

**Preferences in areas of professional performance of young students of statistics close to graduating from the Central University of Venezuela.**

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At present, the gap in certain areas of statistical professional performance is a latent problem in Venezuela, leading to the institutions to employ professionals of related careers that are not trained to perform tasks that correspond to statisticians, carrying a variety of problems, including an underdevelopment of statistical applications in certain sectors. The unequal distribution of professionals in the areas of performance can be associated with several conditions of economic, social, institutional and even cultural, the latest one caused by little knowledge of the various fields of practice by the student and technical developments by institutions. Motivated to identify these causes, we conducted a descriptive analysis of the preferences and expectations of professional performance in young students of statistics, who will graduate from the Central University of Venezuela (UCV) in 2013, supported by surveys and depth interviews directed to the population under study. This analysis will help to identify areas in which young people prefer to perform as well as comparisons between this result and the available supply, illustrating the Venezuelan labor market behavior and helping in decision-making by the Venezuelan Guild of Statisticians and Actuaries on the implementation of measures to break this pattern seen in recent years.

Key Words: labor market, expectations, survey.