



Research SNAPSHOT

AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

2019

All Positions Advertised in the ASA Job Bank in 2018

In 2018, 745 positions in the U.S. were advertised in the ASA Job Bank. This is 2.2 percent less than the 762 positions advertised in 2017 and 8.9 percent less than the 815 positions in 2016. More than three-quarters of the 2018 positions were for jobs in the academic sector: 56.6 percent were for tenure-track positions, 16.4 percent were for non-tenure track academic positions, and 4.3 percent were for academic administrator positions. Among the tenure track positions, 63.7 percent were for assistant professors and 16.1 percent were open rank. For the non-tenure track academic positions, about half (50.8 percent) were at the visiting assistant professor level, and 41 percent were instructors or lecturers. Academic administrators include both department chairs and heads (46.9 percent of the category) and other administrators (53.1 percent), which includes deans, program directors, and other administrative positions in the academic sector.

Fellowships, primarily post-doctoral fellowships, make up 17.7 percent of the positions advertised. Finally, five percent of the positions in the Job Bank in 2018 were for jobs in sociological practice, including research scientists, policy analysts, statisticians, and center directors. This is likely an undercount of the number and kinds of positions available to PhD sociologists in the non-academic sector. According to the Survey of Earned Doctorates, about 12 percent of new sociology PhD recipients in 2017 had jobs in practice settings, making up a fifth of new PhDs with definite employment.

The ASA Job Bank is a primary source for job advertisements that may be of interest to sociologists, particularly for tenure-line and full-time visiting academic positions. However, it does not represent the universe of jobs available to sociologists; contingent faculty positions and jobs outside of academia are underrepresented. Thus, these data represent the jobs advertised in the ASA Job Bank in 2018, not the jobs available for MA-level and PhD-level sociologists more broadly.

All Listings in the ASA Job Bank by Category, 2018

	Count	Percent
Academic: Tenure Track Positions		
Assistant Professor	269	63.7%
Associate Professor	31	7.3%
Full Professor	10	2.4%
Assistant or Associate Professor	44	10.4%
Open Rank	68	16.1%
Subtotal	422	100.0%
Percentage of Total Positions Advertised		56.6%
Academic: Non-Tenure Track Positions		
Instructor/Lecturer	50	41.0%
Assistant Professor	62	50.8%
Other	10	8.2%
Subtotal	122	100.0%
Percentage of Total Positions Advertised		16.4%
Academic: Administrators		
Chair/Head	15	46.9%
Other Administrator	17	53.1%
Subtotal	32	100.0%
Percentage of Total Positions Advertised		4.3%
Fellowships		
Pre-doctoral	3	2.3%
Post-doctoral	119	90.2%
Other	10	7.6%
Subtotal	132	100.0%
Percentage of Total Positions Advertised		17.7%
Sociological Practice		
Researcher/Statistician	18	48.6%
Director/Assistant Director	2	5.4%
Program Manager	1	2.7%
Other	16	43.2%
Subtotal	37	100.0%
Percentage of Total Positions Advertised		5.0%
Total U.S. Positions Advertised	745	100.0%

Source: American Sociological Association 2018 Job Bank Report. Full report is available at <https://www.asanet.org/research-and-publications/research-sociology/research-briefs/positions-advertised-asa-job-bank-2018>.