

OUTCOMES

THE POWER OF A WORCESTER STATE EDUCATION

CLASS OF 2018 POSTGRADUATE REPORT

Introduction

We are proud to present Worcester State University's Class of 2018 Postgraduate Outcomes Report, intended to help current and future students and families understand the power of a WSU education. We know that a college education is much more than just a path to employment and a salary; however, these are important factors in determining which college to choose.

A poll of 2018 baccalaureate graduates revealed that 94% of respondents are employed, pursuing further education, or both. Graduates found the most useful resources in their career searches to be WSU faculty, staff, and services within their departments of study. These Worcester State alumni are applying their academic achievements to pursue their passions and transform their futures, as well as our community.

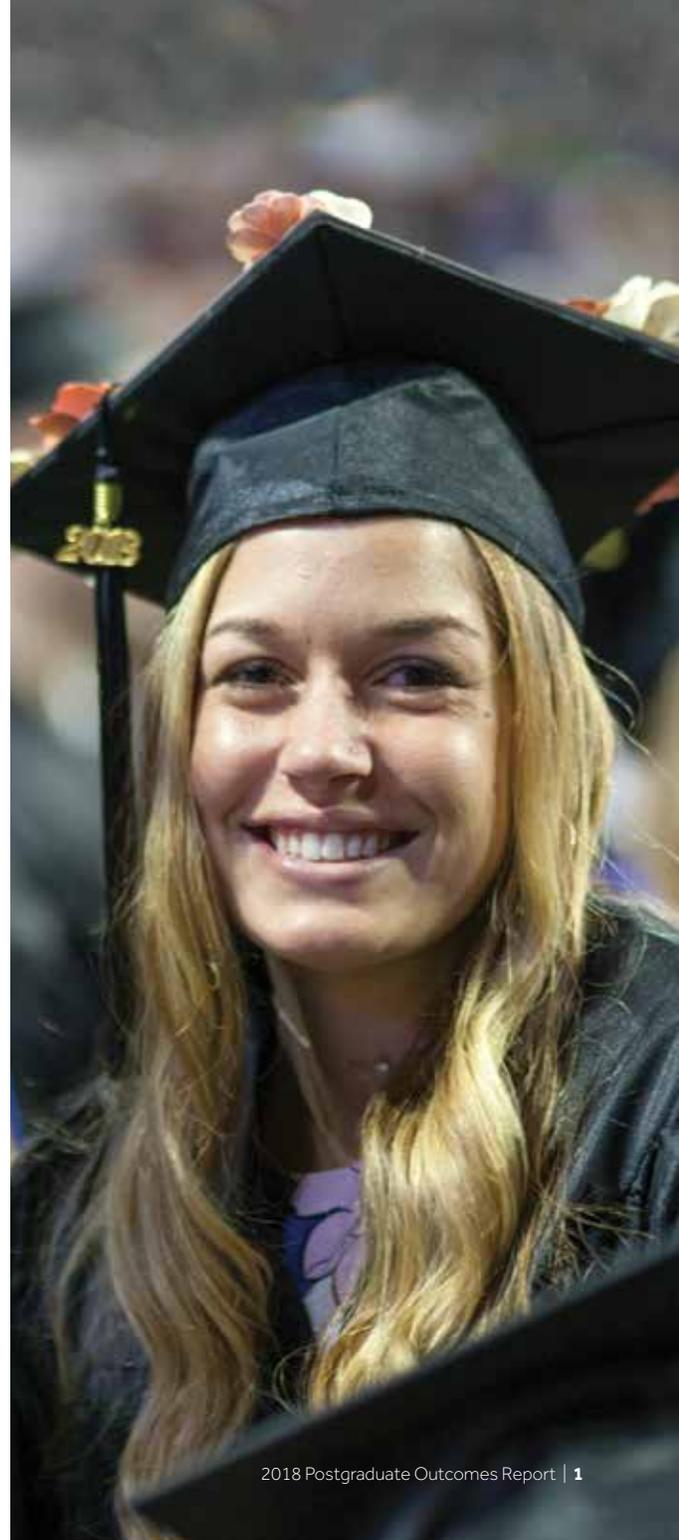
It is rewarding to see the wide range of professional and educational activities WSU graduates are involved in. From careers in healthcare, business, education, and more, to working on master's degrees at Brown University, Penn State, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and many other institutions, Worcester State graduates are bettering their lives and those of their families.

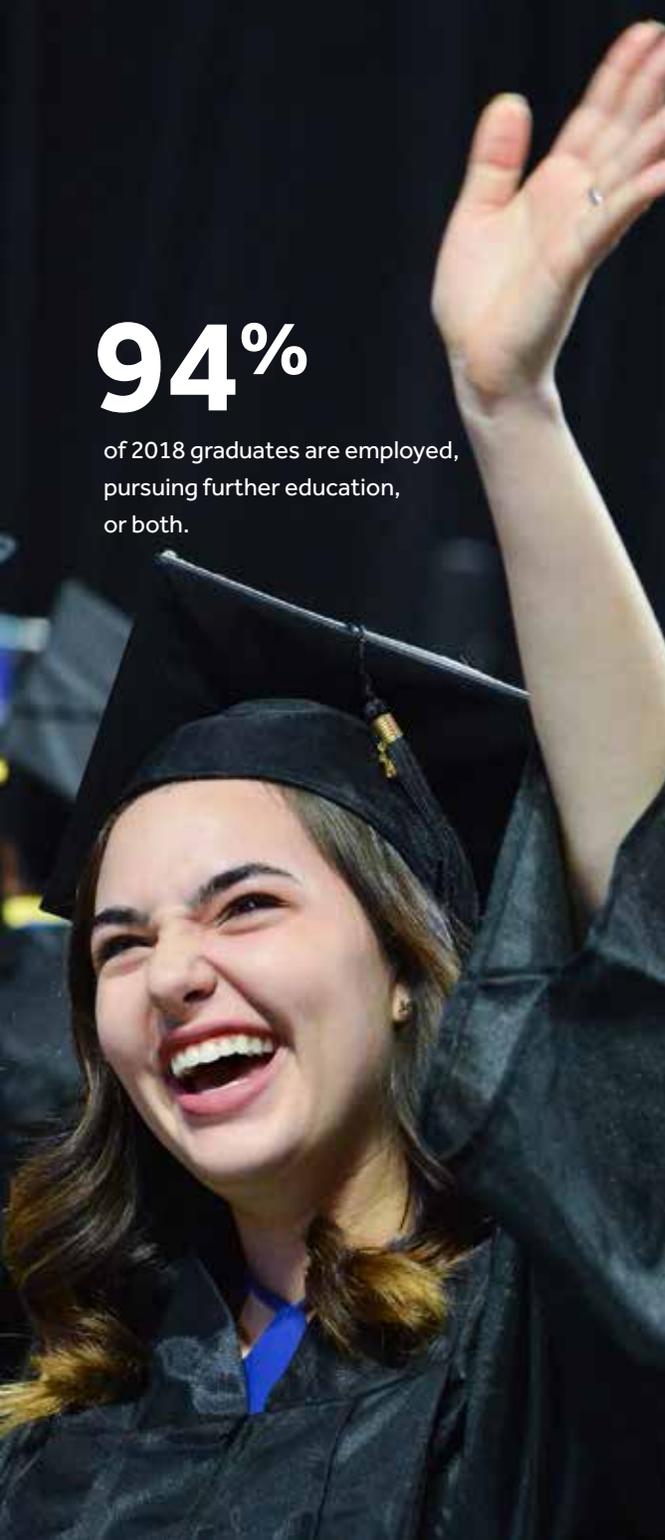
WSU graduates are also fueling the regional economy, where Worcester, the second largest city in New England, is a hub. Ninety percent of 2018 graduates have remained in Massachusetts for employment. Before completing their education, 81% participated in at least one experiential learning program, immersing themselves in their chosen fields and preparing for flourishing careers. Worcester State's graduates are assuring that the Commonwealth's knowledge-based economy thrives and they are giving back to their communities.

These graduates ARE Worcester State. As these statistics show, their exceptional education and professional career guidance from the staff in the WSU Career Services department provide them a competitive advantage. We celebrate the success of the WSU Class of 2018, and look forward to hearing about these graduates as they continue to prosper and contribute to our community and the economy.

Ryan G. Forsythe, Ed.D.
Vice President for
Enrollment Management

Julie A. Kazarian
Chief Student Affairs Officer/
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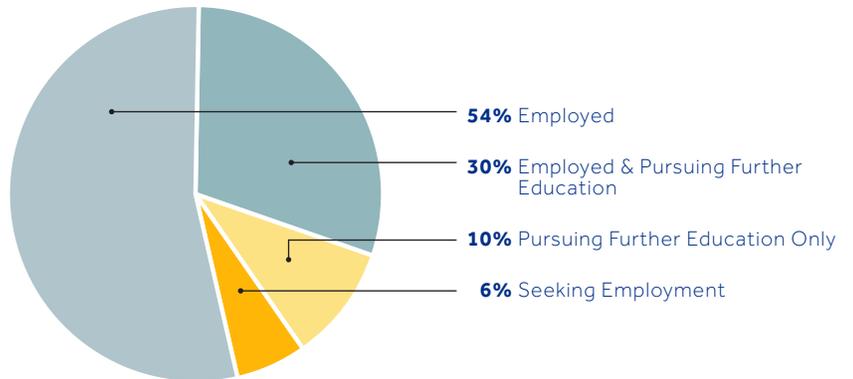


94%

of 2018 graduates are employed, pursuing further education, or both.

What are they doing?

Members of the Class of 2018 were asked to select their primary activity six months after graduation.



What are they earning?

Respondents reported the following average annual **starting** salary in their first year of employment:

\$43,367

Graduates indicated higher levels of starting income in industries such as healthcare, business, government, and criminal justice.

From Student Leader to Community Leader

While a student, Daniel Triana worked for the Latino Education Institute as an aide in Club E, an evening English language learner class for adults. For almost four years, he helped students with translating worksheets, interpreting directions, and keeping them on track as they worked to improve their English fluency. He also served as a liaison between resident students and professional staff as a resident assistant (RA), helping his peers in need of assistance or referrals.

Today, for his job as a family liaison in the Southbridge Public Schools, Triana calls parents to check in when their children are absent from school, or to help solve a problem, or invite them to an event explaining resources available to keep their child on the right track. And if a phone call is not enough, he'll make a visit to their home. Often that personal touch, the fact that someone is reaching out to make a connection, makes a difference in securing parents as allies in raising the educational sights of their students.

"I like working with families and seeing the importance of that phone call and the impact it can make," says Triana, a business major whose Spanish fluency helps him communicate with families in Southbridge, a city with a 46 percent Latino population. "At this year's eighth grade graduation ceremony, lots of parents there knew me and that was a good feeling. I always wanted to have a job where I can make an impact, and this is definitely one of those jobs."

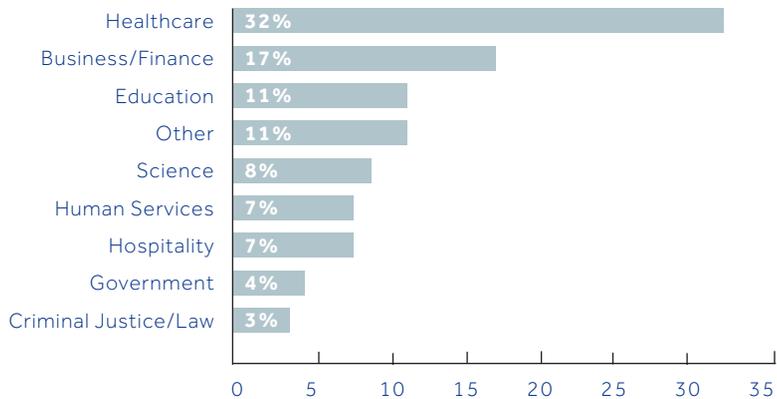
In addition to his role as a family liaison during the academic year, he now coordinates the summer program in Southbridge, a free camp that provides transportation, food, and activities that are both fun and educational.

Daniel Triana '18
Business





Where are they employed? (by industry)



More than

75%

of the class secured or initiated active
pursuit of a career before graduation.



Jonathan Brown '18
Business

Internship to Full-Time Job

While a student, Jonathan Brown '18 interned at Carl P. Sherr & Co., a small, family run financial advising company in Worcester. Based on his success in the internship, he was hired as an assistant financial planner at the same company right after graduation. Before the internship, Brown wasn't sure what he wanted to do with his business degree.

"One of the advantages of a small office environment is that you get to do something different every day. You learn a lot more," said Brown.

"All the theoretical information we learned in class made sense in the real world. Having that background knowledge helped me to understand and contribute to the team."

The internship also gave him a focus for his future career aspirations.

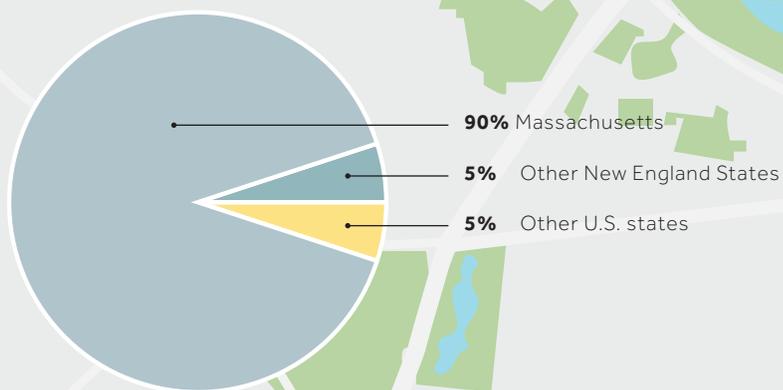
"I am really interested in mutual and bond funds, and how financial planners analyze and choose certain funds based on their clients' needs."

Where are they pursuing graduate/professional studies?

Assumption College
Bentley University
Boston University
Brown University
Fitchburg State University
Grand Canyon University
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Massachusetts School of Law
New York City Teaching Fellows
Penn State University
Simmons University
Southern New Hampshire University
The College of Saint Rose
UConn Health
UMass Amherst
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rhode Island
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Worcester State University
And more...

Where are they working?

Over 96% of 2018 graduates focused their career searches near their hometown or near WSU. While the Worcester State alumni network stretches across the United States and throughout the world, many graduates remain in Massachusetts and contribute to the vitality of our state. The love for the “heart of the Commonwealth” is especially strong among 2018 graduates with 90% choosing to share their talents with Massachusetts employers.



Career Services

Career Services at Worcester State University assists undergraduate students, graduate students, and alumni achieve their career goals with counseling and resources.

Students often change majors and career goals several times during their university experience. Career exploration as an undergraduate is healthy and strategic, allowing students the opportunity to fine-tune what they really want to do in the world. Career Services at WSU is uniquely prepared to help navigate that exploratory process and help students make well-informed career decisions.

Career Services also assists Worcester State alumni with their long-term career management, pursuing a change in career direction, or taking the next step toward professional advancement.

Services, programs, and resources include:

- Individual career counseling, often utilizing a variety of career assessment inventories and activities, such as the Myers Briggs Type Indicator, and John Holland's Self-Directed Search
- Assistance with choosing a major and exploring career options
- Information on career trends, and job search strategies
- Mock interviews
- Employer networking events
- Full-time, part-time, internship, and summer job listings on Career Services' online database, **LancerLink** powered by Handshake
- Assistance with preparing resumes, cover letters, portfolios, and personal statements for graduate school
- Extensive web resources on a wide variety of career topics
- Career Fairs and other career-related events

For more information or to access resources, please contact Career Services at **508-929-8941** or **careerservices@worchester.edu**.





Methodology

The Worcester State University Class of 2018 Postgraduate Outcomes Survey was conducted between April 2018 and March 2019 by the WSU Career Services department. Five survey notifications were sent via email to the 812 degree recipients who graduated in May of 2018. Surveys were administered online using a software platform provided by GradLeaders. In total, 255 of the 812 graduates responded to the survey (a 31.4% response rate). The information gathered from these responses is reflected in this report. Questions about this report can be sent to Vice President for Enrollment Management, Ryan G. Forsythe, at ryan.forsythe@worchester.edu.



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