

Celebrating Asian Heritage Month

Canadians of Asian heritage have helped build our great country. This month, we highlight and celebrate their contributions to Canada's past, present, and future.

Canadians of Asian origin

In 2016, **6,095,235** people in Canada reported an Asian ethnic origin, representing **17.7%** of Canada's population.

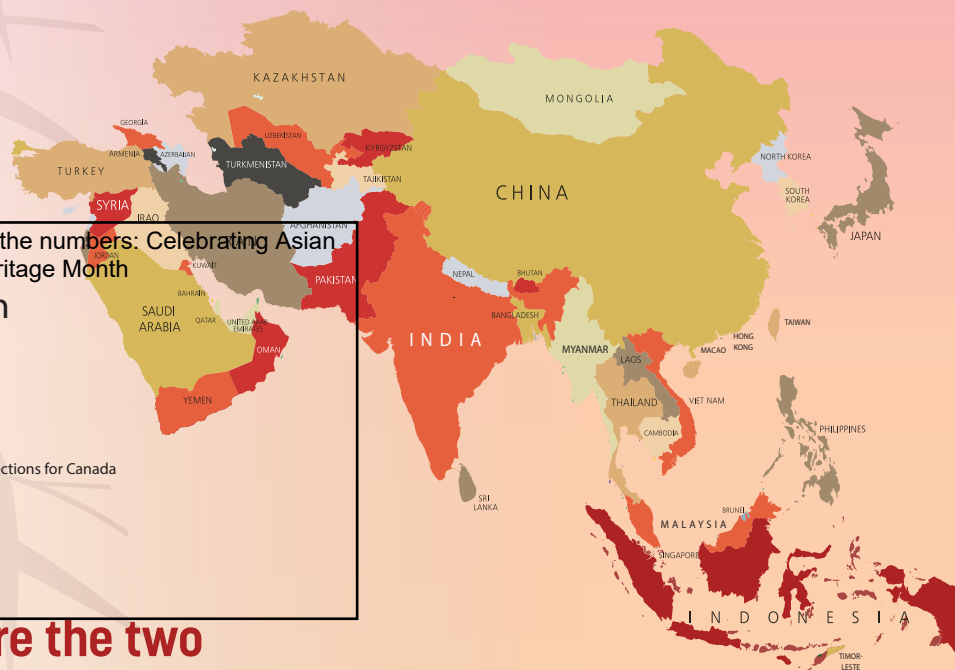
Source: Statistics Canada. 2017. *Focus on Geography Series, 2016 Census*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-404-X2016001. Ottawa, Ontario.

Almost half of Canada's immigrant population was born in Asia

In 2016, **48.1%** of all immigrants were born in Asia. According to Statistics Canada's population projections, by 2036 between **55.7%** and **57.9%** of Canada's immigrant population could be born in Asia—mainly in **China, India** and the **Philippines**.

Source: Statistics Canada, "2016 Census; Immigration and Diversity: Population and its Regions, 2011 to 2036." Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 91-551. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/91-551-x/91-551-x2017001-eng.htm>

By the numbers: Celebrating Asian Heritage Month



South Asian and Chinese are the two largest groups designated as visible minorities

According to population projections, South Asians would still be the **largest group** designated as **visible minorities** in 2036, with over **3 million people**.

Source: Statistics Canada, "2016 Census; Immigration and Diversity: Population Projections for Canada and its Regions, 2011 to 2036." Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 91-551. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/91-551-x/91-551-x2017001-eng.htm>

South Asian and Chinese women lead in STEM occupations

Chinese and South Asian women were proportionally more numerous in a number of professional occupations in 2016. For example, among women in the occupational group of **computer and information systems professionals** in 2016, **15%** were Chinese and **11%** were South Asian, more than double the shares of these women in all professional occupations (**6%** and **5%**, respectively).

Source: Milan, A. and V. Gagnon. 2020. "Occupations of South Asian, Chinese and Black women: Prevalence and age composition." *Labour Statistics: Research Papers*, Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 75-004-M. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/75-004-m/75-004-m2020002-eng.htm>.