

CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2017 - 2022

Graduate Survey Summary Report

A Publication of the Office of Institutional Assessment



Office of Institutional Assessment

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ABOUT THE SURVEY

Cayuga Community College enrolls over 3,000 students each academic year. During the past 10 years, the College has awarded over 4,100 degrees and certificates.

Each Spring, the Office of Institutional Assessment administers the Graduate Survey to alumni who earned their degree one year ago. In addition to better understanding new graduates' employment status, starting salaries, transfer experiences, and loan debt, the information is used in retrospective evaluation of programs of study, student support services, and co-curricular offerings.

The survey asks 46 questions on topics ranging from meeting career goals, satisfaction with degree choice, employment, and student debt.

For this report, responses collected from 2017-2022 were queried and analyzed. A total of (204) responses are represented, but not all respondents answered all questions.

On average, thirteen percent of those who were invited to complete the survey responded. Because the number of responses from each class was a small number, aggregate information is presented in this report.

Year	Number of Graduates	Number of Respondents	Response Rate
2017	312	53	17%
2018	286	58	20%
2019	280	21	8%
2020	222	31	14%
2021	214	20	9%
2022	190	21	11%
Grand Total	1504	204	13%

The majority of respondents earned AA Degrees in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities and Social Sciences (23.5%) and AAS Degrees in Nursing (21%). Fifty-nine percent (59%) of respondents attended on the Auburn campus, thirty-one percent (31%) attended on the Fulton campus and ten percent (10%) completed the majority of their degrees online.

GRADUATE SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

Student Outcomes Summary

Overall, did your Cayuga CC degree program help you meet your educational goals?

Number of Respondents	YES % (N)	No % (N)
172	97% (167)	3% (5)

Overall, did Cayuga CC help you meet your career goals?

Number of Respondents	YES % (N)	No % (N)
173	84% (146)	16% (27)

Has your education at Cayuga CC improved the quality of your life?

Number of Respondents	Definitely & Probably YES % (N)	Uncertain % (N)	Probably & Definitely No % (N)
173	84% (145)	12% (20)	5% (8)

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

Academic Growth

How much did your educational experience at Cayuga CC contribute to your growth in each of the following areas?

Learning Outcome Categories	Very Much & Somewhat % (N)	Very Little % (N)	Does Not Apply % (N)	Total N
Written Communication	91% (156)	8.7% (15)	.3% (1)	172
Locate/Interpret/Analyze and Apply Information	94% (161)	6% (10)	.3% (1)	172
Oral Communication	85% (147)	13% (22)	2% (3)	172
Creative Works of the Imagination	69% (119)	19% (32)	12% (21)	172
American History	49% (85)	14% (24)	37% (64)	173
Use and Application of the Scientific Method	63% (109)	12% (21)	25% (43)	173
Mathematical Equations	66% (115)	15% (26)	19% (32)	173
World History	41% (71)	15% (26)	44% (76)	173
Development of Well-Reasoned Arguments	73% (126)	13% (22)	14% (25)	173
Basic Operations of a Personal Computer	59% (102)	21% (36)	20% (34)	172
Personal Physical and Mental Health	65% (112)	21% (36)	14% (25)	173
Rights and Responsibilities as a Citizen	59% (101)	16% (28)	25% (44)	173
Global Issues	47% (81)	19% (32)	34% (60)	173
Diversity within our Culture	69% (119)	12% (20)	19% (34)	173

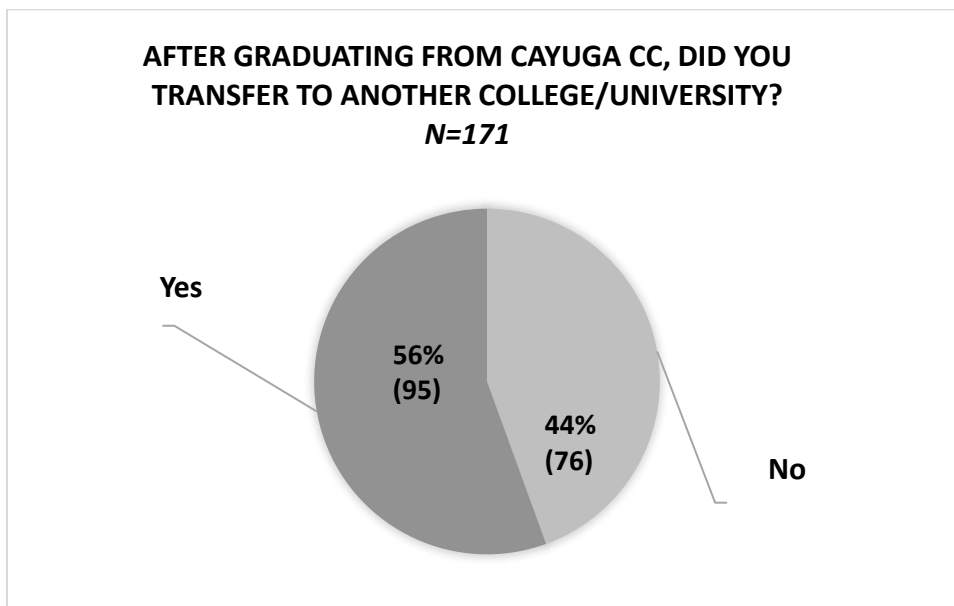
Source: Question 7, 2017-2022 Graduate Survey

Graduates reported high percentages of growth in areas related to analytical thinking and communications. Fewer graduates indicated that their studies led to growth in history and global issues.

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES (Continued)

Transfer

Ninety-five (95) out of 171 (or 56%) of graduates reported that they transferred after graduation.



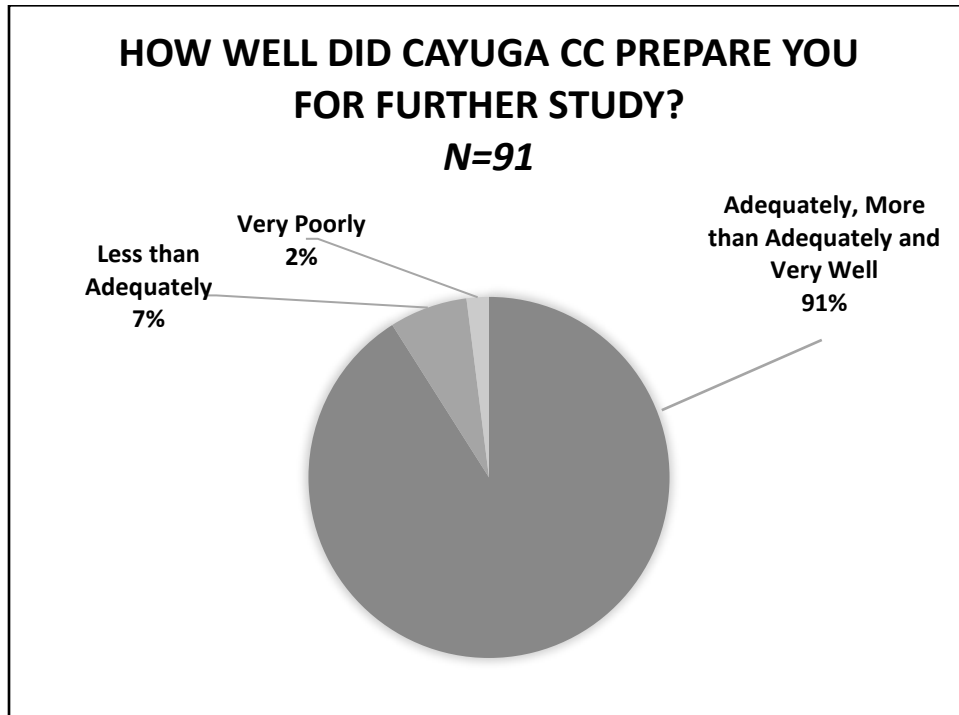
Of these students, 16 indicated that they earned a degree from another institution. Of those who described their subsequent degree, half (8 of 16) indicated that they earned a Bachelor's degree.

Degree Earned from Another Institution	
Associates Degree	6
Bachelor's Degree	8
Master's Degree	0
Technical Program (certificate/diploma)	2
Grand Total:	16

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES (Continued)

Transfer Preparation

Ninety-one percent (91%) of survey respondents reported that Cayuga Community College prepared them adequately, more than adequately, or very well for further study.



Source: Question 20, 2017-2022 results

Transfer Institutions

Eight-three (83) respondents reported the institutions they transferred to after graduating from Cayuga CC. The most frequently reported were: SUNY Oswego (18), Empire State College (7) and Upstate Medical University (6).

TRANSFER INSTITUTION	N
SUNY Oswego	18
Empire State	7
Upstate Medical University	6
SUNY Cortland	5
SUNY ESF	5
SUNY Delhi	3
Wells College	3
SUNY Buffalo	2
SUNY Albany	2
LeMoyne College	2
Nazareth College	2
SUNY Politec	2
RIT	2
Bryant and Stratton	2
Western Governors University	2
SUNY Binghamton	1
SUNY Brockport	1
SUNY Canton	1
SUNY Plattsburgh	1
SUNY Potsdam	1
Syracuse University	1
Utica University	1
St Joseph's College of Nursing	1
St John Fisher College	1
Excelsior College	1
Penn State	1
CUNY John Jay College CJ	1
DeVry Medical Coding	1
DYouville University	1
University of South Carolina	1
Wentworth Institute	1
Grand Canyon University	1
Herkimer CC	1
Keiser University	1
Lancaster Bible College	1
TOTAL NUMBER REPORTED	83

EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

Current Employment

Of the 123 respondents who answered, “Please describe your current employment,” ninety-eighty percent (98%) reported that they had been employed subsequent to graduation. Of those graduates, the majority (56%) were employed full-time. Four graduates reported that they held a full *and* part-time position and three respondents indicated that they were self-employed.

Employment	Number	Percent
Employed (full-time)	70	56%
Employed (part-time)	46	37%
Employed (a fulltime and part-time)	4	3%
Self-employed	3	2%
Other	3	2%
	123	100%

Source: Question 24, 2017-2022 results

Below is a list of respondents most reported employers. The top employer was SUNY Upstate Medical, with fourteen (14) Cayuga graduate employees. Other top employers included Oswego Hospital, Auburn Hospital, and Little Luke’s Childcare.

MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED EMPLOYERS

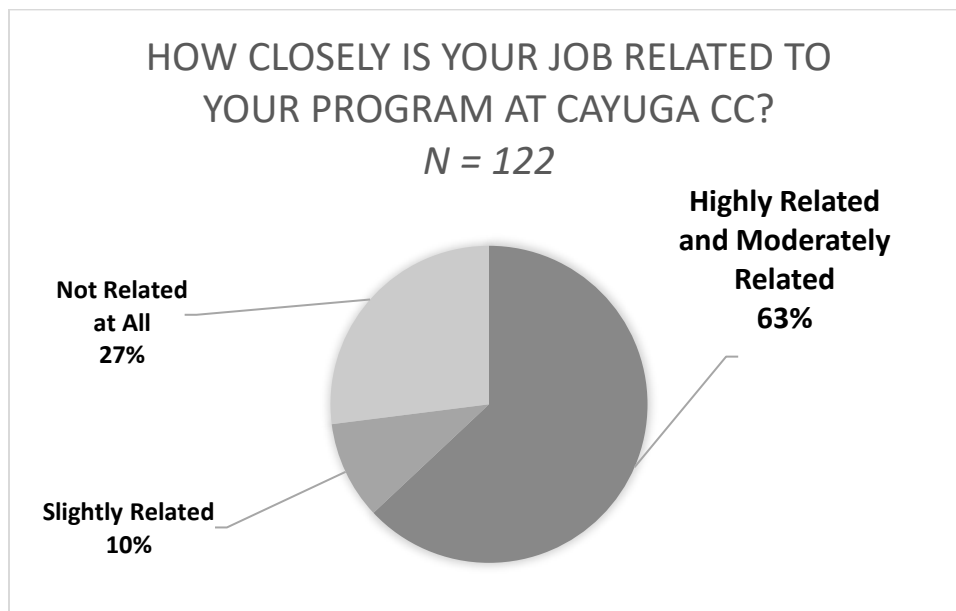
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Oswego Hospital
Auburn Community Hospital
Little Luke's Childcare
Wegmans
Welch Allyn
Walmart
Crouse Hospital
Golisano Children’s Hospital
Planned Parenthood
Regional Dialysis Center
Wells College

Rochester General Hospital
St. Joseph Hospital
Anheuser-Busch
L'Arche Syracuse
News Channel 9
YMCA
Samaritan Medical Center
Tessy Plastics
Union Springs School District
Hannibal School District

EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES (Continued)

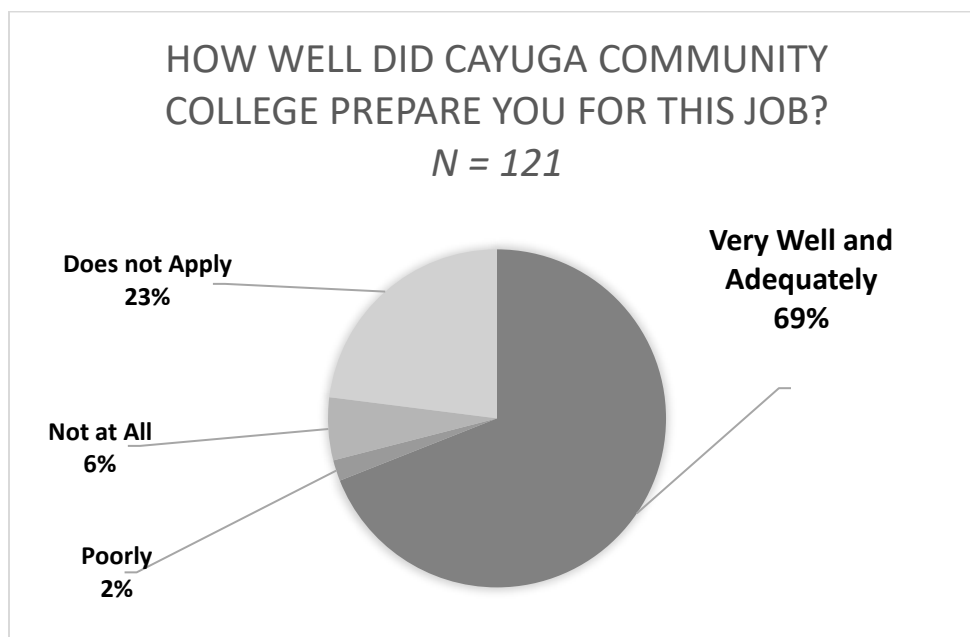
Employment Preparation

The majority of respondents (63%) were working in a position related to their Cayuga degree program.



Source: Question 28, 2017-2022 results

And sixty nine percent (69%) reported that Cayuga had prepared them very well, or adequately, for their position.



Source: Question 29, 2017-2022 results

FINANCIAL OUTCOMES

Loan Debt

Thirty-four percent (34%) of graduates, one year out, reported that they did not have any student loan debt for their Cayuga education.

How much do you owe on a student loan for your Cayuga CC studies?

Outstanding CCC Student Loans	Number	%
\$0 (Zero)	11	34%
>\$0 and <=\$5,000	6	18%
>\$5,000 and <=\$10,000	4	12%
>=\$10,000 and <\$20,000	4	12%
>=\$20,000	7	21%
Unsure	1	3%
Number of Responses	33	100%

Source: Question 34, 2017-2022 results

The majority (52%) of respondents reported that all of their education related debt was between \$0 and \$20,000.

How much do you owe on all your student loans?

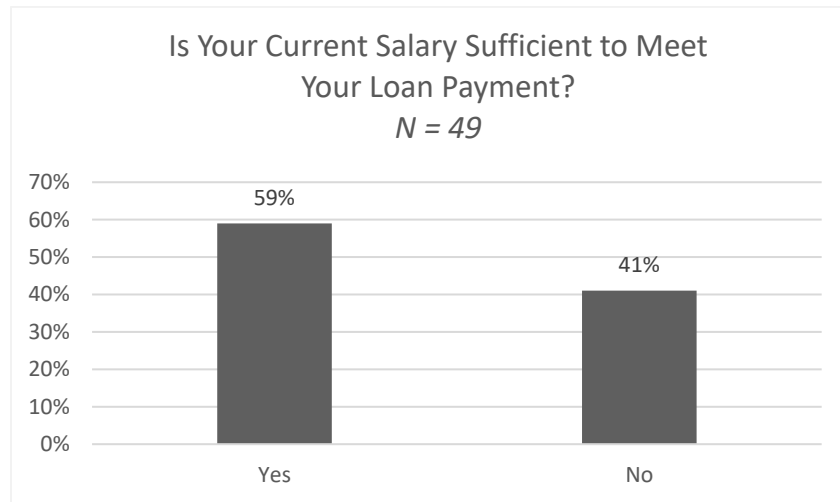
Outstanding CCC Student Loans	Number	%
>=\$0 and <\$10,000	7	19%
>=\$10,000 and <=\$20,000	12	33%
>=\$20,000 and <=\$40,000	9	25%
>=\$40,000 and <\$60,000	5	14%
>=\$60,000	1	3%
Unsure	2	6%
Number of Responses	36	100%

Source: Question 35, 2017-2022 results

FINANCIAL OUTCOMES

Loan Payment

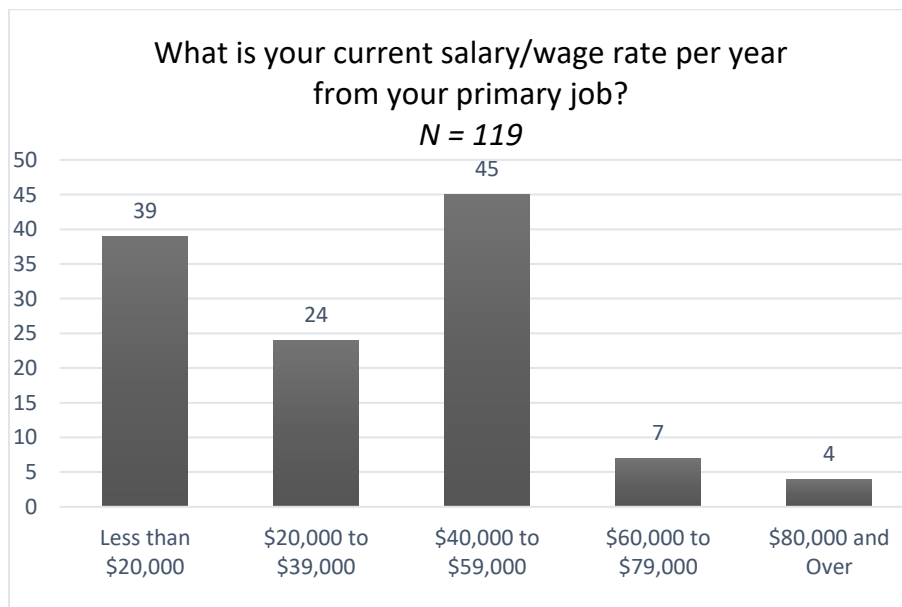
Graduates were asked if their current salary was sufficient to meet a loan payment. Of the 49 responses, fifty-nine percent (59%) reported that their current salary was sufficient to meet their loan payment. Forty-one percent (41%) indicated that their current salary was not sufficient.



Source: Question 36, 2017-2022 results

Of the 119 respondents who answered, 45 (or 38%) reported a current salary/wage rate per year of \$40,000 to \$59,999.

What is your current salary/wage rate per year from your primary job?



Source: Question 31, 2017-2022 results

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

The Best Thing

When graduates responded to the question, “What was the best thing about your overall Cayuga Community College collegiate experience,” respondents frequently indicated that their professors’ accessibility, knowledge, helpfulness, caring, and ability to motivate was highly valued. Graduates reported that supportive staff, small classes, convenient location, and cost were also important to them. Many graduates commented that the course content itself and gaining career skills were useful. The flexibility of academic offerings benefitted those who wanted to enroll in both online and on-campus programs as well as those who wished to pursue their education in combination with a work schedule. Intangible gains such as developing self-confidence and feeling a sense of accomplishment and achievement were also reported. Graduates emphasized that participating in clubs, college organizations, tutoring, and athletics made them feel involved and created a sense of camaraderie. Many graduates reported making connections with faculty, staff and other students as a result of their enrollment as “the best thing.”

One Improvement

When asked what one thing Cayuga Community College could do to improve, graduates offered many suggestions about instruction, co-curricular activities, advisement, and other support. Graduates frequently suggested that improvements could be made regarding the number, variety, and scheduling of classes and degrees.

Suggestions about co-curricular activities included a request for more travel and cultural experiences, an increase in the number of clubs and activities, and for additional encouragement to participate in those activities. Advisement improvements that were recommended included helping students identify and communicate with advisors. Improving the content of advisement communications was also viewed as essential.

Other improvements requested by graduates included dining and transportation options; an increase in mental health services and one graduate responded that greater opportunities to team build within classes would improve the Cayuga experience.

SUMMARY

The 2017-2022 Graduate Survey results demonstrate that students who attend Cayuga Community College are realizing their educational goals. In accordance with the College mission, graduates recognize personal and professional growth, and the ability to work in careers related to their Cayuga Community College studies. And a majority of those who have accessed financial aid feel that they have the capacity to meet their repayment obligations.