

Career Forum

Together with the Alumni Society (Association of former students and lecturers) the Department organizes a series of events called the “Berufsforum” on an ongoing basis. Graduates are invited to discuss or report on their professional activities, reflect on their course of study and the transition to work, present their profile or biography to actors in the spatial planning network, or report on individual experiences. The career forum provides students with comprehensive and vivid insights into the labour market and the various occupational fields, which complement the findings from the graduate surveys.

Information on the career forum can be found online and in the publications “Berufswege in der Raumplanung” (only in German):

<https://raumplanung.tu-dortmund.de/en/study/transition-to-the-profession/>



Graduate survey

The Department regularly conducts surveys of graduates from the last five graduation years. The aim is to obtain up-to-date information about alumni whereabouts in the labour market and offer students orientation for their studies based on current feedback. In addition, the knowledge gained can be incorporated into the further development of the degree programme and the courses offered.

In particular, students are asked about:

- o Experiences during the transition phase from study to work
- o the different employers and professional activities
- o the retrospective evaluation of the study programme and their own course of study

The results of the graduate surveys can be found at (only in German):

<https://raumplanung.tu-dortmund.de/en/study/transition-to-the-profession/survey-of-graduates/>

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Career opportunities for spatial planners

The fields of activity of Dortmund's graduates lie on all spatial planning levels and in the various areas relevant to planning, which reflects the wide range of the Department and its interdisciplinary structure and training concept. The spatial levels range from neighbourhoods to cities and regions to the European and global levels. Employers are predominantly the public sector and the private sector, but also public companies, associations, associations, federations and non-governmental organisations. They work at the administrative level as well as in management positions.

The study structure of both the Bachelor's programme and the Master's programme offers students the opportunity to deepen their skills and profile by means of various study elements such as project and design topics, choice of courses, examination topics and thesis topics or the individual design of the practical phase.

In the Master's study, a specialization can be chosen from the eight thematic options offered, which is then shown on the certificate. The Bachelor's degree entitles registration in the list of urban planners of the NRW Chamber of Architects and the Master's degree offers access to a 2-year traineeship in urban planning and management for cities in Germany called the "Städtebauliches Referendariat".



Employers

An insight into the spectrum of possible employers for spatial planners includes:

Public service

- City administration, e.g. city planning office,
- Environmental office, economic development
- District government, regional association
- State and federal ministries, European Union
- Colleges and universities
- Public (and private) research institutions

Private sector

- Planning offices
- Real estate industry
- Location and project development companies
- Political and economic consultancies
- Residential development

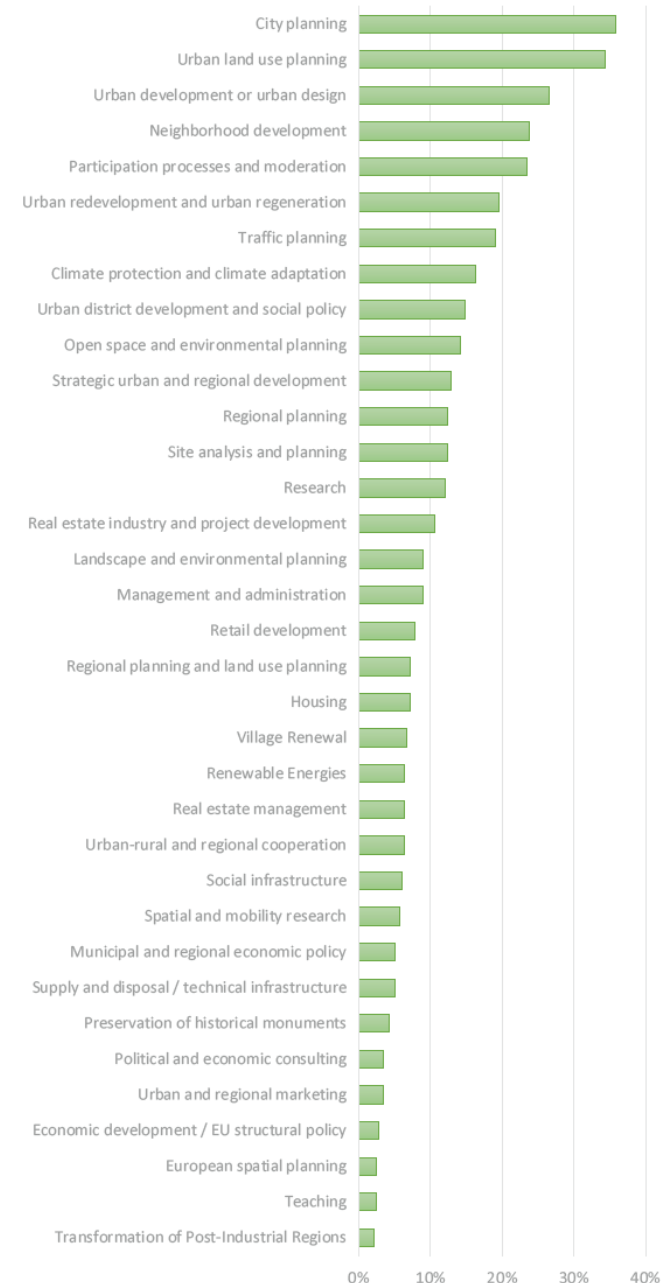
Public enterprises

- Energy supply companies,
- Transport or logistics companies
- Project development companies

Municipal utilities, Clubs, associations, non-governmental organisations

- Chambers of industry and commerce
- Retail trade associations
- Foundations
- Political parties
- Tenants' associations

Occupational Fields



Source: 2020 graduate survey; Multiple answers possible