

# Results from the Senior Survey 2019

## Methodology

The link to an online 6-18 question survey was emailed to each full-time member of the senior class who, as of March 5, 2019, was anticipated to graduate by May 2019. Employees and other non-traditional students were excluded from the population. Initial invitations were sent on April 4th and the last responses were received on May 17. Of the 404 seniors who graduated between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019, 280 responded with their primary activity after graduation (at a minimum) for an overall response rate of 69%.

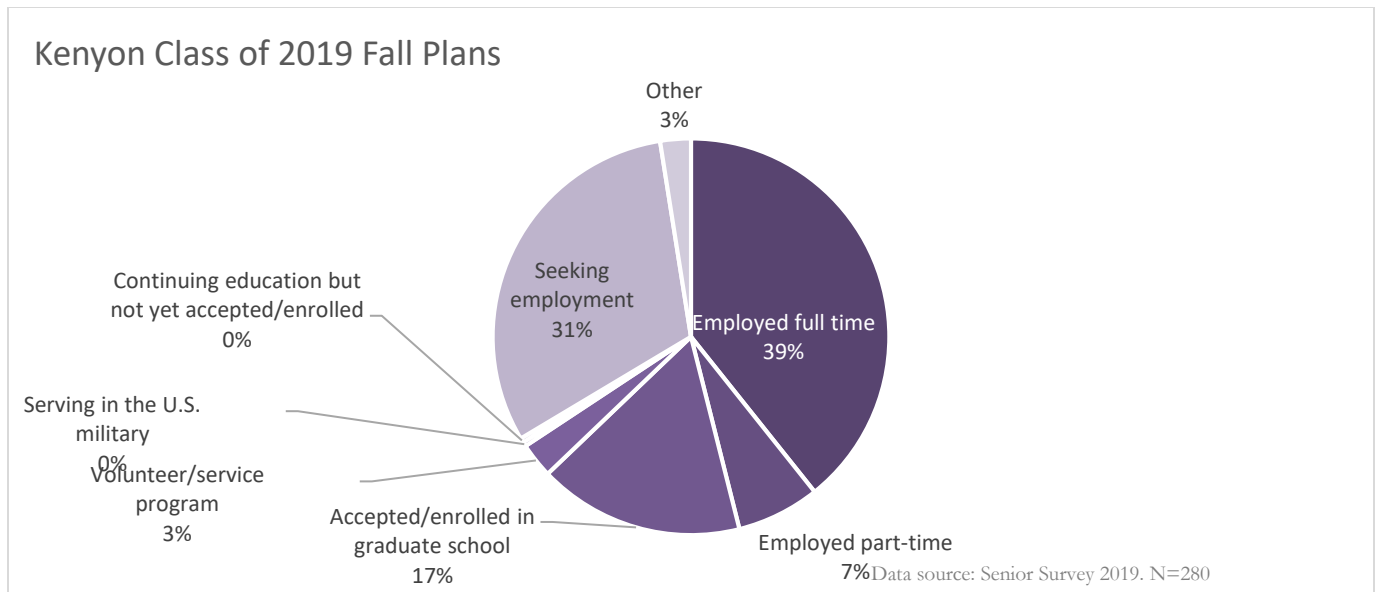
## Highlights

As of May 2019, respondents to the Class of 2019 Senior Survey indicated that:

- 39% had full-time employment for the fall
- 7% had part-time employment for the fall
- 17% had been accepted to/enrolled in graduate school for the fall
- 3% planned on participating in a volunteer/service opportunity for the fall
- 31% were still seeking employment for the fall
- 0.4% were planning on continuing education but had not yet been accepted/enrolled for the fall
- 0.4% were serving in the U.S. military
- 2.5% planned on doing something other than education, employment, service, or military.

## The Plans of the Class of 2019

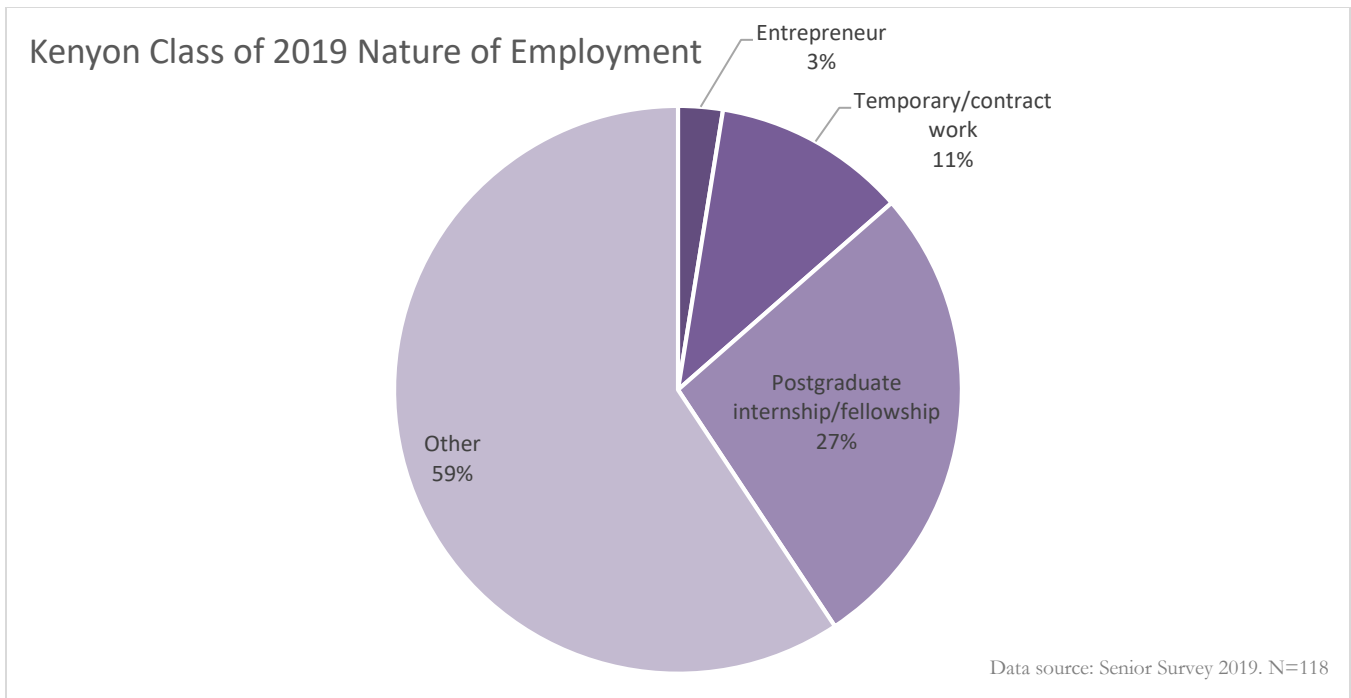
We first asked seniors to identify their plans for the fall. 77% of students indicated that employment was their top priority, whether it was being employed full-time (39%), part-time (7%), or looking for a job (31%). 17.4% indicated that they would continue their education in the fall. Most of these students had already enrolled or been accepted into a graduate or professional school program (98% of total), and others were planning on continuing their education but had not yet enrolled or been accepted (2% of total). 3% of graduates planned on participating in a volunteer or service program. A small percentage of students (0.4%) were serving in the U.S. military, while another small amount of students (0.4%) planned on doing something other than employment, education, service, or military.



## Employment and Volunteer/Service

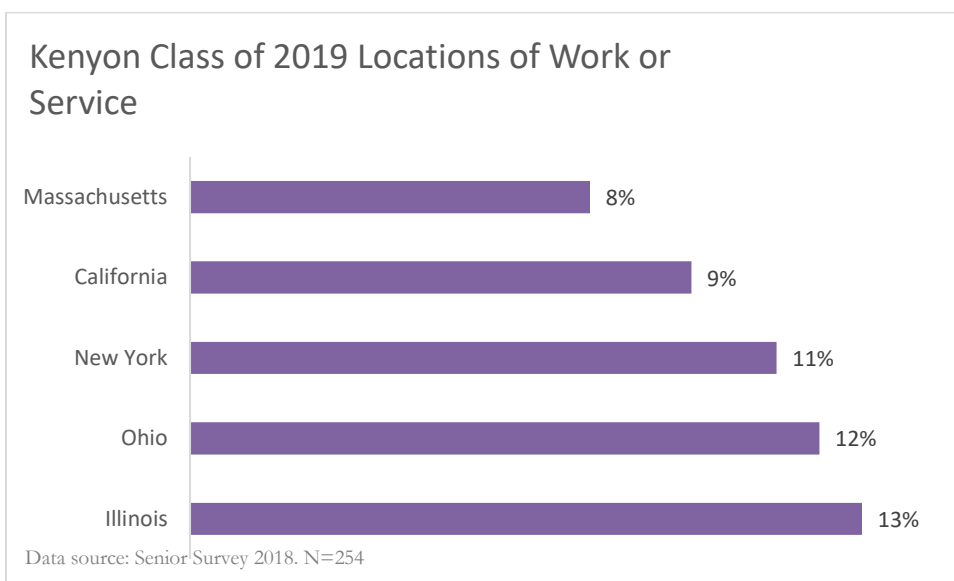
A little under half of the senior class respondents (49%) reported they were undertaking full-time employment, part-time employment, or volunteer/service work positions. The survey gave these respondents the opportunity to provide information on the nature and location of their work.

46% of the survey respondents (129 respondents) stated that they would be employed full time or employed part time in the fall. Students who selected one of these employment categories had an option to give further information about the nature of their work. Of the employed respondents, 92% selected a description of their work. The majority of these respondents (83%) selected that their work is part of the private sector, while the remaining respondents indicated their work was in the public sector. In addition, 62% of employed respondents indicated that they would be working for a for-profit organization. From the open response question in which respondents could state their position or title, popular fields of work for these graduates include finance, education, and research. A sizeable percentage of the students who were employed had postgraduate internship or fellowship positions (27%) or had temporary/contract work assignments (11%).



In addition, 2% of the survey respondents (8 respondents) stated that they would work volunteer or service positions in the fall. In the open response job title and job organization sections, 75% of students who reported that they would conduct volunteer or service work stated that they had teaching positions. The most popular organization that these students listed as employers was AmeriCorps with 50% of respondents.

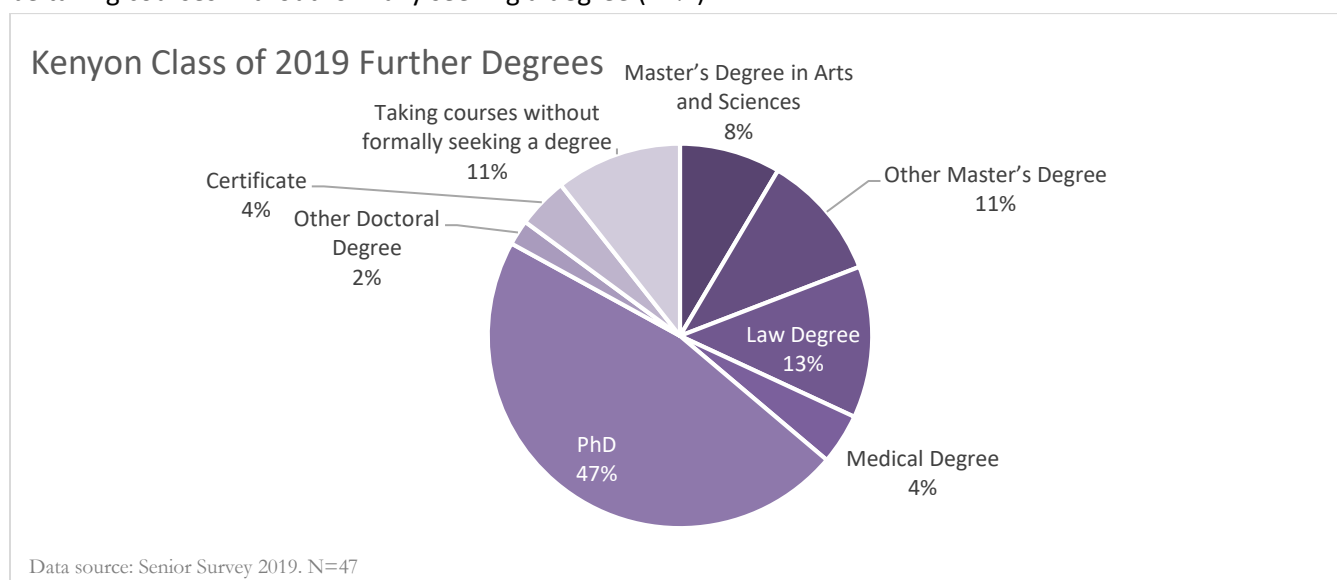
Survey respondents also had the opportunity to share the location in which they would pursue their plans. The most popular U.S. work locations were Illinois (32 respondents), Ohio (30 respondents), New York (28 respondents), California (24 respondents), and Massachusetts (19 respondents).



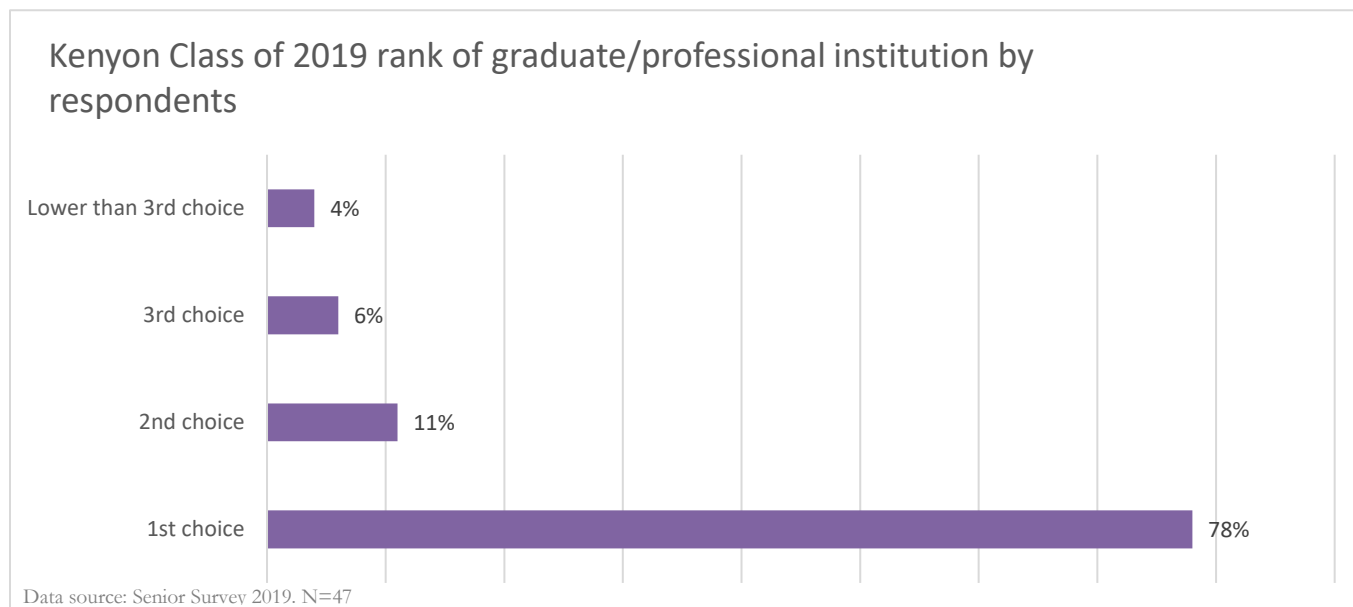
## Graduate and Professional School

Of the Class of 2019, 17.4% indicated that their post-graduation plans included graduate or professional school. 98% of these students (47 respondents) had been accepted at or had enrolled in a graduate program for the fall. The remaining 2% (1 respondent) planned to pursue further education in the fall, but they had not enrolled in a program as of the time when they completed the survey.

Students who stated they had been accepted at or had enrolled in a graduate/professional program for the fall were asked to provide details on the type of degree they were pursuing. Of these students, 48% (23 respondents) will be pursuing a doctoral degree such as a PhD and 19% (9 respondents) will be pursuing a Master's degree. Also, a considerable percentage of these students will be pursuing a law degree (13%) and will be taking courses without formally seeking a degree (11%).



Students who planned to attend graduate or professional school were successful in getting admitted to their top choice programs. The majority (79%) were planning to attend their first choice of graduate or professional program, and 11% were planning to attend their second choice of program. Only two students indicated that the program was lower than their third choice.



## Students with Other Plans

Other options included the 0.4% of students serving in the U.S. military. An additional 0.4% of students indicated that they had plans to do something that did not include working or attending graduate or professional school. These responses included playing professional sports or travelling.

## Conclusions

With nearly two-thirds of respondents indicating that they have definite plans for the fall (in the form of full- or part-time employment, volunteer or service work, or graduate school) and several more respondents applying for or deciding between opportunities, the Class of 2019 appears to be successfully transitioning into the next stage of their lives. For some respondents this transition will include traditional and formal opportunities such as long-term employment or attending graduate school, while other respondents have deliberately structured their next steps to allow for exploration such as traveling, career related service, or moving to their desired city. The Class of 2019 seems to have identified a diverse range of opportunities and goals that they can continue to explore over the years to come.