Corporate Recruiters Survey 2026

United States regional profile

Skill demand in the AI era

Communication skills, problem-solving, and adaptability skills are important current and future skills for U.S. employers.

Top current skills

1. Communication skills (93%)
2. Problem-solving (91%)
3. Interpersonal/teamwork skills (90%)
4. Adaptability (89%)
4. Coachability (89%)

Top future skills

1. Strategic thinking (68%)
2. Communication skills (63%)
3. Adaptability (62%)
4. Problem-solving (61%)
4. Skills in using AI tools (61%)

Employer confidence in GME

U.S. employers are less likely to agree that business school skills are more relevant as businesses adopt new technologies and remote or hybrid work.

66%

Employers in the United States are confident in business school graduates because of their ability to handle the **complex global business environment**

*Compared to **71%** globally*

42%

Employers in the United States agree skills are more important as business adopt **new technologies**

*Compared to **62%** globally*

24%

Employers in the United States agree business skills are more important for businesses using **remote or hybrid working arrangements**

*Compared to **51%** globally*

Hiring and compensation trends

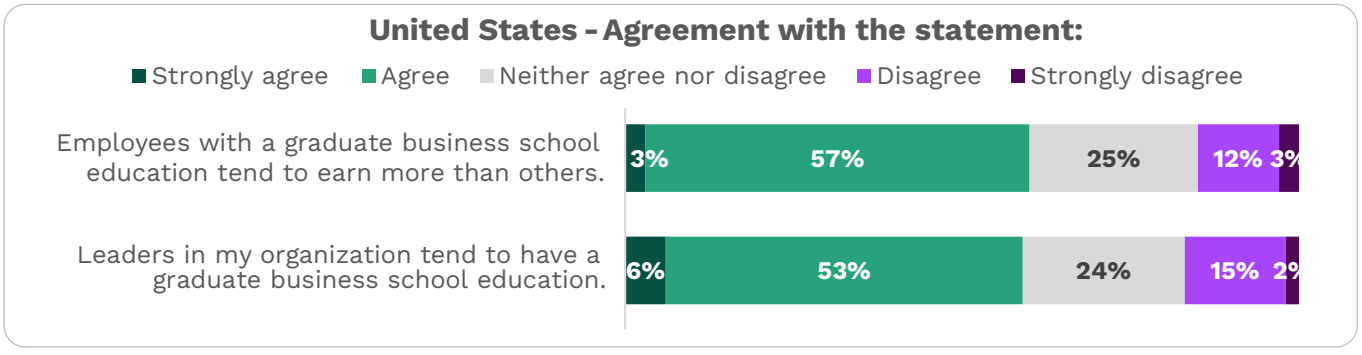
Almost two-thirds of U.S. employers agree GME graduates outearn other employees and are more likely to be leaders in the organization.

Factors with major influence on hiring

1. Financial status of your organization (50%)
2. Inflation (16%)
3. Recession fears (14%)
3. Country leaders (14%)

Most common non-salary benefits

1. Professional development (75%)
2. Corporate volunteering (69%)
3. Signing bonus (52%)



Access the full report at gmac.com/corporaterecruiters