

# Better Jobs, Better Lives

## New survey is full of good news about UNH graduates

---

Tuesday, December 8, 2015



Well-employed. Engaged in their work. Thriving.

A recent Gallup survey has confirmed what many in the UNH community have long suspected: UNH graduates are, on the whole, more fully employed and thriving in multiple elements of wellbeing than their U.S. college peers. The survey, commissioned by the university as part of a renewed focus on students' professional success after college, included members of 55 graduating classes between 1960 and 2014 from colleges and universities across the country. More UNH respondents are employed full-time and report being engaged at work than alumni of other large public universities and the national average. Additionally, the overall wellbeing of UNH graduates, as measured by thriving in all five elements (purpose, social, financial, community and physical), is better than that of their peers.

“UNH is among the first wave of colleges and universities engaged in this research with Gallup measuring the long-term success of college graduates in finding satisfying careers and living healthy, rewarding lives,” says UNH president Mark Huddleston. “It is critical that we have this type of data as we work to strengthen efforts to prepare our students for lifelong success.”

Gallup and Purdue University developed the first national survey to measure long-term success, and to provide a measure of educational success that is more meaningful than job placement and compensation metrics alone. UNH graduates outperformed university graduates nationwide on several key measures of the survey:

Nearly four in five (79 percent) of the most recent UNH alumni are employed full time, a rate higher than for college graduates nationally and graduates of large public universities (65 percent for both).

UNH alumni are the most likely to report studying with professors who made them excited about learning (67 percent), higher than the percentage among alumni of other large public universities (60 percent) and the national average (63 percent).

In addition, UNH alumni are also more likely than graduates nationally and those from large public universities to be thriving in all five elements of wellbeing: purpose, social,

financial, community and physical. Overall, 16 percent of UNH graduates are thriving in all five areas compared with 10 percent in the national survey and 10 percent for other large public universities.

UNH vice president for advancement Deborah Dutton says the survey is a wonderful validation of the university's belief that its alumni are thriving. "We can be incredibly proud as an institution that our alumni are ahead of or comparable to their peers around the country in leading rewarding lives and feeling emotionally attached to their alma mater," Dutton says. "The results of the survey also present us with clear measures that will help guide us in ensuring every one of our students has access to the resources and support they need to pursue a satisfying career and a better life."

— Erika Mantz

Originally published in *UNH Magazine*—[Fall 2015 Issue](#)

UNH MAGAZINE FALL 2015



University of New Hampshire

UNH Today is produced for the UNH community and for friends of UNH. The stories are written by the staff of [UNH Communications and Public Affairs](#). Email us: [unhtoday.editor@unh.edu](mailto:unhtoday.editor@unh.edu).

[MANAGE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION](#)   [CONTACT US](#)

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter

Follow us on YouTube

Follow us on Instagram

Find us on LinkIn

UNH Today RSS feeds

UNH Today • UNH Main Directory: 603-862-1234  
Copyright © 2022 • TTY Users: 7-1-1 or 800-735-2964 (Relay NH)  
[USNH Privacy Policies](#) • [USNH Terms of Use](#) • [ADA Acknowledgement](#)