

The Evergreen State College One-Year Alumni Survey 2016 Outcomes for BS/BAS- and BA-Earners

The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment surveyed the class of 2015 during summer 2016, one year after graduation. What follows is a summary of outcomes data for BS/BAS- and BA-earners. Additional information about survey methodology can be found in the full report, entitled 2016 Alumni Survey of the class of 2015, at www.evergreen.edu/institutionalresearch/alumnisurveyoneyear.

Respondent Degree Type	N	%
Total BS/BAS-earners	62	20.6%
BS-earners	(34)	(11.3%)
BAS-earners	(28)	(9.3%)
BA-earners	239	79.4%
Total 2016 Alumni Survey Respondents	301	100%

Overall satisfaction

BS/BAS-earners were less likely than BA-earners to indicate they would choose to attend Evergreen if they could start college over (79% agree or strongly agree versus 86%, respectively) but were *more* likely to indicate they would choose the same field of study (93% versus 85%). There was a 14 percentage point difference between BS/BAS-earners' satisfaction with Evergreen and satisfaction with their chosen field of study (79% would choose Evergreen and 93% would choose the same field of study), whereas BA-earners were notably consistent in their expression of satisfaction with Evergreen overall and with their field of study.

Overall TESC satisfaction – If I could start college over...	BS/BAS-earners	BA-earners
I would choose to attend Evergreen (% agree or strongly agree)	79%	86%
I would choose the same field of study (% agree or strongly agree)	93%	85%

Overall employment/graduate or professional program rate

97% of BS/BAS-earners were employed and/or in a graduate or professional program at the time of the survey compared to 88% of BA-earners. Analysis of mutually exclusive categories revealed that the percentage of alumni “in a graduate/professional program only” and those “employed *and* in a graduate or professional program” is fairly consistent between groups, with slightly fewer BS/BAS alumni working and in school (12% BS/BAS versus 14% BA). The difference in the overall employment/graduate program rate can be mainly attributed to a higher percentage of BS/BAS-earners who are “employed only” (77% versus 69% of BA-earners).

Overall employment/graduate program rate	BS/BAS-earners	BA-earners
Percent employed and/or in graduate or professional program	97%	88%
Mutually exclusive categories:		
Employed only	77%	69%
Graduate/professional program only	7%	6%
Employed and graduate/professional program	12%	14%
Neither employed nor in graduate/professional program	4%	12%

Employment data

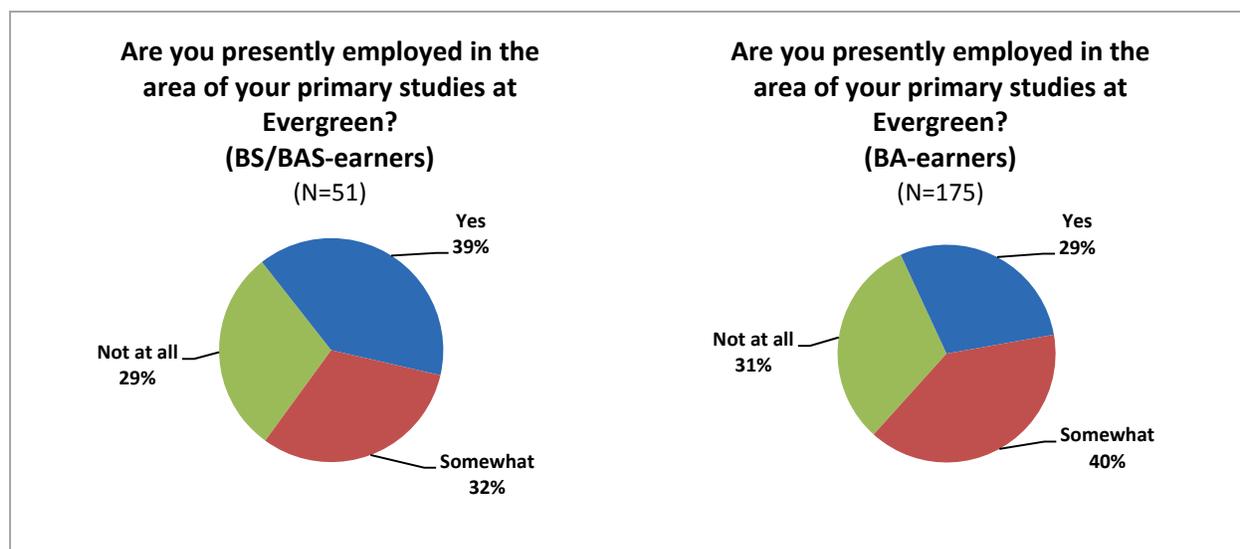
90% of BS/BAS-earners were employed at the time of the survey compared to 82% of BA-earners. About one quarter of alumni from both groups were working in the non-profit sector, but BS/BAS alumni were more likely to be working in the public sector than BA alumni (37% versus 29%, respectively).

BS/BAS-earners were about half as likely as BA-earners to be self-employed/business owners (8% versus 15%).

47% of BS/BAS-earners were working in high-demand science fields¹ compared to 3% of BA-earners.

Employment data	BS/BAS-earners	BA-earners
Percent employed	90%	82%
<i>Of those employed, percent:</i>		
Working in public sector	37%	29%
Working in non-profit sector	25%	24%
Working in private sector	53%	58%
Self-employed/business owner	8%	15%
Employed in high-demand sciences	47%	3%
Employed at least somewhat in primary area of study	71%	69%

The percentage of alumni employed at least somewhat in the area of their primary studies at Evergreen was fairly consistent between groups, with 71% of BS/BAS alumni and 69% of BA alumni indicating “yes” or “somewhat.” However, a notably higher percentage of BS/BAS-earners replied “yes” than BA-earners (39% versus 29%, respectively).



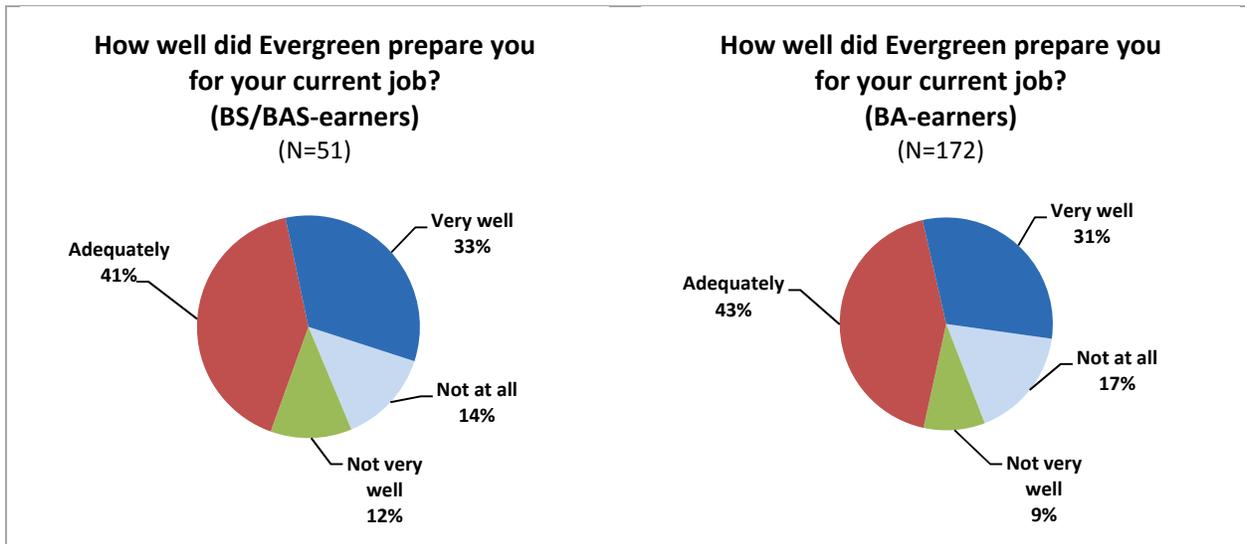
The top employment category for BS/BAS alumni was life science, while for BA alumni the top category was community and social services. Interestingly, the second- and third-most common employment categories were the same for both groups – office/administrative support and education.

¹ High-Demand Sciences as established May 2011 with passage of E2SB 1795: Agriculture/Natural Resources, Biology and Biomedical Sciences, Computer and Information Sciences, Engineering and Engineering Technologies, Health Professions and Clinical Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Physical Sciences and Technologies.

90% of BS/BAS-earners reported they were working at a new job since graduating from Evergreen compared to 76% of BA-earners.

Employment data (continued)	BS/BAS-earners	BA-earners
Top employment categories:	Life Science	Community/ Social Services
	Office/Admin. Support	Office/Admin. Support
	Education	Education
New job since graduating from Evergreen	90%	76%
Evergreen prepared adequately or very well for employment	74%	74%

For both groups, 74% of respondents felt Evergreen prepared them “adequately” or “very well” for their jobs. The distribution across response options (not at all, not very well, adequately, or very well) was notably consistent between groups, only varying by 2-3 percentage points in each category.



Graduate/professional program data

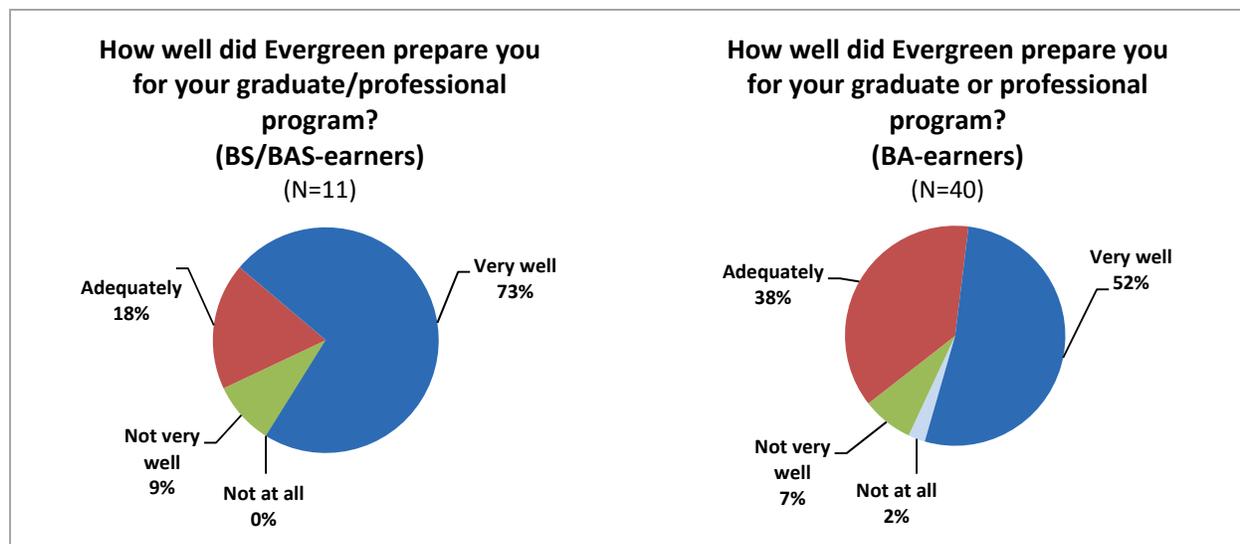
BS/BAS-earners were more likely than BA-earners to have *applied* to a graduate or professional program at the time of the survey (35% versus 27%, respectively); however, their rate of *acceptance* into programs was lower than that of BA-earners (72% versus 83%). The percentage of alumni who had attended or were attending a graduate or professional program was roughly the same for both groups (19% BS/BAS versus 20% BA).

Fields in which more than one BS/BAS-earner was studying included biological/biomedical science, education, health professions in medicine, and natural resources/conservation. The top 3 fields of advanced study for BA-earners were education, social services, and – in a 3-way tie – mental health services, public administration, and visual/performing arts.

64% of BS/BAS alumni were studying in high-demand science fields compared to 7% of BA alumni.

Graduate/professional program data	BS/BAS-earners	BA-earners
% Applied to graduate/professional program	35%	27%
% Accepted to graduate/professional program (<i>of those who applied</i>)	72%	83%
% Attended/attending graduate/professional program	19%	20%
Top fields of study:	Biological/ Biomedical Science, Education, Health Professions in Medicine, Natural Resources/ Conservation	Education
		Social Services
		Mental Health Services, Public Admin., Visual/ Performing Arts (tie)
Percent studying in high-demand sciences	64%	7%
Evergreen prepared adequately or very well for graduate or professional program	91%	90%

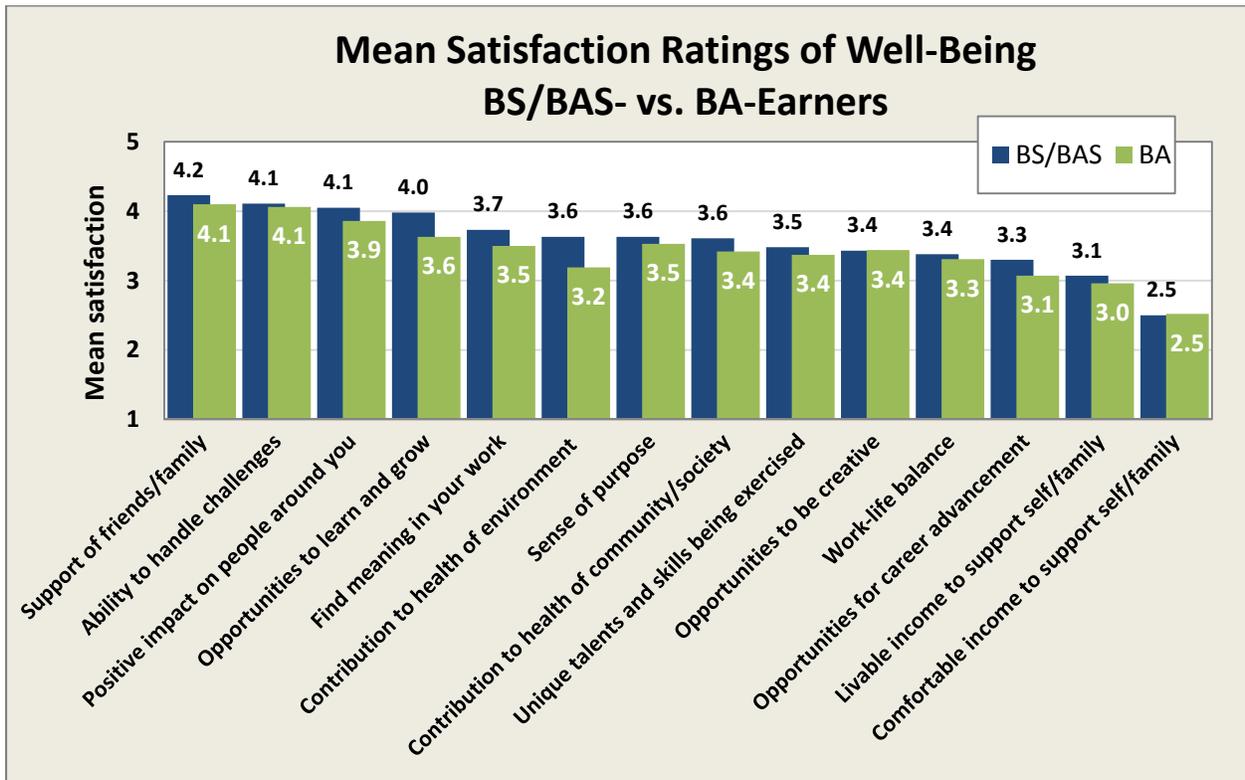
In terms of preparation for their graduate or professional programs, 91% of BS/BAS-earners and 90% of BA-earners felt Evergreen prepared them “adequately” or “very well.” The distribution across response options was notably different between groups, with nearly three-fourths of BS/BAS alumni indicating Evergreen prepared them “very well” compared to just over half of BA alumni (73% versus 52%, respectively).



Life satisfaction/overall well-being

Alumni were asked to rate their level of life satisfaction in various areas using a 5-point scale where 1=Not at all, 2=A little, 3=Somewhat, 4=Mostly, and 5=Very. BS/BAS-earners reported average satisfaction levels at or above those of BA-earners in all 14 areas. Means testing was done to identify any significant differences between groups and one area did show a significant difference – BS/BAS-earners were significantly more satisfied with their contribution to the health of the environment than BA-earners ($p=.035$). There was nearly as large a gap between groups in satisfaction with opportunities to learn and grow, however this difference was not significant at $p<.05$. It is interesting to note that in

two areas where one might expect different outcomes between science and non-science alumni – income and opportunities to be creative – the two groups indicated very similar satisfaction.



Conclusions

If they could start college over, BS/BAS alumni would very likely choose the same field of study but only 4 out of 5 would choose to attend Evergreen. BA alumni indicated they would be as likely to choose Evergreen again as they would to choose the same field of study.

BS/BAS-earners are more likely to be employed than BA-earners. Employed BS/BAS alumni are more likely to be working in the public sector and are much more likely to be working in high-demand science fields than BA alumni. They are also more likely to be working in the area of their primary studies at Evergreen and to be in a new job or position since graduating than BA alumni.

BS/BAS-earners are more likely to apply to graduate or professional programs than BA-earners but are less likely to be accepted. They attend graduate/professional programs at about the same rate as BA-earners. BS/BAS alumni in graduate or professional programs are much more likely than BA alumni to be studying in high-demand sciences; they are also more likely to say that Evergreen prepared them very well for their programs.

In terms of overall well-being, BS/BAS-earners reported equal or greater levels of life satisfaction than BA-earners, most notably in the area of contributing to the health of the environment.