

# ASPPH Presents Webinar Series

## *Where do public health graduates go? Results from the ASPPH Graduate Employment Pilot Survey and plans for the future*

Thursday, October 22, 2015  
12:00-1:00 pm Eastern

This presentation was supported under cooperative agreement number 5U36-OE000002, Academic Partnerships to Improve Health, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services. Its contents are solely the responsibility of ASPPH and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC.

### ASPPH.ORG

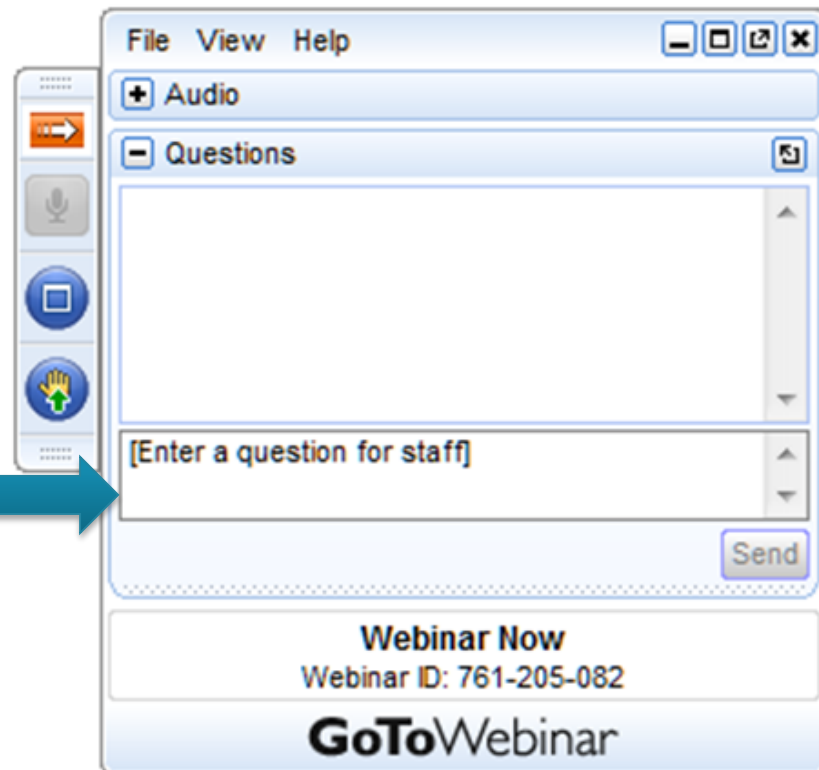
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**ASPPH Presents**  
 **WEBINAR**

# Method for Submitting Questions

## Join the Conversation...

- You can ask questions in writing anytime during the webinar.
- Simply type them in the “Questions” field on the right side of your screen.



# Today's Presenter

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**Christine Plepys, MS**

*Director of Data Analytics,  
ASPPH*

# Outline

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- Background
- ASPPH Graduate Employment Data Common Questions Pilot Project
  - Objective
  - Challenges
  - Development & Design
  - Results
- Lessons learned and plans for the future

# Public Health Graduate Employment – ASPPH History

**ASPH**

ASSOCIATION OF  
SCHOOLS OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH

## LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF GRADUATES, SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH 1956-1985

August 30, 1992  
Nicholas Parlette, MPH  
Richard Brand, PhD  
Daniel Gentry, MHSA  
Michael Gemmill, CAE

This study was supported by PHS/HRSA contracts 89-488(P) and 240-90-0062,  
and by a grant from the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation 90-6102.

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### ASPH Survey of New Graduates 2005

4.

12. Will you be working on a full-time basis or a part-time basis upon graduation?

Full-time

Part-time

13. Which of the following best describes the type of organization for which you work or will work?

- Federal government (U.S. or Foreign)
- Military
- State or local government
- Hospital or other health care provider
- Association, foundation, voluntary, NGO, or other non-profit organization
- Consulting firm
- Pharmaceutical, biotech or medical device firm
- Other industrial or commercial firm
- University or college
- Self-employed
- Other (please specify)

# Walking the Talk

last online: May 27, 2015



+add photo public

Aggie View

Public View

Christine M. Plepys

edit

Director of Data Analytics

Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health



what's this?



what's this?



what's this?



edit

Aggies

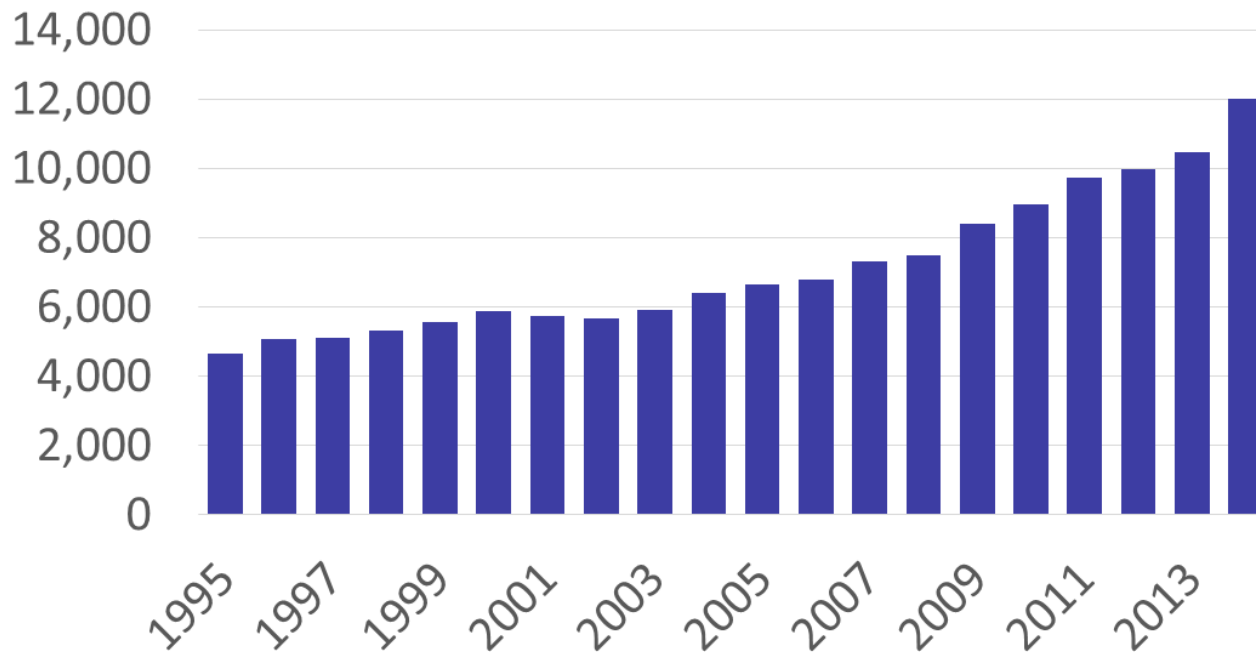
Married to: + add spouse hidden



Applied Mathematical Science (Bachelor's), Statistics (Master's)

# Objectives

Number of Graduate-Level Degree  
Conferrals for ASPPH Members by Year



*Where do  
these  
graduates of  
schools and  
programs  
of public  
health find  
employment?*

# Challenges

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- *Different* data collection methods
- *Different* survey questions and responses
- *Different* timeframes
- *Different* response/knowledge rates





# Pilot Year - Development & Design

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- Partners
  - ASPPH Data Advisory Committee
  - ASPPH member forums (career services & student services)
  - CDC, Centers for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services
  - Participating ASPPH member institutions
- Timeframe
  - Data collection in March-June 2014
- Survey population
  - Graduate-level alumni from Spring 2013, Summer 2013, Winter 2013/2014

# Pilot Year - Development & Design

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## Assertions:

- A **pilot year is needed** to guide the project for future implementation.
- ASPPH members need to recognize the **benefit to their institution**, as well as ASPPH, to encourage participation.
- The project will **take time to implement** across ASPPH member institutions.
- The project plan will allow for **ASPPH members that previously collected graduate employment data to submit results** from their surveys. These will be utilized as best matched.
- ASPPH members that participate will receive the project outcome **benchmarking report with member-specific information**, as well as any aggregate reports.

# Pilot Year - Development & Design

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- Two options for participation:
  - Option 1: ASPPH Common Questions Survey
  - Option 2: Institution-designed Survey
- ASPPH provided to members:
  - Project plan and guidelines
  - Online data collection via SurveyMonkey survey transfer
  - Alumni tracking ideas
- Participating members provided to ASPPH:
  - Raw data Excel sheet
  - Copy of survey used
  - Response rate
  - Data collection methodology used

# Pilot Year - Alumni Tracking Ideas

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**Before they graduate** - *Remind them of the importance of connections between them, the school or program, the faculty, & their fellow students.*

- From the start at orientation and throughout their studies, engage the students and remind them that their education is lifelong and the school or program of public health is a resource for them throughout their careers.

# Pilot Year - Alumni Tracking Ideas

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**Engage alumni** - *They want to connect directly with school or program of public health.*

- Hold social events for alumni
- Hold continuing education events
- Provide opportunities to volunteer
- Follow-up periodically with alumni
- Student-focused giving campaign where alumni raise money for students coming after them
- Communicate with employers of alumni

# Pilot Year - Alumni Tracking Ideas

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## **Finding alumni** - *Where did they go?*

- Search social media: Google, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook
- Contact alumni associations, development/marketing offices, and departments
- Contact faculty of alumni

## **Tracking alumni** - *Build the systems to monitor and track alumni.*

- Maintain a master list (could be as basic as a spreadsheet or advanced as using software packages)
- Monitor career pathways of alumni over time

# Pilot Year – Data Collection Methods

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- Data collection
  - Online mechanism
  - Internet search
  - Faculty contacts
  - Phone or mail
- Timing
  - Exit survey (3 members, 5% of respondents)
  - Alumni survey (49 members, 65% of respondents)
  - Exit and alumni survey (5 members, 30% of respondents)

# Pilot Year – Common Questions Survey

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- Demographics
- Education – recent public health degree and previous
- Continuing education status
- Employment status
- Employment information
- Salary
- Debt



# Pilot Year - Results

## Number of Respondents by Member Type and Option Selection (n=4,867)

Option 1: ASPPH Common Questions    Option 2: Institution Designed Survey



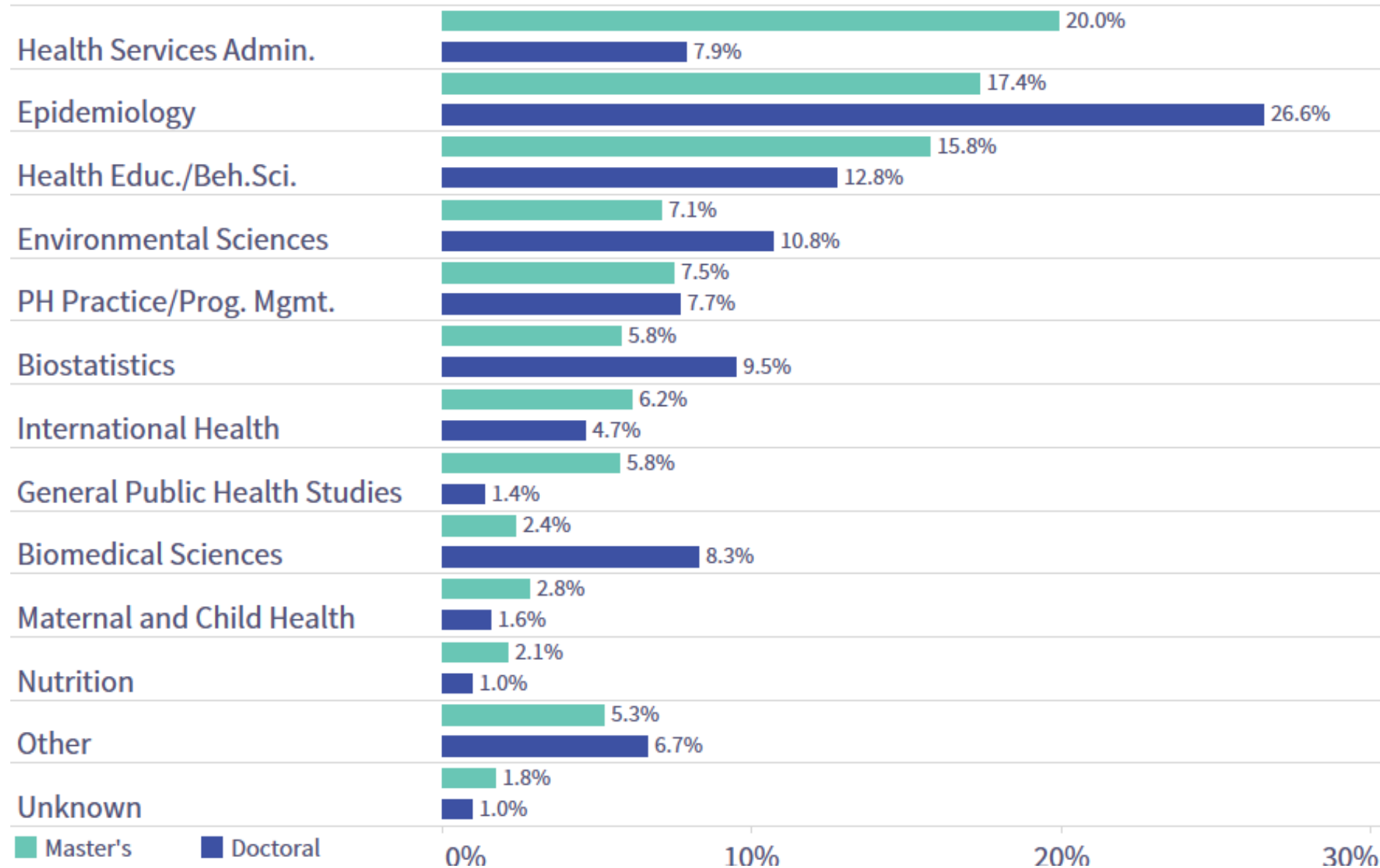
■ Schools of Public Health    ■ Programs of Public Health

# Pilot Year - Results

## Most Recently Earned Public Health Degree

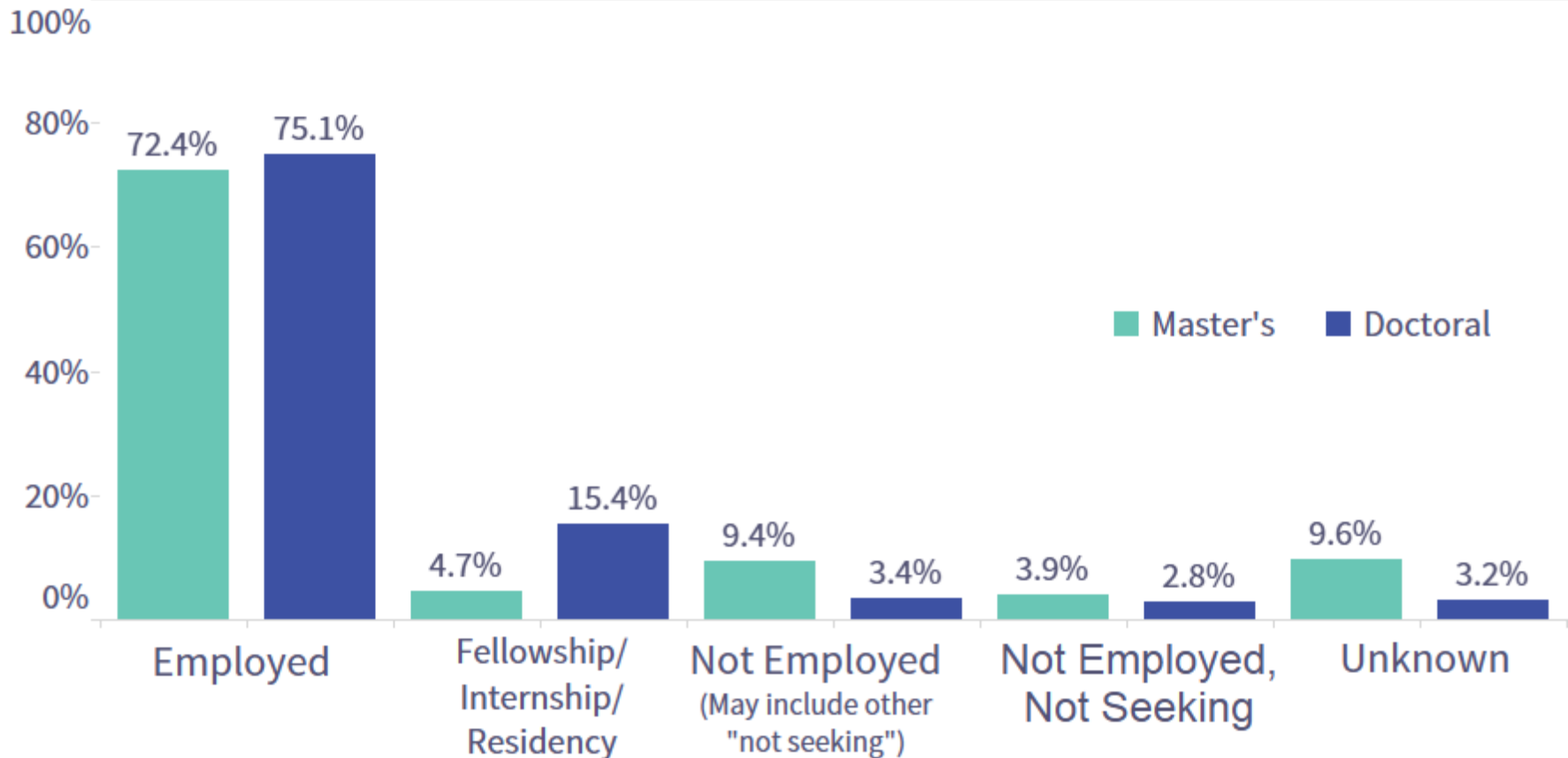
	Count	Percent
MPH	3,194	65.6%
MS	571	11.7%
PhD	363	7.5%
MHA	189	3.9%
MSPH	106	2.2%
ScD	70	1.4%
Unknown	61	1.3%
DrPH	56	1.2%
MHSA	44	0.9%
MHS	43	0.9%
MBA	9	0.2%
OTHER	170	3.5%
Grand Total	4,867	100.0%

## Respondents by Area of Study and Degree Level (n=4,778)



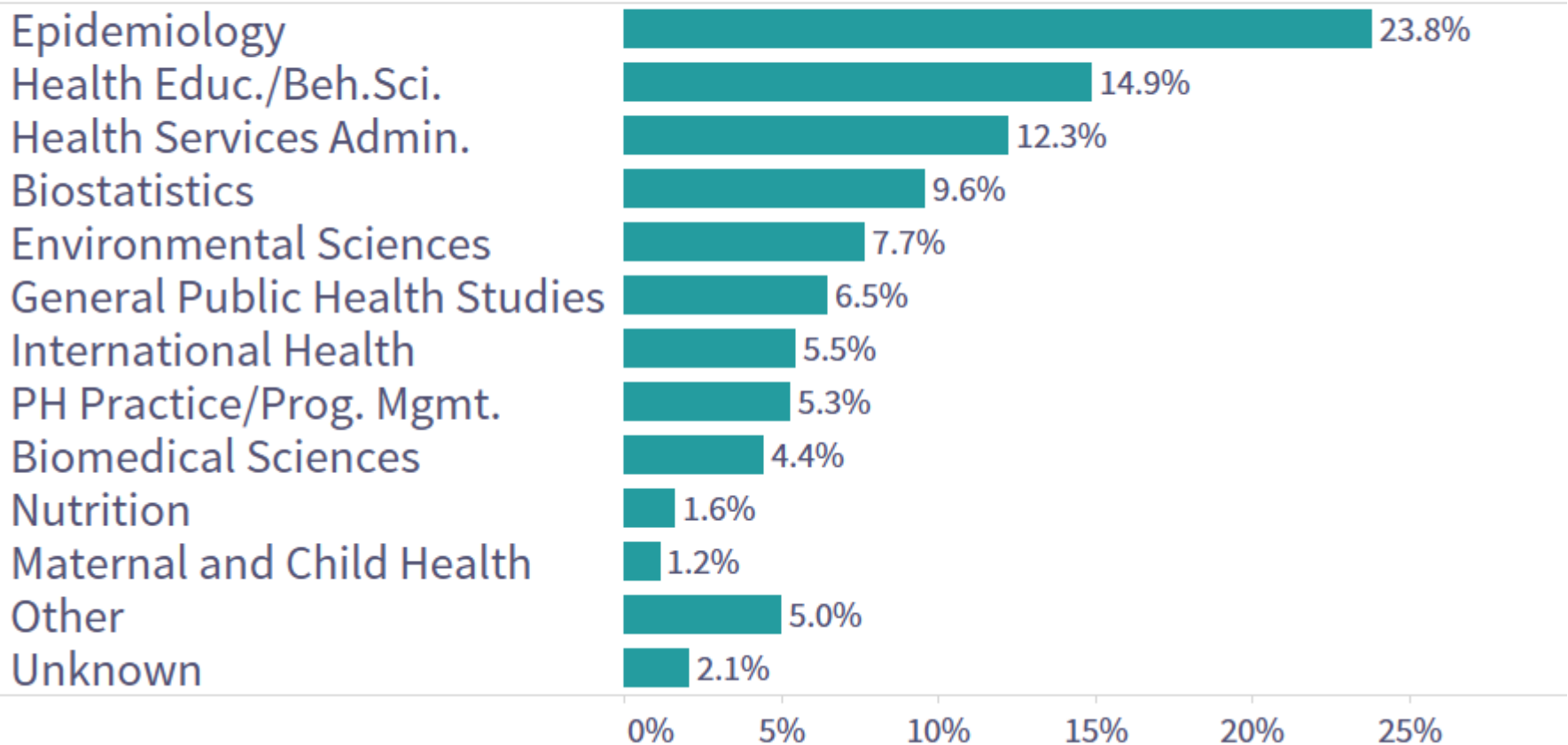
# Pilot Year - Results

## Employment Status by Degree Level (n=4, 778)



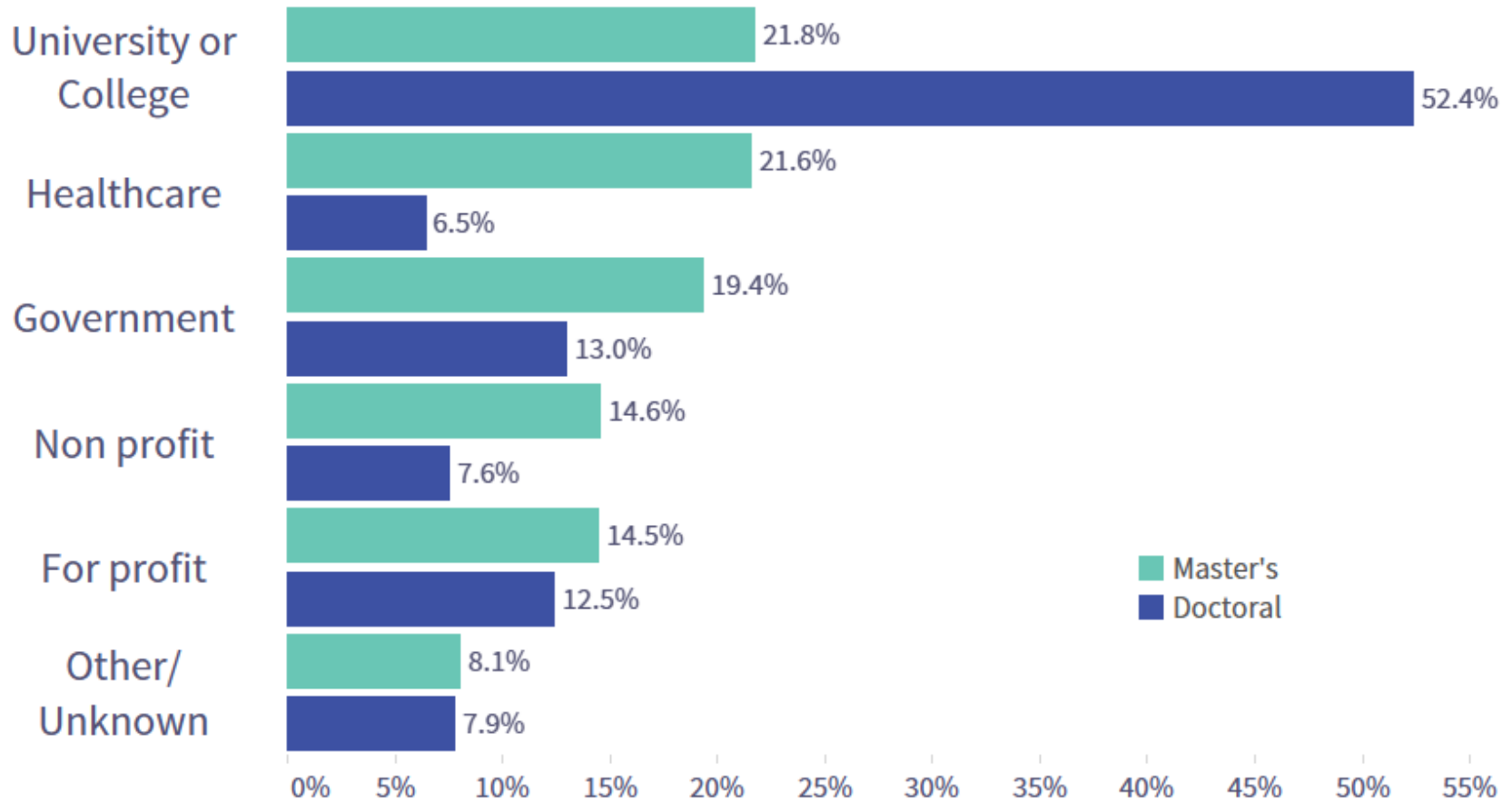
# Pilot Year - Results

## Respondents Selecting to Continue Their Education by Area of Study (n=668)



# Pilot Year - Results

## Respondent Employment Sector by Degree Level (n=3,424)



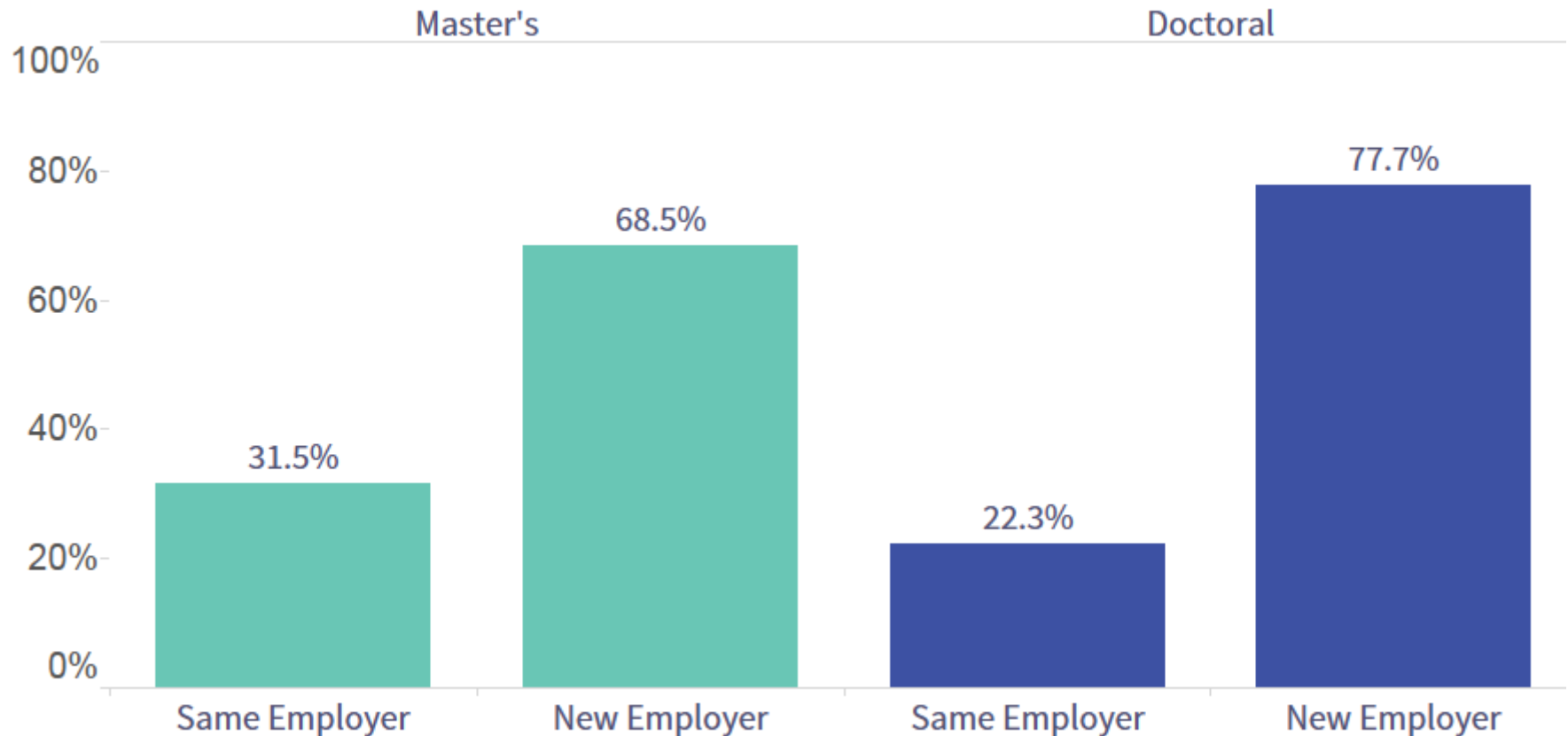
# Pilot Year - Results

## Graduates Employed in the Government Sector (n=578 Master's; 48 Doctoral)

	Master's	Doctoral	Grand Total
Federal government (U.S. or foreign)	33.2%	64.6%	35.6%
Government	22.7%	12.5%	21.9%
Government contractor	1.0%	2.1%	1.1%
Local (county or city) health department	8.7%	2.1%	8.1%
Local government	3.1%		2.9%
Local government (not health department)	4.2%		3.8%
State government	5.7%	4.2%	5.6%
State government (not health department)	3.6%	2.1%	3.5%
State health department	17.8%	10.4%	17.3%
Tribal government		2.1%	0.2%
Grand Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# Pilot Year - Results

Respondents Employed in Same Position Prior to/Concurrent to Earning Recent Public Health Degree (n=1,394 Master's and 162 Doctoral)





# Pilot Year - Results

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## Respondents Who Consider Their Work Health-Related

	Master's		Doctoral		Grand Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Yes	1,563	92.9%	239	95.6%	1,802	93.2%
No	120	7.1%	11	4.4%	131	6.8%
Grand Total	1,683	100.0%	250	100.0%	1,933	100.0%

## Respondents Who Consider Their Work Public Health-Related

	Master's		Doctoral		Grand Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Yes	1,557	84.4%	187	92.1%	1,744	85.2%
No	287	15.6%	16	7.9%	303	14.8%
Grand Total	1,844	100.0%	203	100.0%	2,047	100.0%

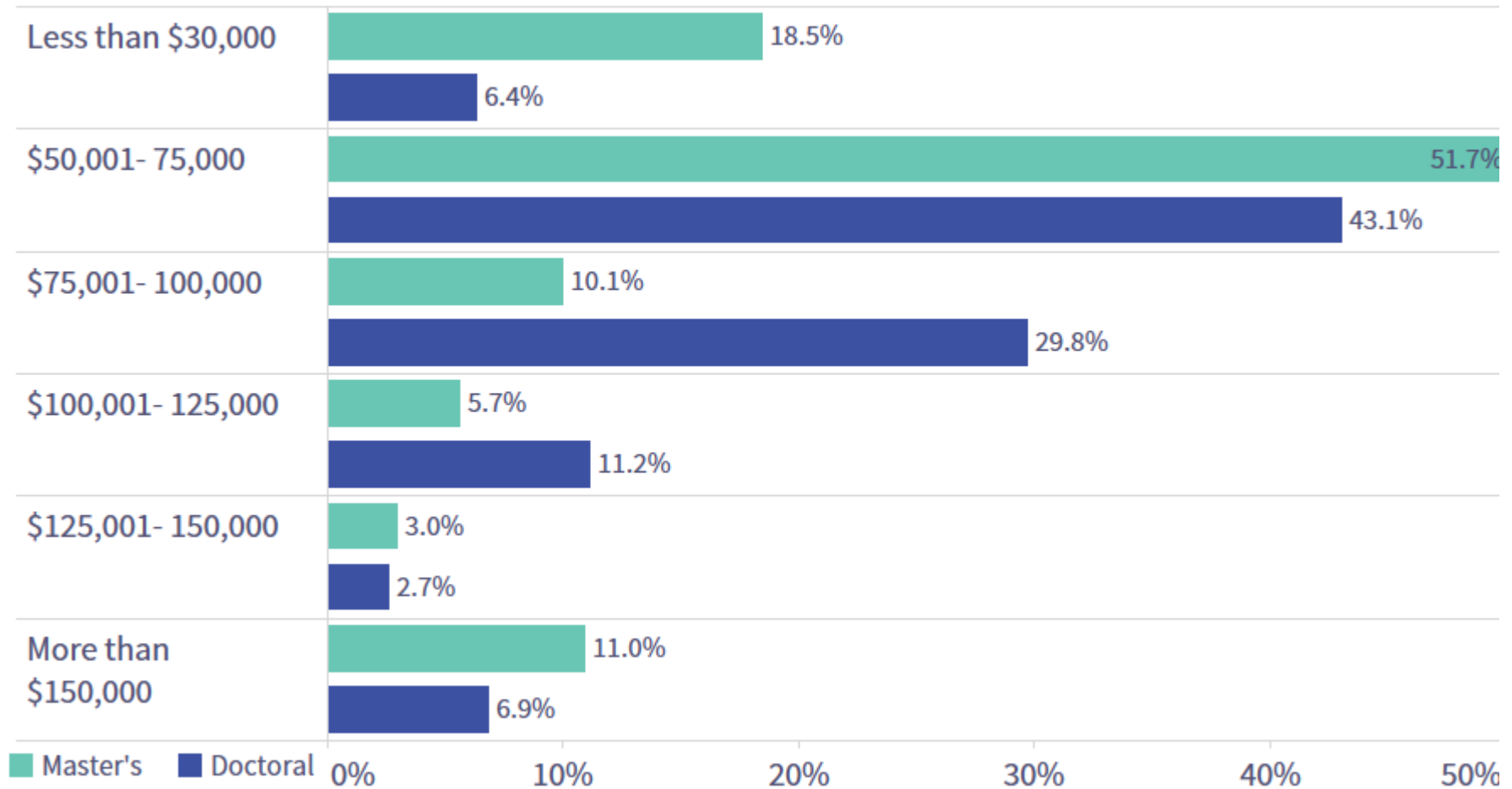
**Figure 15. Breakdown of Top 25 Respondent Job Classifications by Employment Sector (n=1,805)**



Overall Category	Job Classification	University or College	Healthcare	Government	Non-profit	For-profit
Management and Leadership	Department or Program Director	0.8%	1.2%	0.2%	1.1%	0.5%
	Deputy Director	0.6%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%
	Program Manager	0.8%	0.3%	0.8%	1.6%	0.2%
	Public Health or Program/Project Manager	0.7%	1.8%	1.0%	0.8%	1.1%
	Coordinator	3.2%	1.3%	2.0%	3.1%	0.9%
	Coordinator	0.2%		0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Professional and Scientific	Epidemiologist	0.1%		2.9%	0.1%	0.2%
	Health Educator	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%
	Analyst	2.3%	2.4%	2.9%	1.8%	3.5%
	Laboratory Aide or Assistant (non-academic)		0.2%	0.6%	1.9%	0.7%
	Scientist (non-academic)		0.2%	1.4%	0.7%	1.1%
	Other physician - Resident	0.3%	2.6%	0.2%		
	Physician	0.2%	1.4%	0.8%	0.2%	0.3%
	Statistician	0.8%	0.6%	0.3%	0.2%	1.1%
	Other professional and scientific - Associate (non-academic)		0.1%	0.2%	0.6%	1.7%
	Other professional and scientific - Specialist	0.6%	0.2%	1.1%	0.7%	0.4%
	Fellow	0.8%	1.5%	2.4%	0.3%	
	Intern	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%
	Post Doc	3.7%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Support Services	Administrative Assistant	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.7%	0.2%
	Administrative Assistant	0.1%		0.1%		
	Other business support services - Consultant	0.1%	0.4%	0.8%	0.8%	3.5%
Academic Professional	Assistant Professor	3.4%	0.5%		0.1%	
	Assistant Professor	0.2%				
	Research Assistant	3.9%	0.7%			
	Research Associate	2.7%	0.5%			
	Research Coordinator	1.8%	1.3%			
	Research Associate	0.1%				
	Research Assistant	0.1%				

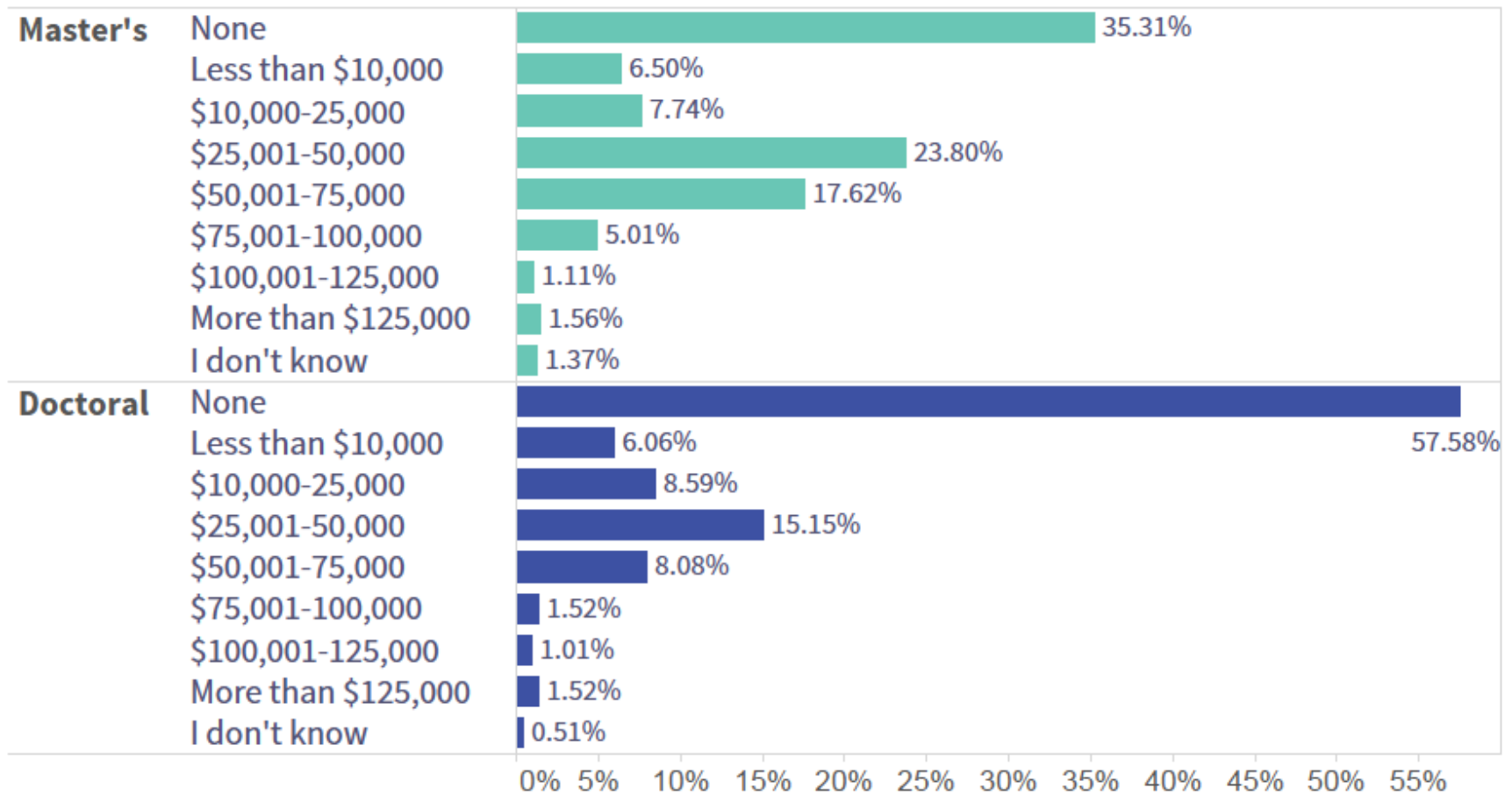
# Pilot Year - Results

## Salary Range by Degree Level (n=2,481)



# Pilot Year - Results

## Debt from Recent Public Health Degree (n=1,736)



# Reports

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- Aggregate report for all members
- Benchmarking report for participating members
  - Troublesome due to different response rates and graduate class size

# Lessons Learned & Next Steps

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- Define data elements
- Align timeline with CEPH timeline (With current criteria: Dec. 2016 data to be submitted for academic year 2014-2015 graduates)
- Allow for flexibility in data collection strategy:
  - Single point in time for all graduates from one academic year (Send survey to all graduates in academic year)
  - Single point in time by graduating cohort (Send survey 12 months after graduating to each cohort.)
  - Ongoing data collection by graduating cohort (Exit survey, followed by 3, 6, 9 and 12 month intervals to those without employment information.)

# Lessons Learned & Next Steps

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- Align with other national-level efforts on graduate employment (such as the National Association of Colleges and Employers)
- Define “mission critical” data elements
- Move to online data reporting (Participating members from institution-designed surveys would recode data prior to submission)
- Develop better benchmarking tool

# Contact Information

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## ASPPIH Data Center

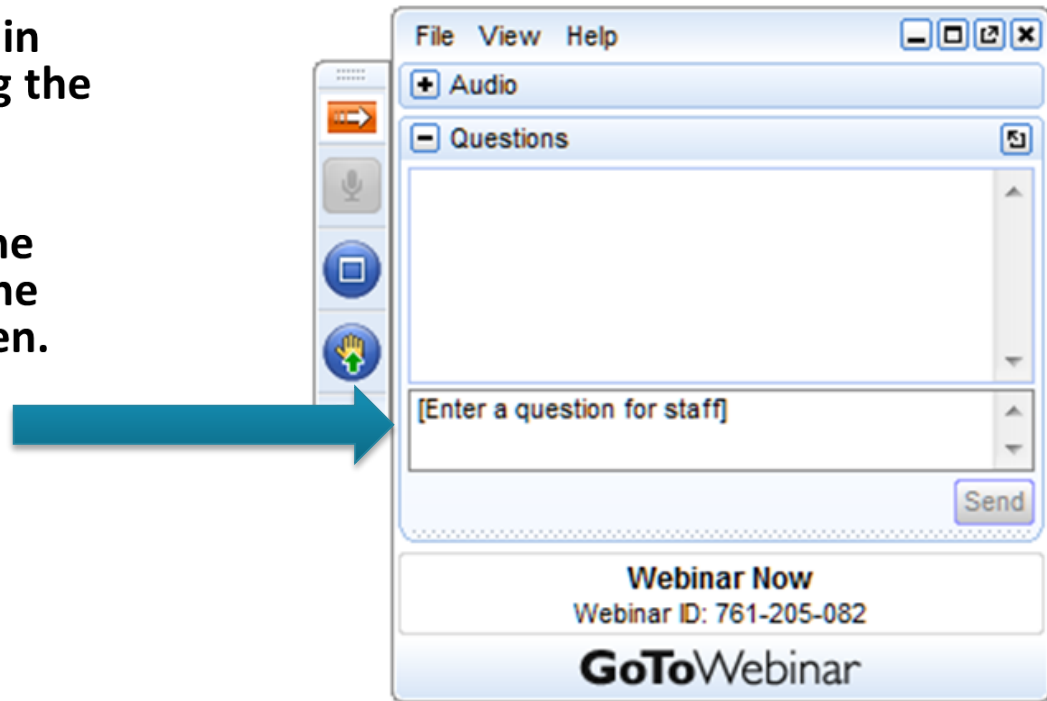
[www.aspph.org/connect/data-center/](http://www.aspph.org/connect/data-center/)



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# Thank you!

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See the webinar event page on the ASPPH website for a link to the **archived webinar**:

<http://www.aspph.org/aspph-presents-webinar-where-do-public-health-graduates-go-results-from-the-aspph-graduate-employment-pilot-survey-and-plans-for-the-future/>

Contact: [webinars@aspph.org](mailto:webinars@aspph.org)

**CPHCE**  
*Credits*

# Coming Attractions...

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## ASPPH Presents WEBINAR

### **ASPPH and The Community Guide: Partners in Public Health**

November 10, 2015

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Eastern

registration link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2975555910911340545>