



## Canadian Graduate and Professional Student Survey

### CGPSS 2019

The 2019 Canadian Graduate and Professional Student Survey (CGPSS) marks the 5<sup>th</sup> cooperative study undertaken by the *Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS)* and the 4<sup>th</sup> study in which the University of Regina has participated. The 2019 survey involved 50 universities and over 63,000 graduate students from across Canada.

The Canadian Graduate and Professional Student Survey is composed of:

- The *Long Stream Survey* for students responding that their program is “Mostly research-based, and I already have a research director/advisor.”
- The *Medium Stream Survey* offered to students enrolled in a program “Mostly research-based, but I still do not have a research director/advisor.”
- The *Short Stream Survey*, in which some questions have been adapted to “Mainly course-based” programs.

The 2019 CGPSS was sent to 1,856 University of Regina graduate students. A total of 970 students completed the survey (52%), of which 82% said they were enrolled in a Master’s program. 45% of the respondents answered the Long Stream Survey.

### University of Regina Highlights based on the survey responses:

- Graduate students who responded to the survey’s demographic questions tended to be Canadian citizens (59%), female (60%), and from 21 to 40 years old (79%).
- Almost 4% of students who responded to the demographic questions self-identified with a disability or impairment. Of these students, 45% reported having a mental health problem (e.g. depression, bipolar). 63% of students who self-identified with a disability or impairment rated the University of Regina’s effort to accommodate their disability in their program as good, very good, or excellent.
- About 49% of the demographic questions respondents self-identified as a member of a visible minority group, while 7% self-identified as an Aboriginal person.

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- Close to 48% of students who responded to the demographic questions said they were married, and 27% said they had one or two children. 97% reported living in off-campus housing not owned by this university.
  - 48% of graduate students who participated in the survey were in a mostly research-based program.
  - The majority of respondents were enrolled in Engineering (19%), Education (16%), Public Administration/Public Policy/International Relations (11%), Business/Management (10%) and Social Sciences (9%).
  - 84% of students who responded to the survey were in their first to third year of graduate studies, of which 61% were full time students. 17% of respondents were studying at the Doctoral level.
  - At the time of the survey, 9% of graduate students enrolled in a mostly research-based program had their thesis/dissertation proposal accepted and about 5% had defended their thesis/dissertation/research paper.
  - When asked what was the primary reason for enrolling in their program, 46% responded *“To equip me to start a career, or advance an existing career outside of academia”*, while 33% responded *“To equip me to start a career, or advance an existing career in academia”*.
  - 42% of graduate students who participated in the survey said they would definitely recommend this university to someone considering their program, while 4% of respondents said they would definitely not recommend this university.
  - When asked to rate *“The intellectual quality of the faculty,”* 78% said it was either very good or excellent. 1% said it was poor.
  - Regarding the *“Availability of area courses I needed to complete my program,”* 45% said it was either very good or excellent. Close to 11% said it was poor.
  - When asked to rate the quality of the support and training they received in *Courses, workshops, or orientation on teaching”* (Long and Medium streams only), 82% rated it as good, very good, or excellent. 6% rated it as poor.
  - Regarding the quality of the support and training they received in *“Advice/workshops/tools on career options inside academia”* (Long and Medium streams only), 17% rated it as poor. 14% said it was excellent.
  - When asked to rate the quality of the support and training they received in *“Advice/workshops/tools on the standards for writing in your profession”* (Short stream only), 82% rated it as good, very good, or excellent. Close to 6% rated it as poor.
  - Regarding the quality of the support and opportunities they received in *“Conducting independent research since starting your graduate program,”* 80% rated it as good, very good, or excellent. Close to 8% rated it as poor.

- Close to 94% of students agreed or strongly agreed that “*My advisor was knowledgeable about formal degree requirements*” (Long stream only). A little over 2% strongly disagreed.
- Close to 87% of students agreed or strongly agreed that “*My advisor was very helpful to me in preparing for the written qualifying exams*” (Long stream only). A little over 3% strongly disagreed.
- A little over 72% of students agreed or strongly agreed that “*My advisor encouraged discussions about current job market and various career prospects*” (Long stream only). Close to 11% strongly disagreed.

#### **About the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies**

**The Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS) was founded in 1962 to promote graduate education and university research through meetings, publications and advocacy. The Association brings together 58 Canadian universities with graduate programs and the three federal research-granting agencies, as well as other institutions and organizations having an interest in graduate studies.**

<https://cags.ca/about/>

#### **About the Canadian Graduate and Professional Student Survey**

**The Canadian Graduate and Professional Survey (CGPSS) was undertaken in 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016 and 2019. This survey contains a wealth of information about graduate student satisfaction and experience.**

**In 2010 more than 38,000 graduate students participated at 38 universities across Canada. In 2013, participation rose to 48 universities and to 50 universities in 2016.**

<https://cags.ca/cgps/>