Graduate Outcomes for Honours Degree Graduates - Class of 2022
Overview of Graduate Population

There were 34,022 Honours Degree graduates (56.1% female, 43.9% male) in 2022.

The most common area of study was Business, Administration & Law (23.8%) followed by Health and Welfare (16.9%), and Arts and Humanities (16.8%).

16.9% of Honours degree graduates went into further study. This compares to 18.3% for the class of 2021 graduates.
Main Graduate Destination

- In Employment:
  - Class of 2022: 77.2%
  - Class of 2021: 75.8%

- Engaged in Further Study:
  - Class of 2022: 16.9%
  - Class of 2021: 18.3%

- Seeking Employment:
  - Class of 2022: 3.7%
  - Class of 2021: 3.9%

- Other Activities:
  - Class of 2022: 2.3%
  - Class of 2021: 2.0%
Main Graduate Destination

• For the Honours Degree graduates of the Class of 2022 employment has increased to **77.2%** from **75.8%** in 2021.

• **16.9%** of graduates are in further study. This has decreased from **18.3%** in 2021.

• Those graduates seeking employment (**3.7%**) and in other activities (**2.3%**) has held steady in 2022 from 2021.
Employment Outcomes

• Of the graduates in employment, 64.1% have permanent or open-ended contracts.

• The most common occupation for graduates nine months after graduation is Professional Occupations (51.3%).

• Of the graduates who were willing to share their salaries, 77.5% earned up to €39,999, with 22.5% earning more than €40,000. 22.3% of graduates were not willing to share how much they earned.
Employment Outcomes

- Nine months after graduation, **91.2%** of employed graduates are working in Ireland. Dublin is the most common county of employment (**44.9%**), followed by Cork (**13.3%**) and Galway (**7.0%**).

- In 2022, **55.9%** of graduates completed internships. This is up from **53%** in 2021.

- The most common sources of employment include Recruitment Sites (**23.9%**), Personal Contacts (**19.4%**) and already having worked there (**18.1%**).
Further Study

- Of those Honours Degree graduates in further study, **24.6%** were studying Business, Administration and Law.

- Education (**15.3%**) and Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction (**12.5%**) were the next most popular fields of further study.

- The most common reasons for undertaking further study were to change or improve career options (**27.8%**) or because it is a requirement for finding and progressing in future employment (**27.8%**).
Graduate Reflections

- More than six in ten graduates consider their course Very Relevant or Relevant to their job (62%).

- This is in line with the average (62.8%) for the class of 2022.

- A total of 63.1% said they were “likely” or “very likely” to study the same qualification again, if they had their time over. This is slightly lower than the 2021 figure of 66.5%.
For further information:

Full dashboard of results

HEA Graduate Outcomes

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If you have any further queries, suggestions or ideas for future Info-Byte topics, please contact graduatesurvey@hea.ie.

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