

Proportion of postsecondary graduates increases

[Educational attainment](#) refers to the highest level of education that a person has successfully completed. The [highest certificate, diploma or degree](#) is the classification used in the census to measure this concept.

- Almost two-thirds of Canadians (64.8%) between 25 and 64 years of age had completed some form of postsecondary education in 2016. This was an increase from the proportion of postsecondary graduates in 2006 (60.6%).
- In New Brunswick, almost six out of 10 adults (57.6%) had completed postsecondary education in 2016, up from 53.3% with postsecondary qualifications in 2006.
- The percentage of the provincial population aged 25 to 64 with a college diploma as their highest level of education increased substantially, from 21.3% in 2006 to 26.1% in 2016. Additionally, adults with a bachelor's degree or higher saw a marked increase in their proportion, rising from 16.1% in 2006 to 20.2% in 2016.
- The share of New Brunswickers aged 25 to 64 with no certificate, diploma or degree registered the largest drop, falling from 21.0% in 2006 to 13.9% in 2016.

Percentage of the population aged 25 to 64 years by highest level of educational attainment, N.B.							
Census year	Highest level of educational attainment						
	No certificate, diploma or degree (%)	Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	Trades certificate or diploma (%)	Apprenticeship certificate (%)	College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma (%)	University	
						Below the bachelor level (%)	Bachelor's degree or higher (%)
2006	21.0	25.8	8.1	4.3	21.3	3.5	16.1
2011	16.8	26.6	7.0	5.5	22.2	3.1	18.8
2016	13.9	28.5	5.0	4.4	26.1	1.9	20.2

Source: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 2006-2016