

Mobility and Activity of Recent University Graduates

Exploring graduate retention and migration in the Maritimes, two years after graduation



Classes of 2012, 2014, 2018 and 2020 surveyed two years after graduation

Statistical Tables for Maritime University Graduates (First-degree holders)

April 2023

First-degree holders are graduates who enrolled in university without a prior post-secondary credential and graduated with their first degree.

wN = weighted sample.

Percentages may not sum to 100 or align with other values due to rounding.

Table 1. Percentage of graduates residing in the Maritimes two years after graduation.

Residence before Enrolling	Class			
	2012 (wN = 2,170)	2014 (wN = 2,031)	2018 (wN = 2,358)	2020 (wN = 1,930)
New Brunswick				
wN	589	516	531	407
% residing in the Maritimes	76%	83%	85%	86%
Nova Scotia				
wN	827	797	965	881
% residing in the Maritimes	76%	78%	86%	82%
Prince Edward Island				
wN	158	138	143	101
% residing in the Maritimes	77%	78%	86%	86%
Rest of Canada				
wN	440	442	530	386
% residing in the Maritimes	20%	19%	23%	28%
Outside Canada				
wN	157	139	189	155
% residing in the Maritimes	34%	38%	54%	53%
All Regions Combined	62%	63%	69%	70%

Table 2. Distribution of graduates' residences before they enrolled in their degree and two years after graduation.

	Residence		
	Before Enrolling	Two Years After Graduation	Difference (percentage points)
Class of 2012 (wN = 2,170)			
New Brunswick	27%	21%	-6
Nova Scotia	38%	35%	-3
Prince Edward Island	7%	5%	-2
Rest of Canada	20%	33%	12
Outside Canada	7%	6%	-2
Class of 2014 (wN = 2,031)			
New Brunswick	25%	20%	-5
Nova Scotia	39%	38%	-1
Prince Edward Island	7%	5%	-2
Rest of Canada	22%	32%	10
Outside Canada	7%	5%	-2
Class of 2018 (wN = 2,358)			
New Brunswick	23%	20%	-2
Nova Scotia	41%	43%	2
Prince Edward Island	6%	6%	-1
Rest of Canada	22%	27%	5
Outside Canada	8%	4%	-4
Class of 2020 (wN = 1,930)			
New Brunswick	21%	18%	-3
Nova Scotia	46%	47%	1
Prince Edward Island	5%	5%	0
Rest of Canada	20%	26%	6
Outside Canada	8%	5%	-3

Table 3. Activity of graduates by their location of residence at the time of the survey.

Location of Current Residence and Activity	Class			
	2012	2014	2018	2020
New Brunswick	(wN = 457)	(wN = 409)	(wN = 480)	(wN = 347)
Working	66%	65%	60%	68%
Studying	25%	24%	28%	24%
Other:				
Employed (on leave)	3%	3%	1%	1%
Unemployed and looking for work	5%	5%	9%	4%
Not looking for work	1%	1%	1%	2%
Not reported	-	2%	1%	1%
Nova Scotia	(wN = 763)	(wN = 781)	(wN = 1,018)	(wN = 898)
Working	55%	59%	57%	63%
Studying	38%	30%	31%	25%
Other:				
Employed (on leave)	2%	2%	1%	2%
Unemployed and looking for work	4%	6%	8%	6%
Not looking for work	1%	1%	2%	2%
Not reported	-	2%	1%	1%
Prince Edward Island	(wN = 118)	(wN = 96)	(wN = 131)	(wN = 102)
Working	58%	70%	58%	68%
Studying	32%	22%	33%	24%
Other:				
Employed (on leave)	2%	0%	1%	3%
Unemployed and looking for work	7%	5%	7%	2%
Not looking for work	1%	1%	1%	2%
Not reported	-	2%	1%	1%
Outside Maritimes	(wN = 832)	(wN = 745)	(wN = 730)	(wN = 584)
Working	59%	57%	53%	54%
Studying	32%	33%	33%	36%
Other:				
Employed (on leave)	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unemployed and looking for work	7%	6%	10%	6%
Not looking for work	1%	1%	2%	3%
Not reported	-	1%	1%	1%

Table 4 . Percentage of graduates residing in their province of graduation two years after graduation.

Province of Graduation	Class			
	2012	2014	2018	2020
New Brunswick				
wN	693	617	639	479
% residing in province of graduation	58%	57%	64%	60%
Nova Scotia				
wN	1,335	1,292	1,573	1,348
% residing in province of graduation	51%	54%	59%	61%
Prince Edward Island				
wN	143	122	146	104
% residing in province of graduation	60%	61%	67%	69%

Table 5. Percentage of graduates residing in their province of graduation two years after graduation by discipline cluster of their degree.

Province of Graduation and Discipline Cluster of Degree	Class			
	2012 (wN = 2,170)	2014 (wN = 2,031)	2018 (wN = 2,358)	2020 (wN = 1,930)
New Brunswick				
<i>Humanities, arts and social sciences</i>				
wN	300	228	245	203
% residing in province of graduation	53%	50%	62%	58%
<i>Physical and life sciences and mathematics</i>				
wN	74	92	81	70
% residing in province of graduation	50%	41%	55%	36%
<i>Applied arts and science or professional program</i>				
wN	224	202	207	145
% residing in province of graduation	62%	66%	67%	69%
<i>Commerce and administration</i>				
wN	95	96	106	61
% residing in province of graduation	70%	72%	70%	76%
Nova Scotia				
<i>Humanities, arts and social sciences</i>				
wN	508	463	498	410
% residing in province of graduation	50%	49%	63%	65%
<i>Physical and life sciences and mathematics</i>				
wN	267	293	295	262
% residing in province of graduation	55%	57%	57%	55%
<i>Applied arts and science or professional program</i>				
wN	286	304	438	425
% residing in province of graduation	58%	58%	61%	62%
<i>Commerce and administration</i>				
wN	273	231	342	251
% residing in province of graduation	42%	55%	54%	61%
Prince Edward Island				
<i>Humanities, arts and social sciences</i>				
wN	65	42	40	28
% residing in province of graduation	66%	68%	75%	*
<i>Physical and life sciences and mathematics</i>				
wN	25	27	37	25
% residing in province of graduation	*	*	59%	*
<i>Applied arts and science or professional program</i>				
wN	15	22	42	29
% residing in province of graduation	*	*	65%	*
<i>Commerce and administration</i>				
wN	38	31	27	22
% residing in province of graduation	60%	*	*	*

* Data suppressed due to small subsample (unweighted n < 50)

Table 6 . Percentage of graduates residing in their province of graduation two years after graduation by their residence before enrolling in their degree.

Province of Graduation and Residence before Enrolling	Class			
	2012 (wN = 2,170)	2014 (wN = 2,031)	2018 (wN = 2,358)	2020 (wN = 1,930)
New Brunswick				
<i>Maritimes</i>				
wN	598	510	519	387
% residing in province of graduation	63%	67%	72%	68%
<i>Outside Maritimes</i>				
wN	95	107	120	92
% residing in province of graduation	23%	11%	31%	30%
Nova Scotia				
<i>Maritimes</i>				
wN	852	831	996	917
% residing in province of graduation	68%	72%	77%	75%
<i>Outside Maritimes</i>				
wN	483	461	577	431
% residing in province of graduation	21%	22%	28%	32%
Prince Edward Island				
<i>Maritimes</i>				
wN	124	109	125	86
% residing in province of graduation	65%	62%	69%	74%
<i>Outside Maritimes</i>				
wN	19	13	21	18
% residing in province of graduation	*	*	*	*

* Data suppressed due to small subsample (unweighted n < 50)

Table 7. Percentage of graduates residing in their home province two years after graduation who completed their degree in that same province.

Province of Graduation	Class			
	2012	2014	2018	2020
New Brunswick				
wN	507	433	433	331
% residing in province of graduation	70%	75%	82%	77%
Nova Scotia				
wN	746	733	888	823
% residing in province of graduation	73%	76%	83%	80%
Prince Edward Island				
wN	107	98	107	72
% residing in province of graduation	70%	66%	78%	84%

Table 8. Distribution of graduates' residences before they enrolled in their degree by province of graduation.

Province of Graduation and Residence	Class			
	2012	2014	2018	2020
New Brunswick (wN = 693)				
New Brunswick	73%	70%	68%	69%
Nova Scotia	11%	9%	11%	10%
Prince Edward Island	3%	3%	3%	2%
Rest of Canada	8%	12%	13%	13%
Outside Canada	5%	5%	6%	6%
Nova Scotia (wN = 1,335)				
New Brunswick	5%	6%	6%	5%
Nova Scotia	56%	57%	56%	61%
Prince Edward Island	2%	2%	1%	2%
Rest of Canada	28%	28%	28%	23%
Outside Canada	8%	8%	9%	9%
Prince Edward Island (wN = 143)				
New Brunswick	6%	5%	5%	4%
Nova Scotia	6%	5%	7%	10%
Prince Edward Island	75%	80%	73%	69%
Rest of Canada	6%	5%	7%	6%
Outside Canada	7%	6%	8%	11%

Table 9 . Percentage of out-of-province graduates residing in their province of graduation two years after graduation.

Province of Graduation	Class			
	2012 (wN = 810)	2014 (wN = 767)	2018 (wN = 930)	2020 (wN = 704)
New Brunswick				
wN	186	184	206	148
% residing in province of graduation	23%	14%	26%	24%
Nova Scotia				
wN	589	559	685	525
% residing in province of graduation	24%	26%	29%	33%
Prince Edward Island				
wN	35	24	39	32
% residing in province of graduation	29%	*	36%	*

* Data suppressed due to small subsample (unweighted n < 50)