

# PLANNING FOR UNIVERSITY

## WHAT RECENT UNIVERSITY GRADUATES' EXPERIENCES TELL US

### 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 analysis is limited to university-bound students, who comprise 46% of all respondents, or 2,413 individuals. The margin of error is  $\pm 2.0\%$ , 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. The summary report is available here: [http://www.mphec.ca/media/94118/Trends\\_Higher\\_Education\\_Expectations\\_E.pdf](http://www.mphec.ca/media/94118/Trends_Higher_Education_Expectations_E.pdf)

**The 2014 survey of Class of 2012 Maritime university graduates** The survey of the Class of 2012 was conducted by Advanis Inc. on behalf of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission in Fall 2014. This analysis is limited to those who had completed their first degree in 2012. To ensure comparability with the statistics from the survey of Maritime grade 12 students, the analysis is further restricted to those graduates who had been living in NB, NS, or PEI prior to enrolment in that first degree (n=1,578). The margin of error for this group is  $\pm 2.1\%$ , 19 times out of 20. All statistics presented have been generated from weighted data; data were weighted on the basis of the university of graduation and gender. More information about first degree holders may be found here:

[http://www.mphec.ca/media/111477/Trends\\_Profile\\_of\\_First\\_Degree\\_Holders\\_and\\_Methodological\\_Notes\\_EN.pdf](http://www.mphec.ca/media/111477/Trends_Profile_of_First_Degree_Holders_and_Methodological_Notes_EN.pdf)

More information about the MPHEC survey program may be found here:

<http://www.mphec.ca/research/graduatefollowupsurveys.aspx>

**CUSC 2012 survey of graduating students** The Commission analyzed the data from the 2012 survey of graduating students conducted by Canadian University Survey Consortium (CUSC). The analysis was conducted under data sharing agreements with the five Maritime universities that participated in the survey. To ensure comparability with the statistics from the survey of Maritime grade 12 students, the analysis was restricted to those graduating students who had been living in NB, NS, or PEI prior to enrolment (n=1288). The margin of error for this group is  $\pm 2.8\%$ , 19 times out of 20. All statistics presented have been generated from weighted data; data were weighted on the basis of the university of graduation. More information about CUSC is available here: <http://www.cusc-ccreu.ca>

### Path to Graduation

#### Expected time to degree

4 years or less	5 years	6 years or more	Don't know/Unsure
81%	13%	4%	3%

#### Based on the Grade 12 survey question:

Q: *Approximately how long do you think it will take to complete the program you will start this fall?*

#### Student status in program (outcomes after 4, 5, and 6 years)

Graduation rate <sup>1</sup>			Still enrolled after 6 years	No degree, not enrolled after 6 years
in 4 years or less	in 5 years	in 6 years		
37%	57%	63%	6%	31%

#### Longitudinal PSIS data (Maritime residents, 2001-2006 cohorts)

<sup>1</sup>Cumulative graduation rate at the system-level. The percent of the cohort that completed an undergraduate degree at any Maritime institution within X years of first enrolling.

<http://www.mphec.ca/media/105480/PerstGradTables2015.pdf>

### Path to Graduation

Pathways to graduation among graduates (graduated within 8 years of first enrolling) originally from the Maritimes, 2004 cohort			
		Graduates	Percent of total
Did not switch institution	Did not switch field of study	3,985	74%
	Switched field of study	876	16%
Switched institution	Did not switch field of study	271	5%
	Switched field of study	255	5%
Grand Total		5,387	100%

Source: <https://public.tableau.com/profile/mphec.cespm#!/vizhome/Time-to-degree/TTD>

### Paying for Education

Grade 12 Students Expected	Parents' educational attainment		
	High school diploma or less	Postsecondary below bachelor	Bachelor's degree or above
Parents to be one of the two main sources of funding	37%	38%	64%
Expect to borrow	63%	61%	42%
Expect to borrow \$30,000 or more (among borrowers)	43%	43%	33%

#### Based on the following Grade 12 survey questions:

Q: *What are the two main sources of funding you will use to pay for the program you'll begin this fall?*

Q: *Do you expect to borrow any money to pay for the program you'll begin this fall?*

Q: *Approximately how much do you expect to borrow in total from all of these sources to pay to complete the entire program you'll begin this fall?*

University Graduates Experienced	Parents' educational attainment		
	High school diploma or less	Postsecondary below bachelor	Bachelor's degree or above
Parents were one of the two main sources of funding	17%	23%	47%
Borrowed money	80%	80%	62%
Borrowed \$30,000 or more (among borrowers)	73%	59%	43%

#### Based on the following questions:

**Class of 2012 survey** Q: *What were your two main sources of funding for the degree you completed in 2012?*

**CUSC 2012 Survey** Q: *To date, about how much repayable debt (if any) have you acquired to help finance your university education from the following sources?*