



Rapportage Uniforme Evaluatie Nederlandse promotietrajecten

Pilot voorjaar/zomer 2021

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Leeswijzer

Deze rapportage begint met een beschrijving van de resultaten van de eerste uniforme evaluatie van Nederlandse promotietrajecten waaraan promovandi van acht instellingen, bij wijze van pilot, in het voorjaar van 2021 hebben deelgenomen.

Daarna volgt kort de aanleiding voor het project en de pilot, gevolgd door een korte beschrijving van de gegevensverzameling.

Bij dit rapport behoort een aantal bijlagen. Allereerst de [landelijke vragen](#) die zijn afgenoemt tijdens de pilot van 2021 (bijlage 1).

In verschillende [factsheets](#) wordt voor elke vraag het gemiddelde, de standaarddeviatie en/of percentage per antwoordcategorie weergegeven. De factsheets geven de resultaten weer voor de volledige steekproef (*Sample*, bijlage 2a) en uitgesplitst voor *Promovenditypen* (bijlage 2b), *Fase* (bijlage 2c) en *Nationaliteitsgroep* (bijlage 2d). Indien groepen significant van elkaar verschillen, is dit weergegeven in de betreffende factsheets; details over de aard van de groepsverschillen wordt beschreven in de resultatensectie van dit rapport. In de factsheet *Sample* worden kenmerken van de respondenten (zoals leeftijdsgroep, gender, nationaliteitsgroep per universiteit) weergegeven (bijlage 2e).

Bijlagen

1. [Landelijke vragen](#) pilot 2021
2. [Factsheets](#)
 - a. National PhD student survey 2021 – Sample
 - b. National PhD student survey 2021 – PhD student type
 - c. National PhD student survey 2021 – Phase
 - d. National PhD student survey 2021 – Nationality group
 - e. National PhD student survey 2021 – Sample characteristics

Resultaten

In deze sectie wordt per onderwerp een korte samenvatting gegeven van de landelijke resultaten en opvallende significante groepsverschillen. Zie voor details de factsheets in bijlage 2a t/m 2d. In de factsheets zijn percentages afgerond op gehele getallen. Gemiddelden en standaarddeviaties worden weergegeven met twee decimalen achter de komma. De factsheets *Fase* en *Promovenditypen* zijn gemaakt zonder gegevens van de Vrije Universiteit. Kleine afwijkingen in de gemiddelden weergegeven in de interactieve grafieken op de UNL-website worden veroorzaakt door berekeningen op de geaggregeerde data (die ten grondslag liggen aan de interactieve grafieken) en de berekeningen van de factsheets (die gedaan zijn op de complete dataset in een beveiligde analyseomgeving).

Respons en representativiteit

In totaal hebben 4876 promovendi, verdeeld over acht instellingen¹, het merendeel van de kernvragen beantwoord. Het responspercentage wisselt tussen 16% en 32% met een gemiddelde van 25%. Er kan gesteld worden dat de responsgroep representatief is voor de promovendipopulaties bij de acht deelnemende instellingen.

Algemene tevredenheid met het promotietraject

- Over het algemeen zijn promovendi redelijk tevreden met hun PhD-traject; de gemiddelde score is 6,95 (op een schaal van 1 tot 10); 15% van de promovendi geeft een cijfer gelijk aan, of lager dan, een 5; 42% geeft een cijfer gelijk aan, of hoger dan, een 8.
- Qua algemene tevredenheid met het promotietraject liggen de werknemer- en beurspromovendi dicht bij het steekproefgemiddelde. De extern gefinancierde promovendi zijn het meest tevreden en de buitenpromovendi het minst. Het verschil tussen deze twee groepen is significant.
- Promovendi met de Nederlandse nationaliteit of met een nationaliteit van buiten de EER zijn gemiddeld significant meer tevreden over het promotietraject dan promovendi uit de EER.
- Promovendi in het eerste jaar van het traject geven een significant hogere tevredenheidsscore aan hun PhD-traject dan de ouderejaars.

Aanstelling en werkuren

- Bij ongeveer 70% van de promovendi is de formele duur van het traject 48 maanden; 14% procent geeft een formele duur van minder dan 48 maanden aan en 5% een duur langer dan 48 maanden. 4% zegt dat de officiële duur nog moet worden bepaald en 7% zegt dat er geen officiële duur is afgesproken; dit laatste geldt vooral vaak voor externe promovendi.
- We zien verschillen tussen promovenditypen: 76% van de werknemer-promovendi en 69% van de beurspromovendi heeft een officiële duur van 48 maanden tegenover 56% bij extern gefinancierde en externe promovendi (40%).
- Ongeveer 50% van de promovendi werkt tussen de 12 en 36 uur per week aan het promotieonderzoek; 37% werkt meer dan 36 uur per week.
- Bij zowel de extern gefinancierde als de externe promovendi zegt een relatief hoog percentage (21% resp. 35%) meer dan 48 uur per week aan het promotietraject te werken. Ook ouderejaars werken relatief vaker meer dan 48 uur per week aan hun project.

¹ Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Universiteit Utrecht, Universiteit Leiden, Universiteit van Twente, Maastricht University, Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam en de Open Universiteit.

Faciliteiten

- Met een gemiddelde score van ongeveer een 4 (op een schaal van 1 tot 5) zijn promovendi over het algemeen behoorlijk tevreden met hun werkfaciliteiten. Het is hier belangrijk om te weten dat er gevraagd is naar de situatie vóór de pandemie.
- De toegang tot de (online) bibliotheek wordt als beste faciliteit beoordeeld met een 4,1. De werkplek, computer en onderzoeksfaciliteiten worden iets lager beoordeeld met scores net onder de 4.
- Werknemer-promovendi zijn meer tevreden over onderzoeksfaciliteiten (zoals laboratoria) en bibliotheektoegang dan beurspromovandi.
- Ouderejaars promovendi zijn meer tevreden over de bibliotheek dan starters.
- Extern gefinancierde en externe promovendi hebben minder vaak dan werknemer- en beurspromovandi toegang tot faciliteiten. Ook starters hebben minder vaak toegang tot faciliteiten.

Supervisie

Aantal begeleiders

- 94% van de promovendi zegt tenminste twee begeleiders te hebben. Het gemiddelde aantal begeleiders is 2,6. Dat is in lijn met het vierogenprincipe dat alle universiteiten als uitgangspunt hanteren: alle promovendi worden begeleid door ten minste twee (co)promotoren.
- Het aantal begeleiders voor promovendi uit de EER ligt lager (2,5)² dan voor promovendi uit Nederland of van buiten de EER (2,7). Beurspromovandi hebben gemiddeld het hoogste aantal begeleiders (2,8) en externe promovandi het laagste (2,3).
- 3% weet niet wie de officiële promotor is; dit komt het vaakst voor bij buitenpromovandi.

Uren begeleiding per maand

- Promovendi ontvangen gemiddeld 6,2 uur per maand begeleiding (alle begeleiders opgeteld); maar de individuele verschillen zijn groot, wat blijkt uit een hoge standaarddeviatie (7,4). 10% van de promovendi zegt 0 of 1 uur begeleiding per maand te krijgen, 10% zegt 11 uur of meer begeleiding per maand te krijgen.
- Buitenpromovandi ontvangen gemiddeld per maand het minste aantal uren begeleiding (4,7 uur).
- Starters krijgen meer uren per maand begeleiding dan ouderejaars (7,3 vs. 5,9).
- Nederlandse promovendi rapporteren het laagste gemiddelde aantal uren (5,4), promovendi van binnen de EER benoemen een gemiddelde van 6,5 uur en promovendi van buiten de EER rapporteren het hoogste gemiddelde (7,3). De relatief hoge standaarddeviaties bij de niet-Nederlandse promovendi duiden erop dat er grote individuele verschillen zijn in het aantal uren begeleiding.

Tevredenheid met begeleiding

- Over het algemeen zijn promovendi redelijk tevreden met de begeleiding die ze krijgen. 43% van de promovendi in de steekproef is tevreden en 34% is zeer tevreden. 4% van de promovendi is zeer ontevreden, 8% ontevreden en 11% neutraal.

² Discrepancies in de gemiddelden tussen dit rapport en de factsheets enerzijds, en de weergegeven gemiddelden in de interactieve grafieken op de UNL-website anderzijds, worden veroorzaakt door een verschil in de data waarop de gemiddelden zijn berekend. De factsheets zijn gebaseerd op de complete steekproefdata en de grafieken op de UNL-website op geaggregeerde data.

- Hoewel ze minder begeleiding ontvangen, zijn extern gefinancierde promovendi het meest tevreden met hun begeleiding, maar deze score verschilt niet significant met die van de andere drie groepen.
- Starters zijn iets meer tevreden over hun begeleiding dan ouderejaars.
- Over het algemeen ervaren beurspromovendi meer stimulans van hun begeleiders om cursussen en seminars te volgen dan andere promovendi.

Mogelijkheid tot het volgen van onderwijs en training

Toegang

- Het merendeel van de promovendi heeft toegang tot verschillende onderwijsactiviteiten; 6% zegt geen toegang te hebben tot onderwijs.
- Promovendi volgen vooral disciplinegeoriënteerde cursussen en workshops (76%) en cursussen en workshops op het gebied van algemene vaardigheden (86%), en 86% heeft toegang tot seminars en conferenties.
- Minder dan de helft (47%) van de promovendi geeft aan toegang te hebben tot 'teaching training'-cursussen, terwijl bijna driekwart van de promovendi betrokken is bij het geven van onderwijs of het begeleiden van studenten (zie volgende thema).
- Iets meer dan de helft (54%) zegt toegang te hebben tot carrièrereactiviteiten. Dit percentage ligt lager bij de externe en extern gefinancierde promovandi.

Verplichting tot volgen van onderwijs

- Bijna 70% van de respondenten geeft aan dat het volgen van onderwijs een verplicht onderdeel van hun PhD-traject is; 6% weet dit niet.
- Het percentage dat verplicht cursussen moet volgen als onderdeel van het promotietraject ligt lager voor externe (42%) en extern gefinancierde (52%) promovendi dan voor werknemers (72%) en beurspromovendi (75%).

Tevredenheid met ontvangen onderwijs

- Over het algemeen zijn de promovendi matig tot redelijk tevreden met de onderwijsactiviteiten die ze ontvangen; de gemiddelde score is 3,3 (schaal van 1 tot 5).
- Beurspromovendi zijn het meest tevreden met het ontvangen onderwijs.
- Starters zijn op alle stellingen over het ontvangen van onderwijs meer tevreden dan ouderejaars.

Tevredenheid met carrièrevoorbereidingsactiviteiten

- De gemiddelde tevredenheidsscore van 3,3 met de aangeboden carrièreoriëntatie-activiteiten geeft aan dat promovendi hiermee matig tot redelijk tevreden zijn.
- Er zijn geen groepsverschillen t.a.v. de tevredenheid met het aanbod.

Onderwijs geven en begeleiden van studenten

- Bijna 75% van de promovendi is betrokken bij het geven van onderwijs of begeleiden van studenten; voor bijna 40% is dit onderdeel van hun contract.
- Lesgeven en begeleiden gebeurt iets meer door ouderejaars (76%) dan door starters (70%). Ouderejaars geven meer dan eerstejaars onderwijs en begeleiding terwijl dat geen onderdeel is van hun contract.
- Werknemer-promovendi zijn het vaakst betrokken bij het geven van onderwijs (51%).

Sociale contacten en steun

- Bijna 70% geeft aan geregeld contact te hebben met andere wetenschappers; ruim 30% heeft dat contact niet.
- Ruim 20% is niet bekend met PhD-organisaties; van de promovendi die wel bekend zijn met PhD-organisaties neemt 16% geregeld deel aan activiteiten.
- Nederlandse promovendi zijn vaker op de hoogte van PhD-organisaties dan niet-Nederlandse promovendi.
- Ruim 30% weet niet of er wel of geen PhD-counselor beschikbaar is.
- Buitenpromovendi en extern gefinancierde promovendi zijn minder bekend met zowel PhD-organisaties als de PhD-counselor dan werknemer- en beurspromovandi.
- Starters zijn iets minder vaak op de hoogte van de aanwezigheid van een PhD-counselor.

Werkdruk

- Bijna 50% vindt de werkdruk hoog; 10% vindt die té hoog.
- Werknemer-promovendi ervaren de hoogste werkdruk.
- Ouderejaars ervaren een hogere werkdruk dan starters.
- Promovendi van buiten de EER ervaren een hogere werkdruk dan promovendi met een EER-nationaliteit (inclusief de Nederlandse).

Effect van het promotietraject op de mentale gezondheid

- Iets minder dan 30% vindt dat het promotietraject een negatieve invloed heeft op hun mentale gezondheid, bijna 40% geeft aan dat het een positief effect heeft en 30% kiest voor de antwoordoptie neutraal.
- Het effect van het promotietraject op de mentale gezondheid is het meest negatief voor werknemers en beurspromovandi.
- De negatieve impact van het promotietraject op de mentale gezondheid is groter voor ouderejaars dan voor starters.
- Vergelijken met andere nationaliteiten is de werkdruk op de mentale gezondheid het hoogst bij promovendi uit de EER.

Voortgang en vertraging

- Ongeveer 45% loopt achter op schema.
- Van de groep promovendi die vertraagd is, geeft 42% aan dat de vertraging meer dan 6 maanden bedraagt.
- Er zijn geen verschillen in het wel of niet hebben van vertraging tussen de vier promovenditypen en ook niet ten aanzien van nationaliteit.
- Wel zeggen externe promovendi vaker dat ze geen schema hebben.
- Ouderejaars zijn vaker vertraagd dan starters.
- Het percentage dat meer dan 6 maanden vertraagd is, is het hoogste bij de buitenpromovendi.

Effect van Covid-19

- Covid-19 heeft het meest negatieve effect gehad op het bediscussiëren van ideeën en resultaten; bijna 80% van de promovendi geeft aan dat dit negatief beïnvloed werd door de pandemie.
- Ongeveer 70% benoemt een negatief effect op zowel de voortgang van het project als de mentale gezondheid.
- Ongeveer 60% benoemt een negatief effect op zowel de werkmotivatie als de dataverzameling.
- Het effect van Covid-19 is het meest negatief voor werknemer- en beurspromovandi.

Effect van Covid-19 (vervolg)

- Wanneer we binnen elke afzonderlijke groep kijken, zien we dat de pandemie voor alle typen promovendi het meeste effect heeft gehad op het bediscussiëren van ideeën en resultaten.
- Het negatieve effect van Covid-19 is voor starters groter dan voor ouderejaars; alleen bij het voeren van discussies en het effect op de geestelijke gezondheid is geen significant verschil zichtbaar.
- Aangaande nationaliteit zien we een aantal verschillen voor het effect van de pandemie op het project. Niet-Nederlandse promovendi geven een hoger negatief effect aan van Covid-19 op data-analyse en het voeren van discussies. Niet-EER-promovendi geven een minder groot negatief effect op schrijven en analyseren aan. Er zijn geen verschillen voor het effect op de dataverzameling.
- Wat betreft de andere aspecten (werkmotivatie, voortgang, geestelijke gezondheid en carrièreperspectieven) rapporten Nederlandse promovendi een minder groot negatief effect dan niet-Nederlandse promovendi.

Toekomstige carrière

- Iets meer dan de helft (51%) ambieert een carrière in de onderzoekswereld binnen de universiteit; 45% ambieert een wetenschappelijke carrière buiten de universiteit³.
- Promovendi van buiten de EER geven vaker aan een carrière in de academische wetenschap te ambiëren.
- Bijna 33% van promovendi ambieert een carrière buiten de wetenschap; de meest genoemde sectoren zijn het hoger onderwijs (55%), de industrie (48%), overheid (46%) en ngo's (40%). Ook hier kon men meerdere opties aanvinken.
- Er zijn geen duidelijke verschillen wat betreft nationaliteitsgroep, fase of PhD-studenttype.

Afronding van het promotie traject

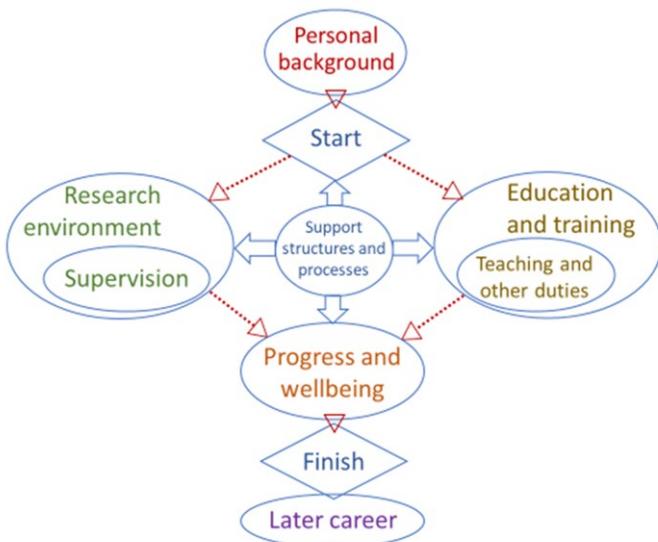
- Het merendeel (80%) van de promovendi heeft de wetenschappelijke eindtermen voor het afronden van de promotie besproken met hun begeleiders en/of PhD-counselor en/of iemand van de Graduate School; van deze groep vindt 8% de eindtermen onduidelijk.
- Wat betreft PhD-studenttype zijn de eindtermen het duidelijkst voor de werknemer-promovendi. Voor promovendi van buiten de EER zijn de eindtermen het minst duidelijk.

³ Discrepancies in de percentages tussen dit rapport en de factsheets enerzijds, en de percentages in de interactieve grafieken op de UNL-website anderzijds, worden veroorzaakt doordat de percentages in de UNL-grafieken van de groep 'Ik weet het niet', niet zijn meegenomen.

Aanleiding voor het project en een pilot

In 2015 is, op initiatief van de Rijkuniversiteit Groningen, een landelijke projectgroep opgezet om kennis uit te wisselen over de evaluatie van promotietrajecten. Sinds 2019 maken alle Nederlandse universiteiten, de Vereniging van Universiteiten (UNL, voorheen VSNU) en het Promovendi Netwerk Nederland (PNN) deel uit van de projectgroep.

Toen duidelijk werd dat er grote verschillen waren in de manier waarop universiteiten het promotiebeleid en de ervaringen van promovendi evalueren, waardoor vergelijkingen en uitwisselen van 'best-practices' lastig was, ontstond het idee voor een uniforme manier van evalueren. Allereerst zijn de verschillende fasen van het promotietraject in kaart gebracht (zie figuur 1). Vervolgens zijn voor elk aspect vragen opgesteld, deels op basis van aanwezige vragenlijsten bij de instellingen. De landelijke vragen (zie bijlage 1) zijn, bij wijze van pilot, in voorjaar/zomer van 2021 door acht Nederlandse universiteiten tijdens de eigen reguliere promovendi-evaluatie afgenoem.



Figuur 1. Weergave van de onderwerpen in de landelijke vragenlijst [Gab van Winkel].

Projectdoel

Het doel van het project is 'van elkaar te leren door te vergelijken en ervaringen uit te wisselen'. De universiteiten die meedoen met de pilot ontvangen de resultaten per universiteit. Eventuele verschillen in scores worden met elkaar besproken, waarbij de nadruk ligt op uitwisselen van 'best-practices'. De instellingen hebben met elkaar afgesproken dat de resultaten niet gebruikt mogen worden om met elkaar te concurreren.

Gegevensbeschermingseffectbeoordeling

In de voorbereiding op de afname van de landelijke vragen heeft de landelijke projectgroep intensief gesproken over de risico's rond het uitwisselen van databestanden en resultaten, privacy van promovendi en bescherming van gegevens. De risico's zijn in kaart gebracht via een gegevensbeschermingseffectbeoordeling (DPIA, januari 2020) en de maatregelingen en afspraken zijn vastgelegd in een Gezamenlijke Verwerkingsverantwoordelijken Overeenkomst (GVO). Bij het opstellen van de GVO zijn privacy officers en juristen van de diverse universiteiten intensief betrokken geweest.

Informatie voor deelnemende promovendi

Het is belangrijk dat promovendi weten met welk doel hun gegevens en antwoorden worden verzameld. Zij zijn daarover geïnformeerd in een Question & Answer (Q&A) document. Daarnaast is een privacydocument opgesteld met daarin de doelen van de gegevensverzameling, de aard van de verzamelde gegevens en hoe, en door wie, de gegevens worden verwerkt. In het privacydocument is ook beschreven hoe, en tot wanneer, een promovendus gegevens kan laten verwijderen uit het instellingsbestand. Elke instelling was er zelf verantwoordelijk voor dat de promovendus deze informatie kan inzien.

Gegevensverzameling

In dit hoofdstuk wordt beschreven hoe de gegevens zijn verzameld; verder gaat dit hoofdstuk over het uniformeren van de instellingsbestanden, de analyseomgeving, welke gegevens zijn opgenomen in het landelijk promovendibestand en waarom soms gegevens ontbreken in de factsheets. Informatie over de respons en representativiteit staat weergegeven op [deze](#) UNL-pagina.

Actieve toestemming

Een van de maatregelen t.a.v. privacy en security was dat de promovendi actief toestemming moeten geven voor de afzonderlijke doelen van de dataverzameling. Daarbij moesten ze actief een vinkje zetten bij ‘Ja, ik geef toestemming voor het gebruik van mijn gegevens voor het landelijke evaluatieproject’.

Gegevensverzameling en analyseomgeving

Elke instelling heeft de landelijke vragen opgenomen via haar eigen online vragenlijstinstrument. Instellingen hadden de mogelijkheid om extra vragen aan de eigen promovendi te stellen. De volledige dataset (met alle vragen van de instelling en persoonsgegevens) blijft in het bezit van de eigen instelling en is niet gedeeld. Elke instelling leverde een uniform databestand met alleen de antwoorden op de kernvragen en een aantal gepseudonimiseerde gegevens. De uniforme instellingsbestanden werden via een beveiligde verbinding geüpload naar een veilige en afgeschermde omgeving (Virtual Research Workspace; VRW van de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen). In deze omgeving werden de bestanden aan elkaar gekoppeld tot het ‘Landelijke promovendibestand 2021’ en daar werden ook de analyses gedaan. Het landelijke promovendibestand is niet toegankelijk voor de betrokken universiteiten en/of andere partijen en wordt in het voorjaar van 2023 verplaatst naar het archiveringssysteem van de RUG.

Gegevens in het landelijke promovendibestand

De antwoorden op de landelijke vragen (zie bijlage 1) zijn opgenomen in het landelijke promovendibestand. In het uniforme landelijke databestand zijn geen open antwoorden opgenomen. Een aantal kernvragen bevat de optie ‘Anders, namelijk’ waarbij er een mogelijkheid is om een antwoord in te typen. Dat is relevante informatie voor de eigen instelling, maar kan ook de identiteit van een promovendus onthullen. Een andere maatregel om herleidbaarheid tot personen te minimaliseren is de categorisering van de persoonsgegevens ‘leeftijd’ en ‘nationaliteit’.

Om verschillende groepen te kunnen vergelijken en om na te gaan of het instellingsbestand representatief is, zijn de onderstaande gegevens opgenomen in het landelijke promovendibestand:

1. De instelling (universiteit) waaraan de promovendus is verbonden
2. Een indicatie van het vakgebied waarin de promovendus werkzaam is ([ISCED-code](#))
3. [Promovendi-typen](#) conform de categorieën van UNL

4. Fase van het project
5. Gender (man, vrouw, anders)
6. Leeftijdscategorie (<30, 30-40, >40)
7. Nationaliteit (Nederlands, [EER](#), [niet-EER](#))

Verstrekking van resultaten

De factsheets (bijlage 2a t/m 2e) zijn ter beschikking gesteld aan alle Nederlandse universiteiten, de 'Universiteiten van Nederland' (UNL) en het Promovendi Netwerk Nederland (PNN). De universiteiten die deelnamen aan de pilot ontvingen een factsheet uitgesplitst per universiteit en een beschrijving van (eventuele) verschillen. Deze laatstgenoemde resultaten zijn niet openbaar toegankelijk.

Uniformering van de instellingsbestanden

Het valt buiten het doel van dit rapport om gedetailleerd in te gaan op het uniformiseren van de instellingsdatabestanden. Gedetailleerde informatie en een stappenplan staan beschreven in het dataprotocol.

Statistische analyse

Voor de groepen promovenditypen, fase en nationaliteit is gekeken of er verschillen waren in de verdeling over de antwoordcategorieën (Pearson's Chi-Square) en de gemiddelde tevredenheidsscores (ANOVA). Significante verschillen zijn in de factsheet weergegeven met SIG. Via post-hoc testen is bekeken welke groepen van elkaar verschillen; dit wordt vermeld in de resultatensectie van dit rapport.

Ontbrekende gegevens

Eind juni 2022 bleek dat er voor de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam een discrepantie was tussen de data in het landelijke promovendibestand en het bestand waarop het instellingsrapport van de VU is gebaseerd; dit betrof de variabelen 'fase', 'leeftijdsgroep' en 'promovenditypen'. Daardoor ontbreken in de factsheet *Sample Characteristics* de aantallen en percentages voor deze variabelen voor de VU. In de factsheets *Fase* en *Promovenditypen* zijn gegevens van de VU niet meegenomen in de analyse.

Bijlagen

1. Kernvragen 2021 versie 3.0

START

ST.05 What is the official duration of your PhD project as agreed upon at the start?

- 1 36 months (three years)
- 2 48 months (four years)
- 3 Other, namely: < months >
- 4 Not yet determined
- 5 There is no official duration since I work on my PhD project in my spare time

ST.06a How many hours per week do you have to work on your PhD project, according to your contract or your training and supervision plan?

- 1 Full-time (more than 36 hours per week)
- 2 Part-time (between 12-36 hours per week)
- 3 Part-time (less than 12 hours per week)
- 4 Other, namely: < hours >

ST.06b In an average week, how many hours do you actually work on your PhD project?

- 1 less than 12 hours per week
- 2 between 12-36 hours per week
- 3 between 37-48 hours per week
- 4 more than 48 hours per week

RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

RE.02 We would like you to answer the following questions while thinking about the situation before the Covid-19 pandemic. How satisfied are you with the following facilities?

Answering options: very dissatisfied (1), dissatisfied (2), neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3), satisfied (4), very satisfied (5), I have no access to this facility (6)

RE.02.1 Workplace

RE.02.2 Computer

RE.02.3 Access to library, e.g. journals, books, and other information

RE.02.4 Research facilities, e.g. lab, instruments, field work, databases and software

RE.19 To what extent do you have contact with other researchers when working on your PhD project?

- 1 (almost) every day
- 2 regularly
- 3 rarely
- 4 only when I meet my supervisors
- 5 other

SUPERVISION

SU.01a Please state the number of people who are officially part of your supervision team:
<aantal mensen>

- 1 My supervision has not been officially documented (yet)
- 2 I don't know
- 3 Other

SU.01b Do you know who is/are officially assigned as your promotor(s)?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No, not yet
- 3 I don't know / can't answer

SU.02 Who do you consider your daily supervisor?

- 1 (one) of my promotor(s)
- 2 (one) of my co-promotor (s)

3 someone else

SU.03 In an average month, how many hours supervision do you receive (from all your supervisors combined)? <hours per month>

SU.04 Are you, in general, satisfied with the supervision you receive?

- 1 Very dissatisfied
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 3 Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- 4 Satisfied
- 5 Very satisfied
- 6 I don't know / can't answer

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

ET.01 To which education activities do you have access? (Tick all that apply)

- ET.01_1 Discipline-specific courses and workshops
- ET.01_2 General skills courses and workshops
- ET.01_3 Seminars and conferences
- ET.01_4 Teacher training activities
- ET.01_5 Career orientation activities
- ET.01_6 Other education activities
- ET.01_7 I don't have access to education activities

ET.02 Do you have to participate in obligatory courses as part of your PhD educational training?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 I don't know

ET.03 If ET.02=1 Please name which type of courses are obligatory (Tick all that apply)

- ET.02_1 Discipline-specific courses and workshops
- ET.02_2 General skills courses and workshops
- ET.02_3 Seminars and conferences
- ET.02_4 Teacher training activities
- ET.02_5 Career orientation activities
- ET.02_6 Other education activities
- ET.02_7 I don't know

ET.04 Please state your agreement with the following propositions.

Answering options: totally disagree (1), disagree (2), neither agree nor disagree (3), agree (4), totally agree (5) + I don't know / can't answer (6)

ET.04a If ET.01≠7 I have sufficient time to participate in educational activities (e.g., training, courses, seminars).

ET.04b If ET.01≠7 In general, I am satisfied with the education activities on offer at my university (or UMC) and/or in the (national) graduate school in which I participate.

ET.04c If ET.01≠7 The education activities I have participated in contribute to the completion of my PhD.

ET.05 My supervisory team encourages me to participate in educational activities.

ET.06 If ET.01=5 I am satisfied with the career orientation activities that are offered.

TEACHING AND OTHER DUTIES

TD.01 Do you teach and/or supervise students (or are you planning to do so)?

- 1 Yes, it is part of my contract/agreement
- 2 Yes, but is not part of my contract/agreement
- 3 No, I am not allowed to teach
- 4 No, I am allowed to teach but I don't
- 5 Other

TD.02 if TD.01=1,2 How many hours per week do you, on average, spend on teaching (e.g. lectures or practicals)?

- 1 <hours per week>
- 2 I don't know / can't answer

TD.03 if TD.01=1,2 How many hours per week do you, on average, spend on supervision of students (e.g. bachelor/master thesis)?

- 1 <hours per week>
- 2 I don't know / can't answer

SUPPORT

SO.01 Are you familiar with PhD organisations at your university?

- 1 Yes, I regularly participate in activities they organize
- 2 Yes, but I do not (often) take part in activities
- 3 No, I am not familiar with PhD organisations

PROGRESS AND WELLBEING

PW.04 Are you currently on schedule with your planning?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No, I am ahead of schedule
- 3 No, I have fallen behind schedule
- 4 I don't have a schedule
- 5 I don't know

PW.05 If PW.04=3 How long is the expected delay?

- 1 less than 3 months
- 2 between 3 and 6 months
- 3 between 6 and 9 months
- 4 more than 9 months
- 5 I don't know

PW.08 How would you describe the workload/time pressure in your PhD project?

- 1 Too high
- 2 High
- 3 Normal
- 4 Low
- 5 Too low

PW.12 In general, what impact does your PhD project have on your wellbeing?

- 1 Positive
- 2 Fairly positive
- 3 Neutral
- 4 Rather negative
- 5 Negative
- 6 I don't know / I don't want to answer

PW.16 Do you know whether there is a counselor available to whom you can go to when you encounter problems (e.g. related to your wellbeing, social safety issues, or problems with your supervisor)?

- 1 Yes, I am aware of the availability of a counselor.
- 2 No, I don't know.

FINISH

FI.01 Have you discussed (or will you discuss) the scientific requirements (e.g. quality and quantity of publications and scientific integrity) of your PhD thesis?

- 1 Yes, with (one of) my supervisor(s)
- 2 Yes, with other people (e.g. PhD counselor or Graduate School)
- 3 Yes, with both my supervisor(s) and other people
- 4 No
- 5 Other

FI.02 If FL.01=1,2,3 Are the scientific requirements of your PhD thesis clear to you?

- 1 Very clear
- 2 Rather clear
- 3 A bit unclear
- 4 Rather unclear
- 5 Very unclear

CAREER

LC.01 What career perspectives do you aspire after graduation? (Tick all that apply)

- 1 In research within academia
- 2 In research outside academia
- 3 Outside research
- 4 I don't know

LC.02 If LC.01=2,3 Where do you aspire to pursue a career after completing your PhD track?

(Tick all that apply)

- 1 My own company
- 2 Industry
- 3 Government (national, regional or local)
- 4 University or other higher education institution
- 5 NGOs and other non-profit organisations
- 6 Other
- 7 I don't know / I don't want to answer

ABOUT Covid-19

The next questions concern the Covid-19 pandemic.

Answering options: strongly negative (1), negative (2), no impact (3), positive (4), strongly positive (5), not applicable (6)

QCovid1 Please review the following items. What impact has Covid-19 had on the ability to engage in these aspects of your PhD work:

- 1 Data collection
- 2 Data analysis
- 3 Writing
- 4 Discussing ideas and findings with colleagues & peers
- 5 Dissemination and sharing research findings with stakeholders & other researchers

QCovid2 Please review the following items. What impact has Covid-19 on your....

- 1 Motivation to work on your PhD project
- 2 Progress of your PhD project
- 3 Future career prospects
- 4 Mental health

OVERALL SATISFACTION

OvSat Overall, how satisfied are you with your PhD trajectory on a scale of 1 to 10?
<getal tussen 1 en 10>

Factsheet Sample

National PhD student survey 2021

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| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | |
|---|--------------|--|-----------|
| GENERAL SATISFACTION | | | |
| Overall, how satisfied are you with your PhD trajectory on a scale of 1 to 10? (1=very dissatisfied, 10=very satisfied) | N | | Mean SD |
| Average satisfaction | 4856 | | 6,95 1,67 |
| DURATION PROJECT AND WORKHOURS | | | |
| What is the official duration of your PhD project as agreed upon from the start? | N | | % |
| Less than 36 months | 68 | | 1,4 |
| 36 months | 506 | | 10,4 |
| Between 37-47 months | 34 | | 0,7 |
| 48 months | 3403 | | 69,9 |
| Between 49-60 months | 167 | | 3,4 |
| More than 60 months | 84 | | 1,7 |
| Not yet determined | 176 | | 3,6 |
| No official duration | 345 | | 7,1 |
| Other | 82 | | 1,7 |
| Total | 4865 | | 100 |
| How many hours per week do you officially have to work on your PhD project, according to your contract or agreement? | N | | % |
| Full-time (more than 36 hours per week) | 3306 | | 68,7 |
| Part-time (between 12-36 hours per week) | 841 | | 17,5 |
| Part-time (less than 12 hours per week) | 284 | | 5,9 |
| Other | 381 | | 7,9 |
| Total | 4812 | | 100 |
| In an average week, how many hours do you actually work on your PhD project? | N | | % |
| Less than 12 hours per week | 590 | | 13,9 |
| Between 12 -36 hours per week | 2075 | | 48,8 |
| Between 37-48 hours per week | 1271 | | 29,9 |
| More than 48 hours per week | 314 | | 7,4 |
| Total | 4250 | | 100 |
| WORK FACILITIES | | | |
| How satisfied are you with the following facilities? (1=very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied) | N | | Mean SD |
| Workplace | 3591 | | 3,90 0,99 |
| Computer and software | 3656 | | 3,80 1,02 |
| Research facilities (e.g. lab, instruments, fieldwork, databases) | 3467 | | 3,99 0,90 |
| Access to library (e.g. journals, books) | 3745 | | 4,12 0,85 |
| Percentage no access to facility | N | | % |
| Workplace | 356 | | 9,0 |
| Computer and software | 294 | | 7,4 |
| Research facilities (e.g. lab, instruments, fieldwork, databases) | 431 | | 11,1 |
| Access to library (e.g. journals, books) | 218 | | 5,5 |

Factsheet Sample

National PhD student survey 2021

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| SUPERVISION | | TOTAL SAMPLE | |
|---|--|--------------|-----------|
| | | N | % |
| Organisation | | | |
| Number of supervisors indicated | | 4539 | 92,9 |
| My supervision has not been officially documented (yet) | | 127 | 2,8 |
| I don't know | | 177 | 4,0 |
| Other | | 23 | 0,3 |
| Total | | 4866 | 100 |
| Number of supervisors | | N | % |
| 1 | | 268 | 5,8 |
| 2 | | 2151 | 46,7 |
| 3 | | 1554 | 33,7 |
| 4 | | 504 | 10,9 |
| 5 | | 71 | 1,5 |
| more than 5 | | 57 | 1,4 |
| Total | | 4605 | 100 |
| Average number of supervisors | | N | Mean SD |
| Average number | | 4605 | 2,64 1,09 |
| Do you know who is/are officially assigned as your promotor(s)? | | N | % |
| Yes | | 3923 | 96,8 |
| No, not yet | | 65 | 1,6 |
| I don't know / can't answer | | 66 | 1,6 |
| Total | | 4054 | 100 |
| In an average month, how many hours supervision do you receive (from all your supervisors combined)? | | N | Mean SD |
| Average hours of supervision | | 4739 | 6,16 7,38 |
| Are you, in general, satisfied with the supervision you receive? (1=very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied) | | N | Mean SD |
| Average satisfaction | | 4838 | 3,95 1,06 |
| EDUCATION | | | |
| To which education activities do you have access? (Tick all that apply) | | N | % |
| Discipline-specific courses and workshops | | 3500 | 76,0 |
| General skills courses and workshops | | 4079 | 85,9 |
| Seminars and conferences | | 4061 | 85,9 |
| Teacher training activities | | 1979 | 46,6 |
| Career orientation activities | | 2410 | 54,4 |
| No access | | 234 | 6,2 |
| Do you have to participate in obligatory courses as part of your PhD educational training? | | N | % |
| Yes | | 2847 | 68,3 |
| No | | 1067 | 25,6 |
| I don't know | | 253 | 6,1 |
| Total | | 4167 | 100 |

Factsheet Sample

National PhD student survey 2021

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| | TOTAL SAMPLE | |
|--|--------------|-----------|
| | N | % |
| Please indicate which type of course are obligatory * (Tick all that apply) | | |
| Discipline-specific courses and workshops | 1363 | 47,9 |
| General skills courses and workshops | 2022 | 71,0 |
| Seminars and conferences | 691 | 24,3 |
| Teacher training activities | 324 | 11,4 |
| Career orientation activities | 176 | 6,2 |
| Other education activities | 255 | 9 |
| *The percentage shown is calculated based on the number of students who answered 'yes' to the question 'Do you have to participate in obligatory courses?' | | |
| Satisfaction education (1=very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied) | N | Mean SD |
| I have sufficient time to participate in educational activities. | 4554 | 3,23 1,07 |
| In general, I am satisfied with the educational activities on offer. | 4437 | 3,34 1,03 |
| The education activities I have participated in contribute to the completion of my PhD | 4400 | 3,33 1,08 |
| My supervisors encourage me to participate in courses, seminars, conferences and other education activities. | 4643 | 3,37 1,15 |
| I am satisfied with the career orientation activities that are offered. | 1889 | 3,27 0,97 |
| TEACHING/SUPERVISING | | |
| Do you teach and/or supervise students (or are you planning to do so)? | N | % |
| Yes, it is part of my contract/agreement | 1793 | 37,8 |
| Yes, but it is not part of my contract/agreement | 1699 | 35,9 |
| No, I am not allowed to teach | 530 | 11,2 |
| No, I am allowed to teach but I don't | 409 | 8,6 |
| other | 232 | 4,9 |
| Yes (other) | 21 | 0,4 |
| No (other) | 54 | 1,1 |
| Total | 4738 | 100 |
| SUPPORT AND SOCIAL CONTACTS | | |
| Are you familiar with PhD organisations at your University? | N | % |
| Yes, I regularly participate in activities they organize | 668 | 15,9 |
| Yes, but I do not (often) take part in activities | 2568 | 61,3 |
| No, I am not familiar with PhD organisations | 953 | 22,8 |
| Total | 4189 | 100 |
| Do you know whether there is a counselor available to whom you can go to when you encounter problems? | N | % |
| Yes, I am aware of the availability of counselors | 2880 | 68,8 |
| No, I don't know | 1308 | 31,2 |
| Total | 4188 | 100 |
| To what extent do you have contact with other researchers when working on your PhD project? | N | % |
| (Almost) every day | 1198 | 24,7 |
| Regularly | 2147 | 44,2 |
| Rarely | 941 | 19,4 |
| Only when I meet my supervisors | 504 | 10,4 |
| Other | 68 | 1,4 |
| Total | 4858 | 100 |

Factsheet Sample

National PhD student survey 2021

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| | TOTAL SAMPLE | |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| WORKLOAD | | |
| How would you describe the workload or time pressure in your PhD project? | N | % |
| Too high | 489 | 10,1 |
| High | 2379 | 49,1 |
| Normal | 1872 | 38,7 |
| Low | 84 | 1,7 |
| Too low | 17 | 0,4 |
| Total | 4841 | 100 |
| Average workload (1=too high, 5=too low) | N | Mean |
| Average workload | 4841 | 2,33 |
| | | 0,69 |
| MENTAL HEALTH | | |
| In general, what impact does your PhD project have on your mental health? | N | % |
| Positive | 585 | 12,0 |
| Fairly positive | 1328 | 27,3 |
| Neutral | 1448 | 29,8 |
| Rather negative | 1098 | 22,6 |
| Negative | 311 | 6,4 |
| I don't know / I don't want to answer | 95 | 2,0 |
| Total | 4865 | 100 |
| Average impact (1=positive, 5=negative) | N | Mean |
| Average impact | 4770 | 2,84 |
| | | 1,11 |
| PLANNING AND DEALY | | |
| Are you currently on schedule with your planning? | N | % |
| Yes | 1752 | 36,2 |
| No, I am ahead of schedule | 327 | 6,7 |
| No, I have fallen behind schedule | 2169 | 44,8 |
| I don't have a schedule | 384 | 7,9 |
| I don't know | 214 | 4,4 |
| Total | 4846 | 100 |
| How long is the (expected) delay? | N | % |
| Less than 3 months | 287 | 13,2 |
| Between 3 and 6 months | 723 | 33,3 |
| Between 6 and 9 months | 403 | 18,6 |
| More than 9 months | 500 | 23,1 |
| I don't know | 256 | 11,8 |
| Total | 2169 | 100 |

Factsheet Sample

National PhD student survey 2021

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| IMPACT OF COVID-19 | | TOTAL SAMPLE | |
|--|--|--------------|------|
| What impact has Covid-19 had on the ability to engage in the following aspects of your PhD project.... | | N | % |
| Data collection | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 915 | 22,2 |
| Negative | | 1557 | 37,8 |
| No impact | | 1253 | 30,4 |
| Positive | | 290 | 7,0 |
| Strongly positive | | 9 | 0,2 |
| Not applicable | | 98 | 2,4 |
| Total | | 4122 | 100 |
| Data analysis | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 224 | 5,4 |
| Negative | | 1213 | 29,3 |
| No impact | | 2279 | 55,1 |
| Positive | | 320 | 7,7 |
| Strongly positive | | 18 | 0,4 |
| Not applicable | | 79 | 1,9 |
| Total | | 4133 | 100 |
| Writing | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 240 | 5,8 |
| Negative | | 1627 | 39,2 |
| No impact | | 1927 | 46,4 |
| Positive | | 287 | 6,9 |
| Strongly positive | | 32 | 0,8 |
| Not applicable | | 40 | 1,0 |
| Total | | 4153 | 100 |
| Discussing ideas | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 1228 | 29,5 |
| Negative | | 2073 | 49,7 |
| No impact | | 739 | 17,7 |
| Positive | | 101 | 2,4 |
| Strongly positive | | 7 | 0,2 |
| Not applicable | | 20 | 0,5 |
| Total | | 4168 | 100 |
| Dissemination/Sharing | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 782 | 18,9 |
| Negative | | 1901 | 46,0 |
| No impact | | 1076 | 26,0 |
| Positive | | 278 | 6,7 |
| Strongly positive | | 5 | 0,1 |
| Not applicable | | 91 | 2,2 |
| Total | | 4133 | 100 |

Factsheet Sample

National PhD student survey 2021

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| IMPACT OF COVID-19 | | TOTAL SAMPLE | |
|--|--|--------------|-----------|
| | | N | % |
| What impact has Covid-19 had on your | | | |
| Motivation to work | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 667 | 13,8 |
| Negative | | 2342 | 48,3 |
| No impact | | 1693 | 34,9 |
| Positive | | 124 | 2,6 |
| Strongly positive | | 11 | 0,2 |
| Not applicable | | 13 | 0,3 |
| Total | | 4850 | 100 |
| Progress | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 820 | 16,9 |
| Negative | | 2645 | 54,6 |
| No impact | | 1231 | 25,4 |
| Positive | | 122 | 2,5 |
| Strongly positive | | 13 | 0,3 |
| Not applicable | | 15 | 0,3 |
| Total | | 4846 | 100 |
| Future career prospects | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 358 | 7,5 |
| Negative | | 1319 | 27,6 |
| No impact | | 2657 | 55,6 |
| Positive | | 360 | 7,5 |
| Strongly positive | | 5 | 0,1 |
| Not applicable | | 84 | 1,8 |
| Total | | 4783 | 100 |
| Mental health | | | |
| Strongly negative | | 851 | 17,6 |
| Negative | | 2556 | 52,7 |
| No impact | | 1326 | 27,3 |
| Positive | | 98 | 2,0 |
| Strongly positive | | 8 | 0,2 |
| Not applicable | | 10 | 0,2 |
| Total | | 4849 | 100 |
| Average scores (1=strongly negative, 5=strongly positive) | | N | Mean SD |
| Data collection | | 4024 | 2,23 0,89 |
| Data analysis | | 4113 | 2,57 0,74 |
| Writing | | 4113 | 2,57 0,74 |
| Discussing | | 4148 | 1,94 0,76 |
| Dissmination/Sharing | | 4042 | 2,21 0,84 |
| Motivation | | 4837 | 2,27 0,73 |
| Progress | | 4831 | 2,14 0,73 |
| Future career prospects | | 4699 | 2,65 0,74 |
| Mental health | | 4839 | 2,14 0,72 |

Factsheet Sample

National PhD student survey 2021

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| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | |
|--|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| CAREER | | | |
| What career perspectives do you aspire after graduation? (Tick all that apply) | N | % | |
| In research within academia | 2477 | 57,1 | |
| In research outside academia | 2192 | 51,1 | |
| Outside research | 1589 | 38,6 | |
| I don't know | 821 | 21,1 | |
| Where do you aspire to pursue a career after completing your PhD track? (Tick all that apply) | N | % | |
| My own company | 479 | 19,6 | |
| Industry | 1294 | 48,3 | |
| Government | 1227 | 46,3 | |
| Higher Education | 1491 | 54,7 | |
| NGO | 1022 | 39,7 | |
| Other | 207 | 11,9 | |
| Medical | 165 | 14,3 | |
| I don't know/don't want to answer | 124 | 5,2 | |
| FINISHING | | | |
| Have you discussed (or will you discuss) the scientific requirements of your thesis? | N | % | |
| Yes, with (one) of my supervisors | 2515 | 51,8 | |
| Yes, with other people (e.g. PhD councilor or Graduate School) | 115 | 2,4 | |
| Yes, with both my supervisors and other people | 1454 | 29,9 | |
| No | 702 | 14,5 | |
| Other answer | 70 | 1,4 | |
| Total | 4856 | 100 | |
| Are the scientific requirements clear to you? | N | % | |
| Very clear | 1002 | 23,4 | |
| Rather clear | 2014 | 47,1 | |
| A bit clear | 920 | 21,5 | |
| Rather unclear | 259 | 6,1 | |
| Very unclear | 80 | 1,9 | |
| Total | 4275 | 100 | |
| Average clarity | N | Mean | SD |
| 1=very clear, 5=very unclear | 4275 | 2,16 | 0,91 |

Factsheet PhD student type

National PhD student survey 2021

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| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | | EMPLOYED | | | SCHOLARSHIP | | | EXTERNAL FINAN | | | EXTERNAL | | | SIG |
|---|--------------|------|------|----------|------|------|-------------|------|------|----------------|------|-------|----------|------|------|-----|
| | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | DIF |
| GENERAL SATISFACTION | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Overall, how satisfied are you with your PhD trajectory on a scale of 1 to 10? (1 = very dissatisfied, 10 = very satisfied) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Average satisfaction | 4856 | 6,95 | 1,67 | 2642 | 6,99 | 1,55 | 761 | 7,05 | 1,68 | 306 | 7,2 | 1,65 | 440 | 6,79 | 1,99 | SIG |
| DURATION PROJECT AND WORKHOURS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| What is the official duration of your PhD project as agreed upon from the start? | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | |
| Less than 36 months | 68 | 1,4 | | 35 | 1,3 | | 24 | 3,1 | | 4 | 1,3 | | 4 | 0,9 | | |
| 36 months | 506 | 10,4 | | 294 | 11,1 | | 64 | 8,4 | | 34 | 11,2 | | 33 | 7,5 | | |
| Between 37-47 months | 34 | 0,7 | | 26 | 1,0 | | 0 | 0,0 | | 0 | 0,0 | | 1 | 0,2 | | |
| 48 months | 3403 | 69,9 | | 2034 | 76,8 | | 610 | 79,7 | | 168 | 55,3 | | 178 | 40,4 | | |
| Between 49-60 months | 167 | 3,4 | | 97 | 3,7 | | 30 | 3,9 | | 17 | 5,6 | | 23 | 5,2 | | |
| More than 60 months | 84 | 1,7 | | 27 | 1,0 | | 2 | 0,3 | | 7 | 2,3 | | 6 | 1,4 | | |
| Not yet determined | 176 | 3,6 | | 50 | 1,9 | | 15 | 2,0 | | 21 | 6,9 | | 44 | 10,0 | | |
| No official duration | 345 | 7,1 | | 42 | 1,6 | | 11 | 1,4 | | 46 | 15,1 | | 143 | 32,4 | | |
| Other | 82 | 1,7 | | 43 | 1,6 | | 9 | 1,2 | | 7 | 2,3 | | 9 | 2,0 | | |
| Total | 4865 | 100 | | 2648 | 100 | | 765 | 100 | | 304 | 100 | | 441 | 100 | | |
| How many hours per week do you officially have to work on your PhD project, according to your contract or agreement? | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | SIG |
| Full-time (more than 36 hours per week) | 3306 | 68,7 | | 2202 | 83,1 | | 488 | 64,5 | | 99 | 33,0 | | 116 | 29,1 | | |
| Part-time (between 12-36 hours per week) | 841 | 17,5 | | 367 | 13,9 | | 76 | 10,0 | | 122 | 40,7 | | 109 | 27,3 | | |
| Part-time (less than 12 hours per week) | 284 | 5,9 | | 41 | 1,5 | | 7 | 0,9 | | 49 | 16,3 | | 99 | 24,8 | | |
| Other | 381 | 7,9 | | 39 | 1,5 | | 186 | 24,6 | | 30 | 10,0 | | 75 | 18,8 | | |
| Total | 4812 | 100 | | 2649 | 100 | | 757 | 100 | | 300 | 100 | | 399 | 100 | | |
| In an average week, how many hours do you actually work on your PhD project? | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | SIG |
| Less than 12 hours per week | 590 | 13,9 | | 322 | 14,3 | | 137 | 20,4 | | 17 | 6,3 | | 24 | 6,8 | | |
| Between 12-36 hours per week | 2075 | 48,8 | | 1344 | 59,6 | | 358 | 53,2 | | 85 | 31,3 | | 63 | 17,7 | | |
| Between 37-48 hours per week | 1271 | 29,9 | | 540 | 24,0 | | 169 | 25,1 | | 113 | 41,5 | | 145 | 40,8 | | |
| More than 48 hours per week | 314 | 7,4 | | 48 | 2,1 | | 9 | 1,3 | | 57 | 21,0 | | 123 | 34,6 | | |
| Total | 4250 | 100 | | 2254 | 100 | | 673 | 100 | | 272 | 100 | | 355 | 100 | | |
| WORK FACILITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| How satisfied are you with the following facilities? (1=very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied) | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | |
| Workplace | 3591 | 3,90 | 0,99 | 2399 | 3,91 | 0,97 | 689 | 3,86 | 1,01 | 228 | 3,97 | 0,88 | 245 | 3,79 | 1,10 | |
| Computer and software | 3656 | 3,80 | 1,02 | 2418 | 3,80 | 1,02 | 690 | 3,77 | 1,02 | 233 | 3,95 | 0,90 | 284 | 3,73 | 1,08 | |
| Research facilities (e.g. lab, instruments, fieldwork, databases) | 3467 | 3,99 | 0,90 | 2252 | 4,02 | 0,87 | 668 | 3,88 | 0,97 | 237 | 4,05 | 0,85 | 285 | 3,88 | 1,00 | SIG |
| Access to library (e.g. journals, books) | 3745 | 4,12 | 0,85 | 2407 | 4,13 | 0,82 | 698 | 4,06 | 0,90 | 264 | 4,25 | 0,77 | 346 | 4,03 | 1,02 | SIG |
| Percentage no access | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | |
| Workplace | 356 | 9,0 | | 85 | 3,4 | | 46 | 6,3 | | 60 | 20,8 | | 165 | 40,2 | | SIG |
| Computer and software | 294 | 7,4 | | 65 | 2,6 | | 45 | 6,1 | | 57 | 19,7 | | 127 | 30,9 | | SIG |
| Research facilities (e.g. lab, instruments, fieldwork, databases) | 431 | 11,1 | | 186 | 7,6 | | 66 | 9,0 | | 53 | 18,3 | | 126 | 30,7 | | SIG |
| Access to library (e.g. journals, books) | 218 | 5,5 | | 83 | 3,3 | | 39 | 5,3 | | 27 | 9,3 | | 69 | 16,6 | | SIG |
| SUPERVISION | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Organisation | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | |
| Number of supervisors indicated | 4199 | 92,9 | | 2490 | 94,0 | | 721 | 94,4 | | 270 | 87,9 | | 377 | 85,9 | | |
| My supervision has not been officially documented (yet) | 126 | 2,8 | | 58 | 2,2 | | 14 | 1,8 | | 16 | 5,2 | | 31 | 7,1 | | |
| I don't know | 180 | 4,0 | | 87 | 3,3 | | 26 | 3,4 | | 19 | 6,2 | | 27 | 6,2 | | |
| Other | 16 | 0,4 | | 14 | 0,5 | | 3 | 0,4 | | 2 | 0,7 | | 4 | 0,9 | | |
| Total | 4521 | 100 | | 2649 | 100 | | 764 | 100 | | 307 | 100 | | 499 | 100 | | |
| Number of supervisors | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | |
| Average | 4605 | 2,64 | 1,09 | 2518 | 2,60 | 0,97 | 715 | 2,81 | 1,59 | 286 | 2,62 | 0,9 | 406 | 2,32 | 0,91 | SIG |
| Number of supervisors | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | |
| 1 | 268 | 5,8 | | 133 | 5,3 | | 34 | 4,7 | | 26 | 9,1 | | 57 | 14,0 | | |
| 2 | 2151 | 46,7 | | 1197 | 47,5 | | 336 | 46,5 | | 106 | 36,9 | | 209 | 51,2 | | |
| 3 | 1554 | 33,7 | | 867 | 34,4 | | 232 | 32,1 | | 111 | 38,7 | | 104 | 25,5 | | |
| 4 | 504 | 10,9 | | 262 | 10,4 | | 74 | 10,2 | | 37 | 12,9 | | 28 | 6,9 | | |
| 5 | 71 | 1,5 | | 38 | 1,5 | | 16 | 2,2 | | 6 | 2,1 | | 5 | 1,2 | | |
| more than 5 | 57 | 1,4 | | 25 | 1,0 | | 30 | 4,2 | | 1 | 0,4 | | 5 | 1,2 | | |
| Total | 4605 | 100 | | 2522 | 100 | | 722 | 100 | | 287 | 100 | | 408 | 100 | | |
| Do you know who is/are officially assigned as your promotor(s)? | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | |
| Yes | 3923 | 96,8 | | 2526 | 97,7 | | 723 | 96,0 | | 268 | 94,0 | | 377 | 94,0 | | |
| No, not yet | 65 | 1,6 | | 36 | 1,4 | | 11 | 1,5 | | 5 | 1,8 | | 13 | 3,2 | | |
| I don't know / can't answer | 66 | 1,6 | | 24 | 0,9 | | 19 | 2,5 | | 12 | 4,2 | | 11 | 2,7 | | |
| Total | 4054 | 100 | | 2586 | 100 | | 753 | 100 | | 285 | 100 | | 401 | 100 | | |
| In an average month, how many hours supervision do you receive (from all your supervisors combined)? | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | |
| | 4739 | 6,16 | 7,38 | 2617 | 6,36 | 6,30 | 757 | 6,61 | 9,03 | 304 | 6,58 | 12,01 | 418 | 4,72 | 5,52 | SIG |
| Are you, in general, satisfied with the supervision you receive? (1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied) | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | |
| | 4838 | 3,95 | 1,06 | 2637 | 3,96 | 1,03 | 760 | 3,99 | 1,06 | 306 | 4,05 | 1,07 | 438 | 3,96 | 1,15 | |

Factsheet PhD student type

National PhD student survey 2021

22

| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | EMPLOYED | | SCHOLARSHIP | | EXTERNAL FINAN | | EXTERNAL | | DIF |
|--|--------------|------|----------|------|-------------|------|----------------|------|----------|------|------|
| EDUCATION | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| To which education activities do you have access? (Tick all that apply) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Discipline-specific courses and workshops | 3500 | 76,0 | 2033 | 79,8 | 563 | 86,2 | 200 | 70,9 | 226 | 54,3 | |
| General skills courses and workshops | 4079 | 85,9 | 2376 | 91,1 | 651 | 91,6 | 244 | 82,4 | 281 | 66,0 | |
| Seminars and conferences | 4061 | 85,9 | 2375 | 91,1 | 623 | 90,2 | 236 | 78,9 | 251 | 59,2 | |
| Teacher training activities | 1979 | 46,6 | 1334 | 55,2 | 257 | 52,6 | 73 | 29,3 | 72 | 18,7 | |
| Career orientation activities | 2410 | 54,4 | 1483 | 59,9 | 369 | 65,1 | 121 | 44,5 | 126 | 31,1 | |
| No access | 234 | 6,2 | 41 | 1,9 | 28 | 8,3 | 23 | 10,1 | 85 | 22,7 | |
| Do you have to participate in obligatory courses as part of your PhD educational training? | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 2847 | 68,3 | 1915 | 72,3 | 567 | 74,5 | 158 | 52,0 | 177 | 41,9 | |
| No | 1067 | 25,6 | 573 | 21,6 | 154 | 20,2 | 127 | 41,8 | 212 | 50,2 | |
| I don't know | 253 | 6,1 | 161 | 6,1 | 40 | 5,3 | 19 | 6,3 | 33 | 7,8 | |
| Total | 4167 | 100 | 2649 | 100 | 761 | 100 | 304 | 100 | 422 | 100 | |
| Please indicate which type of course are obligatory? (Tick all that apply) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Discipline-specific courses and workshops | 1363 | 47,9 | 908 | 47,5 | 290 | 69,5 | 65 | 40,4 | 83 | 35,5 | |
| General skills courses and workshops | 2022 | 71,0 | 1380 | 67,0 | 387 | 76,6 | 119 | 64,3 | 113 | 45,4 | |
| Seminars and conferences | 691 | 24,3 | 470 | 25,6 | 135 | 42,1 | 39 | 25,3 | 32 | 14,6 | |
| Teacher training activities | 324 | 11,4 | 252 | 14,2 | 38 | 14,3 | 11 | 7,6 | 15 | 7,0 | |
| Career orientation activities | 176 | 6,2 | 92 | 5,2 | 64 | 21,8 | 8 | 5,6 | 10 | 4,6 | |
| Other education activities | 255 | 9,0 | 165 | 9,2 | 58 | 20,6 | 13 | 9,1 | 18 | 8,3 | |
| Satisfaction education (1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| I have sufficient time to participate in educational activities. | 4554 | 3,23 | 1.07 | 2568 | 3,28 | 1,05 | 724 | 3,47 | 1,00 | 280 | 3,14 |
| In general, I am satisfied with the educational activities on offer. | 4437 | 3,34 | 1,03 | 2519 | 3,46 | 0,96 | 721 | 3,59 | 0,94 | 262 | 3,41 |
| The education activities I have participated in contribute to the completion of my PhD | 4400 | 3,33 | 1,08 | 2475 | 3,47 | 1,00 | 711 | 3,61 | 0,97 | 262 | 3,53 |
| My supervisors encourage me to participate in courses, seminars, conferences and other education activities. | 4643 | 3,37 | 1,15 | 2587 | 3,48 | 1,09 | 738 | 3,71 | 1,04 | 287 | 3,40 |
| I am satisfied with the career orientation activities that are offered. | 1889 | 3,27 | 0,97 | 1035 | 3,31 | 0,97 | 436 | 3,36 | 0,98 | 91 | 3,34 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | 0,96 |
| TEACHING/SUPERVISING | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Do you teach and/or supervise students (or are you planning to do so)? | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes, it is part of my contract/agreement | 1793 | 37,8 | 1350 | 51,2 | 113 | 15,3 | 43 | 15,8 | 44 | 11,5 | |
| Yes, but it is not part of my contract/agreement | 1699 | 35,9 | 886 | 33,6 | 324 | 44,0 | 121 | 44,5 | 105 | 27,4 | |
| No, I am not allowed to teach | 530 | 11,2 | 124 | 4,7 | 133 | 18,0 | 57 | 21,0 | 126 | 32,9 | |
| No, I am allowed to teach but I don't | 409 | 8,6 | 198 | 7,5 | 108 | 14,7 | 20 | 7,4 | 36 | 9,4 | |
| other | 232 | 4,9 | 53 | 2,0 | 37 | 5,0 | 23 | 8,5 | 55 | 14,4 | |
| Yes (other) | 21 | 0,4 | 9 | 0,3 | 4 | 0,5 | 4 | 1,5 | 4 | 1,0 | |
| No (other) | 54 | 1,1 | 19 | 0,7 | 18 | 2,4 | 4 | 1,5 | 13 | 3,4 | |
| Total | 4738 | 100 | 2639 | 100 | 737 | 100 | 272 | 100 | 383 | 100 | |
| SUPPORT AND SOCIAL CONTACTS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Are you familiar with PhD organisations at your University? | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes, I regularly participate in activities they organize | 668 | 15,9 | 451 | 17,0 | 138 | 18,1 | 33 | 10,8 | 40 | 9,1 | |
| Yes, but I do not (often) take part in activities | 2568 | 61,3 | 1723 | 65,1 | 447 | 58,5 | 158 | 51,6 | 219 | 49,7 | |
| No, I am not familiar with PhD organisations | 953 | 22,8 | 473 | 17,9 | 179 | 23,4 | 115 | 37,6 | 182 | 41,3 | |
| Total | 4189 | 100 | 2647 | 100 | 764 | 100 | 306 | 100 | 441 | 100 | |
| Do you know whether there is a counselor available to whom you can go to when you encounter problems? | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes, I am aware of the availability of counselors | 2880 | 68,8 | 1930 | 72,9 | 541 | 70,9 | 173 | 56,5 | 217 | 49,2 | |
| No, I don't know | 1308 | 31,2 | 717 | 27,1 | 222 | 29,1 | 133 | 43,5 | 224 | 50,8 | |
| Total | 4188 | 100 | 2647 | 100 | 763 | 100 | 306 | 100 | 441 | 100 | |
| To what extent do you have contact with other researchers when working on your PhD project? | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (Almost) every day | 1198 | 24,7 | 841 | 31,8 | 143 | 18,7 | 47 | 15,5 | 30 | 6,8 | |
| Regularly | 2147 | 44,2 | 1161 | 43,9 | 353 | 46,2 | 123 | 40,5 | 139 | 31,6 | |
| Rarely | 941 | 19,4 | 430 | 16,3 | 175 | 22,9 | 87 | 28,6 | 147 | 33,4 | |
| Only when I meet my supervisors | 504 | 10,4 | 180 | 6,8 | 89 | 11,6 | 41 | 13,5 | 107 | 24,3 | |
| Other | 68 | 1,4 | 31 | 1,2 | 4 | 0,5 | 6 | 2,0 | 17 | 3,9 | |
| Total | 4858 | 100 | 2643 | 100 | 764 | 100 | 304 | 100 | 440 | 100 | |

Factsheet PhD student type

National PhD student survey 2021

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| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | EMPLOYED | | SCHOLARSHIP | | EXTERNAL FINAN | | EXTERNAL | | DIF | |
|--|--------------|------|----------|------|-------------|-------|----------------|------|----------|------|------|-------|
| WORKLOAD | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| How would you describe the workload or time pressure in your PhD project? | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Too high | 489 | 10,1 | 278 | 10,5 | 57 | 7,5 | 19 | 6,2 | 26 | 5,9 | | |
| High | 2379 | 49,1 | 1377 | 52,1 | 333 | 43,6 | 157 | 51,5 | 181 | 41,3 | | |
| Normal | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Low | 1872 | 38,7 | 945 | 35,8 | 360 | 47,2 | 121 | 39,7 | 207 | 47,3 | | |
| Too low | 84 | 1,7 | 37 | 1,4 | 10 | 1,3 | 7 | 2,3 | 19 | 4,3 | | |
| Total | 4841 | 100 | 2643 | 100 | 763 | 100 | 305 | 100 | 438 | 100 | | |
| Average workload | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| 1=too high, 5=too low | 4841 | 2,33 | 0,69 | 2643 | 2,29 | 0,676 | 763 | 2,44 | 0,668 | 305 | 2,39 | 0,655 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | SIG |
| MENTAL WELLBEING | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| In general, what impact does your PhD project have on your mental wellbeing? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Positive | 585 | 12,0 | 243 | 9,2 | 86 | 11,3 | 50 | 16,3 | 101 | 22,9 | | |
| Fairly positive | 1328 | 27,3 | 755 | 28,5 | 173 | 22,6 | 86 | 28,1 | 127 | 28,8 | | |
| Neutral | 1448 | 29,8 | 820 | 31,0 | 255 | 33,4 | 82 | 26,8 | 112 | 25,4 | | |
| Rather negative | 1098 | 22,6 | 612 | 23,1 | 174 | 22,8 | 70 | 22,9 | 67 | 15,2 | | |
| Negative | 311 | 6,4 | 167 | 6,3 | 57 | 7,5 | 11 | 3,6 | 20 | 4,5 | | |
| I don't know / I don't want to answer | 95 | 2,0 | 50 | 1,9 | 19 | 2,5 | 7 | 2,3 | 14 | 3,2 | | |
| Total | 4865 | 100 | 2647 | 100 | 764 | 100 | 306 | 100 | 441 | 100 | | |
| Average impact | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| 1=positive, 5=negative | 4770 | 2,84 | 1,11 | 2597 | 2,89 | 1,07 | 745 | 2,92 | 1,1 | 299 | 2,69 | 1,11 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | SIG |
| PLANNING AND DEALY | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Are you currently on schedule with your planning? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG | |
| Yes | 1752 | 36,2 | 917 | 34,8 | 321 | 42,1 | 118 | 39,1 | 164 | 37,5 | | |
| No, I am ahead of schedule | 327 | 6,7 | 242 | 9,2 | 30 | 3,9 | 19 | 6,3 | 15 | 3,4 | | |
| No, I have fallen behind schedule | 2169 | 44,8 | 1145 | 43,4 | 346 | 45,4 | 134 | 44,4 | 196 | 44,9 | | |
| I don't have a schedule | 384 | 7,9 | 209 | 7,9 | 28 | 3,7 | 20 | 6,6 | 53 | 12,1 | | |
| I don't know | 214 | 4,4 | 125 | 4,7 | 37 | 4,9 | 11 | 3,6 | 9 | 2,1 | | |
| Total | 4846 | 100 | 2638 | 100 | 762 | 100 | 302 | 100 | 437 | 100 | | |
| How long is the (expected) delay? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG | |
| Less than 3 months | 287 | 13,2 | 182 | 15,9 | 37 | 10,7 | 22 | 16,4 | 17 | 8,8 | | |
| Between 3 and 6 months | 723 | 33,3 | 422 | 36,8 | 134 | 38,7 | 42 | 31,3 | 45 | 23,2 | | |
| Between 6 and 9 months | 403 | 18,6 | 209 | 18,2 | 70 | 20,2 | 20 | 14,9 | 36 | 18,6 | | |
| More than 9 months | 500 | 23,1 | 200 | 17,4 | 64 | 18,5 | 37 | 27,6 | 70 | 36,1 | | |
| I don't know | 256 | 11,8 | 134 | 11,7 | 41 | 11,8 | 13 | 9,7 | 26 | 13,4 | | |
| Total | 2169 | 100 | 1147 | 100 | 346 | 100 | 134 | 100 | 194 | 100 | | |
| IMPACT OF COVID-19 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| What impact has Covid-19 had on the ability to engage in the following aspects of your PhD project.... | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Data collection | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Strongly negative | 915 | 22,2 | 618 | 23,8 | 161 | 21,3 | 63 | 20,8 | 68 | 15,8 | | |
| Negative | 1557 | 37,8 | 1007 | 38,7 | 294 | 38,9 | 105 | 34,7 | 141 | 32,7 | | |
| No impact | 1253 | 30,4 | 740 | 28,4 | 242 | 32,1 | 97 | 32,0 | 166 | 38,5 | | |
| Positive | 290 | 7,0 | 166 | 6,4 | 51 | 6,8 | 32 | 10,6 | 33 | 7,7 | | |
| Strongly positive | 9 | 0,2 | 7 | 0,3 | 1 | 0,1 | 0 | 0,0 | 1 | 0,2 | | |
| Not applicable | 98 | 2,4 | 64 | 2,5 | 6 | 0,8 | 6 | 2,0 | 22 | 5,1 | | |
| Total | 4122 | 100 | 2602 | 100 | 755 | 100 | 303 | 100 | 431 | 100 | | |
| Data analysis | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Strongly negative | 224 | 5,4 | 129 | 4,9 | 45 | 6 | 20 | 6,6 | 29 | 6,7 | | |
| Negative | 1213 | 29,3 | 762 | 29,2 | 257 | 34 | 69 | 22,7 | 115 | 26,4 | | |
| No impact | 2279 | 55,1 | 1453 | 55,7 | 403 | 53,3 | 179 | 58,9 | 228 | 52,4 | | |
| Positive | 320 | 7,7 | 196 | 7,5 | 46 | 6,1 | 32 | 10,5 | 42 | 9,7 | | |
| Strongly positive | 18 | 0,4 | 15 | 0,6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0,3 | 2 | 0,5 | | |
| Not applicable | 79 | 1,9 | 52 | 2,0 | 5 | 0,7 | 3 | 1,0 | 19 | 4,4 | | |
| Total | 4133 | 100 | 2607 | 100 | 756 | 100 | 304 | 100 | 435 | 100 | | |
| Writing | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Strongly negative | 240 | 5,8 | 131 | 5,0 | 50 | 6,6 | 16 | 5,2 | 41 | 9,3 | | |
| Negative | 1627 | 39,2 | 1015 | 38,8 | 333 | 43,8 | 110 | 35,9 | 152 | 34,6 | | |
| No impact | 1927 | 46,4 | 1227 | 46,9 | 342 | 45 | 152 | 49,7 | 197 | 44,9 | | |
| Positive | 287 | 6,9 | 190 | 7,3 | 32 | 4,2 | 25 | 8,2 | 37 | 8,4 | | |
| Strongly positive | 32 | 0,8 | 24 | 0,9 | 3 | 0,4 | 2 | 0,7 | 3 | 0,7 | | |
| Not applicable | 40 | 1,0 | 30 | 1,1 | 0 | 0,0 | 1 | 0,3 | 9 | 2,1 | | |
| Total | 4153 | 100 | 2617 | 100 | 760 | 100 | 306 | 100 | 439 | 100 | | |
| Discussing ideas | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Strongly Negative | 1228 | 29,5 | 834 | 31,7 | 236 | 31,0 | 61 | 20,0 | 94 | 21,5 | | |
| Negative | 2073 | 49,7 | 1344 | 51,0 | 368 | 48,4 | 152 | 49,8 | 192 | 43,8 | | |
| No impact | 739 | 17,7 | 391 | 14,8 | 144 | 18,9 | 83 | 27,2 | 113 | 25,8 | | |
| Positive | 101 | 2,4 | 52 | 2,0 | 12 | 1,6 | 8 | 2,6 | 26 | 5,9 | | |
| Strongly Positive | 7 | 0,2 | 5 | 0,2 | 0 | 0,0 | 0 | 0,0 | 1 | 0,2 | | |
| Not applicable | 20 | 0,5 | 7 | 0,3 | 1 | 0,1 | 1 | 0,3 | 12 | 2,7 | | |
| Total | 4168 | 100 | 2633 | 100 | 761 | 100 | 305 | 100 | 438 | 100 | | |
| Dissemination/Sharing | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Strongly negative | 782 | 18,9 | 513 | 19,7 | 163 | 21,5 | 46 | 15,3 | 57 | 13,1 | | |
| Negative | 1901 | 46,0 | 1213 | 46,5 | 350 | 46,1 | 143 | 47,5 | 181 | 41,6 | | |
| No impact | 1076 | 26,0 | 657 | 25,2 | 198 | 26,1 | 83 | 27,6 | 132 | 30,3 | | |
| Positive | 278 | 6,7 | 158 | 6,1 | 42 | 5,5 | 24 | 8,0 | 46 | 10,6 | | |
| Strongly positive | 5 | 0,1 | 4 | 0,2 | 0 | 0,0 | 0 | 0,0 | 1 | 0,2 | | |
| Not applicable | 91 | 2,2 | 62 | 2,4 | 6 | 0,8 | 5 | 1,7 | 18 | 4,1 | | |
| Total | 4133 | 100 | 2607 | 100 | 759 | 100 | 301 | 100 | 435 | 100 | | |

Factsheet PhD student type

National PhD student survey 2021

24

| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | EMPLOYED | | SCHOLARSHIP | | EXTERNAL FINAN | | EXTERNAL | | DIF | | | | | |
|--|--------------|------|----------|------|-------------|-------|----------------|------|----------|------|------|-------|-----|------|------|-----|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | |
| IMPACT OF COVID-19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Motivation to work | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 667 | 13,8 | 394 | 14,9 | 117 | 15,4 | 29 | 9,5 | 51 | 11,6 | | | | | | |
| Negative | 2342 | 48,3 | 1276 | 48,4 | 397 | 52,2 | 132 | 43,1 | 183 | 41,7 | | | | | | |
| No impact | 1693 | 34,9 | 892 | 33,8 | 231 | 30,4 | 130 | 42,5 | 175 | 39,9 | | | | | | |
| Positive | 124 | 2,6 | 65 | 2,5 | 12 | 1,6 | 12 | 3,9 | 23 | 5,2 | | | | | | |
| Strongly positive | 11 | 0,2 | 5 | 0,2 | 1 | 0,1 | 2 | 0,7 | 3 | 0,7 | | | | | | |
| Not applicable | 13 | 0,3 | 6 | 0,2 | 2 | 0,3 | 1 | 0,3 | 4 | 0,9 | | | | | | |
| Total | 4850 | 100 | 2638 | 100 | 760 | 100 | 306 | 100 | 439 | 100 | | | | | | |
| Progress | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 820 | 16,9 | 466 | 17,7 | 148 | 19,5 | 36 | 11,8 | 70 | 16,0 | | | | | | |
| Negative | 2645 | 54,6 | 1433 | 54,4 | 427 | 56,2 | 158 | 51,8 | 217 | 49,5 | | | | | | |
| No impact | 1231 | 25,4 | 657 | 24,9 | 169 | 22,2 | 97 | 31,8 | 121 | 27,6 | | | | | | |
| Positive | 122 | 2,5 | 65 | 2,5 | 12 | 1,6 | 11 | 3,6 | 24 | 5,5 | | | | | | |
| Strongly positive | 13 | 0,3 | 5 | 0,2 | 2 | 0,3 | 2 | 0,7 | 4 | 0,9 | | | | | | |
| Not applicable | 15 | 0,3 | 10 | 0,4 | 2 | 0,3 | 1 | 0,3 | 2 | 0,5 | | | | | | |
| Total | 4846 | 100 | 2636 | 100 | 760 | 100 | 305 | 100 | 438 | 100 | | | | | | |
| Future career prospects | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 358 | 7,5 | 168 | 6,5 | 93 | 12,4 | 18 | 6,0 | 37 | 8,6 | | | | | | |
| Negative | 1319 | 27,6 | 714 | 27,5 | 248 | 32,9 | 67 | 22,3 | 98 | 22,8 | | | | | | |
| No impact | 2657 | 55,6 | 1473 | 56,8 | 361 | 47,9 | 178 | 59,1 | 231 | 53,7 | | | | | | |
| Positive | 360 | 7,5 | 180 | 6,9 | 43 | 5,7 | 30 | 10,0 | 48 | 11,2 | | | | | | |
| Strongly positive | 5 | 0,1 | 2 | 0,1 | 3 | 0,4 | 0 | 0,0 | 0 | 0,0 | | | | | | |
| Not applicable | 84 | 1,8 | 55 | 2,1 | 5 | 0,7 | 8 | 2,7 | 16 | 3,7 | | | | | | |
| Total | 4783 | 100 | 2592 | 100 | 753 | 100 | 301 | 100 | 430 | 100 | | | | | | |
| Mental health | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 851 | 17,6 | 519 | 19,7 | 148 | 19,5 | 40 | 13,1 | 60 | 13,6 | | | | | | |
| Negative | 2556 | 52,7 | 1422 | 53,9 | 423 | 55,7 | 146 | 47,7 | 197 | 44,8 | | | | | | |
| No impact | 1326 | 27,3 | 637 | 24,2 | 177 | 23,3 | 109 | 35,6 | 161 | 36,6 | | | | | | |
| Positive | 98 | 2,0 | 48 | 1,8 | 11 | 1,4 | 9 | 2,9 | 17 | 3,9 | | | | | | |
| Strongly positive | 8 | 0,2 | 4 | 0,2 | 0 | 0,0 | 1 | 0,3 | 2 | 0,5 | | | | | | |
| Not applicable | 10 | 0,2 | 6 | 0,2 | 1 | 0,1 | 1 | 0,3 | 3 | 0,7 | | | | | | |
| Total | 4849 | 100 | 2636 | 100 | 760 | 100 | 306 | 100 | 440 | 100 | | | | | | |
| Average scores (1=strongly negative, 5=strongly positive) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Data collection | 4024 | 2,23 | 0,89 | 2538 | 2,19 | 0,89 | 749 | 2,25 | 0,87 | 297 | 2,33 | 0,93 | 409 | 2,40 | 0,87 | SIG |
| Data analysis | 4113 | 2,57 | 0,74 | 2555 | 2,69 | 0,71 | 751 | 2,60 | 0,70 | 301 | 2,75 | 0,74 | 416 | 2,70 | 0,76 | SIG |
| Writing | 4113 | 2,57 | 0,74 | 2587 | 2,60 | 0,74 | 760 | 2,48 | 0,70 | 305 | 2,63 | 0,74 | 430 | 2,56 | 0,81 | SIG |
| Discussing | 4148 | 1,94 | 0,76 | 2626 | 1,88 | 0,74 | 761 | 1,91 | 0,75 | 304 | 2,13 | 0,75 | 426 | 2,17 | 0,85 | SIG |
| Dissemination/Sharing | 4042 | 2,21 | 0,84 | 2545 | 2,19 | 0,83 | 753 | 2,16 | 0,82 | 296 | 2,87 | 0,82 | 417 | 2,41 | 0,87 | SIG |
| Motivation | 4837 | 2,27 | 0,73 | 2632 | 2,24 | 0,74 | 754 | 2,19 | 0,71 | 305 | 2,43 | 0,75 | 435 | 2,41 | 0,79 | SIG |
| Progress | 4831 | 2,14 | 0,73 | 2626 | 2,13 | 0,73 | 758 | 2,07 | 0,71 | 304 | 2,29 | 0,75 | 436 | 2,25 | 0,82 | SIG |
| Future career prospects | 4699 | 2,65 | 0,74 | 2537 | 2,66 | 0,71 | 748 | 2,49 | 0,80 | 293 | 2,75 | 0,72 | 414 | 2,70 | 0,79 | SIG |
| Mental health | 4839 | 2,14 | 0,72 | 2630 | 2,09 | 0,72 | 760 | 2,07 | 0,70 | 305 | 2,30 | 0,74 | 437 | 2,32 | 0,77 | SIG |
| CAREER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| What career perspectives do you aspire after graduation? (Tick all that apply) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| In research within academia | 2477 | 57,1 | 1325 | 55,8 | 490 | 81,3 | 119 | 45,9 | 218 | 54,4 | | | | | | |
| In research outside academia | 2192 | 51,1 | 1286 | 53,3 | 315 | 61,5 | 137 | 52,1 | 164 | 41,2 | | | | | | |
| Outside research | 1589 | 38,6 | 897 | 38,7 | 214 | 47,7 | 94 | 37,2 | 129 | 32,9 | | | | | | |
| I don't know | 821 | 21,1 | 436 | 19,8 | 86 | 23,5 | 70 | 29,0 | 93 | 24,7 | | | | | | |
| Where do you aspire to pursue a career after completing your PhD track? (Tick all that apply) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| My own company | 479 | 19,6 | 242 | 16,7 | 69 | 30,4 | 44 | 31,4 | 50 | 21,9 | | | | | | |
| Industry | 1294 | 48,3 | 842 | 53,1 | 183 | 58,8 | 56 | 37,6 | 61 | 26,8 | | | | | | |
| Government | 1227 | 46,3 | 740 | 47,7 | 182 | 58,3 | 73 | 49,3 | 68 | 28,7 | | | | | | |
| Higher Education | 1491 | 54,7 | 849 | 53,8 | 241 | 71,7 | 88 | 54,0 | 110 | 44,4 | | | | | | |
| NGO | 1022 | 39,7 | 570 | 37,8 | 155 | 55,6 | 67 | 45,3 | 75 | 31,3 | | | | | | |
| Other | 207 | 11,9 | 138 | 9,8 | 26 | 13,2 | 19 | 14,6 | 37 | 16,4 | | | | | | |
| Medical | 165 | 14,3 | 90 | 15,7 | 20 | 27,0 | 8 | 17,0 | 9 | 17,0 | | | | | | |
| I don't know/don't want to answer | 124 | 5,2 | 78 | 5,5 | 16 | 8,0 | 3 | 2,3 | 7 | 3,2 | | | | | | |
| FINISHING | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Have you discussed (or will you discuss) the scientific requirements of your thesis? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes, with (one) of my supervisors | 2515 | 51,8 | 1335 | 50,5 | 393 | 51,5 | 171 | 56,1 | 251 | 57,2 | | | | | | |
| Yes, with other people (e.g. PhD councilor or Graduate School) | 115 | 2,4 | 72 | 2,7 | 9 | 1,2 | 3 | 1,0 | 8 | 1,8 | | | | | | |
| Yes, with both my supervisors and other people | 1454 | 29,9 | 772 | 29,2 | 242 | 31,7 | 88 | 28,9 | 119 | 27,1 | | | | | | |
| No | 702 | 14,5 | 429 | 16,2 | 102 | 13,4 | 38 | 12,5 | 55 | 12,5 | | | | | | |
| Other answer | 70 | 1,4 | 34 | 1,3 | 17 | 2,2 | 5 | 1,6 | 6 | 1,4 | | | | | | |
| Total | 4856 | 100 | 2642 | 100 | 763 | 100 | 305 | 100 | 439 | 100 | | | | | | |
| Are the scientific requirements clear to you? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Very clear | 1002 | 23,4 | 454 | 20,1 | 214 | 32,5 | 82 | 30,3 | 122 | 30,8 | | | | | | |
| Rather clear | 2014 | 47,1 | 1107 | 48,9 | 281 | 42,6 | 129 | 47,6 | 169 | 42,7 | | | | | | |
| A bit clear | 920 | 21,5 | 519 | 22,9 | 131 | 19,9 | 48 | 17,7 | 75 | 18,9 | | | | | | |
| Rather unclear | 259 | 6,1 | 148 | 6,5 | 28 | 4,2 | 8 | 3,0 | 18 | 4,5 | | | | | | |
| Very unclear | 80 | 1,9 | 34 | 1,5 | 5 | 0,8 | 4 | 1,5 | 12 | 3,0 | | | | | | |
| Total | 4275 | 100 | 2262 | 100 | 659 | 100 | 271 | 100 | 396 | 100 | | | | | | |
| Average clarity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1=very clear, 5=very unclear | 4275 | 2,16 | 0,91 | 2262 | 2,2 | 0,886 | 659 | 1,98 | 0,873 | 271 | 1,98 | 0,856 | 396 | 2,06 | 0,98 | SIG |

Factsheet Phase

National PhD student survey 2021

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| | SIG=Two or more groups differ significantly(p<0.05) | | | | | |
|---|---|------|------------|---------|------|-------|
| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | FIRST YEAR | SENIORS | DIF | |
| GENERAL SATISFACTION | | | | | | |
| Overall, how satisfied are you with your PhD trajectory on a scale of 1 to 10? (1=very dissatisfied, 10=very satisfied) | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| Average satisfaction | 4856 | 6,95 | 1,67 | 1159 | 7,42 | 1,45 |
| | 3452 | 6,83 | 1,68 | | | |
| DURATION PROJECT AND WORKHOURS | | | | | | |
| What is the official duration of your PhD project as agreed upon from the start? | N | % | | N | % | |
| Less than 36 months | 68 | 1,4 | | 23 | 2,0 | |
| 36 months | 506 | 10,4 | | 124 | 10,7 | |
| Between 37-47 months | 34 | 0,7 | | 9 | 0,8 | |
| 48 months | 3403 | 69,9 | | 853 | 73,5 | |
| Between 49-60 months | 167 | 3,4 | | 51 | 4,4 | |
| More than 60 months | 84 | 1,7 | | 11 | 0,9 | |
| Not yet determined | 176 | 3,6 | | 37 | 3,2 | |
| No official duration | 345 | 7,1 | | 38 | 3,3 | |
| Other | 82 | 1,7 | | 15 | 1,3 | |
| Total | 4865 | 100 | | 1161 | 100 | |
| | 2992 | 100 | | | | |
| How many hours per week do you officially have to work on your PhD project, according to your contract or agreement? | N | % | | N | % | SIG |
| Full-time (more than 36 hours per week) | 3306 | 68,7 | | 870 | 75,7 | |
| Part-time (between 12-36 hours per week) | 841 | 17,5 | | 163 | 14,2 | |
| Part-time (less than 12 hours per week) | 284 | 5,9 | | 46 | 4,0 | |
| Other | 381 | 7,9 | | 71 | 6,2 | |
| Total | 4812 | 100 | | 1150 | 100 | |
| | 2950 | 100 | | | | |
| In an average week, how many hours do you actually work on your PhD project? | N | % | | N | % | SIG |
| Less than 12 hours per week | 590 | 13,9 | | 107 | 10,7 | |
| Between 12-36 hours per week | 2075 | 48,8 | | 553 | 55,5 | |
| Between 37-48 hours per week | 1271 | 29,9 | | 290 | 29,1 | |
| More than 48 hours per week | 314 | 7,4 | | 46 | 4,6 | |
| Total | 4250 | 100 | | 996 | 100 | |
| | 2571 | 100 | | | | |
| WORK FACILITIES | | | | | | |
| How satisfied are you with the following work facilities? (1=very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied) | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| Workplace | 3591 | 3,90 | 0,99 | 844 | 3,87 | 0,98 |
| Computer and software | 3656 | 3,80 | 1,02 | 869 | 3,78 | 1,01 |
| Research facilities (e.g. lab, instruments, fieldwork, databases) | 3467 | 3,99 | 0,90 | 809 | 3,96 | 0,88 |
| Access to library (e.g. journals, books) | 3745 | 4,12 | 0,85 | 889 | 4,06 | 0,84 |
| | 2828 | 4,14 | 0,86 | | | |
| Percentage no access to facility | N | % | | N | % | |
| Workplace | 356 | 9,0 | | 120 | 12,4 | |
| Computer and software | 294 | 7,4 | | 100 | 10,3 | |
| Research facilities (e.g. lab, instruments, fieldwork, databases) | 431 | 11,1 | | 135 | 14,3 | |
| Access to library (e.g. journals, books) | 218 | 5,5 | | 84 | 8,6 | |
| Total | 4866 | 100 | | 1161 | 100 | |
| | 2993 | 100 | | | | |
| SUPERVISION | | | | | | |
| Organisation | N | % | | N | % | |
| Number of supervisors known | 4539 | 92,9 | | 1055 | 90,9 | |
| My supervision has not been officially documented (yet) | 127 | 2,8 | | 46 | 4,0 | |
| I don't know | 177 | 4,0 | | 50 | 4,3 | |
| Other | 23 | 0,3 | | 10 | 0,9 | |
| Total | 4866 | 100 | | 1161 | 100 | |
| | 2993 | 100 | | | | |
| Number of supervisors | N | % | | N | % | |
| 1 | 268 | 5,8 | | 45 | 4,2 | |
| 2 | 2151 | 46,7 | | 508 | 47,3 | |
| 3 | 1554 | 33,7 | | 369 | 34,3 | |
| 4 | 504 | 10,9 | | 115 | 10,7 | |
| 5 | 71 | 1,5 | | 19 | 1,8 | |
| More than 5 | 57 | 1,4 | | 19 | 1,7 | |
| Total | 4605 | 100 | | 1138 | 100 | |
| | 3303 | 100 | | | | |
| Number of supervisors | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD |
| Average number | 4605 | 2,64 | 1,09 | 1073 | 2,68 | 1,208 |
| | 2847 | 2,59 | 1,07 | | | |
| SIG | | | | | | |
| Do you know who is/are officially assigned as your promotor(s)? | N | % | | N | % | |
| Yes | 3923 | 96,8 | | 1072 | 96,1 | |
| No, not yet | 65 | 1,6 | | 19 | 1,7 | |
| I don't know / can't answer | 66 | 1,6 | | 24 | 2,2 | |
| Total | 4054 | 100 | | 1115 | 100 | |
| | 2906 | 100 | | | | |
| In an average month, how many hours supervision do you receive? (from all your supervisors combined) | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD |
| Average hours | 4739 | 6,16 | 7,38 | 3145 | 7,34 | 9,11 |
| | 2949 | 5,85 | 6,54 | | | |
| SIG | | | | | | |
| Are you, in general, satisfied with the supervision you receive? (1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied) | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD |
| Average satisfaction | 4838 | 3,95 | 1,06 | 1157 | 4,18 | 0,94 |
| | 2978 | 3,89 | 1,08 | | | |
| SIG | | | | | | |

Factsheet Phase

National PhD student survey 2021

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| EDUCATION | TOTAL SAMPLE | | FIRST YEAR | | SENIORS | | DIF |
|--|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| To which education activities do you have access? (Tick all that apply) | | | | | | | |
| Discipline-specific courses and workshops | 3500 | 76,0 | 923 | 78,8 | 2494 | 76,6 | |
| General skills courses and workshops | 4079 | 85,9 | 1044 | 87,6 | 2934 | 86,9 | |
| Seminars and conferences | 4061 | 85,9 | 982 | 83,9 | 2967 | 87,8 | |
| Teacher training activities | 1979 | 46,6 | 520 | 48,3 | 1414 | 47,3 | |
| Career orientation activities | 2410 | 54,4 | 558 | 50,6 | 1794 | 57,0 | |
| No access | 234 | 6,2 | 46 | 4,8 | 148 | 5,6 | |
| Do you have to participate in obligatory courses as part of your PhD education? | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG |
| Yes | 2847 | 68,3 | 851 | 73,8 | 1983 | 73,8 | |
| No | 1067 | 25,6 | 208 | 18,0 | 843 | 18,0 | |
| I don't know | 253 | 6,1 | 94 | 8,2 | 156 | 8,2 | |
| Total | 4167 | 100 | 1153 | 100 | 2982 | 100 | |
| Please indicate which type of course are obligatory? (Tick all that apply) | N | % | N | % | N | % ** | |
| Discipline-specific courses and workshops | 1363 | 47,9 | 390 | 47,9 | 963 | 50,3 | |
| General skills courses and workshops | 2022 | 71,0 | 630 | 70,5 | 1383 | 65,5 | |
| Seminars and conferences | 691 | 24,3 | 163 | 21,4 | 524 | 29,5 | |
| Teacher training activities | 324 | 11,4 | 106 | 14,5 | 216 | 13,0 | |
| Career orientation activities | 176 | 6,2 | 54 | 7,2 | 122 | 7,2 | |
| Other education activities | 255 | 9,0 | 77 | 10,3 | 178 | 10,5 | |
| Satisfaction education (1=very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied) | N | mean SD | N | mean SD | N | mean SD | |
| I have sufficient time to participate in educational activities. | 4554 | 3,23 1,07 | 1078 | 3,40 1,01 | 2835 | 3,26 1,07 | SIG |
| In general, I am satisfied with the educational activities we offer. | 4437 | 3,34 1,03 | 1047 | 3,59 0,94 | 2786 | 3,45 0,97 | SIG |
| The education activities I have participated in contribute to the completion of my PhD | 4400 | 3,33 1,08 | 1010 | 3,61 0,97 | 2768 | 3,47 1,02 | SIG |
| My supervisors encourage me to participate in courses, seminars, conferences and other education activities. | 4643 | 3,37 1,15 | 1108 | 3,70 1,06 | 2895 | 3,43 1,1 | SIG |
| I am satisfied with the career orientation activities that are offered. | 1889 | 3,27 0,97 | 346 | 3,51 0,9 | 1316 | 3,29 0,97 | SIG |
| TEACHING/SUPERVISING | | | | | | | |
| Do you teach and/or supervise students (or are you planning to do so)? | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG |
| Yes, it is part of my contract/agreement | 1793 | 37,8 | 461 | 40,7 | 1089 | 37,7 | |
| Yes, but it is not part of my contract/agreement | 1699 | 35,9 | 337 | 29,7 | 1101 | 38,1 | |
| No, I am not allowed to teach | 530 | 11,2 | 129 | 11,4 | 310 | 10,7 | |
| No, I am allowed to teach but I don't | 409 | 8,6 | 140 | 12,3 | 223 | 7,7 | |
| other | 232 | 4,9 | 47 | 4,1 | 115 | 4,0 | |
| Yes (other) | 21 | 0,4 | 6 | 0,5 | 15 | 0,5 | |
| No (other) | 54 | 1,1 | 14 | 1,2 | 39 | 1,3 | |
| Total | 4738 | 100 | 1134 | 100 | 2892 | 100 | |
| SUPPORT AND SOCIAL CONTACTS | | | | | | | |
| Are you familiar with PhD organisations at your University? | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG |
| Yes, I regularly participate in activities they organize | 668 | 15,9 | 161 | 13,9 | 501 | 16,7 | |
| Yes, but I do not (often) take part in activities | 2568 | 61,3 | 669 | 57,6 | 1881 | 62,9 | |
| No, I am not familiar with PhD organisations | 953 | 22,8 | 331 | 28,5 | 610 | 20,4 | |
| Total | 4189 | 100 | 1161 | 100 | 2992 | 100 | |
| Do you know whether there is a counselor available to whom you can go to when you encounter problems? | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG |
| Yes, I am aware of the availability of counselors | 2880 | 68,8 | 753 | 64,9 | 2105 | 70,4 | |
| No, I don't know | 1308 | 31,2 | 407 | 35,1 | 887 | 29,6 | |
| Total | 4188 | 100 | 1160 | 100 | 2992 | 100 | |
| To what extent do you have contact with other researchers when working on your PhD project? | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| (Almost) every day | 1198 | 24,7 | 270 | 23,3 | 789 | 26,4 | |
| Regularly | 2147 | 44,2 | 498 | 43,0 | 1282 | 42,9 | |
| Rarely | 941 | 19,4 | 226 | 19,5 | 609 | 20,4 | |
| Only when I meet my supervisors | 504 | 10,4 | 131 | 11,3 | 284 | 9,5 | |
| Other | 68 | 1,4 | 33 | 2,8 | 24 | 0,8 | |
| Total | 4858 | 100 | 1158 | 100 | 2988 | 100 | |

Factsheet Phase

National PhD student survey 2021

| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | FIRST YEAR | | SENIORS | | DIF | | |
|---|--------------|------|------------|-------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| WORKLOAD | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| How would you describe the workload or time pressure in your PhD project? | | | | | | | | | |
| Too high | 489 | 10,1 | 43 | 3,7 | 333 | 11,1 | | | |
| High | 2379 | 49,1 | 506 | 43,8 | 1549 | 51,8 | | | |
| Normal | 1872 | 38,7 | 574 | 49,7 | 1052 | 35,2 | | | |
| Low | 84 | 1,7 | 30 | 2,6 | 42 | 1,4 | | | |
| Too low | 17 | 0,4 | 2 | 0,2 | 13 | 0,4 | | | |
| Total | 4841 | 100 | 1155 | 100 | 2989 | 100 | | | |
| Average workload | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | | |
| 1=too high, 5=too low | 4841 | 2,33 | 0,69 | 1155 | 2,52 | 0,62 | 2989 | 2,28 | 0,69 |
| MENTAL WELLBEING | | | | | | | | | |
| In general, what impact does your PhD project have on your mental wellbeing? | | | | | | | | | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Positive | 585 | 12,0 | 173 | 14,9 | 302 | 10,1 | | | |
| Fairly positive | 1328 | 27,3 | 423 | 36,5 | 712 | 23,8 | | | |
| Neutral | 1448 | 29,8 | 349 | 30,1 | 923 | 30,8 | | | |
| Rather negative | 1098 | 22,6 | 157 | 13,5 | 766 | 25,6 | | | |
| Negative | 311 | 6,4 | 23 | 2,0 | 235 | 7,9 | | | |
| I don't know / I don't want to answer | 95 | 2,0 | 35 | 3,0 | 55 | 1,8 | | | |
| Total | 4865 | 100 | 1160 | 100 | 2993 | 100 | | | |
| Average impact | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | | |
| 1=positive, 5=negative | 4770 | 2,84 | 1,11 | 1125 | 2,50 | 0,98 | 2939 | 2,97 | 1,11 |
| PLANNING AND DEALY | | | | | | | | | |
| Are you currently on schedule with your planning? | | | | | | | | | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Yes | 1752 | 36,2 | 551 | 47,6 | 959 | 32,2 | | | |
| No, I am ahead of schedule | 327 | 6,7 | 150 | 13,0 | 156 | 5,2 | | | |
| No, I have fallen behind schedule | 2169 | 44,8 | 258 | 22,3 | 1578 | 53,0 | | | |
| I don't have a schedule | 384 | 7,9 | 115 | 9,9 | 187 | 6,3 | | | |
| I don't know | 214 | 4,4 | 83 | 7,2 | 97 | 3,2 | | | |
| Total | 4846 | 100 | 1157 | 100,0 | 2977 | 100 | | | |
| How long is the (expected) delay? | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG | | |
| Less than 3 months | 287 | 13,2 | 104 | 40,3 | 154 | 9,8 | | | |
| Between 3 and 6 months | 723 | 33,3 | 83 | 32,2 | 560 | 35,5 | | | |
| Between 6 and 9 months | 403 | 18,6 | 24 | 9,3 | 315 | 20,0 | | | |
| More than 9 months | 500 | 23,1 | 13 | 5,0 | 370 | 23,4 | | | |
| I don't know | 256 | 11,8 | 34 | 13,2 | 179 | 11,3 | | | |
| Total | 2169 | 100 | 258 | 100 | 1578 | 100 | | | |
| IMPACT OF COVID-19 | | | | | | | | | |
| What impact has Covid-19 had on the ability to engage in the following aspects of your PhD project concerning... | | | | | | | | | |
| Data collection | | | | | | | | | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Strongly negative | 915 | 22,2 | 147 | 12,9 | 764 | 25,9 | | | |
| Negative | 1557 | 37,8 | 415 | 36,4 | 1125 | 38,1 | | | |
| No impact | 1253 | 30,4 | 439 | 38,5 | 804 | 27,3 | | | |
| Positive | 290 | 7,0 | 98 | 8,6 | 192 | 6,5 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 9 | 0,2 | 1 | 0,1 | 7 | 0,2 | | | |
| Not applicable | 98 | 2,4 | 40 | 3,5 | 57 | 1,9 | | | |
| Total | 4122 | 100 | 1140 | 100 | 2949 | 100 | | | |
| Data analysis | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 224 | 5,4 | 38 | 3,3 | 185 | 6,3 | | | |
| Negative | 1213 | 29,3 | 236 | 20,6 | 969 | 32,8 | | | |
| No impact | 2279 | 55,1 | 707 | 61,7 | 1550 | 52,5 | | | |
| Positive | 320 | 7,7 | 119 | 10,4 | 199 | 6,7 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 18 | 0,4 | 3 | 0,3 | 15 | 0,5 | | | |
| Not applicable | 79 | 1,9 | 42 | 3,7 | 37 | 1,3 | | | |
| Total | 4133 | 100 | 1145 | 100 | 2955 | 100 | | | |
| Writing | | | | | | | | | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Strongly negative | 240 | 5,8 | 29 | 2,5 | 210 | 7,1 | | | |
| Negative | 1627 | 39,2 | 340 | 29,7 | 1277 | 43,0 | | | |
| No impact | 1927 | 46,4 | 664 | 58,0 | 1244 | 41,8 | | | |
| Positive | 287 | 6,9 | 88 | 7,7 | 194 | 6,5 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 32 | 0,8 | 3 | 0,3 | 29 | 1,0 | | | |
| Not applicable | 40 | 1,0 | 21 | 1,8 | 19 | 0,6 | | | |
| Total | 4153 | 100 | 1145 | 100 | 2973 | 100 | | | |
| Discussing ideas | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 1228 | 29,5 | 338 | 29,3 | 877 | 29,4 | | | |
| Negative | 2073 | 49,7 | 578 | 50,1 | 1481 | 49,7 | | | |
| No impact | 739 | 17,7 | 197 | 17,1 | 534 | 17,9 | | | |
| Positive | 101 | 2,4 | 31 | 2,7 | 70 | 2,3 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 7 | 0,2 | 3 | 0,3 | 4 | 0,1 | | | |
| Not applicable | 20 | 0,5 | 7 | 0,6 | 13 | 0,4 | | | |
| Total | 4168 | 100 | 1154 | 100 | 2979 | 100 | | | |
| Dissemination/Sharing | | | | | | | | | |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Strongly negative | 782 | 18,9 | 160 | 14,0 | 618 | 20,9 | | | |
| Negative | 1901 | 46,0 | 518 | 45,4 | 1365 | 46,2 | | | |
| No impact | 1076 | 26,0 | 326 | 28,5 | 739 | 25,0 | | | |
| Positive | 278 | 6,7 | 104 | 9,1 | 174 | 5,9 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 5 | 0,1 | 2 | 0,2 | 3 | 0,1 | | | |
| Not applicable | 91 | 2,2 | 32 | 2,8 | 58 | 2,0 | | | |
| Total | 4133 | 100 | 1142 | 100 | 2957 | 100 | | | |

Factsheet Phase

National PhD student survey 2021

| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | FIRST YEAR | | SENIORS | | DIF | | |
|--|--------------|------|------------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| IMPACT OF COVID-19 | | | | | | | | | |
| What impact has Covid-19 had on your ... | | | | | | | | | |
| Motivation to work | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 667 | 13,8 | 121 | 10,5 | 472 | 15,8 | | | |
| Negative | 2342 | 48,3 | 538 | 46,5 | 1449 | 48,6 | | | |
| No impact | 1693 | 34,9 | 451 | 39,0 | 972 | 32,6 | | | |
| Positive | 124 | 2,6 | 37 | 3,2 | 74 | 2,5 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 11 | 0,2 | 3 | 0,3 | 8 | 0,3 | | | |
| Not applicable | 13 | 0,3 | 6 | 0,5 | 7 | 0,2 | | | |
| Total | 4850 | 100 | 1156 | 100 | 2982 | 100 | | | |
| Progress | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 820 | 16,9 | 113 | 9,8 | 610 | 20,5 | | | |
| Negative | 2645 | 54,6 | 611 | 52,9 | 1621 | 54,4 | | | |
| No impact | 1231 | 25,4 | 378 | 32,7 | 663 | 22,2 | | | |
| Positive | 122 | 2,5 | 42 | 3,6 | 69 | 2,3 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 13 | 0,3 | 2 | 0,2 | 11 | 0,4 | | | |
| Not applicable | 15 | 0,3 | 9 | 0,8 | 6 | 0,2 | | | |
| Total | 4846 | 100 | 1155 | 100 | 2980 | 100 | | | |
| Future career prospects | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 358 | 7,5 | 54 | 4,7 | 264 | 9,0 | | | |
| Negative | 1319 | 27,6 | 262 | 23,0 | 866 | 29,5 | | | |
| No impact | 2657 | 55,6 | 675 | 59,4 | 1563 | 53,3 | | | |
| Positive | 360 | 7,5 | 114 | 10,0 | 187 | 6,4 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 5 | 0,1 | 1 | 0,1 | 4 | 0,1 | | | |
| Not applicable | 84 | 1,8 | 31 | 2,7 | 51 | 1,7 | | | |
| Total | 4783 | 100 | 1137 | 100 | 2935 | 100 | | | |
| Mental health | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 851 | 17,6 | 181 | 15,7 | 585 | 19,6 | | | |
| Negative | 2556 | 52,7 | 626 | 54,2 | 1566 | 52,5 | | | |
| No impact | 1326 | 27,3 | 318 | 27,5 | 760 | 25,5 | | | |
| Positive | 98 | 2,0 | 24 | 2,1 | 60 | 2,0 | | | |
| Strongly positive | 8 | 0,2 | 1 | 0,1 | 7 | 0,2 | | | |
| Not applicable | 10 | 0,2 | 5 | 0,4 | 5 | 0,2 | | | |
| Total | 4849 | 100 | 1155 | 100 | 2983 | 100 | | | |
| Average scores (1=strongly negative, 5=strongly positive) | | | | | | | | | |
| Data collection | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| Data analysis | 4024 | 2,23 | 0,89 | 1100 | 2,45 | 0,84 | 2892 | 2,15 | 0,9 |
| Writing | 4113 | 2,57 | 0,74 | 1103 | 2,83 | 0,66 | 2918 | 2,62 | 0,73 |
| Discussing | 4113 | 2,57 | 0,74 | 1124 | 2,73 | 0,65 | 2954 | 2,51 | 0,76 |
| Dissmination/Sharing | 4148 | 1,94 | 0,76 | 1147 | 1,94 | 0,77 | 2966 | 1,94 | 0,76 |
| Motivation | 4042 | 2,21 | 0,84 | 1110 | 2,34 | 0,84 | 2899 | 2,16 | 0,83 |
| Progress | 4837 | 2,27 | 0,73 | 1150 | 2,36 | 0,72 | 2975 | 2,23 | 0,74 |
| Future career prospects | 4831 | 2,14 | 0,73 | 1146 | 2,31 | 0,7 | 2974 | 2,08 | 0,73 |
| Mental health | 4699 | 2,65 | 0,74 | 1106 | 2,77 | 0,7 | 2884 | 2,59 | 0,74 |
| | 4839 | 2,14 | 0,72 | 1150 | 2,17 | 0,71 | 2978 | 2,12 | 0,73 |
| CAREER | | | | | | | | | |
| What career perspectives do you aspire after graduation? (Tick all that apply) | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| In research within academia | 2477 | 57,1 | 633 | 60,8 | 1513 | 58,5 | | | |
| In research outside academia | 2192 | 51,1 | 510 | 50,4 | 1395 | 54,4 | | | |
| Outside research | 1589 | 38,6 | 327 | 34,1 | 1009 | 41,3 | | | |
| I don't know | 821 | 21,1 | 232 | 24,8 | 449 | 20,0 | | | |
| Where do you aspire to pursue a career after completing your PhD track? (Tick all that apply) | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| My own company | 479 | 19,6 | 124 | 22,4 | 282 | 19,0 | | | |
| Industry | 1294 | 48,3 | 301 | 49,5 | 842 | 50,7 | | | |
| Government | 1227 | 46,3 | 271 | 45,8 | 796 | 48,3 | | | |
| Higher Education | 1491 | 54,7 | 354 | 57,0 | 935 | 55,1 | | | |
| NGO | 1022 | 39,7 | 217 | 37,9 | 652 | 40,9 | | | |
| Other | 207 | 11,9 | 48 | 9,0 | 168 | 11,8 | | | |
| Health Care | 165 | 14,3 | 30 | 12,2 | 98 | 18,8 | | | |
| I don't know/don't want to answer | 124 | 5,2 | 35 | 6,6 | 69 | 4,9 | | | |
| FINISHING | | | | | | | | | |
| Have you discussed (or will you discuss) the scientific requirements of your thesis? | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Yes, with (one) of my supervisors | 2515 | 51,8 | 532 | 45,9 | 1618 | 54,2 | | | |
| Yes, with other people (e.g. PhD counselor of Graduate School) | 115 | 2,4 | 40 | 3,5 | 53 | 1,8 | | | |
| Yes, with both my supervisors and other people | 1454 | 29,9 | 312 | 26,9 | 910 | 30,5 | | | |
| No | 702 | 14,5 | 257 | 22,2 | 361 | 12,1 | | | |
| Other answer | 70 | 1,4 | 18 | 1,6 | 43 | 1,4 | | | |
| Total | 4856 | 100 | 1159 | 100 | 2985 | 100 | | | |
| Are the scientific requirements clear to you? | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | |
| Very clear | 1002 | 23,4 | 195 | 21,1 | 674 | 25,3 | | | |
| Rather clear | 2014 | 47,1 | 443 | 48,1 | 1244 | 46,7 | | | |
| A bit clear | 920 | 21,5 | 229 | 24,9 | 547 | 20,5 | | | |
| Rather unclear | 259 | 6,1 | 46 | 5,05 | 157 | 5,9 | | | |
| Very unclear | 80 | 1,9 | 8 | 0,9 | 44 | 1,7 | | | |
| Total | 4275 | 100 | 921 | 100 | 2666 | 100 | | | |
| Average clarity | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| 1=very clear, 5=very unclear | 4275 | 2,16 | 0,91 | 921 | 2,16 | 0,84 | 2666 | 2,12 | 0,91 |

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| | SIG=Two or more groups differ significantly(p<0.05) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------|-------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | DUTCH | EEA | non-EEA | DIF | | | | | | |
| GENERAL SATISFACTION | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | SIG | | |
| Average satisfaction | 4856 | 6.95 | 1.67 | 2520 | 7.05 | 1.43 | 895 | 6.74 | 1.89 | 1402 | 6.95 | 1.84 |
| DURATION PROJECT AND WORKHOURS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| What is the official duration of your PhD project as agreed upon from the start? | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | |
| Less than 36 months | 68 | 1,4 | | 49 | 1,9 | | 6 | 0,7 | | 13 | 0,9 | |
| 36 months | 506 | 10,0 | | 273 | 10,8 | | 107 | 11,9 | | 123 | 8,7 | |
| Between 37-47 months | 34 | 0,7 | | 24 | 1,0 | | 7 | 0,8 | | 3 | 0,2 | |
| 48 months | 3403 | 69,9 | | 1597 | 63,3 | | 678 | 75,6 | | 1101 | 78,3 | |
| Between 49-60 months | 167 | 3,4 | | 122 | 4,8 | | 15 | 1,7 | | 27 | 1,9 | |
| More than 60 months | 84 | 1,7 | | 62 | 2,5 | | 8 | 0,9 | | 12 | 0,9 | |
| Not yet determined | 176 | 3,6 | | 111 | 4,4 | | 19 | 2,1 | | 45 | 3,2 | |
| No official duration | 345 | 7,1 | | 230 | 9,1 | | 47 | 5,2 | | 64 | 4,5 | |
| Other | 82 | 1,7 | | 53 | 2,1 | | 10 | 1,1 | | 19 | 1,4 | |
| Total | 4865 | 100 | | 2521 | 100 | | 897 | 100 | | 1407 | 100 | |
| How many hours per week do you officially have to work on your PhD project, according to your contract or agreement? | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | |
| Full-time (more than 36 hours per week) | 3306 | 68,7 | | 1572 | 62,6 | | 684 | 77,6 | | 1021 | 74,0 | |
| Part-time (between 12-36 hours per week) | 841 | 17,5 | | 598 | 23,8 | | 97 | 11,0 | | 140 | 10,1 | |
| Part-time (less than 12 hours per week) | 284 | 5,9 | | 165 | 6,6 | | 43 | 4,9 | | 76 | 5,5 | |
| Other | 381 | 7,9 | | 178 | 7,1 | | 57 | 6,5 | | 143 | 10,4 | |
| Total | 4812 | 100 | | 2513 | 100 | | 881 | 100 | | 1380 | 100 | |
| In an average week, how many hours do you actually work on your PhD project? | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | |
| Less than 12 hours per week | 590 | 13,9 | | 187 | 8,6 | | 135 | 16,9 | | 259 | 20,6 | |
| Between 12-36 hours per week | 2075 | 48,8 | | 1092 | 50,5 | | 394 | 49,4 | | 577 | 45,9 | |
| Between 37-48 hours per week | 1271 | 29,9 | | 726 | 33,5 | | 197 | 24,7 | | 340 | 27,0 | |
| More than 48 hours per week | 314 | 7,4 | | 159 | 7,3 | | 71 | 8,9 | | 81 | 6,4 | |
| Total | 4250 | 100 | | 2164 | 100 | | 797 | 100 | | 1257 | 100 | |
| WORK FACILITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| How satisfied are you with the following facilities? (1=very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied) | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| Workplace | 3591 | 3,90 | 0,99 | 1806 | 3,89 | 0,97 | 677 | 3,91 | 0,98 | 1073 | 3,90 | 1,02 |
| Computer and software | 3656 | 3,80 | 1,02 | 1847 | 3,78 | 0,98 | 688 | 3,80 | 1,06 | 1088 | 3,84 | 1,04 |
| Research facilities (e.g. lab, instruments, fieldwork, databases) | 3467 | 3,99 | 0,90 | 1732 | 4,04 | 0,93 | 653 | 4,00 | 0,90 | 1056 | 3,90 | 1,00 |
| Access to library (e.g. journals, books) | 3745 | 4,12 | 0,85 | 1893 | 4,16 | 0,79 | 703 | 4,13 | 0,86 | 1114 | 4,05 | 0,94 |
| Percentage no access | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | |
| Workplace | 356 | 9,0 | | 179 | 9,0 | | 73 | 9,7 | | 102 | 8,7 | |
| Computer and software | 294 | 7,4 | | 138 | 7,0 | | 62 | 8,3 | | 91 | 7,7 | |
| Research facilities (e.g. lab, instruments, fieldwork, databases) | 431 | 11,1 | | 212 | 10,9 | | 98 | 13,0 | | 115 | 9,8 | |
| Access to library (e.g. journals, books) | 218 | 5,5 | | 102 | 5,1 | | 48 | 6,4 | | 66 | 5,6 | |
| SUPERVISION | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Organisation | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | |
| Number of supervisors indicated | 4199 | 92,9 | | 2204 | 92,9 | | 797 | 94,4 | | 1165 | 92,0 | |
| My supervision has not been officially documented (yet) | 126 | 2,8 | | 81 | 3,4 | | 14 | 1,7 | | 29 | 2,3 | |
| I don't know | 180 | 4,0 | | 75 | 3,2 | | 33 | 3,9 | | 68 | 5,4 | |
| Other | 16 | 0,4 | | 12 | 0,5 | | 0 | 0,0 | | 4 | 0,3 | |
| Total | 4521 | 100 | | 2372 | 100 | | 844 | 100 | | 1266 | 100 | |
| Number of supervisors | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD |
| Average number | 4605 | 2,64 | 1,09 | 2429 | 2,65 | 0,98 | 849 | 2,51 | 0,94 | 1294 | 2,65 | 1,36 |
| Number | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | |
| 1 | 268 | 5,8 | | 160 | 6,6 | | 43,0 | 5,1 | | 65 | 5,0 | |
| 2 | 2151 | 46,7 | | 1009 | 41,5 | | 454 | 53,5 | | 671 | 51,9 | |
| 3 | 1554 | 33,7 | | 884 | 36,4 | | 263 | 31,0 | | 393 | 30,4 | |
| 4 | 504 | 10,9 | | 316 | 13,0 | | 72 | 8,5 | | 114 | 8,8 | |
| 5 | 71 | 1,5 | | 37 | 1,5 | | 11 | 1,3 | | 23 | 1,8 | |
| more than 5 | 57 | 1,4 | | 23 | 0,9 | | 6 | 0,7 | | 28 | 2,2 | |
| Total | 4605 | 100 | | 2429 | 100 | | 849 | 100 | | 1294 | 100 | |
| Do you know who is/are officially assigned as your promotor(s)? | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | | N | % | |
| Yes | 3923 | 96,8 | | 2000 | 98,4 | | 734 | 95,3 | | 1155 | 95,1 | |
| No, not yet | 65 | 1,6 | | 26 | 1,3 | | 15 | 1,9 | | 24 | 2,0 | |
| I don't know / can't answer | 66 | 1,6 | | 6 | 0,3 | | 21 | 2,7 | | 36 | 3,0 | |
| Total | 4054 | 100 | | 2032 | 100 | | 770 | 100 | | 1215 | 100 | |
| In an average month, how many hours supervision do you receive (from all your supervisors combined)? | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD |
| | 4739 | 6,16 | 7,38 | 2475 | 5,43 | 4,38 | 873 | 6,51 | 9,33 | 1352 | 7,32 | 9,85 |
| Are you, in general, satisfied with the supervision you receive? (1=very dissatisfied, 5=very satisfied) | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD |
| | 4838 | 3,72 | 1,227 | 2517 | 3,73 | 1,2 | 891 | 3,67 | 1,25 | 1391 | 3,74 | 1,25 |

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| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | DUTCH | | EEA | | non-EEA | | DIF | | | |
|--|--------------|------|-------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|
| EDUCATION | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | |
| To which education activities do you have access? (Tick all that apply) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Discipline-specific courses and workshops | 3500 | 76,0 | 1866 | 76,6 | 657 | 77,3 | 334 | 74,0 | | | | |
| General skills courses and workshops | 4079 | 85,9 | 2194 | 88,0 | 760 | 87,1 | 1092 | 81,3 | | | | |
| Seminars and conferences | 4061 | 85,9 | 2168 | 87,0 | 787 | 89,9 | 1074 | 80,9 | | | | |
| Teacher training activities | 1979 | 46,6 | 1110 | 48,1 | 413 | 51,8 | 439 | 39,5 | | | | |
| Career orientation activities | 2410 | 54,4 | 1318 | 55,3 | 493 | 59,6 | 581 | 49,0 | | | | |
| No access | 234 | 6,2 | 123 | 5,9 | 27 | 3,9 | 83 | 8,4 | | | | |
| Do you have to participate in obligatory courses as part of your PhD educational training? | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 2847 | 68,3 | 1443 | 67,9 | 527 | 67,7 | 847 | 69,2 | | | | |
| No | 1067 | 25,6 | 553 | 26,0 | 216 | 27,7 | 290 | 23,7 | | | | |
| I don't know | 253 | 6,1 | 128 | 6,0 | 36 | 4,6 | 87 | 7,1 | | | | |
| Total | 4167 | 100 | 2124 | 100 | 779 | 100 | 1224 | 100 | | | | |
| Please indicate which type of course are obligatory? (Tick all that apply) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Discipline-specific courses and workshops | 1363 | 47,9 | 653 | 45,3 | 246 | 46,7 | 450 | 53,1 | | | | |
| General skills courses and workshops | 2022 | 71,0 | 1089 | 75,5 | 357 | 67,7 | 553 | 65,3 | | | | |
| Seminars and conferences | 691 | 24,3 | 320 | 22,2 | 133 | 25,2 | 231 | 27,3 | | | | |
| Teacher training activities | 324 | 11,4 | 154 | 10,7 | 79 | 15,0 | 88 | 10,4 | | | | |
| Career orientation activities | 176 | 6,2 | 57 | 4,0 | 33 | 6,3 | 84 | 9,9 | | | | |
| Other education activities | 255 | 9,0 | 113 | 7,8 | 61 | 11,6 | 77 | 9,1 | | | | |
| Satisfaction education (1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | N | mean | SD | |
| I have sufficient time to participate in educational activities. | 4554 | 3,23 | 1,07 | 2346 | 3,25 | 1,06 | 851 | 3,18 | 1,07 | 1320 | 3,26 | 1,08 |
| In general, I am satisfied with the educational activities on offer. | 4437 | 3,34 | 1,03 | 2280 | 3,35 | 0,99 | 824 | 3,33 | 1,03 | 1296 | 3,34 | 1,08 |
| The education activities I have participated in contribute to the completion of my PhD | 4400 | 3,33 | 1,08 | 2248 | 3,33 | 1,04 | 822 | 3,29 | 1,12 | 1295 | 3,38 | 1,12 |
| My supervisors encourage me to participate in courses, seminars, conferences and other education activities. | 4643 | 3,37 | 1,15 | 2399 | 3,31 | 1,11 | 865 | 3,4 | 1,17 | 1342 | 3,45 | 1,20 |
| I am satisfied with the career orientation activities that are offered. | 1889 | 3,27 | 0,97 | 887 | 3,28 | 0,94 | 372 | 3,19 | 1,01 | 618 | 3,32 | 0,98 |
| TEACHING/SUPERVISING | | | | | | | | | | SIG | | |
| Do you teach and/or supervise students (or are you planning to do so)? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG | | | |
| Yes, it is part of my contract/agreement | 1793 | 37,8 | 998 | 40,4 | 403 | 46,4 | 381 | 28,0 | | | | |
| Yes, but it is not part of my contract/agreement | 1699 | 35,9 | 957 | 38,7 | 288 | 33,1 | 446 | 32,7 | | | | |
| No, I am not allowed to teach | 530 | 11,2 | 191 | 7,7 | 73 | 8,4 | 256 | 18,8 | | | | |
| No, I am allowed to teach but I don't | 409 | 8,6 | 168 | 6,8 | 67 | 7,7 | 171 | 12,5 | | | | |
| other | 232 | 4,9 | 121 | 4,9 | 27 | 3,1 | 83 | 6,1 | | | | |
| Yes (other) | 21 | 0,4 | 14 | 0,6 | 1 | 0,1 | 6 | 0,4 | | | | |
| No (other) | 54 | 1,1 | 21 | 0,9 | 10 | 1,2 | 20 | 1,5 | | | | |
| Total | 4738 | 100 | 2470 | 100 | 869 | 100 | 1363 | 100 | | | | |
| SUPPORT AND SOCIAL CONTACTS | | | | | | | | | | SIG | | |
| Are you familiar with PhD organisations at your University? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG | | | |
| Yes, I regularly participate in activities they organize | 668 | 15,9 | 323 | 15,1 | 145 | 18,5 | 190 | 15,4 | | | | |
| Yes, but I do not (often) take part in activities | 2568 | 61,3 | 1440 | 67,4 | 436 | 55,8 | 678 | 55,0 | | | | |
| No, I am not familiar with PhD organisations | 953 | 22,8 | 373 | 17,5 | 201 | 25,7 | 364 | 29,5 | | | | |
| Total | 4189 | 100 | 2136 | 100 | 782 | 100 | 1232 | 100 | | | | |
| Do you know whether there is a counselor available to whom you can go to when you encounter problems? | | | | | | | | | | SIG | | |
| Yes, I am aware of the availability of counselors | 2880 | 68,8 | 1538 | 71,9 | 534 | 68,5 | 781 | 63,4 | | | | |
| No, I don't know | 1308 | 31,2 | 600 | 28,1 | 246 | 31,5 | 451 | 36,6 | | | | |
| Total | 4188 | 100 | 2138 | 100 | 780 | 100 | 1232 | 100 | | | | |
| To what extent do you have contact with other researchers when working on your PhD project? | | | | | | | | | | SIG | | |
| (Almost) every day | 1198 | 24,7 | 754 | 29,9 | 223 | 25,1 | 211 | 15,0 | | | | |
| Regularly | 2147 | 44,2 | 1065 | 42,2 | 398 | 44,8 | 670 | 47,7 | | | | |
| Rarely | 941 | 19,4 | 433 | 17,2 | 167 | 18,8 | 329 | 23,4 | | | | |
| Only when I meet my supervisors | 504 | 10,4 | 223 | 8,8 | 90 | 10,1 | 187 | 13,3 | | | | |
| Other | 68 | 1,4 | 48 | 1,9 | 11 | 1,2 | 9 | 0,6 | | | | |
| Total | 4858 | 100 | 2523 | 100 | 889 | 100 | 1406 | 100 | | | | |

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| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | DUTCH | | EEA | | non-EEA | | DIF |
|--|--------------|------|-------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|
| WORKLOAD | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG |
| How would you describe the workload or time pressure in your PhD project? | | | | | | | | | |
| Too high | 489 | 10,1 | 234 | 9,3 | 100 | 11,2 | 143 | 10,2 | |
| High | 2379 | 49,1 | 1292 | 51,4 | 472 | 52,9 | 601 | 43,0 | |
| Normal | 1872 | 38,7 | 932 | 37,1 | 302 | 33,9 | 625 | 44,7 | |
| Low | 84 | 1,7 | 48 | 1,9 | 12 | 1,3 | 24 | 1,7 | |
| Too low | 17 | 0,4 | 7 | 0,3 | 6 | 0,7 | 4 | 0,3 | |
| Total | 4841 | 100 | 2513 | 100 | 892 | 100 | 1397 | 100 | |
| Average workload | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| 1=too high, 5=too low | 4841 | 2,33 | 0,69 | 2513 | 2,32 | 0,68 | 892 | 2,27 | 0,7 |
| | 1397 | 2,39 | 0,7 | SIG | | | | | |
| MENTAL WELLBEING | | | | | | | | | |
| In general, what impact does your PhD project have on your mental wellbeing? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| Positive | 585 | 12,0 | 271 | 10,7 | 90 | 10,1 | 219 | 15,6 | |
| Fairly positive | 1328 | 27,3 | 740 | 29,3 | 222 | 24,8 | 363 | 25,8 | |
| Neutral | 1448 | 29,8 | 817 | 32,3 | 210 | 23,5 | 410 | 29,2 | |
| Rather negative | 1098 | 22,6 | 550 | 21,8 | 261 | 29,2 | 278 | 19,8 | |
| Negative | 311 | 6,4 | 120 | 4,8 | 87 | 9,7 | 94 | 6,7 | |
| I don't know / I don't want to answer | 95 | 2,0 | 28 | 1,1 | 25 | 2,8 | 41 | 2,9 | |
| Total | 4865 | 100 | 2526 | 100 | 895 | 100 | 1405 | 100 | |
| Average impact | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD |
| 1=positive, 5=negative | 4770 | 2,84 | 1,11 | 2498 | 2,8 | 1,05 | 870 | 3,04 | 1,17 |
| | 1364 | 2,75 | 1,15 | SIG | | | | | |
| PLANNING AND DEALY | | | | | | | | | |
| Are you currently on schedule with your planning? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | SIG |
| Yes | 1752 | 36,2 | 858 | 34,2 | 317 | 35,4 | 571 | 40,8 | |
| No, I am ahead of schedule | 327 | 6,7 | 191 | 7,6 | 42 | 4,7 | 91 | 6,5 | |
| No, I have fallen behind schedule | 2169 | 44,8 | 1101 | 43,8 | 408 | 45,5 | 634 | 45,3 | |
| I don't have a schedule | 384 | 7,9 | 251 | 10,0 | 79 | 8,8 | 52 | 3,7 | |
| I don't know | 214 | 4,4 | 110 | 4,4 | 50 | 5,6 | 53 | 3,8 | |
| Total | 4846 | 100 | 2511 | 100 | 896 | 100 | 1401 | 100 | |
| How long is the (expected) delay? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| Less than 3 months | 287 | 13,2 | 155 | 14,4 | 53 | 13,0 | 78 | 12,3 | |
| Between 3 and 6 months | 723 | 33,3 | 362 | 32,8 | 145 | 35,6 | 209 | 33,0 | |
| Between 6 and 9 months | 403 | 18,6 | 199 | 18,0 | 61 | 15,0 | 139 | 22,0 | |
| More than 9 months | 500 | 23,1 | 254 | 23,0 | 89 | 21,9 | 146 | 23,1 | |
| I don't know | 256 | 11,8 | 133 | 12,1 | 59 | 14,5 | 61 | 9,6 | |
| Total | 2169 | 100 | 1103 | 100 | 407 | 100 | 633 | 100 | |
| IMPACT OF COVID-19 | | | | | | | | | |
| What impact has Covid-19 had on the ability to engage in the following aspects of your PhD project.... | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| Data collection | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| Strongly negative | 915 | 22,2 | 453 | 21,6 | 178 | 23,3 | 275 | 22,6 | |
| Negative | 1557 | 37,8 | 822 | 39,1 | 263 | 34,4 | 462 | 37,9 | |
| No impact | 1253 | 30,4 | 626 | 29,8 | 245 | 32 | 371 | 30,4 | |
| Positive | 290 | 7,0 | 128 | 6,1 | 62 | 8,1 | 93 | 7,6 | |
| Strongly positive | 9 | 0,2 | 7 | 0,3 | 0 | 0,0 | 2 | 0,2 | |
| Not applicable | 98 | 2,4 | 65 | 3,1 | 17 | 2,2 | 16 | 1,3 | |
| Total | 4122 | 100 | 2101 | 100 | 765 | 100 | 1219 | 100 | |
| Data analysis | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| Strongly negative | 224 | 5,4 | 88 | 4,2 | 36 | 4,7 | 94 | 7,7 | |
| Negative | 1213 | 29,3 | 586 | 27,9 | 222 | 28,8 | 394 | 32,2 | |
| No impact | 2279 | 55,1 | 1185 | 56,4 | 443 | 57,5 | 636 | 52,0 | |
| Positive | 320 | 7,7 | 176 | 8,4 | 55 | 7,1 | 84 | 6,9 | |
| Strongly positive | 18 | 0,4 | 15 | 0,7 | 2 | 0,3 | 1 | 0,1 | |
| Not applicable | 79 | 1,9 | 52 | 2,5 | 13 | 1,7 | 14 | 1,1 | |
| Total | 4133 | 100 | 2102 | 100 | 771 | 100 | 1223 | 100 | |
| Writing | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| Strongly negative | 240 | 5,8 | 84 | 4 | 52 | 6,7 | 99 | 8,1 | |
| Negative | 1627 | 39,2 | 815 | 38,6 | 308 | 39,6 | 485 | 39,6 | |
| No impact | 1927 | 46,4 | 996 | 47,1 | 352 | 45,3 | 568 | 46,4 | |
| Positive | 287 | 6,9 | 177 | 8,4 | 50 | 6,4 | 58 | 4,7 | |
| Strongly positive | 32 | 0,8 | 21 | 1,0 | 5 | 0,6 | 6 | 0,5 | |
| Not applicable | 40 | 1,0 | 21 | 1,0 | 10 | 1,3 | 9 | 0,7 | |
| Total | 4153 | 100 | 2114 | 100 | 777 | 100 | 1225 | 100 | |
| Discussing ideas | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| Strongly negative | 1228 | 29,5 | 637 | 29,9 | 255 | 32,8 | 323 | 26,3 | |
| Negative | 2073 | 49,7 | 1093 | 51,4 | 366 | 47 | 600 | 48,9 | |
| No impact | 739 | 17,7 | 333 | 15,7 | 135 | 17,4 | 264 | 21,5 | |
| Positive | 101 | 2,4 | 48 | 2,3 | 18 | 2,3 | 32 | 2,6 | |
| Strongly positive | 7 | 0,2 | 4 | 0,2 | 0 | 0,0 | 3 | 0,2 | |
| Not applicable | 20 | 0,5 | 12 | 0,6 | 4 | 0,5 | 4 | 0,3 | |
| Total | 4168 | 100 | 2127 | 100 | 778 | 100 | 1226 | 100 | |
| Dissemination/Sharing | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | |
| Strongly negative | 782 | 18,9 | 386 | 18,4 | 176 | 22,7 | 211 | 17,3 | |
| Negative | 1901 | 46,0 | 977 | 46,5 | 346 | 44,7 | 565 | 46,3 | |
| No impact | 1076 | 26,0 | 518 | 24,7 | 190 | 24,5 | 357 | 29,2 | |
| Positive | 278 | 6,7 | 148 | 7,0 | 49 | 6,3 | 77 | 6,3 | |
| Strongly positive | 5 | 0,1 | 4 | 0,2 | 0 | 0,0 | 1 | 0,1 | |
| Not applicable | 91 | 2,2 | 68 | 3,2 | 13 | 1,7 | 10 | 0,8 | |
| Total | 4133 | 100 | 2101 | 100 | 774 | 100 | 1221 | 100 | |

Factsheet Nationality group

National PhD student survey 2021

| | TOTAL SAMPLE | | DUTCH | | EEA | | non-EEA | | DIF | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|------|-------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|--|--|--|--|--|
| IMPACT OF COVID-19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| What impact has Covid-19 had on your.... | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Motivation to work | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 667 | 13,8 | 268 | 10,6 | 158 | 17,7 | 235 | 16,8 | | | | | | | | | |
| Negative | 2342 | 48,3 | 1221 | 48,5 | 427 | 47,8 | 676 | 48,3 | | | | | | | | | |
| No impact | 1693 | 34,9 | 934 | 37,1 | 286 | 32 | 459 | 32,8 | | | | | | | | | |
| Positive | 124 | 2,6 | 77 | 3,1 | 21 | 2,4 | 26 | 1,9 | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly positive | 11 | 0,2 | 8 | 0,3 | 0 | 0,0 | 3 | 0,2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Not applicable | 13 | 0,3 | 10 | 0,4 | 1 | 0,1 | 2 | 0,1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 4850 | 100 | 2518 | 100 | 893 | 100 | 1401 | 100 | | | | | | | | | |
| Progress | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 820 | 16,9 | 330 | 13,1 | 167 | 18,7 | 308 | 22,0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Negative | 2645 | 54,6 | 1396 | 55,5 | 491 | 54,9 | 743 | 53,1 | | | | | | | | | |
| No impact | 1231 | 25,4 | 694 | 27,6 | 212 | 23,7 | 317 | 22,7 | | | | | | | | | |
| Positive | 122 | 2,5 | 75 | 3,0 | 24 | 2,7 | 23 | 1,6 | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly positive | 13 | 0,3 | 9 | 0,4 | 0 | 0,0 | 4 | 0,3 | | | | | | | | | |
| Not applicable | 15 | 0,3 | 10 | 0,4 | 1 | 0,1 | 4 | 0,3 | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 4846 | 100 | 2514 | 100 | 895 | 100 | 1399 | 100 | | | | | | | | | |
| Future career prospects | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 358 | 7,5 | 95 | 3,8 | 84 | 9,5 | 172 | 12,4 | | | | | | | | | |
| Negative | 1319 | 27,6 | 521 | 21,2 | 266 | 30,2 | 514 | 36,9 | | | | | | | | | |
| No impact | 2657 | 55,6 | 1587 | 64,1 | 450 | 51,0 | 612 | 44,0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Positive | 360 | 7,5 | 206 | 8,3 | 70 | 7,9 | 82 | 5,9 | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly positive | 5 | 0,1 | 4 | 0,2 | 0 | 0,0 | 1 | 0,1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Not applicable | 84 | 1,8 | 61 | 2,5 | 12 | 1,4 | 11 | 0,8 | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 4783 | 100 | 2474 | 100 | 882 | 100 | 1392 | 100 | | | | | | | | | |
| Mental health | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly negative | 851 | 17,6 | 315 | 12,5 | 211 | 23,6 | 314 | 22,4 | | | | | | | | | |
| Negative | 2556 | 52,7 | 1353 | 53,7 | 460 | 51,4 | 726 | 51,9 | | | | | | | | | |
| No impact | 1326 | 27,3 | 780 | 31,0 | 206 | 23,0 | 331 | 23,7 | | | | | | | | | |
| Positive | 98 | 2,0 | 56 | 2,2 | 17 | 1,9 | 25 | 1,8 | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly positive | 8 | 0,2 | 6 | 0,2 | 0 | 0,0 | 2 | 0,1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Not applicable | 10 | 0,2 | 8 | 0,3 | 1 | 0,1 | 1 | 0,1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 4849 | 100 | 2518 | 100 | 895 | 100 | 1399 | 100 | | | | | | | | | |
| Average scores (1=strongly negative, 5=strongly positive) | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | | | | | | | | |
| Data collection | 4024 | 2,23 | 0,89 | 2036 | 2,22 | 0,87 | 748 | 2,26 | 0,91 | 1203 | 2,24 | 0,9 | | | | | |
| Data analysis | 4113 | 2,57 | 0,74 | 2050 | 2,73 | 0,71 | 758 | 2,69 | 0,69 | 1209 | 2,59 | 0,74 | | | | | |
| Writing | 4113 | 2,57 | 0,74 | 2093 | 2,64 | 0,74 | 767 | 2,54 | 0,74 | 1216 | 2,50 | 0,73 | | | | | |
| Discussing | 4148 | 1,94 | 0,76 | 2115 | 1,9 | 0,75 | 774 | 1,89 | 0,77 | 1222 | 2,01 | 0,78 | | | | | |
| Dissemination/Sharing | 4042 | 2,21 | 0,84 | 2033 | 2,22 | 0,84 | 761 | 2,15 | 0,85 | 1211 | 2,25 | 0,82 | | | | | |
| Motivation | 4837 | 2,27 | 0,73 | 2508 | 2,34 | 0,72 | 892 | 2,19 | 0,75 | 1399 | 2,20 | 0,74 | | | | | |
| Progress | 4831 | 2,14 | 0,73 | 2504 | 2,22 | 0,72 | 894 | 2,10 | 0,72 | 1395 | 2,05 | 0,73 | | | | | |
| Future career prospects | 4699 | 2,65 | 0,74 | 2413 | 2,79 | 0,65 | 870 | 2,58 | 0,77 | 1381 | 2,44 | 0,79 | | | | | |
| Mental health | 4839 | 2,14 | 0,72 | 2510 | 2,24 | 0,70 | 894 | 2,03 | 0,74 | 1398 | 2,05 | 0,74 | | | | | |
| CAREER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| What career perspectives do you aspire after graduation? (Tick all that apply) | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | | | | |
| In research within academia | 2477 | 57,1 | 1066 | 47,3 | 469 | 59,1 | 919 | 72,9 | | | | | | | | | |
| In research outside academia | 2192 | 51,1 | 1091 | 47,8 | 451 | 56,4 | 629 | 53,8 | | | | | | | | | |
| Outside research | 1589 | 38,6 | 947 | 42,0 | 286 | 38,0 | 339 | 31,5 | | | | | | | | | |
| I don't know | 821 | 21,1 | 519 | 24,2 | 148 | 20,9 | 151 | 14,9 | | | | | | | | | |
| Where do you aspire to pursue a career after completing your PhD track? (Tick all that apply) | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | | | | |
| My own company | 479 | 19,6 | 247 | 17,7 | 87 | 19,0 | 138 | 24,0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Industry | 1294 | 48,3 | 586 | 40,1 | 319 | 61,1 | 380 | 56,5 | | | | | | | | | |
| Government | 1227 | 46,3 | 648 | 44,0 | 260 | 51,8 | 306 | 47,1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Higher Education | 1491 | 54,7 | 750 | 50,2 | 281 | 54,6 | 442 | 63,6 | | | | | | | | | |
| NGO | 1022 | 39,7 | 511 | 35,3 | 224 | 45,4 | 271 | 44,1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Other | 207 | 11,9 | 203 | 15 | 33 | 7,4 | 40 | 7,4 | | | | | | | | | |
| Medical | 165 | 14,3 | 145 | 22,5 | 7 | 3,1 | 13 | 4,8 | | | | | | | | | |
| I don't know/don't want to answer | 124 | 5,2 | 73 | 5,4 | 30 | 6,7 | 20 | 3,7 | | | | | | | | | |
| FINISHING | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Have you discussed (or will you discuss) the scientific requirements of your thesis? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes, with (one) of my supervisors | 2515 | 51,8 | 1336 | 53,0 | 462 | 51,7 | 696 | 49,6 | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes, with other people (e.g. PhD councilor or Graduate School) | 115 | 2,4 | 58 | 2,3 | 24 | 2,7 | 33 | 2,4 | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes, with both my supervisors and other people | 1454 | 29,9 | 690 | 27,4 | 267 | 29,9 | 488 | 34,8 | | | | | | | | | |
| No | 702 | 14,5 | 400 | 15,9 | 130 | 14,5 | 164 | 11,7 | | | | | | | | | |
| Other answer | 70 | 1,4 | 37 | 1,5 | 11 | 1,2 | 21 | 1,5 | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 4856 | 100 | 2521 | 100 | 894 | 100 | 1402 | 100 | | | | | | | | | |
| Are the scientific requirements clear to you? | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | | | | | | | | |
| Very clear | 1002 | 23,4 | 391 | 17,7 | 191 | 24,2 | 412 | 32,9 | | | | | | | | | |
| Rather clear | 2014 | 47,1 | 1080 | 49 | 389 | 49,4 | 531 | 42,3 | | | | | | | | | |
| A bit clear | 920 | 21,5 | 531 | 24,1 | 149 | 18,9 | 234 | 18,7 | | | | | | | | | |
| Rather unclear | 259 | 6,1 | 157 | 7,1 | 49 | 6,2 | 52 | 4,1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Very unclear | 80 | 1,9 | 44 | 2,0 | 10 | 1,3 | 25 | 2,0 | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 4275 | 100 | 2203 | 100 | 788 | 100 | 1254 | 100 | | | | | | | | | |
| Average clarity | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | N | Mean | SD | | | | | | | | |
| 1=very clear, 5=very unclear | 4275 | 2,16 | 0,91 | 2203 | 2,27 | 0,9 | 788 | 2,11 | 0,89 | 1254 | 2 | 0,93 | | | | | |

Factsheet Sample characteristics

National PhD student survey 2021

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| | SAMPLE | | UG | | VU | | UU | | UT | | EUR | | MU | | LEI | | OU | |
|---|--------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| N and response percentage | 4876 | 25 | 1116 | 27 | 676 | 24 | 812 | 24 | 361 | 24 | 617 | 21 | 577 | 22 | 613 | 16 | 104 | 32 |
| AGE GROUP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Younger than 30 yrs | 2767 | 58 | 756 | 68 | | | 461 | 57 | 221 | 64 | 407 | 66 | 346 | 60 | 336 | 57 | 15 | 14 |
| Between 30 and 40 yrs | 1487 | 31 | 306 | 27 | | | 266 | 33 | 93 | 27 | 165 | 27 | 163 | 28 | 190 | 32 | 23 | 22 |
| Older than 40 yrs | 549 | 11 | 54 | 5 | | | 85 | 11 | 31 | 9 | 44 | 7 | 68 | 12 | 68 | 11 | 66 | 64 |
| Total | 4803 | 100 | 1116 | 100 | | | 812 | 100 | 345 | 100 | 616 | 100 | 577 | 100 | 594 | 100 | 104 | 100 |
| GENDER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 1928 | 40 | 469 | 42 | 259 | 39 | 314 | 39 | 220 | 63 | 200 | 34 | 196 | 35 | 224 | 37 | 46 | 45 |
| Female | 2859 | 60 | 647 | 58 | 404 | 61 | 482 | 61 | 131 | 37 | 395 | 66 | 368 | 65 | 376 | 63 | 56 | 55 |
| Total | 4787 | 100 | 1116 | 100 | 663 | 100 | 796 | 100 | 351 | 100 | 595 | 100 | 564 | 100 | 600 | 100 | 102 | 100 |
| <i>Prefer not to say</i> | 89 | | | | 13 | | 16 | | 10 | | 22 | | 13 | | 13 | | 2 | |
| PHASE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| First year | 1230 | 26 | 278 | 25 | | | 190 | 24 | 94 | 26 | 265 | 43 | 144 | 25 | 167 | 28 | 25 | 25 |
| Beyond first year (seniors) | 3467 | 74 | 838 | 75 | | | 608 | 76 | 267 | 74 | 351 | 57 | 433 | 75 | 428 | 72 | 76 | 75 |
| Total | 4697 | 100 | 1116 | 100 | | | 798 | 100 | 361 | 100 | 616 | 100 | 577 | 100 | 595 | 100 | 101 | 100 |
| NATIONALITY GROUP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dutch | 2531 | 52 | 455 | 41 | 388 | 57 | 496 | 61 | 157 | 44 | 360 | 60 | 231 | 40 | 358 | 59 | 86 | 83 |
| EEA-country | 897 | 19 | 215 | 20 | 115 | 17 | 144 | 18 | 55 | 15 | 92 | 15 | 171 | 30 | 98 | 16 | 7 | 7 |
| non EEA-country | 1408 | 29 | 433 | 39 | 173 | 26 | 172 | 21 | 149 | 41 | 146 | 24 | 175 | 30 | 149 | 25 | 11 | 11 |
| Total | 4836 | 100 | 1103 | 100 | 676 | 100 | 812 | 100 | 361 | 100 | 598 | 100 | 577 | 100 | 605 | 100 | 104 | 100 |
| PHD CANDIDATE TYPE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employed PhD candidate | 3004 | 62 | 517 | 47 | | | 550 | 68 | 248 | 69 | 498 | 85 | 400 | 69 | 399 | 65 | 41 | 39 |
| Scholarship PhD candidate | 1043 | 22 | 441 | 40 | | | 90 | 11 | 37 | 10 | 46 | 8 | 54 | 9 | 91 | 15 | 6 | 6 |
| Externally financed PhD candidate | 355 | 7 | 82 | 7 | | | 53 | 7 | 42 | 12 | 23 | 4 | 54 | 9 | 35 | 6 | 19 | 18 |
| External PhD candidate | 443 | 9 | 73 | 7 | | | 119 | 15 | 34 | 9 | 22 | 4 | 69 | 12 | 88 | 14 | 38 | 37 |
| Total | 4845 | 100 | 1113 | 100 | | | 812 | 100 | 361 | 100 | 589 | 100 | 577 | 100 | 613 | 100 | 104 | 100 |
| RESEARCH AREA (ISCED) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Education | 105 | 3 | 27 | 3 | 20 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 3 | 23 | 22 |
| Arts and Humanities | 373 | 9 | 106 | 10 | 70 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 41 | 7 | 37 | 6 | 98 | 16 | 15 | 14 |
| Social sciences, journalism and information | 407 | 10 | 97 | 9 | 102 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 7 | 76 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 92 | 15 | 14 | 14 |
| Business, administration and law | 328 | 8 | 20 | 2 | 37 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 4 | 82 | 13 | 93 | 16 | 44 | 7 | 36 | 35 |
| Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics | 671 | 17 | 267 | 26 | 119 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 97 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 2 | 175 | 29 | 3 | 3 |
| Information and Communication Technologies | 81 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 3 | 13 | 13 |
| Engineering, manufacturing and construction | 279 | 7 | 147 | 14 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 114 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Health and welfare | 1676 | 43 | 370 | 36 | 263 | 41 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 13 | 418 | 68 | 426 | 74 | 154 | 26 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 3936 | 100 | 1034 | 100 | 641 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 360 | 100 | 617 | 100 | 577 | 100 | 603 | 100 | 104 | 100 |

Abbreviations: UG = University of Groningen, VU = Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, UU = University of Utrecht, TU = University Twente, EUR = Erasmus University Rotterdam, MU = Maastricht University, LEI = Leiden University, OU = Open University