



What Can I Do With a Degree in Psychology?

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CWS Mission Statement

The APA Center for Workforce Studies collects, analyzes, and disseminates information relevant to psychology's workforce and education system.





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Overview

- Education
- Employment
- Salaries
- Job Profiles
- Skills for the Workforce
- Challenges & Opportunities (Catherine Grus)





Education

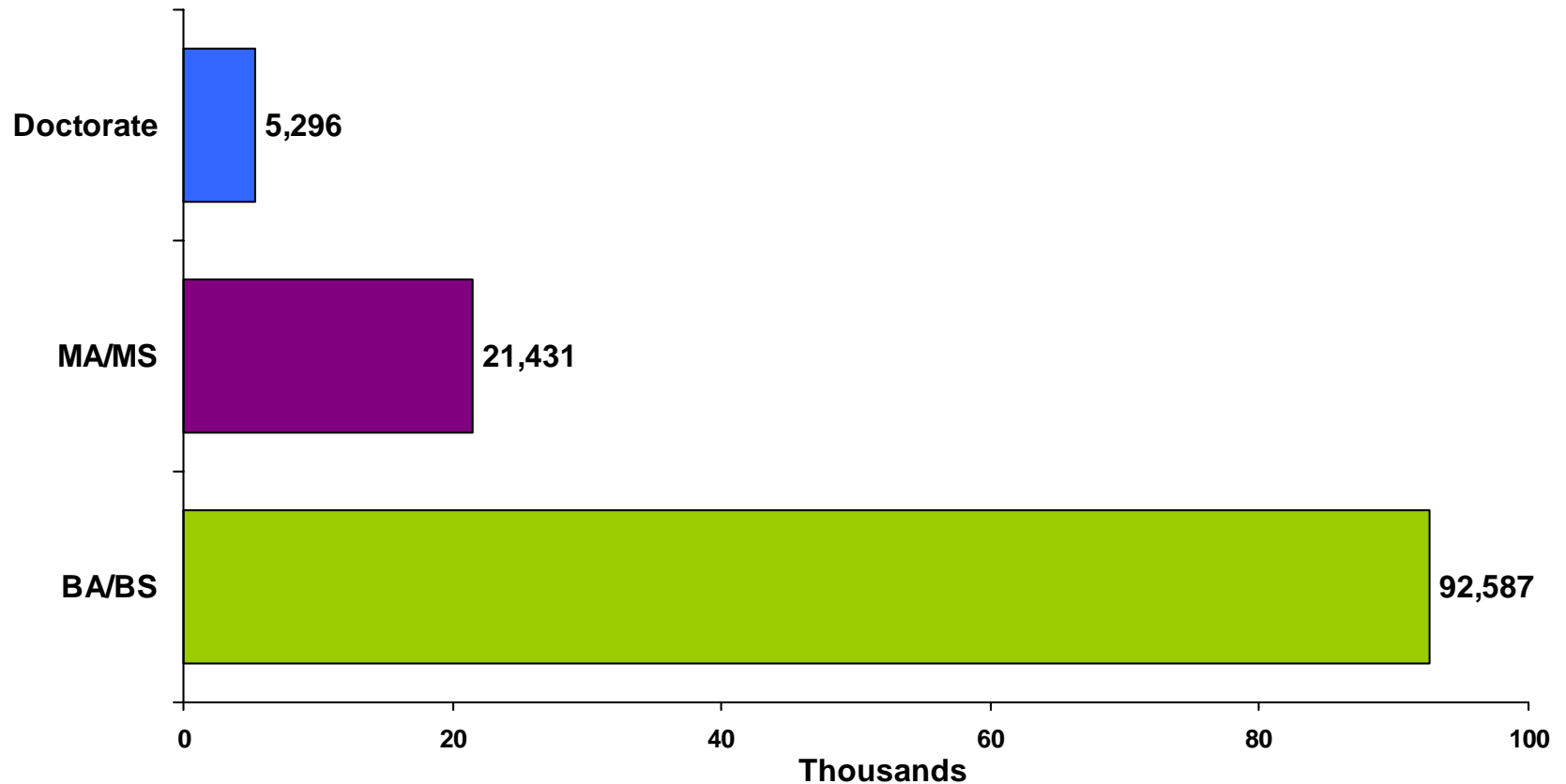
- Why study psychology?
- How many degrees are awarded each year?
- What are the most common subfields?
- How do subfields differ by gender?
- How much debt do students incur?



Top 5 Reasons Undergraduate Students Chose Psychology

- Help others, be of service
- Interesting subject matter
- Better understand myself and others
- Career and/or salary potential
- Conduct research

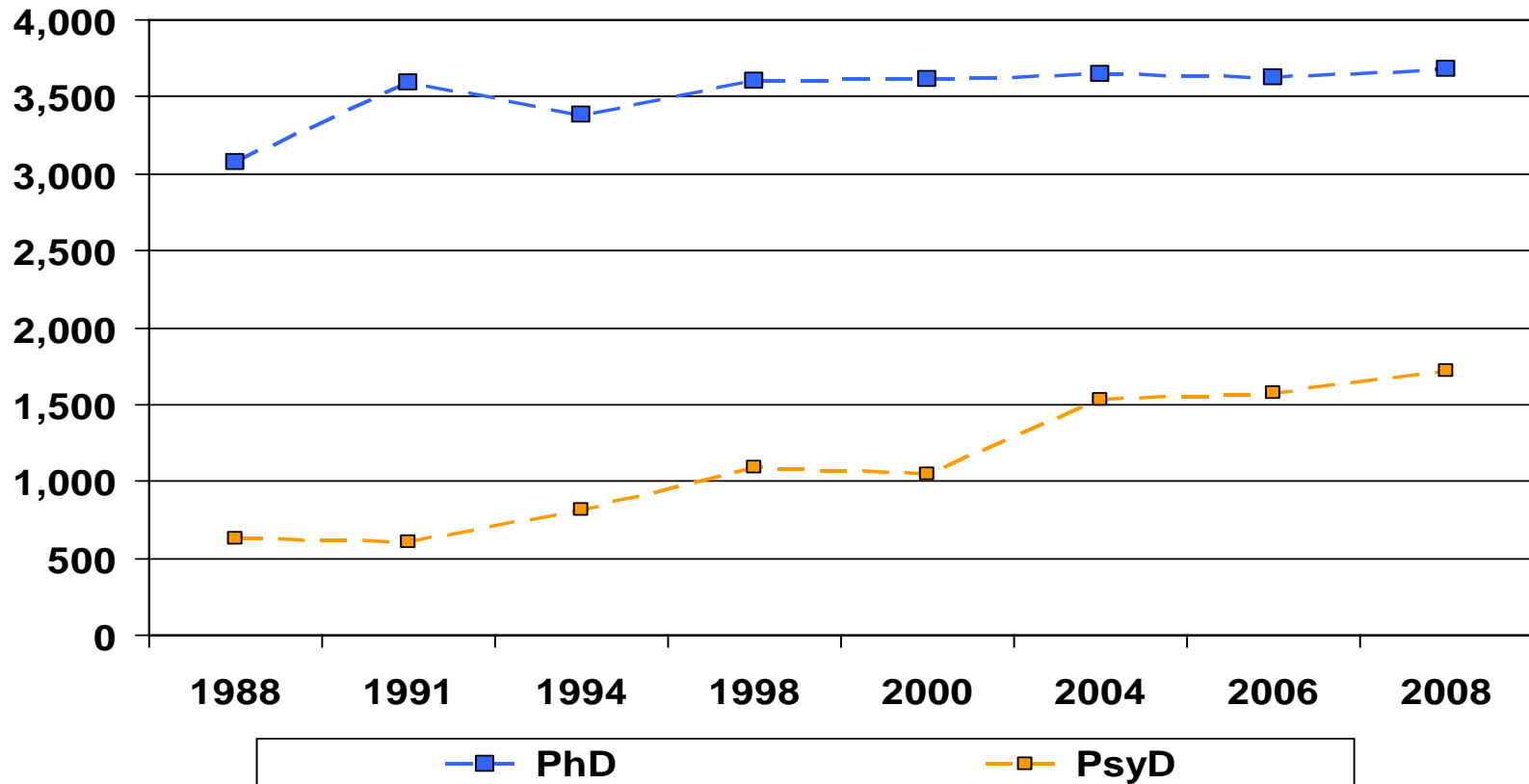
Number of Psychology Degrees Conferred by Level of Degree: 2008



Source: US Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Integrated Postsecondary Data System (IPEDS), "Completion" Survey. Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies. January 2010.

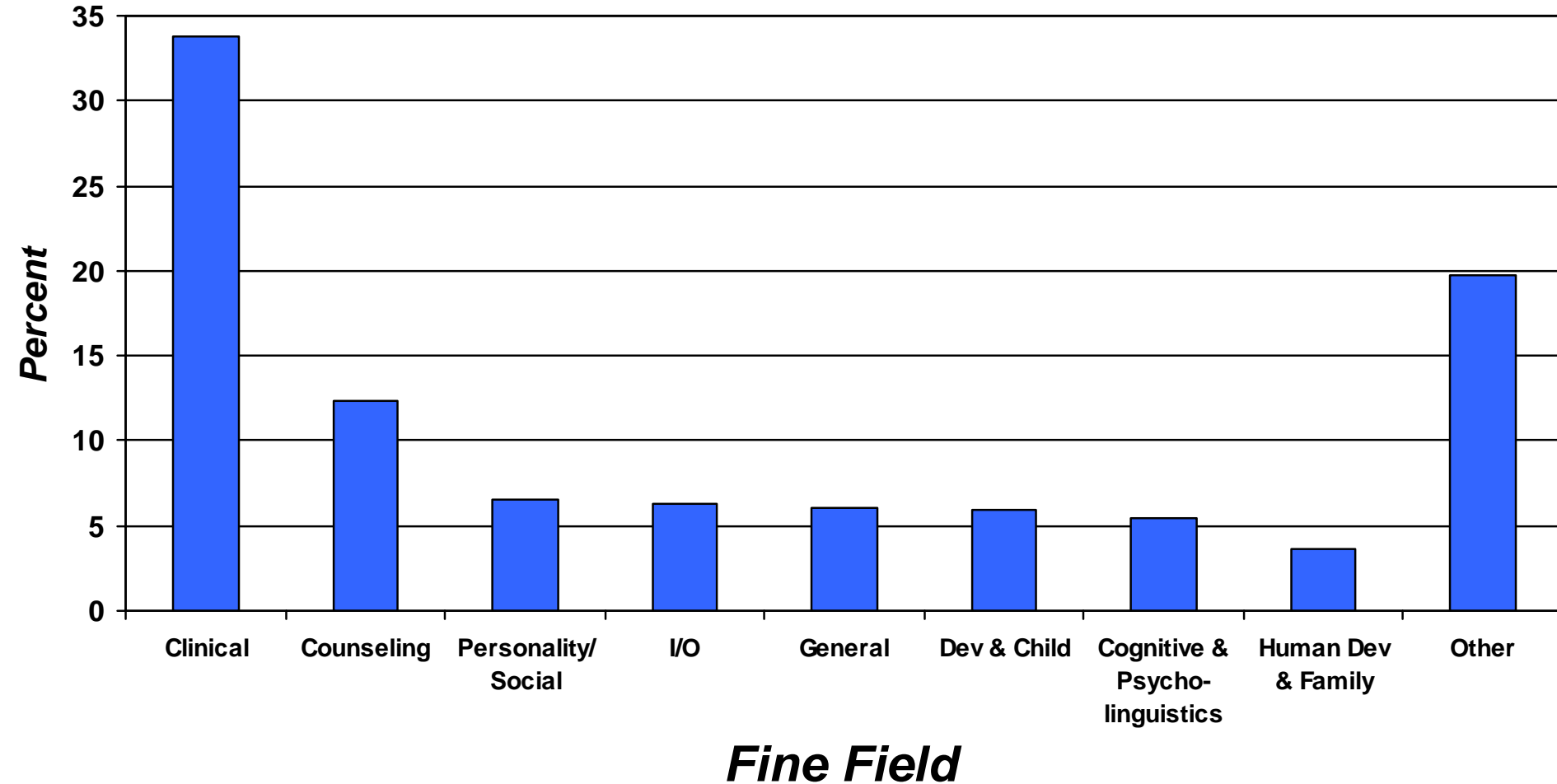
Note. Doctorate degree includes PsyDs.

Number of PhDs and PsyDs Awarded in Psychology

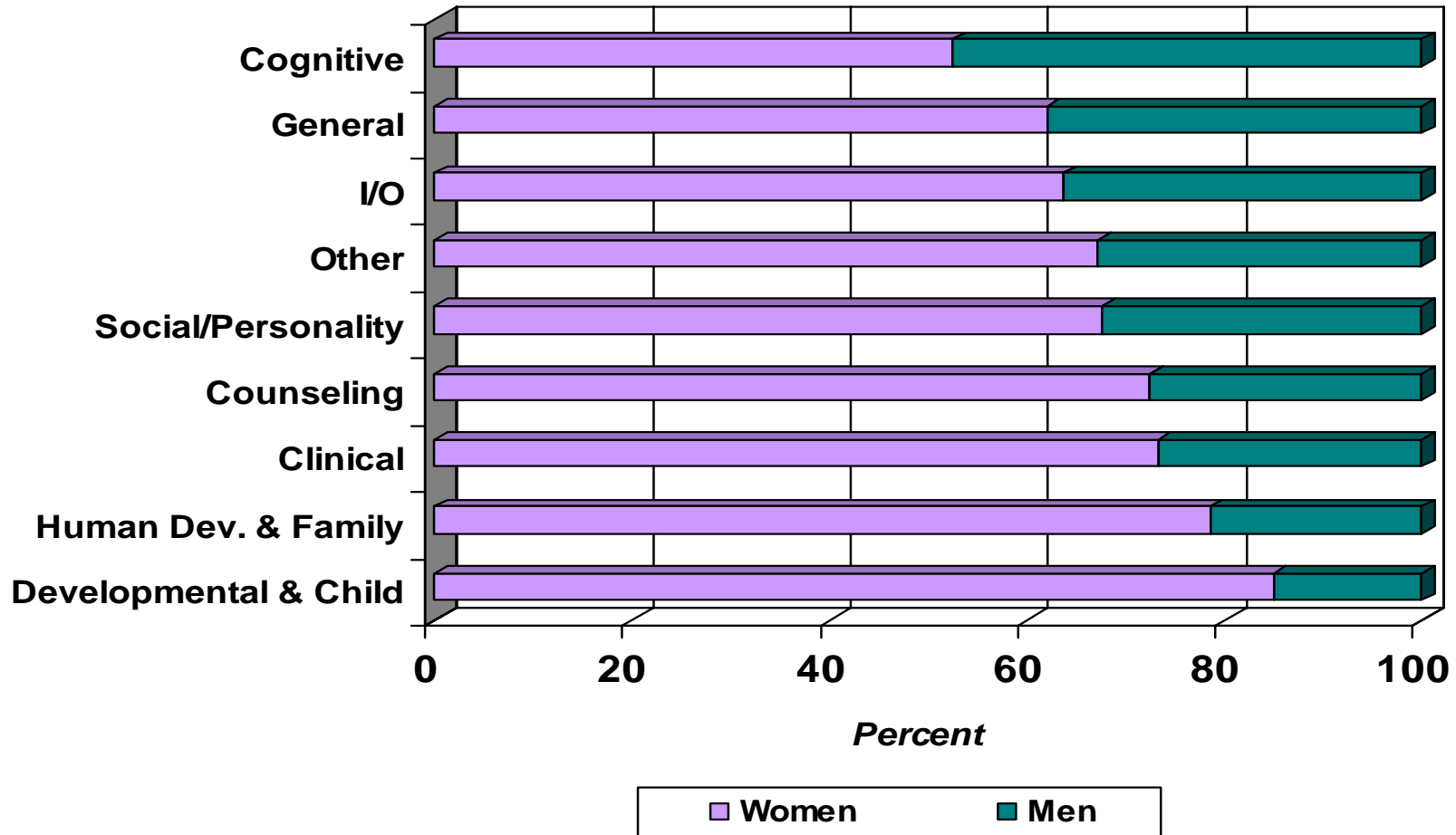


Source: Data are from *APA's Graduate Study in Psychology*. Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, April, 2009
Note. Data on PsyDs represent an undercount as several departments did not report number of PsyDs awarded.

Psychology PhDs Awarded by Fine Field: 2008

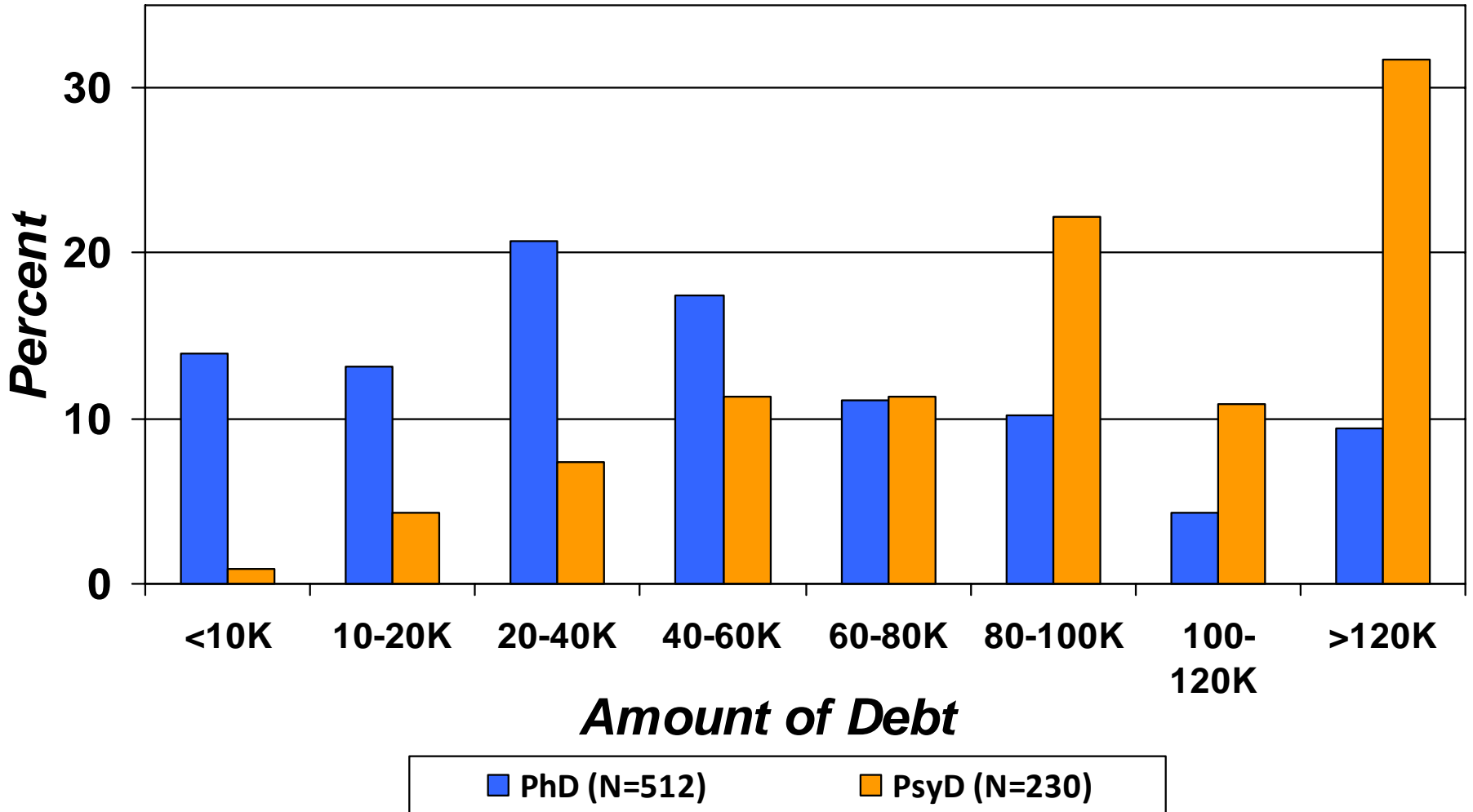


Psychology PhDs by Fine Field and Gender: 2008



Source: NSF/NIH/USED/NEH/USDA/NASA, Survey of Earned Doctorates 2008. Compiled by APA Center for Workforce Studies, June 2010.
Note: Data for the category "Other" are from 2007 as 2008 data were not available.

Level of Debt by Type of Degree for Recent Doctorates: 2007



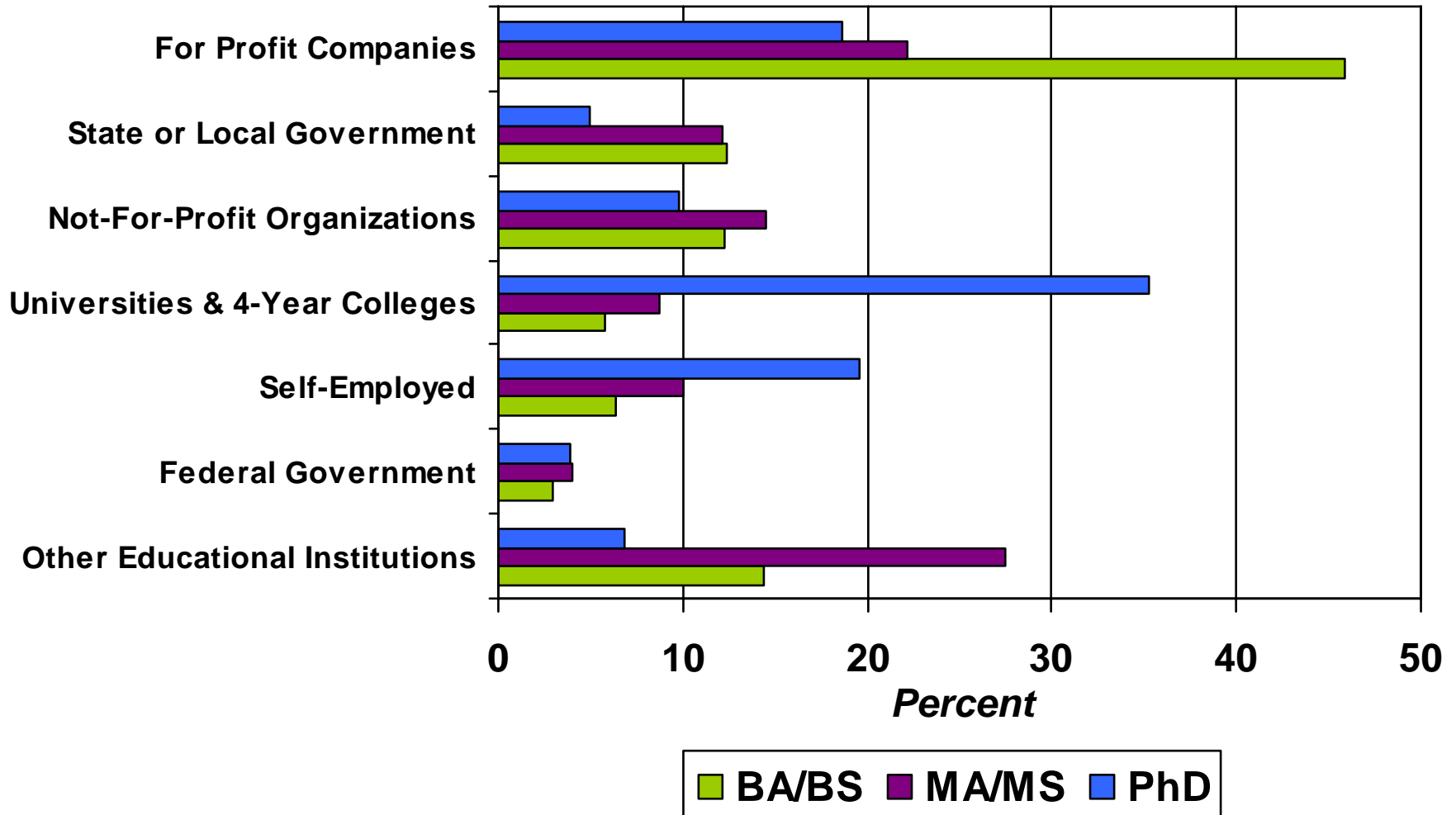


Employment

- Where do psychology degree recipients work?
- What work activities do they do?



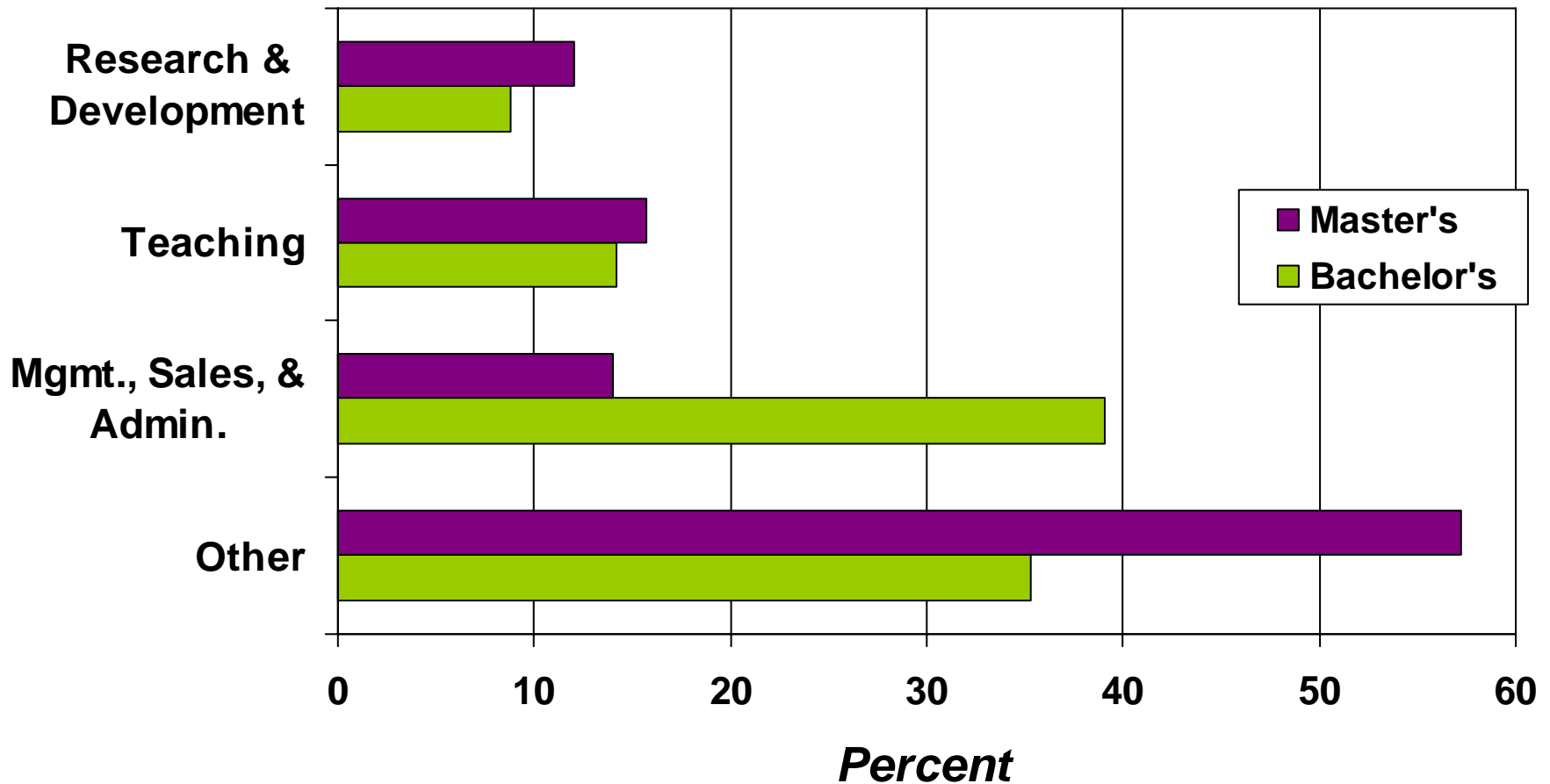
Work Settings for Psychology Degree Recipients: 2006



Source: National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, Various Surveys (2006). Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, January 2010.

Notes. Psychologists earning PsyDs are not included here but are most often located in practice settings (self-employed and organized health care settings). The use of NSF data does not imply NSF endorsement of the research, research methods, or conclusions contained in this report.

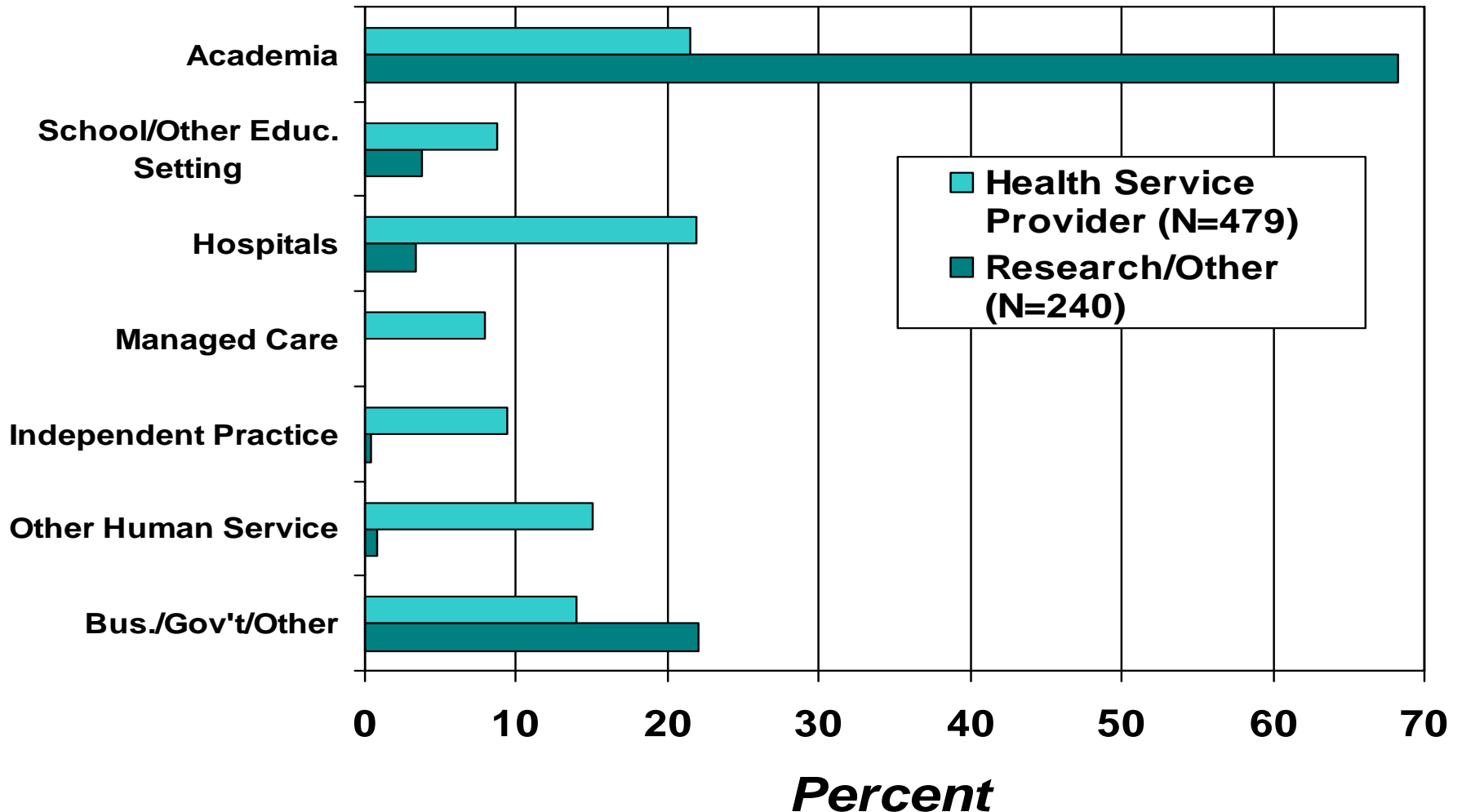
Primary Work Activities of Recent Psychology Degree Recipients: 2003



Source: National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, *National Survey of Recent College Graduates* (2003). Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, April 2009.

Note. The use of NSF data does not imply NSF endorsement of the research, research methods, or conclusions contained in this report.

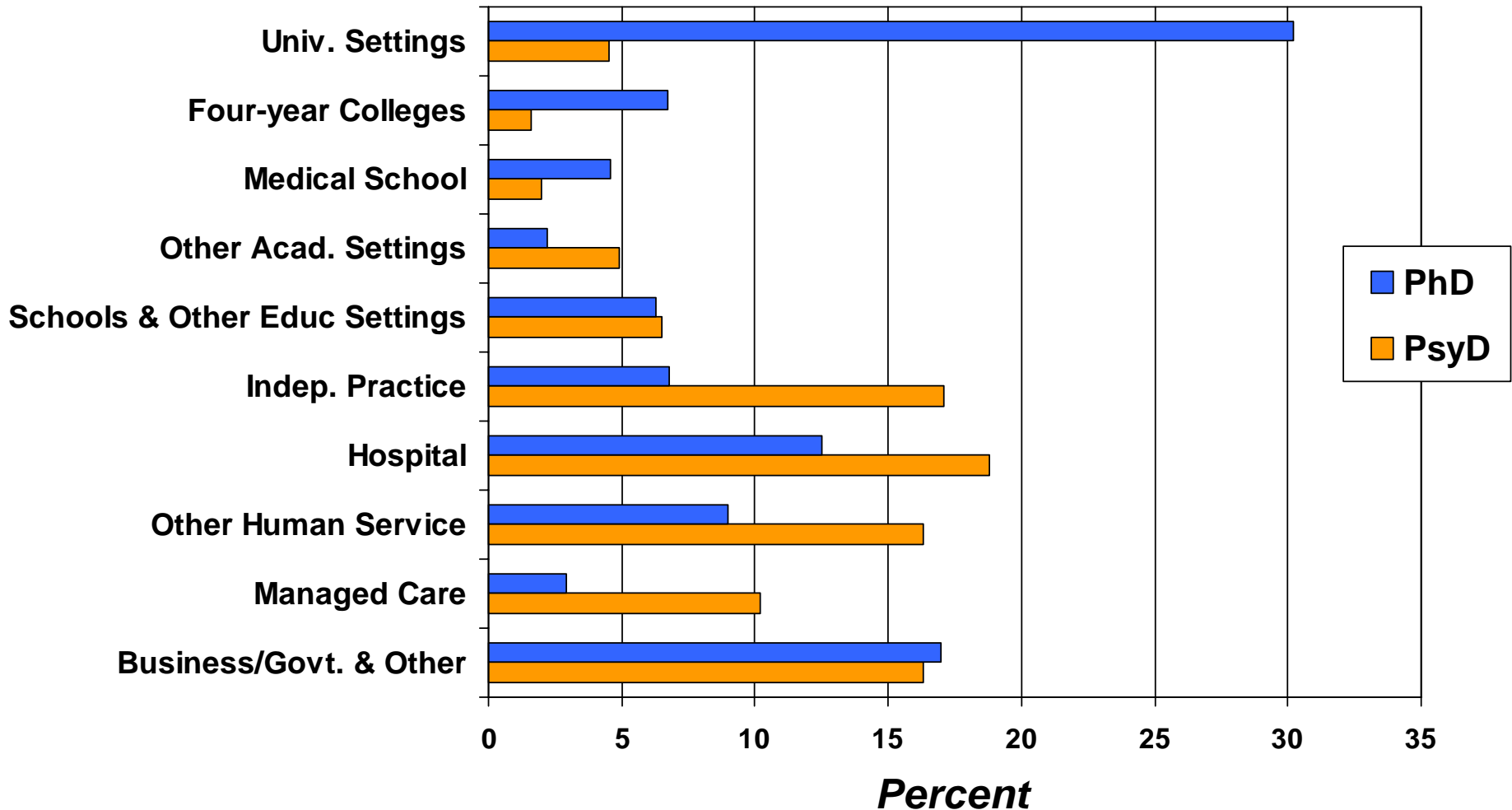
Primary Full-time Employment Settings by Subfield for Recent Doctorates in Psychology: 2007



Source: 2007 Doctorate Employment Survey. Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, June 2009.

Note. Includes PsyDs.

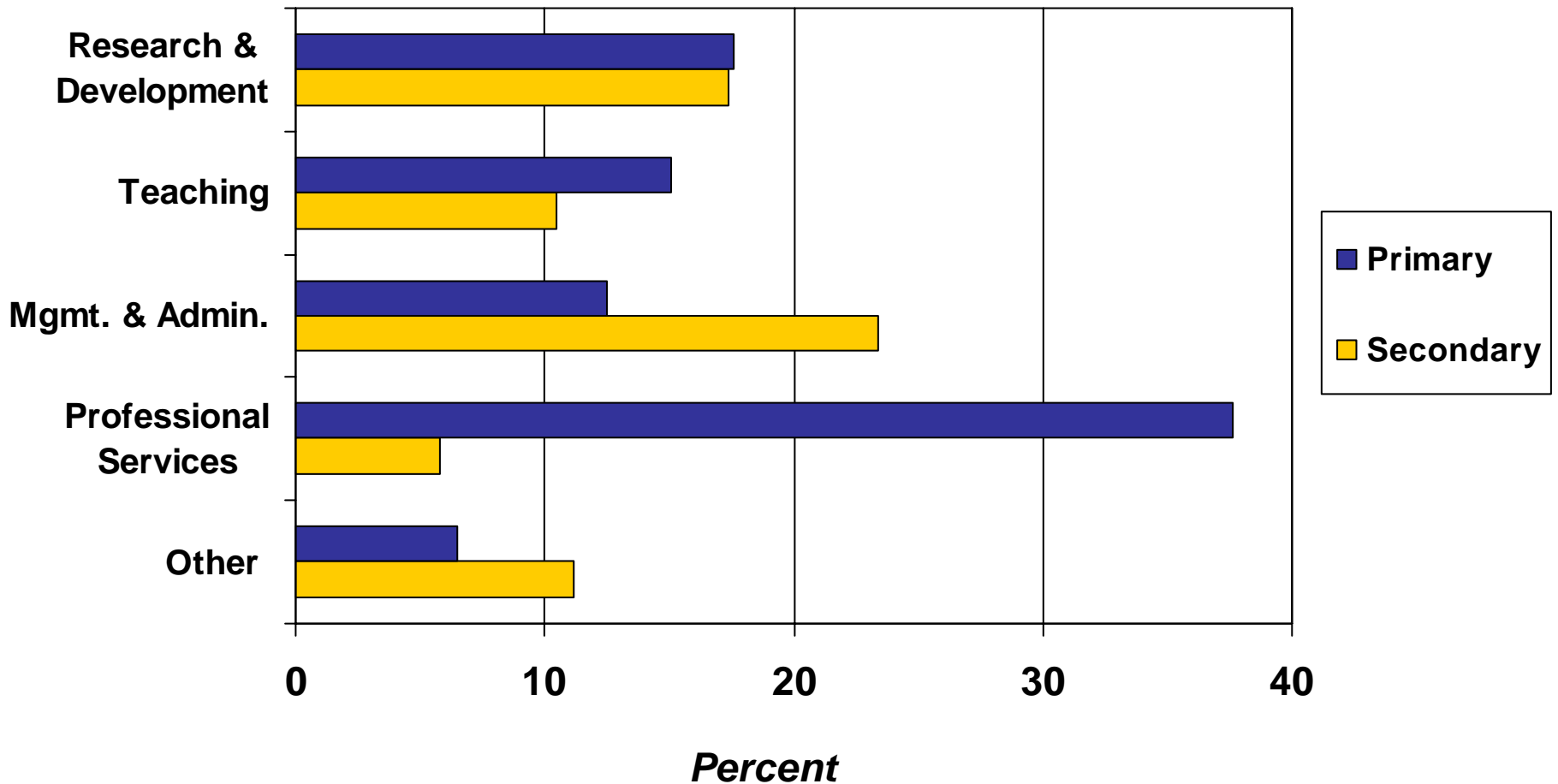
Primary Employment Settings for Recent Doctorate Recipients in Psychology by Degree Type: 2007



Source: 2007 Doctorate Employment Survey. Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, June 2009.

Note. Table includes survey respondents with full- and part-time employment. Statistics are not included for settings where the total N is less than 20.

Primary and Secondary Work Activities of Psychology PhDs: 2006



Source: NSF/NIH/USED/NEH/USDA/NASA, 2006 Survey of Doctorate Recipients. Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, April 2009.

Note. The use of NSF data does not imply NSF endorsement of the research, research methods, or conclusions contained in this report.

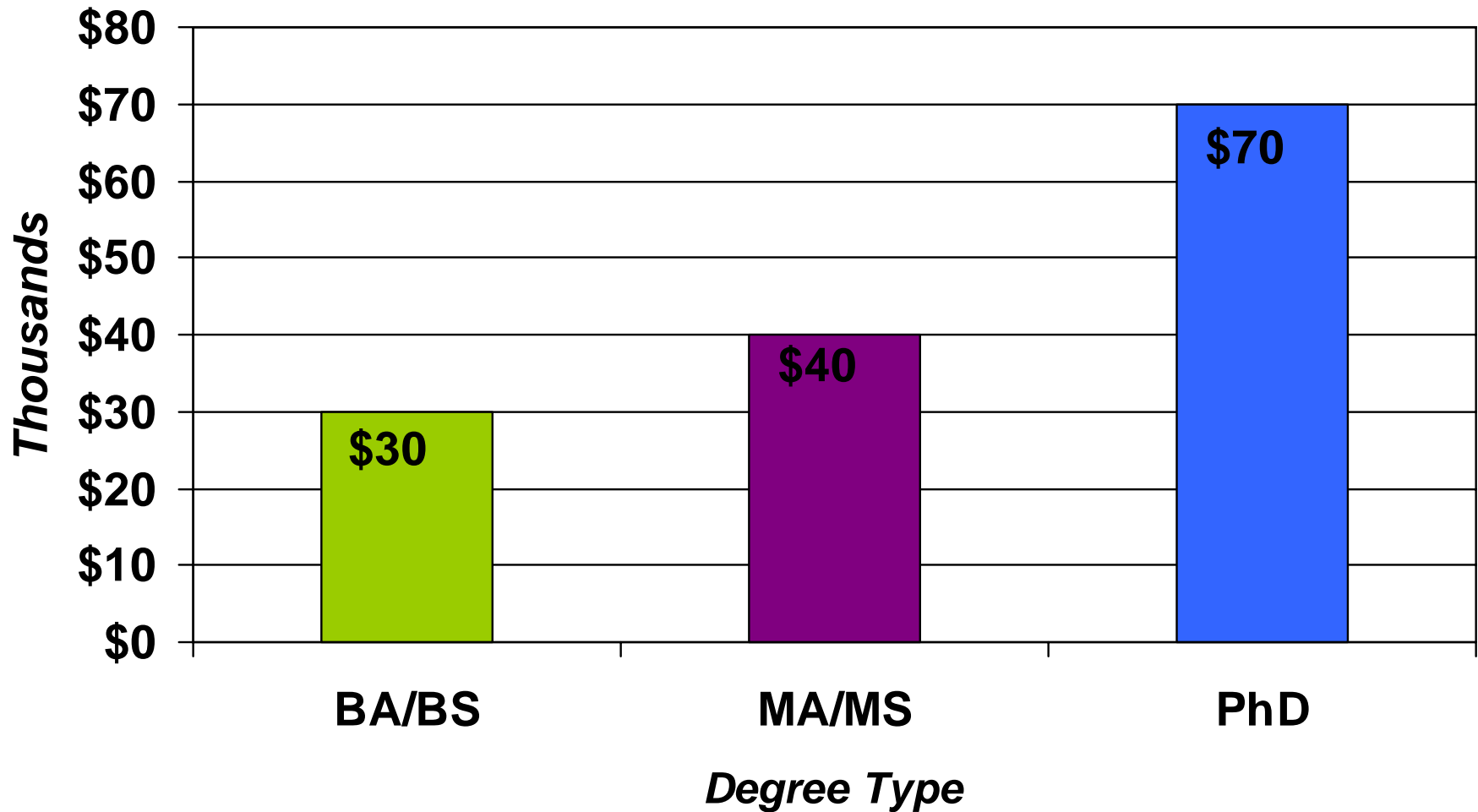


Salaries in Psychology

- How do salaries differ by degree level and work position?
- What are average starting salaries?



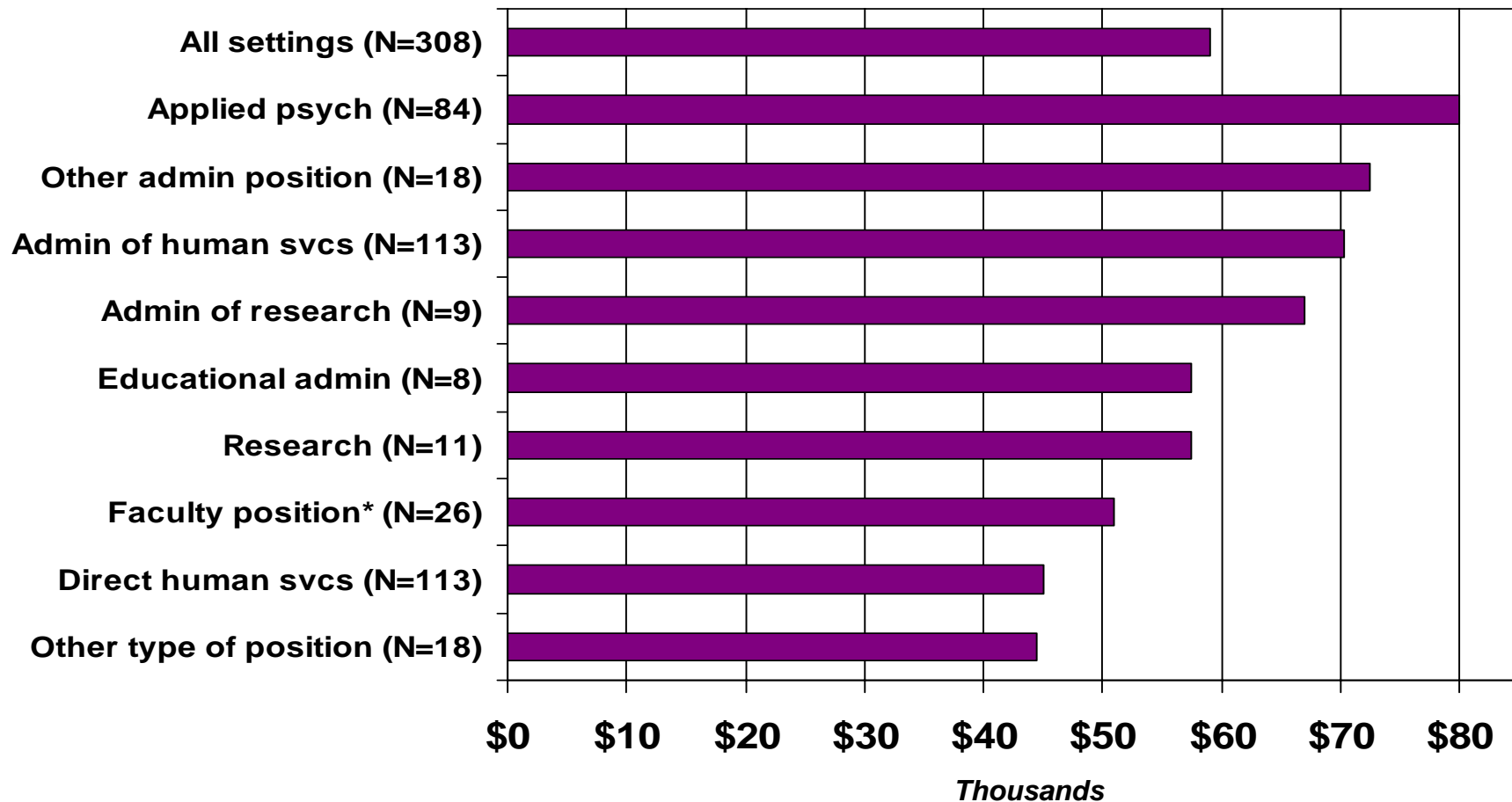
Median Annual Full-time Salaries in Psychology By Degree Type: 2006



Source: Data derived from National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, 2006 National Survey of Recent College Graduates, and 2006 Survey of Doctorate Recipients. Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, April 2009.

Note. The use of NSF data does not imply NSF endorsement of the research, research methods, or conclusions contained in this report.

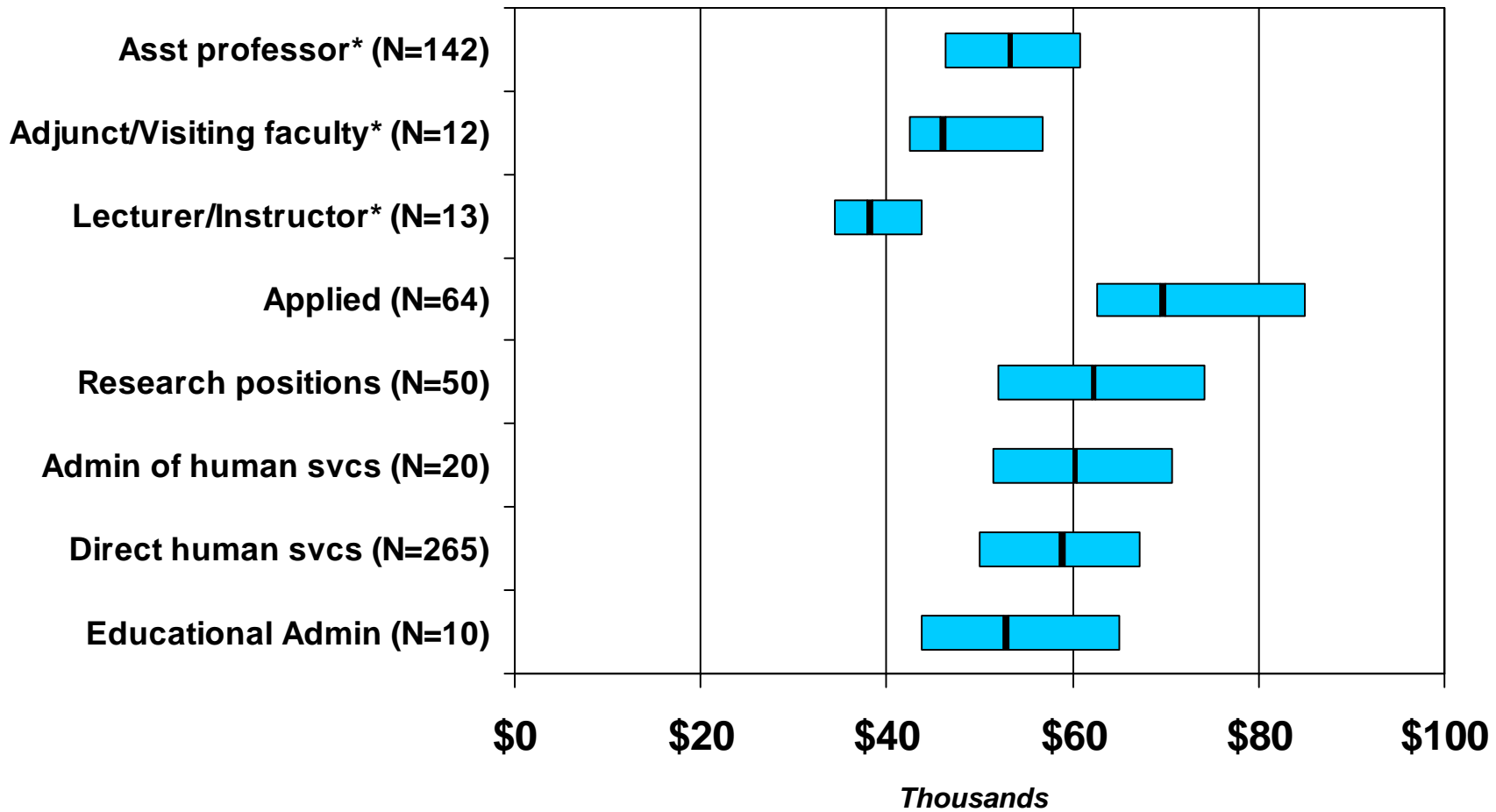
Median Annual Full-time Salaries by Employment Position for Master's-Level APA Members in Psychology: 2009



Source: 2009 APA Salary Survey. Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, June 2010.

*Faculty position is for all higher education, including undergraduate and community college. Salary is reported for a 9-10-month academic year. To calculate 11-12 month equivalent, multiply by 11/9.

Starting Salaries for Full-time Employment Positions of Recent Doctorates in Psychology: 2007



Source: 2007 Doctorate Employment Survey. Compiled by the APA Center for Workforce Studies, June 2009.

Note. Graph includes first quartile, median, and third quartile values. Includes PsyDs.

* Faculty salaries are for all higher education, including undergraduate and community college. Salaries are reported for a 9-10-month academic year. To calculate 11-12 month equivalent, multiply by 11/9.



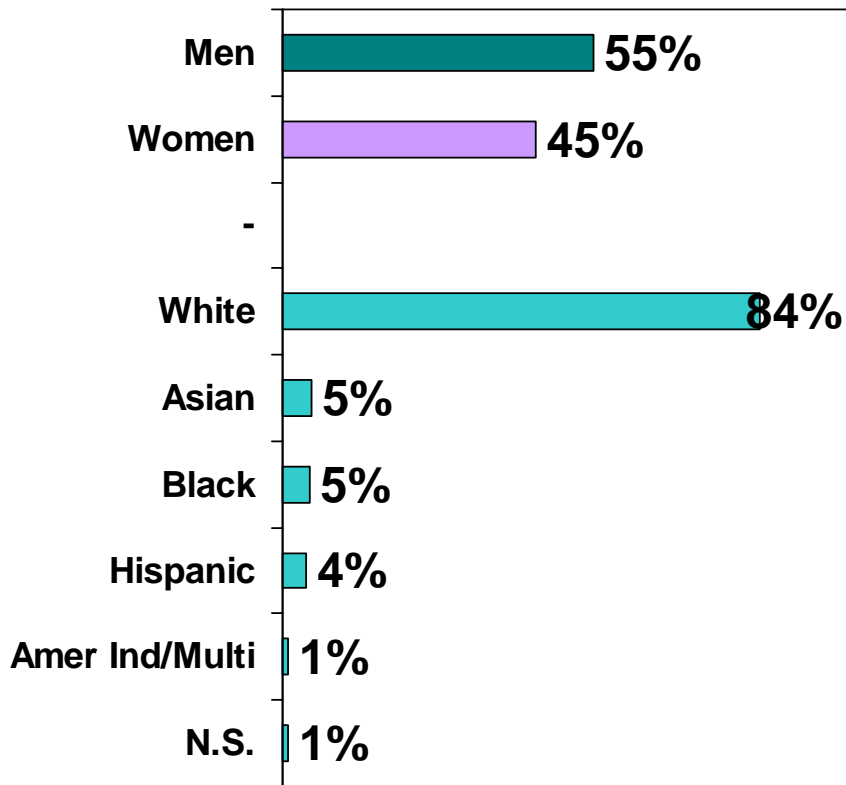
Job Profiles

- Academia
- Health Service Provider



Full-Time Faculty: U.S. Graduate Departments of Psychology, 2009-2010

Demographics



Settings

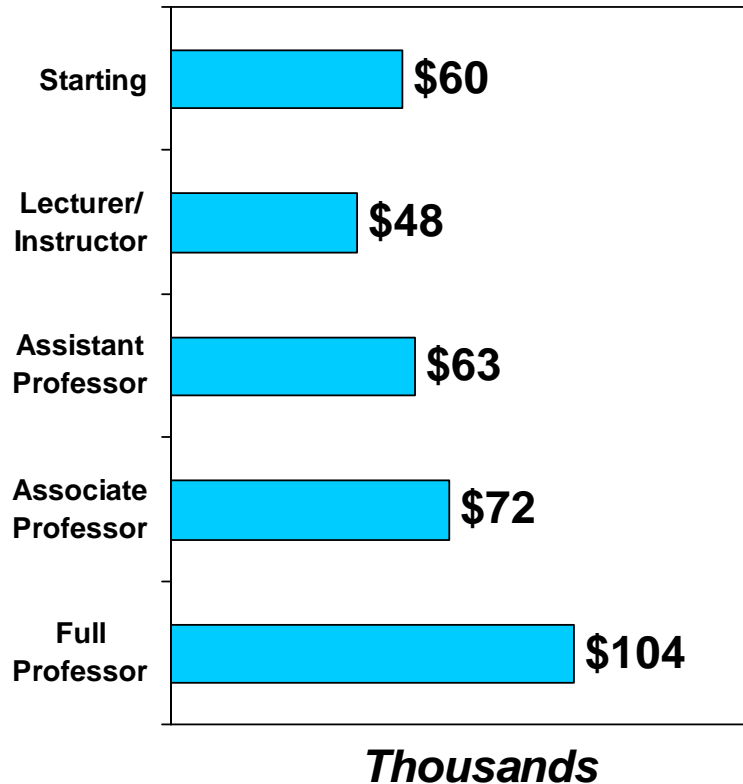
University/4-year/2-year
Private/Public
Traditional/Professional

Work Activities

Teaching
Research
Advising
Administration
Writing

Faculty Salaries: U.S. Graduate Departments of Psychology, 2009-2010

Full-Time Faculty Median Salaries



Adjunct Faculty Average Fees Per Course

Doctoral Departments

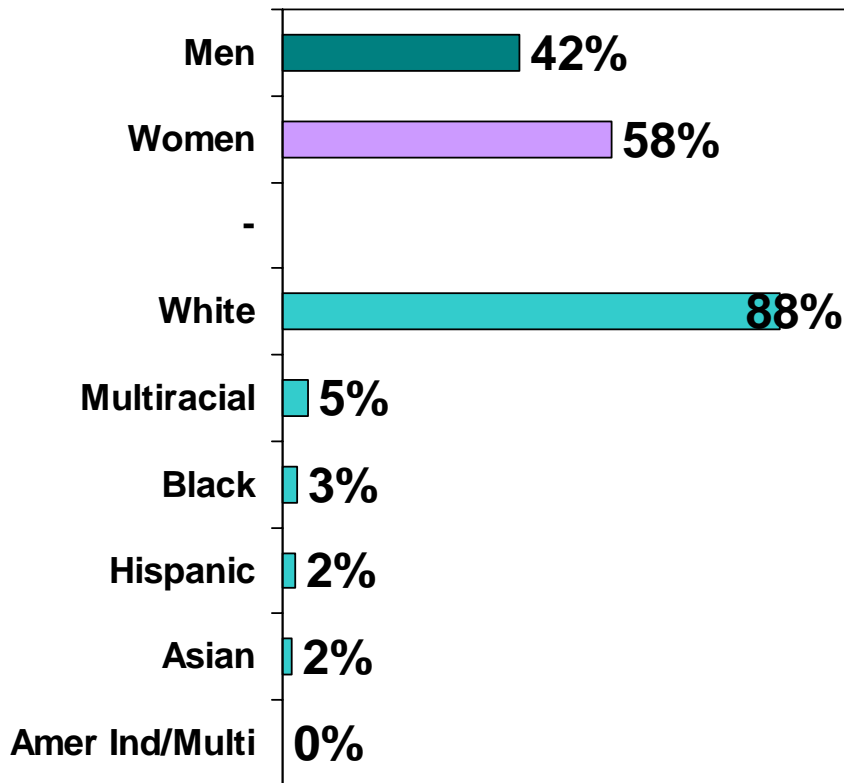
\$4,000

Master's Departments

\$2,625

Psychology Health Service Provider Characteristics: 2008

Demographics



Settings

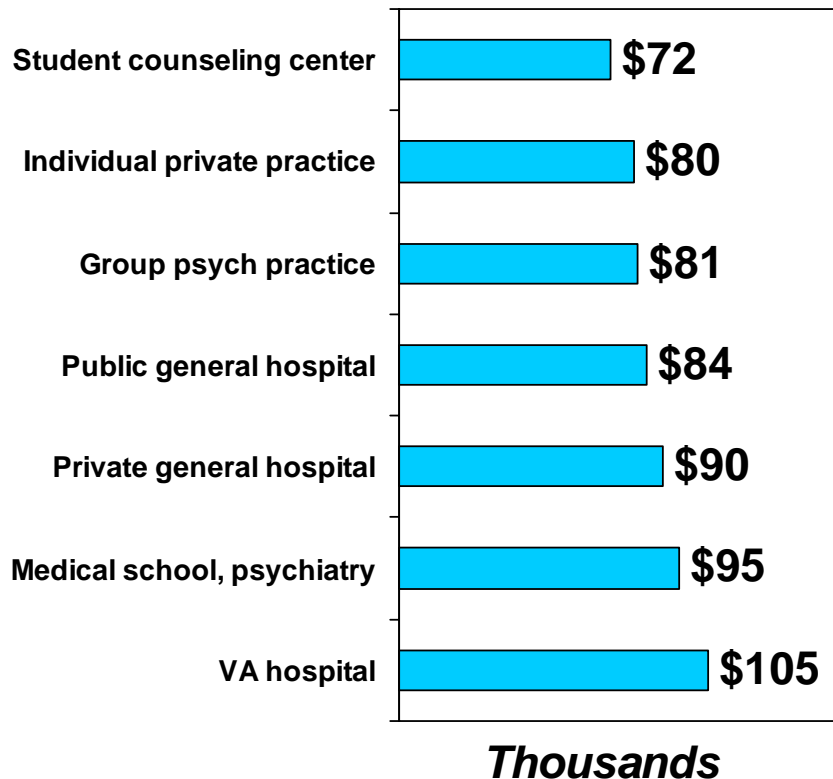
Private Practice
Organized Human Service
Educational Institutions/
School Systems
Business & Government

Work Activities

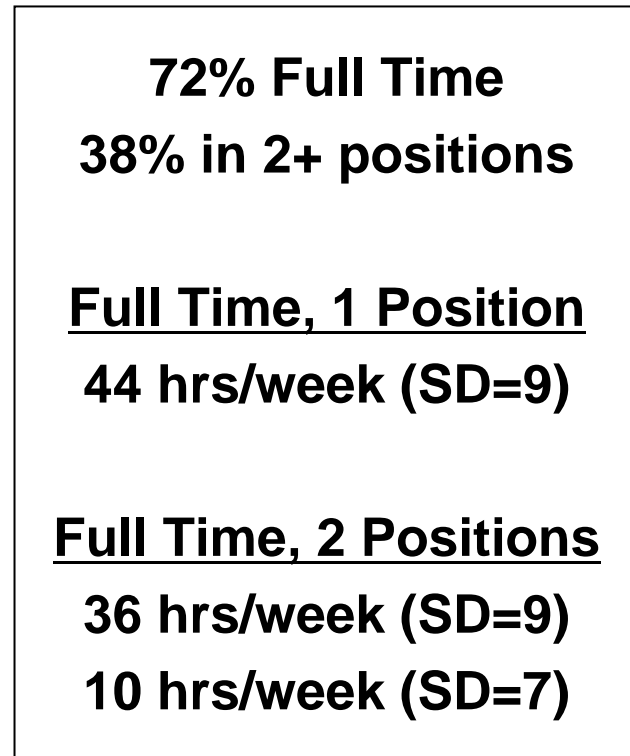
Direct Client Care
Practice Management
Clinical Supervision
Clinical/Community
Consultation & Prevention

Psychology Health Service Provider Characteristics

Full-Time Doctoral-Level Median Salaries: 2009



2008 Work Positions & Average Work Hours



Areas of Need/Opportunities for Those in the Field: Research and Practice

Underserved populations

- Individuals in correctional facilities
- Chronically mentally ill (Axis I diagnosis)
- Veterans/military/families of veterans
- Youth/children
- Elderly/geriatric population
- Retiring/Aging “baby boomer” generations psychology

Opportunities for prevention vs. intervention

- Health Care Reform-medical “teams”
- Holistic care teams



Work Skills for Recent Doctorates

- What are important skills in general?
- What are particular important skills for health service providers?



Now That I Have a Doctorate in Psychology, What Skills are Most Useful? What New Doctorates Have to Say.

All Subfields

- **Collaborate with colleagues from other disciplines/fields**
- **Communicate comprehensibly to non-psychologists via workshops/ public speaking/ writing**
- **Previous work experience (before & during graduate education), internships for I/O, practica**
- **Administrative skills, budgeting, management, program planning**
- **Quantitative skills - applied statistics, methods, field research**
- **Networking**
- **Teaching skills**
- **Bilingual - able to work in more than one language**
- **Technology - what it is, how to use it to do your work**
- **Communicate how psychology applies/self-promotion**
- **Proactive/forward thinking**

Now That I Have a Doctorate in Psychology, What Skills are Most Useful? What New Doctorates Have to Say.

Health Service Provider Subfield

- **Business & Management: e.g., starting a practice and keeping it going**
- **Marketing & Selling Oneself/proactive**
- **Short-term/ brief therapy knowledge skills**
- **Working/ communicating with MCOs, insurance companies: knowing how to get on panels, time efficiency, insurance, documentation, taxes**
- **Knowledge of health care delivery systems: A system-level understanding of how it works and where it might be going**
- **What careers are possible? A more realistic view of the profession and the applications of psychology. What are emerging areas of practice?**
- **Understanding of and knowledge about medical system/medical outcomes. Communicating with Primary Care Providers**
- **Practical experiences (MCOs and elsewhere)**
- **Knowledge about integrated community service provisions/ cross-disciplinary work/ multiple wraparound services/ how to work with multidisciplinary teams**