

MARITIME PROVINCES HIGHER EDUCATION--2009-10 Enrolment, Credentials  
Granted Statistics

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Overall enrolment at Maritime universities was up 1.5 per cent in 2009-10, with 70 per cent of students coming from the region, according to statistics released today, Oct. 28, by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC).

A breakdown of the provincial statistics shows Prince Edward Island with a 2.4 per cent increase to 4,232 students, Nova Scotia up 1.8 per cent to 42,067 and New Brunswick with a .8 per cent increase to 23,374 students.

Overall the number of Maritimers studying in the region has remained stable from the previous school year. A decline in undergraduate students from the region was balanced by an increase in graduate students at 280.

The number of Canadian students from outside the Maritimes increased by .9 per cent to 13,046. Notably, the numbers increased for Ontario (up one per cent to 7042), Alberta (up four per cent to 1,552), British Columbia (up six per cent to 1,151), and Quebec (up two per cent to 852), but have continued to decrease for Newfoundland and Labrador (down 11 per cent to 1,136). The number of international students increased by 14 per cent to 7,751, in 2009-10 and represented 11 per cent of enrolments.

Women make up 59 per cent of Maritime university students, a number that has changed less than one percentage point over the last 10 years. Women outnumber men in all fields of study except commerce and administration (45 per cent), engineering and applied sciences (20 per cent) and mathematics and physical sciences (30 per cent).

Between 2008-09 and 2009-10, there has been a greater increase in men than women in Maritime universities. The number of men increased by 2.2 per cent to .5 per cent of women at the undergraduate level. At the graduate level, men increased by six per cent and women three per cent.

The number of undergraduate students peaked in 2004-05 and then declined by seven per cent by 2009-10. The trend has reversed in some fields of study.

Between 2008-09 and 2009-10, undergraduate enrolments increased in applied and professional programs by one per cent, biological and

physical sciences by three per cent, and commerce and administration by three per cent. In contrast, enrolments have continued to decrease in the humanities, arts and social sciences, down .3 per cent, since 2008-09 and 13 per cent since 2004-05. At the graduate level, enrolments have increased in all fields of study between 2008-09 and 2009-10.

A total of 15,541 certificates, diplomas and degrees were granted by Maritime universities in 2009, down 2.7 per cent from the previous year. New Brunswick dropped seven per cent to 5,052, Nova Scotia dipped one per cent to 9,647 and P.E.I. was up one per cent to 842. The largest numbers of degrees were granted in the social sciences (20 per cent), commerce and administration (19 per cent) and education (18 per cent).

Thirteen statistical tables and three databases, with a breakdown by university, can be downloaded from the Commission's website at [www.mphec.ca](http://www.mphec.ca).

The Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission was established in 1974. The 20 members are drawn from the Maritime provinces and represent higher education institutions, provincial governments and the general public. Its mission is to assist institutions and governments to enhance the post-secondary learning environment.

The Commission collects and maintains data about post-secondary education in the Maritimes and conducts research on the Maritime postsecondary sector. The university and credentials granted data are obtained from the MPHEC postsecondary student information system (PSIS) database, which contains detailed information on student demographics, programs and courses for all students enrolled in public Maritime universities. Reports and research articles are available at [www.mphec.ca](http://www.mphec.ca), free of charge.

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FOR BROADCAST USE:

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