

NSCC 2019 Graduate Survey

nscc

Graduate Survey 2019

Results in Brief

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of the 2019 Graduate Survey, an extensive annual survey of NSCC graduates one year following graduation. Graduates were surveyed by telephone and online by Narrative Research (*formerly Corporate Research Associates*) to explore employment and other graduate activities, as well as graduates' satisfaction with their experience at NSCC. This is the twentieth year that this survey has been commissioned by NSCC and results continue to demonstrate that graduates succeed after graduation.

The 2019 survey was conducted during the period of July 10 to October 21, 2019 and included the graduates of the Class of 2018. To create a snapshot of employment and continued learning experiences of graduates approximately one year after graduation, a reference week of June 23 to 29, 2019 was used. There were 4,097 graduates in the class of 2018¹ eligible for the survey, and all 4,097 were invited to complete the survey. The survey yielded participation from 1,713 graduates.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Table 1. Summary of Employment and Overall Satisfaction Outcomes

2019 Graduate Survey Results ¹								
Employment Outcomes	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
% of graduates participating in the labour force ²	96%	97%	97%	97%	97%	96%	97%	97%
% of graduates employed ³	86%	86%	86%	88%	87%	87%	88%	90%
% of graduates employed in work related to field of studies ⁴	83%	83%	83%	85%	83%	81%	83%	87%
% of employed graduates living and working in Nova Scotia	94%	89%	91%	90%	92%	93%	92%	91%
Average annual earnings of working graduates employed full time in work related to field of study ⁵	\$36,204	\$39,455	\$38,556	\$36,837	\$36,853	\$37,426	\$38,395	\$39,943
% of graduates satisfied with the overall NSCC experience	93%	92%	92%	94%	95%	94%	95%	95%

¹ This excludes graduates from the Adult Learning Program under School of Access, Education and Language 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 2019, this corresponded to an annual salary of \$17,238, which is a minimum wage of \$11.05 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	2019
Access, Education and Language	81%
Business and Creative Industries	90%
Health and Human Services	93%
Technology and Environment	89%
Trades and Transportation	89%
Overall NSCC	90%

GRADUATE SATISFACTION

The Graduate Survey asks questions related to College satisfaction. Overall graduate satisfaction with the NSCC experience remains very high at 95%. Additionally, 91% of graduates reported that they were satisfied that their NSCC program prepared them for employment. 88% of graduates were satisfied with the portfolio experience at NSCC. The Class of 2018 was the sixteenth graduating class to participate in portfolio education.

Table 3. Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC

Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC								
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Overall satisfaction with NSCC experience	93%	92%	92%	94%	95%	94%	95%	95%
Overall satisfaction with Portfolio Learning	84%	83%	83%	86%	87%	86%	86%	88%

SUMMARY BY SCHOOL AND CREDENTIAL

Employment relatedness fluctuates between 82% for Certificate graduates, 90% for Diploma and 92% 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	1,670	616	576	95%	506	70	88%	384	82%	\$35,803
Diploma	2,231	992	959	98%	872	87	91%	714	90%	\$41,114
Advanced Diploma	196	105	102	98%	95	7	93%	85	92%	\$48,485
Overall NSCC	4,097	1,713	1,637	97%	1,473	164	90%	1,183	87%	\$39,943

* 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 2019 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 and Human Services continue to have the highest employment rate (93%). This school also has the highest percentage of graduates working in program-related occupations (93%). Graduates from the School of Technology and Environment experienced the highest average annual earnings related to their field of study at \$46,587. The difference in average salaries by academic school varies. The difference between the highest and lowest average annual salary by School in 2019 was \$14,889. (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, Education and Language	241	90	79	92%	64	15	81%	40	82%	\$31,698
Certificate	206	70	61	92%	49	12	80%	25	74%	\$31,731
Diploma	35	20	18	90%	15	3	83%	15	100%	\$31,633
Business and Creative Industries	1146	563	536	97%	482	54	90%	357	84%	\$36,642
Certificate	410	197	182	94%	159	23	87%	120	82%	\$35,488
Diploma	657	315	305	98%	279	26	91%	198	85%	\$34,948
Advanced Diploma	79	51	49	96%	44	5	90%	39	91%	\$45,387
Health and Human Services	1032	449	428	96%	397	31	93%	344	93%	\$40,169
Certificate	346	130	123	95%	114	9	93%	99	93%	\$34,360
Diploma	650	301	287	97%	266	21	93%	231	93%	\$43,209
Advanced Diploma	36	18	18	100%	17	1	94%	14	88%	\$32,950
Technology and Environment	621	285	279	99%	249	30	89%	216	92%	\$46,587
Certificate	36	13	13	100%	8	5	62%	5	83%	-
Diploma	519	242	237	98%	213	24	90%	185	92%	\$45,297
Advanced Diploma	66	30	29	100%	28	1	97%	26	96%	\$54,269
Trades and Transportation	1057	326	315	97%	281	34	89%	226	82%	\$39,125
Certificate	672	206	197	96%	176	21	89%	135	78%	\$36,943
Diploma	370	114	112	98%	99	13	88%	85	88%	\$40,134
Advanced Diploma	15	6	6	100%	6	0	100%	6	100%	-
Overall NSCC	4,097	1,713	1,637	97%	1,473	164	90%	1,183	87%	\$39,943

* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey.

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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 2019, the Transportation cluster had the highest employment rate (97%), while the Education cluster had the highest related employment (100%). Marine graduates reported the highest average salary of all the clusters at \$68,022 (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, Education and Language	241	90	79	92%	64	15	81%	40	82%	\$31,698
Academic Upgrading and Skills Development	124	37	31	89%	23	8	74%	5	42%	-
Education	84	36	33	92%	28	5	85%	28	100%	\$29,769
Language & Cultural Studies	33	17	15	100%	13	2	87%	7	78%	-
Business and Creative Industries	1,146	563	536	97%	482	54	90%	357	84%	\$36,642
Business	796	420	398	96%	360	38	90%	277	87%	\$37,721
Creative & Digital Media	180	76	72	97%	60	12	83%	28	65%	\$31,099
Culinary & Tourism	170	67	66	99%	62	4	94%	52	85%	\$32,989
Health and Human Services	1,032	449	428	96%	397	31	93%	344	93%	\$40,169
Health & Wellness	725	302	288	96%	275	13	95%	255	96%	\$40,885
Social & Community Supports	307	147	140	98%	122	18	87%	89	85%	\$38,267
Technology and Environment	621	285	279	99%	249	30	89%	216	92%	\$46,587
Engineering Technologies	322	138	134	98%	121	13	90%	107	92%	\$49,308
Environment, Sustainability and Natural Resources	71	38	37	100%	33	4	89%	25	89%	\$37,039
IT & Data Analytics	137	67	66	99%	55	11	83%	50	93%	\$43,494
Surveying, Mapping & Geomatics	91	42	42	100%	40	2	95%	34	94%	\$46,340
Trades and Transportation	1,057	326	315	97%	281	34	89%	226	82%	\$39,125
Building & Manufacturing	716	219	213	97%	183	30	86%	145	80%	\$39,036
Marine	41	16	16	100%	15	1	94%	13	87%	\$68,022
Transportation	300	91	86	95%	83	3	97%	68	84%	\$34,290
Overall NSCC	4,097	1,713	1,637	97%	1,473	164	90%	1,183	87%	\$39,943

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BY CLUSTER AND CREDENTIAL

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**
Academic Upgrading and Skills Development	124	37	31	89%	23	8	74%	5	42%	-
Building & Manufacturing	716	219	213	97%	183	30	86%	145	80%	\$39,036
Certificate	432	129	125	97%	108	17	86%	82	77%	\$39,258
Diploma	284	90	88	98%	75	13	85%	63	85%	\$38,726
Business	796	420	398	96%	360	38	90%	277	87%	\$37,721
Certificate	278	140	129	93%	115	14	89%	99	87%	\$35,383
Diploma	439	229	220	98%	201	19	91%	139	85%	\$36,533
Advanced Diploma	79	51	49	96%	44	5	90%	39	91%	\$45,387
Creative & Digital Media	180	76	72	97%	60	12	83%	28	65%	\$31,099
Certificate	73	31	27	93%	20	7	74%	4	44%	-
Diploma	107	45	45	100%	40	5	89%	24	71%	\$31,336
Culinary & Tourism	170	67	66	99%	62	4	94%	52	85%	\$32,989
Certificate	59	26	26	100%	24	2	92%	17	71%	\$38,349
Diploma	111	41	40	98%	38	2	95%	35	95%	\$30,467
Education	84	36	33	92%	28	5	85%	28	100%	\$29,769
Certificate	53	18	17	94%	15	2	88%	15	100%	\$29,664
Diploma	31	18	16	89%	13	3	81%	13	100%	\$29,899
Engineering Technologies	322	138	134	98%	121	13	90%	107	92%	\$49,308
Certificate	20	7	7	100%	3	4	43%	2	67%	-
Diploma	302	131	127	98%	118	9	93%	105	93%	\$48,682
Environment, Sustainability and Natural Resources	71	38	37	100%	33	4	89%	25	89%	\$37,039
Diploma	57	31	31	100%	28	3	90%	21	88%	\$29,497
Advanced Diploma	14	7	6	100%	5	1	83%	4	100%	-

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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**
Health & Wellness	725	302	288	96%	275	13	95%	255	96%	\$40,885
Certificate	333	123	116	94%	108	8	93%	94	94%	\$34,116
Diploma	392	179	172	97%	167	5	97%	161	98%	\$45,106
IT & Data Analytics	137	67	66	99%	55	11	83%	50	93%	\$43,494
Diploma	127	62	61	98%	50	11	82%	45	92%	\$43,385
Advanced Diploma	10	5	5	100%	5	0	100%	5	100%	-
Language & Cultural Studies	33	17	15	100%	13	2	87%	7	78%	-
Certificate	29	15	13	100%	11	2	85%	5	71%	-
Diploma	4	2	2	100%	2	0	100%	2	100%	-
Marine	41	16	16	100%	15	1	94%	13	87%	\$68,022
Certificate	23	9	9	100%	8	1	89%	6	75%	-
Diploma	3	1	1	100%	1	0	100%	1	100%	-
Advanced Diploma	15	6	6	100%	6	0	100%	6	100%	-
Social & Community Supports	307	147	140	98%	122	18	87%	89	85%	\$38,267
Certificate	13	7	7	100%	6	1	86%	5	83%	-
Diploma	258	122	115	97%	99	16	86%	70	84%	\$39,274
Advanced Diploma	36	18	18	100%	17	1	94%	14	88%	\$32,950
Surveying, Mapping & Geomatics	91	42	42	100%	40	2	95%	34	94%	\$46,340
Certificate	16	6	6	100%	5	1	83%	3	100%	-
Diploma	33	18	18	100%	17	1	94%	14	93%	\$39,398
Advanced Diploma	42	18	18	100%	18	0	100%	17	94%	\$53,582
Transportation	300	91	86	95%	83	3	97%	68	84%	\$34,290
Certificate	217	68	63	93%	60	3	95%	47	80%	\$30,362
Diploma	83	23	23	100%	23	0	100%	21	95%	\$43,981
Overall NSCC	4,097	1,713	1,637	97%	1,473	164	90%	1,183	87%	\$39,943

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