

Statistical Tables and Methodology

The 2014 survey of Grade 12 students

The Commission designed the survey in collaboration with the departments of Education in the three Maritime provinces. Data collection was conducted by MQO Research between May 9 – June 11, 2014 in 175 Maritime high schools. Surveys were administered online by participating schools, and were available in English and French. The total sample of 5,219 represents 25% of the total grade 12 population of 20,805. The margin of error for the survey is $\pm 1.4\%$, 19 times out of 20.

All statistics presented have been generated from weighted data; data were weighted on the basis of school board within each province to adjust to proportional representation in the population.

University-bound students comprise 46% of all respondents, or 2,413 individuals.

Summary report is available here: http://www.mphec.ca/media/94118/Trends_Higher_Education_Expectations_E.pdf

| The impact on the decision to attend university: | | | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | Big impact | Some impact | Not much impact | No impact at all | Don't know / unsure |
| Parent(s)/guardian(s) | 56% | 32% | 7% | 4% | 1% |
| High school guidance counselor | 8% | 22% | 25% | 42% | 2% |
| High school teacher(s) | 12% | 37% | 28% | 21% | 1% |
| High school Principal or Vice-Principal | 2% | 9% | 22% | 64% | 3% |
| Friends | 15% | 39% | 26% | 18% | 1% |
| Media | 7% | 24% | 32% | 35% | 3% |
| Family member other than parents | 23% | 38% | 20% | 18% | 2% |
| Another trusted adult | 13% | 30% | 24% | 26% | 7% |

Statistics above are based on the survey question: *How much of an impact did each of the following have on your decision to study at a university this fall?*

| Percent of students reporting as one of the top 3 most important reasons for choosing a university: | |
|---|-----|
| It has the program I'm interested in | 52% |
| I can live at or close to home | 36% |
| It's known to have high quality academic courses/programs | 36% |
| It has a good reputation | 32% |
| I have been offered financial help/scholarships | 21% |
| It has a nice campus (e.g., buildings, green spaces) | 19% |
| It offers opportunities for work experience (e.g., co-ops, work placement) | 15% |
| Graduates from the university get hired in jobs related to their program | 15% |
| I can live away from home | 14% |
| The tuition is lower than at other universities | 13% |
| My parents/guardians want me to go there | 12% |
| My friends are going there | 10% |
| It's known to have good teachers | 8% |
| It gives me the opportunity to compete in varsity athletics | 7% |
| Other | 11% |

Statistics above are based on the survey question: *What are the top 3 reasons you want to go to that university? From the list below, please choose up to three reasons, and rank them as (1) your most important reason, (2) your second most important reason, and (3) your third most important reason.*

Students' expectations about the first career-related job:

| | Definitely expect | Somewhat expect | Do not really expect | Definitely do not expect | Don't know |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Find a full-time job in your province | 33% | 35% | 21% | 7% | 4% |
| Find a job closely related to what you learned in your program | 63% | 30% | 4% | 1% | 1% |
| In your job, use the skills and knowledge acquired from the program you completed | 69% | 26% | 3% | 1% | 1% |

Statistics above are based on the survey question: *Do you expect or not expect to be able to do each of the following when you finish all of your education?*

What credentials students expect to complete over their lifetime:

| | |
|--|-----|
| University diploma or certificate | 4% |
| University Bachelor's degree (excluding BEd) | 31% |
| Bachelor of Education (BEd) | 5% |
| Professional degree (e.g., law, medicine, veterinary medicine) | 12% |
| Master's degree | 30% |
| PhD / doctorate | 18% |

Statistics above are based on the survey question: *What credentials do you think you'll complete over your lifetime? Select all that apply. Table and graph only show the highest level of education expected to be completed.*