

College Students:

Working Towards Their Careers?

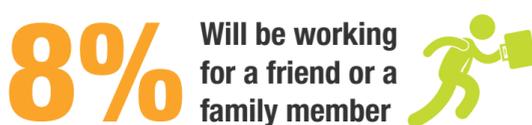
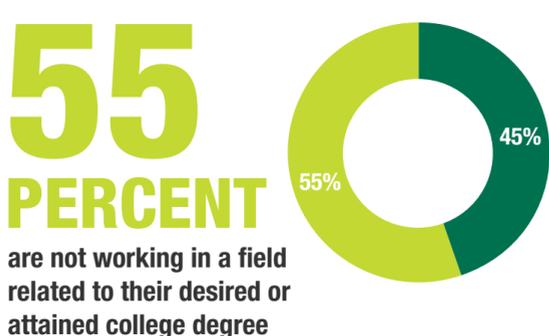
The job market for many is grim. We set out to discover what college students are saying about it. To paraphrase some of our respondents, "It sucks!", but their spirits remain optimistic despite current concerns.

To say thanks to our many respondents, we made a donation to the American Red Cross for every completed survey.

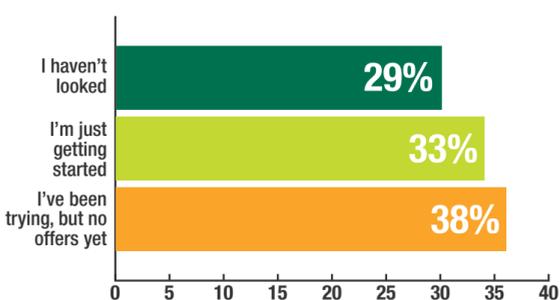
Percentage of college students that have found jobs for the summer or longer



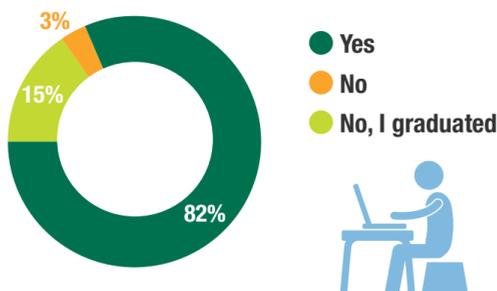
Of those that have found work for the summer...



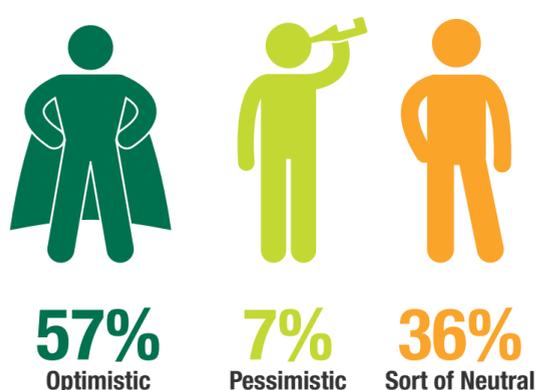
The reason students have not found work



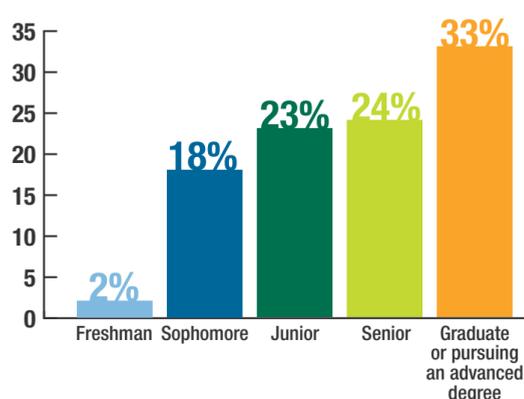
Intentions on returning to school this fall



Respondents' overall mood lately



Respondents' grade level this upcoming fall



Some respondents' thoughts on the current job market for themselves, or college students in general



"I didn't realize that one should start applying and sending resumes for summer jobs in December and January for the best chance of getting a job for the summer. I wish I had known this sooner because summer jobs fill up fast and they are gone before you know it."

"Living with mom and dad again might be your only option once those student loans start coming due!"

"While we are in college the prospects are good. Once we graduate, not so much."

"It has been very hard for me to find a job, even with an Associates Degree. I am going on to get my Bachelors Degree, but getting a job is still hard. I don't really understand the problem."

"I think it improving, but a lot of graduates are still not getting jobs in the field of their degrees."

"I am currently a server. I see myself continuing to be a server after graduation. There are numerous volunteer and part-time paid internships that I am exploring. However, serving is currently more profitable than any other source I have found."

"In order to find a job straight after graduating college, you need to utilize connections and meaningful relationships to help you. It's all about who you know!"

"The job market is awful! It is really challenging for recent grads to find a job because we're either over qualified because of our degree or under qualified because lack of work experience."

"It is definitely harder to find a job and there are many graduates who are having to take jobs outside of their field or jobs that are not what they want to do."

The most used words in the respondents' thoughts on the current job market

Able Chance of Getting Competitive Degree Difficult
 Engineering Experience Foot in the Door Getting
 Better Good Luck Graduate Hard Improving
 Job Market Jobs Available Little Not Great
 Not so Bad Opportunities Outlook Poor Scarce Scary
 Students Sucks Terrible Think