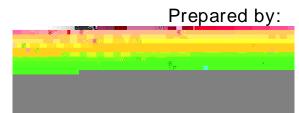
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# University of Alaska Graduate Survey 2006

Prepared for: University of Alaska



Juneau • Anchorage

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Executive Summary	1
Introduction and Methodology	5
Satisfaction with University of Alaska	6
Activities, Work, and Internships While Attending UA	8
Current Employment	
Job Search	
Attendance at Universities other than UA	
Continuing Education	
Respondent Profile	
Appendix	
Survey Instrument	41

The University of Alaska contracted with the McDowell Group, Inc. to conduct a survey of UA students who had received any type of degree in summer 2005, winter 2005, or spring 2006. The survey sample included 512 respondents: 422 who responded over the Internet, and 90 contacted by telephone. The survey included

# Nearly two-thirds of 2006 University of Alaska graduates are in full time, year round jobs. Another 15 percent are in part time and/or seasonal jobs, while 15 percent are still students.

UAA graduates are more likely to be employed full time, year round (66 percent) when compared to UAF graduates (56 percent). UAF graduates are more likely than UAA graduates to be students (20 versus 12 percent).

Two-thirds of currently employed University of Alaska graduates say they use the skills and knowledge gained from their UA degree program on a daily basis.

Only 13 percent of graduates said they used these skills rarely.

Associate's/Certificate and Master's/PhD graduates are more likely than Bachelor's graduates to say they use their skills daily: 74 and 75 percent, respectively, compared to 57 percent of Bachelor's graduates.

#### In your current position, how often do you use skills and knowledge learned from your UA degree or certificate program? BID05 1 TEG22C(d) 0ug1 E2(d) 0 0G11 53621g) 0m6(h) 0pl24(e) 0d/51 T1044

#### Among employed University of Alaska graduates, the number one source for their current position was family, friends, or co-workers. One out of six said they used UA Career Services when they were looking for work.

After family/friends/co-workers, employed graduates most commonly cited the Internet, UA staff/faculty, previous employer, and the newspaper as sources for their current position. Two percent mentioned UA Career Services.

When specifically asked if they had used UA Career Services when they were looking for work, 16 percent of employed graduates answered affirmatively; this represents 10 percent of all graduates.

> **Top Five Sources for Current Position** Base: Currently employed; not employed in current position when began degree program



Nearly nine out of ten responding graduates (86 percent) were either satisfied or very satisfied with their overall academic experience. Only 6 percent were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

The percent very satisfied was highest in the personal growth category, followed by intellectual growth, overall education, overall academic experience, and career training.

Dissatisfaction was generally low, accounting for 6 percent or fewer of respondents in all categories except for career training. Seventeen percent of respondents were dissatisfied with this category.

There were few statistically significant differences among respondents from different campuses, or with different types of degrees. The only category where there was a significant difference was in career training. Associate's degree/certificate (AA/CT) graduates were more satisfied, at 39 percent very satisfied. This compares to 32 percent among Master's/Doctorate degree (MA/PhD) graduates and 20 percent among Bachelor's degree (BA) graduates.

Respondents over age 40 tended to be the most satisfied, followed by those aged 25-40, then 24 and under.

			0	
	TOTAL n=512	UAA n=296	UAF n=175	UAS n=41
Overall academic exper	ience	•		
Very satisfied	34%	35%	32%	38%
Satisfied	52	50	55	50
Neutral	8	8	9	2
Dissatisfied	5	5	3	6
Very dissatisfied	1	2	-	3
Overall education		•		
Very satisfied	36%	35%	37%	37%
Satisfied	52	54	48	59
Neutral	9	7	13	1
Dissatisfied	2	3	2	-
Very dissatisfied	1	1	-	3
Intellectual growth		•	-	
Very satisfied	43%	43%	42%	47%
Satisfied	49	50	48	48
Neutral	5	5	7	1
Dissatisfied	2	2	4	-
Very dissatisfied	1	<1	-	3

Please tell us whether you are very satisfied, satisfied, not satisfied, or not at all satisfied with each of the following...

# ied, or not at

UAS n=41
46%
42
3
-
-
34%
39
11
12
4

in, they would hile 17 percent

UAS n=41
53%
11
24

Among graduates who reported working their final year, six out of ten said their work was related to their degree or certificate program. (Based to the total sample of graduates, the percentage changes to 46.)

MA/PhD graduates were much more likely to report that their work was related: 87 percent, compared to 55 percent among AA/CT and BA graduates.

Younger graduates (24 and under) were less likely to say their work was related, at 48 percent (compared to 66 percent of the 25-40 group and 65 percent of the over-40 group).

Was any of your work related to your degree or certificate program?
Base: Worked during final school year

	TOTAL n=398	UAA n=223	UAF n=139	UAS n=35
Yes	61%	59%	64%	63%
No	38	41	35	37
Don't know	1	<1	1	-

Internships

#### **Current Employment Status**

Nearly two-thirds of graduates surveyed said they were employed full time, year round. Another 15 percent were employed part time or seasonally.

Fifteen percent of graduates surveyed said they were currently students.

UAA graduates were more likely to be employed full time, year round, while UAF graduates were more likely to be students.

MA/ PhD graduates were more likely to be employed full time, year round: 73 percent, compared to 63 percent of BA grads and 58 percent of AA/ CT grads.

Younger respondents (24 and under) were least likely to be employed full time, year round: 55 percent, compared to 65 percent of those 25-40 and 69 percent of those over 40.

Which statement best describes your current employment status?

		TOTAL
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#### Industries

Among employed graduates, education and health care/ social services were the most common industries, followed by government.

UAA grads were more likely to be employed in the health care/ social services industry: 26 percent, compared to 14 percent of UAF grads and 13 percent of UAS grads.

Not surprisingly, Master's/ PhD grads were much more likely to be employed in education: 43 percent, compared to 13 percent of AA/ CT grads and 16 percent of BA grads.

The survey also asked employed graduates what occupation or position they held. A list of responses can be found in the Appendix.

# In what industry are you currently employed?

Base: Currently employed

TOTAL	UAA	UAF	
n=400	n=242	n=127	

#### **Current Job**

Nearly nine out of ten employed graduates are working in Alaska. Only 1 percent report working outside of the US.

Those who work outside of Alaska were asked which state. The two most popular states were Washington and California, each with seven responses. A list of responses can be found in the Appendix.

Virtually all employed graduates are working in paid positions.

Are you employed in Alaska, other US state or outside the United States? Base: Currently employed

#### Salary and Benefits

The most common salary bracket among graduates was \$35,001-\$50,000, accounting for one-quarter of respondents.

One-fifth of respondents fell into the \$15,000 or less category. (This corresponds to the 20 percent of respondents who are unemployed, disabled, retired, or students.)

Respondents who were employed full time, year round tended to report higher salary ranges (see second table, below).

AA/CT and BA graduates were equally likely to fall into the two lowest income categories (35 and 33 percent, respectively, versus 15 percent of MA/PhD grads). MA/PhD grads were more likely to fall into the higher income categories.

	TOTAL n=512	UAA n=296	UAF n=175	UAS n=41
Less than \$15,000	19%	18%	22%	17%
\$15,000 to \$25,000	12	11	14	9
\$25,001 to \$35,000	19	16	20	34
\$35,001 to \$50,000	24	26	22	25
\$50,001 to \$75,000	14	17	13	4
\$75,001 to \$100,000	4	3	4	3
Over \$100,000	1	2	-	-
Don't know	6	7	4	8

#### Current Annual Salary/Wage: All Graduates

Current Annual	Salary/Wage:	Employed Fu	I Time.	Year Round
ourront / minuar	ourury, wugo.	Employed i d		rour round

	Employed Full Time, Year Round n=325	All Others n=187
Less than \$15,000	1%	50%
\$15,000 to \$25,000	8	18
\$25,001 to \$35,000	22	14
\$35,001 to \$50,000	37	4
\$50,001 to \$75,000	22	2
\$75,001 to \$100,000	5	1
Over \$100,000	2	-
Don't know	3	12

Health insurance and paid leave are the most common benefits reported by employed graduates, followed by retirement plans.

MA/PhD graduates are somewhat more likely to receive health insurance: 87 percent, compared to 72 percent of AA/CT grads and 74 percent of BA grads.

#### Please tell me which of the following benefits you receive in your current position. Base: Currently employed

	TOTAL n=412	UAA 	UAF 136	UAS 1=34
Health insurance	76%	75%	76%	81%
Paid leave	74	76	70	79
Company-funded retirement plan	61	62	57	73

# Difficulty of Finding a Job

Over half of graduates who sought jobs said the process of getting a job was very easy or easy, while 36 percent said it was difficult or very difficult.

AA/CT and BA graduates found the job search process somewhat easier: 61 percent said it was easy or very easy, compared to 41 percent of MA/PhD grads.

Women were more likely than men to say th

# **Geographical Area**

Among graduates seeking jobs, Alaska was by far the most popular search area at 80 percent.

Master's/PhD graduates were more likely to search in "all US": 14 percent, compared to 4 percent of AA/CT grads and 5 percent of BA grads.

#### **Sources for Current Position**

The number one source for hearing about their current position was family, friends, or co-workers, mentioned by 29 percent of graduates who sought a job. The Internet was the number two source, followed by UA staff/faculty and previously worked there.

Although only 2 percent of employed graduates mentioned UA Career Services as a source for their current position, 16 percent said they used Career Services in their job search.

UAF grads were more likely to use UA Career Services (22 percent).

BA graduates were much more likely to use Career Services: 22 percent, compared to 11 percent of AA/CT grads and 8 percent of MA/PhD grads.

Graduates over 40 were the least likely to use Career Services: 6 percent, compared to 16 percent of those 25 to 40 and 19 percent of those 24 and under.

#### How did you first hear about your current position?

Base: Currently employed; not employed in current position when began degree program



One-third of graduates reported taking classes at a non-UA institution as part of their degree program.

BA graduates were more likely to have taken classes elsewhere: 40 percent, compared to 29 percent of AA/CT grads and 14 percent of MA/PhD grads.

Among graduates who had taken classes outside the UA system, 76 percent earned more than 12 credits elsewhere as part of their degree program. (This represents 24 percent of the total sample.) One-third reported taking classes elsewhere *during* their time at UA. (This represents 11 percent of the total sample.)

Readers are cautioned that the two follow-up questions have a sample size of 17 for UAS graduates.

# As part of your degree or certificate program, did you attend a college or university other than UA?

	TOTAL n=512	UAA n=296	UAF n=175	UAS n=41
Yes	31%	33%	27%	39%
No	68	67	72	61
Don't know	<1	-	1	-

Before starting your degree or certificate program at UA, did you earn more than 12 credits from another college or university outside the UA system? Base: Attended another college

	TOTAL n=162	UAA n=95	UAF n=50	UAS n=17
Yes	76%	75%	74%	87%
No	23	25	23	13
Don't know	1	-	2	-

During your time at UA, did you ever take classes from another college or university outside the UA system?

Base: Attended another college

TOTAL	UAA	UAF	UAS
n=162	n=95	n=50	n=17

#### Campus

Respondents were asked which campus they graduated from, and where they started their degree program. The following page shows respondents' campus according to the database of student records provided by the University of Alaska.

	TOTAL n=512	UAA n=297	UAF n=174	UAS n=41
Anchorage	51%	88%	-%	-%
Fairbanks	32	-	92	9
Juneau	6	-	-	71
Kenai River campus	3	5	-	-
Mat-Su	3	5	-	-

From which University of Alaska campus did you recently graduate?

The following information shows results from data provided by the University of Alaska on their graduate population. Survey data was weighted by four factors to reflect the actual graduate population: gender, age, campus, and degree type.

TOTAL
38%
62
26%
54
20

UA Database: Gender and Age	U,	Α	Database	Gender	and Age
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# **UA Database: Campus**

TOTAL

### UA Database: Type of Degree

	TOTAL	UAA	UAF	UAS
A A /CT do arros				

AA/CT degree AA, AAS, AB, AO, AS, AT, CERT, CT1, CT2 Following are "other" responses and responses to open-ended questions.

Anchorage Community Mental Health Services Anchorage Community Mental Health Services and Ready Care Anchorage Daily News Anchorage Pioneer Home and Maclaughlin Correctional Youth Center Anchorage Pioneer Home and Southcentral Foundation Anchorage Pioneer Homes Anchorage Regional, Providence, Alaska Native Med. Center Anchorage School District Anchorage School District--Trailside Elementary Anchorage schools ANMC Appraisal company of Alaska ASD **ASRC Energy Services** Assets/ARC Associated Press, Anchorage bureau AWAIC, Inc. AWWA, Prudential Vista Real Estate Bartlett Regional Hospital BΡ Bristol Environmental & Engineering Services Corporation Bureau of Land Management Camai Children's Center Center for Disease Control and Prevention Chief Andrew Isaac Counseling Center Chugachmiut Chugiach Childrens Services CLA/English Dept UAF College of Education with the ASD; Institute of Social and Economic Research Colorado Public Interest Research Group **ConocoPhillips** 

Engineering Firm Engineering Firm English Department Fairbanks Community Behavioral Health Center Fairbanks Correctional Center and Alaska Public Defender Agency Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Fairbanks School District Family Clinic FNSBSD Ford Motor Company Forties and Mikko Law Firm Geophysical institute Hilton Hotels Hompesch & Evans, PC Law Firm Hope Community Resources Hope Community Resources Hope Community Resources in DVR, Veterans Affairs Hospital Hospice of Anchorage Hospice of Anchorage and Anchorage Pioneer Home Hospitality Howard Luke Academy, Fairbanks, AK independent project, I didn't work for anyone IRS Job Core and Mat-Su Recovery. Juneau Douglas School District Juneau School District Juneau Superior Court Justice Center Justice Dept. - State of Alaska Kanakanak Dental Clinic (Dillingham) Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Kenai Peninsula Borough School District **Kids Are People** Kids are People, Inc **Kipnuk Health Clinic** Klawock School **KTUU-TV Channel 2 News** Legislature Local hospitals many clinical practicums Mat-Su Borough School District Mat-Su Borough School District Mat-Su Borough School District Mat-Su Borough School District Mat-Su Services for Children and Adults McLaughlin HOPE Community Resources IN.6) & nnBrb(i85)-28Res)-Eska Mt. Edgecumbe High School Municipality of Anchorage NAEYC, Juneau Daycare Cntr, Gold Creek Childcare North Slope Borough school District North Slope Borough School District North Slope Early Intervention Program North Trust Real Estate Northern Alaska Environmental Center Norton Sound Health Corp. Nursing Office of Children's Services Old Minto Family Recovery Camp and Love INC. Peninsula Oilers Petersburg General Hospital, TVC, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital PIC: Programs for Infants and Children Private law firm Providence Providence Alaska Medical Center Providence Alaska Medical Center Providence Hospital Providence Hospital **Providence Hospital** Providence Hospital NICU Providence Medical Center **Psychology Resources** RAHI Randy Smith Middle School FNSBSD REACH, Inc. Red Cross of Alaska Salt Water Inc. Research Firm Salvation Army/ Love Social Services Sampson Steel School District Seward High School Sitka School District, Sitka High School Skagwav News South Central Foundation South Central Foundation - Alaska Native Medical Center State of Alaska - BRFSS State of Alaska - Division of Corrections State of Alaska, Division of Elections and State of Alaska, DCCED Admin Services Tanana Valley Clinic The Arc of Anchorage The Card Kid Tracy Aviary, USGS, EPSCoR Grent UAA UAA biology instructor lab practicum UAF UAF UAS United Methodist Communication University of Alaska / Kuskokwim University of Alaska Anchorage - Aviation Technology Division

Assistant Teacher Assistant Textbook Buyer at UAA Bookstore Auditor Auditor Auditor Aviation Maintenance Technician Aviation Mechanic Baggage Handler **Bank Manager** Bankruptcy/Eviction/Foreclosure Legal Assistant Bartender Bellman at a hotel **Bilingual Bicultural Bilingual Tutor Billing Specialist** Billing Supervisor Biological Science Technician Biometrician Bookkeeper/Secretary **Building Substitute Business Analysis** Capt. of Fire Services Case Manager Case Manager for Supervised Visits Cashier Certified Medical Assistant Civil Engineer **Civil Engineering Trainee** Classroom Teacher Clerk Clinical Associate Clinical nurse II Clinician Comm. Health Practitioner Communications Intern Communications Specialist Community Health Aide Community Health Practitioner Community Wellness Awareness Specialist Computer Programmer / Analysis Consultant - Associate Contract Officer Contract Specialist Contract Specialist, US Airforce Cook Counselor Culinary Arts Day Habilitation Provider Dental Assistant **Dental Assistant Dental Assistant** Dental Hygienist **Dental Hygienist Development Officer- UAF** Director **Director of National Marketing Director of Nursing** 

Director of Outreach Director/Consultant Drafting Tech Early childhood special education teacher Early Childhood Special Educator Early Intervention Specialist **Electrical Engineer Electrical Engineer** Electronics Tech Elementary Teacher Emergency Medical Technician Engineer Engineer Engineer Engineer advanced control systems Engineering Assistant Engineering in Training English teacher English teacher **Environmental Scientist Environmental Scientist** Executive director Expeditor Family nurse practitioner Field Tech. Financial Consultant Finn-Power Operator First Grade Teacher First year Fish biologist Fishery Biologist Fishery Biologist I Flight Instructor for UAA Food Broker Front Desk Agent of a local hotel. General Manager General office work Geologist Grant Technician Graphic designer Habilitation Coordinator Hardware Engineer Health Care Call Center Operator Heavy Equipment Operator High School Mathematics Teacher High School Science Teacher Homework Instructor Housing Maintenance Student Assistant B Human Resource Manager Human Resources Tech. Human Resources Technician In Home Services Income tax preparer/payroll specialist Individual Skill provider - shadow for students with behavioral issues Information Tech Specialist Instructional Technician Investigator

IT Consultant IT Technician Juvenile Justice Officer III Kindergarten teacher Lab Technician Law Office Assistant Legal Assistant Legal Secretary Legal Secretary Legislative Aide Library Clerk Library technician Licensed insurance agent / office manager Loadmaster/Manager Loan Processor Loan Processor Logistics Project Manager Manager Manager Market Analyst Marketing Director Marketing Manager / Design Coordinator Material Handler Mechanic Mechanic/Auto Technician Mechanic/Operator Mechanical Engineer Mechanical Engineer - HVAC Mechanics apprentice Medical assistant Medical Technologist Mental Health Provider/Domestic Violence Intervention Program Co-Facilitator Mental health Spec. and student Mental Health Specialist Mental Health Specialist Mental Health Specialist Level 2 Microcomputer/Network Technician I Mill Wright Mining engineer Mining Engineer Musician News Reporter/Anchor Nurse Nurse Nurse Nurse **Occupational Health Nurse** Office manager Office Nurse/Scrub Nurse Officer **Operation Oil Field Operations Manager** Own a fishing charter business Owner/Operator Paralegal Paralegal Paralegal

Paralegal Paralegal Patient care coordinator Pavroll technician Phlebotomist Physical therapy tech Post Doc Research Chemist USDA/ ARS Post Doctoral Researcher Principal Teacher Principal, Spring Creek Alternative High School **Probation and Parole Officer Production Operator** Professional Mechanical Program Coordinator Program director Program Manager Programmer / Analyst Programmer Analyst **Project Assistant** Project Coordinator for the Alaska Division of Elections Project Coordinator - USDA Community Program **Project Engineer Project Engineer** Project Manager Project Manager Project manager **Psychotherapist** Public Health Microbiologist Public Health Microbiologist II (State of Alaska Public Health Laboratory) Publication Assistant and Coalition Coordinator for the UA System Governance Purchasing Purchasing support specialist Quality Control Officer Quality Control/Mechanical Engineer Radiological Technician Radiological Technologist Radiology Technologist **Records Information Management Project Coordinator** Regional Manager Registered Nurse **Registered Nurse Registered Nurse Registered Nurse Registered Nurse** Registered nurse- clinic **Registered Nurse in NICU** Research **Research Aide** Research Analyst Research and Evaluation Lab Assistant **Research Assistant Research Assistant** Research assistant Research Associate Research associate & therapist **Research Scientist** Research technician

Reservation Systems Administrator **Resident Manager of MacLean House** Retail Store Manager **RF Engineer Risk Manager** RN RN RN RN RN RN RN RN RN Sales Clerk Sales Rep Sales / stock associate Sales and Marketing Director Sales receptionist Secondary math teacher for Kuspuk School District Secondary Science Teacher Secondary teacher Secondary Teacher Secretary Senior Account Executive, Communications and Marketing Senior Peer Advisor Service technician Shipping clerk Site Supervisor Social Worker Social Worker Social Worker Social worker Social Worker II Software engineer Special Assistant Special education aide Special Education Assistant Special Education Teacher Special Education Teacher Special Education Teacher Specialty grocery & gift buyer Staff accountant Staff accountant Staff accounting Staff Engineer Staff writer State of Alaska, Dept of Health/Social Services, Administrative Assistant Statewide development coordinator Statistical Technician Store Manager Store Owner Structural Engineer, EIT Student Assistant Student Information Advisor Student Retention Specialist Student Services Technician

Student Services/Financial Aid Assistant Student Success Coordinator Subcontract for Dept of Homeland Security on Elmendorf AFB Substitute Teacher Substitute Teacher Substitute Teacher Supervisor Tax Associate Teacher (Lead PreSchool Teacher) Teacher in various leadership roles Teacher, middle school Teacher, Third Grade, Public School Teacher's Assistant Tech support/desktop publishing assistant Technical writer **Telecommunication Tech** Terminal supervisor Third-shift stocker Trainer **Training Specialist** United States Air Force / Accessories Flight Chief USDA lab step student Warehouse supervisor II Welder/Concrete Finisher Wildland Firefighter Wildlife biologist Wildlife Biologist/Assistant Planner X-ray Tech

### Are you employed in Alaska, other US state or outside the United States? Other US states:

Arkansas California California California California California California California California Colorado Colorado Colorado Connecticut Florida Florida Georgia Georgia Hawaii Kentucky Kentucky Michigan Minnesota Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada Nevada New Mexico New York New York North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Texas Texas Utah Utah Virginia Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington Washington, DC

### How did you first hear about your current position?

Accounting Week Alaska Teacher Placement Alaska Teacher Placement Army Class cooperative work experience Employer Employer contacted me Flyer at UAF/TVC

**Education Specialist** 

MS biology MS biology (See attached)

# University of Alaska 2006 Graduate Opinion Survey

PHONE #	SURVEY #
	DATE

Hello, this is \_\_\_\_\_\_ with the McDowell Group, an Alaska research firm. We're conducting a survey of recent University of Alaska graduates. I'd like to ask you a few questions.

## 1. From which University of Alaska campus did you recently graduate?

01	Anchorage	07	Mat-Su	13	õ	۰
01	Anchorage	07	Mat-Su	10		

Interior-Aleutians

## 2. At which University of Alaska campus did you start your degree or certificate program?

01 Anchorage

<sup>13</sup> Chuckchi

- <sup>02</sup> Fairbanks<sup>03</sup> Juneau
- 07 Mat-Su
  08 Nome
  09 Bristol Bay
- 14 Northwest
- 15

## 6. While you were attending UA, did you participate in any of the following groups or activities? (Read list)

01	Academic honors programs	10	Student Activities
02	Clubs or organizations related to your major	11	Student media publications
03	Honor or service organizations	12	Performing arts (dance, theatre, music)
04	Residence hall council or IRC	13	Minority student groups (Native, Hispanic)
05	Fraternity or Sorority	14	Religious groups
06	Varsity sports	15	Political or issue group
07	Non-varsity sports	16	ROTC
80	Student government	97	Don't know
09	Student judicial board	99	Refused
98	Other		

[Read] Next I would like to ask you about your work experience during school.

## 7. Did you work during the final school year before you graduated?

- 01 Yes 97 Don't know (Skip to Q 9)
- 02 No (Skip to Q 9) 99 Refused (Skip to Q 9)

7a. Did you work on-campus, off-campus or both? (Check all that apply)

19. How much effort did you put into your job search? (Read 1-4)										
	01	A lot	03	A little	97	Don't know				
	02	Some	04	None	99	Refused				
20.		n you estimate how		ny jobs you applied fo _	r? 00	None	997	Don't know	999	Refused
21. Can you estimate how many job offers you received?										
	Nu	mber of offers			00	None	997	Don't know	999	