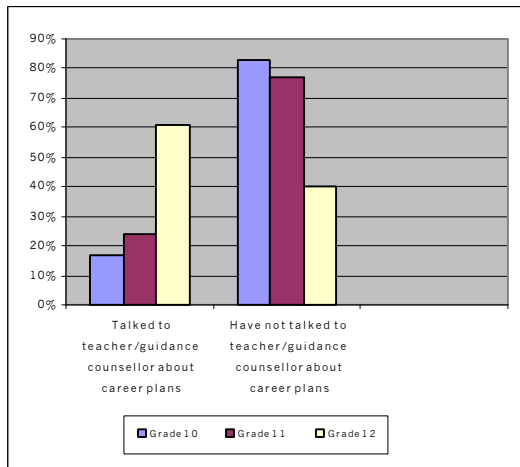


Access to resources

Sixty-seven percent of all students surveyed have not spoken with a teacher/guidance counsellor about their career plans after graduation. However, the majority of those students said they do plan to have that discussion. Of those who did speak to a teacher/guidance counsellor, 72% said they received useful information.

Students speaking to guidance counsellor/teacher regarding career plans—By grade



There are many reasons students did not speak to a teacher/guidance counsellor about their career plans. Some already knew what they wanted to do; others were not ready. Additional reasons included:

- ◆ **“They don’t have the information I need.”**
- ◆ **“It’s too difficult to get an appointment.”**
- ◆ **“I can do it myself.”**
- ◆ **“There isn’t a career specialist here.”**

The CHOICES career education computer software program is available in high schools. Despite that, almost one half of respondents were not aware of this software program. Almost one half of students were also not aware of a career education course offered in their school. However, 88% felt such a course should be a part of the curriculum and over one half of those students felt it should be mandatory.

Call to Action

More than half the students responding to our survey indicated they were not aware of any future job opportunities in Newfoundland and Labrador. This percentage is consistent across grade levels and between genders.

Seventy-two percent of those students had not spoken to a teacher or guidance counsellor regarding their career plans upon graduation from high school.

Parents, educators, guidance counsellors and others should ask how students can make decisions that could impact the rest of their lives if they do not have the information they need to make those decisions.

In a constantly changing global labour market, people need access to career-related information. They need accurate, current information on the labour market and must understand the link between job opportunities and better quality of life.

How will you help students make informed career decisions?

For more information, contact:

Rural Secretariat/Strategic Social Plan
Cormack-Grenfell Region
Millbrook Mall, 2 Herald Avenue
P.O. Box 2006
Corner Brook, NL
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Rural Secretariat

Strategic Social Plan
Cormack-Grenfell Region

Human Resources
Strategy

We asked.

High School students answered.

Key findings.



Who we are

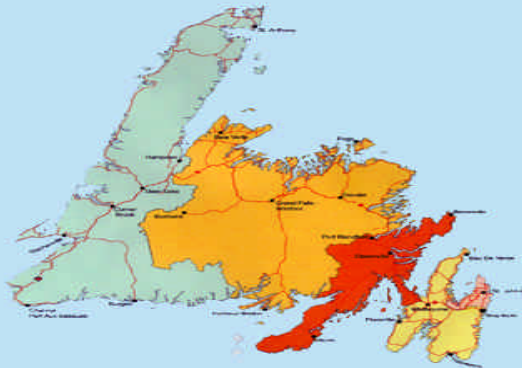
The Rural Secretariat/Strategic Social Plan Cormack–Grenfell Region extends from St. Anthony on the Great Northern Peninsula to Francois on the southwest coast: 173 unique communities.

In November 2001, as part of a larger Human Resources Strategy, Grade 10, 11 and 12 students in 43 schools were surveyed to determine:

- ◆ Education goals
- ◆ Career plans
- ◆ Knowledge of career opportunities in Newfoundland and Labrador
- ◆ Plans to settle in the province
- ◆ Reasons for leaving
- ◆ Access to career resources

This brochure contains key findings from this survey, one of four which will inform a Human Resources Strategy for the region. What you read may surprise you.

The Cormack-Grenfell Region (green area) extends from St. Anthony to Francois.



Career plans

We asked students about their plans after high school graduation:

- ◆ 80% will pursue post-secondary education; 6% will not; 14% were undecided.
- ◆ 86% of females versus 74% of males plan to continue their education.
- ◆ 56% plan to attend a university institution; 18% a community college and 9% a technical or trade institute; 14% are undecided; 3% specified another type of institution.
- ◆ 62% of females will attend university compared to 38% of males. The reverse is true for college and trade/technical institutions.
- ◆ 44% of post-secondary bound students plan to attend a post-secondary school within Newfoundland and Labrador; 24% were undecided.

Difficult decisions

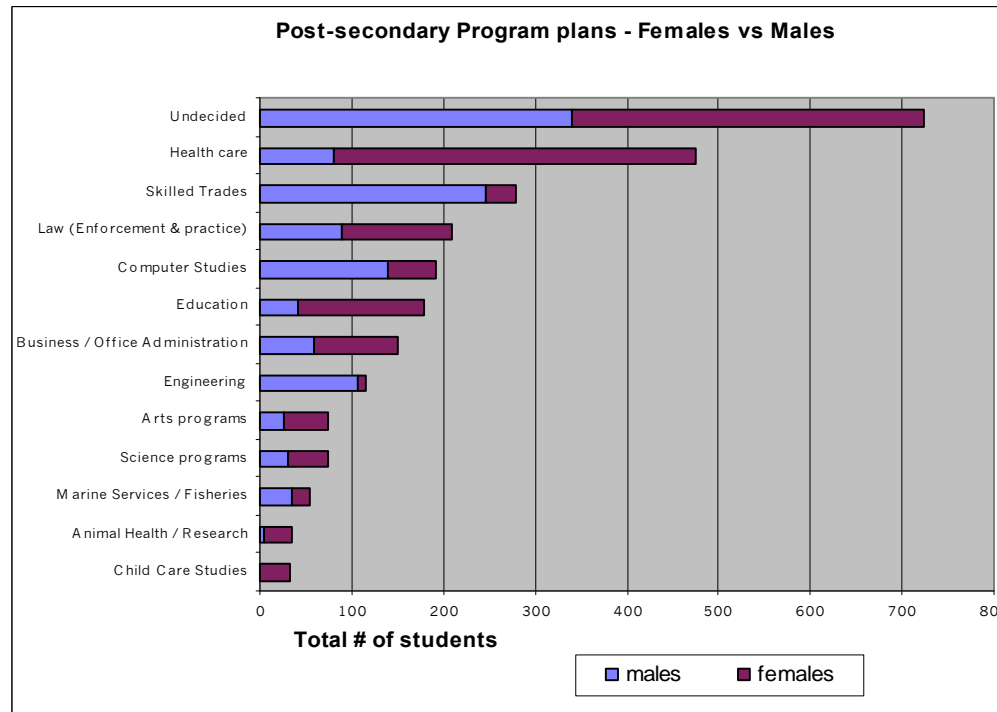
Thirty-eight percent of students planning to attend a post-secondary institution do not plan to settle in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Eighty-three percent of those who will not attend or are undecided about post-secondary plans also do not intend to settle here.

More males than females indicated they would settle in this province after graduation; 15% would consider living in their hometown.

Top reasons for leaving?

- ◆ There are not many job opportunities.
- ◆ Want to experience life somewhere else.
- ◆ Newfoundland and Labrador has little to offer young people.



One quarter of post-secondary bound students are undecided on their program choice.

Health Care and Skilled Trades were the top choices by students who had decided on a type of post-secondary program.

Those choosing programs in Health Care and Education were mostly female.

Plans for post-secondary programs in Skilled Trades, Engineering and Computer Studies were dominated by males.