

## About STP

The Student Transitions Project (STP) is a collaborative effort of British Columbia's Ministries of Education and Advanced Education and B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions. The STP is helping school districts, post-secondary institutions and the government to plan and manage programs and access to higher education in B.C.

## Methodology

All students entering the K-12 system in British Columbia are assigned a nine-digit personal education number (PEN), and this unique identifier follows students throughout their education in British Columbia. STP links the student PENs between the two education systems, tracking student transitions while protecting personal privacy.

## STP Web Site

For further information on the STP, and for copies of the STP Highlights and the full report summarized in the Highlights, please visit the STP website at

[www.aved.gov.bc.ca/student\\_transitions](http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/student_transitions)

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## When do Secondary School Graduates go on to Post-Secondary Education?

This report provides an update to STP Project Highlights: June 2006. For the first time, four years of data are available, making it possible to examine student transition trends across four post-secondary entry years: 2002/03 to 2005/06.

### Key Findings:

- » There is a consistent trend in immediate entry transition rates. Each year, slightly more than half (approximately 51.2%) of high school graduates made an immediate transition into B.C.'s public post-secondary system within one year of graduation.
- » Of the 41,175 students who graduated from secondary school in British Columbia in 2001/02, 70.1% had enrolled in public post-secondary education in B.C. within four years of graduation.
- » The number of B.C. secondary school graduates increased during the four year period; 41,736 students graduated from high school in 2004/05, up from 41,175 students in 2001/02.

Figure 1: B.C. Secondary School to Post-Secondary School Transition Matrix

High School Grad Year	Post-Secondary Entry Year				No Transition Yet	Total HS Grads <sup>1</sup>
	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006		
2001/2002	<b>21,217</b> (51.5%)	4,577 (11.1%)	1,979 (4.8%)	1,110 (2.7%)	12,292 (29.9%)	41,175
2002/2003		<b>21,821</b> (51.8%)	4,518 (10.7%)	1,956 (4.7%)	13,804 (32.8%)	42,099
2003/2004			<b>20,436</b> (50.5%)	4,262 (10.6%)	15,744 (38.9%)	40,442
2004/2005				<b>21,196</b> (50.8%)	20,540 (49.2%)	41,736

<sup>1</sup> High school graduation numbers for 2001/02, 2002/03 and 2003/04 are higher than those reported in June 2006 report because the present report includes students who began studying at post-secondary institutions (mainly colleges) before or during their secondary school graduation year. "Early entry" transitions were excluded from the previous report.

## Definitions

### **Secondary school (or high school) graduate:**

A B.C. secondary school student who completes his or her regular or adult Dogwood credential in the secondary school graduation year (October 1 to September 30). Students who return to the K-12 system – to re-take a course, for example, are deemed graduates in the year they earned their Dogwood.

### **Post-secondary registrant:**

a student who registers in at least one course in a public B.C. post-secondary institution in the post-secondary entry year (September 1 to August 31), and is still registered on the stable enrolment date.

**Transition matrix:** two-dimensional table showing the number or proportion of students who make their “first” transition to a B.C. post-secondary institution after high school graduation.

**Immediate entry (I):** students who first begin their studies in a B.C. post-secondary institution within one year of secondary school graduation. These are sometimes referred to as “direct entry” students and are represented in the transition matrix as presented in Figures 1 and 2.

## When do Aboriginal Secondary School Graduates go on to Post-Secondary Education?

### Key Findings:

- » In each high school graduation year, about 42.2% of Aboriginal high school graduates made an immediate transition into B.C.’s public post-secondary system. This is 9% lower than the immediate transition rate of non-Aboriginal students (51.2%).
- » Although Aboriginal high school graduates were less likely to make an immediate transition into B.C.’s public post-secondary system compared to non-Aboriginal graduates, a greater proportion of Aboriginal graduates enrolled in post-secondary education in subsequent entry years. For example, of the 2001/2002 class, 13.5% of Aboriginal students transitioned into a B.C. public post-secondary institution in 2003/2004, compared to 11.1% of non-Aboriginal students. This trend continues across three post-secondary entry years.
- » Of the 1,484 Aboriginal students who graduated from high school in 2001/2002, 67.7% had enrolled in a B.C. public post-secondary institution within four years of graduation.

Figure 2: B.C. Secondary School to Post-Secondary School Transition Matrix – Aboriginal Students

High School Grad Year	Post-Secondary Entry Year				No Transition Yet	Total HS Grads
	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006		
2001/2002	<b>653</b> (44.0%)	201 (13.5%)	102 (6.9%)	48 (3.3%)	480 (32.3%)	1,484
2002/2003		<b>681</b> (41.8%)	190 (11.7%)	111 (6.7%)	648 (39.8%)	1,630
2003/2004			<b>739</b> (43.7%)	190 (11.3%)	761 (45.0%)	1,690
2004/2005				<b>783</b> (40.0%)	1,173 (60.0%)	1,956

## Student Transitions Project Highlights

## What are the Post-Secondary Destinations of Immediate Entry Students?

### Key Findings:

- » The majority of immediate entry students over the past four years enrolled in a public post-secondary institution in either the Lower Mainland region (34.9%) or the Surrey-Fraser Valley (31.7%) region.
- » The Vancouver Island region saw the largest increase in immediate entry student enrolments over the four year period; 3112 immediate entry students enrolled in a Vancouver Island public institution in 2002/03 versus 3445 in 2005/06. This represents a 10.7% increase.

Figure 3: Post-Secondary Destinations of Immediate Entry Students

Region	Post-Secondary Immediate Entry Year				Grand Total
	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	
<b>Surrey - Fraser Valley</b>	<b>6,775</b>	<b>6,771</b>	<b>6,413</b>	<b>6,909</b>	<b>26,868</b>
Simon Fraser University	2,083	2,164	2,150	2,361	8,758
Douglas College	1,288	1,240	1,115	1,175	4,818
Kwantlen University College	2,295	2,190	2,088	2,117	8,690
University College of the Fraser Valley	1,109	1,177	1,060	1,256	4,602
<b>Southern Interior<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>959</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>3,707</b>
Okanagan College <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	646	646
Okanagan University College <sup>2</sup>	959	1,095	1,007	0	3,061
<b>Lower Mainland</b>	<b>7,537</b>	<b>7,756</b>	<b>6,986</b>	<b>7,303</b>	<b>29,582</b>
University of British Columbia <sup>3</sup>	3,394	3,416	3,125	3,564	13,499
British Columbia Institute of Technology	1,022	1,023	1,021	998	4,064
Capilano College	970	1,080	915	885	3,850
Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design	87	95	101	103	386
Institute of Indigenous Government	Msk	Msk	Msk	Msk	10
Justice Institute of British Columbia	57	57	77	66	257
Langara College	1,375	1,467	1,196	1,276	5,314
Vancouver Community College	426	425	388	411	1,650
Open Learning Agency <sup>5</sup>	206	193	163	0	562
<b>Vancouver Island<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>3,112</b>	<b>3,329</b>	<b>3,313</b>	<b>3,445</b>	<b>13,199</b>
University of Victoria	1,143	1,304	1,336	1,512	5,295
Camosun College	714	800	790	746	3,050
Malaspina University-College	821	868	825	864	3,378
North Island College	434	357	362	323	1,476
<b>Central Interior</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>1,043</b>	<b>3,931</b>
University College of the Cariboo <sup>5</sup>	984	969	900	0	2,853
Thompson Rivers University <sup>5</sup>	0	0	0	1,014	1,014
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology	9	10	16	29	64
<b>Kootenay</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>2,432</b>
College of the Rockies	265	263	273	276	1,077
Selkirk College	371	335	327	322	1,355
<b>Northern</b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>1,291</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>1,248</b>	<b>4,941</b>
University of Northern British Columbia	337	359	334	348	1,378
College of New Caledonia	494	440	415	436	1,785
Northern Lights College	199	261	209	193	862
Northwest Community College	173	231	241	271	916
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>21,217</b>	<b>21,819</b>	<b>20,434</b>	<b>21,192</b>	<b>84,662</b>

*'Msk' indicates that the numbers have been masked - when reporting personal information, numbers or percentages must be suppressed if they are elements of a small population. The grand totals have not been affected.*



## What are the Post-Secondary Destinations of Aboriginal Immediate Entry Students?

### Key Findings:

- » Over the past four years, half (50.0%) of Aboriginal high school graduates who made an immediate entry into B.C.'s public post secondary system enrolled in a B.C. college. Meanwhile, 28.6% registered at a B.C. university college, 14.4% registered at a B.C. university and 7% registered at a B.C. institute.
- » In 2005/06, Aboriginal immediate entry enrolments in the university sector increased by 161.3% over the previous year, while Aboriginal immediate entry enrolments in university colleges decreased by 36.8%. These enrolment shifts stem from the recent transformations of Okanagan University College (OUC) and University College of the Cariboo into University of British Columbia (UBCO) and Thompson Rivers University, respectively <sup>2,5</sup>.

Figure 4: Post-Secondary Destinations of Immediate Entry Aboriginal Students

Sector	Post-Secondary Immediate Entry Year				Grand Total
	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	
Universities <sup>2</sup>	67	72	75	196	410
University Colleges <sup>5</sup>	232	222	223	141	818
Colleges	306	339	392	392	1,429
Institutes	48	48	49	54	199
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>2,856</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Southern Interior region also includes University of British Columbia – Okanagan (UBCO). However, enrolment data for UBCO is included in the total for University of British Columbia (UBC). See also note #3.

<sup>2</sup> In 2004/05, the operations of Okanagan University College (OUC) were transferred to the new University of British Columbia – Okanagan (UBCO), and the new Okanagan College (OC). Okanagan University College became Okanagan College in November 2004, and started offering post-secondary programs as a college in September 2005. Therefore, there is no student transition data for OUC after the 2004/05 post-secondary entry year – this data is included in data for OC and UBC for 2005/06.

<sup>3</sup> Total includes both University of British Columbia (UBC) and UBC Okanagan (UBCO) since enrolment breakdowns for each campus are not available.

<sup>4</sup> The Vancouver Island region also includes Royal Roads University (RRU). However, none of the secondary school graduates of 2001/02 to 2004/05 made an immediate transition to RRU and therefore it does not appear in this table. Note that delayed transitions to RRU did occur. Admission to RRU undergraduate programs requires a minimum of two full years of study at a recognized university or university college in an appropriate program area, provided all other entrance criteria are met.

<sup>5</sup> In 2005, the University College of the Cariboo was transformed into Thompson Rivers University (TRU). At this time, the Open Learning Agency (OLA) also ceased its post-secondary education activities, some of which were transferred to TRU. Therefore, there is no student transition data for TRU and TRU-Open Learning prior to the 2005/06 post-secondary entry year, and no student transition data for UCC or OLA after the 2004/05 post-secondary entry year.

### Special Thanks

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#### B.C. Institutes/Agencies:

B.C. Institute of Technology, Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, Justice Institute of B.C., Nicola Valley Institute of Technology.

#### B.C. Colleges:

Camosun College, Capilano College, College of New Caledonia, College of the Rockies, Douglas College, Langara College, North Island College, Northern Lights College, Northwest Community College, Okanagan College, Selkirk College and Vancouver Community College.

#### B.C. University Colleges:

Kwantlen University College, Malaspina University-College and University College of the Fraser Valley.

#### B.C. Universities:

Royal Roads University, Simon Fraser University, University of British Columbia, University of Northern British Columbia, University of Victoria and Thompson Rivers University (formerly University College of the Cariboo).

#### STP Steering Committee Members:

- » Devron Gaber, STP Chair, Associate Director, B.C. Council on Admissions and Transfer.
- » Bob Cowin, Director, Institutional Research, Douglas College.
- » Gerald Morton, Director, Information Department, Ministry of Education.
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