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2026 Survey of Doctoral graduates

(academic years 2020-2021 & 2021-2022)

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME
.....
UNIVERSITY / INSTITUTION
.....

Year degree awarded: 2021 or 2022

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

1. What type of thesis did you do?
   - (1) Monograph → Only if you selected "Monograph".
     2. Has it resulted in any publications other than the thesis itself?
        - (1) One article
        - (2) More than one article
        - (3) A book / chapters in a book
        - (4) No
   - (0) Collection of articles

3. In which language did you write your thesis?
   - (1) Catalan
   - (2) Spanish
   - (3) English
   - (4) Other
   - (5) More than one language (in the case of an international doctorate)

4. Have you received an International Doctorate distinction or certification (*menció internacional*)?
   - (1) Yes (0) No

5. How did you work during your doctoral thesis?
   - (1) Mainly independently
   - (2) Mainly within a research group or through mixed arrangement

6. Did your thesis involve work that was experimental, laboratory-based or empirical (e.g., questionnaires, interviews, secondary data, etc.)?
   - (1) Yes
   - (2) No, only theoretical work
   - (3) Others (please specify)

CURRENT JOB SITUATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE

7. Are you currently working?
   - (1) Yes (or I am on leave) → Proceed to question 7.1
   - (0) No → Proceed to question 7.2

7.1. How many jobs do you currently hold?

If you hold multiple jobs, please respond based on your primary role from now on. If you're uncertain, answer according to the position to which you dedicate the most time.

- (1) One
- (2) Two
- (3) Three or more

Proceed to question 8

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7.2. Have you worked since obtaining your doctorate?

(1) Yes *From now on, please refer to your last job.*
Do not answer the section "Satisfaction with your current job" (question 32) or "Impact on your current job" (questions 35 to 41).

(0) No → Proceed to the sections "Source of income during the doctorate" (question 12), "Satisfaction with the PhD programme" (questions 13 to 21), "Mobility" (questions 33 to 34), "Skills developed during the PhD programme" (questions 42 to 71), "Socioeconomic status" (questions 72 to 75) and "Unemployment" (questions 76 to 78).

8. Where do you currently have (or have you had) your main job?

(1) At a university → Proceed to question 9

(2) In a research centre or institute → Proceed to question 10

(3) In a company or another institution / others → Proceed to question 10

Only if you work at a university (if you answered 1 in question 8)

9. Is it a public or a private university?

(1) Public
(2) Private

10. What is the job that you currently hold/what was your last job?..... (open)

11. What level of responsibility do (or did) you hold over coworkers?

(1) Management
(2) Middle management (e.g., head of area, division or department; supervisor; office manager)
(3) No responsibility over other individuals

12. What was your main source of income during the PhD programme? All respondents must answer this question

(1) A scholarship
(2) Teaching or research work at the university (including temporary/part-time teaching and/or research contracts)
(3) A job related to the field you studied before your PhD
(4) A job unrelated to the field you studied before your PhD
(5) I didn't work: full-time student or doing occasional work

SATISFACTION WITH THE PHD PROGRAMME, PARTICIPATION IN SEMINARS AND WELL-BEING Answers required from all respondents

Rate from 0 to 10 (where 0 is poor and 10 is outstanding) the following aspects of your PhD programme:

13. The content and quality of the training activities/classes/seminars .....

14. The quality of supervision during the development of the thesis (relationship with the PhD supervisor/s) .....

15. The quality of the department/unit/institution's resources and their availability to carry out research .....

16. The PhD programme as a whole .....

17. During your PhD programme, did you have opportunities to actively participate in national or international conferences (such as delivering talks or presenting posters)?

(1) Yes
(0) No

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18. During your PhD programme, did you present your research in internal seminars in the department/unit/institute?

(1) Yes
(0) No

19. If you had to start again, would you undertake the same PhD programme again?

(1) Yes
(0) No

20. What would be your reason(s) for not undertaking the same PhD programme again? (You can select more than one option.)

(only if you answered "No" to question 19)

(1) I am unsatisfied with the employment opportunities or the resulting occupation
(2) I did not adapt well to the group or the study programme requirements
(3) I have had mixed feelings about the design or quality of the study programme
(4) I've always had other interests
(5) Other reasons. Please specify .....

21. Did you experience any mental health issues (depression, chronic anxiety, or other mental health problems) during your PhD programme?

(1) Yes
(0) No
(-1) Don't know

In relation to your **current job** (primary role) or your **last job** if you are not currently working: (only if you answered "Yes" to question 7 or 7.2)

22. What year did you start working there? ..... (four figures)

23. What were the requirements for the position?

(1) To hold a PhD/doctoral degree
(2) My specific Bachelor's degree
(3) Any university degree
(4) No university degree was required

23.1. In relation to your current (or last) job, do you think a PhD is necessary?

(1) Yes → Proceed to question 24
(0) No → Proceed to question 23.2

23.2. In relation to your current (or last) job, do you think a university degree is necessary?

Only if you answered "No" to question 23.1

(1) Yes
(0) No

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24. In which sector of the economy does the company you work(ed) for operate?

Please do not answer this question if you work in a university or research institute (answer 1 or 2 to question 8).

(1) Production of raw materials and energy
(2) Industry
(3) Construction
(4) Consumer services
(5) Communication technologies
(6) Information and communication
(7) Financial institutions, insurance, real estate
(8) Business services
(9) Public administration
(10) Education, culture and research
(11) Social care and health

25. What kind of contract do (or did) you have?

(1) Permanent/open-ended contract → 25.1. Is (or was) it a permanent contract or a permanent intermittent/seasonal contract?
(1) Permanent contract
(2) Permanent intermittent/seasonal contract

(2) Self-employed → 25.2. If you answered "Self-employed", do (or did) you work:
(1) Independently (for yourself, with multiple clients)
(2) Mainly for a single client (at least 75% of your work is for one client)

(3) Temporary

(4) Internship

(5) Without a formal, written contract

26. Do (or did) you work full-time?

(1) Yes → Proceed to question 27
(0) No (part-time, others) → Proceed to question 26.1

26.1. What is the main reason you work (or worked) part-time?

(0) I haven't been able to find a full-time job, and this job doesn't (or didn't) offer the opportunity to work more hours
(1) To combine work with my studies
(2) For domestic or family reasons
(3) I don't (or didn't) want to work more hours
(4) Due to health issues and/or a disability

27. The company where you work (or used to work) is:

Please do not answer if you work or worked at a university (option 1 in question 8).

(1) Public (2) Private (or state-subsidised)

28. How much do (or did) you earn per year (gross)?

(1) Less than €9,000 (2) Between €9,000 and €12,000 (3) Between €12,001 and €15,000

(4) Between €15,001 and €18,000
(5) Between €18,001 and €24,000
(6) Between €24,001 and €30,000
(7) Between €30,001 and €40,000
(8) Between €40,001 and €50,000
(9) Over €50,000
(-1) Don't know

29. Are you currently working (or did you work) in Spain?

If you work (or worked) remotely, please specify the location of your employer's headquarters.
If you are (or were) self-employed, indicate your regular place of work.

(1) Yes
(0) No

30. In which province do you (or did) you work? (only if you answered "Yes" to question 29)

If you work (or worked) remotely, please specify the location of your employer's headquarters.
If you are (or were) self-employed, indicate your regular place of work.

(1) Alicante	(2) Álava	(3) Albacete	(4) Almería	(5) Asturias
(6) Ávila	(7) Badajoz	(8) Barcelona	(9) Burgos	(10) Cáceres
(11) Cádiz	(12) Cantabria	(13) Castellón	(14) Ceuta	(15) Ciudad Real
(16) Córdoba	(17) Cuenca	(18) Girona	(19) Granada	(20) Guadalajara
(21) Guipúzcoa	(22) Huelva	(23) Huesca	(24) Islas Baleares	(25) Jaén
(26) La Coruña	(27) La Rioja	(28) Las Palmas	(29) León	(30) Lleida
(31) Lugo	(32) Madrid	(33) Málaga	(34) Melilla	(35) Murcia
(36) Navarra	(37) Orense	(38) Palencia	(39) Pontevedra	(40) Salamanca
(41) Santa Cruz de Tenerife	(42) Segovia	(43) Sevilla	(44) Soria	(45) Tarragona
(46) Teruel	(47) Toledo	(48) Valencia	(49) Valladolid	(50) Vizcaya
(51) Zamora	(52) Zaragoza			

31. In which country do you (or did) you work? (open-ended) (only if the answer is "No" for question 29)

If you work (or worked) remotely, please specify the location of your employer's headquarters.
If you are (or were) self-employed, indicate your regular place of work.

SATISFACTION WITH YOUR CURRENT JOB

Don't answer if you are not currently in official contracted employment.

32. Rate from 0 (not at all satisfied) to 10 (very satisfied) your overall satisfaction with your current job: .....

MOBILITY

33. Did you have any mobility experience lasting at least one month during your PhD programme? All respondents must answer

(1) No

(2) Yes, nationally (Catalonia/Spain)

(3) Yes, abroad

34. Have you had a postdoctoral mobility experience lasting at least one month?

(1) No

(2) Yes, nationally (Catalonia/Spain)

(3) Yes, abroad

IMPACT OF YOUR PHD PROGRAMME ON YOUR CURRENT JOB Only if you are working at the time of the survey (answer 1 to question 7)

35. Did you work for at least two years during your PhD programme (even if only as an intern)?

(1) Yes → Proceed to question 36 (0) No → Proceed to question 42

Only answer the questions in this block if you answered "Yes" to question 35

36. Since obtaining your doctorate, have you changed jobs or institutions? (1) Yes (0) No

37. Compared to your job experience during the doctorate:

37.1. Has your contract type improved? (1) Yes (0) No

37.2. Has your salary improved? (1) Yes (0) No

37.3. Have your working hours increased (weekly hours)? (1) Yes (0) No

Please rate from 0 (no improvement) to 10 (significant improvement) the degree to which your professional situation has improved as a result of your PhD programme for each of the following aspects:

38. Taking on new roles or responsibilities that are different from those you previously held

39. Coordinating work teams and managing related issues (due to the lack of staff skills or experience, resistance to change, etc.)

Only answer if you are working for a private enterprise or other institution: (answer 3 to question 8)

40. Taking on high-profile roles, tasks or projects within the organization

41. Developing new projects or products, new lines of action

SKILLS DEVELOPED DURING YOUR PHD PROGRAMME AND THEIR USEFULNESS IN YOUR WORK

Rate from 0 (poor) to 10 (outstanding) the degree to which you developed the following skills during your PhD programme (all respondents must answer) / the usefulness of the following skills in your work (answer required from all respondents except those who answered "No" to question 7.2):

42./43. Documentation management	...../.....
44./45. Acquisition of strategies for analysing theories, principles, and research approaches and methods	...../.....
46./47. Data and results analysis techniques	...../.....
48./49 Editing and presenting research findings	...../.....
50./51. Writing and publishing scientific articles	...../.....
52./53. Research design, planning, and execution	...../.....

54./55. Ability to generate new knowledge	...../.....
56./57. Ability to work in an independent and self-directed way	...../.....
58./59. Networking (establishing and maintaining networks of professional contacts)	...../.....
60./61. Understanding the relevance and potential impact of research on society	...../.....
62./63. Securing and managing research funding	...../.....
64./65. Teaching competence (teaching and supporting university student learning)	...../.....
66./67. English proficiency	...../.....
68./69. Teamwork	...../.....
70./71. Applying open science principles (e.g., transparency, accessibility)	...../.....

SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS Answer required from all respondents

72. What was the highest level of education completed by your parents or legal guardians?

If you come from a single-parent family, answer for your parent or legal guardian.

(1) Basic education (e.g. primary or compulsory secondary education)

(2) Post-compulsory secondary education (e.g. upper secondary education or intermediate vocational training)

(3) Higher education (e.g. university studies or advanced vocational training)

(4) N/A

73. Think of your parent or legal guardian with the highest work-related income during your studies. What was their occupation?

If you come from a single-parent family, answer for your parent or legal guardian.

(1) Director / manager (had people under their supervision)

(2) Professional requiring a university degree

(3) Skilled employee without a university degree

(4) Self-employed skilled worker without a university degree

(5) Unskilled worker

(6) N/A

74. Which of the following best describes your situation?

(1) Both my parents and I were born in Spain

(2) My parents were born in another country, but I was born in Spain

(3) Both my parents and I were born in another country

(4) Others

75. Did you come from abroad to obtain your doctorate in Spain? (If you studied online, did you do so from abroad?)

(1) Yes

(0) No

IF YOU ARE UNEMPLOYED Only if you answered "No" to question 7

76. Are you currently looking for work?

(1) Yes → Proceed to question 78

(0) No

You are considered to be "looking for work" if you have actively sought employment within the past four weeks and are available to start within two weeks, should a position become available.

77. What is the main reason why you are not looking for a job?

(1) To continue studying / preparing for competitive public examinations

(2) Maternity, paternity, or caring for a relative →

77.1. If your answer was "maternity, paternity, or caring for a relative", do you intend to look for work in the future?

(1) Yes

(0) No

(3) Retirement

(4) Others (please specify)

78. How long have you been looking for work? (only if you answered "Yes" to question 76)

(1) Less than 6 months (2) Between 6 months and 1 year (3) Between 1 and 2 years

(4) More than 2 years

79. We are reaching the end of the survey. As a thank you for your cooperation, your name can be entered into a draw to win a [incentive name, make and model]. Do you agree to have your name entered into the prize draw (link to the competition rules in each language)?

(1) Yes

(0) No