

OIRE Data Brief Series I

# Doctoral Alumni Employment Outcomes

Office of Institutional Research  
and Effectiveness (OIRE)  
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**THE  
GRADUATE  
CENTER**  
CITY UNIVERSITY  
OF NEW YORK

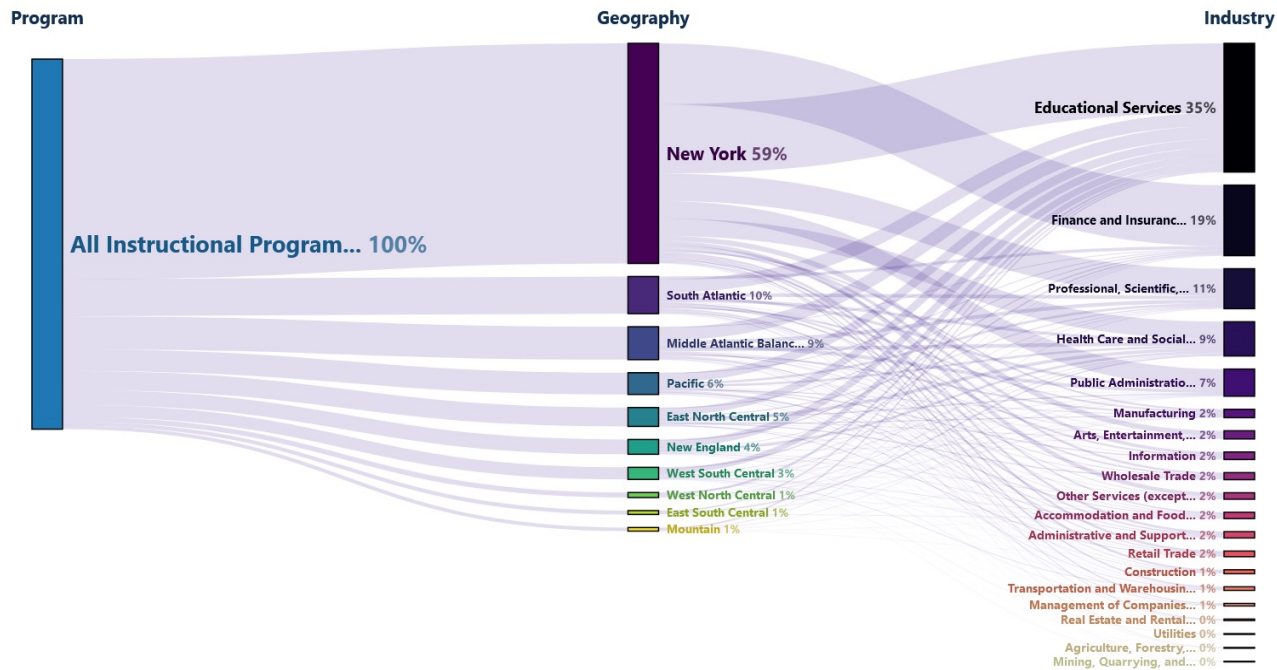
## Introduction

- This report synthesizes information from the [Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes \(PSEO\)](#) dashboard (nationwide employment data) and [CUNY Wage Dashboard](#) (NYS employment data).
- Graduate Center employment outcomes are **benchmarked** to doctoral programs in 10 big public universities nationwide that participated in the PSEO program.
- OIRE at GC produced this report:
  - to provide greater transparency and awareness of GC institutional data
  - for leadership to identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement
  - for programs to gain insights into their field's employment outcomes and make program-level decisions

# 1. Overview of GC Doctoral Alumni Employment

The top 3 industries in which GC doctoral alumni work after graduation are [Educational Services](#), [Finance and Insurance](#), and [Professional, Scientific, Tech Services](#). **59%** of GC doctoral graduates stay in New York State 1 year after graduation.

Figure 1. Overview of GC Doctoral Alumni Employment (1-yr Post Graduation)



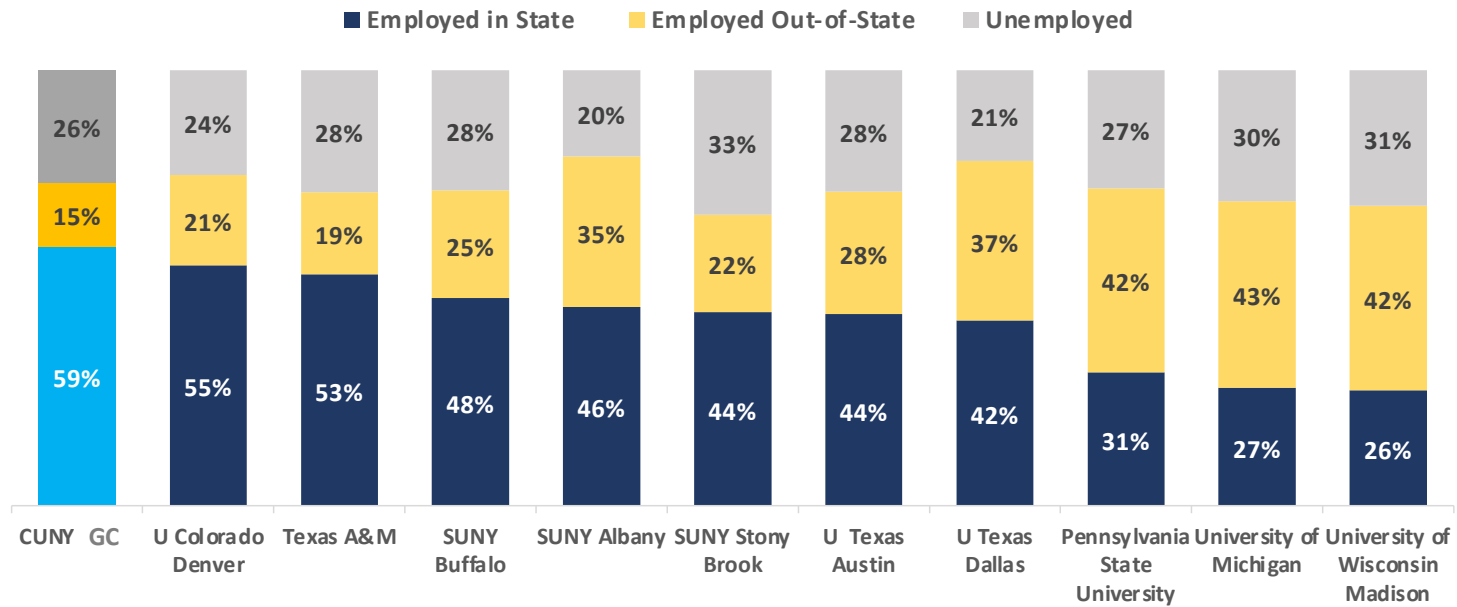
Data Source: PSEO, 2001-2015 graduate cohorts

## 2. Where do GC doctoral alumni work?

More GC doctoral graduates (**59%**) find in-state jobs compared to the 10 benchmark public universities nationwide listed below.

**74%** of GC doctoral alumni are employed 1 year after graduation, slightly higher than the average of the benchmark universities.

Figure 2. Employment Rate (1-yr Post Graduation): GC vs. Benchmark Institutions

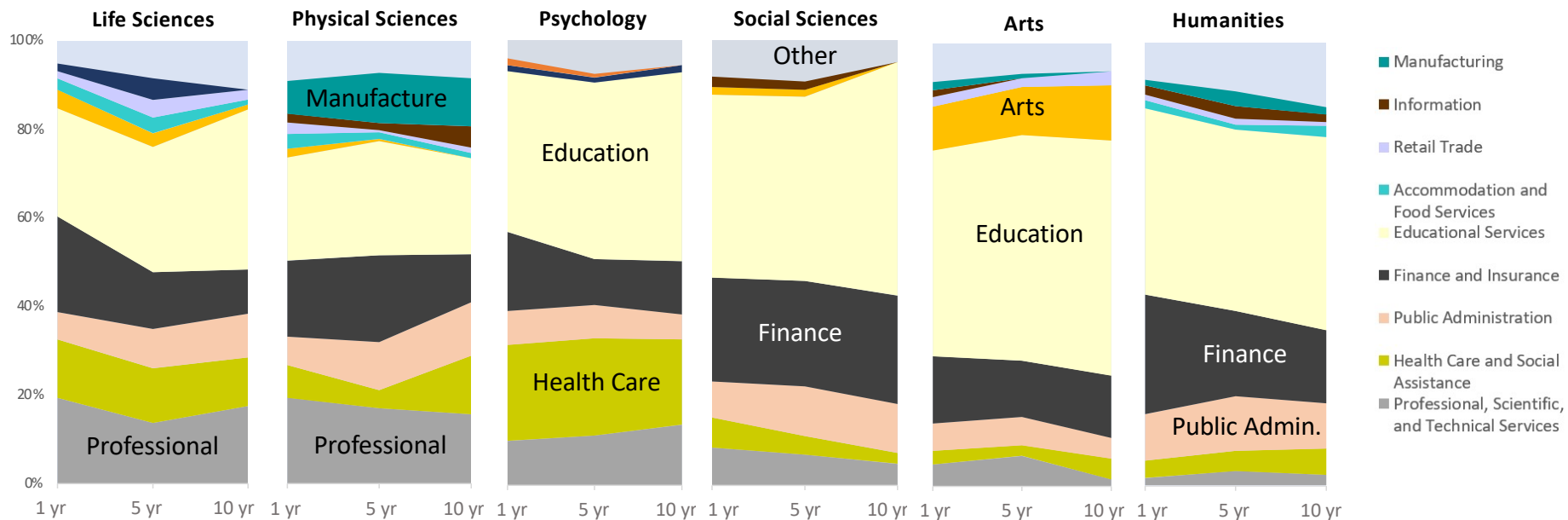


Data Source: PSEO, 2001-2015 graduate cohorts

### 3. Industry Sector:

The career paths for GC doctoral graduates are more diverse than the 10 benchmark public universities nationwide. More GC doctoral graduates work in **Finance, Public Administration, and Art.**

Figure 3. Industry Sector of Employment 1-yr, 5-yr, and 10-yr Post Graduation:  
GC Doctoral Alumni by Study Field

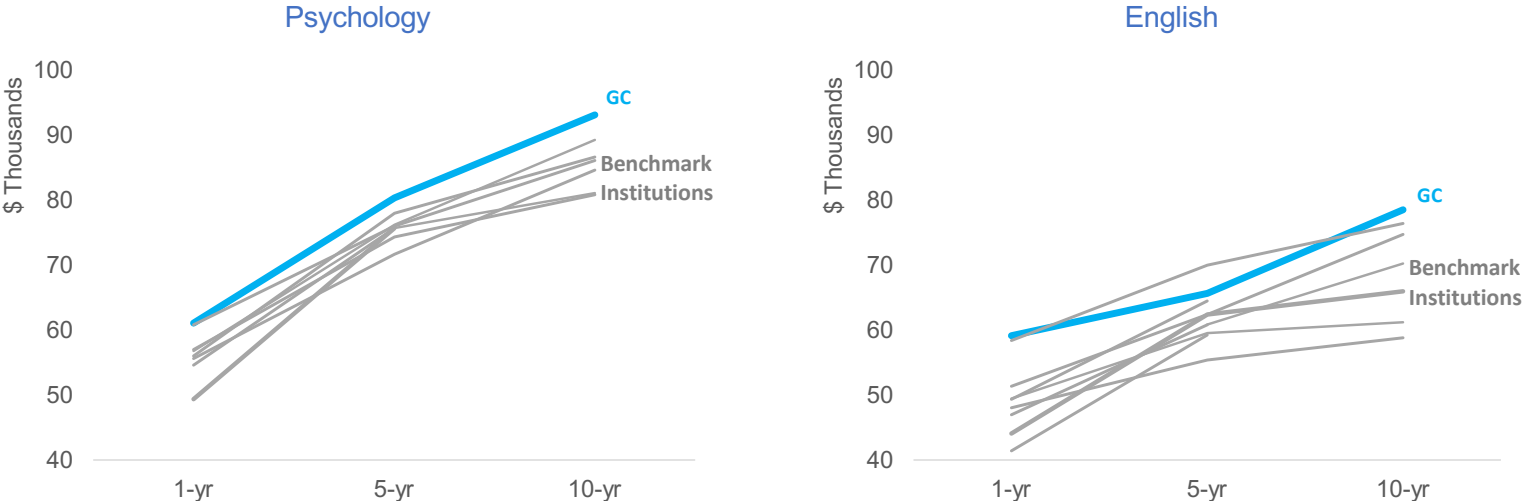


Data Source: PSEO, 2001-2015 graduate cohorts (Industry Sectors are based on [NAICS Sectors](#))

## 4. Median Salary:

Some GC programs have the **highest median salary** level compared to the 10 benchmark public universities.

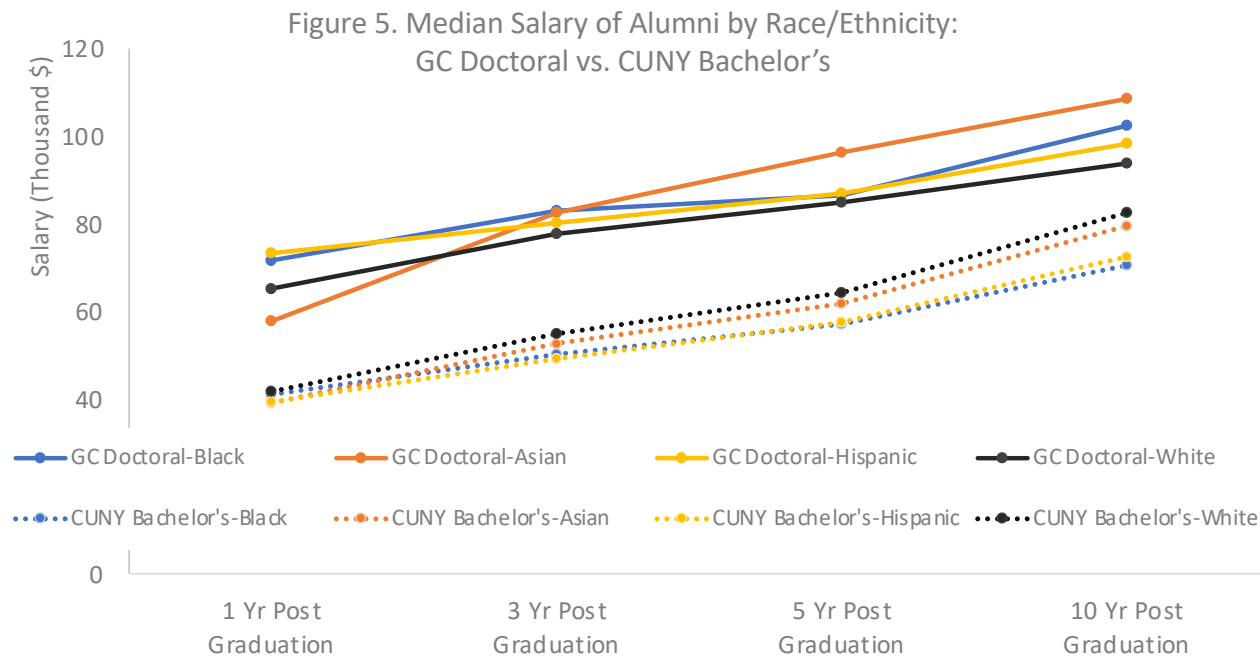
Figure 4. Median Salary 1-yr, 5-yr, and 10-yr Post Graduation  
GC vs. Benchmark Institutions



Data Source: PSEO, 2001-2015 graduate cohorts

## 5. Salary Level of Minority Graduates:

Minority doctoral graduates from GC obtained **higher** salaries than white graduates, especially three years after their graduation. Please note that more GC Asian graduates are from STEM programs, which can affect the group's trend in salary.



Data Source: CUNY Wage Dashboard. Results are based on graduates from 2001-2018, and the employment data reflects employment within NYS. The race/ethnicity is as defined by the CUNY Wage Dashboard (no data is available for American Indian graduates).

## Next Steps

- Feel free to explore the GC [Alumni Outcome Dashboards](#) for information about alumni in your program.
- For the full report on alumni employment, or program-level information, please send your requests to the OIRE at [institutionalresearch@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:institutionalresearch@gc.cuny.edu).
- If you are interested in learning more, or have any questions about our reports and dashboards, please feel free to contact Ying Wang (Associate Director of Institutional Research, [ywang4@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:ywang4@gc.cuny.edu)).



# Appendix: Data Sources

## 1. Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) Dashboard ([PSEO website](#))

PSEO is developed by the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) program of U.S. Census Bureau. PSEO data provide **nationwide** employment outcomes and earnings for college and university graduates by degree level, degree major, and post-secondary institution.

- **Graduates:** This report is based on all graduate cohorts from **2001-2015**.
- **Employment:** The core jobs data are state unemployment insurance (UI) wage records, supplemented with U.S. Census Bureau surveys and other federal agency administrative records. Notable exclusions from UI coverage among private sector employers are independent contractors, the unincorporated self-employed, railroad workers covered by the railroad unemployment insurance system, some family employees of family-owned businesses, certain farm workers, students working for universities under certain cooperative programs, salespersons primarily paid on commission, and workers of some non-profits.
- **Earnings:** Earnings are total annual earnings for attached workers from all jobs, converted to 2016 dollars. The following two groups were excluded: graduates who earn less than the annual equivalent of full-time work at the prevailing federal minimum wage, and graduates with two or more quarters with no earnings in the reference year.

## 2. CUNY Wage Dashboard ([website](#))

- Developed by CUNY Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA). It includes graduates from **2001 to 2019**, who are employed **in New York State**. Employment and wage data are from the New York State Department of Labor.

The PSEO data include nationwide employment outcomes for our graduates, and data for institutions from multiple states; CUNY Wage Dashboard only includes NYS employment and CUNY graduates. However, CUNY Wage Dashboard contains more recent data and includes demographic information, which allows further exploration of how gender, race, and major relate to wage levels.