

SURVEY FINDINGS

1. Employment Situation

- 1.1 Among the 441 **PhD** respondents, 264 graduates (59.9%) 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 2021-2025

Year	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
No. of Respondents	441	396	336	355	291
Full-time employed	59.9%	63.6%	66.1%	60.8%	62.5%
Further studies	1.1%	2.3%	1.5%	1.1%	2.7%
Self-employed	0.7%	0.3%	1.2%	0.6%	1.0%
Temporarily employed	2.3%	1.8%	2.4%	0.3%	2.7%
Part-time employed	0.0%	1.0%	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%
Not seeking employment	1.4%	1.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.0%
Still seeking employment	1.8%	1.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	32.9%	28.5%	27.1%	36.1%	30.2%

- 1.2 Among the 173 **MPhil** respondents, 37 graduates (21.4%) 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 2021-2025

Year	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
No. of Respondents	173	222	222	196	191
Full-time employed	21.4%	27.0%	31.1%	31.6%	27.2%
Further studies	56.6%	55.9%	50.5%	46.9%	46.6%
Self-employed	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	1.0%	2.1%
Temporarily employed	0.6%	0.0%	1.4%	0.5%	1.0%
Part-time employed	1.2%	0.9%	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%
Not seeking employment	2.9%	1.4%	0.5%	0.0%	2.6%
Still seeking employment	2.3%	1.8%	1.4%	1.0%	1.6%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	15.0%	13.1%	13.5%	17.9%	17.8%

- 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 240 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported employment sector, *Education* sector remained the largest sector employing 159 graduates (66.3%). (Table 3)

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

Employment Sector	2025		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%
Education	159	66.3%	152	69.1%
Engineering and Industry	54	22.5%	50	22.7%
Commerce and Business	25	10.4%	17	7.7%
Community and Social Services	2	0.8%	1	0.5%
Government and Related Organizations	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total Respondents	240	100%	220	100%

- 2.2 Of those 26 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported employment sector, most of them (11 graduates or 42.3%) were working in the *Education* sector. (Table 4)

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

Employment Sector	2025		2024	
	No.	%	No.	%
Education	11	42.3%	20	42.6%
Engineering and Industry	6	23.1%	14	29.8%
Commerce and Business	6	23.1%	10	21.3%
Government and Related Organizations	2	7.7%	2	4.3%
Community and Social Services	1	3.8%	1	2.1%
Total Respondents	26	100%	47	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 238 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported job nature, the two most popular types of job were *Scientific and Research Work* (157 graduates or 66.0%), and *Engineering* (35 graduates or 14.7%).
- 3.2** Among the 27 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported job nature, the three most popular types of job were *Scientific and Research Work* (11 graduates or 40.7%), and *Engineering* (7 graduates or 25.9%), and *Administration/Management* (4 graduates or 14.8%).
- 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	41,571	38,583	#	#	49,923	37,000	#	#	33,397	30,000	43,831	32,000
MPhil	#	#	#	#	42,849	42,500	#	#	#	#	35,775	29,223

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	62,720	54,167	50,639	48,860
Community and Social Services	#	#	#	#
Education	33,622	30,000	21,584	20,000
Engineering and Industry	66,221	60,000	47,200	45,000
Government and Related Organizations	*	*	#	#
Overall	43,831	32,000	35,775	29,223

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
Accounting / Auditing / Taxation	*	*	#	#
Administration / Management	#	#	55,208	52,083
Banking / Finance	94,069	102,000	*	*
Economic, Statistical & Mathematical Work	*	*	#	#
Engineering	63,276	60,000	45,704	45,000
Scientific / Research Work	32,636	30,000	20,000	20,000
System Analysis & Computer Programming	80,782	73,500	#	#
Teaching / Lecturing	51,228	40,800	#	#
Overall	43,968	32,000	35,775	29,223

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 247 full-time or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their work base location, 183 graduates (74.1%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas the rest (64 graduates or 25.9%) 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	247 (100%)
Based in Hong Kong	183 (74.1%)
Based outside Hong Kong	64 (25.9%)
Number of PhD respondents who were based in Hong Kong	183 (100%)
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	171 (93.4%)
Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	12 (6.6%)
The major travel destination is:	12
Chinese Mainland	10
Germany	1
Singapore	1
Number of PhD respondents who were based outside Hong Kong	64 (100%)
The major work base locations include:	42 (65.6%)
USA	23
Singapore	10
Chinese Mainland	9
Others:	22 (34.4%)

- 5.2 Among the 31 full-time or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their work base location, 28 graduates (90.3%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas 3 graduates (9.7%) 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

Number of MPhil respondents reported their work base location	31 (100%)
Based in Hong Kong	28 (90.3%)
Based outside Hong Kong	3 (9.7%)
Number of MPhil respondents who were based in Hong Kong	28 (100%)
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	28 (100%)
Number of MPhil respondents who were based outside Hong Kong	3 (100%)
The major work base locations include:	3
Chinese Mainland	1
Japan	1
Singapore	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	182 (100%)	107 (58.8%)	44 (24.2%)	22 (12.1%)	6 (3.3%)	3 (1.6%)	0 (0.0%)
MPhil	23 (100%)	6 (26.1%)	9 (39.1%)	7 (30.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (4.3%)

7. Number of Job Offers

- 7.1 Among the 183 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 107 graduates (58.5%) received one job offer, 37 graduates (20.2%) received two, and 39 graduates (21.3%) received three or above.
- 7.2 Among the 24 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 15 graduates (62.5%) received one job offer, 6 graduates (25.0%) received two, and 3 graduates (12.5%) received three or above.

8. Time of Obtaining First Job Offer

- 8.1 Among the 183 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (117 graduates or 63.9%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 97.3% (178 graduates) by *September*, and 100% by *December*.
- 8.2 Among the 24 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (16 graduates or 66.7%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 95.8% (23 graduates) by *September*, and 100% by *October*.

9. Graduates Pursuing Full-time Further Studies

- 9.1 Among the 441 **PhD** respondents, 5 graduates (1.1%) *pursued further studies*, in which some 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%)
SBM	1 (20.0%)
SENG	2 (40.0%)
SSCI	2 (40.0%)
Number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong	4 (100%)

- 9.2 Among the 173 **MPhil** respondents, 71 graduates (41.0%) pursued further studies *in Hong Kong* and 27 graduates (15.6%) 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	98 (100%)
AIS	6 (6.1%)
SBM	11 (11.2%)
SENG	39 (39.8%)
SHSS	9 (9.2%)
SSCI	33 (33.7%)
Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies in Hong Kong	71 (100%)
The major education institution includes:	69 (97.2%)
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	64
The University of Hong Kong	3
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	2
Others:	2 (2.8%)
Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong	27 (100%)
The major destinations include:	15 (55.6%)
USA	9 (33.3%)
Canada	3 (11.1%)
Chinese Mainland	3 (11.1%)
Others:	12 (44.4%)
Number of MPhil respondents with reported fields of studies	87 (100%)
The most popular fields of studies are:	76 (87.4%)
Engineering & Technology	39 (44.8%)
Science	27 (31.0%)
Business & Management	10 (11.5%)
Others:	11 (12.6%)

Number of MPhil respondents with reported levels of degree of programs	89 (100%)
Doctoral Degree (by Research)	87 (97.8%)
Master Degree (not by research)	1 (1.1%)
Postgraduate Diploma / Certificate	1 (1.1%)

10. Internship Experience

- 10.1 Out of the 328 **PhD** respondents, 74 graduates (22.6%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 254 graduates (77.4%) *had no internship experience*.
- 10.2 Out of the 137 **MPhil** respondents, 16 graduates (11.7%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 121 graduates (88.3%) *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	328 (100%)
Had taken internships during their studies	74 (22.6%)
AIS	16 (21.6%)
SBM	2 (2.7%)
SENG	42 (56.8%)
SHSS	1 (1.4%)
SSCI	13 (17.6%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	254 (77.4%)
Number of PhD respondents who had taken internships during their studies	74
Had full-time internship experience	42 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	28 (66.7%)
With 2 internships / jobs	10 (23.8%)
With 3 or more internships / jobs	4 (9.5%)
Had part-time internship experience	35 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	32 (91.4%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	2 (5.7%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	1 (2.9%)

Table 14: Internship Experience of MPhil Graduates

Number of MPhil respondents who reported their internship experience	137 (100%)
Had taken internships during their studies	16 (11.7%)
AIS	2 (12.5%)
SBM	1 (6.3%)

SENG	10 (62.5%)
SHSS	0 (0.0%)
SSCI	3 (18.8%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	121 (88.3%)
Number of MPhil respondents who had taken internships during their studies	16
Had full-time internship experience	8 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	4 (50.0%)
With 2 internships / jobs	3 (37.5%)
With 3 or more internships / jobs	1 (12.5%)
Had part-time internship experience	10 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	9 (90.0%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	0 (0.0%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	1 (10.0%)

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.