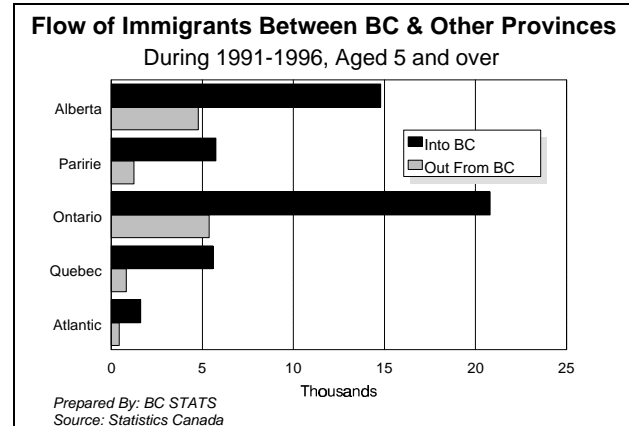


Special Feature: Interprovincial Mobility of Immigrants

Immigrants do not always stay in the same province where they initially settled after they landed in Canada. According to the 1996 Census, during the period 1991 to 1996, 49,245 immigrants moved into B.C. from other provinces while 12,990 immigrants moved out of B.C. to live in another province, resulting a net gain of 36,255 immigrants. During that period, B.C. was the only province which had a net gain of immigrant population. All other provinces recorded a net loss of immigrant population to the rest of Canada.

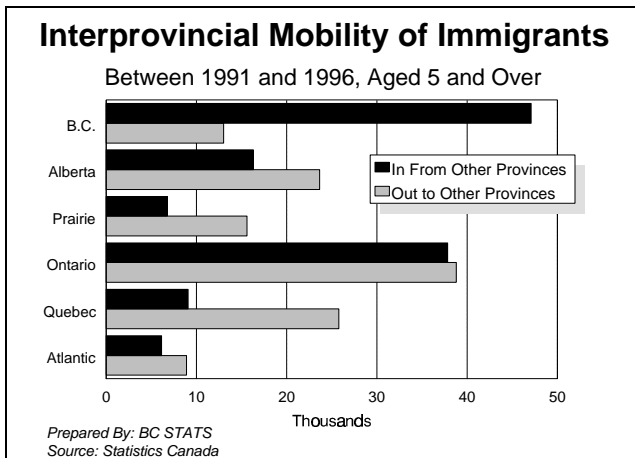
The interprovincial mobility of the immigrant population during 1991-96 can be determined using information from the 1996 Census on the province of residence in 1991. An immigrant is considered an interprovincial mover if his/her province of residence in 1996 differs from that during the 1991 Census. However, under this method, multiple movements of immigrants during the period cannot be traced. Also, an immigrant would not be detected as a mover if he/she moved to another province after the 1991 Census but returned to the original province before the 1996 Census.

and that between B.C. and Alberta was 10,005 persons (gained 14,790 and lost 4,785).



Half of the immigrants who migrated to B.C. from other provinces arrived in Canada prior to 1981, whereas 60 per cent who left B.C. for other provinces were in the same period of immigration. For recent immigrants who moved between B.C. and other provinces, a relatively higher proportion arrived in Canada during 1986-1990 than after 1991.

Immigrants who moved between B.C. and other provinces tended to be concentrated in the 15 to 44 year old age group. When compared to in-movers, a relatively higher proportion of the out-movers were aged 65 and over.



The net gain of 36,255 immigrant population in B.C. represented 22% of the total net interprovincial migrants to B.C. during that period. The majority of immigrants who moved into B.C. were from Ontario and Alberta. Also, most immigrants who left B.C. moved to Ontario and Alberta. The net exchange of immigrant population between B.C. and Ontario was 15,435 persons (gained 20,810 and lost 5,375),

