

2019–20 BSQ  
Employment Module  
**Executive Summary**

This year, a record high of 304 business schools and academic units participated in the data collection for AACSB's 2019–20 Business School Questionnaire (BSQ) Employment Module (as of April 29, 2020). All AACSB member institutions are eligible to participate in the data collection for BSQ surveys and subsequently can access the annual overview reports and benchmarking tools.

Members that contributed data to the Employment Module provided information on the employment of students graduating between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019. Of the participating schools, approximately 83 percent were in the Americas, while; 10 percent were in the Asia Pacific region; and 7 percent were in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Growth in participation among schools in the Asia Pacific region means that, for the first time, an Asia Pacific regional employment overview report is available.

The following executive summary provides some of the highlights from the 2019–20 BSQ Employment Module. Data represent all participating schools that submitted a validated set of data by April 29, 2020.

## **New This Year**

By popular request of many AACSB member schools, we added a new time frame for reporting graduates accepting offers of full-time employment. In previous years, only two available time frames were available: one for graduates who received and accepted job offers at or before graduation, and one for those who did so within three months after graduation. The BSQ Employment Module now includes graduates who received and accepted offers of full-time employment after three months, but by six months post-graduation. This third category enables schools to report more complete data regarding their graduates' job acceptance rates.

# Highlights From the AACSB BSQ Employment Module

Of the graduates of undergraduate programs who reported seeking employment, **80%** indicated they had received and accepted a full-time job offer within six months of graduation.

Data on **206,707** total graduates at all degree levels are included in the 2019-20 iteration of the BSQ Employment Module.

Educational Level	Educational Level Offered (N of Schools)			Employment Data Reported N of Schools	Percentage of Schools Offering Education Level
	Yes	No	% Yes	Count	% Reporting Data
Undergraduate	273	31	89.8	256	93.8
Master's Generalist*	285	19	93.8	254	89.1
Master's Specialist	240	64	78.9	178	74.2
Doctoral	149	155	49.0	91	61.1

\*This category includes all master's programs that are not considered master's specialist programs, and is inclusive of all master's generalists programs, including MBA, EMBA, joint degrees, integrated undergraduate-master's degrees, and any other general business master's programs. Please note that schools that collect employment data for MBA and/or EMBA programs, but not for all general business master's programs offered, were able to report their MBA and/or EMBA data alone.

## Undergraduate Programs

- Approximately 73 percent of all students graduating from undergraduate programs (whose post-graduation status was known) reported they were seeking employment at the time of graduation, while just 13 percent indicated they were planning to continue their education.
- Approximately 9 percent of graduates from undergraduate programs indicated they were not seeking employment because they were already employed and planned to remain with their current employer.
- Of the graduates of undergraduate programs who reported seeking employment, 80 percent indicated they had received and accepted a full-time job offer within six months of graduation. Of those who obtained full-time employment:
  - 63 percent did so by graduation
  - 21 percent did so within three months after graduation
  - 15 percent did so after three months post-graduation and within six months post-graduation
- A total of 213 schools reported salary information for the graduates of undergraduate programs who obtained full-time employment. The median base starting salary reported for all such graduates is 52,500 USD.

## Master's Generalist

- Approximately 55 percent of all students graduating from master's generalist programs (whose post-graduation status was known) reported they were seeking employment at the time of graduation, while just 2 percent indicated they were planning to continue their education.
- Approximately 38 percent of graduates from a master's generalist program indicated they were not seeking employment because they were already employed and planned to remain with their current employer.
- Of the master's generalist graduates who reported seeking employment, 85 percent indicated they had received and accepted a full-time job offer within six months of graduation. Of those who obtained full-time employment:
  - 71 percent did so by graduation
  - 22 percent did so within three months after graduation
  - 8 percent did so after three months post-graduation and within six months post-graduation
- A total of 144 schools reported salary information for the graduates of master's generalist programs who obtained full-time employment. The median base starting salary reported for all such graduates is 45,455 USD.

## MBA

- Approximately 60 percent of all students graduating from MBA programs (whose post-graduation status was known) reported they were seeking employment at the time of graduation, while just 2 percent indicated they were planning to continue their education.
- Approximately one-third of all MBA graduates indicated they were already employed and planned to remain with their current employer.
- Of the MBA graduates who reported seeking employment, 87 percent indicated they had received and accepted a full-time job offer within six months of graduation. Of those who obtained full-time employment:
  - 74 percent did so by graduation
  - 21 percent did so within three months after graduation
  - 5 percent did so after three months post-graduation and before the end of six months post-graduation
- A total of 188 schools reported salary information for the graduates of MBA programs who obtained full-time employment. The median base starting salary reported for all such graduates is 85,000 USD.

## EMBA

- Approximately 20 percent of all students graduating from EMBA programs (whose post-graduation status was known) reported they were seeking employment at the time of graduation, while just 2 percent indicated they were planning to continue their education.
- Approximately 78 percent of all EMBA graduates indicated they were already employed and planned to remain with their current employer (which is typical for this type of program).
- Of the EMBA graduates who reported seeking employment, 80 percent indicated they had received and accepted a full-time job offer within six months of graduation. Of those who obtained full-time employment:
  - 78 percent did so by graduation
  - 16 percent did so within three months after graduation
  - 6 percent did so after three months post-graduation and before the end of six months post-graduation
- A total of 17 schools reported salary information for the graduates of EMBA programs who obtained full-time employment. The median base starting salary reported for all such graduates is 52,142 USD.

## Master's Specialist

- Approximately 71 percent of all students graduating from master's specialist programs (whose post-graduation status was known) reported they were seeking employment at the time of graduation, while just 3 percent indicated they were planning to continue their education.
- Approximately 19 percent of graduates from a master's specialist program indicated they were not seeking employment because they were already employed and planned to remain with their current employer.
- Of the master's specialist graduates who reported seeking employment, 86 percent indicated they had received and accepted a full-time job offer within six months of graduation. Of those who obtained full-time employment:
  - 66 percent did so by graduation
  - 21 percent did so within three months after graduation
  - 13 percent did so after three months post-graduation and within six months post-graduation
- A total of 135 schools reported salary information for the graduates of master's specialist programs who obtained full-time employment. The median base starting salary reported for all such graduates is 60,000 USD.

## Doctoral

- Approximately 81 percent of all students graduating from doctoral programs (whose post-graduation status was known) reported they were seeking employment at the time of graduation, while just 2 percent indicated they were planning to continue their education.
- Approximately 15 percent of graduates from a doctoral program indicated they were not seeking employment because they were already employed and planned to remain with their current employer.
- Of the doctoral graduates who reported seeking employment, 97 percent indicated they had received and accepted a full-time job offer within six months of graduation. Of those who obtained full-time employment:
  - 90 percent did so by graduation
  - 7 percent did so within three months after graduation
  - 3 percent did so after three months post-graduation and within six months post-graduation
- A total of 41 schools reported salary information for the graduates of doctoral programs who obtained full-time employment. The median base starting salary reported for all such graduates is 116,277 USD.

The BSQ Employment Module Overview Reports include aggregated tables of these and many other data about business school graduates at all levels, including figures for signing bonuses and other guaranteed compensation for graduates of master's and doctoral programs. Schools that participated in the survey receive free and unlimited access to these reports, as well as to the various benchmarking tools available in DataDirect for BSQ Employment Module data. These tools can be used with custom comparison groups chosen by the user and can display the data at the level of the reporting school in most cases.

For additional questions and requests, please contact us at [datadirect@aacsb.edu](mailto:datadirect@aacsb.edu).