

## SURVEY FINDINGS

### 1. Employment Situation

- 1.1** Among the 396 **PhD** respondents, 252 graduates (63.6%) 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 2020-2024**

Year	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
No. of Respondents	396	336	355	291	261
Full-time employed	63.6%	66.1%	60.8%	62.5%	57.9%
Further studies	2.3%	1.5%	1.1%	2.7%	2.3%
Self-employed	0.3%	1.2%	0.6%	1.0%	0%
Temporarily employed	1.8%	2.4%	0.3%	2.7%	0.4%
Part-time employed	1.0%	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%	0.8%
Not seeking employment	1.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Still seeking employment	1.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	1.9%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	28.5%	27.1%	36.1%	30.2%	36.8%

- 1.2** Among the 222 **MPhil** respondents, 60 graduates (27.0%) 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 2020-2024**

Year	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
No. of Respondents	222	222	196	191	202
Full-time employed	27.0%	31.1%	31.6%	27.2%	21.8%
Further studies	55.9%	50.5%	46.9%	46.6%	47.0%
Self-employed	0.0%	1.4%	1.0%	2.1%	1.5%
Temporarily employed	0.0%	1.4%	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%
Part-time employed	0.9%	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%	0.0%
Not seeking employment	1.4%	0.5%	0.0%	2.6%	0.0%
Still seeking employment	1.8%	1.4%	1.0%	1.6%	0.0%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	13.1%	13.5%	17.9%	17.8%	28.7%

- 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 220 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported employment sector, *Education* sector remained the largest sector employing 152 graduates (69.1%). (Table 3)

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

Employment Sector	2024		2023	
	No.	%	No.	%
Education	152	69.1%	154	73.3%
Engineering and Industry	50	22.7%	43	20.5%
Commerce and Business	17	7.7%	13	6.2%
Community and Social Services	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
Government and Related Organizations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>100%</b>

- 2.2 Of those 47 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported employment sector, most of them (20 graduates or 42.6%) were working in the *Education* sector. (Table 4)

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

Employment Sector	2024		2023	
	No.	%	No.	%
Education	20	42.6%	22	35.5%
Engineering and Industry	14	29.8%	24	38.7%
Commerce and Business	10	21.3%	10	16.1%
Government and Related Organizations	2	4.3%	6	9.7%
Community and Social Services	1	2.1%	0	0.0%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>

- 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 219 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported job nature, the two most popular types of job were *Scientific and Research Work* (158 graduates or 72.1%), and *Engineering* (25 graduates or 11.4%).
- 3.2** Among the 53 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported job nature, the three most popular types of job were *Scientific and Research Work* (18 graduates or 34.0%), and *Engineering* (15 graduates or 28.3%), and *Teaching and Lecturing* (7 graduates or 13.2%).
- 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
<b>PhD</b>	40,855	35,000	56,844	51,355	44,242	36,000	#	#	39,453	30,000	<b>42,613</b>	<b>35,000</b>
<b>MPhil</b>	#	#	#	#	38,063	28,500	#	#	31,080	25,000	<b>34,139</b>	<b>25,000</b>

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)**

Degree Employment Sector	PhD		MPhil	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Commerce and Business	87,534	83,333	46,313	45,000
Community and Social Services	*	*	#	#
Education	33,799	30,000	25,313	23,000
Engineering and Industry	57,291	50,000	39,769	30,000
Government and Related Organizations	*	*	#	#
<b>Overall</b>	<b>42,613</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>34,139</b>	<b>25,000</b>

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)**

Degree Job Nature	PhD		MPhil	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Administration / Management	58,571	50,000	#	#
Banking / Finance	#	#	*	*
Economic, Statistical & Mathematical Work	#	#	*	*
Engineering	68,731	68,167	40,833	32,500
Insurance/Real Estate Services	*	*	#	#
Scientific / Research Work	34,372	30,000	22,167	23,000
System Analysis & Computer Programming	67,542	60,625	52,851	45,000
Teaching / Lecturing	48,232	50,000	32,500	34,000
<b>Overall</b>	<b>42,613</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>34,139</b>	<b>25,000</b>

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 223 full-time or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their work base location, 168 graduates (75.3%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas the rest (55 graduates or 24.7%) 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**

<b>Number of PhD respondents reported their work base location</b>	<b>223 (100%)</b>
Based in Hong Kong	168 (75.3%)
Based outside Hong Kong	55 (24.7%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents who were based in Hong Kong</b>	<b>168 (100%)</b>
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	151 (89.9%)
Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	17 (10.1%)
<b>The major travel destination is:</b>	<b>17</b>
Mainland China	13
Macao	1
Singapore	1
Southeast Asia	1
USA	1
<b>Number of PhD respondents who were based outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>55 (100%)</b>
<b>The major work base locations include:</b>	<b>32 (58.2%)</b>
USA	22
UK	6
Singapore	4
<b>Others:</b>	<b>23 (41.8%)</b>

- 5.2 Among the 53 full-time or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their work base location, 50 graduates (94.3%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas 3 graduates (5.7%) 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**

<b>Number of MPhil respondents reported their work base location</b>	<b>53 (100%)</b>
Based in Hong Kong	50 (94.3%)
Based outside Hong Kong	3 (5.7%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who were based in Hong Kong</b>	<b>50 (100%)</b>
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	50 (100%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who were based outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>3 (100%)</b>
<b>The major work base locations include:</b>	<b>3</b>
Singapore	2
Canada	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	176 (100%)	104 (59.1%)	42 (23.9%)	22 (12.5%)	5 (2.8%)	2 (1.1%)	1 (0.6%)
MPhil	46 (100%)	13 (28.3%)	12 (26.1%)	15 (32.6%)	2 (4.3%)	3 (6.5%)	1 (2.2%)

## 7. Number of Job Offers

- 7.1 Among the 176 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 120 graduates (68.2%) received one job offer, 26 graduates (14.8%) received two, and 30 graduates (17.0%) received three or above.
- 7.2 Among the 46 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 29 graduates (63.0%) received one job offer, 10 graduates (21.7%) received two, and 7 graduates (15.2%) received three or above.

## 8. Time of Obtaining First Job Offer

- 8.1 Among the 176 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (129 graduates or 73.3%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 96.6% (170 graduates) by *September*, and 100% by *December*.
- 8.2 Among the 46 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (36 graduates or 78.3%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 97.8% (45 graduates) by *September*, and 100% by *October*.

## 9. Graduates Pursuing Full-time Further Studies

- 9.1 Among the 396 **PhD** respondents, 9 graduates (2.3%) *pursued further studies*, in which some of them studied in overseas institutions. (Table 11)

**Table 11: PhD Graduates Pursuing Further Studies**

<b>Total number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies</b>	<b>9 (100%)</b>
AIS	1 (11.1%)
SENG	5 (55.6%)
SSCI	3 (33.3%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>3 (100%)</b>
<b>The major destination includes:</b>	<b>1 (100%)</b>
Australia	1

- 9.2 Among the 222 **MPhil** respondents, 91 graduates (41.0%) pursued further studies *in Hong Kong* and 33 graduates (14.9%) pursued full-time further studies *outside Hong Kong*. (Table 12)

**Table 12: MPhil Graduates Pursuing Further Studies**

<b>Total number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies</b>	<b>124 (100%)</b>
AIS	9 (7.3%)
SBM	19 (15.3%)
SENG	49 (39.5%)
SHSS	10 (8.1%)
SSCI	37 (29.8%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies in Hong Kong</b>	<b>91 (100%)</b>
<b>The major education institution includes:</b>	<b>87 (95.6%)</b>
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	77
The University of Hong Kong	6
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	2
City University of Hong Kong	1
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	1
<b>Others:</b>	<b>4 (4.4%)</b>
<b>Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>33 (100%)</b>
<b>The major destinations include:</b>	<b>25 (75.8%)</b>
USA	20 (80.0%)
UK	3 (12.0%)
Canada	2 (8.0%)
<b>Others:</b>	<b>8 (24.2%)</b>
<b>Number of MPhil respondents with reported fields of studies</b>	<b>99 (100%)</b>
<b>The most popular fields of studies are:</b>	<b>91 (91.9%)</b>

Engineering & Technology	37 (37.4%)
Science	35 (35.4%)
Business & Management	19 (19.2%)
<b>Others:</b>	<b>8 (8.1%)</b>
<b>Number of MPhil respondents with reported levels of degree of programs</b>	<b>101 (100%)</b>
Doctoral Degree (by Research)	96 (95.0%)
Doctor Degree (not by research)	3 (3.0%)
Master Degree (by research)	1 (1.0%)
Master Degree (not by research)	1 (1.0%)

## 10. Internship Experience

- 10.1 Out of the 316 **PhD** respondents, 66 graduates (20.9%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 250 graduates (79.1%) *had no internship experience*.
- 10.2 Out of the 183 **MPhil** respondents, 27 graduates (14.8%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 156 graduates (85.2%) *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**

<b>Number of PhD respondents who reported their internship experience</b>	<b>316 (100%)</b>
Had taken internships during their studies	66 (20.9%)
AIS	10 (15.1%)
SBM	0 (0.0%)
SENG	41 (62.1%)
SHSS	1 (1.5%)
SSCI	14 (21.2%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	250 (79.1%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents who had taken internships during their studies</b>	<b>66</b>
Had full-time internship experience	35 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	22 (62.9%)
With 2 internships / jobs	9 (25.7%)
With 3 or more internships / jobs	4 (11.4%)
Had part-time internship experience	34 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	29 (85.3%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	1 (2.9%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	4 (11.8%)

**Table 14: Internship Experience of MPhil Graduates**



<b>Number of MPhil respondents who reported their internship experience</b>	<b>183 (100%)</b>
Had taken internships during their studies	27 (14.8%)
AIS	4 (14.8%)
SBM	0 (0.0%)
SENG	18 (66.7%)
SHSS	2 (7.4%)
SSCI	3 (11.1%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	156 (85.2%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who had taken internships during their studies</b>	<b>27</b>
Had full-time internship experience	15 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	12 (80.0%)
With 2 internships / jobs	1 (6.7%)
With 3 or more internships / jobs	2 (13.3%)
Had part-time internship experience	16 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	13 (81.3%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	1 (6.3%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	2 (12.5%)

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.