

# Do Official Language Minority Communities Impact Immigrant Retention?

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# Research questions

1. How many Francophone (OLMC) communities are there outside of Quebec? Anglophone (OLMC) communities within Quebec?
2. Where do Anglophone and Francophone immigrants settle? How does this differ from where Anglophone and Francophone communities are located?
3. What are the individual and community characteristics that predict retention?

# Who cares?

- \* The Government of Canada:
  - \* *Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality 2008-2013: Acting for the Future* (2008)
  - \* *Roadmap for Canada's Official Languages 2013-2018: Education, Immigration, Communities* (2013)
- \* Atlantic Canada
  - \* It has a disproportionate share of OLMCs.

# Defining an OLMC

- \* “...all Francophones living in provinces and territories other than Quebec are considered part of the FMCs“ (CIC, 2006).
  - \* All Anglophones living in Quebec?
- \* 10%, or 1,000 people, living in a Census Subdivision that speak English (Quebec) or French (ROC).

# OLMCs in Canada

Province	1990	1995	2000	2005
Newfoundland	10	10	10	10
PEI	25	35	40	50
Nova Scotia	20	20	20	25
New Brunswick	185	190	205	200
Quebec	1250	1050	930	900
Ontario	270	245	240	260
Manitoba	50	45	40	45
Saskatchewan	100	105	95	85
Alberta	55	60	60	55
British Columbia	50	60	65	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>1820</b>	<b>1705</b>	<b>1705</b>

Source: Longitudinal Immigrant Database (IMDB)

Note: In each Instance an OLMC is defined as a census sub-division where at least 10% of the population speaks French (Canada Except Quebec) or English(Quebec), or there is a minimum of 1000 French or English-Speakers

Note: Census subdivisions are identified by their 1991 geography.

# Defining an Anglophone/Francophone

- \* First Official Language Spoken (FOLS) approach:
  - \* One official language=1
  - \* Both official languages=1/2
- \* Ability to speak English in Quebec or French in the Rest of Canada

# Data sources

## **Individual-level**

- \* Longitudinal Immigrant Database (IMDB)
  - \* Follow 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005 cohorts five years after landing.

## **Community-level**

- \* 1991-2006 Harmonized Census Files
  - \* Linear interpolation between census years.
  - \* Use 1991 geographical boundaries

# Analytical Technique

- \* Harmonize geography (using PCCF+) to have consistent 1991 boundaries.
- \* Link census data to individual landing and tax records.
- \* Cox proportional hazards model with shared frailty
- \* Use individual and community-level characteristics to model the five-year provincial out-migration rates of 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005 immigrant cohorts.



# Main Findings

## Individual-Level Characteristics

- \* Out-migration declines with age
- \* Married immigrants (esp. with children) are less likely to leave province of landing.
- \* Highly educated people are more likely to out-migrate.
- \* Refugees have high out-migration rates; Family class has low out-migration rates.
- \* Francophone immigrants have higher retention rates in Quebec
- \* Anglophone immigrants have higher retention rates in the rest of Canada.

# Main Findings

## Community-level characteristics

- \* High homeownership communities have higher retention rates.
- \* High human capital communities have higher retention rates.
- \* In Quebec, OLMCs help retain all immigrants
  - \* They have little additional effect on retention for Anglophone immigrants.
- \* In the rest of Canada, OLMCs have higher retention rates for *all* immigrants.
  - \* There is no additional pull for Francophones.

# Conclusions/Future Research

- \* Immigration is a critical part of the future of OLMCs.
  - \* How critical?
  - \* Are OLMCs in decline overall, and immigrants are simply following the broader population?
- \* To what extent are OLMC/non-OLMC disparities in retention due to immigrant selectivity/self-selectivity?
  - \* Do immigrants choose ‘institutional completeness’ over a job?