



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

2017 MASTER OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
PLACEMENT SURVEY



Western
FIMS

Faculty of Information & Media Studies

SUMMARY

A total of 116 students graduated from the Master of Library and Information Science program in 2017. Of those graduates, 65 completed the placement survey. This represents an overall response rate of 56%.

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

Placement Rate

Of the 65 respondents, 55 reported finding employment. This represents 85% placement rate. Of those employed, 91% have secured a position related to their MLIS degree. Of the 50 respondents with employment related to their MLIS degree, over three quarter obtained full-time employment (80%), including 18 people who are in permanent positions.

Salary

The responding graduates holding full-time positions related to their MLIS degree reported an annual salary range from \$20,000 to \$70,000. The full-time salary average was \$57,000.

Types of Placement and Job Assignment

Positions were offered in many different types of organizations with the most common being public libraries (44%) and academic libraries (22%). The primary job assignment reported most often was Reference/Information Services (46%), followed closely by Programming (30%), Collections Management and Academic Library respectively (24%).

Skill or Knowledge Most Influential in Securing Employment

This year, 31 of the 50 respondents (62%) with employment related to their MLIS degree participated in the MLIS Co-op Program during their studies and most of them (94%) identified their co-op experience as most helpful in securing employment.

Length of Job Search

Just over 40% of the employed respondents reported securing employment prior to their graduation. Another 34% indicated that they found employment in less than three months after graduation. An additional 22% reported receiving employment within three to six months. Altogether, 90% of the respondents obtained LIS employment prior to and within 6 months of graduation.

Location of Placement

All but one employed respondent reported being employed within Canada, with the majority of positions located in Ontario (72%).

SURVEY DATA

Total Number of Survey Respondents: 65

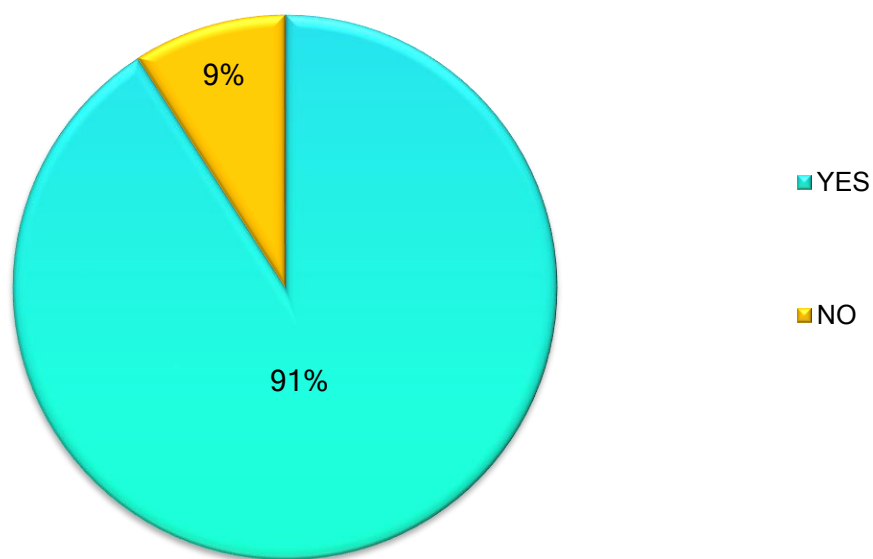
What is your current employment status?

	Count	%
Full-Time	43	66%
Part-Time	12	18%
Not Employed	10	15%
	65	

3. (For those who found employment)

Is your current employment related to your MLIS degree?

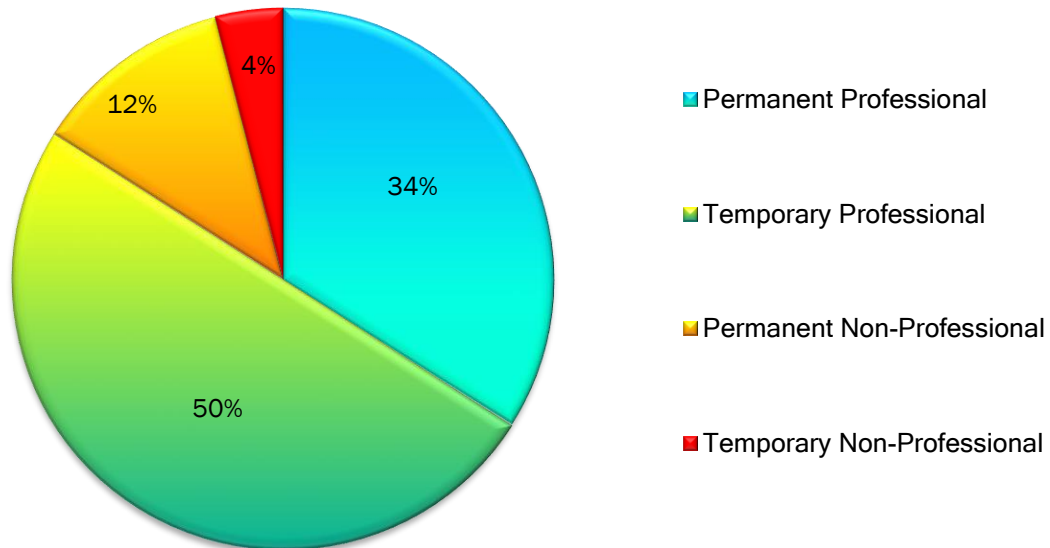
	Count	%
Yes	50	91%
No	5	9%
	55	



The statistics that follow in this report pertain to those respondents who reported finding employment related to their MLIS degree.

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

	Count	%
Permanent Professional	17	34%
Temporary Professional	25	50%
Permanent Non-Professional	6	12%
Temporary Non-Professional	2	4%
	50	



5. Reported Full-time Annual Salaries

Lowest Salary	\$20,000
Highest Salary	\$70,000
Average Salary	\$56,944
Total # of respondents	40

6. Range of reported Full-Time Salaries

	Count	%
\$39,999 & under	5	12.5%
\$40,000 – \$49,999	10	25%
\$50,000 – \$59,999	9	22.5%
\$60,000 – \$69,999	14	35%
\$70,000 & above	2	5%
Total # of respondents	40	

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

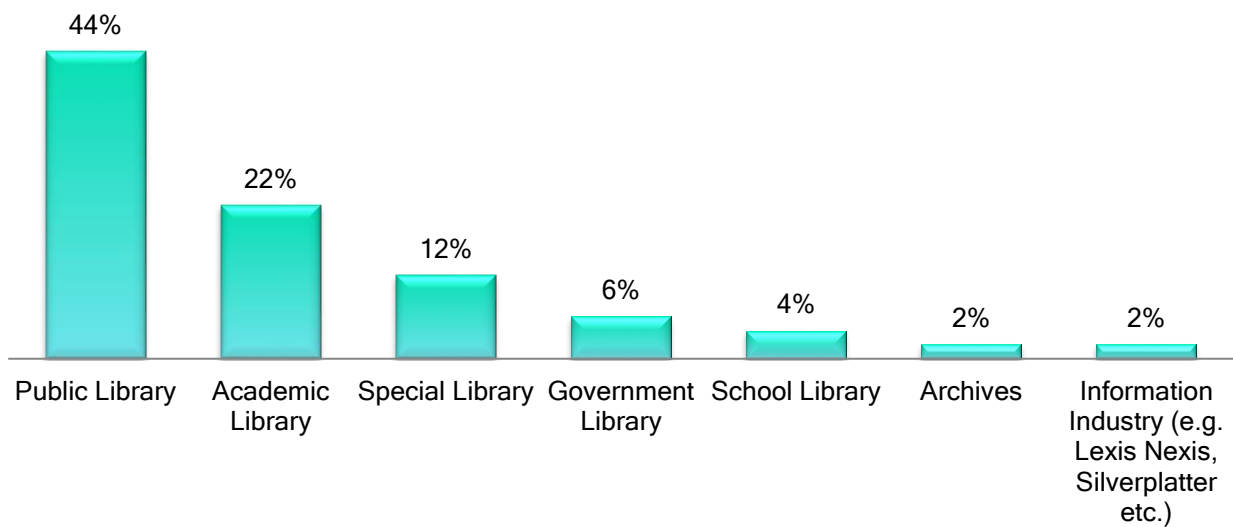
	Count
Academic Library	11
Archives	1
Government Library	3
Information Industry (e.g. Lexis Nexis, Silverplatter etc.)	1
Public Library	22
School Library	2
Special Library	6
Other*	4
	50

*Others included:

Investment Firm

Government

Government Information Management



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

	Count
Access to Information / Privacy Officer	1
Administration/Management	7
Archives	2
Cataloging / Metadata	6
Collections Management	12
Communication & Public Relations	4
Copyright	1
Data Librarian	2
Database Management	4
E-Resources	4
Govt. Information	2
Indexing/Abstracting	1
Information Systems & Technology	4
Information Literacy	8
Liaison	3
Outreach Community Development	11
Programming	15
Prospect Management	0
Records / Information Management	4
Reference/Information Services	23
Research / Consultation	6
Scholarly Communication	2
Teacher-Librarian	3
Web Content Development	0
Other	6
	131

Other options include:

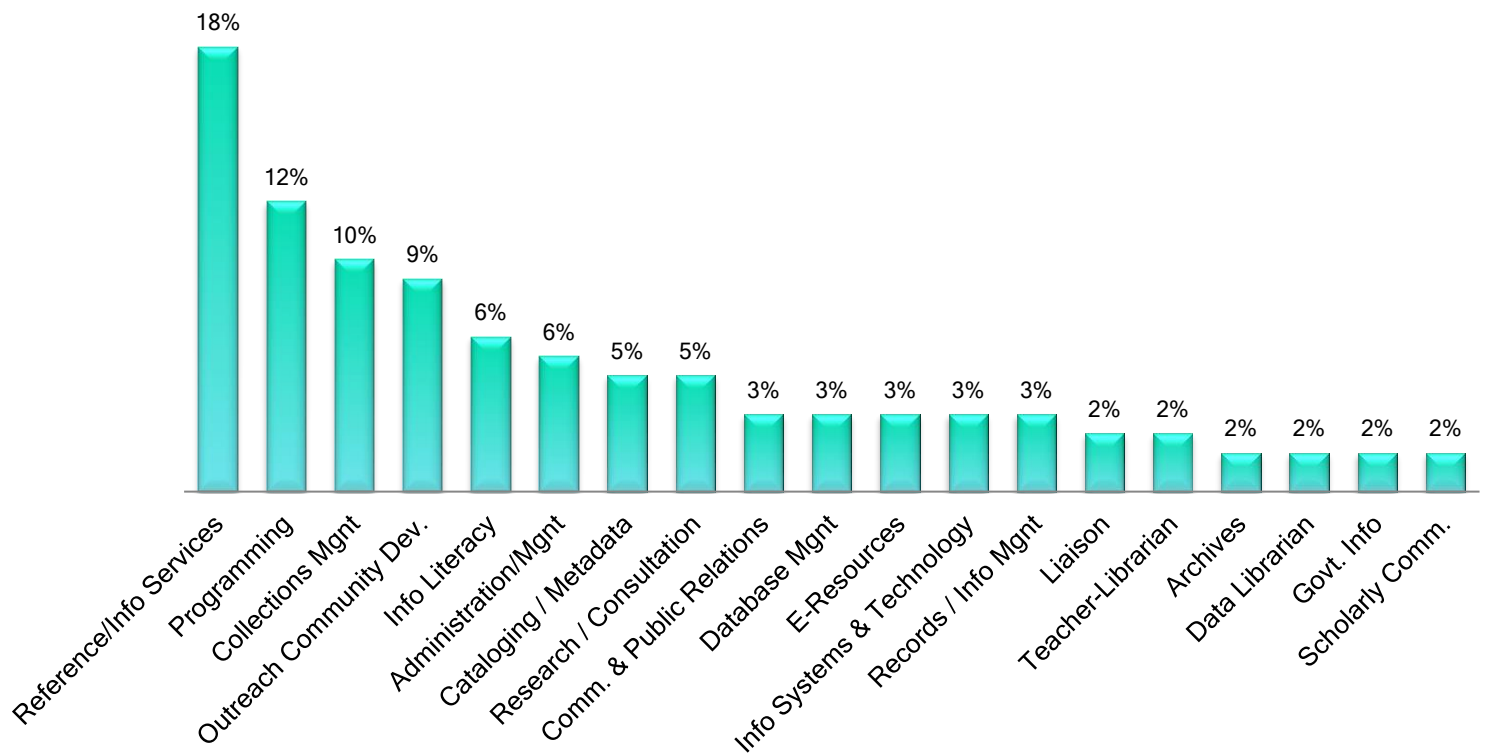
Data Entry

Readers Advisory

Acquisitions

Customer Service (2)

Circulation

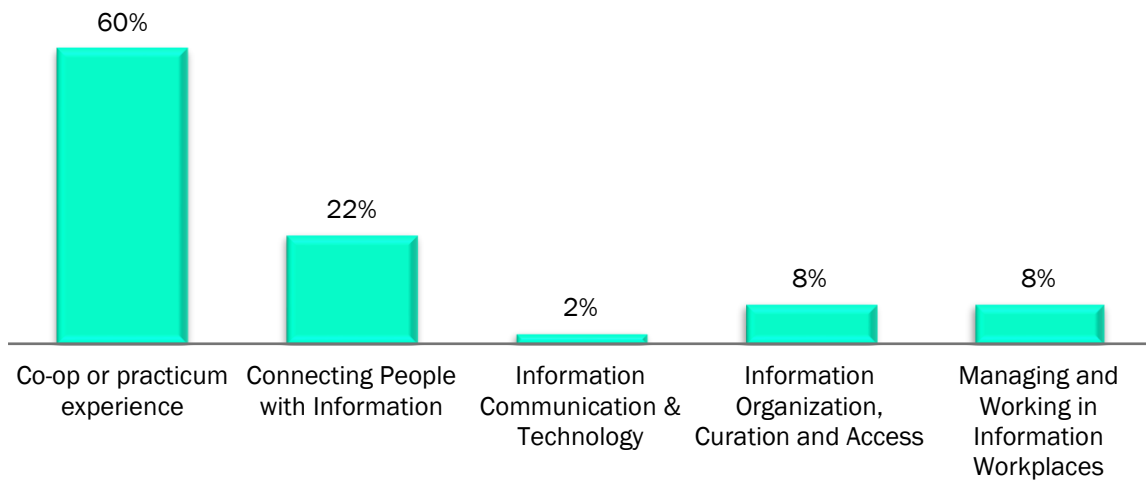


9. Did you participate in Co-op?

	Count
Yes	31
No	19
	50

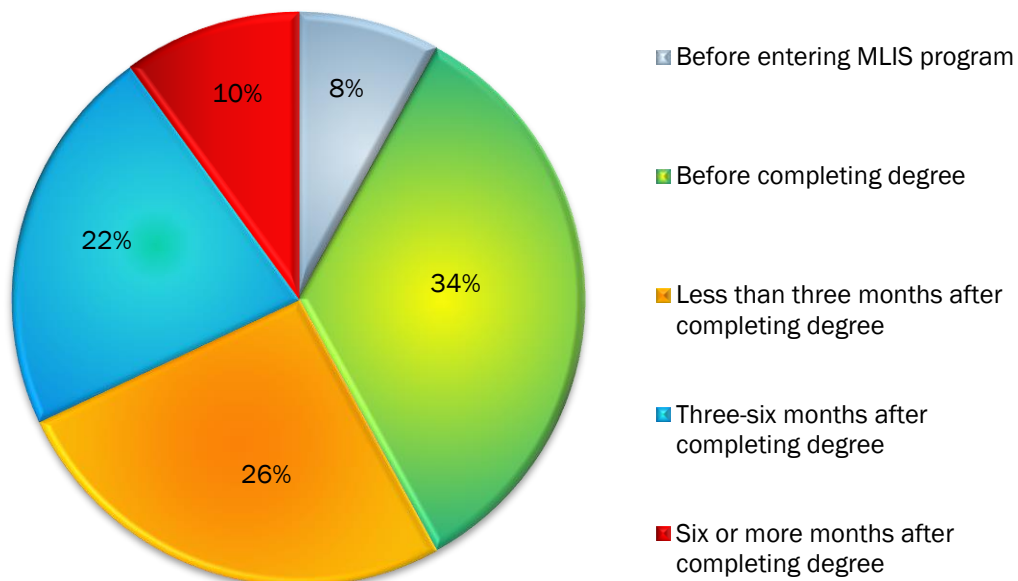
10. What is the ONE area of knowledge / skill you've acquired while in your MLIS program that you considered most helpful in securing your first job?

	Count
Co-op or practicum experience	30
Connecting People with Information	11
Information Communication & Technology	1
Information Organization, Curation and Access	4
Information Policy	0
Managing and Working in Information Workplaces	4
	50



11. When did you receive employment?

	Count
Before entering MLIS program	4
Before completing degree	17
Less than three months after completing degree	13
Three-six months after completing degree	11
More than six months after completing degree	5
	50



12. Location of Placements

	Counts	%
Ontario	37	
Saskatchewan	4	
British Columbia	3	
Alberta	2	
Manitoba	1	
New Brunswick	1	
Nova Scotia	1	
International	*1	
	50	

*Michigan is the only reported location outside of Canada.

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

	Counts	%
Seeking employment in the library / info field	9	90%
Other	1	10%