

SURVEY FINDINGS

1. Employment Situation

1.1 Among the 355 **PhD** respondents, 216 graduates (60.8%) were *full-time employed*. The distribution of graduates by Employment Status is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Distribution of PhD Graduates by Employment Status in 2018-2022

| Year | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| No. of Respondents | 355 | 291 | 261 | 282 | 262 |
| Full-time employed | 60.8% | 62.5% | 57.9% | 57.4% | 65.2% |
| Further studies | 1.1% | 2.7% | 2.3% | 1.1% | 2.3% |
| Self-employed | 0.6% | 1.0% | 0% | 1.8% | 0.4% |
| Temporarily employed | 0.3% | 2.7% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.4% |
| Part-time employed | 0.6% | 0.3% | 0.8% | 0.4% | 0.8% |
| Not seeking employment | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.4% | 0.8% |
| Still seeking employment | 0.3% | 0.3% | 1.9% | 0.7% | 0.8% |
| Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland) | 36.1% | 30.2% | 36.8% | 37.9% | 29.4% |

1.2 Among the 196 **MPhil** respondents, 62 graduates (31.6%) were *full-time employed*. The distribution of graduates by Employment Status is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Distribution of MPhil Graduates by Employment Status in 2018-2022

| Year | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| No. of Respondents | 196 | 191 | 202 | 212 | 217 |
| Full-time employed | 31.6% | 27.2% | 21.8% | 28.3% | 35.9% |
| Further studies | 46.9% | 46.6% | 47.0% | 43.9% | 40.1% |
| Self-employed | 1.0% | 2.1% | 1.5% | 3.8% | 1.8% |
| Temporarily employed | 0.5% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 0.5% | 0.5% |
| Part-time employed | 1.0% | 1.0% | 0.0% | 2.4% | 0.5% |
| Not seeking employment | 0.0% | 2.6% | 0.0% | 0.5% | 1.4% |
| Still seeking employment | 1.0% | 1.6% | 0.0% | 2.8% | 0.5% |
| Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland) | 17.9% | 17.8% | 28.7% | 18.0% | 19.3% |

1.3 The employment status of **PhD** and **MPhil** graduates by program is shown in Appendices 1a and 1b respectively.

2. Employment Sector

- 2.1 Among the 187 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported employment sector, *Education* sector remained the largest sector employing 140 graduates (74.9%). (Table 3)

Table 3: Distribution of Full-time and Self-employed PhD Graduates by Employment Sector

| Employment Sector | 2022 | | 2021 | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % |
| Education | 140 | 74.9% | 120 | 77.4% |
| Engineering and Industry | 30 | 16.0% | 20 | 12.9% |
| Commerce and Business | 15 | 8.0% | 14 | 9.0% |
| Community and Social Services | 2 | 1.1% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Government and Related Organizations | 0 | 0.0% | 1 | 0.6% |
| Total Respondents | 187 | 100% | 155 | 100% |

- 2.2 Of those 49 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported employment sector, most of them (21 graduates or 42.9%) were working in the *Engineering and Industry* sector. (Table 4)

Table 4: Distribution of Full-time and Self-employed MPhil Graduates by Employment Sector

| Employment Sector | 2022 | | 2021 | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % |
| Engineering and Industry | 21 | 42.9% | 11 | 22.0% |
| Commerce and Business | 15 | 30.6% | 22 | 44.0% |
| Education | 11 | 22.4% | 13 | 26.0% |
| Government and Related Organizations | 1 | 2.0% | 2 | 4.0% |
| Community and Social Services | 1 | 2.0% | 1 | 2.0% |
| Total Respondents | 49 | 100% | 50 | 100% |

- 2.3 The distributions of Employment Sector of **PhD** and **MPhil** graduates by program are shown in Appendices 2a and 2b respectively.

3. Job Nature

- 3.1 Among the 189 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported job nature, the two most popular types of job were *Scientific and Research Work* (121 graduates or 64.0%), and *Engineering* (29 graduates or 15.3%).

3.2 Among the 50 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported job nature, the two most popular types of job were *Engineering* (19 graduates or 38.0%), and *Scientific and Research Work* (14 graduates or 28.0%).

3.3 The distributions of job nature of **PhD** and **MPhil** graduates by program are shown in Appendices 3a and 3b respectively.

4. Gross Monthly Income

4.1 The calculation of gross monthly income takes into account basic monthly salary as well as the commission, bonuses and allowances (e.g. meal and transportation allowances). (Tables 5, 6 and 7)

Table 5: Gross Monthly Income of Higher Degree Graduates by Research Programs (HKD)

| School \ Degree | IPO | | SBM | | SENG | | SHSS | | SSCI | | Overall | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| | Mean | Median | Mean | Median | Mean | Median | Mean | Median | Mean | Median | Mean | Median |
| PhD | # | # | 50,500 | 45,000 | 35,264 | 32,000 | # | # | 32,318 | 29,500 | 34,733 | 32,000 |
| MPhil | 25,033 | 23,317 | # | # | 26,529 | 23,000 | * | * | 22,043 | 22,542 | 25,629 | 23,000 |

IPO: Interdisciplinary Programs Office
 SBM: School of Business and Management
 SENG: School of Engineering
 SHSS: School of Humanities and Social Science
 SSCI: School of Science

Remarks: * No graduate from the Schools/Office was reported full-time employed or self-employed.
 # Salary figures are suppressed for confidential reasons as there are three or fewer persons in the category.

Table 6: Gross Monthly Income of Full-time and Self-employed PhD and MPhil Graduates by Employment Sector (HKD)

| Employment Sector \ Degree | PhD | | MPhil | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Mean | Median | Mean | Median |
| Commerce and Business | 74,883 | 72,500 | 30,115 | 26,000 |
| Community and Social Services | # | # | # | # |
| Education | 30,371 | 30,000 | 23,251 | 21,000 |
| Engineering and Industry | 46,547 | 37,917 | 24,710 | 22,917 |
| Government and Related Organizations | * | * | # | # |
| Overall | 34,733 | 32,000 | 25,773 | 23,000 |

Remarks: * No graduate was reported full-time employed or self-employed in the category.
 # Salary figures are suppressed for confidential reasons as there are three or fewer persons in the category.

Table 7: Gross Monthly Income of Full-time and Self-employed PhD and MPhil Graduates by Major Job Nature (HKD)

| Job Nature | Degree | PhD | | MPhil | |
|---|--------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Mean | Median | Mean | Median |
| Administration / Management | | # | # | 26,208 | 24,000 |
| Banking / Finance | | # | # | # | # |
| Clerical Work | | # | # | * | * |
| Economic, Statistical & Mathematical Work | | # | # | * | * |
| Engineering | | 42,139 | 33,250 | 26,895 | 23,010 |
| Health / Medical Services | | # | # | * | * |
| Scientific / Research Work | | 29,048 | 30,000 | 23,152 | 22,417 |
| System Analysis & Computer Programming | | # | # | 23,194 | 24,000 |
| Teaching / Lecturing | | 38,855 | 34,333 | # | # |
| Others | | # | # | # | # |
| Overall | | 34,733 | 32,000 | 25,629 | 23,000 |

Remarks: * No graduate was reported full-time employed or self-employed in the category.
 # Salary figures are suppressed for confidential reasons as there are three or fewer persons in the category.

- 4.2** A list of employers of the **PhD** and **MPhil** respondents by program is shown in Appendices 4a and 4b respectively.
- 4.3** The gross monthly income distributions of the **PhD** and **MPhil** respondents by program, by employment sector and by job nature are shown in Appendices 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7a and 7b respectively.

5. Work Base and Frequent Travel Location

5.1 Among the 207 full-time or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their work base location, 165 graduates (79.7%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas the rest (42 graduates or 20.3%) reported that they *were based outside Hong Kong*. (Table 8)

Table 8: Work Locations and Frequently Travel Destinations for Work of Full-time and Self-employed PhD Respondents

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Number of PhD respondents reported their work base location | 207 (100%) |
| Based in Hong Kong | 165 (79.7%) |
| Based outside Hong Kong | 42 (20.3%) |
| Number of PhD respondents who were based in Hong Kong | 165 (100%) |
| Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work | 159 (96.4%) |
| Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work | 6 (3.6%) |
| The major travel destination is: | 6 |
| Mainland China | 4 |
| UK | 1 |
| Australia | 1 |
| Number of PhD respondents who were based outside Hong Kong | 42 (100%) |
| The major work base locations include: | 29 (69.0%) |
| USA | 13 |
| Mainland China | 6 |
| Canada | 4 |
| Singapore | 3 |
| Switzerland | 3 |
| Others | 13 (31.0%) |

5.2 Among the 51 full-time or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their work base location, 47 graduates (92.2%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas 4 graduates (7.8%) reported that they were *based outside Hong Kong*. (Table 9)

Table 9: Work Locations and Frequently Travel Destinations for Work of Full-time and Self-employed MPhil Respondents

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Number of MPhil respondents reported their work base location | 51 (100%) |
| Based in Hong Kong | 47 (92.2%) |
| Based outside Hong Kong | 4 (7.8%) |
| Number of MPhil respondents who were based in Hong Kong | 47 (100%) |
| Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work | 44 (93.6%) |
| Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work | 3 (6.4%) |
| The major travel destination is: | 3 |
| Mainland China | 1 |
| Singapore | 1 |
| UK | 1 |
| Number of MPhil respondents who were based outside Hong Kong | 4 (100%) |
| The major work base locations include: | 4 |
| Japan | 2 |
| Canada | 1 |
| Switzerland | 1 |

6. Relevance of Study to Present Job

- 6.1 Respondents were also asked to indicate on a five-point scale the extent of relevance of the research skills acquired in their postgraduate study to their job. (Table 10)

Table 10: Relevance of Study to Present Job for Full-time and Self-employed PhD and MPhil Respondents

| | No. of Respondents | Most Relevant | Very Relevant | Relevant | Slightly Relevant | Least Relevant | Not Applicable |
|-------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| PhD | 181 (100%) | 107 (59.1%) | 52 (28.7%) | 16 (8.8%) | 5 (2.8%) | 1 (0.6%) | 0 (0.0%) |
| MPhil | 49 (100%) | 9 (18.4%) | 14 (28.6%) | 15 (30.6%) | 7 (14.3%) | 3 (6.1%) | 1 (2.0%) |

7. Number of Job Offers

- 7.1 Among the 181 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 89 graduates (49.2%) received one job offer, 59 graduates (32.6%) received two, and 33 graduates (18.2%) received three or above.
- 7.2 Among the 49 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 27 graduates (55.1%) received one job offer, 18 graduates (36.7%) received two, and 4 graduates (8.2%) received three.

8. Time of Obtaining First Job Offer

- 8.1 Among the 181 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (120 graduates or 66.3%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 94.5% (171 graduates) by September, and 100% by *December*.
- 8.2 Among the 49 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (34 graduates or 69.4%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 89.8% (44 graduates) by *August*, and 100% by *October*.

9. Graduates Pursuing Full-time Further Studies

- 9.1 Among the 355 **PhD** respondents, 4 graduates (1.1%) *pursued further studies*, in which all of them studied in local education institutions. (Table 11)

Table 11: PhD Graduates Pursuing Further Studies

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Total number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies | 4 (100%) |
| SENG | 2 (50.0%) |
| SSCI | 2 (50.0%) |
| Number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies in Hong Kong | 4 (100%) |

- 9.2 Among the 196 **MPhil** respondents, 65 graduates (33.2%) pursued further studies *in Hong Kong* and 27 graduates (13.8%) pursued full-time further studies *outside Hong Kong*. (Table 12)

Table 12: MPhil Graduates Pursuing Further Studies

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Total number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies | 92 (100%) |
| IPO | 5 (5.4%) |
| SBM | 23 (25.0%) |
| SENG | 33 (35.9%) |
| SHSS | 6 (6.5%) |
| SSCI | 25 (27.2%) |
| Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies in Hong Kong | 65 (100%) |
| The major education institution includes: | 62 (95.4%) |
| The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology | 60 |
| The University of Hong Kong | 1 |
| The Chinese University of Hong Kong | 1 |
| Others: | 3 (4.6%) |
| Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong | 27 (100%) |
| The major destinations include: | 20 (74.1%) |
| USA | 10 (37.0%) |
| UK | 5 (18.5%) |
| Switzerland | 3 (11.1%) |
| New Zealand | 1 (3.7%) |
| Singapore | 1 (3.7%) |
| Others: | 7 (25.9%) |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Number of MPhil respondents with reported fields of studies | 83 (100%) |
| The most popular fields of studies are: | 76 (91.6%) |
| Science | 28 (33.7%) |
| Engineering & Technology | 25 (30.1%) |
| Business & Management | 23 (27.7%) |
| Others: | 7 (8.4%) |
| Number of MPhil respondents with reported levels of degree of programs | 82 (100%) |
| Doctoral Degree (by Research) | 81 (98.8%) |
| Master's Degree (by Research) | 1(1.2%) |

10. Internship Experience

- 10.1 Out of the 250 **PhD** respondents, 49 graduates (19.6%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 201 graduates (80.4%) *had no internship experience*.
- 10.2 Out of the 158 **MPhil** respondents, 43 graduates (27.2%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 115 graduates (72.8%) *had no internship experience*.
- 10.3 Respondents with internship experience were asked to indicate the internship mode and the number of internship that they had taken. (Tables 13 and 14)

Table 13: Internship Experience of PhD Graduates

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Number of PhD respondents who reported their internship experience | 250 (100%) |
| Had taken internships during their studies | 49 (19.6%) |
| IPO | 2 (4.1%) |
| SBM | 3 (6.1%) |
| SENG | 31 (63.3%) |
| SHSS | 0 (0.0%) |
| SSCI | 13 (26.5%) |
| Had not taken internships during their studies | 201 (80.4%) |
| Number of PhD respondents who had taken internships during their studies | 49 |
| Had full-time internship experience | 26 (100%) |
| With 1 internship / job | 19 (73.1%) |
| With 2 internships / jobs | 4 (15.4%) |
| With 3 or more internships / jobs | 3 (11.5%) |
| Had part-time internship experience | 29 (100%) |
| With 1-3 internships / jobs | 27 (93.1%) |
| With 4-6 internships / jobs | 1 (3.4%) |
| With 7 or more internships / jobs | 1 (3.4%) |

Table 14: Internship Experience of MPhil Graduates

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Number of MPhil respondents who reported their internship experience | 158 (100%) |
| Had taken internships during their studies | 43 (27.2%) |
| IPO | 1 (2.3%) |
| SBM | 3 (7.0%) |
| SENG | 31 (72.1%) |
| SHSS | 1 (2.3%) |
| SSCI | 7 (16.3%) |
| Had not taken internships during their studies | 115 (72.8%) |
| Number of MPhil respondents who had taken internships during their studies | 43 |
| Had full-time internship experience | 29 (100%) |
| With 1 internship / job | 24 (82.8%) |
| With 2 internships / jobs | 3 (10.3%) |
| With 3 or more internships / jobs | 2 (6.9%) |
| Had part-time internship experience | 19 (100%) |
| With 1-3 internships / jobs | 18 (94.7%) |
| With 4-6 internships / jobs | 1 (5.3%) |

10.4 Details of internship experience by program are shown in Appendices 8a and 8b.

Note: Due to rounding of data, percentages in above tables may not add up exactly to 100% or equivalent total percentage of a sub-category.