

Survey Results 2016-2021 – Employers

Since 2000, we have periodically administered alumni, employer and supervisor surveys to gather feedback and input from graduates working in the field, employers who hire our graduates, and supervisors who consistently supervise our students. In 2013, we determined the necessity to survey alumni annually to incorporate feedback and suggestions into program review and planning. During a 2015-2016 fall faculty meeting, we decided to begin surveying employers and supervisors annually as well.

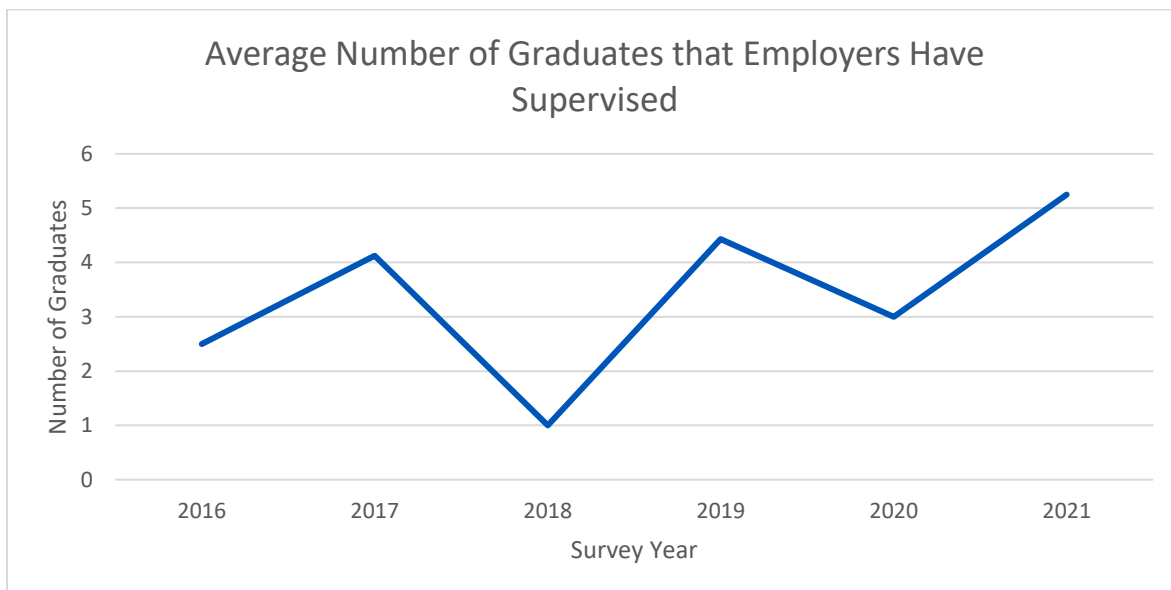
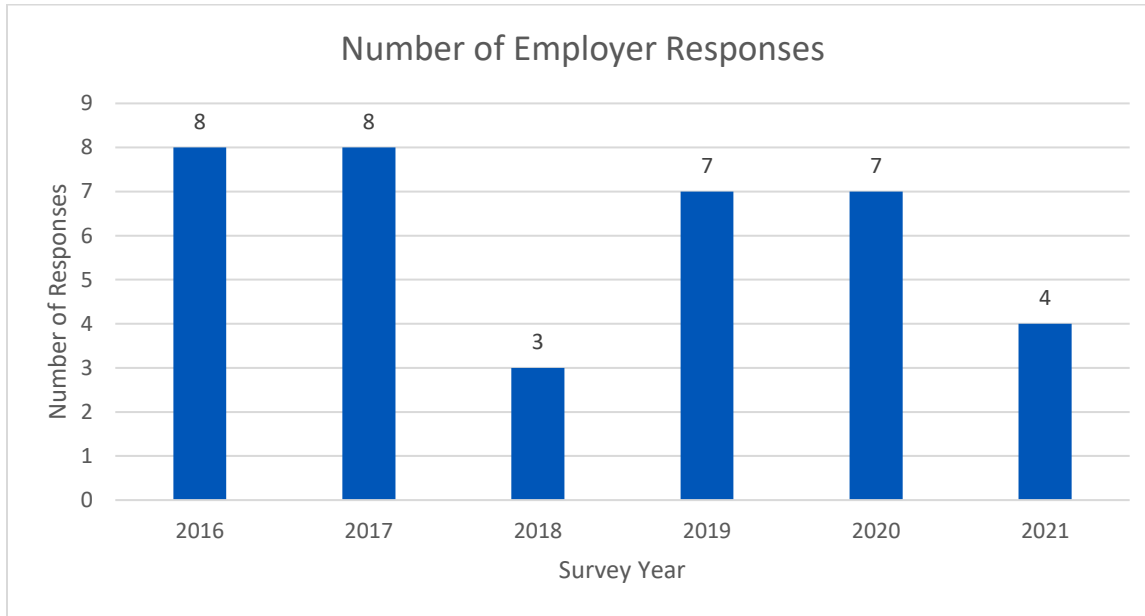
We review all feedback as a department and value the contributions of our graduate students, supervisors, employers, current students and faculty, which informs teaching practices, curriculum development, skill development and student learning evaluation.

Surveys are generally sent in January to the graduating class of the previous year. For example, the 2016 survey data is based responses from the graduating class of 2015, their employers, and their former supervisors

Employer Statistics

Each year, recent graduates are surveyed and asked to provide contact information for their employer. These employers are then surveyed about their experiences with EMU MA in Counseling graduates. On average, the survey is sent to 11 employers per year. The highest response rate was in 2016, when 8 employers responded out of the 12 that were contacted. The lowest response rate was in 2018, when 3 out of 10 employers responded.

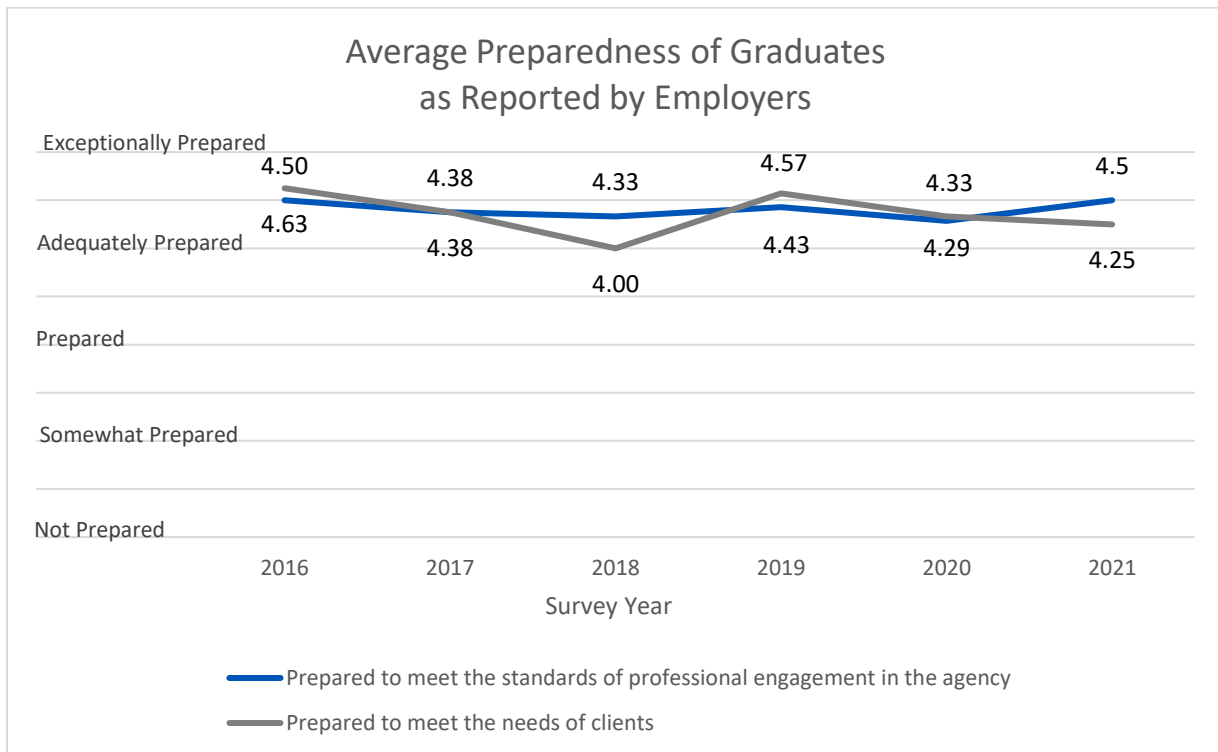
Most employers reported that they have supervised 1 to 3 graduates, while others reported supervising as many as 10.



Preparedness of Graduates

On average, employers report that our alumni are more than adequately prepared to meet the needs of their clients and the professional standards of their workplaces. Employers had the option to write additional comments about the scores they gave. Some mentioned the professionalism, work ethic, and clinical intervention skills that impressed them. Other expressed concerns about the graduates' time management, notetaking, and inexperience in making diagnoses.

Additional feedback and resulting program modifications can be found in the Annual Survey Evaluation Report.



When asked to list two or three common traits and strengths they noticed in EMU graduates, employers had overwhelmingly positive responses. Many commented on the graduates' professionalism, client-centered focus, empathy, and knowledge of theory. The word cloud below is based on their responses.



In 2017, we included an optional question about whether the employer would recommend the EMU MA in Counseling program to prospective students. In order to get more responses, we made this a required question in later surveys. Since the 2019 survey, 100% of employers have said that they would recommend the EMU MA in Counseling program to prospective students.

