



SPECIAL EDUCATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA: A POPULATION-BASED INVESTIGATION High School Completion Report Province

This **High School Completion** report describes whether students with special needs and disabilities completed high school and, if so, with which credential.

The report defines high school completion outcomes as follows:

- **BC Adult Graduation Diploma** = Adult Dogwood
- **BC School Completion Certificate** = Evergreen
- **BC Secondary School Graduation** = Dogwood (BC Certificate of Graduation)
- **Any Type** = Any of the above outcomes.

Results are presented in percentages—specifically, the percentage of students who achieved each outcome.

The numbers in parentheses refer to the designation-specific sample size.

Province-level reports represent all releasable district-level data compiled to the level of the province.



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Additional Notes

- (1) The **Dogwood** (BC Certificate of Graduation) is awarded to students who successfully complete the provincial graduation requirements -- typically to students aged 18 years old and younger. The **Adult Dogwood** (BC Adult Graduation Diploma) is intended for students who are aged 18 years and older and can combine credits earned at both secondary and post-secondary schools. It is typically awarded to students over the age of 18 years. The overlapping specifications of these programs, however, sometimes result in cases where two students of the same age receive different certifications based on participating in different graduation programs. In the majority of cases, however, students awarded a **Dogwood** are 18 years and younger, and those awarded an **Adult Dogwood** are 19 years and older.
- (2) The **Evergreen** (BC School Completion Certificate) is not a graduation credential; students who receive an Evergreen have not graduated. The Evergreen represents the completion of personal learning goals. For more information about the Evergreen, please [visit: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/school-completion-certificate-program](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/school-completion-certificate-program)
- (3) We retained for this report's analyses only those Cohort 1/2/3 students who had in the database a Grade 12 flag sometime in/before the 2015/2016 school year and, if Grade 12 was not reached, a Secondary Ungraded flag in their "Grade 12" year. This way, we could ensure the students had not, for example, permanently moved out of province between Kindergarten and Grade 12, falsely appearing as a "non-completer" as a result. We opted to exclude from this report's analyses Cohort 4/5 data, as the process of populating the specific database variable containing these students' graduation credential information was only partially complete at the time our customized collection of BC MED data was prepared.



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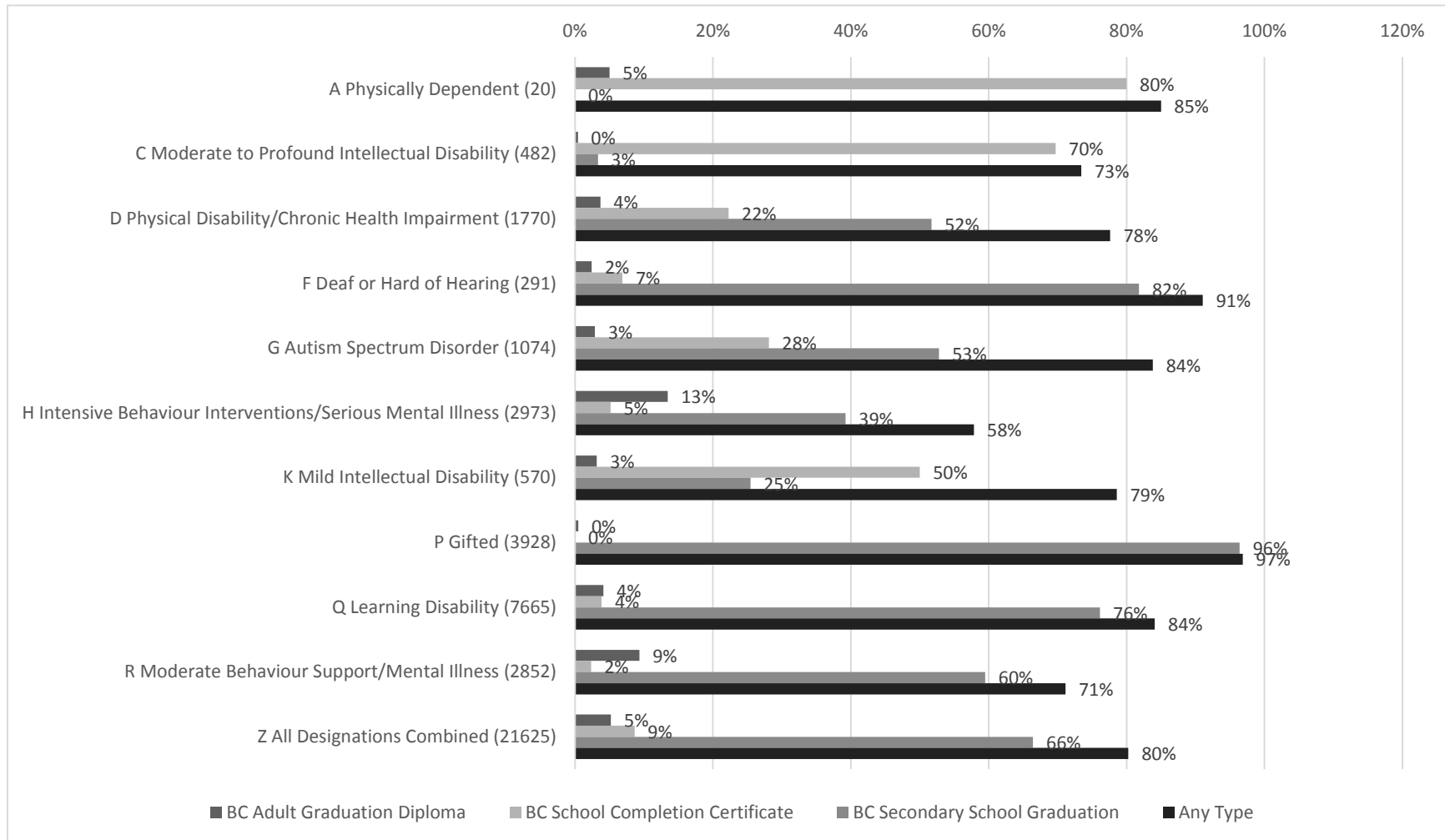
Additional Notes (cont'd)

- (4) As a general disclaimer about all our reports: Although the large majority of students have a consistent special needs designation over time, some students may not have a consistent special needs designation over time (i.e., their designation may change over time). Being designated in one of the BC MED's special needs categories is not a requirement for supports and services to be provided to a student. Designation in a special needs category is for the purpose of funding alone, not service or support provision.
- (5) As a general disclaimer about all our reports: Population counts and outcome measures within our reports will differ from those reported by the BC Ministry of Education, as our reports follow specific cohorts of students over time, whereas Ministry reporting allows for students to enter and exit cohorts.



Province High School Completion Report

Percentage of Students with Special Needs Who Completed High School





For Further Information:

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