Swiss National Science Foundation Career Tracker Cohorts (CTC)

Questionnaire of the CTC-18 Base Survey (paper-and-pencil lookalike)

November 28, 2019

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The first set of questions is about your current work situation.

empl 1. Are you currently engaged in paid employment (including self-employment and scholarship)?
   □, Yes
   □, No

notemplstart 2. Since when have you been non-employed (i.e. not engaged in paid employment)?
   Input format: mm/yyyy (example: 07/2018)
   [date: mm/yyyy]

notemplreas 3. Why are you currently not employed?
   □, (Further) education/training
   □, Family obligations (household, children, etc.)
   □, Travelling or language stay
   □, Health problems
   □, Transition between jobs
   □, Unemployment
   □, Other, please specify:
   notemplreasoth

jobnum 4. Do you have one or several jobs?
   □, One job
   □, Several jobs

Please answer the following questions for your PRIMARY job (unless stated otherwise).

occup 5. What kind of work do you do, that is, what is your occupation?
   For example: climatologist, political scientist, neurosurgeon.
   Please type your (primary) occupation as precisely as possible (e.g. "biologist" instead of "postdoc" or "researcher"). A list of possible occupations will be displayed depending on the text you type. If one of the entries matches your occupation, please select that entry. If no appropriate entry is found, type your answer and continue without making a selection.
   [Autocomplete: Occupation . . .]

profstatus 6. What is your current professional status?
   Please answer for your primary job.
   □, Trainee
   □, Employee without leadership/managerial responsibilities
   □, Employee with leadership/managerial responsibilities
   □, Self-employed without employees
   □, Self-employed with employees
   empnum ➔ Number of employees:
7. Do you have a supervisory function? 

☐ Yes  ☐ No

Number of persons that report to you: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

8. Do you have budget responsibility (e.g. as project manager/managing director)?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

What is your current annual budget (excluding your wage)? [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

If possible, please provide the value in Swiss francs (CHF). Alternatively, if you provide a value in another currency, please include the currency in the field (e.g. "1000 EUR", "1000 USD").

9. When did you start your current job? | When did you start your current business?

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Input format: mm/yyyy (example: 07/2018)

10. In which country are you employed? | In which country is your business located?

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Start typing and select an entry from the displayed list. If no appropriate entry is found, type your answer and continue without making a selection.

11. Do you work in the public sector or in the private sector?

☐ Public sector  ☐ Private non-profit sector  ☐ Private for-profit sector

12. Are you employed on a permanent or a fixed-term contract?

☐ Permanent contract  ☐ Fixed-term contract

Total duration of current contract (in months): [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

13. Do you have to report your working hours to your employer?

☐ Yes  ☐ No
14. Can you compensate overtime? ☐ Yes, by taking time off
☐ Yes, by claiming extra pay
☐ No

15. What is your contractual work-time percentage? (full-time = 100 percent)
☐ If you are self-employed, please indicate the work-time percentage that would be appropriate if you would hire someone to do your job.

| workpercmain | Work-time percentage: % |
| workpercmain | Work-time percentage in primary job: % |
| workpercoth | Work-time percentage in other job(s): % |

16. In a typical week, about how many hours do you work (including the weekend)?
☐ Please indicate the average number of hours you typically work per week for your job. We are interested in your actual working time, not the contractual working time.

| workmain | Number of hours: |
| workmain | Number of hours in primary job: |
| workhoth | Number of hours in other job(s): |

17. What are your annual gross earnings?
☐ If possible, please provide the value in Swiss francs (CHF). Alternatively, if you provide a value in another currency, please include the currency in the field (e.g. "1000 EUR", "1000 USD").

| incmain | Annual gross earnings (including social security contributions, 13th month salary, paid overtime, bonuses, etc.) |
| incmain | Annual gross earnings in primary job (including social security contributions, 13th month salary, paid overtime, bonuses, etc.) |
| incoth | Annual gross earnings in other job(s) (including social security contributions, 13th month salary, paid overtime, bonuses, etc.) |
| incextra | Annual extra income (from mandates, royalties, expert activities, extra teaching, etc.) |

18. In your current job | jobs | job(s)), do you conduct academic research?
☐ Yes
☐ Yes, in both my primary job and my other job(s)
☐ Yes, but only in my primary job
☐ Yes, but only in my other job(s)
☐ No
19. Of your total work time (in your current academic job | in your current academic jobs | in your current academic job(s) | [empty]), how much time do you spend on research and how much on other activities?

Please indicate the share of time you spend for each activity as a percentage. The total should sum up to 100 percent.

- **Research** (conducting research, writing papers and proposals, attending conferences, etc.; excluding research-related administrative activities) [ ] %
- **Teaching** (preparing and giving classes/lectures, supervising students, etc.) [ ] %
- **Administrative duties** (accounting, personnel administration, marketing, etc.) [ ] %
- **Clinical activities** [ ] %
- **Other activities** [ ] %

20. In what type of research institution do you conduct academic research?

Please answer for your primary academic job.

- University or (university) hospital
- ETHZ, EPFL
- ETH research institute (PSI, WSL, Empa, Eawag)
- Other higher education institution (e.g. university of applied sciences/university of teacher education)
- Other public research institute/organization
- Private research institute/organization
- Research division in a corporation or NGO
- Other, please specify:

21. What position do you have in this institution?

Please answer for your primary academic job.

- Doctoral student / PhD
- Junior researcher / Postdoc
- Senior researcher
- Research associate / Scientific collaborator
- Lecturer / Reader
- Medical resident / Assistant doctor
- Assistant professor without tenure track or similar
- Assistant professor with tenure track or similar
- Associate professor or similar
- Full professor or similar
- Other, please specify:
22. Since the start of your current job, did you conduct any research visits or exchanges (1 month or longer) at another university or research institute?

\[ Q18 \neq 4 \]

- Check all that apply.
- □, Yes, in the same country
- □ Yes, in another country
- □, No

Total time in months:

The following questions concern your doctorate/PhD.

23. When did you start your doctorate/PhD?

\[ Q23 \neq 1 \]

- \[ \text{Input format: mm/yyyy (example: 07/2018)} \]
- □, I did not do a doctorate/PhD.

24. When did you finish your doctorate/PhD (date of defense/exam)?

\[ Q24 \neq 1 \]

- \[ \text{Input format: mm/yyyy (example: 07/2018)} \]
- □, I haven’t finished my doctorate/PhD yet.

25. In which country was your doctorate/PhD awarded?

\[ Q24 \neq 1 \]

- \[ \text{Start typing and select an entry from the displayed list. If no appropriate entry is found, type your answer and continue without making a selection.} \]
- [Autocomplete: Country…]

26. Please indicate the research domain/discipline that best corresponds to your doctorate/PhD.

\[ Q24 \neq 1 \]

- \[ \text{Start typing and select an entry from the displayed list. If no appropriate entry is found, type your answer and continue without making a selection.} \]
- [Autocomplete: Research domain / Discipline…]

27. From which university did you receive your doctorate/PhD?

\[ Q24 \neq 1 \]

- \[ \text{Start typing and select an entry from the displayed list. If no appropriate entry is found, type your answer and continue without making a selection.} \]
- [Autocomplete: University…]

28. What was the format of your dissertation?

- □, Book or monograph
- □ Individual articles/papers (cumulative dissertation)

- □ Number of articles/papers: □
- □ Other, please specify: □
29. Please indicate the qualification/grade you obtained with this doctorate/PhD.

☐ 1. Passed (if no particular grading)
☐ 2. Summa cum laude, excellent, 6 (Switzerland), <1 (Germany), or equivalent
☐ 3. Insigni cum laude, very good, 5.5 (Switzerland), or equivalent
☐ 4. Magna cum laude, good, 5 (Switzerland), 1 (Germany), or equivalent
☐ 5. Cum laude, satisfactory, 4.5 (Switzerland), 2 (Germany), or equivalent
☐ 6. Rite, pass, 4 (Switzerland), 3 (Germany), or equivalent

29. Please indicate the qualification/grade you obtained with this doctorate/PhD.

30. Have you received a scientific prize or award for your dissertation (or a single paper of your dissertation)?

☐ 1. Yes
☐ 2. No

31. Which sources of income were available to you during your doctorate/PhD?

= Check all that apply.

☐ 1. Individual grant or program to promote young researchers (e.g. funded by the SNSF, ERC, or a foundation)
☐ 2. Employment within a research project (e.g. funded by the SNSF, ERC, or a foundation)
☐ 3. Position as assistant or similar (without specific third-party funding) at a university or research institute
☐ 4. Employment as medical resident/assistant doctor
☐ 5. Employment outside of university or research institute with relation to the doctorate/PhD
☐ 6. Employment outside of university or research institute without relation to the doctorate/PhD
☐ 7. Loan (from a bank, family, partner, friends, etc.)
☐ 8. Other, please specify:

32. During your doctorate/PhD did you complete any research or study visits of 3 months or longer at another university or research institute?

= Check all that apply.

☐ 1. Yes, in the same country
☐ 2. Yes, in another country
☐ 3. No

In the following, we are interested in your occupational history since you completed your doctorate/PhD.

33. Between the completion of your doctorate/PhD (\(<phdend>\)) and the start of your current job (\(<emplstart>\) | \(<notemplstart>\)) | \([\text{empty}]\), what jobs did you have?

☐ 1. Mostly jobs involving academic research
☐ 2. Mostly jobs NOT involving academic research
☐ 3. Both about equally (jobs involving and jobs NOT involving academic research)
☐ 4. None, current job started right after doctorate/PhD
☐ 5. None, I have not been engaged in paid employment in this period
34. Where were these jobs?

Please also include research visits and exchanges (1 month or longer) during which your contract at your home institution kept running.

Check all that apply.

- In the same institution where I did my doctorate/PhD
- In a different institution in the same country where I did my doctorate/PhD
- In a country other than the one where I did my doctorate/PhD

35. Did you (mainly) have fixed-term or permanent contracts in these jobs?

- Mainly fixed-term
- Mainly permanent
- Both about equally
- Not applicable, did not have an employment contract

36. Were you (mainly) working full-time or part-time in these employments?

- Mainly full-time (full-time = 90 percent or more)
- Mainly part-time
- Both about equally

37. Between the completion of your doctorate/PhD (<phdend>) and the start of your job | period of non-employment | reported above (<emplstart> | <notemplstart> | [empty]), did you have any (additional) periods of non-employment (e.g. family obligations, transition between jobs, unemployment) of 1 month or longer?

- Yes
- No

38. Why were you not employed?

Check all that apply.

- (Further) education/training
- Family obligations (household, children, etc.)
- Travelling/language stay
- Health problems
- Transition between jobs
- Unemployment
- Other, please specify:
The following questions are about your career prospects and aspirations.

39. When you think of your future career, how important are the following aspects to you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Not important at all</th>
<th>Very important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>impsecjob: To have a secure job.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impsalary: To earn a high salary.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impcareerprosp: To have good career prospects.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impprestige: To work at a prestigious university/institution/company.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impcolleg: To work together with renowned colleagues.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impinfra: To be provided with good equipment and infrastructure by the employer.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impcountry: To work in the same country as I work/live in now.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imppart: To be able to work part-time.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impworklife: To be able to reconcile work and family life.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impothact: To be able to reconcile work with other activities (e.g. professional sport, travel).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

40. And how important are the following aspects for your future career?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Not important at all</th>
<th>Very important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>impexp: To work within my area of expertise.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impqualif: To be able to use my specialist qualifications at work.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impidea: To have a job where I can put my own ideas into practice.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impview: To have work that corresponds to my own views and convictions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impdevelop: To be able to develop myself further in my subject area at work.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impcareercont: To continue my academic career.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

41. Concerning your future career, what position would you aspire most?

- Full tenured professorship
- Other leading management position
- Other leading research position
- Other permanent teaching position
- Other, please specify:

aspirationoth:
42. Please indicate to what extent you agree with the following statements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do not agree at all</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully agree</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific work is a central part of my life.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am confident that I am able to meet the demands of an academic career.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have a strong commitment to scientific work.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The most important things that I experience are related to scientific work.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The next section contains questions about yourself and your life situation.

43. Do you currently have a partner?
   - Yes
   - No

44. What is your marital status?
   - Single (never married and never in a registered partnership)
   - Married
   - Married, but legally separated
   - Divorced
   - Widowed
   - Registered partnership
   - Registered partnership dissolved
   - Registered partner passed away

45. Do you have children?
   "Please include children who have reached the age of majority."
   - Yes
   - No
46. When (was your child | were these children) born?  

**Input format:** yyyy (example: 2018)  

**Please enter the birth (year | years).**

child1 1st child: [date: yyyy]  
child2 2nd child: [date: yyyy]  
child3 3rd child: [date: yyyy]  
child4 4th child: [date: yyyy]  
child5 5th child: [date: yyyy]  
child6 6th child: [date: yyyy]  
child7 7th child: [date: yyyy]  
child8 8th child: [date: yyyy]  
child9 9th child: [date: yyyy]

47. Apart from you, who else lives in your household?  

**Check all that apply.**

- □ Spouse / Partner
- □ Children
- □ Other adults
- □ No one, I live alone

chores 48. In your household, who is responsible for domestic work (cleaning, cooking, laundry, shopping, home maintenance, etc.)?

- □ Mostly/Only me
- □ Me and other household members in equal parts  
- □ Mostly/Only someone else from the same household  
- □ Mostly/Only a third party (e.g. cleaning staff)

childcarediv 49. Between you and the other parent, how do you share childcare responsibility?  

- □ I am solely responsible.
- □ I am mostly responsible.
- □ We share the responsibility in equal parts.
- □ The other parent is mostly responsible.
- □ The other parent is solely responsible.
- □ No childcare necessary

childcarenum 50. On how many half-days per week (excluding the weekend and excluding evenings) do you personally look after your children?  

**The maximum is 10 half-days.**

Number of half-days: [ ]
51. In a typical week, who else looks after your children?

- Check all that apply.

- childcarefam, Other family or household members (excluding you and the other parent)
- childcareext, External daycare/dayschool
- childcarenanny, Au-pair or nanny at your own home
- childcarebabys, Babysitter
- childcareoth, Other, please specify:
- childcareothspec
- childcareno, No one else

52. Do you have any of the following caring responsibilities?

- Check all that apply.

- carechild, Care for children, other than the above mentioned
- carechildif Q45 = 1, Care for children
- careelder, Elder care
- caredisab, Adult with disability
- careoth, Other, please specify:
- careothspec
- careno, No, I do not have such caring responsibilities.

53. In general, how satisfied are you with your life?

- lifesat

54. And how satisfied are you with your work-life-balance?

- worklife

55. What is the highest educational degree of your mother?

- mother

- Compulsory education
- Secondary vocational education and training (apprenticeship) (in Switzerland: Beruflehre, Handelsgesamtschule, apprentissage, école supérieure de commerce, or similar)
- Secondary general education (high school) (in Switzerland: Berufsmaturität, gymnasiale Maturität, Diplom-/Fachmittelschule, Lehrlernseminar, maturité professionnelle, maturité gymnasielle, école de degré diplôme, école de culture générale, écoles normales, or similar)
- Tertiary vocational education (advanced technical and professional training) (in Switzerland: Meisterdiplom, Eidg. Fachausweis, Höhere Fachschule, diplôme de maîtrise, brevet fédéral, école professionnelle supérieure, or similar)
- Tertiary academic education (college, university, university of applied sciences) (in Switzerland: University/ETH/EPF, Fachhochschule, Pädagogische Hochschule, haute école spécialisé, haute école pédagogique, or similar)
- Doctoral degree
56. What is the highest educational degree of your father?

☐ 1. Compulsory education

☐ 2. Secondary vocational education and training (apprenticeship) (in Switzerland: Beruflehre, Handelsmittelschule, apprentissage, école supérieure de commerce, or similar)

☐ 3. Secondary general education (high school) (in Switzerland: Berufsmaturität, gymnasiale Maturität, Diplom-/Fachmittelschule, Lehrerseminar, maturité professionnelle, maturité gymnasiale, école de degré diplôme, école de culture générale, écoles normales, or similar)

☐ 4. Tertiary vocational education (advanced technical and professional training) (in Switzerland: Meisterdiplom, Eidg. Fachausweis, Höhere Fachschule, diplôme de maîtrise, brevet fédéral, école professionnelle supérieure, or similar)

☐ 5. Tertiary academic education (college, university, university of applied sciences) (in Switzerland: University/ETH/EPF, Fachhochschule, Pädagogische Hochschule, haute école spécialisée, haute école pédagogique, or similar)

☐ 6. Doctoral degree

57. If there is anything else you would like to say, please share your thoughts in the field below.

[Field for comments]