



Victoria University of Wellington

# Graduate Destinations Survey

Summary Report  
July 2017—June 2018



# INTRODUCTION

The annual Graduate Destinations Survey reports on the types of employment, further study, volunteer work or job searching our graduates are involved in after completing their studies. These statistics are of the employment destinations of respondents who graduated between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018.

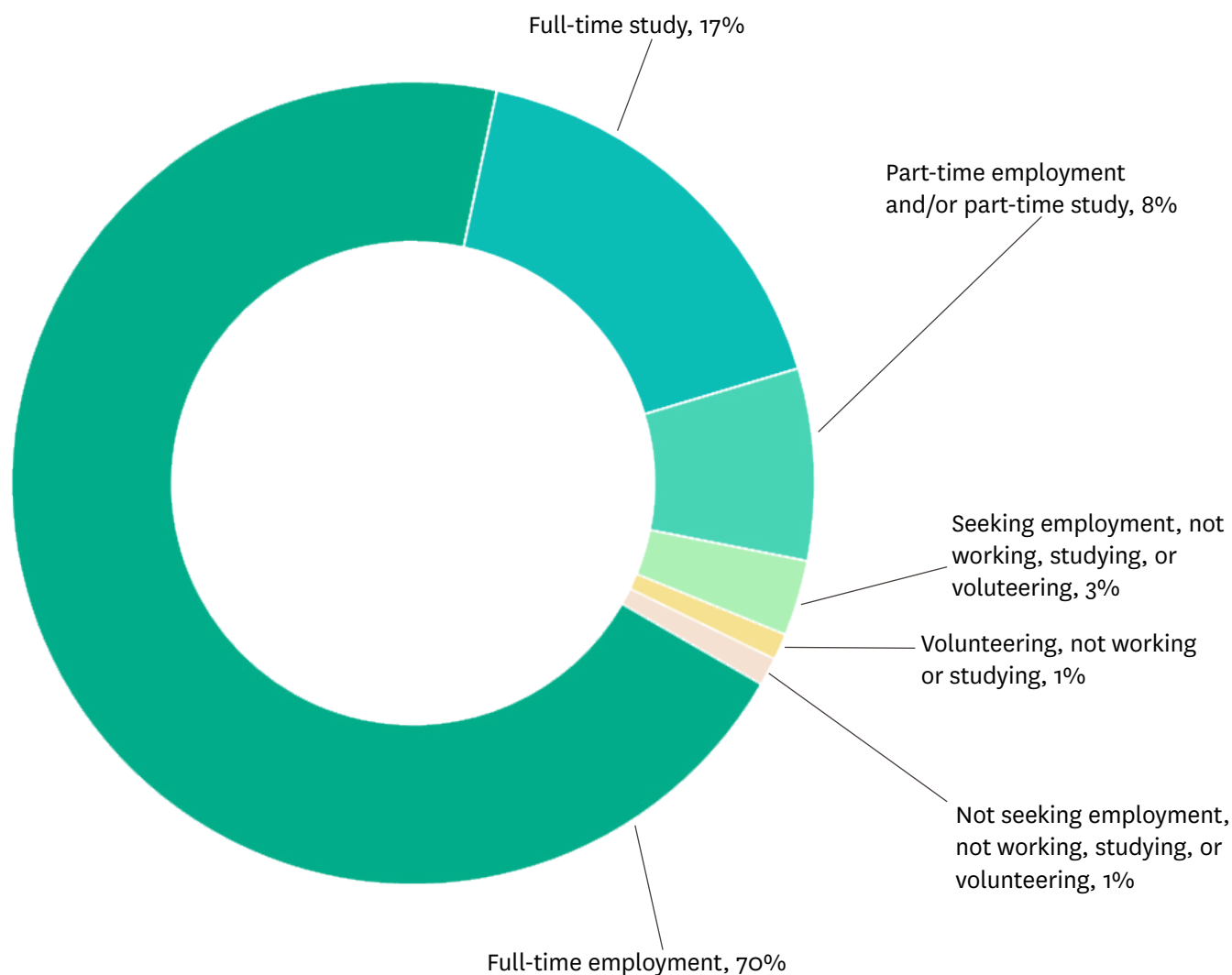
This Graduate Destinations Survey Summary Report is intended to give a snapshot of the responses from participants in the survey about graduate destinations.

A total of 5,026 valid emails were sent and 1,614 responses were received—a response rate of 32 percent.



# 1. GRADUATE DESTINATIONS

FIGURE 1.1. GRADUATE DESTINATIONS (n=1,607)



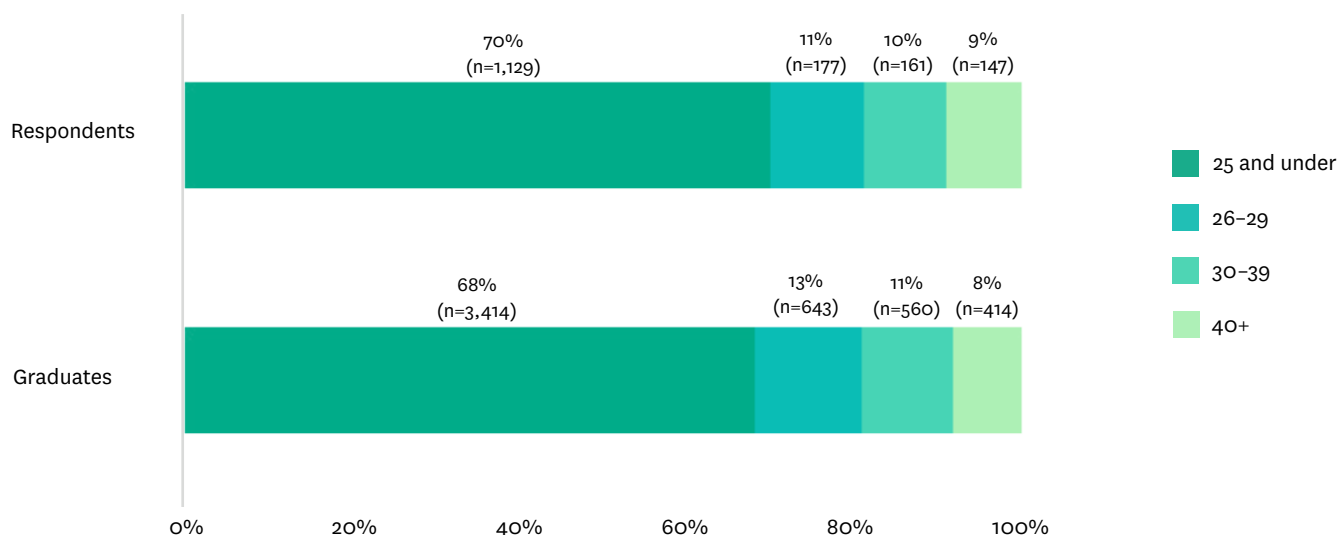
## NOTES

- Full-time employment:** respondents in this category reported working full-time but may also be in full- or part-time study and/or other part-time work and/or volunteering.
- Full time study:** respondents in this category reported studying full-time but may also be in part-time work and/or volunteering.
- Part-time employment and/or part-time study:** respondents in this category reported working or studying part-time while not being in full-time employment or study, they may also be volunteering.
- Seeking employment, not working, studying, or volunteering:** respondents in this category reported not being in paid work or studying, and seeking employment.
- Volunteering, not working or studying:** respondents in this category reported volunteering only, and not working or studying, but may be seeking employment.
- Not seeking employment:** respondents in this category reported not working, studying, or volunteering, and not seeking employment.

## 2. GRADUATES AND SURVEY RESPONDENTS

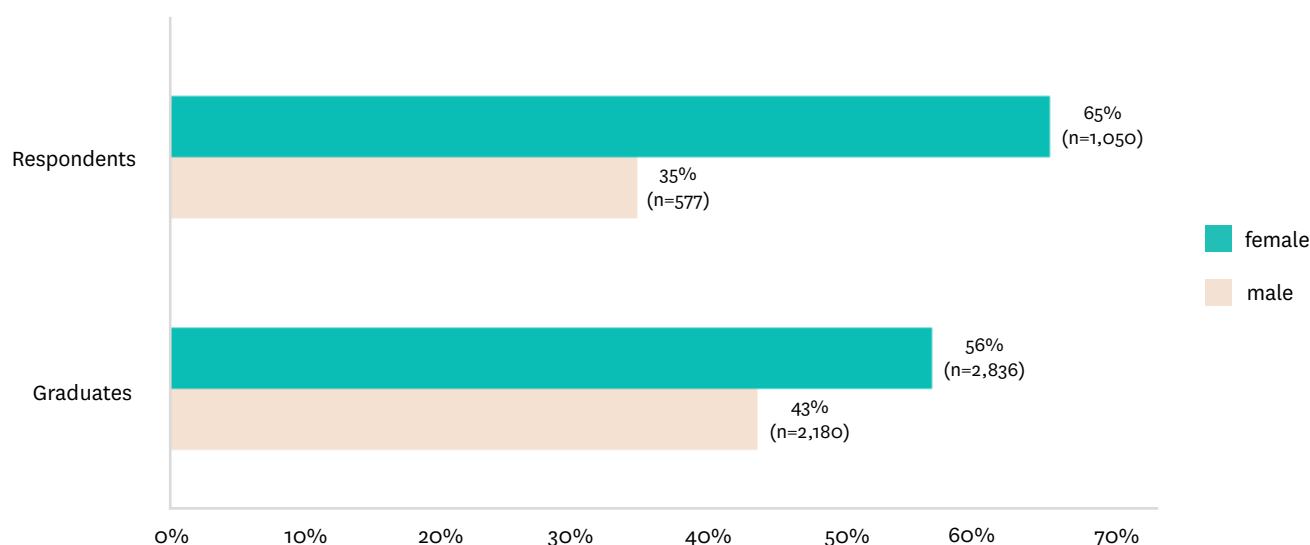
1,614 graduates responded to the graduate destinations survey, which provided a response rate of 32 percent. Overall, the survey respondents were representative of the graduating cohort.

**FIGURE 2.1. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY AGE**



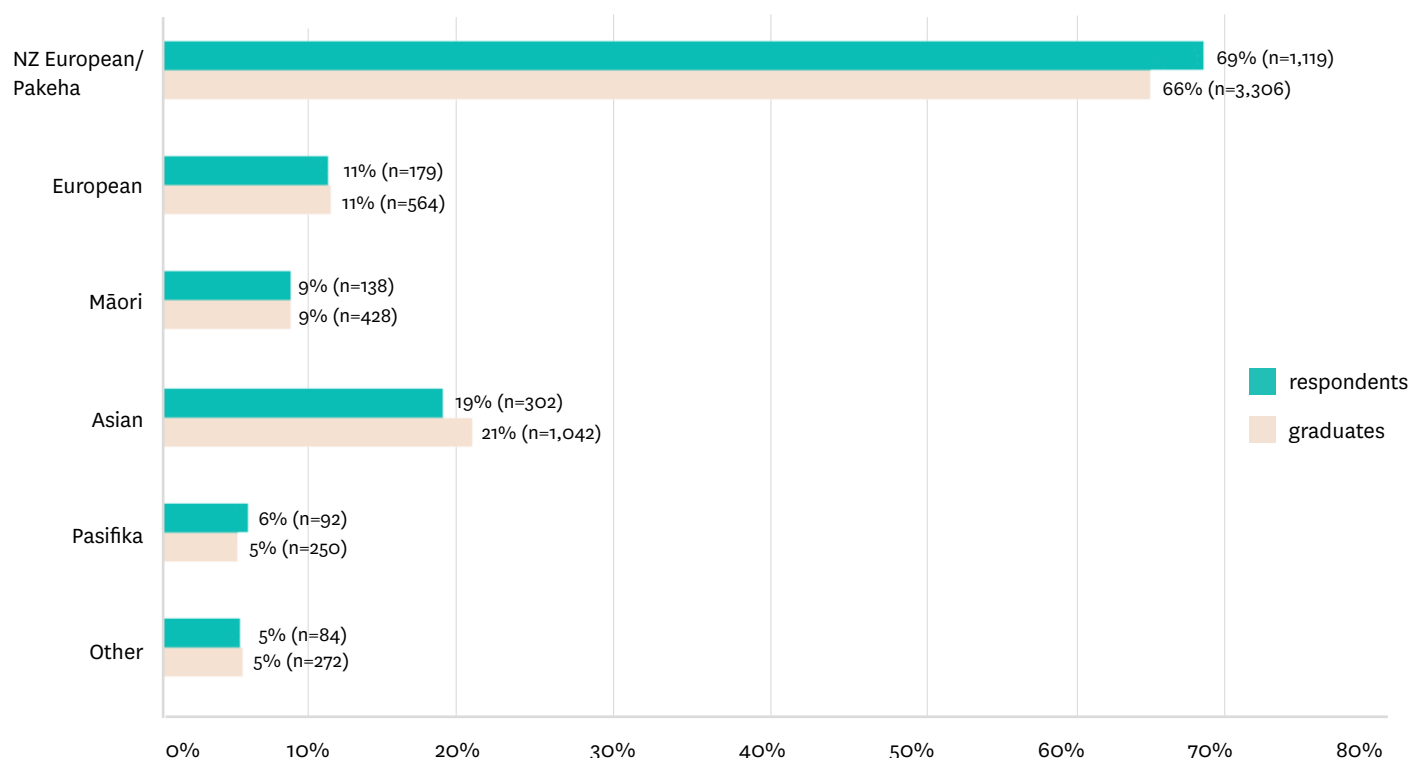
- More than 65 percent of graduates and respondents are under 25 years old.
- Over 80 percent of all graduates and survey respondents are under 30 years old.
- 10 percent of respondents are 30-39 years old, and 9 percent are over 40 years old, which is compatible with the age groups in the graduate population (11 percent and 8 percent, respectively).

**FIGURE 2.2. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY GENDER**



- The majority of graduates are female, which is reflected in the survey results.
- Female respondents were slightly overrepresented and male respondents slightly underrepresented compared to the graduate population.

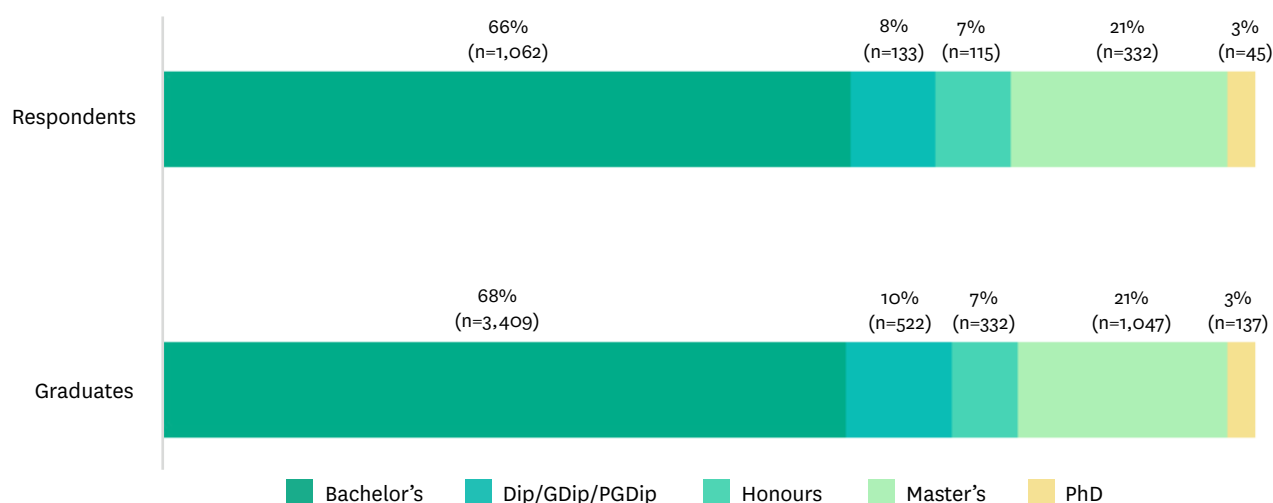
**FIGURE 2.3. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY ETHNICITY**



**Note—the percentages do not total to 100 percent, as multiple ethnicities could be selected**

- A slightly higher proportion of respondents identified as New Zealand European/Pakeha and Pasifika, compared to the graduate population.
- Overall, the respondents were representative of the graduate cohort in terms of ethnicity.

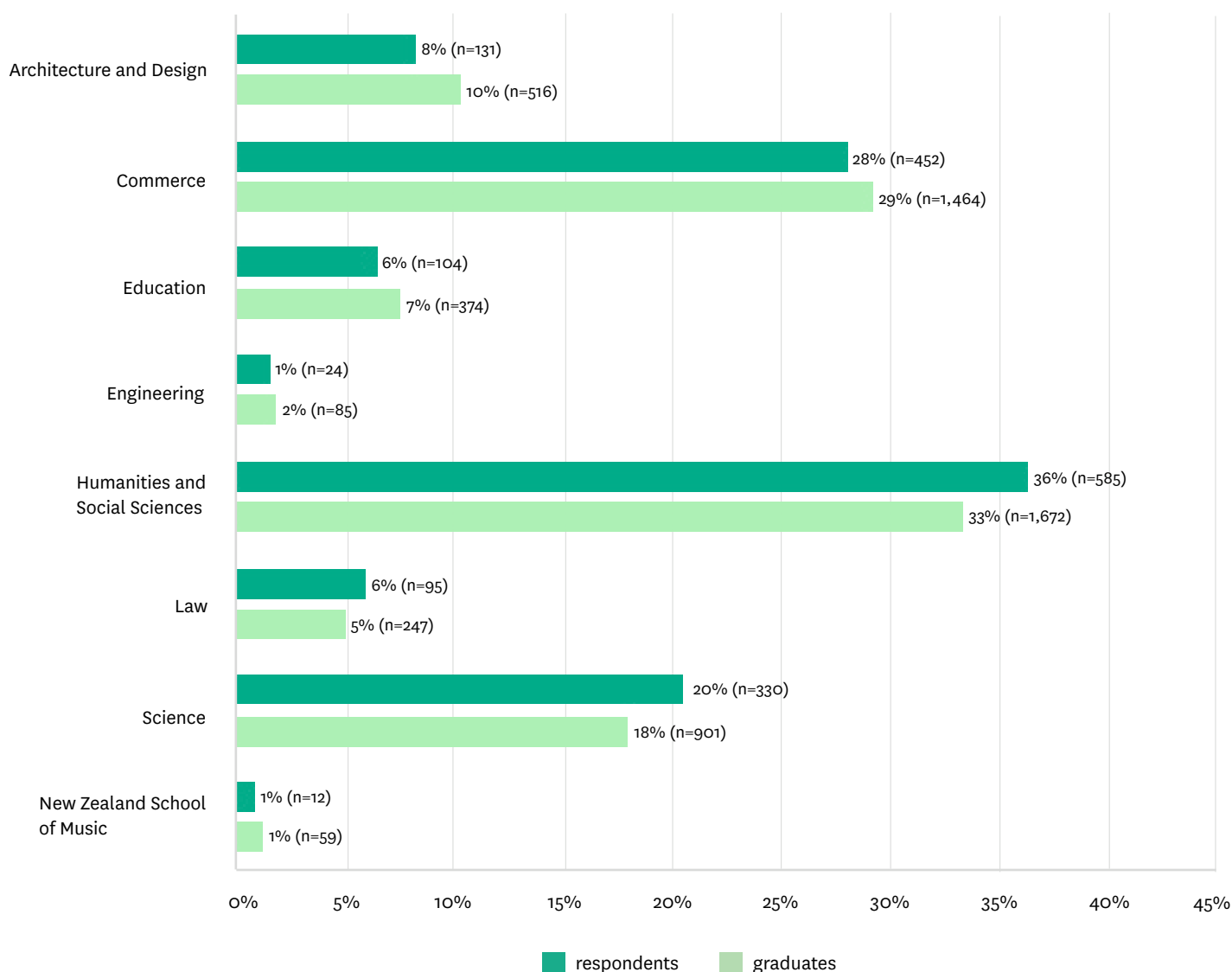
**FIGURE 2.4. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY QUALIFICATION**



**Note—the percentages do not total to 100 percent, as some students (10.5 percent of all respondents) completed more than one qualification**

- In terms of qualification earned, respondents were representative of the graduate population, although Bachelor's and Dip/GDip/PGDip degrees were slightly under-represented in the survey results.
- The majority of students graduated with a Bachelor's degree.
- Over 30 percent of graduates and respondents acquired postgraduate qualifications, i.e. Honours, Master's or PhD degrees.

**FIGURE 2.5. GRADUATES AND RESPONDENTS BY FACULTY**

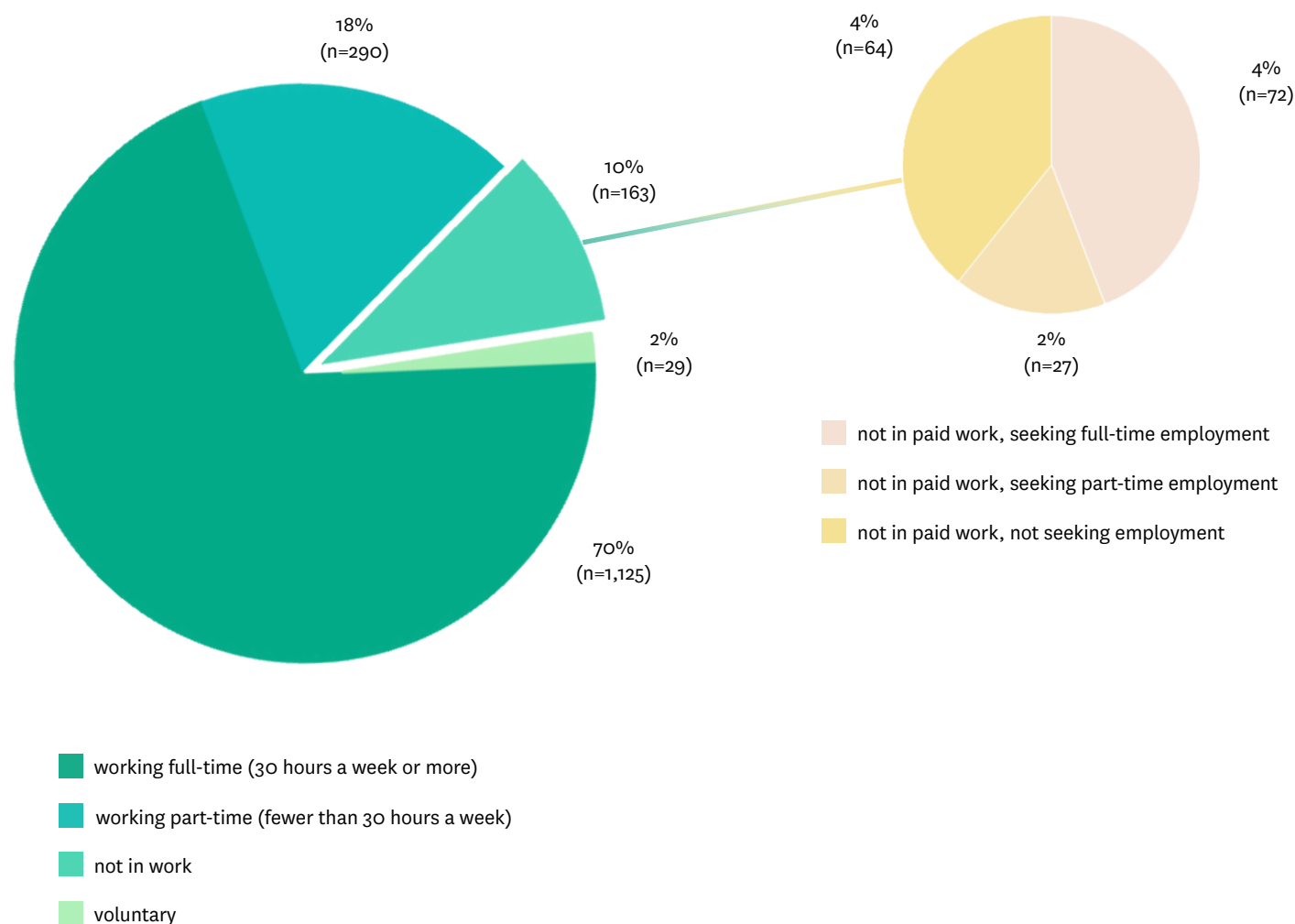


**Note—the percentages do not total to 100 percent, as some graduates have more than one degree**

- There was a slightly higher proportion of respondents in the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences, Law and Science, compared to the graduate population; in contrast, lower proportion of respondents graduated from the Faculties of Architecture & Design, Commerce and Education.

### 3. EMPLOYMENT STATUS

**FIGURE 3.1. EMPLOYMENT STATUS (n=1,560)**



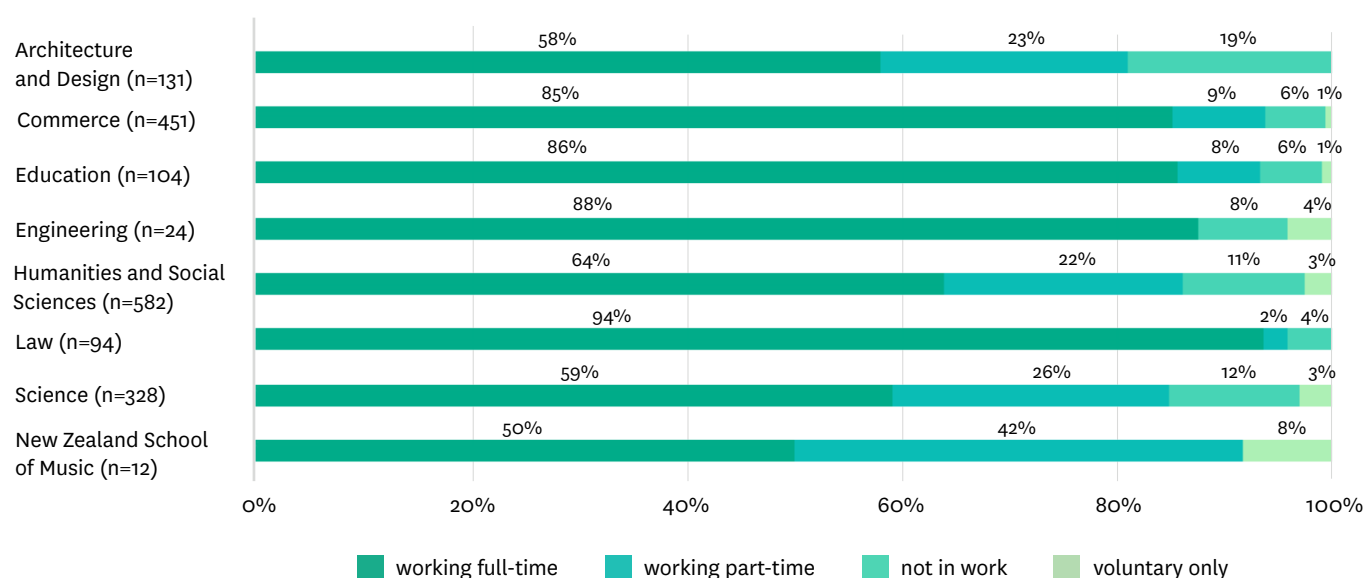
- 88 percent of those who reported their employment status were in paid employment since completing their qualification.
- 6 percent reported to not be in paid work but seeking employment.

**TABLE 3.1. EMPLOYMENT INTENTIONS OF RESPONDENTS IN PAID WORK (n=1,356)**

Employment status	Working full-time	Working part-time	Total
Employed, seeking full-time employment	254 (24%)	101 (35%)	355 (26%)
Employed, seeking part-time employment	44 (4%)	54 (19%)	98 (7%)
Employed, not seeking employment	771 (72%)	132 (46%)	903 (67%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,069 (100%)</b>	<b>287 (100%)</b>	<b>1,356 (100%)</b>

- 33 percent of respondents in paid work were seeking either full-time or part-time employment.
- Those who were employed full-time were less likely to seek employment than those working part-time, 72 percent of the respondents who worked full time reported not to be seeking further employment.

**FIGURE 3.2. EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY FACULTY (n=1,726)**



**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

- The Faculty of Law had the highest proportion of respondents in full-time work (94 percent).
- Over 80 percent of respondents from the Faculties of Commerce, Education, and Engineering worked full-time.
- Respondents from the New Zealand School of Music were most likely to be in part-time work (42 percent), compared to respondents from the other faculties.

**TABLE 3.2. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES WHO HAD MORE THAN ONE JOB SINCE GRADUATING WITH CURRENT QUALIFICATION**

Faculty	Yes	Percent	No	Percent	Total
Architecture and Design	28	37%	48	63%	76
Commerce	121	35%	227	65%	348
Education	21	24%	68	76%	89
Engineering	6	32%	13	68%	19
Humanities and Social Sciences	146	41%	214	59%	360
Law	24	30%	57	70%	81
New Zealand School of Music	3	50%	3	50%	6
Science	75	40%	114	60%	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>1,168</b>

**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

- Respondents from the Faculties of Education, Law and Engineering were least likely to have had more than one job if employed full-time, compared to respondents from other faculties.
- The greatest proportion of full-time employees having worked more than one job (50 percent) is among respondents from the New Zealand School of Music.



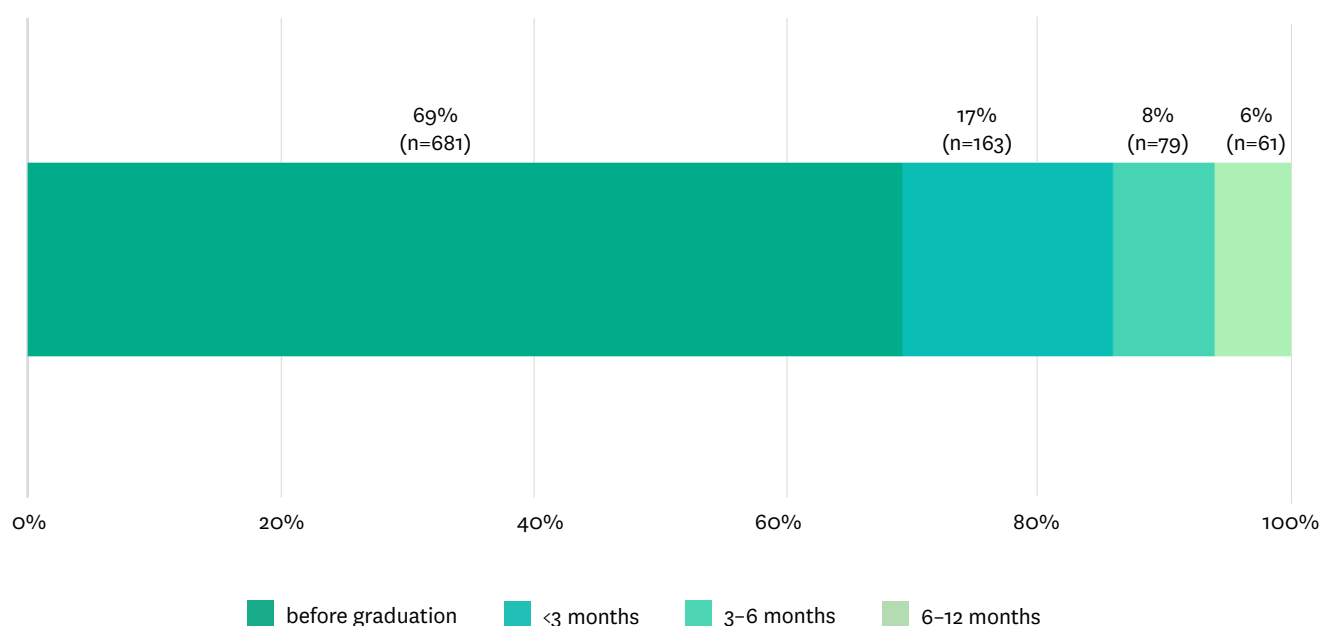
**TABLE 3.3. PART-TIME EMPLOYEES WHO HAD MORE THAN ONE JOB SINCE GRADUATING WITH CURRENT QUALIFICATION**

Faculty	Yes	Percent	No	Percent	Total
Architecture and Design	14	47%	16	53%	30
Commerce	21	55%	17	45%	38
Education	3	38%	5	63%	8
Engineering	0	0%	0	0%	0
Humanities and Social Sciences	74	58%	54	42%	128
Law	2	100%	0	0%	2
New Zealand School of Music	4	80%	1	20%	5
Science	38	46%	45	54%	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>294</b>

**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

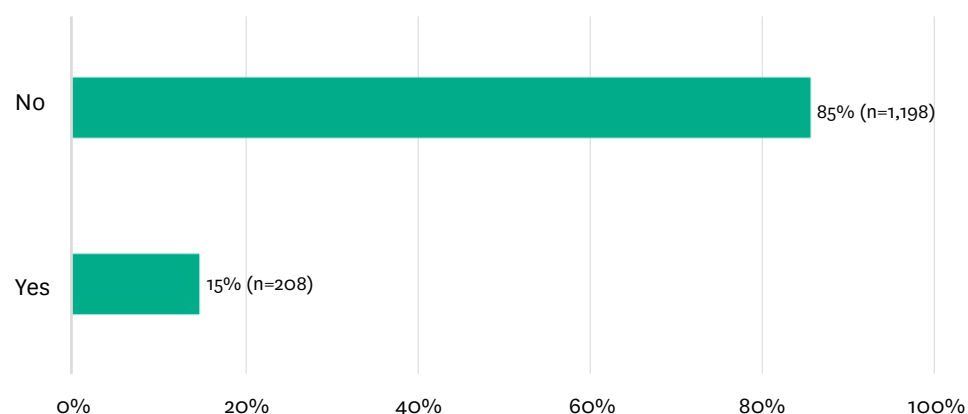
- In general, part-time employees were more likely to have had more than one job compared to full-time employees (53 percent versus 36 percent).
- Among those working part-time, respondents from the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences, Law, and New Zealand School of Music were more likely to have had more than one job.

**FIGURE 3.3. TIME TO FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT (n=984)**

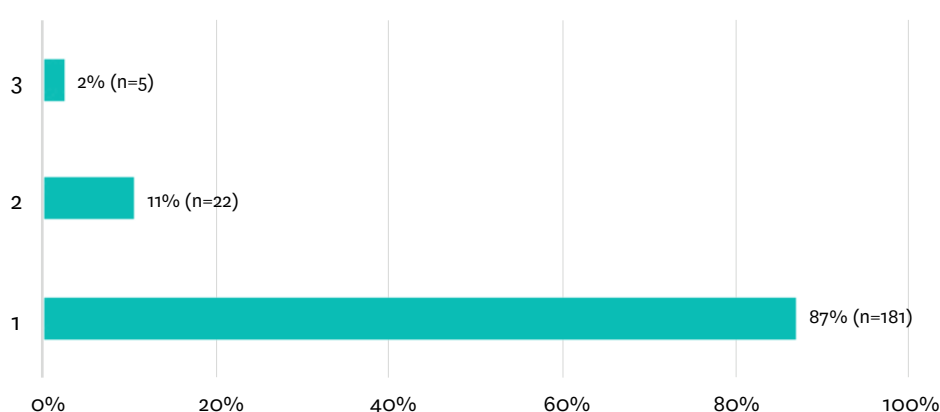


- Of graduates who responded that they are currently working full time, 94 percent were employed within six months of graduation.

**FIGURE 3.4. VOLUNTARY WORK (n=1,406)**



**FIGURE 3.5. NUMBER OF VOLUNTARY JOBS (n=208)**



- Of those who reported their volunteer status, 15 percent were in voluntary work.
- Of the 208 respondents who provided the number of their voluntary jobs, 13 percent have more than one voluntary job.

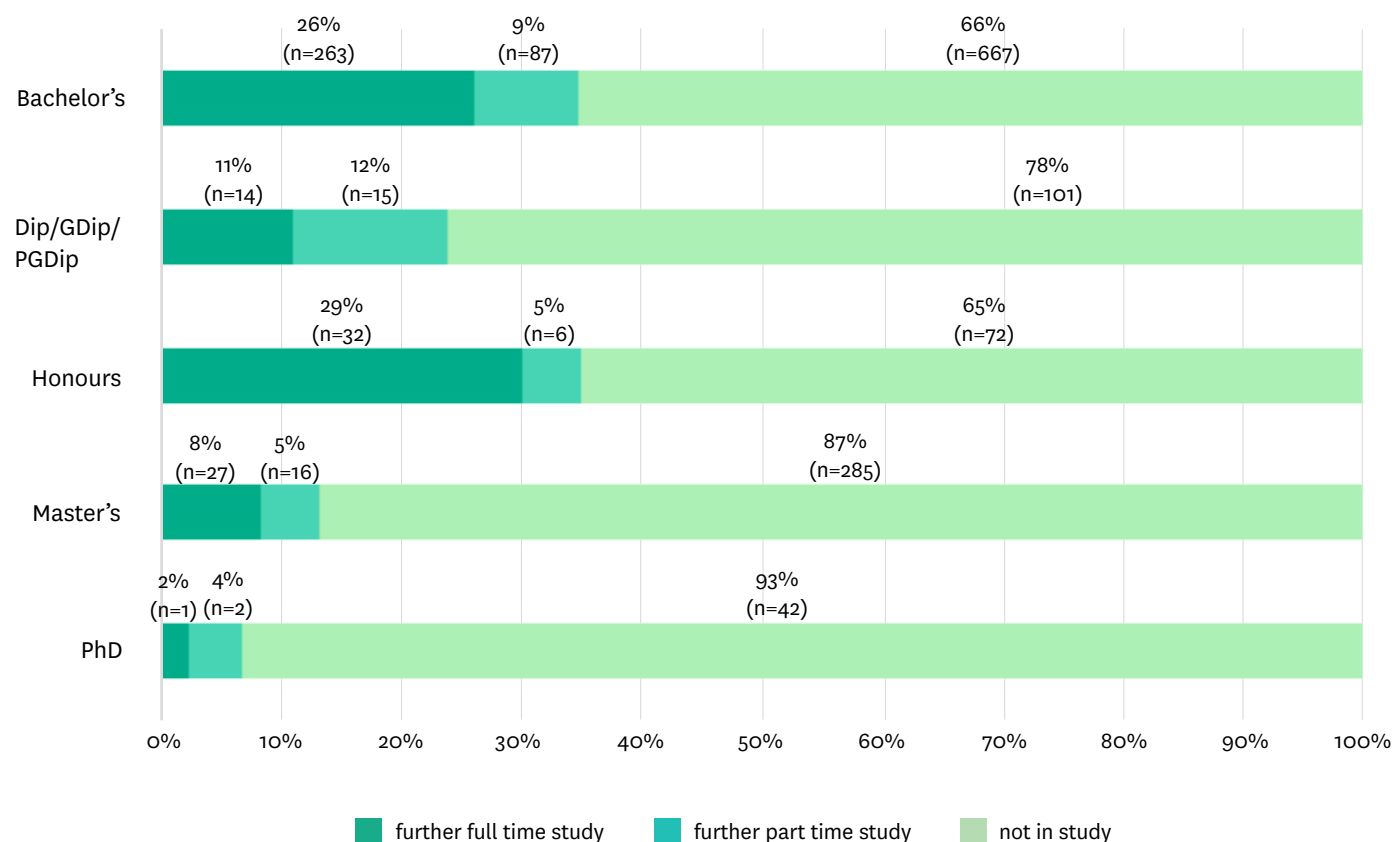
**TABLE 3.4. EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND VOLUNTARY WORK**

Employment status		Working full-time	Working part-time	Not in paid work	Total
Volunteer work	Yes	129 (13%)	49 (20%)	29 (15%)	207 (15%)
	No	840 (87%)	195 (80%)	163 (85%)	1,198 (85%)
Total		969 (100%)	244 (100%)	192 (100%)	1,405 (100%)

- The respondents who worked part-time were most likely to also be involved in voluntary work; the respondents who worked full-time were least likely to do voluntary work.
- 29 respondents (2 percent of the total number) were involved in voluntary work only.

## 4. STUDY DESTINATIONS

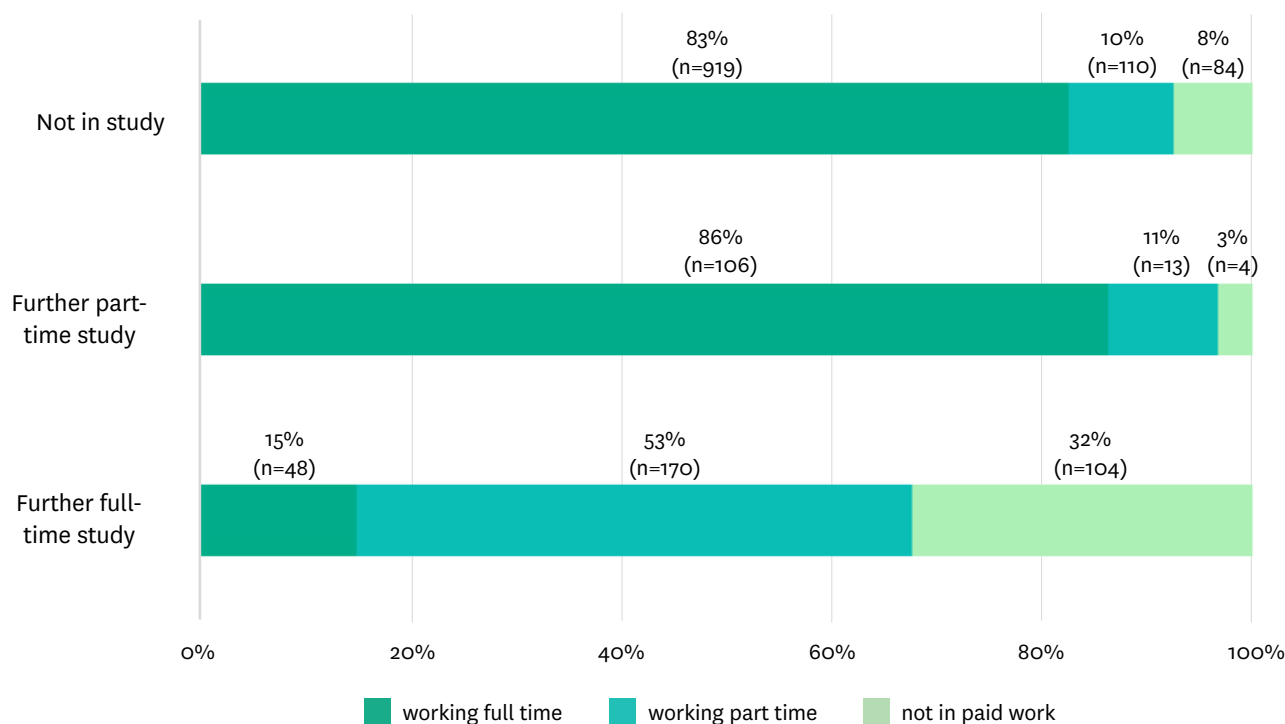
**FIGURE 4.1. STUDY DESTINATIONS BY COMPLETED QUALIFICATIONS (n=1,631)**



**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

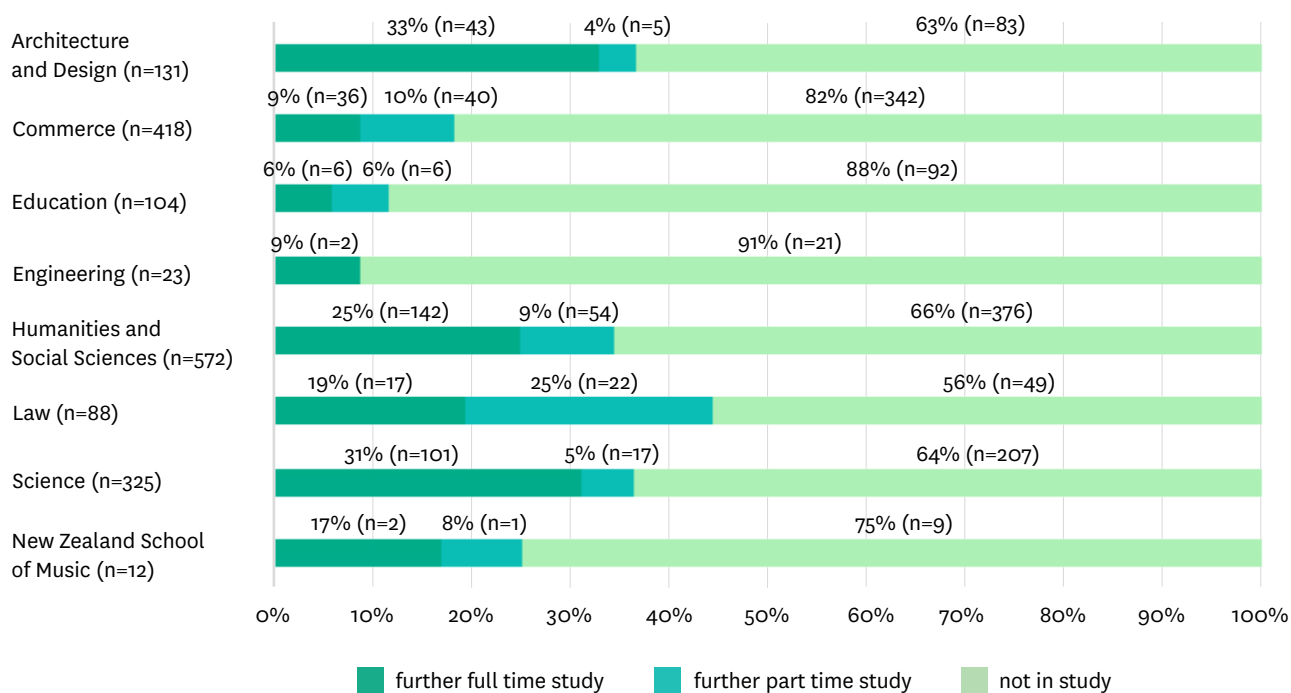
- 28 percent of all respondents who reported their study destinations did further study.
- The majority of respondents did not study after their graduation (72 percent); those who did further study were more likely to study full-time (21 percent) than part-time (8 percent).
- Respondents who graduated with a Bachelor's with Honours, were most likely to do further study, followed by respondents who completed a Bachelor's degree; respondents who graduated with a PhD were least likely to do further study.

**FIGURE 4.2. STUDY DESTINATIONS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS (n=1,558)**



- 68 percent of respondents in full-time study also worked either full-time or part-time.
- 15 percent of those in full-time work are also in further full-time study.
- Those respondents who were in full-time employment were least likely to be in further study.

**FIGURE 4.3. STUDY DESTINATIONS BY FACULTY (n=1,673)**

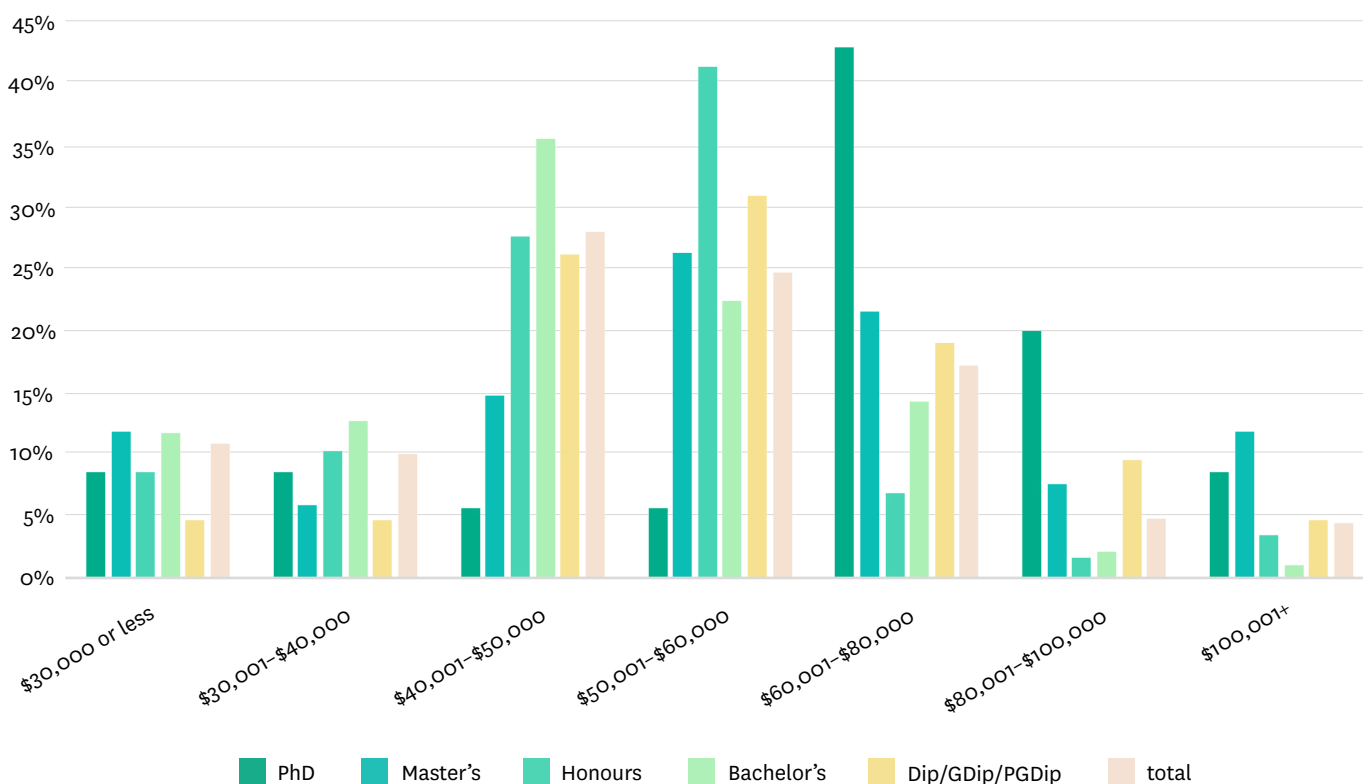


**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

- Respondents from the Faculty of Architecture and Design were most likely to be enrolled in full-time study, followed by respondents from the Faculty of Science.
- Respondents from the Faculty of Law were most likely to be enrolled in part-time study, which is likely due to the completion of professional legal studies.

# 5. INCOME

**FIGURE 5.1. INCOME OF FULL-TIME EARNERS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=957)**

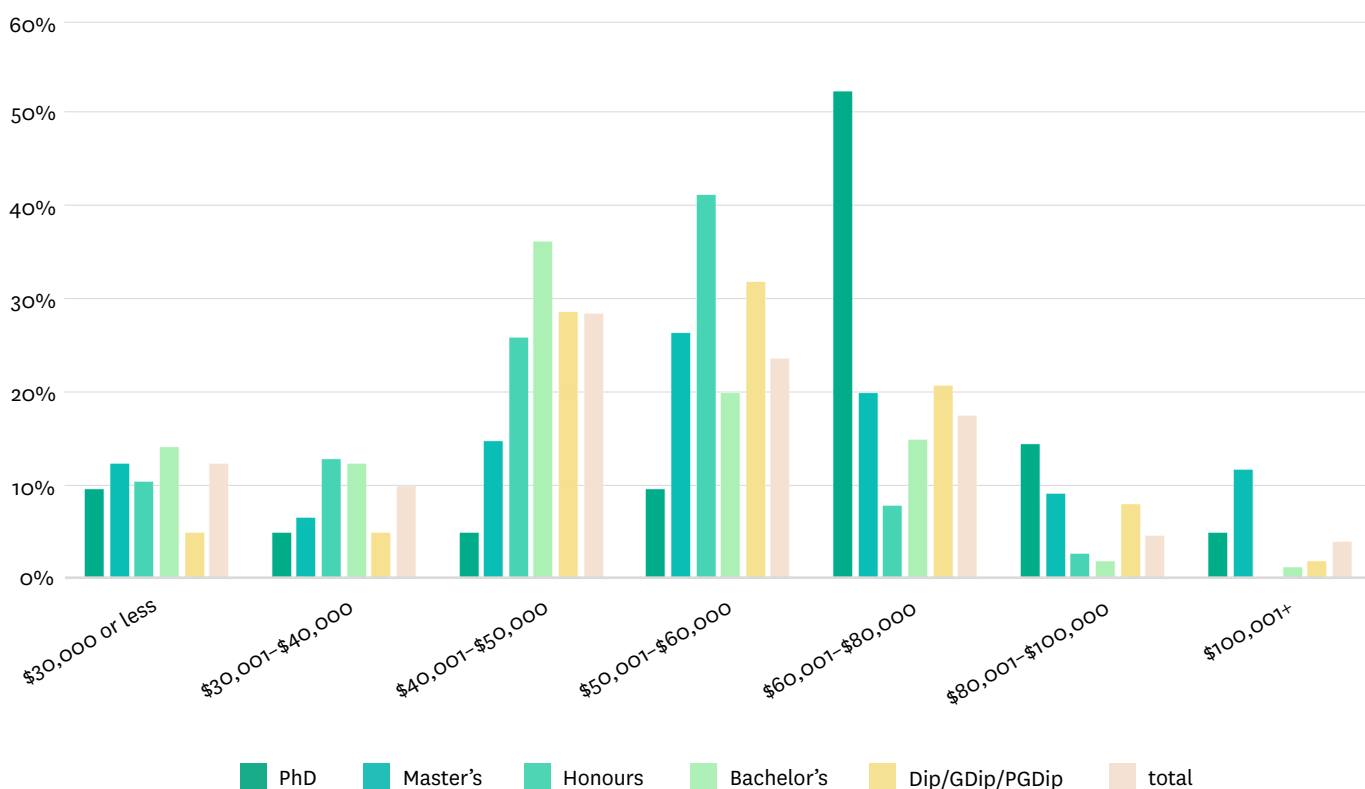


- The majority of respondents working full-time reported salaries between \$40,000 and \$60,000 (53 percent).
- Respondents with Bachelor's or Honours degrees most commonly reported salaries between \$40,000 and \$50,000 (35 percent).
- Respondents with a Master's degree most commonly reported salaries between \$50,000 and \$60,000 (26 percent).
- Salaries over \$60,000 were more common between those who graduated with Master's (42 percent) or PhD degrees (72 percent), compared to other respondents (19 percent).
- Five out of six PhDs who earn less than \$40,000 reside outside New Zealand where exchange rates may have affected their comparative earning power.

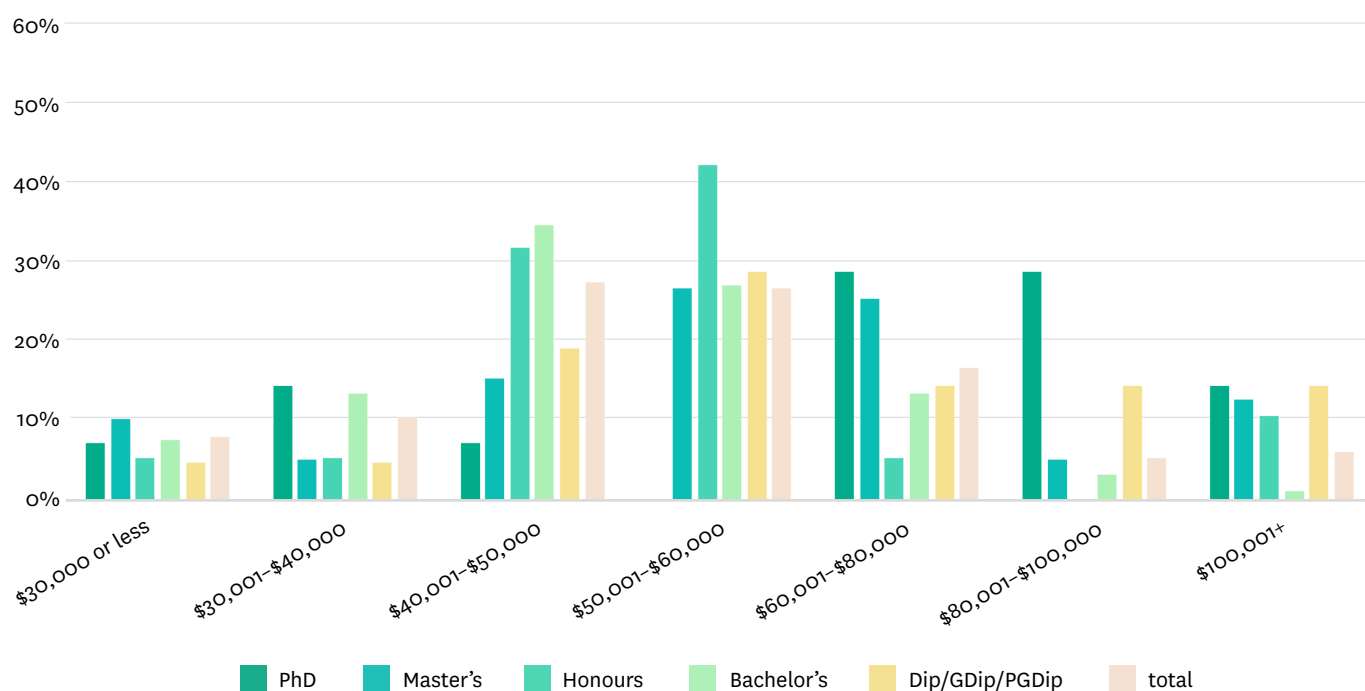


## INCOME BY GENDER

**FIGURE 5.2. INCOME OF FEMALE FULL-TIME EARNERS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=636)**



**FIGURE 5.3. INCOME OF MALE FULL-TIME EARNERS BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=319)**

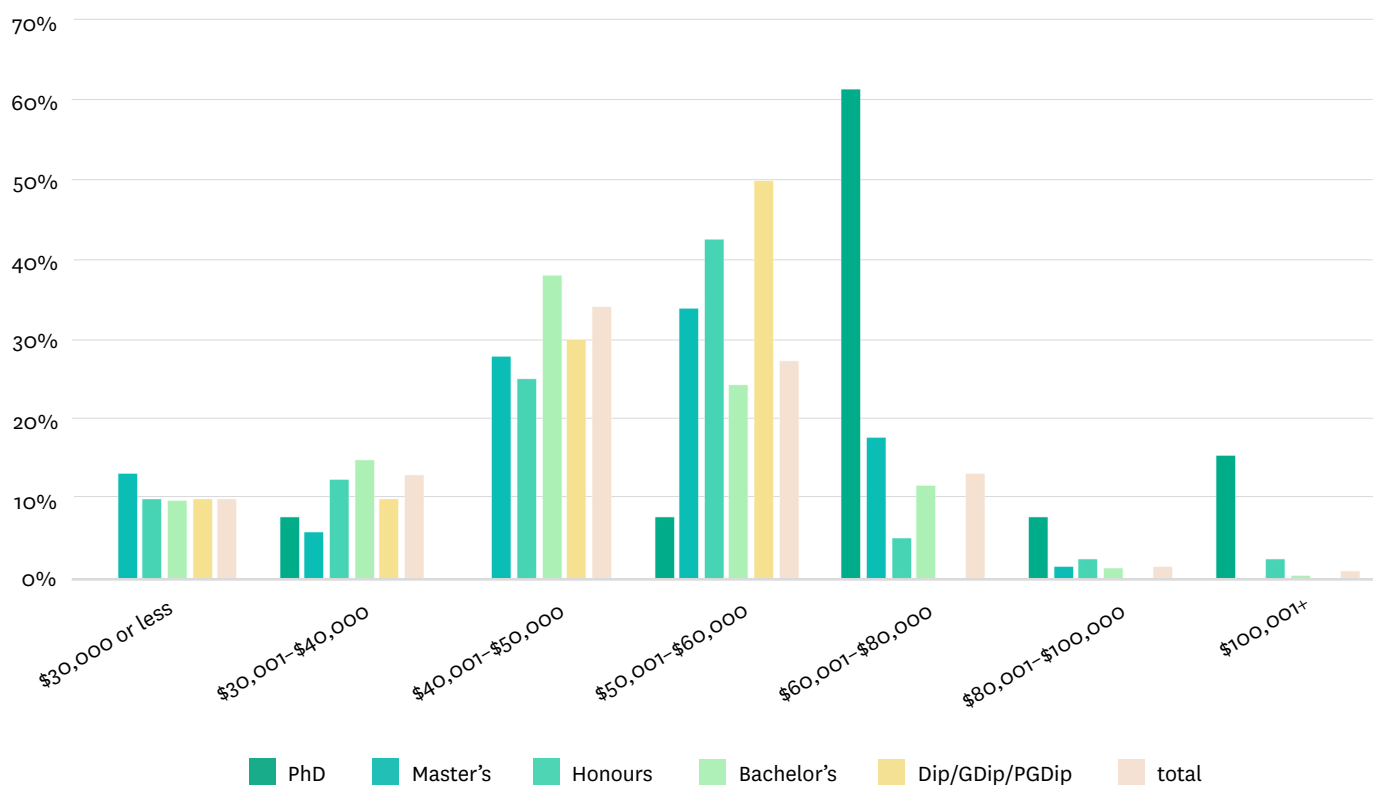


■ A higher proportion of males in full-time employment reported salaries at \$50,001–\$60,000, \$80,001–\$100,000, and \$100,001 or more; a higher proportion of females reported salaries at \$40,001–\$50,000 and \$30,000 or less. There was an equal proportion of earners for both males and females at \$30,001–\$40,000 and \$60,001–\$80,000.

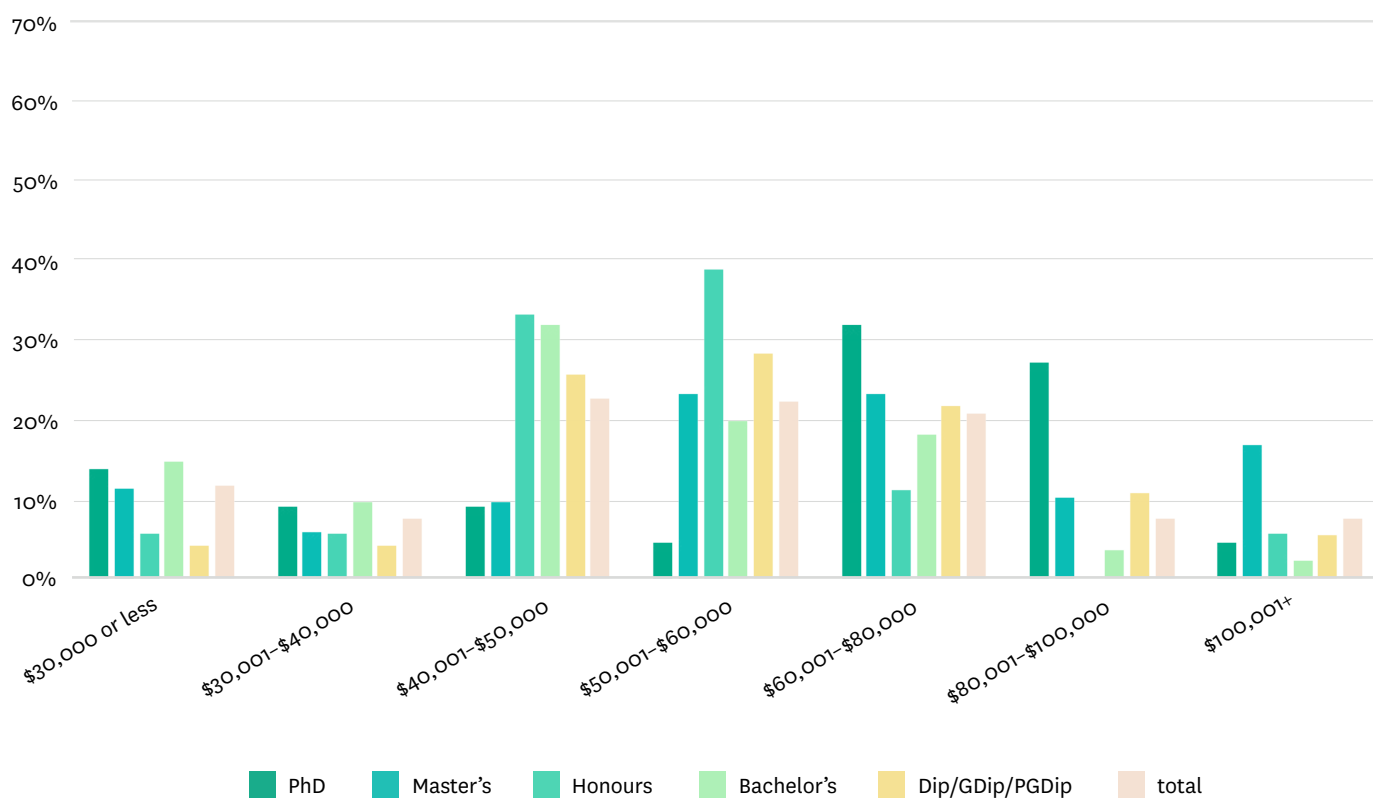
■ 22 percent of males with postgraduate degrees (Master's and PhD) reported salaries over \$80,000, while 21 percent of females with postgraduate degrees reported similar salaries over \$80,000.

## INCOME BY EXPERIENCE

**FIGURE 5.4. FIRST FULL-TIME JOB INCOME BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=449)**



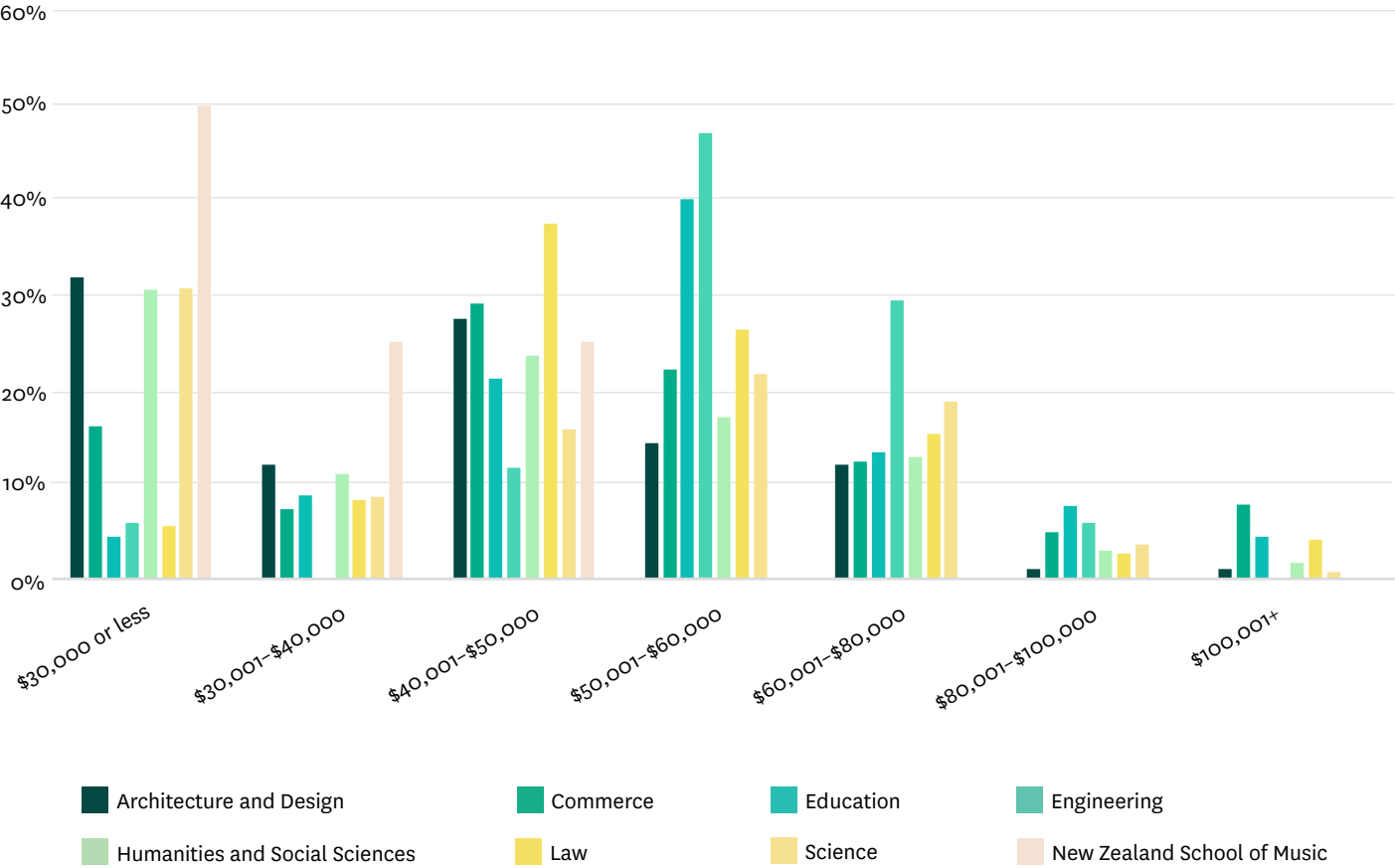
**FIGURE 5.5. EXPERIENCED GRADUATES INCOME BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION (n=508)**



■ Across all degrees, respondents with previous full-time paid employment tend to earn more than respondents without.

# INCOME BY FACULTY

FIGURE 5.6. FULL AND PART-TIME INCOME BY FACULTY (n=1,275)



**Note—some respondents will be counted more than once as they have more than one degree**

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