The IMDB: A Game Changer for Immigration Research

2019 PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY
WORKSHOP: EVOLUTION AND FUTURE OF THE IMMIGRATION DATA LANDSCAPE

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Game change

- Expanding the research tools for small areas-specific groups
  - Pre IMDB: Limited data for generating trends
    - The Census - limited in contents
    - The LSIC – limited sample size
  - Qualitative focus → qualitative & quantitative

- Working with partners
  - bring in various expertise from different fields
  - Research design → Data analysis → Interpretation → Dissemination
Change of the game - Genesis

- Pathways to Prosperity funded project in 2014
Demographic profiles and economic outcomes

- Who comes to NS?
- How do they (re)settle in our region?

➤ Shortage of data to address these issues for smaller region.
Micro trends (in the Report)

By cohort

- Cohort 1: 1990-1994
- Cohort 2: 1995-1999
- Cohort 3: 2000-2004
- Cohort 4: 2005-2009
- Cohort 5: 2010-2012

By admission category

**Economic class**
- SW Principal Applicant
- SW Spouse/Dependent

**Family class**
- Spouses/Partners
- Children
- Parents/G.parens

Logo: Pathways to Prosperity, Voies vers la Prospérité
Findings

Employment rates 1 year since landing by immigration category & cohort
Explore Micro Trends

By cohort

- Cohort 1: 1990-1994
- Cohort 2: 1995-1999
- Cohort 3: 2000-2004
- Cohort 4: 2005-2009
- Cohort 5: 2010-2012

By admission category

- Economic class
  - SW Principal Applicant
  - SW Spouse/Dependent
  - PNP, AIPP, RIPP, ...

- Family class
  - Spouses/Partners
  - Children
  - Parents/G. parents

- Refugees
  - GARs
  - PSRs
  - Refugees landed in CND

Refugees landed in CND
Change of the game: Chapter X

- Child Youth Refugee Research Coalition (2016-)

How well do refugee children/youth fare in Canada?

IMDB:
- Historical Trends of refugee youths
- Household conditions of refugee youths
Selecting a specific group of newcomers

- Selecting “Parents of refugee/immigrant children”

Example:
- Refugees/immigrants who became a PR at the age of 25 or older
- Those who filed the first tax return in the year of landing or following year with a child on the tax file.
Parents of refugee/immigrant children: Highest Education at landing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>GARS</th>
<th>PSRS</th>
<th>RLC</th>
<th>SW:PA</th>
<th>LIC:PA</th>
<th>BIS:PA</th>
<th>FAM:SP</th>
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<td>38%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>65%</td>
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<td>29%</td>
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Legend:
- HSorLess
- PostSec
- Univ/PostGrad
Parents of refugee/immigrant children: Knowledge of official language at landing

- Overall: 55% Eng, 6% Fre, 3% Eng&Fre, 17% Neither
- GARS: 3% Eng, 17% Fre, 3% Eng&Fre, 76% Neither
- PSRS: 65% Eng, 3% Fre, 4% Eng&Fre, 12% Neither
- RLC: 17% Eng, 67% Fre, 12% Eng&Fre, 4% Neither
- SW:PA: 15% Eng, 65% Fre, 4% Eng&Fre, 6% Neither
- LIC:PA: 50% Eng, 44% Fre, 2% Eng&Fre, 6% Neither
- BIS:PA: 30% Eng, 60% Fre, 5% Eng&Fre, 6% Neither

Legend:
- Eng: Blue
- Fre: Light blue
- Eng&Fre: Dark blue
- Neither: Gray
Timing to start working among refugee and immigrant children

Age at First Earnings of Immigrant and Refugee Children and Youth by Landing Category (1980-2000 Cohort)
Access the IMDB

- Regression, causal analysis ➔ Microdata
  - Canadian Research Data Centres
  - High level statistical skills needed
  - Collaborate with researchers to be sought
Access the IMDB

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- Tables/Aggregate data
- Statistics Canada’s interactive tables
Detailed information: Admission Category
Detailed information: Outcomes

Landing Year

From: 2006  To: 2015

Outcome in:

Select specific levels only

- Persons with market income
  - Persons with social assistance
  - Persons with employment insurance
- Persons with government transfers
  - Select all
    - Persons with social assistance
    - Persons with employment insurance
- Median market income
  - Median employment income
  - Median government transfers
  - Median total income
## Detailed information: Geography

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Detailed information: Geography

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Detailed information: Geography

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  - Remainder, British Columbia

- Territories [6]
Power of the IMDB

▪ Population of immigrant tax filer records
▪ Detailed information on individual characteristics/outcomes
▪ Longitudinal data collection: tracking individuals overtime
▪ Offers “contextual” evidence base for various programs
▪ Bring people together!
Thanks!