



Canadian University Survey Consortium Consortium canadien de recherche sur les étudiants universitaires

> 2019 FIRST-YEAR MARITIME UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Prepared for: Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 1994, the Canadian University Survey Consortium/Consortium canadien de recherche sur les étudiants universitaires (CUSC-CCREU) has coordinated surveys of students attending postsecondary institutions and facilitated sharing the survey response data among its member institutions. In 2019, CUSC undertook the first-year student survey with 47 participating universities across Canada. This report compares results from 14 Maritime universities to 33 universities elsewhere in Canada from the 2019 CUSC-CCREU First-Year Student Survey.

Profile of first-year students

The demographic profile of first-year students attending Maritime universities shows that 84% are Canadian citizens, 78% are 18 or younger, 75% are single, 70% are female, 29% report a disability, 24% self-identify as a member of a visible minority, 10% are first-generation post-secondary students, and 6% are Indigenous. These results are similar to those of students elsewhere in Canada, with the exception that students elsewhere are more likely to self-identify as a visible minority (47% versus 24%).

Motivation for attending university

When asked for the most important reason for attending university, the most common reasons are job related, with *preparing for a specific job or career* (32%) selected most often. The most common non-job related reason was *to apply what they learned to make a positive difference* (12%). The results for students attending non-Maritime universities are very similar.

Selecting a university

Overall, 66% of students studying at a Maritime university applied to a university other than the one they are currently attending, which is slightly lower (but not statistically significant) than among students attending non-Maritime universities (76%). Perhaps because they were slightly less likely to have applied to other post-secondary institutions, students attending Maritime universities are slightly more likely to say *they are attending the university that was their first choice* (86% versus 81%), although the difference is not statistically significant.

The single most important factor for students at Maritime universities was *their university has the program they wanted to take* (28%), which is more than double the proportion of the next most selected reason (*wanted to live close to home* at 11%). In general, results are similar to those of students studying elsewhere in Canada, with the exception that those studying elsewhere were about three times as likely to select *the program had the work experience they wanted* – 14% versus 5%; however, the difference is not statistically significant.

First-year students rated the importance of 19 sources of information they may have used when making a decision about whether or not to attend their university. Among Maritime students, a couple of sources are said to be important for about half: *the university's website* (51%) and *visits to campus for an open house* (47%). While none of the differences between students at Maritime and non-Maritime universities are statistically significant, *contact with academic staff* appears to be important to more of those attending Maritime universities (42%) than students at non-Maritime universities (31%).

Orientation and registration

Around 66% of first-year students at Maritime universities participated in orientation, which is on par with results for students elsewhere in Canada (69%). Among those who participated in orientation, students at Maritime universities are most satisfied that orientation made them *feel welcome at their university* (90%) and least satisfied with orientation *building their confidence* (78%), with these results on par with students at other universities.

Although not statistically significant, students at Maritime universities show slightly higher rates of satisfaction with aspects of registration, including being satisfied with *getting into all the courses they wanted* (89% versus 85%) and the *process of registering for their courses* (84% versus 79%).

Expectations and experience

First-year students rated 15 experiences as to whether they exceeded, met, or fell below their expectations. Results seem to indicate that students are more likely to be surprised about the academic challenges of university (e.g., *time to put into their coursework* and *how demanding their courses are*) and cost-related aspects (e.g., *cost of going to university* and *debt to complete program*). Results were similar between students at Maritime and other Canadian universities.

When asked to summarize their overall experiences to date, first-year students at Maritime universities are slightly more likely to say their university experiences exceeded (25%) rather than fell short (13%) of their expectations. Again, results are on par with other universities in Canada.

Transition to university

In terms of academic aspects of transitioning to university life, students at Maritime universities report having the most success *finding their way around campus* (95%) and *understanding the course material* (94%), while they report the least success *becoming involved in campus activities* (57%). This pattern is the same for students studying elsewhere in Canada. Students studying at Maritime universities tend to have more success transitioning than students elsewhere, with the biggest gaps being *finding suitable housing* (82% versus 73%), *dealing with new living arrangements* (85% versus 77%), and *becoming involved in campus activities* (57% versus 49%). However, none of these are statistically significant.

Educational experiences

Students at Maritime universities rated their satisfaction with various educational experiences (all of which were similar to students' ratings from universities outside the Maritimes).

- Most students reported having had positive experiences with professors. In fact, among 15 aspects of interaction with professors, only one received less than 75% agreement *professors taking a personal interest in their academic progress* (64%). In this case, students at Maritime schools appear to be more likely to agree that professors take a personal interest than do those at non-Maritime universities (53%).
- Among those 15 aspects, the same number of students say three are the most important for professors to do: communicate well in their teaching (32% rated as most important), seem knowledgeable in their fields (32%), and treat students as individuals, not just numbers (32%).
- Overall, almost all students said they were given the chance to evaluate the quality of teaching in their courses, although just 58% said they were able to evaluate the teaching in all their courses.
- Among first-year students, 9 in 10 agreed that they are generally satisfied with the quality of teaching they received, including 20% who strongly agreed.

Commitment to completion

Several measures were used to gauge students' commitment to completing their programs at their universities.

- **Perceptions of effort.** Almost all students attending Maritime universities agreed that they are willing to put a lot of effort into being successful at university (95%), which is reflected in the fact that almost as many agreed that they normally go to all of their classes (92%). Although Maritime students may feel that they can put in the effort, fewer agreed that they can deal with stress (72%) or have good study habits (70%). Results are similar to those of students at other universities in Canada.
- **Perceptions of university education.** Students at Maritime universities agreed that their *course load is manageable* (86%) and *most of their courses are interesting* (85%). While Maritime students appear to be slightly more likely to agree with all four of these statements, none of these differences are statistically significant.
- **Perceptions of finances.** About 7 in 10 students agreed that a *university degree is worth the cost* (70%) or that *they have the financial resources to complete their program* (71%), both of which are on par with results nationally.
- **Perceptions of persistence.** At the time of the survey, 86% of first-year students agreed that they plan to come back to their university next year, although slightly fewer plan to complete their degree at their university (81%). About 1 in 10 (11%) plans to transfer to another university next year, while 9% plan on going to college/CEGEP next year. These results are similar to results at other universities across Canada.

Overall evaluation of student experiences

When rating their experiences at university, students indicated the following:

- Over 3 in 4 first-year students at Maritime universities said they are satisfied with the *concern* shown by the university for them as an individual, although just 12% are very satisfied. These findings are very similar to those students attending non-Maritime universities.
- Over 9 in 10 first-year students are satisfied with *their decision to attend their university*, including 30% who are very satisfied. While students at Maritime universities appear to be slightly more satisfied than their non-Maritime counterparts, this difference is not statistically significant.
- Overall, 39% of students are classified as promoters of their university, while 18% are detractors, resulting in a Net Promoter Score (NPS) of 21%. Students attending non-Maritime universities are slightly less likely than Maritime students to be promoters, and thus, have a lower NPS (13%).

Goal development

The following bullets summarize information about students' goals, both for their current program and future career plans.

- Around 62% of first-year students at Maritime universities said they had selected their major or discipline. This appears lower compared to students attending universities outside the Maritimes (76%), although the difference is not statistically significant.
- At this early point in their university studies, about half of the students at Maritime universities have some plan to continue their post-secondary education by applying to either graduate or professional schools. Indeed, students are equally divided in planning to apply to *graduate*

school (35%) and a professional program (34%). These results are very similar for students attending non-Maritime universities.

- Overall, 36% of first-year students at Maritime universities have a specific career in mind, while another 31% have several possible careers in mind. Results are almost identical to students elsewhere in Canada.
- First-year students at Maritime universities have taken few concrete steps to prepare for employment, as most steps involve gathering information from talking with *parents/family* (79%), *friends* (67%), or *professors* (31%).

Satisfaction with facilities and services

Among 26 facilities and services, students at Maritime universities tend to be satisfied, as only in two cases do fewer than 8 in 10 students indicate they were not satisfied: *food services* (66%) and *parking* (47%). In both of these cases, students at Maritime universities appear to be less satisfied than those studying elsewhere in Canada, although these differences are not statistically significant.

Academic profile

Examining students' academic profiles shows that almost all first-year students at Maritime universities are attending full-time (99%), began their post-secondary studies (95%) or studies at their current university (90%) this academic year (2018-19), and did not transfer from another institution (97%). Most reported an average university grade of B- or higher (78%).

Current employment

Overall, 31% of first-year students at Maritime universities are currently employed, which is slightly lower than that reported among students outside the Maritimes (36%), but this is not statistically significant. Among those who are currently employed, results show that the typical student at a Maritime university works about 13 hours per week, and 36% said their employment has a negative impact on their academic performance.

Financing education

Students at Maritime universities are statistically less likely to have a credit card than students elsewhere in Canada, as just 36% of students at Maritime universities report having a card compared to 60% at other universities. Among those with a credit card, students at Maritime universities and those elsewhere in Canada are about equally as likely to say they *pay off their credit card balance each month*. However, the average debt for those with a credit card is about double for students at Maritime universities (\$346) compared to students elsewhere in Canada (\$192).

About 72% of first-year students attending Maritime universities said they have received a financial award from their university, which is slightly higher than students at other universities (62%), but the difference is not statistically significant. Among those who received an award, 37% of students studying at a Maritime university said they would not have been able to attend university without this financial assistance, which is on par with results among students at other universities (32%).

1.0 Introduction

Since 1994, the Canadian University Survey Consortium/Consortium canadien de recherche sur les étudiants universitaires (CUSC-CCREU) has coordinated surveys of students attending postsecondary institutions and facilitated sharing the survey response data among its member institutions. In 2019, CUSC undertook the first-year student survey with 47 participating universities across Canada.

Each university supported the study by generating a sample of qualifying students. In some cases, universities provided all qualifying students, while others provided a random sample of students. PRA was responsible for managing the online survey. This involved liaising with the participating universities, preparing the introductory and reminder emails to students, and responding to student questions about questionnaire content, as well as technical questions about using the online survey.

This report compares results from 14 Maritime universities (n = 3,620) to 33 universities (n = 14,571) outside the Maritimes. In order to compensate for the discrepancies between the population of first-year students among participating universities and the sample population, the results in this report have been weighted. When weighted, the sample sizes are corrected to 2,401 for Maritime universities and 15,790 for non-Maritime universities. The applied weights are shown in Appendix B.

1.1 Statistically significant differences

Large sample sizes may inflate measures of statistical significance and may lead to false conclusions about the strength of association. The chi-square measure of association in particular is susceptible to this possibility. Therefore, the standards for designating whether a relationship can be termed *statistically significant* have been increased: the Pearson's chi-square must have probability of a type 1 error of less than.001 and either the Phi coefficient or Cramer's V must have a value of.150 or greater. Throughout this document, any differences reported meet these criteria, unless otherwise stated.

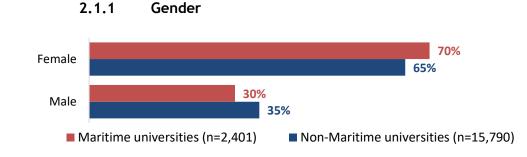
Table 1: Criteria for statistical significance	
Test	Level for significance
Pearson's chi-square	<.001
Phi coefficient or Cramer's V	.150 or higher

1.2 Non-response

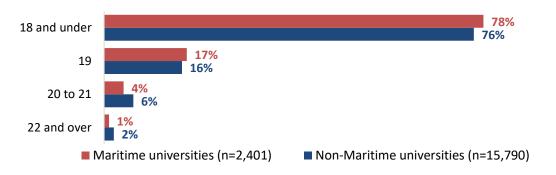
Non-responses have not been included in the analysis. Therefore, throughout this report, unless explicitly stated as a subpopulation, overall results exclude those who did not respond to a particular question.

2.0 Profile of first-year students

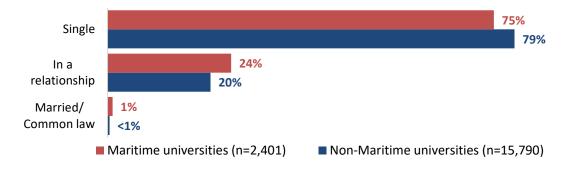
2.1 Personal profile

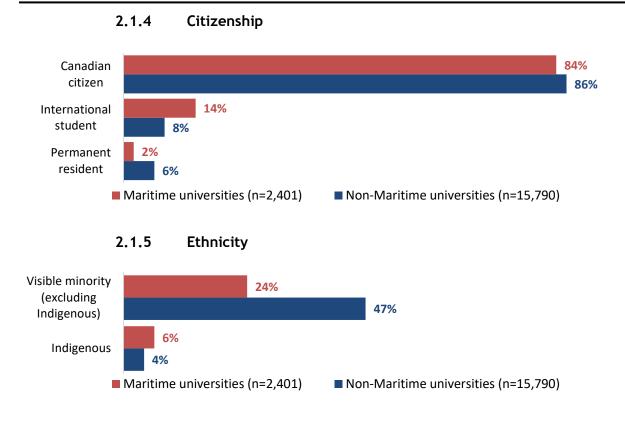


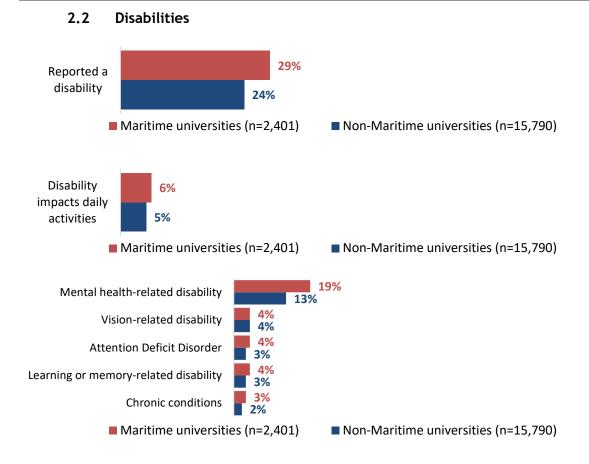
2.1.2 Age (as of September 1, 2018)



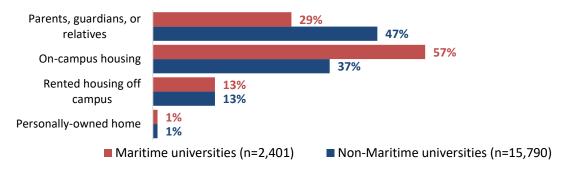
2.1.3 Marital status





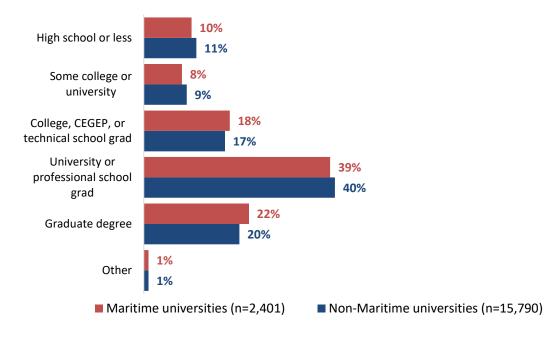


2.3 Living arrangements



4

2.4 Highest parental education



3.0 Motivation for attending university

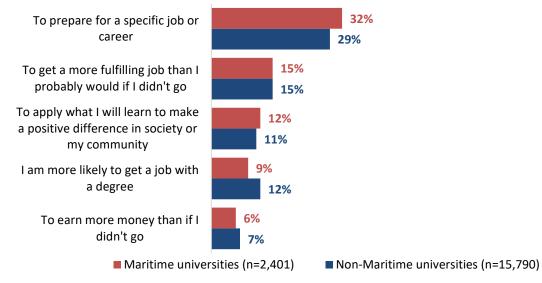
society or my community

90% I am more likely to get a job with a degree 90% 89% To get a more fulfilling job than I probably would if I didn't go 89% 88% To prepare for a specific job or career 88% 81% Learning new things is exciting 79% 79% To get a broad education 75% To apply what I will learn to make a positive difference in 77% 75% 75% To satisfy my intellectual curiosity 73% 70% To earn more money than if I didn't go 72% 63% To meet new people 60% 60% The satisfaction of doing challenging academic work 57% 52% To explore whether university is right for me 51% 50% To meet my family's expectations 57% 17% Most of my friends are going 20% % rating important or 12% I didn't have anything better to do very important 14% 13% 11% Non-Maritime universities (n=15,790)

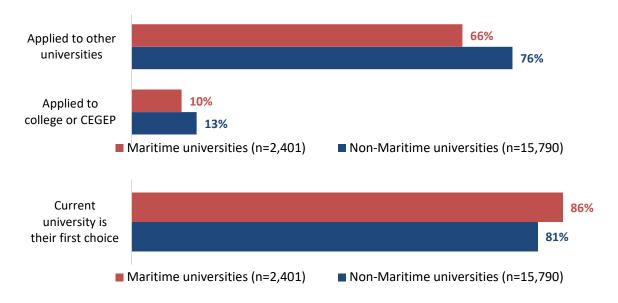
Importance of reasons for going to university 3.1

The chance to participate in varsity athletics Maritime universities (n=2,401)

3.2 Most important reason

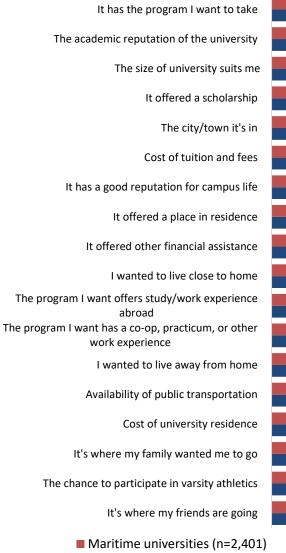


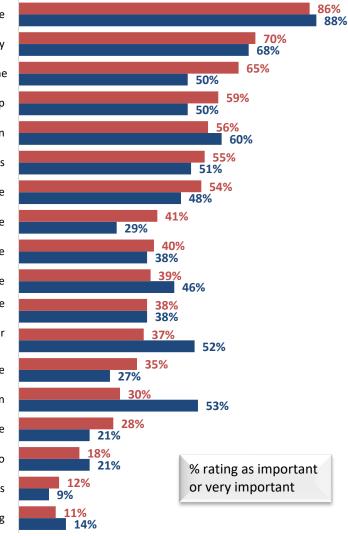
4.0 Choosing a university



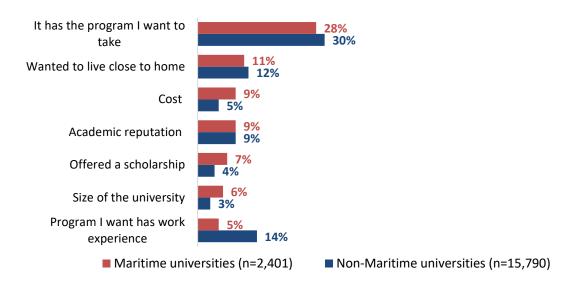
4.1 Applications

4.2 Selecting their university



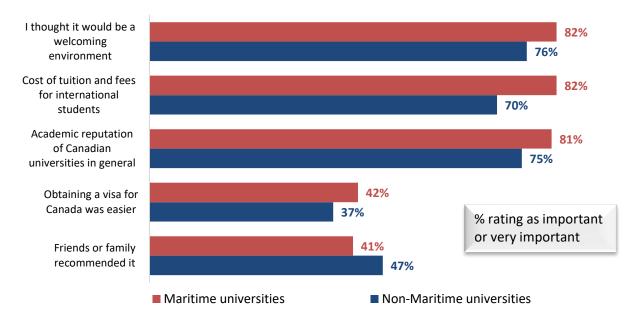


■ Non-Maritime universities (n=15,790)



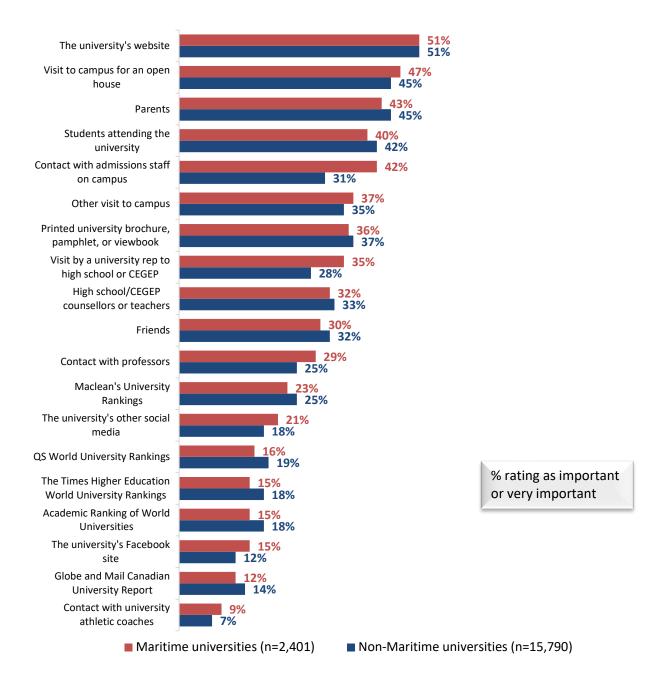
4.2.1 Most important reasons for selecting their university

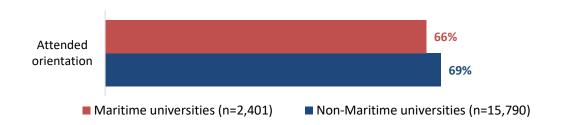
4.3 Selecting their university (International students)



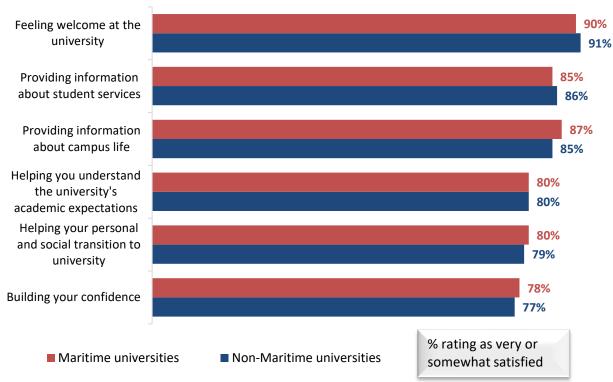
BASE: Students identified as international student in samples supplied by universities.

4.4 Sources of information



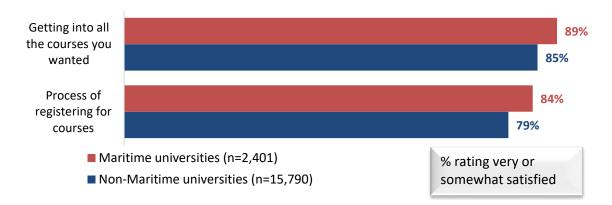


5.0 Orientation



BASE: Students who participated in orientation.

6.0 Registration



7.0 Expectations and experience

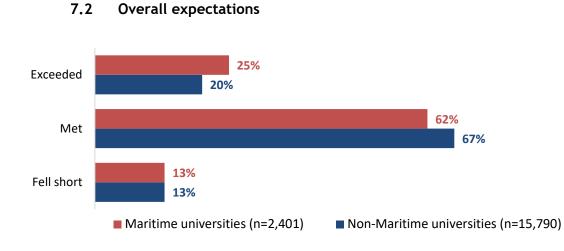
7.1 Mean ratings of experiences compared to expectations¹

Cost of going to university	3.6 3.5
The time you have to put into your coursework	3.4 3.6
How academically demanding your courses are	3.4 3.5
Debt you might have to take on to complete your program	3.3 3.3
Intellectual stimulation	3.3 3.3
Availability of help and advising from the university	3.3 3.2
Amount of writing in your academic work	3.2 3.2
Contact with your professors in the classroom	3.2 3.1
Contact with your professors outside of the classroom	3.2 3.0
Ease of making friends	3.0 2.9
Doing coursework in groups	2.9 3.0
Using math in your academic work	2.9 2.9
Amount you participate in class discussions	2.9 2.9
Ease of getting involved in campus social activities	2.9 2.8
Your course grades	2.9 2.8

Maritime universities (n=2,401)

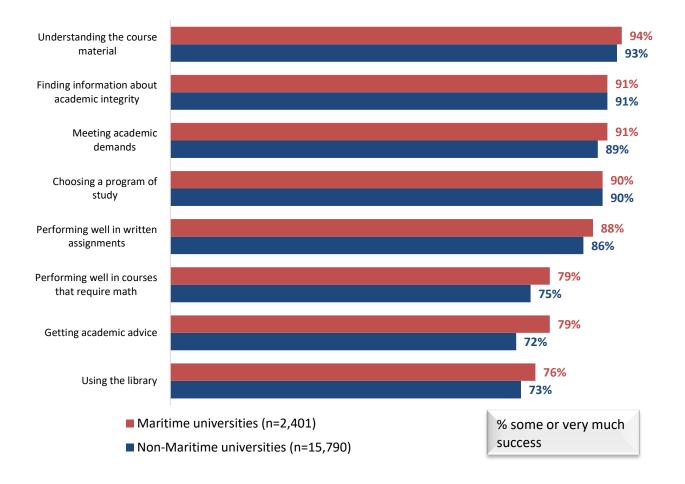
Non-Maritime universities (n=15,790)

¹ First-year students rated 15 experiences as to whether they were much less than expected (1), less than expected (2), about what expected (3), more than expected (4), and much more than expected (5).

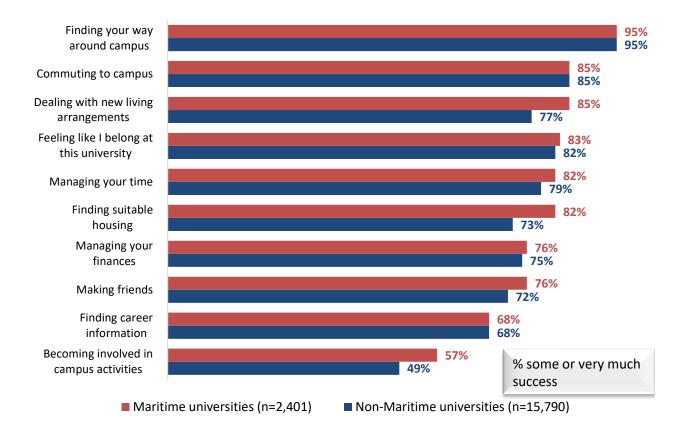


8.0 Transition to university

8.1 Academic aspects

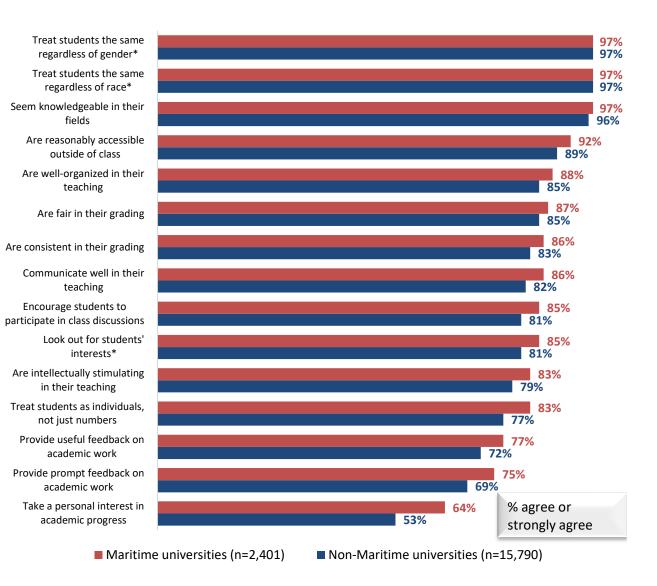


8.2 Success with other aspects



9.0 Educational experiences

9.1 Perceptions of professors²



² * These questions included an option for students to say "No basis for opinion" and those responses have been removed from the calculations.

9.2 Most important attributes of professors

Communicate well in their teaching Seem knowledgeable in their fields Treat students as individuals, not just numbers Are well-organized in their teaching Are fair in their grading Are reasonably accessible outside of class Are intellectually stimulating in their teaching Provide useful feedback on my academic work Take a personal interest in my academic progress Treat students the same regardless of race

Look out for students' interests

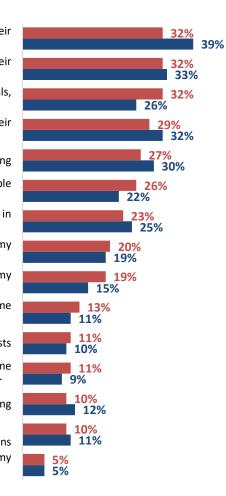
Treat students the same regardless of gender

Are consistent in their grading

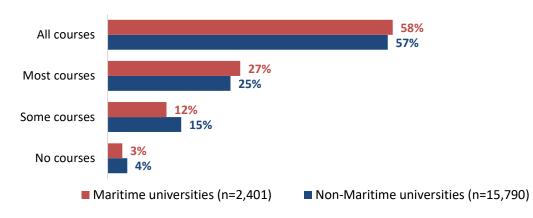
Encourage students to participate in class discussions Provide prompt feedback on my academic work

Maritime universities (n=2,401)

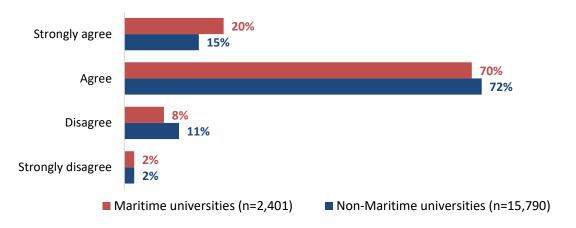




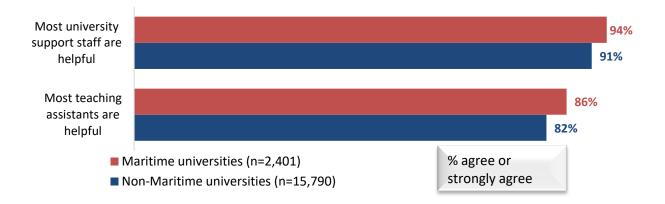
9.3 Ability to evaluate teaching



9.4 Satisfaction with quality of teaching

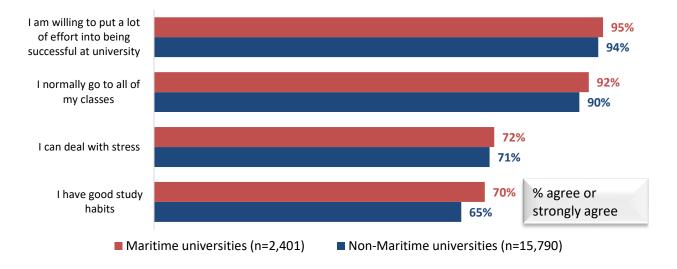


9.5 Perceptions of staff

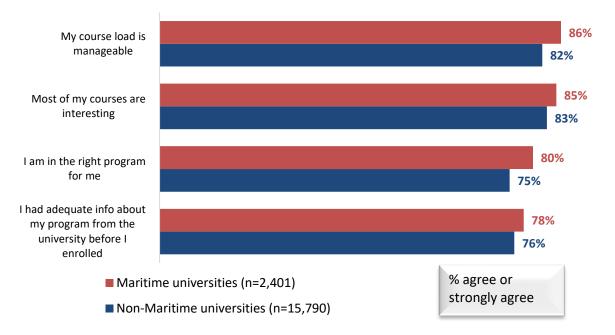


10.0 Commitment to completion

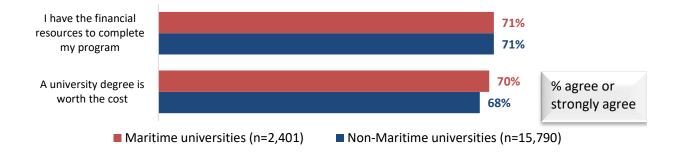
10.1 Perceptions of effort



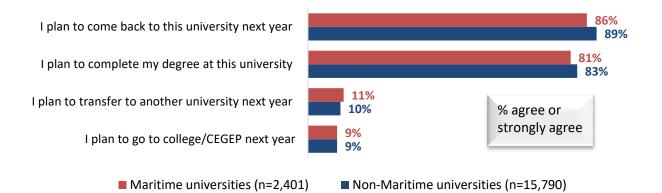
10.2 Perceptions of university education



10.3 Perceptions of finances

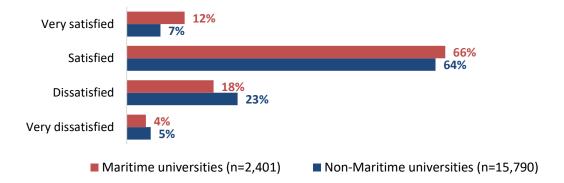


10.4 Perceptions of persistence

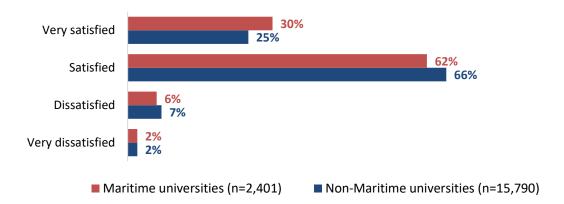


11.0 Overall evaluation

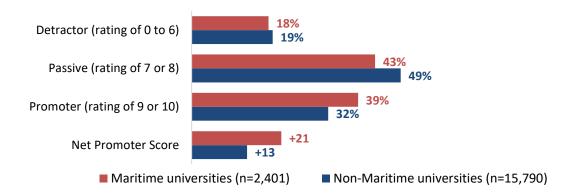
11.1 Satisfaction with concern shown for student as an individual



11.2 Satisfaction with decision to attend this university



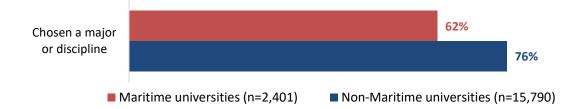
11.3 Recommend university to others³



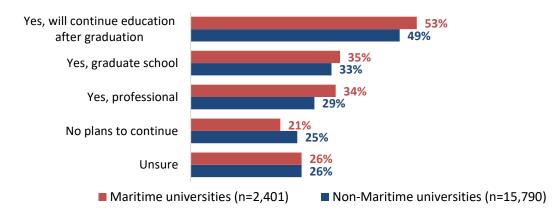
³ Students were asked to rate the likelihood they would recommend their university on a scale from 0 (not at all likely) to 10 (extremely likely). The Net Promoter Score is calculated by subtracting detractors (rating of 0 to 6) from promoters (rating of 9 or 10).

12.0 Goal development

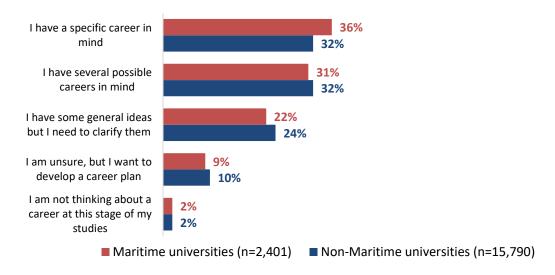
12.1 Chosen a major or discipline



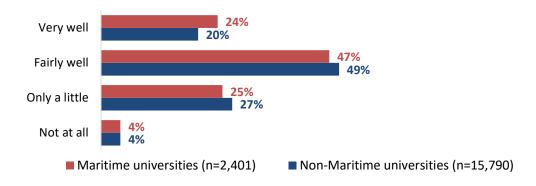
12.2 Post-graduation plans



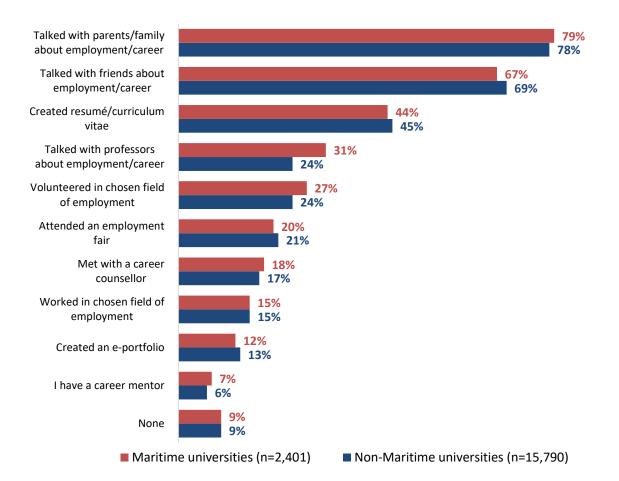
12.3 Career planning



12.4 Knowledge of career options

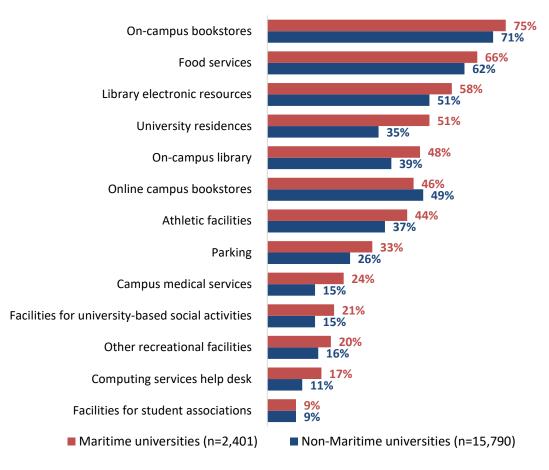


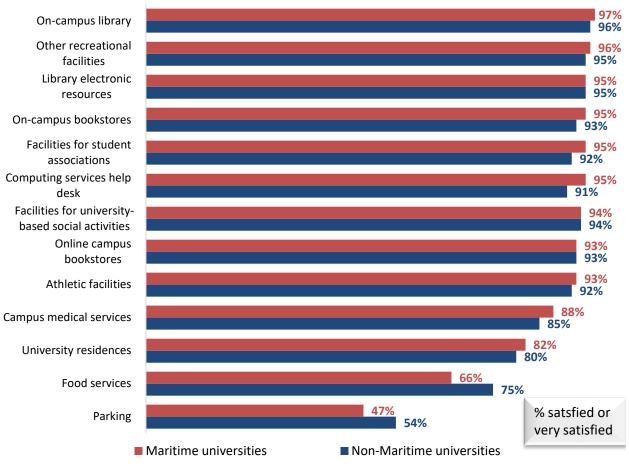
12.5 Steps taken for employment post-graduation



13.0 Satisfaction with facilities and services

13.1 Use of general facilities and services

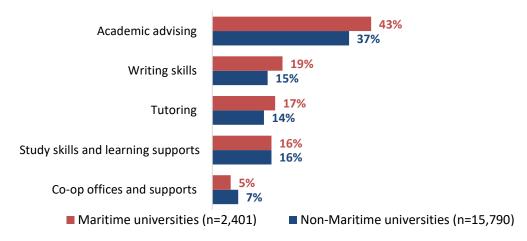




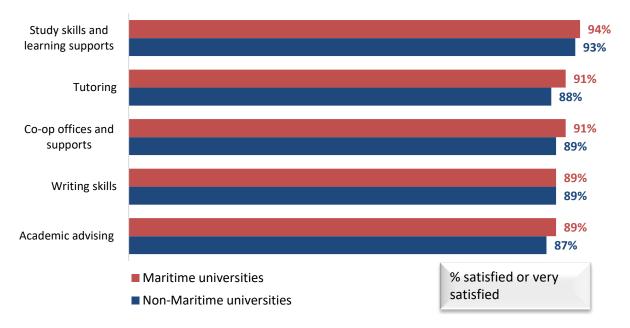
13.2 Satisfaction with facilities and services

BASE: Students who have used the service.

13.3 Use of academic services

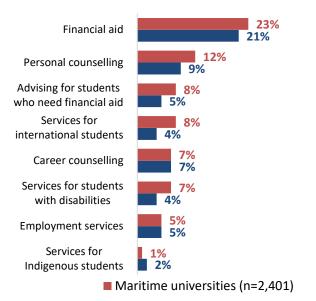


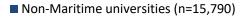
13.4 Satisfaction with academic services

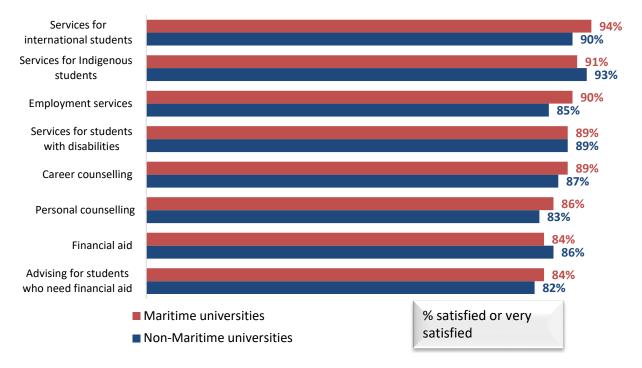


BASE: Students who have used the service.

13.5 Use of special services





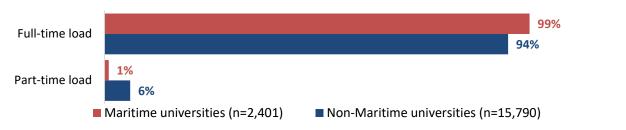


13.6 Satisfaction with special services

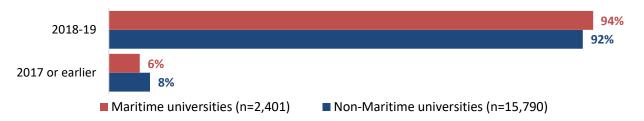
BASE: Students who have used the service.

14.0 Academic profile

14.1 Course load



14.2 Year began post-secondary studies

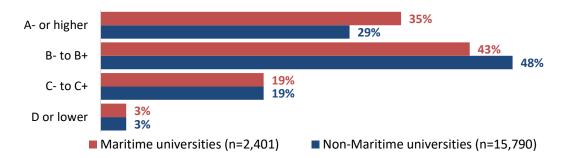


14.3 Transferred from another university



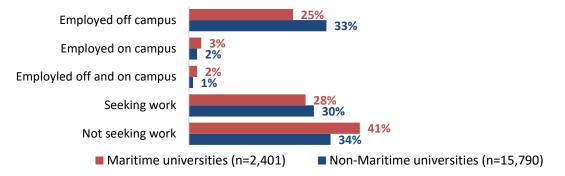


14.4 Reported university grade

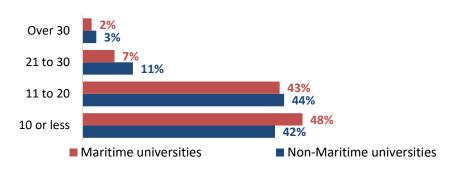


15.0 Current employment

15.1 Employment status

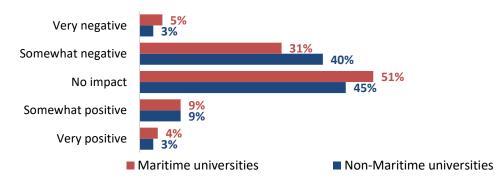


15.2 Average hours worked



BASE: Those currently employed.

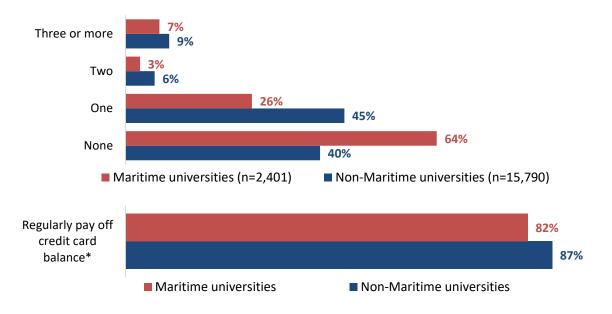




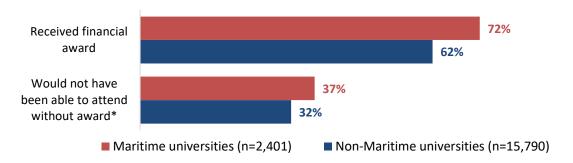
BASE: Those currently employed.

16.0 Finances

16.1 Credit cards



* BASE: Among those who have a credit card.



16.2 Financial awards and assistance

 * BASE: Among those who received financial awards and assistance.

Appendix A - 2019 CUSC-CCREU Survey

2019 Survey of First-Year Students

This survey is being completed by first-year students at approximately 70 Canadian universities. We want to learn more about our new students to help them make a successful transition to university.

If you cannot finish the survey in one sitting, you can close it and return to it using the link in the email we sent you. You will be returned to the page you were on when you closed. All of your responses are confidential.

shading	description
No shading	Question only in the First-Year Survey
	Question in all 3 surveys
	Question in the First-Year Survey and the Middle Years Survey

Motivation

How important were each of the following possible reasons in your decision to go to university?

		Not	Somewhat		Very
		important	important	Important	important
motiv1	To prepare for a specific job or career				
motiv2	To satisfy my intellectual curiosity				
motiv3	To earn more money than if I didn't go				
notiv4	To get a broad education				
notiv5	I am more likely to get a job with a degree				
motiv6	The satisfaction of doing challenging	_	_	_	_
	academic work				
notiv7	To apply what I will learn to make a positive difference in society or my community				
notiv8	I didn't have anything better to do				
notiv9	To get a more fulfilling job than I probably				
	would if I didn't go				
notiv10	To meet my family's expectations				
notiv11	Learning new things is exciting				
motiv12	Most of my friends are going				
motiv13	To meet new people				
motiv14	The chance to participate in varsity				
	athletics				
notiv15	To explore whether university is right for				
	me				
notiv16	Other reason (please specify)				
notivtxt					

Applications

How many universities besides <university name> did you apply to? app1 in Canada: _____ app2 in other countries: _____ app3 Did you apply to a college or CEGEP? Yes □ No □ app4 Is <university name> your first choice? Yes □ No □ [If app4 = "No" branch to apptxt, otherwise branch to the Selection section.] apptxt What was your first choice university? _____

Selection

How important were each of the following in your decision to choose <university name>? Not Somewhat Very important important Important important sel1 I wanted to live close to home sel2 I wanted to live away from home sel3 It offered a place in residence Cost of university residence sel4 sel5 Cost of tuition and fees П П sel6 It has the program I want to take sel7 The program I want has a co-op, practicum or other work experience sel8 The program I want offers study/work experience abroad sel9 The academic reputation of the university sel10 It has a good reputation for campus life sel11 It offered a scholarship sel12 It offered other financial assistance sel13 The size of the university suits me П П \square П sel14 The city/town it's in sel15 Availability of public transportation П П sel16 It's where my friends are going sel17 It's where my family wanted me to go The chance to participate in varsity athletics sel18 sel19 Other reason (please specify) П П П seltxt seltop Which one was the most important to you?

[Students identified in the university's sample file as international/visa students will be branched to vsel1; other students will be branched to the Sources of information section.] How important were each of the following in your decision to study at <university name>?

		Not	Somewhat		Very
		important	important	Important	important
vsel1	Academic reputation of Canadian universities				
	in general				
vsel2	Cost of tuition and fees for international				
	students				
vsel3	Friends or family recommended it				

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MPHEC 2019 Fir:	st-Year Student Survey: Maritime universities		3
vsel4	I thought it would be a welcoming		
	environment		
vsel5	Obtaining a visa for Canada was easier than		
	for other countries		
vsel6	Other reason (please specify)		
vseltxt			

Sources of information

How important were each of the following sources of information in your decision to study at <university name>?

namez:		Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
inf1	Visit by a university representative to your				
	high school or CEGEP				
inf2	The university's web site				
inf3	The university's Facebook site				
inf4	The university's other social media (e.g.,				
	Twitter, Tumblr, etc.)				
inf5	Printed university brochure, pamphlet or				
	viewbook				
inf6	Visit to campus for an open house				
inf7	Other visit to campus				
inf8	Contact with admissions staff on campus				
inf9	Contact with professors				
Inf10	Contact with university athletic coaches				
inf11	High school/CEGEP counsellors or teachers				
inf12	Students attending the university				
inf13	Friends				
inf14	Parents				
inf15	Maclean's University Rankings				
inf16	Globe and Mail Canadian University Report				
inf17	The Times Higher Education World University				
	Rankings				
inf18	QS World University Rankings				
inf19	Academic Ranking of World Universities				
	("Shanghai rankings")				
inf20	Other (please specify)				
inftxt					

Orientation

orient1 Did you participate in an orientation program before or after arriving on campus last fall? □ Yes □ No

[If "No" skip to regist1]

How satisfied were you with each of the following aspects of the orientation?

		Very	Somewhat	Somewhat	Very	Don't
		dissatisfied	dissatisfied	satisfied	satisfied	know
orient2	Feeling welcome at the university					

APHEC 2019 First	t-Year Student Survey: Maritime univer	sities		4
orient3	Helping you understand the university's academic expectations			
orient4	Helping your personal and social transition to university			
orient5	Providing information about campus life			
orient6	Providing information about student services			
orient7	Building your confidence			
Registra	ation			

		Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
regist1	How satisfied are you with the process of registering for courses at <university< td=""><td></td><td></td><td>_</td><td>_</td></university<>			_	_
regist2	NAME>? Thinking about all the courses in which you wanted to register this year, how satisfied				
	were you with getting into these courses?				

Expectations and experience

Now that you have been at <university name> for a while, how does your experience compare to what you expected in these areas?

		Much less than I expected	Less than I expected	About what I expected	More than I expected	Much more than I expected
exp1	Cost of going to university					
exp2	Debt you might have to take on to complete your program					
exp3	How academically demanding your courses are					
exp4	The time you have to put into your coursework (e.g. studying, assignments)	П			П	П
exp5	Contact with your professors in the					
·	classroom					
exp6	Contact with your professors outside of the classroom					
exp7	Amount you participate in class discussions					
exp8	Amount of writing in your academic work					
exp9	Using math in your academic work					
exp10	Doing course work in groups					
exp12	Intellectual stimulation					
exp13	Ease of making friends					
exp14	Ease of getting involved in campus social activities					

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MPHEC 2019 Fir	st-Year Student Survey: Maritime unive	rsities				5
exp15	Availability of help and advising from the university					
		Much lower than l expected	Lower than I expected	About what I expected	Higher than I expected	Much higher than I expected
exp17	Your course grades					
			Exceed	ed	Met	Fallen short
exp18	Has <university name=""> exceeded, met o short of your expectations?</university>	or fallen				

Transition to university

How much success have you had adjusting to <university name> in the following areas?

			More		Von	No basis
		None	Very little	Some	Very much	for opinion
tran1	Meeting academic demands					
tran2	Choosing a program of study					
tran3	Getting academic advice					
tran4	Performing well in written assignments					
tran5	Performing well in courses that require math					
tran6	Understanding the course material					
tran7	Managing your finances					
tran8	Managing your time					
tran9	Making friends					
tran10	Becoming involved in campus activities					
tran11	Finding suitable housing					
tran12	Dealing with new living arrangements					
tran13	Finding your way around campus					
tran14	Using the library					
tran15	Finding career information					
tran16	Commuting to campus					
tran17	Feeling like I belong at this university					
tran18	Finding information about academic integrity					
	(plagiarism, proper citation, etc.)					

Professors

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about your professors.

		Strongly			Strongly
	Most of my professors	disagree	Disagree	Agree	agree
prof1	Are reasonably accessible outside of				
	class				
prof2	Take a personal interest in my academic				
	progress				

prof3	Treat students as individuals, not just					
	numbers					
prof4	Encourage students to participate in					
1. A.	class discussions					
prof5	Are well organized in their teaching					
prof6	Seem knowledgeable in their fields					
prof7	Communicate well in their teaching					
1 C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	-					
prof8	Are intellectually stimulating in their	_	_	_	_	
	teaching					
prof9	Provide useful feedback on my academic	_	_			
prof10	work Brouide promot foodback on my					
prof10	Provide prompt feedback on my	_	_	_	_	
	academic work					
prof11	Are fair in their grading					
prof12	Are consistent in their grading					
		Strongly			Strongly	No basis
	Most of my professors	disagree	Disagree	Agree	agree	for opinion
prof13	Treat students the same regardless of					
	gender					
prof14	Treat students the same regardless of					
	race					
prof15	Look out for students' interests					
profxx	Regardless of how well you think your prof	essors did, w	hich three st	tatements	do you thi	nk are the
	most important? choose from prof1 to pro	f15				
				Yes,		
		Yes, all	Yes, most	some	No	
		courses	courses	courses	courses	
prof16	Were you given the chance to evaluate					
	the quality of teaching in your courses					
	this past fall?					
Conside	ring all of your professors and courses, pleas	se indicate yo	our level of a	greement	with the fo	ollowing
stateme						
		Strongly			Strongly	
		disagree	Disagree	Agree	agree	
prof17	Generally, I am satisfied with the quality					
	of teaching I have received					
Staff						
		owing states	monto			
Please II	ndicate your level of agreement with the foll	-	nents.			
		Strongly			Strongly	No basis
		disagree	Disagree	Agree	agree	for opinion

staff1

Most teaching assistants in my academic

program are helpful

NPHEC 2019 Fir	st-Year Student Survey: Maritime universitio	es				7
staff2	Most university support staff (e.g., clerks, secretaries, etc.) are helpful					
Comm	nitment to completion					
	ndicate your level of agreement with the follow	ving stateme	nts.			
	, C	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
cmt1 cmt2	I have the financial resources to complete my program I had adequate information about my					
	program from the university before I enrolled					
cmt3 cmt4	I am in the right program for me Most of my courses are interesting					
cmt5 cmt6	My course load is manageable					
cmt7	I normally go to all of my classes I am willing to put a lot of effort into being					
cmt8	successful at university I can deal with stress					
cmt9	I have good study habits					
cmt10	I plan to come back to this university next year					
cmt11	I plan to transfer to another university next year					
cmt12	I plan to go to college/CEGEP next year					
cmt13	I plan to complete my degree at this university					
cmt14	A university degree is worth the cost					

Overall evaluation

Please indicate your level of satisfaction with <university name> in the following areas.

		Very			Very
		dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	satisfied
eval3	Concern shown by the university for				
	you as an individual				
eval9	Your decision to attend this university				
eval12	How likely is it that you would recommend <university name=""> to a friend or family member?</university>				
	\Box 0 Not at all likely through to \Box 10 Extremely likely				
	[If eval12 =< 6 branch to eval12txt, otherwise branch to the Goal development section.]				
	Please explain why you gave a rating of [E	VAL12] out of	10 for recomm	nending this	
	university.				
eval12txt					

Goal development

goal1 Have you chosen a major or discipline?
Yes
No

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After you goal3 goal4	a have completed your undergraduate studies do you intend to: Apply to a professional program (e.g., Medicine, Law, etc.) Apply to graduate school	□ Yes □ Yes	□ No □ No	□ Unsure □ Unsure
goal5	 Which of the following best describes your career plans? I have a specific career in mind I have several possible careers in mind I have some general ideas but I need to clarify them I am unsure, but I want to develop a career plan I am not thinking about a career at this stage of my studies 	;		
goal6	How well do you know the career options your program or in Very well Fairly well Only a little Not at all	tended pro	gram coul	d open for you?
	dicate what steps, if any, you have taken to prepare for employ noose all that apply. Talked with professors about employment/career Talked with parents/family about employment/career Talked with friends about employment/career Created resume or curriculum vitae (CV) Created an e-portfolio (an inventory of skills, abilities and e Attended an employment fair Met with a career counsellor Worked in my chosen field of employment Volunteered in my chosen field of employment None of the above			-

Services

Please indicate which of the following services you have used since last September and how satisfied you are with the ones you have used.

				Satisfaction if service used				
				Very			Very	
		Used		dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Satisfied	
srv1	Services for First Nations students		srv1sat					
srv2	Services for international students		srv2sat					
srv3	Services for students with		srv3sat					
	disabilities							
srv4	University libraries: physical books,		srv4sat					
	magazines, stacks							
srv5	University libraries: electronic		srv5sat		П			
	resources							

MPHEC			
2019 First-Year	Student Sur	rvey: Maritime	universities

srv6	Employment services		srv6sat				
srv7	Career counselling		srv7sat				
srv8	Personal counselling		srv8sat				
srv9	Academic advising		srv9sat				
srv10	Tutoring		srv10sat				
srv11	Study skills and learning supports		srv11sat				
srv12	Writing skills		srv12sat				
srv13	University residences		srv13sat				
srv14	Advising for students who need	П	srv14sat	_	-	_	_
	financial aid						
srv15	Financial aid		srv15sat				
srv16	Athletic facilities		srv16sat				
srv17	Other recreational facilities		srv17sat				
srv18	University bookstores: physical	П	srv18sat				П
	stores						
srv19	University bookstores: online		srv19sat		П	П	П
	inventory check, ordering, etc.			_	_		_
srv20	Campus medical services		srv20sat				
srv21	Co-op offices and supports		srv21sat				
srv22	Facilities for university-based social		srv22sat			П	
	activities						
srv23	Facilities for student associations		srv23sat				
srv24	Computing services help desk		srv24sat				
srv25	Food services		srv25at				
srv26	Parking		srv26at				

Academic history

hist1	In what year did you begin your postsecondary studies? Year:
hist2	In what year did you first enrol at <university name="">? Year:</university>
hist3	Have you transferred to <university name=""> from another postsecondary institution?</university>
	🗆 Yes 🗆 No
hist4	Please choose the letter grade that best reflects your overall average grade:
	\Box A (includes A+, A and A-)
	\Box B (includes B+, B and B-)
	\Box C (includes C+, C and C-)
	□F

Employment

work1 Excluding work related to a co-op program, are you employed during the current academic term?

	Yes, off campus
	□ Yes, on campus
	\Box Yes, both off campus and on campus
	□ No, but I am looking for work
	□ No, and I am not looking for work
	[If work1= "Yes" branch to work2, otherwise branch to Finances section.]
work2	On average, how many hours per week are you employed in this work?
work3	What impact has this employment had on your academic performance?
	Very negative
	□ Somewhat negative
	🗆 No impact
	Somewhat positive
	□ Very positive
Finan	ces
fin1	How many credit cards do you have?
	options: 0 through 10, 11 or more
	[If fin1 = 0 branch to fin3, otherwise fin2.]
fin2	Do you usually pay off the whole balance every month? \Box Yes \Box No
fin3	What is the total unpaid balance on all of your cards? \$ 🗆 Don't know
fin4	Did you receive a scholarship, financial award or bursary from <university name=""> for the</university>
	2018-2019 academic year? 🗆 Yes 🗆 No
	[If fin4 = No branch to live1, otherwise fin5]
fin5	Would you have been able to attend <university name=""> without financial assistance from</university>
	<university name="">? Yes No</university>
	g arrangements
live1	Where are you currently living?
	In on-campus housing (university residence, dorm, etc.)
	□ With parents, guardians or relatives
	\Box In rented off-campus housing shared with others
	In rented off-campus housing on your own
	🗆 In a home you own
livetxt	Other (please specify)
	<pre>[If live1 <> "In on-campus housing" branch to live2, otherwise branch to live3]</pre>
live2	Would you prefer to live in on-campus housing if you had the choice? \Box Yes \Box No
live3	
inves	What is your marital status?
iives	What is your marital status? Single Married or common law

 \Box In a relationship other than married or common law

live4 Do you have children? Yes No
[If live4 = "Yes" branch to live5, otherwise branch to Disabilities/ Impairments section.]

live5 live6		many up to age 5? many age 5 to 11?				
live7		many 12 or older?				
		,				
Disab	oilities	s/ Impairments				
Do you	ı have a	any of the following disabilities/ impa	irments?	Select all that ap	oply.	
dis11		I do not have a disability/ impairme	ent			
					are your dail	
				limited by this		•
				Sometimes	Often	Always
dis1		Mobility/ Dexterity	disf1			
dis2		Hearing	disf2			
dis3		Speech	disf3			
dis4		Vision (e.g. blindness, low vision)	disf4			
dis5		Learning/ Memory (e.g. dyslexia)	disf5			
dis7		Other physical disability	disf7			
dis8		Attention deficit disorder	disf8			
dis9		Mental health condition	disf9			
dis12		Chronic conditions (e.g. Multiple	disf12			
		Sclerosis, Crohn's, Autoimmune)				
dis10		Other (please specify)				
distxt						

Parental educational attainment						
What is the highest level of education your parent(s)/guardian(s) have	What is the highest level of education your parent(s)/guardian(s) have completed?					
	meduc	peduc				
	Parent/	Parent/				
	Guardian1	Guardian2				
Less than high school						
High school graduate						
Some college, CEGEP or technical school (no certificate or diploma)						
College, CEGEP or technical school graduate						
Some university (no degree or diploma)						
Undergraduate university degree (e.g., BA, BSc, etc.)						
Professional degree (e.g., law, medicine, etc.)						
Graduate degree (e.g., Master's, PhD)						
Other Parent/Guardian 1 (please specify) meductxt						
Other Parent/Guardian 2 (please specify) peductxt						
Don't know/Not applicable						

Ethnicity				
Are you	(check all that apply)			
eth1	🗆 Indigenous (e.g., status, non-status, Métis, Inuit)			
eth2	🗆 Arab (e.g., Saudi, Egyptian, etc.)			
eth3	🗆 Black			

eth4	Chinese
eth5	🗆 Filipino
eth6	□ Japanese
eth7	🗆 Korean
eth8	🗆 Latin American
eth9	🗆 South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)
eth10	Southeast Asian (e.g., Cambodian, Indonesian, Laotian, Vietnamese, etc.)
eth11	🗆 West Asian (e.g., Afghan, Iranian, etc.)
eth12	White/ Caucasian
eth13	Other (please specify)
ethtxt	
ethtxt	[If eth1 is checked branch to ab1, otherwise branch to the Comments section.]
ethtxt	
ethtxt ab1	[If eth1 is checked branch to ab1, otherwise branch to the Comments section.]
	[If eth1 is checked branch to ab1, otherwise branch to the Comments section.] Which of the following describes your Indigenous background? (check all that apply)
ab1	[If eth1 is checked branch to ab1, otherwise branch to the Comments section.] Which of the following describes your Indigenous background? (check all that apply)
ab1 ab2	[If eth1 is checked branch to ab1, otherwise branch to the Comments section.] Which of the following describes your Indigenous background? (check all that apply) □ First Nations status □ First Nations non-status
ab1 ab2 ab3	[If eth1 is checked branch to ab1, otherwise branch to the Comments section.] Which of the following describes your Indigenous background? (check all that apply) □ First Nations status □ First Nations non-status □ Metis

Comments

Please take this opportunity to comment fully about your overall university experience. Your remarks will provide valuable information to the institution.

negativ		ooking back on your experiences as a student, what aspects of your experience at <university ame=""> have been most negative? How could we have helped or done a better job?</university>				
	Comments (specify)	🗆 Don't know				
positiv	Looking back on your experiences as a student, v	what aspects of your experience at <university< th=""></university<>				
	name> have been most positive?					
	Comments (specify)	🗆 Don't know				

Appendix B - Weighting and response rates

	Population of first-year students		Complet	ted surveys	Applied	Response
University	Population	% of population	Population	% of population	weight	rate
Aaritime universities						
Acadia University	744	1.0	278	1.5	0.666	37.4%
Cape Breton University	384	0.5	226	1.2	0.423	58.9 %
Dalhousie University	2,262	3.1	767	4.2	0.734	33.9%
Nount Allison University	624	0.9	187	1.0	0.831	30.0%
Nount Saint Vincent University	296	0.4	86	0.5	0.857	29.1%
SCAD University*	178	N/A	74	N/A	1.000	41.6%
aint Mary's University	879	1.2	262	1.4	0.835	29.8%
Jniversité Sainte-Anne*	68	N/A	25	N/A	1.000	36.8%
t. Francis Xavier University	865	1.2	255	1.4	0.844	29.5%
t. Thomas University	393	0.5	205	1.1	0.477	52.2%
Jniversité de Moncton	726	1.0	417	2.3	0.433	57.4%
Jniversity of King's College	197	0.3	112	0.6	0.438	56.9%
Jniversity of New Brunswick	1,151	1.6	426	2.4	0.673	37.0%
Jniversity of Prince Edward Island	725	1.0	300	1.7	0.602	41.4%
Other universities					01002	
Ambrose University	112	0.2	65	0.4	0.429	58.0%
Athabasca University	20	0.0	9	0.0	0.553	45.0%
Brandon University	561	0.8	160	0.9	0.873	28.5%
Brock University	2,939	4.0	213	1.2	3.435	7.2%
Burman University	84	0.1	36	0.2	0.581	42.9%
Capilano University	262	0.4	45	0.2	1.449	17.2%
Carleton University	4,209	5.8	1,264	7.0	0.829	30.0%
Concordia University	4,482	6.2	880	4.9	1.268	19.6%
Concordia University of Edmonton	360	0.2	138	0.8	0.649	38.3%
akehead University	801	1.1	394	2.2	0.649	49.2%
AcEwan University	2,076	2.9	<u> </u>	5.0	0.508	49.2%
Nount Royal University	1,329	1.8	643	3.6	0.515	48.4%
Nipissing University	444	0.6	133	0.7	0.831	30.0%
Redeemer University College	119	0.2	76	0.4	0.390	63.9%
Ryerson University	5,808	8.0	651	3.6	2.221	11.2%
imon Fraser University	3,008	4.1	622	3.4	1.204	20.7%
it. Mary's University	137	0.2	45	0.2	0.758	32.8%
The King's University	188	0.3	84	0.5	0.557	44.7%
Thompson Rivers University	810	1.1	376	2.1	0.536	46.4%
Frent University	1,351	1.9	376	2.1	0.894	27.8%
Frinity Western University	343	0.5	127	0.7	0.672	37.0%
Jniversity of Calgary	3,580	4.9	1,378	7.6	0.647	38.5%
Jniversity of Lethbridge	1,033	1.4	588	3.3	0.437	56.9%
Jniversity of Manitoba	5,134	7.1	230	1.3	5.557	4.5%
Jniversity of Northern British Columbia	405	0.6	204	1.1	0.494	50.4%
Iniversity of Ottawa	5,903	8.1	1,477	8.2	0.995	25.0%
Iniversity of Regina	1,503	2.1	444	2.5	0.843	29.5%
Iniversity of Saskatchewan	2,196	3.0	313	1.7	1.747	14.3%
Iniversity of the Fraser Valley	743	1.0	168	0.9	1.101	22.6%
Iniversity of Victoria	2,382	3.3	378	2.1	1.569	15.9%
Jniversity of Waterloo	6,276	8.6	905	5.0	1.726	14.4%
Jniversity of Winnipeg	1,072	1.5	494	2.7	0.540	46.1%
Vilfrid Laurier University	3,761	5.2	748	4.1	1.252	19.9%