

Portrait of French-speaking temporary foreign workers outside Quebec and analysis of their transition to permanent residency

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The views and/or opinions expressed herein are not primarily those of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.



Background

Introducing the presenters

- Research and Knowledge Mobilization Division: responsible for a report establishing a national portrait of official-language minority skilled temporary foreign workers (TFWs) and analyzing their transition to permanent residency.
- Goss Gilroy Inc. and Sociopol: researchers funded by IRCC to establish regional portraits of this population, with an emphasis on the qualitative dimension.

Methodology :

- The national report uses the **2006 definition of a French-speaking immigrant**, i.e. an immigrant whose mother tongue is French, or whose first official language is French if the mother tongue is a language other than French or English.
- The study population is temporary residents who obtained **their first work permit between 2012 and 2021**, and whose **2011 National Occupation Classification (NOC) level was 0, A or B**.
- Only the intended province of destination is reported in the administrative database.
- Data source: linkage between the administrative database on temporary residents and the administrative database on permanent residents.

Notes :

- Data are preliminary and subject to change.

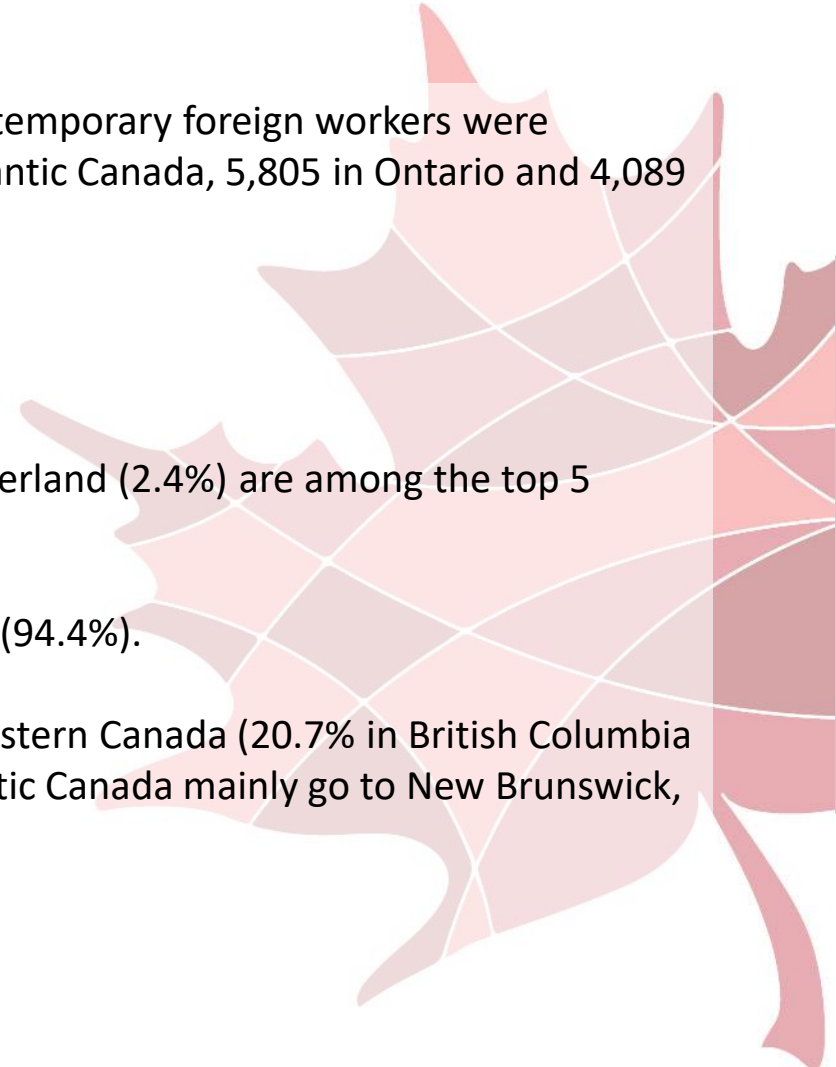


Portrait of French-speaking skilled temporary foreign workers outside Québec

Between 2012 and 2021, 10,740 French-speaking skilled temporary foreign workers were admitted to Canada outside Quebec, including 801 in Atlantic Canada, 5,805 in Ontario and 4,089 in Western Canada.

They were generally :

- Male (61.3%)
- Aged 34 or under (78.5%)
- Born in Europe: France (79.6%), Belgium (2.5%), Switzerland (2.4%) are among the top 5 countries of birth.
- Bilingual (55%)
- Admitted through the International Mobility Program (94.4%).
- Came with the intention to :
 - settle mainly in Ontario (54.1%), followed by Western Canada (20.7% in British Columbia and 11.7% in Alberta). Those who settle in Atlantic Canada mainly go to New Brunswick, followed by Nova Scotia.
 - occupy an A-level professional position (53.1%)



English-speaking skilled temporary foreign workers outside Québec

Meanwhile, 227,488 English-speaking skilled temporary foreign workers obtained their first work permit in Canada outside Quebec between 2012 and 2021, a number **20 times** higher than their French-speaking counterparts.

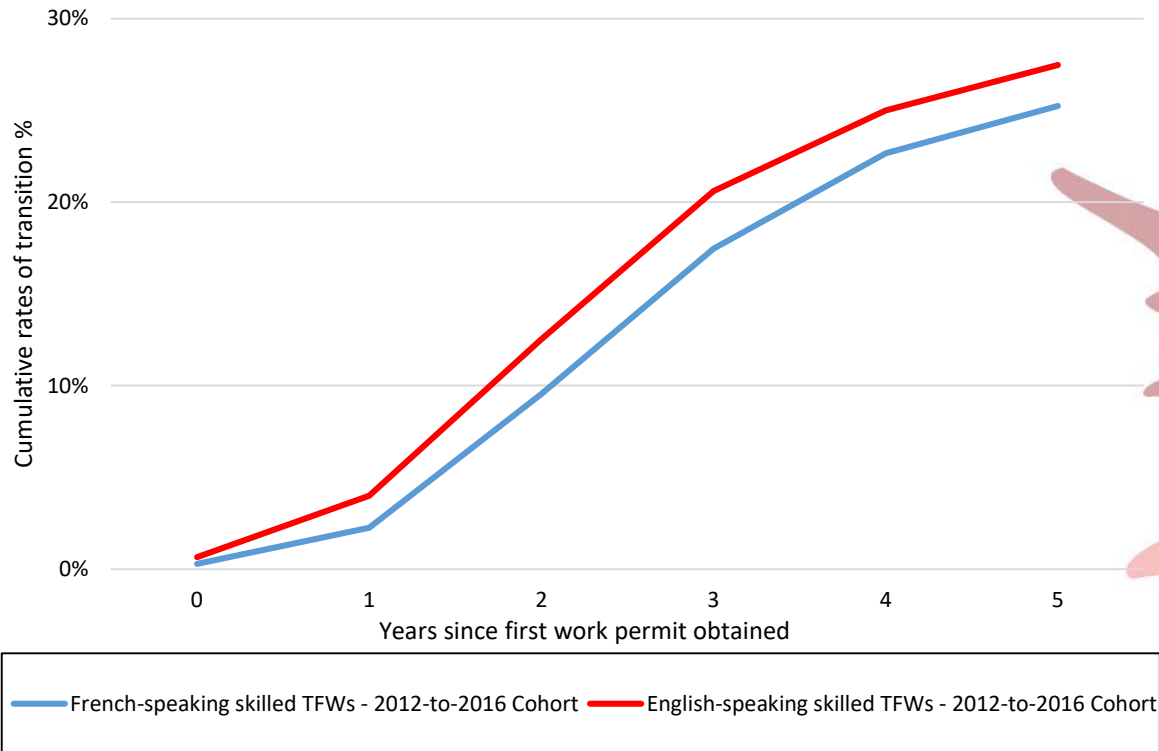
They were generally :

- Male (75.8%, +14.5% than French-speaking skilled TFW)
- Under 34 years of age (55.5%, -23% vs. French-speaking skilled TFW)
- Born in Asia: India (24.2%), China (9.1%) and the Philippines (5.1%) are among the top 5 countries of birth. Other countries include the USA (20%) and the UK (5.4%).
- Unilingual: 91.9% indicated English as their only official language.
- Admitted for the most part through the International Mobility Program (75.3%, -19.1% compared to their French-speaking counterparts).
- Coming with the intention to :
 - settle in Ontario (49.2%, -4.9% than their French-speaking counterparts), followed by Western Canada (20% in British Columbia and 17.8% in Alberta). In Atlantic Canada, they settle mainly in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, and New Brunswick.
 - occupy an A-level professional position (53.2%).



Rates of transition to permanent residency

Cumulative rates of transition to permanent residency for skilled temporary foreign workers who obtained their first work permit between 2012 and 2016, in Canada outside Québec



- Nearly 25% of French-speaking skilled temporary foreign workers made the transition after 5 years.
- Transition rates for both groups follow the same trend. However, a slightly higher proportion of English-speaking skilled temporary foreign workers have made the transition.

Source: Temporary resident administrative data set linked to the permanent resident administrative data set, August 2022



Rates of transition by demographic characteristics

Among French-speaking TFWs who obtained their first work permit between 2012 and 2016, those with the following characteristics were more/less likely to make the transition within 5 years of their first work permit:

| Characteristics | + | - |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Age | 25 to 49 (39.3%) | 18 to 24 (8.9%) |
| Gender | Men (28.5%) | Women (20.2%) |
| Marital status | Common-law or Married (39.1%) | Single (18.2%) |
| Country of birth | DRC (82.8%), Mauritius (69.4%), Tunisia (58.3 %), Morocco (52.3%) | France (21.7%), Senegal (21.1%) |
| Province of destination | Saskatchewan (56.1%) | Ontario (22.6%), Manitoba (20.7%) |
| Temporary residence categories | International agreements or arrangements (34.4%) | Canadian Interests (21.9%) |
| Professional skill level | Managerial occupations (O) – (42.3%) | Professional occupations (A) – (20.0%) |

Source: Temporary resident administrative data set linked to the permanent resident administrative data set, August 2022

Distribution by permanent residence programs and intended province of destination

French-speaking skilled TFWs in Canada outside Quebec :

- Over 90% obtained their permanent residence through an economic program, including nearly 78% of economic immigrants through the Federal Skilled Worker Class and over 20% through the Provincial Nominee Program.
- In line with the intended province of destination at the time of obtaining the first work permit, they planned to settle in Ontario (44.6%), British Columbia (23.1%) and Alberta (11.1%).
- Few wished to settle in Quebec (4.9%).

English-speaking skilled TFWs in Canada outside Quebec :

- The vast majority of this population was admitted through economic immigration programs (93.7%). Among economic immigrants, however, the Provincial Nominee Program was more popular (35.8%).
- Like French speakers, they planned to settle in Ontario (41.2%), followed by British Columbia (23%) and Alberta (18.1%).