

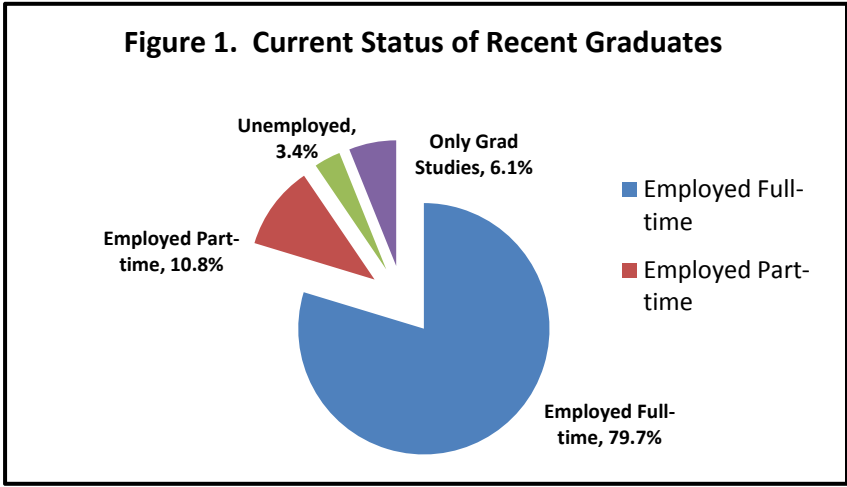
**Introduction**

The Office of Institutional Studies (OIS) mailed the *Life After UMaine* survey to the 1,505 baccalaureate degree recipients who graduated in December 2005, May 2006, or August 2006. (There were 127 graduates for whom addresses could not be obtained.) Depending on the conferral date, 6 to 15 post-graduation months had elapsed at the time of the survey. OIS mailed follow-up surveys approximately 4, 8, and 12 weeks after the initial mailing to those who had not yet responded. 702 graduates provided useable responses, for a return rate of 51%. Although the percentage of respondents by college is comparable to the percentage of actual graduates by college—not varying by more than three percentage points—one nevertheless should be cautious when generalizing these sample results to the population of baccalaureate degree recipients.

Below, we summarize the employment and educational status of these 702 UMaine graduates. With ease of reading in mind, we round double-digit percentages to whole numbers (although all percentages in graphs are reported to the nearest tenth of a point.) Where we report data by college, we go further for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences—given the variety of disciplines in this college—by distinguishing between humanities, physical sciences, and social sciences.

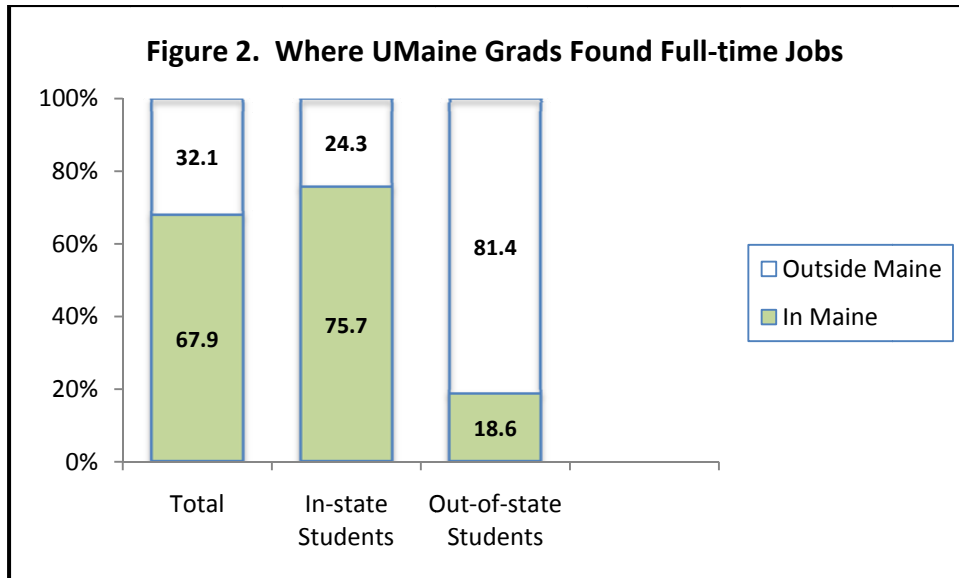
**Employment after Graduation**

As Figure 1 shows, 80% of respondents have found full-time work (versus 74% last year), and 11% are working part-time (comparable to the 12% from last year). Among those reporting full-time employment, 83% indicated that their job is related to their UMaine degree. Individuals only pursuing graduate studies make up an additional 6.1% of respondents, compared to 8.1% last year. (Further, 9.6% of the full-time employed and 66% of the part-time employed also are attending graduate school, for a total graduate school attendance rate among employed respondents of roughly 19%.) While 3.4% of respondents are unemployed, this figure is slightly down from 5.6% last year.

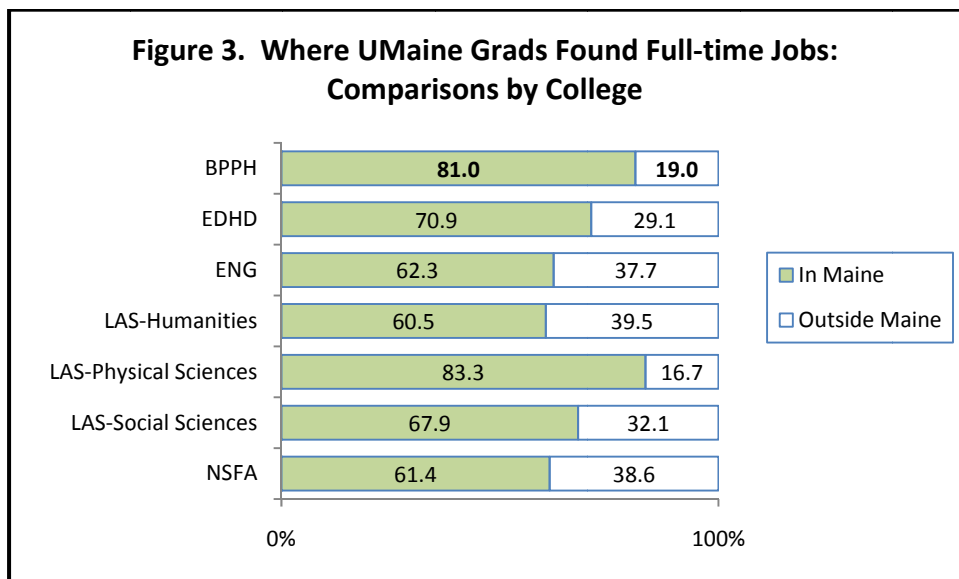


### Where are the Jobs?

68% of the respondents who are working full-time have remained in Maine (Figure 2), similar to the 66% from last year. Not surprisingly, location of employment is related to one's roots. Among respondents whose roots are in Maine, 76% of the full-time employed have remained in Maine; for those from away, the figure is 19% (down from 27% last year).



As Figure 3 shows, there are differences across the UMaine colleges with respect to location of employment. For example, between 60% to 62% of graduates from LAS-Humanities, NSFA, and ENG remained in Maine for full-time employment. In contrast, the figures are 81% and 83%, respectively, for BPPH and LAS-Physical Sciences.



## What Do They Earn?

As Table 1 shows, the median salary is \$35,000 (compared to \$31,000 last year) for the 471 respondents who are employed full-time and who volunteered their annual income. For those employed in Maine, the figure is \$33,500 (versus \$30,000 last year); for those employed out of state, the figure is \$40,000 (versus \$36,000 last year).

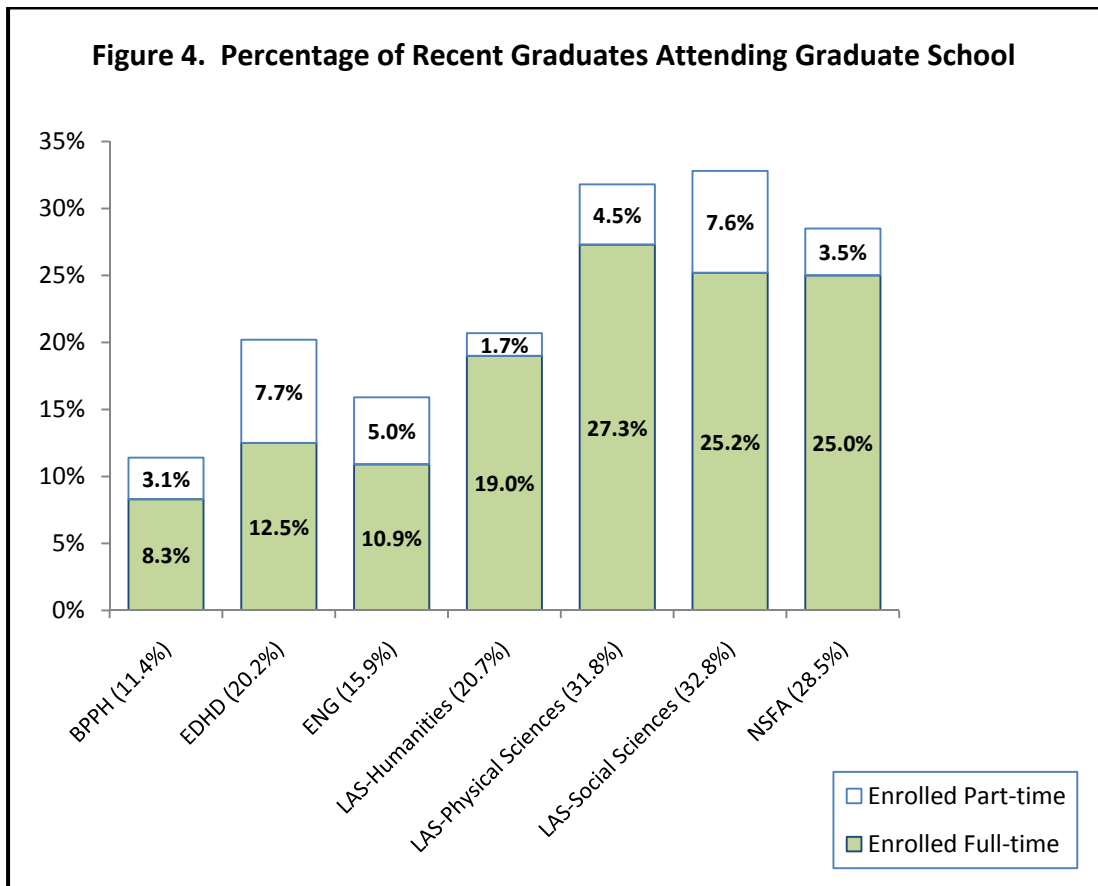
Not surprisingly, full-time median salaries vary by college. Among all respondents, for example, ENG graduates command the highest median salary: \$50,000. The lowest median salary, \$27,000, is for those receiving degrees from LAS-Social Sciences.

<b>Table 1. Median Salaries of the Full-time Employed.</b>						
<b>College</b>	<b>Median Salary</b>		<b>Median Salary (in Maine)</b>		<b>Median Salary (outside Maine)</b>	
	<b>\$</b>	<b><i>N</i></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><i>n</i></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><i>n</i></b>
<b>BPPH</b>	36,000	72	35,000	58	40,000	14
<b>EDHD</b>	29,100	70	28,000	51	32,000	19
<b>ENG</b>	50,000	100	47,000	60	55,000	40
<b>LAS-Humanities</b>	30,000	36	30,000	23	30,000	13
<b>LAS-Physical Sciences</b>	40,000	8	40,000	7	-	1
<b>LAS-Social Sciences</b>	27,000	67	26,000	46	30,000	21
<b>NSFA</b>	35,000	111	36,500	70	33,000	41
<b>UMaine Total<sup>1</sup></b>	35,000	471	33,500	322	40,000	149

<sup>1</sup> Seven of the 322 full-time employed in Maine graduated with a Bachelor of University Studies degree from the Division of Lifelong Learning. While these individuals are included in the first two UMaine totals, they are not included in any college total.

## Who is Attending Graduate School?

Roughly one quarter (23%) of respondents are enrolled part-time (5%) or full-time (18%) in graduate studies. (This includes the 6.1% of respondents, shown in Figure 1, who report that graduate studies is their only pursuit.) As Figure 4 shows, the percentages vary (predictably) by college. In the case of BPPH and ENG, for example, a smaller percentage of graduates go on to graduate studies (11% and 16%, respectively). In contrast, the figure is roughly one third for LAS graduates in the physical sciences or social sciences. We also see differences among colleges with respect to the full-time/part-time breakdown, with larger percentages of graduates from LAS and NSFA enrolling full-time in graduate studies compared to their counterparts in BPPH, EDHD, and ENG.



## How Well Did UMaine Prepare its Graduates?

Of the 420 respondents employed full-time in a job related to their UMaine degree, 86% believe their UMaine experience prepared them “very well” or “moderately well,” and only 14% reported being “minimally prepared” or “uncertain.” (Both figures are comparable to last year.) Of the 160 respondents enrolled in graduate school (irrespective of employment status), 92% believe that UMaine prepared them “very well” or “moderately well,” and 7.9% report feeling “minimally prepared” or “uncertain” (versus 4.6% last year).