

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Country Profiles



This resource sheet is a part of our Leading Multiculturalism: Canada's Impact on Global Diversity Policies series

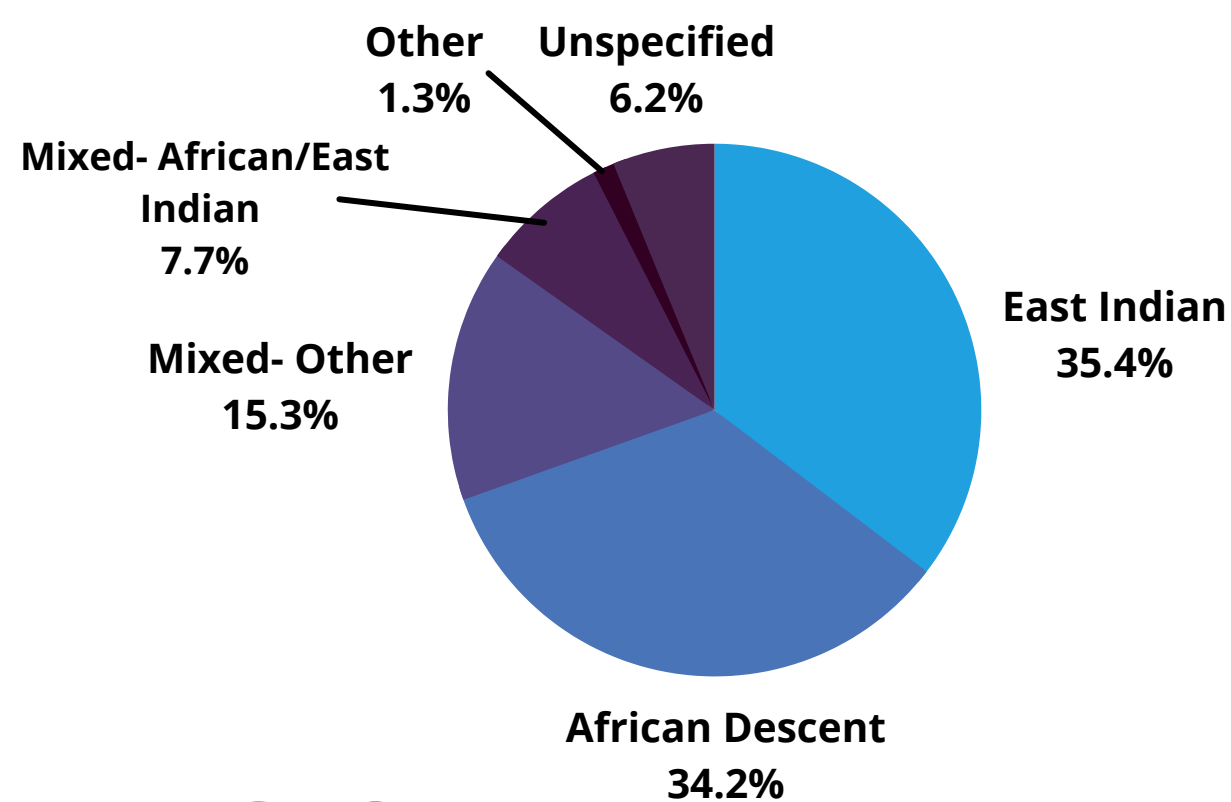
You can view all country profiles at: www.mosaicinstitute.ca/leading-multiculturalism



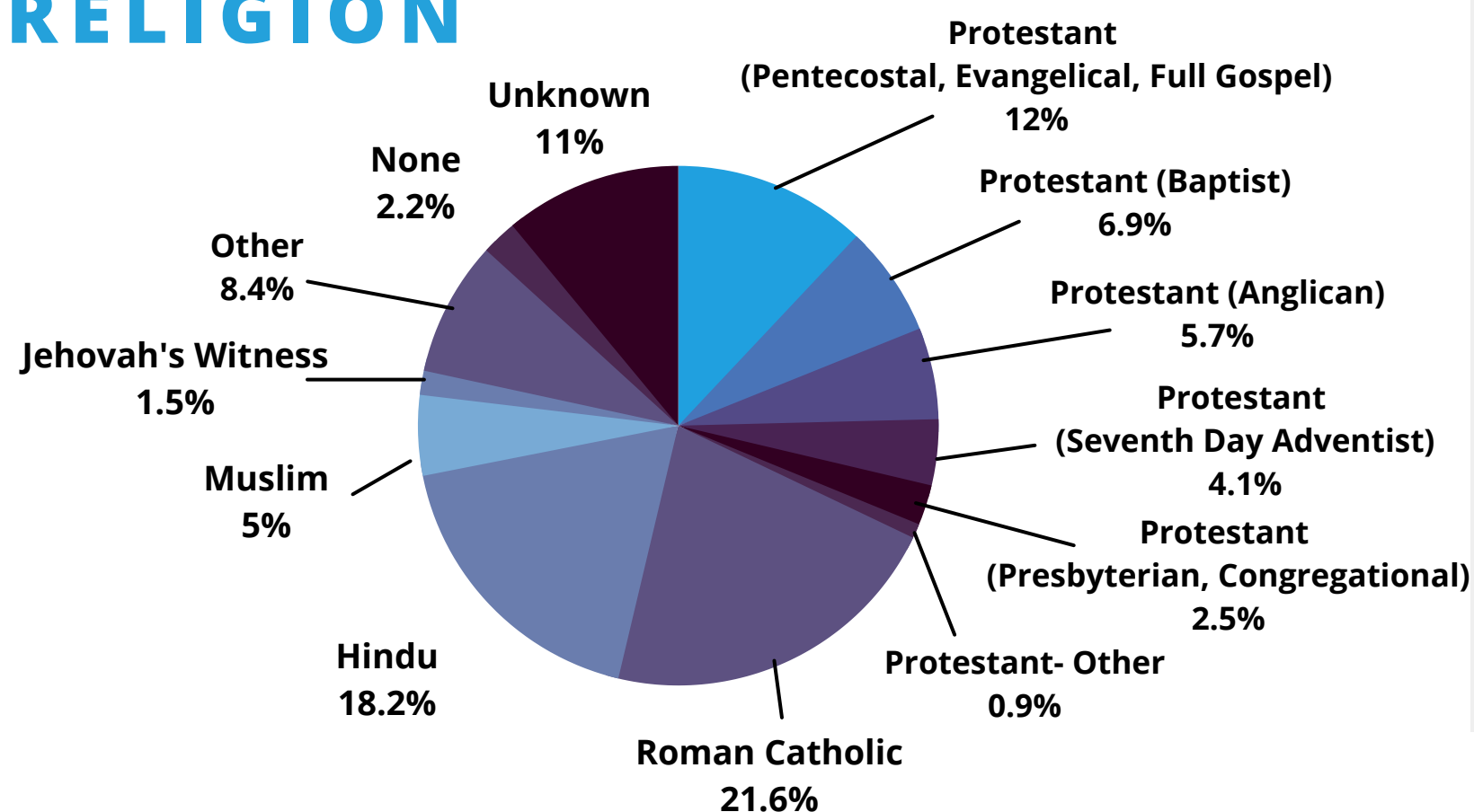
HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Originally colonized by Spain, Trinidad was formally ceded to Britain in 1802. Tobago was transferred between the rule of Britain and France multiple times, before finally being ceded to Britain in 1814. In 1889, the islands Tobago and Trinidad amalgamated, creating the united colony of Trinidad and Tobago, which subsequently gained independence in 1962. Trinidad and Tobago has a notably diverse population, which can be attributed to its colonial history.

DEMOGRAPHICS



RELIGION



MULTICULTURALISM POLICY

Term: Multiculturalism

Approach: Bottom-Up, government explicitly states that they "will not take a top-down approach in mandating harmonious interaction between our various peoples", given that the country has a history of racial harmony

DOMESTIC

- Multiculturalism as a policy framework – an initiative to "give greater voice to the diverse cultural expressions of our common desires for individual and national identity"
- Government bodies recognize "cultural diversity" as one of the strengths of society
- Government bodies recognize that the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago "has a long history of rich ethnic diversity, racial harmony and excellence across a wide variety of artforms"
- Equal Opportunities Act, 2000
- Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

INTERNATIONAL

Treaties

- ✓ International Covenant on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- ✓ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights



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