

First Destination Survey Report – Academic Year 2023–2024

Introduction The First Destination Survey for the academic year 2023–2024 includes responses from graduates across three terms: Summer 2023, Autumn 2023, and Spring 2024. This report summarizes key outcomes related to employment, continuing education, job market engagement, and program-specific trends to provide a clear picture of post-graduation success among Hocking College students.

Post-Graduation Outcome Breakdown Graduates were asked to identify their primary activity following graduation. Based on survey responses:

Outcome	Count	Percentage
Continuing Education	159	29.0%
Seeking Employment	155	28.2%
Undetermined	235	42.8%

Note: A portion of the data related to "Employed (Primary)" and "Not Seeking Employment" is still being finalized and may affect the final distribution slightly.

Employment Details (Job Outcomes)

- **Job Interviews:** A significant number of graduates had gone on interviews, indicating engagement with the job market.

Job Offers Received:

Job Offers Received	Count
None	227
1	136
2–3	156
4–5	17
6 or more	13

This data reflects a competitive job market with some graduates having multiple opportunities while others were still actively seeking employment.

Continuing Education Plans

- **Further Education Rate:** Roughly one-third of graduates plan to pursue a bachelor's degree immediately after graduation.

Top Transfer Destinations:

Institution	Count
Ohio University	32
Franklin University	13
Hocking College	11
Undecided	14
Not Sure Yet	7

- **Fields of Study:** Students continuing their education were largely from transfer-focused degrees (Associate of Arts, Associate of Science), as well as Allied Health programs such as Nursing, with many planning to pursue BSN programs or pre-professional health degrees.

Salary Insights

- **Reported Salaries:** Very few students provided specific salary figures in the survey, limiting the ability to provide a reliable average or median starting salary.
 - **Contextual Data:** Based on prior institutional data, Hocking College alumni tend to earn approximately **\$24,000 annually within two years of graduation**, with potential to exceed **\$36,000+** by six years out, particularly in healthcare and technical fields. Entry-level salaries vary widely depending on field and job location.
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Trends by Program and School

- **Workforce Development** and **Allied Health** students (e.g., Welding, Heavy Equipment, Nursing, Medical Assisting) had higher job placement rates and were more likely to report multiple job offers.
 - **Arts, Business & Science** graduates were more likely to pursue further education, especially those holding Associate of Arts or Science degrees designed for transfer.
 - **Public Safety and Natural Resources** graduates had mixed results: some entered employment directly, while others pursued seasonal roles, certification, or continued education.
 - **Geographic Trends:** The majority of respondents planned to remain in Ohio, with little evidence of widespread out-of-state relocation.
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Key Takeaways

- **Job Market Readiness:** Most graduates were actively engaging with the job market, evidenced by widespread interview activity and multiple offers for many.
 - **Strong Transfer Intent:** One in three graduates pursued or planned further education, reinforcing the college's role as a transfer pathway to four-year institutions.
 - **Diverse Program Outcomes:** Career-focused programs showed strong employment outcomes, while academic-track graduates leaned heavily toward continued education.
 - **Salary Transparency:** While specific salary data remains limited, graduates in technical and healthcare fields are likely to see solid early-career earnings with growth potential.
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Conclusion The 2023–2024 First Destination Survey reflects a well-rounded mix of employment and academic continuation among Hocking College graduates. While some areas such as salary reporting and undecided outcomes could be improved with greater response clarity, the overall picture indicates solid preparation for both workforce entry and further educational advancement. Career Services and Academic Affairs may use these insights to continue supporting students in job placement and transfer readiness in future terms.