



FIRST Alumni Study, 2015 Brief Summary of Findings

FIRST conducted a web-based survey of *FIRST* Alumni who had graduated high school in 2015 or earlier. 14,441 Alumni completed the survey. The following are highlights of findings related to the demographics, education and career outcomes.

- 94% of *FIRST* Alumni who completed the survey are attending a 2 year or 4 year college; 82% are in school full time; the vast majority of *FIRST* Alumni are in their first (43%) second (29%) or third (18%) year of college. Most expect to receive a Bachelors (34%), Masters (41%) or Doctorate (19%) degree.
- Many college going *FIRST* Alumni have declared majors in engineering (42%) or computer science (22%).
- *FIRST* Alumni enrolled in graduate school are planning to obtain a graduate degree in engineering (40%) or computer science (11%).
- As a result of participation in *FIRST*, the majority of *FIRST* Alumni indicated that they are more prepared in their college courses (74%), more confident in managing time (78%), have had hands-on experiences relevant to their course work (79%), have confidence to take leadership roles in school (83%), and have mentors or peers they can turn to for help with career decisions (72%).
- Of the 92% of *FIRST* Alumni who had ever planned for a career in STEM, 84% are still in the field. Overall 78% of *FIRST* Alumni are in a STEM field as a student or professional.
- One third of *FIRST* Alumni have had a leadership role in their community (33%) or in school/work (36%)
- As a result of *FIRST*, Alumni developed a number of critical skills required of an innovative workforce including: problem solving (90%), teamwork (90%), innovative thinking (87%), perseverance (85%), and creative thinking (85%).
- 43% of *FIRST* Alumni are currently involved with *FIRST*: 26% coach or mentor a *FIRST* Team, 18% volunteer at *FIRST* events and 15% donate their time or skills to *FIRST* in other ways.

For more information about this study please contact Nancy Boyer, *FIRST* Director of Research & Evaluation, at (603) 206-2470 or nboyer@firstinspires.org.