

Summer 2015 Activities Report
November 2015

The data from this report was compiled from the 2015 Summer Activities Survey, which was administered by the Office of Career Strategy (Career Strategy) in the fall of 2015. The survey was sent to 4,134 returning students and was completed by 2,321 students resulting in a 56.1% response rate. As a result of this survey, Career Strategy also released a summer 2015 Peer Networking List.

It is important to note that a significant number of respondents reported more than one activity during the summer; therefore an individual respondent may be counted twice in some of the analysis. For example, a student that split his or her summer between a paid internship and laboratory research would be counted in each of those categories. In total 2,633 summer activities were reported. For the purposes of this report students are referred to by the class year in which they are returning after the summer experience. For example, a returning senior is a student in the Class of 2016 who has completed a summer experience after his or her junior year. Finally, it is important to note that not every respondent answered every question.

Summer Activities

When respondents were asked about their summer 2015 activities 57.6% of the activities reported were paid jobs or internships, while 21.4% were academic or language studies. More than ten percent of the activities reported were research in a laboratory.

Activity	Respondents
Internship, paid	28.8%
Internship, unpaid	14.1%
Paid job (e.g. camp counselor)	11.7%
Language Study	11.1%
Research in a laboratory	10.8%
Academic Study other than language	10.4%
Other	5.0%
Volunteer work	3.0%
Field research	2.5%
Performance (theater, music, dance, etc.)	1.4%
Research in a library	1.3%

Activities by Class Year

Students having completed their first year and returning as sophomores reported the largest number of activities. It is interesting to note that 20.7% of returning sophomores completed summer language study programs, which is more than returning juniors and seniors combined in those programs. More returning juniors and seniors completed internships during their summer experiences.

Activity	Returning Seniors	Returning Juniors	Returning Sophomores
Internship, paid	45.3%	28.0%	15.4%
Internship, unpaid	12.9%	15.8%	13.4%
Paid job (e.g. camp counselor)	9.4%	9.4%	14.8%

Activity	Returning Seniors	Returning Juniors	Returning Sophomores
Language Study	1.7%	10.4%	20.7%
Research in a laboratory	11.2%	10.9%	11.1%
Academic Study other than language	6.5%	13.6%	11.4%
Other	4.9%	5.0%	4.7%
Volunteer work	2.0%	1.8%	4.3%
Field research	3.2%	2.2%	1.9%
Performance (theater, music, dance, etc.)	1.3%	1.4%	1.1%
Research in a library	1.6%	1.4%	1.1%

Length of Activity

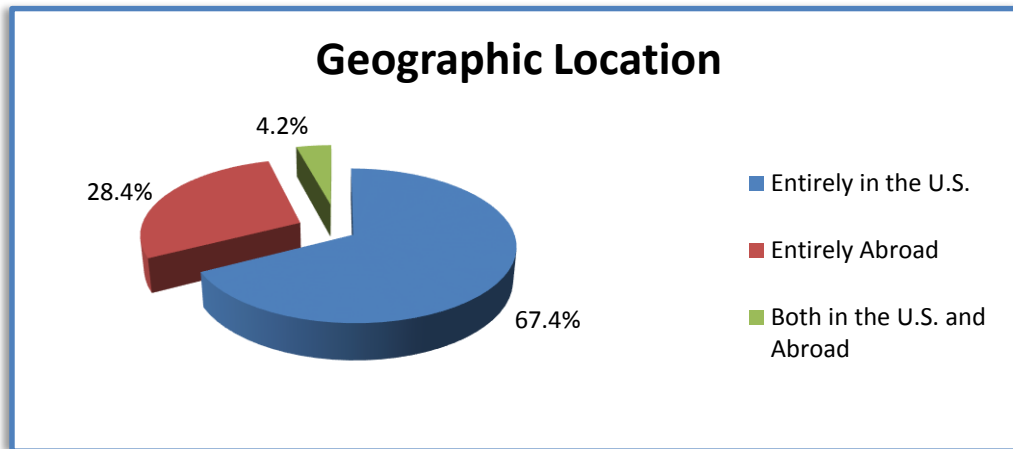
Slightly more than twenty percent (20.7%) of the activities reported were part-time while 79.3% were full-time, defined as 30 hours or more per week. More than two-thirds of the activities reported (69.1%) were eight weeks or longer in duration. Among the activities reported as less than two weeks included job shadowing and performances.

Number of Weeks	Respondents
Less than two weeks	1.7%
2 Weeks	1.9%
3 Weeks	1.8%
4 Weeks	5.8%
5 Weeks	7.9%
6 Weeks	8.3%
7 Weeks	3.5%
8 Weeks	21.7%
9 Weeks or longer	47.3%

Summer Locations

Approximately one-third (32.6%) of the activities reported were completely or partially outside the U.S. The top countries of choice for the summer were United Kingdom, China, France, Spain, Italy, and Germany.

Of the activities reported in the United States, more than 70% (70.4%) were in one of five states: Connecticut, New York, California, Washington, D.C., and Massachusetts.



Relationship to Academic and Career Goals

When asked about the relationship of their summer activity to their academic and career goals, 76.8% of respondents stated that their activity was very or somewhat related to their academic goals. A similar amount (78.6%) of respondents stated that their activity was very or somewhat related to their career goals.

Was this summer activity related to your academic goals?	Respondents
Yes, very related	38.2%
Yes, somewhat related	38.6%
Not really	23.2%

Was this activity related to your career goals?	Respondents
Yes, very related	39.6%
Yes, somewhat related	39.1%
Not really	21.4%

Funding

Students were asked how they funded their summer activities, more than a quarter (28.0%) reported receiving funding through Yale in the form of a fellowship, grant, or the International Summer Award (ISA). Of those activities funded through Yale, the highest percentage of funded activities was language study (25.6%), laboratory research (22.4%), academic study, other than language (15.2%), and unpaid internships (12.6%).

How was this experience funded?	Respondents
Paid job or internship	36.7%
Self-funded	29.7%
Funded by Yale - fellowship, grant, etc.	19.9%
Funded by Yale - International Summer Award (ISA)	8.1%
Funded by an organization other than Yale	5.7%

Summer Employment: Function (Role) and Industry

Focusing more specifically on summer employment, Career Strategy strives to educate students about the difference between function and industry and how to think about their career options in these terms. In particular, Career Strategy encourages students to think about the functional area first, which is the actual job of interest, and next consider the industry in which they pursue that job (a micro to macro level approach). The following analysis looks at the summer 2015 employment choices in each of these ways.

Employment Choices by Function (Role)

Research tops the list of functional areas with 17.6%. It is notable that there is no single function that attracts Yale students as a critical mass. This is consistent with the liberal arts education provided at Yale College through which students gain valuable transferable skills attractive to every role. The below chart represents the functional areas with the most respondents.

Employment by Function (Role)	Respondents
Research	17.6%
Finance	11.2%
Teaching / Education	9.5%
Administrative / Support Services	6.6%
Project Management	5.2%
Consulting	4.7%
Writing / Editing	4.5%
Programming / Software Development	4.4%
Law	4.1%
Engineering	3.9%
Marketing / Product Management	3.9%
Business Development	3.6%
Sales	2.8%
Health Services / Healthcare	2.6%
Outdoor Education	2.6%
Sustainability / Social Responsibility	2.2%
Advertising / Public Relations	2.1%
Political Organization / Campaigns	2.0%
Film Production	1.2%
Library Science	1.0%

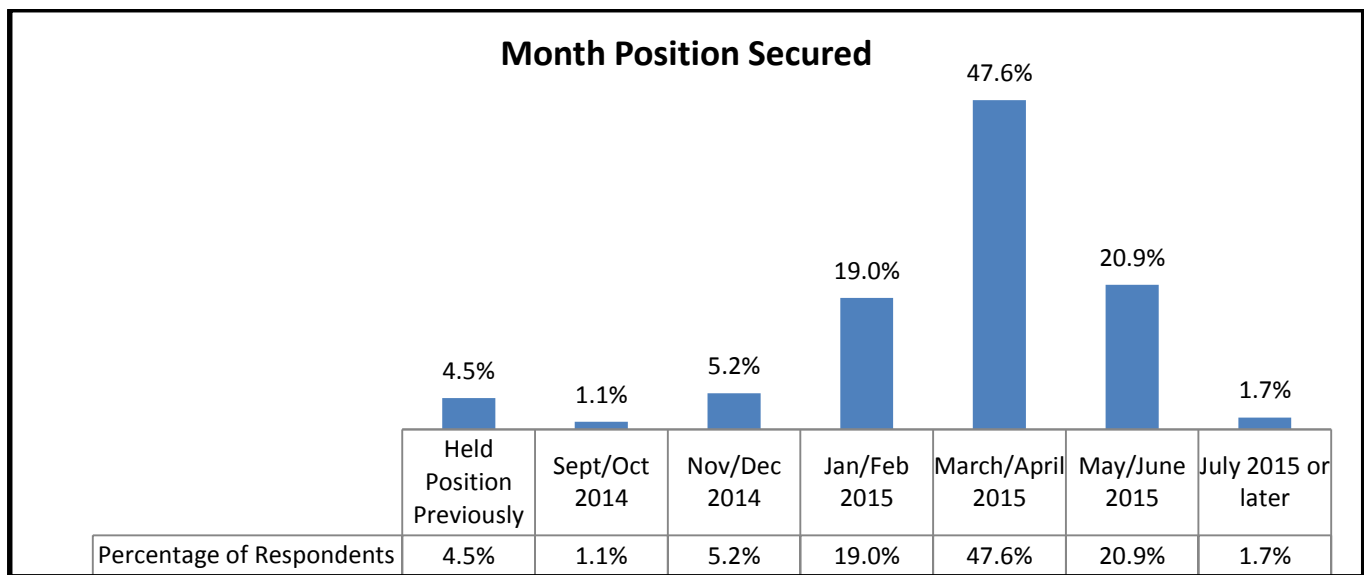
Employment Choices by Industry

Looking at choices by industry, it is again evident that students pursue many areas and there is no one industry that attracts Yale students as a critical mass.

Employment by Industry	Respondents
Financial Services	15.3%
Education (including University Research Positions)	13.8%
Healthcare/Medical/Pharmaceutical	8.5%
Community/Social Services	7.4%
Technology/Computer Science	7.4%
Consulting	5.2%
Communications/Marketing/Advertising/PR	4.8%
Government (including local, state and federal)	4.8%
Law/Legal Services	4.5%
Public Policy/Politics/Campaigns	3.8%
Publishing/Media/Journalism	3.5%
Environment	3.4%
Fine or Performing Arts	3.4%
Engineering	3.3%
Consumer Goods/Retail	3.2%
Entertainment/Film/Professional Sports	3.1%
Architecture/Design/Urban Planning	1.5%
Energy	1.4%
Industrial/Manufacturing	1.1%
Military Service	0.6%

Time of Year Secured Employment

Almost 90% of respondents secured their summer employment during the spring semester or later, and almost half of the respondents (47.6%) secured their position in March or April.



Source of Employment Opportunity

When respondents were asked how they found their summer employment position, more than forty percent (40.9%) reported finding their position through a Yale resource, including faculty referrals, Yale alumni or Career Strategy resources. Largest among those sources in the ‘Other’ category were referrals from friends at Yale and direct applications through an organization’s website.

Source of Position	Respondents
Family Friend or Contact	34.8%
Office of Career Strategy job posting/ Employer Database	17.8%
Other	17.7%
Other Yale Resource (e.g. student employment or contact through student organization)	12.5%
Non-Yale Database (e.g. idealist.org or usajobs.gov)	6.7%
Networking with Yale Alumni	3.5%
Faculty Referral	2.7%
On Campus Interview Program	2.7%
Yale Career Fair or Networking Night	1.6%