

Where did the 1998 B.Sc. - Biology graduates go ?

I. Introduction

The information contained in this paper is extracted from the Graduate Employment Survey of 1998 to answer the following questions about Bachelor of Science graduates with major in Biology :-

- How were they employed six months after graduation ?
- Of those who pursued further studies, what programmes did they follow ?
- Of those who were employed full-time, how long did it take them to secure their first job offer ?
- In which sectors were they employed ?
- How much did they receive in salary ?
- How many job offers did they receive ?
- Who were their employers and what were their job titles ?

II. Employment Situation in 1998

Of the 59 respondents who majored in Biology, 53% (or 31 graduates) were in full-time employment within six months of graduation. 29% (or 17 graduates) went on for further studies. Another 19% (or 11 graduates) were still seeking full-time employment at the time of the survey. (Table 1)

	B.Sc. - Biology								HKU Overall*							
	Total				Male				Female							
	'98		'97		'98		'97		'98		'97					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%				
<i>No. of respondents</i>	59	100	64	100	28	100	21	100	31	100	43	100	2383	100	2272	100
<i>F/T employed</i>	31	52.5	51	79.7	16	57.1	18	85.7	15	48.4	33	76.7	1701	71.4	1829	80.5
<i>P/T employed seeking F/T job</i>	2	3.4	2	3.1	1	3.6	0	0	1	3.2	2	4.7	94	3.9	37	1.6
<i>Unemployed seeking F/T job</i>	9	15.3	0	0	5	17.9	0	0	4	12.9	0	0	157	6.6	53	2.3
<i>Further studies</i>	17	28.8	11	17.2	6	21.4	3	14.3	11	35.5	8	18.6	413	17.3	339	14.9
<i>Emigration/home country</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.1	4	0.2
<i>Not seeking F/T job</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0.6	10	0.4

Table 1. Employment situation

* HKU overall refers to the figure for the total HKU population and includes M.B.,B.S. and B.D.S. graduates.

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III. Further Studies

Seventeen graduates pursued postgraduate studies as their first degree. Of these, six graduates each studied science and education, four studied medical science. Table 2 shows the academic programmes pursued & Table 3 shows the source of finance.

Field of Study	Academic Programmes			
	Ph.D.	M.Phil.	Master (Coursework)	Postgraduate Certificate
Science	2	3	1	
Medical Science		3	1	
Education				6

No Response =1

Table 2. Academic programmes

Source of Finance	No. of Graduates
Own Funds	4
Teaching Assistantship/Studentship	7
Full Scholarship	2
Scholarship & Teaching Assistantship/Studentship	1
Government Grant & Loan	3

Table 3. Source of finance for further studies

IV. Time Taken to Secure Employment

Among those graduates who were in full-time employment, 84% secured their first job offers before the end of September. The figure increased to 100% by the end of December. (Figure 1)

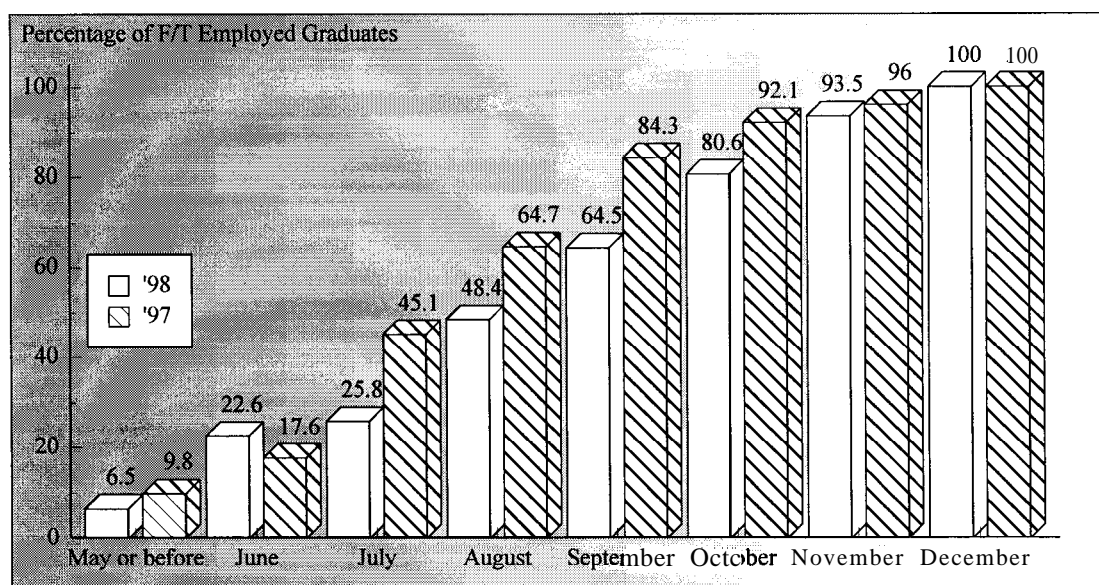


Figure 1. Time taken to secure employment

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V. Employment Sectors

39% (or 12 graduates) of the Biology graduates were employed in commerce & industry, followed by 32% (or 10 graduates) in education and 23% (or 7 graduates) in community, social & personal services. The remaining 6.5% (or 2 graduates) joined the civil service. (Figures 2 & 3)

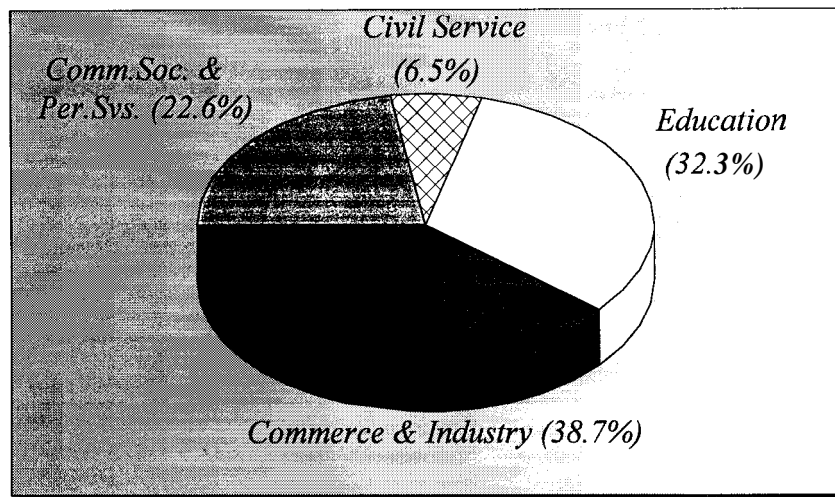


Figure 2. Employment sectors

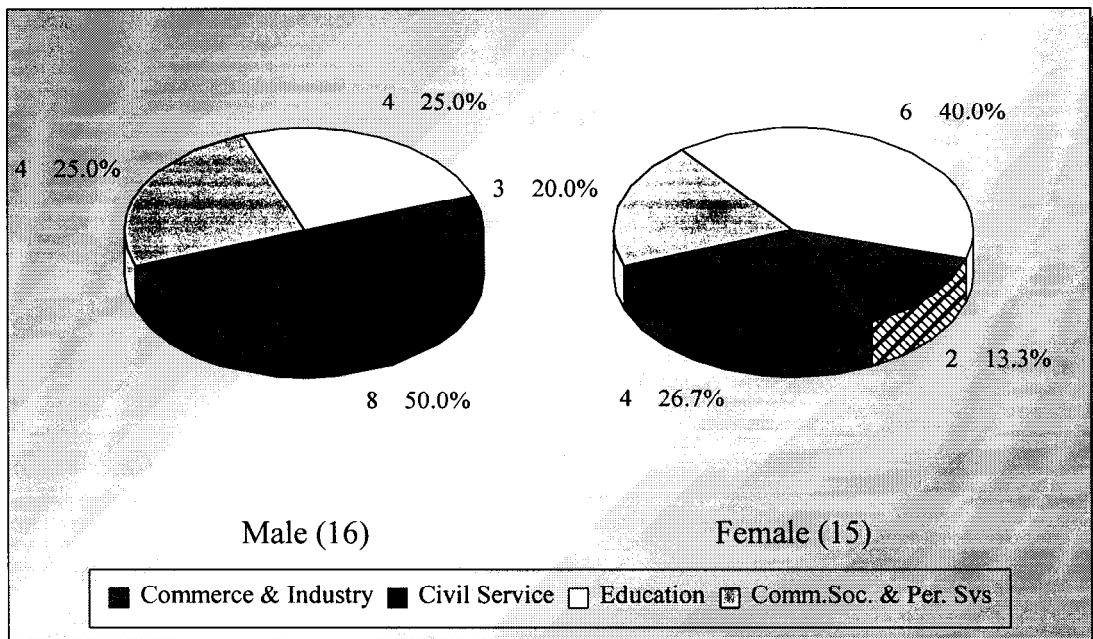


Figure 3. Employment sectors by sex

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VI. Basic Salary and Gross Income

The remuneration received by the Biology graduates is shown in Table 4.

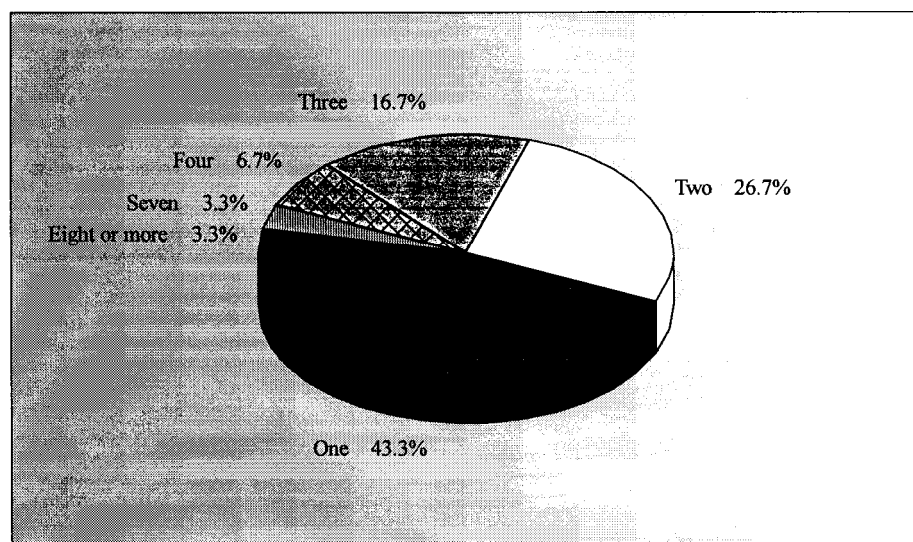
	<i>Basic Salary</i>				<i>Gross Income</i>			
	B.Sc. - Biology		HKU Average*		B.Sc. - Biology		HKU Average*	
	'98	'97	'98	'97	'98	'97	'98	'97
Mean	\$10,262	\$11,484	\$15,496	\$15,749	\$11,100	\$12,803	\$16,557	\$17,552
Median	\$10,000	\$11,000	\$12,300	\$12,500	\$10,500	\$13,000	\$13,325	\$14,521
Minimum	\$5,500	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$4,400	\$5,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Maximum	\$17,000	\$30,610	\$58,000	\$59,000	\$17,583	\$30,610	\$59,000	\$74,000

Table 4. Basic salary and gross income

* HKU average refers to the figure for the total HKU population and includes M.B.,B.S. and B.D.S. graduates.

VII. Number of Full-Time Job Offers

Of those in full-time employment, 57% of the graduates had more than one job offer. 30% reported having received three to eight or more job offers. (Figure 4)



No Response = 1

Figure 4. No. of full-time job offers

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VIII. Names of Employers and Job Titles

The job titles of the Biology graduates in full-time employment and the names of their employers are listed below.

<u><i>Employers :</i></u>	<u><i>Job Titles :</i></u>
CIVIL SERVICE -	
• HKSAR - Civil Aviation Department	• Student Air Travel Control Officer
• HKSAR - Civil Aviation Department	• Student Flight Traffic Services Officer
EDUCATION -	
• Helen Liang Memorial Secondary School	• Laboratory Technician
• Hong Kong College of Management	• Tutor
• The Chinese University of Hong Kong	• Research Assistant
• The Chinese University of Hong Kong	• Research Assistant
• The University of Hong Kong	• Research Assistant
• The University of Hong Kong	• Research Assistant
• The University of Hong Kong	• Research Assistant
• The University of Hong Kong	• Research Assistant
• Organization's name not reported	• Research Assistant
COMMUNITY, SOCIAL & PERSONAL SERVICE -	
• Airport Authority HK	• Airport Information Assistant
• Hong Kong Language Learning Centre	• Education Officer
• Hospital Authority	• Student Nurse
• Kowloon Hospital	• Clerk
• Organization's name not reported	• Tutor
COMMERCE & INDUSTRY -	
• America Advertising Ltd	• Copywriter
• Chesterton Petty Ltd	• Field Assistant
• Citigate Dewe Rogerson (China) Ltd	• Receptionist/Clerk
• Excel Good Consultant Ltd	• Assistant
• Innovex Group	• Medical Representative
• Kenki Architectural Products Ltd	• Marketing Executive
• Pedorthic Technology Ltd	• Assistant Pedorthist
• Poppy & Michael Co Ltd	• Assistant Marketing Sales Executive
• Success Piano Co	• Program Officer
• Tai Mei Metal Co Ltd	• Administrative Officer
• Organization's name not reported	• Merchandiser
• Organization's name not reported	• Surveying Technician
No Response – 3	

Table 5. List of employers and job titles

Note: Some alumni have indicated willingness to talk to individual students about their work. Their contact telephone number can be obtained from counsellors at CEPC.

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- IX.** Similar information on graduates from other disciplines of study is available for reference in the Careers Library. Please enquire with the CEPC.

Careers Education and Placement Centre
3/F Wong Chuang Lai Wah Building
Meng Wah Complex
The University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam Road
Hong Kong

Telephone : 28592314
Fax : 2559 5238
E-Mail : CEPC@HKUCC.HKU.HK
Homepage : <http://www.hku.hk/cepc>

Opening Hours : Monday - Friday (9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)
Saturday (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

Cindy Chan

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The analysis is based on information provided by the respondents, and the Careers Education & Placement Centre should not be held responsible for any errors arising therefrom.

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