

Trends in Maritime Higher Education

Volume 20 Number 3

The Class of 2020 in 2022

March 2023

Profile of First-Degree Holders and Methodological Notes

First-degree holders are defined as graduates who enrolled in university without a prior post-secondary credential and graduated with their first degree in 2020. Focusing analyses on this group allows for clearer interpretations of the findings as these graduates are a relatively homogenous group, all at the same stage in

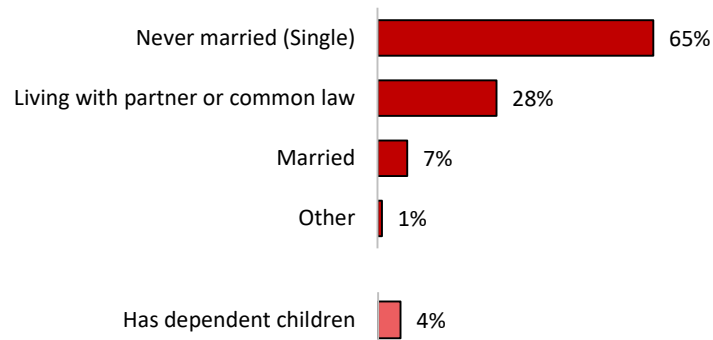
2020 between education and their transition to the workforce. They correspond to a more traditional pool of students who enter university directly from high school. The charts below present the distribution of the first-degree holders by important demographic categories.

Profile of Class of 2020 First-Degree Holders Surveyed in 2022 (n = 2,022)

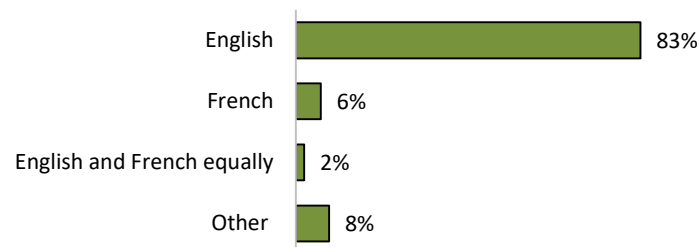
Gender



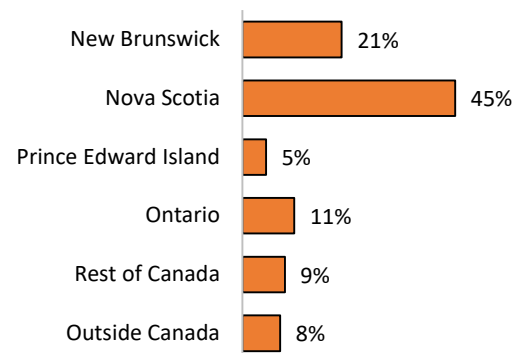
Marital Status

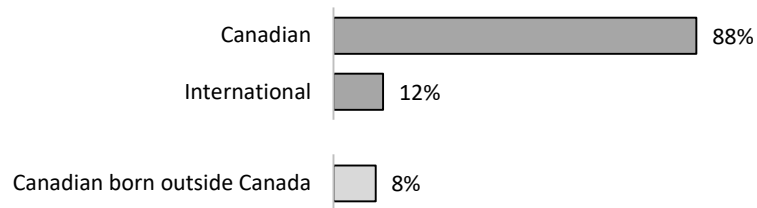
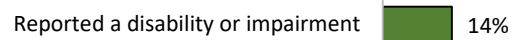
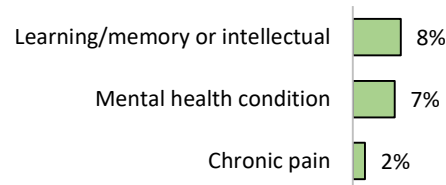
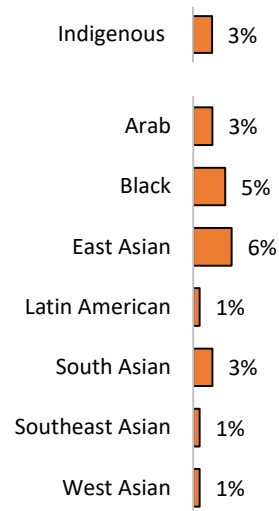
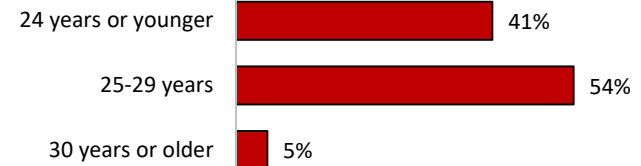


Language Spoken Most Often at Home

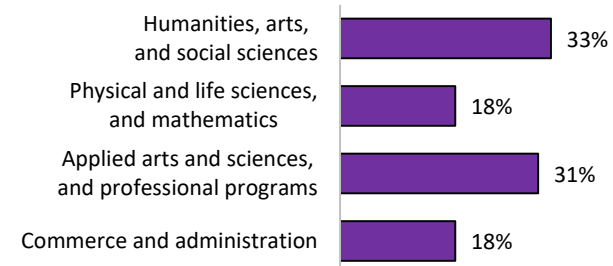
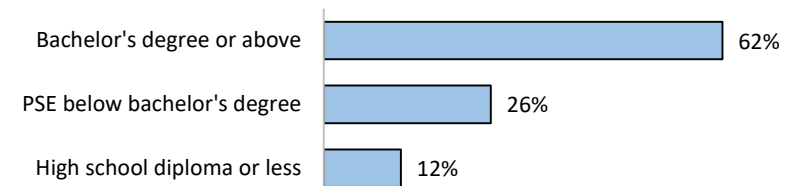


Place of Residence 12 Months Prior to Enrolling in 2020 Degree

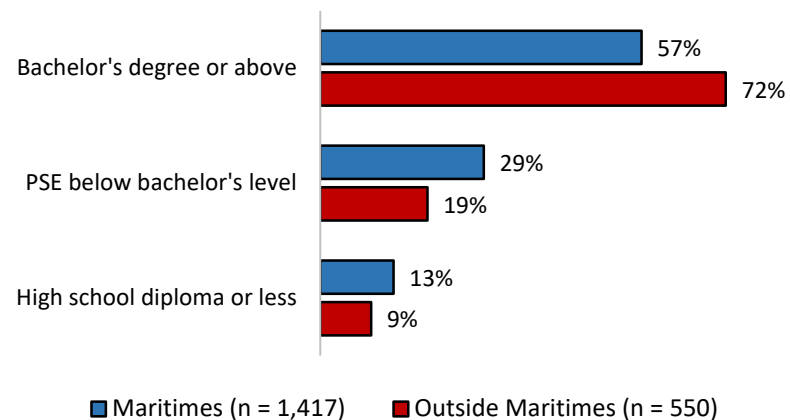


Status in Canada**Disabilities or Impairments****Most Commonly Reported Disabilities or Impairments****Population Group of Person****Age in 2022 (as of December 31)**

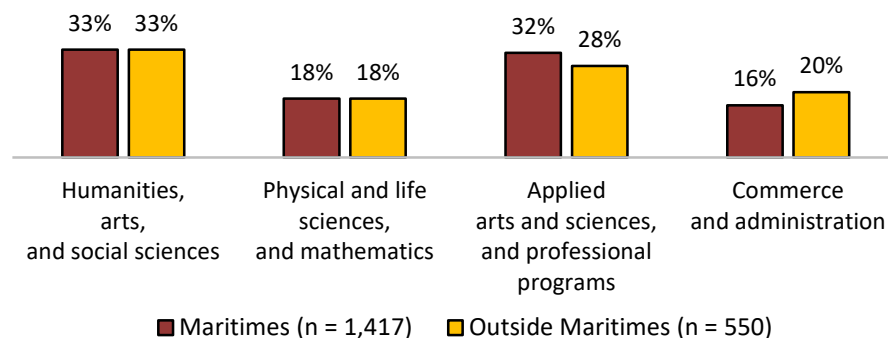
Median age in 2022: 25

Discipline Cluster of 2020 Degree**Parents' Educational Attainment**

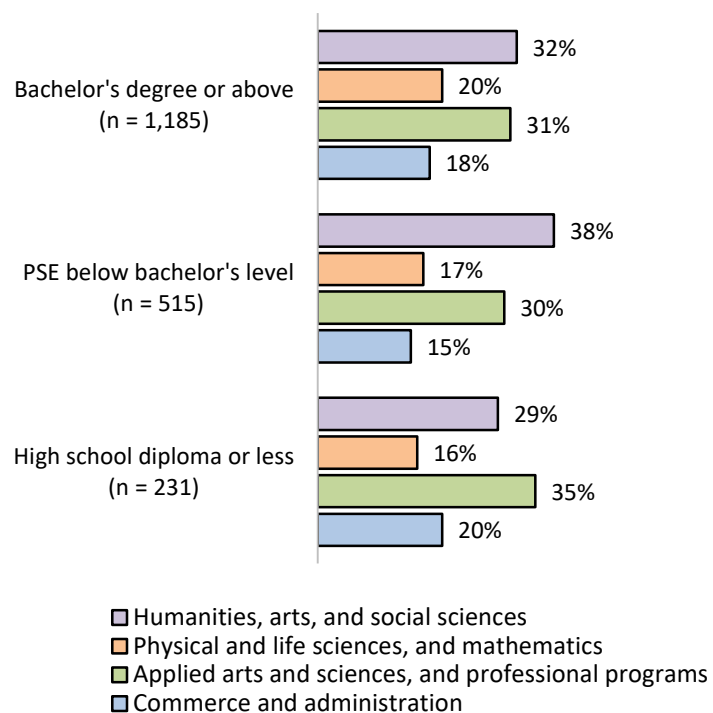
Parents' Educational Attainment by Place of Residence
12 Months Prior to Enrolling in 2020 Degree



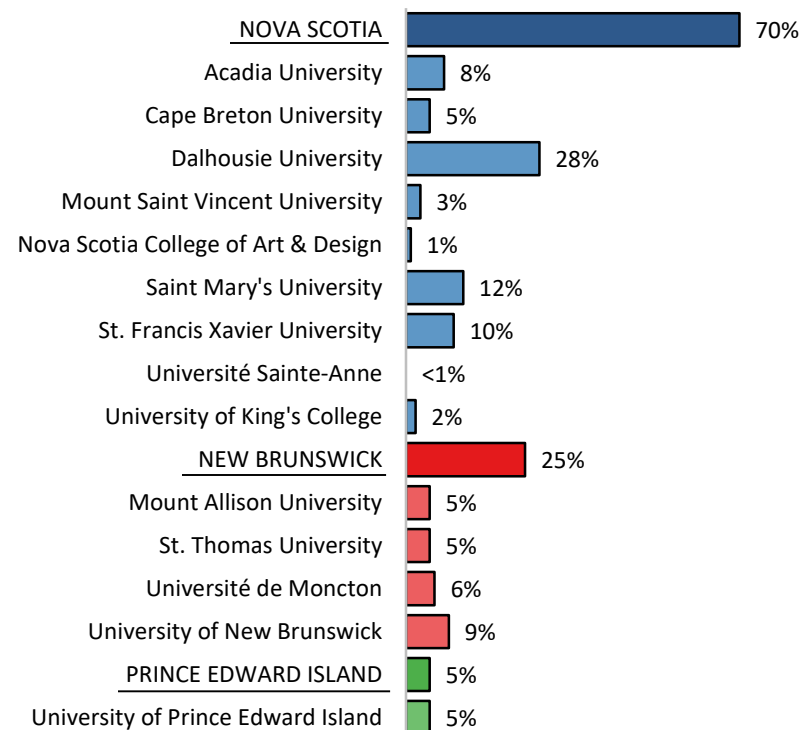
Discipline Cluster of 2020 Degree and Place of Residence
12 Months Prior to Enrolling in 2020 Degree



Parents' Educational Attainment by
Discipline Cluster of 2020 Degree



Distribution of First-Degree Holders by
Province of Graduation and University of Graduation



Profile of Class of 2020 First-Degree Holders by Province of Graduation

	Province of Graduation			
	New Brunswick (n = 543)	Nova Scotia (n = 1,364)	Prince Edward Island (n = 115)	All First-Degree Holders (n = 2,022)
Gender				
Woman	60.6%	59.1%	61.1%	59.6%
Man	39.4%	40.9%	38.9%	40.4%
Marital Status				
Never married (single)	61.0%	65.6%	67.8%	64.6%
Living with partner or common law	31.5%	27.2%	22.0%	28.0%
Married	6.8%	6.3%	10.2%	6.6%
Other	*	0.9%	*	0.8%
Has Dependent Children?				
Yes	4.0%	3.5%	*	3.6%
Language Spoken Most Often at Home				
English	70.0%	87.2%	91.4%	83.2%
French	20.9%	1.0%	*	6.0%
English & French equally	5.7%	1.6%	*	2.5%
Other	3.4%	10.2%	6.9%	8.3%
Place of Residence 12 Months Prior to Enrolling in 2020 Degree				
New Brunswick	68.6%	5.4%	4.1%	21.0%
Nova Scotia	10.3%	60.9%	9.2%	45.5%
Prince Edward Island	1.7%	1.6%	68.5%	5.3%
Ontario	5.5%	13.6%	*	10.9%
Rest of Canada	7.9%	9.8%	*	9.0%
Outside Canada	6.1%	8.8%	12.5%	8.3%
Status in Canada				
Canadian	92.1%	87.2%	79.6%	88.0%
International	7.9%	12.8%	20.4%	12.0%

* Data suppressed due to small subsample (n<5).

** Respondents could choose more than one option.

	Province of Graduation			
	New Brunswick (n = 543)	Nova Scotia (n = 1,364)	Prince Edward Island (n = 115)	All First-Degree Holders (n = 2,022)
Canadian Born Outside Canada				
Yes	6.3%	9.2%	7.4%	8.4%
Reported a Disability or Impairment				
Yes	13.1%	13.8%	13.6%	13.6%
Most Commonly Reported Disabilities or Impairments				
Learning/memory or intellectual	8.0%	7.7%	7.4%	7.7%
Mental health condition	6.3%	7.6%	5.2%	7.1%
Chronic pain	1.6%	2.2%	*	2.0%
Indigenous Person				
Yes	2.1%	3.5%	*	2.9%
Population Group of Person**				
Arab	*	3.5%	*	2.7%
Black	4.6%	5.3%	*	5.1%
East Asian	2.6%	6.7%	5.0%	5.6%
Latin American	1.8%	1.2%	*	1.4%
South Asian	2.9%	3.8%	*	3.5%
Southeast Asian	1.3%	1.1%	*	1.2%
West Asian	*	0.8%	*	0.6%
Age Groups				
24 years or younger	44.3%	40.3%	42.1%	41.4%
25-29 years	49.5%	55.3%	52.3%	53.7%
30 years or older	6.2%	4.4%	5.6%	4.9%
Median Age				
Age in 2022 (as of Dec. 31)	25	25	25	25



Discipline Cluster of 2020 Degree by Province of Graduation

Discipline Cluster of 2020 Degree	Province of Graduation			
	New Brunswick (n = 543)	Nova Scotia (n = 1,364)	Prince Edward Island (n = 115)	All First-Degree Holders (n = 2,022)
Humanities, arts, and social sciences	41.6%	30.4%	25.3%	32.9%
Physical and life sciences, and mathematics	14.6%	19.3%	22.7%	18.4%
Applied arts and science, and professional programs	30.9%	31.3%	28.5%	31.0%
Commerce and administration	12.9%	19.0%	23.6%	17.8%

Parents' Educational Attainment by Province of Graduation

Parents' Educational Attainment (graduates of all geographic origins)	Province of Graduation			
	New Brunswick (n = 543)	Nova Scotia (n = 1,364)	Prince Edward Island (n = 115)	All First-Degree Holders (n = 2,022)
Bachelor's degree or above	60.1%	63.0%	48.3%	61.5%
PSE below bachelor's level	27.1%	25.5%	35.7%	26.4%
High school diploma or less	12.8%	11.5%	16.0%	12.1%

Parents' Educational Attainment by Place of Residence 12 Months Prior to Enrolling in 2020 Degree

Parents' Educational Attainment (graduates residing in province)	Place of Residence Prior to Enrolling in 2020 Degree				
	New Brunswick (n = 449)	Nova Scotia (n = 860)	Prince Edward Island (n = 108)	Outside Maritimes (n = 550)	All First- Degree Holders (n = 2,022)
Bachelor's degree or above	57.3%	58.5%	49.3%	71.7%	61.5%
PSE below bachelor's level	29.8%	28.0%	38.1%	18.9%	26.4%
High school diploma or less	12.8%	13.5%	12.6%	9.4%	12.1%

Methodological Notes

The survey of the Class of 2020 Maritime University graduates in 2022 was conducted by Prairie Research Associates Inc. on behalf of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission. More information about the MPHEC Graduate Outcomes survey may be found at:

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

PRE-FIELD

Prior to survey launch, graduates were alerted about the survey in an email notification. An invitation to complete the survey was then sent a few days later. Reminders were sent to graduates who had not yet completed the survey at approximately 2-3-week intervals. Where email addresses were unavailable, graduates were contacted by telephone.

Institutions were encouraged to provide a link to the survey via their alumni websites, and on their social media accounts (i.e., Twitter, Facebook, Instagram). Graduates who completed the survey were eligible to participate in a draw for a grand prize of \$1,500 or one of nine prizes of \$500.

FIELD

The survey was conducted between September 16 and December 16, 2022. The total sample of 2,990 respondents represents 27.5% of the total Class of 2020 bachelor's graduate population of 10,882 in the 14 Maritime universities for whom contact information was available. Surveys were administered both online and over the telephone, and were available in English and French.

The margin of error for the survey is ± 1.8 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The total sample for first-degree holders is 2,022, with a margin of error of ± 2.2 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. All statistics presented in this report have been generated from weighted data; data were weighted based on the university of graduation and gender. Statistics in charts and tables may not sum up to 100% due to rounding.

DEFINITIONS

Gender

This variable is obtained from the universities' administrative data. Hence, it is possible that sometimes the only information available is "sex at birth" in which case it is used as

a proxy for "gender." Also, some institutions include "non-binary genders" in the "unknown gender" category for the gender variable provided in their files which makes it impossible to publish data on the non-binary population.

Status of Student in Canada

- Canadian: Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- International: non-Canadian who does not have "permanent resident" status

Discipline Cluster

Major fields of study are grouped into four broad categories or clusters for analytical purposes:

- Humanities, arts, and social sciences
- Physical and life sciences, and mathematics
- Applied arts and sciences, and professional programs
- Commerce and administration

A list of fields of study comprising each discipline cluster may be found at:

<http://www.mphhec.ca/media/84665/DisciplineClustersCIP.pdf>

Parents' Educational Attainment

Parents' educational attainment comprises three categories:

- High school diploma or less
- Post-secondary education (PSE) below bachelor's degree (includes trade, college, CEGEP or hospital-based certificate or diploma, university certificate or diploma below the bachelor's level, or attendance at university without earning a credential)
- Bachelor's degree or above (includes bachelor's, professional, master's or PhD degrees, and graduate level certificate or diploma)

These categories combine the parents or guardians' highest level of education, and the category is assigned based on the highest level of education between them. Excluded from analysis are those respondents who did not know or declined to report the highest level of education of their parents or guardians.

Population group of person

The groups presented are based on the indigenous group question and on the groups identified in the Canadian Employment Equity Act. Some groups have been combined due to small sample sizes.

For further information, please contact:

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