



2012 Graduate Follow Up Survey

Results in Brief

nsc

Graduate Follow-Up Survey 2012

Results in Brief

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of the 2012 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 thirteenth year that this survey has been commissioned directly by the NSCC and results continue to demonstrate that graduates succeed after graduation.

The 2012 survey was conducted during the period of July 4, 2012 to September 18, 2012, and interviewed the graduates of the Class of 2010-2011. To create a snapshot of employment and continued learning experiences of graduates approximately one year after graduation, a reference week of June 24-30, 2012 was used. There were 3,970 graduates in the class of 2011¹ eligible for the survey, 1,510 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 2012 survey confirm that NSCC graduates continue to succeed after graduation.

2012 Graduate Follow-Up Survey Results							
Employment Outcomes	GFS 2006	GFS 2007	GFS 2008	GFS 2009	GFS 2010	GFS 2011	GFS 2012
% of graduates participating in the labour force	97%	97%	97%	97%	96%	96%	96%
% of graduates employed	91%	91%	92%	86%	87%	87%	86%
% of graduates employed in work related to field of studies	83%	86%	88%	83%	80%	83%	83%
% of graduates who worked three or more months in the year following graduation	91%	91%	94%	95%	90%	91%	93%
% of employed graduates living and working in Nova Scotia	93%	93%	92%	94%	94%	95%	94%
Average annual earnings of working graduates employed full time in work related to field of study ²	\$27,962	\$30,052	\$33,029	\$30,357	\$31,855	\$33,841	\$36,204
% of graduates satisfied with the overall NSCC experience	95%	95%	96%	95%	95%	95%	93%

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.

Graduate Follow-Up Survey 2012

Results in Brief

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 and Employment Relatedness of NSCC Graduates

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Labour Force Participation Rates of Graduates	92%	95%	95%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	97%	96%	96%
Employment Rate of Graduates in Labour Force	86%	88%	88%	90%	91%	91%	92%	86%	87%	87%	86%
% of employed graduates in work related to studies	82%	78%	79%	81%	83%	86%	88%	83%	80%	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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Applied Arts & New Media	85%	85%	85%	90%	89%	85%	91%	84%	88%	89%	87%
Business	84%	88%	88%	90%	91%	91%	91%	87%	89%	86%	83%
Health & Human Services	90%	93%	93%	90%	95%	95%	96%	96%	93%	93%	92%
Trades & Technology	87%	86%	87%	90%	90%	89%	90%	81%	80%	84%	86%
OVERALL NSCC	86%	88%	88%	90%	91%	91%	92%	86%	87%	87%	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 93%. Additionally, 93% 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 84% of graduates were satisfied with the portfolio experience at NSCC. The Class of 2010-2011 was the ninth graduating class to participate in portfolio education.

Table 3: Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC

Graduate Satisfaction with NSCC											
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Overall satisfaction with NSCC experience	96%	94%	94%	95%	95%	95%	96%	95%	95%	95%	93%
Overall satisfaction with Portfolio Learning	-	-	85%	87%	86%	89%	90%	87%	90%	90%	84%

Graduate Follow-Up Survey 2012

Results in Brief

Summary by School and Cluster

Results from the 2012 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 (92%). It also has the highest percentage of graduates working in program-related occupations (90%). These results are consistent with the results from last year's survey.

Graduates from the Schools of Applied Arts & New Media and Trades & Technology experienced the highest average annual earnings related to their field of study at \$42,293. 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 2012 is \$11,929.

	# grads eligible*	# of re-sponses	In Labour Force	% Labour Force	# Employed	Seeking Employment	% Employed	# Employed Related	% Employed Related	Average Annual Salary**
Access	73	28	23	82%	17	5	74%	2	25%	-
Applied Arts & New Media	419	168	161	96%	140	21	87%	104	78%	\$42,293
Applied Arts	184	69	63	91%	54	9	86%	34	64%	\$33,113
Geomatics	104	51	50	98%	44	6	88%	31	79%	\$54,629
Information Technology	131	48	48	100%	42	6	88%	39	93%	\$37,097
Business	1043	456	440	96%	366	72	83%	279	83%	\$30,364
Applied Business Technology	383	176	170	97%	131	38	77%	104	81%	\$28,904
Business Management	482	209	200	96%	174	25	87%	119	80%	\$33,221
Tourism and Culinary	178	71	70	99%	61	9	87%	56	93%	\$27,183
Health and Human Services	973	346	328	95%	301	26	92%	265	90%	\$34,225
Health	573	205	193	94%	182	11	94%	171	96%	\$35,685
Human Services	400	141	135	96%	119	15	88%	94	82%	\$31,031
Trades and Technology	1462	512	505	99%	433	70	86%	348	81%	\$39,382
Construction	711	220	216	98%	185	31	86%	146	79%	\$38,078
Manufacturing	121	43	42	98%	37	4	88%	24	67%	\$43,684
Natural Resources	42	17	17	100%	15	1	88%	11	79%	\$40,983
Technology	294	116	116	100%	97	19	84%	84	89%	\$48,363
Transportation	304	116	114	98%	99	15	87%	83	84%	\$30,834
Overall NSCC	3970	1510	1457	96%	1257	194	86%	998	83%	\$36,204

*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 2012 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 highest employment rate is realized by graduates of the Diploma (90%) and Advanced Diploma (88%) programs. Employment relatedness fluctuates between 78% for Advanced Diploma graduates and 84% for Diploma graduates.

Diploma graduates earn, on average, \$2,710 more than Certificate graduates. Advanced Diploma graduates earn, on average, \$5,171 more than 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	1760	615	586	95%	472	114	81%	384	79%	\$34,256
Diploma	2054	828	804	97%	726	78	90%	593	84%	\$36,966
Advanced Diploma	156	67	67	100%	59	8	88%	46	78%	\$42,137
Overall NSCC	3970	1510	1457	96%	1257	194	86%	998	83%	\$36,204