

Class of 2014 Employment Report



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

SCHOOL OF
information

The Class of 2014 was comprised of 112 MS and PhD graduates from May, August, and December of 2014. The School of Information Career Development Office officially surveyed these graduates in July of 2014 and there were 87 respondents representing a 78% response rate. Partial data on 15 graduates was collected manually through emails, phone calls, in-person visits, and social media. This report includes basic employment data on all 102 respondents (both formal and informal), which accounts for 91% of the class and is thereby representative of the cohort.

Key Points:

- ✧ Employment prospects are healthy; graduates assume a huge diversity of job titles and positions in a wide range of industries
- ✧ Starting salaries vary widely with the private sector accounting for higher salaries
- ✧ iSchoolers spend an average of 4.7 months job searching
- ✧ Information Science is the first professional career for 59% of our graduates
- ✧ Job satisfaction is reportedly high at 78% satisfied
- ✧ Texas retained 62% of our graduates; the rest are sprinkled across the country
- ✧ Networking impacts employment outcomes with nearly 1/3 of graduates securing employment with an organization with which they had prior experience (including internships)

How long did it take to secure a job in 2014?

- ✧ 40% employed prior to graduation
- ✧ 69% employed within 3 months of graduation
- ✧ 88% employed within 6 months of graduation
- 92% employed within 9 months of graduation

Starting Salaries Vary Widely by Position and Industry

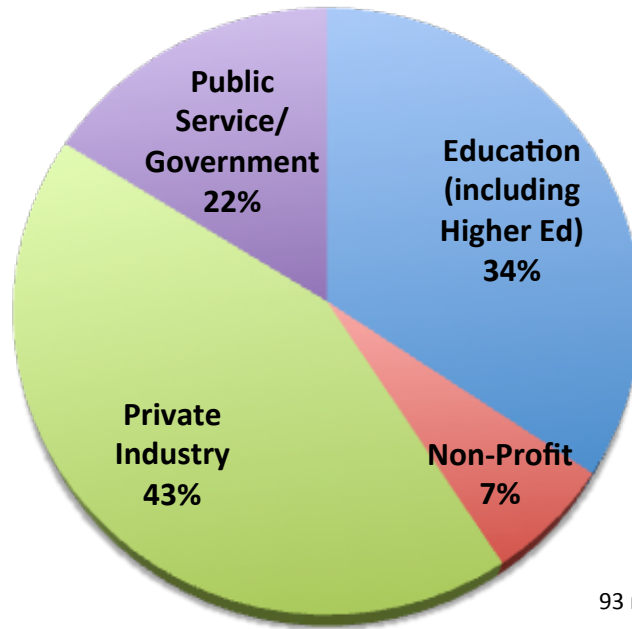
- ✧ Avg. salary for all is \$55,969
- ✧ Avg. salary for **Private Sector** is \$65,171
- Avg. salary for **UX/IA-related jobs** is \$76,175

Those who earn more than \$65,000 generally work in private industry. The global average salary reflects low-paying positions in archives & public libraries.

The tech community continued to seek out and absorb many of our graduates though technical skill sets are also in demand from libraries and archives. Many librarians and archivists report that bolstering technical skill sets helped them gain a competitive edge in the marketplace.

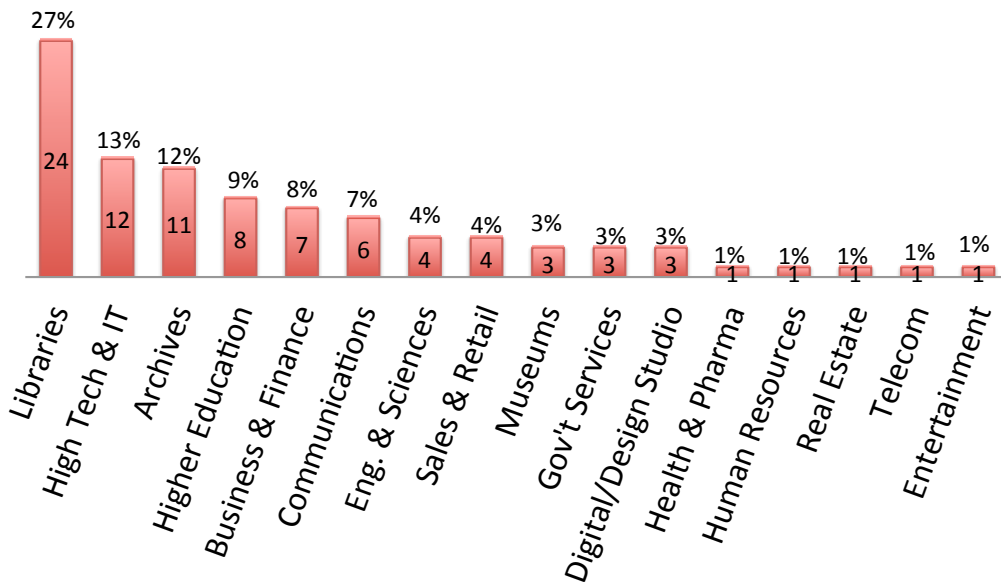
The interdisciplinary nature of the iSchool prepares graduates for a wide range of careers and the diverse skill sets of graduates are valued in many industries. The versatility of the program allows grads to switch fields readily and take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Austin tech community and beyond.

Employment Sectors - 2014

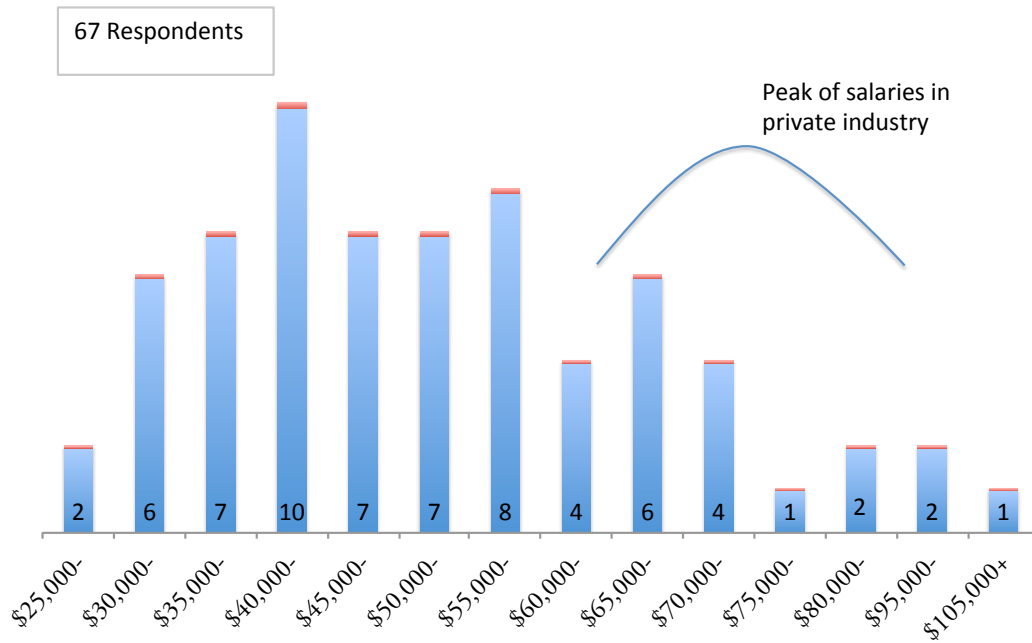


93 responses

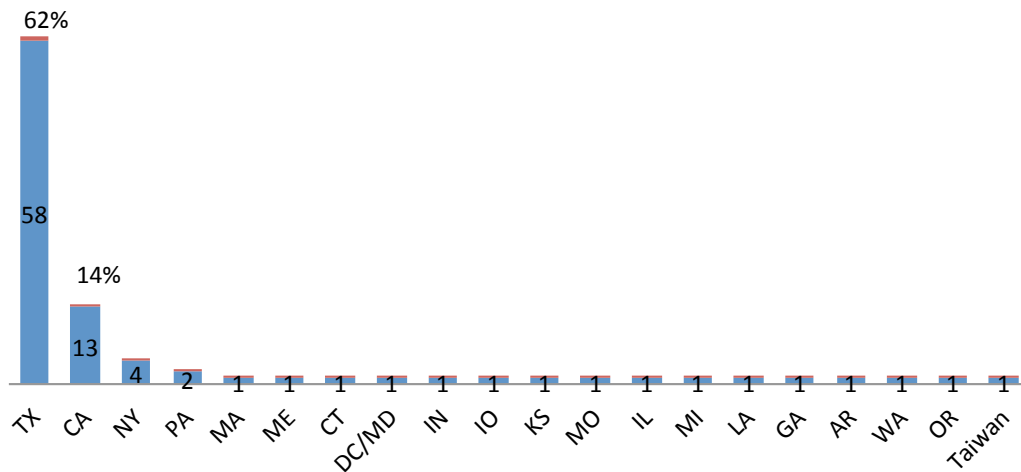
Placement by Employing Industry - 2014



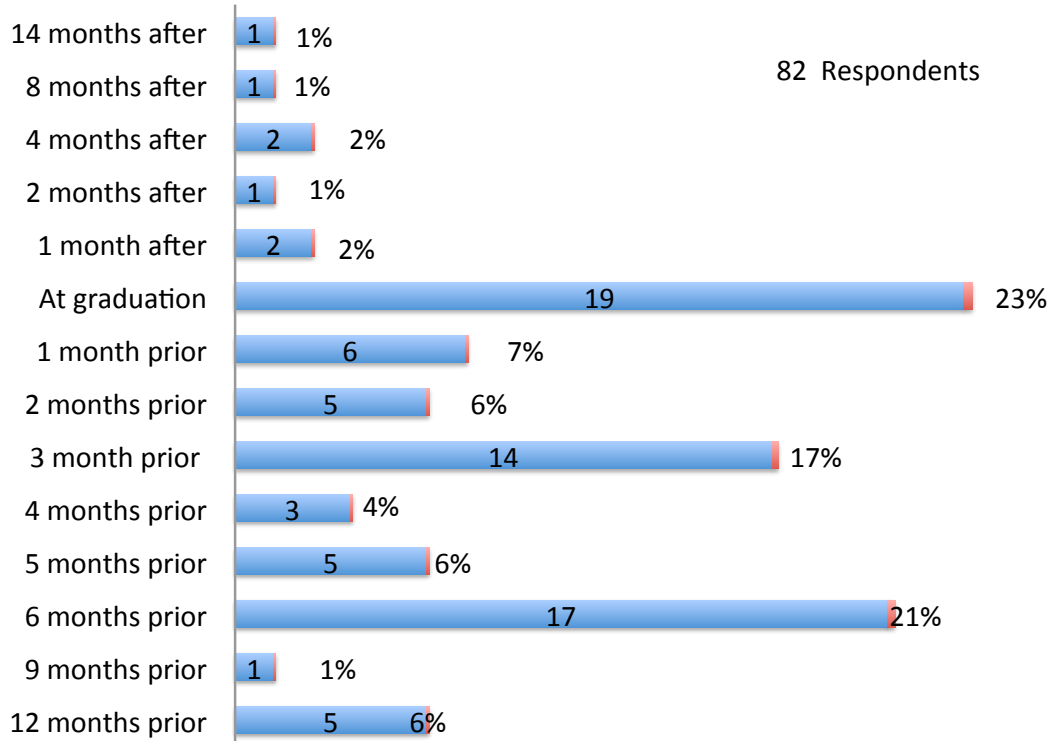
Starting Salaries - 2014



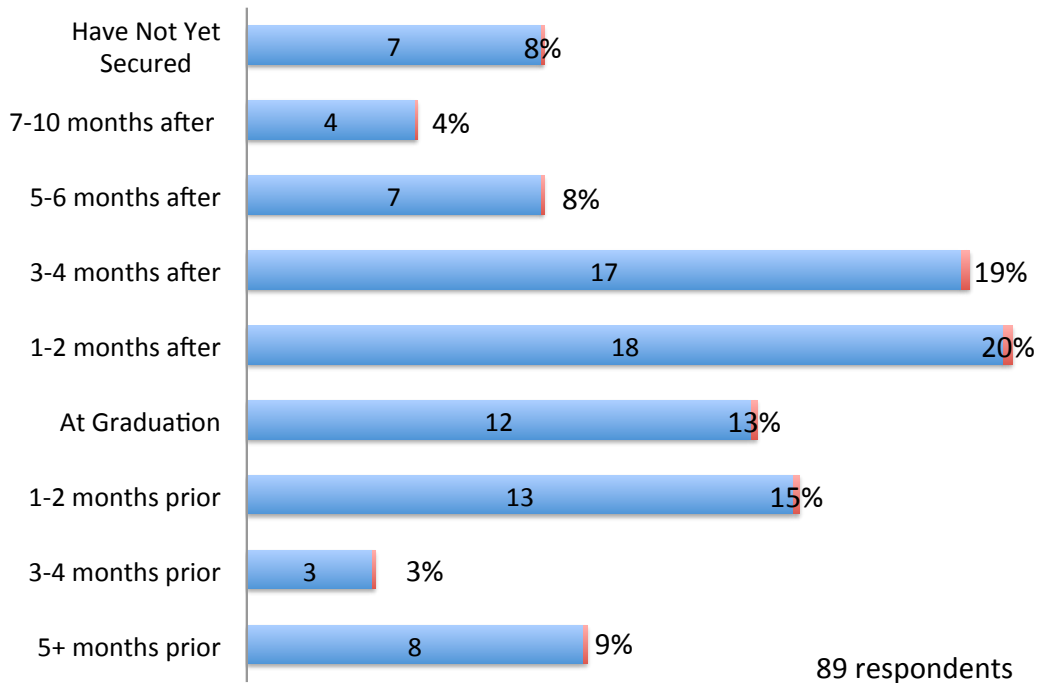
Placement by Geography - 2014



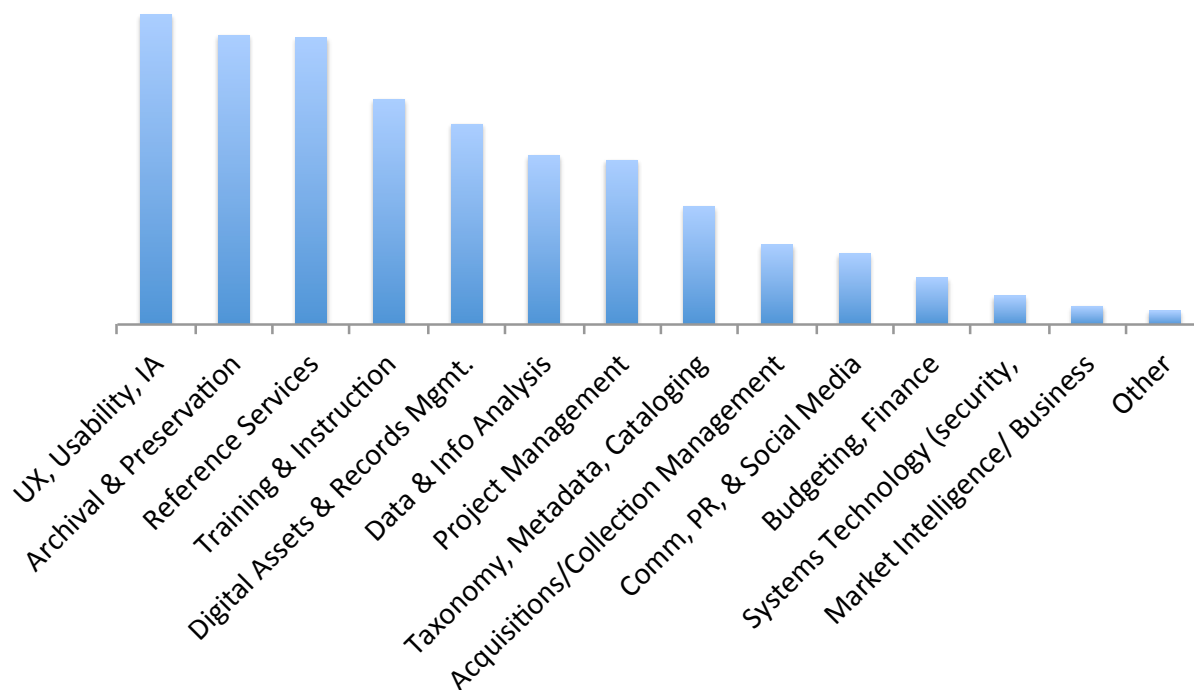
Starting Job Search in Relation to Graduation 2014



Secured Employment Timeline - 2014



Skills Utilized for Job - 2014



*Graduates were asked to indicate time spent on skill sets

Advice from the Class of 2014

I found that the alumni from the iSchool were very helpful and eager to support a new professional. I recommend being open to looking outside of the Austin area for a first post-grad job as there are limited positions and they are highly competitive. I also found it helpful to compile questions that were asked in interviews and share them with friends. Most institutions asked similar questions in different ways.

Internships with private companies have a much higher chance at becoming jobs after graduation, where as many of the on campus student jobs at libraries and archives will perpetually only be a student GRA internship that can't turn into a full-time position. I suggesting trying out the private sector for internships as you might find it more interesting than you originally thought

<http://h1bdata.info/> is a good place to check out salaries. Glassdoor is really out-dated.

I appreciated how Tara encouraged students to attend other career fairs (especially the business career fair), as I did receive one interview and an invitation to an information session from this experience (and likely could have moved further in the process except that the job required more travel than I wanted).

Remember that a job interview is a two-way process. You are trying to ascertain whether you want to work in a position as much as potential employers are trying to ascertain whether they want to hire you.

Yes, my previous job experience was probably the main thing that secured me this job. My volunteer experience was VERY important too.

Start early. Earlier than what you think. Academic positions take a long time to get processed.

My professional advice is to stop by the iSchool Career Development Office and pay close attention to all of the emails Tara Iagulli sends out. With Tara's help, I had a full time job waiting for me six months before I graduated from the iSchool.

I would say the Job Fair held by computer science department of UT Austin helped me a lot. I got a few interviews in the job fair. More importantly, I met a number of good companies that I had never heard of before including my current employer, Appfolio.

I found the resources at the Career Development Office to be very helpful, not only close to graduation, but during my entire graduate school experience. I did have a working relationship with my forthcoming supervisor that grew out of a non-profit I run. I think that relationship was the most important thing in securing this job.

I would definitely encourage students to start working on their portfolios before their capstone project--especially those wanting to get into UX/UI design. I had mine in pretty good shape six months before graduating, which allowed me to apply for internships and jobs in the winter instead of the spring semester. Summer internships are also posted early in the year, so my strategy was to apply to those and if I got one, hope that it would turn into a full-time job and allow me to break out of the intern bubble (which thankfully it did) instead of trying to get a real full-time job straight out of school without any other full-time experience. I would also encourage students seeking more tech-oriented careers to build their own portfolio--it's a great way to learn coding skills and to have fun making something that is actually useful.

I think iSchoolers naturally tend to avoid networking but I would like to emphasize how important it is. Go to meetups, happy hours, join professional associations and talk to your co-workers! Also, use Career services to your advantage, Tara is an essential resource and knows how to market you to the professional world!

I began as a summer intern for the Coca-Cola Company and found out about the internship at the annual SAA conference the summer before. My current managers spoke at the business archives round table and that is when I discovered the functionality of business archives and fell in love with the Coke archives. I was fortunate enough to be hired on as a contractor following my internship.

Having professionals at UT I could talk to about applying and interviewing was a great help.

Having people encouraging me to keep applying even after what seemed like dozens of rejections was so very important. I can't stress this enough.

I recommend all students join and attend professional organizations and maintain connections with fellow iSchoolers. Doing so helps you to network and receive insight into the job market and companies. Don't shy away from it even if you feel uncomfortable! Once you go a couple times, you will feel more confident in yourself and have people in your field supporting

Tara was exceptionally helpful when discussing resumes and interviews. Overall, the job search was stressful, but successful. I feel that the iSchool prepared me to be a well-rounded professional, with strong communication skills and a wide variety of experience from which to draw upon in my first year of professional service.