



BC WIL Survey

Understanding how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted work-integrated learning employers and community partners in BC

Executive summary

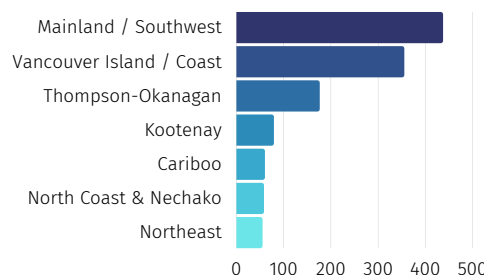
Between September 2020 and May 2021, the BC WIL Council conducted research to better understand the evolving impacts of COVID-19 with employers and community partners who typically hire students through work-integrated learning (WIL) programs. Overall, survey respondents were confident that the outlook for WIL is positive, with hiring in some industries, regions and types of WIL expected to surpass pre-COVID-19 hiring levels. The results highlight the ways workplaces have mitigated the impacts of the pandemic and the supports they need, which will inform WIL program planning for 2021-2022.

Survey Respondents

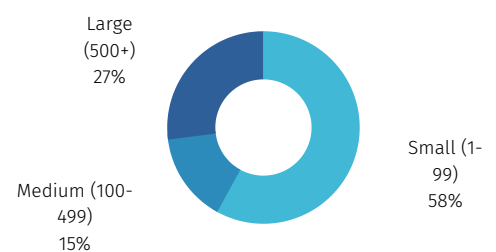
853

employers and community partners responded to the Spring 2021 survey.

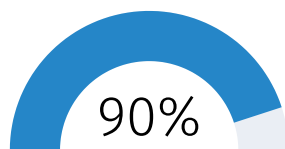
Respondents by BC region



Respondents by organization size

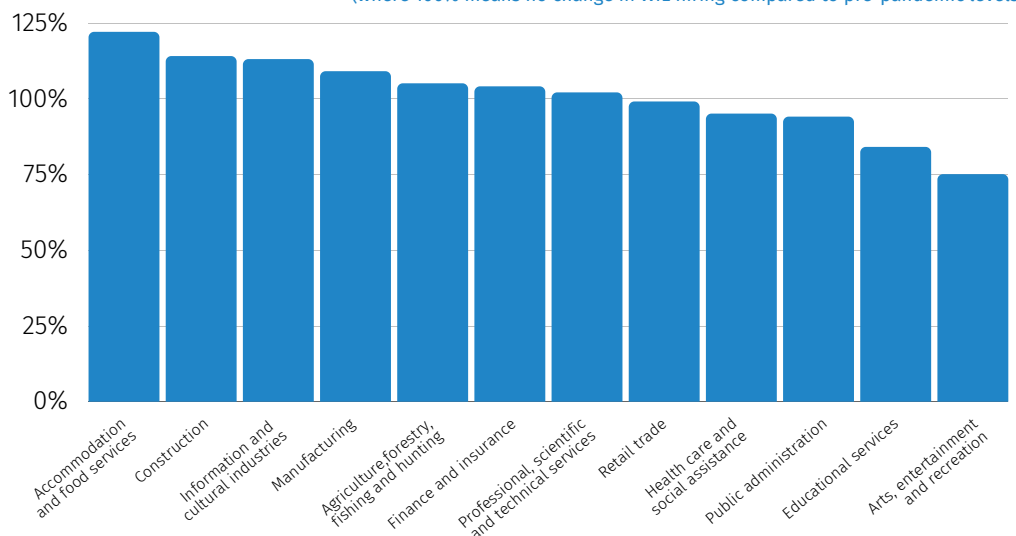


Outlook for WIL is positive



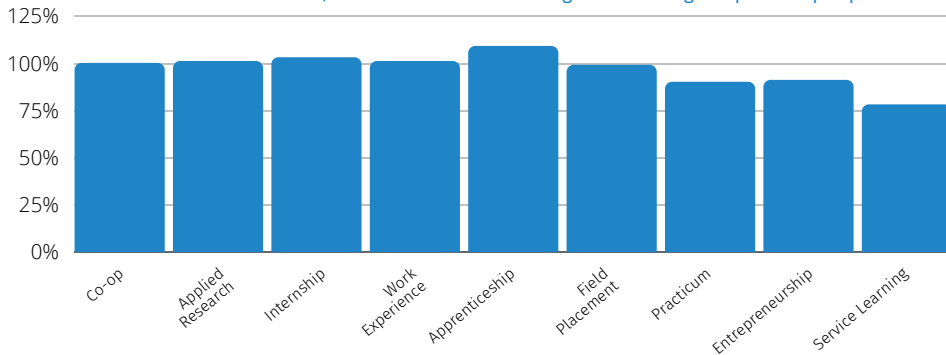
90% of survey respondents agree that the outlook for WIL engagements in their organization is promising.

Expected WIL hiring for the next 6 to 12 months, compared to usual WIL hiring, by sector (where 100% means no change in WIL hiring compared to pre-pandemic levels)



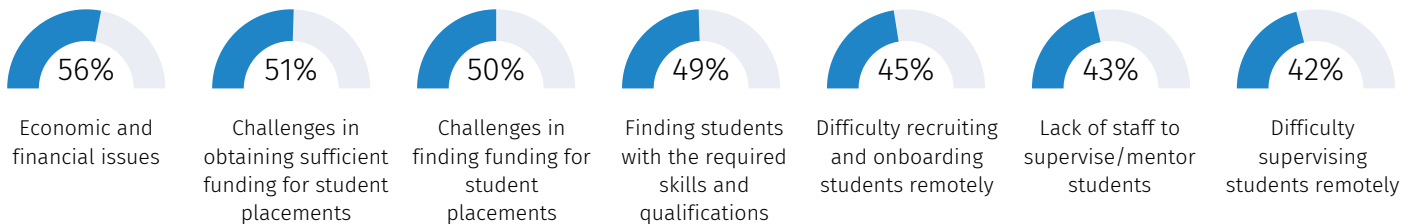
Demand for WIL types varies

Expected WIL hiring for the next 6 to 12 months, compared to usual WIL hiring, by WIL type
(where 100% means no change in WIL hiring compared to pre-pandemic levels)



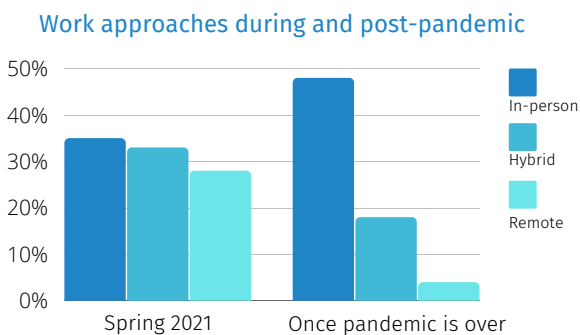
Overall, survey respondents expect to be at 98% of their usual WIL engagements within the next 6 to 12 months.

Finances/funding top challenges expected to impact WIL hirings



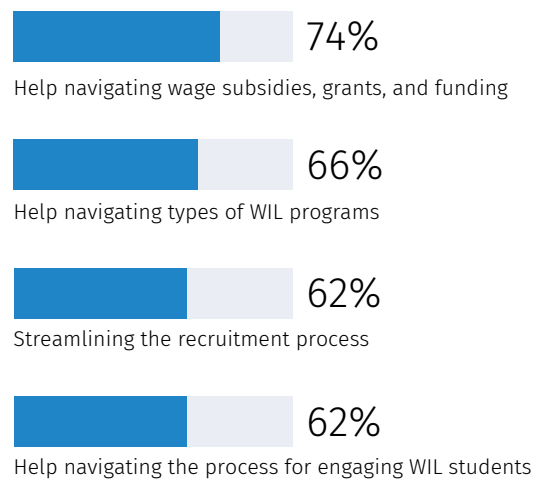
In-person work preferred

Survey respondents either require or prefer in-person work for students, although remote and hybrid models will continue.



WIL experts can help

Useful resources to help partners to hire more WIL students



Learn more

For key survey results and the full report, visit the ACE-WIL Resource Hub. The BC WIL Council is an independent council of the Association for Co-operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning BC/Yukon (ACE-WIL) and is comprised of one member from each public, post-secondary institution in BC. Funding for this project was provided by the BC Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training's Co-op and Work Integrated Learning Initiative.