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Provincial Retention Among Ontario's Domestic and International Graduates

Sophie Lanthier, Sarah Brumwell and Miha Isik

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The Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario
88 Queens Quay West, Suite 2500
Toronto, ON, M5J 0B8, Canada

Phone: (416) 212-3893 | Fax: (416) 212-3899

Web: www.heqco.ca | **E-mail:** info@heqco.ca

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Ontario has prioritized investments in postsecondary education (PSE) to strengthen its workforce, particularly through funding to expand enrollments in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and health fields and by directing international student study permits to high-priority STEM programs (Government of Ontario, 2022; Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security [MCURES], 2024, 2025a, 2025b; Ministry of Finance, 2021, 2023; Office of the Premier, 2022). Government investments have contributed to a steady increase in STEM applicants and graduates in recent years (MCURES, 2025b; Statistics Canada, 2024c). However, questions remain about whether these graduates stay in the province to contribute to its economy and help fill labour market gaps (Gray, 1999; Hemmadi, 2025; Zhao et al., 2000).

Research shows that most postsecondary graduates who study in Canada remain in the province where they studied, especially if it's their home province (Brunet et al., 2025; Choi et al., 2021; Frenette & Handler, 2024; Narh, & Buzzelli, 2022; Statistics Canada, 2025a). The small share that moves to another province after graduating typically do so for better job prospects and earnings (Usher et al., 2014). Outflows to other provinces are not uniform across all graduates. Studies indicate that STEM graduates are generally more mobile within Canada than business, humanities, health, arts, social science and education (BHASE) graduates, as are university graduates, international graduates and graduates with advanced credentials (Brunet et al., 2025; Choi et al., 2021; Statistics Canada, 2025a). Mobility is also shaped by a graduate's personal characteristics. Graduates who are younger, male and originally from outside their province of study are less likely to remain in their study province after completing their programs (Brunet et al., 2025; Choi et al., 2021; Sangmen, 2024; Statistics Canada, 2025a).

Among Ontario graduates, retention patterns broadly reflect the Canadian interprovincial trends described above, but the evidence base is more limited, with fewer studies and a narrower range of program and personal characteristics examined (Choi et al., 2021; Statistics Canada, 2025a). Focusing on Ontario STEM graduates specifically, research shows that a larger share moves to another province after graduation compared with BHASE graduates (Choi et al., 2021; Statistics Canada, 2025a). A recent Statistics Canada report focused on bachelor's degree graduates showed that more domestic BHASE degree graduates remain in Ontario than their STEM peers, but this difference has narrowed over time (Statistics Canada, 2025a). In

2012, 93% of BHASE bachelor's degree graduates remained in the province one year after graduation compared with 89% of those in STEM. By 2021, retention had risen to 92% for STEM graduates and remained at 93% for BHASE graduates. Overall, Ontario retains the vast majority of its bachelor's degree graduates from both STEM and BHASE fields of study (Statistics Canada, 2025a).

While interprovincial mobility research provides useful context, evidence on provincial retention among Ontario graduates, particularly those with non-degree credentials, is limited. This study uses linked administrative data to examine where Ontario postsecondary domestic and international graduates who completed their first certificate, diploma, advanced diploma or bachelor's degree between 2015 and 2020 live in Canada 2 years after graduation. The findings provide evidence to inform provincial retention strategies.

Research Questions and Methodology

HEQCO used Statistics Canada's (2024b) ELMLP to explore retention of Ontario graduates by fields of study (STEM and BHASE) and graduate background characteristics 2 years after graduation. While health is typically classified with BHASE fields, our analysis included health fields with STEM to reflect government policy priorities and investment strategies (Government of Ontario, 2022; Ministry of Finance, 2021, 2023; Office of the Premier, 2022). Throughout this report, we call the grouping "STEM+Health." BHASE refers to business, humanities, arts, social science and education fields only.

The study focused on the following research questions:

1. What proportion of recent Ontario domestic and international postsecondary STEM+Health and BHASE graduates:
    a. work in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada after graduation?
    b. neither file taxes nor study in Canada after graduation?
2. Do graduate settlement and employment trends vary by field of study, credential and home province?

HEQCO linked individuals' postsecondary records from the Postsecondary Student Information System (PSIS) (Statistics Canada, 2025g) with income tax records from the T1 Family File (T1FF) (Statistics Canada, 2025c). This linkage allows for the examination of how first-time graduates' immigration status, field of study, credential type and graduation year relate to where they live and work in Canada two years after graduation. The datasets used in this analysis are de-identified and contain no personally identified information. They were accessed via Statistics Canada's Virtual Research Data Centre platform.

The analytic sample is restricted to graduates who filed taxes in Canada two years after postsecondary graduation. Linkage rates between graduates' PSIS records and tax records two years after graduation were lower for international students (75%) than for domestic students (90%) (see Figure A1 and Table A1 in the Appendix). This expected gap reflects international mobility patterns of international students that decrease the need to file Canadian tax returns and the variety of different contexts and motivations for international and domestic students. International learners must meet post-graduation requirements to stay in Canada such as qualifying for a Post-Graduation Work Permit or meeting immigration criteria. These requirements increase the likelihood that they leave Canada or stop filing Canadian tax returns (Choi et al., 2021; Choi & Hou, 2025; Choi & Xu, 2025; Crossman et al., 2022; Hemmadi, 2025). Sixty-one percent of international graduates remained in Ontario two years after graduation, while 14% were located elsewhere in Canada. Eighty-four percent of domestic graduates remained in Ontario and 6% were located elsewhere in Canada. All findings, retention rates, tables and figures reported hereafter are calculated conditional on being located in Canada and reporting after-tax income.

Table 1 provides details regarding the study sample by key personal characteristics and study variables. The sample included domestic and international Ontario graduates aged 18–64 who completed their first certificate, diploma, advanced diploma or bachelor's degree between 2015 and 2020 and reported Canadian after-tax income two years after graduation.

Table 1

Sample Characteristics of Ontario's First-time Domestic and International PSE Graduates (2015–2020)

	All Graduates		Domestic Graduates		International Graduates	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Residence After Graduation						
Ontario	703,270	90	561,440	93	141,830	81
Elsewhere in Canada	75,610	10	43,410	7	32,210	19
Pre-study Location[1]						
Ontario	507,430	84	507,430	84	N/A	N/A
Elsewhere in Canada	97,410	16	97,410	16	N/A	N/A
First Credential Type						
Bachelor's degree and above	324,220	42	304,640	50	19,580	11
Under bachelor's degree	454,660	58	300,200	50	154,450	89
First Field of Study						
STEM+Health	276,100	35	205,650	34	70,450	40
BHASE	502,790	65	399,200	66	103,590	60
Graduation Year						
2015	128,030	16	111,770	18	16,270	9
2016	126,760	16	107,570	18	19,200	11

[1] Pre-study location refers to a student's province or territory at the time of admission to postsecondary studies in Ontario (see Brunet et al., 2025 and Statistics Canada, 2025b for more detail). Pre-study location is defined consistently with the province-of-origin measure used by Brunet, Marshall and Azmi (2025). At the time of analysis, this variable was not validated for studies of international graduates.

2017	128,370	16	104,850	17	23,520	14
2018	133,320	17	98,560	16	34,770	20
2019	136,760	18	94,380	16	42,380	24
2020	125,630	16	87,720	15	37,910	22
Gender						
Male	359,390	46	261,060	43	98,320	56
Female and Other	419,500	54	343,780	57	75,720	44
Total	778,880	100	604,840	78	174,040	22

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This table shows the number and proportion of Ontario's 2015–2020 PSE graduates who were living in Canada two years after graduation by key program and personal characteristics.

Descriptive analyses summarize the proportion of Ontario's domestic and international graduates who stayed in Ontario or moved to another Canadian province, by field of study (STEM+Health versus BHASE), credential type (bachelor's degree versus certificate, diploma or advanced diploma[2]), and graduation year (2015 to 2020). Logistic regression models, summarized in Table 2, were estimated separately for domestic and international graduates to assess how program characteristics, such as field of study, credential type and graduation year, are associated with the likelihood of remaining in Ontario.

For domestic graduates, pre-study location (Ontario versus elsewhere in Canada) and gender (male versus female and other) were also considered. Several factors known to influence international and interprovincial mobility, including personal characteristics[3] and local labour market conditions, could not be included due to sample size limitations[4] (Cooke, 2008; Finnie, 2000; 2001; Han et al., 2015).

[2] Certificate, diploma and advanced diploma credentials are combined because sample sizes do not permit disaggregated analyses. This grouping of credentials is consistent with the International Standard Classification of Education, which categorizes them as short-cycle tertiary education (Statistics Canada, 2023b).
[3] For example, a graduate's age, marital status and family circumstances.
[4] With so few people moving outside Ontario, the sample size was quickly limited with respect to examining inter-group differences across the cohorts.

Table 2

Variables Introduced in Each Regression Model

Model	Variables
Model 1: Field of study	STEM+Health (reference category) and BHASE
Model 2: Other program factors	Credential (bachelor's degree or certificate, diploma or advanced diploma); graduation year (2015 to 2020)
Model 3: Demographic factors*	Province of origin (in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada); gender (male or female/other)

Note: This table shows a summary of variables included at each step of domestic and international regression analyses. Control blocks are cumulative. For example, Model 3 retains all variables from Models 1 and 2 and adds additional demographic controls. Domestic and international graduates were treated as separate samples and estimated in separate models.

*Model 3 was only conducted for the domestic sample due to the smaller size of the international sample.

Findings

This section presents descriptive and regression findings focused on Ontario's domestic and international graduates who remained in Ontario compared to those who had relocated to another Canadian province two years after graduation. The analysis focuses on interprovincial mobility only, highlighting differences by field of study, credential type and cohort, and identifying the key factors associated with staying in Ontario versus relocating elsewhere in Canada. Findings show how these factors differ for domestic and international graduates.

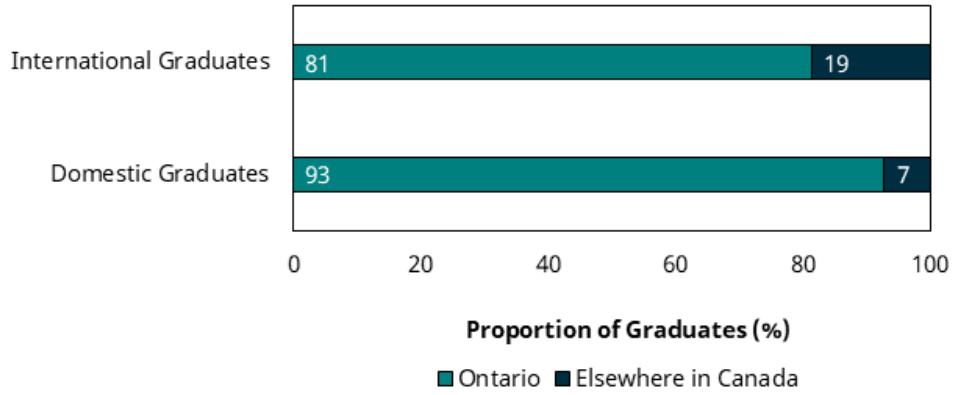
Most Graduates Stayed in Ontario

Consistent with previous research on interprovincial migration, most first-time graduates in the study sample remained in Ontario (Brunet et al., 2025; Choi et al., 2021; Frenette & Handler, 2024; Statistics Canada, 2025a). Figure 1 shows the share of domestic and international graduates who stayed in Ontario or moved elsewhere in Canada after graduation. Both domestic and international graduates stayed at high rates: 93% of domestic graduates and 81% of international graduates stayed in the province. This finding aligns with earlier evidence that international graduates have lower retention

rates in their province of study than domestic graduates (Choi et al., 2021) and likely reflects the more complex social and policy environments international graduates must navigate in order to remain and work in the province.

Figure 1

Proportion of Ontario's Domestic and International 2015–2020 PSE Graduates Living in Ontario and Elsewhere in Canada



Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

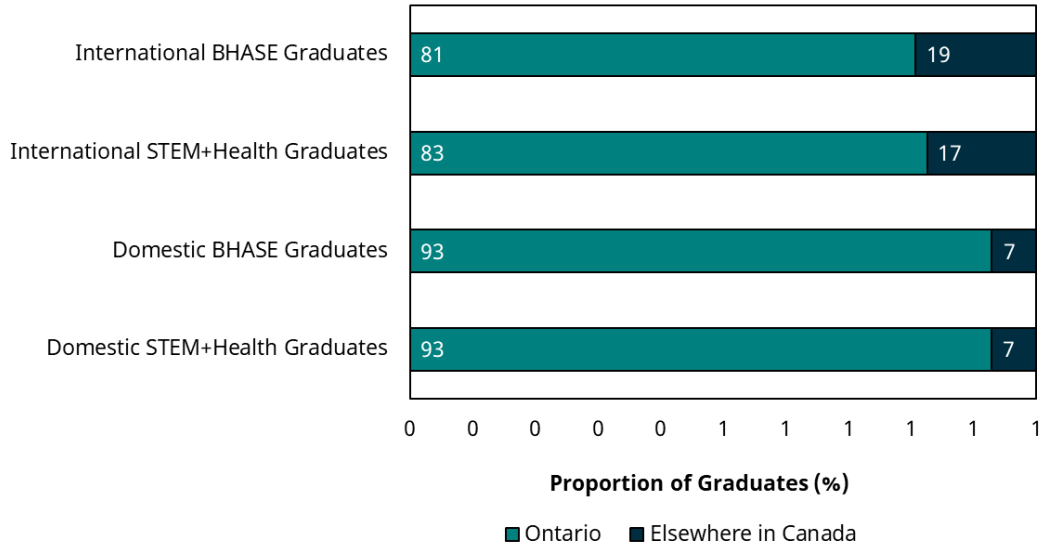
Note: This figure shows the proportion of Ontario's domestic and international 2015–2020 PSE graduates who were living in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada two years after graduation.

STEM+Health and BHASE Graduates Stayed in Ontario

The data show that Ontario's STEM+Health and BHASE graduates in the study sample stayed in Ontario in high proportions. Figure 2 shows that domestic graduates in STEM+Health and BHASE fields had the same retention rates (93% for both groups); international STEM+Health graduates had slightly higher retention rates (83%) compared to their BHASE counterparts (81%).

Figure 2

Proportion of Ontario's Domestic and International 2015–2020 PSE Graduates Living in Ontario or Elsewhere in Canada, by STEM+Health and BHASE



Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This figure shows the proportion of Ontario's domestic and international 2015–2020 PSE graduates, categorized by STEM+Health and BHASE programs, who were residing in Ontario or in another Canadian province two years after graduation.

These findings confirm recent evidence that Ontario retains most of its domestic bachelor's degree graduates, regardless of field of study (Statistics Canada, 2025a) and extends those results to include international graduates. High retention of STEM+Health graduates specifically may reflect strong provincial demand for these skills, targeted government efforts to attract and retain workers in high-demand fields and the availability of relevant employment locally.

These findings also align with a Statistics Canada study focused on retention of health program graduates in Canada (Choi & Hou, 2026), which reported that 90% of domestic health program graduates (bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees) stayed in the province post-graduation. Retention rates varied across other provinces: Quebec, British Columbia and Manitoba had similarly high retention rates (92%, 87%, and 84% respectively), while others ranged from 50% (New Brunswick) to 78% (Saskatchewan). The study also found that Ontario was the most popular destination for graduates who left their province of study post-graduation.

Credential Type Mattered for International Graduate Retention, But Not for Domestic

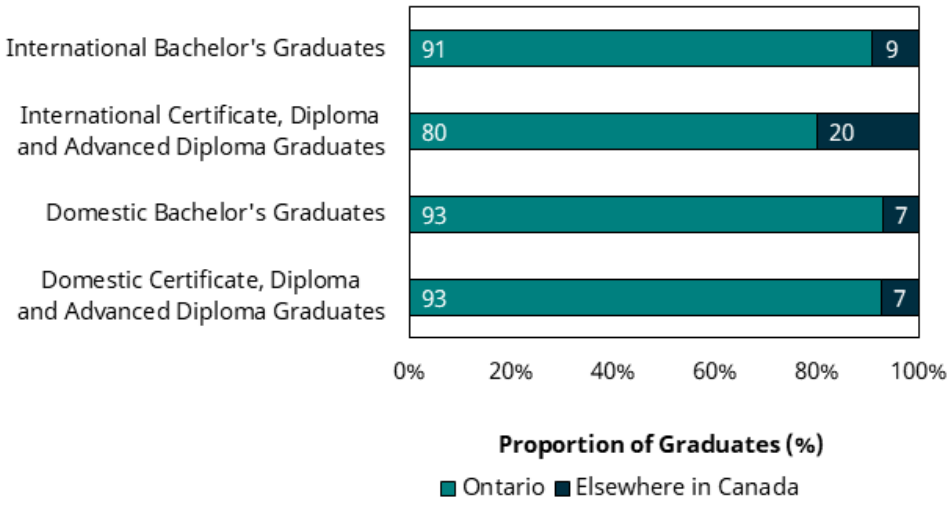
Shares of domestic graduates living in and outside Ontario were very similar across credential types, with 93% staying in the province regardless of credential (see Figure 3). This pattern differs from broader interprovincial migration trends, where domestic Canadian graduates with higher credentials are typically more mobile (Choi et al., 2021). The strong share of domestic graduates in the study sample that remain in Ontario may reflect employment opportunities in the province that are comparable to, or better than, those available elsewhere in Canada, reducing the incentive to relocate.

International graduates with bachelor's degrees showed a similar pattern to domestic degree holders, with most remaining in Ontario (91%). International graduates with certificates, diplomas or advanced diplomas, however, stayed in Ontario at lower rates, with 80% remaining in the province. Together, these findings are consistent with previous Canadian research showing that international certificate and diploma holders are more likely than bachelor's degree holders to leave their province of study (Choi et al., 2021).

The Ontario retention pattern among international certificate, diploma and advanced-diploma graduates contrasts with our findings for domestic graduates with the same credentials, who were just as likely as domestic degree holders to remain in Ontario. One possible explanation is that international graduates with below-bachelor's-degree credentials face additional constraints related to employer hiring practices or quality-of-life and affordability concerns related to entry-level wages. In this context, interprovincial mobility among international graduates may reflect a greater responsiveness to where accessible employment opportunities exist across Canada.

Figure 3

Proportion of Ontario's Domestic and International 2015-2020 PSE Graduates Living in Ontario or Elsewhere in Canada, by Credential



Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

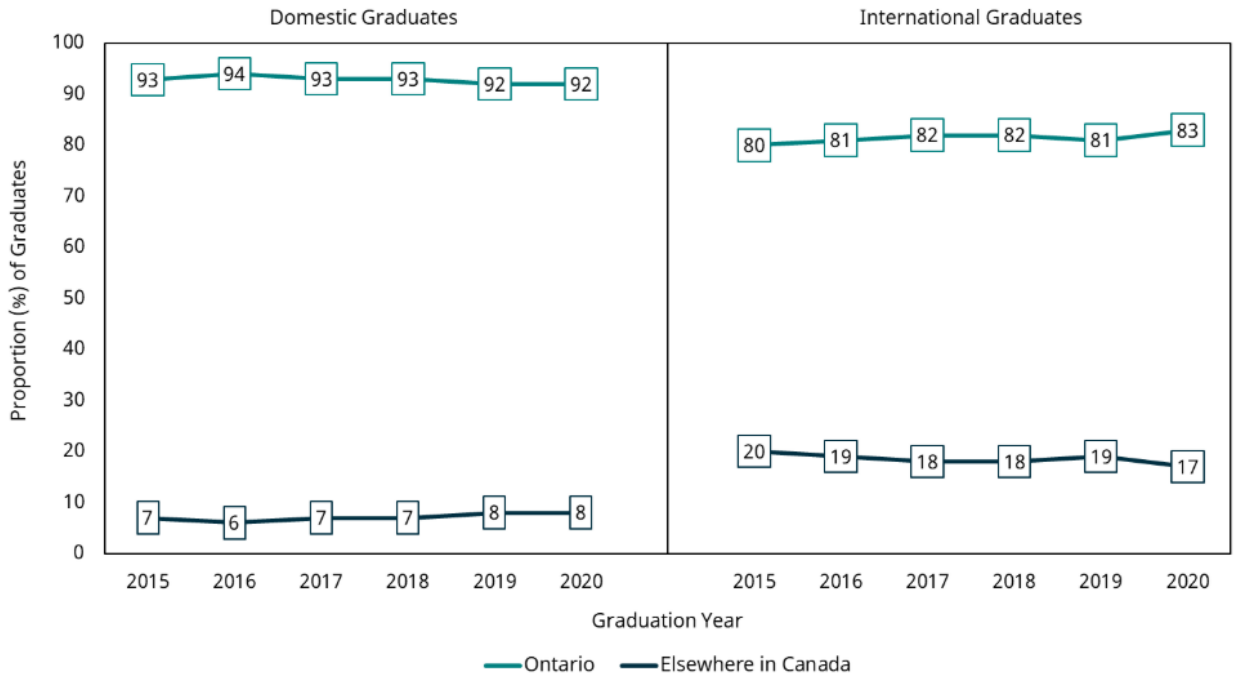
Note: This figure shows the proportion of Ontario's domestic and international 2015–2020 PSE graduates, by credential level (certificates, diplomas and advanced diplomas versus bachelor's degrees), who were residing in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada two years after graduation.

Retention Rates Were Relatively Stable Over Time

Retention patterns for Ontario PSE graduates were largely stable over time, except for changes observed among international graduates. Among domestic graduates, shown in Figure 4, retention remained stable between 2015 and 2020, ranging from 92% to 94%. Among international graduates, retention rates increased slightly, from 80% to 83%.

Figure 4

Proportion of Ontario's Domestic and International 2015–2020 PSE Graduates Living in Ontario or Elsewhere in Canada, by Graduation Cohort



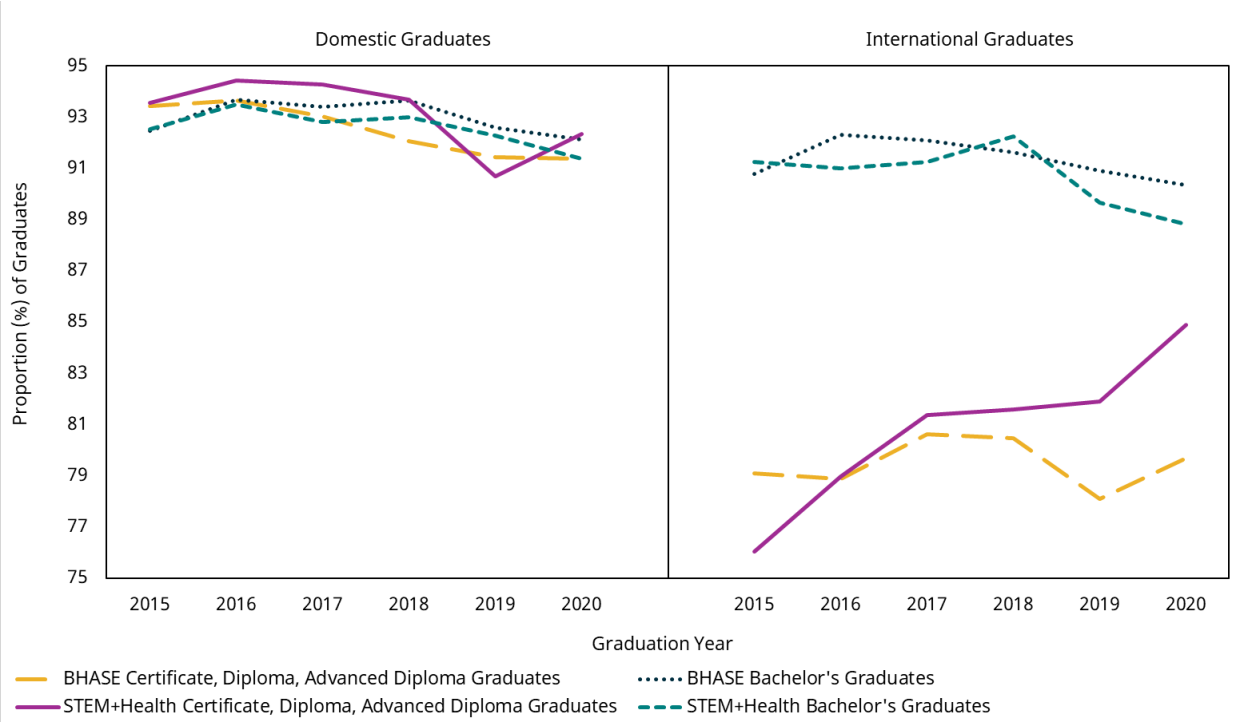
Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This figure shows the proportions of Ontario's domestic and international PSE graduates (2015–2020) who were residing in Ontario or in another Canadian province two years after graduation.

Increases in international graduates who stayed in Ontario were largely due to changes in retention among international STEM+Health graduates with certificates, diplomas and advanced diplomas, whose retention climbed from 76% to 85% (see Figure 5 below and Table A3 in the Appendix). Increases for international non-bachelor's graduates may reflect a combination of broader factors, such as more international students pursuing permanent residency in Canada or pandemic-related conditions, including heightened demand for workers in the health sector. Retention was otherwise stable for all international BHASE graduates and STEM+Health bachelor's graduates. Retention trends for domestic STEM+Health and BHASE graduates holding different credentials were also stable over time. See Figure 5 below and Table A3 in the Appendix for further detail on these trends.

Figure 5

Retention Rates of Ontario's First-time Domestic and International 2015–2020 Graduates, by Field and Credential, Two Years after Graduation



Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This figure shows the proportion of Ontario's domestic and international 2015–2020 PSE graduates residing in Ontario two years after graduation for different study fields and credentials.

Factors Associated with Staying in Ontario Differed for Domestic and International Graduates

The regression results provide further detail to the analysis and show that the factors associated with remaining in Ontario differed for domestic and international graduates. For domestic graduates (see Table A8 in the Appendix), retention was high and overwhelmingly driven by graduates' pre-study location. Graduates who lived in Ontario before starting their postsecondary studies were about 13 times more likely to remain in Ontario two years after graduation than those with pre-study locations elsewhere in Canada. Program characteristics such as field of study, credential type and graduation cohort were much less strongly predictive of retention.

Retention among international graduates was more strongly associated with program characteristics, particularly credential level (see Table A9 in the Appendix). International graduates with a bachelor's degree were more than twice as likely to remain in Ontario compared with those holding below-bachelor's-degree credentials. Graduates from STEM+Health programs were only slightly more likely to stay than those from BHASE fields.

Discussion and Conclusions

Data show that Ontario retained a large majority of its graduates from 2015–2020, both international and domestic. Graduate retention benefits the province socially and economically; it supports the labour force by helping address skill shortages, fostering innovation, supporting communities and increasing tax revenue. High retention improves the return on public investments in PSE.

Provincial retention among Ontario graduates was strong over time and across fields of study and credential types. Strong STEM+Health retention aligns with patterns in most other provinces (Choi et al., 2021; Statistics Canada 2025a) and supports Ontario's labour market needs. STEM+Health rates were comparable to those of BHASE graduates. The strongest predictor of domestic retention in this study was a graduate's location before they started PSE. Graduates who lived outside Ontario pre-PSE were more likely to leave the province.

This study draws on postsecondary enrollment records and tax filings data available in the ELMLP. The datasets do not include information on graduates' specific roles and occupations because these details are not collected through tax forms. With this constraint, our study cannot explore the fields in which domestic and international graduates are employed. Ontario graduates develop both field-specific and transferable skills, allowing them to work in a range of positions directly related to their credentials or in adjacent fields (Ablay et al., 2024; Effah, 2024). Understanding how graduates' skills are applied in Ontario's workforce can further inform policies to support student success and provincial talent retention. Ontario graduates' survey data broadly captures the share of graduates working in jobs related to their field of study, but comparable, cross-sector information related to the specific sectors and professions where graduates are employed is not currently collected. Addressing this gap would require new, high-quality data that connects graduates' fields of study to detailed employment outcomes

including occupation and industry. High-quality data could also be used to analyze whether and how graduates are filling labour shortages in priority sectors across Ontario.

Domestic students' retention following graduation was not strongly influenced by program factors such as field of study or credential type. Rather, our study pointed toward the influence of personal characteristics — province of residence prior to postsecondary enrolment — in settlement outcomes. Additional personal characteristics, including age and marital status, may be important factors in predicting graduates' mobility. Future research could explore these factors in more detail.

For international graduates, retention during the period studied was shaped by federal policies and priorities. Over the past decade, education in Canada offered a settlement pathway for international students. Changes in access to Post-Graduation Work Permits, available immigration pathways and the social climate towards international students will influence whether Ontario can continue to retain international graduates in its workforce (ApplyBoard, 2021, 2024; CBIE, 2022; Esses et al., 2018; Netierman et al., 2021; Neuman, 2025; Richardson & Hussain, 2022; Wong, 2025). Monitoring trends in the coming years will be critical to understanding how policy and public opinion together shape Ontario's ability to attract and retain international talent (ICEF Monitor, 2025; Reichert, 2025).

Continued investment in data infrastructure would allow government to better understand both domestic and international graduates' career trajectories, regional mobility within Ontario and the alignment between skills and labour market needs. These insights could inform policies supporting both graduate success and Ontario's economy.

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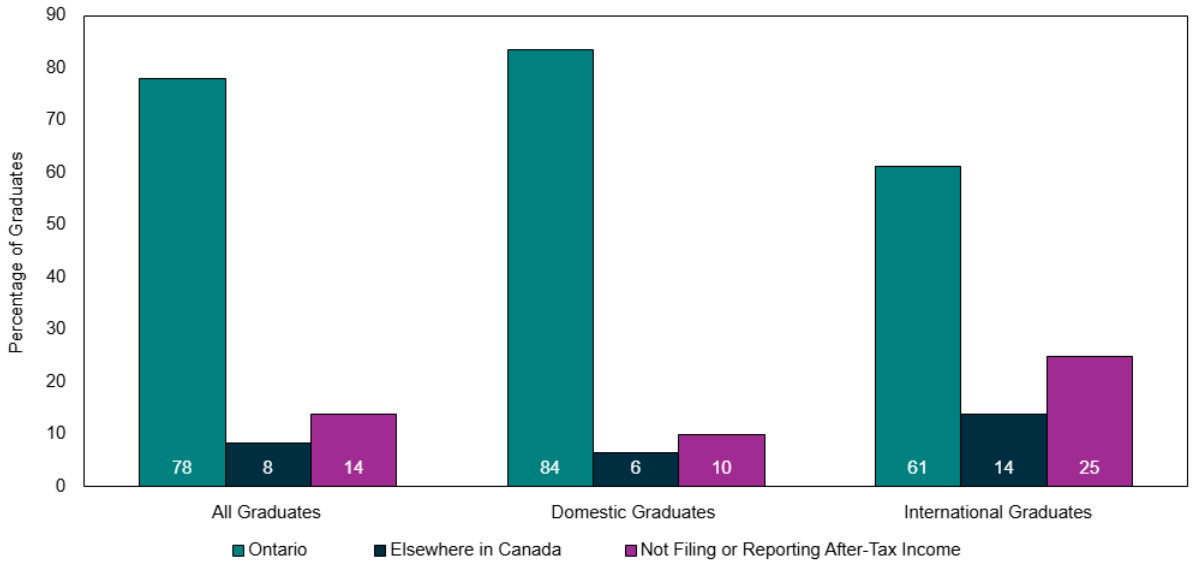
Appendix

Provincial Retention Among Ontario's Domestic and International Graduates

Figure A1

Proportion of Ontario's Domestic and International 2015–2020 PSE Graduates Residing in Ontario, Elsewhere in Canada or Not Filing or Reporting After-tax Income Two Years After Graduation



Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This figure shows the proportion of Ontario's domestic and international 2015–2020 PSE graduates who were residing in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada, versus those who did not report after-tax income or could not be located through taxes two years after graduation.

Table A1

Number of Ontario's Domestic and International 2015–2020 PSE Graduates Residing in Ontario, Elsewhere in Canada or Not Filing or Reporting After-tax Income Two Years After Graduation

Residence After Graduation	All Graduates	Domestic Graduates	International Graduates
Ontario	703,270	561,440	141,830
Elsewhere in Canada	75,610	43,410	32,210
Not filing or Reporting After-tax Income	124,260	66,840	57,420
Total	903,140	671,690	231,460

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This table shows the proportion of Ontario's domestic and international 2015–2020 PSE graduates who were residing in Ontario and elsewhere in Canada, versus those who did not report after-tax income or could not be located through taxes two years after graduation.

Table A2

Study Cohorts by Graduation Year and Two-Year Post-graduation Reference Point

Graduation Year		Two-Year Mark					
2015		*2017*					
	2016		*2018*				
		2017		*2019*			
			2018		*2020*		
				2019		*2021*	
					2020		*2022*

The study cohorts consist of individuals who completed their first postsecondary credential at a publicly assisted Ontario postsecondary institution, graduating in one of the six specified years, as captured in PSIS. Graduates who earned Ontario college certificates, diplomas, advanced diplomas or bachelor's degrees and Ontario university bachelor's degrees were included. Records missing start year, graduation year or other key program or demographic variables were dropped. In cases where an individual graduated from two credentials in a single year (e.g., in the case of concurrent or joint programs), the record with the higher-level credential was retained, as per Statistics Canada (2025b).

Table A3

Retention Rates of Ontario's First-time Domestic and International 2015–2020 Graduates Two Years Post-graduation, by Field and Credential

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change
Domestic Graduates							
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	93	94	93	92	91	91	-2
BHASE bachelor's degree	92	94	93	94	93	92	0
STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	94	94	94	94	91	92	-1
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	93	94	93	93	92	91	-1
International Graduates							
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	79	79	81	80	78	80	1
BHASE bachelor's degree	91	92	92	92	91	90	0
STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	76	79	81	82	82	85	9
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	91	91	91	92	90	89	-2

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This table shows the proportion of Ontario's domestic and international 2015–2020 PSE graduates residing in Ontario two years after graduation for different study fields and credentials.

Table A4

Proportion of Ontario Domestic 2015-2020 PSE Graduates Living in Ontario or Elsewhere Two Years After Graduation, by Field of Study and Credential

	Graduation Cohort						
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015—2020*
Elsewhere in Canada	7.0	6.2	6.7	7.0	8.2	8.3	7.2
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.5
BHASE bachelor's degree	2.3	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.2
STEM+Health ccertificate, diploma, advanced diploma	1.1	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.0
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.5	2.0	1.4
Ontario	93.0	93.8	93.3	93.0	91.8	91.7	92.8
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	34.8	33.3	31.6	30.9	31.1	29.0	31.9
BHASE bachelor's degree	28.1	29.7	30.6	30.2	28.2	29.2	29.3
STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	15.3	14.3	13.7	14.1	14.3	12.7	14.1
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	14.8	16.5	17.4	17.8	18.3	20.9	17.4

* Represents the proportions of all domestic graduates from 2015 to 2020

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)
Note: This table shows the proportion of Ontario's domestic 2015–2020 PSE graduates residing in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada two years after graduation for different study fields and credentials.

Table A5

Number of Ontario's Domestic 2015–2020 PSE Graduates Living in Ontario or Elsewhere Two Years After Graduation, by Field of Study and Credential

	Graduation Cohort						
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015-2020
Elsewhere in Canada							
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	2,730	2,420	2,490	2,630	2,750	2,400	15,420
BHASE bachelor's degree	2,560	2,150	2,260	2,020	2,130	2,190	13,310
STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	1,180	910	870	940	1,380	920	6,200
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	1,330	1,230	1,410	1,320	1,440	1,730	8,460
Ontario							
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	38,930	35,770	33,180	30,460	29,360	25,430	193,130
BHASE bachelor's degree	31,390	31,930	32,040	29,760	26,610	25,610	177,340

STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	17,150	15,430	14,370	13,930	13,470	11,120	85,470
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	16,490	17,730	18,230	17,500	17,250	18,320	105,520
Total	111,760	107,570	104,850	98,560	94,390	87,720	604,850

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This table shows the number of Ontario's domestic 2015–2020 PSE graduates residing in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada two years after graduation for different study fields and credentials.

Table A6

Proportion of Ontario's International 2015–2020 PSE Graduates Living in Ontario or Elsewhere Two Years After Graduation, by Field of Study and Credential

	Graduation Cohort						
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015—2020*
Elsewhere in Canada	20.4	19.1	17.6	17.9	19.5	17.5	18.5
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	10.6	10.4	9.6	10.5	12.1	11.3	10.9
BHASE bachelor's degree	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6
STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	8.6	7.5	6.8	6.6	6.5	5.2	6.6
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5
Ontario	79.6	80.9	82.4	82.1	80.5	82.5	81.5
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	40.0	38.9	40.0	43.1	43.1	44.4	42.2
BHASE bachelor's degree	7.9	8.8	7.4	5.3	4.2	4.7	5.8
STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	27.3	28.0	29.7	29.2	29.5	29.2	29.0
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	4.5	5.3	5.3	4.5	3.7	4.2	4.4

* Represents the proportions of all international graduates from 2015 to 2020

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This table shows the proportion of Ontario's international 2015–2020 PSE graduates who were residing in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada two years after graduation for different study fields and credentials.

Table A7

Number of Ontario's International 2015–2020 PSE Graduates Living in Ontario or Elsewhere Two Years After Graduation, by Field of Study and Credential

	Graduation Cohort						
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015—2020
Elsewhere in Canada							
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	1,720	2,000	2,260	3,640	5,130	4,290	19,040
BHASE bachelor's degree	130	140	150	170	180	190	960
STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	1,400	1,430	1,600	2,290	2,760	1,970	11,450
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	70	100	120	130	180	200	800
Ontario							
BHASE certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	6,500	7,460	9,410	14,980	18,290	16,820	73,460
BHASE bachelor's degree	1,280	1,680	1,750	1,860	1,800	1,780	10,150
STEM+Health certificate, diploma, advanced diploma	4,440	5,370	6,990	10,150	12,490	11,080	50,520
STEM+Health bachelor's degree	730	1,010	1,250	1,550	1,560	1,590	7,690
Total	16,270	19,190	23,530	34,770	42,390	37,920	174,070

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This table shows the number of Ontario's international 2015–2020 PSE graduates residing in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada two years after graduation for different study fields and credentials.

Table A8

Regression Analysis of Program Factors and Personal Characteristics on Domestic Graduate Residence in Ontario (2015–2020), Two Years Post-graduation

Domestic Graduates Residence in Ontario Two Years Post-Graduation	Model 1 [1]		Model 2 [2]		Model 3 [3]	
	coef. (s.e)	odds ratio (s.e.)	coef. (s.e)	odds ratio (s.e.)	coef. (s.e)	odds ratio (s.e.)
Field of Study (ref STEM+Health)	0.010	1.010	0.016	1.016	0.0283 *	1.0287 *
	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.011)	(0.012)
Credential (ref bachelors' degree)			0.012	1.012	0.5474 ***	0.5784 ***
			(0.010)	(0.010)	(0.011)	(0.007)
Graduation Year (ref 2015)						
2016			0.1197 ***	1.1272 ***	0.0884 ***	1.0925 ***
			(0.017)	(0.019)	(0.018)	(0.020)
2017			0.0418 *	1.0427 *	0.002	1.002
			(0.017)	(0.018)	(0.018)	(0.018)
2018			-0.006	0.994	-0.035	0.966
			(0.017)	(0.017)	(0.018)	(0.018)
2019			-0.169 ***	0.8445 ***	-0.1893 ***	0.8275 ***
			(0.017)	(0.014)	(0.018)	(0.015)
2020			-0.1842 ***	0.8318 ***	-0.1919 ***	0.8254 ***
			(0.017)	(0.014)	(0.018)	(0.015)
Pre-Study Location (ref Ontario)					2.5974 ***	13.429 ***
					(0.011)	(0.151)
Gender (ref Male)					-0.011	0.989
					(0.011)	(0.011)
Constant	2.558 ***	12.891 ***	2.579 ***	13.188 ***	1.186 ***	3.274 ***
	(0.060)	(0.080)	(0.013)	(0.171)	(0.015)	(0.049)

*** p<0.05, ** p<0.01, *** p<0.001**
Total observations = 604,840
[1] Model 1 likelihood ratio: X^2(1 d. f.) = 0.93, p=0.334
[2] Model 2 likelihood ratio: X^2(7 d. f.) = 476, p=0.000
[3] Model 3 likelihood ratio: X^2(9 d. f.) = 55836, p=0.000

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This table shows regression results examining how program and personal characteristics relate to domestic graduates' residence in Ontario (2025–2020) two years post-graduation.

Table A9

Regression Analysis of Program Factors on International Graduate Residence in Ontario (2015–2020), Two Years Post-graduation

International Graduates Residence in Ontario Two Years Post-Graduation	Model 1 [1]		Model 2 [2]	
	coef. (s.e)	odds ratio (s.e.)	coef. (s.e)	odds ratio (s.e.)
Field of Study (ref STEM+Health)	0.128 ***	1.137 ***	0.121 ***	1.128 ***
	(0.013)	(0.014)	(0.013)	(0.014)
Credential (ref bachelors' degree)			0.931 ***	2.538 ***
			(0.026)	(0.066)
Graduation Year (ref 2015)				
2016			0.065 *	1.067 *
			(0.027)	(0.029)
2017			0.184 ***	1.202 ***
			(0.026)	(0.031)
2018			0.183 ***	1.201 ***
			(0.024)	(0.030)
2019			0.093 ***	1.098 ***
			(0.023)	(0.025)
2020			0.215 ***	1.240 ***
			(0.024)	(0.030)
Constant	1.432 ***	4.186 ***	1.219 ***	3.382 ***
	(0.008)	(0.033)	(0.020)	(0.070)

*** p<0.05, ** p<0.01, *** p<0.001**
Total observations = 174,040
[1] Model 1 likelihood ratio: *X2 (1 d.f.) = 102.58, p=0.000*
[2] Model 2 likelihood ratio: *X2 (7 d.f.) = 1807.63, p=0.000*

Sources: Statistics Canada (2025c, 2025g)

Note: This table shows the results of the international graduate regression analysis which examined the influence of program factors on international graduate residence in Ontario (2015–2020) two years post-graduation.