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# Surveys

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**Survey of Admitted Students Summary  
Six Cohorts**

The Survey of Admitted Students was administered to students who are admitted to Saint Mary's by early May of each cohort year. The survey compares response for those students enrolling at Saint Mary's and those enrolling elsewhere. Summary data is presented below for the last six cohorts.

	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013
<b>Compared to other institutions where you were admitted, Saint Mary's rated better:</b>						
Admissions process	85.5%	81.5%	83.7%	83.6%	85.4%	86.7%
Support for spiritual development	83.2%	81.4%	80.5%	82.5%	80.7%	82.0%
Options for study abroad	--	--	76.8%	77.2%	79.5%	79.4%
Quality of academic programs	--	74.1%	73.5%	76.2%	74.6%	77.1%
Reputation	78.2%	77.1%	74.2%	77.0%	73.8%	76.5%
Quality of faculty	73.8%	73.8%	71.7%	72.0%	74.6%	72.7%
<b>Campus Visit</b>						
<b>Visited Saint Mary's campus</b>	<b>85.9%</b>	<b>86.8%</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>86.1%</b>	<b>80.5%</b>	<b>80.0%</b>
Enrolling	92.3%	90.4%	92.9%	91.6%	90.4%	88.9%
Non-enrolling	74.7%	75.3%	79.9%	75.8%	68.2%	63.4%
Perception of SMC improved after visit	86.0%	82.7%	81.9%	81.8%	79.5%	84.6%
<b>Financial Aid</b>						
<b>How important was your aid package to your final enrollment decision?</b>						
Not a factor	25.8%	16.1%	20.3%	15.9%	14.5%	11.8%
Deciding factor	11.7%	16.5%	12.9%	16.3%	18.9%	23.2%
<b>Satisfied with aid offer</b>	<b>50.5%</b>	<b>58.3%</b>	<b>54.4%</b>	<b>62.6%</b>	<b>64.5%</b>	<b>64.3%</b>
Enrolling	51.5%	62.8%	62.0%	68.4%	71.6%	69.6%
Non-enrolling	48.8%	49.3%	43.7%	51.8%	56.9%	53.6%
<b>Please indicate how well your aid package met your expectations. (1-7 Scale)</b>						
Much poorer than expected (1-2)	14.3%	7.2%	10.6%	13.0%	7.5%	7.2%
(3-5)	50.9%	54.6%	47.6%	48.6%	59.0%	53.4%
Far surpassed expectations (6-7)	34.8%	38.2%	41.8%	38.4%	33.5%	39.4%
<b>Study Abroad</b>						
<b>The study abroad opportunities were important in making student's college decision.</b>						
<b>All Admitted Students</b>	<b>54.2%</b>	<b>51.3%</b>	<b>46.8%</b>	<b>52.9%</b>	<b>56.2%</b>	<b>54.6%</b>
Enrolling	55.8%	51.3%	43.0%	58.1%	54.0%	57.3%
Non-enrolling	51.9%	51.0%	52.4%	43.5%	60.4%	50.3%
<b>Mission Characteristics</b>						
<b>Please indicate how each of the following characteristics of Saint Mary's impacted your enrollment decision.</b>						
<b>Saint Mary's is a Women's College</b>						
Reduced chance of enrolling	--	--	--	--	38.9%	35.9%
Did not impact chance of enrolling	--	--	--	--	41.2%	43.8%
Increased chance of enrolling	--	--	--	--	19.9%	20.2%
<b>Saint Mary's is a Catholic College</b>						
Reduced chance of enrolling	--	--	--	--	4.8%	4.2%
Did not impact chance of enrolling	--	--	--	--	27.0%	27.5%
Increased chance of enrolling	--	--	--	--	68.2%	68.2%

Source: Survey of Admitted Students (Administrations Spring 2008-2012). Next administration: Spring 2013

**CIRP Freshman Survey Summary  
Fall 2012 Cohort**

Since 1973 Saint Mary's has administered the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Survey to new students. Summarized below are some of the characteristics of the Class of 2016 with comparisons to the national norms and the norms for women at selective 4-year Catholic colleges (the College's stratification group as defined by the Higher Education Research Institute).

	Saint Mary's	National Norms*	Women at Selective 4-year Catholic Colleges
<b>Miles from home:</b>			
More than 100 miles	71.6%	45.0%	55.9%
<b>Saint Mary's (This College) was student's:</b>			
First choice	57.4%	59.3%	58.7%
Second choice	25.4%	26.1%	26.7%
<b>Reasons noted at "Very Important" in choosing this college (top 7)</b>			
Offered financial assistance	76.2%	49.0%	62.7%
Good academic reputation	74.7%	66.4%	79.4%
Graduates get good jobs	70.4%	57.8%	71.2%
Size of college	59.9%	44.4%	63.9%
Percentage of students that graduate from this College	56.1%	34.1%	49.5%
A visit to the campus	54.2%	47.0%	59.4%
I was attracted by the religious affiliation of this College.	44.9%	8.4%	24.8%
<b>Status of parents</b>			
Both alive and living together	86.2%	67.2%	79.3%
<b>Parental education</b>			
Father has college degree or higher	73.3%	49.9%	67.9%
Mother has college degree or higher	76.8%	53.9%	69.4%
<b>Highest degree planned anywhere</b>			
Degree beyond Bachelor's	78.3%	79.1%	81.6%
<b>Concern regarding ability to finance education?</b>			
None	33.2%	26.8%	31.4%
Some	58.7%	58.2%	57.2%
Major	8.1%	15.1%	11.4%
<b>Student's probable career (top 6)</b>			
Nurse	20.6%	9.7%	10.1%
Undecided	14.1%	13.5%	16.1%
Physician	9.4%	7.8%	10.6%
K-12 teacher or administrator	8.9%	8.2%	8.3%
Business executive/manager	5.3%	4.9%	8.1%
Therapist (physical, occupational, etc.)	5.0%	5.8%	4.7%
Lawyer or judge	3.8%	3.2%	4.1%

\*National norms are for women at all baccalaureate institutions.

Source: CIRP Freshman Survey (Fall 2012 Administration). Next administration: Fall 2013

**National Survey of Student Engagement  
First-Year Survey Summary (2012 Cohort)**

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) was administered in Spring 2013 to first-years and seniors. Summarized below are some of the select questions with comparisons to national peers and Carnegie peer groups.

	Saint Mary's	Carnegie Peers	National Sample
<b>Academic Challenge (% often or very often)</b>			
Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	56%	58%	56%
Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	60%	59%	53%
Connected ideas from courses to prior experiences/knowledge	85%	83%	78%
Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information	50%	50%	51%
<b>Learning with Peers (% often or very often)</b>			
Asked another student to help you understand course material	61%	55%	48%
Explained course material to one or more students	64%	61%	56%
Had discussions with people from a race/ethnicity other than own	68%	73%	71%
Had discussions with people from an economic background other than own	75%	78%	73%
<b>Experiences with Faculty (% Very much or quite a bit)</b>			
Talked about career plans with a faculty member ( <i>% often/very</i> )	41%	36%	32%
Faculty clearly explained course goals and requirements	88%	86%	82%
Faculty taught course sessions in an organized way	89%	85%	80%
Faculty provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	77%	72%	65%
<b>Campus Environment</b>			
Quality of interactions with other students (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	63%	66%	60%
Quality of interactions with faculty members (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	59%	61%	51%
Quality of interactions with administrative staff (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	49%	48%	42%
<b>Other (non-benchmark components) Saint Mary's has contributed to: (% quite a bit or very much)</b>			
Writing clearly and effectively	74%	72%	67%
Thinking critically and analytically	84%	82%	78%
Developing or clarifying a personal code of ethics/values	66%	65%	59%
Solving complex real-world problems	60%	57%	55%
Being an informed and active citizen	63%	62%	57%
<b>Evaluation of entire educational experience: (% good or excellent)</b>			
% Good or Excellent	95%	90%	88%
<b>If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending? (%Probably/Definitely Yes)</b>			
% Probably/Definitely Yes	88%	86%	84%

Source: National Survey of Student Engagement (2013 Administration). Next administration is spring 2016.

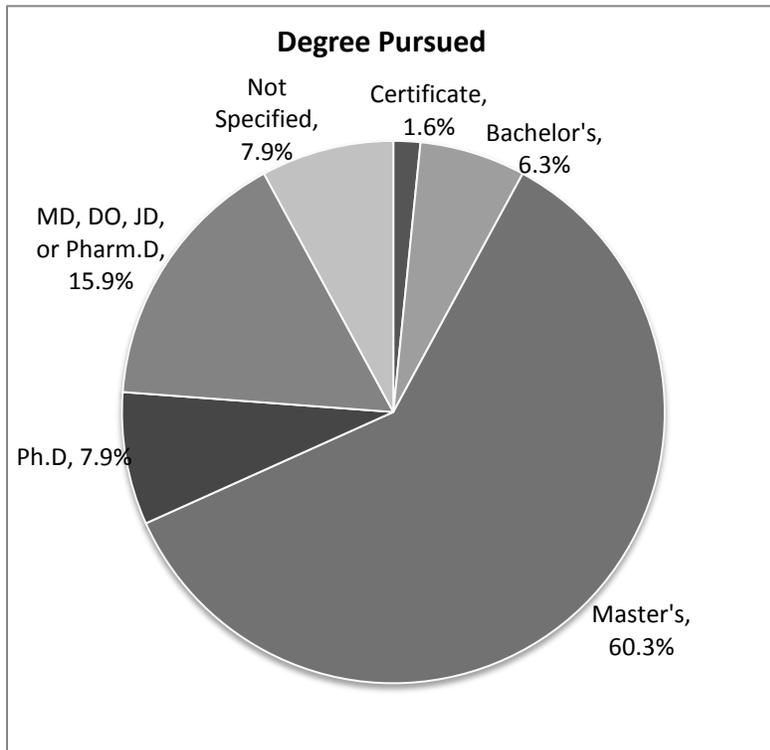
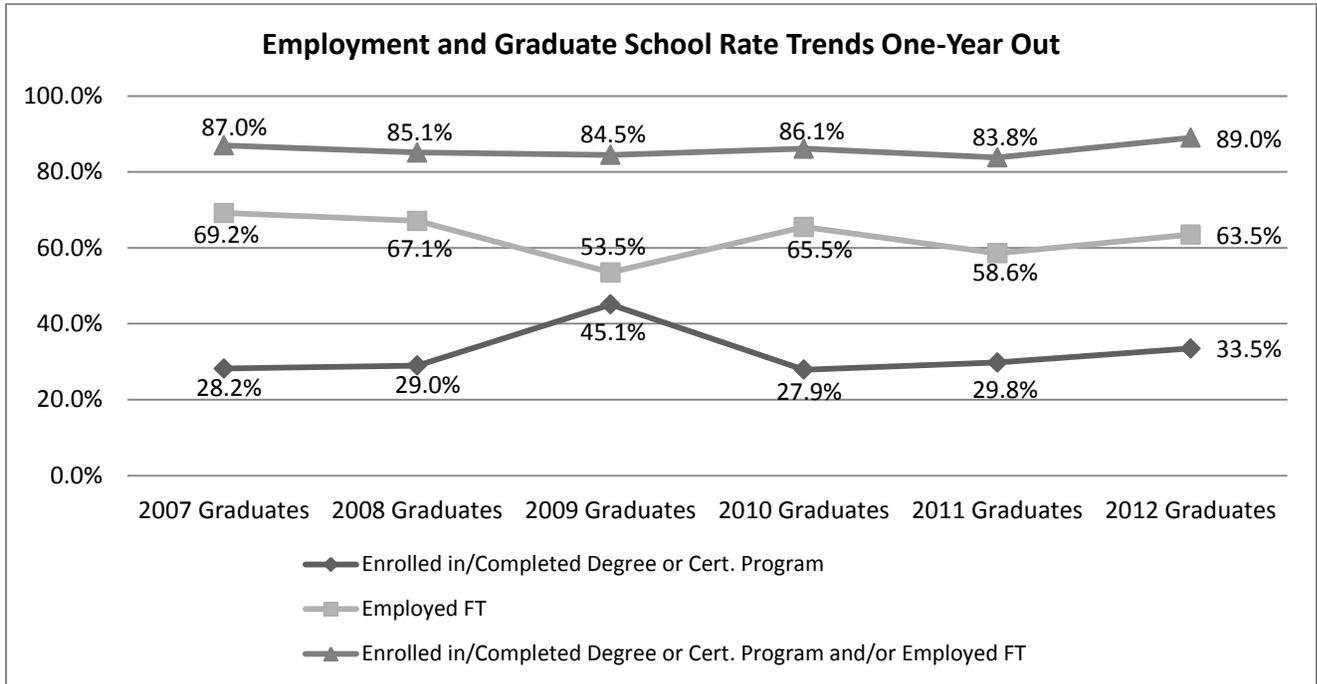
**National Survey of Student Engagement  
Senior Survey Summary (2013 Graduates)**

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) was administered in Spring 2013 to first-years and seniors. Summarized below are some of the select questions with comparisons to national peers and Carnegie peer groups.

	Saint Mary's	Carnegie Peers	National Sample
<b>Academic Challenge (% often or very often)</b>			
Combined ideas from different courses when completing assignments	77%	76%	71%
Connected your learning to societal problems or issues	80%	71%	64%
Connected ideas from courses to prior experiences/knowledge	91%	89%	84%
Reached conclusions based on your own analysis of numerical information	56%	52%	54%
<b>Learning with Peers (% often or very often)</b>			
Asked another student to help you understand course material	54%	45%	38%
Explained course material to one or more students	70%	65%	57%
Had discussions with people from a race/ethnicity other than own	57%	69%	72%
Had discussions with people from an economic background other than own	78%	76%	75%
<b>Experiences with Faculty (% Very much or quite a bit)</b>			
Talked about career plans with a faculty member ( <i>% often/very</i> )	69%	57%	42%
Faculty clearly explained course goals and requirements	91%	87%	83%
Faculty taught course sessions in an organized way	91%	86%	82%
Faculty provided feedback on a draft or work in progress	77%	70%	62%
<b>Campus Environment</b>			
Quality of interactions with other students (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	78%	68%	65%
Quality of interactions with faculty members (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	73%	70%	61%
Quality of interactions with administrative staff (6 or 7 on a scale from 1=poor to 7=excellent)	45%	41%	43%
<b>Other (non-benchmark components) Saint Mary's has contributed to: (% quite a bit or very much)</b>			
Writing clearly and effectively	90%	83%	74%
Thinking critically and analytically	92%	91%	86%
Developing or clarifying a personal code of ethics/values	79%	71%	63%
Solving complex real-world problems	71%	65%	63%
Being an informed and active citizen	72%	66%	59%
<b>Evaluation of entire educational experience: (% good or excellent)</b>			
% Good or Excellent	93%	91%	87%
<b>If you could start over again, would you go to the same institution you are now attending? (%Probably/Definitely Yes)</b>			
% Probably/Definitely Yes	89%	84%	84%

Source: National Survey of Student Engagement (2013 Administration). Next administration is spring 2016.

**One-Year-Out Employment Summary  
2012 Graduates Surveyed in 2013**



**Top Employment Fields**

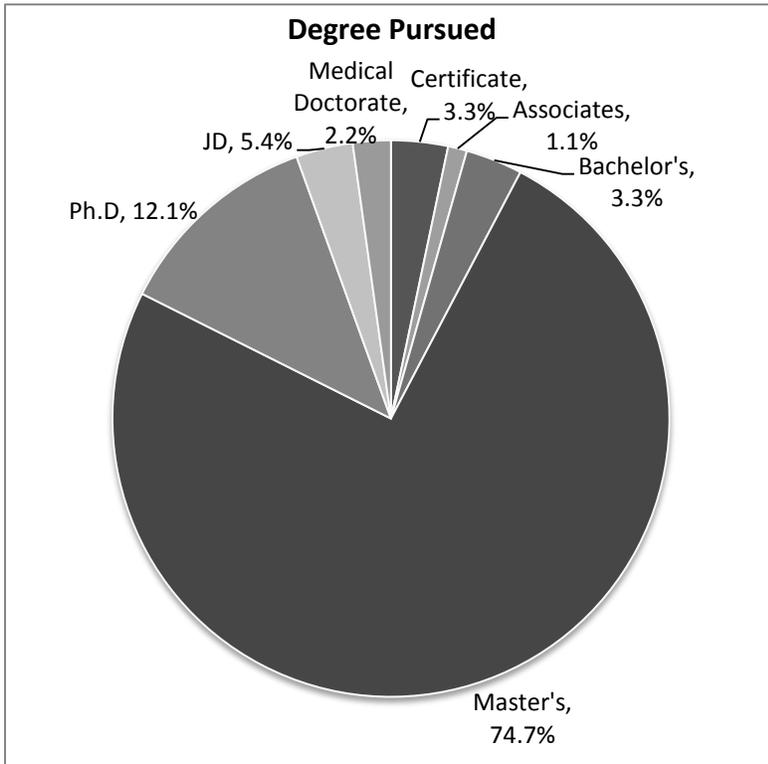
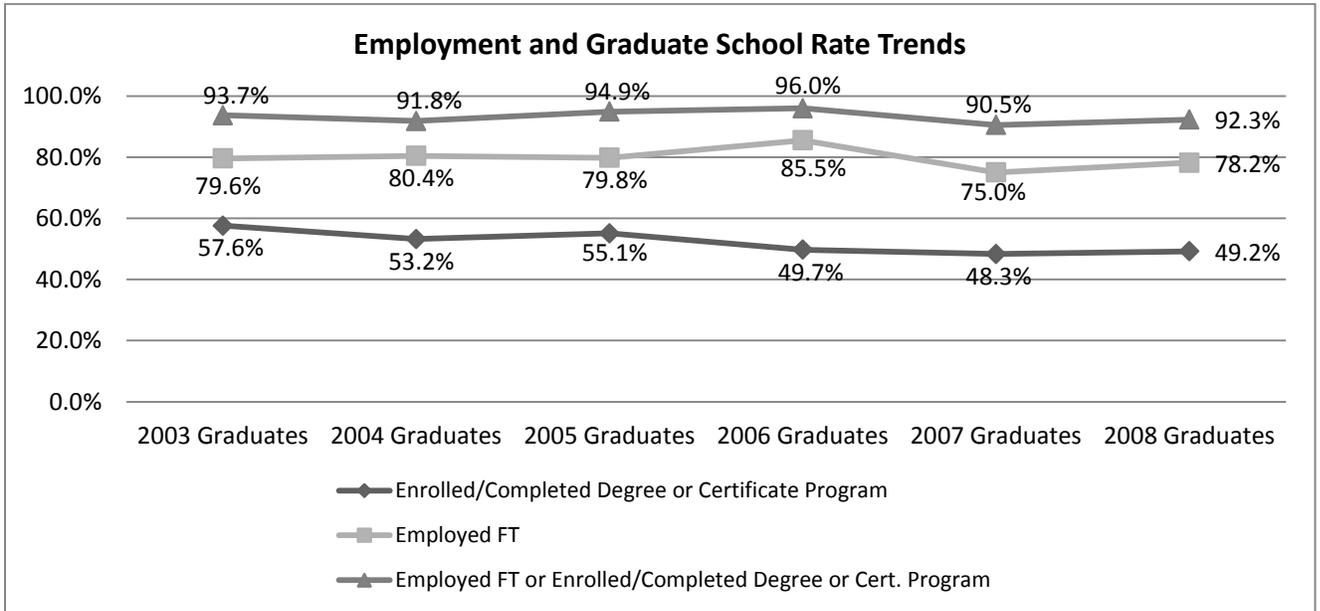
Education	25.4%
Health/Medical	24.9%
Business and Industry	16.6%
Non-Profit	4.7%

**Top Degree Fields**

Education	14.1%
Comm. Disorders	11.3%
Social Work	9.9%
Science	9.9%
Law	9.9%

Source: Institutional Research-One-Year Out Employment Survey

**Five-Years-Out Employment Summary  
2008 Graduates Surveyed in 2013**



**Top Employment Fields**

Education	28.7%
Health/Medical	18.0%
Non-Profit	9.0%
Business/Industry	7.8%

**Top Degree Fields**

Medicine/Healthcare	16.5%
Education	15.5%
Business/Acc/Econ/Fin	9.3%
Social Work	9.3%
Government/Policy	7.2%

Source: Institutional Research—Five-Years Out Employment Survey