

WHO ARE RECENT IMMIGRANTS AND WHAT ARE THEIR ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES?

AN ANALYSIS OF SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILES AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES ACROSS IMMIGRATION CATEGORIES

Yoko Yoshida, Dalhousie University; **Howard Ramos**, Dalhousie University; **Madine VanderPlaat**, Saint Mary's University; **Gerry Mills**, Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia; **Nabiha Atallah**, Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia

A Pathways to
Prosperity Project

December 2015

Acknowledgement

Our research was funded by the Pathways to Prosperity (P2P) project. We thank the entire P2P team, as well as Elena Prokopenko for her wonderful work with the IMDB and Michael Haan for his support in accessing the data resources.

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	5
Introduction	8
Part 1: Socio-demographic patterns of immigrants by landing category and cohort	11
Sex	11
Age	12
Education	14
Country of origin	15
Part 2: Economic outcomes of immigrants by landing category and cohort	19
Employment	19
Earnings	22
Employment Insurance	25
Recipients of the OAS	28
Summary	29
Conclusion	29
Policy Recommendations	32
Appendix	33
References:	36
Endnotes	38

List of Figures

Figure 1.1: Sex ratio of immigrants by landing category for Canada and NS.....	11
Figure 1.2: Proportion of immigrants aged between 20 and 54 years old by landing category for Canada and NS.....	13
Figure 1.3: Proportion of immigrants with Bachelor’s degree or above by landing category for Canada and NS.....	14
Figure 2.1: Percent working after 1 year by immigration category and cohort.....	20
Figure 2.2: Percent employed over time by immigration category and cohort.....	21
Figure 2.3: Average earnings after 1 year by immigration category and cohort.....	23
Figure 2.4: Average earnings over time by landing cohort.....	24
Figure 2.5: Percent receiving EI after 1 year by immigration category and cohort.....	26
Figure 2.6: Percent receiving EI over time by immigration category and cohort.....	27
Figure 2.7: Percent of family sponsored parents and grandparents receiving OAS by cohort.....	28

List of Tables

Table 1.1: Top four countries of origin by landing categories and cohorts (Canada).....	16
Table 1.2: Top four countries of origin by landing categories and cohorts (Nova Scotia).....	17

Executive Summary

Socio-demographic patterns of immigrants by landing category and cohort

Gender

- There is a gendered pattern to immigration by landing category. Principal applicants under economic streams and sponsored dependents tend to be men. Sponsored family tend to be women.
- Gendered patterns are most pronounced among immigrants coming under economic streams.
- The gender gap across immigration pathways narrows over time, yet remains sizeable.
- In Nova Scotia, the gender gap for economic immigrants is greater than the national trend and the gaps for sponsored family immigrants are about the same.

Age

- Almost all of the immigrants coming through economic pathways, both principal applicants and spouses and partners, are of prime working age.
- Sponsored dependants, sons and daughters, are not as young as many people expect. In the Longitudinal Immigrant Database (IMDB), about half of the 2010-2012 cohort of immigrants in this stream were of prime working age.
- Sponsored parents and grandparents are not as old as most people expect, this is especially the case during the 1990s. In more recent cohorts, however, a greater proportion fall outside of prime working age.
- Relative to the national trend, slightly fewer immigrants who arrive in Nova Scotia are between the ages of 20-54 years old. General patterns over time, however, are similar to the Canadian trend.

Education

- Economic principal applicants have the highest proportion of immigrants with university degrees, followed by their spouses and partners.
- Among sponsored family immigrants, a sizable proportion holds university degrees.
- Compared to Canada, as a whole, Nova Scotia's economic immigrants had lower levels of education and sponsored family tended to have higher levels.

Country

- Nationally, China, India, and the Philippines are the top source countries for immigrants across most immigration categories and that increases over time.
- Sponsored dependents come from a wider range of source countries at the national level.
- In Nova Scotia, immigrants from China, India and the Philippines make up a smaller share of immigrants across categories, although that changes over time. Britain and the USA remain important source countries for the province.

Economic well-being of immigrants by landing category and cohort

Work status

- Nationally, economic principal applicants have the highest rates of employment compared to other categories of immigrants. Their rate of employment remains constant and only declines slightly over time.
- Family sponsored spouses and partners, at the national level, have higher rates of employment than spouses and partners coming under the economic pathway. The rates of employment for spouses and partners from both streams increases over time.
- In Nova Scotia, family sponsored spouses and partners have higher rates of employment than economic principal applicants, except for the 2010-2012 cohort.
- Generally, the rates of those holding jobs in Nova Scotia are lower than Canada as whole. However, recent cohorts of immigrants fare better both in the province and nationally.

Earnings

- Economic principal applicants have higher average earnings than immigrants arriving under other categories.
- Family sponsored spouses and partners have higher earnings than economic spouses and partners.
- Economic principal applicants and family sponsored spouses and partners landing in Nova Scotia have higher average earnings than immigrants in the same categories nationally.

Employment Insurance

- The proportion of immigrants claiming EI across categories declined sharply after 1996 and this is in line with policy shifts from Unemployment Insurance to EI.

- Nationally family sponsored immigrants have higher rates of EI claims than economic immigrants.
- In Nova Scotia, EI patterns are less clear cut. Family sponsored spouses and partners had the highest rates of receiving EI one year of arrival, while family sponsored parents and grandparents had the lowest rates.
- Generally EI claims by immigrants increase slightly 5 years after arrival, but then decline after that.
- Rates of EI use in Nova Scotia are slightly lower than in Canada, as a whole.

Old Age Security

- Very few sponsored parents and grandparents claim OAS in the first 10 years after landing in Canada because of policy that limits their eligibility.
- Once eligible, the rate of sponsored parents and grandparents claiming OAS increases.
- Generally, a slightly greater proportion of sponsored parents and grandparents to Nova Scotia claim OAS than Canada, as a whole.

Introduction

Recent policy and debates around immigration have increasingly focused on immigrants' capacity to make meaningful contributions to the Canadian economy. The focus is reflected in many changes to immigration policy over the last two decades. This can be seen in the rapid increase in number of "economic" immigrants over other categories; it can be seen through more weight offered to work experience in the point system; it is seen through the introduction of "Canadian experience" category; and it can be seen in the launching of the "Express Entry" program. All of these policies emphasize the importance of immigrants' ability to smoothly integrate into the Canadian labour market and are based on the assumption that this will mean that they will boost the country's economy and shore up its tax base.

Because of the economic focus of Canadian immigration policies, the levels of admission of non-economic immigrants, such as sponsored family, have declined considerably (Baker and Dwayne, 2002; McLaren and Black, 2005; Triadafilopoulos, 2006). An assumption among many policy makers is that these immigrants are admitted only for compassionate and humanitarian grounds and are a drain on the economy (Gunter, 2011). Research on non-economic immigrants, however, has shown that non-economic immigrants make numerous undocumented contributions to families and Canada, such as taking care of extended family, offering language and cultural ties to ethnic community organizations, and being front and center in diversifying the Canadian population (VanderPlaat, Ramos and Yoshida, 2012). Research has also shown that such immigrants enter the labour market and also make meaningful economic contributions (ibid). Getting a job and generating income for a household is important for immigrants who come to Canada under any category, even if the criteria for selection specify other reasons for entering.

Interestingly, research shows that economic focused immigration policy might not work for rural regions, those with struggling economies, and those with high rates of outmigration (Dobrowolsky and Ramos 2014). Economic immigrants are often the most skilled and most able to move if their aspirations are not met. It is also important to consider that the vast majority of immigrants move for non-economic reasons, such as lifestyle and family (Angus Reid 2013). Likewise, retention rates for sponsored family and other non-economic immigrants are higher than immigrants in other landing categories (Akbari, 2012; Akbari et al., 2007; Ramos and Yoshida 2015; Yoshida and Ramos 2013).

Despite the potential economic contributions of non-economic immigrants, such as those coming as sponsored family, as well as their potential to increase immigrant retention, little research has systematically investigated their contributions to Canada compared to the those coming as economic immigrants. For this reason, our research has three objectives:

Research objectives:

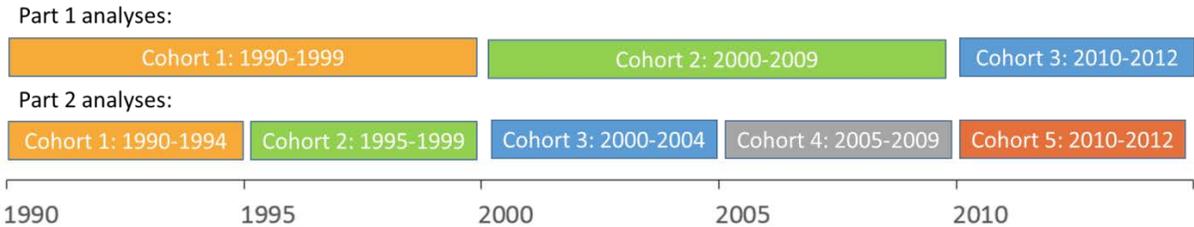
- 1) Describe the socio-demographic profiles of immigrants across landing categories.
- 2) Describe the economic outcomes of immigrants across landing categories.
- 3) Compare immigrant trends in Nova Scotia to national trends.

In exploring the first objective we offer a demographic portrait of immigrants who come under different landing categories. Here we examine the sex, age, education and source country. We explore these demographic elements to see whether or not there are systematic differences in immigrants who come under different pathways of immigration. For instance, do sponsored family under the “family class” category look different than spouses and dependents who come under the “economic” category and do both look different than those who come as parents and grandparents? If there are differences, in addressing our second objective, we also consider what they are and then examine whether there are patterns to economic outcomes. We examine both demographic portraits and economic outcomes at two levels, Nova Scotia and Canada, to meet our third object. We do this to better understand how different categories of immigrants integrate into a region struggling with a weak economy and high outmigration versus the national trends.

How we examine immigrant profiles, landing categories and economic outcomes

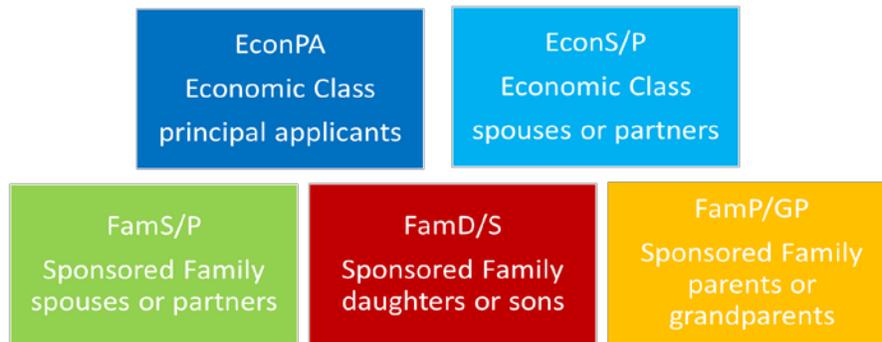
To explore demographic profiles of immigrants in different immigration categories and to understand their economic outcomes we use data from the Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) 2012. It is a database that links the landing records of immigrants with their T1 tax files. The IMDB contains information for all immigrants who landed from 1980 onward and who filed at least one tax return since 1982 (Statistics Canada, 2015.) Although some immigrants have not filed tax returns, at least 87 percent have and can be linked to their landing records.¹ In our report, we focus on immigrants who landed from 1990 onward. We do this to focus on recent immigrants.

In order to capture the trends over time, immigrants are divided into three cohorts for analyses in Part 1 of the report, which examines the demographic profiles of immigrants by landing categories. These include periods of 1990-1999, 2000-2009 and 2010-2012. For analyses in Part 2 of the report, we use finer cohorts to allow us to capture more subtle shifts in the economy. We examine periods of 1990-1994, 1995-1999, 2000-2004, 2005-2009, and 2010-2012.



Our last cohorts are cut off because the version of the IMDB at the time of analysis only included immigrants who landed up to 2012. Although the sample size for that cohort is smaller than other cohorts, because of missing years, we include the cohort to allow us to present the most recent available information.

We also examine five pathways for immigration. Three fall under sponsored family, including spouses or partners, daughters or sons, and parents or grandparents. The other two are economic pathways², including principal applicants and spouses or partners of those applicants.³



In Part 1 of the report we examine the socio-demographic characteristics of immigrants in each of these categories. In doing so, we look at the *sex ratio* of immigrants. That is, the ratio of the number of female immigrants over male immigrants. When a ratio equals 1, it means that there is gender balance. If the value is greater than 1, there are more women than men, and, if it is lower, there are more men than women. We also analyze *age* by looking at the proportion of immigrants who are between the ages of 20 and 54 years. We examine this age bracket because it is considered to be the prime age for generating income and paying taxes. We also look at *education*, and here we consider the percent of immigrants with a Bachelor's degree or more education prior to arrival. Last, we look at *country* of citizenship pre-arrival and focus on the top four source countries. In cases where there are ties, we report more than four countries. All the information for these indicators is drawn from IMDB landing record, and each demographic profile is grouped according to the period in which immigrants landed in Canada.

Part 2 of the report analyzes immigrants' economic outcomes by examining four indicators derived from tax records. We assess *employment* based on whether or not people reported income on their T4 tax form⁴. *Earnings* were also assessed as well as whether or not immigrants drew upon social assistance by looking at receipt of *Employment Insurance (EI)* as well as receipt of *old age security (OAS)*. Each is examined 1, 3, 5, 10 and then 15 years after landing for the 1990-1994 cohort. For the later cohorts, the data is limited to 1, 3, 5, or 10 years after arrival.

All analysis, is broken down to compare trends in Nova Scotia as well as the country as whole.

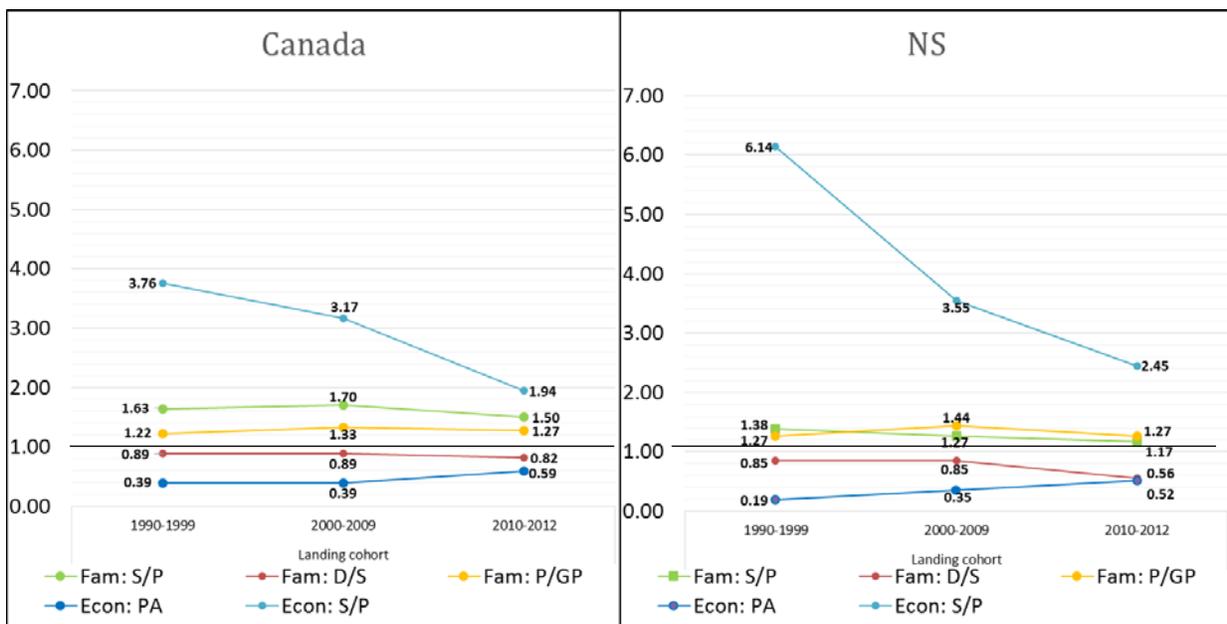
Part 1: Socio-demographic patterns of immigrants by landing category and cohort

In this section we examine the socio-demographic profiles of immigrants across five pathways of immigration. We do this to describe who comes under which landing category and to provide contextual information for interpreting the economic activities in the subsequent section. We seek to understand whether commonly accepted perceptions of economic versus family sponsored immigrants hold true.

Sex

Figure 1.1 shows sex ratio trends across three cohorts of immigrants by landing categories. A sex ratio of 1 means that there is a balance between women and men, while a value greater than 1 indicates there are more women than men, and a value lower than 1 means there are more men than women.

Figure 1.1: Sex ratio of immigrants by landing category for Canada and NS



Generally speaking, we find a gendered pattern across categories for both Canada and Nova Scotia. Women outnumber men as spouses and partners for both economic and family sponsored immigrants, as well as for parents and grandparents. Conversely, more men act as principal applicants among economic immigrants, and more men or boys come as sponsored dependents.

When we examine this pattern over time, in both Canada and Nova Scotia, the ratio narrows except for sponsored dependents where it widens and for sponsored parents and grandparents where it remains about the same.

At the same time we also see that gender imbalances are widest for economic category immigrants, both principal applicants and their sponsored spouses or partners.

Let us elaborate briefly. For the 1990-1999 cohort of immigrants, the sex ratio is 3.76 among those who immigrated as a spouse or partner of economic immigrants nationally. This means there were 3.76 times more women than men in this category. However, for the 2010-2012 cohort, the sex ratio decreases to 1.94. The pattern is even more striking in Nova Scotia with a 6.14 ratio in 1990-1999, or six times more women, decreasing to 2.45 in the 2010-2012 cohort. It appears that over time there is a greater degree of gender balance.

A similar pattern is seen for family sponsored spouses or partners. Nationally, the 1990-1999 cohort had a ratio of 1.63; the next cohort had a ratio of 1.7; and by the 2010-2012 cohort the ratio decreased to 1.5. This means that there were 63 percent more women than men in the first cohort and about 50 percent more in the last. In Nova Scotia, the sex ratios for this category of immigrants were lower, with a ratio of 1.38 for the 1990-1999 cohort and 1.17 for the 2010-12 cohort.

With respect to sponsored parents and grandparents, the sex ratios are lower than spouses and partners for both economic and family streams, and they are relatively stable across cohorts. Nationally, the 1990-1999 cohort had a ratio of 1.22, or 22 percent more women than men, and the 2010-2012 cohort had a ratio of 1.27 or about 27 percent more women. In Nova Scotia, the ratios are about the same, but rather than increasing moderately over time they decrease slightly. The 1990-1999 cohort had a ratio of 1.27 and the 2010-2012 cohort had one of 1.17.

By contrast, principal applicants for the economic category are predominantly male. The sex ratio for these immigrants nationally was 0.39 for the 1990-1999 cohort and rose to 0.59 for the 2010-2012 cohort. This means there are only four women for 10 men in this category in 1990-1999, and six women for ten men by 2010-2012. Again, the trend is more pronounced in Nova Scotia with a lower ratio in 1990-1999 and a bigger change in value by 2010-2012.

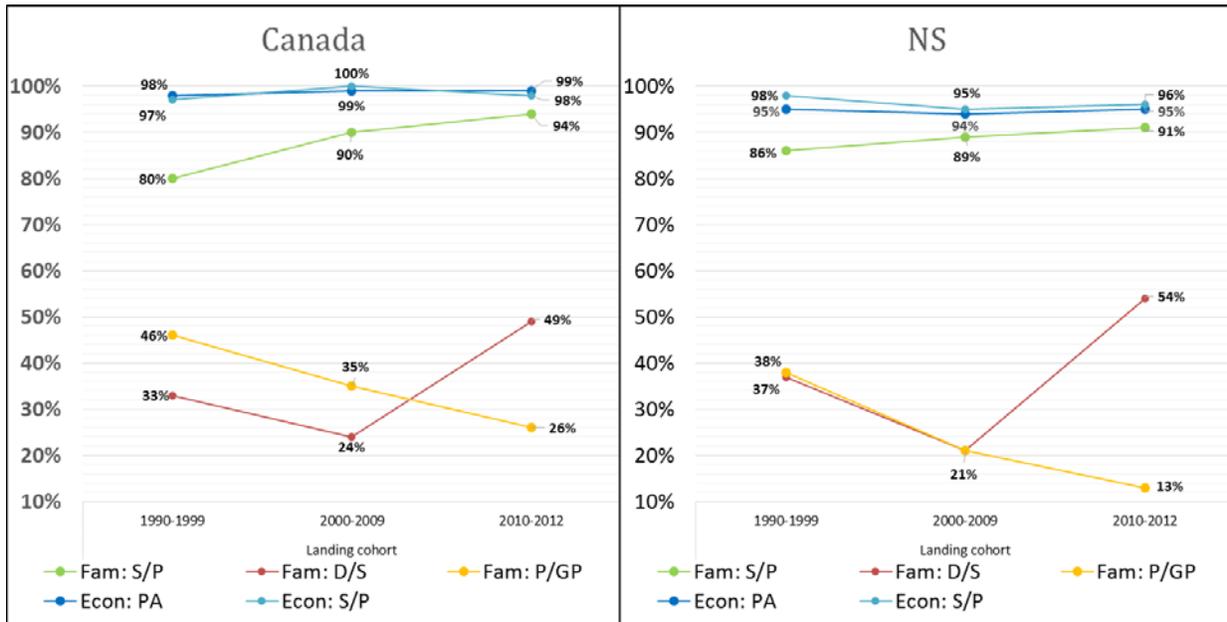
For sponsored dependents the sex ratio is also below 1, meaning more boys are sponsored compared to girls. Nationally, in the 1990-1999 cohort the ratio was 0.89, and by 2010-2012 it widened to about 0.82. In Nova Scotia, the same pattern is observed; yet, over time the ratio widens more than the national trend. In the 1990-1999 cohort the ratio was 0.85, and by 2010-2012 it is 0.56. It should be cautioned, however, that the number of immigrants coming in this category is very small and is, thus, subject to greater levels of fluctuation.

Age

Age is a key criterion in the Canadian immigration system. Economic principal applicants are prioritized if they are of prime working age. Likewise, spouses and partners of economic principal applicants are expected to be in the same relative age group as the applicants. Sponsored family immigrants are not subject to the point system, and sponsored parents and grandparents, as well as dependent children, are not usually seen as falling into prime working age groups. Figure 1.2 reports the proportion of immigrants who are 20 to 54 years old,

considered to be prime working age, by landing category. In short, the figure generally supports common sense expectations, except for sponsored spouses and partners.

Figure 1.2: Proportion of immigrants aged between 20 and 54 years old by landing category for Canada and NS



Nationally, almost all economic principal applicants and their spouses and partners fall into the 20-54 age cohort, and this remains the same across cohorts. The results are similar for Nova Scotia, except that a lower percentage of these immigrants, about five percent, do not fall in the prime age cohort. Likewise, more spouses and partners of economic immigrants fall outside that age range.

Interestingly, for sponsored spouses and partners coming under the family pathway, the overwhelming majority fall into the prime working age category. Nationally, in 1990-1999 about 80 percent were between the ages of 20-54, and by 2010-2012 this increased to 94 percent. In Nova Scotia, in 1990-1999 about 86 percent fell into this age group, and by 2010-2012 about 91 percent were a part of it. What this shows is that sponsored spouses and partners are similar to economic principal applicants and the spouses and partners who come with them.

In contrast, the two other categories of sponsored family have lower proportions of immigrants between the ages of 20 and 54. As one might expect, this is because they include dependents, as well as parents and grandparents. Nevertheless, a sizable portion of sponsored sons and daughters actually fall into the prime working age group. Nationally, in 1990-1999 about 33 percent were between the ages of 20-54 and by 2010-2012 almost half were.⁵ A similar trend is also observed in Nova Scotia, with just over half of sons and daughters in 2010-2012, or 54 percent, falling into the prime working age group.

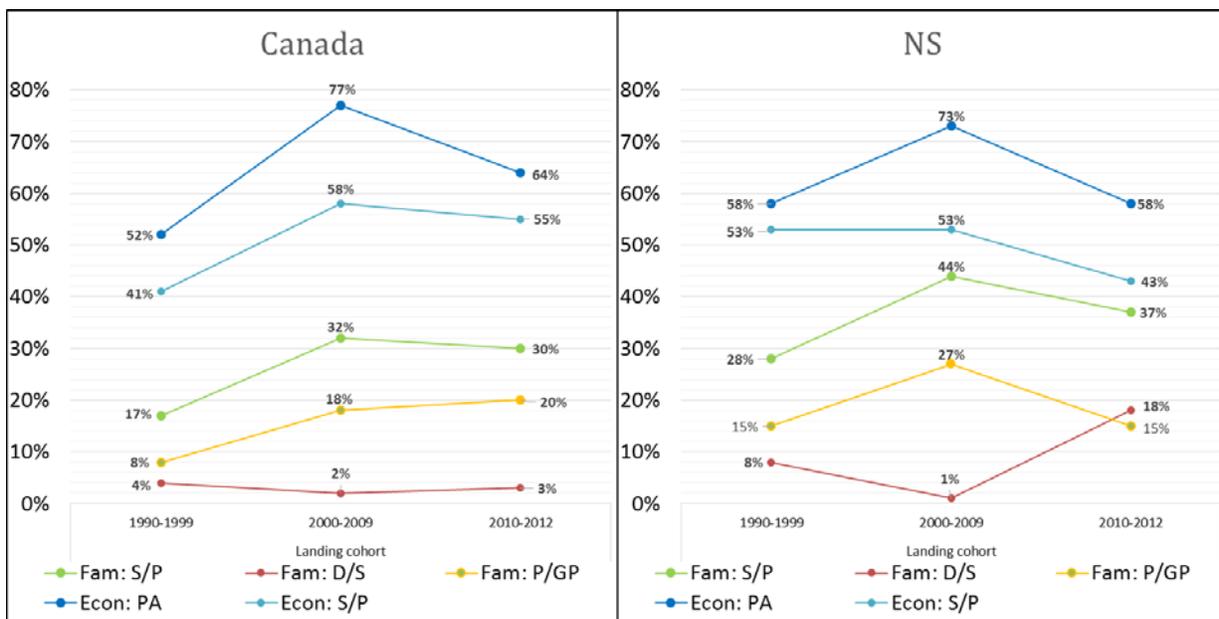
For sponsored parents and grandparents, 46 percent in the 1990-1999 cohort in Canada were of prime working age at the time of arrival. This declined, however, by the 2010-2012, where only 26 percent, or about one in four immigrants in this category, fell into that age group. For Nova Scotia, this same pattern is found; however, the proportion of sponsored parents and grandparents in this age category was lower, with 38 percent in 1990-1999 and just 13 percent in 2010-2012.

Education

Along with the age, education is a key element of the point system and now the express entry system. Generally, Canadian immigration policy over the last decades has valued high education, especially among its economic stream immigrants. Figure 1.3 presents the proportions of immigrants who have a Bachelor’s degree or above as their highest education obtained before arriving in Canada.

When education is examined we generally see that those coming under economic categories have a higher proportion of immigrants with university degrees compared to those arriving under sponsored family categories. For Canada, 52 percent of those arriving as economic principal applicants during the 1990-1999 cohort held such degrees. This proportion increased but then dropped to 64 percent for the 2010-2012 cohort. For spouses and partners of economic immigrants, the proportion of university degree holders was lower than for principal applicants with 41 percent in the 1990-1999 cohort and 55 percent in the 2010-12 cohort. For immigrants in these streams in Nova Scotia, the proportions with university educations was higher than the national trend in the 1990-1999 cohort, but lower in the 2010-2012 cohort.

Figure 1.3: Proportion of immigrants with Bachelor’s degree or above by landing category for Canada and NS



When sponsored families are analyzed, we see that spouses or partners have higher levels of education than other families in this category. Parents and grandparents come next with dependents last. We caution, however, that sons or daughters may still be in the midst of their educational training and tend to be younger, which might account for their lower level of education. Nationally, in 1990-1999, 17 percent of family sponsored spouses or partners had university educations. This increased to 30 percent in 2010-2012. In Nova Scotia, more immigrants in this category had university educations than the national trend, and over time this increased. About 7 to 12 percent more sponsored spouses or partners in Nova Scotia had university degrees, compared to Canada, as a whole.

For sponsored parents and grandparents, the proportion of university degree holders was 8 percent nationally for the 1990-1999 cohort. By the 2010-2012 cohort, this figure increased to 20 percent. In recent years, almost one in five immigrants in this category is university educated. The proportion of university degree holders among these immigrants is even higher for Nova Scotia in the 1990-1999 cohort, but lower for the 2010-2012 cohort.

The proportion of university degree holders among sponsored dependents was quite low nationally; however, in Nova Scotia over time the proportion increased substantially. This is primarily explained by the fact that most dependents are still in school and have not yet obtained a university degree.

Country of origin

We next examine country of origin for immigrants across categories and landing cohorts by looking at top source countries. In cases with ties, more than one country is reported. Tables 1.1 and 1.2 summarize results for Canada and Nova Scotia, respectively.

Nationally, as seen in Table 1.1, three Asian countries – China, India, and the Philippines – repeatedly rank in the top countries for all categories. Among those who came during the 1990-1999 period, these three countries accounted for between 23 percent of economic principal applicants and 27 percent of their spouses and partners. Over time, the concentration of economic immigrants from these countries intensified. In the 2010-2012 cohort, 37 percent of principal applicants and 41 percent of their spouses or partners came from these countries.

The concentration of the immigrants from China, India, and the Philippines is about the same for sponsored spouses and partners; however, it is much greater for sponsored parents and grandparents.

In contrast, the proportion of immigrants from China, India, and the Philippines is smaller for sponsored sons and daughters at 17 percent in the 1990-1999 cohort. For sons and daughters, Caribbean countries, such as Jamaica (20%), Guyana, and Haiti (5% each) rank in the top countries and account for 30 percent of the immigrants coming as sponsored dependents in the 1990-1999 cohort. Differences persist over time; however, China emerges as a top source country of sponsored dependents in 2010-2012 and the Philippines remains about the same.

Table 1.1: Top four countries of origin by landing categories and cohorts (Canada)

Canada: 1990-1999										
Rank	Fam: S/P		Fam: D/S		Fam: P/GP		Econ: PA		Econ: S/P	
	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%
1	India	13%	Jamaica	20%	India	24%	China	12%	China	15%
2	Philippines	7%	Philippines	13%	China Philippines	9%	Brit. Dep. Terr.	7%	Brit. Dep. Terr. India	7%
3	China USA Poland	6%	Guyana Haiti	5%	Vietnam	6%	India	6%	Philippines	5%
4	Vietnam Sri Lanka Jamaica Britain Guyana	3%	India Poland Ghana	4%	Brit. Dep. Terr.	5%	Taiwan Philippines	5%	Pakistan Britain Romania Taiwan	4%

Canada: 2000-2009										
Rank	Fam: S/P		Fam: D/S		Fam: P/GP		Econ: PA		Econ: S/P	
	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%
1	India	15%	Jamaica	15%	India	36%	China	18%	China	19%
2	China	12%	Philippines	10%	China	15%	India	11%	India	13%
3	USA	7%	China	9%	Philippines	6%	Philippines	6%	Philippines	6%
4	Philippines Pakistan	5% 5%	Ghana	5%	Pakistan	5%	Pakistan	5%	Pakistan	5%

Canada: 2010-2012										
Rank	Fam: S/P		Fam: D/S		Fam: P/GP		Econ: PA		Econ: S/P	
	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%
1	India	13%	Philippines	12%	India	33%	Philippines	14%	Philippines India	15% 15%
2	China	10%	Jamaica China	11%	China	26%	India	12%	China	11%
3	Philippines	7%	Haiti	6%	Philippines	8%	China	11%	Iran	4%
4	Pakistan	4%	Cuba	4%	Sri Lanka Haiti	4%	France	5%	Pakistan Egypt	3%

As a result, nationally, it is clear that Asian countries dominate immigrant source countries. This is the case across categories and intensifies over time.

When we examine Nova Scotia, in Table 1.2, we see a different pattern. Although there are some concentrations of immigrants from China, India, and the Philippines, especially among economic category immigrants, we see that traditional sending countries, like Britain and the USA, still play a prominent role as sending countries of immigrants to the region.

In the 1990-1999 cohort, 17 percent of economic principal applicants came from China and India, and the Philippines did not make it into the top source countries. In that cohort, we also see a wider range of source countries than we do nationally and see that the USA is among the top four. In the 2010-2012 cohort, we see that the share of economic principal applicant immigrants from China and India increase by 5 percentage points, and we also see that the Philippines account for about 10 percent of these immigrants. Interestingly, the USA drops off the list, but during that period, Britain takes top place with 14 percent of immigrants. Clearly, Nova Scotia attracts a different pool of immigrants than Canada, as a whole. A similar trend is found among immigrants coming as economic spouses or partners.

Table 1.2: Top four countries of origin by landing categories and cohorts (Nova Scotia)

NS: 1990- 1999										
Rank	Fam: S/P		Fam: D/S		Fam: P/GP		Econ: PA		Econ: S/P	
	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%
1	USA	23%	USA	14%	China	16%	China	10%	China	22%
2	Britain	10%	Philippines	11%	India Lebanon	9%	India South Korea Iraq	7%	India	8%
3	Lebanon	8%	China	9%	Britain	7%	Jordan Pakistan	6%	USA	7%
4	China	5%	Jamaica	7%	USA Vietnam	6%	Egypt USA	5%	South Korea Egypt Jordan	6%

NS: 2000-2009										
Rank	Fam: S/P		Fam: D/S		Fam: P/GP		Econ: PA		Econ: S/P	
	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%
1	USA	22%	Cuba	16%	China	23%	China	12%	Britain China	12%
2	Britain	11%	USA	9%	India	12%	Britain	9%	Iran	9%
3	China	6%	China	8%	Britain	8%	India Iran	7% 7%	Egypt Jordan	6%
4	Lebanon	4%	Ethiopia	7%	Lebanon	7%	USA	6%	India USA	5% 5%

NS: 2010-2012										
Rank	Fam: S/P		Fam: D/S		Fam: P/GP		Econ: PA		Econ: S/P	
	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%	Country	%
1	USA	19%	Iran	27%	China	55%	Britain	14%	Britain	19%
2	Britain	11%	Britain	18%	India Philippines	6% 6%	China	13%	Philippines	11%
3	Philippines China	6%	Liberia Sierra Leone Philippines USA Cuba	9%	Britain	5%	Philippines	10%	China	9%
4	India UK & Colonies	3%			South Africa Morocco Pakistan	3%	India	9%	India	8%

Immigrants from China, India, and the Philippines play a much smaller role for family sponsored spouses and partners. In the 1990-1999 cohort, only China made it into the top four. Instead, the category is dominated by immigrants from Britain and the USA, which accounted for 33 percent if immigrants in that category for that cohort. By the 2010-2012 cohort, little changed with respect to 30 percent of immigrants coming as sponsored spouses or partners from Britain and the USA; however, China was joined by the Philippines and India in the top four source countries.

Interestingly, among sponsored parent and grandparent immigrants, China and India topped Britain and the USA in the 1990-1999 cohort, and increased their share over other cohorts over time. By 2010-2012, immigrants from the Philippines also made it into the top four source countries and were tied for second in the ranking.

With respect to sponsored dependents, there are many fluctuations across immigrant landing cohorts in Nova Scotia. The only clear pattern is that immigrants from the USA continually make it into the top four source countries accounting for about 9 to 14 percent of sponsored dependents in any given cohort.

Summary

A demographic analysis of immigrants across landing cohort and categories shows us that economic stream immigrants tend to be male and sponsored family female. The trend is found both nationally and in Nova Scotia; however, the gender gap is more pronounced for economic immigrants in the province.

When age is examined, we see that almost all economic pathway immigrants fall into the prime 20-54 year old demographic. We also see that the overwhelming majority of family sponsored spouses and partners also fall into this age bracket. With respect to family sponsored parents and grandparents, as well as dependents, they are not as old or as young as most policy makers and popular discourse expects. When these trends are examined in Nova Scotia, we see that fewer immigrants to the province fall between 20-54 years old, but patterns are similar to national trends.

As most would expect, economic stream immigrants had the most education, followed by their spouses or partners. At the same time, a sizeable proportion of family sponsored immigrants hold university degrees, especially among sponsored spouses or partners. In Nova Scotia, economic pathway immigrants generally had lower levels of education and family sponsored immigrants had higher education compared to the national trend.

We last examined the source countries of immigrants across landing cohorts and immigration categories. Nationally, we find that immigrants from China, India, and the Philippines dominate most immigration categories, and this increases over time. In Nova Scotia, however, trends are slightly different with a large share of immigrants coming from traditional source countries, like Britain and the USA.

Part 2: Economic outcomes of immigrants by landing category and cohort

In Part 1 of the report, we examined basic demographic profiles of immigrants to Canada and Nova Scotia across immigration categories and three landing cohorts. In this section, Part 2 of the report, the economic activities of immigrants by immigration category and landing cohort are analyzed across four outcomes: employment, average earnings, receipt of Employment Insurance, (EI) and receipt of Old Age Security (OAS).

In this part of analysis, we focus on economic principal applicants, their spouses or partners, as well as family sponsored spouses and partners and parents and grandparents. The sponsored dependent category will be excluded in this part of the report because of the small number of immigrants coming through this pathway to Nova Scotia. We also note that in some parts of the analysis we omit other categories of immigrants due to low numbers in that province. We used five-year intervals for immigration cohorts to offer more detailed analysis.

Employment

Employment is measured by earnings reported on T4 slips for a given year. Those who report employment income are treated as employed, and on this front we examine the rate of working at 1, 3, 5, 10 and then 15 years after immigrants landed in Canada. We examine this for the 1990-1994 cohort, and for later cohorts the data are limited to 1, 3, 5, or 10 years after arrival based on how long they have been in the country and have filed tax returns.

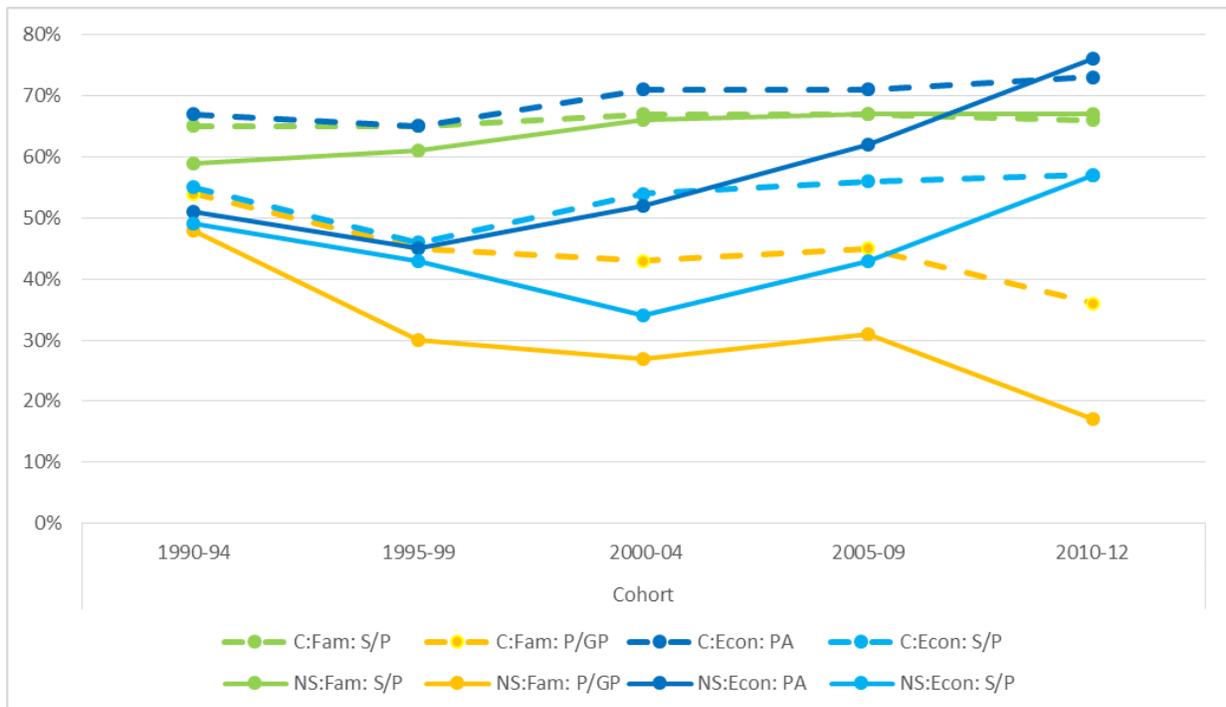
Figure 2.1 shows the proportion of immigrants who had a job one year after landing for each landing category by cohort for Canada and Nova Scotia. The national trend is captured with dotted lines, while the provincial trend is illustrated with solid lines. When the figure is examined, we see there is little difference across immigration categories for the 1999-1994 cohort.

As one might expect, nationally, economic principal applicants had the highest proportion of those who were employed in the first year after their arrival, with 67 percent reporting income on a tax return. This was, however, only 2 percentage points higher than family sponsored spouses and partners. Moreover, in the 1990-1994 cohort, 55 percent of economic category spouses and partners worked, and this was almost the same as the 54 percent of family sponsored parents and grandparents.

In subsequent cohorts, nationally, the rate of employment one year after landing increased gradually for economic principal applicants to 73 percent in the 2010-2012 cohort. This offers some evidence that changes in policy may have helped on this front. The proportion employed after one year among family sponsored spouses and partners remained about the same across cohorts and were generally higher than for spouses and partners coming under the economic stream. At the national level, the proportion of family sponsored parents and grandparents working during their first year of arrival declined across cohorts, falling to 36 percent in the 2010-2012 cohort.

When immigrants to Nova Scotia are examined, we see interesting contrasts. During the 1990-1994, like Canada, as a whole, there was not much difference across immigrant categories. This, however, changes across cohorts, with economic principal applicants gaining more employment than immigrants in other streams and by the 2010-2012 cohort. Generally, immigrants in Nova Scotia fare better in terms of employment during their first year after arrival compared to those across Canada, except for family sponsored parents and grandparents.

Figure 2.1: Percent working after 1 year by immigration category and cohort



Overall, Figure 2.1 shows that differences across cohorts emerge between economic principal applicants and other immigrants. The figure also shows that the majority of immigrants who come under family streams work in the first year after arrival. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that family sponsored spouses and partners perform better in terms of employment in the first year than spouses and partners coming under the economic stream.

To explore these trends further, in Figure 2.2 we examine rates of employment for economic principal applicants and the spouses and partners who came with them, as well as family sponsored spouses or partners. We look at their rates of employment up to 15 years after arrival. National trends for Canada, as a whole, are reported on the left side of Figure 2.2, and Nova Scotia trends are on the right side.

Generally, the figure shows that, at the national level, a greater share of economic principal applicants is employed among later cohorts. When you look at how each cohort fares over time, the level of employment remains about the same.

When economic spouses and partners are examined in Figure 2.2, we see that again more recent cohorts fare better with higher initial rates of employment. Their rate of employment, however, was lower than that of principal applicants. Even so, unlike economic principal applicants, over time, their rates of employment increase.

Figure 2.2: Percent employed over time by immigration category and cohort



When sponsored spouses and partners are examined, nationally, we see less difference in how later cohorts fare in the labour market. There is less difference among cohorts, compared to economic immigrants. Likewise, there is a less dramatic increase in the rate of employment, compared to economic spouses and partners. However, there is a slight increase over time in terms of their rate of employment, compared to economic principal applicants, and more striking is the fact that they have rates of employment comparable to economic principal applicants.

In Nova Scotia, trends differ from the country, as a whole. Generally, economic principal applicants have substantially lower rates of employment, compared to the national rate, and over time it does not improve. For earlier cohorts, it even gets worse. That being said, more recent cohorts have higher rates of employment. With respect to economic sponsored spouses and partners, they too have lower rates of employment, compared to the country, as a whole, and economic principal applicants. Over time, their rate of employment improves. What is most striking in Nova Scotia is that family sponsored spouses and partners have higher rates of employment than all other categories of immigrants, and this is the case across cohorts and over time.

Given that the rate of employment is based on T4 tax return earnings, the lower rate of employment among economic principal applicants, compared to family sponsored spouses and partners, means that the principal applicants were less likely to file returns in the province. As a result, the gap does not directly translate to employment *per se*, but simply means that the rates of filing taxes in Nova Scotia is greater among those who came as family sponsored spouses and partners.

Earnings

Whether an immigrant works or not is a basic economic outcome and does not account for whether or not they work in a “good” job – one that pays well. To capture this, we also examine average earnings of immigrants across immigration categories and landing cohorts. Again, we examine how immigrants fare 1, 3, 5, 10 and then 15 years after landing.

Figure 2.3 plots average earnings of immigrants by immigration category and cohort for Canada and Nova Scotia one year after arrival. The national trend is captured with dotted lines, while the provincial trend is illustrated with solid lines. The figure shows that economic principal applicants have the highest earnings, compared to other categories of immigrants. For Canada overall, the 1990-1994 cohort earned, on average, \$12,800 (70%) to \$16,200 (109%) more than immigrants in other categories. Over time, later cohorts earn even more than other immigrants. The 2010-2012 cohort of principal applicants earned between \$14,000 (63%) and \$21,100 (140%) more than immigrants in other categories. Their higher earnings should come as no surprise, given their higher level education – documented in Part 1 of the report.

When we look at other immigration categories at the national level, we find that family sponsored spouses and partners have about the same level of earnings as spouses and partners coming under the economic category. They earned \$300 more than economic spouses and partners in the 1990-1994 cohort and had the same average earnings in the 2010-2012 cohort. Like with employment, this was rather unexpected, given that economic spouses and partners have higher rates of university education than those coming as family sponsored.

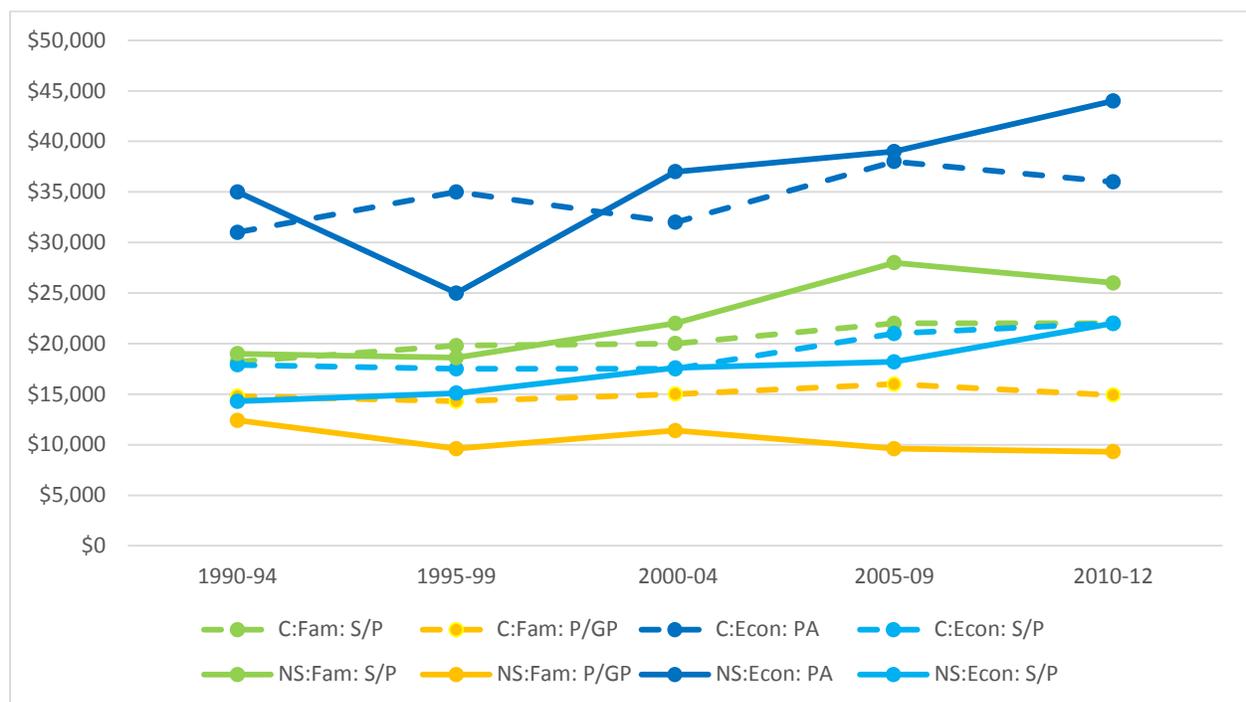
With respect to sponsored parents and grandparents, they had the lowest average earnings, compared to other categories of immigrants. Their lower earnings are in line with their socio-

demographic profiles, outlined in Part 1. They are both older and have lower rates of university degree holders than other categories of immigrants.

When we look at Nova Scotia, we see that immigrant earnings are higher, compared to Canada, except for economic spouses and partners and family sponsored parents and grandparents. We also find that, over time, the amount of average earnings increases for later cohorts. For example, the 1990-1994 cohort of economic principal applicants to Nova Scotia earned \$4,000 (13%) more than those nationally. This earning advantage increased to \$8,000 (22%) among the 2010-2012 cohort. For sponsored spouses and partners, those in Nova Scotia earned \$800 (4%) more than the national average for this category in 1990-1994. When we look at the 2010-2012, they earned \$4,000 (18%) more than the national average.

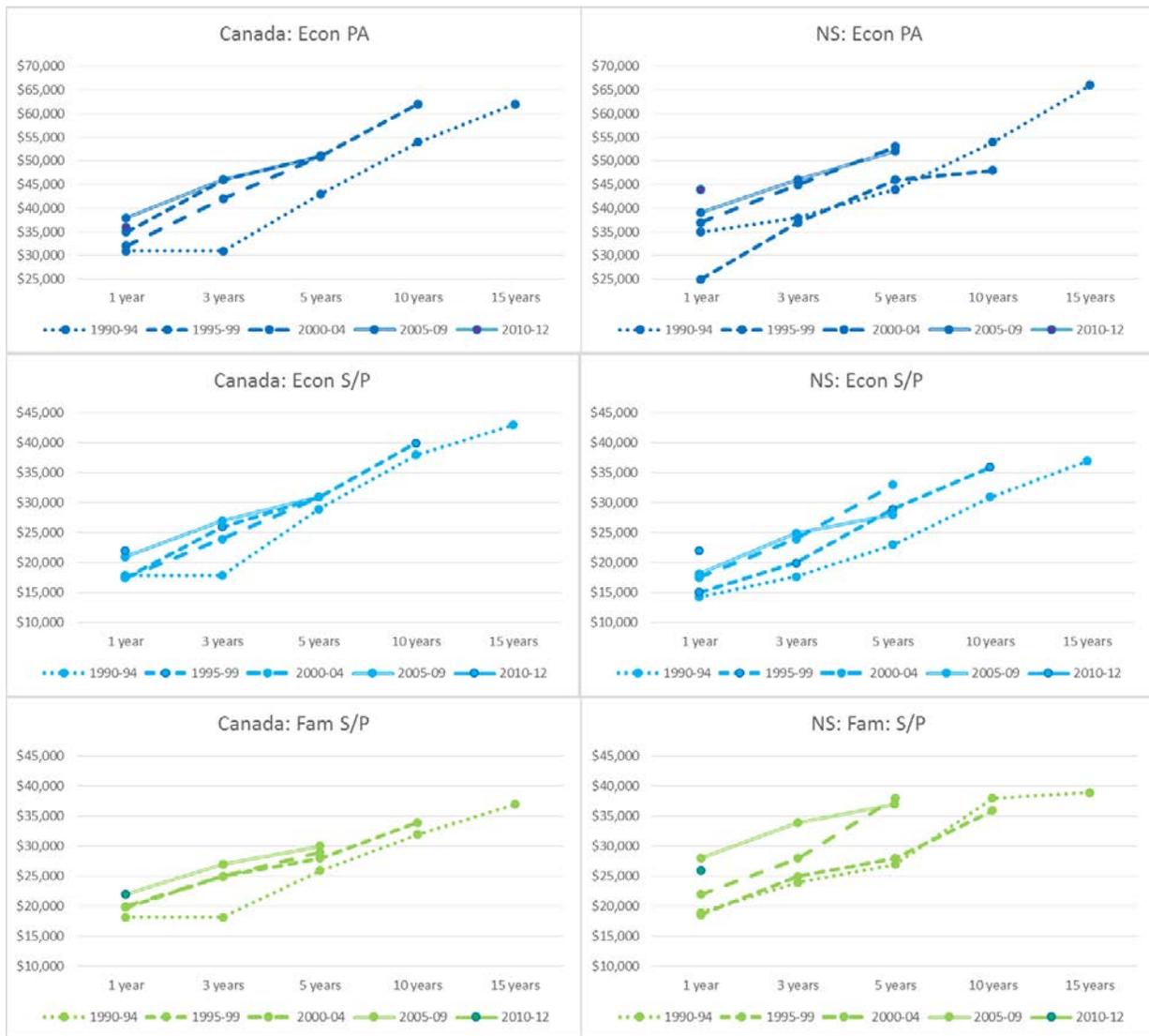
In contrast, economic spouses and partners earned less than the Canadian average for immigrants in this category. They also earned less than family sponsored spouses and partners. It appears that they not only have lower rates of employment, but also have less return on their work when they do gain paid employment. Sponsored parents and grandparents, also earned less than the Canadian average for immigrants in this category, and their earnings decreased over cohorts.

Figure 2.3: Average earnings after 1 year by immigration category and cohort



To explore average earnings further, in Figure 2.4, we also examined them over time – up to 15 years after arrival, depending on data availability for each cohort. As in the section of employment, we focus on economic principal applicants, their spouses and partners, as well as family sponsored spouses and partners. National trends for Canada, as a whole, are reported on the left side of the figure and Nova Scotia trends are shown on the right side.

Figure 2.4: Average earnings over time by landing cohort



Generally, at the national level, we find that average income increases over time for all categories of immigrants. Given that inflation was accounted for by adjusting the earnings to 2012 dollars, the increase is partly due to more years of work experience. We also see that economic principal applicants continue to earn more than their spouses and partners, as well as family sponsored spouses and partners.

The same pattern is found in Nova Scotia; however, again we see that economic principal applicants and sponsored spouses and partners earn more than immigrants in the same categories nationally. For instance, 5 years after landing, economic principal applicants in the province earned between 2 percent and 4 percent more than the national average of this category, across cohorts (except the cohort of the 1995-1999), and 6 percent more after 15 years. These findings are in line with other research on earnings in the region (see Akbari 2011; Akbari and Dar 2005).

Economic spouses and partners of immigrants in Nova Scotia, however, have slightly lower or about the same average income over time as those nationally, and this is generally consistent across cohorts.

In contrast, family sponsored spouses and partners landing in Nova Scotia have higher average earnings, compared to the national level, for most cohorts, but especially for immigrants arriving after 2000. For example, family sponsored spouses and partners in the province earned between 2.3 percent and 31 percent more, across cohorts (except the cohort of the 1995-1999), 5 years after landing and 5.4 percent more after 15 years.

Generally, as with employment, economic principal applicants fare better than immigrants in other categories and consistently do so over time. Interestingly, however, family sponsored spouses and partners earn more, on average, than spouses and partners coming under the economic stream. This may suggest that economic spouses and partners are missed in broader policy outcomes. Also of note, economic principal applicants and family sponsored spouses and partners to Nova Scotia, across most cohorts, earned more than the national average of immigrants in comparable categories.

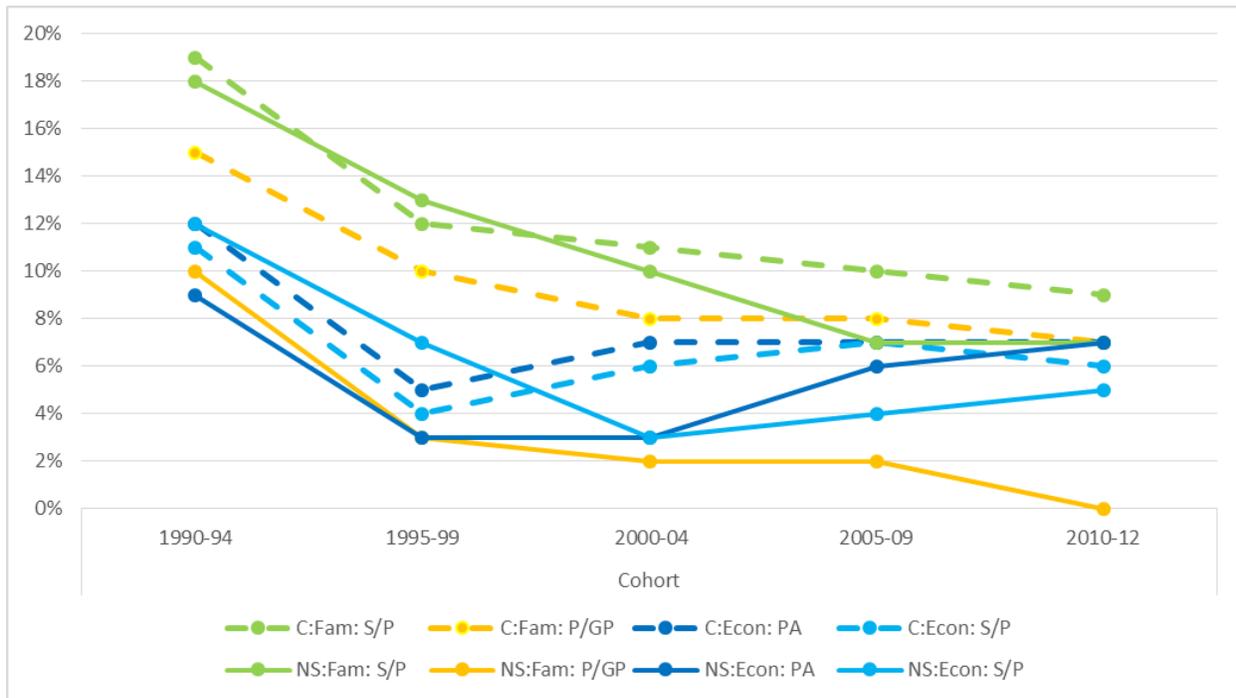
Employment Insurance

When considering the economic integration of immigrants, it is also worth examining whether or not they draw upon social assistance. To examine this, we look at the proportion of immigrants drawing Employment Insurance (EI) by immigration category and cohort. We examine trends 1, 3, 5, 10 and then 15 years after landing.

We begin, in Figure 2.5, by looking at the proportion of immigrants who received EI one year after landing by category and cohort for Canada, as a whole, and Nova Scotia. The national trend is captured with dotted lines, while the provincial trend is illustrated with solid lines.

The figure shows a high degree of fluctuation in the proportion of EI recipients across cohorts. Nationally, economic spouses and partners had the lowest rate of receiving EI in 1990-1994 across categories. This was followed by economic principal applicants. About 11 and 12 percent of immigrants, respectively, in these categories of that cohort, drew upon this form of social assistance. Later cohorts, as seen with the 2010-2012, drew upon EI less than earlier ones – about 7 percent of economic principal applicants and 6 percent of family sponsored spouses and partners. The drop in usage may reflect changes in EI policy that occurred in 1996 and resulted in an immediate 18 percent reduction in EI claims (van den Berg, Parent and Masi, 2004). The policy change also made it much harder for immigrants to claim benefits.

Figure 2.5: Percent receiving EI after 1 year by immigration category and cohort



When we focus on family sponsored immigrants at the national level, we see that they drew upon EI more than economic immigrants. In the 1990-1994 cohort, 19 percent of family sponsored spouses and partners and 15 percent of sponsored parents and grandparents received EI one year after landing. These percentages are comparable to the findings in previous research (Baker and Benjamin, 1995; Crossley, McDonald and Worswick, 2001). Although those percentages may seem high, it is worth noting that the rate of EI use among the native-born population in the 1981-1994 period was almost 20 percent (Crossley, McDonald and Worswick, 2001: 383). When we examine later cohorts the rate decreases.

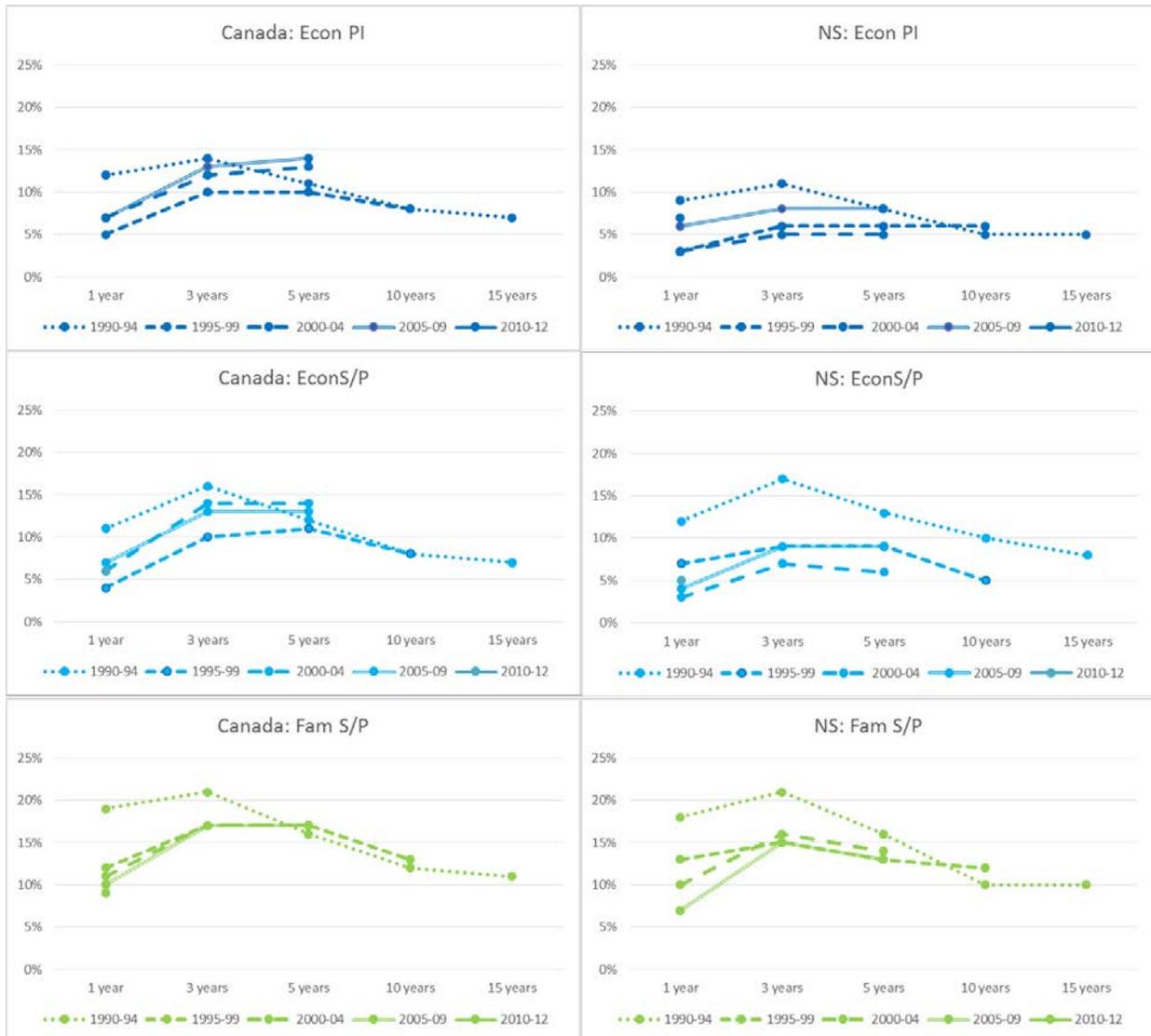
Patterns in Nova Scotia are similar to Canada, as a whole, except for sponsored parents and grandparents who have lower rates of EI claims. Figure 2.5 also shows, in line with other economic indicators, that rates of receiving EI among immigrants to Nova Scotia are generally lower than the national average, one year after landing.

To explore EI further, in Figure 2.6, we also examine rates over time – up to 15 years after arrival, depending on data availability for each cohort. As with employment and earnings, we focus on economic principal applicants, their spouses and partners, as well as family sponsored spouses and partners. National trends for Canada, as a whole, are reported on the left side of the figure, and Nova Scotia trends are shown on the right side.

When EI is tracked over time, we find a general increase in the percentage of recipients from year one to year three, and then a decrease. This is the case nationally and in Nova Scotia. In terms of differences across immigration categories, Figure 2.6 shows that economic principal

applicants and their spouses and partners have lower rates of EI use than family sponsored spouses and partners. The same is found for Nova Scotia.

Figure 2.6: Percent receiving EI over time by immigration category and cohort



Differences, however, are seen when comparing rates between Nova Scotia and Canada, as a whole. Depending on immigration category, cohort, and timing since arrival, immigrants to the province have up to 8 percentage points lower rates of EI recipients than the national trend. This is even more pronounced for later cohorts. These findings are in line with other economic metrics on employment and earnings. It appears that immigrants in Nova Scotia fare better than the national average, with respect to economic outcomes.

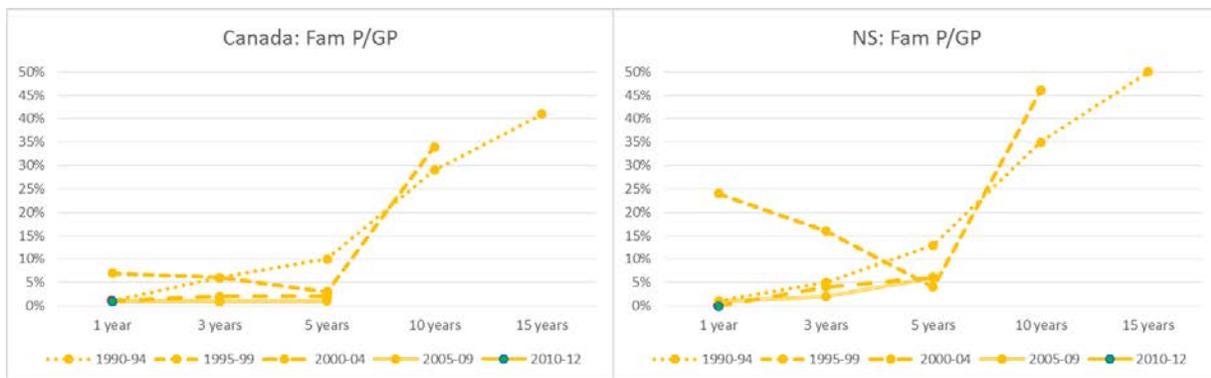
Recipients of OAS

A controversial issue in immigration policy is the use of social welfare among family sponsored parents and grandparents. This was, in part, what triggered the creation of a “Super Visa” for these immigrants and an annual limit of about 5,000 sponsored parents and grandparents a year. Our analysis of employment and earnings, however, suggests between 34 and 54 percent of these immigrants, depending on landing cohort, work after coming to Canada. This is in line with our previous research (VanderPlaat, Ramos and Yoshida, 2012). Family sponsored parents and grandparents might not, in fact, be the economic “drain” to taxpayers as labeled by conservative policy makers.

To explore this, in Figure 2.7 we examine rates of receiving Old Age Security (OAS) among family sponsored parents and grandparents. National trends are presented on the left and provincial trends on the right. In interpreting the figure, it should be noted that immigrants who have been in Canada less than 10 years are not eligible for OAS. Reflecting this limitation in eligibility, newer cohorts of immigrants have very low rates of receiving the OAS nationally and in Nova Scotia.

This, however, changes 10 years after arrival, and Figure 2.7 shows a spike in the proportion receiving OAS at that point. We only have data for the 1990-1994 and the 1995-1999 cohorts, due to the length of time immigrants are in the country. When they are examined nationally 10 years after landing, we see that 29 and 34 percent, respectively, receive OAS. This increases after 15 years of landing. When we examine Nova Scotia we see that rates are slightly higher than the national average, and 10 years after landing 35 percent of 1990-1994 cohort and 46 percent of the next cohort receive OAS. This increases to 50 percent at 15 years after landing.

Figure 2.7: Percent of family sponsored parents and grandparents receiving OAS by cohort



The increase in the rate of those receiving social assistance among family sponsored parents and grandparents should be taken in context. First, the native-born population receives OAS after they turn 65 of age. We would expect no less of immigrants. Second, in considering this category of immigrants, it is also important to note that, like native-born Canadians, they age and naturally the rate of claims should increase over time. Third, Figure 2.7 shows that, because of existing

policy, family sponsored parents and grandparents do not claim OAS in the short term. Last, when contrasted against Figure 2.1 and 2.3 on employment and earnings, as well as socio-demographic data in Part 1, we see that many parents and grandparents are employed and contribute to the Canadian economy and pay taxes.

Summary

Analysis of the economic outcomes of immigrants, through their filing of taxes, shows that nationally economic principal applicants have the highest rate of employment, compared to other categories of immigrants. Interestingly, family sponsored spouses and partners have higher rates of labour market participation than spouses and partners coming under the economic stream. In Nova Scotia, we see that family sponsored spouses and partners have higher rates of employment than economic principal applicants. We also find that rates of employment were lower than the national trend, but over time recent cohorts of immigrants have been closing the gap.

With respect to earnings, economic principal applicants have higher earnings than immigrants from other immigration categories. Again, we find that family sponsored spouses and partners earn more than spouses and partners coming under the economic stream. When Nova Scotia is examined, we find that both economic principal applicants and family sponsored spouses and partners earn more on average than immigrants of the same categories nationally.

In this section, we also examined if immigrants draw on two forms of social assistance, EI and OAS. Nationally, family sponsored immigrants have higher rates of claiming EI than economic stream immigrants. In Nova Scotia, patterns are less clear cut and shift over time; however, rates of claiming EI are lower in the province, compared to the national trend. Over time, there is a drop in claims by later cohorts of immigrants, likely reflecting policy shifts.

When OAS is examined, we looked specifically at family sponsored parents and grandparents. On that front, we find very few claim OAS in their first 10 years after arriving to Canada. This largely reflects policy that blocks their access to this social benefit through residency criteria. Once eligible, the rate of sponsored parents and grandparents claiming OAS increases nationally and in Nova Scotia. Generally, a slightly greater proportion of sponsored parents and grandparents in Nova Scotia claim OAS.

Conclusion

In this report we set out to examine the economic integration of immigrants across immigration categories and cohorts. In doing so, we analyzed national trends and also focused specifically on Nova Scotia. In Part 1 of the report, we began with a demographic portrait of immigrants looking at gender, age, education, and source country. We did this to see if there are any patterns to who immigrates and if those patterns are consistent across immigration categories. In Part 2, the analysis was extended to focus on two economic outcomes – employment and earnings – as well as two measures of social assistance – Employment Insurance and Old Age Security. We examined these to understand how different landing cohorts integrate and to understand if

commonly held assumptions about specific immigration categories hold true when looking at the economic performance of immigrants.

Demographic analysis of immigrants across landing cohorts and categories shows that economic stream immigrants tend to be male and sponsored family female. The trend is found both nationally and in Nova Scotia; however, the gender gap is more pronounced for economic immigrants in the province. Over time, the gap, both nationally and in Nova Scotia, narrows; however, notable differences persist. Here our findings suggest that efforts could be made to narrow the gender gap in economic principal applicants and efforts should be made to achieve gender parity across immigration pathways. This would offer greater opportunity to recruit a wider range of immigrants and would align policy to Canada's commitment to gender equality.

We also saw that almost all economic pathway immigrants fall into the prime 20-54 year old demographic. Likewise, the overwhelming majority of family sponsored spouses and partners also fall into this age bracket. With respect to family sponsored parents and grandparents, as well as dependents, they are not as old or as young as most policy makers and popular discourse expects. When these trends are examined in Nova Scotia, we see that fewer immigrants to the province fall between 20-54 years old, but patterns are similar to national trends. This finding shows that negative assumptions around potential economic contributions of family sponsored immigrants are likely overstated, as a significant share of immigrants from family stream categories are of prime working age.

As most would expect, economic stream immigrants held the most education. At the same time, a sizeable proportion of family sponsored immigrants hold university degrees, especially among sponsored spouses or partners. In Nova Scotia, economic pathway immigrants generally had lower levels of education and family sponsored immigrants had higher educations, compared to the national trend.

We last examined the source countries of immigrants across landing cohorts and immigration categories. Nationally, we find that immigrants from China, India, and the Philippines dominate most immigration categories, and this increases over time. In Nova Scotia, however, trends are slightly different with a large share of immigrants coming from traditional source countries, like Britain and the USA. Both nationally and provincially, more could be done to diversify the range of source countries of immigrants. This would align policy to Canada's commitment to multiculturalism and diversity.

Analysis of immigrants' economic outcomes shows that nationally economic principal applicants have the highest rate of employment, compared to other categories of immigrants. Interestingly, family sponsored spouses and partners have higher rates of labour market participation than spouses and partners coming under the economic stream. Here, there appears to be a gap in the economic integration of spouses and partners of the economic stream. Policy should address this gap, given economic stream spouses and partners share similar age and educational profiles as economic principal applicants.

In Nova Scotia, we see that family sponsored spouses and partners have higher rates of filing taxes with employment income than economic principal applicants. We also find that rates of

employment are lower than the national trend, but over time recent cohorts of immigrants have higher rates of employment. These findings suggest that provincial changes to immigration and integration policy have had a positive effect helping immigrants find jobs over time.

With respect to earnings, economic principal applicants have higher earnings than immigrants from other immigration categories. Again, we find that family sponsored spouses and partners earn more than spouses and partners coming under the economic stream. When Nova Scotia is examined we find that both economic principal applicants and family sponsored spouses and partners earn more on average than immigrants of the same categories nationally. Provincial policy should do more to promote this fact as it will be a strong incentive to attracting immigrants.

In our analysis of economic integration, we focused on individuals. Some might argue that it is important to consider households and family in all forms of integration and migration strategies. This would be an interesting avenue to pursue in future analysis that probes into the difference we have observed in this report.

We also analyzed if immigrants draw on two forms of social assistance, EI and OAS. Nationally family sponsored immigrants have higher rates of claiming EI than economic stream immigrants. In Nova Scotia patterns are less clear cut and shift over time; however, rates of claiming EI are lower in the province compared to the national trend. Over time, there is a drop in claims by later cohorts of immigrants, likely reflecting policy shifts. Current practices have led to relatively few immigrants drawing social assistance. Policy should focus on the net benefit of immigrants to the Canadian economy. In Nova Scotia, trends suggest that those not gaining employment likely leave the province. Here, findings suggest efforts need to be focused on helping immigrants gain employment.

When OAS is examined, we looked at family sponsored parents and grandparents alone. Data show that very few claim OAS in their first 10 years after arriving to Canada and this largely reflects policy that blocks their access to this social benefit. Once eligible, the rate of sponsored parents and grandparents claiming OAS increases nationally and in Nova Scotia. Generally, a slightly greater proportion of sponsored parents and grandparents to Nova Scotia claim OAS.

Policy Recommendations

- A gender gap persists in all immigration pathways. Efforts should be made to narrow the gap to achieve parity across immigration pathways. This would offer greater opportunity to recruit a wider range of immigrants and would align policy to Canada's commitment to gender equality.
- Significant proportions of immigrants in family stream immigration categories are of prime working age. Their potential economic contributions to Canada should be explored and stereotypical assumptions around their age as "too" young or old should be challenged.
- Nationally and provincially, the range of immigration source countries is narrow. More could be done to diversify the range of source countries of immigrants. This would align policy to Canada's commitment to multiculturalism and diversity.
- Rates of filing taxes with employment income are highest among economic principal applicants. This would be expected and shows economic stream immigrants transition into the labour market.
- In terms of employment, family sponsored spouses and partners fare better than spouses and partners coming under the economic stream. Policy should address this gap given that economic stream spouses and partners share similar age and educational profiles as economic principal applicants.
- In Nova Scotia, rates of employment are lower than the national trend, but the difference narrows among more recent cohorts of immigrants. For immigrants working in the province, their earnings are higher than the national average. These findings suggest that provincial changes to immigration and integration policy are correlated with an improvement in economic integration, and Nova Scotia should do more to promote its better-than-average wages for immigrants.
- When social assistance is examined, we find that immigrants generally draw on EI in their first several years in Canada, and this declines in later years. When they do draw on social assistance, they do so at similar or lower rates than the native born population. Policy should focus on the net economic benefit of immigrants and challenge stereotypes on social welfare use.
- In Nova Scotia, rates of EI use are lower than the national average for immigrants. Here, trends suggest that immigrants who fail to gain employment likely leave. Emphasis in provincial policy should focus on transitioning people into the labour force because once they enter into it they fare better than in Canada, as a whole.

Appendix

Table A1: Cohort specific sample size for Part 1 by category of landing

Canada						
	1990-99		2000-09		2010-12	
Fam: S/P	329,210	19.1%	371,605	21.4%	95,945	19.0%
Fam: D/S	67,920	3.9%	21,970	1.3%	2,760	0.5%
Fam: P/GP	254,950	14.8%	159,765	9.2%	40,980	8.1%
Econ: PA	342,790	19.9%	491,755	28.3%	151,085	30.0%
Econ: S/P	157,490	9.1%	281,655	16.2%	86,965	17.2%
Other	573,525	33.2%	411,475	23.7%	126,695	25.1%
Total	1,725,885		1,738,225	100.0%	504,430	

NS						
	1990-99		2000-09		2010-12	
Fam: S/P	2,170	11.2%	3,015	22.8%	860	20.4%
Fam: D/S	195	1.0%	90	0.7%	10	0.2%
Fam: P/GP	655	3.4%	335	2.5%	85	2.0%
Econ: PA	5,000	25.9%	4,200	31.8%	1,525	36.2%
Econ: S/P	1,360	7.0%	2,395	18.1%	880	20.9%
Other	9,925	51.4%	3,180	24.1%	855	20.3%
Total	19,305		13,215		4,215	

Source: IMDB 2012

Table A2: Cohort specific sample size for Part 2 by category of landing

Canada

Canada	1990-1994 Landings									
	1 Year Since Landing		3 Years Since Landing		5 Years Since Landing		10 Years Since Landing		15 Years Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	138,310	18.5%	140,605	18.3%	140,455	18.4%	146,365	19.3%	150,275	20.0%
Fam: D/S	22,675	3.0%	26,660	3.5%	29,835	3.9%	35,530	4.7%	38,340	5.1%
Fam: P/GP	134,115	17.9%	139,040	18.1%	136,245	17.9%	130,555	17.2%	122,875	16.4%
Econ: PA	135,275	18.1%	133,515	17.4%	125,880	16.5%	111,695	14.7%	104,350	13.9%
Econ: S/P	57,350	7.7%	57,265	7.4%	54,805	7.2%	50,195	6.6%	47,605	6.3%
Refugees	98,660	13.2%	100,160	13.0%	100,400	13.2%	106,815	14.1%	113,440	15.1%
Other	162,690	21.7%	172,025	22.4%	174,350	22.9%	176,750	23.3%	173,100	23.1%
Total	749,075		769,270		761,970		757,905		749,985	

Canada	1995-1999 Landings							
	1 Year Since Landing		3 Years Since Landing		5 Years Since Landing		10 Years Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	132,440	20.9%	133,585	20.6%	133,300	20.6%	133,005	21.0%
Fam: D/S	6,890	1.1%	10,460	1.6%	12,825	2.0%	16,245	2.6%
Fam: P/GP	79,545	12.6%	81,270	12.5%	79,990	12.4%	75,990	12.0%
Econ: PA	182,070	28.8%	180,795	27.8%	172,640	26.7%	154,805	24.4%
Econ: S/P	92,610	14.6%	92,845	14.3%	90,745	14.0%	83,630	13.2%
Refugees	83,285	13.2%	86,750	13.4%	89,820	13.9%	97,545	15.4%
Other	56,345	8.9%	63,675	9.8%	68,315	10.5%	72,750	11.5%
Total	633,185		649,380		647,635		633,970	

Canada	2000-2004 Landings					
	1 Year Since Landing		3 Years Since Landing		5 Years Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	156,785	20.8%	157,835	20.5%	157,015	20.6%
Fam: D/S	6,390	0.8%	8,390	1.1%	9,610	1.3%
Fam: P/GP	76,565	10.2%	77,190	10.0%	75,310	9.9%
Econ: PA	233,875	31.1%	235,275	30.6%	226,635	29.8%
Econ: S/P	135,580	18.0%	137,560	17.9%	134,700	17.7%
Refugees	94,170	12.5%	99,020	12.9%	102,350	13.4%
Other	49,790	6.6%	53,935	7.0%	55,810	7.3%
Total	753,155		769,205		761,430	

Canada	2005-2009 Landings					
	1 Year Since Landing		3 Years Since Landing		5 Years Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	185,430	23.3%	186,380	22.7%	112,380	23.0%
Fam: D/S	5,495	0.7%	6,965	0.8%	4,805	1.0%
Fam: P/GP	67,955	8.5%	68,175	8.3%	39,220	8.0%
Econ: PA	217,575	27.3%	223,835	27.3%	127,820	26.2%
Econ: S/P	129,205	16.2%	133,495	16.3%	78,515	16.1%
Refugees	94,780	11.9%	99,390	12.1%	70,635	14.5%
Other	96,940	12.2%	102,440	12.5%	54,485	11.2%
Total	797,380		820,680		487,860	

Canada	2010-2012 Landings	
	1 Year Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	64,595	19.4%
Fam: D/S	1,875	0.6%
Fam: P/GP	23,410	7.0%
Econ: PA	99,900	30.0%
Econ: S/P	58,925	17.7%
Refugees	34,515	10.4%
Other	49,955	15.0%
Total	333,175	

Nova Scotia

NS	1990-1994 Landings									
	1 Year Since Landing		3 Years Since Landing		5 Years Since Landing		10 Years Since Landing		15 Years Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	890	24.6%	755	25.8%	660	27.1%	555	28.0%	520	30.2%
Fam: D/S	50	1.4%	45	1.5%	35	1.4%	30	1.5%	25	1.5%
Fam: P/GP	290	8.0%	220	7.5%	180	7.4%	150	7.6%	140	8.1%
Econ: PA	930	25.7%	750	25.6%	620	25.5%	515	26.0%	405	23.5%
Econ: S/P	305	8.4%	245	8.4%	200	8.2%	155	7.8%	145	8.4%
Refugees	450	12.4%	300	10.3%	230	9.4%	185	9.3%	160	9.3%
Other	710	19.6%	610	20.9%	510	20.9%	390	19.7%	325	18.9%
Total	3,625		2,925		2,435		1,980		1,720	

NS	1995-1999 Landings							
	1 Year Since Landing		3 Years Since Landing		5 Years Since Landing		10 Years Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	670	19.5%	565	20.1%	510	21.4%	405	23.3%
Fam: D/S	15	0.4%	10	0.4%	15	0.6%	10	0.6%
Fam: P/GP	120	3.5%	95	3.4%	80	3.4%	50	2.9%
Econ: PA	1,175	34.3%	960	34.2%	790	33.1%	545	31.4%
Econ: S/P	465	13.6%	375	13.3%	310	13.0%	225	13.0%
Refugees	450	13.1%	330	11.7%	280	11.7%	235	13.5%
Other	535	15.6%	475	16.9%	400	16.8%	265	15.3%
Total	3,430		2,810		2,385		1,735	

NS	2000-2004 Landings					
	1 Year Since Landing		3 Years Since Landing		5 Years Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	1,020	26.4%	865	27.1%	795	29.8%
Fam: D/S	30	0.8%	25	0.8%	20	0.7%
Fam: P/GP	125	3.2%	105	3.3%	95	3.6%
Econ: PA	1,185	30.7%	945	29.6%	750	28.1%
Econ: S/P	610	15.8%	495	15.5%	405	15.2%
Refugees	490	12.7%	405	12.7%	320	12.0%
Other	405	10.5%	355	11.1%	285	10.7%
Total	3,865		3,195		2,670	

NS	2005-2009 Landings					
	1 Year Since Landing		3 Years Since Landing		5 Years Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	1,400	24.9%	1,225	25.8%	645	28.0%
Fam: D/S	20	0.4%	10	0.2%	-	0.0%
Fam: P/GP	105	1.9%	95	2.0%	45	2.0%
Econ: PA	1,910	33.9%	1,560	32.9%	715	31.1%
Econ: S/P	1,280	22.7%	1,060	22.4%	495	21.5%
Refugees	430	7.6%	365	7.7%	185	8.0%
Other	485	8.6%	425	9.0%	215	9.3%
Total	5,630		4,740		2,300	

NS	2010-2012 Landings	
	1 Year Since Landing	
Fam: S/P	515	21.6%
Fam: D/S	5	0.2%
Fam: P/GP	40	1.7%
Econ: PA	805	33.8%
Econ: S/P	485	20.3%
Refugees	300	12.6%
Other	235	9.9%
Total	2,385	

Source: IMDB 2012

References

- Akbari, Ather, H. 2012. *Socioeconomic and Demographic Profiles of Immigrants in Nova Scotia*. Report submitted to the Atlantic Metropolis Centre.
- Akbari, Ather H. 2011. "Labour Market Performance of Immigrants in Smaller Regions of Western Countries: Some Evidence from Atlantic Canada." *Journal of International Migration and Integration* 12 (2): 133-154.
- Akbari, Ather H. and Atul Dar. 2005. *Socioeconomic and Demographic Profiles of Immigrants in Nova Scotia*. Report submitted to the Atlantic Opportunities Agency.
- Akbari, Ather H., Scott Lynch, James Ted McDonald and Wimal Rankaduwa. 2007. *Socioeconomic and Demographic Profiles of Immigrants in Nova Scotia*. Report submitted to the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.
- Angus Reid. 2013. "Why People Move to Canada." *Opinion Research Scan E.-newsletter March 2013*, <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/por/march2013/index.asp#why>, retrieved on November 3, 2015.
- Baker, Michael and Dwayne Benjamin. 1995. "The Receipt of Transfer Payments by Immigrants to Canada." *Journal of Human Resources* 30 (4): 650-676.
- Baker, Michael. and Dwayne Benjamin. 2002. "Are Elderly Immigrants a Burden?" Paper prepared for the *Conference Canadian Immigration Policy for the 21st Century*, Kingston, Ontario, October 18/19, 2002, <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/cepa/AreElderly.pdf>, retrieved June 18, 2007.
- Crossley, Thomas F., James Ted McDonald and Christopher Worswick. 2001. "Immigrant Benefit Receipt Revisited: Sensitivity to the Choice of Survey Years and Model specification." *Journal of Human Resources* 36 (2):379-397.
- Dobrowolsky, Alexandra and Howard Ramos. 2014. *Expanding the Vision: Why Nova Scotia Should Look Beyond Econocentric Immigration Policy*. Halifax, Nova Scotia: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.
- Gunter, Lorne. 2011. "Sensible limits to Canadian generosity." *Edmonton Journal* (October 23), <http://www2.canada.com/edmontonjournal/columnists/story.html?id=9d53838a-bd4b-4ff2-a75d-6114a27bbf4f>, retrieved on 3 November, 2011.
- Lilley, Brian. 2011. "Immigrants use of welfare a mixed bag, documents show" *Toronto Sun* (January 11), <http://www.torontosun.com/news/canada/2011/01/11/16850306.html>, retrieved on May 17, 2015.

- McLaren, Arlene T. and Black, Tracey L. 2005. "Family class and immigration in Canada: Implications for sponsored elderly women." *Research on Immigration and Integration in the Metropolis, Working Paper Series, No. 05-26*. Vancouver Centre for Excellence:
- Ramos, Howard and Yoko Yoshida. 2015. "From Away, But Here to Stay? Trends in Why a Cohort of Recent Immigrants Left Atlantic Canada?" Ch.2 in *Warmth of the Welcome: Is Atlantic Canada a Home Away from Home for Immigrants?* E. Tastsoglou, B. Cottrell and A. Dobrowolsky [Eds.]. Sydney, NS: CBU press. Pp.37-58.
- Statistics Canada. 2015. "Longitudinal Immigration Database"
<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=5057> retrieved on July 27, 2015.
- Triadafilopoulos, Phil. 2006. "Family Immigration Policy in Comparative Perspective: Canada and the United States," *Canadian Issues/Thèmes Canadiens* (Spring 2006): 30-33.
- van den Berg, Axel, Daniel Parent, and Anthony Masi. 2004. "From Unemployment to Employment Insurance: Towards Transitional Labour Markets in Canada?" Paper presented at the conference of the European Commission Thematic Research Network on Transitional Labour Markets, Amsterdam, November 2004,
http://www.siswo.uva.nl/tlm/confbuda/papers/papers_files/WP3%20Van%20den%20Berg%20Parent%20Masi%20-%20From%20Unemployment%20to%20Employment%20Insurance.pdf, retrieved on July 27, 2015.
- VanderPlaat, Madine; Howard Ramos and Yoko Yoshida. 2012. "What do Sponsored Parents and Grandparents Contribute?" *Canadian Ethnic Studies* 44(3): 79-96.
- Yoshida, Yoko and Howard Ramos. 2013. "Destination Rural Canada: A Basic Overview of Recent Immigrants to Rural Small Towns." Ch. 3 in *The Social Transformation of Rural Canada: New Insights into Culture, Identity and Collective Action*. J.R. Parkins and M. G. Reed [Eds.]. Vancouver: UBC press. Pp. 67-87.

Endnotes

¹ Because some immigrants landed but did not file tax returns every year since arrival, we have slightly different samples used in our analyses. In Part 1 of the report, we focus on the demographic profiles of immigrants by landing categories. Here, we are able to look at all immigrants who are included in the IMDB. However, in Part 2 of our report, we focus on economic activities. To do that, we can only look at the immigrants who filed tax records in given years since arrival. This means that the sample used for analysis in Part 2 is smaller than Part 1. For details, see Appendix Table A1 and A2.

² This group includes immigrants who come under “economic class”, including categories, such as skilled workers, entrepreneurs and investors among others.

³ Because of the small number of daughters and/or sons arriving as part of the sponsored family pathway to Nova Scotia, this category of immigrant is not reported in the second part of our analysis. Likewise, in some of the more detailed analysis in that section, we are unable to report on other categories as well. When this happens the category is excluded due to the small number of cases.

⁴ Analyzing T4 slips is a convenient proxy for working – especially for immigrants in Canada as a whole. Caution, however, must be taken when interpreting the results for Nova Scotia. This is because the proxy only measures T4s filed in the province. Immigrants who worked outside of the province and filed a T4 in another province are not included in calculating the rate of employment.

⁵ The rates of those in the working age among the family stream sons and daughters may be higher than the estimates from the landing records. It is due to the coverage of the IMDB, which links the landing records with tax files. In the linkage process, only those who filed a tax return at least once are included in the IMDB. This means that some of the immigrants who come as sons and daughters at young age may not have filed a return and are, therefore, excluded from the IMDB. This may account for the relatively high proportion of immigrants of working age in this category.