

Canadians support investment in youth mentoring

Adults in Canada agree that mentoring plays a key role in our young people's development.

Roughly 4 in 5 adults in Canada agree that:

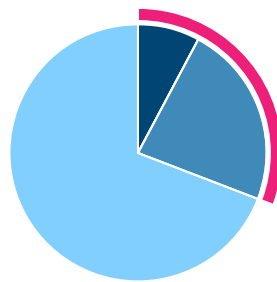
- Mentoring is important for children and youth growing up;
- Young people need more mentoring support to maximize their success on their journey towards healthy and productive adulthood;
- Governments should invest in mentoring programs for young people.

Close to one-third of adults have mentored a young person under the age of 25.

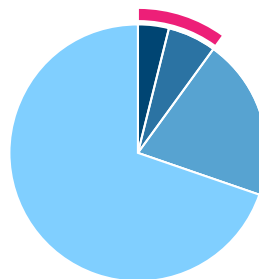
31% of adults have mentored a young person under the age of 25.

8% are currently mentoring a young person or have done so in the last year.

10% have current or past experience mentoring as part of a formal youth mentoring program.



- 31% Current and past mentors
- 8% Current mentors
- 23% Past mentors
- 69% Never mentored



- 10% Current and past formal mentors
- 4% Informal and formal mentors
- 6% Formal mentors only
- 20% Informal mentors only
- 69% Never mentored

1% of respondents selected don't know or prefer not to answer to this question.

Common benefits of mentoring include:

- having a sense of giving back;
- fun and interesting experiences;
- having a sense of purpose.

23% of adults who are not currently mentoring a young person could be persuaded to do so in the next five years.

Adults who are likely to become mentors in the next five years could be persuaded to do so if:

- a young person asked them to mentor them;
- they saw a specific need and felt that they could help;
- parents or caregivers asked them to mentor their child.

The most common barriers preventing adults from mentoring a young person are:

28% Lack of time

27% Lack of confidence in their ability to support a young person and their needs

23% Lack of interest

22% Lack of awareness about local opportunities to mentor or how to get involved

In the fall of 2020, MENTOR Canada surveyed 3,500 adults about their views of and experiences with mentoring young people in Canada.

[Learn more](#) about the State of Mentoring research findings.



MENTOR Canada is a coalition of organizations that provide youth mentoring. Our goal is to build sector capacity to empower every young person to fulfil their potential.

mentoringcanada.ca