



PhD graduates from McGill University's Faculty of Science go on to pursue a variety of roles across employment sectors. Read on to explore what types of job functions McGill alumni perform and where.

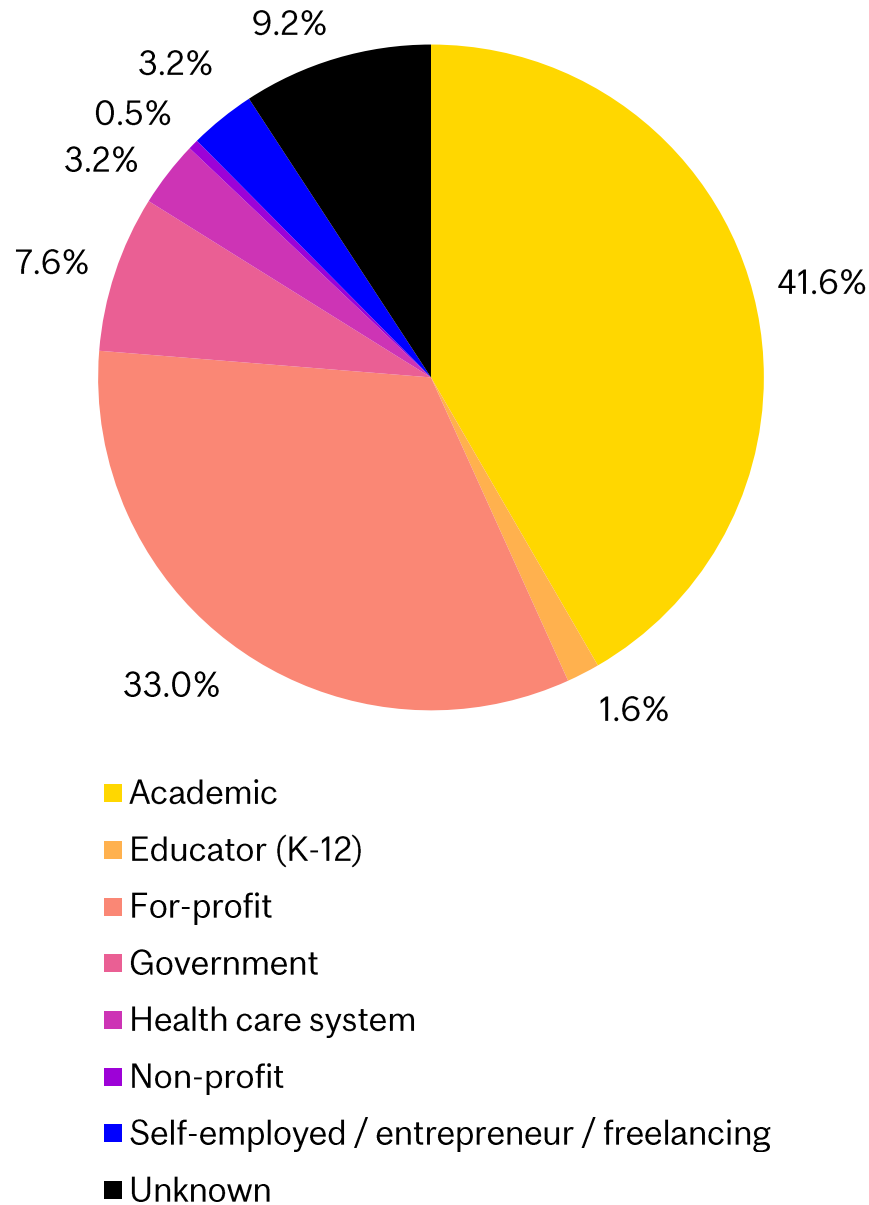
In this McGill Science Careers Brief:

- ✚ Employment outcomes data for PhD alumni of the Department of Physics from the [TRaCE McGill Project](#)¹
- ✚ Resources to explore career opportunities and to develop the skills that connect your academic studies to your professional future

This Careers Brief is intended to aid current and prospective doctoral scholars in their career development. Exploring career options via outcomes data and exploring your interests and values, as well as developing skills, via the resources provided are all important steps in the process of career navigation.

¹ The TRaCE (Track, Report, and Connect, Exchange) McGill project explored the employment outcomes of McGill University PhD alumni graduating between 2008 and 2018 (5,253 graduates).

Where do McGill Physics PhD alumni work? Sectors of Employment

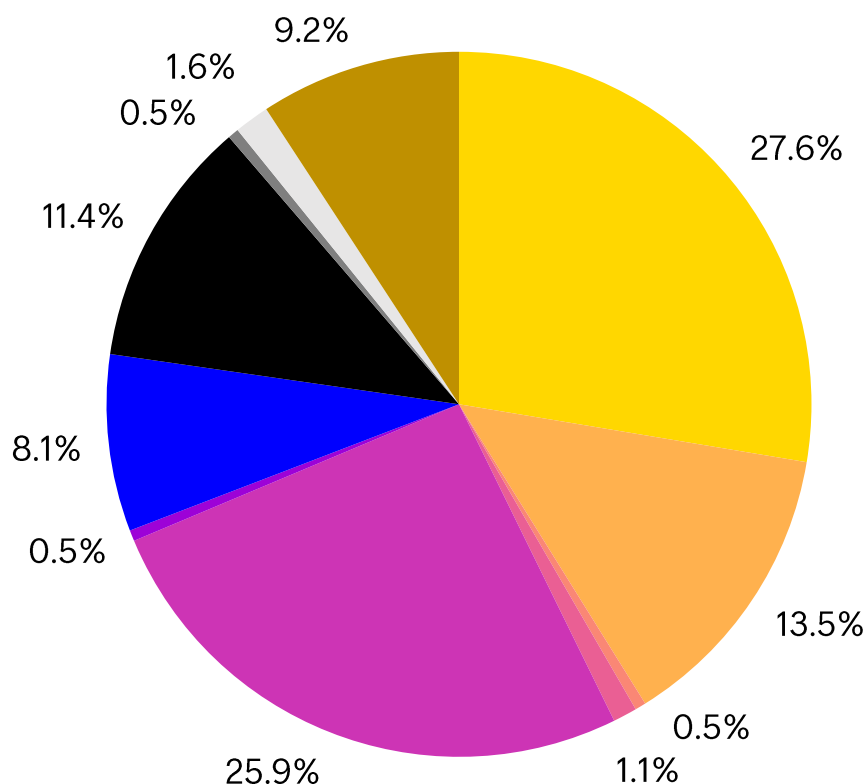


N = 185
McGill TRaCE Study (2019)²

² This figure depicts a snapshot of employment outcomes for McGill PhD alumni from a data scrape conducted in 2019-2020. For detailed methodology of the McGill TRaCE Study, please consult <http://tracemcgill.com/> to access the quantitative report.

In what roles do McGill Physics PhD alumni work?

Job Functions



- Academic non-tenure-track
- Academic tenure-track
- Administration
- Artist
- Expert practice (e.g., consultant)
- Information / communications / media
- Management / policy / leadership
- Non-academic research
- Sales and marketing
- Teaching and training
- Unknown

N = 185
 McGill TRaCE Study (2019)^{3,4}

³ This figure depicts a snapshot of employment outcomes for McGill PhD alumni from a data scrape conducted in 2019-2020. For detailed methodology of the McGill TRaCE Study, please consult <http://tracemcgill.com/> to access the quantitative report.

⁴ Examples of job function classifications can be found at the end of this document (p. 5) and in the TRaCE McGill Quantitative Report.

McGill Resources – Professional and Career Development

- ✦ [myPath](#) Individual Development Plan Tools (explore your interests, values, & skills)
- ✦ McGill's [Individual Development Framework](#) (identify skills to develop)
- ✦ [Skillsets](#) offerings (develop your skills) / [Teaching and Learning Services](#) (e.g., 3MT) / [Our Shared Spaces](#) (equity workshops)
- ✦ [CaPS](#) (e.g., grad job seekers seminars, appointments, career panels like Industry Insider)
- ✦ [GPS](#) (e.g., [Doctoral Internship Program](#), [Graduate Mobility Awards](#), etc.)
- ✦ [TRaCE McGill](#) (quantitative report and narratives of alumni)
- ✦ [Campus Life & Engagement](#) (e.g., [leadership](#))
- ✦ [McGill Library workshops](#)
- ✦ [Graphos](#) (McGill Writing Centre)
- ✦ [Wellness Hub](#) (e.g., local wellness advisors, grad breakfast club)
- ✦ [PGSS](#) (e.g., events, [keep.MEsafe](#))
- ✦ [MGAPS](#) (McGill Graduate Association of Physics Students)

Is there any...advice you would give to incoming students?

“I’m still happy I did a PhD and I still recommend doing a PhD, but you have to be passionate and do a PhD where you can really learn stuff. I went to lots of training about how to write grants, prepare a CV, apply for jobs, but these all come back to communicating complex things in simple terms that your grandmother can understand. So you should participate in science outreach or these courses on learning to teach effectively. Learn to tell a story.” – Adrian Buzatu, PhD 2011 ([TRaCE Narratives](#))

Job Function Classifications⁵

- Academic, non-tenure-track, for example:
 - Postdoc,
 - Research Associate, etc.
- Academic, tenure-track, for example:
 - Assistant Professor
- Non-academic research, for example:
 - Researcher in industry,
 - Researcher at a policy agency,
 - Researcher in a non-profit organization, etc.
- Administration, for example:
 - Administrator,
 - Project Coordinator, etc.
- Information, communications, media, for example:
 - Science Communication Manager,
 - App creator, etc.
- Sales and marketing, for example:
 - Head of Strategy, Analytics and Customer Insights
- Management, policy, and leadership, for example:
 - Head of Product,
 - Vice President of Data Science, etc.
- Artist, for example:
 - Writer
- Teaching and training, for example:
 - Non-college or CEGEP, non-university,
 - K-12 Teacher,
 - Instructor, etc.
- Expert practice, for example:
 - Consultant,
 - Data Scientist, etc.
- Unknown

⁵ Job function classifications presented here are from the TRaCE McGill quantitative report and encompass all available options from that study; not all options may be represented in the data presented in this Careers Brief.