

Registered apprenticeship training programs, 2014

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In 2014, apprenticeship programs in Canada had more than 451,100 registrations, 349,700 of which were for programs already started in previous years. New registrations accounted for 93,500, while reinstatements totalled 8,000.

Reinstatements are apprentices who had left an apprenticeship program in an earlier year and returned to the same program during the reference period.

More than three-quarters of all registrations are for Red Seal-designated trades

More than three-quarters (77.2%) of all registrations in Canada in 2014 were in apprenticeship programs for which the associated trade has a Red Seal designation at the national level. Of these, 59.4% were apprentices already registered in a trade with the Red Seal designation, 16.2% were new registrations and 1.6% were reinstatements.

The 10 Red Seal trades with the highest number of registrations accounted for just over half (50.9%) of all registrations in 2014. Among the Red Seal trades, construction electricians, carpenters and automotive service technicians accounted for more than one-quarter (27.6%) of total registrations.

Males represent the majority of registrations in apprenticeship programs

In 2014, males (86.3%) represented a higher proportion of those registered in an apprenticeship program than did females (13.7%).

Males represented more than 90% of registrations in 18 of the 25 major trade groups. Females represented the majority of registrations in 4 major trade groups: early childhood educators and assistants (93.0%), hairstylists and estheticians (88.6%), community and social service workers (78.7%), and user support technicians (50.7%). The major trade group of user support technicians includes information technology support associates and information technology hardware technicians.

The major trade groups of electricians, carpenters, plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters, and automotive service technicians accounted for just over half (50.6%) of all male registrations.

More than two-thirds of certificates are issued to apprentices

In 2014, 59,400 certificates were awarded: 68.7% to apprentices and 31.3% to trade qualifiers. Less than half (43.5%) of the certificates granted in 2014 had the Red Seal endorsement.



Table 1
Registrations in registered apprenticeship programs, 2014

	Registered apprenticeship programs	Share of all registrations
	number	%
Total registrations	451,140	100.0
Already registered	349,674	77.5
New registrations	93,462	20.7
Reinstatements	8,004	1.8
Red Seal trades	348,429	77.2
Already registered	268,155	59.4
New registrations	73,245	16.2
Reinstatements	7,032	1.6
Non-Red Seal trades	102,711	22.8
Already registered	81,522	18.1
New registrations	20,214	4.5
Reinstatements	975	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 and 2014 reporting periods 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, 2014

	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						
Total registrations	451,140	389,253	61,887	86.3	13.7	100.0	100.0
Automotive service	42,225	40,122	2,106	95.0	5.0	10.3	3.4
Carpenters	45,912	44,592	1,323	97.1	2.9	11.5	2.1
Early childhood educators and assistants	7,623	534	7,092	7.0	93.0	0.1	11.5
Community and social service workers	3,501	744	2,757	21.3	78.7	0.2	4.5
Electricians	70,851	68,286	2,562	96.4	3.6	17.5	4.1
Electronics and instrumentation	7,314	6,642	672	90.8	9.2	1.7	1.1
Exterior finishing	13,692	13,476	219	98.4	1.6	3.5	0.4
Food service	21,210	13,011	8,196	61.3	38.6	3.3	13.2
Hairstylists and estheticians	17,544	2,001	15,540	11.4	88.6	0.5	25.1
Heavy duty equipment mechanics	15,651	15,339	312	98.0	2.0	3.9	0.5
Heavy equipment and crane operators	14,793	14,430	363	97.5	2.5	3.7	0.6
Interior finishing	18,387	16,770	1,614	91.2	8.8	4.3	2.6
Landscape and horticulture technicians and specialists	4,665	3,510	1,155	75.2	24.8	0.9	1.9
Machinists	9,240	8,871	366	96.0	4.0	2.3	0.6
Metal workers (other)	12,321	11,850	474	96.2	3.8	3.0	0.8
Millwrights	12,552	12,246	306	97.6	2.4	3.1	0.5
Oil and gas well drillers, servicers, testers and related workers	4,218	4,209	12	99.8	0.3	1.1	0.0
Plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters	45,168	43,956	1,209	97.3	2.7	11.3	2.0
Refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics	8,334	8,241	93	98.9	1.1	2.1	0.2
Sheet metal workers	8,358	8,166	192	97.7	2.3	2.1	0.3
User support technicians	21,306	10,497	10,806	49.3	50.7	2.7	17.5
Welders	21,378	19,755	1,623	92.4	7.6	5.1	2.6
Stationary engineers and power plant operators	4,233	4,056	177	95.8	4.2	1.0	0.3
Construction workers (other)	3,504	3,363	138	96.0	3.9	0.9	0.2
Other	17,160	14,574	2,586	84.9	15.1	3.7	4.2

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, 2014

	Certificates awarded		Share of all certificates	
		number		%
Total certificates		59,409		100.0
Certificates with Red Seal endorsement		25,821		43.5
Certificates without Red Seal endorsement		33,591		56.5
Total apprentice certificates		40,842		68.7
Certificates with Red Seal endorsement		16,983		28.6
Certificates without Red Seal endorsement		23,862		40.2
Total trade qualifier/challenger certificates		18,567		31.3
Certificates with Red Seal endorsement		8,838		14.9
Certificates without Red Seal endorsement		9,729		16.4

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, 2014¹

	Registrations and certifications	Share of total
	number	%
Total registrations	451,140	100.0
Total registrations in non-Red Seal trades	102,711	22.8
Total registrations in Red Seal trades	348,429	77.2
Red Seal trades with highest number of registrations (top 10)	229,671	50.9
Construction electrician	53,595	11.9
Carpenter	45,837	10.2
Automotive service technician	25,062	5.6
Plumber	19,023	4.2
Welder	18,732	4.2
Hairstylist	16,767	3.7
Steamfitter/pipefitter	15,525	3.4
Heavy duty equipment technician	12,600	2.8
Cook	11,616	2.6
Industrial mechanic (millwright)	10,914	2.4
Registrations in other Red Seal trades	118,758	26.3
Total certificates issued	59,409	100.0
Total non-red seal certificates issued	33,591	56.5
Total Red Seal certificates issued in Red Seal trades¹	25,821	43.5
Red Seal trades with highest number of Red Seal certificates issued (top 10)¹	18,480	31.1
Construction electrician	5,046	8.5
Welder	2,286	3.8
Plumber	2,091	3.5
Automotive service technician	2,070	3.5
Carpenter	2,001	3.4
Industrial mechanic (millwright)	1,281	2.2
Steamfitter/pipefitter	1,086	1.8
Truck and transport mechanic	966	1.6
Cook	864	1.5
Hairstylist	789	1.3
Red seal certificates issued in other Red Seal trades¹	7,338	12.4

1. Includes only those certificates issued in provinces where the apprentice or trade qualifier participated in the standardized interprovincial Red Seal exam for his/her 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 and 2014 reporting periods 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

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 and 2014 reporting periods in particular, these changes substantially 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 among 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) 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, 2014, to December 31, 2014) 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.

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; STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca).