



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

2012 MASTER OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
PLACEMENT SURVEY



Western
FIMS

Faculty of Information & Media Studies

SUMMARY

A total of 187 students graduated from the Master of Library and Information Science program in 2012. Of those graduates, 67 completed the placement survey. This represents an overall response rate of 36%.

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 67 respondents, 53 reported finding employment. This represents a 79% placement rate. Of those employed, 87% have secured a position related to their MLIS degree. Of the 46 respondents with employment related to their MLIS degree, almost three quarter obtained full-time employment (65%), including 16 people who are in permanent positions.

Salary

The responding graduates holding full-time positions reported an annual salary range from \$30,000 to \$85,000. The median full-time salary was \$54,000.

Types of Placement and Job Assignment

Positions were offered in many different types of organizations with the most common being public libraries (48%) and college or university libraries (22%). The primary job assignment reported most often was reference / information services (33%). Administration / management, circulation and youth and children's service each received 11% respectively at being the second most popular response.

Skill or Knowledge Most Influential in Securing Employment

This year, 22 respondents had participated in the MLIS Co-op Program during their studies (48%). Of the employed respondents, 37% identified their co-op experience as most helpful in securing employment. Subject specialization and type of library environment were also influential factors at 13% and 11% respectively.

Length of Job Search

Over one third of the employed respondents reported securing employment prior of their graduation and 41% found employment in less than three months after graduation. An additional 9% reported receiving employment within three to six months. Altogether, up to 87% 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 (70%).

SURVEY DATA

Total Number of Survey Respondents: 67

1. Gender

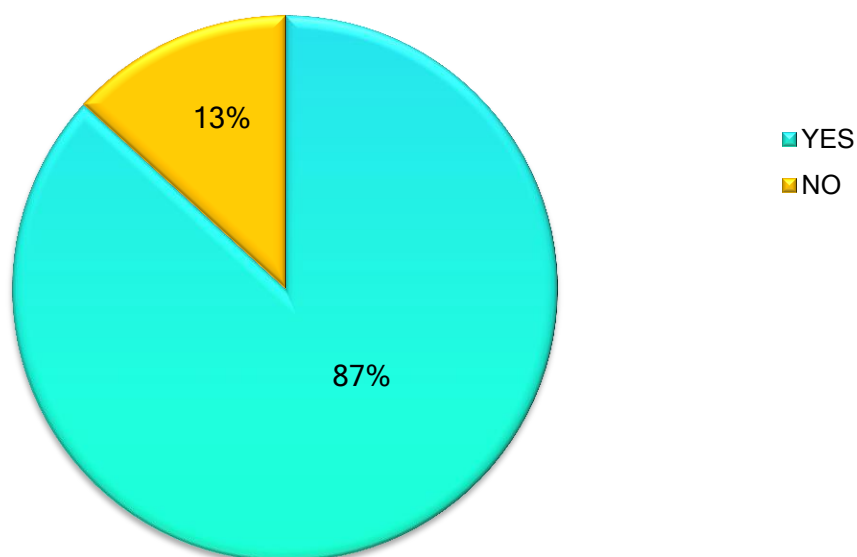
	Count	%
Female	40	87%
Male	6	13%
	46	100%

2. What is your current Employment Statue?

	Count	%
Full-Time	34	64%
Part-Time	19	36%
	53	100%

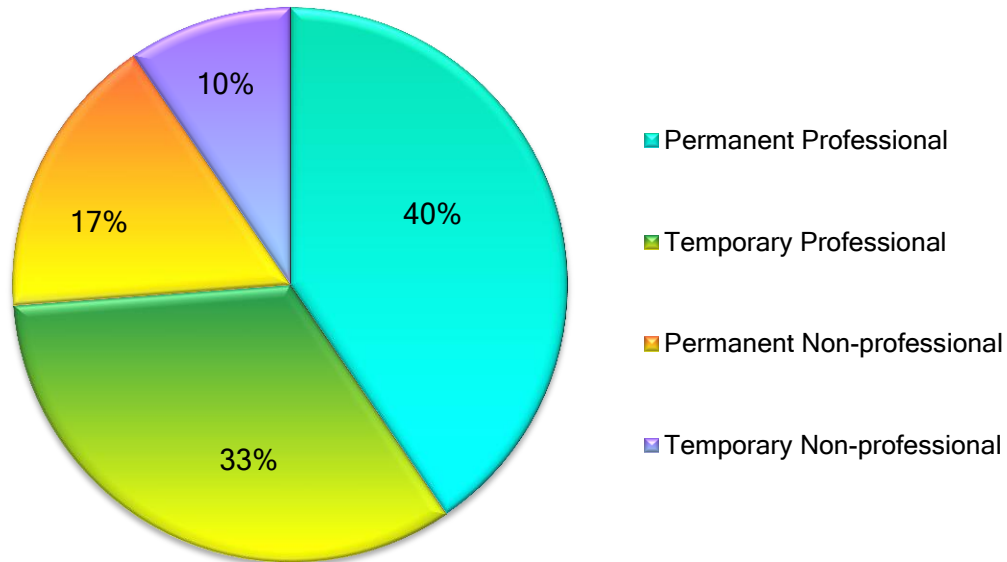
3. Is your current employment related to your MLIS degree?

	Count	%
Yes	46	87%
No	7	13%
	53	100%



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

	Count	%
Permanent Professional	17	40.5%
Temporary Professional	14	16.7%
Permanent Non-Professional	7	33.3%
Temporary Non-Professional	4	9.5%
	42	100%



5. Reported Full-time Annual Salaries

Low Salary	\$30,000
High Salary	\$85,000
Median Salary	\$54,000
Average Salary	\$51,555
Total # of respondents	29

6. Range of reported Full-Time Salaries

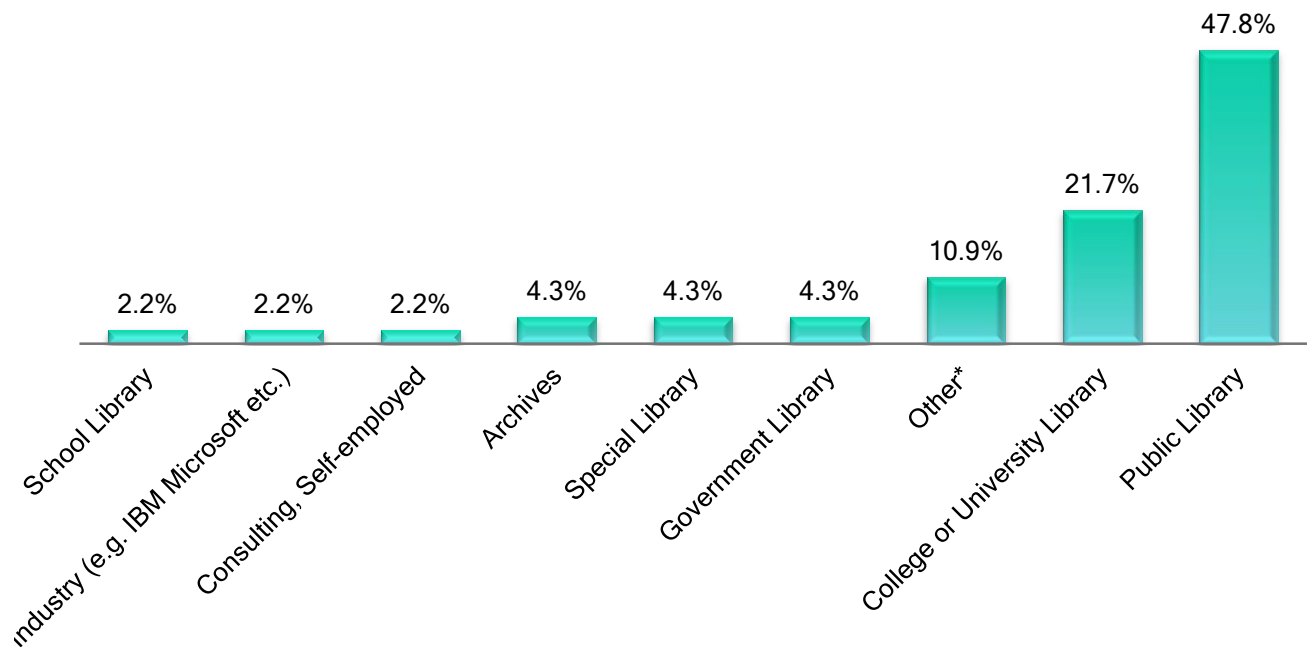
	Count	%
\$29,500 - \$39,999	2	6.9%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	10	34.5%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	12	41.4%
\$60,000 - \$69,999	3	10.3%
\$70,000 & above	2	6.9%
Total # of respondents	29	

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

	Count
Public Library	22
College or University Library	10
Archives	2
Government Library	2
Special Library	2
School Library	1
Computer Industry (e.g. IBM Microsoft etc.)	1
Consulting, Self-employed	1
Other*	5
	46

Other:

Information Management (Govt.)
 Higher Education Advancement Dept. (fundraising)
 Government Department
 Financial
 Retail / Charity

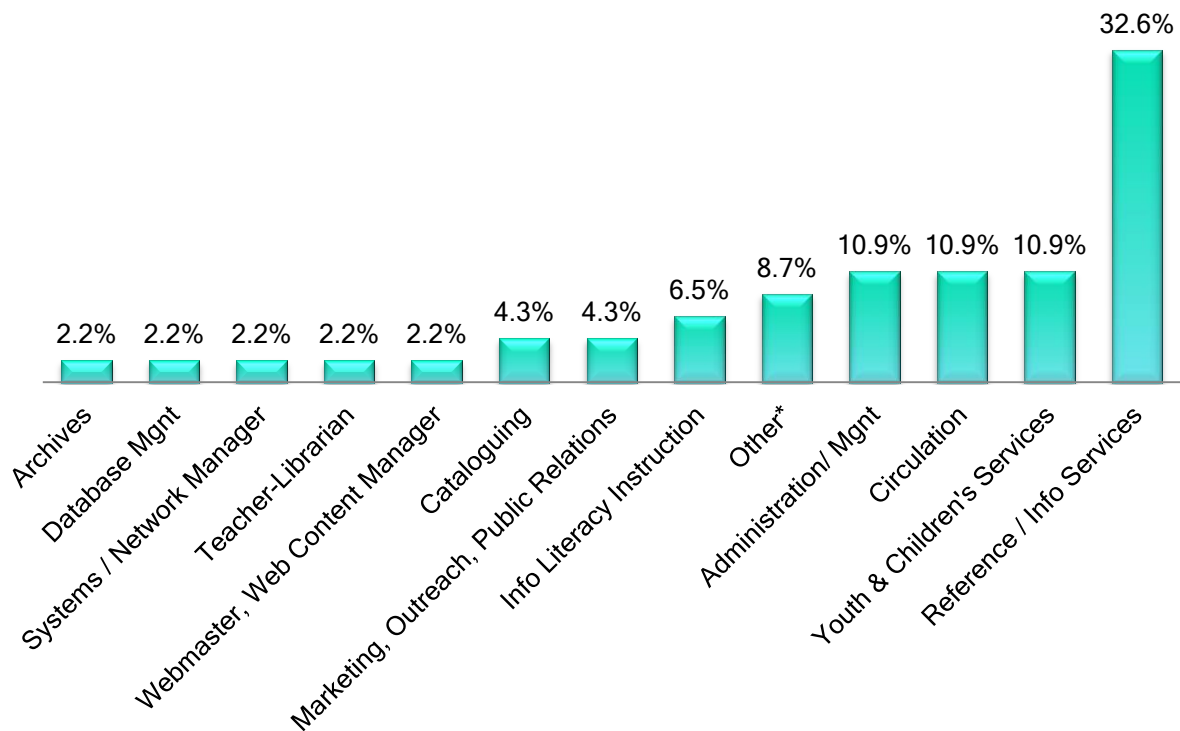


8. What is your primary job assignment

	Count
Reference / Information Services	15
Administration/ Management	5
Circulation	5
Youth & Children's Services	5
Information Literacy Instruction	3
Cataloguing	2
Marketing, Outreach, Public Relations	2
Archives	1
Database Management	1
Systems / Network Manager	1
Teacher-Librarian	1
Webmaster, Web Content Manager	1
Other*	4
	46

Other:

Electronic Resources incl. ILS administration
 Rating relevance of search engine results
 Information Management
 Reader's Advisory



9. Did you participate in Co-op?

	Count
Yes	22
No	24
	46

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	17
Management, marketing, communication skills	4
Type of Library environment (academic, public, special, school etc.)	5
Subject specialization (cataloguing, reference, business, science etc.)	6
Technological skills	4
Other*	10
	46

Other (include):

The degree (the physical MLIS degree)

Archival Studies courses

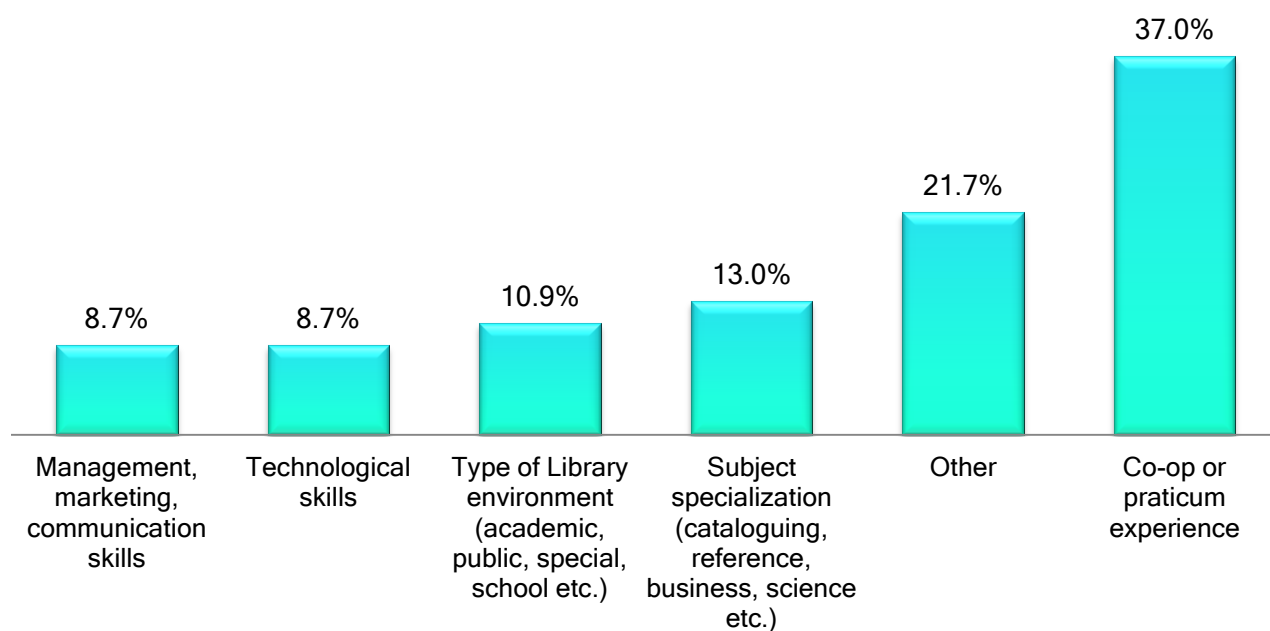
Previous degree in field related to the library

Variety of courses and job shadow experiences / extracurricular; Student placement at GRC

Electives / connections outside of program

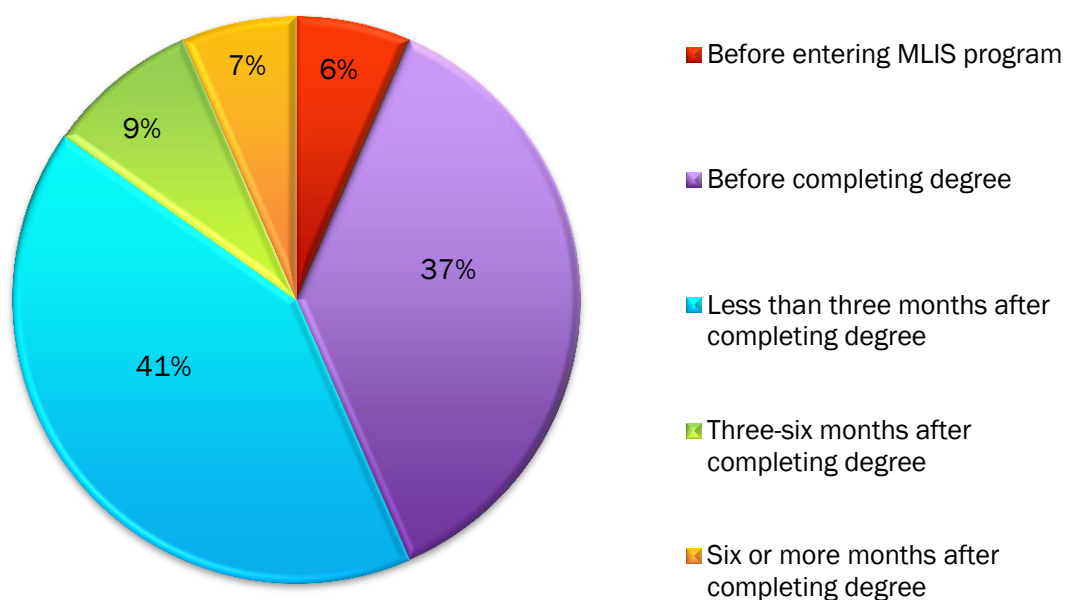
Community Development & Program Planning & Evaluation

Volunteer Activities



11. When did you receive employment?

	Count
Before entering MLIS program	3
Before completing degree	3
Less than three months after completing degree	4
Three-six months after completing degree	17
Six or more months after completing degree	19
	46



12. Location of Placements

	Counts	%
Ontario	32	70%
Alberta	4	9%
British Columbia	4	9%
New Brunswick	3	7%
Nova Scotia	1	2%
Saskatchewan	1	2%
United States	1	2%
	46	

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

	Counts	%
Working in another field	5	23.8%
Seeking employment in the library / information field	13	61.9%
Pursuing a further degree in the library / information studies field	1	4.8%
Pursuing a further degree in another field	1	4.8%
Other*	1	4.8%
	21	