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Educational Portrait of Canada, 2006 Census

Census year 2006



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Educational Portrait of Canada, 2006 Census

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Highlights

- Six out of every 10 adults aged between 25 and 64 had completed some form of postsecondary education in 2006 according to data from the census.
- Just under one-quarter (24%) of the adults aged 25 to 64 had a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, while 15% had less than a high school education.
- The number of university graduates increased 24% since 2001.
- In 2006, Canada ranked sixth among all Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries in terms of the proportion of the adults aged 25 to 64 who had a university degree. In the case where university and college are combined, however, no other OECD nation had a higher proportion than Canada.
- Young adults had a higher level of educational attainment than their older counterparts. About 29% of young adults aged 25 to 34 had a university degree in 2006, well above the proportion of 18% among adults aged 55 to 64.
- Fewer young adults were studying in trades than their parents. About 10% of young adults aged 25 to 34 had a trade certification in 2006, compared with 13% of the older adults aged between 55 and 64.
- Young adults were also choosing to study different trades than older generations. For example, there were 25,800 fewer 25 to 34 year-olds than 55 to 64 year-olds who had a trades certificate in Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians. On the other hand, there were 12,500 more young people who had a trades certificate in Personal and Culinary Services than the older generation.
- A much higher percentage of women than men aged between 25 and 34, 33% vs 25%, had a university degree. These percentages were both higher than those observed for older adults aged between 55 and 64, where 16% of women and 21% of men had a university degree.
- In 2006, one out of every five postsecondary graduates aged 25 to 64 had studied Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services, according to the census.
- Over half (51%) of recent immigrants, those who had immigrated to Canada between 2001 and 2006, had a university degree. This was more than twice the proportion of degree holders among the Canadian-born population (20%) and also much higher than the proportion of 28% among immigrants who arrived before 2001.
- Highly educated Canadians were more mobile. Adults aged between 25 and 64 who had a university degree accounted for 23% of this population, and for 33% of the people who moved to another province or territory between 2001 and 2006.
- Alberta was the prime beneficiary of interprovincial migration among highly educated adults. Overall, Alberta had the biggest net inflow of postsecondary graduates while Ontario recorded the biggest net outflows.

Substantial changes to census questions on education

Questions pertaining to education on the census questionnaire changed substantially between 2001 and 2006, principally to reflect developments in Canada's education system. The education portion of the questionnaire had not changed in many years, even though the education system had evolved considerably.

These changes improved the quality of data collected by the census. For example, for the first time, information is available on the province, territory or country in which Canadians attained their highest level of education. In addition, the census has provided more precise information on the level of educational attainment and fields of study.

However, changes to the questionnaire have meant that comparisons with data from previous censuses must be limited. For example, data on Field of study from the 2006 Census cannot be compared with 2001 data because of changes in the types of fields that were measured.

Questions pertaining to university degrees attained in 2006, for example, a bachelor's degree or a master's degree, were similar to those asked in 2001. However, the 2006 Census collected information on non-university certification differently than in 2001.

For these reasons, this analytical document will make only a limited comparison of data between 2001 and 2006 in one area: highest level of educational attainment for individuals. Data for the two census years will be compared for university graduates, and various degrees therein, and for the non-university educated as a whole.

The remainder of the analysis will compare the relative educational position of young adults to that of their older counterparts, but for 2006 only. This report will focus on the working age population aged 25 to 64.

Moreover, when comparing the census results to other Statistics Canada data sources, it appears that the census overestimates persons who have a 'university certificate or diploma below bachelor level.' Although it affects a relatively small population, it is best to apply caution when analysing the census data of this category. For more information on factors that may explain such variances in census data, such as response errors and processing errors, please refer to the 2006 Census Dictionary, Appendix B – Data quality, sampling and weighting, confidentiality and random rounding (<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/reference/dictionary/app002.cfm>).

Highest level of educational attainment

The census asks individuals aged 15 and over to report their level of educational attainment. This information can be used to classify the population into six levels of educational attainment:

- Less than high school (no certificate, diploma or degree)
- High school certificate or equivalent
- Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (including 'centres de formation professionnelle')
- College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma
- University certificate or diploma below bachelor level
- University degree: bachelor's degree; university certificate or diploma above bachelor level; degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry; master's degree; earned doctorate.

The order of these categories reflects education pathways that require increasing time commitments to schooling. Each person is classified according to the highest level completed. For example, a person holding both a college diploma and a university degree would be counted in the 'University degree' category.

As such, a certificate, diploma or degree identified in this analysis (such as a trades certificate or a college diploma) refers to the highest accreditation attained by the respondent, according to the order provided above.

Moreover, the field of study information analyzed in this document refers to the main subject matter of the respondent's highest level of educational attainment as described above. Similarly, the location of study information analyzed indicates the province, territory or country in which a respondent completed their highest postsecondary level of educational attainment.

National picture

The 2006 Census enumerated 17,382,100 Canadians aged between 25 and 64. This document presents the findings of the census questions pertaining to the education of this population. It examines three specific areas: the highest level of educational attainment of Canadians in this age group; the fields that they studied; and where they completed their studies.

Historical comparison: The number of university degrees has grown substantially since 2001

As mentioned earlier, comparisons with the 2001 Census are only possible for the number of university degrees attained. As such, the census enumerated 3,985,700 adults aged between 25 and 64 who had a university degree in 2006, up 24% from the 3,207,400 in 2001. On the other hand, the number of adults who did not have a university degree rose only 2%.

Table 1 Total population aged 25 to 64 by level of university attainment, Canada, 2001 and 2006

Level of university attainment	2001	2006	Percentage increase
Total	16,288,310	17,382,115	7
No university degree	13,080,875	13,396,370	2
Subtotal – University degree	3,207,440	3,985,745	24
Bachelor's degree	2,079,650	2,538,355	22
University certificate or diploma above bachelor level	331,285	416,815	26
Degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry	102,340	113,740	11
Master's degree	584,745	774,655	32
Earned doctorate	109,420	142,180	30

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 2001 and 2006.

Of the university degrees, the biggest increase during the five-year period occurred in the number of adults who had a master's degree, which increased 32% in this time period.

The smallest increase (11%) occurred in the number of adults who had a degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry.

Six in 10 adults had completed some form of postsecondary education

As stated earlier in the section 'Substantial changes to census questions on education,' comparisons over time are limited, and thus most of the analysis for the remainder of the document will show comparisons between young adults aged 25 to 34 and their older counterparts.

Six out of every 10 adults aged between 25 and 64 had completed some form of postsecondary education in 2006, according to the census.

The census enumerated 10,541,900 people in this age group with a university degree, a college diploma or some form of postsecondary certificate. They accounted for 61% of the 17,382,100 persons in this age group.

Table 2 Number and proportion of persons aged 25 to 64 by level of educational attainment and age groups, Canada, 2006

Level of educational attainment	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	Total	percentage
Less than high school	433,940	603,605	811,240	834,725	2,683,510	15
High school diploma	897,835	1,091,465	1,294,505	872,930	4,156,740	24
Postsecondary qualification	2,655,300	3,099,025	2,845,665	1,941,870	10,541,865	61
Trades certificate	416,045	609,270	651,920	478,770	2,156,010	12
College diploma	906,155	1,064,810	972,500	589,910	3,533,375	20
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	181,350	235,965	245,230	204,185	866,735	5
University degree	1,151,750	1,188,975	976,015	669,005	3,985,745	23
Total	3,987,075	4,794,100	4,951,410	3,649,530	17,382,115	100

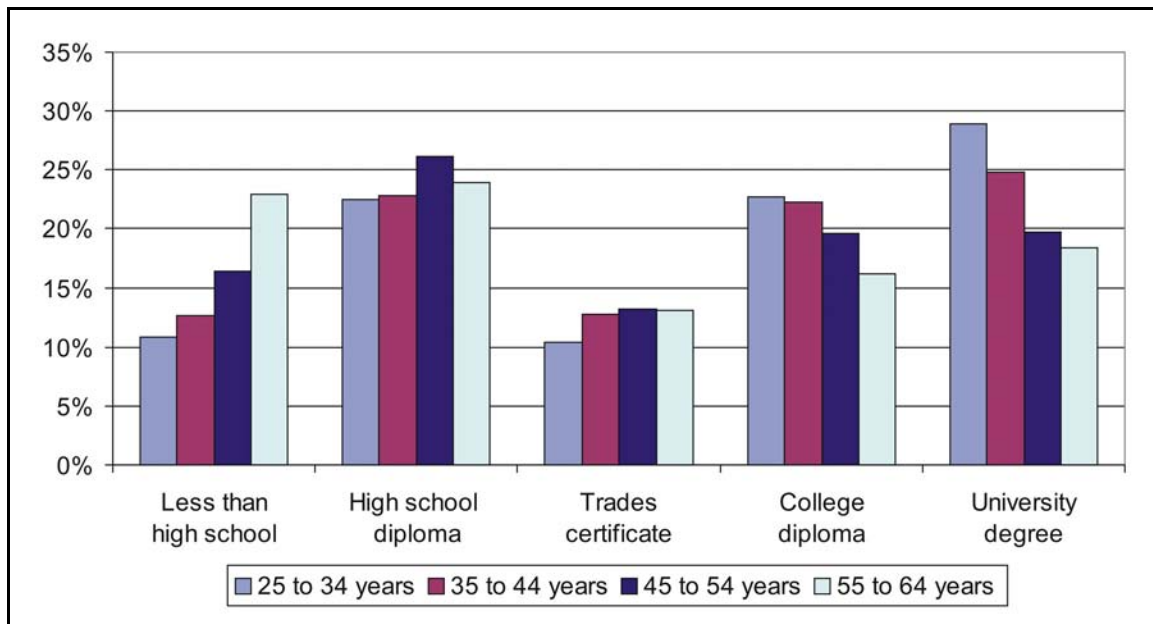
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

Of these graduates, an estimated 23% had a university degree. An additional 20% had a college diploma; and 12% had a trades certificate.

An estimated 4,156,700 adults had a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, just under one-quarter (24%) of the total.

The census found that 15%, or 2,683,500, had less than a high school education. These people with no formal educational credentials were concentrated in older age groups. In particular, 23% of the 55 to 64 year-olds had not completed their high school while it was the case for only 11% of the 25 to 34 year-olds.

Figure 1 Proportion of the population aged 25 to 64 by level of educational attainment and age groups, Canada, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

No other OECD country had a higher proportion of its adult population with university or college attainment than Canada

Each year, the OECD provides an international comparison of levels of education in the working-age population. This comparison includes about 30 countries.

In 2006, Canada ranked sixth among all OECD countries in terms of the proportion of the population which had a university degree, tied with Australia and Korea, at 23%.

Table 3 Proportion of the population aged 25 to 64 with a university degree for the top 10 OECD countries

University degree	
Country	percentage
Norway	30
United States of America	30
Netherlands	28
Denmark	26
Iceland	26
Australia	23
Canada	23
Korea	23
Japan	22
Sweden	21

Source: Education at a Glance 2007 – OECD Indicators
(<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/4/55/39313286.pdf>), Paris, September 2007.

Norway and the United States of America led the way at 30% each, followed by the Netherlands (28%), Denmark and Iceland (26% each).

About 25% of Canada's working-age population had a college diploma or a certificate below bachelor level as their highest level of educational attainment. This represents the highest proportion of all OECD countries. However, the different systems for college education used by various countries make international comparisons more difficult.

In many countries, usually one form of education, either university or college, is highly prevalent. Canada offers two parallel systems of education after high school. Each requires a high school diploma for admission and each plays a key role in the development of knowledge and skills.

In the case where university and college are combined, no other OECD country had a higher proportion than Canada. Some 48% of Canada's population aged 25 to 64 had either a university or college education, compared with 40% in Japan, 39% in the United States of America and 35% in Finland.

Table 4 Proportion of the population aged 25 to 64 with a university or college education for the top 10 OECD countries

University or college education	
Country	percentage
Canada	48
Japan	40
United States of America	39
Finland	35
Denmark	34
Norway	33
Australia	32
Korea	32
Iceland	31
Belgium	31

Source: Education at a Glance 2007 – OECD Indicators (<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/4/55/39313286.pdf>), Paris, September 2007.

Young adults more highly educated than their older counterparts

Census data showed that young adults had a higher level of educational attainment than their older counterparts. About 29% of young adults aged 25 to 34 had a university degree in 2006, well above the proportion of 18% among adults aged 55 to 64, the group approaching retirement age.

Similarly, 23% of young adults aged 25 to 34 had a college diploma, compared to 16% of their 55 to 64 year-old counterparts.

Rising educational attainment among young adults was also reflected in a decline in the proportion which had not completed high school and had no further education. In 2006, 11% of all young adults aged 25 to 34 had no formal educational credentials. This was less than half the proportion of 23% among adults aged between 55 and 64.

Trades: Fewer young adults earning a trades certificate

Census data suggested that fewer young adults may be following their parents into the trades. The census enumerated 416,000 young adults aged 25 to 34 who had received a trade certification. They accounted for only 10% of the total population in this age group.

In contrast, 478,800 adults aged between 55 and 64 had a trades certificate, 13% of the population in this age group which is approaching or entering retirement. The same proportion is found in all other age groups.

Census data also showed that younger Canadians are choosing to study different trades than older generations. For example, 87,200 adults aged between 55 and 64 had a trades certificate in Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians. This compares with only 61,400 young adults aged 25 to 34. As a result, there were 30% fewer young Canadians who attained credentials in this field.

Table 5 Number of persons having a trades certificate in specific fields of study by selected age groups, Canada, 2006

Fields of study	Age groups		Difference	Percentage difference
	25 to 34 years	55 to 64 years		
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (47)	61,435	87,205	-25,770	-30
Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	47,970	70,540	-22,570	-32
Construction Trades (46)	54,155	72,700	-18,545	-26
Precision Production (48)	42,010	50,775	-8,765	-17
Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	42,315	47,660	-5,345	-11
Engineering Technologies/Technicians (15)	23,420	27,935	-4,515	-16
Education (13)	2,075	4,360	-2,285	-52
Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services (11)	12,680	6,475	6,205	96
Transportation and Materials Moving (49)	20,960	14,745	6,215	42
Personal and Culinary Services (12)	63,910	51,415	12,495	24

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

There was also a pronounced difference in Construction Trades. About 72,700 older adults had a certificate in this field, compared with only 54,200 young adults, or 26% fewer young people.

On the other hand, there were some trades in which young adults have studied in greater numbers. For instance, 63,900 young adults had a trade certification in Personal and Culinary Services, which include such occupations as Aestheticians and Chefs. Only 51,400 older adults had a certificate in these trades. In other words, there were 12,500 (24%) more young Canadians who acquired qualifications in this field, compared to older Canadians.

In some fields, declines in trades qualifications among young people have been offset by gains in college diplomas. In other words, some younger adults are obtaining their qualifications at a college rather than at a trades school. For instance, 4,500 fewer adults aged 25 to 34 had obtained a trades certificate in the Engineering Technologies/Technicians field than those aged 55 to 64. However, the young adults who had a college diploma in this field outnumbered their older counterparts by more than 21,000.

Table 6 Number of persons aged 25 to 34 having a postsecondary degree minus the number of persons aged 55 to 64 having a postsecondary degree by specific fields of study and selected levels of educational attainment, Canada, 2006

Fields of study	Levels of educational attainment		
	Trades certificate	College diploma	University degree
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (47)	-25,770	5,895	0
Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	-22,570	38,160	123,450
Construction Trades (46)	-18,545	-3,095	0
Precision Production (48)	-8,765	1,650	75
Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	-5,345	11,025	44,390
Engineering Technologies/Technicians (15)	-4,515	21,135	0
Education (13)	-2,285	-18,215	-19,000
Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services (11)	6,205	58,540	45,515
Transportation and Materials Moving (49)	6,215	2,400	125
Personal and Culinary Services (12)	12,495	12,725	0

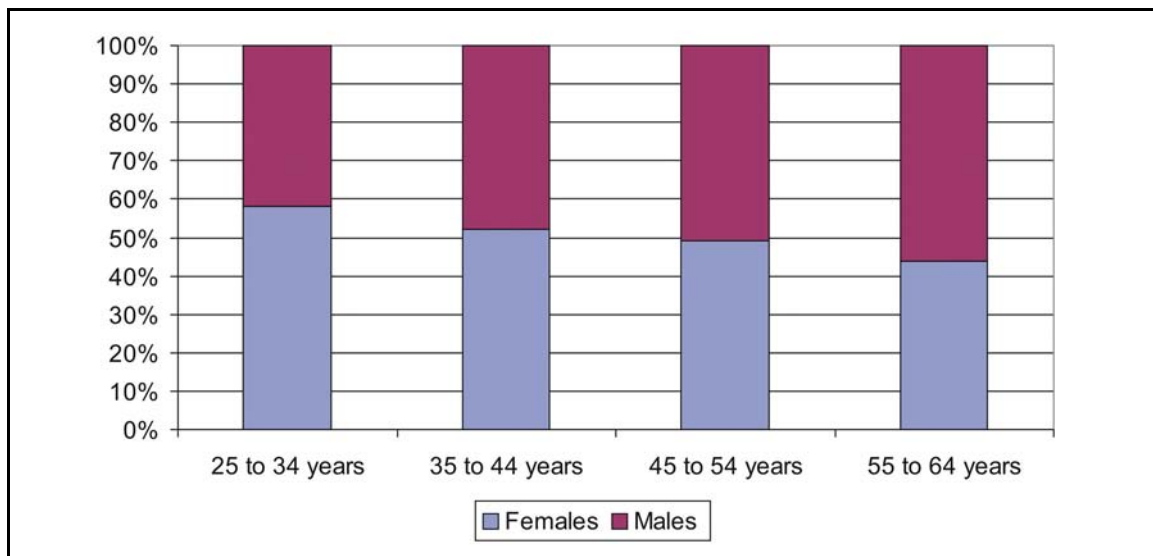
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

In other fields, however, fewer young people are obtaining certificates at both the trades and college levels. This was the case with Construction Trades. Graduates in the 55 to 64 years age group outnumbered those aged 25 to 34 at both trades schools and colleges.

Young women lead the way in college and university attainment

Some 33% of women aged between 25 and 34 had a university degree, compared to 25% of men in this age group. For those in the 35 to 44 years age group, the proportions of men and women having a university degree were almost identical, 24% and 25%, respectively.

Figure 2 Proportion of university graduates by age groups and sex, Canada, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

However, in the two oldest age groups, the proportion of women having a university degree was less than the proportion of men. About 19% of women aged 45 to 54 had a university degree, compared to 20% of men in the same age group. For those aged between 55 and 64, 16% of women had a university degree, compared to 21% of men.

In contrast, women who had a college diploma in 2006 vastly outnumbered men in all four age groups. However, the majority of trades certificates were held by men, regardless of age.

In total, just over 2,007,300 women had a college diploma in 2006, compared with 1,526,100 men. However, only 796,200 women had a trades certificate, compared with 1,359,800 men.

Field of study: One in five postsecondary graduates studied in Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services

In 2006, one out of every five postsecondary graduates aged 25 to 64 had studied in Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services, according to the census. It was the most popular field of study among both women and men. An estimated 1,357,200 women in this age group had graduated in this field, compared with just over 801,600 men.

Otherwise, the list of the top 10 fields of study differed widely for women and men.

Among men, nearly 542,400 had graduated in the Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians field, the second most popular. It was followed by the Engineering, Engineering Technologies/Technicians and Construction Trades fields.

In second place, among women, was the Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences field, with more than 1,080,700 graduates. The Education field was a distant third, followed by the Personal and Culinary Services field and the Visual and Performing Arts field.

The list of the top 10 fields of study accounted for 73% of men aged 25 to 64 who had a postsecondary education, and 79% of women.

Table 7 Top 10 fields of study for female and male postsecondary graduates, Canada, 2006

Females		Males	
Fields of study	number	Fields of study	number
Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	1,357,160	Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	801,605
Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	1,080,745	Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (47)	542,370
Education (13)	583,560	Engineering (14)	450,960
Personal and Culinary Services (12)	271,825	Engineering Technologies/Technicians (15)	427,840
Visual and Performing Arts (50)	182,880	Construction Trades (46)	388,990
Social Sciences (45)	182,625	Precision Production (48)	290,625
Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences (19)	170,020	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services (11)	257,385
Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services (11)	150,220	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	204,560
Legal Professions and Studies (22)	130,190	Education (13)	196,165
Public Administration and Social Service Professions (44)	126,575	Social Sciences (45)	194,795

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

Male and female university graduates study in different fields

Young women are graduating in fields of study that are very different from those of their older counterparts – and in very different fields from men as well.

For example, in Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services, young women are graduating with a university degree in much larger numbers than their older counterparts. An estimated 16% of female university graduates (105,900 women) aged 25 to 34 had a university degree in this field, more than twice the 7% (19,100 women) in the 55 to 64 years age group. There was an increase in the proportion of men who studied in this field, but the increase was not as pronounced as it was for women. Notably, about 16% of male university graduates aged between 55 and 64 studied in this field while 20% of the 25 to 34 year-olds did so.

At the university level, Education was the most popular field of study for women, but it was third among men. However, for both men and women, there was a smaller proportion of younger Canadians who studied in this field than older Canadians. Some 34% of female university graduates aged 55 to 64 had a degree in Education while only 16% of 25 to 34 year olds did. Similar differences between older and younger male university graduates were also noted. About 15% of men aged 55 to 64 had a degree in Education, compared with only 6% of men aged between 25 and 34.

Even though the number of women studying in Engineering remains small compared to men, a greater proportion of young women have studied in this field than their older counterparts. Slightly more than 1% of female university graduates aged between 55 and 64 (3,200 women) had a degree in this field, while 4% of the 25 to 34 year-olds (26,700 women) had one.

Immigration

Immigrants account for a large proportion of doctorate and master's degree holders

The census enumerated 4,076,700 persons born outside Canada between the ages of 25 and 64. Of these people, 1,287,500, or about one-third (32%), had a university degree.

Of the 'recent' immigrants – those who immigrated between 2001 and 2006 – 349,800, or 51%, had a university degree. This was more than twice the proportion of degree holders among the Canadian-born population (20%) and much higher than the proportion of 28% among immigrants who arrived in Canada before 2001.

In contrast, only 11% of recent immigrants in this age range had a college diploma and only 5% had a trades certificate. These proportions were considerably less than the 14% of the Canadian-born population who had a trades certificate and the 22% with a college diploma.

Nearly 101,300 recent immigrants, or 15% of the total, had a high school diploma, and 63,900, or 9%, did not have a high school diploma.

Although 23% of Canadians aged between 25 and 64 were born outside Canada, they accounted for nearly one-half (49%) of the doctorate holders in Canada and for 40% of adults with a master's degree.

About 16% of recent immigrants who had a doctorate or master's degree earned their degree at a Canadian university. About 14% of those with a doctorate earned their degree in the United States of America, but only 36% of these immigrants were born in the United States of America.

The biggest source country for master's degrees for recent immigrants, after Canada, was India; about 14% of them earned their master's degree in India. Another 10% earned their degree in China. The vast majority (97%) of these graduates were also born in these countries.

Field of study: One-quarter of university-qualified recent immigrants had a degree in Engineering

The most popular field of study among recent immigrants aged 25 to 64 having a university degree in 2006 was Engineering, followed by Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services in second place, and Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences in third, according to the census.

An estimated 25% of those who arrived between 2001 and 2006 with a university degree had graduated in Engineering. In contrast, just 6% of Canadian-born degree-holders in this age group had a degree in Engineering.

About 19% of university-qualified recent immigrants had graduated in Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services. This was just above the proportion of 16% among the Canadian-born population.

Some 6% of recent immigrants having a university degree had studied in Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services. This was three times the proportion among the Canadian-born population (2%).

Similarly, 4% of those having a university degree who arrived between 2001 and 2006 studied Physical Sciences, while only 2% of the Canadian-born population did so.

In contrast, recent immigrants accounted for small proportions in some fields of study, compared to the Canadian-born population. For example, 5% of all foreign-born degree holders aged between 25 and 64 had a degree in Education, compared with 19% of the Canadian-born population.

Aboriginal population

Defining the Aboriginal population

There are various ways to define the Aboriginal population based on the four related questions asked in the census (ethnic origin, including Aboriginal ancestors; Aboriginal identity; member of an Indian Band/First Nation; and Registered or Treaty Indian) depending on the focus and the requirements of the data user.

For the purposes of this report, two concepts are used: Aboriginal identity and Registered or Treaty Indian (See *Definitions* section of this report).

The education characteristics of the overall Aboriginal population are described using the Aboriginal identity concept. Separate data are presented for each of the three Aboriginal identity groups: Inuit, Métis and First Nations people. Data are also presented for the First Nations identity population living on and off reserve.

This report also presents education data for the Registered Indian population living on and off reserve (regardless of their Aboriginal identity).

For more information, see *How Statistics Canada Identifies Aboriginal Peoples*, <http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/12-592-XIE/12-592-XIE2007001.htm>.

The proportion of Aboriginal people with a university degree has grown

According to the 2006 Census, an estimated 555,400 adults aged 25 to 64 identified as an Aboriginal person. One in three (34%) Aboriginal persons had not completed high school and 21% had a high school diploma as their highest educational qualification.

At the same time, an estimated 44% of the Aboriginal population were postsecondary graduates in 2006. An estimated 14% had trade credentials, 19% had a college diploma and 8% had a university degree.

Because of changes in the questions, comparisons between 2006 and 2001 are only possible for university degrees. In 2006, 42,900 Aboriginal people (8%) had a university degree. This compares with 26,300, or 6%, in 2001.¹ However, Aboriginal people were still much less likely to have a university degree than non-Aboriginal people in 2006 (8% compared with 23%).² This gap is somewhat larger than it was in 2001 (6% compared with 20%).

1. Only the Indian reserves and settlements that participated in both censuses are included when comparing data between 2001 and 2006.

2. The Aboriginal population grew faster than the non-Aboriginal population between 2001 and 2006 and the fastest gain occurred among people who identified as Métis. Several factors may account for this growth, including high birth rates and more individuals identifying as an Aboriginal person. Population growth factors, as well as changes in reporting patterns, should be taken into consideration when analyzing changes in educational attainment over time.

Inuit: More than one-third of the Inuit adult population had a postsecondary qualification

Although one-half (51%) of adults aged 25 to 64 who identified as Inuit³ had not completed their high school education, more than one-third (36%) had a postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree. The highest level of educational attainment for 13% of Inuit people was a high school diploma.

An estimated 4% of Inuit had a university degree in 2006, up from 2% in 2001. A considerably larger share of Inuit (17%) had a college diploma, while 13% had a trades certificate.

Construction Trades was the most common field of study for Inuit with a trades certificate. Just over one-fifth (22%) of Inuit with a trades certificate had credentials in Construction Trades. One-quarter (26%) of Inuit college graduates studied in Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services, while close to four in 10 (39%) Inuit university graduates had a degree in Education.

Table 8 Proportion of the top five fields of study of Inuit aged 25 to 64 by selected levels of educational attainment, Canada, 2006

Trades certificate	%	College diploma	%	University degree	%
Construction Trades (46)	22	Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	26	Education (13)	39
Transportation and Materials Moving (49)	14	Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences (19)	8	Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	12
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (47)	11	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	8	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	8
Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	9	Construction Trades (46)	6	Social Sciences (45)	6
Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	7	Education (13)	6	Public Administration and Social Service Professions (44)	6

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

Métis: Half of the Métis population were postsecondary graduates

Half (50%) of the population aged 25 to 64 who identified as Métis⁴ were postsecondary graduates. The rest of the Métis population was split almost evenly between those who obtained their high school diploma (24%) and those who did not (26%).

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- Although single and multiple responses to the Aboriginal identity question are possible, only the population reporting a single response of 'Inuit' is included. Less than 1% of the Aboriginal identity population reported more than one Aboriginal identity in 2006.
 - Although single and multiple responses to the Aboriginal identity question are possible, only the population reporting a single response of 'Métis' is included. Less than 1% of the Aboriginal identity population reported more than one Aboriginal identity in 2006.

Just over one-fifth (21%) of Métis people had a college diploma, while 16% had a trades certificate. The proportion of Métis people with a university degree increased from 7% in 2001 to 9% in 2006.

The two most common trades for Métis people were Construction Trades (15%) and Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (15%). One-quarter (26%) of Métis college graduates studied in Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services, while 24% of Métis university graduates had a degree in Education.

Table 9 Proportion of the top five fields of study of Métis aged 25 to 64 by selected levels of educational attainment, Canada, 2006

Trades certificate	%	College diploma	%	University degree	%
Construction Trades (46)	15	Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	26	Education (13)	24
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (47)	15	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	19	Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	10
Personal and Culinary Services (12)	12	Engineering Technologies/Technicians (15)	8	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	8
Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	12	Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (47)	6	Social Sciences (45)	8
Precision Production (48)	11	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services (11)	5	Public Administration and Social Service Professions (44)	6

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

First Nations people: Four in 10 adults had a postsecondary qualification

More than four in ten (42%) adults aged 25 to 64 who identified as North American Indians, or First Nations people,⁵ had a postsecondary qualification in 2006. A slightly smaller proportion (38%) had less than high school and the remaining 20% had a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment.

The most common postsecondary credential held by First Nations people was a college diploma. In 2006, 17% had a college diploma, 13% had a trades certificate and 7% had a university degree. In 2001, 6% of the First Nations people had a university degree.

The most common trades certificate acquired by First Nations people was in Construction Trades (17%). Nearly one in four (24%) First Nations college graduates had a diploma in Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services, while the most common university degree earned by First Nations people was in Education (27%).

5. Although single and multiple responses to the Aboriginal identity question are possible, only the population reporting a single response of 'North American Indian' is included. Less than 1% of the Aboriginal identity population reported more than one Aboriginal identity in 2006. Respondents identified as 'North American Indians'; however the term 'First Nations people' is used throughout this report.

Table 10 Proportion of the top five fields of study of First Nations people aged 25 to 64 by selected levels of educational attainment, Canada, 2006

Trades certificate	%	College diploma	%	University degree	%
Construction Trades (46)	17	Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	24	Education (13)	27
Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	11	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	17	Public Administration and Social Service Professions (44)	10
Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (47)	11	Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences (19)	7	Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	10
Personal and Culinary Services (12)	10	Public Administration and Social Service Professions (44)	5	Social Sciences (45)	9
Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services (52)	10	Engineering Technologies/Technicians (15)	5	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (51)	6

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

The census showed differences in educational attainment on and off reserve for First Nations people and Registered Indians

The 2006 Census recorded important differences in the level of educational attainment on and off reserve for both the First Nations identity population and people who reported that they were Registered Indians⁶ (see Definitions for the geographic areas included as 'on reserve').

First Nations people living off reserve were more likely to be college or university graduates

In 2006, 50% of the First Nations people aged 25 to 64 living on reserve had not completed high school, compared to 30% of off-reserve First Nations people.

The highest level of educational attainment of about one in four (24%) of First Nations people living off reserve was a high school diploma, compared with 15% of their counterparts living on reserve.

The First Nations people living off reserve were also more likely to have a college diploma or a university degree. In 2006, 20% of First Nations people living off reserve had a college diploma, compared with 14% of their counterparts living on reserve. An estimated 9% of off-reserve First Nations people had a university degree, up from 7% in 2001. In comparison, 4% of First Nations people living on reserve had a university degree, up from 3% in 2001.

About 13% of First Nations people on reserve had a trades certificate, compared to 14% of their counterparts living off reserve.

6. The Registered Indian population includes people who reported they were Registered or Treaty Indians as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada, regardless of their Aboriginal identity.

Similar trends in educational attainment on and off reserve for the Registered Indian population

Similar trends were observed for people who reported that they were Registered Indians. One-half (50%) of Registered Indians aged 25 to 64 years living on reserve had not completed high school, compared to 31% of Registered Indians living off reserve.

Nearly one in four (23%) Registered Indians living off reserve had a high school diploma as their highest level of attainment, compared to 15% of the on-reserve Registered Indian population. As well, a larger proportion of off-reserve Registered Indians had a college diploma (19%) and a university degree (9%) than those living on reserve (14% and 4%, respectively).

The share of Registered Indians with a university degree both on and off reserve increased between 2001 and 2006. In 2006, 9% of Registered Indians living off reserve had a university degree, up from 7% in 2001. Similarly, 4% of the on-reserve Registered Indian population had a university degree in 2006, up from 3% five years earlier.

About 13% of Registered Indians had a trades certificate, regardless of whether they lived on or off reserve.

Table 11 Proportion of the First Nations people and Registered Indians aged 25 to 64 living on and off reserve by level of educational attainment, Canada, 2006

First Nations/Registered Indians	Less than high school	High school diploma	Trades certificate	College diploma	University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	University degree
	percentage					
First Nations people living ¹ on reserve	50	15	13	14	4	4
First Nations people living ¹ off reserve	30	24	14	20	4	9
Registered Indians ² living on reserve	50	15	13	14	4	4
Registered Indians ² living off reserve	31	23	13	19	4	9

Notes:

1. Includes persons who reported a North American Indian identity only.
2. Includes persons who reported being Registered or Treaty Indians as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada, regardless of their Aboriginal identity.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

Mobility

Highly educated Canadians were more mobile

About 3% of adults aged between 25 and 64, nearly 550,000 people, did not live in the same province or territory as they had five years earlier. Overall, these people had a higher level of education than the general population.

Canadians who had not completed high school accounted for 15% of the population aged between 25 and 64, and for only 11% of the population which moved to a different province or territory than the one they lived in five years earlier. In contrast, adults in this age group who had a university degree accounted for 23% of the population, and for 33% of the people who moved to another province or territory.

Census data on net interprovincial migration show that Alberta and British Columbia gained the most postsecondary graduates of all the provinces. (Net interprovincial migration flows are calculated by subtracting the number of people who left one province or territory for another from the number of people who moved to one province or territory from another.)

Table 12 Net number of persons aged between 25 and 64 who moved to a province or territory different than the one they lived in five years earlier by level of educational attainment, provinces and territories, 2006

Provinces/Territories	Level of educational attainment						Total
	Less than high school	High school diploma	Trades certificate	College diploma	University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	University degree	
Newfoundland and Labrador	220	-795	75	-45	-75	-1,230	-1,850
Prince Edward Island	140	250	115	20	10	135	670
Nova Scotia	-300	-535	-735	180	-230	-2,820	-4,440
New Brunswick	-455	-635	-670	-980	-230	-2,735	-5,705
Quebec	75	-1,400	820	-1,505	-835	-3,920	-6,765
Ontario	-3,695	-4,025	-3,925	-5,555	20	-750	-17,930
Manitoba	-1,810	-2,535	-1,390	-2,245	-810	-4,440	-13,230
Saskatchewan	-855	-2,985	-1,400	-2,330	-820	-5,415	-13,805
Alberta	6,420	9,905	5,865	9,355	2,015	10,760	44,320
British Columbia	450	2,875	1,530	3,285	1,110	9,890	19,140
Yukon Territory	-25	-50	-120	145	-30	100	20
Northwest Territories	-145	-5	-135	-335	-80	430	-270
Nunavut	-10	-75	-30	5	-45	-15	-170

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

Overall, Alberta had a net increase of 28,000 postsecondary graduates and British Columbia, a net increase of nearly 15,800. These figures excluded the people who moved outside the country and those who moved to a province or territory from another country. Nearly 7,500 of this net increase of postsecondary graduates who moved to Alberta came from Saskatchewan, followed close behind by 7,200 graduates from Ontario.

Ontario incurred a net outflow of 17,900 people aged between 25 and 64, of which 10,200 were postsecondary graduates. This was the biggest outflow of all provinces and territories and it was primarily due to trades and college graduates. In fact, nearly 5,600 college graduates and 3,900 trades graduates who lived in Ontario in 2001 lived in another province or territory in 2006. Over 8,400 of this net interprovincial out-migration of postsecondary graduates was to British Columbia, followed by 7,200 postsecondary graduates moving to Alberta. The outward migration was offset by a net increase from some provinces – notably, there was a net increase of 3,300 postsecondary graduates moving to Ontario from Quebec.

Saskatchewan had a net outflow of postsecondary graduates of 10,000, the largest among the provinces relative to its population size; more than one-half (5,400) of these out-migrants consisted of individuals with a university degree. Nearly 3,700 of this net out-migration of university graduates went to Alberta.

Quebec had a net outflow of 5,400 postsecondary graduates aged 25 to 64 between 2001 and 2006. More than 3,900 of these adults, 85%, were university graduates.

The census collected information on the location (in which province, territory or country) where Canadians earned their highest postsecondary credential. Overall, 26% of Canadian postsecondary graduates in Canada had earned their highest certificate, diploma or degree outside the province or territory in which they resided in 2006.

This rate was highest in the three territories, where there were fewer postsecondary institutions, and in British Columbia and Alberta, the two provinces that benefited most from interprovincial mobility.

Urban populations were especially highly educated

The census found that more than one-quarter (26%) of Canadians aged 25 to 64 who lived in an urban area in 2006 had a university degree. This was more than twice the proportion of 11% among those living in rural communities.

This difference was evident for all age groups. For instance, 32% of young urban adults aged between 25 and 34 had a university degree, more than twice the proportion of 13% among their rural counterparts. This is in large part due to young students moving to urban centres where there are universities.

Rural communities had a larger proportion of their population aged 25 to 64 who had a trades certificate. About 17% of rural residents had attained a trades certificate, compared with 11% of urban residents. This difference was consistent for all age groups.

Urban and rural communities were most alike in terms of the proportion of the population with a college diploma. About 20% of the adults in both rural and urban areas had a college diploma.

Provincial and territorial highlights

Newfoundland and Labrador: Lowest share of adults with a university degree among the provinces

Among the provinces, Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest share of adults aged 25 to 64 with a university degree, and the highest proportion of adults who did not have a high school diploma.

Only 14% of the adult population were university graduates in 2006, well below the national average of 23%. More than one-quarter (26%) had not finished high school, well above the national average of 15%.

About 22% of the province's adult population had a college diploma, while 20% had a high school diploma. However, 15% of Newfoundland and Labrador's population aged 25 to 64 had a trades certificate as their highest level of educational attainment. This proportion is the second highest among the provinces, behind Quebec.

More than one-third (37%) of its population of older adults aged 55 to 64 had not completed their high school. However, this proportion fell to only 15% among young adults aged 25 to 34, the widest gap among the provinces and territories. Even with such a reduction, this proportion was still higher than the national average of 11%.

The vast majority (86%) of postsecondary graduates obtained their certificate, diploma or degree in Newfoundland and Labrador. This proportion is second only to Quebec.

Prince Edward Island: One-quarter of the adult population had a college diploma

Nearly one-quarter (24%) of the adult population of Prince Edward Island had a college diploma in 2006, the highest proportion among the provinces. In the youngest adult age group, 25 to 34, the proportion was 30%.

Of these college graduates, 35% had a diploma in the Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services and the Public Administration and Social Services Professions fields.

About 18% of the province's adult population had a university degree, and 12%, a certificate in trades. About 24% had a high school diploma, while 19% had not completed high school.

Only about two-thirds (65%) of the adult population with a postsecondary qualification had graduated in the province, a relatively small proportion. About 11% of its residents studied in Nova Scotia, and 8%, in Ontario.

Nova Scotia: Highest proportion of adults with a university degree in Atlantic Canada

One-fifth (20%) of the adult population of Nova Scotia aged 25 to 64 had a university degree in 2006, the highest proportion of all four Atlantic provinces.

About 22% of the province's adult population had a college diploma, while 14% had a certificate in trades, 21% had a high school diploma, and 19% had not completed high school.

Among the Atlantic provinces, Nova Scotia also had the highest proportion (5%) of its postsecondary graduates who studied outside Canada.

Of the Canadian adult population who studied at a university in Nova Scotia, only 57% still resided in the province in 2006. This was the lowest proportion among all provinces or territories that remained in their province or territory of study. About 18% lived in Ontario in 2006, while 6% lived in each of New Brunswick and Alberta. This is in large part due to the fact that a large proportion of university students who study in Nova Scotia come from another province or a territory. According to the data from the Postsecondary Student Information System, 30% of Nova Scotia university students had a permanent residence in another province or in a territory in 2005/2006 – substantially more than the national average of 8%.

New Brunswick: Smallest proportion of postsecondary graduates of all provinces

Just over one-half (53%) of the adult population of New Brunswick aged 25 to 64 were postsecondary graduates in 2006, the smallest proportion of all provinces.

Even in the urban centers, only 58% of the adult population were postsecondary graduates. This was the smallest proportion among all four Atlantic provinces.

About 16% of New Brunswick's adult population had a university degree in 2006, 21% had a college diploma, and 12%, a trades certificate. About 26% had a high school diploma and 21% had not completed high school.

Only one in 10 (11%) young New Brunswick adults aged 25 to 34 had not completed high school in 2006, the lowest proportion in Atlantic Canada. This was a significant reduction from the rate among older generations. Among the oldest adult age group, 55 to 64, one-third (33%) had not completed high school.

New Brunswick incurred the largest net outflow of postsecondary graduates in Atlantic Canada between 2001 and 2006. More than 18,200 postsecondary graduates who lived in New Brunswick in 2001 lived in a different province or in a territory in 2006. At the same time, fewer than 13,600 postsecondary graduates moved to New Brunswick, a net outflow of nearly 4,600 persons.

Quebec: Largest proportion of adults among provinces with a trade certification

About 18% of the adult population of Quebec aged 25 to 64 had a trades certificate (including 'centres de formation professionnelle') in 2006, the largest proportion of all provinces and territories.

On the other hand, 18% of the adult population had a college diploma, the smallest proportion in the country.

About 21% of Quebec's adult population had a university degree in 2006, while about 21% had a high school diploma, and 17% had not completed high school.

Quebec was the only province or territory in which the share of the youngest population with a trades certificate was actually higher than the proportion in the oldest age group. About 19% of young adults aged 25 to 34 had a trades certificate, compared with 15% of the population aged between 55 and 64.

The vast majority (94%) of the adult population who studied in Quebec lived in the province in 2006, the largest proportion of people who have stayed in their province or territory of study in Canada. This rate increased to 98% when only the adults with a trades certificate are considered.

Ontario: Just over one-quarter of the adult population had a university degree

Just over one-quarter (26%) of the adult population aged 25 to 64 in Ontario had a university degree, the highest proportion among all provinces and territories. This is partly a reflection of the large number of immigrants who settled in Ontario.

In contrast, only 9% of its adult population had a trades certificate as their highest level of educational attainment, which was the lowest proportion in Canada.

About 22% of Ontario's adult population had a college diploma, while about 25% had a high school diploma, and 14% had not completed high school.

Moreover, while Ontario accounted for over 43% of the estimated 3,985,800 adults aged 25 to 64 in Canada who had a university degree, three in 10 Ontario adults with a university degree obtained it outside of Canada.

Only 20% of Ontario rural residents had not completed high school, the second lowest proportion of all provinces. Ontario's rural residents also had the highest rate of college graduates of all the provinces, at 24%.

Manitoba: Lowest proportion of adult population having a trades certificate in the western provinces

About 11% of Manitoba's adult 25 to 64 year old population had a trades certificate, the lowest proportion of all western provinces. One in five people having a trades certificate in Manitoba studied in the Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians field, however, second to only Alberta in terms of the proportion of trades certificate holders in this field of study.

Nearly 19% of the adult population in Manitoba had a college diploma and a similar proportion of the population (19%) had a university degree. The highest level of educational attainment was high school diploma for one out of four adults living in Manitoba (25%) while 20% of the adult population had not completed high school.

About 44% of rural Manitobans had a postsecondary education – the lowest proportion of all provinces. Nearly six in 10 (58%) residents of Manitoba who lived in urban areas were postsecondary graduates.

Saskatchewan: Just over half of the adult population had a postsecondary qualification

Just over one-half (54%) of the Saskatchewan adult population aged 25 to 64 were postsecondary graduates in 2006, the lowest proportion of all provinces and territories, after Nunavut and New Brunswick.

Only 17% of Saskatchewan's adult population had a university degree, well below the national average of 23%. Some 18% had a college diploma and 14%, a certificate in trades. About 27% had a high school diploma, while 19% had not completed high school. The proportion with a trade certification was highest west of Quebec.

About 16% of the postsecondary graduates who studied in Saskatchewan resided in Alberta in 2006. This rate increased to 21% when only those adults with a university degree were considered.

Saskatchewan had a net outflow of 5,400 university graduates between 2001 and 2006. Fewer than 11,500 university graduates who lived in Saskatchewan in 2001 had moved to another province or to a territory by 2006. Only 6,100 adults with a university degree moved to Saskatchewan.

Alberta: Biggest net inflow of postsecondary graduates

Alberta experienced a net inflow of adults with a postsecondary qualification from the other provinces or the territories between 2001 and 2006.

During this five-year period, the net interprovincial in-migration of postsecondary graduates amounted to 28,000 adults aged between 25 and 64. This was the difference between the 88,600 adults with postsecondary credentials who arrived in the province, and the estimated 60,600 who left for another province or a territory.

Four out of every 10 adults (38%) of the net in-migration had a university degree.

In 2006, about 22% of Alberta's adult population had a university degree; 22% had a college diploma; and 12% had a trades certificate. These proportions were virtually on par with the national averages. An additional 24% of the adult population had a high school diploma, while 15% did not have a high school diploma.

About 13% of the adult population who had a university degree in Alberta studied in Engineering, the highest proportion in the country. Just over one-fifth (21%) of adults who had a trades certificate were qualified in Construction Trades, the highest proportion of all provinces and territories.

British Columbia: Lowest proportion of adults who had not completed high school

Only 12% of the adult population of British Columbia had not completed high school in 2006, the lowest proportion of all provinces and territories. Conversely, 62% of adults in the province were postsecondary graduates, second to the Yukon Territory.

About 24% of British Columbia's adult population had a university degree; 20% had a college diploma; and 12% had a trades certificate. These proportions were virtually on par with the national averages. An additional 26% of the adult population had a high school diploma.

Of all the provinces, British Columbia had the highest proportion of its adult population that studied outside Canada. Just over one-fifth (22%) of adults aged between 25 and 64 who had a postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree had obtained it in another country.

British Columbia had a substantial net inflow of university graduates, about 9,900, between 2001 and 2006. This was the difference between the estimated 36,200 adults with a university degree who settled in British Columbia from other provinces or territories, and the 26,300 who moved out.

Yukon Territory: Six in 10 adults had a postsecondary qualification

Six out of every 10 adults aged 25 to 64 (63%) had a postsecondary qualification of some form in the Yukon Territory in 2006, representing the highest proportion in Canada.

This proportion was even higher in older age groups. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of adults aged between 45 and 54 were postsecondary graduates, as were 64% of those aged 55 to 64.

About 22% of the Yukon Territory's adult population had a university degree; 24% had a college diploma; and 13% had a trades certificate. An additional 21% of the adult population had a high school diploma, while 15% did not have a high school diploma.

About 2,600 adults aged between 25 and 64 in the Yukon Territory lived in a different territory or in a province in 2001. Two-thirds (69%) of these newcomers to the territory had a postsecondary qualification.

Northwest Territories: One-fifth of the adult population had a university degree

One-fifth (20%) of the adult population of the Northwest Territories had a university degree in 2006. About 24% had a college diploma, while 12% had a trades certificate. An additional 19% of the adult population had a high school diploma, while 23% did not have a high school diploma.

Over one in five (22%) postsecondary graduates in the Northwest Territories studied in Alberta. In fact, 37% of the adult population in the Northwest Territories that had a university degree did not live in the territory five years earlier. Half of these interprovincial in-migrants to the Northwest Territories came from Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.

Nunavut: Nearly half of the adult population did not have a high school diploma

About 46% of Nunavut's adult population aged 25 to 64 had not completed high school in 2006, well above the national average of 15%. Only 10% had a high school diploma as their highest level of educational attainment, which was also well off the national average of 24%.

About 13% of the adult population had a university degree, 19% had a college diploma and 9% had a trades certificate.

Older adults aged between 45 and 54 had the highest levels of educational attainment in the territory. Nearly one-half (49%) of the adults in this age group were postsecondary graduates, compared with only 44% for the adult population aged between 25 and 64.

Among university graduates in Nunavut, one in three had a degree in Education. Also, one-third (35%) of adults with a trades certificate were qualified in Construction Trades, the highest proportion of all provinces and territories.

Census metropolitan areas (CMAs)

The majority of university graduates lived in urban areas

Some 69% of the 25 to 64 year olds lived in a census metropolitan area in 2006, according to the census. These large urban areas accounted for 83% of the Canadian population having a university degree and only 59% of those having a trades certificate.

The proportion of adults aged 25 to 64 with a university degree surpassed the national average of 23% in 16 of the 33 census metropolitan areas. About 35% of the population of Ottawa - Gatineau in this age group had a university degree, the highest proportion of all census metropolitan areas. It was followed by Toronto, where university graduates represented 34% of the population, and Calgary and Vancouver, both at 31%.

Conversely, the proportion with a trades certificate exceeded the national average in only eight census metropolitan areas: Saguenay, Trois-Rivières, Sherbrooke, Québec, Kelowna, Montréal, Abbotsford and Edmonton.

The proportion of the adult population with a college diploma tended to be above the national average in the smaller census metropolitan areas, and below the national average in the larger census metropolitan areas.

The proportion of the adult population which did not have a high school diploma was higher than the national average in only three census metropolitan areas: Greater Sudbury / Grand Sudbury, Abbotsford and Brantford.

Toronto: Two-thirds of the adult population were postsecondary graduates

An estimated 1,879,000 adults aged 25 to 64 in the census metropolitan area of Toronto had a postsecondary qualification of some form in 2006. They accounted for two-thirds (66%) of the entire adult population in this age group in Toronto.

Of these individuals, an estimated 962,200 had a university degree. They accounted for one-third (34%) of the adult population in Toronto, far above the national average of 23%.

About 19% of adults in Toronto had a college diploma, while 7% had a trades certificate. Both proportions were below the national averages – notably, the proportion of Canadians that had a college diploma was 20% and the proportion that had a trades certificate was 12%.

Only about 6% of postsecondary graduates in Toronto had completed their highest certificate, diploma or degree in a province other than Ontario or in a territory. However, one-third (33%) earned their credential outside Canada. The remaining (61%) studied within Ontario.

Among adults in Toronto who studied outside Canada, 14% had completed their studies in India, 10%, in the Philippines, 9%, in the United States of America and 8%, in China.

Montréal: More than a quarter of the adult population had a university degree

Over 1.3 million adults in the census metropolitan area of Montréal aged between 25 and 64 were postsecondary graduates, representing two-thirds (65%) of the population in this age group.

Just over one-quarter (27%) of the adult population, about 541,900, had a university degree. Slightly more than 17%, or 354,400 adults, had a college diploma, while 15%, or 301,700, had a trades certificate (including 'centres de formation professionnelle'). The proportion of adults with a trades certificate (including 'centres de formation professionnelle') was the highest among the five largest census metropolitan areas.

Of the adults with a postsecondary qualification in Montréal, 82% earned their credential within Quebec, 15% earned it outside the country and only 3% graduated in a province or territory outside Quebec.

Of the nearly 200,000 adults of the Montréal CMA who studied outside Canada, 13% studied in France, the most important source country, followed by the United States of America (7%) and Algeria, Romania and China (6% each).

Vancouver: Three in 10 adults had a university degree

Just under 800,000 adults aged 25 to 64 in the census metropolitan area of Vancouver were postsecondary graduates in 2006. They accounted for two-thirds (66%) of the adult population in this age group.

More than 370,000 adults in this age group (31%) had a university degree while 19% had a college diploma and 9% had a trades certificate.

Slightly more than 245,000 postsecondary graduates aged between 25 and 64 in Vancouver studied outside Canada. They accounted for 31% of the postsecondary-educated population of Vancouver. An additional 14% of this population, about 112,400, studied in provinces and territories other than British Columbia.

Among those who studied outside Canada, an estimated 33,000 (13%) studied in China, 12%, in the Philippines and 11%, in the United States of America.

Of the adult population that attained its highest postsecondary qualification in another province, 42% studied in Ontario, and 21%, in Alberta.

Definitions

Aboriginal identity: Refers to those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian, as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada, and/or those who reported they were members of an Indian band or First Nation.

CEGEP: A postsecondary education institution exclusive to the province of Quebec in Canada. CEGEP is a French acronym for *Collège d'enseignement général et professionnel*, meaning 'College of General and Vocational Education.'

Highest certificate, diploma or degree (Highest level of educational attainment): This is a derived variable obtained from the educational qualifications questions, which asked for all certificates, diplomas and degrees to be reported. There is an implied hierarchy in this variable (secondary school graduation, registered apprenticeship and trades, college, university) which is loosely tied to the 'in-class' duration of the various types of education. However, at the detailed level, a registered apprenticeship graduate may not have completed a secondary school certificate or diploma, nor does an individual with a master's degree necessarily have a certificate or diploma above the bachelor's degree level. Therefore, although the sequence is more or less hierarchical, it is a general rather than an absolute gradient measure of academic achievement.

Less than high school: Encompasses the persons who have no certificate, diploma or degree.

Location of study: This variable indicates the province, territory (in Canada) or country (outside Canada) where the highest certificate, diploma or degree was obtained. It is only reported for individuals who had completed a certificate, diploma or degree above the secondary (high) school level.

Major field of study – Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP): Refers to the main subject area of the person's highest certificate, diploma or degree after high school.

On-reserve population: The 'on-reserve' population is defined according to criteria established by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). On reserve population includes all people living in the following census subdivision (CSD) types or communities affiliated with First Nations or Indian bands: Indian reserve / *Réserve Indienne* (IRI), Indian settlement / *Établissement indien* (S-É), Indian Government District (IGD), *Terres réservées aux Cris* (TC), *Terres réservées aux Naskapis* (TK), Nisga'a village (NVL), Nisga'a land (NL) and Teslin land (TL), as well as selected CSDs of various other types that are northern communities in Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon Territory, which have large concentrations of Registered Indians. All other CSDs are considered to be 'off reserve.'

Postsecondary qualification: Encompasses the persons who have acquired a trades certificate, a college diploma or a university certificate or diploma.

Registered or Treaty Indian: Refers to those persons who reported they were registered under the *Indian Act* of Canada. Treaty Indians are persons who are registered under the *Indian Act* and can prove descent from a band that signed a treaty.

University degree: Encompasses the persons who have a bachelor's degree, a university certificate or diploma above bachelor level, a degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry, a master's degree or an earned doctorate.

Urban areas: Urban areas have a population of at least 1,000 and no fewer than 400 persons per square kilometre. They include both census metropolitan areas and urban non-census metropolitan areas.

Urban census metropolitan area (CMA): Area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A census metropolitan area must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core.

Notes to reader:

Rounding: Due to the nature of random rounding, counts may vary slightly between different census products, such as the analytical document, highlight tables and topic-based tabulations.

To obtain a copy of the maps released, refer to the following link:

<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/analysis/education/tables.cfm#maps>.

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