

Canadian postsecondary enrolments and graduates, 2013/2014

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Enrolments

Enrolments in Canadian public postsecondary institutions (colleges and universities) reached more than 2 million in the 2013/2014 academic year, up 1.2% from a year earlier.

International student enrolments rose 2.5% in 2013/2014, accounting for almost 10% of the total enrolments of 2,048,019. The majority of these students were from Asia, with China as the main country of citizenship. International student enrolments have been steadily increasing for almost two decades.

Enrolments rose in five provinces and in the territories. Ontario (+17,493) led the increases, followed by Quebec (+8,589) and British Columbia (+4,410).

About 6 out of 10 enrolments in Canadian postsecondary institutions in 2013/2014 were in programs at the bachelor level or above.

Women accounted for 56.3% of total enrolments. The gender difference was even more pronounced for part-time enrolments, with women accounting for almost 60%.

In contrast, women represented 45.6% of all international student enrolments in Canadian postsecondary institutions.

Enrolments rose in most fields of study in 2013/2014, with the same three fields as the previous year accounting for nearly half of all college and university enrolments: business, management and public administration (18.3%), humanities (15.8%) and social and behavioural sciences, and law (13.6%).

The largest increase in the number of enrolments was in the field of architecture, engineering and related technologies (+8,409). Enrolments in this field of study have been increasing for eight years.

Graduates

In 2013, 498,759 students received a certificate, diploma or degree from a postsecondary institution, up 4.1% from a year earlier.

About half of these graduates had successfully completed a program at the bachelor level or above: 37.6% received a bachelor's degree, while 9.4% graduated with a master's degree and 1.4% with a doctorate.

Women represented 58.0% of the total number of graduates. They outnumbered their male counterparts in every province and accounted for over three-quarters of the graduates in the territories.

In 2013, over half of the college and university graduates received their qualification in one of these three fields of study: business, management and public administration (22.1%), social and behavioural sciences, and law (15.0%), or health and related fields (14.3%).

The top two fields of study for female graduates were business, management and public administration (21.8%) and health and related fields (19.3%), while for male graduates, they were architecture, engineering and related technologies (22.9%) followed closely by business, management and public administration (22.4%).



Note to readers

Canadian postsecondary institution enrolment data for 2013/2014 and graduate data for 2013 are obtained for public colleges and universities using information from the Postsecondary Student Information System. The count excludes students enrolled in apprenticeship programs. Enrolment and graduate counts for certain institutions are preliminary or based on estimates.

The data are subject to annual revisions. These revisions are applied to include new data submissions, any updates to classification and changes in concepts.

The levels of enrolment presented are not meant to represent a complete enumeration of all students at postsecondary institutions during the 2013/2014 academic year. Rather, they are based on students enrolled in postsecondary institutions at the time of the fall snapshot date, that is, a single date chosen by the institution that falls between September 30 and December 1. Therefore, students who are not enrolled during this time period are excluded. This has a greater impact on colleges as they have a continuous intake of students and offer shorter programs.

Enrolments are based on program counts and not on student counts. If a student is enrolled in more than one program as of the snapshot date, then all of his/her programs are included in the count.

Graduate data are published based on the calendar year.

It should be noted that some programs at the bachelor level and above can be offered in colleges.

Table 1
Postsecondary enrolments by province of study and for the territories

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2012/2013 to 2013/2014
	number		% change
Canada	2,023,158	2,048,019	1.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	28,500	27,207	-4.5
Prince Edward Island	6,984	6,864	-1.7
Nova Scotia	54,948	55,623	1.2
New Brunswick	31,098	30,564	-1.7
Quebec	520,737	529,326	1.6
Ontario	797,013	814,506	2.2
Manitoba	61,470	62,025	0.9
Saskatchewan	53,919	53,838	-0.2
Alberta	191,700	186,720	-2.6
British Columbia	273,105	277,515	1.6
Territories	3,681	3,834	4.2

Source(s): CANSIM table [477-0019](#).

Table 2
Postsecondary enrolments by field of study

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2012/2013 to 2013/2014
	number		% change
Total	2,023,158	2,048,019	1.2
Personal improvement and leisure	24,882	24,672	-0.8
Education	96,258	96,441	0.2
Visual and performing arts, and communications technologies	82,869	82,674	-0.2
Humanities	319,758	323,973	1.3
Social and behavioural sciences, and law	272,895	278,991	2.2
Business, management and public administration	367,311	374,427	1.9
Physical and life sciences, and technologies	128,028	131,439	2.7
Mathematics, computer and information sciences	58,221	61,782	6.1
Architecture, engineering and related technologies	198,885	207,294	4.2
Agriculture, natural resources and conservation	29,706	30,399	2.3
Health and related fields	237,453	243,804	2.7
Personal, protective and transportation services	42,417	42,171	-0.6
Other	164,472	149,958	-8.8

Source(s): CANSIM table [477-0019](#).

Table 3
Postsecondary graduates by province of study and for the territories

	2012	2013	2012 to 2013
	number		% change
Canada	479,106	498,759	4.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	6,483	6,549	1.0
Prince Edward Island	2,262	2,541	12.3
Nova Scotia	14,805	14,601	-1.4
New Brunswick	8,463	8,811	4.1
Quebec	127,077	136,260	7.2
Ontario	193,377	199,593	3.2
Manitoba	12,273	12,663	3.2
Saskatchewan	9,060	10,536	16.3
Alberta	41,337	42,684	3.3
British Columbia	63,621	64,257	1.0
Territories	348	267	-23.3

Source(s): CANSIM table [477-0020](#).

Table 4
Postsecondary graduates by field of study

	2012	2013	2012 to 2013
	number		% change
Total	479,106	498,759	4.1
Personal improvement and leisure	2,475	2,394	-3.3
Education	33,084	32,982	-0.3
Visual and performing arts, and communications technologies	20,373	21,441	5.2
Humanities	54,783	57,645	5.2
Social and behavioural sciences, and law	69,765	74,838	7.3
Business, management and public administration	104,682	110,313	5.4
Physical and life sciences, and technologies	21,798	22,623	3.8
Mathematics, computer and information sciences	13,110	14,247	8.7
Architecture, engineering and related technologies	54,600	57,810	5.9
Agriculture, natural resources and conservation	8,967	9,408	4.9
Health and related fields	69,678	71,313	2.3
Personal, protective and transportation services	18,216	17,514	-3.9
Other	7,569	6,231	-17.7

Source(s): CANSIM table [477-0020](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [477-0019](#), [477-0020](#) and [477-0029 to 477-0036](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5017](#).

A [summary table](#) is available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca).