



FACULTY OF INFORMATION & MEDIA STUDIES
at *The University of Western Ontario*

2011 MASTER OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
PLACEMENT SURVEY



Western
FIMS

Faculty of Information & Media Studies

SUMMARY

A total of 175 students graduated from the Master of Library and Information Science program in 2011. Of those graduates, 52 completed the placement survey. This represents an overall response rate of 30%.

Note: The majority of statistics which follow in this report (e.g. type of employment, location, etc.) pertain to those respondents who reported finding employment related to their MLIS area of studies.

Placement Rate

Of the 52 respondents, 43 reported finding employment. This represents an 83% placement rate. Of those employed, 93% have secured a position related to their MLIS degree. Of the 40 respondents with employment related to their MLIS degree, almost three quarter obtained full-time employment (68%), including 14 people who are in permanent positions.

Salary

The responding graduates holding full-time positions reported an annual salary range from \$30,000 to \$68,000. The median full-time salary was \$47,000.

Types of Placement and Job Assignment

Positions were offered in many different types of organizations with the most common being public libraries (53%). College or university libraries received second place with 20%. The primary job assignment reported most often was reference / information services (23%). Administration / management, circulation and youth and children's service each received 13% respectively at being the second most popular response.

Skill or Knowledge Most Influential in Securing Employment

This year, 14 respondents had participated in the MLIS Co-op Program during their studies (33%). Of the employed respondents, 31% identified the program's subject specialization was most helpful in securing their employment. Technical skills and co-op experience were also influential factors at 26% and 23% respectively.

Length of Job Search

Approximately one quarter of the employed respondents reported securing employment prior of their graduation and 30% found employment in less than three months after graduation. An additional 38% reported receiving employment within three to six months. Altogether, up to 96% of respondents had obtained LIS employment within 6 months of graduation.

Location of Placement

Most employed respondents reported being employed within Canada, with the majority of positions located in Ontario (69%).

SURVEY DATA

Total Number of Survey Respondents: 52

1. Gender

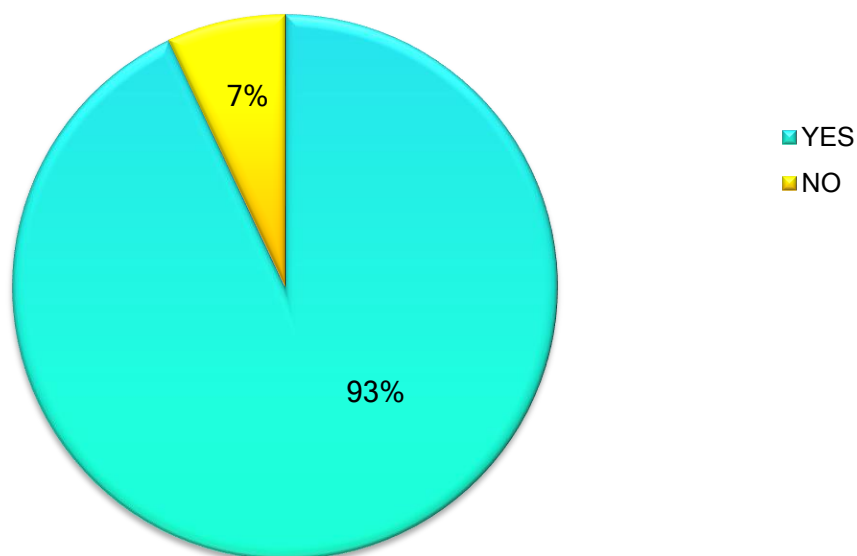
	Count	%
Female	33	83%
Male	6	15%
Did not respond	1	2%
	40	

2. What is your current Employment Statue?

	Count	%
Full-Time	28	65%
Part-Time	15	35%
	43	

3. Is your current employment related to your MLIS degree?

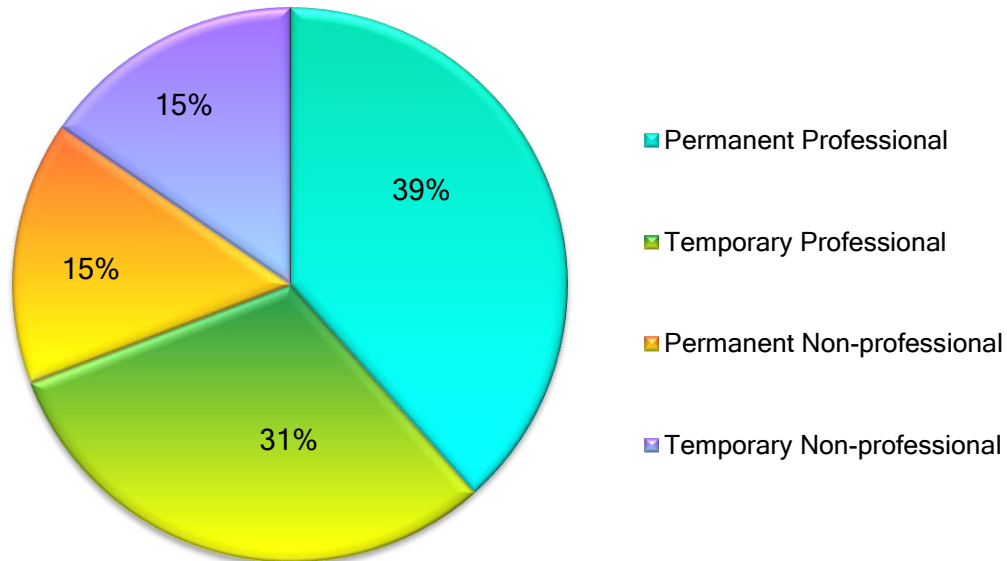
	Count	%
Yes	40	93%
No	3	7%
	43	



4. What is your current type of appointment / employment?

	Count	%
Permanent Professional	15	38.5%
Temporary Professional	12	30.8%
Permanent Non-Professional	6	15.4%
Temporary Non-Professional	6	15.4%
	39	

* One respondent did not indicate the type of their permanent position



5. Reported Full-time Annual Salaries

Low Salary	\$30,000
High Salary	\$68,000
Median Salary	\$47,000
Average Salary	\$47,396
Total # of respondents	23

6. Range of reported Full-Time Salaries

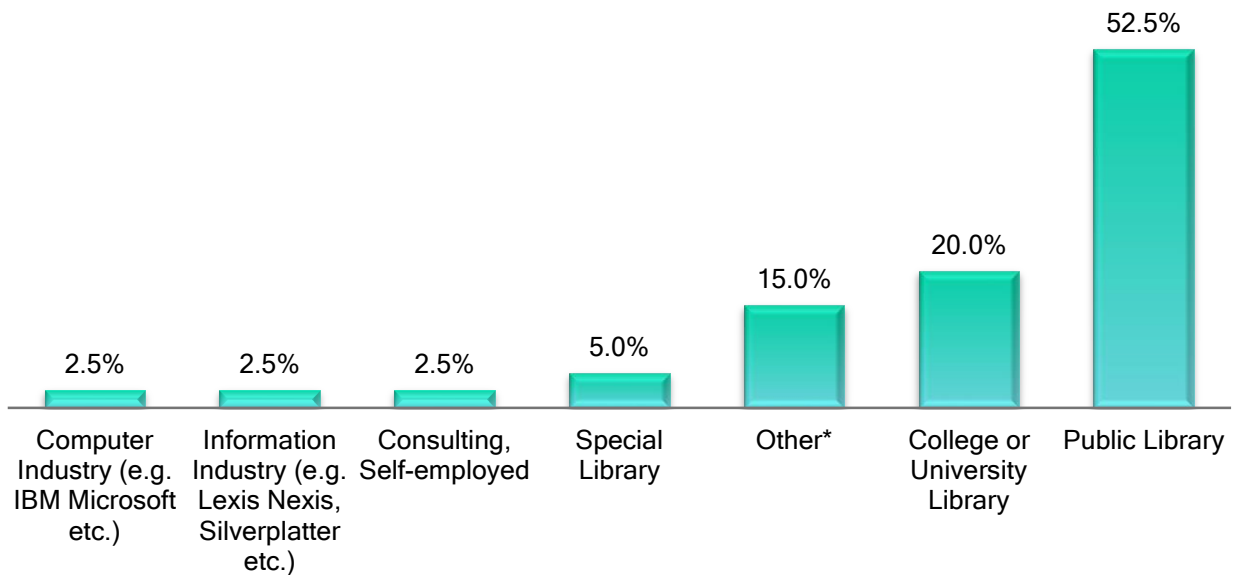
	Count	%
\$29,500 - \$39,999	4	17.4%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	10	43.5%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	6	26.1%
\$60,000 - \$69,999	3	13%
\$70,000 & above	0	0%
Total # of respondents	23	

7. In what types of organization is your current position? (Select ONE only)

	Count
Public Library	21
College or University Library	8
Special Library	2
Computer Industry (e.g. IBM Microsoft etc.)	1
Information Industry (e.g. Lexis Nexis, Silverplatter etc.)	1
Consulting, Self-employed	1
Other*	6
	40

Other:

Accounting Professional Services
 Corporate firm
 Executive Search Firm
 Government Agency Records Management
 Government Department
 Records depository for a government department

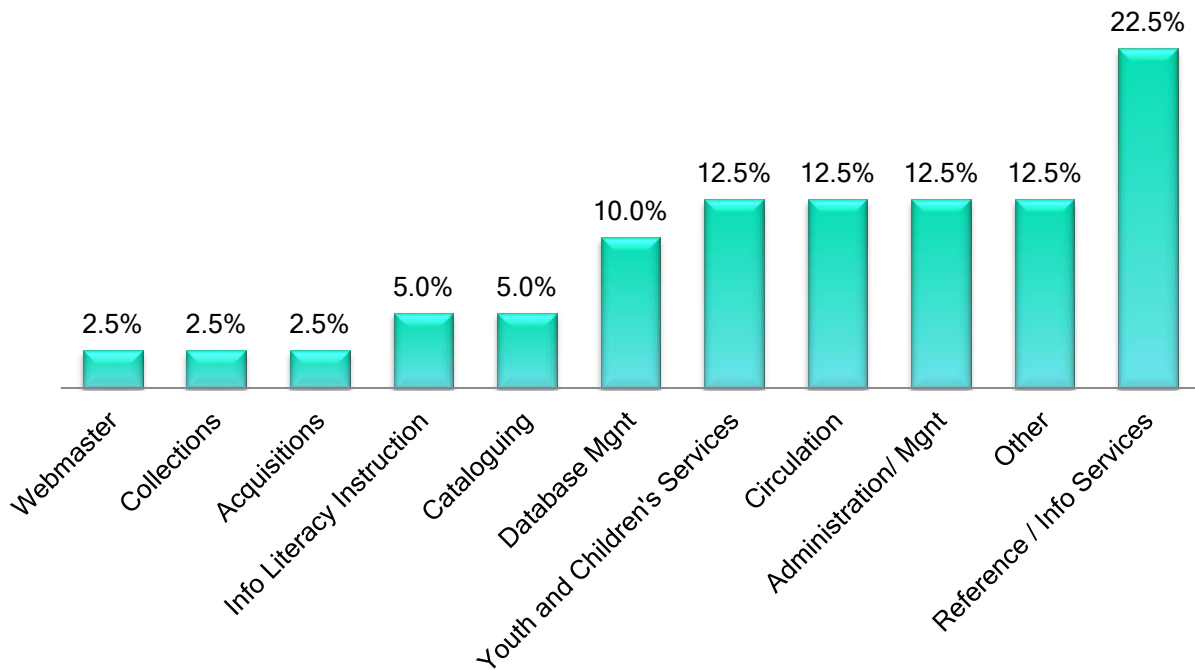


8. What is your primary job assignment

	Count
Reference / Information Services	9
Youth and Children's Services	5
Circulation	5
Administration/ Management	5
Database Management	4
Information Literacy Instruction	2
Cataloguing	2
Webmaster, Web Content Manager	1
Collections	1
Acquisitions	1
Other	5
	40

Other:

Data annotation
 Administrative Support
 Record Management (2)
 Digital literacy Instruction



9. Did you participate in Co-op?

	Count
Yes	14
No	29
	43

10. What is the ONE area of knowledge / skill you've acquired while in your MLIS program that you considered most helpful in securing your first job?

	Count
Co-op or practicum experience	9
Management, marketing, communication skills	2
Type of Library environment (academic, public, special, school etc.)	2
Subject specialization (cataloguing, reference, business, science etc.)	12
Technological skills	10
Other*	4
	39

One respondent did not provide an answer for this question

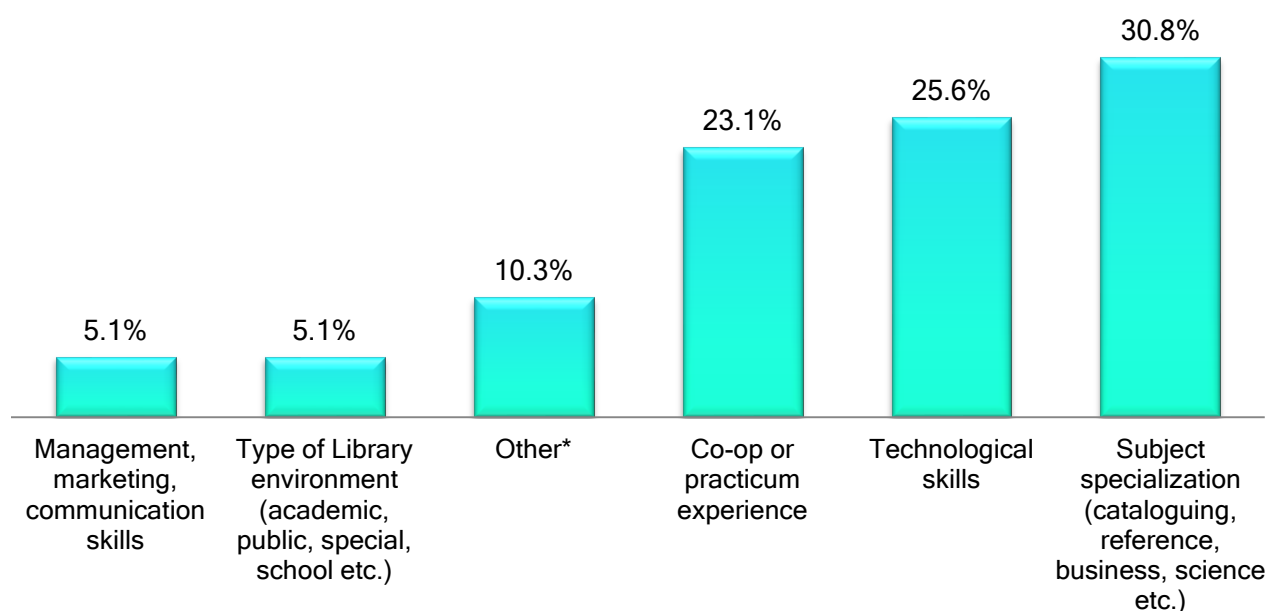
Other (include):

General understanding of librarianship

Good attitude!

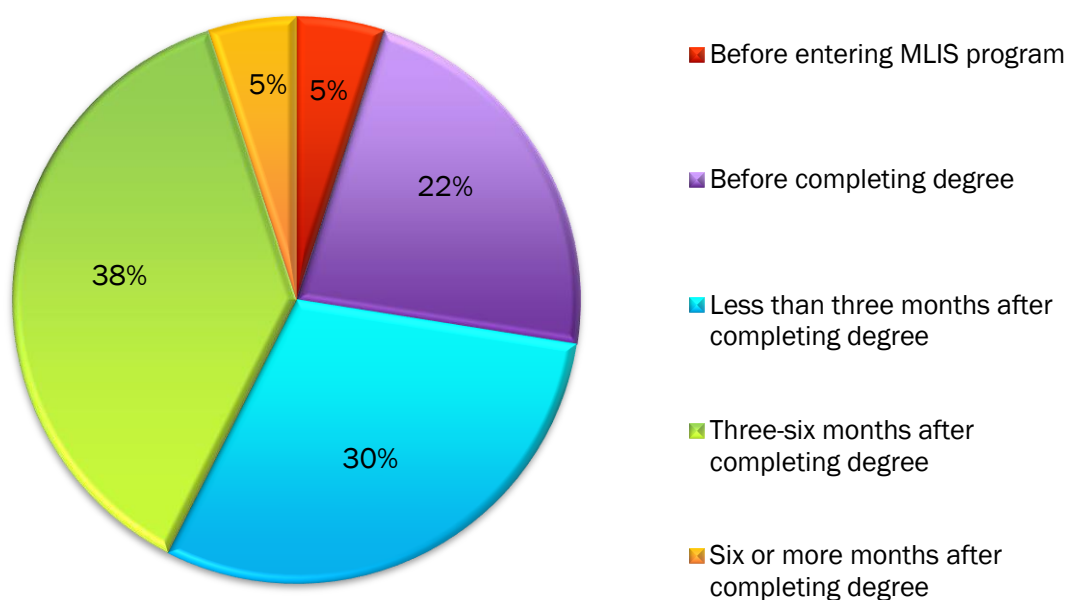
Reference skills

Previous position before entering the program



11. When did you receive employment?

	Count
Before entering MLIS program	2
Before completing degree	9
Less than three months after completing degree	12
Three-six months after completing degree	15
Six or more months after completing degree	2
	40



12. Location of Placements

	Counts	%
Ontario	27	69.2%
Alberta	4	10.3%
British Columbia	3	7.7%
Newfoundland	1	2.6%
New Brunswick	1	2.6%
Prince Edward Island	1	2.6%
Saskatchewan	2	5.1%
	39	

13. Situation of Graduates currently not employed in a library / Information Field

	Counts	%
Working in another field	2	16.7%
Seeking employment in the library / information field	9	75%
Pursuing a further degree in the library / information studies field	1	8.3%
	12	