

# Pipe fitter



## Description of the trade

- Installs, overhauls, alters, repairs, and maintains plumbing and heating systems

This trade has two specialties: plumber and heating systems installer.

- **Plumber:** Does work related to water-supply and water-disposal piping in buildings and structures
- **Heating systems installer:** Does work related to piping and other elements of heating systems

## ACCESS TO CONSTRUCTION SITES

- Present to the CCQ proof of completion of DEP - Plumbing and Heating and of a job guarantee from an employer registered with the CCQ, for at least 150 hours spread over three consecutive months. This leads to an apprentice competency certificate in the trade.
- Measures are in place to increase the presence of women on construction sites by 2018. Consult them at [mixite.ccq.org](http://mixite.ccq.org).

## APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM

- Have completed the four apprenticeship periods of 2,000 hours each (8,000 hours total) in order to be eligible for the provincial qualification examination that leads to obtaining the journeyman competency certificate for the trade.

## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Acquire knowledge linked to application of notions of mathematics, chemistry, and physics, plumbing and heating systems, and reading of plans
- Be independent and careful
- Be able to work in a team
- Be in good physical condition
- Be dextrous

### Average annual salary\*

Apprentice**	\$24,974
Journeyman***	\$55,445
Journeyman working at least 500 hours	\$67,946
Proportion****	79%

\* Includes premiums, overtime hours, and compensation for paid statutory holidays and the obligatory annual vacations provided in the collective agreements.  
 \*\* Average salary of graduates admitted in 2014, for the 12 months following their admission.  
 \*\*\* Average salary in 2015 of those having reported at least one hour of work.  
 \*\*\*\* Proportion of journeymen in this trade having accumulated at least 500 hours in 2015. Does not include income that may have been made for work not falling under the construction collective agreements.

### Integration into the labour market

	Annual average 2012-2015	2016
New admissions to the CCQ	558	546
Placement rate of graduates*	6.7%	n/a

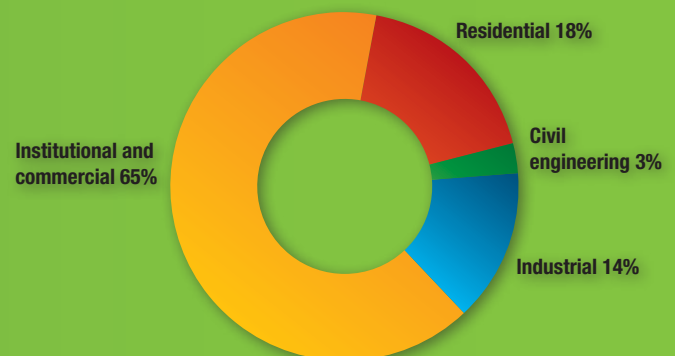
\* Source: *La Relance au secondaire en formation professionnelle*, survey by the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur du Québec. New graduates are asked about their employment situation on June 1, after they have obtained their diploma.

### Hourly wage\* according to the collective agreements

	Industrial, institutional and commercial	Civil engineering and roadwork	Light residential
Apprentice			
1 <sup>st</sup> period	\$19.00	\$19.01	\$17.83
2 <sup>nd</sup> period	\$22.79	\$22.81	\$21.39
3 <sup>rd</sup> period	\$26.59	\$26.61	\$24.96
4 <sup>th</sup> period	\$32.29	\$32.31	\$30.30
Journeyman	\$37.99	\$38.01	\$35.65

\*Wage in May 2016.

### Volume of work per sector



## Job prospects



- Pipe fitters are the third-largest trade by number of workers, after carpenter-joiners and electricians, with 9,278 pipe fitters on construction sites in 2016. More than 1,500 employers hire pipe fitters in the construction industry.
- About two thirds of the work volume for pipe fitters is in the institutional and commercial sector, which is expected to decline slightly in the medium term. Demand from commercial construction should remain stable, but the institutional segment is expected to shrink.
- In 2016, 546 new apprentices entered the industry, close to the annual average for the past four years (558). An apprentice earns an average of \$24,900 in the first year on construction sites, while a journeyman working at least 500 hours takes home about \$67,900 a year.
- Job prospects for this trade are quite good. Employment will decline slightly but high turnover is creating a need for new workers and graduates find work very easily. Note that high availability of workers currently in the market could meet part of this workforce demand.

## Training

### Study program:

Diploma of vocational studies (DEP) - Plomberie et chauffage (5333) and Plumbing and Heating (5833)

**Duration of training:** 1,680 hours

**Academic prerequisite:** Category 1\*

\* The academic prerequisites for all trades and occupations in this brochure are described on page 74.

### Training generally offered in the following regions:

- Bas-Saint-Laurent
- Capitale-Nationale\*
- Centre-du-Québec
- Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine
- Laurentides\*
- Laval
- Montérégie
- Montréal\*
- Nord-du-Québec\*
- Outaouais
- Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean



\* Training also offered in English in this region.

To find out which public facilities are authorized to offer this study program, consult the website [www.inforoutefpt.org](http://www.inforoutefpt.org)

### Number of employed workers in 2016

Abitibi-Témiscamingue	164
Bas-Saint-Laurent-Gaspésie	286
Côte-Nord	119
Estrie	291
Island of Montréal	1,311
Laval-Laurentides-Lanaudière	2,352
Mauricie-Bois-Francs	607
Montérégie	2,015
Outaouais	349
Québec	1,353
Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	394
Outside of Québec and Baie-James	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,278</b>

**Number of employed women** 50

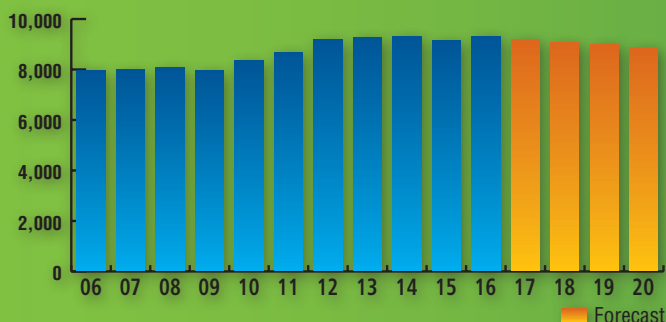
### Worker mobility

#### Proportion of workers who travel from one region to another:\*

Pipe fitter	13%
All trades and occupations	17%

\* Excluding travel between the Montérégie, Island of Montréal, and Laval-Laurentides-Lanaudière regions.

### Number of employed workers from 2006 to 2020



### Age of the workforce in 2016

	Average age	Under 30 years	30-54 years	55 years and over	Total number of workers
Apprentice	29	65%	33%	2%	3,017
Journeyman	42	14%	70%	16%	6,261
<b>Total, pipe fitters</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>9,278</b>
All trades and occupations	39	26%	58%	16%	153,700