

## SURVEY FINDINGS

### 1. Employment Situation

1.1 Among the 261 **PhD** respondents, 151 graduates (57.9%) 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 2016-2020**

Year	2020	2018	2018	2017	2016
No. of Respondents	261	282	262	273	207
Full-time employed	57.9%	57.4%	65.2%	68.5%	58.0%
Further studies	2.3%	1.1%	2.3%	2.2%	1.9%
Self-employed	0%	1.8%	0.4%	1.8%	1.4%
Temporarily employed	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Part-time employed	0.8%	0.4%	0.8%	0.0%	1.4%
Not seeking employment	0.0%	0.4%	0.8%	0.4%	0.5%
Still seeking employment	1.9%	0.7%	0.8%	0.4%	1.9%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	36.8%	37.9%	29.4%	26.7%	34.8%

1.2 Among the 202 **MPhil** respondents, 44 graduates (21.8%) 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 2016-2020**

Year	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
No. of Respondents	202	212	217	197	214
Full-time employed	21.8%	28.3%	35.9%	32.5%	29.9%
Further studies	47.0%	43.9%	40.1%	41.1%	43.0%
Self-employed	1.5%	3.8%	1.8%	0.5%	2.3%
Temporarily employed	1.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	1.4%
Part-time employed	0.0%	2.4%	0.5%	1.0%	0.0%
Not seeking employment	0.0%	0.5%	1.4%	1.5%	0.0%
Still seeking employment	0.0%	2.8%	0.5%	0.5%	0.9%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	28.7%	18.0%	19.3%	22.3%	22.4%

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 148 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported employment sector, *Education* sector remained the largest sector employing 119 graduates (80.4%). (Table 3)

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

Employment Sector	2020		2019	
	No.	%	No.	%
Education	119	80.4%	115	72.3%
Engineering and Industry	17	11.5%	22	13.8%
Commerce and Business	9	6.1%	20	12.6%
Community and Social Services	2	1.4%	2	1.3%
Government and Related Organizations	1	0.7%	0	0.0%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>100%</b>

- 2.2 Of those 44 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported employment sector, most of them (26 graduates or 59.1%) were working in the *Education* sector. (Table 4)

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

Employment Sector	2020		2019	
	No.	%	No.	%
Education	26	59.1%	20	29.9%
Engineering and Industry	8	18.9%	28	41.8%
Commerce and Business	6	13.6%	18	26.8%
Community and Social Services	3	6.8%	1	1.5%
Government and Related Organizations	1	2.3%	0	0.0%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>67</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 148 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported job nature, the two most popular types of job were *Scientific and Research Work* (119 graduates or 80.4%), and *Engineering* (14 graduates or 9.5%).

**3.2** Among the 42 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported job nature, the two most popular types of job were *Scientific and Research Work* (27 graduates or 61.4%), and *System Analysis & Computer Programming* (7 graduates or 15.9%).

**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	24,500	24,000	#	#	35,414	30,000	#	#	28,592	25,000	33,924	30,000
MPhil	#	#	#	#	23,705	21,000	#	#	19,399	19,500	21,628	20,000

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	63,103	67,500	20,503	20,000
Education	30,738	29,833	19,708	20,000
Engineering and Industry	38,854	30,500	27,948	22,750
Government and Related Organizations	*	*	#	#
Community and Social Services	#	#	#	#
<b>Overall</b>	<b>33,924</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>21,628</b>	<b>20,000</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)**

Job Nature	Degree	PhD		MPhil	
		Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Administration / Management		#	#	#	#
Banking / Finance		*	*	#	#
Economic, Statistical & Mathematical Work		*	*	*	*
Engineering		46,667	32,000	25,097	24,792
Marketing / Sales		*	*	*	*
Scientific / Research Work		31,278	30,000	18,667	19,500
System Analysis & Computer Programming		#	#	27,167	21,500
Teaching / Lecturing		48,292	35,917	#	#
<b>Overall</b>		<b>33,924</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>21,628</b>	<b>20,000</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 148 full-time or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their work base location, 135 graduates (91.2%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas the rest (13 graduates or 8.8%) reported that they were based outside Hong Kong. (Table 10)

**Table 10: 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>148 (100%)</b>
Based in Hong Kong	135 (91.2%)
Based outside Hong Kong	13 (8.8%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents who were based in Hong Kong</b>	<b>135 (100%)</b>
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	133 (98.5%)
Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	2 (1.5%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents who were based outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>13 (100%)</b>
<b>The major work base locations include:</b>	<b>8 (61.5%)</b>
UK	3
USA	3

Switzerland	2
<b>Others</b>	<b>5 (38.5%)</b>

**5.2** Among the 47 full-time or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their work base location, 47 graduates (100%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas no graduates reported that they were *based outside Hong Kong*. (Table 11)

**Table 11: 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>47 (100%)</b>
Based in Hong Kong	47 (100%)
Based outside Hong Kong	0 (0.0%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who were based in Hong Kong</b>	<b>47 (100%)</b>
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	46 (97.9%)
Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	1 (2.1%)
<b>The major travel destination is:</b>	<b>1 (100%)</b>
Mainland China	1
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who were based outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>0 (100%)</b>

## **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 12)

**Table 12: 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
<b>PhD</b>	<b>134 (100%)</b>	78 (58.2%)	38 (28.4%)	15 (11.2%)	2 (1.5%)	1 (0.7%)	0 (0.0%)
<b>MPhil</b>	<b>44 (100%)</b>	16 (36.4%)	13 (29.5%)	6 (13.6%)	4 (9.1%)	4 (9.1%)	1 (2.3%)

## **7. Number of Job Offers**

**7.1** Among the 128 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 92 graduates (71.9%) received one job offer, 22 graduates (17.2%) received two, and 14 graduates (10.9%) received three.

**7.2** Among the 43 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 31 graduates (72%) received one job offer, 6 graduates (14%) received two, and 6 graduates (14%) received three.

## **8. Time of Obtaining First Job Offer**

**8.1** Among the 135 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (88 graduates or 65.2%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 100% by *December*.

**8.2** Among the 44 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (20 graduates or 45.45%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 95.5% (42 graduates) by *October*, and 100% by *December*.

## **9. Graduates Pursuing Full-time Further Studies**

**9.1** Among the 261 **PhD** respondents, 6 graduates (2.3%) *pursued further studies*, in which 3 of them studied in a local education institution, and 3 graduates in overseas institutions. (Table 12)

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

<b>Total number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies</b>	<b>6 (100%)</b>
SENG	3 (50.0%)
SSCI	3 (50.0%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies in Hong Kong</b>	<b>3 (100%)</b>
<b>Number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>3 (100%)</b>
<b>The major destination includes:</b>	<b>2 (66.6%)</b>
USA	2
<b>Others:</b>	<b>1 (33.3%)</b>

**9.2** Among the 202 **MPhil** respondents, 75 graduates (37.1%) pursued further studies *in Hong Kong* and 20 graduates (9.9%) pursued full-time further studies *outside Hong Kong*. (Table 13)

**Table 13: MPhil Graduates Pursuing Further Studies**

<b>Total number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies</b>	<b>95 (100%)</b>
IPO	4 (4.2%)
SBM	22 (23.2%)
SENG	41 (43.2%)
SHSS	7 (7.4%)

SSCI	21 (22.1%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies in Hong Kong</b>	<b>75 (100%)</b>
<b>The major education institution includes:</b>	<b>69 (92.0%)</b>
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	69
<b>Others:</b>	<b>6 (8.0%)</b>
<b>Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>20 (100%)</b>
<b>The major destinations include:</b>	<b>9 (45.0%)</b>
USA	7 (77.8%)
Germany	2 (22.2%)
<b>Others:</b>	<b>11 (55.0%)</b>
<b>Number of MPhil respondents with reported fields of studies</b>	<b>83 (100%)</b>
<b>The most popular fields of studies are:</b>	<b>77 (92.8%)</b>
Engineering & Technology	41 (53.2%)
Science	19 (24.5%)
Business & Management	17 (22.1%)
<b>Others:</b>	<b>6 (7.2%)</b>
<b>Number of MPhil respondents with reported levels of degree of programs</b>	<b>86 (100%)</b>
Doctoral Degree (by Research)	85 (98.8%)
Postgraduate Diploma/Certificate	1 (1.2%)

## 10. Internship Experience

- 10.1 Out of the 144 **PhD** respondents, 17 graduates (11.8%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 127 graduates (88.2%) *had no internship experience*.
- 10.2 Out of the 123 **MPhil** respondents, 15 graduates (12.2%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 108 graduates (87.8%) *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 14 and 15)

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

<b>Number of PhD respondents who reported their internship experience</b>	<b>144 (100%)</b>
Had taken internships during their studies	17 (11.8%)
IPO	1 (5.9%)
SBM	0 (0.0%)
SENG	13 (76.5%)
SSCI	3 (17.6%)

Had not taken internships during their studies	127 (88.2%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents who had taken internships during their studies</b>	<b>17</b>
Had full-time internship experience	11 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	7 (63.6%)
With 2 internships / jobs	4 (36.4%)
Had part-time internship experience	8 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	6 (75.0%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	1 (12.5%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	1 (12.5%)

**Table 15: Internship Experience of MPhil Graduates**

<b>Number of MPhil respondents who reported their internship experience</b>	<b>123 (100%)</b>
Had taken internships during their studies	15 (12.2%)
IPO	0 (0.0%)
SBM	0 (0.0%)
SENG	12 (80.0%)
SHSS	1 (6.7%)
SSCI	2 (13.3%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	108 (87.8%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who had taken internships during their studies</b>	<b>15</b>
Had full-time internship experience	10 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	8 (80.0%)
With 2 internships / jobs	1 (10.0%)
With 3 or more internships / jobs	1 (10.0%)
Had part-time internship experience	8 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	7 (87.5%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	0 (0.0%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	1 (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.