

YOUTH
TRAINING
PROGRAMS IN
ONTARIO

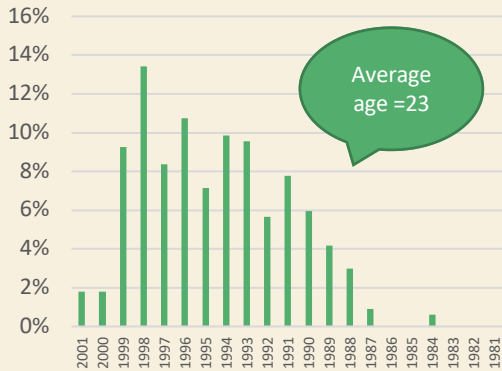
A LONGITUDINAL RESEARCH PROJECT [2017-2022]

YEAR 1 REPORT // 2017-2018

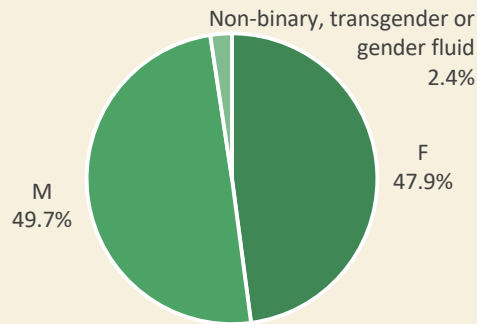
INTRODUCTION

- The goals of this longitudinal research project are to follow youth over time who are trained for workforce integration by a group of organizations in Ontario and to obtain information on whether their circumstances are improving economically, socially and psychologically.
- In addition, we intend to help the partner organizations to assess through using social accounting whether the return (economic and social) is commensurate with the investment.
- **This is the Year 1 report to provide you with the details on the participants from all the partner organizations.**
- In Year 2, we will continue to administer baseline survey with participants and start following up with the participants who took part in the baseline survey in the fall of 2017.
- This research project is supported by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).
- In this report, you will learn the following from the baseline survey during Year 1 which was administered near the beginning when the participants joined the programs:
 - Who the participants were, in terms of demographics
 - Their economic or financial situation
 - Their reasons for entering the training program at your organization as well as their aspirations for the future
 - Their satisfaction with different aspects of life

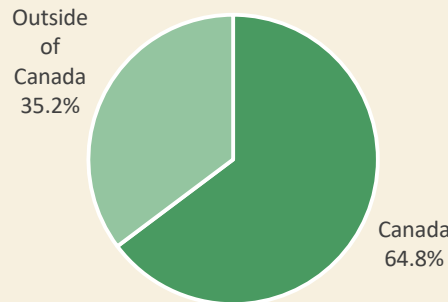
[Fig 1] Year of Birth



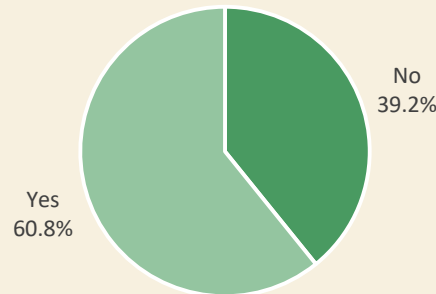
[Fig 2] Gender Identity



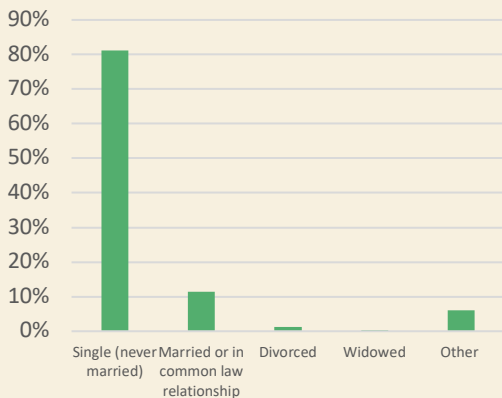
[Fig 3] Country of Birth



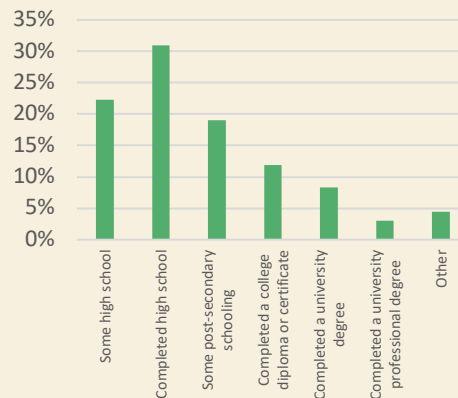
[Fig 4] Visible Minority



[Fig 5] Marital Status



[Fig 6] Highest Level of Schooling



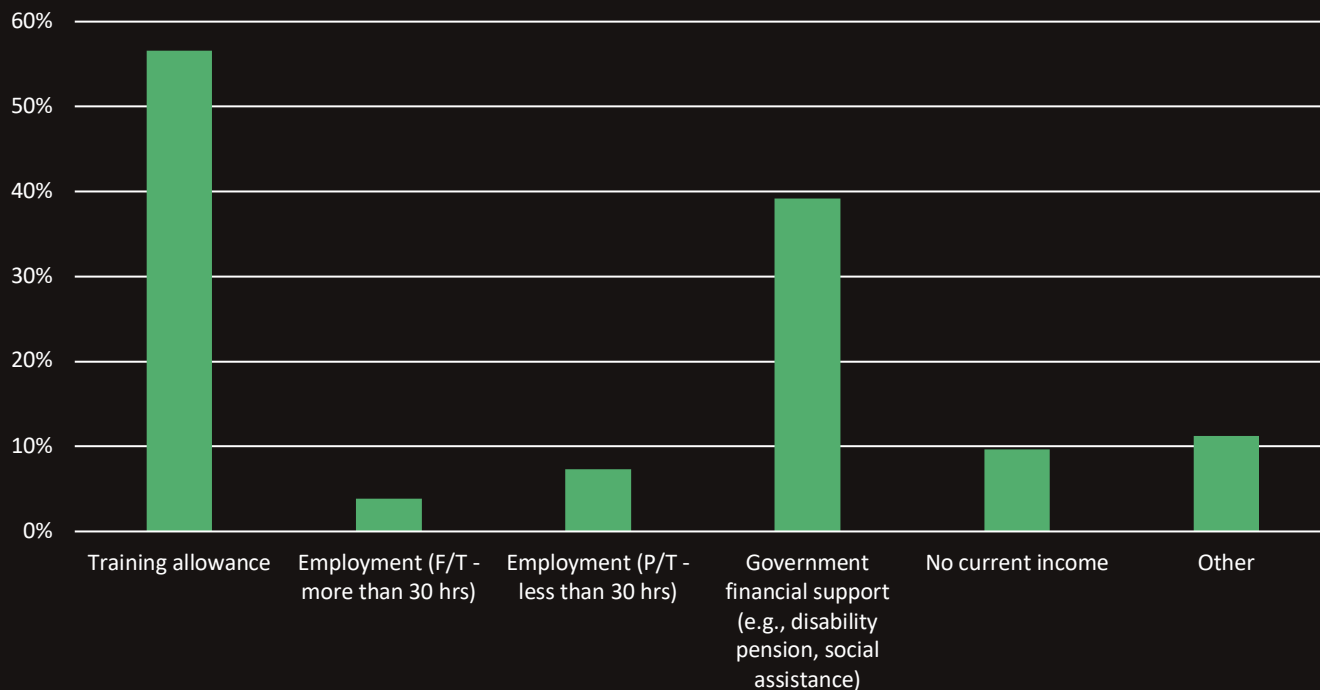
DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

- A total of 339 participants were part of the research project from your organization. They completed the baseline survey between September 2017 and March 2018.
- Among those born outside of Canada, the countries of birth included those in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean. Nearly half of them arrived in Canada in 2010 or later.
- On a scale of 1-5, the participants rated their confidence in communicating in English at 4.71.
- Almost 20% of the participants said that they were living with their children. Among those who were living with their children, almost 20% said that childcare responsibilities interfered with job training or employment.

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE PARTICIPANTS

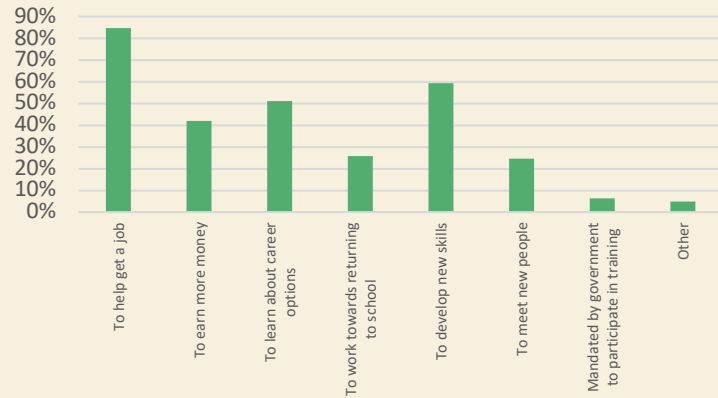
- We understand that all the participants did receive training allowance from the programs. The reason that not all participants reported receiving training allowance is likely due to the question being skipped or a misunderstanding of what we mean by training allowance.
- Among those who reported their training allowance, the training allowance accounted for the majority of their income.
- Among those receiving income from government sources (which included disability pension, social assistance and child tax benefits), a small proportion received any amount more than \$1,000. Nearly half of the participants said that they lived with their family or guardians, rent free.
- Nearly 70% of the participants reported that they never used the food bank or other similar types of organizations with free food to satisfy their needs during the past year. Slightly over 20% of the participants said that they used the food bank occasionally or regularly.

[Fig 7] Income Sources

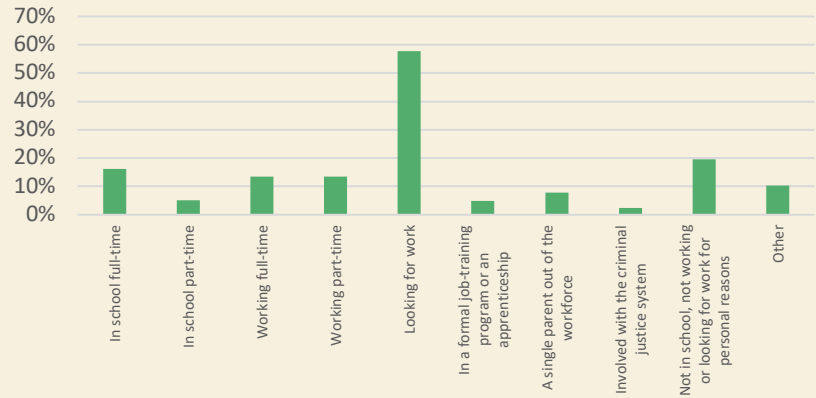


TRAINING, JOB SEARCH AND THE FUTURE

[Fig 8] Motivation for Entering Training Program

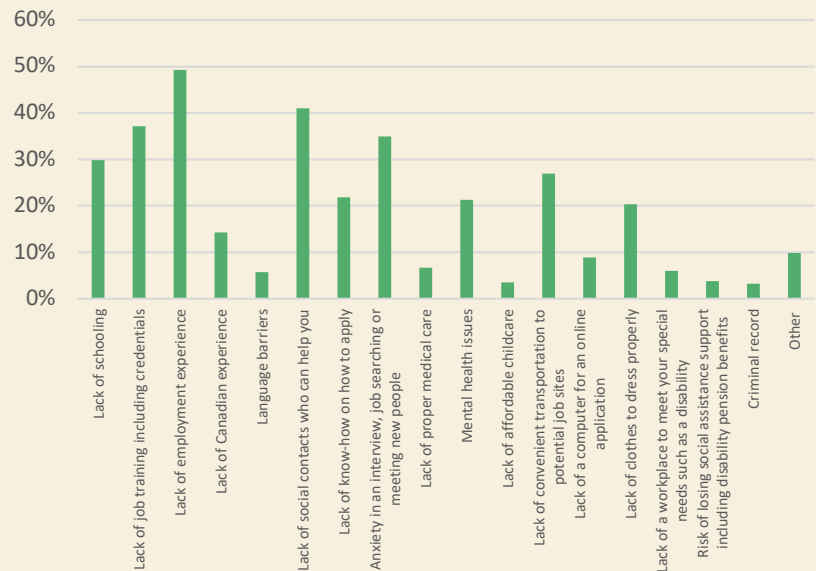


[Fig 9] Status Prior to Joining Training Program

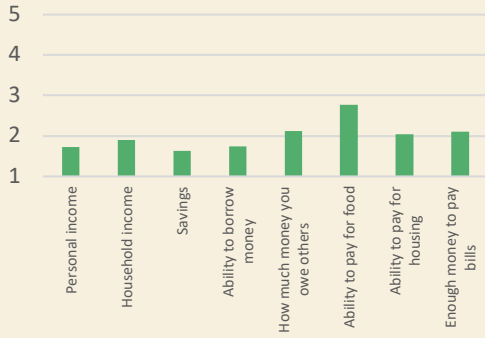


- The participants talked about a wide range of work that they would like to be doing in three years' time, including social and community service, healthcare, business, entrepreneurship and construction/trades.
- Income expectations in three years were in the range of \$20-40 per hour for most of the participants. After three years, many of the participants would like to complete some level of post-secondary education.
- The definitions of success were extremely varied for the participants from personal happiness and wellbeing to financial stability.

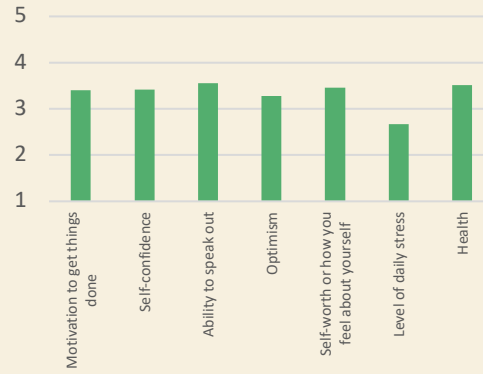
[Fig 10] Challenges in Work or Job Search Over the Past Year



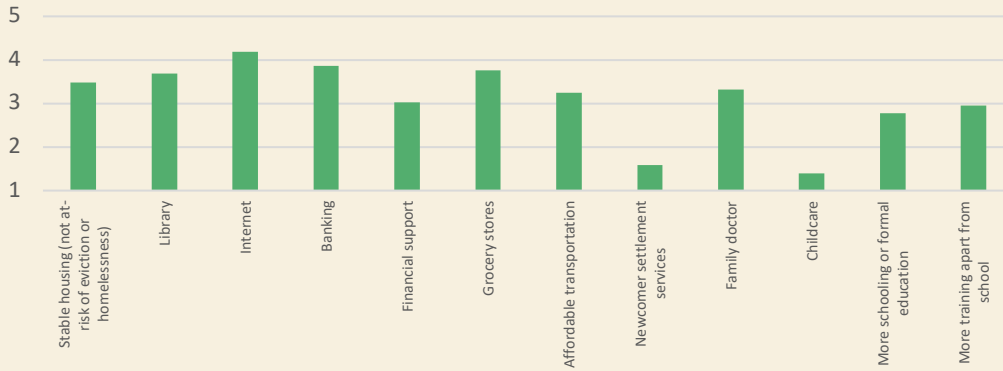
[Fig 11] Satisfaction with Financial Situation



[Fig 12] Personal Satisfaction



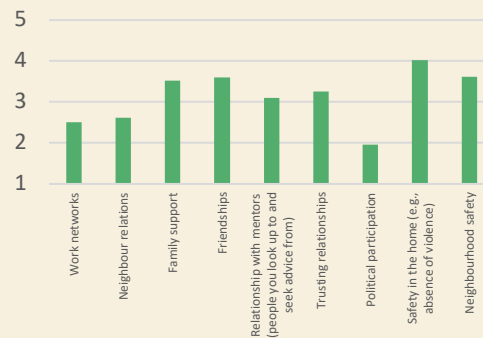
[Fig 13] Access to Services



[Fig 14] Satisfaction with Job Skills



[Fig 15] Family & Community Relations



LIFE SATISFACTION

- On a scale of 1-5, the participants rated their satisfaction with different aspects of life.
- In terms of finances, about 50% and 40% were very dissatisfied with their savings and personal income, respectively.
- About a quarter of the participants said that they were very satisfied with their self-confidence, their ability to speak out and their sense of self-worth. Almost 20% said that they were very dissatisfied with the level of daily stress.
- More than half of the participants rated access to the Internet as very satisfied. In contrast, less than 10% said they were very satisfied with access to newcomer settlement service.
- About 35% of the participants were very satisfied with their skills in getting along with others. More than 15% of the participants said that they were very dissatisfied with their ability to get a good paying job.