



BC Transfer Students Profile & Performance

Profile and Performance of BC Transfer Students (2018/19-2022/23)

Prepared for BCCAT by Albert Wong, Nora Franzova, and Samata Bajracharya, Langara College. This infographic is a summary of key findings. The full report is available at: bccat.ca/publication/bctransferstudents2024

Who is included in this study?

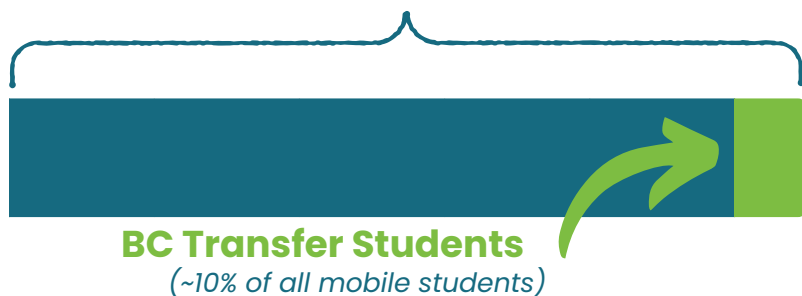
BC Transfer Students

Students transferring 15 or more credits and transferring from a BC Transfer System member institution (including private and non-BC institutions).

BC Direct Entry Students

Students who entered a receiving university after graduating from a BC high school.

All Mobile Students in BC Public Post-Secondary Institutions (~50,000/year). Source: Student Transitions Project



This report is the latest iteration of BCCAT research looking at transfer students every five years. It highlights the pathways and successes of the students who were admitted to public universities in BC during the period 2018/19 to 2022/23 (academic years).

This study compares the profile and performance of BC transfer students to BC direct entry students.



BC public universities in this study:

- Capilano University
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Royal Roads University
- Simon Fraser University
- Thompson Rivers University
- University of British Columbia (Vancouver & Okanagan campuses)
- University of Northern British Columbia
- University of the Fraser Valley
- University of Victoria

Where did they go?

29%

BC transfer students constitute 29% of all students admitted in a year at participating BC public universities (on average).

46

BC transfer students carry an average of 46 credits (equivalent to 1.5 years of full time study).

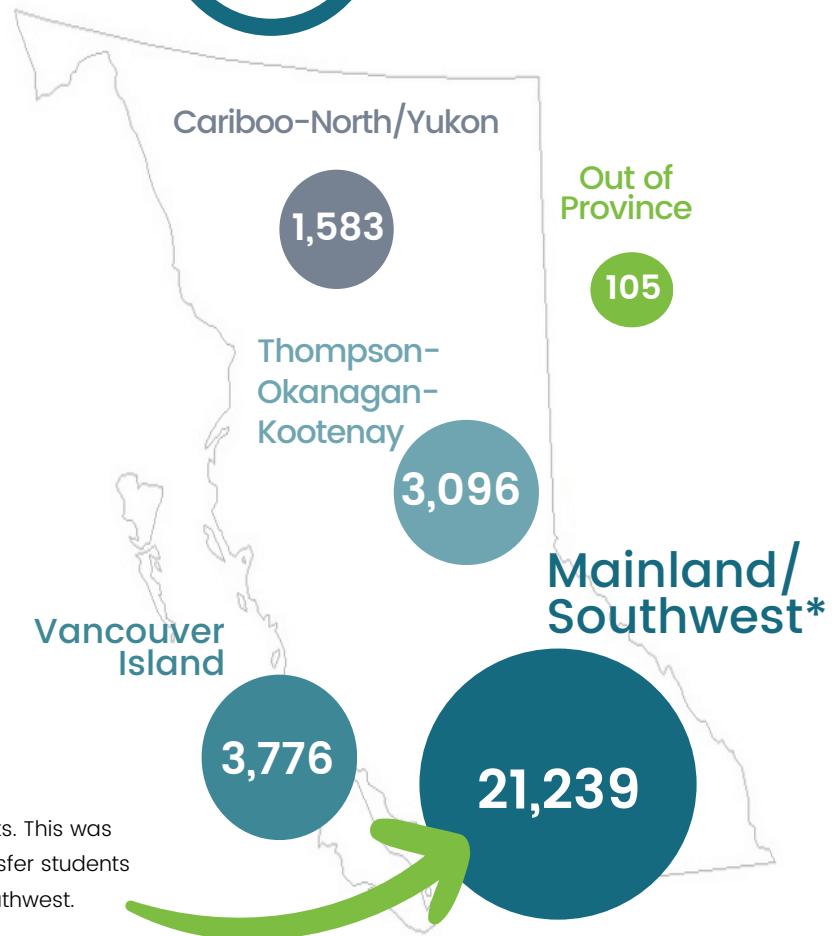
	Direct Entry Students	Transfer Students
Credits Taken in First Year at Universities	26.9	26.1
Average Age	18.1	22.2
International Students	9%	31%
Indigenous Students	3%	3%
Female	56%	54%

*Mainland/Southwest accounts for 71% of all BC transfer students. This was up from 68% in the 2020 report, likely due to the addition of transfer students at three more receiving universities located in the Mainland/Southwest.

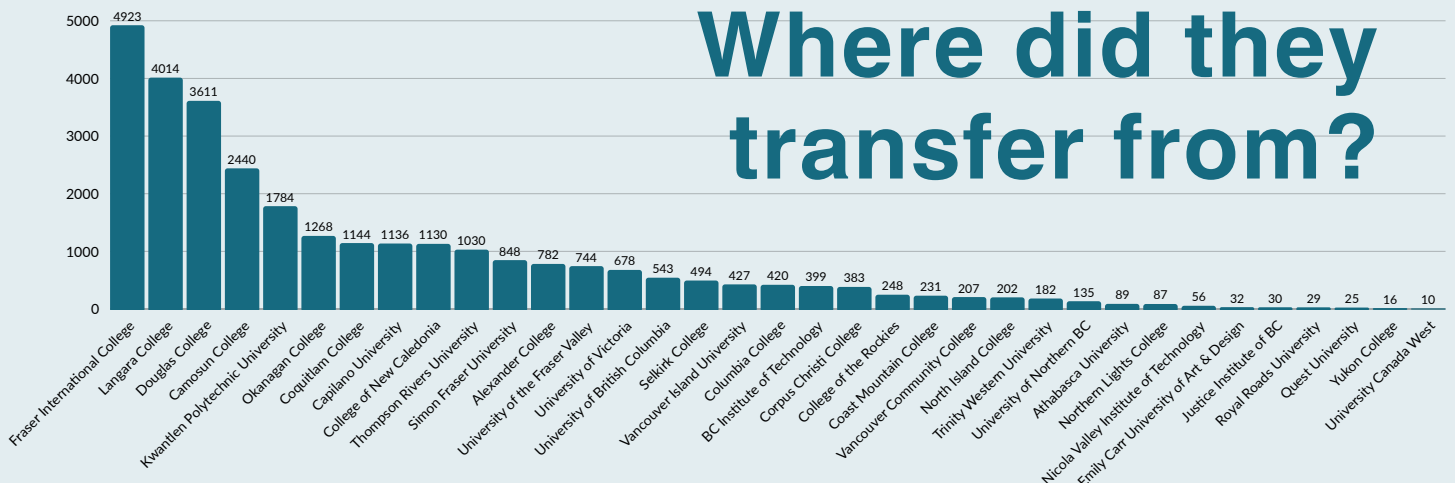
29,798

Total # of BC Transfer Students

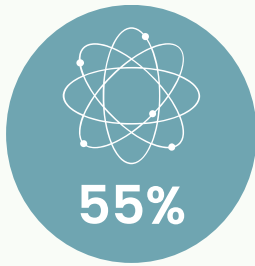
Down from 30,150 in the 2020 report.



Where did they transfer from?



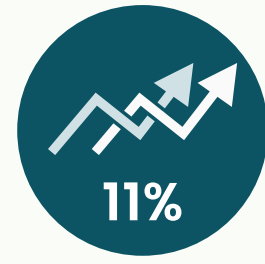
What did they study post-transfer?



Arts &
Sciences



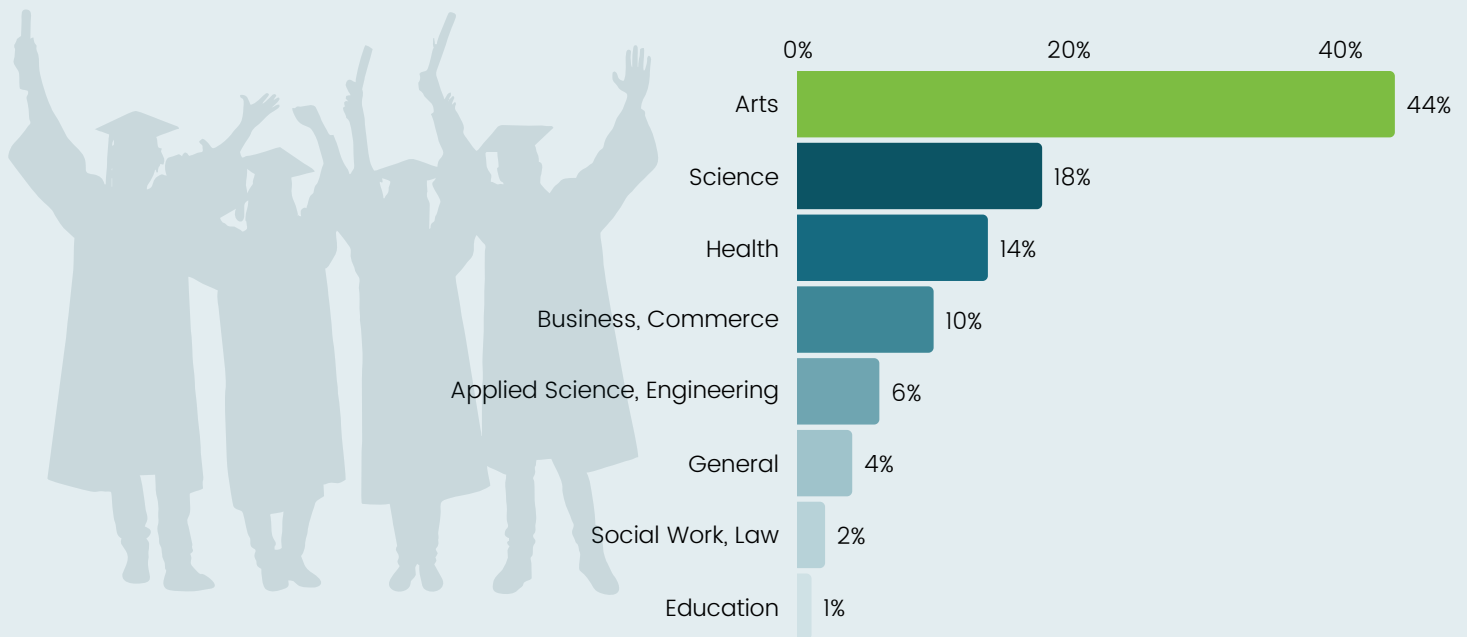
Engineering &
Applied Sciences



Business &
Management

Also: Health (9%), Human and Social Services (6%), Education (1%), and Visual & Performance Arts (2%).

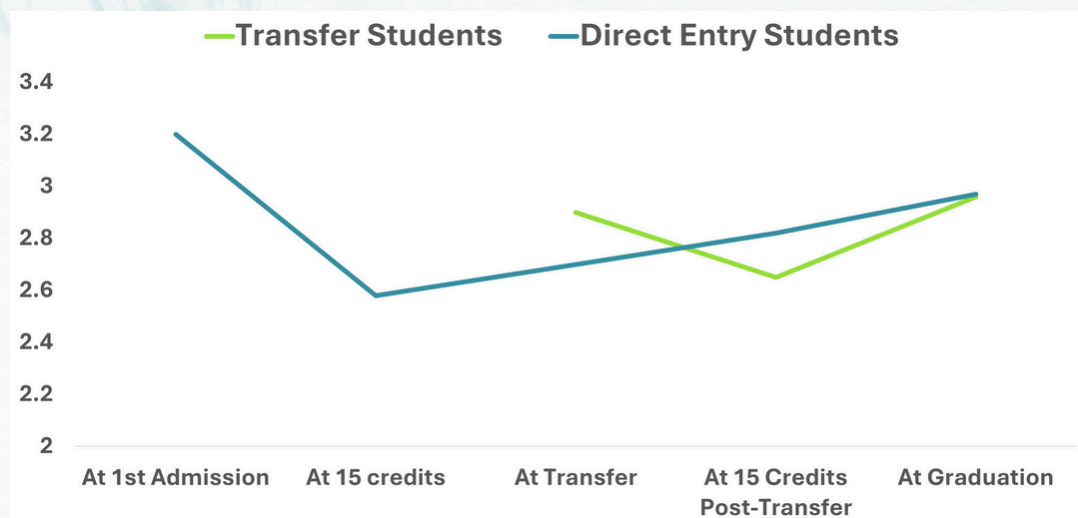
BC transfer students' baccalaureate credentials by field of study (percentage of graduated students)



Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Sciences were the most common credentials for BC transfer students who got admitted in the 2018/19 academic year and graduated before the reporting period's end. About a half (44%) of transfer graduates completed a Bachelor of Arts degree compared to 32% of BC direct entry graduates. In contrast, a Bachelor of Science degree was the program of choice for more BC direct entry students (33%) than for BC transfer students (18%).

How did they perform?

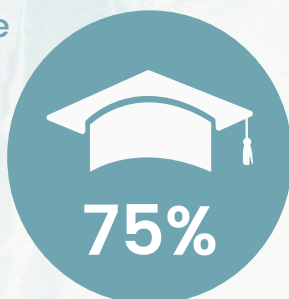
Typical GPA Trends



After completion of 15 credits at the receiving institutions, BC transfer students had higher average GPA than those of BC direct entry students at all receiving institutions. This is consistent with the findings in the 2020 report.

NOTE: The higher GPA at 15 credits (i.e., a proxy for about one semester of full-time studies) may imply lower "transfer shock" for BC transfer students, and higher "entry shock" for BC direct entry students.

Baccalaureate
Degree
Completion
Rate



On average, 75% of BC transfer students admitted in the 2018/19 academic year completed a degree by the end of the 2022/23 academic year.

Average Time
(months) to
Completion
of Degree



Both BC transfer and BC direct entry students completed a credential within approximately 29 months.

Scan to view the
full report online!

