



Career survey for doctoral graduates of 2014

Please answer the questions by selecting the number of the most suitable option or writing your answers in the space provided.

DOCTORAL STUDIES

1. Please indicate how much the following factors affected your decision to pursue a doctorate.

Please select the most suitable option for each line.

1 = not at all, 2 = just a little,

3 = a little, 4 = somewhat, 5 = much, 6 = very much

1. I expected a doctorate to make it easier to find a job.	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. I expected a doctorate to increase my chances of success in the labour market.	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. I expected to receive a better salary, if I completed a doctorate.	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. At the time I felt that I didn't have another way to find a job.	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. I wanted to grow professionally.	1	2	3	4	5	6
6. I was interested in research.	1	2	3	4	5	6
7. I wanted to conduct research on a specific topic.	1	2	3	4	5	6
8. I wanted to be formally qualified for a specific position.	1	2	3	4	5	6
9. Completing a doctorate was my goal when I started my undergraduate studies.	1	2	3	4	5	6
10. A doctorate was a natural continuation of my previous studies or work.	1	2	3	4	5	6
11. The personnel of my university encouraged me to pursue a doctorate.	1	2	3	4	5	6
12. My employer encouraged me to pursue a doctorate.	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. Coincidence guided my choice.	1	2	3	4	5	6
14. Other, please specify: _____	1	2	3	4	5	6

2. Which of the factors listed above was the single most important factor in your decision to pursue a doctorate?

Please select the number of only one option _____

3. Were you aware of the postgraduate admissions criteria before you applied?

1 Yes 2 No 3 Can't say

4. If you answered "yes" to question 3, did you think that the admission criteria were fair?

1 Yes
2 Can't say
3 No, please specify: _____

5. How did you finance your doctoral studies?

Select all that apply.

- 1 I received funding through a doctoral programme funded by the Academy of Finland/Ministry of Education and Culture.
- 2 I received funding through some other doctoral programme.
- 3 I was employed in research and/or teaching at a university.
- 4 I was employed in a position that does not entail research or teaching at a university.
- 5 I was employed in research and/or teaching at a university of applied sciences or a research organization other than a university.
- 6 I was employed outside the university.
- 7 I received funding through a project administered by the Academy of Finland.
- 8 I received funding through a project that was not administered by the Academy of Finland.
- 9 I received a scholarship or grant.
- 10 I received student financial aid.
- 11 Other, please specify: _____

6. Which of the sources of funding listed in question 5 was most important to you?

Please select the number of only one option _____

7. How did you mainly pursue doctoral studies?

- 1 On a full-time basis
- 2 On a part-time basis; please indicate the percentage of working hours dedicated to doctoral studies _____
- 3 On my own time alongside work

LABOUR MARKET AND EMPLOYMENT

8. Do you agree with the following statements?

Please select the most suitable option for each line.

1 = Yes, 2 = No, 3 = Can't say

Due to my doctoral degree...

1. ... my salary has increased	1	2	3
2. ... my professional duties have become more demanding.	1	2	3
3. ... my professional duties have become more interesting.	1	2	3
4. ... I have gained a better position in my workplace.	1	2	3
5. ... I have landed a job with a new employer.	1	2	3
6. ... my chances of success in the labour market have improved.	1	2	3
7. ... my situation has changed in some other way, please specify: _____			

9. Which of the following statements best describes your situation?

Please select the number of the most suitable option for columns A, B and C.

A 6 months before completing a doctorate	B 6 months after completing a doctorate	C At the moment

Options:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 = regular full-time job | 7 = employed through state aid/work practice |
| 2 = temporary full-time job | 8 = unemployed job-seeker |
| 3 = regular part-time job | 9 = labour market training or similar |
| 4 = temporary part-time job | 10 = full-time degree-seeking student |
| 5 = independent entrepreneur, self-employed or freelancer | 11 = family leave (employed) |
| 6 = researcher who receives a scholarship or grant | 12 = family leave (unemployed) |
| | 13 = other, please specify |

10. Have you been unemployed since you completed your doctorate?

- 1 I have not been unemployed
- 2 Yes, all in all _____ years _____ months.

11. Please estimate how much the following factors have contributed to your not finding employment.

Answer this question only, if you have had difficulty finding a job after completing a doctorate.

Please select the most suitable option for each line.

1 = not at all, 2 = just a little, 3 = a little, 4 = somewhat, 5 = much, 6 = very much

1. lack of work experience	1 2 3 4 5 6
2. lack of job-hunting skills	1 2 3 4 5 6
3. lack of contacts	1 2 3 4 5 6
4. doctoral degree	1 2 3 4 5 6
5. the topic or the of the dissertation (too narrow in scope, wrong topic. etc.)	1 2 3 4 5 6
6. lack of working life skills orientation in studies	1 2 3 4 5 6
7. poor labour market situation	1 2 3 4 5 6
8. I have not found work that matches my interests.	1 2 3 4 5 6
9. other, please specify:	1 2 3 4 5 6

12. When trying to find employment, have you found your doctorate to be

a. an advantage, please specify

b. a disadvantage, please specify

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Please answer questions based on your current principal employment.

- If you are, for example, **on family leave**, please answer based on the job that you are on leave from.
- If you are **an entrepreneur**, self-employed, freelancer or receive a research grant, please answer the applicable questions.
- If you are **not employed** at the moment or were unemployed when your family leave began, you can move on to question 24.

13. What is the location of your workplace/ company?

If you work abroad, please specify the country.

14. Who is your principal employer?

Please select one option

- 1 private enterprise or state-owned corporation, less than 50 employees
- 2 private enterprise or state-owned corporation, 50–249 employees
- 3 private enterprise or state-owned corporation, 250 or more employees
- 4 government or unincorporated state enterprise
- 5 university
- 6 municipality, federation of municipalities, municipally owned company
- 7 university of applied sciences
- 8 association, foundation or similar, institution or community governed by public law (e.g. Finnish Centre for Pensions, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health)
- 9 Independent entrepreneur, self-employed or freelancer
- 10 other, please specify _____

15. What is the name of your current employer?

The names of employers will only be used in doctoral students' career guidance as examples of employers in the field. Your response will not be connected to information that could identify the respondent.

16. What is your current job title?

DEVELOPMENT OF DOCTORAL EDUCATION

26. Please estimate how satisfied you are with your doctoral degree based on the following statements.

Please select the most suitable option. 1 = fully disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = slightly disagree, 4 = slightly agree, 5 = agree, 6 = fully agree

Enough attention was paid to the acquisition of the following skills and competencies during my doctoral studies:

1. theoretical knowledge relating to the research field	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. competence relating to methodology and research methods	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. expertise	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. research ethics	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. scientific communication skills	1	2	3	4	5	6

27. Should the acquisition of the following skills and competencies be taken into consideration in doctoral education?

Please select the most suitable option.

1 = not at all, 2 = just a little, 3 = a little, 4 = somewhat, 5 = much, 6 = very much

1. teaching skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. leadership skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. internationella kontakter	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. interpersonal skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. presentation skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
6. academic writing	1	2	3	4	5	6
7. acquisition of funding	1	2	3	4	5	6
8. project management skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
9. business competence	1	2	3	4	5	6
10. knowledge of intellectual property rights	1	2	3	4	5	6
11. business competence	1	2	3	4	5	6
12. career planning	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. job hunting skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
14. ICT skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
15. commercialization of research results	1	2	3	4	5	6
16. popularization of scientific results	1	2	3	4	5	6
17. other, please specify						

28. If you are of the opinion that doctoral studies should include cooperation with potential future employers, what should the cooperation be like? You can also mention existing practices that work well or comment on the career prospects of doctoral graduates.

29. Do you have any additional feedback or comments concerning doctoral education? You are also welcome to give feedback on this survey.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The following questions provide relevant background information that is used to analyse the situation of the labour market and doctoral graduates' educational experiences. Other background information is retrieved through the Student Register.

30. Where was your legal residence at the time you completed your doctoral degree?

31. What country were you a citizen of at the time you enrolled at doctoral studies?

- 1 Finland
- 2 other, please specify _____

32. If you completed your master's degree at another university than your doctoral degree, please answer the following questions:

University and _____

MSc degree and year of graduation _____

Major subject or degree programme _____

33. If you have completed a licentiate degree at another university than your doctoral degree, please answer the following questions:

University _____

MSc degree and year of graduation _____

Major subject or degree programme _____

**Many thanks for
your response!**