

# Ontario's Immigrant Nominee Program – How are International Student Nominees Faring?

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# Outline

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# Background and Objectives

# Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program

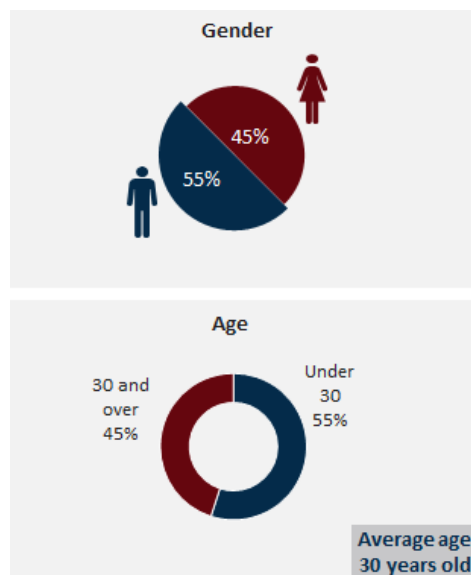
- The objectives of the OINP are to:
  - Address local labour market shortages;
  - Improve Ontario employers' competitiveness;
  - Increase investment-attraction and job-creation;
  - Attract and retain international students; and
  - Help spread the benefits of immigration to all parts of the province.
- The international graduate streams are open to graduates with Masters and PhDs obtained through an Ontario post-secondary institution. Applicants are not required to have a job offer.

# Research Objectives and Methodology

- The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade (MCIIT) pursued this research project to better understand:
  - The extent to which OINP International Student Graduate Nominees (OINP Graduate Nominees) are establishing economically in the province; and
  - How the economic outcomes of OINP Graduate Nominees in Ontario compare to other economic immigrants and to other new labour market entrants with similar qualifications.
- MCIIT commissioned Ipsos Reid, in partnership with Prism Economics, to conduct a three phase study:
  1. Quantitative survey among OINP Graduate Nominees (online & phone);
  2. Qualitative analysis through online focus groups; and
  3. A comparative analysis with other economic immigrants with graduate degrees and recent graduates in Ontario with similar qualifications.

# Profile of OINP Graduate Nominee Participants

- 96% of participants completed a Master's level degree in an Ontario university; 4% completed a PhD.
- Almost all participants rated their proficiency in English as high. Few said they were very proficient in French. Overall, 2% are proficient in both of Canada's official languages.
- 96% of participants are currently living in Ontario. The majority are living in the GTA; smaller proportions are living in Ottawa, London, Waterloo and Windsor.

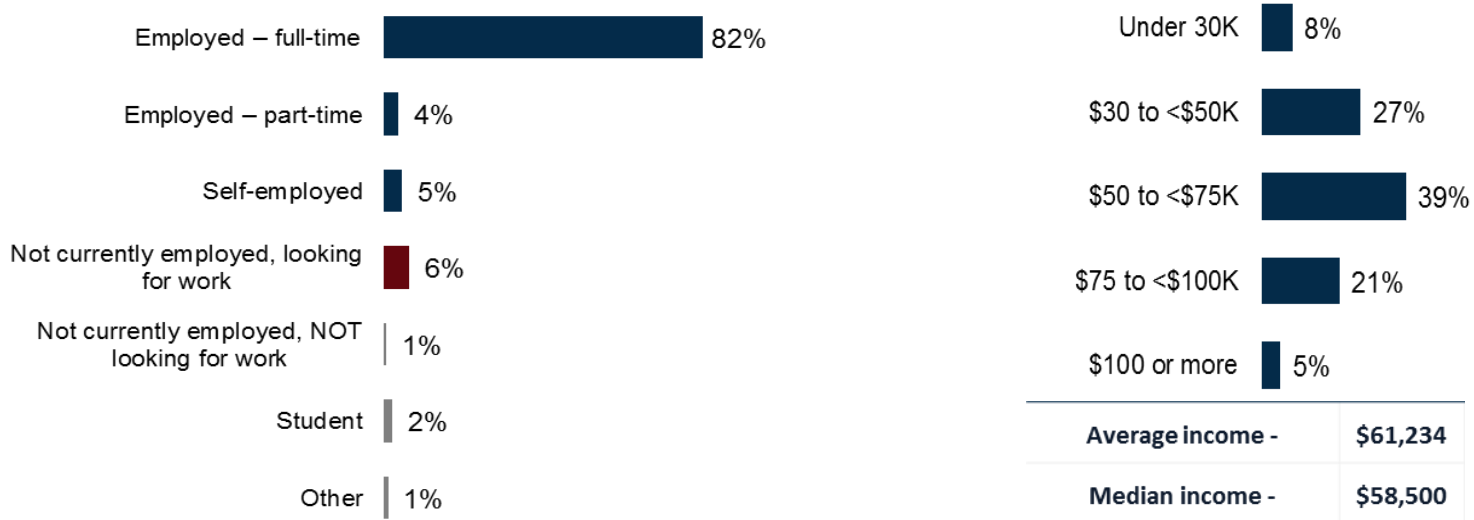


City in Ontario	Base (n=1462)
Toronto	52%
Ottawa	10%
Mississauga	9%
Brampton	4%
Markham	4%
London	3%
Waterloo	3%
Windsor	3%

# Post-Graduation Experiences

# Employment Outcomes

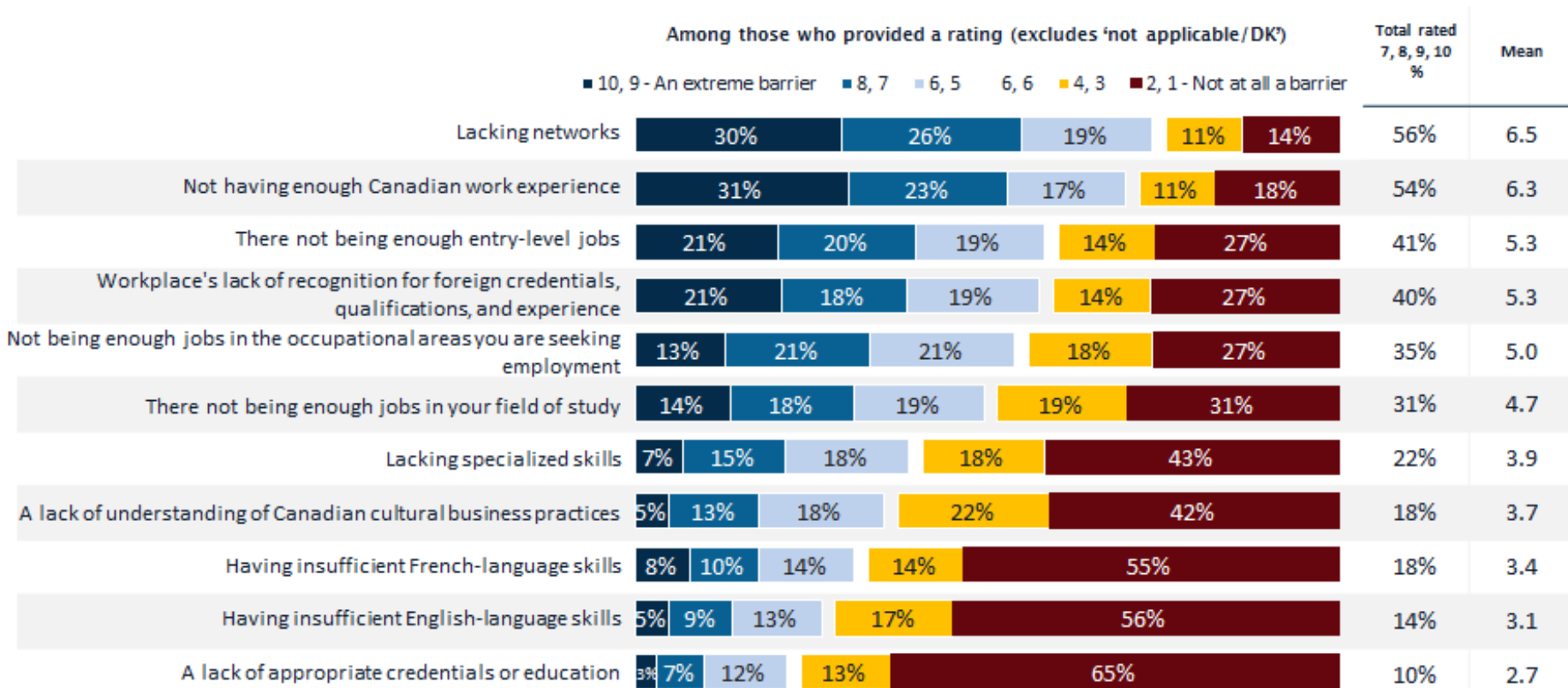
- 90% of participants are employed.
- Many are employed as professional or specialists (60%) , while 16% hold mid-level management positions.
- The average self-reported income among OINP Graduate Nominees is \$61,234.
- The longer their tenure in Canada, the higher their income, with nominees from 2011/12 earning 32% more than those who landed in 2015.





# Barriers to Employment of Choice

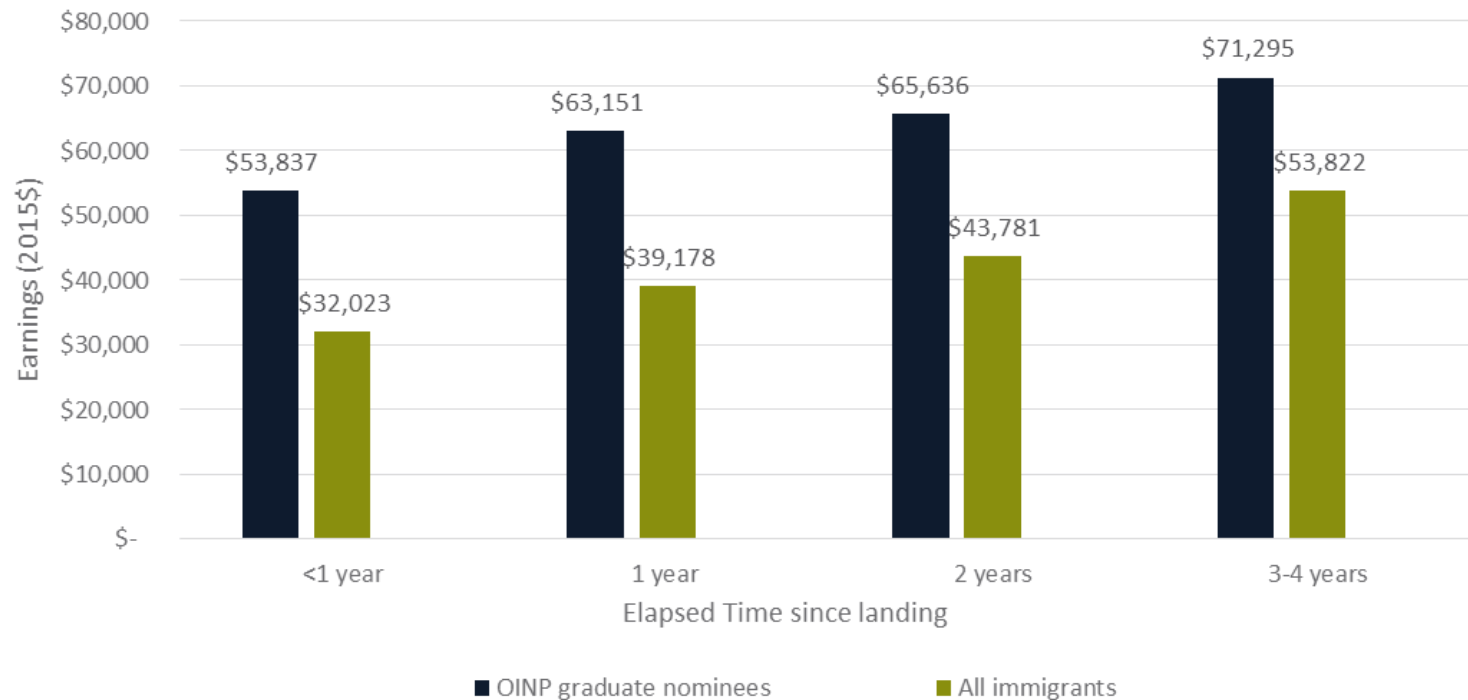
- Over half of OINP Graduate Nominee participants cited a lack of networks (56%) and sufficient Canadian experience (54%) as the main barriers to finding the employment of their choice.



# Comparative Analysis

# Comparative Analysis – Other Immigrant Categories

Average Employment Earnings of Immigrants with a Graduate Degree with Employment Earnings Post-Landing

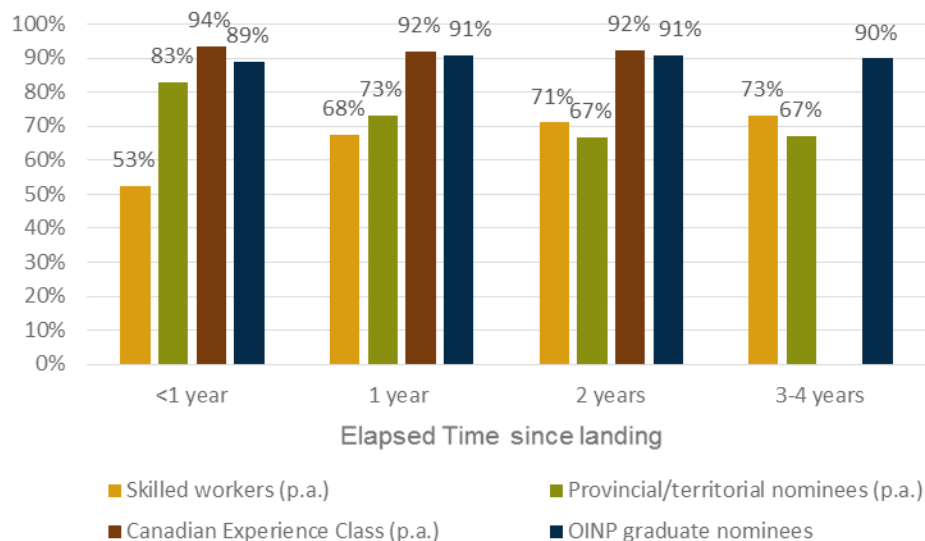


\*IMDB data cover the 2012 employment outcomes of all types of immigrants with a graduate degree, who landed between 2008 and 2012. Ipsos data cover the 2015 employment outcomes of OINP graduates who hold a graduate degree, who landed between 2011 and 2015.

# Comparative Analysis - Economic Immigrants

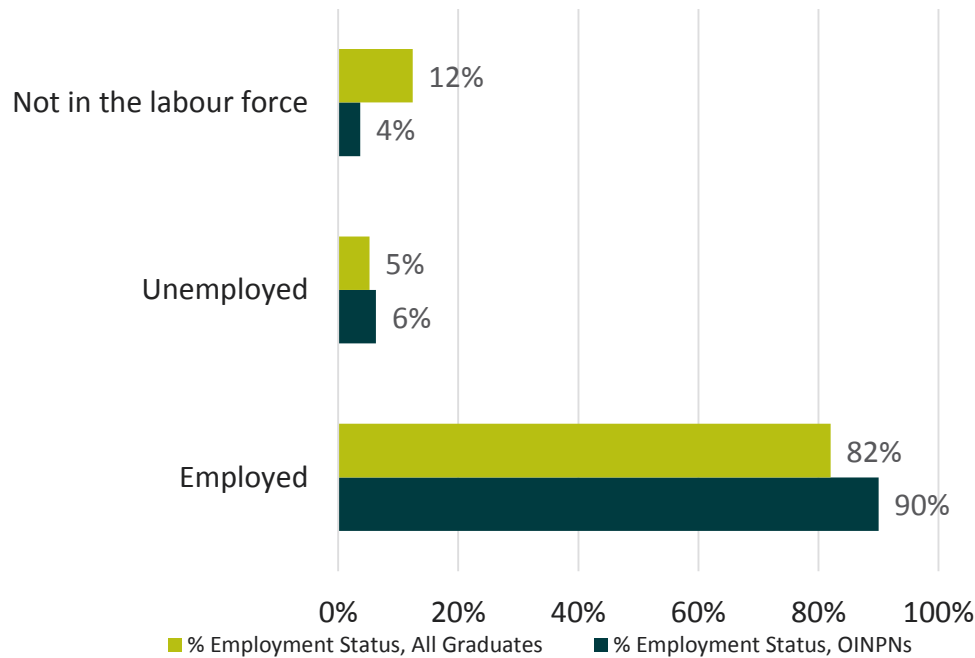
- OINP Graduate Nominees are more likely to report employment earnings than Skilled Workers and other Provincial Nominees in Ontario. Their incidence of employment is similar to those who arrive through the Canadian Experience Class (CEC).
- Average employment earnings of OINP Graduate Nominees is higher than those selected through the Skilled Worker Program from years 1 to 4 post-landing. However, those selected through the CEC have significantly higher earnings than OINP graduate nominees.

**Percentage of Economic Immigrants (Principal Applicants) with Graduate Degrees in Ontario with Employment Earnings Post-Landing**

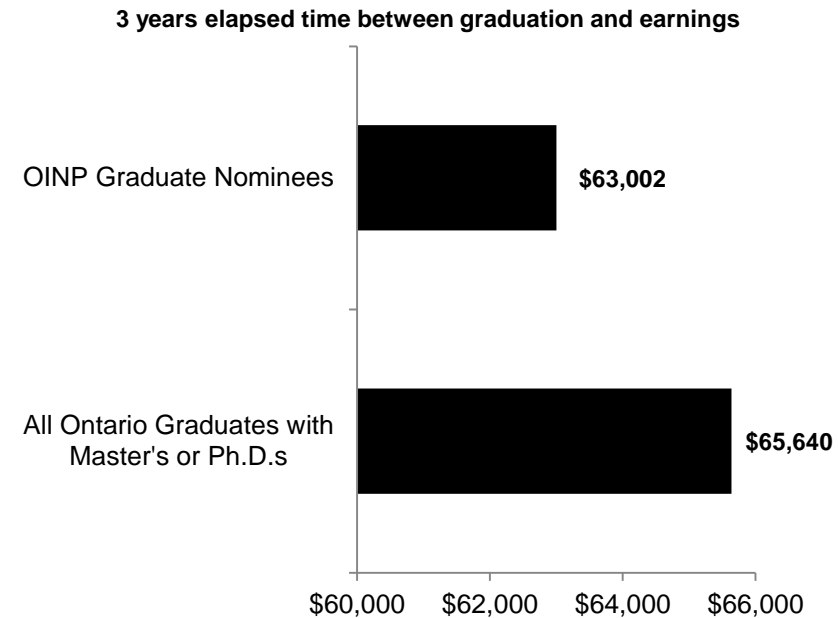


# Comparative Analysis – Other Recent Graduates in Ontario

**Employment Status of OINP Graduate Nominees and Recent Graduates in Ontario With Similar Qualifications**



**Annual Earnings, All Recent Graduates, Master's and PhDs, Ontario**



\*OINP graduate nominees graduation year: 2012, earning year: 2015  
 NGS graduates' graduation year: 2010, earning year: 2013, adjusted 2015\$

# Conclusions

- The International Graduate Streams of the OINP have a high retention rate: about 96% of survey participants are currently living in Ontario.
- OINP Graduate Nominees have positive economic outcomes: 90% of survey participants are employed and their average self-reported income is \$61,234.
  - More than 80% of professional program graduates (business and engineering) have permanent jobs and about 60% are employed as professionals or specialists.
- OINP Graduate Nominees generally fare better than other immigrants in Ontario with similar qualifications. They are more likely to be employed and tend to earn a higher income than those who arrive through other economic immigration categories, with the exception of the Canadian Experience Class.
- The success of OINP Graduate Nominees who participated in this study reveals that nominees are able to achieve positive economic outcomes without the requirement of a job offer under the OINP.

# Questions

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