

Portrait of youth in Canada: Employment

Young Canadians have had diverse labour market trajectories over the last four decades.

Percentage of youth aged 15 to 30 with a job, 1981 to 2019 (full-time students excluded)



Median real hourly wages (in 2019 dollars) of full-time employees aged 17 to 34, 1981 to 2019

Compared with less educated youth, highly educated young individuals enjoy a triple advantage in the Canadian labour market, as they are more likely to:

BE EMPLOYED

Percentage of youth aged 25 to 30 with a job, 2019 (full-time students excluded)

Less than high school diploma

59%

Bachelor's degree

90%

HAVE A PERMANENT FULL-TIME JOB

Percentage of young workers aged 25 to 30 with a permanent full-time paid job, 2019 (full-time students excluded)

70%

74%

HAVE A HIGHER WAGE

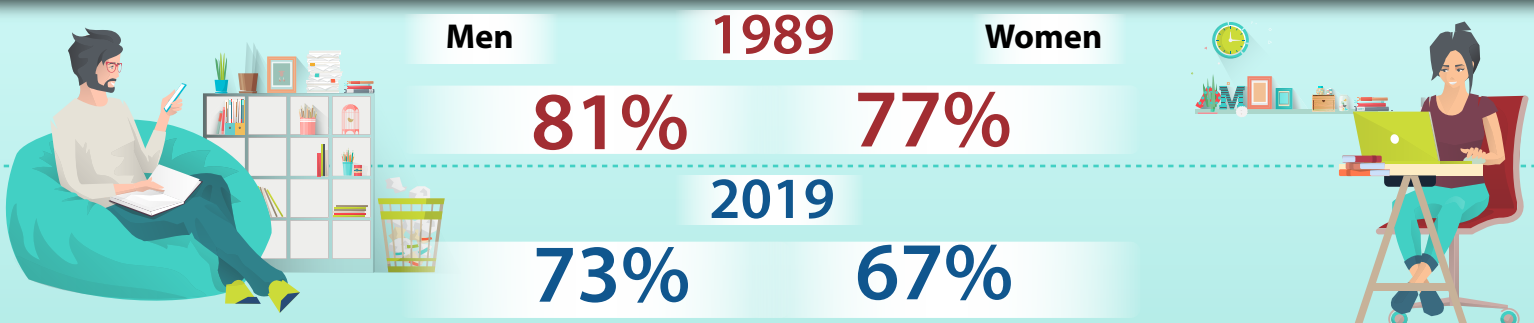
Average real hourly wages (in 2019 dollars) of full-time employees aged 25 to 30, 2019 (full-time students excluded)

\$21.53

\$28.96

Youth employment has become more precarious since the late 1980s.

Percentage of workers aged 15 to 30 in a permanent full-time job,¹ 1989 to 2019 (students excluded)



1. Workers include employees and self-employed individuals. Permanent full-time jobs comprise at least 30 hours per week and do not have a predetermined end date.

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