What is Return on Investment (ROI)?

The gain generated on an investment relative to the amount of money invested.
What is the Gain for College Graduates?

• Improved job prospects and financial security
• Improvements in health status
• Increased citizen participation
• Crime reduction
• Increases in social mobility
What is the Investment for College Graduates?

• Cost of Attendance
• Debt at Graduation
Average Debt of Graduating Seniors who Borrowed (Current Dollars, All 4-Year Colleges)

- 1996: $12,750
- 2000: $17,350
- 2004: $18,650
- 2008: $23,300
- 2012: $29,400
- 2016: $29,650
Loan Calculator

- Loan Balance: $29,200.00
- Adjusted Loan Balance: $29,200.00
- Loan Interest Rate: 4.53%
- Loan Fees: 0.00%
- Loan Term: 10 years
- Minimum Payment: $0.00

- Monthly Loan Payment: $303.05
- Number of Payments: 120
- Cumulative Payments: $36,365.49
- Total Interest Paid: $7,165.49
Student Outcomes Data Expanded To Include NYS Wages

Unique Degree Recipients Between 2005-06 and 2015-16
Sent 777,673  Received 745,804  96.5% Match

Data Exchange: Matching Records, Merging Data Sources, Combining Quarters, and Removing Duplicates

29.6 MILLION RECORDS ADHERING TO STRICT PRIVACY PROVISIONS
SUNY Graduates
Post-Completion
Wages

Interactive Tool
Released May 2019

www.suny.edu/gradwages
Wages Represented In the SUNY gradwages Tool

- Underlying data is from NYSDOL Unemployment Insurance (UI) System, which accounts for ~97% of New York’s non-farm employment
- Does not include wages for self-employed graduates
- Does not includes wages for the military
- Does not include wages for graduates who did not have an SSN as part of the SUNY record
- Includes wages for only the most recent award
- Does not include wages for students earning below the federal minimum wage in 2015
- Does not display wages if there are less than 10 graduates who meet the criteria
### FAQ

Read before using the wages dashboard!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is the objective of the SUNY gradwages Tool?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will these be my wages if I graduate from one of these SUNY programs?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does this tool show all active academic programs at SUNY?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the source of the wages data?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are all the New York State wages included?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you use other sources of data?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How are the wages calculated?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are the wages displayed for full-time employment?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you calculate the percentage working in NYS?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From when are the wages used for the wage calculations?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are wages of graduates who continued with their higher education after graduating included?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do these wages follow a set group of graduates over time?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How do you report the wages of SUNY graduates who earned more than one award?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No data or limited data is showing after filtering for a particular program area. Is there a problem?
Wages Dashboard Tab – opening view
Notable Findings

How many SUNY graduates work in NYS after graduation?

- 78% of SUNY graduates are working in NYS two years after graduation

What are wage differences across award levels?

- Median wages of SUNY graduates working in New York generally increase with higher levels of education. Ex.: Two years after graduation the wage difference between Associates and Baccalaureate is over $5,000 and between Baccalaureate and Masters is over $13,000.

Do the wage differences stay the same or change over time?

- Generally consistent with some exceptions, e.g., the largest increase is with First Professionals 10 years out
Notable Findings

What program areas have particularly strong wage outcomes?

Health fields have the highest wages for Associates, Baccalaureate, Masters, First Professional, and Graduate Certificate holders

What are the top industries where SUNY graduates work?

24% of graduates work in Healthcare and Social Assistance
Fields of Study for Bachelor’s Degree Graduates
10 Years after Graduation

Most popular majors at SUNY (excluding nursing):

Biology $62,575
Business Administration $69,667
Computer and Information Science $93,915
Criminal Justice $61,332
Psychology $50,491
Fields of Study for Bachelor’s Degree Graduates
10 Years after Graduation

Communications, Journalism & Related  $75,980
Fashion Design  $82,816
Graphic Design  $66,088
Social Work  $42,266
Sports and Fitness Management  $63,809
Different types of engineering; any ideas as to what type has the highest median wages?

Fields of Study for Bachelor’s Degree Graduates 10 Years after Graduation

- Biomedical Engineering: $73,467
- Ceramic Sciences and Engineering: $100,057
- Chemical Engineering: $88,292
- Electrical Engineering: $93,486
- Mechanical Engineering: $86,407
Fields of Study for Graduates
10 Years after Graduation

Bachelor’s in Biochemistry $73,577

OR

Associate in Electrical and Power Transmission Installation $70,109
Wages doesn’t always necessarily follow award level; some certificate programs are highly specialized.

Fields of Study for Graduates 10 Years after Graduation

Associate in Graphic Design $33,746

OR

Certificate in CADD Drafting/Design $49,049
Name the Program

Medicine (MD)
Name the Program

Physical Therapy
Name the Program

Pharmacy

Annual Median Wages by Years after Graduation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years After Graduation</th>
<th>Median Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$91,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$116,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$118,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$126,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>$133,372</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wages Increase with Higher Levels of Education
Benefits

- Determine return on investment potential
- Inform decision making
- Set realistic student expectations
This tool does not guarantee any particular earnings. The wages presented in the SUNY *gradwages* dashboard are derived from previous years' combined academic and employment data and are intended to illustrate the potential earnings by program of study based on recent SUNY graduate employment outcomes.
Follow-up questions to IR@suny.edu