

4 Students

Ontario's colleges provide up-to-date training and education to an estimated 500,000 individuals each year. Students and learners from all socioeconomic backgrounds are welcomed into a system that embraces diversity and works to meet the needs of every individual.

This section provides profiles of applicants, students, apprentices and graduates. The data include age, income and employment status, and immigrant and aboriginal status.

Chapter 4 - Table of contents

1.0	Highlights	30	4.0	International students	39
2.0	Learners and learner profiles	30	5.0	Graduate outcomes	40
2.1	Numbers of Ontario college applicants, students, and graduates	31	5.1	Ontario college graduates by sector	40
2.2	Learner demographics	32	5.2	Employment of 2005-06 Ontario college graduates (six months after graduation)	40
2.3	Parental education	34	5.3	Earnings of 2005-06 Ontario college graduates (six months after graduation)	41
2.4	Applicants' previous 12-month activity	35	5.4	Further education of 2005-06 Ontario college graduates (six months after graduation)	42
2.5	Level of education	35	5.5	Ontario's postsecondary attainment rate	43
2.6	Population of applicant community	36	5.6	Comparison of PSE graduates in Canada to OECD countries	43
2.7	First language	36	6.0	Lifelong learners	43
2.8	Immigrant status	36	6.1	Continuing education	43
2.9	Aboriginal status	37	7.0	Appendices	45
2.10	Disabilities	37			
2.11	Main goals	38			
3.0	Apprentices in Ontario	38			
3.1	New and planned apprenticeship starts	38			

1.0 Highlights

Numbers of Ontario college applicants, students, apprentices and graduates

- There are approximately 500,000 students and learners served by Ontario's colleges of applied arts and technology (CAATs).
- Total funded full-time equivalent (FTE) postsecondary enrolment in the colleges was 182,246 (including funded full-time, part-time and tuition short programs).
- In 2006-07, there were 97,770 active apprentices in Ontario. The number of new apprenticeship starts associated with the colleges rose to 30,202, comprising 83 per cent of total new starts.
- In 2006-07, there were approximately 290,000 continuing education (CE) students in Ontario's colleges.
- There were 59,029 postsecondary graduates of Ontario colleges in 2005-06.

Applicants

- Average age of applicants was 23 years; the average age of non-secondary applicants was 25.2, and of secondary applicants was 19.7.
- Seventeen per cent of surveyed college applicants in 2007 were not born in Canada; 22 per cent of these individuals came to Canada since 2004.
- Thirty-one per cent of college applicants were 'first-generation students' (neither parent had a PSE credential).

Students

- More than one-third of college students have had previous postsecondary education, 18 per cent of whom previously attained a college or university credential (10 per cent college, eight per cent university).
- The first language for 79 per cent of college students was English; five per cent was French, and 16 per cent was other.

- Eleven per cent of Ontario college students indicated use of "Special Needs/Disability Services," almost half of whom reported high usage.
- Female CE students outnumbered male CE students, 65 per cent to 35 per cent.

Graduates

- Almost three-quarters of graduates were 25 years of age or under; about 15 per cent were over 30 years of age.
- Ninety per cent of graduates in the labour force were working six months after graduation. This rate rises to 93 per cent two years after graduation, compared with 94 per cent of university graduates.
- Twenty-six per cent of the 2005-06 graduates had resumed full- or part-time studies within six months after graduation.
- Nine per cent of graduates enrolled in university and 16 per cent enrolled in college. Of those returning to a college, 82 per cent went back to their college of graduation.

2.0 Learners and learner profiles

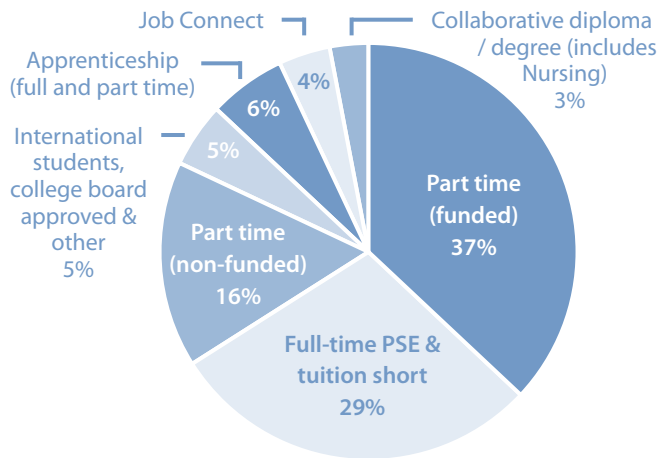
Learners at Ontario colleges comprise a diverse population. In addition to traditional postsecondary education, colleges offer many other types of programs and courses. Examples include apprenticeship training, continuing education courses, collaborative programs with universities, and literacy and basic skills programs. In total, it is estimated that the colleges serve 500,000 individuals annually, including approximately 200,000 full-time students and 300,000 part-time students and clients (figure 1) [\(F1\)](#).

The following sections include profiles of the applicants, students (including apprentices and continuing education students) and graduates of Ontario's Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (CAATs). A primary data source for this information was Ontario's Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU). Data on college applicants were obtained through application materials from the Ontario

Figure 1

F1

Distribution of learners/clients served by Ontario's colleges (2006-07)



Source: MTCU; OCAS; Job Connect; Continuing Education Surveys

College Application Service (OCAS) and answers to survey questions from the 2007 Ontario College Applicant Survey (Academica Group Inc.). Student demographic and opinion data were largely obtained from OCAS enrolment reports and from the 2006-07 Student Satisfaction Survey (MTCU), an in-class survey of all funded students beyond first semester. The Graduate Satisfaction Survey (MTCU), provided data for college graduates six months after graduation, and the various Continuing Education Surveys (CCI Research Inc.) also provided relevant information. Where applicable, comparison data on the general population of Ontario or Canada from Statistics Canada were included.

2.1 Numbers of Ontario college applicants, students, and graduates

College applicants

There were 155,303 distinct applicants for the 2006-07 academic year, which includes new intakes for the fall, winter and spring semesters. The latest available applicant data are for the fall 2007 semester, for which there were 144,448 distinct applicants - an increase of 5.6 per cent over fall 2006.

The majority of applicants continue to come from outside secondary school, with only 39 per cent applying directly from high school. This proportion has remained relatively stable for the past 10 years (table 1). As expected, Ontario's double-cohort students account for the higher levels of applicants surrounding the 2003-04 academic year (T1).

Table 1

T1

Full-time non-secondary / secondary CAAT applicants *

Year	Non-secondary		Secondary		Total
	Number	% of total	Number	% of total	
1997-98	95,683	61.9%	58,983	38.1%	154,666
1998-99	95,013	62.0%	58,256	38.0%	153,269
1999-00	90,420	62.0%	55,336	38.0%	145,756
2000-01	91,199	62.7%	54,357	37.3%	145,556
2001-02	93,725	63.3%	54,248	36.7%	147,973
2002-03	94,643	59.4%	64,673	40.6%	159,316
2003-04	97,159	58.6%	68,579	41.4%	165,738
2004-05	97,120	61.3%	61,298	38.7%	158,418
2005-06	93,955	61.0%	60,170	39.0%	154,125
2006-07	95,169	61.3%	60,134	38.7%	155,303

* fall/winter/spring intakes

Source: OCAS

Non-secondary = applicants not applying directly from high school

Secondary = applicants applying directly from high school (includes school board-run adult day schools)

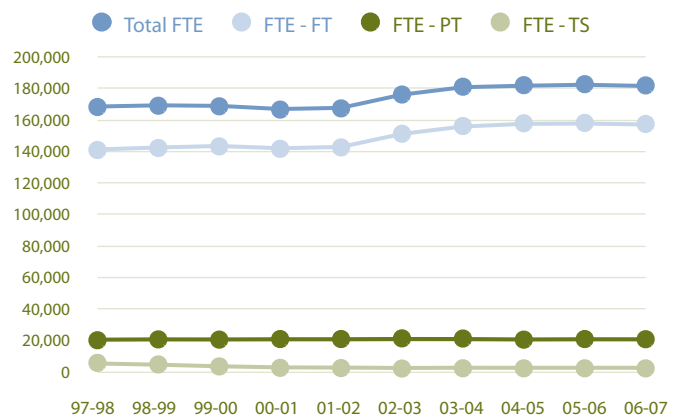
College student enrolments

From 1997 to 2006, postsecondary funded college enrolment, measured as full-time equivalent (FTE), increased by eight per cent. This includes funded enrolment for full-time, part-time and tuition-short programs (figure 2; appendix 1). It should be noted that these funded students do not comprise the total college population (F2 A1).

Figure 2

F2

Funded college enrolment, as FTE * from 1997-98 to 2006-07

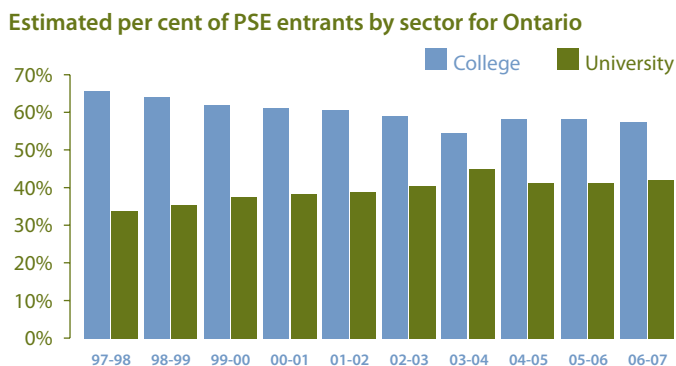


Source: MTCU

* FTE = full-time equivalent; FT = full time; PT = part time; TS = tuition short (typically, these programs are less than 52 weeks in duration).

Although the ratio of new intakes for college vs. university has declined in recent years, almost 60 per cent of new entrants to PSE in Ontario enrol at a college (figure 3) (F3).

Figure 3 F3



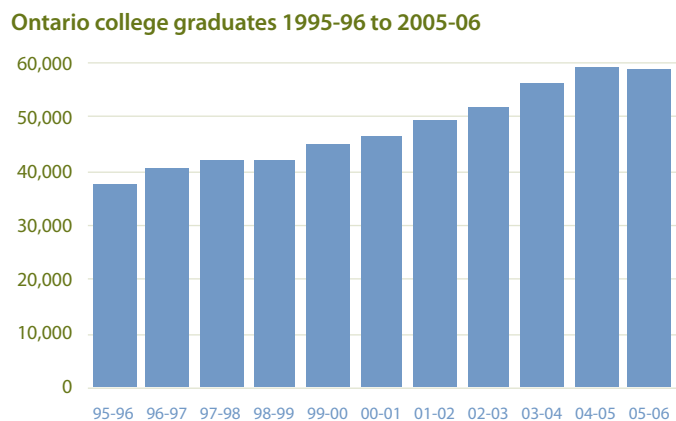
College data include MTCU headcounts for fall and summer entrants, new apprenticeship starts, and OCAS winter new registrants (excluding post-diploma); College data for 2006-07 were estimated using the per cent change from fall 2005 to 2006 as indicated by OCAS data. University data include MTCU headcounts for fall entrants.

Source: MTCU; OCAS.

College graduates

There were 59,029 graduates of Ontario colleges in 2005-06. This total excludes graduates of collaborative nursing programs. Historically, the number of graduates has increased (e.g. 37,811 graduates in 1995-06), although the number has shown a slight decline over last year (figure 4). Two-year programs produced the most graduates (52 per cent), followed by three-year programs (23 per cent), one-year certificate programs (18 per cent) and post-graduate programs (eight per cent). At each college, a majority of graduates completed their programs in the winter semester (table 2) (F4) (T2).

Figure 4 F4



Source: MTCU

Table 2 T2

Number of graduates by college and semester of graduation, 2005-06

College	Summer 2005	Fall 2005	Winter 2006	Total
Algonquin College	874	368	3439	4681
Collège Boréal	112	77	351	540
Cambrian College	252	61	1256	1569
Canadore College	391	62	809	1262
Centennial College	632	507	2192	3331
Conestoga College	334	299	1333	1966
Confederation College	131	36	979	1146
Durham College	388	40	1615	2043
Fanshawe College	908	502	3042	4452
Fleming College	416	286	1751	2453
George Brown College	773	458	3412	4643
Georgian College	1060	198	1012	2270
Humber College	939	562	2963	4464
La Cité collégiale	167	39	773	979
Lambton College	120	57	604	781
Loyalist College	35	26	1098	1159
Mohawk College	722	521	2151	3394
Niagara College	461	130	1988	2579
Northern College	116	38	416	570
Sault College	180	11	524	715
Seneca College	1261	974	3200	5435
Sheridan College	551	579	3148	4278
St. Clair College	580	138	1660	2378
St. Lawrence College	581	69	1291	1941
Total	11984	6038	41007	59029

Source: MTCU.

2.2 Learner demographics

Gender

In general, females outnumber males in Ontario's colleges. For the latest available data, the college proportions were:

Applicants: 56 per cent female; 44 per cent male.

Students: 54 per cent female; 46 per cent male (this is a somewhat smaller differential than that seen in universities, where 58 per cent of undergraduate students are female vs. 42 per cent male).

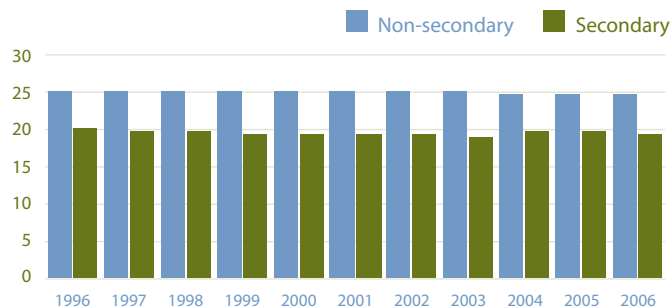
Graduates: 57 per cent female; 43 per cent male.

Age

Applicants: The average age of applicants has held fairly steady over time at 23 years; last year, the average age of non-secondary applicants was 25.2 and secondary applicants was 19.7 (figure 5) (F5).

Figure 5 F5

Average age of non-secondary and secondary applicants



Source: OCAS

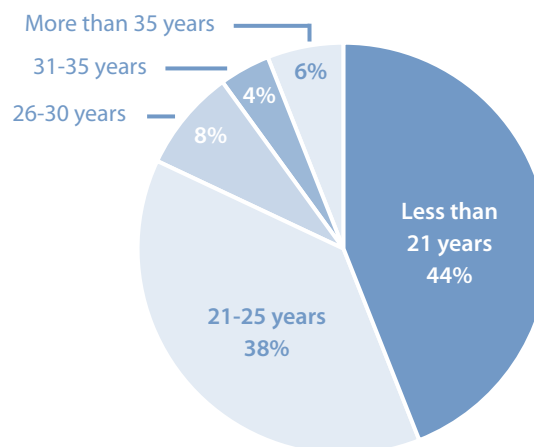
Note: Data include all applicants with known age between 17 and 75 years as of Dec. 31 in the application cycle.

Of the applicants not applying directly from high school, over half are in the 20- to-24-year-old age group (table 3). This is a diverse applicant pool, however, as more than one-third of these non-secondary applicants are aged 25 or older. As expected, the vast majority of applicants from secondary school are in the younger age categories. A small percentage of secondary applicants are over aged 25, likely due to the fact that applicants coming directly from adult day schools are included in this definition of secondary applicants (T3).

Students: In 2006-07, 44 per cent of students were under 21 years of age, and 10 per cent were over age 30 (figure 6) (F6).

Figure 6 F6

Age distribution of college students



Source: 2005-06 Graduate Satisfaction Survey, MTCU.

Note: Age was calculated using birth year and graduation year.

Graduates: As expected, the general age distribution pattern of graduates is shifted several years older than that of students. For the 2005-06 graduating class, the average age was 25.3 years, but almost three-quarters of graduates were 25 years or younger (figure 7) (F7).

Dependents

Applicants: Almost 10 per cent of Ontario college applicants have dependent children.

Table 3 T3

Age distribution* of non-secondary vs. secondary applicants

Year	Non-secondary					Secondary				
	19 & under	20-24	25-30	31-40	> 40	19 & under	20-24	25-30	31-40	> 40
1995-96	7.2	55.1	18.7	13.4	5.6	63.8	28.8	3.2	3.1	1.1
1996-97	7.2	56.9	18.3	12.4	5.3	64.7	28.0	3.2	3.0	1.2
1997-98	7.5	55.8	18.5	12.8	5.3	67.3	26.6	2.7	2.5	0.9
1998-99	8.2	55.5	18.2	12.6	5.4	71.0	23.4	2.5	2.2	0.9
1999-00	8.9	55.4	17.7	12.4	5.6	75.0	20.7	2.1	1.6	0.6
2000-01	9.1	55.1	17.7	12.6	5.5	77.2	18.9	1.8	1.5	0.6
2001-02	9.3	53.9	17.3	13.4	6.2	79.1	17.0	1.8	1.6	0.6
2002-03	9.4	54.9	17.2	12.7	5.9	81.2	15.4	1.6	1.3	0.5
2003-04	10.3	53.8	17.1	12.7	6.0	84.2	12.3	1.6	1.3	0.6
2004-05	12.2	53.8	16.3	11.8	5.9	76.5	16.6	3.2	2.7	1.0
2005-06	12.3	54.3	17.0	10.7	5.7	76.0	16.7	3.4	2.8	1.1
2006-07	12.4	53.2	17.2	11.1	6.2	77.7	16.6	2.8	1.9	1.0

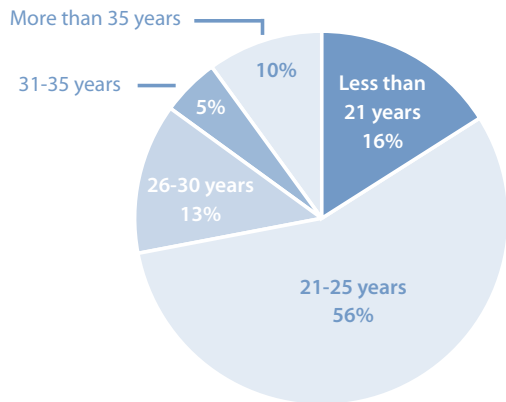
Source: OCAS.

* Percentages calculated for all applicants with known age between 17 and 75 years as of Dec. 31 in the application cycle.

Figure 7

F7

Age distribution of college graduates



Source: 2005-06 Graduate Satisfaction Survey, MTCU.
 Note: Age was calculated using birth year and graduation year.

Students: Of first-year Canadian college students, approximately 10 per cent have at least one person financially dependent on them (*Pan-Canadian Study of First-Year College Students, 2007*).

Graduates: Twenty-six per cent of Ontario college graduates (class of 2000) had children as of two years after graduation, as compared to 13 per cent of university (Bachelor's) graduates (*National Graduates Survey*).

Total household income of Ontario college applicants

College students are represented across all socioeconomic backgrounds, but a significant percentage of those who apply to college come from lower income families. For example, 26 per cent of surveyed applicants in 2006 had a household income of less than \$29,999 (15 per cent under \$20,000) and

54 per cent had incomes below \$60,000. In contrast, the Ontario population (in 2001) had only 16 per cent of households earning less than \$30,000 (figure 8) (F8).

2.3 Parental education

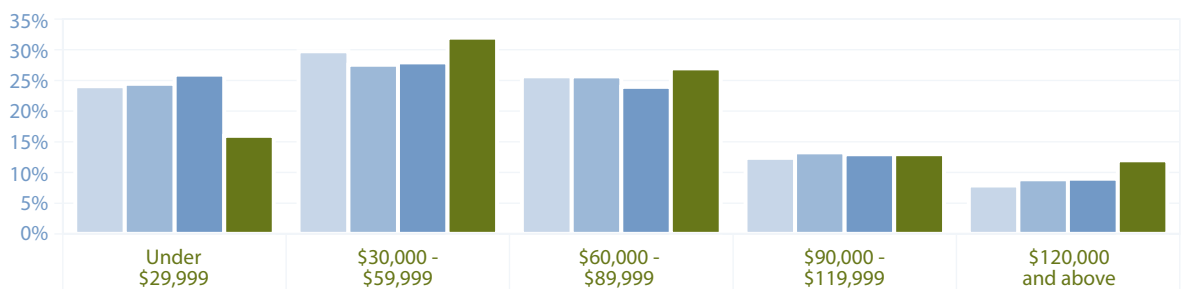
Parental education is considered to be a key indicator of socioeconomic status. The term "first-generation students" has been used to describe those individuals whose parents have not attained a PSE credential. In 2007, 31 per cent of Ontario college applicants were first-generation students.

- Postsecondary plans of surveyed Ontario secondary school students were closely tied to parental education. Of the 53 per cent who planned on attending university, 38 per cent of their mothers and 44 per cent of their fathers had a university degree. Of the 26 per cent who planned to go to college for a degree or diploma, only 40 per cent of mothers and 42 per cent of their fathers had completed a PSE credential. Of the three per cent of surveyed students who did not plan on PSE, 30 per cent of their fathers and 28 per cent of their mothers had a PSE credential (figure 9) (F9).
- Data for Ontario college applicants show that, relative to a comparative age group in Ontario (general population aged 45 to 64), parents of those who applied to college were slightly more likely to have completed high school. In contrast, parents of applicants were less likely to have attained a PSE credential (i.e., 43 per cent of mothers and 44 per cent of fathers vs. 60 per cent of men and 53 per cent of women aged 45 to 64 years).

Figure 8

F8

Household incomes of Ontario college applicants compared with the Ontario population



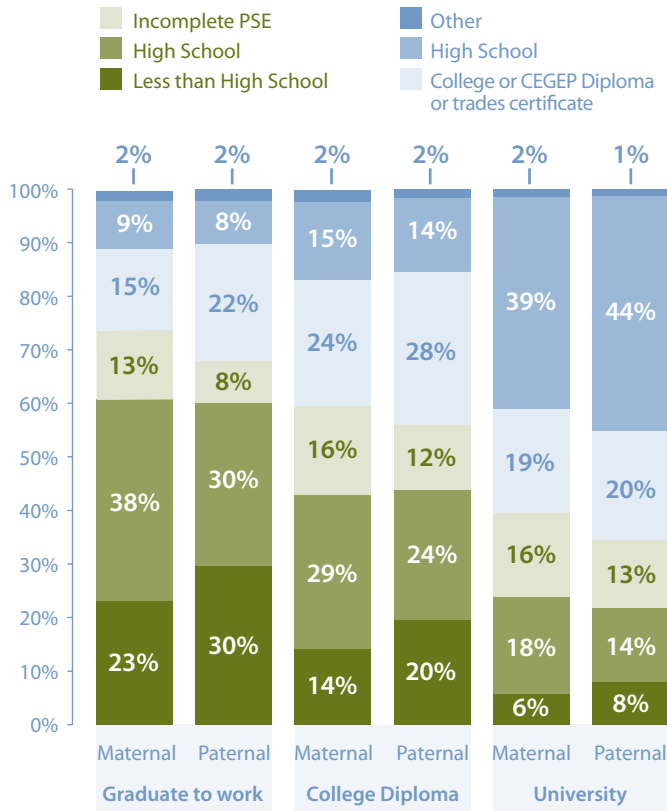
	Under \$29,999	\$30,000 - \$59,999	\$60,000 - \$89,999	\$90,000 - \$119,999	\$120,000 and above
2004 college applicants	24%	30%	26%	12%	8%
2005 college applicants	25%	28%	26%	13%	9%
2006 college applicants	26%	28%	24%	13%	9%
Ontario population	16%	32%	27%	13%	12%

Source: College Applicant Survey, 2004, 2005, 2006. Academica Group Inc. - Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation and the 2001 Census (note that about one-fifth of respondents did not know their household incomes). Household income data are not available in a directly comparable format for 2007.

Figure 9

F9

Ontario secondary students' postsecondary plans related to parental education



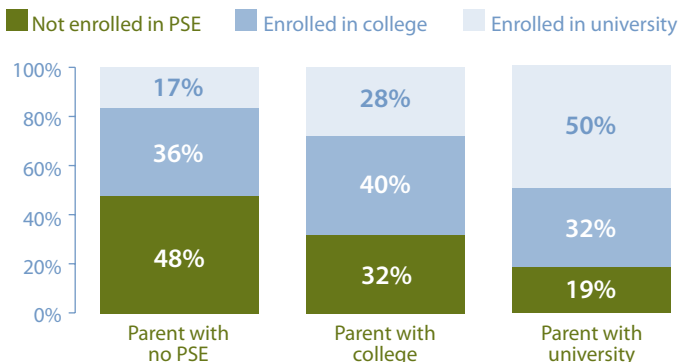
Source: Transition to College, Perceptions of Secondary School Students, 2006.

- Children of parents with no PSE only have a 52 per cent chance of attending PSE themselves, and are twice as likely to attend college than to attend university. They also have a slightly higher rate of college attendance than children of university educated parents. Children of parents with college credentials are most likely to attend college (figure 10) (F10).

Figure 10

F10

Parental education of those enrolled in college, university or not attending PSE



Source: Participation in Postsecondary Education in Canada: Has the role of Parental Income and Education Changed over the 1990s? Statistics Canada, 2005.

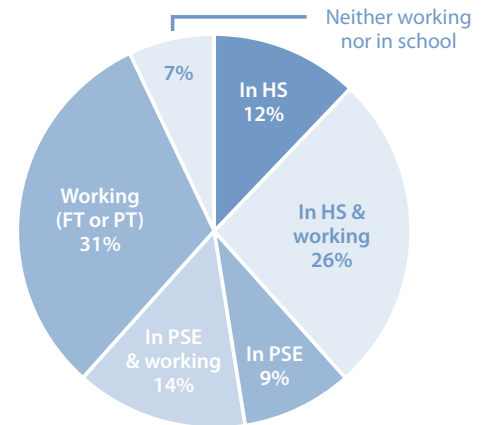
2.4 Applicants' previous 12-month activity

Applicants to college have a diverse background; over half of surveyed applicants did not come directly from high school, but have come from the labour force, college or university, or have been balancing work and education (figure 11) (F11).

Figure 11

F11

Current activity* of college applicants



* Applicants for the fall 2007 semester; surveyed in March 2007. Source: 2007 College Applicant Survey, Academica Group Inc.

- Seventy-two per cent of all applicants were working at the time of the college applicant survey (March 2007); 28 per cent full time, 44 per cent part time.
- Sixty-two per cent had attended school in the previous 12 months; 23 per cent attended college or university.

2.5 Level of education

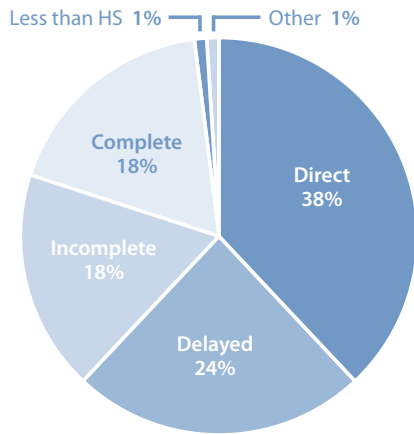
Multiple pathways through the postsecondary education system are evident. Data collected from college applicants, students and graduates demonstrate that over one-third of learners have previous PSE experience before they go to college, which may include a combination of some college or university credits, a complete diploma, or a complete degree.

- In 2007, 34 per cent of applicants had previous postsecondary education; 10 per cent had a diploma and 10 per cent had a degree.
- Likewise, 36 per cent of 2006-07 students had previous postsecondary education (figure 12), 18 per cent of whom previously completed a college or university credential (10 per cent college, eight per cent university). Only 38 per cent of college students came directly from high school and 24 per cent could be termed 'delayed entrants,' as they were individuals who had no prior PSE experience, but did not come directly from high school (F12).

Figure 12

F12

Pathways to college



Source: 2006-07 Student Satisfaction Survey, MTCU.

- Comparison data for Ontario from the *National Graduates Survey* show the same proportion with previous college (10 per cent diploma/certificate) and a slightly higher proportion with previous university (13 per cent degree), supporting a high graduation rate for this group.

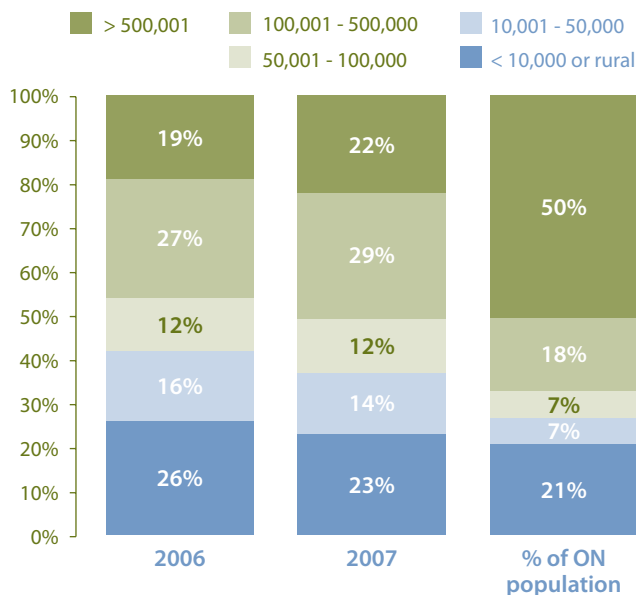
2.6 Population of applicant community

Applicants to Ontario's colleges traditionally come from smaller communities than the Ontario population as a whole. In 2007, 37 per cent of applicants came from communities of under 50,000 people. For comparison, only 28 per cent of the Ontario population live in communities of this size, based on the latest available census data (figure 13) F13.

Figure 13

F13

Approximate population of applicant community



Source: College Applicant Surveys, Academica Group Inc.

2.7 First language

In 2006-07, 79 per cent of both applicants and students reported English as their first language, while five per cent reported French, and 16 per cent chose "other".

- In the Metro Toronto colleges, 32 per cent of students had a first language that was neither French nor English.
- In Ontario's two French colleges, 88 per cent of students declared French as their first language.

2.8 Immigrant status

In 2007, 17 per cent of surveyed college applicants were not born in Canada. This closely reflects the 2006 census in which 19 per cent of 15- to 24-year-old Ontarians were not born in Canada (31 per cent for the population aged 25 to 44).

- Twenty-two per cent of these applicants came to Canada since 2004 (representing approximately four per cent of total applicants).
- Immigrant applicants were more likely than Canadian-born applicants to have a university degree (16.1 per cent vs. 8.5 per cent), have dependent children (19.8 per cent vs. 7.4 per cent for non-immigrants), and to be older (21 per cent are over 30 years of age vs. six per cent of non-immigrants).
- Forty-five per cent of these applicants described themselves as visible minorities.
- Only 35 per cent of applicants who were not born in Canada first learned to speak English or French at home.
- Reasons for applying to college were somewhat different between immigrants and non-immigrants. When asked their main reason for applying to college, immigrants were more likely to cite career advancement (15 per cent vs. 10 per cent) and preparing for university (10 per cent vs. six per cent) and less likely to cite preparing for employment (20 per cent compared to 31 per cent) and personal development (14 per cent vs. 18 per cent) as compared to non-immigrants.
- A further 11 per cent of college applicants were first-generation Canadians.

2.9 Aboriginal status

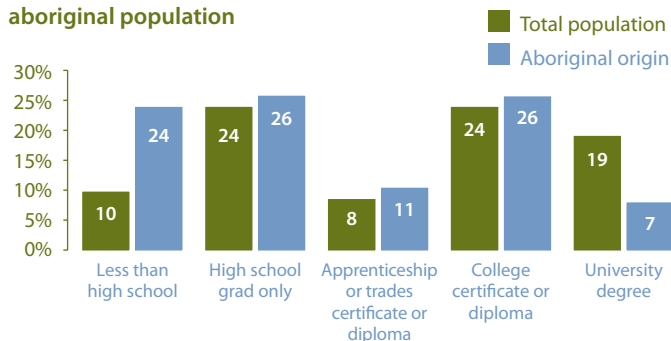
Both at a provincial and national level, aboriginal individuals are less likely to complete high school, and much less likely to attend university than the non-aboriginal population. Rates of college attendance and attainment, however, are similar or higher for those of aboriginal identity than for non-aboriginal individuals.

- The 2006 census provides the most recent data on educational attainment of Aboriginal Peoples. In Ontario, 24 per cent of the aboriginal population aged 25 to 44 had not completed high school, compared to the population average of 10 per cent. The aboriginal population is more likely than the general population to have completed a trade or college certificate (figure 14) (F14).

Figure 14

F14

Educational attainment of the total Ontario population and the aboriginal population



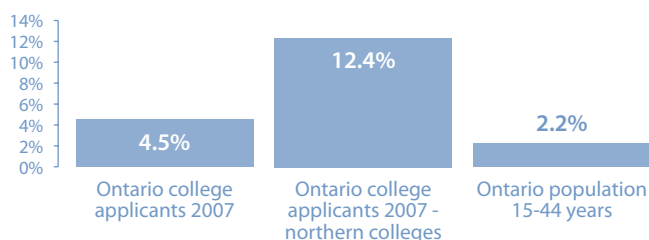
Source: Census 2006, Statistics Canada.

- According to the latest available data, a higher proportion of college applicants self-identify as aboriginal persons as compared to the Ontario population (figure 15). The 2006 census showed that two per cent of the Ontario population aged 15 to 44 self-identified as an aboriginal individual. The proportion of aboriginal applicants was significantly higher for colleges in northern Ontario (F15).

Figure 15

F15

Proportion of applicants of aboriginal identity



Source: 2007 College Applicants Survey, Academica Group Inc.; Census 2006, Statistics Canada.

- In recent student surveys, eight per cent of college respondents indicated that they were of aboriginal or native ancestry, while two per cent of Ontario university students self-identified as aboriginal (*Ontario College Student Engagement Survey, 2007-08; National Survey of Student Engagement, 2006*, Ontario data).
- On a national basis, nine per cent of surveyed Canadian college students self-identified as aboriginal, compared with just three per cent of surveyed undergraduate university students (*Canadian Undergraduate Survey Consortium, 2005 and 2007; Canadian College Student Survey 2006*).

2.10 Disabilities

The following data on applicants and students with disabilities were derived from self-report measures, and thus, these data represent those individuals who chose to identify themselves as disabled.

- In 2007, six per cent of surveyed applicants indicated they had a disability. Over half reported a learning disability (52 per cent), 11 per cent a medical disability, 16 per cent a psychiatric disability, 14 per cent a mobility disability and seven per cent have a sensory disability. In general, these individuals tended to be older, with 17 per cent being age 35 or older, as compared to eight per cent of individuals without a disability.
- In 2006-07, 11 per cent of Ontario college students indicated use of "Special Needs/Disability Services," almost half of whom reported high usage. Usage was linked to student age, with only 10 per cent of students under 21 using these services, compared with 22 per cent of those over 35 years of age.
- Ten per cent of surveyed Ontario college students reported a disability. Of those reporting a disability, 66 per cent reported a learning disability, 14 per cent mobility, eight per cent sensory, and 12 per cent reported multiple disabilities (*2007-08 Ontario Student Engagement Survey*).
- National surveys showed that six per cent of university students and 10 per cent of college students have a disability. For first-year students only, nine per cent of those in Canadian colleges and five per cent of those in Canadian universities reported a disability (*Canadian Undergraduate Survey Consortium, 2005, 2007; Canadian College Student Survey 2006; Pan-Canadian Study of First-Year College Students 2007*).

2.11 Main goals

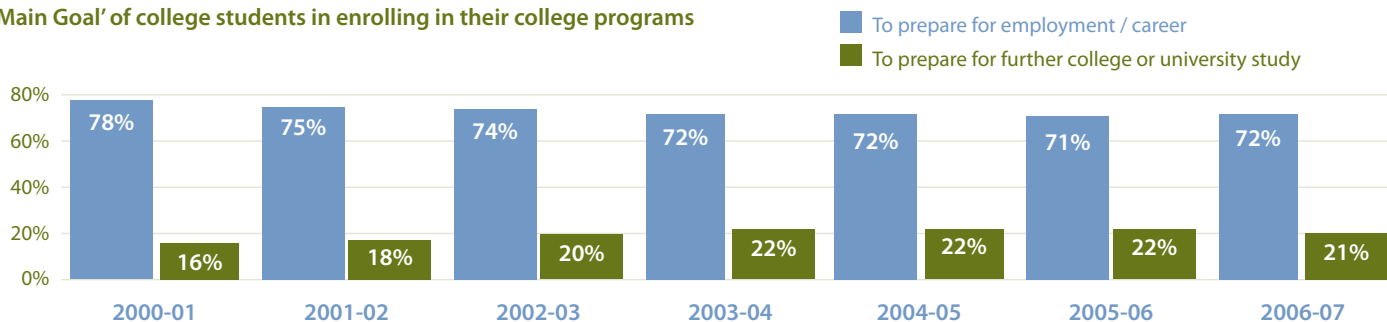
Although there are many reasons for applying to and enrolling in college, career-related reasons are the most common. In 2007, 87 per cent of college applicants cited career preparation as a major reason for applying. Other career-related reasons (e.g. acquiring a credential, career advancement, preparation for career change) as well as personal development and preparation for further education were also common cited reasons for applying to college. These responses were similar to those of college students; 72 per cent of students cited employment or career preparation as their main goal for enrolling in their college programs, while 21 per cent cited preparation for further study (figure 16). The proportion of college students planning to engage in further education has increased in recent years (F16).

3.0 Apprentices in Ontario

Apprenticeship is an industry-based learning system that combines job experience, technical training, and classroom theory. In Ontario, apprenticeship is the responsibility of the provincial government. About 90 per cent of apprenticeship training is provided in the workplace by employers or sponsors who provide training to the standards of skill and safety set by industry. The remainder of apprenticeship training involves classroom instruction on theory, which is provided primarily by the colleges (83 per cent) or another approved training organization. The province also runs the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP), which enables high school students who are in Grade 11 and are at least 16 years old to work towards a career in a skilled trade as a registered apprentice.

Figure 16

'Main Goal' of college students in enrolling in their college programs



Source: Student Satisfaction Surveys, MTCU.

Active apprentices

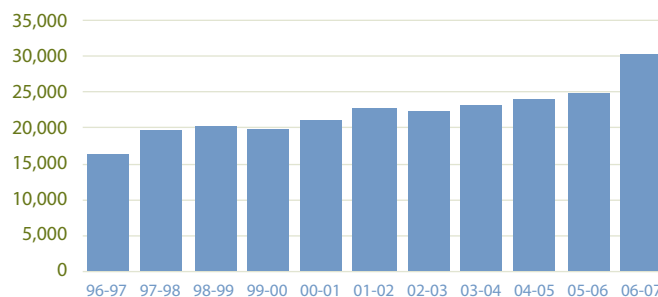
The number of active apprentices in Ontario has been steadily increasing over time, but has shown particularly large increases in the last several years. From 1993-94 to 2003-04, the total number of active apprentices in Ontario increased by 44 per cent, from 46,271 to 66,519. Since then, there has been a further 47 per cent increase in active apprentices, bringing the total number for Ontario to 97,770.

3.1 New and planned apprenticeship starts

- In 2006-07, there were 36,253 new apprenticeship starts (including OYAP) in Ontario (appendix 2). There are 40,628 planned new starts for 2007-08, including 32,826 for the colleges (A2).
- In 2006-07, OYAP apprentices accounted for five per cent of the total new starts in the colleges.
- As with total active apprentices, new CAAT apprenticeship starts have shown strong recent growth. For example, from 2000-2001 to 2005-06, the total number of apprentice new starts enrolled in the colleges increased by 18 per cent, from 21,142 to 24,908. In this last year, there was a further 21 per cent increase, bringing the total number of new starts in colleges to 30,202 (figure 17) (F17).

Figure 17

New CAAT apprenticeship starts, 1996-97 to 2006-07

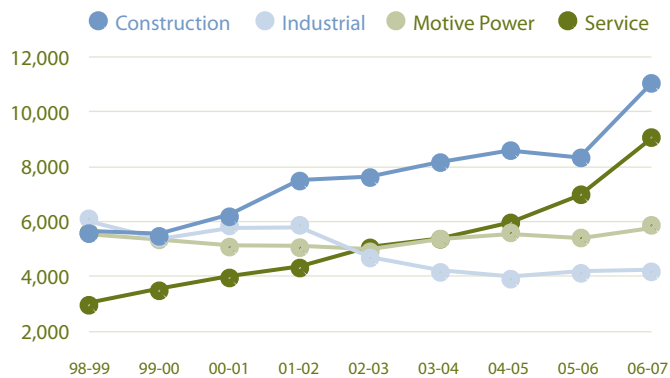


Source: MTCU.

- Although CAAT apprenticeship enrolment has grown, the colleges' proportion of total provincial apprenticeship seats has declined. In 2006-07, CAATs were allocated 83 per cent of total seat purchases, continuing the decline in allocation from 95 per cent in 1993-04. For planned seats in 2007-08, the proportion has dropped further to 81 per cent allocation of total seat purchases. Most of the apprenticeship training offered by non-college organizations is in the construction and service sectors.
- Overall, in 2006-07, 36.6 per cent of new apprentices in Ontario colleges were enrolled in the construction sector, followed by the service sector (30.0 per cent), motive power (19.5 per cent) and industrial (13.9 per cent). Unlike the other sectors, only the industrial sector has shown a decline in new starts since 2002-03. (figure 18) [F18](#).

Figure 18 F18

New CAAT apprenticeship starts by sector, 1998-99 to 2006-07

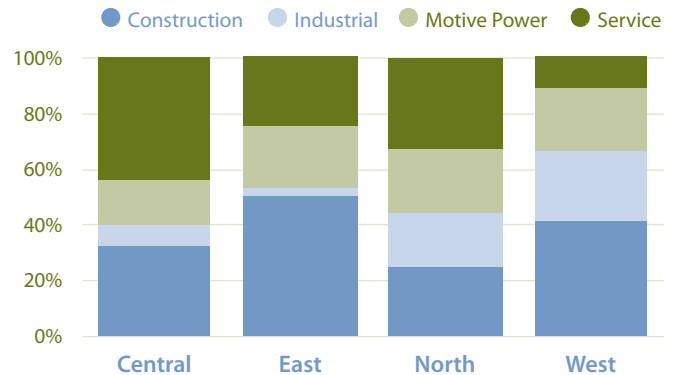


Source: MTCU

- Reflecting local economies, the distribution of new apprenticeship starts across employment sectors also differs by provincial region (figure 19). For example, the service sector is the largest source of new apprenticeship starts for the central region of Ontario, and the smallest for the western region. Construction new starts make up the smallest proportion of new starts in the north, and the largest proportion in eastern Ontario [F19](#).

Figure 19 F19

New CAAT apprenticeship starts by sector and region, 2006-07

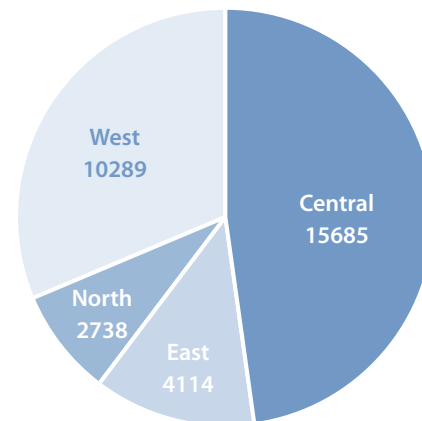


Source: MTCU.

- The province planned for an increase of approximately 2,600 college apprenticeship seats in 2007-08. Reflecting provincial population densities, the distribution of these planned apprenticeship seats differs significantly across the geographical regions of Ontario (figure 20) [F20](#).

Figure 20 F20

New CAAT apprenticeship planned starts by region, 2007-08



Source: MTCU.

4.0 International students

International student enrolment continues to show year-by-year increases, with at least 6,958 international students enrolled in 2007 (table 4) [T4](#).

Table 4 T4

Enrolment of international students

Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
International full-time enrolment	1605	1823	2088	2777	3707	4685	5855	6193	6172	6722	6958

Source: OCAS enrolment cube, November enrolment count. Note that not all international student enrolments are reported to OCAS.

- Sixty-nine per cent of international students are enrolled in colleges in the central region of Ontario; 19 per cent in western, 10 per cent in eastern; and two per cent in colleges in the northern region.
- The majority of international students are enrolled in business programs (57 per cent), followed by arts (21 per cent), technology (19 per cent) and health programs (three per cent).

5.0 Graduate outcomes

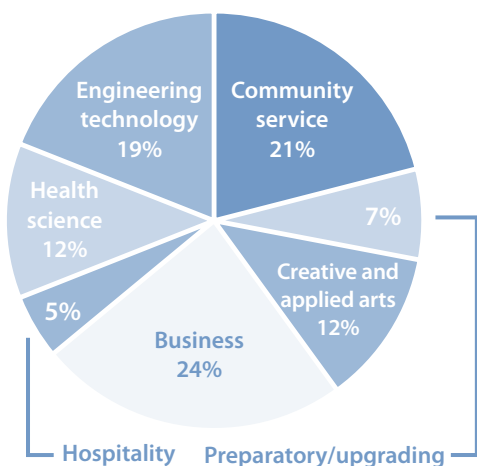
Much of the information on Ontario college graduates is obtained from the *Graduate Satisfaction Survey*, conducted six months after graduation (MTCU). The response rate is extremely high (approximately 75 per cent) and graduates provide detailed information as to the programs from which they graduated as well as their current activities, including both employment and education information.

5.1 Ontario college graduates by sector

- Figure 21 shows the proportion of graduates by type of program. Graduates of business-related programs made up the largest share of graduates, followed by community service-related programs (see appendix 3 for further details) (F21) (A3).

Figure 21

College graduates by employment sector, 2005-06



Source: 2007 Employment Profile, MTCU.

- The largest change since 2003-04 is the reduction in the portion of health science graduates, down from 18 per cent to 12 per cent. Due to the phase-out of diploma nursing

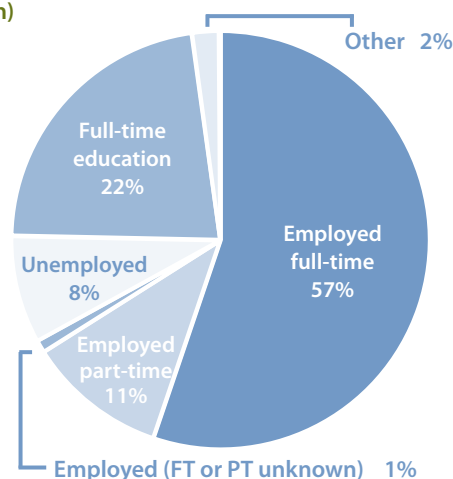
and replacement with the collaborative university-college nursing baccalaureate programs, these graduates are not included in the 'official' college graduate count.

Activity six months after graduation

For the 2005-06 graduates, 68 per cent were working either full or part time and 22 per cent had returned to school full time six months after graduation. Of those looking for work, 90 per cent had found jobs at this point (figure 22) (F22).

Figure 22

Current activity of 2005-06 graduates (six months after graduation)



Source: 2007 Employment Profile, MTCU.

5.2 Employment of 2005-06 Ontario college graduates (six months after graduation)

- Six months after graduation, the overall employment rate for the 2005-06 graduates who had entered the labour force was 90 per cent (see appendix 4) (A4).
- The highest employment rate was in the health sector (93 per cent) and the lowest rate was in the business sector (88 per cent).
- Seventy-one per cent of employed graduates were employed in fields they felt were either fully or partially related to their programs of study. This rate was highest for graduates in the health sector (86 per cent) and lowest for graduates of applied arts programs (63 per cent).
- For both females and males in all sectors, the employment rates showed slight increases (and the unemployment rates slight decreases) over those of 2004-05.
- Overall, females were more likely to be employed than males (90.7 per cent employment for females vs. 88.7 per

cent for males). The technology sector was an exception, in that males were more likely to be employed than females (88.8 per cent employment for males vs. 87.5 for females).

Two years after graduation (*National Graduate Survey, Class of 2000*)

- Ninety-three per cent of Ontario college graduates (Class of 2000) who had entered the labour force were employed two years after graduation, similar to the university (Bachelor's degree) graduates' rate of 94 per cent.

College graduates relative to the Ontario population

According to the most recent census data (2006), of the total Ontario labour force aged 25 to 44 years, 68 per cent hold a PSE credential; 36 per cent have a college credential (including a trades certificate), and 32 per cent have a university credential (22 per cent hold a Bachelor's degree).

In 2006, 87 per cent of the Ontario population aged 25 to 44 with a diploma or certificate were employed, compared with 86 per cent of bachelor degree graduates. When those not in the labour force were excluded (i.e. those not looking for work), 96 per cent of diploma or certificate holders were employed.

Graduate employment by occupation and industry

Jobs held by current college graduates were categorized by the standardized occupation classifications used by Statistics Canada, based on information obtained from graduates six months after graduation. These data demonstrate that college graduates are working across all occupation categories (figure 23) [\(F23\)](#).

- 2005-06 college graduates were most likely to be employed in sales and service-related and business, finance and administration-related occupations, followed by health-related occupations.

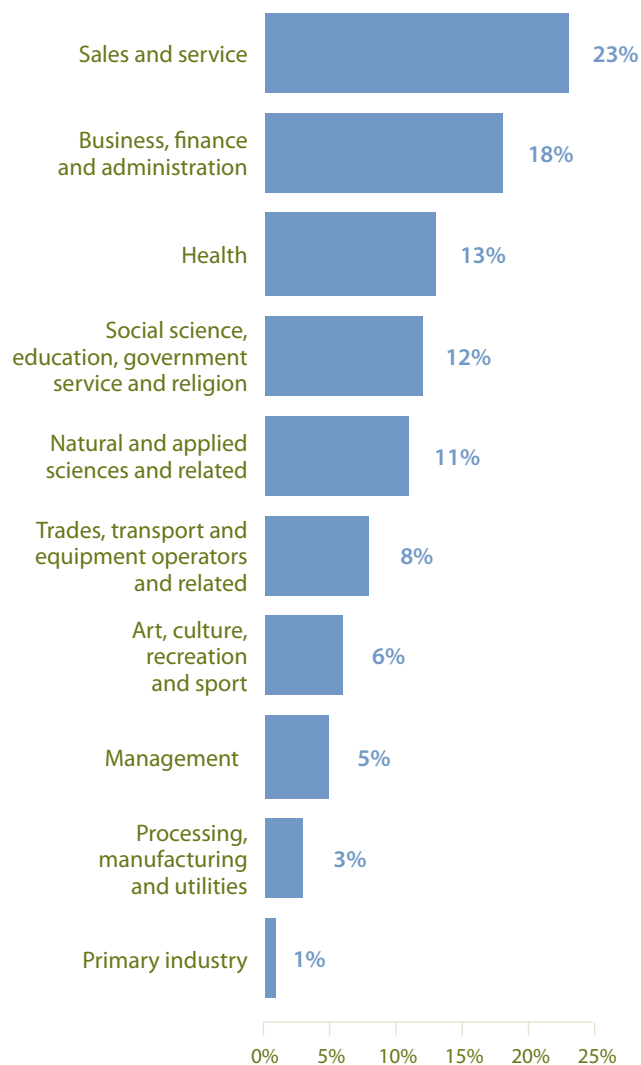
5.3 Earnings of 2005-06 Ontario college graduates (six months after graduation)

- Average annual salary of new graduates of one- or two-year programs employed full time in a job related or partially related to program of study was \$30,640.
- The highest average and median annual earnings were for males employed in the health sector (\$44,000 and \$42,236).

Figure 23

F23

Percentage of 2005-06 college graduates employed by occupation



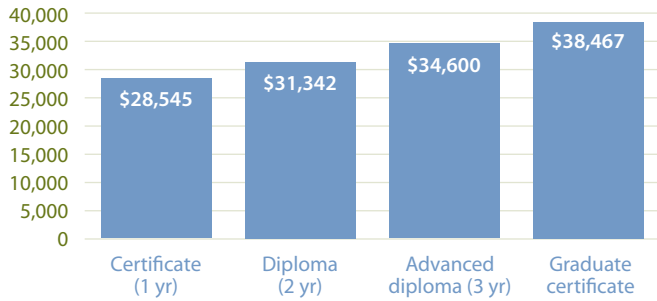
Source: 2005-06 Graduate Satisfaction Survey, MTCU. Occupational groupings based on National Occupational Classification for Statistics (NOC-S)

- The lowest average and median annual earnings were for females in applied arts (\$28,859 and \$27,923).
- Across all employment sectors, females earned only 91 per cent of what males earned (averages for those employed in full-time jobs related to areas of study).
- Salaries were related to program duration and type of program. Graduates of one-year graduate certificate programs (specialist programs requiring a previous diploma or degree) earned the highest salaries on average (\$38,467), followed by three-year programs, two-year basic diplomas, and then one-year certificate programs, demonstrating a greater return on investment with a longer duration of study (figure 24) [\(F24\)](#).

Figure 24

F24

Average annual salaries of 2005-06 graduates, by credential



Source: 2007 Employment Profile, MTCU. Salaries are for those working full-time in jobs partially or fully related to their fields of study, six months after graduation. Salaries >\$100,000 excluded.

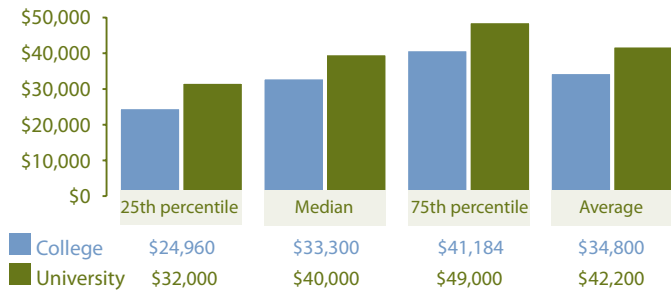
Two years after graduation (National Graduates Survey, Class of 2000)

The median salary of an Ontario college graduate (Class of 2000), two years after graduation was \$33,300 (\$34,800 average), compared with the national average of \$31,200. Ontario university graduates earned a median salary of \$40,000, slightly above the national average of \$39,000 (figure 25) (F25).

Figure 25

F25

Estimated gross annual salaries of Ontario college and university (Bachelor's) graduates two years after graduation

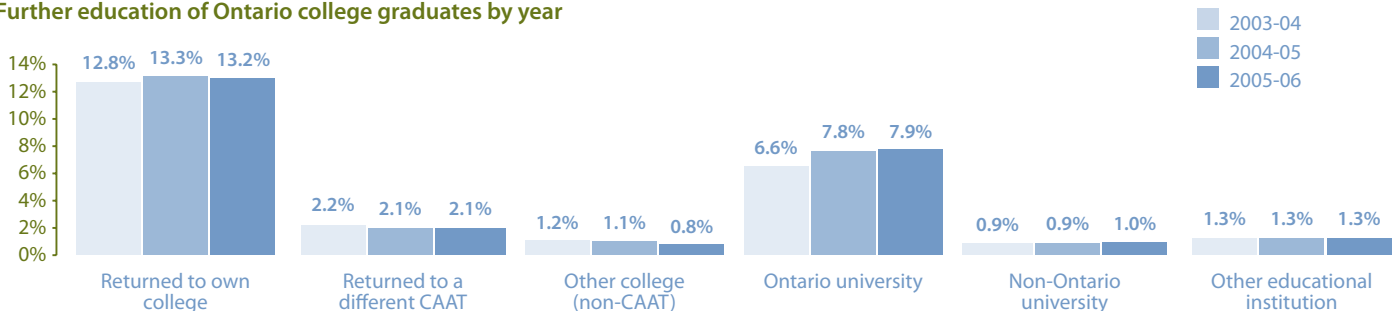


Source: National Graduates Survey, Class of 2000, Statistics Canada.

Figure 26

F26

Further education of Ontario college graduates by year



Source: Graduate Satisfaction Surveys, MTCU.

5.4

Further education of 2005-06 Ontario college graduates (six months after graduation)

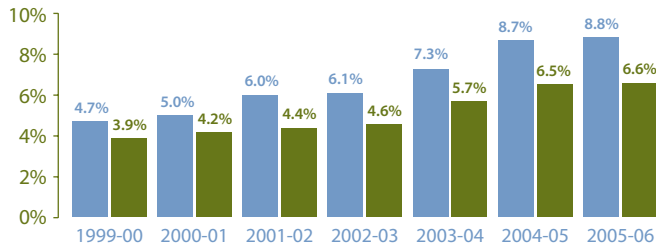
- For the 2005-06 graduates, 26 per cent had resumed full- or part-time studies within six months of graduation.
- Educational destinations of college graduates have been consistent over the last several years. The majority of graduates who pursued further education either returned to their own colleges, or enrolled at an Ontario university (figure 26) (F26).
- The largest proportion of graduates pursuing full-time further education were graduates from the applied arts sector (30 per cent) and the smallest proportion were from the health sector (nine per cent).
- Of those graduates who continued their education following graduation, the majority returned to a college. Sixteen per cent of all 2005-06 graduates returned to a college within six months; of those returning to a college, 82 per cent returned to their college of graduation, 13 per cent to a different college, and five per cent to a private or agricultural college.
- Graduates in preparatory health sciences, and general arts and sciences and were most likely to further their education at a college.
- Graduates in early childhood education, police foundations, general arts and sciences and programs in business administration were most likely to further their education at a university.
- The proportion of college graduates furthering their education at university has increased considerably in recent years, to almost nine per cent for 2005-06 graduates (figure 27) (F27).

Figure 27

F27

College graduates attending university by year

■ % of graduates attending any type of university program in Ontario or elsewhere
 ■ % of graduates attending an Ontario university degree program



Source: Graduate Satisfaction Surveys, MTCU.

5.5 Ontario's postsecondary attainment rate

The latest data show that, in 2006, Ontario had the country's second-highest PSE attainment rate (65 per cent of the population aged 25 to 44). This is slightly higher than in 2005, due to an increase in university attainment (there was a slight decrease in college attainment). Ontario has the country's highest proportion of degree holders (21 per cent with a Bachelor's degree, 31 per cent including all university degrees) but ranks only eighth in its proportion of diploma or certificate holders (34 per cent). The high proportion of degree holders in Ontario is in part attributable to the high numbers of skilled immigrants who have degrees (figure 28) (F28).

5.6 Comparison of PSE graduates in Canada to other OECD countries

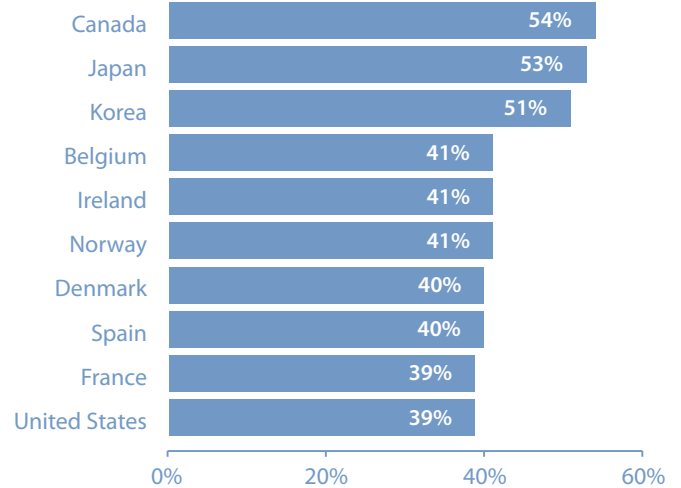
According to the latest OECD data, Canada has the highest PSE attainment rate of OECD countries (54 per cent for the population 25 to 34 years; excluding trades). Together, Canada, Japan and Korea are substantially ahead of other countries in the proportion of their 25- to 34-year-old populations who

are postsecondary graduates (figure 29). In recent years, Korea has made the largest improvements in this age group (e.g., increasing from 41 per cent in the 2002 survey) (F29).

Figure 29

F29

Top ten OECD countries according to postsecondary educational attainment



Source: OECD, Table A1.3a, Population that has attained tertiary education, Education at a Glance, 2007.

6.0 Lifelong learners

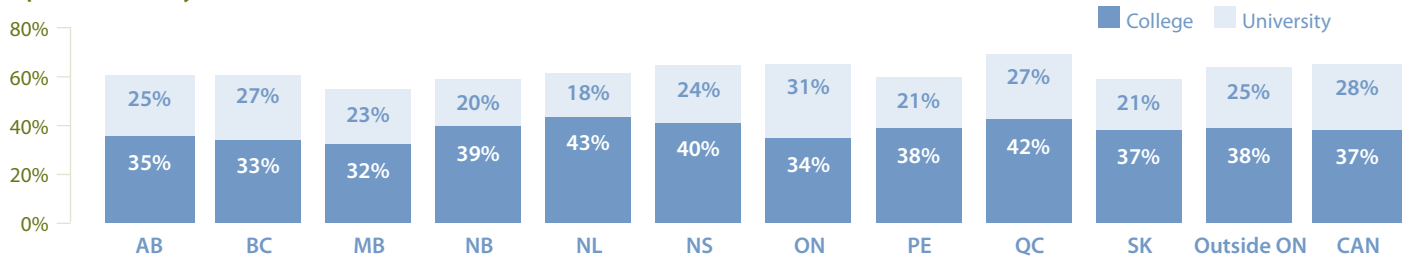
6.1 Continuing Education

Data are not collected systematically on the number of individual students taking continuing education (CE) courses in Ontario's colleges. However, the colleges (through the Heads of Continuing Education) do perform a regular survey of CE departments that provides the number of annual registrations, and the colleges report CE activity, which allows a conversion to numbers of students. Using this conversion, there were approximately 290,000 CE students in Ontario's colleges in 2006-07.

Figure 28

F28

Population 25-44 years old with PSE credential *



* Respondents report their highest level of education. Categories are defined as follows: **College** = completed a certificate (including a trades certificate) or diploma from an educational institution beyond the secondary level. This included certificates from vocational schools, apprenticeship training, community college, CEGEP, and schools of nursing. Also includes certificates below Bachelor's degree obtained from a university. **University** = attained at least a university bachelor's degree or higher.

Source: Labour Force Survey, Table 282-0004, Statistics Canada.

Important characteristics and trends regarding continuing education students in Ontario's colleges are obtained from the *CAAT Continuing Education Survey*, which has been conducted every few years starting in 1996 (CCI Research Inc.). The most current survey was administered in fall 2005, to students then currently registered in CAAT continuing education courses.

Demographics

- **Gender:** Female CE students continued to outnumber male CE students 65 per cent to 35 per cent. This ratio has been quite steady over time (e.g., 64 per cent female in 1996).
- **Age:** 59 per cent of CE students were between 25 to 44 years of age, with 25 per cent age 45 years and older.

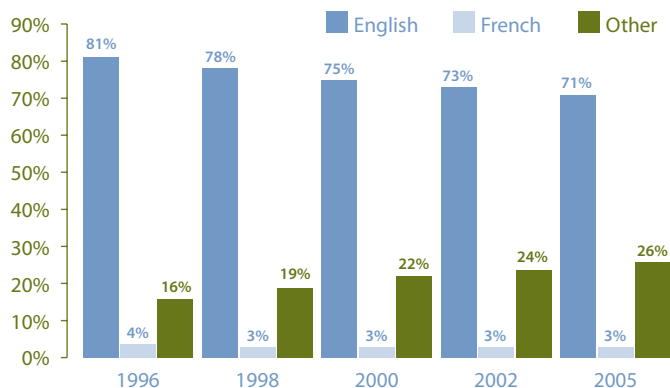
First language and country of highest education

The proportion of students whose first language was neither English nor French has continued to grow. It increased from 16 per cent in 1996 to 26 per cent in 2005 (figure 30). Similarly, an increased number of CE students indicated that they completed their previous education in another country, rising from 15 per cent in 1996 to 24 per cent in 2005 (F30).

Figure 30

F30

Percentages of CE students by first language, over time



Source: CCI Research Inc.

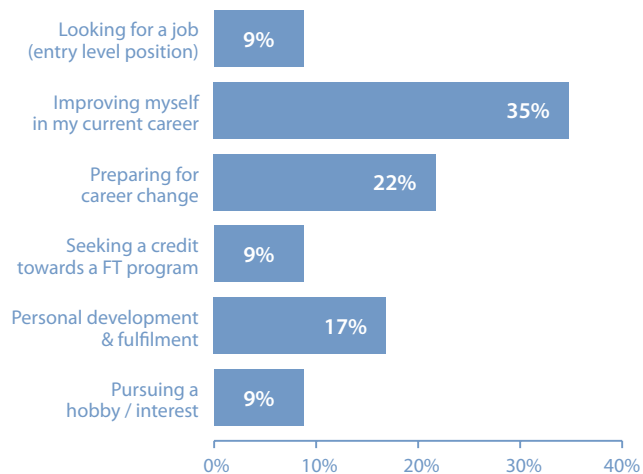
Goals

The vast majority of CE students reported working towards some type of credential (73 per cent), with only a small proportion indicating they were working towards completion of a single course (16 per cent). Sixty-six per cent of students stated they were taking CE courses for career-related reasons. Personal development and fulfilment, or pursuing a hobby or interest, made up just one-quarter of the responses (Figure 31) (F31).

Figure 31

F31

Main reason for taking an Ontario CAAT continuing education course



Source: CCI Research Inc.

Level of prior education

In 2005, 69 per cent of CE students had a certificate, diploma or degree, an increase from 59 per cent in 1996. In particular, the proportion of degree holders has increased substantially, from 25 per cent in 1996 to 34 per cent in 2005.

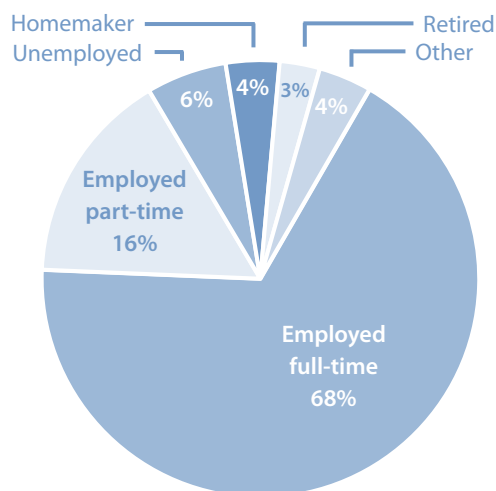
Employment status

- The vast majority of CE students were working, 68 per cent full time, and 16 per cent part time (figure 32) (F32).

Figure 32

F32

Employment status of continuing education students (Fall 2005)



Source: Provincial Highlights: CAAT Continuing Education Survey, Fall 2005, CCI Research Inc.

7.0 Appendices

Appendix 1

A 1

Full-time equivalent (FTE) enrolment at the 24 colleges

Institution	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Total FTE	% of Total	Total FTE	% of Total	Total FTE	% of Total
Algonquin	14,811	8.1	14,786	8.1	14,857	8.2
Boréal	1,638	0.9	1,445	0.8	1,487	0.8
Cambrian	4,374	2.4	4,022	2.2	3,800	2.1
Canadore	3,028	1.7	2,924	1.6	2,823	1.5
Centennial	10,540	5.8	9,957	5.4	9,436	5.2
Conestoga	6,862	3.8	6,722	3.7	6,948	3.8
Confederation	3,180	1.7	3,201	1.7	3,099	1.7
Durham	6,857	3.8	6,948	3.8	7,007	3.8
Fanshawe	12,558	6.9	12,642	6.9	12,409	6.8
Fleming	6,324	3.5	6,078	3.3	5,871	3.2
George Brown	14,841	8.1	15,679	8.6	16,213	8.9
Georgian	6,773	3.7	6,941	3.8	7,280	4.0
Humber	15,779	8.7	16,195	8.8	16,412	9.0

Institution	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Total FTE	% of Total	Total FTE	% of Total	Total FTE	% of Total
La Cité	3,361	1.8	3,388	1.9	3,351	1.8
Lambton	2,349	1.3	2,287	1.2	2,194	1.2
Loyalist	3,090	1.7	3,317	1.8	3,169	1.7
Mohawk	10,456	5.7	10,633	5.8	10,546	5.8
Niagara	6,847	3.8	6,817	3.7	6,627	3.6
Northern	1,466	0.8	1,343	0.7	1,242	0.7
Sault	2,323	1.3	2,085	1.1	1,939	1.1
Seneca	19,058	10.4	19,191	10.5	19,225	10.5
Sheridan	13,439	7.4	13,932	7.6	14,060	7.7
St.Clair	7,151	3.9	7,142	3.9	6,931	3.8
St.Lawrence	5,299	2.9	5,348	2.9	5,319	2.9
Total	182,404	100.0%	183,024	100.0%	182,246	100.0%

Source: MTCU.

Appendix 2

A 2

Apprentice training by sector - actual and planned enrolment (including OYAP*)

Program - sector name	Total actual enrolment (including OYAP)				Planned total 2007-08	Actual enrolment - OYAP only				Planned enrolment (OYAP only) 2007-08
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	
Total construction sector - CAAT	8165	8600	8337	11041	8877	49	40	154	248	136
Total construction sector - private	2533	2726	3174	3085	4132	78	31	119	106	141
Grand total - construction sector	10698	11326	11511	14126	13009	127	71	273	354	277
Total industrial sector - CAAT	4179	3934	4145	4200	4168	61	107	124	155	112
Total industrial sector - private	10	53	88	124	115	0	0	0	3	0
Grand total industrial sector	4189	3987	4233	4324	4283	61	107	124	158	112
Total motive power sector - CAAT	5387	5615	5428	5888	5501	159	219	231	257	151
Total motive power sector - private	112	104	109	70	203	0	0	0	0	15
Grand total motive power sector	5499	5719	5537	5958	5692	159	219	231	257	166
Total service sector - CAAT	5382	5975	6998	9073	14280	384	325	497	798	1312
Total service sector - private	442	489	986	2772	3352	0	0	0	6	0
Grand total service sector	5824	6464	7984	11845	17632	384	325	497	804	1312
Total - all sectors - CAAT	23113	24124	24908	30202	32826	653	691	1006	1458	1711
Total - all sectors - private	3097	3372	4357	6051	7802	78	31	119	115	156
Total - all sectors	26210	27496	29265	36253	40628	731	722	1125	1573	1867

* OYAP = Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program; CAAT = Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology; Private includes Kemptville College.

Source: MTCU.

Graduates by occupation cluster, 2005-06

Applied Arts	Total graduates	% of graduates	% change 2004-05
Advertising and Design	1898	3.2	-11.5
Art	783	1.3	-10.6
Child / Youth Worker	871	1.5	4.4
Community Planning	18	0.0	-14.3
Crafts	133	0.2	31.7
Developmental Services Worker	630	1.1	14.8
Education	3010	5.1	-2.1
Fashion	714	1.2	28.4
Graphic Arts / Printing	42	0.1	-47.5
Horticulture	249	0.4	14.7
Law and Security	3973	6.7	1.7
Library	104	0.2	18.2
Media	2895	4.9	-4.5
Native Community Worker	32	0.1	-64.4
Performing Arts	452	0.8	16.5
Preparatory / Upgrading	4261	7.2	8.0
Public Relations	483	0.8	4.8
Recreation / Fitness	960	1.6	-5.8
Social Services	2666	4.5	15.7
Business	Total graduates	% of graduates	% change 2004-05
Accounting / Finance	2734	4.6	3.7
Aviation Management	27	0.0	-35.7
Business Computer	1423	2.4	-30.9
Business Legal	907	1.5	-2.9
Business Management	2864	4.9	2.2
Culinary Arts	965	1.6	-4.4
Government / Real Estate	33	0.1	50.0
Hospitality Management	1022	1.7	0.9
Human Resources / Industrial Relations	1244	2.1	2.0
Marketing / Retail Sales	2185	3.7	4.5
Materials Management	216	0.4	27.1
Office Administration	1107	1.9	5.1
Office Administration – Health	541	0.9	12.0
Office Administration – Legal	215	0.4	7.5
Small Business	153	0.3	26.4
Travel / Tourism	877	1.5	16.0

Health Sciences	Total graduates	% of graduates	% change 2004-05
Animal Care	393	0.7	19.1
Health – Miscellaneous	889	1.5	1.4
Health Technology	1945	3.3	-6.2
Nursing Related	4065	6.9	-20.4
Technology	Total graduates	% of graduates	% change 2004-05
Architectural	577	1.0	12.9
Automotive	811	1.4	26.7
Aviation – Flight	70	0.1	-22.2
Aviation – Maintenance	267	0.5	99.3
Chemical / Biological	590	1.0	-3.4
Civil	1093	1.9	2.6
Drafting	51	0.1	18.6
Electronics	2766	4.7	-3.5
Furniture / Wood Products	240	0.4	4.8
Geology / Mining	73	0.1	-27.0
Industrial	46	0.1	27.8
Instrumentation	148	0.3	-3.9
Machining	442	0.7	-9.8
Marine	38	0.1	5.6
Mechanical	2064	3.5	12.4
Power	148	0.3	-17.8
Resources	844	1.4	-11.5
Technology Miscellaneous	674	1.1	2.7
Welding	108	0.2	10.2
Total	59029	100	-0.7

Source: 2007 Employment Profile, MTCU

Current status of 2005-06 graduates (six months after graduation)

Graduate status	Applied arts			Business			Health			Technology			Total		
	Female	Male	Total ^a	Female	Male	Total ^a	Female	Male	Total ^a	Female	Male	Total ^a	Female	Male	Total ^b
Total Graduates	15841	8156	24174	9931	6532	16513	6251	936	7292	1620	9381	11050	33643	25005	59029
Total in the Survey	11989	6164	18285	7336	4802	12173	4850	703	5632	1228	7263	8532	25403	18932	44622
Response Rate	75.7%	75.6%	75.6%	73.9%	73.5%	73.7%	77.6%	75.1%	77.2%	75.8%	77.4%	77.2%	75.5%	75.7%	75.6%
Total in Labour Force	8110	4156	12369	5894	3696	9623	4263	641	4976	952	5733	6723	19219	14226	33691
Employment Rate	91.2%	89.1%	90.5%	88.8%	87.1%	88.1%	93.2%	93.1%	93.2%	87.5%	88.8%	88.6%	90.7%	88.7%	89.8%
Full-Time	5687	3140	8906	4515	2910	7450	2774	480	3303	735	4809	5575	13711	11339	25234
Part-Time	1586	521	2122	668	286	957	1121	107	1248	93	248	342	3468	1162	4669
Unknown	124	43	167	49	25	74	76	10	86	5	34	39	254	112	366
Unemployed	713	452	1174	662	475	1142	292	44	339	119	642	767	1786	1613	3422
Unemployment Rate	8.8%	10.9%	9.5%	11.2%	12.9%	11.9%	6.8%	6.9%	6.8%	12.5%	11.2%	11.4%	9.3%	11.3%	10.2%
Not in Labour Force	3879	2008	5916	1442	1106	2550	587	62	656	276	1530	1809	6184	4706	10931
Full-Time Education	3588	1907	5522	1232	1008	2242	457	56	517	246	1431	1679	5523	4402	9960
Other ^b	277	90	369	204	91	295	124	6	133	30	90	121	635	277	918
Unknown	14	11	25	6	7	13	6	-	6	-	9	9	26	27	53
Self-Employed Full-Time	230	195	431	83	140	223	39	12	52	9	153	162	361	500	868
Self-Employed Rate	4.0%	6.2%	4.8%	1.8%	4.8%	3.0%	1.4%	2.5%	1.6%	1.2%	3.2%	2.9%	2.6%	4.4%	3.4%

Source: 2007 Employment Profile, MTCU.

a. All division totals include records with unspecified gender information.

b. 'Other' graduates' status includes travel, health, and family responsibilities.