

# Longitudinal Immigration Database: A tool to assess socioeconomic outcomes of immigrants and non-permanent residents

September 2022

Eric Mongrain, Statistics Canada



Éclairer grâce aux données, pour bâtir un Canada meilleur



Statistique  
Canada

Statistics  
Canada

Canada



# Content

- Introduction to the Longitudinal Immigration Database
  - Coverage
  - Data modules
- Examples of possible analyses
  - Income
  - Mobility
  - Sub-provincial areas
- Products (tables, interactive applications, etc.)





# Partnership between the provinces and the federal government

- The Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) is funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and the 10 provinces.
- The IMDB integrates immigration and citizenship data with socioeconomic outcomes for detailed population research and analysis.
- Results are accessible through online tables, research publications, custom tables and microdata—accessible at research data centres (RDCs).





# Immigration context in Canada

- There are two residency options in Canada:
  - Non-permanent residency
  - Permanent residency
- Immigrants are admitted as permanent residents for different reasons:
  - Economic immigrants: contributing to the Canadian economy (60%)
  - Family sponsored immigrants: reuniting family members (26%)
  - Refugees: seeking protection and fleeing persecution (13%)
- Immigrants represent 21.9% of the population. (2016 Census)





# Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB)

- Administrative database, updated annually, that combines immigration data with tax data
- Covers immigrants and non-permanent residents (e.g., foreign workers, international students and refugee claimants)
- Allows the study of socioeconomic outcomes and mobility by controlling for the sociodemographic characteristics of individuals
  - Immigration: knowledge of official languages, country of birth, education, admission category, etc.
  - Taxes: source and amount of income, low-income status and place of residence

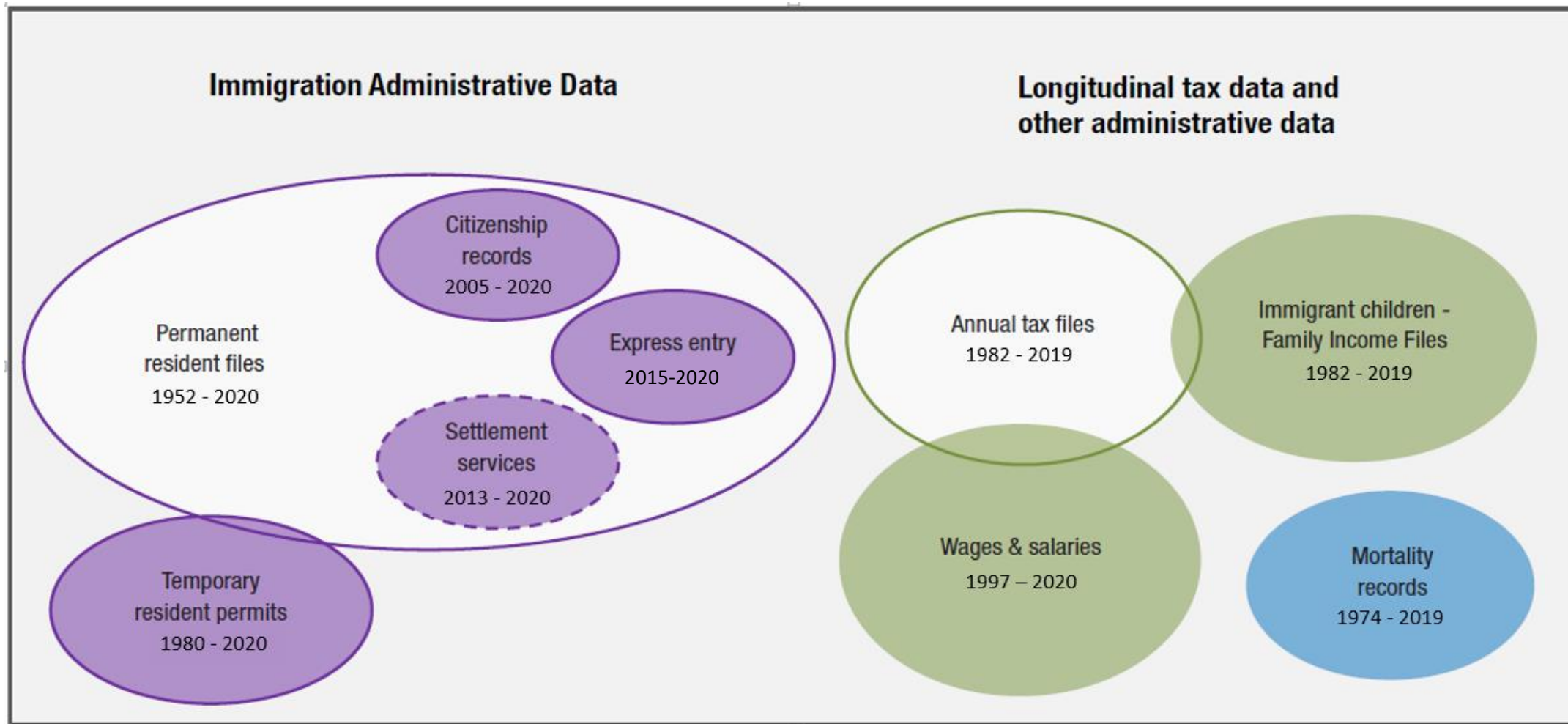


# Recent developments

- Up to 2015, the IMDB was restricted to immigrant tax filers admitted since 1980.
- Data integration to the IMDB
  - Non-permanent residence permits since 1980 and permanent residence permits – 1952 to 1979 data (2015)
  - Wages and salaries data from T4 (2018)
  - Children family data from T1FF (2018)
  - Express entry data (points) (2018)
  - Settlement service data (2019)
- New variables to the IMDB
  - Date of death (2015)
  - Syrian refugee flag (2017)
  - Express entry flag (i.e. immigrant selection) (2017)
  - Citizenship acquisition date (2018)
  - French and English-speaking immigrant flags (2020)

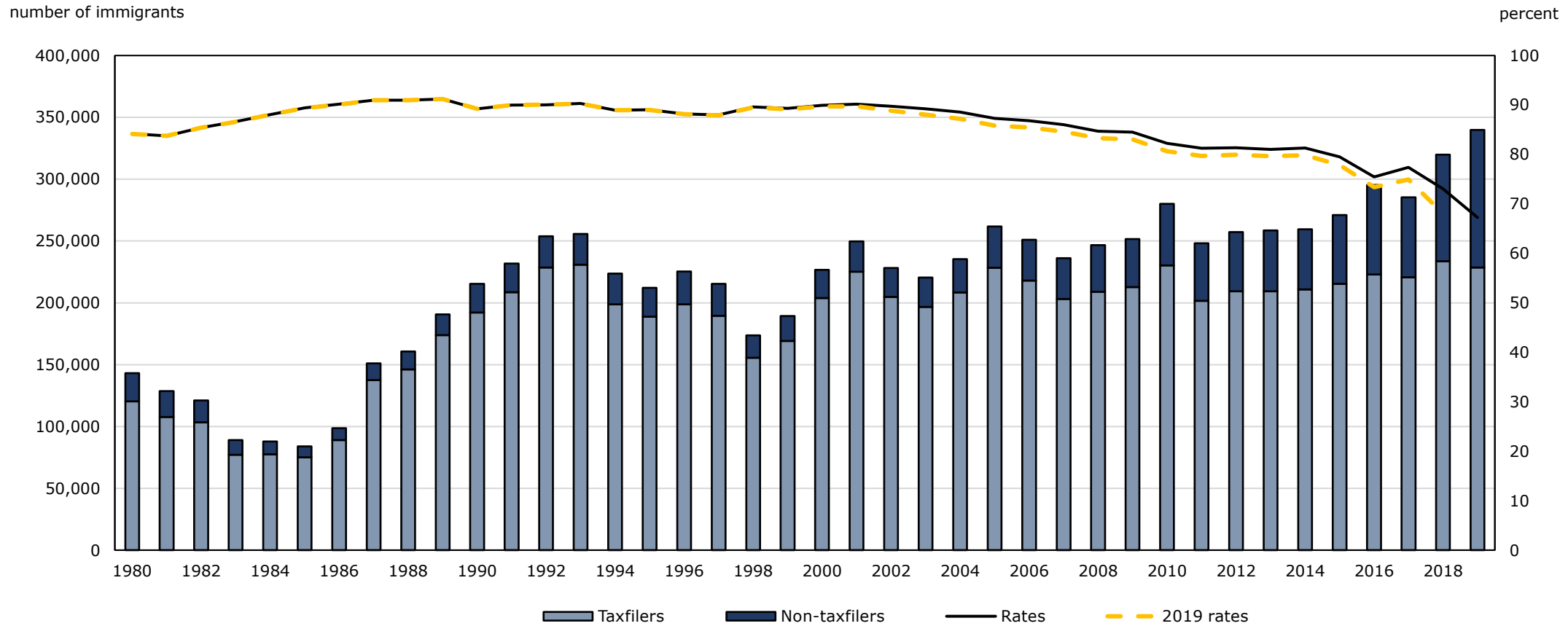


# Target Population



# Immigrants Population Coverage

## Distribution of taxfilers compared to non-taxfilers, by landing year



Source: Statistics Canada, 2020 Longitudinal Immigration Database.



# Examples of usage of IMDB data



# Tool for assessing government policies: Francophone immigration goal (example)

- Canada's Action Plan for Official Languages 2018–2023
- The Francophone Immigration Strategy aims to achieve three main objectives to support the vitality of Francophone communities:
  - increase Francophone immigration to a target of 4.4% of French-speaking immigrants outside Quebec by 2023
  - support the successful integration and retention of French-speaking newcomers
  - strengthen the capacity of Francophone communities.

*Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/francophone-immigration-strategy.html>*

- The IMDB helps to assess the outcomes of French-speaking immigrants
  - Different criteria can be used to define French-speaking immigrants.



# How do the wages of French-speaking immigrants compare with those of English-speaking immigrants one year after admission to Canada?

Median entry wages one year after admission by province of residence and language for immigrants admitted in 2018

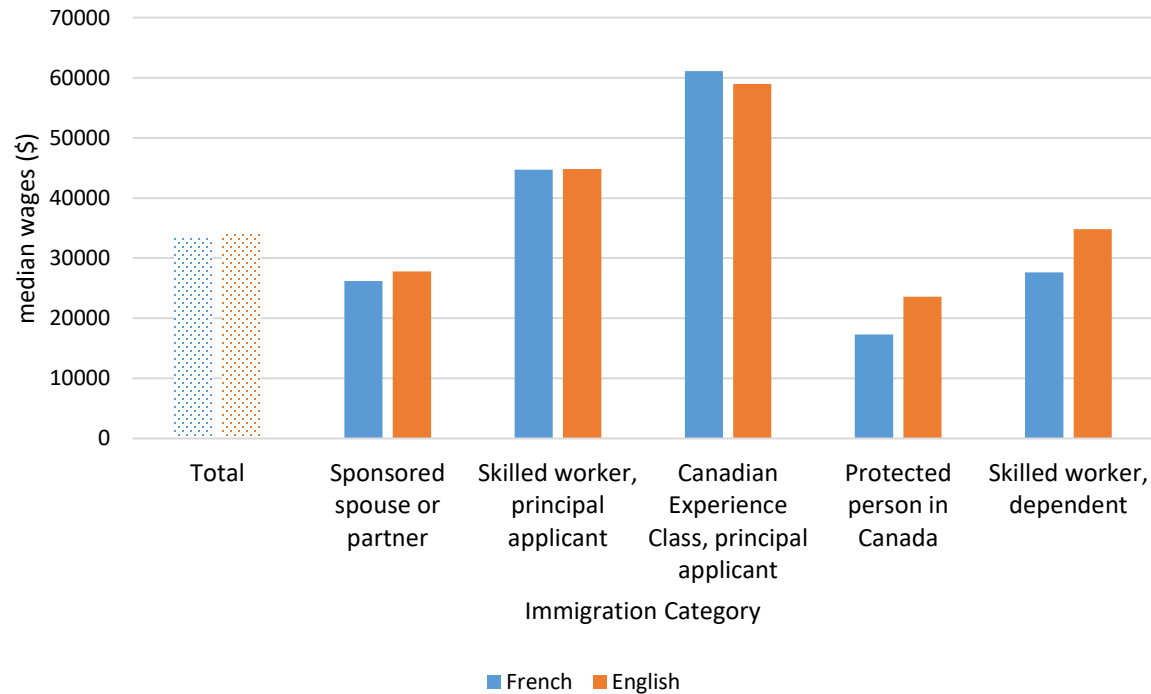
Province of residence	Admission in 2018			
	French		English	
	number	wage (\$)	number	wage (\$)
<b>Quebec</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>27,400</b>	<b>9,625</b>	<b>24,800</b>
<b>Canada outside Quebec</b>	<b>3,225</b>	<b>33,500</b>	<b>159,990</b>	<b>34,300</b>
New Brunswick	210	31,800	1,775	32,600
Ontario	1,890	32,100	83,685	35,100
Alberta	400	28,400	27,355	33,600
<b>British Columbia</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>44,500</b>	<b>28,915</b>	<b>36,700</b>

Note: Income is in 2019 constant dollars.

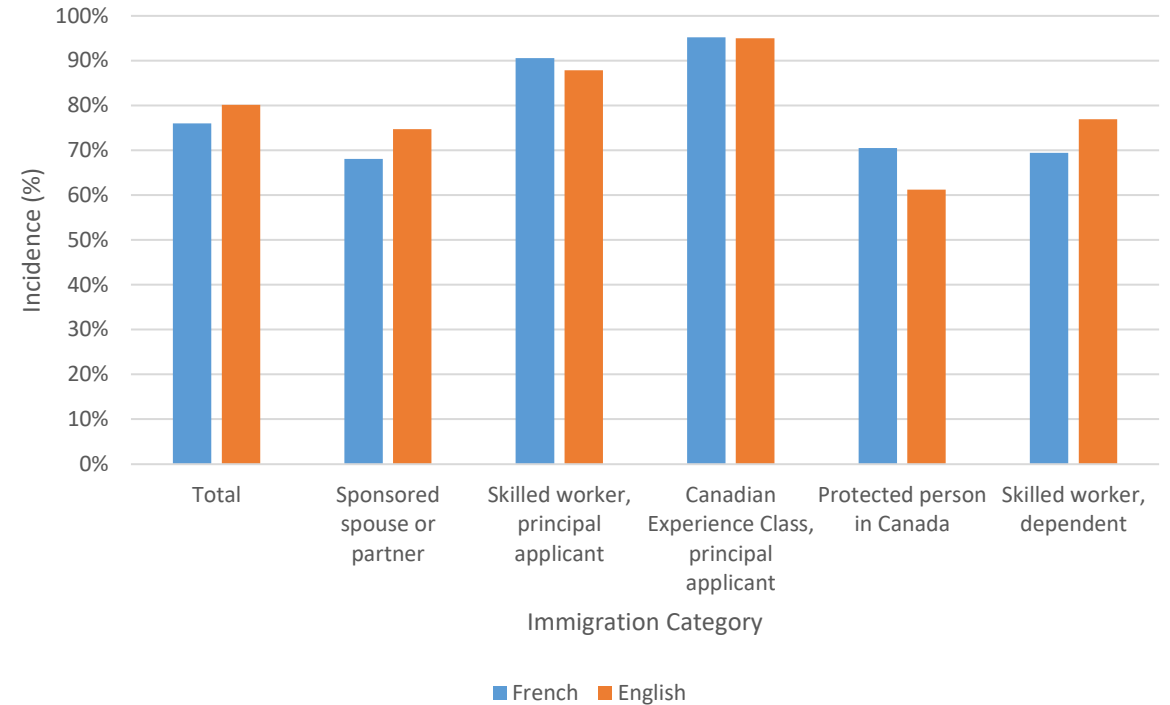
Source: Statistics Canada, Longitudinal Immigration Database, 2020.

# Differences by admission category

Entry wages of immigrants admitted in 2018, by official language, Canada outside Quebec



Incidence of wages among immigrants admitted in 2018, by official language, Canada outside Quebec



Note: Income is in 2019 constant dollars.

Source: Statistics Canada, Longitudinal Immigration Database, 2020.



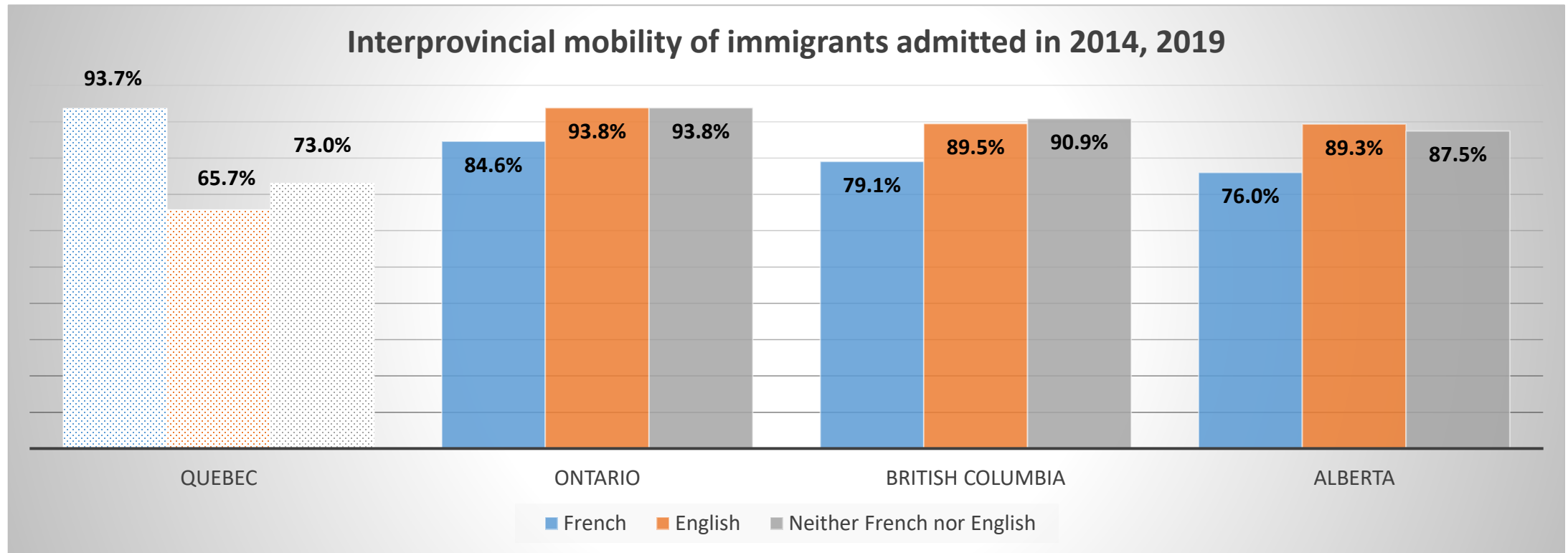
# Geography measures—province

- **The intended province** (intended\_province) is the province where an immigrant plans to live upon admission.
  - According to the permanent residency application
  - Provinces that admitted the largest proportions of French-speaking immigrants in 2019: New Brunswick (14.6%), Ontario (3.4%) and Manitoba (3.2%).
- **The province of residence** is the province where the immigrant settles.
  - According to tax data
  - Information available for tax filers only
  - Proportion of French-speaking tax filers in 2019 among immigrants admitted in 2019: New Brunswick (15.7%), Ontario (3.1%) and Manitoba (3.4%)



# Interprovincial mobility over 5 years

- Intended province in 2014 compared with the province of residence in 2019

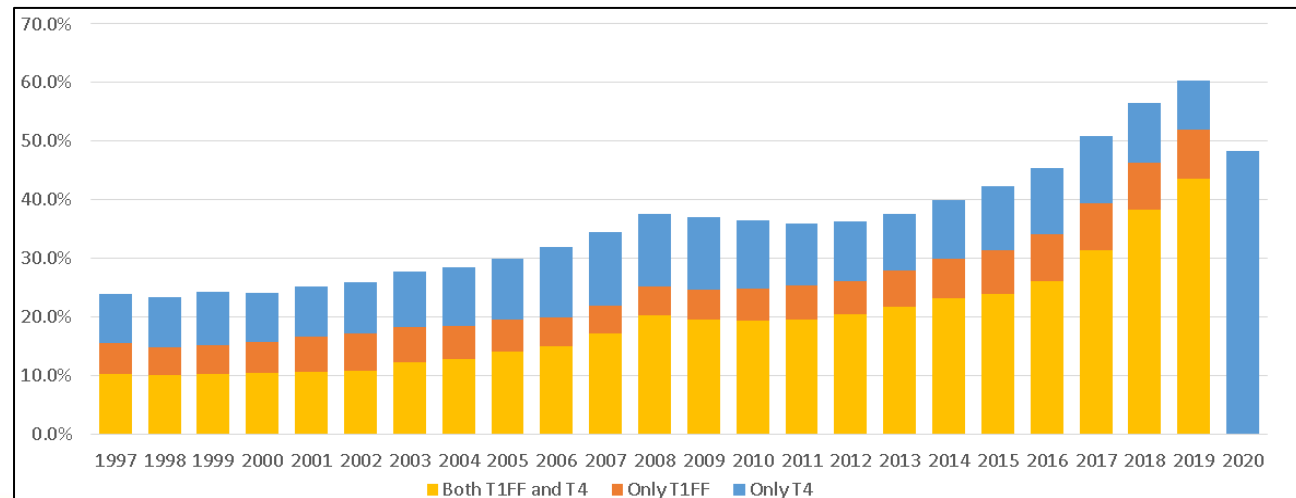




# Wages and salaries module (1997–2020)

- The wages and salaries module provides certain benefits:
  - additional coverage of temporary foreign workers
  - an additional year of data (the file contains data through 2020).

**Coverage of non-refugee claimants temporary residents with active permits who have not transitioned to permanent residency and hold active permits, by tax data file and permit year**

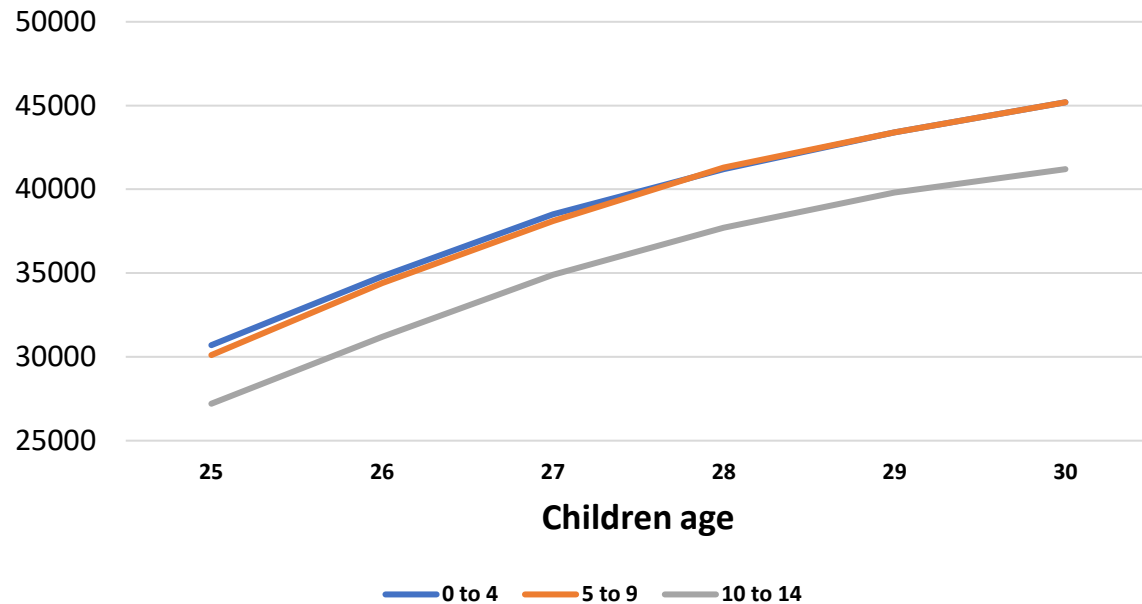


## Immigrant children module

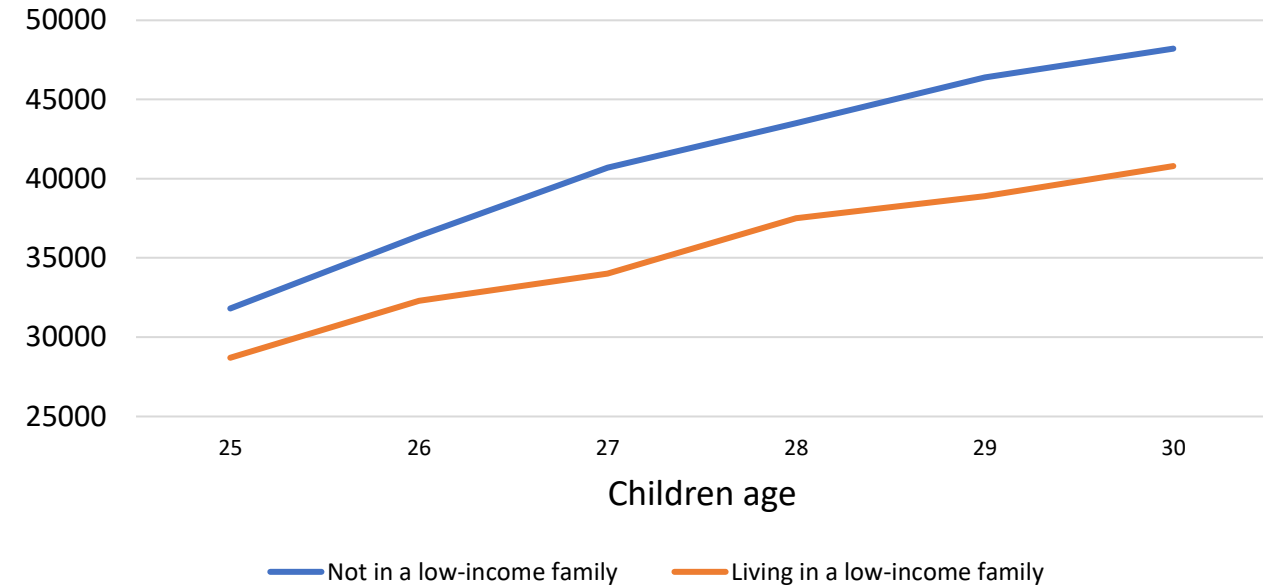
- Approximately 25% of immigrants admitted since 1980 were children at the time of their admission (under 18 at admission)
- Includes parental income sources during childhood, low-income indicators and place of residence
- Assessment of the impact of economic status and mobility on immigrant children's earnings and access to postsecondary education as adults

# Examples of analysis using the children module

Median employment income by age group at admission, 2017 constant \$



Children admitted before 5 years old, living in low-income families two years after their admission, have lower incomes as adults than those who were not, 2017 constant \$



Source : Statistics Canada Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB), 2018.

# Express entry module (2015–2020)

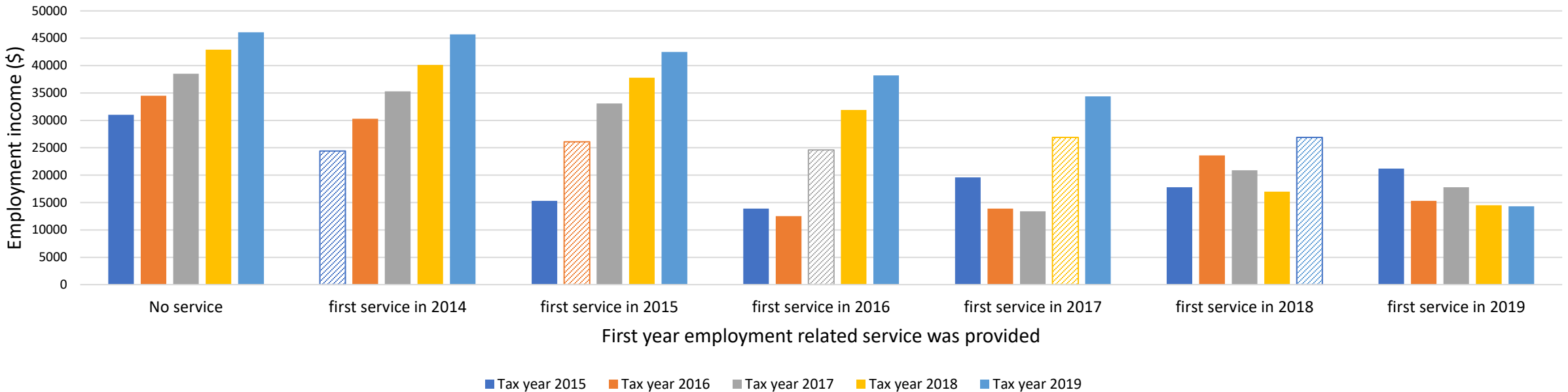
- Express entry is an application management system for economic immigrants (principal applicants) who want to permanently settle in Canada.
- Selection criteria (point system):
  - age
  - studies
  - work experience
  - whether or not you have a valid job offer
  - language skills in French or English
  - adaptability (how well you would settle here)
- This selection process was launched on January 1, 2015, and the first draw (to select qualified permanent residents) took place on January 31, 2015.
- For more information:
  - <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigrate-canada/express-entry.html>

# Settlement services module

- Data on settlement services received before 2013 (and 2015 for foreign services) cannot be added to the currently available data.
- Data from organizations in Quebec are not collected, meaning that only data on services provided to immigrants outside Quebec are available.
- Relevant questions:
  - Who receives settlement services? What type of service?
  - What are the impacts of the services received on short-, medium- and long-term economic outcomes?
  - Different by:
    - Province?
    - Immigrant profile (immigration category, age at admission)?

# Example of analysis from settlement services module

Median wages of 2014 federal skilled workers by year of first employment related settlement service, 2019 constant dollars



\*Based on immigrants aged more than 18 at admission as most ER service recipients were aged over 18.

Source: 2019 Longitudinal Immigration Database



# Online products

---



# Our online products

- **Immigration Portal** [www.statcan.gc.ca/immigration-e](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/immigration-e)
- **Technical report / User guide**
  - Describes the IMDB, its components and quality
  - Provides examples for analysis
  - <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-633-x/11-633-x2021008-eng.htm>
- **Interactive application**
  - Income: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2019003-eng.htm>
  - Mobility: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2019033-eng.htm>
- **Dynamic tables**
  - National/provincial/sub-provincial tables
  - Outcomes on income and mobility
  - [Income of Immigrant tax-filers, by immigrant admission category and tax year, for Canada and provinces, 2019 constant dollars \(statcan.gc.ca\)](#)





# Collaboration between the provinces, IRCC and Statistics Canada

- Collaboration between IRCC and Statistics Canada has allowed data integration between the IMDB and other data sources (e.g., the census, General Social Survey).
- In addition, IRCC and the provinces fund access to data in RDCs to improve access for the research community.
  - This collaboration supports research on immigration, settlement and citizenship
  - <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/microdata/data-centres>



# IMDB linked with other data sources

- Education and Labour Market Longitudinal Platform (ELMLP)
- Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB, 2020) linked to the IMDB
- Canadian Community Health Survey (2003–2014) linked to the IMDB (1980–2013)
- IMDB linked to the Discharge Abstract Database (DAD, 2000–2014)
- IMDB linked to the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC)
- Linkage to the Longitudinal Administrative Databank (LAD)



**For more information, visit**

<http://www.statcan.ca/immigration-e>

[https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/topics-start/gender diversity and inclusion?HPA=1](https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/topics-start/gender-diversity-and-inclusion?HPA=1)

Or contact

[infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)

<https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/microdata/data-centres>

DSS Client Services / DSS Service a Clientele (STATCAN) [statcan.dssclientservices-dssserviceaclientele.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.dssclientservices-dssserviceaclientele.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)



**Thank you!**



Statistique  
Canada

Statistics  
Canada

Éclairer grâce aux données, pour bâtir un Canada meilleur

Canada