



The United Way of the Lower Mainland  
**Community Profile Series**

Delta

October 2016

# About United Way of the Lower Mainland

**Our Vision:** A healthy, caring, inclusive community.

**Our Mission:** To strengthen our community's capacity to address social issues.

United Way of the Lower Mainland (UWLM) invests in your communities – where you live, work, learn and play.

United Way has been helping people in the Lower Mainland for more than 80 years. Working with over 150 community partners, we fund over 300 programs each year to create a better future for children, families and seniors.

## How United Way works and leads social change:

- **Collaborate:** We multiply our impact through partnerships.
- **Research:** We fund and conduct research to understand community needs and plan for the future.
- **Invest:** We make smart community investments to achieve results.
- **Advocate:** We help people understand the issues and influence public attitudes, systems and policies.

United Way's vision is a better community for all of us; we believe that every person who lives in the Lower Mainland should have access to the same opportunities to build a better life for themselves. United Way makes change by targeting root causes of complex social issues in our communities and focuses on All that Kids Can Be, Poverty to Possibility and Building Strong Communities as

priority areas. Dollars are invested where they can make the most difference creating long term social change.

None of the work we do would be possible without the generosity of our donors. We all share in the impact when we create neighbourhoods that we are proud to call home.

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# Preface

## THE UNITED WAY of the LOWER MAINLAND COMMUNITY PROFILE SERIES

### DELTA COMMUNITY PROFILE: April 2016

This report is the fifth in a series across the Lower Mainland, to dive deep into a community and its current socio-demographic profile.

The United Way decided to conduct this profile for Delta for a few reasons:

- Cities in the Lower Mainland are changing and the United Way wants to identify exactly how.
- UWLM funds agencies and services in Delta and we are aware of changing need. This profile will inform our targeted investment in future services, and will allow us to partner in Delta for an even stronger community.
- As a knowledge resource and community partner, UWLM is pleased to provide this profile to the municipalities of the Lower Mainland – and all the agencies serving here – to inform their planning and strategies.

This profile focuses on the socio-demographic indicators in Delta. With the changes in these communities, the social safety net has also evolved over the same period. This is a result of UWLM donor dollars invested in effective community-based programs and services and because UWLM continues to work in partnership with public partners, like the Corporation of Delta. Readers are encouraged to consider other sources of information in exploring how UWLM and others have – and continue to – respond to the changing socio-demographic context described in this report.

In this document, the population demographic information from the 2001 census is generally updated with census data from 2011 in Section A at the municipal level (with a few exceptions, where a point in time is given, rather than a comparison over time). The authors wish to acknowledge the staff at the Planning Department at the Corporation of Delta who assisted in providing the data at the local area level.

The three other municipalities with the largest populations, namely Surrey, Burnaby, Richmond and Vancouver are contrasted with Delta. The report also includes comparative data for Metro Vancouver as a whole.

For the purposes of this report the Corporation of Delta is divided into local planning areas or neighbourhoods: Ladner-Delta Rural, North Delta East, North Delta West, Sunshine Hills and Tsawwassen.

Data is presented for each of these local areas.

The United Way wishes to thank bc211 for the valuable service they provide to parts of British Columbia, with UWLM funding. The data they provided to enhance this report (see acknowledgements), and the snapshot of these communities' demonstrated needs, added a dimension not previously explored and may help further inform funders, planners and providers.

## Notes regarding the 2011 National Household Survey and data comparability

Sections B and C (Economic and Social Indicators) draw much of the data from Statistics Canada's 2011 National Household Survey (NHS). This voluntary survey, distributed to approximately 4.5 million households, replaced the mandatory long-form census that was used until the 2006 census. Due to changes to some questions and sections of the survey, and the voluntary nature of the survey, comparisons between the 2011 NHS and previous censuses are not possible. Statistics Canada notes:

"Any significant change in survey method or content can affect the comparability of the data over time, and that applies to the NHS as well. It is impossible to determine with certainty whether, and to what extent, differences in a variable are attributable to an actual change or to non-response bias... Caution must be exercised when NHS estimates are compared with estimates produced from the 2006 Census long form, especially when the analysis involves small geographies. Users are asked to use the NHS's main quality indicator, the global non-response rate (GNR), in assessing the quality of the NHS estimates and determining the extent to which the estimates can be compared with the estimates from the 2006 Census long form."<sup>1</sup>

Therefore, Sections B and C of this report cannot make comparisons between the 2011 NHS and 2001 Census the way that much of Section A could. Section A draws largely on the 2011 (mandatory) Census, for which comparisons can be made using the 2001 Census. The 2011 NHS is prone to higher non-response bias. A higher GNR indicates higher non-response bias, which occurs when a survey's non-respondents are different from its respondents. For reference, the GNRs for all geographies used in this report are provided below.

Delta – 22.2%  
Burnaby – 23.6%  
Richmond – 20.5%  
Surrey – 26.5%  
Vancouver – 24.5%  
Metro Vancouver – 24.4%  
British Columbia – 26.1%

The global non-response rates for Delta's neighbourhoods are provided below, and range from 19.2 per cent to 24.7 per cent.

Ladner-Delta Rural	23.1%
North Delta East	24.7%
North Delta West	24.6%
Sunshine Hills	19.2%
Tsawwassen	21.1%

## Population data, data suppression and rounding

The Delta census subdivision does not include the Tsawwassen Lands which is self-governed by the Tsawwassen First Nation and has its own census subdivision. In the 2011 census Tsawwassen Lands recorded a population of 720 people.

For some indicators, data is presented using health geographies of Local Health Areas (LHAs) or Health Service Delivery Areas (HSDAs). The Delta LHA is made up of the Delta census subdivision and the Tsawwassen Lands. Burnaby and Richmond LHAs correspond to their municipal boundaries, however for the Surrey LHA, South Surrey is excluded (it comes within the South Surrey/White Rock LHA). Within the City of Vancouver there are six separate LHAs. Therefore, instead, data is presented according by the Vancouver HSDA, which includes The City of Vancouver, Musqueam and University of British Columbia (UBC).

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada (2014). "Chapter 5 – Data quality assessment and indicators." Available at: [https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/ref/nhs-enm\\_guide/guide\\_4-eng.cfm](https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/ref/nhs-enm_guide/guide_4-eng.cfm).

For certain indicators contained in the report, data is presented at both municipality and neighbourhood level. For Delta the units are the 'natural neighbourhood units' that are used by the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) to report Early Development Instrument (EDI) results. Across BC almost 300 neighbourhood units have been developed and evolved. Each neighbourhood is chosen to reflect how local communities view their own geographies and populations, with the latest revision taking place in 2013. For each neighbourhood designation the key factors that are taken into consideration are: community consultation and suggestions; contain at least 75 children, correspond with postal codes and census areas; reflect municipal planning boundaries where possible; be relatively homogenous, particularly from the

perspective of socio-economic status and land use.<sup>2</sup> For Delta these neighbourhoods are: Ladner-Delta Rural (including Tsawwassen Lands); North Delta East; North Delta West; Sunshine Hills and Tsawwassen.

Neighbourhood data will not always add up to the city total due to random rounding and data suppression. According to Statistics Canada, and "to ensure confidentiality, the values, including totals are randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple of 5 or 10. As a result, when these data are summed or grouped, the total value may not match the individual values since totals and sub-totals are independently rounded. In addition to random rounding, area and data suppression has been adopted to further protect the confidentiality of individual respondents' personal information."<sup>3</sup>



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<sup>2</sup> Human Early Learning Partnership (2015) [http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/media/mapsets/w2/sd41\\_w2\\_edimaps.pdf](http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/media/mapsets/w2/sd41_w2_edimaps.pdf)

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<sup>3</sup> Statistics Canada (2014). "NHS Profile, 2011 – About the data." Available at: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/help-aide/aboutdata-aproposdonnees.cfm?Lang=E>.



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# Map of Delta



## Executive Summary

The United Way of the Lower Mainland publication presents data for Delta (comprising the five neighborhoods of Ladner, North Delta East, North Delta West, Sunshine Hills and Tsawwassen) around three different indicators that can help decision-makers plan social services: Population, Economic and Social indicators. It also presents data on calls to the bc211 Helpline to shed some light on the needs of callers in Delta.

### Population Indicators

Among the comparison municipalities of Burnaby, Richmond, Surrey and Vancouver, Delta has experienced the smallest percentage of growth in population for 2001-2011 at 3% in comparison to overall Metro Vancouver growth which saw an increase of 16%. As well, Delta's percentage of population growth has slowed from the 1991-2001 time period which was then 9%. Within Delta, North Delta East and Ladner have seen the greatest growth (6%) while Sunshine Hills has seen a decrease (5%). By 2041 Delta is projected to grow at approximately the same rate as Vancouver at 24%. This is in comparison to the highest projected growth in Surrey (79%) and Burnaby (64%). Delta has the smallest amount of immigrant population (29%), this in comparison to Richmond (60%). Within Delta the highest number of immigrants reside in North Delta East (41%) while the lowest number live in Ladner and Tsawwassen, (both 21%). Of all neighborhoods within Delta, Tsawwassen has the highest median age (almost 50 years), with the lowest reported in North Delta East (37.5 years). Delta's seniors population resides mostly in Tsawwassen (24.8%) and Ladner (24.3%) and the lowest number live in Sunshine Hills (10.6%). Between 2001-2011, Delta's Aboriginal population increased by over 50%. These figures do not include Tsawwassen Lands which has a separate census designation.

### Economic Indicators

Delta's median family income (\$94,000) ranks highest among the comparison municipalities. Surrey is the next highest (\$78,000) and this compares to Metro

Vancouver's overall figure of \$80,000. Within Delta, Sunshine Hills has the highest median income (\$108,000) and North Delta East is the lowest (\$81,000). The number of low income children under 18 is lowest in Delta (12%) with the highest in Richmond (25.4%). Within Delta this is highest in North Delta East (16.5%) in comparison to Delta's overall prevalence of 12.4%. Delta holds the lowest unemployment rate (6.3%) while Surrey has the highest (7.9%). Within Delta this figure is lowest in Tsawwassen (4.3%) and highest in North Delta East (7.7%). One third of Delta's population receiving income assistance are single parent families which is very close to that of Surrey. The Delta School District had a lower rate (14%) of students that did not graduate compared to a BC provincial rate that is almost double (26%). Of all rental households in Delta, almost 45% of Tsawwassen residents spend 30% or more of household income on shelter costs. In comparison, 36% of Ladner-Delta Rural spend that amount. A full 64% of Delta homes are single detached houses and 14% are apartments. This compares to Vancouver where 18% are single detached homes and 60% are apartments. There is less than 1 percent of 2 and 3 bedroom vacant apartments in Delta.

### Social Indicators

Delta's homeless population is one percent of Metro Vancouver's total and Vancouver holds the highest (65%). Three quarters of Delta households are single families while the overall Metro Vancouver rate is 61%. 36% of Delta's immigrant population moved to Canada between the ages of 25 and 44 years of age. Delta's rate of English as mother tongue matches that of the BC provincial rate (80%). Punjabi is second (11%). Delta has the lowest rate of English Language Learners (9.5%) compared to the highest in Surrey (28%). Delta's rate of property crime was the lowest among the comparison municipalities. 100% of Family Place services are located outside of Delta according to BC211 data.

## Section A: Population Indicators

### Population Size and Growth

#### Why is this important?

The size and composition of a population has many implications for decision-makers. In terms of population growth in general, on the positive side it may encourage new investment, economic growth and increasing job opportunities. However, population increases may also place greater demand on existing infrastructure, transportation, health, education and community services and supports that may need to address the needs of an increasingly diverse population. Population growth happens as a result of births in the region and families/individuals moving into the community from elsewhere, whether it is migration within Canada or immigration into Canada.

#### What is the situation in Delta?

In Metro Vancouver as a whole the total population in 2011 was 2,313,328, up 16 per cent from 2001. Since 1991 the region's population has grown by more than 40 per cent.

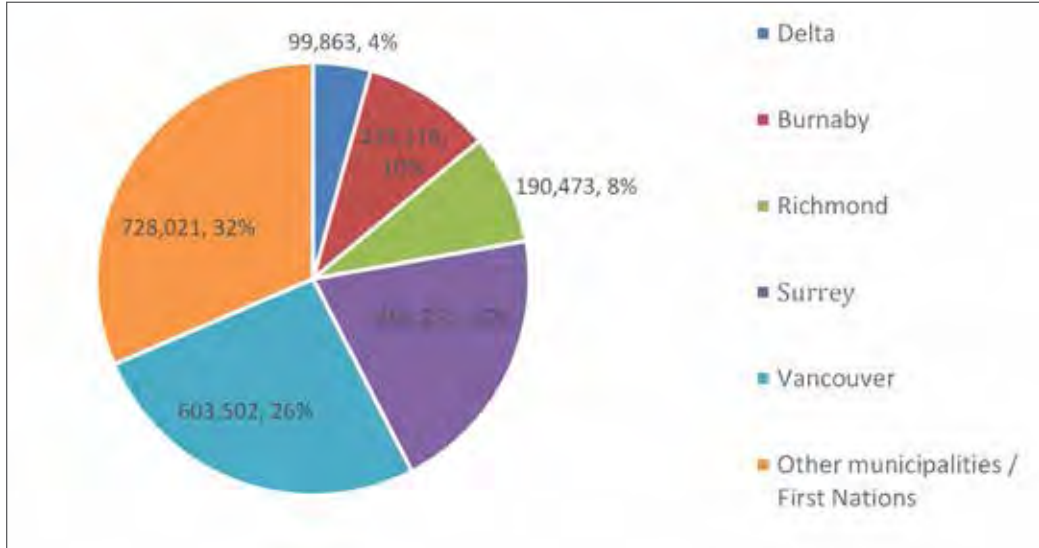
Relative to the other selected Metro municipalities Delta saw smaller increases in its population at only nine per cent from 1991 to 2001, and three per cent growth in the decade leading up to 2011. The comparison municipalities all saw double-figured population growth between 2001 and 2011, ranging from 11 per cent in Vancouver to 35 per cent in Surrey. For the region as a whole and each municipality, population growth in the decade to 2011 was lower than in the previous decade.

With a population of 99,863 in 2011, Delta accounted for less than one twentieth (4.3 per cent) of Metro Vancouver's total population. The comparison municipalities all have at least eight per cent of Metro Vancouver's population. Vancouver and Surrey, which both border Delta, account for the largest proportions of Metro Vancouver's total population, at 26 per cent and 20 per cent respectively.

Population size and growth, select Metro municipalities, 2001-2011					
Municipality	1991	2001	2011	% Growth 1991-2001	% Growth 2001-2011
Delta	88,978	96,950	99,863	9	3
Burnaby	158,858	193,954	223,218	22	15
Richmond	126,624	164,345	190,473	30	16
Surrey	245,173	347,825	468,251	42	35
Vancouver	471,844	545,671	603,502	16	11
Metro Vancouver	1,601,796	1,986,965	2,313,328	24	16

Source: Statistics Canada, 1991-2011 Census

## Metro Vancouver municipality populations, 2011

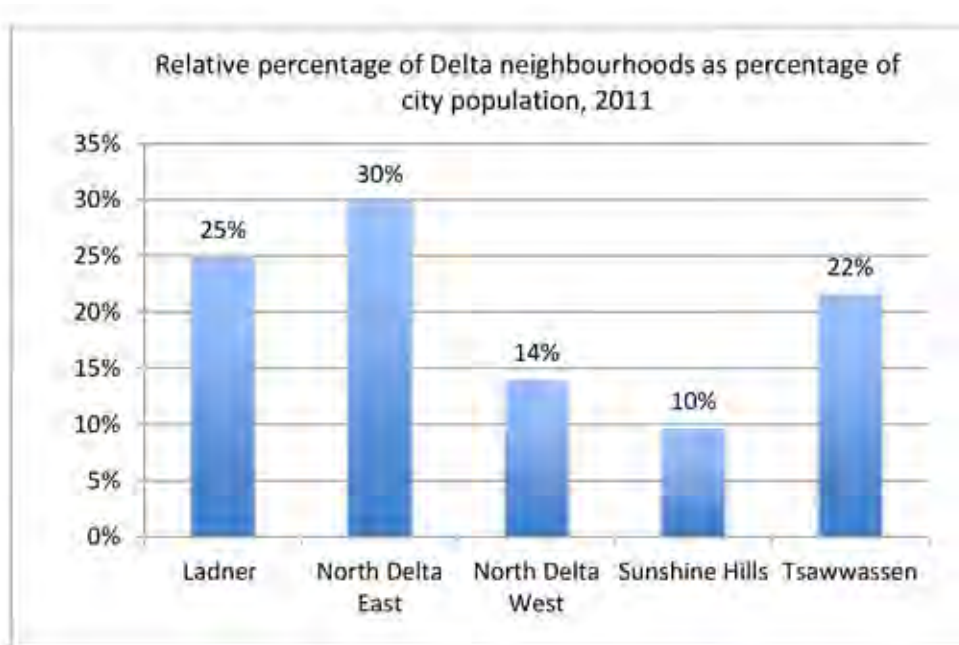


Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census.

### How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

Delta's five neighbourhoods differ from each other in their relative size. The two largest are North Delta East and Ladner-Rural who together account for more than half of Delta's population (55 per cent). Sunshine Hills had the smallest population in 2011, accounting for just a tenth (10 per cent) of the overall population.

Over the decade the percentage growth in population has been around 5 per cent in Ladner and both North Delta East and North Delta West. Tsawwassen grew by just over two per cent or 400 residents. Sunshine Hills saw a decrease of 4.7 per cent or approximately 500 less people.



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census.

% Growth in Population, Delta Neighbourhoods, 2001-2011	
	%
Ladner	5.5
North Delta East	5.7
North Delta West	5.0
Sunshine Hills	-4.7
Tsawwassen	2.1

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

### Population Projections

The following population estimates are from Metro Vancouver and are based on the 2006 census. From 2006 to 2041 the population of the region as a whole is expected to increase by 55%

for a population of 3.4 million by 2041. Delta is expected to add 24,500 residents from 2006 to 2041, an increase of 24 per cent since 2006. By 2041 Delta is expected to account for 2 per cent of the total region's population. (In 2011 Delta made up 4 per cent of the region's total population).

Population estimates, select Metro municipalities, 2006-41						
	2006	2021	2031	2041	Absolute Change 2006-41	% change 2006-41
Delta*	99,000	109,000	118,000	123,000	24,000	24
Burnaby	210,500	277,000	314,000	345,000	134,500	64
Richmond	182,700	225,000	252,000	275,000	92,300	51
Surrey	413,000	578,000	668,000	740,000	327,000	79
Vancouver	601,200	673,000	705,000	740,000	138,800	23
Metro Vancouver	2,195,000	2,780,000	3,129,000	3,400,000	1,205,000	55

\* excludes Tsawwassen First Nation

Source: Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy Targets and Projections (based on 2006 census<sup>4</sup>)

<sup>4</sup> The Metro Vancouver projections included Indian reserves.

## Live Births

### Why is this important?

Delta is growing – and new births mean there is a need for community-based services and supports, including greater access to daycares, Early Childhood Development opportunities, parenting classes, children’s programming, child-friendly environments, as well as schools.

The *live birth rate* (or simply, *birth rate*) is the number of live births divided by the mid-year population and

converted to a rate per 1,000 population in order to make comparisons possible.

### What is the situation in Delta?

From 2007 to 2011, 4,240 babies were born in the Delta Local Health Area (LHA), representing a live birth rate of 8.43 (births per 1000 population). This is lower than the BC rate of 9.89, and lower than all of the comparison municipalities (for which the live birth rate ranges from 8.8 in Richmond to 13.47 in Surrey).

Live births by Health Service Delivery Area, Local Health Area and BC, 2007-2011		
	#	Rate (# live births/1,000)
Delta LHA	4,240	8.43
Burnaby LHA	11,416	10.25
Richmond LHA	8,475	8.8
Surrey LHA	25,799	13.47
Vancouver HSDA	30,165	9.36
British Columbia	220,141	9.89

Source: BC Vital Statistics Agency, 2011 Annual Report



Source: BC Vital Statistics Agency, 2011 Annual Report

## Mortality Rates

### Why is this important?

Population changes occur for three different reasons – people moving in or out of a community, as well as births and deaths.

Mortality is expressed as a *standardized mortality ratio* (SMR), which is “the ratio of the number of deaths occurring to residents of a geographic area (e.g. Local Health Area) to the expected number of deaths in that area based on provincial age-specific mortality rates. The SMR is a good measure for comparing mortality data that are based on a small number of cases or for readily comparing mortality data by geographical area.”<sup>5</sup> A value of one indicates

that a place is experiencing the same age-specific mortality as the standard population, in this case British Columbia. A value higher than one indicates that there is a higher number of deaths than would be expected in the region or area that is being compared.

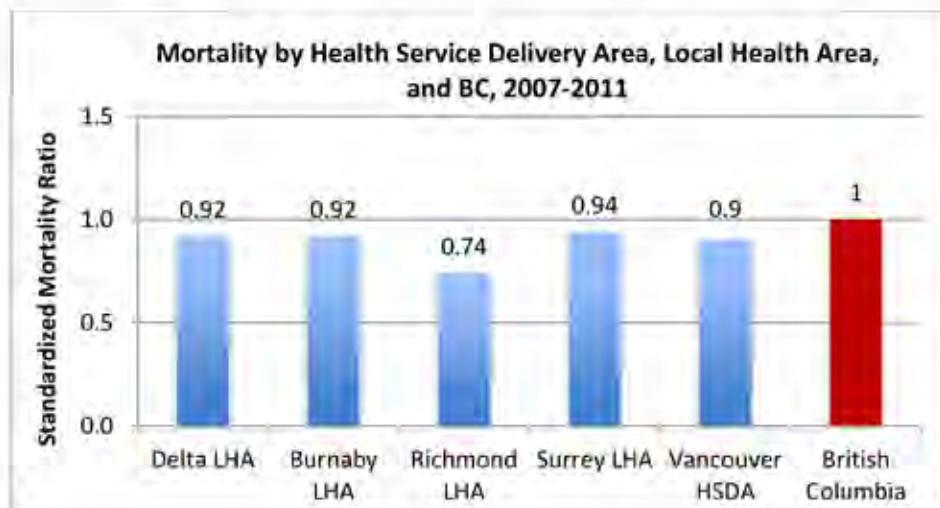
### What is the situation in Delta?

From 2007-2011, the Delta Local Health Area (LHA) had an SMR of 0.92 or 3,281 deaths. This is very similar or the same as the rates for Burnaby LHA (0.92), Surrey LHA (0.94), and Vancouver HSDA (0.9), although higher than Richmond LHA (0.74).

Mortality by Health Service Delivery Area, Local Health Area and BC, 2007-2011		
	#	Standardized Mortality Ratio
Delta LHA	3,281	0.92
Burnaby LHA	6,762	0.92
Richmond LHA	4,568	0.74
Surrey LHA	9,082	0.94
Vancouver HSDA	18,402	0.9
British Columbia	157,197	1.00

Source: BC Vital Statistics Agency, 2011 Annual Report

<sup>5</sup> BC Vital Statistics Agency. (2011). Annual Report. Victoria: Ministry of Health, p. 141. Available at: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/residents/vital-statistics/statistics-reports/annual-reports/2011/pdf/glossary.pdf>



Source: BC Vital Statistics Agency, 2011 Annual Report

## Immigration

### Why is this important?

Immigration can bring an enriching diversity to a community and brings added skills into our labour force. It is important for our communities to be welcoming and inclusive of newcomers. Immigrating can present challenges to immigrant families as they adjust to their new home country. The growth of the foreign-born population may indicate increased demand for immigrant settlement services – things like parenting, education and employment support – as well as the need for community services to consider cultural adaptation and language training.

### What is the situation in Delta?

Foreign-born residents<sup>6</sup> represented 40 per cent of the region's population in 2011, up from 37.5 per cent

in 2001<sup>7</sup>. The top source countries of immigrants to Metro Vancouver in 2011 were China (17 per cent of all immigrants), India (12 per cent), Philippines (10 per cent) and Hong Kong (8 per cent).

The immigrant population in Delta increased from 26.6 per cent of the total Delta population to an estimated 29 per cent over the ten years from 2001 and 2011. In both 2001 and 2011, Delta had a much smaller proportion of immigrants than the larger comparison municipalities. For example Surrey immigrants made up a third (33 per cent) of the total population in 2001, and over two fifths (41 per cent) by 2011; and Richmond's proportion of immigrants increased from over half (53.7 per cent) in 2001 to three-fifths (60 per cent) in 2011.

<sup>6</sup> The figures include any person who is or has ever been a landed immigrant/permanent resident, but do not include temporary residents, including those with a work or study permit or who are refugee claimants, and any non-Canadian born family member living in Canada with them.

<sup>7</sup> The data for Vancouver's immigrant population is potentially misleading since the 2001 figures were taken from the mandatory long-form Census of Population, but the 2011 data is based on the National Household Survey. Therefore comparisons between the datasets may not be valid.



Immigrant population, select Metro municipalities, 2011				
	2001 (Census of Population)		2011 (National Household Survey)	
	#	% of Total	Estimated #	% of Total
Delta	25,820	26.6	28,520	29
Burnaby	90,690	46.8	111,170	51
Richmond	88,305	53.7	112,875	60
Surrey	114,725	33.0	187,845	41
Vancouver	247,640	45.4	258,750	44
Metro Vancouver	738,550	37.5	913,310	40

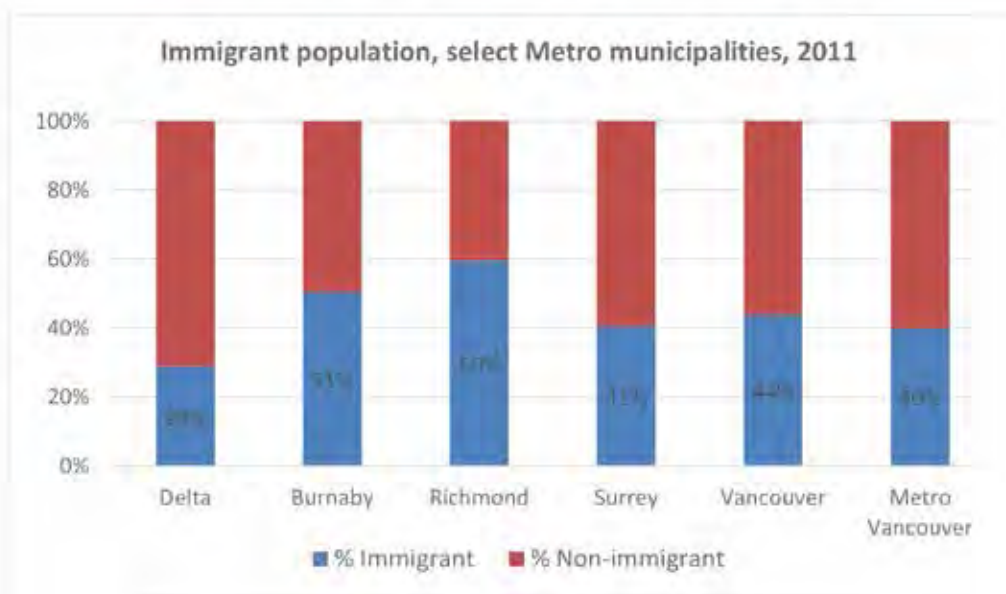
Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census and 2011 National Household Survey

### How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

The neighbourhood with the highest absolute number and highest percentage of immigrants in 2011 was North Delta East which had 12,070

immigrants making up 41 per cent of the population.

Ladner and Tsawwassen showed the highest numbers of non-immigrants at 19,080 and 16,825 respectively, with only one in five people in each neighbourhood born outside Canada (21 per cent each).



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

Immigrant Population, Delta Neighbourhoods, 2011				
	Total population	Non-immigrants	Immigrants	% foreign born
Ladner	24,195	19,080	5,115	21
North Delta East	29,720	17,650	12,070	41
North Delta West	14,030	10,205	3,825	27
Sunshine Hills	9,710	6,590	3,120	32
Tsawwassen	21,335	16,825	4,510	21

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey

## Recent immigrant population

### Why is this important?

Recent immigrants (arrived in the past five years) can face a number of challenges including recognition of educational achievement, securing quality employment and linguistic isolation. Often these challenges place great stress on children and families. Young children of recent immigrants are also more likely to struggle in school. These challenges may influence the number and type of immigrant support programs such as language skill development and job placement.

### What is the situation in Delta?

Across Metro Vancouver 17 per cent of all immigrants arrived in Canada in the five years between 2006 and 2011. Twelve per cent of immigrants in Delta had immigrated in the five years preceding 2011, a smaller proportion than the comparison municipalities (which ranged from 16 per cent in Vancouver to 19 per cent in Surrey). As noted above, this statistic only includes foreign-born citizens, landed immigrants and permanent residents.

Recent immigrants (arrived 2006-2011) as per cent of total immigrant population, select Metro municipalities, 2011		
	Estimated Total Immigrant Population #	Immigrants arriving 2006-11 as proportion of all immigrants %
Delta	28,520	12
Burnaby	111,170	18
Richmond	112,875	17
Surrey	187,845	19
Vancouver	258,750	16
Metro Vancouver	913,310	17

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

16 per cent of immigrants in North Delta East had arrived in Canada in the five years preceding the

2011 National Household Survey. The next highest proportion of recent immigrants to total immigrant population was in North Delta West, where more than one in ten immigrants (12 per cent) arrived between 2006 and 2011.

Recent Immigrants (2006-2011) as Per Cent of Total Immigrant Population, Delta Neighbourhoods, 2011	
	% Recent Immigrants
Ladner	7
North Delta East	16
North Delta West	12
Sunshine Hills	8
Tsawwassen	7

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## Age at Immigration

### Why is this important?

The age profile of immigrants to Canada tends to be younger than the age profile of its resident population. This raises key issues that need to be addressed for the immigrant population. Some of these issues include the socio-economic characteristics of immigrant groups; social and cultural differences; the ability to find and access social services; the challenges for recent immigrant groups to adjust successfully to Canadian society; and the need for public policy initiatives that address the specific needs of immigrants by their age groupings.

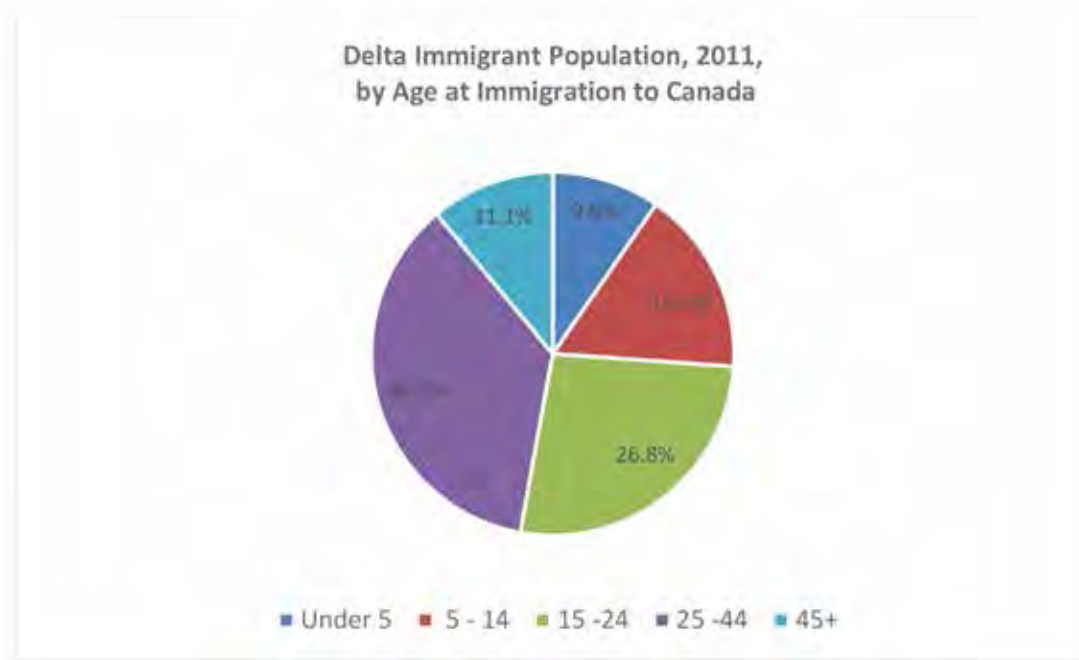
The education outcomes of a cohort of immigrants who arrived in Canada as children were examined using the 2006 Census, and it was found that there may be a distinct pattern in the risk of immigrant children not graduating from high school according

to age at arrival. The risks of not completing high school do not vary according to age at arrival up to about the age of nine, with children arriving after that age appearing to face a distinct and growing increase in the risk that they will not graduate. Children who migrate may face different challenges in attaining high school credentials, according to their age at immigration, as a result of sensitive periods in the acquisition of a second language or the structure of the education system.<sup>8</sup>

### What is the Situation in Delta?

In 2011 there were 28,520 immigrants living in Delta, of whom the largest proportion, 36 per cent had come to Canada when they were 25-44 years of age. Less than a tenth (9.6 per cent) had moved to Canada below the age of five, and another tenth (11.1 per cent) moved when they were 45 years or older.

<sup>8</sup> See: Statistics Canada Research Paper, *Age at immigration and Educational Outcomes of Children*, Catalogue no. 11F0019M — No. 336, October 2011.



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## Mother Tongue

### Why is this important?

Mother tongue refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual at the time of the Census. For children, learning one's heritage language in childhood can help promote self-esteem and pride in one's background. Having a non-English mother tongue can be an asset, especially when they also speak one of the official languages. Immigrants able to speak multiple languages, for instance, can be valuable interpreters to service providers and businesses who may now offer service in other languages.

Children who do not speak English in the home before school entry may experience difficulties in school. Parents may also have difficulty participating actively in their child's education. This affects the need for language supports within the school system and increases demand for services in the community in languages other than English.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In Metro Vancouver more than two fifths (42.5 per cent) of the population spoke a mother tongue other than English, up from 38.8 per cent ten years earlier.

More than a quarter of Delta residents had a non-English mother tongue (that is, either French or a non-official language), with the percentage increasing from 25.2 per cent in 2001 to 28.4 per cent by 2011. The four comparison municipalities had much larger percentages of their residents speaking a non-English mother tongue, ranging from 45.8 per cent in Surrey, to 62.1 per cent of Richmond. Vancouver was the only selected municipality to see a decline in the proportion of residents speaking a language other than English as their mother tongue (50.6 per cent in 2001 compared to 48.3 per cent in 2011).

Non-English* language mother tongue, single responses, Select Metro municipalities, 2001-2011				
	2001		2011	
	#	% of Total	#	% of Total
Delta	23,920	25.2	27,595	28.4
Burnaby	97,390	51.9	121,115	56.5
Richmond	87,630	54.7	114,010	62.1
Surrey	125,370	37.0	205,815	45.8
Vancouver	267,545	50.6	279,395	48.3
Metro Vancouver	750,110	38.8	948,605	42.5

\* This includes French and non-official language as mother tongue

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

### How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

In 2011 70.1% of the Delta population reported English only as their mother tongue, 0.9% reported French only, and 26.9% reported a non-official language only. The next three most common mother

tongues in 2011 were Punjabi (11.3%), Hindi (1.8%) and Mandarin (1.7%).

The proportion of people in each neighbourhood who reported a non-official language as their mother tongue ranged from a high of 48 per cent in North Delta East to a low of 12 per cent in Tsawwassen.

Mother Tongue, Delta Neighbourhoods, 2011 (single responses only)				
	Total respondents	English (%)	French (%)	Non-official languages (%)
Ladner	24,170	83.4	1.1	15.6
North Delta East	28,855	51.5	0.6	47.9
North Delta West	13,745	72.5	0.7	26.8
Sunshine Hills	9,570	69.4	0.7	29.9
Tsawwassen	21,275	86.5	1.5	12

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

## Population by Age

### Why is this important?

The composition of the population can have significant government policy implications and thereby affect the provision of adequate and appropriate community services and programs. A population of children needs a sufficient number of schools and after school care. Later, economic policy to stimulate job growth becomes even more important as the younger population graduates from school to the work force, looking for enough jobs to accommodate them. Communities with a large proportion of older people may need to develop retirement programs, medical facilities and home care to serve them. Therefore, as a community's population proportions change – so do age appropriate infrastructure, community program and services needs change.

### What is the situation in Delta?

The region as a whole, and the select municipalities all saw a reduction in the proportion of their

populations made up by people under 19 and either the same levels or a reduction for 20-24 year olds between 2001 and 2011. There were corresponding increases in the proportions of the population of people over 35, and the senior age group (over 65). This increase is expected to continue, with projections of the proportion of seniors in the Metro Vancouver population increasing from 13 per cent in 2011, to 18 per cent by 2021, and 22 per cent by 2031.<sup>9</sup>

The proportion of those aged 0-19 in Delta decreased from 28.5 per cent to 24.6 per cent between 2001 and 2011. Those aged 20-34 decreased from 16.9 per cent to 15.2 per cent while those aged 35-64 increased from 43.9 per cent to 44.7 per cent. Seniors 65+ made up 15.5 per cent in 2011 compared to 10.7 percent in 2001.

The median age in Delta was 42.8 years.

The following table shows how the age distribution in selected age groups across Delta and comparison municipalities has changed over a decade.

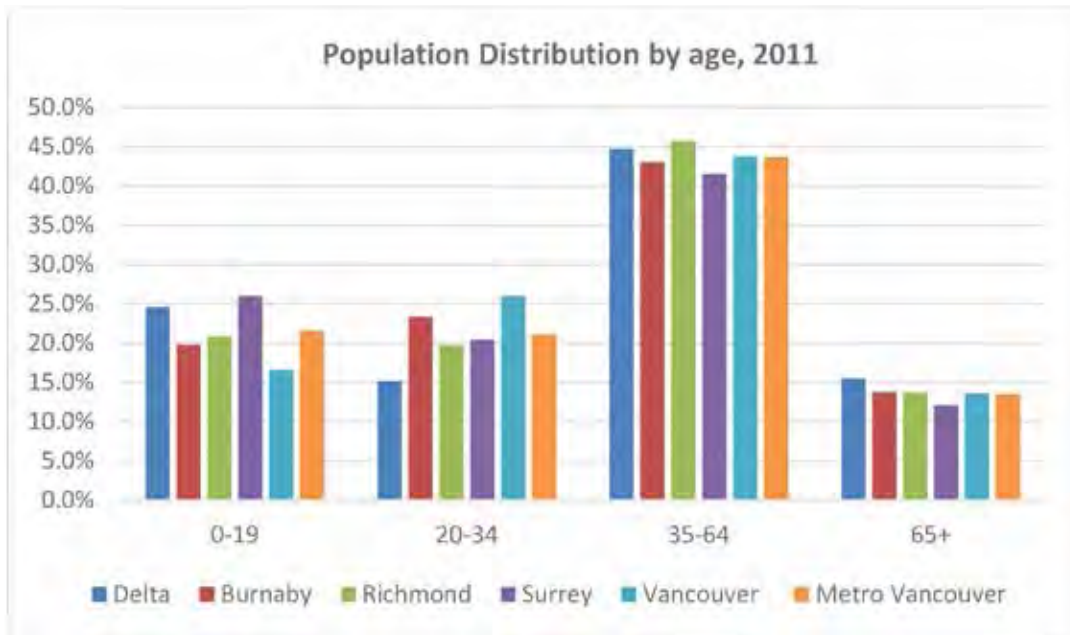
Municipality	0-19 (%)		20-34 (%)		35-64 (%)		65+ (%)	
	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011
Delta	28.5	24.6	16.9	15.2	43.9	44.7	10.7	15.5
Burnaby	22.2	19.8	23.7	23.4	40.7	43.0	13.4	13.8
Richmond	24.5	20.9	19.9	19.7	43.8	45.7	11.8	13.7
Surrey	28.7	26.0	20.4	20.4	40.1	41.5	10.8	12.1
Vancouver	18.6	16.6	27.2	26.0	41.4	43.8	12.9	13.6
Metro Vancouver	24.0	21.6	21.8	21.1	42.0	43.7	12.2	13.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

<sup>9</sup>BC Stats (2015), Sub-Provincial Population Projections - P.E.O.P.L.E.

Available at: <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/Demography/PopulationProjections.aspx>

Population distribution, select municipalities, 2011



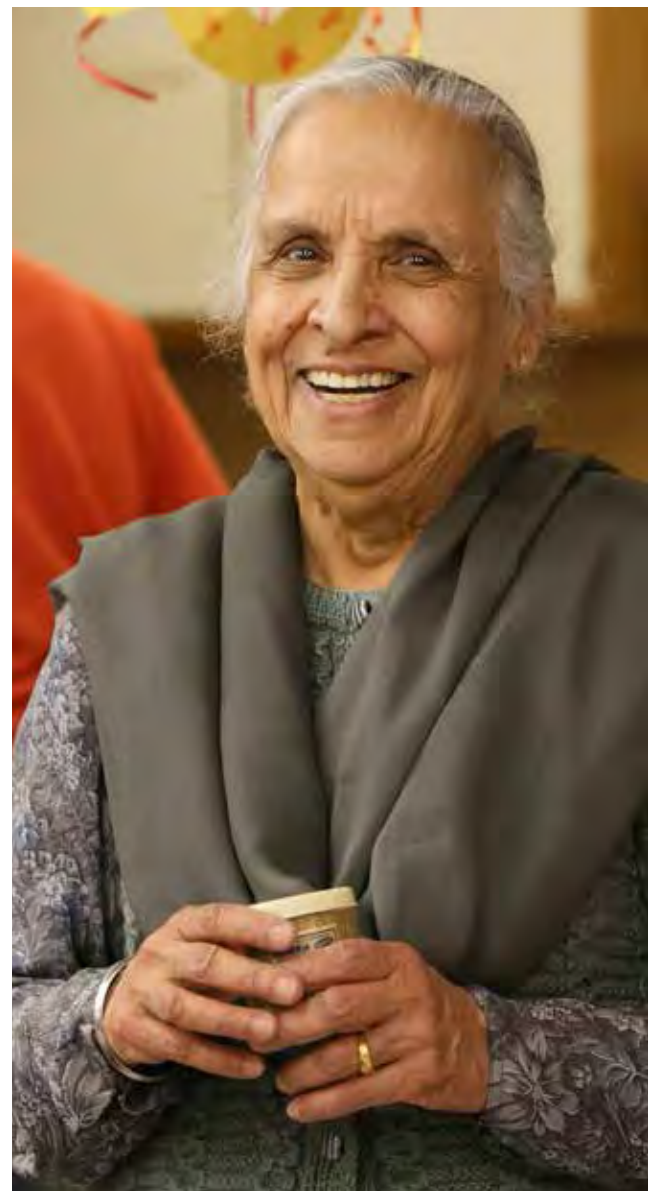
Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census



The overall age distribution for the Delta in 2011 was as follows:

Delta by Five Year Age Groups, 2011		
	#	% of total
0-4	4,755	4.8
5-9	5,745	5.8
10-14	6,555	6.6
15-19	7,540	7.6
20-24	5,935	5.9
25-29	4,645	4.7
30-34	4,620	4.6
35-39	6,050	6.1
40-44	7,310	7.3
45-49	8,335	8.3
50-54	8,645	8.7
55-59	7,420	7.4
60-64	6,850	6.9
65-69	5,235	5.2
70-74	3,740	3.7
75-79	2,645	2.6
80-84	1,990	2.0
85+	1,855	1.9
Total	99,865	100.0

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census





## How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

The median age distribution shows Tsawwassen with the oldest population at 48.8 years and North Delta East with the youngest median age at 37.5 years.

This is consistent with the age group distribution that shows North Delta East with the highest number and proportion of children and youth, and Tsawwassen with the highest number and proportion of seniors over 65.

Percentage of Population by Selected Age Groups, Delta Neighbourhoods, 2011									
	0-19		20-34		35-64		65+		Median age
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Ladner	5,750	23.1	3,505	14	11,170	44.7	4,555	18.2	45.2
North Delta East	8,245	27.5	5,660	18.9	12,570	41.9	3,505	11.7	37.5
North Delta West	3,625	25.8	2,280	16.2	6,605	47.0	1,555	11.1	40.9
Sunshine Hills	2,430	25.0	1,460	15	4,760	48.9	1,085	11.1	43.4
Tsawwassen	4,625	21.4	2,370	10.9	9,780	45.2	4,880	22.5	48.8

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

## Population Aged 65 Years and Older

### Why is this important?

People are living longer and healthier lives. This societal aging affects economic growth, formal and informal support systems and the ability of communities to provide resources for older citizens.

### What is the situation in Delta?

There were more seniors living in Delta in 2011 compared to ten years earlier, increasing from 10,345

to 15,455. However, the proportion living alone dropped from 24.3 per cent to 20.1 per cent.

Likewise the absolute number of those 65 years and over increased by 85,000 across the region and the percentage of those living alone declined from 27.7 per cent to 24.7 per cent. This trend was apparent in all of the selected municipalities.

Population aged 65 years and older, Select Metro municipalities 2011						
	2001		2011		% Living alone	
	#	%	#	%	2001	2011
Delta	10,345	10.7	15,455	15.4	24.3	20.1
Burnaby	23,850	12.5	30,900	13.8	27.7	24.2
Richmond	18,570	11.4	26,005	13.7	21.3	18.7
Surrey	36,290	10.5	56,570	12.1	22.2	18.1
Vancouver	65,655	12.2	81,930	13.6	30.5	28.6
Metro Vancouver	227,890	11.6	312,895	13.5	27.7	24.7

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

### How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

The actual number and proportion of seniors increased in all areas of Delta over the ten year period, with Ladner and Tsawwassen appearing as the “older” neighbourhoods, with seniors making up 22.5

per cent of the Tsawwassen population and 18.2 per cent of Ladner’s population.

The proportion of seniors living alone in 2011 declined in all neighbourhoods with the exception of Sunshine Hills, where it increased from 7.9 per cent to 10.6 per cent.

Population aged 65 Years and older, Delta Neighbourhoods, 2001 and 2011						
	2001			2011		
	#	%	% alone	#	%	% alone
Ladner	2,810	11.9	31.0	4,555	18.2	24.3
North Delta East	2,415	8.5	17.8	3,505	11.7	15.7
North Delta West	995	7.4	16.2	1,555	11.1	11.5
Sunshine Hills	635	6.2	7.9	1,085	11.2	10.6
Tsawwassen	3,535	16.7	28.7	4,880	22.5	24.8

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

# Aboriginal Population

## Why is this important?

Aboriginal identity, as defined by Statistics Canada,<sup>10</sup> includes persons who reported being an Aboriginal person, including First Nations (North American Indian), Metis, or Inuk (Inuit), and/ or those who reported Registered or Treaty Indian status.

Repercussions of a tragic history, including residential schools, have impacted Aboriginal populations. They have been shown to be more vulnerable than the general population to challenges like poverty, chronic health issues, and unemployment. With a growing Aboriginal population, there will likely be increased demand for health, educational and social services to meet their specific needs.

In B.C., the Aboriginal population was generally much younger than the non-Aboriginal population. Based on 2011 National Household Survey estimates, the median age for the Aboriginal population in B.C. was 29 years of age compared to 42 years of age for the non-Aboriginal population. The same figures for Canada were 28 and 41 years of age respectively.

## What is the situation in Delta?

In 2009, Tsawwassen First Nation ratified the first urban treaty in British Columbia, thereby reconciling the First Nation's aboriginal rights and title and fulfilling its right to self-government. The treaty provides Tsawwassen with jurisdiction over its land base of 724 hectares. On that date, Tsawwassen also became a full member of Metro Vancouver (both the Greater Vancouver Regional District and Greater

Vancouver Water District). Tsawwassen Lands are located on the coast overlooking the Strait of Georgia, near the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal. The name "Tsawwassen" means "facing the sea." Between 2001 and 2011 Delta's Aboriginal population increased by over 50 per cent from 1,495 to 2,290. These figures do not include the Tsawwassen Lands which has a separate census designation.

Metro Vancouver saw an increase of over 15,500 people who identified as Aboriginal, an increase of 42.1 per cent over the decade.

Population projections from Metro Vancouver show that the Tsawwassen First Nation will increase to 4,000 in 2021 and double to 8,500 by 2041. (Source: Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy Targets and Projections (based on 2006 census).

	#	% of Total Population
Delta	2,290	2.3
Burnaby	3,295	1.5
Richmond	1,935	1
Surrey	10,955	2.4
Vancouver	11,945	2
Metro Vancouver	52,375	2.3

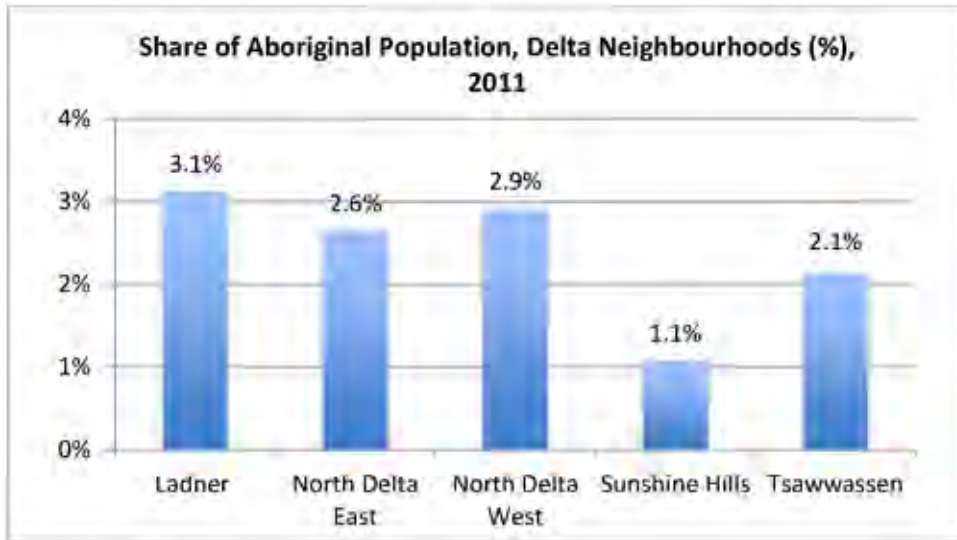
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011 Aboriginal origin = First nations (North American Indian), Inuit and Metis

<sup>10</sup> Statistics Canada derives identity based on whether survey respondents say they are an Aboriginal person; a Status Indian; or a member of a First Nation or band. In addition, survey respondents may identify Aboriginal ancestry (which may include Aboriginal peoples of other countries) when asked for their cultural origins

## How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

The largest numbers of Aboriginal people lived in Ladner and North Delta East and the smallest number

in Sunshine Hills. The proportion of the population who identify as Aboriginal is fairly evenly distributed across Delta's neighbourhoods, accounting for between 1.1 per cent and 3.1 per cent of each neighbourhood.



Source: Statistics Canada 2011, National Household Survey

# Section B: Economic Indicators

## Median Family Income

### Why is this important?

Research has shown that higher incomes are linked to better health and social wellbeing for children and adults, and the communities in which they live.<sup>11</sup> These individuals face less stress because of more financial security, improving their overall wellbeing and that of their families. People with higher incomes have a greater ability to contribute to the local economy, helping build stronger communities.

### What is the situation in Delta?

The following tables compare median family incomes based on an economic family, which refers to “a group of two or more persons who live in the

same dwelling and are related by blood, marriage, common-law or adoption.”<sup>12</sup> Median family income refers to the middle of the distribution of incomes for economic families within a particular geography. Reporting the median income gives a more accurate picture than the mean income as it ensures the data will not be skewed by abnormalities at the extreme ends.

The median (before tax) family income for economic families in Delta was \$94,007, over \$15,000 higher than all the case study comparisons, and higher than Metro Vancouver (\$80,006).

Median Family Income, 2010	
	\$
Delta	94,007
Vancouver	77,515
Burnaby	71,511
Richmond	69,553
Surrey	78,283
Metro Vancouver	80,006

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

<sup>11</sup> Toward a Healthy Future: Second Report on the Health of Canadians. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada: Federal, Provincial and Territorial Advisory Committee on Population Health; 1999. Available at: <http://publications.gc.ca/collections/Collection/H39-468-1999E.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> Statistics Canada (2015). “Economic family.” Available at: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/concepts/definitions/famecon>.

## How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

There is a difference of \$26,675 in the median family incomes reported by households across Delta's five

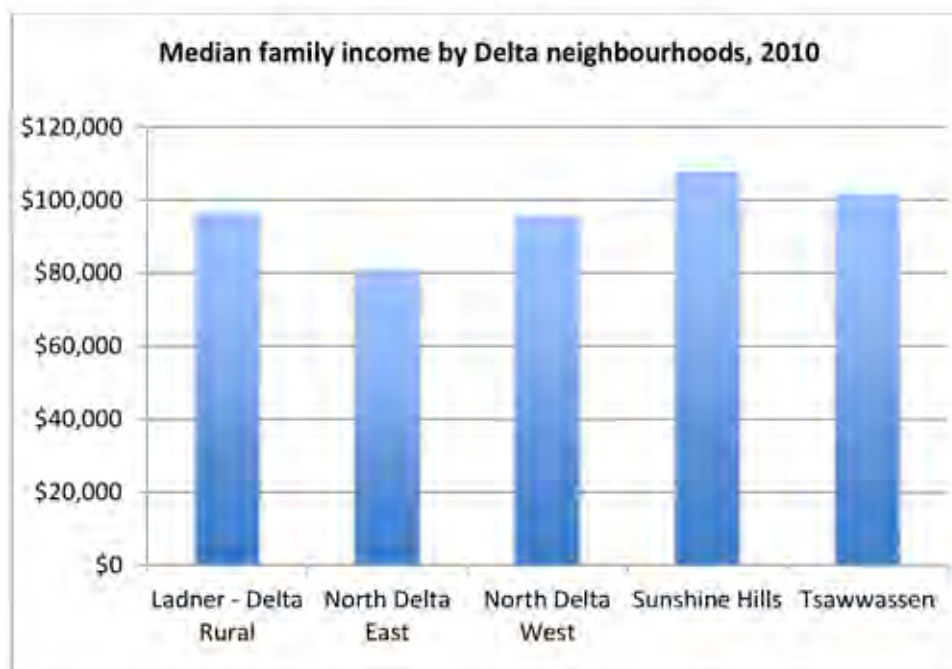
neighbourhoods. In 2011 the lowest median income was in North Delta East (\$80,950), and the highest was in Sunshine Hills (\$107,625).

Median Family Income, 2010	
	\$
Delta	94,007
Vancouver	77,515
Burnaby	71,511
Richmond	69,553
Surrey	78,283
Metro Vancouver	80,006

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

Median income, Delta neighbourhoods 2010	
	\$
Ladner - Delta Rural	96,587
North Delta East	80,950
North Delta West	95,513
Sunshine Hills	107,625
Tsawwassen	101,630

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## Prevalence of Low Income

### Why is this important?

People with lower incomes can become socio-economically entrenched, and rising above poverty can become even more challenging. They spend a higher percentage of their income on food, shelter and clothing leaving less available for other expenses such as education and transportation. People with low incomes tend to have more stress and poorer health. In addition children coming from low-income families tend to repeat the cycle of poverty, and as adults, they may also have worse health outcomes and lower incomes themselves.

We use the *low-income measure after-tax* (LIM-AT), which must be treated cautiously: "Since their initial publication, Statistics Canada has clearly and consistently emphasized that low income lines are not measures of poverty. Rather, low income lines reflect a consistent and well-defined methodology that identifies those who are substantially worse off than average." Furthermore, "the after-tax low income measures will take into account the reduced spending power of households because of income taxes paid."<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Statistics Canada. (2013). "Low-income measure after tax." Available at: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/ref/dict/fam021-eng.cfm>.

## What is the situation in Delta?

Although Delta's number and prevalence of low income residents is noticeably lower than the other four comparison municipalities, over one in ten (10.2 per cent) of Delta's residents had incomes below the low-income measure before tax in 2011, equating to 10,105 people. This compares to rates in comparison municipalities of between 15.5 per cent (Surrey) and 22.4 per cent (Richmond).

The same pattern across the municipalities was evident for the prevalence of children under 18 (12.4 per cent in Delta), and children under six (10.6 per cent in Delta) below the low-income measure after tax. 2,720 children under 18, including 625 children under six were estimated to be low income in Delta.

Low income residents, by prevalence and age, 2010						
	Total # of low income	Prevalence of low income (%)	Children under 18 #	Children under 18 (%)	Children under 6 #	Children under 6 (%)
Delta	10,105	10.2	2720	12.4	625	10.6
Burnaby	46,360	21.0	8,835	23.1	2,615	20.6
Richmond	42,365	22.4	8,820	25.4	2,280	22.6
Surrey	71,695	15.5	20,350	18.7	6,155	17.8
Vancouver	121,020	20.5	19,855	22.4	5,500	18.6
Metro Vancouver	395,095	17.4	85,535	19.5	23,805	17.3

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

Low income residents, by prevalence and age, 2010						
	# of low income	Prevalence of low income (%)	Children under 18 #	Children under 18 (%)	Children under 6 #	Children under 6 (%)
Delta	10,105	10.2	2720	12.4	625	10.6
Ladner – Delta Rural	2245	9.3	520	10.5	120	8.6
North Delta East	3770	12.6	1245	16.5	330	15.5
North Delta West	1465	10.4	455	14	100	10.3
Sunshine Hills	1015	10.4	215	10.4	20	4.7
Tsawwassen	1590	7.6	270	6.7	60	6.1

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey



## Labour Force Participation Rates

### Why is this important?

Labour force participation rates are a good indicator of how well the economy is doing at generating jobs and matching workers to those jobs. The *labour force participation rate* is the number of individuals in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population. The *labour force* is the number of individuals who are currently working plus those who are unemployed.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In 2011 two-thirds (66.1 per cent) of Delta's population over 15 participated in the labour force. Amongst the four comparison municipalities, this is lower only than the Vancouver rate (67.3), and identical to that for Metro Vancouver.

Delta men are more likely to participate in the labour force than women (70.5 per cent of men compared to 62 per cent of women), which is the same pattern seen across all the case study comparisons and Metro Vancouver.

### How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

The total labour force participation rate for those over 15 years of age varied across Delta's five areas. The lowest was seen in Tsawwassen where 62.9 per cent participated in the labour force. The highest rate was in North Delta West where 69 per cent of residents were in the labour force.

Male labour participation rates were similar in all five neighbourhoods (from 67.7 per cent in Tsawwassen to 71.8 per cent in Ladner – Delta Rural). As well as females being less likely to be part of the labour force in each of the areas, there was also more variation in the female labour force participation rate across the five areas (from 58.6 per cent in Tsawwassen to 66.4 per cent of women in Sunshine Hills).

Labour force participation rates (%), 15 years and older, 2011			
	Total	Males	Females
Delta	66.1	70.5	62.0
Burnaby	63.6	68.1	59.3
Richmond	61.7	66.6	57.2
Surrey	65.6	71.1	60.4
Vancouver	67.3	71.2	63.6
Metro Vancouver	66.1	70.8	61.7

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

Labour force participation rates (%), 15 years and older, 2011			
	Total	Males	Females
Delta	66.1	70.5	62.0
Ladner – Delta Rural	67.8	71.8	64
North Delta East	65.4	70.1	62.2
North Delta West	69	70.5	60.4
Sunshine Hills	66.2	71.7	66.4
Tsawwassen	62.9	67.7	58.6

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## Labour Force by Occupation

### Why is this important?

Different occupations require different levels of education and experience. Professional and executive work will have higher pay, while sales and service – including retail workers, cashiers, and servers – earn less.<sup>14</sup>

### What is the situation in Delta?

In 2011, almost a quarter (23.3 per cent) of Delta's 53,070 working residents over the age of 15 were

employed in occupations in sales and service. For every occupation field, the proportions of the Delta population employed are within 2.5 percentage points of the rates for Metro Vancouver as a whole.

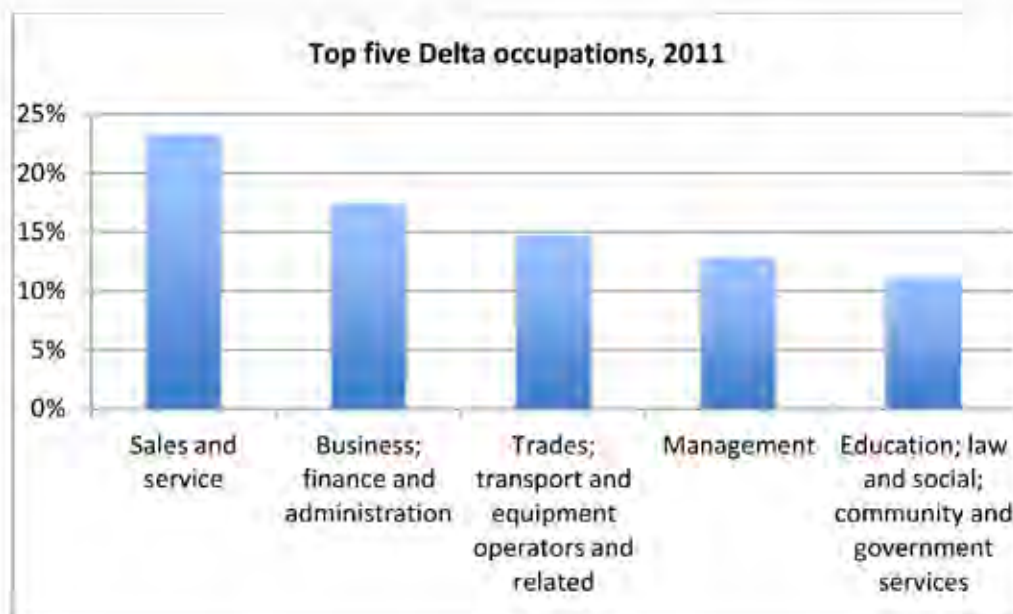
After sales and service occupations, the largest proportions of the Delta workforce were employed in business, finance and administration (17.4 per cent), and trades, transport and equipment operators (14.8 per cent). Between them, these three occupation fields employed over half of Delta's workforce aged over 15 in 2011.

<sup>14</sup> BC Stats. (2009). "Labour and Income."

Available at: <http://bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/LabourIncome.aspx>.

Labour force by occupation, 15 years and older, 2011						
	Delta	Vancouver	Burnaby	Richmond	Surrey	Metro Vancouver
All occupations	53,070	342,100	117,335	97,160	239,470	1,245,760
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Management	6,785	39,775	12,495	12,090	25,060	148,580
	12.8%	11.6%	10.6%	12.4%	10.5%	11.9%
Business, finance and administration	9,240	59,225	22,120	19,400	38,430	218,815
	17.4%	17.3%	18.9%	20.0%	16.0%	17.6%
Natural and applied sciences	3,465	29,835	12,630	7,980	12,560	95,470
	6.5%	8.7%	10.8%	8.2%	5.2%	7.7%
Health	3,035	22,845	7,235	5,070	14,395	76,705
	5.7%	6.7%	6.2%	5.2%	6.0%	6.2%
Education, law and social, community and government services	5,910	44,580	12,220	9,000	22,495	143,590
	11.1%	13.0%	10.4%	9.3%	9.4%	11.5%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	1,765	22,620	4,000	3,020	5,150	50,830
	3.3%	6.6%	3.4%	3.1%	2.2%	4.1%
Sales and service	12,365	85,295	30,155	27,845	59,590	303,770
	23.3%	24.9%	25.7%	28.7%	24.9%	24.4%
Trades, transport and equipment operators	7,830	25,890	12,400	8,920	44,130	152,665
	14.8%	9.2%	10.2%	18.4%	10.6%	7.6%
Natural resources, agriculture and related production	1,000	960	155	5,610	900	3,015
	1.9%	1.0%	1.6%	2.3%	0.8%	0.9%
Manufacturing and utilities	1,675	2,870	130	12,060	3,180	9,005
	3.2%	3.0%	1.3%	5.0%	2.7%	2.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## Unemployment Rates

### Why is this important?

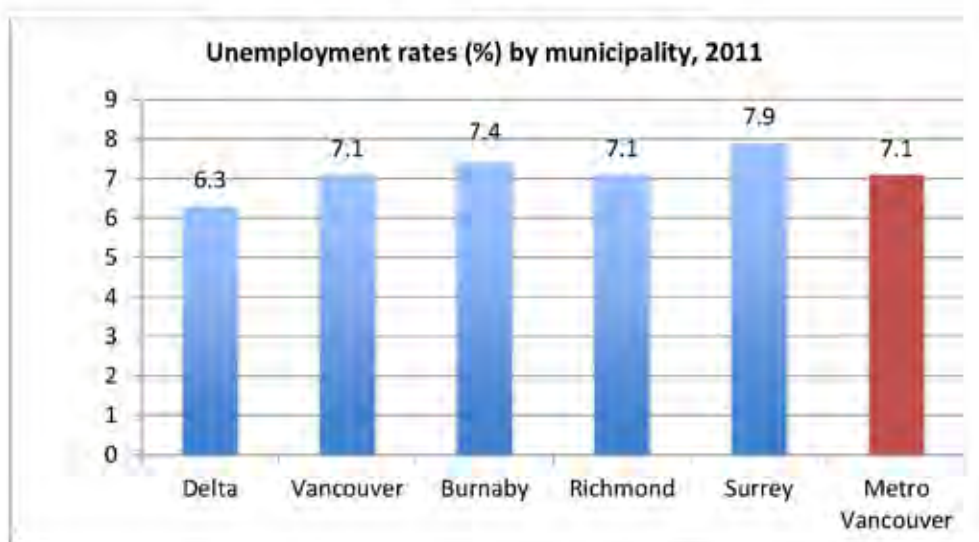
Unemployment, especially chronic unemployment, has negative consequences on individuals, communities and the economy. The longer a person goes without a job, the harder it may be to be hired. Individuals suffer financially as well as emotionally, as lack of meaningful work can affect self-confidence and self-efficacy, and the stress of not finding work can lead to negative health effects. Communities may suffer as homes cannot be maintained and foreclosures may happen, leading to abandoned and rundown properties. The economy can suffer with high unemployment rates as consumer spending inevitably drops. Unemployment rates are the number of individuals unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In 2011, Delta's total unemployment rate for the population aged 15 years and over was 6.3 per cent. This is the lowest rate, although within 1.5 percentage points, amongst the four case study comparisons. Delta's rate is also lower than the Metro Vancouver rate of 7.1 per cent. Male and female unemployment rates are very similar at 6.4 per cent and 6.3 per cent respectively.

Unemployment rates (%) by sex, 15 years and over, 2011			
	Total	Males	Females
Delta	6.3	6.4	6.3
Vancouver	7.1	7.2	6.9
Burnaby	7.4	7.4	7.4
Richmond	7.1	7.0	7.1
Surrey	7.9	7.4	8.6
Metro Vancouver	7.1	7.1	7.2

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

### How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

In 2011 there was a noticeable difference between the unemployment rates across the five neighbourhoods. North Delta East (7.7 per cent) and Sunshine Hills (6.8 per cent) had the highest total unemployment rates, while Tsawwassen's rate was

only 4.3 per cent. The pattern was similar for male unemployment, with Sunshine Hills and North Delta West (7.3 per cent and 7.2 per cent respectively) having the highest rates, and Tsawwassen having a male unemployment rate of only 4.5 per cent. Female unemployment was particularly high in North Delta East at 9.2 per cent, and lowest in Tsawwassen at 4.1 per cent.

Unemployment rates (%) by sex, 15 years and over, 2011			
	Total	Males	Females
Delta	6.3	6.4	6.3
Ladner - Delta Rural	6.3	6.9	5.7
North Delta East	7.7	6.5	9.2
North Delta West	6.2	7.2	5.2
Sunshine Hills	6.8	7.3	6.3
Tsawwassen	4.3	4.5	4.1

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## Income Assistance

### Why is this important?

The number of individuals and families needing income assistance (welfare), and the percentage that are children with single parents, indicates a level of need for social support services beyond just the income they are receiving. Basic income assistance for single individuals, including shelter assistance, is \$610 per month, while a single parent with a child, for example, can receive \$946 per month.<sup>15</sup> BC's income assistance rates have been frozen since 2007. Since income assistance eligibility requires all personal financial resources to be exhausted, it is financial support of last resort and provides an indicator of extreme material deprivation. Research shows that children who grow up in poverty face additional risk factors. They are less likely to do well at school, have lower literacy levels and are more likely as adults to suffer from job insecurity, underemployment, and poor health.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In the Delta Local Health Area (LHA), less than one per cent (0.8 per cent) of the population was receiving income assistance in September 2012, lower than the British Columbia rate (1.7 per cent) and all the comparison municipalities apart from Richmond LHA (0.6 per cent). In line with the pattern across the comparison cities, a larger proportion of children aged 14 and under received income assistance in September 2012 (1.4 per cent). Meanwhile 0.8 per cent of youth (15-24 years old) in Delta LHA were receiving income assistance, lower than the BC rate of 1.8 per cent.

Over a quarter (28.9 per cent) of people claiming income assistance in Delta LHA were single parents.

<sup>15</sup> For BC income assistance rates, see <http://www.eia.gov.bc.ca/mhr/ia.htm#a>.

Percentage of population receiving income assistance, by Health Service Delivery Area, Local Health Area, and BC, September 2012				
	Total	Children (0-14)	Youth (15-24)	% of caseload that are single parent families
Delta LHA	0.8	1.4	0.8	28.9
Burnaby LHA	1.3	2.8	1.2	25.2
Richmond LHA	0.6	1.1	0.5	21.6
Surrey LHA	2.5	4.1	2.4	28.7
Vancouver HSDA	1.5	2.1	1.3	13.9
British Columbia	1.7	3.1	1.8	25.5

Note. All income assistance recipients, except Aboriginal persons on-reserve and the disabled.  
Source: BC Stats Socio-Economic Profiles, 2012

## Highest Level of Education

### Why is this important?

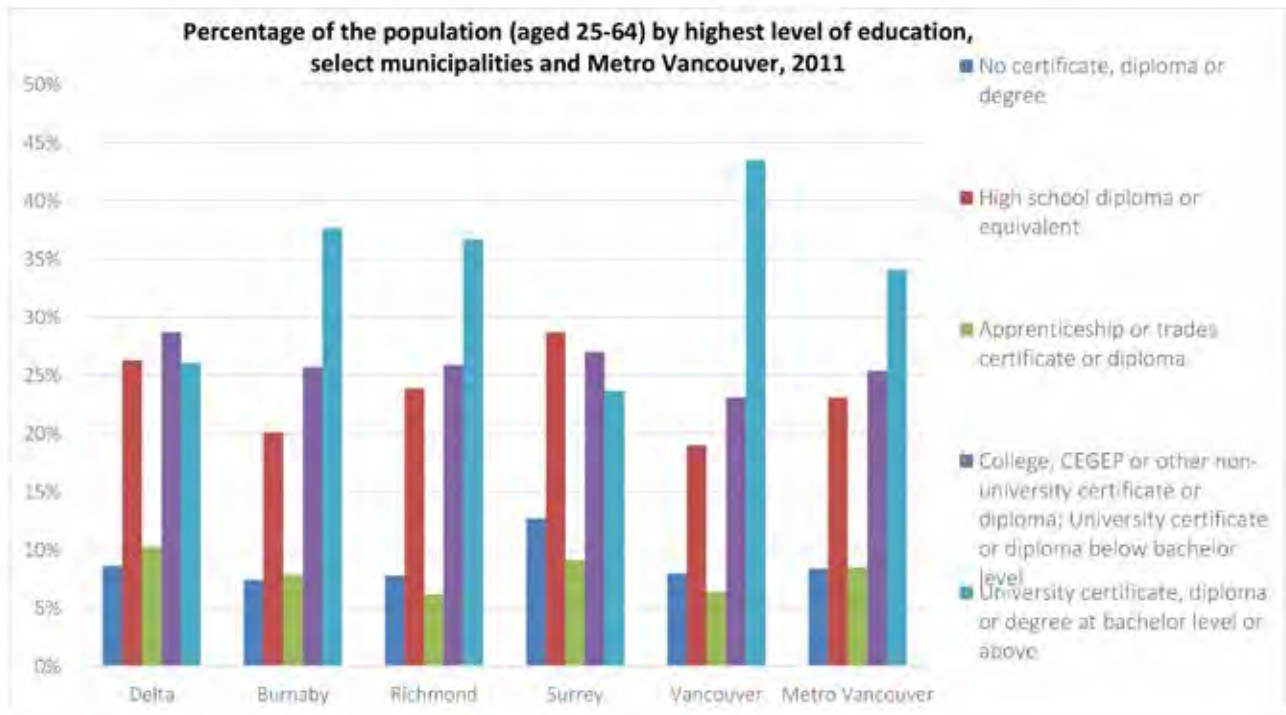
Education makes competing in the labour market, especially for higher paying jobs, easier. Higher education is linked to higher incomes, better health and social wellbeing, and stronger local economies.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In 2011 a quarter (26.1 per cent) of Delta residents held a university certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above. This is similar to the Surrey rate (23.7 per cent), but noticeably lower than the rates for Burnaby (37.6 per cent), Richmond (36.7 per

cent) and Vancouver (34.1 per cent), as well as the rate for Metro Vancouver (34.1 per cent).

The Delta population aged between 25 and 64 had lower levels of completed education than the comparison municipalities, apart from Surrey. In 2011 over a third (34.9 per cent) of the Delta population reported that their highest level of education was either no certificate, diploma or degree, or a high school diploma or equivalent. Again, of the select municipalities, only Surrey had a higher proportion (41.4 per cent), while other cities had rates between 31.7 per cent (Richmond) and 27 per cent (Vancouver).



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

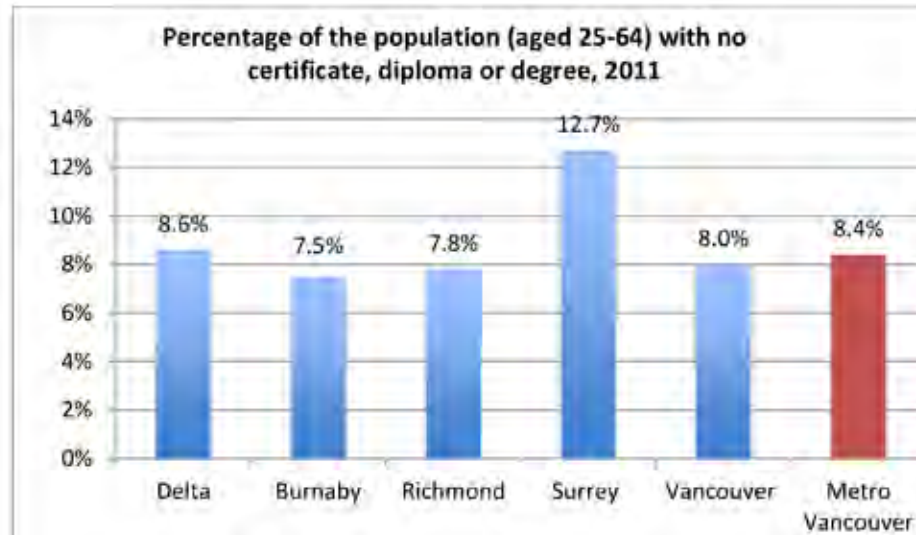




### No certificate, diploma or degree

Less than one in ten people aged 25 to 64 (8.6 per cent) in Delta had no certificate, diploma or

degree. This is similar to the proportions in Metro Vancouver (8.4 per cent) and the comparison municipalities, except for Surrey which had a higher proportion (12.7 per cent).

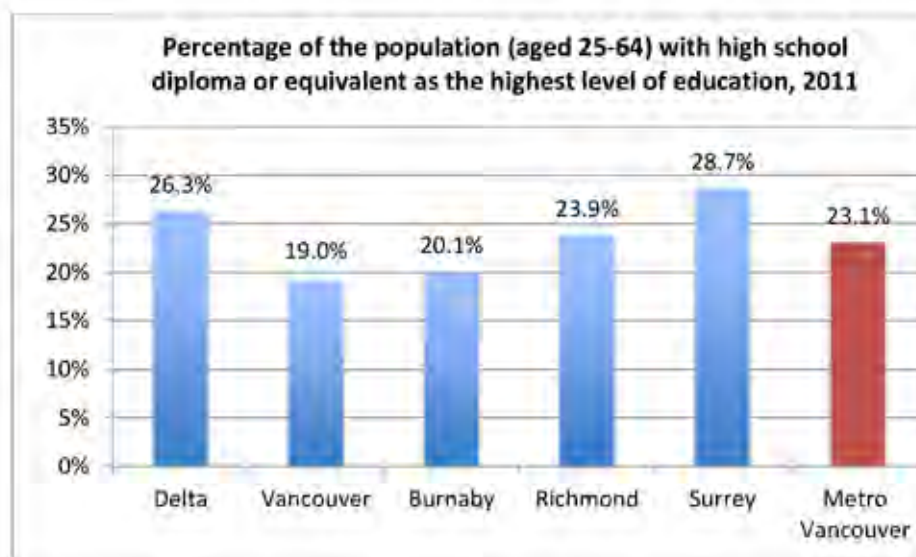


Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

### High school diploma or equivalent

Just over one in four of Delta's 2011 population aged 25 to 64 reported their highest level of

education as a high school diploma or equivalent. This is a higher proportion than all the comparison municipalities except Surrey (28.7), and higher than the region average of 23.1 per cent.

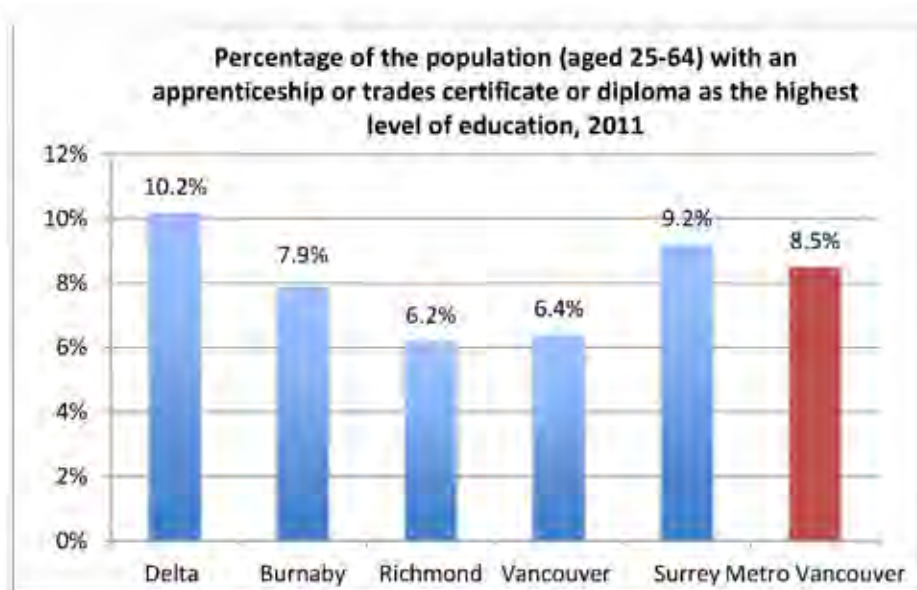


Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

### Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma

More than a tenth of Delta's 2011 population reported their highest level of education to be an

apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma. This is the highest rate amongst the comparison municipalities, and higher than the region average of 8.5 per cent.

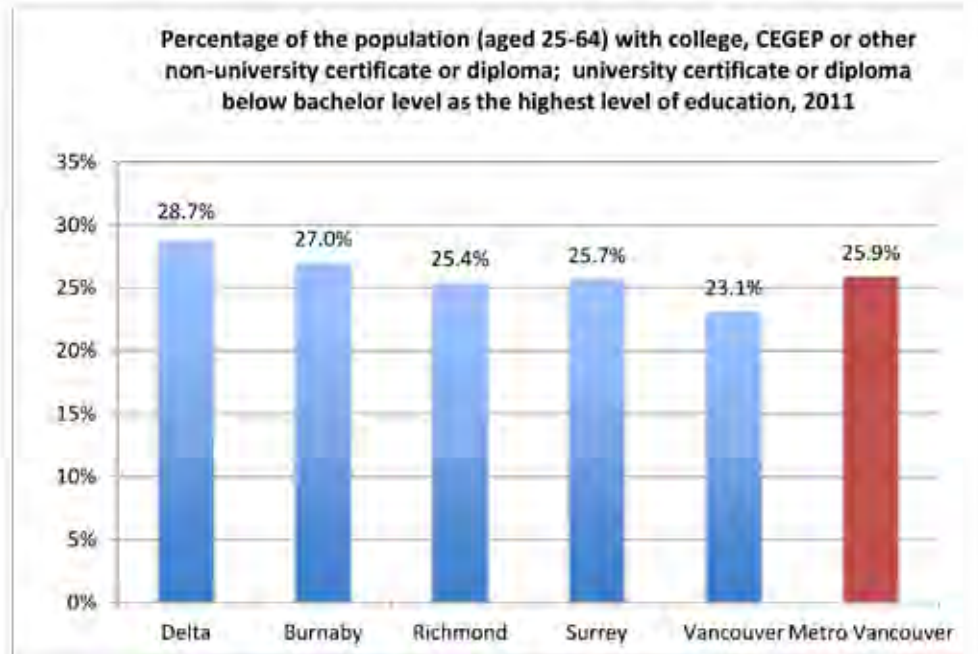


Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

**College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma; university certificate, diploma or degree below bachelor level.**

28.7 per cent of Delta’s population aged between 25 and 64 in 2011 reported their highest level of

education to be a college, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma, or a university certificate, diploma or degree below bachelor level. This is higher than the rates for the comparison municipalities.

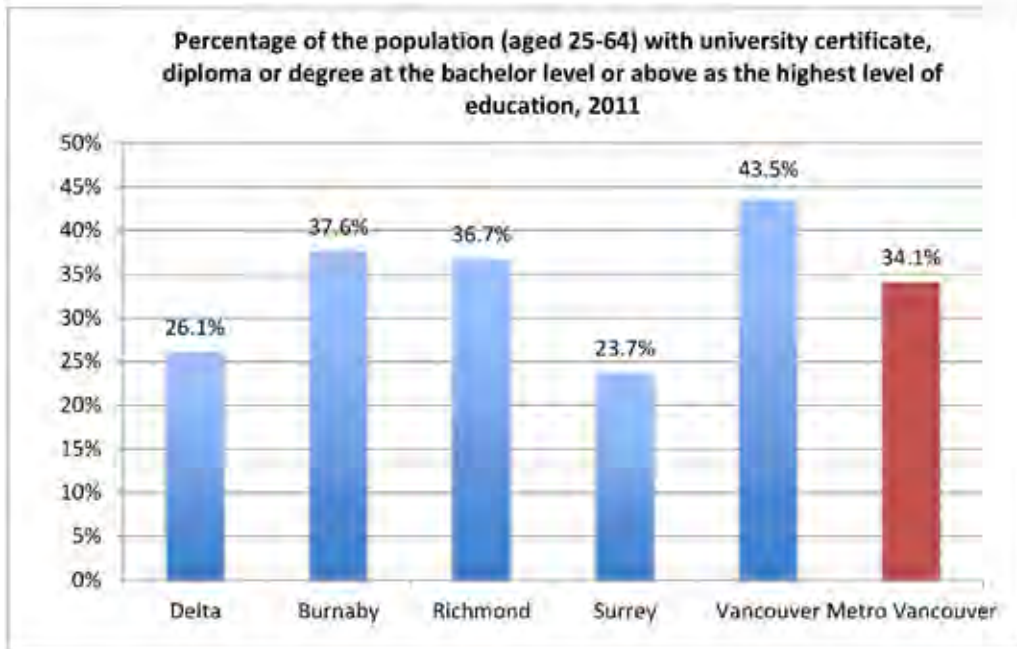


Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## University certificate, diploma or degree at the bachelor level or above

The 2011 National Household Survey showed a clear discrepancy between the rates of people with degrees in Delta and all but one of the nearby municipalities. Only a quarter (26.1 per cent) of Delta's 2011 population between the ages of 25

and 64 reported holding a degree at the bachelor level or above. This compared to over a third of the population in Richmond (36.7 per cent) and Burnaby (37.6 per cent), and over two fifths of Vancouver's population (43.5 per cent). Meanwhile the proportion of the population with a bachelor's degree or above was slightly lower in Surrey (23.7 per cent).



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

### No certificate, diploma or degree

There was considerable variation in the proportions of people aged 25 to 64 across Delta's five areas who did not hold any form of certificate, diploma or degree. Tsawwassen and Sunshine Hills had the lowest rates (at 2.9 per cent and 3.9 per cent respectively). Ladner-Delta Rural and North Delta West had similar rates to that of Delta (and all the

municipalities except for Surrey), at 7.5 per cent and 7.9 per cent respectively. A much higher percentage of people with no formal educational attainment was evident in North Delta East, where approximately one in seven people (15.4 per cent) did not hold any certificate, diploma or degree.

### **High school diploma or equivalent**

The proportions of the 25-64 age group in each of Delta's five areas holding a high school diploma or equivalent as their highest level of education

varied between 21.9 per cent in Sunshine Hills, to 28.9 per cent in North Delta East.

### **Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma**

More than one in ten people aged 25 to 64 in Ladner-Delta Rural (11.5 per cent) and North Delta

West (13.2 per cent) held apprenticeships or trade certificates as their highest level of education. The lowest rate was in Sunshine Hills (7.1 per cent).

### **College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma; university certificate or diploma below bachelor level**

The proportions of people in each neighbourhood

with college or university education below bachelor level ranged from 26.7 per cent of residents in North Delta East to 31.4 per cent of people in Tsawwassen.

### **University certificate, diploma or degree at the bachelor level or above**

The make-up of the different communities was evident in the differing percentages of population with university certificate, diplomas or degrees at bachelor level or above. North Delta East had the lowest proportion (19.3 per cent) (while also having the highest proportion of residents with no formal education, see above).

Around a quarter of residents in North Delta West (23.3 per cent) and Ladner-Delta Rural (25.6 per cent) had a bachelors certificate, diploma or degree or above, similar to the overall Delta rate of 26.1 per cent. The rate was much higher in Tsawwassen (32.5 per cent) and Sunshine Hills (39.2 per cent).

Percentage of the population (aged 25-64) by highest level of education and neighbourhood, 2011					
	No certificate, diploma or degree	High school diploma or equivalent	Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma/ University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	University certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above
Delta	8.6	26.3	10.2	28.7	26.1
Ladner - Delta Rural	7.5	28.0	11.5	27.4	25.6
North Delta East	15.4	28.9	9.7	26.7	19.3
North Delta West	7.9	24.3	13.2	31.3	23.3
Sunshine Hills	3.9	21.9	7.1	28.0	39.2
Tsawwassen	2.9	24.1	9.1	31.4	32.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

### University certificate, diploma or degree at the bachelor level or above

The make-up of the different communities was evident in the differing percentages of population with university certificate, diplomas or degrees at bachelor level or above. North Delta East had the lowest proportion (19.3 per cent) (while also having the highest proportion of residents with no formal education, see above).

Around a quarter of residents in North Delta West (23.3 per cent) and Ladner-Delta Rural (25.6 per cent) had a bachelors certificate, diploma or degree or above, similar to the overall Delta rate of 26.1 per cent. The rate was much higher in Tsawwassen (32.5 per cent) and Sunshine Hills (39.2 per cent).

# High School Completion Rates

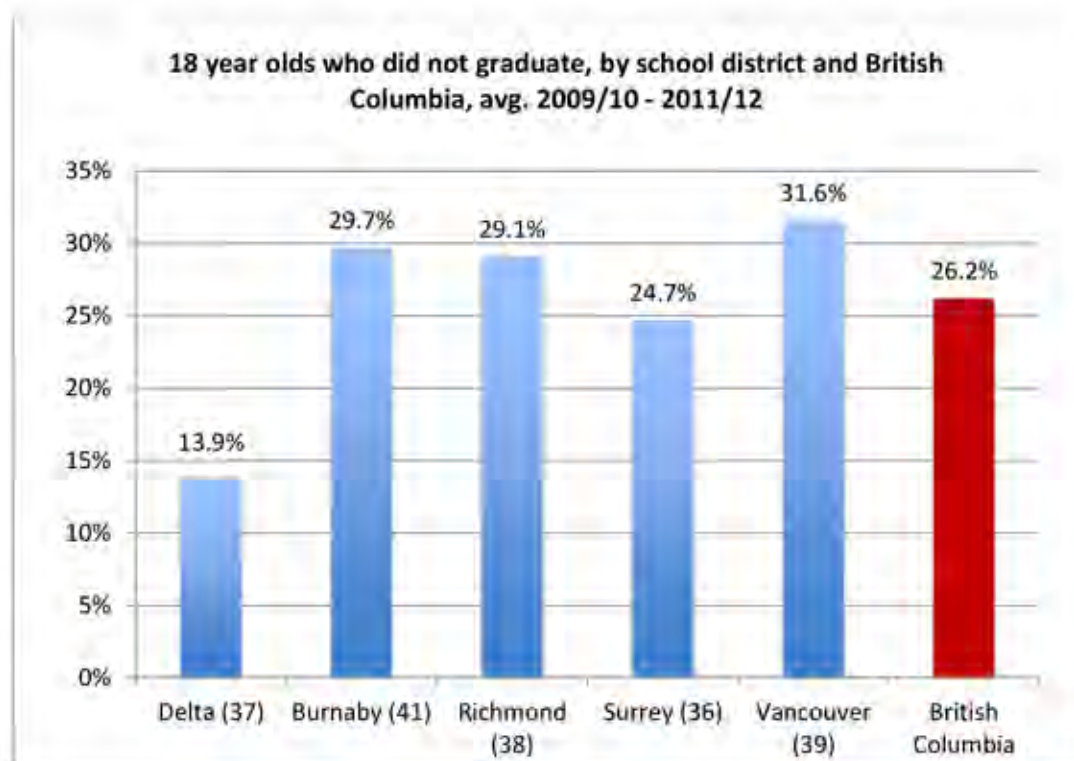
## Why is this important?

A high school diploma opens doors to further education and it is often a minimum requirement for entry-level jobs. As per BC Stats, the percentage of 18 year-olds who did not graduate is calculated as the population of 18-year-olds minus the number of high school graduates as a per cent of all 18 year-olds. It is used as an indicator of the high school dropout rate.

## What is the situation in Delta?

The Delta School District had a much lower rate of 18 year-olds that did not graduate based on a three-year average from 2009/10 to 2011/12, compared to the four comparison municipalities. Out of all British Columbian school districts, Delta had the fourth lowest rate (54th out of 57).

13.9 per cent of 18 year olds did not graduate in the Delta school district, comparing very favourably to the other nearby municipalities (which had rates from 24.7 per cent (Surrey) to 31.6 per cent (Vancouver). The overall percentage of British Columbia non-graduates was almost double, at 26.2 per cent.



Source: BC Stats Socio-Economic Profiles, 2012

## Rental Housing

### Why is this important?

Finding decent affordable housing in Metro Vancouver is becoming increasingly difficult, as housing prices continue to climb. It can be especially true for lower income earners such as single parents, recent immigrants, and young people – whose earning power tends to be lower. In addition, the available stock of decent affordable housing continues to fall as smaller homes are torn down to build larger ones, as rentals become run down from lack of maintenance and care, and as the population continues to grow.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In comparison with the other municipalities, Delta had the lowest rate of renting in 2011, with less than one in five (19 per cent) of occupied private dwellings being rented, equating to 6615 private dwellings. Unsurprisingly this is also substantially lower than the rate for Metro Vancouver (34.5 per cent).

Occupied private dwellings, 2011					
	Total #	Owned		Rented	
		#	%	#	%
Delta	34755	28140	81	6615	19
Burnaby	86,840	55,125	63.5	31,710	36.5
Richmond	67,980	52,420	77.1	15,555	22.9
Surrey	152,845	111,660	73.1	41,190	26.9
Vancouver	264,570	128,440	48.5	136,135	51.5
Metro Vancouver	891,310	583,425	65.5	307,555	34.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey



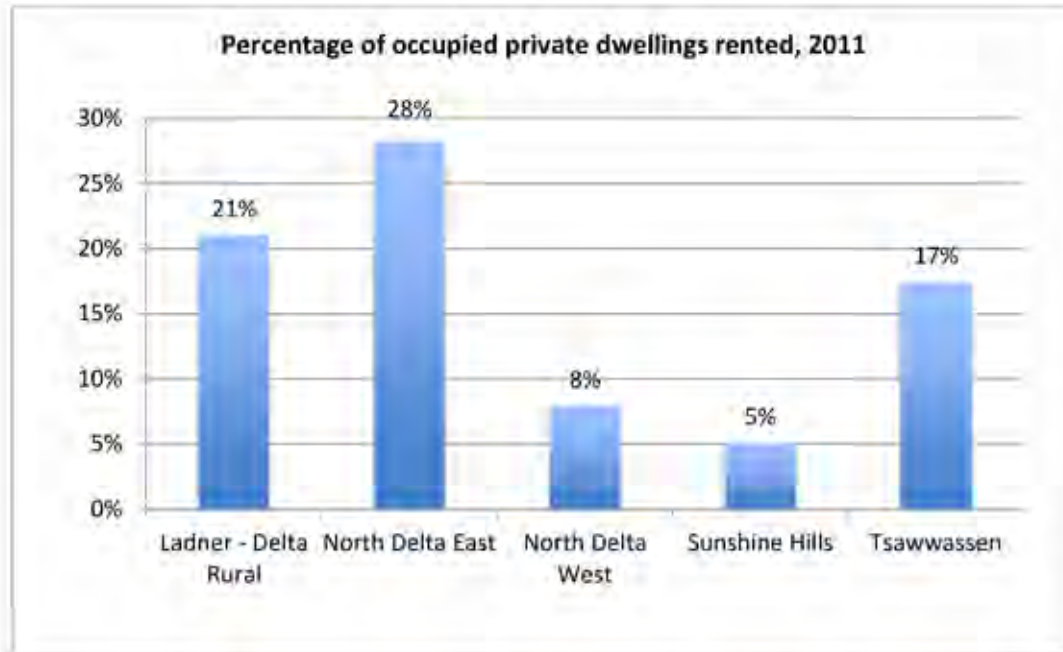
Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey



## How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

There was variation between the neighbourhoods in the rates of occupied private dwellings that were rented in 2011. The smallest proportion of rented

properties were in Sunshine Hills (5 per cent) and North Delta West (8 per cent). Tsawwassen and Ladner-Delta Rural saw higher rates (17 per cent and 21 per cent respectively). The highest rate, with over a quarter (28 per cent) of occupied private dwellings being rented was in North Delta East.



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

## Rent Costs for Renter Households

### Why is this important?

Statistics Canada defines people who spend 30 per cent or more of their total household income on shelter expenses as having a 'housing affordability' problem.<sup>16</sup> These people will find it harder to have sufficient funds for other necessities such as food, clothing and transportation. Renting is often cheaper and more attainable than buying, as saving for a down payment and being committed to mortgage and maintenance costs may not be feasible for many people. Metro Vancouver has

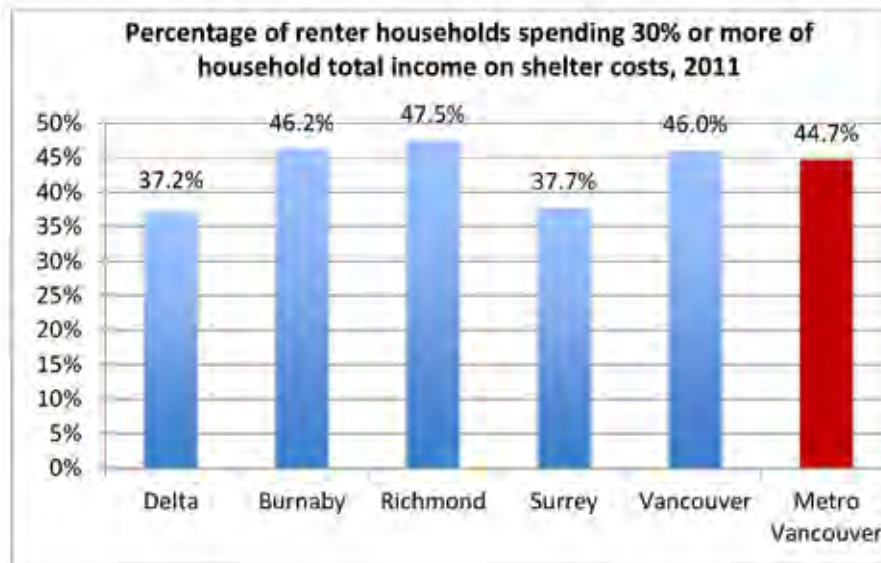
highlighted that transportation costs also impose a large burden on households, with consequent implications for disposable income.

Across Metro Vancouver over two fifths of renters (44.7 per cent) spent more than 30 per cent of income on shelter costs in 2011. In Delta over a third of renter households (37.2 per cent) spent more than 30 per cent of their income on shelter costs, although this rate was lower than the other comparison municipalities (ranging from 37.7 per cent in Surrey to 47.5 per cent in Vancouver).

<sup>16</sup> Statistics Canada, 2009. See <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-229-x/2009001/envir/hax-eng.htm#n3>

Renter households spending 30% or more of household total income on shelter costs, 2011		
	#	%
Delta	2,457	37.2
Burnaby	14,650	46.2
Richmond	7,384	47.5
Surrey	15,519	37.7
Vancouver	62,622	46.0
Metro Vancouver	136,829	44.7

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

### How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

In 2011, the proportion of renters in each of Delta's five neighbourhoods who spent at least 30 per cent of their income on shelter costs ranged from 34.2 per cent (North Delta East) to

44.3 per cent (Tsawwassen). The second highest proportion was in Sunshine Hills (39.4 per cent). The largest absolute numbers of renter households whose shelter costs accounted for at least 30 per cent of their income were in North Delta East (881 households) and Ladner – Delta Rural (708 households).

Renter households spending 30% or more of household total income on shelter costs, 2011		
	#	%
Delta	2,457	37.2
Ladner - Delta Rural	708	36.1
North Delta East	881	34.2
North Delta West	127	34.7
Sunshine Hills	63	39.4
Tsawwassen	676	44.3

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

### How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

In 2011, the proportion of renters in each of Delta's five neighbourhoods who spent at least 30 per cent of their income on shelter costs ranged from 34.2 per cent (North Delta East) to

44.3 per cent (Tsawwassen). The second highest proportion was in Sunshine Hills (39.4 per cent). The largest absolute numbers of renter households whose shelter costs accounted for at least 30 per cent of their income were in North Delta East (881 households) and Ladner – Delta Rural (708 households).

## Vacancy Rates

### Why is this important?

Vacancy rates for purpose-built rental apartments indicate the availability of rental housing. Low vacancy rates indicate that demand is exceeding rental housing supply, meaning rents will continue to rise and renters have constrained mobility in the rental market. Higher vacancy rates provide renter households with more options, and rental rates may also increase more slowly. Low vacancy rates for larger apartment units, for example, means that families may struggle to find adequate housing. Housing experts say three per cent is the minimum vacancy rate for a healthy rental market.<sup>17</sup>

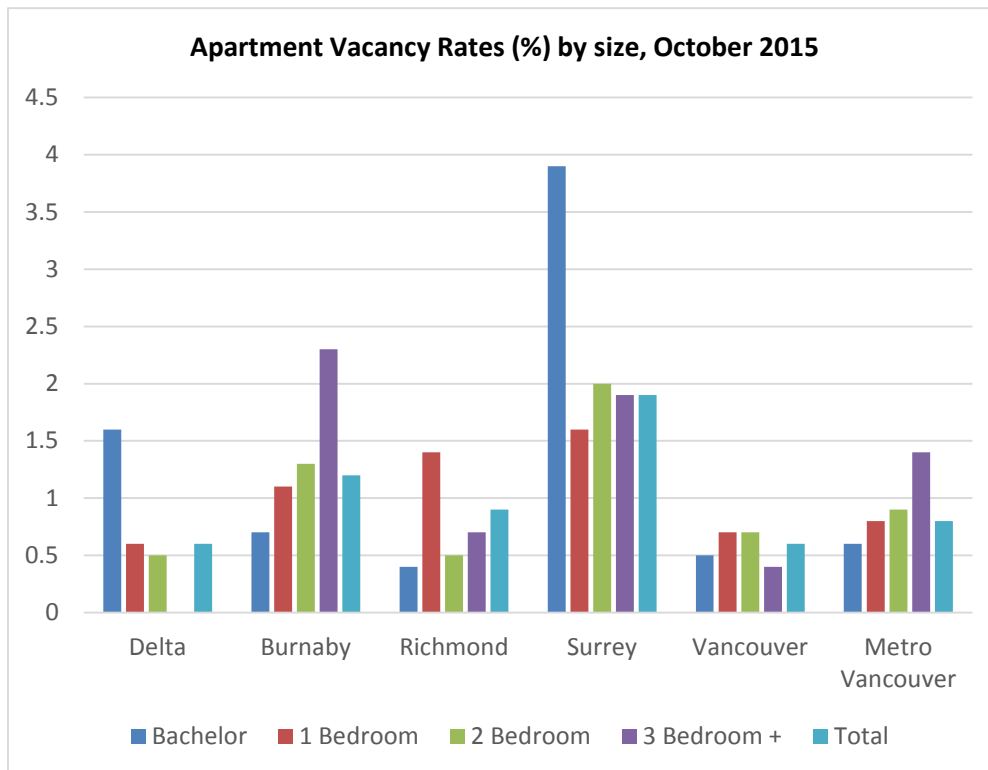
### What is the situation in Delta?

Throughout Metro Vancouver, the vacancy rate in October 2015 was substantially lower than the three per cent seen as reflecting a healthy rental market, at only 1.2 per cent of all apartment types. Delta's total apartment vacancy rate (0.6 per cent) was the lowest of any of the three case study comparisons, matching that of Vancouver, and lower than the Metro Vancouver rate of 0.8 per cent. Although Delta's vacancy rates for bachelor apartments were higher than the comparisons other than Surrey (at 1.6 per cent), vacancy rates in every other category were lower than any of the comparisons, making it particularly difficult for families to find rental accommodation. The Fall 2015 vacancy rates for apartments that had at least three bedrooms was zero per cent.

<sup>17</sup>Wellesley Institute. (2015). Painfully Low Vacancy Rates, Shrinking Number Of Homes: New National Report Underlines Rental Housing Woes Across Canada. Available at: <http://www.wellesleyinstitute.com/housing/painfully-low-vacancy-rates-shrinking-number-of-homes-new-national-report-underlines-rental-housing-woes-across-canada/>.

Private apartment vacancy rates (%) by size, October 2015					
	Bachelor	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom +	Total
Delta	1.6	0.6	0.5	0	0.6
Burnaby	0.7	1.1	1.3	2.3	1.2
Richmond	0.4	1.4	0.5	0.7	0.9
Surrey	3.9	1.6	2.0	1.9	1.9
Vancouver	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.6
Metro Vancouver	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.4	0.8

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 2015 Rental Market Report



Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 2015 Rental Market Report

## Housing Types

### Why is this important?

The structural type of dwelling reflects the amount of particular types of housing structures, everything from single-detached houses to apartment buildings. The characteristics of the housing stock in a municipality also indicates to what extent residents have diverse housing options, which can be important for affordability and lifestyle choices. For example, a diversity of housing types provides younger people and seniors with housing options appropriate to meet their age-specific needs.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In 2011, more than two thirds of Delta's private dwellings were single detached houses (64 per cent). Duplexes accounted for 14 per cent of

private dwellings, and another 13 per cent were apartments less than five storeys. Only one per cent of private dwellings were in apartment buildings over five storeys tall.

Delta's housing type is quite different than the comparison municipalities, with a much higher proportion of single detached houses, and a smaller proportion of high rise living. None of the comparison municipalities had such high proportions of single detached houses, the next highest was Surrey at 42 per cent, and the Metro Vancouver rate was only 34 per cent of private dwellings as single detached houses. The Metro Vancouver proportion of apartments in buildings over five storeys is 15 per cent, compared to Delta's rate of one per cent.

Occupied private dwellings by housing type, 2011; number and percentage of total						
	Single-detached house	Semi-detached house	Row house	Duplex	Apartment, less than 5 storeys	Apartment, 5 storeys or more
Delta	22155	855	1755	4750	4640	375
	64%	2%	5%	14%	13%	1%
Burnaby	21,355	2,735	7,775	12,670	23,180	19,055
	25%	3%	9%	15%	27%	22%
Richmond	25,320	1,690	13,445	4,090	16,210	6,955
	37%	2%	20%	6%	24%	10%
Surrey	64,515	3,345	20,900	27,410	31,345	3,800
	42%	2%	14%	18%	21%	2%
Vancouver	47,530	4,000	9,040	45,845	87,430	70,270
	18%	2%	3%	17%	33%	27%
Metro Vancouver	301,135	19,295	80,505	126,605	228,585	129,255
	34%	2%	9%	14%	26%	15%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

## Section C: Social Indicators

### Homelessness

#### Why is this important?

Homelessness in the Lower Mainland is an ongoing issue. Following the federal government's withdrawal from affordable housing, "declining wages, reduced benefit levels...and a shrinking supply of affordable housing have placed more and more Canadians at risk of homelessness."<sup>18</sup> Being subject to homelessness has many negative effects, as a 2001 BC report notes, "people who do not have safe, secure, affordable shelter have more health problems than the general population, experience social problems that may be exacerbated by their lack of shelter, and are more likely to become involved in criminal activity than the general public." Homeless individuals, families, and children suffer worse social and health outcomes, and society pays for increased use of some services, such as shelters and emergency hospital services.<sup>19</sup>

The following data are derived from the 2014 three yearly Homeless Count in Metro Vancouver, which is a conservative estimate of homelessness because it measures the number of homeless people who the surveyors find on a specific day.

It also does not account for the "vulnerably housed" who are people living in unsafe, unstable and / or unaffordable housing, who have a significant risk of becoming absolutely homeless.

#### What is the situation in Delta?

Delta, which has a smaller area and total population than the comparison municipalities, recorded 15 homeless individuals, accounting for one per cent of Metro Vancouver's sheltered, unsheltered and total homeless people in the 2014 count.



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<sup>18</sup> Stephen Gaetz, Tanya Gulliver, & Tim Richter (2014). The State of Homelessness in Canada: 2014. Toronto: The Homeless Hub Press, p 3. Available at: <http://homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/SOHC2014.pdf>.

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<sup>19</sup> Government of British Columbia (2001). The Relationship Between Homelessness and the Health, Social Services, and Criminal Justice Systems: A Review of the Literature. Homelessness: Causes & Effects, Vol. 1, p. 1. Available at: <http://www.housing.gov.bc.ca/pub/Vol1.pdf>.

Homeless population, sheltered and unsheltered, selected municipalities, 2014							
	Sheltered Homeless		Unsheltered Homeless		Total Homeless		Total Population
	#	% of Region	#	% of Region	#	% of Region	% of region
Delta	10	1	5	1	15	1	4
Burnaby	14	1	44	5	58	2	10
Richmond	16	1	22	2	38	1	8
Surrey	263	14	140	15	403	15	21
Vancouver	1,267	70	536	56	1,803	65	26

Source: Greater Vancouver Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness, 2014 Homeless Count

The number of homeless individuals in Delta has been recorded as between 6 and 17 in the five counts between 2002 and 2014.

Total homeless population, selected municipalities, 2002-2014					
	2002	2005	2008	2011	2014
	#	#	#	#	#
Delta	11	17	11	6	15
Burnaby	18	42	86	78	58
Richmond	31	35	56	49	38
Surrey	171	392	402	400	403
Vancouver	670	1,364	1,576	1,581	1,803

Source Greater Vancouver Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness, Homeless Count (2014, 2011, 2008, 2005, 2002)

## Family Structure

### Why is this important?

According to research out of the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia, the nature of a child's family environment has a very strong effect on his/her cognitive and behavioural development, and on the prevalence of childhood developmental vulnerability. The factors within this environment that have been shown to have an impact on child development are parenting skills; the cohesiveness of the family unit; the educational level and mental health of the mother; and, the extent to which parents are actively engaged with their children. The composition of the family can have significant impact on the planning of adequate and appropriate community services and programs.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In 2011, there were over 29,000 census families in Delta: 79.2% were married couples, 8.3% were common-law-couples and 12.5% were lone-parent families.

Delta had the lowest proportions of lone parent families among the selected municipalities (12.5 per cent). Of those 3,645 families, 77 per cent (2,810) were headed by women and another 830 by men.

In the region as a whole, lone-parent families represented 15.5 per cent of all families.

	Total	# Couple families	# lone parents	% lone parents
Delta	29,085	25,440	3,645	12.5
Burnaby	61,365	51,415	9,950	16.2
Richmond	55,400	46,480	8,920	16.1
Surrey	131,070	111,540	19,525	14.9
Vancouver	151,330	126,610	24,725	16.3
Metro Vancouver	633,460	535,180	98,280	15.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census



## How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

North Delta East had the largest absolute number of families (8,345) and also the highest proportion

of single parent families (14.3 per cent). The lowest proportions of lone parent families were in Sunshine Hills (10.2 per cent) and Tsawwassen (10.7 per cent).

Families by type, Delta neighbourhoods, 2011						
	Total Families	# Couple families	# Lone-Parent families	% Lone-parent families	Female lone parent	Male lone parent
Ladner	7,200	6,220	980	13.6	755	225
North Delta East	8,345	7,150	1,195	14.3	945	255
North Delta West	4,215	3,725	490	11.6	355	135
Sunshine Hills	2,955	2,655	300	10.2	235	70
Tsawwassen	6,545	5,840	700	10.7	545	160

\* Couple families include married couples and common-law families  
Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

## Household Types

### Why is this important?

Household structures are changing, most likely due to demographic and cultural factors, such as increasing immigration, changing migration streams, increases in remarriages, cohabitation, and blended families, as well as increases in non-relative households. The impact may be felt by residential real estate development and in the types and size of new housing starts, affecting the need for nearby amenities and public spaces.

### What is the situation in Delta?

There were 34,755 households in Delta in 2011, of which three quarters (74 per cent) were single-family. This is higher than any of the selected Metro municipalities used in the comparative table. Multiple family households made up 5 per cent of the total and one in five (21 per cent) were non-family households.

## How do neighbourhoods within Delta compare?

Single-family households<sup>20</sup> were the dominant household type in Delta, ranging from a low of 67 per cent in North Delta East to over 85 per cent

in Sunshine Hills. One in nine households (11 per cent) were multiple family households in North Delta East.

Over a quarter of households in Ladner and Tsawwassen were non-family households.

% households by type, select Metro municipalities, 2011			
	% Single Family	% Multiple Family	% Non-Family
Delta	74	5	21
Burnaby	61	3.8	35.2
Richmond	68.9	5.4	25.7
Surrey	66.6	8.3	25.1
Vancouver	48.7	3	48.3
Metro Vancouver	60.7	4.1	35.2

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

Households by type, Delta neighbourhoods, 2011							
	Total	Single family		Multiple family		Non family	
	#	#	%	#	%	#	%
Ladner	8,910	6,285	70.5	230	2.6	2,395	26.9
North Delta East	8,250	5,535	67.1	920	11.2	1,795	21.8
North Delta West	4,245	3,415	80.4	205	4.8	625	14.7
Sunshine Hills	3,015	2,575	85.4	110	3.6	330	10.9
Tsawwassen	8,445	6,005	71.1	120	1.4	2,320	27.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

<sup>20</sup> **Family household** refers to a household that contains at least one census family, that is, a married couple with or without children, or a couple living common-law with or without children, or a lone parent living with one or more children (lone-parent family). **One-family household** refers to a single census family (with or without other persons) that occupies a private dwelling. **Multiple-family household** refers to a household in which two or more census families (with or without additional persons) occupy the same private dwelling. Family households may also be divided based on the presence of persons not in a census family (not included in our table). **Non-family household** refers to either one person living alone in a private dwelling or to a group of two or more people who share a private dwelling, but who do not constitute a census family.

## Home Language of Students

### Why is this important?

Parents who struggle with speaking English as a second language can find it difficult to participate in their child's education because of the language barrier. They have more trouble communicating with teachers and administrators and in helping their children with their schoolwork in English.

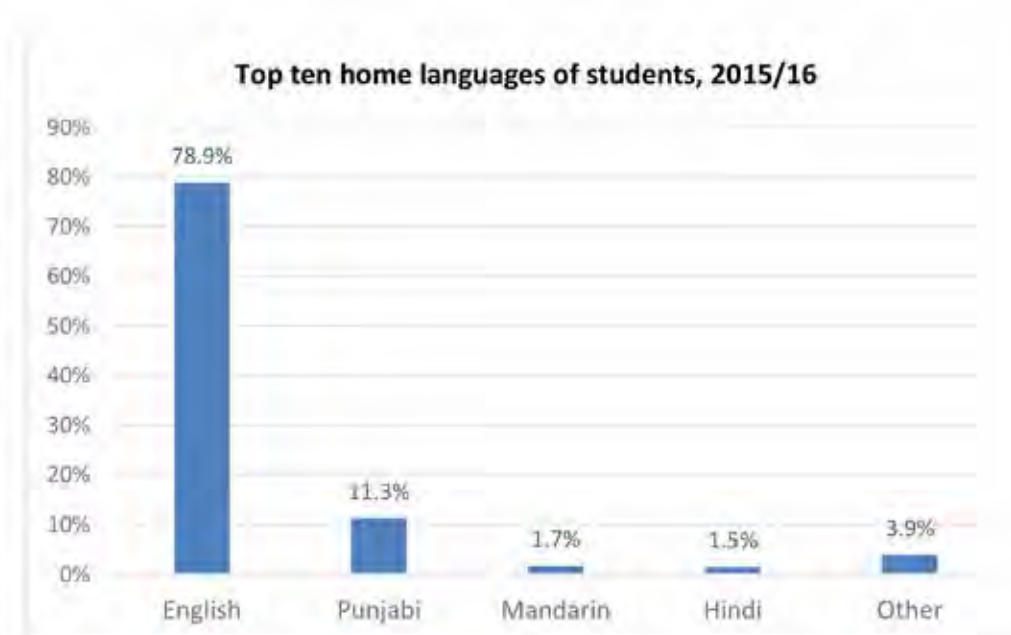
### What is the situation in Delta?

Delta has a noticeably higher percentage of students whose home language is English than other municipalities that have been reported on previously. The rate has been around four fifths for the last five school years.

In 2015/16 the second most common language spoken at home was Punjabi (11.3 per cent), followed by less than two per cent of students speaking Mandarin and Hindi at home.

Top ten home languages in Delta School District (37), by percentage, 2012/13 – 2015/16			
	2013/14 %	2014/15 %	2015/16 %
English	81.2	80.2	78.9
Punjabi	10.4	10.9	11.3
Mandarin	1.5	1.6	1.7
Hindi	1.3	1.3	1.5
Urdu	0.8	0.8	0.9
Chinese	0.9	0.9	0.9
Spanish	0.6	0.8	0.8
Tagalog (Philipino)	0.5	0.5	0.6
Cantonese	0.3	0.4	0.4
Malayalam	0.2	0.2	0.3

Source: BC Ministry of Education, 2016



Source: BC Ministry of Education, 2016

## English Language Learning Students

### Why is this important?

In 2011 an estimated 3360 people living in Delta had immigrated to Canada within the last five years, contributing to the rich cultural diversity in our communities. Yet, children of recent immigrants are also more likely to struggle in school due to language and cultural barriers. School aged children emigrating from places where English is not a primary language must learn English to succeed in school, and later, find employment. The number and percentage of English Language Learner (ELL) students in the school districts indicates the need for social supports to help students adjust to – and thrive in – Canadian schools and society.

### What is the situation in Delta?

1,558 students in Delta in the 2015/16 school year were English Language Learners. Although substantially lower than the rate in the comparison municipalities (which ranged from 19 per cent of Burnaby and Vancouver students, to 28 per cent of Richmond students), this figure represents almost one tenth of all students in Delta (9.5 per cent). The rate in Delta has fluctuated between 9.5 per cent and 11 per cent over the last four school years. Delta's rate is similar to that of British Columbia (11 per cent).

English Language Learners* (ELL) by school district and British Columbia, 2013/14-2015/16						
	2013/14		2014/15		2015/16	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Delta (37)	1,763	11	1,689	10.6	1,558	9.5
Burnaby (41)	4,751	19	4,631	18.7	4,742	19
Richmond (38)	6,123	28.1	5,927	27.8	5,879	28
Surrey (36)	15,553	21.5	16,022	22.6	16,423	23
Vancouver (39)	10,664	19.1	10,190	18.8	9,867	19
British Columbia	61,395	11	61,079	11	63,093	11

\* English Language Learning (ELL) was known as English as a Second Language (ESL) prior to 2012. Figures only include ELL students in public schools. Source: BC Ministry of Education, 2016



## Aboriginal Students

### Why is this important?

There remain significant differences in the educational outcomes of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students. As a recent report notes, early intervention and support in Aboriginal students' education "could lead to improvements in the rate at which Aboriginal students progress through the grades and successfully graduate."<sup>21</sup>

### What is the situation in Delta?

In the 2015/16 school year, Delta School District had 622 students who were self-identified as Aboriginal, accounting for 3.8 per cent of the entire school population. This percentage was similar for the previous two school years (at 4.1 per cent and 4 per cent respectively). There is a larger proportion of Aboriginal students in Delta than in Burnaby or Richmond. Across all school districts in BC Aboriginal students account for 10.7 per cent of the student population.

	2013/14		2014/15		2015/16	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Delta (37)	662	4.1	632	4.0	622	3.8
Burnaby (41)	934	3.7	862	3.5	830	3.3
Richmond (38)	306	1.4	275	1.3	268	1.3
Surrey (36)	3699	5.1	3,560	5.0	3,437	4.8
Vancouver (39)	2283	4.1	2208	4.1	2,193	4.2
British Columbia	70642	11.1	69047	10.9	67636	10.7

Source: BC Ministry of Education, 2016

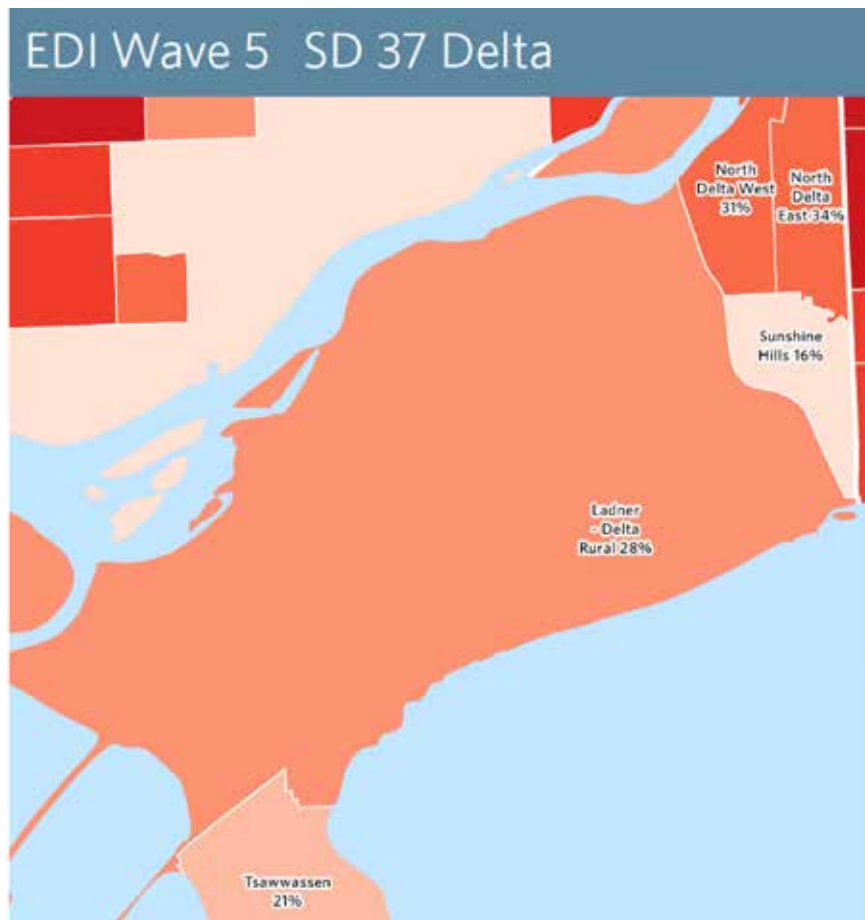
<sup>21</sup> Ministry of Advanced Education. (2009). Education Achievements of Aboriginal Students in BC. Student Transitions Project, p. 3. Available at: [http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/student\\_transitions/documents/STP\\_aboriginal\\_report.pdf](http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/student_transitions/documents/STP_aboriginal_report.pdf).



## Early Childhood Development Instrument Indicators

The Early Development Instrument is a measurement tool to identify childhood vulnerabilities in the following domains: Physical Health and Well-being; Social Competence; Emotional Maturity; Language and Cognitive skills; Communication Skills; and any combination of those. Vulnerability is defined as “the portion of the early childhood population which, without additional support and care, may experience future challenges in school and society” (Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), UBC).

The map below shows the vulnerability rates, across all domains, for children entering Kindergarten in School District 37 (Delta). The darker the shading, the higher the developmental vulnerability. North Delta East and North Delta West have the highest vulnerability rates across one or more domain, at 34 per cent and 31 per cent respectively.



Source: Human Early Learning Partnership, UBC

## Middle Childhood Development Instrument Indicators

Child development does not end when a child enters school; in fact important cognitive, social and emotional development continues to occur and life skills are learned, during the middle years (6-12 years old). The Middle Childhood Development Instrument (MDI) was developed to assess five areas of development that are strongly linked to well-being, health, and academic achievement. It focuses on highlighting the factors that support and optimize development in middle childhood: Social and Emotional Development; Physical Health and Well-Being; Connectedness to Adults and Peers; School Experiences; and Use of After-School Time. The survey is completed by children in grades 4 and 7. One of the key aspects of the MDI is the Well-being Index, a summary measure that illustrates

the number of children who are 'thriving' in a neighbourhood or school district. Children who are 'thriving' are those who report positive outcomes related to optimism, happiness, self-esteem, absence of sadness and their general health.

The MDI map below shows the percentage of Grade 7 children in 2014/2015 who are considered to be 'thriving' in each of the Delta neighbourhoods. The darker the colour, the higher percentage of children who are thriving. The highest level is found in Tsawwassen at 61% while a little less than half the children are thriving in each North Delta East, Sunshine Hills, and Ladner – Delta Rural. North Delta West reports the lowest rate at 39%.





Source: Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), UBC

## Election Turnout

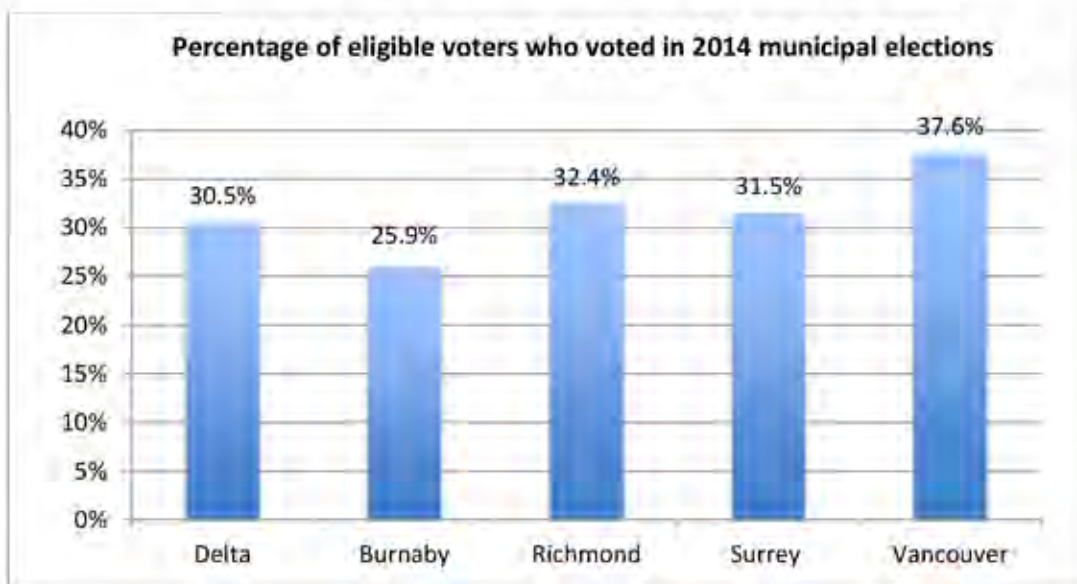
### Why is this important?

Voting in elections is a means for citizens to be a part of their community's governance by choosing its leadership. Policies and actions taken by municipal governments have direct impact on the daily lives of residents, families, and businesses. City Councils make decisions about land use and bylaws, infrastructure, economic development, and public services, while School Boards are responsible for the local delivery of public education, including elementary and secondary schools. These affect every resident in some way.

### What is the situation in Delta?

In Delta, 22,066 eligible electors (30.5 per cent) voted in the 2014 municipal election. This turnout was similar to the rates for Richmond and Surrey, higher than Burnaby, but lower than Vancouver (37.6 per cent).

Around a third of eligible voters in Delta have exercised their right to vote in the three municipal elections since 2008. The lowest turnout was in 2008 (30 per cent), and the highest in the 2011 election (33.7 per cent).



Source: CivicInfo BC

Percentage of Delta eligible voters who voted in Municipal Elections, 2008-2014	
Year	%
2008	30
2011	33.7
2014	30.5

Source: CivicInfo BC

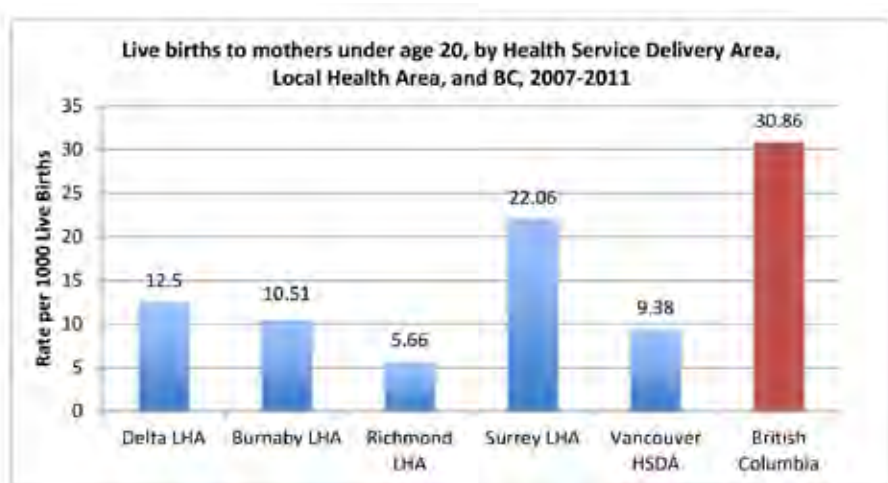
## Live Births to Mothers under Age of 20

### Why is this important?

Pregnancy under the age of 20 is an important issue from a public health and social determinants of health perspective. Canadian longitudinal data suggests that women who give birth in their teen years are less likely to complete high school or post-secondary education.<sup>22</sup> Furthermore, teen pregnancies pose greater health risks to the mother and child and can be a significant predictor of additional social, educational and employment barriers later in life as well.<sup>23</sup> A trend of many young mothers can indicate a need for targeted social support services in a community.

### What is the situation in Delta?

Between 2007 and 2011 the rate of live births to teenage mothers for Delta Local Health Area (LHA) was 12.5 per 1000 live births. This is higher than Burnaby LHA, Richmond LHA and Vancouver Health Service Delivery Area (HSDA), although lower than Surrey LHA (22.06), and the British Columbia rate of 30.86.



Source: BC Vital Statistics Agency, 2011 Annual Report

<sup>22</sup> Statistics Canada (2008) <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/75-001-x/2008105/article/10577-eng.htm#a3>

<sup>23</sup> Ontario Ministry of Health. (2012). Teen Pregnancy. Available at: [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/pubhealth/init\\_report/tp.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/pubhealth/init_report/tp.html)

# Alcohol-Related Deaths

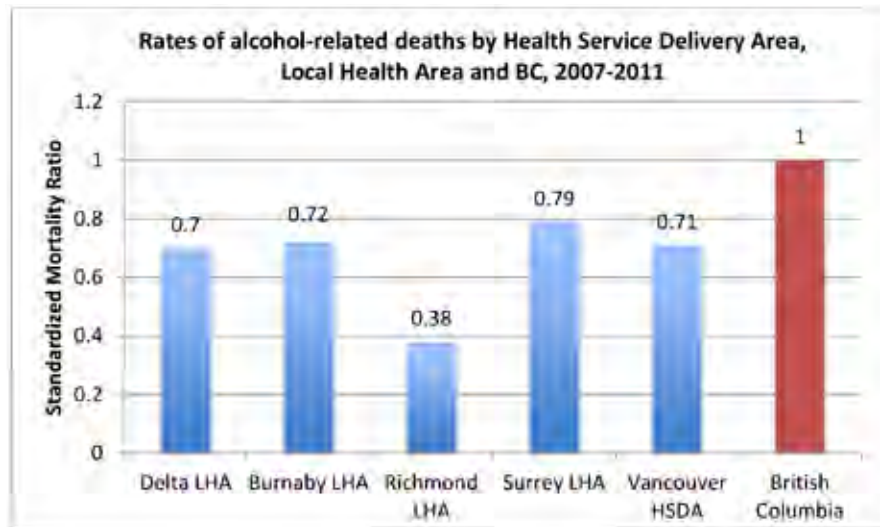
## Why is this important?

Severe alcohol abuse can come with many negative health consequences as well as social consequences, including financial, legal and family problems. In addition to the potential health problems, alcohol can impair judgment and lead to risky behaviours such as high-risk sexual practices, violence, crime, and traffic accidents.

Alcohol-related deaths are expressed as a standardized mortality ratio, which is “the ratio of the number of deaths occurring to residents of a geographic area (e.g. Local Health Area) to the expected number of deaths in that area based on provincial age-specific mortality rates. The SMR is a good measure for comparing mortality data that are based on a small number of cases or for readily comparing mortality data by geographical area.”

## What is the situation in Delta?

In line with the comparison municipalities, Delta’s rate of alcohol-related deaths between 2007 and 2011 was lower than the British Columbia rate. The standardized mortality ratio for Delta for alcohol-related deaths was 0.7, similar to Burnaby LHA (0.72), Surrey LHA (0.79), and Vancouver HSDA (0.71). Richmond LHA had the lowest SMR for alcohol related deaths, at 0.38.



Source: BC Vital Statistics Agency, 2011 Annual Report

<sup>24</sup> British Columbia Vital Statistics Agency. (2011). Victoria: Ministry of Health, p. 141. Available at: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/residents/vital-statistics/statistics-reports/annual-reports/2011/pdf/ann2011.pdf>

## Drug-Induced Deaths

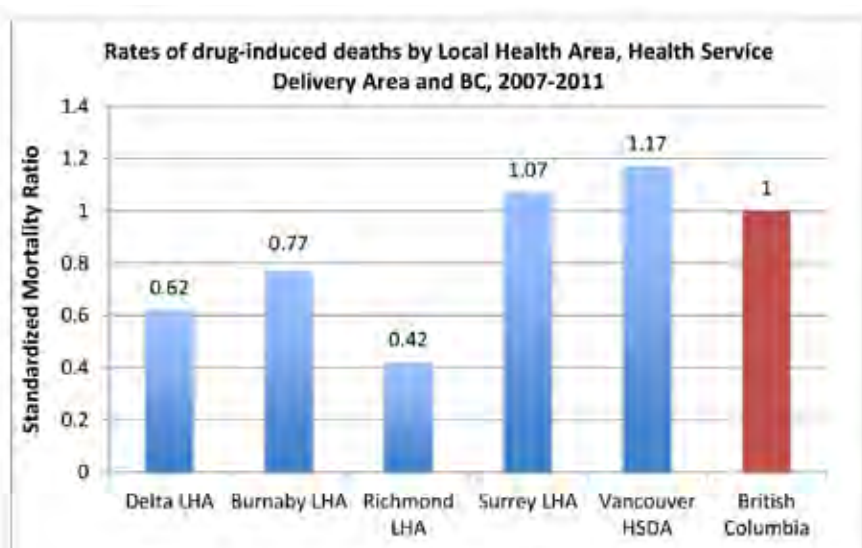
### Why is this important?

Drug use can lead to physical and emotional problems for individuals and creates challenges for society as a whole. Drug addiction can cause significant strain on family relationships and pose financial problems and they fuel the illicit drug trade in BC. This leads to not only increased costs to society from policing and the justice system (not to mention health care system), but also the cost of lost lives.

Drug-induced deaths are expressed as a standardized mortality ratio (SMR), which is “the ratio of the number of deaths occurring to residents of a geographic area (e.g. Local Health Area) to the expected number of deaths in that area based on provincial age-specific mortality rates. The SMR is a good measure for comparing mortality data that are based on a small number of cases or for readily comparing mortality data by geographical area.”<sup>25</sup>

### What is the situation in Delta?

From 2007-2011, Delta Health Service Delivery Area (HSDA) had a standardized mortality ratio (SMR) of 0.62 for drug-induced deaths. This rate is lower than that for all but one (Richmond, at 0.42) of the comparison municipalities. However during the four years there were only 29 drug-induced deaths in Delta, so the absolute numbers are small.



Source: BC Vital Statistics Agency, 2011 Annual Report

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

## Crime Rates

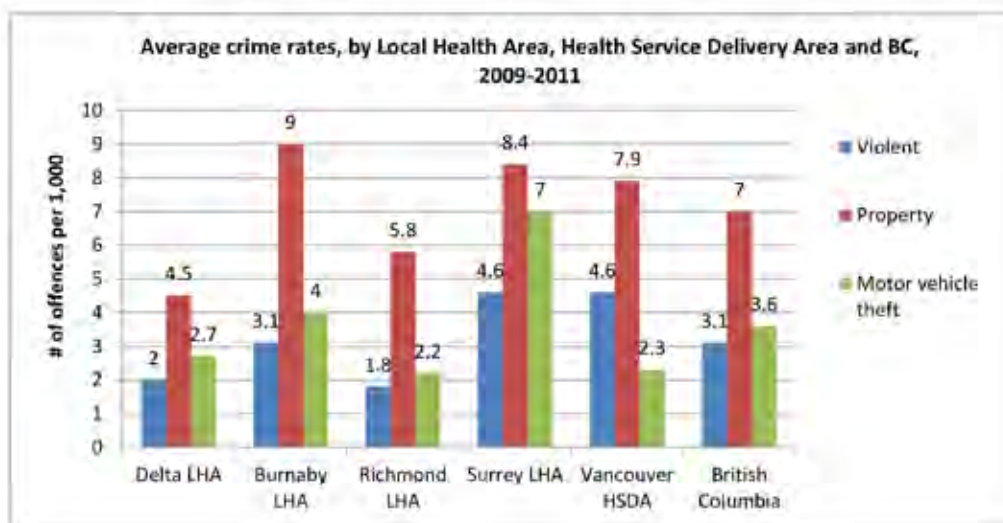
### Why is this important?

Crime and societal inequalities are correlated,<sup>26</sup> and therefore, higher crime rates could signal inequality in a community. Researchers note “income inequality affects social inequality. It affects health, education, housing, whole neighbourhood blocks and the services they receive. And now we know that incarceration, which has been our primary response to crime, further affects social mobility and income inequality not only for offenders but for their children, increasing the prospects for more crime.”<sup>27</sup> Based on the statistical relationship between literacy, income, and crime, the poverty-related costs of crime in BC were estimated to be \$745 million in 2008.<sup>28</sup> Inequities can be mitigated through targeted social services and social policy.

### What is the situation in Delta?

From 2009 to 2011, the Delta Local Health Area (LHA) recorded two violent crime offences per 1000 population. This is slightly higher than the Richmond LHA rate of 1.8, but lower than Burnaby LHA (3.1), Surrey LHA (4.6) and Vancouver HSDA (4.6).

Delta’s rate of property crime (4.5) was the lowest amongst the comparison municipalities. Delta’s motor vehicle theft was recorded as 2.7 offences per 1,000, the third lowest of the five comparison municipalities, (the highest rate (7) was recorded in Surrey LHA.



Source: BC Stats Socio-Economic Profiles, 2012

<sup>26</sup> Fajnzylber, P., Lederman, D., & Loayza, N. (2002). Inequality and Violent Crime. *Journal of Law and Economics* 45(April).

<sup>27</sup> Ontario Ministry of Health. (2012). Teen Pregnancy. Available at: [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/pubhealth/init\\_report/tp.html](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/pubhealth/init_report/tp.html)

<sup>28</sup> Ivanova, I. (2011). *The Cost of Poverty in BC*. Vancouver: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, the Public Health Association of BC, and the Social Planning and Research Council of BC, p. 11. Available at: <https://www.policyalternatives.ca/costofpovertybc>.

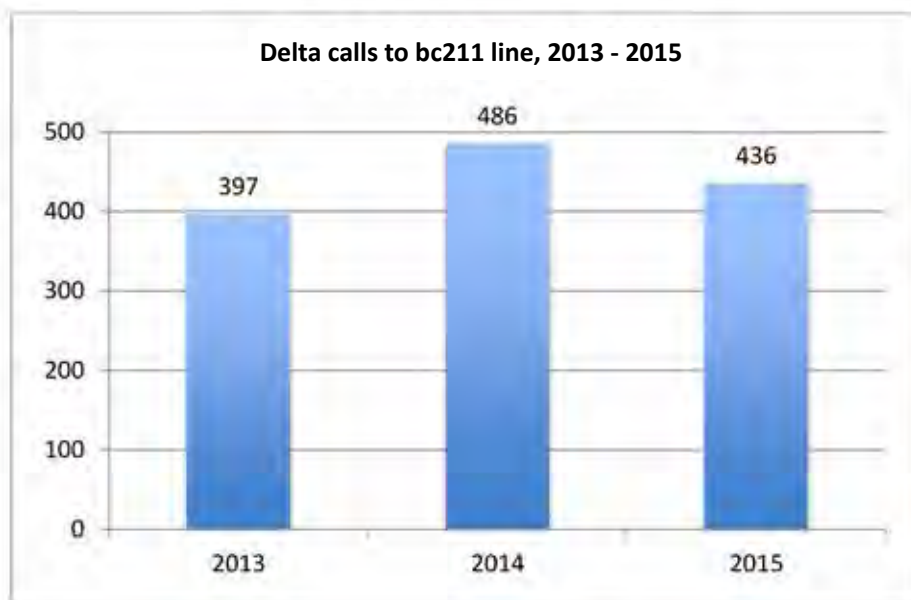
## Calls to the bc211 Help Line

### Why is this important?

bc211 is a United Way-funded information and referral agency that responds to calls, text messages and email inquiries for help and information about community, government and social services 24/7 from many parts of B.C., including the Lower Mainland. BC residents can also access 211 services through *The Red Book Online*. bc211 also responds to calls from four other helplines: VictimLink BC; Alcohol & Drug Information and Referral Service; Problem Gambling Helpline; and the Youth Against Violence Line. A look at the demographics of callers to bc211, the reasons they call and the types of referrals made provides insight into the issues Delta residents face.

### What is the situation in Delta?

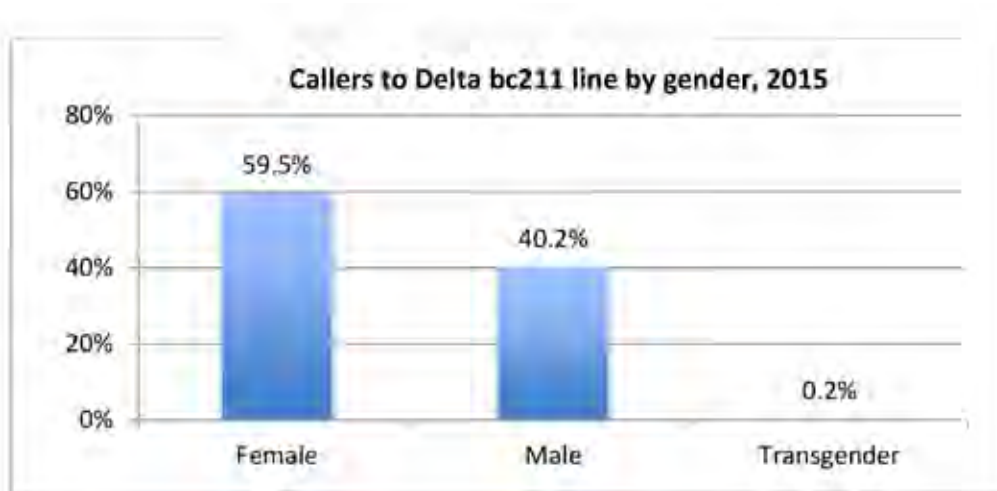
Between January and December 2015, there were 436 calls from Delta to the bc211 line. If these calls were evenly spread, there would be around eight calls a week. The total number of calls was higher than in 2013 (397 calls), but lower than in 2014 (486 calls).



## Who is using bc211?

Examining the gender and age groups of bc211 users may indicate a need for tailored services and support. In 2015 two fifths (59.5 per cent) of Delta callers were

female and most (91.5 per cent) were adults between 19 and 54. 25 calls (5.7 per cent) were from seniors. No calls were received from youth in 2015.



Source: bc211

Age Group	#	%
13-18 Youth	0	0
19-54 Adult	399	91.5
55-64 Adult	12	2.8
65+ Senior	25	5.7

Source: bc211

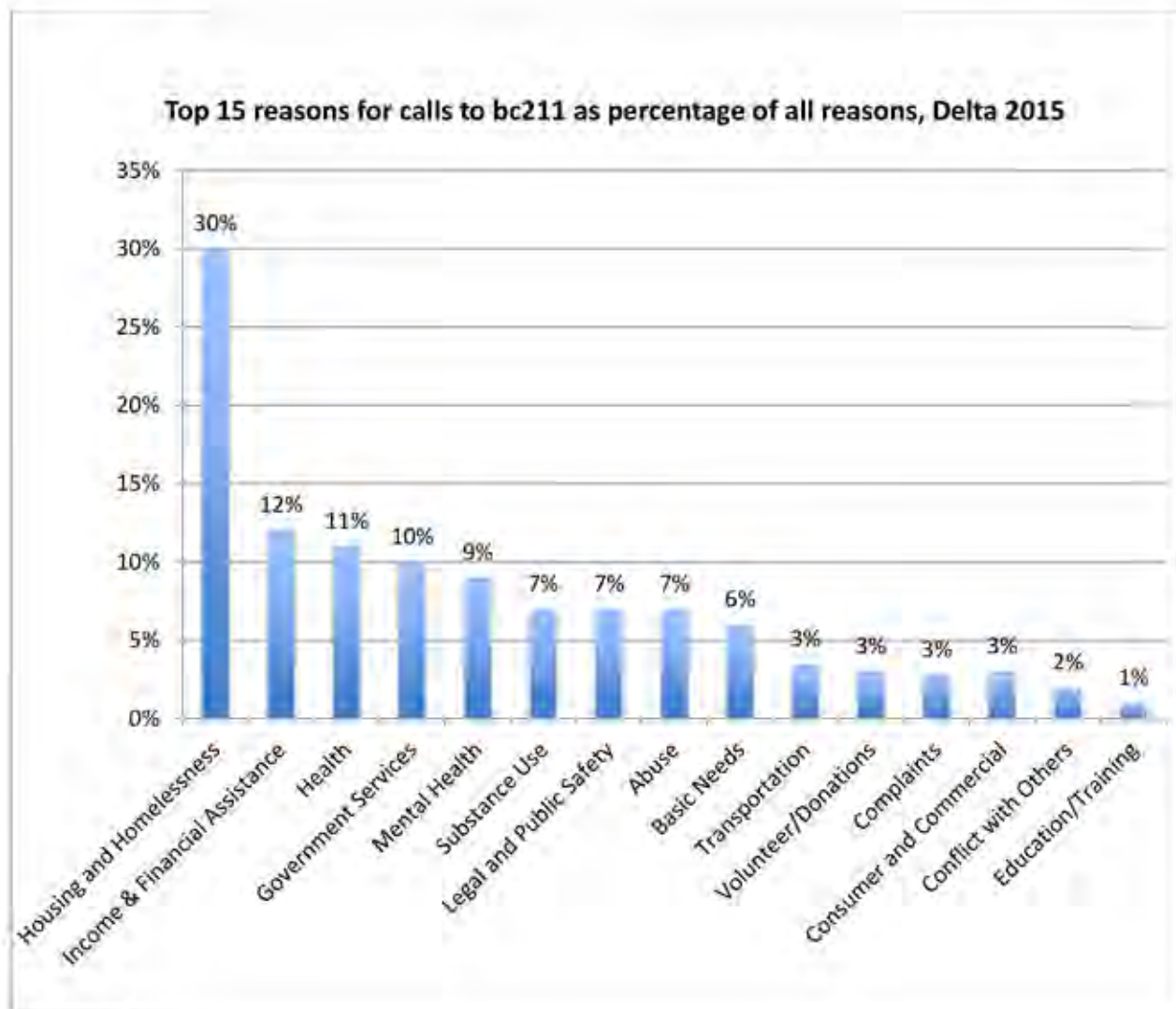


## Why are people calling bc211?

The reasons why people call helplines may help communities identify gaps in services, especially if the referrals cannot be met in the community the caller is in. The reasons people have for calling the bc211 line are recorded. Some callers may be calling for one reason while others may have more than one reason for calling. In 2015, helpline staff responded to 436 enquiries from Delta across more than fifteen broad issues.

Three in ten of all enquiries (30 per cent) related to housing and homelessness, with income and financial assistance accounting for 12 per cent, and health for 11 per cent.

During 2015, 10 per cent of all enquiries from Delta were about government services and 9 per cent were about mental health. Substance use, legal and public safety, and abuse each accounted for 7 per cent of people's reasons for calling the bc211 helpline.



Source: bc211

## Where are people who call being referred?

Looking at where services exist to meet the needs of callers may help to identify gaps in local services or other trends. One caller can receive one or more referrals. In 2015 almost 400 referrals were made to bc211 callers from Delta.

Over a quarter of referrals (27 per cent) in 2015 were for housing. There is no shelter in Delta, apart from an extreme weather shelter, and thus all of these referrals were to services based outside Delta.

The second largest proportion of all referrals were to services offering further information and referrals (24 per cent), less than a fifth of which were to Delta based services. 14 per cent of referrals from Delta bc211 calls were for education, of which three fifths (60 per cent) were to non-Delta services. A tenth of

referrals were for financial services, almost all (97 per cent) of which were based outside the municipality.

Of the different categories of referrals made to Delta bc211 callers in 2015, only four types were made predominantly to Delta-based services. These were food (78 per cent of all referrals), home support (75 per cent), employment resource centres (67 per cent) and assessment (52 per cent).

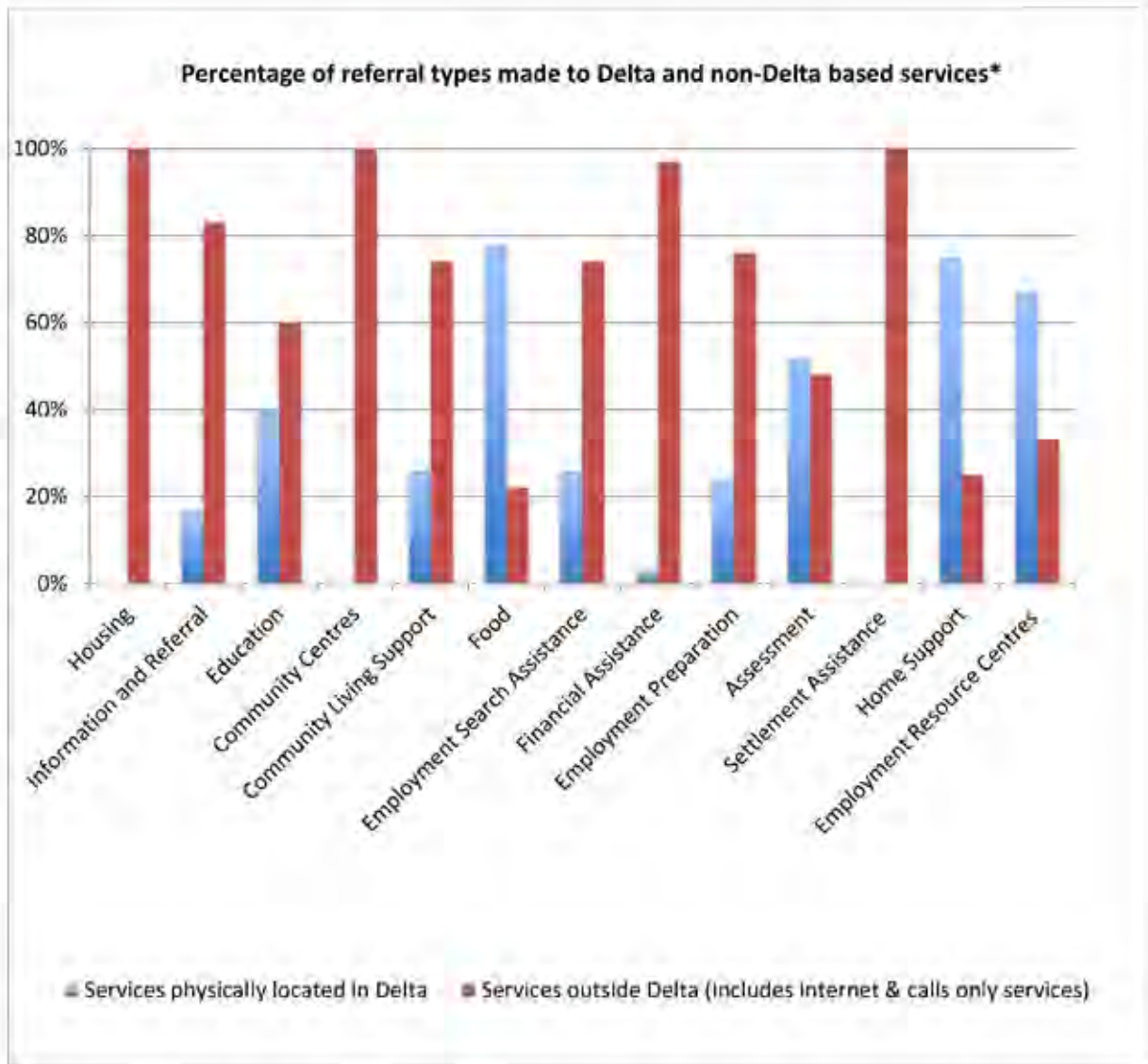
Six types of referrals resulted in at least three quarters being made to non-Delta based services (housing, community centres and settlement assistance (all at 100 per cent), as well as financial assistance (97 per cent), information and referral (83 per cent) and employment preparation (76 per cent). Although these services were not physically located in Delta, they serve the Delta region.

### Referrals made to select services within Delta or elsewhere, 2015

Referrals made	Referrals #	Referrals to resources physically located in Delta %	Referrals to resources serving Delta but not physically located in Delta* %
Housing	99	0	100
Information and Referral	92	17	83
Education	55	40	60
Community Centres	6	0	100
Community Living Support	19	26	74
Food	9	78	22
Employment Search Assistance	19	26	74
Financial Assistance	38	3	97
Employment Preparation	17	24	76
Assessment	21	52	48
Settlement Assistance	3	0	100
Home Support	4	75	25
Employment Resource Centres	3	67	33
Family Places	0	0	0

Source: bc211

\* Includes internet and telephone referral services



Source: bc211

\*Includes internet and telephone based services



*Photo courtesy of City of Richmond*



**United Way**  
**Lower Mainland**

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