

# 5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CHEMISTRY

## 1 Industry Definition

Chemistry is essential to our lives – from developing new materials and creating thousands of new products to protecting the environment and fighting disease. The chemical industry supports a wide range of career options in manufacturing, scientific research and development, public administration, health care, academia, and other sectors.

## 2 Sample Job Titles and Median Salaries in Canada

- Chemist \$50,000
- Senior Chemist \$71,000
- Analytical Chemist \$47,000
- Biochemist \$51,000
- Chemical Engineer \$67,000
- Environmental Scientist \$54,000
- Food Scientist \$60,000
- Technical Writer \$55,000
- Associate Professor \$80,000

## 3 How to Get Ready

### Skills Needed

- \* Analytical and problem solving
- \* Communication
- \* Terminology understanding
- \* Proficiency with technology
- \* Organization
- \* Attention to detail
- \* Persistence and creativity

### Professional Associations

- Canadian Society for Chemistry (CSC)  
[www.cheminst.ca/about/cic/csc](http://www.cheminst.ca/about/cic/csc)
- Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering (CSChE)  
[www.cheminst.ca/about/cic/csche](http://www.cheminst.ca/about/cic/csche)
- Canadian Society for Chemical Technology (CSCT)  
[www.cheminst.ca/about/cic/csct](http://www.cheminst.ca/about/cic/csct)
- Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists (CSCC)  
[www.csccl.ca](http://www.csccl.ca)
- Association of the Chemical Profession of Ontario (ACPO)  
[www.acpo.on.ca](http://www.acpo.on.ca)

## 4 Where the Jobs Are

In 2015 Canada's chemical industry employed 87,500 people directly and supports an additional 525,000 indirect jobs.

Employment is largely concentrated in Ontario (58%), Quebec (31%), and Alberta (12%).

Most professionals work in the manufacturing sector as well as the professional, scientific and technical services sector.

### Employment Projections

The current (2013-2017) employment prospect rating for Chemists in Ontario is listed as Average, compared to Below Average for 2009-2013.

Job openings and job seekers will be at relatively similar levels between 2015 and 2024. 9,900 new job seekers will be available to fill 10,200 new job openings in the Physical Science Professionals group, which the Chemists occupation falls into.

*"Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known."*

Carl Sagan

## 5 How the Career Centre Can Help

- Ask us about information interviews and networking at employer events to help you get additional information about the industry and build valuable connections
- Check out some of our career books and other resources, like the "Job-Search Strategies for Chemical Professionals" book or "Careers in Chemistry" report
- Check the summer and part-time jobs on the Career Learning Network, apply for the Research Opportunity Program, or attend one of our employment fairs to get experience

**Sources:** 1. [occupations.esdc.gc.ca/sppc-cops/occupationssummarydetail.jsp?&tid=67](http://occupations.esdc.gc.ca/sppc-cops/occupationssummarydetail.jsp?&tid=67)

2. [www.rsc.org/careers/future/employability-skills](http://www.rsc.org/careers/future/employability-skills) | 3. [www.payscale.com](http://www.payscale.com) | 4. [www.canadianchemistry.ca](http://www.canadianchemistry.ca)

5. [www.app.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/labourmarket/ojf/profile.asp?NOC\\_CD=2112](http://www.app.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/labourmarket/ojf/profile.asp?NOC_CD=2112)