

**NSCC 2016**

**GRADUATE SURVEY**

***nscc***

# Graduate Survey 2016

## Results in Brief

### INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of the 2016 Graduate Survey, an extensive annual survey of NSCC graduates one year following graduation. Graduates were surveyed online and by telephone by Corporate Research Associates to explore employment and other graduate activities, as well as graduates' satisfaction with their experience at NSCC. This is the seventeenth year that this survey has been commissioned by NSCC and results continue to demonstrate that graduates succeed after graduation.

The 2016 survey was conducted during the period of July 11 to October 5, 2016, and included the graduates of the Class of 2015. To create a snapshot of employment and continued learning experiences of graduates approximately one year after graduation, a reference week of June 19 to 25, 2016 was used. There were 3,998 graduates in the class of 2015 eligible for the survey<sup>1</sup>, with 3963 invited to complete a survey – 35 graduates did not receive a survey invite for reasons such as insufficient or absent contact information. The survey yielded participation from 1,804 graduates.

### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Results from the 2016 survey confirm that NSCC graduates continue to succeed after graduation.

Table 1. Summary of Employment and Overall Satisfaction Outcomes

2016 Graduate Follow-Up Survey Results							
Employment Outcomes	GFS 2010	GFS 2011	GFS 2012	GFS 2013	GFS 2014	GFS 2015	GFS 2016
% of graduates participating in the labour force <sup>2</sup>	96%	96%	96%	97%	97%	97%	97%
% of graduates employed <sup>3</sup>	87%	87%	86%	86%	86%	88%	87%
% of graduates employed in work related to field of studies <sup>4</sup>	80%	83%	83%	83%	83%	85%	83%
% of graduates who worked three or more months in the year following graduation	90%	91%	93%	92%	92%	92%	93%
% of employed graduates living and working in Nova Scotia	94%	95%	94%	89%	91%	90%	92%
Average annual earnings of graduates employed full time in work related to field of study <sup>5</sup>	\$31,855	\$33,841	\$36,204	\$39,455	\$38,556	\$36,837	\$36,853
% of graduates satisfied with the overall NSCC experience	95%	95%	93%	92%	92%	94%	95%

<sup>1</sup> This excludes graduates from the Adult Learning Program under School of Access as it is not a post-secondary program.

<sup>2</sup> Labour Force Participation Rate specifies the percent of respondents indicating they are working or looking for work.

<sup>3</sup> Employment Rate specifies the percent of those in the Labour Force that indicate they are working.

<sup>4</sup> Related employment rate specifies the percent of those employed who indicate their job is in a field directly or indirectly related to their field of study.

<sup>5</sup> Average annual salary includes those employed full time in a job related to their field of study. During the data cleaning process, the annual salaries of respondents who reported earning less than the minimum wage were excluded. For 2016, this corresponded to an annual salary of \$16,692, which is a minimum wage of \$10.70 at 30 hours per week at 52 weeks. Outliers of \$100,000 or more were examined for salary validity.

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## EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

Table 2: Employment Rates of Graduates in the Labour Force by School

Employment Rate of Graduates in the Labour Force By School											
School	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Access <sup>1</sup>									70%	83%	72%
Business	91%	91%	91%	87%	89%	86%	83%	84%	86%	88%	90%
Health & Human Services	95%	95%	96%	96%	93%	93%	92%	93%	95%	94%	95%
IT & Creative Industries	89%	85%	91%	84%	88%	89%	87%	81%	79%	88%	81%
Trades & Technology	90%	89%	90%	81%	80%	84%	86%	83%	87%	84%	82%
<b>OVERALL NSCC</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>87%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Graduates from the School of Access have been included in the Graduate Follow-Up Survey results since 2014.

## GRADUATE SATISFACTION

The Graduate Follow-Up Survey asks questions that are related to College satisfaction. Overall graduate satisfaction with the NSCC experience remains very high at 95%. Additionally, 89% of graduates reported that they were satisfied that their NSCC program prepared them for employment.

The importance of portfolio continues to be significant. Results showed that 87% of graduates were satisfied with the portfolio experience at NSCC. The Class of 2015 was the thirteenth graduating class to participate in portfolio education.

Table 3: Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC

Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC												
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Overall satisfaction with NSCC experience	95%	95%	96%	95%	95%	95%	93%	92%	92%	94%	95%	
Overall satisfaction with Portfolio Learning	86%	89%	90%	87%	90%	90%	84%	83%	83%	86%	87%	

## SUMMARY BY SCHOOL AND CREDENTIAL

Employment relatedness fluctuates between 80% for Certificate graduates, 85% for Diploma and 89% for Advanced Diploma graduates (Table 4).

Table 4. Employment Outcomes by Credential

Employment Outcomes by Credential											
	# Grads Eligible*	# of Responses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	Number Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary**	
Certificate	1813	750	725	97%	609	116	84%	441	80%	\$32,693	
Diploma	1960	947	919	97%	814	105	89%	634	85%	\$38,188	
Advanced Diploma	190	107	103	96%	89	14	86%	77	89%	\$46,681	
<b>Overall NSCC</b>	<b>3963</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1747</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>1512</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>\$36,853</b>	

\* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey

\*\* Average annual salary includes those employed full time in a job related to their field of study

## Graduate Survey 2016 Results in Brief

Results from the 2016 survey are presented in more detail in the following summary tables, which break down results by academic school and credential type.

Graduates from the School of Health & Human Services continue to have the highest employment rate (95%). This school also has the highest percentage of graduates working in program-related occupations (92%) (Table 5). Graduates from the School of Trades and Technology continue to experience the highest average annual earnings related to their field of study at \$40,165 (Table 5). Average salary for graduates from the School of Access is not provided as the response to this question was below 10 participants. The difference in average salaries by academic school varies, but the gap between the highest and lowest average salaries narrowed slightly from the previous year. The difference between the highest and lowest average annual salary by School in 2016 was \$7,592.

Below is a summary of survey results by school and credential.

*Table 5. Employment outcomes by School and Credential*

Employment Outcomes by School and Credential										
	# Grads Eligible*	# of Responses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	Number Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary**
<b>Access</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>-</b>
Certificate	129	59	54	92%	39	15	72%	8	32%	-
<b>Business</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>\$32,573</b>
Certificate	346	181	175	97%	155	20	89%	124	83%	\$31,894
Diploma	517	267	252	94%	230	22	91%	163	85%	\$31,753
Advanced Diploma	84	52	49	94%	44	5	90%	37	86%	\$38,818
<b>Health and Human Services</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>\$34,679</b>
Certificate	472	188	184	98%	179	5	97%	153	93%	\$31,262
Diploma	421	196	192	98%	178	14	93%	153	91%	\$38,317
Advanced Diploma	29	13	13	100%	12	1	92%	10	91%	-
<b>IT &amp; Creative Industries</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>\$37,892</b>
Certificate	86	40	38	95%	31	7	82%	7	35%	-
Diploma	233	121	118	98%	95	23	81%	67	73%	\$38,237
<b>Trades and Technology</b>	<b>1646</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>\$40,165</b>
Certificate	780	282	274	97%	205	69	75%	149	77%	\$34,367
Diploma	789	363	357	98%	311	46	87%	251	85%	\$41,345
Advanced Diploma	77	42	41	98%	33	8	80%	30	91%	\$54,479
<b>Overall NSCC</b>	<b>3963</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1747</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>1512</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>\$36,853</b>

\* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey

\*\* Average annual salary includes those employed full time in a job related to their field of study. Groups with less than 10 salary respondents show (-)

# Graduate Survey 2016

## Results in Brief

### SUMMARY BY SCHOOL AND CLUSTER

When the survey results are broken down by cluster, differences in employment outcomes are more variable. In 2016, the Health cluster had the highest employment rate (96%), in addition to the highest related employment (95%). Geomatics graduates continue to report the highest average salary of all the clusters at \$48,124 (Table 6).

Table 6. Employment outcomes by School and Cluster

Employment Outcomes by School and Cluster										
	# Grads Eligible*	# of Responses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	Number Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary**
<b>Access</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Business</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>\$32,573</b>
Applied Business Technology	342	187	184	98%	162	22	88%	131	83%	\$34,093
Business Management	442	234	220	94%	200	20	91%	135	82%	\$35,129
Tourism and Culinary	163	79	72	91%	67	5	93%	58	91%	\$24,646
<b>Health and Human Services</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>\$34,679</b>
Health	535	222	218	98%	210	8	96%	187	95%	\$35,483
Human Services	387	175	171	98%	159	12	93%	129	88%	\$33,302
<b>IT &amp; Creative Industries</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>\$37,892</b>
Applied Arts	223	100	98	98%	80	18	82%	36	54%	\$36,180
Information Technology	96	61	58	95%	46	12	79%	38	84%	\$38,748
<b>Trades and Technology</b>	<b>1646</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>\$40,165</b>
Construction	787	294	286	97%	226	60	79%	171	77%	\$36,454
Geomatics	102	67	66	99%	53	13	80%	42	89%	\$48,124
Manufacturing	146	62	60	97%	51	9	85%	39	87%	\$41,478
Natural Resources	47	22	22	100%	18	4	82%	9	60%	-
Technology	291	149	147	99%	124	23	84%	106	88%	\$46,712
Transportation	273	93	91	98%	77	14	85%	63	83%	\$32,953
<b>Overall NSCC</b>	<b>3963</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1747</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>1512</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>\$36,853</b>

\* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey

\*\* Average annual salary includes those employed full time in a job related to their field of study. Groups with less than 10 salary respondents show (-)

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### BY CLUSTER AND CREDENTIAL

Further detail is provided by cluster and credential. At this level of detail, several clusters have lower than 10 participants responding to questions related to salary. This table omits the reporting of average salary for these groups.

Table 7. Employment outcomes by Cluster and Credential

Employment Outcomes by Cluster and Credential										
	# Grads Eligible*	# of Responses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	Number Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary**
<b>Access</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Applied Arts</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>\$36,180</b>
Certificate	86	40	38	95%	31	7	82%	7	35%	-
Diploma	137	60	60	100%	49	11	82%	29	62%	\$37,031
<b>Applied Business Technology</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>\$34,093</b>
Certificate	292	154	151	98%	133	18	88%	107	84%	\$33,503
Diploma	50	33	33	100%	29	4	88%	24	83%	-
<b>Business Management</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>\$35,129</b>
Diploma	358	182	171	94%	156	15	91%	98	81%	\$33,972
Advanced Diploma	84	52	49	94%	44	5	90%	37	86%	\$38,818
<b>Construction</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>\$36,454</b>
Certificate	444	157	151	96%	113	38	75%	78	72%	\$34,713
Diploma	343	137	135	99%	113	22	84%	93	83%	\$37,790
<b>Geomatics</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>\$48,124</b>
Certificate	24	19	19	100%	16	3	84%	10	100%	-
Diploma	22	13	13	100%	10	3	77%	8	80%	-
Advanced Diploma	56	35	34	97%	27	7	79%	24	89%	\$50,417
<b>Health</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>\$35,483</b>
Certificate	389	153	150	98%	145	5	97%	124	93%	\$32,064
Diploma	146	69	68	99%	65	3	96%	63	98%	\$42,701
<b>Human Services</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>\$33,302</b>
Certificate	83	35	34	97%	34	0	100%	29	91%	\$26,695
Diploma	275	127	124	98%	113	11	91%	90	87%	\$34,730
Advanced Diploma	29	13	13	100%	12	1	92%	10	91%	-

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Employment Outcomes by Cluster and Credential										
Continued	# Grads Eligible*	# of Responses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	Number Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary**
<b>Information Technology</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>\$38,748</b>
Diploma	96	61	58	95%	46	12	79%	38	84%	\$38,748
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>\$41,478</b>
Certificate	68	26	25	96%	20	5	80%	17	85%	-
Diploma	78	36	35	97%	31	4	89%	22	88%	\$43,908
<b>Natural Resources</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>-</b>
Diploma	47	22	22	100%	18	4	82%	9	60%	-
<b>Technology</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>\$46,712</b>
Certificate	59	24	24	100%	13	11	54%	8	62%	-
Diploma	211	118	116	98%	105	11	91%	92	91%	\$45,228
Advanced Diploma	21	7	7	100%	6	1	86%	6	100%	-
<b>Tourism &amp; Culinary</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>\$24,646</b>
Certificate	54	27	24	89%	22	2	92%	17	77%	\$24,976
Diploma	109	52	48	92%	45	3	94%	41	98%	\$24,489
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>\$32,953</b>
Certificate	185	56	55	98%	43	12	78%	36	86%	\$29,249
Diploma	88	37	36	97%	34	2	94%	27	79%	\$38,509
<b>Overall NSCC</b>	<b>3963</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1747</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>1512</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>\$36,853</b>

\* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey

\*\* Average annual salary includes those employed full time in a job related to their field of study. Groups with less than 10 salary respondents show (-)