Ethno-cultural realities of diverse Chinese immigrants in Canada

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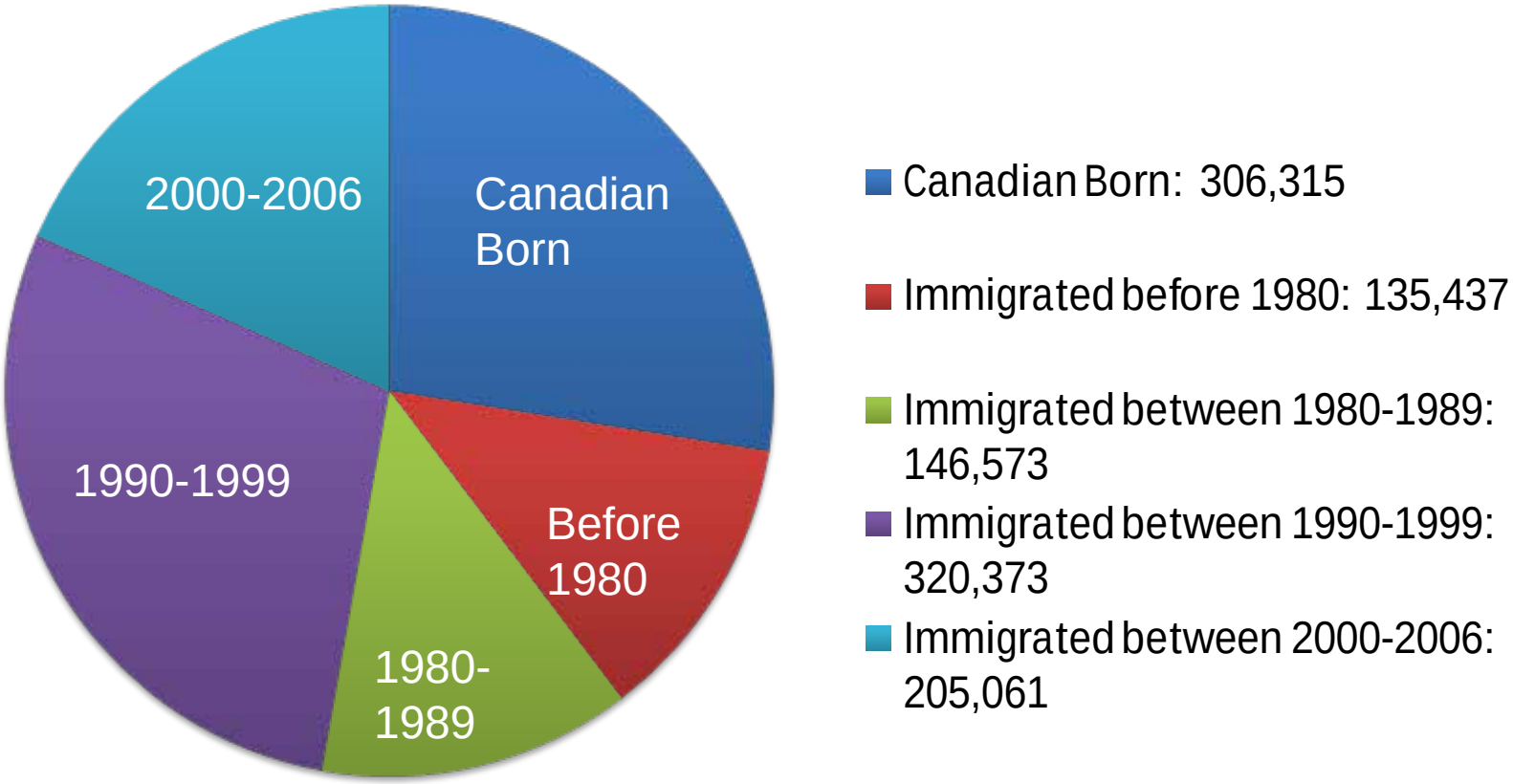
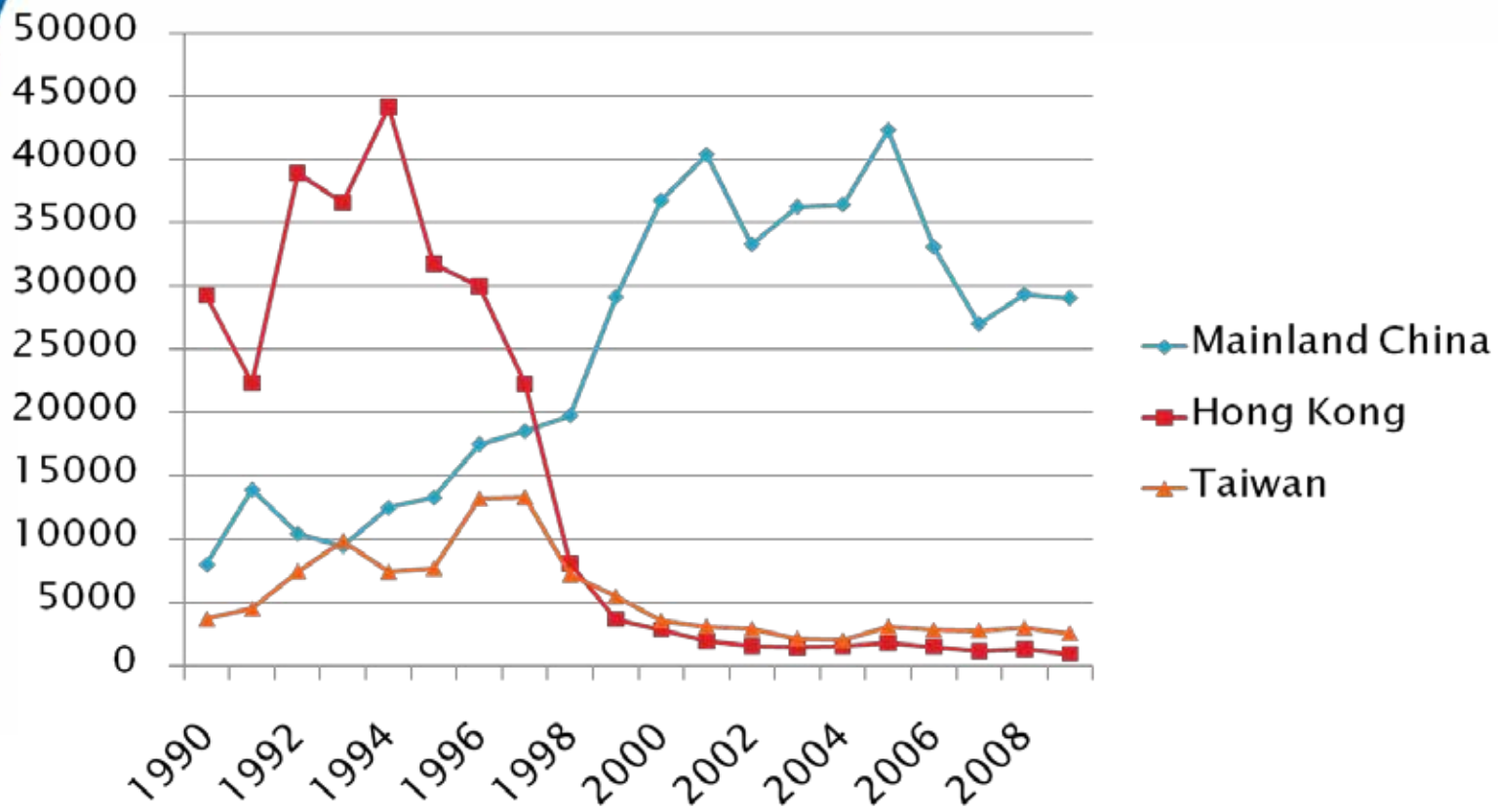
Chinese immigrants in Canada

- Total: 1,215,827 in 2006 Census

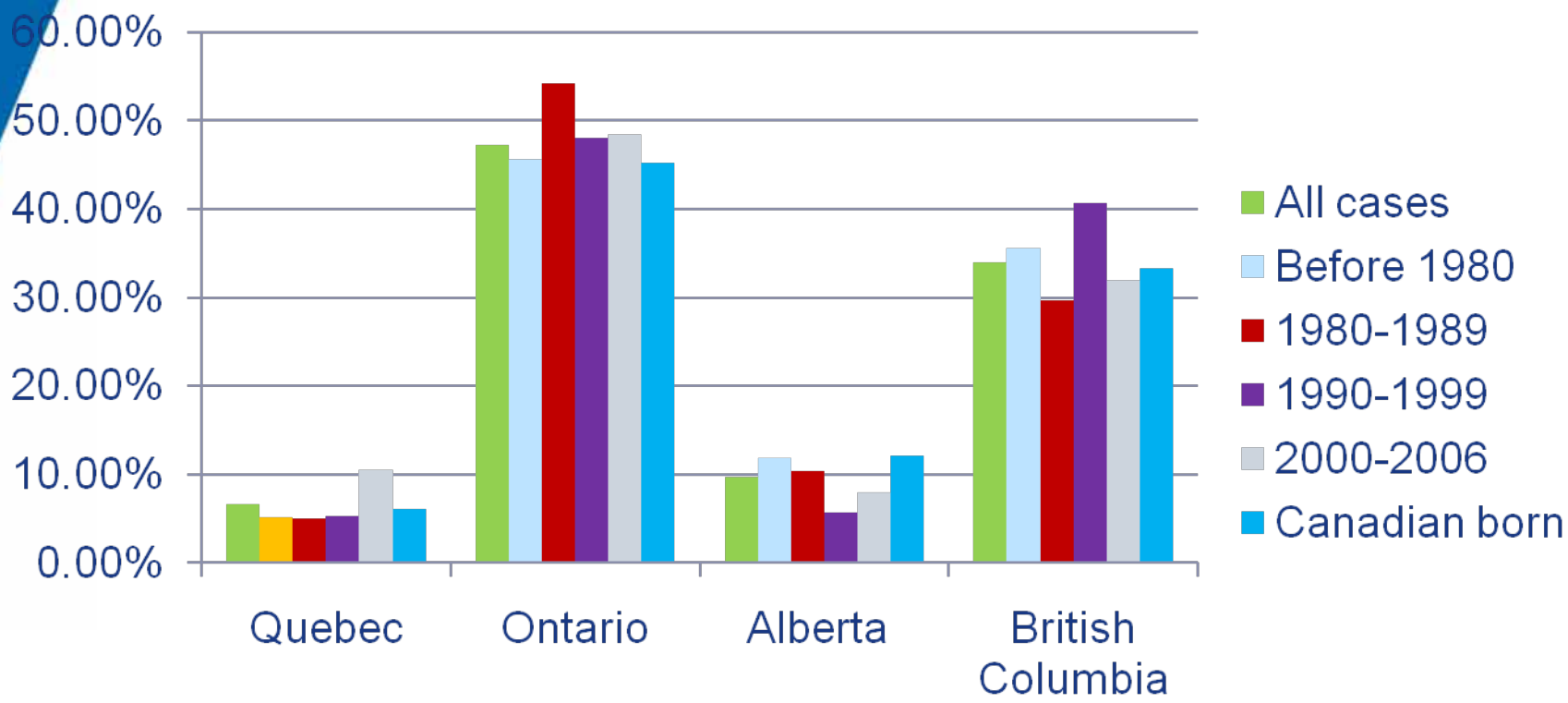


Trends of Chinese immigrants to Canada



(Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Facts and Figures, 2003, 2009; Citizenship and Immigration Statistics,1996)

Top four provinces of residence by Chinese in Canada



Median age

All Chinese:	35 to 39 yrs
– Canadian born:	12 to 14 yrs
– Before 1980:	55 to 59 yrs
– 1980 – 1989:	45 to 49 yrs
– 1990 – 1999:	40 to 44 yrs
– 2000 – 2006:	30 to 34 yrs

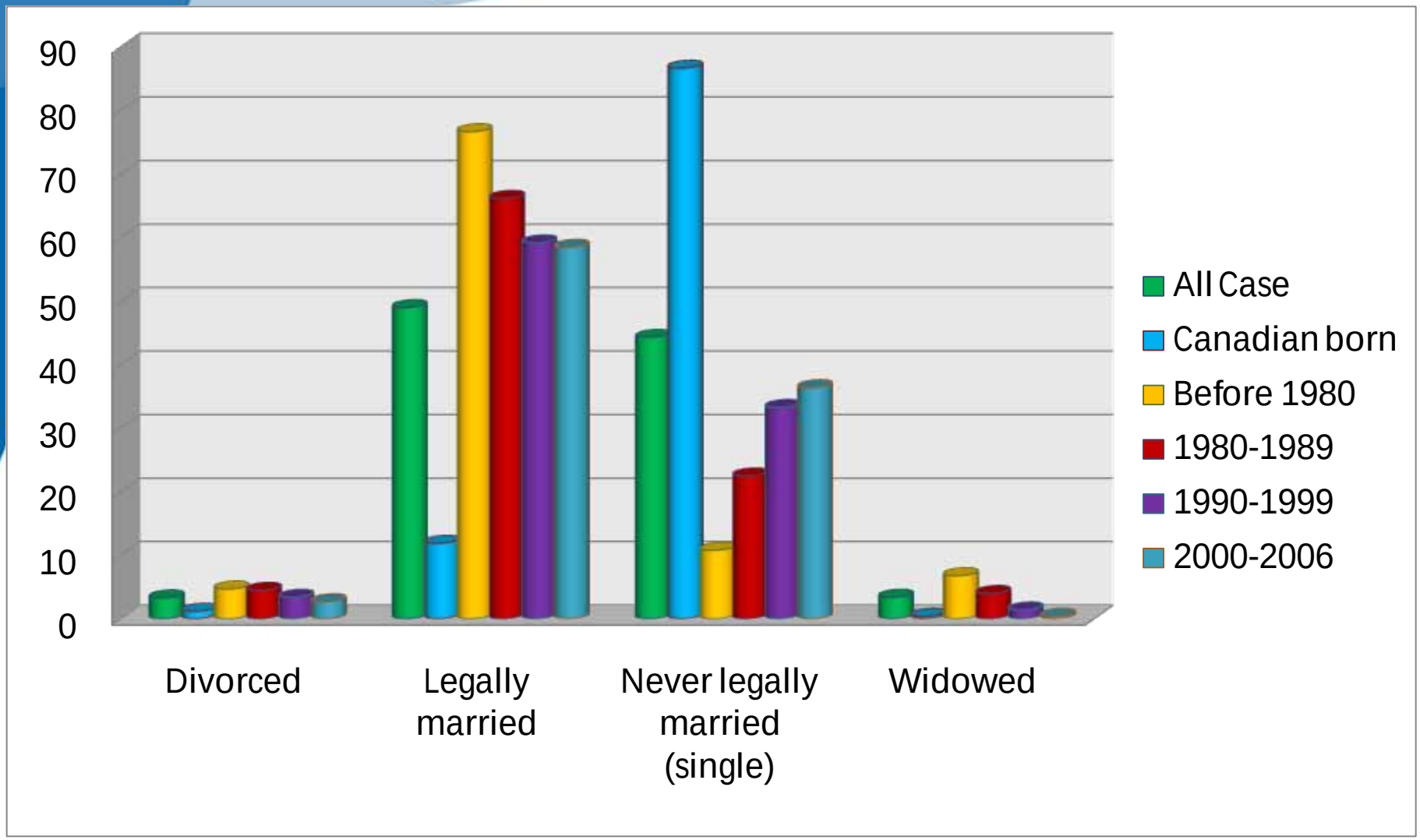
Gender - Female

- All Chinese: 52%

- Canadian born: 48.4%

- Before 1980: 52.2%
- 1980 – 1989: 53.1%
- 1990 – 1999: 53.9%
- 2000 – 2006: 54.1%

Marital Status



Education: University degree or above

- All Chinese: 32.2%
- Canadian born: 32%
- Before 1980: 24.8%
- 1980 – 1989: 26.4%
- 1990 – 1999: 29.4%
- 2000 – 2006: 45%

Top three fields of study

All Chinese:

•Commerce, management, business administration(14%)

•Engineering and applied sciences(8.1%)

•Mathematics, computer and physical sciences(6.8%)

Canadian Born:

•Commerce, management, business administration(14.2%)

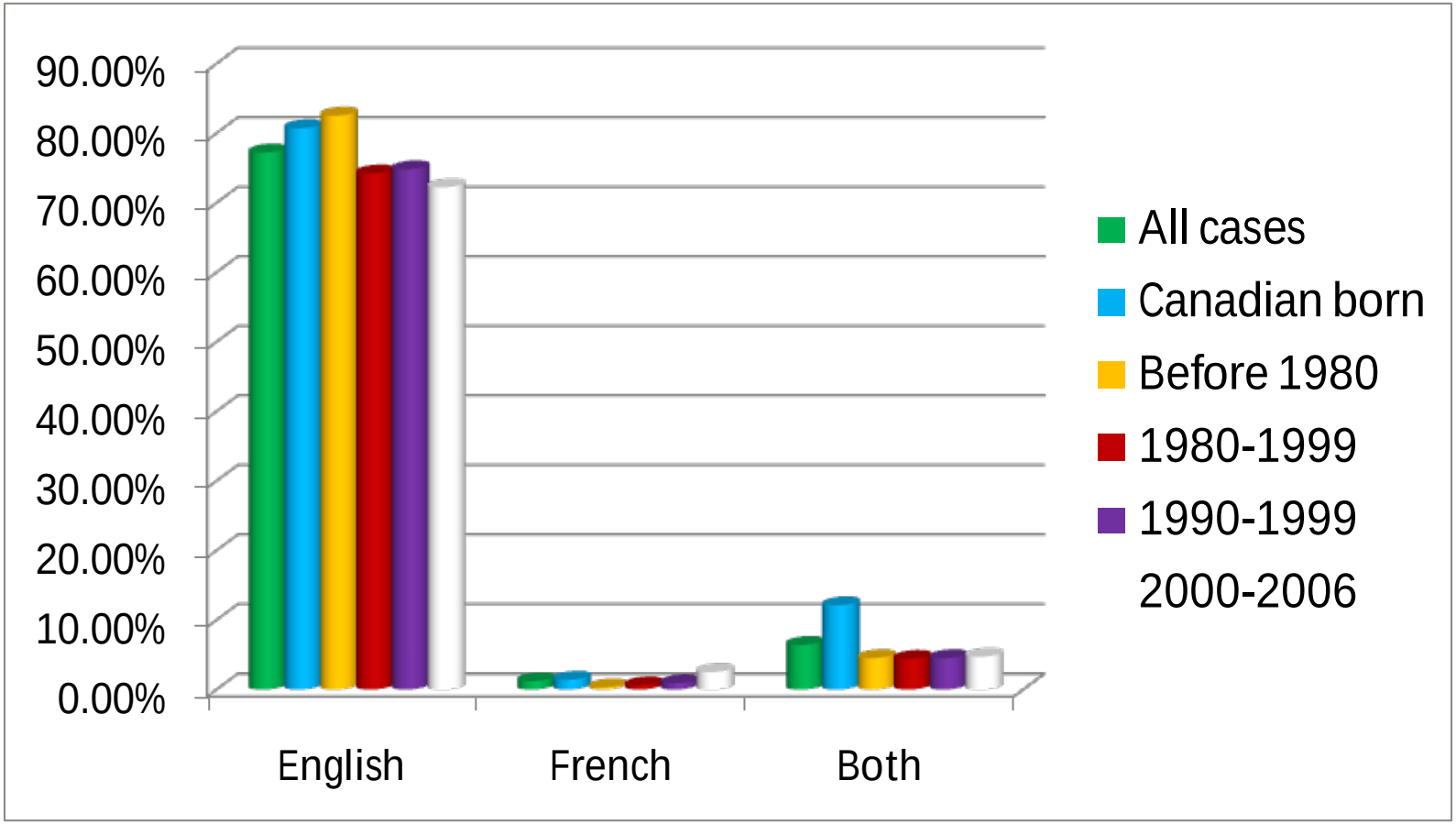
•Social sciences and related fields (6.6%)

•Health professions and related technologies (5.6%)

Top three fields of study

Before 1980: •Commerce, management and business administration (13.7%) •Engineering and applied sciences (6.9%) •Applied science technologies and trades (7.2%)	**1980-1989:** •Commerce, management and business administration (14.6%) •Engineering and applied sciences (5.5%) •Mathematics, computer and physical sciences (5.5%)
1990-1990: •Commerce, management and business administration (13.1%) •Engineering and applied sciences (7.4%) •Mathematics, computer and physical sciences (6.8%)	**2000 – 2006:** •Engineering and applied sciences field (17.4%) •Commerce, management and business (14.9%) •Mathematics, computer and physical sciences (10.9%)

Knowledge of Official language



Employment status – Employed

- All Chinese: 57%

- Canadian born: 64.2%

- Before 1980: 56.1%
- 1980 – 1989: 62%
- 1990 – 1999: 54.2%
- 2000 – 2006: 51.7%

Employment status –Working full time in 2005

- All Chinese: 77.2%
- Canadian born: 65.6%
- Before 1980: 86.2%
- 1980 – 1989: 84.7%
- 1990 – 1999: 76.1%
- 2000 – 2006: 78.4%

Top three occupations

All Chinese:

- Professionals (23.3%)
- Intermediate sales and service personnel (12.1%)
- Clerical personnel (10.6%)

Canadian born:

- Professionals (25.5%)
- Intermediate sales and service personnel (14.4%)
- Clerical personnel (13.7%)

Top three occupations

Before 1980	1980-1989
Professionals (25.5%) Other sales and service personnel (14.9 %) Managers(13.8%)	Professionals (20.4%) Semi-professionals & Technicians(11.3%) Clerical(11.1%)
1990-1999	**2000-2006**
Professionals (21.5%) Intermediate sales & service (13.4%) Manager(10.0%)	Professionals (22.7%) Semi-professionals & technicians (12.3%) Other sales & service (12.2%)

Median economic family income

- All Chinese: $ 60,000 to $ 64,999

- Canadian born: $ 75,000 to $ 79,999

- Before 1980: $ 90,000 to $ 99,999
- 1980 – 1989: $ 70,000 to $ 74,999
- 1990 – 1999: $ 45,000 to $ 49,999
- 2000 – 2006: $ 35,000 to $ 39,999

Low income before tax status

- All Chinese: 27.9%

- Canadian born: 17.7%

- Before 1980: 13.0%
- 1980 – 1989: 18.4%
- 1990 – 1999: 32.0%
- 2000 – 2006: 46.1%

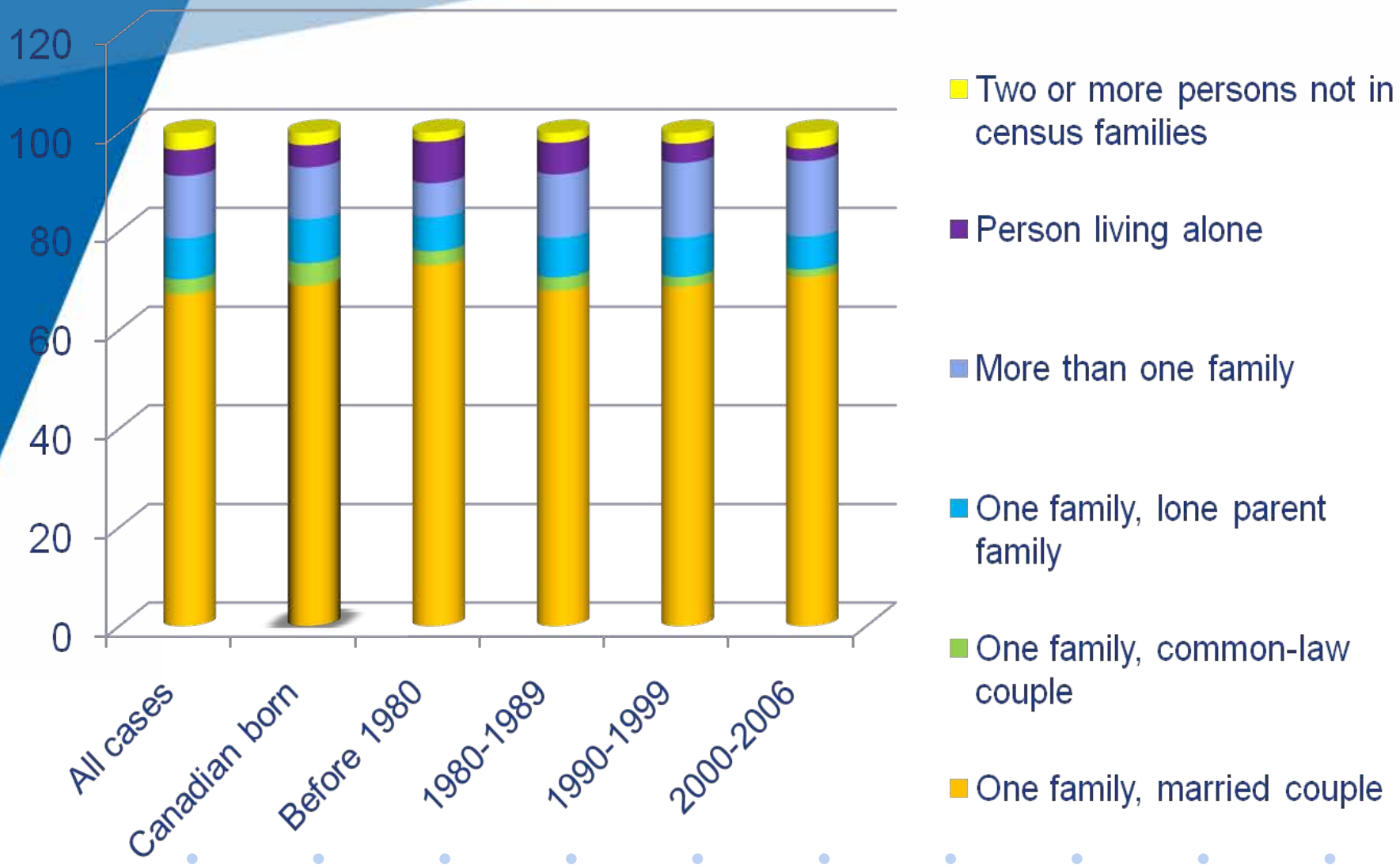
Government transfers or no income

- All Chinese: 13.3%

- Canadian born: 8.2%

- Before 1980: 16.9%
- 1980 – 1989: 12.7%
- 1990 – 1999: 13.8%
- 2000 – 2006: 17.1%

Type of household



Hours spent looking after children, without pay (last week)

	All Chinese	Before 1980	1980-1989	1990-1999	2000-2006	Canadian born
0 hrs	63.2	64.5	60.6	62.1	52.9	75.1
<5 hrs	9.9	10.5	11.3	10.3	9.8	8.3
5 -14 hrs	10.4	10.7	11.3	10.6	14.1	5.7
15 -29 hrs	7.7	6.6	8.5	8.3	10.5	4.2
30 - 59 hrs	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.5	6.8	3.1
>60 hrs	4.2	3.3	3.8	4.1	5.9	3.6

Hours spent providing unpaid care or assistance to seniors

	All Chinese	Before 1980	1980-1989	1990-1999	2000-2006	Canadian born
0 hrs	80.0	75.3	74.9	80.1	84.5	81.4
< 5 hrs	11.9	13.8	14.3	11.5	9.5	13.3
5 - 9 hrs	4.4	5.9	5.8	4.4	3.5	3.4
10 -19 hrs	2.0	2.7	2.9	2.2	1.2	1.2
>20 hrs	1.6	2.3	2.2	1.8	1.2	.7

CONCLUSION

Diversity in Chinese immigrants, including:

- Demographic backgrounds (age, gender, marital status, origins, language, etc.)
- Social-economic status (education, income, employment, household, family burden, etc.)
- Challenges (social, economical, cultural and psychological)

Multiple actions and services