

## SYMPOSIUM

organized in the framework of the annual conference 'Pathways  
to Prosperity'

November 15, 2017

# Developing Immigrants' Literacy and Essential Skills

Summary of the Background Report  
on British Columbia

**Actions**  
interculturelles  
Since 1990  
Diversity is *people*

Presented by:

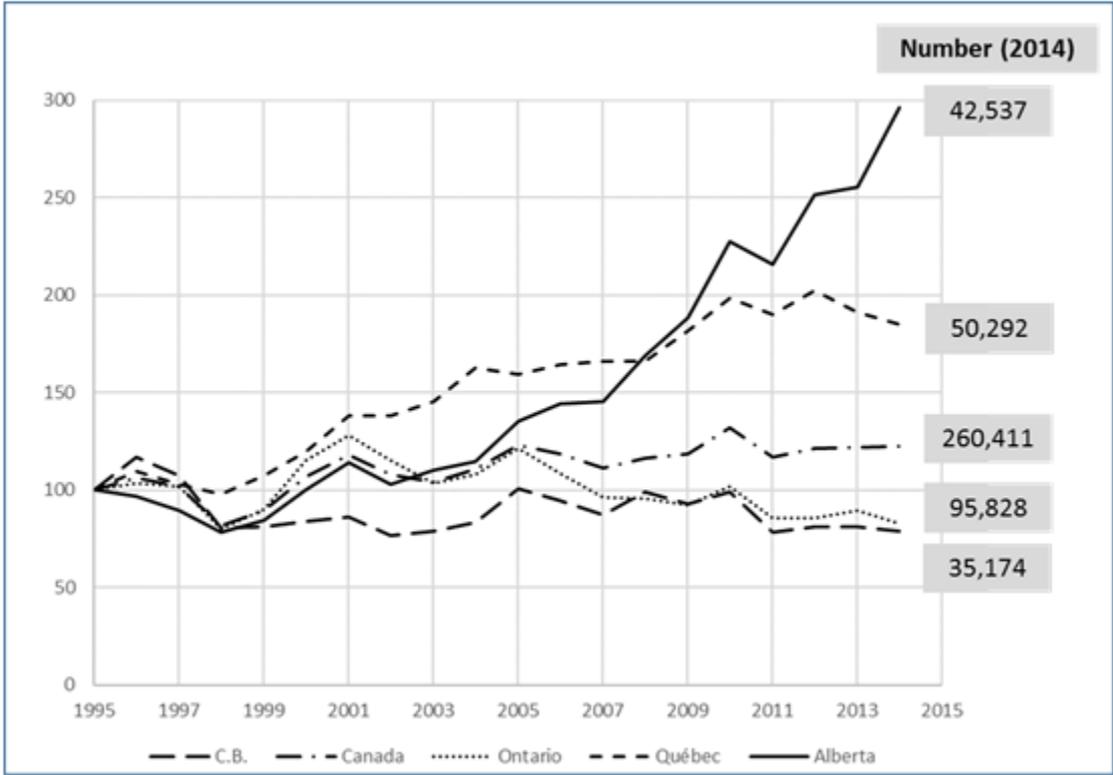
M. Bassirou Diene, Employment specialist, Fédération des Francophones de la Colombie-Britannique

# Topics

- Immigration in British Columbia
- Francophone immigrants in British Columbia
  - Education
  - Unemployment
  - Wages
- Statistics on the training centers identified in the province
- Portrait of the participants in the action research.

# The number of immigrants settling in British Columbia has been decreasing in recent years

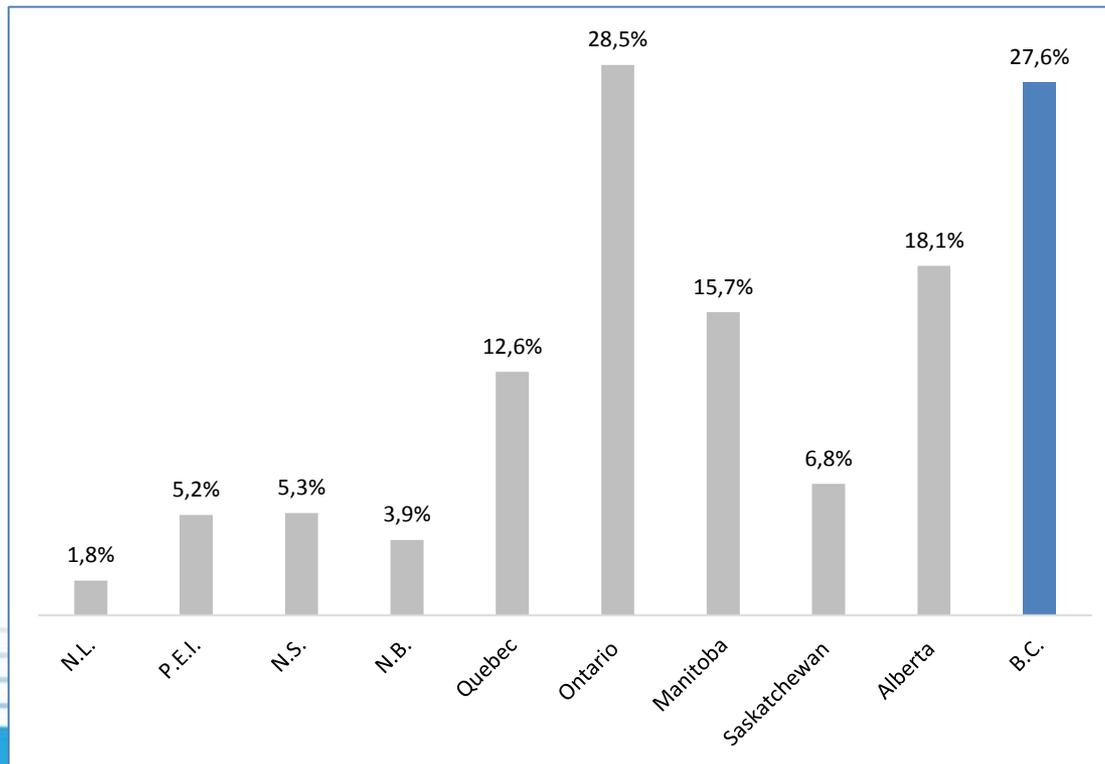
Number of immigrants per year  
(Index : 1995 =100)



Source: Cansim Table 051-0037.

# Second highest share of immigrants

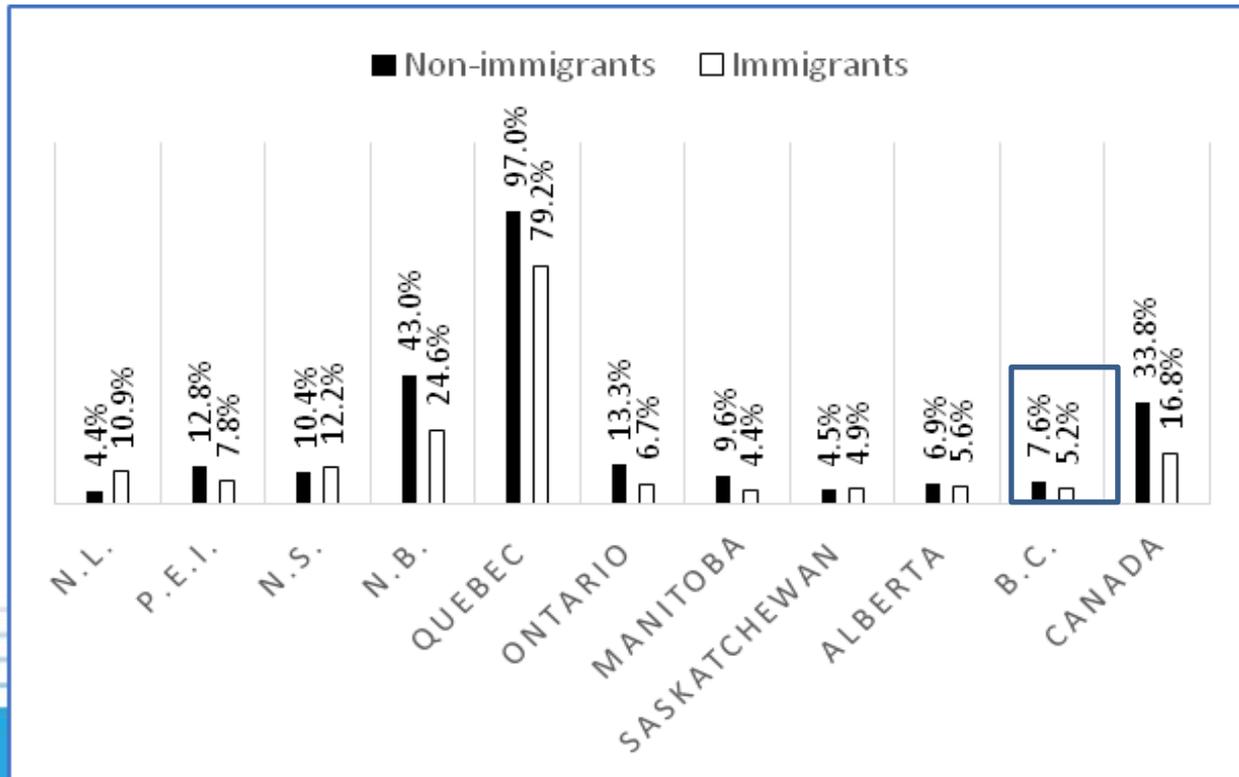
**Immigrant share of the total population of the province  
(2011)**



Source: Cansim Table 051-0037.

# The proportion of immigrants who can speak French is lower than the proportion of non-immigrants who can

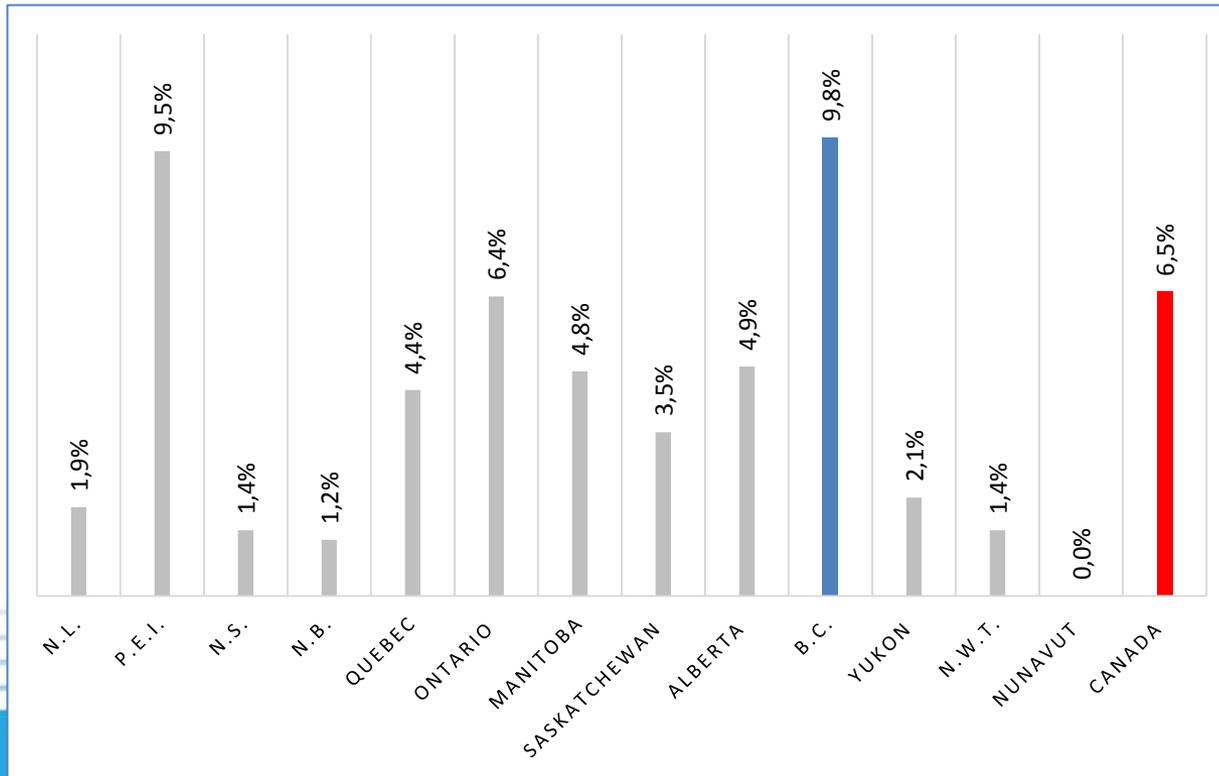
Proportion of people in Canada who can express themselves in French



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

# The highest proportion of immigrants unable to speak either French or English

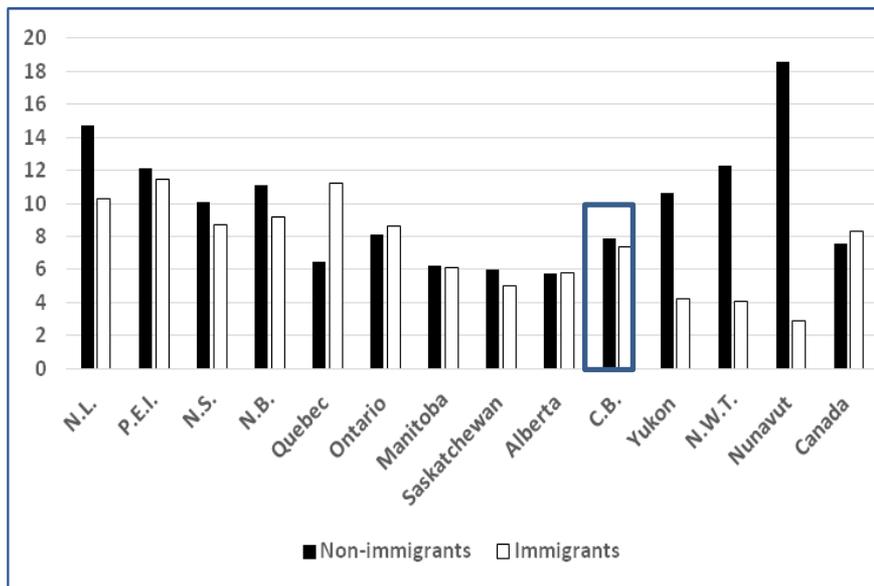
Proportion of immigrants who cannot express themselves in French or English



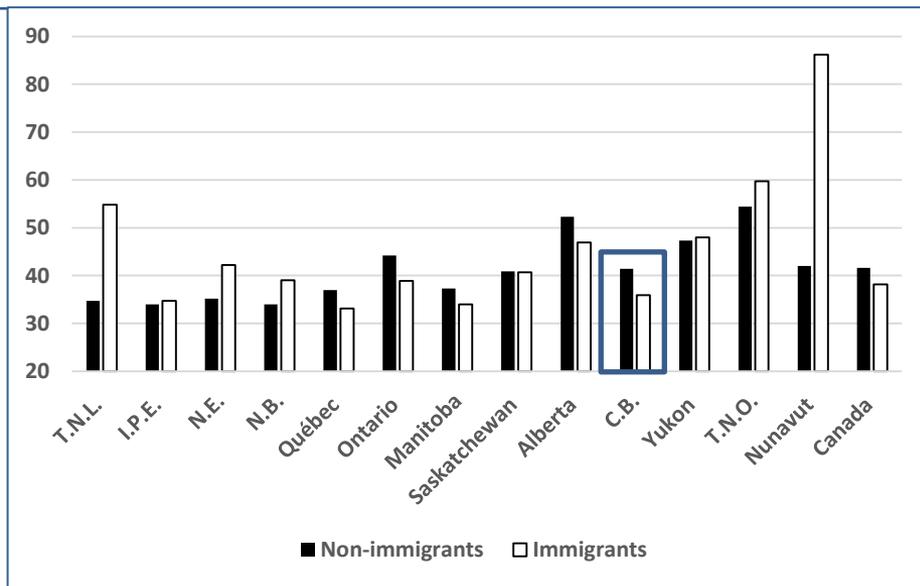
Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

# Immigrants in B.C.: Slightly lower unemployment rate and lower income than non-immigrants

**Unemployment rate (in %) : Non-immigrants vs Immigrants (2011)**



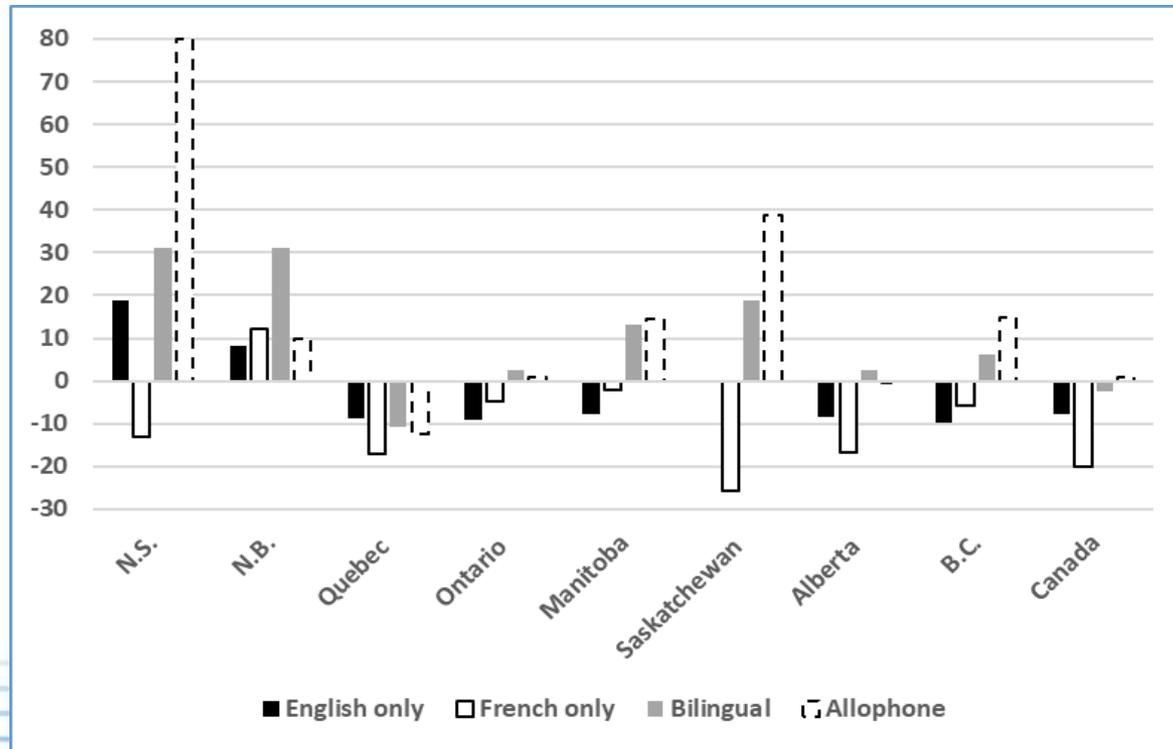
**Income (In thousands of \$) : Non-immigrants vs Immigrants (2011)**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

# Immigrant income according to the language spoken

**Difference between immigrant and non-immigrant incomes (in %)**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

- Unlike other provinces, but similar to Manitoba, relative to non-immigrants, unilingual Anglophone immigrants have a lower average income.

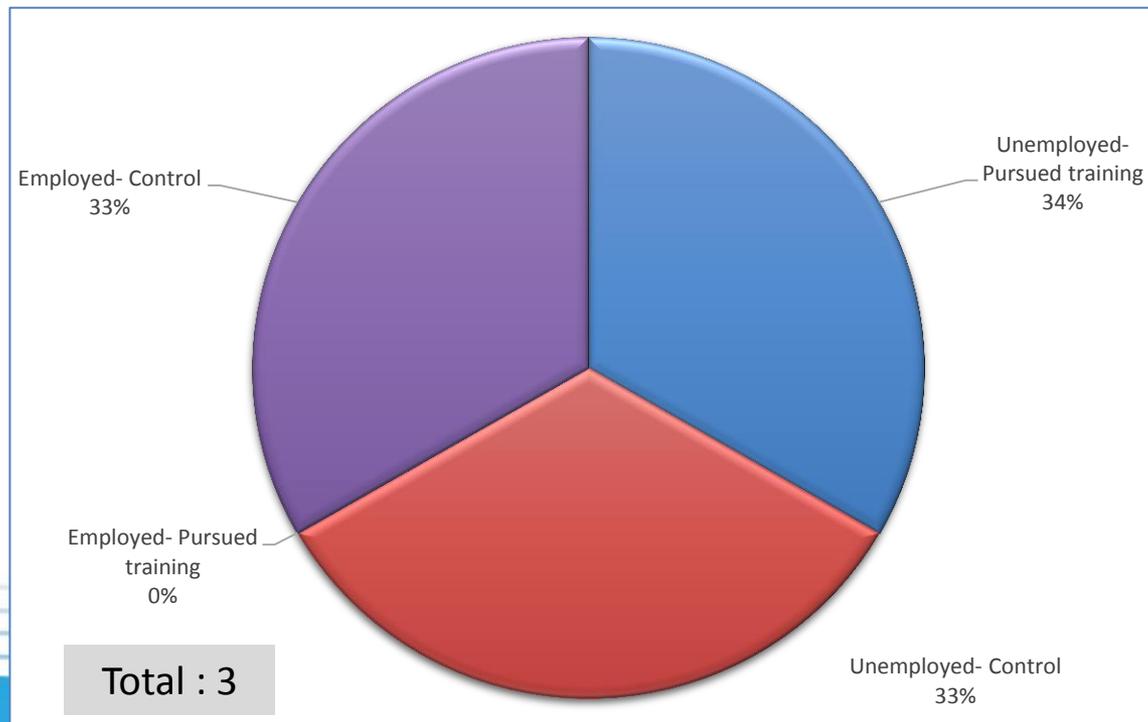
# Identified training centers and Partners

- 43 in literacy and essential skills training centers were identified in British Columbia
- Three partners participated in the action research:
  - Association des francophones de Nanaimo, Nanaimo
  - Collège Éducacentre, Vancouver
  - Douglas College Surrey Learning Center, New Westminster

# Employers followed

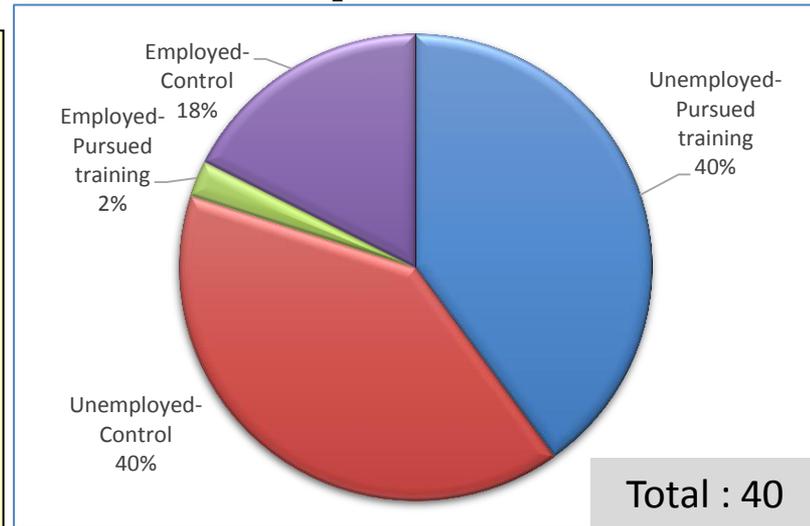
- In total, three employers were followed

## Breakdown of employers followed (British Columbia)

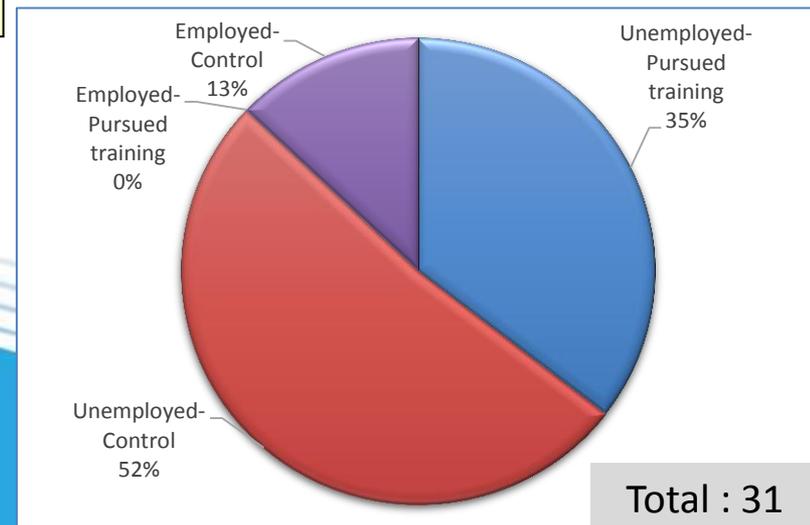


# Immigrant participants in the action research

**Breakdown of immigrants who answered the first questionnaire**



**Breakdown of immigrants retained for analysis**



- In total, 40 immigrants answered the first questionnaire
- Of these, 31 were retained for analysis.
- The largest proportion of immigrants who answered the first questionnaire and were retained for analysis is the Unemployed-Control group.

# Types of training

## Breakdown of the types of training in British Columbia

Types of Training	Unemployed- In training	Employed- In training
Francization (Beginner)	0	0
Francization (Intermediate)	0	0
Francization (Advanced)	0	0
English as a Second Language (Beginner)	7	0
English as a Second Language (Intermediate)	4	0
English as a Second Language (Advanced)	0	0
Computing (Beginner)	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>

- All of the training courses pursued in British Columbia (and retained for analysis) were in English as a Second Language.
  - None of the members in the Employed group pursued training.

# Actions interculturelles

— Since 1990

Diversity is people

*We are at your disposal should you need addition information.*  
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