

## SURVEY FINDINGS

### 1. Employment Situation

1.1 Among the 291 **PhD** respondents, 182 graduates (62.5%) 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 2017-2021**

Year	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
No. of Respondents	291	261	282	262	273
Full-time employed	62.5%	57.9%	57.4%	65.2%	68.5%
Further studies	2.7%	2.3%	1.1%	2.3%	2.2%
Self-employed	1.0%	0%	1.8%	0.4%	1.8%
Temporarily employed	2.7%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%
Part-time employed	0.3%	0.8%	0.4%	0.8%	0.0%
Not seeking employment	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.8%	0.4%
Still seeking employment	0.3%	1.9%	0.7%	0.8%	0.4%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	30.2%	36.8%	37.9%	29.4%	26.7%

1.2 Among the 191 **MPhil** respondents, 52 graduates (27.2%) 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 2017-2021**

Year	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
No. of Respondents	191	202	212	217	197
Full-time employed	27.2%	21.8%	28.3%	35.9%	32.5%
Further studies	46.6%	47.0%	43.9%	40.1%	41.1%
Self-employed	2.1%	1.5%	3.8%	1.8%	0.5%
Temporarily employed	1.0%	1.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Part-time employed	1.0%	0.0%	2.4%	0.5%	1.0%
Not seeking employment	2.6%	0.0%	0.5%	1.4%	1.5%
Still seeking employment	1.6%	0.0%	2.8%	0.5%	0.5%
Others (e.g., emigrated or returned to homeland)	17.8%	28.7%	18.0%	19.3%	22.3%

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 155 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents with reported employment sector, *Education* sector remained the largest sector employing 120 graduates (77.4%). (Table 3)

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

Employment Sector	2021		2020	
	No.	%	No.	%
Education	120	77.4%	116	80.0%
Engineering and Industry	20	12.9%	17	11.7%
Commerce and Business	14	9.0%	9	6.2%
Community and Social Services	0	0.0%	2	1.4%
Government and Related Organizations	1	0.6%	1	0.7%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100%</b>

- 2.2 Of those 50 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported employment sector, most of them (22 graduates or 44.0%) were working in the *Commerce and Business* sector. (Table 4)

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

Employment Sector	2021		2020	
	No.	%	No.	%
Commerce and Business	22	44.0%	6	13.6%
Education	13	26.0%	26	59.1%
Engineering and Industry	11	22.0%	8	18.2%
Government and Related Organizations	2	4.0%	1	2.3%
Community and Social Services	1	2.0%	3	6.8%
Others	1	2.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>44</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 155 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 76.8%), and *Engineering* (13 graduates or 8.4%).

- 3.2** Among the 49 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents with reported job nature, the two most popular types of job were *Engineering* (16 graduates or 32.7%), and *Scientific and Research Work* (13 graduates or 26.5%).
- 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
<b>PhD</b>	#	#	62,179	51,158	41,894	32,000	26,475	28,000	34,838	29,000	<b>39,981</b>	<b>31,800</b>
<b>MPhil</b>	24,091	24,167	*	*	32,911	26,000	#	#	27,490	24,921	<b>30,340</b>	<b>24,667</b>

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	81,464	58,167	38,480	32,500
Education	33,119	30,000	21,264	20,500
Engineering and Industry	53,389	32,000	26,095	24,333
Government and Related Organizations	#	#	#	#
Community and Social Services	*	*	#	#
<b>Overall</b>	<b>39,981</b>	<b>31,800</b>	<b>30,340</b>	<b>24,667</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
Accounting / Auditing / Taxation		#	#	*	*
Administration / Management		33,200	32,000	39,798	35,000
Author / Journalist		*	*	#	#
Banking / Finance		104,542	108,250	#	#
Engineering		71,685	42,333	34,515	26,000
Marketing / Sales		*	*	#	#
Scientific / Research Work		32,157	30,000	21,696	21,000
Service Work		*	*	#	#
System Analysis & Computer Programming		#	#	#	#
Teaching / Lecturing		60,956	41,675	#	#
<b>Overall</b>		<b>39,981</b>	<b>31,800</b>	<b>30,622</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 154 full-time or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their work base location, 122 graduates (79.2%) reported that they were based in Hong Kong, whereas the rest (32 graduates or 20.8%) 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>154 (100%)</b>
Based in Hong Kong	122 (79.2%)
Based outside Hong Kong	32 (20.8%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents who were based in Hong Kong</b>	<b>122 (100%)</b>
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	120 (98.4%)
Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	2 (1.6%)
<b>The major travel destination is:</b>	<b>2 (100%)</b>
Mainland China	1 (50.0%)
USA	1 (50.0%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents who were based outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>32 (100%)</b>
<b>The major work base locations include:</b>	<b>21 (65.6%)</b>
USA	13
Switzerland	5
UK	3
<b>Others</b>	<b>11 (34.4%)</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 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>50 (100%)</b>
Based in Hong Kong	44 (88.0%)
Based outside Hong Kong	6 (12.0%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who were based in Hong Kong</b>	<b>44 (100%)</b>
Not required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	40 (90.9%)
Required to travel frequently outside Hong Kong for work	4 (9.1%)
<b>The major travel destination is:</b>	<b>4 (100%)</b>
Mainland China	2 (50.0%)
Indonesia	1 (25.0%)
Philippines	1 (25.0%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who were based outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>6 (100%)</b>
<b>The major work base locations include:</b>	<b>6 (100%)</b>
Mainland China	3 (50.0%)
Canada	2 (33.3%)
Singapore	1 (16.7%)

## 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	136 (100%)	95 (69.9%)	22 (16.2%)	17 (12.5%)	2 (1.5%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
MPhil	47 (100%)	17 (36.2%)	14 (29.8%)	9 (19.1%)	5 (10.6%)	2 (4.3%)	0 (0.0%)

## 7. Number of Job Offers

- 7.1 Among the 137 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 83 graduates (60.6%) received one job offer, 33 graduates (24.1%) received two, and 13 graduates (9.5%) received three.
- 7.2 Among the 48 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported their *number of job offer*, 18 graduates (37.5%) received one job offer, 19 graduates (39.6%) received two, and 7 graduates (14.6%) received three.

## 8. Time of Obtaining First Job Offer

- 8.1 Among the 143 full-time employed or self-employed **PhD** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (81 graduates or 56.6%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 100% by *December*.
- 8.2 Among the 48 full-time employed or self-employed **MPhil** respondents who reported the *time of obtaining their first job offer*, the majority (20 graduates or 41.7%) had obtained their first job offer on or before *June*. The percentage rose to 85.4% (41 graduates) by *October*, and 100% by *December*.

## 9. Graduates Pursuing Full-time Further Studies

- 9.1 Among the 291 **PhD** respondents, 8 graduates (2.7%) *pursued further studies*, in which 3 of them studied in a local education institution, and 5 graduates in overseas institutions. (Table 11)

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

<b>Total number of PhD respondents pursuing further studies</b>	<b>8 (100%)</b>
SENG	3 (37.5%)
SHSS	1 (12.5%)
SSCI	4 (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>5 (100%)</b>
<b>The major destination includes:</b>	<b>2 (100%)</b>
USA	2

- 9.2 Among the 191 **MPhil** respondents, 70 graduates (78.7%) pursued further studies *in Hong Kong* and 19 graduates (21.3%) 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>89 (100%)</b>
IPO	8 (9.0%)
SBM	12 (13.5%)
SENG	35 (39.3%)
SHSS	8 (9.0%)
SSCI	26 (29.2%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies in Hong Kong</b>	<b>70 (100%)</b>
<b>The major education institution includes:</b>	<b>65 (92.9%)</b>
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	61
The University of Hong Kong	4
<b>Others:</b>	<b>5 (7.1%)</b>
<b>Number of MPhil respondents pursuing further studies outside Hong Kong</b>	<b>19 (100%)</b>
<b>The major destinations include:</b>	<b>16 (84.2%)</b>
USA	11 (57.9%)
Canada	3 (15.8%)
UK	2 (10.5%)
<b>Others:</b>	<b>3 (15.8%)</b>



<b>Number of MPhil respondents with reported fields of studies</b>	<b>82 (100%)</b>
<b>The most popular fields of studies are:</b>	<b>70 (85.4%)</b>
Engineering & Technology	31 (37.8%)
Science	27 (32.9%)
Business & Management	12 (14.6%)
<b>Others:</b>	<b>12 (14.6%)</b>
<b>Number of MPhil respondents with reported levels of degree of programs</b>	<b>84 (100%)</b>
Doctoral Degree (by Research)	82 (97.6%)
Doctoral Degree (not by research)	1(1.2%)
Master's Degree (by Research)	1(1.2%)

## 10. Internship Experience

- 10.1 Out of the 215 **PhD** respondents, 37 graduates (17.2%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 178 graduates (82.2%) *had no internship experience*.
- 10.2 Out of the 135 **MPhil** respondents, 68 graduates (50.4%) *had internship experience* during their study in the University. The remaining 67 graduates (49.6%) *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>215 (100%)</b>
Had taken internships during their studies	37 (17.2%)
IPO	1 (2.7%)
SBM	1 (2.7%)
SENG	24 (64.9%)
SHSS	2 (5.4%)
SSCI	9 (24.3%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	178 (82.8%)
<b>Number of PhD respondents who had taken internships during their studies</b>	<b>37</b>
Had full-time internship experience	28 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	18 (64.3%)
With 2 internships / jobs	10 (35.7%)
Had part-time internship experience	30 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	27 (90.0%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	2 (6.7%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	1 (3.3%)

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

<b>Number of MPhil respondents who reported their internship experience</b>	<b>135 (100%)</b>
Had taken internships during their studies	68 (50.4%)
IPO	4 (5.9%)
SBM	7 (10.3%)
SENG	33 (48.5%)
SHSS	6 (7.4%)
SSCI	19 (27.9%)
Had not taken internships during their studies	67 (49.6%)
<b>Number of MPhil respondents who had taken internships during their studies</b>	<b>68</b>
Had full-time internship experience	57 (100%)
With 1 internship / job	36 (43.4%)
With 2 internships / jobs	16 (38.6%)
With 3 or more internships / jobs	5 (18.1%)
Had part-time internship experience	36 (100%)
With 1-3 internships / jobs	33 (91.7%)
With 4-6 internships / jobs	2 (5.6%)
With 7 or more internships / jobs	1 (2.8%)

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.