About this factsheet

This factsheet has been produced for current or potential doctoral students and those who support and advise them. It is informed by the Doctoral impact and career tracking study conducted on behalf of Research Councils UK (RCUK) and the higher education funding bodies for England and Wales (HEFCE and HEFCW).

The factsheet provides key statistics and examples of achievements and impact for graduates of the Biomedical Sciences. It is complemented by a briefing containing a general overview of the findings of the Doctoral Impact and Career Tracking Study.

Employment status seven to nine years after graduation (%)

Survey response: 228

Average salary: £41,644*

* Average salary is median salary for survey respondents in full-time employment in one job in the UK.

Where are doctoral graduates working seven to nine years on? (%)

Excluding graduates working in higher education. Survey response: 90

Find out more

A copy of the full report, along with shorter briefings targeted at policy makers, employers and current and potential doctoral students can be found here:

http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/skills/impact/

Survey data from the study will be deposited with the UK Data Archive for other researchers to use:

http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/
How satisfied are doctoral graduates with their career to date? (%)
Survey responses: Biomedical Science graduates: 255 Total sample: 1,818

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Biomedical graduates</th>
<th>All doctoral graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not at all satisfied</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very satisfied</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairly satisfied</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very satisfied</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Job roles of biomedical science doctoral graduates

The word cloud is created from the job titles of survey respondents working outside higher education – the size of the word corresponds to its frequency in the job titles.

“I loved doing the PhD. Because I have stepped out of the academic world and set up in business it is a unique selling point and gives you credibility.”

Biomedical sciences graduate.
“I have taken on positions of responsibility outside of my day job that I wouldn't have done if I hadn't got my doctorate. So I took on the role of an assessor for the British Psychological Society. I think the fact that I have a PhD gives me a lot more credibility in that role.”

Biomedical sciences graduate.

Extent to which doctoral experience enabled graduates to... (%)

Survey responses: 225

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Some extent</th>
<th>A great extent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communicate complex information to non-specialists</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve problems</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Think creatively</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>62</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be innovative in the workplace</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Since graduating Biomedical Sciences graduates have...

- Developed an educational test to enable teaching to be adapted to individual needs
- Provided research and advice to help improve safety in prisons
- Developed an ante-natal programme and materials
- Developed a new tool to more effectively cost clinical trials
- Recommended new ways of administering pain relief for armed personnel in the absence of medics
- Evaluated an NHS pilot now rolled out nationwide

In the words of their employers...

“We've found some post docs very useful in communicating or disseminating the information that they either have at their disposal from their PhD for instance, or which they've picked up from other courses. So I think that's part of a PhD really - the ability to be able to pass on knowledge, or to communicate that with other people.”

Large employer, public administration.

“If I don't know something which is quite often, I can go and ask [the doctoral graduate] and he'll always have the answers. If he doesn't have the answers he loves problem solving so he would go out of his way to go and research it all and come back with the information.”

Medium size employer, Education (other).