

# HIGHLIGHTS

—from the Survey of 2006 Graduates  
of Ontario University Undergraduate Programs

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Graduates of undergraduate programs at Ontario universities consistently experience high employment and earning rates, according to a recent survey. They also find a good match of their skills to the workplace.

This document highlights the key results of this survey of students who graduated from undergraduate programs at Ontario universities in 2006. Survey results describe employment experiences, earnings and skills matching of graduates six months and two years after completing their undergraduate studies.

The survey was conducted by the Ontario Universities' Application Centre from December 2008 to March 2009 on behalf of the Council of Ontario Universities under a contract with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

## > EMPLOYMENT RATES

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- Two years after graduation in 2006, the overall average employment rate for graduates of undergraduate degree programs was **95.7%**.
- Six months after graduation in 2006, the overall average employment rate for graduates of undergraduate degree programs was **94.1%**.

## > EARNINGS

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- Two years after graduation in 2006, the average annual salary for graduates of undergraduate degree programs was **\$49,468**.
- Six months after graduation in 2006, the average annual salary for graduates of undergraduate degree programs was **\$41,699**.

## > SKILLS MATCH

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- Two years after graduation in 2006, **85.0%** of graduates employed full time considered their work either “closely” or “somewhat” related to their university education.
- Six months after graduation in 2006, **79.1%** of graduates employed full time considered their work either “closely” or “somewhat” related to their university education.

## > SURVEY RESPONSE RATE

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- Of the 60,612 graduates who were surveyed, 13,168 or 21.7% responded. The response rate is consistent with past years' rates.

## EMPLOYMENT RATES\* OF 2006 GRADUATES BY PROGRAM

PROGRAM AREA	SIX MONTHS AFTER 2005 GRADUATION	TWO YEARS AFTER 2005 GRADUATION
Dentistry	100.00%	100.00%
Education	94.43%	97.31%
Law	96.72%	96.95%
Medicine	99.21%	100.00%
Optometry	100.00%	100.00%
Pharmacy	100.00%	100.00%
Veterinary Medicine	97.22%	100.00%
Forestry	83.33%	100.00%
Architecture & Landscape Arch.	97.92%	97.50%
Business & Commerce	95.43%	96.53%
Engineering	93.73%	95.99%
Fine & Applied Arts	94.70%	94.24%
Food Science & Nutrition	97.87%	98.51%
Journalism	93.44%	98.28%
Nursing	98.99%	99.80%
Kinesiology/Recreation/Phys-Ed <sup>1</sup>	96.44%	97.94%
Theology	60.00%	90.00%
Therapy & Rehabilitation	100.00%	100.00%
Social Sciences	93.43%	95.39%
Humanities	93.62%	93.38%
Other Arts & Science <sup>2</sup>	91.73%	93.21%
Agricultural & Bio. Sciences	90.76%	94.06%
Computer Science	92.00%	95.28%
Mathematics	95.00%	98.20%
Health Professions <sup>3</sup>	87.82%	95.35%
Physical Sciences	91.75%	92.20%
<b>Overall Average</b>	<b>94.06%</b>	<b>95.74%</b>

\* Graduates were considered employed full time if they identified themselves as working 30 hours or more per week.

<sup>1</sup> "Kinesiology, Recreation and Phys-Ed" also includes students enrolled in programs in non-teaching fields.

<sup>2</sup> "Other Arts and Science" includes students enrolled in General Arts and Science majors not specified by other categories or unspecified.

<sup>3</sup> "Health Professions" includes students enrolled in Basic Medical Science programs, Medical Specialties, Paraclinical Sciences, Epidemiology and Public Health, and Medical Technology. Medical Interns have been excluded.

## AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARIES<sup>4</sup> OF 2006 GRADUATES EMPLOYED FULL TIME

PROGRAM AREA	SIX MONTHS AFTER 2005 GRADUATION	TWO YEARS AFTER 2005 GRADUATION
Dentistry	\$76,176	\$92,500
Education	\$41,486	\$47,705
Law	\$56,288	\$56,288
Medicine	\$56,288	\$65,000
Optometry	\$90,263	\$94,000
Pharmacy	\$80,714	\$90,000
Veterinary Medicine	\$60,882	\$71,286
Forestry	\$41,000	\$51,000
Architecture & Landscape Arch.	\$40,000	\$44,091
Business & Commerce	\$43,728	\$53,913
Engineering	\$52,057	\$60,463
Fine & Applied Arts	\$30,075	\$36,928
Food Science & Nutrition	\$31,667	\$43,800
Journalism	\$36,020	\$43,868
Nursing	\$56,090	\$61,566
Kinesiology/Recreation/Phys-Ed <sup>5</sup>	\$31,089	\$41,111
Theology	\$38,333	\$37,000
Therapy & Rehabilitation	\$48,191	\$55,638
Social Sciences	\$36,904	\$44,710
Humanities	\$32,010	\$39,411
Other Arts & Science <sup>6</sup>	\$39,749	\$46,239
Agricultural & Biological Sciences	\$31,290	\$40,819
Computer Science	\$48,285	\$57,511
Mathematics	\$43,421	\$51,159
Health Professions <sup>7</sup>	\$44,691	\$53,692
Physical Sciences	\$44,545	\$50,542
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$41,699</b>	<b>\$49,468</b>

<sup>4</sup> Average salaries are inputted using the mid-point of ranges in the survey.

<sup>5</sup> "Kinesiology/Recreation/Phys-Ed" also includes students enrolled in programs in non-teaching fields.

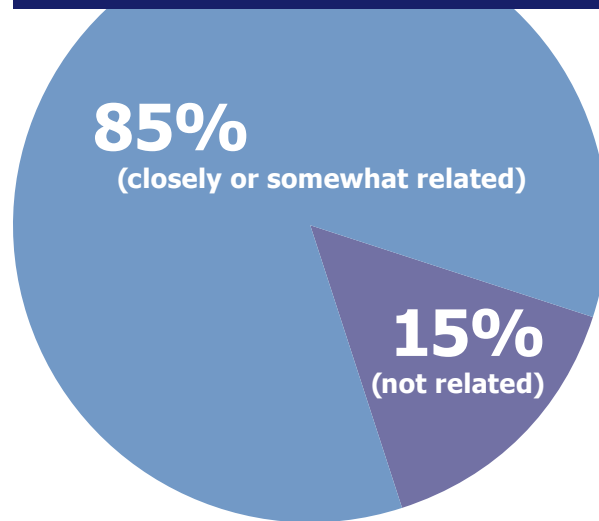
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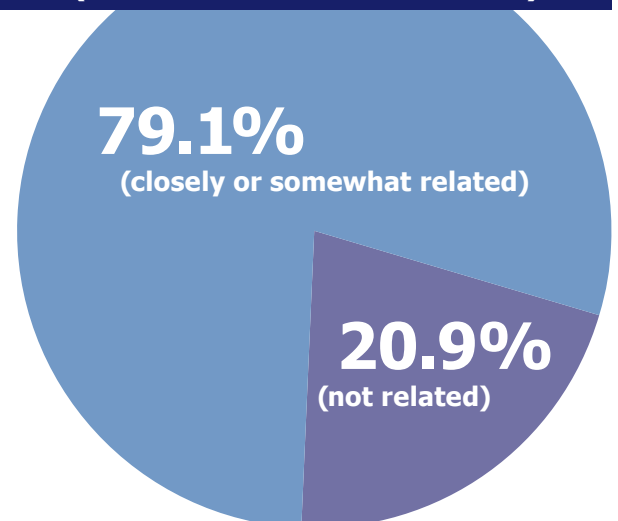
## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JOB AND PROGRAM OF STUDY

- Survey results indicate skills acquired by graduates of Ontario universities are being applied in the workplace.
- Two years after graduation in 2006, **85.0%** respondents working full time considered their work “closely” (57.0%) or “somewhat” (28.0%) related to their university education.
- Six months after graduation in 2006, **79.1%** of respondents working full time considered their work “closely” (52.0%) or “somewhat” (27.1%) related to their university education.

### Skills Match of University Graduates (Two Years After Graduation)



### Skills Match of University Graduates (Six Months After Graduation)



## EMPLOYMENT RATES\* OVER TIME

PROGRAM AREA	TWO YEARS AFTER 2002 GRADUATION (%)	TWO YEARS AFTER 2003 GRADUATION (%)	TWO YEARS AFTER 2004 GRADUATION (%)	TWO YEARS AFTER 2005 GRADUATION (%)	TWO YEARS AFTER 2006 GRADUATION (%)
Dentistry	100.0	100	100	100	100
Education	98.6	98.5	97.9	97.7	97.3
Law	95.5	96.7	96.5	96.2	97.0
Medicine	100	100	100	100	100
Optometry	100	100	100	100	100
Pharmacy	100	100	100	100	100
Veterinary Medicine	100	100	100	100	100
Forestry	83.3	100	100	100	100
Architecture & Landscape Arch.	98.2	100	97.3	97.7	97.5
Business & Commerce	96.9	97.6	97.4	97.3	96.5
Engineering	94.6	95.7	95.3	96.8	96.0
Fine & Applied Arts	94.3	92.6	96.1	97.6	94.2
Food Science & Nutrition	98.2	96.5	95.7	96.1	98.5
Journalism	97.8	92.7	100	96.2	98.3
Nursing	100	99.5	99.7	99.2	99.8
Kinesiology/Recreation/Phys-Ed <sup>8</sup>	96.6	96.5	93.6	97.9	95.3
Theology	90.9	100	90.0	100	90.0
Therapy & Rehabilitation	97.6	100	100	100	100
Social Sciences	94.8	96.6	95.2	96.5	95.4
Humanities	95.6	97.1	95.2	96.1	93.4
Other Arts & Science <sup>9</sup>	96.5	96.5	96.4	96.4	93.2
Agricultural & Bio. Sciences	96.1	96.7	95.0	92.5	94.1
Computer Science	91.1	95.7	94.7	97.7	95.3
Mathematics	96.0	96.3	95.4	97.2	98.2
Health Professions <sup>10</sup>	96.6	93.7	96.6	96.7	95.4
Physical Sciences	94.0	90.6	96.5	95.8	92.2
<b>Overall Annual Average</b>	<b>96.0</b>	<b>96.8</b>	<b>96.2</b>	<b>96.9</b>	<b>95.7</b>

\* Graduates were considered employed full time if they identified themselves as working 30 hours or more per week.

<sup>8</sup> "Kinesiology, Recreation and Phys-Ed" also includes students enrolled in programs in non-teaching fields.

<sup>9</sup> "Other Arts and Science" includes students enrolled in General Arts and Science majors not specified by other categories or unspecified.

<sup>10</sup> "Health Professions" includes students enrolled in Basic Medical Science programs, Medical Specialties, Paraclinical Sciences, Epidemiology and Public Health, and Medical Technology. Medical Interns have been excluded.

## EMPLOYMENT RATES, SKILLS MATCH AND AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARIES OVER FIVE YEARS

	YEAR GRADUATED				
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Employment Rates</b>					
Two Years After Graduation	96.0%	96.8%	96.2%	96.9%	95.7%
Six Months After Graduation	92.3%	92.2%	92.8%	94.0%	94.1%
<b>Ontario Youth Employment Rate <sup>11</sup></b>					
15 to 24 Years Old	87.2%	86.0%	87.1%	86.8%	87.2%
<b>Skills Match</b>					
Two Years After Graduation	83.5%	85.2%	83.4%	84.0%	85.0%
Six Months After Graduation	78.3%	79.3%	74.6%	76.7%	79.1%
<b>Average Annual Salary</b>					
Two Years After Graduation	\$43,578	\$45,875	\$49,669	\$47,221	\$49,468
Six Months After Graduation	\$36,951	\$38,634	\$37,778	\$41,046	\$41,699

<sup>11</sup> Labour Force Survey 2006, Statistics Canada. October averages for the years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006.