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More Students Plan to Go to Graduate or Professional School, Nonprofit or Teaching Sector

Members of the Class of 2010 continue the trend toward going on to graduate or professional school or going into the teaching or nonprofit sectors following graduation, according to results of NACE's *2010 Student Survey*.

This year, 27.5 percent of new college graduates reported plans to enroll in graduate or professional school, up from 25.6 percent in 2009 and 23.8 percent in 2008. Similarly, 21.5 percent of members from the Class of 2010 plan to work in teaching or the nonprofit sector. This represents a climb from 17.1 percent for the Class of 2009 and 13.9 percent from the Class of 2008.

Meanwhile, and perhaps predictably, the downward trend toward the private sector continued. This year, 36.3 percent of new college graduates plan to look for work in the private sector, down from 38.8 percent in 2009 and 45 percent in 2008.

Two other areas saw mixed results. The percentage of students in the Class of 2010 indicating they would work in the government sector dropped to 7.8 from 10.2 in 2009 and 8.9 in 2008. Meanwhile, those new college graduates who plan to take time off came in at 4.4 percent, up from 4.3 percent last year, but down from 4.6 percent two years ago.

NACE's *2010 Student Survey* was conducted February 9, 2010, through April 30, 2010. More than 31,470 students representing more than 400 colleges and universities nationwide took part; more than 13,000 of those were graduating seniors. A final report on the study's findings will be available later this year.