

Ethnicity Hot Facts

Introduction

This fact sheet provides information from the 2006 Census (with comparisons to 1996 and 2001 censuses) for:

- the ethnic origin of the Richmond population
- “visible minorities” in Richmond, and within Richmond Planning Areas
- the Aboriginal (First Nations) population in Richmond

Ethnic Origin

Ethnic Origin refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the respondent’s ancestors. An ancestor is someone from whom a person is descended and is usually more distant than a grandparent. It is distinct from place of birth, immigration status or language spoken. [For more information about those topics, see the separate Immigration and Language Hot Facts sheets.] A person can have more than one ethnic origin.

The most frequently reported ethnic origins

Richmond boasts a great diversity of backgrounds: over 125 different ethnic origins with at least 25 people were reported.

The most commonly reported ethnic origin in Richmond is Chinese, with 78,790 people or 45 percent of the City’s population having this background. This proportion has grown from 34% in 1996 and 40% in 2001. The next ten most common ethnic origins are shown in the table below. The ethnic origins that have grown the most in recent years are Chinese, Filipino and East Indian.

	1996	2001	2006	% Change (2001-2006)	% of Total Population (2006)*
<i>Total Population</i>	148,150	163,400	173,570		
Chinese	50,215	65,325	78,790	21%	45%
English	30,720	25,800	23,945	-7%	14%
Scottish	20,010	16,890	16,935	0%	10%
Canadian	20,045	23,000	15,475	-33%	9%
East Indian	8,635	10,850	12,390	14%	7%
Irish	13,140	12,090	12,065	0%	7%
German	11,440	9,880	10,375	5%	6%
Filipino	5,035	8,145	10,155	25%	6%
French	7,345	6,720	6,260	-7%	4%
Ukrainian	4,770	4,385	4,255	-3%	2%
Japanese	3,665	4,050	4,035	0%	2%

* Because respondents can have more than one ethnic origin, this column sums to more than 100%

Population Groups and Visible Minority Population Defined

In addition to asking about ethnic ancestry, the Census also asks respondents to identify the population group (or groups) to which they belong, such as White, Chinese, South Asian, Black, etc. Like ethnic origin, this should not be confused with citizenship or nationality.

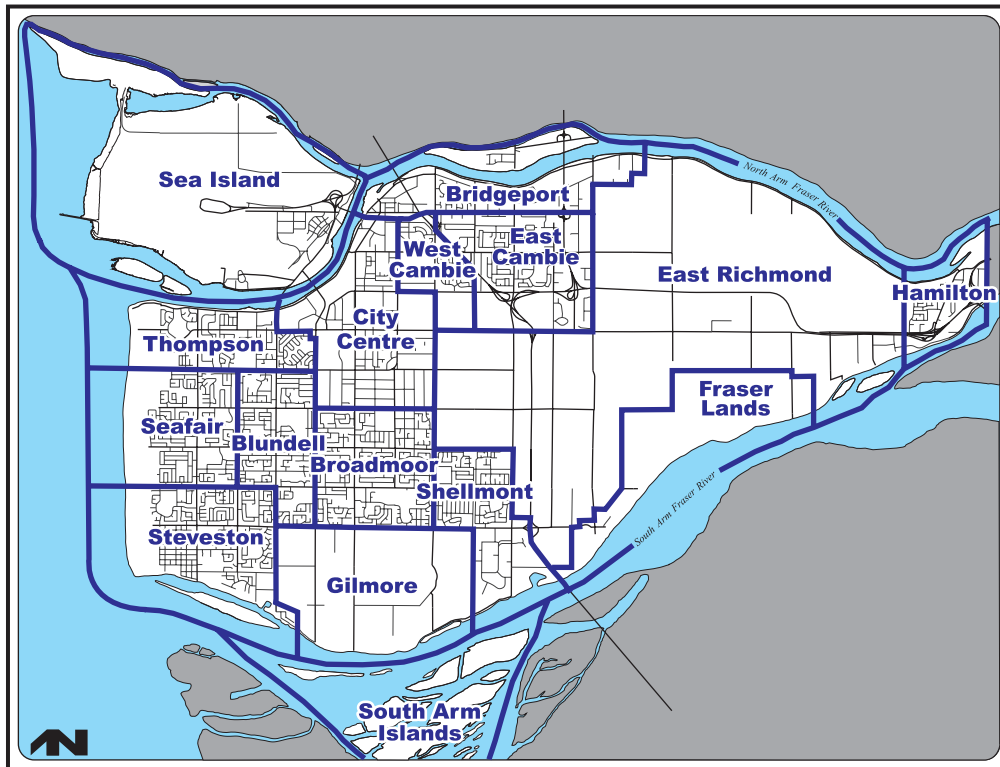
Visible minority population is defined for federal employment equity purposes as “persons, other than Aboriginal persons, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.”

Visible Minorities are now the Majority in Richmond

In Richmond in 2006, 65.1% of the population is a visible minority under the definition above, the highest proportion of any municipality in B.C. and the second highest (after Markham, Ontario) in Canada. The predominant minority group in Richmond is Chinese, at 44% of the total population (the highest proportion in Canada by a wide margin). The next most common minority groups are the South Asian group (for example East Indian, Pakistani), at 8% of the total, and Filipino at 5% of the total.

	1996	2001	2006	Percent of Total (2006)
Total population by visible minority groups - 20% Sample Data	148,150	163,395	173,570	100%
Total visible minority population	73,100	96,385	112,960	65%
Chinese	48,460	64,275	75,725	44%
South Asian (e.g., 'East Indian,' 'Pakistani,' 'Sri Lankan')	9,815	12,120	13,865	8%
Black	1,145	1,470	1,390	1%
Filipino	4,615	7,185	9,555	6%
Latin American	685	1,165	1,265	1%
Southeast Asian (e.g., 'Vietnamese,' 'Cambodian,' 'Malaysian,' 'Laotian')	970	1,250	1,480	1%
Arab	1,495	875	965	1%
West Asian (e.g., 'Iranian,' 'Afghan')		1,155	1,160	1%
Korean	715	905	1,290	1%
Japanese	3,295	3,615	3,230	2%
Visible minority, not included elsewhere	495	335	295	0%
Multiple visible minorities (Includes respondents who reported more than one visible minority group by checking two or more mark-in circles, e.g., 'Black' and 'South Asian'.)	1,405	2,045	2,740	2%
All others (Includes respondents who reported 'Yes' to the Aboriginal identity question as well as respondents who were not considered to be members of a visible minority group.)	75,055	67,015	60,605	35%

Population Groups by Planning Area



Planning Area	Total Population	% Visible Minority	Population Group											
			Chinese	South Asian	Black	Filipino	American Latin	Southeast Asian	Arab	West Asian	Korean	Japanese	Other & Multiple Groups	Not a Visible Minority
Blundell	17,495	70%	53%	5%	1%	5%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	30%
Bridgeport	3,120	77%	36%	15%	3%	13%	3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%	23%
Broadmoor	22,355	66%	49%	6%	1%	4%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	2%	2%	34%
City Centre	38,490	75%	59%	3%	1%	6%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	25%
E. Cambie	10,400	80%	37%	23%	1%	9%	1%	3%	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	20%
E. Richmond/ Fraser Lands	3,410	54%	15%	33%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	46%
Gilmore	445	17%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	84%
Hamilton	4,615	68%	36%	16%	1%	5%	1%	0%	0%	3%	1%	1%	4%	32%
Sea Island	765	12%	5%	0%	0%	5%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	89%
Seafair	16,170	49%	31%	6%	1%	5%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	3%	1%	51%
Shellmont	10,000	63%	20%	26%	2%	9%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	37%
Steveston	24,105	43%	26%	4%	1%	4%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	5%	1%	57%
Thompson	15,450	67%	50%	5%	0%	5%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	32%
West Cambie	6,750	89%	65%	9%	1%	6%	0%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%	2%	11%
Richmond CY	173,570	65%	44%	8%	1%	6%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	35%

Aboriginal Population

The Aboriginal identity population includes North American Indian (First Nations people), Métis and Inuit.

- In Richmond, a total of 1,275 people reported Aboriginal identity in 2006.
- In Richmond in 2006, the approximate distribution of the population within these groups was (some of the population did not include this information in their response to the question on Aboriginal identity):
 - 55% North American Indian (First Nations people),
 - 38% Métis,
 - <1% Inuit.
- The Aboriginal identity population in Richmond increased 9.4% from 2001. The Aboriginal population has grown faster than the total population, which grew 6.2% over the 5 year period.
- In 2006, Aboriginal people accounted for 0.7% of the total population of Richmond, compared to 1.9% for Metro Vancouver and 4.8% for BC.
- The median age of the Aboriginal identity population in Richmond was 31.5, considerably lower than the 40.7 median age of the general population.

For Further Information:

The Statistics Canada Census 2006 page on Ethnic origin and visible minorities:

<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/release/ethnicorigin.cfm>

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