

SUB-REGION SERIES:
OKANAGAN-SIMILKANMEEN



Resident Perceptions of Tourism Snapshot Series 2025-26

KEY QUESTIONS

" I value the contribution visitors make to my local economy.

BC	79.9%
TOTA	81.9%
Okanagan Similkameen	87.5%



" Overall, tourism contributes positively to the quality of life in my community.

BC	70.6%
TOTA	75.7%
Okanagan Similkameen	78.3%

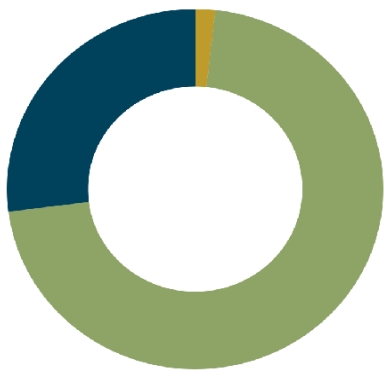


" Do you think your community has too few, too many, or the right amount of tourism throughout the year?



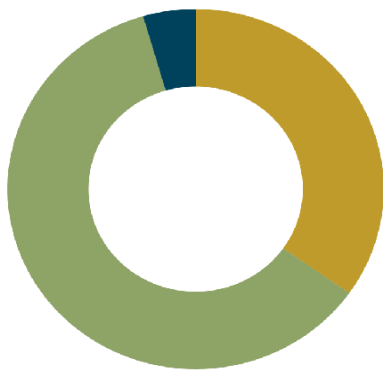
Too Many	2.8%
Just Right	32.2%
Too Few	65.0%

WINTER
DEC - FEB



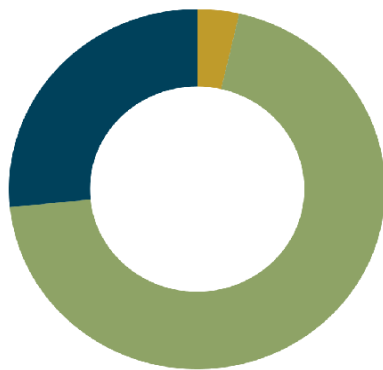
Too Many	1.7%
Just Right	71.3%
Too Few	27.0%

SPRING
MAR - MAY



Too Many	34.8%
Just Right	60.7%
Too Few	4.5%

SUMMER
JUN - AUG



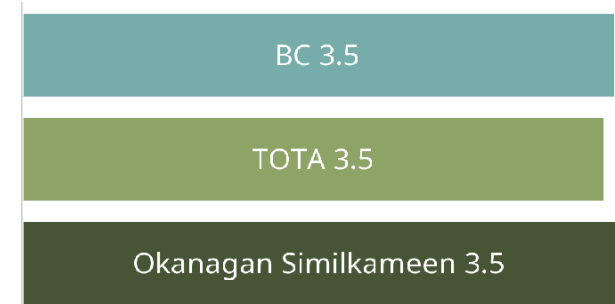
Too Many	3.6%
Just Right	69.8%
Too Few	26.6%

FALL
SEP - NOV

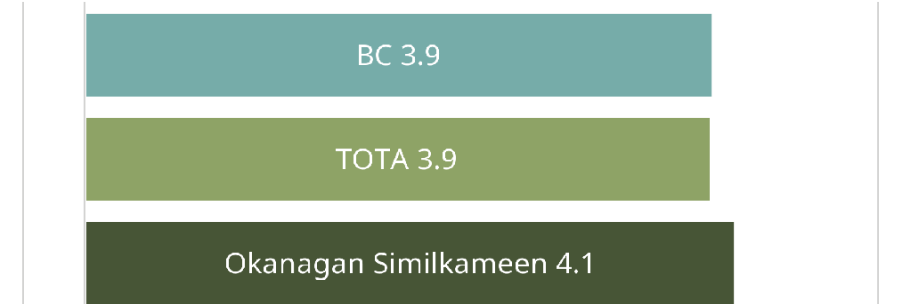
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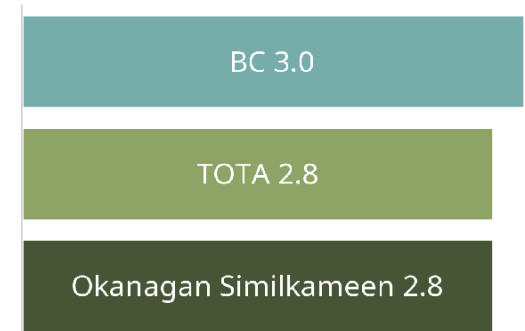
OVERALL



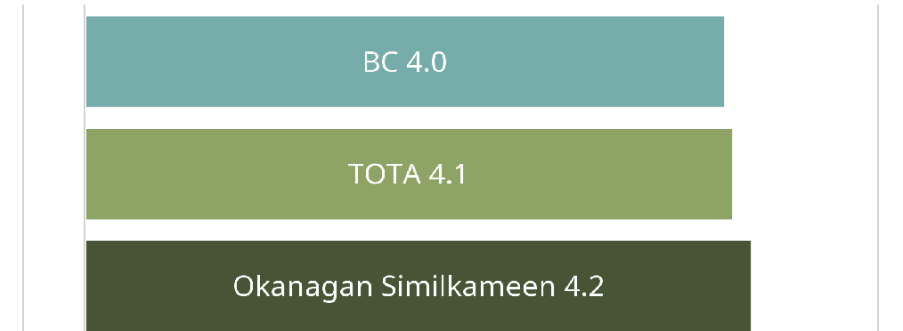
ECONOMIC



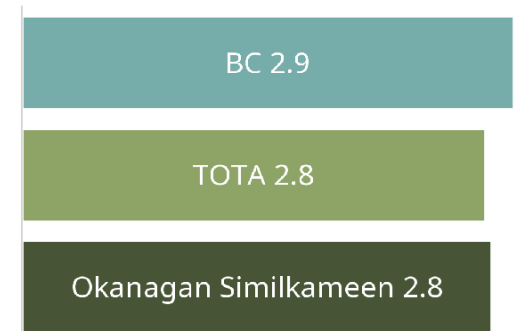
ENVIRONMENTAL



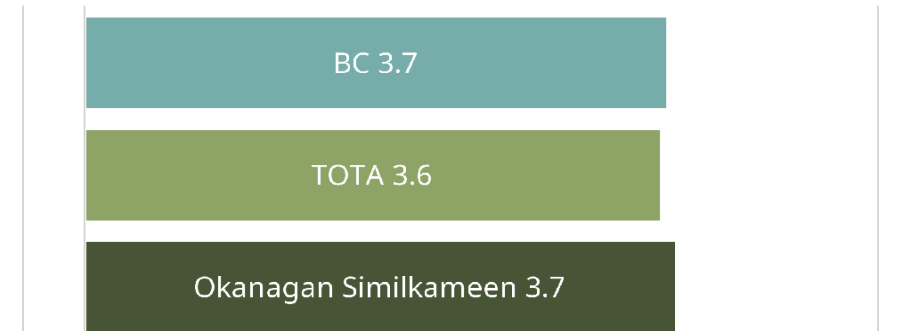
SOCIAL/CULTURAL



JOB/CAREER



INDIGENOUS



IMPACT
ASSESSMENT

ECONOMIC IMPACTS include government investment in tourism infrastructure, contributions made by visitors to local economies, and the weighing of positive and negative impacts of tourism.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS include the degree to which the tourism industry reduces local carbon emissions, reduces waste, and contributes to the protection of natural areas.

SOCIAL/CULTURAL IMPACTS include the diversity of amenities, development of local business, and diversity of people supported by tourism.

JOB/CAREER IMPACTS include career growth and wage perceptions from jobs and careers in the tourism industry.

INDIGENOUS IMPACTS include awareness of Indigenous tourism experiences and businesses in BC.

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RESIDENT
SEGMENTATION

TOURISM AMBASSADORS have very strong positive perceptions across all five impact areas (Economic, Environmental, Social-Cultural, Job-Career, Indigenous).

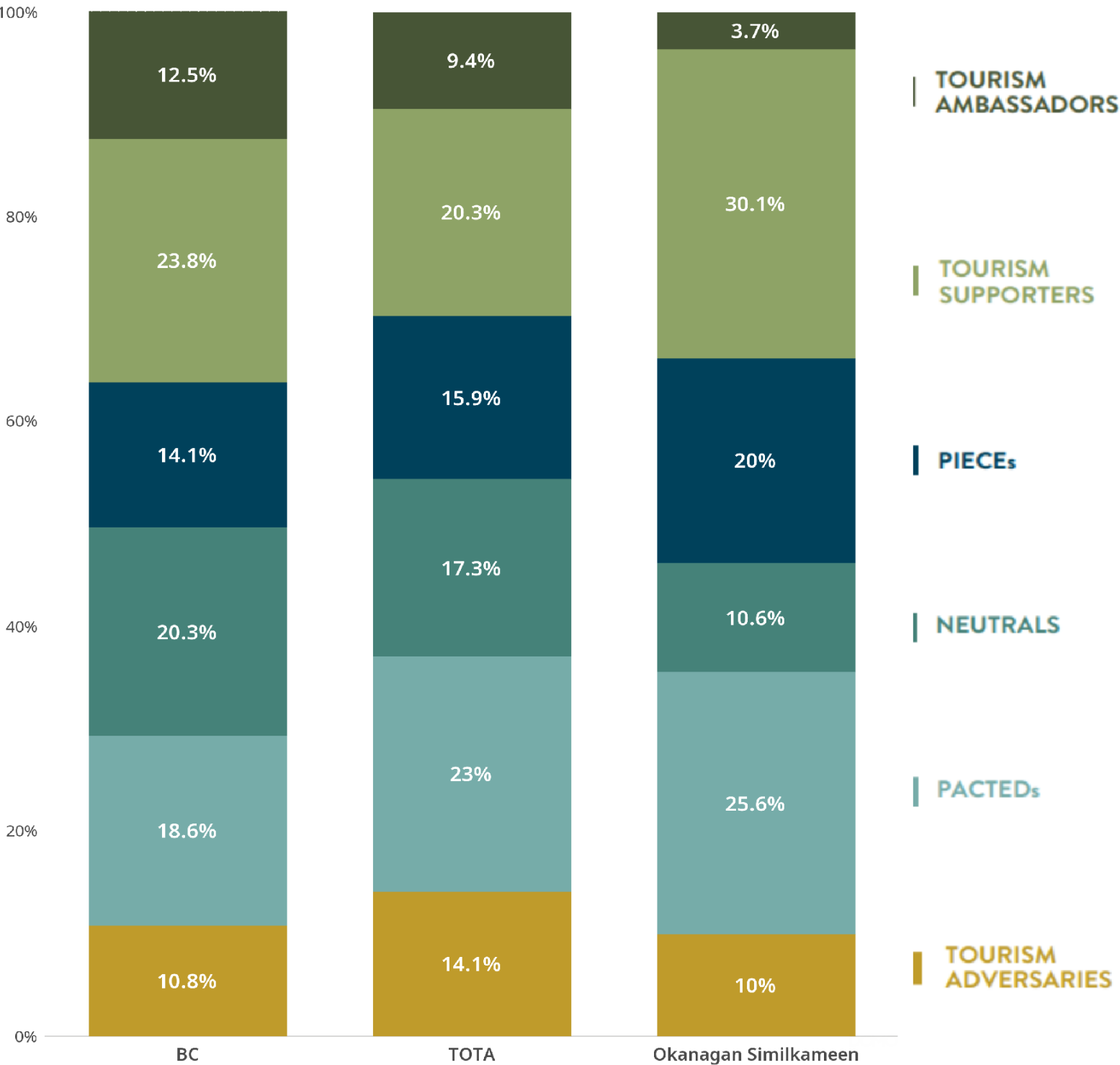
TOURISM SUPPORTERS have strong positive perceptions across all five impact areas.

PIECES (People Interested in Economic and Community Excellence) have very strong positive perceptions in Economic, Social-Cultural, and Indigenous impacts and neutral perceptions for Environmental and Job-Career Impacts.

NEUTRALS have neutral perceptions in all impact areas.

PACTEDs (People Against Careers in Tourism and Environmental Degradation) have very negative perceptions in Environmental and Job-Career impacts and neutral perceptions in all other impact types.

TOURISM ADVERSARIES have very negative perceptions across all five impact areas.



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3 YEAR TREND

		Survey Year	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Category	Sub-Category	Amount of Tourism	Year	Year	Year
Key Questions	Economy		89.8	86.9	87.5
	QoL		84.8	76.1	78.3
Seasonality	Winter	Too Many	1.8	0.0	2.8
		Just Right	45.5	43.8	32.2
		Too Few	52.7	56.2	65.0
	Spring	Too Many	3.5	4.7	1.7
		Just Right	75.4	75.0	71.3
		Too Few	21.1	20.3	27.0
	Summer	Too Many	33.9	48.5	34.8
		Just Right	57.6	47.0	60.7
		Too Few	8.5	4.5	4.5
	Fall	Too Many	5.3	4.7	3.6
		Just Right	64.9	67.2	69.8
		Too Few	29.8	28.1	26.6
Impact Type	Overall		3.6	3.6	3.5
	Econ		4.1	4.1	4.1
	Environmental		2.9	3.0	2.8
	Social/Cultural		4.2	4.2	4.2
	Job/Career		2.8	3.0	2.8
	Indigenous		3.8	3.9	3.7



RESEARCH INFORMATION & METHODOLOGY



More information, including Local Series, Regional Series, and Provincial-level reporting can be found at destinationbc.ca/research-insights/type/resident-research/

Online surveys were completed by BC residents using online panels via Sentis Research

Results are weighted by tourism region, age, and gender to be representative of BC’s overall population

Most questions asked in a five-point agreement scale: Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Neither Agree nor Disagree (3), Disagree (2), Strongly Disagree (1)

On page 1, top two questions reported as percentage of respondents who answered Strongly Agree (5) and Agree (4). The remaining respondents not included in the reported percentage answered Neither Agree nor Disagree (3), Disagree (2), or Strongly Disagree (1)

Generally, respondents who responded ‘Don’t Know / Not Sure’ were excluded from the results of that question

Regional level results are separated by municipality border using Forward Sortation Areas (FSAs)

The online survey was fielded in November 2025

Total sample size used in this report are as follows:

BC	5,409
TOTA	697
Okanagan Similkameen	107

Regional and city level results are separated by municipality border using Forward Sortation Areas (FSA). For this report, sortation areas used were as follows:

Okanagan-Similkameen: V2A, V0X

Other areas within Thompson Okanagan Region:

- oThompson-Nicola - excluding Kamloops: V1K, V1S
- oThompson-Nicola - Kamloops: V2B, V2C, V2E, V2H
- oNorth Okanagan: V1B, V1E, V1H, V1T
- oCentral Okanagan: V1P, V1V, V1W, V1X, V1Y, V1Z, V4T, V4V

Note: Rural FSAs spanning multiple regions were also separated and are also included as relevant in the data

Destination British Columbia acknowledges with gratitude the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam Indian Band), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) on whose shared territories we operate our main office. We respectfully recognize that we carry out our work on the territories of Indigenous Peoples throughout BC. We honour our ongoing and developing relationships with First Nations (status and non-status), Inuit, and Métis Peoples. We are on a path of learning and are committed to working together.