

# Determinants of employment destinations of PhD holders: industrial sectors and economic conditions.

Potential new title:

The destination employment of PhD holders: a better understanding of university-industries synergies.

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# Topic and research question

- HE systems produce more PhD holders than HEIs may absorb
- Post-docs are relatively precarious and transitional, “limbo/transitional” employment
- PhD holders are arguably people in searching for the best matching
- The whole topic goes at odds with foundational assumptions of Human Capital Theory
- Hence, more findings to understand what causes the exit from academia/science are needed
- But also predictors of objective success are relevant to overcome the personal satisfaction motivation perspective as main factor

# Source & dataset

- Secondary data from ISTAT (Italian national statistical agency) about career of PhD holders
- Large number of variables but:
  - Relatively poor description of events in timeline
  - No information about awarding institutions
  - 2018 survey not already available

# Hypotheses

1. What may predict the exit from academic and Public Research Institutes (49%) against either:
  1. Other education and training sectors (9%) or other sectors (42%) being the latter supposedly the gumption option
  2. Keeping constant the disciplinary field (multilevel)
2. What may predict better paid employment
  1. At PPP
  2. Discarding part-timers issues
  3. At parity of contractual forms
  4. At parity of disciplinary field (multilevel 1<sup>st</sup> layer)
  5. Distinguishing the main three sectors of Hp1 (multilevel 2<sup>nd</sup> layer)
3. All tests are run in robust S.E. to avoid heteroscedasticity in residual distributions

# Variables

1/2

	Var	Label	Obs.	Average	SD	Min	Max
biographical	hWPPP		7,622	64.46039	113.8304	6.070313	3000
	age2	age^2	10,007	115.5992	69.89436	49	1225
	d5_10	education mother	10,007	3.094534	1.374309	1	6
	d5_5	education father	10,007	3.224943	1.403312	1	6
	d1_7	graduation mark	10,007	2.594884	0.717814	1	3
	d0_1	sex	10,007	1.518637	0.499678	1	2
	d5_4	child/ren	10,007	1.676327	0.4679	1	2
	d1_10	funding PhD (base is MIUR national scheme)					
	Altro ent..	other public	10,007	0.068152	0.25202	0	1
	Universit..	private organization	10,007	0.05666	0.231204	0	1
during PhD	Organism..)	international organization	10,007	0.01459	0.11991	0	1
	none	nil	10,007	0.183871	0.387399	0	1
	Mob_dur	mobility during PhD	10,007	0.459578	0.498388	0	1
	d1_20	overall satisfaction of PhD	10,007	6.97162	1.951643	2	10
	d1_15	duration of PhD	10,007	1.123414	0.328928	1	2
	d1_14	teaching during PhD	10,007	1.764865	0.820347	1	3
	d2_52	employment at end of PhD	9,301	1.583271	0.493044	1	2
	d2_46a	articles	10,007	7.594184	9.411236	0	50
	d2_46b	chapters	10,007	1.246527	2.479837	0	14
	d2_46c	books	10,007	0.29989	0.877292	0	10
post PhD	d2_46d	reviews	10,007	2.663536	7.197175	0	50
	d2_46e	proceedings	10,007	6.130309	9.943344	0	50
	d2_46f	encyc. entries	10,007	0.339263	2.373634	0	30
	d2_46g	edited books	10,007	0.166783	0.742384	0	10
	d2_46h	patents	10,007	0.11402	0.657443	0	10
	d2_47a	university	10,007	2.02818	0.819757	1	3
	d2_47b	public research institutes	10,007	1.577995	0.797437	1	3
	d2_47c	private research org.s	10,007	1.31408	0.646942	1	3
	d2_47d	research consortia	10,007	1.296293	0.637499	1	3
	d2_47e	companies	10,007	1.372739	0.672679	1	3
	d2_47f	international org.s	10,007	1.239532	0.634856	1	3
	expostdoc	finished a post-doc	10,007	0.205456	0.404055	0	1
	d2_57a	R&D intensity of first job	10,007	0.465574	0.498838	0	1
	d2_64a	R&D intensity of job in 2011	10,007	1.539822	0.498437	1	2
	Mob_post	mobility after PhD	10,007	0.275407	0.446742	0	1

# Var 2/2

	d2_36	channel in getting current job (base is "competition")						
	d2_36b	personal acquaintance of employer	10,007	0.069951	0.255077	0	1	
	d2_36c	endorsement from kins	10,007	0.048566	0.21497	0	1	
	d2_36d	endorsement from university or job agencies	10,007	0.030479	0.171909	0	1	
	d2_36e	after stage or internship	10,007	0.020786	0.142673	0	1	
	d2_36f	direct call from employer	10,007	0.044769	0.206806	0	1	
current employment	d2_36g	job alerts	10,007	0.040672	0.197538	0	1	
	d2_36h	sending CV to employers	10,007	0.124813	0.330523	0	1	
	d2_36i	public job center	10,007	0.001099	0.033138	0	1	
	d2_36j	self-employment	10,007	0.046468	0.210506	0	1	
	d2_36k	private job matching agencies	10,007	0.010892	0.103802	0	1	
	d2_36l	other	10,007	0.053363	0.224767	0	1	
	d2_39	PhD essential criteria for current job	10,007	1.772759	0.759855	1	3	
	d2_40	PhD essential for current job	10,007	1.440092	0.496423	1	2	
		d2_42d	satisfaction for skills aquired during PhD	10,007	6.832717	2.52926	2	10
		d2_44	doing R&D job currently	10,007	1.776656	0.81178	1	3
		applying	applying for jobs (base is "no")					
			1yes, any job	10,007	0.275407	0.446742	0	1
			2yes, only R&D jobs	10,007	0.068152	0.25202	0	1

Results Hp1  
omitting  
statistically not  
significant vars

	Other Education	Not-academic, not other education
lnage	0.489	0.624***
d5_10	-0.0898	0.0538*
d1_7	0.228*	0.0711
d0_1	0.0932	-0.213*
d1_20	0.0643	0.0511**
d1_15	0.065	-0.245*
d2_52	0.0805	-0.145**
d2_46a	-0.0343	-0.0181***
d2_46b	-0.0849	-0.0643**
d2_46d	-0.0318**	-0.00697
d2_46e	-0.00645	-0.00482
d2_46f	0.00302	0.0350**
d2_46h	-0.656*	0.0950*
d2_47a	-0.481***	-0.590***
d2_47c	0.158	0.364***
d2_47f	-0.213	0.206*
expostdoc	-0.0538	-0.253*
2.d2_36	0.556	1.723***
3.d2_36	1.655***	2.590***
4.d2_36	1.376*	2.258***
5.d2_36	1.248	2.794***
6.d2_36	2.370***	2.386***
7.d2_36	1.158	2.365***
8.d2_36	2.405***	2.610***
10.d2_36	2.267*	3.878***
12.d2_36	2.424***	1.945***
d2_39	1.162***	1.167***
d2_40	1.754***	1.083***
d2_44	1.782***	0.646***
d2_24	-1.510***	-0.328
1.applying	-0.433	-0.498**
2.applying	-0.439	-0.501**
_cons	-9.222***	-5.591***
var(_cons[d0_10])	0.146	0.129**
var(_cons[d0_10>d0_5])	0.266*	0.00182
N	5169	8272

# Results Hp2

omitting statistically not significant vars

	<b>ln_hWPPP</b>
<b>age2</b>	<b>0.000385**</b>
<b>d5_4</b>	<b>-0.0783***</b>
<b>book</b>	<b>-0.122*</b>
<b>proceeding</b>	<b>-0.0109*</b>
<b>ency</b>	<b>-0.0353*</b>
<b>patent</b>	<b>0.161*</b>
<b>d2_47a</b>	<b>-0.0395***</b>
<b>d2_47e</b>	<b>0.0307*</b>
<b>d2_47f</b>	<b>0.0195*</b>
<b>Mob_post</b>	<b>0.0716***</b>
<b>6.d2_36</b>	<b>0.117**</b>
<b>10.d2_36</b>	<b>1.259***</b>
<b>d2_39</b>	<b>-0.0389*</b>
<b>1.applying</b>	<b>-0.108***</b>
<b>2.applying</b>	<b>-0.126***</b>
<b>_cons</b>	<b>4.005***</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>7035</b>



# Preliminary conclusions

- Many possible predictors such as PhD funding agency or types of mobility are not significant or scarcely significant
- Scientific productivity does not appear to be a factor in any way
- Family burden emerge predominantly in salary; not necessarily gender pay gap
- Men more likely to leave academic/scientific world
- Experiences funded by privates or international agencies/organizations are more relevant in generating benefits for PhD holders and arguably for universities-external organizations relationship
  - This includes also self-employment (any endogeneity about that from projects funded by companies *ve/* international organizations? YES)
- People with better salary also are much less likely to be active in the labour market, demonstrating some satisfaction once having left academia and a “only-way traffic” direction “from academic towards not-academic” and not other way round

**Enjoy Your Brexit**  
**by "Depressing Mode"**  
**March 29<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**Votes like violence**  
**Break the silence**  
**Come crashing into**  
**your Little Britain**  
**Painful to you**  
**Pierce right through you**  
**Can't you understand?**  
**Oh my little May**

**All u ever wanted**  
**All u ever needed**  
**Is here in your ass**  
**Votes are very unnecessary**  
**They can only do fuss**

**Vows are spoken**  
**To be broken**  
**Feelings are intense**  
**Votes are trivial**  
**Pleasures ain't remain**  
**But you got the pain**  
**Votes are meaningless**  
**And forgetful**

**All u ever wanted**  
**All u ever needed**  
**Is here in your arse**  
**Votes are very unnecessary**  
**They can only do fuss.**