

## Immigrants to Ontario

- In 2001, Ontario received 148,244 immigrants, representing 59 per cent of all immigrants to Canada.

### Independent Class

From 1996 to 2001, the large majority of immigrants to Ontario were from the "Independent Class". In 2001, they represented 63 per cent of Ontario immigration.

- The "Independent Class" consists of: **skilled workers** (and spouses and dependents) who are awarded points based on their labour market skills, and **business immigrants** (entrepreneurs, investors and self-employed) and their spouses and dependents.

In 2001, skilled workers and their spouses and dependents comprised 60 per cent of all immigrants to Ontario. Business immigrants, including spouses and dependents, comprised another 3 per cent.

### Family Class

Family class immigrants are close relatives who join immigrants already established in Canada. In 2001, they constituted 28 per cent of Ontario immigration.

### Refugees

Refugees, including government-assisted refugees, refugees sponsored by non-governmental institutions and asylum seekers, made up another 8 per cent.

### Economic Performance of Skilled Workers

- The Longitudinal Immigration Data Base (IMDB) shows that principal applicants from the skilled worker class had the highest earnings from employment of any immigrant class in 1998 (latest data available).
- For all but their most recent landing years (1995-97), skilled workers also had higher employment earnings than the average Ontario tax filer.

Spouses and dependents within the independent class had only slightly higher earnings than family class and refugees amongst recent arrivals, but significantly lower earnings than the average Ontario tax filer.

The longer the stay in Canada, the higher the employment earnings, regardless of immigrant class.

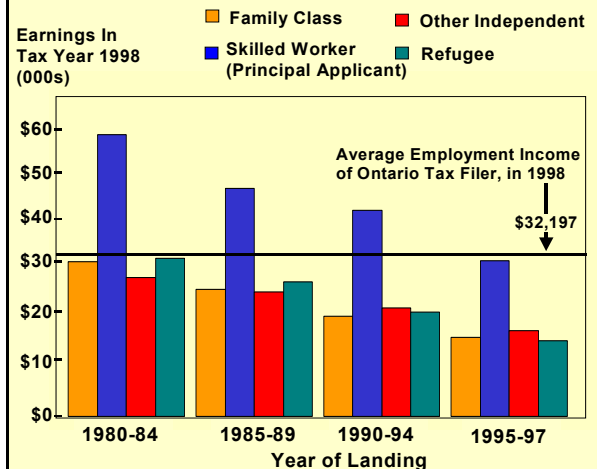
**Number of Immigrants to Ontario by Admission Category, 2001**

Class	Number	Per cent
<b>Independent*</b>	<b>94,112</b>	<b>63</b>
Skilled Workers*	88,990	60
Business Immigrants*	5,122	3
<b>Family Class</b>	<b>40,983</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Refugees</b>	<b>12,139</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>148,244</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, Compiled by Ontario Ministry of Citizenship.

\* Includes spouses & dependents.

**Employment Earnings by Immigrant Class, Ontario, 1998**



Source: Statistics Canada, Longitudinal Immigration Data Base & Small Area and Administrative Data. Business Immigrants not included due to small size. "Other Independent" refers to spouses & dependents of the independent class.

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