



**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)<sup>1</sup> 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%
<i>Voluntary</i>	30.2%	30.8%	29.6%	16.2%	17.7%	16.8%	25.8%	26.7%	25.3%
<i>Involuntary</i>	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%
<i>Unemployed but starting work soon or actively starting a business venture</i>	2.3%	3.6%	3.2%	2.2%	1.9%	2.4%	2.2%	3.1%	2.9%
<i>Unemployed and still looking for a job</i>	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.

<sup>1</sup> 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
<b>Overall</b>	<b>\$2,550</b>	<b>\$2,700</b>	<b>\$2,800</b>	<b>\$2,800</b>	<b>\$2,963</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$2,600</b>	<b>\$2,800</b>	<b>\$2,900</b>
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

**Republic Polytechnic**

Mr P.Bala  
Office of Corporate Communications  
Tel: 9365 4300  
Email: p\_bala@rp.edu.sg

**Ngee Ann Polytechnic**

Ms Amelia Chua  
Corporate Communications  
Tel: 8428 1678  
Email: amelia\_chua@np.edu.sg

**Temasek Polytechnic**

Ms Patricia Tay  
Corporate Communications  
Tel: 9763 0117  
Email: patricia\_tay@tp.edu.sg

## ANNEX A

### 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.

<p><b>ARTS, DESIGN &amp; MEDIA</b></p> <p>Diploma in 3D Interactive Media Technology  Diploma in Advertising &amp; Public Relations  Diploma in Animation  Diploma in Animation &amp; 3D Arts  Diploma in Animation &amp; Visual Effects  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 TV &amp; New Media  Diploma in Design  Diploma in Design For Games &amp; Gamification  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; Communication Design  Diploma in Experience &amp; Product Design  Diploma in Experiential Product &amp; Interior 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 Post-Production  Diploma in Media Production &amp; Design  Diploma in Media, Arts &amp; Design  Diploma in Motion Graphics &amp; Broadcast Design  Diploma in Motion Graphics Design  Diploma in Music &amp; Audio Technology  Diploma in Product &amp; Industrial Design  Diploma in Product Design &amp; Innovation  Diploma in Sonic Arts  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>BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p>Diploma in Architectural Technology &amp; Building Services  Diploma in Architecture  Diploma in Civil Engineering  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 Sustainable Built Environment  Diploma in Sustainable Urban Design &amp; Engineering</p> <p><b>BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Diploma in Accountancy  Diploma in Accountancy &amp; Finance  Diploma in Accounting &amp; Finance  Diploma in Aviation Management  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</p>	<p><b>BUSINESS (CONT.)</b></p> <p>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 Food &amp; Beverage Business  Diploma in Hospitality &amp; Tourism Management  Diploma in Hotel &amp; Hospitality Management  Diploma in Human Resource Management with Psychology  Diploma in Integrated Events &amp; Project Management  Diploma in Integrated Events Management  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 Logistics &amp; Operations Management  Diploma in Maritime Business  Diploma in Marketing  Diploma in Restaurant &amp; Culinary Operations  Diploma in Retail Management  Diploma in Social Enterprise Management  Diploma in Tourism &amp; Resort Management  Diploma in Wellness &amp; Hospitality Business</p> <p><b>ENGINEERING</b></p> <p>Diploma in Advanced &amp; Digital Manufacturing  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 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 &amp; Operations Management  Diploma in Infocomm &amp; Media 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 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</p>
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**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