

Trends in Maritime Higher Education

Volume 16 Number 2

The Class of 2012 in 2018

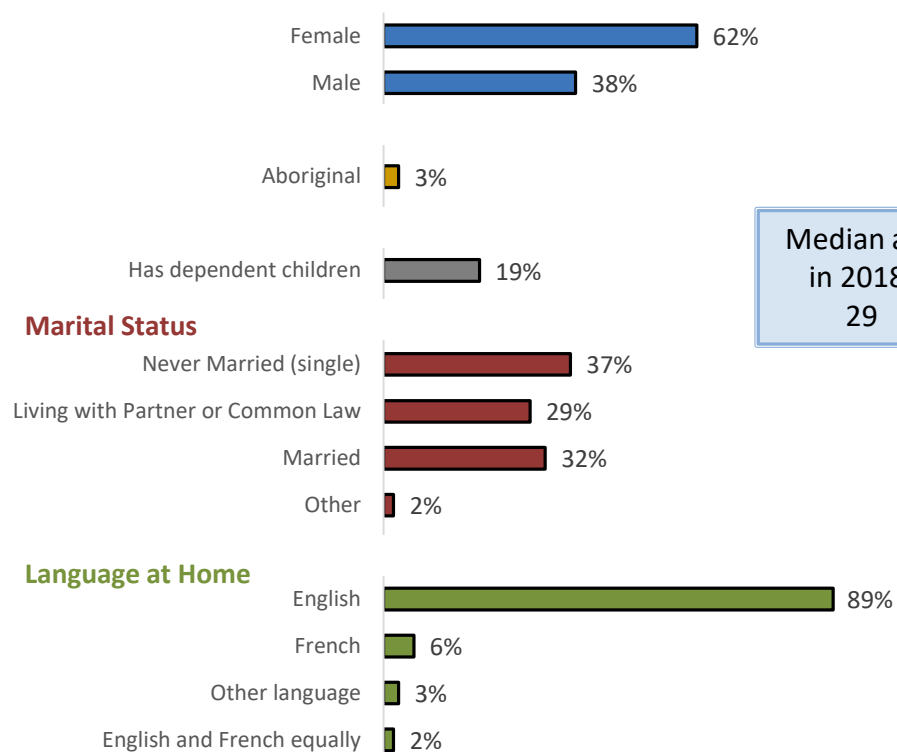
June 2019

Profile of First Degree Holders and Methodological Notes

First degree holders are defined as graduates who enrolled in university without prior post-secondary education and graduated with their first degree in 2012. Focusing analysis on this group allows for clearer interpretations of the findings as these graduates are a relatively homogenous group, all at the same

stage in 2012 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 academic and demographic categories.

Demographic Profile of Class of 2012 First Degree Holders Surveyed in 2018 (n=1,901)

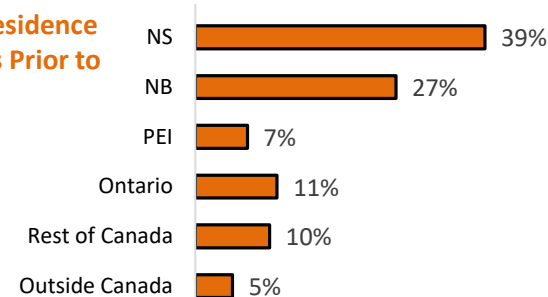


Median age
in 2018:
29

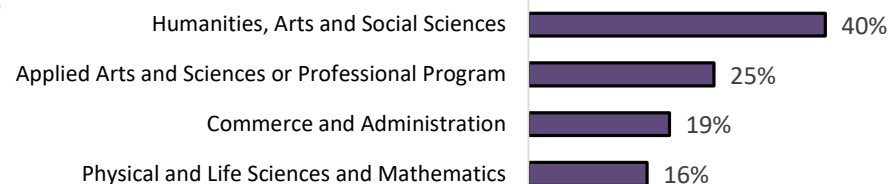
Parents' Education Attainment



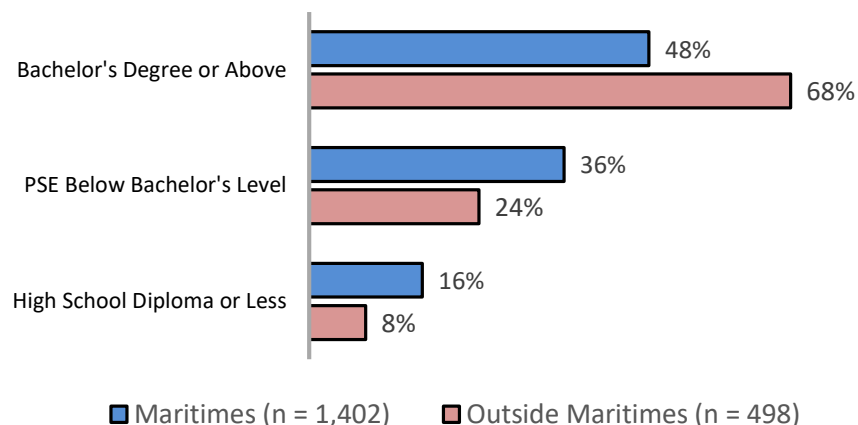
Place of Residence 12 Months Prior to Enrolling



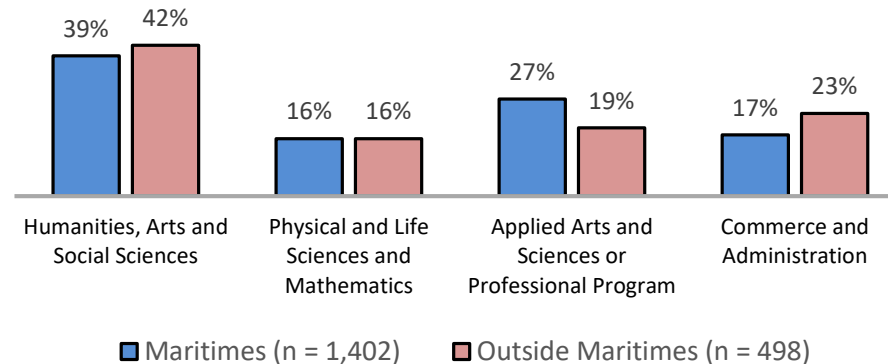
Discipline Cluster of 2012 Degree



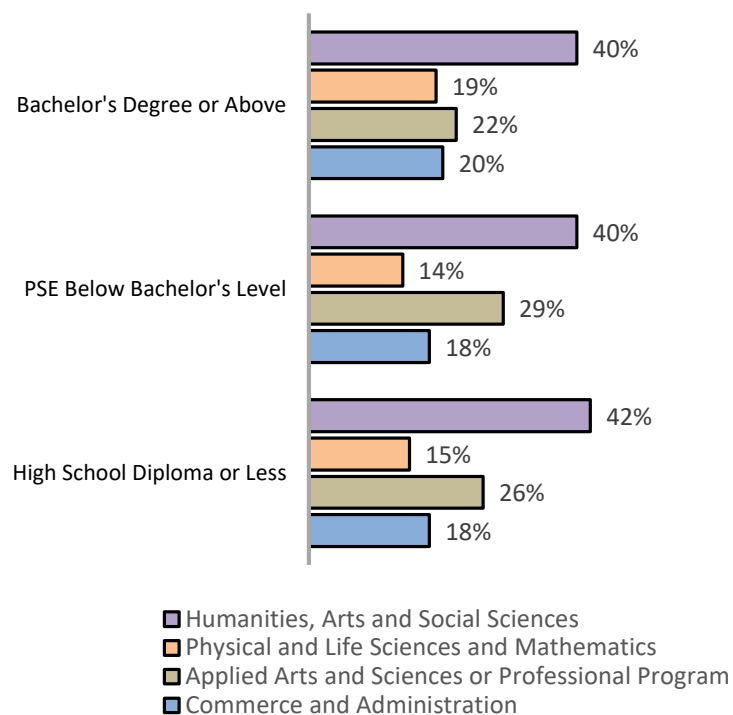
Parents' Educational Attainment by Residence
12 Months Prior to Enrolling in 2012 Degree



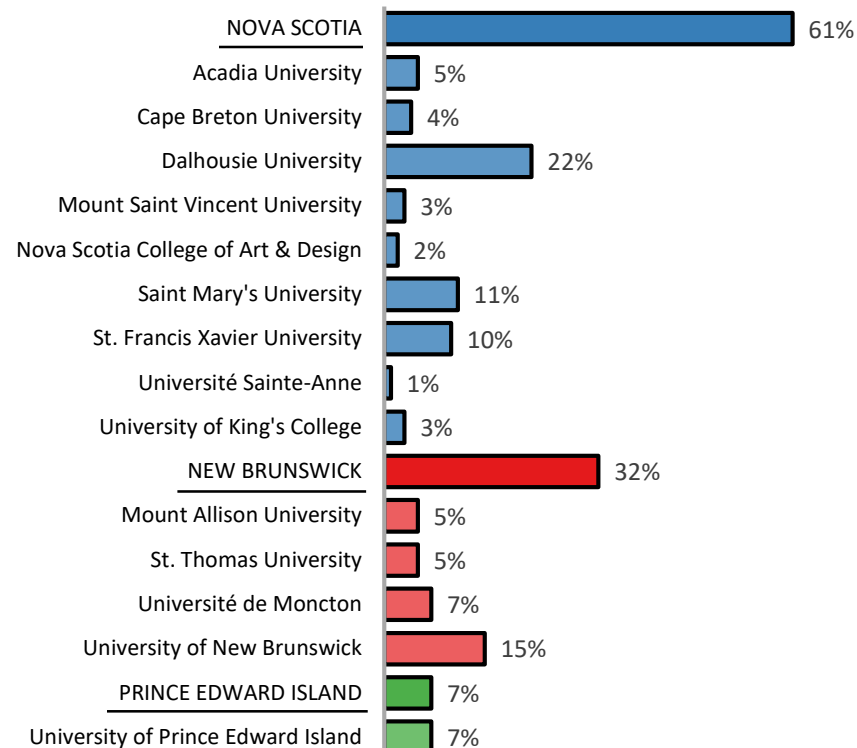
Relationship between Discipline of 2012 Degree and
Residence 12 Months prior to Enrolling in 2012 Degree



Parents' Educational Attainment by
Discipline of 2012 Degree



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



Demographic Profile of Class of 2012 First Degree Holders by Province of Graduation

	Province of Graduation			
	Nova Scotia (n = 1,112)	New Brunswick (n = 648)	Prince Edward Island (n = 141)	All First Degree Holders (n = 1,901)
Gender				
Female	62.9%	60.9%	61.9%	62.2%
Male	37.1%	39.1%	38.1%	37.8%
Aboriginal Person				
First Nation, Metis, or Inuk	3.2%	2.0%	0.6%	2.7%
Have Dependent Children?				
Yes	15.0%	26.5%	16.1%	18.8%
Marital Status				
Never married (single)	38.6%	33.1%	39.5%	36.8%
Living with partner or common law	29.6%	28.3%	27.0%	29.0%
Married	29.9%	36.7%	31.0%	32.3%
Other	2.0%	1.9%	2.5%	1.9%
Language Spoken Most Often at Home				
English	94.5%	76.7%	97.2%	88.9%
French	0.7%	17.1%	-	6.0%
English & French Equally	0.9%	3.4%	2.2%	1.8%
Other Language	3.4%	2.4%	0.6%	2.9%
Prefer not to say	0.5%	0.3%	-	0.4%
Residence 12 Months prior to Enrolling in First Bachelor's Degree				
NB	5.8%	70.7%	6.2%	27.0%
NS	57.4%	12.0%	5.9%	39.2%
PEI	2.4%	2.0%	81.1%	7.4%
Ontario	16.4%	4.3%	0.9%	11.4%
Rest of Canada	12.4%	6.3%	2.8%	9.8%
Outside Canada	5.6%	4.7%	3.1%	5.2%
Median Age				
Age in 2018 (as of Dec. 31)	29	29	29	29

	Province of Graduation			
	Nova Scotia (n = 1,112)	New Brunswick (n = 648)	Prince Edward Island (n = 141)	All First Degree Holders (n = 1,901)
Discipline Cluster of 2012 Degree				
Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences	39.0%	41.6%	43.0%	40.1%
Physical and Life Sciences and Mathematics	20.8%	33.3%	19.2%	24.8%
Applied Arts and Science or Professional Program	18.7%	11.3%	17.6%	16.2%
Commerce and Administration	21.4%	13.8%	20.1%	18.9%
Parents' Educational Attainment (graduates of all geographic origins)				
Bachelor's Degree or Above	58.2%	46.7%	42.1%	53.4%
PSE Below Bachelor's Level	30.0%	35.8%	40.3%	32.6%
High School Diploma or Less	11.8%	17.5%	17.6%	14.0%

Distribution of Parents' Educational Attainment among Graduates Residing in Province prior to Enrolling in 2012 Degree

	Province of Residence Prior to Enrolling			
	Nova Scotia (n = 711)	New Brunswick (n = 539)	Prince Edward Island (n = 152)	All First Degree Holders (n = 1,901)
Parents' Educational Attainment (graduates residing in province)				
Bachelor's Degree or Above	52.3%	44.3%	42.6%	53.4%
PSE Below Bachelor's Level	32.9%	37.8%	41.1%	32.6%
High School Diploma or Less	14.8%	17.9%	16.3%	14.0%

Methodological Notes

The survey of the Class of 2012 in 2018 was conducted by Prairie Research Associates Inc. on behalf of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission. The Class of 2012 was previously surveyed in 2014, two-years after graduation. More information about the Graduate Outcomes survey program may be found at:

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

SURVEY MODE

Surveys were administered both online and over the telephone, and were available in English and French.

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, LinkedIn). All institutions provided at least one interaction on their social media.

FIELD

The survey was conducted between September 10 and December 6, 2018. The total sample of 2,630 respondents represents 25.3% of the total Class of 2012 bachelor's graduate population of 10,386 in the 14 Maritime universities for whom contact information was available. The margin of error for the survey is ± 1.9 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

The total sample for first degree holders is 1,901, 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 on the basis of the university of graduation and gender.

DEFINITIONS

First-degree Holders

First-degree holders are defined as graduates who completed a bachelor's degree and who enrolled in the program with a high-school diploma as their highest completed level of education. For first-degree holders, the 2012 degree represents their starting point in postsecondary education; analyses based on this group provide a clearer picture of outcomes and transitions of Maritime university graduates from the beginning of the postsecondary education path.

Discipline Cluster

Major fields of study are grouped into four broad categories or clusters for analytical purposes: 1) Commerce and Administration, 2) Applied Arts and Sciences or Professional programs 3) Physical and Life Sciences and Mathematics, and 4) Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. A list of majors comprising each discipline cluster may be found at:

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

Parents' Educational Attainment

Parents' educational attainment comprises three categories:

- High school diploma or less
- PSE below bachelor's degree (includes trade, community college or hospital based certificates or diplomas, and completion of a 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, first professional, master's or PhD degrees, and graduate level certificates/diplomas)

These categories combine the parents/guardians highest level of education, and the category is assigned based on the highest level of education between them. Excluded from analysis are those graduates who did not know or declined to report the highest level of education of their parent(s)/guardian(s).

For further information, please contact:

Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission P.O. Box 6000 401-82 Westmorland Street Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1
Telephone: (506) 453-2844 Fax: (506) 453-2106 E-mail: mphec@mphec.ca Web: www.mphec.ca