How are Geoscience Graduate Students Faring During the COVID-19 Pandemic?

Highlights from the AGI Geoscience COVID-19 Impacts Study

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www.americangeosciences.org/workforce/covid19
Over half of graduate students experienced impacts to their degree completion progress (68% doctoral, 51% master’s)

Most impacts were to delays in tasks related to their thesis or dissertation project.

Master’s students more likely to delay graduation than doctoral students.

Doctoral students more likely to report a change in their research project.
Employment status

Most graduates were either in school or employed. Unemployment higher for Master’s graduates, with transition into employment by early 2021.

In 2021, doctorates split evenly between faculty, post-doc and non-academic employment
Questions for further discovery

• What lasting impacts has the pandemic had on students and new graduates?
  • Impacts to skills/knowledge acquisition?
  • Impacts to career trajectories?

• Are there positive lasting impacts from the pandemic on geoscience instruction?

• What strategies are being implemented by students, departments, and employers to address negative impacts?