

OEA Assessment Group. (1998). *Undergraduate Degree Recipients, Five and Ten Years After Graduation: Methodology and Response Frequencies*. OEA Reports, 98-8.

Five-Year vs. Ten-Year Alumni Comparisons

Note: Numbers in parentheses are percentages. Asterisks indicate significant differences between 5- and 10-year alumni (* $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$).

Quarter degree awarded (Percent in each category.)

	5-year N=1742	10-year N=1393	Total
Winter	14.47	15.43	14.90
Spring	54.13	52.19	53.27
Summer	15.79	16.22	15.98
Autumn	15.61	16.15	15.85

Year degree awarded (Percent in each category.)

	5-year N=1742	10-year N=1393	Total
1987		16.15	7.18
1988		83.85	37.26
1992	15.61		8.68
1993	84.39		46.89

Gender (Percent in each category.)

	5-year N=1742	10-year N=1393	Total
Male	40.36	43.93	41.95
Female	59.64	56.07	58.05

$\chi^2 = 4.07$ *

Ethnicity (Percent in each category.)

	5-year N=1742	10-year N=1393	Total
African American	2.35	1.65	2.04
Asian American	12.34	10.27	11.42
Hispanic American	2.99	1.58	2.36
Native American	.98	.72	.86
White American	74.05	76.31	75.06
International Student	2.18	1.15	1.72
Other or Unknown	5.11	8.33	6.54

$\chi^2 = 29.45$ ***

**Item 1a. Currently, what is your highest educational degree earned?
(Percent selecting each option.)**

	5-year N=1730	10-year N=1376	Total
Bachelor's degree	75.90	70.42	73.47
Master's degree	16.88	19.04	17.84
Medical degree (MD, DO, DDS, DVM)	2.43	2.91	2.64
Law degree (LLB, JD)	3.24	4.14	3.64
PhD or EdD	.52	2.18	1.26
Other	1.04	1.31	1.16

$C^2 = 24.82$ ***

Item 1b. Activity since graduation (Percent responding "Yes".)

	5-year	10-year	Total	C^2
If you are working currently, have you ever attended grad/ professional school since obtaining degree your Bachelor's degree?	37.91 N=1609	44.94 N=1304	41.06	14.70 ***
If you are currently a student, have you worked full-time since obtaining your Bachelor's degree and continuing your education?	54.83 N=476	61.89 N=244	57.22	3.28

**Item 2a. If you are primarily employed: Describe your present job.
(Percent selecting each option.)**

	5-year N=1491	10-year N=1224	Total
Part-time	8.52	11.03	9.65
Full-time, temporary	3.09	2.12	2.65
Full-time, not in career	11.20	9.89	10.61
Full-time, in career field, but likely to change within next 2 yrs	23.94	16.50	20.59
Full-time, permanent in career field	53.25	60.46	56.50

$C^2 = 32.08$ ***

**Item 2b. If you are primarily employed: What is your monthly income?
(Percent selecting each option.)**

	5-year N=1470	10-year N=1184	Total
Under \$500	1.36	1.44	1.39
\$500-999	2.45	2.28	2.37
\$1000-1499	4.90	5.07	4.97
\$1500-1999	11.63	6.00	9.12
\$2000-2499	14.15	9.88	12.25
\$2500-2999	15.10	8.19	12.02
\$3000-3499	14.01	12.75	13.45
\$3500-3999	10.00	9.46	9.76
\$4000-4499	7.89	9.38	8.55
\$4500-4999	5.58	5.49	5.54
\$5000-5499	4.83	9.54	6.93
over \$5500	8.10	20.52	13.64

$C^2 = 156.75$ ***

Item 2c. If you are primarily employed:

**Given your training and degree, how would you describe your job?
(1=Definitely beneath my level, 4=Too advanced for my level)**

5-year N=1472	10-year N=1219	Total	t
2.64 (.64)	2.67 (.63)	2.65 (.63)	-1.41

Item 2d. If you are primarily employed: Even though you are not primarily a student, are you attending or planning to attend school? (Percent selecting each option.)

	5-year N=1438	10-year N=1197	Total
Yes, post-graduate in my degree area	16.06	10.44	13.51
Yes, career related, new area	28.37	21.97	25.46
Yes, not career related	7.65	7.35	7.51
No	47.91	60.23	53.51

$C^2 = 44.40$ ***

Item 2e. If you are primarily employed: Have you been working continuously since obtaining your Bachelor's degree from UW? (Percent selecting each option.)

	5-year N=1478	10-year N=1228	Total
Yes	75.91	78.18	76.94
No	24.09	21.82	23.06

$C^2 = 1.94$

Item 3a. If you are primarily a student: Which of the following best describes the level of your current educational program? (Percent selecting each option.)

	5-year N=206	10-year N=71	Total
Undergraduate	19.90	40.85	25.27
Terminal masters	25.24	19.72	23.83
Masters or doctoral	28.16	19.72	25.99
Professional	15.53	11.27	14.44
Other	11.17	8.45	10.47

$C^2 = 12.64$

Item 3b. If you are primarily a student:

Are you employed while attending school? (Percent selecting each option.)

	5-year N=177	10-year N=48	Total
Yes, part-time by the school I attend	31.64	35.42	32.44
Yes, part-time, but not by the school I attend	24.29	22.92	24.00
Yes, full time, but not by the school I attend	9.04	14.58	10.22
No	35.03	27.08	33.33

$C^2 = 2.04$

**Item 4. If you are currently not working for pay and not a student:
Why are you not currently working? (Percent selecting each option.)**

	5-year N=90	10-year N=106	Total
I am volunteering my skills and time	4.44	2.83	3.57
I am raising a family	52.22	75.47	64.80
I am taking care of an ill relative		.94	.51
I am traveling or undertaking some other activity	7.78	4.72	6.12
I am looking for work	22.22	6.60	13.78
I am taking time off to decide what to do	4.44	4.72	4.59
I am taking time off for personal reasons	4.44	1.89	3.06
I am disillusioned / discouraged about my job searches	4.44	2.83	3.57

$\chi^2 = 16.03^*$

Item 5. Rate yourself on each of the following abilities. We want your most accurate estimate on how you see yourself. (1=Poor, 5=Excellent)

	5-year Ns=1699-1718	10-year Ns=1358-1370	Total	t
Writing effectively	3.95 (.82)	3.97 (.86)	3.96 (.84)	-.71
Speaking effectively	3.66 (.87)	3.68 (.89)	3.67 (.88)	-.64
Critically analyzing written information	3.94 (.78)	3.97 (.81)	3.95 (.79)	-.96
Defining and solving problems	4.06 (.74)	4.13 (.74)	4.09 (.74)	-2.57 *
Working and/or learning independently	4.29 (.74)	4.31 (.73)	4.30 (.73)	-.91
Working cooperatively in a group	4.01 (.81)	4.02 (.82)	4.01 (.82)	-.18
Using a foreign language	1.95 (1.21)	1.80 (1.16)	1.88 (1.19)	3.32 **
Understanding and appreciating the arts	3.14 (1.12)	3.15 (1.11)	3.14 (1.11)	-.16
Understanding & applying scientific principles & methods	3.16 (1.09)	3.16 (1.13)	3.16 (1.11)	-.16
Understanding & applying quantitative principles & methods	3.14 (1.09)	3.11 (1.12)	3.13 (1.10)	.74
Understanding and appreciating diverse philosophies and cultures	3.65 (.97)	3.59 (.98)	3.62 (.98)	1.85
Understanding the interaction of society and the environment	3.60 (.90)	3.56 (.94)	3.59 (.92)	1.18
Working effectively with modern technology, especially computers	3.75 (1.00)	3.69 (1.01)	3.73 (1.00)	1.84
Locating information needed to make decisions or solve problems	4.06 (.79)	4.07 (.79)	4.06 (.79)	-.20
Using knowledge, ideas or perspectives gained from major	3.76 (.91)	3.75 (.94)	3.76 (.92)	.50
Using knowledge gained from outside of your major field	3.76 (.81)	3.78 (.80)	3.77 (.81)	-.68
Using management or leadership capabilities	3.61 (.94)	3.63 (.94)	3.61 (.94)	-.60

**Item 6. How important each of these abilities to your current primary activity?
(1=Not important, 5=Essential)**

	5-year <i>N</i> s=1681-1698	10-year <i>N</i> s=1329-1340	Total	<i>t</i>
Writing effectively	3.95 (1.11)	3.89 (1.14)	3.92 (1.12)	1.24
Speaking effectively	4.10 (.97)	4.07 (.94)	4.09 (.95)	0.90
Critically analyzing written information	3.93 (1.08)	3.85 (1.09)	3.90 (1.08)	2.19 *
Defining and solving problems	4.34 (.84)	4.33 (.82)	4.34 (.83)	0.17
Working and or learning independently	4.15 (.91)	4.15 (.91)	4.15 (.91)	-0.04
Working cooperatively in a group	3.91 (1.07)	3.90 (1.07)	3.90 (1.07)	0.36
Using a foreign language	1.62 (1.05)	1.56 (.99)	1.60 (1.02)	1.63
Understanding and appreciating the arts	1.82 (1.15)	1.84 (1.18)	1.83 (1.16)	-0.59
Understanding applying scientific principles or methods	2.72 (1.42)	2.73 (1.40)	2.72 (1.41)	-0.17
Understanding applying quantitative principles or methods	2.92 (1.31)	2.89 (1.32)	2.91 (1.31)	0.67
Understanding appreciating diverse philosophies and cultures	2.93 (1.32)	2.86 (1.30)	2.90 (1.32)	1.45
Understanding interaction of society and environment	2.81 (1.29)	2.69 (1.26)	2.75 (1.28)	2.60 *
Working effectively with modern tech especially computers	4.02 (1.08)	3.97 (1.08)	4.00 (1.08)	1.42
Locating information needed to make decision or solve problem	4.22 (.90)	4.16 (.88)	4.19 (.89)	1.86
Using the knowledge, ideas or perspectives gained from major or field	3.43 (1.32)	3.34 (1.31)	3.39 (1.32)	1.87
Using knowledge gained from outside of your major field	3.50 (1.05)	3.53 (1.05)	3.51 (1.05)	-0.86
Using management or leadership capabilities	3.73 (1.13)	3.79 (1.10)	3.76 (1.12)	-1.39

Item 7. To what extent did your U of Washington experience impact your development in each of the following areas? (1=No contribution, 5=Major contribution)

	5-year <i>N</i> _s =1672-1699	10-year <i>N</i> _s =1338-1355	Total	<i>t</i>
Writing effectively	3.51 (1.00)	3.40 (.99)	3.46 (.99)	2.83 **
Speaking effectively	2.91 (1.06)	2.76 (1.08)	2.85 (1.07)	3.96 ***
Critically analyzing written information	3.58 (.90)	3.49 (.95)	3.54 (.92)	2.82 **
Defining and solving problems	3.51 (.89)	3.53 (.91)	3.52 (.90)	-0.76
Working and/or learning independently	3.61 (1.00)	3.67 (.99)	3.64 (.99)	-1.39
Working cooperatively in a group	3.18 (1.03)	3.06 (1.04)	3.13 (1.03)	3.15 **
Using a foreign language	2.08 (1.22)	1.77 (1.14)	1.94 (1.20)	7.12 ***
Understanding and appreciating the arts	2.69 (1.21)	2.64 (1.23)	2.67 (1.22)	1.07
Understanding and applying scientific principles and methods	3.19 (1.15)	3.21 (1.16)	3.20 (1.15)	-0.62
Understanding and applying quantitative principles & methods	3.19 (1.13)	3.18 (1.16)	3.19 (1.15)	0.37
Understanding and appreciating diverse philosophies and cultures	3.18 (1.16)	3.04 (1.12)	3.11 (1.14)	3.28 **
Understanding the interaction of society and the environment	3.03 (1.11)	2.85 (1.08)	2.95 (1.10)	4.67 ***
Working effectively with modern technology, especially computers	2.71 (1.19)	2.46 (1.17)	2.60 (1.19)	5.80 ***
Locating information needed to make decisions or solve problems	3.34 (1.00)	3.27 (.97)	3.31 (.99)	2.02 *
Using the knowledge, ideas or perspectives gained from major	3.72 (.99)	3.64 (1.04)	3.68 (1.02)	2.07 *
Using knowledge gained from outside of your major field	3.13 (.99)	3.10 (.97)	3.12 (.98)	0.80
Using management or leadership capabilities	2.55 (1.09)	2.43 (1.06)	2.50 (1.08)	3.04 **

Item 8. How satisfied are you with the University of Washington's contribution to your development in each area? (1=Not at all, 5=Very)

	5-year <i>N</i> s=1575-1644	10-year <i>N</i> s=1232-1309	Total	<i>t</i>
Writing effectively	3.75 (.99)	3.61 (1.04)	3.69 (1.01)	3.86 ***
Speaking effectively	3.22 (1.11)	3.07 (1.12)	3.16 (1.12)	3.62 ***
Critically analyzing written information	3.77 (.91)	3.65 (.94)	3.72 (.92)	3.33 **
Defining and solving problems	3.74 (.90)	3.71 (.92)	3.73 (.91)	1.06
Working and/or learning independently	3.84 (.93)	3.76 (.91)	3.81 (.92)	2.48 *
Working cooperatively in a group	3.45 (1.07)	3.31 (1.03)	3.39 (1.05)	3.60 ***
Using a foreign language	2.69 (1.36)	2.47 (1.35)	2.59 (1.36)	4.24 ***
Understanding and appreciating the arts	3.22 (1.22)	3.15 (1.19)	3.19 (1.21)	1.43
Understanding and applying scientific principles and methods	3.43 (1.10)	3.40 (1.09)	3.42 (1.09)	0.86
Understanding and applying quantitative principles & methods	3.41 (1.08)	3.34 (1.10)	3.38 (1.09)	1.77
Understanding and appreciating diverse philosophies and cultures	3.53 (1.12)	3.36 (1.06)	3.45 (1.10)	4.07 ***
Understanding the interaction of society and the environment	3.37 (1.07)	3.18 (1.04)	3.29 (1.07)	4.89 ***
Working effectively with modern technology, especially computers	2.88 (1.21)	2.66 (1.19)	2.78 (1.21)	4.88 ***
Locating information needed to help make decisions or solve problems	3.53 (1.00)	3.44 (.97)	3.49 (.99)	2.47 *
Using the knowledge, ideas or perspectives gained from your major field	3.75 (.95)	3.67 (1.01)	3.72 (.98)	2.31 *
Using knowledge gained from outside of your major field	3.40 (.96)	3.33 (.97)	3.37 (.97)	1.86
Using management or leadership capabilities	2.85 (1.13)	2.76 (1.10)	2.81 (1.11)	2.33 *

Item 9. How frequently did you have exposure to these educational opportunities and practices while you were an undergrad at the UW? (1=Never, 5=Nearly always)

	5-year <i>N</i> _s =1654-1671	10-year <i>N</i> _s =1311-1325	Total	<i>t</i>
Writing opportunities	3.97 (.93)	3.82 (.92)	3.91 (.93)	4.42 ***
Opportunities to do math or other quantitative analyses	3.41 (1.13)	3.48 (1.13)	3.44 (1.13)	-1.51
Opportunities to think critically about knowledge	3.74 (.90)	3.64 (.94)	3.70 (.92)	3.08 **
Opportunities to define and solve problems	3.86 (.87)	3.83 (.91)	3.85 (.89)	0.90
Finding info in libraries and/or networked resources	3.78 (.91)	3.70 (.93)	3.74 (.92)	2.51 *
Group/team projects	3.15 (.98)	2.89 (.94)	3.04 (.97)	7.41 ***
Oral presentations	2.75 (.97)	2.54 (.92)	2.66 (.95)	6.04 ***
Group discussions	3.43 (.94)	3.23 (.90)	3.34 (.93)	5.99 ***
Lab work and other classroom 'learning by doing' opportunities	3.20 (1.02)	3.12 (1.01)	3.16 (1.01)	2.01 *
Computer/internet opportunities and/or practice	2.43 (1.13)	2.10 (1.07)	2.28 (1.12)	8.02 ***
Working on a professor's research and/or publishing	1.60 (1.01)	1.52 (.89)	1.56 (.96)	2.29 *
Informal contact with professors outside of class	2.22 (1.00)	2.02 (.94)	2.13 (.98)	5.65 ***
Interaction with diverse cultures and people	2.98 (1.14)	2.69 (1.07)	2.85 (1.12)	7.12 ***
Community service opportunities	1.97 (1.04)	1.78 (.92)	1.89 (.99)	5.16 ***
Practical application of coursework in major to job/education	2.88 (1.19)	2.80 (1.20)	2.85 (1.19)	1.73

Item 10. Compared to what you needed, how sufficient was your exposure to these opportunities and practices while at the UW? (1=None, 5=More than enough)

	5-year <i>N</i> s=1605-1636	10-year <i>N</i> s=1263-1284	Total	<i>t</i>
Writing opportunities	3.78 (.85)	3.61 (.85)	3.70 (.85)	5.44 ***
Opportunities to do math or other quantitative analyses	3.70 (.91)	3.69 (.90)	3.70 (.91)	0.40
Opportunities to think critically about knowledge	3.65 (.82)	3.59 (.81)	3.62 (.81)	2.08 *
Opportunities to define and solve problems	3.71 (.80)	3.66 (.81)	3.69 (.81)	1.92
Finding info in libraries and/or networked resources	3.65 (.89)	3.60 (.88)	3.63 (.88)	1.54
Group/team projects	3.48 (.98)	3.23 (.96)	3.37 (.98)	6.94 ***
Oral presentations	3.09 (1.02)	2.87 (.98)	2.99 (1.01)	5.94 ***
Group discussions	3.51 (.90)	3.29 (.92)	3.41 (.92)	6.37 ***
Labwork & other classroom 'learning by doing' opportunities	3.22 (.97)	3.17 (.97)	3.20 (.97)	1.21
Computer/internet opportunities and/or practice	2.48 (1.06)	2.26 (1.05)	2.38 (1.06)	5.72 ***
Working on a professor's research and/or publishing	2.14 (1.27)	2.15 (1.24)	2.14 (1.26)	-0.14
Informal contact with professors outside of class	2.61 (1.11)	2.55 (1.12)	2.58 (1.11)	1.52
Interaction with diverse cultures and people	3.29 (1.04)	3.05 (1.03)	3.19 (1.04)	6.32 ***
Community service opportunities	2.59 (1.18)	2.45 (1.20)	2.53 (1.19)	3.09 **
Practical application of coursework in major to job/educ.	2.94 (1.07)	2.92 (1.07)	2.93 (1.07)	0.65

Item 11. With regard to each of the following, how satisfied are you with the undergraduate education you received at UW? (1=Not at all, 5=Very)

	5-year Ns=1644-1710	10-year Ns=1325-1354	Total	t
Quality of instruction in your major field	4.13 (.79)	4.03 (.83)	4.09 (.81)	3.32 **
Quality of instruction outside of your field	3.83 (.75)	3.80 (.78)	3.82 (.76)	1.26
Quality of library services	4.27 (.78)	4.17 (.80)	4.23 (.79)	3.16 **
Quality of academic experiences outside of the classroom	3.44 (1.03)	3.32 (1.06)	3.38 (1.05)	3.06 **
Interaction with faculty outside of the classroom	2.83 (1.16)	2.69 (1.14)	2.77 (1.16)	3.36 **
Assistance by faculty in pursuing your career	2.48 (1.25)	2.46 (1.25)	2.47 (1.25)	0.50
Assistance in finding employment	2.06 (1.18)	2.20 (1.21)	2.12 (1.19)	-3.02 **
Advising and other student activities	2.66 (1.12)	2.57 (1.09)	2.62 (1.11)	2.18 *
Quality of extracurricular / social experiences	3.34 (1.25)	3.34 (1.23)	3.34 (1.24)	0.00

Item 12. How well did your UW experience prepare you for: (1=Not at all, 5=Very)

	5-year	10-year	Total	t
Graduate school	3.60 (1.08) N=1356	3.54 (1.09) N=1043	3.57 (1.08)	1.40
Everyday life	3.49 (1.01) N=1686	3.45 (1.03) N=1348	3.47 (1.02)	-0.12
Contributing to society	3.49 (1.01) N=1686	3.37 (1.02) N=1349	3.43 (1.02)	1.14
Life-long learning	3.87 (.93) N=1692	3.80 (.95) N=1351	3.84 (.94)	3.11 **
Current or most recent job	3.41 (1.06) N=1676	3.42 (1.04) N=1354	3.42 (1.05)	1.96

Item 13. If I had to make my college choice over again, I would choose to attend UW. (1=Strongly disagree, 5=Strongly agree)

5-year N=1706	10-year N=1353	Total	t
4.08 (.96)	3.95 (1.02)	4.03 (.99)	3.51 ***

**Item 14. While attending the UW, did you participate in any of the following activities?
(Percent responding "Yes" to each item.)**

	5-year Ns=1687-1700	10-year N=1341-1353	Total	χ^2
Community volunteer service	45.00	35.25	40.68	29.65 ***
Community service as a part of a UW course (service learning)	12.09	10.44	11.36	2.01
Public service internship or other work-based learning (pay for credit)	31.18	30.54	30.90	.14
Faculty research beyond being a research subject	17.90	17.36	17.66	.15

**For each activity marked "yes," how did this prepare you for your primary activity?
(0=Negative contribution, 5= Major contribution)**

	5-year	10-year	Total	t
Community volunteer service	2.78 (1.28) N=838	2.65 (1.22) N=535	2.73 (1.26)	1.82
Service learning	2.32 (1.36) N=390	2.35 (1.41) N=328	2.33 (1.38)	-0.34
Internship/work-based learning	3.29 (1.46) N=665	3.19 (1.48) N=531	3.24 (1.47)	1.14
Faculty research	2.46 (1.49) N=491	2.24 (1.45) N=398	2.36 (1.48)	2.19 *

Item 15. During the past year, what types of service/charity/volunteer work did you perform? Mark all that apply. (Percent responding "Yes" to each item.)

	5-year N=1742	10-year N=1393	Total	χ^2
Tutoring or teaching	27.90	26.56	27.30	.70
Homeless/shelter support	8.44	7.97	8.23	.23
Recreational (e.g., coaching)	11.48	14.36	12.76	5.75 *
Community cleanup/rebuilding	12.80	13.93	13.30	.85
Child care	10.16	12.20	11.07	3.28
School alumni organization support	9.64	7.68	8.77	3.73
Conservation activities	29.16	32.81	30.78	4.83 *
Public safety	5.22	6.25	5.68	1.51
Related to medical or health causes	16.76	14.79	15.89	2.26
Counseling/mentoring	11.88	10.98	11.48	.62
Religious activities	20.84	24.34	22.39	5.45 *
Political or campaign activities	8.61	8.33	8.48	.08
Other types of volunteer work	21.47	22.76	22.04	.75
None	19.35	17.16	18.37	2.47

Item 16. During the past year, how many hours each month, on average, did you devote to volunteer work or a community action program? (Percent selecting each option.)

	5-year N=1685	10-year N=1326	Total
None	33.71	29.03	31.65
1 to 3 hours	33.89	36.27	34.94
4 to 6 hours	12.94	13.57	13.22
7 to 10 hours	7.30	9.50	8.27
Over 10 hours	12.17	11.61	11.92

$\chi^2 = 11.10$ *

Item 17. In the past year, approximately how much have you contributed monetarily to charities or philanthropies? (Percent selecting each option.)

	5-year N=1676	10-year N=1309	Total
None	38.90	21.16	31.12
\$100-250	24.76	22.15	23.62
\$250-500	15.10	19.79	17.15
\$500-1000	8.95	17.65	12.76
Over \$1000	12.29	19.25	15.34

$\chi^2 = 152.63$ ***

Item 18. We would like to ask a selected group of employers about the preparedness of UW graduates, relative to the skills listed on page 2 of this questionnaire. We will not ask about any individual, but about UW alumni in general. May we contact you for the name and mailing address of your supervisor? (Percent selecting each option.)

	5-year N=1673	10-year N=1327	Total
Yes	28.87	28.18	28.57
No	45.31	43.56	44.53
Not applicable	25.82	28.26	26.90

$\chi^2 = 2.27$