



Average program fees lost per leaver is \$14,293

Average loss in potential income per leaver is \$61,246

On average, the cost of attrition for each student was \$75,539

Only 45% of Humber’s domestic students graduate on time from their degree program, and almost one-third do not obtain their degree within seven years of entering. While some students will fare well and find satisfying employment, for others, leaving prior to completing their credential is a missed opportunity and a lost investment. This purpose of this report is to quantify the cost of attrition for degree students.

This study focused on the 2014 cohort of full-time degree students where 361 students left the college prior to completing their credential. The cost of attrition to students is estimated to be the sum of:

- the average tuition and related fees levied to degree students for each of the semesters that they were enrolled; and
- the loss of income that the student may have earned during the time in which they were enrolled. These figures are based on the 2011 and 2016 Census for individuals aged 15-24 working full-time in Toronto with a high-school diploma as their highest credential.

Table 1 below shows the breakdown in costs and losses to students who left their degree programs at each point in time. The last column of in the table estimates the total loss to students who completed less than one year of their program (\$30,579), between one and two years of their program (\$61,510), between two and three years of their program (\$95,710), and between three and four years of their program (\$129,699). On average, the students from the 2014 cohort who left their programs lost \$75,539 in program fees and potential income.

Table 1: Cost of Attrition to Leavers from the 2014 Cohort by Years of Study Completed

Years of study Completed	# of Leavers	Average Program Fees per Leaver	Average Loss in Potential Income per Leaver	Average Total Cost Attrition per Leaver
1 or less	107	\$6,980	\$23,599	\$30,579
1-2	176	\$14,312	\$47,198	\$61,510
2-3	53	\$21,915	\$73,795	\$95,710
3-4	25	\$29,307	\$100,392	\$129,699
Total	361	\$14,293	\$61,246	\$75,539

Student attrition has significant implications for students, their institutions and the public. Students have devoted time and money to an unsuccessful effort and research has shown that those who do complete college or university credentials have higher lifetime earnings and are in better health than high school graduates.

Access [the full report](http://bit.ly/FullReportTheCostOfAttritionToStudents): <http://bit.ly/FullReportTheCostOfAttritionToStudents>

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