

BC International Student Survey Report (2015)



B.C.'s INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION STRATEGY

- BC Jobs Plan goal - increase international students by 50% by 2016
- Two-way global flow of students, educators and ideas

GOALS

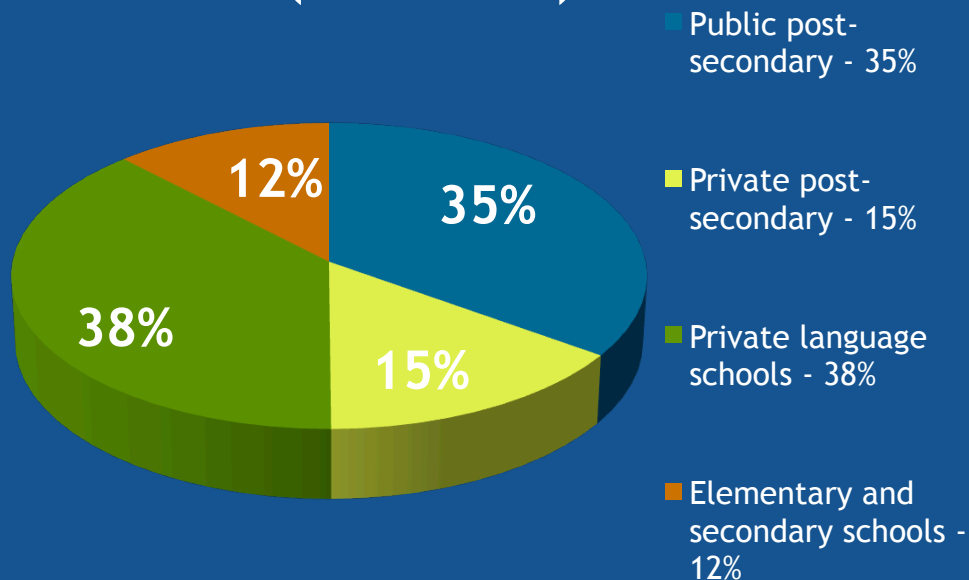
Globally
oriented
education
system

Quality life
and
learning
experiences

Maximize
the
benefits
for B.C.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

114,600 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (2013/14)

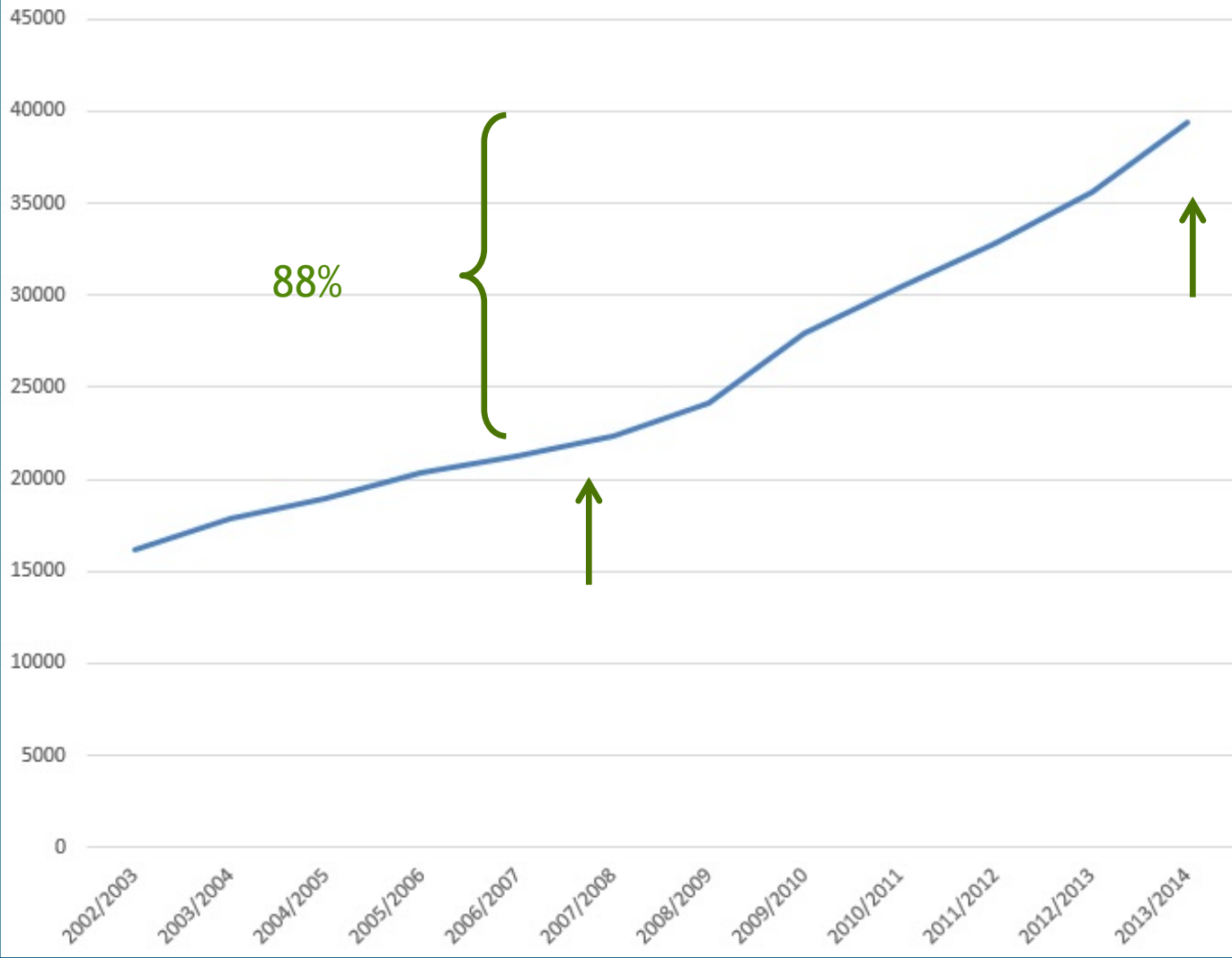


TOP SOURCE COUNTRIES

1. China
 2. South Korea
 3. Japan
 4. Brazil ↑ 62% since 2009
 5. Saudi Arabia
 6. Mexico
 7. India ↑ 219% since 2009
 8. Taiwan
 9. United States
 10. Switzerland
- 49%

BC ATTRACTS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS PER CAPITA IN CANADA

Unique Headcount of International Students in BC Public Post-secondary by Year



Source: STP Pivot Table (2015-06-01)

Context

(ALMD) collaborated with BC Stats to conduct a web-based International Student Survey. This was the first time that the Government of British Columbia had surveyed so many international students studying in public post-secondary institutions. Twenty-three out of 25 public post-secondary institutions provided a cohort-data file for 18,052 international students eligible to participate in this project. The response rate was 29 per cent. The response rate showed international students were quite receptive to sharing information about their international experiences in British Columbia. This report only presents overall results and does not focus on institutional-level results. For in-depth analysis, each institution participating in the survey received a data file and open-ended responses for the students who attended the institution.

Student Demographics

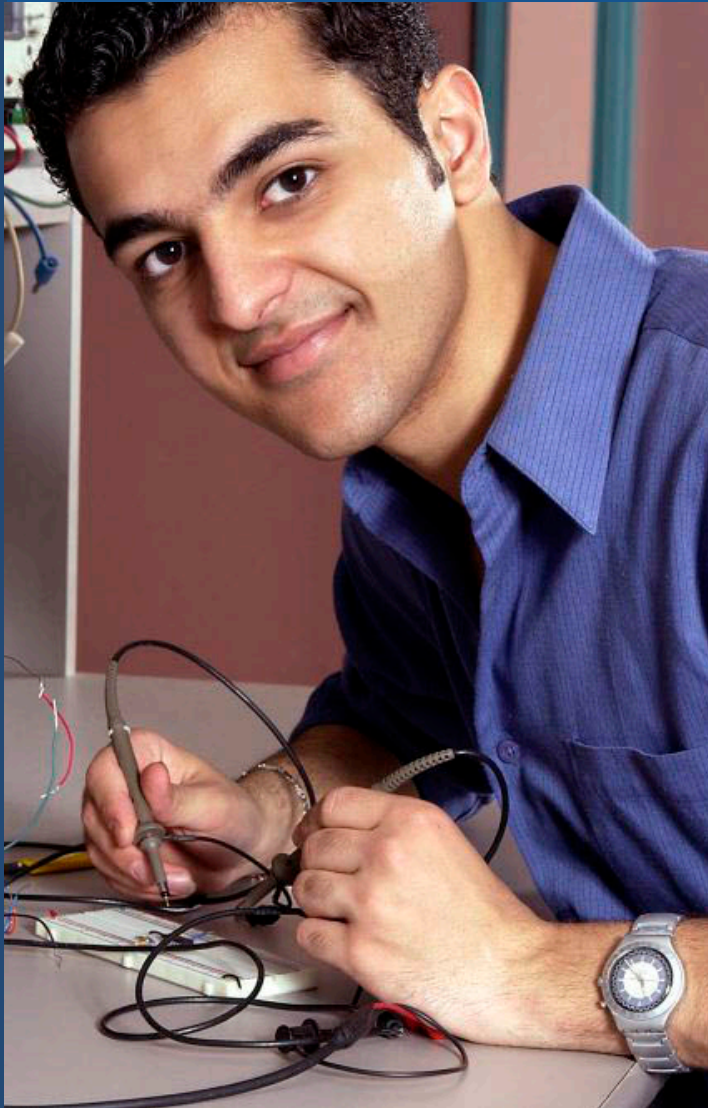
The results from the International Student Survey (ISS) indicate that nearly half of



BCStats



Key Findings (2008)



- Why study abroad?
 - Different culture, Quality of Canadian programs, Learn English.
- Who provided information?
 - Friends, Websites, Agents.
- Information easy to access and not difficult to follow:
 - Admission processes, Program availability, Course information, Visa requirements.
- Info on housing, financial assistance and campus culture more complicated.

Key findings (2008) (cont.)

- Over 50% planned to work in BC after studies.
- About 1/3 each planned further study in BC or work in their home country.



- Two thirds were satisfied or very satisfied with their BC post-secondary experience, mostly with their curriculum, instructors and service.

Objectives (2014)



- Replicate key metrics
- Maintain response rate
- Provide useful data to participating institutions
- Utilize existing sources for demographics and educational, labour force outcomes
- Attempt to incorporate private post-secondary institutions

Collaboration

- Sixteen member Steering Committee
 - Ministry of Advanced Education
 - BC Council for International Education
 - PSI International Offices
 - PSI Institutional Analysis Offices
 - PSI Student Services
 - PSI Registrars
 - Private institutions
 - BCCAT Co-Chairs



Learning

Committee contributed to informed decision making around:

Contract requirements

Cohort specifications and survey design

Language of delivery, cover information

Survey awareness, promotion among students

Survey awareness, promotion at institutions

Key analytical issues for final report

Demographic comparison to previous survey

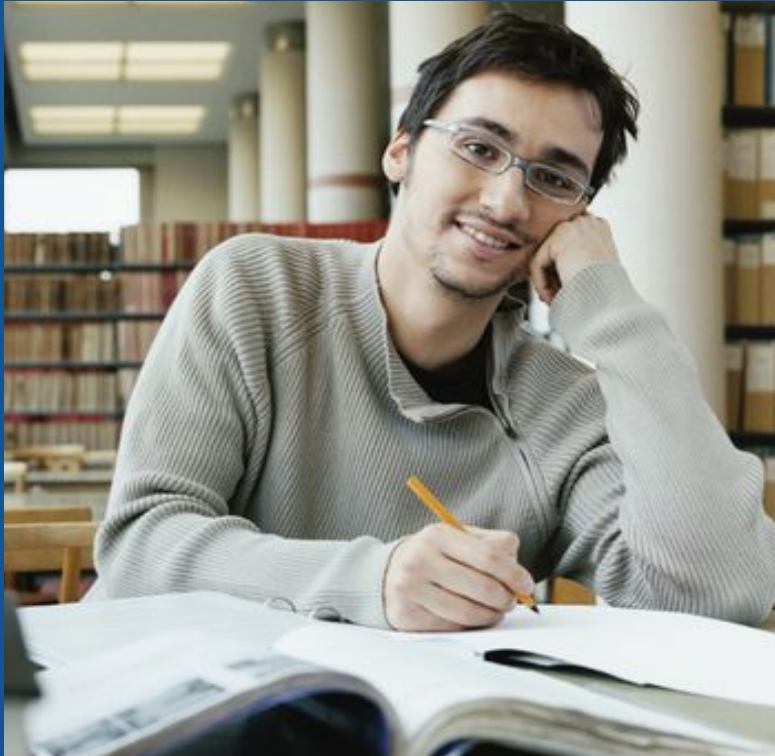
	<u>2014</u>	<u>STP</u>	<u>2008</u>
Respondents	9214		5179
18-24	64%		64%
Female	51%		51%
In BC for less than one year	43%		41%
Program level:			
Graduate	23%	(16%)	27%
Undergraduate	67%	(73%)	48%
Developmental (ESL)	6%	(14%)	9%
Other/Unknown	3%		16%
Visited BC before deciding to study here	20%		26%

Graduate Students



- 2,158 graduate students surveyed
 - Over two-thirds were in Engineering and Applied Sciences programs or Arts and Sciences
 - Access to program of study and quality of education were most important for this group.
 - About 90% satisfied with overall experience, similar to UGs
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- Grad and UG students had the most experience in BC both as students and prior visitors.
 - Options for living arrangements and financial assistance and scholarships were most difficult for the group to learn about before arriving.

Undergraduate Students



- 6,195 undergraduate students surveyed
- 71% attending a lower mainland institution
- Considerably younger than graduate students (22 yrs vs 27 yrs)
- About two-thirds were in Arts and Science or Business and Management programs.
- 20% lived on campus, similar to graduates

- Like Grads, education quality and program access were the most important factors in deciding to study here were. Safety was also important for UGs.
- 71% working or planning to work, 82% plan to work after studies - even more for those who plan to stay in BC.

Developmental Students

- 555 developmental students surveyed
- This group of students was the youngest, although not much younger than UGs
- Most important factor in deciding to study here was safety and security
- Almost 90% had been at their institution for under a year
- Generally more likely to have challenges finding information prior to starting their studies than Grads or UGs
- Least likely to pursue work during their studies (45%)
- Most likely to report they intended to return to their home country, and least likely to report they planned to work after their studies.



Stay tuned...



- Public report will be released in Fall 2015
- Look forward to more detailed analysis of:
 - Key information sources and decision to study in BC
 - Previous attendance at BC K-12
 - Arrival experiences (orientation, adjustment, sources of support)
 - Perceived strains including cost
 - Work plans and future plans

Thank You!

