

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Indicators



Credentials 2022

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Indicators: Credentials 2022

In 2022, a record number of post-secondary credentials (Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates) were awarded to Saskatchewan graduates, increasing by over four per cent compared to the previous year. The growth was largely driven by a substantial increase in the number of Certificates awarded, which offset declines at the Bachelor's Degrees and Diploma levels, while degrees awarded at the Master's and Doctoral levels increased slightly. Credentials awarded to Indigenous graduates also increased, rebounding after three straight years of decline, and those awarded to international graduates grew by nearly eight per cent to their highest level ever.

Since 2016, Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions and the Ministry of Advanced Education have been working together to develop and implement the Post-Secondary Education Indicators Project to collect, analyze, and report sector-wide post-secondary data. The data provision is led by the province's four public credential-granting institutions – Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT), Saskatchewan Polytechnic, University of Regina, and University of Saskatchewan. Reports from the project cover all students enrolled in credentialed programming (Degree, Diploma, or Certificate programs) through the province's public post-secondary institutions. While the majority of students take their classes on the main campuses of these four institutions, this data also includes students taking credentialed programming at Saskatchewan's federated and regional colleges, and at Dumont Technical Institute.

Reporting Notes

Readers should be aware of the following notes regarding this report:

- All numbers are rounded to the nearest 10. In this report, there are some cases where the rounding of different subgroups of data causes the subgroups to not add up to the total number of credentials (e.g., Figure 10 totals to 13,620 rather than 13,630).
- Credentials data for these reports are collected from institutions annually for the previous five calendar years. This allows for any retroactive changes to student records at the institutions to be reflected in the sector-level reports. For this reason, figures for the 2018-2021 time period may differ slightly from what has been reported in previous years.

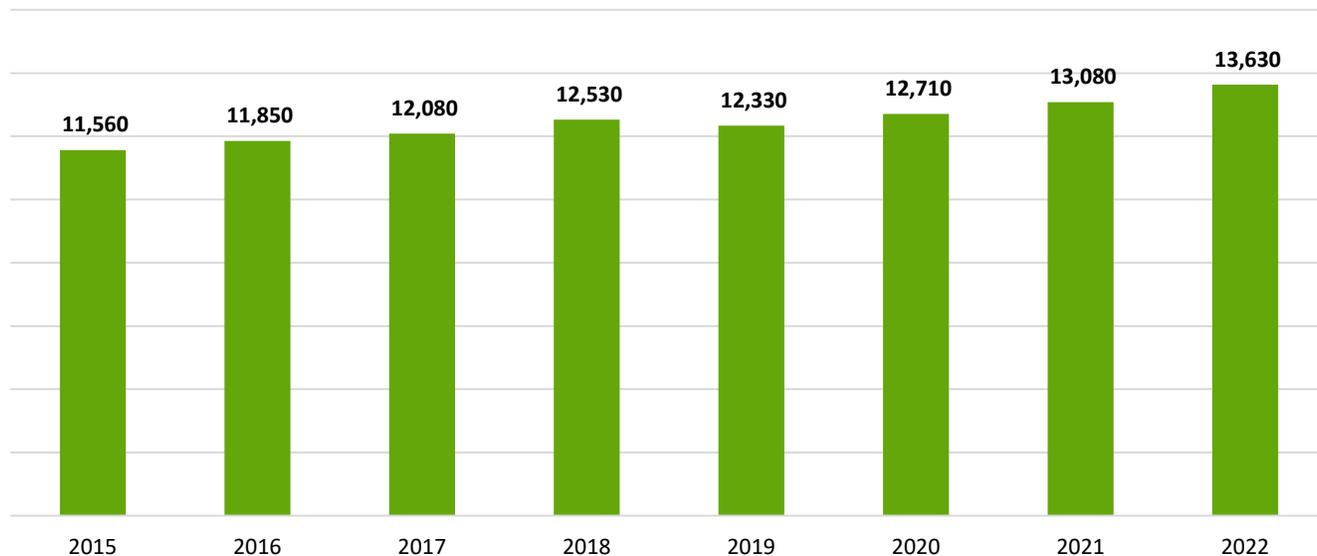
Total Credentials

In 2022, there were 13,630 post-secondary credentials awarded to graduates by Saskatchewan's public institutions, representing a 4.2 per cent increase over 2021. Since 2015, the number of credentials awarded has increased by 17.9 per cent.

Figure 1

Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded in Saskatchewan, 2015-2022

Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.

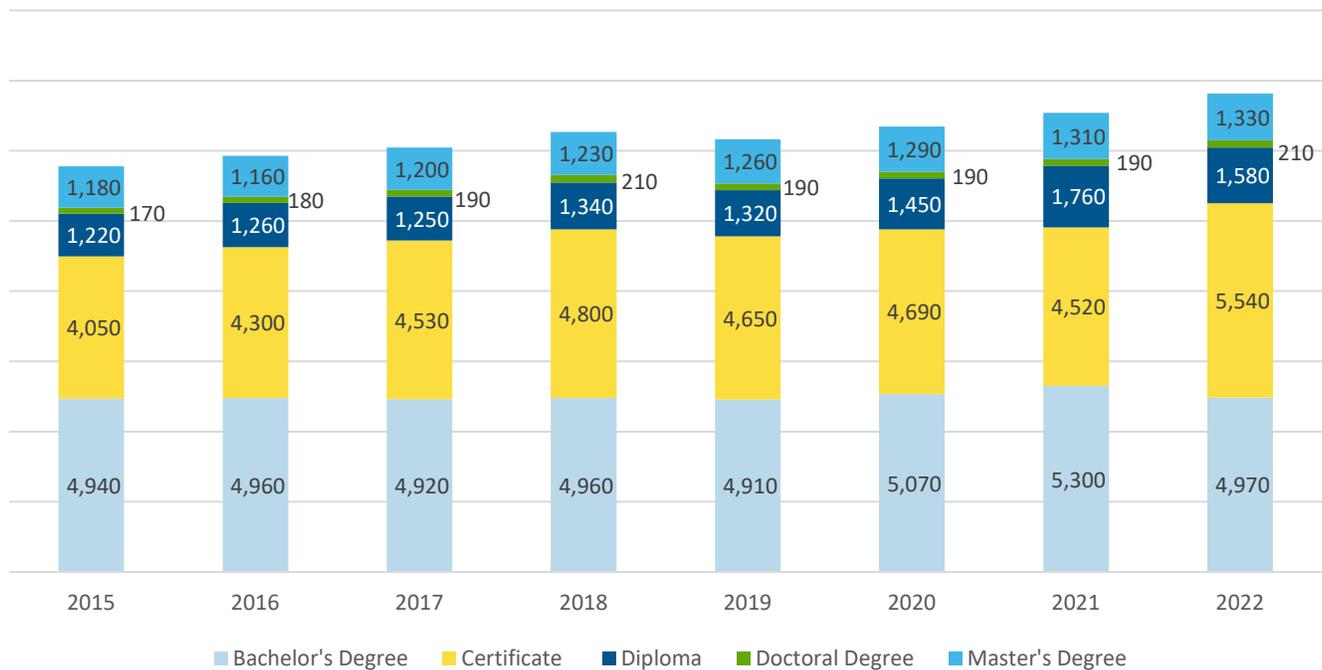


Credential Types

The most awarded credentials, historically and in 2022, are Certificates and Bachelor's Degrees. In 2022, 40.6 per cent of all credentials awarded in Saskatchewan were Certificates, followed by Bachelor's Degrees (36.5 per cent), Diplomas (11.6 per cent), Master's Degrees (9.8 per cent), and Doctoral Degrees (1.5 per cent). Since 2015, the numbers awarded for all credential types have increased, with the most significant growth coming from Certificates, which have increased by 36.8 per cent, followed by Diplomas (29.5 per cent increase), Doctoral Degrees (23.5 per cent), and Master's Degrees (12.7 per cent). The number of Bachelor's Degrees awarded has remained virtually unchanged, increasing by just 0.6 per cent since 2015.

Figure 2

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded, by Type, 2015-2022

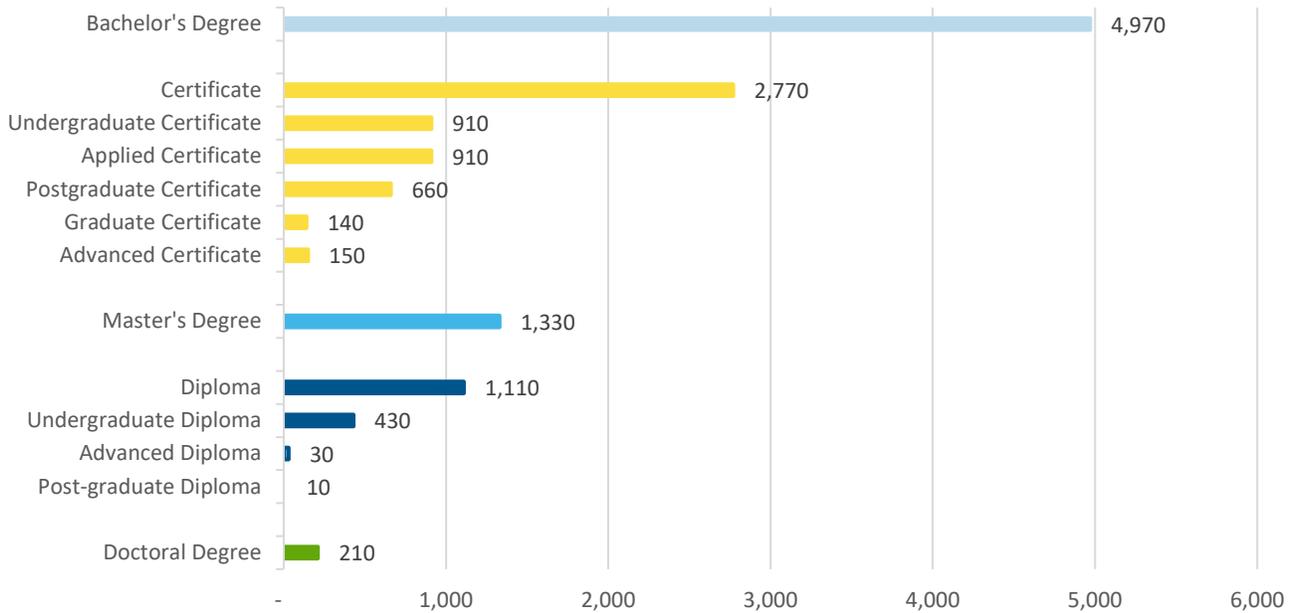


Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.

Various certificate and diploma programs are offered by Saskatchewan's institutions, including those at the undergraduate, graduate, advanced, and post-graduate levels, as well as Applied Certificates.

Figure 3

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded, by Detailed Type, 2022



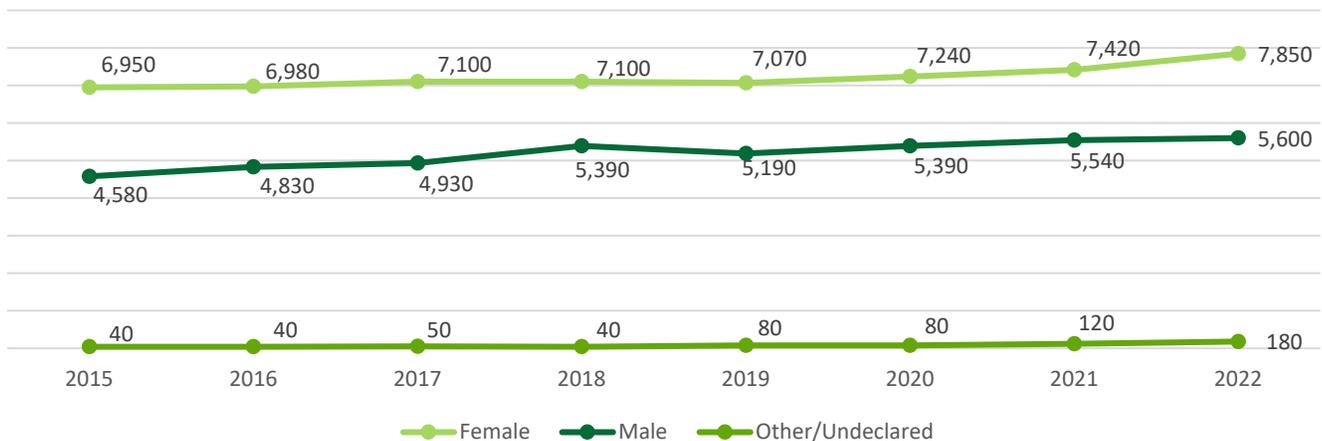
Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.

Gender

In 2022, 57.6 per cent of credentials were awarded to female graduates, 41.1 per cent to male graduates, and 1.3 per cent to graduates who did not identify as either male or female. Since 2015, the number of credentials awarded to female graduates has increased by 12.9 per cent, compared to an increase of 22.3 per cent for males. Although the overall numbers are small, the number of credentials awarded to those who do not identify as either male or female has more than quadrupled since 2015.

Figure 4

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded by Gender, 2015-2022

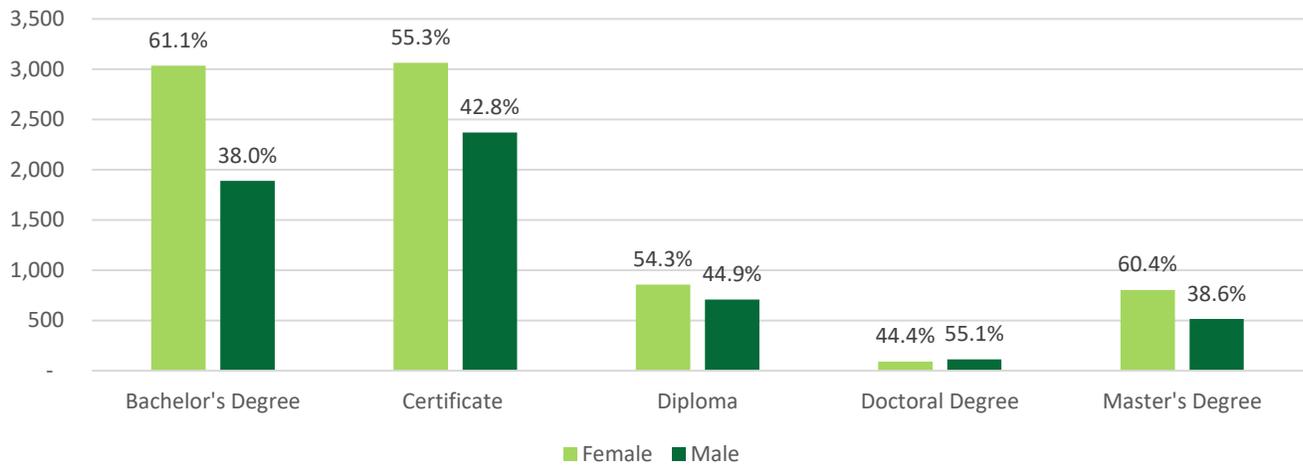


Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.

Female graduates outnumbered male graduates in 2022 at every credential level except for Doctoral Degrees, with the greatest disparity being at the Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree levels, where over 60 per cent of graduates were female.

Figure 5

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded, by Type and Gender, 2022

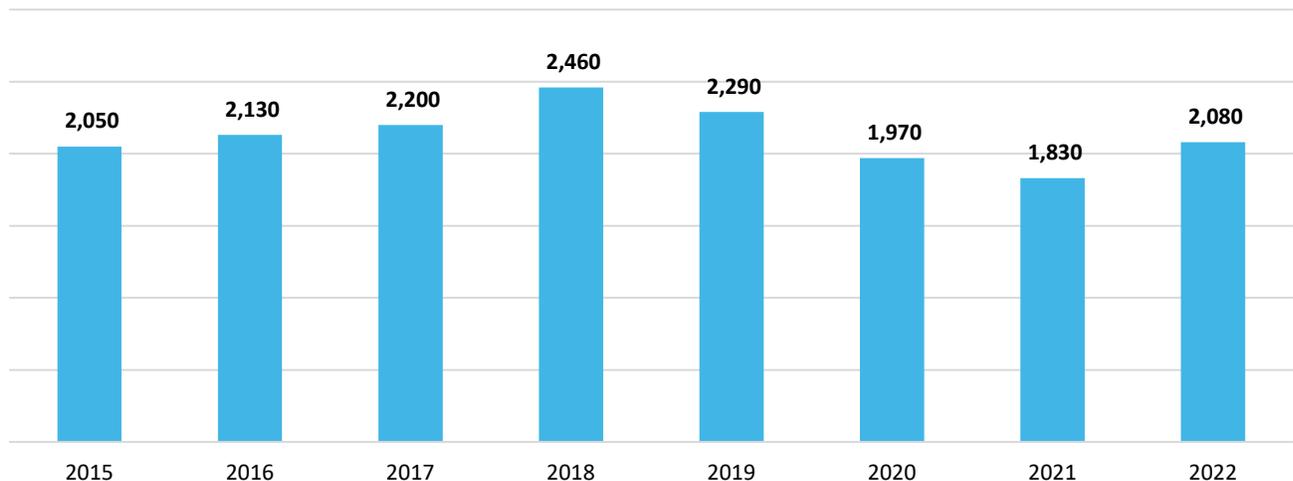


Indigenous Graduates

In 2022, there were 2,080 credentials awarded to graduates who self-declared as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit. After reaching a high of 2,460 in 2018, credentials awarded to Indigenous graduates declined significantly between 2019 and 2021. However, in 2022, the number of credentials awarded increased by 13.7 per cent compared to the year before and progressed toward pre-COVID levels.

Figure 6

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to Indigenous Graduates, 2015-2022

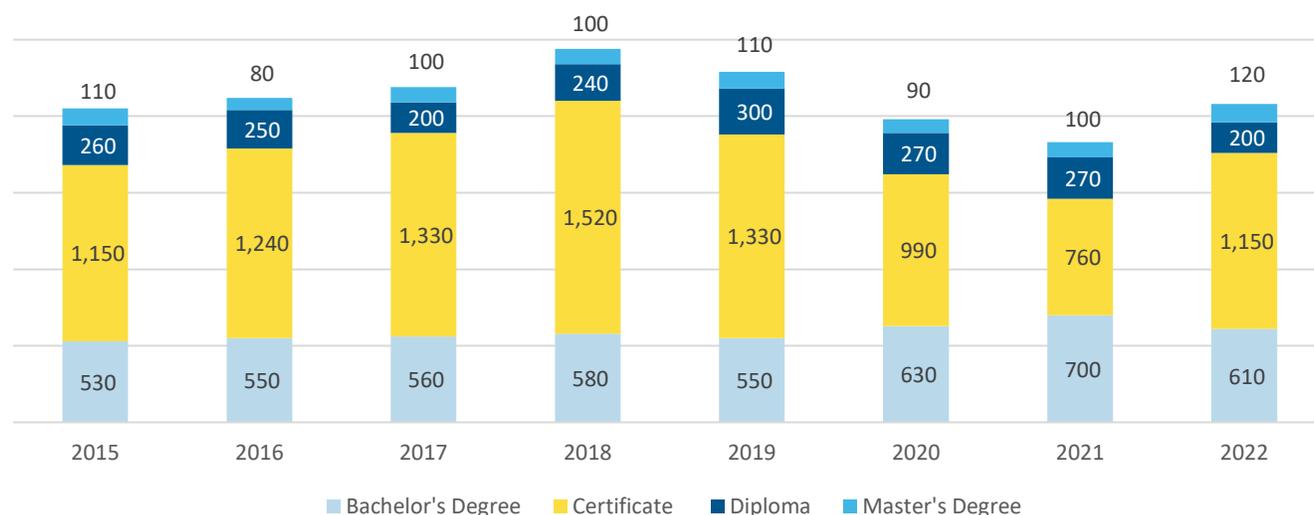


Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.

Over the past eight years, the number of Certificates awarded to Indigenous graduates has varied significantly, ranging from 760 per year to 1,520, though the number in 2022 (1,150) is identical to the number of Certificates awarded in 2015. Diplomas are the only credential type which has decreased for Indigenous graduates since 2015, declining by 23.1 per cent over that period. The number of Bachelor’s Degrees awarded to Indigenous graduates grew by 15.1 per cent between 2015 and 2022, but declined in 2022 by 12.9 per cent compared to the year before. The number of Master’s Degrees awarded annually is relatively small, but it increased by 9.1 per cent between 2015 and 2022.¹

Figure 7

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to Indigenous Graduates, by Type, 2015-2022



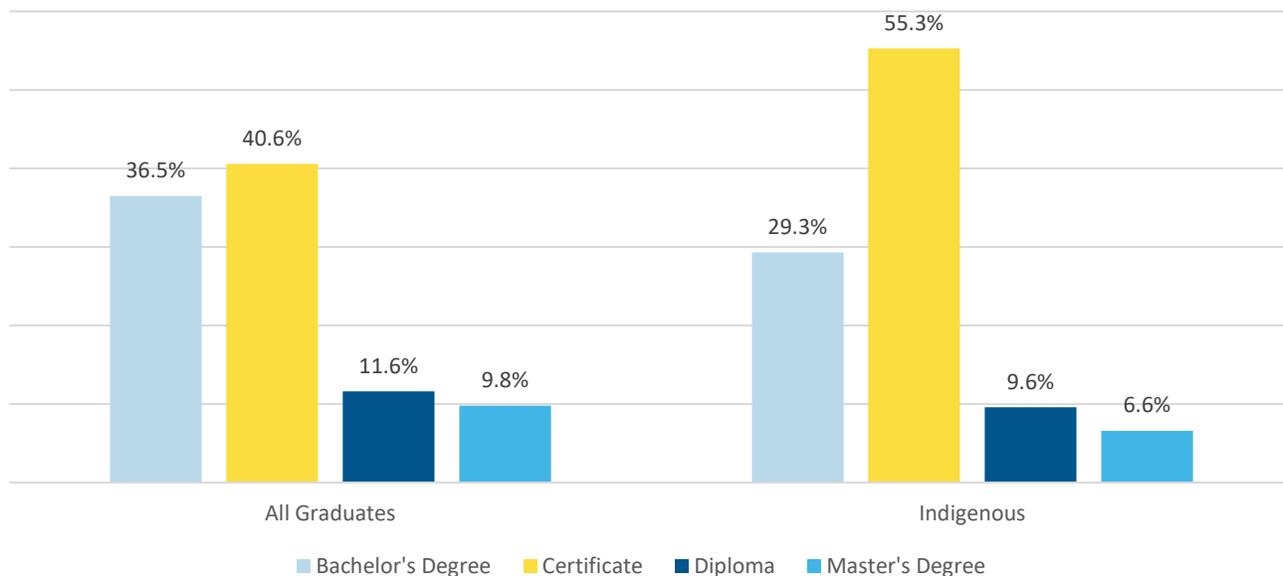
Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.

Compared to the overall graduating cohort of 2022, a higher proportion of Indigenous graduates received Certificates as their awarded credential, while a smaller proportion received Bachelor’s Degrees. Lower proportions of Indigenous graduates received Diplomas and Master’s Degrees compared to the overall graduating cohort as well, though these represent a smaller segment of credentials awarded for both groups.

¹ Fewer than 10 Doctoral Degrees were awarded to Indigenous graduates in 2022, which have not been reported due to privacy concerns.

Figure 8

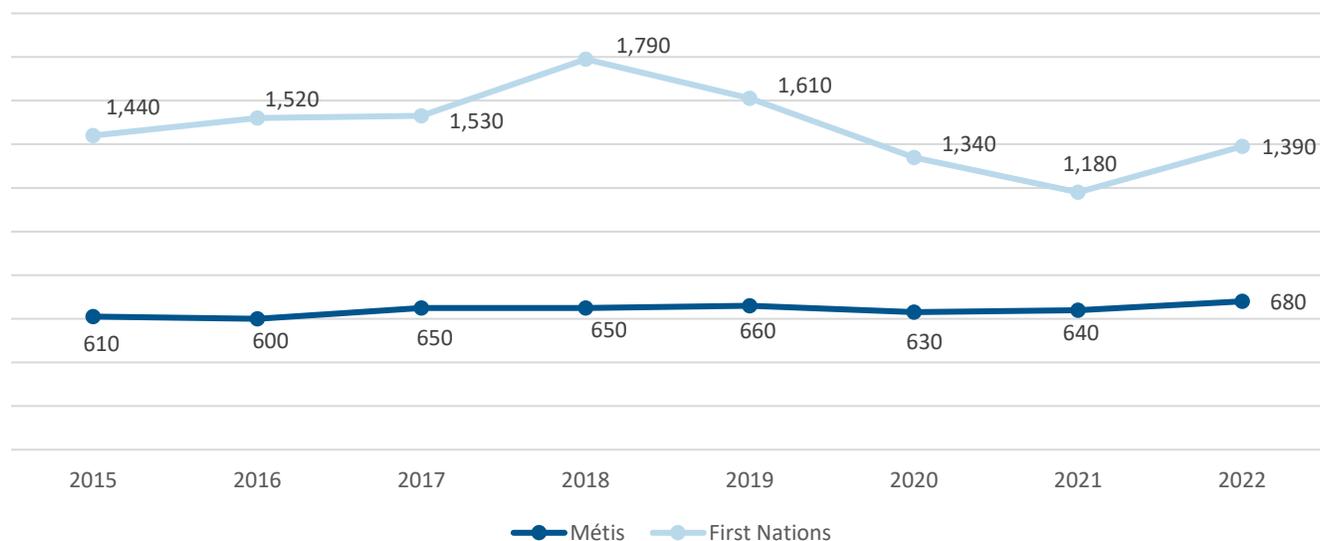
Proportions of Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded by Type, Indigenous and Overall, 2022



Since 2015, the number of credentials awarded to Métis graduates has been very consistent and steadily increased by 11.5 per cent over the eight-year period. The number of credentials awarded to First Nations graduates has been much more prone to fluctuations, while decreasing overall by 3.5 per cent between 2015 and 2022².

Figure 9

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to Indigenous Graduates, 2015-2022



Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.

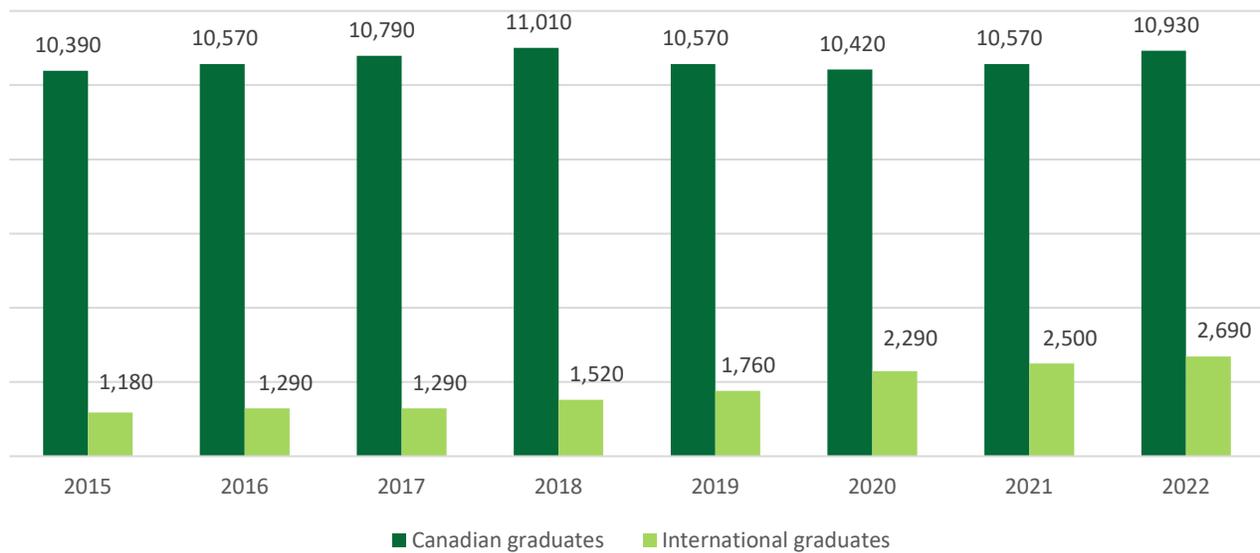
² Historically, a small number of credentials are awarded each year to Inuit graduates. As this number often falls below 10 individuals, the data have been withheld due to privacy concerns.

Canadian and International Graduates

Between 2021 and 2022, the number of credentials awarded to international graduates increased by 190 graduates, a 7.6 per cent annual increase. Credentials awarded to international graduates in Saskatchewan have grown significantly since 2015, more than doubling from 1,180 to 2,690. Over the same period, credentials granted to Canadian graduates have increased by only 5.2 per cent meaning that Saskatchewan’s overall 2015-2022 increase of 17.9 per cent has been driven significantly by international students.

Figure 10

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to Canadian and International Graduates, 2015-2022

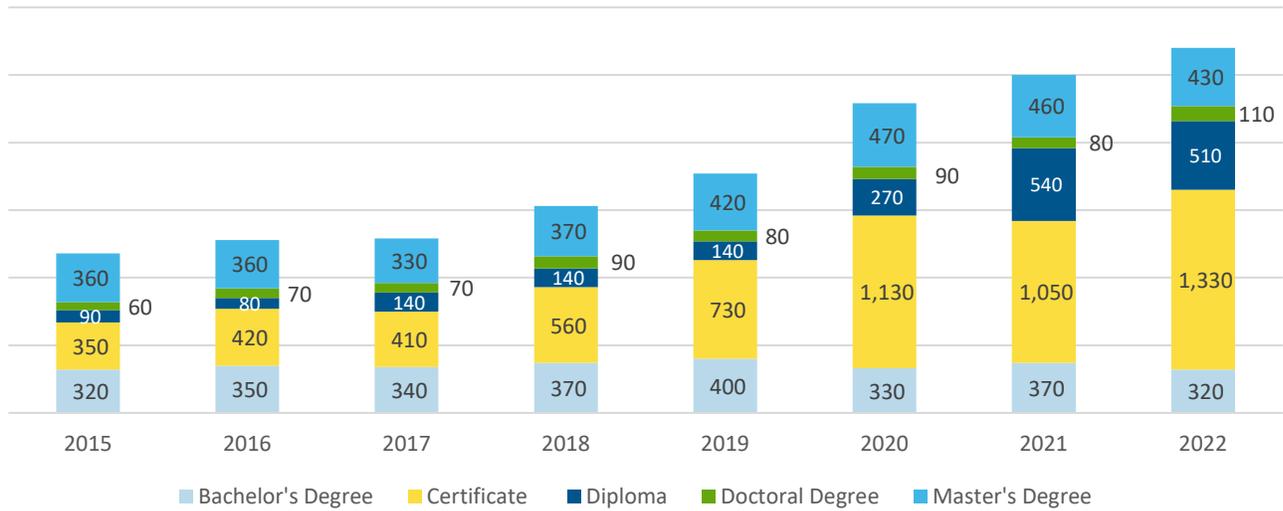


Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. The rounding of these subgroups of data has caused this graph to total 13,620 for 2022 rather than 13,630 reported elsewhere in the report.

By credential type, most of the growth in credentials awarded to international graduates over the past eight years has been at the Certificate and Diploma levels, which have seen four- and five-fold increases since 2015. The same number of Bachelor’s Degrees were awarded in 2022 as in 2015, while Master’s Degrees increased by 19.4 per cent over this period. The number of Doctoral Degrees awarded annually is small, but has grown by 83.3 per cent for international students since 2015.

Figure 11

Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to International Graduates, by Type, 2015-2022

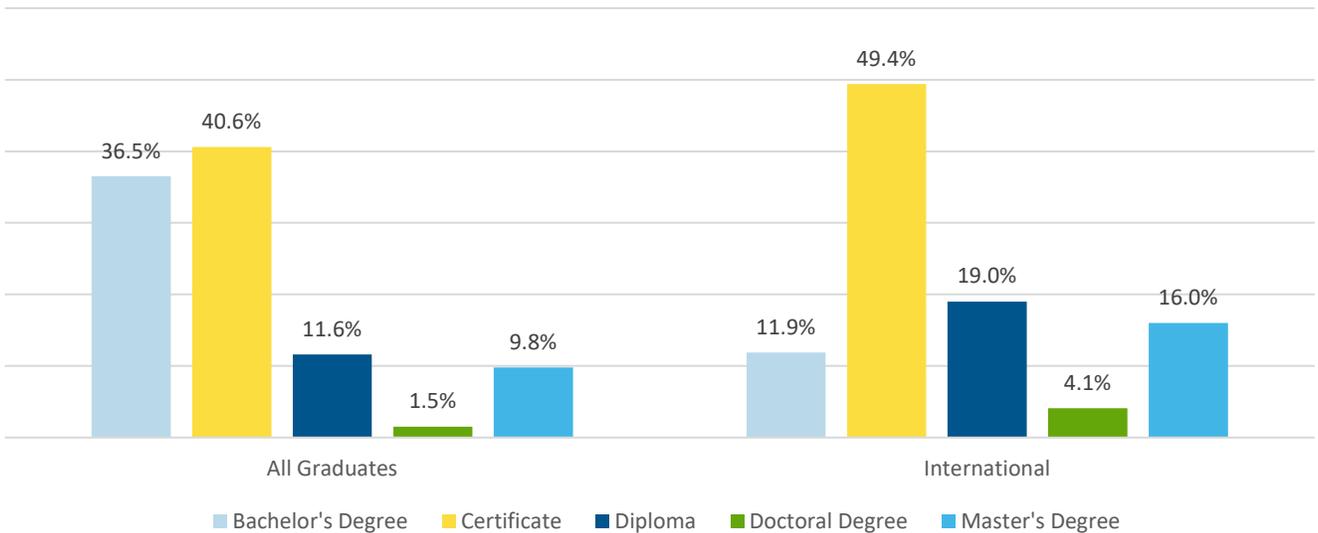


Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. The rounding of these subgroups of data has caused this graph to total 2,700 for 2022 rather than 2,690 as reported in Figure 10.

Compared to the overall graduating cohort of 2022, higher proportions of international graduates received Certificates, Diplomas, Master’s Degrees, and Doctoral Degrees as their awarded credential, while a much smaller proportion received Bachelor’s Degrees.

Figure 12

Proportions of Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded by Type, International and Overall, 2022

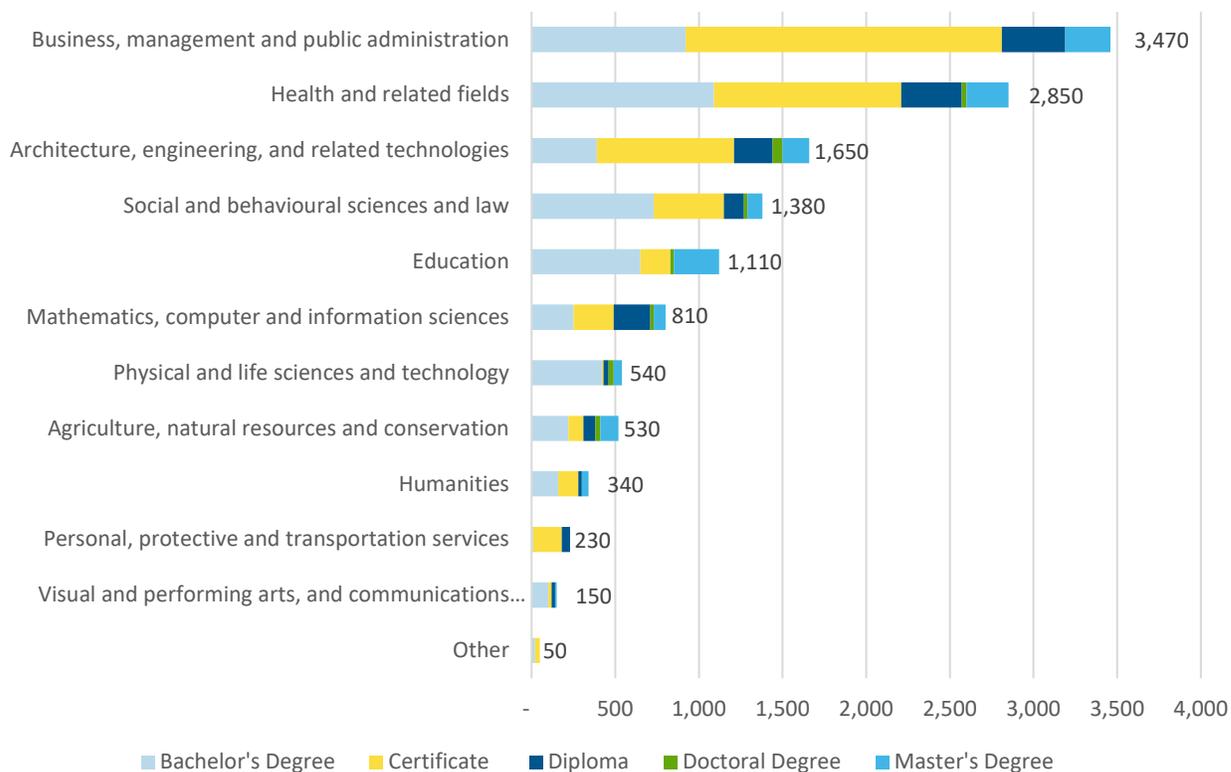


Areas of Study

In 2022, the most awarded credentials by Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions were in the areas of Business, Management and Public Administration; Health and Related Fields; Architecture, Engineering, and Related Fields; Social and Behavioural Sciences and Law; and, Education, each of which had over 1,100 graduates³. Together these five groups comprised 80 per cent of all credentials awarded in Saskatchewan.

Figure 13

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded, by Area of Study and Type, 2022



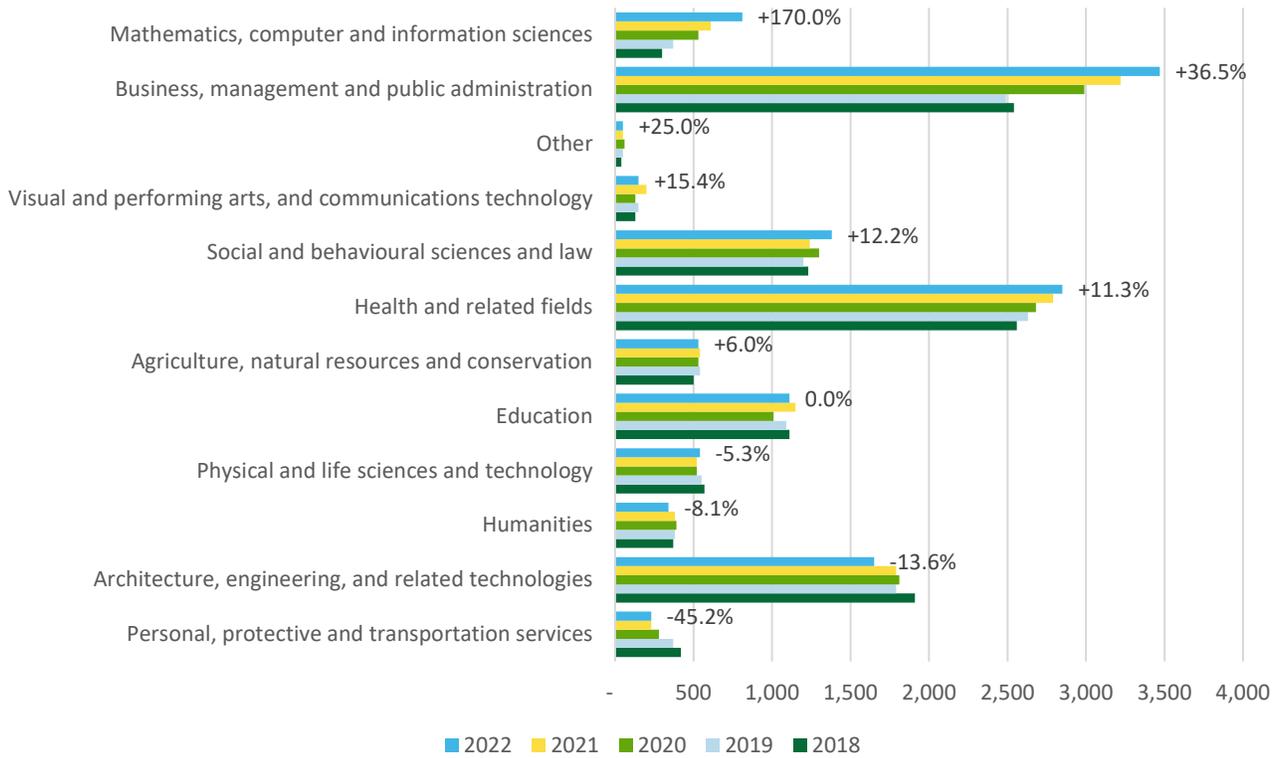
Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.

Over the past five years, the fastest growing areas for graduates in Saskatchewan have been those of Mathematics, Computer and Information Sciences; Business, Management and Public Administration; Visual and Performing Arts, Communications Technology; Social and Behavioural Sciences and Law; and, Health and related fields. Over the same period, several areas have seen decreasing credentials awarded, including Personal, Protective and Transportation Services; Architecture, Engineering, and related technologies; Humanities, and Physical and Life Sciences and Technology.

³ Area of study categories are derived from Statistics Canada's Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP Canada 2016) – Primary groupings. Data for this section includes students who graduated from credentialed programs at Saskatchewan Polytechnic, University of Regina, and University of Saskatchewan.

Figure 14

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded by Area of Study, 2018-2022



In 2022, over 20 per cent of graduates were awarded credentials in the STEM fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics and Computer Sciences, with the remainder graduating from programs in the BHASE fields of Business, Humanities, Health, Arts, Social Science, and Education. The proportion of credentials awarded in the STEM fields has grown just slightly in Saskatchewan, between 2015 and 2022, increasing by less than one percentage point over this period.

Figure 15

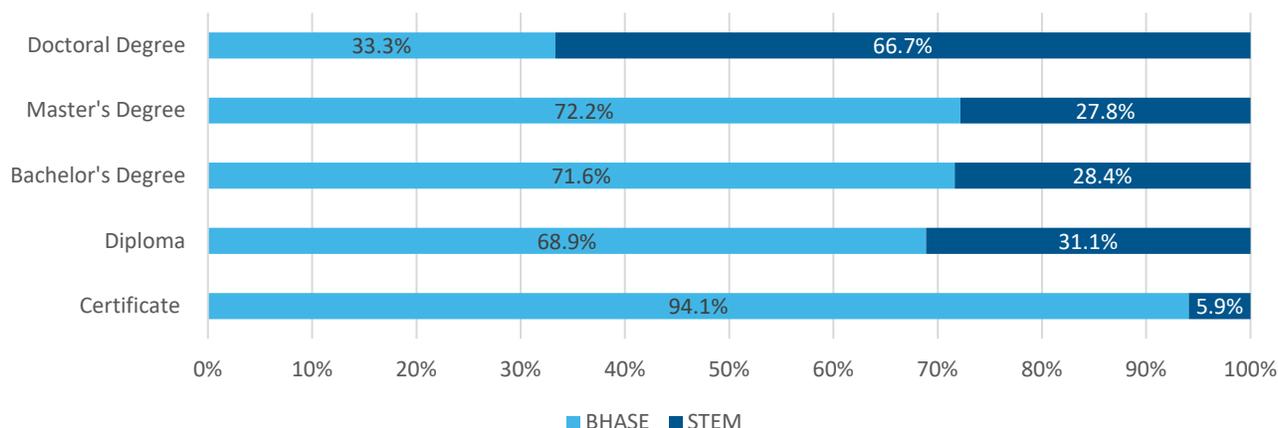
Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded by STEM and BHASE Fields, 2015-2022



Generally, at more advanced credential levels there are greater proportions of STEM graduates than at lower levels. In Saskatchewan, in 2022, Certificate programs produced the lowest percentage of STEM graduates (5.9 per cent), while Doctoral programs produced the greatest percentage of STEM graduates (66.7 per cent).

Figure 16

Percentages of BHASE-STEM Post-Secondary Graduates, by Type, 2022



The next Indicators Project report will be released in Fall 2023 and will focus on enrolments in the 2022-23 academic year.

Table 1

Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Indicators Project – Credentials Awarded Data

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Credentials Awarded	11,560	11,850	12,080	12,530	12,330	12,710	13,080	13,630
Bachelor's	4,940	4,960	4,920	4,960	4,910	5,070	5,300	4,970
Certificate	4,050	4,300	4,530	4,800	4,650	4,690	4,520	5,540
Diploma	1,220	1,260	1,250	1,340	1,320	1,450	1,760	1,580
Doctoral	170	180	190	210	190	190	190	210
Master's	1,180	1,160	1,200	1,230	1,260	1,290	1,310	1,330
Female	6,950	6,980	7,100	7,100	7,070	7,240	7,420	7,850
Male	4,580	4,830	4,930	5,390	5,190	5,390	5,540	5,600
Indigenous	2,050	2,130	2,200	2,460	2,290	1,970	1,830	2,080
First Nations	1,440	1,520	1,530	1,790	1,610	1,340	1,180	1,390
Métis	610	600	650	650	660	630	640	680
International	1,180	1,290	1,290	1,520	1,760	2,290	2,500	2,690
BHASE	8,800	9,040	9,150	9,330	9,280	9,730	10,100	10,420
STEM	2,150	2,230	2,290	2,350	2,310	2,520	2,610	2,680

Note: Values are rounded to the nearest 10.