

# Registered apprenticeship training programs, 2013

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The provinces and territories reported 469,680 registrations in apprenticeship programs in Canada in 2013. Of these, more than three-quarters were apprentices continuing their programs from the previous year (already registered), about one-fifth were new registrations in 2013, and the remainder were people reinstated in a specific trade over that year.

The majority of registrations (77.3%) were in apprenticeship programs where the associated trade had a Red Seal designation at the Canada level. Already registered apprentices in trades with the Red Seal designation accounted for 6 in 10 registrations. About 15% were new registrations in Red Seal designated trades, and 1.5% were reinstatements (apprentices who had left an apprenticeship program in a previous year and had returned to the same program during the current reporting period).

By comparison, 22.7% of all registrations were in trades without Red Seal designation. Of these, 17.2% were apprentices who were already registered in the apprenticeship program the previous year, while 5.4% were new registrations in 2013.

Men accounted for more than 85% of registrations, while just over 14% were female. In some trades, males made up almost all registrations in the group. For example, in the refrigeration and air conditioning trade, 99.1% of all training participants were males. In turn, females accounted for 89.4% of registered apprentices in the hairstylists and estheticians trade group.

In 2013, four trade groups (electricians, carpenters, plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters, and automotive service technicians) were the most common choices for male registered apprentices. Together, these four trade groups accounted for just over half of all male apprentices.

In 2013, 7 in 10 (70.9%) female registered apprentices were in four of the major trade groups: hairstylists and estheticians, user support technicians, food service, and early childhood educators and assistants. The first two groups accounted for almost half of the female registrations (47.4%).

Just over 65,000 certificates were awarded to apprentices and trade qualifiers in 2013. More than 7 in 10 of these certificates were issued to apprentices. This compares with 27.8% issued to trade qualifiers.

Almost 23,000 of the certificates issued in 2013 had the Red Seal endorsement.

The 10 Red Seal trades with the highest number of registrations accounted for half of all registrations in 2013. Among these Top 10 Red Seal trades, construction electricians and carpenters accounted for more than 20% of overall registrations.



**Table 1**  
**Registrations in registered apprenticeship programs, 2013**

	Registered apprenticeship programs	Percentage share of all registrations
	number	%
<b>Total registrations</b>	<b>469,680</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Already registered	366,858	78.1
New registrations	95,058	20.2
Reinstatements	7,767	1.7
<b>Red Seal trades</b>	<b>362,997</b>	<b>77.3</b>
Already registered	286,191	60.9
New registrations	69,783	14.9
Reinstatements	7,023	1.5
<b>Non-Red Seal trades</b>	<b>106,683</b>	<b>22.7</b>
Already registered	80,667	17.2
New registrations	25,272	5.4
Reinstatements	744	0.2

**Note(s):**

Provinces and territories make operational and administrative changes related to the training and certification of the trades within their jurisdictions. Changes have occurred in all provinces and territories since 1991 that affect historical comparisons. For the 2013 reporting period in particular, these changes had a substantial impact on all data collected by the survey, including the number of registrations, participation in Red Seal and non-Red Seal apprenticeship programs and certificates awarded. Interpretation of the data should be made within the context of these administrative and operational changes. For further information on federal, provincial and territorial changes, see the [Registered Apprenticeship Information System Guide](#).

Sums do not add up to total as a result of rounding.

Source(s): CANSIM table [477-0053](#).

**Table 2**  
**Registrations in registered apprenticeship programs by major trade groups and by sex, 2013**

	Both sexes	Male	Female	Males as a share of total registrations	Females as a share of total registrations	Male registrations – distribution by trade group	Female registrations – distribution by trade group
	number						
<b>Total registrations</b>	<b>469,674</b>	<b>403,566</b>	<b>66,108</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Automotive service	43,683	41,709	1,974	95.5	4.5	10.3	3.0
Carpenters	49,620	48,330	1,290	97.4	2.6	12.0	2.0
Early childhood educators and assistants	7,917	573	7,344	7.2	92.8	0.1	11.1
Community and social service workers	3,519	771	2,748	21.9	78.1	0.2	4.2
Electricians	71,646	69,252	2,394	96.7	3.3	17.2	3.6
Electronics and instrumentation	6,972	6,336	636	90.9	9.1	1.6	1.0
Exterior finishing	14,172	13,977	195	98.6	1.4	3.5	0.3
Food service	21,951	13,734	8,217	62.6	37.4	3.4	12.4
Hairstylists and estheticians	18,912	2,010	16,902	10.6	89.4	0.5	25.6
Heavy duty equipment mechanics	14,865	14,598	267	98.2	1.8	3.6	0.4
Heavy equipment and crane operators	14,484	14,169	315	97.8	2.2	3.5	0.5
Interior finishing	18,978	17,457	1,521	92.0	8.0	4.3	2.3
Landscape and horticulture technicians and specialists	4,479	3,345	1,134	74.7	25.3	0.8	1.7
Machinists	10,134	9,771	363	96.4	3.6	2.4	0.5
Metal workers (other)	12,141	11,742	399	96.7	3.3	2.9	0.6
Millwrights	12,951	12,630	321	97.5	2.5	3.1	0.5
Oil and gas well drillers, servicers, testers and related workers	4,551	4,542	9	99.8	0.2	1.1	0.0
Plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters	48,948	47,823	1,125	97.7	2.3	11.9	1.7
Refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics	8,679	8,601	78	99.1	0.9	2.1	0.1
Sheet metal workers	8,691	8,520	171	98.0	2.0	2.1	0.3
User support technicians	28,491	14,055	14,436	49.3	50.7	3.5	21.8
Welders	20,466	19,038	1,428	93.0	7.0	4.7	2.2
Stationary engineers and power plant operators	3,528	3,366	162	95.4	4.6	0.8	0.2
Construction workers (other)	3,888	3,564	324	91.7	8.3	0.9	0.5
Other	16,008	13,653	2,355	85.3	14.7	3.4	3.6

**Note(s):**

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Sums do not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Source(s): CANSIM table [477-0053](#).

**Table 3**  
**Certificates awarded to registered apprentices and trade qualifiers, 2013**

	Certificates awarded	Percentage share of all certificates
	number	%
<b>Total certificates</b>	<b>65,133</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Certificates with Red Seal endorsement	22,650	34.8
Certificates without Red Seal endorsement	42,504	65.3
<b>Total apprentice certificates</b>	<b>46,998</b>	<b>72.2</b>
Certificates with Red Seal endorsement	17,151	26.3
Certificates without Red Seal endorsement	29,856	45.8
<b>Total trade qualifier/challenger certificates</b>	<b>18,135</b>	<b>27.8</b>
Certificates with Red Seal endorsement	5,499	8.4
Certificates without Red Seal endorsement	12,648	19.4

**Note(s):**

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Sums do not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Source(s): CANSIM table [477-0055](#).

**Table 4**  
**Registrations and certifications, Red Seal trades, 2013<sup>1</sup>**

	Registrations and certifications	Percentage share of total
	number	%
<b>Total registrations</b>	<b>469,680</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total registrations in non-Red Seal trades</b>	<b>106,683</b>	<b>22.7</b>
<b>Total registrations in Red Seal trades</b>	<b>362,997</b>	<b>77.3</b>
<b>Red Seal trades with highest number of registrations (top 10)</b>	<b>237,315</b>	<b>50.5</b>
Construction electrician	52,653	11.2
Carpenter	49,494	10.5
Automotive service technician	26,526	5.6
Plumber	19,299	4.1
Hairstylist	18,486	3.9
Steamfitter/pipefitter	17,868	3.8
Welder	16,413	3.5
Cook	12,585	2.7
Industrial electrician	12,123	2.6
Heavy duty equipment technician	11,868	2.5
<b>Registrations in other Red Seal trades</b>	<b>125,682</b>	<b>26.8</b>
<b>Total certificates issued</b>	<b>65,133</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total non-red seal certificates issued</b>	<b>42,525</b>	<b>65.3</b>
<b>Total Red Seal certificates issued in Red Seal trades<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>22,608</b>	<b>34.7</b>
<b>Red Seal trades with highest number of Red Seal certificates issued (top 10)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>16,275</b>	<b>25.0</b>
Construction electrician	4,650	7.1
Carpenter	2,001	3.1
Automotive service technician	1,941	3.0
Plumber	1,857	2.9
Welder	1,617	2.5
Industrial mechanic (millwright)	1,155	1.8
Steamfitter/pipefitter	825	1.3
Truck and transport mechanic	780	1.2
Hairstylist	756	1.2
Cook	693	1.1
<b>Red seal certificates issued in other Red Seal trades<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>6,333</b>	<b>9.7</b>

1. Includes only those certificates issued in provinces where the apprentice or trade qualifier participated in the standardized interprovincial Red Seal exam for their trade.

**Note(s):**

Provinces and territories make operational and administrative changes related to the training and certification of the trades within their jurisdictions. Changes have occurred in all provinces and territories since 1991 that affect historical comparisons. For the 2013 reporting period in particular, these changes had a substantial impact on all data collected by the survey, including the number of registrations, participation in Red Seal and non-Red Seal apprenticeship programs and certificates awarded. Interpretation of the data should be made within the context of these administrative and operational changes. For further information on federal, provincial and territorial changes, see the [Registered Apprenticeship Information System Guide](#).

Sums do not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

**Source(s):** CANSIM tables [477-0072](#) and [477-0101](#).

## Note to readers

### Data context

The provinces and territories, which provide the data for this release, make operational and administrative changes related to the training and certification of the trades within their jurisdictions. Changes have occurred in every province and territory since 1991 that affect historical comparisons. For the 2013 reporting period in particular, these changes affected all data collected by the survey, including the number of registrations, participation in Red Seal and non-Red Seal apprenticeship programs and certificates awarded. Interpretation of the data should be made within the context of these administrative and operational changes. For further information on federal, provincial and territorial changes, see the [Registered Apprenticeship Information System Guide](#).

### Designated trades

Each of the 13 provinces and territories determines which trades are apprenticeable and/or certifiable within their jurisdiction. These are referred to as designated trades. The jurisdictions also determine which of the designated trades require the successful passing of a skills assessment examination in order to work unsupervised in the trade. There is considerable variation between the jurisdictions as to which trades are apprenticeable and/or certifiable. This release includes only those trades that are designated in at least one province or territory.

**Registered apprentices** are persons who are in a supervised work training program in an apprenticeable trade within their provincial or territorial jurisdiction. The apprentice must be registered with the appropriate governing body (usually a Ministry of Education or Labour, or a trade specific industry governing body) in order to complete the training.

**Trade qualifiers or trade challengers** are persons who have worked in a specific trade for a number of years, without necessarily having ever been an apprentice, and have chosen to write the required skills assessment examination in their trade.

### Registrations

"Total registrations" in apprenticeship programs is the count of any registrations that occurred during the reporting period (from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013) within the 13 jurisdictions.

**Total registrations:** already registered, new registrations and reinstatements.

**Already registered:** the number of registrations carried forward from the previous year.

**New registrations:** new entrants to any apprenticeship program within the 12-month reporting period.

**Reinstatements:** registrations by people who had left an apprenticeship program in a specific trade in a previous year and had returned to the same apprenticeship program during the reporting period.

### Red Seal and non-Red Seal Programs

The Red Seal Program sets common standards to assess the skills of tradespersons across Canada in specific trades, referred to as the "Red Seal" trades. Tradespersons who meet the Red Seal standards, through examination, receive a Red Seal endorsement on their provincial/territorial trade certificates.

Non-Red Seal trades do not have interprovincial standards. Many non-Red Seal trades do not have an examination requirement in order to work in the trade.

### Certification

In some jurisdictions, certificates are issued to registered apprentices who have completed their hours of supervised on-the-job training. In all jurisdictions, they are issued to apprentices and trade qualifiers who have passed a skills assessment examination in their trade.

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**Available in CANSIM: tables [477-0053 to 477-0055](#), [477-0072](#) and [477-0101](#).**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [3154](#).**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).