

# National Data on Immigrants:

## An overview

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# **National Data on Immigrants: An overview**

## **Outline**

- **Data collected at time of arrival in Canada**
  - **Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada**
- **Data collected from the individual**
  - **Source: Statistics Canada (census and surveys)**
- **Data assembled from more than one source**
  - **Examples:**
    - **Statistics Canada: Canadian Income Survey**
    - **Statistics Canada: Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB)**

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# Data collected at time of arrival in Canada

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC)

- **CIC collects considerable information on immigrants at the time they “arrive” in Canada**
- **Summary data is published at**  
[http://www.cic.gc.ca/ENGLISH/resources/statistics/index.asp?\\_ga=1.129469642.794226955.1414694148](http://www.cic.gc.ca/ENGLISH/resources/statistics/index.asp?_ga=1.129469642.794226955.1414694148)
- **Some additional data is at** <http://open.canada.ca/en/open-data>
- **One list of variables is in the Glossary of Terms and Concepts for Permanent and Temporary Residents at**  
<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/facts2008/glossary.asp>
- **Another list of variables is in the Glossary of Terms and Concepts for the CIC administrative process at**  
<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/data-release/2009-Q4/glossary.asp>
- **Only a few of these variables are tabulated in the summary data referenced above.**

# CIC Data Dissemination Products

Product	Method of publication	When
<b>Facts and Figures Suite</b>		
Preliminary estimates	CIC website	Late February
Facts and Figures Report	CIC website	Late August
Digital Library	DVD-ROM	Late September
Provincial Profiles	Data cubes and PDF	Late September
Permanent Resident Rounded Data	Interactive Data cubes	Late October
<b>Quarterly Administrative Data Release</b>	GoC Open Data Portal	3 months after each quarter

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada. 2011. Research and evaluation priorities for 2011/2012.

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# Data collected from the individual

- **Source: Statistics Canada (census and surveys)**
- **Form 2B (long-form) Census of Population**
  - 1971 and 1981 to 2006
  - Replaced by the National Household Survey in 2011
- **Labour Force Survey**
  - Monthly since January, 2006 (data are tabulated for a 3-month moving average and thus the first data point is March, 2006)
- **Selected other surveys**
  - Canadian Community Health Survey
  - General Social Survey
  - Canadian Income Survey

# 2011 National Household Survey

- 1/3 sample of all households in the 2011 Census of Population
- Questionnaire is at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/NHS-ENM/2011/ref/pdf/N1-eng.pdf>
- Immigration status enumerated in Question 11

11 Is this person now, or has this person ever been, a **landed immigrant**?

*A "landed immigrant" (permanent resident) is a person who has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities.*

No → **Go to Question 13**

Yes

12 In what year did this person first become a landed immigrant?

Year

*If exact year is not known, enter best estimate.*

# 2011 National Household Survey

- Data (including data on immigrants) for each census subdivision<sup>1</sup> is published by Statistics Canada.
- Go to <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/index-eng.cfm?HPA> and search (in the upper right-hand box) for a census subdivision by name.
- 21 tables of variables cross-tabulated with immigrant status are available at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/dt-td/Lp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=0&PRID=0&PTYPE=105277&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2013&THEME=95&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=>
- All tables are tabulated for Canada and Provinces and Territories. Some are tabulated for sub-provincial areas.
- The basic demographic data from the 2011 Census of Population for each census subdivision is published at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

1. A census subdivision is an incorporated town or municipality or equivalent, such as Local Government District or Indian Reserve. For details, see <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/ref/dict/geo012-eng.cfm>

# **Data collected from the individual**

- **Source: Statistics Canada (census and surveys)**

## **Form 2B (long-form) Census of Population**

**1971 and 1981 to 2006**

**Replaced by National Household Survey in 2011**

## **Labour Force Survey**

**Monthly since January, 2006 (data are tabulated for a 3-month moving average and thus the first data point is March, 2006)**

## **Labour Force Survey (monthly)**

- **In January 2006, there were five questions added to the Labour Force Survey in order to identify the immigrant population:**
  - country of birth of the respondent;
  - whether or not the respondent was a “landed immigrant”;
  - the year the respondent became a landed immigrant (and the month is requested for immigrants who arrived within 5 years of the date of the survey enumeration); and
  - the country where the respondent received his/her highest level of education.
  - These questions are comparable to those used in the 2006 long-form Census questionnaire and the 2011 National Household Survey.
- **Data tables can be downloaded free from Statistics Canada’s CANSIM database by searching for “immigrant” at <http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/home-accueil?lang=eng>.**

# **Data collected from the individual**

- **Source: Statistics Canada (census and surveys)**

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## **Selected other surveys**

### **Canadian Community Health Survey**

# Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)

- The CCHS is a cross-sectional survey that collects information related to:
  - health status;
  - health care utilization; and
  - health determinants.
- Note that the so-called “social determinants of health” can be analyzed specifically for the immigrant population.
- The CCHS has the following objectives:
  - support health surveillance programs by providing health data at the national, provincial and intra-provincial levels;
  - provide a single data source for health research on small populations and rare characteristics;
  - timely release of information easily accessible to a diverse community of users; and
  - create a flexible survey instrument that includes a rapid response option to address emerging issues related to the health of the population.
- For details, see <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3226>

# Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)

- A sample of approximately 130,000 respondents were interviewed during the reference periods of 2001, 2003 and 2005.
- The sample size was changed to 65,000 respondents each year starting in 2007.

- For a summary of changes over time, see

<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getMainChange&Instald=15282&SurvId=3226&SurvVer=2&SDDS=3226>

- For the details for each time period, see

<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getInstanceList&SDDS=3226&Instald=15282&SurvId=144171>

- Generally, each questionnaire asks:
  - In what country were you born?
  - In what year did you first come to Canada to live?
  - plus questions on households size, marital status, self-declared health status, life satisfaction, level of stress, sense of belonging to your local community, utilization of health care services, physical activities, smoking, alcohol use, industry and occupation of job, educational attainment, income level, whether dwelling is owned or rented, etc.
- See the complete questionnaire for 2012 at [http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/3226\\_Q1\\_V9-eng.pdf](http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/3226_Q1_V9-eng.pdf)

# Statistics Canada's General Social Survey

- **The overall objectives are:**
  - to gather data on social trends in order to monitor changes in the living conditions and well being of Canadians; and
  - to provide information on specific social policy issues.
    - **For an overview of this annual survey, see**  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89f0115x/89f0115x2013001-eng.htm>  
and see Appendix A for the focus of each annual survey since 1985.
    - **Regarding immigrants, this survey has asked:**
      - **In what country were you born?**
      - **In what year did you first come to Canada to live?**
      - **Are you now, or have you ever been, a landed immigrant in Canada?**
      - **In what year did you first become a landed immigrant in Canada?**
- **The focus of the 2014 GSS was “victimization.” See the complete 2014 questionnaire at** [http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/4504\\_Q1\\_V6-eng.htm#a139](http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/4504_Q1_V6-eng.htm#a139)
- **The focus of the 2013 GSS was “giving, volunteering and participating.” See the complete 2013 questionnaire at** [http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/5024\\_Q1\\_V3-eng.htm](http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/5024_Q1_V3-eng.htm)
- **The focus of the 2012 GSS was “social support and aging.” See the complete 2012 questionnaire at** [http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/4502\\_Q2\\_V3-eng.htm#a128](http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/instrument/4502_Q2_V3-eng.htm#a128)

# Canadian Income Survey

- **New in 2012 to collect cross-section data to replace the cancelled Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics**
- **Questionnaire can be seen at**  
[http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p3Instr.pl?Function=assembleInstr&lang=en&Item\\_Id=180584](http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p3Instr.pl?Function=assembleInstr&lang=en&Item_Id=180584)
- **The CIS is based on the LFS. Data for each respondent to the CIS is combined with the respondent's data on the LFS – thus, all variables, including immigrant status, are available for each respondent to the CIS.**

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## **Data assembled from more than one source**

- **Statistics Canada's Canadian Income Survey**
  - **Data assembled from the CIS, LFS and taxfiler data**
- **Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) is managed by Statistics Canada on behalf of a federal-provincial consortium led by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.**

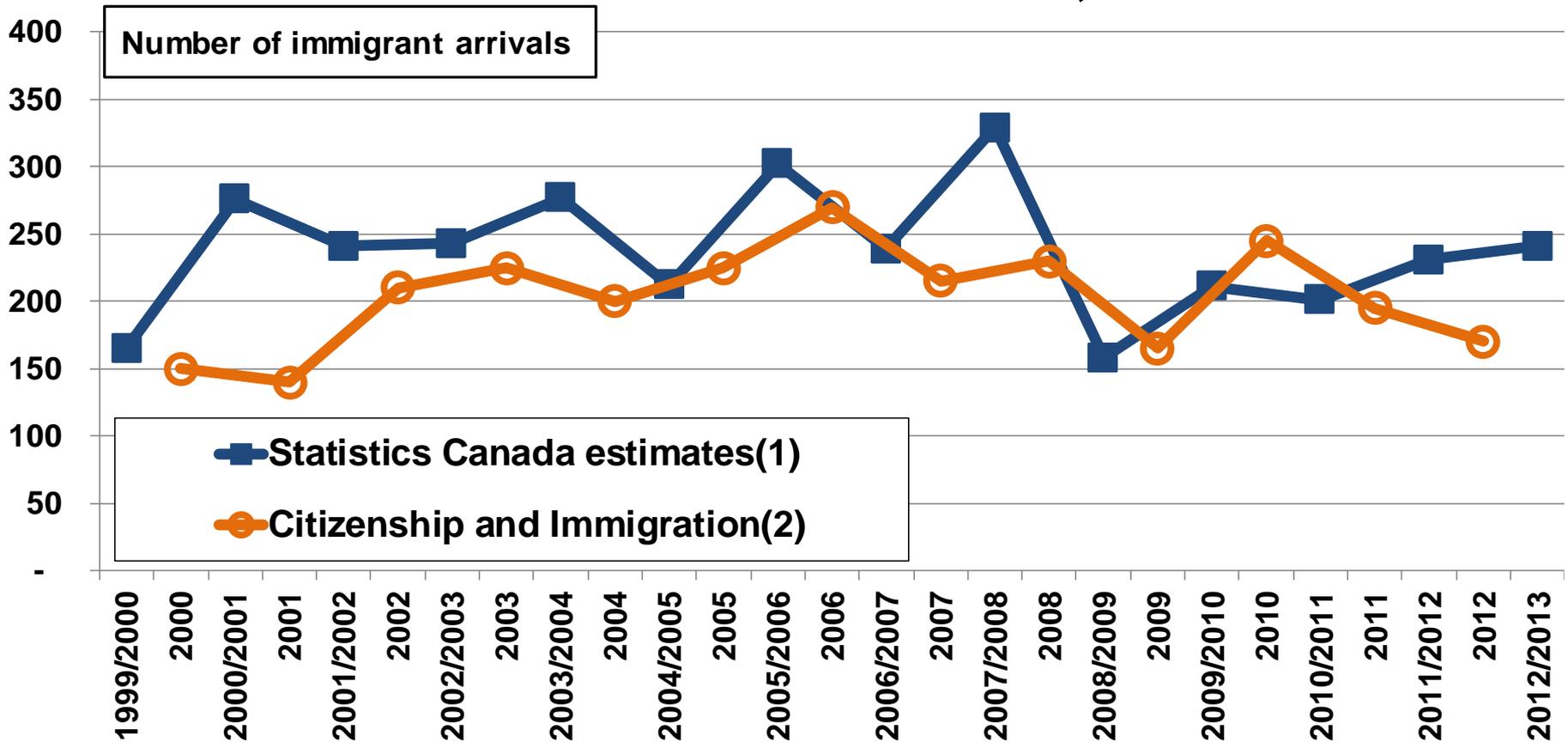
<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=5057>

- **The IMDB is assembled for each landed immigrant from the CIC Field Operations Support System (FOSS) landing information and from taxfiler data.**
  - **It is thus a 100% census of landed immigrants with longitudinal annual income data from taxfiler records.**
- **See also CIC** <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/pdf/research-stats/imdb-core-2008.pdf>

## Comparing data from more than one source

- Citizenship and Immigration's RDM (Research Data Mart) provides special tabulations of the number of landed immigrants by intended census division (CD) of settlement.
- Statistics Canada's Annual Demography Program provides estimates of each component of population change for each CD as part of its program to estimate population by CD. See CANSIM Tables 051-0062, 051-0063 and 051-0064 at <http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/home-accueil?lang=eng>
- Statistics Canada estimates the number of immigrant arrivals in a given CD in a given year by:
  - taking the CIC data at the province level; and then
  - prorating this number across CDs within a province
    - by using the share of T1 income tax immigrants by CD as a percent of all T1 immigrants in the province; and
    - multiplying this share by the CIC province-level data for immigrant arrivals in the given year to estimate the count of immigrant arrivals in a given CD.
- The CIC data are based on the stated intention of the immigrant and the Statistics Canada data are based on the address of immigrant taxfilers.
- The data do not completely align in the Ontario CD of Brant.

## Alternative data on the number of immigrant arrivals: Brant Census Division, Ontario

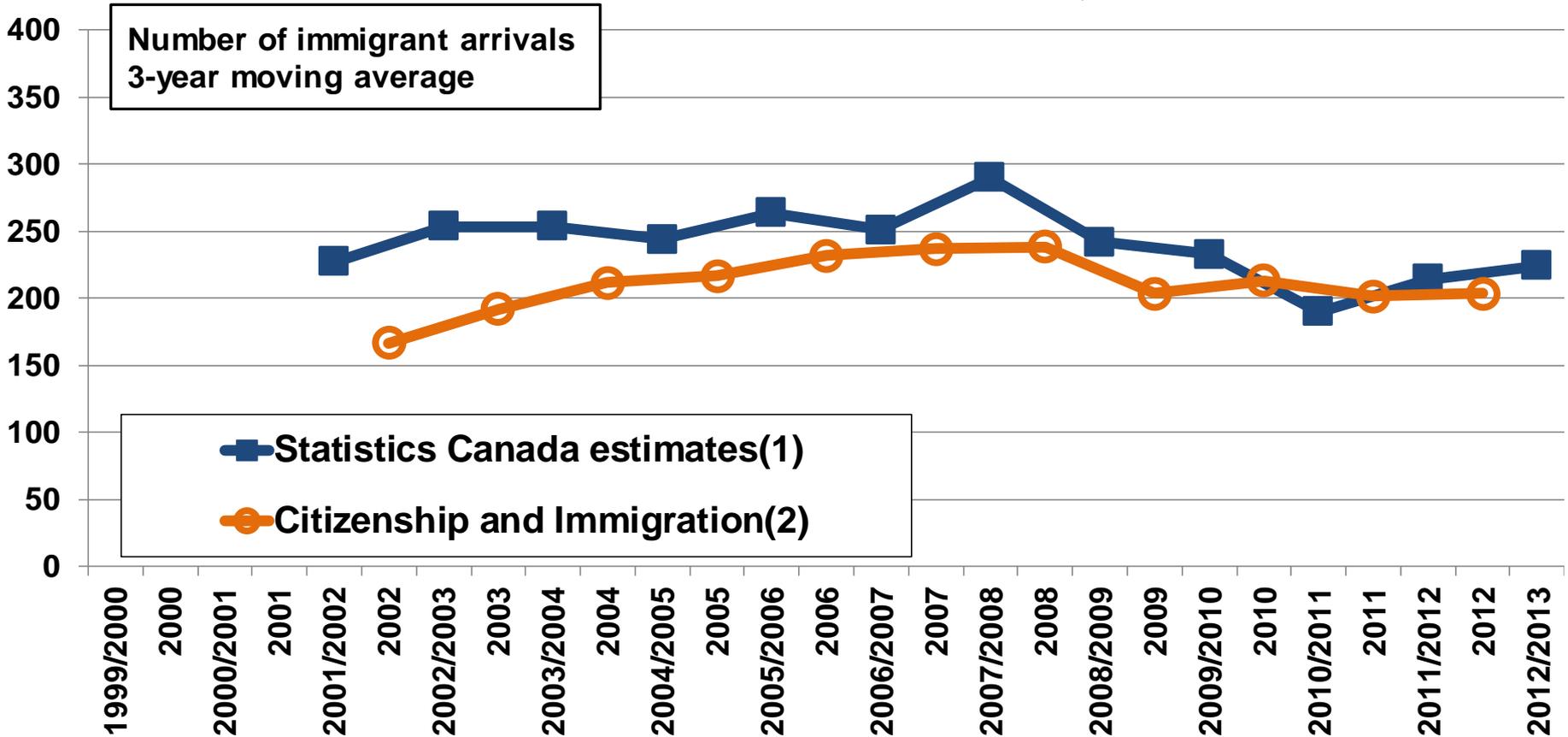


**Sources:**

(1) Statistics Canada. Annual Demographic Estimates, CANSIM Table 051-0063. The CIC data on immigrant arrivals at the province level are prorated to each census division using the share of T1 income tax immigrants in each census division as a percent of all T1 immigrants in the province. Estimates are published for the 12 months from July 1 to June 30.

(2) Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Special Tabulation of Permanent Residents, RDM as of November 2013. Data request tracking number: RE-14-0062. Data are provided for the calendar year.

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**Questions /  
Discussion**