

# Researcher careers: What do researchers do?

We have been analysing UK data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Destinations of Leavers of Higher Education (DLHE) surveys and conducting original research into career destinations since 2005. This is the basis for our popular publications series 'What do researchers do?'

[www.vitae.ac.uk/WDRD](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/WDRD)

The series explores career destinations and paths of doctoral graduates and how they contribute to society, culture and economy. Reports are available to buy or at no additional charge to Vitae members.

## How to use the publications

Our qualitative interview and career story data combines with quantitative data to provide a depth and richness of information to:

- Help funders, policymakers and research organisations understand the contribution of doctoral graduates to society, culture and the economy
- Support those with researcher development responsibility including careers advisors, trainers, supervisors and principal investigators to be aware of the breadth of potential careers
- Empower researchers and prospective researchers to make well-informed career choices
- Inform employers around what researchers have to offer

## New

- What do research staff do next? 40 new career stories describing the experiences of research staff who have moved on from an academic research path [www.vitae.ac.uk/WDRSDNstories](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/WDRSDNstories)
- Five new infographics highlighting career destinations, research roles and occupations of UK doctorate holders [www.vitae.ac.uk/PhD-destinations](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/PhD-destinations)

## Coming soon

- What do research staff do next? Report based on our pan-European survey



## Other resources related to researcher careers

There's a lot on our website! Here are some highlights:

- Researcher career stories: over 150 inspiring personal narratives focused on the experiences and decisions that story-tellers found significant [www.vitae.ac.uk/career-stories](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/career-stories)
- Example researcher CVs in three different styles. One of our most popular resources [www.vitae.ac.uk/cv](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/cv)
- PDP ROC: new online course available to members. Helping researchers get started with career development planning [www.vitae.ac.uk/pdproc](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/pdproc)
- RDF Planner: subscribe to our app to help researchers identify strengths, action plan, review achievements and create a portfolio of evidence [www.vitae.ac.uk/RDFplanner](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/RDFplanner)
- Career management for researchers: dedicated web section for researchers on planning and managing their careers [www.vitae.ac.uk/careermanagement](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/careermanagement)



## EURAXESS

Vitae has been announced as the EURAXESS Career Development Centre for the UK. We offer an online gateway for researchers thinking of coming to the UK and interested in careers and professional development opportunities

[www.vitae.ac.uk/EURAXESSUK-CDC](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/EURAXESSUK-CDC)



Five infographics on career destinations of doctorate holders by discipline

For more information about the  
What do researchers do? project  
please visit: [www.vitae.ac.uk/wdrd](http://www.vitae.ac.uk/wdrd)

Some resources are only available to those from Vitae member organisations