

RESEARCH

Survey on Employment and Skills

Partners Environics Institute Diversity Institute

Locations Across Canada

For More Information:

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TOPICS IN THIS PROJECT

Labour Market Information Tech and Automation

The Survey on Employment and Skills is a multi-year research partnership conducted by the Environics Institute for Survey Research, in collaboration with the Future Skills Centre and the Diversity Institute.

It is designed to explore Canadians' experiences with the changing nature of work, including technology-driven disruptions, regional and demographic disparities, increasing insecurity and shifting skills requirements. The project includes multiple waves of data collection starting from the winter of 2020 and is currently ongoing.

Wave 7: Supporting workforce recovery and growth

The seventh wave of the survey consists of 5,855 Canadians aged 18 and over, conducted between May to July 2024, in all provinces and territories. We provide an update on experiences with employment, skills training, technological change in the workplace, and flexible working arrangements. We also address new issues such as the barriers immigrants face landing work aligned with their training, the use of artificial intelligence programs, and the impact of having children on careers.

How working from home is affecting the workplace

Artificial intelligence at work: The shifting landscape of future skills and the future of work





Wave 6: Workplace challenges and building opportunities

The sixth wave consists of 5,968 Canadians aged 18 and over, conducted between October 2023 to November 2023, in all provinces and territories. Results give insights into Canada's entrepreneurial landscape, who has access to training and who pays for it, and impacts of long-term unemployment.

Mentorship in the workplace: Employee participation and perspectives



Gender, diversity and discrimination in the workplace



Unemployment in Canada

Starting a new business in Canada





Blog: Paying for skills training: Why employers need to act more strategically

Blog: Young adults disproportionately affected by COVID-19





Wave 5: Adapting to a new normal

The fifth wave of the study consists of a survey of 5,904 Canadians aged 18 and over, conducted between March 2023 and April 2023. Three years after the start of the COVID-19, this wave revisits key issues to explore the pandemic's lingering effects on Canadians and how participation in skills training have changed.

The lingering effects of COVID-19

Participation in skills training: A report from the Survey on Employment and Skills





Wave 4: The shift in job priorities

The fourth wave of the study consisted of a survey of 6,604 Canadians aged 18 and over, between March 2022 and April 2022. This wave of the survey finds worker experiences have become more positive with the rise of remote and hybrid work.

The shift to remote work:
How workers in Canada are
adapting to working from
home



Blog: Canada needs a bolder approach to skills training



Wave 3: Navigating the ongoing crisis - long-term implications for skills development

The third wave included a survey of 5,913 Canadians aged 18 and over and was conducted between June 1 to June 28, 2021. This wave explores the experiences of younger Canadians, and the disruptions and challenges workers face in the labour market one year after the onset of the pandemic.

Making up time: The impact of the pandemic on young adults in Canada	Working when sick: How workplace regulations and culture will impact the post-pandemic recovery
Disconnecting from Work:	Experiences of Discrimination at Work
Disconnecting from Work: The Varied Experiences of Canadian Worker	Discrimination at work

Wave 2: Evolving workforce dynamics

The second wave of the survey was conducted between November 2020 and December 2020, with a sample of over 5,300 Canadians aged 18 and over. It examined which types of workers have been most adversely affected by the pandemic, with a particular focus on working parents, those living in urban areas with high rates of COVID-19 transmission, younger workers, workers with immigrant backgrounds, and racialized workers.

Work at home or live at work: The complexities of new working arrangements	Widening inequality: The effects of the pandemic on jobs and income
Mind and body: Impact of the pandemic on physical and mental health	Lessons learned: The pandemic and learning from home in Canada
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Wave 1: Understanding employment and skills trends in 2020

The initial wave of the survey was conducted between late February 2020 and early April 2020 and was designed to explore the experiences and attitudes of Canadians in relation to education, skills training and employment. The survey took place when the first effects of the COVID-19 pandemic became apparent in Canada and therefore offers an early view of how Canadians' outlook initially shifted as the pandemic took hold.

Canadians' shifting outlook on employment: Preliminary report	Adapting to the changing world of work: Final report

Have questions about our work or would like to request access to the data, please contact communications@fsc-ccf.ca.

The Future Skills Centre acknowledges that the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas and Haudenosaunee share a special relationship to the 'Dish With One Spoon Territory,' where our office is located, bound to share and protect the land. As a pan-Canadian initiative, FSC operates on the traditional territory of many Indigenous nations across Turtle Island, the name given to the North American continent by some Indigenous peoples. We are grateful for the opportunity to work in this territory and commit ourselves to learning about our shared history and doing our part towards reconciliation.

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