

Ontario AI snapshot 2025-26

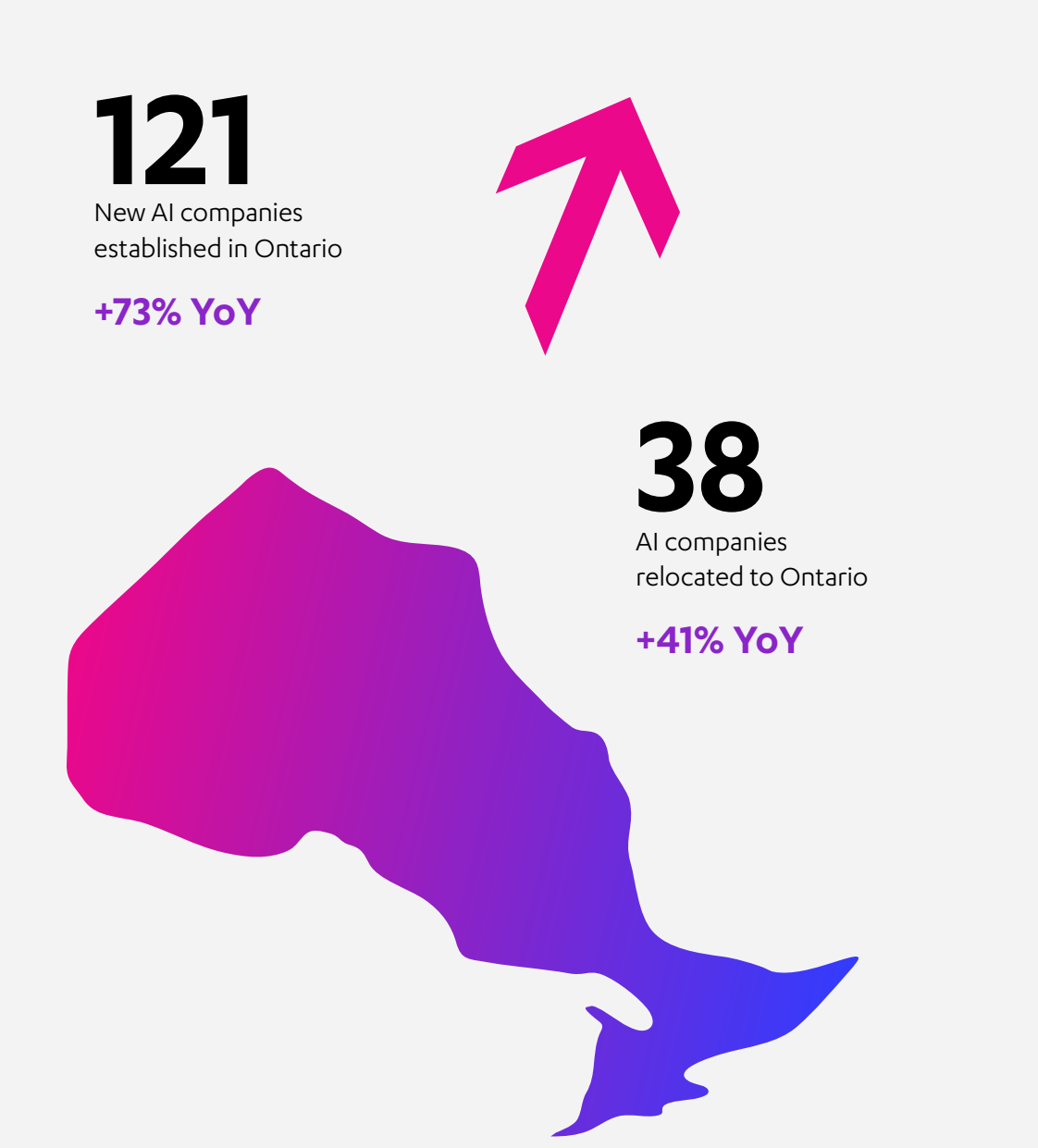
The state of the province’s AI ecosystem

Since 2020, Vector Institute has produced snapshots of Ontario’s AI ecosystem based on survey data and with support from Deloitte Canada. This year’s snapshot (covering the period from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026) tracks 10 metrics on topics such as commercialization, AI job creation, and investment. These metrics provide a means of gauging the progress that governments, businesses, and institutions are making to build a stronger AI ecosystem in Ontario.

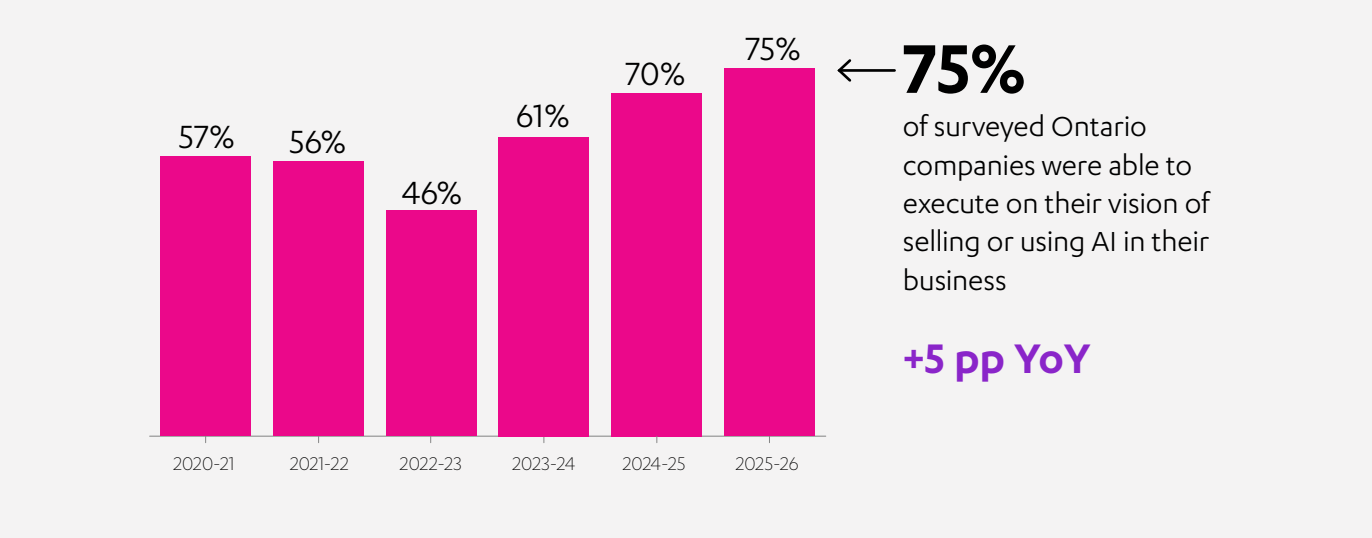
MARKET SIZE & AI ADOPTION

Ontario continues to be an attractive hub for AI companies, with substantially higher numbers of new and relocating AI companies in 2025-26. AI strategy execution continues to improve in Ontario companies.

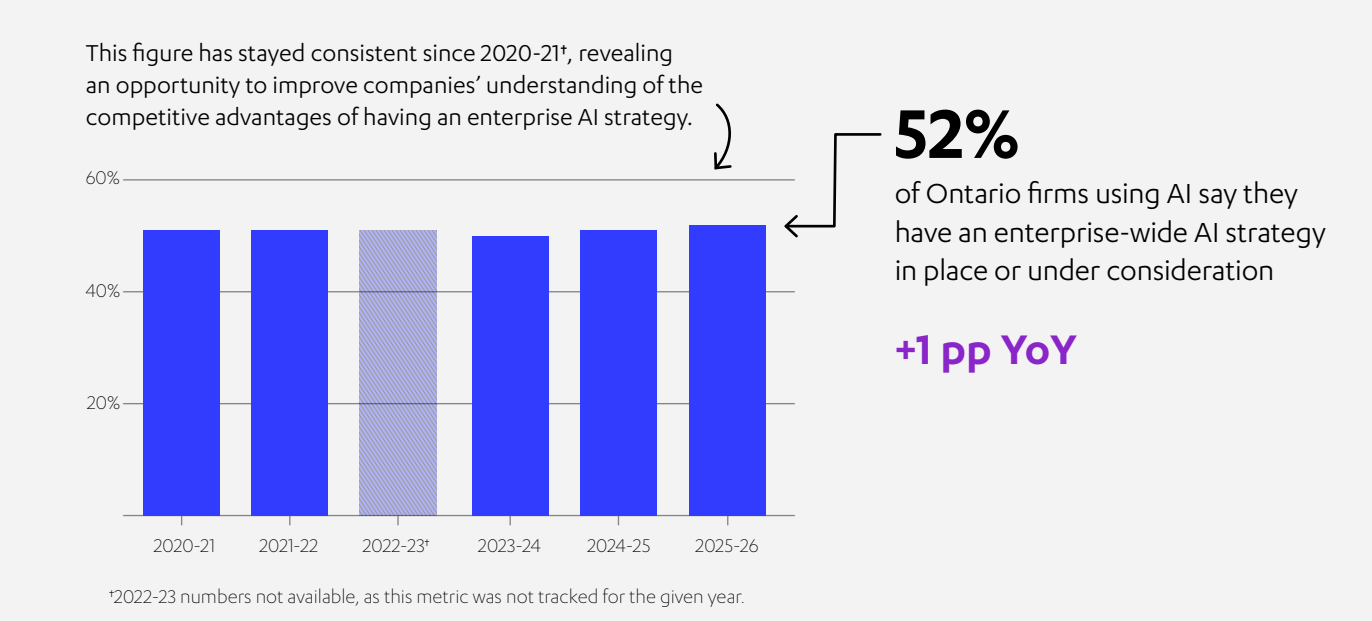
Welcoming more new AI businesses than ever



AI strategy execution continues to improve



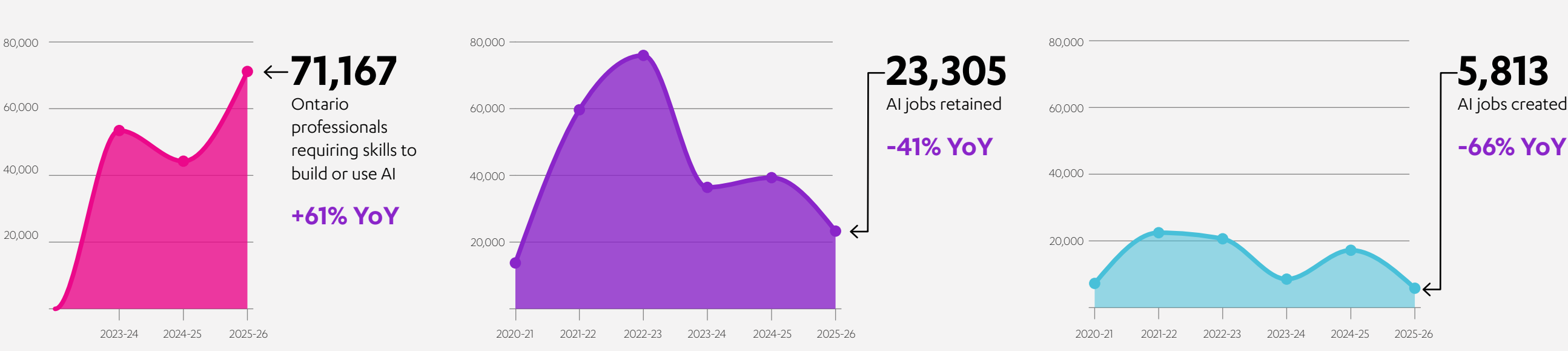
More firms could seize enterprise AI strategy advantage



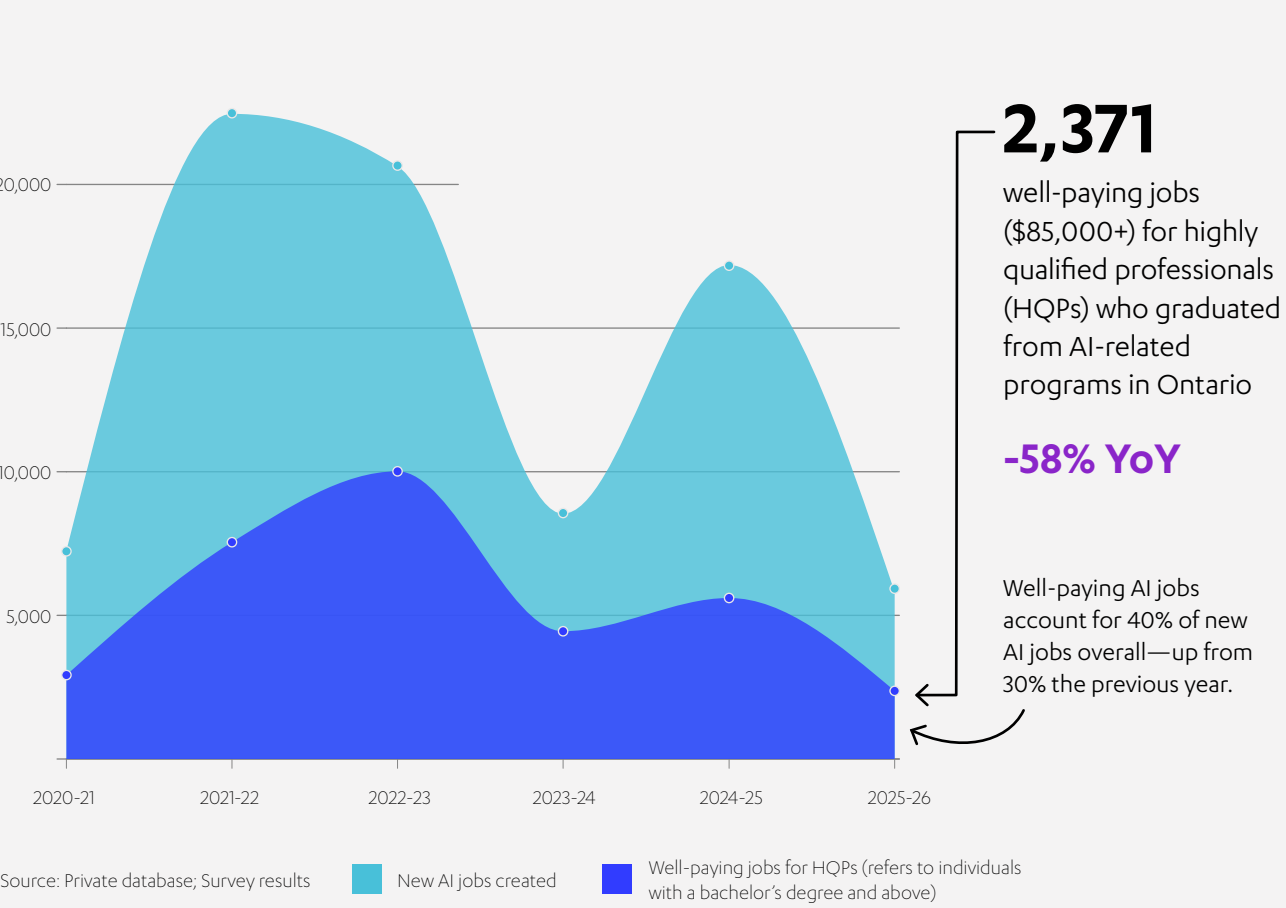
TALENT & JOB MARKET

Ontario’s AI job market is evolving and may be reaching an inflection point. AI adoption is broadening across non-technical roles as employees increasingly use AI tools in their daily work, while technical AI roles focused on building core technologies declined.

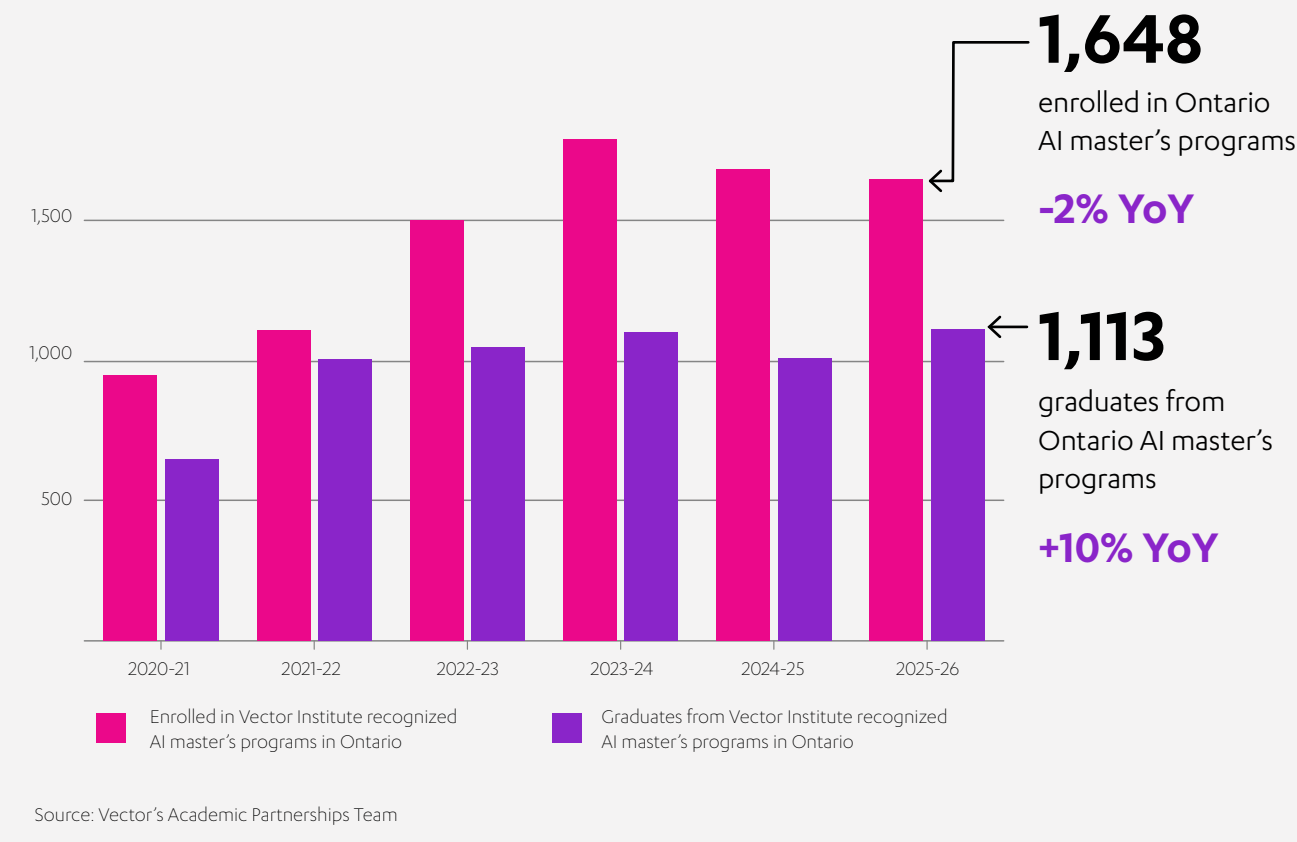
Ontario’s changing AI job market by the numbers



Ontario is still creating well-paying AI jobs



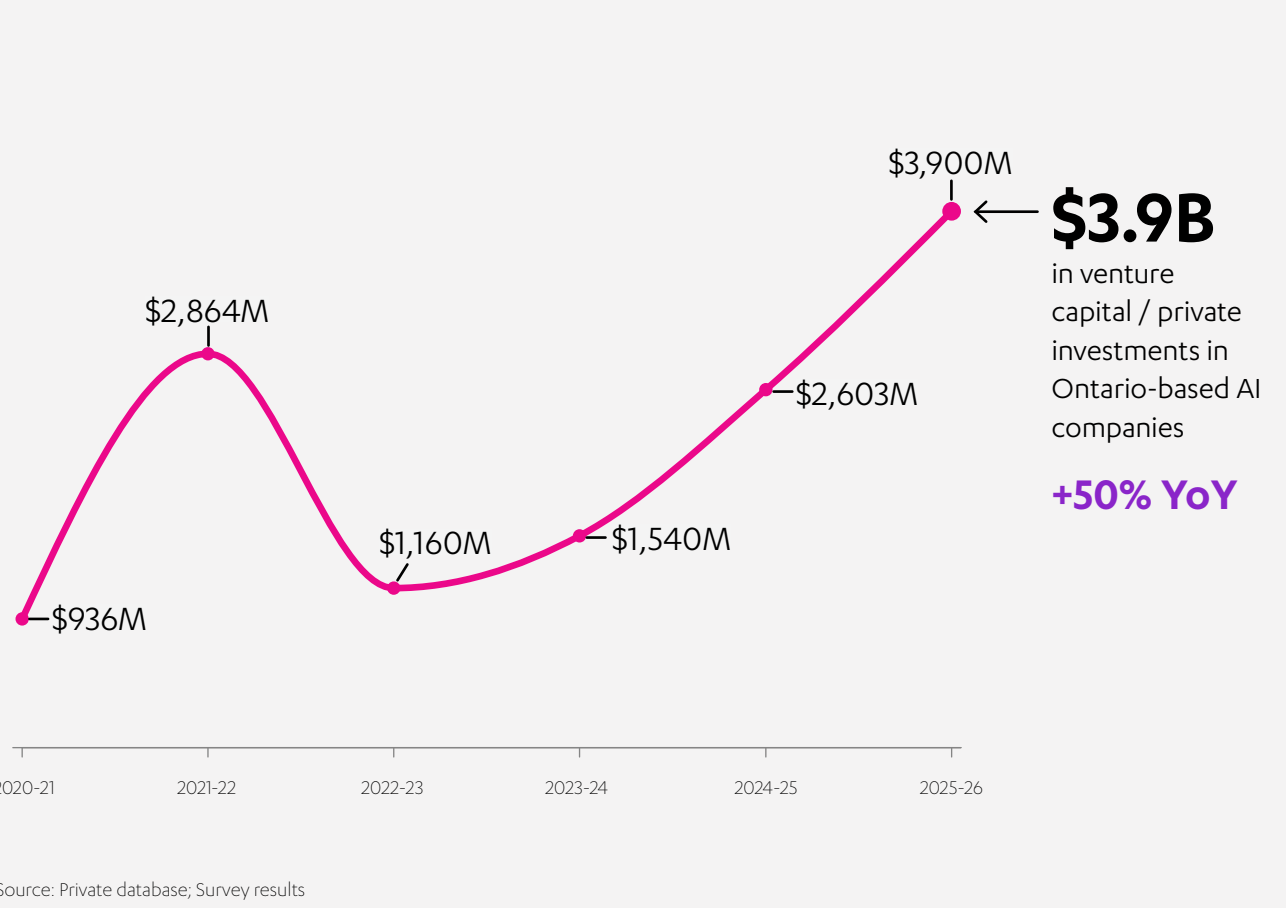
AI master’s program enrollment and graduate numbers steady



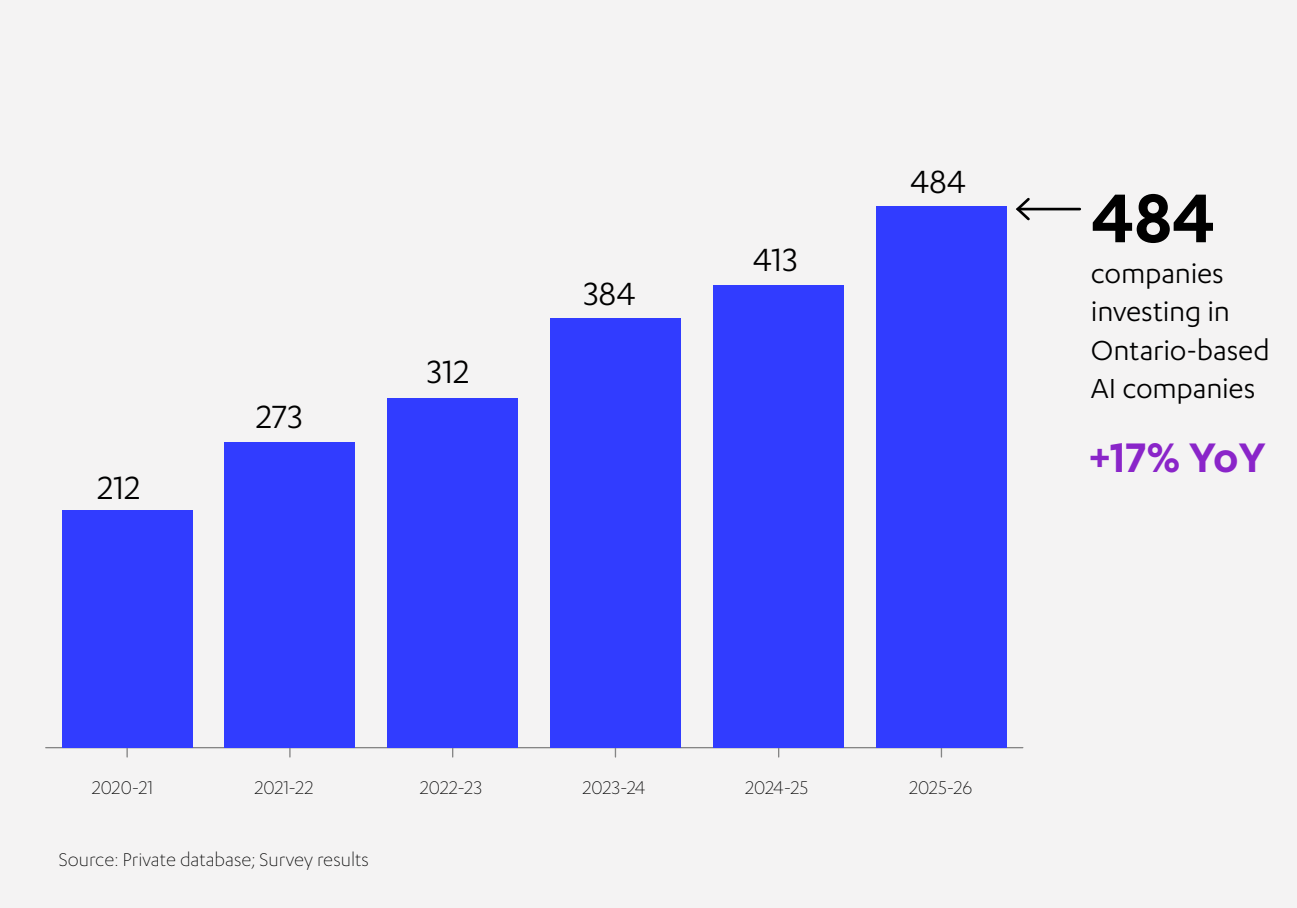
INVESTMENTS IN BUSINESS

Venture capital investment in Ontario-based AI companies reached new heights in 2025-26, indicating investor confidence in the province’s AI sector. AI patent activity in Canada held steady, while AI R&D spending softened year-over-year.

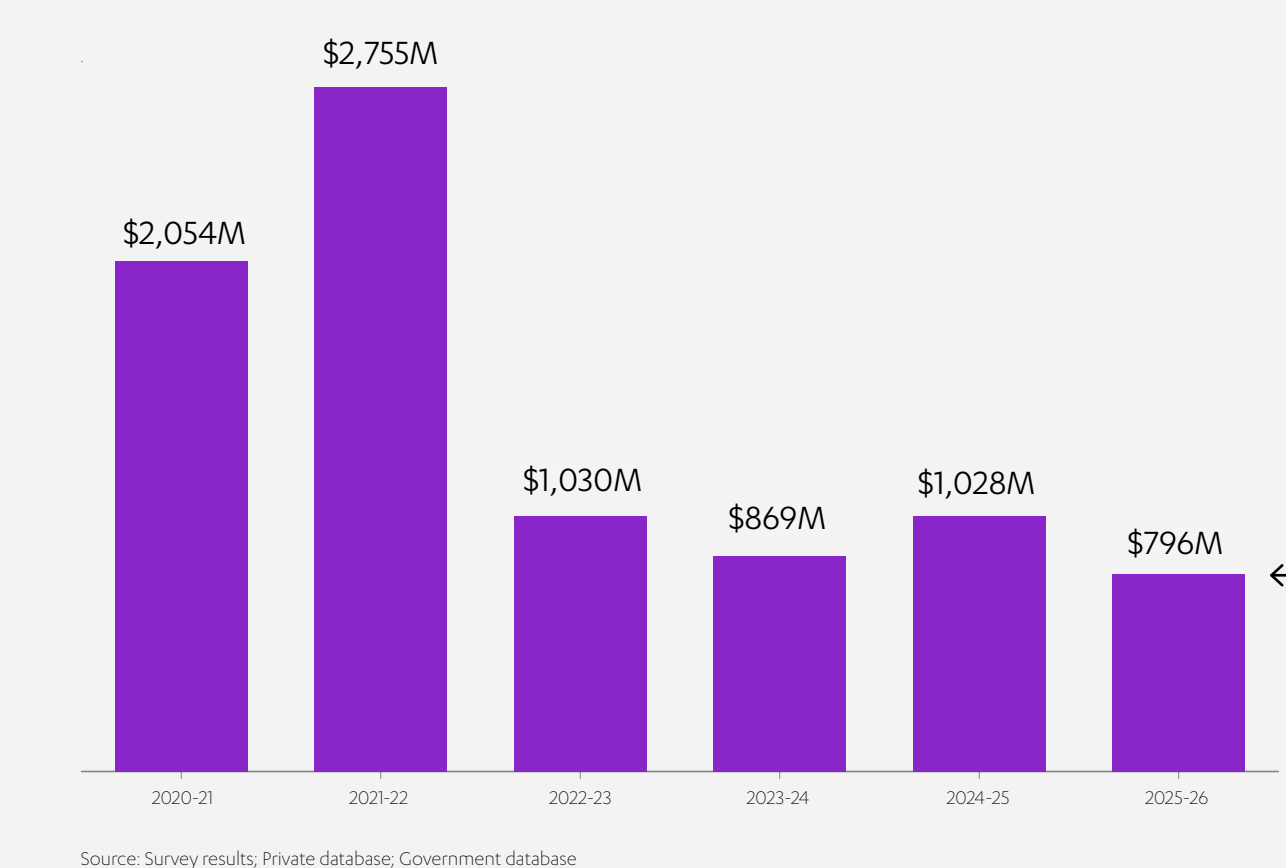
Sharp rise in VC investment in Ontario AI



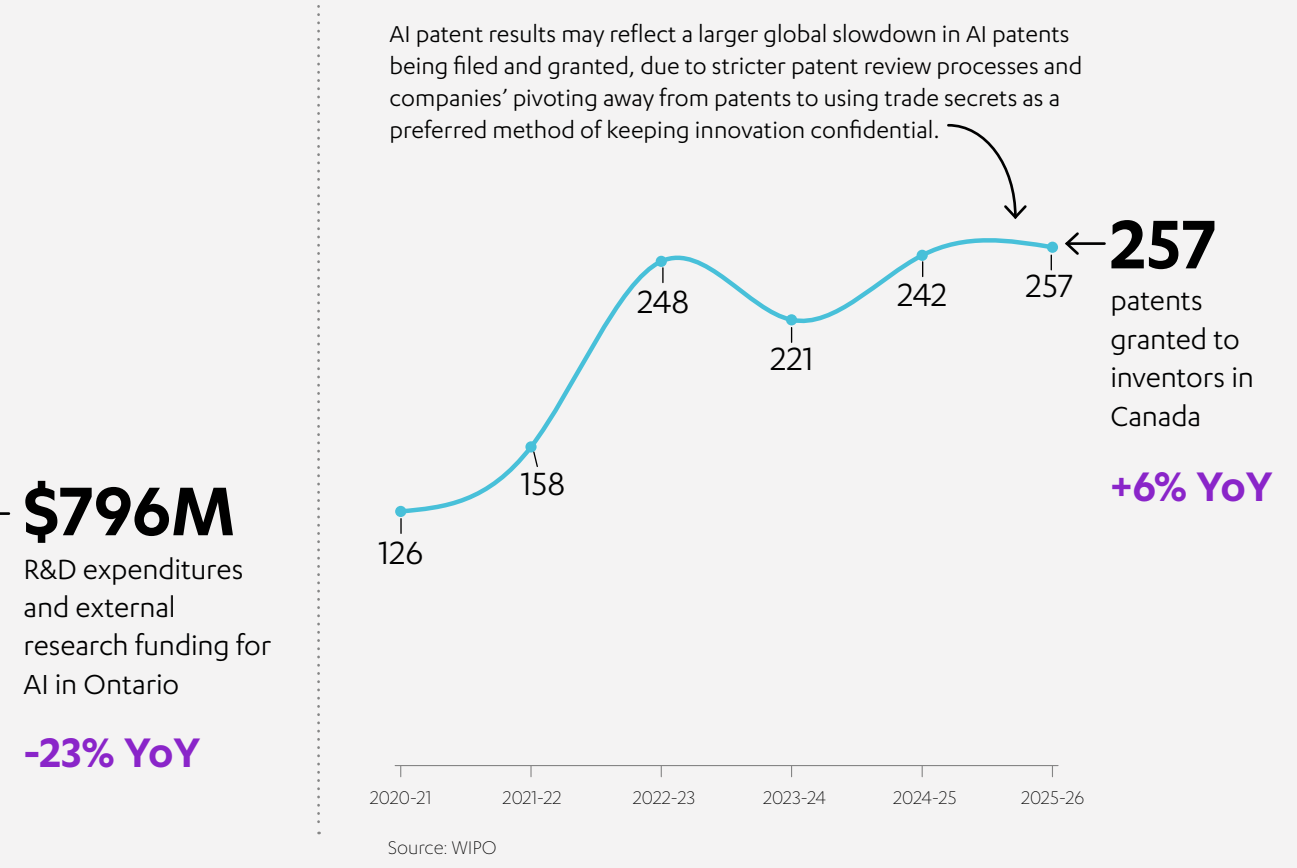
AI investor numbers continue to grow



AI R&D funding in Ontario softens



Canadian AI patents stabilize



ABOUT US

Vector Institute transforms cutting-edge artificial intelligence research into practical solutions that drive Canada’s economic growth and improve lives. As a globally renowned AI research institute, we bridge the gap between academic discovery and industry adoption through partnerships with leading researchers, businesses, and government organizations.