



# **New Canadians, Community, and Literacy**

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**Pan-Canadian Interactive Literacy Forum**

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# ***BC's International Migration***

- Nearly 200,000 immigrants over five years
- In 2007 just under 39,000 new immigrants
  - from 182 countries speaking 148 languages
  - economic class 62%; family 30%; refugee 5%
  - over one quarter children and youth
  - 51% with university or higher
  - 63% declared ability in English or French
- Approximately 204,000 new permits were issued to temporary workers and international students from 2002-2006



# ***Permanent and Temporary Countries of Origin 2002-2006***

## **Immigrants**

- China 29%
- India 14%
- Philippines 9%
- S Korea 7%
- Taiwan 5%

## **Temporary Workers**

- Australia 19%
- Japan 17%
- US 14%
- UK 10%
- Philippines 5%

## **International Students**

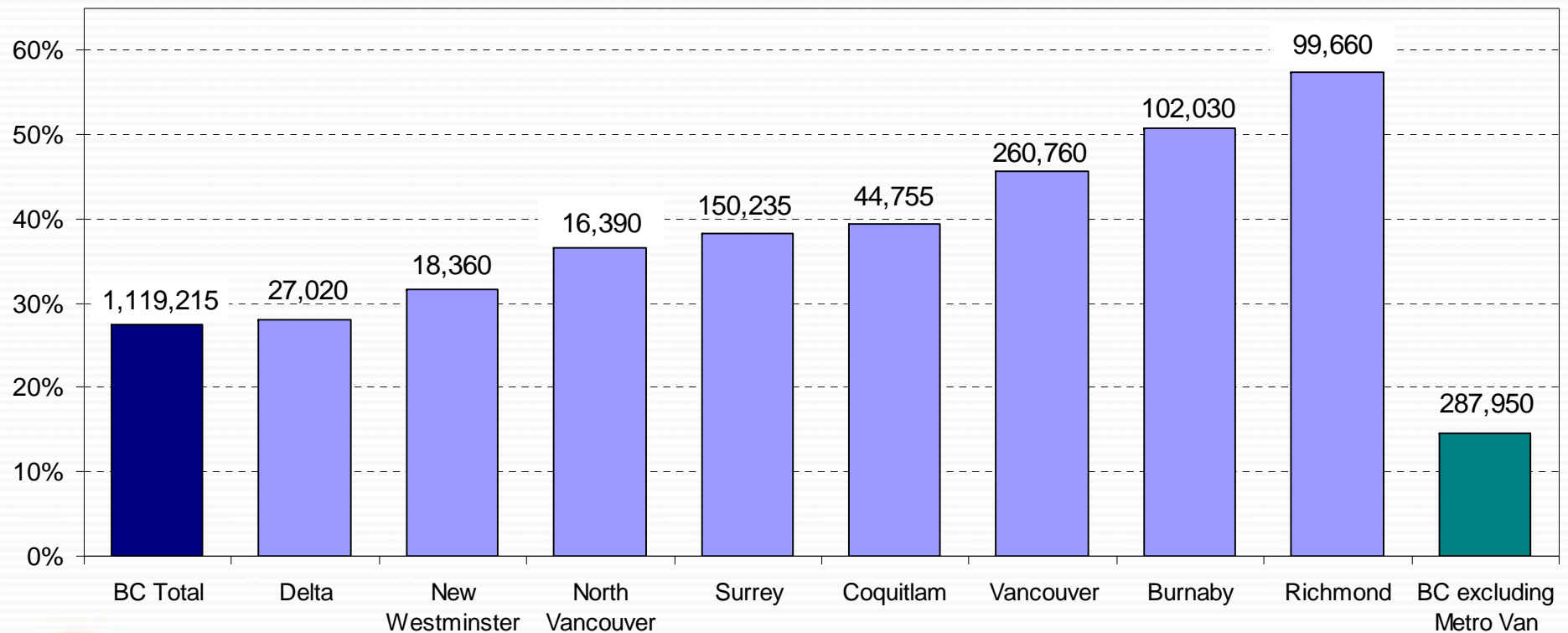
- S Korea 19%
- Japan 8%
- China 7%
- Taiwan 3%
- US 3%



# Immigrants' share of population in Metro Vancouver



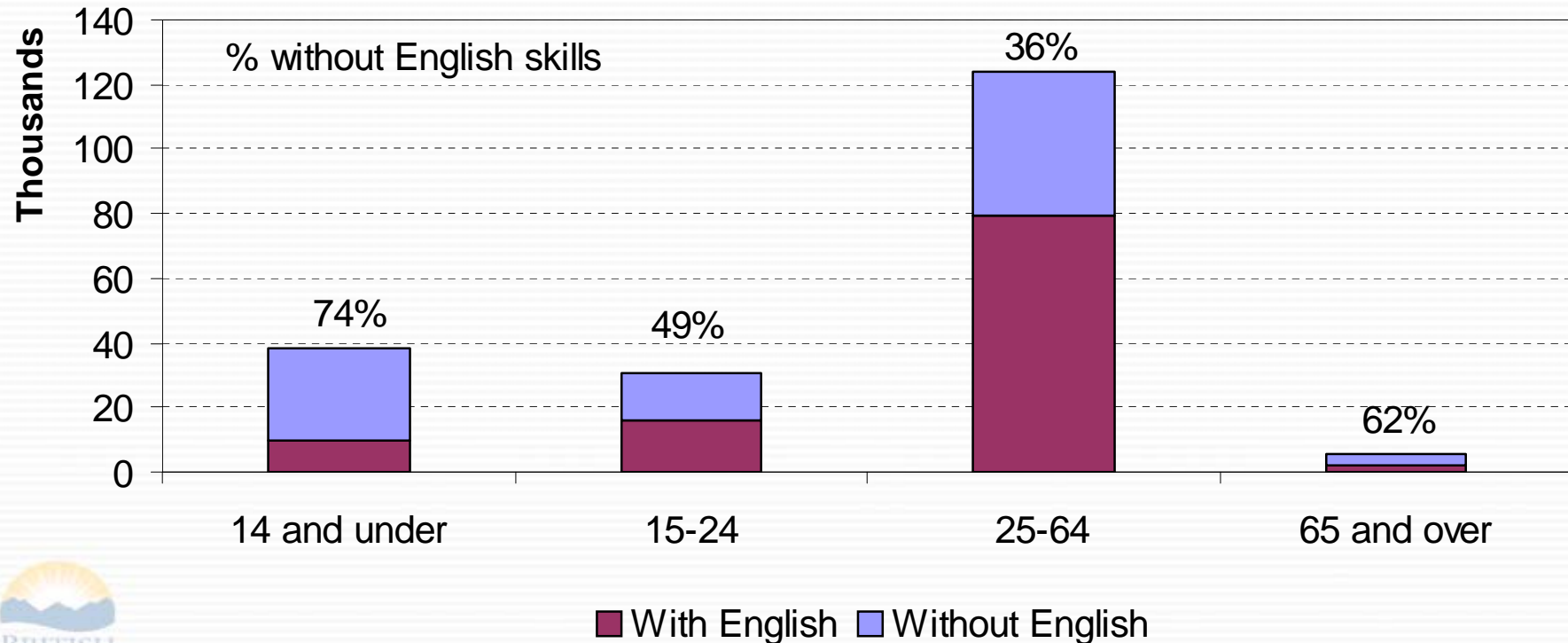
% of population who are immigrants



Data Source: Statistics Canada; 2006 Census

# English Skills (self declared)

## English Skills of Immigrants to BC by Age Group 2003-2007

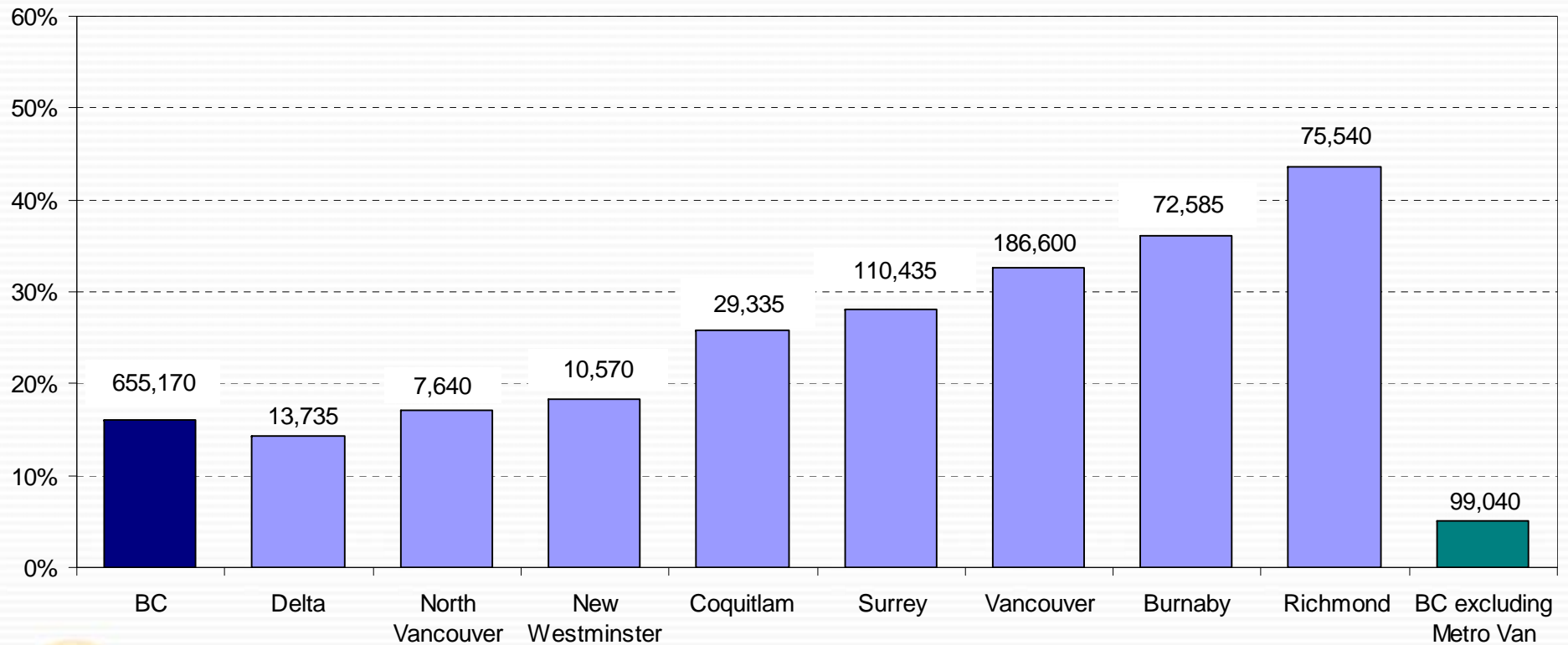


Data Source: CIC Landed Immigrant Database (LIDS)

# English not spoken at home



% of total population who speak other than English at home



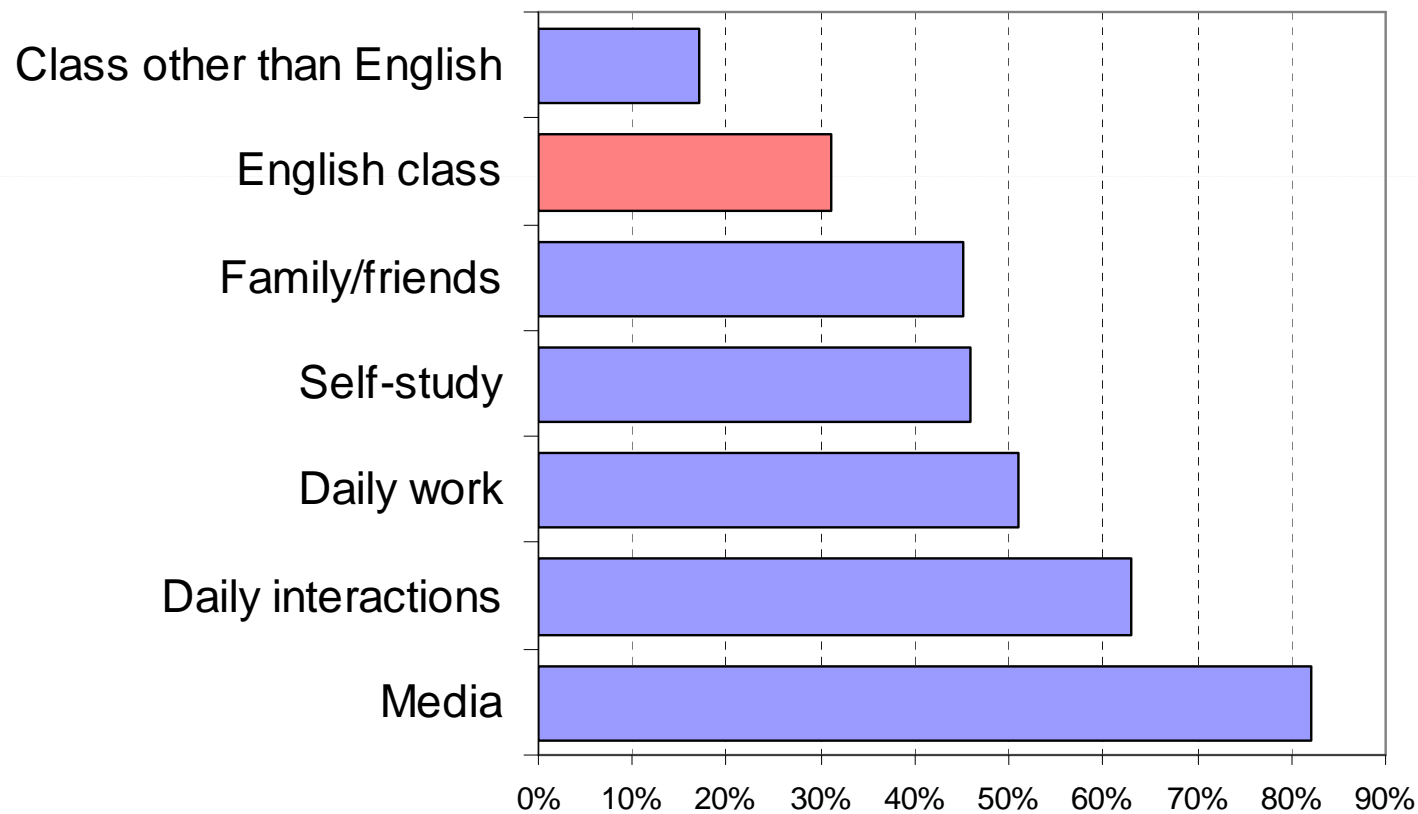
Data Source: Statistics Canada; 2006 Census



# ***Greatest challenges faced four years after arrival in Canada***

- **Finding a job**
- **Learning a new language**
- Getting used to the weather
- Missing support from homeland
- Adapting to new culture or values
- Financial constraints
- Recognition of credentials/experience
- Lack of social interaction
- Access to professional help
- Discrimination or racism

# ***New immigrants reported many sources for improved English***



Data Source: Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC)



# *Integration is a two-way process*

Immigrants gain social and labour market skills to contribute, reach their full potential, and understand and practice Canadian values related to multiculturalism and human rights.



Communities in BC are welcoming and support the arrival, adaptation and integration of new immigrants, are accepting of cultural diversity, and facilitate new immigrants to fully participate and integrate into daily life.



**Source: *WelcomeBC Strategic Framework Goals***



Ministry Responsible  
for Multiculturalism



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**[www.WelcomeBC.ca](http://www.WelcomeBC.ca)**