Survey for the MBSJ Career Development Committee's Lunchtime Seminar 2021: "Things you should do as an early-career researcher: advice to young researchers and graduate students"

The 44th Annual Meeting of the Molecular Biology Society of Japan (MBSJ2021) will hold a lunchtime seminar titled "Things you should do as an early-career researcher: advice to young researchers and graduate students".

Undergraduate and graduate students, and young researchers who are just starting out, we are sure that you have your own goals for the future. We are sure that your seniors, who were once young researchers, also had their own goals. So, what are you currently thinking about every day as you work toward your goals? And what did your predecessors think about when they were young and working towards their goals?

For this event, we will first conduct a questionnaire survey on goal setting and mindset at various time points in your career, and what you think is necessary to achieve your goals. On the day of the lunchtime seminar, based on the survey results, we will discuss the differences and similarities among positions and ages, provide information that will help students and young people improve their skills, and encourage young people for their future endeavors. We would like to make this an enjoyable and meaningful event where participants with various positions and backgrounds can deepen their mutual understanding.

This survey is essential to the success of the event, and we would appreciate the cooperation of people of all ages. (Time required: about 5-10 minutes)
Survey period: Friday, August 6, 2021 - Friday, August 27, 2021

Career Development Committee, The Molecular Biology Society of Japan

*Required

1. Gender *

☐Male ☐Female ☐Prefer not to answer

2. Occupation *

☐Undergraduate student ☐Graduate student (master's) ☐Graduate student (doctoral) ☐Technical support/technician ☐Postdoctoral fellow/tenured researcher ☐Researcher affiliated with a company ☐University faculty member (non-PI assistant professor, lecturer, associate professor) ☐University faculty member (PI such as professor, independent associate professor, independent lecturer) ☐Tenured researcher, etc. at research institutes, etc. (non-PI) ☐Principal investigator, team leader, etc. at research institutes, etc. (PI) ☐Others:

3. Age *

☐24 years old or younger ☐25-29 years old ☐30-34 years old ☐35-39 years old ☐40-49 years old ☐50-59 years old ☐60 years old or older

4. Affiliation *

☐Science (Life science and Biology) ☐Science (Others) ☐Engineering ☐Agriculture and Veterinary Science ☐Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy ☐Others

The questions will follow. Please answer your category from the options below. Please select the appropriate one and proceed to the next. *
☐Student (undergraduate, master's or doctoral student)
☐Postdoctoral researcher/fixed-term researcher
☐Non-PI staff (associate professor, lecturer, assistant professor, non-tenured researcher, technical staff, etc.)
☐PI (professor, independent associate professor, independent lecturer/assistant professor, principal investigator, team leader, etc.)

Student (undergraduate, currently enrolled in a master's or doctoral program)
For questions that have "Other (free description)" as an option, you can also just select "Other" without writing anything.

Please select one of them. *
☐I am currently enrolled in a doctoral course at a graduate school.
☐I am currently enrolled in a master's course and wish to enter a doctoral course or am considering it.
☐I am currently enrolled in a six-year undergraduate course in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, etc., and wish to enter a doctoral course or am considering it.
☐I am currently an undergraduate student and wish to enter a master's course or am considering it.
☐I am currently enrolled in a master's course and am not planning to enter a doctoral course.
☐I am currently an undergraduate student and am not planning to enter a graduate school.

Goal setting when you were in graduate school
(For those who are currently enrolled in a doctoral course or master's course, or those who wish to enter a graduate school or are considering it)

5.What was your reason for entering the master's course? (Multiple answers allowed)
*4-year undergraduates, please answer the following questions as if you were going to graduate school; 6-year undergraduates, please go to Q6.
☐I wanted to be a researcher ☐Research seemed interesting ☐There were professors I wanted to work with ☐I wanted to study abroad eventually ☐It seemed advantageous for employment ☐someone recommended it to me ☐I wanted to get a master's degree ☐I had no choice (failed in job hunting, etc.) ☐There was no deep reason (because my friends were also going on to graduate school, etc.) ☐Other:
→**Please go to Q6.**

(For those who selected "I am currently an undergraduate student and am not planning to enter a graduate school")
5-1. What is your reason for not thinking about entering a graduate school? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I am not interested in research ☐I want to get a job and earn a salary (stable income) ☐From seeing my seniors in the lab ☐From seeing my professor in the lab ☐Difficulties with tuition payment and living expenses ☐I do not have the confidence to do research in graduate school ☐I am worried about my future after entering graduate school or obtaining a degree ☐it seems difficult to balance research with life events (marriage, childbirth, childcare, etc.) ☐Other:
→**Please go to Q13**.

6. What was your reason for entering the doctoral course? (Multiple answers allowed)
*Undergraduates and master's course students, please answer the following questions as if you were enrolled in a doctoral course;
☐I wanted to be a researcher ☐Research seemed interesting ☐There were professors I wanted to work with ☐My research in the master's course was interesting ☐I wanted to study abroad eventually ☐It seemed advantageous for employment ☐Someone recommended it to me ☐I wanted to get a doctoral degree ☐I had no choice (failed in job hunting, etc.) ☐There was no deep reason (because my friends were also going on to higher education, etc.) ☐Other:
→**Please go to Q7**.

(For those who selected "I am currently enrolled in a master's course and am not planning to enter a doctoral course")
6-1. What is your reason for not thinking about entering a doctoral course? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I am not interested in research ☐I want to get a job and earn a salary (stable income) ☐I see my seniors in the lab ☐I see my professors in the lab ☐tuition and living expenses are difficult ☐I do not have the confidence to do research in graduate school ☐I am worried about my future after entering graduate school or obtaining a degree ☐it seems difficult to balance research with life events (marriage, childbirth, childcare, etc.) ☐Other:
→**Please go to Q13**.

7. What is your goal in your research? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I want to do good research ☐I want to do research and make discoveries that will make every day more enjoyable ☐I want to do research and make discoveries that are academically interesting and important ☐I want to do research that is practically useful for the society ☐Some day, I want to publish my findings in prominent journals ☐Some day, I want to make a major discovery that would leave its mark on history ☐I want to do research on my own theme ☐I want to do research based on a long-term plan ☐I want to obtain a grant ☐I want to train future generations ☐I haven't thought that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

8. What is your career goal? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I want to get a stable job ☐I want to be a researcher in a company ☐I want to get a job doing research ☐I don't want to be a PI but want to stay in academia ☐I want to be a PI ☐I want to be a leading researcher in Japan or the world ☐I want to make a career for myself ☐I want to make money ☐I want to be famous ☐I want to start my own company ☐I want to move to a better research environment ☐I haven't thought that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

9. What are your life goals (things you are particularly interested in)? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I want to pursue research even if I have to make other sacrifices ☐I want to balance research and family life ☐I want to balance research and hobbies ☐My family's happiness and growth ☐I want to meet a good partner ☐I want to have children ☐I want to maintain my health ☐I want to move abroad ☐I want to live a wealthy life ☐I want to have a permanent job ☐I want a job with retirement benefits ☐I want a job different from research ☐I want to live away from research after retirement ☐I want to be a researcher for life ☐I want to live a normal life ☐I am looking for a place where I can fit in ☐I am looking for something I can achieve ☐I want to contribute to society and the

community (personal volunteer activities, etc.) ☐I want to contribute to society and the community (directly or indirectly as a ripple effect of my research results) ☐I want to contribute to my organization ☐I want to have a relaxed research life ☐I want to become an influencer on SNS ☐I haven't thought much about it ☐Other:

What is important for your success as a researcher?

10. What do you think is particularly important to your success as a researcher?

10-1. Research ability (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability

10-2. Non-research abilities and personality traits (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

10-3. Environmental factors (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Luck ☐Experience of learning from failure / Experience of overcoming setbacks ☐Good research theme ☐Good laboratory ☐Good supervisor ☐Good research colleagues and friends ☐Good family environment ☐Presence of role models

10-4. Research achievement (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Number of papers ☐Papers published in high impact journals ☐Research with originality (even if not in high impact journals) ☐Research with continuity (even if not in high impact journals)

10-5. Ability to obtain research funding (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Proposing attractive research themes ☐Ability to write research proposals ☐Presentation skills at interviews ☐Ability to handle questions in interviews ☐Networking ability

10-6. Please feel free to describe anything else that you think is important for your success as a researcher. (Free form, maximum 1,600 characters)

11. What skills do you think you can develop especially during your time as a student? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability ☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational

ability and willingness to take care of others

12. Please feel free to write down anything else that you think is important for graduate students to achieve their goals. (Free form, no more than 1,600 characters)

13. Please feel free to provide any further information. (Free form, no more than 1,600 characters)

Postdoctoral researcher/fixed-term researcher

For questions that have "Other (free description)" as an option, you can also just select "Other" without writing anything.

Goal setting when you were in graduate school

14. What was your reason for entering the master's course? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to be a researcher ☐Research seemed interesting ☐There were professors I wanted to work with ☐I wanted to study abroad eventually ☐It seemed advantageous for employment ☐Someone recommended it to me ☐I wanted to get a master's degree ☐I had no choice (failed in job hunting, etc.) ☐There was no deep reason (because my friends were also going on to graduate school, etc.) ☐Other:

15. What was your reason for entering the doctoral course? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to be a researcher ☐Research seemed interesting ☐There were professors I wanted to work with ☐My research in the master's course was interesting ☐I wanted to study abroad eventually ☐It seemed advantageous for employment ☐Someone recommended it to me ☐I wanted to get a doctoral degree ☐I had no choice (failed in job hunting, etc.) ☐There was no deep reason (because my friends were also going on to higher education, etc.) ☐Other:

16. What was your research goal as a researcher when you were a student? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to do good research ☐I wanted to do research and make discoveries that would make every day more enjoyable ☐I wanted to do research and make discoveries that were academically interesting and important ☐I wanted to do research that was practically useful for the society ☐Some day, I wanted to publish my findings in prominent journals ☐Some day, I wanted to make a major discovery that would leave its mark on history ☐I wanted to do research on my own theme ☐I wanted to do research based on a long-term plan ☐I wanted to obtain a grant ☐I wanted to train future generations ☐I didn’t think that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

17. When you were a student, what was your career goal as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to get a stable job ☐I wanted to be a researcher in a company ☐I wanted to get a job doing research ☐I didn't want to be a PI but wanted to stay in academia ☐I wanted to be a PI ☐I wanted to be a leading researcher in Japan or the world ☐I wanted to make a career for myself ☐I wanted to make money ☐I wanted to be famous ☐I wanted to start my own company ☐I wanted to move to a better research environment ☐I didn't think that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

18. When you were a student, what were your life goals (things you were particularly interested in)? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to pursue research even if I had to make other sacrifices ☐I wanted to balance research and family life ☐I wanted to balance research and hobbies ☐My family's happiness and growth ☐I wanted to meet a good partner ☐I wanted to have children ☐I wanted to maintain my health ☐I wanted to move abroad ☐I wanted to live a wealthy life ☐I wanted to have a permanent job ☐I wanted a job with retirement benefits ☐I wanted a job different from research ☐I wanted to live away from research after retirement ☐I wanted to be a researcher for life ☐I wanted to live a normal life ☐I was looking for a place where I could fit in ☐I was looking for something I could achieve ☐I wanted to contribute to society and the community (personal volunteer activities, etc.) ☐I wanted to contribute to society and the community (directly or indirectly as a ripple effect of my research results) ☐I wanted to contribute to my organization ☐I wanted to have a relaxed research life ☐I wanted to become an influencer on SNS ☐I did not think much about it ☐Other:

Current situation and current goal setting

19-1. How did you find your first job after receiving your doctoral degree? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Recruitment advertisement ☐Recommended by my supervisor ☐Recommended by my supervisor in graduate school ☐I found out about the position at an academic conference ☐I found out about it on the internet ☐I did my own research and inquired directly ☐Other:

19-2. What was the main reason you chose your first job after receiving your doctoral degree? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Job and research content ☐Salary ☐Attractiveness of the research institution where I work ☐Attractiveness of the lab/PI where I work ☐Work location ☐Other:

20-1. How did you find your current position? (Multiple answers allowed)

*If the answer to Q19-1 is your current job, you do not need to answer this.

☐Recruitment advertisement ☐Promotion within the same research organization ☐Recommended by my current supervisor ☐Recommended by my previous supervisor ☐I found out about the position at an academic conference ☐I found out about it on the internet ☐I did my own research and inquired directly ☐Other:

20-2. What is the main reason why you chose your current position? (Multiple answers allowed)

*If the answer to Q19-1 is your current job, you do not need to answer this.

☐Job and research content ☐Salary ☐Attractiveness of the research institution where I work ☐Attractiveness of the lab/PI where I work ☐Work location ☐There were no other options ☐Other:

21. What are your current research goals as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I want to do good research ☐I want to do research and make discoveries that will make every day more enjoyable ☐I want to do research and make discoveries that are academically interesting and important ☐I want to do research that is practically useful for the society ☐Some day, I want to publish my findings in prominent journals ☐Some day, I want to make a major discovery that would leave its mark on history ☐I want to do research on my own theme ☐I want to do research based on a long-term plan ☐I want to obtain a grant ☐I want to train future generations ☐I haven't thought that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

22. What is your current career goal as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I want to get a stable job ☐I want to be a researcher in a company ☐I want to get a job doing research ☐I don't want to be a PI but want to stay in academia ☐I want to be a PI ☐I want to be a leading researcher in Japan or the world ☐I want to make a career for myself ☐I want to make money ☐I want to be famous ☐I want to start my own company ☐I want to move to a better research environment ☐I haven't thought that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

23. What are your current life goals (things you are particularly interested in)? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I want to pursue research even if I have to make other sacrifices ☐I want to balance research and family life ☐I want to balance research and hobbies ☐My family's happiness and growth ☐I want to meet a good partner ☐I want to have children ☐I want to maintain my health ☐I want to move abroad ☐I want to live a wealthy life ☐I want to have a permanent job ☐I want a job with retirement benefits ☐I want a job different from research ☐I want to live away from research after retirement ☐I want to be a researcher for life ☐I want to live a normal life ☐I am looking for a place where I can fit in ☐I am looking for something I can achieve ☐I want to contribute to society and the community (personal volunteer activities, etc.) ☐I want to contribute to society and the community (directly or indirectly as a ripple effect of my research results) ☐I want to contribute to my organization ☐I want to have a relaxed research life ☐I want to become an influencer on SNS ☐I haven't thought much about it ☐Other:

What is important for your success as a researcher?

24. What do you think is particularly important to your success as a researcher?

24-1. Research ability (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability

24-2. Non-research abilities and personality traits (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Curiosity (in research) ☐ Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

24-3. Environmental factors (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Luck ☐Experience of learning from failure / Experience of overcoming setbacks ☐Good research theme ☐Good laboratory ☐Good supervisor ☐Good research colleagues and friends ☐Good family environment ☐Presence of role models

24-4. Research achievement (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Number of papers ☐Papers published in high impact journals ☐Research with originality (even if not in high impact journals) ☐Research with continuity (even if not in high impact journals)

24-5. Ability to obtain research funding (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Proposing attractive research themes ☐Ability to write research proposals ☐Presentation skills at

interviews ☐Ability to handle questions in interviews ☐Networking ability

24-6. Please feel free to describe anything else that you think is important for your success as a researcher. (Free form, maximum 1,600 characters)

25. What skills do you think you can develop especially during your time as a student? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability ☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

26. What skills do you think you can develop especially after starting to work? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability ☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

27. If there are anything else that you think are important in your current job or that you learned as you get older (i.e., things you had done that were useful, things you should have done), please feel free to write them down. (Free form, no more than 1,600 characters)

28. Please feel free to provide any further information. (Free form, no more than 1,600 characters)

Non-PI staff (associate professor, lecturer, assistant professor, non-tenured researcher, technical staff, etc.)
For questions that have "Other (free description)" as an option, you can also just select "Other" without writing anything.

Goal setting when you were in graduate school
29. What was your reason for entering the master's course? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I wanted to be a researcher ☐Research seemed interesting ☐There were professors I wanted to work with ☐I wanted to study abroad eventually ☐It seemed advantageous for employment ☐someone recommended it to me ☐I wanted to get a master's degree ☐I had no choice (failed in job hunting, etc.) ☐There was no deep reason (because my friends were also going on to graduate

school, etc.) ☐Other:

30. What was your reason for entering the doctoral course? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I wanted to be a researcher ☐Research seemed interesting ☐There were professors I wanted to work with ☐My research in the master's course was interesting ☐I wanted to study abroad eventually ☐It seemed advantageous for employment ☐Someone recommended it to me ☐I wanted to get a doctoral degree ☐I had no choice (failed in job hunting, etc.) ☐There was no deep reason (because my friends were also going on to higher education, etc.) ☐Other:

31. What was your research goal as a researcher when you were a student? (Multiple answers allowed)
*No data due to incomplete web survey system
(Planned response options are the same as for Q21)

32. When you were a student, what was your career goal as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I wanted to get a stable job ☐I wanted to be a researcher in a company ☐I wanted to get a job doing research ☐I didn't want to be a PI but wanted to stay in academia ☐I wanted to be a PI ☐I wanted to be a leading researcher in Japan or the world ☐I wanted to make a career for myself ☐I wanted to make money ☐I wanted to be famous ☐I wanted to start my own company ☐I wanted to move to a better research environment ☐I didn't think that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

33. When you were a student, what were your life goals (things you were particularly interested in)? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I wanted to pursue research even if I had to make other sacrifices ☐I wanted to balance research and family life ☐I wanted to balance research and hobbies ☐My family's happiness and growth ☐I wanted to meet a good partner ☐I wanted to have children ☐I wanted to maintain my health ☐I wanted to move abroad ☐I wanted to live a wealthy life ☐I wanted to have a permanent job ☐I wanted a job with retirement benefits ☐I wanted a job different from research ☐I wanted to live away from research after retirement ☐I wanted to be a researcher for life ☐I wanted to live a normal life ☐I was looking for a place where I could fit in ☐I was looking for something I could achieve ☐I wanted to contribute to society and the community (personal volunteer activities, etc.) ☐I wanted to contribute to society and the community (directly or indirectly as a ripple effect of my research results) ☐I wanted to contribute to my organization ☐I wanted to have a relaxed research life ☐I wanted to become an influencer on SNS ☐I did not think much about it ☐Other:

Current situation and current goal setting

34-1. How did you find your first job after receiving your doctoral degree? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Recruitment advertisement ☐Recommended by my supervisor ☐Recommended by my supervisor in graduate school ☐I found out about the position at an academic conference ☐I found out about it on the internet ☐I did my own research and inquired directly ☐Other:

34-2. What was the main reason you chose your first job after receiving your doctoral degree? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Job and research content ☐Salary ☐Attractiveness of the research institution where I work ☐Attractiveness of the lab/PI where I work ☐Work location ☐Other:

35-1. How did you find your current position? (Multiple answers allowed)
*If the answer to Q34-1 is your current job, you do not need to answer this.
☐Recruitment advertisement ☐Promotion within the same research organization ☐Recommended by my current supervisor ☐Recommended by my previous supervisor ☐I found out about the position at an academic conference ☐I found out about it on the internet ☐I did my own research and inquired directly ☐Other:

35-2. What is the main reason why you chose your current position? (Multiple answers allowed)
*If the answer to Q34-1 is your current job, you do not need to answer this.
☐Job and research content ☐Salary ☐Attractiveness of the research institution where I work ☐Attractiveness of the lab/PI where I work ☐Work location ☐There were no other options ☐Other:

36. What are your current research goals as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I want to do good research ☐I want to do research and make discoveries that will make every day more enjoyable ☐I want to do research and make discoveries that are academically interesting and important ☐I want to do research that is practically useful for the society ☐Some day, I want to publish my findings in prominent journals ☐Some day, I want to make a major discovery that would leave its mark on history ☐I want to do research on my own theme ☐I want to do research based on a long-term plan ☐I want to obtain a grant ☐I want to train future generations ☐I haven't thought that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

37. What is your current career goal as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I want to get a stable job ☐I want to be a researcher in a company ☐I want to get a job doing research ☐I don't want to be a PI but want to stay in academia ☐I want to be a PI ☐I want to be a leading researcher in Japan or the world ☐I want to make a career for myself ☐I want to make money ☐I want to be famous ☐I want to start my own company ☐I want to move to a better research environment ☐I haven't thought that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

38. What are your current life goals (things you are particularly interested in)? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I want to pursue research even if I have to make other sacrifices ☐I want to balance research and family life ☐I want to balance research and hobbies ☐My family's happiness and growth ☐I want to meet a good partner ☐ I want to have children ☐ I want to maintain my health ☐ I want to move abroad ☐ I want to live a wealthy life ☐I want to have a permanent job ☐I want a job with retirement benefits ☐I want a job different from research ☐I want to live away from research after retirement ☐I want to be a researcher for life ☐I want to live a normal life ☐I am looking for a place where I can fit in ☐I am looking for something I can achieve ☐I want to contribute to society and the community (personal volunteer activities, etc.) ☐I want to contribute to society and the community (directly or indirectly as a ripple effect of my research results) ☐I want to contribute to my organization ☐I want to have a relaxed research life ☐I want to become an influencer on SNS ☐I haven't thought much about it ☐Other:

What is important for your success as a researcher?
39. What do you think is particularly important to your success as a researcher?

39-1. Research ability (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability

39-2. Non-research abilities and personality traits (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐ Physical strength ☐ Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

39-3. Environmental factors (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Luck ☐Experience of learning from failure / Experience of overcoming setbacks ☐Good research theme ☐Good laboratory ☐Good supervisor ☐Good research colleagues and friends ☐Good family environment ☐Presence of role models

39-4. Research achievement (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Number of papers ☐Papers published in high impact journals ☐Research with originality (even if not in high impact journals) ☐Research with continuity (even if not in high impact journals)

39-5. Ability to obtain research funding (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Proposing attractive research themes ☐Ability to write research proposals ☐Presentation skills at interviews ☐Ability to handle questions in interviews ☐Networking ability

39-6. Please feel free to describe anything else that you think is important for your success as a researcher. (Free form, maximum 1,600 characters)

40. What skills do you think you can develop especially during your time as a student? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability ☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

41. What skills do you think you can develop especially after starting to work? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability ☐Curiosity (in

research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

42. If there are anything else that you think are important in your current job or that you learned as you get older (i.e., things you had done that were useful, things you should have done), please feel free to write them down. (Free form, no more than 1,600 characters)

43. Please feel free to provide any further information. (Free form, no more than 1,600 characters)

PI (professor, independent associate professor, independent lecturer/assistant professor, principal investigator, team leader, etc.)

For questions that have "Other (free description)" as an option, you can also just select "Other" without writing anything.

Goal setting when you were in graduate school

44. What was your reason for entering the master's course? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to be a researcher ☐Research seemed interesting ☐There were professors I wanted to work with ☐I wanted to study abroad eventually ☐It seemed advantageous for employment ☐someone recommended it to me ☐I wanted to get a master's degree ☐I had no choice (failed in job hunting, etc.) ☐There was no deep reason (because my friends were also going on to graduate school, etc.) ☐Other:

45. What was your reason for entering the doctoral course? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to be a researcher ☐Research seemed interesting ☐There were professors I wanted to work with ☐My research in the master's course was interesting ☐I wanted to study abroad eventually ☐It seemed advantageous for employment ☐Someone recommended it to me ☐I wanted to get a doctoral degree ☐I had no choice (failed in job hunting, etc.) ☐There was no deep reason (because my friends were also going on to higher education, etc.) ☐Other:

46. What was your research goal as a researcher when you were a student? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to do good research ☐I wanted to do research and make discoveries that would make every day more enjoyable ☐I wanted to do research and make discoveries that were academically interesting and important ☐I wanted to do research that was practically useful for the society ☐Some day, I wanted to publish my findings in prominent journals ☐Some day, I wanted to make a major discovery that would leave its mark on history ☐I wanted to do research on my own theme ☐I wanted to do research based on a long-term plan ☐I wanted to obtain a grant ☐I wanted to train future generations ☐I didn't think that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

47. When you were a student, what was your career goal as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to get a stable job ☐I wanted to be a researcher in a company ☐I wanted to get a job doing research ☐I didn't want to be a PI but wanted to stay in academia ☐I wanted to be a PI ☐I wanted to be a leading researcher in Japan or the world ☐I wanted to make a career for myself ☐I

wanted to make money ☐I wanted to be famous ☐I wanted to start my own company ☐I wanted to move to a better research environment ☐I didn't think that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

48. When you were a student, what were your life goals (things you were particularly interested in)? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I wanted to pursue research even if I had to make other sacrifices ☐I wanted to balance research and family life ☐I wanted to balance research and hobbies ☐My family's happiness and growth ☐I wanted to meet a good partner ☐ I wanted to have children ☐ I wanted to maintain my health ☐I wanted to move abroad ☐I wanted to live a wealthy life ☐I wanted to have a permanent job ☐I wanted a job with retirement benefits ☐I wanted a job different from research ☐I wanted to live away from research after retirement ☐I wanted to be a researcher for life ☐I wanted to live a normal life ☐I was looking for a place where I could fit in ☐I was looking for something I could achieve ☐I wanted to contribute to society and the community (personal volunteer activities, etc.) ☐I wanted to contribute to society and the community (directly or indirectly as a ripple effect of my research results) ☐I wanted to contribute to my organization ☐I wanted to have a relaxed research life ☐I wanted to become an influencer on SNS ☐I did not think much about it ☐Other:

Current situation and current goal setting

49-1. How did you find your first job after receiving your doctoral degree? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Recruitment advertisement ☐Recommended by my supervisor ☐Recommended by my supervisor in graduate school ☐I found out about the position at an academic conference ☐I found out about it on the internet ☐I did my own research and inquired directly ☐Other:

49-2. What was the main reason you chose your first job after receiving your doctoral degree? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Job and research content ☐Salary ☐Attractiveness of the research institution where I work ☐Attractiveness of the lab/PI where I work ☐Work location ☐Other:

50-1. How did you find your current position? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Recruitment advertisement ☐Promotion within the same research organization ☐Recommended by my current supervisor ☐Recommended by my previous supervisor ☐I found out about the position at an academic conference ☐I found out about it on the internet ☐I did my own research and inquired directly ☐Other:

50-2. What is the main reason why you chose your current position? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐Job and research content ☐Salary ☐Attractiveness of the research institution where I work ☐Attractiveness of the lab/PI where I work ☐Work location ☐There were no other options ☐Other:

51. What are your current research goals as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)

☐I want to do good research ☐I want to do research and make discoveries that will make every day more enjoyable ☐I want to do research and make discoveries that are academically interesting and important ☐I want to do research that is practically useful for the society ☐Some day, I want to publish my findings in prominent journals ☐Some day, I want to make a major discovery that would leave its mark on history ☐I want to do research on my own theme ☐I want to do research based on a long-term plan ☐I want to obtain a grant ☐I want to train future generations ☐I haven't

thought that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

52. What is your current career goal as a researcher? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I want to get a stable job ☐I want to be a researcher in a company ☐I want to continue working as a researcher ☐I want to give up my position as a PI but still work in academia ☐I want to be a leading researcher in Japan or the world ☐I want to make a career for myself ☐I want to make money ☐I want to be famous ☐I want to start my own company ☐I want to move to a better research environment ☐I haven't thought that deeply about it yet ☐Other:

53. What are your current life goals (things you are particularly interested in)? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐I want to pursue research even if I have to make other sacrifices ☐I want to balance research and family life ☐I want to balance research and hobbies ☐My family's happiness and growth ☐I want to meet a good partner ☐I want to have children ☐I want to maintain my health ☐I want to move abroad ☐I want to live a wealthy life ☐I want to have a permanent job ☐I want a job with retirement benefits ☐I want a job different from research ☐I want to live away from research after retirement ☐I want to be a researcher for life ☐I want to live a normal life ☐I am looking for a place where I can fit in ☐I am looking for something I can achieve ☐I want to contribute to society and the community (personal volunteer activities, etc.) ☐I want to contribute to society and the community (directly or indirectly as a ripple effect of my research results) ☐I want to contribute to my organization ☐I want to have a relaxed research life ☐I want to become an influencer on SNS ☐I haven't thought much about it ☐Other:

What is important for your success as a researcher?
54. What do you think is particularly important to your success as a researcher?

54-1. Research ability (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability

54-2. Non-research abilities and personality traits (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐ Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

54-3. Environmental factors (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Luck ☐Experience of learning from failure / Experience of overcoming setbacks ☐Good research theme ☐Good laboratory ☐Good supervisor ☐Good research colleagues and friends ☐Good family environment ☐Presence of role models

54-4. Research achievement (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Number of papers ☐Papers published in high impact journals ☐Research with originality (even if not in high impact journals) ☐Research with continuity (even if not in high impact journals)

54-5. Ability to obtain research funding (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Proposing attractive research themes ☐Ability to write research proposals ☐Presentation skills at interviews ☐Ability to handle questions in interviews ☐Networking ability

54-6. Please feel free to describe anything else that you think is important for your success as a researcher. (Free form, maximum 1,600 characters)

55. What skills do you think you can develop especially during your time as a student? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability ☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

56. What skills do you think you can develop especially after starting to work? (Multiple answers allowed)
☐Manual dexterity ☐Accuracy of work ☐Ability to correct and adjust things ☐Ability to handle miscellaneous work (work other than your own research)☐Processing speed of thoughts ☐Ability to think outside of the box ☐Ability to think through ☐Ability to think logically ☐Ability to think ahead and foresee the future ☐Ability to discuss with others ☐Reading ability ☐Writing ability ☐Speaking ability ☐English reading ability ☐English writing ability ☐English speaking ability ☐Curiosity (in research) ☐Curiosity (on topics other than research, hobbies, etc.) ☐Broad education ☐Physical strength ☐Perseverance ☐Hate-to-lose attitude ☐Being optimistic ☐Confidence ☐Cooperativeness ☐Proactive attitude ☐Sociability ☐Leadership ☐Networking ability ☐Political ability ☐Educational ability and willingness to take care of others

57. If there are anything else that you think are important in your current job or that you learned as you get older (i.e., things you had done that were useful, things you should have done), please feel free to write them down. (Free form, no more than 1,600 characters)

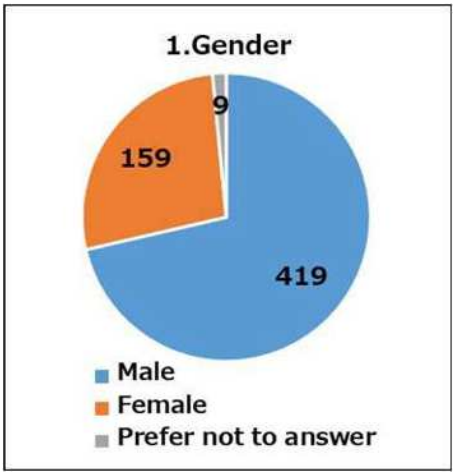
58. Please feel free to provide any further information. (Free form, no more than 1,600 characters)

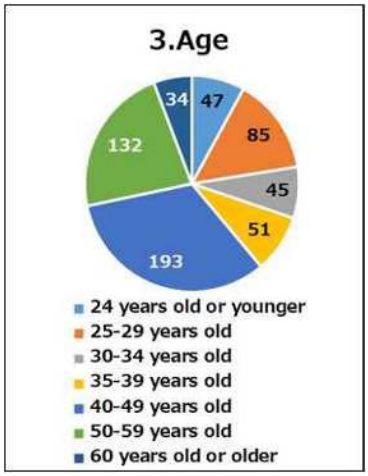
Summary of The Pre-Survey for the MBSJ Career Development Committee's Lunchtime Seminar 2021: "Things you should do as an early-career researcher: advice to young researchers and graduate students"

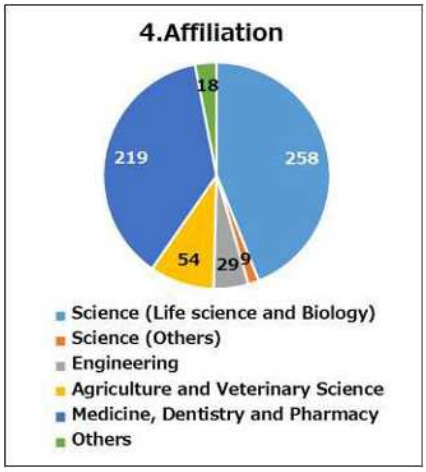
Survey period: 2021.8.6-27

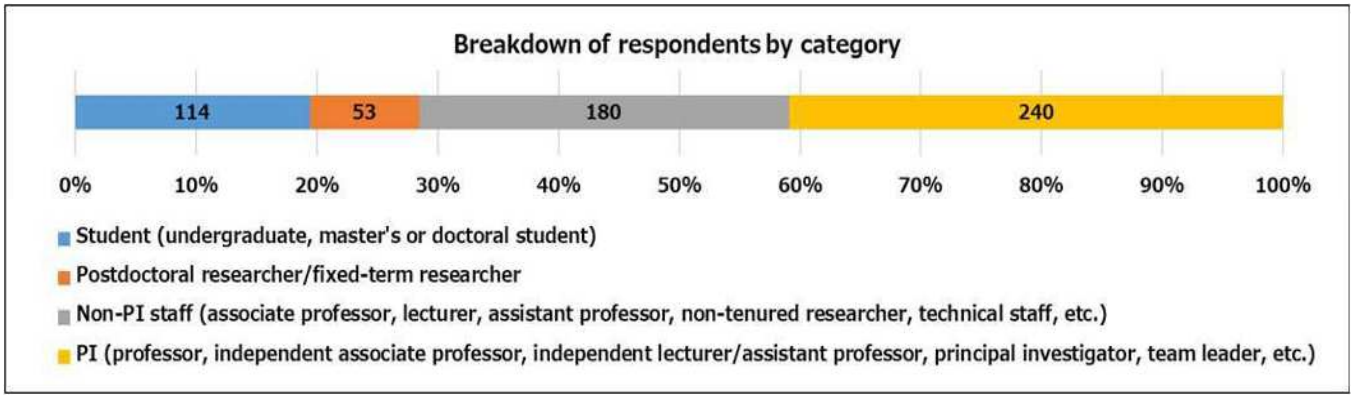
Number of respondents: 587

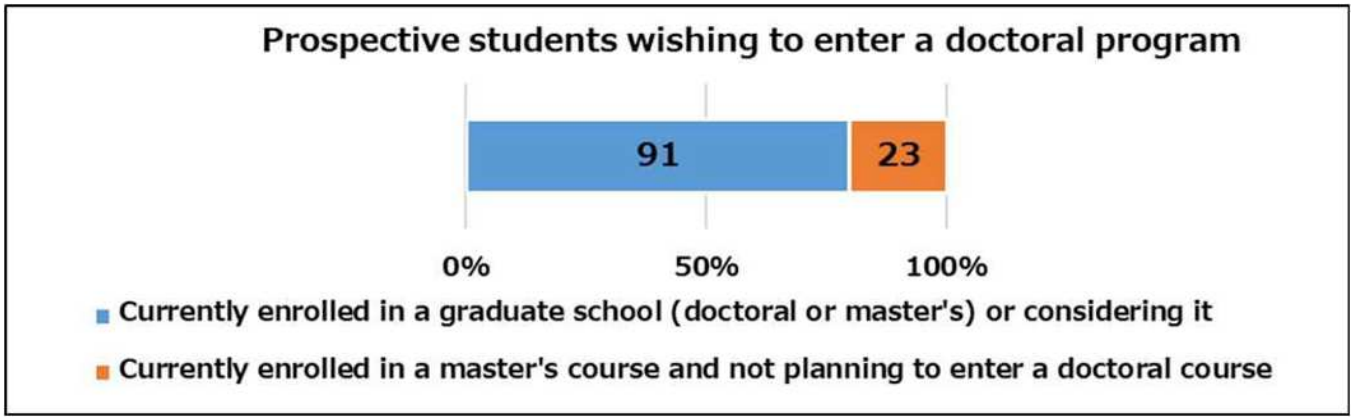
(students: 114, postdocs: 53, non-PIs: 180, PIs: 240)



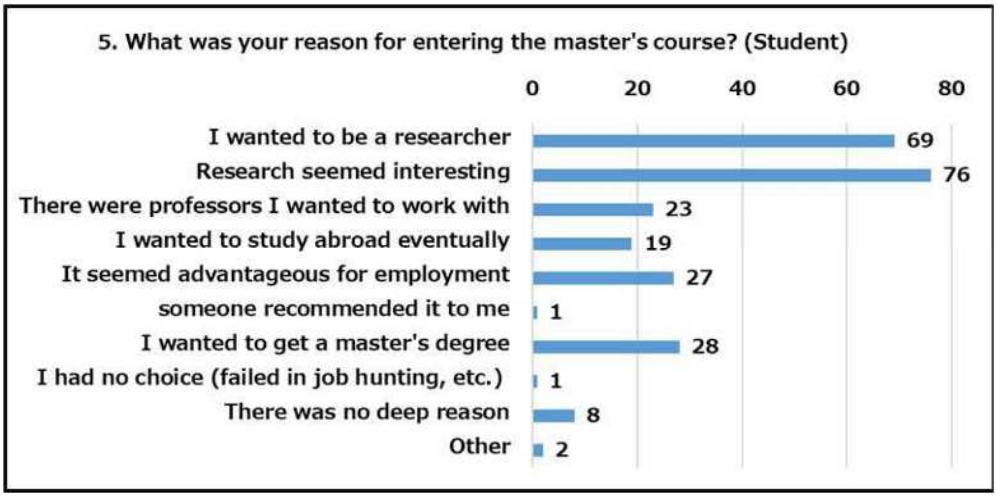


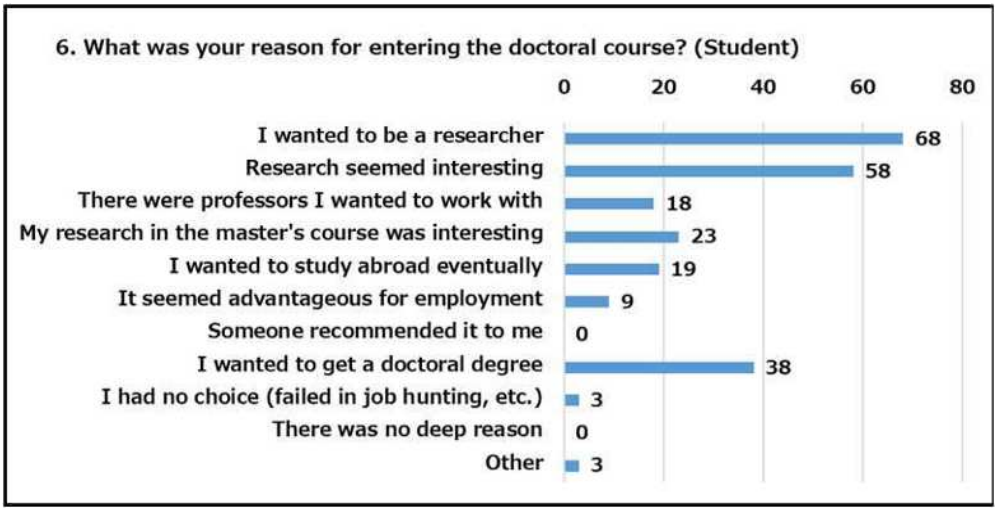


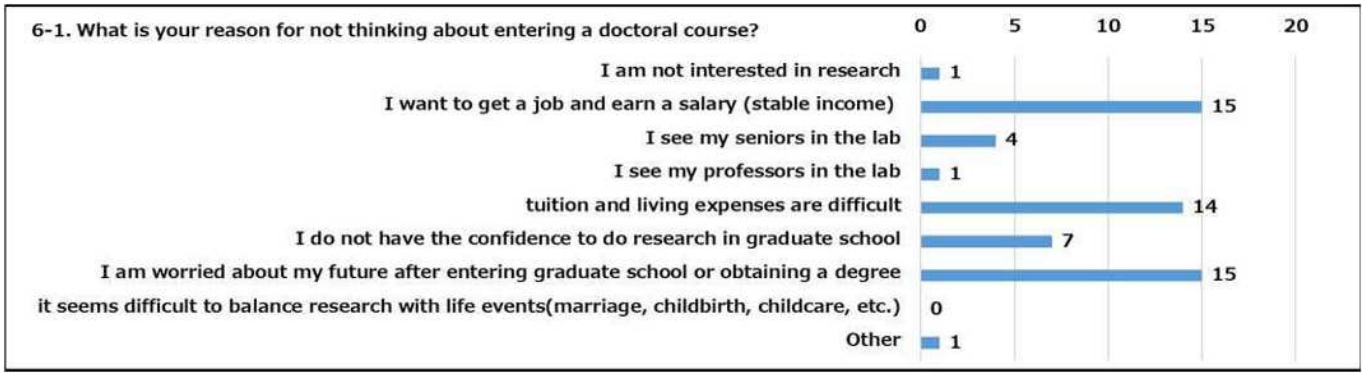


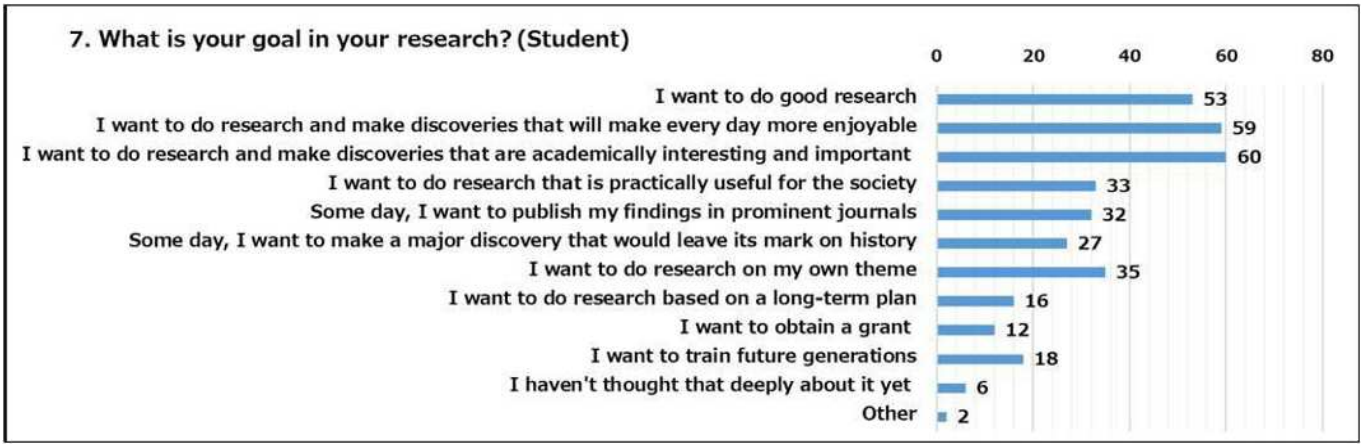


Q5-7: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] students: 114

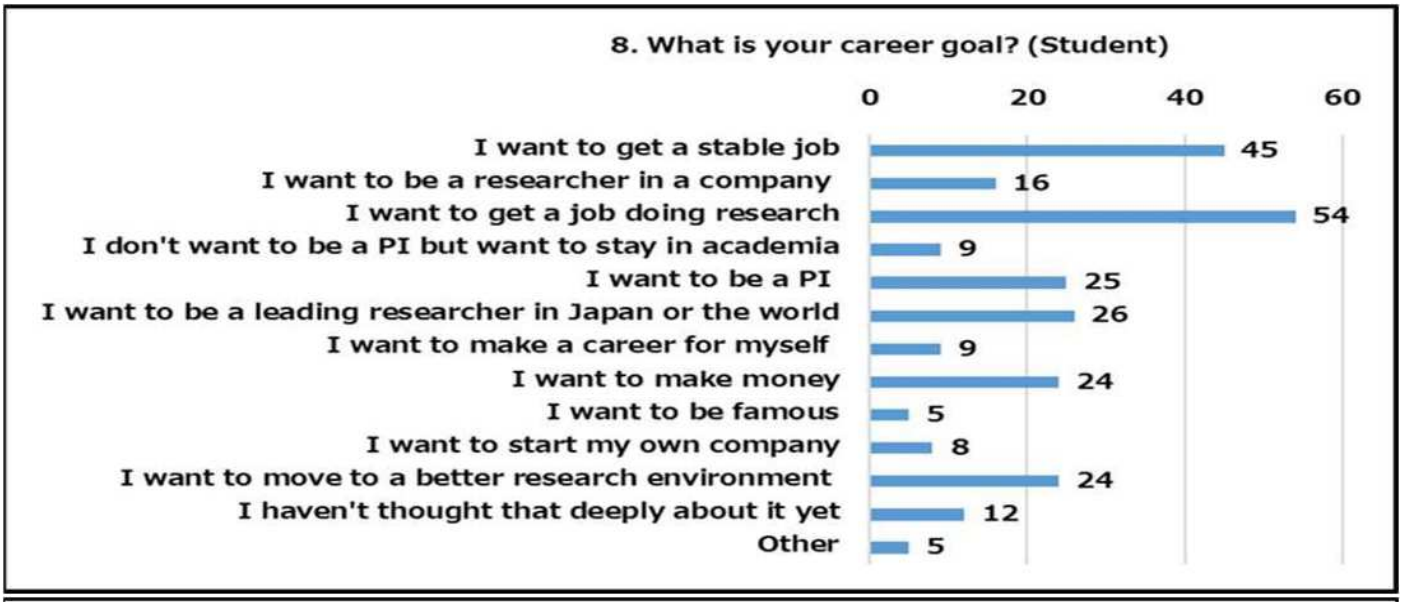


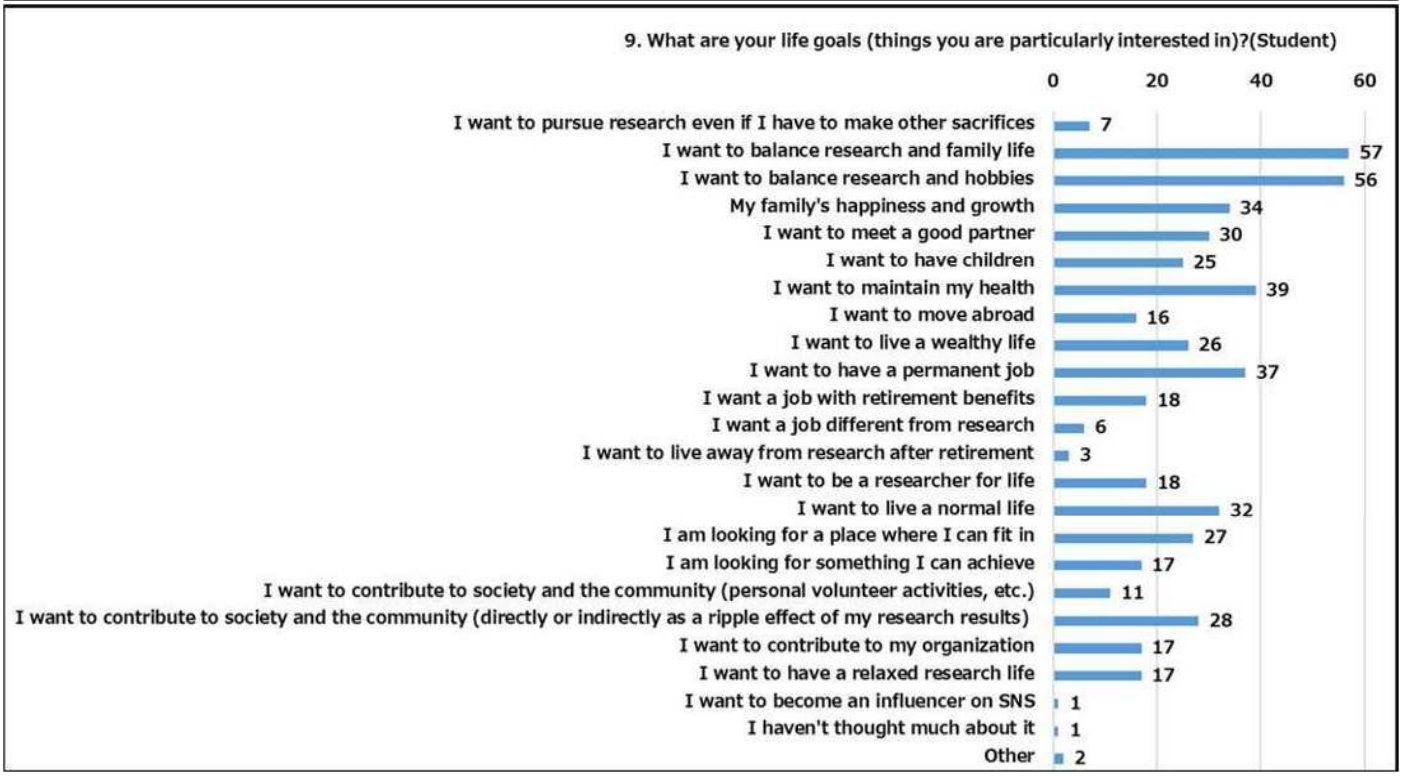


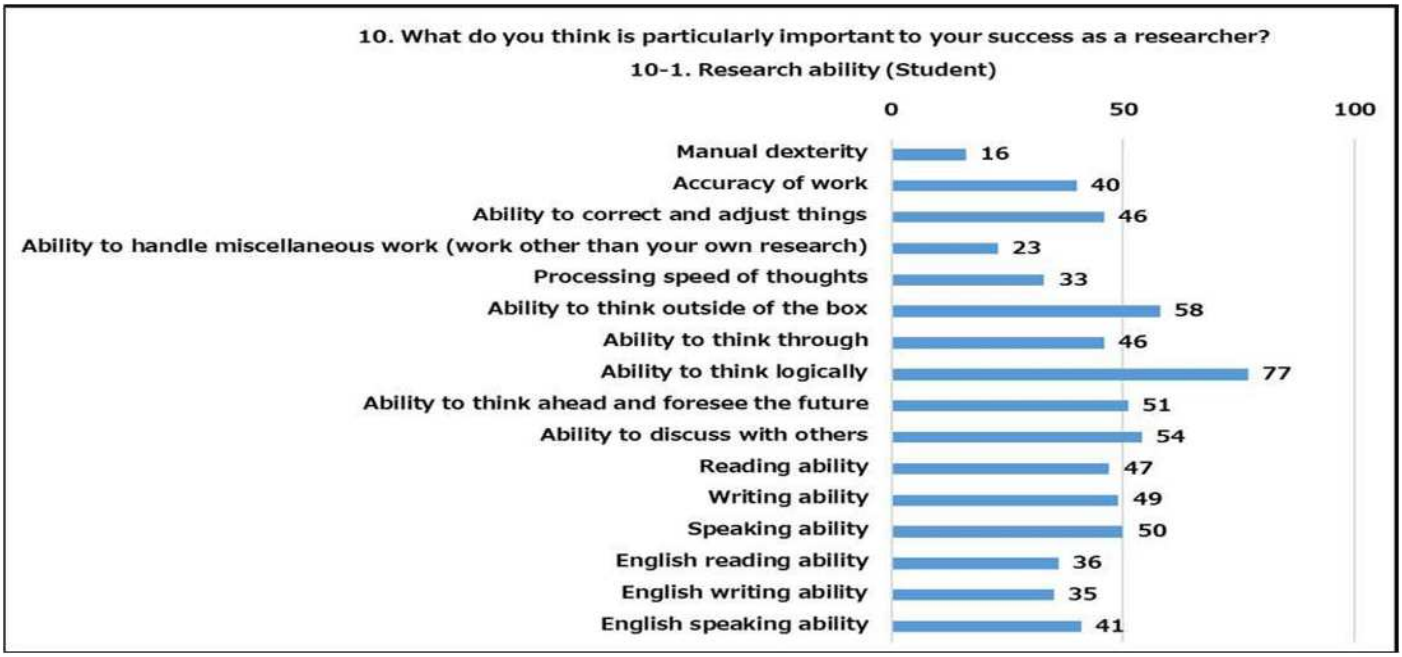




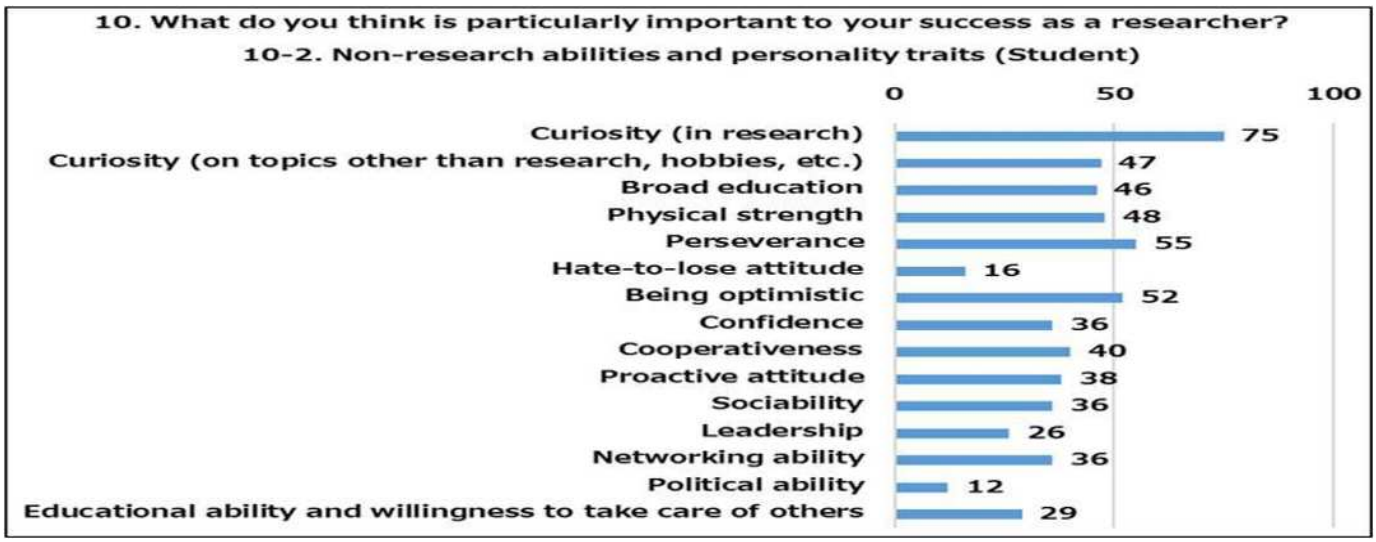
Q8-10: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] students: 114

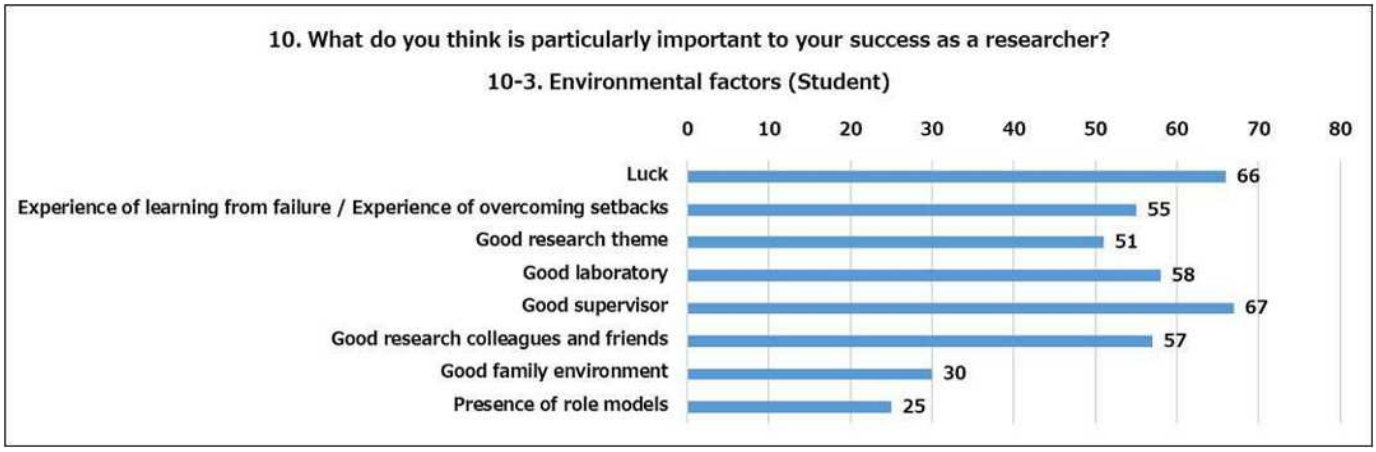


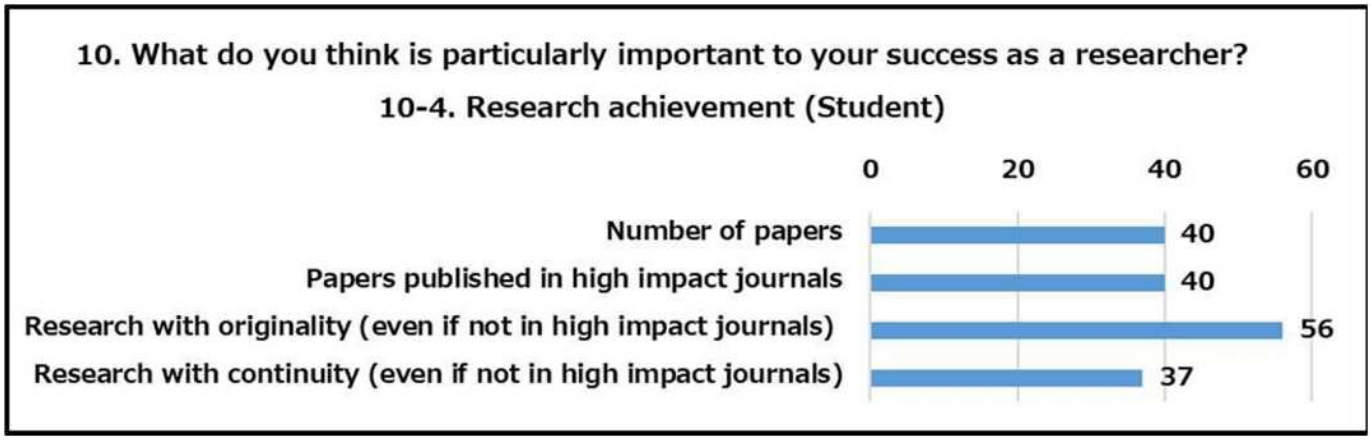


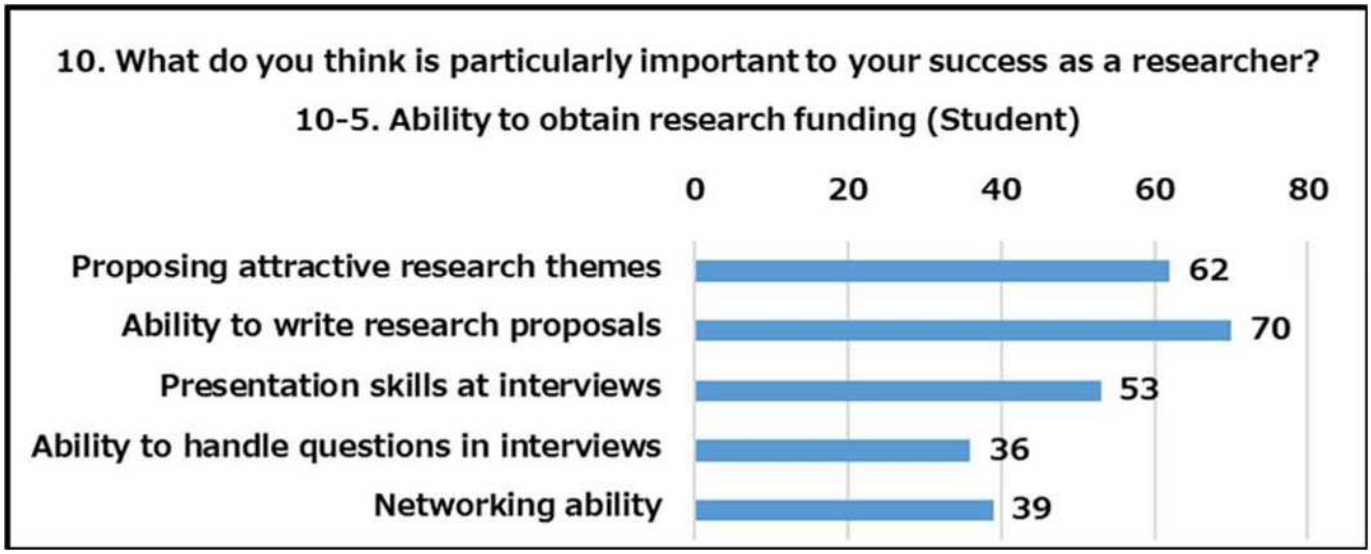


Q10: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] students: 114

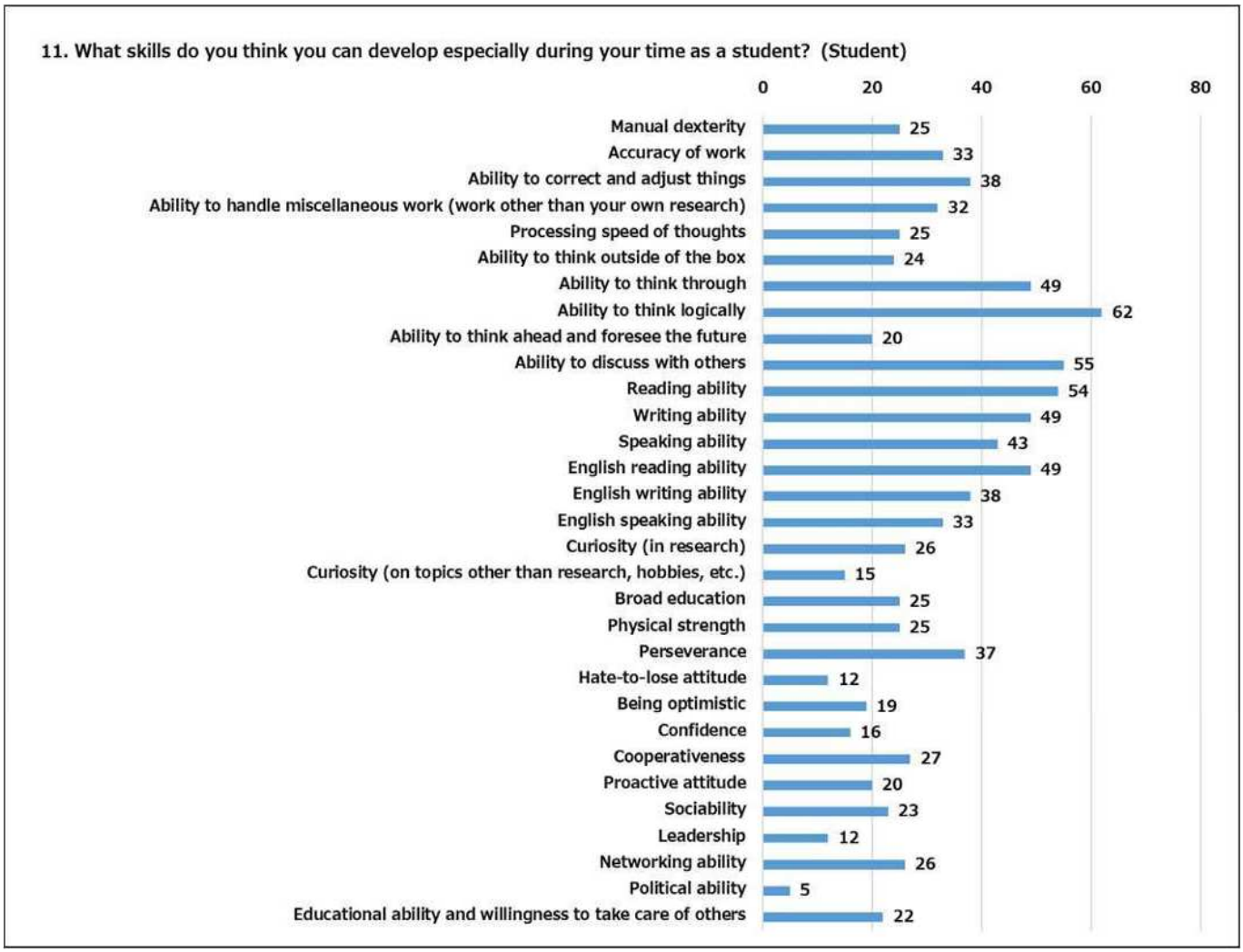


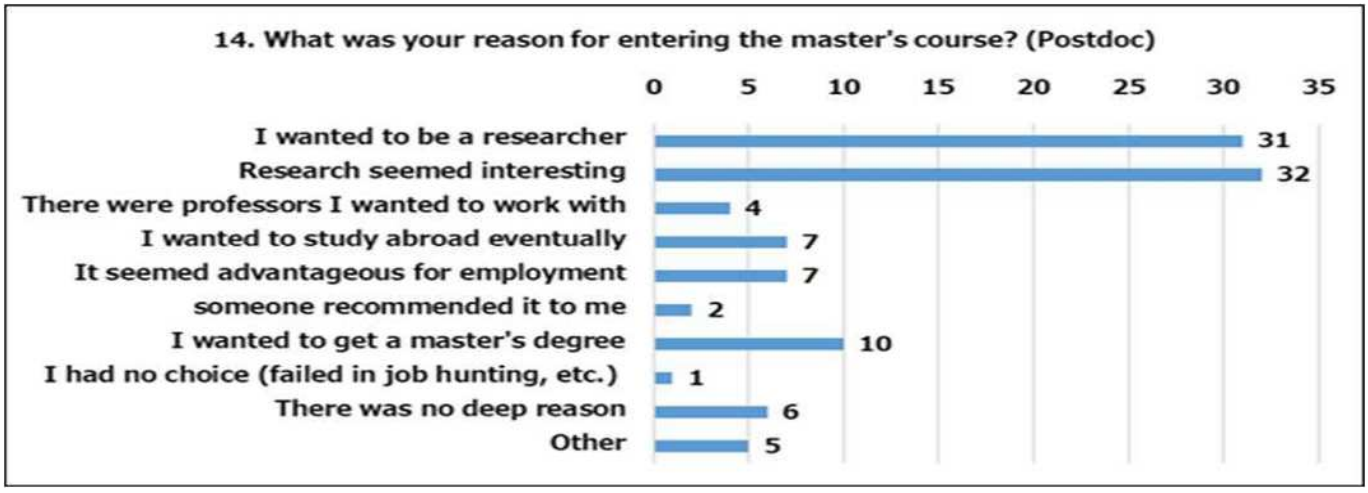


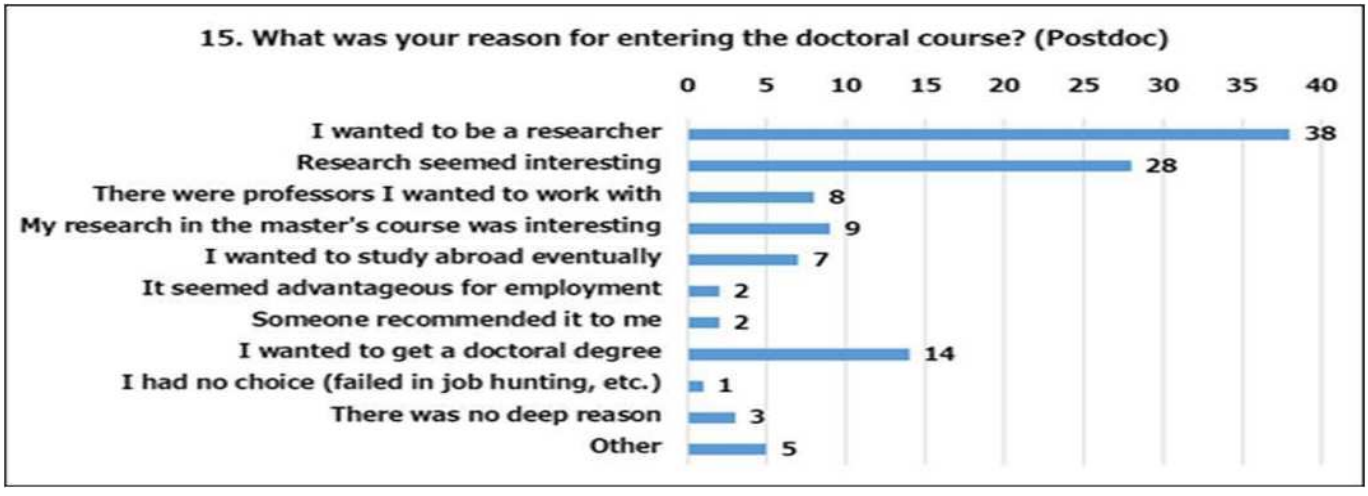




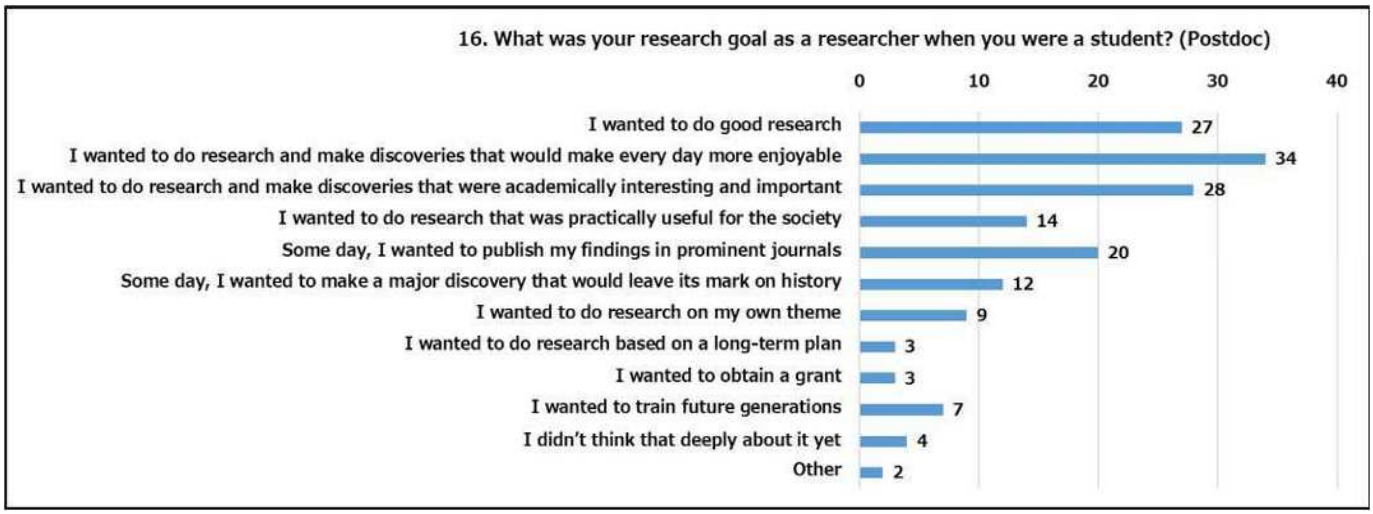
Q11,14-15: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] students: 114, postdocs: 53

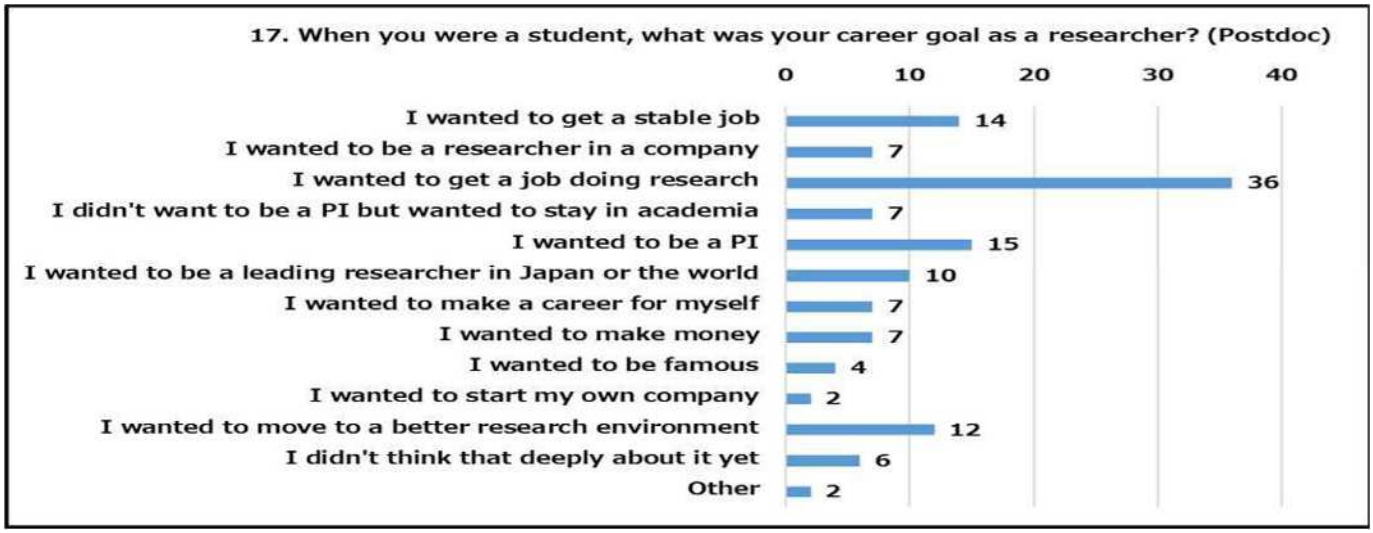


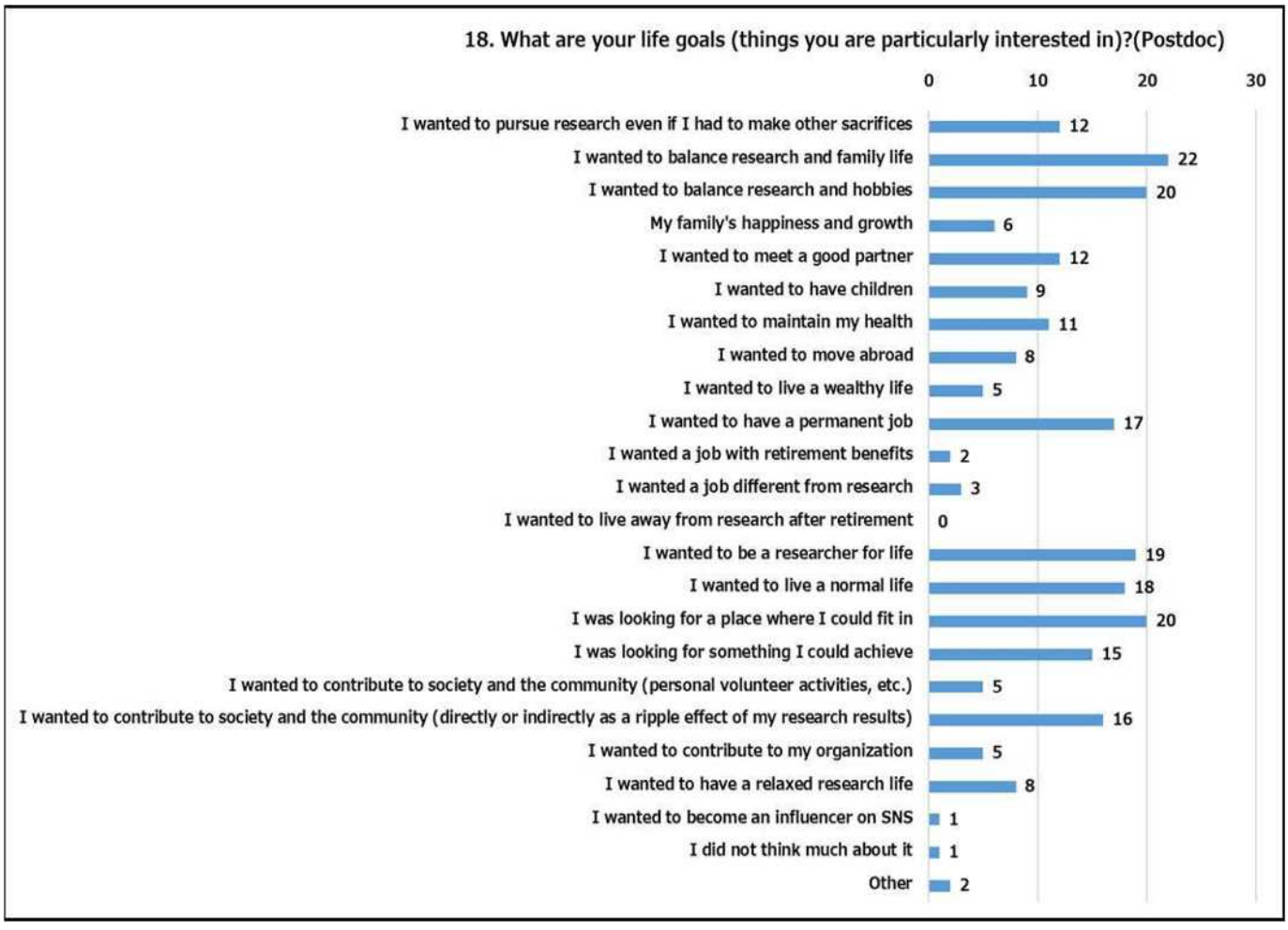




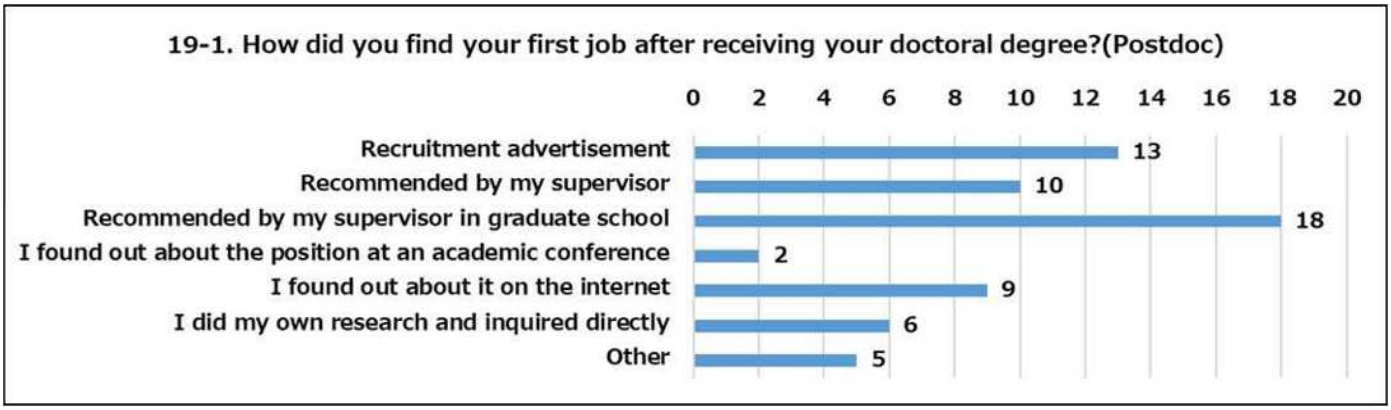
Q16-18: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] postdocs: 53

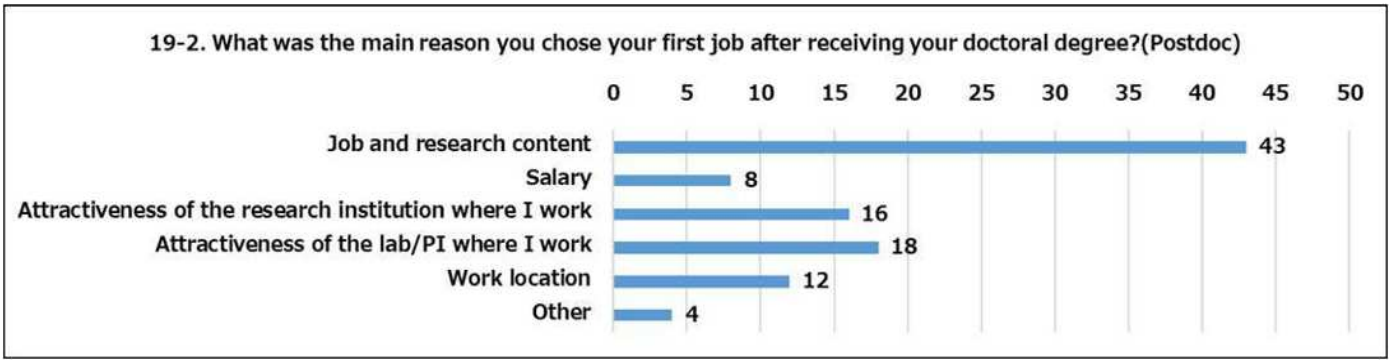


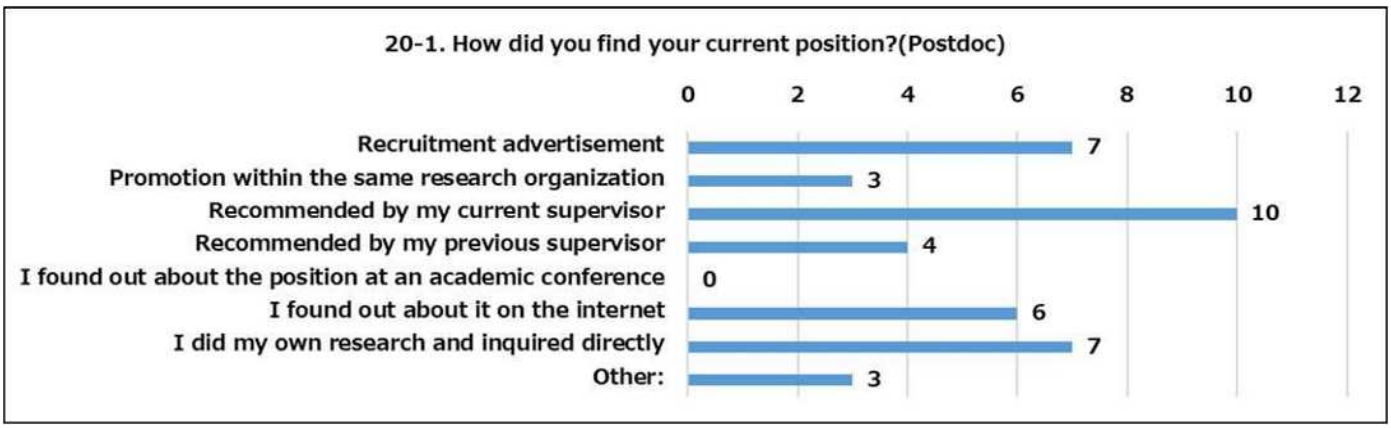


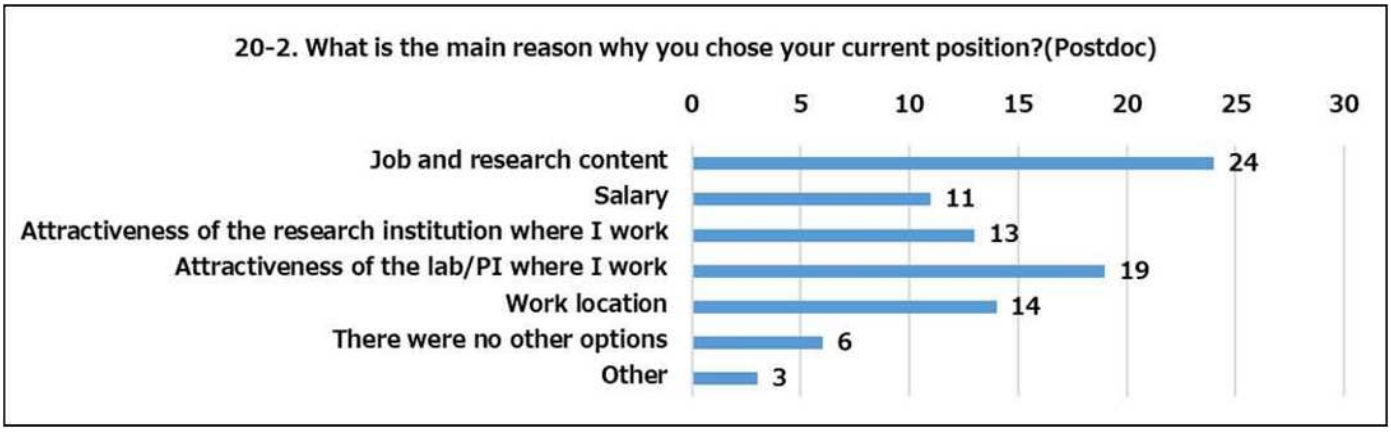


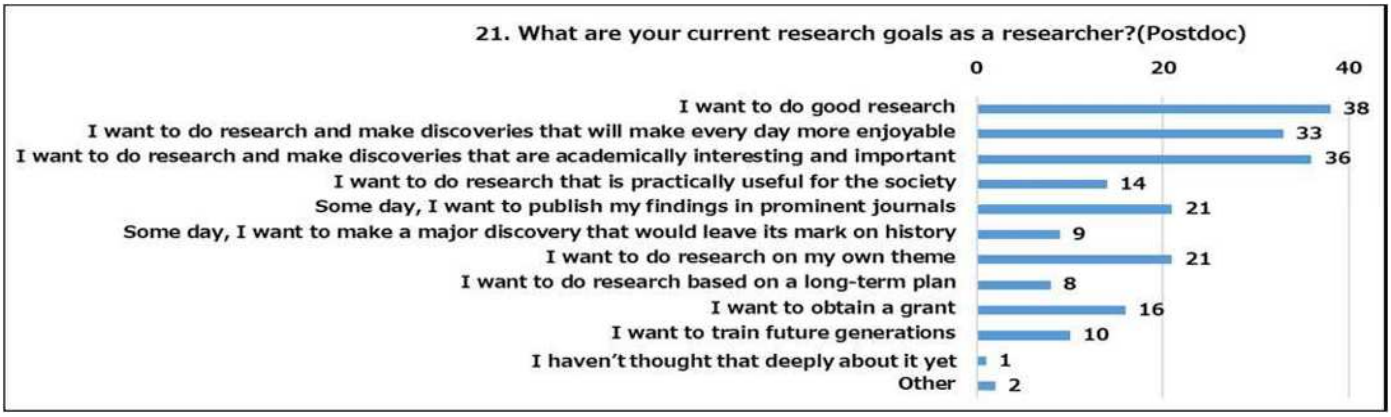
Q19-21: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] postdocs: 53



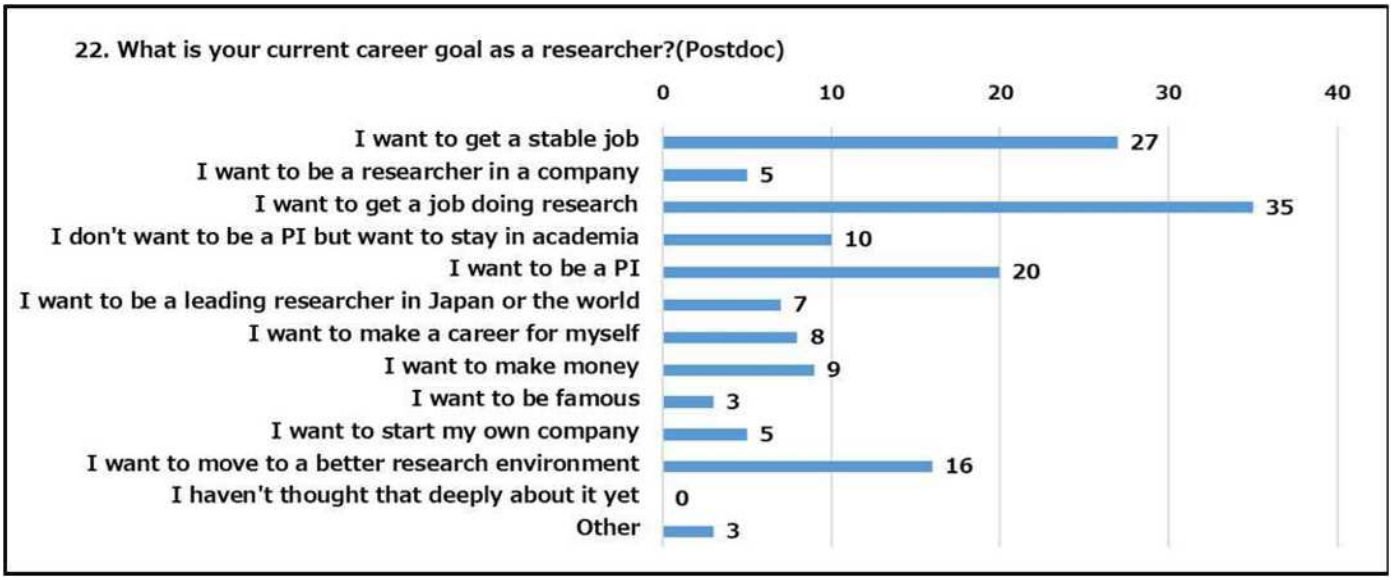


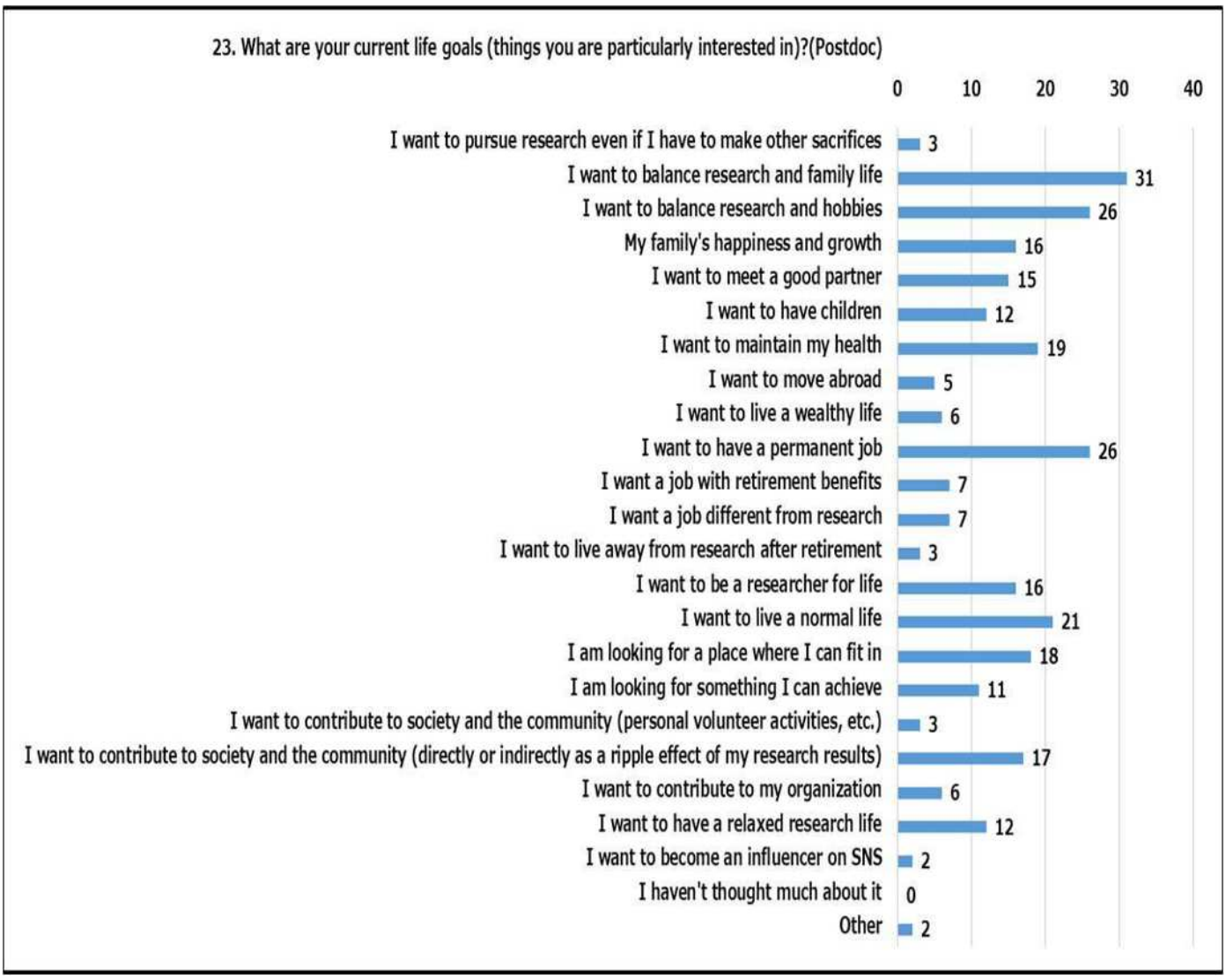




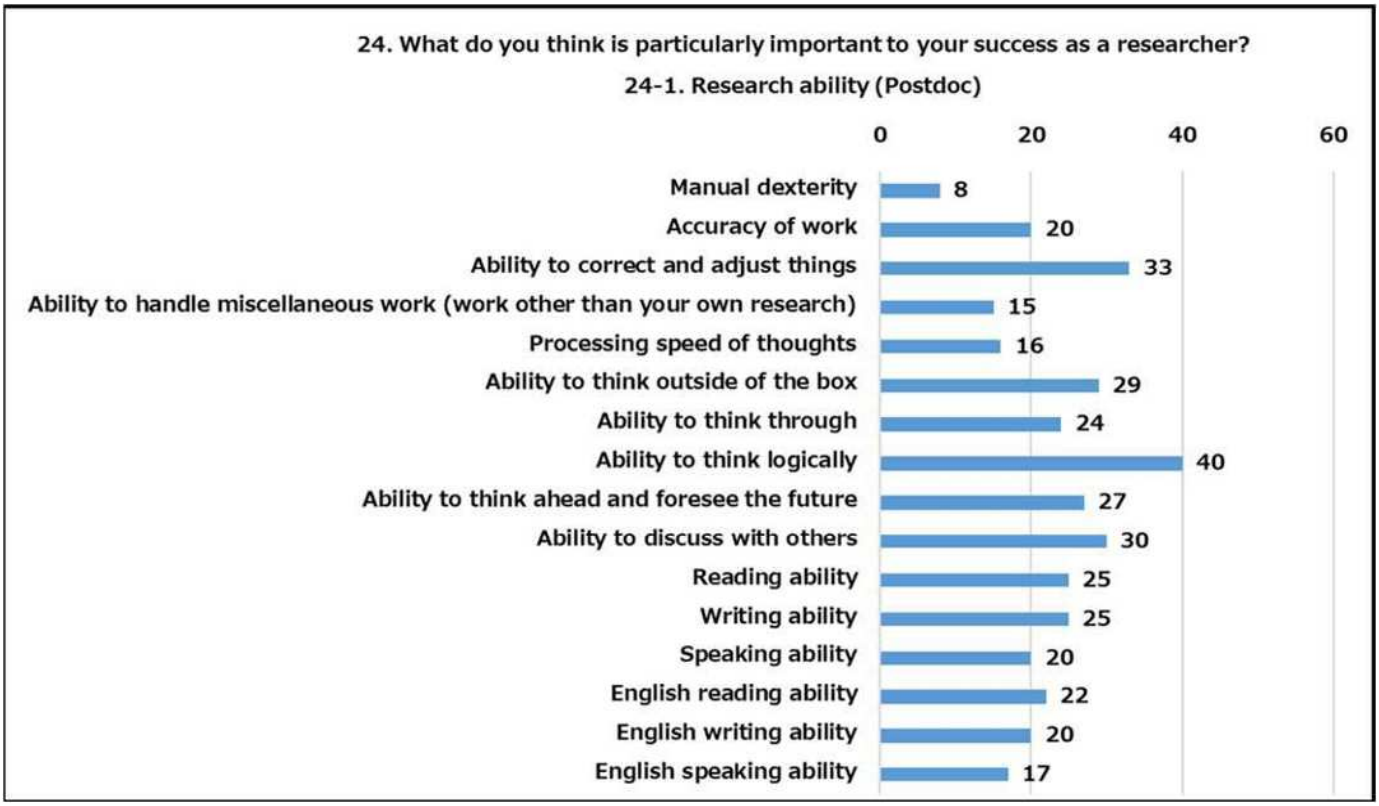


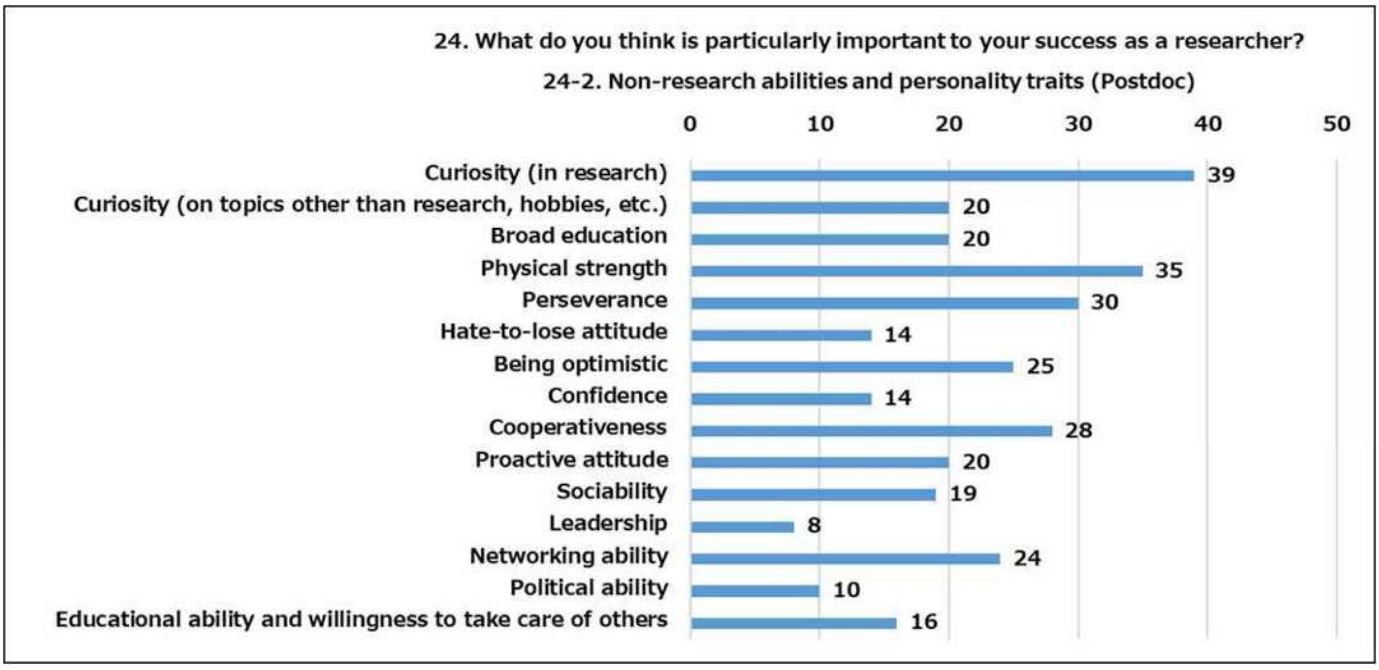
Q22-23: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] postdocs: 53

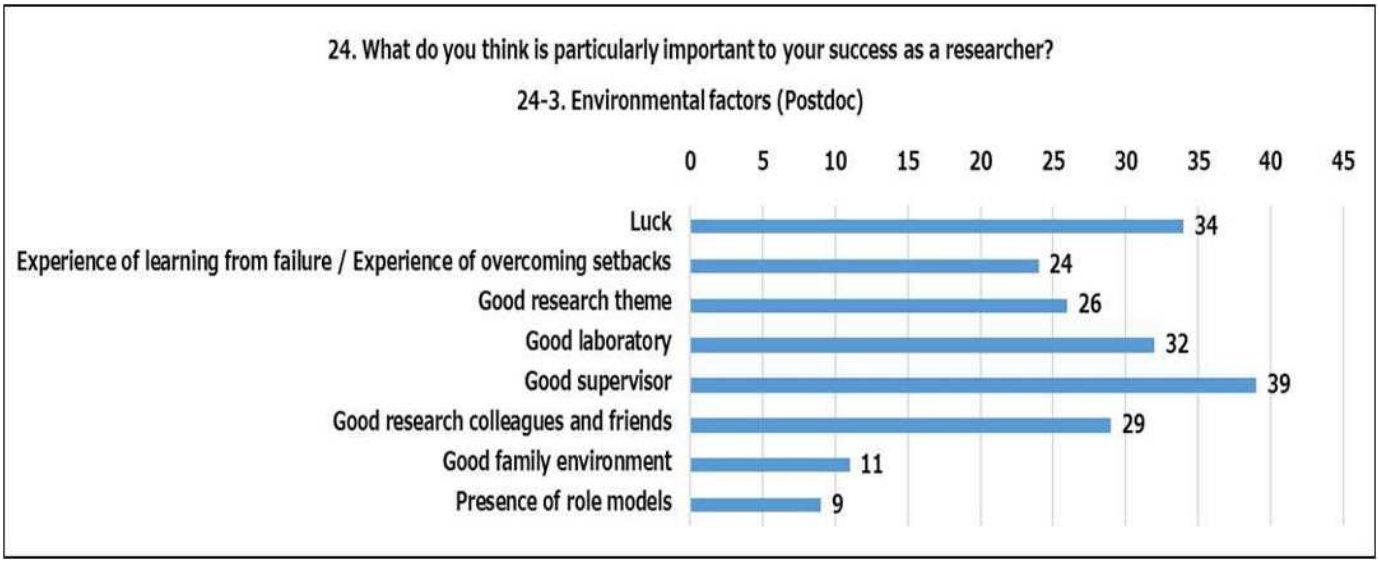




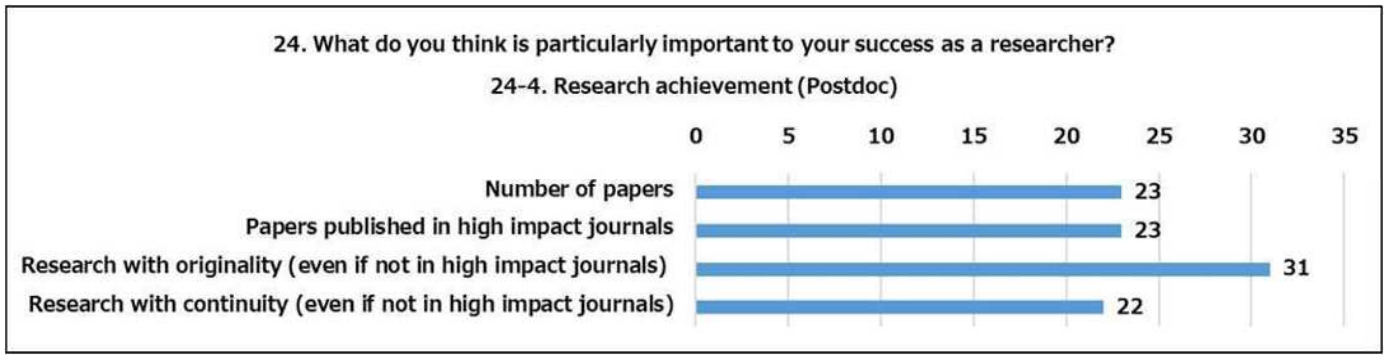
Q24: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] postdocs: 53

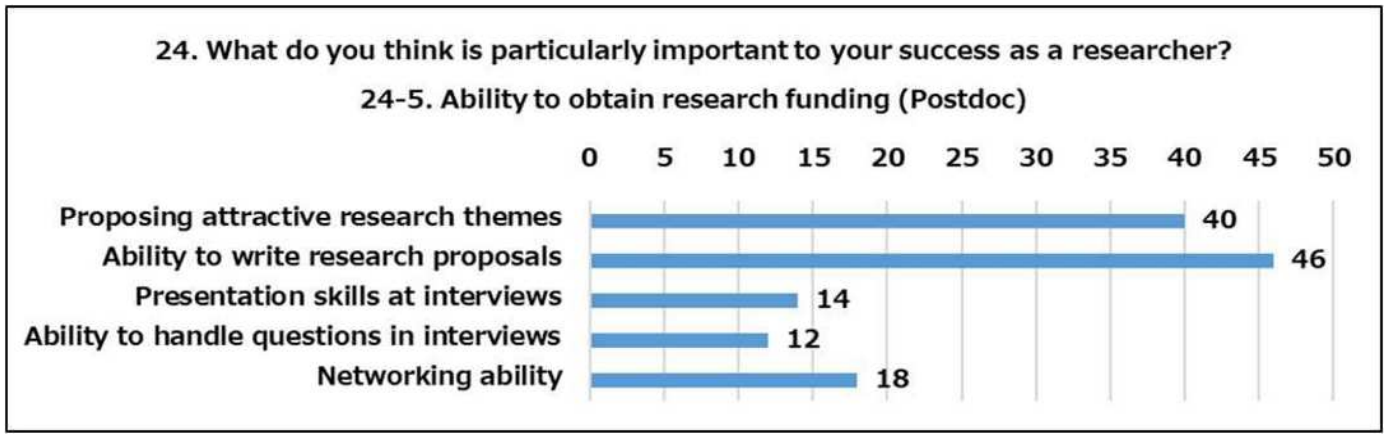


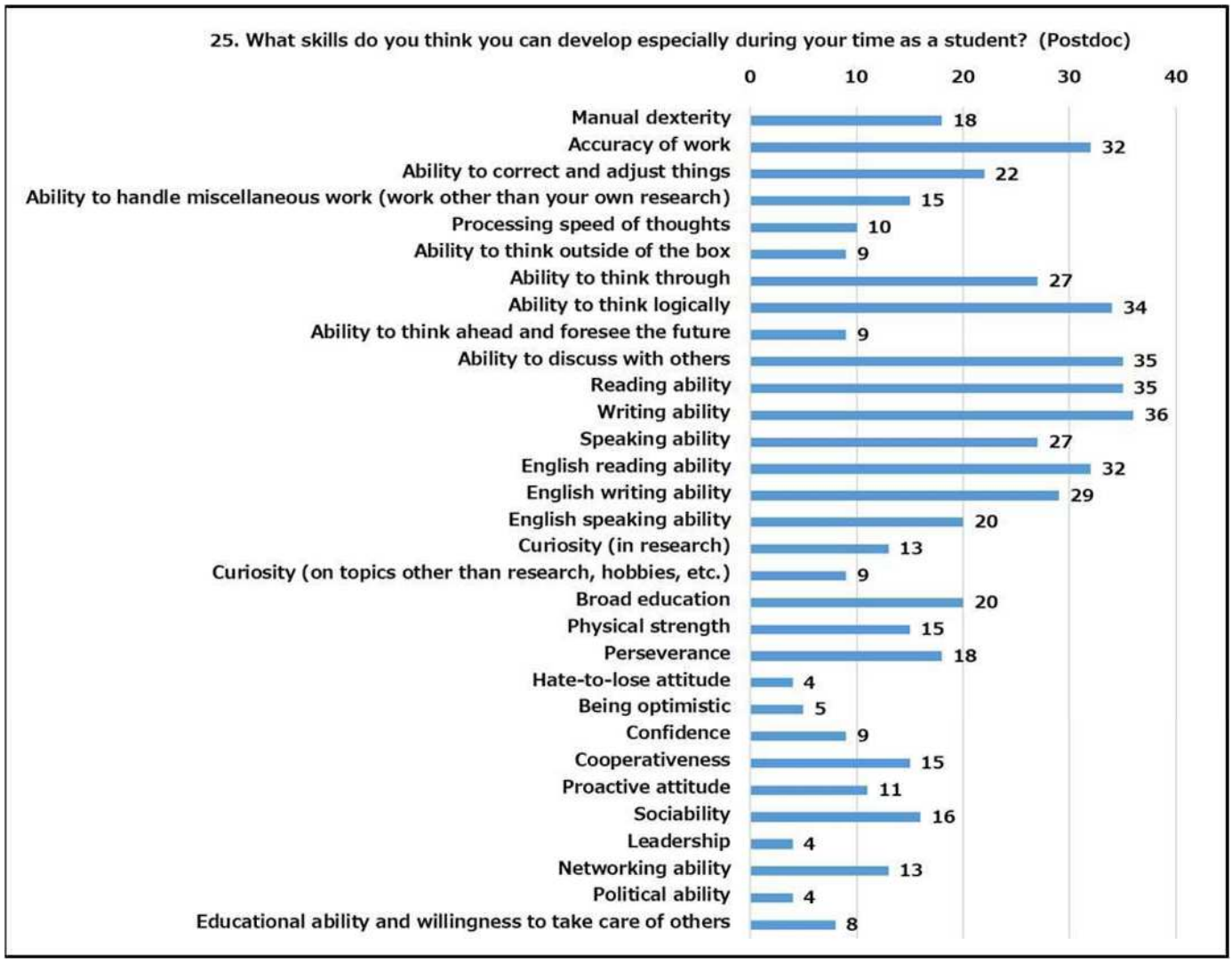




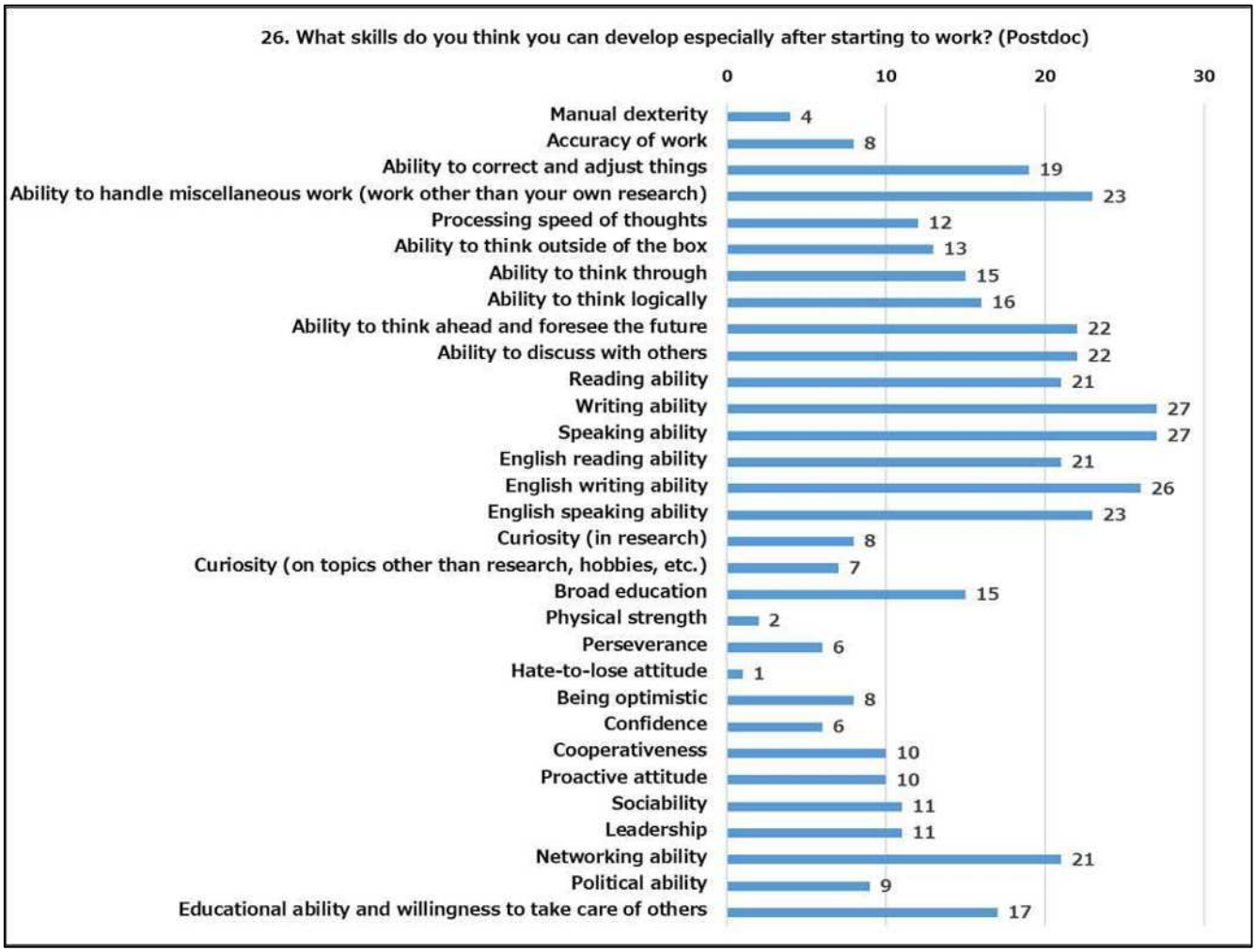
Q24-25: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] postdocs: 53



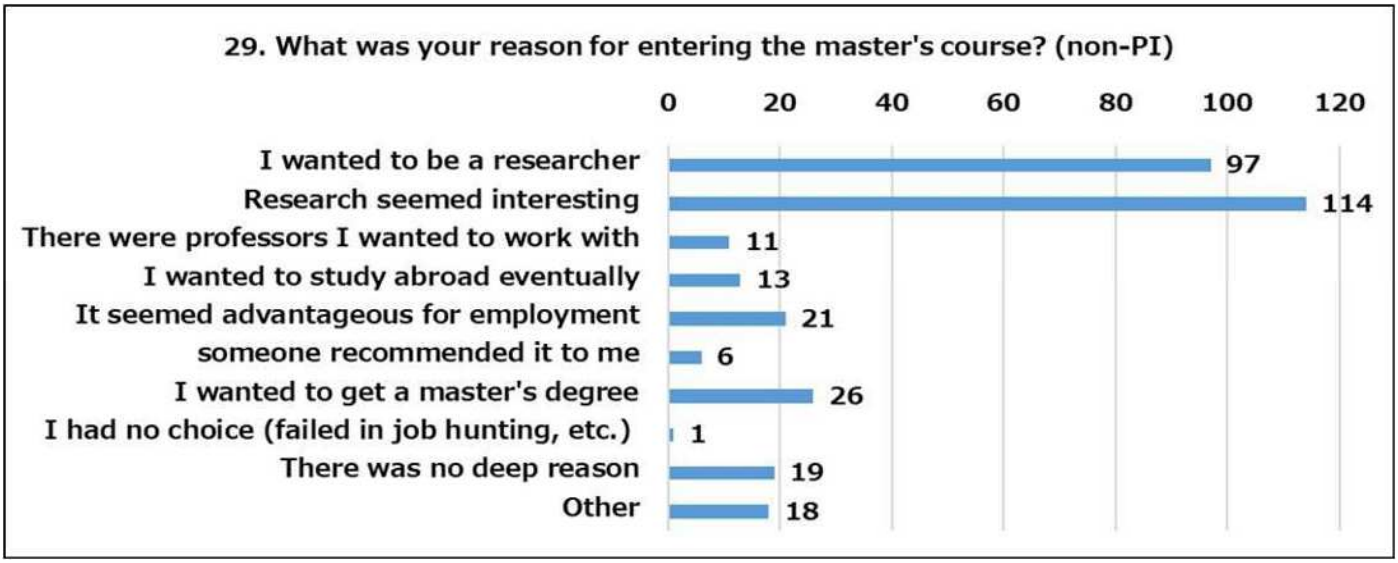


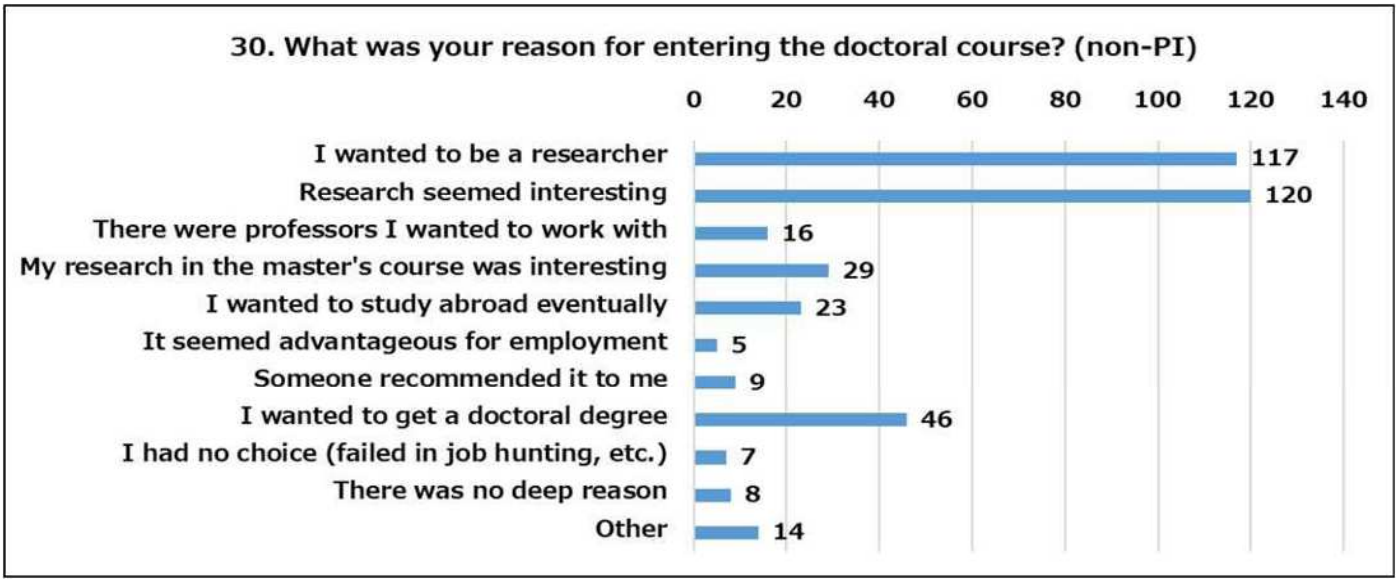


Q26: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] postdocs: 53



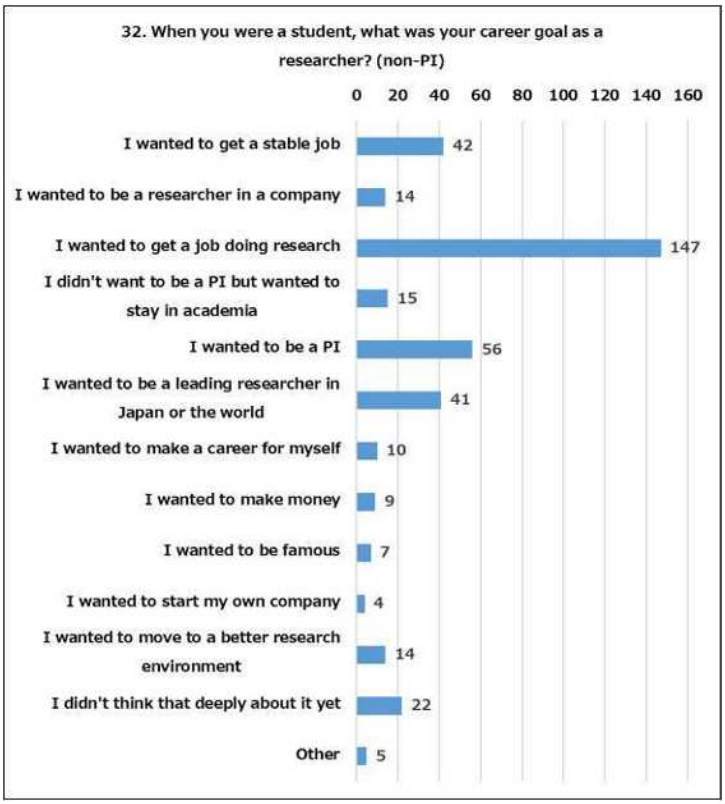
Q29,30,32: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] non-PIs: 180



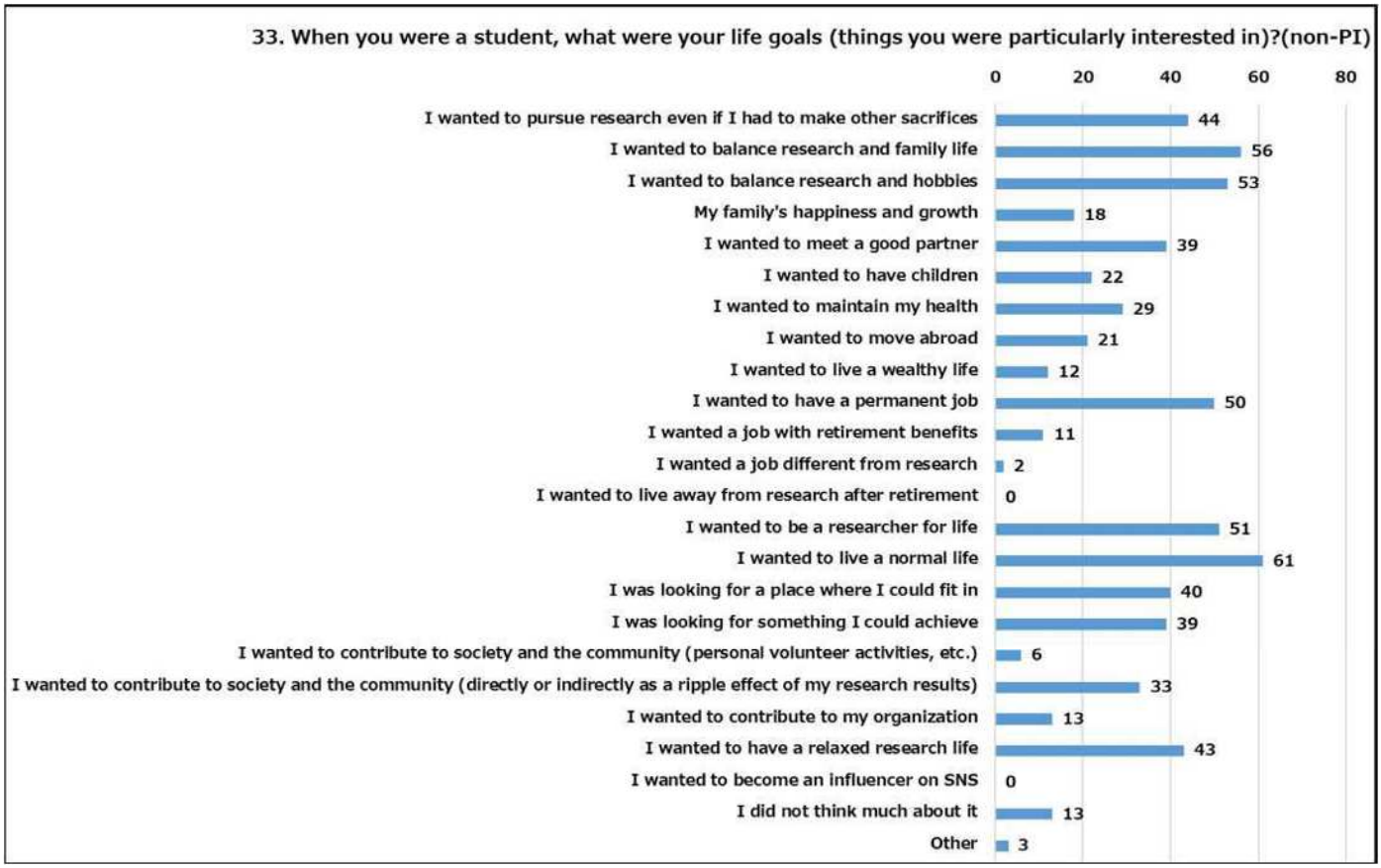


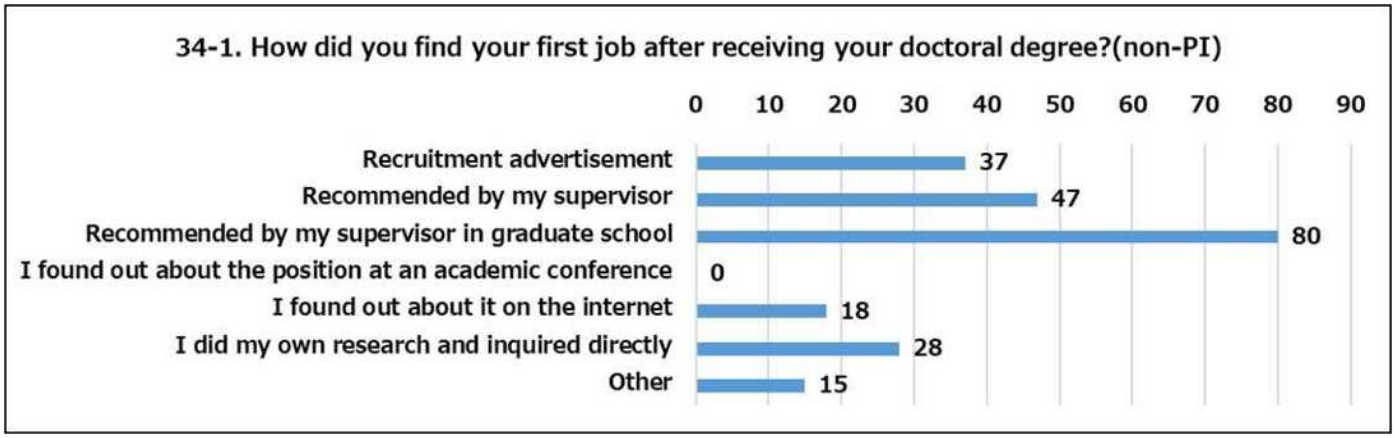
31. What was your research goal as a researcher when you were a student? (non-PI)

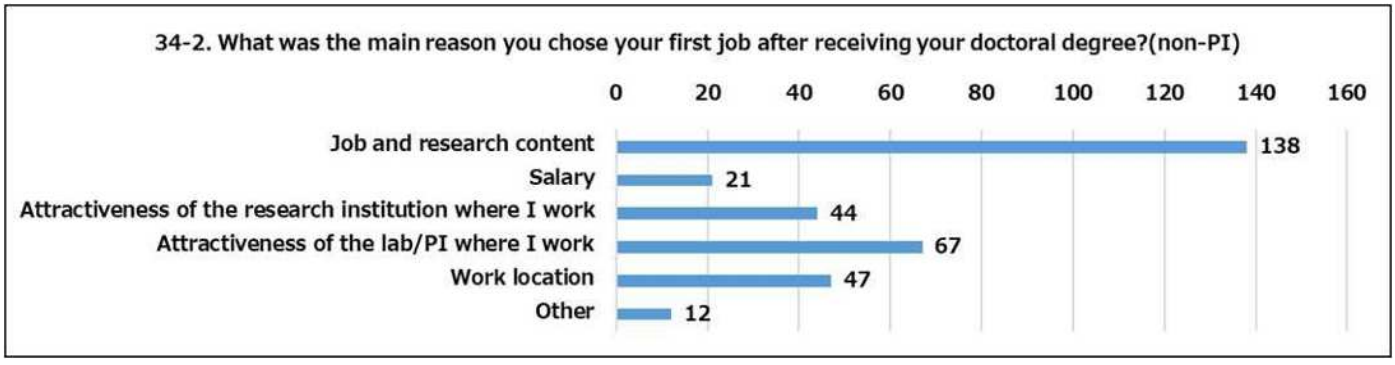
No data due to incomplete web survey system



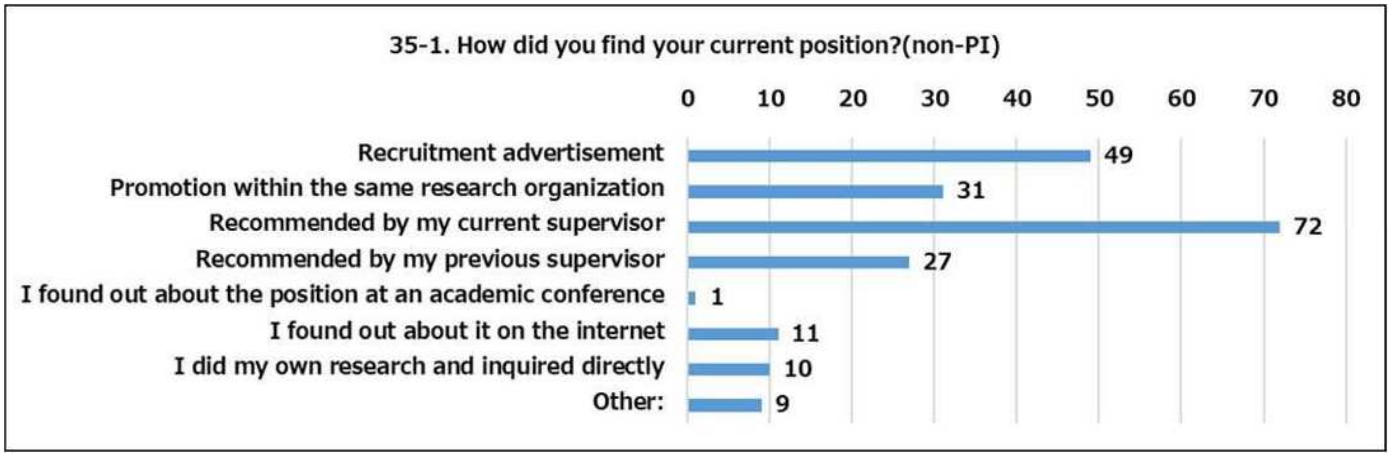
Q33-34: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] non-PIs: 180

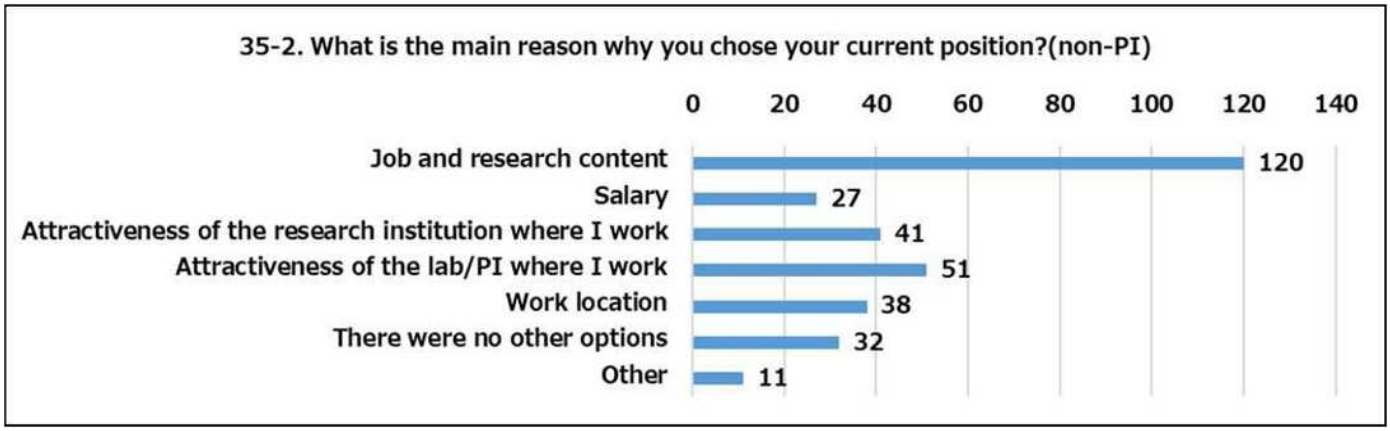


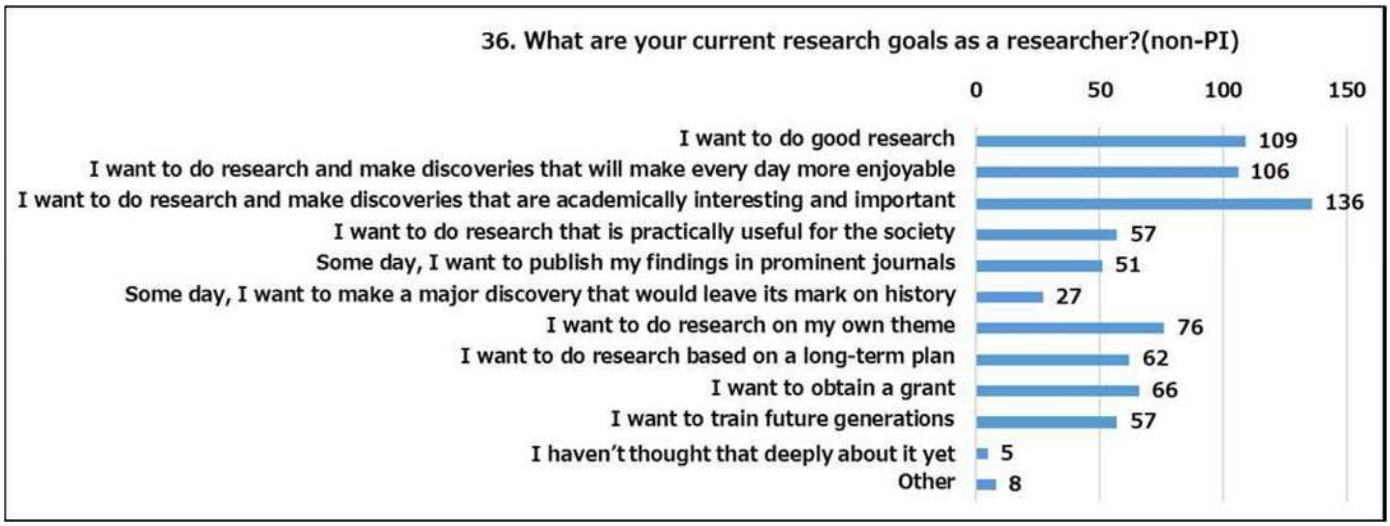


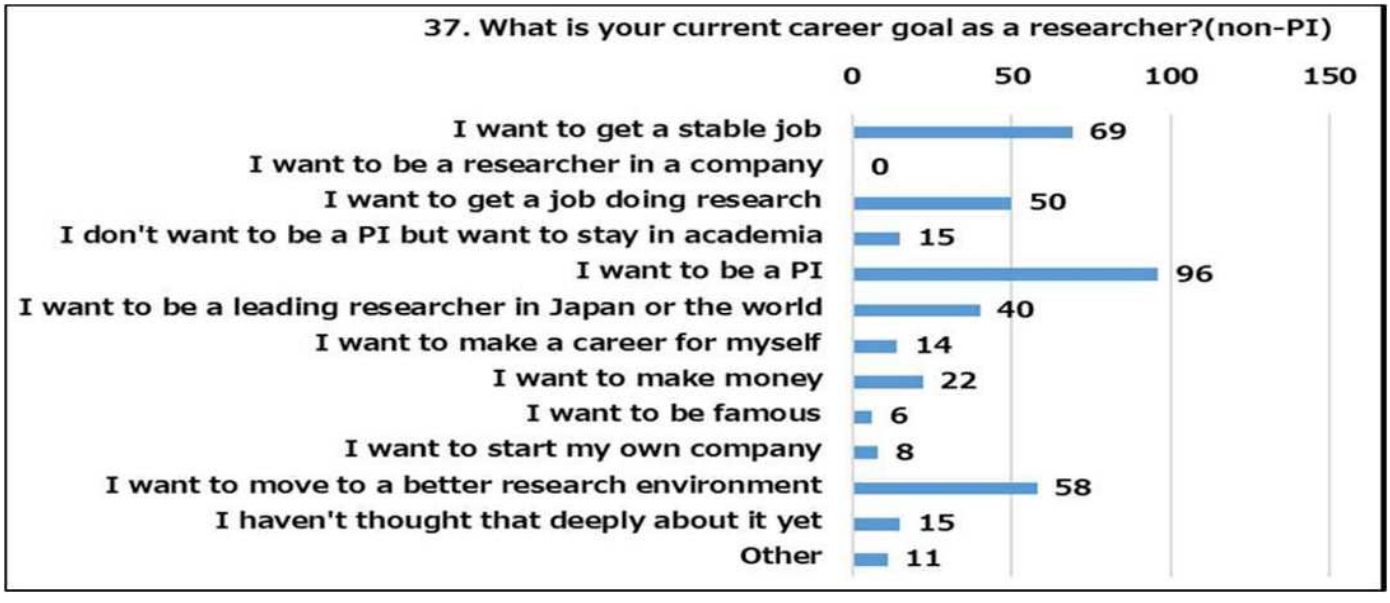


Q35-37: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] non-PIs: 180

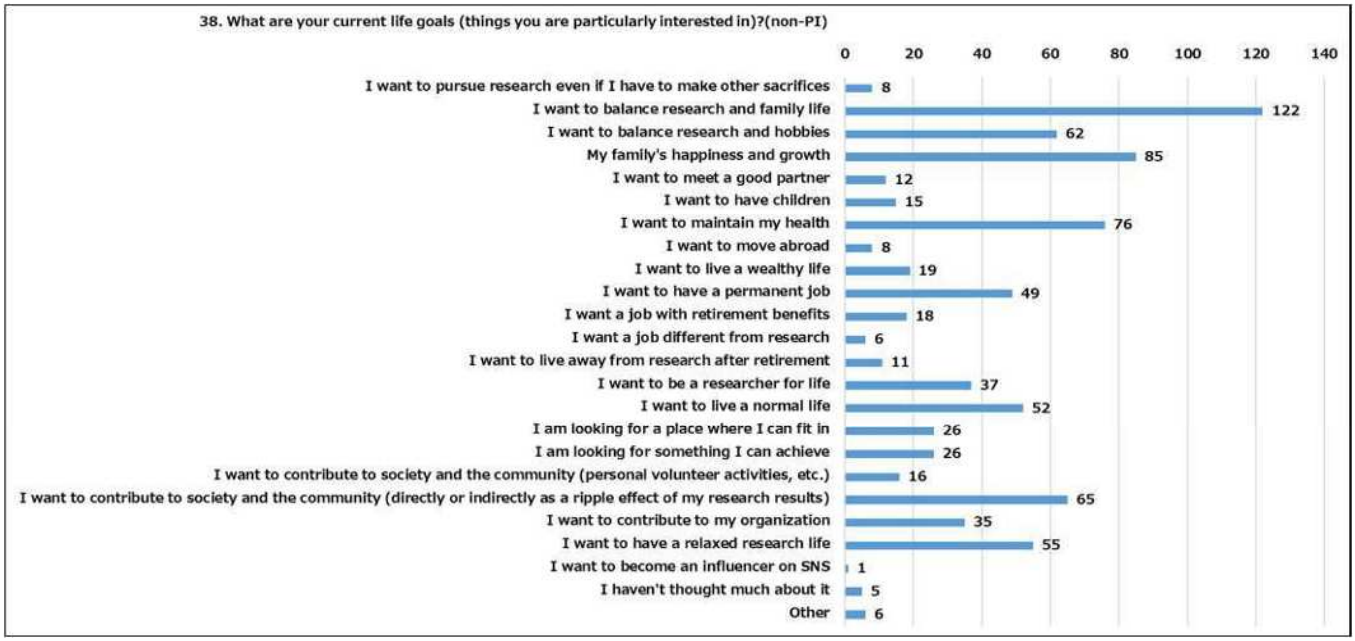


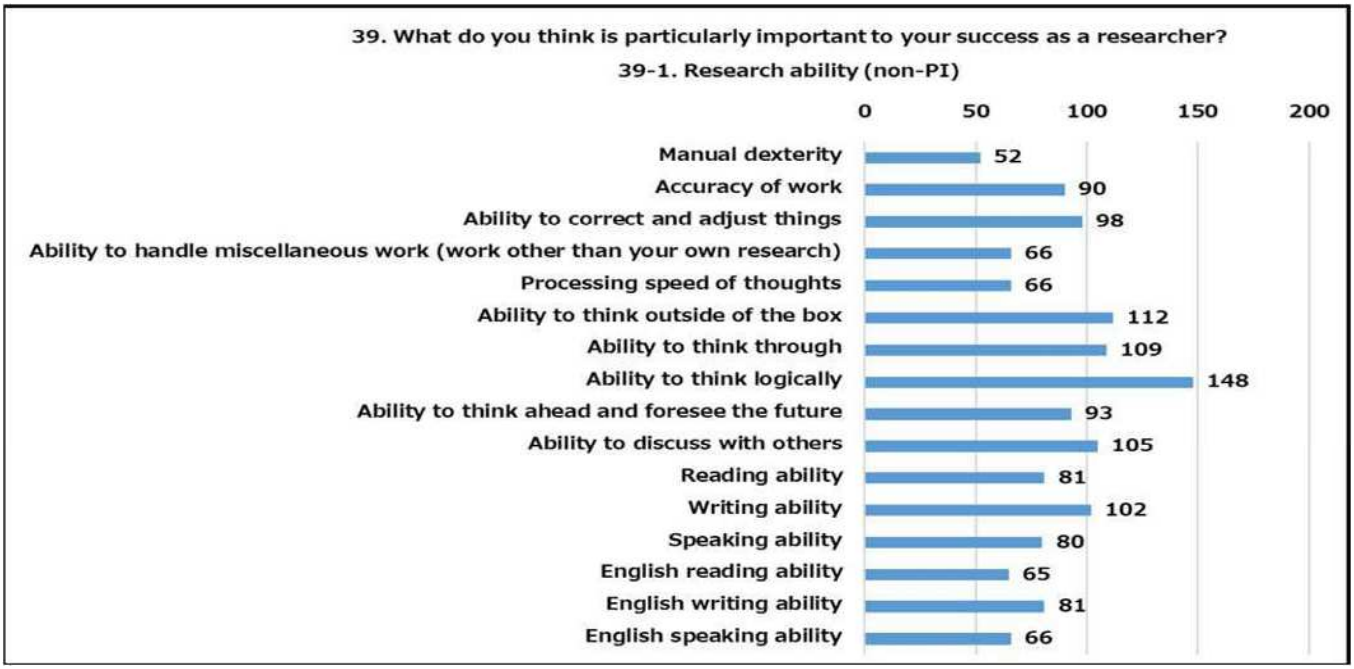


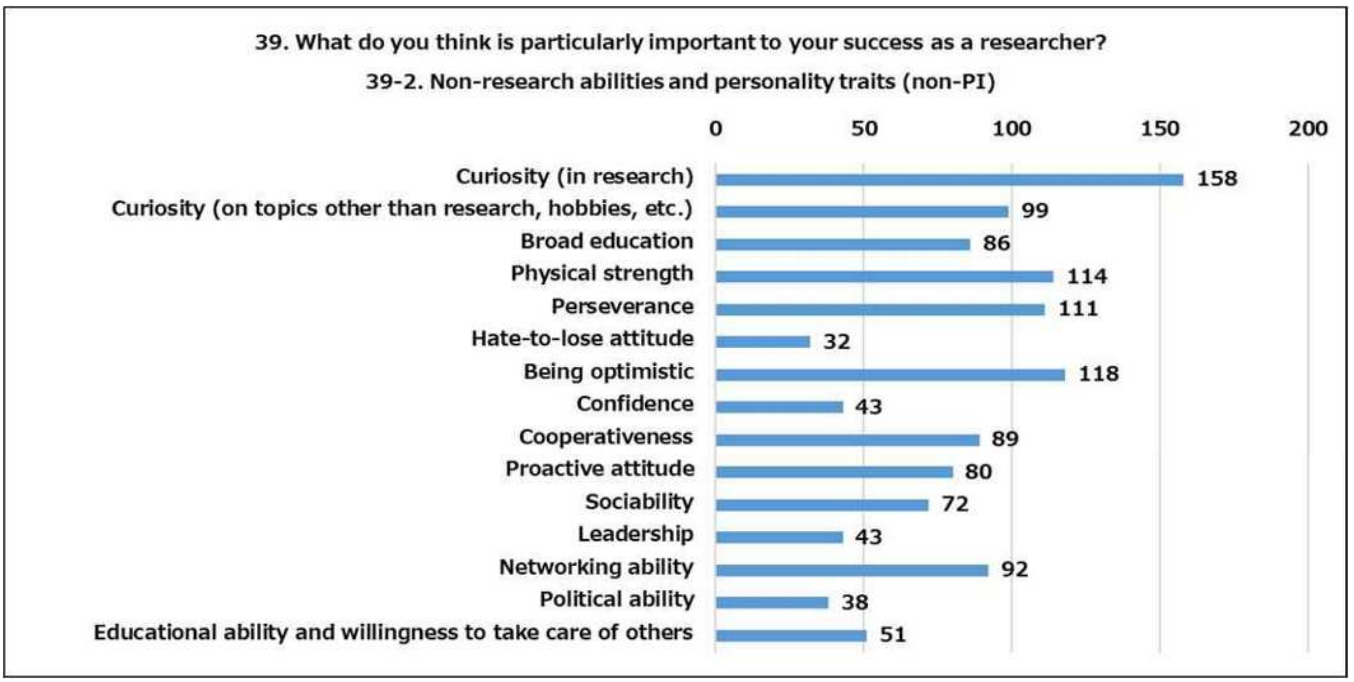




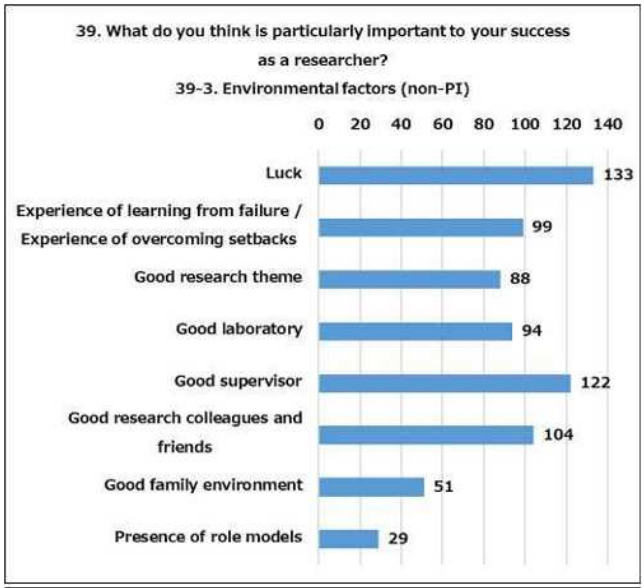
Q38-39: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] non-PIs: 180

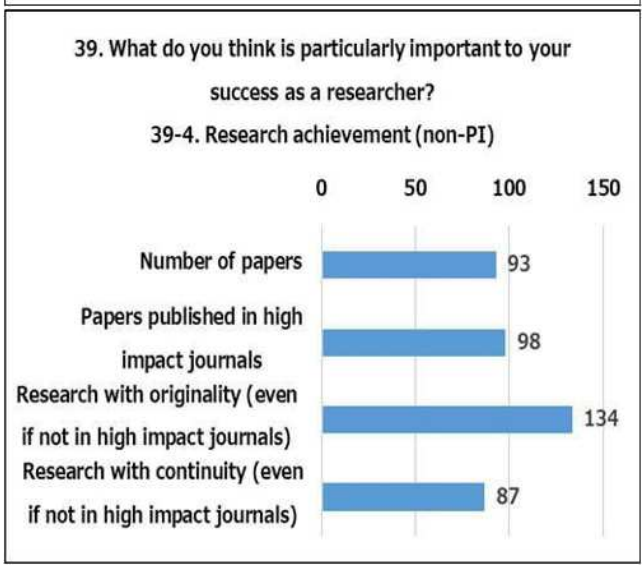


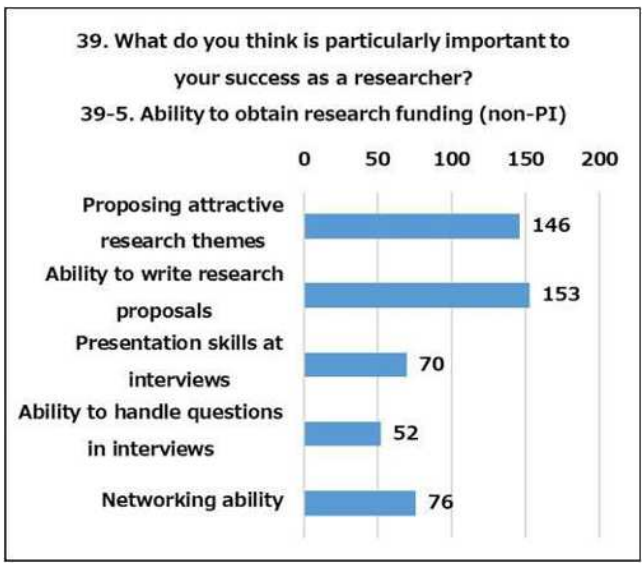


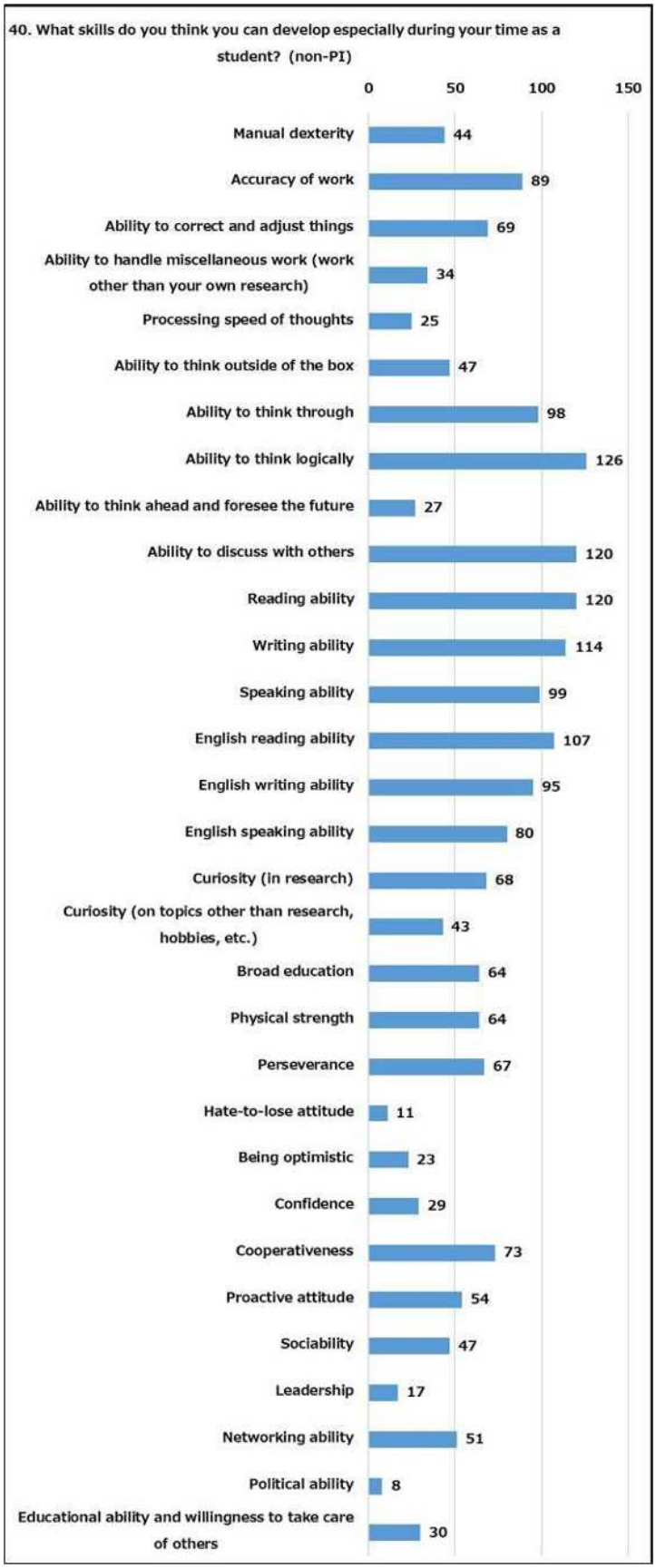


Q39-40: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] non-PIs: 180

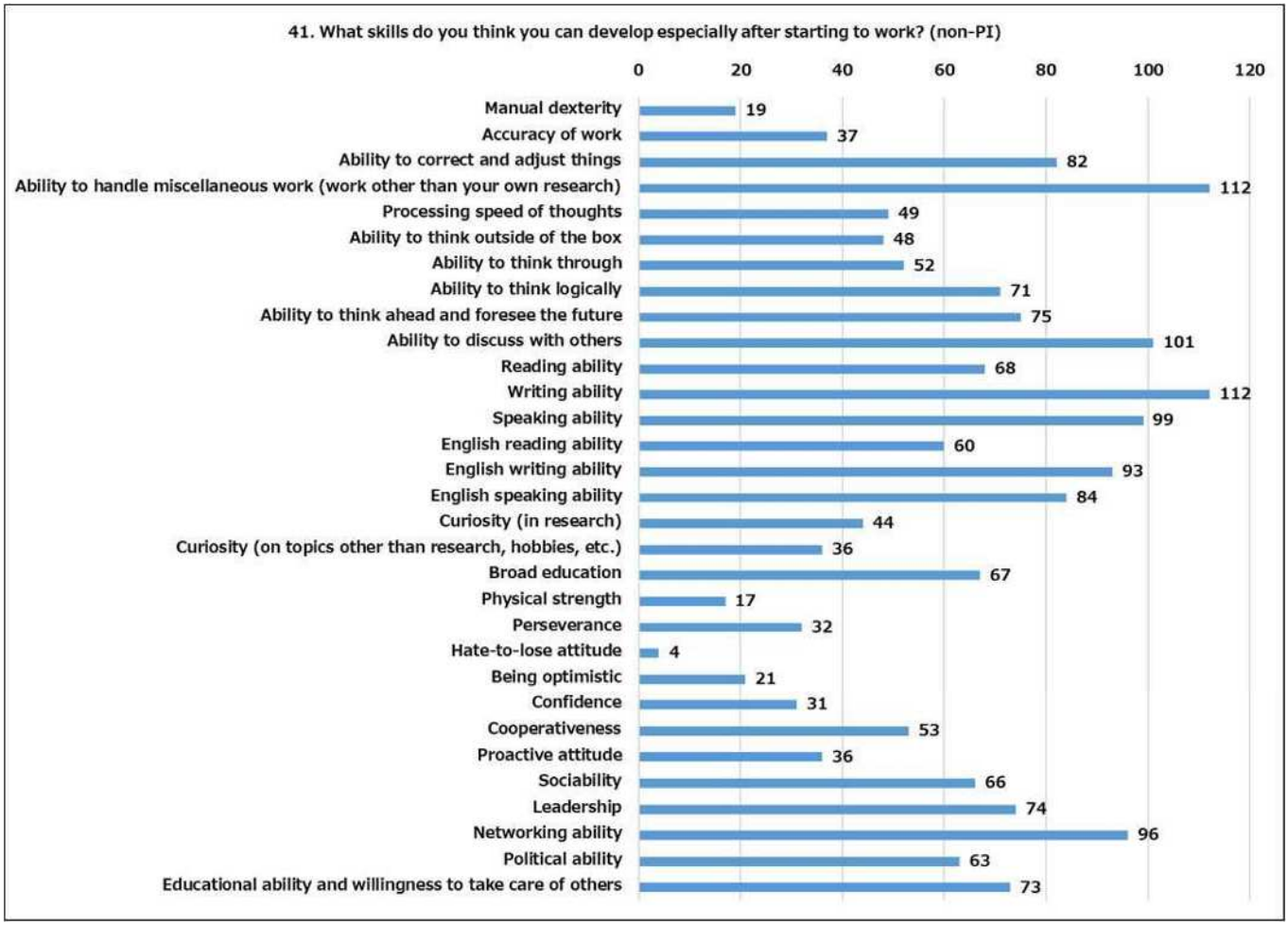


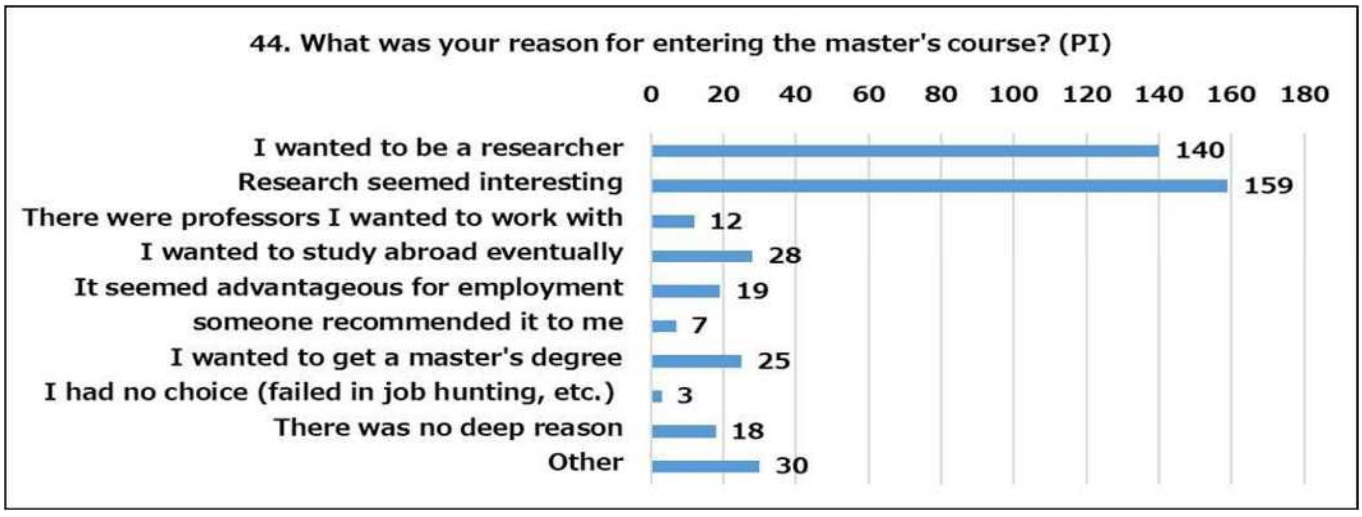




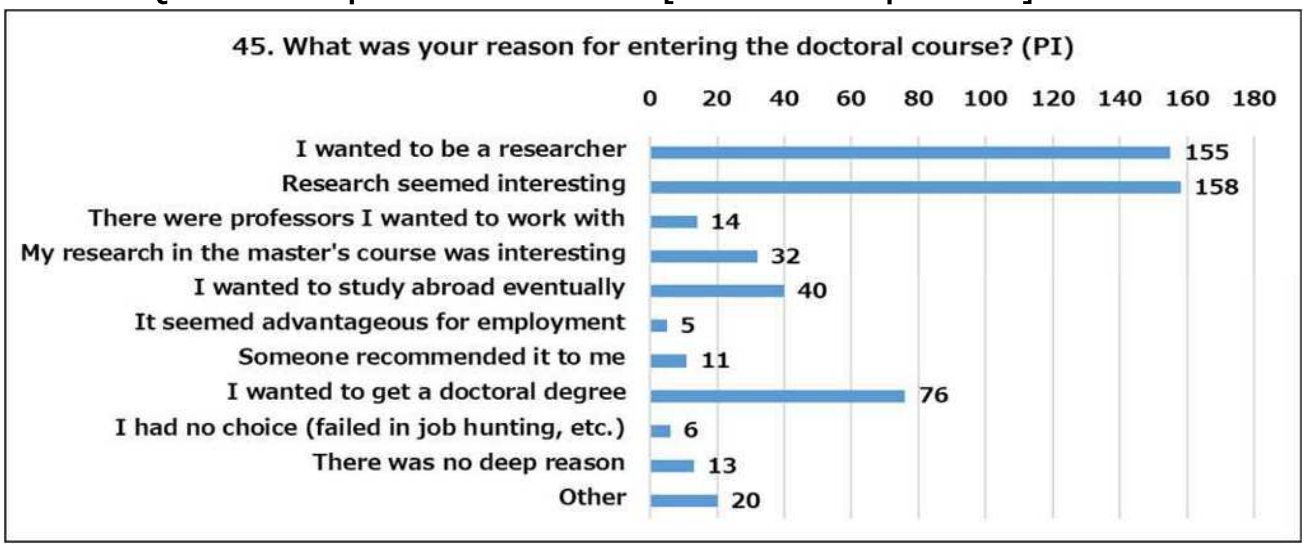


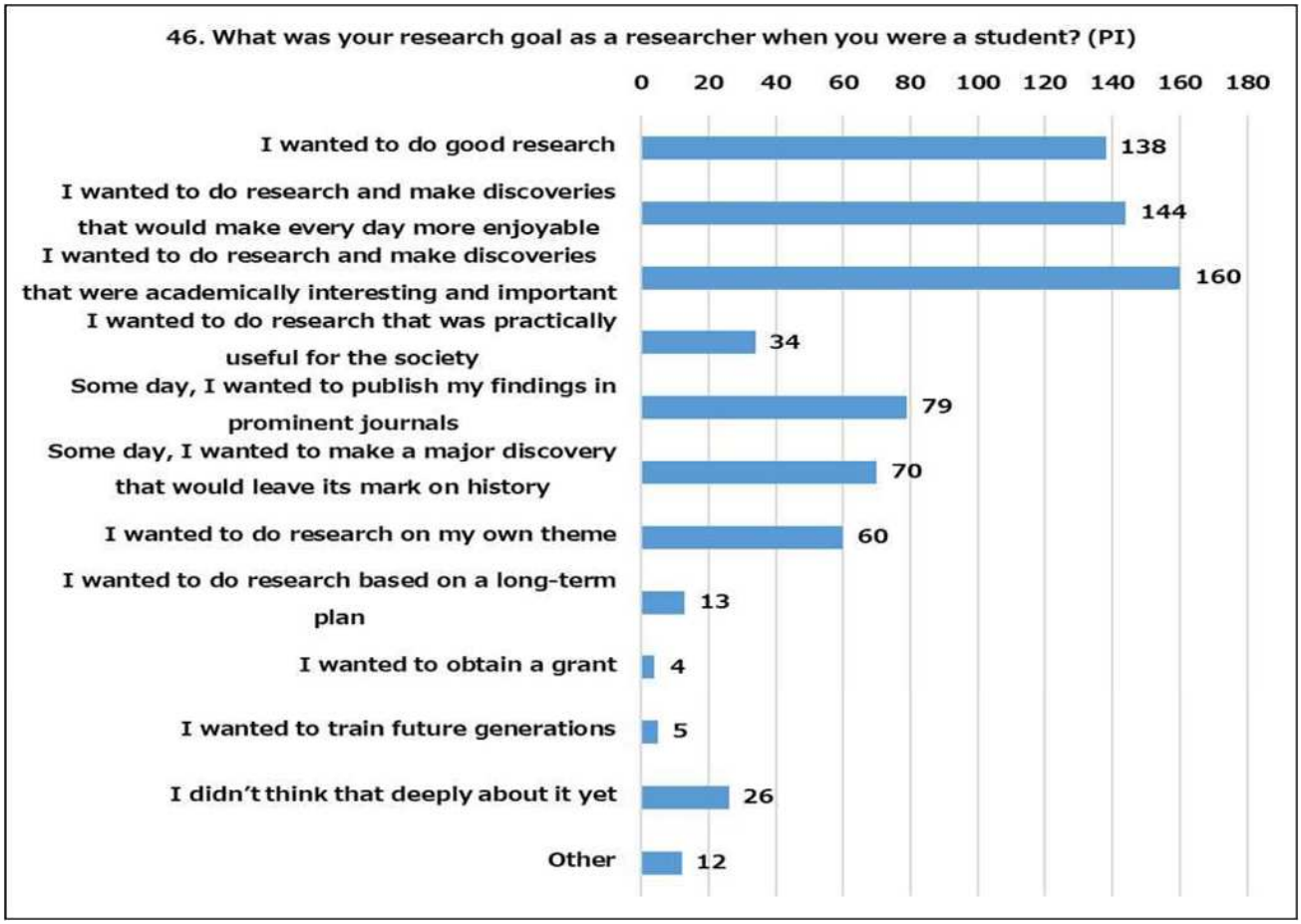
Q41,44: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] non-PIs: 180, PIs: 240



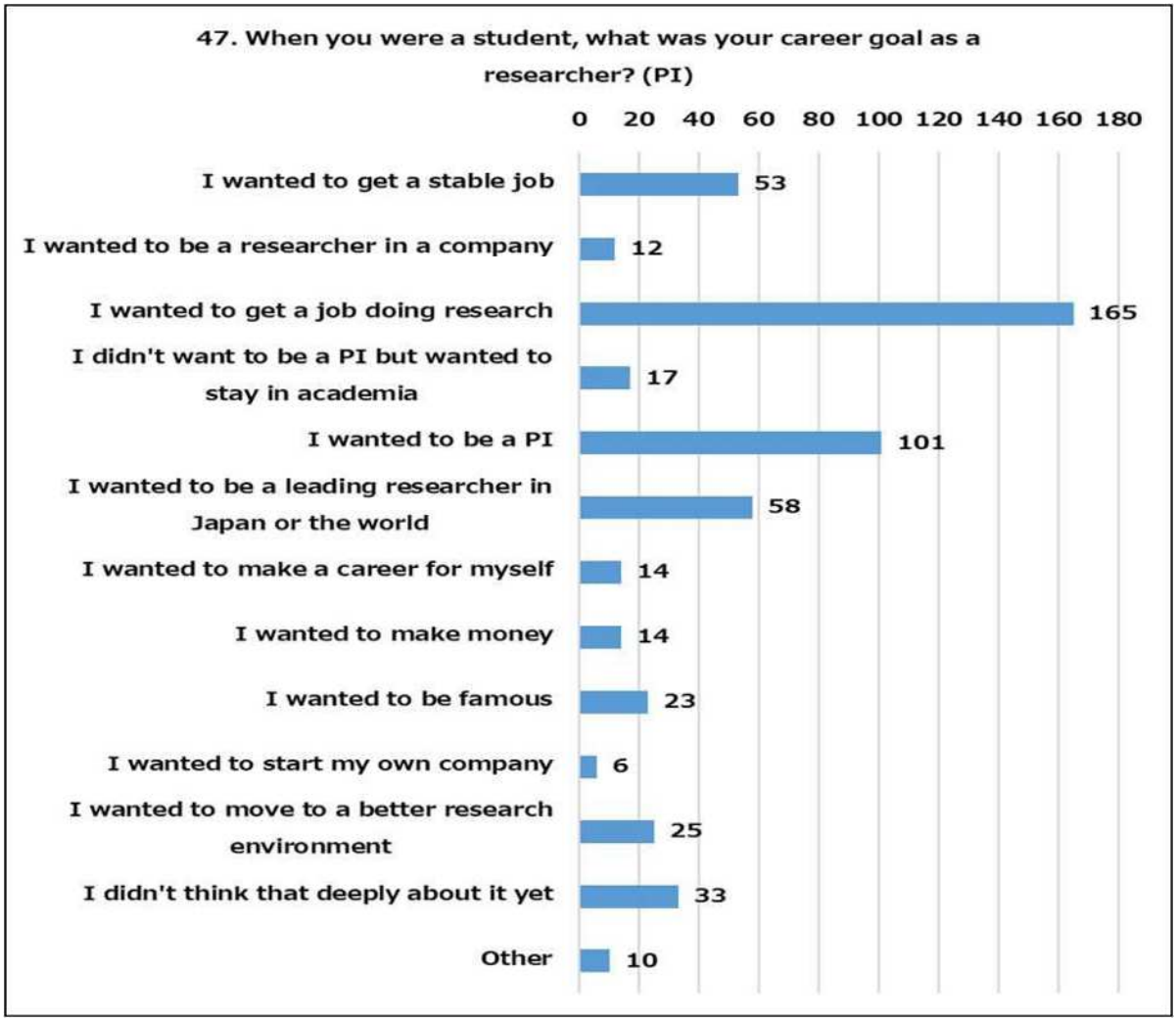


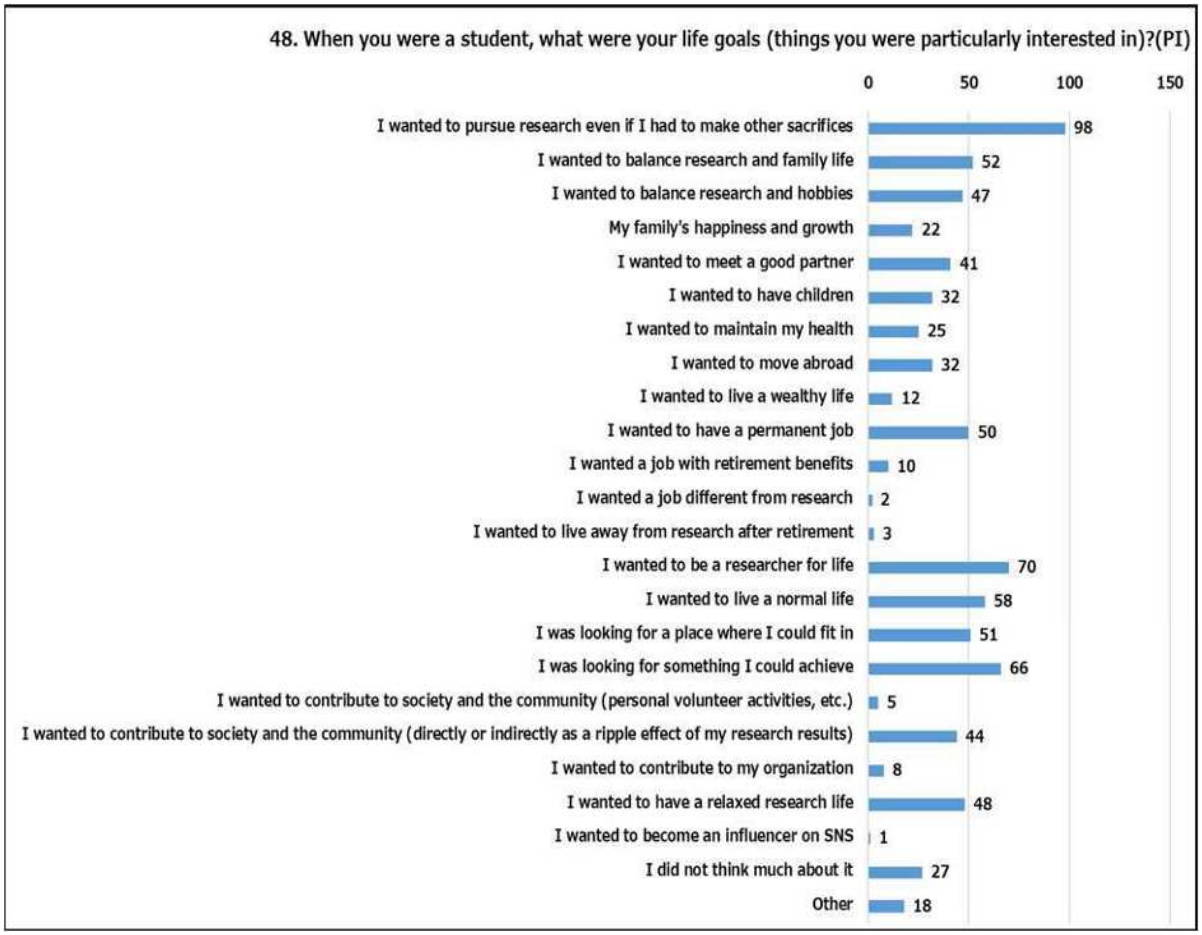
Q45-46: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] PIs: 240



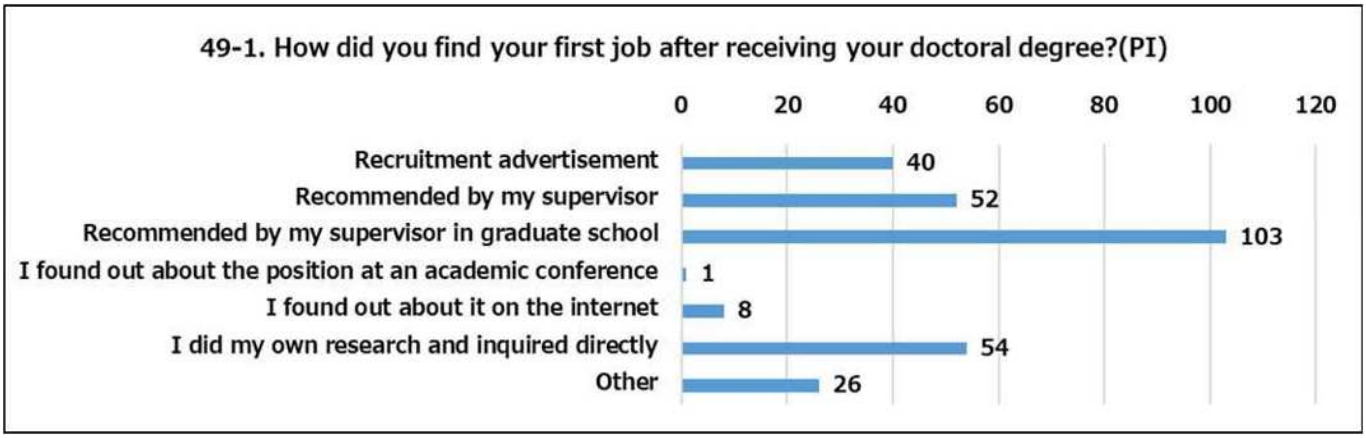


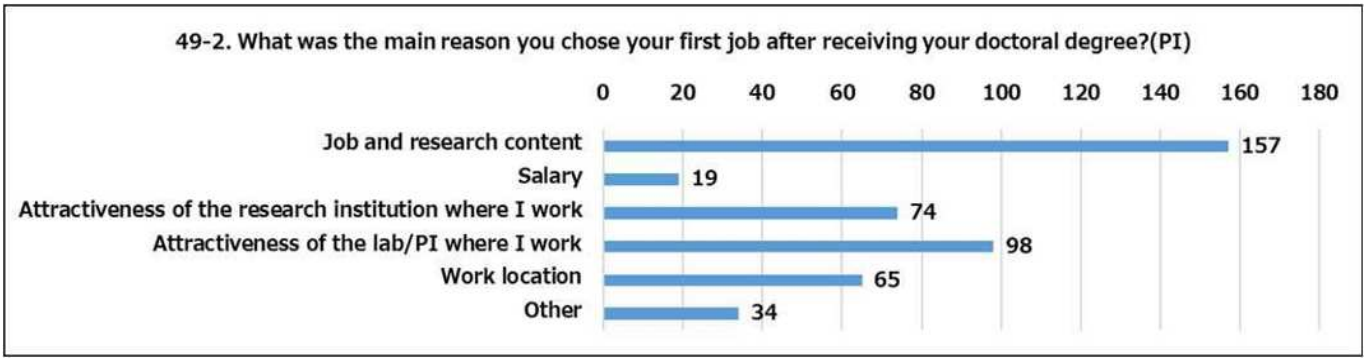
Q47-48: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] PIs: 240

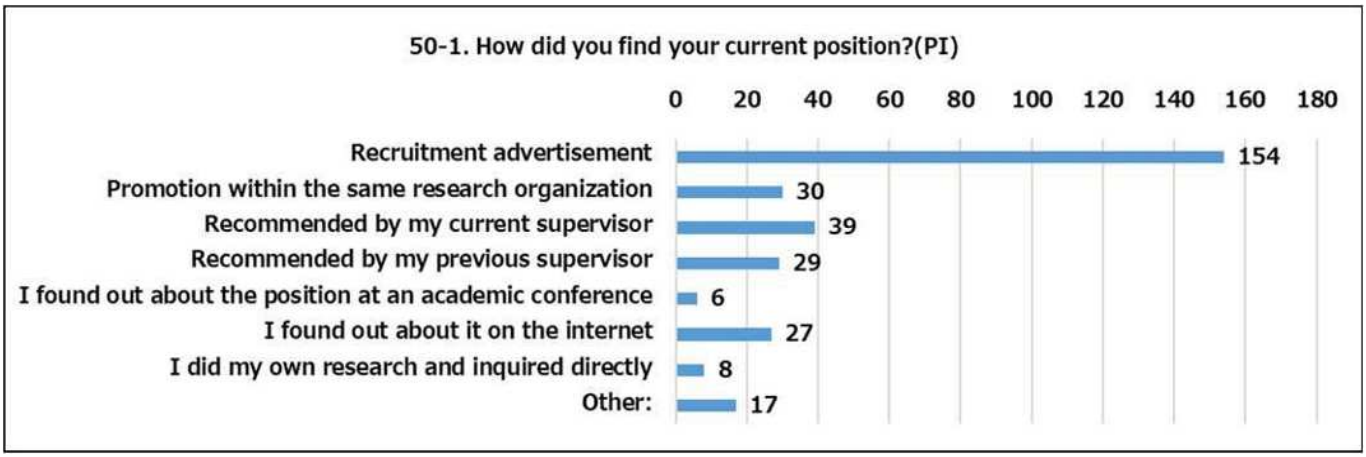


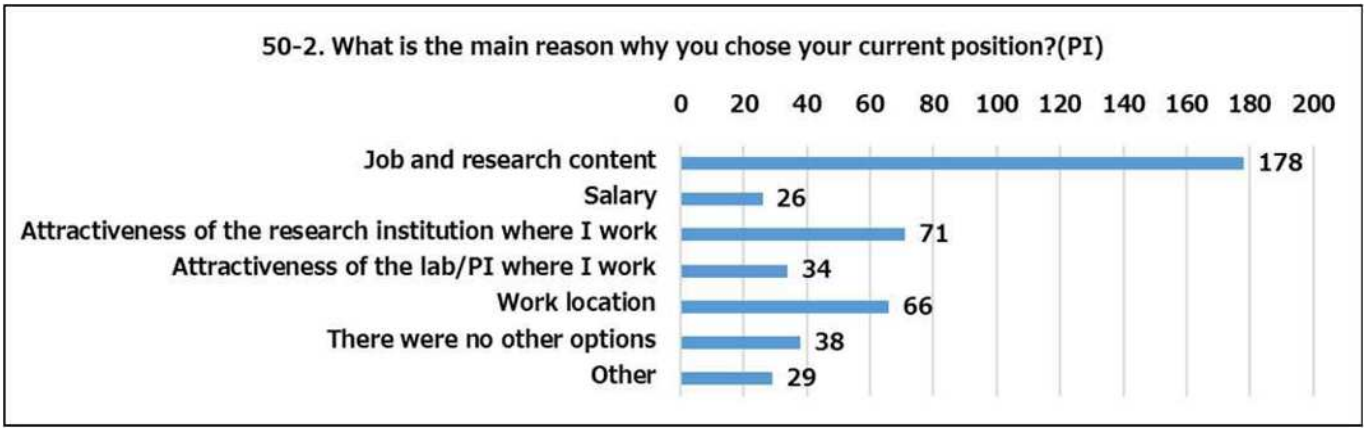


Q49-50: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] PIs: 240

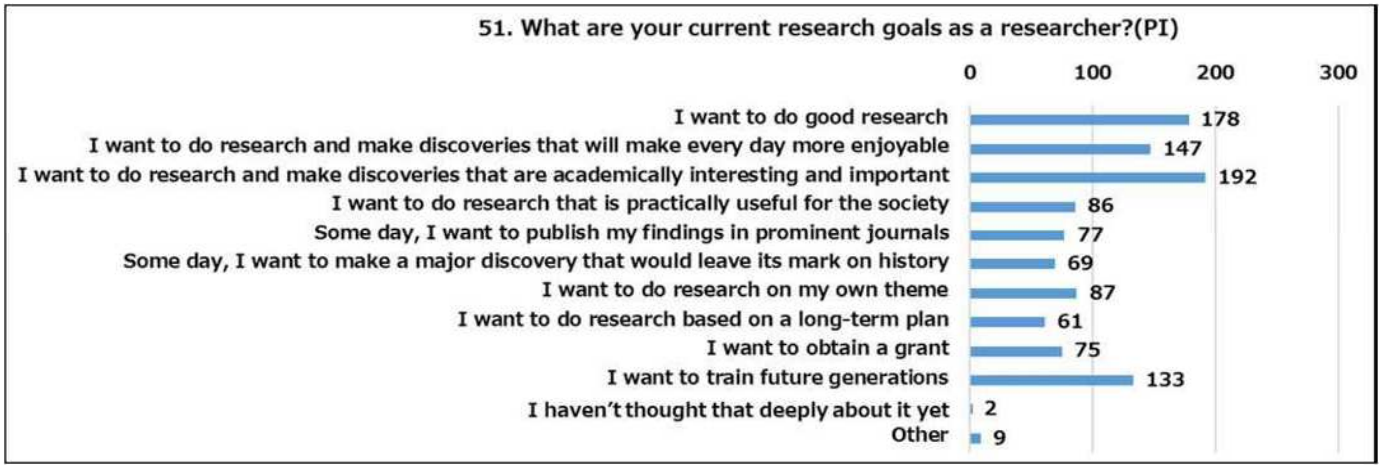


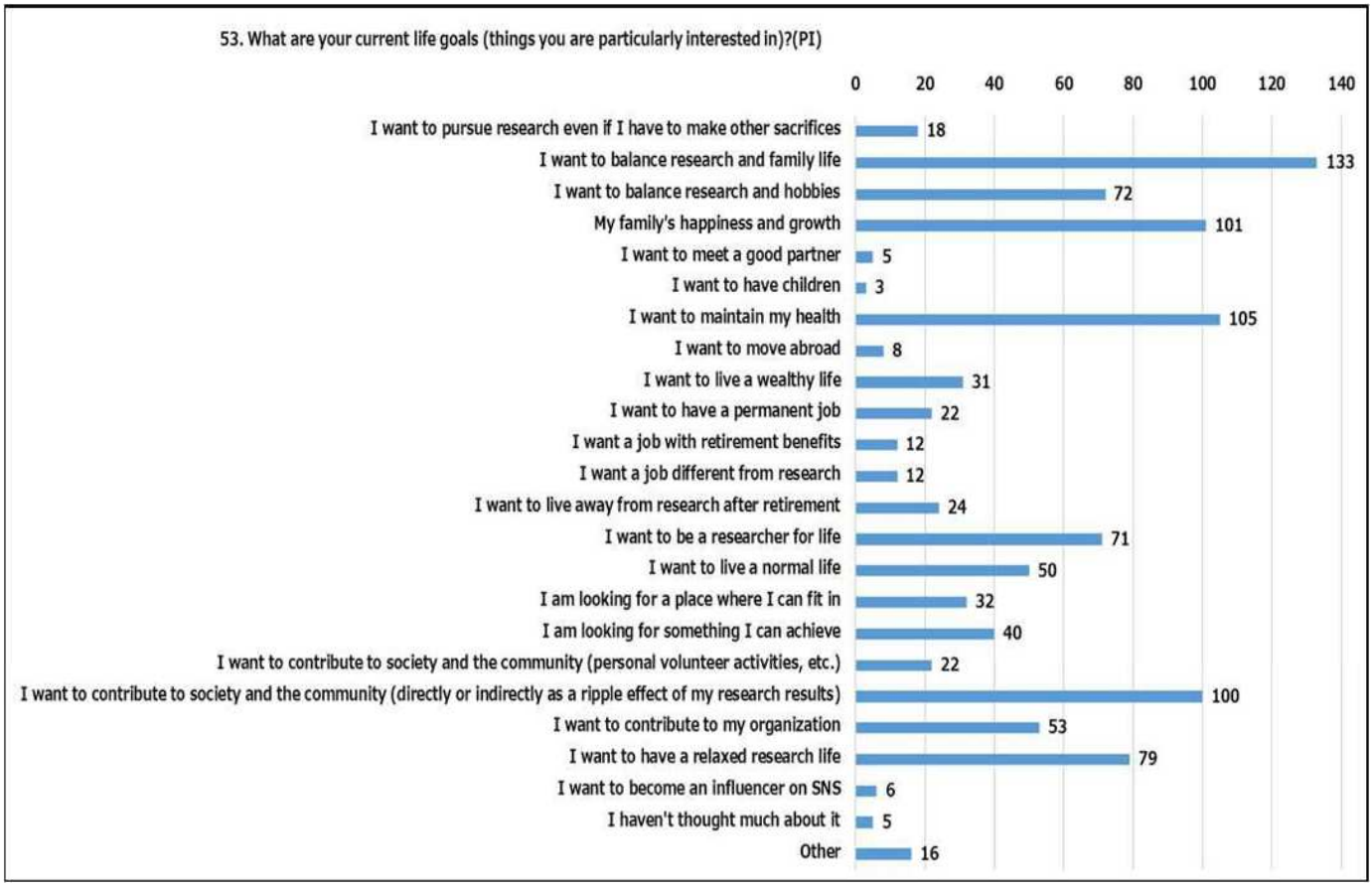




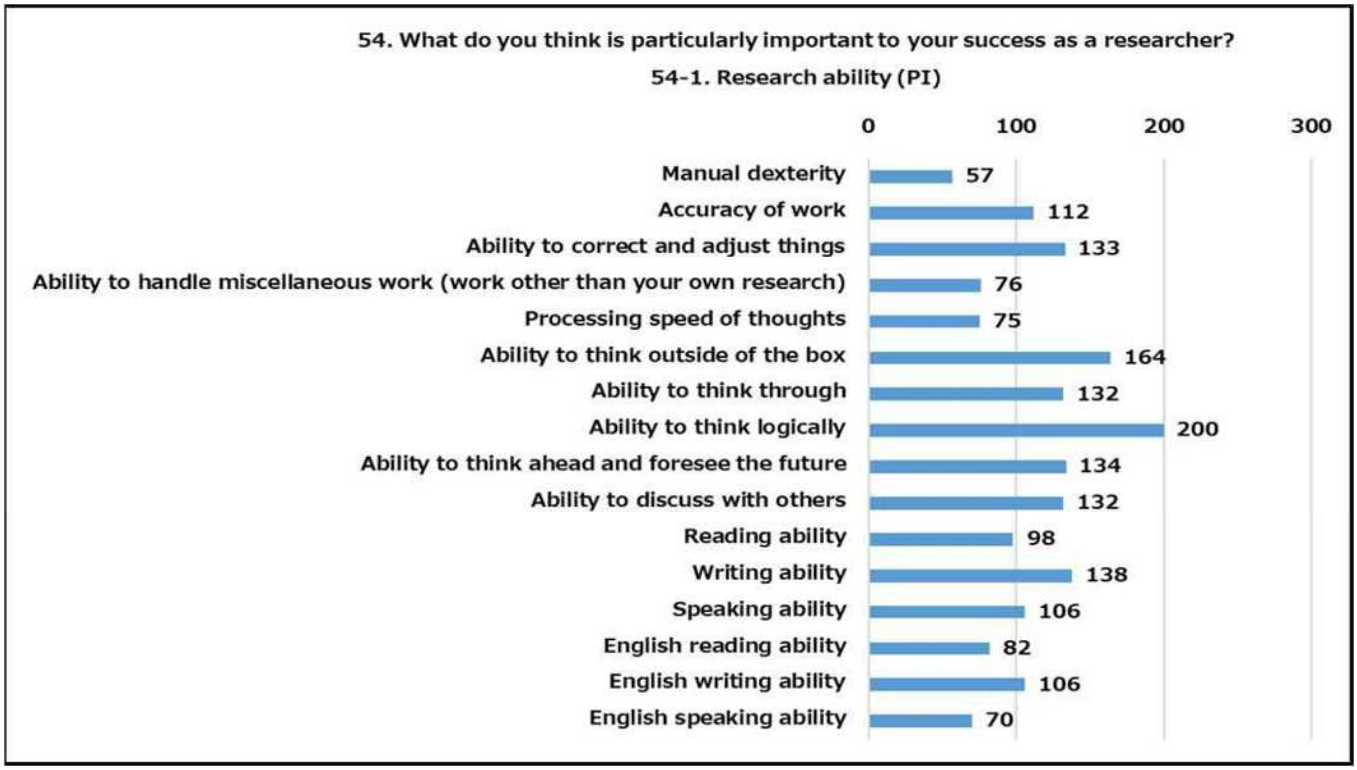


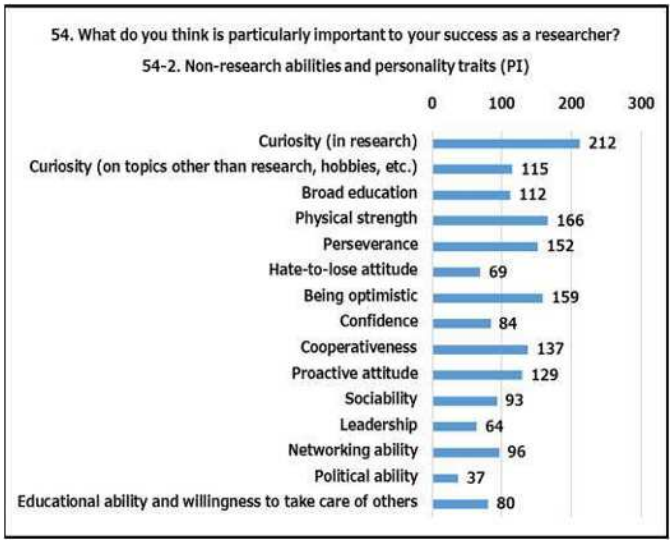
Q51-53: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] PIs: 240

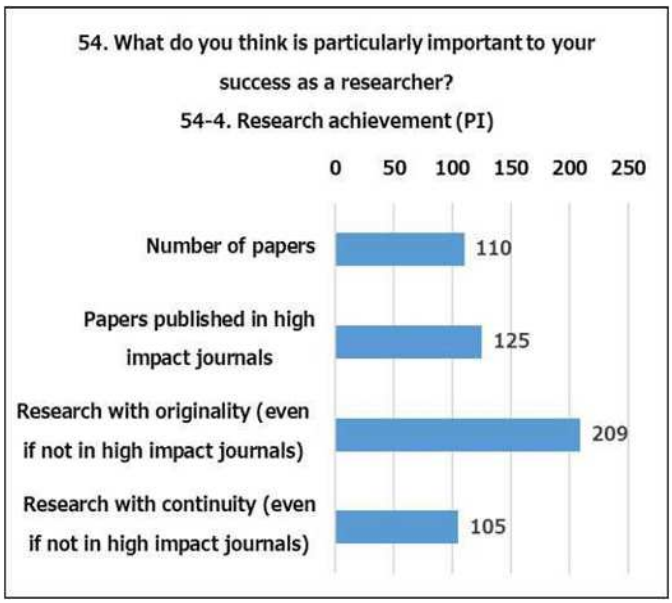


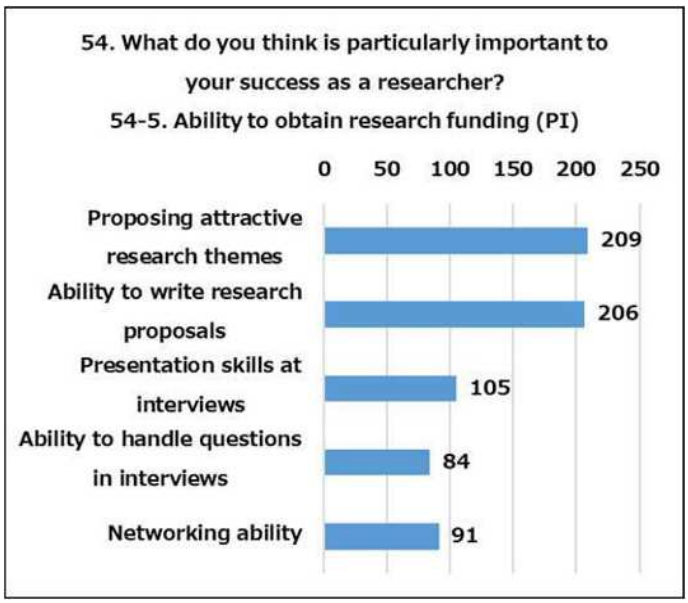


Q54: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] PIs: 240

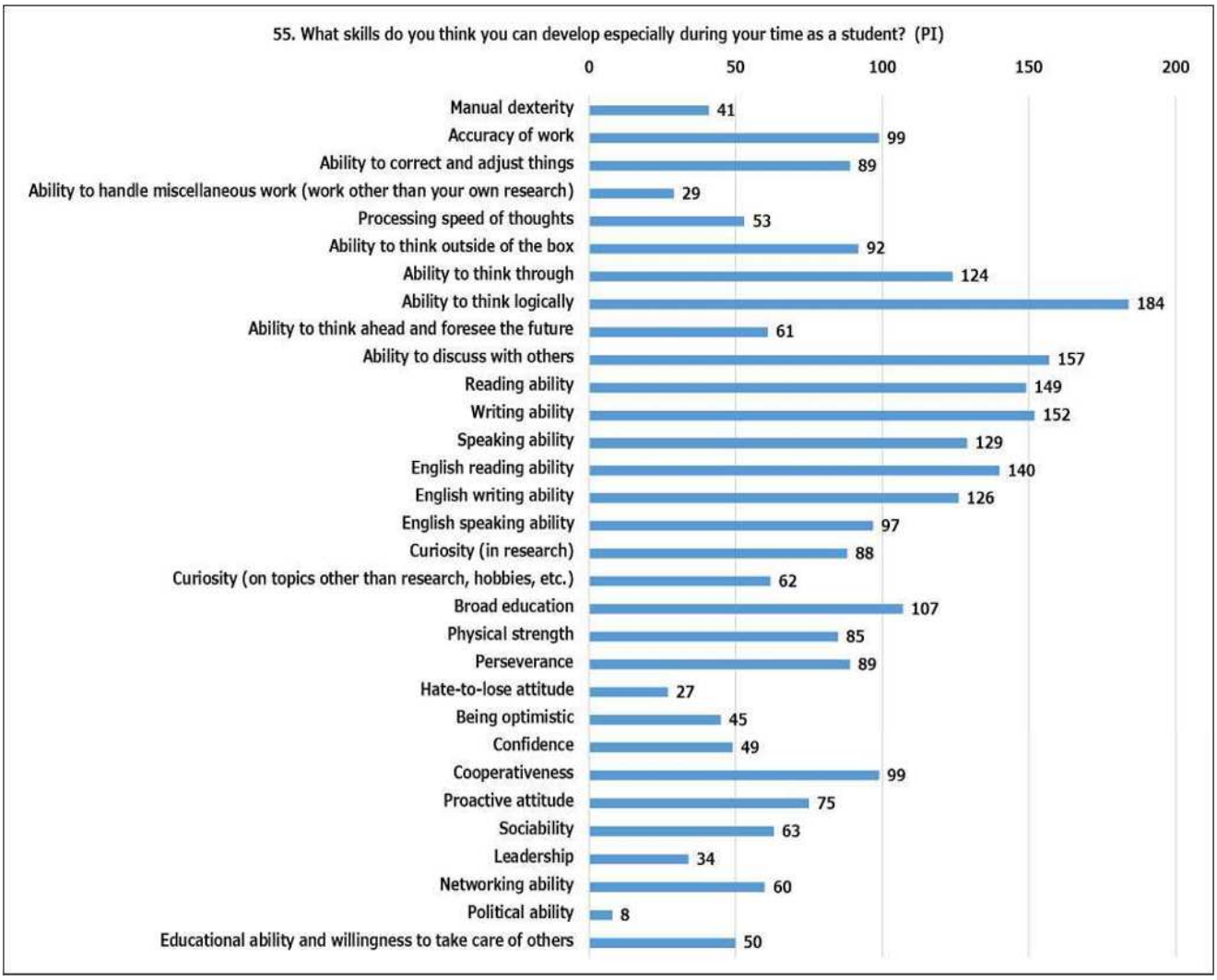


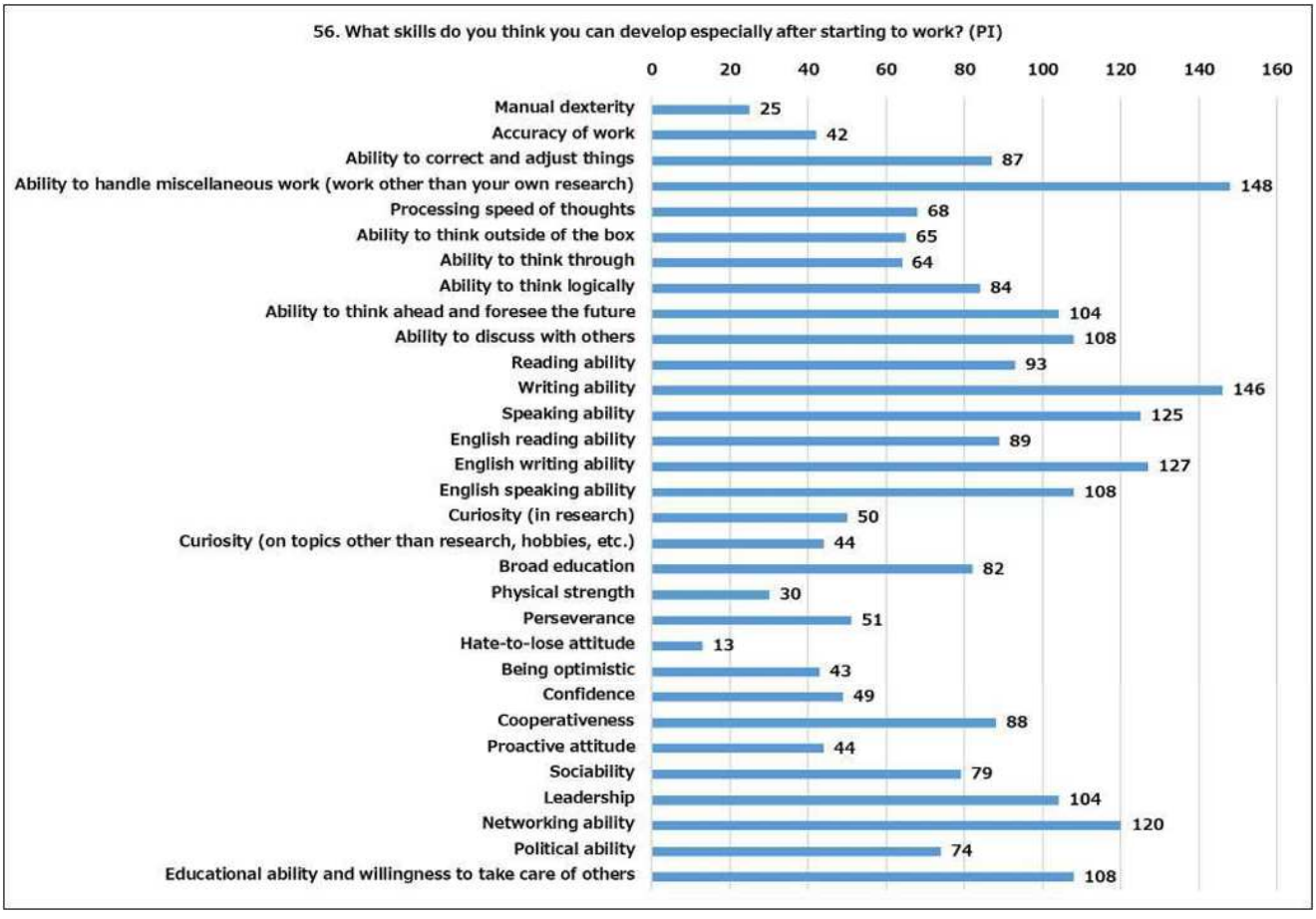




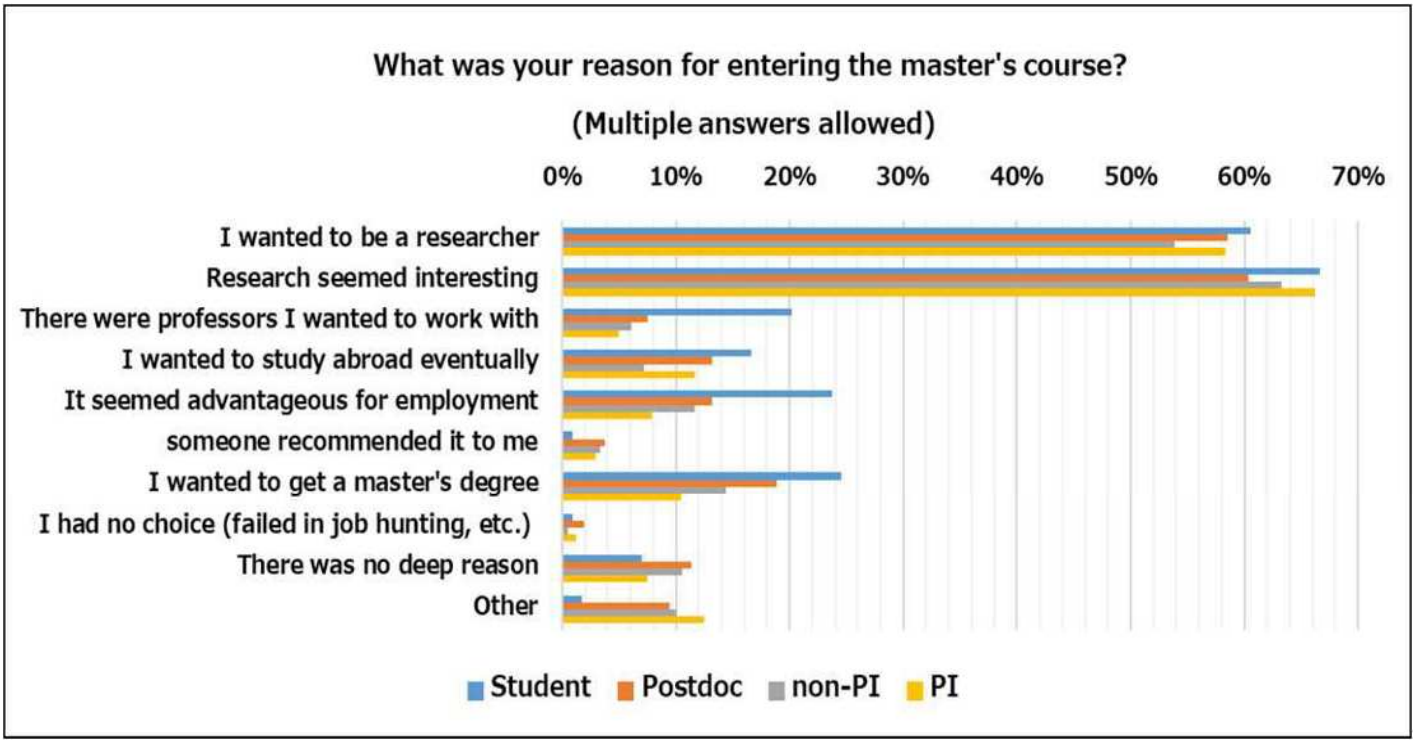


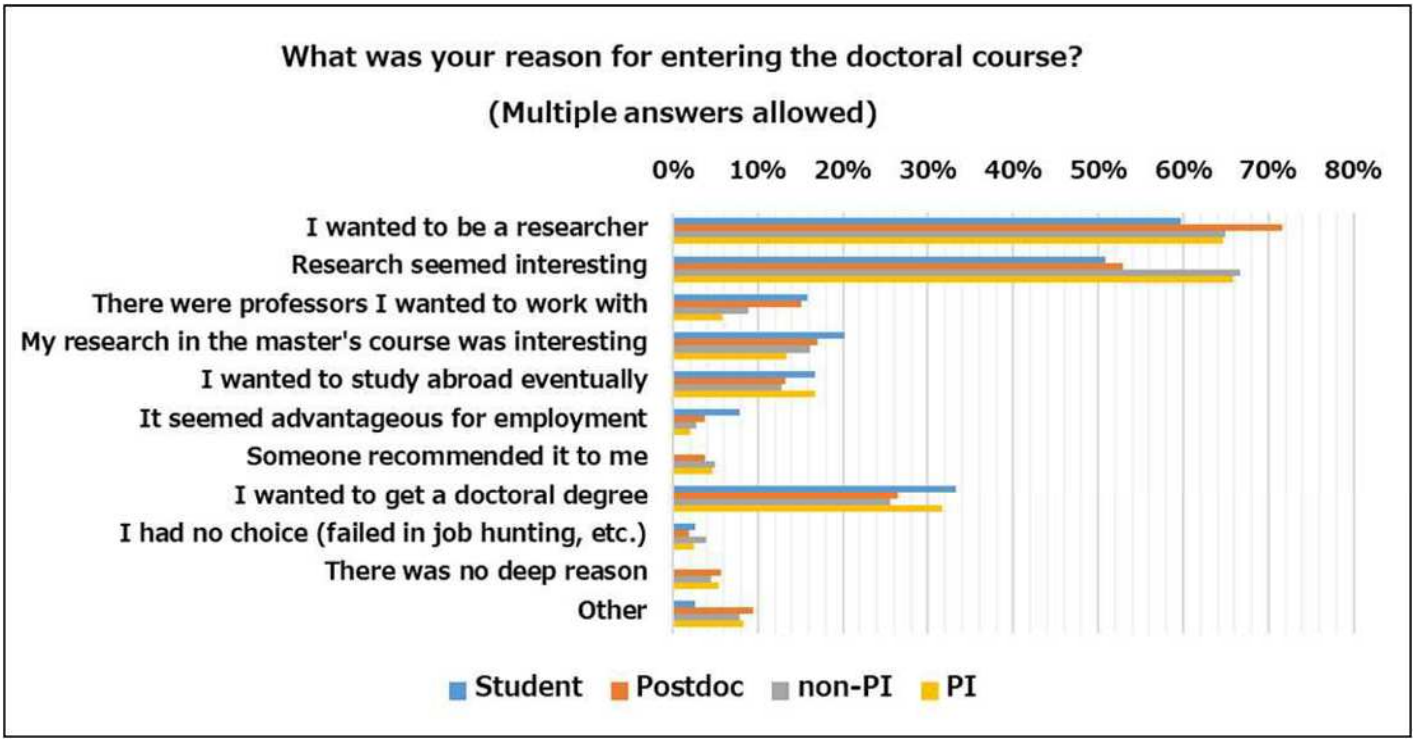
Q55-56: Multiple answers allowed [Number of respondents] PIs: 240



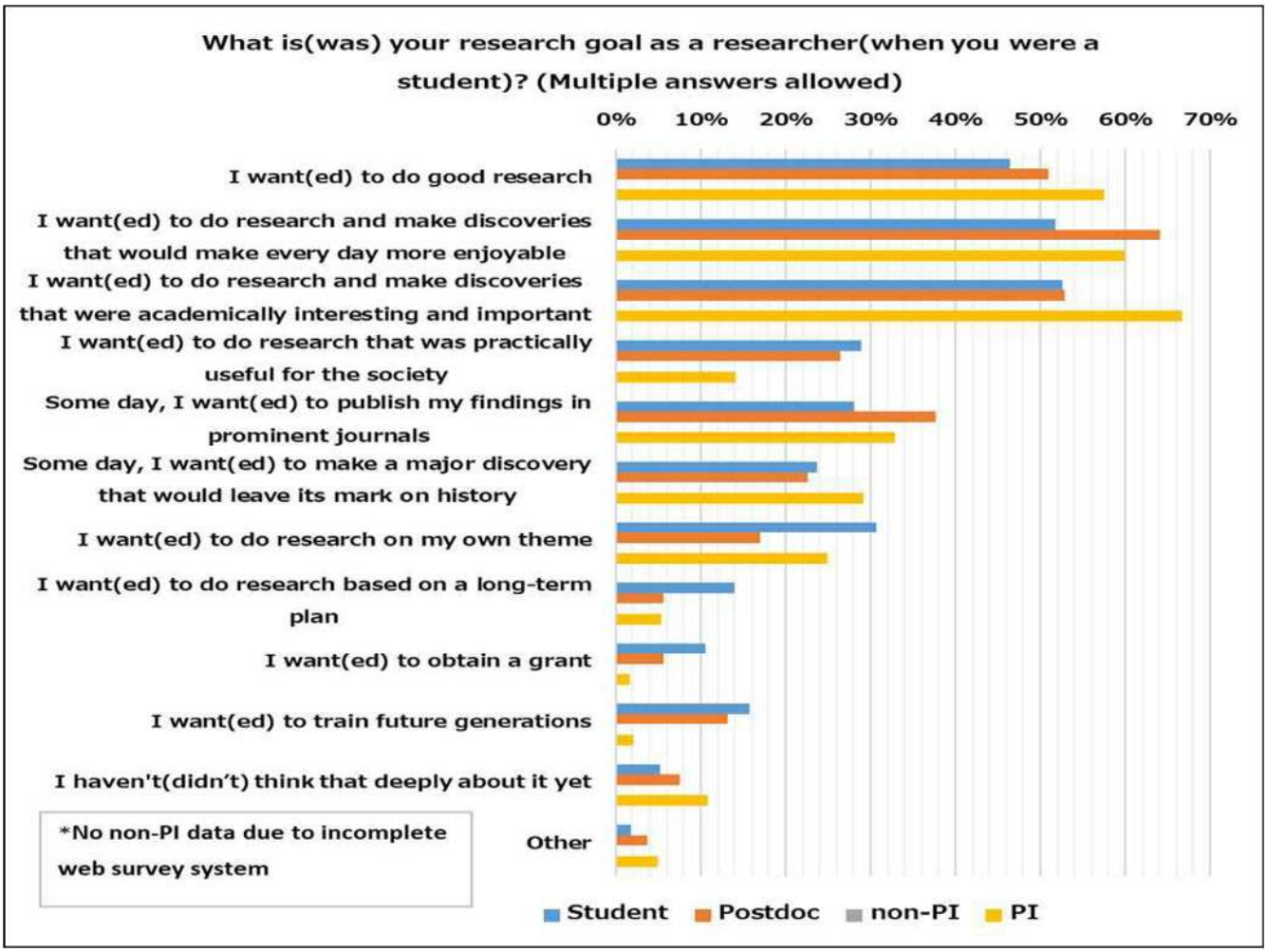


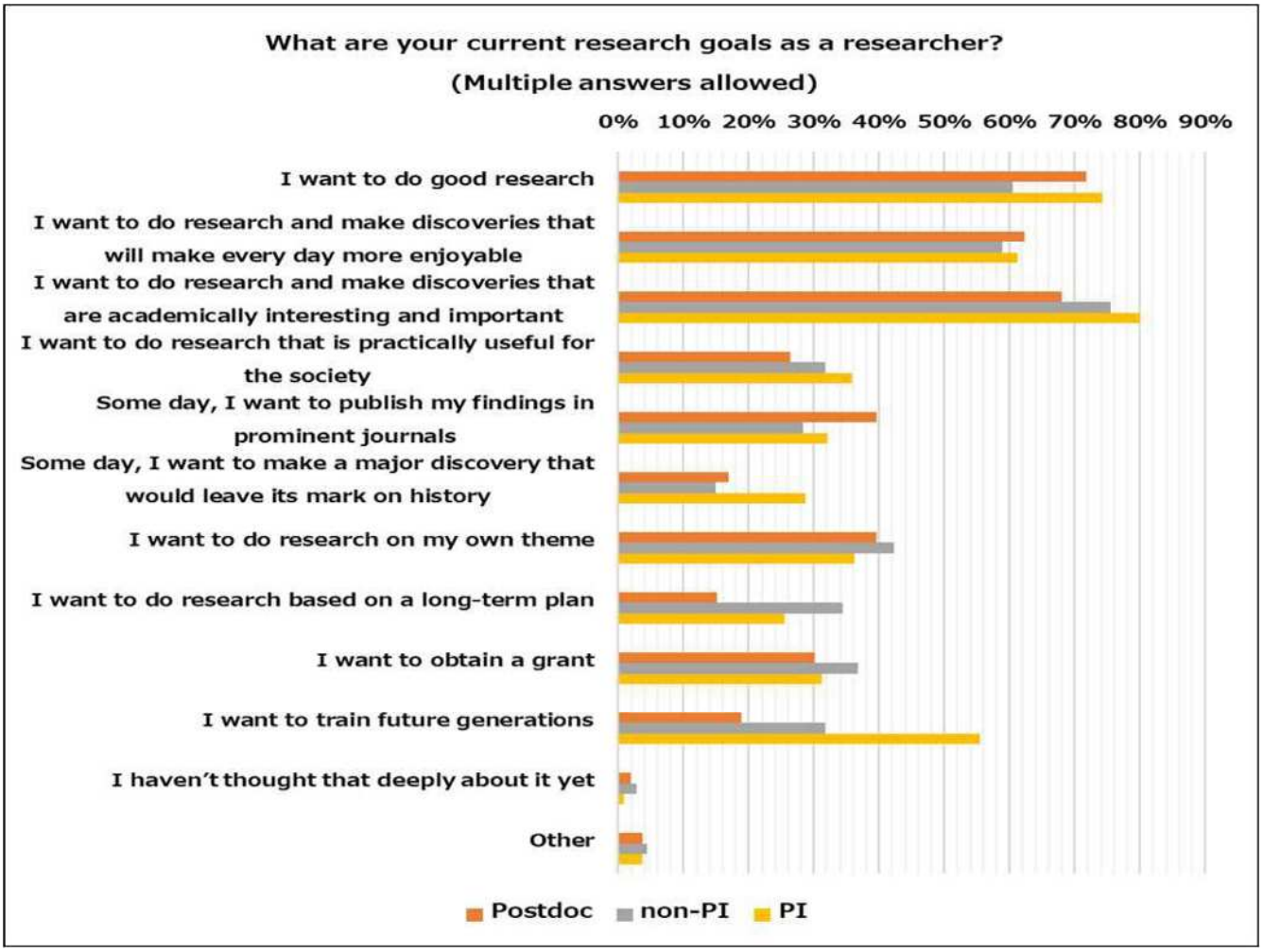
Summary of The Pre-Survey for
the MBSJ Career Development Committee's Lunchtime Seminar 2021:
"Things you should do as an early-career researcher:
advice to young researchers and graduate students"
Survey period: 2021.8.6-27
Number of respondents: 587
(students: 114, postdocs: 53, non-PIs: 180, PIs: 240)



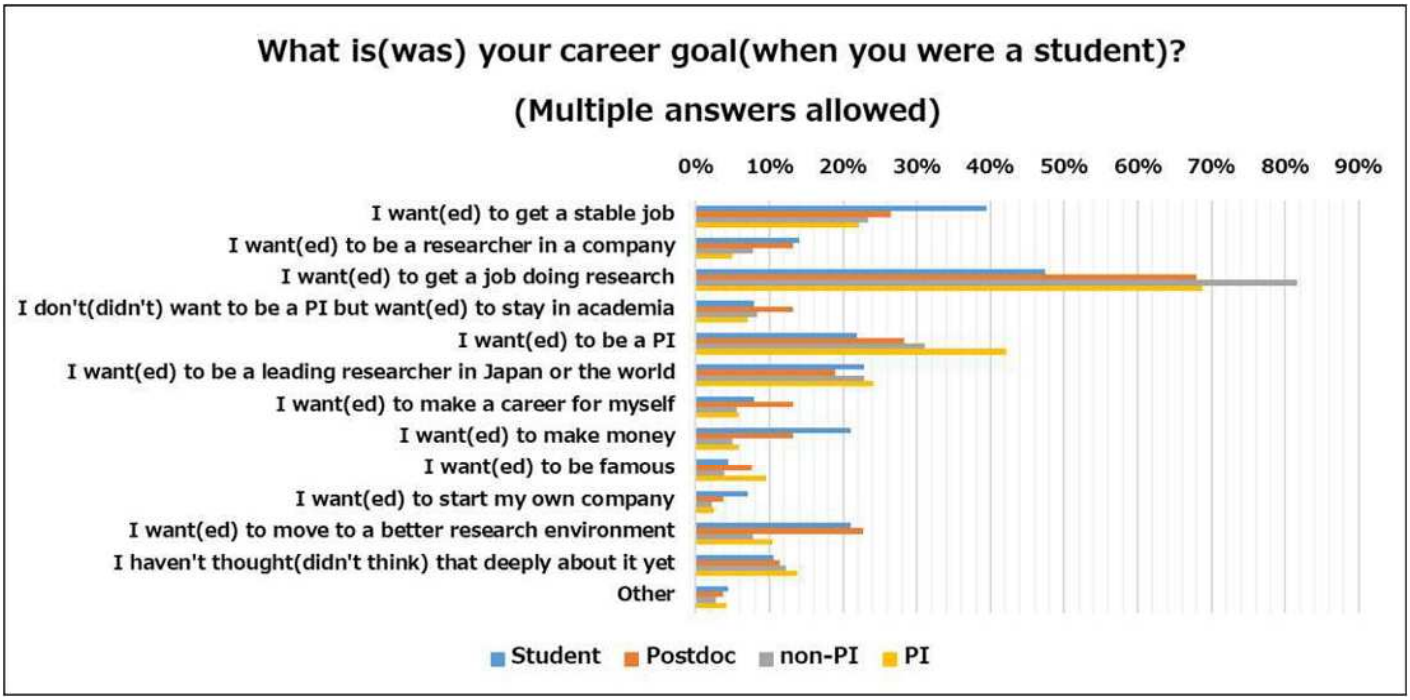


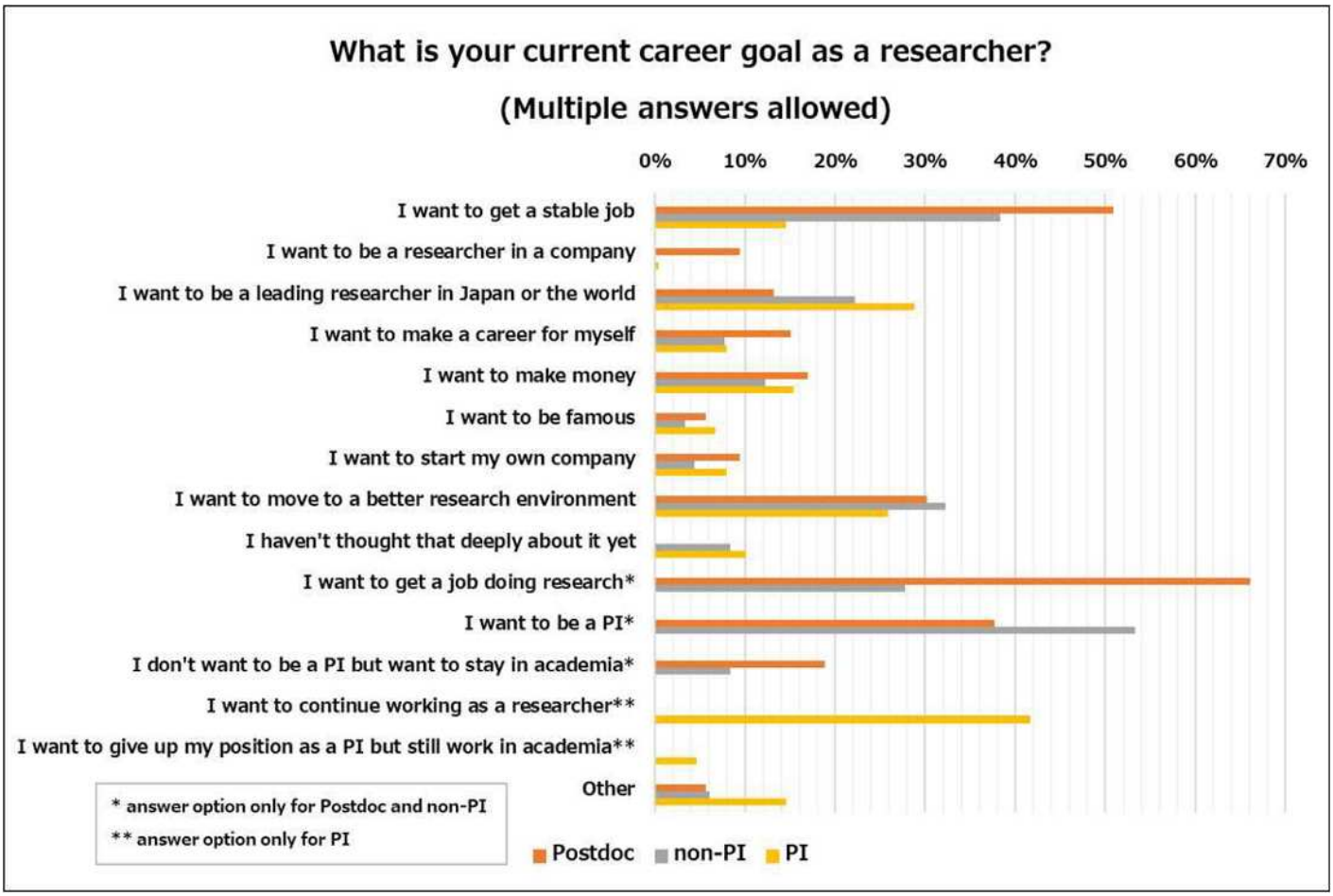
[Number of respondents] students: 114, postdocs: 53, non-PIs: 180, PIs: 240





[Number of respondents] students: 114, postdocs: 53, non-PIs: 180, PIs: 240





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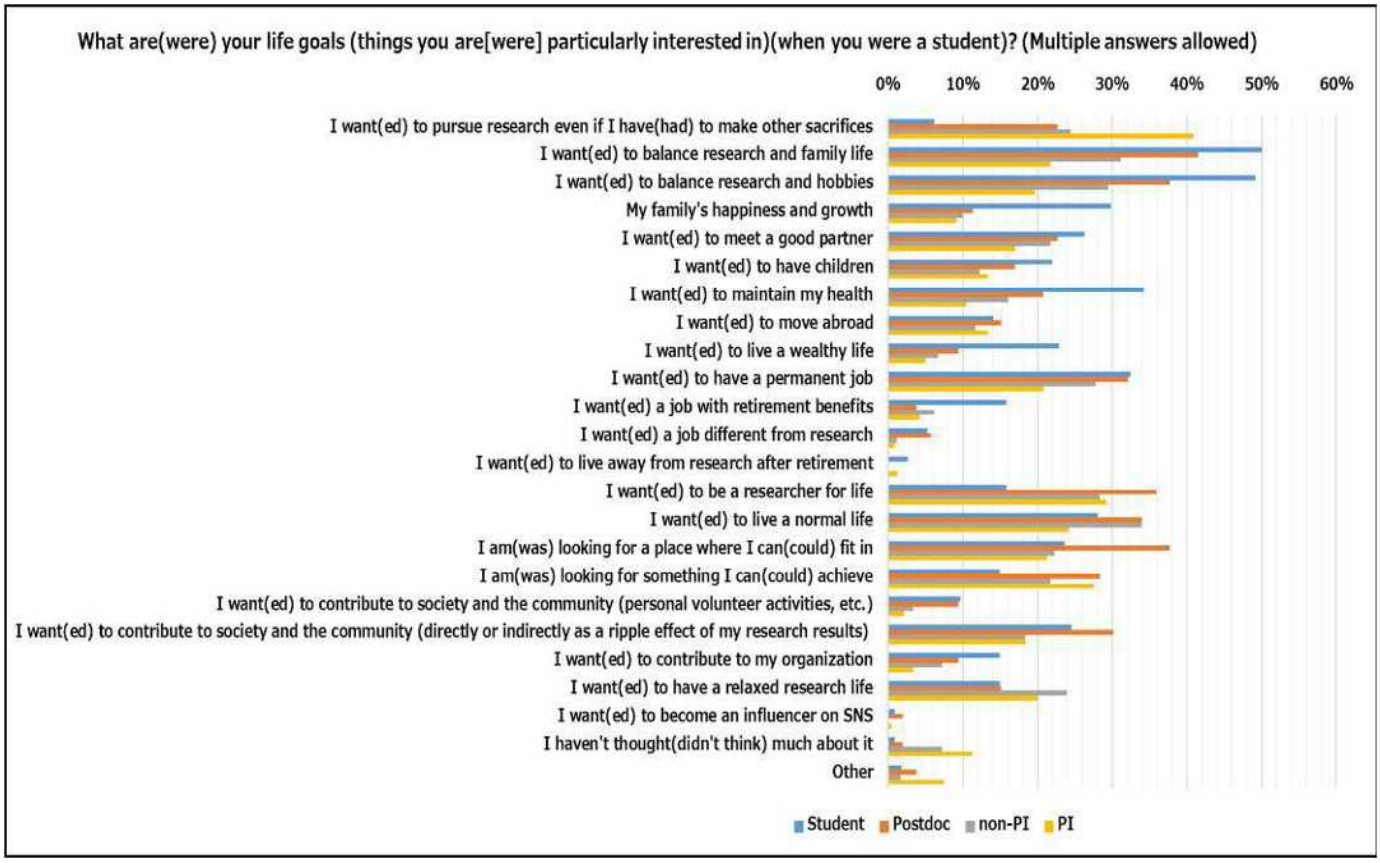

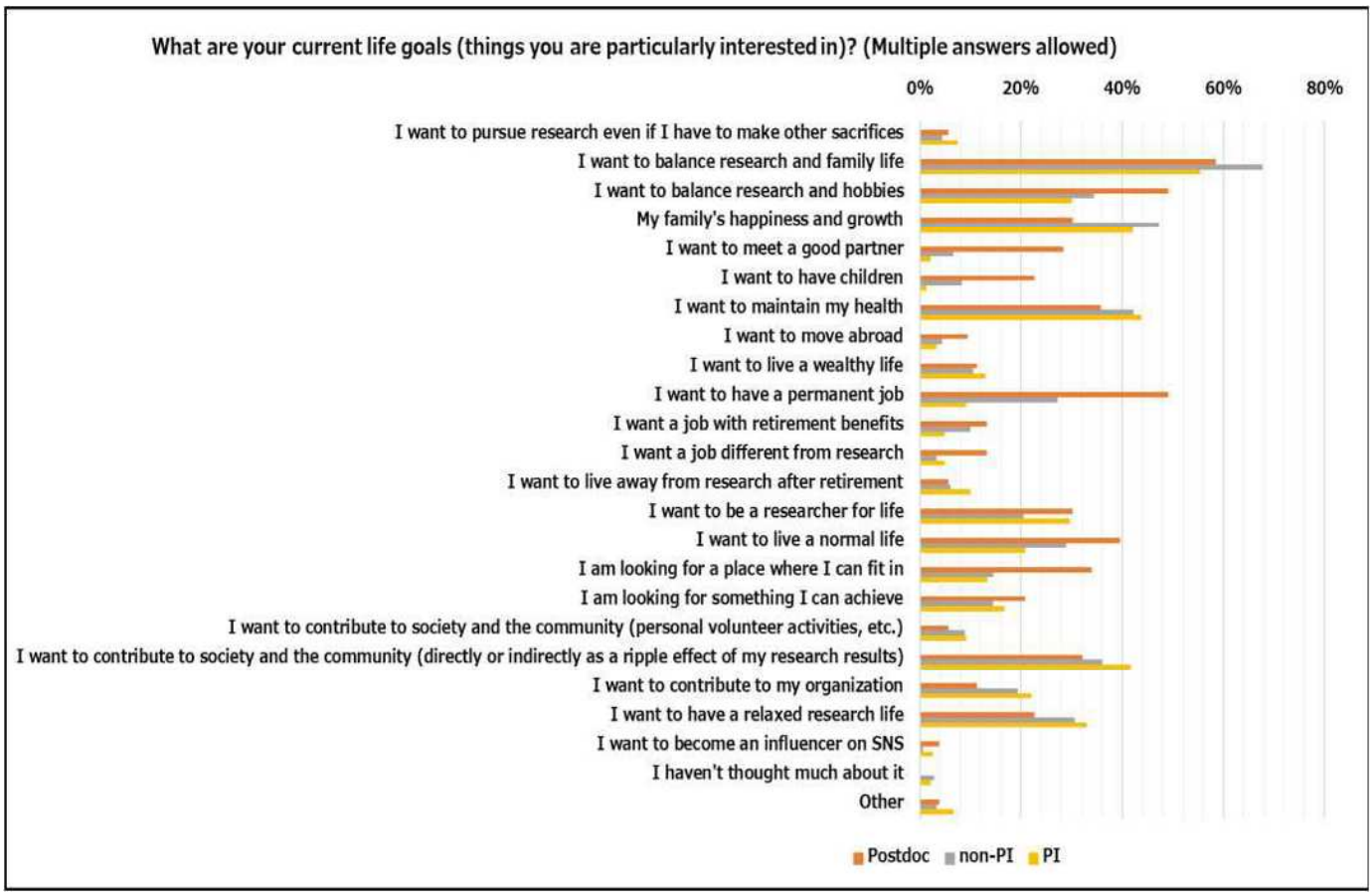

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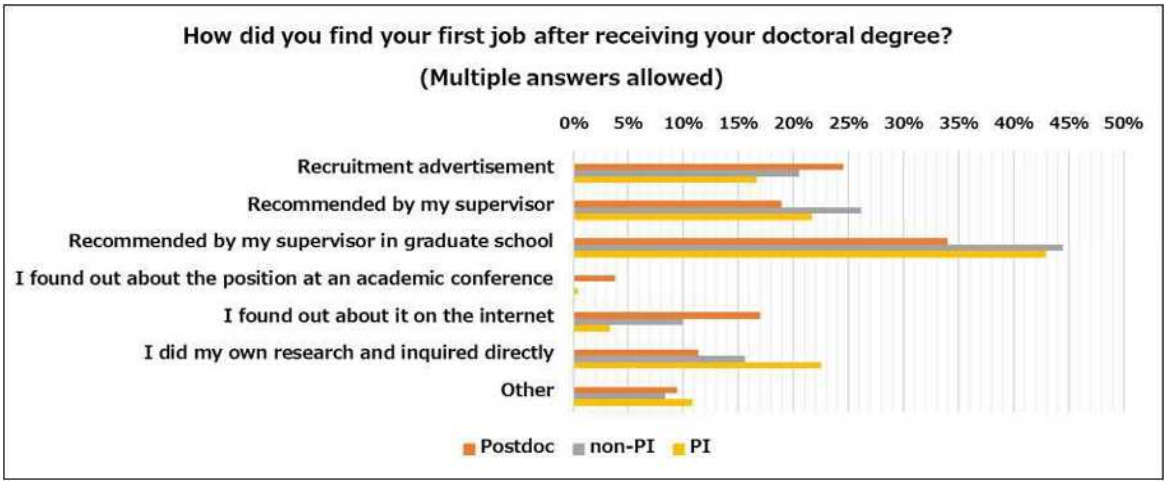

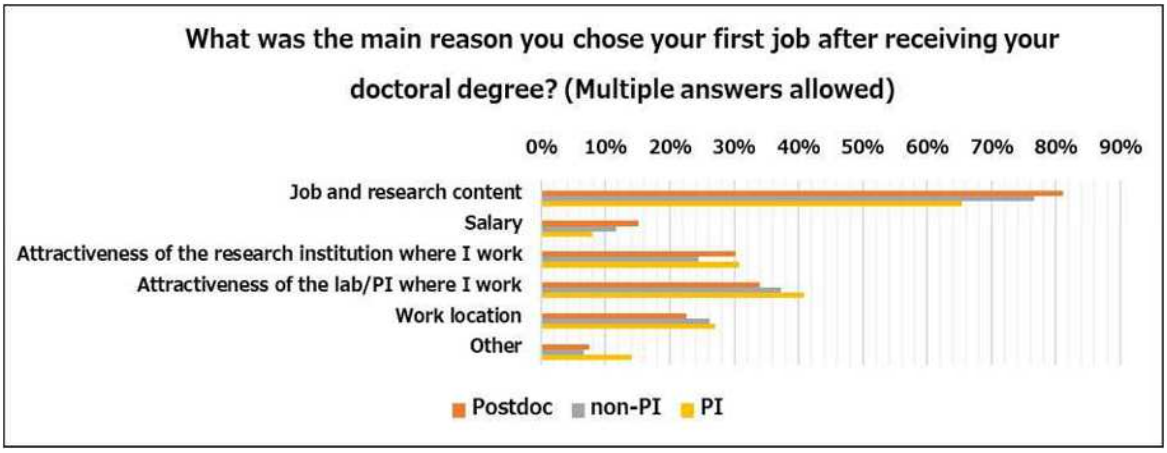

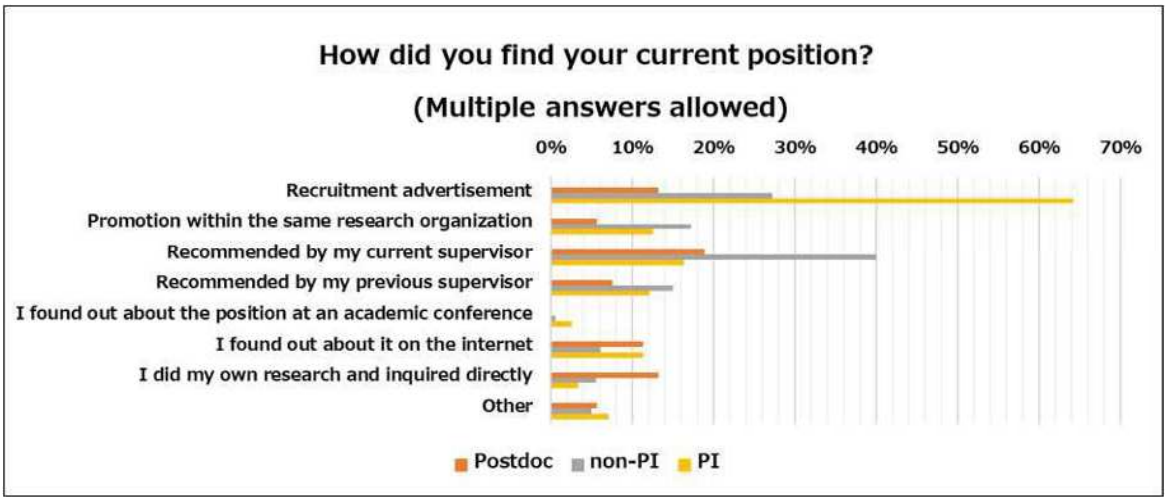

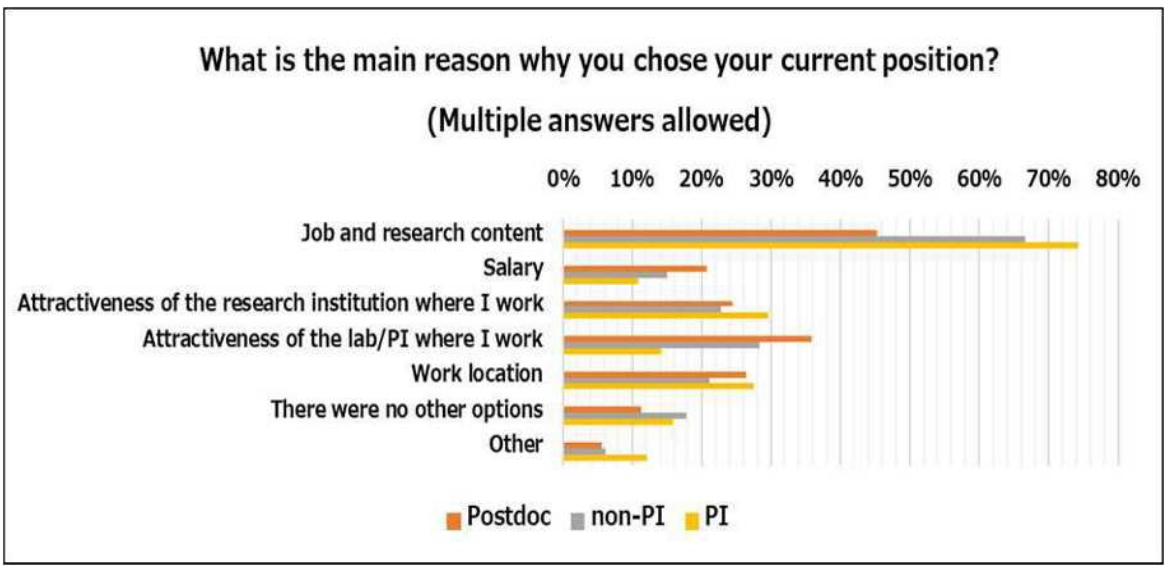

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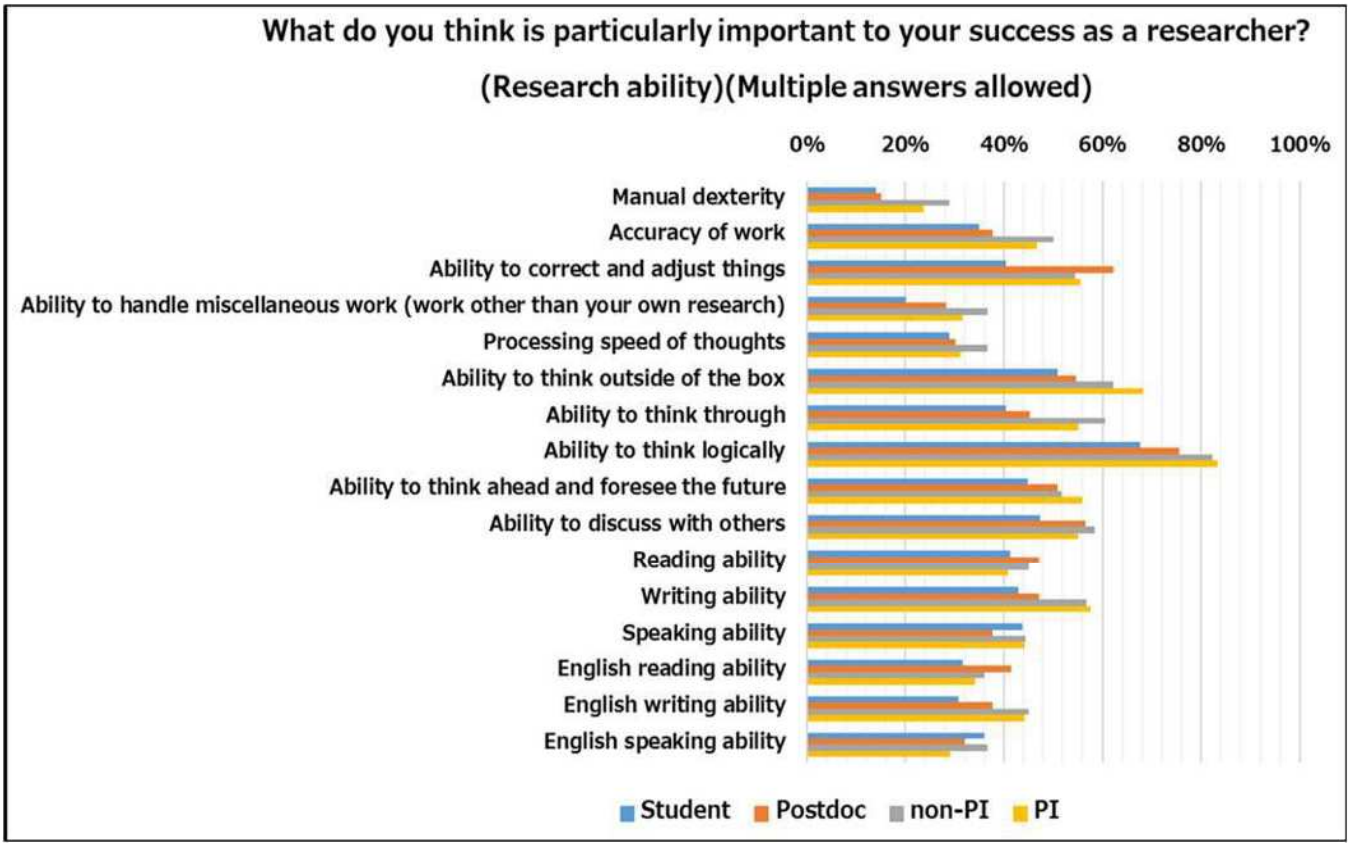

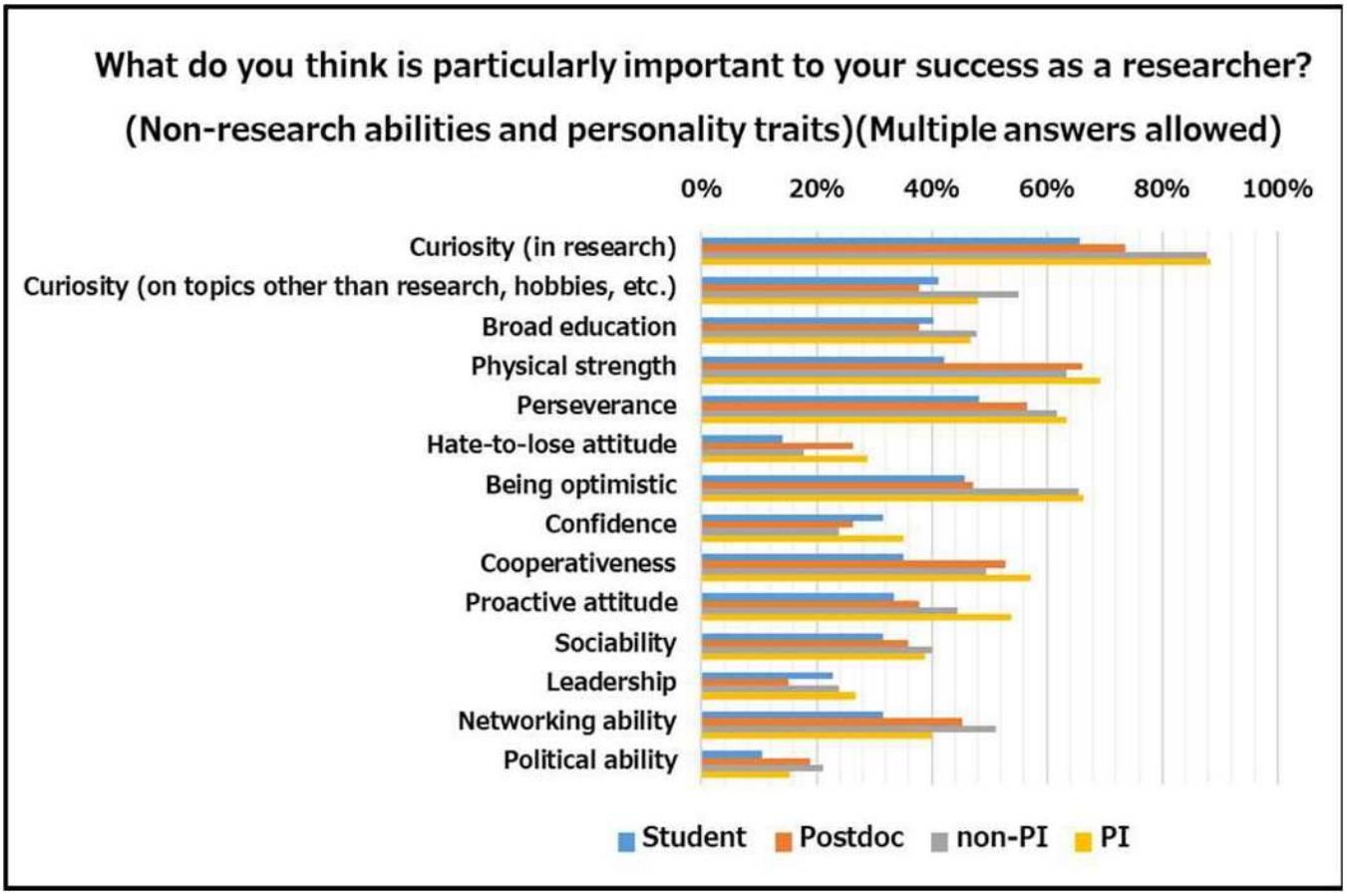

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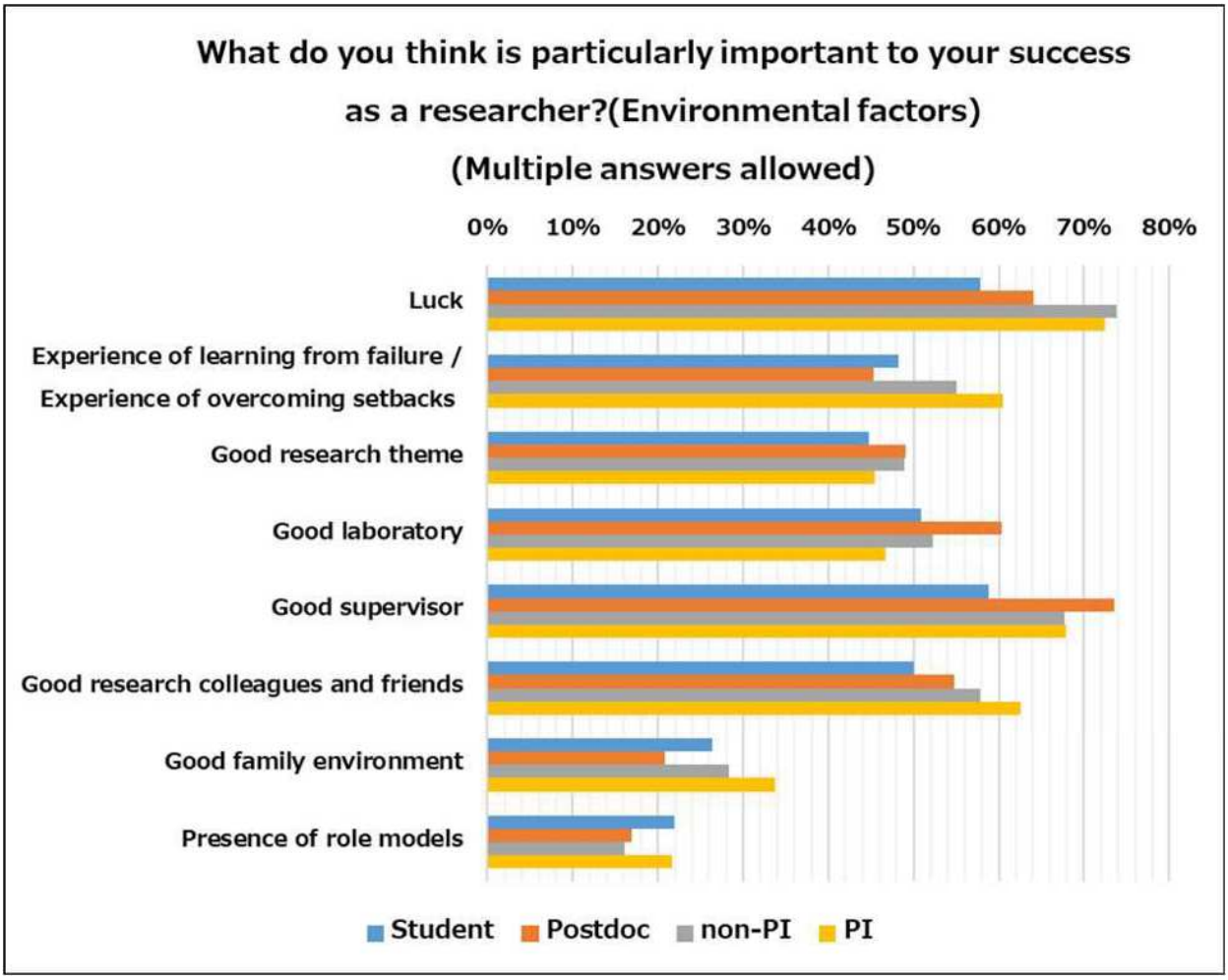

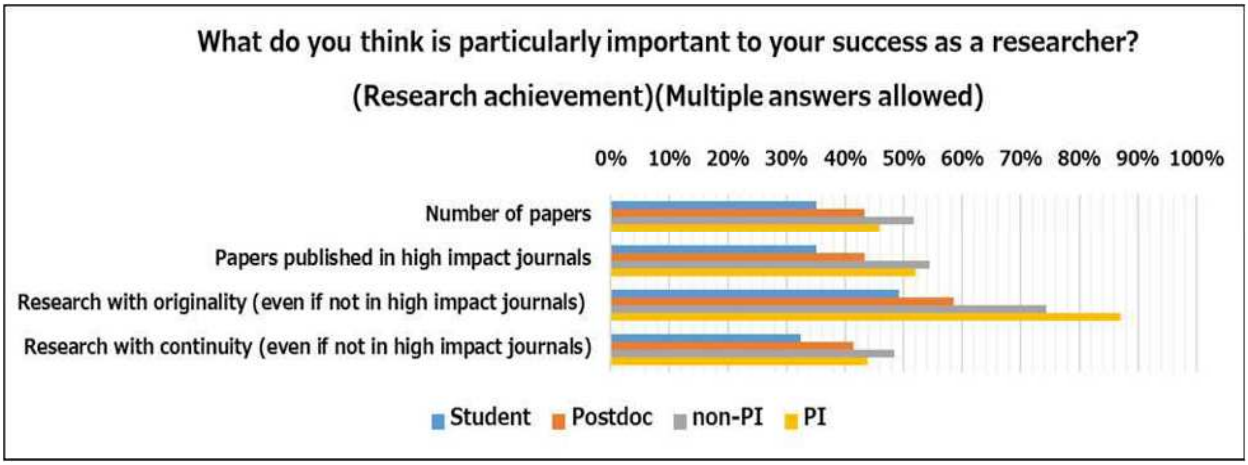

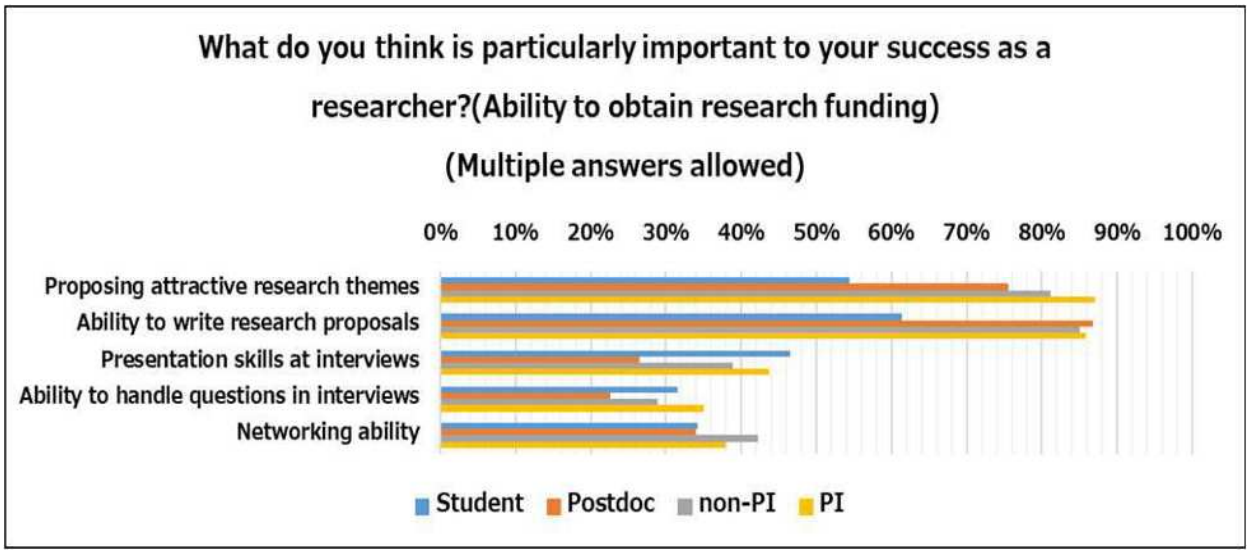

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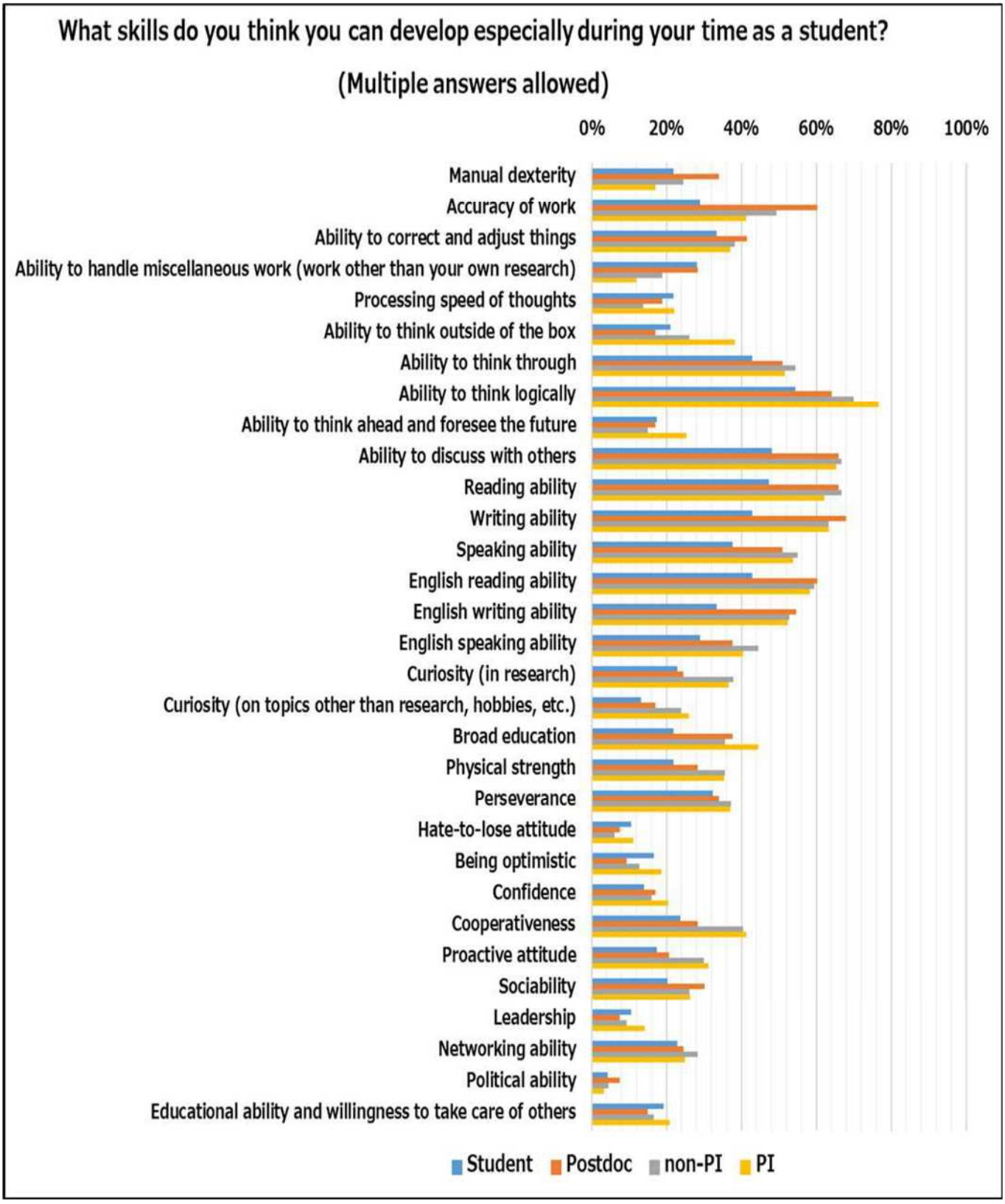
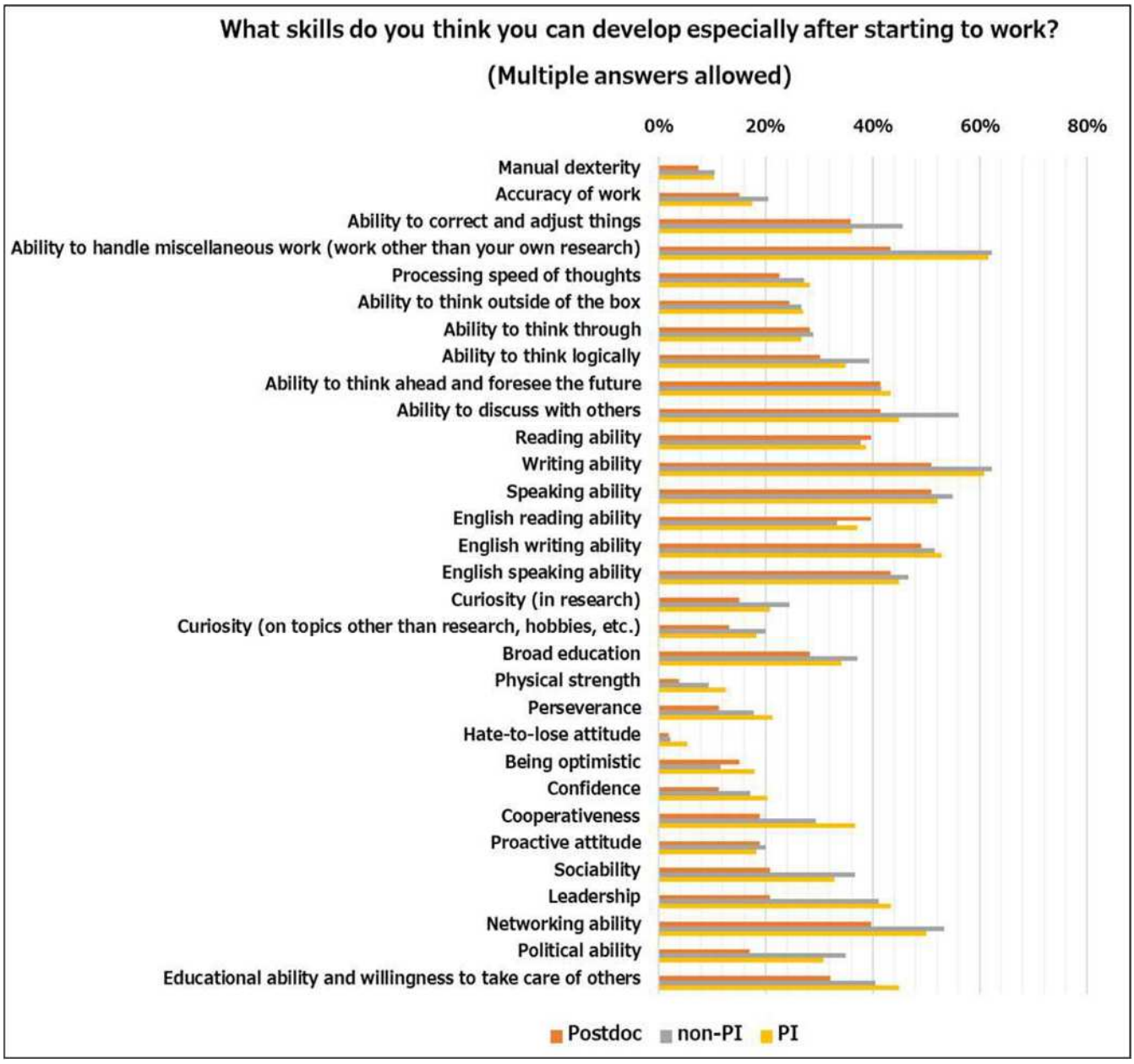
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