Research on Quebec’s English-speaking communities and immigration: update and analysis

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Presentation overview

1) Introduction
   - QUESCREN
   - Context: ESCQ & immigration

2) Research up until today
   - Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

3) The latest research
   - Presentations from November/15 CIC workshop

4) Conclusion
Introduction

What is QUESCREN?

- Quebec English-Speaking Communities Research Network (est. 2009)

- QUESCREN develops research capacity on the English-speaking official language minority community in order to foster community vitality
Introduction

Context: ESCQ and immigration: some statistics (from 2006 and 2011)

- Total population of Quebec, 2011: 7.7M (note 1)
- Quebec’s ESCQ, 2011: 1M (notes 2,3)

- Immigrants in Quebec, 2011: 974,895 (note 4)
  - Recent Quebec immigrants (arrived 2006-11): 223,400 (note 5)
  - Immigrants in ESCQ, 2006: 323,272 (note 6)

- Proportion of immigrant population within ESCQ, 2006: 32.5% (note 7)
  - Within Quebec’s FOLS-Francophone population, 2006: 7.6% (note 8)
  - Within overall population in Canada, 2011: 20.6% (note 9)
  - Within French-speaking population outside Qc, 2006: 10% (note 10)
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

**QUESCREN’s online bibliography**

- Title: *Sources for the Study of English-Speaking Quebec*
- © Brendan O'Donnell
- Annotated
- 10K+ items listed: all publications related Quebec’s English-speaking communities including its ethnocultural sub-groups
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Publications on immigration listed in the bibliography

- Have “immigration” in subject heading or title

- N = 184 publications
  - omitted: duplicates, publications in which immigration is background to another topic such as a person’s biography

- Note: there are 1000+ additional studies with “immigrant” in subject heading/title not considered here!
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Types of publications

- Scholarly articles & Books
- Theses, dissertations
- Reports, articles, films, newspapers
- Bibliographies
- Primary sources
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Date of publications

- Number
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Subject of the publications

- 117 historical
- 67 contemporary
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Subject of the publications (cont’d)

- **Theme 1: Migration**
  - Migration patterns
  - Process of immigration, ship lists
  - Settlement history of groups/communities, rural & urban
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Subject of the publications (cont’d)

- **Theme 2: Host society activities/attitudes re: immigration**
  - Attitudes towards/representations/ideologies of immigration
  - Immigrant "welcome", aid, social services, charities
  - Integration of immigrants
  - Policy and legislation
    - Land settlement policies and admin
  - **Language policy**
  - Nationalism
  - Settlement as colonization/imperial expansion
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Subject of the publications (cont’d)

- **Theme 3: Immigrant experiences/realities in the host society**
  - Culture, art, literature
  - Demography
  - Education
  - Gender, family, kinship
  - Identity
  - Integration into host society
  - Labour, economic development
  - Language use
  - Memory
  - Mental health, self-esteem
  - OLMCs
  - Religion
  - Social adjustment (aspect of integration)
  - Social structure of immigrant communities
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUECREN’s online bibliography

Subject of the publications (cont’d)

- **Theme 4: Immigrant-host society interactions**
  - Ethnic relations, intercultural communications
  - Impact of immigration on territories
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Subject of the publications (cont’d)

**Top 11 ethno-cultural group studied, where specified (n=98)**

- Irish: 35
- Jews: 20
- Italians: 15
- British: 10
- Chinese: 5
- American & British/American &...: 5
- Greeks: 5
- Blocks from Caribbean:...: 5
- English/British and others: 5
- German: 2
- Japanese: 2
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Remarks

- Aspects of production
  - Many publications produced within different sectors
  - Many = theses, dissertations & scholarly books/articles
  - Significant production in 1980s, 1990s, 2000s
  - = interest to many researchers from a variety of backgrounds, including many students
  - = reflection of high proportion of immigrants in the ESC?
2) Publications on immigration listed in QUESCREN’s online bibliography

Remarks (cont’d)

Subjects

- More historical than contemporary studies
- Many disciplines and approaches (esp. qualitative) featured; Language policies/language use ≠ main focus
- Much of the research is specific to one or more ethno-cultural sub-groups within the ESC
3) Presentations from CIC workshop

CIC workshop
- November 13, 2015 in Gatineau
- = Government, community & research sectors incl. P2P
3) Presentations from CIC workshop

Presentations made by theme

- **Theme 1: Socio-Economic Profile of English-Speaking Immigrants**
  - J.P. Corbeil/Statistics Canada; W. Floch/Canadian Heritage
  - **Corbeil**: stats on employment rates, education levels, over-qualification of immigrants
  - **Floch**: stats on immigrant retention: immigrants as “outwardly” not “upwardly” mobile

- **Theme 2: Outcomes of English-Speaking Immigrants in Quebec**
  - V. Esses & Z. Ravanera/Western University
  - Recent immigrants: higher stress, lower sense of belonging – challenge of social integration
  - Information on data sets available and possibilities of linking them
3) Presentations from CIC workshop

Presentations made by theme (cont’d)

- **Theme 3: Migration and Retention of English-Speaking Immigrants in Quebec**
  - M. Haan/Western University
  - Used longitudinal immigrant database
  - Discussion: how to pinpoint Quebec’s OLMC for research?
3) Presentations from CIC workshop

Presentations made by theme (cont’d)

- **Theme 4: Settlement and Integration Strategies and Best Practices**
  - M. Vatz Laaroussi/Univ. de Sherbrooke; Brigitte Wellens/Voice of English-speaking Quebec (VEQ); S. Viqar, South Asian Women’s Centre (SAWC)
    - **Vatz Laaroussi**: best practices in Quebec City & Sherbrooke: networking, partnerships, gatherings, etc.
    - **Wellens**: case study of VEQ Newcomer’s Program: importance of support by the municipal government and other partners
    - **Viqar**:
      - **survey** of Table de concertation des organismes au service des personnes réfugiées et immigrantes (TCRI) member groups re. language of service delivery reveal many groups offer English-language services as well as French;
      - **interviews** of female immigrants speaking English and not French re. integration in Quebec society/economy reveal “over-qualification”, social integration issues
3) Presentations from CIC workshop

Remarks

- Research approaches
  - Quantitative: large data sets
  - Qualitative: social science approaches incl. case studies, interviews, survey

- Challenges related to the research
  - Linking statistical and qualitative research
  - Reflecting community priorities in research projects
  - Mobilizing the knowledge
Conclusion

Bringing the research together: challenges

- **Mobilizing the knowledge**
  - Including earlier publications and those with subjects/approaches different from those prioritized by CIC/P2P
  - How to bring earlier knowledge to bear on current research and immigrant situations

- **Creating a community of practice**
  - Researchers from range of disciplines/backgrounds, community and government