

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ANALYTICS

2021 FUTURE PLANS REPORT

The NC State University Office of Institutional Strategy and Analysis is charged with measuring and reporting student outcomes for degree earners each academic year. Known as the Graduate Future Plans Survey (GFPS) for masters and doctorate recipients, data are collected through three surveys implemented to cover graduates for fall, spring and summer. The results of the GFPS are published about 6 months after the third and final survey each academic year. The first GFPS report was published for the May 2018 graduating class.

GFPS data presented here illustrate the Institute's outcomes relative to the results for other academic units within the University (the ten colleges), and the university's overall average for master's degree graduates for the period of observation. The analysis focuses on the frequency of the top ratings (i.e., %-Excellent, or %-Very Satisfied) on each metric.

FINDINGS:

- On each of 12 Program Quality metrics, the Institute's "%-Excellent" score exceeded the University's average score; The Institute's score was the top-ranking score among the academic units on 8 of the 12 metrics. The Institute's %-Excellent score for "program effectiveness" was 83%, the top-ranking score and well above the University's score of 52%.
- On each of 4 Student Satisfaction metrics, the Institute's "%-Very Satisfied" score exceeded the University's average score; The Institute's score was the top-ranking score on 3 of the 4 metrics. The Institute ranked highest in the "overall satisfaction" with 75% of students indicating they were "very satisfied" with the MSA program, compare to 50% for the university. The Institute earned the top score in overall satisfaction in each of the 4 years the survey was conducted.
- In terms of student outcomes, the Institute had a 98% job placement rate, compared to 72% for the University overall, and its graduates earned an average starting salary 17% higher than the University average.
- The Institute's results are based on responses from 97% of its graduates, and are therefore a reliable indicator of sentiment for the Class of '21 cohort free of non-response bias. The University overall response rate is 66%.
- The Institute achieved these results in spite of the fact the Class of '21 completed the program remotely due to pandemic restrictions on campus.

The Institute has a high participation rate for the GFPS, ranging from 96-100% each year. The GFPS response rate for the University is typically around 65-69%.

Although the Institute is a small academic unit, it has more master's degree graduates than 4 of the 10 colleges each year, and is among the top-10 largest producers of master's graduates when ranked along side the roughly one-hundred master's programs offered by the university.

Survey Response Rates by Academic Unit

Academic Unit	Population	Respondents	Response Rate
Institute for Advanced Analytics	117	113	97%
College of Engineering	1,021	709	69%
College of Education	314	212	68%
College of Design	76	51	67%
College of Textiles	54	36	67%
College of Science	232	151	65%
College of Natural Resources	93	59	63%
College of Humanities and Social Sciences	276	175	63%
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences	239	134	56%
College of Management	368	200	54%
College of Veterinary Medicine	5	1	20%
University Total	2,795	1,841	66%

Notes:

- (1) The total population includes 769 masters graduates in December 2020, 1728 graduates in May 2021 (including all of the Institute's graduates), and 298 graduates in August 2021;
- (2) The Institute had 118 graduates in AY2020-21; however, 117 are counted in the survey population for reasons unknown;
- (3) Veterinary Medicine is excluded from the analysis due to insufficient sample size.

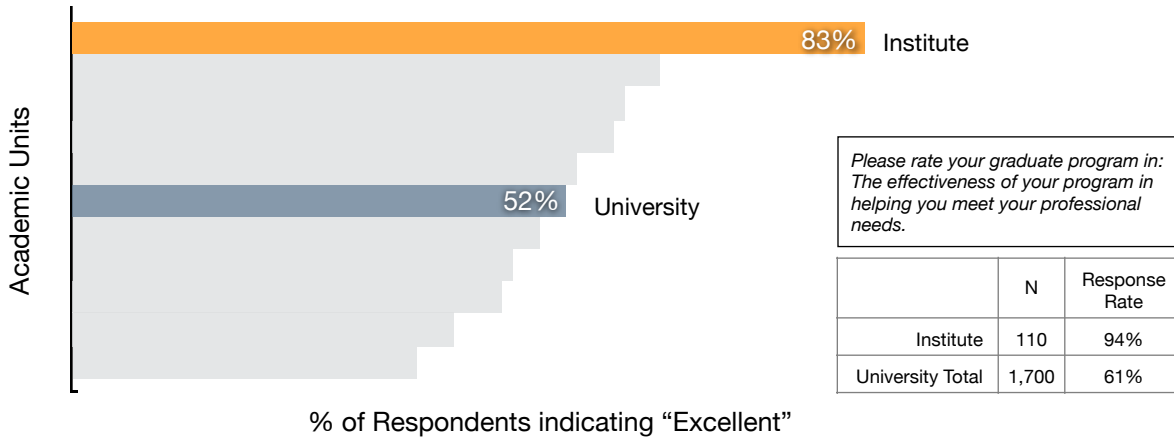
Program Quality Metrics – Summary of Results

Questionnaire Item	% “Excellent” Responses	
	Institute	University
1. Effectiveness of Program	83%	52%
2. Overall Quality of the Faculty	75%	55%
3. Confidence in Research Abilities	51%	44%
4. Professional Development Opportunities	80%	38%
5. Quality of Classroom Teaching	64%	49%
6. Cooperation and Helpfulness of the Director	62%	56%
7. Cooperation and Helpfulness of the Staff	84%	59%
8. Mentoring Received from Faculty	68%	50%
9. Attention to Ethics	66%	57%
10. Space, Facilities, and Equipment	70%	52%
11. Respect for Students	73%	63%
12. Overall Graduate Experience	75%	54%
AVERAGE SCORE	71%	52%

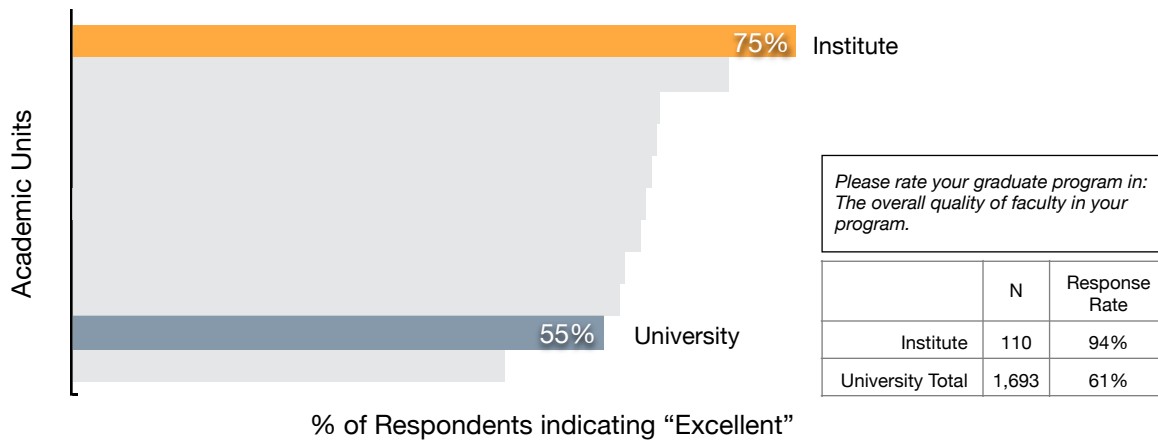
Student Satisfaction Metrics – Summary of Results

Questionnaire Item	% “Very Satisfied” Responses	
	Institute	University
Satisfaction with Job	62%	49%
Preparation for Future Plans	69%	57%
Satisfaction with Career Guidance	69%	26%
Overall Satisfaction with Graduate Program	75%	50%
AVERAGE SCORE	69%	46%

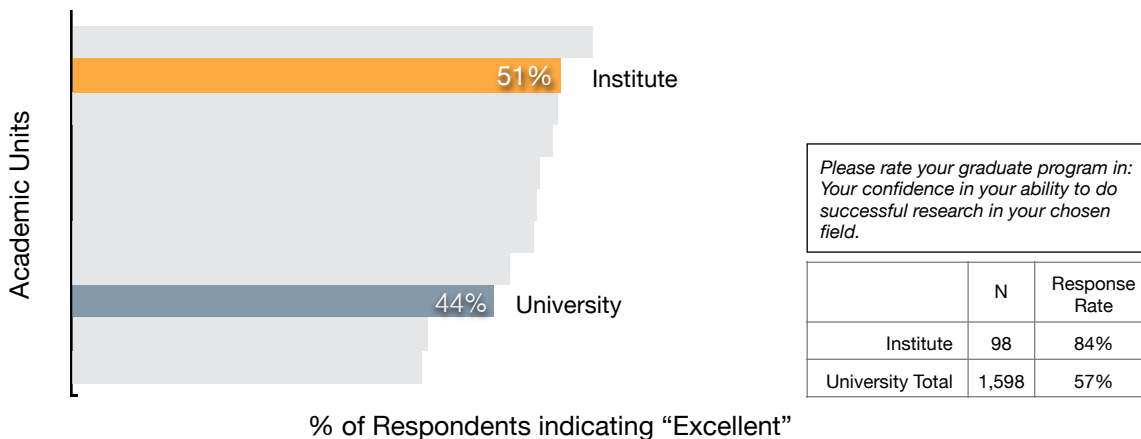
1. Effectiveness of Program



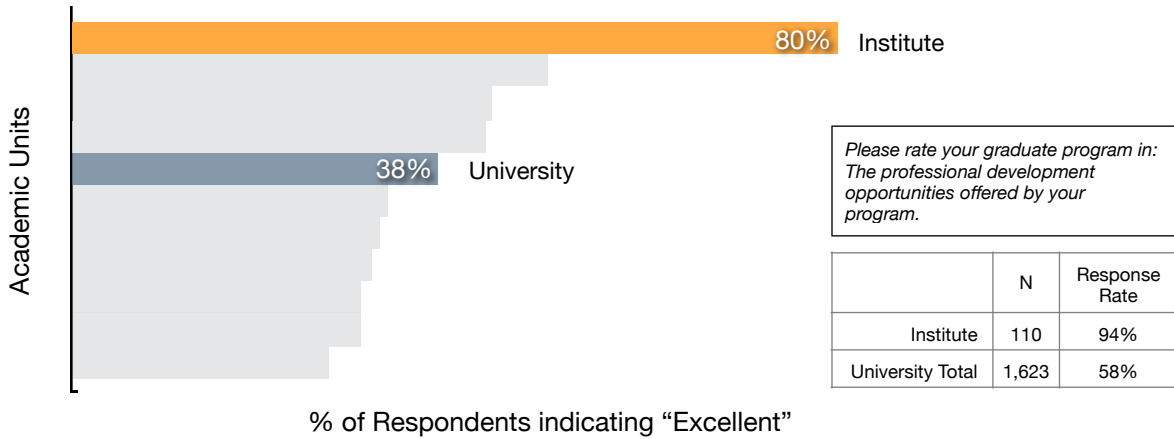
2. Overall Quality of the Faculty



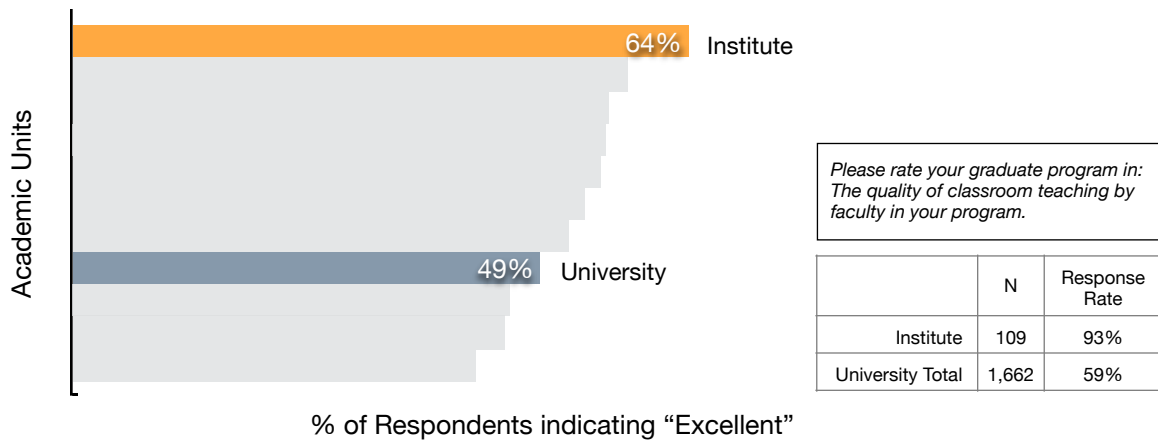
3. Confidence in Research Abilities



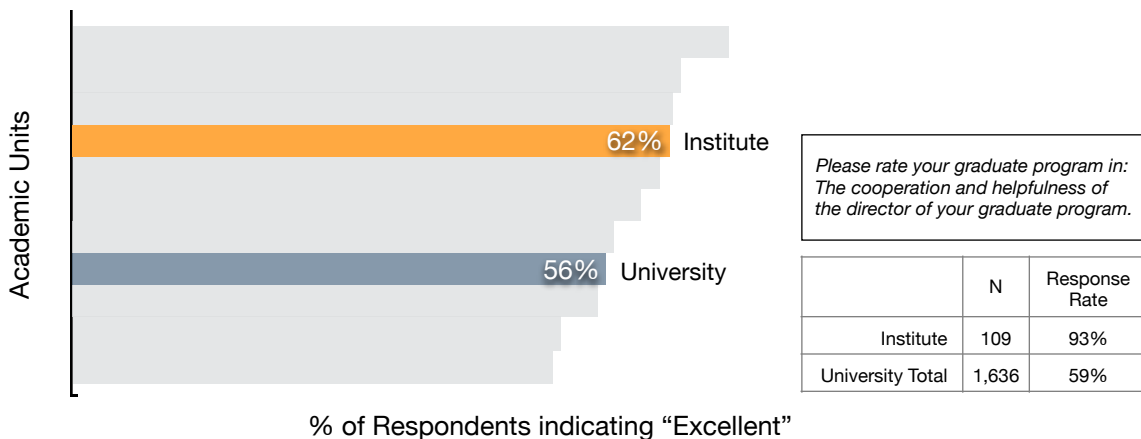
4. Professional Development Opportunities



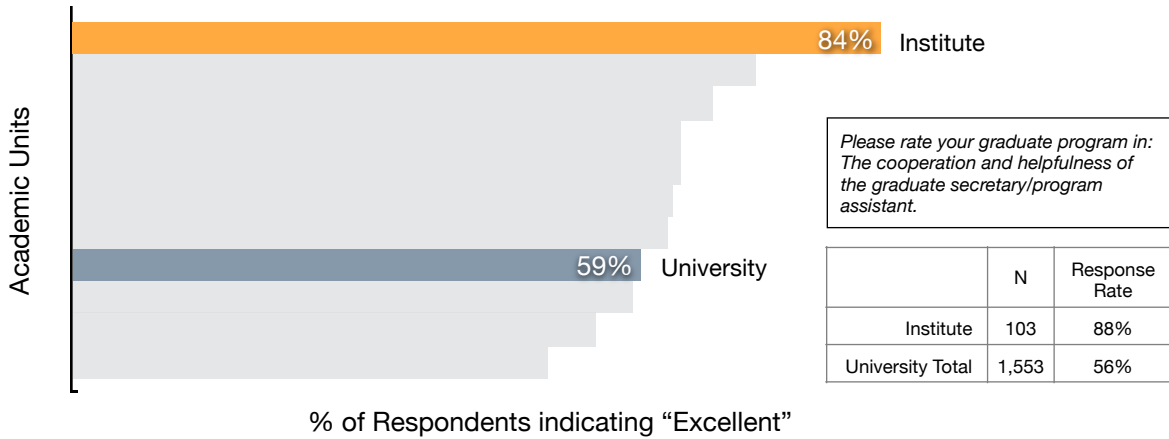
5. Quality of Classroom Teaching



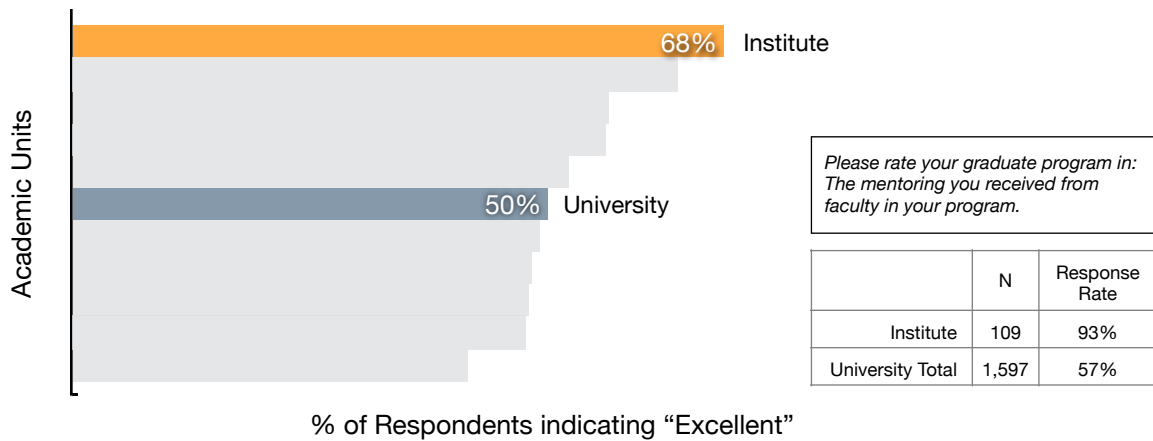
6. Cooperation and Helpfulness of the Director



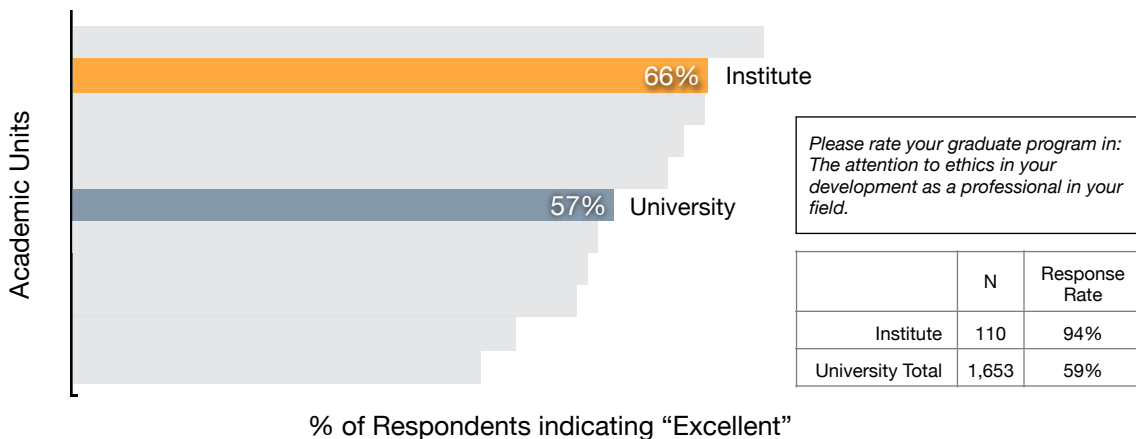
7. Cooperation and Helpfulness of the Program Staff



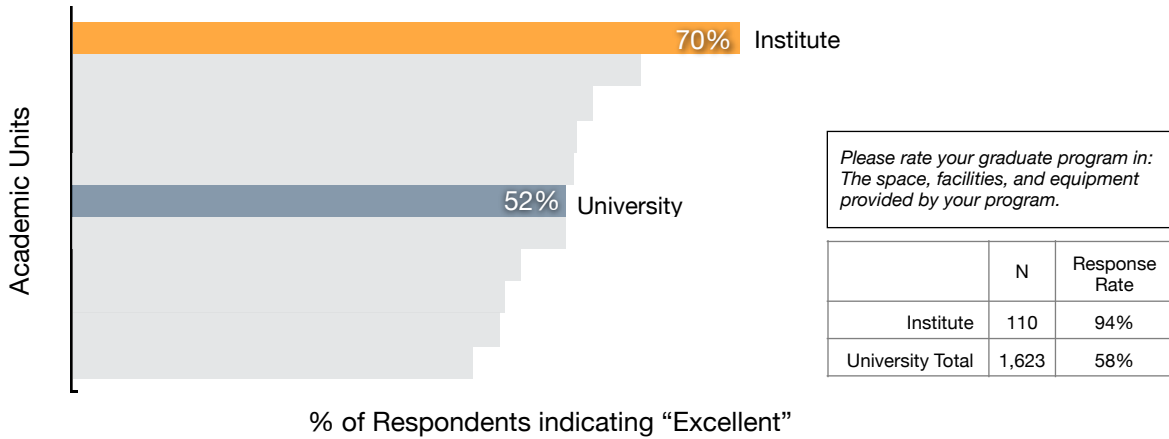
8. Mentoring Received from Faculty



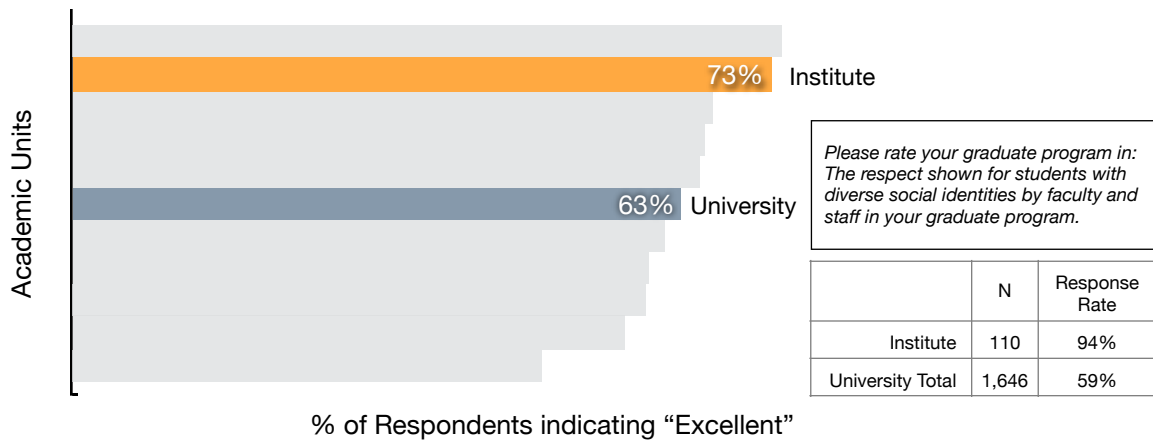
9. Attention to Ethics



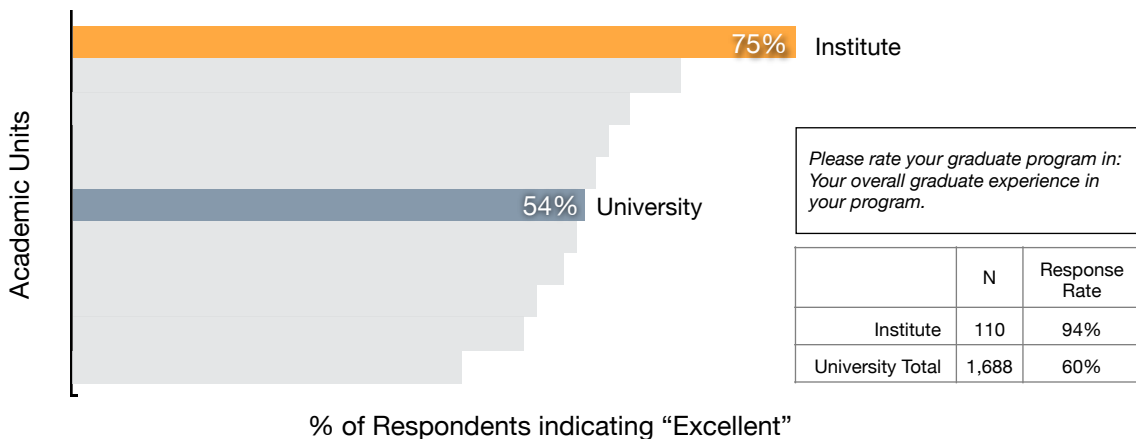
10. Space, Facilities, and Equipment



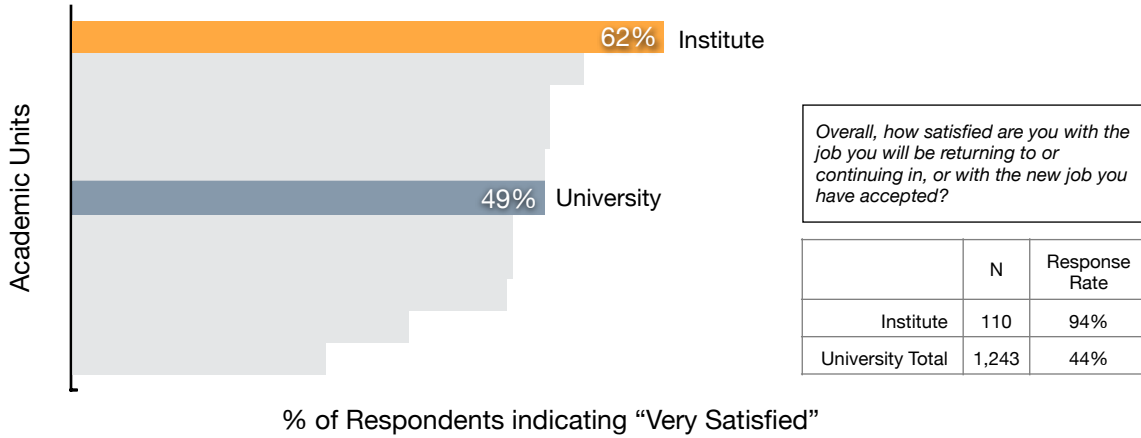
11. Respect for Students with Diverse Social Identities



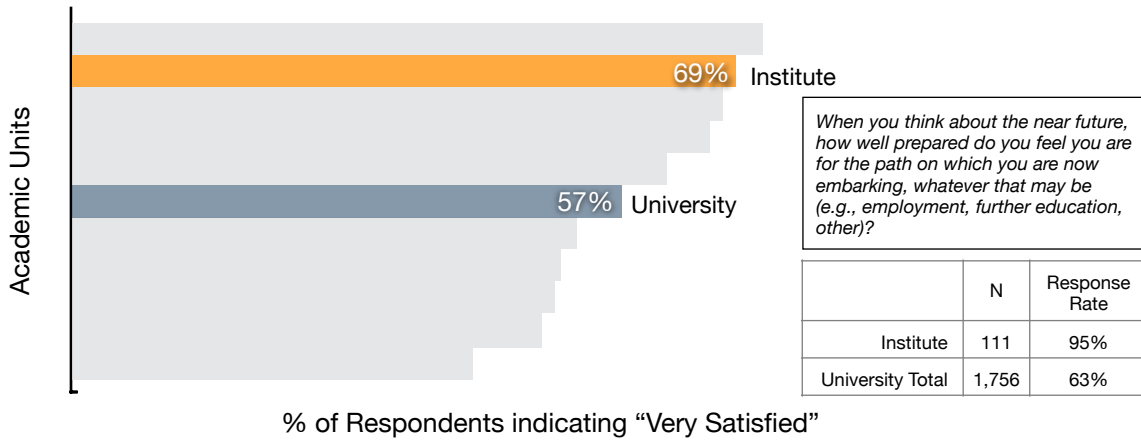
12. Overall Graduate Experience



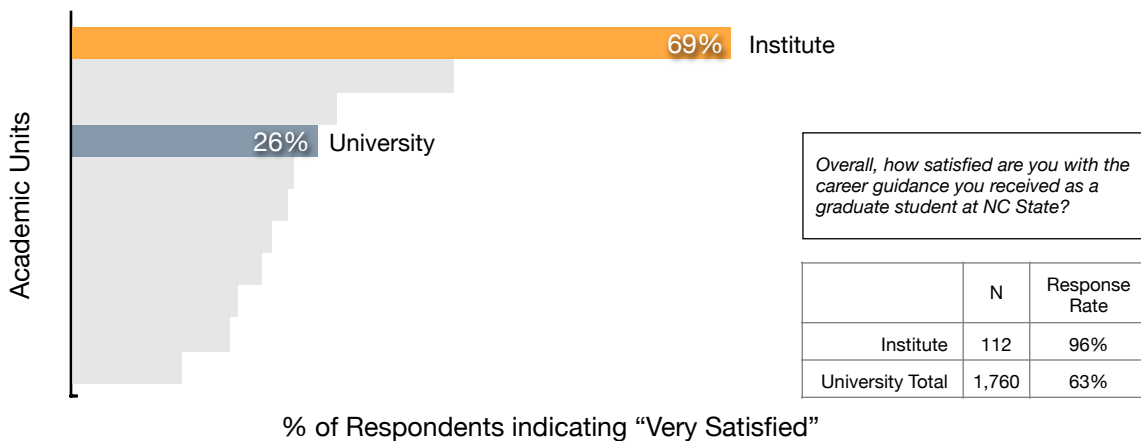
Satisfaction with Job (among those who accepted job offer)



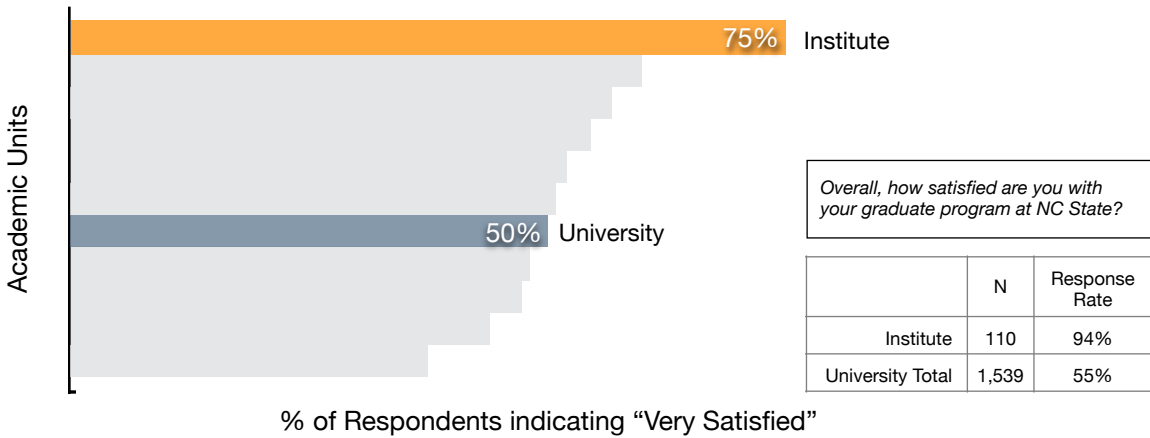
Preparation for Future Plans



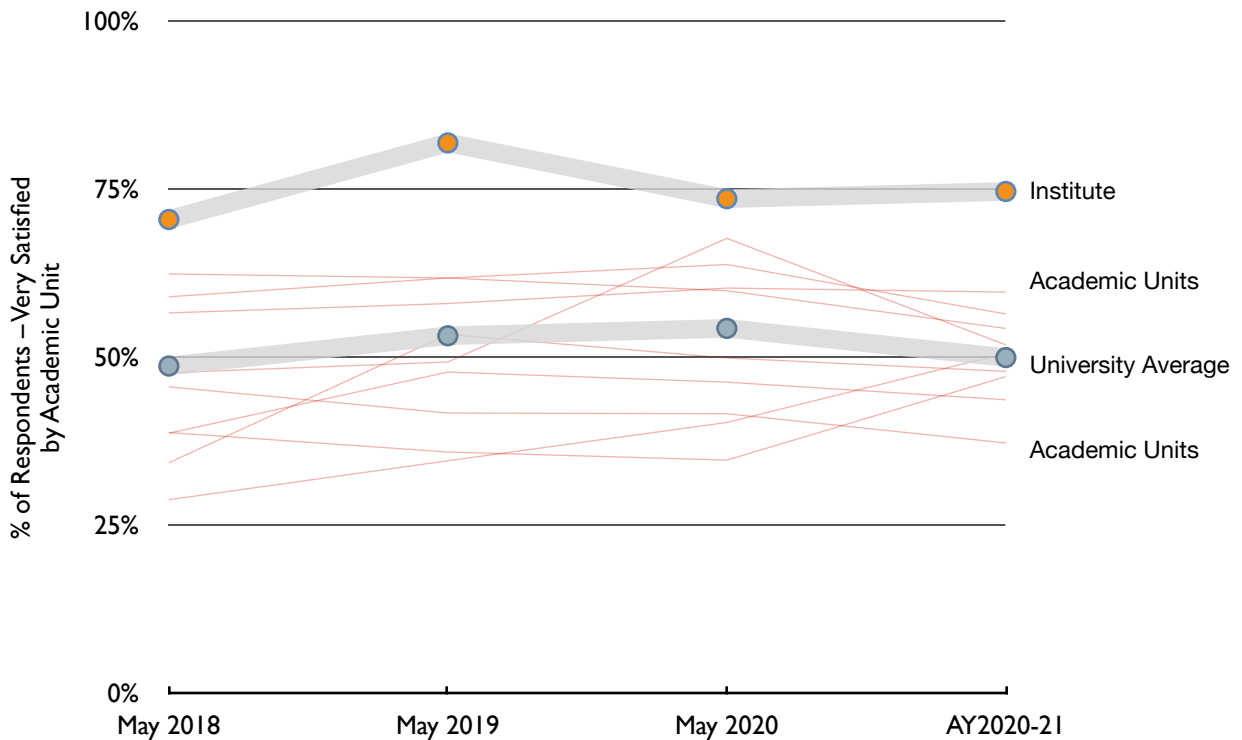
Satisfaction with Career Guidance



Overall Satisfaction with Graduate Program

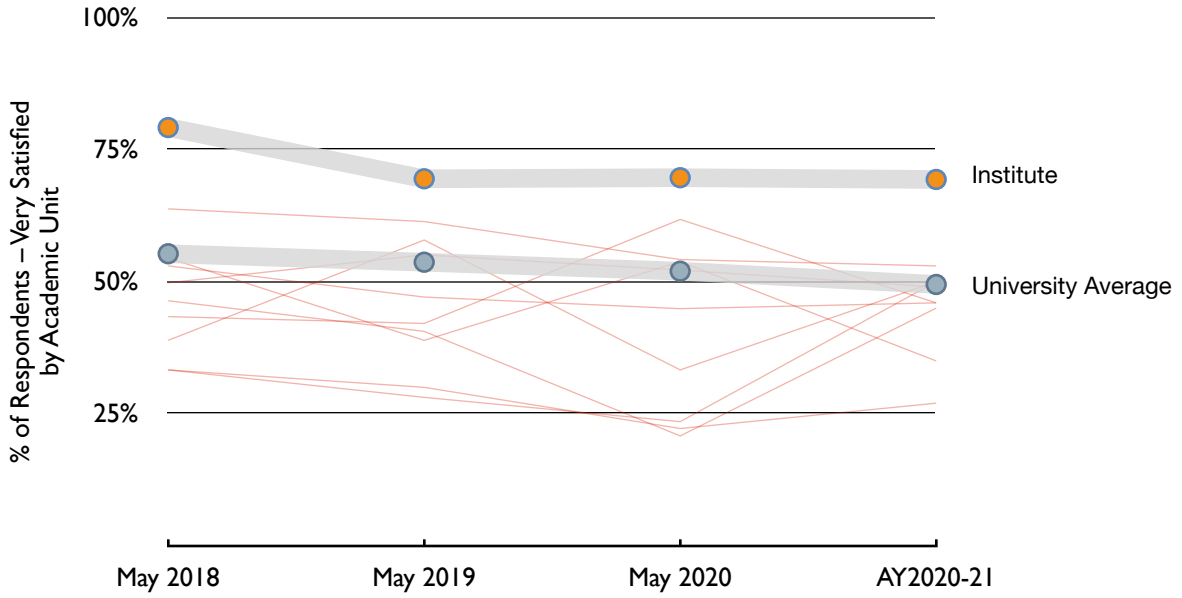


Trend in Satisfaction with Graduate Program



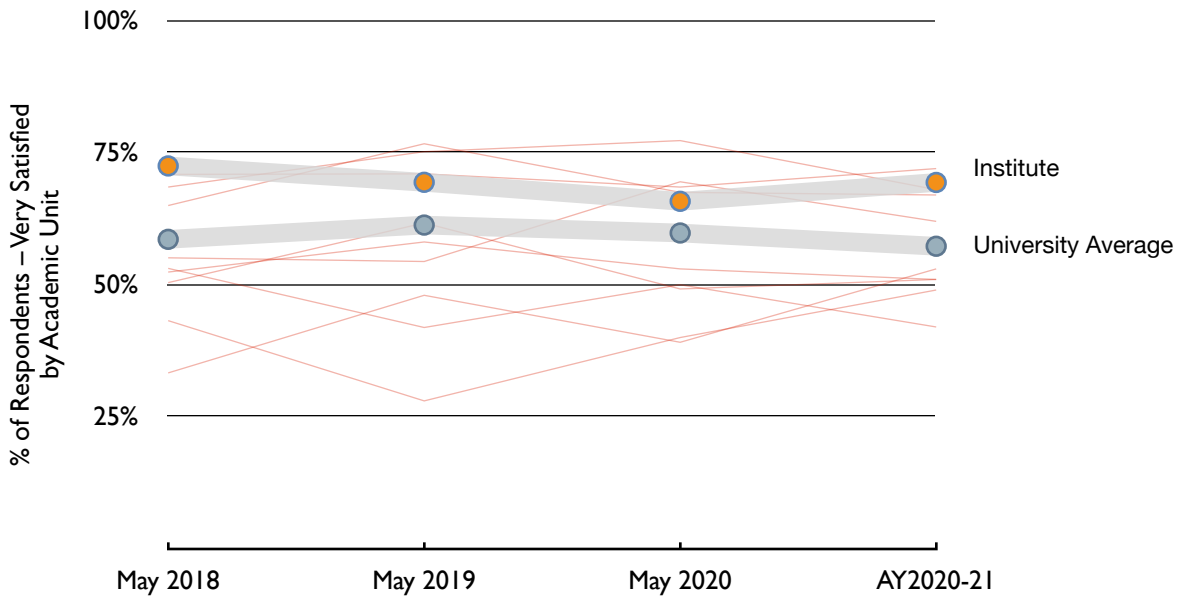
	Response Rate			
	May '18	May '19	May '20	AY20-21
Institute	98%	100%	96%	94%
University Total	67%	64%	65%	55%

Trend in Satisfaction with Job



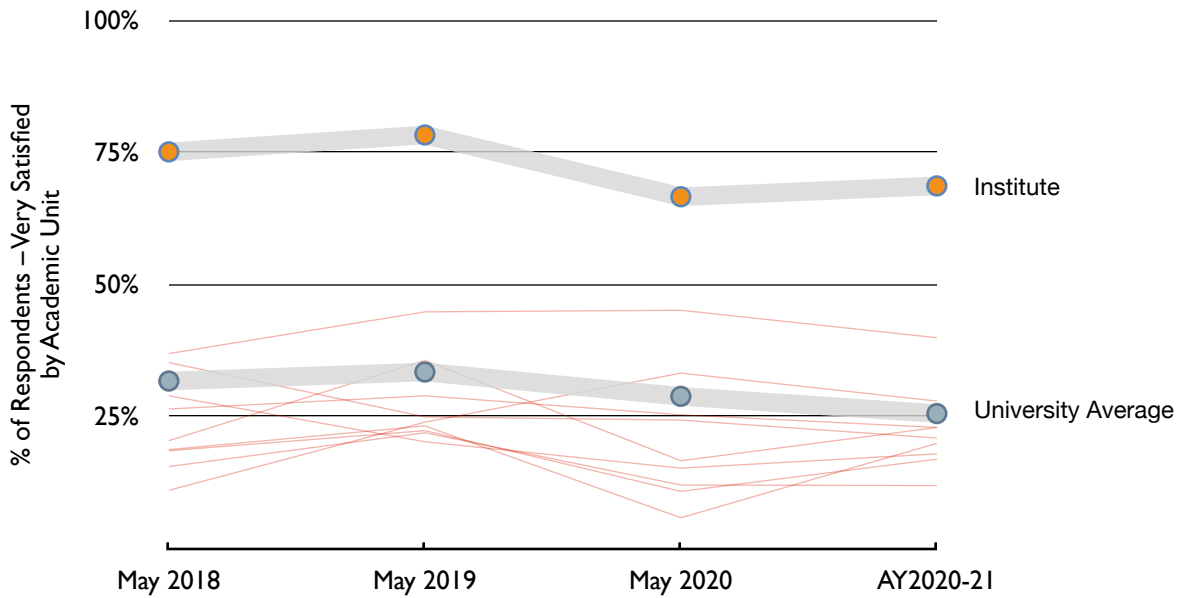
	Response Rate			
	May '18	May '19	May '20	AY20-21
Institute	92%	95%	78%	94%
University Total	42%	40%	36%	44%

Trend in Preparation for Future Plans



	Response Rate			
	May '18	May '19	May '20	AY20-21
Institute	99%	100%	96%	94%
University Total	69%	66%	68%	55%

Trend in Satisfaction with Career Guidance

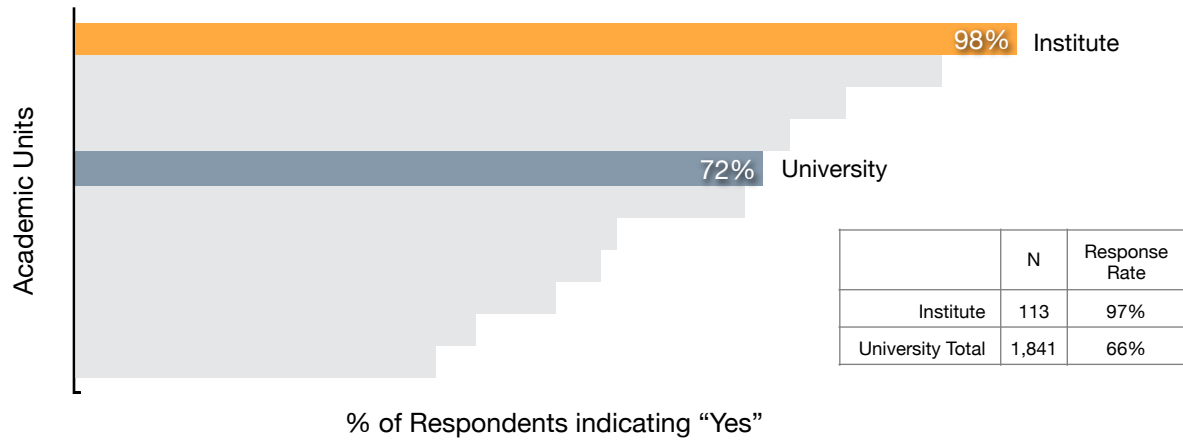


	Response Rate			
	May '18	May '19	May '20	AY20-21
Institute	98%	100%	96%	94%
University Total	66%	64%	63%	63%

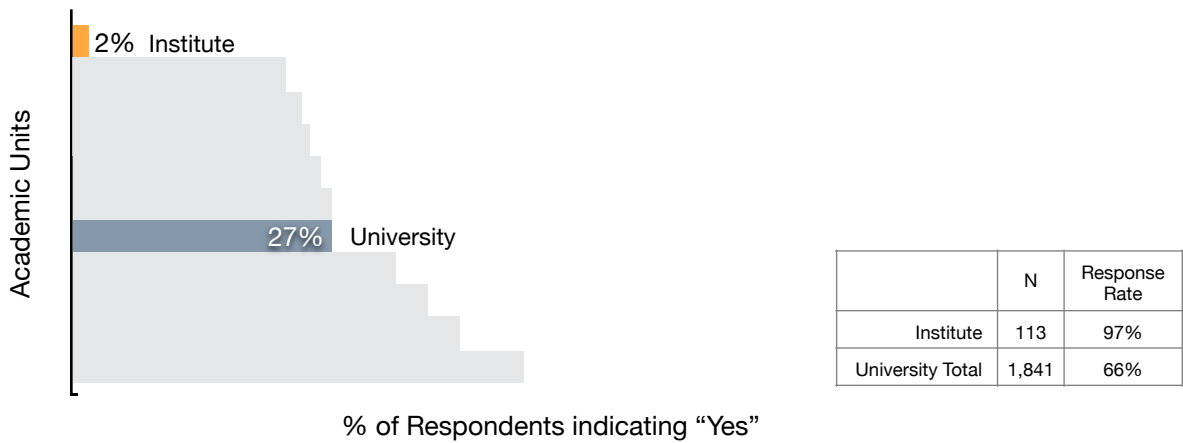
Student Outcomes Metrics – Summary of Results

Questionnaire Item	Response Rate	
	Institute	University
Currently Employed or Accepted Job Offer	98%	72%
Currently Seeking Employment	2%	27%
Annual Starting Salary is \$100,000 or More	50%	33%
Median starting salary	\$100,000	\$82,500
Average Starting Salary	\$99,097	\$84,634
Percent receiving signing bonus	58%	31%
Percent with debt owed for graduate degree	57%	49%

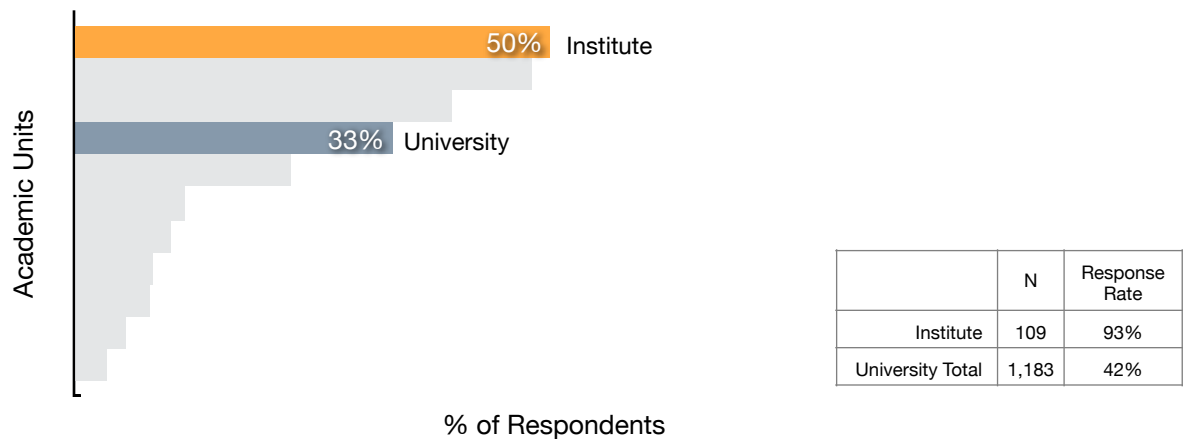
Currently Employed or Accepted Job Offer



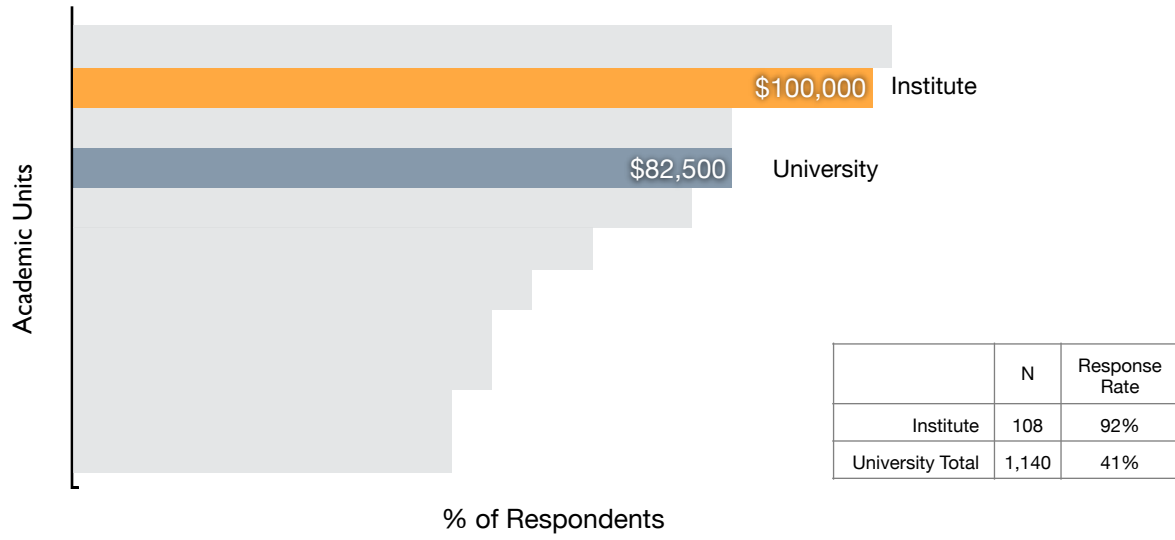
Currently Seeking Employment



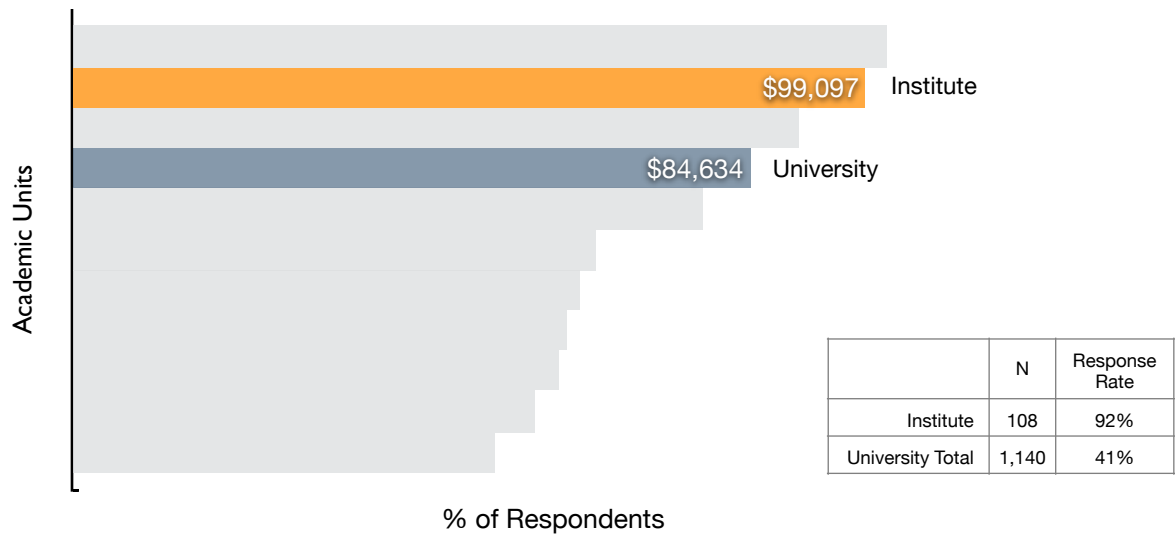
Annual Starting Salary is \$100,000 or More



Median Starting Salary



Average Starting Salary



About the Data

The Graduate Future Plans Survey population includes all master's students who have submitted an "application for degree" and been approved by their academic department to graduate at the end of the current semester. The survey is administered in the weeks surrounding fall and spring commencement exercises. In Fall 2020, there was no commencement ceremony due to COVID-19 precautions. However, the GFPS was in the field from November 19, 2020, through December 17, 2020. In Spring 2021, commencement was held on May 15, and the GFPS was in the field from May 4 to June 2.

The Graduate Survey of Recent Graduates, administered in September, is a follow-up survey to the GFPS. Students who did not participate in the GFPS when they graduated in either December or May, along with those who received their degree in either Summer I or Summer II (and therefore were not invited to participate in the GFPS that academic year), are invited to participate in the GSRG. In order to get updated information from them, GSRG invitations are also sent to all graduates from the past year who, at the time they completed either the December or May GFPS, indicated that they not yet found full-time employment, had not yet decided on or been accepted into graduate school, or were still undecided on their plans. The September 2021 Graduate Survey of Recent Graduates was in the field from August 31 to September 29.

The final survey population for the combined GFPS and GSRG surveys is all those who received a master's degree during the academic year, i.e., December 2020, May 2021, and 2021 Summer I and II. For respondents who completed both the GFPS and the follow-up GSRG, only their data from the GSRG are retained. For respondents who graduated in multiple semesters during the academic year (e.g., earned two master's and/or doctoral degrees), and submitted the GFPS in both December and May, or who submitted the GFPS and GSRG, only their data from the most recent survey is retained.

For more information see: Academic Year 2020-2021 [Combined Graduate Future Plans Surveys and Survey of Recent Graduates](#). Posted March 2022.

This report is prepared and certified by:



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Institute Director

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

<http://analytics.ncsu.edu>

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