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## HKUST Releases 2003 Graduate Job Survey

A survey conducted by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) reveals that 99% of its graduates from the class of 2003 had found jobs, started businesses or begun further studies by December 2003.

Of the 1,511 respondents, 77.4% were engaged in full-time employment or business start-ups, 5.4% were working in temporary or part-time jobs, while 15.7% were continuing their education. The unemployment rate dropped significantly to 1% from 5.9% on the previous year.

In terms of employment sector, business absorbed the largest number, or 66.8% of the graduates, followed by manufacturing and industries (18.5%), education (6.9%), social services (3%), government (2.4%) and construction (2.4%). The four most popular professions are engineering (18.2%), marketing/sales (16.3%), accounting (13.3%) and administration (12.6%). The mean gross monthly income of graduates was \$8,888, representing a drop of 7.4% compared to last year's average of \$9,598.

The graduates surveyed received more job offers and also secured their first job offer at an earlier time than their 2002 counterparts: 65% received more than one job offer, 31.2% more than two, and 14.5% more than three. By August 2003, 87.6% had obtained their first offers of employment, and this percentage rose to 98.7% by October.

The survey was conducted by the Career Center of the University's Student Affairs Office.