

# Comparative Work Insertion of Professionals in Sports 2008 Vs. 2012

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## Abstract

This article shows a comparative analysis of the labor insertion of the program named "Professionals in Sport and Physical Activity" 2008 and the program with a new name "Professional in Sports" 2012, in order to know the significant differences about their first job, type of contract and the relationship of their job with the career they studied. Frequency distribution tables and the statistical software EPIDAT 3.1 were used in both groups. It was concluded that graduated students work by contract to provide services and that their jobs are directly related to their professional training.

**Keywords:** employability, sport, graduated students

## 1. Introduction

According to CEPAL (2010), the regions of Latin America and the Caribbean are characterized by a high degree of structural heterogeneity, in the sector of labor insertion compared to working conditions, there being marked differences between the characteristics of employment: people with similar characteristics, such as study, experience, knowledge, skills can have very different jobs, in terms of income, access to social security, job stability, among others. As well as specific groups presenting discrimination by gender and ethnicity.

On the other hand, the National Competitiveness Report of Colombia 2013-2014, shows symptoms of a labor market with deficiencies that impact its competitiveness, having an unemployment rate higher than 10% and an informality rate between 50% and 70%. These deficiencies are symptoms of a series of inflexibilities that continue to plague the Colombian labor market. According to McMillan and Rodrik (2011), these rigidities in the labor market are the conditions that hinder the process of positive structural change in a country, and could even result in negative structural changes.

Despite the importance that has been given to employment for the welfare of the population, there is no clear positive correlation between the type of employment and the level of education. Unemployment is strongly affecting young people, especially graduated students from higher education. In this way, the employment situation in the profile of studies of university graduates become questioned by the accreditation mechanisms of the quality of academic programs, due to this it is necessary to establish follow-up (observatories) to the graduated students about their possibilities of obtaining employment in the profile that corresponds to their training and likewise configure it based on the demands of the labor market. (González, Kiss and Lotero, 2004).

Training in the field of sport after an international and national observation has very different characteristics and conditions, however, it is possible to present it in three main trends:

- Technical sports training as part of high school education when it is formally regulated (Spanish case).
- Professional technical training as propaedeutic cycles (Chilean case).
- Professional training in sports, integrated into training in physical education, recreation, physical activity, health or physical culture with professional and occupational profiles aimed at sport but without precision of emphasis or deepening towards achievement or sports training (Mexican, Colombian, American and European).

The denominations of the programs have a marked tendency to identify with the field of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary knowledge as an object of a complex and open study, achieving an important distancing from the tradition in this Spanish case of naming the formations with the field of specific practice.

Contrary to these circumstances in the national curricular designs, the tendency for differentiation from degrees, denominations and curricular constructions led to a great heterogeneity of programs with occupational purposes and profiles oriented on the same labor market, causing a variety of terminal programs and their endogenization, producing problems in the continuity of the studies, and enormous difficulties for the mobility and transfer of the students.

According to the above, a presentation of the current state of the Professional in Sports from University Escuela Nacional del Deporte (I.U. END) is given according to Gonzalez (2006):

The professional program in sport of the I.U. END coherent with the institutional historical tradition is distinguished by its orientation on the pedagogical sport process and its relation with the sociocultural contexts from the formation in the type of sport.

The understanding of the sports preparation process from the theory of sport as a science allows the institution to maintain a coherence between the substantive functions in both the research processes and in the social projection, in different areas that relate sport to education, health and culture.

The fields of action of sports professionals according to the program are:

- The public and private education sector (educational institutions, higher education institutions, non-formal and informal education institutions).
- The territorial sports entities (departmental and municipal institutes of sports and departmental and municipal offices of education, culture, health, sports and recreation).
- The associated sport of initiation and training, high achievements, public forces and special populations (sports schools, clubs, sports leagues, sports federations and the Colombian Olympic Committee).
- The community sports sector, cooperative, family and business compensation.
- Companies providing physical activity services (gyms and fitness centers).
- Organizations of the state central administration linked to sport (Administrative Department of Sport and Recreation-Coldeportes).

Therefore, the I.U. END, through the Research Group of Labor Observatory of Sports Professionals (Oblade), carried out a comparative descriptive study on the characteristics of the labor insertion of the graduated students of the Professional program in Sports and Physical Activity of the year 2008, moment 1 (one year after graduation) and the first graduated students from the new denomination Professionals in Sports corresponding to the year 2012, one year after graduation; to show if there are significant changes in relation to their employment situation.

## 2. Method

For this article, two research works carried out by the I.U. END are taken as the main information, they are about the follow-up to the graduated students of the program "professional in sport and physical activity" in the year 2008 (Piedrahita, 2008) moment 1, that is to say one year after graduating and on the characterization of the labor insertion of the graduated students of the program "professional in sports" of its first two promotions with the current name in 2012, one year after graduating (Aguilar F., Vélez A., Guerra K., Garay M., Congo R., 2014).

The type of study is descriptive because it allows to have relevant information quickly and easily. It is also a longitudinal study to establish the change of characteristics of the labor insertion of graduated students over time.

Both studies use the institutional questionnaire of moment 1, for graduated students of the two denominations in 2008 and 2012, one year after graduating. The population of the 2008 promotion are 37 students and from the 2012 promotion there are 44 students.

A comparative statistical analysis of the category "Labor insertion" is made, the frequency distribution tables of both investigations are used, and the statistical software EPIDAT 3.1 is used. For its analysis it should be considered that when comparing the two periods, if its results are in the interval with a 95% confidence, if the probability or the result gives more than 5% ( $p > 0.05$ ) it will not be significant, but if the probability or the result gives less than 5% ( $p < 0.05$ ), it will be significant.

## 3. Analysis and Discussion of the Results

Once the comparative on the category "Labor Insertion" was done, the main findings were the following:

In table 1 (it is their first job) you can see that the difference of the graduated students of 2008, one year after graduating and graduated students of 2012, one year after graduating, when answering the question whether it was their first employment, is significant, going from 10.8% to 25%.

Table 1. It is their first job

		<b>THIS IS THEIR FIRST JOB</b>	
		<b>2008</b>	
	FREQ.	PERC.	
YES	4	10.8%	11
NO	29	78.4%	10
No data	4	10.8%	1
Unemployed	0	0%	22

Chi2=10.37 valor-p 0.0

When comparing the question how long after graduation obtained a job, in table 2, it can be seen that there were significant changes because the highest percentage is the one that was already working with 73% in 2008 against 34.1% of 2012. (Z = 3.26 and value - p = 0.001).

That is, the professionals of 2012 were not working in the same proportion as the previous one and one explanation may be that the students who now enter higher education are younger, before in 2008 those who entered the I.U. END were adults and a lot of them were already working.

Table 2. How long after graduating did you obtain a job?

		<b>HOW LONG AFTER GRADUATING DID YOU OBTAIN A JOB?</b>	
		<b>2008</b>	
	FREQ.	PERC.	
I was already working	27	73%	15
Less than 3 months	0	0%	2
Between 3 and 6 months	3	8.1%	1
Between 7 and 12 months	3	8.1%	3
More than 12 months	0	0%	0
No data	4	10.8%	1
Unemployed	0	0%	22

In spite of not having significant changes, it is evident in Table 3 (type of contract) that the most usual contracts for graduated students of both denominations are the service and fixed-term contracts.

Table 3. Type of contract

		<b>TYPE OF CONTRACT</b>	
		<b>2008</b>	
	FREQ.	PERC.	
Fixed term contract	11	29.7%	5
Contract of services	9	24.3%	9
Indefinite term contract	8	21.6%	6
Other type of contract	3	8.1%	1
No data	6	16%	1
Unemployed	0	0%	22

CHI2= 1.67 VALOR - p = 0.64

The employment relationship with the career studied (table 4), it can be observed that there are no significant changes. The largest percentage responds that it is directly related.

Table 4. Employment relationship with the career studied.

<b>EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH CAREER STUDIED</b>	
<b>2008</b>	

	FREQ.	PERC.	FREQ.	PERC.
Directly related	30	81.1%	18	40.9%
No related	2	5.4%	1	2.3%
Indirectly related	1	2.7%	2	4.5%
No data	4	10.8%	1	2.3%

CHI2= 1.6 VALOR - p = 0.060

Among other aspects analyzed and that there were no significant changes are: in the field of work activities, they are concentrated in their order- municipal, national, regional, international; compared to the level of satisfaction with current employment, they are satisfied; the highest percentage of graduated students are interested in working overtime; and they are interested in earning better income. Among the significant changes, is that graduated students from the year 2012 have more interest in creating companies than the ones from the year 2008.

#### 4. Conclusions

This study shows that professionals in sports mostly work by contract to provide services according to the National Competitiveness Report of Colombia 2015-2016 (Competitiveness, 2016) which presents some deficiencies, which includes the sports sector.

It can be seen that in graduated students in professional sports, 25% was their first job; while professionals in sports and physical activity was only 10.8%, and 73% of them were already working, because there were more adults and many of them were empirical and were doing their professionalization in sport.

It is also evident in the two study groups that their jobs are directly related to their professional training, as well as that their main employers are municipal, departmental and national institutions.

Sports professionals want to be independent through their interest in creating a company, it is necessary to promote within the program and / or the institution a unit of entrepreneurship that promotes this modality.

This study provides a feedback to the program, and a great amount of information from graduated students working force. It helps the program in having specific information on how their students are performing in the different work areas. There for, the institution is working towards the development of academic strategies to increase students' motivation and knowledge about having their own working offers.

Finally, the researchers hope this is a starting point to future research about the performance of students in the labor field, helping this profession to grow everyday more and more, this can also help in improvement of the community's behavior towards sports.

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