

**Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education
Alberta Graduate Outcomes Survey
Class of 2009-2010: Private Vocational Training Institution Graduates**

- Final Report -

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Background and introduction

Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education (EAE) seeks to promote and foster lifelong learning in Alberta. Since 1998, the Government of Alberta and publicly funded post-secondary institutions have collaborated to conduct a biannual survey of graduates to assess outcomes such as graduate satisfaction, achievement of personal goals, employment status and compensation. In 2009, a similar survey was conducted for the first time with graduates of the class of 2007-2008 from four participating private vocational training institutions in Alberta. The survey was expanded in 2012 to include a broader scope of private vocational training institutions in the province.

In Fall 2011, EAE contracted Leger Marketing Alberta Inc. to conduct the Graduate Outcomes Survey with Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 graduates of private programs from Alberta's private vocational training institutions (referred to throughout this report as Private Institutions). The findings from this study will help inform EAE and institutional planning, and are used in results reporting.

Results are required for the specific institutions, for fields of study within certain sectors of institutions, and for programs within each institution. Therefore, a rigorous sampling approach is required. Given the geographic mobility of graduates after completing programs of study, achieving sufficient sample sizes to support meaningful analysis at these levels requires comparatively high response rates for the relatively smaller institutions, programs and fields of study.

A field pre-test was conducted from December 2011 to January 2012. After revisions had been made and the final questionnaire approved, the study was launched on February 24, 2012 and was completed on May 2, 2012.

A census approach was used, meaning that all graduates were invited to participate rather than a random sample. Margin of error refers to the measurable sampling error that occurs when a random sample is used to estimate results of a population, and is not applicable to a census. If the same

number of interviews had been completed using a random sample of graduates rather than a census, the margin of error would be ± 3.6 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

1.2 Demographics

The majority of Private Institution graduates attended high school within Alberta, including a quarter from elsewhere in Alberta (rural Alberta), excluding the urban areas. One-in-ten private graduates last attended high school in another province or territory within Canada, while almost one-quarter attended high school outside of Canada.

Graduates of Private Institutions in Alberta tend to have also attended high school in Alberta.

Graduates who last attended high school in rural Alberta are more likely than those attending high school in other regions to have completed post-secondary programs in Trades and Technology, Legal and Security, and Health Sciences. Graduates who last attended high school outside of Canada are more likely to have completed a Business or Health Sciences program. Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences programs are attracting greater than average percentages of students from outside of urban Alberta.

There are substantially higher proportions of female graduates than males that completed programs at Private Institutions with the exception of a higher proportion of males than females that graduated from Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences.

In terms of their marital status, the majority of graduates were single when they started their program of study at Private Institutions. Graduates from Legal and Security; Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences; and Trades and Technology programs are more likely to have been single at the start of their program than those in other fields of study. Graduates who last attended high school in Alberta are also more likely to be single, relative to those who attended high school out-of-province.

Graduates who self-identify as being an Aboriginal person are more likely than other graduates to be under the age of 23 years, and separated, divorced or widowed.

Less than a quarter of graduates consider themselves a member of a visible minority. Six percent of Private Institution graduates consider themselves to be a person with disabilities.

1.3 Transitions

A majority of Private Institution graduates waited at most three years after graduating from high school before entering the post-secondary program they most recently graduated from. One quarter entered their program straight out of high school, while fourteen percent waited two years before continuing on to post-secondary studies.

Online resources and people close to the graduates were seen as the most valuable sources of information consulted in helping with the decision about which program and institution to choose for post-secondary education. Among those Private Institution graduates who used them, individual institution websites, and friends, were seen as the most valuable of the information sources tested. These were followed by teachers, parents, and the ALIS website.

While taking courses the traditional way – going to a class – was, by far, the most popular way to study among Private Institution students, online or distance courses were taken by a small number of students. Overall, eight-in-ten graduates had not taken any courses through alternative channels, while 4% had done so for less than half of their course load.

A sizeable majority of graduates, when interviewed, lived in the same city or town where they studied. Some graduates did move home, or to find employment. Slightly less than one-in-five permanently relocated to a different town or city since graduation. The main reason for relocating among Private Institution graduates was family-related, followed by employment reasons.

1.4 Goals and Satisfaction

Less than half of graduates of Private Institutions had the primary goal of completing their program when they entered their post-secondary field of study, followed by a third who wished to attain employment. Those who last attended high school in urban Alberta are the most likely to have set a goal to complete their specific program. Those who had dependents are the most likely to have set a goal to achieve employment.

Of those graduates who did not achieve their primary goal upon graduation from Private Institutions, one-third mention lack of employment in their field as their primary reason. Graduates least likely to achieve their primary goal due to lack of employment in their field include those in Business and Legal and Security.

The majority of graduates are satisfied or very satisfied with each aspect of their educational experience at Private Institutions. Although there are no statistically significant differences across

different fields of study, it appears that older graduates tend to be more satisfied overall with each quality measure. Health Sciences graduates and those who attended high school outside Canada tend to be more satisfied.

Three-quarters of graduates, and particularly those in Health Sciences Professions are satisfied in some positive degree with the quality of teaching and with the quality of their program overall. Also, three-quarters of graduates are satisfied overall with their educational experience at Private Institutions.

1.5 Financing

Most graduates worked while taking classes at Private Institutions and many also relied on financial aid from either the government or non-government sources. Half of the graduates received a government sponsored student loan, which was particularly prevalent among Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences programs and urban Alberta graduates.

On average, graduates of Private Institutions 2009-10 owed \$13,218 in government-sponsored student loans at the time of graduation. Those who studied Health Sciences are shown to have owed more on average, \$15,965 than for other fields of study. In addition, graduates aged 26-30 typically owed more in government-sponsored student loans.

One-in-five graduates received some form of non-government financing for education-related expenses during their time at Private Institutions. Among graduates who attained non-government sources of funding, the average amount owed in these loans is \$9,204. Graduates of Legal and Security programs typically owed more (\$14,750) when compared to Trades and Technology (\$8,214) and Health Sciences (\$8,478) graduates.

Looking at all loans attained by 2009-10 Private Institution graduates, the majority of graduates used some form of borrowing to finance their post-secondary education, particularly graduates from Legal and Security Professions and Physical, Natural & Applied Sciences.

1.6 Outcomes

Currently, the majority of graduates are in the labour force, with graduates from Health Science programs being the most likely to be currently employed. Among 2009-10 Private Institution graduates, seventy nine percent are employed, while nine percent are not employed, but actively looking for employment. Business programs have the highest proportion of graduates who are most likely to be currently unemployed, but actively looking for employment. Among Private Institution graduates who are currently employed, the average number of jobs that each student holds is 1.2.

Among the various organization sectors that employed graduates could be involved in, just over one third of graduates are working in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector, followed by Retail trade. The majority of graduates working in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector are within the 26 to 40 age group and are married or common law.

Health Science Professions (\$40,226), Business (\$35,812) and related Clinical Sciences graduates, and those in Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (\$40,188), tend to be earning higher average annual incomes (main job) than those in other fields of study.

In regards to the relevance of graduates' education to their current main job, a quarter of graduates feel that the subject-area knowledge and the general abilities they acquired in their program are very related to their main job, and they report that their program and job are very related. Three in ten graduates who are currently working indicate that when they were selected for their current main job the minimum level of education needed to successfully get the job was to have completed a non-university, post-secondary education program.

All things considered, Private Institution graduates who are currently employed are satisfied overall with their current job, with satisfaction being evenly split between those who are satisfied and those who are very satisfied. Business graduates have a greater than average tendency to be very satisfied, as well as Health Science graduates, particularly when compared to Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

In Fall 2011, Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education (EAE) contracted Leger Marketing Alberta Inc. to conduct the Private Institutions Graduate Outcomes Survey with Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 from Alberta's post-secondary institutions. The findings from this study will help inform EAE and institutional planning, and are used in results reporting.

The specific objectives of the study are to:

- ✓ Assess graduates' satisfaction with their post-secondary experiences and outcomes approximately two years after graduation;
- ✓ Quantify and describe employment related outcomes and fit between any employment achieved and the graduate's program of study;
- ✓ Assess graduates' satisfaction with their overall educational experience, specific aspects of their experience, and outcomes;
- ✓ Understand how students select their program of study and their sources of information;
- ✓ Ascertain how students finance their education;
- ✓ Identify personal goals for post-secondary education and the extent to which graduates perceive those goals to have been achieved;
- ✓ Determine the propensity of graduates to recommend the institution and/or program of study they attended to others;
- ✓ Understand the demographic profile of graduates in each program and field of study;
- ✓ Explore the effectiveness of post-secondary programs in preparing graduates for entry into the labour market;
- ✓ Assess the extent to which graduates incorporate lifelong learning into their lives; and
- ✓ Compare research findings with Graduate Outcomes Surveys from previous years.

Leger Marketing and EAE conducted research with graduates of post-secondary programs approximately two years after they completed studies. Graduates were offered the option to complete a telephone survey or Internet survey based on their preference.

The questionnaire consists mainly of questions used in previous iterations of the Alberta Graduate Outcomes Survey, with some new questions.

The target audience for this study was all 2009-2010 graduates from private vocational training institutions in Alberta. A census was required for all private vocational training institutions to maximize the reliability of results.

Leger Marketing completed a total of 548 surveys with graduates from private vocational training institutions.

- ✓ 381 surveys were completed by telephone
- ✓ 167 surveys were completed online

A census approach was used, meaning that all graduates were invited to participate rather than a random sample. Margin of error refers to the measurable sampling error that occurs when a random sample is used to estimate results of a population, and is not applicable to a census. If the same number of interviews had been completed using a random sample of graduates rather than a census, the margin of error would be ± 3.6 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

This report is divided into seven sections:

- ✓ Demographics
- ✓ Transitions
- ✓ Goals and Satisfaction
- ✓ Financing
- ✓ Outcomes
- ✓ Conclusions and Recommendations

2.2 Data Collection Methodology

2.2.1 Sample Management

The survey population for the overall study consists of all Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 graduates from credit parchment programs from publicly-funded institutions, and Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 graduates from select private vocational training institutions, the latter group being the subject of this report. Leger Marketing received template files from EAE for all graduates in the study scope, provided through Edulink. These files did not contain any personal identifiers. Separate files submitted by each institution included all eligible graduates, the program from which they graduated, and their unique identifiers (Alberta Student Number or ASN, and Student #s). Leger ensured that the records provided by EAE and the institutions matched in terms of the template information.

Recognizing that the database for the study is approximately two years old and the potential for many graduates to have changed residences since graduation, Leger Marketing utilized a multi-faceted approach to ensure a high proportion of graduates were contacted to participate in the survey.

3. DEMOGRAPHICS

This section illustrates the demographic characteristics of Alberta Private Institution 2009-10 graduates, including education levels, parents' education levels, gender, age, family composition, and Aboriginal, visible minority and disability status.

Understanding the demographic profile of graduates will help support Private Institutions in addressing potential barriers to post-secondary access and completion.

3.1 Education

3.1.1 *Highest Grade Completed in High School*

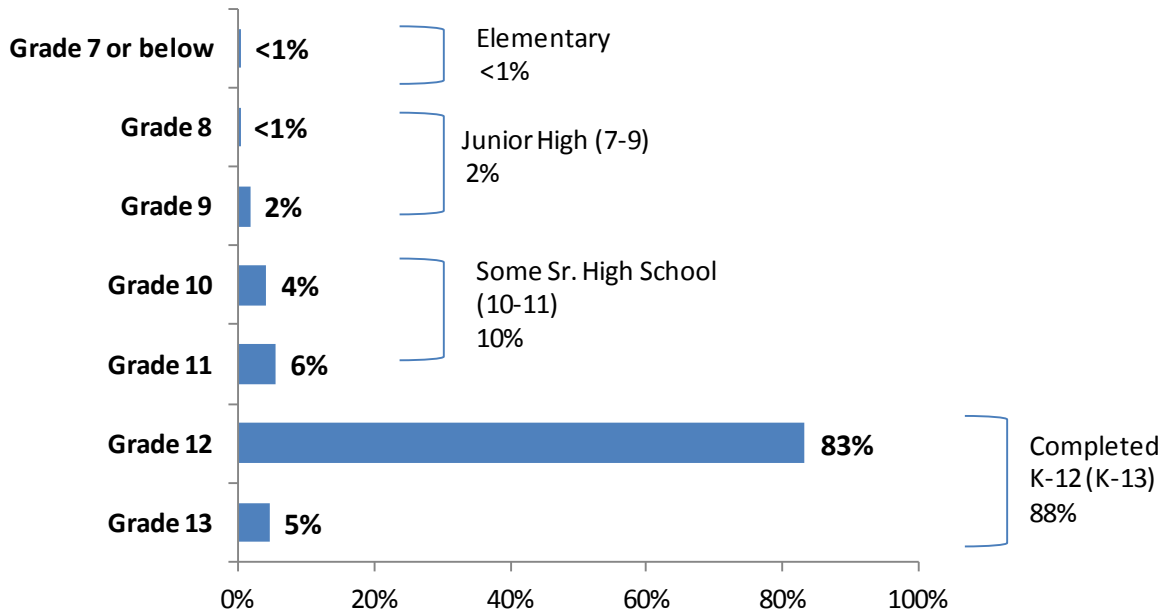
Four-in-five (83%) of Private Institution graduates have completed the K-12 (or K-13) system.

Graduates of private institutions who are less likely to have completed the K-12 (or K-13) system include those within the 31-40 age group, those completing a Business program and those with a lower household income:

- ✓ Graduates 31-40 years (82% of those aged 31-40 years compared to 96% of those aged 23 years or younger, 91% of those 23-25 years and 86% of those 26-30 and 41);
- ✓ Graduates from outside of Canada (85%) in areas that may not operate on the same K-12, or K-13 system as Canada are less likely to have completed the K-12 system than those graduates from within Alberta (86% urban Alberta, 93% rural Alberta) and Canada (90%).
- ✓ Those who completed a Business Program (86% compared to 91% Health and Sciences, 92% Legal and Security)
- ✓ Graduates with a household income of less than \$25,000 (82% compared to 100% of those with an income of \$55k-74k)
- ✓ Less than \$5,000 in loans (82% vs. 100% of those with over \$25,000 in loans)

K-12 Education

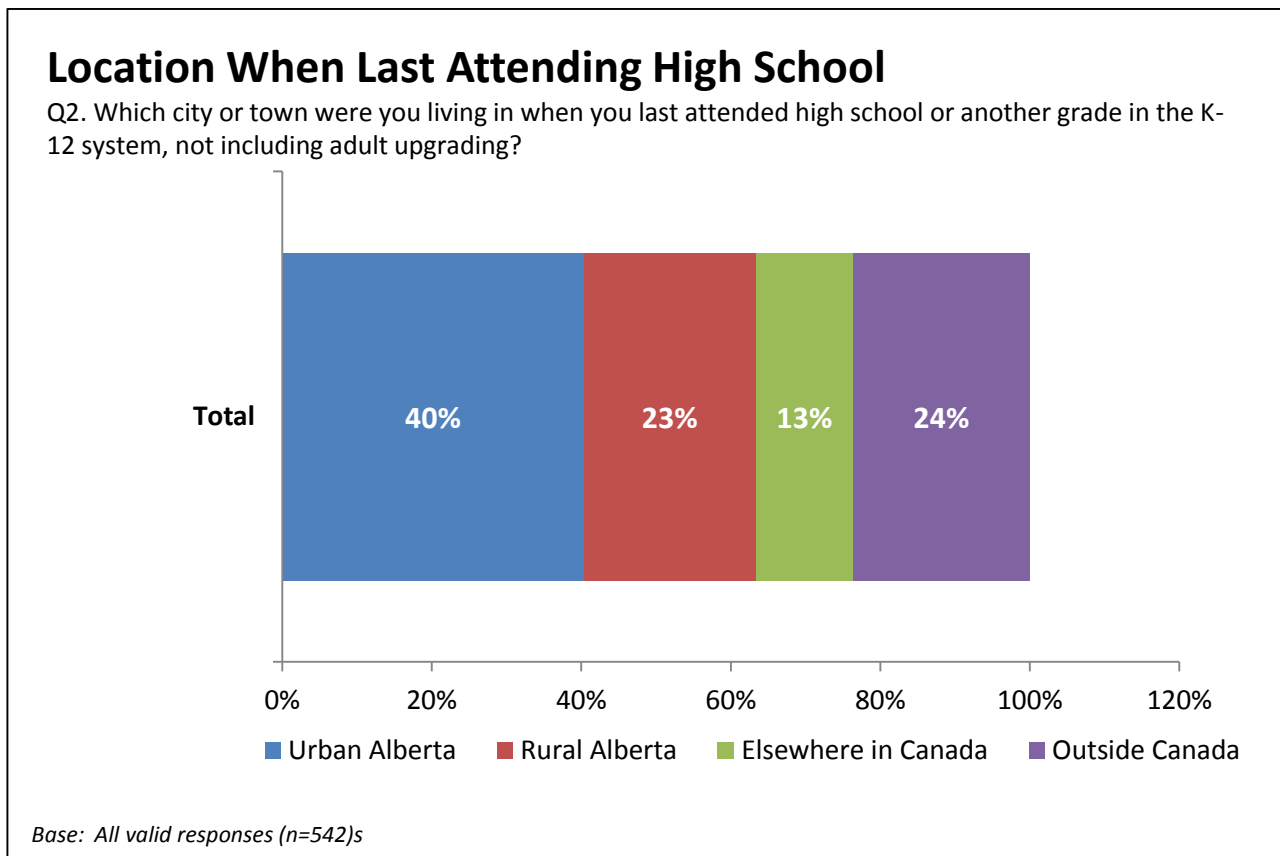
Q1. What was the highest grade level you completed in K-12 system, not including adult upgrading?



Base: All valid responses (n=524)

3.1.2 High School Location

The majority (63%) of Private Institution graduates attended high school within Alberta, with two-in-five (40%) from urban¹ Alberta and 23% from elsewhere in Alberta (rural Alberta) excluding the urban areas. One-in-ten (13%) private graduates last attended high school in another province or territory within Canada, while almost one-quarter (24%) attended high school outside of Canada.



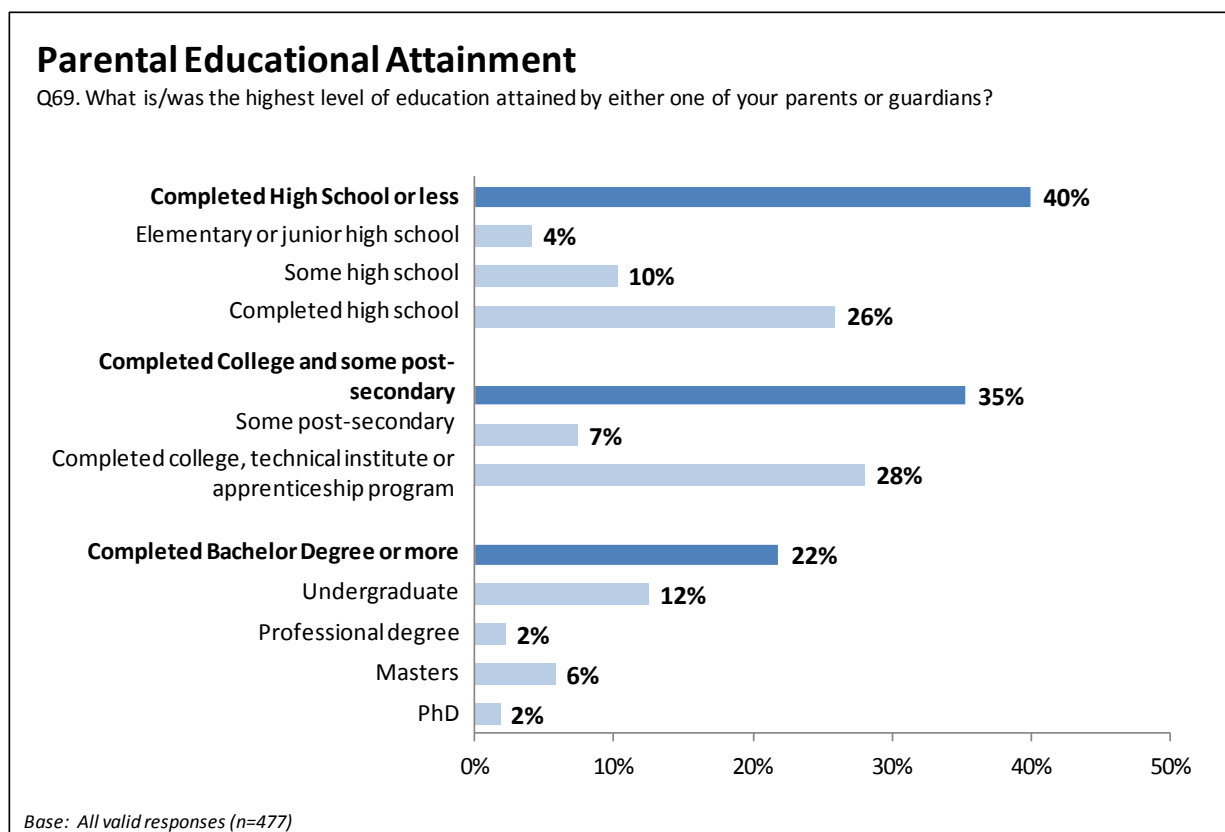
- ✓ Alberta Private institutions are more likely to have younger graduates who attended high school in Alberta (82% of those aged 31-40 years compared to 96% of those aged 23 years or younger, 91% of those 23-25 years and 86% of those 26-30 and 41 years or older).

Based on the field of study in which graduates completed their post-secondary education, the following trends are found in regards to location when attending high school:

¹ Urban Alberta is defined as Calgary, Edmonton, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Red Deer, Fort McMurray, and Grande Prairie.

- ✓ Graduates who last attended high school in rural Alberta are more likely to have attended programs such as Trades and Technology (38%), Legal and Security (36%) Health and Sciences (22%) or Business (19%), than those who studied Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (5%);
- ✓ Graduates who last attended high school outside of Canada are more likely to have attended a Business (32%) or Health Sciences program (23%), compared to Trades and Technology programs (12%); and
- ✓ Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences programs are attracting greater than average percentages of students from outside of urban Alberta (62%).

3.1.3 Parental Educational Attainment



Four-in-ten (40%) graduates indicate that at least one of their parents completed a high school education or less. A third (35%) indicate their parent(s) completed college and some post-secondary, and one-in-five (22%) mention their parent(s) completed a Bachelor degree or higher level of academic credentials.

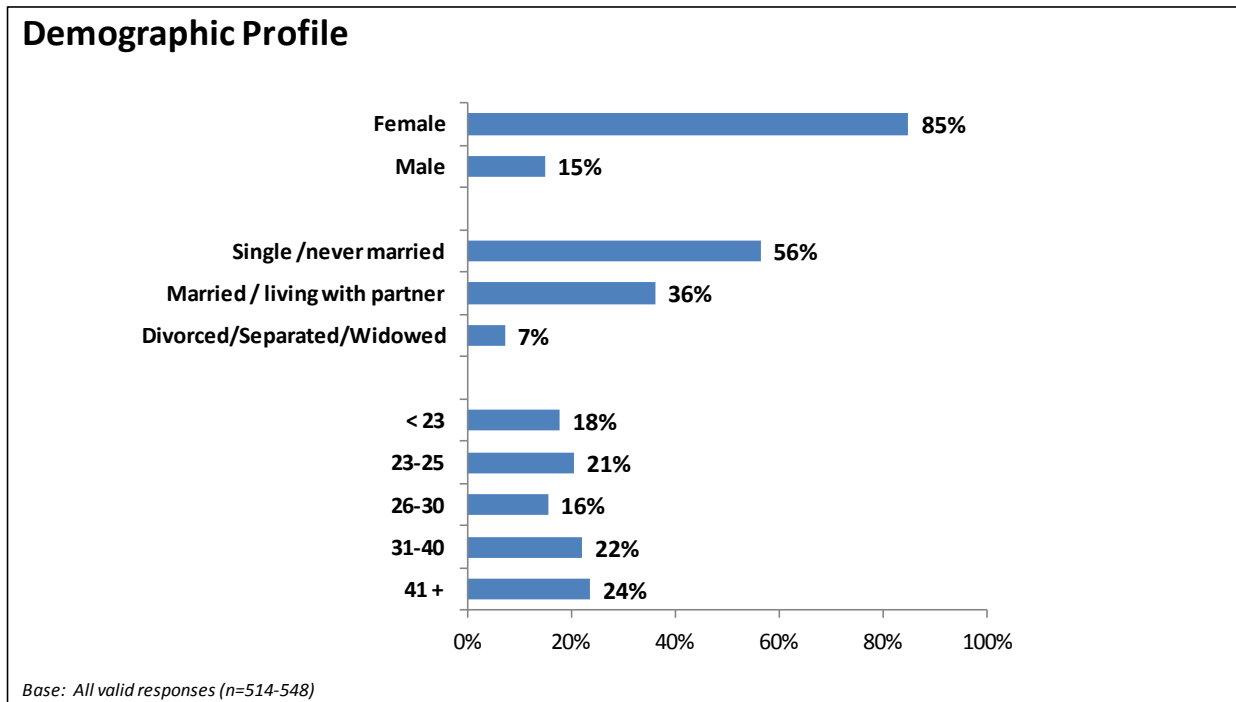
The percentage of graduates that have either parent who has completed high school or completed college, technical institute or apprenticeship program, is consistently high among all field of study programs (a range of 72% to 81%). The exception to this pattern are those with a household income of \$75,000 or more, whose parents tend to have a university degree (60%).

3.2 Gender

A higher proportion (68%) of males than females (32%) graduated from Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences programs within Private Institutions. In all other fields of study, there are substantially higher percentages of female graduates than males.

A higher proportion of females graduated from the following fields of study than males:

- ✓ Health Sciences (93% females, compared to 7% males);
- ✓ Business related programs (79% females, compared to 21% males);
- ✓ Legal and Security (93% vs. 7% males); and
- ✓ Trades and Technology (99% vs. 1% males).



3.3 Age

The average age of Private Institution graduates from the Class of 2009-10 is 32 years old.

Those who studied Business (35.7 years average), Health Sciences (32.9 years average) and Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (31.7 years average) tend to be older, while those who graduated from Trades and Technology related programs tend to be younger (24.8 years on average).

3.4 Marital Status

The majority (56%) of graduates were single when they started their program of study at Private Institutions, 36% were married or common law status, and 7% were divorced, separated or widowed.

The following trends were found in regards to the marital status of graduates:

- More likely to be single:
 - ✓ Legal and Security programs graduates (79%), Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (68%) and Trades and Technology (79%), compared to 47% Health (51%) and Business Professions (47%);
 - ✓ Younger graduates (89% 22 years or younger, 81% 23-25 years, 74% 26-30 years compared to 22% 44 years and older); and
 - ✓ Last attended high school in Alberta (67% urban Alberta, 70% rural Alberta, compared to 47% other provinces and 30% outside Canada).

- More likely to be married/common law status:
 - ✓ Health Sciences (41%) and Business professions (42%), compared to Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (24%) and Trades and Technology related programs (21%);
 - ✓ Older graduates (50%-65% 31 years or older, compared to 11%-23% 30 years or younger); and
 - ✓ Last attended high school outside of Canada (63%, compared to 25% urban Alberta, 23% rural Alberta, and 46% elsewhere in Canada).

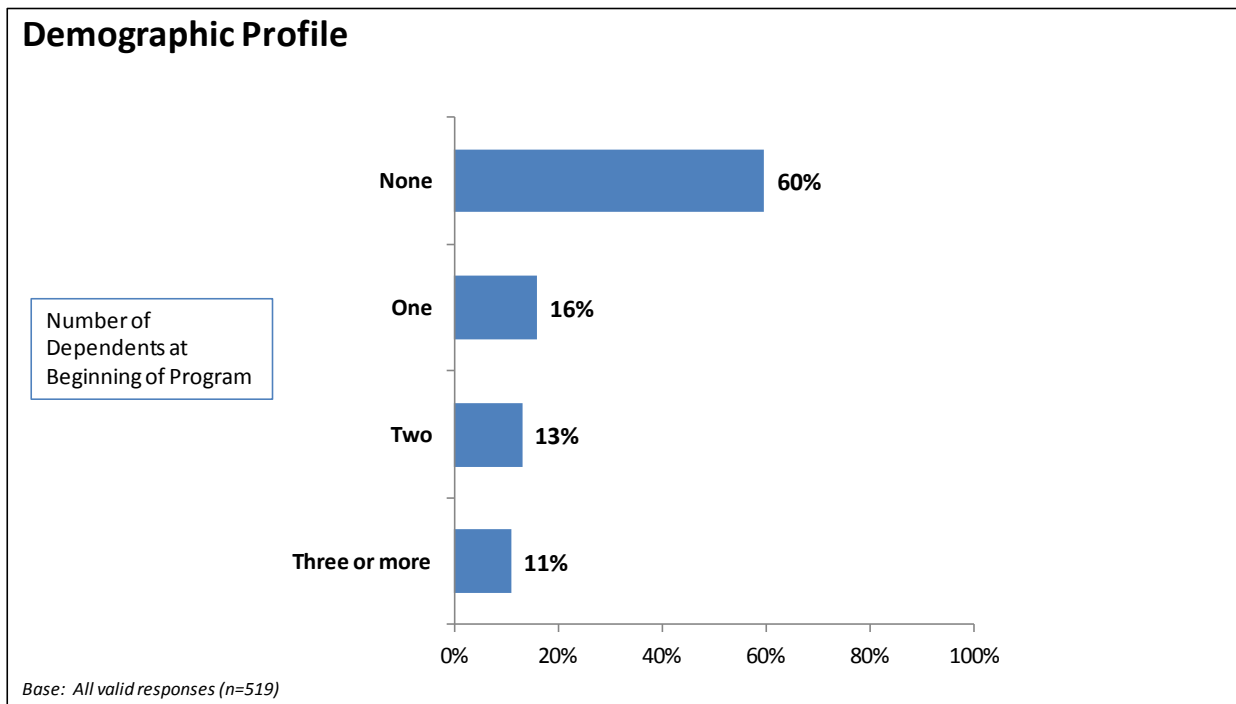
As might be expected, younger graduates (25 years or younger) tend to be single at the time they begin their field of study at Private Institutions.

3.5 Dependents

The majority of graduates (60%) did not have any dependents at the start of their program at Private Institutions, while less than one fifth of graduates had one (16%), two (13%), or three or more (11%) dependents.

The following are more likely to have no dependents:

- ✓ Legal and Security (79%), Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (77%) and Trades and Technology related programs (84%) graduates when compared to Business (48%) and Health Sciences Professions (54%) graduates.
- ✓ Younger graduates (93% 22 years or younger, 83% 23-25 years, 72% 26-30 years compared to 37% 31- 40 years and 32% 41 years or older);
- ✓ Last attended high school outside of Canada (33%, compared to 64% urban Alberta, 76% rural Alberta, and 68% elsewhere in Canada).
- ✓ Single (80% vs. 35% married).

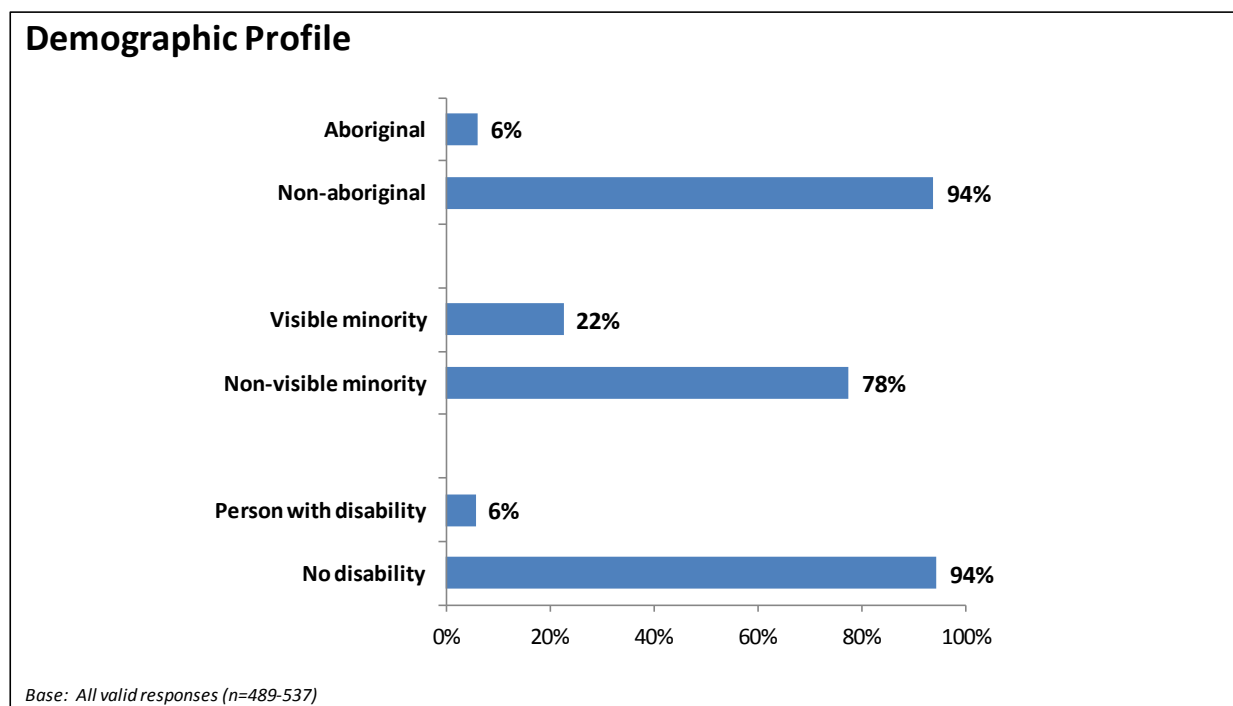


- Graduates most likely to have one or two dependents include those who are:
 - ✓ Older (31 years or older); and
 - ✓ Married, living in common law, divorced, separated or widowed.

As with marital status, those graduates who did not have dependents at the time they began their studies at Private Institutions tend to be younger (25 years or younger), and single, and those with dependents were older (31 years or older) and married or common law. However, the same trend between marital status and program type chosen between graduates does not exist in regards to having or not having dependents.

3.6 Aboriginal Status

Overall, 6% of graduates from Private Institutions consider themselves to be an Aboriginal person. One-third (36%) of these graduates stated they are status Indians, 16% are non-status Indians and 39% are Métis.



Graduates who consider themselves to be an Aboriginal person are more likely to be:

- ✓ Under the age of 23 years (10% compared to 3% of those aged 26-30 years)
- ✓ Separated, divorced, or widowed (18% separated/divorced/widowed, compared to a range of 5% of those with a different status, such as single/married/common law);
- ✓ Last attended high school in Alberta (12% rural Alberta, 7% urban Alberta, compared to 2% those who studied outside Canada).

3.7 Visible Minority Status

Almost a quarter (23%) of 2009-10 graduates consider themselves to be members of a visible minority.

- Groups of graduates that have a greater tendency to consider themselves to be a member of a visible minority include:
 - ✓ Graduates of Business (29%) or Health Sciences (23%), compared to Legal and Security (8%) and Trades and Technology (14%) fields of study;

- ✓ Males (45% male, compared to 19% female);
- ✓ Those over age 40 (33%, compared to a range of 12%-18% 30 years or younger);
- ✓ Graduates who had dependents when entering post-secondary (30% with dependents, 16% without dependents); and
- ✓ Graduates who last attended high school outside of Canada (40% outside of Canada, compared to a range of 9%-23% elsewhere).

3.8 Disability Status

Six percent (6%) of Private Institution graduates consider themselves to be a person with disabilities.

There are no significant differences among program type in regards to graduates with disabilities, however, a substantially greater proportion are found within those who completed programs in Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences and Business than other fields of study.

- Groups of graduates most likely to consider themselves to be a person with a disability include:
 - ✓ Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (16%) and Business (8%) compared to other fields of study (a range of 0-4%);
 - ✓ Those over age 40 (10% 41 years of age or older, compared to a range of 3%-5% 30 years of age or younger); and
 - ✓ Graduates who last attended high school in urban Alberta (9%) compared to rural Alberta (2%) and outside of Canada (3%).

4. TRANSITIONS

This section will discuss findings from questions on all matters of transition. The transition from high school to post-secondary studies: the amount of time elapsed between, the sources of information consulted that may have helped to decide which post-secondary program to enter, and any other post-secondary courses taken between high school and the program they most recently finished.

Another transition discussed is one within the post-secondary program: from the traditional learning channel (i.e. the class room) to the use of online or distance learning.

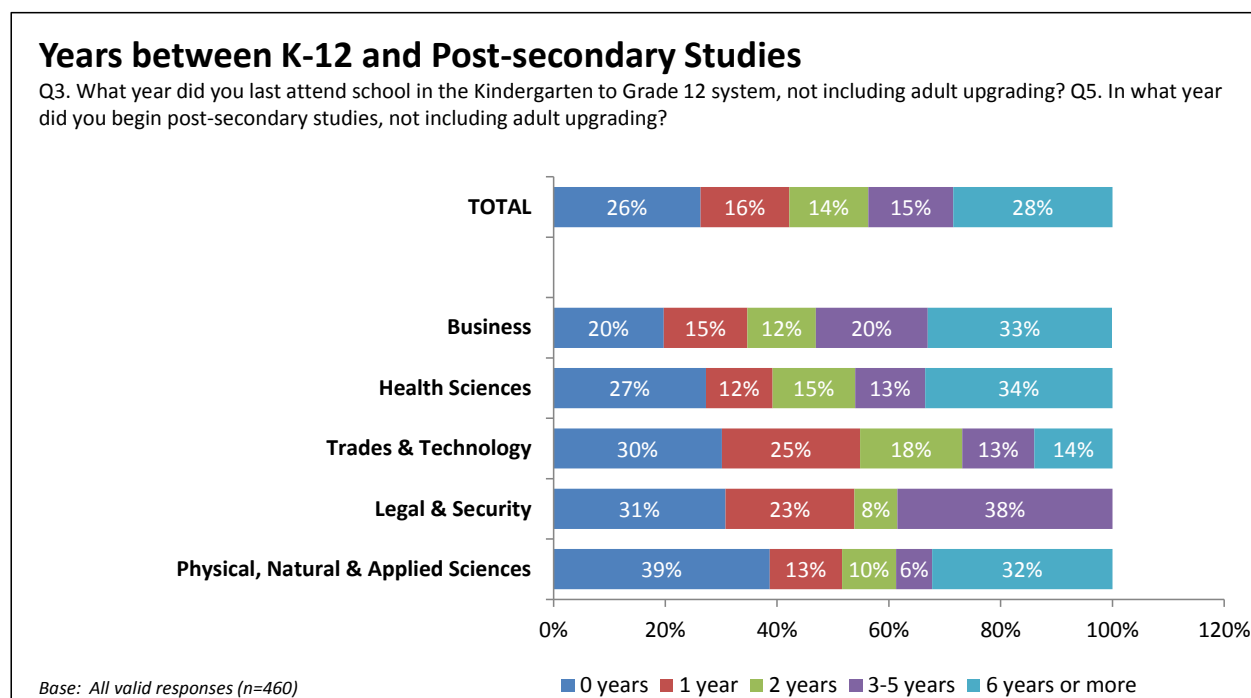
Continuing chronologically, the topics change to transitions after completion of their program: whether they have since entered another post-secondary program, and whether they stayed in the same location, or moved.

4.1 From High School to Post-secondary Studies

4.1.1 Time between finishing high school and entering most recent post-secondary study

A majority (56%) of Private Institution graduates waited at most three years after graduating from high school before entering the post-secondary program they most recently graduated from. Three-in-ten (28%) waited at least six years.

Twenty-six percent (26%) entered their program straight out of high school, while sixteen percent (16%) took a year off in between. Fourteen percent (14%) of students waited two years before continuing on to post-secondary studies



Significant differences were found within each time period, and they are as follows:

- ✓ 0 years
 - Particularly high among:
 - Graduates who studied Recreation Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences, compared to Business (20%);
 - Graduates 22 years or younger (41%), compared to a range of 16%-28% other ages);
- ✓ 1 year
 - Particularly high among:

- Graduates who studied Trades and Technology (25%), compared to 12% Health Sciences);
- Graduates 22 years of age or younger (41% 22 years or younger, compared to a range of 4%-16% other ages);
- Single graduates (20% single, compared to a range of 8-11% married/common law/separated/divorced/widowed);
- Graduate who did not have dependents when entering post-secondary (20% without dependents, compared to 10% with dependents); and
- Graduates who last attended high school in Alberta (18% urban Alberta, 21% rural Alberta, compared to 5% elsewhere in Canada).

✓ 2 years

- Particularly high among:
 - Graduates 25 years or younger (17% less than 23 years, 27% 23-25 years, compared to a range of 5-11% 26 years and older);

✓ 3 – 5 years

- Particularly high among:
 - Graduates who studied Business (20%) or Legal and Security (39%) compared to Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (7%);
 - Graduates between the ages of 23 to 30 years (26% 26-30 years, 38% 23-25 years, compared to a range of 1%-9% other ages);
 - Single, married or common law graduates (20% single, 11% Married/common law compared to 3% other status)

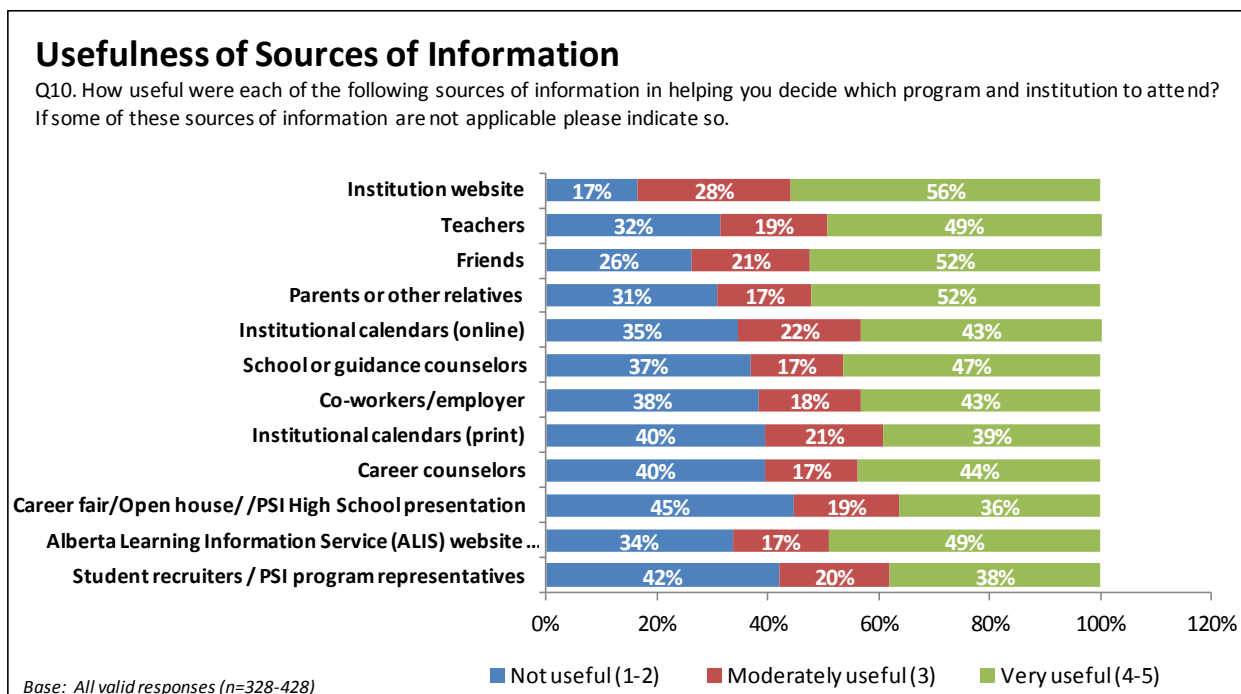
✓ 6 years

- Particularly high among:
 - Graduates who studied Business (33%) or Health and Sciences (34%) (compared to 14% Trades and Technology);
 - Graduates 41 years of age or older (57% 41 years or older, compared to a range of 0%-37% 30 years or younger);
 - Married or common law graduates, widowed/separated (36% married/common law, 57 of widowed or separated compared to 20% single);
 - Graduates who had dependents when entering post-secondary (45% with dependents, compared to 20% without dependents); and
 - Graduates who last attended high school elsewhere in Canada (39% elsewhere in Canada, compared to 22% in Rural Alberta).

4.1.2 In preparation for post-secondary education: usefulness of information sources

Online resources and people close to the graduates are seen as the most valuable sources of information consulted in helping with decisions about which program and institution to choose for post-secondary education.

Among those Private Institution graduates who used them, individual institution websites (3.6 mean score), and friends (3.4), are seen as the most valuable of the information sources tested (mean score of more than 3.4 out of a possible 5). This is followed by teachers (3.3 mean score), parents (3.2 mean score), and the ALIS website (mean score 3.2).



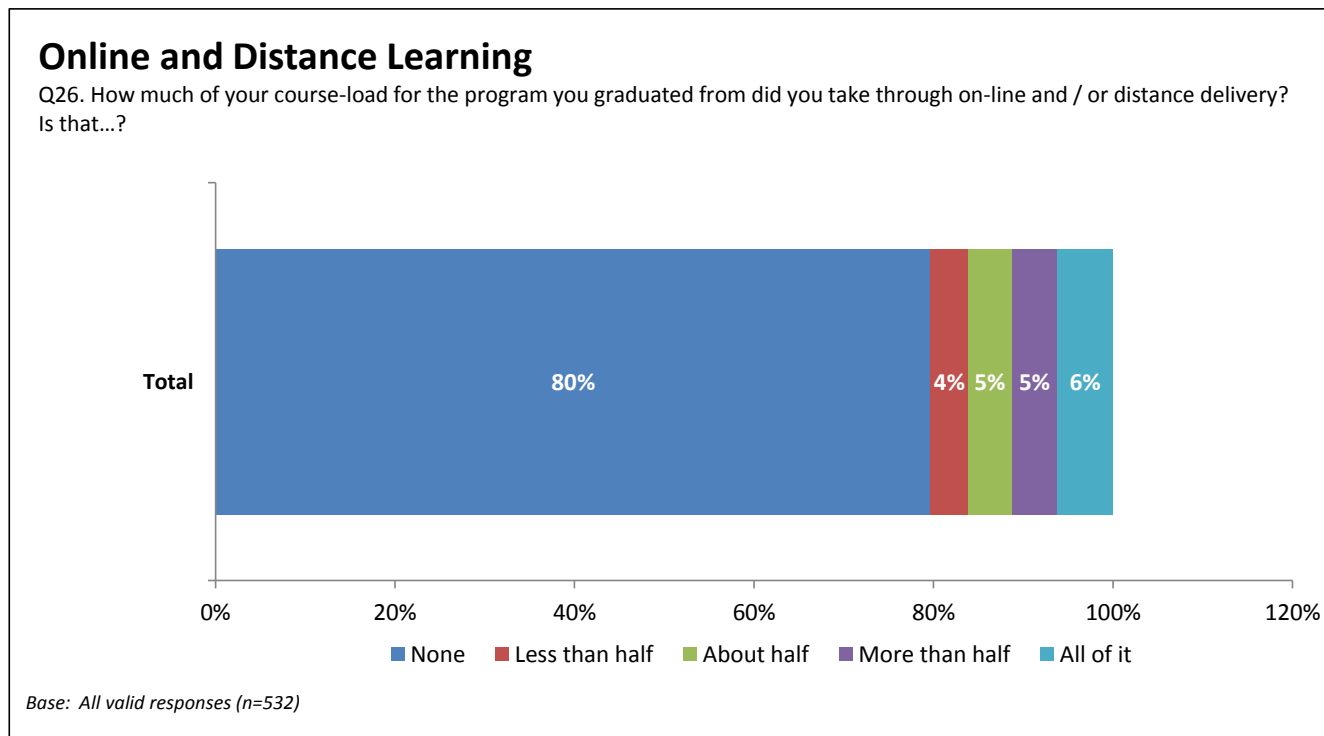
Residents who last attended high school outside of Canada typically consider the institution's website and friends as their top two sources of information.

	Residence when first applying for post-secondary studies - Location				
	Total Means	Urban Alberta	Rural Alberta	Elsewhere in Canada	Outside Canada
Institution website	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8
Friends	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.7
Teachers	3.3	3.1	3.4	2.9	3.6
Parents or other relatives	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.0	3.5
Information Service (ALIS) website (www.alis.ab.ca)	3.2	3.0	3.3	2.7	3.6
School or guidance counsellors	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.7	3.5
calendars (online)	3.0	3.0	2.7	3.4	3.3
Career counsellors	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.5	3.4
Co-workers/employer	3.0	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.3
calendars (print)	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.8	3.2
Student recruiters / PSI program representatives	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.8	3.4
Career fair/Open house/ /PSI High School presentation	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.3	3.1

4.1.3 From the Classroom to Alternative Learning Channels

While taking courses the traditional way – going to a class – was by far the most popular way to study among Private Institution students, online or distance courses were taken by a small number of students.

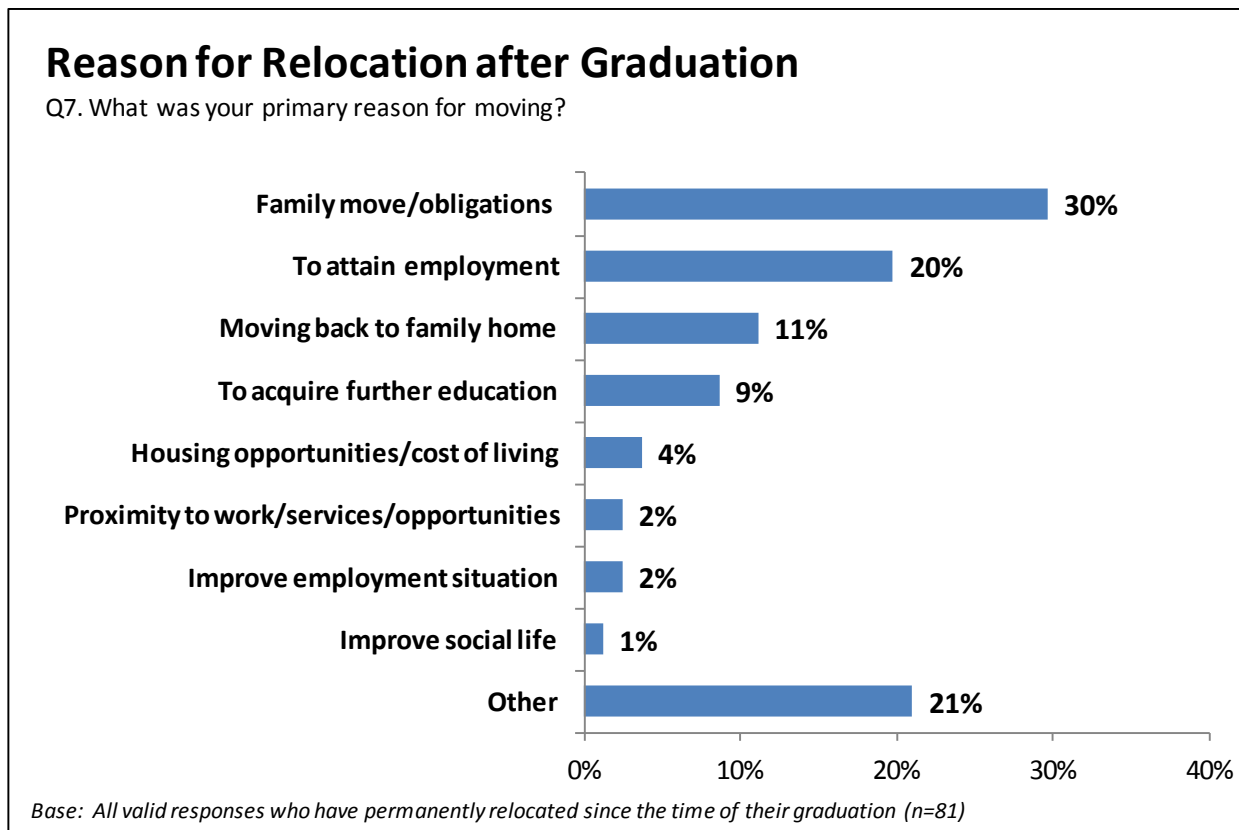
Overall, eight in ten (80%) graduates had not taken any courses through alternative channels, while 4% had done so for less than half of their course load, 5% for half of their course load and the remainder for either more than half (5%) or all of their courses (6%).



4.1.4 From One Location to Another

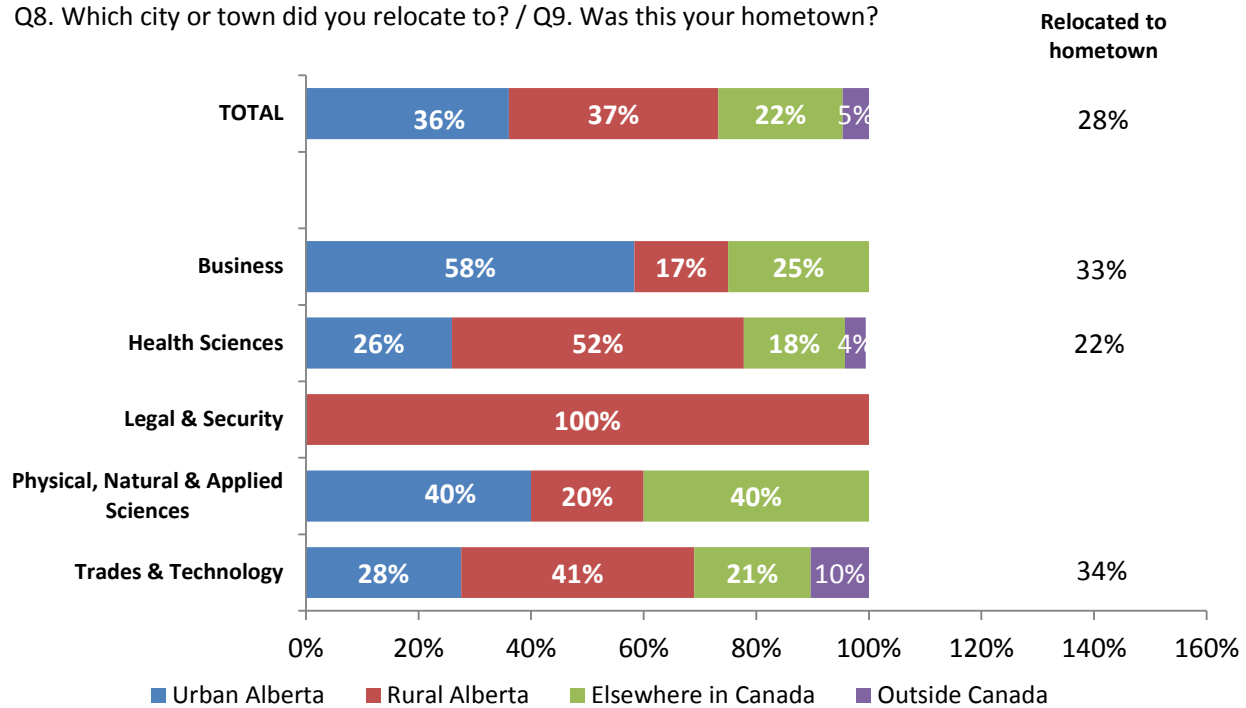
A sizeable majority of graduates (84%), when interviewed, lived in the same city or town where they studied. Some graduates did move home, or where the jobs were. Slightly less than one in five (16%) permanently relocated to a different town or city since graduation.

The main reason for relocating among Private Institution graduates was family-related, with 30% saying it was due to a family move or obligations, followed by employment reasons (20%). Additionally, 4% each moved back to the family home or because of the cost of living.



Relocation Destination after Graduation

Q8. Which city or town did you relocate to? / Q9. Was this your hometown?



Base: All valid responses (n=86)

5. GOALS AND SATISFACTION

The following section focuses on the skills and abilities graduates acquired, their assessment of the quality of their program and overall educational experience, if they would recommend their program and Private Institutions to future students, and the overall worth of their financial investments.

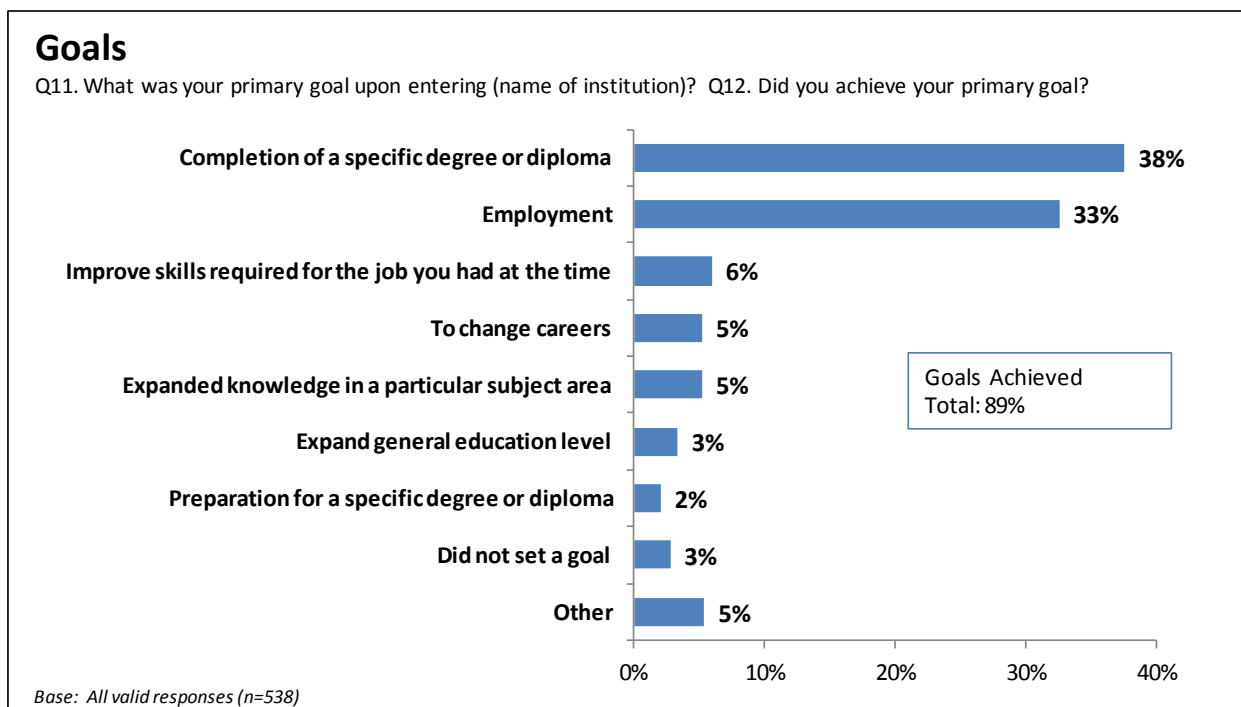
Less than half (38%) of graduates of Private Institutions had the primary goal of completing their program when they entered their post-secondary field of study, followed by a third (33%) who wished to attain employment.

Those most likely to have set a goal to complete their specific program type include:

- ✓ Those graduates who were not single (34% married, 33% other compared to those that were single 41%); and
- ✓ Those who last attended high school in urban Alberta (46%) or elsewhere in Canada (49%), compared to those who graduated outside of Canada (31%).

Those most likely to have set a goal to achieve employment include:

- ✓ Those graduates who had dependents (35%), compared to those that did not (31%); and
- ✓ Those graduates who last attended high school in Urban Alberta (36%) or outside of Canada (33%) compared to those from elsewhere in Canada (24%).



Those most likely to have fully achieved their primary goal upon graduation include:

- ✓ Females (68%), compared to males (48%);
- ✓ Health Sciences graduates (76%); compared to other fields of study (58%-65%); and
- ✓ Those graduates who do not have a disability (65%), compared to those who do (50%).

Of those graduates who did not achieve their primary goal upon graduation from Private Institutions, one-third (32%) mention lack of employment in their field as their primary reason, followed by one-in-ten (13%) who re-entered the post-secondary system to further pursue their academic goals.

Graduates least likely to achieve their primary goal due to lack of employment in their field include:

- ✓ Those in Business (41%), Legal and Security (40%), and Health Sciences Professions (36%), compared to Physical, Natural & Applied Sciences (23%) and trades and technology (12%); and
- ✓ Younger graduates 22 years and younger (14%) compared to older graduates (range of 29%-30%).

5.1 Benefits Provided by Institution and Program

Private Institution graduates tend to feel that their institution gave them all the benefits mentioned to some positive extent (4, 5 ratings). Giving them an opportunity to improve themselves (73% 4-5 rating) and gaining the knowledge of a particular field of study (73% 4-5 rating) ranked highest among graduates with 73% giving a 4 or 5 rating.

The majority (58% or greater) of graduates feel that the program from which they graduated provided them with the following benefits to a great extent (5 rating):

- ✓ The skills needed for a particular job (42% - Great extent);
 - Particularly greater extent among:
 - Health Sciences (50%) compared to Legal and Security (46%), Business (39%, Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (24%) and trades and technology (36%) graduates.
- ✓ An opportunity to improve themselves (47% - Great extent);

- Particularly greater extent among:
 - Health Sciences (53%) compared to Legal and Security (25%), Natural and Applied Sciences (37%) and trades and technology (35%) graduates.

- ✓ Knowledge of a particular field of study (42% - Great extent);
 - Particularly greater extent among:
 - Health Sciences (50%) compared to Legal and Security (31%), Business (41%), Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (29%) and trades and technology (35%) graduates.

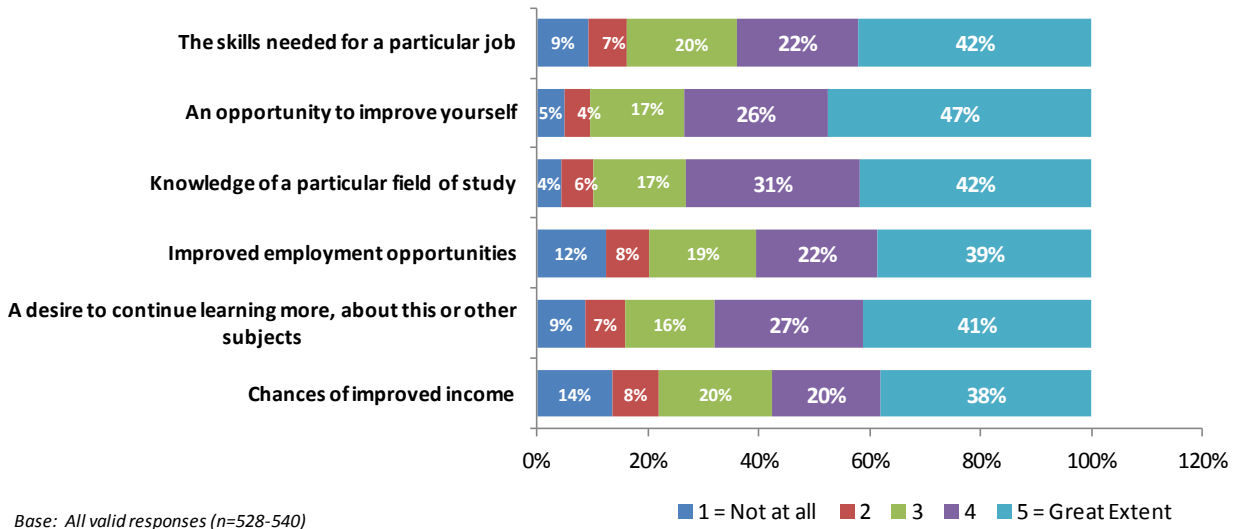
- ✓ Improved employment opportunities (39% - Great extent); and
 - Particularly greater extent among:
 - Health Sciences (45%) graduates compared to Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (29%) and trades and technology (32%) graduates.

- ✓ A desire to continue learning more, about their or other subjects (41% - Great extent).
 - Particularly greater extent among:
 - Graduates 31 years or older (48% 31-40 years, 49% 41 years or older, compared to 24% of those 22 years or younger)

To a lesser degree (38% great extent), graduates feel that the program from which they graduated gave them the benefit of chances for improved income. Graduates who felt that they did receive the benefit of chances of improved income tend to be in Health Sciences (48%) and Business (40%) fields, have dependents (47% compared to 33% of those without dependents), be 23 years or older (range of 39%-44% great extent compared to 23% of those 22 years or younger), and have attended high school outside Canada (46% compared to 34% of those who attended high school in urban Alberta).

Benefits Provided by Program

Q14. To what extent did the program from which you graduated at (name of institution) provide you with the following benefits?



Based on graduates' own educational experience at Private Institutions, over three quarters of graduates feel that they are able to work independently (71% 4-5 rating), learn independently (69% 4-5 rating), and work well with others (69% 4-5 rating).

Graduates are less inclined to feel that they are able to develop mathematical skills (34%) and develop an awareness of political and social issues (34%).

Skills and Abilities	Mean	4 rating	5 rating	4 or 5 rating	Valid N
Work independently	3.9	28%	43%	71%	538
Learn independently	3.9	29%	39%	69%	537
Work well with others	3.8	28%	42%	69%	525
Develop effective time management skills	3.7	27%	33%	60%	534
Develop interpersonal skills	3.7	31%	32%	63%	533
Become self-confident	3.7	29%	33%	62%	540
Think creatively	3.6	23%	34%	58%	526
Appreciate other cultures	3.6	20%	38%	58%	494
Analyze Information	3.6	31%	28%	58%	533
Solve problems	3.5	29%	27%	55%	532
Develop work-related computer skills	3.4	20%	35%	55%	497
Develop leadership skills	3.4	25%	28%	53%	525
Develop research skills	3.4	23%	26%	49%	513
Develop awareness of ethical issues	3.3	21%	28%	49%	503
Resolve conflicts	3.3	21%	25%	46%	510
Speak in public	3.2	21%	23%	44%	508
Develop your writing skills	3.0	17%	22%	39%	494
Develop awareness of political and social issues	2.8	18%	16%	34%	474
Develop mathematical skills	2.8	14%	20%	34%	470

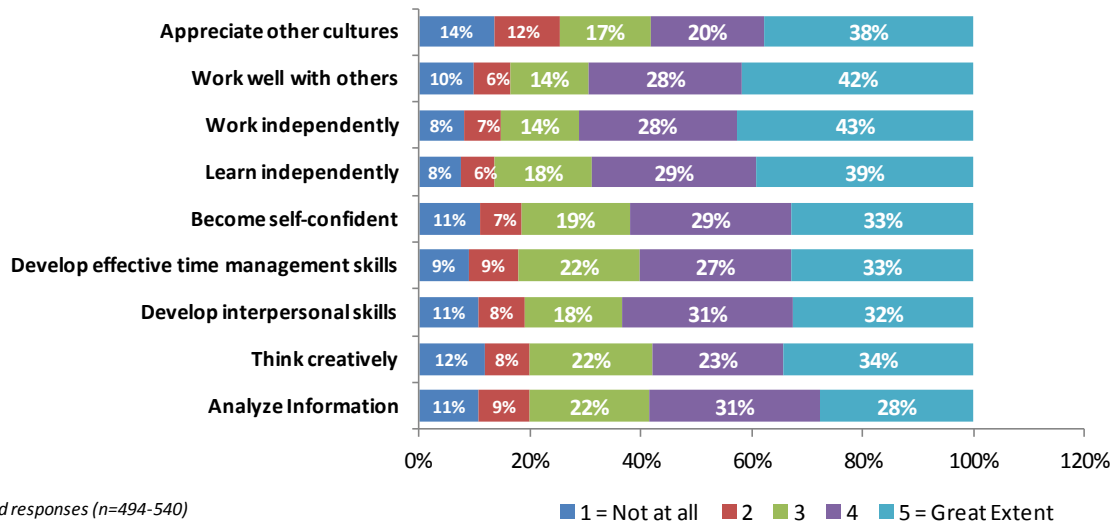
When focusing on graduates' mentions of skills and abilities that they feel they effectively, to a great extent (5 rating), achieved as a result of their experience at Private Institutions, the following is observed:

- ✓ 43% of graduates feel that they are able to work independently
 - Particularly high ratings are provided among those graduates:
 - Who last attended high school outside of Canada (52%) compared to those who did in urban Alberta (37%) and rural Alberta (39%).
- ✓ 42% of graduates feel that they are able to work well with others
 - Particularly high among:
 - Graduates of Legal and Security (64%) program, compared to all other fields of study (24%-44%).
 - Who last attended high school outside of Canada (54%) compared to those who did in urban Alberta (36%).
- ✓ 39% of graduates feel that they are able to learn independently;

- Particularly high among:
 - Females (41% compared to 31% of males)
 - Those older than 41 years (44%, compared to 27% of those 22 years or younger)
- ✓ 38% of graduates feel that they are able to appreciate other cultures.
 - Particularly high among:
 - Those who attended high school outside Canada (54% compared to the rest range of 30-33%)

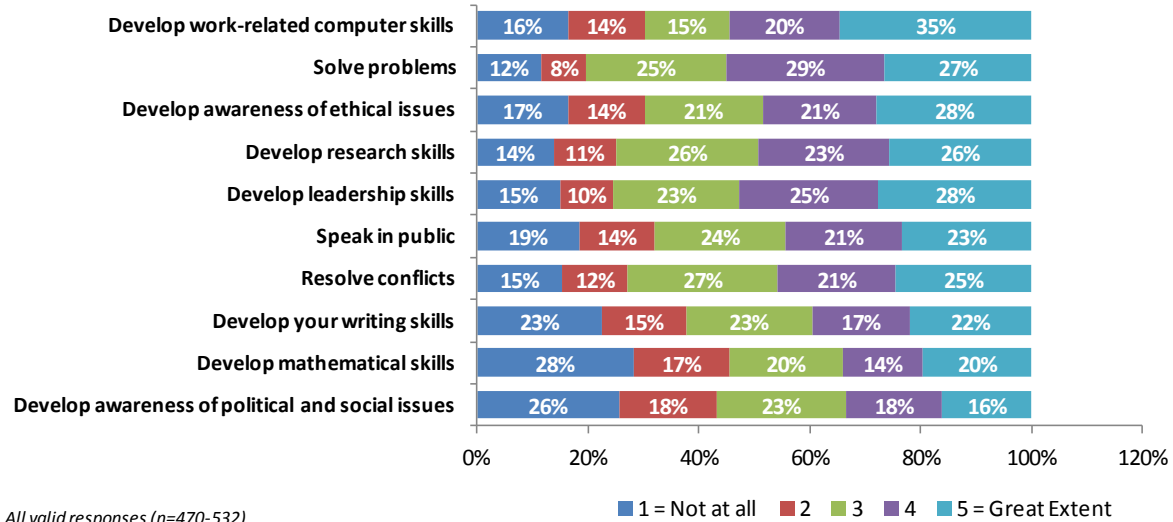
Additional Skills, Knowledge and Abilities Acquired through Institution (Top Half)

Q15. Reflecting on your educational experience at (name of institution), do you feel that it has helped you to effectively...?



Additional Skills, Knowledge and Abilities Acquired through Institution (Bottom Half)

Q15. Reflecting on your educational experience at (name of institution), do you feel that it has helped you to effectively...?

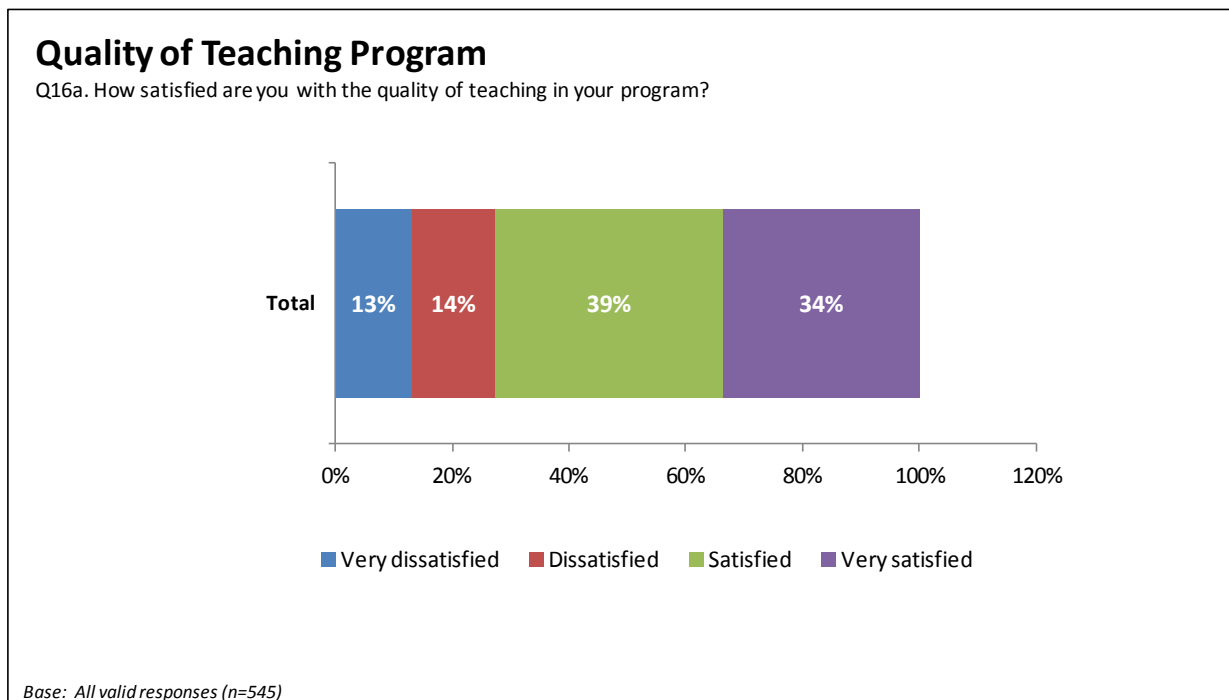


5.2 Quality Measures

The majority of graduates are satisfied or very satisfied with each aspect of their educational experience at Private Institutions. Although there are no significant trends among field of study graduates, it is found that older graduates tend to be more satisfied overall with each quality measure. Health and sciences graduates give high satisfaction ratings, garnering 78% (3 and 4 ratings) satisfaction or more, on each measure. Similarly, graduates who attended high school outside Canada tend to be more satisfied (78%-86% 3 and 4 ratings compared to 68%-69% of Urban Alberta)

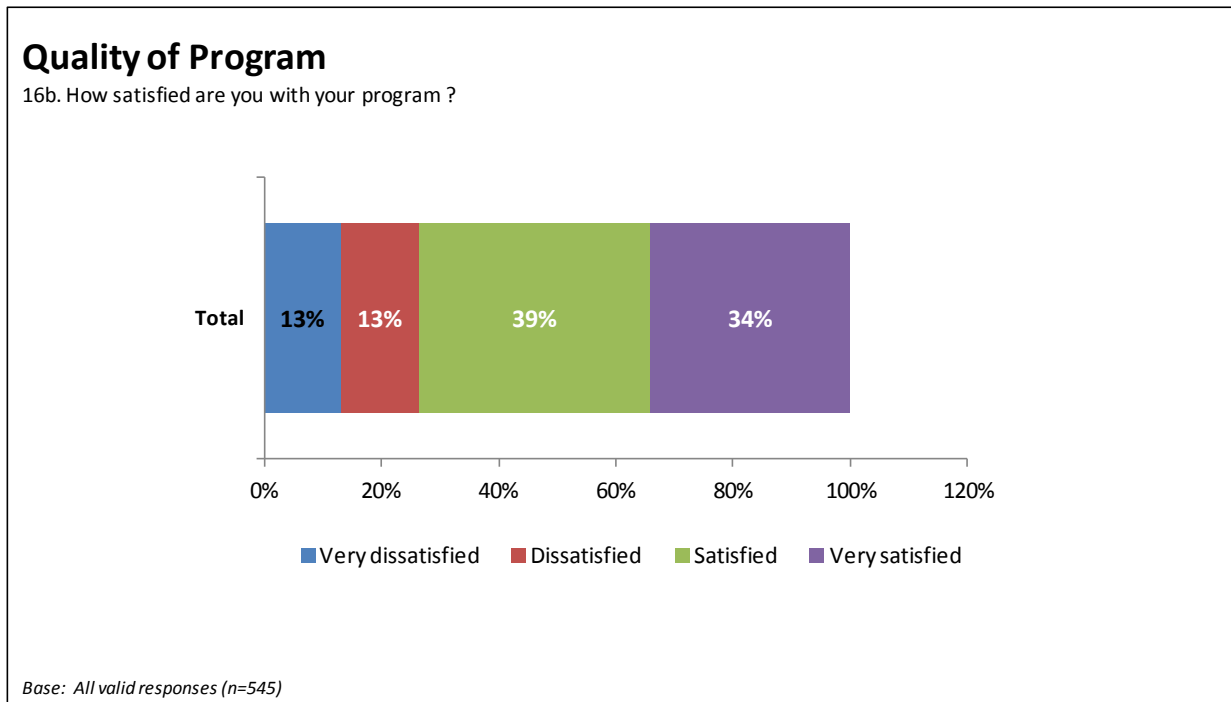
5.2.1 Quality of Teaching

About three quarters (73%) of graduates are satisfied (3,4 ratings) in some positive degree with the quality of teaching in their program. Satisfaction is particularly high among Health Sciences Professions (78%) graduates compared to Physical, Natural & Applied Sciences (53%).



5.2.2 Quality of Program

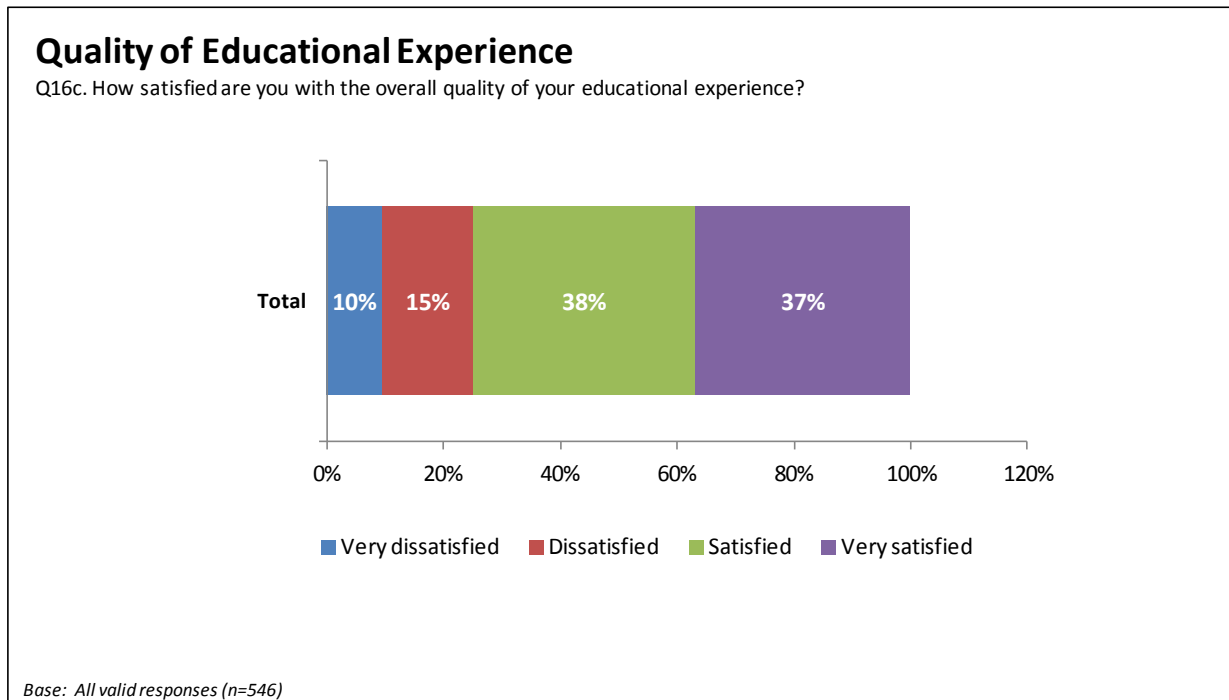
About three-quarters (73%) of graduates are satisfied in some positive degree with the quality of their program overall. Satisfaction is higher among those who studied Health Sciences (79%). Other programs have a satisfaction of at least 63%, which suggests the programs offered at Private Institutions are satisfying students overall, and that students have positive perceptions of these programs.



5.2.3 Quality of Educational Experience

The majority (75%) of graduates are satisfied overall (3-4 ratings) with their educational experience at Private Institutions. Satisfaction is split between those who are very satisfied (4 rating) and those who are satisfied (3 rating).

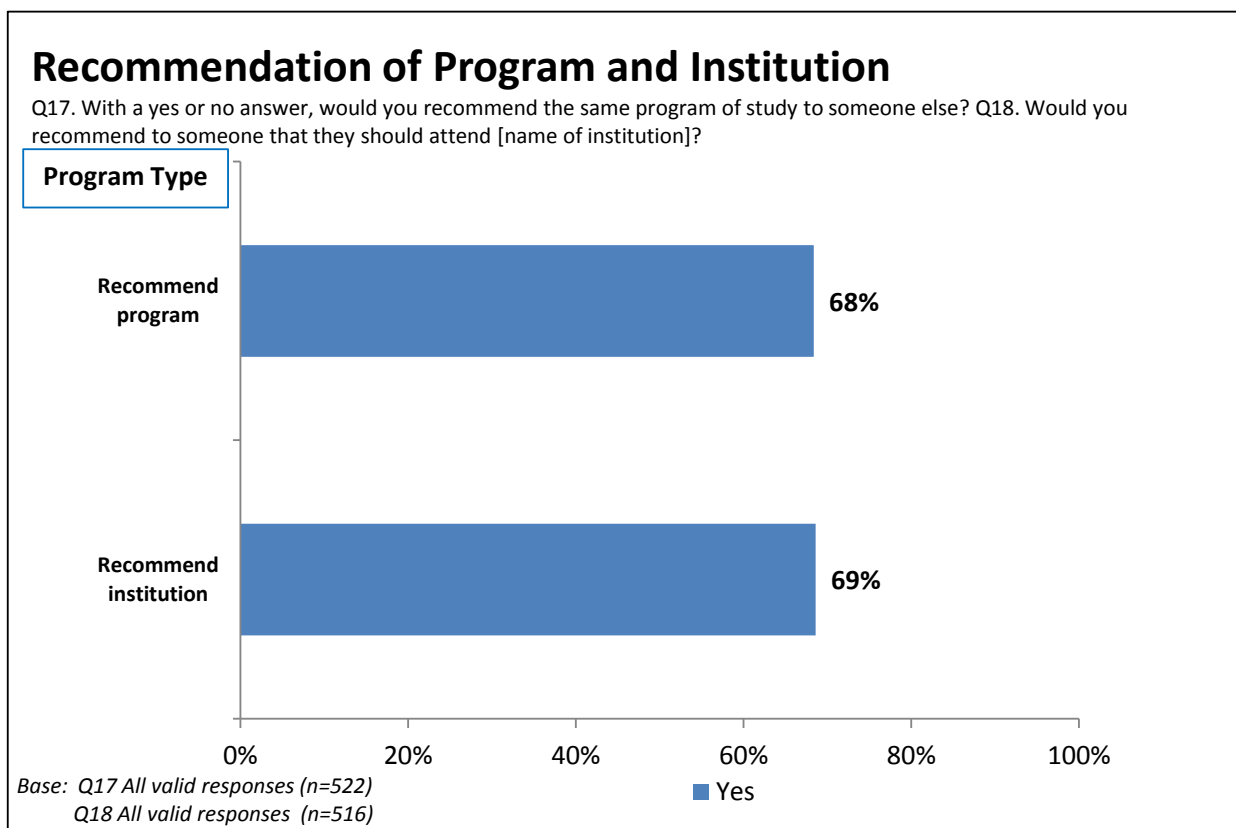
- ✓ 38% satisfied (3 rating)
- ✓ 37% very satisfied (4 rating)
 - Particularly high ratings are provided among:
 - Older graduates (43% 41 years or older) compared to younger graduates (26% 22 years or younger); and
 - Health Science (45%) graduates compared to Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (26%) and Trades & Technology (29%) graduates.



5.3 Recommendation of Program and Institution

The majority of graduates (68%) would recommend their program of study to future students.

- ✓ Particularly high among:
 - Health Science (74%) graduates compared to Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (55%) graduates
 - Those who last attended high school outside of Canada (74%) compared to those that attended high school in urban Alberta (61%);



As with program of study recommendation ratings, the majority (69%) of graduates would recommend their private institutions to future students.

- ✓ Particularly high ratings are provided among:
 - Health Science (72%) graduates compared to Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (64%) and Legal and Security (54%) graduates
 - Those who last attended high school outside of Canada (75%) compared to those that attended high school in urban Alberta (60%).

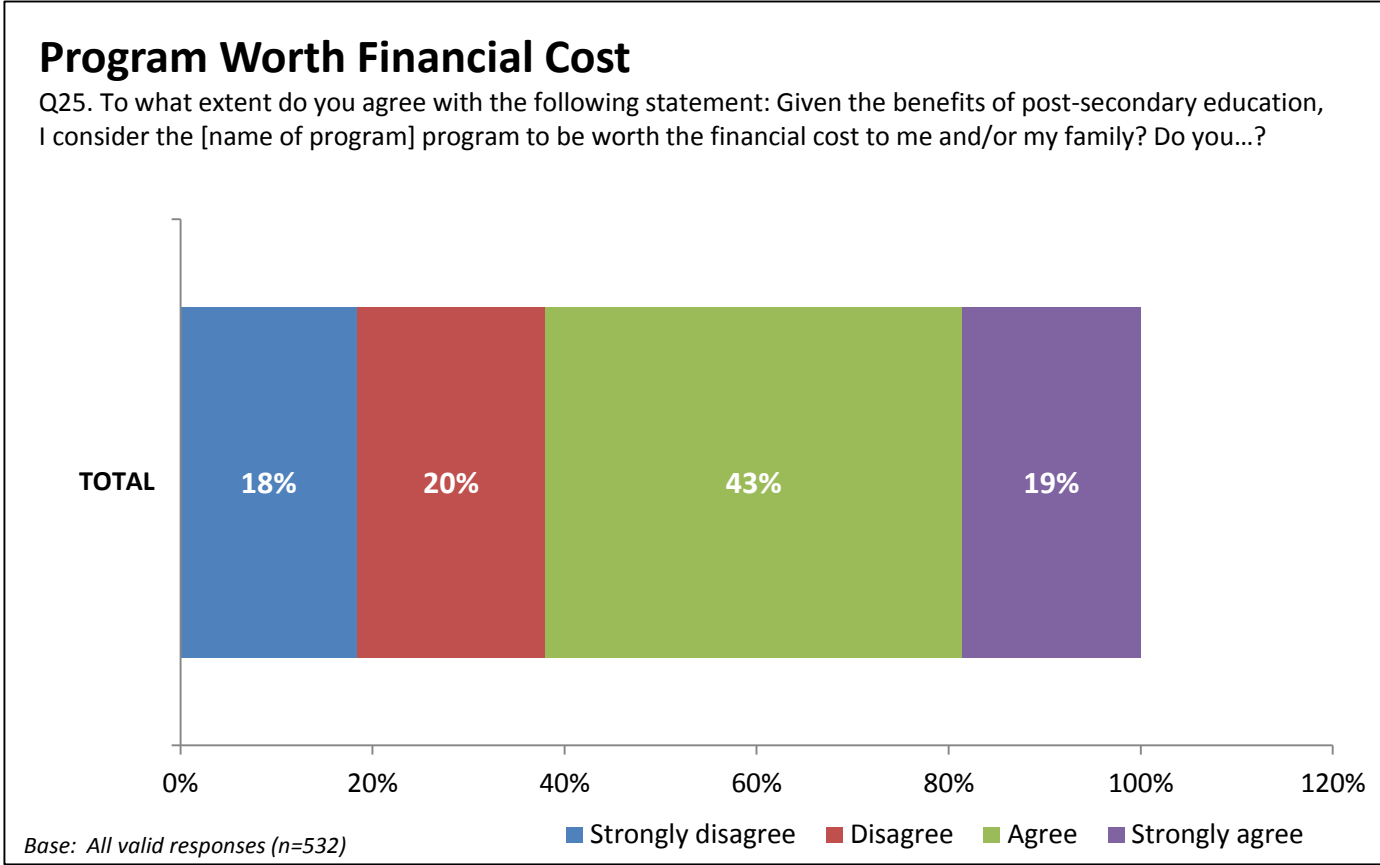
The majority of graduates from Private Institutions would recommend both the institution as a whole, and their program of study to future students. These perceptions are particularly positive among graduates of Health Sciences. Conversely, Legal and Security students are slightly less likely to share these same positive perceptions in regards to recommending either the institution or their program of study to future students.

5.4 Perceived Cost/Benefit of Post-secondary Studies

The majority (62%) of graduates agree that the program they took at Private Institutions was worth the financial cost, with 43% agreeing and 19% strongly agreeing.

Particularly high proportions of strong agreement are expressed among:

- Those graduates that are married or living in common law (26%) compared to those that are single (14%);
- Those who last attended high school outside Canada (23%) compared to those from urban Alberta (15%);



6. FINANCING

Most graduates worked while taking classes at Private Institutions and many also relied on financial aid from either the government or non-government sources. This section takes a look at graduates' participation in the work force, and sources of income; including government and non-government loans, scholarships, bursaries and grants.

6.1 Loans

6.1.1 Government-sponsored Student Loans

Half (51%) of graduates have received a government sponsored student loan.

- ✓ This type of loan is particularly prevalent among:
 - Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences graduates (78%)
 - Single graduates (56%) compared to married or common law status (43%) graduates; and
 - Those who last attended high school in urban Alberta (56%) compared to those who last attended high school in rural Alberta (45%).

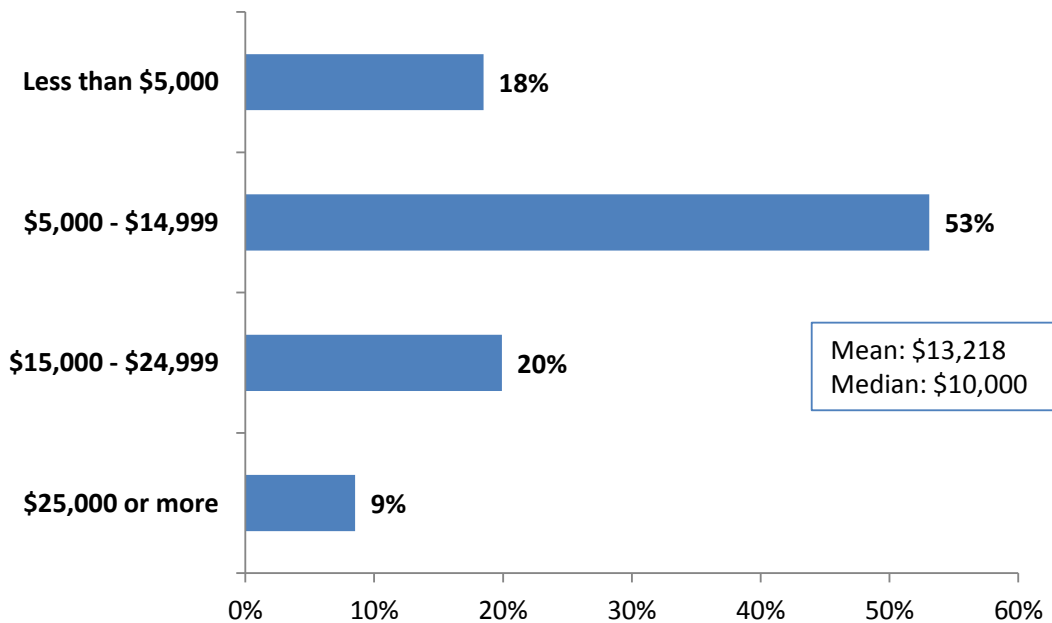
On average, graduates of Private Institutions 2009-10 owed \$13,218 in government-sponsored student loans at the time of graduation. Those who studied Health Sciences are shown to have owed more on average, \$15,965 when compared to other fields of study, in which amounts owed range from \$9,750 to \$11,572.

It has also been found that graduates between the ages of 26-30 typically owed more in government-sponsored student loans:

- ✓ \$15,120 for those 26-30 years, compared to \$13,158, for those 23 years or younger, \$14,755 for those 23 to 25 years, 12,429 for those 31- 40 years, and \$9,273 for 41 years or older.

Amount Owed from Government-sponsored Loans

Q55. At the time of your graduation, approximately how much did you owe from all government-sponsored student loans accumulated during your entire post-secondary education?



Base: Those who received government-sponsored loans (n=211)

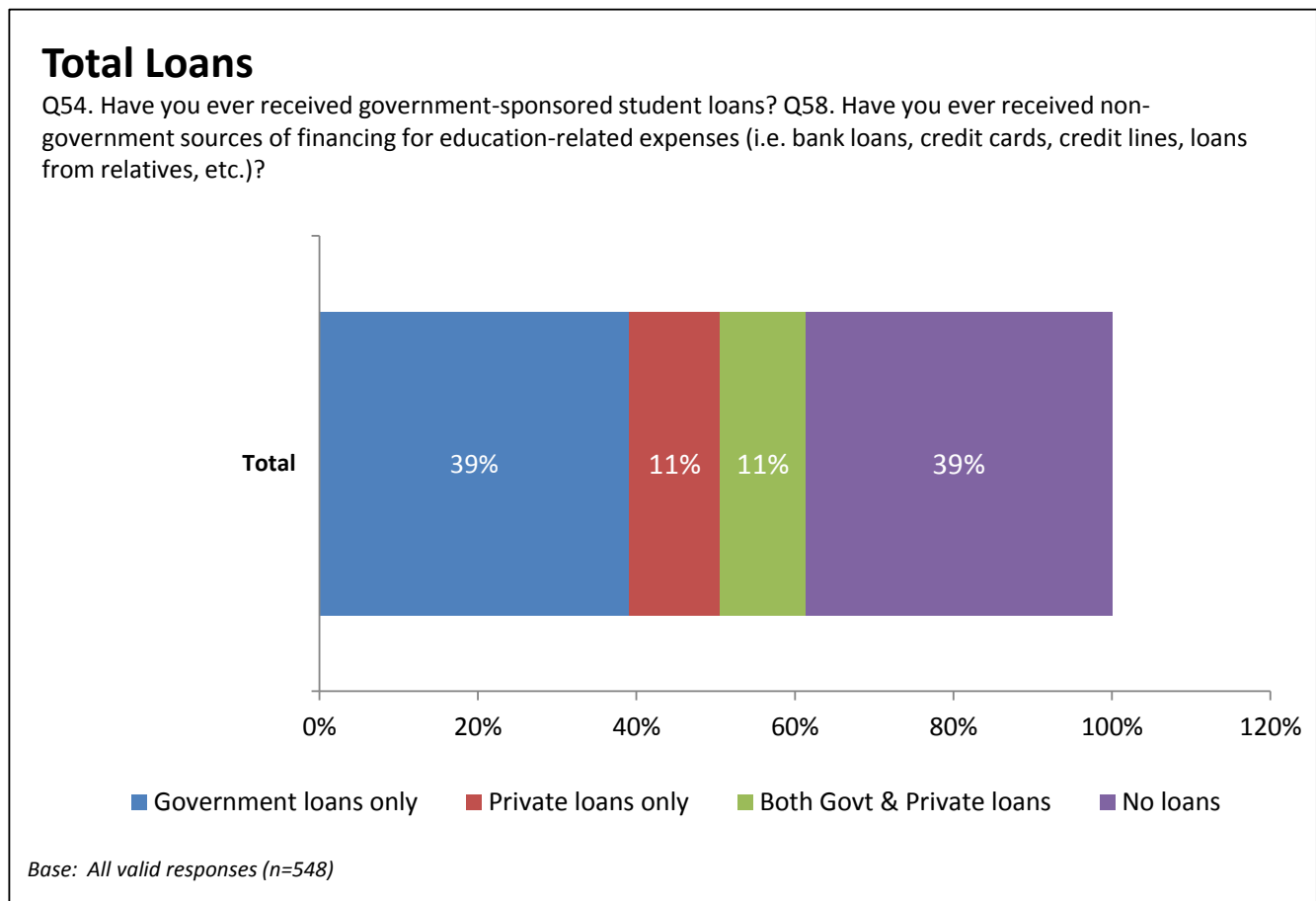
6.1.2 Non-government Sources of Funding

About one quarter (23%) of graduates received some form of non-government financing for education-related expenses during their time at Private Institutions. Those graduates who studied Trades and Technology (32%) compared to Business (15%) or Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (19%) were more likely to use non-government funding.

On average, of those graduates who obtained non-government sources of funding, the amount owed in these loans is \$9,204. Graduates of Legal and Security, \$14,750, typically owed more when compared to Trades and Technology (\$8,214) and Health Sciences (\$8,478) graduates.

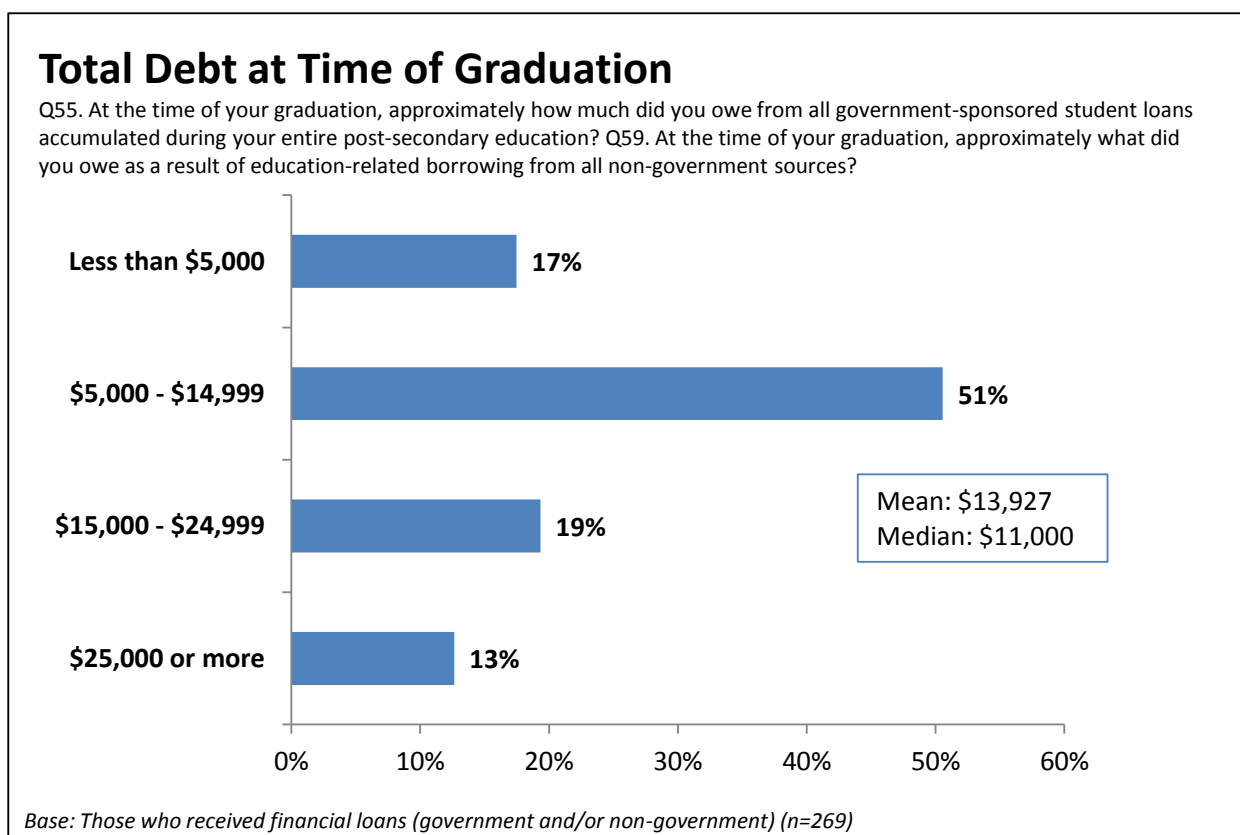
6.1.3 Loans – Combined

Looking at all loans attained by 2009-10 Private Institution graduates, the majority (61%) of graduates used some form of borrowing to finance their post-secondary education. Those graduating from programs in Legal and Security (79%) and Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (82%) were more likely than those in Business (55%) and Trades and Technology (54%) to take out either a government or non-government student loan, as well as single graduates (67%) compared to married or common law (54%) graduates.



The average total debt at the time of graduation is \$13,927. The following demographic groups typically owe more than others:

- ✓ Those graduating from Health Sciences (\$15,737) and Legal and Security Professions (\$14,688), were more likely than Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (\$12,760), Business (\$12,706), and Trades and Technology (\$12,251);
- ✓ Single graduates, \$14,194 and those who are separated, divorced or widowed, \$15,711, compared to those who are married (\$12,995); and
- ✓ Those graduates who last attended high school in Rural Alberta (\$17,667).



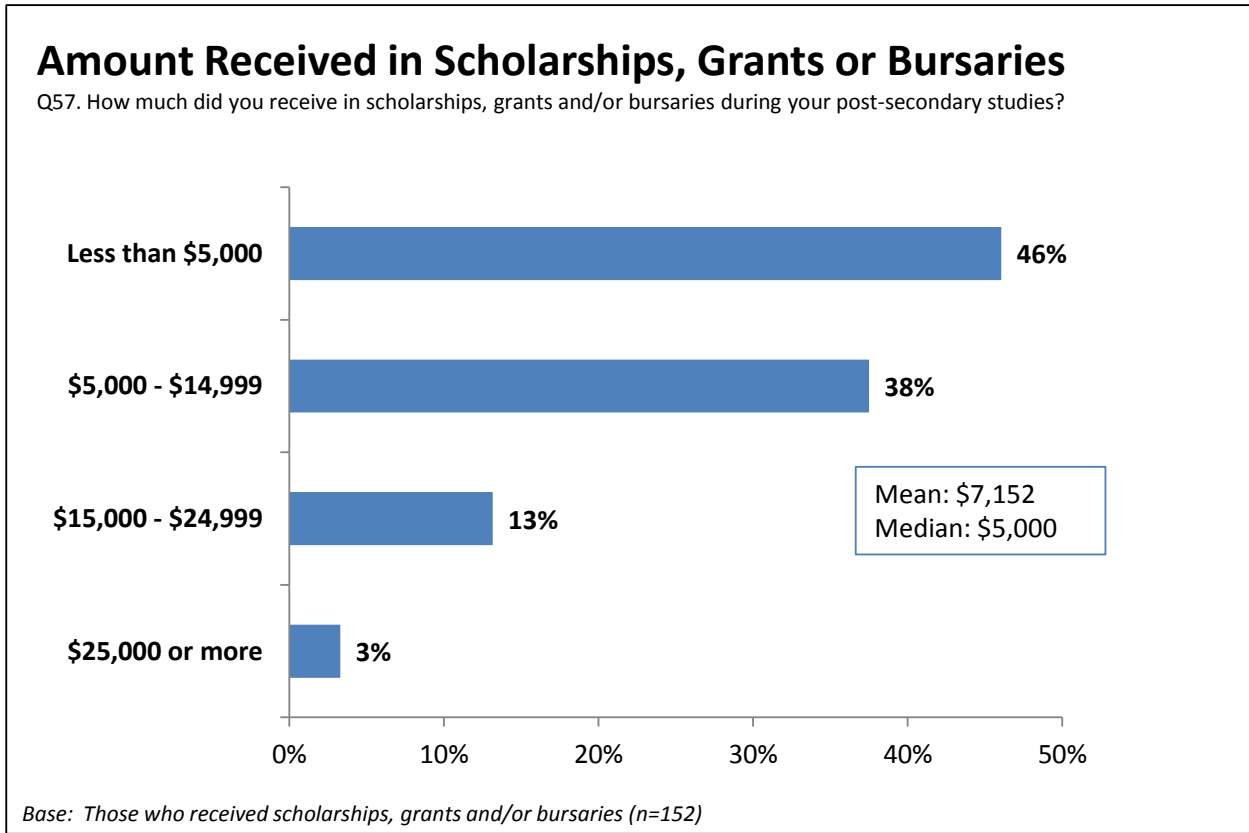
On average, graduates of Private Institutions 2009-10 owed \$13,218 in government sponsored students loans and \$9,204 in non-government sources of funding at the time of graduation. Students who relied on some form of funding during their studies are found most frequently among graduates who were single when they began their studies. As seen in the effect of marital status on program of study selection, these students may have had to rely more heavily on external sources of funding to complete their studies, due to a tendency not to have the financial and other types of support that a married or common law student may have from their spouse.

6.2 Scholarships, Grants or Bursaries

Two-in-five (44%) of graduates received scholarships, grants or bursaries during their studies at Private Institutions. The proportion is slightly higher among those who were Legal and Security Professions students (62%), and Health Sciences (39%) graduates.

Graduates who attended high school in other provinces (50%) were more likely to receive scholarships, grants or bursaries, than those from outside of Canada (38%).

The average amount received by those graduates who received a scholarship, grant or bursary is \$7,152. Legal and Security (\$9,600) as well as Business (\$9,000) related program graduates received comparably more funding than Trades and Technology graduates who received \$3,384.



6.2.1 Prior Post-secondary Experience

Over a third (35%) of graduates completed some post-secondary courses, not including upgrading, prior to enrolling at Private Institutions. Graduates over the age of 23 years (26%-49%) were more likely to have prior post-secondary experience than younger graduates (10% of those 22 years or younger), as well as those that were separated, divorced or widowed (54%), married or common law (39%, compared to those that were single 30%), and those who last attended high school outside

Canada (40%) or another province (42%), compared to those that graduated high school in rural Alberta (26%).

Over half (53%) of graduates who studied Physical, Natural & Applied Sciences had prior post-secondary experience, followed by Health Sciences (41%), and Business (33%), significantly more than those in Trades and Technology programs (18%).

7. OUTCOMES

This section discusses graduates' goals and employment outcomes upon completing their studies at Private Institutions.

Other areas discussed in this section are: the type of jobs graduates obtained after graduation, current annual income earned, how related their jobs are to their fields of study, the qualifications required for their current jobs and their current job satisfaction.

7.1 Employment

Currently, the majority (88%) of graduates are in the labour force, including 79% who are currently employed and 9% who are unemployed. One-in-ten graduates (12%) are not in the labour force, including 6% who are currently studying.

Graduates who are most likely to be currently employed (79%) include:

- ✓ Health Science graduates (86%), compared to Business graduates (74%);
- ✓ Those without a disability (81%, compared to 50% have disability).

Graduates who are most likely to be currently unemployed (9%), but actively looking for employment, include:

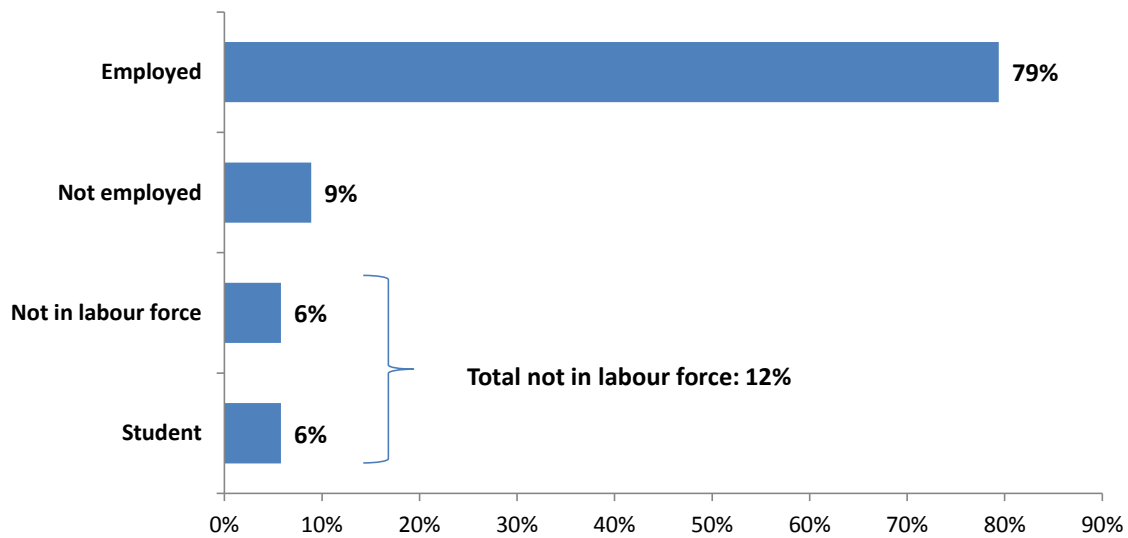
- ✓ Those who studied Business Professions (15%), compared to Health Sciences (6%) and Trades and Technology (4%).

Among 2009-10 Private Institution graduates, eight-in-ten (79%) are employed, nine-percent (9%) are not employed, but actively looking for employment and twelve percent (12%) are not in the labour force (including 6% unemployed and not actively looking for employment and 6% full time students who are not employed).

Current Employment Situation

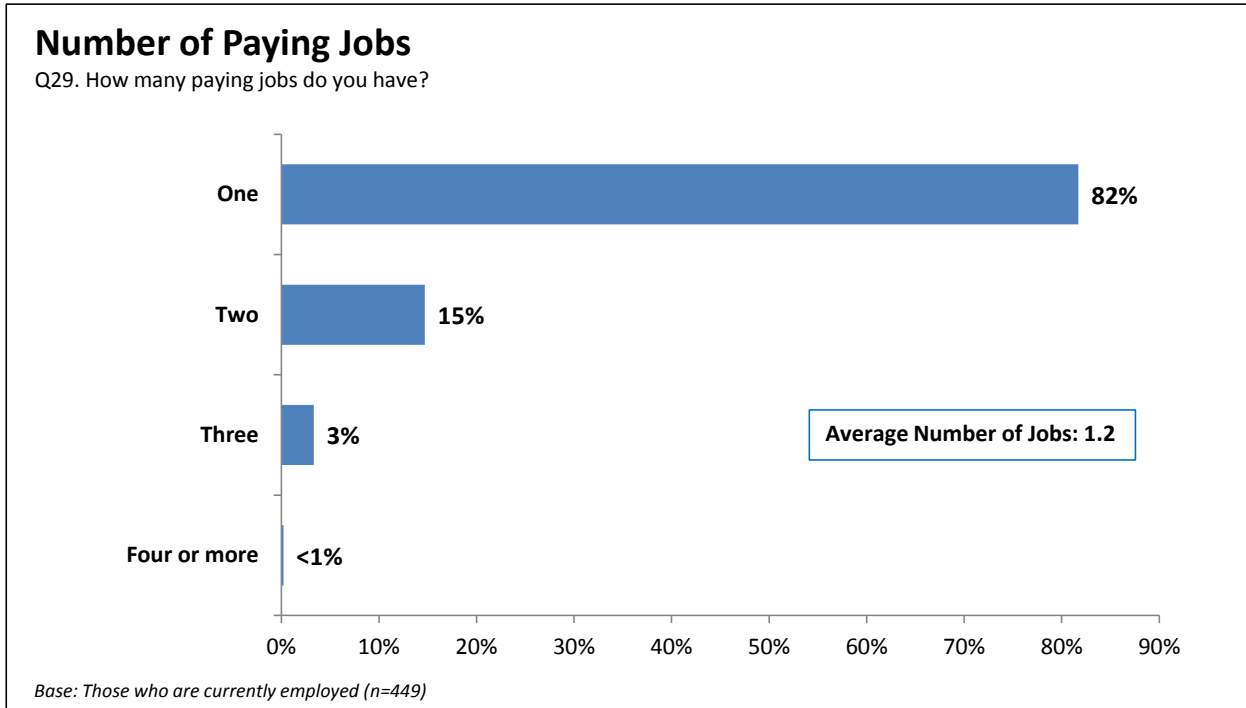
Q28. Do you currently have one or more paying jobs, including self-employment and seasonal positions?

Q30. Are you self-employed (in your main job? Q31. Are you currently looking for a job?

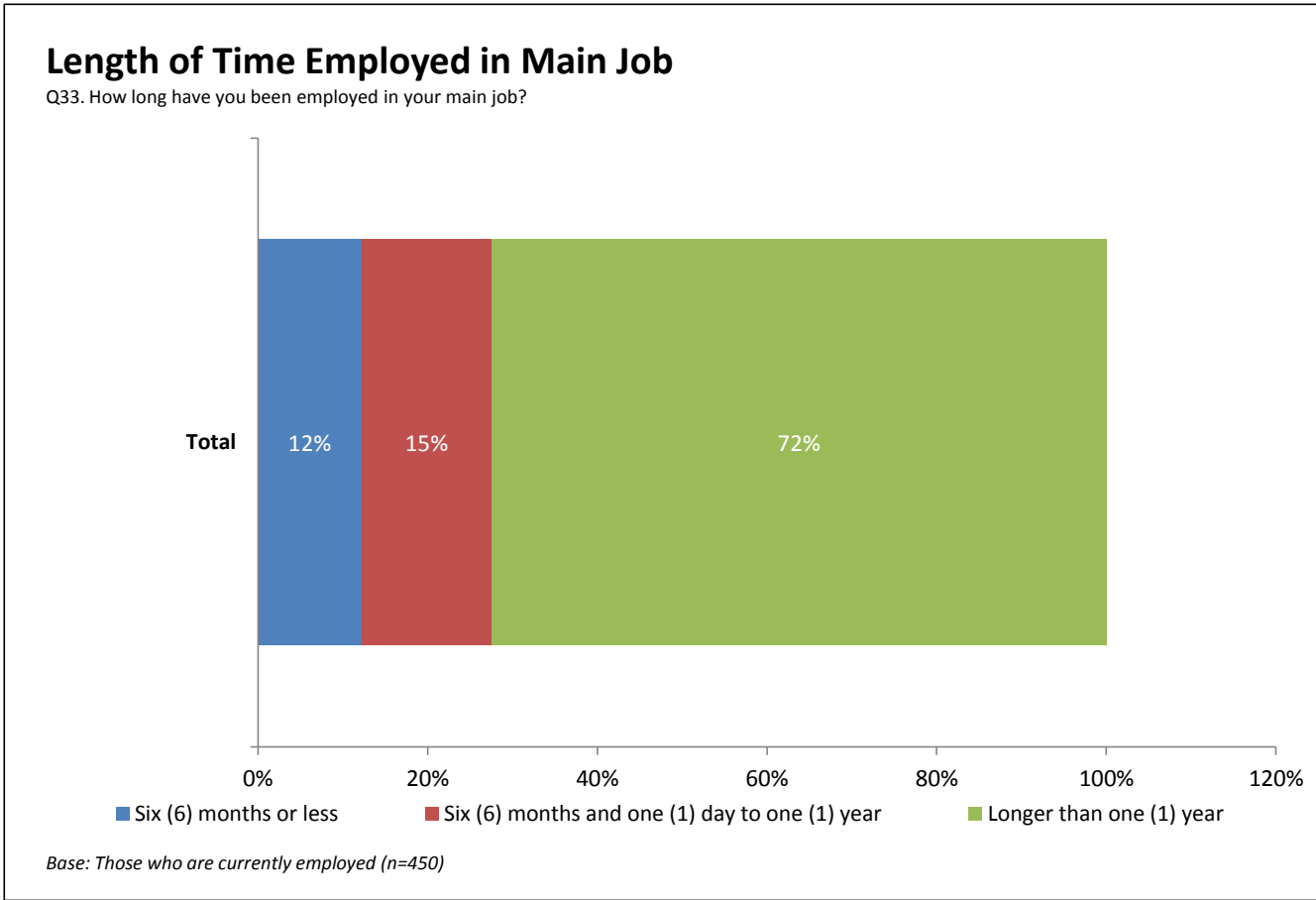


Base: All valid responses (n=548)

Among Private Institution graduates who are currently employed, the average number of jobs that each graduate holds is 1.2. A high majority (84%) of graduates mention having only one paying job, while 15% have two.

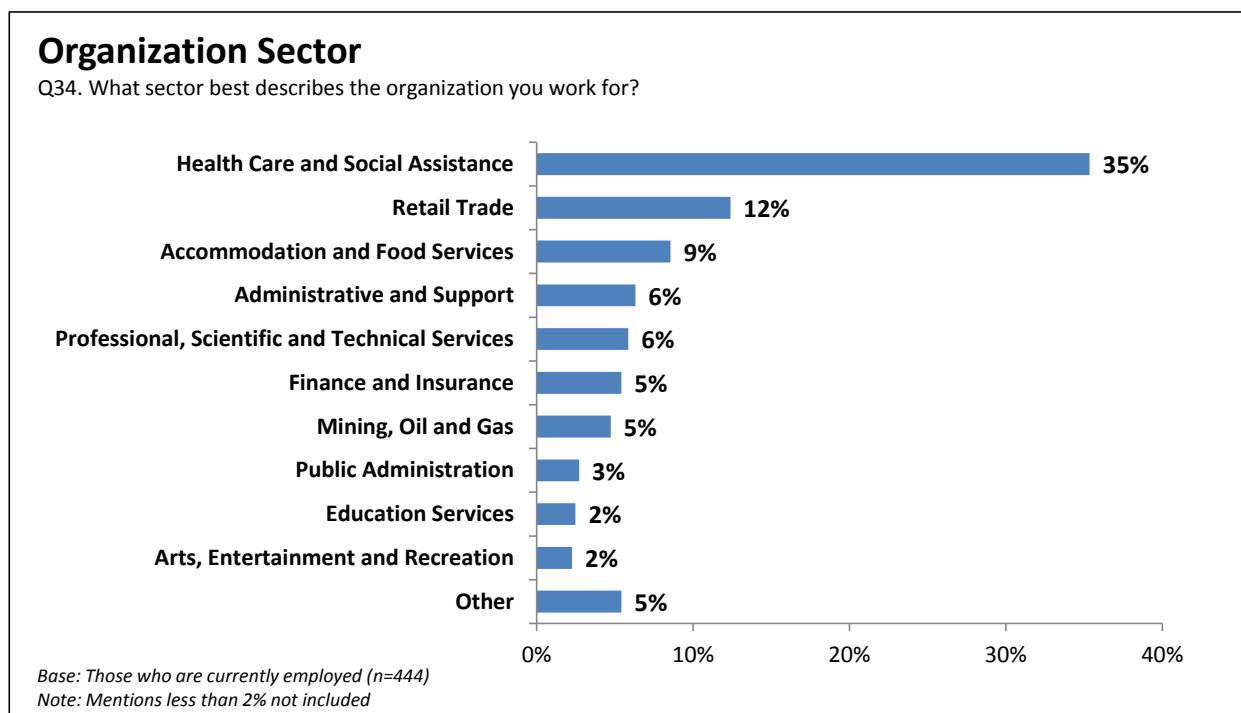


The average number of paying jobs is 1.2, and it is significantly higher among Health Science graduates (1.3) and Trades and Technology graduates (1.3) than Business graduates (1.1).



7.1.1 Sectors

Among the various organization sectors that employed graduates could be involved in, just over one third (35%) of graduates are working in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector, followed by Retail trade (12%).



Groups of graduates for which above average proportions work in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector include:

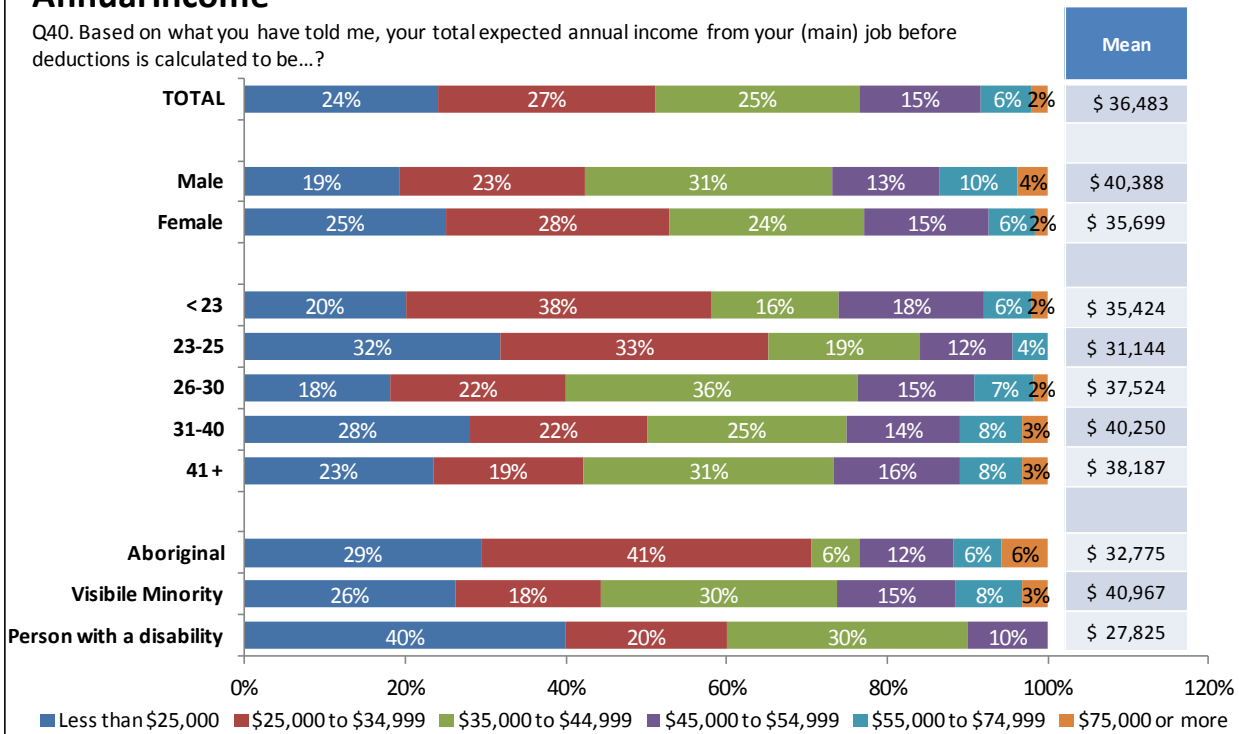
- ✓ The 26 to 40 age group (46% 26-30, 46% 31 to 40 years, compared to 25%-29% other age groups);
- ✓ Graduates who were married or common law (42%), compared to those that were single (32%); and
- ✓ Those who studied Health Sciences (75%), compared to other fields of study (5%-25%).

7.1.2 Annual Income

Based on how graduates had explained their annual income, the mean average income among graduates is \$36,483, and the median income is \$34,000.

Annual Income

Q40. Based on what you have told me, your total expected annual income from your (main) job before deductions is calculated to be...?



Base: All valid responses who are currently employed (n=311)

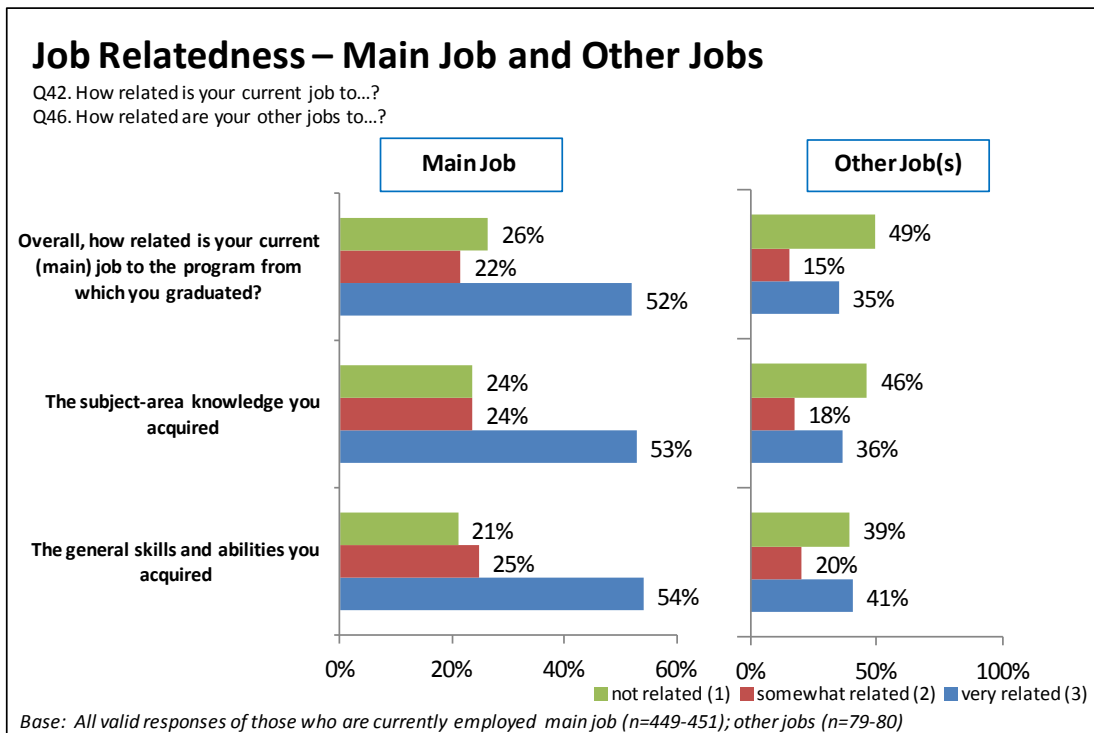
Health Science Professions (\$40,226), Business (\$35,812) and related Clinical Sciences graduates, and those in Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (\$40,188), tend to be earning more on average in regards to annual income than Trades and Technology (\$27,775) graduates.

Scores	Mean	Median
Total	\$ 36,483	\$ 34,000
Field of Study		
Business	\$ 35,812	\$ 34,500
Health Sciences	\$ 40,226	\$ 38,022
Legal & Security	\$ 34,055	\$ 32,640
Physical, Natural & Applied Sciences	\$ 40,188	\$ 34,944
Trades & Technology	\$ 27,775	\$ 26,594

7.1.3 Relevance of Education to Job

In regards to relevance of graduates' education to their current main job, a quarter of graduates feel that the subject-area knowledge they acquired (77%), the general abilities they acquired (79%), and the overall relevance of their main job to the program they completed (74%), are very related.

Graduates believe that their other job(s) are to a lesser extent relevant to the subject-area knowledge (54%), general skills and abilities (61%), and overall relevant (50%) to the education they attained from Private Institutions.

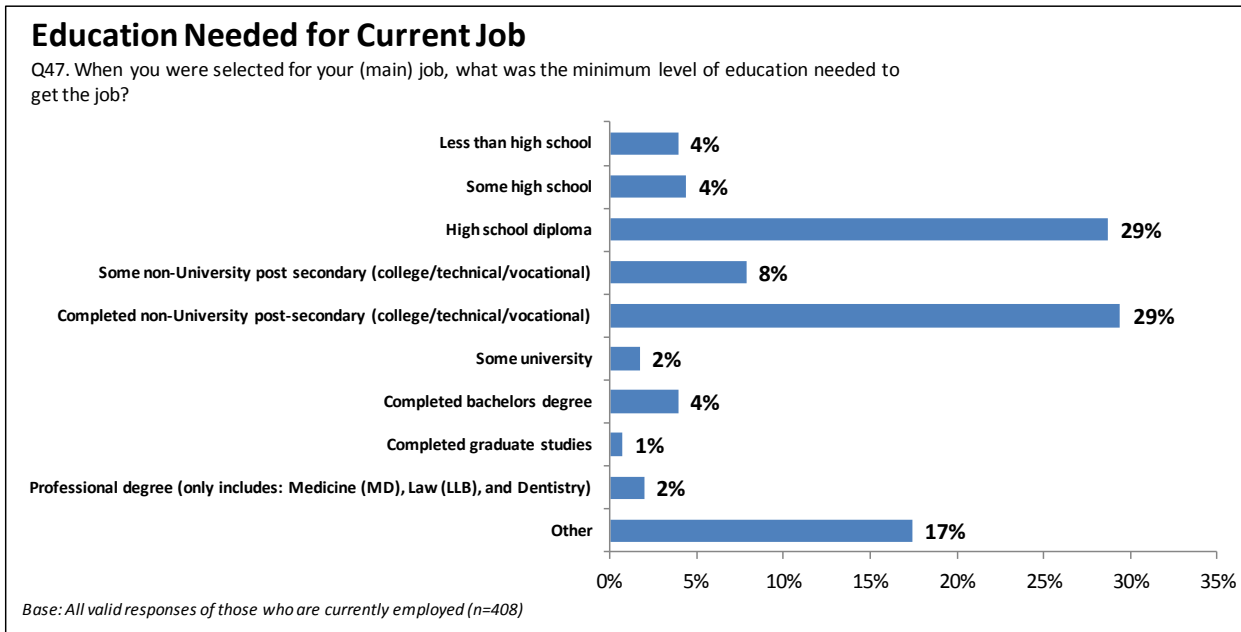


7.1.4 Qualifications

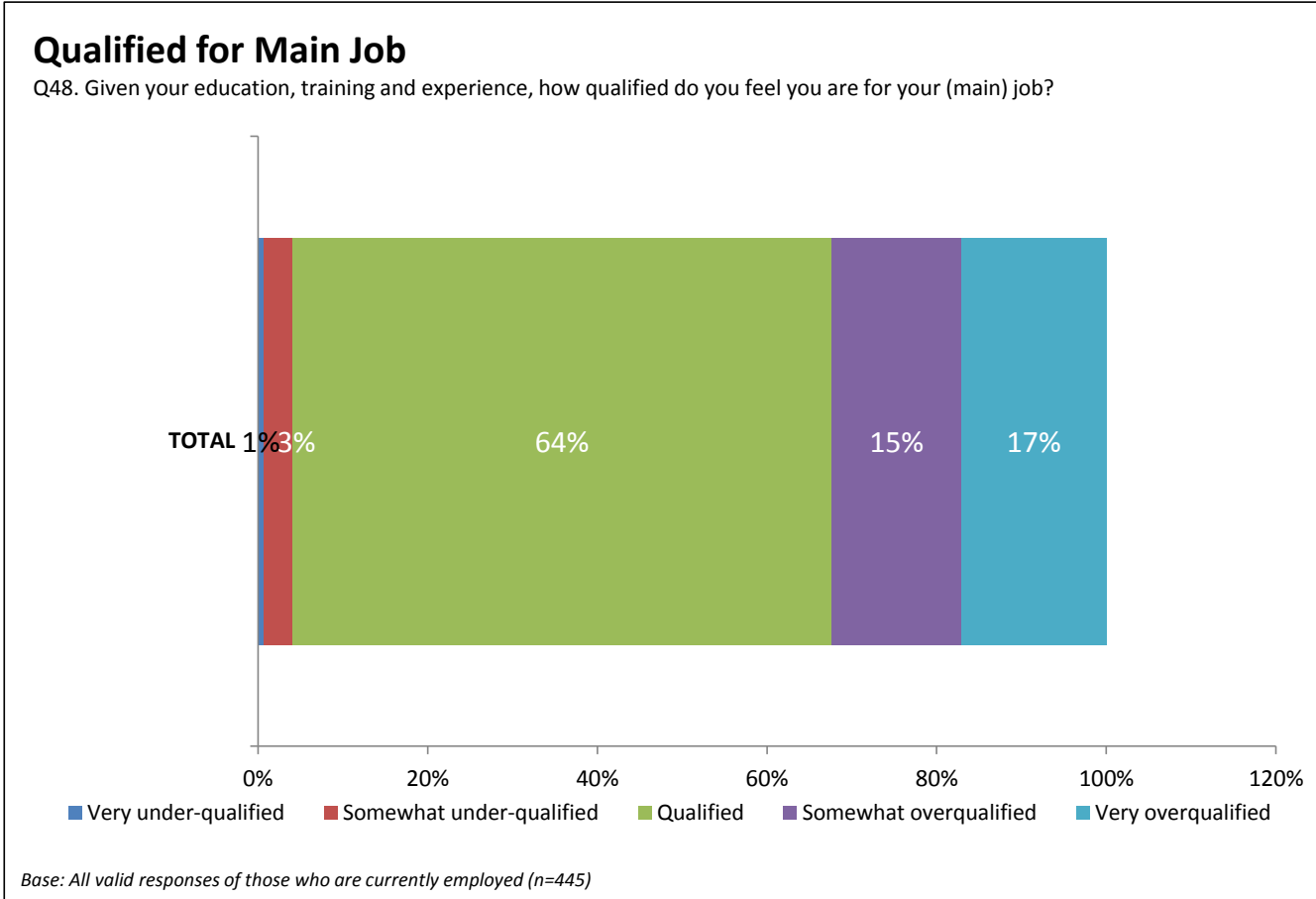
Three in ten (29%) graduates who are currently working indicate that when they were selected for their current main job, the minimum level of education needed to successfully get the job was to have completed non-university post-secondary education program.

Those graduates most likely to have indicated non-university post-secondary education program as part of their employment experience include:

- ✓ Graduates with a household income of \$35,000-\$54,000 per year (34% of those with an income of \$35,000-\$44,000, 42% of those with an income of \$45,000-\$54,000 compared to 20% of those with an income lower than \$25,000 per year); and
- ✓ Health Science graduates (36%), compared to Business (19%), Legal and Security (11%).

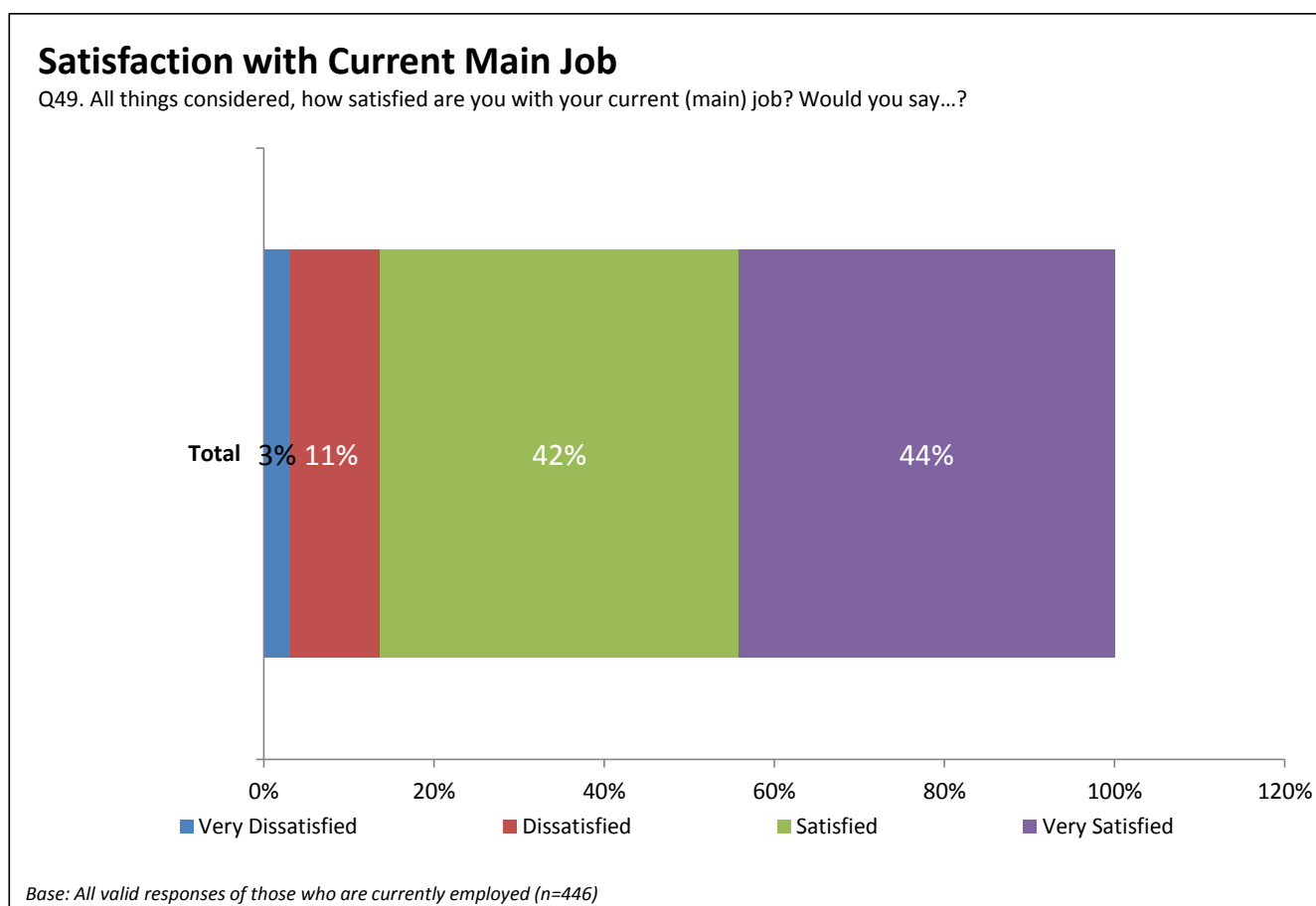


After graduation from Private Institutions, and entering the workforce, the majority of employed graduates feel that they were qualified to some fuller extent to undertake their new position in the work force; with almost all (96%) feeling they were qualified. This is consistently high across all programs.



7.1.5 Job Satisfaction

All things considered, Private Institution graduates who are currently employed are satisfied overall with their current job, with satisfaction being evenly split between those who are satisfied (42%) and those who are very satisfied (44%). Business graduates tend to be very satisfied (41%) as well as Health Science graduates, when compared to Physical, Natural and Applied Sciences (23%).



8. APPENDIX: SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Alberta Graduate Outcomes Survey, Class of 2009-10

CATI Survey

Hello, may I please speak to _____ (name of graduate)?

[If the individual is not available try to find out when they might be available. Explain purpose of study (see below) if requested. Thank the person providing the information. Do not collect survey information from parents, roommates or others.]

[If the individual does not live in this household, try to obtain a new telephone number or email address. Explain purpose of study (see below) if requested. Thank the person providing the information.]

New contact - phone	Collect new phone #
New contact - email	Collect email address

Hi, my name is _____ and I'm with Leger Marketing Alberta. I'm calling on behalf of Alberta Advanced Education & Technology and _____ (name of institution). We are conducting a survey of post-secondary students who completed programs of study in the fall of 2009 or the spring of 2010 at _____ (name of institution). The purpose of the study is to provide summary information for Alberta Advanced Education & Technology about graduates' satisfaction as well as their employment and educational experiences, and to provide detailed information to _____ (name of institution) with ideas about how to improve their programs. Are you willing to complete this survey? It will only take about 17 minutes and you can complete it by telephone or online.

Yes – Available now	Continue
Yes – Call back	Schedule call back
Yes - Online	Collect email address
Refusal	Thank and terminate

Before we start, I'd like to assure you that your participation is voluntary and that any information you provide will be kept confidential. If you wish to stop this survey at any time please just tell me. Your responses will be shared with participating post-secondary institutions but will not be attributable on an individual basis. When results are published, only summary or aggregated information will be provided. Your personal information is protected by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

[If the student questions the validity of the study, or has any questions about the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, please tell them they can contact the persons listed below for verification.]

Institution	Survey Contact	Telephone Number
The CATI system will generate the name and telephone number for the institutional contact.		

[IF ASKED: The overall report of findings from this project will be publicly available on the Alberta Advanced Education and Technology website in the fall of 2012. The report from the last wave of this research is currently available on this website.]

BACKGROUND

First, I would like to start by asking some general background questions.

1. What was the highest grade level you completed in the K-12 system, not including adult upgrading?
 1. Grade 1
 2. Grade 2
 3. Grade 3
 4. Grade 4
 5. Grade 5
 6. Grade 6
 7. Grade 7
 8. Grade 8
 9. Grade 9
 10. Grade 10
 11. Grade 11

- 12. Grade 12
- 13. Grade 13
- 14. Kindergarten
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

2. Which city or town were you living in when you last attended high school or another grade in the K-12 system, not including adult upgrading? **[DO NOT READ]**

- 1. Edmonton
- 2. Calgary
- 3. Lethbridge
- 4. Red Deer
- 5. Grande Prairie
- 6. Medicine Hat
- 7. Fort McMurray
- 8. Elsewhere in Alberta (specify) _____
- 9. Elsewhere in Canada (specify province/territory) _____
- 77. Outside Canada (specify country) _____
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

3. What year did you last attend school in the K-12 system, not including adult upgrading?
[ENTER FOUR DIGIT YEAR]

- 8888. Don't know
- 9999. No response

4. Which city or town were you living in when you first applied for post-secondary studies, not including adult upgrading? **[DO NOT READ]**

- 1. Edmonton
- 2. Calgary
- 3. Lethbridge
- 4. Red Deer
- 5. Grande Prairie
- 6. Medicine Hat
- 7. Fort McMurray
- 8. Elsewhere in Alberta (specify) _____
- 9. Elsewhere in Canada (specify province/territory) _____
- 77. Outside Canada (specify country) _____
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

5. In what year did you begin post-secondary studies, not including adult upgrading?
[ENTER FOUR DIGIT YEAR]

- 8888. Don't know
- 9999. No response

6. Have you permanently relocated to a different city or town since the time of your graduation from _____ (name of institution)?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No → GO TO Q10
- 88. Don't know → GO TO Q10
- 99. No response → GO TO Q10

7. What was your primary reason for moving?

[DO NOT READ, SELECT ONLY ONE OPTION]

- 1. To attain employment
- 2. Improve employment situation
- 3. Family move/obligations (including children, extended family, etc.)
- 4. To be independent/move away from family
- 5. Housing opportunities/cost of living
- 6. Proximity to work/services/opportunities
- 7. Moving back to family home
- 8. To acquire further education
- 9. Improve social life
- 77. Other (specify) _____
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

8. Which city or town did you relocate to? **[DO NOT READ]**
1. Edmonton
 2. Calgary
 3. Lethbridge
 4. Red Deer
 5. Grande Prairie
 6. Medicine Hat
 7. Fort McMurray
 8. Elsewhere in Alberta (specify) _____
 9. Elsewhere in Canada (specify province/territory) _____
 77. Outside Canada (specify country) _____
 88. Don't know
 99. No response

(Note: If respondent has relocated more than once, enter where they are now)

9. Was this your hometown?
1. Yes
 2. No
 88. Don't know
 99. No response

10. I will now ask you a series of questions about your post-secondary educational experience.

Using a 5-point scale where 1 means “not useful” and 5 means “very useful”, how useful were each of the following sources of information in helping you decide which program and institution to attend? If some of these sources of information are not applicable please indicate so. **[RANDOMIZE AND READ]**

	not useful		very useful			N/A	DK	NR
a) Institutional calendars (online)	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
m) Institutional calendars (print)	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
b) Alberta Learning Information Service1 (ALIS) website (www.alis.ab.ca)	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
i) Institution website	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
c) School or guidance counselors	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
j) Career fair/Open house /PSI High School presentation	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
d) Teachers	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99

e) Career counselors	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
k) Co-workers/employer	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
f) Parents or other relatives	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
g) Friends	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
l) Student recruiters /PSI program representatives	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
h) Other (specify) _____	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99

11. What was your primary goal upon entering _____ (name of institution)? **[DO NOT READ]**

1. Preparation for a specific degree or diploma
2. Completion of a specific degree or diploma
3. Expanded knowledge in a particular subject area
4. Expand general education level
5. Employment
6. Improve skills required for the job you had at the time
7. To change careers
8. Obtain high school equivalency
77. Other (specify) _____
10. Did not set a goal → **GO TO Q14**
88. Don't know → **GO TO Q14**
99. No response → **GO TO Q14**

12.

To what extent did you achieve your primary goal?

0. Did not achieve it → **GO TO 13**
1. Partially achieved it → **GO TO 13**
2. Mostly achieved it → **GO TO 13**
3. Fully achieved it → **GO TO 14**
88. Don't know → **GO TO 14**
99. No response → **GO TO 14**

13. Why did you not fully achieve your primary goal? **[DO NOT READ]**

1. Changed program/career plans/goals
2. Personal illness or disability
3. Family responsibilities
4. Moved
5. Financial Reasons

- 6. Lack of employment in field
- 7. Still in school/pursuing further education
- 8. Other (specify)_____
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

YOUR PROGRAM

The following questions relate to the _____ (name of program) program you graduated from.

14. Please rate the following statements using a 5-point scale where 1 means “not at all” and 5 means “to a great extent”.

To what extent did the program from which you graduated at _____ (institution name) provide you with the following benefits? If some of these benefits are not applicable please indicate so. **[RANDOMIZE AND READ]**

	not at all		great extent			N/A	DK	NR
a. The skills needed for a particular job	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
b. Knowledge of a particular field of study	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
c. An opportunity to improve yourself	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
d. Chances of improved income	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
e. A desire to continue learning more, about this or other subjects	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
f. Improved employment opportunities	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99

15. The following statements examine the degree to which your post-secondary education has added to your skills, knowledge and abilities. Please rate these statements using a 5-point scale where 1 means “not at all” and 5 means “to a great extent”. If a statement is not applicable please indicate so.

Reflecting on your educational experience at _____ (name of institution), do you feel that it has helped you to effectively: **[RANDOMIZE AND READ]**

	not at all		great extent			N/A	DK	NR
a. Solve problems	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
b. Speak in public	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
c. Develop your writing skills	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
d. Resolve conflicts	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
e. Learn independently	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
f. Become self-confident	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
g. Develop leadership skills	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
h. Think creatively	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
i. Develop awareness of ethical issues	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
j. Develop awareness of political and social issues	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
k. Appreciate other cultures	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
l. Develop work-related computer skills	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
m. Develop research skills	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
n. Develop mathematical skills	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
o. Develop interpersonal skills	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99

p. Work independently	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
q. Work well with others	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
s. Develop effective time management skills	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99
t. Analyze Information	1	2	3	4	5	77	88	99

16. The following question examines how satisfied you are with your educational experience in the _____ (name of program) program at _____ (name of institution). I would like you to answer using a 4-point scale, where 1 means “very dissatisfied,” 2 means “dissatisfied”, 3 means “satisfied”, and 4 means “very satisfied”. **[READ]**

a) How satisfied are you with the quality of teaching in your program?

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Dissatisfied
3. Satisfied
4. Very satisfied
88. Don't know
99. No response

b) How satisfied are you with your program at _____ (name of institution)?

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Dissatisfied
3. Satisfied
4. Very satisfied
88. Don't know
99. No response

c) How satisfied are you with the overall quality of your educational experience?

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Dissatisfied
3. Satisfied
4. Very satisfied
88. Don't know
99. No response

17. With a yes or no answer, would you recommend the same program of study to someone else?

1. Yes
2. No
88. Don't know
99. No response

18. Would you recommend to someone that they should attend _____ (name of institution)?

1. Yes
2. No
88. Don't know
99. No response

[NOTE: FOR PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, SKIP QUESTION 18 a, 18 b, AND 18 c.]

18 a.) What was the minimum length of time to complete your program, based on a regular course load? (answer should be in years)

18 b.) Did it take you less, more, or exactly that amount of time to complete your program?

1. Less – GO TO 19
2. More – GO TO 18 c
3. Exactly the same– GO TO 19

18 c.) What were the main reasons why it took longer to complete?

(Verbatim Response)

19. Did you complete any post-secondary courses, not including adult upgrading, prior to enrolling in the _____ (program name) program at _____ (name of institution)?

1. Yes
2. No → GO TO Q25
88. Don't know → GO TO Q25
99. No response → GO TO Q25

20. In completing requirements for the _____ (name of program) program, did you receive transfer credit or advanced standing for courses taken at any other institution?

[NOTE: FOR PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, SKIP QUESTION 20 AND GO TO QUESTION 25.]

1. Yes
2. No → **GO TO Q24B**
88. Don't know → **GO TO Q24B**
99. No response → **GO TO Q24B**

21. From which institution(s) did you transfer credits?

1. Athabasca University
2. University of Alberta
3. University of Calgary
4. University of Lethbridge
5. Ambrose University College(Canadian Nazarene University College / or Alliance University College)
6. Augustana University College (now University of Alberta - Augustana Campus)
8. Canadian University College
9. Concordia University College
10. King's University College
11. St. Mary's University College
12. Taylor University College and Seminary
13. Alberta College of Art and Design
14. Bow Valley College
15. Fairview College
16. Grande Prairie Regional College
17. Grant MacEwan College
18. Keyano College
19. Lakeland College
20. Lethbridge College (formerly Lethbridge Community College)
21. Medicine Hat College
22. Mount Royal College
23. NorQuest College
24. Northern Lakes College
25. Olds College
26. Portage College
27. Red Deer College
28. NAIT

29.SAIT

30.Other Alberta Institution (specify) _____

31. Other Non-Alberta Institution (specify) _____

88. Don't know

99. No response

22. Did you receive full credit or partial credit from?

[PIPE IN ONLY THOSE INSTITUTIONS CHECKED IN Q21]

	Full	Partial	DK	NR
a. Athabasca University	1	2	88	99
b. University of Alberta	1	2	88	99
c. University of Calgary				
d. ...				

[PIPE IN ONLY THOSE INSTITUTIONS CHECKED IN Q21 AND Q22 <> 88 OR 99.]

23. Did you receive the transfer credit you expected from...?

	Yes	No	DK	NR
a. Athabasca University	1	2	88	99
b. University of Alberta	1	2	88	99
c. University of Calgary				
d. ...				

[PIPE IN ONLY THOSE INSTITUTIONS CHECKED IN Q21 AND Q23=2]

24. What were the reasons that you did not receive the credit you expected from? [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY; DO NOT READ]

Athabasca University

1. I did not originally plan to transfer.
2. I completed more credits than were allowed for transfer to (i.e. most programs require that 50% of the program has to be completed at the institution offering the credential).
3. My marks weren't high enough to receive transfer credit.

4. I misunderstood or found the transfer requirements to be unclear.
5. I received unclear advice on what courses would transfer from the sending institution
6. I received unclear advice on what courses would transfer from the receiving institution
7. I received unclear advice on what courses would transfer from the other sources
8. I received unassigned (general) credit when I expected to receive specific credit (i.e. I got credit for English 1XX rather than English 110).
9. My courses were too old to transfer as I took them too long ago.
10. All my courses were transferable but some weren't required for graduation.
77. Other (specify) _____
88. Don't know
99. No response

University of Alberta

1. I did not originally plan to transfer.
2. I completed more credits than were allowed for transfer to (i.e. most programs require that 50% of the program has to be completed at the institution offering the credential).
3. My marks weren't high enough to receive transfer credit.
4. I misunderstood or found the transfer requirements to be unclear.
5. I received unclear advice on what courses would transfer from the sending institution
6. I received unclear advice on what courses would transfer from the receiving institution
7. I received unclear advice on what courses would transfer from the other sources
8. I received unassigned (general) credit when I expected to receive specific credit (i.e. I got credit for English 1XX rather than English 110).
9. My courses were too old to transfer as I took them too long ago.
10. All my courses were transferable but some weren't required for graduation.
77. Other (specify) _____
88. Don't know
99. No response

University of Calgary...

24. A.) How satisfied were you with the transfer credit that you received?

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Dissatisfied
3. Satisfied
4. Very satisfied
88. Don't know
- 99.No response

24. B.) In completing requirements for the _____(name of program) program, did you complete a prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) assessment?

1. Yes
2. No (go to 25)
88. Don't know (go to 25)
99. No response (go to 25)

24 C.) Which type of PLAR assessment did you complete? Please select all that apply (Read)

- Written challenge exam
- Oral exam or structured interview
- Skills demonstration/assessment
- Product assessment
- Evidence file assessment
- Portfolio assessment

24 D.) Were you successful in being awarded PLAR credits?

1. Yes
2. No (go to 25)
88. Don't know (go to 25)
99. No response (go to 25)

24 E.) How many PLAR credits were you awarded? (Read)

1. 3 (one course)
2. 6-12 (two to four courses)
3. 15-30 (five to ten courses)
4. more than 30 (eleven or more courses)
88. Don't know
99. No response

25. To what extent do you agree with the following statement: Given the benefits of post-secondary education, I consider the _____ (name of program) program to be worth the financial cost to me and/or my family? Do you...? **[READ]**

1. Strongly disagree
2. Disagree

- 3. Agree
- 4. Strongly agree
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

26. How much of your course-load for the program you graduated from did you take through on-line and / or distance delivery? Is that...? [DOES NOT INCLUDE PRIOR CREDIT TRANSFERS]

- 1. None
- 2. Less than half
- 3. About half
- 4. More than half
- 5. All of it
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

[NOTE: FOR PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, SKIP TO QUESTION 27.]

26 A. As part of your studies at (Alberta Institution) , did you participate in a study abroad program (which might include a student exchange, field school experience, course taken abroad, co-op/practicum or internship) outside of Canada?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No (go to 27)
- 88. Don't know (go to 27)
- 99. No response (go to 27)

B. In which country? [Record response]

- 88. Don't know
- 99. Prefer not to say

C. Was your Study Abroad Program offered: (read list, choose one option)

- All in English
- Primarily in English
- Primarily in a language other than English
- All in a language other than English

D. How satisfied were you with the overall quality of your study abroad educational experience?

- 1. Very dissatisfied

- 2. Dissatisfied
- 3. Satisfied
- 4. Very satisfied
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

27. Did you work while taking classes at _____(name of institution)?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

The following questions relate to your employment outcomes since graduating.

28. Do you currently have one or more paying jobs, including self-employment and seasonal positions?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No → **GO TO Q31**
- 88. Don't know → **GO TO Q31**
- 99. No response → **GO TO Q31**

29. How many paying jobs do you have? **[ENTER NUMBER]**

- 89. Don't know
- 100. No response

30. Are you self-employed (in your main job)? **[THE MAIN JOB REFERS TO THE JOB THAT HAS THE MOST HOURS.]**

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

SKIP AHEAD TO Q33

- 31.** Are you currently looking for a job?
1. Yes → **GO TO Q50**
 2. No
 88. Don't know → **GO TO Q50**
 99. No response → **GO TO Q50**
- 32.** What is the main reason you are not looking for a job? **[DO NOT READ]**
1. Own illness or disability
 2. Personal or family responsibilities
 3. Going to school
 4. No longer interested in finding a job
 5. Waiting for recall (to former or seasonal job)
 6. Waiting for replies from employer
 7. Could not find the kind of job wanted
 8. Traveling/taking time off
 9. Retired
 10. International student/immigration issues
 77. Other (specify) _____
 88. Don't know
 99. No response

SKIP AHEAD TO Q50

- 33.** How long have you been employed in your (main) job?
[SELECT THE MOST APROPRIATE, DO NOT READ]
1. Six (6) months or less
 2. Six (6) months and one (1) day to one (1) year
 3. Longer than one (1) year
 88. Don't know
 99. No response
- 34.** What sector best describes the organization you work for? **[Read list as necessary]**
1. Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
 2. Mining, Oil and Gas
 3. Utilities
 4. Construction
 5. Manufacturing
 6. Wholesale Trade
 7. Retail Trade

- 8. Transportation and Warehousing
- 9. Telecommunications and Information
- 10. Finance and Insurance
- 11. Real Estate and Rental and Leasing
- 12. Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
- 13. Management of Companies and Enterprises
- 14. Administrative and Support
- 15. Waste Management and Remediation Services
- 16. Education Services
- 17. Health Care and Social Assistance
- 18. Arts, Entertainment and Recreation
- 19. Accommodation and Food Services
- 20. Public Administration
- 77. Other Services (Please specify) _____
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

35. What is your job title? (If you held more than one job, choose the one with the most hours.)

[ENTER JOB TITLE]

- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

36. What are your main work duties?

[PROBE IF NECESSARY, ENTER MAIN WORK DUTIES]

- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

37. What is the total number of hours you usually work per week in your (main) job? (The main job refers to the one with the most hours worked in a week.) **[ENTER HOURS]**

- 8888. Don't know
- 9999. No response

39. What is the easiest way for you to tell us your gross salary or earnings, including tips and commissions, before taxes and other deductions for your (main) job? **[READ LIST AS NECESSARY]**

[PROBE AS NECESSARY: Next I will be asking you to tell me the amount of your salary. How would you like to tell me your salary? **READ LIST.** Would you be able to tell me how much

you earn per year? Per month? Every 2 weeks? Per week? Per hour? Per day? (ASK PROBES IN THIS ORDER TO MINIMIZE NEED FOR ESTIMATION)]

1. Hourly
2. Daily
3. Weekly
4. Bi-weekly (every two weeks)
5. Semi-monthly (twice a month)
6. Monthly
7. Yearly
77. Other (specify) _____
88. Don't know → GO TO Q41
99. No response → GO TO Q42

- 38.** Working your usual hours at your (main) job, approximately what is your [INSERT APPROPRIATE WORD(S) FROM 39: Hourly/Daily/Weekly/Bi-weekly/Semi-monthly (every two weeks)/Monthly/Yearly] gross salary or earnings, before taxes and deductions? (including gratuities, commission and other earnings)? [ENTER SALARY, DO NOT USE DECIMALS EXCEPT IF 39=HOURLY; IF NECESSARY, HAVE PARTICIPANT CONVERT TO CANADIAN DOLLARS AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE]
888888. Don't know → GO TO Q41
999999. No response → GO TO Q42

GO TO 41 IF 37=DK AND 39=HOURLY

- 40.** [Skip if Q39 = yearly] Based on what you have told me, your total expected **annual** income from your (main) job before deductions is calculated to be \$ _____. Does that sound about right?
1. Yes → GO TO Q42
 2. No
88. Don't know → GO TO Q42
99. No response → GO TO Q42

- 41.** [Skip if Q39 = yearly] In that case, what is your approximate **annual** income from your (main) job before deductions including ANY tips OR commissions? [ENTER ANNUAL INCOME]
888888. Don't know
999999. No response

42. Please rate these statements using a 3-point scale where 1 means “not related”, 2 means “somewhat related” and 3 means “very related”. How related is your current job to:

	not related	very related	DK	NR
a) The general skills and abilities you acquired (e.g., communication skills, critical thinking, problem solving)	1	2	3	88 99
b) The subject-area knowledge you acquired	1	2	3	88 99
c) Overall, how related is your current (main) job to the program from which you graduated in 2009-10?	1	2	3	88 99

IF THE RESPONDENT HAS ONLY ONE JOB, BASED ON RESPONSE TO Q29, SKIP TO Q47

43. What is the total number of hours you usually work per week in all other jobs combined?
[ENTER HOURS]

88. Don't know - GO TO Q45

99. No response - GO TO Q45

GO TO Q45 IF DK OR NO RESPONSE TO Q37

43VALID. To confirm, you work a total of [Q37+Q43] per week; that is, [Q37] at your main job and another [Q43] hours at your other jobs.

1. Yes – Continue

2. No – Jump back to Q37 or Q43, as appropriate

45. With respect to your other job(s), what is the easiest way for you to tell us your gross salary or earnings, including tips and commissions, before taxes and other deductions? **[READ LIST AS NECESSARY]** **[PROBE AS NECESSARY:** Next I will be asking you to tell me the amount of your salary. How would you like to tell me your salary? **READ LIST.** Would you be able to tell me how much you earn per year? Per month? Every 2 weeks? Per week? Per hour? Per day? **(ASK PROBES IN THIS ORDER TO MINIMIZE NEED FOR ESTIMATION)]**

1. Hourly

2. Daily

3. Weekly

- 4. Bi-weekly (every two weeks)
- 5. Semi-monthly (twice a month)
- 6. Monthly
- 7. Yearly
- 77. Other (specify) _____
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response → **GO TO Q46**

44. Working your usual hours at your other job(s) what is your approximate [INSERT APPROPRIATE WORD(S) FROM 45: Hourly/Daily/Weekly/Bi-weekly/Semi-monthly (every two weeks)/Monthly/Yearly] gross salary or earnings, before taxes and deductions? (including gratuities, commission and other earnings)? [ENTER SALARY, DO NOT USE DECIMALS EXCEPT IF 45=HOURLY; IF NECESSARY, HAVE PARTICIPANT CONVERT TO CANADIAN DOLLARS AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE]

888888. Don't know GO TO Q45B

999999. No response → **GO TO Q46**

GO TO 45B IF DK IN Q45

GO TO 45B IF DK IN Q43 AND HOURLY IN Q45

45a. [Skip if Q45 = yearly] Based on what you have told me, your total expected **annual** income from your other job(s) before deductions is calculated to be \$ _____. Does that sound about right?

1. Yes → **GO TO Q46**

2. No

88. Don't know

99. No response → **GO TO Q46**

45b. [Skip if Q45 = yearly] In that case, what is your approximate **annual** income from your other job(s) before deductions including ANY tips OR commissions? [ENTER ANNUAL INCOME]

888888. Don't know

999999. No response → **GO TO Q46**

46. Please rate these statements using a 3-point scale where 1 means, “not related”, 2 means “somewhat related” and 3 means “very related”. How related are your other jobs to:

not related very related DK NR

a) The general skills and abilities you

acquired (e.g., communication skills, critical thinking, problem solving)	1	2	3	88	99
b) The subject-area knowledge you acquired	1	2	3	88	99
c) Overall, how related is your other job to the program from which you graduated in 2009-10?	1	2	3	88	99

47. When you were selected for your (main) job, what was the minimum level of education needed to get the job? **[DO NOT READ LIST, ACCEPT ONE ANSWER ONLY]**

1. Less than high school
2. Some high school
3. High school diploma
4. Some non-University post secondary (college/technical/vocational)
5. Completed non-University post-secondary (college/technical/vocational)
6. Some university
7. Completed bachelor's degree
8. Completed graduate studies
10. Professional degree (only includes: Medicine (MD), Law (LLB), and Dentistry (DDS))
9. Other (specify) _____
88. Don't know
99. No response

48. Given your education, training and experience, how qualified do you feel you are for your (main) job? **[READ]**

1. Very under-qualified
2. Somewhat under-qualified
3. Qualified
4. Somewhat overqualified
5. Very overqualified
88. Don't know
99. No response

49. All things considered, how satisfied are you with your current (main) job? Would you say...? **[READ]**

1. Very Dissatisfied
2. Dissatisfied
3. Satisfied
4. Very Satisfied
88. Don't know

99. No response

FURTHER STUDIES

I would now like to ask you about further studies you may have undertaken since graduating.

50. Are you currently enrolled as a student?

1. Yes
2. No → GO TO Q54
88. Don't know → GO TO Q54
99. No response → GO TO Q54

51. What post-secondary institution(s) are you enrolled in?

1. Athabasca University
2. University of Alberta (including Augustana campus)
3. University of Calgary
4. University of Lethbridge
5. Ambrose University College
6. Canadian University College
7. Concordia University College
8. King's University College
9. St. Mary's University College
10. Alberta College of Art and Design
11. Bow Valley College
12. Grande Prairie Regional College (including Fairview Campus)
13. Grant MacEwan College
14. Keyano College
15. Lakeland College
16. Lethbridge Community College
17. Medicine Hat College
18. Mount Royal College
19. NorQuest College
20. Northern Lakes College
21. Olds College
22. Portage College
23. Red Deer College
24. NAIT
25. SAIT
30. Other Alberta Institution (specify) _____
31. Other Non-Alberta Institution (specify) _____
88. Don't know
99. No response

52. Are you currently a part-time or full-time student?

- 1. Full-time
- 2. Part-time
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

53. Will these studies lead to a...? **[READ LIST AS NECESSARY]**

- 1. Diploma
- 2. Certificate
- 3. Extension certificate
- 4. Applied degree
- 5. Undergraduate degree
- 6. Graduate degree
- 7. Professional School (e.g. Law, Dentistry, Medicine)
- 8. Professional designation (e.g. CMA – Certified Management Accounting designation)
- 77. Other (specify) _____
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The next questions ask about financial assistance you may have accessed as a student.

54. Have you ever received government-sponsored student loans?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No → GO TO Q56
- 88. Don't know → GO TO Q56
- 99. No response → GO TO Q56

55. At the time of your graduation, approximately how much did you owe from all government sponsored student loans accumulated during your entire post-secondary education? **[ENTER AMOUNT, NO DECIMALS]**

- 888888. Don't know
- 999999. No response

56. Have you ever received scholarships, grants or bursaries?
1. Yes
 2. No → GO TO Q58
 88. Don't know → GO TO Q58
 99. No response → GO TO Q58
57. Approximately how much did you receive in scholarships, grants and/or bursaries during your post-secondary studies? [ENTER AMOUNT, NO DECIMALS]
888888. Don't know
999999. No response
58. Have you ever received non-government sources of financing for education-related expenses? [READ THE FOLLOWING ONLY IF RESPONDENT REQUIRES CLARIFICATION] (i.e. bank loans, credit cards, credit lines, loans from relatives, etc.)?
1. Yes
 2. No → GO TO Q60
 88. Don't know → GO TO Q60
 99. No response → GO TO Q60
59. At the time of your graduation, approximately what did you owe as a result of education-related borrowing from all non-government sources? This amount does NOT include what you owe for government sponsored student loans. [ENTER AMOUNT, NO DECIMALS]
888888. Don't know
999999. No response

DEMOGRAPHICS

The following demographic questions are asked only to assist in classifying your responses, and are not used in any way to identify you. As I mentioned, these questions are all voluntary and any information you provide is kept strictly confidential.

60. What is your gender? [DO NOT ASK]
1. Male
 2. Female
 88. Don't know

99. No response

61. What is your current age? [ENTER AGE]

88. Don't know

99. No response

62. What was your marital status when you started the _____ (program name) program? Were you ...?

1. Single (never married)

2. Married or living with partner

3. Divorced/Separated/Widowed

88. Don't know

99. No response

63. When you started the _____ (name of program) program for how many dependents (including dependent adults) were you responsible? [ENTER NUMBER]

88. Don't know

99. No response

64. Do you consider yourself to be an Aboriginal person?

1. Yes

2. No → GO TO Q66

88. Don't know → GO TO Q66

99. No response → GO TO Q66

65. Are you...? [READ]

1. Status Indian

2. Non-status Indian

3. Inuit

4. Métis

77. Other _____

88. Don't know

99. No response

SKIP TO Q67

66. Do you consider yourself to be a member of a visible minority?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No Response

67. Do you consider yourself to be a person with a disability (that is, someone with a long-term physical, mental or learning disability that limits the kind or amount of paid work that they can do)?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No → GO TO Q69
- 88. Don't know → GO TO Q69
- 99. No response → GO TO Q69

68. What is the nature of your disability? **[ENTER DISABILITY]**

- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

69. What is/was the highest level of education attained by either one of your parents or guardians?

[DO NOT READ CATEGORIES. ENTER EDUCATION LEVEL OF PARENT/GUARDIAN WITH HIGHEST ATTAINMENT]

- 1. Elementary or junior high school
- 2. Some high school
- 3. Completed high school
- 4. Some post-secondary
- 5. Completed college, technical institute or apprenticeship program
- 6. Completed university degree
 - 6 a.) Undergraduate
 - 6 b.) Masters
 - 6 c.) PhD
 - 6 d.) Professional degree -- only includes: Medicine (MD), Law (LLB), and Dentistry

(DDS)

- 77. Other (specify) _____
- 88. Don't know
- 99. No response

70. Is there anything about your education or work experience that you would like to add, for example, any information about your experience that has not been covered in this interview?

- 88. Don't know

99. No response

We've reached the end of our questions and I would like to thank you very much for your time and interest.