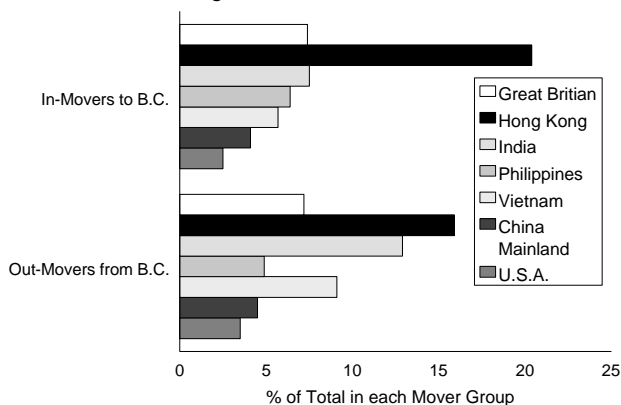


Special Feature: Interprovincial Mobility of Recent Immigrants (continued)

Most immigrants who moved interprovincially after landing were from Asia

As pointed out in the article featured in the previous release, approximately 9% of the immigrants who originally landed in B.C. during 1980-1995 had left the province by 1995 (out-movers). On the other hand, approximately 23% of the immigrants who resided in B.C. in 1995 came from other provinces (in-movers). A comparison of the country of origin of immigrants who moved indicates that a majority of these movers were from Asia. This was primarily due to the fact that Asian countries have been the dominating source of immigrants to Canada and British Columbia over the last decade.

Immigrants by Mobility by Selected Origin
Immigrants Landed 1980-1995



Immigrants who moved to B.C. from another province of landing originated mostly from Hong Kong, India, Eastern Europe, Eastern Asia and Africa. Hong Kong immigrants topped the list in both the out-mover and the in-mover categories as a result of the large number of immigrants who arrived from Hong Kong during the last 10 years. B.C. also gained more Hong Kong immigrants from other provinces compared to the number that left the province.

New Data Makes Mobility Study Possible

This study is made possible by using data available from the Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) developed jointly by Statistics Canada and Citizenship and Immigration Canada. This database is created by combining income tax records from Revenue Canada and immigration records for a sample of immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1980 and 1995. By comparing an immigrant's province of initial landing and the province of residence as indicated on the same immigrant's tax return, interprovincial mobility of this immigrant can be determined.

In this study, the province of residence of a sample of immigrants aged 15 or older in 1995 was compared to their original province of landing. If an immigrant's province of landing differed from his/her province of residence as of 1995, it can be inferred that this immigrant had moved interprovincially between the time of landing and 1995. It should be noted that multiple movements of immigrants were not tracked by this database. Hence, mobility in this study simply means change of province of residence of immigrants between two points in time.

*The sample in the database is large enough to be representative for the general immigrant population who landed between 1980 and 1995. For example, the actual number of immigrants aged 15 and older who landed in B.C. between 1980 and 1995 was about 347,789 persons. The sample contained within the IMDB was 194,565 immigrants, about 56%. This is the second feature article utilizing the IMDB. More articles using the information provided by the IMDB will be featured in the forthcoming issues of **Immigration Highlights**.*

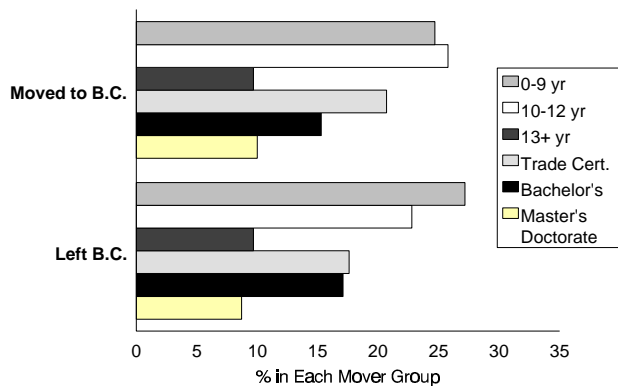
B.C. gained more immigrants with a Trade School Certificate

Comparing the education attainment of the immigrants at time of landing, it is found that a relatively higher proportion of immigrants who moved to B.C. from other provinces possess a

trade school education, whereas a higher percentage of those who left B.C. had only up to nine years of school.

Compared to other provinces, in-movers to B.C. from Ontario tended to have a higher educational attainment. Forty-nine per cent of the immigrants from Ontario had a better than high school education compared to 37 per cent from other provinces. On the other hand, the differences in education levels between out-movers from B.C. to Ontario and those to other provinces were insignificant.

Immigrants landed in 1980-1995
By Mobility By Education as of 1995

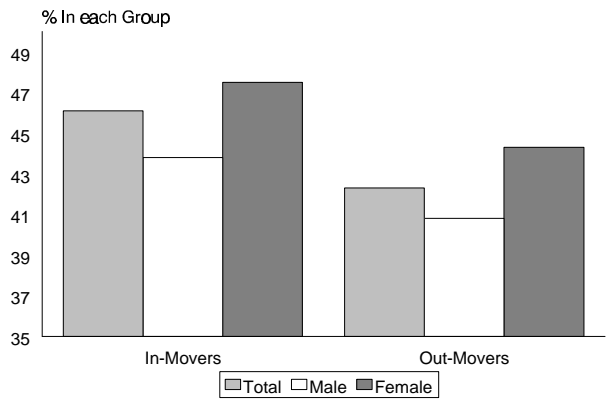


Out-movers had slightly better English language ability than the in-movers

Statistics have shown that English language ability of immigrants to Canada has improved slightly over the last few years due to the higher proportion of recent immigrants arriving under the skilled worker and business classes. However, over the period of 1980 to 1998, close to half the immigrants to the province possessed no English language ability at time of landing.

For immigrants landed between 1980 and 1995, 42.3 per cent of immigrants who moved to other provinces from B.C. possessed no English language ability at time of landing, compared to 45.5 per cent for those who moved to B.C. from other provinces. Also, in both mover groups, female movers tended to have slightly lower English language ability than their male counterparts.

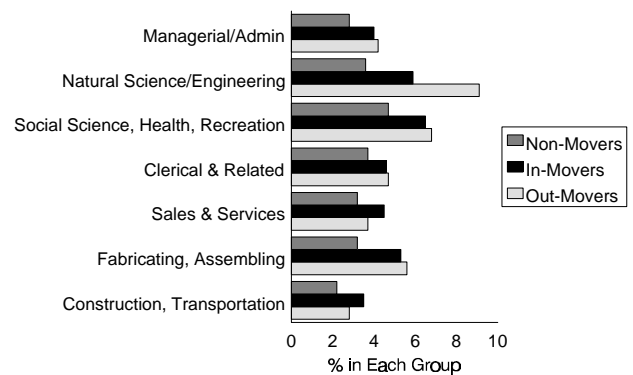
Immigrants Without English Language Ability
By Mobility - Landed 1980-1995



Movers were more likely to have an intended occupation

Intended occupation was reported by immigrants at the time of landing. It is believed that occupation intention of immigrants at time of arrival reflects largely the occupational characteristics and training background of immigrants in their home countries prior to coming to Canada. Generally speaking, in-movers and out-movers show very similar occupational distributions, except that a relatively higher proportion of out-movers had intended occupations in the social science, medicine, health and recreation related fields. On the other hand, in-movers had a slightly higher representation in the sales and services fields. Compared to movers, a relatively higher percentage of the non-movers were not in the labour force at the time of landing.

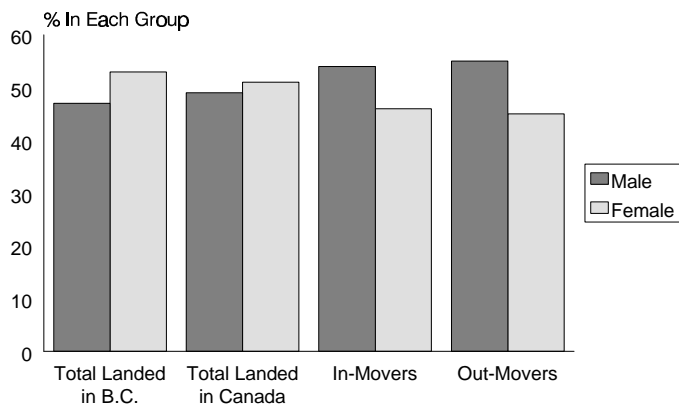
Immigrants by Selected Intended Occupation
By Mobility - Landed 1980-1995



There were more male movers than female movers during the period of study. In either direction of interprovincial movement, there were about 55% male movers versus 45% female movers. Although this difference seems small, it can still be inferred that male immigrants have a higher propensity to be interprovincial movers, given that there have been more female than male immigrants arriving in B.C. and Canada over the last two decades.

Immigrants by Gender

Landed in 1980-1995



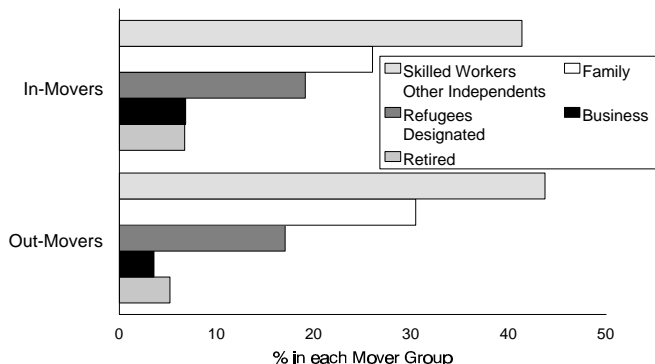
Skilled workers and independent economic immigrants more likely to move

As was expected with more movers in the middle age groups, immigrants in the categories of skilled workers and other independents were also more mobile due to different job market situations between provinces at various periods of time. In both directions of interprovincial movement, more than 40% of the movers were in the skilled workers and other independent classes. Family classes of immigrants formed the next most mobile group whereas business and

retired immigrants tended to be the least mobile.

Immigrants By Mobility by Class

Landed in 1980-1995



Comparing movers by class between provinces of destination and origin also indicated that B.C. tended to receive more business and refugee immigrants from provinces other than Ontario and Alberta. On the other hand, a higher proportion of refugee immigrants left B.C. for Ontario than for other provinces. Also, compared to other provinces, immigrants moving to B.C. from Ontario were more likely to be in the skilled worker or other independent classes.

Immigrants by Mobility by Class

Landed in 1980-1995

