MEDIA RELEASE

Polytechnic Graduates Command Higher Salary Amidst Evolving Job Landscape

Close to 9 In 10 Employed Within 6 Months Post-Graduation

Singapore, 13 January 2025 – The 2024 Polytechnic Graduate Employment Survey (GES)[1] found that the median gross monthly salary among graduates in full-time permanent employment increased from $2,800 in 2023 to $2,900 in 2024. It also found that 87.5% of polytechnic graduates in the labour force were employed within six months of graduation or after completing full-time National Service, against the backdrop of slower employment growth in 2024 as compared to 2023. (see **Table 1**).

Among the 5,769 polytechnic graduate survey respondents in the labour force, 54.6% were in full-time permanent employment, 27.0% were in part-time/temporary employment, and 2.9% had either accepted a job offer or were actively starting a business venture. Consistent with previous years, a significant 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 2022 to 2024

Proportion of Respondents in the Labour Force who were:	Fresh Graduates			Post-NS (PNS) Graduates			Combined (Fresh and PNS Graduates)		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Employed	91.4%	91.7%	85.6%	92.7%	95.1%	91.4%	91.8%	92.7%	87.5%
In Full-Time Permanent Employment	56.1%	55.5%	49.2%	65.4%	69.2%	65.2%	59.0%	59.8%	54.6%
Freelancing	4.0%	3.9%	4.7%	10.1%	7.3%	8.3%	5.9%	5.0%	5.9%
In Part-Time/Temporary Employment	31.3%	32.3%	31.6%	17.2%	18.5%	17.8%	26.9%	28.0%	27.0%
Voluntary	30.2%	30.8%	29.6%	16.2%	17.7%	16.8%	25.8%	26.7%	25.3%
Involuntary	1.1%	1.5%	1.9%	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%	1.1%	1.3%	1.6%
Unemployed	8.6%	8.3%	14.4%	7.3%	4.9%	8.6%	8.2%	7.3%	12.5%
Unemployed but starting work soon or actively starting a business venture	2.3%	3.6%	3.2%	2.2%	1.9%	2.4%	2.2%	3.1%	2.9%
Unemployed and still looking for a job	6.3%	4.7%	11.3%	5.1%	3.0%	6.2%	5.9%	4.2%	9.6%

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

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

Across course clusters, graduates' median gross monthly salaries **continue to increase** compared to the previous year's graduating class. The median gross monthly salary of graduates from **Health Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences, and Information & Digital Technologies** were 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 2022 to 2024

Course Cluster	Fresh Graduates			Post-NS (PNS) Graduates			Combined (Fresh and PNS Graduates)		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Overall	**$2,550**	**$2,700**	**$2,800**	**$2,800**	**$2,963**	**$3,000**	**$2,600**	**$2,800**	**$2,900**
Arts, Design & Media	$2,300	$2,500	$2,500	$2,625	$2,800	$2,900	$2,500	$2,600	$2,625
Built Environment	$2,500	$2,500	$2,675	$2,800	$2,800	$2,900	$2,535	$2,640	$2,800
Business	$2,500	$2,600	$2,700	$2,890	$3,000	$3,000	$2,500	$2,700	$2,800
Engineering	$2,550	$2,629	$2,775	$2,850	$2,900	$3,000	$2,700	$2,800	$2,900
Health Sciences	$2,852	$3,000	$3,000	$2,860	$3,069	$3,273	$2,854	$3,000	$3,000
Humanities & Social Sciences	$2,600	$2,900	$3,100	$2,800	$2,970	$3,000	$2,600	$2,913	$3,038
Information & Digital Technologies	$2,700	$2,700	$2,900	$2,880	$3,000	$3,000	$2,747	$2,900	$3,000
Sciences	$2,250	$2,340	$2,500	$2,570	$2,980	$2,940	$2,300	$2,500	$2,600

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

Fresh Graduates

7,614 out of 10,045 fresh graduates in 2024 responded to the survey. As of 1 October 2024, around six months after graduation, 50.4% of the respondents were in the labour force. 48.9% were pursuing or preparing to begin further studies and were not actively looking for jobs. A majority of the remaining 0.8% said they were taking a break and were not seeking employment.

Post-National Service Graduates

5,290 out of 8,939 graduates from 2021 who completed their full-time National Service (NS) between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 responded to the survey. 36.5% of respondents were in the labour force. 63.1% were pursuing or preparing to begin further studies and were not actively looking for jobs. Similar to the fresh graduates, most of the remaining 0.4% of the respondents said they were taking a break and were not seeking employment.

Nurturing Future Talent for the Industry

The five polytechnics are committed to preparing their graduates for the workforce, as well as providing timely career guidance and support, including job matching and personalised career coaching and planning. Tapping on their strong industry networks, the 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, Mr Soh Wai Wah, Principal & CEO, Singapore Polytechnic said, "Given the evolving job landscape, we are actively working to equip our students with the necessary skills and adaptability to navigate this well. This includes strengthening industry partnerships to provide real-world experience, integrating

AI literacy into our curriculum, and enhancing career guidance and support services. Our commitment is to ensure that our graduates are well-prepared for the future of work and can successfully launch fulfilling careers."

Media Release Issued by

Singapore Polytechnic
Mr Daryl Hung
Department of Communications
Tel: 9477 1268
Email: daryl_hung@sp.edu.sg

Other Media Contacts:

Nanyang Polytechnic
Ms Felicia Ting
Department: Communication & Outreach
Tel: 8128 9463
Email: felicia_ting@nyp.edu.sg

Ngee Ann Polytechnic
Ms Amelia Chua
Corporate Communications
Tel: 8428 1678
Email: amelia_chua@np.edu.sg

Republic Polytechnic
Mr P.Bala
Office of Corporate Communications
Tel: 9365 4300
Email: p_bala@rp.edu.sg

Temasek Polytechnic
Ms Patricia Tay
Corporate Communications
Tel: 9763 0117
Email: patricia_tay@tp.edu.sg

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.*

ARTS, DESIGN & MEDIA
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 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 Games & Gamification
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 Experiential Product & Interior 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 & 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, Arts & 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 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

BUILT ENVIRONMENT
Diploma in Architectural Technology & Building Services
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 Built Environment
Diploma in Sustainable Urban Design & Engineering

BUSINESS
Diploma in Accountancy
Diploma in Accountancy & Finance
Diploma in Accounting & Finance
Diploma in Aviation Management
Diploma in Aviation Management & Services
Diploma in Banking & Finance
Diploma in Banking & Financial Services
Diploma in Business
Diploma in Business & Social Enterprise
Diploma in Business Administration

BUSINESS (CONT.)
Diploma in Business Management
Diploma in Business Studies
Diploma in Consumer Behaviour & Research
Diploma in Culinary & Catering Management
Diploma in Customer Experience Management with Business
Diploma in Food & Beverage Business
Diploma in Hospitality & Tourism Management
Diploma in Hotel & Hospitality Management
Diploma in Human Resource Management with Psychology
Diploma in Integrated Events & Project Management
Diploma in Integrated Events Management
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 Retail Management
Diploma in Social Enterprise Management
Diploma in Tourism & Resort Management
Diploma in Wellness & Hospitality Business

ENGINEERING
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 Engineering
Diploma in Electrical Engineering with Eco-Design
Diploma in Electronic & Computer Engineering
Diploma in Electronic Systems
Diploma in Electronics
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 with Business
Diploma in Environmental & Water Technology
Diploma in Industrial & Operations Management
Diploma in Infocomm & Media 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

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
Diploma in Pharmacy Science

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 Gerontological Management Studies
Diploma in Health Management & Promotion
Diploma in Health Services Management
Diploma in Outdoor & Adventure Learning
Diploma in Psychology Studies
Diploma in Social Sciences (Social Work)
Diploma in Social Sciences in Gerontology
Diploma in Social Work
Diploma in Sport & Exercise Science
Diploma in Sport & Wellness Management
Diploma in Sports & Leisure Management
Diploma in Sports Coaching
Diploma in Tamil Studies with Early Education

INFORMATION & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES
Diploma in Applied AI & Analytics
Diploma in Applied Artificial Intelligence
Diploma in Big Data & Analytics
Diploma in Big Data Management & Governance
Diploma in Business & Financial Technology
Diploma in Business Applications
Diploma in Business Informatics
Diploma in Business Information Systems
Diploma in Business Information Technology
Diploma in Business Intelligence & Analytics

INFORMATION & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES (CONT.)
Diploma in Cyber Security & Forensics
Diploma in Cybersecurity & Digital Forensics
Diploma in Data Science
Diploma in Digital Design & Development
Diploma in Financial Business Informatics
Diploma in Financial Informatics
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 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 Biotechnology
Diploma in Chemical & Green Technology
Diploma in Chemical & Pharmaceutical Technology
Diploma in Environmental & Marine Science
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 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