



2021-2022 Recent Alumni Survey Research Brief

Research Briefs

Research Briefs are short publications prepared by the Departments of Institutional Effectiveness (IE) and Institutional Research (IR) that are intended to provide relevant information which assists in the performance improvement process used by St. Petersburg College (SPC). Research Brief topics include, but are not limited to, student achievement, state accountability measures, institutional survey results, student enrollment, and faculty/adjunct compensation.

Introduction

SPC annually conducts the Recent Alumni Survey to measure alumni satisfaction with SPC’s education programs. The Recent Alumni Survey specifically collected information related to career preparation, preparation for continuing education, and the current employment information and educational status of former students. The data collected is used for the state-required annual Placement and Follow-up Report and as supplemental information to meet continuous improvement initiatives in workforce programs.

Graduates are sent one survey to complete, even in cases where they may have earned multiple degrees within the same year. In these cases, the reported number of surveys sent and responses received are counted once per degree or certificate awarded to the student.

Responses

The Recent Alumni Survey was administered to 6,041 graduates from Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Science (AS), Certificate programs (CT, ATD, ATC, PSAV, and PSVC), Bachelor of Science (BS), and Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degrees. The 2021-22 graduates were first contacted by e-mail and asked to complete an online survey. Those who did not respond to the initial e-mail were sent three additional e-mail reminders at two-week intervals. Paper surveys were not completed for the 2021-22 Recent Alumni survey, except for those completed by Radiography alumni. Seven-hundred and ten were returned for an overall response rate of 11.75%. The overall response rate showed a decrease of 2.09% compared to the previous year.

Table 1: Respondents by Degree or Certificate

	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS or BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Surveyed	2777	905	1191	1069	99	6041
Responded	250	148	131	164	17	710
% Responded	9.00%	16.35%	11.00%	15.34%	17.17%	11.75%

Survey Information

The survey of 2021-22 graduates received 97.61% of the 710 responses online. In 2021-22, paper surveys were only administered to Radiography program graduates.

Table 2: Survey Modality:

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Paper	0.40%	10.81%				2.39%
Online	99.60%	89.19%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	97.61%
Total	250	148	131	164	17	710

Goals and Current Activity

Almost half of the respondents (49.15%) from all degree and certificate programs reported that continuing their education was their main goal in completing a degree or certificate. "Change career fields" was the second most frequently selected goal among respondents (16.62%). A closer look by program at responses to "What was your main goal in completing a degree or certificate at SPC?" indicated that nearly half of the Bachelor's degree-seeking students (43.29%), over one-third of the Lower-Division Certificate students (38.17%), and almost three-quarters of the AA students (72.40%) selected "Continue my education," while nearly one-third of the AS students (31.76%) and over one-fourth of the Upper-Division Certificate students (29.41%) selected "Change career fields."

Table 3: What was your main goal in completing a degree or certificate at SPC?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Change Career Fields	5.20%	31.76%	23.66%	13.41%	29.41%	16.62%
Earn More Money	7.20%	13.51%	7.63%	11.59%	17.65%	9.86%
Get a Promotion	3.20%	2.03%	3.05%	6.71%	11.76%	3.94%
Obtain Employment	3.60%	13.51%	16.79%	12.20%	11.76%	10.28%
Meet Certification/Training Needs	0.80%	2.70%	5.34%	7.32%		3.52%
Continue My Education	72.40%	30.41%	38.17%	43.29%	11.76%	49.15%
Other	7.60%	6.08%	5.34%	5.49%	17.65%	6.62%
Total	250	148	131	164	17	710

A strong majority of respondents (94.36%) indicated that they were satisfied with the help they received from SPC in meeting their goal(s). When asked "How well did SPC help you meet your above goal," almost half (45.56%) of survey respondents indicated that SPC did "Exceptionally well" in helping them meet their goal, and 33.99% indicated "Very well."

Table 4: How well did SPC help you meet your above goal?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Exceptionally Well	47.20%	48.30%	40.46%	45.12%	41.18%	45.56%
Very Well	34.40%	27.21%	34.35%	38.41%	41.18%	33.99%
Adequately	15.60%	17.01%	14.50%	11.59%	17.65%	14.81%
Poorly	2.40%	5.44%	6.11%	3.66%		3.95%
Not at All	0.40%	2.04%	4.58%	1.22%		1.69%
Total	250	147	131	164	17	709

Participants were allowed multiple responses to the question, "Which of the following were you able to accomplish after obtaining your degree or certificate?" "Continue my education" was selected most often (62.62%), followed by "Earn more money" (32.92%), "Obtain employment" (28.92%), "Meet certification/training needs" (24.92%), and "Change career fields" (21.69%).

Table 5: Which of the following were you able to accomplish after obtaining your degree or certificate? (Select all that apply)

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Change Career Fields	8.41%	36.43%	28.81%	19.33%	50.00%	21.69%
Earn More Money	18.14%	52.14%	22.03%	46.67%	25.00%	32.92%
Get a Promotion	7.52%	7.86%	16.95%	22.67%	18.75%	13.08%
Obtain Employment	15.93%	49.29%	27.12%	30.67%	31.25%	28.92%
Meet Certification/Training Needs	13.72%	35.00%	31.36%	26.67%	31.25%	24.92%
Continue My Education	84.07%	48.57%	61.86%	47.33%	31.25%	62.62%
Other	3.98%	5.71%	10.17%	7.33%	6.25%	6.31%
<i>Total</i>	226	140	118	150	16	650

Note: The total may exceed 100% as this question allows multiple responses.

Military Status

Less than one percent (0.85%) of the respondents indicated that they were in the military.

Table 6: Are you currently in the military?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Yes	1.20%	0.68%	0.76%	0.61%		0.85%
No	98.80%	99.32%	99.24%	99.39%	100.00%	99.15%
<i>Total</i>	250	148	131	164	17	710

Of those responding that they were currently in the military, five-sixths (83.33%) were in the reserves, with the remaining one-sixth (16.67%) on active duty.

Table 7: Please select your military status.

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Active Duty			100.00%			16.67%
Reserve	100.00%	100.00%		100.00%		83.33%
<i>Total</i>	3	1	1	1		6

Employment Status

Over four-fifths (81.33%) of respondents indicated that they were employed.

Table 8: What is your current employment status?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Currently Employed Part-Time (Less than 29 Hours Weekly)	26.61%	6.12%	7.63%	6.10%	11.76%	13.72%
Self-Employed Part-Time (Less than 29 Hours Weekly)	3.63%	1.36%	4.58%			2.40%
Currently Employed Full-Time (30+ Hours Each Week)	41.53%	73.47%	63.36%	82.32%	76.47%	62.52%
Self-Employed Full-Time (30+ hours each week)	2.02%	2.72%	3.05%	3.05%	5.88%	2.69%
Not Currently Employed, But Actively Looking	11.29%	9.52%	14.50%	6.71%	5.88%	10.33%
Not Currently Employed And Not Actively Looking	14.92%	6.80%	6.87%	1.83%		8.35%
Total	248	147	131	164	17	707

Respondents were asked to provide information regarding their wage per hour and/or approximate annual earnings. The average amounts earned by program are varied. While the most frequently reported hourly wage range for BS/BAS students (61.59%), AS students (64.91%), Lower Division Certificate students (31.40%), and Upper Division Certificate students (71.43%) was \$25.00 or more, AA students (30.32%) most frequently reported earning \$15.00 - \$19.99.

Table 9: Please indicate your hourly wage (approximate annual equivalents listed as well).

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Less than \$10.00 (Less than \$21,000)	9.68%	1.75%	1.16%	0.72%		3.75%
\$10.00 - \$14.99 (\$21,000 - \$30,999)	26.45%	7.89%	22.09%	4.35%		14.79%
\$15.00 - \$19.99 (\$31,000 - \$41,999)	30.32%	12.28%	20.93%	16.67%	21.43%	20.71%
\$20.00 - \$24.99 (\$42,000 - \$51,999)	11.61%	13.16%	24.42%	16.67%	7.14%	15.38%
\$25.00 or more (\$52,000 or more)	21.94%	64.91%	31.40%	61.59%	71.43%	45.36%
Total	155	114	86	138	14	507

Nearly two-thirds (66.21%) of those employed indicated that their current position was related to their studies. The completers of workforce degree programs (BS/BAS, AS, and Lower and Upper Division Certificates) reported higher levels of field related employment in a range of 60.92% to 85.71%, while graduates of the AA program reported lower (41.88%) field-related employment.

Table 10: Is your current position related to your studies?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Yes	41.88%	85.22%	60.92%	79.86%	85.71%	66.21%
No	58.13%	14.78%	39.08%	20.14%	14.29%	33.79%
Total	160	115	87	139	14	515

Educational Activity

In response to the question, "Are you continuing your education?" over half (55.49%) of the 647 respondents answered that they were. AA students (82.22%) reported continuing their education most often, with over half of Lower Division Certificate (56.14%) respondents reporting continuing their education. AS (46.43%), BS/BAS (28.10%), and Upper Division Certificate (13.33%) respondents were less likely to report continuing their education.

Table 11: Are you continuing your education?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Yes	82.22%	46.43%	56.14%	28.10%	13.33%	55.49%
No	17.78%	53.57%	43.86%	71.90%	86.67%	44.51%
Total	225	140	114	153	15	647

Students reporting continuing their education were asked about their enrollment. Nearly two-thirds of AA respondents (60.12%) reported enrolling full-time, while nearly two-thirds of AS (64.58%) and Lower Division Certificate (64.29%) respondents, two-thirds of BS/BAS respondents (66.67%), and all Upper Division Certificate respondents (100%) were enrolled part-time.

Table 12: What is your current enrollment status?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Full-Time Student (12 or More Credit Hours)	60.12%	35.42%	35.71%	33.33%		48.84%
Part-Time Student (11 or Less Credit Hours)	39.88%	64.58%	64.29%	66.67%	100.00%	51.16%
Total	168	48	56	30	1	303

The majority of students (90.79%) reported continuing their education in Florida. Over half (55.87%) of the respondents furthering their education indicated re-enrolling at SPC, and nearly one-fifth (18.73%) reported transferring to the University of South Florida.

Table 13: Please identify the institution at which you are continuing your education:

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
St. Petersburg College	46.20%	84.62%	87.93%	3.13%	50.00%	55.87%
University of South Florida	27.49%	3.85%	5.17%	21.88%		18.73%
University of Florida	7.02%	1.92%				4.13%
University of Central Florida	5.85%					3.17%
Florida State University	1.17%			6.25%		1.27%
Other In-State	5.85%	1.92%	6.90%	28.13%		7.62%
Out-of-State	6.43%	7.69%		40.63%	50.00%	9.21%
Total	171	52	58	32	2	315

Students who were continuing their education were also asked if they were enrolled through the University Partnership Center (UPC), and less than three percent (2.90%) of the 310 respondents indicated that they were.

Table 14: Are you currently enrolled through SPC University Partnership Center?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Yes	3.68%	1.89%	3.45%			2.90%
No	96.32%	98.11%	96.55%	100.00%	100.00%	97.10%
<i>Total</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>310</i>

The graduates continuing their education were asked "How well did SPC prepare you for continuing your education?" Satisfaction levels were notable, with 80.51% of the respondents indicating that their SPC studies prepared them either "very well" or "exceptionally well" for continuing their education.

Table 15: How well did SPC prepare you for continuing your education?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Exceptionally Well	41.76%	41.82%	33.33%	48.39%		40.89%
Very Well	40.59%	30.91%	43.86%	41.94%		39.62%
Adequately	15.88%	18.18%	14.04%	6.45%		15.02%
Poorly	1.76%	3.64%	5.26%	3.23%		2.88%
Not at All		5.45%	3.51%			1.60%
<i>Total</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>31</i>		<i>313</i>

When asked, "Would you recommend your program at SPC to others?" over nine-tenths (90.53%) of the 602 respondents selected "yes."

Table 16: Would you recommend your program at SPC to others?

Answer	AA	AS	LD Ctf.	BS/BAS	UD Ctf.	Overall
Yes	95.69%	84.92%	83.33%	93.15%	92.31%	90.53%
No	4.31%	15.08%	16.67%	6.85%	7.69%	9.47%
<i>Total</i>	<i>209</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>602</i>

General Education Outcomes

The 2021-22 Recent Alumni Survey administration process included survey questions to assess the graduates' level of satisfaction in areas of general education outcomes. Graduates were asked to rate their preparation of general education skill areas on a 5-point Likert scale with labels from "1-Poor" to "5-Excellent." Based on the results, graduates believe SPC prepared them in the majority of their general education skills areas. Of the 25 outcome areas, one received a mean score of 4.56, nineteen received mean scores between 4.10 and 4.41, and five received mean scores between 3.70 and 3.93.

Table 17: Preparation Ratings for Recent Graduates

	N	Mean	St. Dev.
Communicating Clearly and Effectively with Others Through:			
<i>Speaking</i>	579	4.12	0.86
<i>Listening</i>	579	4.28	0.79
<i>Reading</i>	578	4.29	0.82
<i>Writing</i>	579	4.18	0.85
Your Use of Mathematical and Computational Skills:			
<i>Comfort with mathematical calculations</i>	577	3.75	0.94
<i>Using computational skills appropriately</i>	578	3.93	0.87
<i>Accurately interpreting mathematical data</i>	576	3.70	0.92
Using the Following Forms of Technology:			
<i>E-Mail</i>	574	4.56	0.68
<i>Word Processing</i>	575	4.41	0.77
<i>Spreadsheets</i>	573	3.81	1.02
<i>Databases</i>	573	3.73	1.02
<i>Internet Research</i>	572	4.40	0.77
Thinking Logically and Critically to Solve Problems:			
<i>Gathering and assessing relevant information</i>	572	4.35	0.75
<i>Inquiring about and interpreting information</i>	570	4.25	0.81
<i>Organizing and evaluating information</i>	568	4.30	0.78
<i>Analyzing and explaining information to others</i>	571	4.18	0.80
<i>Using information to solve problems</i>	571	4.33	0.75
Working Effectively with Others in a Variety of Settings:			
<i>Participating as a team player (e.g., group projects)</i>	560	4.19	0.85
<i>Working well with individuals from diverse backgrounds</i>	560	4.36	0.77
<i>Using ethical courses of action</i>	560	4.38	0.73
<i>Demonstrating leadership skills</i>	559	4.10	0.91
Appreciating the Importance of Lifelong Learning:			
<i>Showing an interest in career development</i>	559	4.34	0.78
<i>Being open to new ideas and challenges</i>	558	4.37	0.74
<i>Willingness to take on new responsibilities</i>	558	4.33	0.74
<i>Pursuing additional educational opportunities</i>	558	4.25	0.84

Conclusion

Results from the 2021-22 Recent Alumni Survey indicated that over four-fifths (81.33%) of the graduates who responded are employed. Nearly two-thirds (66.21%) of those are employed in a field related to their studies. The AS, Upper Division Certificate, and BS/BAS programs reported the highest rates of related employment (85.22%, 85.71%, and 79.86% respectively).

Wage earnings varied by degree or certificate awarded. Overall, 45.36% of respondents reported wages of \$52,000 or more (up from 36.55% in 2020-21), and 20.71% reported wages between \$31,000 and \$41,999 (down from 25.03% in 2020-21). The highest wages were reported most often among AS and Upper Division Certificate respondents, at 64.91% (up from 54.14%) and 71.43% (up from 28.57%) respectively.

Additionally, AA degree respondents reported the highest rate of continued education (82.22%), and 60.12% of those were enrolled full-time. Overall, over half (55.49%) of SPC graduates are pursuing further education.

SPC graduates also reported high levels of satisfaction in the areas of general education outcomes associated with the general education skills. Most recent alumni (95.53%) reported SPC had prepared them adequately for continued education, and the majority of respondents (90.53%) would recommend their program to others.