

Positions Advertised in the ASA Job Bank, 2014

Michael Kisielewski and John W. Curtis

With a new crop of degree holders in sociology entering the workforce each year, understanding “what’s out there” is an obvious but important step in a career search. Those searches, however, are not limited to recent graduates, as many sociologists with years of training and experience also seek new employment opportunities.

Throughout the year, employers in and outside of the academy advertise positions with the American Sociological Association’s (ASA) online Job Bank.¹ Those jobs include postdoctoral positions, professorships at multiple ranks, department chairs and academic research center directors, and applied research positions. ASA also collects information on a limited number of jobs advertised outside the Job Bank that are relevant to sociologists. (See the methodology Appendix for a full explanation of the sources of position advertisements.) Together, these data illustrate some general trends in career opportunities, though they do not represent all jobs available to sociologists. In addition, ASA surveys employers who advertised in the Job Bank during a calendar year—as well academic institutions that advertised positions elsewhere—and presents the outcomes of those searches.

¹ The online Job Bank was introduced in November 2005; a digest of positions placed in the Job Bank solely in the past month is freely available at www.asanet.org.

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The Trend in Advertised Faculty Positions, 2009-2014

Figure 1 shows the number of ranked, tenured and tenure-track faculty positions placed in the ASA Job Bank from 2009 to 2014.²

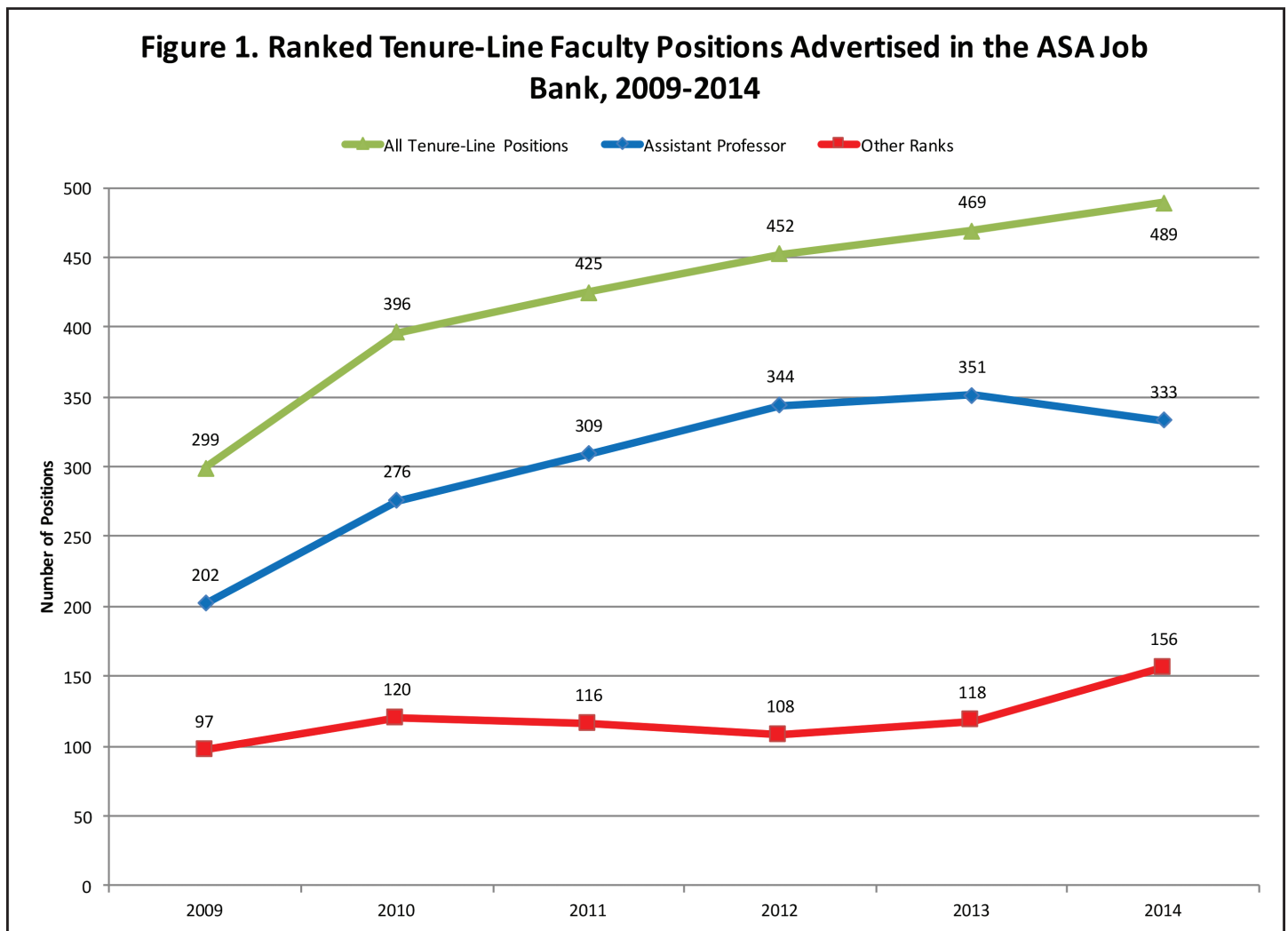
There was a noticeable increase in position advertisements between 2009 and 2010, when the total for ranked faculty jumped 32 percent.

The total number of positions advertised has continued to increase in subsequent years, although the number of assistant professor positions barely increased for 2013 and dropped slightly in 2014. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics considers June 2009 the end of the Great Recession that began in December 2007 (BLS 2012). The marked increase in Job Bank position ads after 2009 might reflect the beginning of a “partial recovery” in the post-Recession period, but without more years of data and an earlier comparable baseline from which to work, we can only speculate. In Figure 2 we present the number of doctoral degrees awarded in sociology between 2004 and 2014 for illustrative purposes. From 2009 onward, there was a recognizable increase in the number of degrees awarded compared to the

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² Data on ranked tenured or tenure-track (“tenure-line”) positions are reported from 2009 onward, when the ASA Research Department began to tabulate those positions systematically. Data from 2008 are excluded from this report because Job Bank and non-Job Bank positions could not be separated in our data file. Figure 1 in this report is not comparable with Figure 1 in previous editions.



Source: American Sociological Association Job Bank, 2009-2014.

Notes

“Other Ranks” include open or multiple rank, associate professor, full professor, assistant/associate professor, and associate/full professor position postings.

For 2012, “Other Ranks” includes one tenured/tenure-track position for which the job advertisement did not explicitly state the rank or whether it is open.

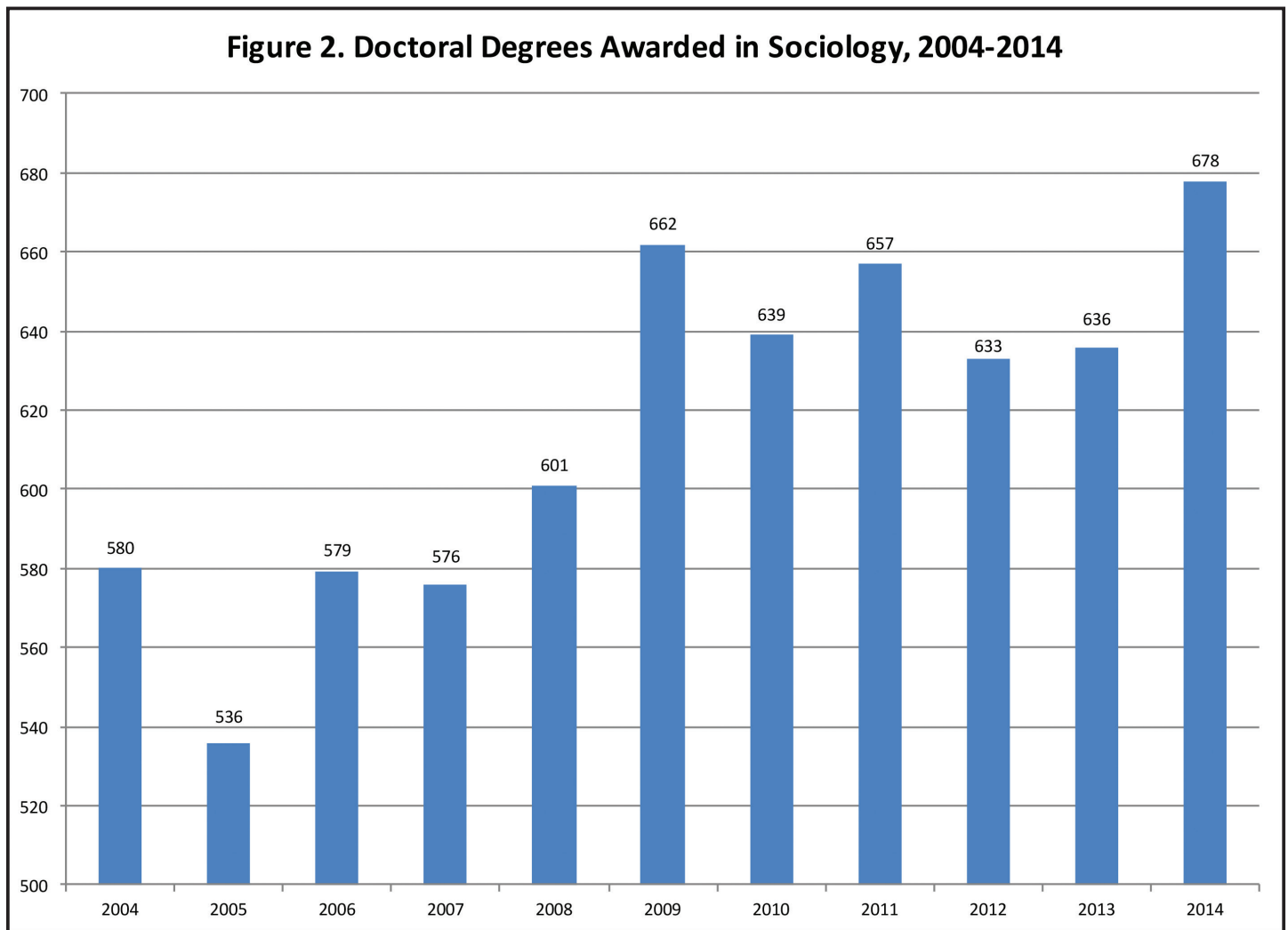
For 2011, “Other Ranks” includes seven tenured/tenure-track positions of unspecified rank for which the job advertisement did not explicitly state the rank or whether it is open.

For 2009, “Other Ranks” includes 14 tenured/tenure-track positions of unspecified rank for which the job advertisement did not explicitly state the rank or whether it is open.

five years prior, although the increase has not been consistent from year to year.

Table 1 provides a detailed listing of all positions identified for the past three years, from the ASA Job Bank and other sources. The table does not allow for a direct trend analysis because the numbers are strongly influenced by listings that have been

collected from outside the Job Bank, and that collection is neither systematic nor comprehensive. Even so, the table reflects a general increase over three years in the number of positions in each category, with the exception of tenure-track assistant professors. The pattern at that rank follows that displayed in Figure 1.



Source: National Science Foundation - National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics. Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities: 2014. Table 13. Available at www.nsf.gov/statistics/2016/nsf16300/data/tab13.pdf. Accessed December 3, 2015.

Sociological Specializations, 2014

For sociology degree holders seeking academic jobs, the areas of specialization or expertise sought in available positions are of particular interest. Table 2 identifies those areas for academic jobs advertised in the Job Bank in 2014. We coded these results using a combination of the ASA membership form’s areas of “sociological interest,” the titles of ASA’s 52 sections, and other relevant keywords and concepts from the job descriptions. This information is meant to provide a rough guide to the specialties or training sought in academic

positions. Most ads called for multiple areas of specialization.

Although “sex and gender” is the most frequently occurring specialization in 2014 academic job advertisements, at 7 percent it is by no means predominant. It is probably encouraging to jobseekers that the specializations sought by employers are distributed across a long list. Sex and gender are followed in the table by criminology, quantitative methods, and inequality. General research methods, medical sociology, theory, and business follow closely behind. A bit farther down this list, we find interdisciplinary studies (or the ability to work with interdisciplinary

subject matter). It is not that surprising to find interdisciplinary studies in this list: a number of sociology departments that place ads in the Job Bank seek faculty for interdisciplinary programs (such as gender and sexuality studies) with other departments. Moreover, some departments outside of sociology, such as schools of communication, also advertise in the Job Bank, seeking candidates with interdisciplinary training.

“Most ads called for multiple areas of specialization.”

Table 3 compiles 2014 ASA section membership for comparison with the areas of specialization sought in Job Bank ads. Again, ASA members have distributed themselves across all 52 sections, without a predominant concentration. Sex and gender and medical sociology are near the top of the list in section membership, and members of those sections can find encouragement in their specialties being among the more sought-after by employers in 2014. Race, class, and gender is another large section, but one that does not directly map on to the job specializations list due to its intersectional character. Gender is at the top of the jobs list, but race and ethnicity is further down. Sociology jobseekers who can present the versatility to tackle both subject areas might have an advantage. By contrast, the sociology of culture—ASA’s largest section in 2014—is not explicitly represented in the advertised specializations list, and “organizations, occupations, and work” is referenced in only a very few position descriptions. Both of these sections represent broader conceptual categories that do not necessarily translate directly to position descriptions.

Finally, Table 4 presents the areas of sociological interest that ASA members indicated on their 2014 membership forms. These, too, are distributed throughout a long list, with no single interest predominant. Not surprisingly, there is considerable overlap between the areas of interest and section membership. The largest areas of interest, such as race, class, and gender, sex and gender, cultural sociology, racial and ethnic

relations, and medical sociology are fairly broad. Although the terminology varies somewhat, these areas of interest are also near the top of requested job specializations listed in Table 2. The challenge for jobseekers, then, is to make the case that their experience and skills fit with the expertise a specific employer is seeking.

Positions Advertised in 2014

ALL POSITIONS

Table 5 lists the academic positions advertised during 2014 that formed the basis for our employer survey on search outcomes. We limited the employer survey to academic positions for two reasons: first, the academic search process is somewhat more consistent across employers, and second because our sample of positions in sociological practice is non-systematic and we were able to locate a contact person for only a small fraction of them. The table includes positions advertised in the ASA Job Bank as well as a limited number of jobs from sources such as regional professional society e-mail lists. Most tenure-line (i.e., tenured and tenure-track) positions were advertised at the assistant professor level, with 367 openings. Open and multiple-rank faculty advertisements are another large segment, with a combined 174 positions.³ As is typically the case, the number of full and (strictly) associate professor positions advertised in the ASA Job Bank is small. Of the 27 ads for full professor, most originated outside the Job Bank.

The non-tenure-line academic position ads were distributed primarily among visiting assistant professor, instructor/lecturer, and academic administrator (e.g., dean, provost) positions (Table 5). A small number of position advertisements were for unspecified non-tenure-line faculty positions, followed by five ads for part-time (“adjunct”) faculty members. Part-time faculty position announcements in particular are often not circulated widely, and therefore do not appear frequently in the table.

3 In this report, ranked positions separated by a “/” refer to multiple-rank positions. For example, “associate/full professor” refers to an opening for which a candidate could be hired at the associate or full professor level.

OUTCOMES OF POSITION SEARCHES

To understand what became of academic positions advertised in the ASA Job Bank and other sources in 2014, we surveyed all employers for whom we had valid contact information.⁴ Although the following results do not represent the total number of jobs available in 2014 for sociology degree holders, they provide some insight into academic hiring outcomes. As noted in Table 5, we had contact information for all of the ASA Job Bank advertisements and most of the other position listings. The overall survey response rate was 42 percent, with some variation by the rank of position advertised. We received 230 individual responses, representing 314 advertised jobs. Respondents were unable to provide data for two of the 314 positions. Of the remaining 312 jobs, respondents reported that their institutions conducted formal searches for 303. For full details about the survey methodology and response rates, please see the Appendix.

Table 6 shows the number of applications received for advertised positions for which employers sought candidates. Most position advertisements received fewer than 100 applications. Table 7 displays successive actions taken in the hiring process. Altogether, one or more candidates were interviewed for 303 positions, or 97 percent of jobs for which a search was conducted. Employers had made formal offers in nearly all of those cases, with additional offers expected. More than 90 percent of the offers had been accepted. Interestingly, some 18 percent of the accepted offers were for non-sociologists.

Of the 272 advertisements that resulted in a hire, 235 were reported as faculty or academic research positions. Table 8 presents the academic rank for those jobs. Most (182, or 77 percent) were filled at the assistant professor level, with 21 (9 percent) filled by instructors or lecturers. Another 17 positions (7 percent) were filled at the full professor level, and 11 (5 percent) were hired as associate professors.

4 This differs somewhat from previous ASA search outcome surveys that were limited to tenure-line, ranked academic positions; results from those surveys are available at www.asanet.org/research-and-publications/research-briefs.

We also asked respondents about tenure status for 210 faculty or academic research positions at the rank of assistant, associate, and full professor; the results are shown in Table 9. Most of the assistant professor appointments (88 percent) were on the tenure track. The proportion of non-tenure-track assistant professor positions is somewhat lower than the 21 percent found in an analysis of 2010–11 national data across disciplines (Curtis and Thornton 2013:11). Rather than a discipline-specific finding, it may be that non-tenure-track positions are not advertised widely and therefore do not appear as frequently in these 2014 data. As would be expected, nearly all of the positions filled at the full professor rank are with tenure, but it is somewhat surprising that nearly half of the associate professor positions do not come with tenure. (The number of these senior positions is very small, however.)

Finally, Table 10 reports the reasons why some position searches did not result in a hire. Respondents could select multiple reasons, with candidates having turned down offers as the most-cited reason (49 percent), followed by lack of agreement (20 percent). For the six cases in which positions were canceled after a search began, three respondents reported that budgetary approval for the position was withdrawn, two reported that there were “other staffing changes” in their department or unit, and one did not provide a reason.

In Conclusion

It is easy for job market reports to caution that they are a “snapshot in time.” Given that, we have attempted to provide a view of the landscape for sociology job opportunities. Against the backdrop of the Great Recession of 2007–2009, we see some basic trends from annual ASA Job Bank ads on ranked faculty positions that suggest a rebounding effect post-Recession. It is also helpful to peer into the areas of expertise, interest, or training identified in advertisements for academic positions. Although the most sought-after areas in those advertisements did not perfectly match the most popular section memberships or interest areas of ASA members in 2014, it is somewhat affirming that there indeed was

some overlap, as with sex and gender and medical sociology. From our survey responses, we saw that not all positions were filled by sociology degree holders—possibly reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of department hiring and the number of non-sociology departments that advertise in the Job Bank each year.

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TABULATING POSITION ADVERTISEMENTS

To prepare ASA Job Bank position advertisements for analysis, the ASA Research Department begins with a database of all U.S.-based jobs advertised in a calendar year. The Research Department also receives position announcements that originated with regional professional societies, ASA Section listservs, and related disciplinary societies or job sources that were e-mailed to or discovered by ASA Executive Office staff, and which are relevant for sociology degree holders. Staff removes any duplicate position in the Job Bank (e.g., from advertisements that were renewed by an employer). The database is then transformed so that there is one record per each employer who advertised a position(s). New fields are added for each job, including position type and whether or not it originated in the Job Bank.

Previous ASA Job Bank reports included trends in tenured and tenure-track position ads since 2008, but 2008 is excluded in this report because Job Bank and non-Job Bank positions could not be separated in our data file for that year. In years past, reports on job openings included a composite of positions from the Job Bank and other sources.

Position type coding is based on the classification that employers select when they place an advertisement in the Job Bank (e.g., “Assistant Professor”), but that information is verified against the text of each advertisement to ensure accuracy. For the 2014 positions, data tabulations (as well as survey data analysis; see the following section) were conducted in *SPSS 23*.

Staff also mine academic position descriptions to code areas of specialization from those descriptions, based on the ASA membership form’s “areas of sociological interest,” the titles of ASA’s 52 sections, and text from the descriptions. We performed data mining with *QDA Miner Lite, v1.3*. Unlike previous Job Bank reports, we expanded our categories of specialization to include keywords and concepts that emerged from the job descriptions themselves, rather than adhering strictly to ASA section titles and interest areas.

CONDUCTING THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYERS

To conduct the survey of employers, ASA Research Department staff verify that they have sufficient information for a contact person (a name and e-mail address), and include that person in the survey. In 2014, there were 984 position advertisements from Job Bank and non-Job Bank sources. We had contact information for 870 of those positions, representing 637 individual contacts to whom we administered the survey. During survey administration, staff removed 39 contacts due to invalid e-mail addresses or survey opt-outs and refusals, adjusting the total possible respondents to 598. Of those 598, 529 (88 percent) represented positions placed in the Job Bank, and 69 (12 percent) originated elsewhere.

Research Department staff conducted the survey using the web-based platform *SurveyGizmo*, and the initial survey invitation was sent by e-mail on June 2, 2015. Staff sent two e-mail reminders to non-respondents on June 11 and June 23, and the survey was closed on July 7 with 252 respondents out of a possible 598, for a 42 percent response rate: 223 respondents represented positions placed in the Job Bank, and 29 respondents represented other job sources, for a roughly equal 42 percent response rate between both groups. Those 252 respondents represented 353 position ads, accounting for 36 percent of the 984 positions advertised in and outside the Job Bank. Of those 353 job ads, 29 (all single-position ads) originated outside the Job Bank. For six of those 353 positions, respondents were unable to provide data about them; however, none of them reported that they were unable to do so because their employer did not advertise the positions we wished to ask them about. For another 15 positions, respondents reported that their employer did not proceed to receive applications/seek candidates, or they did not know whether their employer did so.

The number of responses used in the analysis was reduced to 312 because we decided to exclude positions of sociological practice, postdoctoral positions, and fellowship positions.

Table 1. All Position Listings Collected, 2012-2014

	2012			2013			2014		
	Job Bank	Other Source	Total	Job Bank	Other Source	Total	Job Bank	Other Source	Total
Tenure-Line Academic Positions									
Assistant Professor	344	42	386	351	45	396	333	34	367
Assistant/Associate Professor	45	13	58	40	12	52	48	2	50
Associate Professor	2	0	2	5	0	5	5	1	6
Associate/Full Professor	12	1	13	19	1	20	31	2	33
Full Professor	1	0	1	4	1	5	2	25	27
Open Rank	48	7	55	50	8	58	70	21	91
Subtotal	452	63	515	469	67	536	489	85	574
Non-Tenure-Line Academic Positions									
Adjunct Professor (Part Time)	1	0	1	5	2	7	5	0	5
Visiting Assistant Professor	60	4	64	47	3	50	47	11	58
Instructor/Lecturer	53	4	57	50	17	67	53	6	59
Non-Tenure-Line Faculty (Unspecified)	1	8	9	6	0	6	11	2	13
Academic Administrator	56	33	89	48	14	62	27	24	51
Subtotal	171	49	220	156	36	192	143	43	186
Postdoctoral	86	17	103	75	41	116	90	22	112
Fellowship	3	1	4	4	0	4	19	2	21
Subtotal	89	18	107	79	41	120	109	24	133
Sociological Practice	47	27	74	31	7	38	31	60	91
Total	759	157	916	735	151	886	772	212	984

Source: American Sociological Association Job Bank and Other Sources, 2012-2014.

Notes:

For 2012, "Open Rank" includes five positions (one from the Job Bank; four from non-Job Bank sources) for which the description called for a tenured or tenure-track faculty member, but did not state the rank or whether the rank was open.

"Non Tenure-line Faculty" includes positions for which the description calls for non-tenure-track faculty but does not specify the type of position.

Academic Administrator includes positions such as deans, chancellors, provosts, and program/institute/center directors whose responsibilities do not include instruction/teaching.

"Fellowship" includes academic positions intended for experienced career faculty, distinct from postdoctoral positions intended for recent degree recipients.

Data exclude positions from non-U.S. institutions.

Table 2. Area of Specialization or Expertise for Academic Positions Advertised in the ASA Job Bank, 2014

Area of Specialization or Expertise	Count	Percent	Area of Specialization or Expertise	Count	Percent
Sex and Gender	261	7.3	Environmental Sociology	24	0.7
Criminology/Delinquency	143	4.0	Alcohol and Drugs	23	0.6
Quantitative Methods/Approaches	129	3.6	Health Policy	21	0.6
Inequality, Stratification, and Poverty	104	2.9	Police or Policing	21	0.6
General Research Methods (Unspecified)	103	2.9	Children and Youth	20	0.6
Medical Sociology	100	2.8	African American or Black Studies	20	0.6
Theory/Knowledge	98	2.7	Social Change	18	0.5
Business and Management	97	2.7	Mental Health	17	0.5
Criminal Justice	86	2.4	Pedagogy	17	0.5
Race and Ethnicity	86	2.4	Labor Movements	17	0.5
Teaching and Learning	83	2.3	LGBT or Queer Studies	17	0.5
Body and Embodiment	81	2.3	Penology/Corrections	15	0.4
Family	76	2.1	Music	14	0.4
Statistics	73	2.0	Organizations	14	0.4
Applied Sociology	73	2.0	Leisure/Sports/Recreation	14	0.4
Psychology	72	2.0	Peace, War, World Conflict, and Conflict Resolution	13	0.4
Economics	67	1.9	Human Rights	13	0.4
Business/Marketing and Management	67	1.9	Rural Sociology	12	0.3
Migration/Immigration	62	1.7	Sports	12	0.3
Public Policy	59	1.6	Women's and Gender Studies	12	0.3
Ethnography (Anthropology)	58	1.6	Religion/Religious Studies	12	0.3
Interdisciplinary Studies	56	1.6	Law and Society	12	0.3
Social Work/Social Welfare	54	1.5	Public Administration	11	0.3
Global and Transnational	52	1.5	Political Economy	11	0.3
Aging/Social Gerontology	51	1.4	Political Sociology	10	0.3
Urban Sociology	49	1.4	East Asian Studies	10	0.3
Policy/Policy Analysis	48	1.3	Population and Ecology	9	0.3
Qualitative Methods/Approaches	47	1.3	Middle East Studies	9	0.3
Deviant Behavior/Social Disorganization	47	1.3	Feminist Studies	8	0.2
Cultural Sociology	45	1.3	Native American Studies	8	0.2
Social Justice	42	1.2	Media Studies	7	0.2
Evaluation Research/Program Evaluation	39	1.1	Social Networks/Analysis	7	0.2
Political Science	39	1.1	Biosociology	7	0.2
Communications/Information Technology	38	1.1	Consumers and Consumption	7	0.2
Sexualities	38	1.1	Journalism/Journalistic Studies	6	0.2
Race, Class, and Gender	37	1.0	Military Sociology	6	0.2
Sociological Practice	37	1.0	Social Control	6	0.2
Open Specialization	36	1.0	Indigenous Studies	6	0.2
Collective Behavior/Social Movements	36	1.0	Emotions	6	0.2
Latina/o Sociology	36	1.0	Critical Race Studies/Theory	5	0.1
Development	34	0.9	Economic Sociology	5	0.1
Genetics	33	0.9	Language/Social Linguistics	4	0.1
Science and Technology	32	0.9	Mass Communication/Public Opinion	4	0.1
Social Psychology	29	0.8	Politics and Social Change	4	0.1
Geography/Urban Planning	27	0.8	Marxist Sociology	1	0.0
Modeling or Data Analysis	27	0.8	Animals and Society	1	0.0
Asians/Asian-Americans	26	0.7	Evolution and Society	1	0.0
Racial and Ethnic Relations	25	0.7			
Comparative Sociology	24	0.7			
			Total	3,579	100.0

Source: American Sociological Association Job Bank, 2014.

Notes:

In this table, academic positions include the following: Adjunct Professor; Assistant Professor; Assistant/Associate Professor; Associate Professor; Associate/Full Professor; Full Professor; Instructor/Lecturer; Non Tenure-line Faculty; Open Rank; Visiting Assistant Professor.

Thematic areas are based on a combination of ASA's "areas of sociological interest" plus discipline-specific or skill-specific terms that commonly appeared in position descriptions.

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Table 3. ASA Section Membership, 2014

Section Name	Count	Percent	Section Name	Count	Percent
Sociology of Culture	1,220	4.3	Children and Youth	421	1.5
Sex and Gender	1,135	4.0	Methodology	418	1.5
Medical Sociology	1,071	3.8	Sociology of Law	415	1.5
Race, Class, and Gender	1,006	3.6	Political Economy of the World-System	413	1.5
Organizations, Occupation, and Work	1,004	3.5	Labor and Labor Movements	409	1.4
Racial and Ethnic Minorities	921	3.3	Latino/a Sociology	406	1.4
Political Sociology	869	3.1	Communication and Information Technologies*	371	1.3
Theory	856	3.0	Marxist Sociology	342	1.2
Collective Behavior/Social Movements	835	3.0	Sociological Practice and Public Sociology	341	1.2
Sociology of Education	829	2.9	Asia/Asian America	336	1.2
Economic Sociology	809	2.9	Sociology of Mental Health	334	1.2
Comparative and Historical Sociology	807	2.9	Altruism, Morality and Social Solidarity	318	1.1
Inequality, Poverty and Mobility	801	2.8	Consumers and Consumption	314	1.1
Family	787	2.8	Body and Embodiment	312	1.1
Teaching and Learning in Sociology	737	2.6	Disability and Society	303	1.1
Global and Transnational Sociology	728	2.6	Peace, War, and Social Control	299	1.1
Social Psychology	686	2.4	Human Rights	297	1.0
International Migration	674	2.4	Sociology of Emotions	263	0.9
Community and Urban Sociology	626	2.2	Mathematical Sociology	216	0.8
Sociology of Religion	605	2.1	History of Sociology	198	0.7
Science, Knowledge and Technology	582	2.1	Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco	173	0.6
Aging and the Life Course	580	2.0	Animals and Society	154	0.5
Crime, Law, and Deviance	574	2.0	Evolution, Biology, and Sociology	150	0.5
Sociology of Sexualities	538	1.9	Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis	144	0.5
Sociology of Population	536	1.9	Rationality and Society	135	0.5
Environment and Technology	507	1.8			
Sociology of Development	496	1.8	Total	28,301	100.0

Source: American Sociological Association Membership Database, 2014.

Note: Members may join more than one section. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

*In 2015, this section name changed to “Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology.”

Table 4. ASA Member Interest Areas, 2014

Interest Area	Count	Percent	Interest Area	Count	Percent
Race, Class and Gender	1,980	4.1	Latina/o Sociology	372	0.8
Sex and Gender	1,914	3.9	Labor and Labor Movements	338	0.7
Cultural Sociology	1,824	3.7	Statistics	327	0.7
Racial and Ethnic Relations	1,591	3.3	History of Sociology/Social Thought	319	0.7
Medical Sociology	1,563	3.2	Knowledge	300	0.6
Stratification/Mobility	1,516	3.1	Communication and Information Technologies	294	0.6
Family	1,477	3.0	Policy Analysis	294	0.6
Political Sociology	1,466	3.0	Asians/Asian-Americans	286	0.6
Education	1,460	3.0	Peace, War, World Conflict, and Conflict Resolution	284	0.6
Theory	1,401	2.9	Social Organization	264	0.5
Social Psychology	1,252	2.6	Alcohol and Drugs	263	0.5
Collective Behavior/Social Movements	1,122	2.3	Marxist Sociology	257	0.5
Qualitative Methodology	1,114	2.3	Rural Sociology	243	0.5
Quantitative Methodology	1,105	2.3	Human Rights	239	0.5
Economic Sociology	1,067	2.2	Body and Embodiment	236	0.5
Comparative Sociology/Historical Sociology	1,065	2.2	Emotions	231	0.5
Urban Sociology	1,048	2.1	Mass Communication/Public Opinion	231	0.5
Migration/Immigration	1,018	2.1	Social Welfare/Social Work	196	0.4
Demography	1,004	2.1	Art/Music	181	0.4
Organizations, Formal and Complex	913	1.9	Disabilities	175	0.4
Criminology/Delinquency	908	1.9	Mathematical Sociology	171	0.4
Teaching and Learning in Sociology	900	1.8	Altruism and Social Solidarity	159	0.3
Religion	875	1.8	Visual Sociology	149	0.3
Work and Labor Markets	796	1.6	Ethnomethodology/Conversational Analysis	148	0.3
Globalization and Transnational Sociology	772	1.6	Sociological Practice	141	0.3
Environmental Sociology	753	1.5	Leisure/Sports/Recreation	138	0.3
Sexualities	671	1.4	Social Control	137	0.3
Law and Society	635	1.3	Socialization	137	0.3
Social Networks	626	1.3	Consumers and Consumption	129	0.3
Aging/Social Gerontology	624	1.3	Animals and Society	128	0.3
Science and Technology	616	1.3	Small Groups	125	0.3
Children and Youth	612	1.3	Biosociology	116	0.2
Development	608	1.2	Military Sociology	107	0.2
Social Change	550	1.1	Penology/Corrections	104	0.2
Mental Health	534	1.1	Rational Choice	104	0.2
Political Economy	533	1.1	Other	93	0.2
Applied Sociology/Evaluation Research	529	1.1	Human Ecology	88	0.2
Deviant Behavior/Social Disorganization	501	1.0	Language/Social Linguistics	88	0.2
Community	474	1.0	Evolution and Society	47	0.1
Occupations/Professions	467	1.0	Clinical Sociology	22	0.0
Public Policy	445	0.9	Microcomputing	17	0.0
Ethnography (Anthropology)	417	0.9			
Criminal Justice	379	0.8	Total	48,803	100.0

Source: American Sociological Association Membership Database, 2014.

Note: Members may select up to four areas of “sociological interest” on their membership forms.

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Table 5. Positions Listed and Surveyed, 2014

	Job Bank	Other Source	Total	Survey Contact Available	Survey Responses	Response Rate
Tenure-Line Academic Positions						
Assistant Professor	333	34	367	367	158	43.1
Assistant/Associate Professor	48	2	50	50	12	24.0
Associate Professor	5	1	6	6	3	50.0
Associate/Full Professor	31	2	33	33	16	48.5
Full Professor	2	25	27	27	12	44.4
Open Rank	70	21	91	91	35	38.5
Subtotal	489	85	574	574	236	41.1
Non-Tenure-Line Academic Positions						
Adjunct Professor (Part Time)	5	0	5	3	3	100.0
Visiting Assistant Professor	47	11	58	56	22	39.3
Instructor/Lecturer	53	6	59	54	32	59.3
Non-Tenure-Line Faculty (Unspecified)	11	2	13	9	3	33.3
Academic Administrator	27	24	51	43	16	37.2
Subtotal	143	43	186	165	76	46.7
Total	632	128	760	739	312	42.2

Source: American Sociological Association Job Bank and Other Sources, 2014.

Notes:

“Non Tenure-line Faculty” includes positions for which the description calls for non-tenure-track faculty but does not specify the type of position.

Academic Administrator includes positions such as deans, chancellors, provosts, and program/institute/center directors whose responsibilities do not include instruction/teaching.

Data exclude positions from non-U.S. institutions.

	Number	Percent
Less than 50	117	39.5
50-99	94	31.8
100-149	40	13.5
150-199	23	7.8
200-249	10	3.4
250-299	3	1.0
300 or more	9	3.0
Total	296	100.0
No search conducted	9	
Number reporting “don’t know” or who did not respond	7	

Source: American Sociological Association Survey of Employers, 2015.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Table 7. Actions Taken for Positions Advertised, 2014

	Action Taken	Positions with Data	Percent	Non-responses
A search was conducted	303	312	97.1	0
One or more candidates were interviewed offsite*	198	299	66.2	13
One or more candidates were interviewed onsite*	303	310	97.7	2
One or more candidates were interviewed	303	310	97.7	2
A formal offer was made to a candidate	277	303	91.4	0
An offer has not yet been made, but is expected	3	303	1.0	0
A candidate accepted the offer and was/will be hired	247	272	90.8	5
A sociology degree holder was/will be hired	197	239	82.4	8

Source: American Sociological Association Survey of Employers, 2015.

*These survey questions were not mutually exclusive.

	Number	Percent
Assistant Professor	182	77.4
Instructor or Lecturer	21	8.9
Full Professor	17	7.2
Associate Professor	11	4.7
Visiting Assistant Professor	3	1.3
Unranked	1	0.4
Total	235	100.0

Source: American Sociological Association Survey of Employers, 2015.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Table 9. Tenure Status for Ranked Faculty Positions as Filled, 2014

Rank or Position Type	On tenure track		Not on tenure track		Tenured		Total		Non-responses
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Assistant Professor	159	87.8	21	11.6	1	0.6	181	100.0	1
Full Professor	1	6.3	0	0.0	15	93.8	16	100.0	1
Associate Professor	5	45.5	0	0.0	6	54.5	11	100.0	0
Total	165	79.3	21	10.1	22	10.6	208	100.0	2

Source: American Sociological Association Survey of Employers, 2015.

Note:

210 academic or research positions were reported at the rank of assistant, associate, or full professor.

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Table 10. Why Positions for Which Searches Were Conducted Were Not Filled, 2014 15

	Number of Responses	Percent
A candidate(s) turned down an offer	24	49.0
Lack of agreement as to a candidate	10	20.4
The search was suspended	7	14.3
The position was canceled after the search began	6	12.2
Candidates deemed unqualified for position	1	2.0
Other	1	2.0
Total	49	100.0

Source: American Sociological Association Survey of Employers, 2015.

Note:

For 23 positions for which searches were conducted but positions were not filled; respondents were allowed to select multiple responses.

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.