

May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey

All Respondents: Overview

This overview report presents findings from doctoral and master's students participating in the May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey (GFPS). Additional reports on the survey methods and analysis, college results, and departmental summaries, as well as a copy of the questionnaire, are available on the [OIRP website](#).

The May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey population consists of the 193 doctoral students and 1,565 master's students who had applied to graduate and were conferred degrees as of commencement day, May 12. Of those 1,758 graduates, 143 doctoral degree recipients and 1,075 master's degree recipients submitted the Graduate Future Plans Survey for an overall response rate of 69.3 percent (74.1% of doctoral graduates and 68.7% of master's graduates).

Plans Following Graduation

Students graduating in May with either a doctoral or master's degree were asked about their primary plans for the coming year, with the option to select multiple responses. Four-in-five doctoral graduates (81.1%) indicated they would be employed, either in a position they had prior to graduation or in a new position for which they had a signed contract. One-fourth of the doctoral degree recipients said at the time of the survey that they were actively seeking or planning to seek employment (25.2%). Sixteen percent of the doctoral graduates who indicated they will continue to work at a place of employment they had obtained prior to or during their graduate program said they were or will be seeking a new position after receiving their degree (15.9%). Finally, one student receiving a doctoral degree said they planned to return to graduate/professional school in the coming year to pursue another degree and a very small number of doctoral graduates said they had "other plans" (2.1%).

Almost two-thirds of the master's degree recipients (63.6%) indicated they had secured employment for the coming year, either in a job they had during their graduate program or in a new position. Another one-third (31.7%) said they were actively seeking or planning on seeking a new position to start in the coming year, including 13 percent of those who said they will be continuing to work at a place of employment they had obtained prior to or during their degree program (12.7%). Thirteen percent of the master's degree recipients (12.6%) said they would be continuing their education in pursuit of another degree. A very small number of the master's students indicated they do not plan to be employed or enrolled in graduate/professional school, and two percent said they had "other plans" (2.2%).

Table 1: Primary Plans Following Graduation, by Degree*

	NCSU (N = 1,218)		Doctoral (N = 143)		Master's (N = 1,075)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Has confirmed employment	800	65.7%	116	81.1%	684	63.6%
Pursuing employment	377	31.0%	36	25.2%	341	31.7%
Further education	136	11.2%	1	0.7%	135	12.6%
Do not plan to work or study	4	0.3%	0	0.0%	4	0.4%
Other plans	27	2.2%	3	2.1%	24	2.2%

*Respondents could indicate more than one type of activity.

Table 2: Pursuit of New/Change of Employment Among Those with Continuing Employment, by Degree

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Pursuing or planning to pursue new/change of employment	52	13.1%	7	15.9%	45	12.7%
Not pursuing or planning to pursue new/change of employment	345	86.9%	37	84.1%	308	87.3%
Total	397	100.0%	44	100.0%	353	100.0%

Post-Graduation Employment

This section of the report provides detailed information specifically on those graduate students who indicated at the time they completed the survey that they had obtained a full-time position, followed by information provided by those who said they were actively seeking employment. Finally, this section contains a brief look at those few respondents who said they had not yet begun to search for new employment, but planned to do so in the coming year.

Full-Time Employment

Almost all respondents who indicated they had definite plans for employment after graduation said they will be working full-time (97.0%).

Respondents were asked what their employment plans would constitute, and were given the option to select multiple responses. Just over one-fourth of those receiving a doctoral degree and obtaining a full-time position said they have a signed contract or made a definite commitment to a postdoctoral fellowship for the coming year (27.0%), and 44 percent have secured new employment in a non-postdoc position (44.1%). A sizeable number said they will be continuing to work at a place of employment they obtained during their graduate program (26.1%) or are returning to or continuing in a position they had before pursuing their degree (14.4%).

Just over half of the master's students who have secured a full-time position said they had a signed contract or made a definite commitment to a new job to begin after graduation (52.0%). One-third will be continuing in a position they obtained while enrolled in their master's program (32.8%), and one-fifth said they will be continuing in or returning to a position they had prior to enrolling in their graduate

program (20.5%). A small number of master's graduates with full-time employment said they will have an internship or clinical residency position for the coming year (1.7%).

Table 3: Full- or Part-Time Employment, by Degree (among those securing any type of employment)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Full-time	775	97.0%	111	96.5%	664	97.1%
Part-time	24	3.0%	4	3.5%	20	2.9%
Total	799	100.0%	115	100.0%	684	100.0%

Table 4: Employment Plans, by Degree (full-time employees only)*

	NCSU (N = 775)		Doctoral (N = 111)		Master's (N = 664)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Have signed contract or made commitment for employment (non-'postdoc')	394	50.8%	49	44.1%	345	52.0%
Continuing in place of employment obtained while pursuing current degree	247	31.9%	29	26.1%	218	32.8%
Returning to or continuing in place of employment had before pursuing current degree	152	19.6%	16	14.4%	136	20.5%
Have signed contract or made commitment for a postdoctoral fellowship ('postdoc') or further training	30	3.9%	30	27.0%	0	0.0%
Have signed contract or made commitment for an internship or clinical residency	11	1.4%	0	0.0%	11	1.7%

*Respondents could indicate more than one type of activity.

The Job Search

Graduate students with full-time employment who said they will be employed in a position they accepted at the time of graduation (50.8%) or who said they will be working full-time at a place of employment they had obtained during their graduate program (31.9%) were asked about their job search experience. Graduates who said that their employment plans will involve returning to or continuing to work at a place of employment for which they had begun working *prior* to the start of their graduate program are excluded from this analysis.

Over half of all graduates with full-time employment in a position they had obtained at the time of graduation or during their graduate program reported starting their job search six or more months before graduation (59.7%), while just seven percent started looking for a job less than three months prior to graduation (7.2%). The vast majority of doctoral graduates indicated beginning their job search six or more months before graduation (85.8%), compared to just over half of master's graduates saying they had begun to look for a job in the same period of time (54.8%).

Table 5: When Started Looking for a Job, by Degree (among full-time employees working at a place of employment obtained at time of graduation or during graduate program)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
12 or more months before graduation	128	21.8%	30	32.6%	98	19.8%
9-11 months before graduation	102	17.3%	20	21.7%	82	16.5%
6-8 months before graduation	121	20.6%	29	31.5%	92	18.5%
3-5 months before graduation	195	33.2%	9	9.8%	186	37.5%
1-2 months before graduation	35	6.0%	3	3.3%	32	6.5%
Less than one month before graduation	7	1.2%	1	1.1%	6	1.2%
Total	588	100.0%	92	100.0%	496	100.0%

Respondents having obtained full-time employment at the time of graduation or during their graduate program were also asked to indicate what resources had proven to be helpful in their job search.

Analysis reveals a number of differences between doctoral and master's graduates in the resources they found helpful. Over 40 percent of doctoral graduates with full-time employment indicated that a *NC State faculty member* had been helpful in their job search (42.1%) and one-fourth said that *personal/professional connection(s) in the company* (25.3%) had been helpful. In contrast, master's graduates were most likely to identify *LinkedIn* as a helpful resource in their job search (30.3%), followed closely by *internships/externships* (28.8%) and *on-campus interviews* (24.8%). Note that some resources may have in fact been helpful for those who used them, but have a smaller frequency overall because fewer respondents used that particular resource (e.g., clinical placement).

Table 6: Helpful Resources in Job Search, by Degree (among full-time employees working at a place of employment obtained at time of graduation or during graduate program)*

	NCSU (N = 623)		Doctoral (N = 95)		Master's (N = 528)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Internet: LinkedIn	178	28.6%	18	18.9%	160	30.3%
Internship/externship	173	27.8%	21	22.1%	152	28.8%
NC State faculty member	137	22.0%	40	42.1%	97	18.4%
On-campus interviewing	133	21.3%	2	2.1%	131	24.8%
Campus or college career center	116	18.6%	6	6.3%	110	20.8%
Personal/professional connection(s) within the company	113	18.1%	24	25.3%	89	16.9%
Family/friends/classmates/co-workers	103	16.5%	9	9.5%	94	17.8%
Career fair at NC State	102	16.4%	2	2.1%	100	18.9%
Employer info session on campus	89	14.3%	2	2.1%	87	16.5%
Applied for job via ePACK	71	11.4%	2	2.1%	69	13.1%
Internet (Other than LinkedIn)	63	10.1%	15	15.8%	48	9.1%
Consultation w/ NCSU Career Counselor/Coach	60	9.6%	3	3.2%	57	10.8%
Co-op experience	49	7.9%	2	2.1%	47	8.9%

Table 6: Helpful Resources in Job Search, by Degree (among full-time employees working at a place of employment obtained at time of graduation or during graduate program)*, *continued*

	NCSU (N = 623)		Doctoral (N = 95)		Master's (N = 528)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Professional association (members, conferences, publications, etc.)	45	7.2%	21	22.1%	24	4.5%
Optional Practical Training (OPT)	41	6.6%	13	13.7%	28	5.3%
Student teaching experience	23	3.7%	9	9.5%	14	2.7%
Volunteer work	15	2.4%	3	3.2%	12	2.3%
Career fair off campus	9	1.4%	3	3.2%	6	1.1%
Staffing agency	9	1.4%	2	2.1%	7	1.3%
Employer found resume on ePACK	8	1.3%	0	0.0%	8	1.5%
Clinical placement	6	1.0%	0	0.0%	6	1.1%
Other	33	5.3%	2	2.1%	31	5.9%

*Respondents could select more than one resource.

About one-third of all those who had secured full-time employment by graduation or during their graduate program said they had been on interviews for one (18.5%) or two (14.0%) different positions during their most recent job search. Close to 40 percent indicated they had gone on interviews for five or more positions (38.8%), with 14 percent having gone on interviews for 10 or more positions before accepting an offer. Seven percent of graduates with full-time employment said they did not go on any interviews during their most recent job search (7.2%).

Although doctoral degree recipients said they had started their job search far earlier than did master's degree recipients, those graduating with a master's degree reported going on interviews for more positions than those graduating with a doctoral degree. While 41 percent of master's graduates reported going on interviews for five or more positions (40.8%), just 28 percent of doctoral graduates said the same.

About half of all graduates obtaining full-time employment during their graduate program or at the time of graduation said that the position they accepted had been their only job offer (48.4%). About 40 percent said that they had received one (26.9%) or two (12.6%) job offers in addition to the one they accepted, with the remaining 12 percent reporting they had received three or more job offers in addition to the one they had accepted (12.1%). Master's students were more likely than doctoral students to indicate they had received more than one job offer from which to choose (53.8% vs. 39.8%).

Table 7: Number of Positions Interviewed For, by Degree (among full-time employees working at a place of employment obtained at time of graduation or during graduate program)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	43	7.2%	9	9.7%	34	6.7%
One	111	18.5%	21	22.6%	90	17.7%
Two	84	14.0%	15	16.1%	69	13.6%
Three	75	12.5%	14	15.1%	61	12.0%
Four	55	9.2%	8	8.6%	47	9.3%
Five or six	86	14.3%	15	16.1%	71	14.0%
Seven or eight	39	6.5%	1	1.1%	38	7.5%
Nine or ten	24	4.0%	4	4.3%	20	3.9%
More than ten	84	14.0%	6	6.5%	78	15.4%
Total	601	100.0%	93	100.0%	508	100.0%

Table 8: Number of Job Offers, by Degree (among full-time employees working at a place of employment obtained at time of graduation or during graduate program)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Yes - This was my only job offer	281	48.4%	56	60.2%	225	46.2%
No – I had one other job offer as well	156	26.9%	22	23.7%	134	27.5%
No – I have two other job offers	73	12.6%	9	9.7%	64	13.1%
No – I had three or more other job offers	70	12.1%	6	6.5%	64	13.1%
Total	580	100.0%	93	100.0%	487	100.0%

Job Promotions and Salary Increases

Graduate students who said their full-time position will be at a place of employment for which they had begun working prior to (19.6%) or during the course of their graduate program (31.9%; Table 4) were asked whether they would be receiving a salary increase and/or a promotion/title change contingent upon receiving their degree. Sixty-one percent of these respondents, including over half of doctoral graduates (55.8%) and 39 percent of master's graduates (38.6%) indicated they would be receiving a salary increase and/or a promotion/title change at their current place of employment after completing their degree.

One-third of doctoral degree recipients who said they will be working at a place of employment they had obtained prior to graduation reported they would be getting both a salary increase and promotion/title change upon conferring their degree (32.6%), while one-fourth said they would be getting only a salary increase (23.3%). Among master's degree recipients, one-fifth indicated they would be receiving both a salary increase and promotion/title change after receiving their degree (19.1%), and 16 percent said they would be getting only a salary increase (16.1%). Three percent of master's graduates said they would be getting a promotion/title change without receiving an increase in their salary (3.3%).

Table 9: Job Promotion (among full-time employees continuing in place of employment had prior to graduation)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Salary increase	63	16.9%	10	23.3%	53	16.1%
Promotion/title change	11	3.0%	.	0.0%	11	3.3%
Both a salary increase and promotion/title change	77	20.7%	14	32.6%	63	19.1%
None of the above	221	59.4%	19	44.2%	202	61.4%
Total	372	100.0%	43	100.0%	329	100.0%

Employers

Graduate students securing full-time employment were asked the name of the institution or organization for which they will be working after graduation. Although NC State graduates accepted jobs in many different institutions and organizations, those hiring the greatest number of NC State May graduates were NC State University, the Wake County Public School System, and SAS. The top employer of doctoral degree recipients was NC State University, employing 19 percent of NC State doctoral graduates (19.2%), while the top employer of master's degree recipients was the Wake County Public School System, employing about four percent of NC State master's graduates (3.6%).

A complete list of the institutions and organizations where graduates will be working can be found in Appendix B.

Industry and Occupation

Sixty-two percent of all graduates with full-time employment indicated they will be working in a private, for profit business or organization (61.9%). About one-fifth said they will be working in the education sector, including 10 percent who said they will be working in a U.S. preschool, elementary, middle, or secondary school/school system (9.9%) and eight percent in a U.S. four-year college or university (7.9%). About eight percent of graduates having secured full-time employment said they will be working for the federal (4.7%), state (1.8%), or local government (1.2%). The remaining nine percent reported that they will be working in a private, not for profit business or organization (4.8%), will be self-employed (0.4%), or will be engaged in some "other" type of employment (3.4%).

There are a number of differences in the types of employment doctoral and master's graduates obtained. Doctoral degree recipients were far more likely than master's degree recipients to indicate they will be working at a U.S. four-year college or university (30.6% vs. 4.0%) or in a U.S. university-affiliated research institute (7.2% vs. 0.9%), and were slightly more likely than master's recipients to report working for the federal government (7.2% vs. 4.3%). In contrast, about two-thirds of master's students reported that they will be working in for profit business or organization (66.5%), compared to just over one-third of students receiving a doctoral degree (35.1%). Master's recipients securing full-time employment were also slightly more likely than doctorate recipients to be working for a U.S. preschool, elementary, middle, or secondary school/school system (10.7% vs. 5.4%) or a not for profit organization (5.2% vs. 2.7%).

Table 10: Type of Employment, by Degree (full-time employees only)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Education: U.S. 4-year college or university other than medical school	60	7.9%	34	30.6%	26	4.0%
Education: U.S. medical school (including university-affiliated hospital or medical school)	5	0.7%	2	1.8%	3	0.5%
Education: U.S. university-affiliated research institute	14	1.8%	8	7.2%	6	0.9%
Education: U.S. community or two-year college	5	0.7%	3	2.7%	2	0.3%
Education: U.S. preschool, elementary, middle, secondary school or school system	76	9.9%	6	5.4%	70	10.7%
Education: Foreign educational institution	6	0.8%	4	3.6%	2	0.3%
Government: U.S. local government	9	1.2%	.	0.0%	9	1.4%
Government: U.S. state government	14	1.8%	2	1.8%	12	1.8%
Government: U.S. federal government	36	4.7%	8	7.2%	28	4.3%
Government: Foreign government	.	0.0%	.	0.0%	.	0.0%
Private Sector: Not for profit organization	37	4.8%	3	2.7%	34	5.2%
Private Sector: Industry (for profit)	473	61.9%	39	35.1%	434	66.5%
Self-Employed	3	0.4%	2	1.8%	1	0.2%
Other	26	3.4%	.	0.0%	26	4.0%
Total	764	100.0%	111	100.0%	653	100.0%

Graduate students having obtained full-time employment were asked to select the type of industry and the job function of the position in which they will be employed from a list of industries and job functions. Although the graduates are heading into a wide range of industries, the most common industries in which NC State graduates report they will be working are *education* (17.3%), *computer software/hardware* (13.8%), and *engineering* (9.1%). While many doctoral and master's graduates report working in the same job industries, the most common industry doctoral graduates report they will be working in is *education* (31.5%), followed by *research* (14.4%). The most common job industries master's graduates report they pursuing are *computer software/hardware* (15.0%) and *education* (14.9%).

Those finding full-time employment were most likely to say they will have a job function related to *engineering* (14.4%), followed by *education/teaching/curriculum development* (10.8%) and *software development* (10.7%). The most common job functions reported by doctoral graduates are *research and development* (30.8%), *education/teaching/curriculum development* (17.8%), and *engineering* (11.2%), whereas the top job function reported by master's graduates is *engineering* (15.0%), followed by *software development* (11.8%), and *education/teaching/curriculum development* (9.6%).

Table 11: Industry, by Degree (full-time employees only)

Industry	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Accounting	44	5.7%	.	0.0%	44	6.7%
Aerospace	7	0.9%	.	0.0%	7	1.1%
Agriculture	8	1.0%	4	3.6%	4	0.6%
Architecture/Urban Planning	11	1.4%	.	0.0%	11	1.7%
Arts & Entertainment	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Automotive	3	0.4%	.	0.0%	3	0.5%
Banking	15	2.0%	1	0.9%	14	2.1%
Biotechnology	8	1.0%	1	0.9%	7	1.1%
Business Services	3	0.4%	.	0.0%	3	0.5%
Chemicals	5	0.7%	2	1.8%	3	0.5%
Communications	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Computer Software/Hardware	106	13.8%	7	6.3%	99	15.0%
Construction	4	0.5%	.	0.0%	4	0.6%
Consulting	37	4.8%	1	0.9%	36	5.5%
Consumer Products	5	0.7%	.	0.0%	5	0.8%
Counseling	5	0.7%	1	0.9%	4	0.6%
Design	3	0.4%	.	0.0%	3	0.5%
Education	133	17.3%	35	31.5%	98	14.9%
Electronics	13	1.7%	1	0.9%	12	1.8%
Energy	7	0.9%	3	2.7%	4	0.6%
Engineering	70	9.1%	10	9.0%	60	9.1%
Entrepreneurial/Venture Capital	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Environment/Sustainability	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Faith Based	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Fashion	2	0.3%	1	0.9%	1	0.2%
Financial Services	29	3.8%	1	0.9%	28	4.3%
Food Science	4	0.5%	2	1.8%	2	0.3%
Government	17	2.2%	4	3.6%	13	2.0%
Health Care	19	2.5%	2	1.8%	17	2.6%
Hotel, Restaurant, Hospitality	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Human/Social Services	13	1.7%	.	0.0%	13	2.0%
Insurance	4	0.5%	.	0.0%	4	0.6%
International Affairs & Development	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Landscape Architecture	3	0.4%	.	0.0%	3	0.5%
Law Enforcement/Security/Corrections	1	0.1%	1	0.9%	.	0.0%

Table 11: Industry, by Degree (full-time employees only), *continued*

Industry	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Manufacturing	15	2.0%	2	1.8%	13	2.0%
Marketing	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Materials - Plastics, Metals, Ceramics	2	0.3%	2	1.8%	.	0.0%
Military & Defense	13	1.7%	.	0.0%	13	2.0%
Natural Resources	4	0.5%	1	0.9%	3	0.5%
Non-Profit/Philanthropy	7	0.9%	.	0.0%	7	1.1%
Pharmaceutical	14	1.8%	.	0.0%	14	2.1%
Recreation & Sports	8	1.0%	.	0.0%	8	1.2%
Research	29	3.8%	16	14.4%	13	2.0%
Retail/Merchandising	6	0.8%	1	0.9%	5	0.8%
Start-up	6	0.8%	2	1.8%	4	0.6%
Technology	43	5.6%	5	4.5%	38	5.8%
Telecommunications	8	1.0%	1	0.9%	7	1.1%
Transportation	4	0.5%	2	1.8%	2	0.3%
Travel & Tourism	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Utilities (Public & Private)	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Other	11	1.4%	1	0.9%	10	1.5%
Not sure	5	0.7%	1	0.9%	4	0.6%
Total	769	100.0%	111	100.0%	658	100.0%

Table 12: Job Function, by Degree (full-time employees only)

Job function	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Account Management	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Accounting	47	6.3%	.	0.0%	47	7.4%
Actuarial/Statistical & Data Analysis	32	4.3%	1	0.9%	31	4.9%
Administrative	24	3.2%	3	2.8%	21	3.3%
Advertising	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Agronomy/Plant/Crop Science	4	0.5%	3	2.8%	1	0.2%
Analyst	46	6.2%	3	2.8%	43	6.8%
Animal/Veterinary	1	0.1%	1	0.9%	.	0.0%
Architecture	7	0.9%	.	0.0%	7	1.1%
Construction	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Consulting	34	4.6%	1	0.9%	33	5.2%
Counseling - School/Agency/College	11	1.5%	.	0.0%	11	1.7%
Customer Service	5	0.7%	.	0.0%	5	0.8%

Table 12: Job Function, by Degree (full-time employees only), *continued*

Job function	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Database Management	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Design - Creative	6	0.8%	.	0.0%	6	0.9%
Design - Engineering	24	3.2%	3	2.8%	21	3.3%
Education/Teaching/Curriculum Development	80	10.8%	19	17.8%	61	9.6%
Engineering	107	14.4%	12	11.2%	95	15.0%
Environmental/Conservation	5	0.7%	1	0.9%	4	0.6%
Finance	9	1.2%	1	0.9%	8	1.3%
Food Science/Nutrition	5	0.7%	3	2.8%	2	0.3%
Government	7	0.9%	1	0.9%	6	0.9%
Human Health/Medical	7	0.9%	2	1.9%	5	0.8%
Human Resources	3	0.4%	.	0.0%	3	0.5%
Human/Social Services	11	1.5%	1	0.9%	10	1.6%
Information Technology/Systems	12	1.6%	1	0.9%	11	1.7%
International/NGO	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Laboratory Science	3	0.4%	.	0.0%	3	0.5%
Landscape Architecture	5	0.7%	.	0.0%	5	0.8%
Management	10	1.3%	2	1.9%	8	1.3%
Manufacturing/Production/Development	6	0.8%	.	0.0%	6	0.9%
Marketing	6	0.8%	.	0.0%	6	0.9%
Non Profit	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Operations	9	1.2%	.	0.0%	9	1.4%
Product Development/Management	5	0.7%	.	0.0%	5	0.8%
Project Management	6	0.8%	.	0.0%	6	0.9%
Public Administration/Policy	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Quality Assurance	4	0.5%	.	0.0%	4	0.6%
Recreation/Sports	4	0.5%	.	0.0%	4	0.6%
Research & Development	44	5.9%	33	30.8%	11	1.7%
Sales/Technical Sales	3	0.4%	.	0.0%	3	0.5%
Science - Life/Physical Science	3	0.4%	3	2.8%	.	0.0%
Scientific Research	12	1.6%	7	6.5%	5	0.8%
Software Development	79	10.7%	4	3.7%	75	11.8%
Supply Chain Management/Logistics	9	1.2%	.	0.0%	9	1.4%
Technical Writing	5	0.7%	.	0.0%	5	0.8%
Training & Development	4	0.5%	.	0.0%	4	0.6%
Travel/Tourism/Hospitality	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%

Table 12: Job Function, by Degree (full-time employees only), *continued*

Job function	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Writing/Editing/Translation	1	0.1%	.	0.0%	1	0.2%
Other	21	2.8%	2	1.9%	19	3.0%
Not sure	3	0.4%	.	0.0%	3	0.5%
Total	741	100.0%	107	100.0%	634	100.0%

Relationship of Job to Academic Program and Satisfaction with Job

The vast majority of graduate students with full-time employment indicated that the position in which they will be working after graduation is “directly related” to their graduate program (84.5%), with most of the remainder reporting that the job is “somewhat related” to their field of study (12.9%). All doctoral graduates reported that the position is either “directly related” (87.4%) or “somewhat related” (12.6%) to their graduate program. Ninety-seven percent of master’s graduates said that the job is either “directly related” (84.0%) or “somewhat related” (13.0%) to their graduate program, while a very small number said that their job was “not at all related” to their program (1.2% “by choice” and 1.8% “not by choice”).

Eighty-eight percent of those obtaining full-time employment said they were “very satisfied” (54.6%) or “satisfied” (33.2%) with the job in which they will be working after graduation, with those receiving a master’s degree being slightly more likely than those receiving a doctoral degree to say they were “very satisfied” (55.3% vs 50.5%).

Table 13: Relationship of Job to Graduate Program, by Degree (full-time employees only)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Directly related	655	84.5%	97	87.4%	558	84.0%
Somewhat related	100	12.9%	14	12.6%	86	13.0%
Not at all related (by choice)	8	1.0%	.	0.0%	8	1.2%
Not at all related (not by choice)	12	1.5%	.	0.0%	12	1.8%
Total	775	100.0%	111	100.0%	664	100.0%

Table 14: Satisfaction with Job, by Degree (full-time employees only)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Very Satisfied	417	54.6%	56	50.5%	361	55.3%
Satisfied	254	33.2%	42	37.8%	212	32.5%
Neutral	73	9.6%	8	7.2%	65	10.0%
Dissatisfied	17	2.2%	4	3.6%	13	2.0%
Very Dissatisfied	3	0.4%	1	0.9%	2	0.3%
Total	764	100.0%	111	100.0%	653	100.0%

Job Location

While NC State graduates will be employed across the nation, and a few will be working in other countries, over half of those having accepted a full-time job say they will be staying in North Carolina (57.4%), with 39 percent working in the Research Triangle area (e.g., Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill). Those receiving a doctoral degree were slightly more likely than master's degree recipients to be working in the Triangle (42.2% vs. 38.5%) or outside the U.S. (6.4% vs. 1.7%).

A complete list of the states and countries where graduates will be working can be found in Appendix B.

Table 15: Job Location, by Degree (Top Five States of Employment; full-time employees only)

	NCSU (N = 753)		Doctoral (N = 110)		Master's (N = 643)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
North Carolina	432	57.4%	60	54.5%	372	57.9%
California	63	8.4%	6	5.5%	57	8.9%
Virginia	32	4.2%	3	2.7%	29	4.5%
South Carolina	20	2.7%	3	2.7%	17	2.6%
Texas	19	2.5%	1	0.9%	18	2.8%

Table 16: Job Location, by Degree (in or out of the Triangle; full-time employees only)*

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	N	N	%
Triangle	288	39.0%	46	42.2%	242	38.5%
Other N.C.	129	17.5%	13	11.9%	116	18.4%
In U.S. outside N.C.	303	41.1%	43	39.4%	260	41.3%
Outside U.S.	18	2.4%	7	6.4%	11	1.7%
Total	738	100.0%	109	100.0%	629	100.0%

*Some respondents did not provide the name of the city in which they would be working and therefore region could not be determined.

Compensation

Graduate students with full-time positions were asked to indicate the different ways in which they will be compensated for their job.

While doctoral graduates with full-time employment said they will be compensated through a variety of methods, the vast majority said they will be receiving only a salary (86.5%). An additional five percent of doctoral graduates indicate they will be receiving a salary in combination with performance bonuses (5.4%).

About two-thirds of master's graduates said they will be getting paid only a salary (66.1%), while one-fifth indicated they will receive performance bonuses in addition to a salary (21.4%). Twelve percent of master's students said they will be compensated through "other" methods (12.5%).

Table 17: Type of Compensation, by Degree (full-time employees only)*

	NCSU (N = 775)		Doctoral (N = 111)		Master's (N = 664)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Salary	707	91.2%	107	96.4%	600	90.4%
Commission	4	0.5%	1	0.9%	3	0.5%
Performance Bonuses	163	21.0%	8	7.2%	155	23.3%
Hourly	65	8.4%	2	1.8%	63	9.5%
Tips/Gratuities	2	0.3%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%
Stipend	8	1.0%	3	2.7%	5	0.8%
Other	18	2.3%	3	2.7%	15	2.3%

*Respondents could indicate more than one type of compensation.

Table 18: Type of Compensation Combined, by Degree (full-time employees only)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Salary only	529	69.1%	96	86.5%	433	66.1%
Salary plus performance bonuses	146	19.1%	6	5.4%	140	21.4%
Other combinations	91	11.9%	9	8.1%	82	12.5%
Total	775	100.0%	111	100.0%	664	100.0%

Respondents were asked to estimate their annual salary during the coming year. NC State's graduates with full-time employment (excluding those working in internships) report an average annual salary of \$78,745 (median = \$77,500). While doctoral and master's graduates reported similar average annual salaries (\$78,776 vs. \$78,565, respectively), the median annual salary reported by master's graduates (\$77,500) was higher than the median annual salary reported by doctoral graduates (\$72,500).

Table 19: Average and Median Annual Salary, by Degree (full-time employees only)

	Degree		
	NCSU	Doctoral	Master's
Average (\$)	78,745	78,565	78,776
Median (\$)	77,500	72,500	77,500

Table 20: Annual Salary, by Degree (full-time employees only)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Less than \$40,000	59	7.9%	4	3.6%	55	8.6%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	206	27.6%	32	29.1%	174	27.4%
\$60,000 - \$79,999	112	15.0%	24	21.8%	88	13.8%
\$80,000 - \$99,999	153	20.5%	22	20.0%	131	20.6%
\$100,000 - \$119,999	132	17.7%	16	14.5%	116	18.2%
\$120,000 or more	71	9.5%	10	9.1%	61	9.6%
Would prefer not answer	11	1.5%	2	1.8%	9	1.4%
Not sure	2	0.3%	.	0.0%	2	0.3%
Total	746	100.0%	110	100.0%	636	100.0%

One-Time Compensation: Incentives and Relocation Packages

All graduate students with full-time employment were asked about one-time incentives, such as signing bonuses and company shares they received as a part of accepting the offer for the position in which they will be employed after graduation, and the dollar amount of the incentives they had received. Responses from those who said they “would prefer not to answer” or that they were “not sure” of the amounts have been excluded from analysis, but are noted in the text below.

Seventeen percent of doctoral graduates with full-time employment reported receiving a signing bonus (17.1%). Of those providing the amount they received, about two-thirds said it was for less than \$10,000, with the remainder reporting it was for \$15,000 or more. Additionally, three doctoral graduates selected the response option “would prefer not to answer” when asked the amount they had received and one other doctoral graduate said they were “not sure” of the amount.

Master’s graduates with full-time employment were twice as likely as doctoral graduates to have received a signing bonus (34.8%). Close to half of master’s graduates receiving a signing bonus and providing the dollar amount reported that the amount of the signing bonus was for \$10,000 or more (47.9%), with one-fourth indicating it was for \$15,000 or more (26.6%). A very small number of master’s graduates receiving a signing bonus declined to answer (3.6%) or said they were “not sure” (1.8%) when asked about the amount they received.

A small percentage of graduates with full-time employment indicated receiving company shares as part of their job offer (13.5%), including 11 percent of doctoral graduates (10.8%) and 14 percent of master’s graduates.

When asked to provide an estimated value of the company shares they received at the time of accepting the job offer, six of the doctoral graduates said the amount was for \$30,000 or less, while three other doctoral graduates said the amount was for \$50,000 or more. Three doctoral respondents said they “would prefer not to answer” when asked about the value of the company shares they had received.

Over half of the master's graduates who provided an estimated value of the company shares they had received said the amount was for \$20,000 or more at the time they secured their position (56.1%), with 23 percent indicating the value of the company shares was \$50,000 or more (22.7%). While the majority of master's graduates who said they had received company shares as part of their job offer provided an estimated value of the company shares at the time they secured full-time employment, over one-fourth said they "would prefer not to answer" (13.0%) when asked the amount, or that they were "not sure" (15.2%).

Table 21: Received Job Offer Incentives, by Degree (full-time employees only)*

	NCSU (N = 775)		Doctoral (N = 111)		Master's (N = 664)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Signing bonus	250	32.3%	19	17.1%	231	34.8%
Company shares	105	13.5%	12	10.8%	93	14.0%

*Respondents could indicate more than one type of incentive.

Table 22: Amount of Signing Bonus, by Degree (full-time employees only)*

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Less than \$5,000	52	23.0%	3	20.0%	49	23.2%
\$5,000 to \$9,999	68	30.1%	7	46.7%	61	28.9%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	45	19.9%	.	0.0%	45	21.3%
\$15,000 to \$19,999	25	11.1%	1	6.7%	24	11.4%
\$20,000 to \$24,999	12	5.3%	1	6.7%	11	5.2%
\$25,000 to \$29,999	13	5.8%	1	6.7%	12	5.7%
\$30,000 or more	11	4.9%	2	13.3%	9	4.3%
Total	226	100.0%	15	100.0%	211	100.0%

*Responses of "would prefer not to answer" and "not sure" have been excluded from analysis.

Table 23: Amount of Company Shares, by Degree (full-time employees only)*

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Less than \$10,000	14	18.7%	2	22.2%	12	18.2%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	19	25.3%	2	22.2%	17	25.8%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	12	16.0%	2	22.2%	10	15.2%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	5	6.7%	.	0.0%	5	7.6%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	7	9.3%	.	0.0%	7	10.6%
\$50,000 or more	18	24.0%	3	33.3%	15	22.7%
Total	75	100.0%	9	100.0%	66	100.0%

*Responses of "would prefer not to answer" and "not sure" have been excluded from analysis.

Respondents with full-time employment were also asked to indicate whether they had received a relocation package. Over one-third of the doctoral students (36.7%) and 40 percent of the master's students (39.6%) said that such a package was "not applicable." However, about one-fourth of those with full-time employment said they were offered a relocation package (25.7% of doctoral students and 27.3% of master's students). Offers of relocation packages, not surprisingly, were closely related to whether or not the employee would be working in North Carolina. Forty-eight percent of doctoral graduates and over half of master's graduates (58.5%) who said they were working outside of North Carolina received a relocation package. In contrast, just 31 percent of doctoral graduates and 10 percent of master's graduates who said they would be working in North Carolina, but outside the Triangle, indicated they had received a relocation package (30.8% and 10.3%, respectively).

Table 24: Relocation Package, Doctoral Degree Recipients (full-time employees only)

	All	Offered relocation package			All
		Yes	No	Not applicable	
Triangle	46	0.0%	32.6%	67.4%	42.2%
Other NC	13	30.8%	38.5%	30.8%	11.9%
Outside NC	50	48.0%	42.0%	10.0%	45.9%
All	109	25.7%	37.6%	36.7%	100.0%

Table 25: Relocation Package, Master's Degree Recipients (full-time employees only)

	All	Offered relocation package			All
		Yes	No	Not applicable	
Triangle	240	0.4%	28.3%	71.3%	38.3%
Other NC	116	10.3%	50.9%	38.8%	18.5%
Outside NC	270	58.5%	29.6%	11.9%	43.1%
All	626	27.3%	33.1%	39.6%	100.0%

Seeking Employment

One-fourth of the doctoral students (25.2%) and one-third of the master's students (31.7%) responding to the May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey indicated they would be pursuing employment in the coming year (Table 1). About one-fifth of graduates said that as of the time of the survey they were *seeking employment but did not have any prospects* (22.5%) with a small number indicating they were *currently negotiating with one or more specific organizations* (6.6%) or that they *had not yet begun to seek employment, but planned to do so within the next year* (3.6%).

Notably, not all of the graduates who said they were seeking or planning to seek a job were unemployed. Close to one-third of doctoral graduates (30.6%) and 15 percent of master's graduates (14.7%) who indicated they were pursuing or planning to pursue employment also said they were employed, either full- or part-time, as of the time of the survey.

Table 26: Status of Plans to Pursue Employment (among all respondents)*

	NCSU (N = 1,218)		Doctoral (N = 143)		Master's (N = 1,075)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Currently seeking position but have no specific prospects at this time	274	22.5%	21	14.7%	253	23.5%
Currently negotiating with one or more specific organizations	80	6.6%	14	9.8%	66	6.1%
Have not yet begun to seek employment, but plan on doing so within the next year	44	3.6%	3	2.1%	41	3.8%

*Respondents could indicate more than one type of activity.

Table 27: Employment Status at the time of the survey (among those seeking or planning to seek employment)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Employed	61	16.2%	11	30.6%	50	14.7%
Unemployed	316	83.8%	25	69.4%	291	85.3%
Total	377	100.0%	36	100.0%	341	100.0%

The remainder of this section of the report first looks those who said they were actively seeking a job or were in the process of negotiation at the time of the survey, and then briefly at those who had not yet begun their job search but were planning to do so in the coming year.

The Job Search

Over three-fourths of the graduate students who as of the time of the survey were seeking employment or in the process of negotiating with one or more organizations said they first began looking for a job less than six months before graduation (78.3%). About one-third said they began their job search three to five months prior to receiving their degree (34.0%) and 16 percent said they started searching within the month leading up to graduation. Doctoral graduates were more likely than master's graduates to have started their job search early, with over half of doctoral graduates seeking employment beginning their search six or more months prior to graduation (54.8%). In contrast, about one-fifth of master's graduates said they had started looking for a job in the same period of time (18.3%), with 46 percent beginning their job search less than three months prior to graduation (46.5%).

Table 28: When Started Looking for a Job, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
12 or more months before graduation	18	5.4%	4	12.9%	14	4.7%
9-11 months before graduation	9	2.7%	5	16.1%	4	1.3%
6-8 months before graduation	45	13.6%	8	25.8%	37	12.3%
3-5 months before graduation	113	34.0%	7	22.6%	106	35.2%
1-2 months before graduation	94	28.3%	4	12.9%	90	29.9%
Less than one month before graduation	53	16.0%	3	9.7%	50	16.6%
Total	332	100.0%	31	100.0%	301	100.0%

Close to three-fourths of graduates who said they were currently seeking employment reported that they had gone on an interview for at least one position during their most recent job search (72.3%), with one-third going on interviews for three or more positions at the time of the survey (36.4%). Those graduating with a doctoral degree were more likely than those graduating with a master's degree to have had an interview for at least one position (83.9% vs. 71.1%), and were more likely to indicate having gone on interviews for three or more positions (45.2% vs. 35.5%).

Doctoral graduates were also much more likely than master's graduates to report receiving at least one job offer as of the time they completed the survey (48.4% vs. 24.7%). About one-fifth of doctoral graduates (22.6%) and six percent of master's graduates (6.2%) said they had received two or more job offers.

Graduates who had received one or more job offers, but who were not in the process of negotiation at the time of the survey, were asked to indicate why the job offer(s) they had received had not worked out. The most common reasons given for not accepting a job offer include the job not being a good fit for their interests or career goals or dissatisfaction with the proposed compensation (e.g., salary too low).

Table 29: Number of Positions Interviewed For, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
None	91	27.7%	5	16.1%	86	28.9%
One	66	20.1%	4	12.9%	62	20.8%
Two	52	15.8%	8	25.8%	44	14.8%
Three or more	120	36.4%	14	45.2%	106	35.5%
Total	329	100.0%	31	100.0%	298	100.0%

Table 30: Received Any Job Offers, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
No	236	73.1%	16	51.6%	220	75.3%
Yes - one	62	19.2%	8	25.8%	54	18.5%
Yes - two	20	6.2%	6	19.4%	14	4.8%
Yes – three or more	5	1.5%	1	3.2%	4	1.4%
Total	323	100.0%	31	100.0%	292	100.0%

Type of Work Seeking

The vast majority of graduate students who said that at the time of the survey they were seeking employment and/or negotiating with one or more organizations indicated they were looking for full-time employment (87.9% of doctoral degree recipients and 93.1% of master's degree recipients), with most of the remainder looking for either full-time or part-time work.

All of the doctoral students who said they were seeking employment said they were looking for a job either “directly related” (57.6%) or “somewhat related” (42.4%) to their field of study. While master’s graduates were more likely doctoral graduates to say they were looking for a job “directly related” to their graduate program (70.3% vs. 57.6%), a very small number said that they were looking for a job “unrelated” to their graduate program (0.7%), or that the relationship of the position to their program was “irrelevant” to their job search (1.7%).

The most common job function doctoral graduates were hoping to be employed doing was *education/teaching/curriculum development* (30.3%), followed by *research and development* (18.2%). The most common job functions master’s graduates were looking to be employed doing were *education/teaching/curriculum development* (14.6%) and *engineering* (9.3%).

Table 31: Looking for Full- or Part-Time Work, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Full time	311	92.6%	29	87.9%	282	93.1%
Part-time	3	0.9%	1	3.0%	2	0.7%
Either	22	6.5%	3	9.1%	19	6.3%
Total	336	100.0%	33	100.0%	303	100.0%

Table 32: Relationship of Job Seeking to Graduate Program, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Looking for position directly related to my graduate program	232	69.0%	19	57.6%	213	70.3%
Looking for position that is at least somewhat related to my graduate program	97	28.9%	14	42.4%	83	27.4%
Looking for position that is unrelated to my graduate program	2	0.6%	.	0.0%	2	0.7%
How closely position is related to my graduate program is irrelevant in my job search	5	1.5%	.	0.0%	5	1.7%
Total	336	100.0%	33	100.0%	303	100.0%

Table 33: Job Function of Job Seeking, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Accounting	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Actuarial/Statistical & Data Analysis	7	2.2%	.	0.0%	7	2.5%
Administrative	10	3.2%	1	3.0%	9	3.2%
Analyst	12	3.8%	1	3.0%	11	3.9%
Animal/Veterinary	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Animation and Gaming	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Architecture	2	0.6%	.	0.0%	2	0.7%

Table 33: Job Function of Job Seeking, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations), *continued*

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Arts/Performing Arts/Music	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Buying/Purchasing	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Construction	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Consulting	6	1.9%	1	3.0%	5	1.8%
Counseling - School/Agency/College	14	4.5%	.	0.0%	14	5.0%
Creative Design/Graphic Arts	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Customer Service	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Database Management	2	0.6%	.	0.0%	2	0.7%
Design - Creative	8	2.6%	.	0.0%	8	2.9%
Design - Engineering	9	2.9%	1	3.0%	8	2.9%
Education/Teaching/Curriculum Development	51	16.3%	10	30.3%	41	14.6%
Engineering	28	8.9%	2	6.1%	26	9.3%
Environmental/Conservation	5	1.6%	1	3.0%	4	1.4%
Extension/Education	3	1.0%	.	0.0%	3	1.1%
Finance	5	1.6%	.	0.0%	5	1.8%
Food Science/Nutrition	3	1.0%	.	0.0%	3	1.1%
Government	4	1.3%	1	3.0%	3	1.1%
Human Health/Medical	3	1.0%	.	0.0%	3	1.1%
Human Resources	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Human/Social Services	15	4.8%	.	0.0%	15	5.4%
Information Technology/Systems	3	1.0%	1	3.0%	2	0.7%
International/NGO	3	1.0%	.	0.0%	3	1.1%
Laboratory Science	2	0.6%	1	3.0%	1	0.4%
Landscape Architecture	2	0.6%	.	0.0%	2	0.7%
Management	2	0.6%	1	3.0%	1	0.4%
Manufacturing/Production/Development	5	1.6%	.	0.0%	5	1.8%
Marketing	7	2.2%	.	0.0%	7	2.5%
Non Profit	4	1.3%	.	0.0%	4	1.4%
Operations	4	1.3%	.	0.0%	4	1.4%
Product Development/Management	4	1.3%	.	0.0%	4	1.4%
Project Management	2	0.6%	.	0.0%	2	0.7%
Public Administration/Policy	2	0.6%	.	0.0%	2	0.7%
Public Relations	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Publishing/Print	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Recreation/Sports	3	1.0%	.	0.0%	3	1.1%

Table 33: Job Function of Job Seeking, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations), *continued*

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Research & Development	10	3.2%	6	18.2%	4	1.4%
Science - Life/Physical Science	3	1.0%	.	0.0%	3	1.1%
Scientific Research	6	1.9%	2	6.1%	4	1.4%
Software Development	24	7.7%	1	3.0%	23	8.2%
Supply Chain Management/Logistics	4	1.3%	.	0.0%	4	1.4%
Technical Writing	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Training & Development	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Web Design/Development	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.4%
Writing/Editing/Translation	7	2.2%	.	0.0%	7	2.5%
Other	11	3.5%	3	9.1%	8	2.9%
Not sure	4	1.3%	.	0.0%	4	1.4%
Total	313	100.0%	33	100.0%	280	100.0%

Location of Job Seeking

Sixteen percent of doctoral graduates who were seeking employment at the time they completed the survey said they were limiting their search to only North Carolina (15.6%). Over one-third said they were looking for a job somewhere in the U.S. including North Carolina and other states (37.5%), with an additional nine percent looking for a position in the U.S. anywhere except North Carolina (9.4%). About one-third said they would be considering employment both inside and outside of the U.S. (31.3%), and two doctoral graduates said they would be only looking outside the U.S. (6.3%).

One-third of master's graduates said they would be looking for employment only in North Carolina (33.4%). Forty-two percent said they were looking for a job somewhere in the U.S. including, but not limited, to North Carolina (42.1%), with a small number limiting their search to U.S. states excluding North Carolina (6.0%). The remaining 18 percent of master's graduates seeking employment indicated they were looking both inside and outside of the U.S. for employment (16.2%) or exclusively outside the U.S. (2.3%).

Table 34: Looking for Employment Inside or Outside of North Carolina, by Degree (among those actively seeking employment or negotiating with one or more organizations)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Only N.C.	106	31.7%	5	15.6%	101	33.4%
In N.C. and other U.S. states	139	41.6%	12	37.5%	127	42.1%
In U.S., but outside N.C.	21	6.3%	3	9.4%	18	6.0%
Inside and outside the U.S.	59	17.7%	10	31.3%	49	16.2%
Outside U.S. only	9	2.7%	2	6.3%	7	2.3%
Total	334	100.0%	32	100.0%	302	100.0%

Future Job Seekers

Three doctoral graduates (2.1% of all doctoral graduates responding to the survey) and four percent of master's graduates (3.8%) said that while they had not yet begun to search for employment, they planned to do so within the coming year (Table 26). When asked when they planned to begin their job search, most of the respondents who had not yet begun their job search said they would start looking within three months after graduation.

Those who said they would wait until after graduation to begin their search for employment were asked about the reasons they were waiting. The most common reasons for waiting until after graduation to begin looking for employment were to gain more professional or academic experience in preparation for their career or to engage in preparation for pursuing another degree (i.e., studying for the MCATs), followed by devoting time to family (e.g., pregnancy, child care, etc.).

Table 35: When Will Begin Job Search, by Degree

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Within the next couple of weeks	14	33.3%	.	0.0%	14	35.9%
Within a month after graduation	7	16.7%	.	0.0%	7	17.9%
Within 2-3 months after graduation	14	33.3%	3	100.0%	11	28.2%
Within 4-6 months after graduation	3	7.1%	.	0.0%	3	7.7%
Within 6-12 months after graduation	3	7.1%	.	0.0%	3	7.7%
Not for at least a year	1	2.4%	.	0.0%	1	2.6%
Total	42	100.0%	3	100.0%	39	100.0%

Further Education

This section of the report provides detailed information on further education being pursued by NC State May graduates. Thirteen percent of master's degree recipients who submitted the Graduate Future Plans Survey said they would be enrolled in degree program within the coming year (Table 1; 12.6%). As only one doctoral degree recipient reported planning to pursue another degree, the remainder of this section will look only at the graduate/professional school plans of master's degree recipients.

Current Status for Graduate/Professional School Attendance

Of the May 2018 master's graduates planning to return to graduate/professional school, half said they are *already enrolled and are pursuing the degree* (52.2%) and an additional one-fourth indicated they *have been accepted and know where they will be going* (23.1%). Three percent reported they *have been accepted but are still undecided* on whether or not or where they will actually attend (1.5%) or they *have applied, but have not yet been accepted* (1.5%). Finally, one-fifth said they *had not applied, but plan to do so in the coming year* (21.6%).

The remainder of this section reports on only those graduating with a master's degree who indicated they are currently enrolled in another degree program or have been accepted and definitely know where they will be attending graduate/professional school (Table 36; N = 101).

Table 36: Current Status for Further Graduate/Professional School Attendance, Master's Degree Recipients (among all those saying they were planning on going back to graduate/professional school in the coming year)*

	N	%
Am already enrolled and pursuing the degree	70	52.2%
Have been accepted and know where I'm going	31	23.1%
Have been accepted but undecided	2	1.5%
Have applied, but not yet been accepted	2	1.5%
Have not applied but plan to do so within the next year	29	21.6%
Total	134	100.0%

*One doctoral student indicated a status of "Have applied, but not yet been accepted."

School Attending

Eighty-six percent of master's degree recipients who at the time of the survey were enrolled in another graduate program or knew where they will be attending graduate/professional school said they will be staying in North Carolina, with three-fourths staying at NC State University (75.2%). The vast majority of those with confirmed plans say they will be attending their first-choice school (93.1%).

Table 37: Location of School Attending, Master's Degree Recipients (N = 100)

	N	%
North Carolina	86	86.0%
Georgia	3	3.0%
Ohio	2	2.0%
Pennsylvania	2	2.0%
Maryland	1	1.0%
Michigan	1	1.0%
Missouri	1	1.0%
New Hampshire	1	1.0%
South Carolina	1	1.0%
Virginia	1	1.0%
Outside United States	1	1.0%

Table 38: Top Three Most Commonly Mentioned Schools Attending, Master's Degree Recipients (N = 101)

	N	%
NC State University	76	75.2%
UNC Chapel Hill	5	5.0%
Emory University	3	3.0%

Table 39: Attending First Choice School, Master's Degree Recipients

	N	%
Yes	94	93.1%
No	7	6.9%
Total	101	100.0%

Degree Seeking

Master's graduates with confirmed plans to pursue another degree in the coming year were asked in what degree program they will be enrolled. Over three-fourths said they will be enrolled in a doctoral program (78.2%) and 15 percent said they will be enrolled in a master's program (14.9%). A small number of graduates said they will be enrolled in a professional degree program (6.9%).

NC State graduates reported seeking a variety of master's degrees, but most commonly a MBA or MS. All survey respondents enrolling in a doctoral program will be pursuing a PhD or an EdD. The professional degrees NC State graduates report they will be seeking are a MD, DDS, JD, or DPT.

Table 40: Type of Degree Program Enrolled In, Master's Degree Recipients

	N	%
Master's	15	14.9%
Doctoral	79	78.2%
Professional	7	6.9%
Other	0	0.0%
Total	101	100.0%

Table 41: Master's Degree Programs Enrolled In, Master's Degree Recipients (N = 15)

	N	%
MBA	4	26.7%
MS	3	20.0%
MMSc	2	13.3%
MLIS	2	13.3%
MEM	1	6.7%
MTS	1	6.7%
MPA	1	6.7%
MA	1	6.7%

Table 42: Doctoral Degree Programs Enrolled In, Master's Degree Recipients (N = 79)

	N	%
PhD	76	96.2%
EdD	3	3.8%

Table 43: Professional Degree Programs Enrolled In, Master's Degree Recipients (N = 7)

	N	%
MD	3	42.9%
DDS	2	28.6%
JD	1	14.3%
DPT	1	14.3%

Graduate/Professional School Funding/Awards Received

Fifty-seven percent of master's students who said they had been accepted to graduate/professional school and knew where they would be going indicated that they had received funding and/or awards as part of their acceptance. The most commonly awarded type of funding was a *research assistantship* (44.6%), followed by *teaching assistantships* (29.7%) and *fellowships* (13.9%).

Table 44: Graduate/Professional School Funding/Awards, Master's Degree Recipients* (N = 101)

	N	%
Scholarship	10	9.9%
Honors/Award	4	4.0%
Fellowship	14	13.9%
Teaching Assistantship	30	29.7%
Research Assistantship	45	44.6%
Other assistantship	2	2.0%

*Respondents could select more than one type of funding/award.

NC State Experiences and Resources

All doctoral and master's graduates responding to the May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey were asked about their participation in various professional development experiences, as well as about the career-related resources they might have used while at NC State. This section of the report summarizes the information they shared about these experiences.

Professional Development Experiences

Respondents were asked whether or not they had participated in various work-related experiences while a graduate student at NC State, and if they had such an experience, how helpful it had been in securing a job offer. Graduate students were also asked the scholarship activities they had engaged in, including the number of times they had published an article or creative work in a peer-reviewed journal and/or presented scholarly work at a conference in their field while in graduate school.

The vast majority of graduate students indicated having participated in at least one professional development experience, including work-related experiences and scholarship activities (89.5%). Doctoral graduates were slightly more likely than master's graduates to have participated in at least one of the work-related experiences asked about (96.5% vs. 88.0%), and were much more likely than master's graduates to have participated in three or more different types of work-related experiences during their graduate program at NC State (55.3% vs. 20.2%). Similarly, doctoral graduates were much more likely than master's graduates to have published or presented at least one article or creative work (72.3% vs. 13.4%).

Two-thirds of doctoral graduates indicated having had a *research assistantship* (66.0%) and over half said they had a *teaching assistantship* (57.4%) while pursuing their doctoral degree at NC State. Forty-three percent of doctoral graduates said they participated in *research outside of an assistantship that was not published or presented* (42.6%) and over one-fourth had an *internship* (30.5%) or engaged in *volunteer work* (26.2%). When those who had obtained or were seeking employment were asked about the helpfulness of the work-related experiences they had in securing a

job offer, doctoral graduates were most likely to say having a *job in their field of study* had been “very helpful” in securing a job offer (69.6%), followed by *research assistantships* and *research outside of an assistantship that was not published/presented* (68.9% and 66.1%, respectively).

Sixty percent of doctoral graduates said they had *published at least one article or creative work in a peer-reviewed journal* during their graduate program. Just over half indicated producing two or more publications (52.1%), with about one-fourth publishing five or more articles/creative works while pursuing their degree (23.6%). Similarly, two-thirds of doctoral graduates reported *presenting at least one research paper, poster, or creative work at a conference in their field* (68.1%) over the course of their graduate program, with 44 percent doing so five or more times.

Forty-one percent of master’s graduates said they had an *internship* (40.7%) during the course of their graduate program at NC State and one-fifth reported engaging in a *practicum* (19.8%) or having had a *teaching assistantship* (19.8%). While just eight percent of the master’s graduates had a *co-op* experience (8.2%), such an experience was most likely to be rated as “very helpful” in securing a job offer among master’s graduates obtaining or pursuing employment (70.2%). Similarly, two-thirds of those having a *job in their field of study* rated the experience as “very helpful” in their job search (66.7%). In addition, among the small number of master’s graduates who reported having an *externship*, all six indicated that the experience had been “very helpful” in securing a job offer.

Relatively few master’s graduates indicated having *published an article or creative work in a peer-reviewed journal* (4.2%) or having *presented a research paper, poster, or creative work at a conference* (11.5%). Less than two percent of master’s graduates said they had produced more than one publication in a peer-reviewed journal (1.7%) and six percent said they presented at a conference two or more times (6.1%).

Table 45: Participation in Work-Related Experiences, Doctoral Degree Recipients (N = 141)*

	Had Experience		Helpfulness in Securing Job Offer (among those having the experience and obtaining or pursuing employment)				
	N	%	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Not very helpful	Not at all helpful	Not applicable**
Co-op	3	2.1%	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Internship	43	30.5%	61.9%	23.8%	14.3%	0.0%	2.3%
Externship	4	2.8%	25.0%	50.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%
Job in field of study	27	19.1%	69.6%	17.4%	4.3%	8.7%	14.8%
Practicum	6	4.3%	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Clinical placement	2	1.4%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Teaching Assistantship	81	57.4%	23.1%	37.2%	32.1%	7.7%	3.7%
Research Assistantship	93	66.0%	68.9%	24.4%	3.3%	3.3%	3.2%
Non-published/presented research outside of an assistantship, independently or with faculty/peers	60	42.6%	66.1%	26.8%	5.4%	1.8%	5.1%
Student teaching	33	23.4%	30.0%	43.3%	16.7%	10.0%	9.1%
Class project	14	9.9%	40.0%	20.0%	30.0%	10.0%	23.1%
Volunteer work	37	26.2%	21.2%	45.5%	21.2%	12.1%	10.8%

*Respondents could select more than one experience.

**Those who were not seeking employment (e.g., because they were continuing their education or have some other plans following graduation) were given the option to select “not applicable” when asked about the helpfulness of the work-related experience. Responses of “not applicable” have been excluded from the analysis.

Table 46: Participation in Scholarship Activities, Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N	Number of Works Published/Presented					
		None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more
Published an article or creative work in a peer-reviewed journal	140	40.0%	7.9%	11.4%	10.0%	7.1%	23.6%
Presented a research paper/poster/creative work at a conference	141	31.9%	9.2%	3.5%	6.4%	5.0%	44.0%

Table 47: Participation in Work-Related Experiences, Master's Degree Recipients (N=1,052)*

	Had Experience		Helpfulness in Securing Job Offer (among those having the experience and obtaining or pursuing employment)				
	N	%	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Not very helpful	Not at all helpful	Not applicable**
Co-op	86	8.2%	70.2%	25.0%	3.6%	1.2%	2.3%
Internship	428	40.7%	61.2%	28.9%	7.1%	2.8%	7.9%
Externship	6	0.6%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%
Job in field of study	167	15.9%	66.7%	29.0%	2.9%	1.4%	16.9%
Practicum	208	19.8%	52.8%	36.1%	9.4%	1.7%	13.5%
Clinical placement	15	1.4%	53.8%	38.5%	0.0%	7.7%	13.3%
Teaching assistantship	208	19.8%	16.1%	41.6%	29.2%	13.0%	22.2%
Research assistantship	130	12.4%	40.2%	39.2%	14.7%	5.9%	21.5%
Research, independently or with faculty or peers (not published or presented)	142	13.5%	28.7%	51.9%	11.1%	8.3%	23.9%
Student teaching	66	6.3%	45.8%	37.3%	11.9%	5.1%	10.6%
Class project	136	12.9%	25.4%	52.6%	11.4%	10.5%	16.2%
Volunteer work	137	13.0%	17.9%	40.2%	26.8%	15.2%	18.2%

*Respondents could select more than one experience.

**Those who were not seeking employment (e.g., because they were continuing their education or have some other plans following graduation) were given the option to select "not applicable" when asked about the helpfulness of the work-related experience. Responses of "not applicable" have been excluded from the analysis.

Table 48: Participation in Scholarship Activities, Master's Degree Recipients

	N	Number of Works Published/Presented					
		None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more
Published an article or creative work in a peer-reviewed journal	1,052	95.8%	2.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%
Presented a research paper/poster/creative work at a conference	1,050	88.5%	5.4%	2.5%	1.7%	0.5%	1.4%

Career Service Offices

All respondents were asked if they had ever used one or more of the different career service offices on campus, and if so, how frequently they had used it and how they would rate the services provided. About 30 percent of doctoral graduates (29.1%) and just under half of master's graduates (45.3%) reported having used any career service offices at NC State.

NC State's Career Development Center (CDC) was used by the greatest number of graduate students, including one-fourth of doctoral graduates (24.1%) and 29 percent of master's graduates. The majority of those having ever gone to the CDC indicated doing so "just once or twice" (58.8% of doctoral graduates and 60.0% of master's graduates), with six percent of doctoral graduates (5.8%) and master's graduates (5.6%) having ever gone to the Career Development Center doing so "many times" or "on a regular basis." When asked to evaluate the services they had received, 85 percent of doctoral graduates having ever gone to the CDC rated its services "excellent" or "good" (85.3%) as did 81 percent of master's graduates (81.3%).

Use of specific career services offices varied widely by college. Among those responding to the survey, all eight doctoral students and over two-thirds of master's students graduating from the College of Textiles (COT) said they had gone to at least one of the career centers at NC State. In comparison, over 90 percent of doctoral and master's graduates in the College of Education said they had never used any career services offices at NC State during their graduate program.

Not surprisingly, college career services offices typically attracted few graduate students from outside their own college. Among graduate students in the College of Textiles responding to the survey, all eight doctoral graduates and over two-thirds of master's graduates said they had gone to the COT Career Services office. Similarly, over half of master's graduates in the Poole College of Management and the College of Design said they had used their own career services office (59.8% and 54.8%, respectively). Over half of master's graduates in the Institute for Advanced Analytics said they had gone to some "other" career services office on campus (55.6%), with almost all saying they had used the career services office in their school. In contrast, only a small number of doctoral graduates and about one-fourth of master's graduates (24.6%) in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences indicated using their own career services office.

For the most part, the doctoral and master's graduates having gone to one of the college career centers said they did so "just once or twice" or "several times." However, there were a few exceptions. Graduate students were most likely to go to the College of Textiles career services office or the PCOM Career Development Center on a frequent basis, with one-fourth indicating they had gone to these offices "many times" or "on a regular basis."

Ratings for the college career centers were largely positive—career services offices were most often rated "excellent" or "good." Close to 90 percent of those who had ever used the PCOM Career Development Center rated its services as "excellent" (44.6%) or "good" (43.4%). In no case did more than a small number of users rate the services of any center as "poor" or "very poor."

Table 49: Career Services Used, Doctoral Degree Recipients*

	College/School								
	NCSU	CALS	CED	COE	CNR	CHASS	COS	COT	PCOM
Career Development Center	24.1%	16.7%	6.9%	38.6%	20.0%	0.0%	20.0%	62.5%	0.0%
CALS Career Services	3.5%	16.7%	0.0%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%
College of Textiles Career Services	5.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
College of Design Career Services	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Poole COM Career Development Center	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	6.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%
None	70.9%	77.8%	93.1%	56.8%	80.0%	100.0%	76.7%	0.0%	100.0%
Total	141	18	29	44	5	5	30	8	2

*Respondents could select more than one option.

Table 50: Career Services Used, Master's Degree Recipients*

	College/School										
	NCSU	IAA	CALS	Design	CED	COE	CNR	CHASS	COS	COT	PCOM
Career Development Center	29.0%	1.9%	18.8%	6.5%	7.6%	58.7%	15.4%	17.1%	21.7%	38.9%	25.2%
CALS Career Services	1.8%	0.0%	24.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%
College of Textiles Career Services	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	72.2%	0.0%
College of Design Career Services	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	54.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.6%	0.0%
Poole COM Career Development Center	7.9%	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	59.8%
Other	8.1%	55.6%	1.4%	3.2%	0.7%	2.6%	0.0%	3.9%	10.9%	5.6%	1.6%
None	54.7%	42.6%	62.3%	38.7%	91.7%	39.9%	82.1%	79.1%	67.4%	27.8%	28.3%
Total	1,052	108	69	31	144	341	39	129	46	18	127

*Respondents could select more than one option.

Table 51: How Often Used Career Development Center Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Just once or twice	205	60.5%	20	58.8%	185	60.7%
Several times	115	33.9%	12	35.3%	103	33.8%
Many times	14	4.1%	1	2.9%	13	4.3%
On a regular basis	5	1.5%	1	2.9%	4	1.3%
Total	339	100.0%	34	100.0%	305	100.0%

Table 52: Evaluation of Career Development Center Information/Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Excellent	108	32.0%	12	35.3%	96	31.6%
Good	168	49.7%	17	50.0%	151	49.7%
Fair	51	15.1%	4	11.8%	47	15.5%
Poor	10	3.0%	1	2.9%	9	3.0%
Very Poor	1	0.3%	.	0.0%	1	0.3%
Total	338	100.0%	34	100.0%	304	100.0%

Table 53: How Often Used CALS (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences) Career Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Just once or twice	15	62.5%	2	40.0%	13	68.4%
Several times	7	29.2%	2	40.0%	5	26.3%
Many times	1	4.2%	.	0.0%	1	5.3%
On a regular basis	1	4.2%	1	20.0%	.	0.0%
Total	24	100.0%	5	100.0%	19	100.0%

Table 54: Evaluation of CALS Career Center Information/Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Excellent	6	25.0%	2	40.0%	4	21.1%
Good	14	58.3%	2	40.0%	12	63.2%
Fair	3	12.5%	1	20.0%	2	10.5%
Poor	1	4.2%	.	0.0%	1	5.3%
Very Poor	.	0.0%	.	0.0%	.	0.0%
Total	24	100.0%	5	100.0%	19	100.0%

Table 55: How Often Used COT (College of Textiles) Career Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Just once or twice	4	17.4%	2	25.0%	2	13.3%
Several times	13	56.5%	5	62.5%	8	53.3%
Many times	4	17.4%	1	12.5%	3	20.0%
On a regular basis	2	8.7%	.	0.0%	2	13.3%
Total	23	100.0%	8	100.0%	15	100.0%

Table 56: Evaluation of COT Career Center Information/Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Excellent	6	26.1%	2	25.0%	4	26.7%
Good	13	56.5%	5	62.5%	8	53.3%
Fair	4	17.4%	1	12.5%	3	20.0%
Poor	.	0.0%	.	0.0%	.	0.0%
Very Poor	.	0.0%	.	0.0%	.	0.0%
Total	23	100.0%	8	100.0%	15	100.0%

Table 57: How Often Used College of Design Career Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Master's	
	N	%	N	%
Just once or twice	12	66.7%	12	66.7%
Several times	4	22.2%	4	22.2%
Many times	2	11.1%	2	11.1%
On a regular basis	.	0.0%	.	0.0%
Total	18	100.0%	18	100.0%

Table 58: Evaluation of College of Design Career Center Information/Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Master's	
	N	%	N	%
Excellent	3	16.7%	3	16.7%
Good	11	61.1%	11	61.1%
Fair	4	22.2%	4	22.2%
Poor	.	0.0%	.	0.0%
Very Poor	.	0.0%	.	0.0%
Total	18	100.0%	18	100.0%

Table 59: How Often Used PCOM (Poole College of Management) Career Development Center, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Master's	
	N	%	N	%
Just once or twice	32	38.6%	32	38.6%
Several times	32	38.6%	32	38.6%
Many times	13	15.7%	13	15.7%
On a regular basis	6	7.2%	6	7.2%
Total	83	100.0%	83	100.0%

Table 60: Evaluation of PCOM Career Development Center Information/Services, by Degree (among those using services)

	NCSU		Master's	
	N	%	N	%
Excellent	37	44.6%	37	44.6%
Good	36	43.4%	36	43.4%
Fair	8	9.6%	8	9.6%
Poor	2	2.4%	2	2.4%
Very Poor	.	0.0%	.	0.0%
Total	83	100.0%	83	100.0%

Professional Development Services

Graduate students were asked whether or not they had used specific career-related services or professional development programs offered at NC State while pursuing their graduate degree.

Master's graduates were more likely than doctoral graduates to have used at least one of the career-related resources offered at NC State during the course of their graduate program. Over forty percent of master's graduates reported using *ePack* (43.0%) and/or *attending a career fair* (41.0%), and one-third said they had *attended employer information sessions* while a master's student at NC State (32.8%). Twenty-nine percent of master's graduates indicated *attending presentations on resume writing, interviewing, and other skills*. (29.0%) and about one-fourth said they had visited *NC State's Career Development Center website* (26.0%), and/or *participated in on-campus interviewing* (23.0%). A very small number of master's graduates indicated using any of the professional development services or programs offered by the Graduate School.

One-third of doctoral graduates indicated *attending a career fair*, either on-campus or off-campus (34.8%), and about 30 percent said they had *attended presentations on resume writing, interviewing, and other skills* (31.2%) and/or used *ePACK*, the Career Development Center's online tool for connecting NC State students with potential employers (30.5%). About one-in-five doctoral graduates said they had joined a professional society at NC State related to their career field (22.7%), *attended employer information sessions* (19.9%), and/or *visited NC State's Career Development Center website* (19.1%). When asked about resources available through the Graduate School they may have used while pursuing their degree, five percent of doctoral graduates indicated completing the *Preparing the Professoriate* program and three percent reported obtaining the *Teaching and Communication Certificate* (2.8%).

Table 61: Career Related Resources Used While at NC State, by Degree*

	NCSU (N = 1,193)		Doctoral (N = 141)		Master's (N = 1,052)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
ePACK	495	41.5%	43	30.5%	452	43.0%
Attended career fair	480	40.2%	49	34.8%	431	41.0%
Attended employer info sessions	373	31.3%	28	19.9%	345	32.8%
Presentations on resume writing, interviewing skills, etc	349	29.3%	44	31.2%	305	29.0%
Visited NC State Career Development Center website	301	25.2%	27	19.1%	274	26.0%
On-campus interviewing	252	21.1%	10	7.1%	242	23.0%
Joined professional society at NC State related to career field	212	17.8%	32	22.7%	180	17.1%
Spoke w/ Career Counselor/Coach	207	17.4%	12	8.5%	195	18.5%
Mock interviews w/ Career Counselor/Coach	202	16.9%	3	2.1%	199	18.9%

*Respondents could select more than one resource.

Table 62: Graduate School Resources Used While At NC State, by Degree*

	NCSU (N = 1,193)		Doctoral (N = 141)		Master's (N = 1,052)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Accelerate to Industry (A2i)	14	1.2%	2	1.4%	12	1.1%
Preparing the Professoriate	18	1.5%	7	5.0%	11	1.0%
Obtained Teaching and Communication Certificate	23	1.9%	4	2.8%	19	1.8%

*Respondents could select more than one resource.

The 40 percent of graduate students who said they had attended a career fair while pursuing their degree were asked which career fair(s) they had attended. Over half of those doctoral graduates and master's graduates reported attending the *Engineering Career Fair* (57.1% and 57.3%, respectively). About one-third of doctoral graduates (32.7%) and one-fifth of master's graduates said they had attended the *Graduate School Fair* at NC State.

Table 63: Career Fairs Attended, by Degree (among those saying they had attended any career fair)*

	NCSU (N = 480)		Doctoral (N = 49)		Master's (N = 431)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
CHASS Career Fair	12	2.5%	0	0.0%	12	2.8%
College of Design Career Expo or Spring Interview Days	7	1.5%	0	0.0%	7	1.6%
College of Education Career Fair	24	5.0%	1	2.0%	23	5.3%
Engineering Career Fair	275	57.3%	28	57.1%	247	57.3%
Poole College of Management Career & Internship Fair	62	12.9%	1	2.0%	61	14.2%
STEAM ² Career Expo	29	6.0%	10	20.4%	19	4.4%
Textiles Job Forum	19	4.0%	8	16.3%	11	2.6%
Graduate School Career Fair at NC State	102	21.3%	16	32.7%	86	20.0%
Law School Fair	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Health Career Expo	22	4.6%	0	0.0%	22	5.1%
Other career fair at NC State	39	8.1%	2	4.1%	37	8.6%
Career fair at another college/university	17	3.5%	6	12.2%	11	2.6%
Career fair not affiliated with a college/university (e.g., employer, city wide)	28	5.8%	1	2.0%	27	6.3%
Don't know/Don't remember which one	24	5.0%	2	4.1%	22	5.1%

*Respondents could select more than one career fair.

Closing Comments

The Graduate Future Plans Survey closed by asking respondents to rate their overall satisfaction with their graduate program and with the career guidance they had received from their department and/or college while at NC State, and to reflect on how they are feeling about their future.

Close to 90 percent of the May 2018 doctoral and master's graduates said they were "very satisfied" (47.8%) or "satisfied" (40.4%) with their graduate program as a whole. Just five percent of doctoral graduates and three percent of master's indicated they were "dissatisfied" or "very dissatisfied" with their graduate program overall.

Two-thirds of the May 2018 doctoral and master's graduates combined said they were either "very satisfied" (30.5%) or "satisfied" (35.2%) with the career guidance they received from their academic department/college. While about one-fourth said they were "neutral" about the guidance they received (27.9%), just six percent said they were either "dissatisfied" (5.0%) or "very dissatisfied" (1.4%) with the career guidance they were provided by their department/college.

Overall, the May 2018 graduates are excited about their futures. When asked which statement comes closest to how they were feeling about their future, over two-thirds of doctoral and master's graduates said that they were "very excited" (69.9%) about what they will be doing, with an additional one-fourth saying they were "fairly excited." Just three percent of graduates said they were "not very excited" (2.4%) or "not at all excited" (0.2%).

Similarly, the vast majority of May 2018 doctoral and master's graduates also feel prepared for their futures. When asked about how prepared they felt for their future career paths, 97 percent of respondents said that they felt either "very prepared" (59.4%) or "somewhat prepared" (37.7%) for their future career paths. Just three percent of respondents said they felt "somewhat unprepared" (2.5%) or "very unprepared" (0.4%).

Table 64: Overall Satisfaction with Graduate Program, by Degree

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Very Satisfied	568	47.8%	57	40.7%	511	48.8%
Satisfied	480	40.4%	63	45.0%	417	39.8%
Neutral	102	8.6%	13	9.3%	89	8.5%
Dissatisfied	24	2.0%	2	1.4%	22	2.1%
Very Dissatisfied	14	1.2%	5	3.6%	9	0.9%
Total	1,188	100.0%	140	100.0%	1,048	100.0%

Table 65: Overall Satisfaction with Career Guidance, by Degree

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Very Satisfied	360	30.5%	29	20.7%	331	31.8%
Satisfied	415	35.2%	51	36.4%	364	35.0%
Neutral	329	27.9%	50	35.7%	279	26.8%
Dissatisfied	59	5.0%	8	5.7%	51	4.9%
Very Dissatisfied	17	1.4%	2	1.4%	15	1.4%
Total	1,180	100.0%	140	100.0%	1,040	100.0%

Table 66: Feelings of Excitement for Future Career Path, by Degree

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Very excited about what I will be doing	825	69.6%	90	64.3%	735	70.3%
Fairly excited about what I will be doing	329	27.8%	44	31.4%	285	27.3%
Not very excited about what I will be doing	29	2.4%	5	3.6%	24	2.3%
Not at all excited about what I will be doing	2	0.2%	1	0.7%	1	0.1%
Total	1,185	100.0%	140	100.0%	1,045	100.0%

Table 67: Feelings of Preparation for Future Career Path, by Degree

	NCSU		Doctoral		Master's	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Very prepared	705	59.4%	91	65.0%	614	58.6%
Somewhat prepared	447	37.7%	45	32.1%	402	38.4%
Somewhat unprepared	30	2.5%	1	0.7%	29	2.8%
Very unprepared	5	0.4%	3	2.1%	2	0.2%
Total	1,187	100.0%	140	100.0%	1,047	100.0%

For more information about the Graduate Future Plans Survey contact:

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May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey

Appendix A: Complete List of Employers (among those accepting full-time employment)

Table 1: Company Name, Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N
ABB	3
AgBiome	1
Andritz	1
Anokiwave	1
Anton Paar USA	1
Apple	1
Ardaman and Associates	1
BASF	1
Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology	1
Bates White	1
BitSight Technologies	1
CIDD	1
Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute	1
Campbell University	1
Cary Academy	1
Cisco Systems	1
Citrix	1
Corning Inc	1
Domo	1
Duke University	3
Eaton Corporation	1
Exxon Mobil	1
FMC Corporation	1
Framatome	1
Francis Marion University	1
Fulbright Garcia Robles Scholar	1
Funxion Wear Inc.	1
Glen Raven Custom Fabrics	1
Google	2
Guilford County Schools	1
Idaho National Laboratory	1
Invista	1

Table 1: Company Name, Doctoral Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
JMP	1
Jeddah University	1
King Abdulaziz University	1
LinkedIn	1
Los Alamos National Laboratory	2
Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium	1
MIT, NSF, Brown University	1
Meredith College	1
Modern Meadow	1
Murray State University	1
NASA	1
NC State University	21
North Carolina Department of Commerce	1
One to One Counseling & Consulting, PLLC	1
Pitt County Schools	1
Prince George's Community College	1
Princeton University	1
Qualcomm	1
RTI International	1
SAS	2
Silk Therapeutics, Inc.	2
SinnovaTek	1
Standard Process Inc.	1
Tabuchi Electric Company of America Limited	1
Target	1
The University of Chicago	1
Tsinghua University	1
UNC Chapel Hill	1
UNC Charlotte	1
US Bank	1
US Environmental Protection Agency	1
US Forest Service	1
US Navy	2
University of Arkansas	1
University of Birmingham, UK	1
University of Michigan	1

Table 1: Company Name, Doctoral Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
University of Nebraska Lincoln	1
University of Saint Francis	1
Vaughn & Melton	1
Virginia Commonwealth University	1
Wake Christian Academy	1
Wake County Public School System	2
Wells Fargo	1
Western Kentucky University	1
Winthrop University	1
Yale University	1
Zenomics Inc	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
2nd Order Solutions	1
3Pillar Global	1
ABB	1
AECOM	2
AKG of America, Inc.	1
ANSYS Inc.	1
ARC Architects	1
AT&T	1
AWNC	1
Accenture	1
Adient	1
Adobe	1
Advance Auto Parts	1
Advanced Micro Devices	1
After Inc.	1
Agero Inc	1
Al-Iman School	1
Alamance County Schools	1
Alcami Corporation	1
Allied Reliability	1
Allscripts	1
Altria Client Services	2
Amazon	2
American Tower	1
Analog Devices	1
Ancestry.com	1
Ankura	2
Apex Tool Group	1
Apple	5
Appletree	1
Arcadis	1
Arista Networks	3
Arizona State University	1
Arm	1
Arm Holdings	1
Arrow Electronics	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Aruba Networks	1
Ascend Performance Materials	1
Association of International Certified Professional Accountants	1
Astellas Pharma	1
Asurion	4
Atrium Health, Charlotte AHEC	1
Audible	1
Aurobindo Pharma	1
Autism Society of North Carolina	1
Automated Insights	1
B&D	1
BASF	1
BD	1
BDO	5
BSA Life Structures	1
Bain & Company	2
Bank of America	2
Barton College	1
Beacon Health Options	1
Beghou Consulting	1
Biogen	1
Black & Veatch	1
Blackman & Sloop, CPA	2
Bloomberg	1
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina	1
Bosch	1
Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC	1
Burns and McDonnell	1
C Spire	1
CITI, LLC	1
CSS-Inc.	1
Cadence Design Systems	1
Camcore	1
Capital One	3
Carolina Outreach	1
Carolina Population Center	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Catawba County Cooperative Extension	1
ChannelAdvisor	1
Charter Communications/Spectrum	1
Cherry Baekert	3
Cherry Hospital	1
Children's Home Society	1
Cigna	2
Cirrus Logic	2
Cisco Systems	6
Citrix	3
City of Alexandria	1
City of High Point	1
Clarity Insights	1
Clemson University	1
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP	1
Cobham Advanced Electronics Solutions	1
Cognizant	1
College Advising Corps	2
Colorado Department of Transportation	1
Communities In Schools National Office	1
ConnectWise	1
CoreCompete	1
Corning Inc	1
Country View Family Farms	1
Cree	1
Cumberland County Schools	1
Cummins Inc. (Rocky Mount Engine Plant)	1
Curamericas Global	1
Dell EMC	1
Deloitte	15
Deloitte Digital	1
Delta Airlines	1
Delta Gypsum LLC	1
Department of Defense	1
Department of Health and Human Services	1
Descartes Labs	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Deutsche Bank	1
Digital Roots	1
Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP	2
Dominion Energy	1
Dover	1
DraftKings	1
Dream Provider Care Services	1
Duke Energy	1
Duke Health	3
Duke TIP	1
Duke University	3
Durham Public Schools	12
ECPS	3
EPRI	1
EasterSeals USP	2
Eastman Chemical Company	1
Eaton Corporation	1
Echelon Diagnostics Inc.	1
Edgecombe County Public Schools	1
Elder Research	3
Elevate Credit	2
Eli Global	1
Eli Lilly	2
Elliott Davis	2
Engineering Consulting Services (ECS)	1
Epic Games	1
Ernst & Young	15
Everest textile	1
Expedia	1
Facebook	2
Fentress Architects	1
Fidelity Investments	8
Fifth Third Bank	5
First Citizens Bank	2
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	1
Food and Drug Administration	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Franklin County Schools	4
Fujifilm	1
GSK	1
General Electric	9
George Watts Montessori Elementary	1
Georgia Institute of Technology	1
Geosyntec Consultants	1
Getzner	1
Globant llc	1
Golding Farms Foods Inc	1
Goldman Sachs	1
Google	8
Grant Thornton	3
Greif	1
Guilford College	1
Guilford County Schools	1
HCL	3
Hazen & Sawyer	1
Heartland Hospice	1
Hillels of Georgia	1
Hortons Creek Elementary School	1
Hortonworks	1
Hughed	1
Hughes Network Systems	2
IBI Group of North Carolina	1
IBM	5
IMR	1
IQVIA	1
IXL Learning	1
Ingersoll Rand	1
Inmar	1
Integro Technologies	1
Intel	9
InterAct	1
InterWorks	1
Intuitive Surgical	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Isothermal Community College	1
JDL Fast Track	1
JPMorgan Chase	5
Jdavis Architects	1
John Deere	1
Johnson & Johnson	1
Johnson Controls	1
Johnson Lambert	3
Johnston County Schools	1
Johnston Health	2
Juniper Networks	2
KBR	1
KBRWyle	1
KMG Holdings, Inc	1
KPMG	3
Kleinfelder	1
Koh Young Technology	1
LLNL	1
Land Design and Consulting	1
Landing.AI	1
Landscape architecture company	1
Larson Design Group	1
Laurens County School District 56	1
Lees-McRae College	1
Lenoir County Public Schools	2
Lenovo	2
Leoforce	1
LexisNexis	3
LigaTrap Technologies	1
Lincoln Financial Group	1
Little	1
Live Oak Bank	1
Lockheed Martin	1
Louisburg High School	1
Lowe's Companies	2
M&T Bank	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
ManTech International	1
Mapcom Systems	1
Marvell Semiconductors	2
Mathworks	1
Mc Dean	1
McMillan Pazdan Smith	1
Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation	1
Medicago	1
MetaMetrics Inc.	1
Metabolon	1
Microsoft	6
Moore County Planning	1
Moore County Schools	1
Myers & Stauffer LC	1
N/A	2
NASA	3
NAVAIR	1
NC Cooperative Extension	1
NC DPI - Franklin County Schools	1
NC Farm Bureau Federation	1
NC Recreation and Park Association	1
NC State University	9
NCFC Youth	1
NVIDIA	1
Nash Rocky Mount Schools	4
Natural Learning Initiative	1
NetApp	3
Netease Games	1
Newport News Shipbuilding	1
Nippon Felt co., Ltd.	1
Nokia	1
Noregon, Inc	1
North Carolina Forest Service	1
North Carolina State Parks	1
Northrop Grumman Corporation	1
Novo Nordisk	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Novozymes	1
Nuage Networks (Nokia)	1
Nutanix	4
Nvidia	1
ORISE	1
Oasis Systems	1
Oath (Yahoo)	1
Oil servicing company	1
One Trust	1
OneTrust	1
Orange County Public Schools, Florida	1
Orbis Corporation	1
Oxide Architecture	1
PLUS AI	1
PPD	1
Paragon, Inc	1
Participate	1
Partnership for Children of Johnston County	1
PayPal	1
Peking University	1
PenFed Credit Union	1
Pfizer	1
Pitt County Schools	1
Pizzeria Faulisi	1
Plexus	1
Point Loma Nazarene University	1
Pure Storage	1
Putnam Investments	1
PwC	6
Qorvo	1
Qualcomm	2
RK&K	1
RSM	3
RTI International	2
Red Hat	9
Red Ventures	3

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Redox Tech	1
Reliance Construction	1
Renesas Electronics	2
Riverbed Technology	1
Roanoke Rapids Graded School District	1
Rowan Salisbury Schools	1
Royal Bank of Canda	1
SAP.iO	2
SAS	14
STV	1
Sage Automotive Interiors	1
Samsung	3
Samtec Inc	1
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions	1
Sciome LLC	1
Scitovation	1
Sealed Air Corp	1
Seasons 52	1
Secmation	1
Shenzhou International Group Holdings Limited	1
SiFive	1
Siemens	2
Simpson Engineers & Associates	1
Slalom Consulting	2
Social & Scientific Systems, Inc.	1
Spectrum Healthcare Resources	1
Springmoor	1
State of North Carolina	1
Sunfiber	1
Support Center for Child Advocates	1
Susan Hatchell Landscape Architecture, PLLC	1
Syneos Health	1
Synopsys	2
Szostak Design	1
TG Therapeutics	1
TIAA	1

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Takasago	1
Teleflex	1
The EADS Group	1
The Evergreen State College	1
The Federal Bureau of Land Management	1
The Home Depot	1
The International School of Querétaro	1
The O'Neal School	1
The Performance Academy	1
The Raleigh School	1
Thomas, Judy, and Tucker PA	1
Timmons Group	1
Town of Clayton	2
Town of Kennebunkport	1
Transitions Life Care	1
Triad Math and Science Academy	1
Triangle Implant Center	1
Tributary	1
Tyson	1
UDM Systems, LLC	1
UNC Chapel Hill	1
UNC Charlotte	1
UNC Healthcare	2
UNC School of Medicine	1
US Air Force	1
US Army	8
US Department of Veterans Affairs	1
US Navy	5
UTC-Carrier Transcold	1
Universal Corporation	1
University of Arkansas	1
University of Pittsburgh Residence Life	1
University of the Pacific	1
VF Corporation	1
VISA Inc.	1
VMware	7

Table 2: Company Name, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Valassis Digital	1
Veracity	1
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	1
Visionist, Inc.	1
Vituity	1
Volvo Group	1
WG Pearson Elementary School	1
Wake County	1
Wake County Human Services	1
Wake County Public School System	23
WebMD (MedSims)	1
Wells Fargo	2
Westinghouse	1
WhitehatAI	2
Wilson County Schools	2
Wireless Advocates LLC	1
XPO Logistics	1
Xometry, Inc.	1
Xylem	1
Zebulon Elementary School	1
chewy.com	1
iProspect	1

May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey
Appendix B: Complete List of Countries and States in Which Graduates Will Be/Are Working
(among those securing full-time employment)

Table 1: Country of Employment, Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N
Bangladesh	1
China	1
India	1
Mexico	1
Saudi Arabia	2
UK	1
United States	104

Table 2: Country of Employment, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
Belgium	1
Brazil	1
China	4
Japan	1
Mexico	1
Multiple	1
Saudi Arabia	1
United States	646

Table 3: State of Employment, Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N
Alaska	1
Arkansas	1
California	6
Connecticut	1
Delaware	1
District of Columbia	1
Florida	1
Georgia	1
Idaho	1
Illinois	1
Indiana	1
Kentucky	2

Table 3: State of Employment, Doctoral Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Louisiana	1
Maryland	2
Massachusetts	2
Michigan	1
Minnesota	1
Nebraska	2
New Jersey	2
New Mexico	2
New York	1
North Carolina	60
Ohio	1
South Carolina	3
Tennessee	1
Texas	1
Utah	1
Virginia	3
Washington	1
Not sure	1

Table 4: State of Employment, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
Alabama	2
Alaska	1
Arizona	2
Arkansas	2
California	57
Colorado	3
Connecticut	1
Delaware	1
District of Columbia	7
Florida	7
Georgia	14
Illinois	5
Indiana	2
Iowa	1
Kansas	1
Kentucky	1

Table 4: State of Employment, Master's Degree Recipients, *continued*

	N
Maine	1
Maryland	7
Massachusetts	14
Michigan	1
Minnesota	1
Mississippi	1
Missouri	1
New Hampshire	3
New Jersey	3
New Mexico	1
New York	10
North Carolina	372
North Dakota	1
Ohio	12
Oregon	1
Pennsylvania	8
Rhode Island	2
South Carolina	17
Tennessee	5
Texas	18
Utah	3
Virginia	29
Washington	13
Wisconsin	1
Not sure	11

May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey
Appendix C: Graduate/Professional Schools Students Will Be Attending
(among those who currently enrolled in another graduate degree program or
have been accepted and know where they will be going)

Table 1: Name of Graduate/Professional School Attending, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
Cairo University	1
Capella University	1
Dartmouth College	1
Duke University	1
East Carolina University	2
Emory University	3
George Mason University	1
Johns Hopkins	1
Methodist University	1
Michigan State University	1
NC State University	76
Ohio University	1
Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University	1
The Ohio State University	1
UNC Chapel Hill	5
UNC Greensboro	1
University of Nairobi	1
University of South Carolina School of Medicine	1
Usciences Philadelphia	1

May 2018 Graduate Future Plans Survey
Appendix D: Complete List of Degrees Graduate Students are Pursuing
(among those who currently enrolled in another graduate degree program or
have been accepted and know where they will be going)

Table 1: Master's Degree Program Enrolled In, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
MA	1
MBA	4
MEM	1
MLIS	2
MMSc	2
MPA	1
MS	3
MTS	1

Table 2: Doctoral Degree Program Enrolled In, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
EdD	3
PhD	76

Table 3: Professional Degree Program Enrolled In, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
DDS	2
DPT	1
JD	1
MD	3