

RESEARCH BRIEFS



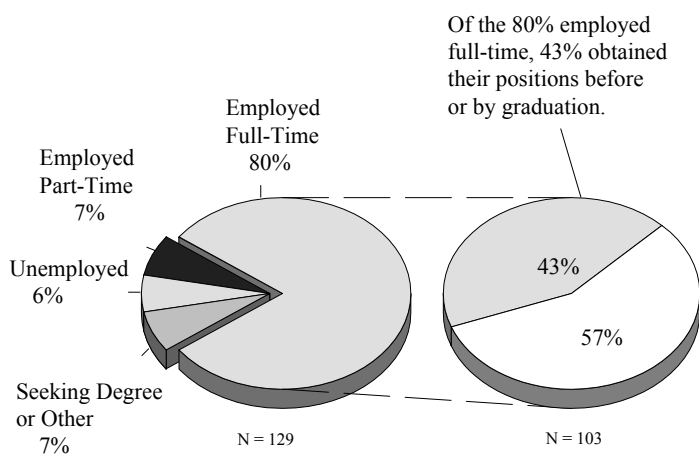
Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Business and Engineering Graduates in the Job Market in 1993*

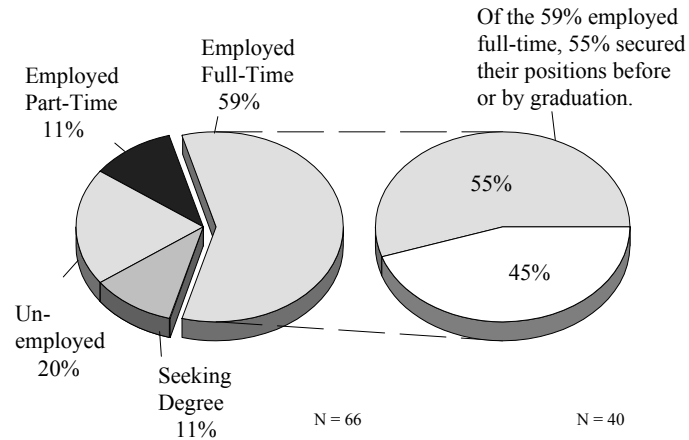
UHM 1992-93 graduates of the Colleges of Business Administration and Engineering were surveyed on their job search activities and employment status by the UHM Career Placement Services office with assistance from the respective Colleges. Both surveys were conducted during the summer of 1993 and included the classes of August and December 1992. The Engineering survey also included an additional class composed of May 1993 graduates. Response rates were 41 percent for Business (129 out of 318) and 64 percent for Engineering (66 out of 103).

Employment Status of Business Graduates



- Business graduates obtaining their jobs after graduation reported a median job search time of 9 weeks.
- The median salary range was \$20,000 - \$24,999 per year for those employed full-time.
- Respondents who were employed full-time most often reported using newspaper ads (52%), the UHM Career Placement Services (50%), and referral by family and friends (31%) as job search strategies.
- Respondents who were employed full-time most often named referrals by family and friends (29%), newspaper ads (29%), and the UHM Career Placement Services (26%) as the most effective methods leading to a job or job offer.
- Reporting the highest rates of full-time employment were majors in: management information systems (91%), human resource management (86%), accounting (84%), and marketing (83%).

Employment Status of Engineering Graduates



- Engineering graduates obtaining their jobs after graduation reported a median job search time of 5-8 weeks.
- The median salary range was \$25,000 to \$29,000 for those employed full-time.
- Engineering graduates reported previous employment (25%) as a major source for obtaining employment, followed by referrals by family and friends (18%), and the UHM Career Placement Services (12%).
- Respondents reported being employed most frequently in jobs related to building/construction (29%), consulting/research (24%), and government (18%).

- The differences reported by business and engineering graduates were due, in part, to the different impact of a slowed economy in 1993 on the two fields and the inclusion in the engineering survey of the May 1993 class who were surveyed only two months after their graduation.
- Despite the different rates of employment for business and engineering graduates, the majority of both groups reported securing career-oriented, entry-level positions.
- Both groups used similar job search strategies although business graduates relied most heavily on newspaper ads and engineering graduates on previous employment/employers.
- Finally, both groups had similar advice for upcoming graduates:
 - start your job search early;
 - get internship or work experience in your chosen fields prior to graduating; and
 - network with professionals and others working in your field of choice.

* Prepared in cooperation with the UHM Career Placement Services office.