

NSCC 2018 Graduate Survey

nscc

Graduate Survey 2018

Results in Brief

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of the 2018 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 nineteenth year that this survey has been commissioned by NSCC and results continue to demonstrate that graduates succeed after graduation.

The 2018 survey was conducted during the period of July 10 to October 28, 2018, and included the graduates of the Class of 2017. To create a snapshot of employment and continued learning experiences of graduates approximately one year after graduation, a reference week of June 24 to 30, 2018 was used. There were 4,067 graduates in the class of 2018¹ eligible for the survey, with all 4,067 being invited to complete a survey. The survey yielded participation from 1,699 graduates.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Results from the 2018 survey confirm that NSCC graduates are successful following graduation.

Table 1. Summary of Employment and Overall Satisfaction Outcomes

2018 Graduate Follow-Up Survey Results ¹								
Employment Outcomes	GFS 2011	GFS 2012	GFS 2013	GFS 2014	GFS 2015	GFS 2016	GFS 2017	GFS 2018
% of graduates participating in the labour force ²	96%	96%	97%	97%	97%	97%	96%	97%
% of graduates employed ³	87%	86%	86%	86%	88%	87%	87%	88%
% of graduates employed in work related to field of studies ⁴	83%	83%	83%	83%	85%	83%	81%	83%
% of graduates who worked three or more months in the year following graduation	91%	93%	92%	92%	92%	93%	94%	94%
% of employed graduates living and working in Nova Scotia	95%	94%	89%	91%	90%	92%	93%	92%
Average annual earnings of working graduates employed full time in work related to field of study ⁵	\$33,841	\$36,204	\$39,455	\$38,556	\$36,837	\$36,853	\$37,426	\$38,395
% of graduates satisfied with the overall NSCC experience	95%	93%	92%	92%	94%	95%	94%	95%

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 2018, this corresponded to an annual salary of \$16,380, which is a minimum wage of \$10.50 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	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Access ⁶				70%	83%	72%	67%	66%
Business	86%	83%	84%	86%	88%	90%	91%	89%
Health & Human Services	93%	92%	93%	95%	94%	95%	94%	90%
IT & Creative Industries	89%	87%	81%	79%	88%	81%	82%	87%
Trades & Technology	84%	86%	83%	87%	84%	82%	83%	88%
OVERALL NSCC	87%	86%	86%	86%	88%	87%	87%	88%

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 95%. Additionally, 88% 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 2018 was the fifteenth graduating class to participate in portfolio education.

Table 3. Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC

Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC									
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Overall satisfaction with NSCC experience	95%	93%	92%	92%	94%	95%	94%	95%	
Overall satisfaction with Portfolio Learning	90%	84%	83%	83%	86%	87%	86%	86%	

SUMMARY BY SCHOOL AND CREDENTIAL

Employment relatedness fluctuates between 79% 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	1784	658	628	96%	534	94	85%	391	79%	\$35,954
Diploma	2094	937	906	97%	806	100	89%	624	84%	\$38,488
Advanced Diploma	189	104	101	97%	95	6	94%	85	91%	\$46,486
Overall NSCC	4067	1699	1635	97%	1435	200	88%	1100	83%	\$38,395

* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey.

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

Results from the 2018 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 (90%). This school also has the highest percentage of graduates working in program-related occupations (92%). Graduates from the School of Trades and Technology continue to experience the highest average annual earnings related to their field of study at \$42,004. The difference in average salaries by academic school varies, but the gap between the highest and lowest average salaries remains narrow. The difference between the highest and lowest average annual salary by School in 2016 was \$7,592, in 2017 was \$5,953, and in 2018 was \$6,391. (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	202	76	65	87%	43	22	66%	10	34%	-
Certificate	202	76	65	87%	43	22	66%	10	34%	-
Business	916	460	446	97%	397	49	89%	308	85%	\$35,613
Certificate	338	156	150	96%	129	21	86%	109	87%	\$32,411
Diploma	495	252	245	97%	221	24	90%	157	81%	\$35,080
Advanced Diploma	83	52	51	98%	47	4	92%	42	91%	\$44,297
Health and Human Services	974	450	431	96%	388	43	90%	331	92%	\$35,947
Certificate	411	168	162	96%	147	15	91%	132	93%	\$33,180
Diploma	534	265	253	95%	226	27	89%	188	93%	\$37,455
Advanced Diploma	29	17	16	94%	15	1	94%	11	79%	-
IT & Creative Industries	302	135	131	98%	114	17	87%	75	74%	\$37,725
Certificate	85	34	31	91%	27	4	87%	4	24%	-
Diploma	217	101	100	100%	87	13	87%	71	85%	\$37,725
Trades and Technology	1673	578	562	98%	493	69	88%	376	78%	\$42,004
Certificate	748	224	220	99%	188	32	85%	136	74%	\$40,264
Diploma	848	319	308	97%	272	36	88%	208	79%	\$41,640
Advanced Diploma	77	35	34	97%	33	1	97%	32	97%	\$50,692
Overall NSCC	4067	1699	1635	97%	1435	200	88%	1100	83%	\$38,395

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SUMMARY BY SCHOOL AND CLUSTER

When the survey results are broken down by cluster, differences in employment outcomes are more variable. In 2018, the Natural Resources cluster had the highest employment rate (100%), while the Health cluster had the highest related employment (97%). Geomatics graduates continue to report the highest average salary of all the clusters at \$49,069 (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**
Access	202	76	65	87%	43	22	66%	10	34%	-
Business	916	460	446	97%	397	49	89%	308	85%	\$35,613
Applied Business Technology	320	172	166	97%	146	20	88%	124	87%	\$33,812
Business Management	429	233	227	97%	204	23	90%	149	84%	\$39,309
Tourism and Culinary	167	55	53	96%	47	6	89%	35	80%	\$26,244
Health and Human Services	974	450	431	96%	388	43	90%	331	92%	\$35,947
Health	559	249	241	97%	220	21	91%	206	97%	\$37,614
Human Services	415	201	190	95%	168	22	88%	125	86%	\$32,965
IT & Creative Industries	302	135	131	98%	114	17	87%	75	74%	\$37,725
Applied Arts	203	74	70	96%	63	7	90%	29	58%	\$33,470
Information Technology	99	61	61	100%	51	10	84%	46	90%	\$40,420
Trades and Technology	1673	578	562	98%	493	69	88%	376	78%	\$42,004
Construction	754	229	224	98%	193	31	86%	142	74%	\$39,600
Geomatics	105	51	50	98%	47	3	94%	44	94%	\$49,069
Manufacturing	143	44	43	98%	36	7	84%	25	71%	\$45,822
Natural Resources	43	18	17	94%	17	0	100%	10	77%	-
Technology	318	141	136	97%	122	14	90%	95	81%	\$44,836
Transportation	310	95	92	98%	78	14	85%	60	77%	\$36,928
Overall NSCC	4067	1699	1635	97%	1435	200	88%	1100	83%	\$38,395

* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey.

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BY CLUSTER AND CREDENTIAL

Further detail is provided by cluster and credential. At this level of detail, the Applied Arts cluster has fewer than 10 participants responding to questions related to salary. This table omits the reporting of average salary for this group.

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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	202	76	65	87%	43	22	66%	10	34%	-
Applied Arts	203	74	70	96%	63	7	90%	29	58%	\$33,470
Certificate	85	34	31	91%	27	4	87%	4	24%	-
Diploma	118	40	39	100%	36	3	92%	25	76%	\$33,470
Applied Business Technology	320	172	166	97%	146	20	88%	124	87%	\$33,812
Certificate	279	142	137	96%	119	18	87%	101	87%	\$33,095
Diploma	41	30	29	97%	27	2	93%	23	85%	\$36,680
Business Management	429	233	227	97%	204	23	90%	149	84%	\$39,309
Diploma	346	181	176	97%	157	19	89%	107	82%	\$37,272
Advanced Diploma	83	52	51	98%	47	4	92%	42	91%	\$44,297
Construction	754	229	224	98%	193	31	86%	142	74%	\$39,600
Certificate	396	119	117	99%	101	16	86%	73	74%	\$38,759
Diploma	358	110	107	97%	92	15	86%	69	75%	\$40,404
Geomatics	105	51	50	98%	47	3	94%	44	94%	\$49,069
Certificate	22	11	11	100%	11	0	100%	10	91%	-
Diploma	37	16	15	94%	13	2	87%	11	85%	-
Advanced Diploma	46	24	24	100%	23	1	96%	23	100%	\$48,241
Health	559	249	241	97%	220	21	91%	206	97%	\$37,614
Certificate	340	142	136	96%	123	13	90%	112	95%	\$32,962
Diploma	219	107	105	98%	97	8	92%	94	99%	\$42,645
Human Services	415	201	190	95%	168	22	88%	125	86%	\$32,965
Certificate	71	26	26	100%	24	2	92%	20	83%	-
Diploma	315	158	148	94%	129	19	87%	94	88%	\$31,676
Advanced Diploma	29	17	16	94%	15	1	94%	11	79%	-
Information Technology	99	61	61	100%	51	10	84%	46	90%	\$40,420
Diploma	99	61	61	100%	51	10	84%	46	90%	\$40,420
Manufacturing	143	44	43	98%	36	7	84%	25	71%	\$45,822
Certificate	45	10	10	100%	8	2	80%	5	63%	-
Diploma	98	34	33	97%	28	5	85%	20	74%	\$43,351
Natural Resources	43	18	17	94%	17	0	100%	10	77%	-
Diploma	43	18	17	94%	17	0	100%	10	77%	-
Technology	318	141	136	97%	122	14	90%	95	81%	\$44,836
Certificate	69	22	22	100%	17	5	77%	8	50%	-
Diploma	218	108	104	97%	95	9	91%	78	86%	\$43,141
Advanced Diploma	31	11	10	91%	10	0	100%	9	90%	-
Tourism & Culinary	167	55	53	96%	47	6	89%	35	80%	\$26,244
Certificate	59	14	13	93%	10	3	77%	8	89%	-
Diploma	108	41	40	98%	37	3	93%	27	77%	\$26,599
Transportation	310	95	92	98%	78	14	85%	60	77%	\$36,928
Certificate	216	62	60	98%	51	9	85%	40	78%	\$35,814
Diploma	94	33	32	97%	27	5	84%	20	74%	\$39,412
Overall NSCC	4067	1699	1635	97%	1435	200	88%	1100	83%	\$38,395

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