The need for and uses of statistics on international migration: the Canadian experience

Hélène Maheux and Mélanie Meunier
United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Improving Migration Data
in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regularly Migration,
New York, July 1, 2019

Delivering insight through data for a better Canada
Context of immigration in Canada

Non-permanent residents
- Asylum seekers
- Persons with a work or study permit

Immigrants
- Economic immigrants (~60%): Contributing to Canada’s economy
- Immigrants sponsored by family (~27%): Reuniting with family members
- Refugees (~12%): Seeking protection and escaping persecution
- Other immigrants (~1%)

*Actual percentages by immigrant admission category vary year to year. Values shown are based on averages from 2011-2016
Forces at play in defining a measure on international migration

- Measuring international migration
- Policies and programs
- Legislation
- Scientific
- Technological changes
- Interest groups, community organizations, sub-populations
- Public opinion, opinion leaders, media
- Demographic changes

Delivering insight through data for a better Canada
Various data sources are available to better understand immigration

**Administrative Files**
- Permanent Resident files from Immigration Refugees Citizenship Canada
- Non-Permanent Resident files from Immigration Refugees Citizenship Canada

**Census of Population**
- General Social Survey (GSS)
- Canadian Community Health Survey
- Labour Force Survey
- Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies
- Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (2000/01 cohort)
- And more...

**Surveys**
- IMDB – Census
- IMDB – General Social Survey
- IMDB – Canadian Employer-Employee Dynamics Database
- IMDB – Discharge Abstract Database (Hospitalizations)
- And more...

**Integrated Data Sources**
- Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB)
Net international migration is the main driver of population growth in Canada

Factors of population growth, 1997-1998 to 2017-2018, Canada

According to the 2016 Census, about 7.5 million people reported to be, or have ever been a landed immigrant or a permanent resident in Canada. They represented more than 1 in 5 people in Canada, or 21.9%.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of population.
The proportion of immigrants varied by census metropolitan areas

Proportion of immigrants by period of immigration, selected census metropolitan areas (CMA), Canada, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Before 2011</th>
<th>2011 to 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calgary</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbotsford - Mission</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winnipeg</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonton</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montréal</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchener - Cambridge - Waterloo</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windsor</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guelph</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ottawa - Gatineau</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oshawa</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proportion of immigrants in Canada: 21.9%

Measuring secondary mobility...

Five-year retention rates by economic region, 2011 immigrants without pre-admission permits

- Vancouver Island and Coast: 77%
- Lower Mainland - Southwestern: 84%
- Thompson - Okanagan: 65%
- Kootenay: 61%
- Cariboo: 69%
- North Coast: 43%
- Northeast: 60%
- British Columbia: 86%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Longitudinal Immigration Database, product 43-10-0013
In 2016, the majority of recent immigrants were born in Asia. For the first time, Africa is the second largest source of recent immigrants.

### Top 10 countries of birth of recent immigrants in Canada, 2016

- Philippines: 188,805
- India: 147,190
- China: 129,020
- Iran: 42,070
- Pakistan: 41,480
- United States: 33,060
- Syria: 29,945
- United Kingdom: 24,445
- France: 24,155
- South Korea: 21,710

### Note:
"Recent immigrants" refers to immigrants who first obtained their landed immigrant or permanent resident status in Canada in the five years prior to a given census.

### Sources:
In Canada, the unemployment rate for immigrant men is now similar to that of Canadian-born men, but a gap persists for immigrant women.

Unemployment rate for the core-aged group (25 to 54 years)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Total immigrants</td>
<td>Total immigrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Immigrants, landed 5 or less years earlier</td>
<td>Immigrants, landed 5 or less years earlier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Immigrants, landed more than 5 to 10 years earlier</td>
<td>Immigrants, landed more than 5 to 10 years earlier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Immigrants, landed more than 10 years earlier</td>
<td>Immigrants, landed more than 10 years earlier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Canadian-born women</td>
<td>Canadian-born men</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Median wages of immigrants rise with the number of years since admission to Canada

Example of median wages, salaries and commissions of economic immigrants (principal applicants) in British Columbia admitted in 2006

Most recent publications related to immigration, ethnocultural diversity and inclusion

**Census Program**
- Immigration and Ethnocultural Diversity, 2016 Census of Population
- Children with an Immigrant Background: Bridging Cultures
- Linguistic integration of immigrants and official language populations in Canada

**Economic Insights**
- Residential Property Ownership Among Refugees in Vancouver and Toronto
- Immigrant Ownership of Residential Properties in Toronto and Vancouver
- Non-resident Ownership of Residential Properties in Toronto and Vancouver: Initial Information from Canadian Housing Statistics Program

**Insights on Canadian Society**
- The role of social capital and ethnocultural characteristics in the employment income of immigrants over time
- The Labour Force in Canada and its Regions: Projection to 2036
- Results from the 2016 Census: Syrian Refugees who Resettled in Canada in 2015 and 2016

**The Immigrant Labour Force Analysis Series**
- The Canadian Immigrant Labour Market: Recent Trends from 2006 to 2017

**Ethnicity, Language and Immigration Thematic Series**
- Recent immigrants and non-permanent residents missed in the 2011 Census
- Study on International Money Transfer, 2017
- Diversity of the Black Population in Canada: An Overview
- Immigration and Language in Canada, 2011 and 2016

**The Immigrant Labour Force Analysis Series**
- The Canadian Immigrant Labour Market: Recent Trends from 2006 to 2017

**Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series**
- The Wealth of Immigrant Families in Canada
- Labour Market Outcomes Among Refugees to Canada
- Intergenerational Education Mobility and Labour Market Outcomes: Among the Second Generation of Immigrants in Canada

**Health Reports**
- Healthy Immigrant Effect by Immigrant Category in Canada
- Tuberculosis-related Hospital Use Among Recent Immigrants to Canada
- Hospitalisation Rates Among Economic Immigrants to Canada

**Juristat**
- Violent Victimization and Discrimination, by Religious Affiliation in Canada, 2014
- Violent Victimization and Discrimination among Visible Minority Populations, Canada, 2014
- Violent Victimization, Discrimination and Perception of Safety: an Immigrant Perspective, Canada, 2014
THANK YOU!

For more information, visit www.statcan.gc.ca

or contact

statcan.infostats-infostats.statcan@canada.ca