

Özet/ Abstract:

College majors are chosen early in life, and have long-lasting effects on careers. In this study, we track all 3,011 Boğaziçi University alumni who graduated from 1998 to 2000, and studied 15 majors from engineering, science and social science fields. Residencies and occupations of the alumni are determined as of end of 2017. 30.8% of the Turkish alumni reside in foreign countries, which indicates a significant brain drain from Turkey. Foreign residency ratio is higher for the alumni who studied science and engineering majors, and graduated as honors students. We grouped all occupations into 17 categories to make inter-major comparison. Occupational choices of the alumni who studied economics and management are almost alike. Civil and industrial engineers work in financial sector at a rate comparable to economists. Political scientists and sociologists seldom work in public sector. Biologists, chemists and chemical engineers specialize in pharmaceuticals, and mechanical engineers specialize in automotive sector. Physicists work in the academia at the highest rate.