

New Mexico Highlands University
Alumni Survey: Spring 2020 (graduating class of 2016-17)
Summary of results

Background

Every spring the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research conducts a survey of NMHU alumni who graduated three years prior. Survey questions focus on three broad areas: 1) current status with respect to employment and/or continuing education; 2) level of satisfaction with their NMHU experience; and 3) participation in alumni activities. In addition to the standard survey questions, respondents have an opportunity to provide additional and more detailed comments through a number of open-ended questions.

Executive Summary

Overall, the results of the survey were quite positive. However, given the modest number of respondents and possible bias, caution should be exercised in assuming that survey results would equally apply to non-respondents.

Response rate: The survey was sent to 1009 alumni who graduated from NMHU in the 2016-17 academic year. There were 139 completed surveys for a 14% response rate, roughly double the response rate obtained in the previous year. Of the 139 respondents, 41% had been undergraduates at NMHU and 59% had been graduate students.

Current status: 71% of respondents are employed in New Mexico. 33% work in the field of education, 25% work in private industry, and 18% work in government jobs. See [page 2](#) for more detail.

Academic experience at NMHU: 95% of respondents reported that they were “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied” with the quality of instruction in their major. See [page 3](#) for more detail.

Support services: Slightly over 80% of respondents reported that they were “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied” with laboratory facilities, library facilities, and computer facilities. See [page 4](#) for more detail.

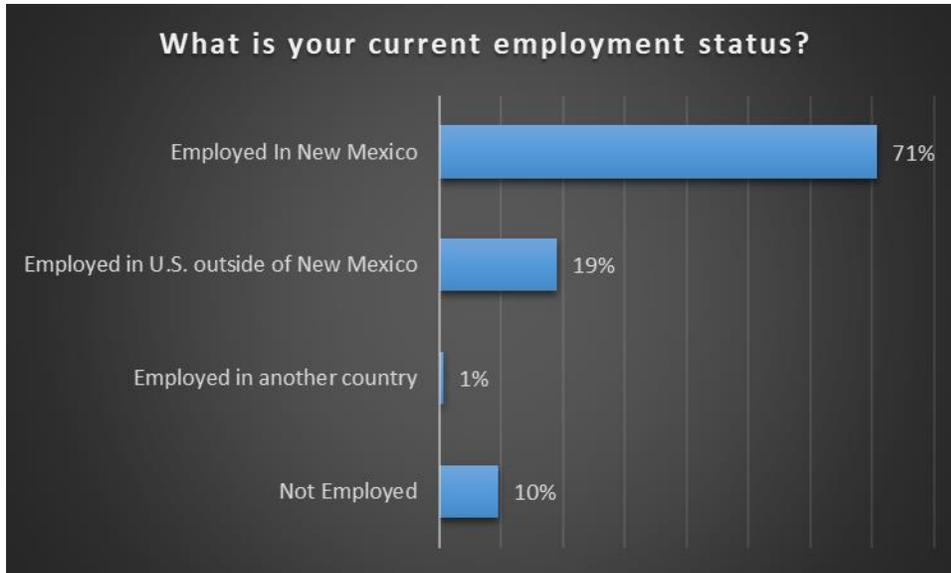
Intellectual stimulation: Over 90% of respondents reported that they were “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied” with the extent to which their NMHU experience enhanced their communication ability, critical thinking ability, knowledge of the world, and ability to work in groups. See [page 4](#) for more detail.

Overall assessment: 74% of respondents indicated that they would attend NMHU if they had to do it all over again, while 18% said “Maybe”. 71% of respondents stated that they would select the same major again. See [page 5](#) for more detail.

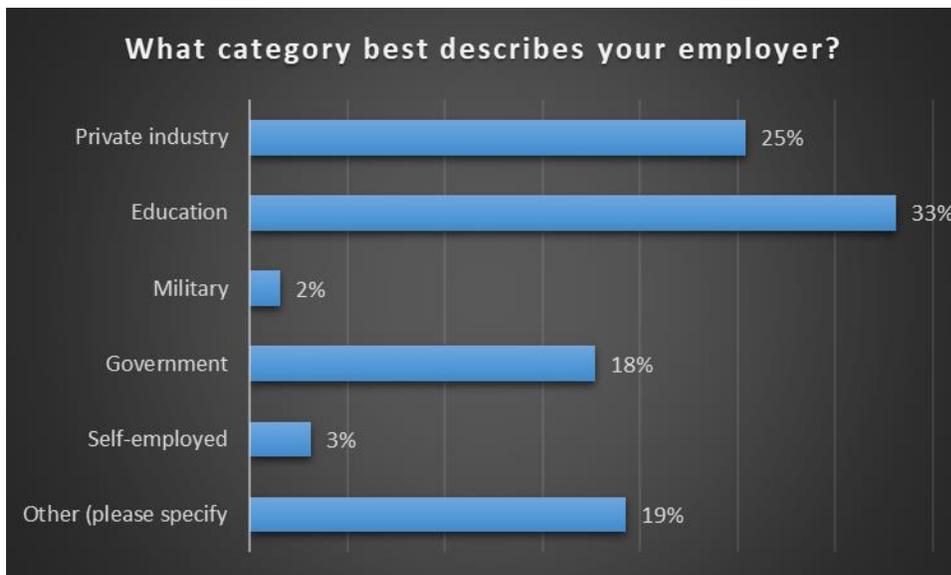
Alumni participation: 79% of respondents stated that they receive communications from the Alumni Office. 61% of respondents indicated that they would be interested in attending alumni social events, while 49% said that they would be interested in mentoring opportunities. See [page 5](#) for more detail.

Current status of respondents

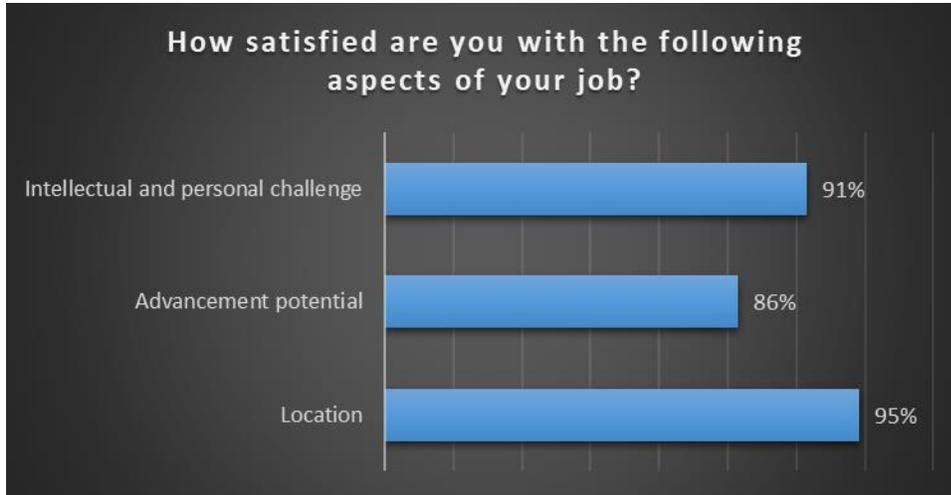
The chart below shows responses to the question “Please select the choice below that most closely matches your current employment status.” About 90% of respondents are currently employed, the majority remaining in the state of New Mexico.



The chart below shows responses to the question “Which category best describes your employer?” NMHU alumni are clearly employed in a broad range of industries and professions, with education being the most common.

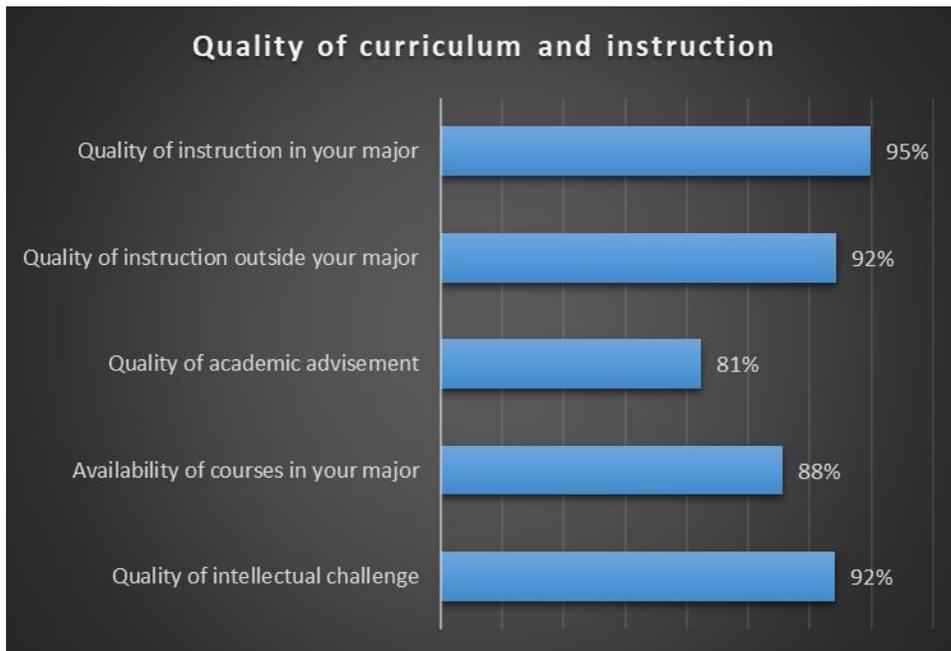


The chart below shows responses to the question “How satisfied are you with the following aspects of your job?” These data suggest that NMHU alumni have a high level of satisfaction with their current jobs. Percentages refer to the percent of respondents who responded that they were “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied”.



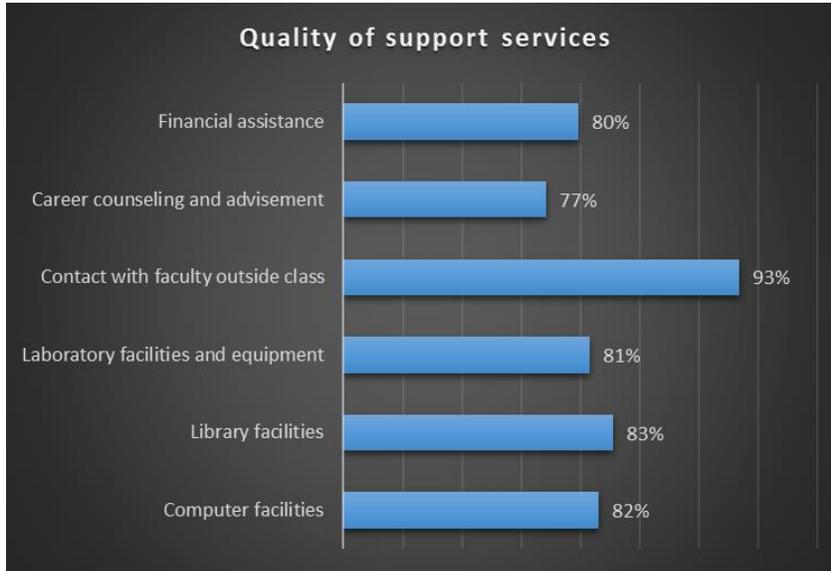
Academic experience at NMHU

The chart below shows responses to a set of questions relating to the academic quality of their experience at NMHU. These data indicate a high level of satisfaction, with the weakest endorsement applying to quality of academic advisement. Percentages refer to the percent of respondents who responded that they were “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied”.



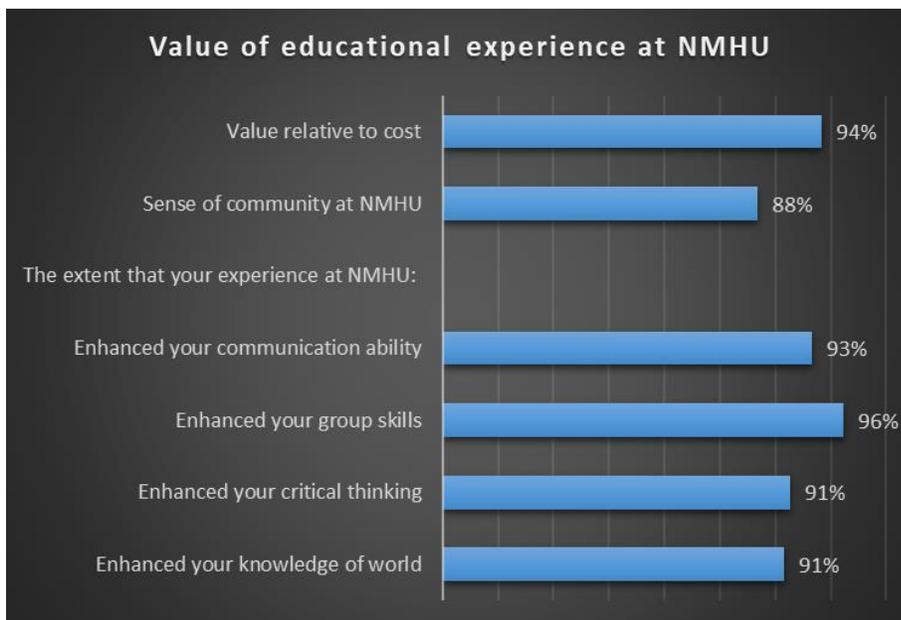
Support services at NMHU

The chart below shows responses to a set of questions relating to various types of support services offered at the university. Overall the responses indicate a fairly high level of satisfaction, although there is clearly room for improvement. Percentages refer to the percent of respondents who responded that they were “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied”.



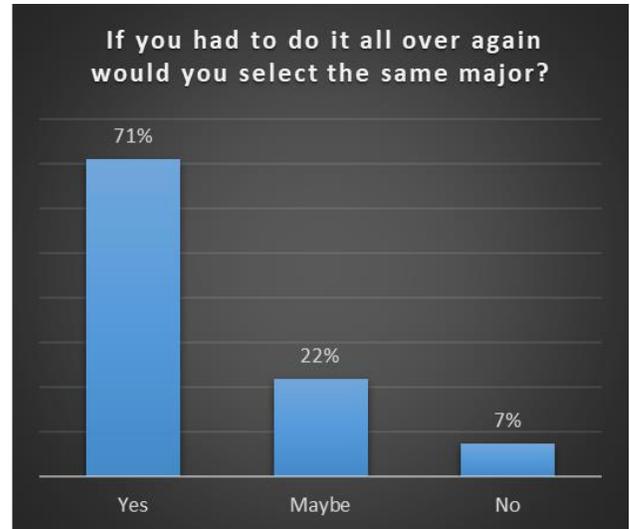
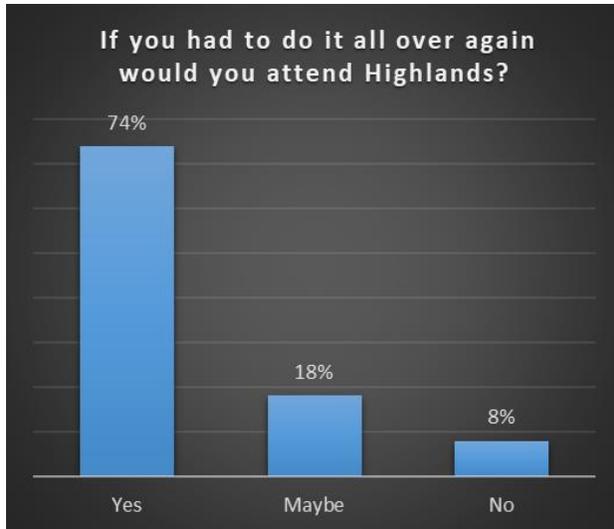
Intellectual and personal gain

The chart below shows responses to a set of questions relating to alumni perceptions of the social and intellectual climate at NMHU. These data indicate that alumni feel that their education at NMHU was a good value and that it enhanced their thinking and social skills. Percentages refer to the percent of respondents who responded that they were “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied”.



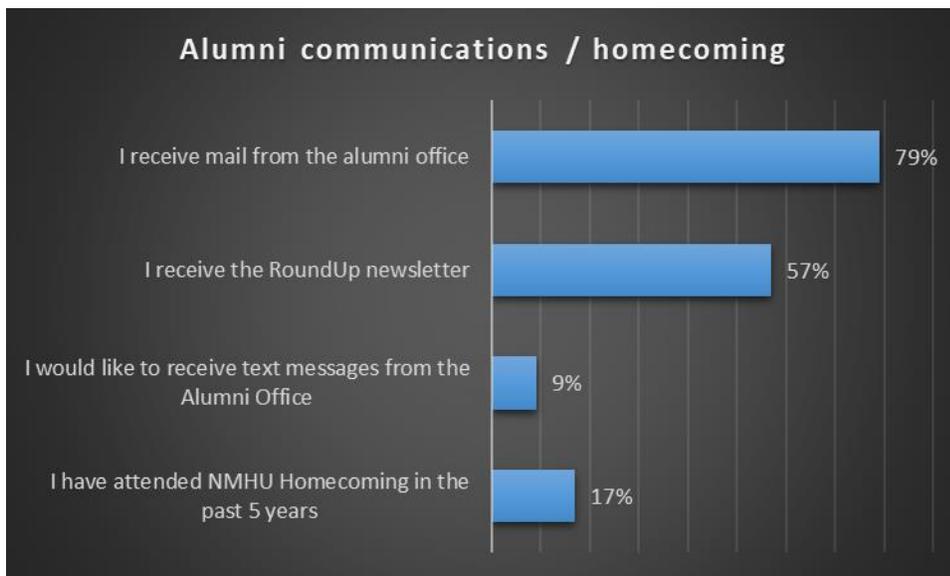
Overall assessment

The chart below shows responses to two questions inquiring whether respondents would repeat their NMHU experience if they had the opportunity. These data suggest that overall alumni were satisfied with their experience at NMHU, but there is clearly some room for improvement here.



Alumni participation

The chart below shows the percentage of respondents who endorsed a set of questions pertaining to alumni communications and homecoming attendance. Most of our alumni do receive regular communications from the Alumni Office, but few attend homecoming and very few want to receive text messages.



Finally, the chart below shows the types of activities in which alumni may be interested in participating. Respondents could endorse as many of these activities as they wished. Social activities and mentoring students clearly top the list.

