

British Psychological Society

Division of Health Psychology

Survey of First Destinations for MSc Health Psychology Graduates 2001/02

Early this year, the Division surveyed all 19 MSc Health Psychology programmes to find out the first destinations of their graduates. We examined the most recent cohort, 2001/02. Two of the programmes had not yet been accredited, one was very recently accredited and was still to produce its first graduates, and four failed to respond, despite a reminder. The analysis was therefore based on responses from 12 programmes. A total of 148 students had completed, but the destinations for 27 of them were unknown, leaving 121 with usable data. The results are shown in the figure.

All but 17% of graduates went to health-related appointments – university research or teaching posts, health research in the NHS or elsewhere, Stage 2 training in health psychology, or training in other Divisions (clinical, counselling, education). A small number, amounting to 4%, had not graduated and were continuing with their MSc, typically to resubmit their project dissertation. The largest category, which I have labelled 'health related post', consisted mainly of psychology assistantships and health promotion posts, but also audit posts and administrative positions in the NHS or health-related organisations such as charities. A final point to note is that, if the average output per university continues at the present rate, and the total is pro-rated to include programmes for which we do not have data, the annual number will soon be 230 – 250.



Calculations based on n of 121