



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

2011 Spring Graduating Senior Survey Data Summary

The Graduating Senior Survey has been administrated at the Florida State of University since spring 2006. Each semester the Office of Research and the Career Center administer a web-based survey to graduating seniors. The instrument includes questions about their academic achievements, leadership experiences, and post-graduation plans. The 2011 Spring Graduating Senior Survey was distributed to 6,118 seniors in April 2011. Three hundred and twenty three students completed the survey, resulting in a 5 percent response rate¹. A brief summary of the findings follow:

Table 1. Academic

Major & Degree		Final Grade Point Average (GPA)	
• Single Major	83%	• 2.00-2.50	3%
• Double Major	17%	• 2.50-3.00	12%
• Bachelor Degree	94%	• 3.00-3.50	42%
• Graduation postponed	6%	• 3.50-4.00	43%

Table 2. Leadership

Leadership Experience	Percentage
• Enrolled in an academic course focused on leadership	23%
• Participated in a leadership workshop/conference	22%
• Worked on campus as a peer educator/leader	18%
• Worked with a faculty member as a research assistant	24%
• Presented a program/poster session at a professional/academic conference	11%
• Submitted a research paper to a professional/academic journal	6%
• Completed an internship experience	48%
• Member of a student organization	76%
• Held a leadership role within a student organization	54%

Table 3. Post-Graduation Plans

Post-Graduation Plans	Percentage
• Employed	27%
• Pursuing Graduate/Professional School	41%
• Actively Seeking Employment	21%
• Taking Time Off	4%
• Other (not seeking employment or admission to grad/prof. school)	6%

¹ The Graduating Senior Survey response rates vary across academic years and semesters. Generally, the response rates in the spring semesters fall in the range of 25%-50%, whereas the response rates in the fall semesters go down to the range of 8%- 0.1%.

Table 4. Employment

Employment Status			Annual salary	
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>		
• Full-time employment	71%	29%	• Less than \$25,000	40%
• Employed in Florida	62%	38%	• \$25,000-\$34,000	22%
• Employment requires a college degree	57%	43%	• \$35,000-\$44,000	22%
• Employment related to major	63%	37%	• \$45,000-\$54,000	10%
• Employment related to U.S. Armed Force	4%	96%	• \$55,000 or more	5%

Table 5. Top Fives in Employment

Representative Employers	Representative Positions
1. Florida State University	1. K-12 Teacher
2. Leon County Public Schools	2. Sales Professional
3. Peace Corps	3. Accountant
4. Capital Regional Medical Center	4. Engineer, Specialist, Technician
5. United States Air Force	5. Nurse