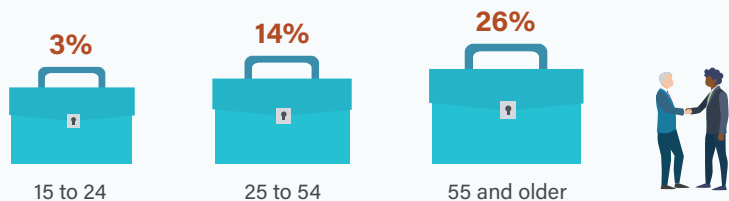


Self-employment in Canada, 2018

Share of workers in each age group who were self-employed



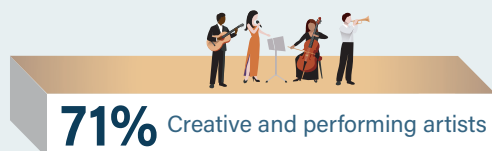
15% (2.9 million) of the total Canadian workforce was **self-employed** in 2018.

Among the self-employed, **62% were men** and **38% were women**.



Older workers were more likely to be self-employed than **younger** workers.

Occupations with the highest proportion of self-employed workers:



Top four reasons for being self-employed:

- 33%** Independence, freedom, being one's own boss
- 15%** Nature of job
- 9%** Work-family balance
- 8%** Flexible hours

About **3 in 10** self-employed workers cited **independence, freedom and being their own boss** as the main reason for their choice of self-employment.

Men (38%) were more likely than **women (26%)** to indicate **independence** as their top reason for self-employment.



Women were more likely to cite **work-family balance (15%)** or **flexible hours (11%)** as their main reason for self-employment compared with **men (5% and 7% respectively)**.