



May 2006

Recent College Graduate Salaries

In May 2006, ERC surveyed Northeast Ohio employers regarding their average starting salary for recent college graduates. The following report summarizes the responses of the **34** organizations that participated in the survey.

Average starting salaries and number of recent graduates (Bachelor Degree) currently employed in the below fields of expertise.

Field/Function	Average
Accounting/Finance	\$40,250
Customer Service	\$28,167
Engineering	\$45,000
I.T./Networking	\$37,833
Management/Administration	\$46,500

Insufficient data were reported for the fields of: Database Development, Economics, Graphic Design, Human Resources, Marketing/Advertising, Psychology, Scientific Research, Sales, Social Work, and Web Design.

Criterion Considered When Determining Recent Graduate Starting Salary

Criterion	Yes	No	N/A
Additional Certifications	56%	21%	24%
Grade Point Average	56%	32%	12%
Internship/Co-Op	74%	18%	9%
Involvement in Extra Curricular Activities	38%	41%	21%
Market Data	79%	18%	3%
Work Experience	85%	12%	3%
Study Abroad Experience	0%	74%	26%
Other	18%	32%	50%

“Other” Criterion Includes

- Technical competency – computer capabilities
- College attended
- Assessment testing results

Unique Trends

- More than half (56%) of employers that reported data value the importance of additional certifications and grade point average.

- However, surpassing additional certifications and grade point average is market data, internship/co-op, and work experience at 74% - 85%.
- More (41%) employers do not consider involvement in extra curricular activities when determining starting salary.
- Study abroad experience does not have any impact on starting salary for recent college graduates based on the reported data.