

# COLOMBIA

## 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](http://www.mosaicinstitute.ca/leading-multiculturalism)



## MULTICULTURALISM POLICY

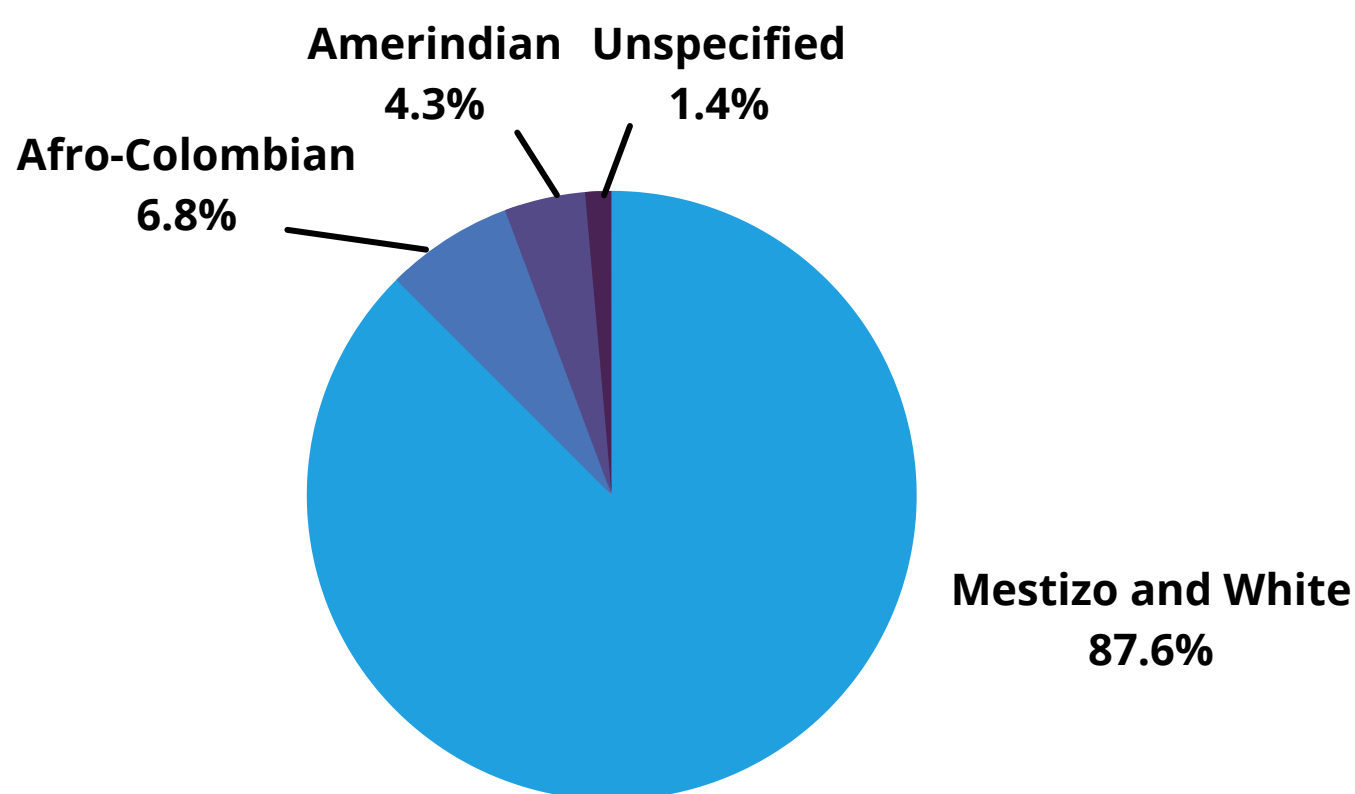
**Term:** Multiethnic, Multiculturalism

**Approach:** Top-Down, government led policies

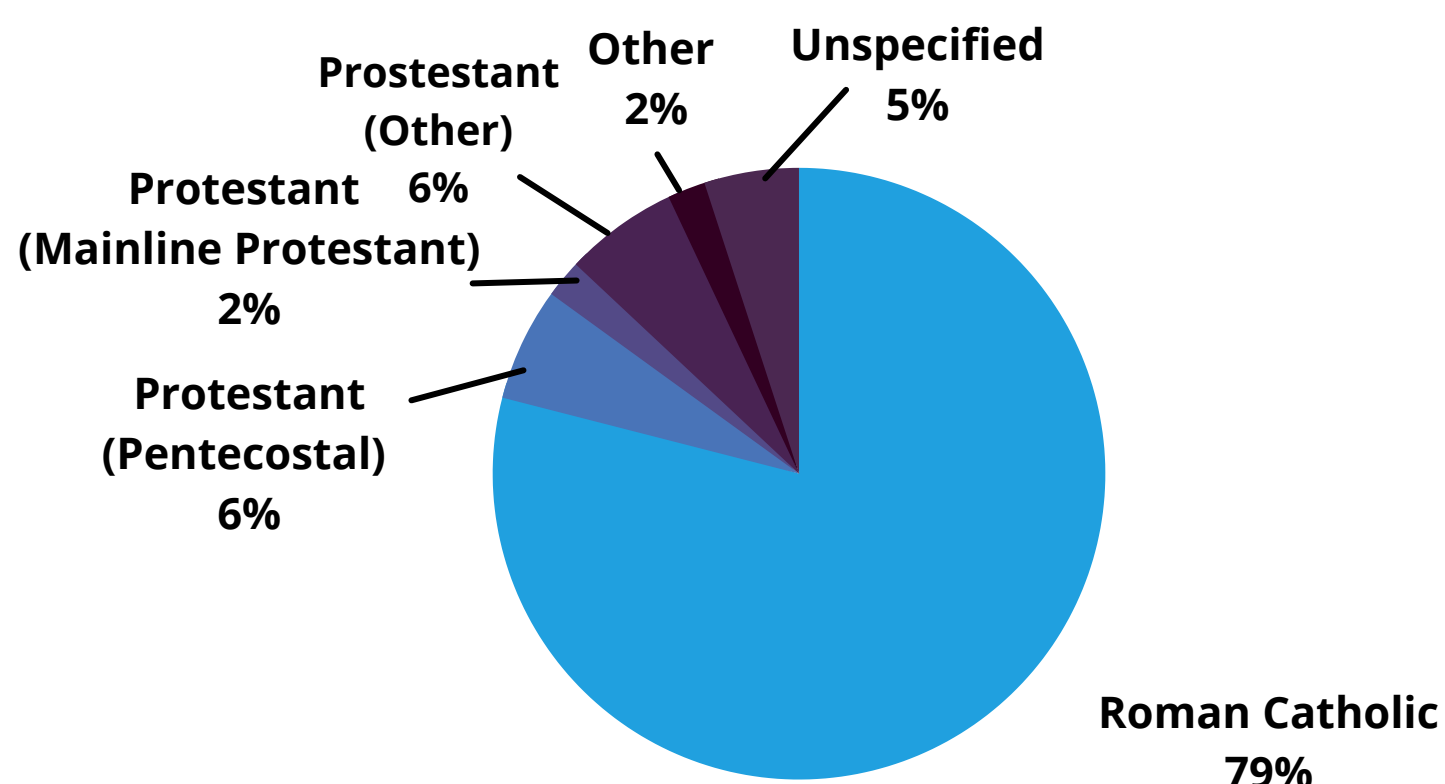
## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Colombia was previously a colony of Spain; during Spanish colonization, Indigenous peoples were subject to discrimination, and the encomiendas system, which effectively allowed colonizers to enslave and assimilate Indigenous populations, and dispossess them from their lands. Colombia continues to face political instability as a result of armed conflict between government, guerrilla groups, and drug trafficking groups.

## DEMOGRAPHICS



## RELIGION



## DOMESTIC

- 1991 Constitution- Article 7: The State recognizes and protects the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Colombian Nation
- Constitution emphasizes need to “respect the cultural, social and economic integrity of Indigenous communities
- Constitution foresees special constituencies that ensure that three elected members- who would represent Indigenous groups, would have access to Congress
- National Constituent Assembly convened and elected in 1990- included representatives of non-Catholic religious associations, and representatives of Indigenous organizations
- Ministry of Culture – advocates policies that promote the production of cultural goods and services

## INTERNATIONAL

### Treaties

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

