

BC STUDENT OUTCOMES

fact sheet

Cultural Diversity in British Columbia's Post- Secondary Student Population

British Columbia's post-secondary education system includes students from all around the world. Many have been in Canada since childhood; others recently arrived as international students. Their participation brings social and cultural benefits to communities and institutions throughout the province, as well as opportunities for all students to gain cultural experience and have a more global education.

This fact sheet uses results from the 2016 BC Student Outcomes surveys to explore some aspects of this cultural diversity in B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions.

The BC Student Outcomes surveys include questions on country of origin and immigration status. Survey respondents who were not born in Canada are asked for their status at the time they were studying: Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or on a visa. They are also asked about previous English language training.

The post-secondary institutions that participated in the surveys were asked to identify the former students who attended as "international" students; this category generally applies to individuals on student visas who are paying international tuition fees for their programs.

Apprenticeship Students

Most of the former apprenticeship students who responded to the 2016 survey were born in Canada; only 8 percent reported a different country of origin. More than one-third (35 percent) of those respondents born outside Canada were from India, China and Hong Kong Administrative Region, or the Philippines. In all, apprenticeship respondents named 53 different countries of origin.

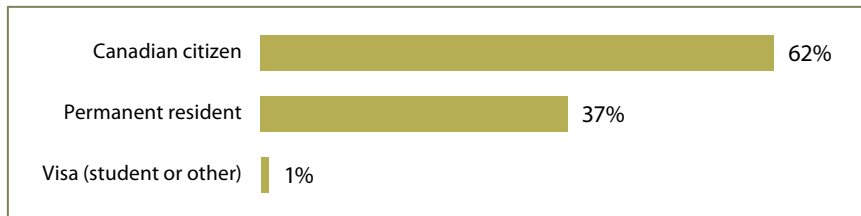
Top ten countries or regions of origin	Percent
India	12%
China & Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	12%
Philippines	11%
United Kingdom	6%
Germany	5%
United States	5%
South Africa, Republic Of	3%
Iran, Islamic Republic Of	3%
Korea, Republic Of (South Korea)	3%
Mexico	3%

Notes: Percentages are based on respondents from apprenticeship programs whose country of origin was not Canada. The list of countries is based on Statistic Canada's Standard Classification of Countries and Areas of Interest.

Country of origin

India or China and Hong Kong were the countries of origin reported most often.

At the time they were studying, a majority (62 percent) of the respondents from apprenticeship programs who were not born in Canada had Canadian citizenship.



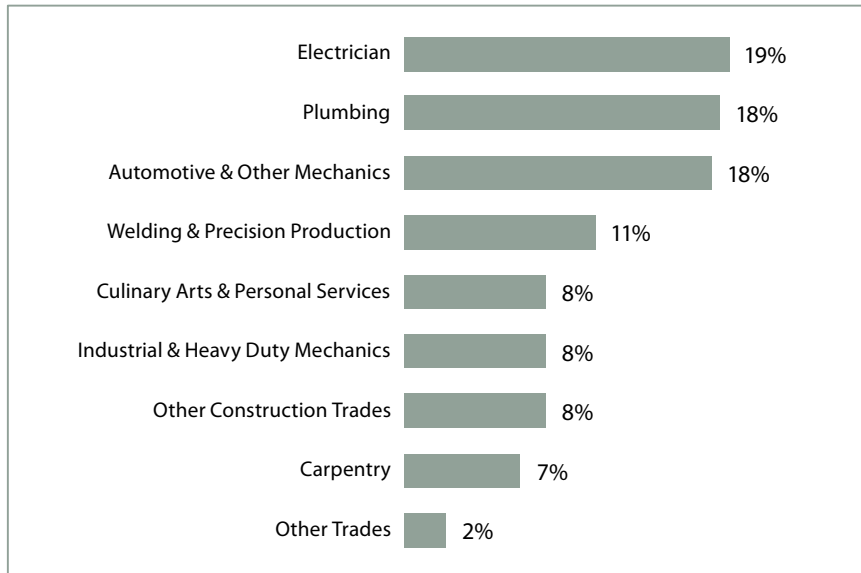
Note: Percentages are based on respondents from apprenticeship programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Immigration status

Over 60 percent were naturalized Canadians.

Prior to or during their apprenticeship training, 9 percent of the respondents whose country of origin was not Canada took English language training.

During their training, over half (55 percent) of those not born in Canada were in the trades of Electrician, Plumbing, or Automotive & Other Mechanics.



Note: Percentages are based on respondents from apprenticeship programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Trades programs taken

Over half were in the trades of Electrician, Plumbing, or Automotive & Other Mechanics.

The post-secondary institutions did not identify any of the surveyed former apprentices as international students.

Baccalaureate Graduates

One quarter (25 percent) of the baccalaureate graduates who responded to the 2016 survey said their country of origin was not Canada. Almost half (47 percent) of those born outside Canada were from China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Taiwan, or the United States. In all, baccalaureate graduates identified 138 countries of origin other than Canada.

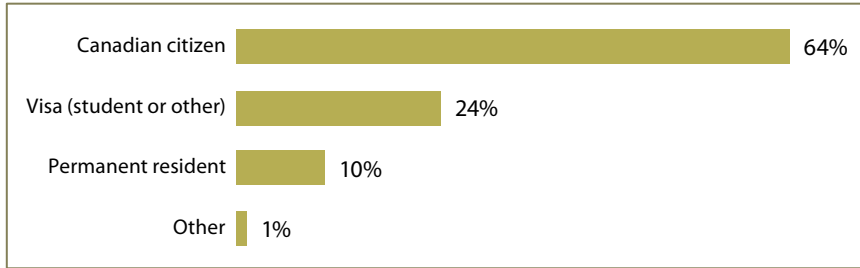
Top ten countries or regions of origin	Percent
China & Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	34%
Taiwan	8%
United States	6%
Korea, Republic of (South Korea)	5%
India	5%
Philippines	4%
Iran, Islamic Republic of	4%
United Kingdom	3%
South Africa, Republic of	2%
Pakistan	1%

Notes: Percentages are based on respondents from baccalaureate programs whose country of origin was not Canada. The list of countries is based on Statistic Canada's Standard Classification of Countries and Areas of Interest.

Country of origin

More than one-third were from China and Hong Kong.

At the time they were studying, almost two-thirds (64 percent) of the baccalaureate respondents who were not born in Canada had Canadian citizenship.



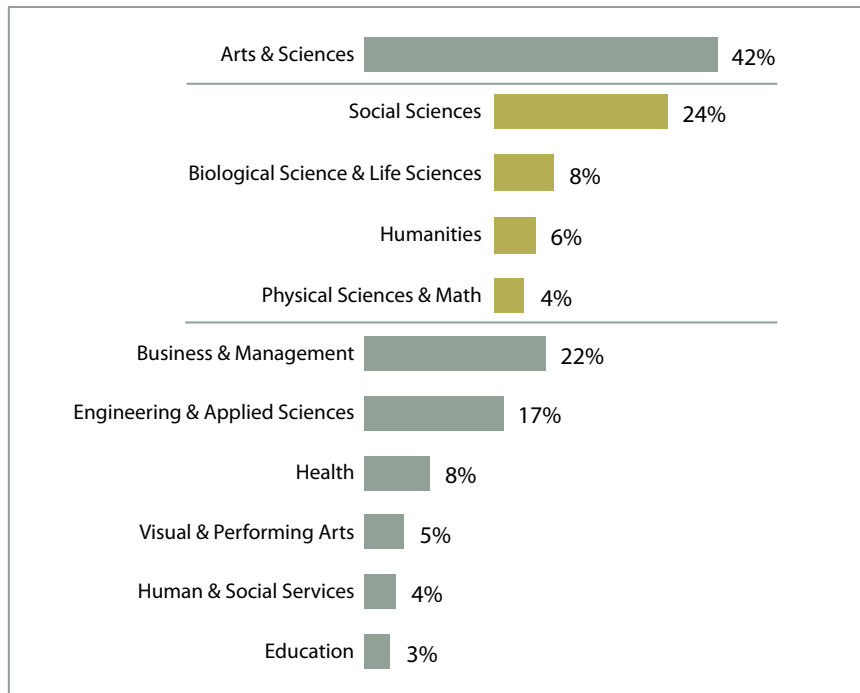
Note: Percentages are based on respondents from baccalaureate programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Immigration status

Almost two-thirds were naturalized Canadians.

Prior to or during their baccalaureate studies, 14 percent of the respondents who were born outside of Canada took English language training.

During their studies, 42 percent of those from outside Canada were enrolled in Arts & Sciences programs, in one of the following categories: Social Sciences, Biological Science & Life Sciences, Humanities, or Physical Sciences & Math.

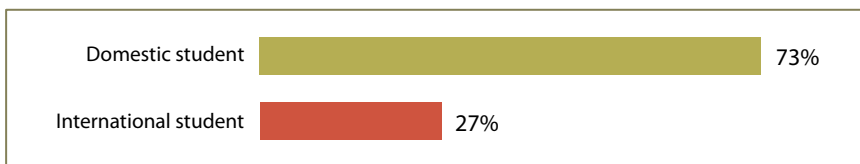


Note: Percentages are based on respondents from baccalaureate programs whose country of origin was not Canada. The Arts & Sciences percentage includes Social Sciences, Biological Science & Life Sciences, Humanities, and Physical Sciences & Math

Programs taken

Arts & Sciences programs were a popular choice.

Of the baccalaureate graduates who were not born in Canada, 27 percent were identified as international students by the post-secondary institution they attended.



Note: Percentages are based on respondents from baccalaureate programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

International status

More than one-quarter were identified as international students.

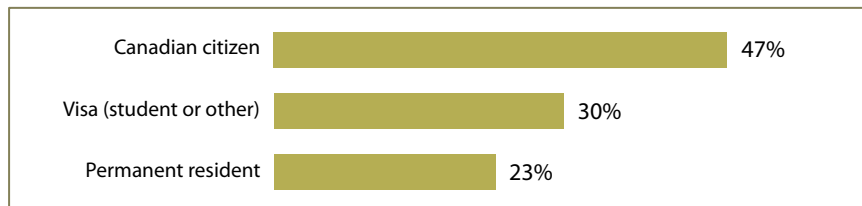
Associate Degree Students

Over one-quarter (27 percent) of the former associate degree program students who responded to the 2016 survey were born outside Canada. Almost half (47 percent) of those with a different country of origin were from China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Philippines, or India. In all, they identified 71 different countries of origin.

Top ten countries or regions of origin	Percent
China & Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	31%
Philippines	9%
India	7%
Taiwan	6%
Iran, Islamic Republic of	4%
Korea, Republic of (South Korea)	4%
Indonesia	3%
Japan	3%
Germany	2%
Russian Federation	2%

Notes: Percentages are based on respondents from associate degree programs whose country of origin was not Canada. The list of countries is based on Statistic Canada's Standard Classification of Countries and Areas of Interest.

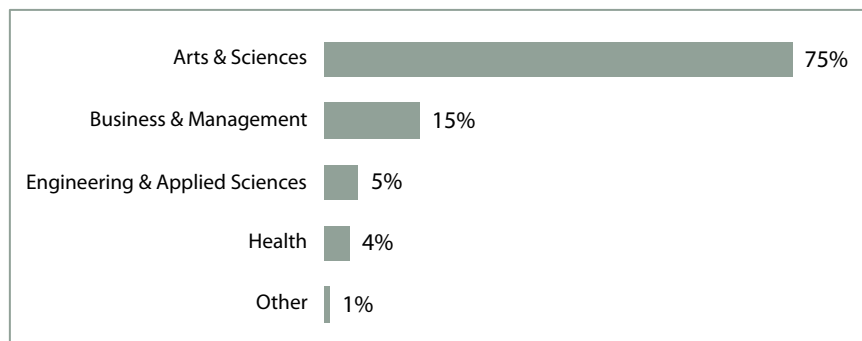
At the time they were studying, almost half (47 percent) of the respondents from associate degree programs who were not born in Canada had Canadian citizenship.



Note: Percentages are based on respondents from associate degree programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Prior to or during their associate degree program studies, 16 percent of the respondents whose country of origin was not Canada took English language training.

During their studies, 75 percent of those who were not born in Canada were enrolled in Arts and Sciences programs.



Note: Percentages are based on respondents from associate degree programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Country of origin

Almost one-third were from China and Hong Kong.

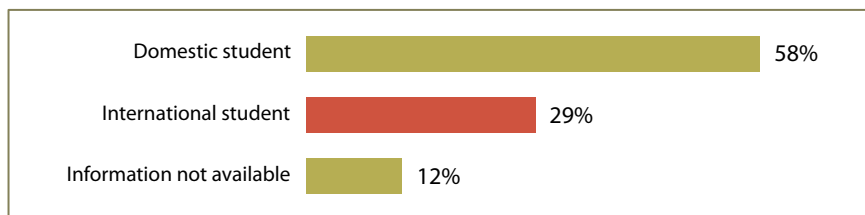
Immigration status

Almost half were naturalized Canadians.

Programs taken

Three-quarters took Arts & Sciences programs.

Of the former associate degree students who were from outside of Canada, 29 percent were identified as international students by the post-secondary institution they attended.



Note: Percentages are based on respondents from associate degree programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

International status

Almost 30 percent were identified as international students.

Diploma Students

Almost one-third (32 percent) of the former diploma program students who responded to the 2016 survey said their country of origin was not Canada. Over half (55 percent) of those born outside Canada were from China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, India, or the Philippines. In all, 105 different countries were identified.

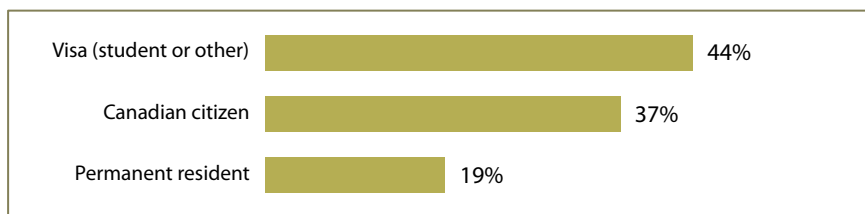
Top ten countries or regions of origin	Percent
China & Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	28%
India	19%
Philippines	8%
Taiwan	4%
Korea, Republic of (South Korea)	4%
Russian Federation	3%
Iran, Islamic Republic of	3%
United Kingdom	2%
Nigeria	2%
Viet Nam	2%

Notes: Percentages are based on respondents from diploma programs whose country of origin was not Canada. The list of countries is based on Statistic Canada's Standard Classification of Countries and Areas of Interest.

Country of origin

Well over one-quarter were from China and Hong Kong.

The largest portion (44 percent) of the diploma program students who originated elsewhere were in Canada on a visa during their studies.



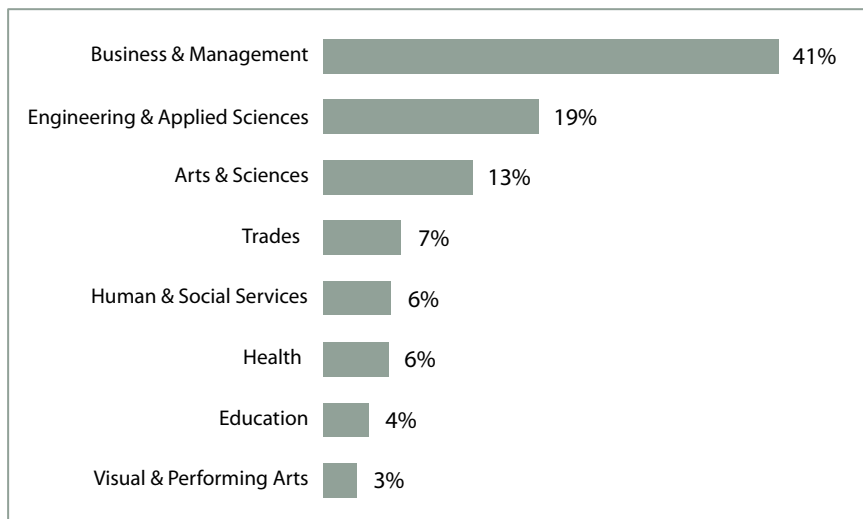
Note: Percentages are based on respondents from diploma programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Immigration status

More than one-third of the diploma respondents from another country were naturalized Canadians.

Prior to or during their diploma program studies, 16 percent of the respondents who were not born in Canada took English language training.

During their studies, 41 percent of those not born in Canada were enrolled in Business and Management programs.

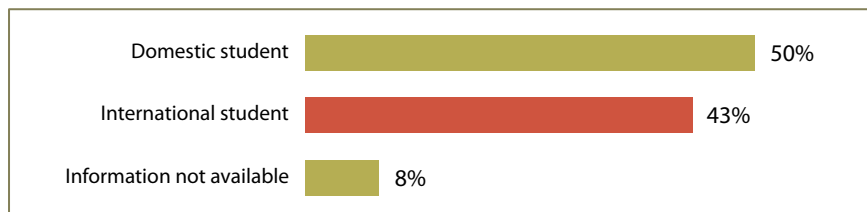


Note: Percentages are based on respondents from diploma programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Programs taken

Business & Management programs were a popular choice for diploma students.

Of the former diploma students originating outside of Canada, 43 percent were identified as international students by the post-secondary institution they attended.



Note: Percentages are based on respondents from diploma programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

International status

A considerable percentage from diploma programs were identified as international students.

Certificate Students

Almost one-quarter (23 percent) of the former certificate program students who responded to the 2016 survey were born outside Canada. Of those whose country of origin was not Canada, 45 percent were from the Philippines, China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, or India. In all, 109 different countries were identified.

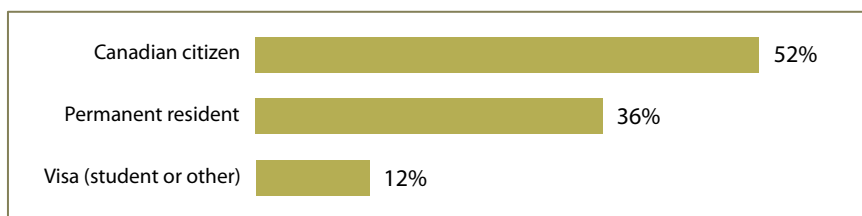
Top ten countries or regions of origin	Percent
Philippines	19%
China & Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	17%
India	10%
Iran, Islamic Republic Of	5%
Taiwan	4%
Korea, Republic Of (South Korea)	4%
United Kingdom	4%
United States	3%
Romania	2%
Mexico	2%

Notes: Percentages are based on respondents from certificate programs whose country of origin was not Canada. The list of countries is based on Statistic Canada's Standard Classification of Countries and Areas of Interest.

Country of origin

Almost one-fifth were from the Philippines.

More than half of the certificate program students whose country of origin was not Canada were naturalized citizens.



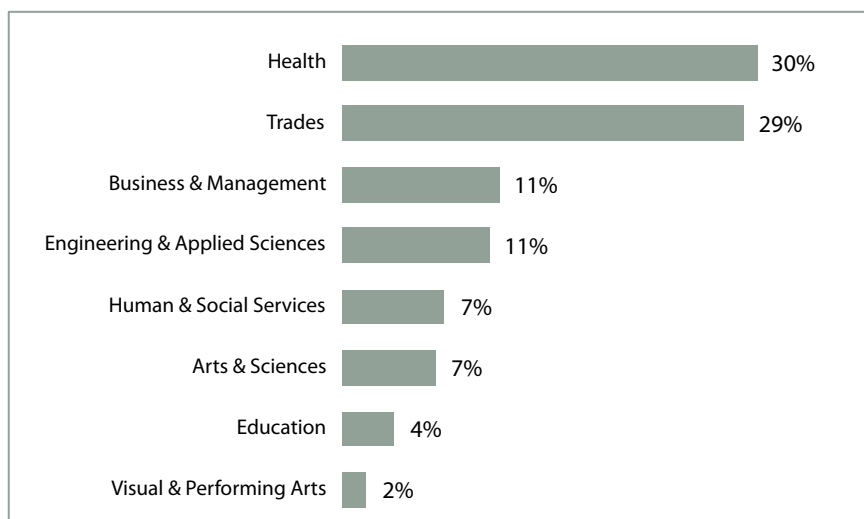
Note: Percentages are based on respondents from certificate programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Immigration status

More than half were naturalized Canadians.

Prior to or during their certificate program studies, 16 percent of the respondents who were not born in Canada took English language training.

During their studies, almost 60 percent of those originating outside Canada were enrolled in Health (30 percent) or Trades (29 percent) programs.

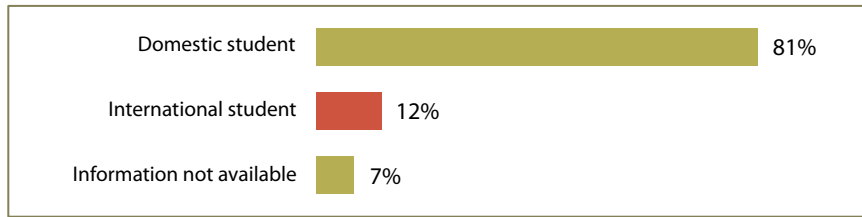


Note: Percentages are based on respondents from certificate programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

Programs taken

Almost 60 percent were in Health or Trades programs.

Of the former certificate program students who were from other countries, 12 percent were identified as international students by the post-secondary institution they attended.



Note: Percentages are based on respondents from certificate programs whose country of origin was not Canada.

International status

A minority of those in certificate programs were international students.

About BC Student Outcomes

The annual BC Student Outcomes surveys collect information from former post-secondary students, who are asked to evaluate their educational experiences and to talk about their employment and further education. For more information, see the [BC Student Outcomes](#) website.

In 2016 over 28,000 former students responded to one of the BC Student Outcomes surveys. Information for this fact sheet comes from the 2016 Apprenticeship Student Outcomes Survey, the 2016 Baccalaureate Graduates Survey, and the 2016 Diploma, Associate Degree, and Certificate Student Outcomes Survey.

The BC Student Outcomes surveys are conducted with funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, the participating British Columbia post-secondary institutions, and the Industry Training Authority.