

APSA

Political Science Chair Meeting, February 21, 2008

*Social Science PhDs- 5+ Year Out: A National Study  
of PhDs in Six Social Science Fields*

POLITICAL SCIENCE



Center for Innovation  
and Research in  
Graduate Education

Maresi Nerad  
Elizabeth Rudd  
Emory Morrison  
Joseph Picciano

University of Washington, Seattle, Graduate School  
College of Education

# Overview



- 1. Two national PhD career path and program evaluation studies**
- 2. Career paths and patterns**
- 3. Gender and career**
- 4. Quality of Doctoral program**

# *Social Science PhDs—Five+ Years Out* Survey Sample



**Survey: April 2005-March 2006,  
PhD Cohorts: 1995 – 1999  
65 US universities**

**Response Rate 45%**

	<b>N</b>	<b>(% women)</b>
<b>Anthropology</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>(56.5)</b>
<b>Communication</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>(52.2)</b>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>(32.3)</b>
<b>History</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>(43.4)</b>
<b>Political Science</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>(35.9)</b>
<b>Sociology</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>(59.2)</b>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>3025</i></b>	<b><i>(46.8)</i></b>

# PhD Recipients in 6 Fields at 61 Universities: July 1, 1982-June 30, 1985

## *Size of Surveyed Population and Response Rates*

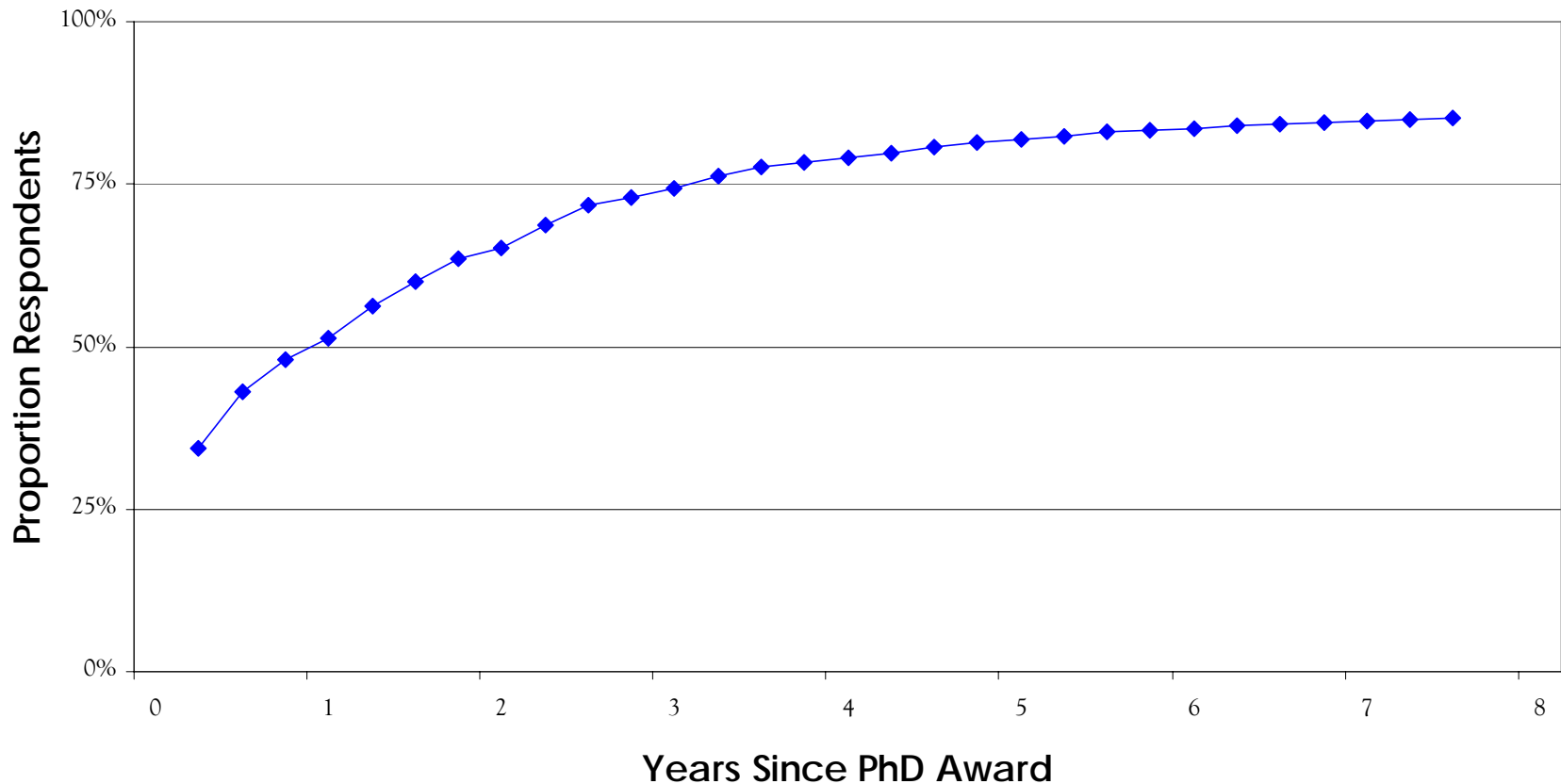


Major Field	Men	Women	International	Total	% Response Rate	
					Domestic	International
Biochemistry	694	268	97	962	70	50
Computer Sc.	583	69	209	652	65	51
Elec. Eng.	966	36	417	1,002	57	48
English	567	650	72	1,217	67	65
Mathematics	1,005	187	395	1,192	67	57
Political Sc.	630	199	144	829	68	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,445</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>1,334</b>	<b>5,854*</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>52</b>

\* Excluded :- deceased (63)

# *Social Science PhDs—Five+ Years Out*

## Time to stable, full-time Job



# Major Employment Patterns (*PhD 10 and SS5*): *Political Science*



	<b>SS5</b>	<b>PhD 10</b>
<b>Always Ladder Faculty</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>NTT – Ladder Faculty</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>Unavailable</b>
<b>Always BGN</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>13%</b>

# Job Titles (last job) in Business, Government, and Non-profit Sectors: *Political Science*



## **Job Titles: Business**

Management (5)  
Consultant (3)  
Writer/Editor (2)  
Researcher (4)  
Statistician/Analyst (3)  
Project Manager (2)  
Legal (5)

## **Job Titles: Government**

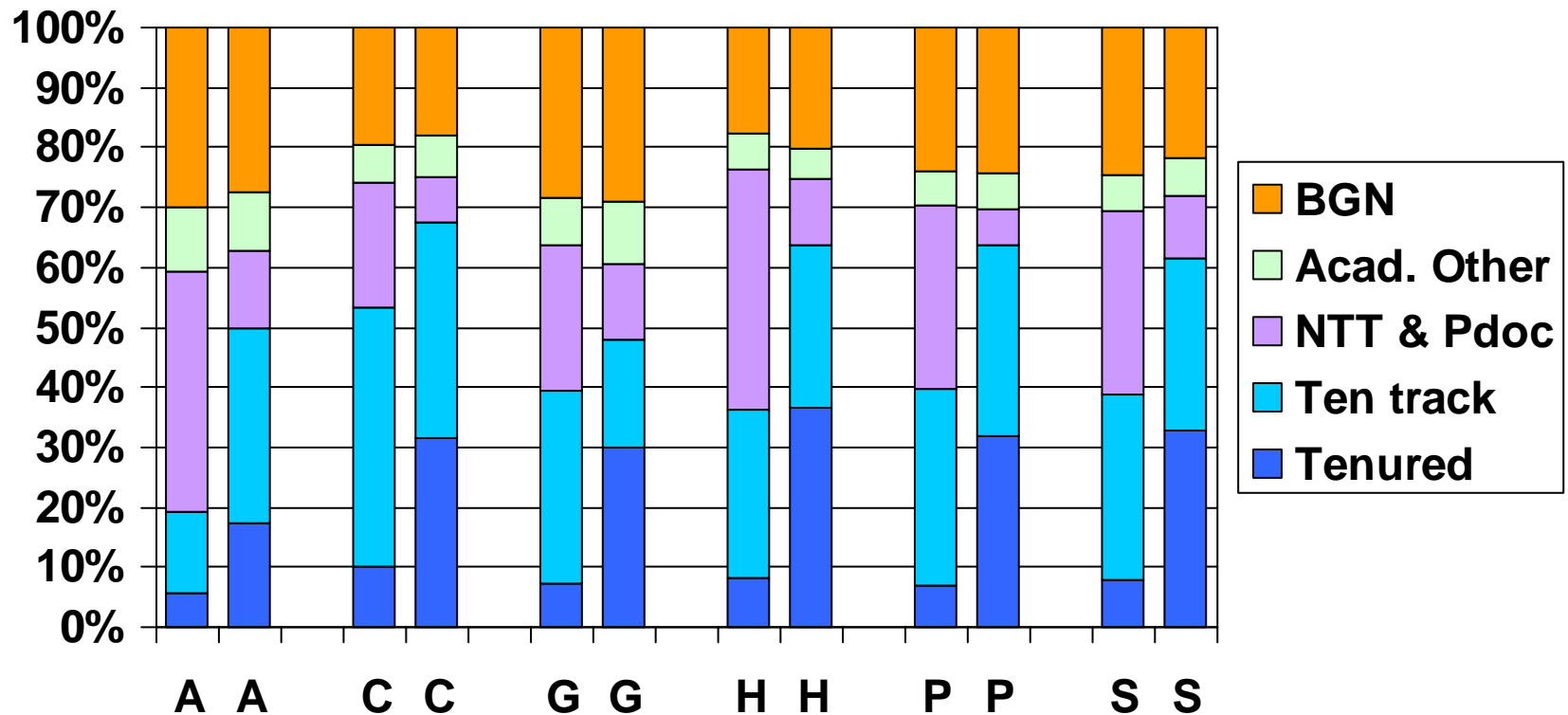
Management (3)  
Administration (5)  
Consultant (1)  
Writer/Editor (1)  
Public Relations (1)  
Researcher/Analyst (8)  
Statistician/Analyst (5)  
Military Service (1)  
Public Official (3)

## **Job Titles: Non-Gov't**

Management (14)  
Administration (1)  
Writer/Editor (2)  
Researcher (20)  
Project Manager  
Gov't Relations (1)  
Teacher (2)

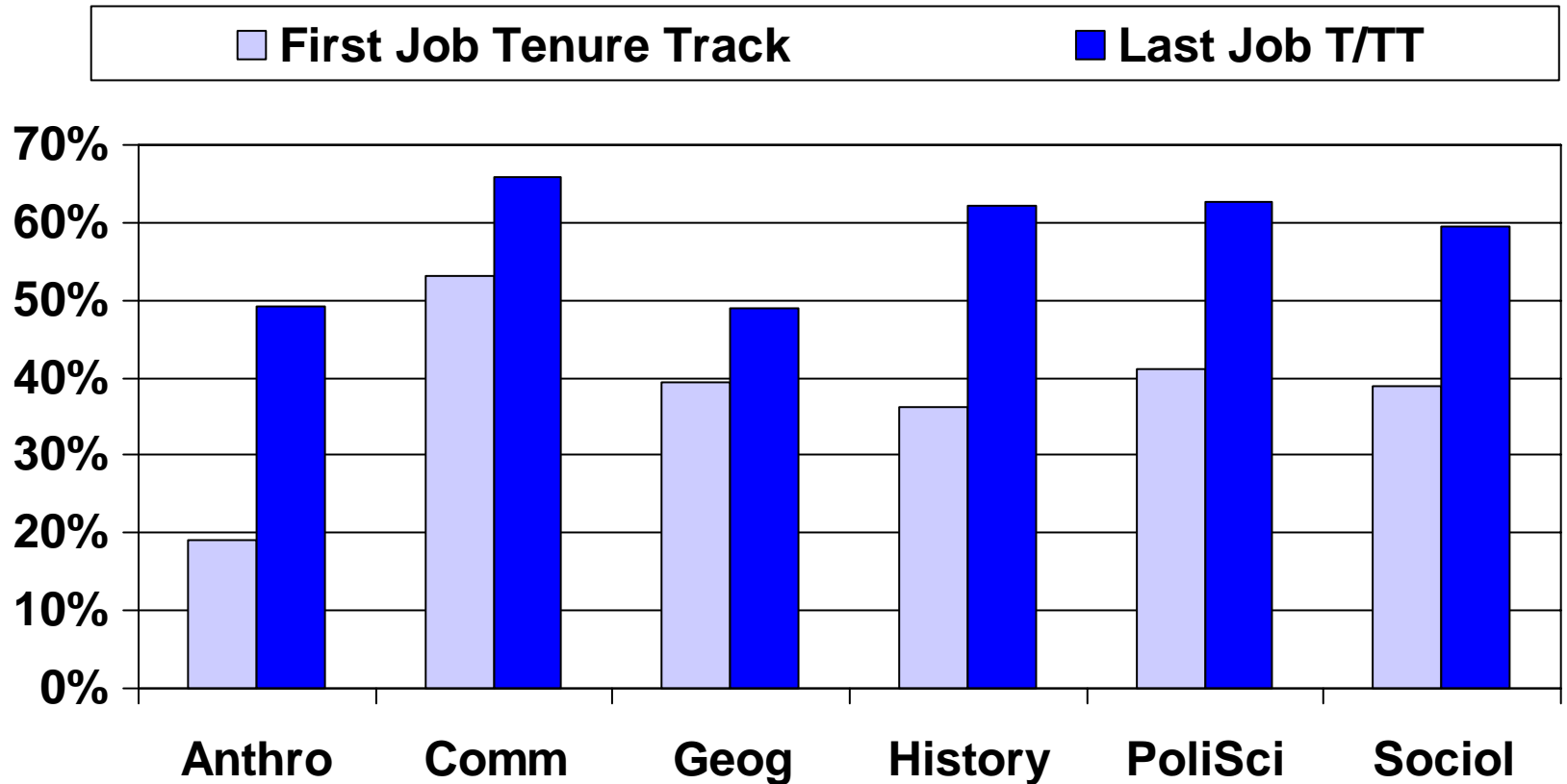
# *Social Science PhDs 5+ Years Out*

## First & Last Job by Discipline





# % whose First Job was Tenure Track, and % whose Last Job was Tenured/Tenure Track



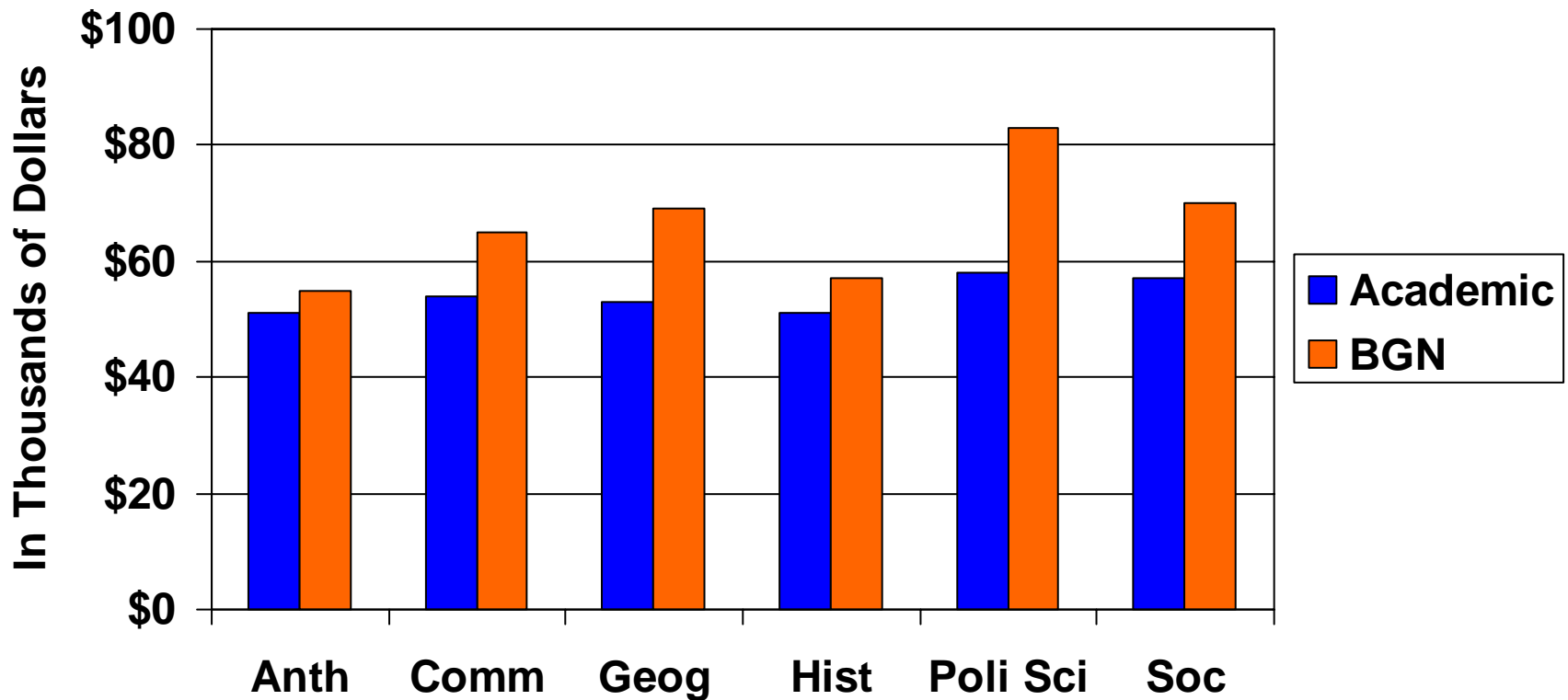
# Employment at 1.Job, 7 year point, Last Job: *Political Science*



	SS 5 1995-1999		PhD 10 1982-1985		
	First	2005-06	First	7 Yr	1996-97
<b>Tenured Faculty</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>56%</b>
<b>Tenure Track</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>NTT-Acad. Other</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Postdoc</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>BGN</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>28%</b>

# *Social Science PhDs—Five+ Years Out*

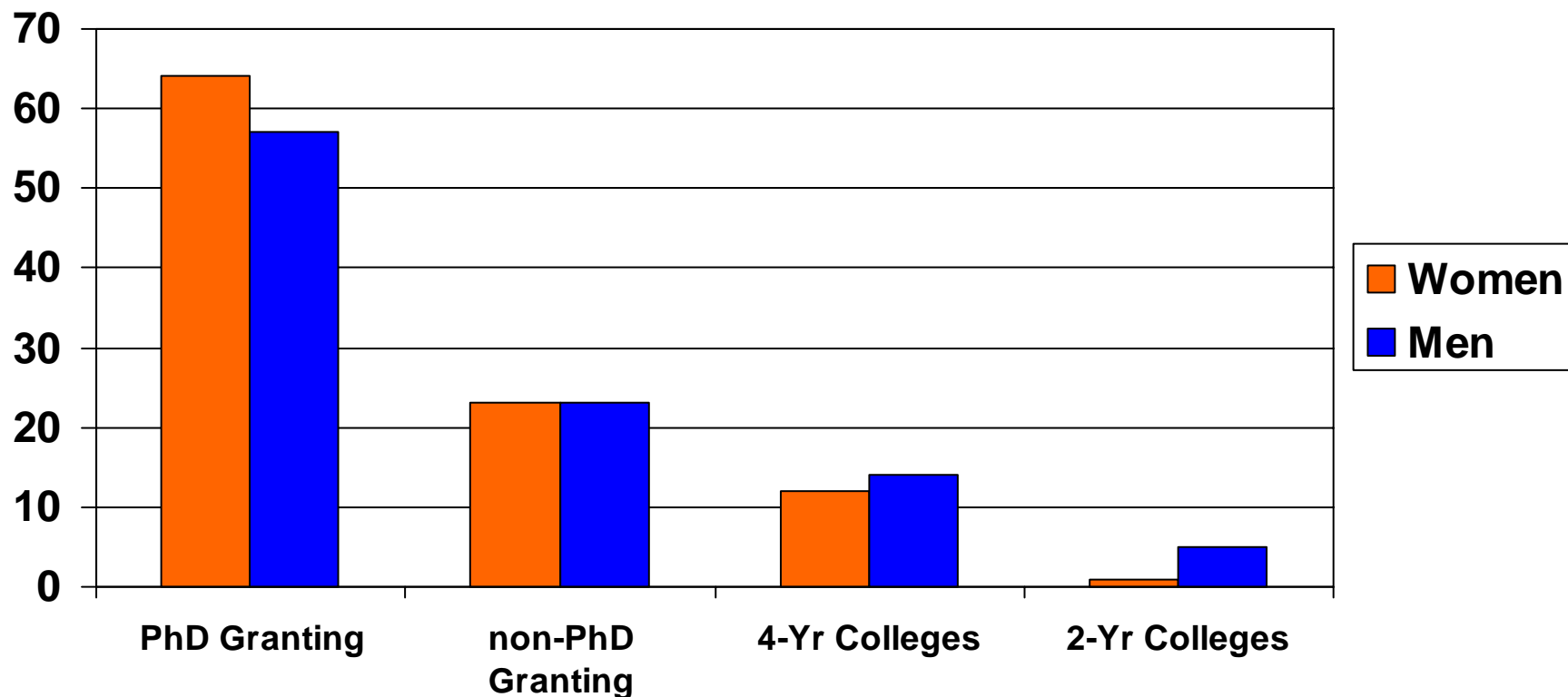
## Median Incomes by Field and Sector (2005/2006)



# *Social Science PhDs—Five+ Years Out (2005/2006)*

## Tenure Track Faculty by Type of Institution and Gender

### *Political Science*



# Gender and Career

# Career Goal at PhD Completion and Tenured Status at Time of Survey: *Political Science*



	(1) Want to be Professor	(2) %tenured of (1)	(3) %tenured of all PhDs
<b>PhD 10</b>			
<b>Men</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>SS5</b>			
<b>Men</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>68%</b>
<b>Women</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>67%</b>

# Employment (SS5, PhD10) at 7yr point and Last Job **by Gender**: *Political Science*



	SS 5 (last job)		PhD 10 (Yr 7)		PhD 10 (last job)	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>Ten Faculty</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>Tenure Track</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>NTT-Acad Other</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>BGN</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>28%</b>

# Women Make More Compromises Related to Family and Career *Political Science*



	Women	Men
Partner has PhD/JD/MD (among those married or partnered at survey)	51%	25%
Partner never worked full-time (among ever married or partnered from start of PhD program to survey)	14%	26%
Moved or changed jobs because of partner's career (post-PhD) (of ever married or partnered)	32%	17%
Postponed or did not have child because of own career (of those wanting children)	45%	26%



*Social Science PhDs—Five+ Years Out*



**Student performance  
Job skills needed and  
graduate program evaluation  
of these skills**

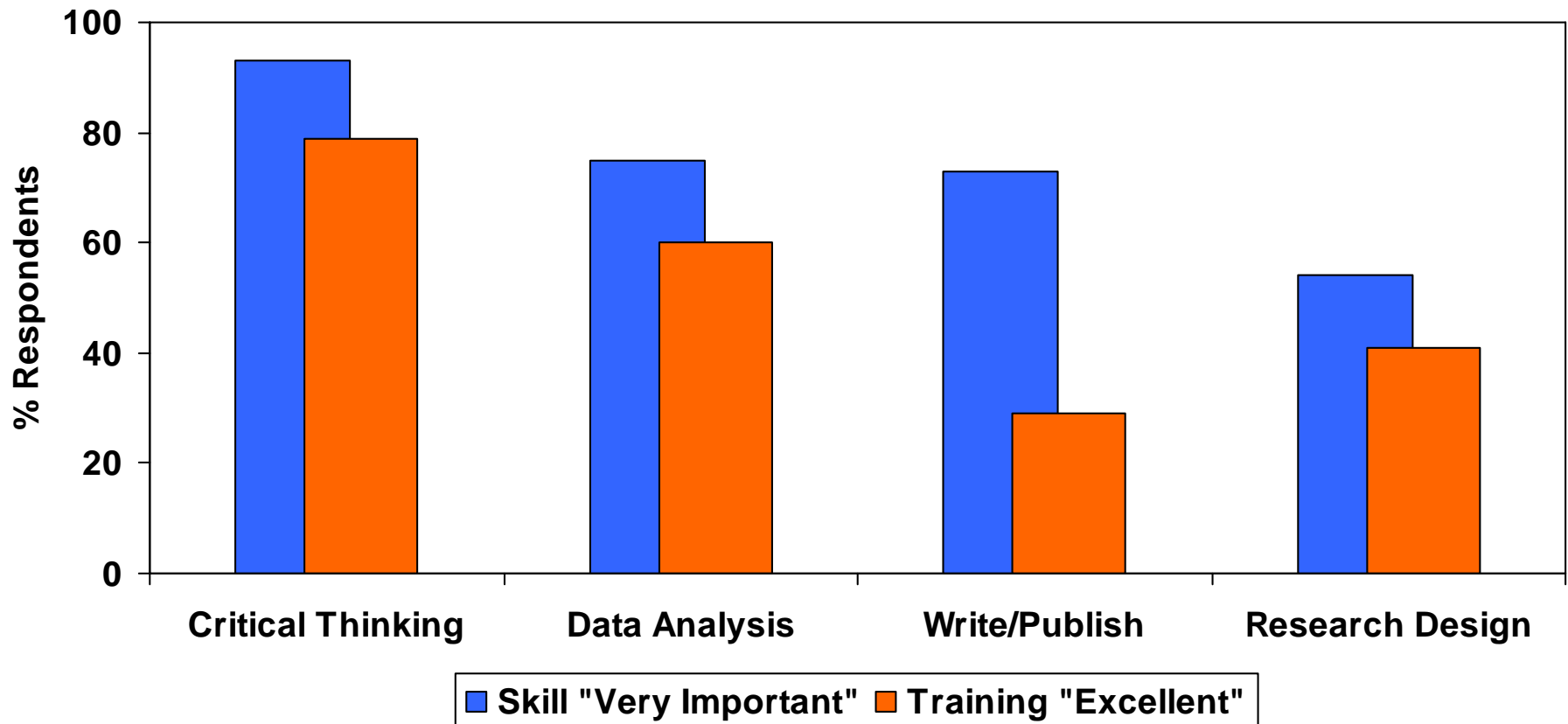
# Graduate School Performance by Job Type at Survey, SS5: Political Science



	<b>Ladder Faculty</b>	<b>NTT faculty</b>	<b>Academic other</b>	<b>BGN</b>
<b>Median time-to-degree</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>
<b>3+ presentations at national meetings</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>61%</b>
<b>1+ peer reviewed articles (1<sup>st</sup> or co- author)</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>Prestige of department (median NRC rank)</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>18</b>

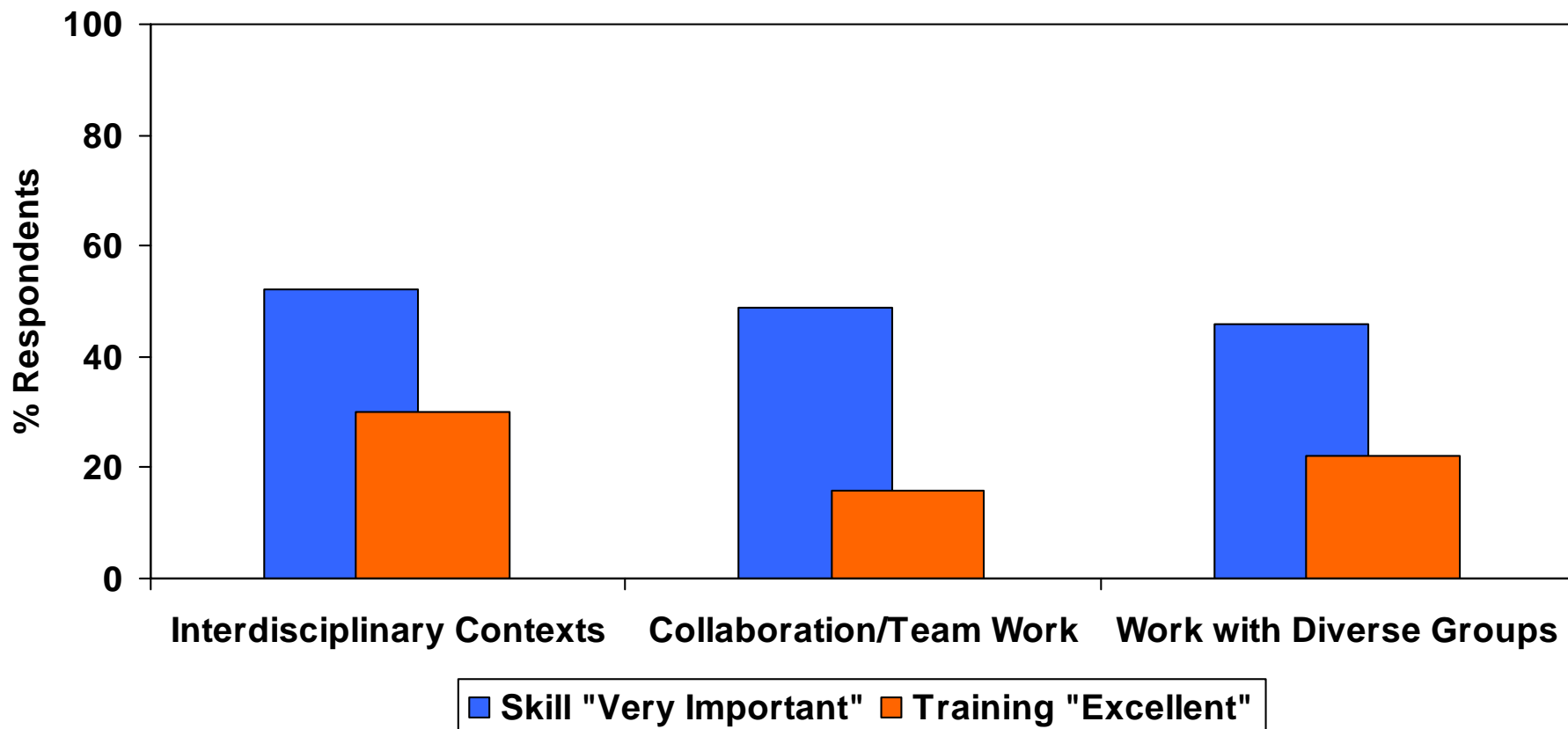
# Importance of Skill at Current Job versus Quality of Training in this Skill during PhD Studies

## Core PhD Education Skills: *Political Science*



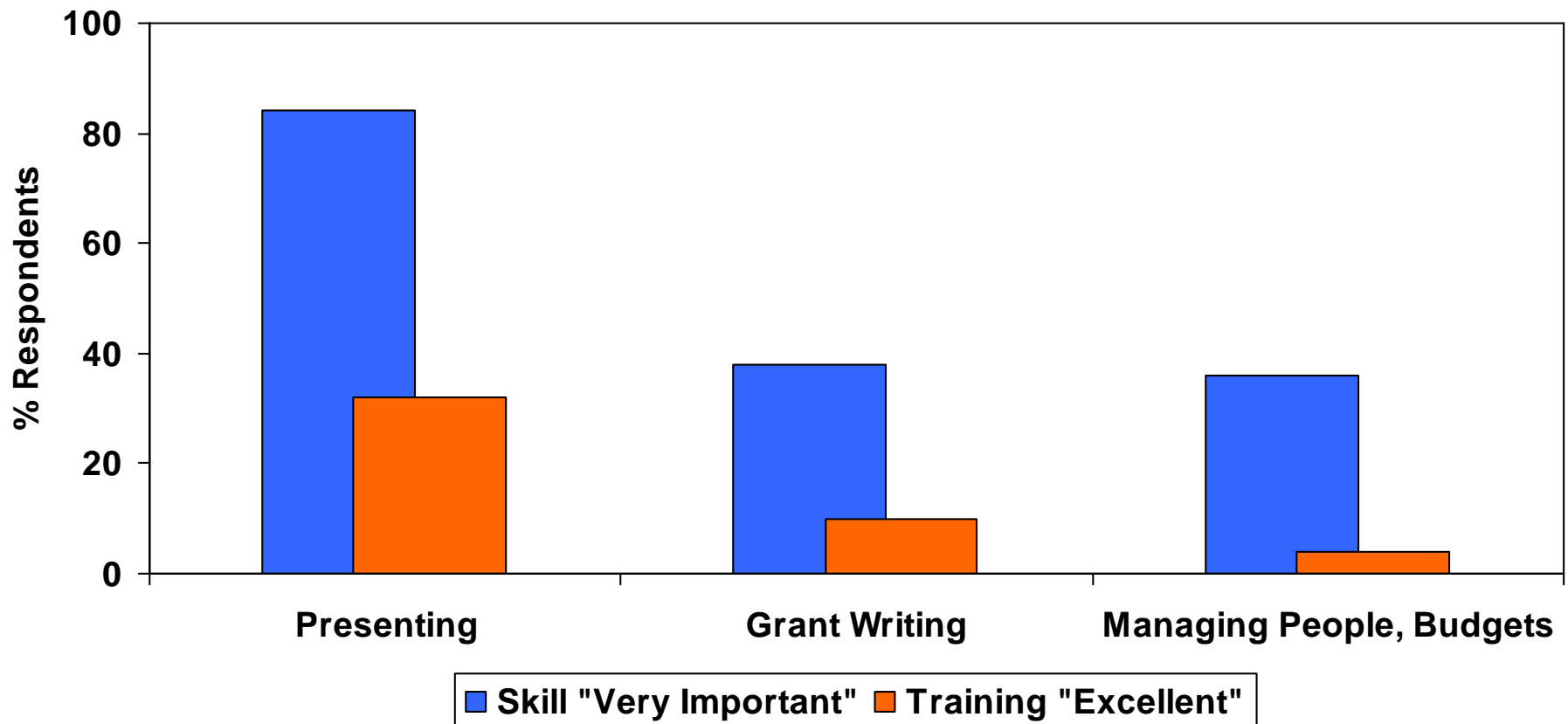
# Importance of Skill at Current Job versus Quality of Training in this Skill during PhD Studies

## Communication & Team Work: *Political Science*



# Importance of Skill at Current Job versus Quality of Training in this Skill during PhD Studies

## Professional Development Skills: *Political Science*



# 3 Key Messages



1. Use of Social Science Knowledge: Social Sc. PhDs **use** the knowledge of their **fields** and their **thesis topics** in **ALL** jobs 5+ years out.
2. Career Path: A smooth linear faculty career path is a myth. 60% of **first jobs** are **temporary** or **part-time**. Only 5+ years later 65% are faculty, 6% other academic, 19% in BGN stable, full-time jobs. **Women** make more family/career **compromises** than men.
3. Program Evaluation: Social Sc. programs need to move from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21 century and bring **professional competencies to the center** (writing, publishing, etc) and offer career management.

# Thank you!



Center for Innovation and Research  
in Graduate Education



## CIRGE website

<http://www.cirge.washington.edu>

# Career Goal at PhD Completion and % Tenured or Tenure-Track 5+ Years Later



	(1) % Wanted to Be Professor	(2) % Tenured + TT of (1)	(3) % Tenured+T-T of All PhDs	N of All PhDs
<b>Anthropology</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>49</b>	(407)
<b>Communication</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>66</b>	(319)
<b>Geography</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>49</b>	(155)
<b>History</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>62</b>	(789)
<b>Political Sc.</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>63</b>	(674)
<b>Sociology</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>60</b>	(521)

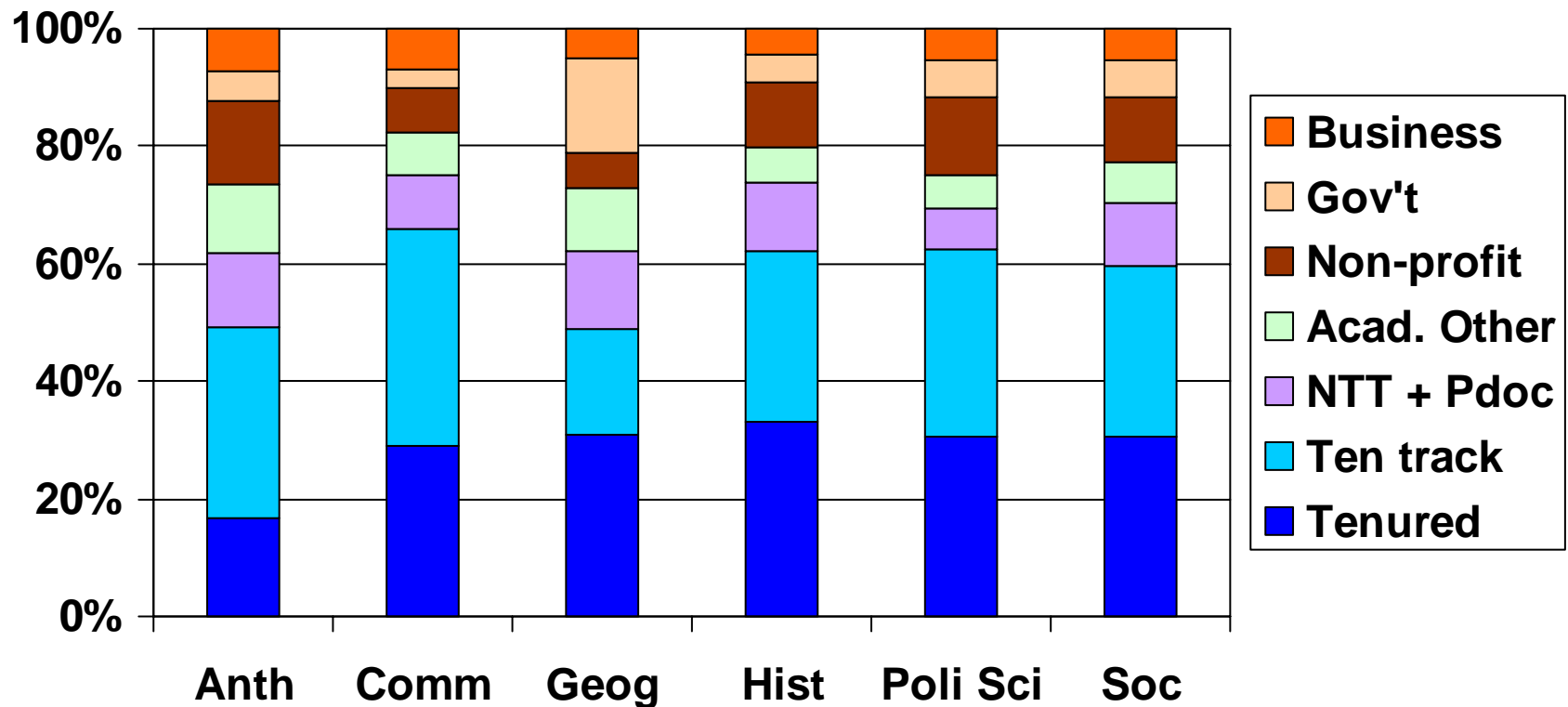


# Publications at PhD Completion by Last Employment Sector (Social Sciences)



	Academe			BGN Business/Government/Non-Profits		
	% None	% 1 - 2	% ≥ 3	% None	% 1 - 2	% ≥ 3
Anthropology	34	43	23	37	31	32
Communication	37	40	23	61	14	25
Geography	26	48	26	32	32	36
History	42	38	19	47	37	17
Political Science	45	40	14	46	40	14
Sociology	24	47	30	35	41	24

# Social Sciences PhDs 5+ Years Out Job Types at Survey



# *Social Science PhDs—Five+ Years Out* Postdoctoral Appointments



	<b>%</b>	<b>(n)</b>
<b>Anthropology</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>(57)</b>
<b>Communication</b>	<b>&lt;1%</b>	<b>(3)</b>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>(14)</b>
<b>History</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>(50)</b>
<b>Political Science</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>(42)</b>
<b>Sociology</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>(80)</b>

# Women Make More Compromises Related to Family and Career *All fields*



	Women	Men
Partner has PhD/JD/MD (among those partnered at survey)	32%	18%
Partner never worked full-time (among ever married or partnered from start of PhD program to survey)	13%	26%
Moved or changed jobs because of partner's career (of ever married or partnered)	27%	16%
Postponed or did not have child because of own career (of those wanting children)	48%	23%

# Political Science

## Percent in Stable Employment by Time from PhD

