

First Destination Survey 2022

Executive Summary

The results of the 2022 FDS have many firsts. At 89% (n=1129/1266), this is the highest knowledge rate for the FDS in Case Western Reserve University's history of administering this survey. This is also the first time, since the FDS started being administered back in 2005, that 56% of graduates are going directly into the workforce. Previously, the highest percentages of students who pursued full-time employment were in 2019 and 2018 (54%). As a final first, we have the lowest recorded percentage of students who shared that they were available for employment and still seeking opportunities with only 3% of students reporting this as their primary plan after graduation. This percentage was even lower for our international student graduates (0%) and marginally higher for students identifying as underrepresented minorities (4%).

With regard to other primary plans this year, 37% of students who responded to the survey are pursuing advanced degrees or additional education (7% decrease from 2021) and 4% of students are pursuing other plans, including part-time employment, self-employment, and serving in the military.

Graduates entering the workforce reported higher starting salaries than the class of 2021. When broken down by school or college, salaries either remained consistently high or saw a substantial year-over-year increase. The median salary range for the class of 2022 is \$65,000-\$69,999 which is \$5,000 higher than 2021. The median starting salary ranges for the different schools and the College are detailed below.

- Case School of Engineering: \$70,000-\$74,999
 - This is the same as last year, which aligns with the national average for engineering graduates (\$71,516) as reported by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)
- College of Arts and Sciences: \$40,000-\$44,999
 - This is a year-over-year increase of \$5,000, which is noteworthy considering NACE reports a sharp decline in starting salaries, nationwide, in the Liberal Arts & Sciences (down 11.9% in 2021). However, 23% of students in the College of Arts and Sciences at CWRU earned a starting salary of more than \$70,000 and more than 5% of students from the College reported a starting salary of greater than \$100,000
- Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing: \$60,000-\$64,999 (a year-over-year increase of \$5,000). This is higher than the national median range for Nursing (\$59,532) as reported by NACE.
- Weatherhead School of Management: \$70,000-\$74,999 (a year-over-year increase of \$10,000). This is significantly higher than the median salary range reported for Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (\$57,186), reported by NACE

For those who chose to pursue full-time employment, the industries with the most number of graduates were Engineering (24%), Information Technology and Technology (16%), Research and Science (13%), Nursing (11%), Healthcare/Public Health (8%), and Consulting (6%).

More than a third of CWRU graduates chose to remain in Ohio (37.5%) for their full-time jobs with 33% choosing to stay in Northeast Ohio. Other locations outside of Ohio included 35 states with California receiving 6.9% of graduates, followed by New York (6.4%), Illinois (6.3%), Pennsylvania (4.5%), Wisconsin (4.3%), and Washington (4%). Additionally, 9 graduates found employment in countries outside the United States - specifically, China, France, India, South Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam. Some students also reported their jobs being in fully remote environments.

Among graduates seeking additional education, MA and MS degrees were the most popular (34%), with engineering as the most popular program (18.4%). Additionally, 24% of students going on to receive advanced degrees were pursuing professional degrees in healthcare, including MD or DO degrees, accounting for 17.9% of all degrees pursued. Other degrees included Professional Master's (19.8%), PhD (13.6%), and JD degrees (6%).

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Our graduates were accepted into 121 unique institutions in the United States and overseas, including acceptances to renowned institutions such as Boston University (4), Carnegie Mellon University (8), Columbia University (10), Cornell University (4), Duke University (5), Harvard University (2), Johns Hopkins University (6), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (4), New York University (6), Northwestern University (8), Ohio State University (12), State University of New York (10), the University of Chicago (2), University of California (10), University of Illinois (4), University of Michigan (12), University of North Carolina (7), University of Pennsylvania (4), University of Pittsburgh (6), University of Rochester (2), Vanderbilt University (4), Washington University in St. Louis (4) and Yale University (4). 134 (33.7%) students chose to remain at Case Western Reserve University to continue their education.

Additional Highlights:

- For those who entered the workforce, 78.4% of survey respondents said their position was related to their field of study and that a degree was required. An additional 13.2% of students said a degree was required for their position but the position was not related to their field of study, illustrating the versatility of a bachelor's degree from CWRU.
- 98% of FDS respondents said they had participated in at least one experiential education opportunity, including but not limited to internships, cooperative education experiences, practicums through Post-Graduate Planning and Experiential Education, nursing clinicals, research or creative endeavors, and community service. 89% of international students participated in at least one experiential education opportunity and 99% of URM students participated in at least one activity.
- 393 unique employers hired CWRU graduates, and the top employers were: Cleveland Clinic (40), Epic (26), University Hospitals (15), Deloitte (14), Case Western Reserve University (11), Amazon (8), Microsoft (7), Rockwell Automation (6), Boeing Company (5), General Electric (5), General Motors (5), P&G (5), EY (4), Google (4), Johns Hopkins Hospital (4), JPMorgan Chase (4), KeyBank (4), Lubrizol (4), MedStar Health (4), National Institutes of Health (4), Publicis Sapient (4), and Sherwin-Williams (4).
- 88% of all 2022 graduates engaged with members of Post-Graduate Planning and Experiential Education through career advising appointments, workshops and events, and through PGP-EE led experiential education opportunities. Additional engagement data include graduates from the College of Arts and Sciences (87%), Case School of Engineering (88%), Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing (99%), and Weatherhead School of Management (92%).

As our data shows, our graduates are committed to engaging with meaningful work and intellectual pursuits. Additionally, this data demonstrates the continued value of an education from Case Western Reserve University.

Thank you for proudly sharing the high achievements of our 2022 graduates!

Drew Poppleton
Director, Post-Graduate Planning and Experiential Education

Krittika C. Grau
Senior Associate Director – Career Education, Post-Graduate Planning and Experiential Education