MHCC Graduate Follow-up Survey

Results of the 2014-15 Administration

Of the MHCC Graduate Follow-up Survey

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Introduction

The MHCC Graduate Follow-up Survey was initiated in Winter Term 2013 as a pilot study to determine the feasibility of following up with former students and as a test of the Qualtrics online survey software. Eight program areas initially volunteered to participate in the pilot. The research question and study objectives are provided in the graphic to the right.

Graduate Follow-up Survey Research Question and Study Objectives

Research Question: What are MHCC Graduates doing six to nine months after receiving an award from the institution?

Objective 1: Employment

Key Measures
- ✓ Currently Employed
- ✓ Employer
- ✓ Position Related to Degree
- ✓ Salary
- ✓ Full/Part-Time
- ✓ Position Location

Objective 2: Seeking Employment

Key Measures
- ✓ Seeking Employment
- ✓ Seeking Full/Part-Time
- ✓ Degree-related Employment
- ✓ Seeking Location

Objective 3: Continuing Education

Key Measures
- ✓ Continuing Education Status
- ✓ Type of Institution Transferred To
- ✓ Name of Institution

In addition to addressing the three objectives outlined, all respondents were asked if they had received any additional awards, the level of their student loan debt / financial aid awards, and some general questions related to their satisfaction with the MHCC experience. Participating programs were given the opportunity to ask specific questions of their graduates as well. A copy of the survey (including all program specific questions) is available in Appendix A.

This year's report has seen modifications. The report has been reformatted and designed to be viewed online. Each program can now click on a link that will bring up the specific program area of interest. For each program there are three sections. The first is an infographic which displays the data addressing the study objectives in graphic form. The second section provides the data tables that are used to generate the infographics. These tables include results by year and are broken down by (1) the program and (2) the actual awards. The third section provides a list of employers identified and results of any open-ended questions that were asked of program respondents .

Participating Programs for the 2014-15 Report

Allied Health & Nursing
- **Mental Health, Social Service and Addiction Counseling**
- **Nursing**
- **Physical Therapist Assistant**

Business / CIS
- *Business Administration & Management*
- *Business Technology*
- *Computer Information Systems*
  - *Computer Science*
  - *Information Systems & Technical Management*
- *Cosmetology*
- *Hospitality & Tourism*

Industrial Technology
- **Automotive CAP/Import/Honda**
- **Integrated Metals**

Integrated Media
- **Integrated Media**

Math / Engineering / Science
- **Engineering**
- **Natural Resource Technology**
- **Sustainability, Health & Safety**

Methodology

Approximately two weeks after the start of every term, participating program contacts are provided a list of graduates from the term being studied (Summer = Grads from Fall, Fall = Grads from Winter, Winter = Grads from Spring, Spring = Grads from Summer). Program contacts are asked to review the list, provide updated email addresses (if available), and identify students that are still attending MHCC.

An initial email invitation is sent to graduates approximately three weeks after the start of a term. The Qualtrics software allows emails to be distributed under the name of the program contact; the email appears to have been sent by the faculty program contact. The invitation includes a unique survey link (for each respondent), stresses confidentiality of responses, and informs respondents that, upon completion of the survey, their name will be entered into an annual drawing for one of eight $25 prepaid visa cards. One and two weeks after the initial invitation is sent, reminder emails are distributed to non-respondents. Prepaid visa cards are awarded to randomly selected respondents in late spring.

Explanation of Charts & Calculations

Infographics in General: The reported percentages in the infographics are calculated by dividing the number of responses for a category by the total number of responses for that question. Total percentages should add to 100% (although they may be off due to rounding).
NOTE: In order to generate meaningful graphics, responses from the five years (the current academic year and four previous years) are used; there is insufficient data by program to produce graphics for a single year.

Indices: For key indicators, an index is provided for programs in red. An index provides a comparison of the programs' response to the overall responses for the identified question. Indices are calculated by dividing the overall results into the program's results and multiplying that quotient by 100. An index of 100 indicates that the program results are the same as the overall results of the survey. An index below 100 indicates that the program results are lower than the overall results; an index above 100 indicates the program results are above the overall. The lower (or higher) the index, the further away the program results are from the overall. Indices are provided for the following key measures:

- Response Rate

- Employment Status

- Average Hourly Wage

- Seeking Employment

- Continuing Education

Response Summary: Provides total number of graduates receiving a degree during the report period, the total number of graduates that could not be contacted (email address bounced back as "undeliverable"), and the total number of respondents.

Response Rate: Calculation based on the response summary: the total number of respondents divided by the total number of graduates minus undeliverable addresses.

Employment Status: Based on the question "Are you currently employed?" Percentages are calculated based on the number responding Yes/No divided by the total number of respondents to the question.

Average Hourly Wage: Calculation based on responses to three questions in the survey:

1. Approximately how many hours do you work in a typical week?
   (Open-ended question—Insert Number of Hours)

2. What is the easiest way to tell us your gross salary?
   A. Hourly   B. Daily   C. Weekly   D. Every Two Weeks
   E. Bi-monthly   F. Monthly   G. Annually

3. You indicated that the easiest way to tell us your gross salary was based on a [INSERT RATE FROM #2] rate. Based on that rate and working your typical hours, what is your gross salary?
   (Open-ended question—Insert Salary)

Data were reviewed and responses were either adjusted (e.g. respondent indicated rate was annual but provided an hourly wage) or eliminated if a judgment could not be made. Hourly rate was calculated based on the following logic/ formula:

If respondent indicated:

Hourly	=>	Report Salary
Daily	=>	Not Reported (Less than 1% of responses)
Weekly	=>	Salary / Weekly Hours
Every Two Weeks	=>	Salary / (Weekly Hours * 2)
Bi-monthly	=>	Salary / (Weekly Hours * 2)
Monthly	=>	Salary / (Weekly Hours * 4)
Annual	=>	Salary / (Weekly Hours * 52)

If the reported hourly wage is below minimum wage, minimum wage is reported. With the calculated hourly wage outliers do exist. A 5% trimmed mean hourly wage is reported to reduce the influence of extremely high hourly wage calculations.

Full/Part Time: Percentages based on Number of Hours worked in a typical week. Respondents indicating they work 40 or more hours per week are considered full time. Respondents indicating they work less than 40 hours per week are part time.

Number Continuing Their Education: The raw number reported in the education section is specifically the number of respondents that indicated they are continuing their education (in the "Education Status" graphic).

Attending Where: The survey asked respondents that indicated they were continuing and were applying to indicate the type of institution they where attending or applying to. The calculation includes respondents that indicated they had not yet applied to a college or university (this percentage is not included in the graphic; summing percentages may not add to 100%).

Additional Awards: Although included in the percentage calculations, the number of respondents indicating that the award identified was the last award they received is omitted from the chart. The percentages for this chart do not add to 100.