



OUTCOMES

THE POWER OF A WORCESTER STATE EDUCATION

CLASS OF 2022 POSTGRADUATE REPORT

Introduction

We are proud to present Worcester State University's Class of 2022 Postgraduate Outcomes Report, intended to help current and future students and families understand the power of a Worcester State education. We know that a college education is much more than just a path to employment and a salary; however, these are important factors in determining which college to choose.

A poll of 2022 baccalaureate graduates revealed that 98% of respondents are employed, pursuing further education, or both within three months of graduation. Graduates found the most useful resources in their career searches to be Worcester State faculty, staff, and services within their departments of study. These Worcester State alumni are applying their academic achievements to pursue their passions and transform their futures, as well as our community.

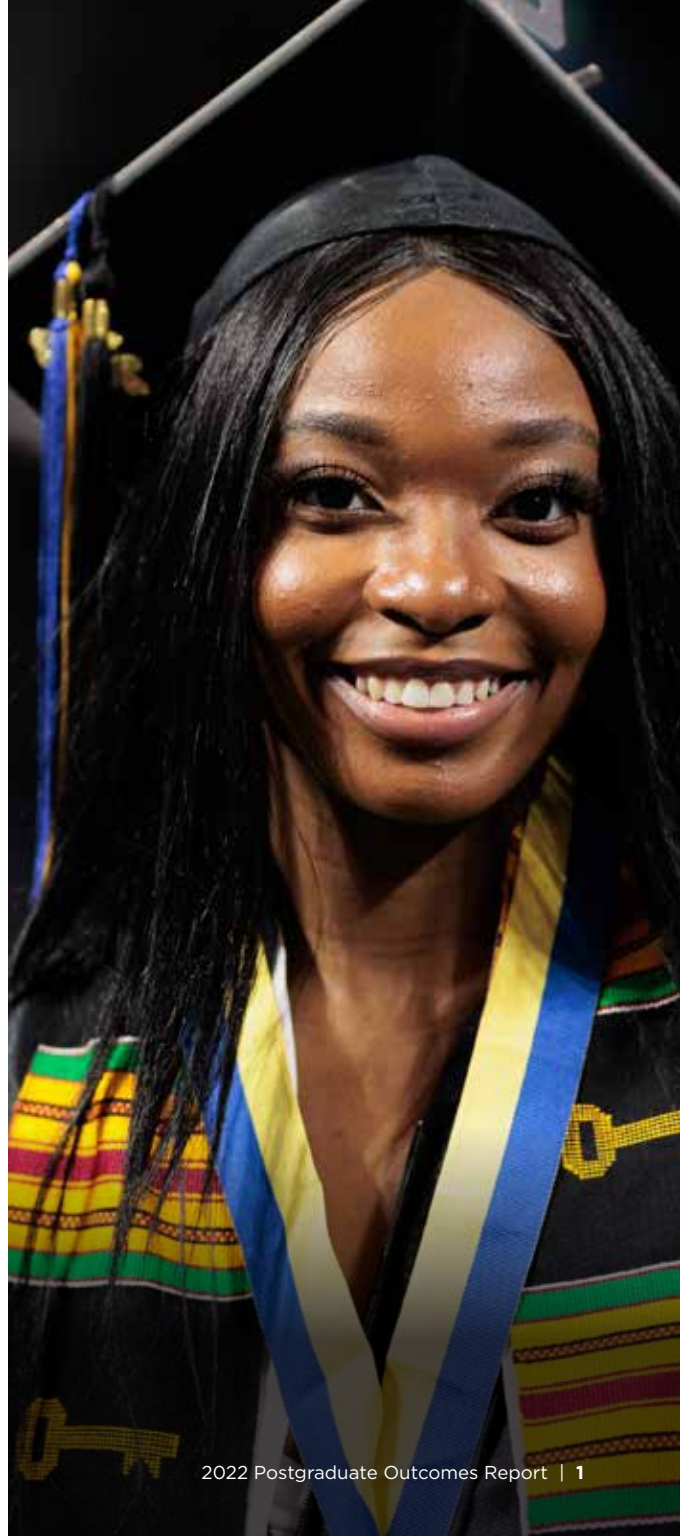
It is rewarding to see the wide range of professional and educational activities Worcester State graduates are involved in. From careers in healthcare, business, education, and more, to working on master's degrees at Boston College, Boston University, Arizona State University, and many other institutions, Worcester State graduates are bettering their lives and those of their families.

Worcester State graduates are also fueling the regional economy, where Worcester, the second largest city in New England, is a hub. Eighty-nine percent of 2022 graduates have remained in Massachusetts for employment. Eighty-three percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that their academic program prepared them well for their employment. Worcester State's graduates are assuring that the Commonwealth's knowledge-based economy thrives, and they are giving back to their communities.

These graduates ARE Worcester State. As these statistics show, their exceptional education and the professional career guidance from the staff in the Worcester State Career Services Office give them a competitive advantage. We celebrate the success of the Worcester State University Class of 2022, and look forward to hearing about these graduates as they continue to prosper and contribute to our community and the economy.

Ryan G. Forsythe, Ed.D.

Vice President for Enrollment Management



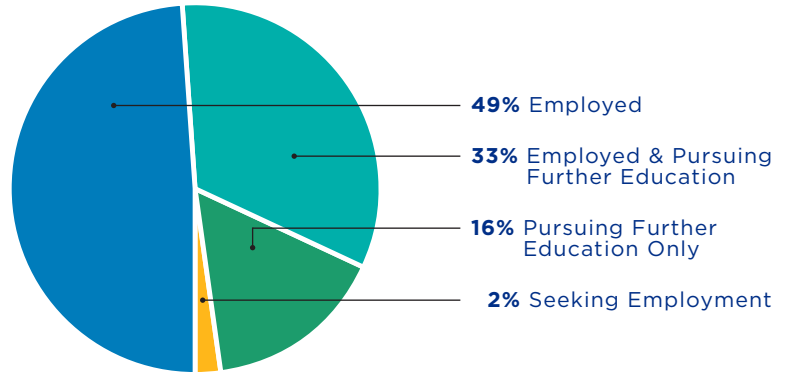
98%

of 2022 graduates are employed, pursuing further education, or both within three months of graduation



What are they doing?

Members of the Class of 2022 were asked to select their primary activity three months after graduation.



What are they earning?

Respondents reported the following average annual **starting** salary in their first year of employment:

\$50,991

Graduates indicated higher levels of starting income in industries such as healthcare, business, government, and criminal justice.

Class president brings leadership skills to his clinical research

At Worcester State, Jacob Labonte '22 gained valuable leadership experience and a strong foundation in biology to prepare him for a career in science. A biology major and *summa cum laude* graduate, Jacob served as the president of the Class of 2022, vice president of Student Government, and student representative for the Alumni Association's Advisory Board.

As an undergraduate he completed research in astrophysics and biological sciences, working as a research fellow with Professor Ian Stephens, investigating if magnetic braking is responsible for the variation of protostar disk size. He also worked with Professor Yan Hu investigating drug efficacy on helminth infections using *C. elegans* as a model organism.

Today, Jacob works as a clinical research assistant in the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at Boston University Medical School. He works with patients on memory and thinking tasks and assists with MRIs, lumbar punctures, and PET scans to study Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases. Longterm, Jacob is considering a Ph.D. program in clinical neuroscience or medical school.

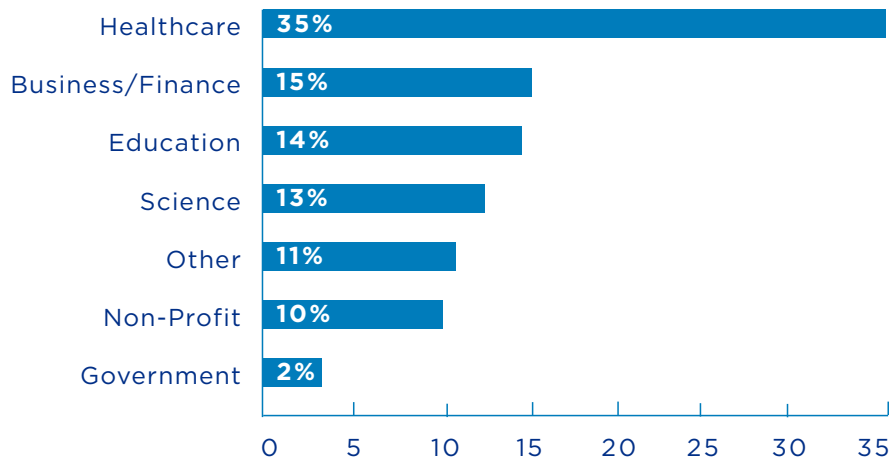
"At Worcester State, I was involved in undergraduate research, and it helped me explore research as an option," Jacob said. "It wasn't something I was initially interested in until having those experiences as an undergrad. And it helped direct me in the type of research I wanted to do. I wanted to have more people-oriented clinical interactions, which caused me to seek out a more clinical focused lab. Through my leadership positions I became very comfortable interacting with various people, allowing myself to work easily with my research peers and the PIs [principal investigators] of my lab and center."

Jacob Labonte '22
Major: Biology





Where are they employed? (by industry)



Marketing coordinator found supportive learning environment and internship opportunity at Worcester State

As the marketing coordinator for a plastics engineering company, Alexis Violette is putting her classroom and experiential learning skills into practice every day. At Worcester State, she completed the 4-Plus Program in business administration on the marketing track, earning a bachelor's degree in 2022 and a master's degree in 2023. She had transferred as an undergrad from UMass Amherst and found Worcester State's smaller class sizes, learning approaches, and access to faculty were a better fit. She found a mentor in Professor Elizabeth Wark who encouraged her to explore the 4-Plus Program and helped her land both an internship in the Office of Student Accessibility Services and a graduate assistantship with the M.S. in Management program.

During her on-campus internship, Alexis expanded her marketing skills, working on social media, emails, and events to promote the office's services and build awareness about disabilities among students. She earned rave reviews from the SAS Office for her creativity and her success in strengthening their social media presence.

For Alexis, Worcester State's supportive learning environment and access to faculty made all the difference. "Coming to Worcester State, I had a much better relationship with my professors, and they were really accessible and happy to stay after and talk," she said. "I made better relationships with my peers as well. You can sit and talk with them about what you are learning. I loved that piece of it."



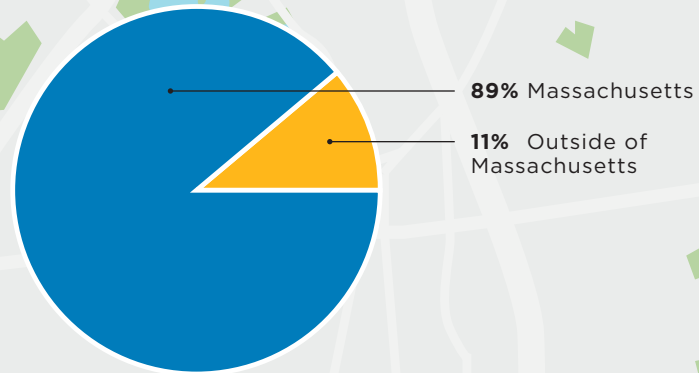
Alexis Violette '22, M.S. '23
Major: Business Administration

Where are they pursuing graduate/professional studies?

Arizona State University
Assumption University
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Bridgewater State University
Fitchburg State University
Keiser University
Massachusetts College of Art & Design
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
MGH Institute of Health Professions
Northeastern University
Simmons University
UMass Amherst
UMass Dartmouth
UMass Global
University of Nottingham
Worcester State University
And more...

Where are they working?

While the Worcester State alumni network stretches across the United States and throughout the world, many graduates remain in Massachusetts and contribute to the vitality of our state. The love for the “Heart of the Commonwealth” is especially strong among 2022 graduates with 89% choosing to share their talents with Massachusetts employers.



Career Services

Career Services at Worcester State University assists undergraduate students, graduate students, and alumni achieve their career goals with advising and resources.

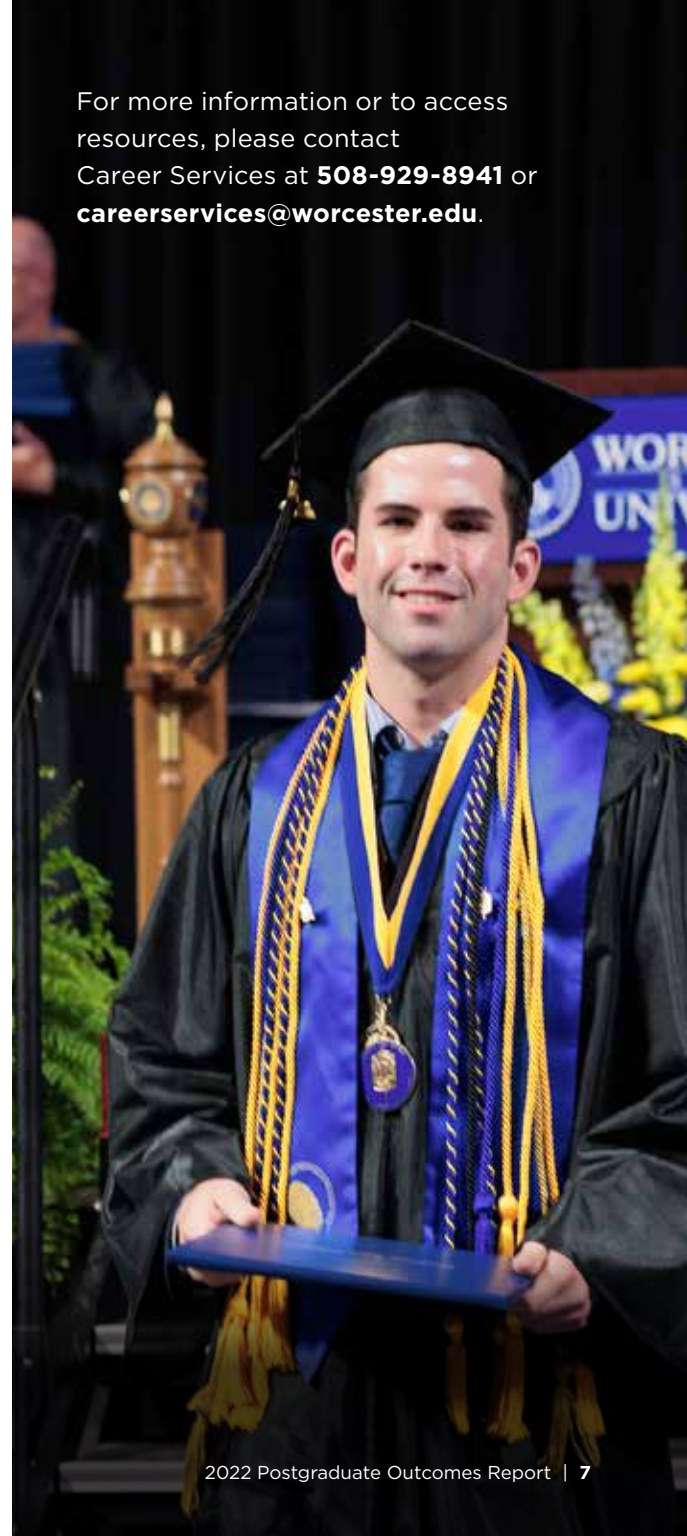
Students often change majors and career goals several times during their university experience. Career exploration as an undergraduate is healthy and strategic, allowing students the opportunity to fine-tune what they really want to do in the world. Career Services at Worcester State is uniquely prepared to help navigate that exploratory process and help students make well-informed career decisions.

Career Services also assists Worcester State alumni up to five years post-graduation with their career management, pursuing a change in career direction, or taking the next step toward professional advancement.

Services, programs, and resources include:

- Individual career advising, often utilizing a variety of career assessment inventories
- Assistance with choosing a major and exploring career options
- Information on career trends and job search strategies
- Mock interviews
- Employer networking events
- Full-time, part-time, internship, and summer job listings on Career Services' online database, Handshake
- Assistance with preparing résumés, cover letters, portfolios, and personal statements for graduate school
- Extensive web resources on a wide variety of career topics
- Career fairs and other career-related events

For more information or to access resources, please contact Career Services at **508-929-8941** or **careerservices@worcester.edu**.





Methodology

The Worcester State University Class of 2022 Postgraduate Outcomes Survey was conducted between May 2022 and December 2022. Six survey notifications were sent via email to the 779 undergraduate degree recipients who graduated in 2022.

Surveys were administered online, using the university's career management platform, Handshake. A gift card raffle was used to promote completion of the survey.

In total, 330 2022 graduates responded to the survey (a 42.4% response rate). The information gathered from these responses is reflected in this report.

Questions about this report can be sent to Vice President for Enrollment Management, Ryan G. Forsythe, Ed.D., at rforsythe@worchester.edu.



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