

Science & Culture

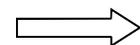
How Well Are Quebec Students with Disabilities Doing In The Labour Force?

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The ADAPTECH Research Network

The Adaptech Research Network recently completed a study of employment among recent (past 2 years) Canadian college and university graduates and those who left their studies without completing their program. In 2011 we administered an online questionnaire to a convenience sample of 172 individuals (i.e., a non-random sample of members of our partner organizations, the Association québécoise des étudiants ayant des incapacités au postsecondaire (AQEIPS) and the National Educational Association of Disabled Students (NEADS) as well as others in our research participant database). Forty one of these former students hailed from Québec (18 Anglophones and 23 Francophones). Only one person was "not in the labor force" (i.e., neither employed nor looking for work).

Among Quebecers "in the labour force" (i.e., everyone else), 79% were employed, mainly full-time. The comparable figure for the entire Canada-wide sample was 67% - a 12% difference in favor of Québec. Internships seemed to confer a small advantage in helping to find a job. There were no significant differences in employment between men and women. Although there was considerable variability, the average salary of those with a college diploma who were employed full-time was less than that of people with a Bachelor's degree which, in turn, was less than that of individuals with a post-graduate degree.



Overall, francophone Quebecers were doing slightly better than Anglophones: 81% of Francophones were employed, compared to 76% of Anglophones; a larger proportion of Francophones (73%) than Anglophones (64%) were employed full time, rather than part time; jobs of Francophones were more closely related to their academic program than jobs of Anglophones; and Francophones were more satisfied with their jobs than Anglophones.

How different are these findings from results for recent Quebec graduates without disabilities? We do not have those figures. As for employment in general... given Quebec's employment rate for recent college and university students, which is over 90%, Quebec graduates still have a way to go. But we are closing the gap!

For further information on the study contact Dr. Catherine Fichten at catherine.fichten@mcgill.ca

Updated Free & Inexpensive Software Library

The Adaptech Research Network has updated its website. Part of this update includes new software titles in our popular library of free and inexpensive software, especially in areas such as iPhone, iPod and iPad apps. We have also expanded our coverage to built-in Mac features and other software of use to Mac users. Of course, we continued our update of Windows based built-in features and software.

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