



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

2015 MASTER OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
PLACEMENT SURVEY



Western
FIMS

Faculty of Information & Media Studies

SUMMARY

A total of 138 students graduated from the Master of Library and Information Science program in 2015. Of those graduates, 80 completed the placement survey. This represents an overall response rate of 57.9%.

Note: The majority of statistics that follow in this report (e.g. type of employment, location and primary job assignments, etc.) pertain to those respondents who reported finding employment related to their MLIS degree.

Placement Rate

Of the 80 respondents, 64 reported finding employment. This represents 80% placement rate. Of those employed, 89% have secured a position related to their MLIS degree. Of the 57 respondents with employment related to their MLIS degree, over three quarter obtained full-time employment (77.2%), including 27 people who are in permanent positions.

Salary

The responding graduates holding full-time positions reported an annual salary range from \$30,000 to \$95,000. The average for full-time salary reported was \$56,023.

Types of Placement and Job Assignment

Positions were offered in many different types of organizations with the most common being public libraries (32%) and academic libraries (26%). The primary job assignment reported most often was Reference/Information Services (42%), followed by Programming and Research / Consultation with (23%) respectively.

Skill or Knowledge Most Influential in Securing Employment

This year, 33 of the 57 respondents with employment related to the MLIS degree participated in the MLIS Co-op Program during their studies. Of the 57 respondents, 51% identified their co-op experience as most helpful in securing employment. Connecting people with information was also an influential factor receiving 32% response rate.

Length of Job Search

Just over 21% of the employed respondents reported securing employment prior of their graduation and 37% found employment in less than three months after graduation. An additional 23% reported receiving employment within three to six months. Altogether, roughly 81% of the respondents obtained LIS employment prior to and within 6 months of graduation.

Location of Placement

All but one of the respondents with employer related to their MLIS degree reported receiving employment within Canada, with the majority of positions located in Ontario (70.2%).

SURVEY DATA

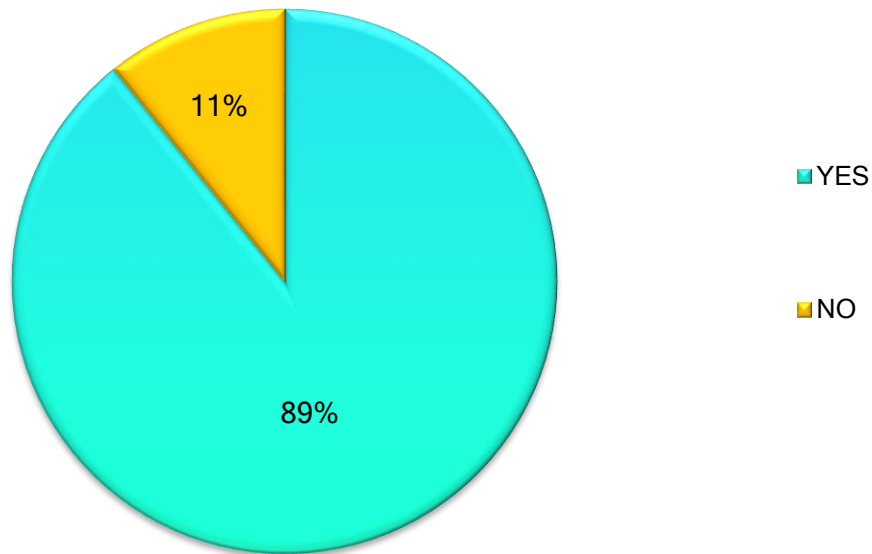
Total Number of Survey Respondents: 80

What is your current employment statue?

	Count	%
Full-Time	49	61.2%
Part-Time	15	18.8%
Not Employed	16	20%
	80	

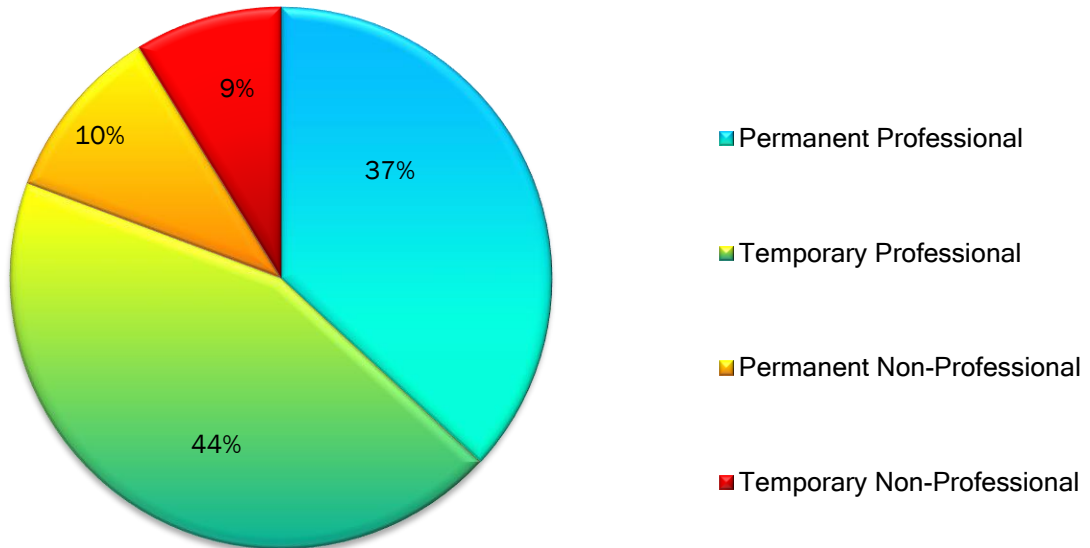
3. Is your current employment related to your MLIS degree?

	Count	%
Yes	57	89%
No	7	11%
	64	



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

	Count	%
Permanent Professional	21	37%
Temporary Professional	25	44%
Permanent Non-Professional	6	11%
Temporary Non-Professional	5	9%
	57	



5. Reported Full-time Annual Salaries

Highest Salary	\$95,000
Median Salary	\$54,000
Average Salary	\$56,023

Total # of respondents	42
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*Two candidate did not wish to disclose their annual salaries

6. Range of reported Full-Time Salaries

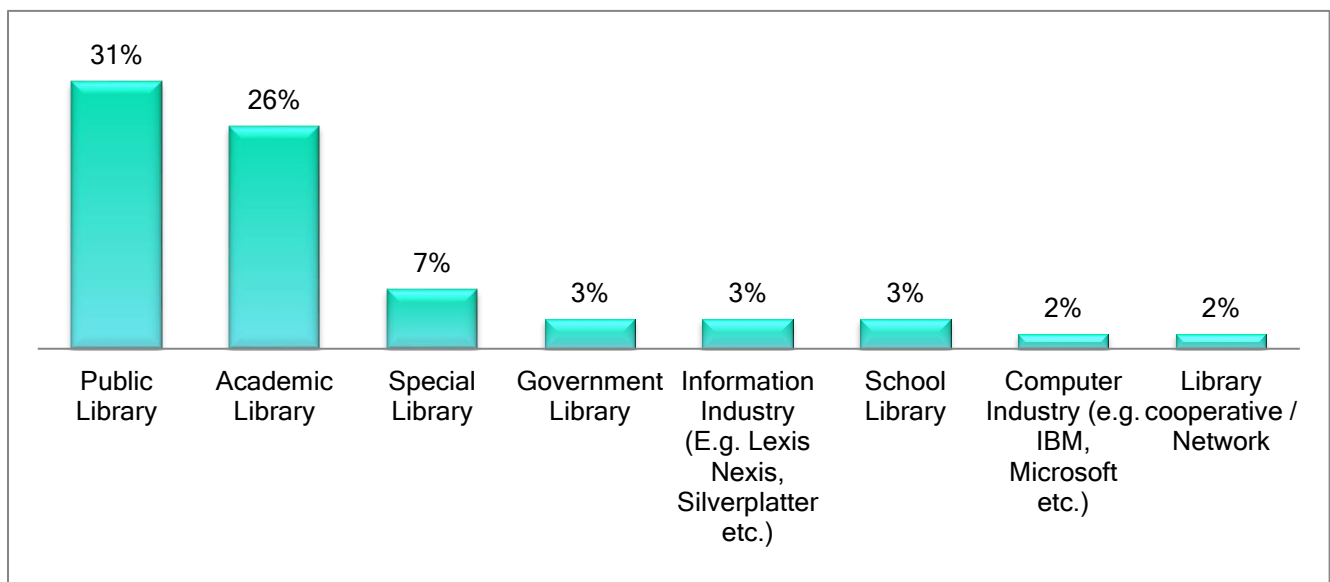
	Count	%
\$39,999 & under	4	9.5%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	10	23.8%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	15	35.7%
\$60,000 - \$69,999	9	21.4%
\$70,000 & above	4	9.5%
Total # of respondents	42	

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

	Count
Academic Library	15
Computer Industry (e.g. IBM, Microsoft etc.)	1
Government Library	2
Information Industry (E.g. Lexis Nexis, Silverplatter etc.)	1
Library cooperative / Network	1
Public Library	18
School Library	2
Special Library	4
Other*	13
	57

*Others included:

Academic Institution
 Financial Industry
 Government information management
 Government Information Management Branch
 Government Records
 Health Foundation
 Health Sciences Library
 Insurance company
 Intergovernmental Organization
 Municipal Government (not library)
 Private school
 School Board department
 University - Fundraising



8. What is your primary job assignment (may select up to a maximum of 3 options)

	Count
Access to Information / Privacy Officer	2
Administration/Management	2
Archives	1
Cataloging / Metadata	5
Collections Management	6
Communication & Public Relations	3
Copyright	2
Data Librarian	2
Database Management	5
E-Resources	4
Govt. Information	3
Information Systems & Technology	6
Information Literacy	5
Liaison	8
Outreach Community Development	6
Programming	13
Prospect Management	2
Records / Information Management	11
Reference/Information Services	24
Research / Consultation	13
Scholarly Communication	3
Teacher-Librarian	3
Web Content Development	5
Other	6
	133

Other options include:

User Experience

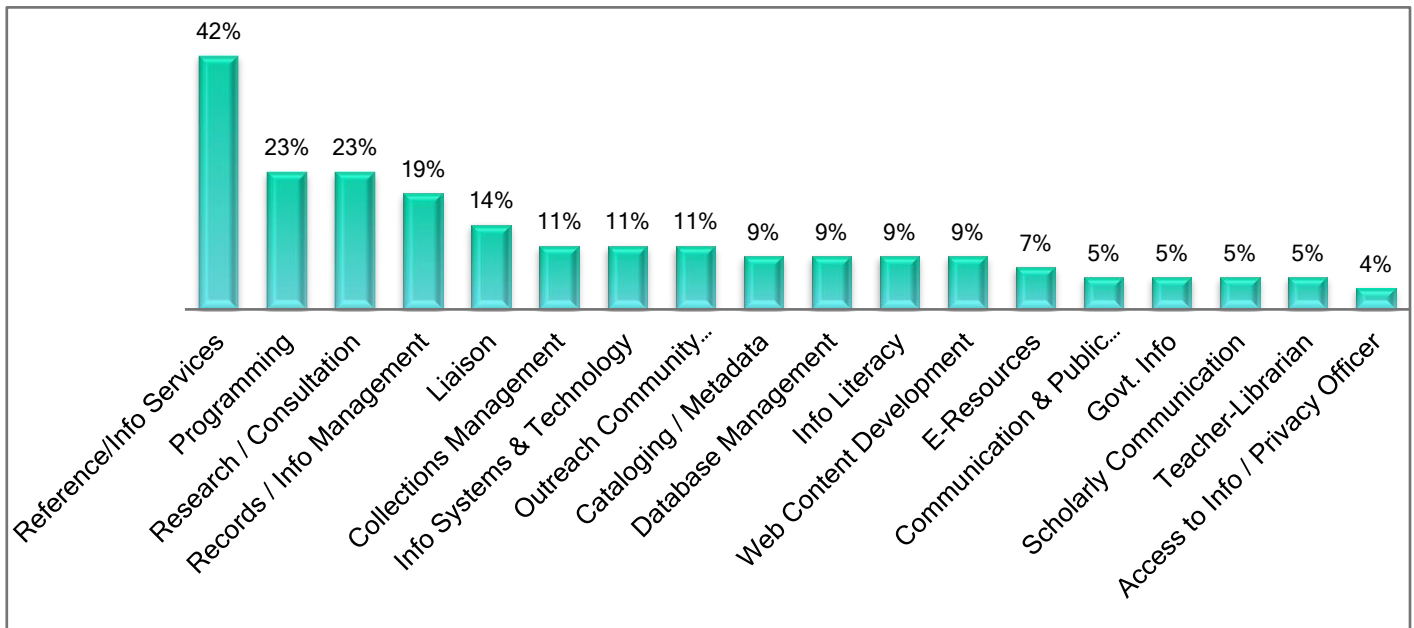
Stacks/circulation

Data Entry/Reporting

Circulation

Acquisitions

Management

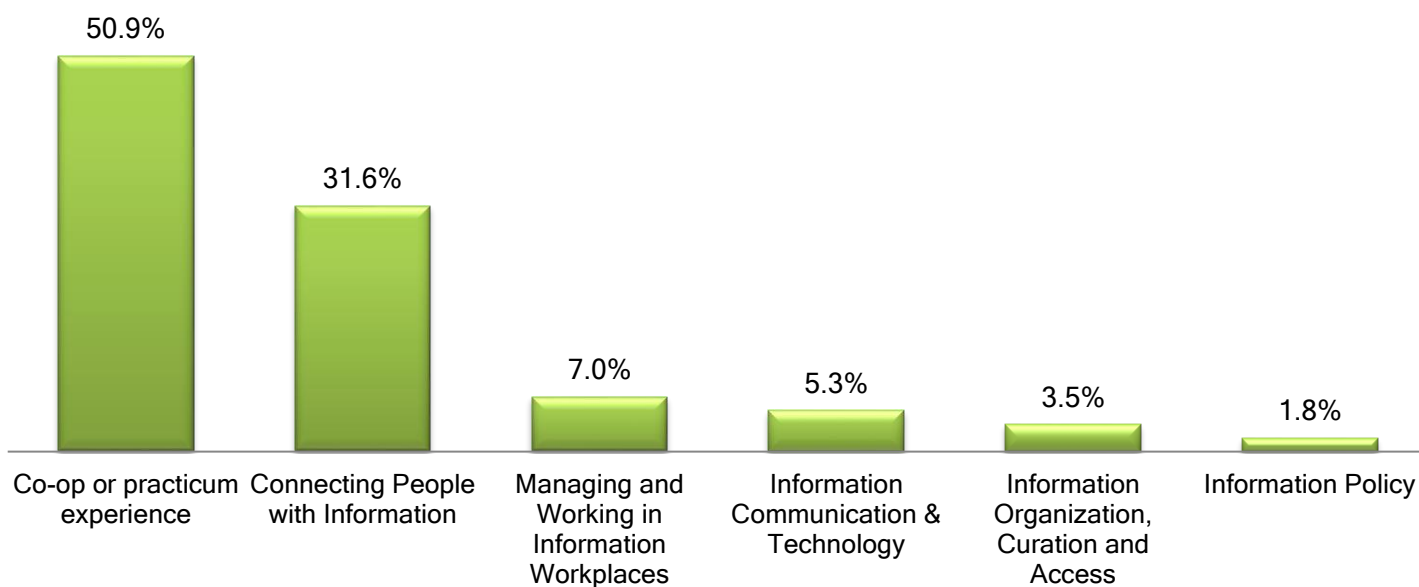


9. Did you participate in Co-op?

	Count
Yes	33
No	24
	57

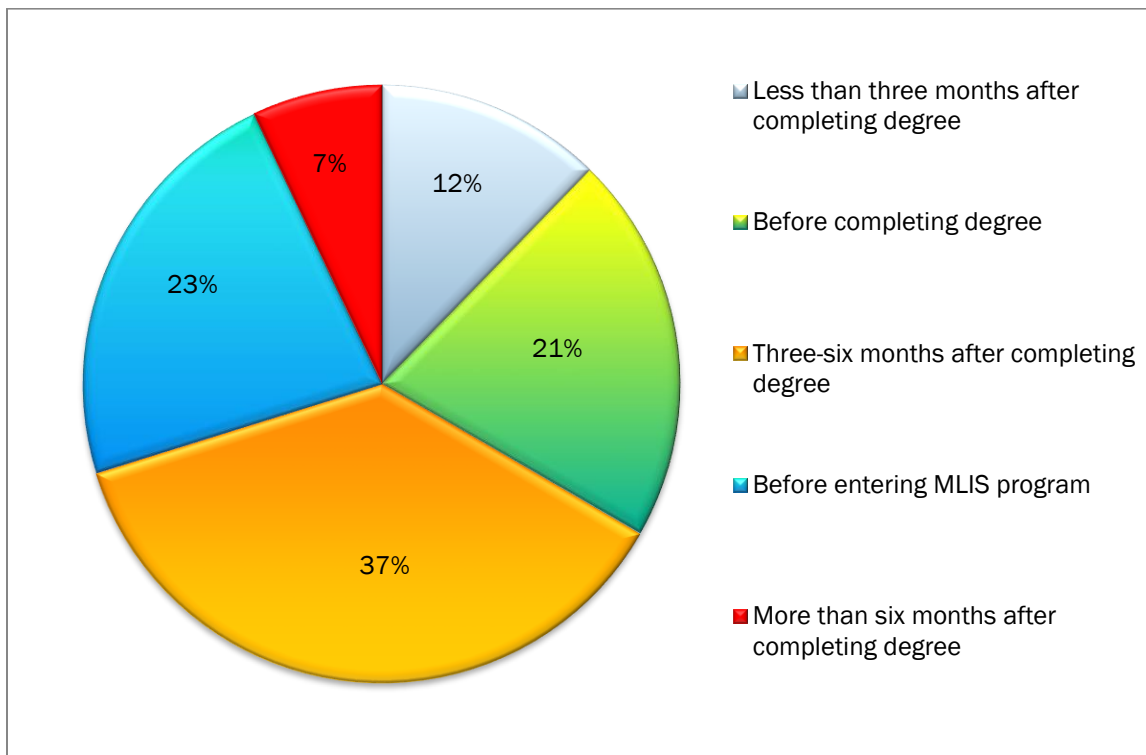
10. What is the ONE area of knowledge / skill you've acquired while in your MLIS program that you considered most helpful in securing your first job?

	Count
Co-op or practicum experience	29
Connecting People with Information	18
Information Communication & Technology	3
Information Organization, Curation and Access	2
Information Policy	1
Managing and Working in Information Workplaces	4
	57



11. When did you receive employment?

	Count
Before entering MLIS program	7
Before completing degree	12
Less than three months after completing degree	21
Three-six months after completing degree	13
More than six months after completing degree	4
	57



12. Location of Placements

	Counts	%
Ontario	40	70%
Alberta	3	5%
British Columbia	3	5%
Manitoba	3	5%
Nova Scotia	1	2%
Nunavut	1	2%
Quebec	1	2%
Saskatchewan	4	7%
International	1	2%
	57	

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

	Counts	%
Working in another field	4	19%
Seeking employment in the library / info field	16	76%
Pursuing a further degree in the Library / info field	1	5%
	21	