

**University of North Dakota
2010
ACT Alumni Outcomes
Survey**

*A Study of the Impact of UND on the
2006-2007 Graduates*

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University of North Dakota

ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey

2010 Executive Summary

Alumni provide a unique perspective to institutions with regard to their educational effectiveness. Since they are beyond attending the institution, they are able to not only reflect upon their experiences, but are also in a position to compare the education they received to that of their peers in the workplace. To gain this alumni perspective, the North Dakota University System has contracted with the American College Testing service to administer the Alumni Outcomes Survey (AOS) to recent graduates of its institutions. In the spring of 2010, UND mailed the survey to 1,690 students who completed an undergraduate degree in December 2006, May 2007 or August 2007. Returned were 51 surveys due to a bad address and 264 completed surveys. This calculates to a response rate of 16%. 2010 was the fifth administration of the AOS at UND.

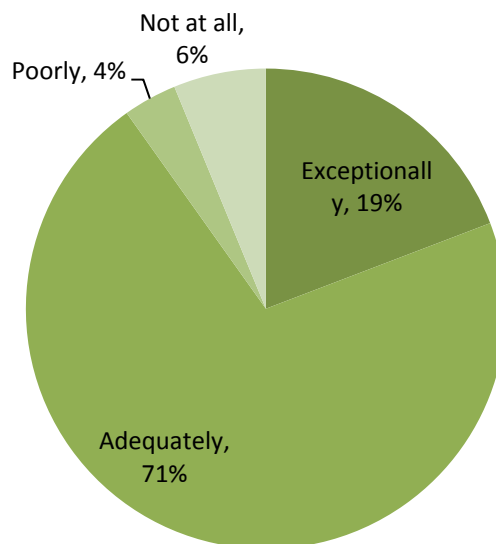
- UND is fostering a love of life-long learning, as the percentage alumni who now plan to pursue a Master's degree or higher is 69%, while prior to attending UND just 32% planned on pursuing a higher-level degree.
- UND adequately prepares its students for careers, as 90% of respondents say they were adequately prepared for their job, with 19% saying they are exceptionally well prepared.
- Most students report being hired into careers related to their education, as 60% report having jobs highly related to their education with an additional 31% being either moderately or slightly related.
- Alumni respondents report high levels of satisfaction in the areas of challenge, quality of service provided or produced, and job security. Not surprisingly, the greatest dissatisfaction is reported in the area of salary, where 22% of UND respondents say they are either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.
- When asked what aspects of education are important to them, UND respondents indicate effective verbal communication, living ethically, and developing leadership skills as being most important.
- When asked which areas were impacted the greatest by their UND education, respondents stated working cooperatively as a team member, accessing and using information sources, defining and solving problems, and using effective verbal and written communication.
- The percentage of alumni reporting UND has had a major impact on their developing and using effective leadership skills dropped from 39% in 2008 to 25% in 2010.
- UND alumni respondents give UND high marks for the quality of academic programs and the number of opportunities for student involvement on campus, with these items scoring means of 4.22 and 4.15, respectively, on a 5-point scale where 5 represents very positive and 4 represents positive, with 1 equating very negative. On the opposite end of the spectrum, low marks are received for cost of attendance, which scores 2.84 on the 5-point scale.
- Service areas received generally high marks from alumni, with health and wellness programs/services and library services/materials both scoring means greater than 4 on a 5-point scale (5 = very satisfied, 4 = satisfied, 3 = neutral, 2 = dissatisfied, and 1 = very dissatisfied). Career planning and placement services scored the lowest mean at 3.23, followed by financial aid counseling and related services which scored 3.27.
- Overall, large majorities of respondents would again choose UND if they were able to start over (84%), report their overall satisfaction as being good (94%), and would recommend UND to a friend without reservations (72%).

University of North Dakota 2010 ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey Dashboard

UND Alumni Rank Importance and Impact of UND Experience on 19 College-Related Goals

Importance			Impact	
Rank	Mean	Item	Mean	Rank
(1)	3.66	Effective verbal communication	3.19	(3)
(2)	3.62	Living ethical life	2.88	(11)
(3)	3.56	Defining and solving problems	3.19	(3)
(3)	3.56	Effective leadership skills	3.02	(8)
(5)	3.52	Working cooperatively with others	3.29	(1)
(6)	3.44	Lifelong commitment to learning	3.15	(6)
(7)	3.43	Getting along with people	2.84	(12)
(8)	3.42	Effective written communication	3.19	(3)
(9)	3.39	Thinking objectively about beliefs	2.98	(9)
(10)	3.36	Getting along with others	2.91	(10)
(11)	3.26	Accessing variety of information	3.20	(2)
(12)	3.23	Analyzing data and drawing conclusions	3.05	(7)
(12)	3.23	Exercising rights as citizen	2.65	(16)
(14)	3.16	Understanding cultural differences	2.80	(14)
(14)	3.16	Learning about career options	2.67	(15)
(16)	3.15	Developing original ideas	2.84	(12)
(17)	2.93	Understanding environmental interaction	2.55	(17)
(18)	2.87	Understanding international issues	2.48	(18)
(19)	2.59	Appreciating the arts	2.45	(19)

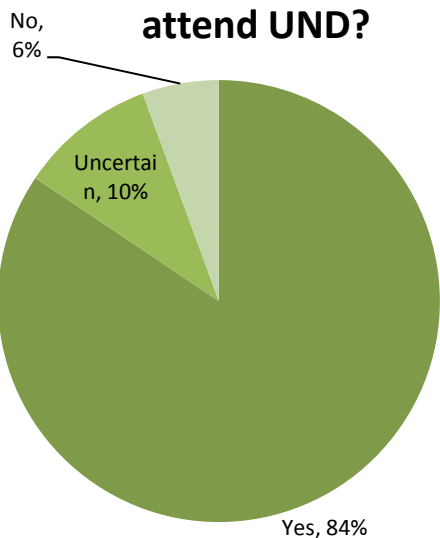
How well did UND prepare you for your current job?



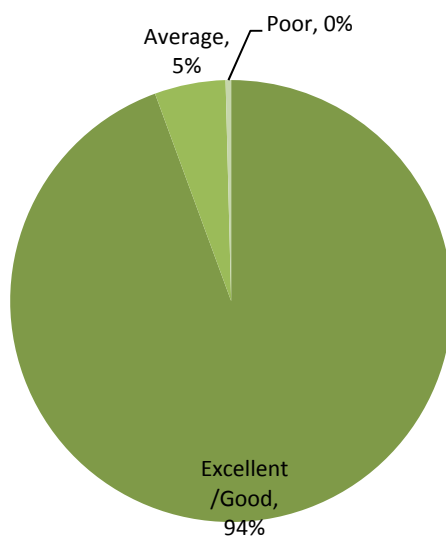
UND scores high satisfaction for all three summary questions.

Totals below may not equal 100% due to rounding.

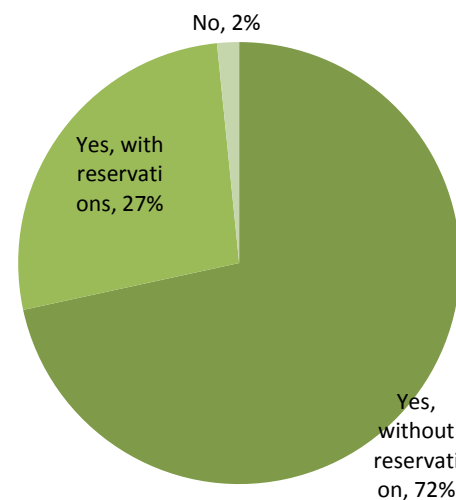
If you could begin again, would you attend UND?



Rate your overall satisfaction



Would you recommend UND to a friend?



Percent Responding "Yes"

	UND	4-Yr Public	NDUS
2010	84%	82%	85%
2008	90%	82%	NA
2006	86%	83%	NA

Percent Responding "Excellent" or "Good"

	UND	4-Yr Public	NDUS
2010	94%	87%	92%
2008	95%	87%	NA
2006	93%	89%	NA

Percent Responding "Yes, without reservation"

	UND	4-Yr Public	NDUS
2010	72%	66%	72%
2008	75%	66%	NA
2006	73%	67%	NA