

GRADUATE SURVEY:

Skilled, Adaptable University Graduates Ready for the Workforce



Survey Conducted
January to August 2023

Participants Graduation Year
2020

Published
2024

- Ontario university graduates from the class of 2020 are securing meaningful and well-paying employment, leveraging the knowledge and transferable skills acquired during their university education.
- The survey highlights how a university education builds a strong foundation for lifelong learning and adaptable career paths, contributing to the development of highly skilled professionals in the province.
- Ontario universities offer diverse programs that equip students with specific skills closely aligned with various occupations, meeting employer needs effectively.

Topline Results

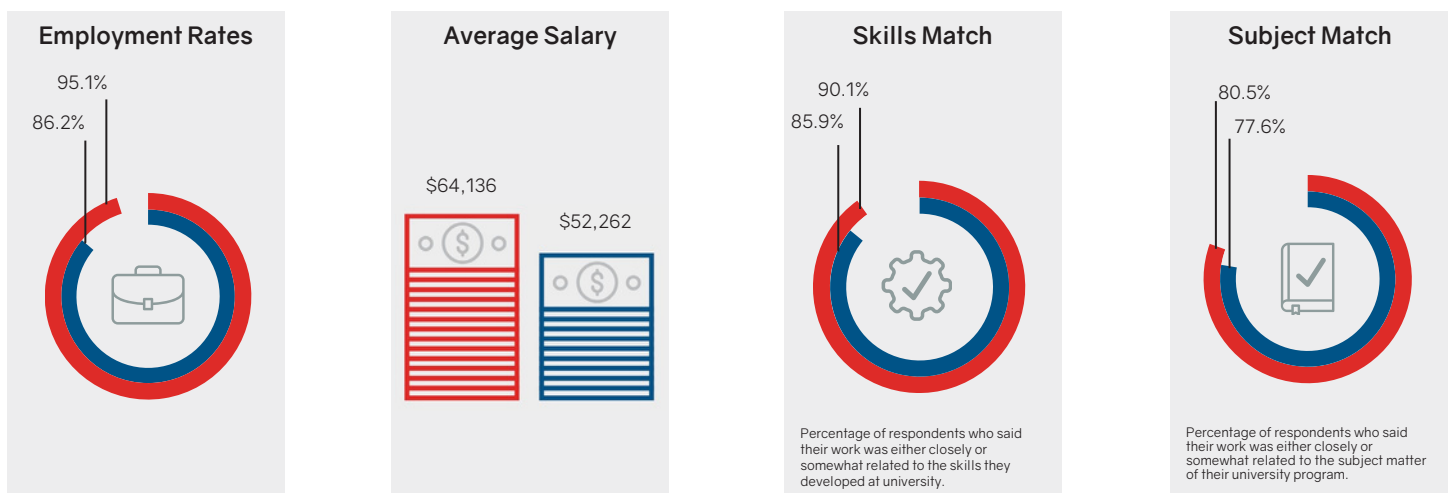


The Survey

Respondents were surveyed between January to August 2023 by the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

A total of 81,003 Ontario university students who graduated in 2020 were surveyed, of which 30,497 responded.

- 2 years after graduation
- 6 months after graduation



Results By Program Area

Program Area	Employment Rates of 2020 Graduates		Average Annual Salaries of 2020 Graduates Employed Full-Time	
	SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION	TWO YEARS AFTER GRADUATION	SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION	TWO YEARS AFTER GRADUATION
Agricultural & Biological Sciences	81.6%	92.9%	\$38,639	\$50,447
Architecture & Landscape Architecture	79.7%	91.4%	\$42,929	\$51,346
Business & Commerce	88.7%	96.2%	\$55,036	\$69,518
Computer Science	81.3%	94.8%	\$80,687	\$95,957
Dentistry	98.1%	100.0%	\$103,543	\$131,170
Education	96.0%	97.7%	\$47,746	\$55,687
Engineering	81.4%	95.7%	\$68,075	\$82,822
Fine & Applied Arts	75.3%	91.3%	\$36,394	\$45,611
Food Science & Nutrition	89.4%	96.8%	\$39,697	\$49,334
Forestry	100.0%	100.0%	\$47,524	\$55,896
Other Health Professions ¹	87.6%	94.1%	\$47,479	\$60,573
Humanities	83.1%	93.5%	\$41,880	\$50,178
Journalism	87.1%	96.1%	\$43,484	\$53,412
Kinesiology/ Recreation/Phys-Ed ²	88.2%	95.0%	\$36,713	\$49,344
Law	95.2%	96.7%	\$66,377	\$89,590
Mathematics	80.2%	93.1%	\$62,077	\$75,700
Medicine	99.2%	99.2%	\$65,350	\$84,218
Nursing	97.5%	98.4%	\$63,782	\$72,198
Optometry	97.9%	98.0%	\$76,158	\$117,043
Other Arts & Science ³	84.2%	94.2%	\$48,135	\$58,921
Pharmacy	95.0%	99.4%	\$72,621	\$96,712
Physical Sciences	82.2%	94.4%	\$43,546	\$55,834
Social Sciences	84.9%	94.4%	\$43,542	\$53,285
Theology	92.0%	96.6%	\$49,364	\$51,889
Therapy & Rehabilitation	100.0%	90.0%	\$51,750	\$49,923
Veterinary Medicine	100.0%	100.0%	\$76,333	\$112,024
Overall Average	86.2%	95.1%	\$52,262	\$64,136

¹ Health Professions includes those enrolled in Basic Medical Science programs, Medical Specialties, Paraclinical Sciences, Epidemiology and Public Health, and Medical Technology. Medical Interns have been excluded.

² Kinesiology/Recreation/Phys-Ed also includes those enrolled in non-teaching fields.

³ Other Arts & Science includes students enrolled in General Arts and Science majors not specified by other categories or unspecified.

Note: Graduates were considered working full-time if they identified themselves as working 30 hours or more per week. This is consistent with Statistics Canada's definition of full-time work. Average salaries are inputted using the mid-point of ranges in the survey.

Employment Rates by Graduation Year, Two Years After Graduation

(graduation year)

Program Area	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Agricultural & Bio. Sciences	90.0%	89.9%	92.4%	94.6%	93.3%	91.3%	92.3%	92.9%
Architecture & Landscape Arch.	92.2%	97.9%	96.8%	94.1%	95.5%	91.5%	88.9%	91.4%
Business & Commerce	95.5%	94.9%	95.8%	96.6%	97.1%	94.4%	95.7%	96.2%
Computer Science	95.9%	95.2%	95.6%	97.0%	95.3%	91.6%	95.6%	94.8%
Dentistry	98.3%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.3%	98.2%	100.0%	100.0%
Education	96.2%	95.7%	96.5%	97.4%	97.9%	95.6%	97.6%	97.7%
Engineering	92.8%	94.1%	93.6%	94.9%	94.4%	94.2%	94.2%	95.7%
Fine & Applied Arts	92.6%	94.3%	94.1%	93.8%	93.1%	89.7%	90.2%	91.3%
Food Science & Nutrition	93.4%	92.4%	92.6%	94.2%	94.2%	93.2%	95.9%	96.8%
Forestry	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	87.5%	100.0%	100.0%	88.2%	100.0%
Health Professions ¹	90.2%	93.7%	92.8%	93.2%	94.2%	92.1%	95.4%	94.1%
Humanities	91.9%	92.7%	94.2%	93.7%	94.7%	89.2%	92.4%	93.5%
Journalism	90.8%	97.9%	94.9%	94.2%	95.9%	93.9%	93.9%	96.1%
Kinesiology/ Recreation/ Phys-Ed ²	92.5%	95.0%	93.9%	94.4%	95.9%	91.9%	95.7%	95.0%
Law	91.9%	93.3%	93.7%	95.3%	95.3%	92.6%	94.8%	96.7%
Mathematics	94.2%	93.9%	95.5%	94.5%	95.3%	93.6%	91.9%	93.1%
Medicine	100.0%	99.7%	99.4%	98.4%	99.6%	99.6%	98.8%	99.2%
Nursing	97.4%	98.6%	97.1%	98.2%	98.7%	98.8%	98.0%	98.4%
Optometry	100.0%	97.8%	100.0%	97.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	98.0%
Other Arts & Science ³	92.7%	91.3%	92.5%	95.6%	94.8%	90.4%	91.5%	94.2%
Pharmacy	98.4%	98.4%	99.4%	97.7%	99.4%	100.0%	99.4%	99.4%
Physical Sciences	90.2%	92.9%	92.1%	91.3%	92.9%	92.5%	96.6%	94.4%
Social Sciences	92.6%	92.4%	93.8%	94.5%	95.0%	91.2%	92.8%	94.4%
Theology	91.7%	90.3%	94.4%	100.0%	100.0%	88.0%	92.8%	96.6%
Therapy & Rehabilitation	92.9%	90.9%	84.6%	100.0%	100.0%	87.5%	100.0%	90.0%
Veterinary Medicine	98.0%	100.0%	98.1%	100.0%	100.0%	97.4%	100.0%	100.0%
Overall Average	93.6%	93.9%	94.6%	95.2%	95.6%	92.7%	94.3%	95.1%

¹ Health Professions includes those enrolled in Basic Medical Science programs, Medical Specialties, Paraclinical Sciences, Epidemiology and Public Health, and Medical Technology. Medical Interns have been excluded.

² Kinesiology/Recreation/Phys-Ed also includes those enrolled in non-teaching fields.

³ Other Arts & Science includes students enrolled in General Arts and Science majors not specified by other categories or unspecified.

Note that historical information is taken from the "2015 Graduate Survey" report available on the Council of Ontario Universities website.

Employment Rates, Skills and Subject Match, and Average Annual Salaries, by Graduating Year

(graduation year)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Employment Rates								
Two Years After Graduation	93.6%	93.9%	94.6%	95.2%	95.6%	92.7%	94.3%	95.1%
Six Months After Graduation	87.0%	88.0%	88.3%	89.1%	90.8%	91.2%	90.4%	86.2%
Skills Match (Employed full-time)								
Two Years After Graduation	89.1%	88.8%	89.2%	88.3%	89.6%	90.4%	90.0%	90.1%
Six Months After Graduation	83.3%	82.7%	83.1%	82.7%	84.9%	85.6%	86.0%	85.9%
Subject Matter Match (Employed full-time)								
Two Years After Graduation	77.9%	77.3%	78.4%	77.6%	78.8%	80.3%	80.5%	80.5%
Six Months After Graduation	72.3%	72.3%	72.8%	72.3%	74.7%	76.0%	77.3%	77.6%
Average Annual Salary (Employed full-time)								
Two Years After Graduation	\$49,170	\$49,636	\$51,693	\$53,804	\$55,794	\$56,972	\$60,254	\$64,136
Six Months After Graduation	\$41,839	\$42,326	\$43,090	\$44,700	\$46,393	\$47,124	\$50,504	\$52,262

Note that historical information is taken from the "2015 Graduate Survey" report available on the Council of Ontario Universities website.

Note that the salary question was changed for the 2015 survey, increasing its scale to \$150,000 from \$100,000, and using \$5,000 bands instead of \$10,000 bands.