

MEDIA RELEASE

Employment Rates of Polytechnic Graduates Remain High in 2023

9 in 10 employed within six months post-graduation

Singapore, 12 January 2024 – The 2023 Polytechnic Graduate Employment Survey (GES)¹ found that 92.7% of polytechnic graduates in the labour force were employed within six months of graduation or after completion of full-time National Service, comparable to the 91.8% in 2022 (see **Table 1**). The median gross monthly salary among graduates in full-time permanent employment increased from \$2,600 in 2022 to \$2,800 in 2023.

Among the 5,914 polytechnic graduate survey respondents in the labour force, 59.8% were in full-time permanent employment, 28.0% were in part-time/temporary employment, and 3.1% had either accepted a job offer or were actively starting a business venture. Consistent with previous years, majority of the polytechnic graduates in part-time/temporary employment did so voluntarily, with about half of them concurrently pursuing or preparing to begin further studies.

Table 1: Employment Indicators from 2021 to 2023

Proportion of Respondents in the Labour Force who were:	Fresh Graduates			Post-NS (PNS) Graduates			Combined (Fresh and PNS Graduates)		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Employed	91.4%	91.4%	91.7%	94.2%	92.7%	95.1%	92.2%	91.8%	92.7%
In Full-Time Permanent Employment	56.0%	56.1%	55.5%	63.3%	65.4%	69.2%	58.1%	59.0%	59.8%
Freelancing	3.4%	4.0%	3.9%	7.8%	10.1%	7.3%	4.7%	5.9%	5.0%
In Part-Time/Temporary Employment	31.9%	31.3%	32.3%	23.2%	17.2%	18.5%	29.4%	26.9%	28.0%
<i>Voluntary</i>	30.3%	30.2%	30.8%	20.9%	16.2%	17.7%	27.6%	25.8%	26.7%
<i>Involuntary</i>	1.6%	1.1%	1.5%	2.3%	1.0%	0.8%	1.8%	1.1%	1.3%
Unemployed	8.6%	8.6%	8.3%	5.8%	7.3%	4.9%	7.8%	8.2%	7.3%
<i>Unemployed but starting work soon or actively starting a business venture</i>	2.9%	2.3%	3.6%	1.4%	2.2%	1.9%	2.5%	2.2%	3.1%
<i>Unemployed and still looking for a job</i>	5.7%	6.3%	4.7%	4.4%	5.1%	3.0%	5.3%	5.9%	4.2%

Note: The percentages may not add up due to rounding off. The list of definitions for the employment indicators is at Annex A.

¹ The GES is jointly conducted by Nanyang Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Republic Polytechnic, Singapore Polytechnic and Temasek Polytechnic.

Across all course clusters, the median gross monthly salaries of graduates **continue to increase** compared to the previous years' graduating class. The median gross monthly salary of graduates from **Engineering, Health Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences** and **Information & Digital Technologies** were comparable or higher than the overall median for all graduates. (see **Table 2**).

Table 2: Median Gross Monthly Salary by Course Clusters (Full-Time Permanent Employed Graduates only) from 2021 to 2023

Course Cluster	Fresh Graduates			Post-NS (PNS) Graduates			Combined (Fresh and PNS Graduates)		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Overall	\$2,400	\$2,550	\$2,700	\$2,614	\$2,800	\$2,963	\$2,500	\$2,600	\$2,800
Arts, Design & Media	\$2,100	\$2,300	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,625	\$2,800	\$2,200	\$2,500	\$2,600
Built Environment	\$2,350	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,550	\$2,800	\$2,800	\$2,400	\$2,535	\$2,640
Business	\$2,200	\$2,500	\$2,600	\$2,519	\$2,890	\$3,000	\$2,300	\$2,500	\$2,700
Engineering	\$2,400	\$2,550	\$2,629	\$2,700	\$2,850	\$2,900	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$2,800
Health Sciences	\$2,625	\$2,852	\$3,000	\$2,800	\$2,860	\$3,069	\$2,650	\$2,854	\$3,000
Humanities & Social Sciences	\$2,500	\$2,600	\$2,900	\$2,500	\$2,800	\$2,970	\$2,500	\$2,600	\$2,913
Information & Digital Technologies	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$2,880	\$3,000	\$2,600	\$2,747	\$2,900
Sciences	\$2,200	\$2,250	\$2,340	\$2,607	\$2,570	\$2,980	\$2,250	\$2,300	\$2,500

Note: The list of diploma courses under each course cluster is available in Annex B.

Fresh Graduates

8,065 out of 10,757 fresh graduates in 2023 responded to the survey. As of 1 October 2023, around six months after graduation, 50.4% of the respondents were in the labour force. 49.0% were pursuing or preparing to begin further studies and hence were not actively looking for jobs. Most of the remaining 0.7% of the respondents said that they were taking a break and were not seeking employment.

Post-National Service Graduates

5,055 out of 8,739 graduates from 2020 who completed their full-time National Service (NS) between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 responded to the survey. 36.6% of respondents were in the labour force. 63.1% were pursuing or preparing to begin further studies, and hence were not actively looking for jobs. Similar to the fresh graduates, most of the remaining 0.3% of the respondents said they were taking a break and not seeking employment.

Nurturing Future Talent for the Industry

To support their graduates, the polytechnics offer regular career guidance and support, including job matching and personalised career coaching and planning. Tapping on their strong industry networks, the five polytechnics also organise regular career fairs to curate suitable job placement and apprenticeship opportunities, including the SkillsFuture Work-Study Programme.

Speaking on behalf of the Polytechnic GES Committee on the outcome of the survey findings, Ms Jeanne Liew, Principal & CEO, Republic Polytechnic said, "The confidence shown by employers in our polytechnic graduates is evident in the wage growth and stable employment rates. Our robust industry ties and progressive curriculum have nurtured graduates who are adaptable and resilient. Through ongoing collaboration with stakeholders, we remain committed to preparing graduates for the dynamic job market."

Media Release Issued by

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DEFINITION OF EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

Employment refers to graduates working in full-time permanent, part-time, temporary employment and freelancing. The employment rate is the number of employed graduates, as a proportion of graduates in the labour force (i.e. those who were working or not working but actively looking and available for work).

Full-time Permanent Employment refers to employment of at least 35 hours a week and where the employment is not temporary. It includes those on contracts of one year or more.

Freelancing refers to those who operate their own business without employing any paid worker in the conduct of their business or trade.

Part-time Employment refers to employment of less than 35 hours a week.

Temporary Employment refers to casual, interim or seasonal employment, including those on contracts of less than one year.

Involuntary part-time/temporary employment refers to those who indicated that they were in part-time/temporary employment after they were unable to obtain a full-time permanent job offer.

Voluntary part-time/temporary employment refers to those who indicated that they were in part-time/temporary employment as they were pursuing/ preparing to commence further studies or taking active steps to start a business venture, due to personal choice and other reasons.

Gross Monthly Salary comprises basic salary, fixed allowances, overtime pay, commissions and other regular cash payments, before deduction of the employee's CPF contributions and personal income tax. Employer's CPF contributions, bonuses, stock options, other lump sum payments and payments-in-kind are excluded.

LIST OF DIPLOMA COURSES SURVEYED

<p><u>ARTS, DESIGN & MEDIA</u> Diploma in 3D Interactive Media Technology Diploma in Advertising & Public Relations Diploma in Animation Diploma in Animation & 3D Arts Diploma in Animation & Visual Effects Diploma in Apparel Design & Merchandising Diploma in Arts & Theatre Management Diploma in Arts and Theatre Management Diploma in Arts Business Management Diploma in Chinese Media & Communication Diploma in Communication Design Diploma in Communications & Media Management Diploma in Creative Writing for TV & New Media Diploma in Design Diploma in Design for User Experience Diploma in Digital Animation Diploma in Digital Film & Television Diploma in Digital Game Art & Design Diploma in Digital Visual Effects Diploma in Environment Design Diploma in Experience & Communication Design Diploma in Experience & Product Design Diploma in Film, Sound & Video Diploma in Game Design Diploma in Games Design & Development Diploma in Immersive Media & Game Design Diploma in Industrial Design Diploma in Interaction Design Diploma in Interactive and Digital Media Diploma in Interior Architecture & Design Diploma in Interior Design Diploma in Mass Communication Diploma in Mass Media Management Diploma in Media & Communication Diploma in Media Post-Production Diploma in Media Production & Design Diploma in Media Production and Design Diploma in Motion Graphics & Broadcast Design Diploma in Motion Graphics Design Diploma in Music & Audio Technology Diploma in Product & Industrial Design Diploma in Product Design & Innovation Diploma in Retail & Hospitality Design Diploma in Sonic Arts Diploma in Spatial Design Diploma in Visual Communication Diploma in Visual Communication & Media Design Diploma in Visual Effects Diploma in Visual Effects & Motion Graphics</p> <p><u>BUILT ENVIRONMENT</u> Diploma in Architecture Diploma in Civil Engineering Diploma in Civil Engineering with Business Diploma in Facilities Management Diploma in Green Building & Sustainability Diploma in Green Building Energy Management Diploma in Hotel & Leisure Facilities Management Diploma in Integrated Facility Management Diploma in Landscape Architecture Diploma in Real Estate Business Diploma in Sustainable Urban Design & Engineering</p> <p><u>BUSINESS</u> Diploma in Accountancy Diploma in Accountancy & Finance Diploma in Aviation Management Diploma in Banking & Finance Diploma in Banking & Financial Services Diploma in Business Diploma in Business & Social Enterprise Diploma in Business Administration Diploma in Business Innovation and Design Diploma in Business Management Diploma in Business Studies Diploma in Consumer Behaviour & Research Diploma in Consumer Behaviour and Research Diploma in Culinary & Catering Management</p>	<p><u>BUSINESS (CONT.)</u> Diploma in Customer Experience Management with Business Diploma in Food & Beverage Business Diploma in Fund Management & Administration Diploma in Hospitality & Tourism Management Diploma in Hotel & Hospitality Management Diploma in Hotel and Hospitality Management Diploma in Human Resource Management with Psychology Diploma in Integrated Events & Project Management Diploma in Integrated Events Management Diploma in International Business Diploma in International Logistics & Supply Chain Management Diploma in International Trade & Business Diploma in Law & Management Diploma in Leisure & Events Management Diploma in Logistics & Operations Management Diploma in Maritime Business Diploma in Marketing Diploma in Restaurant & Culinary Operations Diploma in Restaurant and Culinary Operations Diploma in Retail Management Diploma in Social Enterprise Management Diploma in Tourism & Resort Management Diploma in Wellness & Hospitality Business Diploma in Wellness, Lifestyle and Spa Management</p> <p><u>ENGINEERING</u> Diploma in Advanced & Digital Manufacturing Diploma in Aeronautical & Aerospace Technology Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering Diploma in Aerospace Avionics Diploma in Aerospace Electronics Diploma in Aerospace Engineering Diploma in Aerospace Systems & Management Diploma in Aerospace Technology Diploma in Audio-visual Technology Diploma in Automation & Mechatronic Systems Diploma in Aviation Management Diploma in Bioengineering Diploma in Biomedical Engineering Diploma in Business Process & Systems Engineering Diploma in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering Diploma in Chemical Engineering Diploma in Clean Energy Diploma in Clean Energy Management Diploma in Computer Engineering Diploma in Digital & Precision Engineering Diploma in Electrical & Electronic Engineering Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering Diploma in Electrical Engineering Diploma in Electrical Engineering with Eco-Design Diploma in Electronic & Computer Engineering Diploma in Electronic Systems Diploma in Electronics Diploma in Electronics, Computer & Communications Engineering Diploma in Energy Systems & Management Diploma in Engineering Design with Business Diploma in Engineering Science Diploma in Engineering Systems Diploma in Engineering Systems & Management Diploma in Engineering Systems and Management Diploma in Engineering with Business Diploma in Environmental & Water Technology Diploma in Industrial & Operations Management Diploma in Industrial and Operations Management Diploma in Infocomm & Media Engineering Diploma in Infocomm & Network Engineering Diploma in Marine & Offshore Technology Diploma in Marine Engineering Diploma in Mechanical Engineering Diploma in Mechatronics Diploma in Mechatronics & Robotics Diploma in Mechatronics Engineering Diploma in Microelectronics Diploma in Multimedia & Infocomm Technology Diploma in Nanotechnology & Materials Science Diploma in Nautical Studies Diploma in Robotics & Mechatronics Diploma in Supply Chain Management Diploma in Telematics & Media Technology</p>
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LIST OF DIPLOMA COURSES SURVEYED (CONT.)

HEALTH SCIENCES

Diploma in Health Sciences (Nursing)
Diploma in Nursing
Diploma in Optometry
Diploma in Oral Health Therapy
Diploma in Pharmaceutical Science
Diploma in Pharmaceutical Sciences

HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Diploma in Applied Drama & Psychology
Diploma in Child Psychology & Early Education
Diploma in Chinese Studies
Diploma in Community Development
Diploma in Early Childhood Development & Education
Diploma in Early Childhood Education
Diploma in Early Childhood Studies
Diploma in Health Management & Promotion
Diploma in Health Management and Promotion
Diploma in Health Services Management
Diploma in Outdoor & Adventure Learning
Diploma in Outdoor and Adventure Learning
Diploma in Psychology Studies
Diploma in Social Sciences (Social Work)
Diploma in Social Sciences in Gerontology
Diploma in Sport & Exercise Sciences
Diploma in Sport & Wellness Management
Diploma in Sport and Exercise Sciences
Diploma in Sport Management
Diploma in Sports & Leisure Management
Diploma in Sports and Leisure Management
Diploma in Sports Coaching
Diploma in Tamil Studies with Early Education

INFORMATION & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Diploma in Applied AI & Analytics
Diploma in Big Data & Analytics
Diploma in Big Data Management & Governance
Diploma in Business & Financial Technology
Diploma in Business Applications
Diploma in Business Enterprise IT
Diploma in Business Informatics
Diploma in Business Information Systems
Diploma in Business Information Technology
Diploma in Business Intelligence & Analytics
Diploma in Cyber & Digital Security
Diploma in Cyber Security & Forensics
Diploma in Cybersecurity & Digital Forensics
Diploma in Digital Design & Development
Diploma in Digital Forensics
Diploma in Financial Business Informatics
Diploma in Financial Informatics

INFORMATION & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES (CONT.)

Diploma in Financial Technology
Diploma in Game Design & Development
Diploma in Game Development & Technology
Diploma in Immersive Media
Diploma in Infocomm & Security
Diploma in Infocomm Security Management
Diploma in Information Security & Forensics
Diploma in Information Technology
Diploma in Mobile & Network Services
Diploma in Mobile Software Development
Diploma in Multimedia & Animation
Diploma in Network Systems & Security

SCIENCES

Diploma in Applied Chemistry
Diploma in Applied Food Science & Nutrition
Diploma in Baking & Culinary Science
Diploma in Biologics & Process Technology
Diploma in Biomedical Science
Diploma in Biomedical Sciences
Diploma in Biotechnology
Diploma in Chemical & Green Technology
Diploma in Chemical & Pharmaceutical Technology
Diploma in Environmental Science
Diploma in Food Science & Nutrition
Diploma in Food Science & Technology
Diploma in Food, Nutrition & Culinary Science
Diploma in Landscape Design & Horticulture
Diploma in Marine Science & Aquaculture
Diploma in Marine Science and Aquaculture
Diploma in Materials Science
Diploma in Medical Biotechnology
Diploma in Medicinal Chemistry
Diploma in Molecular Biotechnology
Diploma in Nutrition, Health & Wellness
Diploma in Perfumery & Cosmetic Science
Diploma in Veterinary Bioscience
Diploma in Veterinary Technology