



Selection Category and Perceived Needs: Analyses Based on the Alberta Settlement Outcomes Survey

Victoria Esses, Zenaida Ravanera, Meyer Burstein, Stacey Hallman and Stelian Medianu

University of Western Ontario and

Pathways to Prosperity Partnership

Methodology

- Telephone survey administered using computerassisted telephone interviewing (CATI)
- 1006 immigrants in Alberta: 18 years of age and over, living in province 3-60 months
- Sample size provided a margin of error of +/- 3% and a confidence level of 95%
- Potential participants identified and contacted using data file provided by CIC of all landings between January 2007 and December 2011 who indicated that they intended to reside in Alberta
- Survey was professionally edited to CLB5 and piloted prior to administration

Two Key Blocks:

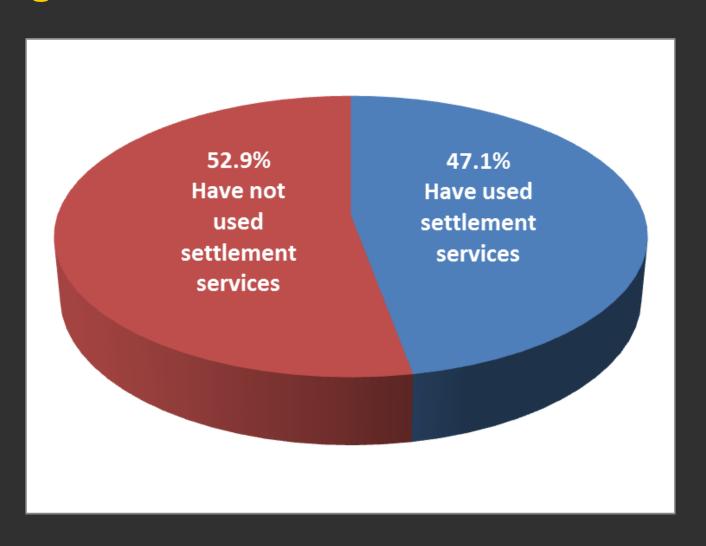
- Experience with settlement services
- Information needs and access

Analyses by Immigration Category

- Skilled worker or professional principal applicant
- Skilled worker or professional dependent
- Family class
- Provincial nominee principal applicant
- Provincial nominee dependent
- Refugee
- Canadian experience class principal applicant

Experience with Settlement Services

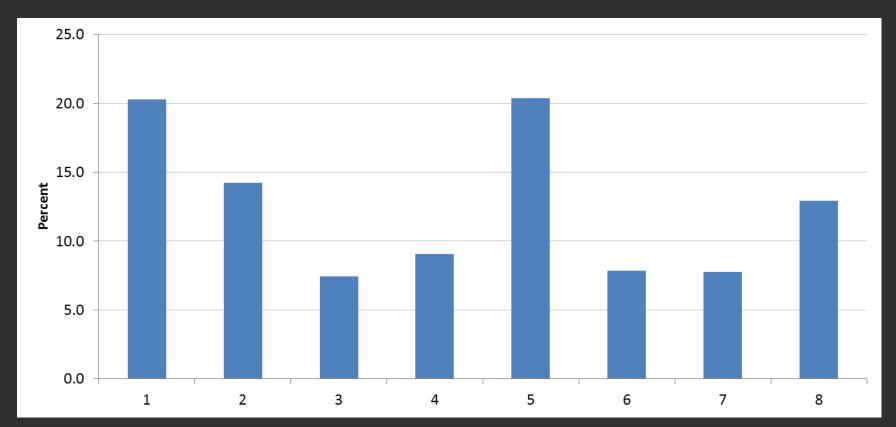
Percentage of Respondents Who Have Used Immigrant Services Since their Arrival in Alberta



Percentage of Respondents Who Have Used Immigrant Services - by Immigration Category

	Have Used
	Services
Immigration Category	
Skilled worker or professional - principal applicant	52.5 %
Skilled worker or professional - dependent	57.3 %
Family class	39.2 %
Provincial nominee - principal applicant	40.0 %
Provincial nominee - dependent	34.4 %
Refugee	73.6 %
Canadian experience class - principal applicant	40.0 %

Percentage of Respondents Who Have Used Each Type of Service



- 1 Employment Services
- 2 Information about Living in Alberta and Referrals
- 3 Interpretation and Translation
- 4 Supportive Counseling

- **5 English Language Assessment and Instruction**
- **6 Community Connections**
- 7 Family Assistance
- 8 Health and Wellness

Percentage of Respondents Who Have Used Employment Services - by Immigration Category

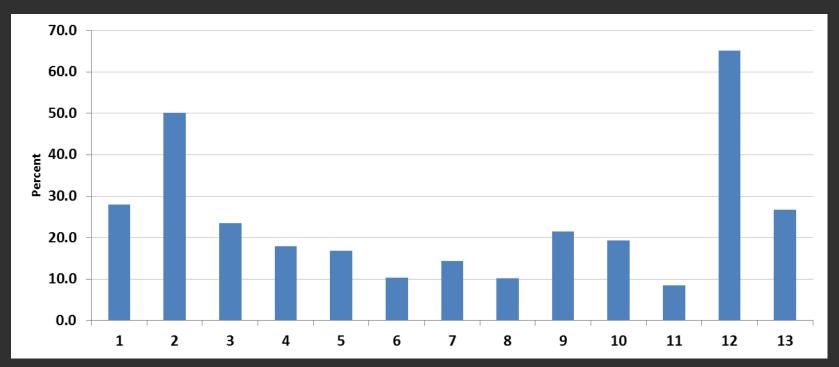
	Have Used Employment Services
Immigration Category	
Skilled worker or professional - principal applicant	26.6 %
Skilled worker or professional - dependent	24.8 %
Family class	16.9 %
Provincial nominee - principal applicant	7.5 %
Provincial nominee - dependent	9.4 %
Refugee	30.2 %
Canadian experience class - principal applicant	16.7 %

Percentage of Respondents Who Have Used English Language Assessment and Instruction - by Immigration Category

	Have Used English Language Assessment and Instruction
Immigration Category	
Skilled worker or professional - principal applicant	19.7 %
Skilled worker or professional - dependent	20.5 %
Family class	19.0 %
Provincial nominee - principal applicant	25.0 %
Provincial nominee - dependent	6.3 %
Refugee	41.5 %
Canadian experience class - principal applicant	10.0 %

Information Needs and Access

Percentage of Respondents Who Obtain Information from Different Sources



- 1 Immigrant serving agency
- 2 Government websites
- 3 Other online sources such as blogs, online discussions and other websites
- 4 Government publications
- 5 Library
- 6 Recreation centre

- 7 School
- 8 Immigration lawyer/consultant
- 9 Newspapers or magazines
- 10 Television or radio
- 11 Ethnic or religious organizations
- 12 Family and friends
- 13 Employers and co-workers

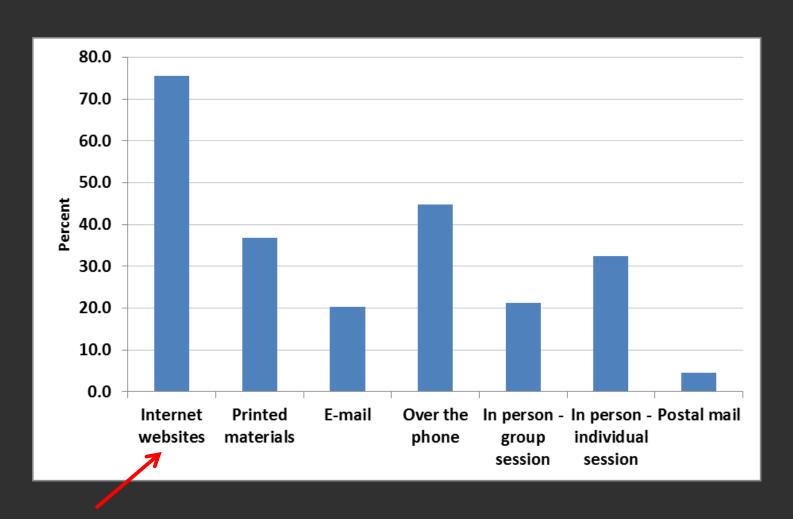
Percentage of Respondents Who Obtain Information from Immigrant Serving Agencies - by Immigration Category

	Obtain
	Information
	from Immigrant
	Serving
	Agencies
Immigration Category	
Skilled worker or professional - principal applicant	32.0 %
Skilled worker or professional - dependent	34.2 %
Family class	21.8 %
Provincial nominee - principal applicant	25.0 %
Provincial nominee - dependent	21.9 %
Refugee	52.8 %
Canadian experience class - principal applicant	10.0 %

Percentage of Respondents Who Obtain Information from Employers and Co-workers - by Immigration Category

	Obtain
	Information
	from
	Employers &
	Co-workers
Immigration Category	
Skilled worker or professional - principal applicant	36.1 %
Skilled worker or professional - dependent	30.8 %
Family class	19.2 %
Provincial nominee - principal applicant	37.5 %
Provincial nominee - dependent	34.4 %
Refugee	20.8 %
Canadian experience class - principal applicant	40.0 %

Percentage of Respondents Who Prefer Different Means of Receiving Settlement Information from the Government



Percentage of Respondents Who Prefer to Receive Settlement Information from the Government via Internet Websites - by Immigration Category

	Prefer the
	Internet
Immigration Category	
Skilled worker or professional - principal applicant	86.1 %
Skilled worker or professional - dependent	82.1 %
Family class	68.8 %
Provincial nominee - principal applicant	75.0 %
Provincial nominee - dependent	65.6 %
Refugee	58.5 %
Canadian experience class - principal applicant	96.7 %

Main Themes that Emerge

- Compared to the other economic categories, immigrants selected as skilled workers & professionals, and their dependents, are especially likely to use immigrant services, especially employment services
- Compared to the other economic categories, principal applicant provincial nominees are especially likely to use English language assessment and instruction (though their dependents do not)

- Compared to the other economic categories, immigrants selected as skilled workers & professionals, and their dependents, are especially likely to obtain information about settling in Alberta from immigrant-serving agencies
- In terms of preferences, all categories of immigrants prefer to receive information from the government via internet websites, and this is especially the case for principal applicants in the Canadian experience class and skilled workers & professionals

Implications for Current Policy Directions

- Findings suggest that increased employer involvement in selection may reduce the demand for immigrant services, including employment services
- Employer-driven streams may demonstrate reduced economic mobility if the quality of their human capital attributes, such as language ability, is depressed
- A shift to employer-driven streams is likely to shift the way in which information is sourced, with employers playing a larger role