

**THE 2011 IUPUI
GRADUATE ALUMNI SURVEY
SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
MASTER'S DEGREE RESPONDENTS**

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INTRODUCTION

The IUPUI alumni survey began in 1992 with funding IUPUI received as part of the 1990 Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act. In 2011, the survey was revised and a Graduate Alumni Survey was created. The current iteration of the IUPUI Graduate Alumni Survey was created by staff in Information Management and Institutional Research (IMIR) with feedback from Deans, Associate Deans, the Center for Service and Learning, and Career Services. The original Undergraduate Alumni Survey, the results of the 2008 Graduate Student Survey, and the IUPUI Principles of Graduate and Professional Learning (PGLs) were consulted when constructing this survey. Currently, the Graduate Alumni Survey has 5 sections focusing on graduates' satisfaction with their overall IUPUI experience, satisfaction with their assistantship, the impact of IUPUI on their learning, further education, and current employment.

A sample of 4,134 graduate students who graduated with a Master's, Doctoral-Practice, or Doctoral-Research degree from any Indiana University or Purdue University school located on the IUPUI or IUPUC campus between Spring 2008 and Summer 2010 was provided to IMIR by the Indiana University Alumni Association. All alumni in this sample were sent an e-mail inviting them to participate in the survey. Of the 4,134 students contacted, 1,397 of those had invalid e-mails and two declined to participate, leading to an adjusted sample size of 2,735. Reminder e-mails were sent to non-respondents two, four, and six weeks following the initial e-mail. A total of 401 alumni responded to the survey for a response rate of 14.7%. Demographic and academic characteristics of School of Science and all respondents appear in tables 1 and 2 below.

The following is a report of the 37 respondents who received a Master's degree from the School of Science at IUPUI. In order to demonstrate the extent of the difference between the scale means of schools and the scale mean for all IUPUI Master's respondents, effect sizes were generated. Effect sizes represent the number of standard deviation units between the school and campus means. In general, an effect size with an absolute value of less than 0.2 of a standard deviation is seen as "trivial," and an effect size with an absolute value of 0.2 or greater is meaningful. Prudence should be considered when interpreting these results, as the low response rate for this survey may have led to results not consistent with the entire IUPUI population. For further information, including other reports derived from the 2011 IUPUI Graduate and Undergraduate Alumni Surveys, please consult the Alumni Surveys section of the IMIR website, located at imir.iupui.edu/surveys/alumni.

Table 1
Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

	Science Master's Degree Respondents	All Master's Degree Respondents
	<i>Percentages</i>	
Gender		
Female	48.6	61.6
Male	51.4	38.4
Ethnicity ^a		
African-American	0.0	5.9
Asian-American/Pacific Islander	8.1	2.2
Caucasian	67.6	76.9
Hispanic	2.7	3.4
Native American/Alaska Native	0.0	0.3
International Student	16.2	7.8
Unknown	5.4	3.4
Age at graduation ^b		
Less than 25 years of age	62.2	16.4
25 – 29	32.4	31.1
30 – 39	0.0	18.5
40 years of age or older	5.4	33.9

^a Since most participants graduated before the most recent ethnic codes were implemented, pre-2010 ethnic codes were used in this analysis.

^b For spring semester graduates, age is calculated as of the day of commencement. For fall and summer graduates, age is calculated as of the degree date provided by their school. For most schools, the date is December 31 for fall graduates, June 30 for summer I graduates, and August 31 for summer II graduates (though there is variation between schools).

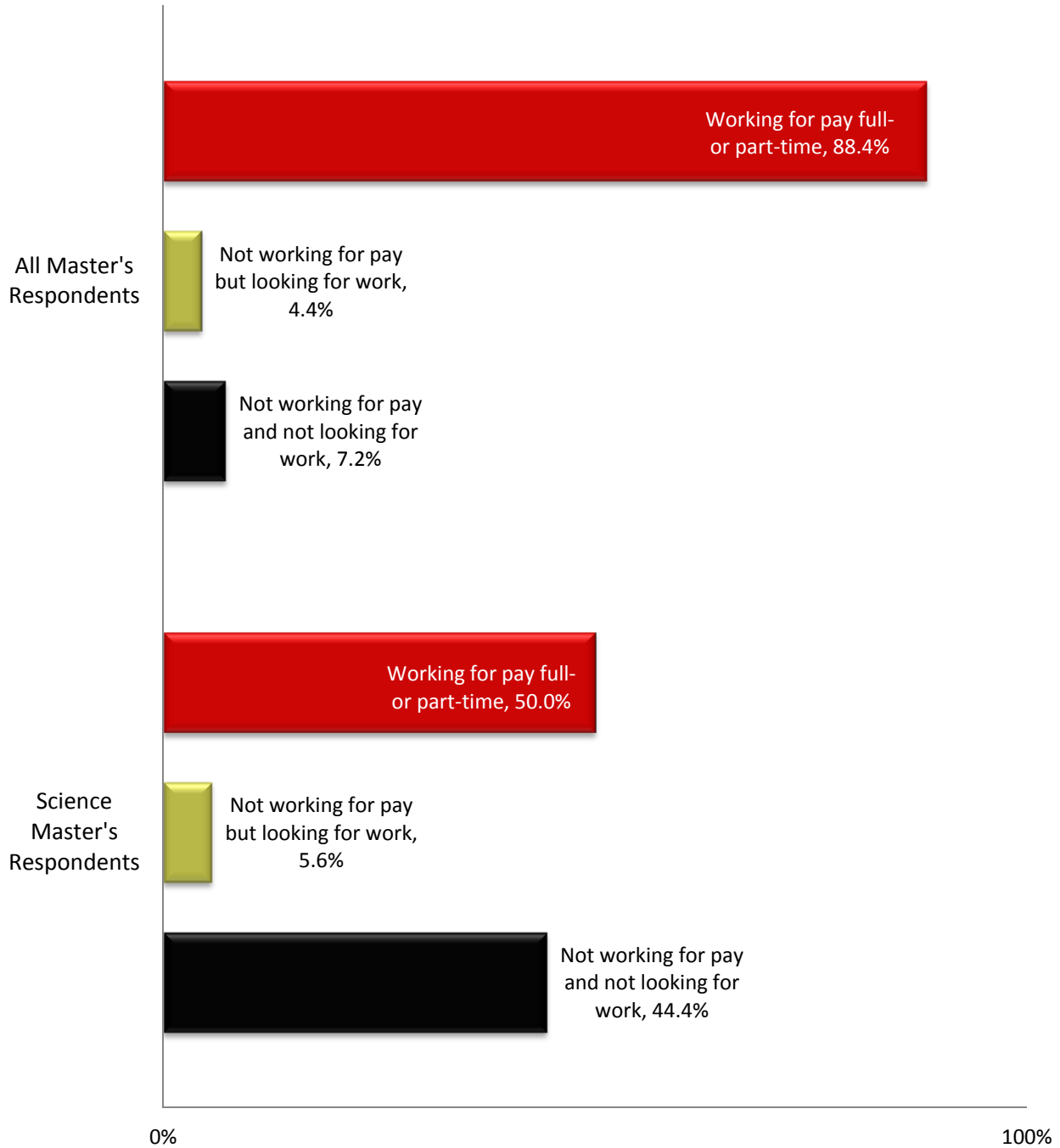
Table 2
Academic Characteristics of Respondents

	Science Master's Degree Respondents	All Master's Degree Respondents
	<i>Percentages</i>	
Academic year of graduation		
2007-2008	24.3	19.2
2008-2009	37.8	35.9
2009-2010	37.8	44.9
Program GPA ^a		
4.00	13.5	8.4
3.80-3.99	37.8	42.8
3.60-3.79	16.2	24.7
3.20-3.59	21.6	20.0
3.19 or lower	10.8	4.1

^a GPA earned for classes completed at an Indiana University campus within their program of study that would count towards the students' degree. Does not include grades earned in classes transferred from outside of Indiana University.

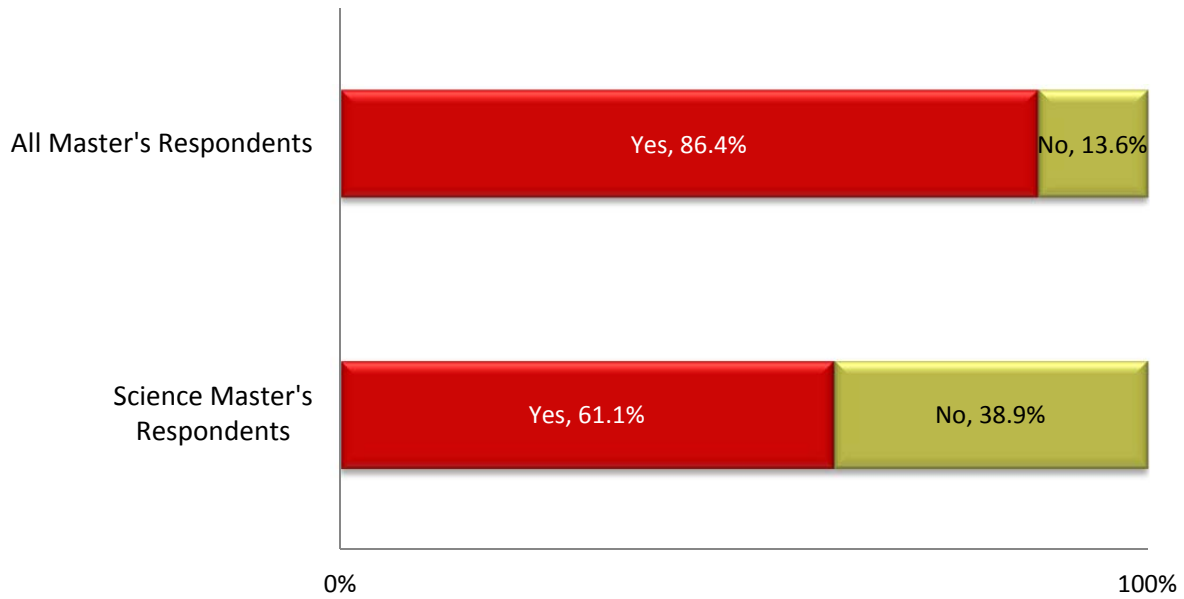
SECTION 1: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Figure 1
Which best describes your current employment status? ^a



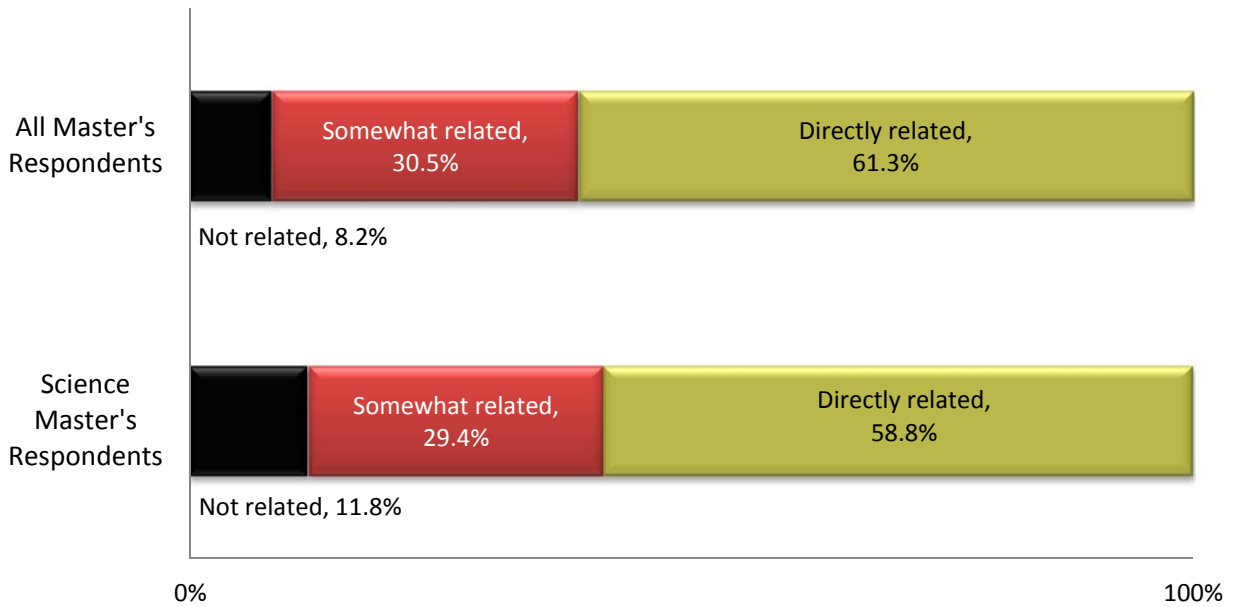
^a All Master's N = 318
Science Master's N = 36

Figure 2
Are you working in Indiana? ^a



^a Of respondents indicating they are working full- or part-time.
 All Master's N = 282; Science Master's N = 18

Figure 3
How closely does your job relate to your IUPUI graduate program? ^a



^a Of respondents indicating they are working full- or part-time.
 All Master's N = 282, Mean = 2.53, STD = 0.64,
 Science N = 17, Mean = 2.47, STD = 0.72, effect size = -0.09

Table 3
IUPUI Education and Work ^a

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your IUPUI experience</i>	N	Mean	STD	Standard Error	IUPUI Mean	Effect Size
			<i>Percentages</i>			
How well did your IUPUI education prepare you for this job	17	2.35	0.86	0.21	2.40	-0.08
How well do you think your IUPUI education enhanced your prospects for future advancement	17	2.59	0.51	0.12	2.53	0.10

^a 3-point scale in which "Very Well" = 3, "Somewhat" = 2, and "Not at all" = 1. Of respondents indicating they are working full- or part-time.

Figure 4
Science Master's Degree Respondents
Which category best describes your employer?

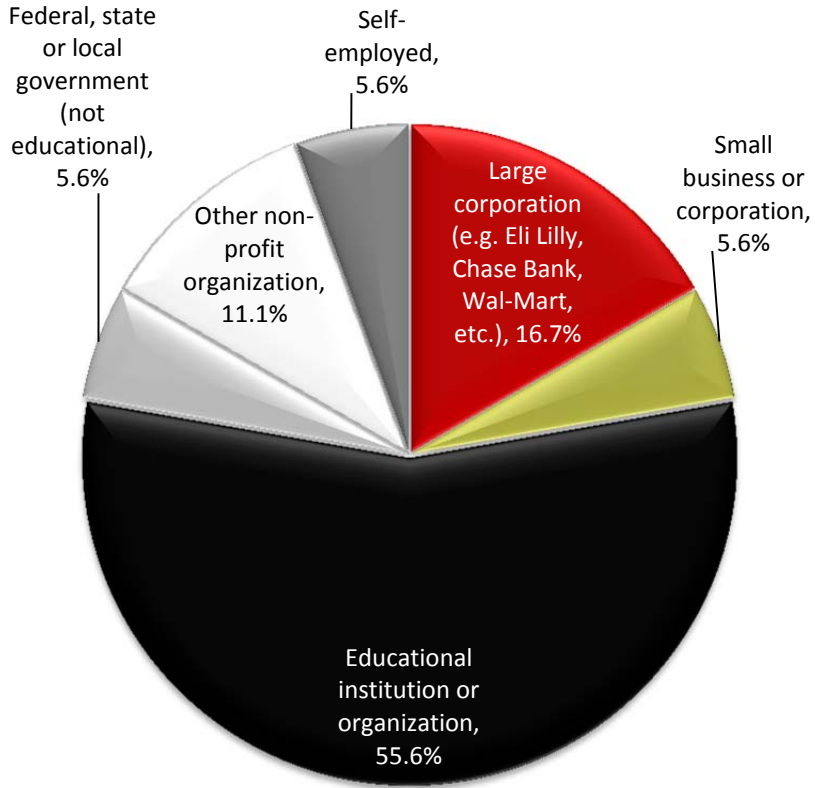
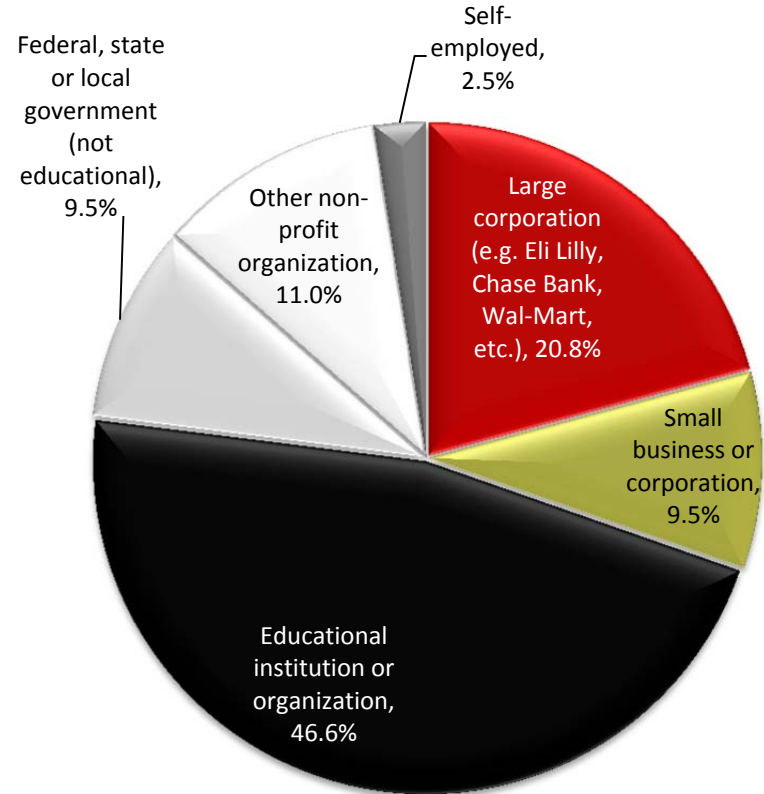


Figure 5
All IUPUI Master's Degree Respondents
Which category best describes your employer?



All Master's N = 282
 Science Master's N = 17

Figure 6
Science Master's Degree Respondents
Within which category does your personal annual gross salary fall?

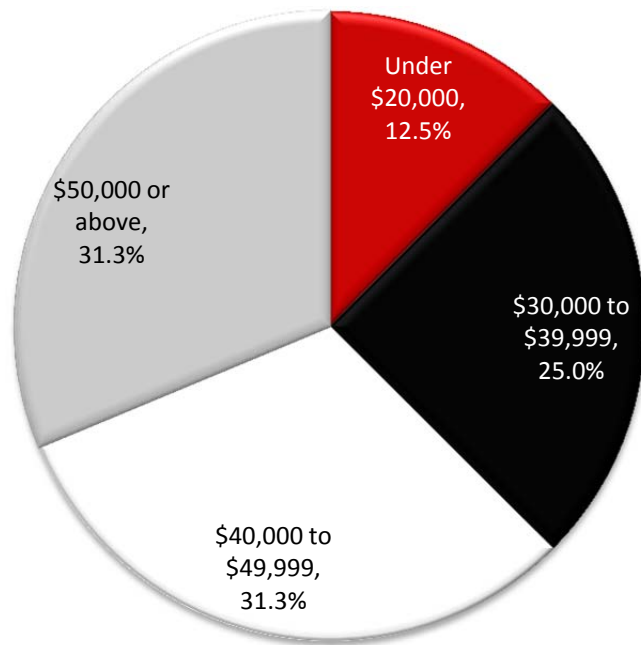
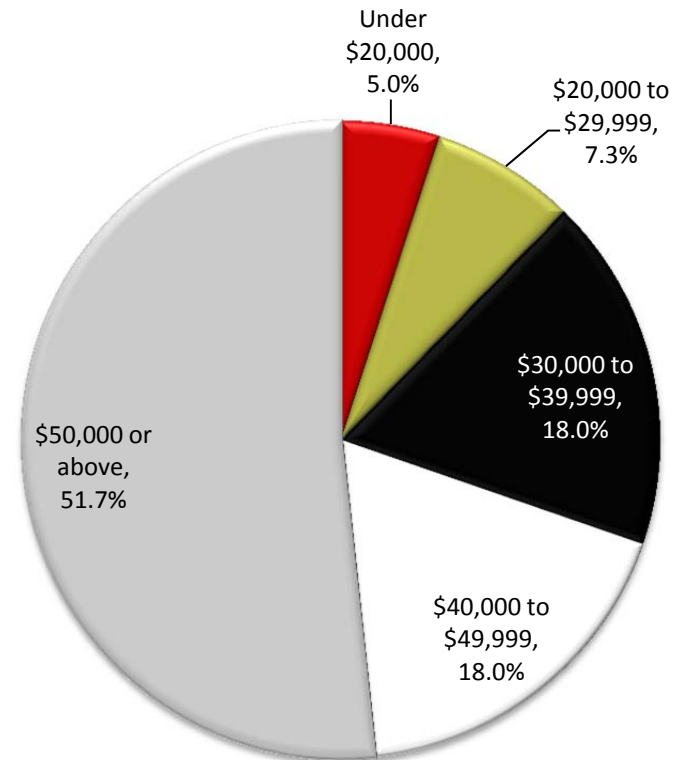


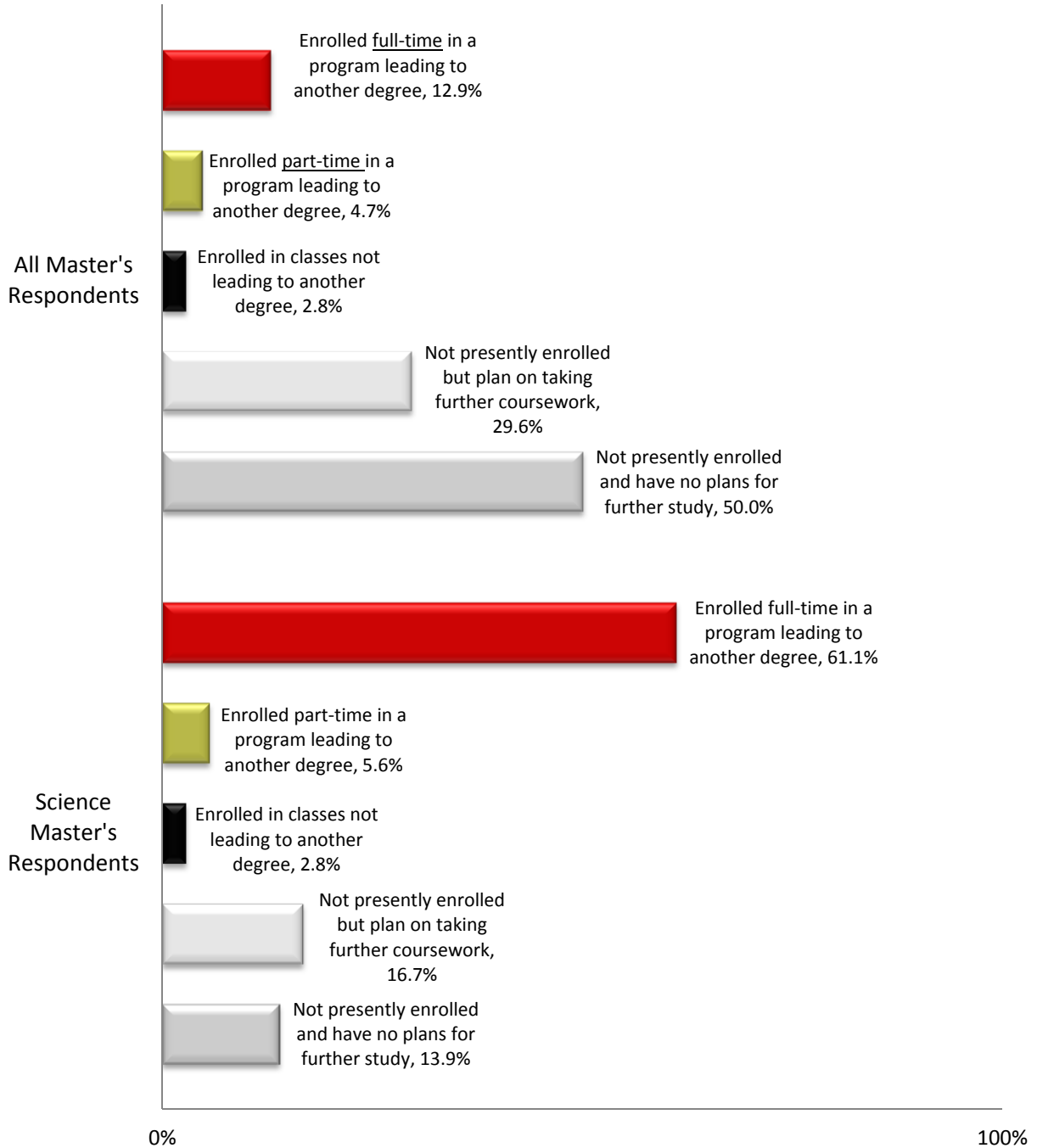
Figure 7
All IUPUI Master's Degree Respondents
Within which category does your personal annual gross salary fall?



All Master's N = 282
 Science Master's N = 16

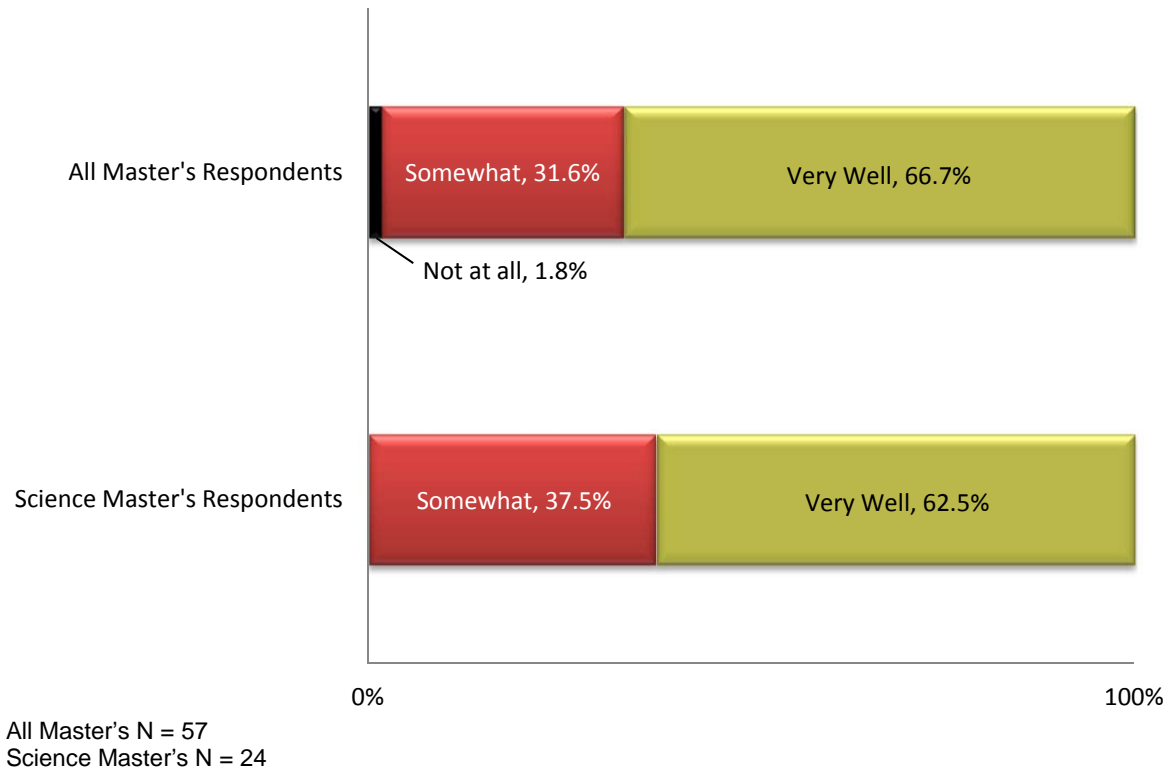
SECTION 2: FURTHER EDUCATION

Figure 8
Which of the following best describes your current educational status?



All Master's N = 318
Science Master's N = 36

Figure 9
How well did your IUPUI education prepare you to pursue this degree?



**SECTION 3:
IUPUI'S IMPACT ON LEARNING AND SATISFACTION WITH
IUPUI**

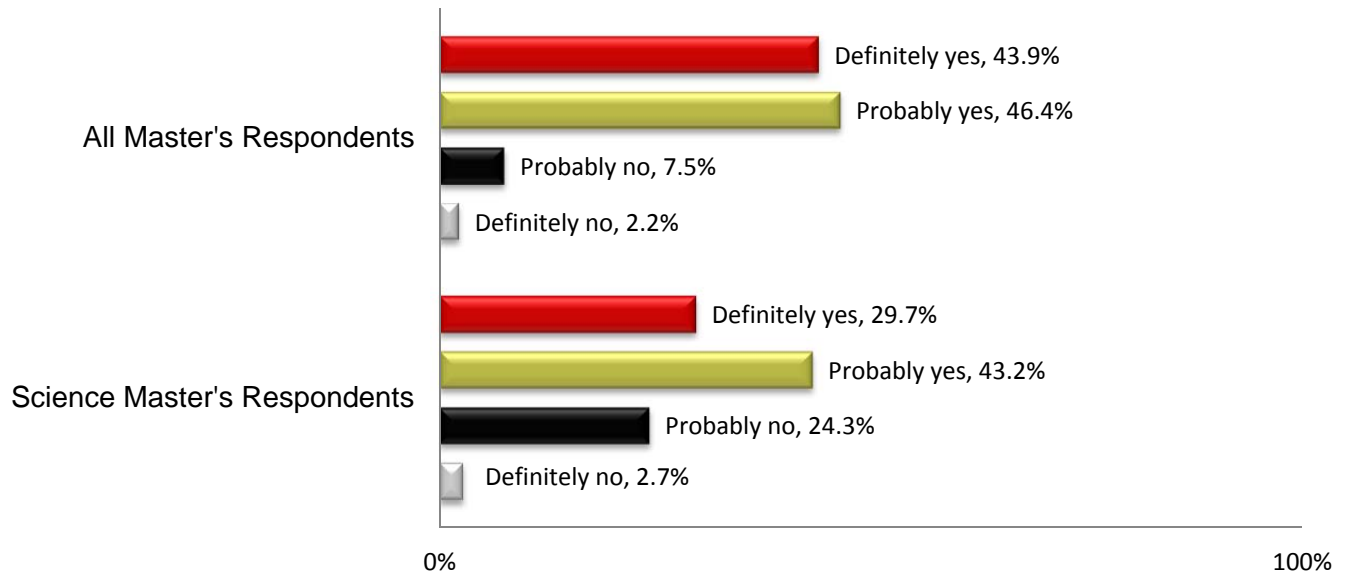
**Table 4
Impact of IUPUI on Your Learning ^a**

<i>Indicate how effectively you can perform each of these skills using the scale below.</i>	N	Mean	STD	Standard Error	IUPUI Mean	Effect Size
Acquire in-depth knowledge in your discipline	36	3.36	0.64	0.11	3.45	-0.14
Conduct original research and scholarship	35	2.80	0.87	0.15	2.89	-0.11
Understand research/ scholarship in your discipline	36	3.39	0.80	0.13	3.26	0.16
Communicate effectively with others in your discipline	36	3.58	0.55	0.09	3.52	0.10
Communicate effectively with the general public	36	3.36	0.59	0.10	3.46	-0.15
Think critically*	36	3.44	0.61	0.10	3.56	-0.20
Think creatively*	36	3.17	0.77	0.13	3.40	-0.34
Apply good judgment in both professional and personal situations*	36	3.39	0.64	0.11	3.53	-0.23
Solve problems in your discipline	36	3.36	0.68	0.11	3.48	-0.19
Conduct research in an ethical manner	36	3.39	0.64	0.11	3.45	-0.09
Behave in an ethical way*	36	3.44	0.56	0.09	3.64	-0.37
Use the knowledge I gained in college to address social issues or problems*	36	3.00	0.89	0.15	3.20	-0.26
Understand contemporary social issues*	36	3.00	0.86	0.14	3.27	-0.36
Exercise my responsibilities as a citizen (e.g., voting, actively participating in community and political issues)*	36	2.94	0.89	0.15	3.23	-0.35

^a 4-point scale in which "Very Effective" = 4, "Effective" = 3, "Somewhat effective" = 2, and "Not at all effective" = 1.

* Effect size greater than 0.2 or less than -0.2

Figure 10
If you could start over again, would you go to IUPUI?*^a



^a Master's N = 319, Mean = 3.32, STD = 0.71,
 Science Master's N = 37 Mean = 3.00, Std. Dev. = 0.82, effect size = -0.45
 * Effect size greater than 0.2 or less than -0.2

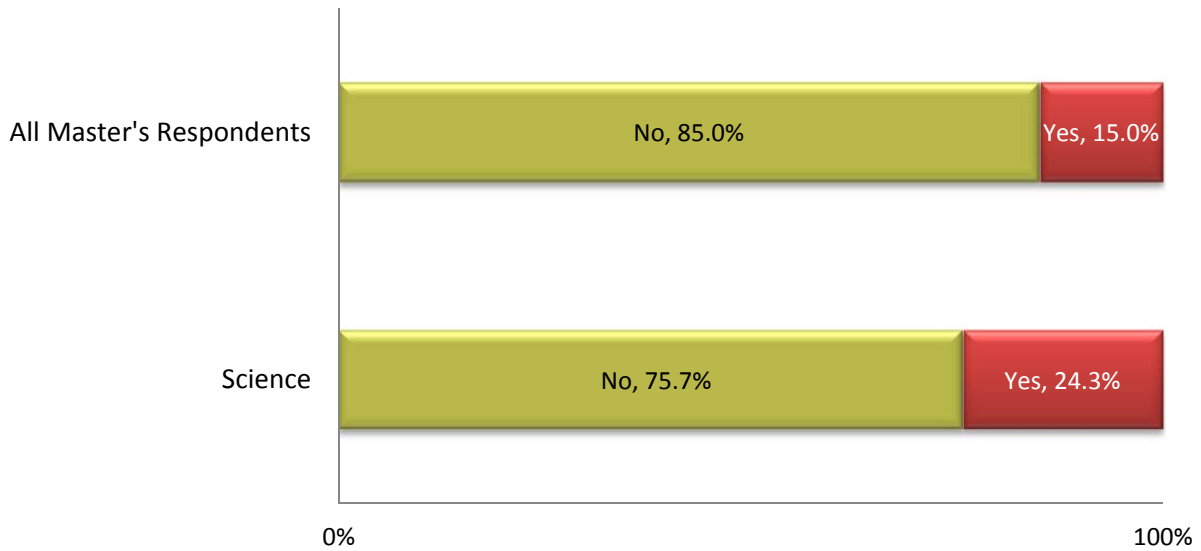
Table 5
General Satisfaction^a

<i>Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your IUPUI experience</i>	N	Mean	STD	Standard Error	IUPUI Mean	Effect Size
Overall quality of your academic experiences at IUPUI*	37	3.38	0.55	0.09	3.50	-0.23
Quality of instruction by faculty in your major area	37	3.41	0.55	0.09	3.50	-0.17
Quality of advising or mentorship	37	2.76	0.86	0.14	3.00	0.16
Consultations about thesis, dissertation, or creative project	34	3.03	0.72	0.12	3.13	-0.15
Quality of courses in your major area	37	3.30	0.74	0.12	3.34	-0.06
Personal attention from those in your major department*	37	3.05	0.62	0.10	3.24	-0.25
Opportunities to engage in community service*	35	2.80	0.68	0.11	3.00	-0.29
Opportunities to participate in faculty members' research*	36	3.08	0.60	0.10	2.79	0.39
Opportunities to participate in personal research	36	3.08	0.50	0.08	3.04	0.07

^a 4-point scale in which "Very Satisfied" = 4, "Satisfied" = 3, "Dissatisfied" = 2, and "Very dissatisfied" = 1.
 * Effect size greater than 0.2 or less than -0.2

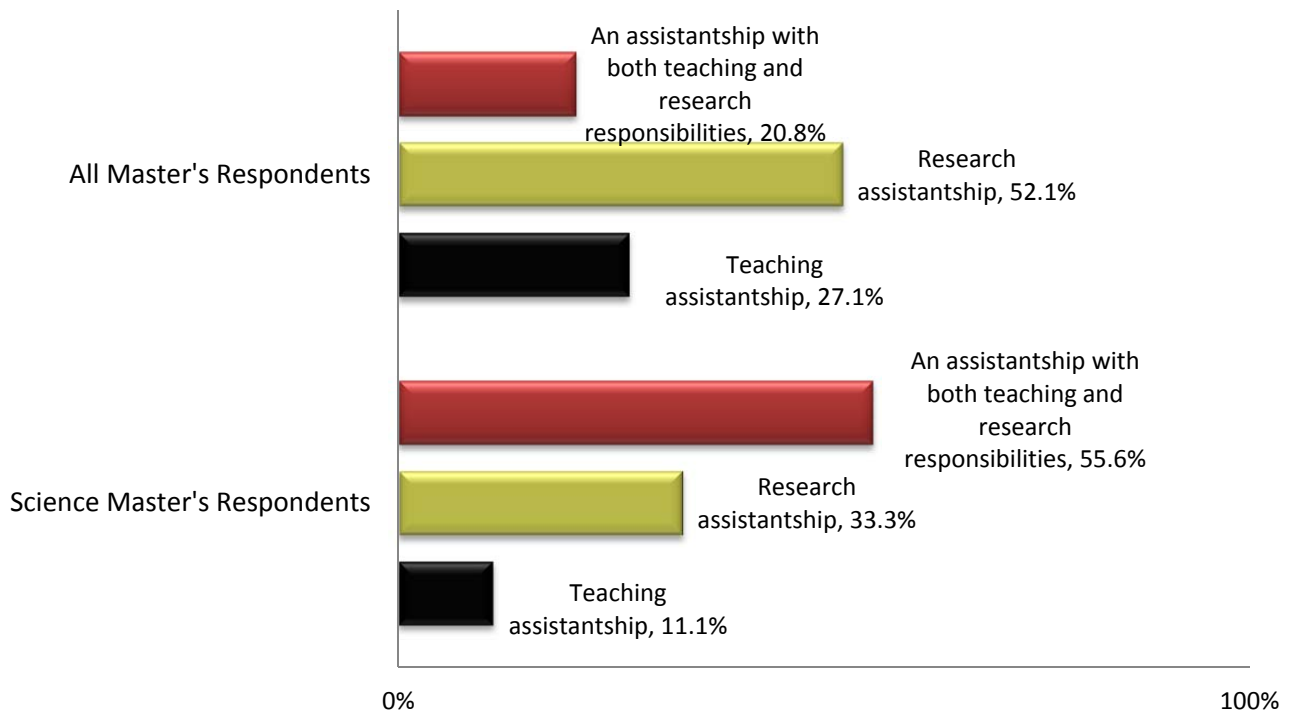
Assistantships

Figure 11
Did you have an assistantship while completing your degree at IUPUI? ^a



^a All Master's N = 319
 Science Master's N = 37

Figure 12
What kind of assistantship did you have at IUPUI? ^a



^a Master's respondents who indicated they had an assistantship
 All Master's N = 48
 Science Master's N = 9

Table 6
Assistantship Experiences ^a

<i>How well did your assistantship prepare you for...</i>	N	Mean	STD	Standard Error	IUPUI Mean	Effect Size
Your current job	9	2.44	0.73	0.24	2.35	0.14
Further education	9	2.33	0.71	0.24	2.41	-0.14

^a Of Master's respondents who indicated they had an assistantship 3-point scale in which "Very well" = 3, "Somewhat well" = 2, and "Not at all well" = 1.