

University of Colorado Colorado Springs

# 2020 Alumni Survey

College of Engineering and Applied Science

Office of Institutional Research  
10-5-2020

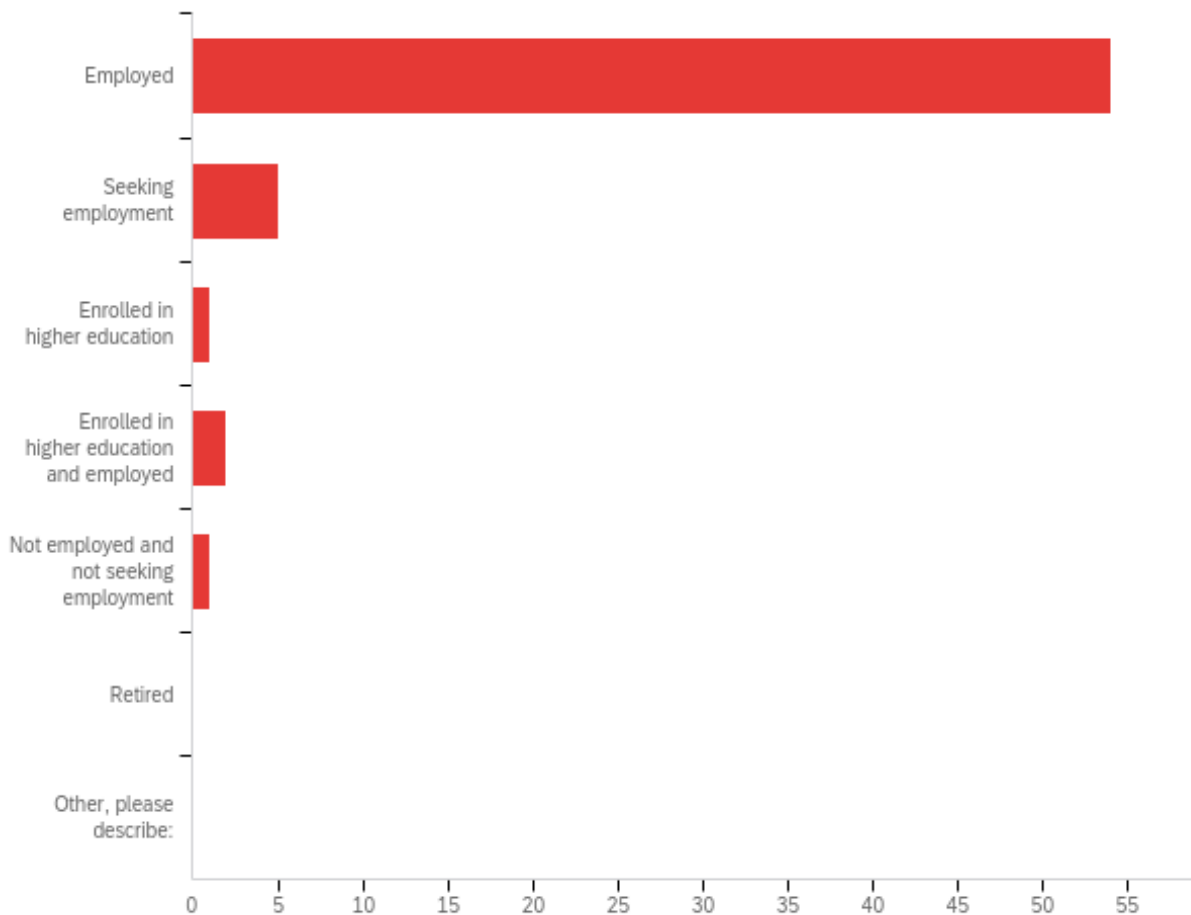
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## Alumni Survey Results, College of Engineering and Applied Science

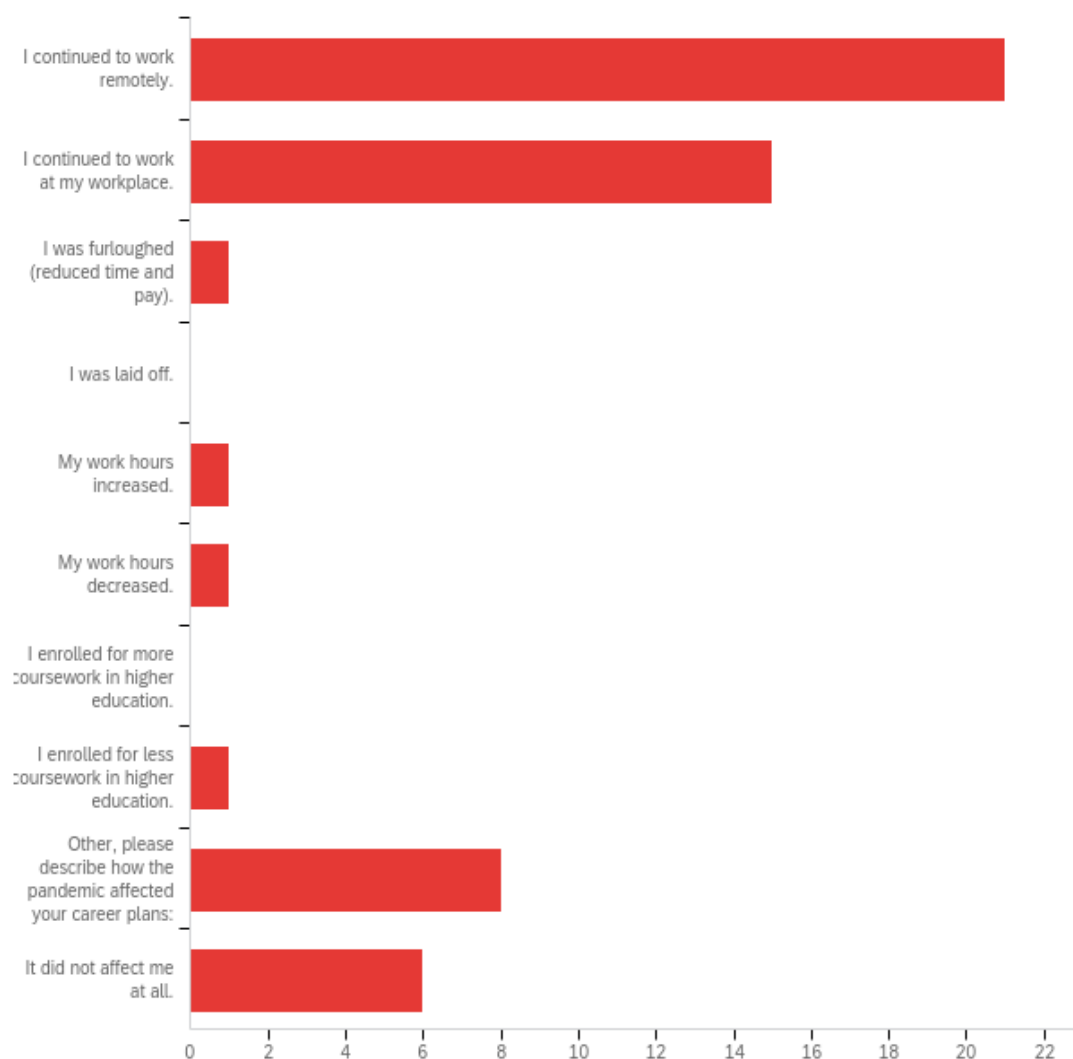
This is a report of selected frequency tables drawn from our 2020 Alumni Survey; it is a subset of the respondents who earned undergraduate degrees from the College of Engineering and Applied Science in 2010, 2015, or 2019. Over 400 alumni were surveyed and 63 responded for a response rate of 14.4%. Please contact the Office of Institutional Research for more detailed analyses or results.

Please mark the status that best fits your situation today.



Please mark the status that best fits your situation today.	%	Count
Seeking employment	7.94%	5
Retired	0.00%	0
Other, please describe:	0.00%	0
Not employed and not seeking employment	1.59%	1
Enrolled in higher education and employed	3.17%	2
Enrolled in higher education	1.59%	1
Employed	85.71%	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>63</b>

### How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your employment status or education plans?



How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your employment status or education plans?	%	Count
Other, please describe how the pandemic affected your career plans:	14.81%	8
My work hours increased.	1.85%	1
My work hours decreased.	1.85%	1
I was laid off.	0.00%	0
I was furloughed (reduced time and pay).	1.85%	1
It did not affect me at all.	11.11%	6
I enrolled for more coursework in higher education.	0.00%	0
I enrolled for less coursework in higher education.	1.85%	1
I continued to work remotely.	38.89%	21
I continued to work at my workplace.	27.78%	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>54</b>

Please describe how the pandemic affected your career plans (open-ended responses):

I had an internship out of college for the summer of 2019. I then was applying to jobs and was receiving interviews and was ready to be hired in late February. COVID-19 hit and delayed my hiring process until two weeks ago.

Will probably have to study online until my posgraduate school's country's borders open up to international students again

I live in the Marshall Islands, one of the few remaining places without any cases of COVID

It stop interview processes and made a job search more difficult.

It has made finding employment much more difficult.

Affected seeking employment.

I graduated in Dec 2019 and by the time I was ready to take interviews for the job applications, the pandemic started. Most of my interviews got cancelled due to hiring freeze in most of the companies. I recently got an offer and I will be starting to work remotely.

Wasn't able to get a job for a while.

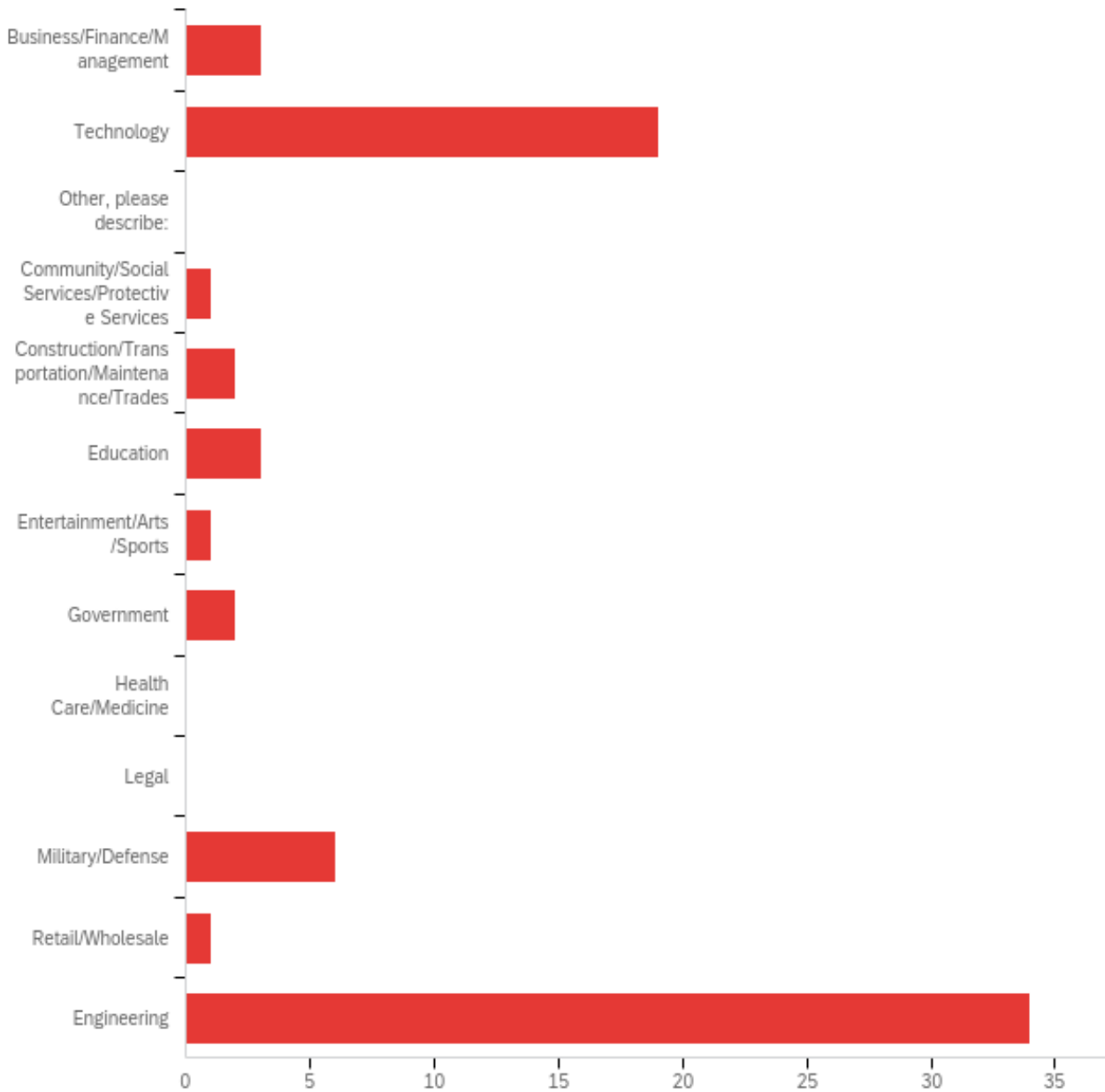
Could you provide more detail about your current or most recent job?

This info can help UCCS develop partnerships in the community and beyond.

Job title:	Company/Organization:	City & State:	Website, if applicable:
Autonomy/AI Engineer	Lockheed Martin	West Palm Beach, FL	Lockheedmartin.com
Firmware engineer		Utah	
Account Manager	Trane Technologies	Tulsa, OK	Trane.com
Scrum Master	Aptiv	Troy, MI	www.aptiv.com
VR developer	Jacobs	Sierra vista AZ	
Senior Engineer	Qualcomm	San Diego, California	
R&D Engineer	LANL	Los Alamos, NM	Lanl.gov
Chief Systems Engineer	RGNext	Kwajalein, RMI	
Junior Software Engineer	TravelStorysGPS	Jackson Hole, WY	https://travelstorys.com
Technical Professional II	S&K Global Solutions	Houston, Texas	
Operations Leadership Associate	United Technologies	Hartford Connecticut	
Software Engineer		Golden, CO	
Assistant Professor of Computer Science	University of Alaska Fairbanks	Fairbanks, AK	https://www.cs.uaf.edu/~jbmetzgar/
Software Intern	Quantum	Englewood, CO	
UI Developer	Sapphire Software Solutions	Dublin, CA	
CNC Operator	Granite Mountain Design, Inc	Dewey, AZ	

Cyber security analyst		Denver, Colorado	
IT Web Developer	Liberty Oilfield Services	Denver, CO	
commissioning engineer	Ambient Energy	Denver, CO	ambient-e.com
Operations Research Analyst	DoD	Denver, CO	
Engineer I	Global Circuit Innovations	Colorado Springs, CO	<a href="https://www.gci-global.com/">https://www.gci-global.com/</a>
Technical Support Senior Professional	UCCS	Colorado Springs, CO	uccs.edu
Software Engineer	PGi	Colorado Springs, CO	pgi.com
Chief Scientist	United States Space Force	Colorado Springs, CO	
Instructor	UCCS	Colorado Springs, CO	Www.uccs.edu
Senior Engineer	FirstPass Engineering	Colorado Springs, CO	firstpasseng.com
Director of Product Development	Braxton Technologies, LLC	Colorado Springs, CO	
IC Design Engineer	Broadcom	Colorado Springs, CO	www.broadcom.com
Software Engineer	BombBomb	Colorado Springs, CO	bombbomb.com
Software Engineer	TMC Design	Colorado Springs, CO	www.tmcdesign.com
Desktop Support Lead	UCCS OIT	Colorado Springs, CO	uccs.edu/oit
Project Engineer	Sigma Metals, Inc	Colorado Springs, CO	sigmametals.com
Program Manager	Collins Aerospace	Colorado Springs, CO	
Developed Engineer	Cosmic AES	Colorado Springs, CO	
Lead Software Engineer	L3Harris	Colorado Springs, CO	
Engineering Contingent Worker	Volt Workforce Solutions	Colorado Springs, CO	
Junior Cybersecurity Analyst	Black Forest Engineering	Colorado Springs, CO	<a href="http://bfe.com/">http://bfe.com/</a>
Sr.Data Scientist	Verizon	Colorado Springs, CO	
Software developer	Viavi solutions	Colorado Springs, CO	
Engineering Tech	VINIE Labs	Colorado	
AMTS Test Sys Dev	Maxim	Chandler, AZ	www.maximintegrated.com
CAD Drafter	Western Industrial Contractors	CO	
Manager, Product Development	The Walt Disney Company	Burbank, CA	disney.com
RF Engineer	Lockheed Martin	Boulder, Colorado	
Software Engineer	O'Reilly Media	Boston, MA	oreilly.com
Graduate Research Assistant	Virginia Tech	Blacksburg, VA	

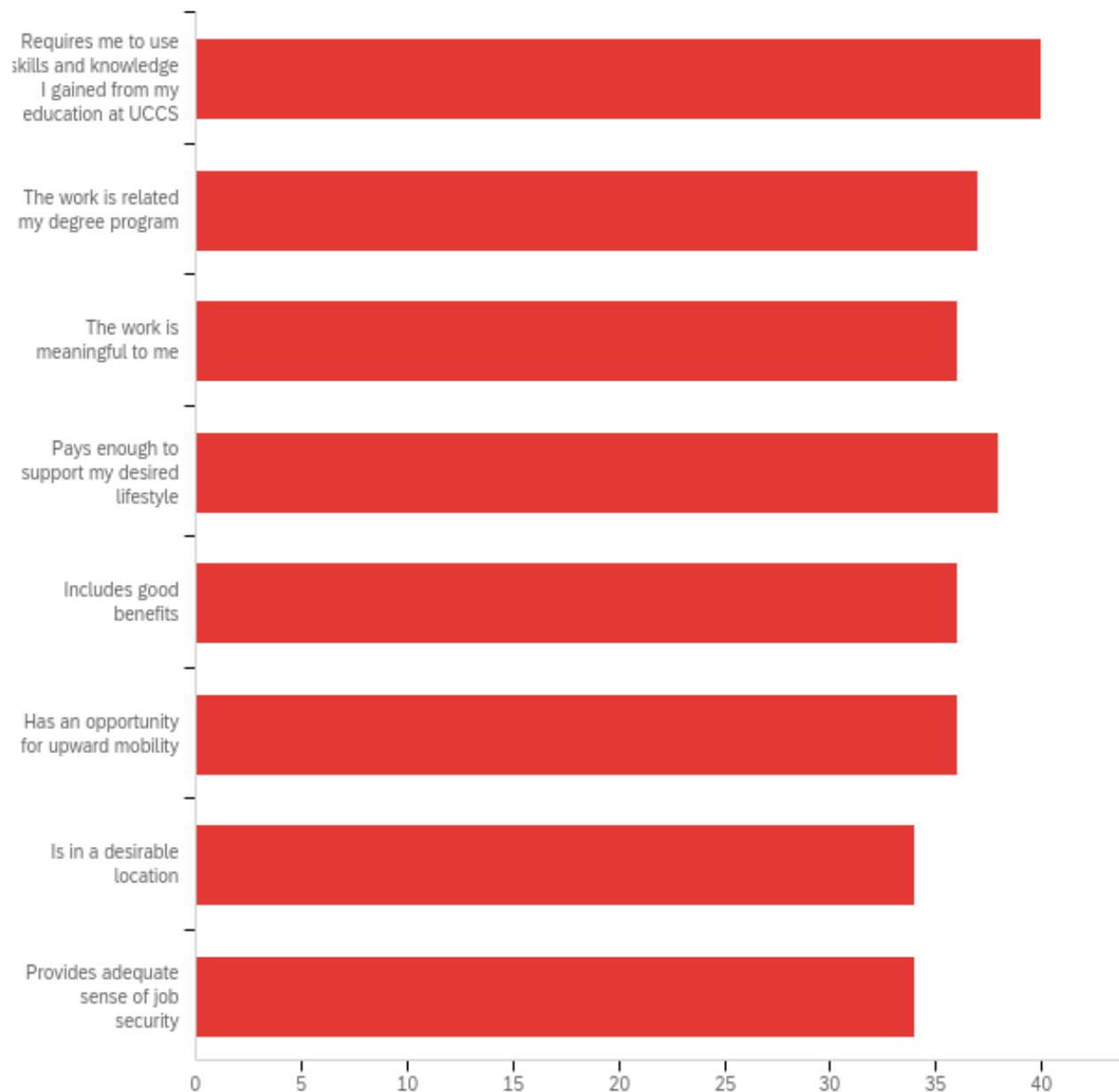
Which of the following occupational categories is the best fit for your current (or most recent) job?  
 These categories are based on the Standard Occupational Classification System.



Which of the following occupational categories is the best fit for your current job?	%	Count
Technology	26.39%	19
Retail/Wholesale	1.39%	1
Other, please describe:	0.00%	0
Military/Defense	8.33%	6
Legal	0.00%	0
Health Care/Medicine	0.00%	0

Government	2.78%	2
Entertainment/Arts/Sports	1.39%	1
Engineering	47.22%	34
Education	4.17%	3
Construction/Transportation/Maintenance/Trades	2.78%	2
Community/Social Services/Protective Services	1.39%	1
Business/Finance/Management	4.17%	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>72</b>

Please indicate if the following statements apply to your current (or most recent) job.



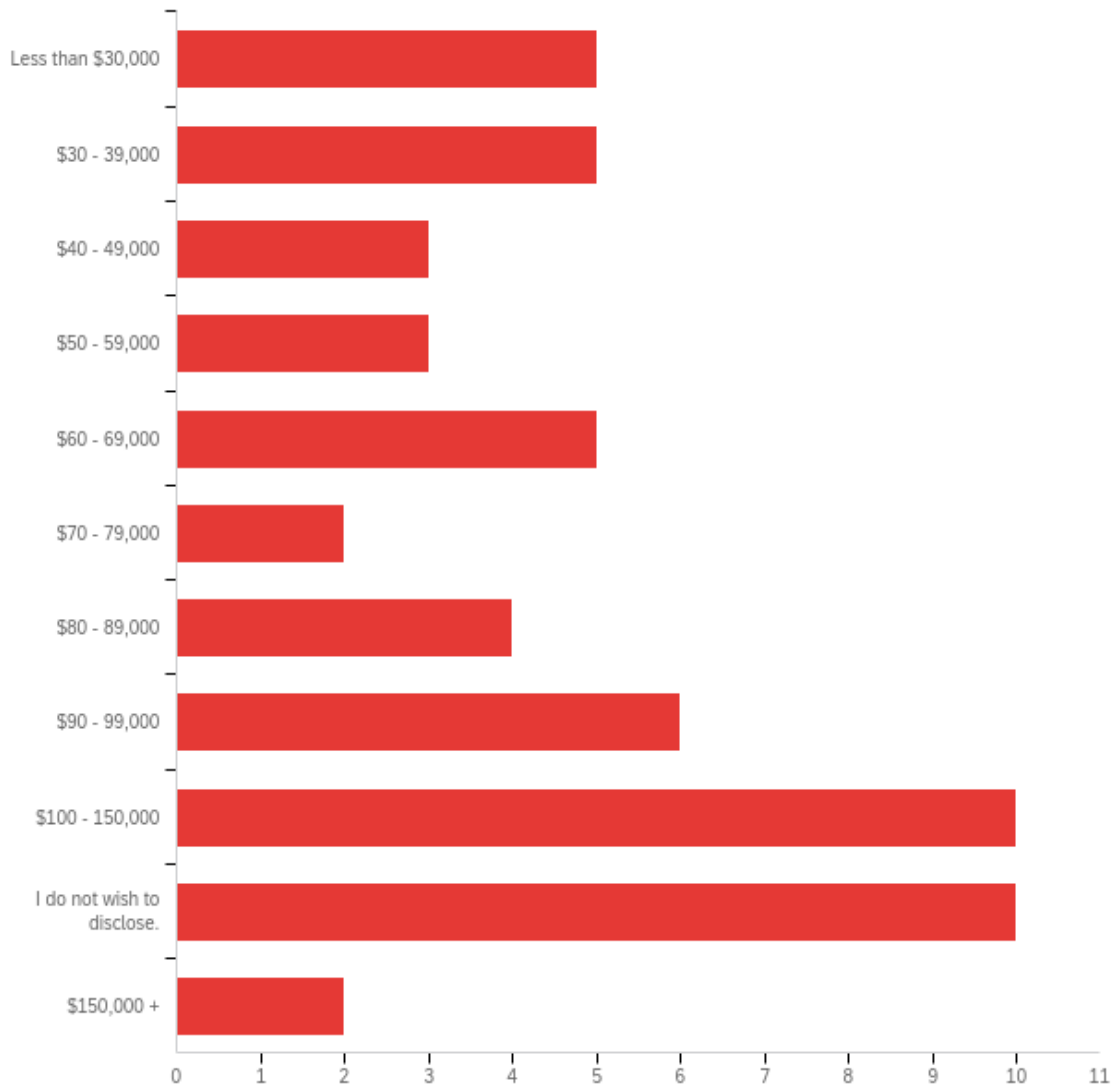


Please indicate if the following statements apply to your current (or most recent) job.	%	Count
The work is related to my degree program	12.71%	37
The work is meaningful to me	12.37%	36
Requires me to use skills and knowledge I gained from my education at UCCS	13.75%	40
Provides adequate sense of job security	11.68%	34
Pays enough to support my desired lifestyle	13.06%	38
Is in a desirable location	11.68%	34
Includes good benefits	12.37%	36
Has an opportunity for upward mobility	12.37%	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>291</b>

Please estimate your current annual salary.

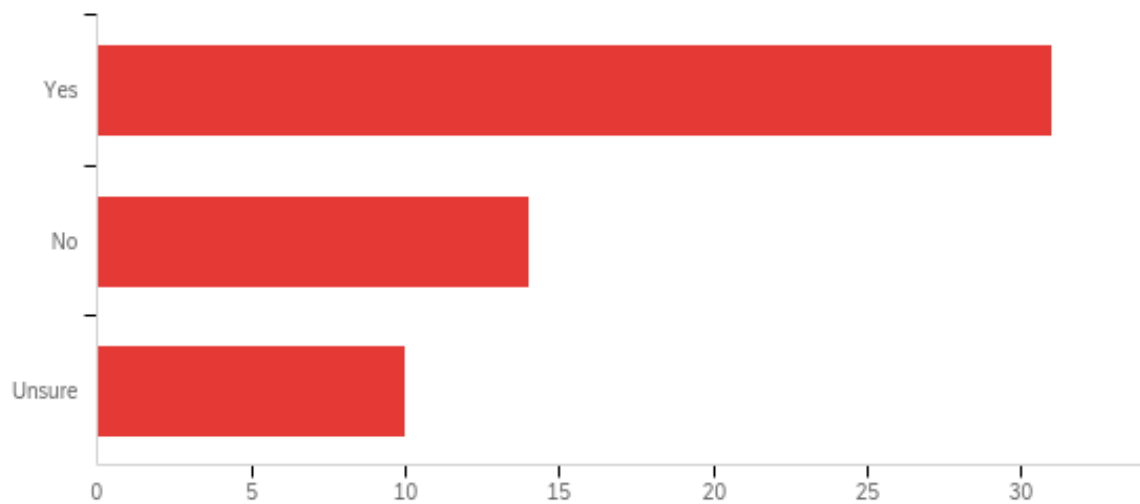
Note: adjust your estimate to reflect the salary as if you are working 100% time.

For example, if you are earning 25k and working 50% time, then your annual estimate should be 50k.



Please estimate your current annual salary	%	Count
Less than \$30,000	9.09%	5
I do not wish to disclose.	18.18%	10
\$100 - 150,000	18.18%	10
\$90 - 99,000	10.91%	6
\$80 - 89,000	7.27%	4
\$70 - 79,000	3.64%	2
\$60 - 69,000	9.09%	5
\$50 - 59,000	5.45%	3
\$40 - 49,000	5.45%	3
\$30 - 39,000	9.09%	5
\$150,000 +	3.64%	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>55</b>

Did your degree enhance your salary?

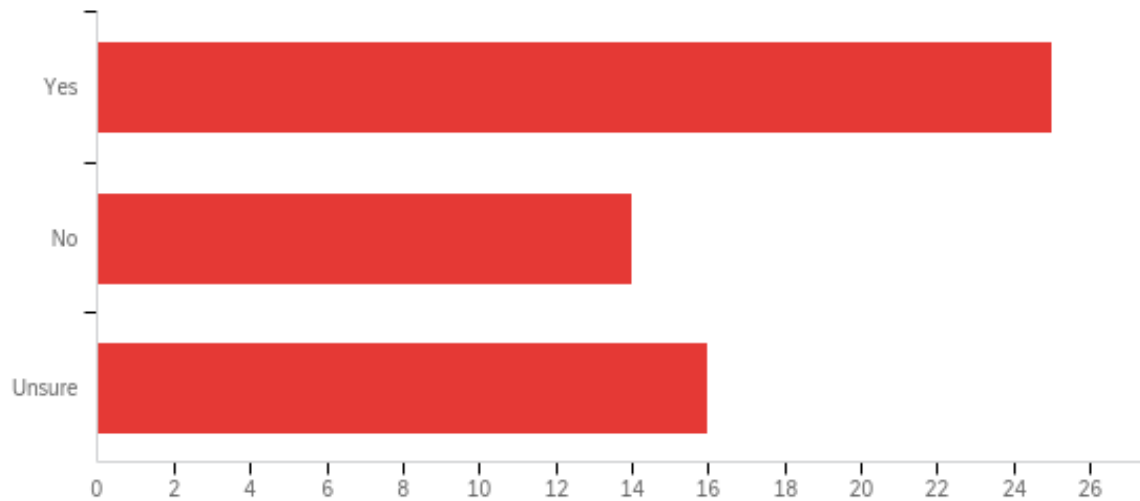


Did your degree enhance your salary?	%	Count
Yes	56.36%	31
No	25.45%	14
Unsure	18.18%	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>55</b>

Please estimate in dollars how much you think your degree enhanced your annual salary.

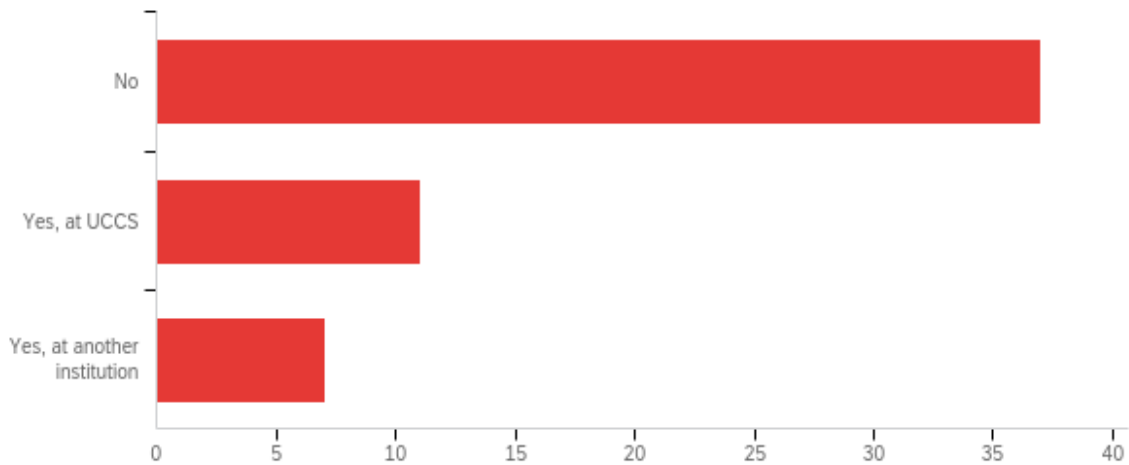
Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
Please estimate in dollars how much you think your degree enhanced your annual salary.	0.00	200000.00	28222.41	38053.76	1448088313.65	27

Did your degree help you advance or be promoted within your career?



Did your degree help you advance or be promoted within your career?	%	Count
Yes	45.45%	25
Unsure	29.09%	16
No	25.45%	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>55</b>

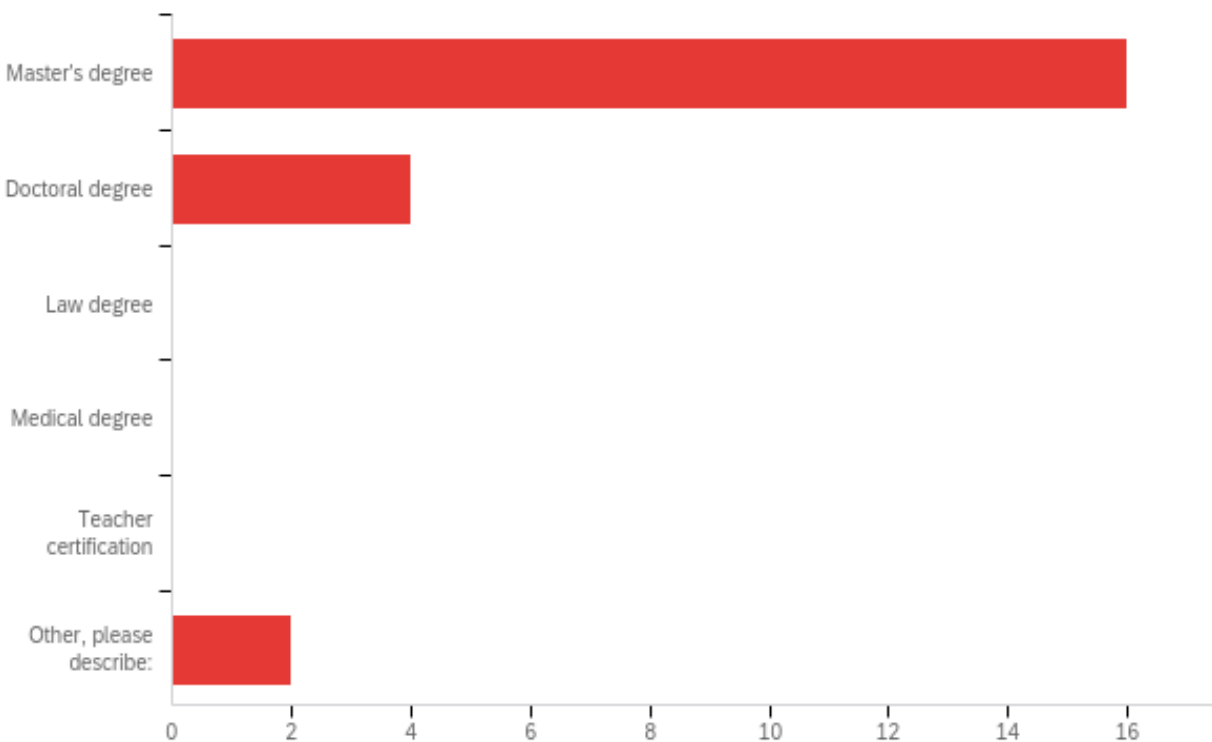
Have you enrolled in another degree/certificate program after graduating from UCCS?



Have you enrolled in another degree/certificate program after graduating from UCCS?	%	Count
Yes, at another institution	12.73%	7
Yes, at UCCS	20.00%	11
No	67.27%	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>55</b>

What type of degree/certificate program did you pursue?

Check all that apply.



What type of degree/certificate program did you pursue?	%	Count
Teacher certification	0.00%	0
Other, please describe:	9.09%	2
Medical degree	0.00%	0
Master's degree	72.73%	16
Law degree	0.00%	0
Doctoral degree	18.18%	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>22</b>

#### Other, please describe (open-ended responses):

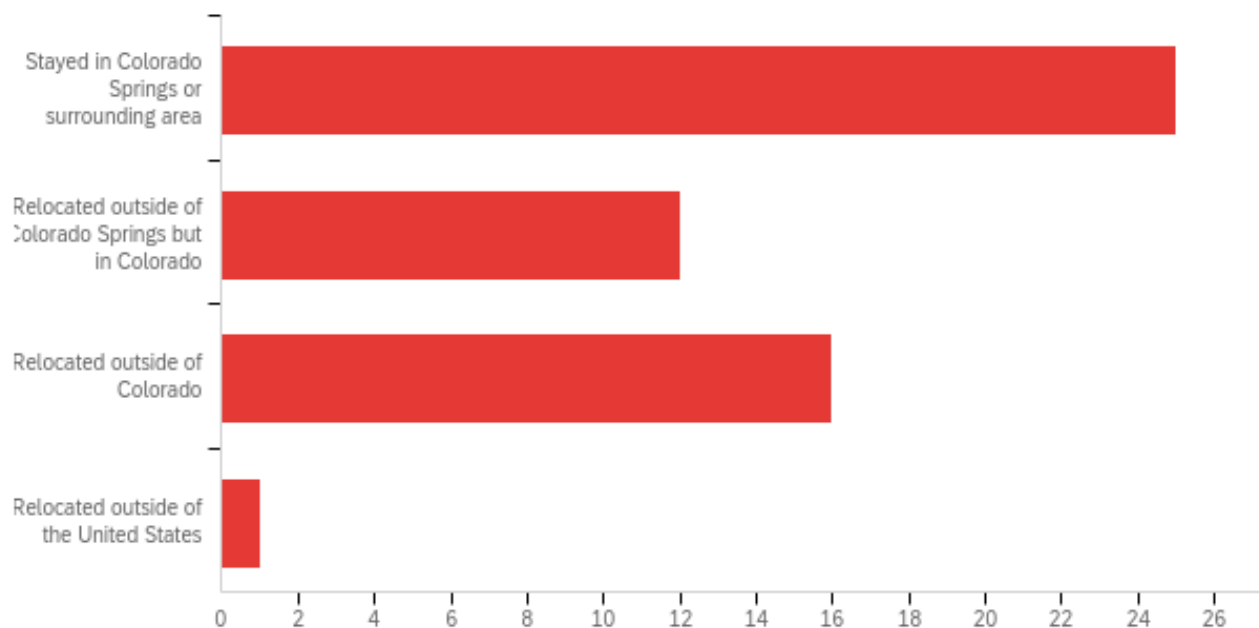
Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) certification

Certification

#### Where did you pursue another degree (or where are you attending now)?

Name of institution:	Location (state):	Area of study:
XJTLU	Jiangsu, China	Sustainable Energy Technology Data Management
Mississippi State University	Mississippi	Aerospace engineering
Gannon University	Pennsylvania	Electrical engineering
CU Boulder (completed Masters), Virginia Tech (currently doing PhD)	Colorado and Virginia	Computer Science and Computer Engineering
University of Colorado	Boulder	Engineering Management

#### Did you relocate after or since earning your UCCS degree?



<b>Did you relocate after or since earning your UCCS degree?</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>
Stayed in Colorado Springs or surrounding area	46.30%	25
Relocated outside of the United States	1.85%	1
Relocated outside of Colorado Springs but in Colorado	22.22%	12
Relocated outside of Colorado	29.63%	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>54</b>

### What prompted you to relocate? (open-ended responses)

job location

Unable to find desired work in Colorado

I am able to live at my parents home to work. Also I do not want to go to Houston, which is a hot spot for Covid, so Boeing is allowing me to stay in Colorado. Also Houston is ridiculously hot, so I'm glad to stay here for the time being.

Move to smaller city, closer to family

My Job at Qualcomm

To try something new.

Military

Good opportunity

Wanted something new

Living expenses. Job opportunities.

Family

My original home state

Job location, mission related functions and activities

Job outside of Colorado Springs

Job opportunities

Enrolled in an arts school in another state while still working remotely to my engineering job in Colorado

Work opportunity in automotive

DENVER

Job

Work

New Career

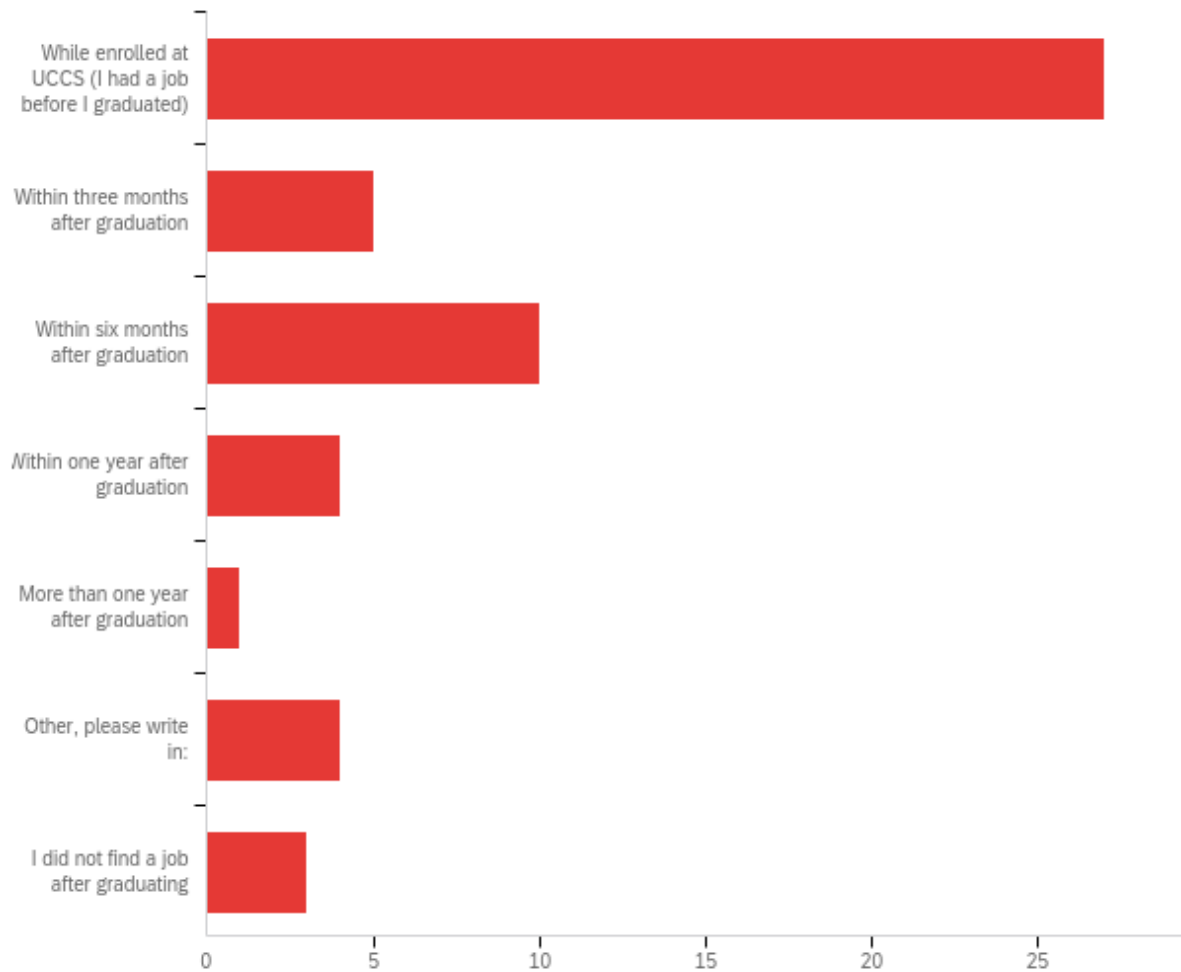
Was offered PhD fellowship

Wanted to be close to family and be in the north

Getting a job in Denver

Work

### When did you get your first job after graduating from UCCS?



When did you get your first job after graduating from UCCS?	%	Count
Within three months after graduation	9.26%	5
Within six months after graduation	18.52%	10
Within one year after graduation	7.41%	4
While enrolled at UCCS (I had a job before I graduated)	50.00%	27
Other, please write in:	7.41%	4
More than one year after graduation	1.85%	1
I did not find a job after graduating	5.56%	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>54</b>

#### Other, please write in (open-ended responses):

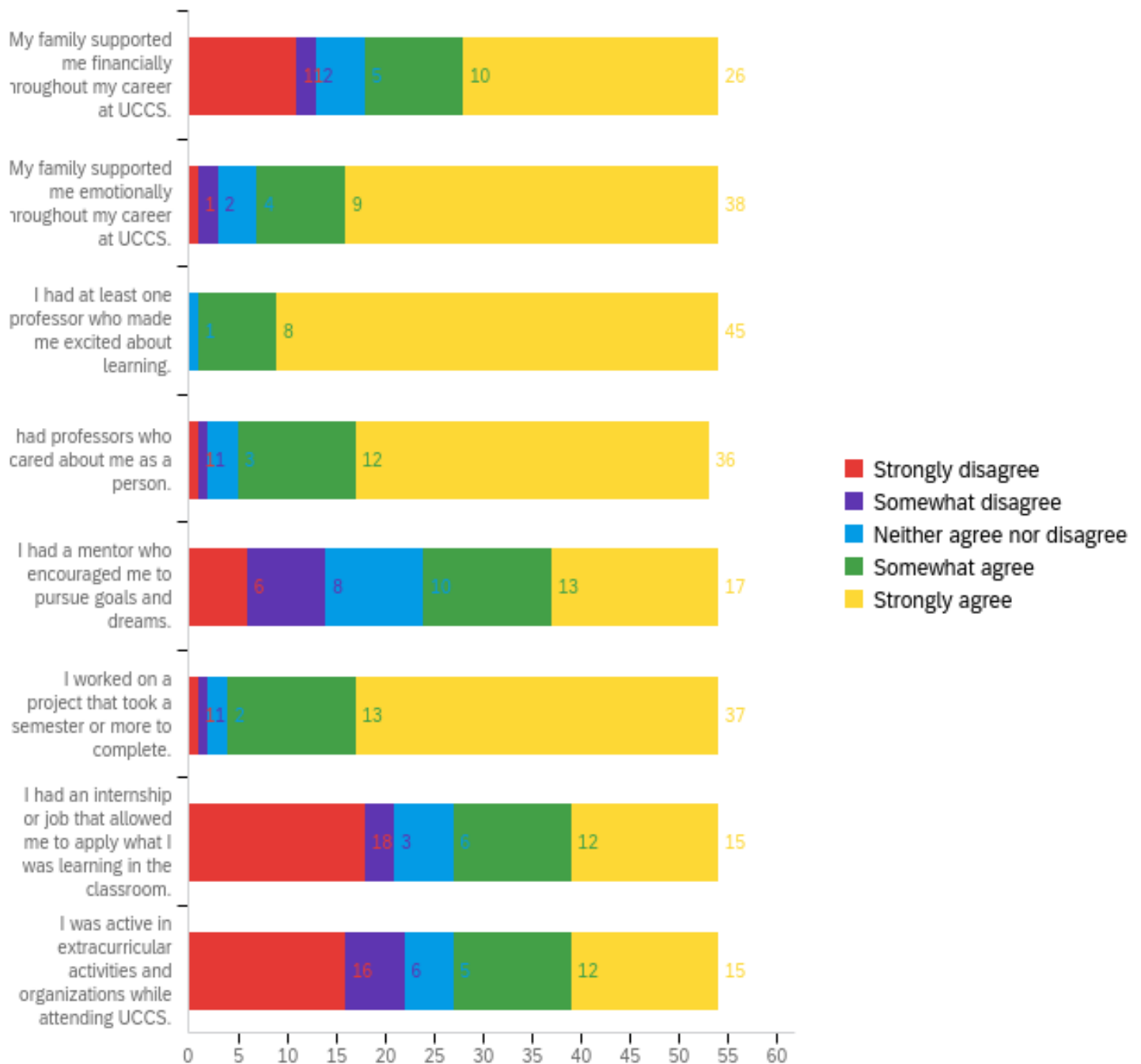
I do not consider an internship a job, even though it was immediately after graduation. I got my first official job a year after graduation.

Not looking for one currently

I was employed before enrolling, promoted ~5 months after graduating

Still in the interview process after 8 months.

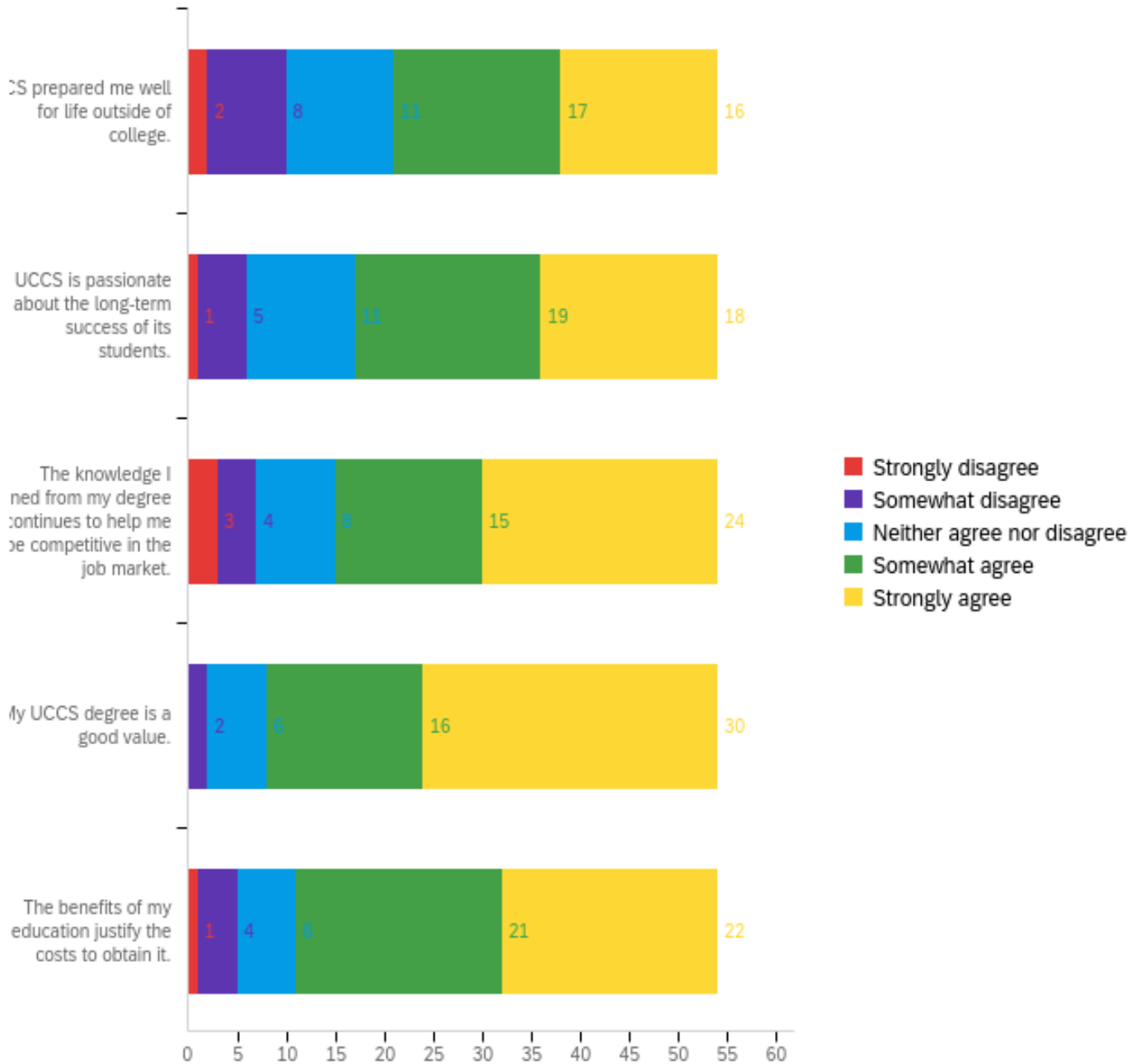
Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements  
(as they pertain to your experiences at UCCS).





Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements:	Strongly disagree		Somewhat disagree		Neither agree nor disagree		Somewhat agree		Strongly agree		Total
	(%)	(N)	(%)	(N)	(%)	(N)	(%)	(N)	(%)	(N)	(N)
My family supported me financially throughout my career at UCCS.	20.37	11	3.70	2	9.26	5	18.52	10	48.15	26	54
My family supported me emotionally throughout my career at UCCS.	1.85	1	3.70	2	7.41	4	16.67	9	70.37	38	54
I worked on a project that took a semester or more to complete.	1.85	1	1.85	1	3.70	2	24.07	13	68.52	37	54
I was active in extracurricular activities and organizations while attending UCCS.	29.63	16	11.11	6	9.26	5	22.22	12	27.78	15	54
I had professors who cared about me as a person.	1.89	1	1.89	1	5.66	3	22.64	12	67.92	36	53
I had at least one professor who made me excited about learning.	0.00	0	0.00	0	1.85	1	14.81	8	83.33	45	54
I had an internship or job that allowed me to apply what I was learning in the classroom.	33.33	18	5.56	3	11.11	6	22.22	12	27.78	15	54
I had a mentor who encouraged me to pursue goals and dreams.	11.11	6	14.81	8	18.52	10	24.07	13	31.48	17	54

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements  
 (as they pertain to your experiences at UCCS).

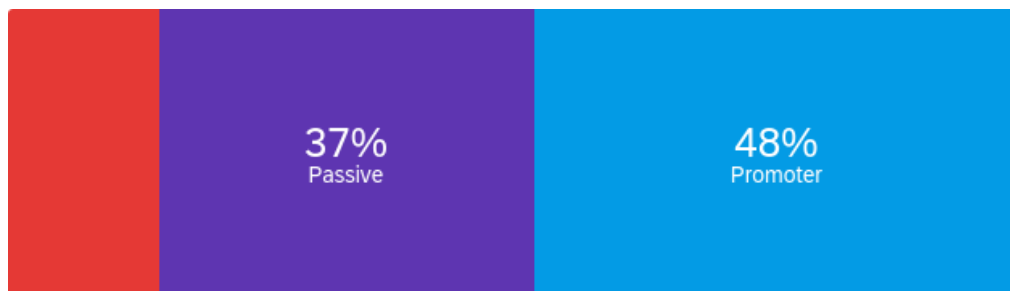


Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements:	Strongly disagree		Somewhat disagree		Neither agree nor disagree		Somewhat agree		Strongly agree		Total
	(%)	(N)	(%)	(N)	(%)	(N)	(%)	(N)	(%)	(N)	
UCCS prepared me well for life outside of college.	3.70	2	14.81	8	20.37	11	31.48	17	29.63	16	54
UCCS is passionate about the long-term success of its students.	1.85	1	9.26	5	20.37	11	35.19	19	33.33	18	54
The knowledge I gained from my degree continues to help me be competitive in the job market.	5.56	3	7.41	4	14.81	8	27.78	15	44.44	24	54
My UCCS degree is a good value.	0.00	0	3.70	2	11.11	6	29.63	16	55.56	30	54
The benefits of my education justify the costs to obtain it.	1.85	1	7.41	4	11.11	6	38.89	21	40.74	22	54

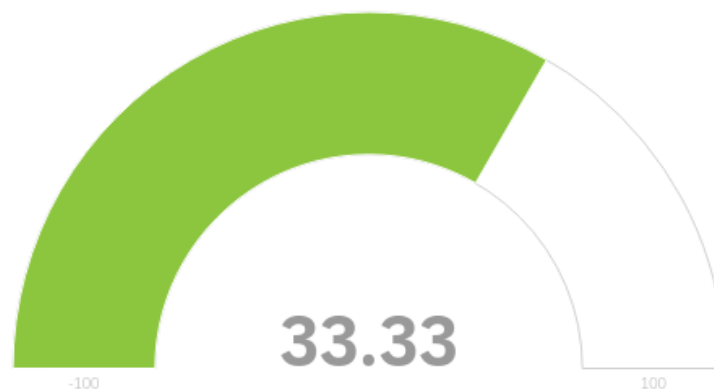
### College of Engineering and Applied Science Net Promoter Score

On a scale from 0-10, how likely are you to recommend UCCS to a potential student?

The net promotor score (NPS) is a measure of customer satisfaction and score represents the likelihood that the respondent will recommend the institution to other consumers. The score ranges from -100 to +100 and we aim for a score between 30-50.



■ Detractor ■ Passive ■ Promoter



## Why did you rate UCCS the way you did?

Why did you rate UCCS the way you did?

I can't provide that without including identifying information. Suffice to say because I left the UCCS graduate program highly dissatisfied.

It's not perfect, but it always seems to be trying to better itself instead of coasting. Gotta commend that.

Some professors were great, but some were a total waste of my time. It was also impossible to get the elective classes I wanted during my degree due to scheduling conflicts with other mandatory classes.

Good school, it was a good value 10 years ago but tuition rates are still increasingly dramatically, reducing the value benefit of the degree. My degree in Electrical Engineering is one of a few that has a dedicated career path with very high earning potential right out of college. UCCS as a whole did not help a lot in career prospects, but I did have one professor who personally went out of his way to help me get my foot in the door at a local company.

The school and degree are fantastic. The only thing that really frustrated me was that there was no job placement program, it was really all men for themselves. There was one lady to help in the internship office, yet she very much was unhelpful in helping to find jobs. Creating a better job placement program would be my recommendation.

As far as schools go, UCCS (at least the engineering department) is a great choice for the cost, but I believe too many people waste too much time and money at college for little to no actualized benefit.

It's fun, there's lots to do, lots to learn, there's usually sufficient support, and if you can afford it, it's well worth it.

Some faculty are not great. But those are far and few between.

UCCS takes care of students and courses are prepared in such a way that students can easily get a job in top tech companies after graduation.

Cost vs benefits with approachable and accessible faculty members

The remote learning MESO program was fantastic. Living in one of the most remote places on earth, it was incredibly valuable to have a program with a flexible schedule and professors who understood and embraced the challenges involved with remote learning.

I enjoyed the professors and how much they cared. Unfortunately I witnessed upper management of the UC system micromanaging and interfering with good programs that our professors established. Over time I saw many great professors not treated correctly and they left to go to new schools. UCCS seems to be too focused on growing than maintaining what they already have.

Loved the location and the small class sizes. It was a great family like environment.

I love UCCS!

After graduating from UCCS, I was looking for a job right away, however not many were available in Colorado (since lots of companies require Security Clearances - hard to obtain). The education we receive at UCCS is top-notch, just the prospect of finding a job nearby is not much promising, especially for International students and we end up relocating to different places in the USA

My degree (BS EE) very closely matches what I need for my actual job, the program was very good, plus I enjoyed my time there. It was very good for the price of tuition. Anyone seeking a BS EE degree should consider UCCS.

I am not sure how to answer this question. I just answered honestly! UCCS was an awesome school

The computer science department have extremely knowledgeable professor's and instructor's. However, there is not much promotion of department utilities or resources.

My inability to find a job has made it difficult to rate UCCS higher. I enjoyed my time as a student, but it has not helped me become financially independent like I thought it would.

The department is aware of the current issues with its professors.

UCCS offers a wide variety of programs and it's a wonderful developing commuter school for fresh out of high school

and working professionals, also it's budget friendly.

Apart from my Associate Degrees, I have spent 12 years at UCCS because of the atmosphere of the campus and the way the courses I have taken have opened my mind and challenged. To me, that is the most valuable aspect of UCCS and warrants the rating that I have given.

It is expensive, but has good programs

The mechanical engineering degree program does not include CAD training that was useful or relevant, and I missed out on multiple job offers because I did not learn enough about how to use any of the major CAD softwares to be able to take the job.

Uccs did a great job for my fantastic future

Best MAE program

If you are instate yes, if you are out of state no

I enjoyed my time at UCCS and ended up in a career I enjoy even if it wasn't exactly what I studied.

The cost of a degree here is somewhat low but as the rent, in the area increases, I could see students being able to pay rent while also attending school full time.

It is an adequate school with an inadequate alumnis support system.

It is a good value for the education you get. That said the education could have been improved as the variation between professors was large.

This school was a great fit for me and I loved attending. I had my daughter as a teenager and despite being a parent, I was still able to complete my degree on time. I had wonderful professors and my job on campus allowed me to earn enough to support myself (on top of student loans) while also enabling me to study in my free time. I'm proud to be an alumni.

UCCS is an excellent school and I feel like I got the college experience I wanted.

UCCS provides a great value for the degree you get, but I often wonder if I missed out on a higher quality education by not looking at a larger univeristy.

It is a great school, that is well priced. It lacks the plethora of degrees many large colleges have (for instance, it only has 3 engineering degrees)

UCCS is amazing