



## The Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE)

- A national membership organization dedicated to the internationalization of education and the expansion of educational partnerships between Canada and countries across the globe
- Undertakes a broad range of advocacy, research, professional development for our 150+ members
- Also manages international scholarship programs and international capacity development projects



**CBIE**  
*2018*  
OTTAWA  
18-21 NOV

- Discover the latest trends in international education
- 850+ international education professionals
- 30+ countries
- 70+ sessions & 35+ exhibitors
- English and French sessions
- Prominent Canadian and international speakers



# The International Student Voice

- International student numbers in Canada reached record highs in 2017, creating greater impact in our interconnected world
- International students in Canada support the excellence and innovation of Canada's education and cultural landscape
- CBIE is pleased to amplify the voices of international students in Canada to celebrate their experiences and their aspirations, and support our sector in the provision of quality education experiences for all students in Canada



## Our time together

- CBIE ISS 101
- International students in Canada: The latest
- National survey results
- Blue skies



# CBIE International Student Survey 2018

- Uniquely Canadian
  - 46 universities, colleges and polytechnic institutes across 10 provinces
- February–April
- Full degree/diploma/certificate seeking international students
- Shared data
- 14,000 Respondents / 10 provinces
- 17% Response rate
- Comprehensive, national, bilingual
- 2012–2015, 2018 → 2020



## Survey Themes 2018

- Respondent Overview
- Overall Student Satisfaction
- Student Decision Making
- Pre-Arrival Activities
- Academic Experience
- Social and Integration
- Housing
- Institutional Support Services
- Safety
- Finances and Employment
- Post-Study Plans
- Indigenous Topics and Culture
- Dependents



# Participating Institutions

Assiniboine Community College	King's at Western University	Mount Allison University	Southern Alberta Institute of Technology	University of New Brunswick	Western University
Bishop's University	LaSalle College	Mount Saint Vincent University	St. Thomas University	University of Northern British Columbia	
Bow Valley College	Langara College	New Brunswick Community College	Thompson Rivers University	University of Ottawa	
Camosun College	Laurentian University / Université Laurentienne	Niagara College	Université de Moncton	University of Prince Edward Island	
Collège communautaire de Nouveau Brunswick	Loyalist College	Nipissing University	Université de Montréal	University of Regina	
College of New Caledonia	MacEwan University	Northern Alberta Institute of Technology	Université de Saint-Boniface	University of Saskatchewan	
Concordia University	McGill University	Royal Roads University	Université du Québec à Rimouski	University of Victoria	
Fanshawe College	McMaster University	Saskatchewan Polytechnic	Université Laval	Vancouver Community College	
Institut national de la recherche scientifique	Memorial University of Newfoundland	Simon Fraser University	University of Alberta	Vancouver Island University	



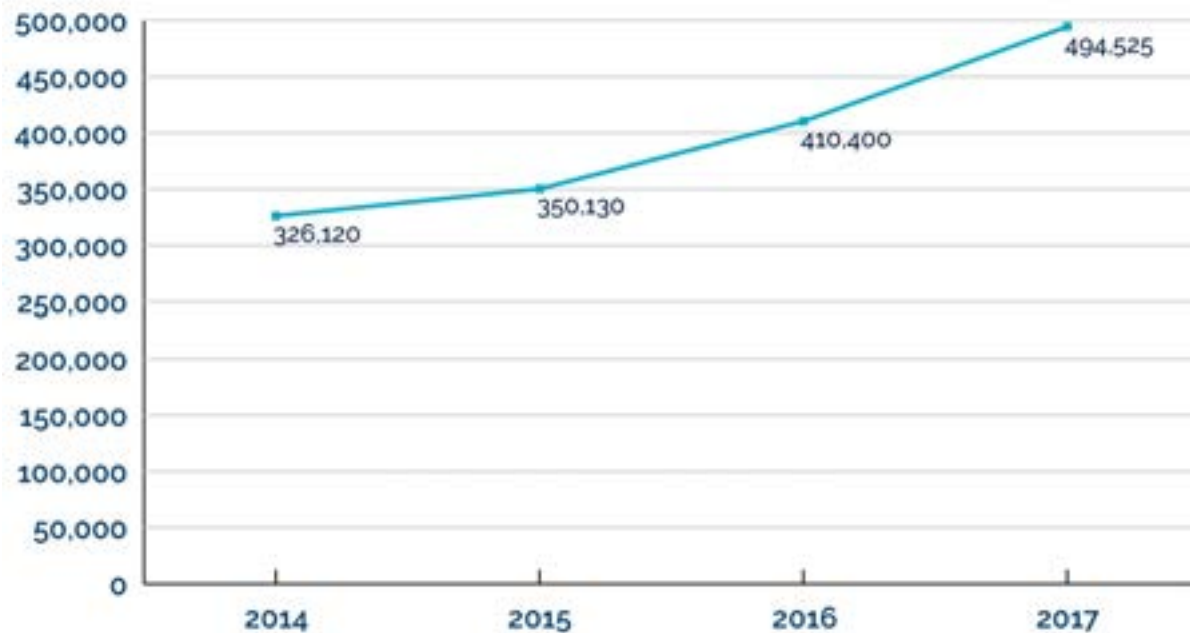
# International Students in Canada







## International students in Canada by year, all levels of study (2014-2017)



**119%**

increase in  
international  
students in  
Canada between  
2010-2017

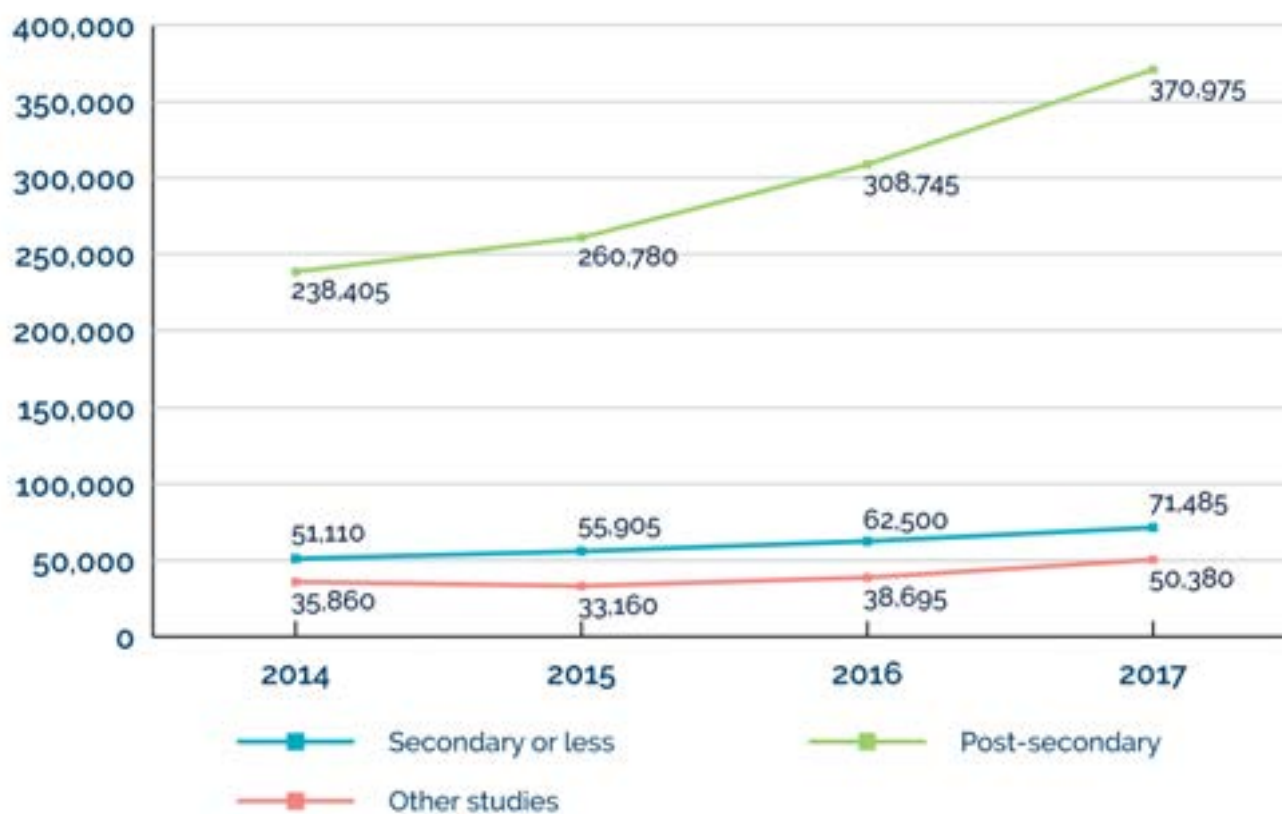


**20%**

increase  
over the  
previous  
year



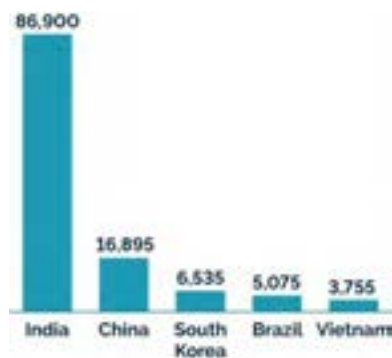
Level of study of international students in Canada (2014-2017)



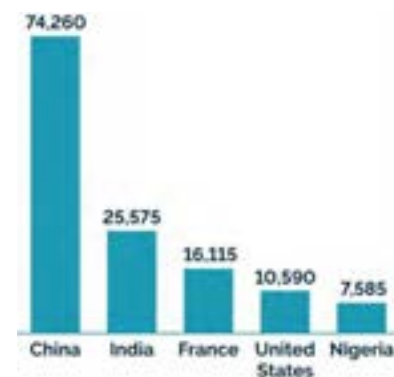


# Intl' post-secondary students in Canada

## College



## University

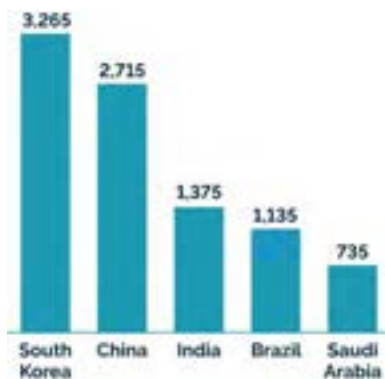


Level of study	
CEGEP	6,415
College	151,380
University	211,795
Others	1,120
Total post-secondary	370,710

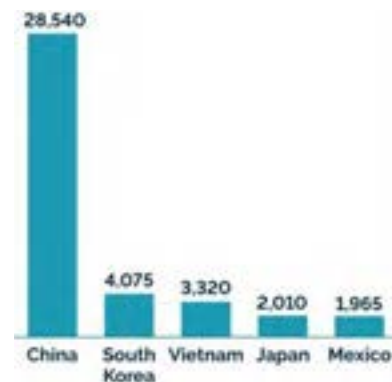


# Intl' students in Canada at secondary or less level

## Elementary



## Secondary



Level of study	
Primary	15,190
Secondary	56,160
Total secondary or less	71,350



# Province/territory of studies



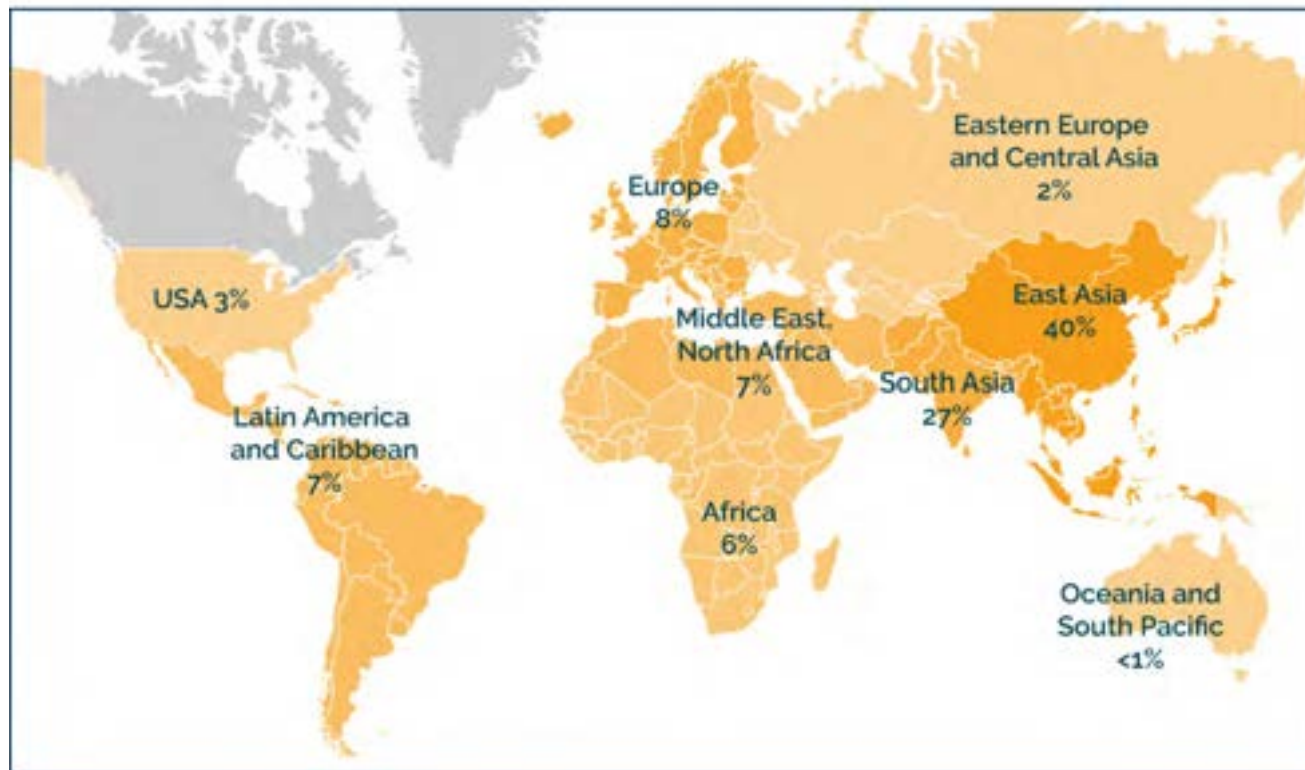


## Top 15 receiving census metropolitan areas (CMAs)



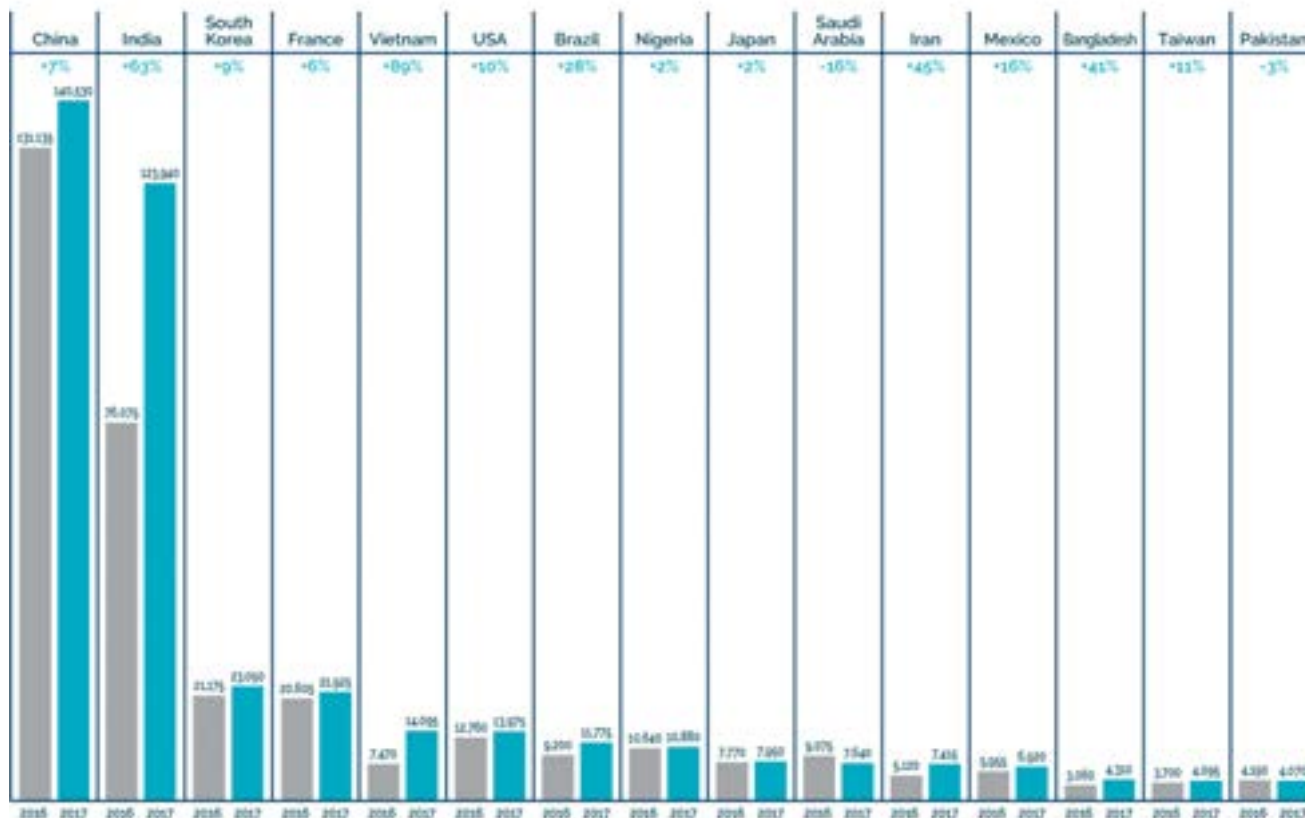


## Regional breakdown of international student population in Canada (2017)





## International students in Canada, top 15 countries of origin (2016, 2017)





# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY

2018



Canadian Bureau for  
International Education

*learning beyond borders*



# Respondent Overview



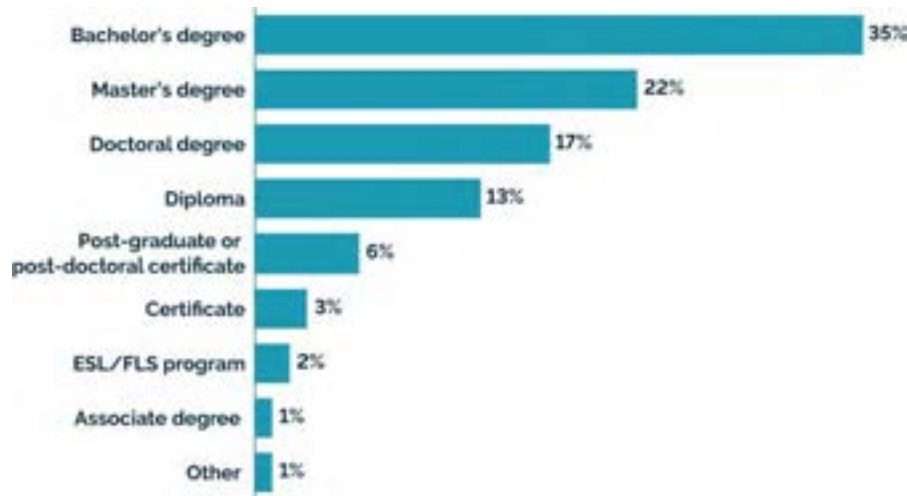


# Province of study of respondents

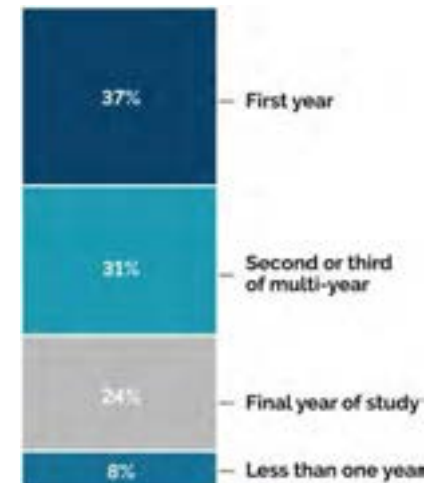




# Degree, diploma or certificate sought

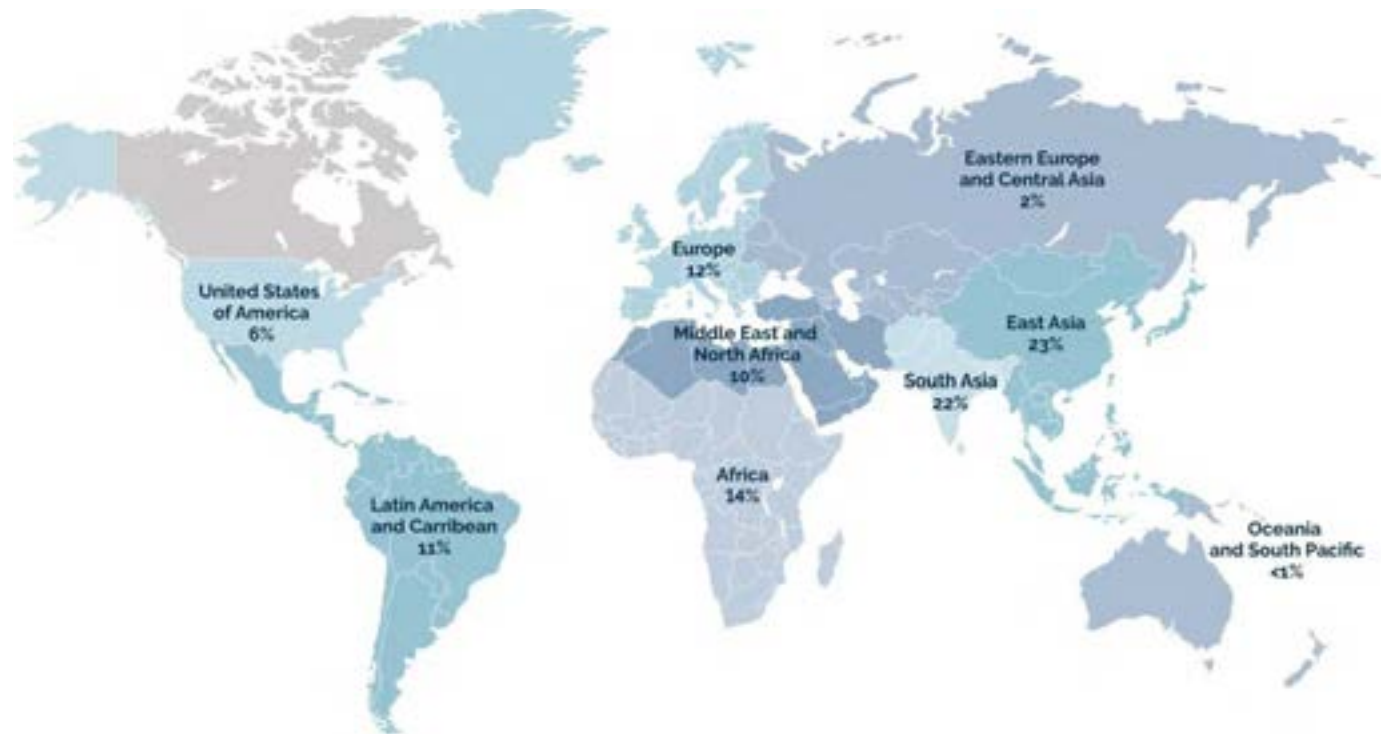


# Year of study



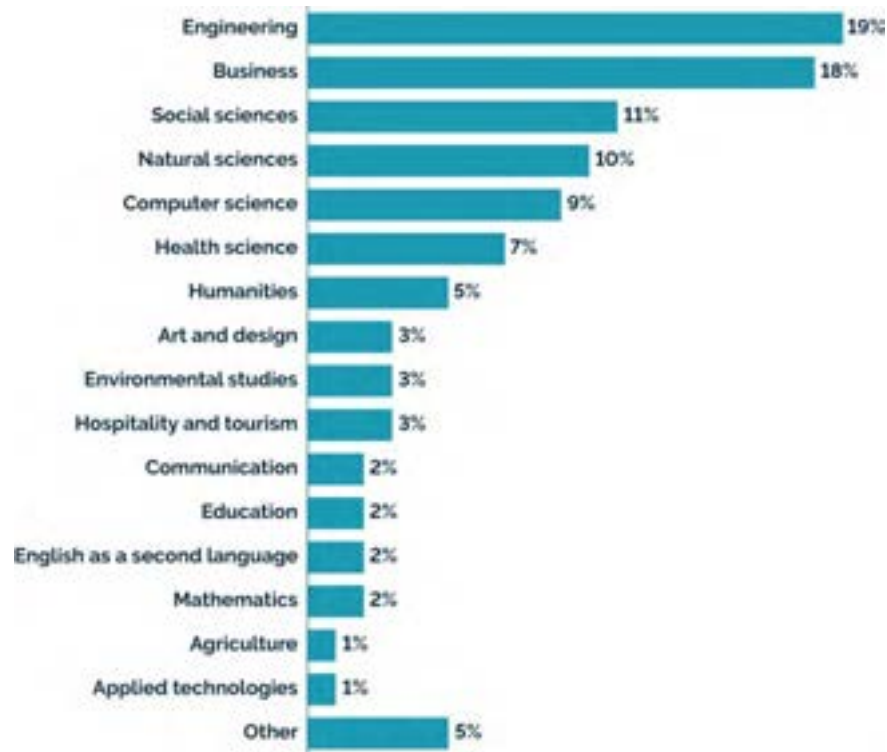


# Region of origin of respondents



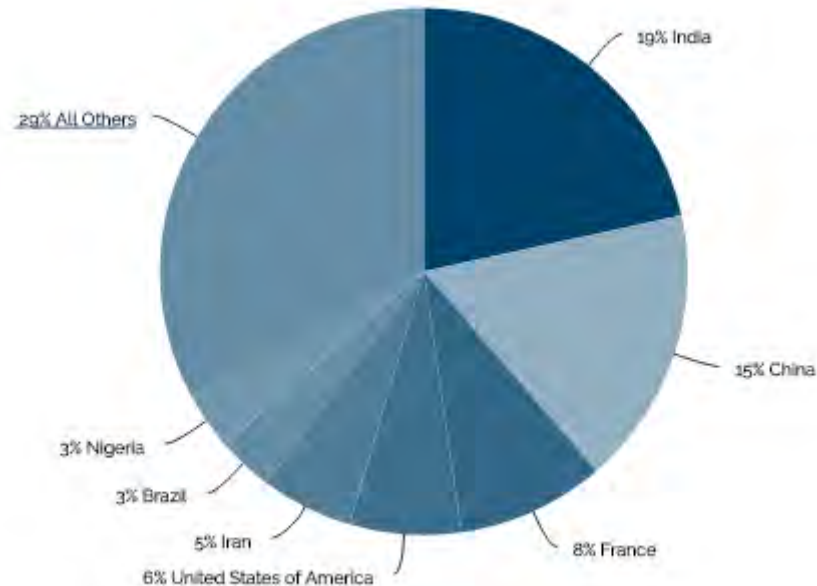


# Major field of study



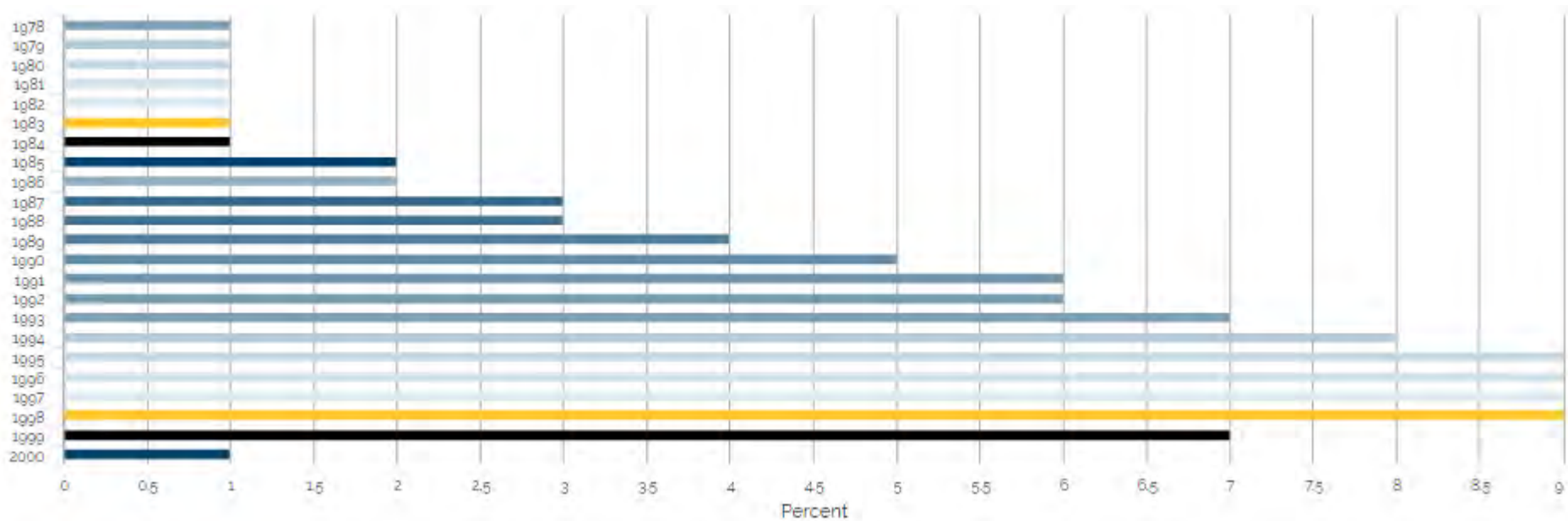


# What is your country of citizenship?





# What is your year of birth?

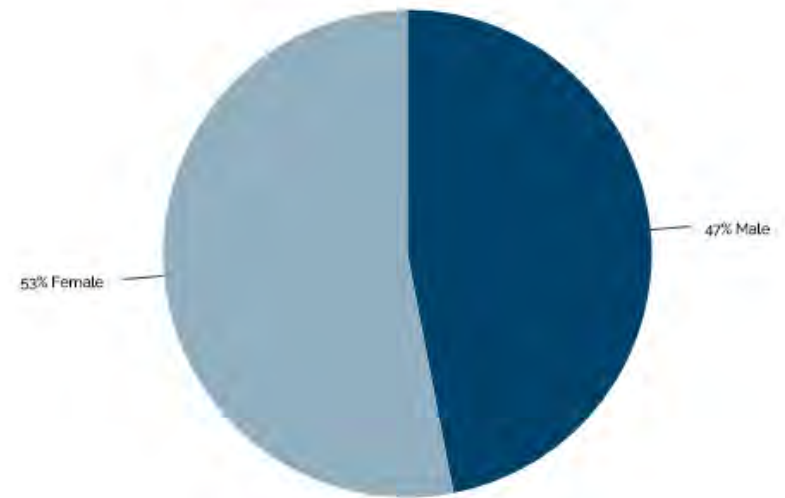
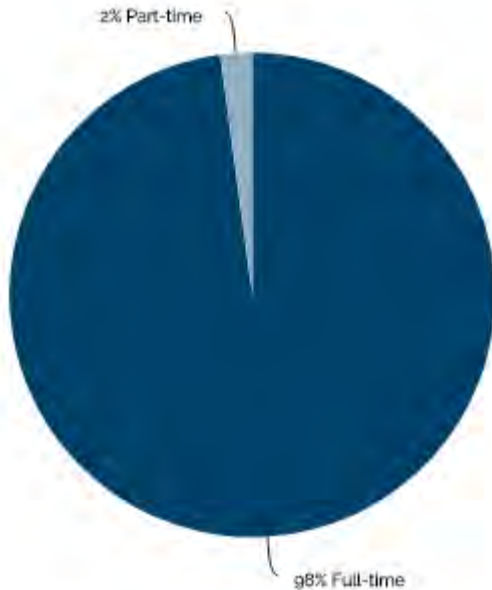






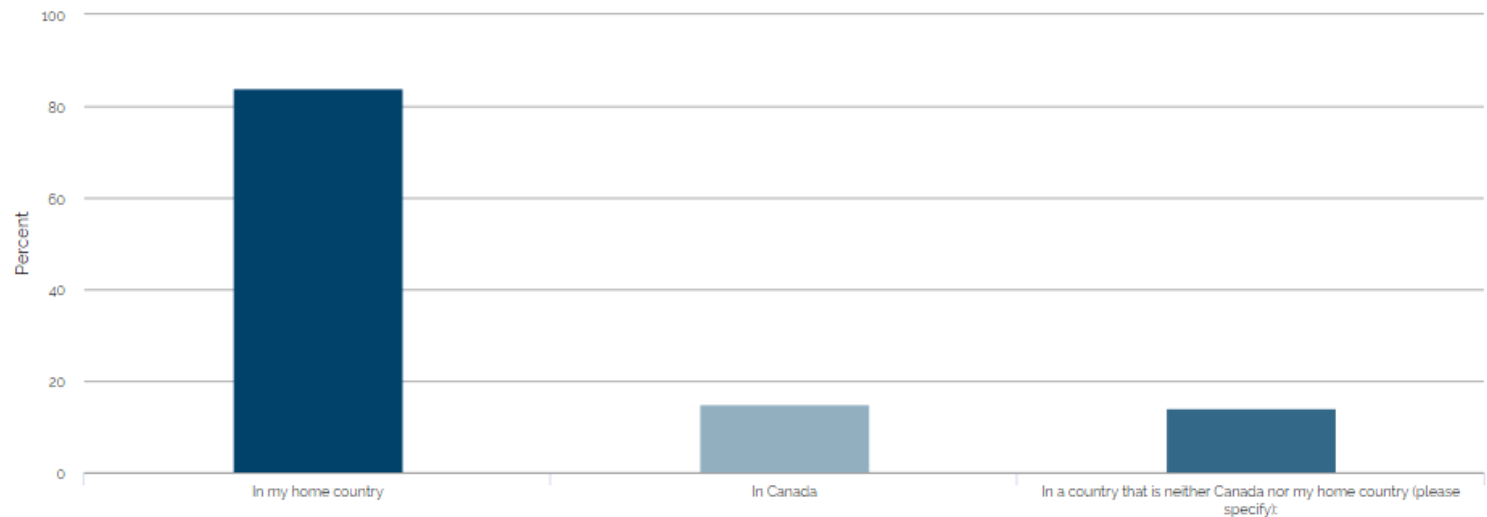
Are you enrolled as a full-time or part-time student?

What is your gender?





# Prior to studying at your current Canadian institution, where have you studied?



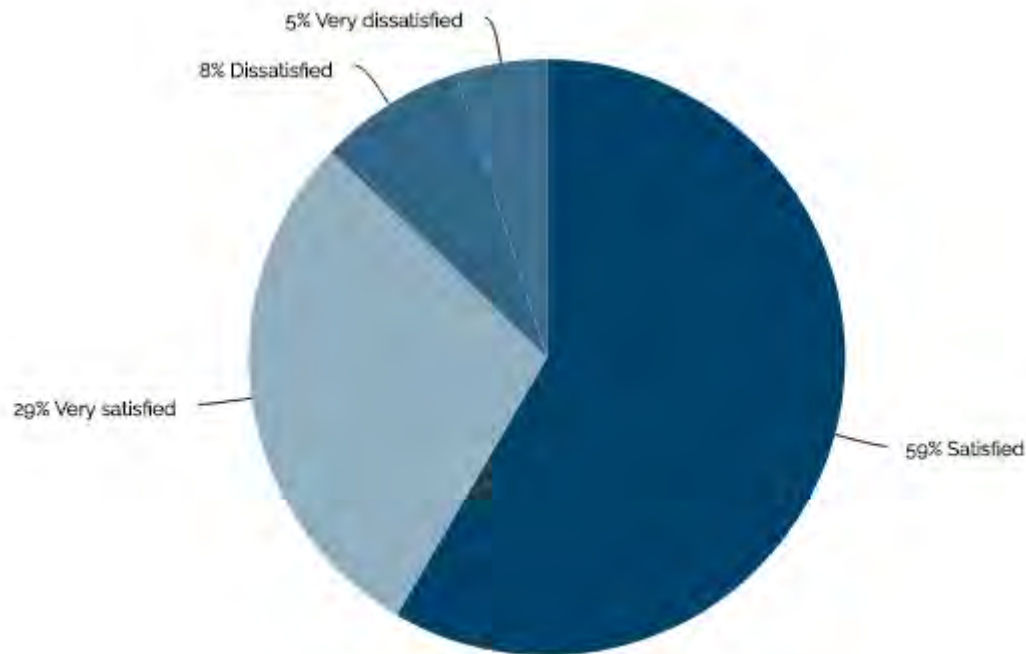


# Overall Student Satisfaction



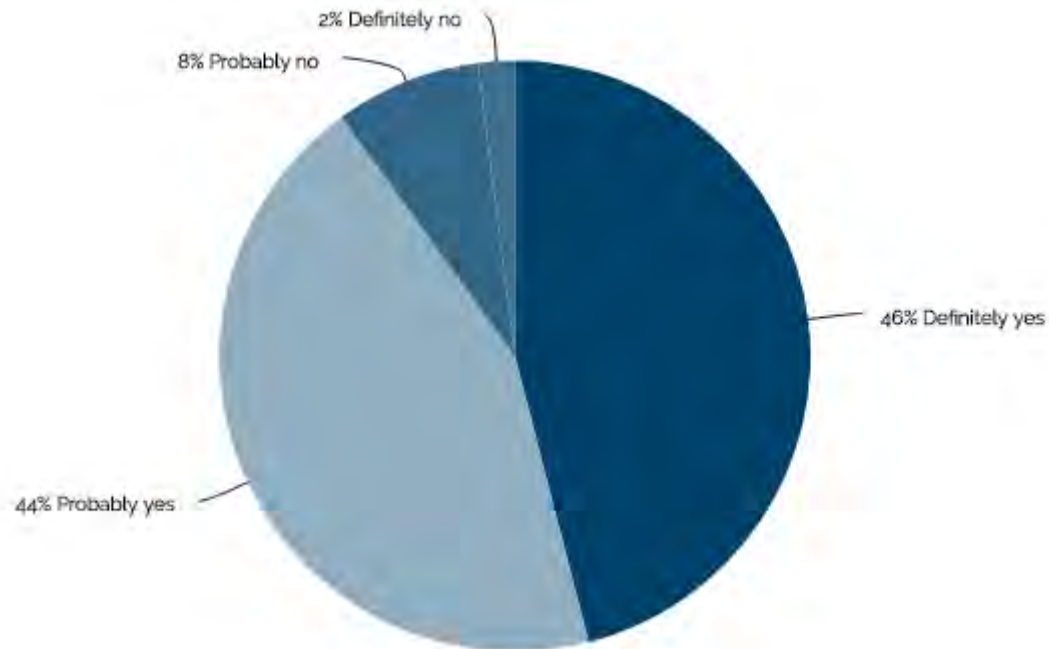


# Overall how satisfied are you with your current program of studies?



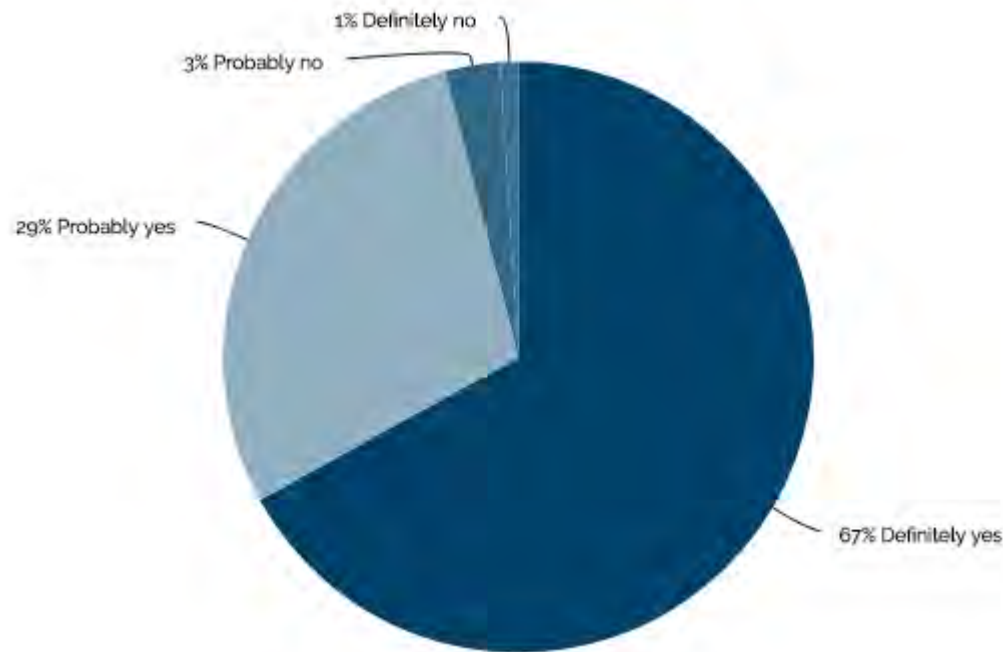


# Would you recommend this institution to other international students?



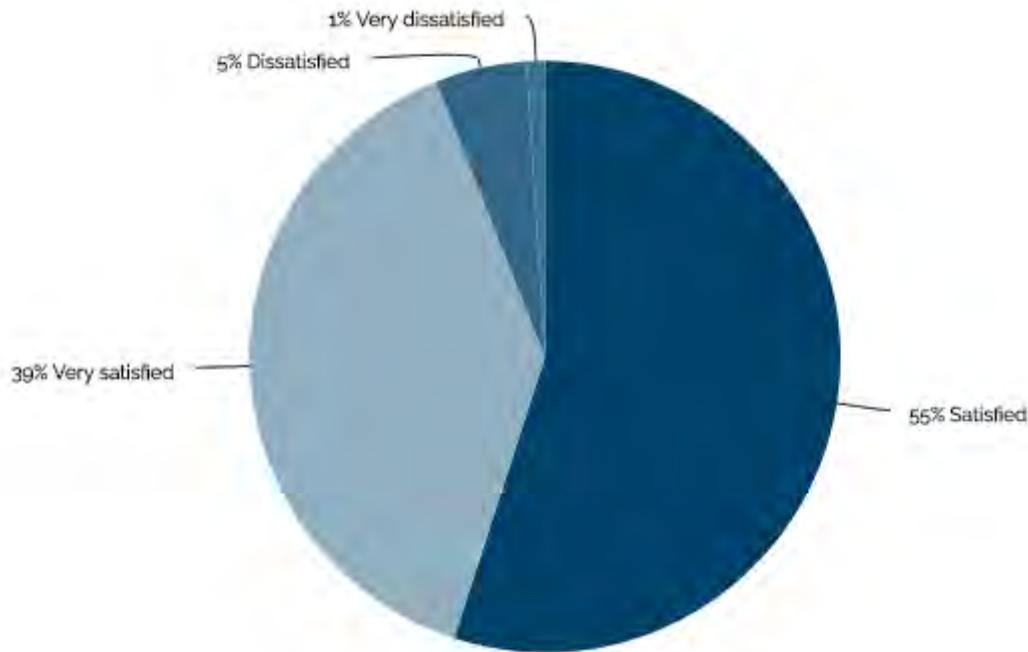


# Would you recommend Canada as a study destination to other students?





# Overall how satisfied are you with all aspects of your Canadian education experience?





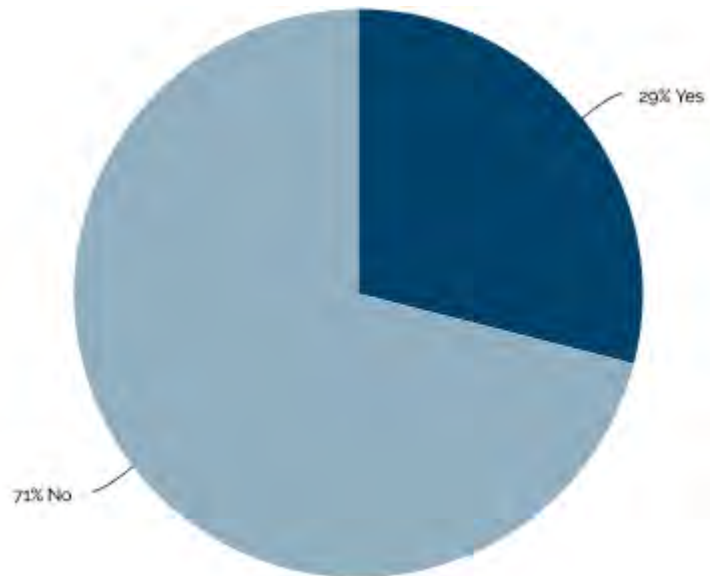
# Student Decision-Making







# Did you apply for admission to institutions in countries other than Canada?





# What other countries did you apply to?





# How important were the following reasons in your decision to study in Canada?

	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
Canada's reputation as a safe country Row %	4%	17%	43%	36%
Canada offers a society that (in general) is tolerant and not discriminatory Row %	4%	17%	45%	34%
Canada's political and social stability Row %	5%	23%	46%	25%
The reputation of the education system in Canada Row %	3%	19%	46%	36%
Availability of financial support (scholarships, aid) to study in Canada Row %	19%	27%	28%	26%
Ease of getting a Canadian study permit Row %	13%	31%	25%	21%
Opportunities to work while I study in Canada Row %	14%	24%	34%	29%
Opportunities for work in Canada following my studies Row %	8%	17%	34%	42%
Opportunities for permanent residence in Canada Row %	12%	21%	30%	36%
The cost of studying in Canada in comparison to other countries Row %	12%	25%	34%	29%
A relative, friend, or teacher lived/studied or is living/studying in Canada Row %	43%	22%	20%	15%
Canadian institutions gave the most attractive conditions for admission to my intended program Row %	15%	31%	36%	18%



# How important were the following reasons for applying to study at your current institution?

	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
The quality of education of this institution Row %	3%	14%	47%	37%
The prestige of a degree/diploma from this institution Row %	5%	20%	44%	32%
The cost of studying at this institution Row %	9%	24%	39%	29%
The amount of financial support this institution offered me Row %	25%	27%	27%	22%
I know someone who studied or is studying at this institution Row %	48%	23%	19%	10%
The availability of a particular program at this institution Row %	12%	20%	39%	29%
This institution was the most effective in communicating and providing information Row %	16%	30%	37%	17%



## How important were the following reasons for applying to study at your current institution? Cntd.

The size of this institution Row %	27%	35%	27%	11%
Factors associated with the location of this institution (climate, city size, proximity to my country, etc.) Row %	25%	29%	30%	16%
This institution had the fastest admissions process Row %	31%	33%	25%	11%
A recruiting agent recommended this institution Row %	56%	20%	16%	7%
The position of my institution in ranking/league tables Row %	20%	27%	35%	17%
Opportunity to gain work experience as part of my program of studies Row %	15%	21%	36%	28%



# How useful did you find the following resources when choosing to attend your institution?

	Did not use this resource	Not useful	Somewhat useful	Very useful
Someone in my home country (a friend, parent, relative, professor, high school counselor, etc.) Row %	36%	8%	31%	26%
A government department in my home country Row %	62%	14%	16%	8%
Education fair Row %	52%	10%	23%	15%
Recruiting agents Row %	54%	11%	22%	14%
Presentations at my school Row %	61%	10%	17%	12%
University/College websites Row %	9%	5%	34%	51%
Online forums and blogs Row %	37%	10%	31%	22%
Websites/publications that rank universities and colleges Row %	22%	9%	37%	32%
A representative of the institution Row %	46%	8%	25%	21%

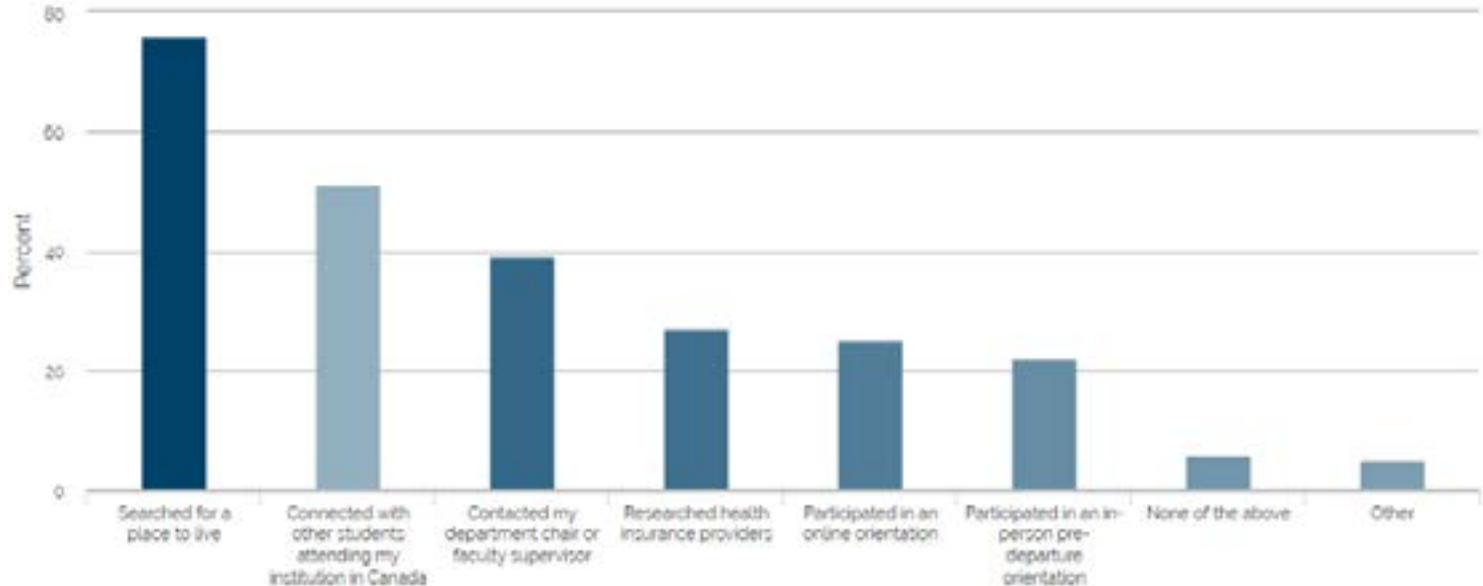


# Pre-Arrival Activities





# Which of the following actions did you take before arriving to study at your institution?







During the time when you applied for admission to your present program of study, did you experience a problem with the following?

	No problem	Somewhat of a problem	A big problem	Not applicable
Passing the French language test (e.g. DELF/DALF, Test de connaissance de français) Row %	23%	4%	3%	69%
Passing the English language proficiency test (e.g., TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, etc.) Row %	57%	16%	5%	22%
Getting a letter of acceptance from the university or college Row %	76%	16%	5%	2%
Communicating and receiving sufficient information about the university or college Row %	65%	26%	7%	2%
Getting course credits from my home educational institution accepted Row %	53%	15%	8%	24%
Obtaining a study permit Row %	68%	22%	8%	2%
Providing proof to the Canadian government that I would have enough money to study in Canada Row %	69%	20%	7%	3%
Providing proof to the Immigration office that I intend to return to my home country upon completion of my studies Row %	68%	13%	6%	13%
Arranging the transfer of money from my home country Row %	55%	27%	11%	7%
Arranging for a place to live Row %	51%	32%	14%	3%



# Please rate your experience upon first arrival in Canada

	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied	Not applicable
Experience with Canadian immigration officials Row %	4%	8%	47%	37%	4%
Institutional orientation program Row %	3%	8%	44%	30%	15%
International student orientation Row %	4%	9%	41%	30%	16%
Moving into student residence Row %	3%	7%	24%	14%	51%
International reception service at the airport/train station/ bus station Row %	4%	8%	26%	19%	43%



# Academic Experience



*"I love the fact that we have so much more hands-on experience in all the classes. I love the way the professors challenge you and work on improving your cognitive skills. I love the way we are guided through a course. I love the fact that the professors are passionate about what they teach."* Natural sciences student from Moldova



Please rate how beneficial you think your Canadian education has been for each of the following

	Not at all	Very little	Somewhat	Very	Not applicable
Preparing me for employment in Canada Row %	4%	8%	30%	49%	9%
Preparing me for employment in my home country Row %	7%	11%	33%	40%	9%
Preparing me for further study Row %	2%	5%	26%	58%	8%
Discovering my career interests Row %	3%	8%	29%	57%	3%
Increasing the chances for making more money during my working years Row %	5%	11%	34%	43%	7%
Contributing to my family's well-being Row %	10%	13%	29%	34%	14%
Contributing to the advancement of my country Row %	11%	14%	30%	31%	14%
Acquiring job-related knowledge and skills (e.g. presentation skills, writing skills, critical thinking/analytical skills) Row %	2%	6%	26%	64%	2%



Please rate how beneficial you think your Canadian education has been for each of the following Cntd.

Working effectively with others (i.e. teamwork) Row %	3%	8%	29%	57%	3%
Developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics Row %	4%	8%	30%	53%	5%
Understanding people of other backgrounds (economic, racial/ethnic, political, religious, nationality, etc.) Row %	2%	6%	24%	64%	3%
Solving complex real-world problems Row %	4%	11%	33%	48%	4%
Being an informed and active citizen Row %	5%	11%	33%	46%	6%



# Since first beginning your program of study, how much success have you had in adjusting to the following?

	Little or no success	Some success	A lot of success	Not applicable
Meeting academic demands Row %	5%	37%	55%	3%
Becoming involved in campus activities Row %	25%	40%	26%	9%
Living in Canadian culture and society Row %	8%	38%	52%	2%
Choosing a program of study to meet my objectives Row %	5%	31%	60%	4%
Performing adequately in written assignments Row %	4%	36%	57%	3%
Performing adequately in courses requiring mathematical skills Row %	7%	27%	45%	21%
Understanding information presented in courses Row %	2%	27%	68%	2%
Finding help with questions or problems Row %	6%	35%	56%	3%
Understanding expectations of being a graduate student Row %	5%	31%	62%	3%



# Social and Integration



*“The most positive aspect of my studies in Canada is that I had the opportunity not only in the academic field but personally too, getting to know people from many different cultures.”* Engineering student from El Salvador





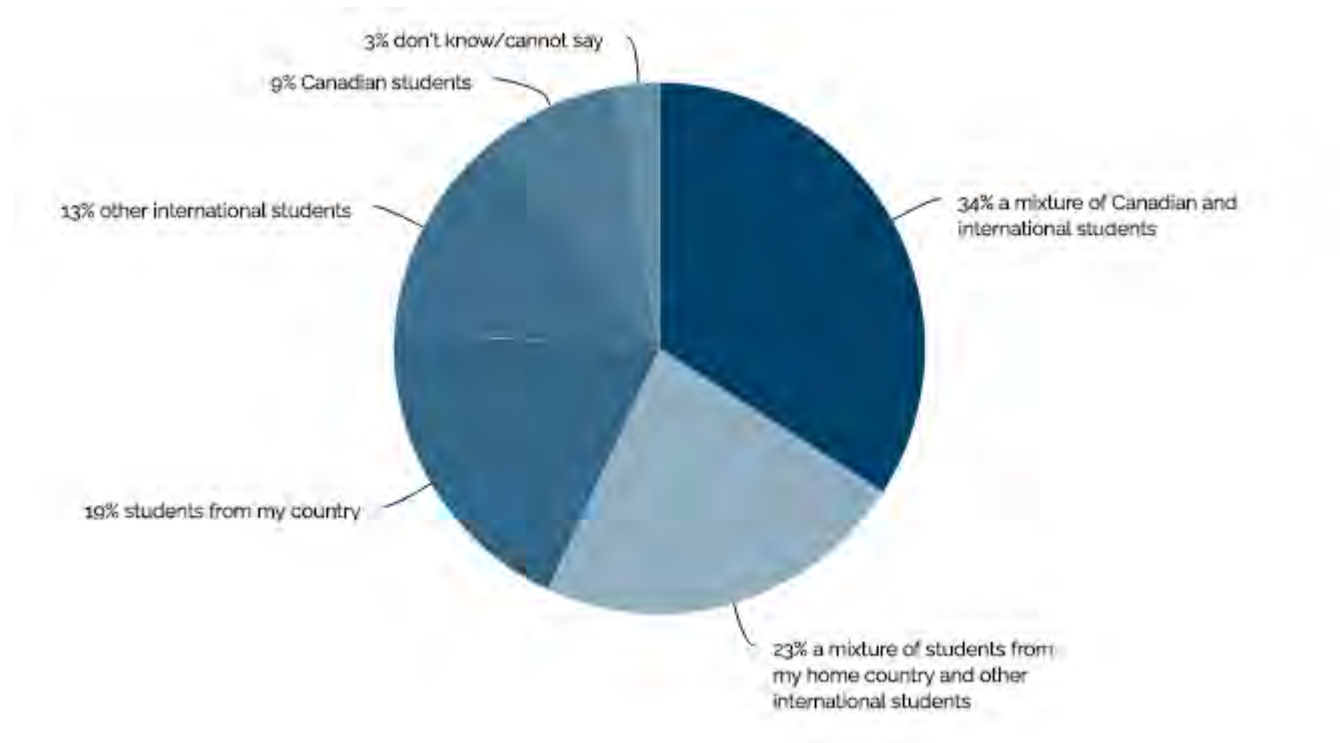
# How much do you agree or disagree with each statement

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Canadian students are hard to get to know Row %	17%	21%	25%	25%	12%
Canadian students are friendly when you get to know them Row %	2%	4%	17%	42%	35%
Staff and students here have shown an interest in my country and culture Row %	6%	11%	27%	38%	20%
Faculty members and teaching assistants help me to feel included in the classroom Row %	3%	6%	23%	37%	31%
I prefer to mix with people from my own culture Row %	17%	19%	27%	21%	16%
I would like more chances to experience Canadian culture and family life Row %	2%	4%	21%	36%	38%
It is difficult to meet Canadian people from outside the university/college Row %	14%	19%	20%	27%	20%
Canada is a welcoming and tolerant society Row %	1%	3%	10%	36%	49%



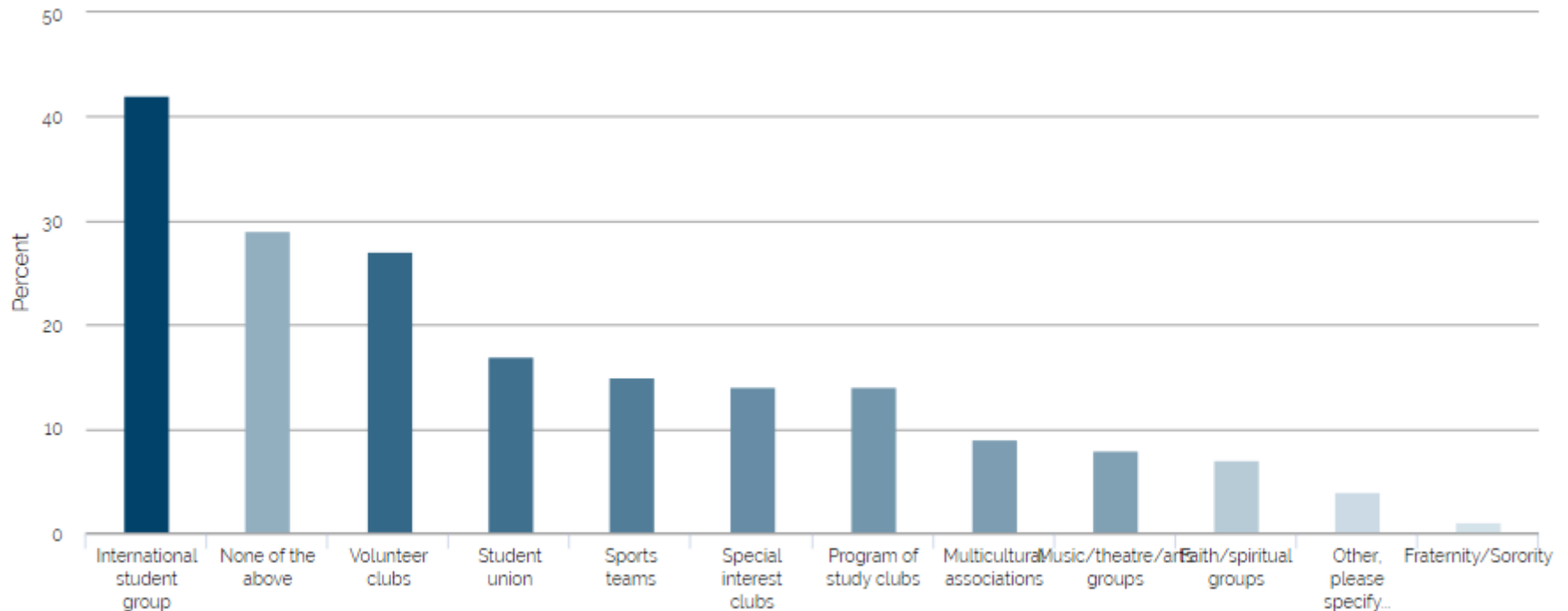


# Would you say that most of your friends here in Canada are ...





Since arriving at your institution, which of the following student activities/groups have you been involved in?



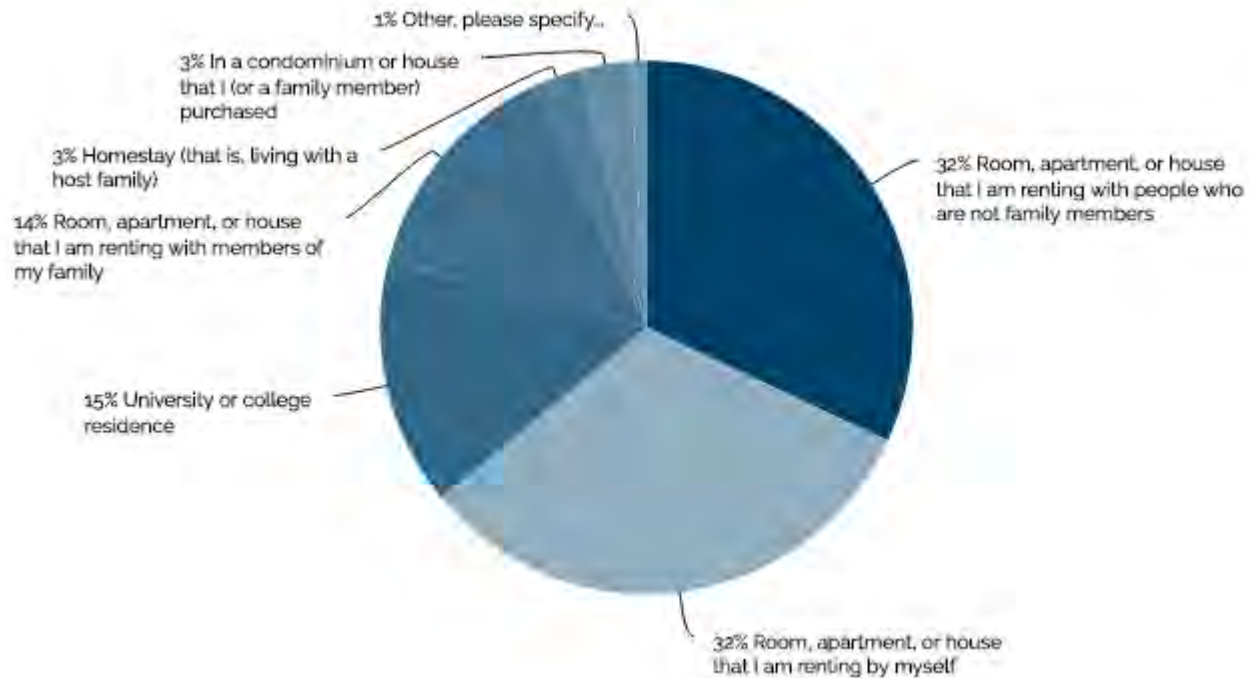


# Housing





# Where are you currently living?





# Institutional Support Services



*“The startup community and faculty members are incredibly kind, empathetic and supportive people... Professionals both inside and outside the university whom I have had the pleasure to interact with continue to encourage me and help me where they can to pursue my goals and improve every day and that means the world to me.”* Student from Trinidad and Tobago



# How satisfied are you with the services or facilities you have used at your institution?

	Have not used the service	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Assistance from an International Student Adviser Row %	26%	5%	8%	45%	16%
English/French tutoring Row %	63%	3%	5%	23%	6%
Counselling and mental health services Row %	62%	4%	6%	21%	8%
Housing services Row %	55%	5%	8%	25%	7%
Recreational facilities Row %	35%	3%	7%	40%	16%
Facilities for religious worship (e.g., quiet room for prayer) Row %	71%	2%	3%	16%	7%



## How satisfied are you with the services or facilities you have used at your institution? Cntd.

Health services Row %	32%	5%	10%	39%	14%
Career services Row %	46%	3%	8%	32%	11%
Academic adviser Row %	31%	4%	8%	39%	16%
Registrar's office Row %	23%	3%	7%	50%	17%
Financial aid office Row %	50%	5%	8%	27%	10%
Library services Row %	8%	2%	3%	48%	40%
Safety services Row %	38%	2%	3%	36%	22%





# Safety







Please indicate how safe you feel in the following locations

	Not safe at all	Not particularly safe	Fairly safe	Very safe	Not applicable
On campus Row %	0%	1%	16%	80%	2%
Your accommodation Row %	0%	2%	22%	74%	1%
Public transport (e.g. trains, bus stops) Row %	1%	7%	37%	53%	2%
Public spaces (off campus locations in the city) Row %	1%	8%	44%	46%	1%

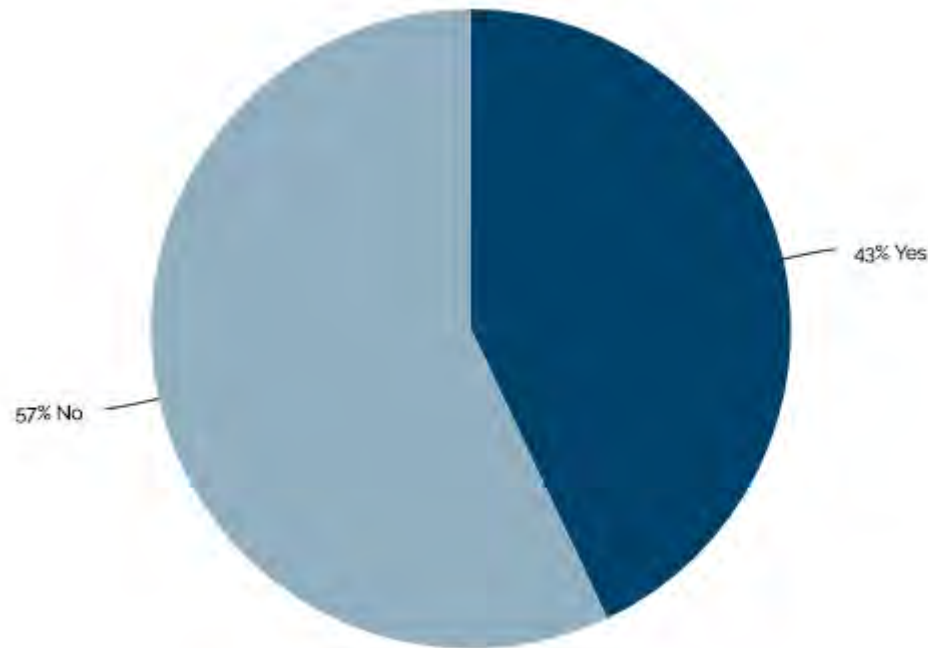


# Finances and Employment



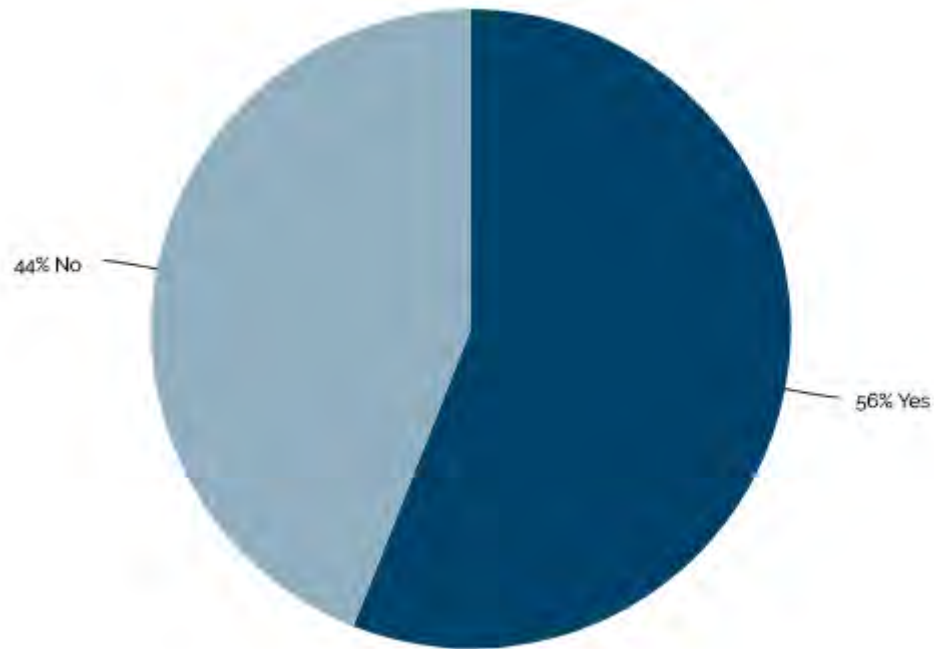


# Are you currently working in Canada?



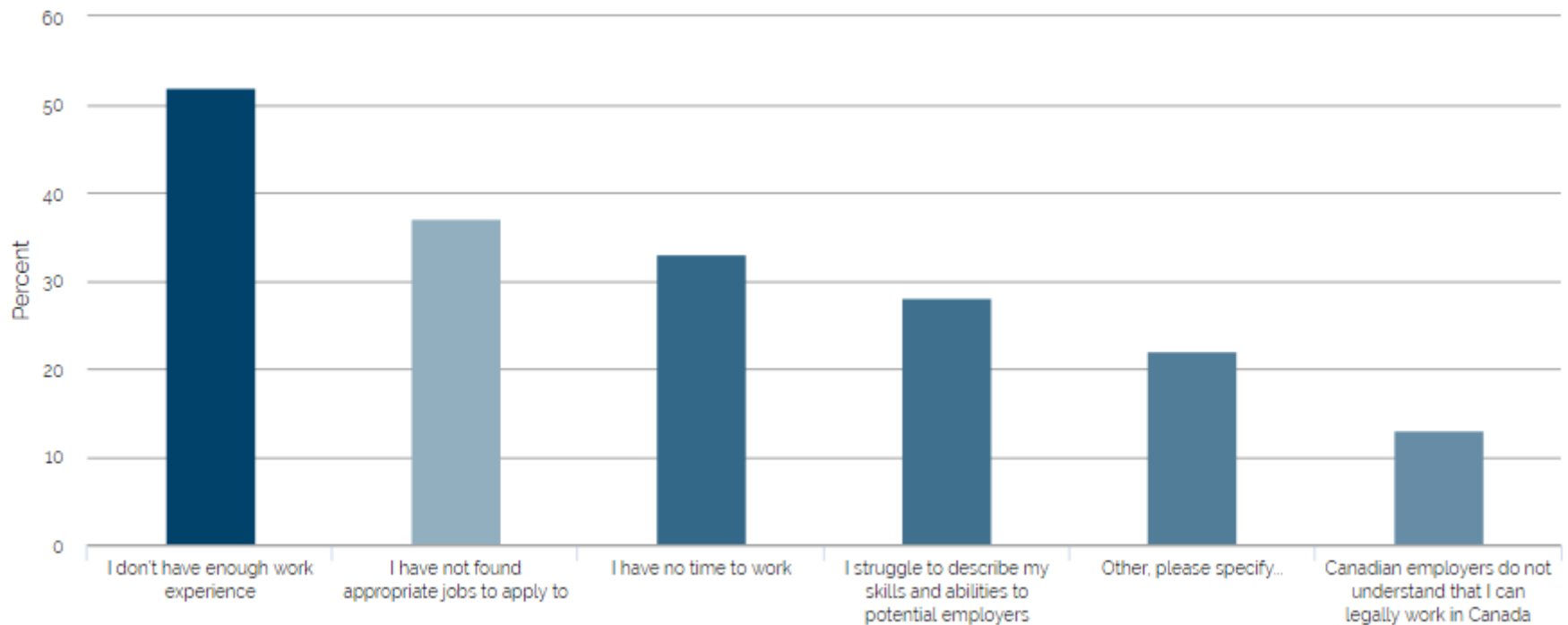


# Are you having difficulty finding work?





# What challenges are you facing in finding work?



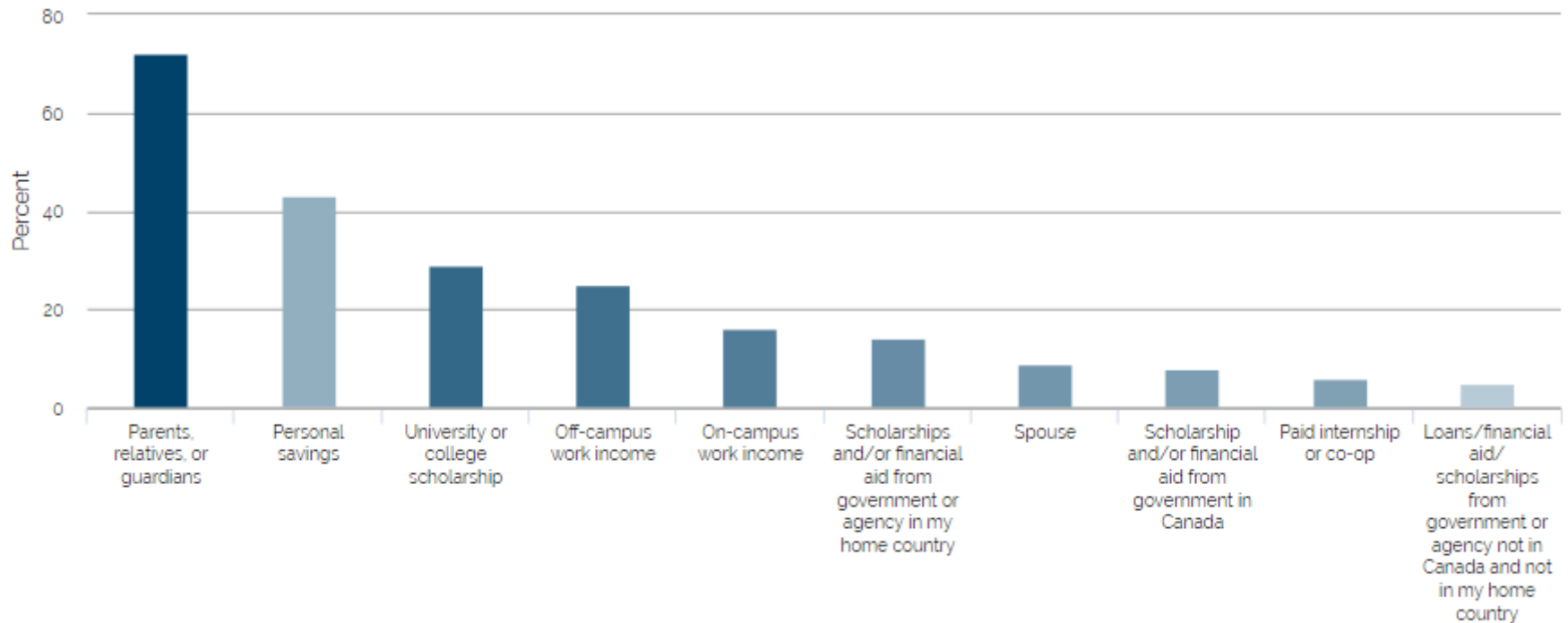


# Please rate your level of concern when it comes to paying for the following while studying in Canada

	Not concerned at all	Somewhat concerned	Very concerned
Accommodation (e.g., rent payments, including utilities such as heat, hydro and water) Row %	21%	42%	37%
School-related expenses (e.g., tuition, textbooks, school supplies) Row %	17%	33%	50%
Social activities (e.g., going to pubs or coffee shops with friends) Row %	36%	45%	19%
Food, clothing, transportation Row %	30%	46%	24%



# Please indicate the top three financial supports that are helping to pay for your education





# Post-Study Plans

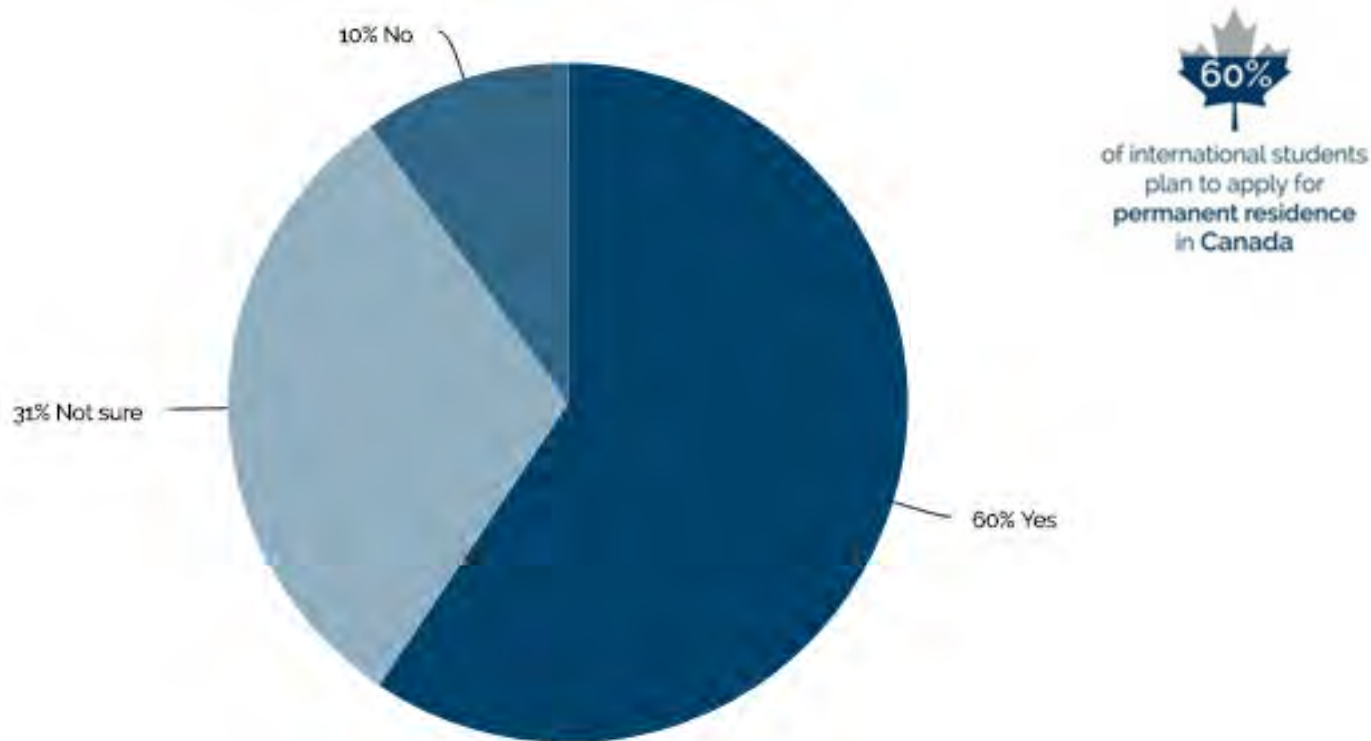


*"I have great professors that have helped me out very much. They're wonderful at giving us connections for when we go out to work."* Art and design student from Costa Rica



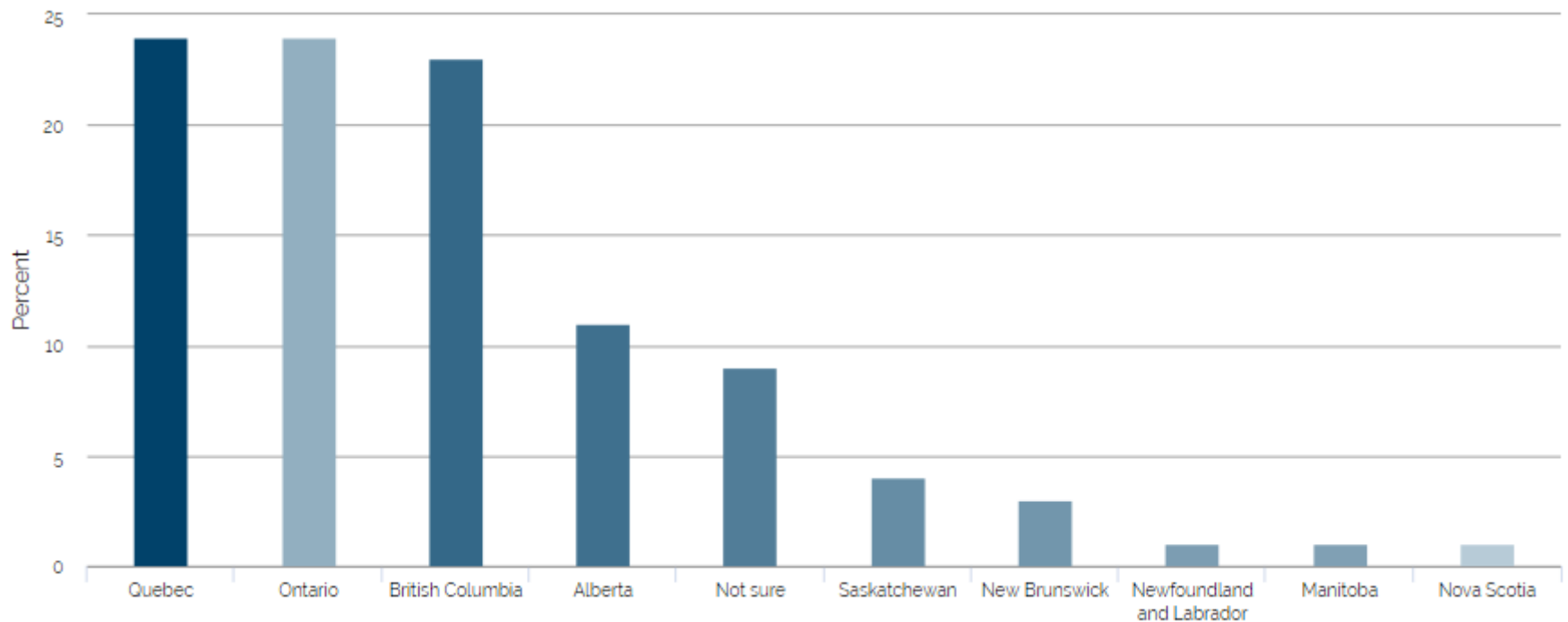


# Do you plan to apply for Permanent Resident status in Canada?



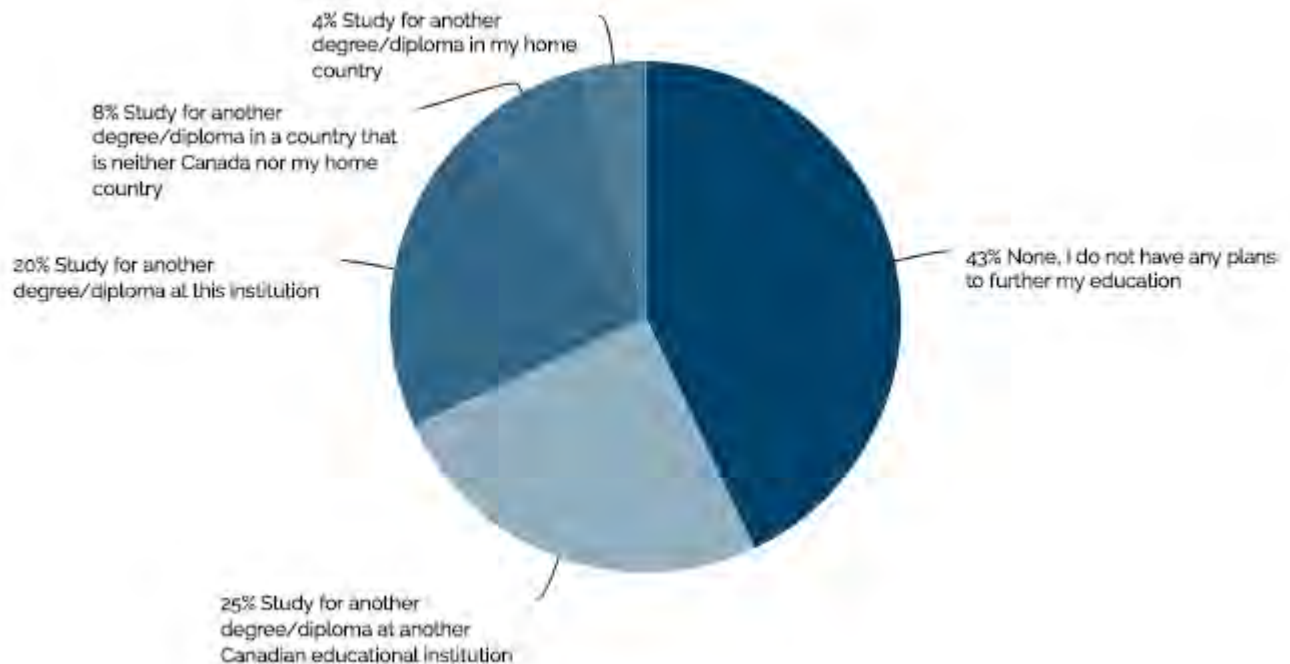


# Which province or territory do you intend to live in once you obtain permanent resident status?



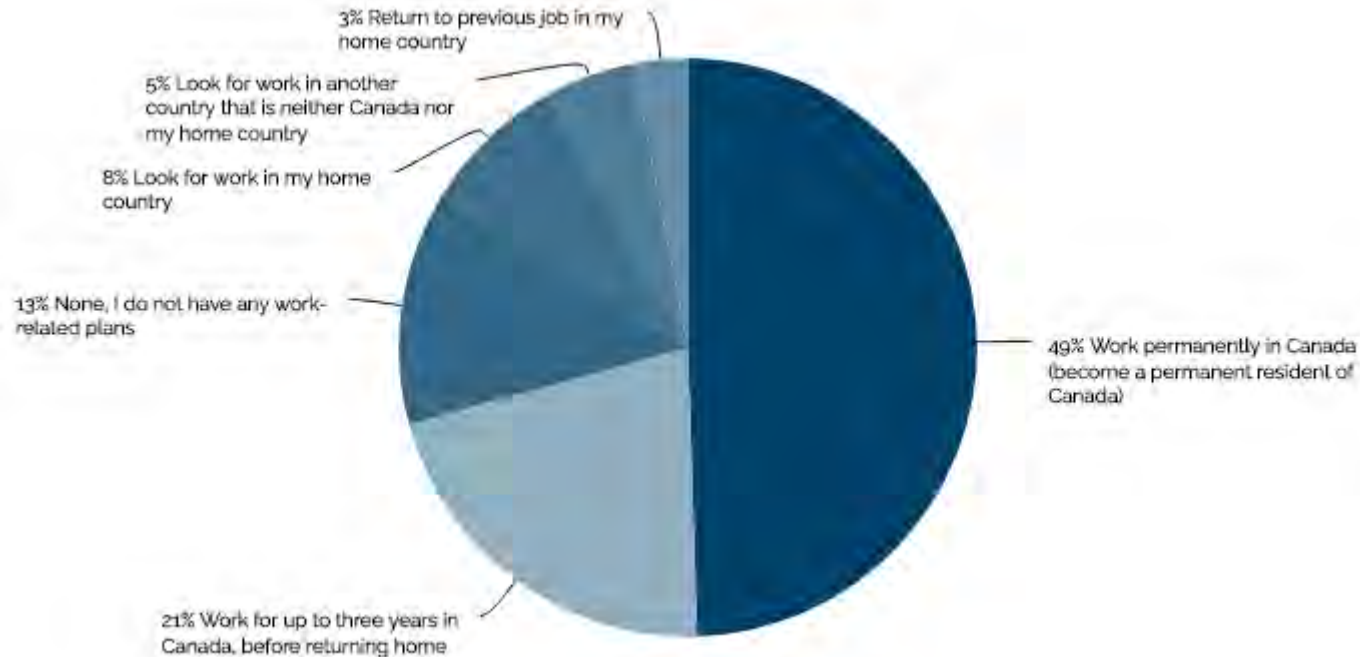


# What are your educational plans after you complete your current academic program?





# What are your plans for work after you complete your current academic program?





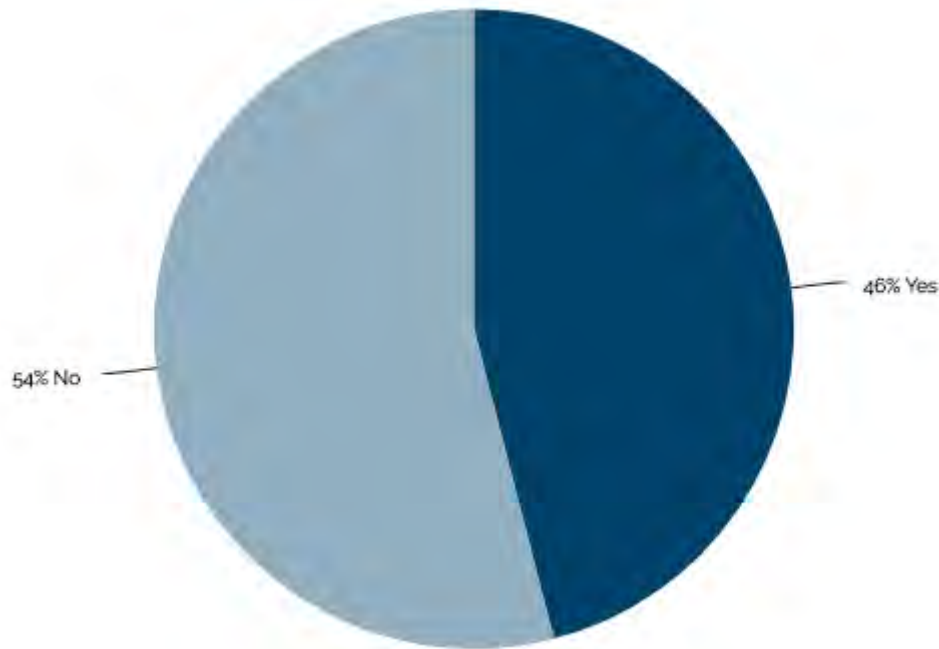
# Indigenous Topics and Culture



*“One day an Indigenous girl came to talk at a campus event about her culture and experiences and I learned a lot, I realized that most of the things I heard from my friends wasn't true at all.”* International student pursuing studies on the traditional unceded territory of the Wəlastəkwiyyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq Peoples

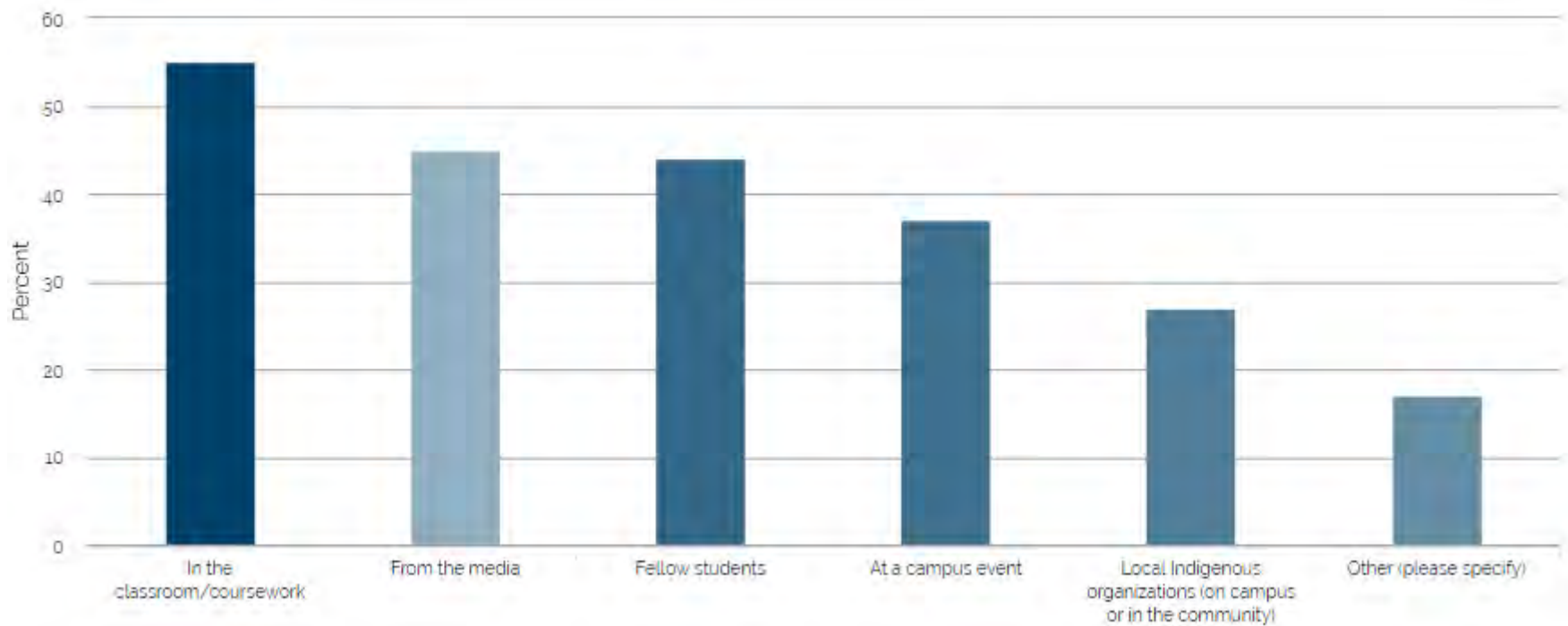


Since arriving at your institution, have you learned about Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit and Métis) history and culture?



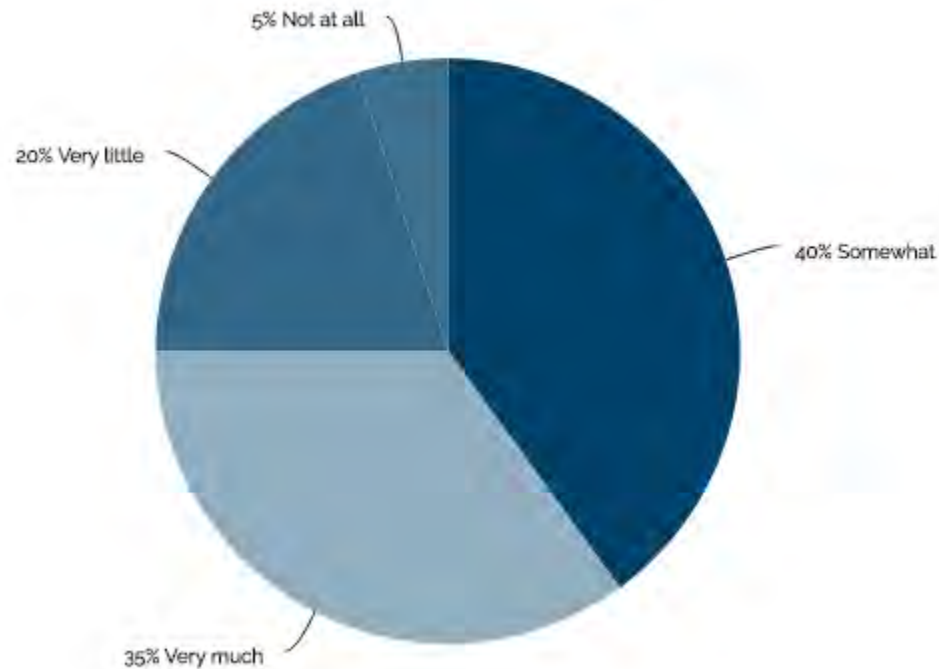


# Please indicate where you recall learning about Indigenous history and culture





To what degree has being exposed to history and culture of Indigenous (First Nations, Inuit, Métis) peoples in Canada grown your appreciation for Indigenous issues?





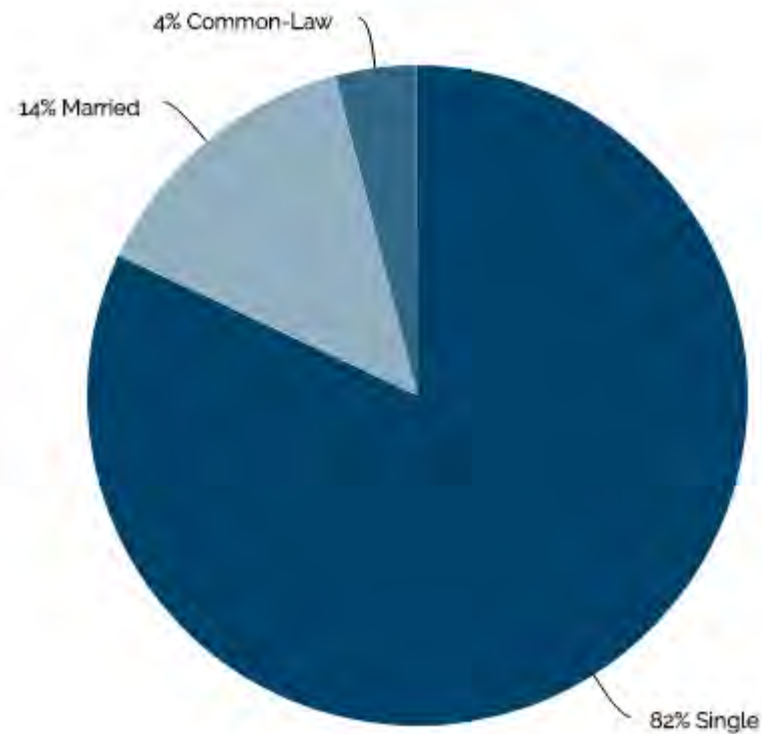


# Dependents



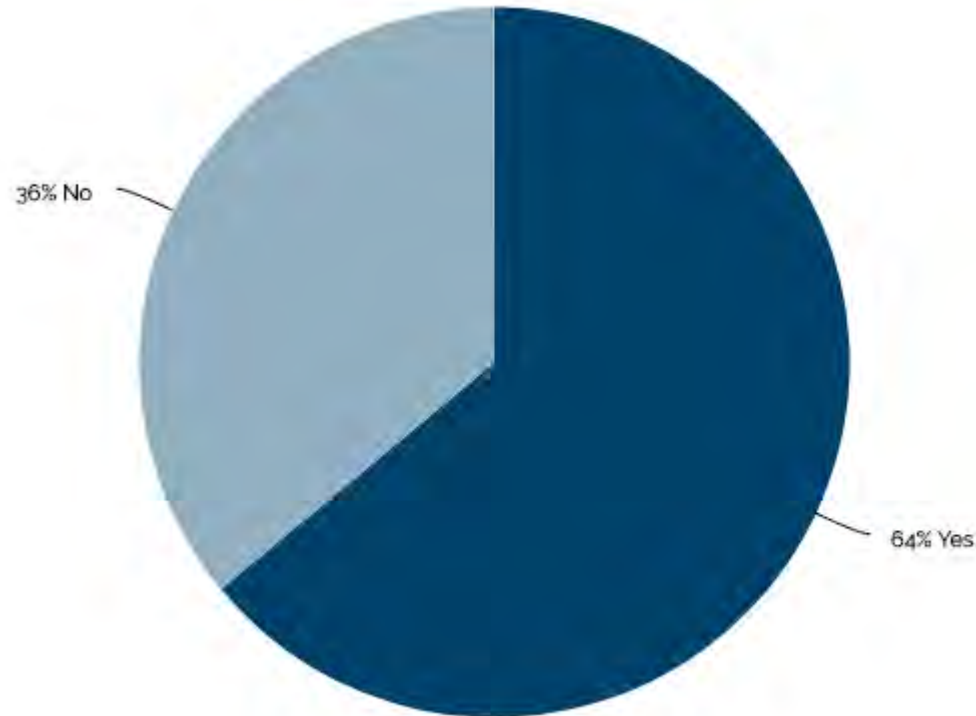


# What is your marital status?



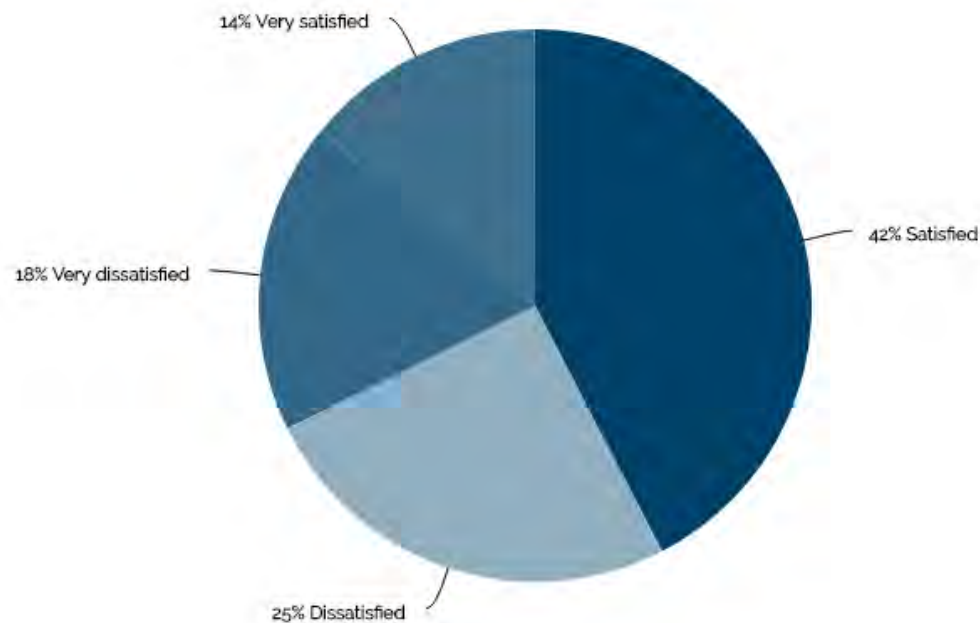


# Has your spouse accompanied you to Canada for your studies?



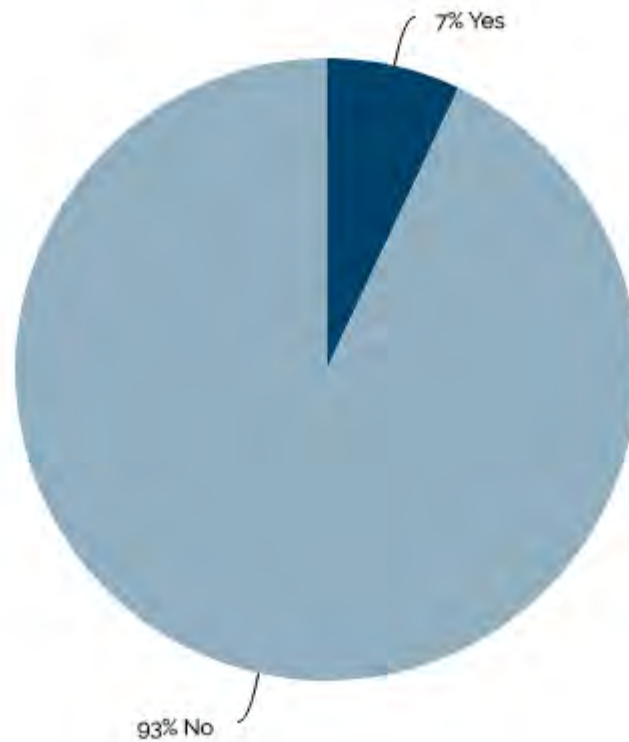


Please rate your degree of satisfaction regarding the institutional support your spouse has received to settle and integrate into the community



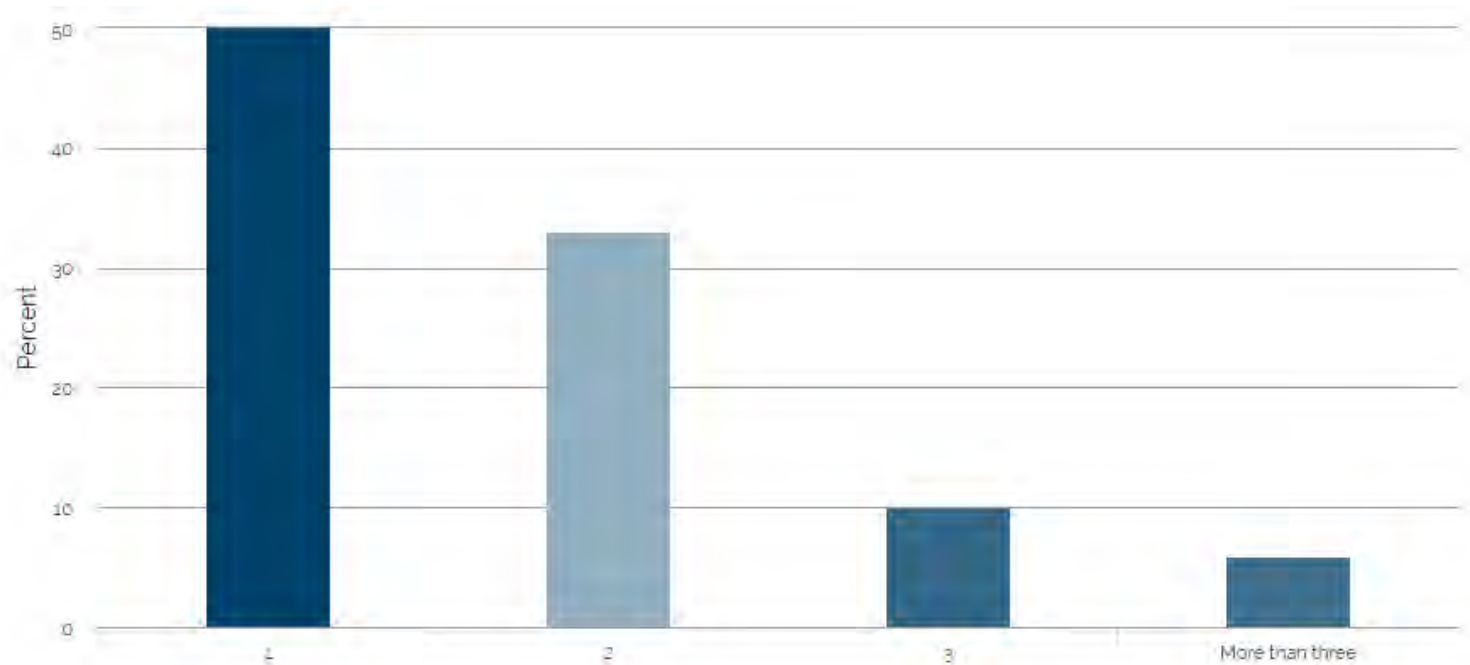


# Do you have children?



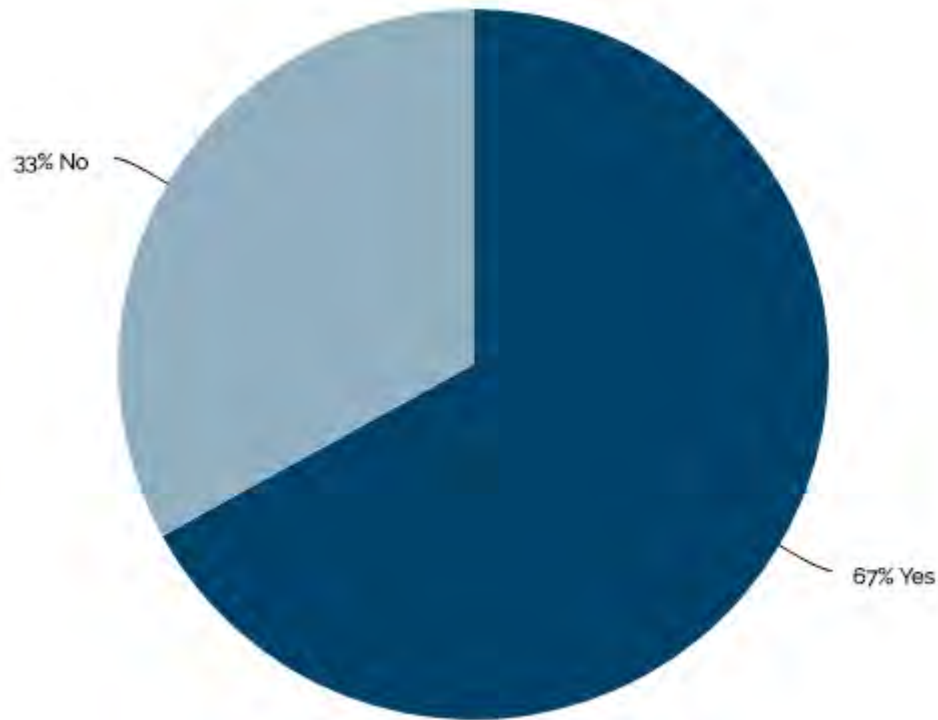


# How many children do you have?



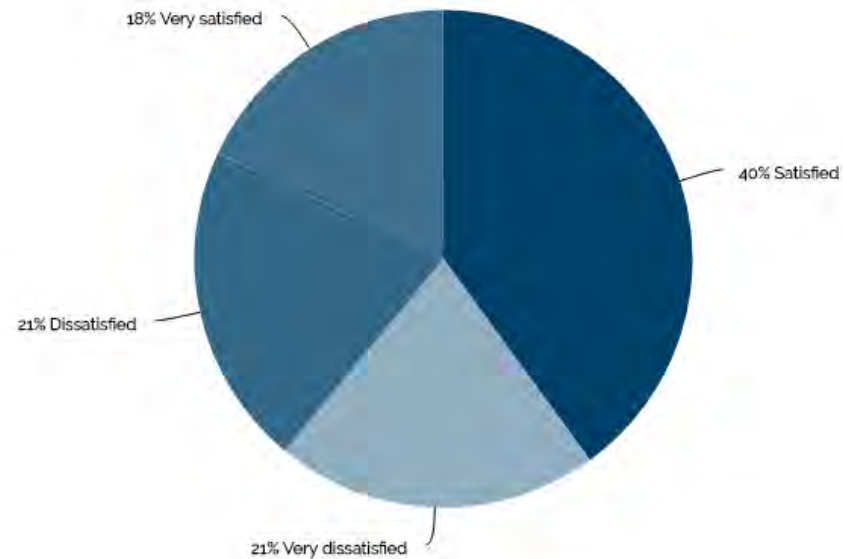


Has/have your child/children accompanied you to Canada for your studies?





Please rate your degree of satisfaction regarding the institutional support you have received to settle and integrate your children into the community (childcare, schooling, activities)







## Next steps for ISS

- Data analysis package
- Further analysis on key questions
- Collaboration with experts
- Mobilizing data to guide through change
- Longitudinal look at outcomes for PR
- Planning for 2020



# Internationalization Advisory Services

Leveraging international student research and community of experts, CBIE can support institutions, governments and other partners with:

- Deeper data-driven insights
- Strategic planning
- Program evaluation
- Risk management



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## Future Webinar Series

Future webinars will explore further salient themes from the ISS including:

- Employment
- Housing
- Immigration
- Campus services
- Graduate students



Canadian Bureau for  
International Education  
Bureau canadien de  
l'éducation internationale

Thank you!  
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