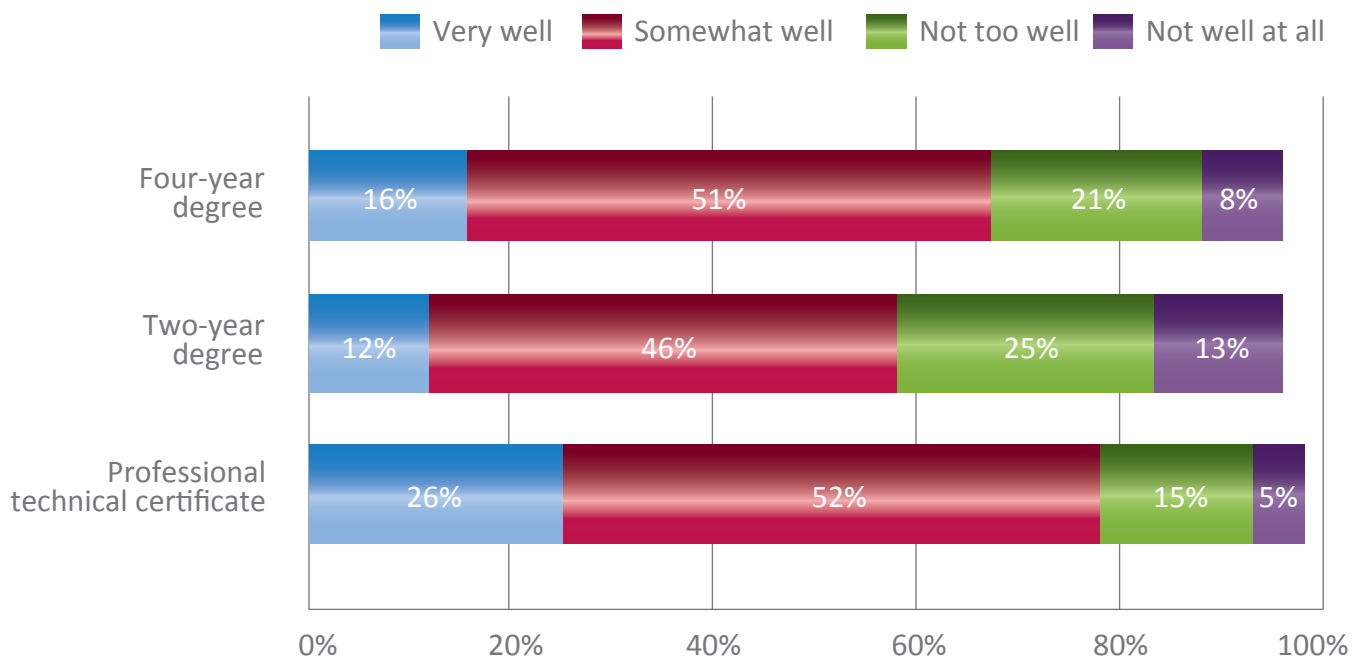


Prepared for the workforce

Technical career students most strongly feel that their education prepared them for their jobs.

How well does post-high school education prepare students for the workforce?



Source: The Pew Research Center, Social and Demographic Trends, 0235 “The State of American Jobs,” October 2016.



Most Americans feel that their college education was beneficial, but they vary with respect to how well they felt their post-secondary education prepared them for work. The majority (about 62 percent) believe their college degree contributed toward their intellectual growth. Slightly more than half (53 percent) thought it was a stepping stone for job opportunities, and 49 percent reported it gave them specific job-related knowledge and experience. When asked how their education has prepared them for the workforce, professional and technical certificate earners were most likely to respond positively — 26 percent said very well and another 52 percent somewhat well. In comparison, about 12 percent of associate-degree earners felt their education prepared them very well and another 46 percent somewhat well. Sixteen percent of baccalaureate completers indicated their education prepared them very well for the workforce and 51 said somewhat well. [Read more.](#)

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