

NSCC 2022 Graduate Survey

nscc

Graduate Survey 2022

Results in Brief

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of the 2022 Graduate Survey, an extensive annual survey of NSCC graduates one year following graduation. Graduates were surveyed by telephone and online by Narrative Research to explore employment and other graduate activities, as well as graduates' satisfaction with their experience at NSCC. This is the twenty-second year that this survey has been commissioned by NSCC and results continue to demonstrate that graduates succeed after graduation.

The 2022 survey was conducted during the period of July 6 to October 23, 2022, and included the graduates of the Class of 2021. To create a snapshot of employment and continued learning experiences of graduates, a reference week of June 19 to June 25, 2022 was used. There were 3,865 graduates in the Class of 2021¹ eligible for the survey and they were invited by telephone, email, or text (SMS). This was the first year in which texting was utilized for this study with a total of 253 surveys completed via this mode. The survey yielded participation from 1,636 graduates for an overall response rate of 42%.

The Graduate Survey is considered an “attempted census survey” where every effort is made to collect data from each member of the graduating class. For the Class of 2021, there were 39 graduates for whom no contact information exists in the alumni database or who asked not to be contacted. The process for contacting graduates included an initial email invitation (if address available), with up to nine reminder emails and a maximum of five telephone attempts. As per the Government of Canada’s [Standards and Guidelines for Sampling](#), margin of sampling error does not apply due to the research being an attempted census and a sample of graduates was not used.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Table 1. Summary of Employment and Overall Satisfaction Outcomes

2022 Graduate Survey Results ¹									
Employment Outcomes	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
% of graduates participating in the labour force ²	97%	97%	97%	96%	97%	97%	93%	94%	96%
% of graduates employed ³	86%	88%	87%	87%	88%	90%	82%	83%	91%
% of employed graduates working in a job related to field of studies ⁴	83%	85%	83%	81%	83%	87%	85%	80%	83%
% of employed graduates living and working in Nova Scotia	91%	90%	92%	93%	92%	91%	94%	94%	93%
Average annual earnings of working graduates employed full time in work related to field of study ⁵	\$38,556	\$36,837	\$36,853	\$37,426	\$38,395	\$39,943	\$41,192	\$41,861	\$43,881
% of graduates satisfied with the overall NSCC experience	92%	94%	95%	94%	95%	95%	93%	91%	90%

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 2022, this corresponded to an annual salary of \$20,826, which is a minimum wage of \$13.35 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	2020	2021	2022
Access, Education and Language	81%	68%	75%	89%
Business and Creative Industries	90%	77%	81%	91%
Health and Human Services	93%	92%	92%	94%
Technology and Environment	89%	84%	83%	92%
Trades and Transportation	89%	79%	78%	86%
Overall NSCC	90%	82%	83%	91%

GRADUATE SATISFACTION

Overall graduate satisfaction with the NSCC experience remains very high at 90% (Table 3).

Table 3. Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC

Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC									
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Overall satisfaction with NSCC experience	92%	94%	95%	94%	95%	95%	93%	91%	90%

SUMMARY BY SCHOOL AND CREDENTIAL

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	1,548	621	592	95%	529	63	89%	413	84%	\$40,466
Diploma	2,050	885	855	97%	782	73	91%	598	83%	\$44,745
Graduate Certificate	251	123	120	98%	111	9	93%	88	81%	\$51,986
Advanced Diploma	16	7	7	100%	7	0	100%	5	71%	-
Overall NSCC	3,865	1,636	1,574	96%	1,429	145	91%	1,104	83%	\$43,881

* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey.

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

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

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Results from the 2022 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 (89%). Graduates from the School of Technology and Environment experienced the highest average annual salary related to their field of study at \$51,998. The difference in average salaries by academic school varies, albeit slightly more than in 2021. The difference between the highest and lowest average annual salary by school in 2022 was \$15,807 compared to \$14,237 in 2021.

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	243	114	106	93%	94	12	89%	53	79%	\$36,191
Certificate	128	60	54	90%	47	7	87%	12	48%	\$42,867
Diploma	115	54	52	96%	47	5	90%	41	98%	\$34,907
Business and Creative Industries	1,235	581	562	97%	512	50	91%	375	80%	\$41,290
Certificate	438	211	204	97%	180	24	88%	140	80%	\$36,961
Diploma	667	306	294	97%	272	22	93%	185	79%	\$41,586
Graduate Certificate	115	58	58	100%	54	4	93%	46	85%	\$50,637
Advanced Diploma	15	6	6	100%	6	0	100%	4	67%	-
Health and Human Services	855	387	364	95%	341	23	94%	280	89%	\$42,868
Certificate	420	174	162	94%	155	7	96%	139	94%	\$44,005
Diploma	403	198	188	95%	174	14	93%	133	85%	\$41,200
Graduate Certificate	32	15	14	93%	12	2	86%	8	89%	-
Technology and Environment	649	281	275	98%	253	22	92%	207	83%	\$51,998
Certificate	45	17	16	94%	14	2	88%	11	85%	\$51,391
Diploma	500	214	211	99%	194	17	92%	162	85%	\$51,469
Graduate Certificate	104	50	48	96%	45	3	94%	34	76%	\$54,739
Trades and Transportation	883	273	267	98%	229	38	86%	189	84%	\$42,096
Certificate	517	159	156	98%	133	23	85%	111	85%	\$39,245
Diploma	365	113	110	97%	95	15	86%	77	82%	\$45,577
Advanced Diploma	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overall NSCC	3,865	1,636	1,574	96%	1,429	145	91%	1,104	83%	\$43,881

* Number of graduates eligible to participate in the survey.

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

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

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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 2022, Health and Wellness and Surveying, Mapping and Geomatics had the highest employment rate (96% for each). Education graduates (100%), followed by Health and Wellness (94%) graduates had the highest related employment. Surveying, Mapping and Geomatics grads, again, reported the highest average salary of all the clusters at \$57,470, which is an increase over last year's average salary in this field (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	243	114	106	93%	94	12	89%	53	79%	\$36,191
Academic Upgrading and Skills Development	109	51	45	88%	40	5	89%	11	52%	-
Education	109	51	49	96%	44	5	90%	39	100%	\$34,907
Language & Cultural Studies	25	12	12	100%	10	2	83%	3	43%	-
Business and Creative Industries	1,235	581	562	97%	512	50	91%	375	80%	\$41,290
Business	887	440	426	97%	392	34	92%	302	85%	\$42,301
Creative & Digital Media	164	70	66	96%	57	9	86%	26	50%	\$43,363
Culinary & Tourism	184	71	70	99%	63	7	90%	47	78%	\$33,748
Health and Human Services	855	387	364	95%	341	23	94%	280	89%	\$42,868
Health & Wellness	519	224	210	94%	201	9	96%	184	94%	\$44,970
Social & Community Supports	336	163	154	95%	140	14	91%	96	81%	\$38,043
Technology and Environment	649	281	275	98%	253	22	92%	207	83%	\$51,998
Engineering Technologies	258	108	107	99%	99	8	93%	84	85%	\$47,524
Environment, Sustainability and Natural Resources	101	42	40	95%	35	5	88%	26	76%	\$50,109
IT & Data Analytics	194	78	76	97%	69	7	91%	55	81%	\$55,224
Surveying, Mapping & Geomatics	96	53	52	98%	50	2	96%	42	88%	\$57,470
Trades and Transportation	883	273	267	98%	229	38	86%	189	84%	\$42,096
Building & Manufacturing	627	199	195	98%	166	29	85%	139	85%	\$41,676
Marine	31	10	10	100%	8	2	80%	5	63%	-
Transportation	225	64	62	97%	55	7	89%	45	83%	\$40,487
Overall NSCC	3,865	1,636	1,574	96%	1,429	145	91%	1,104	83%	\$43,881

* 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 (Table 7).

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	109	51	45	88%	40	5	89%	11	52%	-
Building & Manufacturing	627	199	195	98%	166	29	85%	139	85%	\$41,676
Certificate	322	104	103	99%	86	17	83%	72	85%	\$39,953
Diploma	305	95	92	97%	80	12	87%	67	85%	\$43,575
Business	887	440	426	97%	392	34	92%	302	85%	\$42,301
Certificate	327	160	154	96%	139	15	90%	119	87%	\$37,738
Diploma	440	222	214	97%	199	15	93%	138	83%	\$42,427
Graduate Certificate	105	52	52	100%	48	4	92%	41	85%	\$52,275
Advanced Diploma	15	6	6	100%	6	0	100%	4	67%	-
Creative & Digital Media	164	70	66	96%	57	9	86%	26	50%	\$43,363
Certificate	45	20	19	95%	15	4	79%	2	18%	-
Diploma	119	50	47	96%	42	5	89%	24	59%	\$43,854
Culinary & Tourism	184	71	70	99%	63	7	90%	47	78%	\$33,748
Certificate	66	31	31	100%	26	5	84%	19	73%	\$32,033
Diploma	108	34	33	97%	31	2	94%	23	82%	\$34,935
Graduate Certificate	10	6	6	100%	6	0	100%	5	83%	-
Education	109	51	49	96%	44	5	90%	39	100%	\$34,907
Engineering Technologies	258	108	107	99%	99	8	93%	84	85%	\$47,524
Environment, Sustainability and Natural Resources	101	42	40	95%	35	5	88%	26	76%	\$50,109
Certificate	26	10	9	90%	7	2	78%	5	71%	-
Diploma	56	25	24	96%	21	3	88%	17	85%	\$57,156
Graduate Certificate	19	7	7	100%	7	0	100%	4	57%	-

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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	519	224	210	94%	201	9	96%	184	94%	\$44,970
Certificate	398	164	152	93%	145	7	95%	133	94%	\$44,533
Diploma	121	60	58	97%	56	2	97%	51	93%	\$46,230
IT & Data Analytics	194	78	76	97%	69	7	91%	55	81%	\$55,224
Diploma	168	68	67	99%	61	6	91%	49	82%	\$56,592
Graduate Certificate	26	10	9	90%	8	1	89%	6	75%	-
Language & Cultural Studies	25	12	12	100%	10	2	83%	3	43%	-
Certificate	19	9	9	100%	7	2	78%	1	25%	-
Diploma	6	3	3	100%	3	0	100%	2	67%	-
Marine	31	10	10	100%	8	2	80%	5	63%	-
Certificate	24	7	7	100%	5	2	71%	3	60%	-
Diploma	6	2	2	100%	2	0	100%	1	50%	-
Advanced Diploma	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social & Community Supports	336	163	154	95%	140	14	91%	96	81%	\$38,043
Certificate	22	10	10	100%	10	0	100%	6	86%	-
Diploma	282	138	130	95%	118	12	91%	82	80%	\$37,568
Graduate Certificate	32	15	14	93%	12	2	86%	8	89%	-
Surveying, Mapping & Geomatics	96	53	52	98%	50	2	96%	42	88%	\$57,470
Certificate	19	7	7	100%	7	0	100%	6	100%	-
Diploma	18	13	13	100%	13	0	100%	12	100%	\$54,058
Graduate Certificate	59	33	32	97%	30	2	94%	24	80%	\$57,174
Transportation	225	64	62	97%	55	7	89%	45	83%	\$40,487
Certificate	171	48	46	96%	42	4	91%	36	88%	\$38,025
Diploma	54	16	16	100%	13	3	81%	9	69%	-
Overall NSCC	3,865	1636	1574	96%	1429	145	91%	1104	83%	\$43,881

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