



Education of Victorians

This information examines the educational profile of Victoria residents and compares educational levels of Victoria's population with past census data. Victoria's population by major field of study is profiled to provide a picture of the educational background of Victoria residents. Victoria's education profile is also compared to the Capital Region.

From the 2006 Census information, Statistics Canada provides us with valuable information to better understand our community. Objective statistical information provides a solid foundation for informed decisions by elected representatives, businesses, unions and non-profit organizations, as well as individual residents.

Residents of the city are well educated and are on par with the levels of education found in the Capital Region. Seventy percent of residents have obtained some level of post secondary education. Of these, 28% hold a bachelor's degree and a further 11% hold a masters degree or above.

Since 1991, the high school drop out rate in Victoria has decreased by 8% going from 22% in 1991 to 14% in 2006. The percentage of people obtaining a bachelor degree or higher has more than doubled moving from 15% to 39% of the population.

What is the educational profile of City of Victoria residents?

	City of Victoria	% of total population	Capital Region	% of total population
Total population by highest certificate, diploma or degree (15 yrs of age and older)	67,700		291,850	
No certificate, diploma or degree	9,215	14%	44,560	15%
High school certificate or equivalent	18,305	27%	81,350	28%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	6,015	9%	30,165	10%
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	11,690	17%	51,760	18%
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	3,500	5%	14,755	5%
University certificate or degree	18,985	28%	69,250	24%

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS, 2006

Major Field of Study

2006 Post secondary qualifications by major field of study by neighbourhood

25 to 64 years with post-secondary qualifications by major field of study	Victoria	Burnside/ Gorge	Downtown	Fairfield	Fernwood	Gonzales	Harris Green	Hillside/ Quadra	James Bay	North Jubilee	North Park	Oaklands	Rockland	South Jubilee	Victoria West
Education	7%	4%	5%	8%	9%	9%	3%	5%	7%	9%	3%	5%	5%	7%	3%
Visual and performing arts, and communications technologies	5%	5%	7%	6%	6%	5%	4%	3%	6%	4%	7%	4%	4%	4%	3%
Humanities	9%	6%	10%	11%	8%	9%	6%	8%	9%	10%	7%	9%	10%	9%	7%
Social and behavioural sciences and law	17%	12%	13%	21%	15%	17%	17%	12%	18%	15%	16%	15%	21%	17%	14%
Business, management and public administration	17%	20%	14%	16%	16%	18%	25%	18%	17%	16%	15%	14%	17%	16%	14%
Physical and life sciences and technologies	4%	1%	6%	5%	5%	7%	1%	4%	2%	3%	2%	5%	6%	6%	4%
Mathematics, computer and information sciences	5%	6%	4%	4%	6%	4%	4%	8%	5%	2%	9%	5%	4%	9%	8%
Architecture, engineering, and related technologies	13%	18%	14%	10%	14%	10%	17%	15%	11%	14%	15%	15%	13%	10%	32%
Agriculture, natural resources and conservation	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	3%	1%	1%	2%	4%	4%	2%	1%	3%	2%
Health, parks, recreation and fitness	15%	17%	13%	14%	13%	13%	11%	17%	15%	16%	16%	19%	15%	14%	9%
Personal, protective and transportation services	15%	9%	13%	14%	5%	4%	10%	7%	7%	5%	5%	7%	4%	4%	5%

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS, 2006

Victoria residents have been educated in a number of different fields. The highest percentage of degrees were found in social and behavioural sciences and law (17%), and business, management and public administration (17%). The next most popular fields of education was health, parks, recreation and fitness (15%) and personal, protective and transportation services (15%). Architecture, engineering and related technologies (13%) were also popular fields of study. The census categories of major field of study as well as the age categories have been modified since 2001 and does not allow for any census time period comparisons.

More women than men in Victoria have post secondary qualifications. Comparison of categories shows most are fairly balanced between men and women. The most disparate categories by gender occur in: education; and health, parks, recreation and fitness where women outnumber the men by almost 3:1 in both categories. Men continue to choose mathematics and computer information sciences almost twice as often as women and they virtually dominate in architecture, engineering and related technologies.

How do male and female post secondary qualifications compare?

Major areas of study by gender in 2006	Male	Female
% of population 25 – 64 with post secondary qualifications	46%	54%
Education	27%	73%
Humanities	42%	58%
Social and behavioural sciences and law	41%	59%
Business, management and public administration	41%	59%
Mathematics, computer and information sciences	64%	36%
Architecture, engineering, and related technologies	89%	11%
Health, parks, recreation and fitness	21%	79%

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS, 2006

Note: Percentage is based on total population of males and females with post secondary qualifications by major field of study.

Where were Victoria residents educated?

Total population 25 to 64 years with postsecondary qualification by location of study	30,770	39%
Inside Canada	26,300	85%
Newfoundland and Labrador	155	1%
Prince Edward Island	25	0%
Nova Scotia	405	2%
New Brunswick	120	0%
Quebec	635	2%
Ontario	3,870	13%
Manitoba	515	2%
Saskatchewan	455	2%
Alberta	1,845	7%
British Columbia	18,270	69%
Yukon Territory	10	0%
Outside Canada	4,465	15%

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS, 2006

The majority of Victoria residents were educated in British Columbia (69%), with a small number being educated in Ontario (12.5%) and outside of Canada (15%).