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# 2001 Census Update

January 2003

City of Mississauga Planning and Building Department

No. 5

## Immigration, Ethnic Origin and Visible Minorities

On January 21, 2003, Statistics Canada released the fifth of a series of announcements from the 2001 Census of Canada, which was conducted on May 15, 2001. Data regarding immigration, ethnic origin and visible minorities, with a focus on the City of Mississauga, are contained in this newsletter. For further information regarding the Census of Canada, please contact Statistics Canada at 416 973-6586 or 1 800 263-1136 or visit their website at [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca).

### IMMIGRATION

The immigrant population in Canada has steadily increased over the last 40 years. The

largest increase occurred within the last decade, representing 33.6% of the total immigrant population in Canada. Similarly, Ontario, the Toronto CMA and Mississauga also experienced the most significant increase in

its immigrant population during the 1990's with the immigrant population representing 33.7%, 39.0% and 40.0%, respectively.

Of the total 29,639,035 responses  
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Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga Immigrant Population by Period of Immigration, 1901 to 2001								
	Canada		Ontario		Toronto CMA		Mississauga	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Immigrant Population	5,448,480	100.0%	3,030,075	100.0%	2,032,960	100.0%	285,650	100.0%
1901-1960	894,465	16.4%	502,740	16.6%	223,520	11.0%	21,705	7.6%
1961-1970	745,565	13.7%	427,795	14.1%	251,390	12.4%	33,680	11.8%
1971-1980	936,275	17.2%	496,680	16.4%	343,130	16.9%	50,645	17.7%
1981-1990	1,041,495	19.1%	580,495	19.2%	422,885	20.8%	65,475	22.9%
1991-2001	1,830,680	33.6%	1,022,370	33.7%	792,030	39.0%	114,145	40.0%

The total immigrant population includes persons who are now, or once were, landed immigrants. Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga Places of Birth of Total Immigrants: Top 10 Places of Birth												
	Canada		Ontario			Toronto CMA			Mississauga			
	#	%		#	%		#	%		#	%	
Total Persons	29,639,035	100.0%		11,285,550	100.0%		4,647,960	100.0%		610,815	100.0%	
Total Immigrant Population	5,448,480	18.4%		3,030,075	26.8%		2,032,960	43.7%		285,650	46.8%	
Top 10 Places of Birth												
1	United Kingdom	605,995	2.0%	United Kingdom	342,900	3.0%	India	147,165	3.2%	India	33,420	5.5%
2	China, People's Republic of	332,825	1.1%	Italy	210,540	1.9%	United Kingdom	142,985	3.1%	Poland	24,570	4.0%
3	Italy	315,455	1.1%	India	174,560	1.5%	Italy	138,995	3.0%	Philippines	18,625	3.0%
4	India	314,690	1.1%	China, People's Republic of	164,885	1.5%	China, People's Republic of	136,135	2.9%	United Kingdom	18,125	3.0%
5	United States	237,920	0.8%	Hong Kong (SAR)	119,615	1.1%	Hong Kong, (SAR)	110,735	2.4%	Portugal	13,625	2.2%
6	Hong Kong (SAR)	235,620	0.8%	Philippines	119,215	1.1%	Philippines	103,170	2.2%	Pakistan	13,580	2.2%
7	Philippines	232,670	0.8%	Poland	116,105	1.0%	Jamaica	92,190	2.0%	Italy	12,370	2.0%
8	Poland	180,415	0.6%	Portugal	110,865	1.0%	Portugal	78,890	1.7%	Jamaica	12,195	2.0%
9	Germany	174,070	0.6%	Jamaica	105,410	0.9%	Poland	70,490	1.5%	Hong Kong (SAR)	9,565	1.6%
10	Portugal	153,535	0.5%	Yugoslavia, Former	99,760	0.9%	Sri Lanka	68,790	1.5%	China, People's Republic of	8,900	1.5%
	Other Places of Birth	2,665,285	9.0%		1,466,220	13.0%		943,415	20.3%		120,675	19.8%

Hong Kong (SAR) is Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region. Numbers may not add due to rounding.

**Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga  
Places of Birth of Recent Immigrants: Top 10 Places of Birth**

	Canada		Ontario			Toronto CMA			Mississauga			
	#	%		#	%		#	%		#	%	
Total Recent Immigrants	963,320	100.0%		538,730	100.0%		415,495	100.0%		60,125	100.0%	
Top 10 Places of Birth of Recent Immigrants												
1	China, People's Republic of	124,900	13.0%	China, People's Republic of	69,205	12.8%	China, People's Republic of	54,940	13.2%	India	12,365	20.6%
2	India	91,645	9.5%	India	58,585	10.9%	India	51,685	12.4%	Pakistan	8,605	14.3%
3	Philippines	55,470	5.8%	Pakistan	34,950	6.5%	Pakistan	30,185	7.3%	Philippines	3,710	6.2%
4	Pakistan	43,075	4.5%	Philippines	26,200	4.9%	Philippines	23,100	5.6%	China, People's Republic of	2,760	4.6%
5	Hong Kong (SAR)	37,665	3.9%	Sri Lanka	20,330	3.8%	Sri Lanka	19,395	4.7%	Sri Lanka	1,960	3.3%
6	Iran	31,085	3.2%	Hong Kong (SAR)	18,855	3.5%	Hong Kong (SAR)	18,170	4.4%	Poland	1,800	3.0%
7	Taiwan	30,345	3.2%	Iran	18,205	3.4%	Iran	15,515	3.7%	Korea, South	1,480	2.5%
8	United States	29,740	3.1%	Russian Federation	16,575	3.1%	Russian Federation	13,970	3.4%	Hong Kong (SAR)	1,440	2.4%
9	Korea, South	29,235	3.0%	Korea, South	14,910	2.8%	Korea, South	12,015	2.9%	Iran	1,205	2.0%
10	Sri Lanka	25,245	2.6%	United States	14,585	2.7%	Jamaica	10,195	2.5%	Jamaica	1,195	2.0%
	Other Places of Birth	464,925	48.3%		246,345	45.7%		166,340	40.0%		23,580	39.2%

Recent immigrants are those who have obtained landed immigrant status since the 1996 Census (between 1996 Census Day and 2001 Census Day). Numbers may not add due to rounding.

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in Canada, 18.4% were born outside the country. In Ontario, the Toronto CMA and Mississauga, the proportion of immigrants was much higher than the national percentage. The total immigrant population in Ontario was 26.8%, and 43.7% in the Toronto CMA. Nearly half of Mississauga's residents are immigrants and numbered 285,650 (46.8% of the population).

In Canada, the common places of birth of immigrants were the United Kingdom (2.0%), China (1.1%), Italy (1.1%) and India (1.1%). Three percent of persons in Ontario were born in the United Kingdom, followed by Italy (1.9%), India (1.5%) and China (1.5%). According to the 2001 Census, of all the major urban centres in the world, the Toronto CMA had one of the highest proportions of foreign-born residents. Both the Toronto CMA and Mississauga showed a high percentage of their immigrants from India at 3.2% and 5.5%, respectively. Other significant places of birth for

immigrants in Mississauga include Poland (4.0%), the Philippines (3.0%) and the United Kingdom (3.0%).

Prior to 1960, European nations such as the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Netherlands and Poland, were the primary sources of immigrants for Canada. The results from the 2001 Census showed that the origin of recent immigrants are now from Asian countries. Recent immigrants are persons who obtained landed immigrant status within the last five years. The most recent immigrants in Canada were from China (13.0%), India (9.5%) and the Philippines (5.8%). In Ontario and the Toronto CMA, China, India and Pakistan were the

three most common places of birth of recent immigrants. Mississauga differs slightly with the majority of recent immigrants born in India (20.6%), Pakistan (14.3%) and the Philippines (6.2%).

Between 1991 to 2001, the majority of immigrants lived in Toronto (516,635), Montreal (118,275), Mississauga (114,150) and Vancouver (106,425). Of the ten municipalities, Richmond has the

**Top 10 Municipalities With the Highest Proportion of Immigrants, 1991 to 2001**

	Municipality	Total Population	Immigrants		
			#	% of Canada	% of Municipality
1	Toronto (Ont.)	2,456,805	516,635	1.7%	21.0%
2	Montréal (Que.)	1,019,735	118,275	0.4%	11.6%
3	Mississauga (Ont.)	610,815	114,150	0.4%	18.7%
4	Vancouver (B.C.)	539,630	106,245	0.4%	19.7%
5	Richmond (B.C.)	163,395	48,705	0.2%	29.8%
6	Surrey (B.C.)	345,780	47,035	0.2%	13.6%
7	Burnaby (B.C.)	191,380	46,415	0.2%	24.3%
8	Markham (Ont.)	207,940	46,075	0.2%	22.2%
9	Brampton (Ont.)	324,390	43,880	0.1%	13.5%
10	Richmond Hill (Ont.)	131,595	26,325	0.1%	20.0%

Numbers may not add due to rounding.

highest proportion of immigrants. This is followed by Burnaby, Markham, and Toronto.

**ETHNIC ORIGIN**

Statistics Canada defines ethnic origin as the *ethnic or cultural group(s) to which the respondent's ancestors belong*. Over 200 ethnic origins were reported in 2001 Census of Canada.

In 2001, over 11.6 million people reported Canadian as their ethnic origin, making this the top ranking ethnic origin. The number of people indicating Canadian as their ethnicity has increased since the last census from 30.9% in 1996 to 39.4% in 2001. The increasing number of people reporting Canadian as their ethnicity tend to be individuals who were born in Canada and whose parents were both born in Canada. Within Ontario, the Toronto CMA and Mississauga, the most common ethnic origin was also Canadian at 29.7%, 18.5% and 17.2%, respectively.

English was the second most reported ethnic origin across Canada (20.2%), Ontario (24.0%), the Toronto CMA (16.9%) and Mississauga (14.7%).

**Top 10 Municipalities With the Highest Proportion of Visible Minorities**

Municipality	Total Population	Visible Minorities		
		#	% of Canada	% of Municipality
1 Toronto (Ont.)	2,456,800	1,051,125	3.5%	42.8%
2 Vancouver (B.C.)	539,630	264,495	0.9%	49.0%
3 Mississauga (Ont.)	610,815	246,325	0.8%	40.3%
4 Montréal (Que.)	1,019,735	231,760	0.8%	22.7%
5 Brampton (Ont.)	324,390	130,275	0.4%	40.2%
6 Surrey (B.C.)	345,780	127,015	0.4%	36.7%
7 Markham (Ont.)	207,940	115,480	0.4%	55.5%
8 Richmond (B.C.)	163,395	96,385	0.3%	59.0%
9 Burnaby (B.C.)	191,385	93,065	0.3%	48.6%
10 Richmond Hill (Ont.)	131,600	53,185	0.2%	40.4%

Numbers may not add due to rounding.

	Canada		Ontario		Toronto CMA		Mississauga	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Population	29,639,035	100.0%	11,285,550	100.0%	4,647,960	100.0%	610,815	100.0%
Total Visible Minority	3,983,845	13.4%	2,153,045	19.1%	1,712,535	36.8%	246,330	40.3%
Chinese	1,029,395	3.5%	481,505	4.3%	409,530	8.8%	35,950	5.9%
South Asian	917,075	3.1%	554,870	4.9%	473,805	10.2%	91,150	14.9%
Black	662,210	2.2%	411,095	3.6%	310,500	6.7%	37,850	6.2%
Filipino	308,575	1.0%	156,515	1.4%	133,680	2.9%	24,615	4.0%
Latin American	216,975	0.7%	106,835	0.9%	75,910	1.6%	9,270	1.5%
Southeast Asian	198,880	0.7%	86,410	0.8%	53,565	1.2%	10,015	1.6%
Arab	194,680	0.7%	88,540	0.8%	42,830	0.9%	11,420	1.9%
West Asian	109,285	0.4%	67,100	0.6%	52,980	1.1%	4,205	0.7%
Korean	100,660	0.3%	53,955	0.5%	42,615	0.9%	5,175	0.8%
Japanese	73,315	0.2%	24,925	0.2%	17,415	0.4%	1,980	0.3%
Visible Minority, n.i.e.	98,920	0.3%	78,915	0.7%	66,455	1.4%	9,950	1.6%
Multiple Visible Minorities	73,875	0.2%	42,375	0.4%	33,240	0.7%	4,750	0.8%
All Others	25,655,185	86.6%	9,132,505	80.9%	2,935,425	63.2%	364,495	59.7%

Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Nationally, French (15.8%) was the third most reported ethnic origin, but in Ontario and the Toronto CMA, Scottish (16.3% and 11.1%, respectively) was the third most common response while East Indian (11.3%) was the third most common ethnic origin in Mississauga.

**VISIBLE MINORITIES**

Visible minorities are defined in the Employment Equity Act as *persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour*. The proportion of persons in Canada who identified themselves as a visible minority has increased over the years, from 4.7% in 1991 to 11.2% in 1996 and 13.4% in 2001.

Compared to the national percentage, Ontario, the Toronto CMA and Mississauga have a higher proportion of total visible minorities at 19.1%, 36.8% and 40.3%, respectively.

The three largest visible minority groups in Canada were Chinese (3.5%), South Asians (3.1%) and Blacks (2.2%). In Ontario and the Toronto CMA, the largest visible minority groups were South Asians, Chinese and Blacks. Mississauga has a large percentage of South Asians (14.9%), followed by Blacks (6.2%) and Chinese (5.9%).

The majority of visible minorities in Canada lived in either Ontario or British Columbia. The municipalities with the most visible minorities were Toronto (1,051,125), Vancouver (264,495), Mississauga (246,325), and Montreal (231,760). However, municipalities with the highest percentage of visible minorities were Richmond (59.0%), Markham (55.5%), Vancouver (49.0%) and Burnaby (48.6%).

**Canada, Ontario, Toronto CMA and Mississauga  
Ethnic Origins: Top 10 Responses**

	Canada		Ontario		
	#	%		#	%
Total Persons	29,639,035	100.0%	Total Persons	11,285,550	100.0%
Single Responses	18,307,540	61.8%	Single Responses	6,883,905	61.0%
Multiple Responses	11,331,490	38.2%	Multiple Responses	4,401,645	39.0%

**Top 10 Total Responses**

	Ethnic Origin	Total Responses		Single Responses		Multiple Responses		Ethnic Origin	Total Responses		Single Responses		Multiple Responses	
		#	%	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%	#	%
1	Canadian	11,682,680	39.4%	6,748,135	22.8%	4,934,550	16.6%	Canadian	3,350,275	29.7%	1,598,055	14.2%	1,752,220	15.5%
2	English	5,978,875	20.2%	1,479,520	5.0%	4,499,355	15.2%	English	2,711,485	24.0%	699,700	6.2%	2,011,790	17.8%
3	French	4,668,410	15.8%	1,060,755	3.6%	3,607,655	12.2%	Scottish	1,843,115	16.3%	281,785	2.5%	1,561,330	13.8%
4	Scottish	4,157,210	14.0%	607,235	2.0%	3,549,975	12.0%	Irish	1,761,280	15.6%	233,600	2.1%	1,527,680	13.5%
5	Irish	3,822,660	12.9%	496,865	1.7%	3,325,800	11.2%	French	1,235,765	10.9%	188,725	1.7%	1,047,035	9.3%
6	German	2,742,765	9.3%	705,595	2.4%	2,037,170	6.9%	German	965,510	8.6%	226,220	2.0%	739,290	6.6%
7	Italian	1,270,370	4.3%	726,275	2.5%	544,090	1.8%	Italian	781,345	6.9%	481,740	4.3%	299,605	2.7%
8	Chinese	1,094,700	3.7%	936,210	3.2%	158,490	0.5%	Chinese	518,550	4.6%	443,690	3.9%	74,860	0.7%
9	Ukrainian	1,071,060	3.6%	326,200	1.1%	744,860	2.5%	Dutch (Netherlands)	436,030	3.9%	169,135	1.5%	266,900	2.4%
10	North American Indian	1,000,890	3.4%	455,805	1.5%	545,085	1.8%	East Indian	413,415	3.7%	329,460	2.9%	83,950	0.7%

	Toronto CMA		Mississauga		
	#	%		#	%
Total Persons	4,647,960	100.0%	Total Persons	610,815	100.0%
Single Responses	3,265,740	70.3%	Single Responses	436,895	71.5%
Multiple Responses	1,382,215	29.7%	Multiple Responses	173,925	28.5%

**Top 10 Total Responses**

	Ethnic Origin	Total Responses		Single Responses		Multiple Responses		Ethnic Origin	Total Responses		Single Responses		Multiple Responses	
		#	%	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%	#	%
1	Canadian	861,945	18.5%	375,155	8.1%	486,790	10.5%	Canadian	105,215	17.2%	43,845	7.2%	61,365	10.0%
2	English	783,770	16.9%	211,835	4.6%	571,930	12.3%	English	89,980	14.7%	24,780	4.1%	65,205	10.7%
3	Scottish	517,115	11.1%	84,415	1.8%	432,705	9.3%	East Indian	68,890	11.3%	56,790	9.3%	12,100	2.0%
4	Irish	487,210	10.5%	73,415	1.6%	413,795	8.9%	Scottish	59,305	9.7%	9,560	1.6%	49,740	8.1%
5	Chinese	435,685	9.4%	379,550	8.2%	56,135	1.2%	Irish	56,345	9.2%	8,530	1.4%	47,815	7.8%
6	Italian	429,380	9.2%	309,350	6.7%	120,035	2.6%	Italian	48,035	7.9%	30,505	5.0%	17,530	2.9%
7	East Indian	345,855	7.4%	279,330	6.0%	66,525	1.4%	Polish	42,005	6.9%	28,915	4.7%	13,095	2.1%
8	French	220,540	4.7%	25,545	0.5%	195,000	4.2%	Chinese	40,000	6.5%	32,455	5.3%	7,545	1.2%
9	German	220,135	4.7%	51,180	1.1%	168,960	3.6%	Portuguese	31,795	5.2%	24,100	3.9%	7,690	1.3%
10	Portuguese	171,545	3.7%	129,280	2.8%	42,265	0.9%	French	28,410	4.7%	3,330	0.5%	25,080	4.1%

Single responses are persons who provided one ethnic origin only and multiple responses are persons who provided two or more ethnic origins. Total responses are the total single and multiple responses combined. Total responses may have a sum greater than the total population. Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Note: A census metropolitan area (CMA) is a very large urban area (known as the urban core) together with adjacent urban and rural areas (known as urban and rural fringes) that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core. A CMA has an urban core population of at least 100,000, based on the previous census.

The boundaries of the Toronto CMA include all of the City of Toronto and the Regions of Peel and York and portions of the Regions of Halton and Durham and the County of Simcoe.