% were completing a bachelor's degree (e.g. student teaching)
    - 3% were enrolled in a certificate program
    - 4% were enrolled in another type of program

*Due to rounding, sums may not equal totals.*

## Recent Graduates 2020 Response Rate by Institution

<b>Institution*</b>	<b>Bachelor's Degree Recipients</b>	<b>Number of Graduates with Data</b>	<b>Share of Graduates with Data</b>	<b>Survey time frame</b>
Augsburg University	600	405	68%	November 2019 to August 2020
Bethel University	545	370	68%	September 2021
Carleton College	536	504	94%	May 2020 to December 2020
College of Saint Benedict	426	376	88%	March 2020 to March 2021
Concordia College	448	402	90%	April 2020 to January 2021
Concordia University, St. Paul	924	592	64%	August 2019 to January 2021
Gustavus Adolphus College	416	334	80%	May 2020 to April 2021
Hamline University	472	324	69%	March 2021 to May 2021
Macalester College	443	382	86%	June 2020 to December 2020
Minneapolis College of Art and Design	130	31	24%	May 2021 to May 2021
Saint John's University	369	294	80%	March 2020 to March 2021
St. Catherine University	545	415	76%	November 2019 to December 2020
St. Olaf College	720	664	92%	April 2020 to December 2020
The College of St. Scholastica	751	462	62%	November 2020 to May 2021
University of St. Thomas	1,327	660	50%	September 2020 to January 2021
<b><i>MPCC Total</i></b>	<b>8,652</b>	<b>6,215</b>	<b>72%</b>	

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

\*Bethany Lutheran College and Saint Mary's University of Minnesota were not able to provide data for the report.

## ***Survey Methodology***

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 of our seventeen member institutions were able to participate. For the surveys:

- The total number of graduates with data was 6,215 (note not all questions have data for all graduates).
- The total number of 2020 graduates from the 15 participating institutions was 8,652.
- The overall response/knowledge rate was 72%.

Different response rates among the participating colleges means 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/knowledge 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 question 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. Given these variations 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 staff at our member institutions. If you have questions or comments about this report, please contact the Minnesota Private College Council.