

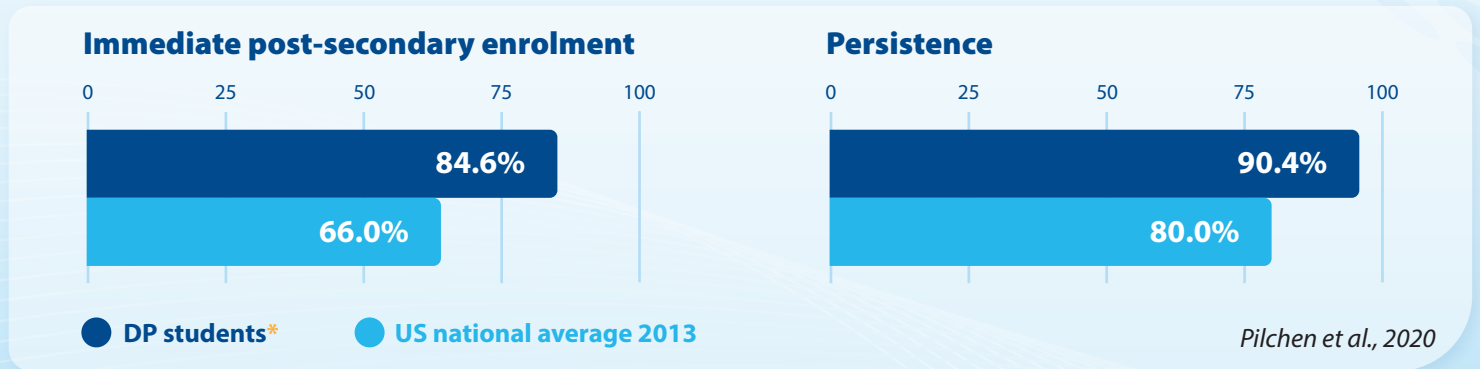
# Aspiring and achieving:

## Highlighting DP and CP student research

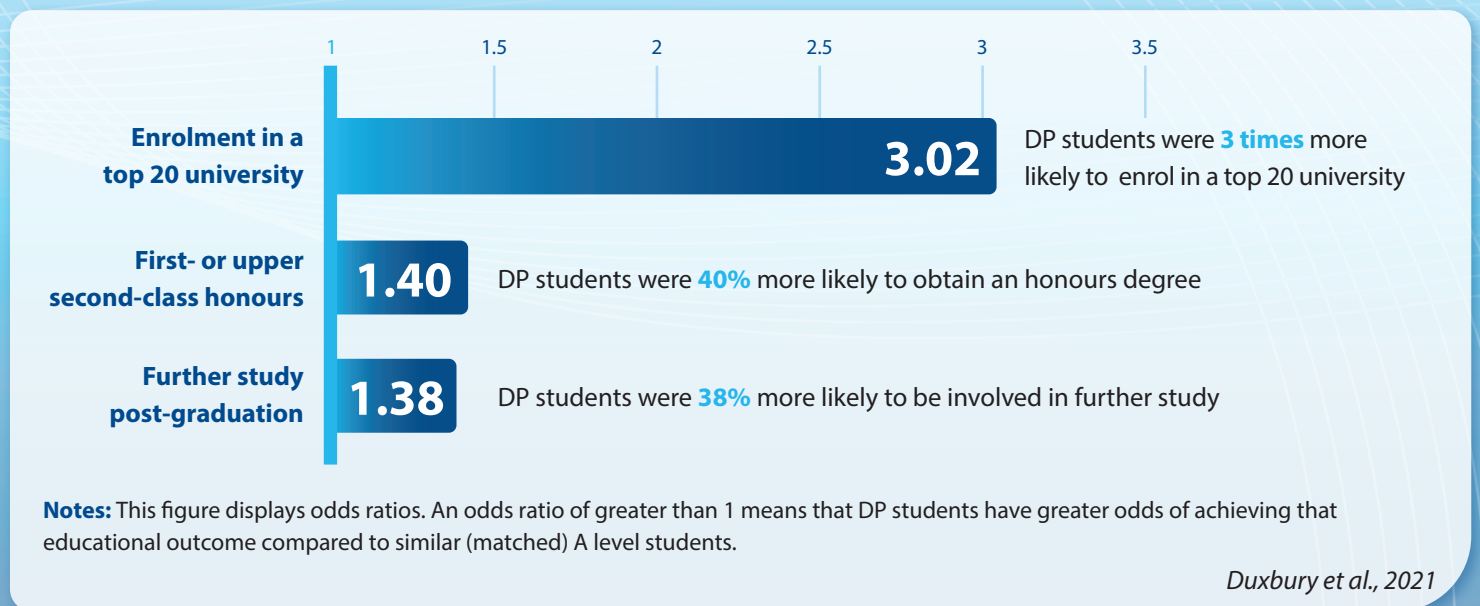
An asterisk (\*) indicates that the results focus on students pursuing the full DP, with all of its courses and requirements.

Based on a large international data set, by the end of the **Diploma Programme (DP)**, **98%** of students **aspired** to at least a bachelor's degree and **81%** aspired to a master's, doctoral or professional degree.<sup>1</sup>

In line with previous research, about **85%** of DP students\* in the United States (US) **enrolled in university immediately** after high school, compared to **66%** of all US high school graduates. DP students were also more likely than other US students to continue on to their second year of university (**persistence**).<sup>2</sup>

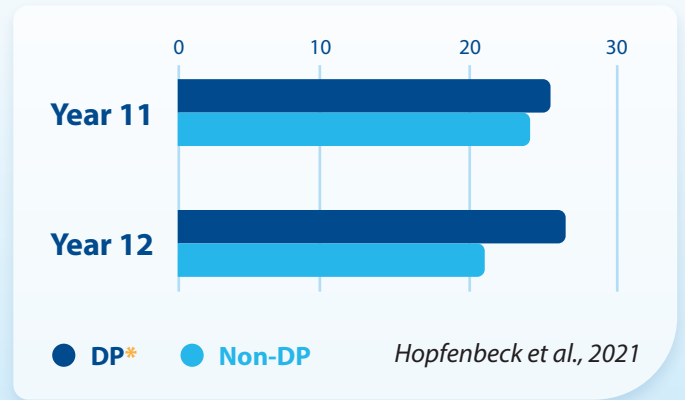


In the UK, DP students\* were more likely to achieve many positive **higher education outcomes** compared to matched A level students.<sup>3</sup>





A study in Australia, England and Norway found that DP students\* had significantly higher levels of **critical thinking** compared to their matched non-DP peers. The critical thinking advantage of DP students compared to non-DP students also increased from year 11 to year 12.<sup>4</sup>



At both the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia in Canada, DP students were much more likely than non-DP students to enter **science faculties** compared to other fields of study.

### University of Toronto

Degree programme on entry	High school programme		
	DP (%)	Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) <sup>+</sup> (%)	French Immersion <sup>++</sup> (%)
Arts	29.8	48.0	62.0
Commerce	8.4	11.7	4.3
Engineering	11.7	8.2	8.1
Science	50.1	32.1	25.5

**Notes:** Due to rounding error, some columns may not total to 100%.  
<sup>+</sup> Students who complete Ontario's traditional high school curriculum receive an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).  
<sup>++</sup> French Immersion students provide a useful comparison to DP students in most Canadian contexts, as both sets of students may undergo selection processes to enter and/or remain enrolled in intensified and/or enriched alternative education programmes.

*Davies and Guppy, 2022*

### University of British Columbia

Degree programme on entry	High school programme		
	DP (%)	Dogwood Diploma (DW) <sup>+</sup> (%)	French Immersion <sup>++</sup> (%)
Arts	25.5	36.9	39.6
Business/Commerce	9.4	8.3	8.3
Engineering	14.6	10.2	13.6
Forestry	0.0	5.1	0.0
Human kinetics	1.9	4.8	4.7
Land and food systems	2.7	11.0	2.6
Science	45.1	22.9	30.6

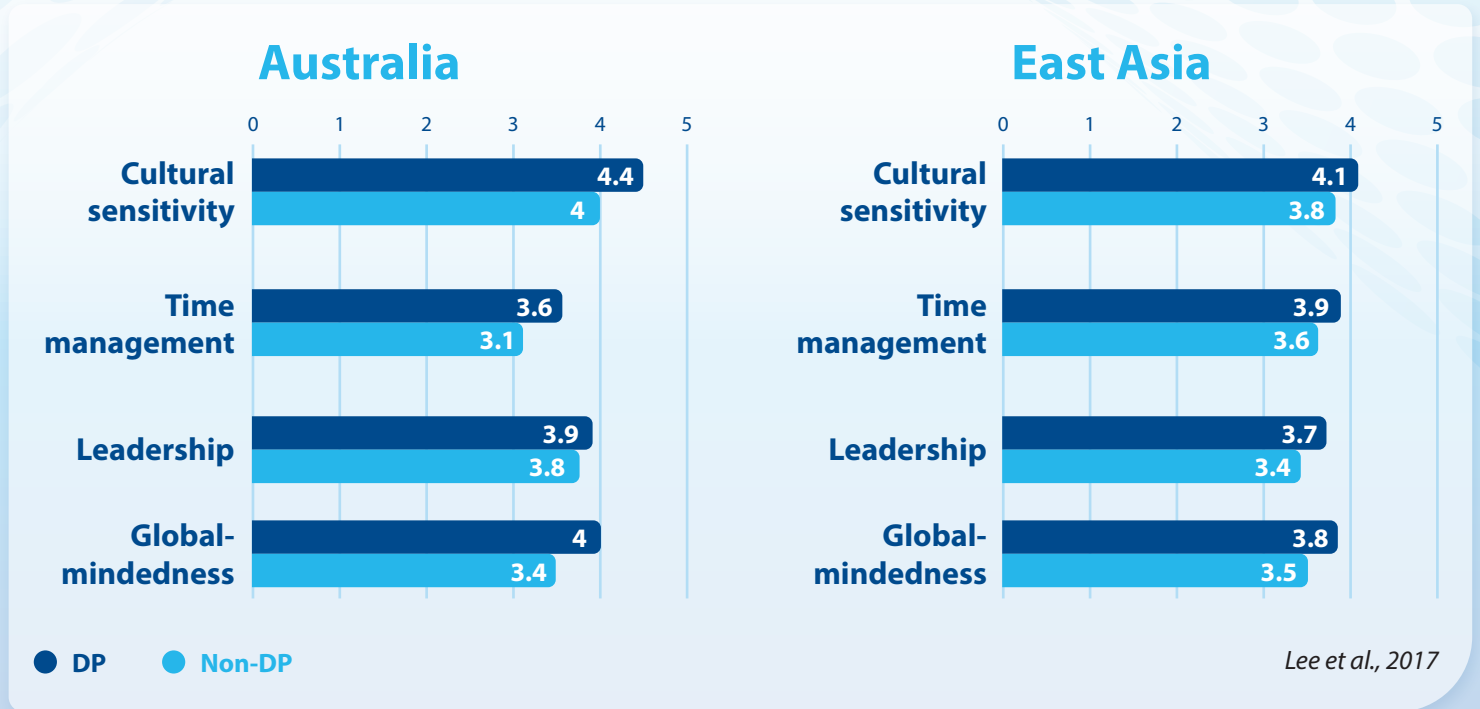
**Notes:** Due to rounding error, some columns may not total to 100%.  
<sup>+</sup> British Columbia's traditional public high school curriculum is known as the "Dogwood Diploma" (DW).  
<sup>++</sup> French Immersion students provide a useful comparison to DP students in most Canadian contexts, as both sets of students may undergo selection processes to enter and/or remain enrolled in intensified and/or enriched alternative education programmes.

*Davies and Guppy, 2022*

Additionally, compared to students with traditional high school diplomas in Ontario and British Columbia (OSSD or DW), DP students earned **higher university grades**, were **less likely to drop out** of university and were **more likely to graduate in a timely manner**.<sup>5</sup>

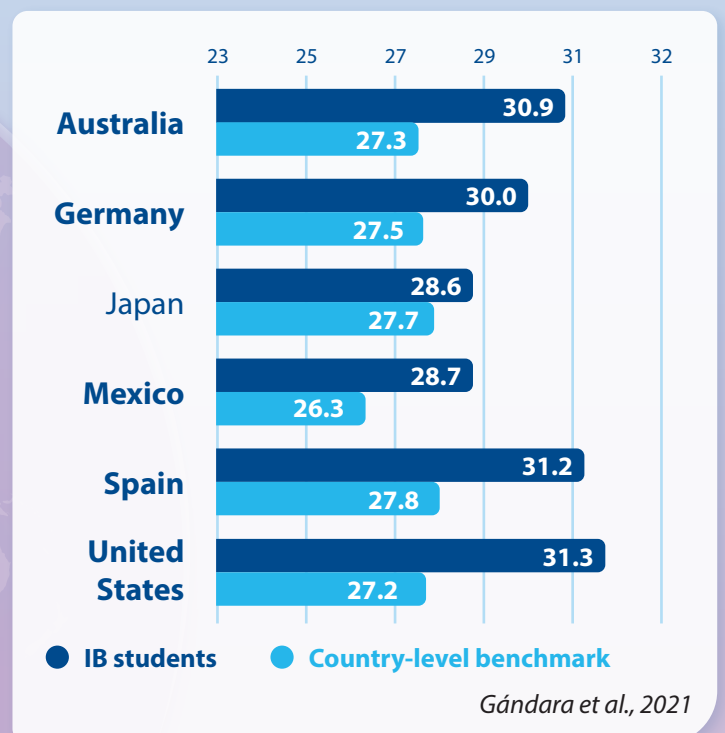


In comparison with non-DP peers, DP alumni at universities in **Australia** and **East Asia** reported higher capacities for a variety of **21st-century skills** (based on a five-point scale).<sup>6</sup>



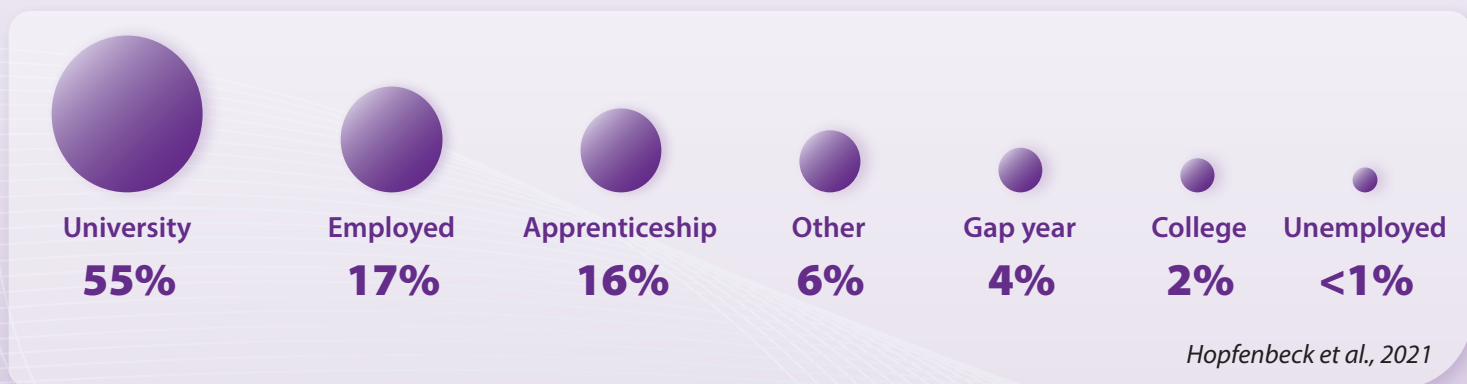
Compared to young adults from a similar age range, **DP** and **Career-related Programme (CP)** students had higher levels of **global mindedness** across all six countries studied. In five out of six cases, these differences in global-mindedness levels were statistically significant.<sup>7</sup>

**Notes:** Countries shown in bold had a statistically significant difference between groups at a 5% level.



A study in the UK indicated that CP students were progressing and performing well at university with **89% continuing** on to their second year of study and **70%** achieving a first- or upper second-class **honours degree** (a higher percentage than Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC) students—**66%**).<sup>8</sup>

Data from CP alumni in Kent, UK indicated that **55%** of former CP students were **enrolled in university**, **17%** were **employed**, **16%** were **engaged in apprenticeships** and fewer than **1%** were unemployed.



Students also believed the CP had helped to develop key skills for education, work and life, with **87%** agreeing that the CP had developed their **academic skills**, **82%** reporting that the CP had developed their **work-based skills** and **70%** agreeing that the CP had developed their **personal skills**.



Additionally,  
**92%**

of these CP students successfully completed the programme and achieved the CP certificate.<sup>9</sup>



<sup>1</sup> <https://ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/diploma-studies/educational-aspirations-of-international-baccalaureate-diploma-programme-students-2021/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/diploma-studies/us-postsecondary-outcomes/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/diploma-studies/uk-higher-education-outcomes/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/diploma-studies/critical-thinking-skills-of-dp-students/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/diploma-studies/comparing-university-outcomes-of-dp-graduates-to-their-peers-in-toronto-and-vancouver-canada-2022/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/diploma-studies/a-study-of-the-post-secondary-outcomes-of-international-baccalaureate-diploma-programme-alumni-in-leading-universities-in-asia-pacific-2017/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/diploma-studies/global-mindedness-in-ib-schools-2021/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/cp-studies/cp-students-studying-at-uk-higher-education-institutions/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://ibo.org/research/outcomes-research/cp-studies/evaluation-of-ib-career-related-programme-implementation-in-the-county-of-kent-uk-2021/>

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