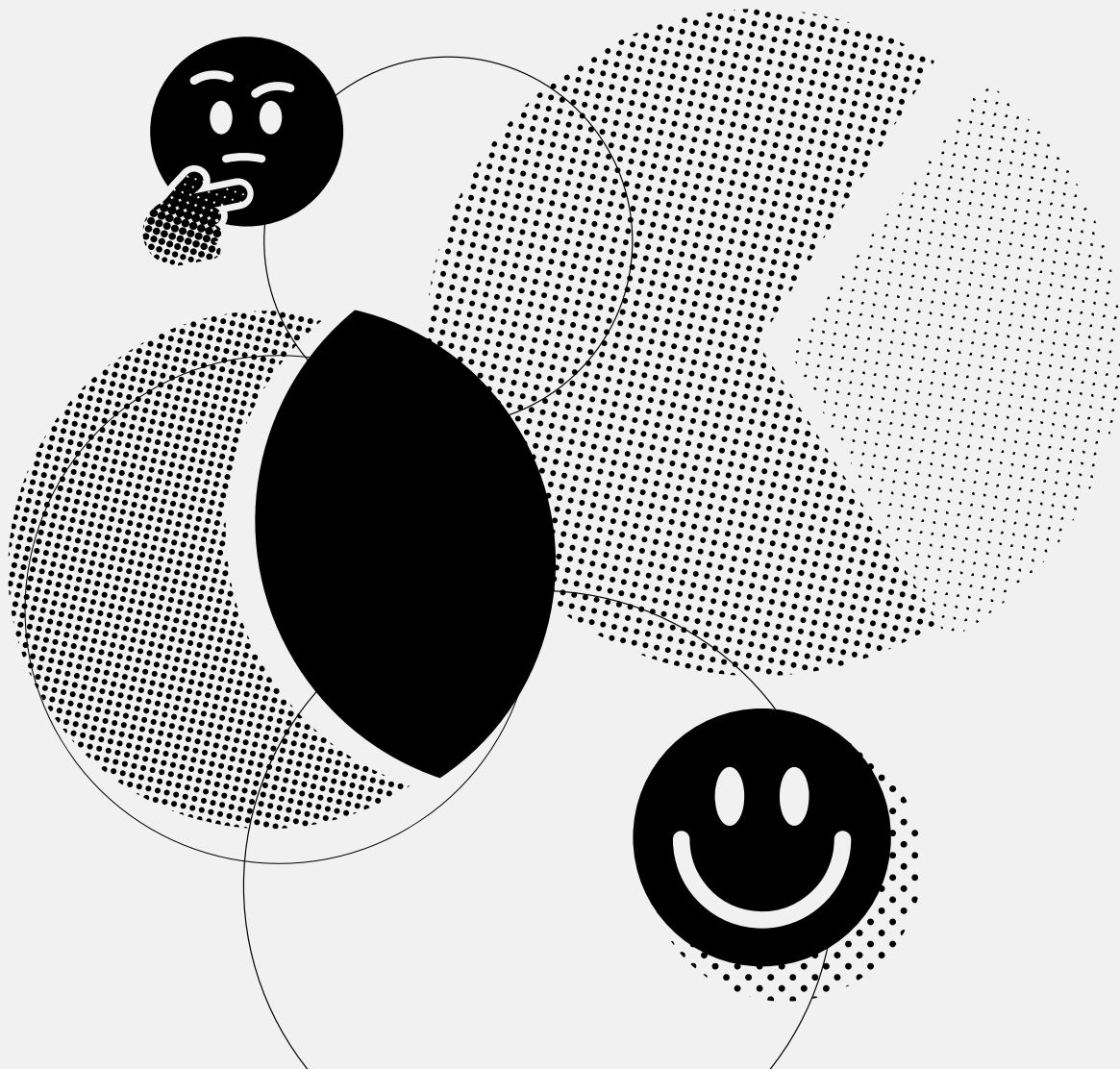


Irish Survey of Student Engagement for Postgraduate Reserach Students Results 2023



Research Infrastructure and Facilities

77.4%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they have a suitable working space

70.4%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that there is adequate provision of computing resources/ facilities.

82.6%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that there is adequate provision of library facilities (including physical/ online resources)

72.6%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they have access to the specialist resources and facilities necessary for their research

61.8%

are funded by a scholarship

5.6%

are funded by a scholarship (fees only)

16.8%

are self-funded

19.3%

are funded by a grant

8.0%

are employer-funded

94.1%

have funding that covers fees

79.5%

have funding that covers a stipend

56.6%

have funding that covers research materials

58.0%

have funding that covers travel to conferences

30.3%

have funding that covers other travel (labs/ other institutions)

27.2%

have funding that covers specialist training

Supervision

39.7%

are being supervised by one supervisor

45.3%

are being supervised by two supervisors

15.0%

are being supervised by three supervisors or more

85.0%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their supervisor(s) provides the appropriate level of support for their research

87.5%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they have regular contact with their supervisor(s), appropriate for their needs

86.3%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their supervisor(s) provides feedback that helps them to direct their research activities

75.9%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their supervisor(s) help them to identify their training and development needs as a researcher

Development Opportunities

48.3%

had agreed a personal training or development plan

77.4%

had received training to develop their research skills

61.3%

had received training to develop their other transferable skills

37.9%

had received advice on career options

19.3%

had taken part in a placement or internship

76.6%

had attended an academic research conference

68.2%

had presented a paper or poster at an academic research conference

52.0%

had submitted a paper for publication in an academic journal or book

47.3%

had communicated their research to a non-academic audience

18.1%

had received training in entrepreneurship and innovation

9.2%

had put training in entrepreneurship and innovation into practice e.g. submitting an invention disclosure or filing a patent application

65.6%

had worked as part of a team

24.8%

had worked collaboratively with industry

23.2%

had worked collaboratively with a civil society organisation or public organisation

25.0%

had spent time abroad as part of their research degree

66.4%

had taught (or demonstrated) at their institution during their research degree programme

67.0%

'mostly'/ 'definitely' agreed that the teaching/ demonstration they delivered enhanced their overall research experience?

55.5%

'mostly'/ 'definitely' agreed that they have been given appropriate support and guidance for their teaching/ demonstration



Research Culture

68.8%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their department provides access to a relevant seminar programme

61.8%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that the research ambience in their department stimulates their work

62.4%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they have frequent opportunities to discuss their research with other research students

52.7%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they have opportunities to become involved in the wider research community, beyond their department

Progress and Assessment

62.4%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they received an appropriate induction/ orientation to their research degree programme

79.9%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they understand the requirements and deadlines for formal monitoring of their progress

73.2%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they understand the required standard for their thesis

67.9%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that the final assessment procedures for their research degree are clear to them

Research Skills

86.0%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their skills in applying appropriate research methodologies, tools and techniques have developed during their programme

85.3%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their skills in critically analysing and evaluating findings and results have developed during their programme

71.9%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their confidence to be creative or innovative has developed during their programme

86.6%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their understanding of 'research integrity' (e.g. rigour, ethics, transparency, attributing the contribution of others) has developed during their programme

Other Transferable Skills

77.7%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their ability to manage projects has developed during their programme

76.1%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their ability to communicate information effectively to diverse audiences has developed during their programme

69.8%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they have developed contacts or professional networks during their programme

79.6%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they have increasingly managed their own professional development during their programme

Responsibilities and Supports

89.0%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they understand their responsibilities as a research degree student

83.6%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they are aware of their supervisor(s)' responsibilities towards them as a research degree student

66.0%

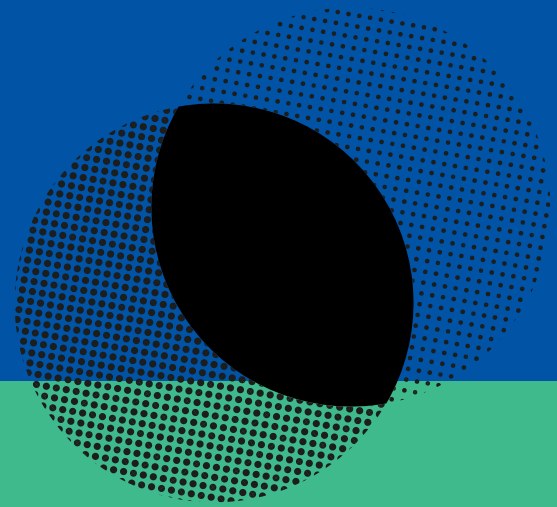
'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that, other than their supervisor(s), they know who to approach if they are concerned about any academic aspect of their research degree programme

32.3%

are 'quite a bit/' 'very much' aware of the various student supports available? (Recreation, healthcare, counselling, etc)

44.6%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that their institution values and responds to feedback from research degree students



Motivations

As their first, second or third priority motivation for pursuing a research degree:

77.7%

chose their interest in their subject

58.1%

chose improving their career prospects for an academic/ research career

36.1%

chose improving their career prospects outside of an academic/ research career

18.2%

chose encouragement from a former academic tutor/ supervisor

30.0%

chose that the funding was available

35.7%

chose that it felt like a natural step for them

11.6%

chose that they felt inspired to work with a particular academic

26.0%

chose professional development or training

4.9%

chose another motivation

Career Aspirations

As their first, second or third priority career for when they finish their research degree:

66.8%

chose academic career in higher education (either research and teaching, or teaching only)

53.4%

chose research career in higher education

13.8%

chose other career in higher education

58.1%

chose research career outside higher education (e.g. in a private research organisation, a charity or in an industrial environment)

10.1%

chose teaching (at a level below higher education)

10.0%

chose returning to, or remaining with, employer who is sponsoring their degree

7.0%

chose returning to, or remaining with, employer who is not sponsoring their degree

17.5%

chose self-employment (including setting up their own business).

26.7%

chose any other professional career

20.3%

chose not sure or not decided yet

5.0%

chose another career aspiration

Personal Outlook

64.8%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they are satisfied with their life nowadays

62.0%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they are satisfied with their life within their institution nowadays

53.2%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they are satisfied with their work-life balance

53.5%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that there is someone in their institution they can talk to about their day-to-day problems

79.4%

'mostly/' 'definitely' agreed that they feel that their research degree programme is worthwhile

Overall Experience

72.9%

evaluated as 'good'/'excellent' their entire research experience at this institution

74.5%

are confident that they will complete their research degree programme within their institution's expected timescale

57.9%

have not seriously considered withdrawing

23.7%

have seriously considered withdrawing for financial reasons

16.5%

have seriously considered withdrawing for personal or family reasons

9.9%

have seriously considered withdrawing for health reasons

6.6%

have seriously considered withdrawing for employment reasons

3.8%

have seriously considered withdrawing to transfer to another institution

6.8%

have seriously considered withdrawing for another reason

