

BC Student Outcomes Program Data Viewer File Notes

Every year, the BC Student Outcomes Program collects information from tens of thousands of former British Columbia public post-secondary students. Former students evaluate their education and are asked about their subsequent employment and further education.

For more information about the BC Student Outcomes Program, please visit <https://outcomes.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/>.

To directly access the Data Viewer, please visit https://bcstats.shinyapps.io/so_data_viewer/.

The Data Viewer was created to be a simple, dynamic interface that allows users to view up-to-date student outcomes information (three years of aggregated data) from six student groups. Results in the Data Viewer, and in CSV format, are available by Student Group, by Institution, by Program Area, and by Program Name. Aggregated data for the three most recent survey years are presented.

Notes:

1) The following 6 student groups are included:

- Certificate (includes Post-degree Certificates and Advanced Certificates)
- Diploma (includes Post-degree Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas)
- Associate Degree (includes university transfer programs)
- Bachelor's Degree
- Apprenticeship (includes Traditional and Progressive apprenticeship programs with public and private institutions included in the Overall and Program Area results only)
- Trades Foundation

2) Included in the file are the **margin of error** calculations for each of the percentages (e.g., Q49A_MOE). The margin of error is a statistical measure used to quantify the amount of uncertainty or variability in the results. It provides an estimate of how much the sample results are likely to differ from the true population value.

- **Calculation:** It is typically calculated based on the sample size, the proportion, and the confidence level. A larger sample size usually results in a smaller margin of error. Note: The Finite Population Correction (FPC) was used for in the calculation of all percentages other than the RESPONSE_RATE_MOE which is based on the overall sample.
- **Interpretation:** A margin of error of $\pm 3\%$ means that the true value is expected to fall within 3 percentage points above or below the reported value. For example, if 60% are satisfied and the margin of error is $\pm 3\%$, the true level of satisfaction is likely to be between 57% and 63%.
- **Confidence Level:** This is often expressed as a percentage (a 95% confidence level is used in the calculations here), meaning that if the same survey were conducted multiple times, 95% of the results would fall within the margin of error.
- **The margin of error reflects uncertainty and is not an exact measure. It is important to always consider it when interpreting data from surveys.**

- 3) Due to zero or low counts, institution-reported "Non-binary" gender demographic data are not included in the Gender results.
- 4) Not all institutions offer programs for all student groups, therefore the Program Name list will vary depending on the Student Group and Institution selected. For more information on programs offered by public post-secondary institutions in B.C., please visit the EducationPlannerBC website at <https://www.educationplannerbc.ca/>.
- 5) Survey results are based on the number of former students who gave a valid response to the question. Those who refused to answer, or who said "Don't know" or "Not applicable" were not included in the calculations.

Confidentiality of Respondents

The collection and dissemination of BC Student Outcomes Program data are conducted in compliance with the *Statistics Act* and *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy* legislation. Great care is taken to protect the privacy of survey respondents.

One way to protect respondents' confidentiality is to not display (i.e., mask) some results. We do not show results that are based on very low numbers (i.e., on low cell counts). While it may be difficult to identify an individual when cell counts are low, publishing data based on low counts can give the impression that confidentiality has not been maintained.

Suppression Codes Used in the Data Viewer/CSV Format	
Code	Description
-99	Too few responses to report
-1	Set to Null
-2	Majority were female
-3	Fewer than 5%
-4	More than 95%
-5	Majority were male
-6	Minority were self-employed
-7	Majority were self-employed
-8	Minority were full-time
-9	Majority were full-time
-10	Minority were employed
-11	Majority were employed
-12	Minority were unemployed (recoded to -99)
-13	Majority were unemployed (recoded to -99)

Variable Information

Data Viewer Variable	BGS Question #	Survey Group	Notes
CREDENTIAL		All	Student Group
GROUPBY		All	Filter selections, e.g., institution, program area, and program name
INSTITUTION		All	Institution code
INSTITUTION_NAME		All	Institution name
PROGRAM_AREA		All	Program Area codes. Based on two-digit Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) codes. BGS Program Areas included expansion of Arts and Sciences categories.
PROGRAM_AREA_NAME		All	Program Area names
PROGRAM_NAME		All	Program name
RESPONDENTS		All	Those who responded to the survey
RESPONSE_RATE		All	Response rate is calculated by dividing the number of respondents by the number in the eligible cohort
AGE		All	Median age
WOMEN		All	% women
MEN		All	% men
Q49A	B03_R1	All	% who said they were "Very satisfied" or "Somewhat satisfied" with their education or training. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very satisfied" to "Very dissatisfied".
Q51NA	C14	All	Write clearly and concisely. % who said the institution/program was "Very helpful" or "Helpful" in developing the selected skill. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very helpful" to "Not at all helpful", excluding those who said "Not applicable".
Q51NB	C15	All	Speak effectively. % who said the institution/program was "Very helpful" or "Helpful" in developing the selected skill. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very helpful" to "Not at all helpful", excluding those who said "Not applicable".
Q51ND	C17	All	Work effectively with others. % who said the institution/program was "Very helpful" or "Helpful" in developing the selected skill. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very helpful" to "Not at all helpful", excluding those who said "Not applicable".
Q51NE1	C18	All	Analyse and think critically. % who said the institution/program was "Very helpful" or "Helpful" in developing the selected skill. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very helpful" to "Not at all helpful", excluding those who said "Not applicable".
Q51NE2	C19	All	Resolve issues or problems. % who said the institution/program was "Very helpful" or "Helpful" in developing the selected skill. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very helpful" to "Not at all helpful", excluding those who said "Not applicable".
Q51NI	C22	All	Learn on your own. % who said the institution/program was "Very helpful" or "Helpful" in developing the selected skill. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very helpful" to "Not at all helpful", excluding those who said "Not applicable".
Q51NJ	C16	All	Read and comprehend material. % who said the institution/program was "Very helpful" or "Helpful" in developing the selected skill. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very

			helpful" to "Not at all helpful", excluding those who said "Not applicable".
Q52A	C01	All	For BGS: % who said the quality of instruction was "Very good", or "Good". Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very good" to "Very poor". For all others: % who said the quality of instruction was "Very good", "Good", or "Adequate". Based on respondents who rated on a five-point scale from "Very good" to "Very poor", excluding those who said not applicable.
SELF_EMPLOYED		All	% self-employed (main job)
EMPLOY_FULL_TIME		All	% employed full-time (employed 30 hours or more per week at main job)
JOB_PROGRAM_RELATED		All	% who said their main job was "Very related" or "Somewhat related" to their education/training. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very related" to "Not at all related".
USEFUL_PERFORM_JOB		All	% who said the knowledge and skills they gained from their education/training were "Very useful" or "Somewhat useful" in performing their main job. Based on respondents who rated on a four-point scale from "Very useful" to "Not at all useful".
IN_LABR_MKT		All	% in the labour force. The labour force participation rate is the number of respondents employed or looking for work as a percentage of all respondents. Includes those who were employed and who were looking and available for work.
EMPLOYED		All	% who said they were working at a paid job or business at the time of the survey. The employment rate is the number employed as a percentage of all respondents.
UNEMPLOYED		All	% unemployed. Those who were not working but were available and looking for a job. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percentage of respondents in the labour force.
SALARY_WAGE		All	Median wage/salary. For BGS: Annual salary. For all others: Hourly wage.
FURTH_STUDIES		CERT, DIPL, ADGR, and BGS only	% who took further studies since their education/training
Q11_7		APP only	% who received their Certificate of Qualification
Q52_6		TFTRV only	% who obtained employment as an apprentice