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**Headline: Higher starting salaries for local fresh graduates in 2015: Survey**

## **Higher starting salaries for local fresh graduates in 2015: Survey**

**According to the survey, 89.5 per cent of graduates from NUS, NTU and SMU found employment within six months after completing their final examinations, compared to 89.1 per cent in 2014.**

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SINGAPORE: The mean gross monthly salary among fresh graduates employed in full-time positions increased S\$135 from 2014, according to results from the latest Joint Graduate Employment Survey released on Wednesday (Mar 2).

Individuals who graduated from the National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Singapore Management University (SMU) in 2015 had a gross monthly pay of S\$3,468, compared to S\$3,333 in 2014.

Meanwhile, the median gross monthly salary among fresh graduates employed in full-time permanent employment was S\$3,300 in 2015, compared to S\$3,200 from two years ago, the survey showed.

### **MORE GRADUATES GETTING HIRED**

Besides a higher starting salary, more graduates are also finding employment within six months of the completion of their final examinations. In 2015, 89.5 per cent of the respondents who were in the labour force found employment within six months, compared to 89.1 per cent in 2014, according to the survey.

Additionally, 83.1 per cent of the respondents in the labour force also secured full-time permanent employment, which is 0.4 per cent more than two years ago.

Labour force is defined as those who are working and those who are not working but are actively looking and available for a job, it said.

A total of 10,028 full-time fresh graduates from Nanyang Technological University (NTU), National University of Singapore (NUS) and Singapore Management University (SMU) had participated in the 2015 joint survey.

Due to different academic calendars, the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) and the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) will conduct their surveys in February and March, respectively.

- CNA/xk