



# New Canadians and Visible Minorities

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Business Planning ● Strategic Services

MAY

# NEW CANADIANS AND VISIBLE MINORITIES

## Highlights

- In 2001, the population of the City of Edmonton included 143,335 individuals (21.8% of total population) who at some time during their lives had immigrated to Canada.
- Nearly one-quarter of Edmonton's 2001 immigrant population (23.8%) arrived in Canada between 1981 and 1990; just over a fifth (21.8%) arrived between 1971 and 1980.
- On an annual basis, the number of immigrants to the City of Edmonton as a percent of the number of immigrants to Canada, decreased from 5.0% in 1980 to 2.2% in 2005; the number of immigrants to the City of Edmonton as a percent of the number of immigrants to the province of Alberta decreased from 38.1% on 1980 to 29.2% in 2005.
- The 2001 Canadian Census showed that Edmonton's largest immigrant population came from the United Kingdom (8.8%), followed by the Peoples Republic of China (7.6%) and India (7.2%).
- In 2005, the largest number of Edmonton immigrants came from the People's Republic of China (18.0%), followed by the Philippines (13.7%) and India (13.5%).
- In 2004, 53.1% of immigrants to Canada settled in Ontario; 18.8% in Quebec; and 15.7% to British Columbia. Alberta became home to 7.0% of Canada's 2004 immigrants.
- In 2004, 32,686 refugees came to Canada; 38.5% came from Africa and the Middle East, followed by 37.2% from Asia and the Pacific.
- In 2005, 5,670 immigrants came to the City of Edmonton; 46.0% were skilled workers while 30.9% were family class. In addition, 54.2% were principal applicants and 45.8% were dependents. The majority of 2005 immigrants were female (53.2%). Slightly over half (54.8%) were married while 41.1% were single.
- In 2005, 56.1% of City of Edmonton immigrants spoke English, 1.2% spoke French, and 4.1% were bilingual; however, 38.6% spoke neither English nor French.
- In 2001, unemployment rates were similar for immigrant and foreign-born populations; however, unemployment rates for Canadian-born males and females were higher than for immigrant males and females. Both male and female immigrants had lower employment rates than Canadian-born males and females and, conversely higher percentages of males and females not in the labour force.
- Overall higher percentages of immigrant and Canadian-born females than males had incomes of less than \$10,000 in Edmonton in 2001. Slightly higher percentages of Canadian-born males and females than immigrant males and females had incomes of \$60,000+.
- For all age groups, genders, and geographies, the Canadian-born population had higher incomes than the immigrant population in 2000.
- Overall, immigrants, especially recent arrivals enjoy better health than their Canadian-born counterparts.
- In 2000, 29% of the Canadian population volunteered, compared to 21% of the immigrant population. Immigrants who had lived longer in Canada were more likely to volunteer than recent arrivals.
- According to Edmonton's 2005 municipal census, only 39,700 Edmontonians (5.6%) were not Canadian citizens.



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# NEW CANADIANS AND VISIBLE MINORITIES

## A. NEW CANADIANS<sup>1</sup>

### 1. INTRODUCTION

“Global migration is a phenomenon of modern times. According to recent estimates, up to 200 million people now live outside their country of origin, either on a permanent or temporary basis....

Immigration has been fundamental to the growth of Canada and to our history of achievement. From our earliest days through to the global transformations of recent years, hardworking people and their families have come to Canada from all over the world. Collectively, they have made a significant contribution to the development of our economy, our society and our culture.”<sup>2</sup>

Canada is a multicultural and diverse country that encourages immigration. “According to the most recent Census results, 18.4% (5.4 million) of the Canadian population of 2001 was foreign-born, representing a sizeable and growing proportion of our population.”<sup>3</sup> Only one country, Australia, has a higher foreign-born proportion of its population.

“According to Australia’s 2001 Census, 22% of its population was foreign-born, compared with 18% for Canada.... In contrast, only 11% of the population of the United States was foreign-born in 2000.”<sup>4</sup>

While most immigrants see Canada as an ideal place to live, advance, and raise their families, Canada benefits from the diverse skills and experiences of immigrants. Immigration addresses Canada’s future labour market and demographic needs and supports the country’s international role and geopolitical presence. “Immigration is the key to nation building and our economic prosperity.”<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In this paper, the words “new Canadians,” “immigrants,” and “permanent residents” are used interchangeably and refer to the proportion of Canada’s population who were born outside Canada and were not Canadian citizens by birth.

<sup>2</sup> **Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration 2005**, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, p. 7.

<sup>3</sup> **Ibid.**, p. 8.

<sup>4</sup> **Canada’s Ethnocultural Portrait: the Changing Mosaic**, 2001 Census: Analysis Series, Catalogue no. 96F0030XIE2001008, Statistics Canada, 2003, p. 5.

<sup>5</sup> **Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration 2005**, *op. cit.*, p. 7.

In addition to the family class of immigrants and economic immigrants (skilled workers and business immigrants), the federal government classifies immigrants as refugees (those unable or unwilling to return to their home country due to fear of persecution on the basis of race, religion, nationality, etc.) and individuals displaced by emergency situations. These latter individuals seek protection and refuge and may require special community services to facilitate integration into Canada's society. Individuals from other lands also come to Canada on a temporary basis for work or studies.

"In global terms, immigration will help to ensure Canada's influence in the world and support the ongoing humanitarian commitment to the protection of refugees."<sup>6</sup>

## 2. EDMONTON'S IMMIGRANT POPULATION

Table 1 shows that the population of the City of Edmonton in 2001 included 143,335 people (21.8% of total population) who at some time during their lives immigrated to Canada (and 5,190 [0.8% of total population] who were non-permanent residents). Note that Edmonton's immigrant population at 21.8% was higher than that of Alberta (14.9%) or Canada (18.4%) as a whole.

<b>Table 1: Comparison of Percent of Immigrants in the City of Edmonton, Alberta, and Canada, 2001</b>						
	<b>Edmonton</b>		<b>Alberta</b>		<b>Canada</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Total population	657,355	100.0	2,941,150	100.0	29,639,035	100.0
Canadian-born population <sup>7</sup>	508,830	77.4	2,485,535	84.5	23,991,910	80.9
Foreign-born population <sup>8</sup>	143,335	21.8	438,335	14.9	5,448,480	18.4
Immigrated before 1991	101,415	15.4	308,415	10.5	3,617,800	12.2
Immigrated from 1991 to 2001 <sup>9</sup>	41,920	6.4	129,920	4.4	1,830,680	6.2
Non-permanent residents <sup>10</sup>	5,190	0.8	17,275	0.6	198,640	0.7

Source: **Statistics Canada**, Community Profiles, City of Edmonton and Province of Alberta, p. 2.

<sup>6</sup> **Ibid..**

<sup>7</sup> Includes persons born in Canada as well as a small number of persons born outside Canada who are Canadian citizens by birth.

<sup>8</sup> This population is also referred to as the "immigrant population", which is defined as persons who are, or have ever been, landed immigrants in Canada.

<sup>9</sup> Includes data up to Census Day, May 15, 2001.

<sup>10</sup> Refers to persons who, at the time of the census, held a student or employment authorization, Minister's permit or who were refugee claimants, as well as family members living with them.

It is of interest that while the immigrant population of Canada increased from 17.4% in 1996 to 18.4% in 2001, over the same period of time, the immigrant population of Alberta decreased from 15.2% to 14.9% as did the immigrant population of the City of Edmonton (from 22.5% to 21.8%).<sup>11</sup>

In light of this percentage decrease and recognizing the low unemployment rates in Alberta and the need to stem labour shortages, the City of Edmonton sponsored a study on the attraction and retention of immigrants. Recognizing that for immigrants,

“...Edmonton is not a city of destination for many. In fact, over the last fifteen years, Edmonton has gradually been losing out in this competition, while Calgary has been pulling ahead. At one time, both cities attracted the same numbers of newcomers annually, but in 2004, 56.5% of all immigrants to the province went to Calgary, while only 29.2% came to Edmonton. This puts the capital city at a distinct disadvantage for growth.”<sup>12</sup>

Table 2 shows that nearly a quarter of Edmonton's 2001 immigrant population (23.8%) arrived in Canada between 1981 and 1990. Just over a fifth (21.8%) arrived between 1971 and 1980. Another one quarter of immigrants arrived in Edmonton before 1971 (14.8% between 1961 and 1970 and 10.3% prior to 1961). Of the remaining Edmonton immigrants, 15.8% arrived between 1991 and 1995 and 13.5% arrived between 1996 and 2001.

<b>Table 2: City of Edmonton Immigrant Population by Date of Immigration and Age at Immigration, 2001</b>		
<b>Population</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Total immigrant population by period of immigration	143,335	100.0
Before 1961	21,150	14.8
1961 – 1970	14,855	10.3
1971 – 1980	31,245	21.8
1981 – 1990	34,170	23.8
1991 – 1995	22,605	15.8
1996 - 2001	19,310	13.5
Total immigrant population by age at immigration	143,335	100.0
0 – 4 years	13,670	9.5
5 – 19 years	38,155	26.6
20+ years	91,510	63.9

Source: **Statistics Canada**, 2001 Census.

<sup>11</sup> Comparison of Statistics Canada Census data from 1996 and 2001.

<sup>12</sup> **The Attraction and Retention of Immigrants to Edmonton**, T. Derwing, H. Krahn, J. Foote, and L. Diepenbroek, Prairie Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration, The University of Alberta, A Report Submitted to Edmonton City Council and Citizenship and Immigration Canada, November 7, 2005, p. 11.

Table 2 also shows that, in reference to age, the majority of City of Edmonton immigrants arrived in Canada when they were 20+ years of age (63.9%). Only 9.5% of immigrants arrived in Edmonton at 0 to 4 years of age while the remaining 26.6% arrived at 5 to 19 years of age.

Table 3 shows the number of permanent residents that arrived in Canada, Alberta, and Edmonton Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)<sup>13</sup>, and the City of Edmonton from 1980 to 2005. In 1980, 143,145 immigrants came to Canada; in 2005, nearly double that number (262,238) arrived. During this same period, the annual number of Alberta immigrants varied from a low of 8,984 in 1985 to a high of 19,399 in 2005. The year 1985 also saw the fewest immigrants arriving in Edmonton (CMA and City), 3,685 and 3,682, respectively. The highest number of immigrants to Edmonton (CMA and City) occurred in 1990 (8,393 and 8,214, respectively).

Year	# Canadian immigrants	# Albertan immigrants	# Immigrants Edmonton CMA	# Immigrants City of Edmonton	Edmonton City % of Canada	CMA % of Canada	Edmonton City % of Alberta
2005	262,238	19,399	6,052	5,670	2.2%	2.3%	29.2%
2004	235,825	16,473	5,085	4,809	2.0%	2.2%	29.2%
2003	221,352	15,834	4,840	4,566	2.1%	2.2%	28.8%
2002	229,047	14,761	4,254	4,049	1.8%	1.9%	27.4%
2001	250,640	16,408	4,608	4,413	1.8%	1.8%	26.9%
2000	227,464	14,360	4,329	4,155	1.8%	1.9%	28.9%
1999	189,962	12,089	3,853	3,689	1.9%	2.0%	30.5%
1998	174,197	11,187	3,803	3,695	2.1%	2.2%	33.0%
1997	216,038	12,832	4,461	4,328	2.0%	2.1%	33.7%
1996	226,072	13,890	4,944	4,791	2.1%	2.2%	34.5%
1995	212,865	14,382	5,676	5,447	2.6%	2.7%	37.9%
1994	224,393	17,992	7,445	7,253	3.2%	3.3%	40.3%
1993	256,715	18,554	7,693	7,467	2.9%	3.0%	40.2%
1992	254,823	17,774	7,567	7,376	2.9%	3.0%	41.5%
1991	232,772	17,018	7,679	7,523	3.2%	3.3%	44.2%
1990	216,420	19,048	8,393	8,214	3.8%	3.9%	43.1%
1989	192,515	16,161	7,292	7,204	3.8%	3.8%	44.6%
1988	161,537	13,998	6,099	6,096	3.8%	3.8%	43.5%
1987	152,030	11,962	4,976	4,964	3.3%	3.3%	41.5%
1986	99,348	9,669	3,876	3,876	3.9%	3.9%	40.1%
1985	84,333	8,984	3,685	3,682	4.4%	4.4%	41.0%
1984	88,273	10,679	4,285	4,284	4.9%	4.9%	40.1%
1983	89,194	10,688	4,510	4,333	4.9%	5.1%	40.5%
1982	121,179	17,942	7,207	6,911	5.7%	5.9%	38.5%
1981	128,643	19,283	7,379	7,071	5.5%	5.7%	36.7%
1980	143,145	18,826	7,503	7,176	5.0%	5.2%	38.1%

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, unpublished data.

<sup>13</sup> A Metropolitan Area is defined by Statistics Canada as “a very large urban area (known as the urban core) together with the adjacent urban and rural areas that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core. An MA has an urban core population of at least 100,000 based on the previous census.”

Figure 1 shows that the number of immigrants to the City of Edmonton as a percent of the number of immigrants to Canada decreased from 5.0% in 1980 to 2.2% in 2005. The highest percentage occurred in 1982 (5.7%); the lowest, in 2000, 2001, and 2002 (1.8%).

**Figure 1: Immigration to the City of Edmonton as a Percent of Immigration to Canada, 1980 to 2005**

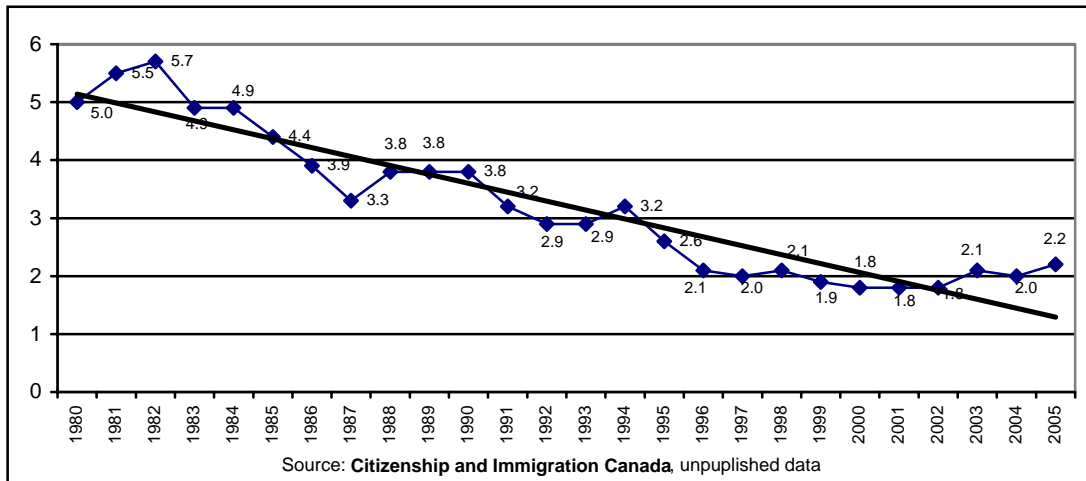
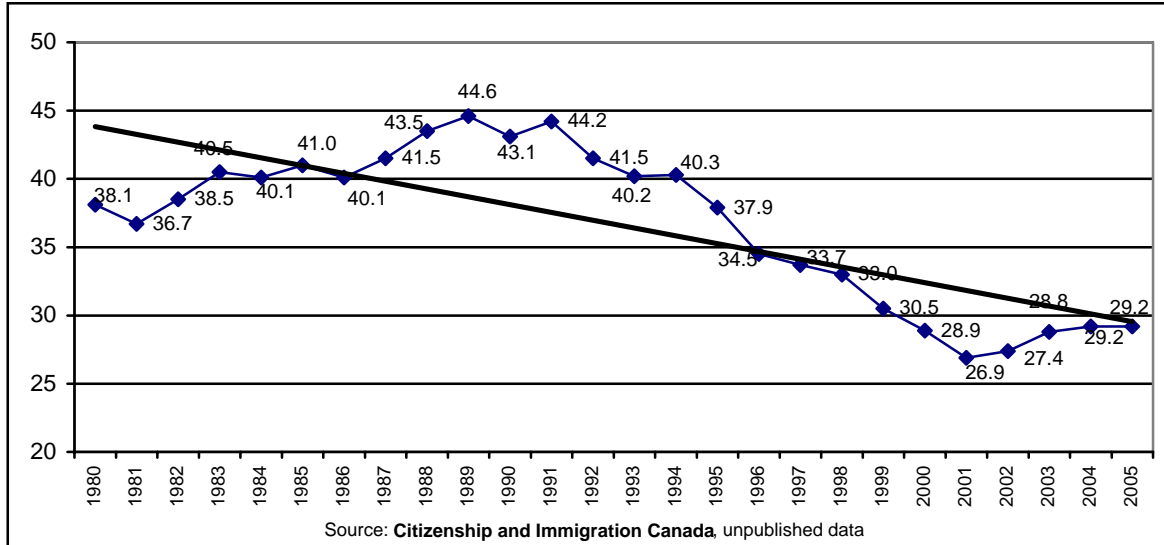


Figure 2 shows that the number of immigrants to the City of Edmonton as a percentage of the number of immigrants to Alberta decreased from 38.1% in 1980 to 29.2% in 2005. The highest percentage occurred in 1989 (44.6%); the lowest percentage occurred in 2001 (26.9%).

**Figure 2: Immigration to the City of Edmonton as a Percent of Immigration to Alberta, 1980 to 2005**



### 3. SOURCES OF IMMIGRANTS

Table 4 shows the countries of ethnic origin for the City of Edmonton immigrant population identified in the 2001 Census of Canada. The largest immigrant population came from the United Kingdom (8.8%), followed by the Peoples Republic of China (7.6%) and India (7.2%). Note that the ten countries accounting for the highest ethnic origin populations (United Kingdom, the People's Republic of China, India, Philippines, Vietnam, Poland, Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong, Germany, United States of America, and Italy) comprised 57.9% of the City of Edmonton' immigrant population.

<b>Table 4: Immigrant Population, City of Edmonton, 2001<sup>14</sup></b>			
<b>Country of origin</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Country of origin</b>	<b>Population</b>
United Kingdom	12,565	Jamaica	1,445
China, People's Republic of	10,850	Croatia	1,120
India	10,255	Guyana	1,095
Philippines	9,620	South Africa	905
Vietnam	9,240	Ireland, Republic of	790
Poland	8,595	Austria	610
Hong Kong	7,030	Greece	540
Germany	6,050	France	495
United States of America	5,030	Egypt	490
Italy	3,740	Taiwan	475
Netherlands	3,495	Mexico	375
Lebanon	3,050	Switzerland	120
Portugal	2,795	Morocco	95
Ukraine	2,530	Haiti	60
Korea, South	1,500	All other places of birth	36,925
Yugoslavia	1,460		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>143,335</b>

Source: **Statistics Canada**, 2001 Census.

Table 5 shows the country of birth of the immigrant population to the City of Edmonton in 2005. The largest number of immigrants came from the People's Republic of China (18.0%), followed by the Philippines (13.7%) and India (13.5%). The ten countries accounting for the largest ethnic origin populations (People's Republic of China, The Philippines, India, Pakistan, United States of America, England, Romania, Afghanistan, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Democratic Republic of Sudan) comprised 61.6% of 2005 immigrants.

<b>Table 5: Countries of Birth, City of Edmonton Immigrants, 2005<sup>15</sup></b>			
<b>Country of birth</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Country of birth</b>	<b>Population</b>
China, People's Republic of	1,021	Liberia	58
Philippines	775	Nigeria	54
India	767	Germany	48
Pakistan	249	Turkey	48
United States of America	141	Mexico	43
Romania	118	Poland	42
England	116	Somalia	40
Afghanistan	113	Australia	39
Vietnam	97	Belarus	39
Sudan	94	Syria	39
Korea, Republic of	92	Congo	37
Lebanon	86	Fiji	36
Colombia	83	Ghana	34
Ethiopia	83	Iraq	32
Russia	80	Kenya	31
Ukraine	70	All other places of birth	977
Iran	68		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>5,670</b>

Source: **Citizenship and Immigration Canada**, unpublished data.

<sup>14</sup> **Statistics Canada.**

<sup>15</sup> **Citizenship and Immigration Canada.**

## 4. WHERE IMMIGRANTS GO

Table 6 shows that of 235,824 immigrants arriving in Canada in 2004, more than half (53.1%) settled in Ontario. Nearly one-fifth settled in Quebec (18.8%) while 15.7% went to British Columbia. An additional 7.0% of 2004 immigrants settled in Alberta while the remaining 5.4% were divided among the remaining six provinces and three territories.

<b>Table 6: Permanent Residents Admitted to Canada by Provincial Destination</b>		
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	579	0.2
Prince Edward Island	310	0.1
Nova Scotia	1,770	0.8
New Brunswick	795	0.3
Quebec	44,239	18.8
Ontario	125,110	53.1
Manitoba	7,427	3.1
Saskatchewan	1,942	0.8
Alberta	16,468	7.0
British Columbia	37,018	15.7
Yukon Territory	62	0.0
Northwest Territories	89	0.0
Nunavut	8	0.0
<b>CANADA</b>	<b>235,824</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: **Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration 2005**, p. 26.

“Historically, Ontario has been home to more than half of all immigrants to Canada.... Since 1961 Quebec has seen a proportional increase of immigrants by period of immigration, and the Prairies have seen a reduction. In the Prairie Region a large majority of immigrants reside in Alberta.... Whereas 63% of immigrants who arrived before 1961 reside in Alberta, three in four immigrants who arrived between 1996 and 2001 make Alberta their home.”<sup>16</sup>

Immigrants tend to move to cities where other individuals with similar backgrounds reside and where services for immigrants are readily available. This is why immigrants tend to flock to the large census metropolitan areas (i.e., Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal) where ethnic groups have already established social and economic networks.

“These networks provide a vital link for the newcomers with the local community.... there are more opportunities for work and recreation in these large cities. In return, these urban centres have become more culturally vibrant as a result of the influx of immigrants.”<sup>17</sup>

<sup>16</sup> **Portraits of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in Canada: Regional Comparisons**, M. Mulder and B. Korenic, Prairie Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Integration, 2005, p. 7.

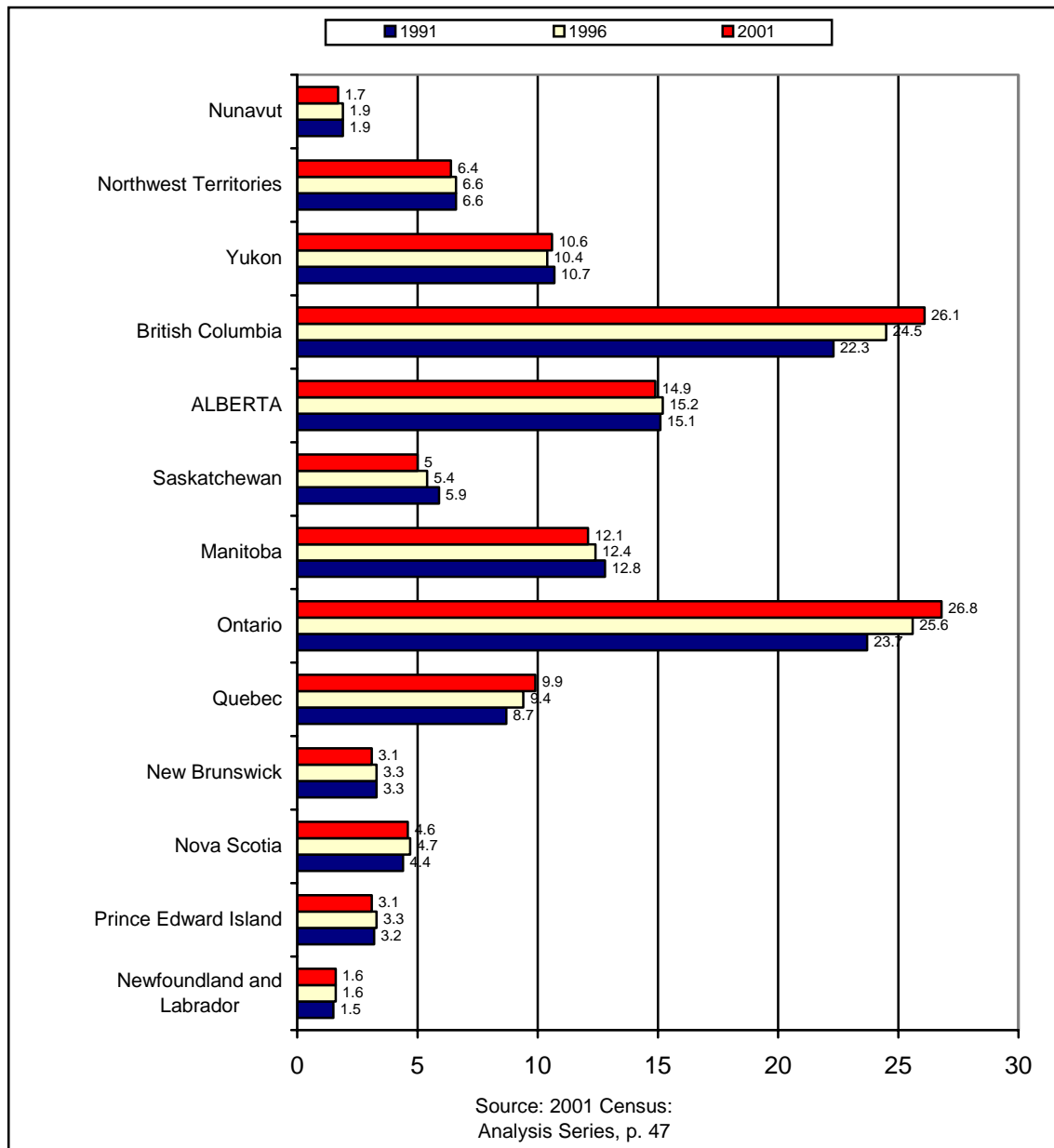
<sup>17</sup> <http://www.ccsd.ca/subsites/cd/docs/iy/arriving.htm>.



## 5. THE HISTORY OF IMMIGRATION

Figure 3 shows the immigrant provincial and territorial populations as percentages of total Canadian population for 1991, 1996, and 2001. By 1991, Ontario had the highest immigrant population (23.7%, followed by British Columbia (22.3%) and Alberta (15.1%). During this period of time, the Canadian immigrant population increased from 16.1% (1991) to 18.4% (2001).

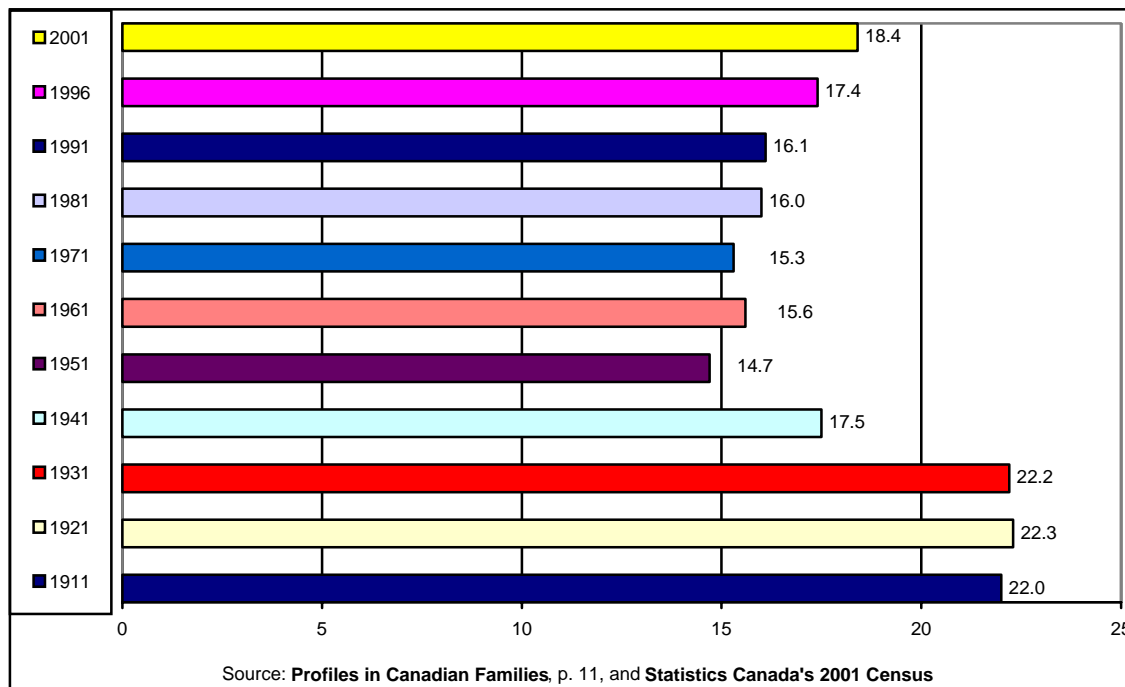
**Figure 3: Canadian Immigrant Population as Percentage of Total Population by Province, 1991, 1996, and 2001.**



“Although the proportion of immigrants in Canada was highest in the first quarter of the century, it has not fluctuated greatly and throughout the century remained between 15% and 22%.”<sup>18</sup>

Figure 4 shows that the percentage of immigrants as a percentage of total Canadians was 22.0% in 1911. The percentage increased to 22.3% in 1931, then decreased to 14.7% in 1951. The immigrant population as a percentage of the total population gradually increased to 18.4% in 2001 – the highest level in seventy years.

**Figure 4: Immigrant population as a Percentage of Total Canadian Population, 1911 to 2001**



“Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta all received a high proportion of immigrants at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and have experienced decline over time ranging from 41% in Manitoba to 57% in Alberta.... Although Manitoba had the lowest proportion of immigrants initially, this percentage increased to surpass that of Saskatchewan by 1971. In 1941 Alberta surpassed Saskatchewan in numbers of immigrants and in 2001 was home to 70% of all Prairie immigrants.”<sup>19</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Portraits of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in Canada, Regional Comparisons, *ibid.*.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*.

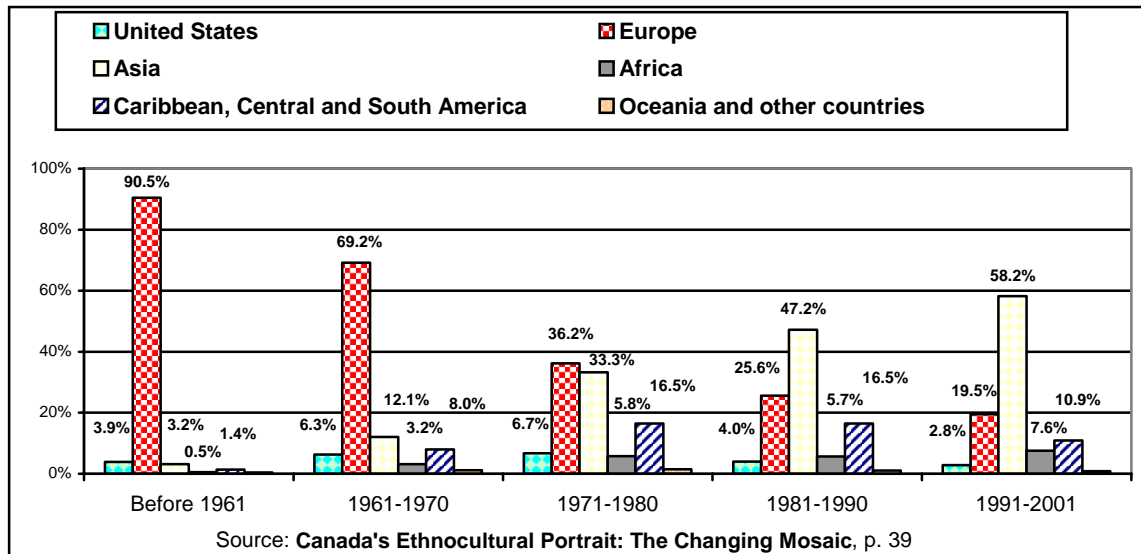
Table 7 and Figure 5 show how the migration pattern to Canada has changed through the years. Before 1961, by far the largest proportion of immigrants came from Europe. This trend continued through the 1960's into the 1970's. By 1981 - 1990, however, the majority of immigrants came from Asia and the Middle East, followed by Europe; the Caribbean and Central and South America; Africa; United States; and Oceania and other countries. The same trend continued through 1991 - 2001.

**Table 7: Immigrants by Place of Birth and Period of Immigration, Canada**

	Period of Immigration									
	Before 1961		1961 – 1970		1971 - 1980		1981 - 1990		1991 -2001 <sup>20</sup>	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Total immigrants</b>	894,465	100.0	745,565	100.0	936,275	100.0	1,041,495	100.0	1,830,680	100.0
United States	34,805	3.9	46,880	6.3	62,835	6.7	41,965	4.0	51,440	2.8
Europe	809,330	90.5	515,675	69.2	338,520	36.2	266,185	25.6	357,845	19.6
Asia	28,850	3.2	90,420	12.1	311,960	33.3	491,720	47.2	1,066,230	58.2
Africa	4,635	0.5	23,830	3.2	54,655	5.8	59,715	5.7	139,770	7.6
Caribbean, Central and South America	12,895	1.4	59,895	8.0	154,395	16.5	171,495	16.5	200,010	10.9
Oceania and other countries	3,950	0.5	8,865	1.2	13,910	1.5	10,415	1.0	15,385	0.9

Source: Canada's Ethnocultural Portrait: The Changing Mosaic, p. 39.

**Figure 5: Percentage of Immigrants by Place of Birth and Period of Immigration, Canada**



<sup>20</sup> Includes data up to May 15, 2001.

## 6. REFUGEES

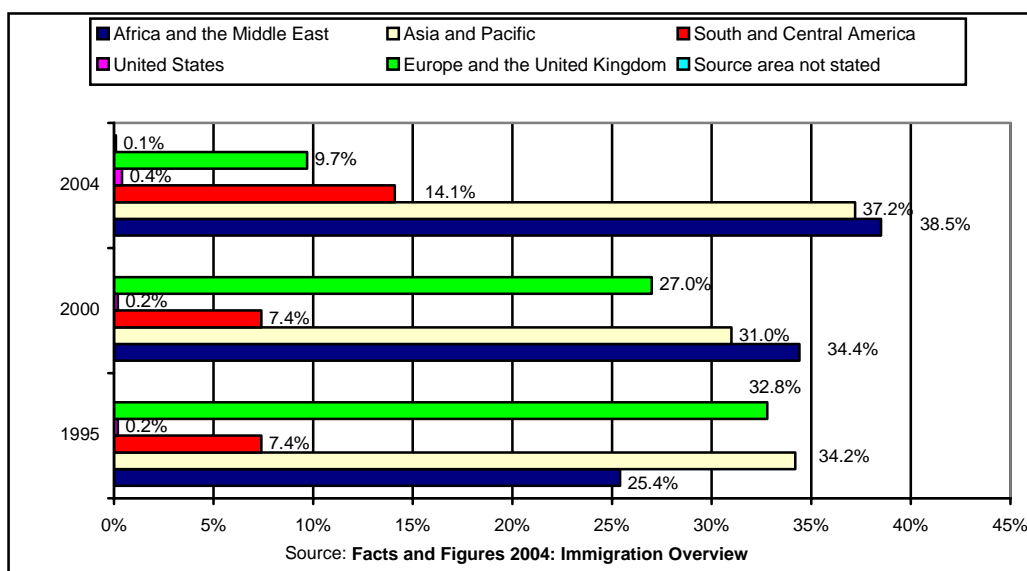
Table 8 and Figure 6 show the number of refugees<sup>21</sup> that annually arrive in Canada gradually increased from 28,087 in 1995, to 30,092 in 2000, and 32,686 in 2004.

<b>Table 8: Refugees by Source Area, Canada; 1995, 2000, and 2004</b>						
<b>Source area</b>	<b>1995</b>		<b>2000</b>		<b>2004</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Africa and the Middle East	7,143	25.4	10,338	34.4	12,593	38.5
Asia and the Pacific	9,608	34.2	9,323	31.0	12,158	37.2
South and Central America	2,087	7.4	2,220	7.4	4,597	14.1
United States	53	0.2	69	0.2	132	0.4
Europe and the United Kingdom	9,195	32.8	8,138	27.0	3,172	9.7
Source area not stated	1	0.0	4	0.0	34	0.1
<b>TOTAL REFUGEES</b>	<b>28,087</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>30,092</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>32,686</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: **Facts and Figures 2004: Immigration Overview**, pp. 28 and 29.

In 1995, the major source area was Asia and the Pacific (34.2%), followed by Europe and the United Kingdom (32.8%) and Africa and the Middle East (25.4%). By 2000, Africa and the Middle East was the major source area (34.4%), followed by Asia and the Pacific (31.0%) and Europe and the United Kingdom (27.0%). Africa and the Middle East (38.5%) and Asia and the Pacific (37.2%) remained the two top major source areas (totalling 75.7% of all 2004 refugees), followed by South and Central America (14.1%) and Europe and the United Kingdom (9.7%).

**Figure 6: Refugees by Source Area, Canada; 1995, 2000, and 2004**



<sup>21</sup> Permanent residents in the refugee category include government-assisted refugees, privately sponsored refugees, refugees landed in Canada, and refugee dependents (i.e., dependents of refugees landed in Canada, including spouses and partners living abroad or in Canada).

Of the 32,686 refugees arriving in Canada in 2004, 18,059 (55.2%) were principal applicants, 14,627 (44.8%) were spouses and dependents.<sup>22</sup> Of the principal applicants, 58.5% was male and 41.5% was females. Of the spouses and dependents, 43.9% was male; 56.1% was females. Overall, 52.9% of Canada's 2000 refugees was male; 48.1% was female. Note that 7.2% of 2004 Canadian refugees settled in Alberta.<sup>23</sup>

Table 9 shows that 41.0% of Canadian refugees in 2004 was aged 25 to 44 years. Only 1.5% was 65+ years while 25.7% (8,397 refugees) was 0 to 14 years of age.

<b>Table 9: Age of Canadian Refugees, 2004</b>		
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
0 - 4 years	1,752	5.4
5 - 9 years	3,252	9.9
10 - 14 years	3,393	10.4
15- 24 years	7,094	21.7
25 – 44 years	13,413	41.0
45 – 64 years	3,289	10.1
65+ years	493	1.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,686</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: **Facts and Figures 2004: Immigration Overview**, pp. 22-24.

Table 10 shows that nearly half (48.4%) of 2004 Canadian refugees spoke English while 7.2% spoke French and 5.4% spoke both French and English. However, 12,739 refugees (39.0%) spoke neither English nor French.

<b>Table 10: Canadian Refugees by Language Ability, 2004</b>		
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
English	15,807	48.4
French	2,364	7.2
Both French and English	1,776	5.4
Neither	12,739	39.0
Language ability not stated	0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,686</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: **Facts and Figures 2004: Immigration Overview**, pp. 52 and 53.

Table 11 shows that 31.3% of 2004 Canadian refugees had 0 to 9 years of schooling, followed by 30.8% with 10 to 12 years of schooling. A bachelor's degree was held by 11.5% of refugees; a Master's degree, by 1.7%; and a doctorate, by 0.5%.

<sup>22</sup> **Facts and Figures 2004: Immigration Overview – Permanent and Temporary Residents**, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, pp. 14 - 19.

<sup>23</sup> **Ibid.** p. 40.

<b>Table 11: Canadian Refugees 15 Years of Age or Older by Level of Education, 2004</b>		
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
0 - 9 years of schooling	7,595	31.3
10 - 12 years of schooling	7,472	30.8
13 or more years of schooling	2,401	9.9
Trade certificate	1,039	4.3
Non-University diploma	2,452	10.1
Bachelor's degree	2,789	11.5
Master's degree	421	1.7
Doctorate	120	0.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,289</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: **Facts and Figures 2004: Immigration Overview**, pp. 48 and 49.

## 7. STATUS OF IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Of the 235,824 individuals admitted to Canada in 2004 as permanent residents,<sup>24</sup> 56.7% (133,746) were economic immigrants,<sup>25</sup> 26.4% (62,246) were in the family class,<sup>26</sup> 13.9% (32,686) were refugees and other protected persons, and 3.0% (7,146) were granted permanent resident status on humanitarian and compassionate (H and C) grounds (Table 12).<sup>27</sup>

“Overall, CIC strives to maintain a balanced immigration program that contributes to meeting Canada’s labour market needs, while fostering family reunification and honouring humanitarian principles of refugee protection.”<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> A permanent resident is someone who has been allowed to enter Canada as an immigrant but who has not become a Canadian citizen. There are three basic classes of permanent residents: economic, family, and protected persons. In addition, under special circumstances, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) has the authority to accept as permanent residents foreign nationals who do not meet the usual selection criteria.

<sup>25</sup> Economic immigrants are individuals selected as permanent residents for their skills and ability to contribute to Canada's economy.

<sup>26</sup> The family class of immigrants is comprised of close relatives of a sponsor in Canada.

<sup>27</sup> **Facts and Figures 2004: Immigration Overview – Permanent and Temporary Residents**, op. cit., p. 11.

<sup>28</sup> **Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration 2005**, op. cit., p. 16.

<b>Table 12: New Permanent Residents by Immigration Category, Canada, 2004</b>		
<b>Category</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Spouses and partners	43,985	18.6
Fiancé(e)s	213	0.1
Sons and daughters	3,037	1.3
Parents and grandparents	12,732	5.4
Others	2,279	1.0
<b>Family Class</b>	<b>62,246</b>	<b>26.4</b>
Skilled workers <sup>29</sup> - principal applicants	47,889	20.3
Skilled workers - spouses and dependents	65,553	27.8
Entrepreneurs <sup>30</sup> - principal applicants	671	0.3
Entrepreneurs - spouses and dependents	1,806	0.8
Self-employed - principal applicants	366	0.2
Self-employed - spouses and dependents	824	0.3
Investors <sup>31</sup> - principal applicants	1,671	0.7
Investors - spouses and dependents	4,426	1.9
Provincial/territorial nominees	6,248	2.6
Live-in caregivers - principal applicants	2,496	1.1
Live-in caregivers - spouses and dependents	1,796	0.7
<b>Economic immigrants<sup>32</sup></b>	<b>133,746</b>	<b>56.7</b>
Government-assisted refugees	7,411	3.1
Privately sponsored refugees	3,116	1.3
Refugees landed in Canada <sup>33</sup>	15,901	6.8
Refugee dependents	6,258	2.7
<b>Refugees</b>	<b>32,686</b>	<b>13.9</b>
Retirees – principal applicants	0	0.0
Retirees – spouses and dependents	0	0.0
DROC and PDRCC <sup>34</sup> -- principal applicants	34	0.0
DROC and PDRCC – spouses and dependents	19	0.0
Temporary resident permit holders	148	0.1

<sup>29</sup> Skilled workers are immigrants selected for their skills to help ensure their success in a fast-changing labour market. The Regulations stress education, English or French language abilities, and work experience involving certain skills, rather than specific occupations.

<sup>30</sup> Entrepreneurs are immigrants admitted to Canada as permanent residents by demonstrating that they have managed and controlled a percentage of equity in a qualifying business for at least two years in the period beginning five years before they apply and have legally obtained a net worth of at least CAN\$300,000.

<sup>31</sup> Investors are immigrants admitted to Canada because they have business experience as defined in the Regulations, have a legally obtained net worth of at least CAN\$800,000, and have invested CAN\$400,000 before receiving a visa. (The Government of Canada allocates the investment to participating provinces and territories, which guarantee the investment and use it to develop their economies and create jobs. The investment is repaid, without interest, after five years.)

<sup>32</sup> The economic class includes skilled workers, business immigrants, provincial nominees, and live-in caregivers, as well as members of their immediate family. In recent years, approximately 55% to 60% of new permanent residents have been in this category.

<sup>33</sup> 'Landing' is the permission given to a person to live in Canada as a permanent resident.

<sup>34</sup> DROC and PDRCC means deferred removal orders and post-determination refugee claimants.

Sponsored H and C <sup>35</sup> cases outside the family class	2,987	1.2
Other H and C classes	3,958	1.7
<b>Other immigrants</b>	<b>7,146</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Category not stated	0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>235,824</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: **Facts and Figures 2004: Immigration Overview**, p. 11.

Table 13 shows that 30.9% of immigrants to the City of Edmonton in 2005 were family class, 46% were skilled workers, and 12.3% were refugees (comprised of government sponsored refugees, privately sponsored refugees, protected persons landed in Canada, and dependents abroad of protected persons).

<b>Table 13: New Permanent Residents by Immigration Category, City of Edmonton, 2005</b>		
<b>Immigration Category</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>%</b>
Skilled workers	2,610	46.0
Business	106	1.9
Provincial/territorial nominees	159	2.8
Live-in Caregiver Program	239	4.2
Family class	1,751	30.9
Humanitarian & compassionate/public policy	103	1.8
Other	0	0.0
Government-assisted refugees	363	6.4
Privately sponsored refugees	131	2.3
Protected persons landed in Canada	151	2.7
Dependents abroad of protected persons	54	0.9
Permit holders class	3	0.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,670</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: **Citizenship and Immigration Canada**, unpublished data.

Table 14 shows that of the 5,670 new permanent residents of the City of Edmonton in 2005, 54.2% (3,075) were principal applicants and 45.8% (2,595) were dependents.

<b>Table 14: New Permanent Residents by Family Status, City of Edmonton, 2005</b>		
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Principal applicants	3,075	54.2
Dependents	2,595	45.8
All family status	5,670	100.0

Source: **Citizenship and Immigration Canada**, unpublished data.

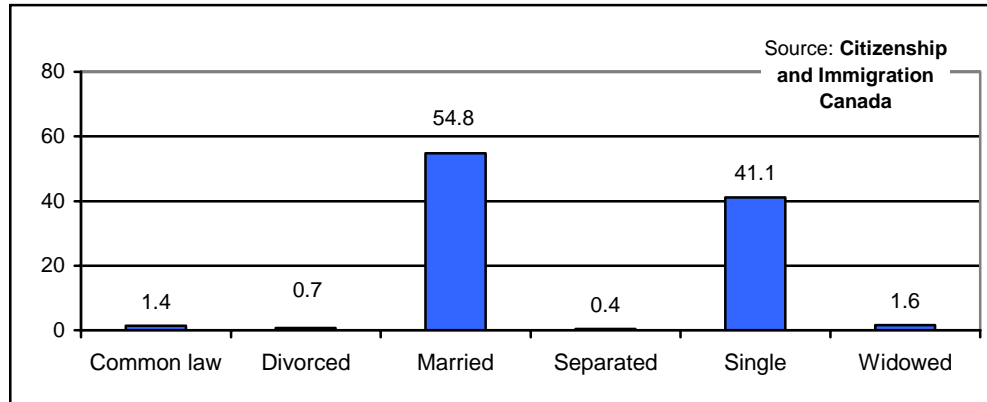
<sup>35</sup> H and C means humanitarian and compassionate.



## 8. MARITAL STATUS

Figure 7<sup>36</sup> shows that the majority (54.8%) of new permanent residents to the City of Edmonton in 2004 were married while 41.1% were single. Only 1.6% were widowed; 1.4%, common law; and 0.7%, divorced.

**Figure 7: Percentage of New Permanent Residents by Marital Status, City of Edmonton, 2005**



## 9. GENDER AND AGE OF IMMIGRANTS

Figure 8<sup>37</sup> shows that 46.8% of new permanent residents in the City of Edmonton in 2005 were male; 53.2%, female. This gender split has gradually changed over the past quarter of a century from 1980 when 51.8% of new permanent residents were male and 48.2% were female.

“...almost one in five females currently living in Canada was born outside the country. Overall, there were a total of 2.8 foreign-born females living in Canada in 2001. Together, they made up 19% of the country’s total female population that year.”<sup>38</sup>

Figure 9<sup>39</sup> shows that the female foreign-born population in Canada increased more than three times that of the female Canadian-born population between 1996 and 2001 (10% versus 3%, respectively).

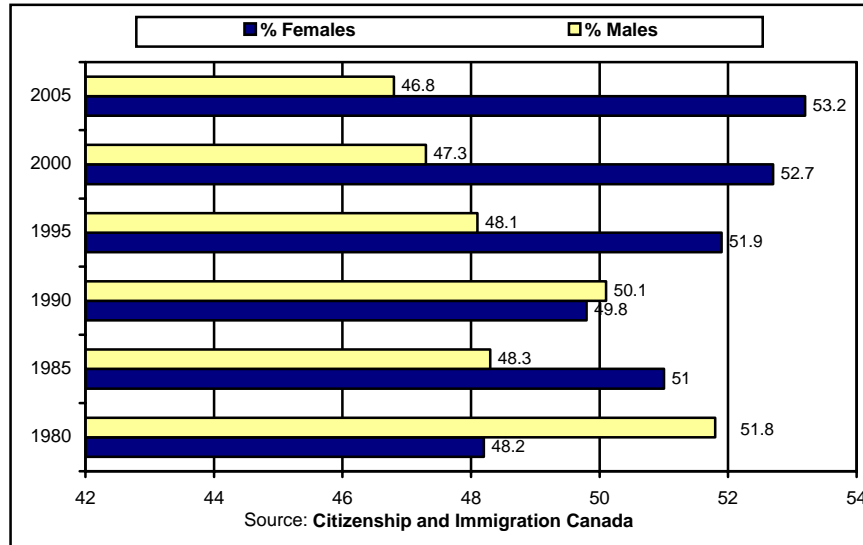
<sup>36</sup> Citizenship and Immigration Canada, unpublished data.

<sup>37</sup> Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *ibid.*.

<sup>38</sup> *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, Immigrant Women, Catalogue no. 89-503-XIE, Statistics Canada, 2006, p. 211.

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 212.

**Figure 8 Percentage of New Permanent Residents by Gender, City of Edmonton, 2005**



**Figure 9: Growth Rates of Foreign-born and Canadian-born Female Populations, Canada, 1996 to 2001**

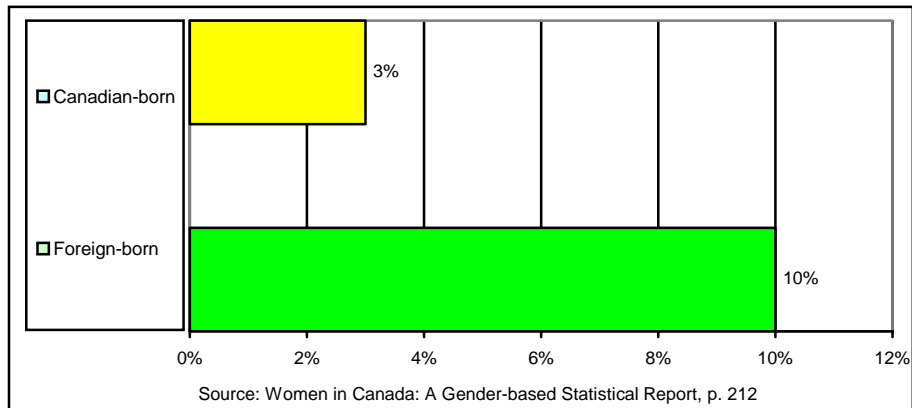
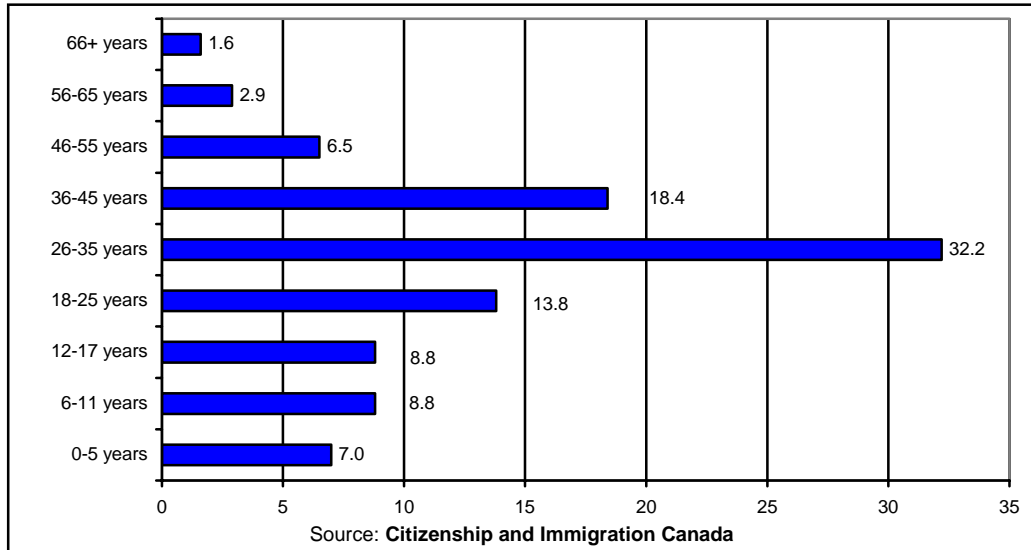


Figure 10<sup>40</sup> shows that the majority (32.2%) of new permanent residents in the City of Edmonton in 2005 was aged 26 to 35 years of age. While 24.6% of 2005 new permanent residents was aged 0 to 17 years of age, only 4.5% was 56 years of age and older (with 1.6% being 66+ years of age).

<sup>40</sup> Citizenship and Immigration Canada, unpublished data.

**Figure 10: Percentage of New Permanent Residents by Age, City of Edmonton, 2005**



## 10. IMMIGRANT CHILDREN AND YOUTH

“Each year, about 200,000 immigrants arrive in Canada and about one-third are children and youth under the age of 25.... Many of these young people came to Canada as dependents, accompanied by their families. Some came on their own to attend school or for work.”<sup>41</sup>

Figure 10 (above) shows that 38.4% of new permanent residents to the City of Edmonton in 2004 were aged 0 to 25 years of age (24.6% were aged 0 to 17 years of age).

A Research Program, *Cultural Diversity*, conducted by the Canadian Council on Social Development and released in 2000,<sup>42</sup> found:

- An estimated 230,000 immigrant children and youth arrived in Canada between 1996 and 1998, nearly half of whom came from Asia and the Pacific Region.
- More than half of recent immigrant children and youth were unable to speak either English or French on entry to Canada in 1998. Older youth were more likely to understand English since English tends to be part of the primary and secondary school curriculum in many countries.

<sup>41</sup> <http://www.ccsd.ca/subsites/cd/docs/iy/intro.htm>.

<sup>42</sup> <http://www.ccsd.ca/subsites/cd/docs/iy/hl.htm>.

- In general, immigrant children and youth stayed with their families in large metropolitan centres (e.g., Toronto, Vancouver, and Montréal).
- Key challenges identified by recent immigrant youth were learning English/French and overcoming social isolation.

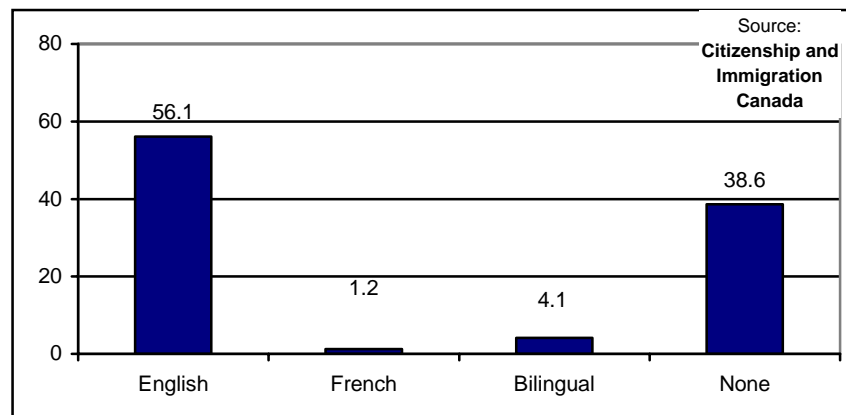
A 2000 study of the Canadian Student Loans Program (CSLP) reviewed the characteristics of the post-secondary students aged 18 to 24 years of age who received student loans that year. “Students of families who came to Canada since 1980 had a much higher CSLP take up rate than others (45% versus 31%). The difference is partly attributable to lower parental income: 58% of these immigrant students had parental income below \$40,000, compared with 29% of other students.”<sup>43</sup>

Note, however, that Canadian-born young people were more likely to be involved in politics and alternative political activity than their immigrant counterparts. “Two-thirds of Canadian-born adults aged 22 to 29 had voted in an election,<sup>44</sup> compared with less than one-third of foreign born youth. Canadian-born youth were also more likely to engage in alternative political activity.”

## 11. LANGUAGE ABILITY AND IMMIGRANTS

Figure 11 shows that of all permanent residents arriving in 2005 in the City of Edmonton, 56.1% spoke English; 1.2% spoke French; and 4.1% were bilingual. However, 38.6% spoke neither English nor French.

**Figure 11: Percentage of New Permanent Residents by Official Language, City of Edmonton, 2005**



<sup>43</sup> **The Daily**, Study: Who Gets Student Loans?, Friday, March 24, 2006.

<sup>44</sup> **The Daily**, Study: Political Activity Among Young Adults, Tuesday, December 6, 2005.

Many immigrants feel that it is important for their Canadian born children to learn their ancestral language. Such knowledge of additional languages may provide children and youth with socio-economic benefits:

“First, the knowledge of additional languages is increasingly recognized as a significant asset. Second, proficiency in both an official and non-official language, along with a strong ethnic identity, can in some cases play a role in children’s academic success. And third, in neighbourhoods with a high proportion of immigrants, fluency in an ancestral language can enable participation in ethnic businesses and social life”.<sup>45</sup>

A recent study based on the 2002 Ethnic Diversity Study (EDS) and data gathered by interviewing Canadian-born individuals aged 15+ years showed that:<sup>46</sup>

- Of the respondents to EDS, 64% learned their parents’ ancestral language first in childhood.
- Somewhat more, 74% could converse in their parents’ mother tongue (“...some individuals acquired their parents’ mother tongue after learning another language – mostly English or French – in childhood [16%] while others lost the ability to carry on a conversation in their first language [5%]).”<sup>47</sup>
- Only 32% of respondents continued to use their parents’ mother tongue after growing up and leaving their parents’ homes.
- In addition, only 11% of respondents reported that their youngest child could converse in their grandparents’ mother tongue.
- Some respondents spoke the ancestral language with friends (16%) while 12% used it regularly in the workplace.
- “Respondents whose parents’ mother tongue was Punjabi, Spanish, Cantonese, Korean or Greek were most likely to learn these languages as their mother tongue. Individuals with Dutch, Scandinavian, German, Tagalog, Semitic, Niger-Congo and Creole languages were least likely to do so.”<sup>48</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> **Passing on the Ancestral Language**, M. Turcotte, Canadian Social Trends, Spring 2006, p. 20.

<sup>46</sup> **Ibid..**

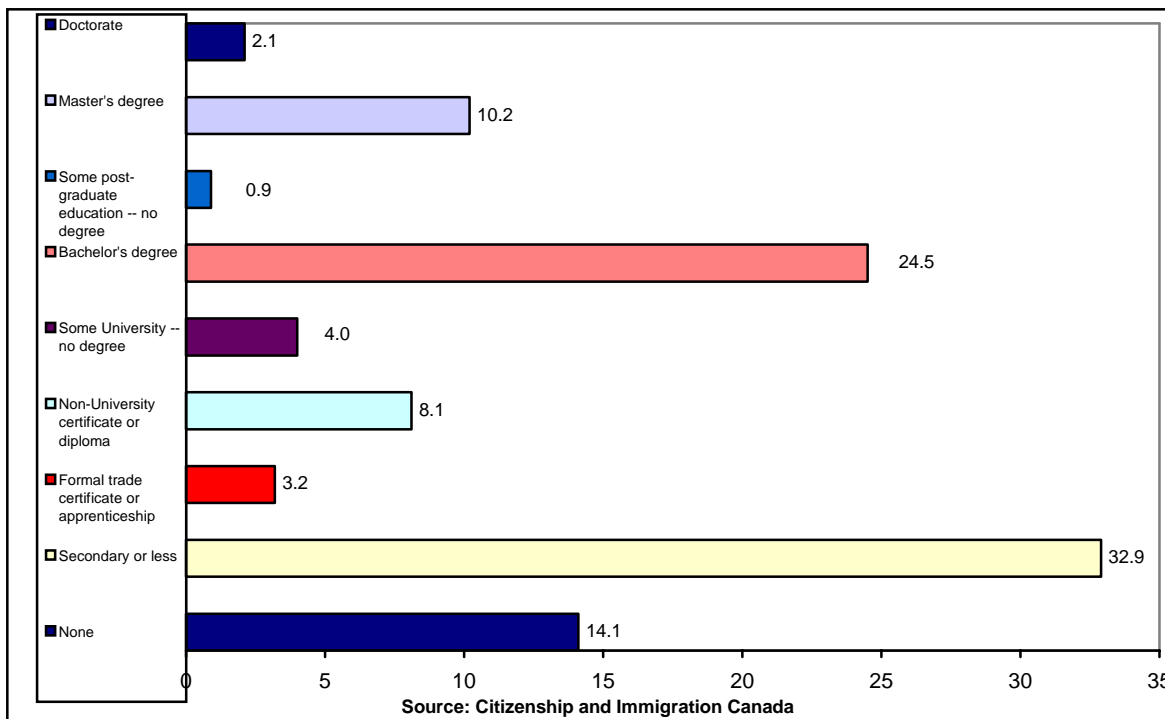
<sup>47</sup> **Ibid..**

<sup>48</sup> **Ibid.**, p. 21.

## 12. EDUCATION OF IMMIGRANTS

Figure 12 shows that of the 5,670 new permanent residents arriving in the City of Edmonton in 2005, 32.9% had a secondary education or less, while 14.1% had no education. Of the remaining 53%, 3.2% had a formal trade certificate or apprenticeship; 8.1%, non-University certificate or diploma; 4.0%, some University – no degree; 24.5%, bachelor's degree; 0.9%, some post-graduate education – no degree; 10.2%, master's degree; and 2.1%, doctorate.

**Figure 12 Percentage of New Permanent Residents by Educational Qualifications, City of Edmonton, 2005**

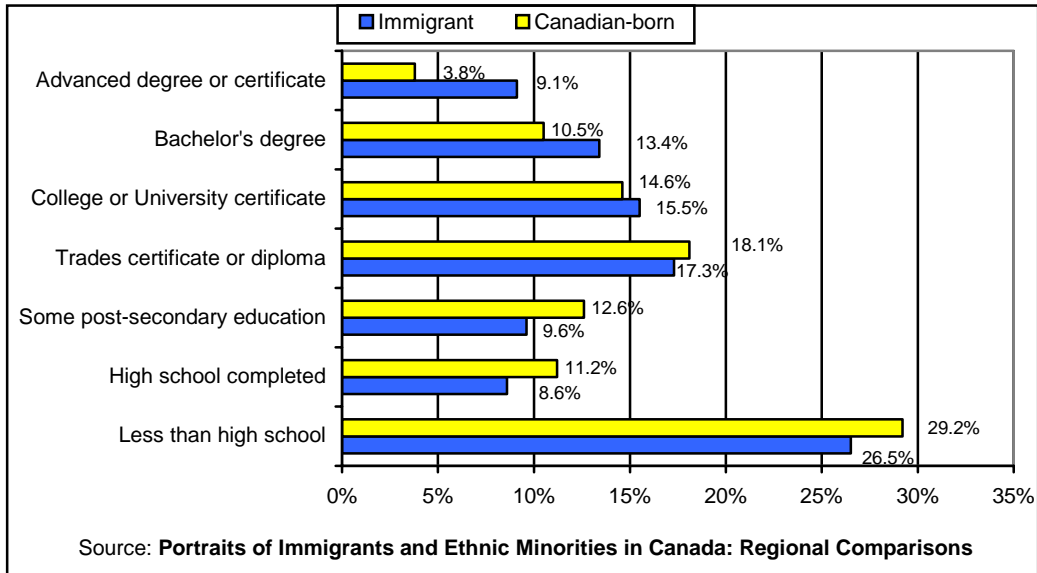


“An examination of level of education by immigrant status, gender, and place of residence reveals that immigrants are consistently more educated than their Canadian-born counterparts regardless of gender or location. At a national level 10% more immigrant men than Canadian-born men hold bachelor's or advanced university degrees (24% vs. 14%).<sup>49</sup>

Figures 13 and 14 show the differences between the educational levels of immigrants and the Canadian-born population for the City of Edmonton in 2001.

<sup>49</sup> Portraits of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in Canada: Regional Comparisons, op. cit., p. 81.

**Figure 13: Percentage of Males by Level of Education, Immigrants and Canadian-born, City of Edmonton, 2001**



**Figure 14: Percentage of Females by Level of Education, Immigrants and Canadian-born, City of Edmonton, 2001**

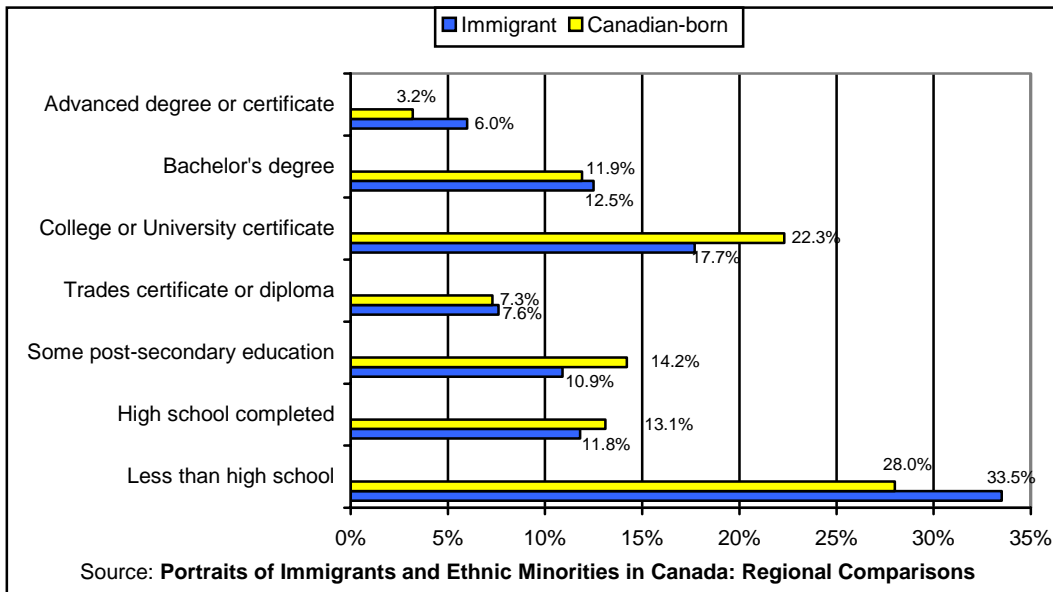


Figure 13 shows that in 2001, more immigrant males than Canadian-born males had an advanced degrees or certificates (9.1% vs. 3.8%, respectively) in

Edmonton, while more Canadian-born males than immigrants had completed high school (11.2% vs. 8.6%, respectively) and had less than a high school education (29.2% vs. 26.5%, respectively).

Figure 14 shows that in 2001, more immigrant females than Canadian-born females had advanced degrees or certificates (6.0% vs. 3.2%, respectively) in Edmonton, while more Canadian-born females than immigrants had some post-secondary education (14.2% vs. 10.9%, respectively) and had completed high school (13.1% vs. 11.8%, respectively).

### 13. WORK AND IMMIGRANTS

Table 15 shows that 26.3% of new permanent residents to the City of Edmonton in 2005 were new workers; 22.6% were students, and 13.2% were homemakers. The remaining 37.9% of new residents brought a variety of skills to the City.

<b>Table 15: Number and Percentage of New Permanent Residents by Intended Occupation, City of Edmonton, 2005</b>					
<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
New worker	1,494	26.3	Mechanical engineers	53	0.9
Student	1,278	22.6	Electrical and electronics	46	0.8
Homemakers	748	13.2	Civil engineers	32	0.6
Other non-worker	570	10.1	Computer systems analysts	31	0.5
Open ea	120	2.1	University professors	30	0.5
Nannies and live-in caregivers	119	2.1	Chemical engineers	26	0.5
Post-secondary teaching	103	1.8	Financial and investment analyst	22	0.4
Retired	87	1.5	MISSING OR INVALID	20	0.4
Computer programmers	79	1.4	Other occupations	812	14.3
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,670</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: **Citizenship and Immigration Canada**, unpublished data.

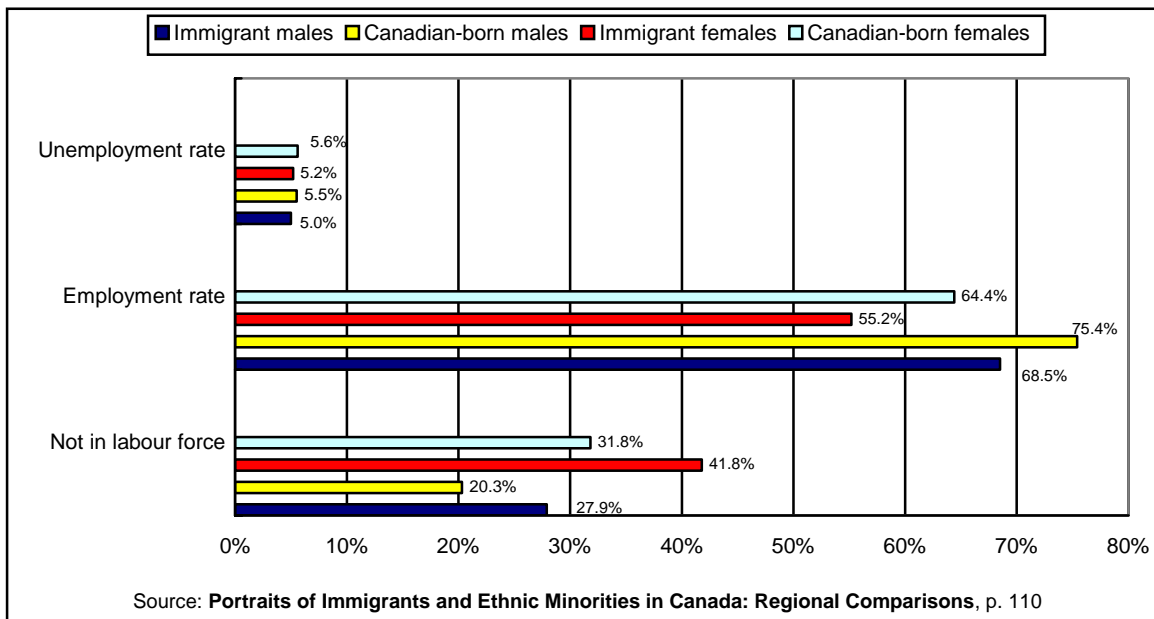
“As with the overall female workforce in Canada, the majority of foreign-born female workers are concentrated in occupations traditionally held by women. In 2001, for example, 46% of all foreign-born women who participated in the paid workforce worked in either administrative or clerical jobs or in sales or service positions, although this was somewhat below the figure for Canadian-born women, 49% of whom were employed in these areas. In contrast, the share of immigrant women working in these types of jobs was almost double that for their male



counterparts; that year, just 22% of employed foreign-born men had jobs in these areas.”<sup>50</sup>

Figure 15 shows the 2001 employment rates<sup>51</sup> and unemployment rates<sup>52</sup> of immigrants and Canadian-born individuals (males and females) in the City of Edmonton, in addition to the percentages of those who were not in the labour force.<sup>53</sup>

**Figure 15: Percentage of Labour Force Activity by Immigrant Status and Gender, City of Edmonton, 2001<sup>54</sup>**



The unemployment rate ranged from 5.0% (for immigrant males) to 5.6% (for Canadian-born females). The employment rate ranged from 55.2% for immigrant females to 75.4% (for Canadian-born males) while those not in the labour force ranged from 20.3% (for Canadian-born males) to 41.8% for immigrant females.

<sup>50</sup> **Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, op. cit.**, p. 225.

<sup>51</sup> The “employment rate” includes those who did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business, or professional practice and those who were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of a vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of business, or for any other reasons.

<sup>52</sup> The “unemployment rate” includes people who were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks or were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their jobs or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

<sup>53</sup> “Not in the labour force” includes students, homemakers, retired workers, seasonal workers in an off season who were not looking for work, and persons who could not work because of a long-term illness or disability.

<sup>54</sup> Data are based on employment status the week before Census day (May 15, 2001) and include persons aged 15 years of age and older, excluding residents in institutions.

The unemployment rate was similar for both immigrant and foreign-born populations. However, when gender was considered, the rates of unemployment were higher for Canadian-born males and females.

On the other hand, both male and female immigrants had lower employment rates than Canadian-born males and females and, conversely, higher percentages of males and females not in the labour force.

#### **14. INCOME<sup>55</sup> OF IMMIGRANTS**

“Canadian-born people nationally have an income advantage over immigrants. However, gender has a stronger influence on income than does immigrant status.... Whereas 68% of immigrant men and 66% of Canadian-born men have a total income of less than \$40,000 annually, 86% of immigrant women and 85% of Canadian-born women fall into this same category....”<sup>56</sup>

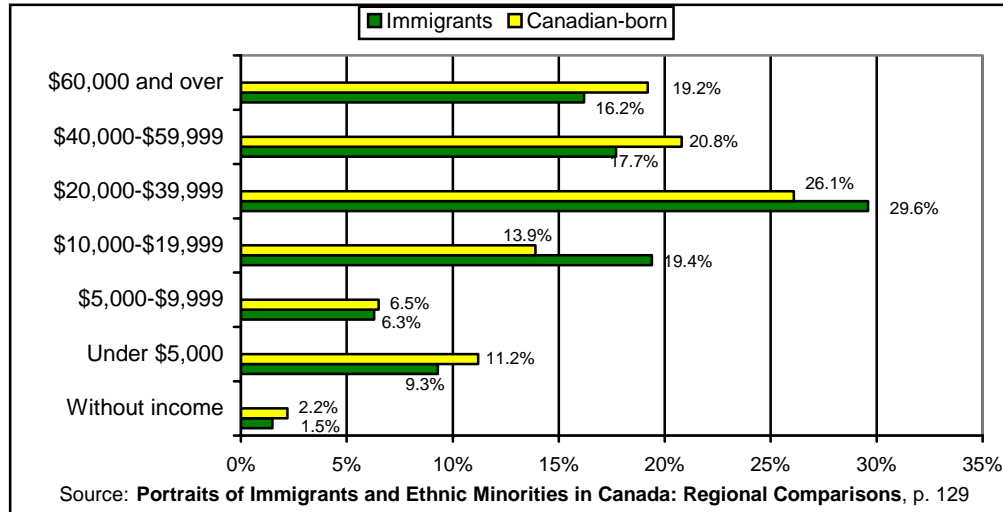
Figures 16 and 17 show the total incomes of City of Edmonton immigrant and Canadian-born males and females in 2000. The highest percentage of immigrant and Canadian-born males had total incomes between \$20,000 and \$39,999 (29.6% and 26.1%, respectively). Only 1.5% of immigrant males were without income, compared with 2.2% of Canadian-born males.

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<sup>55</sup> Refers to total income and includes the total amount of money earned by persons 15 years of age and older during the calendar year 2000 (total wage and salaries; net farm income; net non-farm income from unincorporated businesses and/or professional practice; income from government sources [Canada child tax benefits, old age security pension, and guaranteed income supplement]; benefits from the Canada or Quebec pension plan and Employment Insurance; dividends; interest on bonds, deposits, saving certificates, and other investment sources; and retirement pensions, superannuation, , and annuities including those from RRSPs and RRIFs).

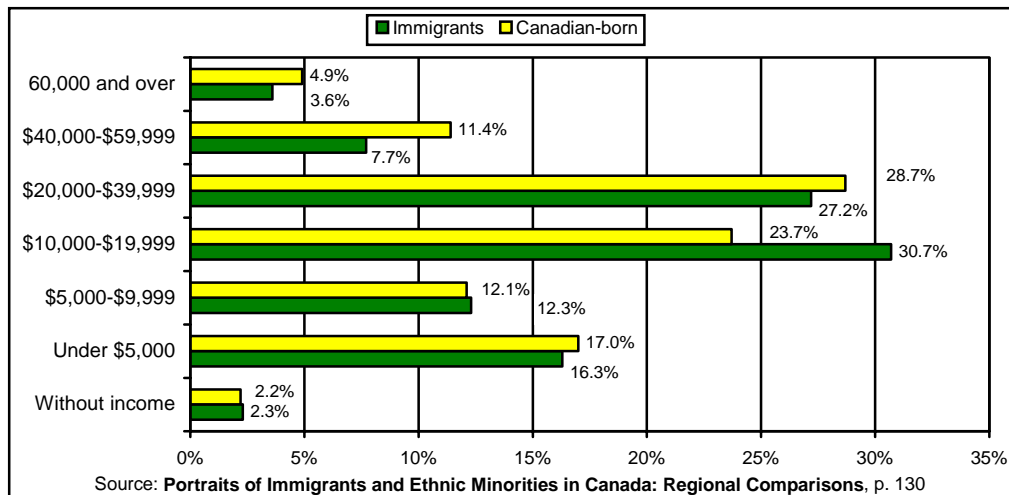
<sup>56</sup> **Portraits of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in Canada: Regional Comparisons**, op. cit., p. 125.

**Figure 16: Percentage of Immigrant and Canadian-born Males by Total Income, City of Edmonton, 2000**



Of income categories shown in Figure 17, the largest group of immigrant females (30.7%) had total incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,000; the largest group of Canadian-born females (28.7%) had total incomes between \$20,000 and \$39,999. The same percentage of Canadian-born females as Canadian-born males (2.2%) was without income; 2.3% of immigrant women were without income, somewhat more than immigrant males (1.5%).

**Figure 17: Percentage of Immigrant and Canadian-born Females by Total Income, City of Edmonton, 2001**



Slightly higher percentages of Canadian-born males (19.9%) and females (31.3%) than immigrant males (17.1%) and females (30.9%) had total income less than \$10,000 annually. Note that overall, higher percentages of immigrant and Canadian-born females than males had total income less than \$10,000 annually.

Larger percentages of Canadian-born males (19.2%) and females (4.9%) had incomes of \$60,000+ than the corresponding immigrant males and females (16.2% and 3.9%, respectively). Overall, approximately four times the percentage of immigrant and Canadian-born males than of immigrant and Canadian-born females had annual incomes of \$60,000+.

“An examination of average income by period of immigration reveals that the more recent their arrival in Canada, the less successful immigrants are in the labour market. A decline in average income is evident for each decade of arrival since 1961-1971....”<sup>57</sup>

Table 16 shows the average 2000 total income for immigrant and Canadian-born males and females in Edmonton (City), Alberta, and Canada. Immigrants (both males and females) who arrived before 1961 had higher or only slightly lower annual incomes than the Canadian-born population. Canadian male and female immigrants arriving in Canada in the decades 1961 to 1970 and 1971 to 1980 also reported higher annual incomes than their Canadian-born counterparts. Note that the annual incomes for those who immigrated between 1961 and 1980 were higher than those reported for before 1961. The incomes of both immigrant males and females who arrived in Canada between 1996 and 2001 were about half the income of those who arrived between 1961 and 1970.

**Table 16: Average Total Income by Immigrant Status, Gender, and Period of Immigration, Canada Alberta, and City of Edmonton, 2000**

	Canadian male	Canadian female	Albertan male	Albertan female	Edmonton (City) male	Edmonton (City) female
Canadian-born	\$37,017	\$23,079	\$40,805	\$22,771	\$39,692	\$22,972
Immigrated before 1961	\$40,843	\$23,324	\$40,036	\$22,478	\$38,829	\$22,189
1961-1970	\$45,816	\$26,612	\$48,087	\$25,937	\$45,831	\$25,004
1971-1980	\$43,755	\$27,072	\$45,508	\$25,630	\$42,302	\$24,178
1981-1990	\$33,067	\$22,142	\$33,939	\$20,623	\$31,473	\$19,961
1991-1995	\$27,610	\$18,212	\$28,375	\$16,766	\$27,158	\$16,064
1996-2001	\$24,638	\$14,803	\$26,257	\$14,374	\$22,850	\$13,661

Source: *Portraits of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in Canada: Regional Comparisons*, pp. 138 and 140.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 137.

A similar pattern was observed for the immigrant populations in Alberta and the City of Edmonton. Note, however, that City of Edmonton male and female immigrants exhibited lower annual incomes by period of immigration than either Alberta or Canadian males and females.

Table 17 shows the average annual income by age of immigrant and Canadian-born males and females in 2000 for the City of Edmonton, Alberta, and Canada.

“Although national figures show that men’s incomes tend to increase until retirement age, women’s incomes do not substantially increase between the 25-44-year and 45-64-year age categories.”<sup>58</sup>

For all age groups, gender and geographies, the Canadian-born population had higher incomes than the immigrant population in 2000.

<b>Table 17: Average Total Income by Immigrant Status, Gender, and Age, Canada Alberta, and City of Edmonton, 2000<sup>59</sup></b>						
	<b>Canadian males</b>	<b>Canadian females</b>	<b>Alberta males</b>	<b>Alberta females</b>	<b>Edmonton (City) males</b>	<b>Edmonton (City) females</b>
<b>15 – 24 years</b>						
Canadian-born	\$11,440	\$ 9,128	\$12,917	\$ 9,022	\$12,457	\$ 9,144
Immigrant	\$10,254	\$ 8,624	\$10,364	\$ 8,286	\$10,402	\$ 7,861
<b>25-44 years</b>						
Canadian-born	\$41,489	\$27,043	\$46,661	\$26,289	\$44,633	\$26,133
Immigrant	\$36,617	\$23,816	\$38,008	\$22,503	\$35,104	\$21,176
<b>45-64 years</b>						
Canadian-born	\$47,437	\$27,050	\$54,291	\$27,403	\$54,220	\$28,350
Immigrant	\$45,435	\$26,013	\$48,087	\$24,455	\$45,426	\$24,062
<b>65+ years</b>						
Canadian-born	\$31,321	\$19,753	\$34,390	\$21,363	\$35,810	\$22,244
Immigrant	\$29,523	\$18,708	\$29,594	19,094	\$28,651	\$19,074

Source: *Portraits of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in Canada: Regional Comparisons*, pp. 141 and 143.

The same pattern was also observed in 2000 for male and female immigrant and Canadian-born populations in the City of Edmonton and Alberta.

<sup>58</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 142.

<sup>59</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 141 and 143.

“Low-income cut-offs (LICOs) are measures that identify families or individuals in Canada who spend 70% or more of their total income on food, shelter, and clothing (approximately 20% more than the average Canadian, Census Dictionary 2001).”<sup>60</sup>

Figure 18 shows that nationally unattached immigrant (38%) and Canadian-born (32%) males have more than double the percentages of individuals with incomes below LICO than attached immigrant (18%) and Canadian-born males (10%). The same pattern is observed provincially and municipally.

**Figure 18: Immigrant and Canadian-born Males with Incomes below LICO by Family Attachment; City of Edmonton, Alberta, and Canada; 2000**

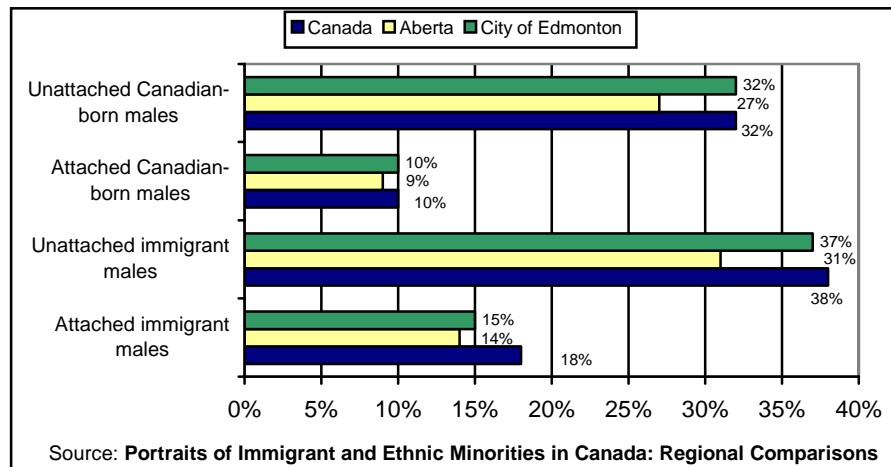


Figure 19 shows that unattached females, regardless of whether they were immigrants or Canadian-born, of all geographies, have a much higher incidence of income below LICO than those females who are attached (to families).

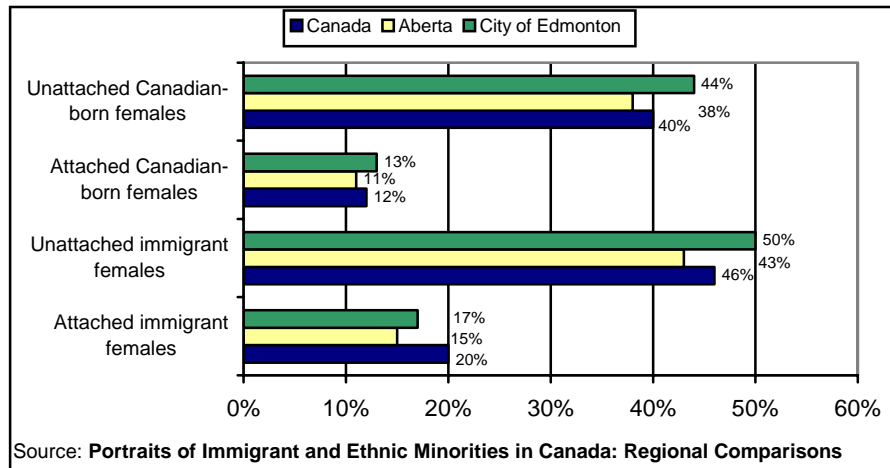
It should also be noted that overall, foreign-born women tend to receive a slightly larger proportion of their total income from government transfer payments (e.g., family allowances, employment insurance, and other types of social assistance) than their Canadian-born counterparts.

“In 2000, transfer payments accounted for 19% of the total income of female immigrants aged 15 and older, compared with 16% of that of females born in Canada. Foreign-born women also receive a larger share

<sup>60</sup> Ibid., p. 144.

of their income from transfer payments than male immigrants,<sup>61</sup> just 10% of whose income that year came from government sources.”<sup>62</sup>

**Figure 19: Immigrant and Canadian-born Females with Incomes below LICO by Family Attachment; City of Edmonton, Alberta, and Canada; 2000**



## 15. HEALTH OF IMMIGRANTS

“Research has revealed that immigrants, especially recent arrivals, enjoy better health than their Canadian-born counterparts.... These findings...are not surprising, given that healthier people self-select into the immigration process and candidates for immigration must meet health status criteria as stipulated in the Immigration Act.”<sup>63</sup>

A study<sup>64</sup> based on Statistics Canada’s cross-sectional 2000/01 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)<sup>65</sup> found (Table 18):

<sup>61</sup> Non-immigrant males aged 15 years and older received 8.3% of their total income from transfer payments.

<sup>62</sup> **Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report**, op. cit., p. 227.

<sup>63</sup> **Health Status and Health Behaviour Among Immigrants**, C. E. Pérez, Supplement to Health Reports, Volume 13, 2002, Statistics Canada, Catalogue 82-003, p. 91.

<sup>64</sup> **Ibid.**, pp. 89-100.

<sup>65</sup> CCHS’s sample consisted of 131,535 household respondents aged twelve or older, including 16,901 immigrants for whom time since immigration was known and representing almost 26 million Canadians.

- Overall, immigrants were healthier than non-immigrants. The prevalence of chronic conditions was 59.6% among the immigrant population, significantly lower than the 65.2% reported for the Canadian-born population.
- The prevalence of chronic conditions for immigrants increased with increased length of residence in Canada. “In fact, among both men and women, after adjustment for age, education, and income, the odds ratios for reporting a chronic condition, relative to non-immigrants, climbed steadily across groups with those who had resided in Canada the longest (30 years or more) being indistinguishable from their Canadian-born counterparts.”<sup>66</sup>
- The immigrant advantage for heart disease was apparent only after adjustment for age, education, and income.
- Before adjustment for age, education, and income, immigrants fared worse than the Canadian population for diabetes, high blood pressure, and cancer. After adjustment the odds were approximately the same for both populations.
- In addition, “patterns in health behaviours accounted for very few differences between immigrant and non-immigrant health.”<sup>67</sup>

•

A recent study<sup>68</sup> of the mental health of Canadian immigrants found:

- Of all respondents<sup>69</sup> to the CCHS of 2000/01, 7.9% reported symptoms suggesting at least one major depressive episode in the twelve months prior to the survey. The rate among immigrants (6.2%) was significantly lower than the rate among Canadian-born (8.3%).
- Only 0.5% of immigrants reported problems associated with alcohol dependency in the twelve months prior to the survey, compared to 2.5% for the Canadian-born population.<sup>70</sup>
- Recent immigrants reported the lowest rates of depression and alcohol dependency. The rates of both increased with length of stay in Canada.
- The lowest rates of depression in the past year were reported by Asian immigrants; the lowest rates of alcohol dependency were reported by African immigrants.
- Rates of depression and alcohol dependency were not affected by English or French proficiency, employment status, or sense of belonging.

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<sup>66</sup> **Health Status and Health Behaviour Among Immigrants**, op. cit., p. 91.

<sup>67</sup> **Ibid.**, p. 89.

<sup>68</sup> **Mental Health of Canada's Immigrants**, Jennifer Ali, Supplement of Health Reports, Volume 13, 2002, Statistics Canada, Catalogue 82-003, p. 101-111.

<sup>69</sup> Respondents were twelve years of age or older.

<sup>70</sup> The overall rate was 2.1%.



**Table 18: Prevalence of Selected Health Outcomes, by Sex and Years Since Immigration, Household Population Aged 12 or Older, Canada, 2000/01**

Condition by years since immigration	Prevalence (%)	Prevalence: males (%)	Prevalence: Females (%)
<b>All chronic conditions</b>			
All immigrants	59.6*	54.4*	64.7*
0-4 years	37.4*	33.8*	41.3*
5-9 years	42.7*	39.9*	45.4*
10-14 years	50.8*	43.4*	57.6*
15-19 years	55.0*	48.5*	61.5*
20-29 years	65.2	58.5	71.7
30+ years	78.2*	73.5*	82.7*
<b>Canadian-born</b>	<b>65.2</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>70.4</b>
<b>Heart disease</b>			
All immigrants	5.4*	5.6	5.1*
0-9 years	1.8* <sup>E1</sup>	1.4* <sup>E1</sup>	2.2* <sup>E1</sup>
10-19 years	2.3*	1.5* <sup>E1</sup>	3.0* <sup>E1</sup>
20-29 years	4.1	5.2 <sup>E1</sup>	3.2 <sup>E1</sup>
30+ years	11.0*	12.2*	9.9*
<b>Canadian-born</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Diabetes</b>			
All immigrants	5.0*	5.2*	4.8*
0-9 years	1.4*	1.6* <sup>E1</sup>	1.3* <sup>E1</sup>
10-19 years	3.1	2.8 <sup>E1</sup>	3.4 <sup>E1</sup>
20-29 years	5.8*	6.0 <sup>E1</sup>	5.7
30+ years	8.7*	9.4*	8.1*
<b>Canadian-born</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>
<b>High blood pressure</b>			
All immigrants	15.2*	13.8*	16.5*
0-9 years	5.9*	5.6*	6.2*
10-19 years	8.5*	7.4*	9.5*
20-29 years	15.6*	15.8*	15.4
30+ years	27.2*	24.2*	30.2*
<b>Canadian-born</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>13.2</b>
<b>Cancer</b>			
All immigrants	1.9	2.1*	1.8
0-9 years	0.5* <sup>E2</sup>	--F	--F
10-19 years	0.9* <sup>E2</sup>	--F	0.7* <sup>E2</sup>
20-29 years	0.8* <sup>E2</sup>	--F	1.4 <sup>E2</sup>
30+ years	4.3*	4.6*	4.1*
<b>Canadian-born</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.8</b>

Source: Health Status and Health Behaviour Among Immigrants, p. 91.

\* means significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ ).

E1 means coefficient of variation between 16.6% and 25.0%

E2 means coefficient of variation between 25.1% and 33.3%

F means coefficient of variation greater than 33.3%, estimate suppressed.

## 16. IMMIGRANT SENIORS

“More research on this population is required, as is new knowledge about the impact of ethnicity on the aging process, and its implications for health and well-being, the particular needs of ethnic minority seniors and the development of appropriate responses to these needs.”<sup>71</sup>

In 2001, Edmonton CMA had a population of 92,100 seniors. Of that number, 66.5% were born in Canada, 33.3% immigrated to Canada, and 0.2 % were non-permanent residents (Table 19).

<b>Table 19: Seniors' Population by Immigrant Status, Edmonton CMA, 2001</b>		
	<b>Population</b>	<b>%</b>
Total population	92,100	100.0%
Non-immigrant population	61,225	66.5%
Born in Alberta	38,425	41.7%
Born outside Alberta	22,800	24.8%
<b>Immigrant population</b>	<b>30,635</b>	<b>33.3%</b>
Non-permanent residents	235	0.2%

Source: **Statistics Canada**, 2001 Census.

<b>Table 20: Immigrant Seniors' Population, Place of Origin, Edmonton CMA, 2001</b>		
	<b>Population</b>	<b>%</b>
Total Immigrant Population	30,635	100.0%
Americas	2,085	6.8%
United States	1,140	3.7%
Central and South America	555	1.8%
Caribbean and Bermuda	390	1.3%
Europe	19,915	65.0%
United Kingdom	4,595	15.0%
Other Northern and Western Europe	6,150	20.1%
Eastern Europe	6,435	21.0%
Southern Europe	2,740	8.9%
Africa	515	1.7%
Asia	7,895	25.8%
West Central Asia and the Middle East	415	1.4%
Eastern Asia	4,090	13.3%
South-East Asia	1,900	6.2%
Southern Asia	1,490	4.9%
Oceania and other	240	0.8%

Source: **Statistics Canada**, 2001 Census.

<sup>71</sup> **Seniors on the Margins: Seniors from Ethnocultural Minorities**, National Advisory Council on Aging, Government of Canada, 2005, p. 18.

Table 20 shows that in 2001, 65.0% of Edmonton CMA's immigrant population originated in Europe, 25.8% in Asia, and the remaining 9.2% in the United States, Central and South America, Caribbean and Bermuda, Africa, and Oceania and other.

Figure 20 shows that the majority of immigrants in Edmonton CMA immigrated prior to 1961 (52.5%). Only 8.4% immigrated from 1991 to 2001.

**Figure 20: Seniors' Period of Immigration, Edmonton CMA, 2001**

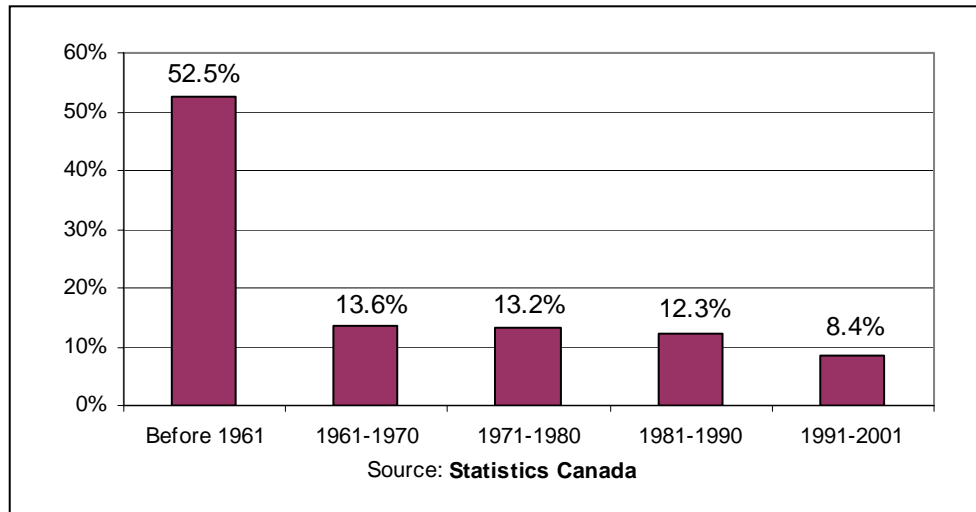
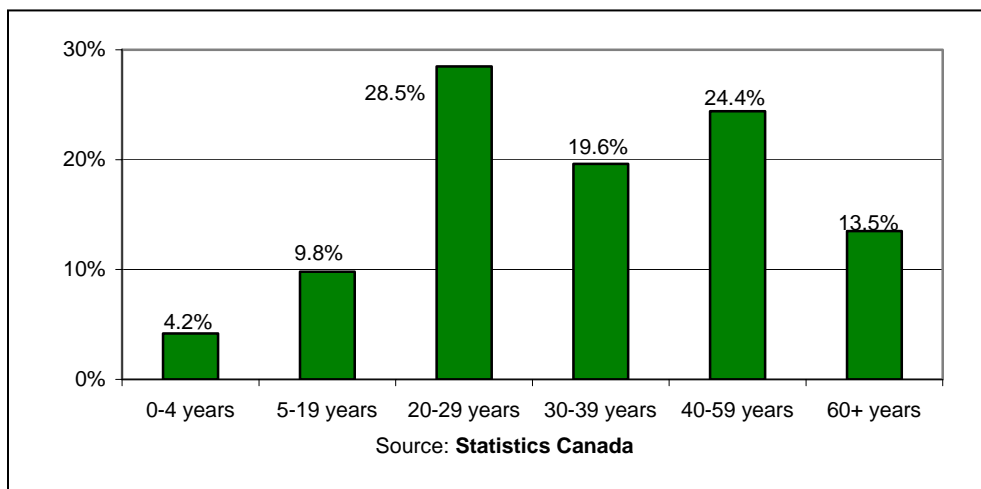


Figure 21 shows that over a quarter (28.5%) of Edmonton CMA's immigrant population immigrated at 20 to 29 years of age. Only 13.5% immigrated at 60 years or older.

**Figure 21: Edmonton CMA's Immigrant Population at Age of Immigration, 2001**



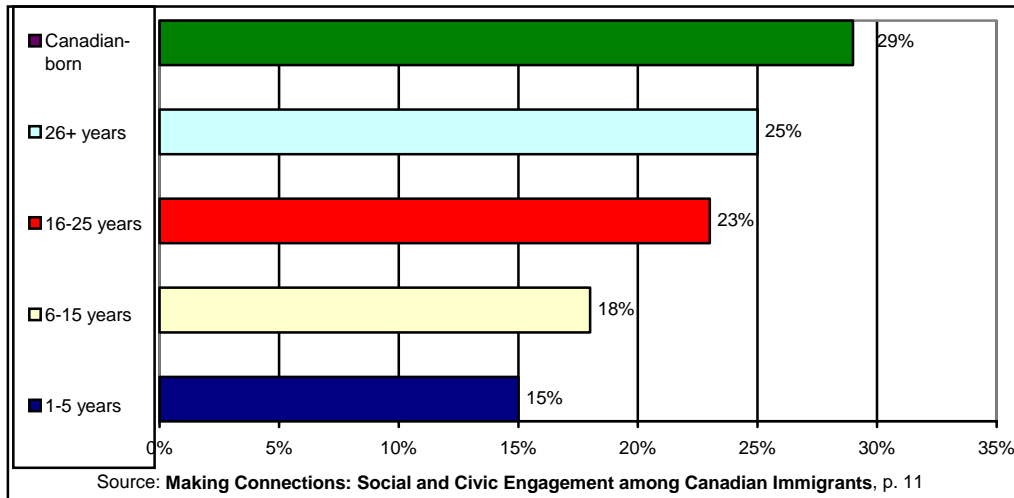
## 17. IMMIGRANTS AND CIVIC/SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT<sup>72</sup>

“...the concept of volunteering is not common across cultures. To people who have lived under repressive regimes, volunteering may be viewed with suspicion and fear. For others, associating with community members by shaking hands or making eye contact may be discouraged. For some people, volunteering is identified as an activity of the economically privileged. As well, the issue of unpaid work may be problematic for some, particularly those who can not find paid employment and may resent being asked to volunteer in order to qualify for social support.”<sup>73</sup>

According to the 2003 **General Social Survey (GSS)**, 29% of immigrants volunteered that year for non-profit or charitable organizations. “This represents an increase from 2000, when 21% of immigrants surveyed in the National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (NSGVP) said they volunteered. Among Canadian-born respondents, roughly one-third (35%) volunteered, up from 29% in the 2000 NSGVP).”<sup>74</sup>

Figure 22 shows that in 2000, immigrants who had lived longer in Canada were more likely to volunteer than recent arrivals. Of the immigrant population aged 15 years or older, 15% of those living less than six years in Canada volunteered, compared to 25% of those living in Canada for 26 years or longer. Of the Canadian-born population aged 15 years or older, 29% volunteered.

**Figure 22: Volunteer Rate by Length of Time in Canada, Immigrants and Canadian-born Aged 15 Years and Older, Canada, 2000**



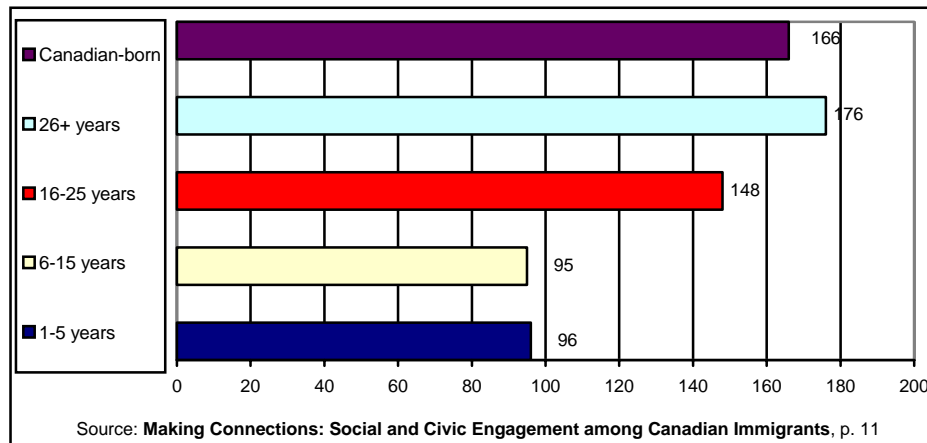
<sup>72</sup> In this section, “social and civic engagement is broadly described as ‘the active connections between people that foster mutual respect and facilitate cooperative action.’” (See: **Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants**, K. Scott, K. Selbee, and P. Reed, Canadian Council on Social Development, 2006, p. 2.)

<sup>73</sup> **Ibid.**, p. 7.

<sup>74</sup> **Ibid.**, p. 10.

Table 23 shows the average number of hours volunteered in 2000 by immigrants and Canadian-born individuals aged 15 years and older. Canadian-born volunteers contributed an average of 166 hours while the average number of hours contributed by immigrants varied with length of residence in Canada.<sup>75</sup> Immigrants living less than six years in Canada averaged 96 volunteer hours, compared to 176 hours contributed by immigrants living in Canada for 26 years or longer.

**Figure 23: Average Number of Hours Volunteered, Immigrants and Canadian-born Aged 15 Years and Older, Canada, 2000**



“Immigrants volunteered a total of 98.8 billion hours in 2000 – the equivalent of over 50,000 full-time jobs.<sup>76</sup> This represents almost 10% of the over one billion hours that all Canadians volunteered that year.”<sup>77</sup>

Table 21 shows that 30% of immigrants volunteered an average of 139 hours in 2000 with religious organizations while 23% volunteered an average of 144 hours with organizations involved with culture, sports, and recreation. In addition, 9% of immigrants volunteered an average of 141 hours to organizations involved with development and housing.

Canadian-born volunteers followed a slightly different pattern, 37% contributed an average of 140 hours to organizations involved with culture, sports, and recreation while 32% volunteered an average of 128 hours with social service organizations. “Roughly two-thirds of immigrants who volunteered did so with one organization; by contrast, Canadian-born volunteers were slightly more likely to donate their time to more than one organization.”<sup>78</sup>

<sup>75</sup> Note that the average number of hours donated by all immigrant volunteers was 144 hours.

<sup>76</sup> Full-job equivalents are based on a 40-hour week, 48 weeks per year.

<sup>77</sup> Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants, op. cit., p. 11

<sup>78</sup> Ibid..

**Table 21: Volunteer Rate and Average Number of Hours Volunteered by Type of Organization, Immigrants and Canadian-born Aged 15 Years and Older, Canada, 2000<sup>79</sup>**

	Immigrants		Canadian-born	
	% who volunteered	Average hours	% who volunteered	Average hours
Culture, sports, and recreation	23	144	37	140
Education and research	16	95	21	92
Health	18	75	20	88
Social services	21	69	32	128
Environment	*	*	5	109
Development and housing	9	141	8	104
Law, advocacy, and politics	10	96	5	128
Philanthropic intermediaries and voluntarism	*	*	3	62
International	*	*	1	135
Religion	30	139	21	124
Business and professional association, unions	*	*	4	103
Other	*	*	2	127

Source: **Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants**, p. 11

\* Results suppressed due to small sample size.

Table 22 shows that 21% of Canadian immigrants aged 15 years and older volunteered an average of 144 hours in 2000, compared to 29% of Canadian-born volunteers who donated an average of 166 hours. The volunteer rate for immigrants varied from 21% in Ontario to 29% in the Prairies; the number of volunteer hours contributed per annum was relatively constant throughout all regions of Canada at 144.

The volunteer rate for the Canadian-born population varied from 20% in Quebec to 41% in the Prairies. The average number of volunteer hours per annum varied from 142 hours in the Prairies to 195 hours in the Atlantic Region.

**Table 22: Volunteer Rate and Average Hours Volunteered by Region, Immigrants and Canadian-born Aged 15 Years and Older, Canada, 2000**

	Sub-Heading		Sub-Heading	
	Volunteer Rate (%)	Average hours	Volunteer Rate (%)	Average hours
Atlanta	*	*	32	195
Quebec	*	*	20	162
Ontario	21	144	28	173
Prairies	29	144	41	142
British Columbia	23	143	29	176
<b>Average</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>166</b>

Source: **Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants**, p. 12.

<sup>79</sup> Respondents could select up to three organizations.

\* Results suppressed due to small sample size

Table 23 shows that in 2000, both immigrant and Canadian-born volunteers aged 15 years and older responded similarly to why they volunteered. Well over 90% of both populations volunteered to help ‘a cause in which you believe’ (93% of immigrant volunteers and 95% of Canadian volunteers, respectively). In addition, 76% of immigrant volunteers and 82% of Canadian-born volunteers listed their motivation to volunteer as to ‘use your skills and experience.’

<b>Table 23: Reasons Given for Volunteering, Immigrant and Canadian-born Volunteers Aged 15 Years and Older, Canada, 2000</b>		
	<b>Immigrants (%)</b>	<b>Canadian-born (%)</b>
Helping cause in which you believe	93	95
Use your skills and experiences	76	82
Personally affected by cause organization supports	67	69
Explore your own strengths	54	58
Fulfill your religious obligations	35	25
Because your friends volunteer	28	30
Improve your job opportunities	17	24
Required to volunteer by school	*	8

Source: **Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants**, p.16.

\* Results suppressed due to small sample size.

“One marked difference in the motivations of immigrants and Canadian-born respondents was in regard to religious observation. A larger proportion of immigrant volunteers said they did so ‘to fulfill [their] religious obligations’ – 35% compared to 25% among Canadian-born volunteers.”<sup>80</sup>

Table 24 shows that both immigrants and Canadian born non-volunteers reported the same barriers to volunteering. The biggest obstacle expressed by 74% of immigrant non-volunteers and 69% of Canadian born non-volunteers was ‘lack of extra time.’

<b>Table 24: Barriers to Volunteering, Immigrants and Canadian-born Non-volunteers Aged 15 Years and older, Canada, 2000</b>		
	<b>Immigrants (%)</b>	<b>Canadian-born (%)</b>
Do not have any extra time	74	69
Unwilling to make year-round commitment	45	47
Give money instead of time	42	38
No one you know has personally asked you	42	36
Do not know how to become involved	33	18
Have no interest	26	24
Feel you have already made contribution to volunteering	22	21
Have health problems or physically unable	22	24
Financial cost of volunteering	21	19
Concerned that you could be sued, etc.	11	7
Dissatisfied with previous volunteer experiences	10	8

Source: **Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants**, p. 17.

<sup>80</sup> **Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants**, op. cit., p. 16

In addition, 33% of immigrant non-volunteers and 18% of Canadian-born volunteers reported lack of knowledge of ‘how to become involved.’

“According to the 2000 NSGVP, a majority of immigrants said volunteering provided them with increased interpersonal skills (79%), communication skills (67%), substantial knowledge (64%), and managerial skills (58%). Recent immigrants, in particular, identified building substantial knowledge and enhancing managerial skills as two key benefits they received from volunteering.”<sup>81</sup>

## 18. IMMIGRANTS AND CITIZENSHIP

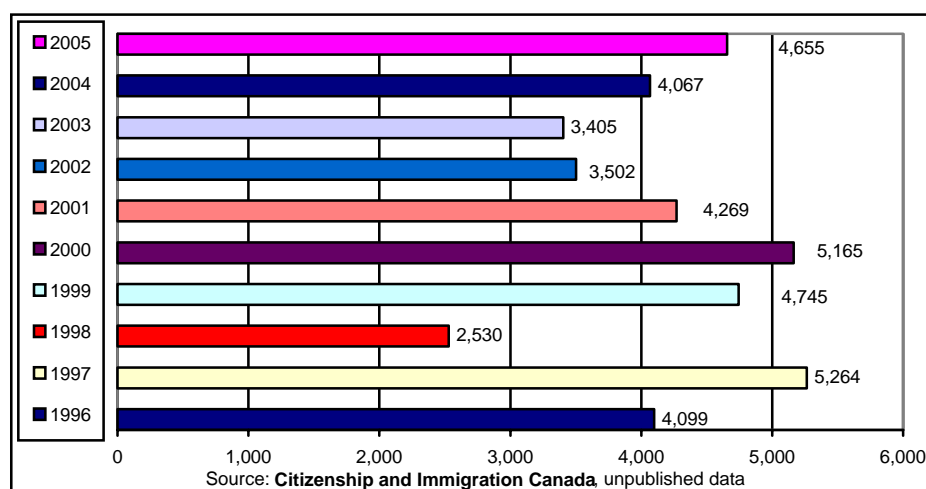
Table 25 shows that according to the 2005 Edmonton municipal census, only 39,700 Edmontonians (5.6%) were not Canadian citizens.

<b>Table 25: Percentage of Non-Canadian Citizens, City of Edmonton, 2005</b>		
	<b>Population</b>	<b>%</b>
Total Edmonton population	712,391	100.0
Canadian Citizen	672,691	94.4
Non-Canadian Citizen	39,700	5.6

Source: **City of Edmonton Municipal Census Comparison: 1999 Census vs. 2005 Census**, June 30, 2005, p. 3.

Figure 24 shows that 41,701 permanent residents in Edmonton became Canadian citizens in the ten years from 1996 to 2005. The largest number of permanent residents (5,264) became citizens in 1997; the smallest number (2,530) in 1998.

**Figure 24: Number of New Permanent Residents Who Became Citizens, City of Edmonton, 1996 to 2005**



<sup>81</sup> **Ibid.**, p. 18.



During this same period, 44,165 new permanent residents arrived in Canada (see Table 3, page 4). This means that from 1996 to 2005, the average number of new permanent residents to Edmonton was 4,416, while the average number of permanent residents becoming citizens per annum was 4,170 (94.4%). This shows that most Edmonton permanent residents become citizens.

Overall, Canadian female immigrants are slightly less likely than Canadian male immigrants to become Canadian citizens.

“By 2001, 83% of all foreign-born women living in Canada who were eligible to apply for citizenship had done so, compared with 85% of all eligible immigrant men. Among recent immigrants, though, eligible women (58%) were about as likely as men (57%) to have obtained Canadian citizenship by 2001.”<sup>82</sup>

Table 26 shows that 77% of the Canadian-born population aged 15 years and older reported voting in the November 2000 federal election.<sup>83</sup> Note that 55% of immigrants living in Canada for 6 to 15 years reported voting while 82% of immigrants living in Canada for 26+ years reported voting.

<b>Table 26: Voting Rate by Length of Time in Canada, Immigrants and Canadian-born Aged 15 Years and Older, 2000</b>	
<b>Length of time in Canada</b>	<b>Voting Rate (%)</b>
1 to 5 years <sup>84</sup>	*
6 to 15 years	55
16 to 25 years	72
26+ years	82
<b>Canadian-born</b>	<b>77</b>

Source: **Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants**, p. 36.

\* Results suppressed due to small sample size.

“In 2003, the impact of tenure in Canada was even more pronounced. The voting rate was 5% among immigrants who had lived in Canada for less than six years, 43% among those who had lived here for six to 15 years, 67 among those living here for 16 to 25 years, and 80% among those who had lived in Canada for over 25 years.”<sup>85</sup>

<sup>82</sup> **Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report**, op. cit., p. 217.

<sup>83</sup> Compared to 60% of all immigrants.

<sup>84</sup> Only Canadian citizens are allowed to vote in federal, provincial and municipal elections. All immigrants must wait a minimum of three years before applying for citizenship.

<sup>85</sup> **Making Connections: Social and Civic Engagement among Canadian Immigrants**, op. cit., p. 36.

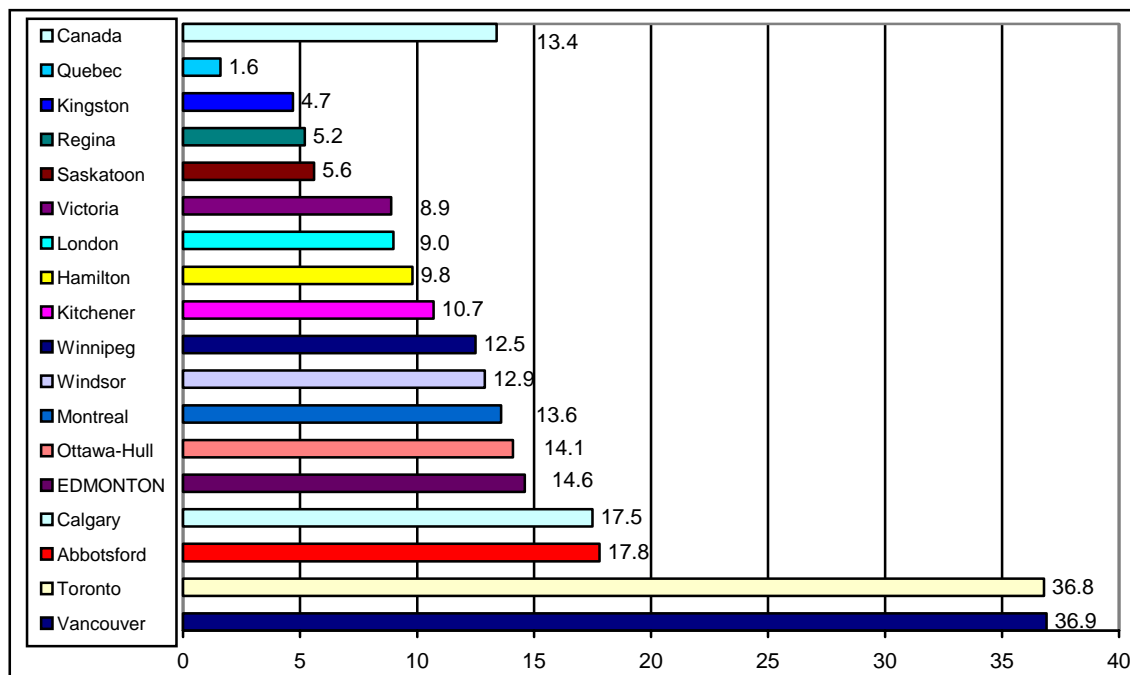
## B. VISIBLE MINORITIES<sup>86</sup>

### 19. DEMOGRAPHICS OF VISIBLE MINORITIES

“Edmonton had the fifth highest proportion of visible minorities among census metropolitan areas, behind Vancouver, Toronto, Abbotsford and Calgary. One in five persons in the City of Edmonton were visible minorities. About 4% or less of the populations in the other municipalities within the Edmonton metropolitan area was comprised of visible minorities.”<sup>87</sup>

Figure 25 shows the percentage of visible minorities in selected Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs), compared to the Canadian average of 13.4%.

**Figure 25: Percentage of Visible Minorities, Selected Census Metropolitan Areas, 2001**



Source: 2001 Census: Analysis Series, p. 59

<sup>86</sup> The 2001 Census provides information on the characteristics of people in Canada who are members of a visible minority, as defined by the *Employment Equity Act*. The Act defines visible minorities as “persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.” Under this definition, regulations specify the following groups as visible minorities: Chinese, South Asians Blacks, Arabs, West Asians, Filipinos, Southeast Asians, Latin Americans, Japanese, Koreans, and other visible minority groups, such as Pacific Islanders.

<sup>87</sup> **Canada’s Ethnocultural Portrait: the Changing Mosaic**, op. cit., p. 33.

Of the CMAs in Figure 25, Vancouver reported the highest percentage of visible minorities (36.9%), followed by Toronto (36.8%), and Abbotsford (17.8%). Calgary CMA had a slightly larger visible minority population than Edmonton CMA (17.5% versus 14.6%, respectively). Quebec CMA had the smallest visible minorities population (1.6%), followed by Kingston (4.7%).

Table 27 shows that in 2001 the overall proportion of visible minorities in Canada was 13.4%, a steady increase from 11.2% in 1996, 9.4% in 1991, and 4.7% in 1981.

“The visible minority population is growing much faster than the total population. Between 1996 and 2001, the total population increased 4%, while the visible minority population rose 25%, six times faster. Between 1991 and 1996, the total population increased 6%, while the visible minority population rose 27%.<sup>88</sup>

Alberta’s proportion was 11.2%,<sup>89</sup> a gradual increase from 10.1% in 1996 and 9.4% in 1991.

<b>Table 27: Proportion of Visible Minorities, Canada, Provinces, and Territories, 1991, 1996, and 2001</b>			
	<b>1991</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>2001</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.8	0.7	0.8
Prince Edward Island	1.0	1.1	0.9
Nova Scotia	3.4	3.5	3.8
New Brunswick	1.2	1.1	1.3
Quebec	5.6	6.2	7.0
Ontario	13.0	15.8	19.1
Manitoba	6.9	7.0	7.9
Saskatchewan	2.6	2.8	2.9
Alberta	9.4	10.1	11.2
British Columbia	14.2	17.9	21.6
Yukon Territory	2.7	3.3	3.6
Northwest Territories	3.5	3.8	4.2
Nunavut	0.9	0.6	0.8
<b>CANADA</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>13.4</b>

Source: *Canada’s Ethnocultural Portrait: The Changing Mosaic*, p. 48.

In 2001, British Columbia had the highest proportion of visible minorities among the provinces and territories (21.6%),<sup>90</sup> followed by Ontario (19.1%);<sup>91</sup> Newfoundland and Labrador and Nunavut shared the lowest proportion (0.8%).

<sup>88</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 10.

<sup>89</sup> The highest proportions of visible minorities in Alberta in 2001 were Chinese (3.4% of the provincial population) South Asians (2.4%), and Filipinos (1.2%).

<sup>90</sup> The highest proportions of visible minorities in British Columbia in 2001 were Chinese (9.4% of the provincial population), South Asians (5.4%), and Filipinos (1.7%).

“The majority of the nearly 4 million visible minorities in Canada in 2001 lived in either Ontario or British Columbia, reflecting the overall settlement pattern of immigrants to Canada. While Ontario and British Columbia contained one-half of Canada’s total population, they accounted for three-quarters of the visible minority population.”<sup>92</sup>

Table 28 shows that of the twenty-five municipalities with 5,000+ having the highest proportions of visible minorities in 2001, eighteen are in British Columbia or Ontario; the remaining seven are in Quebec. Richmond (B.C.) reports the highest proportion (59%), followed by Markham (Ont.) at 55.5% and Vancouver (B.C.) at 49.0%. Saint-Laurent was the Quebec municipality with over 5,000 population that had the highest proportion of visible minorities (38.2%).

**Table 28: The 25 Canadian Municipalities with 5,000+ Population with the Highest Proportion of Visible Minorities, 2001**

Municipality	Total Population	Visible Minorities	
	Number	Number	%
Richmond (B.C.)	163,395	96,385	59.0
Markham (Ont.)	207,940	115,480	55.5
Vancouver (B.C.)	539,630	264,495	49.0
Burnaby (B.C.)	191,385	93,065	48.6
Greater Vancouver A (B.C.)	7,810	3,400	43.5
Toronto (Ont.)	2,456,800	1,051,125	42.8
Richmond Hill (Ont.)	131,600	53,185	40.4
Mississauga (Ont.)	610,815	246,325	40.3
Brampton (Ont.)	324,390	130,275	40.2
Saint-Laurent (Que.)	76,605	29,255	38.2
Surrey (B.C.)	345,780	127,015	36.7
Coquitlam (B.C.)	111,425	38,190	34.3
Brossard (Que.)	64,655	17,880	27.7
Pickering (Ont.)	86,685	22,910	26.4
Dollard-des-Ormeaux (Que.)	47,850	12,430	26.0
Pierrefonds (Que.)	54,310	13,995	25.8
New Westminster (B.C.)	53,805	13,415	24.9
Ajax (Ont.)	73,520	17,875	24.3
Montréal-Nord (Que.)	82,260	19,325	23.5
Delta (B.C.)	96,365	22,505	23.4
Montréal (Que.)	1,019,735	231,760	22.7
North Vancouver (City) (B.C.)	43,930	9,950	22.6
Port Coquitlam (B.C.)	50,800	11,335	22.3
Saint-Léonard (Que.)	69,510	14,450	20.8
Port Moody (B.C.)	23,735	4,905	20.7

Source: **Canada’s Ethnocultural Portrait: The Changing Mosaic**, p. 60.

Figure 26 shows that the percentage of visible minorities in Edmonton CMA increased from 12.7% of the total population in 1991 to 14.6% in 2001. The

<sup>91</sup> The highest proportions of visible minorities in Ontario in 2001 were South Asians (4.9% of the provincial population) Chinese (4.3%) and Blacks (3.6%).

<sup>92</sup> **Canada’s Ethnocultural Portrait: The Changing Mosaic**, op. cit., p. 18.

percentage of visible minorities in Edmonton CMA in 2001 was greater than that of both Canada (13.4%) and Alberta (11.2%).

**Figure 26: Percentage of Visible Minorities, Edmonton CMA, 2001, 1996, and 1991**

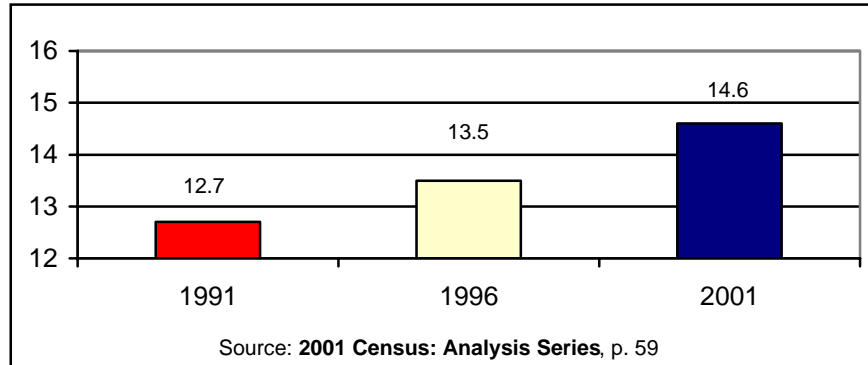


Table 29 shows that the City of Edmonton's visible minority population in 2001 was 19.7%. The largest visible minority population was Chinese (6.1% of total municipal population), followed by South Asian (4.2%), and Black and Filipino (both 2.0%).

**Table 29: Percentage of Visible Minorities, City of Edmonton, 2001**

	Population	%
Visible minority population	129,335	19.7
Chinese	39,860	6.1
South Asian	27,845	4.2
Black	12,920	2.0
Filipino	13,100	2.0
Latin American	7,265	1.1
Southeast Asian	9,435	1.4
Arab	8,760	1.3
West Asian	1,645	0.3
Korean	2,725	0.4
Japanese	1,590	0.3
Visible minority, n.i.e. <sup>93</sup>	1,530	0.2
Multiple visible minorities <sup>94</sup>	2,665	0.4
All others	528,025	80.3
<b>Total Edmonton population</b>	<b>657,355</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, Community Profiles, City of Edmonton, p. 3.

<sup>93</sup> According to Statistics Canada, n.i.e. refers to "visible minority not included elsewhere. Includes respondents who reported a single write-in response indicating a Pacific Islander group (e.g., *Fijian* or *Polynesian*) or another single write-in response likely to be a visible minority group (e.g., *Guyanese*, *West Indian*)."

<sup>94</sup> Includes respondents who reported more than one visible minority group by checking two or more mark-in circles, e.g., "Black" and "South Asian."

Statistics Canada reported in 2001 that 73% of immigrants arriving in Canada in the 1990s were members of visible minority groups. Overall, however, three out of every ten members of visible minority groups in Canada were Canadian-born.<sup>95</sup>

“If recent immigration trends continue, the visible minority population will continue to grow rapidly over the next couple of decades. Projections show that by 2016, visible minorities will account for one-fifth of Canada’s population.”<sup>96</sup>

## **20. MARRIAGE AND VISIBLE MINORITIES**

“In Canada, most people marry or live common-law with individuals from the same ethnic or cultural group. However, with the growing cultural diversity of Canada, an increased number of relationships involve individuals from different groups.”<sup>97</sup>

CIC reported in **Canada’s Ethnocultural Portrait: The Changing Mosaic** the following statistics regarding “mixed unions.”<sup>98</sup>

- There were 217,500 mixed unions involving a visible minority individual with a non-visible minority individual or an individual from a different minority group in Canada in 2001. This number represented an increase of 30% over the number of 1991 mixed unions (compared to an increase of only 10% for all unions).
- Mixed unions represented 3.1% of all unions in Canada in 2001.
- The most common mixed unions were between blacks and non-visible minority individuals; the second most common, between Chinese and non-visible minority individuals.
- Persons living in certain CMAs (e.g., Vancouver and Toronto) were more likely to be in mixed unions than persons from smaller communities.

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<sup>95</sup> **Canada’s Ethnocultural Portrait: The Changing Mosaic**, op. cit., p.10.

<sup>96</sup> **Ibid.**, p. 11.

<sup>97</sup> **Ibid.**, p. 12.

<sup>98</sup> Refers to marriages and common-law unions.

## 21. VISIBLE MINORITY YOUTH

A study, originating from the Research Data Centres Program, found that visible-minority youth who are immigrants have higher educational aspirations than Canadian-born non-visible minority youth, probably resulting from the educational values promoted by their families.<sup>99</sup>

“...79% of visible-minority immigrant youth aspired to obtain at least one university degree in their future, compared with 57% of Canadian-born non-visible minority students.... About 88% of visible-minority immigrant parents stated that they hoped their children would acquire a university education, while 59% of Canadian-born non-visible minority parents expressed the same goal for their children. Visible-minority immigrant students also attend to report higher grades and have higher levels of school engagement than Canadian-born students.”<sup>100</sup>

## 22. VISIBLE MINORITY SENIORS

Table 30 shows that Edmonton CMA reported that 10.5% of seniors were from visible minorities in 2001. The largest visible minority was Chinese (47.8%), followed by South Asian (20.6%) and Filipino (7.8%).

<b>Table 30: Seniors' Visible Minority Population, Edmonton CMA, 2001</b>		
	<b>Population</b>	<b>% Visible Minority Population</b>
Total visible minority population	9,640	100.0%
Chinese	4,610	47.8%
South Asian	1,990	20.6%
Black	580	6.0%
Filipino	750	7.8%
Latin American	265	2.8%
Southeast Asian	465	4.8%
Arab	300	3.1%
West Asian	65	0.7%
Korean	135	1.4%
Japanese	175	1.8%
Visible minority, n.i.e.	165	1.7%
Multiple visible minorities	145	1.5%

Source: **Statistics Canada**, 2001 Census.

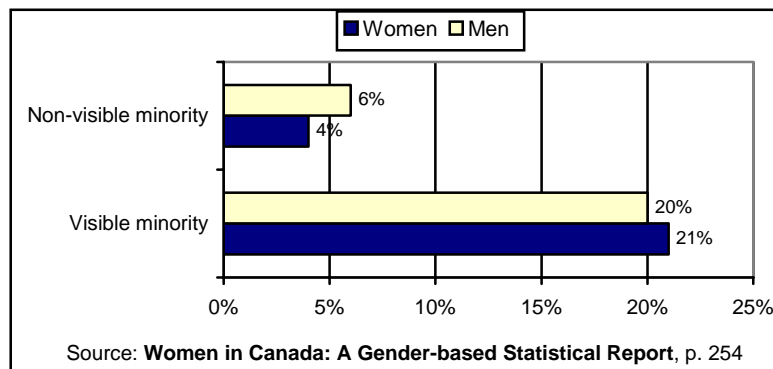
<sup>99</sup> **The Daily**, Study: The High Educational Aspirations of Visible Minority Youth, Tuesday, April 4, 2006.

<sup>100</sup> **Ibid.**

## 23. DISCRIMINATION AND VISIBLE MINORITIES

Figure 27 shows that in 2002, discrimination in Canada (or unfair treatment because of ethnicity, culture, race, skin colour, language, accent, or religion) was experienced more by visible minority women and men aged 15 years and older (20% and 21%, respectively) than by non-visible minority women and men aged 15 years and older (4% and 6%, respectively).

**Figure 27: Percentages of Women and Men Aged 15 Years and Older Experiencing Discrimination, by Visible Minority Status, Canada, 2002**



In 2002, visible minority women were more likely than visible minority men to report discrimination in the workplace or when being served by a restaurant, bank or store. Visible minority men were more likely than visible minority women to report discrimination from the justice system. Both visible minority men and women reported approximately the same amount of discrimination from the school system or on the street.<sup>101</sup>

<sup>101</sup> *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, op. cit., p. 255.



## C. FOREIGN STUDENTS

### 24. DEMOGRAPHICS

“The federal government has committed to making Canada a destination of choice for talented foreign students. International students enrich the learning environment within Canadian educational institutions and represent an important source of income for Canadian schools. International students who enter Canada on temporary visas may also be an important source of future immigrants in the skilled worker category since they are well prepared for the Canadian labour market.”<sup>102</sup>

Table 31 shows that 56,529 international students received new student permits in 2004. This figure represents a 6% decrease from the 60,212 new student permits accorded in 2003 and “stems primarily from legislative and policy changes intended to expedite the entry of qualified foreign students.”<sup>103</sup>

<b>Table 31: Comparison of the Number of New Study Permits for International Students, 2003 and 2004</b>			
<b>Level of study</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Secondary or less	14,393	14,110	-2%
Trade	10,027	8,152	-19%
University	22,603	21,697	-4%
Other post-secondary	8,316	7,647	-8%
Other	4,873	4,923	1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60,212</b>	<b>56,529</b>	<b>-6%</b>

Source: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/monitor/issue09/04-students.html>

Table 32 shows that the largest percentage of international students came from South Korea (21.8%), followed by the People's Republic of China (12.4%). These countries plus remaining top ten countries of origin (Japan, United States, France, Mexico, Germany, Taiwan, India, and the United Kingdom) provided 70.5% of Canada's 2004 international students.

<sup>102</sup> Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration 2005, op. cit., p. 31.

<sup>103</sup> Ibid..

**Table 32: Number of New Study Permits for International Students by Top Ten Countries of Origin, 2004**

Country of last permanent residence	Rank <sup>104</sup>	Number	%
South Korea	1 (1)	12,298	21.8
China, People's Republic of	2 (2)	6,985	12.4
Japan	3 (3)	4,866	8.6
United States	4 (4)	3,807	6.7
France	5 (5)	3,481	6.2
Mexico	6 (6)	2,107	3.7
Germany	7 (8)	1,756	3.1
Taiwan	8 (9)	1,747	3.1
India	9 (7)	1,586	2.8
United Kingdom	10 (11)	1,206	2.1
<b>Total - top ten only</b>		<b>39,839</b>	<b>70.5</b>
<b>Total - other countries</b>		<b>16,690</b>	<b>29.5</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>56,529</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/monitor/issue09/04-students.html>

In 2004, 33.8% of foreign students attended schools in Ontario; 32.5% attended schools in British Columbia; 16.6%, in Quebec; and 7.3% in Alberta. The remaining 9.8% of foreign students were distributed among the other six provinces and the territories. Of the 4,123 foreign students in Alberta, 47.9% settled in Calgary; 32.5%, in Edmonton; and 19.6% in other Alberta locations.

<sup>104</sup> Number in parenthesis represents 2003 rank.

## D. RESPONSES TO IMMIGRANT ISSUES

### 25. CITY OF EDMONTON

As noted in Section 2 (Edmonton's Immigrant Population, p. 3), above, over the last fifteen years the number of immigrants to the City of Edmonton and Edmonton CMA has been gradually decreasing. At the same time, the number of job opportunities and prospective job opportunities in Alberta's capital has been rapidly increasing. As a result in April 2005, Edmonton City Council requested "the Prairie Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Integration at the University of Alberta provide information/research on the attraction and retention of immigrants to Edmonton."<sup>105</sup> The product of the data collection, **The Attraction and Retention of Immigrants to Edmonton**,<sup>106</sup> was presented to City Council in November 2005.

The report highlighted that while immigrants are attracted to communities with good employment opportunities, other factors are also important. The presence of individuals with the same or similar cultural background helps integration into the community. In addition, well-resourced settlement agencies to help newcomers learn English, to assist with job training and retraining, and to provide information about health, social, and community services are essential supports to the attraction and retention of Edmonton immigrants.

Employment barriers for newcomers include credentials that are not recognized in Canada, lack of experience in the Canadian workforce, and unfamiliarity with the informal networks used to locate good jobs. The cost and scarcity of housing in a strong economy can also create difficulties for newcomers.

In order for Edmonton to be "a culturally diverse city where people choose to live, learn, work and play", and 'a welcoming city where citizens take pride in their community and in contributions to its quality of life,'"<sup>107</sup> Edmonton City Council approved dollars in April 2006 to undertake a number of initiatives, including:

- Preparing an inventory of City of Edmonton information (print and electronic) currently available to the public in languages other than English to determine what needs to be developed.

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<sup>105</sup> **Immigration and Settlement Initiative Report – University of Alberta Study**, City Council's Special Initiatives, File: 2006CLR002, discussed at Edmonton's City Council April 19, 2006, Executive Committee Meeting, p. 1.

<sup>106</sup> **The Attraction and Retention of Immigrants to Edmonton**, op. cit..

<sup>107</sup> **Immigration and Settlement Initiative Report – University of Alberta Study**, op. cit., p. 4.

- Exploring the production of a **Newcomer's Guide to Services in Edmonton** in other appropriate languages.
- Planning a public awareness campaign to bring public attention to Edmonton's cultural diversity and the contributions made by immigrants to Edmonton's social, cultural, and economic life.
- Working with Edmonton Economic Development Corporation (EEDC) to produce a video in different languages for use by those new to Edmonton, as well as those considering immigration to Edmonton.
- Developing an immigrant internship program to assist immigrants in gaining Canadian employment experience.
- Planning the development of "a multi-cultural facility for emergent immigrant communities that is capable of housing: appropriate space for programs and meetings organized and coordinated by emergent immigrants/ethno-cultural groups; an African Centre, organized and coordinated by Edmonton-based African groups; and a 'Welcome to the City of Edmonton Office' staffed by the City to provide information on the city and assist with referral to immigrant services."<sup>108</sup>

## **26. IMMIGRANT SENIORS' ORGANIZATIONS**

Other groups and organizations are also working with immigrants to assist their integration into the Edmonton community. For example, the Multicultural Health Brokers Co-Operative received a grant from the federal program, New Horizons for Seniors, to initiate a participatory action research project to work with four immigrant and refugee seniors' communities. So far, the project has fostered collaboration between mainstream senior serving organizations, and ethnocultural community organizations to address the needs and barriers of immigrant senior populations. In addition, Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton (**SAGE**), formerly the Society for the Retired and Semi-Retired and Action for Healthy Communities provided support to the project and helped create mutual awareness of services for seniors and the issues facing isolated immigrant and refugee seniors.

The United Way of the Alberta Capital Region is now providing funding to **SAGE** to work with the Multicultural Health Brokers to continue reaching out to isolated immigrant and refugee seniors.

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<sup>108</sup> **Special Initiative on Immigration and Settlement: Priority Recommendations**, Report 2006CLR002, Attachment 1, p. 7.

## **27. IMMIGRANT PROFESSIONAL TRAINING (QUEBEC)**

The Globe and Mail recently reported that the Province of Quebec tabled a bill to allow more immigrants to practice their professions (e.g. doctors, nurses, engineers) while protecting professional standards.<sup>109</sup> Up to now, only 35% of immigrants trained in professions outside Quebec have received unconditional permits to practice in the province; the remaining 65% have either had to meet stiff requirements or been rejected.

The bill would request each professional order to establish three levels of requirements under which immigrants could practice in Quebec (instead of the current single level). Each professional order would decide who would receive which type of permit. The requirements would also extend to certain categories of professionals from other provinces. All immigrants seeking permits would have to speak French.

Note that as many as 5,000 professionals immigrate to Quebec each year. Quebec currently faces serious shortages of many professionals due to a declining birth rate and the many restrictions forcing immigrants with professional training to take menial jobs.

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<sup>109</sup> **Globe and Mail**, Quebec Trying to Help Immigrant Professionals, R. Séguin, May 11, 2006.

## 28. CITY OF EDMONTON INITIATIVES

The following represents a listing of key initiatives, services, and programs currently endorsed by City of Edmonton Departments for new Canadians and visible minorities.

### Community Services Department

The Community Services department has as its mandate the provision of social, recreational, and cultural opportunities; the development, management, and preservation of recreational and cultural facilities; the development, management, and preservation of parks and open spaces; and the building of community capacity, in addition to the coordination of emergency services; the provision of critical patient care; and the protection of lives and property during a fire or other emergency event.

In order to ensure that Edmontonians on low-income do not face social exclusion from recreation and related departmental services, the **Access to Recreation Strategy for Low-Income Edmontonians** was developed. The resultant **Leisure Access Program** (formerly known as the Fee Reduction Program) provides eligible low-income Edmontonians with access to participating City of Edmonton recreation facilities (including community recreation centres, golf courses, special collection facilities,<sup>110</sup> and arenas.<sup>111</sup>

Low-income individuals and/or families living in Edmonton are eligible if they possess a valid **Health Benefits Card** (issued by the Government of Alberta) or fall below the Low-Income Cut-off line. In the former case, the applicant may go to any participating facility and show his/her valid Health Benefits Card and current photo ID. In the latter case, the applicant must complete the Leisure Access Program Application Form that is available from (780) 496-4918 or on line at <http://www.edmonton.ca/CommPeople/LeisureAccessApplication.pdf>.

In addition to unlimited, free admission to participating facilities (excluding golf courses),<sup>112</sup> the **Leisure Access Program** offers three registered programs per year for adults and seniors (no program restrictions) at 25% of cost (and 25% of the cost of materials where applicable) and four registered programs per year for children and youth (no program restrictions) at 25% of the cost (and 25% of the cost of materials where applicable).

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<sup>110</sup> Special Collection Facilities are the City Arts Centre, Fort Edmonton Park, John Janzen Nature Centre, John Walter Museum, Muttart Conservatory, Prince of Wales Armouries, and Valley Zoo.

<sup>111</sup> All public skate times are free. Times, as well as free skate and helmet availability, may be accessed by phoning (780) 496-4999.

<sup>112</sup> One round of golf is considered one registered program. Tee times must be booked in advance.

Since the inception of the **Leisure Access Program** (January 2006), admissions to facilities have increased more than 100,000 over the same period in 2005 (January 1 to September 30). Also during this period, program registrations more than doubled.

**Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)** is a joint municipal/provincial partnership that funds and supports the development and delivery of preventive social service programs in Edmonton. FCSS funding is directed to community-based social service programs that are preventive in nature and promote and enhance the well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

Table 33 shows that in 2006, FCSS funded ten programs specifically for new Canadians and visible minorities.

<b>Table 33: 2006 FCSS Funded Programs for New Canadians and Visible Minorities with Program Information</b>			
Agency	Program	Program Description	Amount
ASSIST Community Services Centre	<b>Family Services Program, including Towards a New Generation: A Project for Safe and Healthy Asian Youths</b>	Consists of preventive and enhancement programs targeted for children, youth, and families to support and encourage social, physical, mental, and emotional wellness, as well as an inter-active, preventive program open to immigrant and Canadian-born youth aged 11-15 years of Asian/Oriental descent. Cultivates the academic potentials, social competencies, positive identity and values, and leadership skills of at-risk youths.	\$51,027
Canadian Arab Friendship Association of Edmonton	<b>Family and Early Childhood Development Program</b>	Assists families to develop independence and strengthen and develop coping skills to help integrate their children into mainstream education. Also empowers families with skills necessary to reduce or prevent the risks involved with poverty and isolation.	\$54,295
Catholic Social Services	<b>Cross-Cultural Counselling and Outreach Program</b>	This Immigration and Settlement Service offers culturally sensitive counselling in the newcomer's first language, and helps to address personal and family difficulties experienced in adaptation to life in Canada.	\$85,261

## Edmonton Social Plan – New Canadians and Visible Minorities

	<b>Evening and Saturday Counselling Program</b>	Provides therapeutic counselling services to financially strained individuals, couples, and families during hours that are convenient and least likely to require time off from work. Counselling services are available in eight languages from four locations in South, Central, and East Edmonton.	\$34,112
Changing Together...A Centre for Immigrant Women	<b>Family Violence Prevention Program</b>	Addresses family violence related issues faced by immigrant and refugee women and their families. Provides counselling, support groups, and referrals to legal and other community resources.	\$79,693
Edmonton Immigrant Services Association	<b>New Neighbours Program</b>	Reaches out to new immigrants and immigrant families to prevent crises that may result from isolation, language barriers, unemployment and under-employment, lack of awareness of available community services, and cross-cultural conflicts.	\$70,447
Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers	<b>Putting Down Roots Program</b>	Community development work to support refugee and immigrant communities in developing their own capacity to address their issues. Includes long-term facilitation, mobilization, engagement, and convening of resources.	\$69,215
Islamic Family & Social Services Association	<b>Youth Development &amp; Parenting Education Program</b>	Provides children, youth, and families with education and skills through workshops and other community programs to safeguard against negative influences and behaviour and enhance their ability to become valuable and contributing citizens to society.	\$65,446
Pakistan Canada Association of Edmonton, Alberta	<b>Increased Independence for Seniors &amp; Women Program</b>	Offers workshops, information sessions, and skill building classes to meet the needs of women and seniors in the community at large. Includes issues relating to health and wellness, home businesses, language skills, and general social support.	\$20,480
Planned Parenthood Association of Edmonton	<b>Multicultural Sexual Health Education Program</b>	A program through which individuals, couples, families, and groups from targeted immigrant communities can address sexuality related issues that arise during adaptation from their culture of origin to Canadian society.	\$86,900



Note that programs receiving FCSS funding must be registered not-for-profit organizations that have been incorporated for a minimum of a year. Programs that provide primarily for the recreation needs or leisure pursuits of individuals; offer direct financial assistance, including money, food, clothing, or shelter to an individual or family; are primarily rehabilitative; or duplicate services ordinarily provided by a government or government agency are not funded by FCSS.

**The City of Edmonton Community Investment Operating Grant program** provides operating assistance to Edmonton's non-profit organizations whose activities result in benefits to the citizens of Edmonton. Organizations are eligible for grants if they are based in Edmonton, if they primarily serve Edmontonians, and if their programs/services have a social, multicultural, or recreation/amateur sport character. Table 34 lists the organizations providing services to new Canadians and visible minorities that received Community Investment Operating Grants for 2006.

<b>Table 34: Organizations Providing Programs/Services for New Canadians and Visible Minorities Receiving 2006 Community Investment Operating Grants</b>	
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Alberta St. George of England Society	\$4,332
ASSIST Community Services Centre	\$15,000
Bangladesh-Canada Association of Edmonton	\$651
Bazm-e-Sukhan Literary and Cultural Society	\$1,626
Canadian Arab Friendship Association in Edmonton	\$9,013
Caribbean Women's Network Association of Canada for Support and Learning	\$500
Chinese Cultural Promotion Society (CCPS)	\$5,340
Chinese Freemason's Society, Edmonton Lodge (The)	\$15,000
Edmonton Chinatown Multicultural Centre Foundation	\$15,000
Edmonton Chinese Seniors Association	\$1,966
Edmonton Czech Language Association	\$500
Edmonton Immigrant Services Association	\$15,000
Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers	\$15,000
Edmonton Multicultural Society	\$2,900
Edmonton Viets Association	\$14,709
Gaden-Samten-Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Society	\$1,842
Fuzhou Association (Community Services) of Alberta	\$9,521
German-Canadian Cultural Association (Edmonton)	\$15,000
Hakka Tsung Tsin Association of Edmonton	\$2,161
Islamic Family and Social Services Association (IFSSA)	\$11,999
Millwoods Multicultural Council Foundation	\$500
Nepalese Canadian Society of Edmonton	\$500
Northern Alberta Alliance on Race Relations Society	\$12,899
P.A.L.S. – Project Adult Literacy Society	\$13,649
Russian-Canadian Association of Alberta	\$1,900
Shang De Tai Chi Praying Mantis Arts Association	\$3,178
Taoist Tai Chi Society of Canada	\$15,000
Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council	\$15,000
Ukrainian Canadian Social Services (Edmonton)	\$5,215

Organizations requesting grants must be registered (under appropriate provincial or federal legislation) as a non-profit for at least one year and have open membership; should not substantially duplicate the activities of other applicants or other government-supported organizations; and may apply for up to twenty-five percent of their total operating expenditures for the previous fiscal year (to a maximum of \$15,000).

## **Corporate Services Department**

In order for Edmonton to be a “‘a culturally diverse city where people choose to live, learn, work and play,’ and ‘a welcoming city where citizens take pride in their community and in contributions to its quality of life,’”<sup>113</sup> Edmonton City Council approved dollars in April 2006 to undertake a number of initiatives, including:<sup>114</sup>

- Completing an inventory of information (print and electronic) that the City of Edmonton makes available to the public in languages other than English (Communications Branch).
- Identifying print and electronic information service guides (e.g., health education, social services, immigrant services, etc.) available to immigrants in languages other than English (Communications Branch, in consultation with Community Services and other City departments, other orders of Government, and community stakeholders) and then exploring and providing City Council with a report that outlines a work plan, timelines, and cost estimates for the production of a **Newcomer’s Guide to Services in Edmonton** in languages that are determined necessary (Communications Branch, in consultation with Community Services).
- Completing a strategic plan and developing the tools necessary to implement a public awareness campaign that brings positive attention to the city’s ethno-cultural diversity and the significant contributions of immigrants to the social, cultural, and economic life of Edmonton (Communications Branch, in consultation with Community Services and other City departments and key community stakeholders), and preparing a report to City Council outlining the plan, its goals and objectives, as well as associated costs (Communications Branch).

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<sup>113</sup> **Immigration and Settlement Initiative Report – University of Alberta Study**, City Council’s Special Initiatives, File: 2006CLR002, discussed at Edmonton’s City Council, April 19, 2006, Executive Committee Meeting, p. 1.

<sup>114</sup> **Special Initiative on Immigration and Settlement: Priority Recommendations**. Report 2006CLR002, Attachment 1.

- Forming a partnership agreement with **Edmonton Economic Development Corporation (EEDC)** to monitor, maintain, and update as necessary the information contained on Edmonton's Labour Attraction Website being developed by **EEDC** (City of Edmonton).
- Cost sharing with the **EEDC** production of a video to be a centerpiece of the **Labour Attraction Website** currently being developed by EEDC (City of Edmonton).
- Exploring the policy and program implications, as well as the investments required (supported by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion), in joining the **Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism** and providing a recommendation report for Council consideration (City Council).
- Developing an immigrant internship program that provides newcomers to Canada opportunities to gain valuable Canadian employment experience (Human Resources Branch, in partnership with other City departments, the Coalition of Edmonton Civic Unions, other orders of Government, and key community stakeholders).
- Exploring the possibilities for partnering with award programs in the community (i.e., **Salute to Excellence Awards, Mennonite Centre RISE Awards**) in an effort to publicly recognize the positive contributions of immigrants (Community Services Department) and that the Community Services Department provide a recommendation report to Council regarding the policy, program, and cost implications of any possible partnerships.
- Working with interested stakeholder communities and other orders of Government to provide a report with recommendations to City Council on the costs, governance, and coordination issues associated with establishing a multi-cultural facility for emergent immigrant communities that is capable of housing: appropriate space for programs and meetings organized and coordinated by emergent immigrants/ethno-cultural groups; an African Centre, organized and coordinated by Edmonton-based African groups; and a 'Welcome to the City of Edmonton Office' staffed by the City to provide information on the city and assist with referral to immigrant services (Community Services Department).
- Working with interested stakeholder communities and other orders of Government to explore and provide a recommendation report to City Council on the possibility of establishing a fund to provide grants to community projects that address the City's immigration and settlement objectives (Community Services Department).

- Exploring and bringing forward best practice municipal immigration policy options for Council consideration (Office of Diversity and Inclusion, in consultation with the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and other City departments).

Work is currently proceeding on the above eleven initiatives with a progress report expected by the end of 2006. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion, created in 2005, is also in the process of developing a *Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Framework* that should be available at about the same time.

The City's **Human Resources Branch** is in the process of hiring four individuals to help recruit people with diverse backgrounds into the work force – three Human Resource Consultants (for Aboriginal Employment Outreach, Youth Employment Outreach, and Employment Outreach) and an Employment Outreach and Duty to Accommodate Consultant.

The Human Resource Consultant – Employment Outreach will take the lead in developing non-traditional employment 'bridging' programs to the community (e.g., an Internship program for newcomers) and will play a key role in attracting, developing, and retaining a diverse, skilled, productive, and engaged workforce. The individual will provide recruitment advice and coaching to hiring supervisors and Human Resources staff on approaches to engage diverse populations to secure qualified job applicants; recommend recruitment and retention strategies to promote sustainable progress towards workforce diversification; develop, coordinate, and implement work experience, training, and placement programs; source qualified applicants to meet long-term organizational workforce requirements; and develop improved communication channels to ensure employment opportunities reach diverse communities within and beyond Edmonton.

It is anticipated that, among other qualifications, the individual will possess advanced knowledge of attributes and social norms of a variety of immigrant and cultural newcomer groups; 3 to 5 years progressive human resources experience (recruitment and retention strategy) with a multicultural outreach focus; demonstrated ability to foster productive relationships within culturally diverse environments; and a proven commitment to building and maintaining an inclusive workforce.

A new program to help create greater awareness and understanding amongst Edmontonians of the City's diverse faith communities, **Celebration of Our Faiths**, opened on October 20, 2006. The program, sponsored by the City of Edmonton and the **Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action**,<sup>115</sup>

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<sup>115</sup> The Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education And Action is a co-operative of faiths working together to increase awareness and understanding of the various faiths and faith groups in the City. The faiths

allows Edmontonians and visitors to the Capital City the opportunity to view a celebration of the Hindu faith as Deepawali, a festival of lights symbolizing the victory of righteousness and the lifting of spiritual darkness, is marked.

The **Celebration of Our Faiths** will host various faith displays throughout the year. Visitors will have the opportunity to see religious symbols and read about the meaning and use of each item in the celebration of the specific faith.

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represented are Aboriginal, Bahai, Buddhist, Christian, Eckankar, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Scientology, Taoist, Unitarian, and Zoroastrian.

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