



**MPHEC**  
Maritime Provinces  
Higher Education  
Commission

**CESPM**  
Commission de  
l'enseignement supérieur  
des Provinces maritimes

**MARITIME PROVINCES HIGHER EDUCATION** – University student population changes as enrolment of Maritimers continues to decrease.

**February 25, 2014**

**For immediate release**

Fredericton (NB) – In 2012-13, 70,433 students were enrolled in Maritime universities. A report released today by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission shows that, while the overall number of students remained stable in 2012-13, the make-up of the student population continues to change.

The last ten years have seen the number of Maritimers enrolled in the region's universities decrease by 12%. Over the same time period, the number of Canadians from outside the Maritimes has increased by 28% and the number of international students has doubled.

"Maritime universities are maintaining their numbers by attracting more students from outside the Maritimes", says Commission CEO Mireille Duguay. "20% of students are Canadian students from outside the region, and 14% are international students."

The three provinces show very different enrolment trends.

- In New Brunswick,
  - The number of undergraduate students decreased by 12% over 10 years, and 1% over one year.
  - At the graduate level, the number of students increased by 33% over 10 years, but decreased by 2% over one year.
- In Nova Scotia,
  - The number of undergraduate students increased by 4% over 10 years, and 1% over one year.
  - At the graduate level, the number of students increased 25% over 10 years, and 3% over one year.
- In Prince Edward Island,
  - The number of undergraduate students increased by 20% over 10 years, but decreased 2.5% over one year.
  - At the graduate level, the number of students increased by 92% over 10 years, but decreased by 4% over one year.

The *Annual Digest – University Enrolment 2012-2013* presents a series of summary tables and charts of provincial-level statistics for 15 publicly-funded Maritime universities, showing trends over one, five and 10 year intervals. Additional tables with a breakdown by university are available from the MPHEC website at [www.mphec.ca](http://www.mphec.ca).

The Commission will be publishing shortly a second Annual Digest focussing on credentials granted in Maritime universities in 2012. Occasionally, the Commission also publishes more focussed reports

under the *Trends in Maritimes Higher Education* series such as the report, released in May 2012, on international student enrolment trends. These reports are available free of charge on the MPHEC website.

About the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC): The MPHEC, established in 1974, is celebrating its 40th Anniversary. The MPHEC is an arm's length organization accountable to the Ministers responsible for post-secondary education in the Maritime provinces. The Commission assists institutions and government in enhancing the post-secondary learning environment. The Commission's 20 members are drawn from the Maritime provinces, and represent higher education institutions, provincial governments and the general public. The Commission's primary orientation in carrying out its duties is to give first consideration to improving and maintaining the best possible service to students as lifelong learners.

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FOR BROADCAST NEWS:

A report released today (February 25) by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission shows that, while the overall number of university students in the region remains stable, the student population continues to change.

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Commission CEO Mireille Duguay said that Maritime universities are maintaining their numbers by attracting more students from outside the Maritimes.

The report Annual Digest: University Enrolment – 2012-2013 is available online at: [www.mphec.ca](http://www.mphec.ca).

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