International Graduates at Work in Canada

A Canadian education provides international graduates with valuable skills, credentials, and career opportunities while helping Canada meet its workforce needs. Drawing on responses from more than 5,500 alumni of 55 post-secondary institutions across nine provinces, the 2025 CBIE International Alumni Survey examines graduates' employment outcomes, experiences in Canada, and their contributions to the economy and communities after graduation.

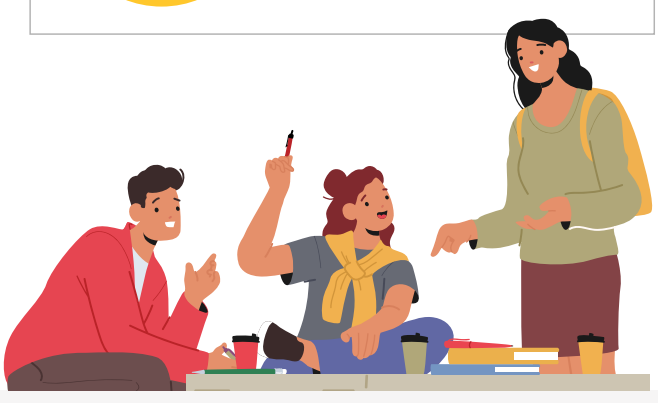
From Classroom to Career

80% of surveyed alumni are currently working.

69% were employed within six months of graduation.

77% are satisfied with their overall employment.

85% feel respected and valued in the workplace.



71% work in a job relevant to their field of study.

Work-Integrated Learning (WIL)

International students identified work-integrated learning (WIL) as a key consideration when choosing a program and reported that it improves employment outcomes.

25% of alumni completed co-op or work-integrated learning (WIL).

88% say experiential learning helped them secure a job.

Top Challenges in Finding Work

Top Barriers to Employment

While employment outcomes are strong, transitioning from education to the workforce remains difficult with **70%** of alumni reporting that finding employment after graduation was challenging.

- **42%** Finding relevant work
- **31%** Lack of experience
- **30%** Limited job opportunities
- **25%** Non-competitive salaries
- **32%** Work permit issues
- **16%** Racial discrimination

Supporting Local Economies

International graduates are a key source of talent for local economies, with more than half of employed alumni working in the city where they completed their studies.

- **54%** Employed in city of study
- **34%** Employed in another Canadian City
- **10%** Employed in my home country
- **2%** Employed in another country



The Value of a Canadian Credential

International alumni continue to see strong value in their Canadian education, both in Canada and globally.

81% say their Canadian credential helped them secure employment in Canada.

80% are satisfied with their study experience in Canada.

87% say Canada is a welcoming country.

More than two-thirds say their Canadian credential is valuable in their home country.



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Source: The International Alumni Survey was conducted in the fall of 2025 and collected 5,500 responses from post-secondary international students across 55 universities, colleges, and polytechnic institutes in nine provinces.