
NAROPA UNIVERSITY

POST-GRADUATION ACTIVITIES SUMMARY REPORT 2011 AND 2012

Naropa University Career and Community Engagement and Alumni Relations have completed their third and fourth year of gathering data from recent Naropa graduates about their post-graduation activities. Our purpose for gathering this information is to provide current and prospective students with information useful for selecting majors and exploring career paths and to offer the Naropa community information about the post-graduation activities of our recent graduates. For this report, we summarized data from two sets of graduates: 1) fall 2010, spring 2011, and summer 2011 graduates, which we refer to as “2011 respondents” and 2) fall 2011, spring 2012, and summer 2012 graduates, which we refer to as “2012 respondents”.

The data collection process was three-fold for fall 2010, spring 2011, and summer 2011 graduates. First, we collected data through a paper survey we distributed at the fall and spring semester Clearance Fairs¹ for graduates. We then sent an online survey to graduates six to seven months from the prior spring graduation. In the final round of data collection, a work-study student² called graduates from whom we had not heard. For the fall 2011, spring 2012, and summer 2012 graduates, we only completed the exit and online survey. As a result we received the following response rates with 2012 showing a lower response rate. We will reinstate calling for 2013 respondents:

2011 Respondents

58% (count: 66) of undergraduate alumni
52% (count: 95) of graduate alumni

2012 Respondents

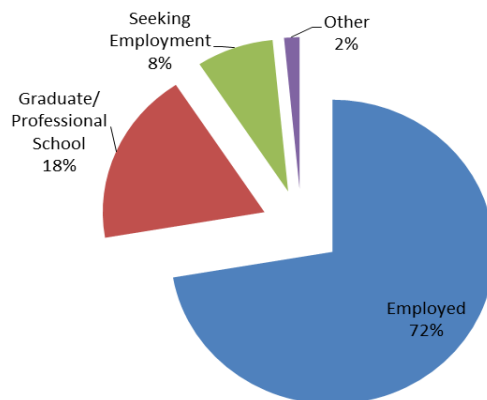
47% (count: 56) of undergraduate alumni
51% (count: 111) of graduate alumni

This report summarizes some of the findings and also includes a table at the end, which breaks down data by undergraduate major and graduate program. Throughout the report, we refer to graduates generally as “respondents”, and we distinguish between undergraduate-level graduates and graduate-level graduates simply as “undergraduates” and “graduates”.

Post-Graduation Activities

The first graphs of this report summarize the post-graduation activities of our respondents. The activities fall into five broad categories: *employed*, *seeking employment*, *graduate/professional school*, *volunteering*, and *other*. If a respondent selected *employed*, this includes full-time, part-time, or temporary positions as well as internships and externships. The *other* category includes respondents who were taking time off, traveling, or indicated another reason for not falling into the other four categories.

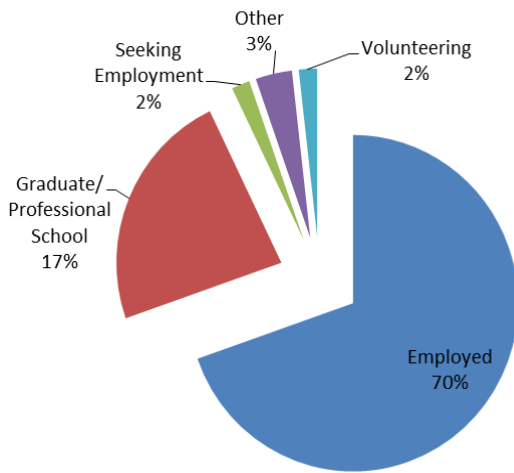
**Post-graduation Activities
(2011 Undergraduate)**



¹ All graduating students of Naropa are required to attend a Clearance Fair prior to the end of their last semester in order to receive clearance for graduation. We only used data from the Clearance Fair surveys if respondents knew specifically what they were going to do after graduation, including going directly into an employment position, attending graduate/professional school, or volunteering. If they indicated they were planning to look for employment or take time off/travel, we did not include this data.

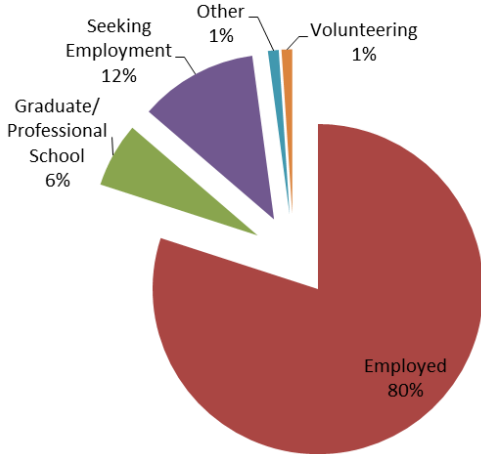
² We extend a special thank you to Haruna Tsuchiya (work-study student), who graciously called undergraduates and graduates for information and Eshian Tang (work-study student) who also called graduates and diligently helped analyze the data for this report.

Post-graduation Activities (2012 Undergraduate)

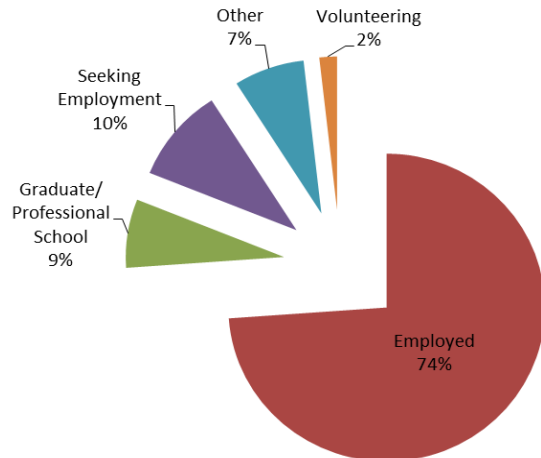


According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national unemployment rate reported in December 2011 (seven months from Naropa’s spring 2011 graduation) was 8.5% and in December 2012 (seven months from Naropa’s spring 2012 graduation) was 7.9%³. Given these statistics, the number of 2011 respondents and 2012 respondents from our graduate programs still seeking work is a concern at 12% and 10% respectively. Also, in our data collection, we encouraged respondents to choose the one category that best fits their activities, so some may have been employed in a non-related field of work yet chose to indicate they were seeking employment more aligned with their degree programs.

Post-graduation Activities (2011 Graduate)



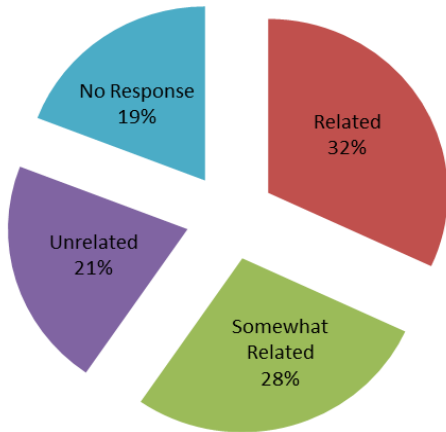
Post-Graduation Activities (2012 Graduate)



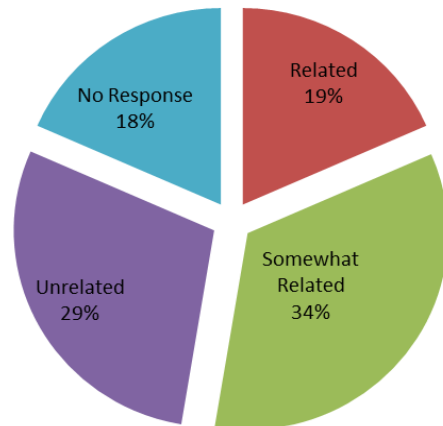
We also wanted to know whether the respondents that were *employed* were in a field that was *related* to the undergraduate major or graduate program from which they graduated. In the surveys we indicated that respondents’ employment positions were *related* to some degree if they were required to complete their specific program or major to qualify for positions; they were using knowledge and skills in positions they acquired through their major or program; or they were in entry-level positions required in order to obtain a job for which they were trained. Respectively, 60% and 53% of the 2011 and 2012 undergraduate respondents, who were *employed*, indicated their positions were *related* or *somewhat related* to their majors; the upper part of this range is similar to our 2009 and 2010 data, and we suspect the lower number in 2012 may be in part due to not implementing the phone call portion of the data collection. On the other hand, 73% (2011) and 72% (2012) of graduate respondents indicated positions *related* or *somewhat related* to their programs of study, which is an increase from 67% in 2010.

³ [Bureau of Labor Statistics Unemployment Rate by Month Chart](#)

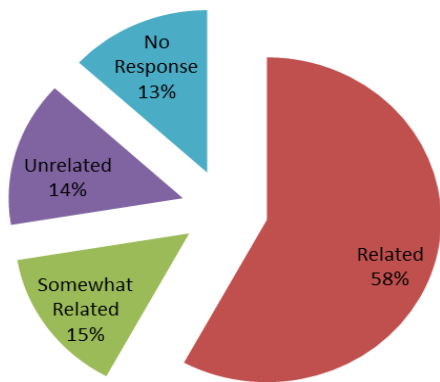
Relation of Employment to Major (2011 Undergraduate)



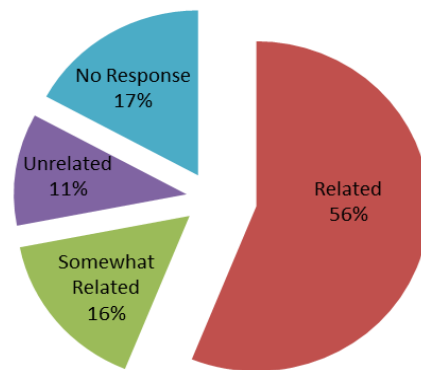
Relation of Employment to Major (2012 Undergraduate)



Relation of Employment to Program of Study (2011 Graduate)



Relation of Employment to Program of Study (2012 Graduate)



Career Paths

In reviewing the data of *employed* respondents we were able to categorize their career paths, which reveal trends about what our alumni do after graduation. We combined the data for 2011 and 2012 and discovered the most common career path for undergraduates was in “Health and Human Services” (19%) followed by “Food and Beverage” (15%) and “Education and Training” (13%). In 2010, we found “Education and Training” to be most common with this group. For graduates, it was not surprising that again this year “Health and Human Services” (54%) proved the most common career path given the number of counseling psychology graduates from Naropa. The following two tables further summarize the career paths of our undergraduates and graduates for these two years.

Career Path Summary (2011 and 2012 Undergraduates)

Art and Design	7%
Business and Administration	6%
Computer and Technology	1%
Education and Training	13%
Environmental and Natural Resources	6%
Food and Beverage	15%
Health and Human Services	19%
Media and Communications	3%
Office and Administrative Support	5%
Political and Social Sciences	2%
Publishing and Writing	1%
Production	1%
Retail and Sales	6%
Transportation and Material Moving	2%
Unknown	13%
Total	100%

Career Path Summary (2011 and 2012 Graduates)

Art and Design	1%
Building and Grounds	1%
Business and Administration	12%
Education and Training	15%
Environmental and Natural Resources	3%
Food and Beverage	2%
Health and Human Services	54%
Media and Communications	1%
Office and Administrative Support	1%
Personal Care and Services	1%
Publishing and Writing	2%
Retail and Sales	1%
Unknown	6%
Total	100%

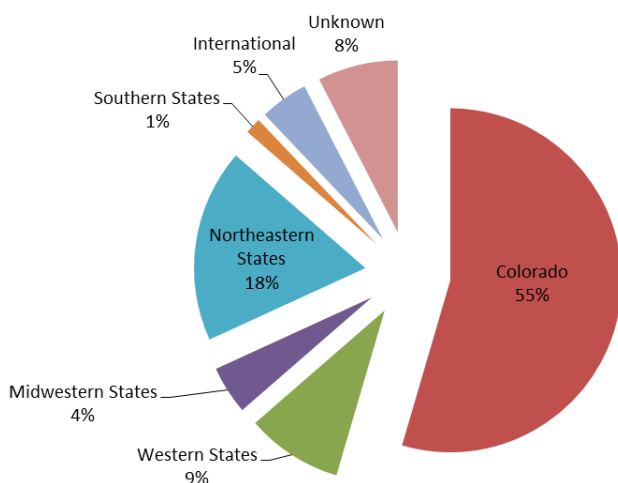
Self-employment

The 2009 and 2010 data sets revealed that 9% and 11% of respondents respectively, who indicated they were *employed*, were either self-employed or independently contracted. In 2011, nearly 14% of respondents were either self-employed or independently contracted, and in 2012 nearly 12% were. This statistic primarily consists of those who were pursuing private practice but also includes people in performing and visual arts, writing, business, and care taking. In the past we have suspected an increase in this trend and that has proven true.

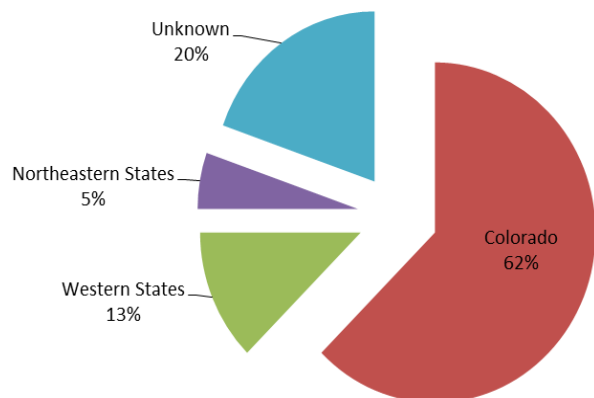
Geographic Location of Respondents

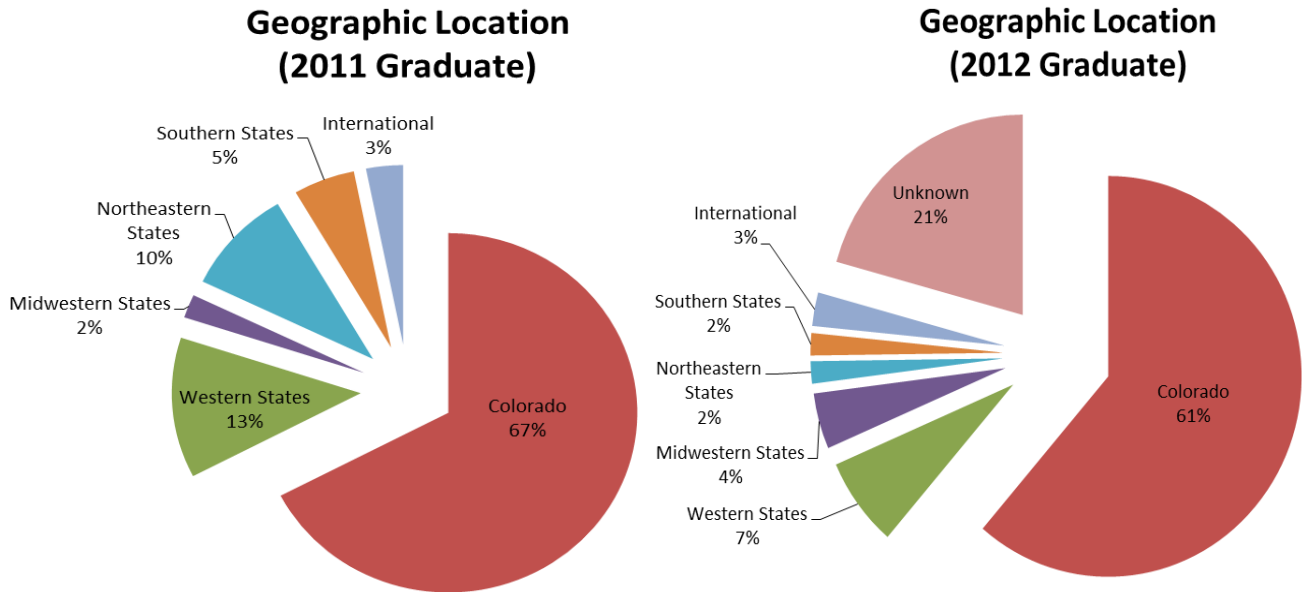
We know many of our alumni choose to reside in Colorado upon completion of their degrees. Therefore, we formally track the geographic location of respondents. As you will see in the following charts, 61% of all combined respondents from 2011 and 2012 reside in Colorado, which is up from 57% among the 2010 respondents. According to statistics from Naropa University Admissions Office, 29% of the 2011 respondents (31% of undergraduates and 27% of graduates) were Colorado residents upon entering Naropa, and 27% of the 2012 respondents (28% of undergraduates and 26% of graduates) were Colorado residents upon entering Naropa. This means far more alumni choose to stay in Colorado than the number we recruit from the state and that Naropa undergraduates and graduates have a significant impact on the region.

**Geographic Location
(2011 Undergraduate)**



**Geographic Location
(2012 Undergraduate)**





Post-graduation Status by Undergraduate Major and Graduate Program

The final tables⁴ summarize much of the data on which we based this report. We organized the table by undergraduate majors and graduate programs. Undergraduates with more than one major are represented in each major. We combined both the 2011 and 2012 data.

Post-graduation Status by Major (2011 and 2012 Undergraduates)

Undergraduate Major	Distribution of Majors	# Responding	% Responding	% Employed	% Graduate/ Professional School	% Seeking Employment	% Volunteering	% Other
Contemplative Psychology	80	43	54%	63%	33%	2%	0%	2%
Contemplative Psychology Certificate	2	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Early Childhood Education	11	5	45%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Environmental Studies	15	12	80%	75%	8%	17%	0%	0%
Interdisciplinary Studies	29	12	41%	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%
Music	8	4	50%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Peace Studies	12	9	75%	78%	0%	11%	11%	0%
Performance	10	7	70%	71%	14%	0%	0%	14%
Religious Studies	8	5	63%	40%	40%	0%	20%	0%
Traditional Eastern Arts	20	10	50%	70%	20%	0%	0%	10%
Visual Arts	16	10	63%	60%	20%	10%	10%	0%
Writing and Literature	27	13	48%	77%	15%	8%	0%	0%
Grand Total	238	130	55%	77%	22%	5%	2%	2%

⁴ The sums of percent distributions may not always equal 100 because of rounding, and due to the timing of when degrees are granted, the number of graduates may not align with data held by academic programs. Additionally, please keep in mind that totals for undergraduates in these tables will not match previous data since some respondents had two majors.

Post-graduation Status by Program of Study (2011 and 2012 Graduates)

Graduate Program	Distribution of Programs	# Responding	% Responding	% Employed	% Graduate/ Professional School	% Seeking Employment	% Volunteering	% Other
Contemplative Education	15	5	33%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Contemplative Psychotherapy	48	29	60%	55%	7%	24%	7%	7%
Creative Writing	25	4	16%	50%	0%	50%	0%	0%
Environmental Leadership	28	18	64%	94%	0%	6%	0%	0%
Indo-Tibetan Buddhism	3	2	67%	50%	0%	0%	50%	0%
Indo-Tibetan Buddhism with Language	6	4	67%	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%
Master of Divinity	11	6	55%	83%	0%	0%	0%	17%
Religious Studies	14	9	64%	56%	22%	11%	0%	11%
Religious Studies with Language	7	4	57%	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%
Somatic Counseling Psychology	27	15	56%	87%	13%	0%	0%	0%
Theater: Contemporary Performance	19	10	53%	60%	0%	30%	0%	10%
Transpersonal Counseling Psychology	129	73	57%	82%	5%	10%	0%	3%
Transpersonal Psychology/Ecopsychology	33	16	48%	81%	6%	0%	0%	13%
Writing and Poetics	36	11	31%	91%	0%	9%	0%	0%
Grand Total	401	206	51%	77%	7%	11%	1%	4%

Conclusion

We hope this report summarizes some of the more interesting information about our 2011 and 2012 graduates. We are now concluding the process of gathering data from fall 2012, spring 2013 and summer 2013 graduates and look forward to sharing information with you. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Sarah Steward, director of career and community engagement, at ssteward@naropa.edu or 303.245.4863.