

**MORE POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES FIND JOBS AS SINGAPORE ECONOMY RECOVERS IN 2021**  
***More than 9 in 10 graduates are employed within 6 months upon graduation***

Singapore, 13 January 2022 – The 2021 Polytechnic Graduate Employment Survey (GES)<sup>1</sup> found that 92.2% of polytechnic graduates found jobs within six months of graduation or after completion of full-time National Service, an increase of 4.8% from 87.4% in 2020 (see **Table 1**). The median gross monthly salary among graduates in full-time permanent employment increased from \$2,400 in 2020 to \$2,500 in 2021.

Among the 7,566 polytechnic graduate survey respondents in the labour force, 58.1% were in full-time permanent employment, while 29.4% were in part-time/temporary employment, including 2.2% who were on the SGUnited Traineeships Programme. Another 2.5% had either accepted a job offer or were actively starting a business venture. Consistent with previous years, about half the polytechnic graduates in part-time/temporary employment were concurrently pursuing or preparing to begin further studies.

**Table 1:** Employment Indicators from 2019 to 2021

Proportion of Respondents in the Labour Force who were:	Fresh Graduates			Post-NS (PNS) Graduates			Combined (Fresh and PNS Graduates)		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Employed	89.1%	85.4%	91.4%	94.1%	91.9%	94.2%	90.7%	87.4%	92.2%
In Full-Time Permanent Employment	56.6%	45.8%	56.0%	70.7%	65.5%	63.3%	61.1%	52.0%	58.1%
Freelancing	2.9%	2.8%	3.4%	6.7%	6.0%	7.8%	4.1%	3.8%	4.7%
In Part-Time/Temporary Employment	29.6%	36.8%	31.9% <sup>2</sup>	16.7%	20.4%	23.2% <sup>3</sup>	25.5%	31.6%	29.4% <sup>4</sup>
<i>Voluntary</i>	27.3%	32.8%	30.3%	14.6%	17.1%	20.9%	23.2%	27.9%	27.6%
<i>Involuntary</i>	2.3%	3.9%	1.6%	2.1%	3.3%	2.3%	2.3%	3.8%	1.8%
Unemployed	10.9%	14.6%	8.6%	5.9%	8.1%	5.8%	9.3%	12.6%	7.8%
<i>Unemployed but starting work soon or actively starting a</i>	2.8%	3.4%	2.9%	1.4%	1.9%	1.4%	2.3%	2.9%	2.5%

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

<sup>2</sup> Of these, 2.0%-points are on the SGUnited Traineeships Programme

<sup>3</sup> Of these, 2.7%-points are on the SGUnited Traineeships Programme

<sup>4</sup> Of these, 2.2%-points are on the SGUnited Traineeships Programme

<i>business venture</i>									
<i>Unemployed and still looking for a job</i>	8.1%	11.2%	5.7%	4.6%	6.2%	4.4%	7.0%	9.6%	5.3%
Median Gross Monthly Salary of those who are in Full-Time Permanent Employment	\$2,300	\$2,350	\$2,400	\$2,540	\$2,500	\$2,614	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,500

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

The median gross monthly salaries of graduates from **Health Sciences** and **Information & Digital Technologies** have been consistently higher than the overall median for all graduates (see **Table 2**).

**Table 2:** Median Gross Monthly Salary by Course Clusters for Fresh Graduates and Post-NS Graduates (Full-Time Permanent Employed only) from 2019 to 2021

Course Cluster	Fresh Graduates			Post-NS Graduates			All		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Arts, Design & Media	\$2,200	\$2,000	\$2,100	\$2,400	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,200	\$2,100	\$2,200
Built Environment	\$2,300	\$2,230	\$2,350	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,550	\$2,300	\$2,345	\$2,400
Business	\$2,155	\$2,100	\$2,200	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,519	\$2,270	\$2,200	\$2,300
Engineering	\$2,350	\$2,300	\$2,400	\$2,550	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$2,470	\$2,450	\$2,500
Health Sciences	\$2,580	\$2,550	\$2,625	\$2,627	\$2,698	\$2,800	\$2,600	\$2,553	\$2,650
Humanities & Social Sciences	\$2,400	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,656	\$2,580	\$2,500	\$2,450	\$2,500	\$2,500
Information & Digital Technologies	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,500	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$2,700	\$2,450	\$2,500	\$2,600
Sciences	\$2,023	\$2,120	\$2,200	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,607	\$2,125	\$2,250	\$2,250
<b>Overall</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>	<b>\$2,350</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$2,540</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$2,614</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>

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

### **Fresh Graduates**

9,025 out of 11,928 fresh graduates in 2021 responded to the survey. As at 1 Oct 2021, around six months after the completion of their final examinations, 59.8% of the respondents were in the labour force, an increase of 3.4% compared to 2020. 39.6% were pursuing or preparing to begin further studies and hence not looking for jobs. Most of the remaining 0.6% said they were taking a break and not seeking employment.

## **Post-National Service Graduates**

5,191 out of 8,875 graduates from 2018 who completed their full-time National-Service (NS) between 1 Apr 2020 and 31 Mar 2021 responded to the survey. 41.8% of respondents were in the labour force. 57.9% were pursuing or preparing to begin further studies and hence not looking for jobs, which was a slight increase of 0.7% compared to 2020. Similar to the fresh graduates, most of the remaining 0.3% said that they were taking a break and not seeking employment.

## **Support from the Polytechnics**

The polytechnics continue to support their graduates throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This includes holding career & opportunity fairs, and providing extensive career guidance and support such as job matching and personalised career coaching and planning. The polytechnics have also tapped on their network of industry partners to curate suitable job placement and apprenticeship opportunities for graduates, such as the SkillsFuture Work-Study Programmes.

Commenting on behalf of the Polytechnic GES Committee on the outcomes of the 2021 Polytechnic GES, Mr Peter Lam, Principal & CEO, Temasek Polytechnic said, “The increase in the employment rate of polytechnic graduates, in tandem with the recovery of Singapore’s economy, testifies to the industry-relevant training our students receive. Despite the many uncertainties faced in the past year, the median salaries for both fresh and post-National Service graduates have increased, clearly reflecting employers’ confidence in our polytechnic graduates’ skills and knowledge.”

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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 as they had tried but were unable to obtain a full-time permanent job offer so far.

**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, taking active steps to start a business venture, due to personal choice and other reasons.

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

### **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 Early Childhood Education  
 Diploma in Early Childhood Studies  
 Diploma in Gerontological Management Studies  
 Diploma in Health Management and Promotion  
 Diploma in Health Services Management  
 Diploma in NIEC (NP) - Tamil Studies With Early Education  
 Diploma in Outdoor and Adventure Learning  
 Diploma in Psychology Studies  
 Diploma in Social Sciences (Social Work)  
 Diploma in Sport & Wellness Management  
 Diploma in Sports & Leisure Management  
 Diploma in Sports and Exercise Sciences  
 Diploma in Sports Coaching

### **INFORMATION & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**

Diploma in Big Data Management & Governance  
 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 Forensics  
 Diploma in Engineering Informatics  
 Diploma in Financial Business Informatics  
 Diploma in Financial Informatics  
 Diploma in Game Design & Development  
 Diploma in Game Development & Technology  
 Diploma in Infocomm & Security  
 Diploma in Infocomm Security Management  
 Diploma in Information Security & Forensics  
 Diploma in Information Technology  
 Diploma in IT Service Management  
 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 Chemistry With Materials Science  
 Diploma in Applied Chemistry With Pharmaceutical Science  
 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 Landscape Design & Horticulture  
 Diploma in Marine Science & Aquaculture  
 Diploma in Materials Science  
 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