

Ethnocultural Hot Facts

Introduction

This Hot Facts issue examines:

- ethnic or cultural origin of the Richmond population;
- “visible minorities” in Richmond, and within Richmond Planning Areas;
- Indigenous population in Richmond.

Ethnic or Cultural Origin

Ethnic or cultural origin refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the person’s ancestors. Ancestors may have Indigenous origins, origins that refer to different countries or other origins that may not refer to different countries. 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 or Cultural Origins

Richmond boasts a great diversity of backgrounds: over 180 different ethnic or cultural origins with at least 25 residents were reported.

The most commonly reported ethnic origin in Richmond is Chinese, with 99,870 people or 48 percent of the City’s population having this background. This proportion has decreased from 54% in the 2016 Census which may be due to the fact that ‘Hong Konger’ is added as a new category in the 2021 Census. The ten most common ethnic or cultural origins reporting in the Census are shown in the table below. Please note that the sum of the ethnic or cultural origins is greater than the total population estimate because a person may report more than one ethnic or cultural origin in the Census.

Ethnic or Cultural Origin	2021 Census
Chinese	99,780
Filipino	15,905
English	12,185
Hong Konger	9,760
Scottish	9,750
Indian (India)	9,330
Canadian	8,280
Irish	7,720
Taiwanese	6,715
German	6,305
Total Population	208,395

Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census.

Note: Total population accounts for persons in private households only. Does not include persons living outside Canada and persons living in collective dwellings.

Population Groups and Visible Minority Population Defined

In addition to asking about ethnic or cultural origins, 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 or cultural 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

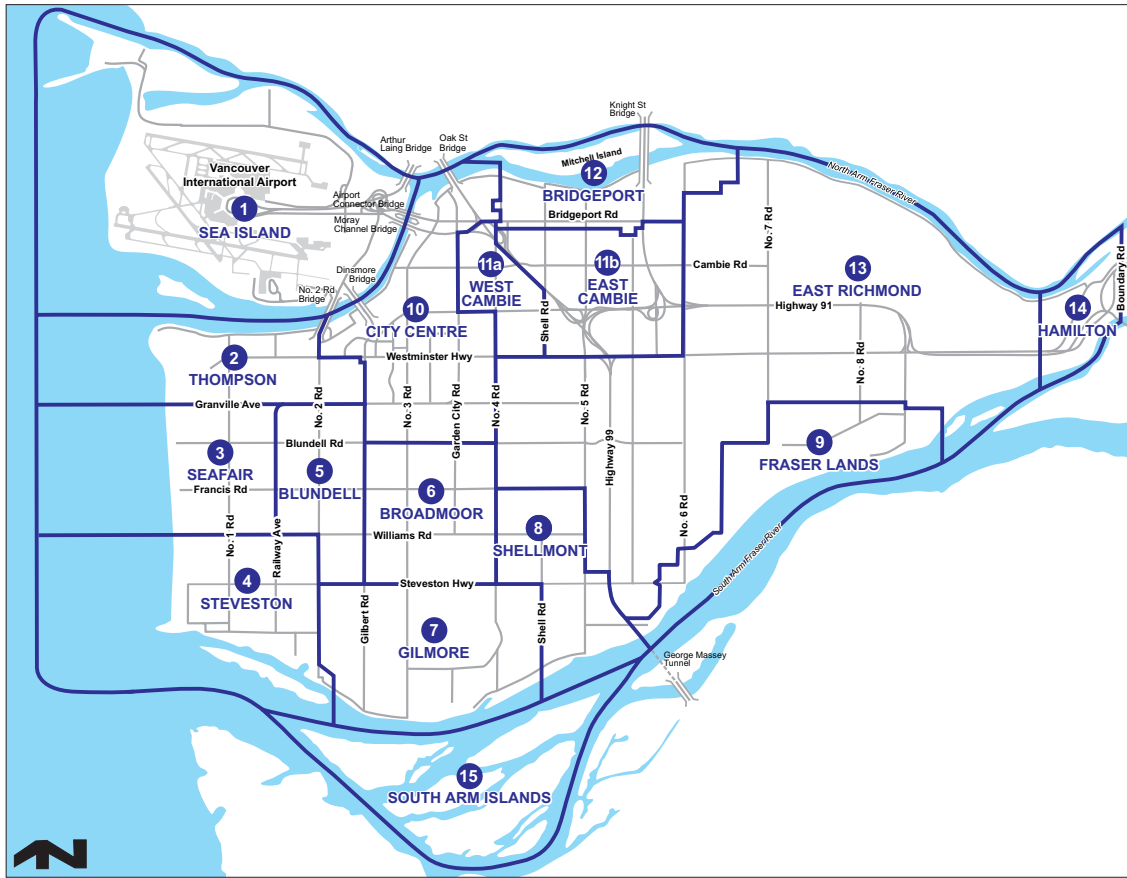
In Richmond in 2021, 80.3% of the population is a visible minority under the definition above, the highest proportion of any municipality in BC and the second highest (after Markham, Ontario) in Canada. The predominant minority group in Richmond is Chinese, at 54% of the total population (the highest proportion in Canada). The next most common minority groups are the South Asian group (for example East Indian, Pakistani), at 7.4% of the total, and Filipino at 7.3% of the total.

	2021 Census	% of Total
Total population in private households by visible minority	208,400	
Total visible minority population	167,395	80.3%
Chinese	113,060	54.3%
South Asian (e.g., 'East Indian,' 'Pakistani,' 'Sri Lankan', etc.)	15,370	7.4%
Filipino	15,130	7.3%
Japanese	3,885	1.9%
Southeast Asian (e.g., 'Vietnamese', 'Cambodian', 'Laotian', 'Thai', etc.)	3,305	1.6%
Arab	2,205	1.1%
Latin American	2,155	1.0%
Korean	2,035	1.0%
Black	1,775	0.9%
West Asian (e.g., 'Afghan', 'Iranian', etc.)	1,670	0.8%
Visible minority, not included elsewhere	705	0.3%
Multiple visible minorities (Includes respondents who reported more than one visible minority group by checking two or more mark-in responses, e.g., 'Black' and 'South Asian'.)	6,095	2.9%
Not a visible minority (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.)	41,005	19.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census.

Population Groups by Planning Area

Richmond's Planning Areas Map



Planning Area	Total Population	% Visible Minority	Population Group											
			Chinese	South Asian	Filipino	Japanese	Southeast Asian	American Latin	Korean	West Asian	Black	Arab	Other & Multiple Groups	Not a Visible Minority
Blundell	17,890	83.5%	66.3%	4.0%	3.9%	1.1%	1.0%	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%	3.3%	16.5%
Bridgeport	4,005	88.3%	44.8%	14.4%	17.1%	1.2%	3.6%	0.4%	0.5%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	4.4%	11.7%
Broadmoor	23,065	81.7%	59.4%	6.7%	5.2%	1.4%	1.4%	0.9%	1.1%	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%	3.1%	18.3%
City Centre	62,095	87.8%	64.4%	3.3%	8.1%	1.6%	1.6%	1.3%	1.4%	0.9%	0.8%	1.1%	3.4%	12.2%
East Cambie	10,920	88.6%	39.3%	22.7%	14.5%	0.3%	2.6%	0.9%	0.8%	1.6%	1.0%	1.5%	3.4%	11.4%
East Richmond/ Fraser Lands	4,340	67.7%	31.8%	23.5%	3.2%	1.4%	1.8%	1.4%	0.6%	0.5%	1.0%	0.0%	1.8%	32.3%
Gilmore	430	44.2%	26.7%	14.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	54.7%
Hamilton	5,250	81.2%	34.4%	11.4%	17.4%	1.7%	4.1%	1.3%	0.9%	1.7%	0.8%	1.7%	5.9%	18.8%
Sea Island	880	36.4%	19.9%	5.1%	0.0%	1.7%	2.3%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	64.2%
Seafair	15,920	73.0%	49.2%	7.1%	6.6%	2.8%	1.4%	0.8%	0.6%	0.3%	0.5%	1.0%	2.6%	27.0%
Shellmont	11,310	75.8%	36.3%	20.3%	8.6%	1.4%	1.7%	1.1%	0.5%	0.8%	0.7%	1.5%	2.7%	24.2%
Steveston	25,010	56.9%	33.6%	4.5%	5.6%	4.4%	0.9%	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%	3.6%	43.1%
Thompson	15,035	81.7%	59.7%	6.8%	5.2%	2.0%	0.8%	1.1%	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%	0.9%	2.9%	18.3%
West Cambie	12,250	93.3%	70.4%	5.8%	5.2%	0.7%	2.6%	1.3%	1.3%	0.4%	1.4%	1.0%	3.2%	6.7%
City of Richmond	208,395	80.3%	54.3%	7.4%	7.3%	1.9%	1.6%	1.0%	1.0%	0.8%	0.9%	1.1%	3.3%	19.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census.

Indigenous Population

Indigenous identity includes persons who identify as First Nations (North American Indian), Métis and/or Inuk (Inuit) and/or those who report being Registered or Treaty Indians (that is, registered under the *Indian Act of Canada*), and/or those who report having membership in a First Nation or Indian band.

- In Richmond, a total of 1,540 people reported Indigenous identity in the 2021 Census.
- In Richmond in 2021, the approximate distribution of the population within these groups was:
 - 58.3% First Nations (North American Indian);
 - 36.5% Métis;
 - 5.2% who identify as more than one Indigenous type and/or who do not identify as an Indigenous type but report to having Registered or Treaty Indian status and/or membership in a First Nation or Indian band.
- In 2021, Indigenous peoples accounted for 0.7% of the total population of Richmond, compared to 2.4% for Metro Vancouver and 5.9% for BC.

For Further Information:

Please contact the Policy Planning Department at 604-276-4116 or communityplanning@richmond.ca.