

New graduates' Job market is almost its record high

A job-hunting for new graduates is captured by the joint research, "Recruitment Survey of College Graduates" by the Ministry of Health, Labour & Welfare and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science & Technology. The both ministries research the employment of new graduates (and students scheduled to graduate) of colleges and universities in quarterly basis as of the 1st day in October, December, February and April, and release the data around the mid-next month after the survey. The data is shown by region, major and gender of graduates.

Point 1

Employment rose for four consecutive years

Reflect upbeat corporate earnings

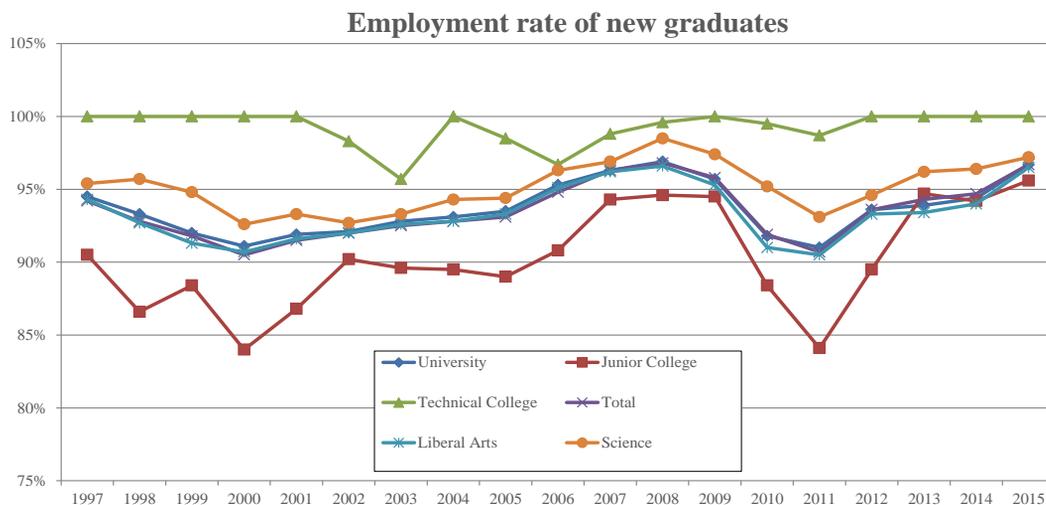
- According to the "Recruitment Survey of College Graduates in FY2014" released on May 19, the employment rate gained for four consecutive years to 96.7% by +2.3% from the previous year. The rate reached almost its record high of 96.9% in 2008 before the financial crisis. This reflects a robust hiring attitude of employers underpinned by upbeat corporate earnings which renewed record high in FY2014.

Point 2

Students of liberal arts and women are outstanding

Enthusiasm for a work might slightly cool down

- By region, the employment hit the all-time high in Kinki and Kyushu to 97.1% and 94.7% respectively, improving across the country as well. By gender, the rate of women was higher than that of men for three consecutive years, 96.9% for women vs. 96.5% for men. Also, by major, the rate of graduates in liberal arts improved more for the year than that in science courses. The rate in liberal arts added 2.5% y-o-y to 96.5% whereas science gained 0.8% y-o-y to 97.2%.
- A mind of work seems slightly conservative, while a job market is getting better. According to the "Survey on the New Recruit's Perception of Work in 2015" by Japan Productivity Center, the number of answers that prefer a "seniority based pay" rose to the record high, whereas new employees who want to "work abroad" slid to a minority group for the first time. Additionally, the answer "yes" for a questionnaire of "Do you have a dream to fulfill through your work?" decreased 7.1 points to 58.9% from the previous year.



(Source) "Recruitment Survey of College Graduates" by the Ministry of Health, Labour & Welfare and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science & Technology

■ From a “buyer’s market” to a “seller’s market”

March Effective job opening-to-application ratio advanced to 1.15x, exceeding the recent high of 1.08x in July 2006 after the rate recovered to 1.0x in November 2013 from a sluggish job market for six years. The job market has strengthened to “a seller (job seeker)’s market” from “a buyer (employer)’s market.” Consequently, a key issue for employers is to secure a required human resource.

■ A job hunting for March 2016 graduates continues favourable

A job market for new graduates in March 2016 is very likely to remain solid as the corporate earnings are expected to be strong in FY2015. A new graduate is expected to be a person who helps further expansion of Japan’s economy.

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