

2026 survey of master's graduates

(academic years 2020-2021 & 2021-2022)

MASTER'S DEGREES

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UNIVERSITY STUDIES

Degree qualification prior to the master's degree	Sub-field of degree Field of the degree	University/ Arts higher education institution	Year you completed your degree
Master's degree	Sub-field of the master's degree Field of the master's degree	University/ Arts higher education institution	Year you began your master's studies

JOB SITUATION PRIOR TO YOUR MASTER'S DEGREE

1. Did you work for at least two years during your studies prior to your master's degree?

- (1) No, I was a full-time student or only held occasional jobs
- (2) Yes, I worked for at least two years during the degree prior to my master's degree

2. Between completing your first degree and finishing your master's degree, did you work for at least one year?

- (1) I did not work/I only held occasional jobs
- (2) Yes, I worked **part-time** in a job related to my previous degree
- (3) Yes, I worked **part-time** in a job unrelated to my previous degree
- (4) Yes, I worked **full-time** in a job related to my previous degree
- (5) Yes, I worked **full-time** in a job unrelated to my previous degree

CURRENT JOB SITUATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE

3. Are you currently working?

Jobs such as babysitting, occasional private tutoring, or short-term temporary work (e.g., summer jobs) are not considered work in this context. In contrast, professional training placements or setting up a business are considered work, regardless of whether a contract is/was involved.

(1) Yes (or I am on leave)

(0) No → Proceed to question 5

4. How many jobs do you currently have? (only if you answered “Yes” to question 3)

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 6

5. Have you worked since completing your master’s degree? (only if you answered “No” to question 3)

(1) Yes *From now on, please refer to your last job after completing your master’s degree.*

(0) No → Proceed to question 25

6. After completing your master’s degree, how long did it take you to find your first job? (except those who answered “No” to question 5)

(1) I was working before starting my master’s degree

(2) Less than 1 month

(3) Between 1 and 3 months

(4) Between 4 and 6 months

(5) Between 7 months and 1 year

(6) More than one year

In relation to your **current position** (primary role) or your **last job** (after completing your master) if you are not currently working: (only if you answered “Yes” to question 3 or 5)

7. What is the job that you currently hold/what was your last job? (open-ended question)

For certain groups of degree programmes, there are pre-determined categories for the question (see variable catalogue). Please classify your job according to one subject.

8. What year did you start working there? (four digits)

9. What were the requirements for the position?

(1) A master’s degree

(2) The specific degree prior to my master’s degree

(3) Any university degree or arts higher education degree

(4) No university degree or arts higher education degree was required

10.1. Is (or was) your job directly related to your master’s studies?

(1) Yes → Proceed to question 11

(0) No

10.2. For your current (or last) job, do you think your degree prior to your master's degree is (or was) necessary?

- (1) Yes → Proceed to question 11
- (0) No

10.3. For your current (or last) job, do you think a university or an arts higher education degree is (or /was) necessary?

- (1) Yes
- (0) No

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

- (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

12. 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 or floor manager)
- (3) No responsibility over other individuals

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

- (1) Permanent/open-ended contract →
- (2) Self-employed →
- (3) Temporary
- (4) Internship
- (5) Without a formal, written contract

13.1. Is (or was) it a permanent contract or a permanent intermittent/seasonal contract?

- (1) Permanent contract
- (2) Permanent intermittent/seasonal contract

13.2 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)

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

- (1) Yes → Proceed to question 15
- (0) No (part-time, other) → Proceed to question 14.1

14.1. What is the main reason you work (or worked) part-time? (only if the answer is "No" for question 14)

- (1) 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
- (2) To combine work with my studies
- (3) For domestic or family reasons
- (4) I don't (or didn't) want to work more hours

(5) Due to health issues and/or a disability

15. The company where you work (or used to work) is: (1) Public (2) Private (or state-subsidised)

16. 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 | | |

17. 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

17.1. In which province do you or did you work? (only if you answered "Yes" to question 17)

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
Balears | (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 | | | |

17.2. In which country do you (or did you) work? (open-ended) (only if you answered "No" to question 17)

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 (only if you answered "Yes" to question 3; do not respond if you answered "Without a formal, written contract" to question 13, but do respond if you answered "Internship")

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

.....

IMPACT OF THE MASTER ON YOUR CAREER

(Do not respond if you answered, “No, I was a full-time student and any jobs I had were only sporadic” to question 1 + “I did not work/I only had sporadic jobs” to question 2; and “No” to question 3)

19. Compared to the job you held before starting your master’s degree, did obtaining the master’s degree help you improve any of the following aspects?

19.1. Type of contract:

- (1) Yes
- (0) No

19.2. Yearly income (gross):

- (1) Yes
- (0) No

19.3. Did it lead to an increase in your weekly working hours?

- (1) Yes
- (0) No

19.4. Your professional category:

- (1) Yes
- (0) No

Filters applied to questions 20, 23 and 24:

Do not respond if you answered, “No, I was a full-time student and any jobs I had were only sporadic” to question 1 + “I did not work/I only had sporadic jobs” to question 2; and “No” to question 5.

Filters applied to questions 21 and 22:

Do not respond if you answered, “No, I was a full-time student and any jobs I had were only sporadic” to question 1 + “I did not work/I only had sporadic jobs” to question 2; and “No” to question 3.

Compared to the job you held before starting your master’s degree, rate the impact of your master’s degree on the following aspects from 0 to 10, where 0 represents very little impact and 10 represents significant impact:

- 20. Increasing job opportunities (changes of company or institution, changes of job, etc.)
- 21. Taking on new duties or responsibilities different to those that you previously held
- 22. Developing new projects or products, new lines of action, strategies, etc.
- 23. Enrichment or strengthening of academic/professional/technical training
- 24. The opportunity to establish contacts and/or build a network with individuals or institutions

TEACHING MODE OF THE MASTER’S PROGRAMME (all respondents must answer)

25. What was the teaching mode of your master’s programme?

- (1) Mostly in person
- (2) Blended or hybrid
- (3) Mostly online

SKILLS DEVELOPED DURING THE MASTER'S DEGREE AND RELEVANCE TO YOUR POSITION

Rate from 0 to 10 (where 0 is poor and 10 is outstanding) the level of training received in the master (all respondents must answer) / its usefulness in your job (all respondents must answer except those who answered "No" to question 5) in relation to the following aspects:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 26./27. Theoretical knowledge: knowledge of the disciplinary field...../..... | 28./29. Practical training: know-how in the disciplinary field. |
| 30./31. Oral expression: ability to express ideas and results | 32./33. Written expression: writing emails, reports, etc./..... |
| 34./35. Teamwork | 36./37. Ethical, social and environmental responsibility in professional practice |
| 38./39. Planning and organisation | 40./41. Problem-solving |
| 42./43. Learning capacity and autonomous learning...../..... | 44./45. Creativity and innovation...../..... |
| 46./47. Critical thinking...../..... | 48./49. Technological and digital skills...../..... |
| 50./51. English proficiency...../..... | 52./53. Ability to search for and manage information...../..... |

SATISFACTION WITH THE DEGREE AND THE FACULTY OR SCHOOL

54. If you were to start over again, would you choose the same master's degree? (1) Yes → Proceed to question 55 (0) No

54.1. What would be your reason(s) for not choosing the same master's degree again? (You can select more than one option.) (only if the answer is "No" for question 54)

- (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

55. If you were to start over again, would you choose the same university faculty or school?

(1) Yes → Go to question 56

(0) No

55.1. What would be your reason(s) for not choosing the same university faculty or school? (You can select more than one option.) (only if you answered “No” to question 54)

(1) It is expensive compared to other faculties or schools

(2) Due to its location and accessibility

(3) I prefer alternative teaching models

(4) Other faculties or schools offer better services

(5) Other faculties or schools have a stronger reputation in the job market

(6) Other reasons. Please specify

FURTHER STUDIES

56. Since completing your master’s degree, have you continued or are you continuing to study?

(1) No

(2) Yes, a PhD

(3) Yes, another master’s degree or postgraduate programme

(4) Yes, another bachelor’s degree or similar

(5) Yes, other training courses (please specify)

INTERNATIONALISATION

Rate from 0 to 10 (where 0 is not at all and 10 is a significantly) the degree to which your master’s degree has allowed you to:

57. Establishing contact with faculty from other institutions and/or countries

58. Establishing contacts or networks with international individuals or institutions (networking)

59. Gaining an international perspective on the disciplinary focus of the master’s program

SOCIOECONOMIC BACKGROUND

60 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

61 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 |

62. Which of the following best describes your background?

- (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

62.1. Did you come from outside Spain to study in this degree programme? (If you studied online, did you do so from abroad?)

- (1) Yes
- (0) No

IF YOU ARE UNEMPLOYED (only if answering “No” to question 3)

63. Are you currently looking for work?

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.

- (1) Yes → Proceed to question 65
- (0) No

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

- (1) To continue studying/ doctorate / preparing for competitive public examinations
- (2) Maternity, paternity, or caring for a relative →
- (3) Retirement
- (4) Others (please specify)

64.1 If your answer was “maternity, paternity, or caring for a relative”, do you intend to look for work when your situation changes?

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

65. How long have you been looking for work? (only if the answer is “Yes” for question 63)

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) Less than 6 months | (2) Between 6 months and 1 year | (3) Between 1 and 2 years |
| (4) More than 2 years | | |

66. That's 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