

POST-GRADUATION ENROLLMENT & EARNED DEGREES OF RECENT UW-MADISON BACHELORS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Periodically, APIR utilizes the National Student Clearing House (NSC) database to identify post-graduation enrollments and degrees earned by recent UW-Madison bachelor degree recipients. The NSC accounts for 96% of enrollment and degree records of students enrolled in higher education. This data warehouse provides institutions with a unique opportunity to track the academic careers of its past and current students.

I. Post-Graduation Enrollment

More than 45% of approximately 19,000 UW-Madison students who graduated during the 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09 academic years continued their enrollment post-graduation. Of the 19,000 students, more than 41% continued their education at an institution that offers bachelors degrees and above. The NSC records do not contain information about student level (graduate, undergraduate, professional, "special"), therefore we cannot assume that these students are enrolled in graduate programs.

Table 1: UW-Madison Bachelor Graduates who Enrolled in Higher Education after Graduation

UW-Bachelors Degree Recipients (all three academic years)	19,004	
Degree Recipients Matched at Institutions Offering Bachelors Degrees and Above	7,912	41.6%
Degree Recipients Matched at only Two Year or Less Institutions	657	3.5%
Total Degree Recipients Matched to a NSC Enrollment Record	8,569	45.1%

More than half (53%) of the students who subsequently enrolled at an institution that offering a bachelors degree and above, do so within the first year of graduating from UW-Madison. An additional 21% enrolled within two years of completing their bachelors and a cumulative 88% enrolled within three years of degree completion (table 2).

**Table 2: UW-Madison Bachelor Graduates who Enrolled after Graduation at
Higher Education Institutions
Offering Bachelors Degrees and Above**

Graduating Cohort		Cumulative Post-Graduation Enrollment within:				
		1 Year	2 Year	3 Year	4 Year	5 Year
2006-07	6140	22.4%	30.5%	37.0%	41.8%	45.2%
2007-08	6247	21.5%	30.5%	36.7%	40.9%	
2008-09	6617	22.8%	31.5%	36.7%		
Total	19004	22.2%	30.8%	36.8%	41.4%	45.2%

Notes:

1. The above grey boxes do not include some rates for graduate cohorts because those academic years have yet to begin.
2. The rates in this table are minimum rates and represent approximately 96% of enrollments in the U.S., an increase from 91% in 2005. International institutions are not included.

Many recent UW-Madison bachelor recipients continue their education at UW-Madison or AAU institutions. Among the 7,912 graduates who enrolled post-graduation at four year institutions, 2,467 (31%) continued at UW-Madison and 3,934 (50%) continued at either UW-Madison or another AAU institution (table 3). The top ten AAU institutions account for 80% of the total AAU enrollment. When compared, the majority (86%) of UW-Madison graduates enroll at public AAU institutions compared to their private sector competitors.

Table 3: Enrollment of Recent UW-Madison Bachelor Degree Recipients at AAU Institutions

Degree Cohorts: 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09

UW-Madison - 2467	Michigan State University - 23	UC-Davis - 10
University of Minnesota - 273	UC-Los Angeles - 22	Case Western Reserve - 9
Northwestern University - 108	University of Oregon - 22	UC-Irvine - 8
New York University - 69	University of Washington - 20	University of Kansas - 8
University of Michigan - 67	Iowa State University - 19	University of Missouri - 8
University of Chicago - 65	Duke - 19	University of Pittsburg - 8
Harvard University - 52	University of Florida - 17	Calif. Institute of Tech. - 6
University of Illinois - 39	Yale - 17	Carnegie Mellon - 6
University of Iowa - 38	Vanderbilt - 17	SUNY-Buffalo - 6
Indiana University - 35	MIT - 16	UC-Santa Barbara - 6
Ohio State University - 33	University of Arizona - 16	Brandeis - 5
UC-Berkley - 33	Univ. North Carolina - 16	John Hopkins University - 5
University of Colorado - 32	Rutgers - 16	Stanford University - 5
University of Pennsylvania - 31	Emory - 15	Rice - 3
University of Maryland - 28	Pennsylvania State Univ. - 15	Texas A & M - 3
Univ. of Southern Carolina - 27	UC-San Diego - 14	University of Rochester - 3
University of Texas - 26	Purdue - 13	Brown - 2
Columbia University - 25	Tulane - 13	SUNY-Stony Brook - 2
Cornell University - 25	University of Virginia - 13	Princeton - 0
Washington University - 23	Georgia Institute of Tech. - 12	Total Enrollment at AAU's -
		3934 of 7912

The recent bachelors degree recipients who subsequently enroll post-graduation represent more than 800 institutions. Many Wisconsin institutions rank high among all institutions where UW-Madison graduates enroll after graduation. Of the graduates who subsequently enroll post-graduate, 50% enroll at an institution within Wisconsin.

Table 5: Institutions with 50 or more UW-Madison Bachelor Degree Recipients Enrolling Post-Graduation

Degree Cohorts: 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09

1. University of Wisconsin-Madison	2381	12. Loyola University Chicago	75
2. Madison Area Technical College	453	13. University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh	71
3. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	308	14. New York University	65
4. Marquette University	203	15. Concordia University-Wisconsin	65
5. University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	192	16. Depaul University	62
6. Northwestern University	106	17. Cardinal Stritch University	62
7. Edgewood College	92	18. University of Chicago	60
8. Milwaukee Area Technical College	84	19. University of Michigan-Central Campus	54
9. University of Wisconsin-Whitewater	83	20. University of Phoenix	53
10. University of Illinois at Chicago	78	21. University of Wisconsin-La Crosse	50
11. University of St. Thomas	76		

* Note: Grey shading indicates a Wisconsin institution

II. Post-Graduation Earned Degrees

Of the 19,000 recent UW-Madison undergraduate degree recipients, more than 14% have since received an advanced degree within five years of graduation. Nearly 9% received their advanced degree from an AAU institution. An additional 2% of recent graduates continued on to earn a second bachelors or other degree. As data accumulates in the NSC, we will be able to extend the analysis to a longer time frame more appropriate for graduate and professional education.

UW-Madison Bachelor Graduates Who Earned an Advanced Degree

Degree cohorts: 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09

Time to Degree: Years	AAU Advanced		Non-AAU Advanced		Total Advanced	
	#	% of Recent Graduates	#	% of Recent Graduates	#	% of Recent Graduates
1 Year	352	1.9%	9	0.0%	361	1.9%
2 Year	406	4.0%	227	1.2%	633	5.2%
3 Year	506	6.7%	469	3.7%	975	10.4%
4 Year	301	8.2%	281	5.2%	582	13.4%
5 Year	94	8.7%	119	5.8%	213	14.5%

Another source for identifying recent doctoral activity of UW-Madison bachelors degree recipients is the Survey of Earned Doctorates (coordinated by National Science Foundation). On average, over the past ten academic years more than 250 UW-Madison alumni have earned a doctorate per year. Most recently, UW-Madison ranked 6th out of more than 1800 institutions for number of alumni earning a doctorate in 2010. Overall, for the past ten years Madison has had more than 2,500 alumni earn a doctorate, ranking UW-Madison 7th nationally among all colleges and universities.

Academic year	Number of Earned Doctorates	National Rank
2001	257	8th
2002	230	9th
2003	236	8th
2004	206	11th
2005	218	11th
2006	244	10th
2007	275	4th
2008	290	4th
2009	290	6th
2010	289	6th
Total	2,535	7th

III. Report Summary

The analysis highlighted in this report support the notion that UW-Madison is quality driven. With nearly half of recent graduates continuing their education, UW-Madison was surely an essential gateway for these students' preparation for further learning. This is reiterated by the number of students who enroll at research intensive

universities post-graduation. Roughly half of the students who choose to further their education after graduating from UW-Madison, do so at a university that is highly research focused. These results are exemplified by the number of UW-Madison bachelor recipients receiving a doctorate degree every academic year. UW-Madison has ranked, on average, 7th nationally among all universities and colleges for the number of doctorates earned by bachelor recipients.

The insights provided by this study offer valuable context to UW-Madison accountability reports as well as many other reports and conversations surrounding UW-Madison. We will continue to explore the analytical utility of the data housed in the NSC.

Technical Notes:

The National Student Clearinghouse (NSC), a non-profit organization established for the purpose of providing students enrollment and degree verification, is the only source of national unit-record enrollment information. For a nominal fee, participating institutions are able to use the NSC's Student Tracker service to query its large database of enrollment records to determine, among other things, whether former students are currently enrolled.

In 2005, APA found the utility of the NSC to be substantially improved compared to our first analysis in 2001. This was due to an increase in participation and a more mature database. Every academic year more institutions continue to participate and the NSC database becomes more robust. Now, in 2012, we again submitted multiple cohorts of recent bachelor degree graduates and were able to gain valuable insight into post-graduation enrollment. Specially, the NSC degree completion data has increased to a significantly higher level compared to 2005, allowing us to complete an analysis on post-graduation degree attainment.

Some UW-Madison graduates are undoubtedly enrolled at institutions that do not participate in the NSC (including all foreign institutions); therefore the examination of subsequent enrollment and degrees earned will always reflect a minimal participation level.