

NSCC 2017

GRADUATE SURVEY

nscc

Graduate Survey 2017

Results in Brief

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of the 2017 Graduate Survey, an extensive annual survey of NSCC graduates one year following graduation. Graduates were surveyed by telephone and online by Corporate Research Associates to explore employment and other graduate activities, as well as graduates' satisfaction with their experience at NSCC. This is the eighteenth year that this survey has been commissioned by NSCC and results continue to demonstrate that graduates succeed after graduation.

The 2017 survey was conducted during the period of July 11 to October 17, 2017, and included the graduates of the Class of 2016. To create a snapshot of employment and continued learning experiences of graduates approximately one year after graduation, a reference week of June 18 to 24, 2017 was used. There were 4,211 graduates in the class of 2016¹ eligible for the survey, with 4,181 being invited to complete a survey – 30 graduates did not receive a survey request for reasons such as insufficient or absent contact information. The survey yielded participation from 1,735 graduates.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Results from the 2017 survey confirm that NSCC graduates continue to succeed after graduation.

Table 1. Summary of Employment and Overall Satisfaction Outcomes

2017 Graduate Follow-Up Survey Results ¹								
Employment Outcomes	GFS 2010	GFS 2011	GFS 2012	GFS 2013	GFS 2014	GFS 2015	GFS 2016	GFS 2017
% of graduates participating in the labour force ²	96%	96%	96%	97%	97%	97%	97%	96%
% of graduates employed ³	87%	87%	86%	86%	86%	88%	87%	87%
% of graduates employed in work related to field of studies ⁴	80%	83%	83%	83%	83%	85%	83%	81%
% of graduates who worked three or more months in the year following graduation	90%	91%	93%	92%	92%	92%	93%	94%
% of employed graduates living and working in Nova Scotia	94%	95%	94%	89%	91%	90%	92%	93%
Average annual earnings of working graduates employed full time in work related to field of study ⁵	\$31,855	\$33,841	\$36,204	\$39,455	\$38,556	\$36,837	\$36,853	\$37,426
% of graduates satisfied with the overall NSCC experience	95%	95%	93%	92%	92%	94%	95%	94%

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

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

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

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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 2017, this corresponded to an annual salary of \$16,926, which is a minimum wage of \$10.85 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	2017
Access ⁶									70%	83%	72%	67%
Business	91%	91%	91%	87%	89%	86%	83%	84%	86%	88%	90%	91%
Health & Human Services	95%	95%	96%	96%	93%	93%	92%	93%	95%	94%	95%	94%
IT & Creative Industries	89%	85%	91%	84%	88%	89%	87%	81%	79%	88%	81%	82%
Trades & Technology	90%	89%	90%	81%	80%	84%	86%	83%	87%	84%	82%	83%
OVERALL NSCC	91%	91%	92%	86%	87%	87%	86%	86%	86%	88%	87%	87%

⁶ Graduates from the School of Access have been included in the Graduate Follow-Up Survey results since 2014.

GRADUATE SATISFACTION

The Graduate Survey asks questions related to College satisfaction. Overall graduate satisfaction with the NSCC experience remains very high at 94%. 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 86% of graduates were satisfied with the portfolio experience at NSCC. The Class of 2016 was the fourteenth 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	2017	
Overall satisfaction with NSCC experience	95%	95%	96%	95%	95%	95%	93%	92%	92%	94%	95%	94%	
Overall satisfaction with Portfolio Learning	86%	89%	90%	87%	90%	90%	84%	83%	83%	86%	87%	86%	

SUMMARY BY SCHOOL AND CREDENTIAL

Employment relatedness fluctuates between 77% for Certificate graduates, 84% for Diploma and 91% 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	1883	741	704	95%	596	108	85%	421	77%	\$33,370	
Diploma	2116	910	875	97%	774	101	88%	610	84%	\$38,903	
Advanced Diploma	182	84	84	100%	77	7	92%	68	91%	\$49,027	
Overall NSCC	4181	1735	1663	96%	1447	216	87%	1099	81%	\$37,426	

* 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.

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Results from the 2017 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 (94%). This school also has the highest percentage of graduates working in program-related occupations (91%) (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 \$40,012 (Table 5). The difference in average salaries by academic school varies, but the gap between the highest and lowest average salaries has continued to narrow from the previous years. The difference between the highest and lowest average annual salary by School in 2016 was \$7,592, and in 2017 was \$5,953 (Table 5).

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**
Access	164	64	52	81%	35	17	67%	8	44%	-
Certificate	164	64	52	81%	35	17	67%	8	44%	-
Business	916	417	397	95%	360	37	91%	272	83%	\$34,059
Certificate	335	156	150	96%	136	14	91%	103	79%	\$30,500
Diploma	493	221	207	94%	187	20	90%	136	84%	\$33,972
Advanced Diploma	88	40	40	100%	37	3	93%	33	89%	\$43,364
Health and Human Services	1011	437	421	97%	394	27	94%	348	91%	\$36,519
Certificate	443	179	174	97%	164	10	94%	146	93%	\$31,465
Diploma	542	246	235	96%	218	17	93%	192	91%	\$40,852
Advanced Diploma	26	12	12	100%	12	0	100%	10	83%	-
IT & Creative Industries	349	145	140	97%	115	25	82%	72	72%	\$37,571
Certificate	98	45	43	96%	32	11	74%	7	39%	-
Diploma	251	100	97	97%	83	14	86%	65	79%	\$37,970
Trades and Technology	1741	672	653	98%	543	110	83%	399	76%	\$40,012
Certificate	843	297	285	97%	229	56	80%	157	71%	\$36,118
Diploma	830	343	336	98%	286	50	85%	217	79%	\$40,626
Advanced Diploma	68	32	32	100%	28	4	88%	25	96%	\$62,133
Overall NSCC	4181	1735	1663	96%	1447	216	87%	1099	81%	\$37,426

* 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 (-).

SUMMARY BY SCHOOL AND CLUSTER

When the survey results are broken down by cluster, differences in employment outcomes are more variable. In 2017, the Tourism and Culinary cluster had the highest employment rate (100%), while the Health cluster had the highest related employment (96%). Geomatics graduates continue to report the highest average salary of all the clusters at \$51,673 (Table 6).

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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**
Access	164	64	52	81%	35	17	67%	8	44%	-
Business	916	417	397	95%	360	37	91%	272	83%	\$34,059
Applied Business Technology	332	164	159	97%	141	18	89%	110	81%	\$31,594
Business Management	434	198	187	95%	168	19	90%	119	83%	\$38,160
Tourism and Culinary	150	55	51	93%	51	0	100%	43	88%	\$25,442
Health and Human Services	1011	437	421	97%	394	27	94%	348	91%	\$36,519
Health	666	290	283	98%	271	12	96%	255	96%	\$37,598
Human Services	345	147	138	95%	123	15	89%	93	81%	\$33,324
IT & Creative Industries	349	145	140	97%	115	25	82%	72	72%	\$37,571
Applied Arts	229	98	94	96%	73	21	78%	36	62%	\$31,869
Information Technology	120	47	46	98%	42	4	91%	36	86%	\$41,717
Trades and Technology	1741	672	653	98%	543	110	83%	399	76%	\$40,012
Construction	833	301	289	97%	231	58	80%	163	71%	\$38,022
Geomatics	124	70	66	94%	57	9	86%	40	85%	\$51,673
Manufacturing	152	48	48	100%	38	10	79%	26	70%	\$42,438
Natural Resources	42	11	11	100%	10	1	91%	7	78%	-
Technology	300	134	134	100%	113	21	84%	92	84%	\$45,625
Transportation	290	108	105	97%	94	11	90%	71	78%	\$30,696
Overall NSCC	4181	1735	1663	96%	1447	216	87%	1099	81%	\$37,426

* 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 (-).

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.

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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**
Access	164	64	52	81%	35	17	67%	8	44%	-
Applied Arts	229	98	94	96%	73	21	78%	36	62%	\$31,869
Certificate	98	45	43	96%	32	11	74%	7	39%	-
Diploma	131	53	51	96%	41	10	80%	29	73%	\$31,100
Applied Business Technology	332	164	159	97%	141	18	89%	110	81%	\$31,594
Certificate	280	133	129	97%	115	14	89%	86	78%	\$31,139
Diploma	52	31	30	97%	26	4	87%	24	92%	\$33,911
Business Management	434	198	187	95%	168	19	90%	119	83%	\$38,160
Diploma	346	158	147	94%	131	16	89%	86	81%	\$36,229
Advanced Diploma	88	40	40	100%	37	3	93%	33	89%	\$43,364
Construction	833	301	289	97%	231	58	80%	163	71%	\$38,022
Certificate	487	172	163	96%	124	39	76%	82	67%	\$37,555
Diploma	346	129	126	98%	107	19	85%	81	76%	\$38,523
Geomatics	124	70	66	94%	57	9	86%	40	85%	\$51,673
Certificate	32	19	18	95%	17	1	94%	10	71%	-
Diploma	45	25	22	88%	18	4	82%	9	82%	-
Advanced Diploma	47	26	26	100%	22	4	85%	21	95%	\$59,429
Health	666	290	283	98%	271	12	96%	255	96%	\$37,598
Certificate	376	150	146	97%	139	7	95%	129	96%	\$31,256
Diploma	290	140	137	99%	132	5	96%	126	96%	\$44,902
Human Services	345	147	138	95%	123	15	89%	93	81%	\$33,324
Certificate	67	29	28	97%	25	3	89%	17	77%	-
Diploma	252	106	98	93%	86	12	88%	66	81%	\$32,990
Advanced Diploma	26	12	12	100%	12	0	100%	10	83%	-
Information Technology	120	47	46	98%	42	4	91%	36	86%	\$41,717
Diploma	120	47	46	98%	42	4	91%	36	86%	\$41,717
Manufacturing	152	48	48	100%	38	10	79%	26	70%	\$42,438
Certificate	66	13	13	100%	10	3	77%	7	70%	-
Diploma	86	35	35	100%	28	7	80%	19	70%	\$43,185
Natural Resources	42	11	11	100%	10	1	91%	7	78%	-
Diploma	42	11	11	100%	10	1	91%	7	78%	-
Technology	300	134	134	100%	113	21	84%	92	84%	\$45,625
Certificate	53	16	16	100%	13	3	81%	12	92%	-
Diploma	226	112	112	100%	94	18	84%	76	82%	\$45,302
Advanced Diploma	21	6	6	100%	6	0	100%	4	100%	-
Tourism & Culinary	150	55	51	93%	51	0	100%	43	88%	\$25,442
Certificate	55	23	21	91%	21	0	100%	17	85%	-
Diploma	95	32	30	94%	30	0	100%	26	90%	\$25,266
Transportation	290	108	105	97%	94	11	90%	71	78%	\$30,696
Certificate	205	77	75	97%	65	10	87%	46	73%	\$30,142
Diploma	85	31	30	97%	29	1	97%	25	89%	\$31,513
Overall NSCC	4181	1735	1663	96%	1447	216	87%	1099	81%	\$37,426

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