Summary

In the spring of 2018, KTH conducted a survey directed to all alumni of the undergraduate and graduate levels who had graduated in 2013, 2014 and 2015. A total of 7808 alumni were included in the survey.

The survey shows that a KTH degree is an entry point to employment, relevant tasks and a relatively high salary. Despite the turbulent economy, 97 percent of the graduates found employment after graduating. Of those who completed architectural and five year Master of Science in Engineering programmes, practically all have been employed. Students who are over 35 years of age and non-Swedish citizens have the greatest difficulty in entering the labour market. A large percentage of the latter, however, have left Sweden and thus operate on different labour markets, and a high proportion of those who remain in Sweden are engaged in PhD studies.

More than half of the alumni found work before they finalized their degrees, and more than one in four did so within three months of graduation. The graduates primarily found employment thanks to contact with employers, personal networks through job advertisements and their individual degree projects.

The graduates are relatively mobile on the labour market. Almost one third have changed jobs once, 21 percent twice, and 16 percent three times or more. This relatively high labour mobility can be explained by the finding that the graduates’ first priority is to get a job that reasonably matches their skills and that they then choose to change to something more in line with their competence and areas of interest. These alumni went into a good labor market witch probably has contributed to the increased mobility.

Permanent employment is the predominant form of employment. For example, 89 percent of the Master of Science in Engineering (five-year programmes) and 83 percent of the Bachelor of Science in Engineering (three year programmes) graduates are permanent employees. Only two percent of the total population are unemployed. Three percent have their own business as their main occupation, and 15 percent have started their own business. More than a quarter of the non-Swedish citizens are engaged in postgraduate studies. Consultancy companies, research and technology-intensive industry, infrastructure services and research/teaching mainly employ the alumni.

16 percent have attained a management position and 54 percent manage the work of others as project managers and supervisors. 20 percent of the non-Swedish citizens have obtained a management position, which is a higher proportion than those born in Sweden to Swedish parents. In particular, those who have completed a five-year programme of Architecture have reached supervisory, project management or managerial positions.

The largest group, 41 percent, earn between 35 000 and 44 999 SEK per month. The second largest group, 23 percent, earn between 25 000 and 34,999 SEK. Those who completed a five-year programme have the highest wages. Swedish citizens earn more than non-Swedish citizens. This is largely associated with the fact that a high percentage of the latter work abroad and that wage levels are slightly higher in Sweden than abroad.

The alumni are very positive towards working abroad. However, in practice, it is primarily the non-Swedish citizens who are active on the international labour market. Only a small proportion of those born in Sweden, regardless of their parents’ country of birth, are currently working abroad.