

# APA Master's Employment Survey

## Attention

If you were NOT awarded a master's degree between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2002, mark the appropriate box below, STOP HERE, and RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

- Prior to July 1, 2000
- After June 30, 2002
- I am not seeking a master's degree in psychology.

## DIRECTIONS - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE CONTINUING

- PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT ALL RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE ARE CONFIDENTIAL
- This questionnaire should take less than 15 minutes of your time. We would appreciate your completing it AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- Please read all response options before answering.
- We welcome your comments on both your employment experiences and the actual survey itself. Please send an email message to [2002mes@apa.org](mailto:2002mes@apa.org) with your comments or write on the final page of the survey booklet.
- If you have any questions, please call 202-336-5980 or send a message to [2002mes@apa.org](mailto:2002mes@apa.org).
- Postage is prepaid for both United States and Canadian respondents. When completed, please return the survey in the enclosed, business reply envelope.

## SECTION A: EDUCATION

1) Please indicate your highest earned degree/credential. (Mark one only)

M.A.

C.A.G.S.

M.S.

Specialist

M.Ed.

Other, please specify →

2) Please indicate the month and year when your highest degree indicated in Question 1 was awarded.

Month

Year

3) When did you begin the program leading to the highest earned degree/credential indicated in Question 1?

Month

Year

4) In the box below, indicate the number of credit hours REQUIRED by the department in order to grant the highest degree you indicated in Question 1.

Credit hours

5) Please indicate the total number of graduate hours you ACTUALLY completed as part of the program of study that led to the highest earned degree/credential indicated in Question 1. Next check the appropriate box to indicate semester hours or quarter hours.

Graduate hours

Quarter hours

Semester hours

6) Please indicate the major subfield of your highest earned degree indicated in Question 1. (Mark one only)

Behavior analysis

Industrial/Organizational

Biological

Neurosciences (not clinical neuropsychology)

Clinical

Personality

Clinical neuropsychology

Physiological

Cognitive

Psycholinguistics

Community

Psychometrics

Comparative

Psychopharmacology

Counseling

Quantitative

Developmental

School

Educational

Social

Engineering

Substance Abuse

Environmental

Systems/History/Methods

Experimental

Other, in psychology, please specify

General

Geropsychology

Other, not in psychology, please specify

Health

7) Did the program/department from which you received your graduate degree advertise this degree as preparation for employment at the master's level?

Yes

No

8) Did the program/department use the phrase "terminal master's program/department" in its title in some way?

Yes

No

9) Do you consider your Master's/Specialist/CAGS degree to be a "terminal" degree? (You do NOT plan to pursue a doctorate in psychology and believe that you have the education and training necessary to meet your career goals.)

Yes, I consider it to be a terminal degree.

No, I do not consider it to be terminal.

10) Please explain your answer to Question 9.

11) Please indicate the sources of support that you used while pursuing your master's degree. (Check ALL that apply)

Own earnings/support from family

Non-university grants

University research/teaching assistantships

Other, please specify

Non-university loans

12) Please indicate your PRIMARY source of support while pursuing your master's degree. (Check ONE only)

Own earnings/support from family

Non-university grants

University research/teaching assistantships

Other, please specify

Non-university loans

13) Upon receipt of your highest earned degree, did you have any debt directly related to your GRADUATE education (tuition, fees, loans, living expenses, books, and supplies, etc.)?

Yes, please answer Question 14 about your level of debt.

No, please go to Question 15.

14) What was the level of cumulative GRADUATE debt at the time of graduation?

Dollars

15) Are you currently enrolled in a graduate program?

No

Yes, doctoral program in psychology

Yes, master's program in psychology

Yes, doctoral program in another field. Please specify →

Yes, master's program in another field. Please specify →

Other, please specify →

**16) Are you currently seeking employment?**

- Yes
- No

**17) If you had the choice, would you again choose psychology as your field?**

- Yes
- No, indicate the field (e.g., business, medicine, law) you would choose →

**18) If you had the choice, would you again choose the same SUBFIELD (e.g., clinical, general) in psychology?**

- Yes
- No, indicate the subfield in psychology you would choose →

**19) If you had the choice, would you choose the same program or department for your graduate training?**

- Yes
- No, please indicate *why* you would not choose the same department or program in the space provided.

**20) What is your CURRENT employment status?**

- I am currently employed AND enrolled in a graduate program. (Go to Section B)
- I am currently employed and NOT enrolled in a graduate program. (Go to Section B)
- I am NOT currently employed, BUT I am ENROLLED in a graduate program. (Go to Section D)
- I am NOT currently employed AND am NOT enrolled in a graduate program. (Go to Section C)

## SECTION B: EMPLOYMENT

We are interested in your employment: where you work, how many hours per week you work, your work activities and so forth. This section is designed so that people holding more than one position, e.g., two 20-hour per week jobs, as well as those holding one position, can accurately complete the questions. Thus, some of the questions refer to both "primary" and "secondary" employment positions. The position in which you spend the most time is considered your "primary" employment.

21) How many employment positions do you currently have?

- One position
- Two positions
- Three or more positions

22) Do you spend a total of 35 or more hours per week in this (these) position(s)?

- Yes
- No

23) Please indicate the TYPICAL number of hours per week you spend in each of your employment positions.

Primary position	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week
Secondary position	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week
Tertiary position	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week

24) (IF YOUR PRIMARY POSITION IS LESS THAN 35 HOURS PER WEEK) What was the MOST important reason for choosing one or more part-time position(s)? (Mark ONE only)

- I prefer having one or more part-time positions because it provides a broader range of work responsibilities.
- I could not find a full-time position that was appropriate.
- I prefer having one or more part-time positions because of family responsibilities.
- Other, please specify →

25) When did you find your present primary employment (i.e., accepted job offer)? (Mark ONE only)

- Already employed in the position when I started my graduate/certificate program
- Before completing requirements for graduate degree/certificate
- Within 3 months after completing requirements
- 4-6 months after completing requirements
- More than 6 months after completing requirements for graduate degree/certificate

26) Please mark ALL of the job search methods that you used in obtaining your current primary employment position. (Mark ALL that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty advisor(s)                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional convention / placement service  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper advertisements                          | <input type="checkbox"/> National convention / placement service  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filled out a civil service application            | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional journals or periodicals   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used an employment agency                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisements in the <u>APA Monitor</u>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Met employer through a former job                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisements in the <u>Chronicle of Higher Education</u><br>or other professional newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sent an unsolicited vitae                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet/Electronic resource, please specify   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Received an unsolicited offer                     | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Informal channels including colleagues or friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify  |
|  | <input type="text"/>  |

27) Please mark the SINGLE MOST SUCCESSFUL job search method that you used in obtaining your current primary employment position. (Mark ONE only.)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty advisor(s)                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional convention / placement service  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper advertisements                          | <input type="checkbox"/> National convention / placement service  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filled out a civil service application            | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional journals or periodicals   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used an employment agency                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisements in the <u>APA Monitor</u>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Met employer through a former job                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisements in the <u>Chronicle of Higher Education</u><br>or other professional newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sent an unsolicited vitae                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet/Electronic resource, <i>please specify</i>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Received an unsolicited offer                     | <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="text"/>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Informal channels including colleagues or friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, <i>please specify</i>   |
|  | <input type="text"/>  |

28) Please select the category that best describes the type of position you hold in your primary and secondary (if any) work setting(s). You may be involved in several different types of work activities. However, your employment position can usually be described by one of the following categories. (Mark only ONE for each column.)

- | Primary position<br>↓    | Secondary position<br>↓  |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Direct Human Services.</b> Includes diagnosis and assessment, psychotherapy, counseling, guidance, school psychological services, prevention and consultation.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Research.</b> Includes basic or applied research in any field. Includes non-faculty research positions and work in government or private research laboratories and institutes.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Applied Psychology.</b> Includes the practice of industrial/organizational psychology, personnel selection or assessment, systems or equipment design, organizational consultation, analysis or training.   |
|                          |                          | <b>Faculty Position.</b> Includes teaching and/or research activities appropriate to your academic setting. (If you are primarily employed in a faculty position (including being chair of a department), please indicate your academic rank).   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Associate professor  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Assistant professor  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lecturer / Instructor  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Academic advisor   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, <i>please specify</i> → <input type="text"/>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Administration of Human Services.</b> Includes managing a program of human services. Although you may be directly involved in delivering human services, your primary responsibility is administering human services, including the supervision of human service personnel.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Administration of Research.</b> Includes managing a research organization or program. Although you may be directly involved in research design, data collection, and so forth, your primary responsibility is administering research activities, including the supervision of research personnel.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Administration of Applied Psychology.</b> Includes managing an applied psychology organization or program, such as the management of a consulting firm specializing in industrial/organizational psychology. Although you may be directly involved in applied psychology activities, your primary responsibility is administering the program, including the supervision of personnel.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Other Administrative Position.</b> Management or administration in a business, government setting, or non-profit organization that cannot be described as the direct administration of educational, research, human service, or applied psychology activities. Often this type of position is related to psychology such as the administration of a government program to fund psychological research. Includes policy or program development or review, personnel administration, budgeting. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Other Position, please specify</b> → <input type="text"/>   |

29) If you have a faculty position, are you on the tenure track? (Mark ONE only. If relevant to two positions, answer for primary position only.)

- Not applicable, not academically employed
- Not applicable, no tenure system in place
- No, not on tenure track
- Yes, on tenure track
- Yes, have tenure

30) Using the code list below, indicate in the boxes the employment setting(s) of your primary and secondary (if any) position(s).

Code for primary position

Code for secondary position

**Code List for Work Settings**

**Educational Settings**

*University (excluding medical school)*

- 01 Psychology department
- 02 Education department
- 03 Business school or department
- 04 Other academic department or unit
- 05 Management or administrative office
- 06 Student counseling or services center
- 07 Research center or institute
- 08 Professional school other than medical or health services (e.g., law or journalism)
- 09 Other university setting, *please specify*

*Four-year College*

- 10 Psychology department
- 11 Education department
- 12 Business school or department
- 13 Other academic department or unit
- 14 Management or administrative office
- 15 Student counseling or services center
- 16 Research center or institute
- 17 Other four-year college setting, *please specify*

*Other Educational Settings*

- 18 Two-year college
- 19 Medical school, psychiatry department
- 20 Medical school, other than psychiatry department
- 21 University affiliated professional school for health services other than medical (e.g., psychology, nursing, dentistry, etc.)
- 22 Free-standing professional school for health services other than medical (e.g., psychology, nursing, etc.)
- 23 Secondary school
- 24 Elementary school
- 25 Special education
- 26 Vocational or adult education
- 27 Other educational setting, *please specify*

**Human Service Settings**

- 28 Public general hospital
- 29 Private general hospital
- 30 City/county/state psychiatric hospital
- 31 Not for profit, private psychiatric hospital
- 32 For profit, private psychiatric hospital
- 33 VAMC/VA Hospital
- 34 Military hospital (e.g., Air Force)
- 35 Individual private practice
- 36 Medical/psychological group practice
- 37 Group psychological practice
- 38 Outpatient mental health clinic, free-standing
- 39 Community mental health center or clinic (CMHC)
- 40 Health Maintenance Organization
- 41 Other managed care setting
- 42 Counseling or guidance center (not university or college)
- 43 Nursing home
- 44 Substance abuse facility
- 45 Mental retardation facility
- 46 Developmental disabilities facility
- 47 Head injury facility
- 48 Other community social service agency
- 49 Other human service setting, *please specify*

**Other Employment Settings**

- 50 Self-employed (not private practice or independent consultant)
- 51 Independent consultant
- 52 Consulting firm
- 53 Private research organization or lab
- 54 Government research organization or lab
- 55 Corporation
- 56 Small business
- 57 Military service (other than above settings)
- 58 Federal government agency (other than above settings)
- 59 State government agency (other than above settings)
- 60 Local government agency (other than above settings)
- 61 Union
- 62 Other non-profit organization
- 63 Other setting not listed above, *please specify*

31) How many hours per week do you spend in the following activities in your primary employment position? (Your answers should add up to the total number of hours per week in your primary position provided in Question 23.)

Research basic and applied	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week
Human services	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week
Education/ teaching	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week
Management and administration	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week
Other applied psychology	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week
Other activities	<input type="text"/>	Hours per week

32) In obtaining your current PRIMARY position, how important was it for you to hold a graduate degree in PSYCHOLOGY? (Mark ONE only)

- Essential qualification
- Helpful, but not essential
- Unimportant
- Cannot ascertain

33) In obtaining your current PRIMARY position, how important was it for you to hold ANY graduate degree? (Mark ONE only)

- Essential qualification
- Helpful, but not essential
- Unimportant
- Cannot ascertain

34) Indicate the extent to which each of the following was related to your current PRIMARY position. (Mark ONE only for each category)

Category	Closely Related	Somewhat Related	Not Related	Not Applicable
a) Graduate training in general	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Graduate courses in major subfield or specialty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Graduate courses outside subfield or specialty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Practicum or internship (e.g., applied research)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

35) Has your graduate training adequately prepared you for your current job?

- Yes
- No

36) Do you consider yourself underemployed in your current PRIMARY position? (Mark ALL that apply.)

- No, I am not underemployed.
- Yes, the job is not in my field.
- Yes, the job is not commensurate with my level of training.
- Yes, the job is not commensurate with my level of experience.
- Yes, I would prefer a more challenging position.
- Yes, and I am currently looking for a more commensurate position.
- Yes, but I prefer to remain in this position for personal reasons.

**37) Was your current primary position your first choice?**

Yes, my current position was my first choice.

No, I would prefer to be in (*Mark ONE only*):

- Administration of applied psychology
- Administration of human services position
- Administration of research position
- Applied psychology position
- Direct human services position
- Education administration position
- Faculty position
- Research position
- Other, *please specify* →

No, I would prefer to have the same type of position, but in a different institution/organization.

**38) Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following dimensions of your current PRIMARY position.**

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A
a) Income/Salary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Opportunities for promotion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Opportunities for personal development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Opportunities for recognition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Supervisor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Co-workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Working conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**39) TOTAL ANNUAL EARNED INCOME. Indicate your total gross annual income from ALL professional activities, including full-time and part-time positions, summer teaching or research, royalties, etc.**

Total annual earned income  Dollars

**40) CURRENT SALARY/NET INCOME FOR PRIMARY POSITION. If you hold a full-time salaried position, please indicate in thousands of dollars the current amount of salary from this position (e.g., the salary for academic year 2001-2002 or fiscal year 2002). If you are employed full time in a self-employment position or independent practice, indicate in thousands of dollars your net income (i.e., your total income after deducting office expenses) for the previous 12 months, Do not report salary here if you are not employed full time (35 hours/week or more) in your primary position.**

Salary from primary position  Dollars

Not applicable, I spend less than 35 hours per week in my primary employment position.

**41) Please indicate the period, in months, for the salary for your current PRIMARY position.**

- 9 months
- 10 months
- 11 months
- 12 months

## SECTION C: CURRENTLY NOT EMPLOYED

Complete this section only if you are *CURRENTLY* not employed.

42) **Have you ever been employed in psychology at a professional level since receiving your graduate degree/certificate?**

- Yes
- No

43) **Are you currently seeking employment?**

- No
- Yes, for how long have you been seeking employment?
  - 0-3 months
  - 4-6 months
  - More than 6 months

44) **Which one of the following statements best describes your present situation? (*Mark ONE only*)**

- I do not want to be employed now.
- I am enrolled in school.
- I would like a part-time job (or a job with flexible hours), but I am unable to find one.
- I am voluntarily involved with home/child care.
- I am involuntarily involved with home/child care because I am unable to find adequate substitute care.
- I am not seeking work because I feel that no jobs are available to me.
- I am seeking work but have found no suitable position in my area and do not want to relocate.
- I am seeking work and am willing to relocate but I am unable to find a suitable job.
- I am not seeking work because of an accident, disability, illness, or health problem.
- I have moved to new location, and I am seeking work but have not found a job.
- Other, please specify →

## SECTION D: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

45) Overall, how would you rate the job market for a person like yourself?

	Bleak	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
a) Current conditions are →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conditions last year were →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Conditions next year will be →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

46) During what year were you born?

Year of birth

47) What is your sex?

Female

Male

48) What is your race/ethnicity? (*Check ALL that apply*)

American Indian or Alaskan Native

Asian or Pacific Islander

Black /African American

Hispanic/Latino(a)

White/Caucasian

Other, *please specify* →

49) What is your country of citizenship?

United States

Canada

Other, *please specify* →

50) What is your sexual orientation?

Heterosexual

Homosexual

Bisexual

Other, *please specify* →

Prefer not to answer

51) What is the postal code of your primary employment position?

Postal Code

Not applicable

**Thank You!**

Please mail or fax the completed survey to:

APA Research Office  
750 First Street NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
(202) 336-6148 fax