

**First Destinations for the College Class of 2023:
Findings & Analysis
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
April 2025**

The First Destination Report for the Class of 2023 (graduating July 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2023) is compiled and published annually by Career Services. This report includes information collected from Winona undergraduate students' post-graduation from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. The data was obtained from the graduates through an online survey as part of their graduation.

Of the 222 surveyed, data is available for 206 (93%) of the graduates. A total of 149 (67%) graduates surveyed reported their data through the First Destination Survey. Career Services undertook additional research to locate the post-graduation information through LinkedIn, Handshake, and email correspondence for the 57 (26%) graduates who did not respond to the survey and those who initially reported they were 'Still Looking' at the time of graduation.

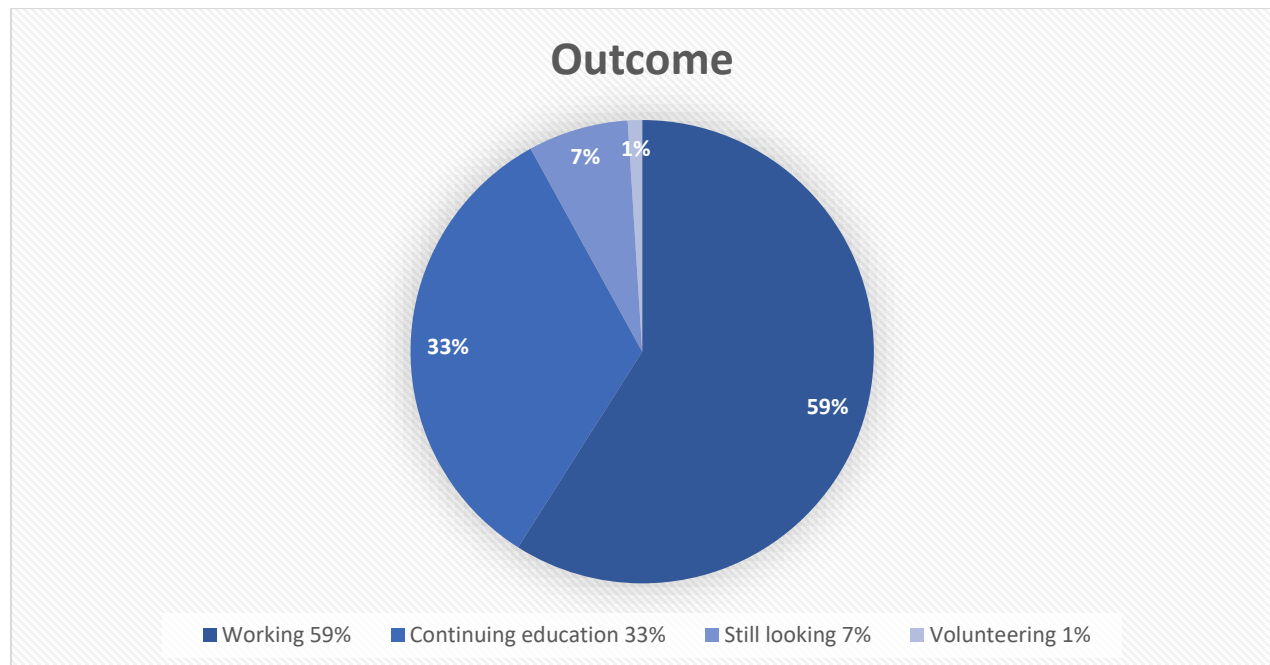
Bachelor's Degree Outcomes

Of the 206 graduates, 191 (93%) of graduates are working, attending or applying to graduate school, or participating in a long-term volunteer placement.

Of the 67 (33%) graduates who are continuing education, 46 (69%) are seeking a master's degree, 10 (15%) are seeking a professional degree (J.D., M.D., or other), three (5%) are seeking a doctorate (Ph.D./other), one (1%) is seeking a graduate certificate, six (9%) are seeking additional undergraduate education and 1 (1%) did not disclose education being pursued.

Two graduates (1%) indicated long-term volunteer service. Fourteen respondents (7%) were still seeking opportunities.

Class of 2023 Post-Graduate Outcomes



Outcome Relevance to Major

Of the 86 respondents who answered the question, 70 (81%) reported working in a position related to their field of study.

Salary

The average salary of the 56 respondents who reported salary is \$48,991 (full-time, U.S.-based workers, excluding interns/fellows)

Satisfaction

Of the 63 respondents who answered the question on job satisfaction, 58 (92%) reported being extremely satisfied or satisfied with their current position.

Participation in Experiential Learning

Of the 145 respondents who answered the question on experiential learning, 105 (72%) reported participation in experiential learning during their enrollment.

Type of Experiential Learning	Number of Responses	Percentage
Internship	71	55%
Undergraduate Research Experience	27	21%
Service Learning	14	11%
Student Teaching	7	5%
Other (PT job, independent research, Mayo program, Apostolic Works)	5	4%
Studio Performances	4	3%
Cooperative Education	2	2%
*Total Responses	130	100%
*Some students participated in multiple experiential learning opportunities, so the above percentage is based on total number of responses received and not a distinct total number of graduates responding.		

Thirty-two (30%) of the 105 students reported one of their experiential learning opportunities led to employment with the organization after graduation.

Type of Experiential Learning that led to full-time employment.	# of Students Employed from Experience	% of 105 Students
Internship	26	24%
Undergraduate Research Experience	2	2%
Service Learning	0	0%
Student Teaching	0	0%
Other (PT job, independent research, Mayo program, Apostolic Works)	0	0%
Studio Performances	1	1%
Cooperative Education	3	3%
Total Responses	32	30%

Where Are They Now

The geographic distribution of the 184 respondents who provided their location shows that 119 (65%) are residing in Minnesota, 20 (11%) in Wisconsin, 13 (7%) in Illinois, 28 (15%) are residing in 14 other states and four (2%) reside in other countries (Italy (2), Ghana, China).

Employers

The Class of 2023 graduates received employment offers from many leading national, and regional organizations, including but not limited to:

ALDI Inc.
Canopy IT Solutions,
Fastenal Company
Fidelity Investments
Holy Spirit Catholic School
Mayo Clinic
Minneapolis VA Health Care System
Portkey SEO Solutions
Rochester Public Schools
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
Schechter Dokken Kanter
St. Paul Saints
Star Tribune Media Company
Taylor Corporation
Trane Technologies
Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence
UNFI

Graduate Schools

The Class of 2023 graduates reported continuing education at colleges and universities both nationally and internationally including but not limited to:

Loyola School of Law
Marquette University
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science – School of Health Sciences'
Northwestern Health Sciences University
Pontifical Gregorian University
St. Catherine University
Sacred Heart Major Seminary
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
Saint Paul Seminary
The University of Georgia
University of Iowa
University of Minnesota
University of Oregon
University of St. Thomas
University of Wisconsin – Madison

Job Search Resources & Career Services Utilization

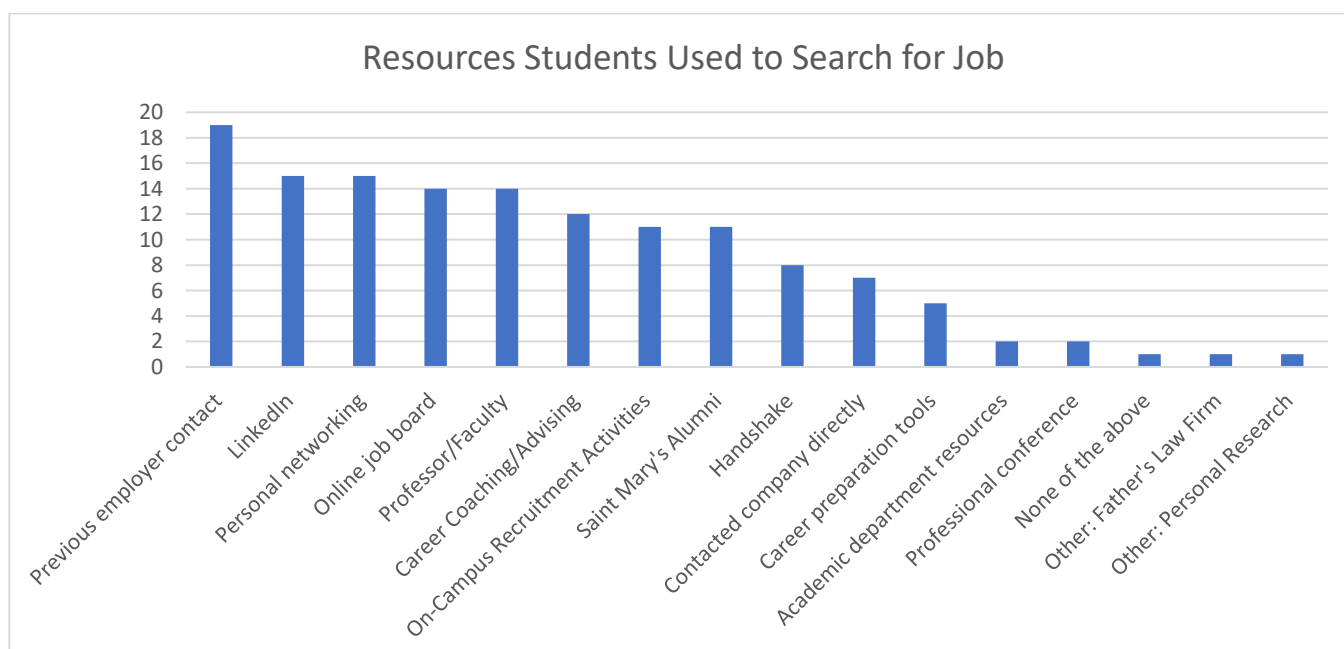
As Career Services was relaunched in Spring 2022, respondents were asked about the resources they used to assist them with their search and the role of Career Services in order to obtain baseline data.

A total of 129 students responded about which of the Career Services resources, services, and support they utilized.

Which services, resources or support did you utilize from Career Services (check all that apply)?	Total	%
Handshake	40	19%
Participated in events (networking, mock interviewing, etc.)	34	16%
On-campus recruitment activities (Career fairs, employer information sessions, on-campus interviews)	27	13%
Attended workshops (i.e., résumé, interviewing, networking, LinkedIn, etc.)	24	11%
Career coaching/advising	24	11%
Career Services website	11	5%
Other: Teachers	1	1%
I did not use Career Services	51	24%
*Total	212	100%
*The Total is based on total number of responses received and not a distinct total number of graduates responding.		

Of the 50 students who indicated that they did not use Career Services, 48% (24) students had already secured an opportunity, 32% (16) had relied on professors or other resources for assistance, 6% (3) were pursuing seminary or religious life, 4% (2) were not aware that Career Services existed. The remaining 10% (5) listed other reasons such as not seeking, too busy, felt they could do it on their own, or didn't feel like it.

A total of 58 students indicated that they utilized the following resources to search for or apply to the job they accepted. Respondents could indicate multiple resources and a total of 138 resources were selected.



The Single Most Influential Resource in Getting the Job

What was the single most influential resource in getting you the interview for the job you accepted?	Total
Personal networking (family, friends, etc.)	10
Previous job, internship or co-op contact	10
Online job board (Indeed.com, Idealist, etc.)	8
Professor/Faculty	7
Career Coaching/Advising	4
LinkedIn	4
On-Campus Recruitment Activities (Career Fair, on-campus interviewing, employer information sessions, etc.)	4
Emailed, called or visited the company or website directly	2
Professional conference	2
Saint Mary's Alumni (networking, alumni relations resources, etc.)	2
Career preparation tools	1
Handshake (job postings, employer connections, etc.)	1
Other: My program at Mayo Clinic	1
None of the above	2
Grand Total	58

Questions regarding this report can be referred to Kerri Carlson Anderson, Director, Career Services, kscarlso@smumn.edu.