



AUBURN

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MONTGOMERY®

2016-2017  
Graduation Survey Results



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Office of Institutional Effectiveness

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## Executive Summary

Seniors and graduate students are asked to respond to a graduation survey at the end of the semester that they are registered for graduation. In the 2016-2017 academic year (Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters), 537 (49.6%) students responded to the survey. Of these, a majority (68.5%) were undergraduate students.

The majority of undergraduates surveyed began as transfer students, ranging from 38.5% for the College of Arts and Sciences to 81.0% for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Based on these results, 56.5% of all graduating classes during the survey period started as transfer students. Further exploration of these results could reveal differences in satisfaction levels between first time freshmen and transfers.

While results of the graduation survey should be generalized to the total population with caution, there are several positive points. Of the Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) undergraduate students who anticipated working full-time after graduation, the percentage securing employment at or near the time of graduation was 57.2% for all respondents. The College of Nursing and Health Sciences showed the highest percentage of students securing employment at 85.1% percent. The lowest percentage of secured employment was in the College of Arts & Sciences (39.7%).

Over 62.2% of undergraduates were interested in further education, either in graduate or undergraduate programs. Almost 15.0% of all seniors, including those who did and did not express interest in graduate education, were accepted into graduate school at the time of graduation. Overall, undergraduate respondents reported being satisfied with how well their undergraduate experiences helped them acquire wide-ranging competencies, such as a broad general education in different fields of knowledge and an ability to think analytically. Of the competencies listed, approximately 80.0% said that they were either somewhat satisfied or very satisfied. Also, almost 87.0% of all AUM graduating seniors were satisfied that their undergraduate experiences helped them to develop an ability to think critically.

Both undergraduate and graduate program graduates reported being satisfied with their instruction and most experiences that they had in their major. At least 86.9% of undergraduates surveyed were either somewhat or very satisfied that their major field experiences helped them to develop an ability write effectively and to effectively communicate. There might be an opportunity for AUM to bolster career advising services in the major field, since fewer undergraduates (67.2%) and graduates (57.0%) reported satisfaction with this component of their experience.

Approximately 80.0% of undergraduate respondents said that they were either somewhat or very satisfied with their overall experiences at AUM, such as the accessibility of faculty in general, the extent to which campus was free of discrimination, and that the financial investment of attending AUM was worthwhile. A similar percentage of graduate level respondents were satisfied with these overall AUM experiences.

When students were asked if they would start over at AUM if they had to do it again, 61.1% of undergraduate completers and 73.7% of graduate completers agreed that they would. When asked if they would recommend AUM to others, over 91.5% of undergraduate respondents and over 95.7% of graduate students agreed that they would.

Introduction

At the end of each semester, undergraduate and graduate students who have registered for graduation are asked about their post-graduation plans and their experiences in their major and at AUM, in general. In this report, results are aggregated for the academic year (Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters) and disaggregated by the degree they anticipated receiving. Undergraduate degree-seekers were asked additional questions about their transfer status and their undergraduate experiences.

In 2016-2017, 537 graduating students responded to the survey for a response rate of 49.6%. Of these, **368** (68.5%) were undergraduate students and **169** (31.5%) were graduate students.

	<b>AUM (N=537)</b>	<b>Arts &amp; Sciences (n=132)</b>	<b>Business (n=137)</b>	<b>Education (n=127)</b>	<b>Nursing &amp; Health Sciences (n=79)</b>	<b>Public Policy &amp; Justice (n=62)</b>
<b>Undergraduate</b>	368 (68.5%)	104 (28.3%)	96 (26.1%)	54 (14.7%)	79 (21.5%)	35 (9.5%)
<b>Graduate</b>	169 (31.5%)	28 (16.6%)	41 (24.3%)	73 (43.2%)	-	27 (16.0%)

All colleges were represented at the undergraduate level; all colleges except for Nursing and Health Sciences (whose students are reported by Auburn University) were represented at the graduate level. With few exceptions, survey respondents were fairly representative of actual completers for each college.

		<b>Arts &amp; Sciences</b>	<b>Business</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Nursing &amp; Health Sciences</b>	<b>Public Policy &amp; Justice</b>
<b>Undergraduate</b>	Completers	25.9%	28.4%	12.6%	23.7%	9.4%
	Survey Responses	28.3%	26.1%	14.7%	21.5%	9.5%
<b>Graduate</b>	Completers	14.9%	26.0%	45.5%	-	13.6%
	Survey Responses	16.6%	24.3%	43.2%	-	16.0%

## Undergraduate Results

### Transfer Status

Of the graduating seniors who answered the survey, most (56.5%) transferred to AUM after attending another school. This was especially true of students in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (81.0%). Students who graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences were more likely than those from other schools to start and complete their coursework at AUM (61.5%).

	AUM (N=368)	Arts & Sciences (n=104)	Business (n=96)	Education (n=54)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=79)	Public Policy & Justice (n=35)
<b>Completed</b>	43.5%	61.5%	45.8%	40.7%	19.0%	42.9%
<b>Transferred to AUM</b>	56.5%	38.5%	54.2%	59.3%	81.0%	57.1%

### Post-graduation Plans

Undergraduate students were asked if they planned on obtaining further education or gaining employment after graduation. A majority of students in each college anticipated working full-time and attending graduate/professional school after graduation. Students indicating that they had no plans to be employed were not counted (N=29).

	AUM (N=339)	Arts & Sciences (n=90)	Business (n=83)	Education (n=53)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=79)	Public Policy & Justice (n=34)
<b>Full-time Employment Only</b>	30.4%	24.4%	36.1%	32.1%	29.1%	32.4%
<b>Part-time Employment Only</b>	0.6%	0.0%	1.2%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%
<b>Part-time Employment and Additional Undergraduate Education</b>	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	1.3%	0.0%
<b>Part-time Employment and Graduate/Professional School</b>	7.7%	15.6%	7.2%	5.7%	1.3%	5.9%
<b>Full-time Employment and Additional Undergraduate Education</b>	3.2%	4.4%	2.4%	3.8%	3.8%	0.0%
<b>Full-time Employment and Graduate/Professional School</b>	50.7%	45.6%	43.4%	54.7%	58.2%	58.8%
<b>Full-time or Part-time Employment or Enrollment in a Certificate Program</b>	6.8%	10.0%	9.6%	1.9%	5.1%	2.9%

Of the undergraduate students who anticipated being employed full-time after graduation, 57.2% of all AUM students had either secured or been offered positions. Nursing students were most successful in securing positions (85.1%) while students from the College of Arts & Sciences were least successful (39.7%). With the exception of Arts and Sciences, students reported that most of the jobs that were obtained were at least marginally related to the awarded degree.

Full-time Employment	AUM (N=297)	Arts & Sciences (n=68)	Business (n=74)	Education (n=49)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=74)	Public Policy & Justice (n=32)
Secured Employment, or Offered Employment, prior to graduation	57.2%	39.7%	58.1%	49.0%	85.1%	40.6%
<i>*Very Related to Degree</i>	67.4%	45.8%	50.0%	62.5%	94.3%	45.5%
<i>*Marginally Related to Degree</i>	23.1%	33.3%	41.2%	31.3%	1.9%	36.4%
<i>*Unrelated to Degree</i>	9.4%	20.8%	8.8%	6.3%	3.8%	18.2%
Not Employed (Currently, or Will Begin,	42.8%	60.3%	45.6%	51.0%	14.9%	59.4%

More than half of all students (58.7%) who said that they secured employment anticipated working in the River Region area (Autauga, Elmore, Lowndes, and Montgomery counties).

Employer Location	AUM (N=126)	Arts & Sciences (n=22)	Business (n=30)	Education (n=12)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=52)	Public Policy & Justice (n=10)
River Region	58.7%	68.2%	80.0%	50.0%	36.5%	100.0%
Alabama (Outside River Region)	29.4%	4.5%	10.0%	41.7%	53.8%	0.0%
United States (Outside Alabama)	9.5%	18.2%	6.7%	8.3%	9.6%	0.0%
Another Country	1.6%	4.5%	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Multiple Locations	0.8%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

According to the most recent data available from the Alabama Department of Labor (2017), Alabama's mean hourly wage for all occupations was \$21.05. The mean hourly pay of seniors who reported having a secured full-time position was \$19.47. Over half (67.2%) of all AUM graduating seniors reported a starting income of \$15.00 or greater.

Hourly Pay Rate	AUM (N=64)	Arts & Sciences (n=11)	Business (n=10)	Education (n=3)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=36)	Public Policy & Justice (n=4)
<\$9.99	7.8%	18.2%	10.0%	33.3%	0.0%	25.0%
\$10.00-\$14.99	25.0%	63.6%	50.0%	66.7%	0.0%	50.0%
\$15.00-\$19.99	7.8%	0.0%	30.0%	0.0%	5.6%	0.0%
\$20.00-\$24.99	42.2%	18.2%	10.0%	0.0%	63.9%	25.0%
\$25.00-\$29.99	14.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%
>\$29.99	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.1%	0.0%

Graduating students were asked how they learned of the secured full-time position. Most (22.3%) reported that they learned of the position due to being previously employed by the organization, while many others (21.8%) said they were referred by a family member, friend, or faculty member. Interestingly, it is the overwhelming response of Business students who reported learning of the position from friends or family (29.6%) that influenced the overall distribution. Students in Nursing and Health Sciences were more likely to cite previous employment by the organization as the way they learned of the position (33.3%).

Learned of Position	AUM (N=170)	Arts & Sciences (n=27)	Business (n=43)	Education (n=24)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=63)	Public Policy & Justice (n=13)
Referral by Career Services	1.8%	0.0%	4.7%	0.0%	1.6%	0.0%
Campus Interview	2.4%	0.0%	2.3%	4.2%	3.2%	0.0%
Contacted Employer Directly	13.0%	22.2%	14.0%	0.0%	15.9%	0.0%
Previously Employed by this Organization	22.3%	14.8%	18.6%	12.5%	33.3%	15.4%
Family/Friend/Faculty Referral	21.8%	29.6%	27.9%	25.0%	11.1%	30.8%
Online or Newspaper Job Listing	7.6%	3.7%	9.3%	4.2%	7.9%	15.4%
Family Business	0.6%	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

\*Note – n refers to number of responses, not number of responders. Some student indicated multiple methods.

When asked what primarily influenced them to accept a position, seniors reported a wide variety of reasons, including the opportunity for advancement (29.4%) and previous employment (21.8%). Business students were most influenced by the opportunity for advancement (44.2%); Education students had no choice that prevailed over others; and students in Nursing were more likely to report being influenced by previous employment (33.3%). Students in Arts and Sciences (7.4%) were least likely to cite salary as an influence and Public Policy and Justice (30.8%) more frequently cited opportunity for advancement.

Influence on Job Acceptance	AUM (N=170)	Arts & Sciences (n=27)	Business (n=43)	Education (n=24)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=63)	Public Policy & Justice (n=13)
Previous Employment	21.8%	22.2%	11.6%	12.5%	33.3%	15.4%
First Offer	13.5%	29.6%	14.0%	12.5%	6.3%	15.4%
Salary	11.2%	7.4%	14.0%	12.5%	12.7%	0.0%
Geographic Location	15.9%	29.6%	14.0%	8.3%	17.5%	7.7%
Reputation of Company	18.8%	29.6%	18.6%	8.3%	20.6%	7.7%
Opportunity for Advancement	29.4%	29.6%	44.2%	8.3%	27.0%	30.8%

\*Note – n refers to number of responses, not number of responders. Some student indicated multiple methods

Of the students who anticipated attending graduate school, 9.7% were offered admission in programs prior to graduation. Business had the highest graduate or professional school acceptance rate (27.7%).

Graduate or Professional School	AUM (N=207)	Arts & Sciences (n=63)	Business (n=47)	Education (n=32)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=46)	Public Policy & Justice (n=19)
Have been accepted and plan on attending a graduate program	9.7%	9.5%	23.4%	0.0%	6.5%	0.0%
Have been offered admission to at least one program, but haven't accepted	4.3%	7.9%	4.3%	0.0%	0.0%	10.5%
Wait listed; will attend if accepted	5.3%	3.2%	2.1%	6.3%	6.5%	15.8%
Will begin applying immediately after graduation	24.2%	27.0%	21.3%	21.9%	21.7%	31.6%
Will not apply immediately, but will apply in the next year	45.4%	46.0%	38.3%	56.3%	47.8%	36.8%
Other	11.1%	6.3%	10.6%	15.6%	17.4%	5.3%

Of the students who were admitted to graduate school, 58.6% said they were accepted by their first choice. Only students in Business (7.7%) reported being admitted into a second-choice institution. 37.9% of students surveyed did not indicate a preference for the graduate school to which they were admitted.

Program Choice	AUM (N=29)	Arts & Sciences (n=11)	Business (n=13)	Education (n=0)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=3)	Public Policy & Justice (n=2)
First	58.6%	54.5%	61.5%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Second	3.4%	0.0%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
No preference indicated	37.9%	45.5%	30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%

Of students admitted to graduate school 17.2% reported receiving a graduate assistantship/grant or award for graduate school.

Award	AUM (N=29)	Arts & Sciences (n=11)	Business (n=13)	Education (n=0)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=3)	Public Policy & Justice (n=2)
Graduate Assistantship/Grant or Award	17.2%	9.1%	30.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%



A majority of undergraduate respondents (62.9%) expressed satisfaction that the university assisted them in helping prepare for their post-graduation goals. Similarly, a majority of (73.5%) were satisfied that their overall experiences at AUM prepared them for their post-graduate goals.

University Assistance Helped Prepare for Post-Graduate Goals	AUM (N=264)	Arts & Sciences (n=79)	Business (n=68)	Education (n=37)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n=52)	Public Policy & Justice (n=28)
Very Satisfied or Somewhat Satisfied	62.9%	55.7%	70.6%	64.9%	71.2%	46.4%
Overall Experiences at AUM Helped Prepare for Post-Graduate Goals	(n=264)	(n=79)	(n=68)	(n=37)	(n=52)	(n=28)
Very Satisfied or Somewhat Satisfied	73.5%	64.6%	80.9%	86.5%	78.8%	53.6%

### General Undergraduate Experiences

Graduating seniors were asked how well their general undergraduate experiences at AUM helped them acquire broad competencies. For all items, most respondents reported that they were satisfied (either somewhat satisfied or very satisfied).

Based on what you know now, how satisfied are you that your general undergraduate experiences at AUM...	AUM (N≈284)	Arts & Sciences (n≈84)	Business (n≈74)	Education (n≈45)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n≈56)	Public Policy & Justice (n≈25)
helped develop an ability to think critically	87.0%	85.7%	91.9%	86.7%	85.7%	80.0%
helped develop an ability to effectively communicate orally	85.2%	81.0%	91.9%	82.2%	83.9%	88%
helped develop interpersonal skills	83.8%	77.4%	90.5%	88.9%	83.9%	76%
helped develop an ability to collect and analyze data from a variety of sources	88.0%	84.5%	95.9%	80.0%	89.3%	88.0%
helped use information technology to enhance your intellectual or professional pursuits	84.2%	78.6%	91.9%	86.7%	85.7%	72.0%
helped have an awareness of societal issues in today's world	76.4%	76.2%	81.1%	73.3%	76.8%	68.0%
helped develop and appreciation of the arts	72.2%	76.2%	68.9%	80.0%	66.1%	68.0%
helped acquire new skills and knowledge on your own	88.0%	88.1%	91.9%	84.4%	89.3%	80.0%
helped gain a broad general education in different fields of knowledge	82.0%	81.0%	86.5%	77.8%	82.1%	80.0%
challenged you to do your best academically	84.2%	82.1%	86.5%	82.2%	87.5%	80.0%
helped develop an ability to effectively communicate in writing	87.7%	90.5%	89.2%	84.4%	83.9%	88.0%
helped develop an ability to use quantitative reasoning	83.5%	79.8%	89.2%	84.4%	83.9%	76.0%
helped develop intercultural knowledge and understanding	81.7%	79.8%	86.5%	80.0%	85.7%	68.0%

Major Field Experiences

Seniors responded to a series of questions about their experiences in their major. For all items, the majority of respondents reported that they were satisfied with their experiences (either somewhat satisfied or very satisfied).

Based on what you know now, how satisfied are you that your experiences in your major field at AUM...	AUM (N≈290)	Arts & Sciences (n≈83)	Business (n≈76)	Education (n≈46)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n≈59)	Public Policy & Justice (n≈26)
helped develop an ability to write effectively	86.9%	86.7%	86.8%	91.3%	88.1%	76.9%
helped develop an ability to communicate effectively	84.1%	80.7%	85.5%	89.1%	84.7%	80.8%
provided a well-integrated set of courses	83.8%	80.7%	85.5%	89.1%	84.7%	76.9%
provided high-quality instruction	83.4%	79.5%	86.8%	89.1%	83.1%	76.9%
provided high-quality program advising	75.9%	81.9%	61.8%	82.6%	81.4%	73.1%
provided high-quality career advising	67.2%	63.9%	64.5%	73.9%	74.6%	57.7%
provided opportunity for communication between faculty and students regarding needs and concerns	83.1%	80.7%	88.2%	84.8%	83.1%	73.1%

Overall AUM Experiences

Seniors anticipating graduation were asked to rate their satisfaction with their overall experiences at AUM. Responding students expressed a high degree of satisfaction (somewhat satisfied or very satisfied) with these experiences.

Thinking about your overall experiences at AUM, please indicate your satisfaction with the following:	AUM (N≈292)	Arts & Sciences (n≈84)	Business (n≈75)	Education (n≈46)	Nursing & Health Sciences (n≈60)	Public Policy & Justice (n≈27)
The accessibility of faculty in general	84.6%	85.7%	85.3%	91.3%	85.0%	66.7%
The extent to which the campus environment was free of discrimination	83.6%	83.3%	92.0%	84.8%	75.0%	77.8%
Your overall course of study	84.2%	79.8%	90.7%	80.4%	86.7%	81.5%
That AUM fosters and exemplifies excellence in education	81.5%	77.4%	88.0%	82.6%	85.0%	66.7%
That the financial investment was worthwhile	72.6%	61.9%	82.7%	80.4%	75.0%	59.3%
Your overall AUM experience	82.9%	78.6%	88.0%	87.0%	85.0%	70.4%

Educational Enrichment Activities

Seniors were asked to report if they participated in activities designed to enhance their educational experiences or to provide a culminating experience. Overall, few students reported participating in study abroad opportunities or an internship not arranged by AUM (9.8% and 8.2%, respectively). Graduates of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences were overwhelmingly most likely to report engagement in clinical assignments (51.9%) and were most likely to report participating in community service required as part of their program (32.9%). Students in the College of Education were most likely to report participating in arranged internships (81.5%) and practica (55.6%). Students in Arts and Sciences were more likely to participate in capstone courses (32.7%) than students in other Colleges.

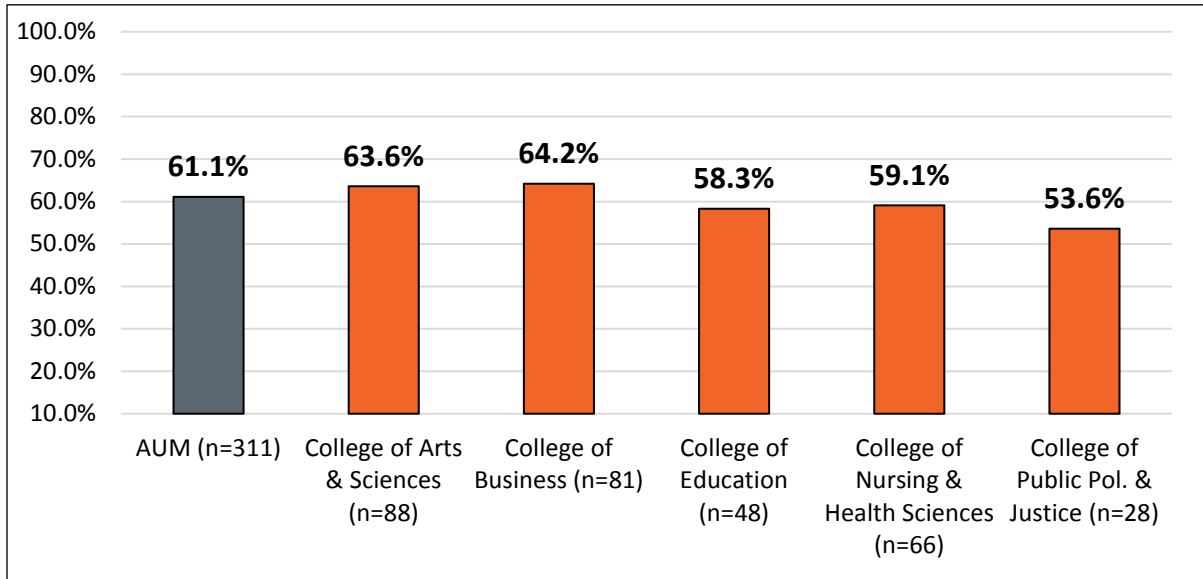
<b>Activities</b>	<b>AUM (N=368)</b>	<b>Arts &amp; Sciences (n=104)</b>	<b>Business (n=96)</b>	<b>Education (n=54)</b>	<b>Nursing &amp; Health Sciences (n=79)</b>	<b>Public Policy &amp; Justice (n=35)</b>
<b>Internship Arranged by AUM, School, or Department</b>	21.7%	12.5%	10.4%	81.5%	13.9%	5.7%
<b>Internship Not Arranged by AUM, School, or Department</b>	8.2%	2.9%	14.6%	13.0%	2.5%	11.4%
<b>Practicum</b>	16.0%	10.6%	0.0%	55.6%	22.8%	0.0%
<b>Clinical Assignment</b>	13.0%	3.8%	1.0%	3.7%	51.9%	0.0%
<b>Capstone Course</b>	17.9%	32.7%	28.1%	1.9%	0.0%	11.4%
<b>Study Abroad</b>	9.8%	20.2%	8.3%	5.6%	3.8%	2.9%
<b>Community Service as Part of a Course</b>	11.7%	11.5%	8.3%	22.2%	12.7%	2.9%
<b>Program Required Community Service</b>	14.4%	8.7%	7.3%	16.7%	32.9%	5.7%
<b>Community Service as Part of an AUM Organization or Group</b>	26.6%	27.9%	29.2%	37.0%	24.0%	5.7%
<b>Community Service not Affiliated with AUM</b>	21.7%	24.0%	22.9%	18.5%	21.5%	17.1%

Totals do not add up to 100%, since multiple responses were allowed.

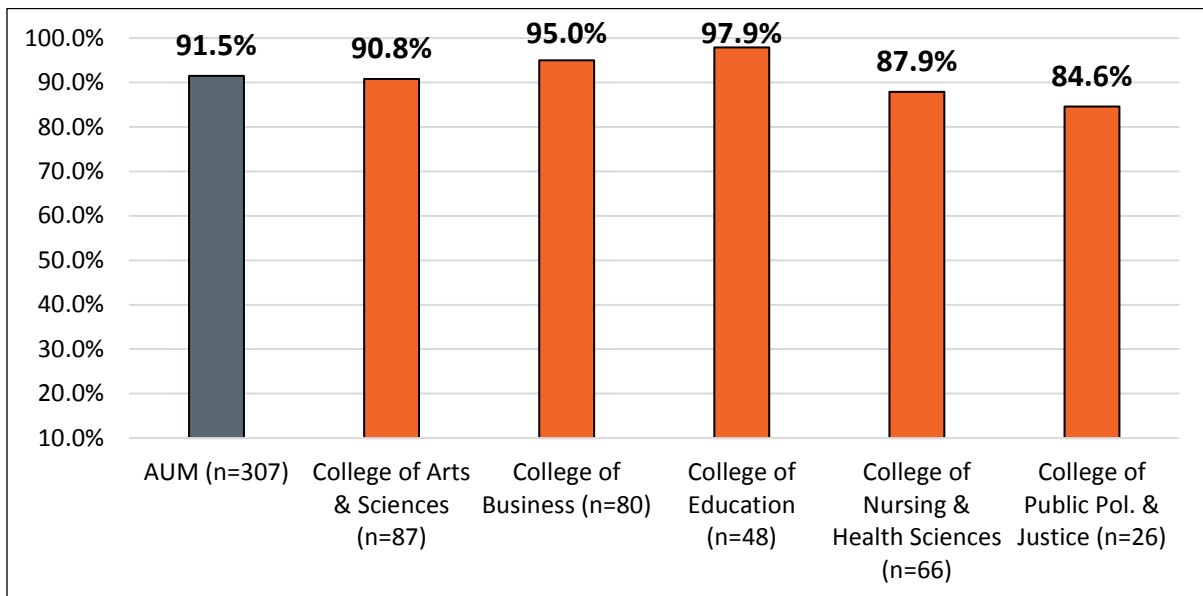
## AUM Sentiment

Graduating seniors were asked two questions to determine their sentiment for AUM. One asked if students would attend AUM again if they had to do it again. Almost two-thirds or more of the respondents in all schools said they would. The second question asked if students would recommend AUM to others. Over four-fifths of the respondents in each school agreed that they would recommend AUM.

### Thinking about your overall experiences at AUM, would you start over if you had to do it again?



### Thinking about your overall experiences at AUM, would you recommend AUM to others?



## Graduate Results

### Post-graduation Plans

Graduate students were asked if they planned on obtaining further education or gaining employment after graduation. Nearly three-fourths (78.3%) of the respondents in each school anticipated working full-time after graduation. Many of these students also anticipated attaining further graduate education.

	AUM (N=161)	Arts & Sciences (n=25)	Business (n=38)	Education (n=71)	Public Policy & Justice (n=27)
<b>Full-time Employment Only</b>	43.5%	36.0%	50.0%	43.7%	40.7%
<b>Part-time Employment Only</b>	2.5%	8.0%	2.6%	1.4%	0.0%
<b>Part-time Employment and Additional Undergraduate Education</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Part-time Employment and Graduate/Professional School</b>	0.6%	4.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Full-time Employment and Additional Undergraduate Education</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Full-time Employment and Graduate/Professional School</b>	34.8%	36.0%	21.1%	42.3%	33.3%
<b>Full-time or Part-time Employment and Enrollment in a Certificate Program</b>	10.6%	12.0%	18.4%	5.6%	11.1%

Of the students who anticipated being employed full-time after graduation, most had already secured positions (72.9%). Students in College of Education were most likely to report having secured employment (88.9%), while students in the College of Arts and Sciences were least likely to do so (36.4%). More than three-fourths of the positions reported to be secured were at least marginally related to the degree received by the respondent (94.1%).

<b>Full-time Employment</b>	AUM (N=155)	Arts & Sciences (n=22)	Business (n=37)	Education (n=69)	Public Policy & Justice (n=27)
<b>Secured Employment, or Offered Employment, prior to graduation</b>	72.9%	36.4%	70.3%	79.7%	88.9%
<i>*Very Related to Degree</i>	73.5%	42.6%	60.9%	86.3%	66.7%
<i>*Marginally Related to Degree</i>	20.6%	57.1%	30.4%	13.7%	14.3%
<i>*Unrelated to Degree</i>	5.9%	0.0%	8.7%	0.0%	19.0%
<b>Not Employed (Currently, or Will Begin, Searching for employment)</b>	27.1%	50.0%	29.7%	20.3%	11.1%

The majority (68.8%) of students who said that they secured employment anticipated working in the River Region area (Autauga, Elmore, Lowndes, and Montgomery counties). The second largest group of students (24.0%) reported that they would work in Alabama but outside of the River Region area.

Employer Location	AUM (N=96)	Arts & Sciences (n=7)	Business (n=21)	Education (n=49)	Public Policy & Justice (n=19)
River Region	68.8%	71.4%	76.2%	65.3%	68.4%
Alabama (Outside River Region)	24.0%	0.0%	19.0%	30.6%	21.1%
United States (Outside Alabama)	6.3%	14.3%	4.8%	4.1%	10.5%
Another Country	1.0%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Multiple Locations	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

According to the most recent data available from the Alabama Department of Labor (2017), Alabama's mean hourly wage for all occupations was \$21.05. The mean hourly pay of graduate students who reported having a secured full-time position was \$18.31. Over half (80.0%) of all AUM graduating seniors reported a starting income of \$15.00 or greater.

Hourly Pay Rate	AUM (N=15)	Arts & Sciences (n=3)	Business (n=4)	Education (n=2)	Public Policy & Justice (n=6)
<\$9.99	6.7%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%
\$10.00-\$14.99	13.3%	33.3%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%
\$15.00-\$19.99	40.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
\$20.00-\$24.99	20.0%	33.3%	25.0%	0.0%	16.7%
\$25.00-\$29.99	20.0%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%
>\$29.99	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Graduating graduate students were asked how they learned of the secured full-time position. Most (23.9%) respondents reported that they learned of the position after being previously employed by the organization, while 21.2% said they found the position by contacting the employer directly. Over one-third (34.6%) of the College of Business graduates responses indicated that jobs were found from previous employment with the organization.

Learned of Position	AUM (N=113)	Arts & Sciences (n=8)	Business (n=26)	Education (n=55)	Public Policy & Justice (n=24)
Referral by Career Services	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%
Campus Interview	1.8%	0.0%	3.8%	1.8%	0.0%
Contacted Employer Directly	21.2%	12.5%	19.2%	27.3%	12.5%
Previously Employed by this Organization	23.9%	25.0%	34.6%	21.8%	29.2%
Family/Friend/Faculty Referral	17.7%	0.0%	15.4%	20.0%	16.7%
Online or Newspaper Job Listing	9.7%	25.0%	0.0%	7.3%	20.8%
Family Business	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

\*Note – n refers to number of responses, not number of responders. Some students indicated multiple methods.

When asked what primarily influenced them to accept the full-time position, responding graduate students reported a wide variety of reasons. Over one-fourth (27.4%) of the responses indicated that the primary influence was opportunity for advancement. Previous Employment was the second most commonly cited influence (21.2%) among all students.

Influence on Job Acceptance	AUM (N=113)	Arts & Sciences (n=8)	Business (n=26)	Education (n=55)	Public Policy & Justice (n=24)
Previous Employment	21.2%	12.5%	23.1%	27.3%	8.3%
First Offer	20.4%	25.0%	19.2%	23.6%	12.5%
Salary	17.7%	0.0%	26.9%	12.7%	25.0%
Geographic Location	19.5%	37.5%	23.1%	20.0%	8.3%
Reputation of Company	13.3%	0.0%	19.2%	12.7%	12.5%
Opportunity for Advancement	27.4%	12.5%	30.8%	20.0%	45.8%

\*Note – n refers to number of responses, not number of responders. Some student indicated multiple methods.

Of the graduate students who anticipated attending additional graduate school, nearly one-fourth (16.7%) were offered admission in programs prior to graduation. The College of Arts and Sciences had the highest graduate or professional school placement rate (25.0%).

Graduate or Professional School	AUM (N=60)	Arts & Sciences (n=12)	Business (n=10)	Education (n=29)	Public Policy & Justice (n=9)
Have been accepted and plan on attending a graduate program	16.7%	25.0%	20.0%	13.8%	11.1%
Have been offered admission to at least one program, but haven't accepted	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	3.4%	0.0%
Wait listed; will attend if accepted	3.3%	8.3%	10.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Will begin applying immediately after graduation	11.7%	8.3%	0.0%	13.8%	22.2%
Will not apply immediately, but will apply in the next year	53.3%	58.3%	30.0%	58.6%	55.6%
Other	13.3%	0.0%	40.0%	10.3%	11.1%

Of the AUM graduate students who were admitted to graduate school (80.0%) said they were accepted by their first choice.

Program Choice	AUM (N=10)	Arts & Sciences (n=3)	Business (n=2)	Education (n=4)	Public Policy & Justice (n=1)
First	80.0%	33.3%	100.0%	100.00%	100.0%
Second	20.0%	66.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Third	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Almost half (40.0%) of graduate students who were accepted to graduate school reported receiving a graduate assistantship/grantor award for graduate school.

Award	AUM (N=10)	Arts & Sciences (n=3)	Business (n=2)	Education (n=4)	Public Policy & Justice (n=1)
Graduate Assistantship/Grant or Award	40.0%	66.7%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%

For all schools, a majority of responding graduate level students graduating expressed satisfaction that the university as well as their overall experiences at AUM assisted them prepare for their post-graduation goals.

University Assistance Helped Prepare for Post-Graduate Goals	AUM (N=138)	Arts & Sciences (n=23)	Business (n=36)	Education (n=60)	Public Policy & Justice (n=19)
Very Satisfied or Somewhat Satisfied	60.1%	52.2%	58.3%	61.7%	68.4%
Overall Experiences at AUM Helped Prepare for Post-Graduate Goals	(n=138)	(n=23)	(n=36)	(n=60)	(n=19)
Very Satisfied or Somewhat Satisfied	74.6%	60.9%	77.8%	81.7%	63.2%

Major Field Experiences

Graduate students responded to a series of questions about their experiences in their major. For most items, the majority of responding students reported that they were satisfied with their experiences (either somewhat satisfied or very satisfied).

Based on what you know now, how satisfied are you that your experiences in your major field at AUM:	AUM (N≈135)	Arts & Sciences (n≈23)	Business (n≈31)	Education (n≈60)	Public Policy & Justice (n≈21)
helped develop an ability to write effectively	71.9%	73.9%	71.0%	71.7%	71.4%
helped develop an ability to communicate effectively	76.3%	60.9%	80.6%	81.7%	71.4%
provided a well-integrated set of courses	77.0%	69.6%	83.9%	76.7%	76.2%
provided high-quality instruction	80.0%	69.6%	83.9%	83.3%	76.2%
provided high-quality program advising	72.6%	65.2%	64.5%	78.3%	76.2%
provided high-quality career advising	57.0%	43.5%	51.6%	65.0%	57.1%
provided opportunity for communication between faculty and students regarding needs and concerns	74.1%	65.2%	95.7%	76.7%	81.0%



Overall AUM Experiences

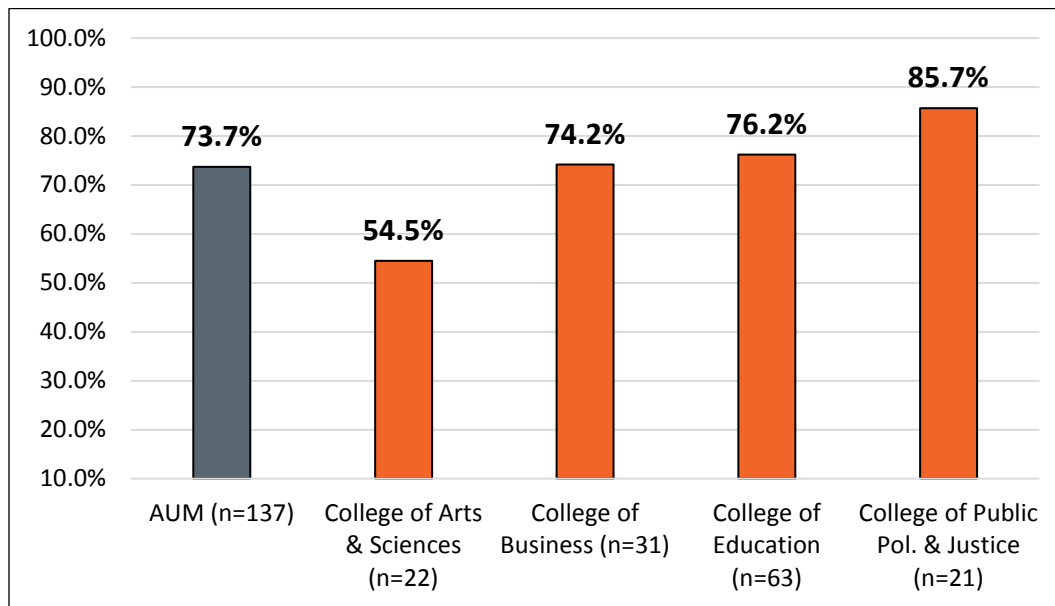
Graduate students were asked to rate their satisfaction with their overall experiences at AUM. Responding students expressed a high degree of satisfaction (somewhat satisfied or very satisfied) with these experiences.

Thinking about your overall experiences at AUM, please indicate your satisfaction with the following:	AUM (N≈135)	Arts & Sciences (n≈23)	Business (n≈31)	Education (n≈60)	Public Policy & Justice (n≈21)
The accessibility of faculty in general	79.3%	78.3%	74.2%	81.7%	81.0%
The extent to which the campus environment was free of discrimination	74.1%	73.9%	80.6%	75.0%	61.9%
Your level of satisfaction with your overall program	82.2%	69.6%	87.1%	85.0%	81.0%
Your level of satisfaction with AUM, in general	79.3%	73.9%	77.4%	86.7%	66.7%
That the financial investment was worthwhile	78.5%	65.2%	71.0%	88.3%	76.2%
Your overall AUM experience	78.5%	60.9%	80.6%	85.0%	76.2%

AUM Sentiment

Graduate students were asked two questions to determine their sentiment for AUM. One asked if students would attend AUM if they had to do it again. Over half of the respondents in all schools said they would. The second question asked if students would recommend AUM to others. Almost all of the respondents in each school agreed that they would recommend AUM.

**Thinking about your overall experiences at AUM, would you start over if you had to do it again?**



**Thinking about your overall experiences at AUM, would you recommend AUM to others?**

