

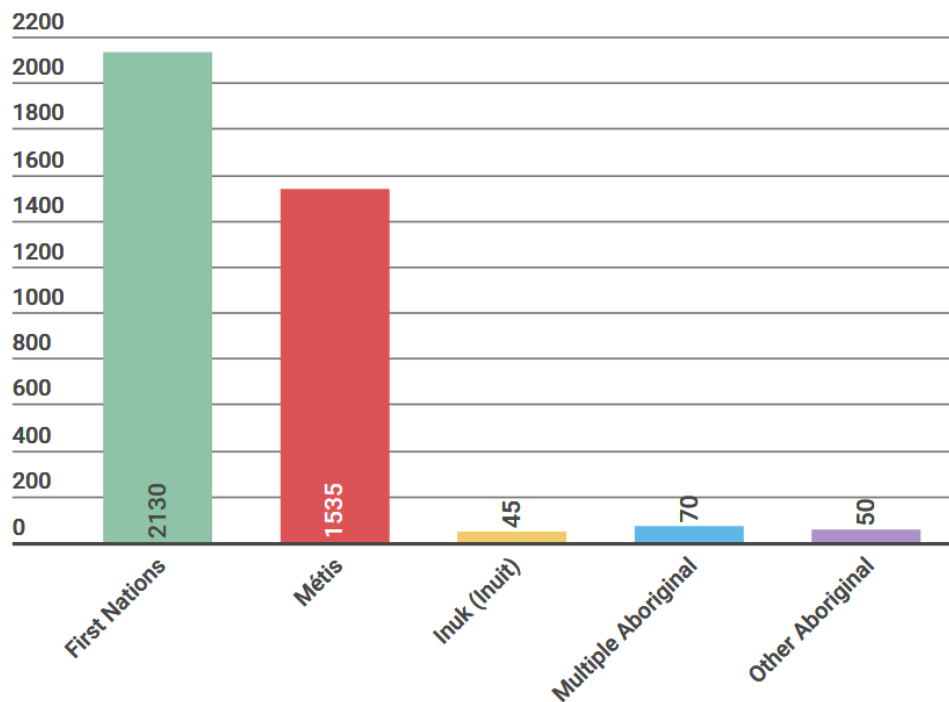
## Census Canada release highlights; Aboriginal peoples, immigration and housing

The latest census release from Statistics Canada were released on Wednesday October 25, 2016. The subjects covered in the release were Aboriginal people, immigration and housing. Comox Valley Economic Development has summarized the data from the Comox Valley in the highlights below.

### Aboriginal Population

- The census counted 3,825 Aboriginal people in the Comox Valley in 2016, comprising 5.9% of the total population, the same as British Columbia and 1% higher than Canada.
- The average age of the Aboriginal Comox Valley population was 34.5 years, over a decade younger than the non-Indigenous population at 46.9 years.
- 25.8% of Aboriginal people in the Comox Valley are aged 0-14 compared to 13.3 of non-Aboriginal people.
- 10.7% of Aboriginal people in the Comox Valley are 65 or older, compared to 25.6% of non-Aboriginals
- 2,130 people identified as First Nations, 1,525 as Metis, 45 as Inuk (Inuit), 70 as multiple aboriginal identities and 50 as other aboriginal identities.

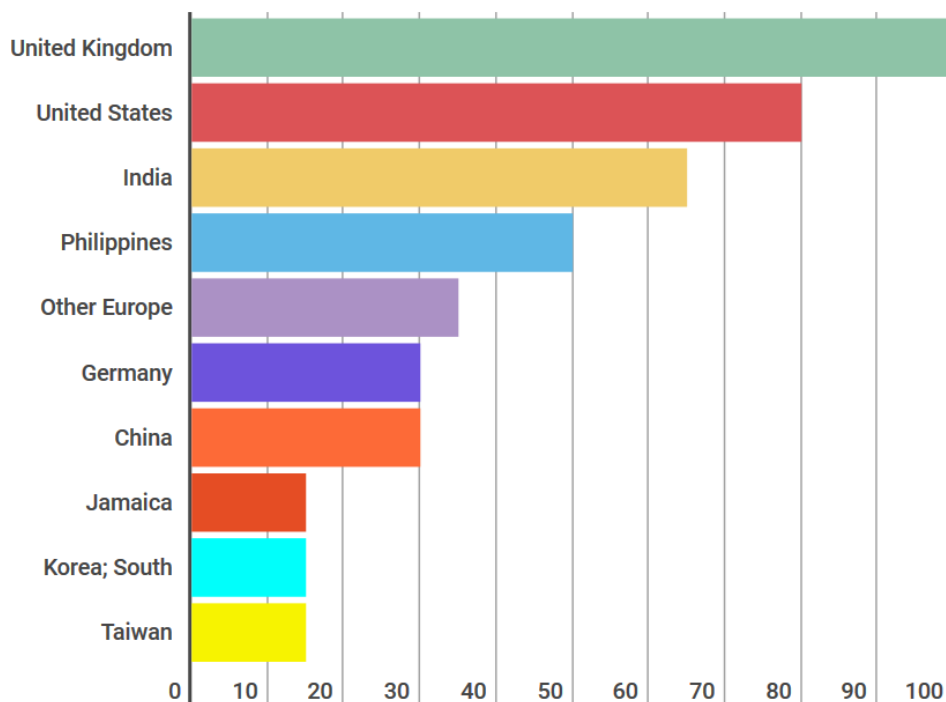
**Aboriginal Population of the Comox Valley**



## Immigration

- In 2016, 8,225 — about 12.6% of the Comox Valley population — reported being foreign-born individuals who immigrated to Canada. This proportion is less than half of BC's proportion (28.3%) and lower than Canada's (21.9%)
- There were 535 new immigrants who permanently settled in the Comox Valley between 2011 and 2016, 0.8% per cent of the total population last year.
- 48% entered under the economic category, 43.1% to join family already in the Comox Valley and 8.3% as refugees.
- The largest source of recent immigrants is Asia (including the Middle East) at 37.4%, closely followed by Europe at 35.5%. The Americas follow with 21.5%, then Oceania and others at 3.7% and finally Africa at 1.9%.
- There were 2,890 visible minorities in 2016, 4.4% of the Comox Valley's population. This is drastically lower than BC (30.3%) and Canada (22.3%)

**Country of origin; Recent Immigrants to the Comox Valley**



## Housing

- 22,595 of the 29,575 household in the Comox Valley owned their home, a rate of 76.4%. This higher than BC (68%) and Canada (67.8%)
- 70 per cent of homeowners in 2016 were aged 35-54, compared with 20- to 34-year-olds at just 43.6 per cent.
- 12.4% of households in the Comox Valley were condominiums
- 77.6% of households were built in the year 2000 or prior. 5.6% were built from 2011 – 2016.
- 5.7% of households were in need of major repairs.
- There were 6,470 (22.2%) households spending 30% or more of their income on shelter costs (rent/mortgage, electricity, heat, taxes).
- 54% of owners had a mortgage, and 15% of owners were spending more than 30% of income on shelter costs.
- The median monthly shelter costs for owned dwellings were \$828 compared to \$1149 in all of BC. For renters, the media costs were \$922 for the Comox Valley and \$1,036 for BC
- The average value of dwellings was \$407,093, compared to \$720,689 in BC as a whole.

### Comox Valley Home Ownership

