


EDUCATION
AT A GLANCE 2013

CANADA

One of the most well-educated countries

The rate of tertiary education attainment in Canada has increased by 11 percentage points since 2000, with 51% of its adult population holding a tertiary qualification in 2011, the highest rate among OECD countries. By comparison, the average for the OECD countries was 32% in 2011.

Whereas in 2000, men were more likely than women to hold a tertiary degree in many OECD countries, the opposite was true in 2011, by which time more women than men had completed tertiary education. Canada is one of the seven OECD countries where tertiary attainment rates for women are higher than those for men by at least 10 percentage points, with 56% of women holding a tertiary qualification compared with 46% of men. The results for both men and women in Canada show gains compared to 2000; women were also more likely than men to hold a tertiary degree in 2000.

Education, a safety net against unemployment

During the recent economic crisis, unemployment rates for 25-64 year-olds climbed steeply in OECD countries, and the hardest hit were those without an upper secondary or a post-secondary non-tertiary education. In Canada, between 2008 and 2011, the unemployment rate for this group rose by almost 2.6 percentage points, up to 11.7% (but down from the peak of 12.6% in 2009). This change was lower than in the United States, which saw an increase of more than 6.1 percentage points, up to 16.2%, and than the OECD average, which increased by 3.8 percentage points, up to 12.6%.

Even before the crisis started in 2008, unemployment rates in Canada for those without an upper secondary education (9.1%) were already more than twice as high as for those with a tertiary-level degree (4.1%). Between 2008 and 2011, the unemployment rate for people with a tertiary education only increased by 0.9 percentage points, to 5.0%, from a high of 5.4% in 2010. In comparison, the unemployment rate for this group in the United States increased by 2.5 percentage points to reach 4.9%, while the OECD average increased by 1.5 percentage points to reach 4.8%.

Private versus public financing of education

The share of public and private funding for educational institutions varies widely among countries. In Canada, public funding for all levels of education accounted for 76% of the total funding in 2009, compared with 84% on average among OECD countries (year of reference 2010). At tertiary level, the difference was even greater: 57% of Canadian funding at this level comes from public sources compared with the OECD average of 68%.

In 2010 the average annual tuition fees charged in Canada for full-time students at public universities in a first-degree program was USD 4 288. This ranked Canada among the countries with the highest tuition fees. While a number of countries, including the Nordic countries, have institutions charging no tuition fees, other countries, including Canada, charge substantial tuition fees, but offer significant public support to students to offset the burden on individuals. In Canada, 19% of public expenditure on tertiary education goes on providing public support for households and other private entities, close to the OECD average.

Canadian teachers' salaries compare well with other tertiary-educated workers' salaries

Although teachers' salaries vary substantially across countries, they tend to increase with the level of education taught. In Canada, teachers' salaries at the primary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels do not show much difference. In 2011, teachers with 15 years of experience earned about USD 56 000, regardless of the level taught, in comparison with OECD average salaries which range from USD 36 000 to USD 41 700 depending on the level taught.

While in most OECD countries, teachers' salaries are somewhat lower than those earned by other workers with equivalent education, this is not the case in Canada. Canadian teachers can expect to earn 4% more than the average for tertiary-educated workers. Korea, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Portugal and Spain are the only other countries with a similarly favourable situation for teachers.

Other findings

- In tertiary-type A and advanced research programmes, women predominate in the the fields of health and welfare, as well as in the field of education. In Canada, women hold 82% of all degrees awarded in the field of health and welfare, compared with the OECD average of 75%, and they hold 77% of all degrees awarded in education, on a par with the OECD average. In contrast, women represent 17% of all graduates in the field of computing (OECD average: 19%), and 23% of graduates in the fields of engineering, manufacturing and construction (OECD average: 27%).
- In 2011, in Canada, the proportion of 15-29 year-olds who were neither employed nor in education or training (NEET) increased between 2008 and 2011 from 11.7% to 13.3%. A similar increase was experienced in many OECD countries, where the average grew from 13.7% in 2008 to 15.8% in 2011, although the pattern of when the rate peaked differed from country to country. In Canada, the rate in 2011 was lower than in 2010.
- In 2011, more than 4.3 million tertiary-level students were enrolled outside their country of citizenship. North America is the second most attractive destination for foreign students after Europe. Of these, 21% of students chose to study in North America; 16% choosing the United States and 5% choosing Canada. Canada's share of international students remained stable between 2000 and 2011, while it decreased by 6 percentage points in the United States, and increased by 1% or 2% percentage points in other countries such as Australia, Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Questions can be directed to:

Andreas Schleicher
 Advisor to the Secretary-General on Education Policy,
 Deputy Director for Education and Skills
Email: Andreas.Schleicher@oecd.org
Telephone: +33 6 07 38 54 64

For more information on *Education at a Glance 2013*,
visit: www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm

Country Note Authors:

Corinne Heckmann (corinne.heckmann@oecd.org)
 Diane Lalancette (diane.lalancette@oecd.org)

Key Facts for Canada in Education at a Glance 2013

Table	Indicator	Canada		OECD average		Rank among OECD countries and other G20 countries*
Educational Access and Output						
Enrolment rates		2011	2005	2011	2005	
C2.1	3-year-olds (in early childhood education)	1%	m	67%	64%	Not applicable***
	4-year-olds (in early childhood and primary education)	48%	m	84%	79%	Not applicable***
C1.1a	5-14 year-olds (all levels)	99%		99%		18 of 38
Percentage of population that has attained below upper secondary education		2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	11%	19%	26%	34%	29 of 35
Percentage of population that has attained upper secondary education		2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	37%	41%	44%	44%	24 of 36
Percentage of population that has attained tertiary education		2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.3a A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	51%	40%	31%	22%	2 of 36
	30-34 year-olds	58%		39%		2 of 34
	25-34 year-olds	57%	48%	39%	26%	3 of 36
	55-64 year-olds	43%	28%	24%	15%	3 of 36
Entry rates into tertiary education		2011	2000	2011	2000	
C3.1a	Vocational programmes (Tertiary-type B)	m	m	19%	16%	m
	University programmes (Tertiary-type A)	m	m	60%	48%	m
Graduation rates		2011	2000	2011	2000	
A2.1a	Percentage of today's young people expected to complete upper secondary education in their lifetime	m	m	83%	76%	m
A3.1a	Percentage of today's young people expected to complete university education (tertiary-type A) in their lifetime	m	27%	39%	28%	m
Economic and Labour Market Outcomes						
Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Men and Women		2011	2008	2011	2008	
A5.4b	Below upper secondary	11.7%	9.1%	12.6%	8.8%	16 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	6.9%	5.4%	7.3%	4.9%	15 of 36
	Tertiary	5.0%	4.1%	4.8%	3.3%	11 of 36
Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Women		2011	2008	2011	2008	
A5.4d	Below upper secondary	12.6%	8.4%	12.2%	9.5%	14 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	6.6%	5.3%	8.0%	5.7%	18 of 35
	Tertiary	5.1%	4.0%	5.1%	3.6%	12 of 36
Average earnings premium for 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education**		2011 or latest year available		2011		
A6.1	Men and women	139		157		26 of 33
	Men	140		162		25 of 33
	Women	151		161		23 of 33
Average earnings penalty for 25-64 year-olds who have not attained upper secondary education**		2011 or latest year available		2011		
A6.1	Men and women	80		76		12 of 33
	Men	78		77		15 of 33
	Women	77		74		13 of 33
Percentage of people not in employment, education or training for 15-29 year-olds, by level of education attained		2011	2008	2011	2008	
C5.4d	Below upper secondary	14.0%	13.5%	15.8%	14.4%	18 of 34
	Upper secondary	14.9%	12.8%	16.2%	13.6%	17 of 34
	Tertiary	10.4%	8.6%	13.3%	10.6%	21 of 34

Key Facts for Canada in Education at a Glance 2013

Table	Indicator	Canada		OECD average		Rank among OECD countries and other G20 countries*
Financial Investment in Education						
	Annual expenditure per student (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)	2010		2010		
B1.1a	Pre-primary education	m		6762 USD		m
	Primary education	8933 USD		7974 USD		12 of 34
	Secondary education	m		9014 USD		m
	Tertiary education	22475 USD		13528 USD		2 of 33
	Total expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B2.1	As a percentage of GDP	6.6%	5.9%	6.3%	5.4%	10 of 33
	Total public expenditure on education	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B4.1	As a percentage of total public expenditure	13.2%	12.4%	13.0%	12.6%	14 of 32
	Share of private expenditure on educational institutions	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B3.2a	Pre-primary education	m		17.9%		m
B3.2a	Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	10.7%	7.6%	8.5%	7.1%	10 of 31
B3.2b	Tertiary education	43.4%	39.0%	31.6%	22.6%	8 of 30
B3.1	All levels of education	24.2%	20.1%	16.4%	12.1%	7 of 29
Schools and Teachers						
	Ratio of students to teaching staff	2011		2011		
D2.2	Pre-primary education	m		14 students per teacher		m
	Primary education	m		15 students per teacher		m
	Secondary education	15 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		10 of 36
	Total intended instruction time for students (hours)	2011		2011		
D1.1	Primary education	5512 hours		4717 hours		10 of 31
	Lower secondary education	2770 hours		3034 hours		20 of 31
	Number of hours of teaching time per year (for teachers in public institutions)	2011	2000	2011	2000	
D4.2	Pre-primary education	788 hours		994 hours		22 of 29
	Primary education	799 hours	m	790 hours	780 hours	17 of 31
	Lower secondary education	743 hours	m	709 hours	697 hours	9 of 30
	Upper secondary education	747 hours	m	664 hours	628 hours	8 of 31
	Index of change in statutory teachers' salaries for teachers with 15 years of experience/minimum training (2000 = 100)	2011	2008	2011	2008	
D3.4	Primary school teachers	m	m	120	120	m
	Lower secondary school teachers	m	m	116	116	m
	Upper secondary school teachers	m	m	117	118	m
	Ratio of teachers' salaries to earnings for full-time, full-year adult workers with tertiary education	2011		2011		
D3.2	Pre-primary school teachers	1.04		0.80		5 of 22
	Primary school teachers	1.04		0.82		5 of 27
	Lower secondary school teachers	1.04		0.85		6 of 27
	Upper secondary school teachers	1.04		0.89		9 of 27

* Countries are ranked in descending order of values.

** Compared to people with upper secondary education; upper secondary = 100.

*** The ranking is not available because integrated programmes are not included under ISCED 0, leading to an underestimation of enrolment rates compared to other countries.