

Hot Spots of Recent Immigrant Arrivals at the Community Level in Canada

By Ray D. Bollman (RayD.Bollman@sasktel.net)

Highlights

- ◆ According to the 2011 National Household Survey, there were 23 communities in Canada where recent immigrants (who arrived in the 2006 to 2011 period) represented 10% or more of the total population
- ◆ 17 of these 23 communities were located in the Prairies
- ◆ 19 of these 23 communities were in non-metro regions
- ◆ Most of these 23 communities were "hot spots," located in regions with a relatively low share of their population being recent immigrants. Thus, most "hot spot" communities were in regions with less experience in welcoming new immigrants

Why: Immigrant arrivals at the community level?

Earlier Factsheets¹ have highlighted the census divisions² (CDs) with the highest number of immigrant arrivals on a per capita basis. However, local governments (towns and municipalities) have an important role to play in the welcome that is accorded to immigrants. Thus, this Factsheet focuses on "hot spots" of recent immigrant arrivals at the local or community level³.

Findings

The community with the highest number of recent⁴ immigrants as a percent of total population in 2011 was the Town of Englefeld (Col. E in Table) with 35.6% of its population being recent immigrants (Col. K in Table 1). Englefeld is located in Saskatchewan CD No. 15 (Col. B) (where the major centres are Prince Albert and Humboldt). Englefeld ranks as the top community among all communities within non-metro⁵ CDs and also outranks all census subdivisions (CSDs) located in metro and partially-non-metro CDs in terms of share of the 2011 population that were recent immigrants.

Overall, there were 23 communities where recent immigrants represented 10% or more of the 2011 population. Among these 23 communities, 19 were in non-metro CDs, 1 was in a partially-non-metro CD, and 3 were in metro CDs.

1. See "Factsheet: Location of Immigrant Arrivals in 2012" in the May, 2013 Pathways to Prosperity eBulletin (<http://p2pcanada.ca/library/factsheet-location-of-immigrant-arrivals-in-2012>) and "Factsheet: Location of Immigrant Arrivals in 2013" in the May, 2014 Pathways to Prosperity eBulletin (<http://p2pcanada.ca/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2014/05/eBulletin-May-2014.pdf>).

2. A census division (CD) is a group of neighbouring municipalities joined together for the purposes of regional planning and managing common services (such as police or ambulance services). These groupings are established under laws in effect in certain provinces of Canada. For example, a census division might correspond to a county, to a municipalit  regionale de comt  or a regional district. In other provinces and the territories where laws do not provide for such areas, Statistics Canada defines equivalent areas for statistical reporting purposes in cooperation with these provinces and territories. Census divisions are intermediate geographic areas between the province/territory level and the municipality (census subdivision).

3. In this Factsheet, "communities" are represented by census subdivisions (CSDs), which is the general term for incorporated municipalities or incorporated towns or cities (as determined by provincial / territorial legislation) or areas treated as municipal equivalents for statistical purposes (e.g., Indian reserves, Indian settlements and unorganized territories). In 2011, 3,439 CSDs were delineated. Immigration data were available for 2,882 CSDs as some remote CSDs had no population and the 2011 National Household Survey reported immigration data only for CSDs with a response rate of 50% or more. Note that the data for suppressed CSDs are included in the data for each of the 293 CDs.

4. In this Factsheet, "recent" immigrants are immigrants who arrived in Canada in the 5 years preceding the 2011 National Household Survey – i.e., from 2006 to May, 2011.

5. A non-metro CD has none of the CSDs within the CD being delineated as part of a Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) (i.e., they are not within the commuting zone of the CMA). A CMA has a population of 50,000 or more in the core and a total population of 100,000 or more when the commuting zone is included. A partially-non-metro CD has some, but not all, CSDs delineated as part of a CMA. A metro CD has all CSDs delineated as part of a CMA.

Among the 23 communities, 15 had less than 1,000 residents in 2011. All but one of these 15 communities reported no residents who had immigrated in years previous to 2006. Thus, these communities did not have a tradition of welcoming immigrants. In addition, each of these 15 communities was located in CDs with a relatively low share of their population being recent immigrants (Col. C). Thus, not only did these communities have little experience in welcoming immigrants, but they were also embedded in regions with few immigrants.

We acknowledge that our methodology for identifying “hot spot” communities will typically identify communities with a small(er) population which have just experienced a small (in absolute terms) influx of immigrants. However, although the absolute numbers are small, our calculation does identify communities where recent immigrants represent a significant share of the present population.

For example, in the case of the Town of Englefeld, 80 recent immigrants represented 35.6% of the total population of 225 in 2011. The number of immigrants is small, but the proportional impact on the local population is large. It is also noteworthy that Englefeld is located within a region⁶ with a low(er) share of recent immigrants in the total population (Col. C). Within the Saskatchewan CD No. 15, recent immigrants represented only 1.5% of the total population. The difference in intensity of recent immigrants in Englefeld, compared to the region, is 34 percentage points (Col. L). Thus, the “hot spot” of Englefeld is somewhat alone or isolated and cannot draw much welcoming support for newcomers from the surrounding region. While the Town of St. Brieux, ranked 3rd with 33.6% of the population being recent immigrants, is also located in Saskatchewan CD No. 15, the two towns are more than an hour’s drive from each other. For St. Brieux, there is a 32.1 percentage point difference (Col. L) between the share of the local population that is recent immigrants compared to the share of the regional population that is recent immigrants. At the regional level, there is not a large demand (and not much recent experience) for welcoming services for newcomers.

Englefeld is not atypical – there are many other examples of similar “hot spots” in non-metro CDs. In Table 1, the top 25 CSDs within non-metro CDs are ranked in terms of the share of the 2011 population that are recent immigrants. The share ranges from 35.6% (Englefeld) (Col. K) to 8% for the Town of Hamiota in Manitoba CD No. 15 (where Minnedosa and Neepawa are the larger centres). In most (but not all) cases, the individual CSD has a much higher percent of recent immigrants compared to the regional average (see Col. O). Thus, in most cases, the individual CSD is in a milieu with limited experience in welcoming immigrants.

As noted, there were 23 communities where recent immigrants represented 10% or more of the 2011 population and among these, 17 were located in the Prairies.

Note that the top ranked community in a metro region reported that 19.1% of its 2011 population consisted of recent immigrants. Only 3 CSDs in metro CDs reported recent immigrants to be more than 10% of their 2011 population.

Only one CSD in partially-non-metro regions reported recent immigrants to be more than 10% of its 2011 population.

Within non-metro CDs, 19 CSD’s reported that more than 10% of their 2011 population was composed of recent immigrants. All but three of the top 25 non-metro CSDs were located within the Prairie Provinces.

6. In this FactSheet, a region is represented by a CD.

Summary

In 2011, there were 23 communities where recent immigrants represented 10% or more of the total population. Of these, 17 were located in the Prairies, and 19 were in non-metro regions. In addition, most of the 23 communities were "hot spots," located within regions with a relatively low share of their population being recent immigrants. Thus, most "hot spot" communities were in regions with less experience in welcoming new immigrants.

Table 1: Ranking of census subdivisions by recent immigrants as a percent of total population, Canada, 2011 (top ranking census subdivisions only)

Data for the Census Division (CD) within which the Census Subdivision (CSD) is located			Data for the Census Subdivision (CSD)								
ID	Name of Census Division (CD) within which the Census Subdivision (CSD) is located	Recent immigrants (arrived 2006 to 2011) as percent of total population in the CD	ID	Census Subdivision (CSD) name	Total population in private households ¹	Immigrant ² population ³	Immigrants as percent of total population	Immigrant population by period of arrival in Canada		Recent immigrants (arrived 2006 to 2011) as percent of total population	CSD minus CD: PERCENTAGE POINT DIFFERENCE of recent immigrants as percent of total population
								Before 2006	2006 to 2011		
A	Col. B	Col. C	D	Col. E	Col. F	Col. G	Col. H	Col. I	Col. J	Col. K	Col. L
Census subdivisions in "metro" census divisions showing the top 10 ranked by recent immigrants as a percent of the total population											
5915	Greater Vancouver R. D.	6.8	5915020	Greater Vancouver A	12,385	6,245	50	3,880	2,365	19.1	12.3
5915	Greater Vancouver R. D.	6.8	5915808	Capilano 5	2,665	1,035	39	615	420	15.8	9.0
2466	Communauté-Urbaine-de-Montréal	8.3	2466058	Côte-Saint-Luc	31,225	14,330	46	10,860	3,470	11.1	2.8
5915	Greater Vancouver R. D.	6.8	5915015	Richmond	189,305	112,875	60	94,195	18,685	9.9	3.1
5915	Greater Vancouver R. D.	6.8	5915025	Burnaby	220,260	111,170	50	91,635	19,525	8.9	2.1
2466	Communauté-Urbaine-de-Montréal	8.3	2466023	Montréal	1,612,640	538,280	33	396,965	141,315	8.8	0.5
3521	Peel Regional Municipality	7.8	3521005	Mississauga	708,725	374,575	53	314,785	59,795	8.4	0.6
3520	Toronto Metropolitan Mun.	8.4	3520005	Toronto	2,576,025	1,252,215	49	1,035,690	216,525	8.4	0.0
5915	Greater Vancouver R. D.	6.8	5915051	North Vancouver	47,685	17,760	37	13,760	4,000	8.4	1.6
3521	Peel Regional Municipality	7.8	3521010	Brampton	521,315	263,670	51	222,965	40,700	7.8	0.0
Census subdivisions in "partially-non-metro" census divisions showing the top 10 ranked by recent immigrants as a percent of the total population											
4712	Sask. CD No. 12 (incl. Rosetown, Biggar & Battleford)	1.5	4712016	Dinsmore	300	60	20	0	35	11.7	10.2
4602	Man. CD No. 2 (incl. Steinbach)	4.7	4602053	La Broquerie	5,200	1,555	30	1,065	485	9.3	4.7
4602	Man. CD No. 2 (incl. Steinbach)	4.7	4602044	Steinbach	13,180	2,580	20	1,520	1,060	8.0	3.4
4602	Man. CD No. 2 (incl. Steinbach)	4.7	4602041	Hanover	13,935	2,875	21	1,825	1,045	7.5	2.8
4806	Alta. CD No. 6 (incl. Calgary)	5.6	4806016	Calgary	1,082,230	298,820	28	230,415	68,400	6.3	0.7
4811	Alta. CD No. 11 (incl. Edmonton)	4.3	4811061	Edmonton	795,670	205,445	26	159,375	46,075	5.8	1.5
2480	Papineau	0.1	2480055	Lochaber	285	30	11	0	15	5.3	5.1
4711	Sask. CD No. 11 (incl. Saskatoon)	4.3	4711066	Saskatoon	218,320	26,050	12	14,855	11,190	5.1	0.8
3534	Elgin County	0.9	3534010	Malahide	8,990	2,240	25	1,860	385	4.3	3.4
3530	Waterloo Regional Municipality	3.1	3530016	Waterloo	97,100	23,910	25	19,770	4,140	4.3	1.2
Census subdivisions in "non-metro" census divisions showing the top 25 ranked by recent immigrants as a percent of the total population											
4715	Sask. CD No. 15 (incl. Prince Albert & Humboldt)	1.5	4715002	Englefeld	225	75	33	0	80	35.6	34.0
4704	Sask. CD No. 4 (incl. Maple Creek)	1.6	4704012	Frontier	350	120	34	0	120	34.3	32.7
4715	Sask. CD No. 15 (incl. Prince Albert & Humboldt)	1.5	4715049	St. Brieux	565	190	34	0	190	33.6	32.1
4702	Sask. CD No. 2 (incl. Weyburn)	1.4	4702058	Ogema	365	100	27	0	100	27.4	26.0
4709	Sask. CD No. 9 (incl. Yorkton)	1.7	4709061	Lintlaw	160	40	25	0	40	25.0	23.3
4707	Sask. CD No. 7 (incl. Moose Jaw)	1.5	4707029	Chaplin No. 164	95	20	21	0	20	21.1	19.5
4805	Alta. CD No. 5 (incl. Drumheller)	1.3	4805049	Trochu	1,005	245	24	35	205	20.4	19.1
5933	Thompson-Nicola R. D.	1.0	5933045	Sun Peaks Mountain	355	70	20	0	55	15.5	14.5
4604	Man. CD No. 4 (incl. Pilot Mound & Somerset)	2.0	4604051	Roblin	690	155	22	30	105	15.2	13.2
4603	Man. CD No. 3 (incl. Winkler, Morden, Altona)	6.6	4603047	Stanley	8,330	2,980	36	1,740	1,245	14.9	8.3
4709	Sask. CD No. 9 (incl. Yorkton)	1.7	4709009	Rhein	70	10	14	0	10	14.3	12.6
4815	Alta. CD No. 15 (incl. Canmore)	4.6	4815035	Banff	6,245	1,705	27	895	805	12.9	8.3
2428	Les Etchemins	0.8	2428075	Saint-Magloire	690	85	12	0	85	12.3	11.5
4714	Sask. CD No. 14 (incl. Melfort & Nipawin)	1.4	4714007	Porcupine Plain	795	105	13	0	95	11.9	10.5
4802	Alta. CD No. 2 (incl. Lethbridge & Brooks)	3.2	4802029	Vauxhall	1,285	415	32	265	150	11.7	8.5
1310	York County	1.8	1310013	Meductic	270	25	9	0	30	11.1	9.3
4709	Sask. CD No. 9 (incl. Yorkton)	1.7	4709001	Calder No. 241	325	45	14	0	35	10.8	9.1
4603	Man. CD No. 3 (incl. Winkler, Morden, Altona)	6.6	4603040	Altona	3,925	710	18	280	420	10.7	4.1
4606	Man. CD No. 6 (incl. Virden)	2.6	4606028	Wallace	1,320	280	21	135	140	10.6	8.0
4609	Man. CD No. 9 (incl. Portage la Prairie)	1.5	4609020	St. Claude	555	60	11	0	55	9.9	8.4
4802	Alta. CD No. 2 (incl. Lethbridge & Brooks)	3.2	4802034	Brooks	13,330	2,680	20	1,435	1,245	9.3	6.2
4710	Sask. CD No. 10 (incl. Wadena & Wynyard)	0.9	4710058	Leroy	380	40	11	0	35	9.2	8.3
4709	Sask. CD No. 9 (incl. Yorkton)	1.7	4709058	Invermay	225	20	9	0	20	8.9	7.2
4715	Sask. CD No. 15 (incl. Prince Albert & Humboldt)	1.5	4715041	Cudworth	905	205	23	115	75	8.3	6.8
4703	Sask. CD No. 3 (incl. Assiniboia)	1.5	4703054	Auvergne No. 76	245	20	8	0	20	8.2	6.6
4615	Man. CD No. 15 (incl. Minnedosa & Neepawa)	2.4	4615038	Hamiota	815	80	10	20	65	8.0	5.6
Canada total		3.5	Canada total		32,852,320	6,775,765	21	5,612,840	1,162,915	3.5	..

1. Non-permanent residents are included in the total population, but are not shown separately in this table.

2. Immigrant refers to a person born outside Canada and is a person who is or has ever been a landed immigrant/permanent resident. This person has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Note that non-permanent residents (such as temporary foreign workers and students) are not included as immigrants.

3. The number of immigrants by period of arrival may not add to the total due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey, 2011