



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF  
**WELLINGTON**  
TE HERENGA WAKA



Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington

# Graduate Destinations Survey Summary Report

July 2020—June 2021

# INTRODUCTION

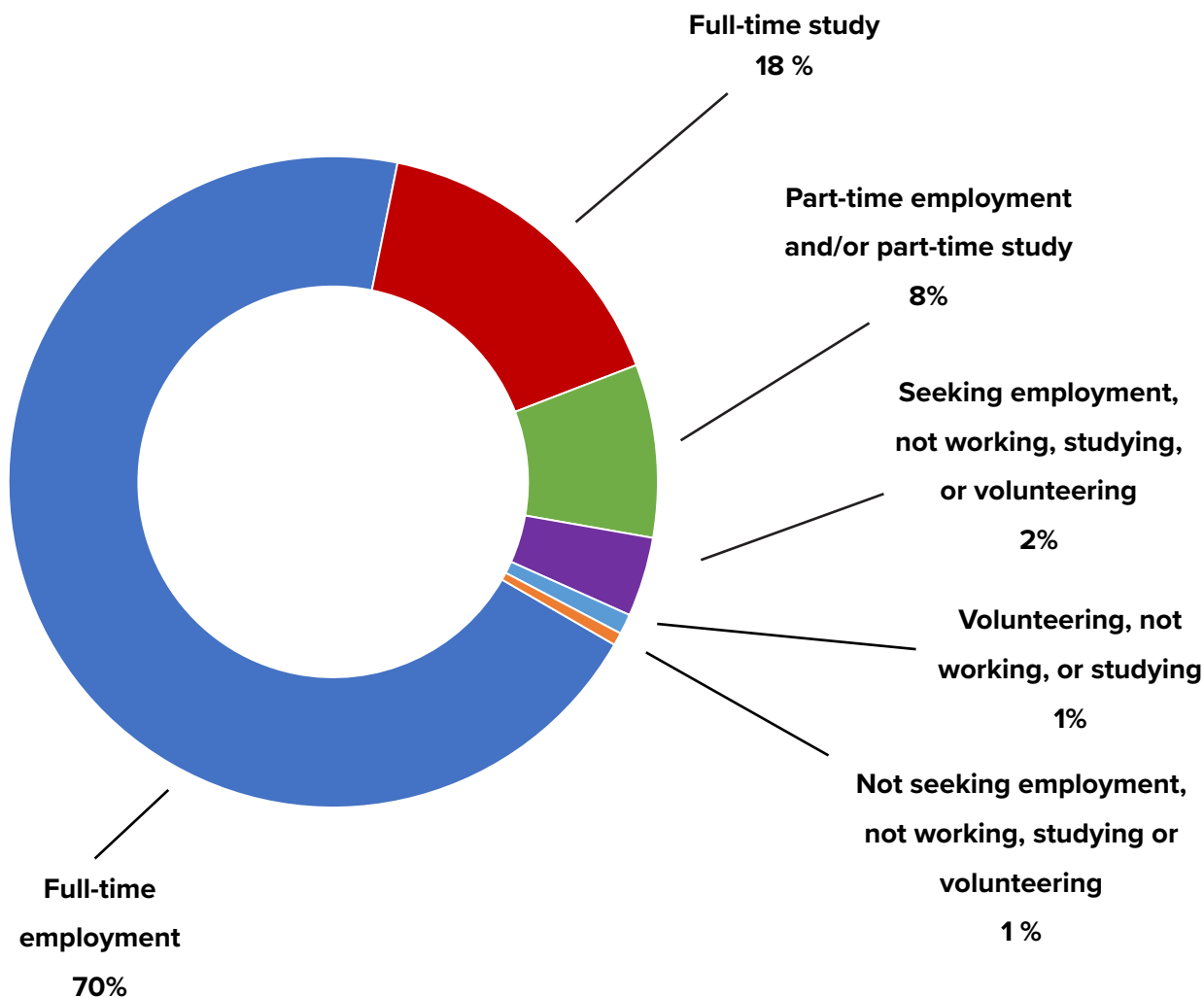
The annual Graduate Destinations Survey reports on the types of employment, further study, volunteer work or job searching our graduates are involved in after completing their studies. These statistics are of the employment destinations of respondents who graduated between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.

This Graduate Destinations Survey Summary Report is intended to give a snapshot of the responses from participants in the survey about graduate destinations.

A total of 5,125 valid emails were sent to a graduating cohort of 5,143 and 1,957 responses were received, a response rate of 38 percent. The survey ran for four weeks from 20 September 2021 to 17 October 2021.

# 1. GRADUATE DESTINATIONS

FIGURE 1.1. GRADUATE DESTINATIONS (N=1,957)



## NOTES

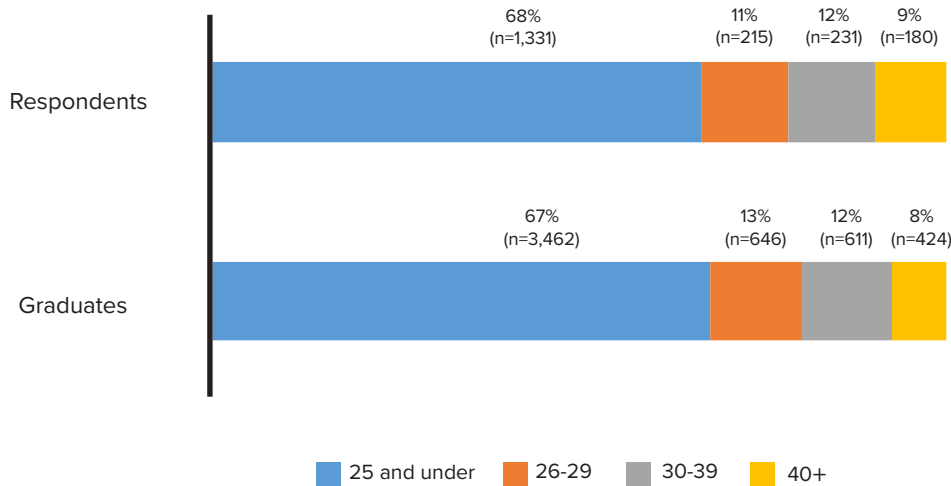
- Full-time employment:** respondents in this category reported working full-time but may also be in full- or part-time study and/or other part-time work and/or volunteering.
- Full time study:** respondents in this category reported studying full-time but may also be in part-time work and/or volunteering.
- Part-time employment and/or part-time study:** respondents in this category reported working or studying part-time while not being in full-time employment or study, they may also be volunteering.
- Seeking employment, not working, studying, or volunteering:** respondents in this category reported not being in paid work or studying, and seeking employment.
- Volunteering, not working or studying:** respondents in this category reported volunteering only, and not working or studying, but may be seeking employment.
- Not seeking employment:** respondents in this category reported not working, studying, or volunteering, and not seeking employment.



## 2. GRADUATES AND SURVEY RESPONDENTS

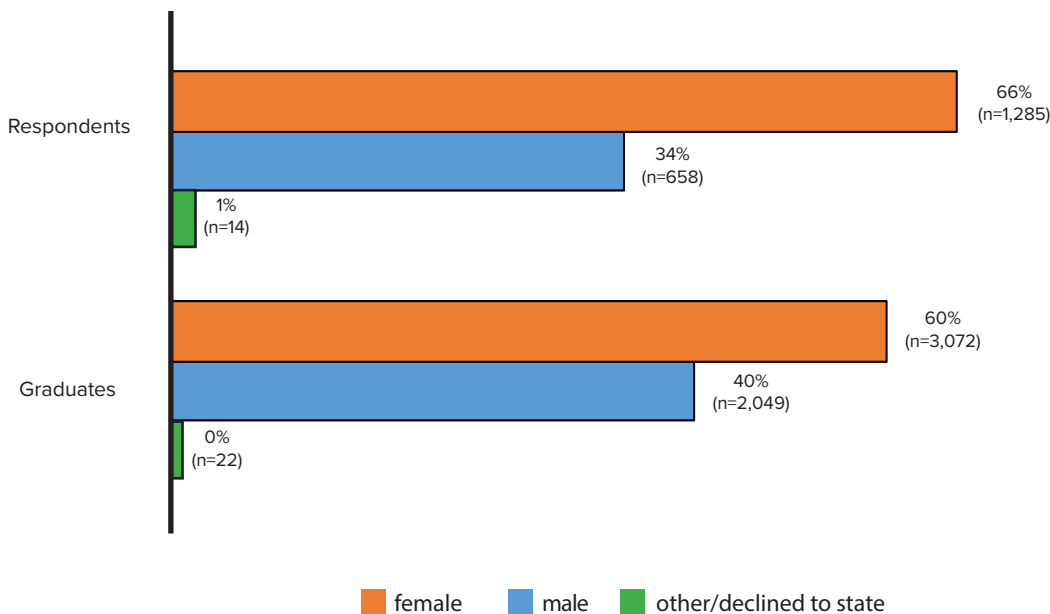
1,957 graduates responded to the graduate destinations survey, which provided a response rate of 38 percent.

**FIGURE 2.1. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY AGE**



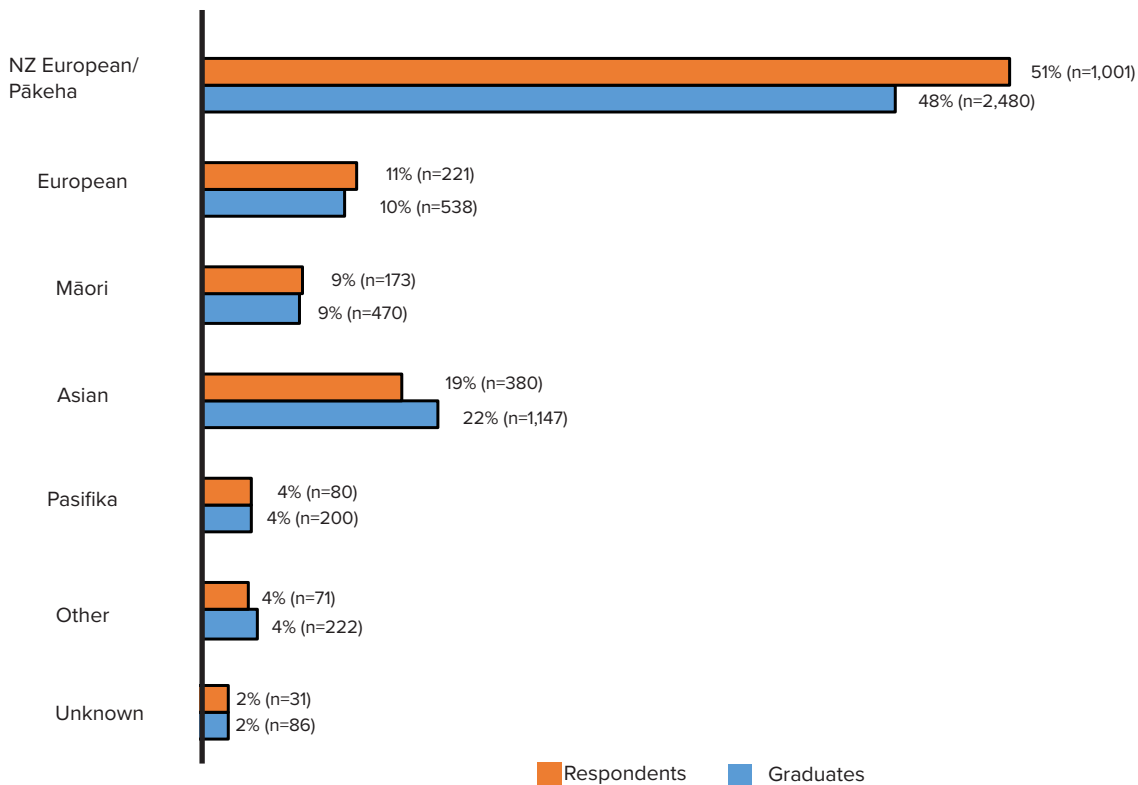
- More than 65 percent of graduates and respondents are under 25 years old.
- 12 percent of respondents are 30-39 years old, and 9 percent are over 40 years old, which is comparable with the age groups in the graduate population (12 percent and 8 percent, respectively).

**FIGURE 2.2. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY GENDER**



- The majority of graduates are female, which is reflected in the survey results.
- Female respondents were slightly overrepresented and male respondents slightly underrepresented compared to the graduate population.

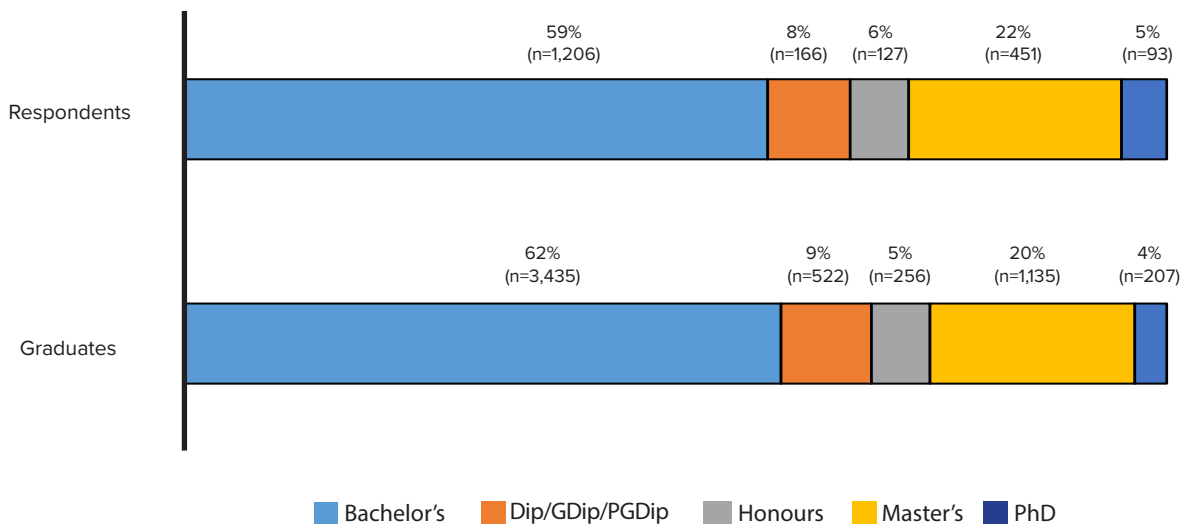
**FIGURE 2.3. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY ETHNICITY**



**Note—the percentages do not total to 100 percent because multiple ethnicities could be selected.**

- A higher proportion of respondents identified as New Zealand European/Pākeha, compared to the graduate population.
- Overall, the respondents were relatively representative of the graduate cohort in terms of ethnicity.

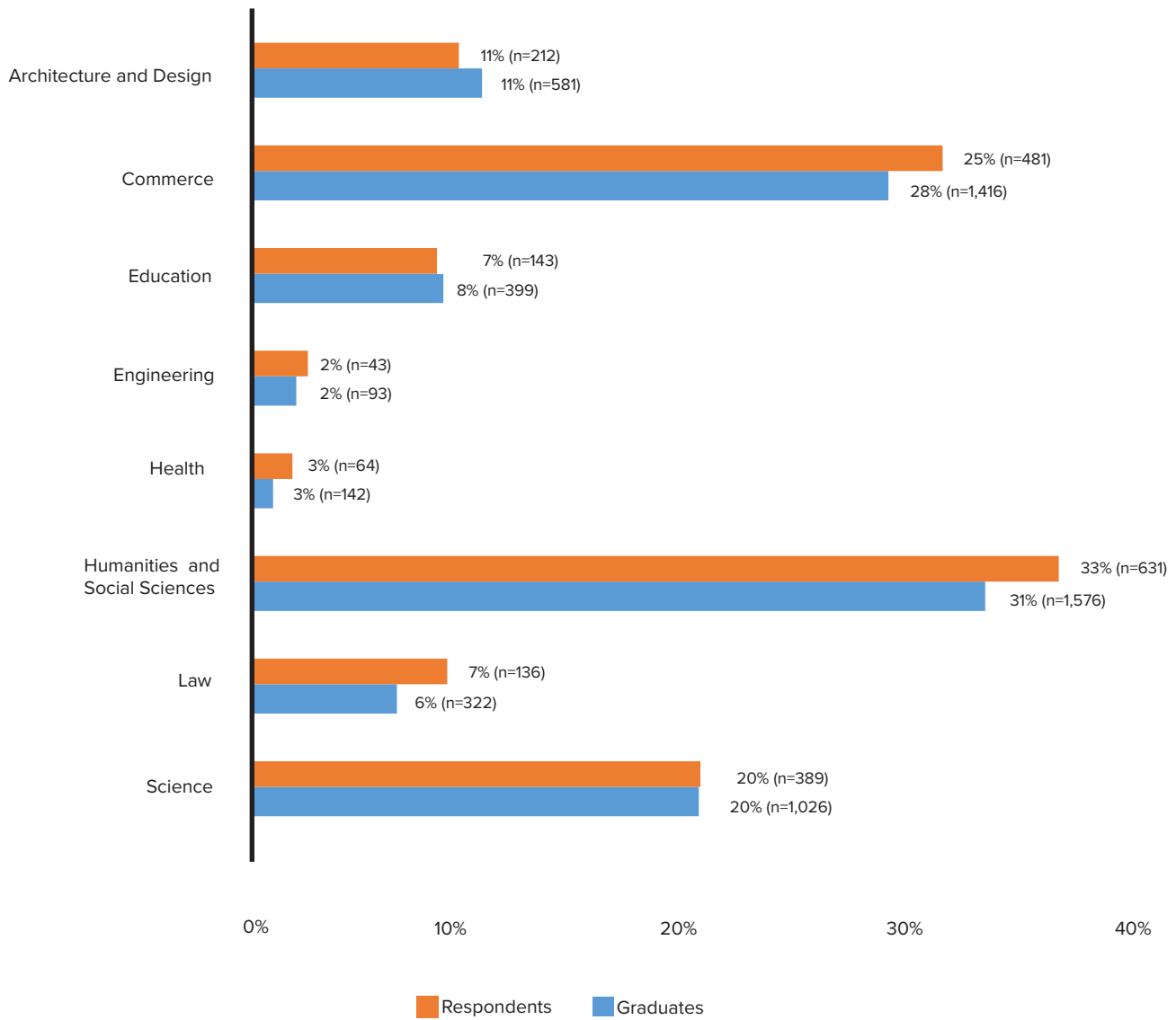
**FIGURE 2.4. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY QUALIFICATION**



**Note—9.1 percent of all respondents (7.8 percent of all graduates) completed more than one qualification.**

- The majority of students graduated with a Bachelor’s degree.
- 33 percent of respondents acquired postgraduate qualifications, i.e. Honours, Master’s, or PhD degrees.
- In terms of qualification earned, respondents with Honours, Master’s, and PhDs were slightly over-represented, with a slight under-representation of Bachelor’s and Diplomas.

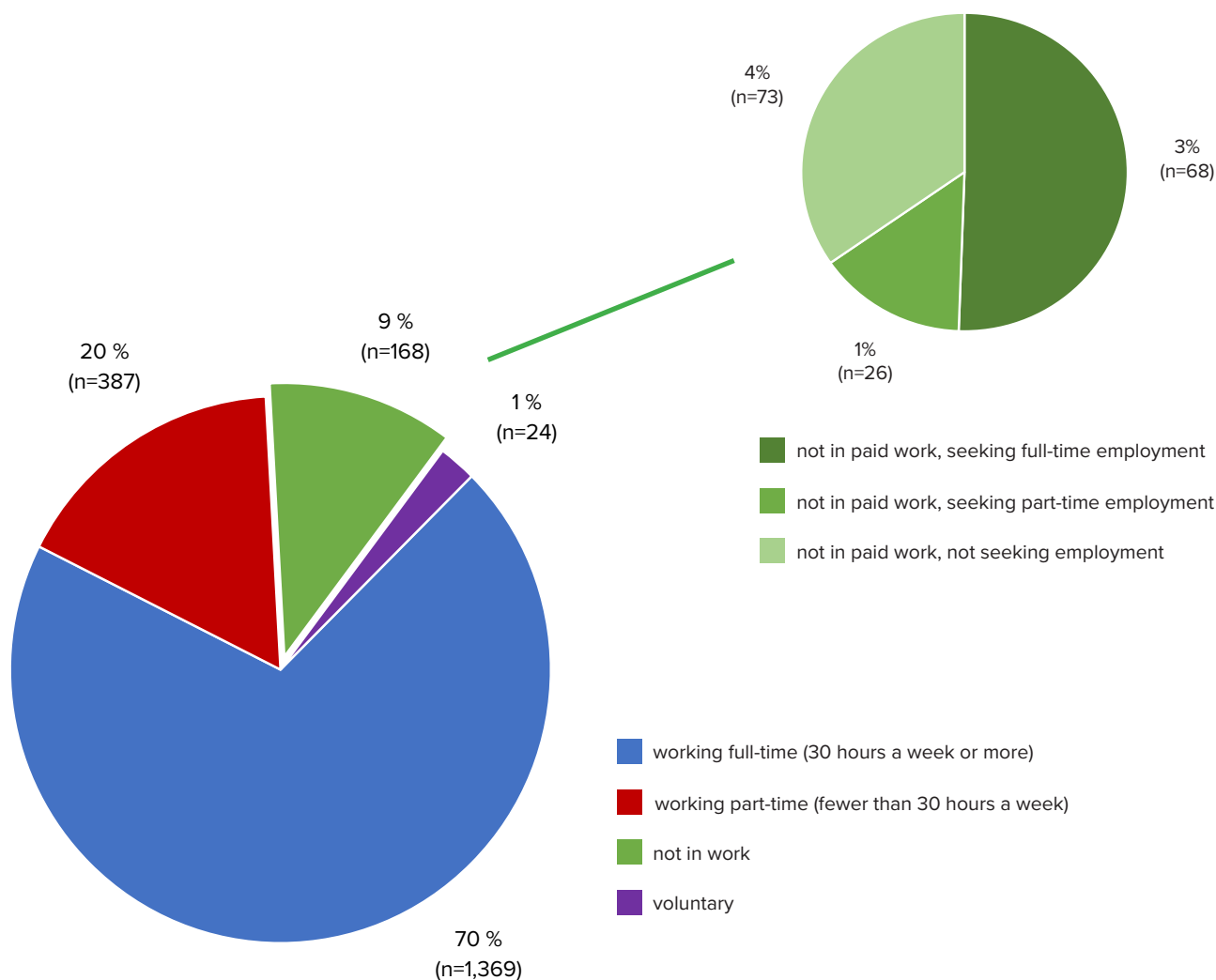
**FIGURE 2.5. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY FACULTY**



**Note—the percentages do not total to 100 percent because some graduates have more than one degree.**

# 3. EMPLOYMENT STATUS

FIGURE 3.1. EMPLOYMENT STATUS (n=1,948)



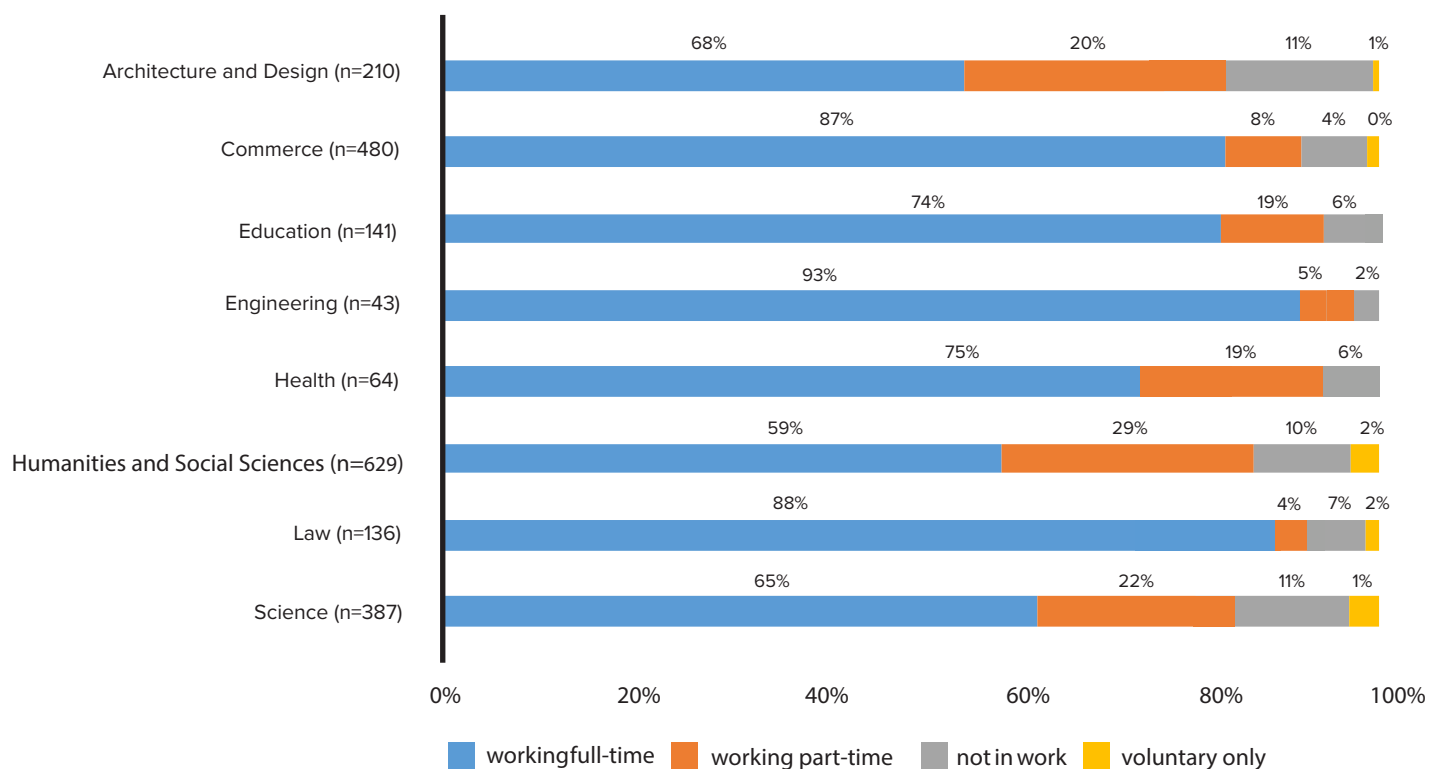
- 90 percent of those who reported their employment status were in paid employment since completing their qualification.
- 5 percent reported to not be in paid work but seeking employment. 52 percent of graduates in this group are in further study.

TABLE 3.1. EMPLOYMENT INTENTIONS OF RESPONDENTS IN PAID WORK (n=1,724)

Employment status	Working full-time	Working part-time	Total
Employed, seeking full-time employment	260 (19%)	123 (32%)	383 (22%)
Employed, seeking part-time employment	50 (4%)	67 (17%)	117 (7%)
Employed, not seeking employment	1,030 (77%)	194 (51%)	1,224 (71%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,340 (78%)</b>	<b>384 (22%)</b>	<b>1,724 (100%)</b>

- 29 percent of respondents in paid work were seeking either full-time or part-time employment.
- Those who were employed full-time were less likely to seek employment than those working part-time, and 77 percent of the respondents who worked full time reported not to be seeking further employment.

**FIGURE 3.2. EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY FACULTY (n=1,948)**



**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

- The Faculty of Engineering had the highest proportion of respondents in full-time work (93 percent).
- Over 80 percent of respondents from the Faculties of Commerce, and Law worked full-time.
- The Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences had the lowest percentage of respondents in full-time work (59 percent), and the highest in part-time work (29 percent), while the Faculties of Architecture & Design and Science had the highest percent not in work (11 percent).

**TABLE 3.2. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES WHO HAD MORE THAN ONE JOB SINCE GRADUATING WITH CURRENT QUALIFICATION (n=1,342)**

Faculty	Yes	Percent	No	Percent	Total
Architecture & Design	63	45%	78	55%	141
Commerce	164	40%	242	60%	406
Education	25	24%	79	76%	104
Engineering	17	44%	22	56%	39
Health	14	29%	34	71%	48
Humanities & Social Sciences	133	37%	228	63%	361
Law	28	26%	81	74%	109
Science	98	39%	152	61%	250
<b>Total</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>1,458</b>

**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

- Respondents from the Faculties of Education, Health, and Law were least likely to have had more than one job if employed full-time, compared to respondents from other faculties.



**TABLE 3.3. PART-TIME EMPLOYEES WHO HAD MORE THAN ONE JOB SINCE GRADUATING WITH CURRENT QUALIFICATION (n=384)**

Faculty	Yes	Percent	No	Percent	Total
Architecture & Design	23	56%	18	44%	41
Commerce	22	58%	16	42%	38
Education	14	54%	12	46%	26
Engineering	0	0%	2	100%	2
Health	3	25%	9	75%	12
Humanities & Social Sciences	93	51%	90	49%	183
Law	5	100%	0	0%	5
Science	44	51%	43	49%	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>394</b>

**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

- In general, part-time employees were more likely to have had more than one job compared to full-time employees (52 percent versus 37 percent).
- Among those working part-time, respondents were similarly likely to have had more than one job, except in Engineering, Health, and Law which had limited data.

**TABLE 3.4. NUMBER OF JOBS HELD SINCE COMPLETING QUALIFICATION (n=1,740)**

Faculty	1	Percent	2	Percent	3	Percent	4	Percent	5+	Percent	Total
Architecture & Design	96	53%	62	34%	19	10%	4	2%	1	1%	182
Commerce	262	58%	142	32%	37	8%	6	1%	1	0%	448
Education	93	70%	29	22%	8	6%	1	1%	1	1%	132
Engineering	25	60%	12	29%	3	7%	2	5%	0	0%	42
Health	43	72%	11	18%	6	10%	0	0%	0	0%	60
Humanities & Social Sciences	323	59%	155	28%	50	9%	14	3%	7	1%	549
Law	83	72%	27	23%	5	4%	1	1%	0	0%	116
Science	196	58%	103	30%	26	8%	7	2%	6	2%	338
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1,867</b>

**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

- Three fifths of graduates have held only one job since completing their qualification.
- Graduates of the Faculties of Education, Health, and Law were least likely to have held more than one job since completing their qualifications.

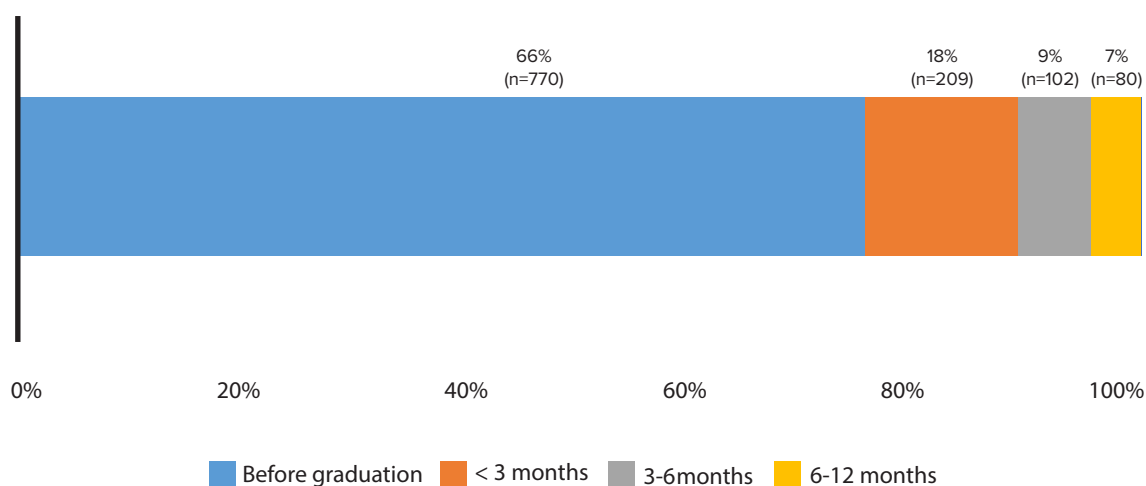
**TABLE 3.5. NUMBER OF JOBS EMPLOYEES CURRENTLY HOLD BY FACULTY (n=1,738)**

Faculty	1 job	Percent	2 jobs	Percent	3 jobs	percent	Total
Architecture & Design	156	85%	25	14%	3	2%	184
Commerce	413	91%	37	8%	2	0%	452
Education	114	87%	10	8%	7	5%	131
Engineering	34	83%	6	15%	1	2%	41
Health	48	81%	7	12%	4	7%	59
Humanities & Social Sciences	457	84%	75	14%	15	3%	547
Law	113	93%	9	7%	0	0%	122
Science	291	87%	36	11%	9	3%	336
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1,872</b>

**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

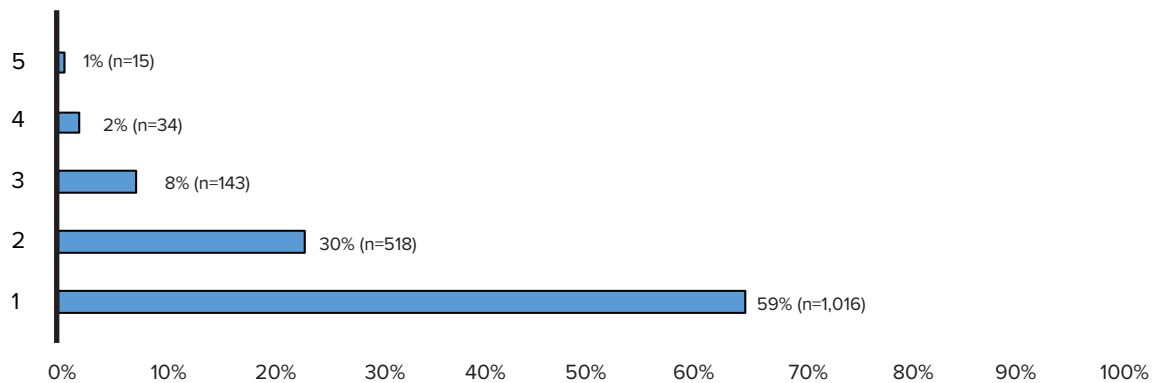
- A majority of graduates currently hold one job, with graduates from the Faculty of Commerce and Law being least likely to have more than one concurrent job.
- Graduates of the Faculty of Health, and Education are most likely to hold 3 concurrent jobs.

**FIGURE 3.3. TIME BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT (n=1,164)**



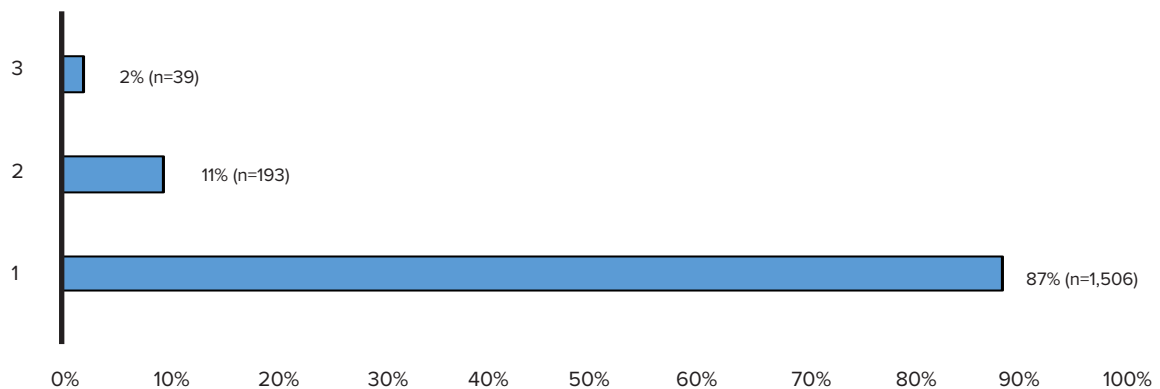
- Of graduates who responded that they are currently working full time, 93 percent were employed prior to or within six months of degree completion.

**FIGURE 3.4. NUMBER OF PAID JOBS HELD SINCE COMPLETING THIS QUALIFICATION (n=1,726)**



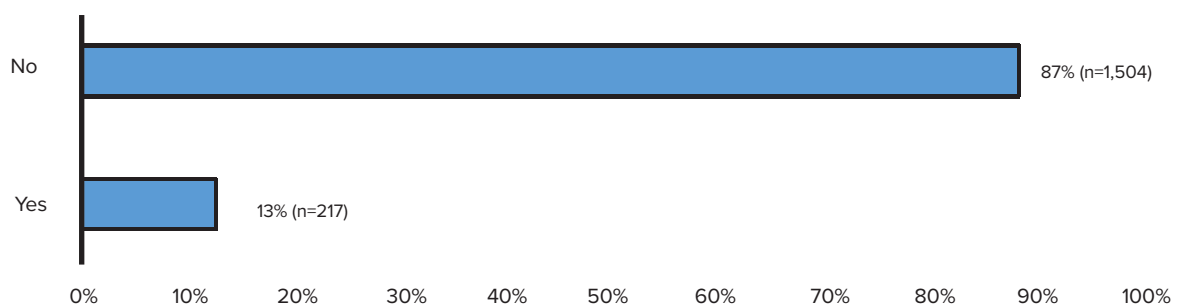
■ Of the 1,726 respondents, 11 percent had three or more jobs since completing their qualification.

**FIGURE 3.5. NUMBER OF JOBS EMPLOYEES CURRENTLY HOLD (n=1,738)**

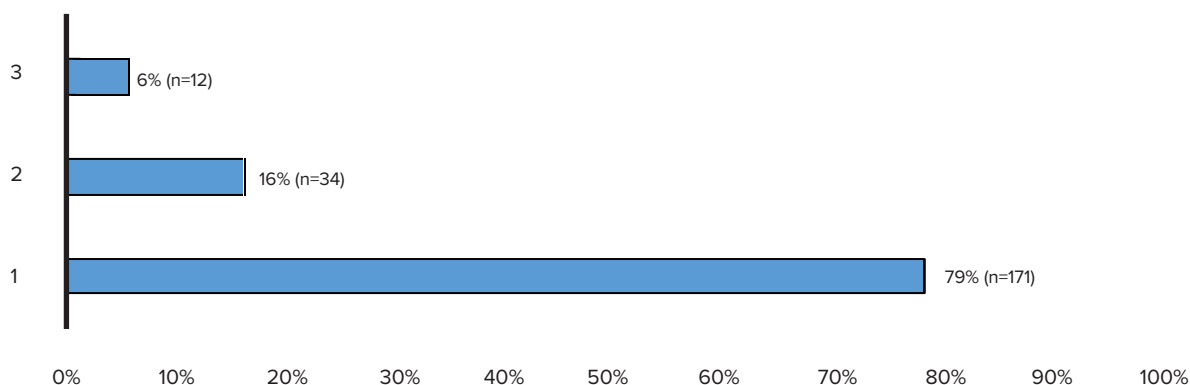


■ Of the 1,738 respondents who provided the number of their paid jobs, 13 percent have more than one paid job.

**FIGURE 3.6. VOLUNTARY WORK (n=1,721)**



**FIGURE 3.7. NUMBER OF VOLUNTARY JOBS (n=217)**



- Of those who reported their volunteer status, 13 percent were in voluntary work.
- Of the 217 respondents who provided the number of their voluntary jobs, 21 percent have more than one voluntary job.

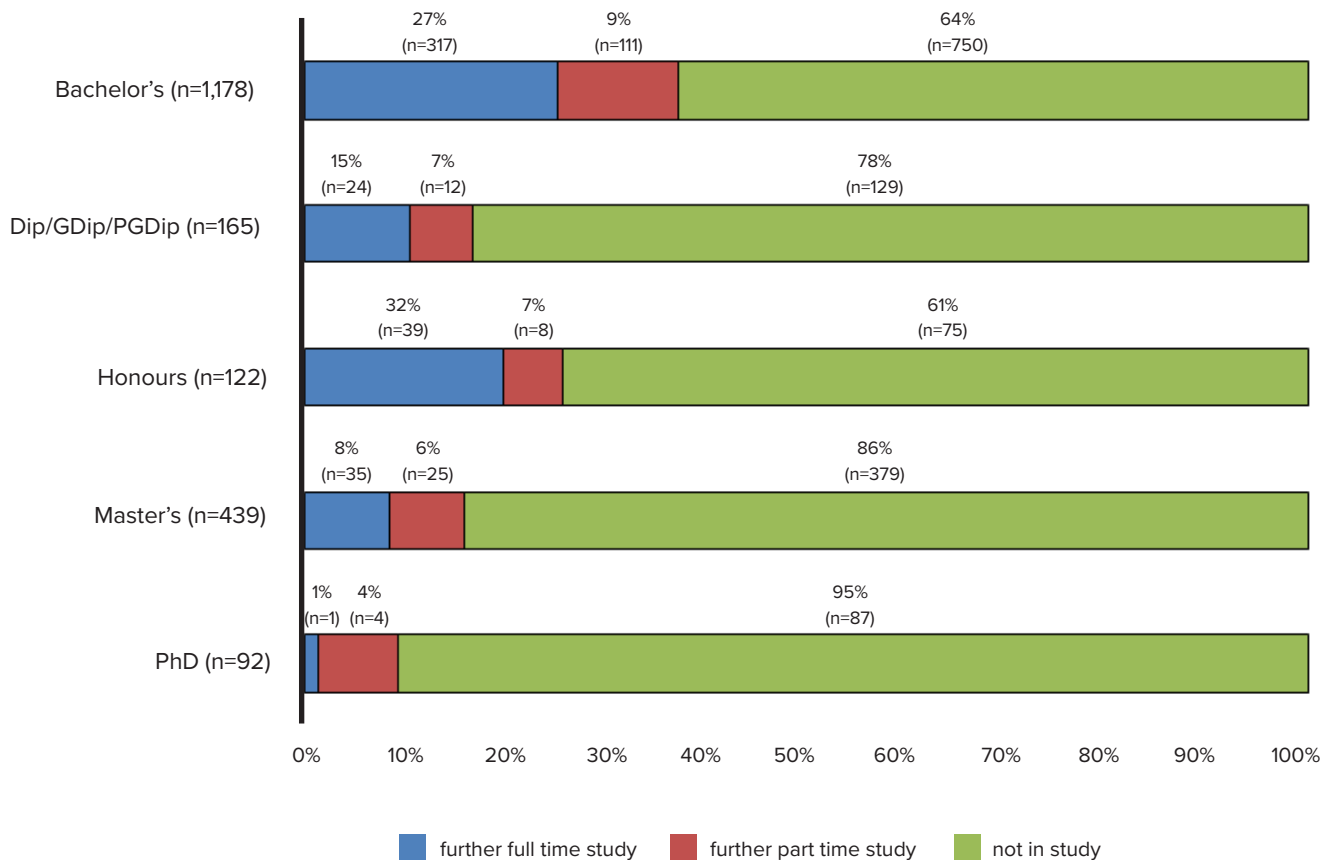
**TABLE 3.6. EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND VOLUNTARY WORK(n=1,717)**

Employment status		Working full-time	Working part-time	Not in paid work	Total
Volunteer work	Yes	123 (10%)	70 (22%)	24 (13%)	217 (13%)
	No	1,079 (90%)	254 (78%)	167 (87%)	1,500 (87%)
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,202 (70%)</b>	<b>324 (19%)</b>	<b>191 (11%)</b>	<b>1,717 (100%)</b>

- The respondents who were working part-time were most likely to be involved in voluntary work. The respondents who worked full-time were least likely to do voluntary work.
- 24 respondents (one percent of the total number) were involved in voluntary work only.

# 4. STUDY DESTINATIONS

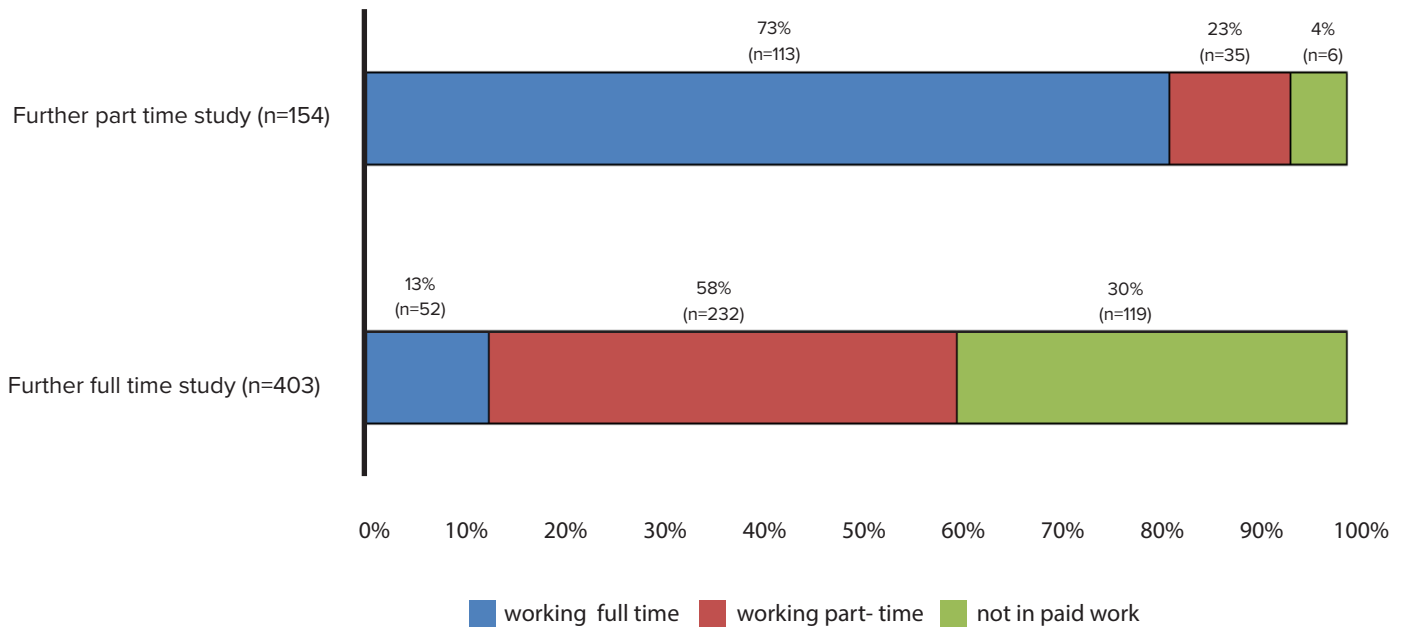
FIGURE 4.1. STUDY DESTINATIONS BY COMPLETED QUALIFICATION (n=1,937)



**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once because they have more than one degree.**

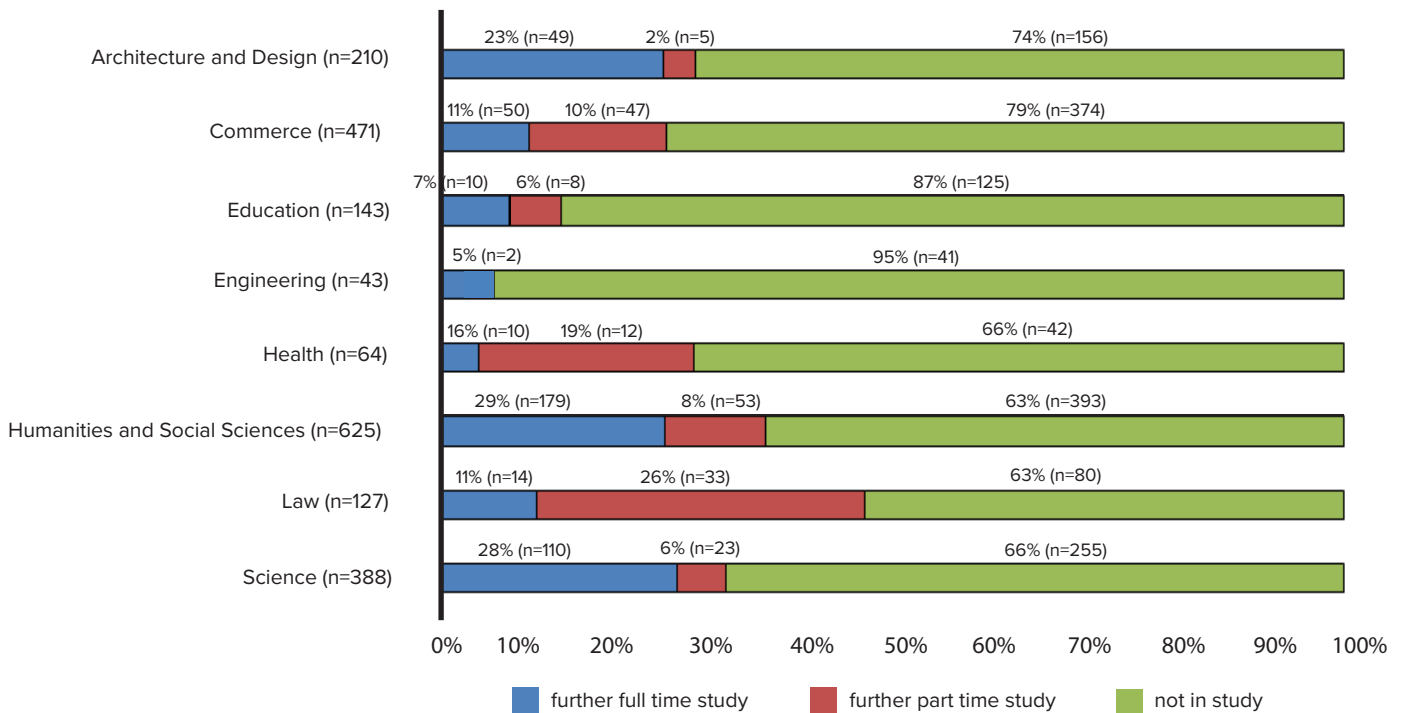
- 29 percent of all degree-specific respondents who reported their study destinations did further study.
- The majority of respondents did not study after their graduation (71 percent), and those who did further study were more likely to study full-time (21 percent) than part-time (8 percent).
- Respondents who graduated with a Bachelor's with Honours, were most likely to do further study, followed by respondents who completed a Bachelor's degree. Respondents who graduated with a PhD were least likely to do further study.

**FIGURE 4.2. STUDY DESTINATIONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS (n=557)**



- 70 percent of respondents in full-time study also worked either full-time or part-time.
- 13 percent of those in full-time study are also in full-time work.
- 12 percent of respondents in full-time employment were also in further study.

**FIGURE 4.3. STUDY DESTINATIONS BY FACULTY (n=1,937)**



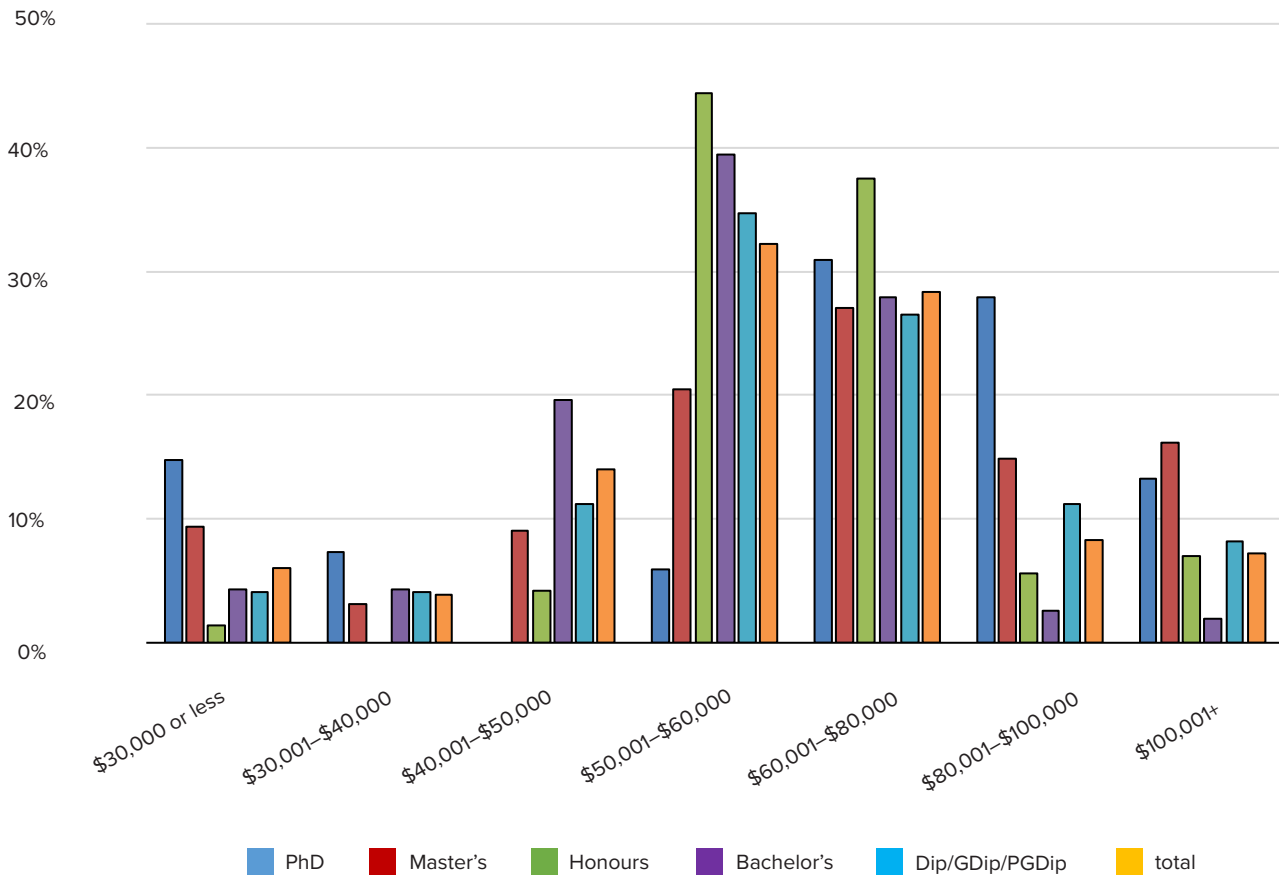
**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

- Respondents from the Faculty of Science, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences and Faculty of Architecture & Design were most likely to be enrolled in full-time study.
- Respondents from the Faculty of Law and Faculty of Health were most likely to be enrolled in part-time study, which is likely due to the education requirements for careers in those professions.



# 5. INCOME

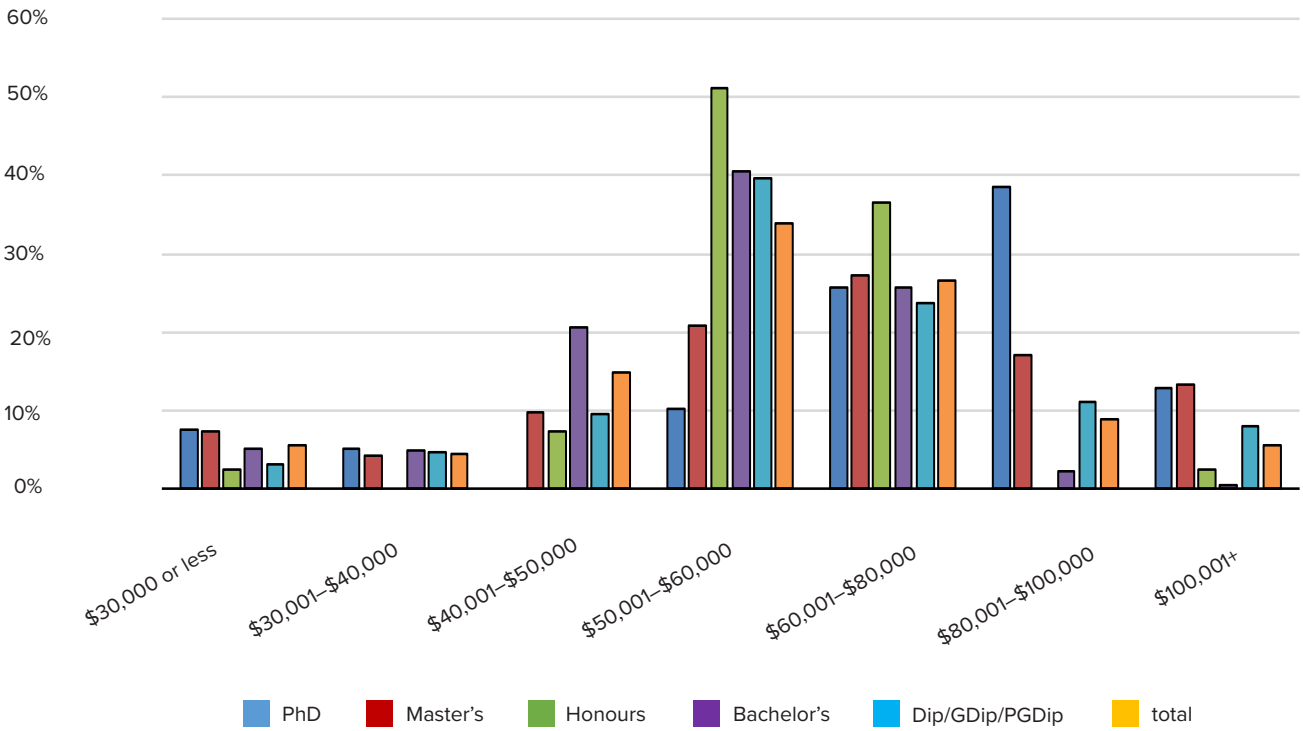
**FIGURE 5.1. INCOME OF FULL-TIME EARNERS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=1,187)**



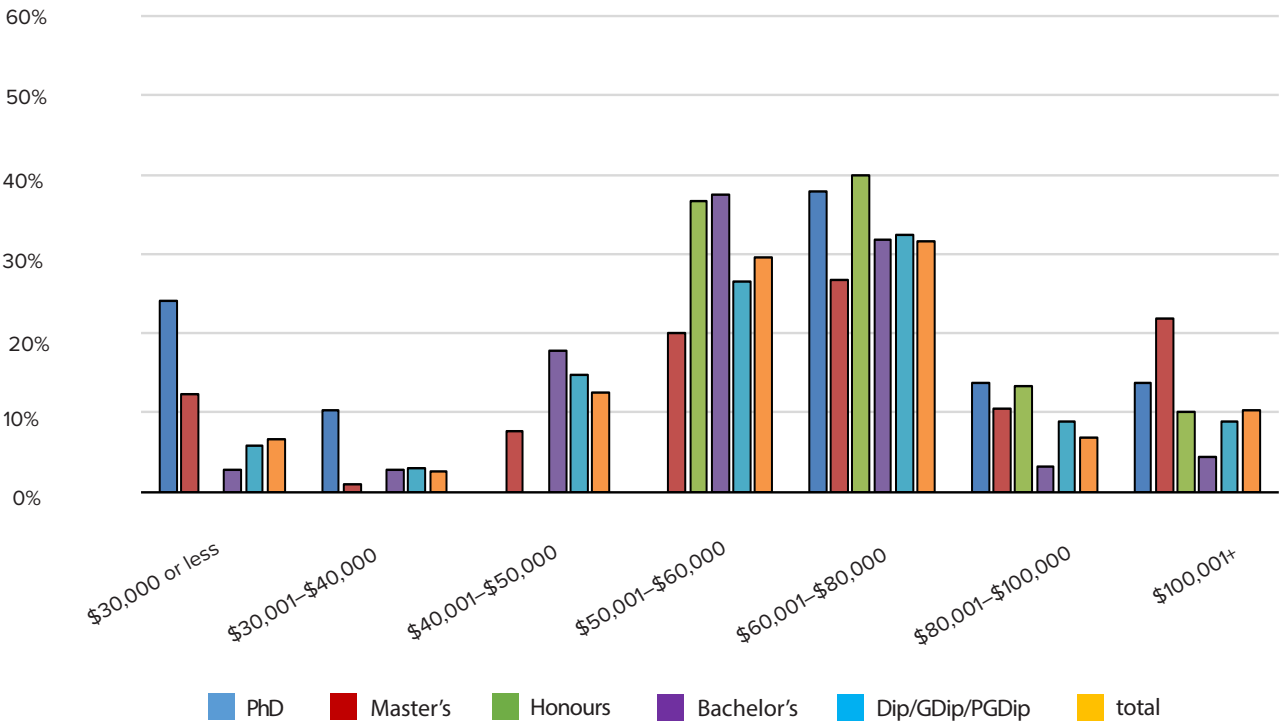
- 60 percent of respondents working full-time reported salaries between \$50,001 and \$80,000.
- 87 percent of respondents with Bachelors degrees reported salaries between \$40,001 and \$80,000.
- Respondents with a Diploma degree most commonly reported salaries between \$50,001 and \$80,000 (62 percent).
- Salaries over \$60,000 were more often associated with those who graduated with a Master's (58 percent) or PhD (72 percent) degree.
- All PhDs who earn less than \$50,000 reside outside New Zealand where exchange rates may have affected their comparative earning power.

# INCOME BY GENDER

**FIGURE 5.2. INCOME OF FEMALE FULL-TIME EARNERS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=758)**



**FIGURE 5.3. INCOME OF MALE FULL-TIME EARNERS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=422)**



- A higher proportion of males in full-time employment reported salaries at \$60,001 or more. A higher proportion of females reported salaries at \$60,000 or less.
- 31 percent of males with postgraduate degrees (Masters and PhD) reported salaries over \$80,000, while only 34 percent of females with postgraduate degrees reported similar salaries over \$80,000.

# INCOME BY EXPERIENCE

FIGURE 5.4. FIRST FULL-TIME JOB INCOME BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=609)

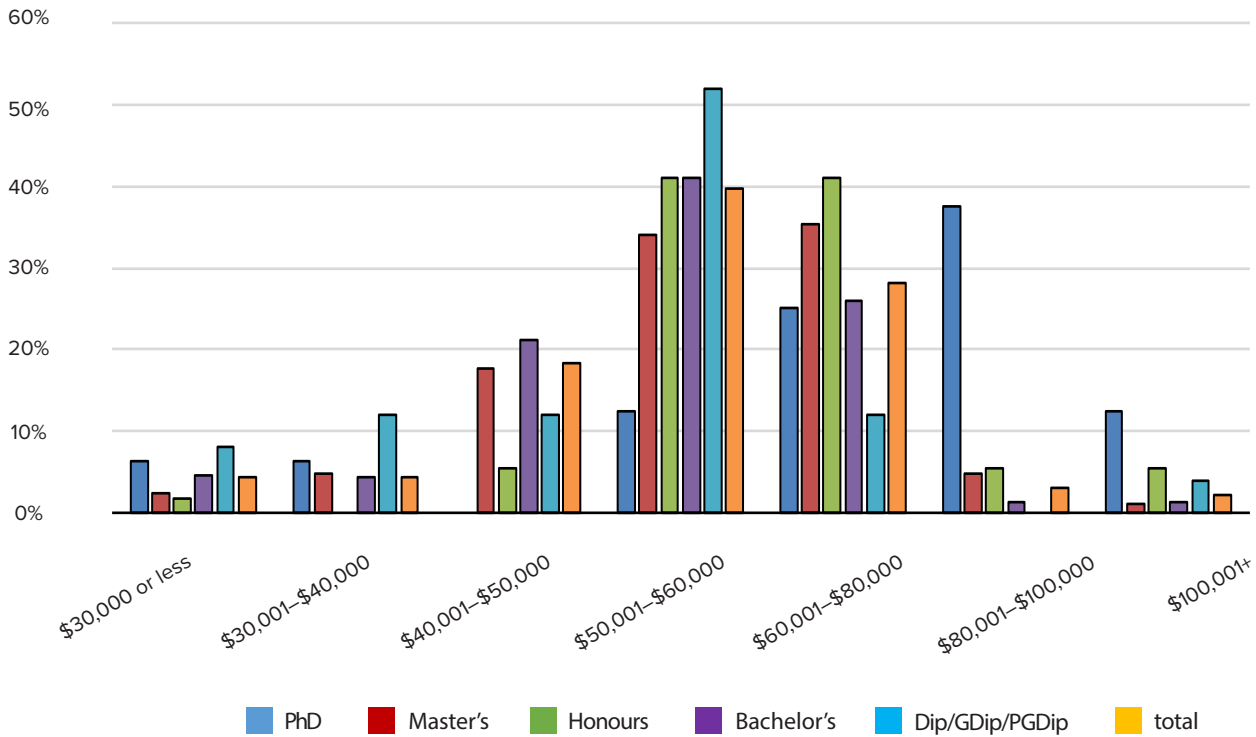
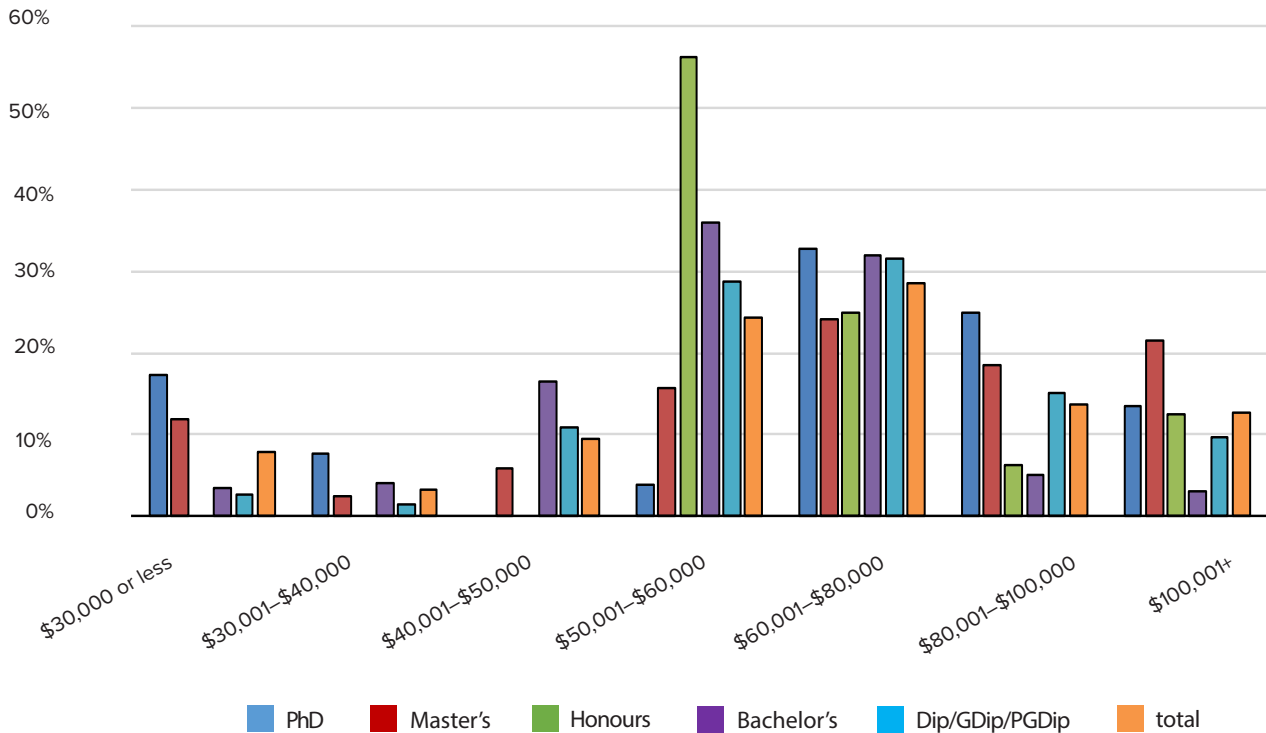


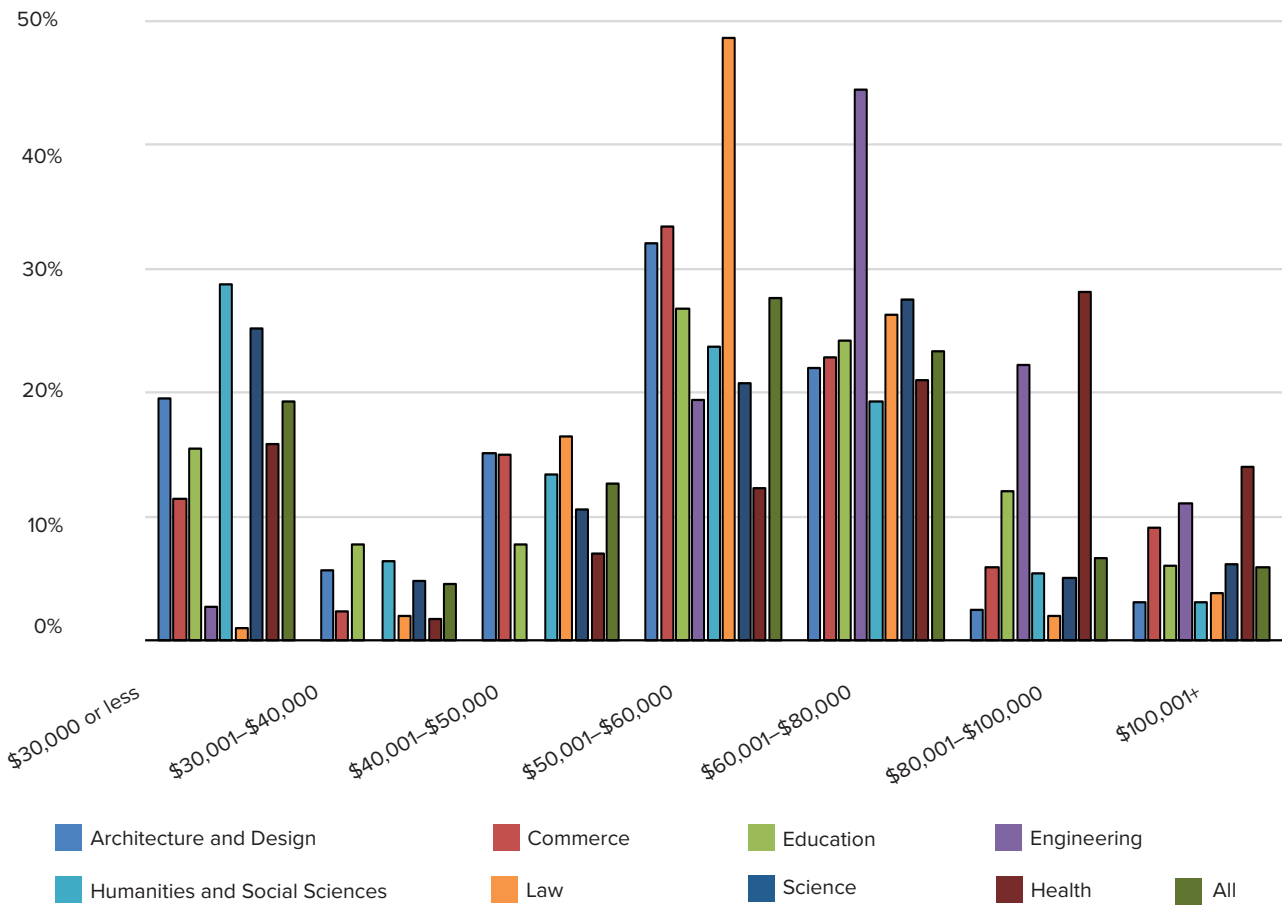
FIGURE 5.5. EXPERIENCED GRADUATES INCOME BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=578)



■ Across all degrees, 27 percent of respondents with previous full-time paid employment make \$80,000 or more, whereas 5 percent of respondents without previous full-time paid employment make \$80,000 or more.

# INCOME BY FACULTY

FIGURE 5.6. FULL AND PART-TIME INCOME BY FACULTY (n=1,495)



**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree.**



Capital thinking. Globally minded.