

Key findings from PRES 2019

POSTGRADUATE
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE
SURVEY

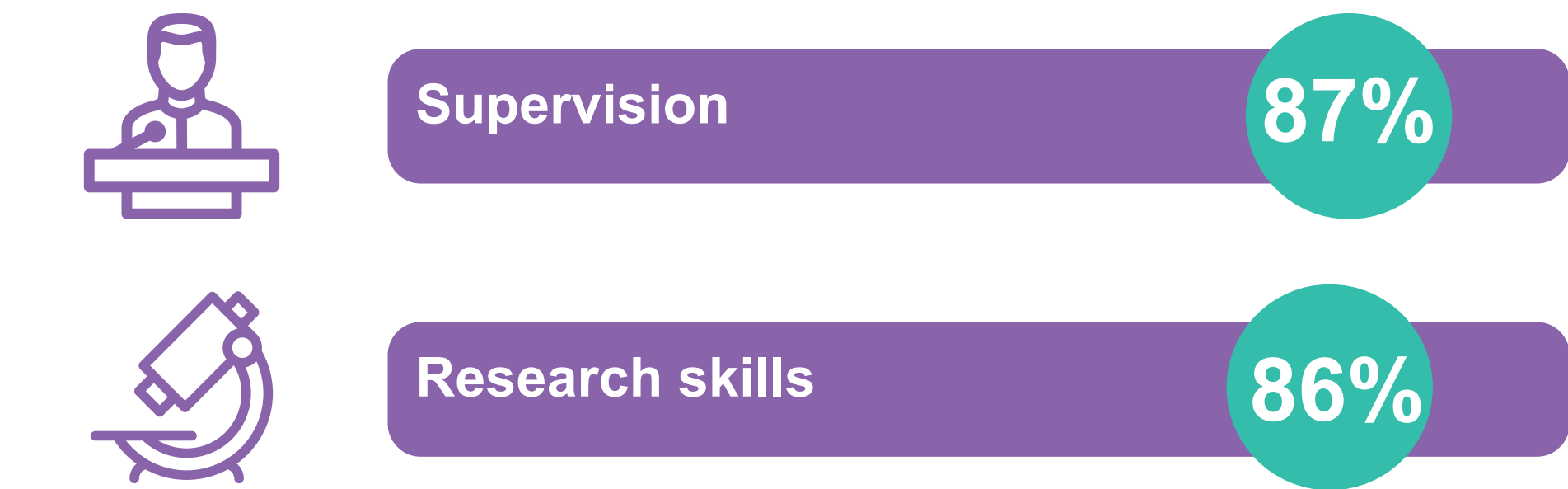
Overall, 80% of PGRs were satisfied with their experience

This is in line with the 2018 figure and just 1% below the 2019 score. Satisfaction decreases during the second and third years and then fluctuates, with a low of 75% in year five. For those who study for as long as 7 years, overall satisfaction levels improve again, reaching their peak (88%) right at the end in year nine of studies.



The areas of the research degree experience PGRs are most satisfied with are supervision and research skills

The score for Research Culture has seen a 3% lower score this year compared with 2019; satisfaction with all elements within this theme is lower in 2020.



Only 60% are satisfied with the research culture at their institution

Only 55% of part-time PGRs are satisfied with the research culture element of their experience, and evidence indicates the need to provide more opportunities for them to interact with the research community.



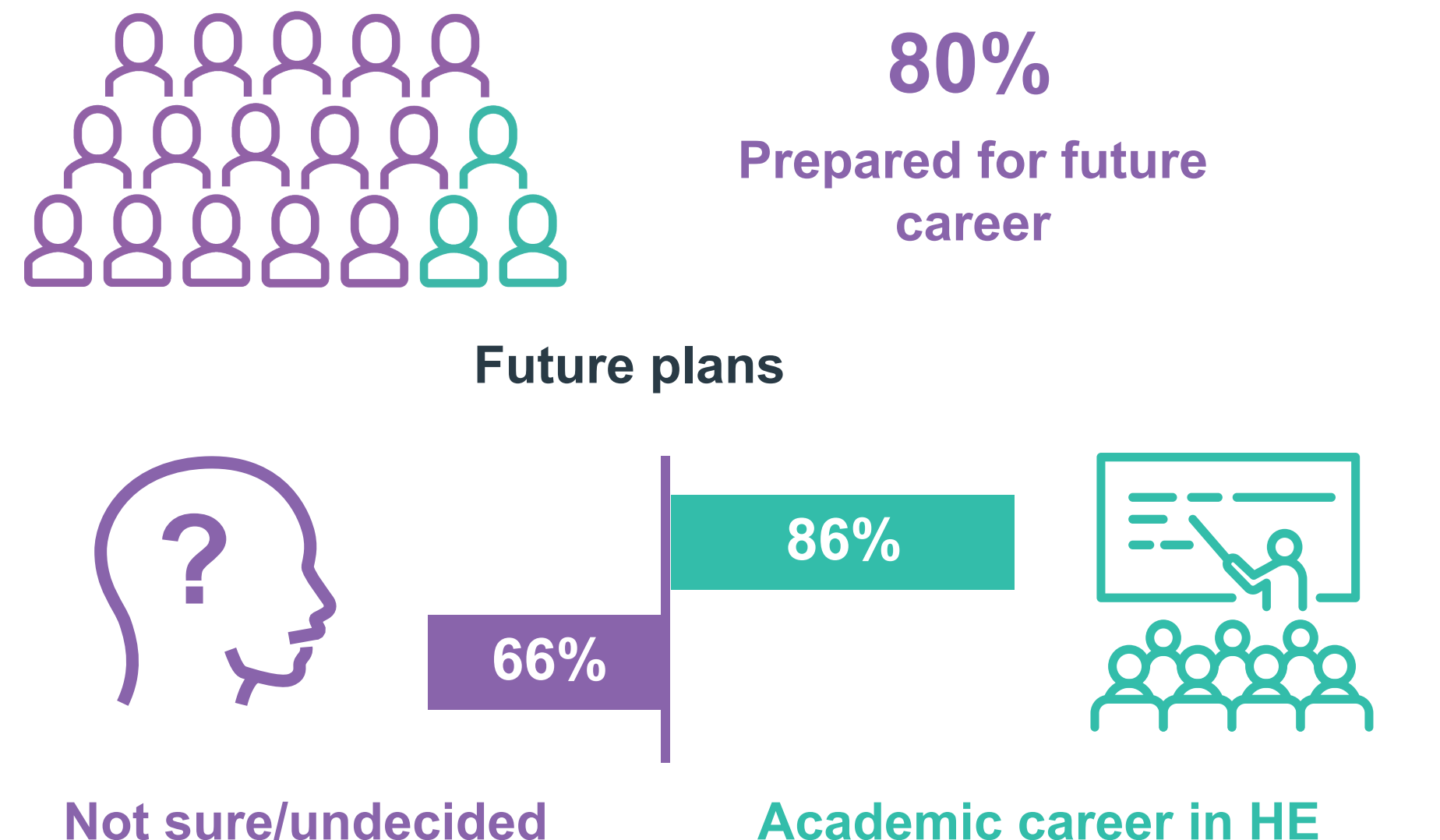
The top motivations for taking a research degree programme are interest in the subject and to improve prospects of an academic career

An academic career in HE is the most common future plan among PGRs (38%).



80% of PGRs feel prepared for their future career

PGRs planning on a career with their sponsoring employer, or planning an academic or research career in HE, feel the most prepared.

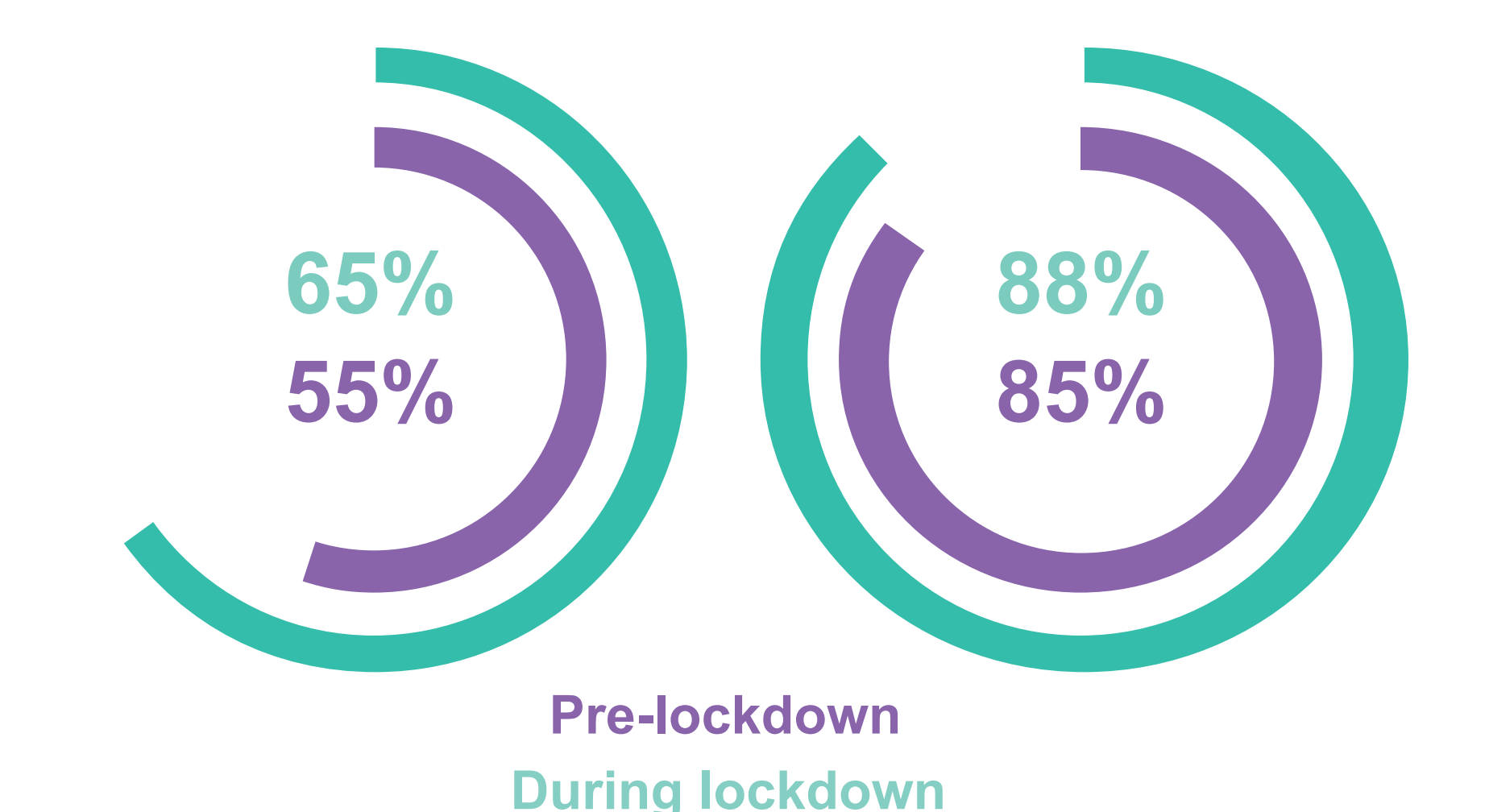


There is evidence that institutions helped to create a positive experience despite the challenges faced due to Covid-19

PGRs who responded during lockdown (after 16th March) reported slightly higher satisfaction than those who responded before lockdown (82% vs 77%), and slightly higher satisfaction with each element of the research degree experience.

My institution values and responds to feedback

Satisfaction with supervision



Please visit www.advance-he.ac.uk to find out more and download the full report.

For more information on any Advance HE survey, please contact surveys@advance-he.ac.uk