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Education  
and science

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# Swiss Graduate Survey



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA  
**Federal Statistical Office FSO**

## Did you know

that in 2019 and one year after graduating

- 10% of Bachelor graduates from universities and institutions of technology were in the labour market?
- 21% of Bachelor and 24% of Master graduates from universities of applied sciences were in a managerial position?
- graduates from a university of teacher education experience the least difficulty in finding a job?
- female graduates are considerably less likely to work full-time (57%) than their male counterparts (77%)?
- PhD graduates earned an average gross annual salary of CHF 92 000 for a full-time job?

These and other findings from the Graduate Survey can be found at the following link:

[www.graduates-stat.admin.ch](http://www.graduates-stat.admin.ch)

## Foreword to the survey

The Graduate Survey has a long tradition in Switzerland. Graduates have been interviewed about their employment and education system since 1977.

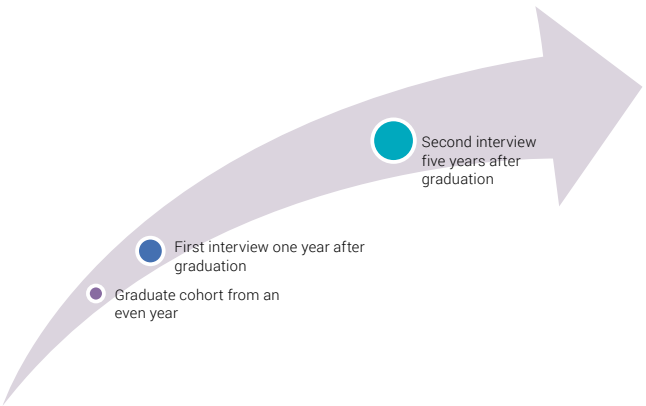
Since 2001 the survey has been conducted by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) in collaboration with the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI).

## Who is interviewed?

The survey is an exhaustive one. All graduates from Swiss higher education institutions who have received one of the following qualifications in an even graduation year are interviewed:

- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Diploma/licentiate/state examination
- PhD

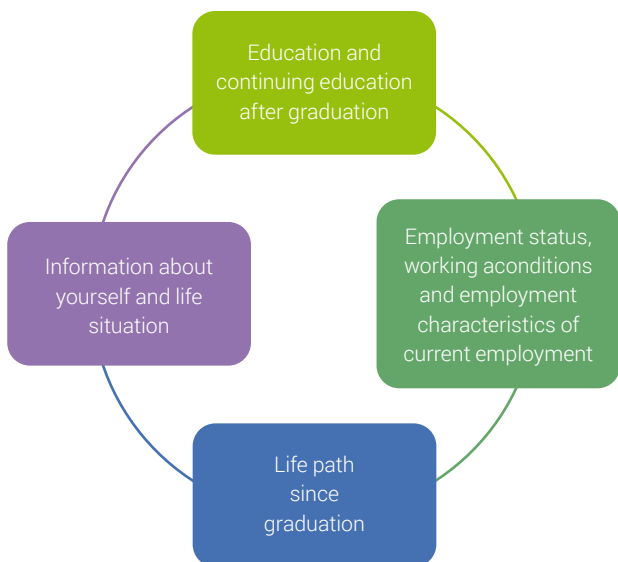
Graduates are interviewed on two different occasions. The first interview takes place about one year after graduation, the second roughly five years after.



You previously took part in the first interview in 2019. Thanks to your *kindly agreeing to participate* in the *second interview*, we would like to invite you to take part again in the Swiss Graduate Survey.

## On which subjects will questions be asked?

By conducting interviews at two different points in time, the immediate transition from higher education institution to working life can be examined as well as the development of career paths in the first five years after graduation. The second interview focuses on the following subject areas:



## Why is the survey important?

Diverse groups can benefit from your experience and opinions:

- Higher education policy makers and the higher education institutions themselves
- Study and career advisors as well as future generations of students
- Businesses and the Swiss research community

And last but not least the data collected also provides you with the possibility of comparing your career path with that taken by other graduates.

## Why is your participation important?

Participation in the survey is voluntary, but your cooperation is very important for the quality of the survey. All persons who answer our questions contribute to improving the accuracy and quality of the results.

The results can only reliably reflect the problems and variety of life paths if as many graduates as possible take part in the interview.

For this reason it is extremely important that you take part in the interview, regardless of your current or previous career and life situation.

## How is the interview conducted?

- The survey is carried out online.
- You can take a break while completing the questionnaire. Your answers are saved and you can return to complete the questionnaire at any time.
- The questionnaire is available in German, French, Italian and English.
- Depending on your life path, the questionnaire takes approximately 20–30 minutes to complete.

## The FSO and data protection

Since it was founded in 1860, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) has been part of the Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA).

Its main task is to provide statistical information to a wide audience. Official statistics are an indispensable aid in the preparation of decisions in diverse areas such as politics, economy, society, culture etc. Statistical data form the basis for numerous scientific studies and enable the creation of scenarios on future trends.

Data protection and security are ensured by the Federal Statistical Act (BstatG of 9 October 1992, SR 431.01) and the Data Protection Act (DSG of 19 June 1992, SR 235.1).

All recorded data are treated with the strictest confidence and are used only for statistical purposes. Names and addresses are only available in order to contact participants. After completion of the survey they are destroyed. No inferences about individual persons can be made from the published results.

The FSO's employees and those of the M.I.S. Trend Institute which carries out the survey on behalf of the FSO are subject to data secrecy.

## Any questions?

For any questions regarding the survey, please contact:

### Hotline M.I.S. Trend

0800 800 246

E-Mail: [info@abszb.ch](mailto:info@abszb.ch)

## Many thanks for your participation!

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The information in this publication contributes to the measurement of sustainable development goal (SDG) **no. 4 "Quality education"** of the UN's 2030 Agenda. In Switzerland, the MONET 2030 indicator system is used to track the implementation of these goals.



### The MONET 2030 indicator system

[www.statistics.admin.ch](http://www.statistics.admin.ch) → Look for statistics → Sustainable development → The MONET 2030 indicator system