

PROS AND CONS OF WORKING IN A COMPANY ¹

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work-life balance and family friendly. Though it depends on personal capabilities, generally companies care a lot about the well-beings of employees and it is less stressful than university jobs.• Financially rewarding. It usually has a better pay and corporate benefits than university when people are at the same level.• Teamwork. People work in teams and are always not alone rather than individual research. Your impact is shown at the group level.• Clear job responsibility. While having numerous tasks at university, working in a company means a clear job description and goals toward the company's business interest.• Good work routine. Standard working hours with some flexibility upon agreement. No overtime or countless deadlines in university.• Good opportunities. There are more options to move about job functions or companies.• Direct impact. What you do is directly connected to the product people use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of personal development. Working in a company means the group benefits are to be maximized. As an individual, it is not always at your personal interests, so you are “on your own” in your development.• Mid-age crisis. With young and energetic employees who have similar competence, it is a severe issue when entering the mid-age with an outdated skill set.• Uncertainty in job security. The economic downturns show big companies can fail rather quickly while university jobs are comparatively stable.• Unclear career advancement. While having a clear direction in publication and tenureship in academia, it is rather fluffy in advancing a career at companies.• Lack of intellectual freedom. All your intellectual property done at work belong to the company.• Academic / research merits are not fully recognized. The education and research conducted at school is used at business interests. Regular work is very business focused and fundamental research is not highly appreciated. It is not uncommon that your boss or big boss receive less academic education than you do.

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