Every year, the IUP Career and Professional Development Center collects information about the post-graduation activities and the statuses of that year’s graduating class. For the best knowledge rate, we administered an online survey, sought additional data from the university’s six academic colleges and conducted internet searches to verify data.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers defines the knowledge rate as the percent of graduates for whom the institution has reliable and verifiable information regarding graduates’ post-graduation statuses. This report includes survey response results, as well as knowledge-rate data.

Demonstrating the first-destination success of our graduates is worthwhile. Colleges and universities are scrutinized for the return on investment they provide to students because of economic challenges and inflation in the US, the cost of higher education, and the demands families/consumers face to meet these costs. We work diligently to stay abreast of the latest trends in workforce development to provide programs and services that contribute to IUP’s mission and efforts in academic support, student retention and persistence, enrollment management, and return on educational investment.

It’s important to note that we cannot easily measure the total positive effects of a college education, just as indicators of success are not employment and earnings alone. Certainly, as the NACE First-Destination Survey Standards and Protocols document states, “the most significant and substantive outcomes occur over the lifetime of the individual graduate.”

Respectfully,

Tammy Manko, EdD
Director

**DEFINITIONS: Class of 2019**
August 2018, December 2018, and May 2019 graduates

**Productive:**
The percentage of graduates falling into any of the following categories:

- employed full-time or part-time
- pursuing additional education full-time or part-time
- serving in the military or other service organization
- not seeking employment or additional education

**Total Knowledge Rate:**
The percentage of graduates for whom we have reliable and verifiable information regarding post-graduation statuses.

**Survey Response Rate:**
The percentage of surveyed graduates who responded to the survey.
Helping Students Become Successful

To advance the success of IUP graduates, the Career and Professional Development Center provides multiple opportunities for students and alumni to engage in career education and professional development programs and activities, including, but not limited to:

- mock interviews
- etiquette dinners
- presentations/workshops
- career coaching
- résumé reviews
- cover letter reviews
- internship/job search assistance
- graduate school preparation
- networking events
- service learning/community service
- career/job and internship fairs
- on-campus interviews/recruitment
- career and major exploration
- National Student Exchange
- The Washington Center
- Disney College Program

While some degrees are clearly in higher demand in the workforce, IUP students are provided opportunities for learning about the value of, and how to leverage, transferable skills and soft skills to complement their classroom experience. Ultimately, the students who master these lessons will be most effective in the workplace. According to current research, employers seek these skills in employees:

- critical thinking and problem solving
- collaboration across networks and teamwork
- leadership with ability to influence others
- technical knowledge related to job
- agility and adaptability—ability to plan, organize, and prioritize work
- initiative, entrepreneurialism, work ethic, and professionalism
- effective verbal and written communication skills
- proficiency with computer software programs
- accessing and analyzing information
- curiosity and imagination

The Graduate First-Destination Outcomes Report for the Class of 2019 was prepared by members of the Career and Professional Development Center team.

- Jan Shellenbarger, On-Campus Recruitment/Technology and Special Events Coordinator
- Tammy Manko, Director
- Career Development Advocates (undergraduate student employees)

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