



Ontario
Building & Construction
Tradeswomen



At the beginning of 2022, the Ontario Building and Construction Tradeswomen (OBCT) committee published a survey intended for past and present tradeswomen within Ontario. Our intent is to collect valuable data from women who have experience working within the building and construction skilled trades to help direct our efforts to support, recruit, and retrain women into the industry.

- The majority of tradeswomen agree, the greatest strengths of the construction industry are good compensation, benefits and pension. 70% of tradeswomen are satisfied with their compensation and benefits.
- The majority of surveyed tradeswomen say they would recommend more women to join the building and construction trades industry.
- More than 35% of surveyed tradeswomen claimed they did not feel welcomed when they joined the trades.
- While the majority of tradeswomen enjoy working with their crew, more than 40% have felt isolated from the crew due to their gender.
- More than 70% of surveyed tradeswomen have experienced some form of harassment or concerns about their safety while at work.
- More than 50% of surveyed tradeswomen have had to turn down work due to childcare arrangements. The majority of union tradeswomen do not feel that their union provides appropriate support for raising a family.
- Nearly 40% of surveyed tradeswomen expressed concerns about proper washroom facilities for women on jobsites.
- Almost all surveyed tradeswomen agree, the industry should focus on increasing tolerance and recruitment of under-represented groups including women.