

GRADUATE FOLLOW-UP RESULTS – 2013

Results In Brief

Entrepreneurship,
Portfolio and
Service Learning
help build brighter

FUTURES

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

REAL-WORLD
experience delivers
real-world employment

JOB READY

**WORK
TERMS**

lead to real jobs
in industry.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

GROWING
our Labour
Force throughout
Nova Scotia

**CAREER
OPTIONS**

if the job market
demands it, you can
learn it at NSCC.

nscc

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of the 2013 Graduate Follow-Up Survey, an extensive annual survey of NSCC graduates one year following graduation. Interviews were conducted through telephone by Corporate Research Associates; this survey explores employment and other graduate activities, as well as graduates' satisfaction with their experience at NSCC. This is the fourteenth year that this survey has been commissioned directly by the NSCC and results continue to demonstrate that graduates succeed after graduation.

The 2013 survey was conducted during the period of July 2, 2013 to September 20, 2013, and interviewed the graduates of the Class of 2011-2012. To create a snapshot of employment and continued learning experiences of graduates approximately one year after graduation, a reference week of June 24-30, 2013 was used. There were 4,039 graduates in the class of 2012¹ eligible for the survey, 1,481 of whom participated in the survey. This number of respondents produces results that are accurate 95% of the time to within 2.9% of the stated result.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Results from the 2013 survey confirm that NSCC graduates continue to succeed after graduation.

2013 Graduate Follow-Up Survey Results							
Employment Outcomes	GFS 2007	GFS 2008	GFS 2009	GFS 2010	GFS 2011	GFS 2012	GFS 2013
% of graduates participating in the labour force	97%	97%	97%	96%	96%	96%	97%
% of graduates employed	91%	92%	86%	87%	87%	86%	86%
% of graduates employed in work related to field of studies	86%	88%	83%	80%	83%	83%	83%
% of graduates who worked three or more months in the year following graduation	91%	94%	95%	90%	91%	93%	92%
% of employed graduates living and working in Nova Scotia	93%	92%	94%	94%	95%	94%	89%
Average annual earnings of working graduates employed full time in work related to field of study ²	\$30,052	\$33,029	\$30,357	\$31,855	\$33,841	\$36,204	\$39,455
% of graduates satisfied with the overall NSCC experience	95%	96%	95%	95%	95%	93%	92%

¹ This excludes graduates from the Adult Learning Program under School of Access and graduates with disability. The Adult Learning Program was removed as it is not a post secondary program and graduates with disabilities are being surveyed separately. Graduates who returned to NSCC full-time are also excluded because the primary purpose of the survey is to understand employment outcomes of NSCC graduates once they have left NSCC.

² During the data cleaning process, the annual salaries of respondents who reported earning less than \$13,416 annually while working 30 or more hours per week were excluded as this is below the minimum wage.

EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

Since NSCC became a Board-governed college in 1996, there have been consistently favorable employment outcomes for students after graduation. Table 1 outlines the labour force participation rates, employment rates and employment relatedness for NSCC graduates for the last decade:

Table 1: Labour Force Participation Rates, Employment Rates & Employment Relatedness

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Labour Force Participation Rates of Graduates	95%	95%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	96%	96%	97%
Employment Rate of Graduates in Labour Force	88%	88%	90%	91%	91%	92%	86%	87%	87%	86%	86%
% of employed graduates in work related to studies	78%	79%	81%	83%	86%	88%	83%	80%	83%	83%	83%

NSCC continues to track employment rates of our graduates. NSCC graduate employment rates is relatively consistent with the current employment situation in the Province and the unemployment rate.

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

Employment Rate of Graduates in the Labour Force By School											
School	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Applied Arts & New Media	85%	85%	90%	89%	85%	91%	84%	88%	89%	87%	81%
Business	88%	88%	90%	91%	91%	91%	87%	89%	86%	83%	84%
Health & Human Services	93%	93%	90%	95%	95%	96%	96%	93%	93%	92%	93%
Trades & Technology	86%	87%	90%	90%	89%	90%	81%	80%	84%	86%	83%
OVERALL NSCC	88%	88%	90%	91%	91%	92%	86%	87%	87%	86%	86%

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 92%. Additionally, 92% of graduates reported that they were satisfied that their NSCC program provided them with skills and knowledge to be successful in future careers.

The importance of portfolio continues to be significant. Result showed that 83% of graduates were satisfied with the portfolio experience at NSCC. The Class of 2011-2012 was the tenth graduating class to participate in portfolio education.

Table 3: Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC

Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC											
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Overall satisfaction with NSCC experience	94%	94%	95%	95%	95%	96%	95%	95%	95%	93%	92%
Overall satisfaction with Portfolio Learning	-	85%	87%	86%	89%	90%	87%	90%	90%	84%	83%

Summary by School and Cluster

Results from the 2013 survey are presented in more detail in the following summary tables, which break down results by academic school and by credential type.

Graduates from the School of Health & Human Services continue to have the highest employment rate (93%). It also has the highest percentage of graduates working in program-related occupations (92%). These results are consistent with the results from last year's survey.

Graduates from the Schools of Applied Arts & New Media experienced the highest average annual earnings related to their field of study at \$46,344. The difference in average salaries by academic school varies, but the gap between the highest and lowest average salaries widened slightly from the previous year. The difference between the highest and lowest average annual salary in 2013 is \$12,838.

Graduate Follow-Up Survey 2013

Results in Brief

Summary by School and Cluster

	# grads eligible*	# of responses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	# Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary**
Access	118	42	38	90%	31	7	82%	-	-	-
Applied Arts & New Media	345	143	137	96%	111	26	81%	80	75%	\$46,344
Applied Arts	139	52	48	92%	39	9	81%	20	56%	\$28,362
Geomatics	68	26	24	92%	21	3	88%	18	90%	\$51,870
Information Technology	138	65	65	100%	51	14	78%	42	82%	\$50,272
Business	987	407	385	95%	323	62	84%	243	80%	\$33,506
Applied Business Technology	330	142	135	95%	108	27	80%	78	74%	\$29,750
Business Management	450	201	189	95%	159	30	85%	121	83%	\$35,030
Tourism and Culinary	207	64	61	95%	56	5	92%	44	85%	\$35,025
Health and Human Services	1080	391	377	97%	349	28	93%	309	92%	\$36,372
Health	684	238	231	97%	218	13	94%	203	94%	\$39,123
Human Services	396	153	146	95%	131	15	90%	106	87%	\$30,537
Trades and Technology	1509	498	492	99%	407	85	83%	334	84%	\$43,745
Construction	756	247	244	99%	203	41	83%	170	84%	\$39,004
Manufacturing	125	39	38	97%	28	10	74%	21	81%	\$56,544
Natural Resources	39	14	14	100%	10	4	71%	6	67%	\$32,000
Technology	313	108	108	100%	94	14	87%	81	89%	\$56,752
Transportation	276	90	88	99%	72	16	82%	56	81%	\$39,840
Overall NSCC	4039	1481	1429	97%	1221	208	86%	970	83%	\$39,455

*Number of graduates available to participate in the survey

**Average annual salary – includes graduates in full-time work related to their field of study

Graduate Follow-Up Survey 2013

Results in Brief

Summary by School and Cluster

When survey results are broken down by credential type, differences in employment outcomes are mainly subtle ones. The employment rates realized by graduates in all credentials (Certificate, Diploma and Advanced diploma) are similar. Employment relatedness fluctuates between 80% for Certificate graduates and 86% for Diploma and Advanced Diploma graduates.

	# of grads*	# of re-sponses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	Number Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary
Certificate	1770	594	571	96%	480	91	84%	366	80%	\$37,899
Diploma	2151	828	800	97%	691	109	86%	561	86%	\$40,384
Advanced Diploma	118	59	58	98%	50	8	86%	43	86%	\$39,249
Overall NSCC	4039	1481	1429	97%	1221	208	86%	970	83%	\$39,455

*Number of graduates available to participate in the survey

**Average annual salary – includes employed full-time in their field of study

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

	# grads eligible*	# of re-sponses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	# Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary**
Access	118	42	38	90%	31	7	82%	-	-	-
Applied Arts & New Media	345	143	137	96%	111	26	81%	80	75%	\$46,344
Certificate	47	10	9	90%	8	1	89%	2	29%	\$20,020
Diploma	260	120	116	97%	92	24	79%	68	76%	\$46,621
Advanced Diploma	38	13	12	92%	11	1	92%	10	91%	\$47,544
Business	987	407	385	95%	323	62	84%	243	80%	\$33,506
Certificate	322	130	123	95%	99	24	80%	75	79%	\$28,620
Diploma	597	238	223	94%	192	31	86%	140	80%	\$35,337
Advanced Diploma	68	39	39	100%	32	7	82%	28	88%	\$35,826
Health & Human Services	1080	391	377	97%	349	28	93%	309	92%	\$36,372
Certificate	520	169	163	96%	152	11	93%	138	93%	\$34,494
Diploma	548	215	207	97%	190	17	92%	166	91%	\$37,497
Advanced Diploma	12	7***	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trades & Technology	1509	498	492	99%	407	85	83%	334	84%	\$43,745
Certificate	763	243	238	99%	190	48	80%	147	78%	\$44,152
Diploma	746	255	254	100%	217	37	85%	187	89%	\$43,458
Overall NSCC	4039	1481	1429	97%	1221	208	86%	970	83%	\$39,455

*Number of graduates available to participate in the survey

**Average annual salary – includes full-time employed in their field of study

*** Results under 10 respondents not reported