Swiss National Science Foundation  
Career Tracker Cohorts (CTC)  

Questionnaire of the CTC-19-B Base Survey  
(Paper-and-Pencil Lookalike)  

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Please cite this document as follows:  
The first set of questions is about your current work situation.

empl 1. Are you currently engaged in paid employment (including self-employment, scholarships, and grants)?

☐ 1. Yes
☐ 0. 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?

If there are several reasons, please choose the most important one.

☐ 1. (Further) education/training
☐ 2. Family obligations (household, children, etc.)
☐ 3. Travelling or language stay
☐ 4. Health problems
☐ 5. Transition between jobs
☐ 6. Unemployment
☐ 7. Other, please specify:

notemplreasoth

jobnum 4. Do you have one or several jobs?

If you have several contracts with the same employer, please count this as one job.

☐ 1. One job
☐ 2. 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.

☐ 1. Trainee
☐ 2. Employee without leadership/managerial responsibilities
☐ 3. Employee with leadership/managerial responsibilities
☐ 4. Self-employed without employees
☐ 5. Self-employed with employees

Number of employees: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
7. Do you have a supervisory/leadership function?
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

   Number of people 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. “80'000 EUR”, “80'000 USD”).]

9. {When did you start your current job | business?}
   ☐ Please answer for your primary job.

   [date: mm/yyyy]

10. {In which country are you employed | is your business located?}
    ☐ Please answer for your primary job.

    [Autocomplete: Country . . .]

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? Check all that apply. Please also answer "yes" if the number of hours you can compensate is capped.

☐ 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.

Work-time percentage:

Work-time percentage in primary job:

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.

Number of hours:

Number of hours in primary job:

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. "80'000 EUR", "80'000 USD").

Annual gross earnings (including social security contributions, 13th month salary, paid overtime, bonuses, etc.):

Annual gross earnings in primary job (including social security contributions, 13th month salary, paid overtime, bonuses, etc.):

Annual gross earnings in other job(s) (including social security contributions, 13th month salary, paid overtime, bonuses, etc.):

Annual extra income (from mandates, royalties, expert activities, extra teaching, etc.):

The following questions are about your academic research activities.

18. In your current 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.

- activityres Research (conducting research, writing papers and proposals, attending conferences, etc.; excluding research-related administrative activities)  

- activityteach Teaching (preparing and giving classes/lectures, supervising students, etc.)  

- activityadmin Administrative duties (accounting, personnel administration, marketing, etc.)  

- activityclin Clinical activities  

- activityoth Other activities  

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

Please answer for your primary academic research 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 research job.

- □ Doctoral student / PhD student  

- □ Junior researcher / Postdoc  

- □ Senior researcher  

- □ Research associate / Scientific collaborator  

- □ Lecturer / Reader  

- □ Medical resident / Assistant doctor  

- □ Chief medical resident  

- □ 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 or academic jobs, did you conduct any research visits or exchanges (1 month or longer) at another university or research institute?

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Yes, in the same country
- [ ] Yes, in another country
- [ ] No

23. When did you start your doctorate/PhD (including MD, MD-PhD)?

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

- [ ] I do not/did not do a doctorate/PhD.

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

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

- [ ] I haven’t finished my doctorate/PhD yet.

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

If you have a joint degree, please indicate the country of your home university.

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.

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?

If you have a joint degree, please indicate your home university.

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 type of doctoral degree did you acquire?

- [ ] PhD/Dr.
- [ ] MD (medical doctor)
- [ ] MD-PhD
29. What was the format of your dissertation?

- [ ] Book or monograph
- [ ] Individual articles/papers (cumulative dissertation)
- [ ] Number of articles/papers: [ ]
- [ ] Other, please specify: ________

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

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

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

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

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

**Check all that apply.**

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

33. 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.**

- [ ] Yes, in the same country
- [ ] Yes, in another country
- [ ] No
In the following, we are interested in your occupational history since you completed your doctorate/PhD.

34. Between the completion of your doctorate/PhD (\( \langle \text{phdend} \rangle \)) and the start of your current [job | period of non-employment] reported above (\( \langle \text{emplstart} \rangle \) | \( \langle \text{notemplstart} \rangle \) | [empty]), what jobs did you have?

☐ 1. Mostly/Only jobs involving academic research
☐ 2. Mostly/Only 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

35. Where were these jobs? 

\( Q_{34} = 1, 2, 3 \)

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

\( \Rightarrow \) Check all that apply.

☐ histemplphd 1. In the same institution where I did my doctorate/PhD

histemplphdnum Total time in months: 

☐ histemplhome 2. In a different institution in the same country where I did my doctorate/PhD

histemplhomenum Total time in months: 

☐ histemplabroad 3. In a country other than the one where I did my doctorate/PhD

histemplabroadnum Total time in months: 

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

\( Q_{34} = 1, 2, 3 \)

☐ 1. Mainly fixed-term
☐ 2. Mainly permanent
☐ 3. Both about equally
☐ 4. Not applicable, did not have an employment contract

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

\( Q_{34} = 1, 2, 3 \)

☐ 1. Mainly full-time (full-time = 90 percent or more)
☐ 2. Mainly part-time
☐ 3. Both about equally

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

☐ 1. Yes

histnotemplnum Total time in months: 

☐ 2. No
39. Why were you not employed?

Check all that apply.

- histnotempledu ☐, (Further) education/training
- histnotemplfam ☐, Family obligations (household, children, etc.)
- histnotempltrav ☐, Travelling/language stay
- histnotemphealth ☐, Health problems
- histnotempljobs ☐, Transition between jobs
- histnotemplunempl ☐, Unemployment
- histnotemploth ☐, Other, please specify:

The following questions are about your career prospects and aspirations.

40. 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>impsjob 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>impotheract To be able to reconcile work with other activities (e.g. professional sport, travel).</td>
<td>□□□□□</td>
<td>□□□□□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

41. 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>impqual 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>
42. Concerning your future career, what position would you aspire to most?

☐ 1. Full tenured professorship
☐ 2. Other leading management position
☐ 3. Other leading research position
☐ 4. Other permanent teaching position
☐ 5. Other, please specify: ____________________________

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Do not agree at all</th>
<th>Fully agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scientific work is a central part of my life.</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have a strong commitment to scientific work.</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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

44. Do you currently have a partner?

☐ 1. Yes
☐ 2. No

45. What is your marital status?

☐ 1. Single (never married and never in a registered partnership)
☐ 2. Married
☐ 3. Married, but legally separated
☐ 4. Divorced
☐ 5. Widowed
☐ 6. Registered partnership
☐ 7. Registered partnership dissolved
☐ 8. Registered partner passed away

46. Do you have children?

Please include children who have reached the age of majority.

☐ 1. Yes
☐ 2. No

Number of children: ____
47. When (was your child | were these children) born?

Please enter the birth (year | years).

If Q46 = 1

Input format: yyyy (example: 2018)

If JavaScript is not activated

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

Check all that apply.

livspartner □ 1. Spouse / Partner
livsitchildren □ 2. Children
livsitadult □ 3. Other adults
livsitalone □ 4. No one, I live alone

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

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

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

If Q46 = 1

□ 1. I am solely responsible.
□ 2. I am mostly responsible.
□ 3. We share the responsibility in equal parts.
□ 4. The other parent is mostly responsible.
□ 5. The other parent is solely responsible.
□ 6. No childcare necessary
51. On how many half-days per week (excluding the weekend and excluding evenings) do you personally look after your {child | children}?  
☐ 0 half-days  
☐ 1 half-day  
☐ 2 half-days  
☐ 3 half-days  
☐ 4 half-days  
☐ 5 half-days  
☐ 6 half-days  
☐ 7 half-days  
☐ 8 half-days  
☐ 9 half-days  
☐ 10 half-days  

52. In a typical week, who else looks after your {child | children}?  
  ☐ Other family or household members (excluding you and the other parent)  
  ☐ External daycare/dayschool  
  ☐ Au-pair or nanny at your own home  
  ☐ Babysitter  
  ☐ Other, please specify:  
  ☐ No one else  

53. Do you have any of the following caring responsibilities?  
  ☐ Care for children, other than the above mentioned  
  ☐ Care for children  
  ☐ Elder care  
  ☐ Adult with disability  
  ☐ Other, please specify:  
  ☐ No, I do not have such caring responsibilities.  

54. In general, how satisfied are you with your life?  
Not satisfied at all  
□ 1  □ 2  □ 3  □ 4  □ 5  
Very satisfied  

55. And how satisfied are you with your work-life-balance?  
Not satisfied at all  
□ 1  □ 2  □ 3  □ 4  □ 5  
Very satisfied
56. What is the highest educational degree of your mother?

☐ 1. Compulsory education or less
☐ 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, écues 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 professionelle 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. And what is the highest educational degree of your father?

☐ 1. Compulsory education or less
☐ 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, écues 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 professionelle 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

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

[Text field]

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