

**Tracer Study of Graduates from
the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of
Education at
UNAN-Managua, Cohort 2009**

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Country: Nicaragua, Central America

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General Objectives:

1. To determine educational, socio-economic and labor characteristics of the graduates from the Faculty of Humanities and Law and the Faculty of Education and Languages of UNAN-Managua.
2. To analyze information related to the process of transition between graduation and labor market the graduates experience.

Careers of Faculty of Humanities and Law:

- Diplomacy
- Law
- Philology and Communication
- Psychology
- Anthropology
- History

Careers of Faculty of Education and Languages:

- Early Education
- Primary Education

Methodology.

The graduates were approached directly and personally by the means of a close-ended questionnaire. Senior students were trained to interview the graduates, under supervision of experimented professors.

Nº DE CASO:

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE NICARAGUA
(UNAN-Managua)
FACULTAD DE HUMANIDADES Y CIENCIAS JURÍDICAS

ESTUDIO DE SEGUIMIENTO DE GRADUADOS UNIVERSITARIOS
Cohorte de 2009

CUESTIONARIO

Estimado (a) señor (a, ita):

Con el presente cuestionario, la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua desea obtener información acerca de los(as) graduados(as) universitarios(as) de diferentes carreras de la Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias Jurídicas, a efecto de conformar estudios de seguimiento que contribuyan a actualizar los currículos, identificar los campos laborales y establecer áreas y temas de capacitación y actualización profesional.

Solicitamos su colaboración respondiendo al cuestionario que se presenta a continuación y agradeceremos mucho el tiempo que nos pueda prestar.

Instrucciones Generales:

Con base en su experiencia estudiantil, profesional y laboral, por favor conteste marcando con una X, dando respuestas cortas, o estableciendo escalas de valoración, según sea el caso. Sus respuestas son confidenciales y serán usadas únicamente con propósitos de esta investigación. Muchas gracias.

A) CARACTERÍSTICAS SOCIO-BIOGRÁFICAS, ACADEMICAS Y LABORALES ANTES DE ESTUDIAR

A1 Sexo

Solter/a

Separad/a

Acompañad/a

Viud/a

Otro:
(Favor Especificar)

A4 Tipo de Escuela Secundaria en que se graduó

Pública

Privada

Otro:
(Favor Especificar)

A5 Localización de la Escuela Secundaria en que se graduó

País: _____
(Favor Especificar)

Ciudad: _____
(Favor Especificar)

A6 Año de graduación de Secundaria

A7 Nacionalidad

Extranjero: _____
(Favor Especificar nacionalidad)

Ciudadano nicaraguense

A8 ¿Tenía experiencia laboral antes de haber iniciado sus estudios universitarios?

Sí

No

Population and Sample

**Total population of
Graduates in 2009: 209.**

**Graduates randomly
Sampled: 133**

**Graduates responding the
questionnaire: 104**

A sample was
needed because
of low budget
for this Nation
wide study

Coverage
Rate: 50%

Data Analysis

| Table No.1 Gender | Frequency | Percent |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|
| Female | 78 | 75 |
| Male | 26 | 25 |
| Total | 104 | 100 |

Biographical data

Most of the graduates are female (75%). Traditionally, these majors have been of female domain in Nicaragua , particularly Education, Psychology, Comunication and Philology.

Educational data

| Table No. 2 Type of secondary School where graduated | Frequency | Percent |
|---|-----------|---------|
| Public | 71 | 68 |
| Private | 28 | 26 |
| Subsidized | 5 | 4 |
| Total | 104 | 100 |

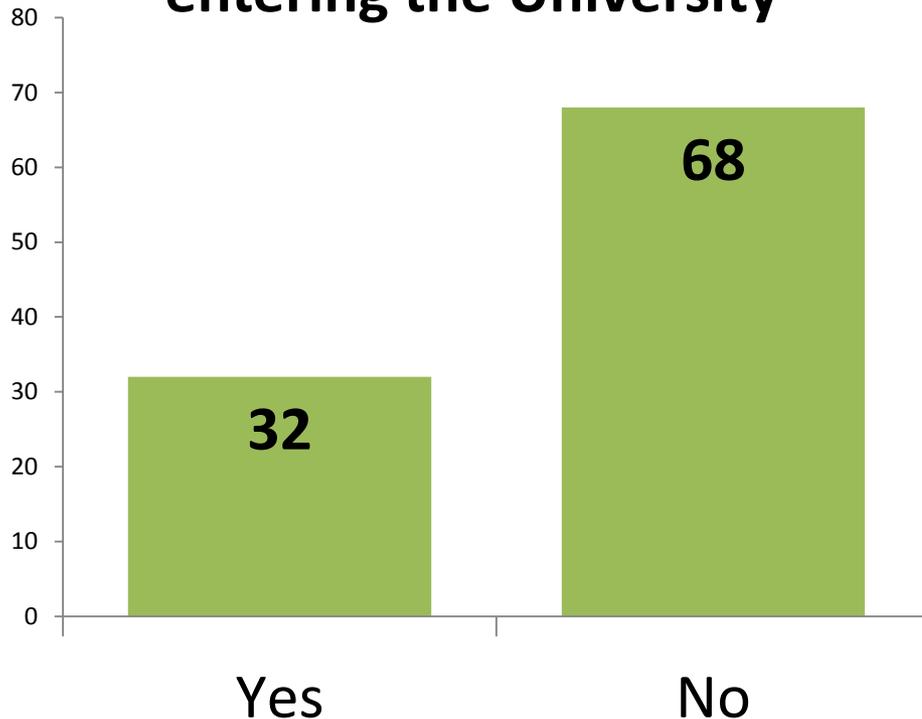
It is understandable that most of graduates come from Public High Schools (68%). UNAN-Managua is public and tuition free and advocated to serve working families.

| Table No. 3 Faculty where graduated | Frequency | Percent |
|---|-----------|---------|
| Education | 20 | 19 |
| Humanities | 84 | 81 |
| Total | 104 | 100 |

The largest group of graduates (81%) comes from Humanities.

Labor Data

Labor experience before entering the University

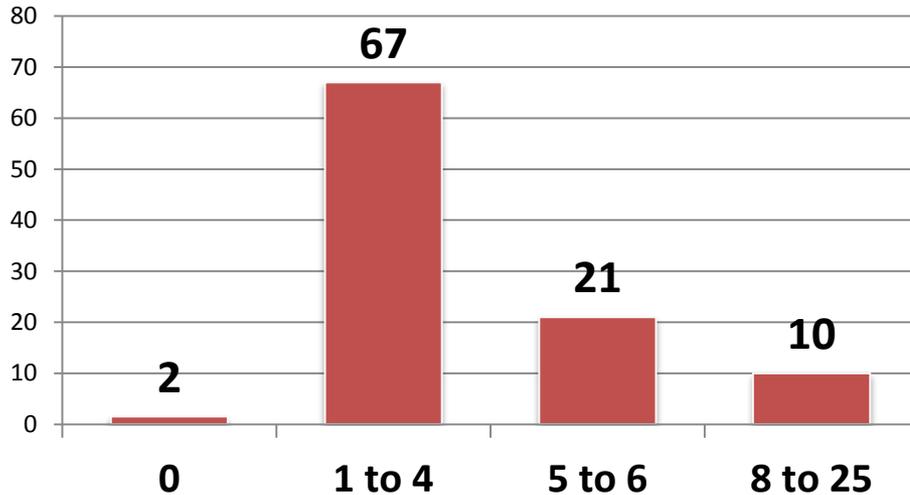


It's interesting to know that an important percentage (32%) of graduates had labor experience before entering the university. Although it's known that 27% of the graduates are coming from Labor oriented Saturday courses.

Regarding the number of months the graduates used having employment or self-employment before entering the University, the average found was 11 months.

TRANSITION TO WORK

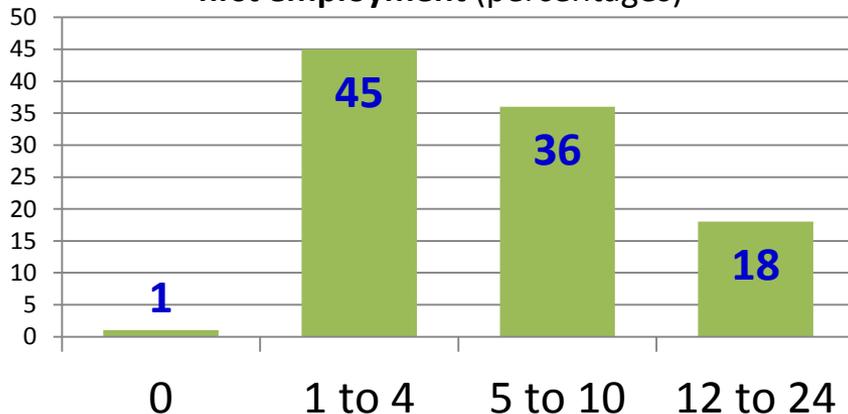
**Companies/institutions contacted
before the first employment -
(percentages)**



Most of the graduates (67%) contacted from 1 to 4 companies before having the first employment.

Average of companies contacted: 3.96

**Months needed by graduates to find the
first employment (percentages)**

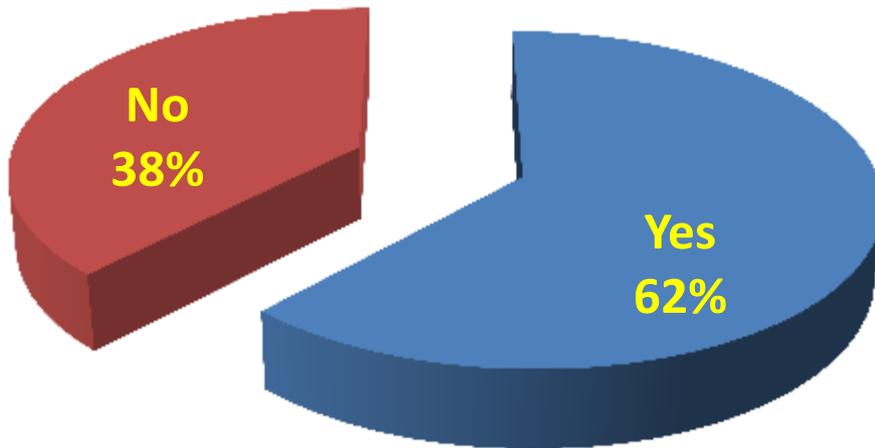


A big group of graduates (45%) needed from 1 to 4 months to find the first employment.

The average found was 6 months to find a job.

TRANSITION TO WORK

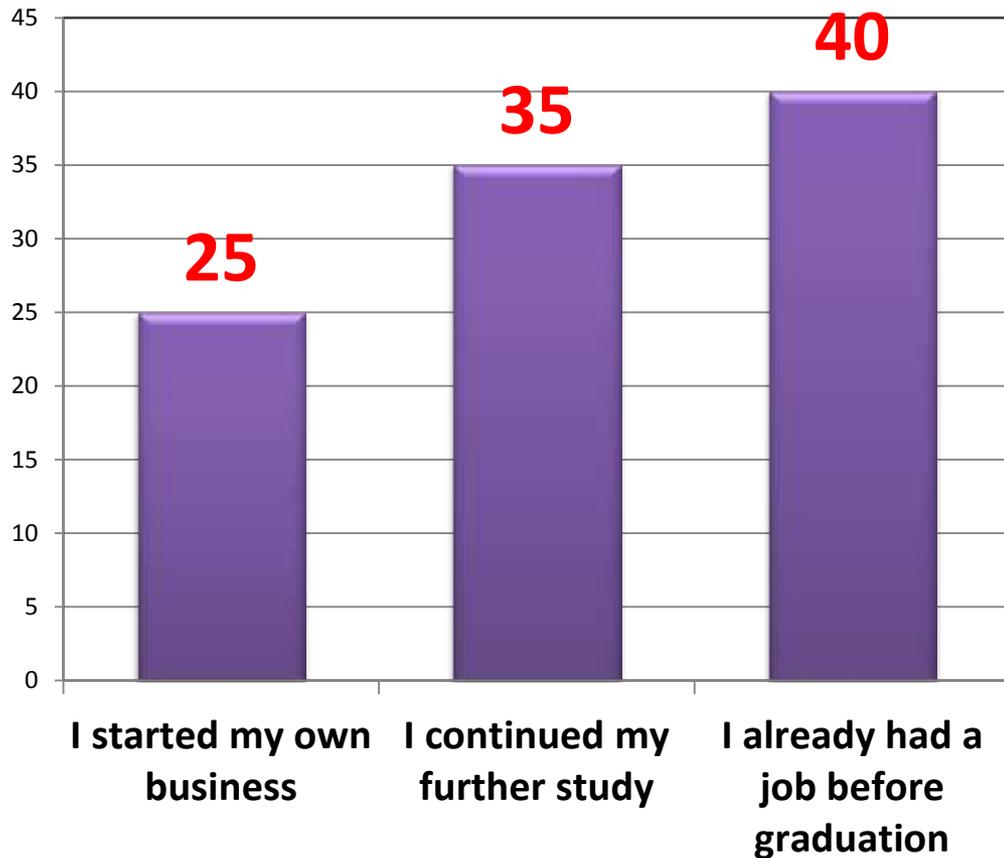
**Currently employed
(including half-time job or
self-employment)**



After 2 years of graduation only 62% of graduates are employed. It should be taken into account that at least 27 percent of graduates already had a job before graduation (those coming from labor oriented Saturday courses).

TRANSITION TO WORK

Main reason not looking for a job after graduation (percentages)



Those graduates who immediately after graduation did not start looking for a job give different reasons for not doing so.

TRANSITION TO WORK

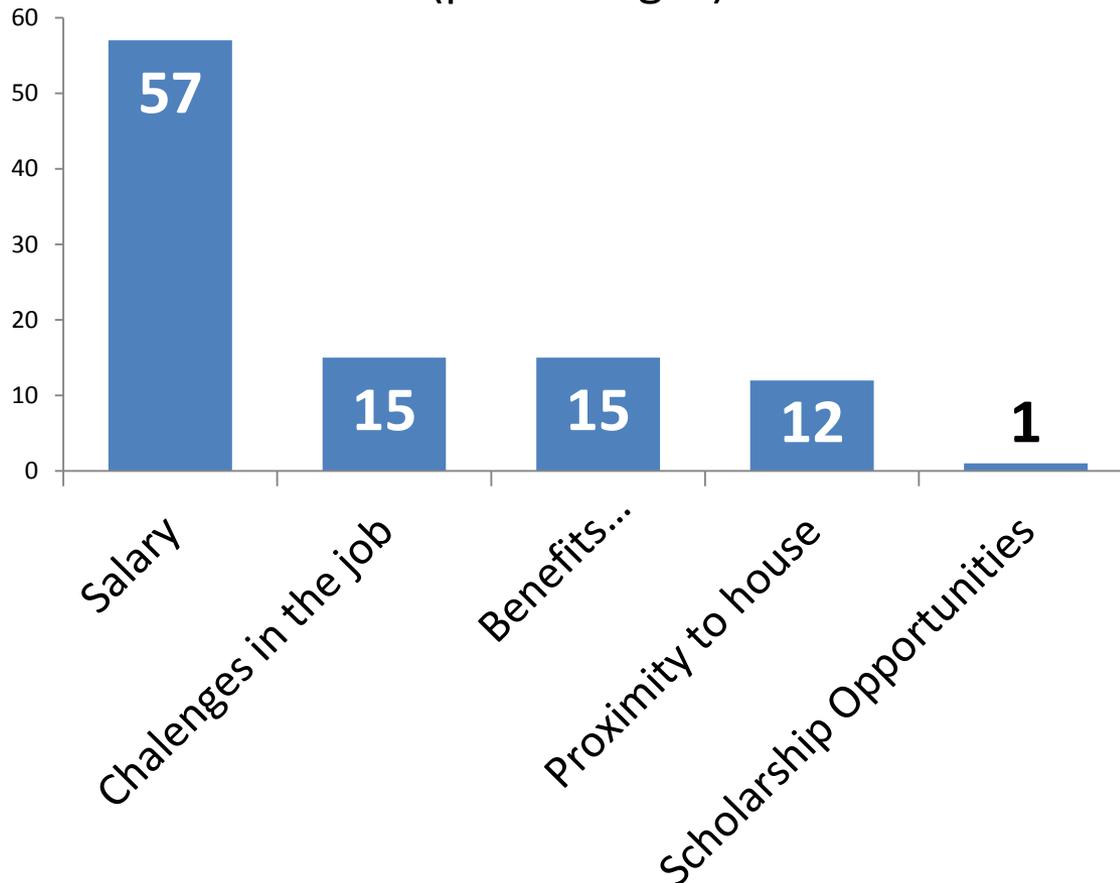
| Methods to reach first job | Percent |
|---|---------|
| Relations (e.g. parents, relatives, friends, etc.) | 36 |
| Advertisement in newspaper/magazine, fliers | 27 |
| Contacting Companies without checking for vacancies | 10 |
| I checked through the internet/online/ mailing list advertisement | 10 |
| Work placement/internship during study time | 10 |
| I was contacted by the company | 6 |
| I went to a job fair | 4 |
| I established my own business | 4 |
| I contacted the state working agency | 3 |
| I had information from CDC or CDC faculty | 3 |
| Trabajo para el mismo empleador desde que estaba estudiando | 3 |
| I contacted a commercial working agency | 1 |
| I established a network since I was in the higher education institution | 1 |
| I contacted the office of student/alumni affairs | 1 |

The main methods used by the graduates to obtain a job are personal relationship, contacting relatives, parents, professors, etc., followed by advertisements.

The university is not approaching the graduates to help them to obtain a job.

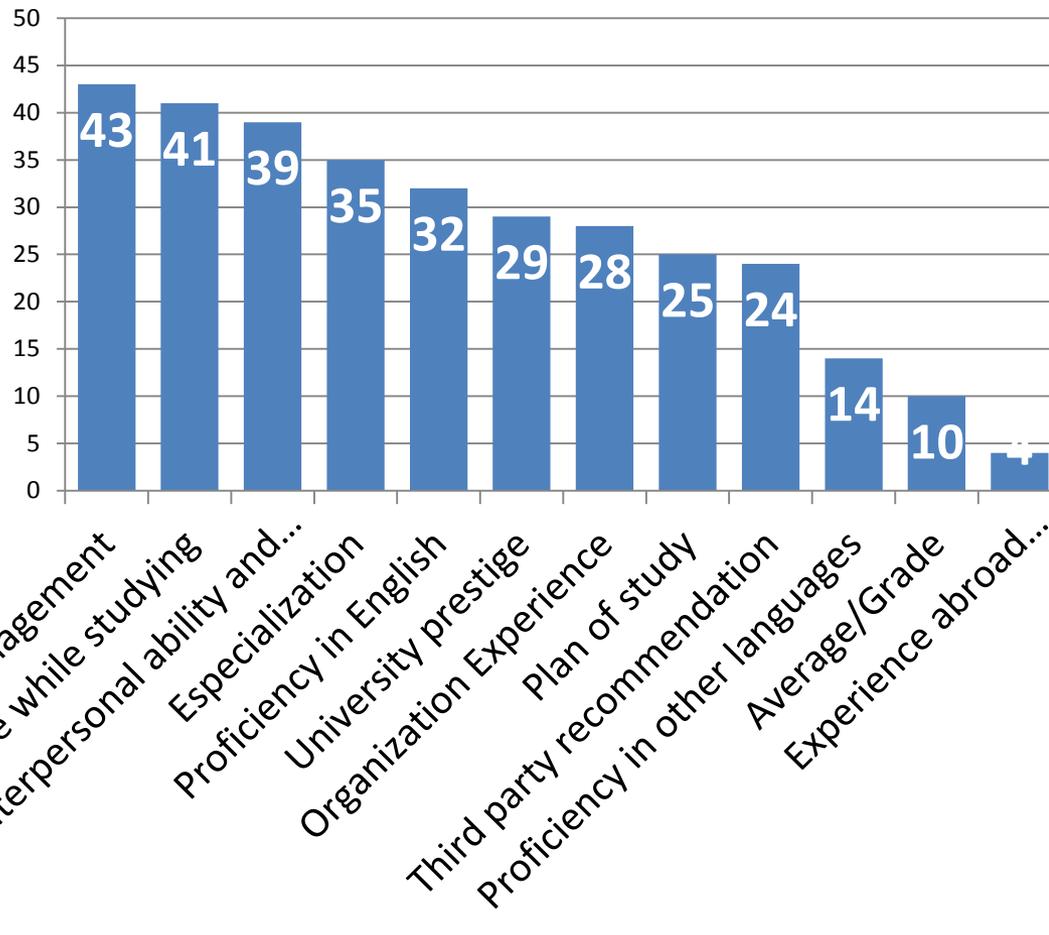
TRANSITION TO WORK

Most considered aspects in selecting first job-offer selecting (only one) (percentages)



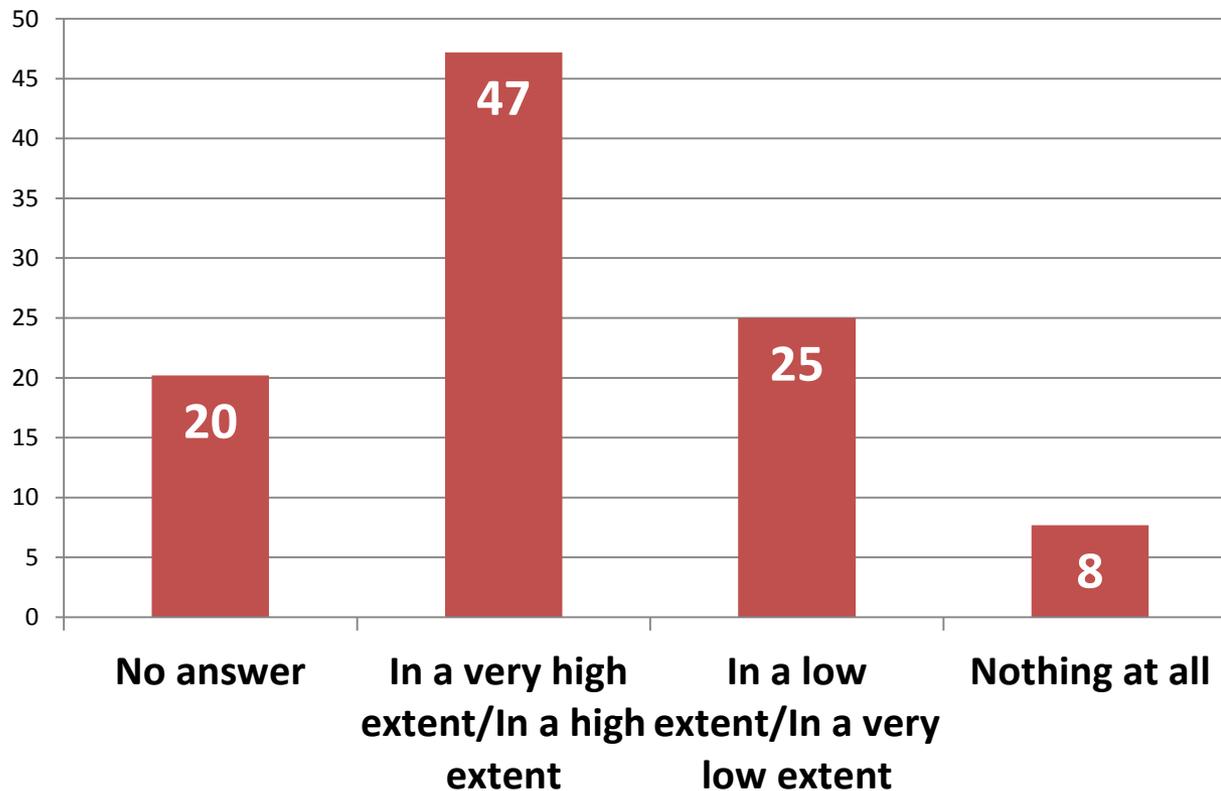
Salary (57%) is the main aspect the graduates consider in order to accept a job. Another aspect is also related to benefits: Benefits (15%).

Aspects the Employers Take into Account when Hiring the graduates for First Time



The most important aspects the employers take into account when hiring UNAN-Managua's graduates are: **computing management** (43%), **Labor experience while studying** (41%), **Interpersonal Ability and Personality** (39%), **Especializacion** (35%), and **English proficiency** (32%)..

Extent job is related to Study Fields – (Percentages)



Not even half of the graduates (47%) hold a job directly related to what they have studied in the university.

Conclusions

1. There is a low matching between the careers and the jobs the graduates are currently performing.
2. The graduates have to contact an average of 4 companies before having their first job.
3. In general, the graduates from UNAN-Managua need an average of 6 months to find the first job.
4. Salary is the main aspect the graduates consider when accepting their first job offert.
5. Personal relationships and advertising in newspapers are the main methods used by the graduates to look for job.

Female Nicaraguan ethnic costume

¡Muchas gracias!
Terima kasih!



THANKS

Vilen Dank!