

# SCARY STATS FOR PANICKY JOB HUNTERS

You're on your way to a degree. You have talent. You have ambition. You have student loans, car payments, bills. You need to make a rational, informed decision regarding impending employment. In light of said dilemma, we offer this: an entire page of overwhelming statistical data and unnerving, impenetrable numbers. Good luck!

Lunatic Fringe

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COLLEGE GRAD

Percentage of assistant job offers to men and women: **19% men/81% women**  
 Promotion of nonexecutive job offers to men and women: **77% men/23% women**

Average yearly salary offered 1994 incoming college graduates: **\$27,797**  
 Average yearly salary offer for 1994 master's degree holders: **\$44,012**

## Major Money?

Wondering how much you'll make, based on your major? Take a look at the average starting salaries for these majors.

Accounting	\$23,222
Biology/biotech/sciences	26,946
Business administration/management	26,598
Chemistry	24,524
Computer science	23,664
Elementary education	17,238
Finance/banking	19,620
General engineering	27,900
Language interpreter	38,000
Management information systems	23,664
Marketing/retailing/merchandising	16,000-21,000
Math/actuarial science	32,155
Psychology	28,800

Compiled from *Jobs Rated Almanac*, *American Almanac of Jobs and Encyclopedia of Careers*.

Percentage of male freshmen pursuing field of careers in 1993: **7.4**

Percentage of female freshmen pursuing field of careers in 1993: **1.9**

Percentage of male freshmen pursuing field of careers in 1994: **7.7**

Percentage of female freshmen pursuing field of careers in 1994: **9.9**

Average yearly salary offer to 1994 incoming engineering major: **\$34,313**

Average yearly salary offer to 1994 special education major: **\$21,485**

Percentage of overall job offers to 1993 business graduates: **44**

Percentage of overall job offers to 1994 humanities/social science graduates: **7**

## The Low Down on the How-Tos

Here's a sampling of books now on the market that claim to have the inside track to post-graduate bliss.

### Mastering (& succeeding with) the Job Hunt

MasterCard International Inc. (S\$9.98)  
 ISBN 0-08-08894

This book takes you through networking, résumés, cover letters and interviewing techniques and even gives financial advice on surviving until you get a job. Written by and for college students, this is the comprehensive guide to getting a job in the '90s.

### Jobsmarts for Twentysomethings

Bradley G. Richardson  
 Vintage Books (S\$5)

Richardson offers valuable advice on preparing for your career by getting involved in related activities like business clubs or the student newspaper, as well as how to handle in-house politics once you're the new office pet. His delivery is more believable than any prof or parental lecture. Due out in April.

### I Went to College for THIS?

Career Skills  
 Peterson's (S\$1.95)

If you're looking for a how-to manual for the job hunt, keep looking. This is a book for the gainfully employed. Explained are such processes as how to avoid screwing up, how to sound like you know what you're talking about and how to bail yourself out once you do inevitably screw up. Still, valuable in its own way.

### Major In Success

Patrick Combs  
 Ten Speed Press (S\$9.95)

Combs is the Susan Power of the overachieving undergraduate set, and his book is filled with useful, if vaguely intimidating, tips for success. The book is at its best when it gets specific regarding internship strategies, savings plans and reference resources for particular careers.

### The Official Slacker Handbook

Sarah Dunn  
 Warner Books, Inc. (S\$8.99)

This is a very funny, very smart, very astute manual combining the best anti-establishment elements of Abbie Hoffman's *Yes! The Book* with the sort of smart-ass irony that makes us 20somethings so darn endearing. If nothing else, it lends the slacker lifestyle a sort of low-brow glamour that might make you feel a little better about yourself.

Percentage of students who doubt their ability to repay student loans: 1993: **8.4**

Percentage of students who doubt their ability to repay student loans: 1994: **18.9**

Percentage of freshmen who participated in a demonstration in the past year: **37.4**

Percentage of freshmen who think poor in the past year: **59.3**

According to a 1993 study at Northwestern U: 58% of interns are eventually offered job when not hired originally.

Percentage of college graduates who say it is more important to get a job that is:

Financially rewarding: **49.9**

Intellectually stimulating: **35.4**

Socially responsible: **10.2**

Percentage of college students who say it is most important to have:

The freedom to pursue outside interests: **34.7**

A great job: **30.4**

Family time: **28.3**

Total annual average graduate loan loan entrants: 1984-1993: **1,118,000**

Total annual job openings for college graduates: 1984-1990: **964,000**

Total annual college students loan loan entrants: 1990-2005 (projected): **1,320,000**

Total annual job openings for college graduates: 1994-2005 (projected): **914,000**

Number of U.S. unemployment benefits: 1992: **11,026,601**

Total U.S. 1992 unemployment benefits paid: **\$25,152,817,940**

Number of federal civilian employees: Defense Dept.: **941,606**

Number of federal employees: general legislative accounting: **5,109**

Number of federal employees: National Commission on AIDS Syndrome: **11**

Sources: *World Almanac and Book of Facts 1994*; *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1994* (UCLA); *College Placement Council Salary Survey*, September 1994; *MasterCard International College Survey*, September 1993; Office of Employment Projections, Bureau of Labor Statistics; *Major In Success*, Patrick Combs