

SURVEY FINDINGS

1. Employment Situation

1.1 Among the 336 **PhD** respondents, 222 graduates (66.1%) 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 2019-2023

Year	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
No. of Respondents	336	355	291	261	282
Full-time employed	66.1%	60.8%	62.5%	57.9%	57.4%
Further studies	1.5%	1.1%	2.7%	2.3%	1.1%
Self-employed	1.2%	0.6%	1.0%	0%	1.8%
Temporarily employed	2.4%	0.3%	2.7%	0.4%	0.4%
Part-time employed	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%	0.8%	0.4%
Not seeking employment	0.6%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
Still seeking employment	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	1.9%	0.7%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	27.1%	36.1%	30.2%	36.8%	37.9%

1.2 Among the 222 **MPhil** respondents, 69 graduates (31.1%) 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 2019-2023

Year	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
No. of Respondents	222	196	191	202	212
Full-time employed	31.1%	31.6%	27.2%	21.8%	28.3%
Further studies	50.5%	46.9%	46.6%	47.0%	43.9%
Self-employed	1.4%	1.0%	2.1%	1.5%	3.8%
Temporarily employed	1.4%	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%	0.5%
Part-time employed	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%	0.0%	2.4%
Not seeking employment	0.5%	0.0%	2.6%	0.0%	0.5%
Still seeking employment	1.4%	1.0%	1.6%	0.0%	2.8%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	13.5%	17.9%	17.8%	28.7%	18.0%

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 210 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported employment sector, *Education* sector remained the largest sector employing 154 graduates (73.3%). (Table 3)

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

Employment Sector	2023		2022	
	No.	%	No.	%
Education	154	73.3%	140	74.9%
Engineering and Industry	43	20.5%	30	16.0%
Commerce and Business	13	6.2%	15	8.0%
Community and Social Services	0	0.0%	2	1.1%
Government and Related Organizations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total Respondents	210	100%	187	100%

- 2.2 Of those 62 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported employment sector, most of them (24 graduates or 38.7%) 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	2023		2022	
	No.	%	No.	%
Engineering and Industry	24	38.7%	21	42.9%
Education	22	35.5%	11	22.4%
Commerce and Business	10	16.1%	15	30.6%
Government and Related Organizations	6	9.7%	1	2.0%
Community and Social Services	0	0.0%	1	2.0%
Total Respondents	62	100%	49	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 213 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported job nature, the two most popular types of job were *Scientific and Research Work* (153 graduates or 71.8%), and *Engineering* (23 graduates or 10.8%).
- 3.2 Among the 63 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported job nature, the three most popular types of job were *Engineering* (23 graduates or 36.5%), and

Scientific and Research Work (12 graduates or 19.0%), and System Analysis & Computer Programming (12 graduates or 19.0%) .

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	AIS		SBM		SENG		SHSS		SSCI		Overall	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
PhD	32,923	28,500	56,238	57,810	39,627	35,000	#	#	41,779	28,000	40,073	32,000
MPhil	22,200	23,000	*	*	33,784	30,000	#	#	31,271	22,000	31,747	26,167

AIS: Academy of Interdisciplinary Studies
 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	90,821	57,250	38,330	37,442
Community and Social Services	*	*	*	*
Education	33,143	30,000	27,982	22,000
Engineering and Industry	48,270	45,000	31,721	26,000
Government and Related Organizations	*	*	39,567	34,060
Overall	40,073	32,000	31,747	26,167

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		47,867	30,000	#	#
Banking / Finance		125,842	119,167	#	#
Clerical Work		*	*	#	#
Economic, Statistical & Mathematical Work		#	#	#	#
Engineering		48,581	45,000	33,781	26,000
Health / Medical Services		*	*	*	*
Scientific / Research Work		32,778	30,000	27,864	22,000
System Analysis & Computer Programming		79,333	68,667	36,930	35,775
Teaching / Lecturing		45,859	45,000	28,336	23,500
Others		*	*	*	*
Overall		40,073	32,000	31,747	26,167

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 219 full-time or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their work base location, 171 graduates (78.1%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas the rest (48 graduates or 21.9%) 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	219 (100%)
Based in Hong Kong	171 (78.1%)
Based outside Hong Kong	48 (21.9%)
Number of PhD respondents who were based in Hong Kong	171 (100%)
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	162 (94.7%)
Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	9 (5.3%)
The major travel destination is:	9
Mainland China	8
Malaysia	1
Number of PhD respondents who were based outside Hong Kong	48 (100%)
The major work base locations include:	37 (77.1%)
USA	16
Mainland China	6
Singapore	5
Australia	4
Canada	3
UK	3
Others	11 (22.9%)

5.2 Among the 65 full-time or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their work base location, 57 graduates (87.7%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas 8 graduates (12.3%) 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	65 (100%)
Based in Hong Kong	57 (87.7%)
Based outside Hong Kong	8 (12.3%)
Number of MPhil respondents who were based in Hong Kong	57 (100%)
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	54 (94.7%)
Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	3 (5.3%)
The major travel destination is:	3
Mainland China	2
Asia Pacific	1
Number of MPhil respondents who were based outside Hong Kong	8 (100%)
The major work base locations include:	8
Belgium	1
Denmark	1
Germany	1
Japan	1
Mainland China	1
Singapore	1
Taiwan	1
Uzbekistan	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	175 (100%)	104 (59.4%)	43 (24.6%)	24 (13.7%)	4 (2.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
MPhil	49 (100%)	10 (20.4%)	11 (22.4%)	14 (28.6%)	9 (18.4%)	3 (6.1%)	2 (4.1%)

7. Number of Job Offers

- 7.1 Among the 185 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 102 graduates (55.1%) received one job offer, 41 graduates (22.2%) received two, and 42 graduates (22.7%) received three or above.
- 7.2 Among the 63 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 32 graduates (50.8%) received one job offer, 19 graduates (30.2%) received two, and 12 graduates (19.0%) received three.

8. Time of Obtaining First Job Offer

- 8.1 Among the 185 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (129 graduates or 69.7%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 95.7% (177 graduates) by *September*, and 100% by *October*.
- 8.2 Among the 63 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (46 graduates or 73.0%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 96.8% (61 graduates) by *September*, and 100% by *November*.

9. Graduates Pursuing Full-time Further Studies

- 9.1 Among the 336 **PhD** respondents, 5 graduates (1.5%) *pursued further studies*, in which all of them studied in overseas institutions. (Table 11)

Table 11: PhD Graduates Pursuing Further Studies

Total number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies	5 (100%)
AIS	1 (20.0%)
SENG	4 (80.0%)
Number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong	5 (100%)
The major destination includes:	1 (100%)
UK	1

- 9.2 Among the 222 **MPhil** respondents, 87 graduates (39.2%) pursued further studies *in Hong Kong* and 25 graduates (11.3%) 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	112 (100%)
AIS	13 (11.6%)
SBM	20 (17.9%)
SENG	33 (29.5%)
SHSS	8 (7.1%)
SSCI	38 (33.9%)
Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies in Hong Kong	87 (100%)
The major education institution includes:	84 (96.6%)
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	75
The University of Hong Kong	7
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	1
City University of Hong Kong	1
Others:	3 (3.4%)
Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong	25 (100%)
The major destinations include:	19 (76.0%)
USA	8 (32.0%)
Canada	3 (12.0%)
Germany	2 (8.0%)
Singapore	2 (8.0%)
Switzerland	2 (8.0%)
Australia	1 (4.0%)
Japan	1 (4.0%)
Others:	6 (24.0%)

Number of MPhil respondents with reported fields of studies	102 (100%)
The most popular fields of studies are:	88 (86.3%)
Science	36 (35.3%)
Engineering & Technology	32 (31.4%)
Business & Management	20 (19.6%)
Others:	14 (13.7%)
Number of MPhil respondents with reported levels of degree of programs	103 (100%)
Doctoral Degree (by Research)	102 (99.0%)
Postgraduate Diploma/Certificate	1 (1.0%)

10. Internship Experience

- 10.1 Out of the 287 **PhD** respondents, 47 graduates (16.4%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 240 graduates (83.6%) *had no internship experience*.
- 10.2 Out of the 198 **MPhil** respondents, 40 graduates (20.2%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 158 graduates (79.8%) *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	287 (100%)
Had taken internships during their studies	47 (16.4%)
AIS	2 (4.3%)
SBM	0 (0.0%)
SENG	34 (72.3%)
SHSS	1 (2.1%)
SSCI	10 (21.3%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	240 (83.6%)
Number of PhD respondents who had taken internships during their studies	47
Had full-time internship experience	28 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	18 (64.3%)
With 2 internships / jobs	8 (28.6%)
With 3 or more internships / jobs	2 (7.1%)
Had part-time internship experience	24 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	22 (91.7%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	1 (4.2%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	1 (4.2%)

Table 14: Internship Experience of MPhil Graduates

Number of MPhil respondents who reported their internship experience	198 (100%)
Had taken internships during their studies	40 (20.7%)
AIS	2 (5.0%)
SBM	0 (0.0%)
SENG	28 (70.0%)
SHSS	2 (5.0%)
SSCI	8 (20.0%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	158 (79.8%)
Number of MPhil respondents who had taken internships during their studies	40
Had full-time internship experience	30 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	18 (60.0%)
With 2 internships / jobs	10 (33.3%)
With 3 or more internships / jobs	2 (6.7%)
Had part-time internship experience	16 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	15 (93.8%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	1 (6.3%)

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.