

For information on 20 June 2000

## **Legislative Council Panel on Manpower**

### **Employment situation of graduates from Information Technology Assistant courses and graduates from courses offered by The Vocational Training Council**

#### **Purpose**

This paper informs Members of the employment situation of -

- (a) graduates from the pilot Information Technology (IT) Assistant Course; and
- (b) graduates from the range of full-time courses offered by the Vocational Training Council (VTC).

#### **IT Assistant Course**

2. Taking into account feedback from the industry that there is a great demand for trained manpower by companies in the IT as well as other sectors, particularly those at the junior assistant level, the Administration launched a pilot IT Assistant Course in February 2000. The aim is to provide a focused IT training programme which places emphasis on practical knowledge and training to equip trainees with the necessary skills to take up jobs available in the market. The training programme is drawn up with active input from the IT industry and comprises ten modules. The modules cover basic IT skills, office software and database applications, windows NT, basic and intermediate web authoring, introduction to e-commerce, media production for business, web internet support, IT for business and soft skills and job searching.

3. The pilot course is run jointly by the VTC and the

Employees Retraining Board (ERB). A total of 300 places have been made available for the pilot course. By end May 2000, 178 trainees have graduated from the first eight classes of the pilot course. The remaining five classes will be completed in July 2000.

4. Besides running the classes, the VTC and the ERB also provide job placement and career counselling assistance to trainees. To help promote the course to prospective employers and to solicit their feedback on the course design, we visited a number of IT associations and chambers of commerce prior to the launching of the pilot course. Promotional leaflets and information about the course were sent to employers organisations as well as individual prospective employers. Also, an Internet-based forum has been set up for posting of job information and to facilitate experience sharing among trainees. The Placement Office also assists with preparing standard resume for trainees and arranging job interviews.

5. By 13 June 2000, the VTC and the ERB have identified some 420 job vacancies and arranged over 280 interviews. Of the 178 graduates, 45 have indicated preference to pursue further full-time study. Of the remaining 133 graduates, 71 (or 53%) have accepted job offers and 62 (or 47%) are still searching for jobs. The VTC and the ERB will jointly host a job bazaar on 17 June 2000 to enable prospective employers to meet with the trainees.

### **VTC's education and training programmes**

6. The VTC organises its technical education and vocational training programmes under separate umbrellas. Technical education courses are provided by its vocational education institutions, collectively known as the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE). Vocational training courses are provided by VTC's various training and development centres.

#### ***Technical Education***

7. VTC's technical education courses are offered in nine major disciplines, namely applied science; business and commerce; child care;

computing and IT; design, printing, textiles and clothing; electrical and electronic engineering; hotel, catering and tourism; construction; mechanical manufacturing and industrial engineering. The provision of full-time courses range from the two-year Certificate in Vocational Studies course for Secondary 3 school-leavers to the three-year Higher Diploma courses in a range of subjects. In term of their levels, IVE courses can be categorised into three groups, namely, Higher Diploma, Diploma/Technician and Craft levels.

8. The following table shows the placement statistics of IVE's graduates in the past three years -

Year of Graduation	Employed (%)	Pursuing full-time study (%)
<u>Higher Diploma graduates</u>		
1997	84	12
1998	73	14
1999	76	16
<u>Diploma graduates</u>		
1997	66	26
1998	54	24
1999	59	26
<u>Craft level graduates</u>		
1997	49	38
1998	40	43
1999	45	34

More detailed information about the employment status of students who graduated in 1999 as at January 2000 is shown at Annex A.

### ***Vocational Training***

9. The VTC's Training Centres offer a variety of pre-employment training courses ranging from operative to technician level to meet the manpower needs of a range of economic sectors. The majority of these are the one-year craft foundation and technician foundation courses. Other courses are at operative level and are of a shorter duration, ranging from nine to 23 weeks, covering mainly the hospitality, welding and seafaring trades.

10. For 1998/99, the overall employment rate for job-seeking trainees was 95.7% while the employment rate in the relevant field is 84.3%. The corresponding figures for the previous two years are 97.6% and 86.5% in 1997/98 and 91.7% and 74.2% in 1996/97. A more detailed table showing the employment statistics of trainees of different training centres in 1998/99 is at Annex B.

**Advice sought**

11. Members are invited to note the content of this paper.

Education and Manpower Bureau/Vocational Training Council  
June 2000

**Graduates of 1999**  
**Employment Status as in January 2000**

## (a) Higher Diploma Course Graduates

Discipline	<u>Economically Active</u>				<u>Economically Inactive</u>		Total (%)	Total no. of graduates (No.)
	Employed (%)	(Employment rate) <sup>2</sup> (%)	Seeking employment (%)	(Unemployment rate) <sup>2</sup> (%)	Pursuing full-time study (%)	Not seeking employment (%)		
Applied Science	77	(93)	6	(7)	16	1	100	171
Business Administration	84	(92)	7	(8)	6	3	100	244
Computing & Mathematics	84	(96)	4	(4)	11	1	100	254
Construction	89	(98)	2	(2)	8	2	100	105
Design	74	(96)	3	(4)	21	2	100	87
Electrical & Communication Eng.	75	(87)	11	(13)	13	1	100	139
Electronic Engineering	73	(87)	11	(13)	16	1	100	113
Hotel, Catering & Tourism Manage.	61	(92)	7	(8)	31	1	100	90
Manufacturing Engineering	68	(91)	6	(9)	25	*	100	280
Mechanical Engineering	67	(92)	6	(8)	26	2	100	132
<b>All Disciplines</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>(92)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1615</b>

- Notes: (1) The percentages are rounded to the nearest 1% and may not sum to 100%.  
(2) The employment rate and the unemployment rate of economically active graduates are shown in brackets.  
(3) \* Less than 0.5%.

**Source: Employment Survey on IVE Graduates**  
**Statistics Section, VTC**

**Graduates of 1999**  
**Employment Status as in January 2000**

## (b) Diploma/Technician Level Certificate Course Graduates #

Discipline	Economically Active				Economically Inactive		Total (%)	Total no. of graduates (%)
	Employed (%)	(Employment rate) <sup>2</sup> (%)	Seeking employment (%)	(Unemployment rate) <sup>2</sup> (%)	Pursuing full-time study (%)	Not seeking employment (%)		
Accountancy	78	(85)	14	(15)	6	3	100	332
Applied Science	57	(79)	16	(21)	21	6	100	101
China Business Studies	65	(83)	13	(17)	16	5	100	223
Clothing Technology	67	(84)	12	(16)	11	10	100	117
Commercial Studies	70	(88)	9	(12)	19	3	100	1074
Computing Studies	52	(76)	17	(24)	28	4	100	580
Construction	44	(87)	7	(13)	48	1	100	287
Design	68	(87)	9	(13)	17	5	100	253
Electrical Engineering	53	(86)	8	(14)	37	2	100	130
Electronic Engineering	40	(78)	11	(22)	46	3	100	493
General Studies	88	(93)	6	(7)	3	3	100	171
Hotel-keeping & Tourism Studies	75	(88)	10	(12)	10	5	100	330
Manufacturing Engineering	17	(60)	12	(40)	51	20	100	86
Marine Engineering	74	(82)	16	(18)	8	3	100	38
Mechanical Engineering	39	(77)	12	(23)	43	6	100	456
Motor Vehicle Engineering	29	(54)	25	(46)	40	6	100	48
Printing	62	(87)	9	(13)	26	3	100	138
Textile Industries	60	(77)	18	(23)	19	4	100	57
<b>All Disciplines</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>(84)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>(16)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4914</b>

- Notes: (1) The percentages are rounded to the nearest 1% and may not sum to 100%.  
(2) The employment rate and the unemployment rate of economically active graduates are shown in brackets.  
(3) # Including 2 years diploma course graduates and 1 year technician level certificate course graduates.

**Source: Employment Survey on IVE Graduates**  
**Statistics Section, VTC**

**Graduates of 1999**  
**Employment Status as in January 2000**

## (c) Craft Level Certificate Course Graduates

Discipline	Economically Active				Economically Inactive			Total no. of graduates (No.)
	Employed (%)	(Employment rate) <sup>2</sup> (%)	Seeking employment (%)	(Unemployment rate) <sup>2</sup> (%)	Pursuing full-time study (%)	Not seeking employment (%)	Total (%)	
Accountancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Applied Science	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
China Business Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clothing Technology	16	(57)	8	(43)	72	4	100	25
Commercial Studies	46	(70)	20	(30)	27	8	100	719
Computing Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	100	(100)	0	(0)	0	0	100	25
Design	71	(89)	10	(11)	10	10	100	72
Electrical Engineering	61	(82)	13	(18)	21	5	100	336
Electronic Engineering	37	(68)	17	(32)	40	5	100	220
General Studies	28	(75)	9	(25)	60	3	100	317
Hotel-keeping & Tourism Studies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manufacturing Engineering	41	(60)	28	(40)	27	4	100	81
Marine Engineering	31	(44)	38	(56)	0	31	100	13
Mechanical Engineering	44	(76)	13	(24)	34	9	100	702
Motor Vehicle Engineering	46	(79)	11	(21)	39	3	100	185
Printing	52	(82)	12	(18)	34	3	100	179
Textile Industries	19	(67)	10	(33)	69	2	100	42
<b>All Disciplines</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>(75)</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>(25)</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2916</b>

Notes: (1) The percentages are rounded to the nearest 1% and may not sum to 100%.

(2) The employment rate and the unemployment rate of economically active graduates are shown in brackets.

**Source: Employment Survey on IVE Graduates**  
**Statistics Section, VTC**

**Employment Statistics of Trainees After Completing (1998/99)  
FT Pre-employment Courses with Job Placement Service by Training Centre**

(a) Trainees completed training

Training Centre <sup>@</sup>	Courses Completed (No.)	Classes Completed (No.)	Trainees Completed Training									(8)*	(9)#
			(1) Total (No.)	(2) Trainees in Relevant Employment		(3) Trainees in other employment		(4) Trainees Seeking Job (No.)	(5) Trainees not Seeking Job (No.)	(6) Trainees Pursuing Full-time Study (No.)	(7) Trainees Could not be Contacted (No.)		
				within 3 months after Completed Training (No.)	after 3 months but within 6 months after Completed Training (No.)	within 3 months after Completed Training (No.)	after 3 months but within 6 months after Completed Training (No.)						
AU	1	21	322	-	151	-	55	-	-	116	-	100.0	73.3
EL	4	44	706	461	9	82	9	16	18	111	-	97.2	81.5
EC	3	19	317	144	26	5	6	12	15	107	2	93.8	88.1
GA	1	3	29	-	28	-	1	-	-	-	-	100.0	96.6
HO	9	58	881	569	9	37	-	9	20	233	4	98.6	92.6
JL	3	6	138	82	10	-	-	20	15	11	-	82.1	82.1
ME**	3	69	830	450	7	52	-	50	25	209	37	91.1	81.8
PL	4	4	133	54	1	15	3	11	2	32	15	86.9	65.5
PR	3	23	241	206	-	5	-	-	-	25	5	100.0	97.6
ST	8	14	165	63	46	4	12	3	23	13	1	97.7	85.2
TE	4	5	127	52	6	4	1	1	3	56	4	98.4	90.6
WE	2	8	93	-	44	-	36	-	-	13	-	100.0	55.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>3982</b>	<b>2081</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>95.7</b>	<b>84.3</b>

Notes:  $*(8) = \frac{(2)+(3)}{(2)+(3)+(4)}$

Source: Statistics Section, VTC

$\#(9) = \frac{(2)}{(2)+(3)+(4)}$

$(1) = (2)+(3)+(4)+(5)+(6)+(7)$

<sup>@</sup> See para. 2 in Explanatory Notes for full name of training centres.

\*\* Two classes of ME240LX, which were make-up classes of the course 2401, were excluded in the analysis to avoid duplication of information. There were 25 trainees who completed training in these make-up classes.



**Abbreviations used for the training centres:**

AU = Automobile Industry Training Centre

EL = Electrical Industry Training Centre

EC = Electronics Industry Training Centre

GA = Gas Industry Training Centre

HO = Hotel Industry Training Centre

JL = Jewellery Industry Training Centre

ME = Maching Shop and Metal Working Industry Training Centre

PL = Plastics Industry Training Centre

PR = Printing Industry Training Centre

ST = Seamen's Training Centre

TE = Textile Industry Training Centre

WE = Welding Training Centre

Source: Statistics Section, VTC