

**Applied Research Branch
Strategic Policy
Human Resources Development Canada**

**Direction générale de la recherche appliquée
Politique stratégique
Développement des ressources humaines Canada**

**Inventory of Provincial/Territorial
Youth Surveys**

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January 2000

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Abstract

The Forum of Labour Market Ministers has been actively engaged in supporting various strategies to address youth employability and related issues. One of the initiatives, led by the Government of Alberta and Human Resources Development Canada, is the gathering of additional information on various types of surveys of youth which are being conducted in the provinces and territories.

The goal of this project is to determine the type of youth-related surveys currently in place in Canada, to avoid the duplication of surveys among provinces and to allow the sharing of good ideas.

Each province was asked to complete one questionnaire for each of its surveys conducted during calendar years 1996, 1997 and 1998 and related to youth aged roughly 15 to 24. The subjects covered by the surveys were youth labour market, youth earnings, education/training, skills, and school-work transitions.

Eight provinces participated in the project, providing the 32 surveys described in the following pages.

Résumé

Le Forum des ministres du marché du travail s'est consacré activement à appuyer diverses stratégies abordant la situation de l'emploi chez les jeunes et les questions qui y sont connexes. Une des initiatives, entreprise par le gouvernement d'Alberta et Développement des ressources humaines Canada, est la collecte de renseignements additionnels sur divers types d'enquêtes réalisées auprès des jeunes dans les provinces et territoires.

L'objectif de cette démarche est de déterminer le type d'enquête portant sur les jeunes en cours au Canada en ce moment, afin d'éviter le recoupement d'enquêtes dans les provinces et permettre la mise en commun de bonnes idées.

Chaque province a été priée de remplir un questionnaire pour chacune des enquêtes réalisées durant les années civiles 1996, 1997 et 1998 portant sur les jeunes âgés de plus ou moins 15 à 24 ans. Ces enquêtes abordaient des sujets tel que les jeunes et le marché du travail, l'éducation/la formation, les compétences et les transitions école-travail.

Huit provinces ont participé au projet, donnant lieu aux 32 enquêtes dont il est question dans les pages qui suivent.

Acknowledgements

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Newfoundland

Follow-up of 1995 and 1996 High School Graduates

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Newfoundland Department of Education

Survey objectives and purposes:

To provide information on the post-graduation activities of high school graduates of 1995 and 1996 and determine why students do or do not pursue further education beyond high school.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

Post-graduation activities of high school graduates, reasons for not attending, plans of graduates not pursuing a postsecondary education, expected level of education, funding sources, financial barriers, first choice of program.

Collection period:

Fall 1995 (September - January) for the 1995 graduates and summer 1997 (June - September) for the 1996 graduates.

Reference period: —

Type of survey: Individual student

Target population/coverage: All high school graduates for 1995 and 1996.

Sample size:

1995 = 6968

1996 = 7251

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology:

Graduate database was linked with all available postsecondary databases in the department to determine where graduates went after graduation. All graduates not found/matched were interviewed via telephone.

Historical information: Only surveyed in fall 1996 and summer 1997.

Survey limitations:

Approximately 950 students in the 1995 survey and approximately 850 students in the 1996 survey could not be reached neither through linking of databases or via telephone.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

On The Road To Success - The Report of the Follow-up of 1995 and 1996 High School Graduates

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Post Secondary Graduates Follow-up Survey of 1998 Graduates**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Newfoundland Department of Education, Division of Corporate Planning and Research

Survey objectives and purposes:

To provide high quality labour market information in support of career and program planning.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

This survey collects detailed program level information on graduate employment, earnings, out-migration, student loans and length of job search, and describes graduates opinions of their investment of time and money in their program.

Collection period: February 1999 to June 1999

Reference period: July 1997 to December 1998

Type of survey: Telephone interviews

Target population/coverage:

Census of all post secondary graduates in Newfoundland from the University, public colleges and privates colleges.

Sample size:

7,927 graduates; 4,853 respondents

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology:

- Telephone survey using DASH which is a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) tool;
- Attempted census;
- Up to fifteen follow up calls; and
- Spoke to graduates directly

Historical information:

This survey has been done for the graduates of 1994 to 1998, therefore a longitudinal study is possible. There were a lot of similarities from year to year.

In 1997, the MPHEC (Maritime Provinces of Higher Education Commission) did a similar study of 1996 university graduates.

Survey limitations:

Student interviewers; addresses and phone numbers of graduates were a year old; and response rates by program were generally always acceptable except for the PhD programs in 1996.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Post Secondary Indicators 1998

CareerSearch 1999

Survey of 1996 University Graduates (MPHEC)

To be published in 2000 – *Post Secondary Indicators 2000* which will use the 1997 graduate survey data and *CareerSearch 2000* which will use the 1998 graduate survey data.

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Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia Community College Graduates Follow-up Survey**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Nova Scotia Department of Education and Culture

Survey objectives and purposes:

To gather information on the labour market experiences of graduates approximately one year after completing their training.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- For those employed: Graduates supply occupational information, including the relationship to training received.
- For those unemployed: Graduates supply information on the nature of their job search and reasons for their unemployment.
- Program evaluation is another main topic.

Collection period: Survey packets are mailed out the last week of June, the year after graduation.

Reference period:

Employment status information is gathered for the last full week in June. In 1998, the reference week was June 21 - 27.

Type of survey: Graduate follow-up

Target population/coverage:

Graduates from all Community College campuses and the trades and technical graduates of the University College of Cape Breton.

Sample size:

Census survey of all graduates from all Community College campuses and the trades and technical graduates of the University College of Cap Breton.

Data collection method: Mail-in survey

Methodology: Mail-out, with two reminder cards, followed by a second mail-out.

Historical information:

Annual survey, currently surveying students who graduated in June 1997.

Survey limitations: N/A

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title: *Community College Graduate Follow-Up Survey Report*

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High School Graduates Intention Survey 1997-1998**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Nova Scotia Department of Education and Culture (co-sponsored by HRDC)

Survey objectives and purposes:

Support the planned high school follow-up survey by gathering address information.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

Asked some initial questions about student plans following graduation and factors that influenced that decision.

Collection period: May - June 1998

Reference period: Current Status

Type of survey: Nova Scotia high schools

Target population/coverage:

Students graduating from Grade 12 and other senior programs in June 1998.

Sample size:

Census of students eligible to graduate (approximately 13,000 enrolled; approximately 10,000 graduates). Survey sent to approximately 100 students.

Data collection method:

Mail survey administered by the schools (distributed and collected, then sent back to Department by the schools).

Methodology: Surveys sent to the schools by courier, then sent back to the department.

Historical information: Field survey, will possibly be done annually.

Survey limitations: —

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Planned release to participating boards and schools during the fall 1998.

Publication title: N/A

Name of provincial contact:

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High School Follow-up Survey

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Nova Scotia Department of Education and Culture (co-sponsored by HRDC)

Survey objectives and purposes:

Survey still being developed, however some objectives include:

- Understand student's level of preparedness for their activities after high school;
- Determine if students have expressed realistic goals and intentions; and
- Better understand the dynamics at play when students chose whether or not to pursue post-secondary education.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information: Survey not yet designed.

Collection period: Planned for 1999

Reference period: To be determined.

Type of survey: Mailed to households

Target population/coverage:

Students who graduated from Grade 12 and other senior programs in June 1998 and who indicated on the High School Graduates Intention Survey that they would be willing to participate in the follow-up survey (approximately 6,800).

Sample size: To be determined, possibly a census of target population.

Data collection method: Mail-in survey

Methodology: Mail-out

Historical information: This will be the first survey.

Survey limitations: N/A

Are results analyzed? N/A

Are results public? N/A

Publication title: N/A

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Family Mosaic**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Nova Scotia Department of Community Services and Human Resources Development Canada

Survey objectives and purposes:

To determine the impacts of family structure on outcomes for young people.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

Currently undertaking the fifth data collection for this longitudinal research project that was initiated in 1978. The primary strength of the Family Mosaic project is that it provides a wealth of information on both children and their families that can now be linked to outcomes in adult life. Data collection have been conducted from the time of birth, and will, with the next data collection, continue into adulthood. The early process of this project included information on issues such as family income, parental education, social support networks, childcare arrangements, and children's intellectual and social development at age 10. The final report will examine how family structure and related conditions experienced during childhood have affected the outcomes for young adults in areas such as physical health, quality of life, education, employment and social/civic responsibility.

Collection period: November 1998 to March 1999

Reference period: —

Type of survey:

Quasi-experimental design comparing random samples of children half of who were born to one-parent families and half of who were born into two-parent families.

Target population/coverage: —

Sample size: Expecting 60% response rate for a final sample size of 450.

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology: —

Historical information:

Longitudinal survey; data collections when children were six weeks, nine months, 18 months, ten years and now 20 years of age.

Survey limitations: Random sample but limited size.

Are results analyzed? No

Are results public? No, will be when analyzed.

Publication title: N/A

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New Brunswick

Student Drug Survey

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

New Brunswick Health and Community Services/Education

Survey objectives and purposes:

What pupils know and feel about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

100 questions, mostly multiple choice with about 10% yes/no responses.

Collection period: April 1998 - 2 weeks

Reference period: Previous year

Type of survey: In school

Target population/coverage: Students in Grades 7, 9, 10 and 12

Sample size: 3,600 youth

Data collection method: Scannable form completed by respondents.

Methodology: Administered to sample classes during school time.

Historical information:

Longitudinal repeat of survey conducted over past ten years, given every two or three years.

Survey limitations: Self-reported data

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title: Student Drug Use Survey

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Survey of New Brunswick Community College Non-Completers

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Department of Education (1998 onwards), previously the former Department of Advanced Education and Labour.

Survey objectives and purposes:

The purpose of the project is to interview the students who did not complete their program at the New Brunswick Community College (NBCC). The intent was to conduct the survey on an annual basis, beginning in 1997, however after two reports the project was cancelled, due to disappointing results and the difficulty in managing the project.

Each year the Department conducts surveys of New Brunswick Community College graduates (the *Survey of [previous year] NBCC Graduates* and the *Three-Year Graduate Follow-Up Survey*). The graduate surveys collect information from those who successfully completed (graduated from) their training program during the previous calendar year and three years previously. The Survey of Non-Completers contacted those who were enrolled in a program that was scheduled to terminate during the previous calendar year who did not successfully complete their chosen program.

The results of the Survey of Non-Completers were to be used to develop comparative profiles of non-completers and graduates. Some analysis and comparison between types of programs (regular and non-regular) and across categories (status) of non-completers was included. The survey required approximately fifteen to twenty minutes per interview.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

Non-completers were asked the same questions as the graduates plus approximately twenty additional questions. During the interview graduates are asked about their labour force activities since completing their training program. They are also asked to evaluate various aspects of their training experience at the New Brunswick Community College. The survey required approximately fifteen minutes to complete an interview with a respondent. The Department required a minimum 60% response rate for this survey.

The indicators were:

- Comparative demographic profile
- Motivations for leaving
- Prevention of program exits
- Likelihood of return to NBCC
- Changes suggested by respondents regarding:
 - ◆ College admission services
 - ◆ Students services / financial aid
 - ◆ Quality of instruction
 - ◆ Program content
 - ◆ Counselling and student support services
 - ◆ Library services
 - ◆ Other changes

- Post-exit labour force activity, specifically:
 - ◆ Overall employment
 - ◆ Overall labour market profile
 - ◆ Labour force status in reference week
 - ◆ Reference week employment
 - ◆ Unemployment in the reference week
- Post-exit educational experience
- Comparative information about non-completers and graduates

Collection period: Two-week period, last two weeks of June 1997 and 1998.

Reference period: First week of June (the week prior to the collection period).

Type of survey: Individuals (New Brunswick Community College non-completers)

Target population/coverage:

The Survey of Non-Completers contacted those who were enrolled in a program scheduled to terminate during the previous calendar year (including those who did not successfully complete the first or second year of a two-year program and those who did not successfully complete the first, second or third year of a three-year program). The final status of these students, in the Department's Student Information System, was "unsuccessful," "withdrawal," "cancellation," or "incomplete." Between 25 and 30% of the students who enrol in the first year of NBCC programs do not successfully complete the final year of the program (target population size: approximately 1000).

Approximately 55% of the survey population is under the age of 24.

Sample size:

There is no sample. The surveying consultant attempted to contact the entire survey population. The Department required a response rate of 60%.

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology:

The surveying company used Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) to record responses. The data was compiled in SPSS format. The report and text are in WordPerfect format.

Historical information:

The survey is conducted annually. The *Three-Year NBCC Graduate Follow-up Survey* and the *Survey of [previous year] NBCC Graduates* (also conducted annually) served as companion surveys, providing valuable comparative analysis. NBCC graduates are surveyed one year and three years following completion of their training. Non-completers were surveyed one year following the scheduled completion of their training. The NBCC has been conducting graduate follow-up surveys since 1983.

Survey limitations:

The survey was discontinued in 1999 due to various reasons. Primarily, results remained the same year after year, thus there was little justification to continue. The project was also very difficult to manage. Non-completers were not easily identified in the Student Information System and there were many inconsistencies. The survey had negative connotations with respondents, thus compromising the survey's integrity. Response rates were too low—the requirement of 60% was never met—to justify the survey.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Annual publication, 1997 and 1998, in both official languages: *Survey of New Brunswick Community College Non-Completers* and *Sondage auprès des décrocheurs des Collèges Communautaires du Nouveau-Brunswick*.

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Women Cyberspace Career Fair Survey

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Department of Advanced Education and Labour, New Brunswick Community Colleges

Survey objectives and purposes:

Measure the impact of a one-day Information Technology (IT) career fair targeted for young women (Grades 10-12). Did the career fair have an impact on their career choices?

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Educational objectives - field of study, institution type, have they ever considered IT fields;
- Perception of IT careers;
- Current access to computers; and
- Parent's careers/jobs.

Collection period:

First survey administered May 1997 (few minutes prior to the event)

Second survey administered September 1997 (follow-up survey)

Reference period: N/A

Type of survey: —

Target population/coverage:

Females attending Grades ten through 12. Most were in Grade 11 (70%), second highest Grade 12 (29%) and, the rest were in Grade 10 (1%).

Sample size: We targeted a Census for both surveys.

Data collection method:

First survey was delivered to all participants. They had a few minutes to complete before it was returned to organizers.

Second survey was a mail-in survey.

Methodology: —

Historical information: N/A

Survey limitations:

The second survey caused more problems because it was a mail-in, the response rate was very low (as expected) and the mail-out had to be co-ordinated through the Department of Education as they did not want to release the addresses. It is not completely certain that all the surveys were mailed since it dealt with schools from across the province.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? No, internal use only.

Publication title: N/A

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Survey of New Brunswick Community College Graduates¹

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Department of Education (1998 onwards), previously the former Department of Advanced Education and Labour

Survey objectives and purposes:

The Department of Education (previously under the responsibility of the Department of Advanced Education and Labour) has conducted an annual graduate follow-up survey since 1983. This graduate follow-up information is the Department's key indicator of the labour market success of its graduates, and thus a valuable in-house planning tool. Most graduates will have been in the labour force for approximately one year when asked to participate in this survey. The *[Current Year] Survey of [Previous Year] New Brunswick Community College Graduates* report provides the results of the survey.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

During the interview graduates are asked about their labour force activities since completing their training program. They are also asked to evaluate various aspects of their training experience at the New Brunswick Community College. The survey takes approximately fifteen to twenty minutes per interview.

In its present format, the report consists of three sections. The first section contains an introduction, a statement of the methodology and survey highlights. In the second section survey results are presented separately for each program and program location. This section of the report is approximately 240 pages in length. The third section consists of summary tables of selected survey results including graduate assessments and a glossary of terms.

The indicators are:

- Labour force participation
- Employment rates
- Comparative labour force participation and employment rates (comparison with results of previous surveys)
- Employment in New Brunswick
- Employment related to training
- Employment comparison between regular and co-op programs
- Hours of work
- Average weekly earnings
- Employment status
- Time in current employment
- Work situation in reference week
- Overall employment since graduation
- Graduates not working in reference week
- Migration of graduates
- Additional education and training
- Evaluation of NBCC programs
- Additional skills developed at NBCC

¹ Current year of survey of previous year's graduates.

Collection period: Two-week period, last two weeks of June, annually.

Reference period:

Second week of June, annually (the week prior to the collection period). To allow historical comparisons, questions on employment situation during the first week of March (reference period of older surveys) are also asked.

Type of survey: Individuals (Graduates of New Brunswick Community College)

Target population/coverage:

The survey includes graduates of both regular training programs and non-regular training programs that are twenty weeks or longer. The graduate population for the survey will be those who graduated from program that ended during the previous calendar year. Approximately 2400 people graduate each year from New Brunswick Community College regular training programs and non-regular training programs that are twenty weeks or longer.

Approximately 60% of the survey population is under the age of 24.

Sample size:

There is no sample. The surveying consultant attempts to contact the entire survey population. The department requires a response rate of 80%.

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology:

The surveying company uses Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) to record responses. The data is compiled in SPSS format. The report and text are in WordPerfect format.

Historical information:

The survey is conducted annually. The *Three-Year NBCC Graduate Follow-up Survey* (also conducted annually) serves as its companion survey, providing valuable longitudinal analysis. NBCC graduates are surveyed one year and three years following completion of their training. The NBCC has been conducting graduate follow-up surveys since 1983.

Survey limitations:

Over time it has become more and more difficult to reach the desired (albeit high) response rate (80%). The survey population is increasingly fluid, making it a challenge to contact respondents. In previous years, response rates have reached as high as 87%. For programs with enrolments of less than 10, the Department would like to have 100% response rate however this is rarely achieved.

Due to increased demands for information, the survey questionnaire has lengthened considerably in the past two years. The average length of time to complete the questionnaire has increased from an optimal of 10 minutes to an overly lengthy 18 minutes. The surveying company has advised us that respondents are losing interest and becoming impatient towards the end of the survey.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Annual publication, in both official languages: *Survey of [previous year] New Brunswick Community College Graduates* and *Sondage sur le placement des diplômés de [l'année passée] des Collèges Communautaires du Nouveau-Brunswick.*

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New Brunswick Community College Three-Year Graduates Follow-up Survey²

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Department of Education (1998 onwards), previously the former Department of Advanced Education and Labour

Survey objectives and purposes:

The Department of Education (previously under the responsibility of the Department of Advanced Education and Labour) has conducted an annual graduate follow-up survey since 1983.

Although the information gathered from the annual survey (survey of the previous year's NBCC graduates) provides valuable information for the planning process, the Department recognizes the need for additional information from graduates. In 1996 the Department began gathering information from graduates of regular training programs who have been in the labour force for a period of three years. In 1997, the Department began conducting surveys of graduates who completed their training three academic years previous.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

During the interview graduates are asked about their current activities as well as their activities since completing their training. They will also be asked to evaluate their training experience at the New Brunswick Community College. The survey takes between ten to fifteen minutes per interview.

The report provides the results of the survey. The report will consist of two sections. In the first section, results are analyzed globally for key indicators (some analysis by gender may be required). Each indicator is discussed separately.

The second section consists of a series of summary tables that include selected survey results. Key indicators are presented at the more specific level, (where reliability permits and agreed upon with the Department) by program delivery location. This information is presented in a table format.

The indicators are:

- Labour force participation
- Employment rates
- Comparative labour force participation and employment rates (comparison with results of the survey completed one year following graduation)
- Employment in New Brunswick
- Employment related to training
- Hours of work
- Average weekly earnings
- Employment status
- Time in current employment
- Work situation in reference week

² Survey of graduates from three previous years.

- Overall employment since graduation
- Graduates not working in reference week
- Migration of graduates
- Additional education and training
- Evaluation of NBCC programs
- Additional skills developed at NBCC

Collection period: Two-week period (last two weeks of March), annually.

Reference period:

Second week of March, annually (the week prior to the collection period).

Type of survey: Individuals (Graduates of New Brunswick Community College).

Target population/coverage:

The survey attempts to contact graduates of regular training programs three years after completion of training. Approximately 2400 people graduate each year from New Brunswick Community College regular training programs.

Approximately 40% of the survey population is under the age of 25.

Sample size:

There is no sample. The surveying consultant attempts to contact the entire survey population. The Department requires a response rate of 70%.

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology:

The surveying company uses Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) to record responses. The data is compiled in SPSS format. The report and text are in WordPerfect format.

Historical information:

The survey is conducted annually. The *[Current year] Survey of [previous year] NBCC Graduates* (also conducted annually) serves as its companion survey, providing valuable longitudinal analysis. NBCC graduates are surveyed one year and three years following completion of their training. The NBCC has been conducting the three-year graduate follow-up survey since 1997

Survey limitations:

Contact information from our Student Information System for graduates three years following completion of their training is not reliable (information is not updated from the time they attended college). The survey population is increasingly fluid, making it a challenge to reach respondents.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Annual publication, in both official languages: *New Brunswick Community College Three-Year Graduate Follow-up Survey* and *Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick : sondage sur le placement des diplômés après trois ans*.

Name of provincial contact:

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Atlantic Provinces

Survey of 1996 University Graduates

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC)

Survey objectives and purposes:

Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) and the Atlantic Provinces determined that there was a need for more timely access to information about university graduates within the Atlantic Region.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

The Survey was designed to provide the following:

- Information comparable to that collected in the National Graduate Follow-Up Survey but within a different time frame (one year after the graduation period) in order to allow the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) to measure the presence or absence of significant differences between the first and second years following graduation;
- Detailed information to provide a comprehensive profile of the graduates in the Class of 1996 from the Atlantic Canadian universities;
- Information about the pre-enrolment activity of graduates and information about the expectations of the university experience at the time of enrolment;
- Results from questions to determine the level of student satisfaction with the university experience;
- Detailed information about the ways in which graduates financed their university programs, including information about the debt load of graduates at the time of graduation and one year later;
- Labour market information about graduates in terms of their employment experience since graduation, their weekly earnings and information about the employment positions held by graduates;
- Specific information on migration of graduates, including migration patterns within the region; and
- Information about the continuing education choices made by graduates in the first year following graduation.

Collection period: July - August 1997

Reference period: 1996

Type of survey: Household - Individual

Target population/coverage: Graduates from Atlantic Universities 1996

Sample size: 5,192 members of the Class of 1996

Data collection method: Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI)

Methodology: Telephone

Historical information:

Longitudinal, 1996 pilot of three years out to be done in 1999. Planned schedule is to do a 1-5-10 year out follow-up with the one-year taking place. Class of 1999 to be surveyed one year out in year 2000.

Survey limitations: —

Are results analyzed?

Yes, a technical report has been produced and further analytical work is scheduled for fall 1998 before three year pilot study.

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Survey of 1996 University Graduates

Name of provincial contact:

Mireille Duguay

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Maritime Provinces

Accessibility to Post-Secondary Education in the Maritimes

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC)

Survey objectives and purposes:

Three-phase research program undertaken by the Angus Reid Group. This program involved:

- Secondary data analysis of existing statistical information provided by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC);
- A qualitative research through focus groups with students at all levels of the education system; and
- A qualitative telephone survey of the 1997 graduating high school class in all three Maritime provinces.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

The purpose of this research was to better understand the dynamics at play for Maritime students when they decide to pursue or not pursue post-secondary education.

Through this research, information was gathered to help the Commission, students, governments and other stakeholders identify some of the barriers, potential and real, to post-secondary education, and derive possible solutions to alleviate some of these barriers.

Telephone Survey - Information on issues related to accessibility to post-secondary education socio-economic background, personal motivation, academic performance and debt load.

Collection period: May 29 - June 20, 1997

Reference period: 1997 school year

Type of survey: Household

Target population/coverage:

Survey – Grade 12 high school students and their parents in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Sample size: 1,002 students and 495 parents

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology: Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI)

Historical information:

One time study with additional research studies being planned as a result of the study.

Survey limitations:

Difficult to establish a common methodology for sample in three provinces due to different legislation.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Accessibility to Post-Secondary Education in the Maritimes

Name of provincial contact:

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Maritime University Survey: Class of 1995**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education in conjunction with New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, co-ordinated by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission.

Survey objectives and purposes:

Designed to build a biennial, national survey of all post-secondary graduates conducted by Statistics Canada. To provide more specific information on migration of graduates, labour market information, pre-enrolment activity, student satisfaction, information for analysis related to employment, gender and field of study.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Background on graduates: prior education and previous work history, residence pre- and post-program, gender, university experiences, degree, field of study, university attended, age, parents education;
- University experience: study formats methods of payment, satisfaction;
- Financing debt/loans, co-op programs, and employment during school; and
- Employment: post-graduation, activities of those not employed, satisfaction with employment, employment related to field, earnings full- and part-time International Students.

Collection period: July 10 - August 16, 1996

Reference period: June 23 - 29, 1996 was the reference week for employment related questions.

Type of survey: Household

Target population/coverage: 1995 graduates of Maritime universities.

Sample size: 4,337 graduates of Maritime universities

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology: Telephone

Historical information: First regional approach to a graduate follow-up survey in Canada.

Survey limitations:

Sample was weighted across the provinces, which affects the ability to analyze sub-groups of the sample. The margin of error in sub-groups would be greater than that reported for the sample population.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Survey of 1995 University Graduates

Name of provincial contact:

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Ontario

Graduates of Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology – Employment Profile

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and Colleges Branch

Survey objectives and purposes:

To provide a snapshot picture of the employment experience of college graduates six months after graduation.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Number of graduates;
- Labour force status of graduates;
- Employment status of graduates;
- Relationship between job and program of study;
- Average annual earnings;
- Employment by industry sector; and
- Employment profiles by academic program area.

Collection period: Three collections per year completed six months after the graduating term.

Reference period:

<i>Graduation term</i>	<i>Reference week</i>
Summer	March Early
Fall Early	July
Winter Early	November

Type of survey: Household (i.e., Graduates place of residence)

Target population/coverage:

All graduates from Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology.

Sample size:

One hundred percent of graduates were included for the survey; the response rate is normally over 70%.

Data collection method: Primarily via telephone survey.

Methodology: Telephone

Historical information:

The employment profile surveys are conducted annually. The 1996/1997 results were published in December 1998. The 1997/1998 results will be published in the fall of 1999.

Survey limitations:

Due to the transitory nature of students, the response rate is impacted and is typically about 70%.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Employment Profile - 19XX-XX Graduates of Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology

Name of provincial contact:

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Manitoba

Position Monitor 1996, 1997 and 1998**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Manitoba Education and Training, Youth Programs

Survey objectives and purposes:

The objective is to gather feedback from the students on the service provided by STEP Services, to gather information on how the students benefit from the jobs and to make improvements to the program by implementing changes based on feedback from the survey.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

STEP Services provides a central registration and referral point for students seeking employment with Provincial Government Departments, related organizations and private sector employees participating in provincial government employment programs. The main topics covered/variables listing/information collected are as follows:

- If the jobs provided a career-related experience;
- What benefits and skills the students acquire from the jobs;
- To what extent the funds they earn help students continue their studies;
- If the students are performing the tasks of the jobs as outlined in the interview process;
- If the students need additional information on interviewing skills; and
- To provide feedback on the quality of service provided by STEP Services.

Most Students indicated that the jobs provided them with a career-related experience. The main benefits acquired by the students were: gain a practical work experience, use existing skills, establish job contacts and learn/develop new skills. The main skills developed were: acquire organizational skills, oral communication skills, time management skills and computer skills.

Collection period: July and August while the students are still at the workplace.

Reference period: Student employment period runs from April to September.

Type of survey: Staffs of STEP Services do on-site visits to conduct the surveys.

Target population/coverage: Students

Sample size: 200

Data collection method: Face-to-face

Methodology: See above

Historical information: The survey is conducted annually; last survey date is 1998.

Survey limitations: Limited sample size

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? No

Publication title: N/A

Name of provincial contact:

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S4 Student Survey (Phase 1 of a longitudinal study on student transitions)**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Education Indicators Unit, Manitoba Education and Training

Survey objectives and purposes:

(A)

To provide policy-relevant information related to:

- How well the education system has prepared students for their future after high school;
- The quality of education provided in high school; and
- Factors which contribute to a positive school learning environment.

(B)

To provide information on the future intentions of S4 students, which will form the comparative baseline for a follow-up survey 2 years later.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

(A)

- Transition issues;
- Skipping/repeating grades;
- Plans for September;
- Barriers to fulfilling plans;
- Influences in making plans;
- Time spent working while attending school; and
- Reasons for working and effect on study time.

(B)

- School environment issues;
- Reasons for attending particular high school;
- Evaluation of a list of skills that student learned in high school (e.g., critical thinking, ability to work independently, etc);
- Evaluation of learning environment (e.g., safety, counselling services, knowledge of teachers, etc); and
- Receipt of career information.

Collection period: The survey was conducted in May to June 1999.

Reference period: The reference period was May to June 1999.

Type of survey:

The survey was a paper & pencil questionnaire given to students within the school classroom, administered by teachers.

Target population/coverage:

The target population included students enrolled in S4. Coverage included public, independent and band-operated schools.

Sample size: A 20% sample (~4,000 students) was selected.

Data collection method:

A teacher gave a questionnaire to students. Students returned the questionnaires to the teacher, who forwarded them to the principal's office, who forwarded them to the department.

Methodology:

Refer to question 10. The questionnaire contained some open-ended questions, but was mostly multiple choice answering.

Historical information:

The students were asked to provide us with their name and permanent address. For those who complied, they will be recontacted in two years to investigate education, employment and career activities.

Survey limitations: There are none.

Are results analyzed? No

Are results public? Not yet, as data not analyzed. The intent is to produce a public report.

Publication title: N/A

Name of provincial contact:

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Urban Green Team Employee Evaluation Questionnaire

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Education and Training, Youth Programs Branch, Urban Green Team

Survey objectives and purposes:

To see if the current system we have in place for referrals, monitoring, type of work being done, etc. is working to meet everyone's needs. If not, then we could possibly find a better way through the comments and suggestions.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- How they obtained their employment;
- What type of youth they are i.e. Students, unemployed youth, underemployed youth, etc;
- How their employment over the summer was and what could have been better; and
- What they did or did not like about the program and how we could change it.

Collection period: August of the fiscal year (every year)

Reference period: May to August of that year

Type of survey: Administrative

Target population/coverage:

Youth between the age of 16 to 24 who were hired as Green Team workers.

Sample size: 500-600

Data collection method:

They can either give it back to the Program Monitor who handed it out to them or mail it in or drop it off.

Methodology: The Program Monitors hand it out during one of their visits.

Historical information:

The questionnaire is handed out to all the youth that work as Green Team members towards the end of the program in August. Last survey was done August of 1999.

Survey limitations: No real limitations.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? No

Publication title: Some of the results are used in the annual final report on the program.

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Manitoba Graduates Follow-up Survey

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Council on Post-Secondary Education

Survey objectives and purposes:

- To learn more about the experiences of publicly-funded university and college graduates (1997) in the two years since graduation;
- To ascertain graduate's level of satisfaction with their program; and
- To find out the relationship between the program of study and the eventual job and follow the career path within the first two years after graduation.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Labour market experience and further education and training since graduation;
- Satisfaction with the post-secondary program and facilities;
- Relationship between work and field of study;
- Financing of education; and
- Graduate profile.

Collection period: June to July 1999

Reference period: 1997 graduates – two years since graduation

Type of survey: Household

Target population/coverage:

All non-visa graduates of publicly funded college and university programs in Manitoba that currently resides in North America.

Sample size: 8,100

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology: Telephone

Historical information:

First time the survey is done. A second follow-up of the same group will take place in 2002 (five years after graduation). Another survey of 1999 graduates is planned in 2001.

Survey limitations:

Limitations due to difficulties of finding graduate two years after graduation of maintaining current phone numbers.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

Manitoba 1997 Graduate Follow-up Survey

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Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan High School Leaver Survey**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Saskatchewan Education, Post Secondary, Saskatchewan Regional Colleges, and the two Saskatchewan universities

Survey objectives and purposes:

To find out the apparitions of Saskatchewan High School Students after they graduate from high school.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information: Call for further details.

Collection period: Annually

Reference period: 1998-1999 school year

Type of survey: School

Target population/coverage: All Grade 11 and 12 students in Saskatchewan

Sample size: 30,000 (responded 17,000)

Data collection method: Mail in survey

Methodology: Mail-out

Historical information: First year of the survey

Survey limitations: None observed at this point

Are results analyzed? No

Are results public? No, not yet

Publication title: This information will be distributed by each of the partners as they see fit.

Name of provincial contact:

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Alberta

1997 Alberta Graduates Survey: Labour Market and Educational Experiences of 1994 University Graduates**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development

Survey objectives and purposes:

To measure employment outcomes and educational status two or more years since graduation.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Profiling the university class of 1994;
- Student status and labour market experiences;
- Financing a university education;
- Labour force status in 1997;
- Occupation and industry of employment;
- Pay and benefits;
- Job requirements; and
- Quality of working life.

Collection period: January 29 and February 27, 1997

Reference period: 1997

Type of survey: Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) System

Target population/coverage: 6,012 Alberta university graduates

Sample size: 6,012 university graduates

Data collection method: Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI)

Methodology: Telephone

Historical information: First in a series

Survey limitations: —

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

1997 Alberta Graduate Survey: Labour Market and Educational Experiences of 1994 University Graduates

Name of provincial contact:

Robert Nicoll

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Phone number: (780) 427-8504

Fax number: (780) 422-0880

Survey of Northern Alberta High School Students

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Northern Labour Market Information Clearinghouse and Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development

Survey objectives and purposes:

To identify the key factors in student decisions regarding post-secondary studies among northern students.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Intentions to pursue a post-secondary education;
- Perceived benefits of post-secondary education;
- Potential impediments to pursuing post-secondary education; and
- Profile of students.

Collection period: Fall 1998

Reference period: 1998-1999 School Year

Type of survey: Self-administered in classroom

Target population/coverage: Grade 9 and Grade 12 students

Sample size:

Grade 9 students	780
Grade 12 students	824
Total	1,604

Data collection method: Self-administered in classroom

Methodology: Self-administered in classroom – written questionnaire

Historical information: —

Survey limitations: —

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? No

Publication title: N/A

Name of provincial contact:

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Phone number: (780) 427-8504

Fax number: (780) 422-0880

1995 High School Survey**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development

Survey objectives and purposes:

To collect information on how recent high school graduates make decisions regarding their education and future careers.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Participation in further education;
- Demographic characteristics;
- Family background characteristics;
- Proximity to a post-secondary institution;
- Institutions and programs;
- Reasons for program choice;
- Reasons for not continuing education;
- Career aspirations; and
- High school experiences.

Collection period: December 1995

Reference period: December 1995

Type of survey: Mailed questionnaire

Target population/coverage: Recent high school graduates

Sample size: 1,304 graduates

Data collection method: Mail-in survey

Methodology: Mail-out

Historical information: One of a kind

Survey limitations: Limited sample size, 1,304 random sample of 25,293 graduates.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title: *1995 High School Survey*

Name of provincial contact:

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Phone number: (780) 427-8504

Fax number: (780) 422-0880

1996 Alberta High School Graduates Survey

Department or agency responsible for the survey:

Alberta Education and Alberta Advanced Education and Career Development

Survey objectives and purposes:

To examine the educational achievements, further educational plans, perceptions of the relevance of their high school education, career goals, paid and volunteer work experience of 1996 Alberta Grade 12 students.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Socio-demographic and personal characteristics;
- Employability skills;
- Educational status;
- Evaluation of high school education; and
- Work experience.

Collection period: December 1995

Reference period: 1996

Type of survey: Self-administered written questionnaire

Target population/coverage: Grade 12 students

Sample size: 3,000 twelfth-grade students

Data collection method: Self-administered within Grade 12 classroom

Methodology: Self-administered within Grade 12 classrooms

Historical information:

Follow-up surveys examining transitions were conducted in 1986, 1987, 1989 and 1992.

Survey limitations: —

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

School-Work Transitions Project Report 97-1, 1996 Alberta High School Graduate Survey

Name of provincial contact:

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British Columbia

1998 Graduates and Leavers Survey**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

British Columbia Ministry of Education

Survey objectives and purposes:

Determine work activities and thoughts about school.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Education and work status;
- Employment (permanence, satisfaction);
- Not employed (why left job, main difficulty finding job);
- Education since high-school;
- High school supports:
 - ◆ for graduates (who, which programs)
 - ◆ leavers(why left)
- How well did high school prepare students (working world, math, reading and writing);
- Career programs participation, reasons for decision to participate or not;
- Future plans (schooling, occupation); and
- Demographics.

Collection period: June to September, 1998

Reference period: June to September, 1998

Type of survey: Stratified random sample

Target population/coverage: Former students

Sample size: 1,117

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology: Telephone

Historical information: Non-longitudinal, last done in 1994.

Survey limitations: Some difficulties locating students with summer administration.

Are results analyzed? No

Are results public? No

Publication title: N/A

Name of provincial contact:

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1998 In School Survey**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

British Columbia Ministry of Education

Survey objectives and purposes:

Determine views on career preparation and thoughts about school.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Career programs participation, reasons for decision to participate or not;
- How important are these skills (math, reading, writing);
- How well did high school teach (math, reading, writing);
- Feelings on different types of employment;
- Future plans (schooling, occupation); and
- Demographics.

Collection period: May to June 1998

Reference period: May to June 1998

Type of survey: Random sample of Grade 11 and 12 classrooms

Target population/coverage: Grade 11 and 12 students

Sample size: 1,681

Data collection method: Written questionnaire completed in schools.

Methodology: In school

Historical information: Non-longitudinal, last done in 1995

Survey limitations:

- Timing (May/June) limited support and led to somewhat selective sample; and
- Some districts were not sampled.

Are results analyzed? Yes, in a draft

Are results public? No

Publication title: N/A

Name of provincial contact:

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1998 Adolescent Health Survey**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

McCreary Centre Society

Survey objectives and purposes:

Health status and risk behaviour survey of Grade 7 through 12 Students.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Demographics;
- Academic performance and attitudes toward education;
- Physical Health and Well-being;
- Self-care practices;
- Injury-related risks;
- Violence and weapon-carrying;
- Emotional Health;
- Sexual Health and behaviours; and
- Substance use and abuse.

Collection period: May to June 1998

Reference period: Various

Type of survey: Written questionnaire completed in schools

Target population/coverage: Grade 7 to 12 students

Sample size: 26,000

Data collection method: Written questionnaire completed during school hours.

Methodology: In school

Historical information: Non-longitudinal, last done in 1992.

Survey limitations: Some districts were not sampled.

Are results analyzed? Yes, in progress

Are results public? Yes, in progress

Publication title: Soon to be released

Name of provincial contact:

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Fax number: (250) 356-2504

1997 Youth Transition Survey**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

British Columbia Ministry of Education

Survey objectives and purposes:

Important issues facing young people in BC.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Current education status/past experience;
- Employment experience;
- Social Assistance experience;
- Current outlook;
- Attitudinal measures; and
- Demographics.

Collection period: March 15 to April 15, 1997

Reference period: January to April, 1998

Type of survey: Random survey

Target population/coverage: 19 to 25 year-olds

Sample size: 1,461

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology: Telephone

Historical information: Non-longitudinal

Survey limitations: —

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title: *BC Youth Transition Survey*

Name of provincial contact:

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Fax number: (250) 356-2504

1998 Secondary School Apprenticeship Survey**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

British Columbia Ministry of Education

Survey objectives and purposes:

Information and opinions of secondary school apprenticeship (SSA) scholarship recipients.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- How students first became aware of SSA, why they decided to enrol in SSA;
- Whether or not they felt adequately informed about the SSA program;
- Program effectiveness - received adequate support, satisfaction with program;
- Was the \$1,000 incentive one of the major reasons for program participation; and
- Demographics.

Collection period: August 1998

Reference period: 1995 - 1997 program completion

Type of survey: Random survey

Target population/coverage: Secondary School Apprenticeship Scholarship recipients

Sample size: 87

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology: Telephone

Historical information: Non-longitudinal

Survey limitations: —

Are results analyzed? Yes, in draft

Are results public? Yes, in draft

Publication title:

Evaluation of the Secondary School Apprenticeship Scholarship Strategic Initiative

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BC College and Institute Student Outcomes 1996, 1997 and 1998**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

British Columbia Outcomes Working Group and the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology

Survey objectives and purposes:

Provides accountability and decision support for both education policy makers and students making educational program and career choices.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

The survey follows up with former students to obtain feedback on:

- Degree of satisfaction with their colleges or institutes;
- Career and employment outcomes; and
- Further education outcomes.

Collection period: Spring 1996, 1997 and 1998

Reference period:

Students are contacted 9 to 12 months after completing all, or a significant portion, of their educational program.

Type of survey: Telephone survey

Target population/coverage: Students attending BC's 21 public colleges and institutes.

Sample size:

1996 N = 23,849

1997 N = 30,390

1998 N = 30,455

Data collection method: Telephone interview

Methodology: Telephone survey with Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI)

Historical information: Survey is conducted annually.

Survey limitations: Sample size is based on total population, therefore is representative.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:*Highlights**Student FactPac Notes**Key Student Outcomes Indicators for BC Colleges and Institutes: Survey Results by Institution**Summary of Survey Results by Program Area**Survey Results by Program**Job Destinations of Former College and Institute Students (JDR) – Internet only***Name of provincial contact: (steering committee)**

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British Columbia Institute of Technology

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University Student Outcomes 1996, 1997 and 1998**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology, The University Presidents Council (TUPC) and the BC Universities

Survey objectives and purposes:

Assess the employment and education outcomes of former baccalaureate graduates.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Satisfaction with program;
- Further education outcomes;
- Employment; Occupations;
- Part-time employment;
- In the labour force;
- Self-employment;
- Job satisfaction;
- Student loan debt; and
- Equity.

Collection period: 1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998

Reference period: 1996, 1997 and 1998

Type of survey: Telephone survey

Target population/coverage: Former baccalaureate graduates from: UBC, SFU, UVIC, UNBC

Sample size: Up to 10,000 graduates per year.

Data collection method: Telephone

Methodology:

Telephone survey of graduates who have been two and five years out of university.

Historical information: Annual

Survey limitations: Limited to those who are still resident in North America.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title:

1991 Graduates (Five Years Out)

1993 Graduates (Two Years Out)

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On Track: Private Training Outcomes Surveys 1996, 1997 and 1998**Department or agency responsible for the survey:**

British Columbia Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology
Human Resources Development Canada

Survey objectives and purposes:

Provide information about the employment outcomes of graduates from various programs offered by BC private training institutions.

Main topics covered/variables listing/information:

- Satisfaction with program;
- Employment;
- Occupations;
- Part-time employment;
- In the labour force;
- Self-employment;
- Job satisfaction;
- Pre-program employment and education status; and
- Equity.

Collection period:

“Rolling window” – graduates are surveyed every month, 6 months after completion of program. Because there is such variety in program types/lengths and continuous intake, survey collection period is monthly for 1996, 1997 and 1998.

Reference period: 1996, 1997 and 1998

Type of survey: Telephone

Target population/coverage:

Students who had graduated or had completed 75% of their program in BC’s private post-secondary institutions.

Sample size: 1,000 to 1,500 per quarter (3 month period)

Data collection method: Telephone survey

Methodology: Telephone survey of graduates who have been out of their program for 6 months.

Historical information:

Survey is conducted every month, summarized by quarter, reports are published twice a year.

Survey limitations:

Survey excludes international students, programs serving fewer than 10 trainees per year, correspondence programs, trainees who leave the country and early leavers.

Are results analyzed? Yes

Are results public? Yes

Publication title: *On Track Private Training Outcomes Survey (1996, 1997, 1998)*

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