

GREAT JOBS, GREAT LIVES



GALLUP-PURDUE INDEX INAUGURAL NATIONAL REPORT

The *Gallup-Purdue Index*, a recent survey of more than 30,000 U.S. college graduates, found that those who were emotionally supported during college, and who had experiential and deep learning, were more likely to have high well-being. These findings held true regardless of the type of four-year institution—public or private not-for-profit college; a highly selective institution or a less selective institution; or a top 100-ranked school in the *U.S. News & World Report* vs. other schools. Find the full report at www.gallup.com

LIFE IN COLLEGE MATTERS FOR LIFE AFTER COLLEGE

KEY FINDINGS OF THE GALLUP-PURDUE INDEX

IT'S NOT "WHERE" YOU GO TO COLLEGE

Thirty-nine percent of U.S. graduates are engaged at work without distinction between public vs. private not-for-profit colleges, but there was a substantial difference between graduates of for-profit institutions and the rest. While most graduates are thriving in one or more key dimensions of well-being – purpose, social, financial, community, and physical – only 11% are thriving in all five. (See back page.)

IT'S "HOW" YOU GO TO COLLEGE

Graduates with at least one professor who made them excited about learning and cared about them as a person, while also having a mentor that encouraged them to pursue their goals and dreams, have more than double the odds of being engaged at work and thriving in well-being. Only 14% of graduates strongly agreed with all three of these attributes.

AND, DEBT MATTERS

Three-times fewer graduates who took out between \$20,000 and \$40,000 in undergraduate student loan debt are thriving in their well-being compared with those with no school loan debt. Twenty-six percent of graduates with no debt have started their own business, compared with 16% for those with \$40,000 or more.

THE UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE:

SUPPORT AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

	(% Strongly Agree)
I had at least one professor who made me excited about learning.	63%
My professors cared about me as a person.	27%
I had a mentor who encouraged me to pursue my goals and dreams.	22%
All three	14%
I worked on a project that took a semester or more to complete.	32%
I had an internship or job that allowed me to apply what I was learning in the classroom.	29%
I was extremely active in extracurricular activities and organizations.	20%
All three	6%
All six	3%

"It turns out that student debt hinders our national economy just as it hinders the individual life prospects of students who borrow too much of it. It is past time for leaders in higher education to go to work on restraining costs and making sure that our doors remain open to all students who meet our standards."

— MITCH DANIELS, PRESIDENT,
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Find the full report at www.gallup.com

WELL-BEING = GREAT LIVES PURPOSE. SOCIAL. COMMUNITY. FINANCIAL. PHYSICAL

Only 3% of graduates who received their degrees in the past four years are thriving in all five dimensions. That compared with as many as 26% of graduates receiving their degrees in the 1960s who say they are thriving in all dimensions.

54% PURPOSE WELL-BEING

- I like what I do every day.
- I learn or do something interesting every day.

49% SOCIAL WELL-BEING

- Someone in my life always encourages me to be healthy.
- My friends and family give me positive energy every day.

47% COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

- The city or area where I live is a perfect place for me.
- In the last 12 months, I have received recognition for helping to improve the city or area where I live.

42% FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

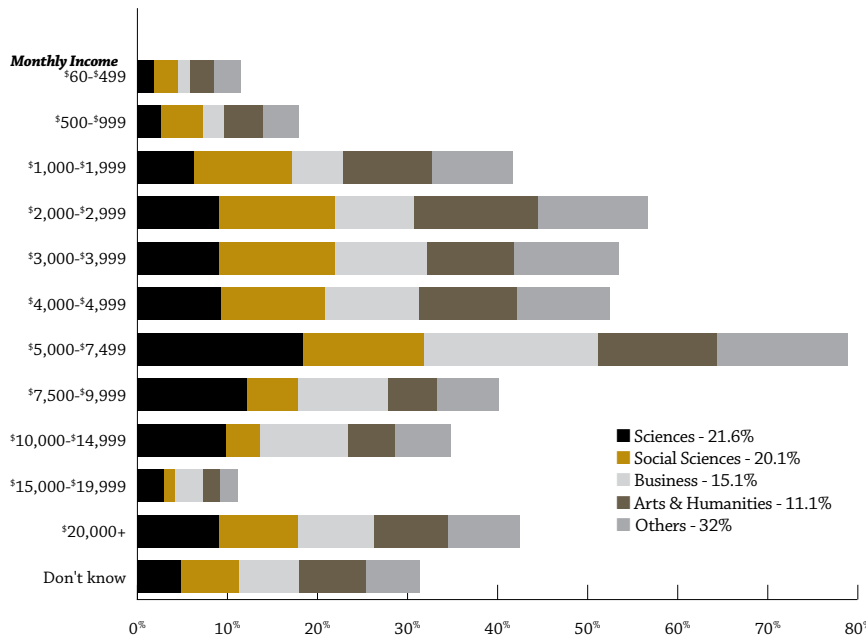
- I have enough money to do everything I want to do.
- In the last seven days, I have worried about money.

35% PHYSICAL WELL-BEING

- In the last seven days, I have felt active and productive every day.
- My physical health is near-perfect.

“The Gallup-Purdue Index makes it clear that how students are engaged in learning is essential to meeting their individual needs and those of the country.” — JAMIE MERISOTIS, PRESIDENT AND CEO, LUMINA FOUNDATION

GALLUP-PURDUE INDEX RESPONDENTS BASED ON INCOME, MAJORS



Highlights

- Arts and humanities majors reported lower personal income than science, social science, business and all other majors.
- Science and business majors have the highest personal income, with more than 60% earning more than \$90,000 a year.
- Cross-tabulation with workplace engagement found arts and humanities majors are slightly more engaged than others.
- Generally, earning power doesn't matter — those earning \$48,000 a year are as engaged as those earning \$90,000.

GALLUP-PURDUE INDEX

Purdue University, in partnership with Gallup and Lumina Foundation, released the inaugural Gallup-Purdue Index in May 2014. Find the full report at www.gallup.com

“There is a need to increase the exposure college students have with experiences that enrich their academic learning by making internships and partnerships with faculty and industry and organizations available to all students.”

— JOHN H. PRYOR, SENIOR RESEARCH SCIENTIST, GALLUP

