

# Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Indicators



## Credentials 2020

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# Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Indicators: Credentials 2020

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. This report focuses on the numbers of credentials awarded (Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates) to students who have completed post-secondary education in the province, up to 2020.

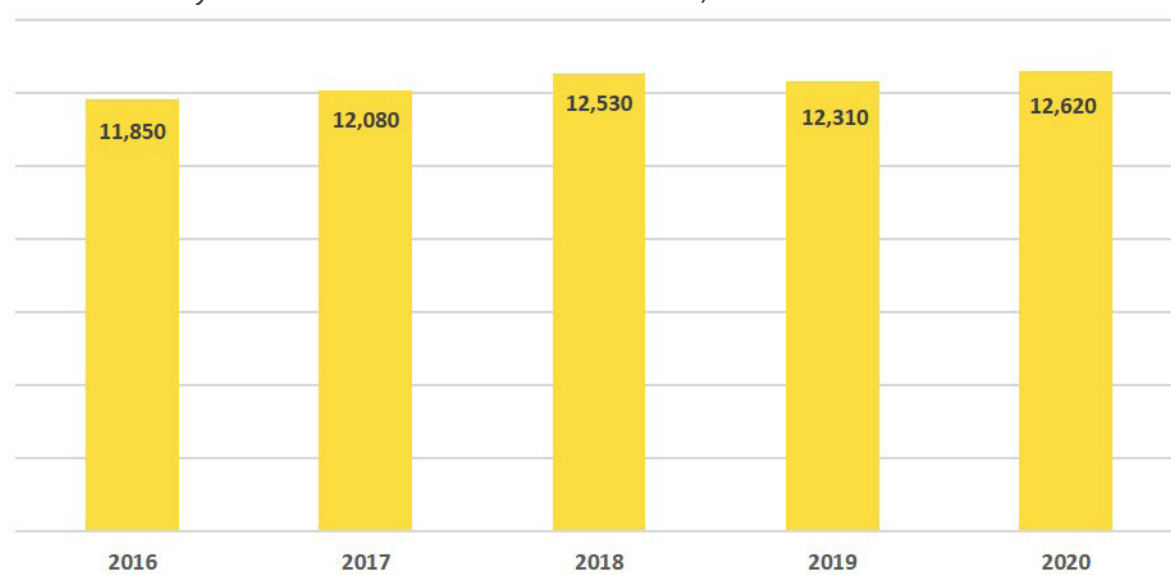
The project is led by the province's four public credential-granting institutions – Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT), Saskatchewan Polytechnic, University of Regina, and University of Saskatchewan. Reports from the project cover all students enrolled in credentialed programming (i.e. 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 SIIT, Saskatchewan Polytechnic or university programming offered at Saskatchewan's federated and regional colleges, and at Dumont Technical Institute.

## Total Credentials

In 2020, there were 12,620<sup>1</sup> post-secondary credentials awarded to graduates by Saskatchewan's public institutions, representing a 2.5 per cent increase over 2019. Since 2016, the number of credentials awarded has increased by 6.5 per cent.

**Figure 1**

*Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded in Saskatchewan, 2016-2020*



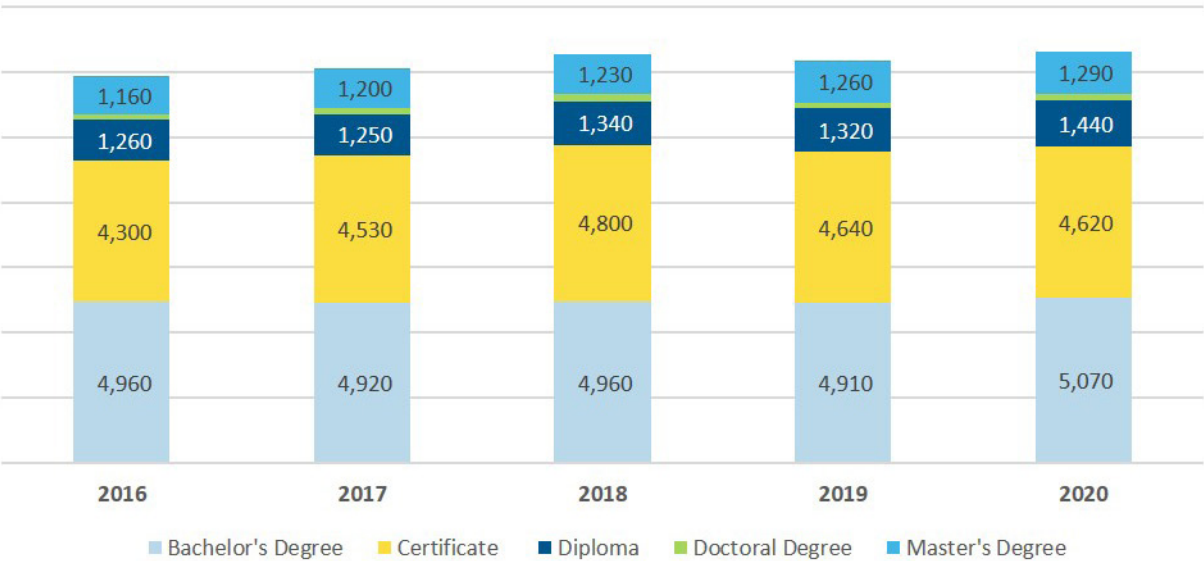
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<sup>1</sup>Previous reports rounded credentials awarded to figures to the nearest 100, while this and future reports round to the nearest 10.

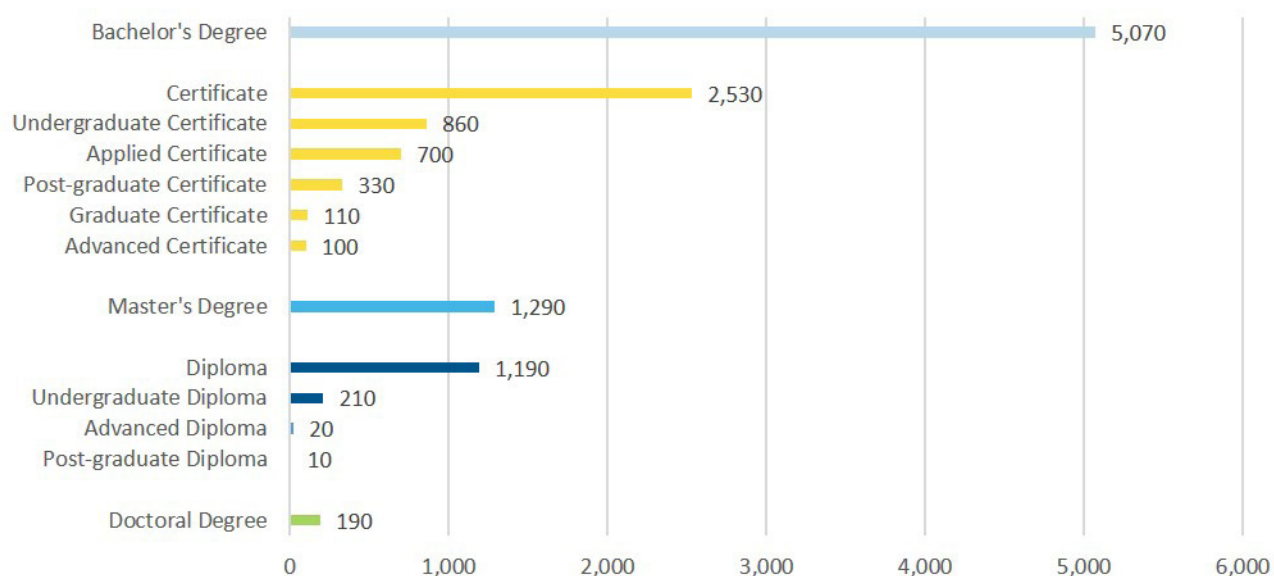
# Credential Types

The most awarded credentials, historically and in 2020, are Bachelor's Degrees and Certificates. In 2020, 40.2 per cent of all credentials awarded were Bachelor's Degrees, followed by Certificates (36.6 per cent), Diplomas (11.4 per cent), Master's Degrees (10.2 per cent) and Doctoral Degrees (1.5 per cent). Over the past five years, the numbers awarded for all credential types have increased, with the most significant growth coming from Diplomas, which have increased by 14.3 per cent since 2016, followed by Master's Degrees (11.2 per cent increase), Certificates, (7.4 per cent), Doctoral Degrees (5.6 per cent), and Bachelor's Degrees (2.2 per cent).

**Figure 2**  
*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded, by Type, 2016-2020*

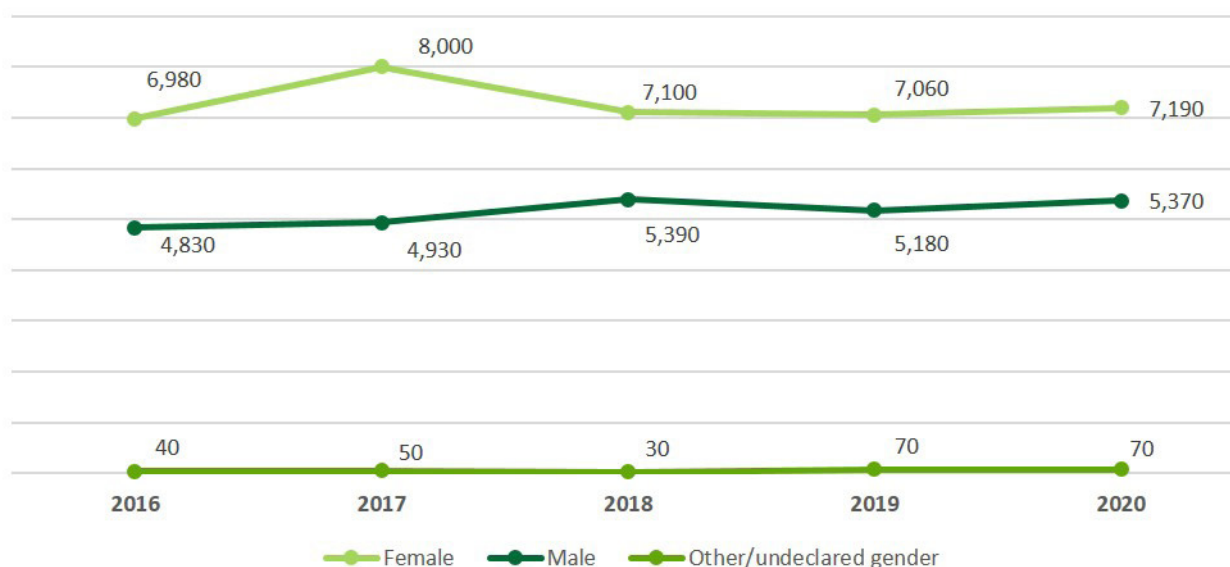


A number of different Certificates and Diploma programs are offered by Saskatchewan's institutions, including those at the undergraduate, graduate, advanced, and post-graduate levels, as well as Applied Certificates.

**Figure 3***Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded, by Detailed Type, 2020*

## Gender

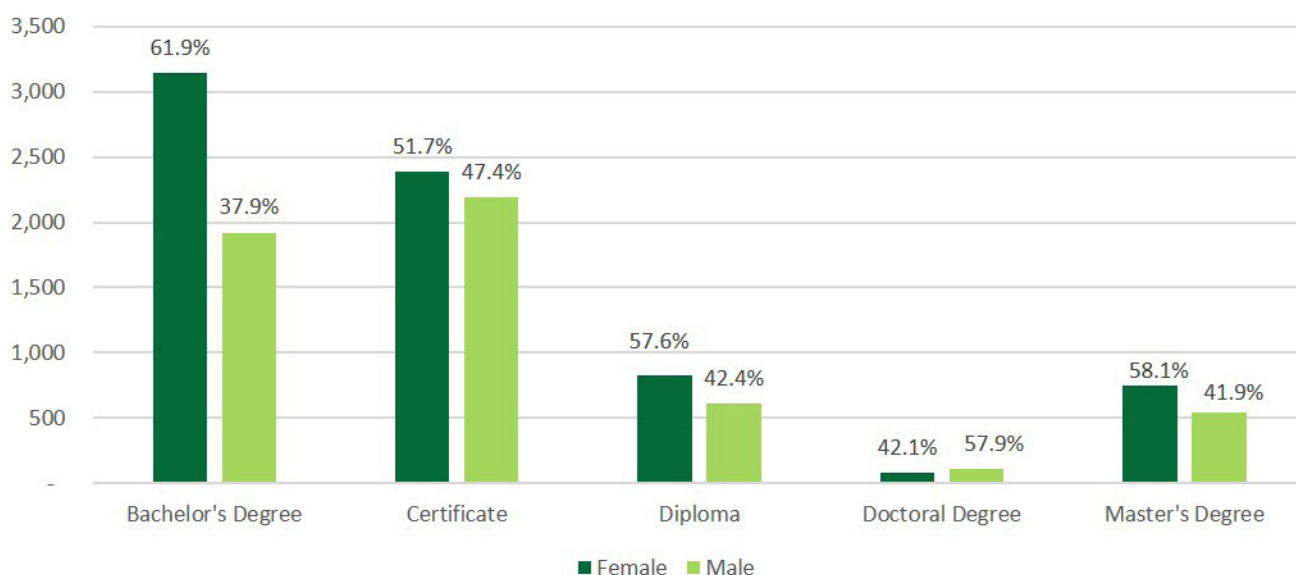
In 2020, 57.0 per cent of credentials were awarded to female graduates, 42.6 per cent to male graduates and 0.6 per cent to graduates who did not identify as either male or female.

**Figure 4***Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded by Gender, 2016-2020*

Female graduates outnumbered male graduates in 2020 at every credential level except for Doctoral Degrees, with the greatest disparity being at the Bachelor's level, where over 60 per cent of graduates were female.

**Figure 5**

*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded, by Type and Gender, 2020*

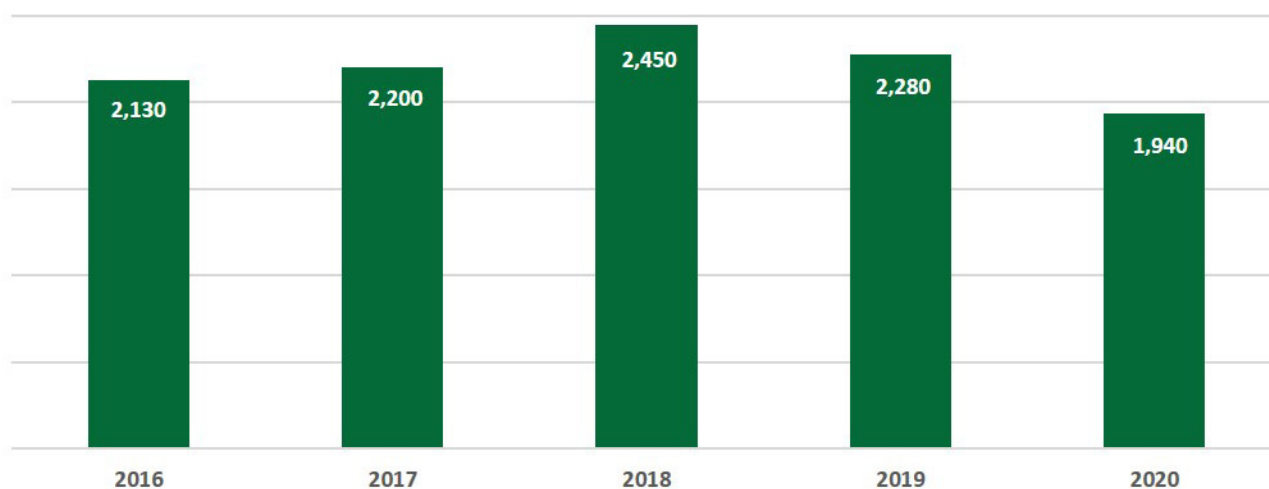


## Indigenous Graduates

In 2020, there were 1,940 credentials awarded to graduates who self-declared as First Nations, Métis or Inuit. Between 2016 and 2020 Saskatchewan has experienced an 8.9 per cent decrease in the number of Indigenous students graduating from public post-secondary institutions.

**Figure 6**

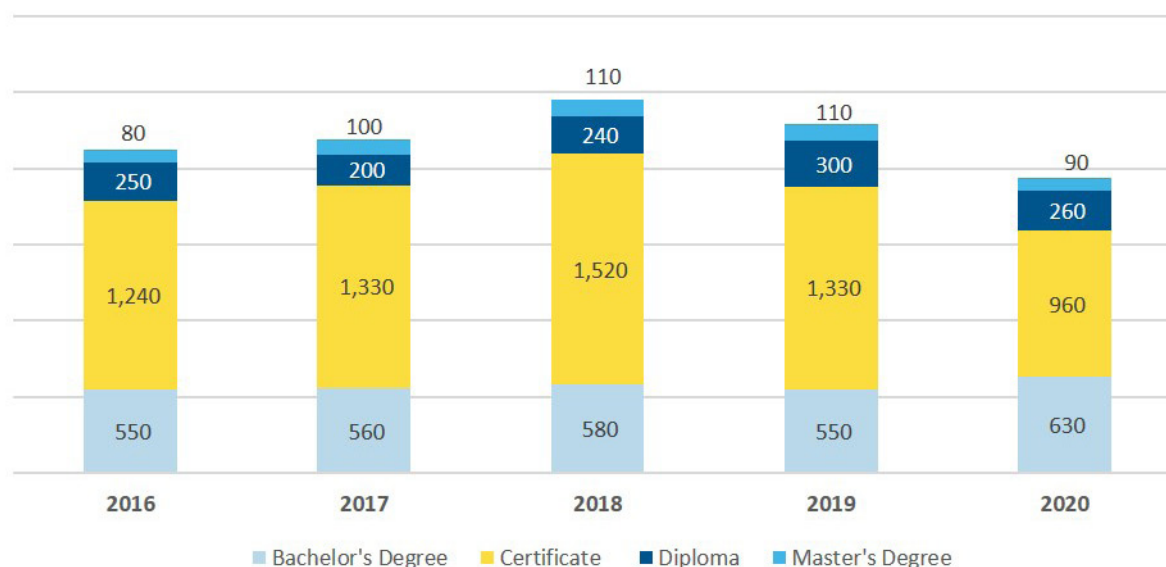
*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to Indigenous Graduates, 2016-2020*



This decrease is the result of fewer certificate and diploma offerings in recent years, as well as a disruption to some completions in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic<sup>2</sup>.

**Figure 7**

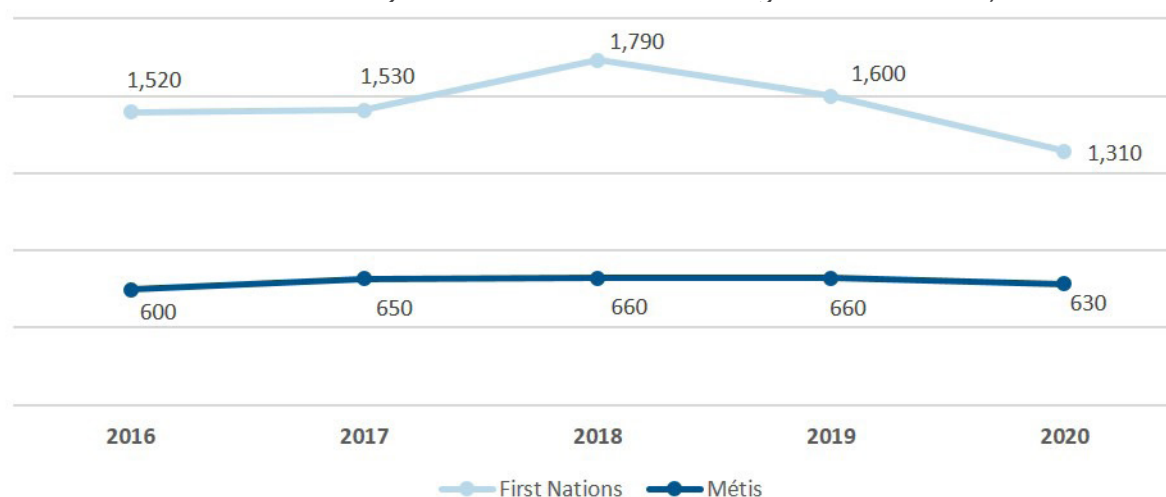
*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to Indigenous Graduates, by Type, 2016-2020*



Since 2016, the number of Métis graduates has increased by 5.0 per cent to 630 in 2020, while the number of First Nations graduates has decreased by 13.8 per cent to 1,310 in 2020<sup>3</sup>.

**Figure 8**

*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to Indigenous Graduates, 2016-2020*



<sup>2</sup>Less than 10 Doctoral Degrees were awarded to Indigenous graduates in 2020, which have not been reported due to privacy concerns.

<sup>3</sup>Historically there have been a small number of Inuit graduates each year in Saskatchewan, many of whom took university programs offered in Canada's far north. In 2020, the number of Inuit graduates fell below 10 and have not been reported due to privacy concerns.

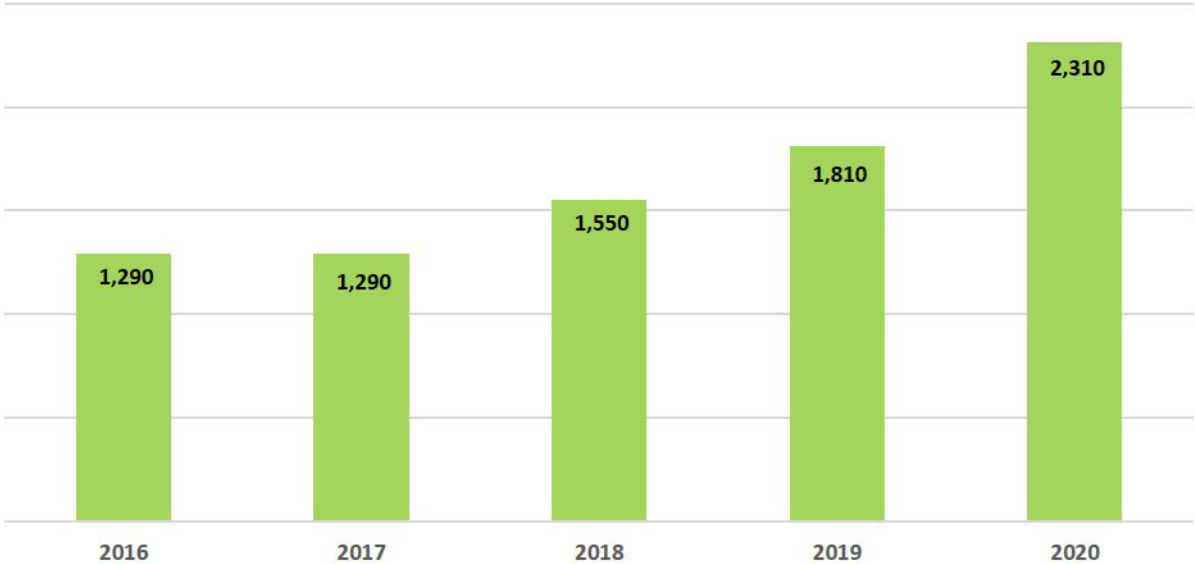


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# International Students

Between 2019 and 2020, the number of credentials awarded to International graduates increased by 500 graduates, a 27.6 per cent annual increase. While this annual increase is exceptionally high, credentials awarded to international students in Saskatchewan have grown significantly over the past five years, by 1,020 graduates or 79.1 per cent since 2016.

**Figure 9**  
*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded to International Graduates, 2016-2020*



## Areas of Study

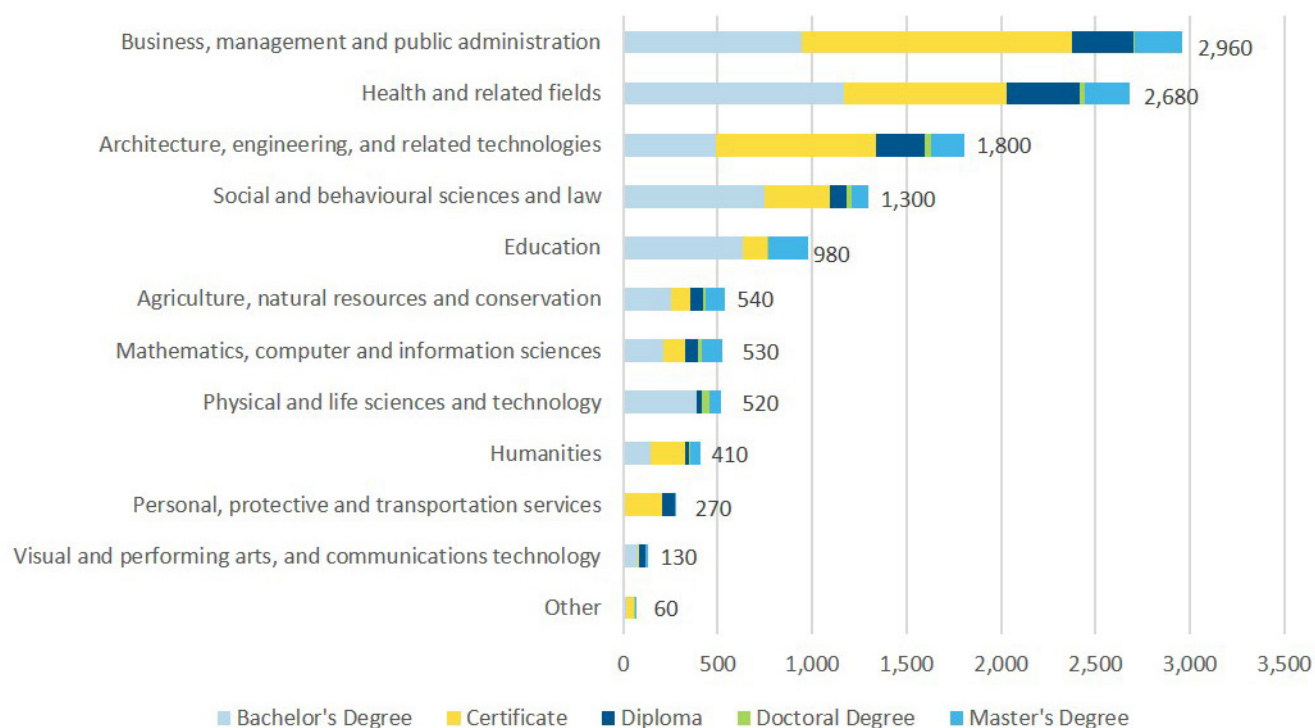
In 2020, the most awarded credentials by Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions were in the areas of Business, Management and Public Administration; Health and Related Fields; Architecture, Engineering, and Related Fields; and, Social and Behavioural Sciences and Law, all of which had over 1,000 graduates<sup>4</sup>. Together these four groups comprised over 70 per cent of all credentials awarded in Saskatchewan.

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<sup>4</sup> 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 10**

*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded, by Area of Study and Type, 2020*

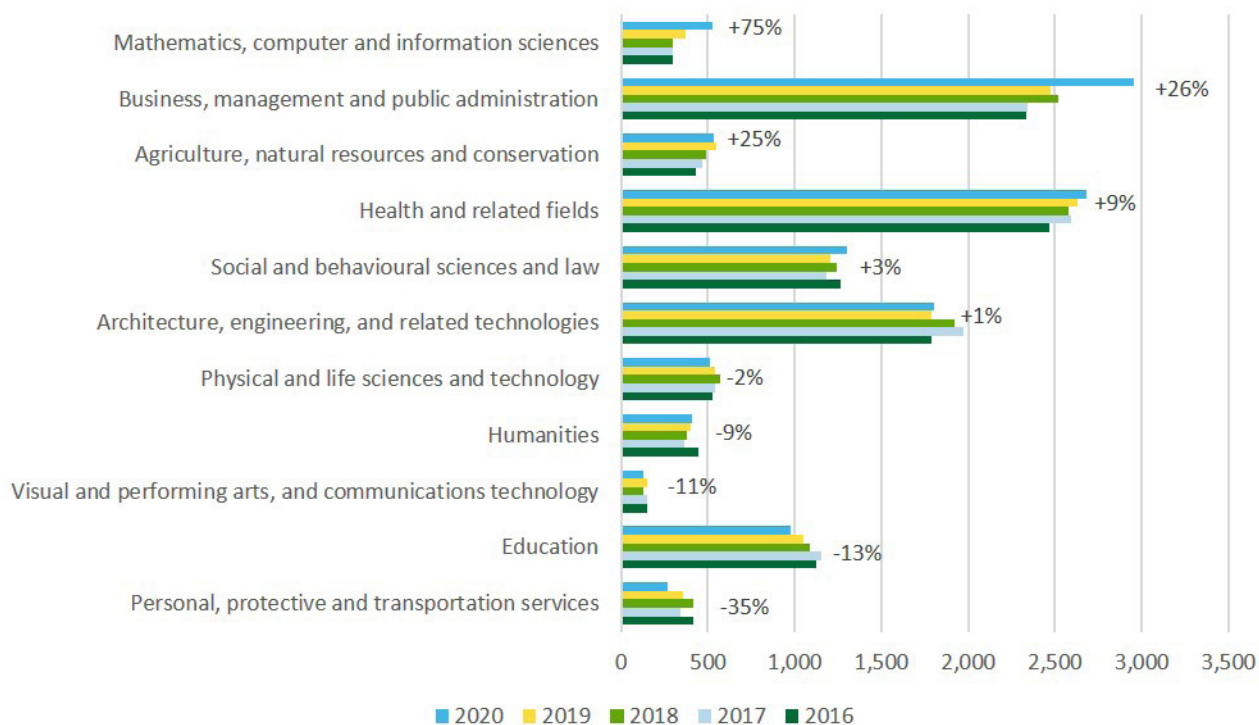


Over the past five years, the fastest growing areas of study in Saskatchewan have been those of Mathematics, Computer and Information Sciences; Business, Management and Public Administration; and, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Conservation. Over that same period, several areas have seen decreasing credentials awarded, including Personal, Protective and Transportation Services; Education; and, Visual and Performing Arts, and Communications Technology.



**Figure 11**

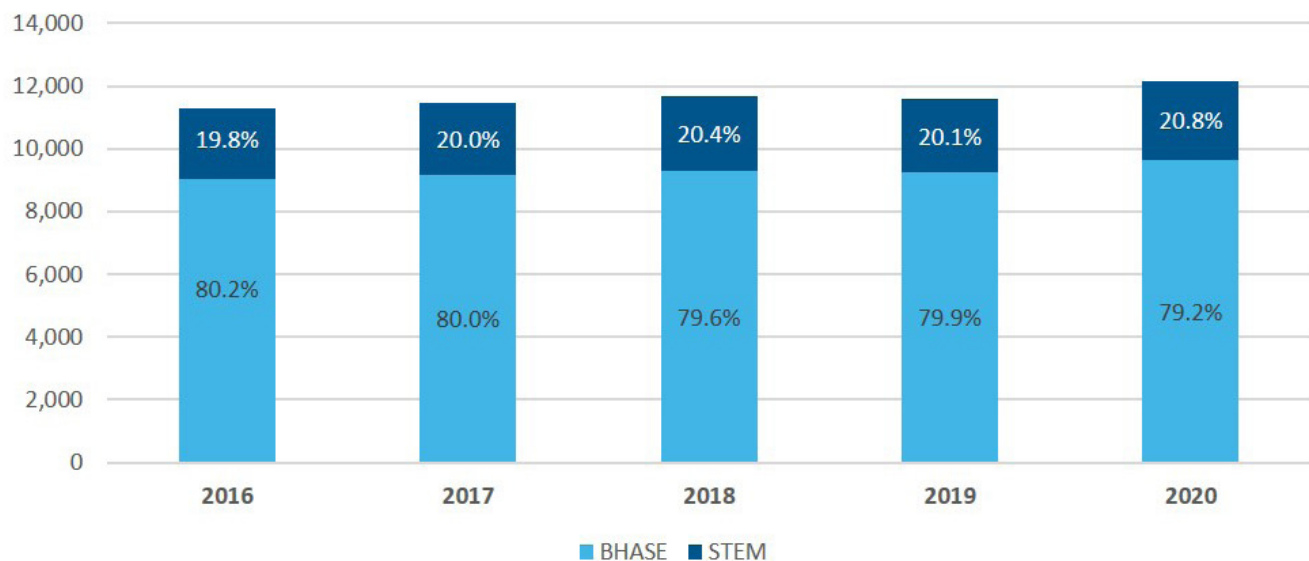
*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded by Area of Study, 2016-2020*



In 2020, over 20 per cent of graduates were awarded credentials in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics and Computer Sciences (STEM), with the remainder graduating from programs in the fields of Business, Humanities, Health, Arts, Social Science, and Education (BHASE). The proportion of credentials awarded in the STEM fields has grown slightly in Saskatchewan between 2016 and 2020, increasing by one percentage point over this period.

**Figure 12**

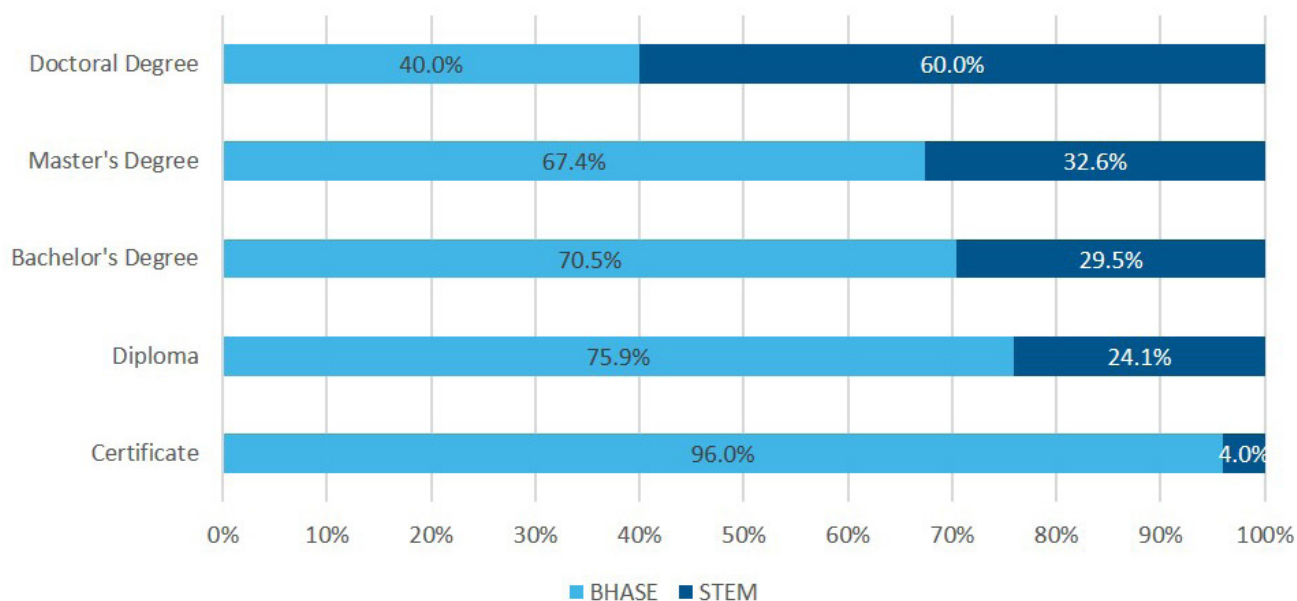
*Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Credentials Awarded by STEM and BHASE Fields, 2016-2020*



Generally, at more advanced credential levels there are greater proportions of STEM graduates than at lower levels. In Saskatchewan in 2020, Certificate programs produced the lowest percentage of STEM graduates (4 per cent) while Doctoral programs produced the greatest percentage of STEM graduates (60 per cent).

**Figure 13**

*Percentages of BHASE-STEM Post-Secondary Graduates, by Type, 2020*



The next Indicators Project report will be released in Winter 2022 and will focus on enrolments in the 2020-21 academic year.

## Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Education Indicators Project – Credentials Awarded Data

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Credentials Awarded	11,850	12,080	12,530	12,310	12,620
Bachelor's	4,960	4,920	4,960	4,910	5,070
Certificate	4,300	4,530	4,800	4,640	4,620
Diploma	1,260	1,250	1,340	1,320	1,440
Doctoral	180	190	210	190	190
Master's	1,160	1,200	1,230	1,260	1,290
Female	6,980	8,000	7,100	7,060	7,190
Male	4,830	4,930	5,390	5,180	5,370
Indigenous	2,130	2,200	2,450	2,280	1,940
First Nations	1,520	1,530	1,790	1,600	1,310
Métis	600	650	660	660	630
International	1,290	1,290	1,550	1,810	2,310
BHASE	9,040	9,150	9,300	9,250	9,640
STEM	2,230	2,290	2,380	2,320	2,530

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