



What Psychology Faculty Need to Know about Psychology Career Pathways

Peggy Christidis, PhD

Senior Research Officer, Center for Workforce Studies

Jessica Conroy

Research Assistant, Center for Workforce Studies

Society for the Teaching of Psychology Annual Conference

October XX, 2019



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

The opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not constitute official policy of the American Psychological Association.

Coauthors: Peggy Christidis, Jessica Conroy, & Luona Lin

Slides are available at the APA Center for Workforce Studies website under Presentations <http://www.apa.org/workforce/presentations/index.aspx>

Agenda



Introductions



Facts and Statistics for
Faculty



Demo & Discussion



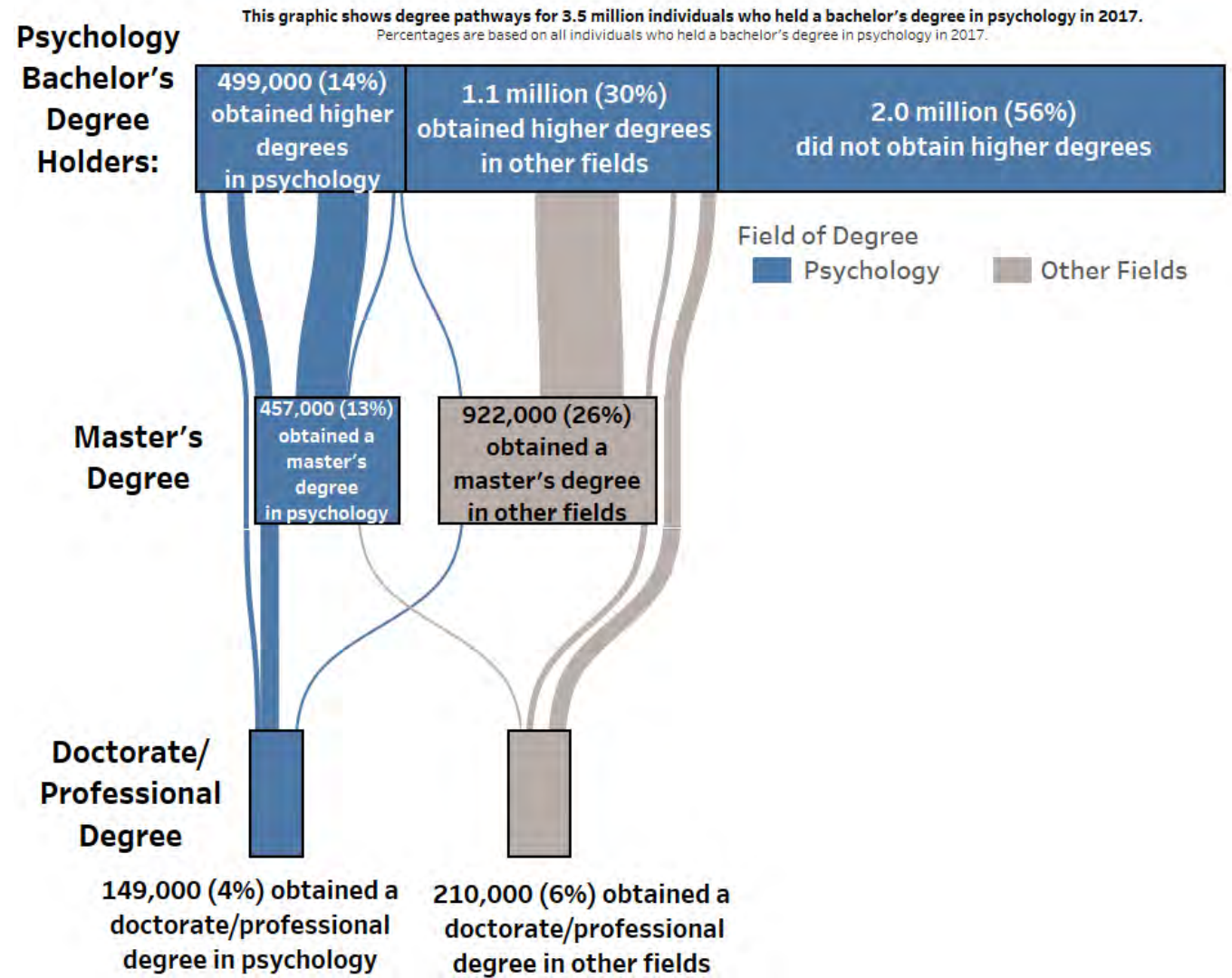
Psychology Students and the Workforce

Facts and Statistics for Psychology
Faculty



Degree Pathways

- Only 4 percent of Psychology Bachelor degree holders go on to earn a doctorate or professional degree in psychology
- 13 percent earn a Masters degree in Psychology
- 56% go directly into the workforce



Careers in Psychology – Bachelor's Degree Holders

Represents **92** out of 129
different occupational
categories

Aeronautical/aerospace/astronautical engineers
 Transportation and material moving occupations
 Teachers: Secondary - computer, math or sciences
 Precision/production occupations
 Construction and extraction occupations
 Education administrators
 Computer engineers - hardware
 RNs, pharmacists, dieticians, therapists, physician asst, nurse practitioners
 Insurance, securities, real estate and business services
 Sales engineers
 Sociologists
 Economists
 Actuaries
 Writers, editors, PR specialists, artists, entertainers, broadcasters
 OTHER OCCUPATIONS
 Accountants, auditors, and other financial specialists
 Marketing and sales occupations
 Teachers: Pre- kindergarten and kindergarten
 Sales- Commodities except retail
 Librarians, archivists, curators
 Information security analysts
 Computer programmers (business, scientific, process control)
 Medical and health services managers
 Computer support specialists
 Teachers: OTHER precollegiate area
 Postsecondary Teachers: Mathematical Sciences
 Other social scientists
 Technologists and technicians in the physical sciences
 Computer and information systems managers
 Electrical, electronic, industrial, and mechanical technicians
 Diagnosing/treating practitioners
 Postsecondary Teachers: OTHER/Social Sciences
 Other health occupations
 Lawyers, judges
 Clergy and other religious workers
 Postsecondary Teachers: Sociology
 Secretaries, receptionists, typists
 Accounting clerks and bookkeepers
 OTHER non-related occupations
 Top-level managers, execs, admins
 Food preparation and service
 Political scientists
 Computer systems analysts
 Teachers: Elementary
 Social Workers
 Other administrative occupations
 Other management related occupations
 Protective services
 Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists
 Other mid-level managers
 Other service occupations
 Counselors
 Teachers: Secondary - other subjects
 Postsecondary Teachers: Education
 Software developers - applications and systems software
 Computer & information education, research
 Atmospheric and space scientists
 Postsecondary Teachers: Psychology
 Sales- retail
 Other computer information science occupations
 Network and computer systems administrators
 Postsecondary Teachers: Health and Related Sciences
 Teachers: Secondary - social sciences
 Other engineers
 Web developers

Careers in Psychology – Bachelor's Degree Holders

Most Common Careers for Psychology Bachelor's Degree Holders

Occupation	Rounded Count	% of Total Estimated Count
Social Workers	99800	5.22%
Other management related occupations	98800	5.17%
Other administrative occupations	98000	5.13%
Other service occupations	73700	3.86%
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	61000	3.19%
Counselors	58400	3.06%
Marketing and sales occupations	57300	3.00%
Accountants, auditors, and other financial specialists	53600	2.81%
Insurance, securities, real estate and business services	50600	2.65%
Top-level managers, execs, admins	49500	2.59%



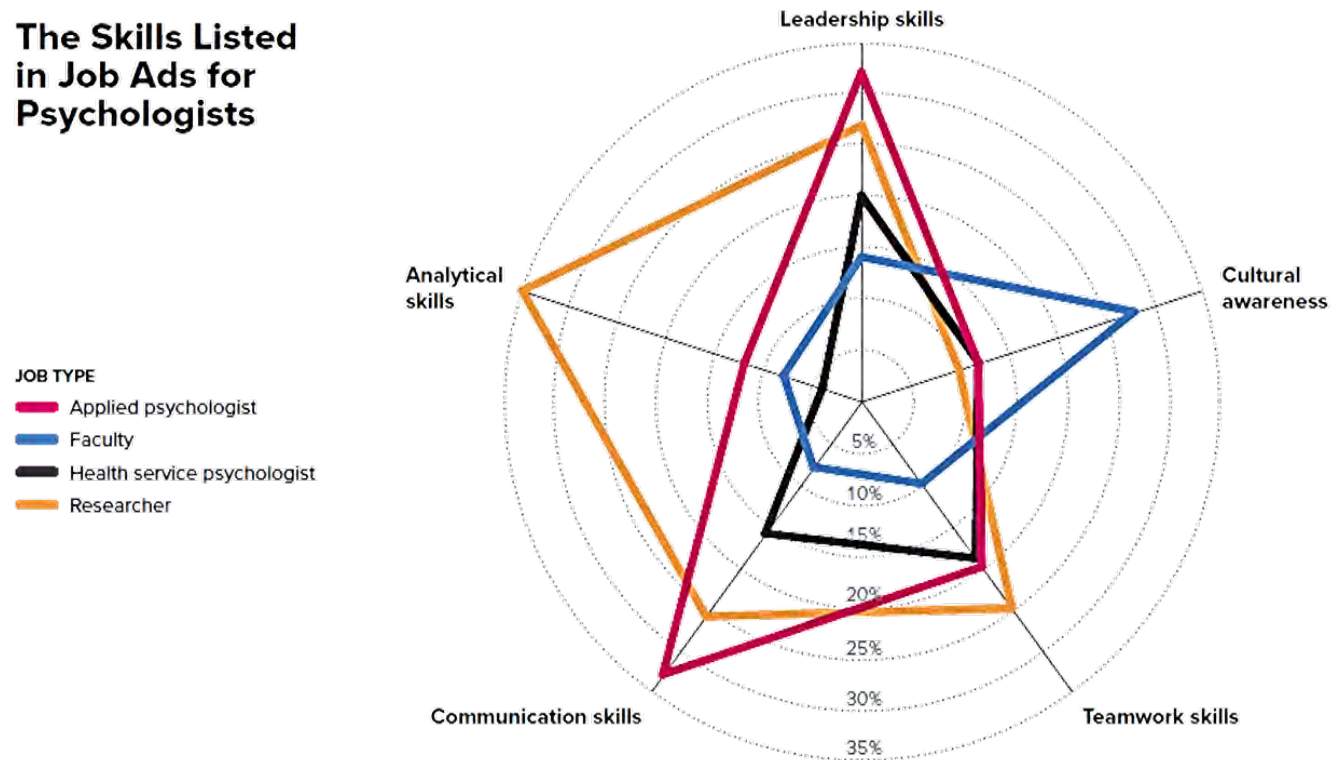
The Psychology Job Market

Skills and Traits



Requested Skills

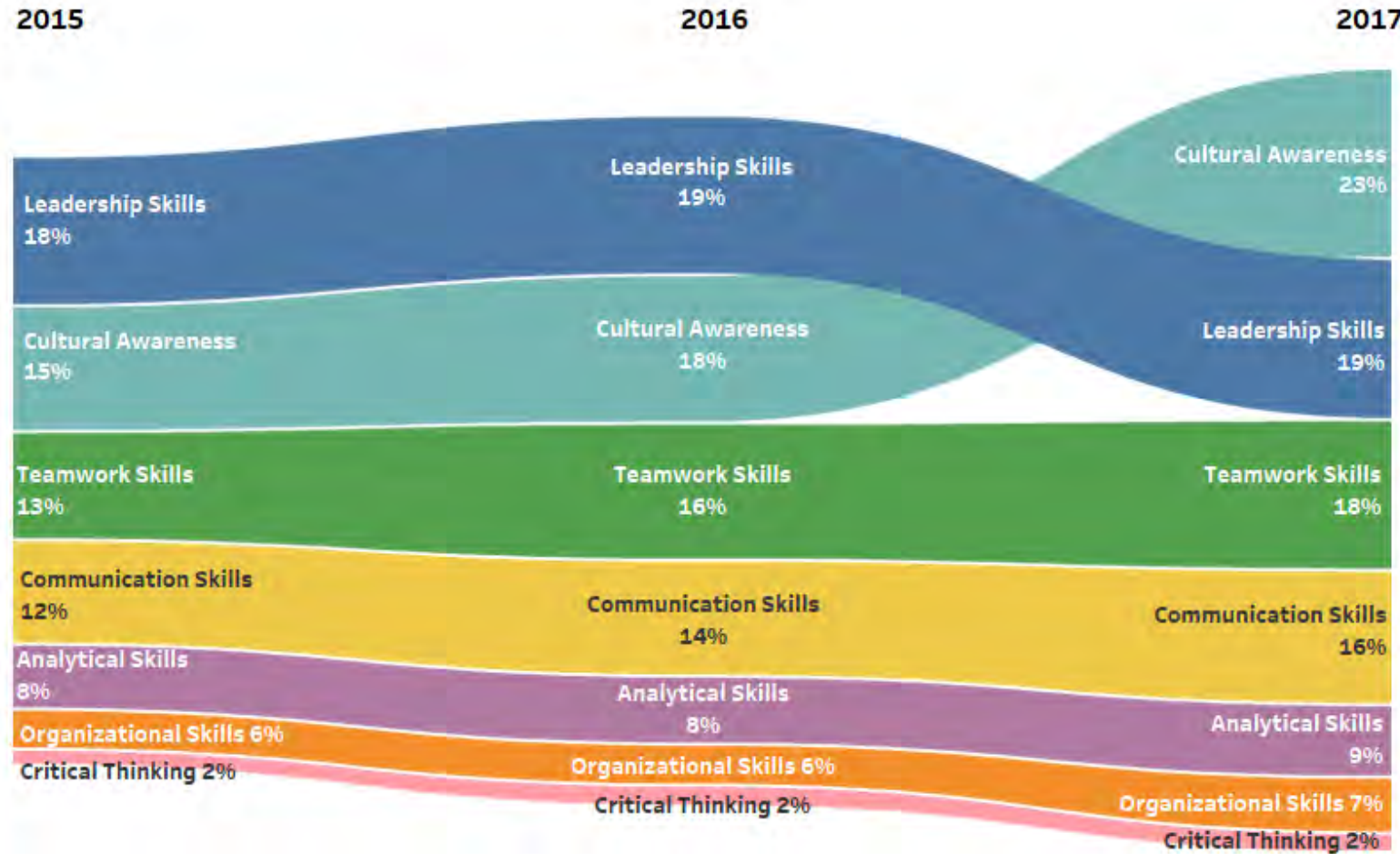
The Skills Listed in Job Ads for Psychologists



Top Skills Across Job Type



Trends in Skills over Time



Source: APA, 2018, 2015-17 Psychology Job Advertisements
[Unpublished special analyses]

Degree/Training Subfield:

Working Subfields:

Clinical Child Psychology ; 6%

Clinical Psychology ; 8%

Cognitive Psychology ; 2%

Counseling Psychology ; 22%

Engineering Psychology ; 2%

Experimental Psychology ; 8%

I/O Psychology ; 3%

Neuroscience ; 2%

School Psychology ; 2%

Social Psychology ; 4%

Sport Psychology ; 18%

Sport Psychology ; 8%

Quantitative Psychology ; 24%

Neuroscience ; 4%

I/O Psychology ; 8%

Forensic Psychology ; 4%

Experimental Psychology ; 6%

Environmental Psychology ; 2%

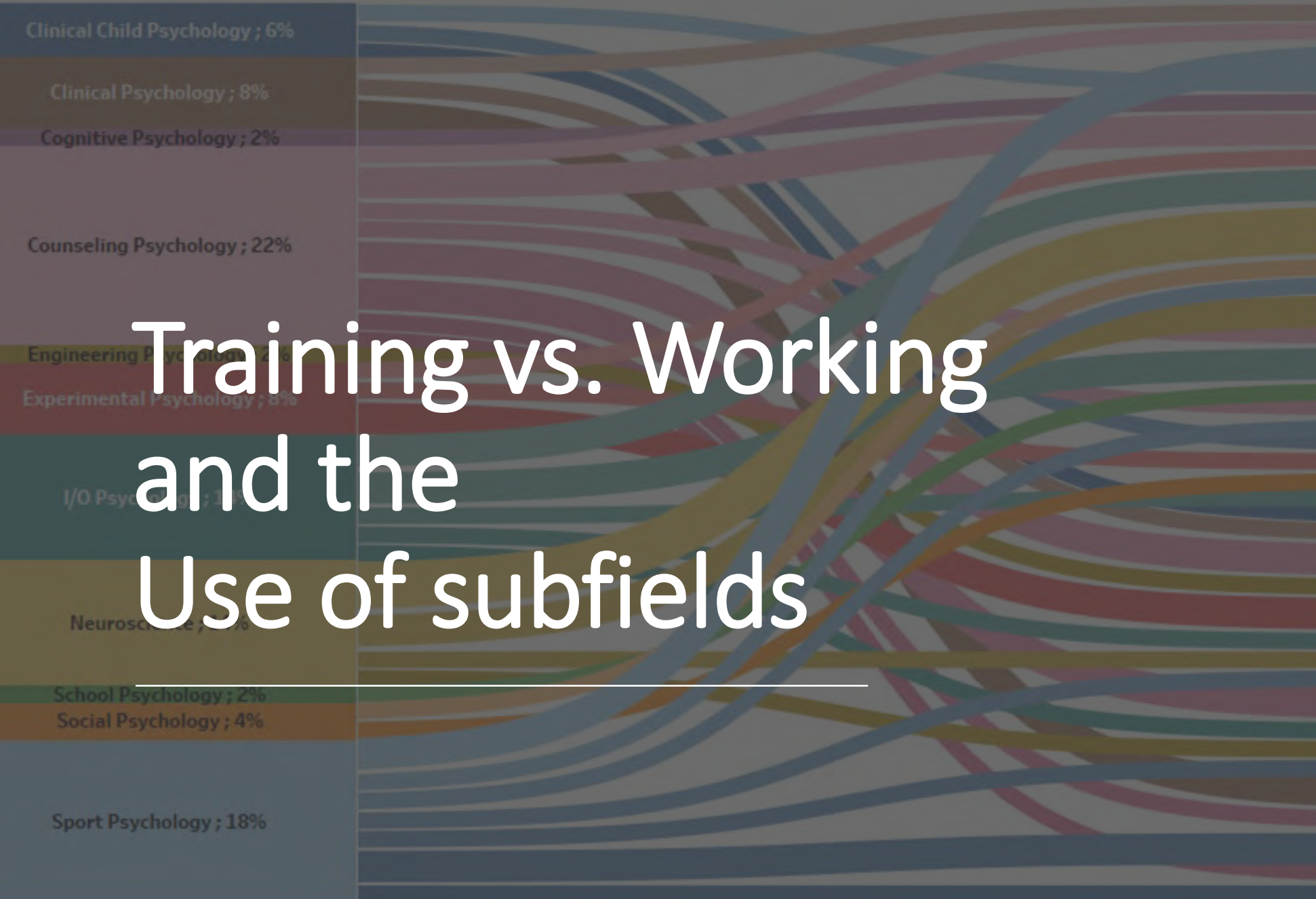
Engineering Psychology ; 20%

Counseling Psychology ; 10%

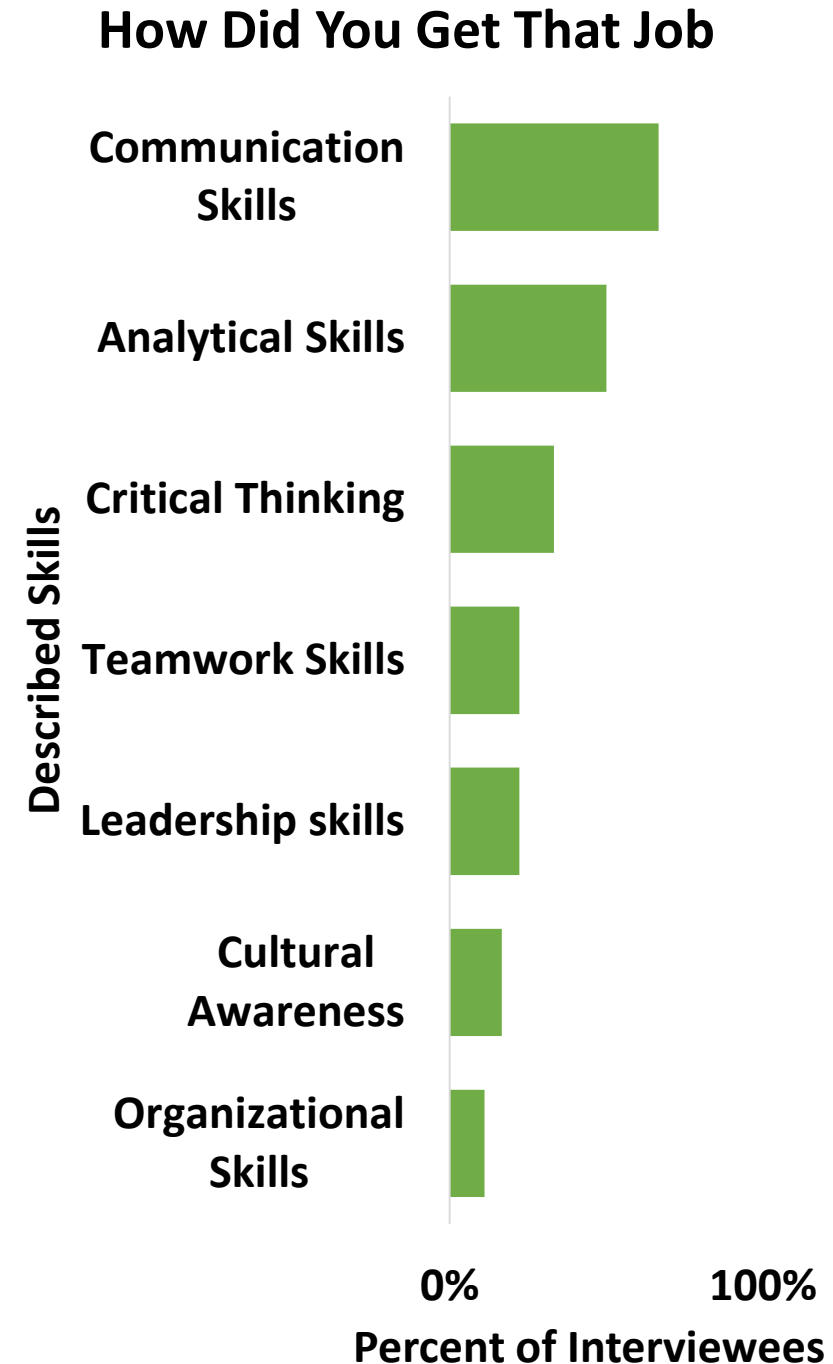
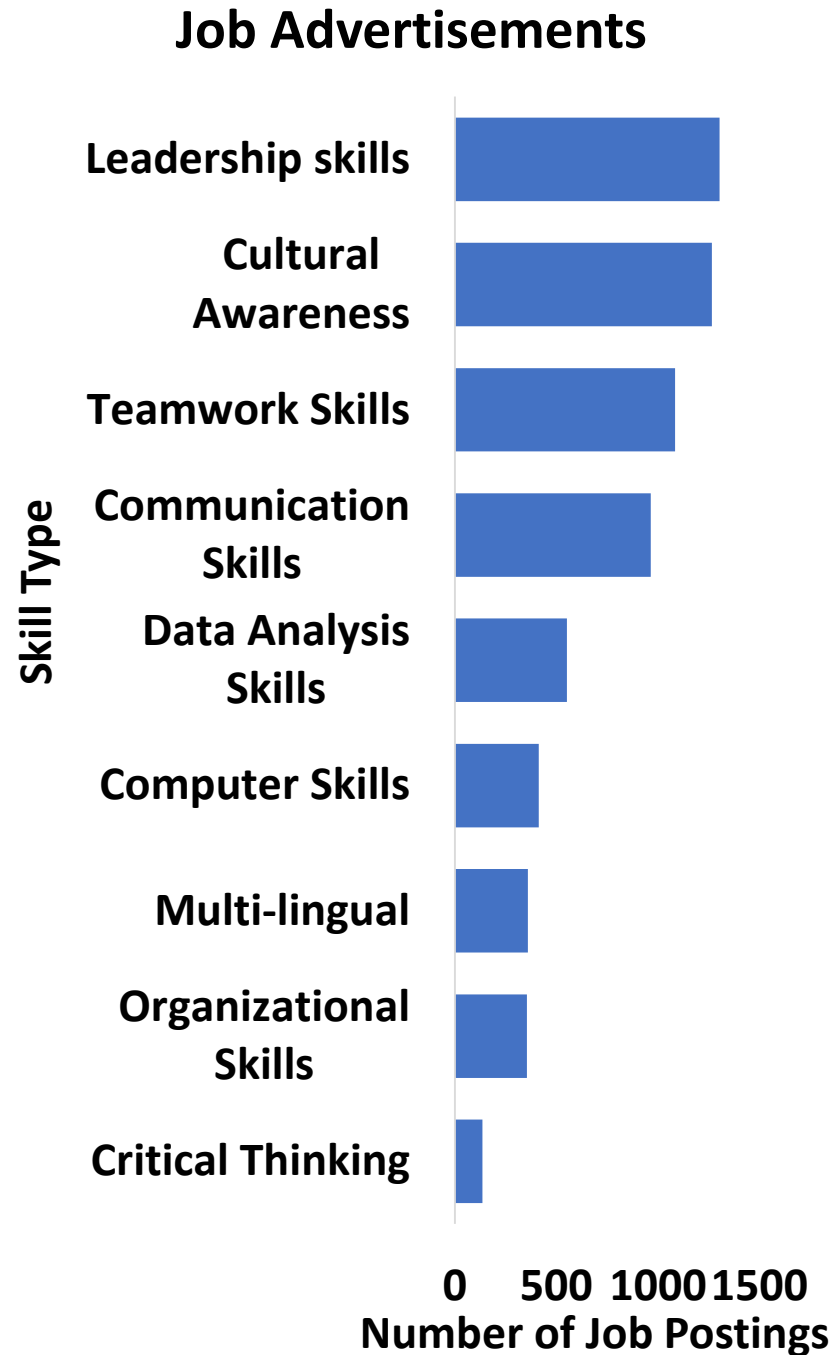
Clinical Psychology ; 10%

Behavioral Medicine ; 4%

Training vs. Working and the Use of subfields



Skills Requested vs. Used



The subfield you study may not be what you do day to day...

Source: APA, 2018-2019 How Did You Get That Job [Unpublished special analyses]

Degree/Training Subfield:

Clinical Child Psychology ; 6%

Clinical Psychology ; 8%

Cognitive Psychology ; 2%

Counseling Psychology ; 22%

Engineering Psychology ; 2%

Experimental Psychology ; 8%

I/O Psychology ; 14%

Neuroscience ; 14%

School Psychology ; 2%

Social Psychology ; 4%

Sport Psychology ; 18%

Working Subfields:

Sport Psychology ; 8%

Quantitative Psychology ; 24%

Neuroscience ; 4%

I/O Psychology ; 8%

Forensic Psychology ; 4%

Experimental Psychology ; 6%

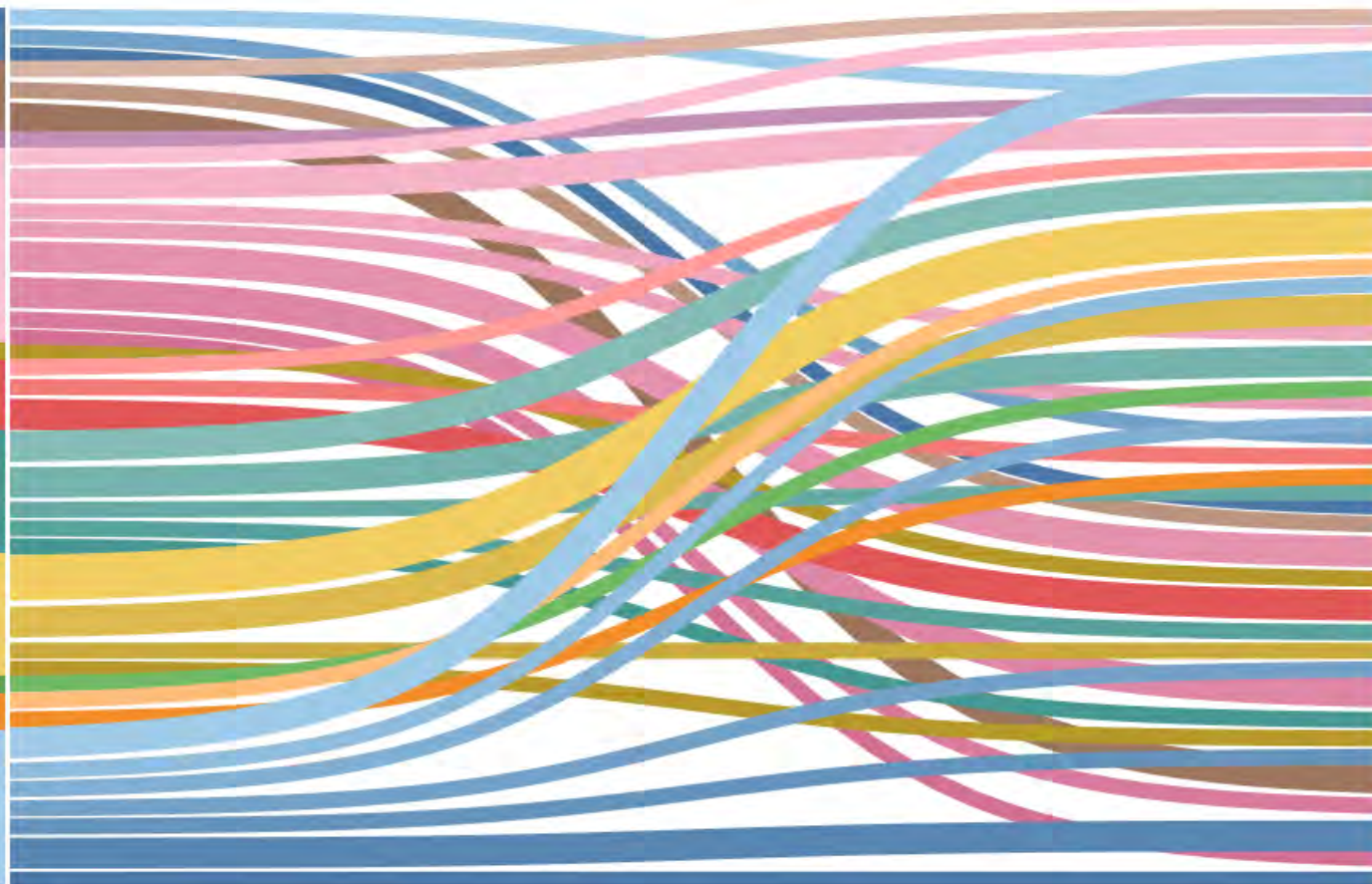
Environmental Psychology ; 2%

Engineering Psychology ; 20%

Counseling Psychology ; 10%

Clinical Psychology ; 10%

Behavioral Medicine ; 4%



The subfield you study may not be what you do day to day...

Source: APA, 2018-2019 How Did You Get That Job [Unpublished special analyses]

Degree/Training Subfield:

Clinical Child Psychology ; 6%

Clinical Psychology ; 8%

Cognitive Psychology ; 2%

Counseling Psychology ; 22%

Engineering Psychology ; 2%

Experimental Psychology ; 8%

I/O Psychology ; 14%

Neuroscience ; 14%

School Psychology ; 2%

Social Psychology ; 4%

Sport Psychology ; 18%

Working Subfields:

Sport Psychology ; 8%

Quantitative Psychology ; 24%

Neuroscience ; 4%

I/O Psychology ; 8%

Forensic Psychology ; 4%

Experimental Psychology ; 6%

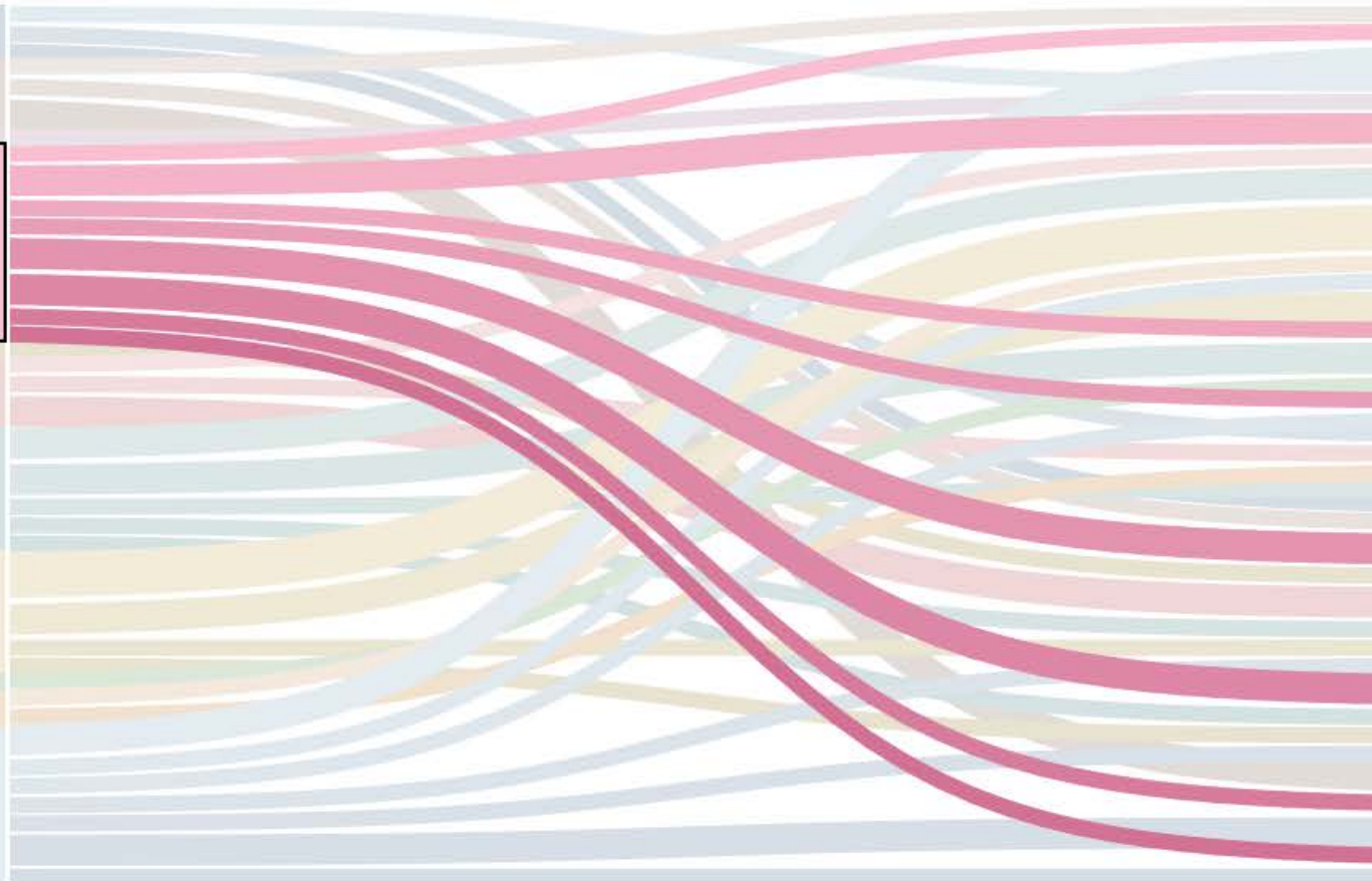
Environmental Psychology ; 2%

Engineering Psychology ; 20%

Counseling Psychology ; 10%

Clinical Psychology ; 10%

Behavioral Medicine ; 4%



Some Key Points



A **minority** of psychology undergraduates are going on to earn higher degrees



Students may not be working directly in the field for which they were trained

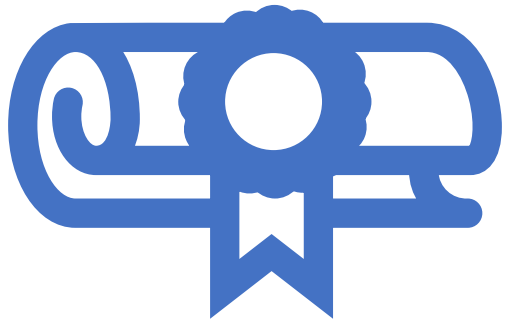


Soft skills like **cultural awareness, leadership, and teamwork** are important on the current job market



Demonstration and Discussion





- What percentage of Psychology Doctorate holders held undergraduate degrees in fields other than psychology?
 - a) 50%
 - b) 35%
 - c) 15%
 - d) 5%

Degree Pathways to a Psychology Doctorate A Snapshot in 2017

Please use a desktop or laptop to use this interactive data tool.

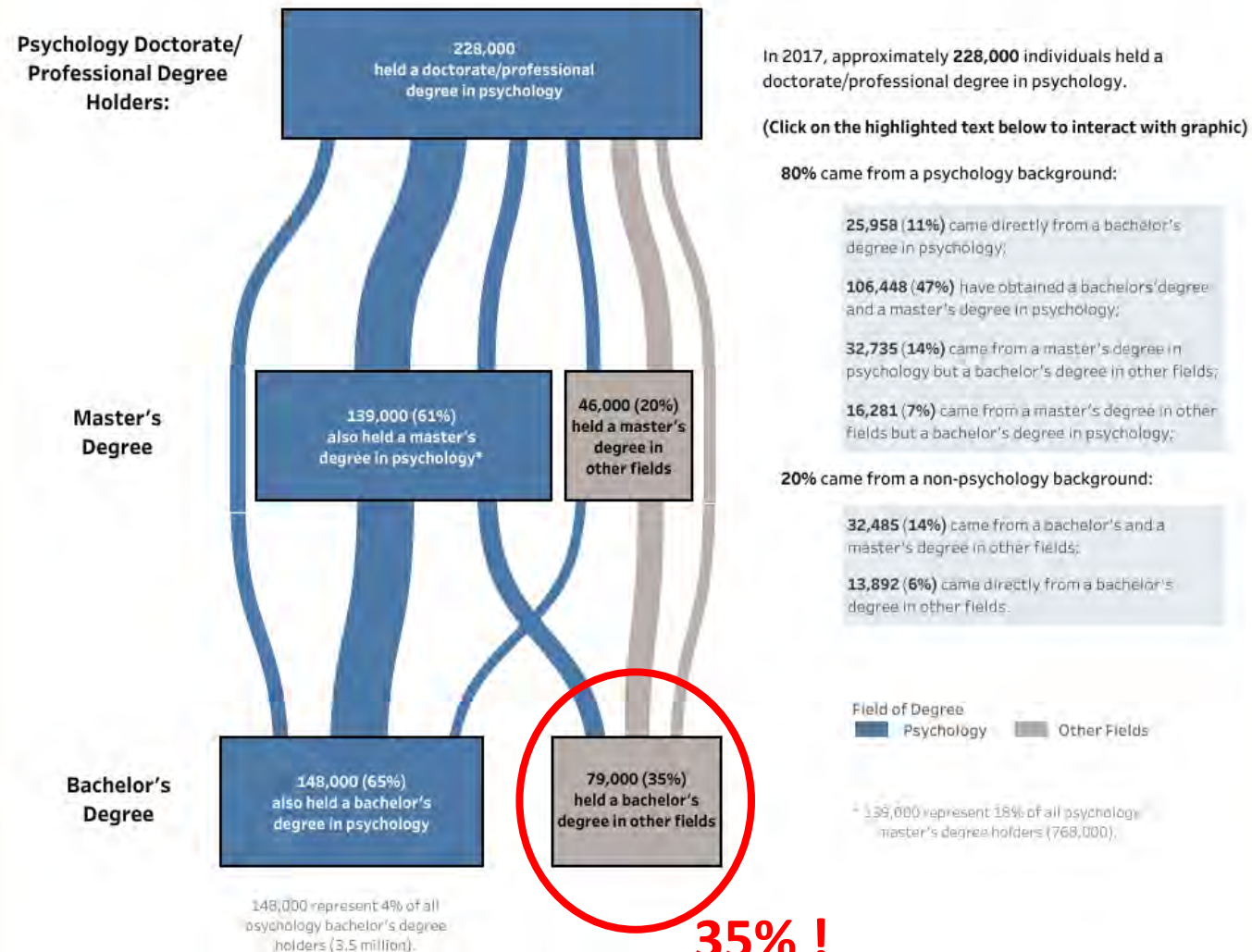
This data tool is based on the 2017 National Survey of College Graduates and includes individuals with a **doctorate/professional degree in psychology**.

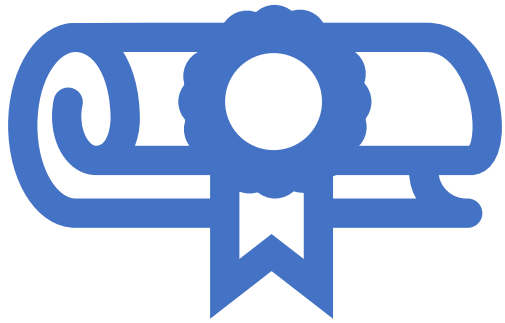
Click on the text to interact with the graphic, or **slide left** to see pathways from a bachelor's degree in psychology.

For more information, check out our website at <http://www.apa.org/workforce/>

This graphic shows degree pathways for 228,000 individuals who held a doctorate/professional degree in psychology in 2017.

Percentages are based on all individuals who held a doctorate/professional degree in psychology in 2017.





- What is the most common primary work activity for Psychology Bachelor's Degree Holders?
(shout them out!)

For these psychology degree holders who worked in a variety of occupations,

62% believed that their jobs are related to psychology, and

27% believed that their jobs are closely related to psychology.

See their employment characteristics below:

Employment



Primary Work Activity



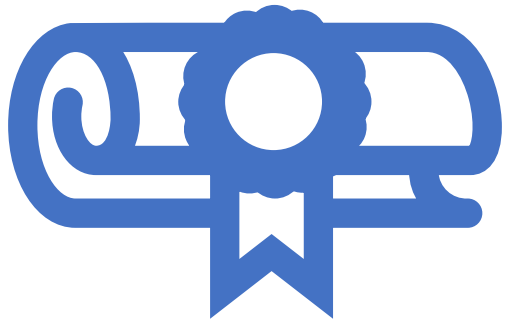
Sector



Professional Certification/License (in any field)



32% of Bachelor's Degree Holders say MANAGEMENT is their Primary Work Activity



- Which skills are most asked for in job ads for leadership positions?

Qualifications Specified in Job Ads

Most job ads specify a **doctoral-level degree** for the advertised position. The skills and personal traits specified within job ads vary across different job types.

Select Year: All
Select Job Type: All

Degrees



Minimum Experience

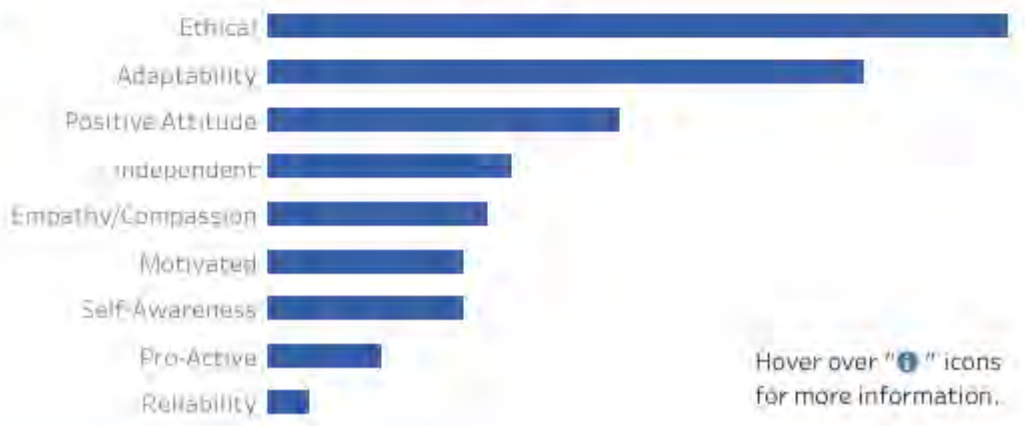


Show Leadership Positions Only

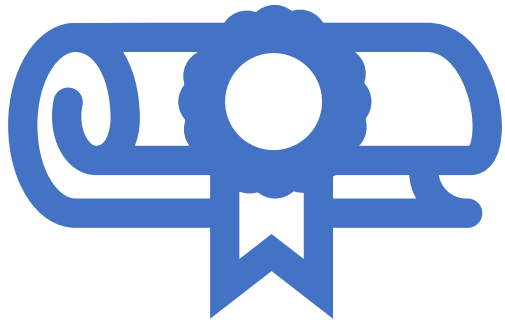
Skills



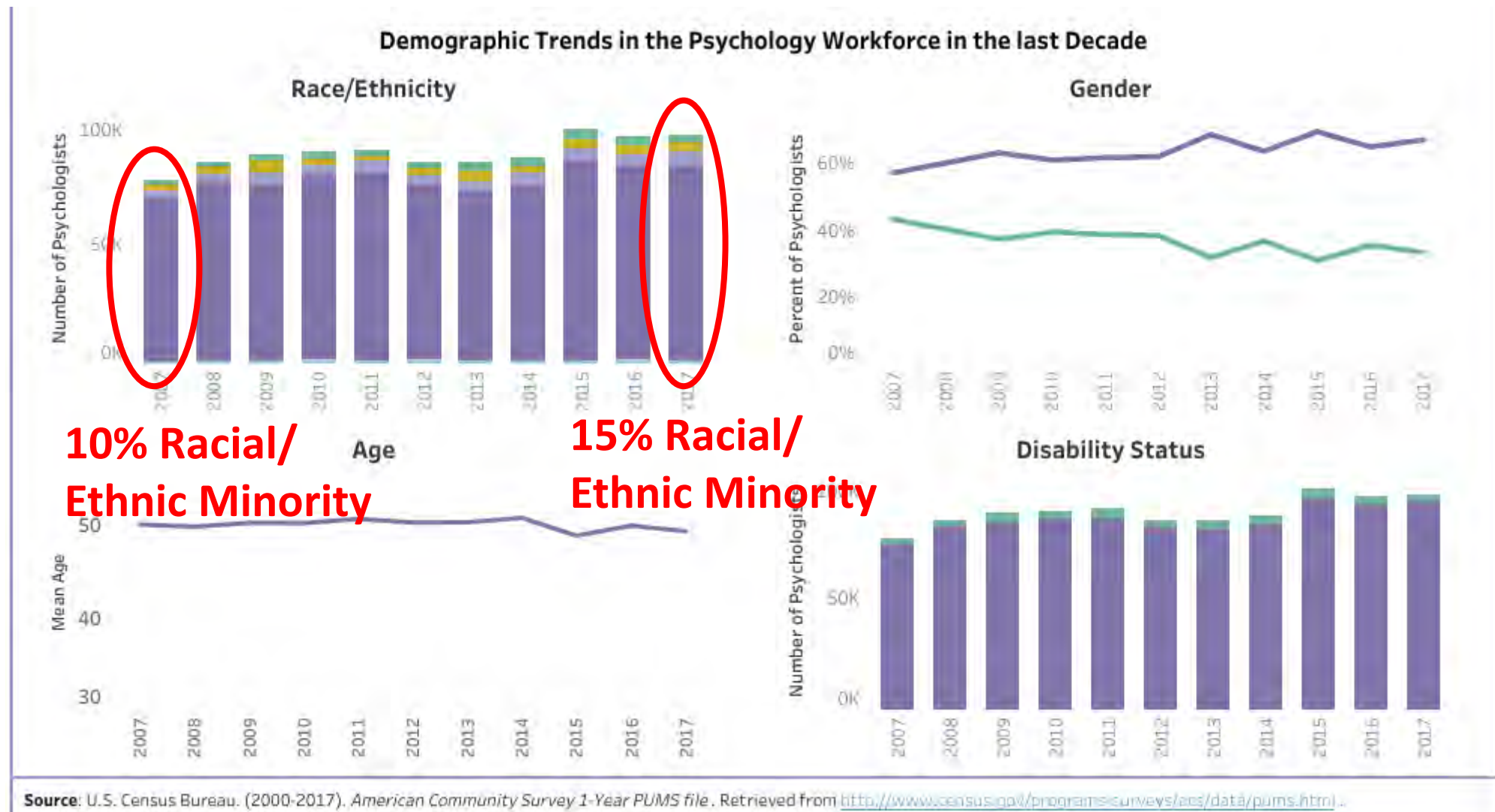
Traits



Hover over "i" icons for more information.



- The proportion of Psychology Bachelor's degrees awarded to white students relative to racial/ethnic minority students has _____ since 2007.
 - a) Increased
 - b) Decreased
 - c) Stayed the same



Follow the link below to explore our data tools



<https://www.apa.org/workforce/data-tools/index>

- Workforce Projections
- Analysis of Job Advertisements
- Salaries in Psychology
- And more...

APA's How Did You Get That Job



**AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION**

Learn more about “How Did You Get That Job?” APA's Free Career Webinar

www.apa.org/members/your-growth/career-development/how-did-you-get-that-job/index.aspx

Questions or Comments?

Contact pchristidis@apa.org or jconroy@apa.org

Thank you!

