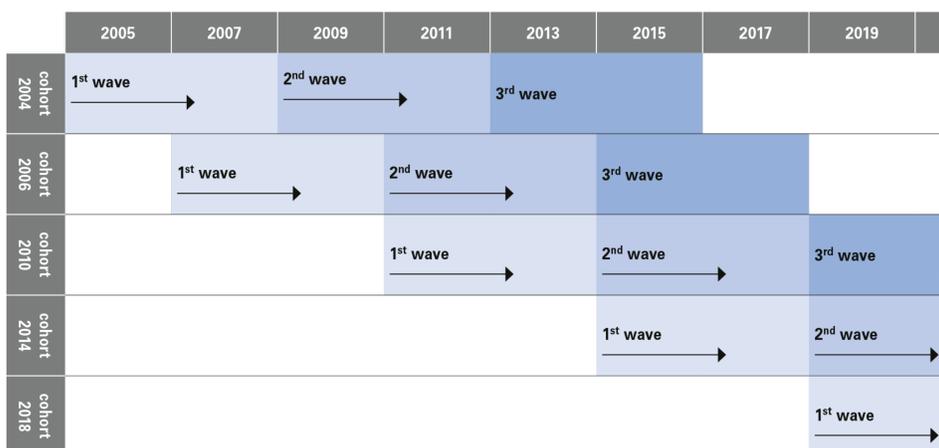


## Aim and Background

- Aim: inform students, support higher education institutions and policies and make a contribution to the research community
- Regular surveys of graduates of Bavarian universities and universities of applied sciences about educational and career trajectories
- Implemented in 2005 by the Bavarian State Institute for Higher Education Research and Planning (IHF)

## Research Design



## Survey Methodology

- Longitudinal cohort design
- Cohorts are defined by year of graduation (following administrative *Prüfungsjahr* from first of October to the 30. September in the following year)
- With a lag of four years, new cohorts are selected
- Each cohort is surveyed three times: approximately 1.5 years, five and ten years after graduation
- Standardised self-administered questionnaires both online and on paper developed by the IHF, modelled after the instruments employed in the national graduate panels of DZHW (former HIS) and INCHER

## Survey Contents

- Evaluation of study conditions and assessment of competences
- Work experience and time abroad during studies
- Transition from bachelor degree to master studies
- Transition from university to labour market
- Further career development of graduates
- Regional mobility after graduation
- Formal training beyond graduation
- Personal background (parental education, gender, marital status, children, nationality...)

## Selected Results

### Transition into the Labour Market

#### (Falk/Reimer 2007)

- In the Arts and Humanities as well as in the Social Sciences, the transition phase is a time of labour market and professional orientation and can last several months.
- Among graduates of engineering, the majority attains an employment or pursues a doctoral degree with little or no delay.
- The transition phase is shortened by professional experience during studies as well as a speedy and successful course of study.

### Regional Mobility of Higher Education Graduates

#### (Falk/Kratz 2009)

- The more densely populated a region is, the less likely are graduates move to another area.
- This shows that good labour market opportunities prevent highly qualified persons from moving to other regions.

### Impact of PhD on Career Prospects outside University

#### (Falk/Küpper 2013)

- Employers in the private sector honor a PhD with higher income as an informative signal for good work.
- The chances of being promoted after a PhD however are mixed: Five years after graduation, they depend mainly on job-specific and socio-economic factors.

### Income of Bachelor and Diplom Graduates

#### (Müller/Reimer 2015)

- Bachelor graduates earn less than Diplom graduates in three out of seven fields of study. This discrepancy has different reasons:
- Graduates from the Humanities enter less favorable labour markets than their Diplom counterparts.
- In Engineering, gender and grades play an additional part.
- In the Natural Sciences however, employer perception of lower competence levels seems to be important.

### Monetary Returns to International Student Mobility (ISM)

#### (Kratz/Netz 2016)

- ISM-experienced graduates enjoy a steeper wage growth after graduation and receive higher medium-term wages.
- This is partly attributable to their favorable self-selection into ISM, and to two mechanisms so far not included in the literature:
- The steeper wage growth results from the higher likelihood of ISM-experienced graduates to change employers.
- Their medium-term wage advantage is due to them working more often in large and multinational companies.

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