

Summer 2025 Activities Report

This report is generated from the 2025 Summer Activities Survey, which was sent to 5,311 students and was completed by 3,008 students, resulting in a 56.6% response rate. Respondents reporting multiple activities are counted in each activity category. In total, students reported 3,653 activities. Students are referred to by the class year in which they return after the summer. Finally, not every respondent answered every question.

Summer Activities

Respondents reported that 50.3% of the activities were internships or paid jobs, while 20.2% were academic or language studies. More than ten percent of activities were laboratory research.

| Activity | Respondents |
|---|-------------|
| Internship, paid | 29.4% |
| Internship, unpaid | 12.3% |
| Research in a laboratory | 12.8% |
| Research in a department/library | 4.0% |
| Paid job <i>(e.g. camp counselor)</i> | 8.7% |
| Performance <i>(theater, music, dance, etc.)</i> | 1.0% |
| Language Study | 7.9% |
| Academic Study other than language | 12.4% |
| Volunteer work | 2.5% |
| Field research | 2.1% |
| Other <i>(e.g. military training, athletic training)</i> | 6.9% |
| Did not participate in a summer activity | 0.3% |

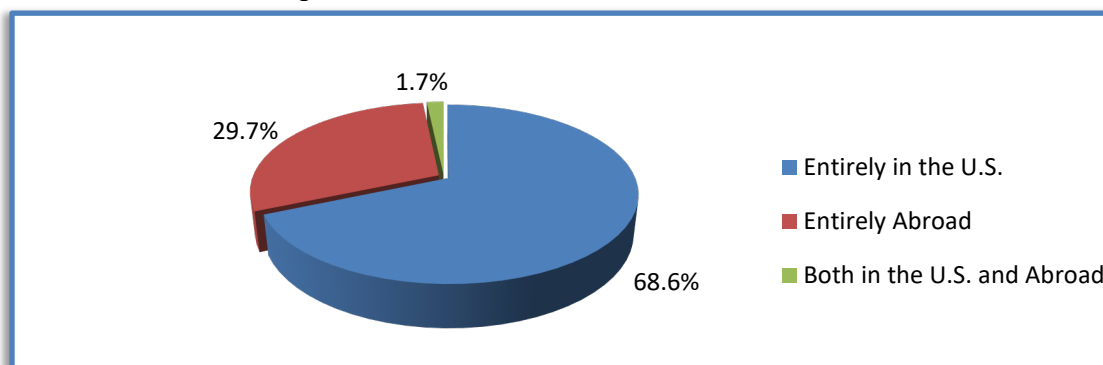
Activities by Class Year

| Activity | Returning Seniors | Returning Juniors | Returning Sophomores |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Total Activities</i> | <i>1140</i> | <i>1193</i> | <i>1320</i> |
| Internship, paid | 42.8% | 32.4% | 15.2% |
| Internship, unpaid | 12.7% | 14.8% | 9.8% |
| Academic Study other than language | 6.8% | 11.1% | 18.4% |
| Research in a laboratory | 10.9% | 13.9% | 13.5% |
| Paid job | 6.1% | 7.7% | 11.7% |
| Language Study | 1.8% | 4.7% | 16.1% |
| Other | 6.3% | 6.5% | 7.8% |
| Research in a department/library | 5.4% | 4.3% | 2.6% |
| Field research | 3.5% | 1.9% | 1.0% |

| Activity | Returning Seniors | Returning Juniors | Returning Sophomores |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Volunteer work | 2.3% | 2.0% | 3.0% |
| Performance | 1.4% | 0.6% | 0.9% |

Summer Locations

More than thirty percent (31.4%) of the activities reported were abroad. The top countries were the United Kingdom, Spain, France, and China. Students spent the summer in 100 countries outside the U.S. Within the U.S., students spent the summer in 52 states and territories.



Relationship to Academic Field of Study

More than 86% of respondents stated their activity was related to their field of study.

| How was this activity related to your undergraduate study? | Respondents |
|--|-------------|
| Highly related to the field(s) of study | 44.9% |
| Related to the field(s) of study | 26.3% |
| Slightly related to the field(s) of study | 15.1% |
| Not related to the field(s) of study | 13.7% |

Funding

More than one-third (36.8%) of the activities reported were funded by a Yale fellowship or award.

| How was this experience funded? | Respondents |
|---|-------------|
| Paid job or internship | 37.7% |
| Self-funded | 21.6% |
| Funded by Yale <i>(Other fellowship, grant, Yale Summer Session Financial Aid)</i> | 18.2% |
| Funded by Yale – International Study Award | 10.2% |
| Funded by Yale - Summer Experience Award | 8.4% |
| Funded by an organization other than Yale | 4.0% |

Summer Employment: Function (Role), Industry, and Sector

OCS teaches students the distinction between function, industry, and sector, and how to consider careers in these terms. OCS encourages students to think about the functional area first, which is the job of interest, and next consider the industry in which they pursue that job.

Employment Choices by Function (Role)

No single function or industry attracts Yale students as a critical mass. This is consistent with the liberal arts education through which students gain transferable skills attractive to every role. The charts below include the functions and industries with 20 or more activities reported.

| Employment by Function (Role) | Respondents |
|--|--------------------|
| Finance | 14.0% |
| Research: Policy, Academic, Literary | 7.7% |
| Law | 6.9% |
| Engineering | 6.2% |
| Teaching/Curriculum Development | 6.2% |
| Programming/Software Development | 5.8% |
| Consulting | 5.2% |
| Operations | 5.1% |
| Health Services/Healthcare | 4.7% |
| Data Science/Data Analytics | 4.3% |
| Research: Laboratory | 3.5% |
| Office Administrative/Support Services | 3.0% |
| Writing/Editing | 3.0% |
| Business Development | 2.6% |
| Project Management | 2.0% |
| Outdoor Education | 1.9% |
| Sales | 1.8% |
| Advocacy/Campaigning/Lobbying | 1.7% |
| Advertising/Public Relations | 1.5% |
| Entertainment <i>(Film/TV, Theatre, Music)</i> | 1.5% |
| Arts Administration <i>(Museums, Galleries)</i> | 1.4% |
| Marketing/Product Management | 1.4% |
| Fundraising/Development | 1.1% |

Employment Choices by Industry

| Employment by Industry | Respondents |
|--|--------------------|
| Finance/Insurance/Real Estate | 17.6% |
| Academia/Education <i>(including University research positions)</i> | 13.3% |
| Healthcare/Pharmaceutical/Biotech/Global Health | 9.1% |
| Technology | 8.0% |
| Law/Legal Services | 6.8% |
| Government/Military | 6.1% |
| Consulting | 4.8% |
| Engineering | 4.1% |

| Employment by Industry | Respondents |
|--|-------------|
| Community Organizations Advocacy/Social Services | 3.2% |
| Publishing/Media/Journalism | 2.7% |
| Hospitality | 2.5% |
| Consumer Products/Retail | 2.1% |
| Entertainment/Film/Television | 2.1% |
| Environment | 1.9% |
| Energy/Oil and Gas/Power | 1.8% |
| Think Tank | 1.5% |
| Agriculture/Food Systems | 1.5% |
| Arts Administration | 1.5% |
| Communications/Marketing/Advertising/PR | 1.4% |
| Architecture/Design/Urban Planning | 1.3% |
| Foundation/Association | 1.2% |

Employment Choices by Sector

Almost half (46.0%) of the employment activities were with a non-profit organization, NGO, government, or other public agency, while slightly more than half (54.0%) were with a for-profit.

| Employment by Sector | Respondents |
|--|-------------|
| For-profit corporation/company | 54.0% |
| Non-profit organization, institution, or NGO <i>(arts, human services, private universities, and campaigns)</i> | 32.9% |
| Government or other public institution <i>(including public schools and public universities)</i> | 13.2% |

Time of Year Secured Employment

More than sixty percent (60.9%) of respondents secured employment in the spring semester or later.

