

Table 5

Job Search and Satisfaction Reported by 2009 Psychology Doctorate Recipients by Type of Employment Position

	Human Services		Other Positions		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<i>Job search methods used</i>						
Informal channels	252	71.6	309	66.5	561	68.7
Faculty advisor(s)	68	19.3	172	37	240	29.4
Newspaper ads	56	15.9	64	13.8	120	14.7
National convention placement service	7	2	31	6.7	38	4.7
Regional convention placement service	6	1.7	10	2.2	16	2
APA Monitor ads	87	24.7	116	24.9	203	24.8
APA Observer ads	7	2	63	13.5	70	8.6
Chronicle or other prof. newsletter	25	7.1	123	26.5	148	18.1
Journals	23	6.5	35	7.5	58	7.1
Civil Service application	32	9.1	13	2.8	45	5.5
Employment Agency	3	0.9	8	1.7	11	1.3
Met employer thru former job	59	16.8	48	10.3	107	13.1
Postdoc became permanent	56	15.9	17	3.7	73	8.9
Sent unsolicited vitae	53	15.1	55	11.8	108	13.2
Received unsolicited offer	24	6.8	40	8.6	64	7.8
Electronic resource	140	39.8	128	27.5	268	32.8
Other method	26	7.4	39	8.4	65	8
Not specified	26	7	30	3.1	56	6.5
<i>Most successful method</i>						
Informal channels	128	34.9	160	33.3	288	34
Faculty advisor(s)	6	1.6	40	8.3	46	5.4
Newspaper ads	5	1.4	8	1.7	13	15.5
National convention placement service	0	0	2	0.4	2	0.2
Regional convention placement service	0	0	1	0.2	1	0.1
APA Monitor ads	3	0.8	23	4.8	26	3.1
APA Observer ads	0	0	5	1	5	0.6
Chronicle or other prof. newsletter	2	0.5	42	8.7	44	5.2
Journals	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil Service application	12	3.3	6	1.2	18	2.1
Employment Agency	0	0	1	0.2	1	0.1
Met employer thru former job	28	7.6	24	0.5	52	6.1
Postdoc became permanent	39	10.6	8	1.7	47	5.5
Sent unsolicited vitae	15	4.1	15	3.1	30	3.5
Received unsolicited offer	14	3.8	18	3.7	32	3.8
Electronic resource	74	20.2	79	16.4	153	18
Other method	21	5.7	30	3.2	51	6
Not specified	20	5.4	19	4	39	4.6

(continued)

Table 5 (continued)

Job Search and Satisfaction Reported by 2009 Psychology Doctorate Recipients by Type of Employment Position

	Human Services		Other Positions		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<i>Time to find current position</i>						
In job when began doctoral study	17	4.6	33	6.7	50	5.8
Before completing program	117	31.4	213	43.3	330	38.2
Within 3 months	141	37.3	111	22.6	252	29.1
4 - 6 months	60	16.1	75	15.2	135	15.6
More than 6 months	36	9.7	60	12.2	96	11.1
Not specified	2	0.5	0	0	2	0.2
<i>Perceived underemployment</i>						
Not underemployed	280	75.1	369	75	649	75
Underemployed	89	23.9	112	22.8	201	23.2
Not specified	4	1.1	11	2.2	15	1.7
<i>Current position was first choice</i>						
Yes	280	75.4	344	69.9	624	72.1
No	79	21.2	118	24	197	22.8
Not specified	14	3.8	30	6.1	44	5.1
<i>Perception of the Job market</i>						
Bleak	8	2.1	20	4.1	28	3.2
Poor	73	19.6	97	19.7	170	19.7
Fair	125	33.5	177	36	302	34.9
Good	130	34.9	144	29.3	274	31.7
Excellent	21	5.6	43	8.7	64	7.4
Not sure	14	3.8	11	2.2	25	2.9
Not specified	2	0.5	0	0	2	0.2

Source: 2009 Doctorate Employment Survey, APA Center for Workforce Studies

Note. Total column includes employed respondents who did not specify their type of position. Included in these tables are all respondents who reported on any level of employment.

Table 5a

Importance of Degree for Attaining Present Position Reported by Employed 2009 Psychology Doctorate Recipients.

	Essential Qualification	Helpful	Unimportant	Unsure	Not Specified
Doctoral degree important to attaining job	62.0	24.1	5.0	1.6	8.2
Doctorate in psychology important	54.4	28.9	6.6	1.1	9.0

Table 5b

Extent of Graduate Training Related to Current Primary Position Reported by Employed 2009 Doctorate Recipients in Psychology

	Closely related	Somewhat related	Not related	Not applicable	Not specified
Grad training in general	73.4	19.2	1.3	1.1	4.6
Courses in major subfield	65.5	23.7	4.0	1.1	5.7
Courses outside specialty	25.2	42.4	16.3	10.2	6.0
Research assistantship	21.8	24.8	23.8	22.9	6.7
Teaching assistantship	18.7	22.1	27.8	24.9	6.6
Clinical/counseling/school predoctoral internship	46.5	13.0	5.6	29.0	5.9
Other practicum/internship	37.9	22.7	7.4	26.1	5.9

Table 5c

Level of Satisfaction with Current Position Reported by 2009 Employed Psychology Doctorate Recipients

	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied	Not applicable
Income/Salary	11.0	22.4	44.1	22.6	0.0
Benefits	8.6	10.8	34.5	40.9	5.3
Opportunities for promotion	8.1	22.0	40.6	21.6	7.7
Personal development	5.0	16.3	40.3	37.1	1.4
Recognition	5.0	17.5	47.3	27.9	2.3
Supervisor	5.5	9.0	35.8	41.4	8.2
Co-workers	2.1	7.6	37.0	47.6	5.7
Working conditions	4.6	12.4	42.6	38.6	1.8

Table 5d

Appropriateness of Current Primary Position Reported by Employed 2009 Doctorate Recipients

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Related to field of study	6.2	1.7	2.7	19.7	69.6
Commensurate with level of training	8	7.7	7.6	24.8	54.9
Commensurate with level of experience	7.8	5.9	7.5	28.8	49.9
Similar to expectations when began doctoral program	15.1	17.7	12.8	26.7	27.7
Professional challenging	7.5	6.9	9.5	26.6	49.5

