



Post-Graduation Activities Report

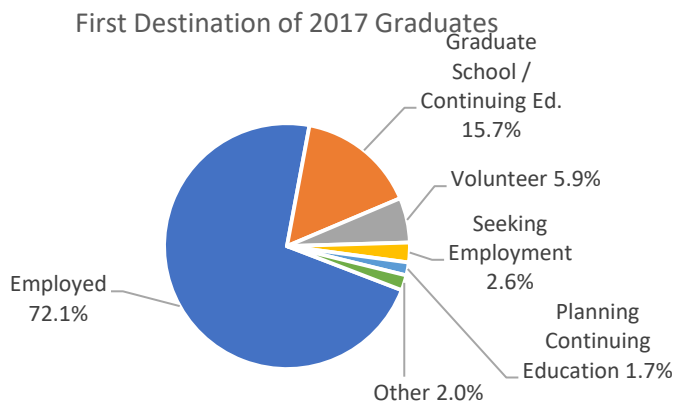
Luther College Class of 2017 – The Career Center

Introduction

The data collection process for this report took place from May 2017 to December 2017. For those students who had solidified their plans prior to graduation, the Career Center received their information in May 2017. For students who were still unsure about their plans, data were gathered through a survey sent between May 2017 through November 2017, followed by telephone calls, emails and surveying social media in December 2017. Through these efforts, Luther College had a survey totaling response rate of **95.8%**. This rate includes sources of data from reliable and verifiable information from faculty, employers and social media.

Post-Graduation Activities

Post-college activities of the 2017 graduates were divided into eight categories: employed, which includes full-time and part-time employment (**72.1%**); accepted/enrolled in graduate school or another program of continuing education (**15.7%**); participating in a volunteer or service program (**5.9%**); planning to continue education but not yet enrolled (**1.7%**); still seeking employment (**2.6%**), serving in the U.S. military (**0%**) and participating in none of these activities (**2.0%**). A few categories deserve further explanation. Students in a “program of continuing education” were enrolled in an undergraduate program to further their education, for example, to obtain a teaching license, or were participating in some other activity to gain the necessary credentials to enter their field of choice. The “employed” category includes students who were employed either full-time (**90%**) or part-time (**10%**), both of which include respective internships and fellowships. Per the U.S. Department of Labor, full-time employment is defined as working a minimum of 30 hours per week.



Quick Facts



Response rate for the survey of May 2017 Luther College graduates was 95.8%

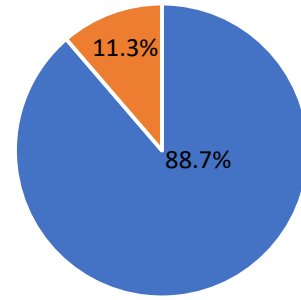
Approximately 98% of May 2017 graduates reported being employed, continuing their education, or not intentionally seeking employment within 8 months after graduating.

88.7% of Luther College graduates in May 2017 reported that their post-grad activity was related to their career goals.



Career Goals: Are Graduates Doing What They Want to Do?

When asked if their employment was related to their career goals, **88.7%** of employed May 2017 graduate who responded to this question replied affirmatively. This statistic includes those in graduate school and those continuing their education.

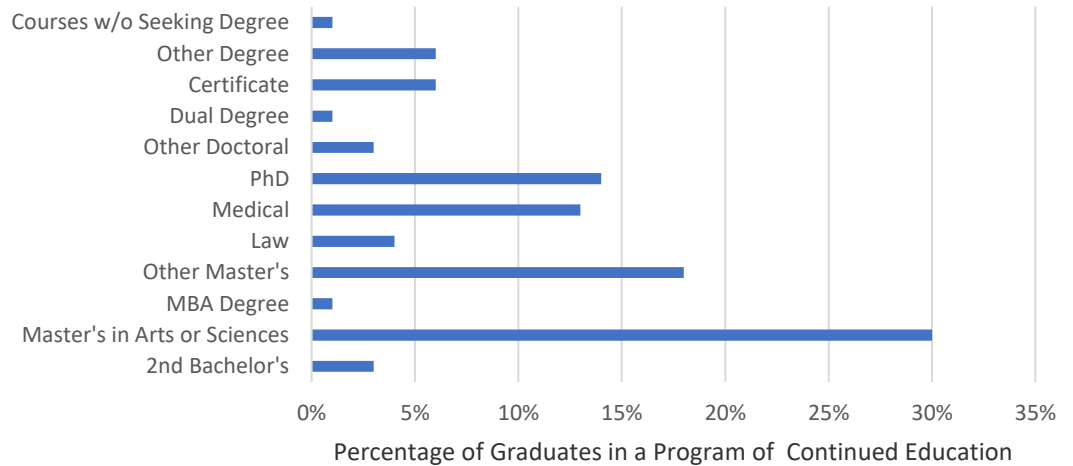


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Graduates Pursuing Further Education

Among the 2017 graduates who elected to attend graduate or professional school (with one non-respondent), the largest percentage (**30%**) reported pursuing a master's degree in arts or sciences. Other advanced degrees being sought include medical (**13%**), other master's degree (e.g., MAT, MFA, MPA, etc.) (**18%**), PhD (**14%**), law (**4%**) and other degrees (**6%**). Minnesota and Iowa were top destination states for students pursuing graduate or professional school studies, with **37%** and **20%** respectively. Other states included Colorado followed with **10%**, Illinois with **6%** and Wisconsin attracted **4%** of our students pursuing graduate study. The remaining **23%** of surveyed students elected to continue their graduate studies in one of **12** other states, as well as **2 countries** abroad.

2017 Graduates Seeking Higher Education



Top Graduate School Destinations

Approximately **41%** of the respondents that were attending graduate school are located at one of the institutions listed in the table at the right. Four also reported studying overseas, with three attending institutions in the **United Kingdom and one in Norway**.

Top Graduate School Destinations	
University of Minnesota	9
A.T. Still University	4
University of Iowa	4
Iowa State University	3
Des Moines University	2
St. Ambrose University	2
St. Catherine University	2



Employment Activities

When asked about the primary status of students' full-time and part-time employment, the largest employment activity for the class of 2017 was reported as being hired by an employer or organization, with **80%** of respondents answering that choice. Due to the nature of this question, other full-time and part-time employment activities fall under the other categories listed on the right. Participating in temporary/contract work (**9%**) and an internship or fellowship (**8%**) were the top three statuses for respondents. The table to the right provides all five options answered by 2017 graduates.

Statuses of Full-time and Part-time Employment

Employed freelance	3
Working as an entrepreneur	7
Internship or fellowship	24
Temporary/contract work	29
Hired by an employer	246
Total respondents: 309	

Geographic Location of Employment

For those students who decided to join the workforce, the location of employment spans the nation. Minnesota was the top destination for May 2017 graduates, attracting approximately **44%** of the class. Iowa earned second place, with **24%**. Wisconsin is home to **11%** of graduates, Illinois **5%**, and Colorado **2%**. The remaining **14%** of employed graduates found employment outside of this five-state region.

Selected Employers

Students pursued employment across a wide variety of regional, national, and international organizations. The table highlights a few of the employers arranged by broad industry groupings, followed by the number of Luther graduates they hired. The list is not exhaustive, but it does provide a snapshot of where Luther graduates are contributing.

Selected Employers of 2017 Graduates – Number of Hires

Business:		Social Sciences/Education:	
Deloitte-----	3	Iowa Schools-----	13
EY -----	2	Minnesota Schools-----	17
Deco Products-----	2	Wisconsin Schools-----	4
		Schools in Other States-----	8
		Luther College -----	6
Sciences:		Technology:	
Mayo Clinic-----	13	Amazon-----	2
University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics-----	2	Epicor Software-----	1
Mercy Medical Center-----	3	Fareway-----	1
Winnesiek Medical Center-----	2	IBM-----	1
Abbot Northwestern Hospital-----	1	Preventice-----	1



Volunteer Service

About 5.9 percent of the class of 2017 pursued volunteer service as their initial career path after leaving Luther. To be classified in this category, students must have committed to at least 10 months of consecutive service. **Eleven** Luther graduates chose to volunteer with Americorps and affiliated programs such as Americorps VISTA and College Possible. Five students are volunteering with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) or the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM). Two graduates chose to serve with the Lutheran Volunteer Corps and two graduates chose to serve with the Peace Corps. Other graduates chose a variety of regional nonprofits across the country and around the world.

Migration of Iowa/Non-Iowa Residents

For several years Iowa legislators have focused on the migration of college-educated individuals. Graduates who pursue employment or graduate school in and out of Iowa are commonly referred to as “brain gain/brain

STATE OF RESIDENCY OF STUDENTS	LOCATION OF EMPLOYMENT			
	Iowa	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Another State/Country
Iowa	50%	24%	6%	20%
Minnesota	11%	82%	1%	6%
Wisconsin	10%	32%	46%	12%
Other	21%	19%	9%	51%

drain”. The charts above and below reflect the migration of Luther graduates for employment and graduate school, categorized by their respective home state, or state of residency. For example, of the Iowa residents who are employed, **50%** were working in the state of Iowa while **50%** accepted employment in another state. Of the Iowa residents enrolled in graduate school, **48%** are attending an Iowa institution while **52%** enrolled in an institution in another state. The charts also include migration data for Luther graduates from both Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Graduate School Migration

RESIDENCY OF STUDENTS	LOCATION OF GRADUATE SCHOOL			
	Iowa	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Another State/Country
Iowa	48%	9%	0%	43%
Minnesota	4%	63%	4%	29%
Wisconsin	0%	33%	67%	0%
Other	13.3%	13.3%	0%	73.3%

Applied Learning

According to Luther College records, 153 students of the Class of 2017 graduates completed a for-credit internship at some point during their studies at Luther. Responses to the Office of Assessment and Institutional Research survey show that at least 23 graduate participated in a non-credit internship. At least 96 graduates participated in a practicum or clinical as part of their work in Luther’s athletic training, education, nursing, or social work program.



CONCLUSION

The Class of 2017 graduated as the U.S. economy's unemployment rate has gradually improved from a 4.9% rate January 2016 to **4.8%** as of January 2017 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Based on eight years of survey data, Luther graduates have consistently found employment, entered graduate school, and sought volunteer opportunities at the same rate, regardless of economic conditions.

ADDENDUM: *Post-Graduation Status According to Major*

The table on the last page summarizes the data that contributed to this report. The table is organized according to majors. Students who majored in more than one area are represented in each of the major they obtained; therefore, the distribution of majors listed in the table *does not* correspond to the number of 2017 graduates. Raw numbers are in boldface and outside of the parentheses in each category, when available.

For more information about the Luther College Career Center, please visit <http://career.luther.edu> or call 563-387-1025.



POST-GRADUATION STATUS ACCORDING TO MAJOR

Major	Distribution of Majors	# Responding	% Responding	Employed Full-time	Employed Part-time	Accepted/enrolled in Graduate School OR Other Continuing Education	Volunteer/Service Program	Serving in U.S. Military	Seeking Employment	Planning to continue education/not yet accepted or enrolled	None of these
Accounting	17	16	94%	15 (94%)	--	--	1 (6%)	--	--	--	--
Africana Studies	1	1	100%	--	--	1 (100%)	--	--	--	--	--
Anthropology	7	7	100%	5 (71%)	--	2 (29%)	--	--	--	--	--
Art	13	11	85%	6 (55%)	1 (9%)	1 (9%)	2 (18%)	--	1 (9%)	--	--
Athletic Training	5	5	100%	0	1 (20%)	4 (80%)	--	--	--	--	--
Biblical Languages	0	0	-	----	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Biology	57	54	95%	22 (41%)	3 (5%)	19 (35%)	7 (13%)	--	--	2 (4%)	1 (2%)
Chemistry	16	16	100%	10 (63%)	--	4 (25%)	1 (6%)	--	1 (6%)	--	--
Classics	6	6	100%	3 (50%)	--	3 (50%)	--	--	--	--	--
Communication Studies	16	16	100%	15 (94%)	--	1 (6%)	--	--	--	--	--
Computer Science	25	22	88%	17 (77%)	1(5%)	2 (9%)	--	--	--	--	2 (9%)
Dance	3	3	100%	3 (100%)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Economics	15	15	100%	14 (93%)	--	--	--	--	1 (7%)	--	--
Elementary Education	23	23	100%	19 (83%)	2 (9%)	1 (4%)	--	--	--	--	1 (4%)
English	26	26	100%	12 (46%)	2 (8%)	6 (23%)	4 (15%)	--	--	--	2 (8%)
Environmental Studies	22	21	95%	14 (67%)	--	--	3 (14%)	--	2 (9%)	1 (5%)	1 (5%)
French	7	7	100%	4 (57%)	2 (29%)	--	1 (14%)	--	--	--	--
German	7	7	100%	5 (72%)	1(14%)	--	--	--	1 (14%)	--	--
Health/Health Education	10	10	100%	6 (60%)	2 (20%)	1 (10%)	--	--	--	1 (10%)	--
History	10	10	100%	4 (40%)	--	4 (40%)	1 (10%)	--	--	1 (10%)	--
INDIV-Elementary Education: Non-Teaching	1	1	100%	--	1 (100%)	--	--	--	--	--	--
Intermedia Arts	1	1	100%	--	1 (100%)	--	--	--	--	--	--
International Studies	14	14	100%	11 (79%)	--	1 (7%)	1 (7%)	--	1(7%)	--	--
Management	48	46	96%	40 (87%)	1 (2%)	--	1 (2%)	--	3 (7%)	--	1 (2%)
Mathematics/Math Statistics	18	16	89%	8 (50%)	1 (6%)	6 (38%)	1 (6%)	--	--	--	--
Music	36	33	92%	20 (61%)	2 (6%)	9 (27%)	--	--	--	1 (3%)	1 (3%)
Nordic Studies	4	4	100%	3 (75%)	--	--	1 (25%)	--	--	--	--
Nursing	23	22	96%	22 (100%)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Philosophy	4	4	100%	2 (50%)	--	1 (25%)	1 (25%)	--	--	--	--
Physical Ed.	12	12	100%	2 (17%)	4 (33%)	5 (42%)	--	--	1 (8%)	--	--
Physics	10	10	100%	4 (40%)	1 (10%)	3 (30%)	1 (10%)	--	1 (10%)	--	--
Political Science	21	20	95%	10 (50%)	2 (10%)	4 (20%)	2 (10%)	--	2 (10%)	--	--
Psychology	36	36	100%	21 (58%)	4 (11%)	5 (14%)	3 (8%)	--	1 (3%)	2 (6%)	--
Religion	11	9	82%	6 (67%)	2 (22%)	--	1 (11%)	--	--	--	--
Russian Studies	2	2	100%	1 (50%)	--	1 (50%)	--	--	--	--	--
Social Work	15	13	87%	8 (61%)	1 (8%)	3 (23%)	--	--	--	1 (8%)	--
Sociology	9	9	100%	6 (67%)	1 (11%)	1 (11%)	1 (11%)	--	--	--	--
Spanish	16	16	100%	9 (56%)	1 (6%)	3 (19%)	2 (13%)	--	--	--	1 (6%)
Theatre	10	10	100%	7 (70%)	3 (30%)	--	--	--	--	--	--
Women's & Gender Studies	0	0	0%	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTALS	577	554	96%	354	40	91	35	0	15	9	10

● NOTE: Students with more than one major are counted in each major declared. Information compiled this year was gathered using the HEDS survey system.