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Mississauga Data is the official City of Mississauga website that contains urban planning related reports, newsletters, brochures and data. The Information Planning Research Unit manages statistical data including: population, demographics, census, development monitoring/activity, growth forecasts, housing, employment, office, land use, vacant employment lands, and the environment.

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1996 Census Update

March 1998

Immigration and Language

On November 4, 1997 Statistics Canada released data on immigration and citizenship from the 1996 Census. Information on mother tongue, home language and knowledge of languages was released on December 2, 1997. Data from those releases with an emphasis on the City of Mississauga, is contained in this newsletter.

The sources of information used to prepare this newsletter are "The Daily, Tuesday, November 4, 1997," "The Daily, Tuesday, December 2, 1997" and special data requests from Statistics Canada. Please contact Statistics Canada at (416) 973-6586 for further information regarding the Census of Canada.

compares to less than 150,000 immigrants per year in the preceding three decades.

Not only has the number of immigrants changed greatly, but so too has their country of origin. Immigrants from Europe, the traditional immigrant to Canada, now accounts for less than half the immigrant population - although they still account for the largest proportion of immigrants to Canada.

In 1981, 67% of immigrants to Canada were born in Europe; in 1996 this percentage has dropped to 47%. At the same time, immigrants born in Asia and the Middle East have increased from 14% to 31%.

When examining where immigrants have come from, it is useful to look at the characteristics of "recent" immigrants, that is, those who arrived between 1991 and 1996. The three leading source countries of recent immigrants is Hong Kong, the People's Republic of China and India. (See Table 1.) This contrasts sharply with the three lead source countries of immigrants arriving before 1961. Those immigrants came largely from the United Kingdom, Italy and Germany.

Immigrants to Canada, particularly recent immigrants, generally settle in urban areas. Eighty-five percent of all immigrants and 93% of recent immigrants have chosen to live in an

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IMMIGRATION

Canada

About five million immigrants make Canada their home. This is up 14.5% from 1991 and more than three times the growth rate (4%) of the Canadian born population.

Immigrants now represent 17.4 % of the population which is an increase from the 15% to 16% range experienced between 1951 and 1991. The reason for this increase is the higher levels of immigration experienced during the 1990s. On average, 235,000 immigrants per year were admitted in the first half of this decade. This



Table 1 - Place of Birth for Immigrants
Total Immigrants and Immigrants Arriving Between 1991 and 1996

Rank	Place of Birth	Total Immigrants		Rank	Place of Birth	1991 to 1996	
		#	%			#	%
Canada							
1	United Kingdom	655,535	13.2%	1	Hong Kong	108,915	10.5%
2	Italy	332,110	6.7%	2	P.R. of China	87,875	8.5%
3	United States	244,690	4.9%	3	India	71,335	6.9%
4	Hong Kong	241,095	4.8%	4	Philippines	71,330	6.9%
5	India	235,935	4.7%	5	Sri Lanka	44,235	4.3%
6	P.R. of China	231,050	4.6%	6	Poland	36,965	3.6%
7	Poland	193,375	3.9%	7	Taiwan	32,145	3.1%
8	Philippines	184,550	3.7%	8	Viet Nam	32,060	3.1%
9	Germany	181,645	3.7%	9	United States	29,025	2.8%
10	Portugal	158,815	3.2%	10	United Kingdom	25,420	2.4%
	Other	2,312,270	46.5%		Other	499,685	48.1%
	Total	4,971,070	100.0%	Total	1,038,990	100.0%	
Toronto CMA							
1	United Kingdom	158,070	8.9%	1	Hong Kong	48,535	11.0%
2	Italy	146,515	8.3%	2	Sri Lanka	36,735	8.3%
3	Hong Kong	110,990	6.3%	3	P.R. of China	35,330	8.0%
4	India	99,930	5.6%	4	Philippines	33,210	7.5%
5	P.R. of China	87,615	4.9%	5	India	33,185	7.5%
6	Jamaica	86,910	4.9%	6	Poland	18,605	4.2%
7	Portugal	82,105	4.6%	7	Jamaica	16,780	3.8%
8	Philippines	80,860	4.6%	8	Guyana	13,195	3.0%
9	Poland	74,220	4.2%	9	Viet Nam	12,290	2.8%
10	Guyana	60,705	3.4%	10	Trinidad and Tobago	11,375	2.6%
	Other	784,985	44.3%		Other	181,795	41.2%
	Total	1,772,905	100.0%	Total	441,035	100.0%	
Mississauga							
1	India	23,860	10.2%	1	India	8,585	15.0%
2	United Kingdom	19,980	8.5%	2	Poland	5,815	10.2%
3	Poland	19,570	8.3%	3	Hong Kong	4,680	8.2%
4	Philippines	14,310	6.1%	4	Philippines	4,495	7.9%
5	Italy	13,780	5.9%	5	Sri Lanka	3,235	5.7%
6	Portugal	13,280	5.7%	6	Pakistan	2,485	4.3%
7	Jamaica	11,855	5.0%	7	P.R. of China	2,420	4.2%
8	Hong Kong	10,270	4.4%	8	Jamaica	1,855	3.2%
9	Guyana	6,940	3.0%	9	Trinidad and Tobago	1,785	3.1%
10	Viet Nam	6,575	2.8%	10	Viet Nam	1,520	2.7%
	Other	94,440	40.2%		Other	20,250	35.4%
	Total	234,860	100.0%	Total	57,125	100.0%	

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urban centre. The three primary centres for this population are Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver.

Toronto CMA¹

The Toronto CMA has the largest immigrant population of any of Canada's CMAs. About 441,000, or 42% of all immigrants to Canada arriving between 1991 and 1996 settled in Toronto, compared to 18% in Vancouver and 13% in Montreal.

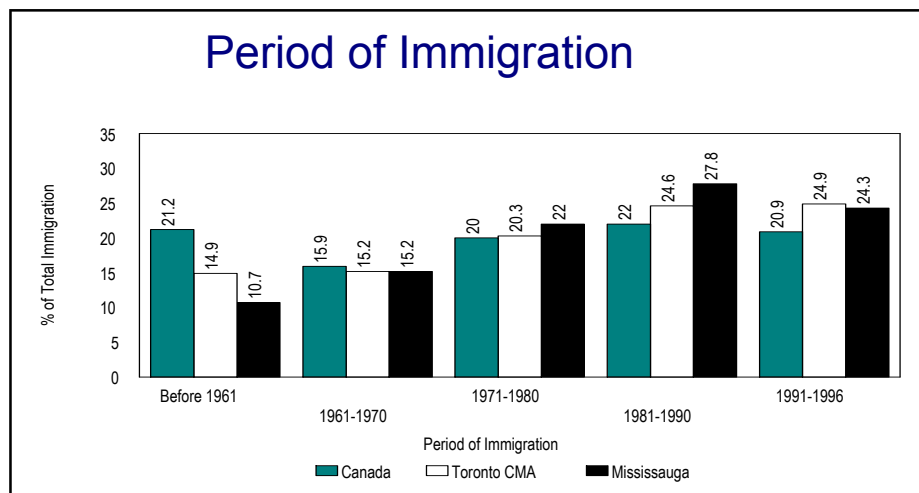
In total Toronto has 1.8 million immigrants, accounting for 42% of the population. About a fifth (21%) of Toronto's population is now composed of people who immigrated to Canada since 1981 and about one-tenth of the population immigrated since 1991.

Like the Canada-wide trend, the source country for immigrants to Toronto has shifted in recent years. Immigration from the United Kingdom and Europe is down and immigration from Asia and the Middle East is up. Six out of ten recent immigrants were born in Asia or the Middle East. (See Table 1.)

Mississauga

Mississauga's share of the Toronto CMA immigrant population is approximately 13%. This proportion is the same for the total immigrant population and those

¹ The boundaries of the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) include all of Toronto and the Regions of Peel and York and portions of the Regions of Halton and Durham and the County of Simcoe.



immigrants who arrived between 1991 and 1996.

Forty-three percent of Mississauga's population are immigrants and about 24% of Mississauga's immigrant population are recent immigrants.

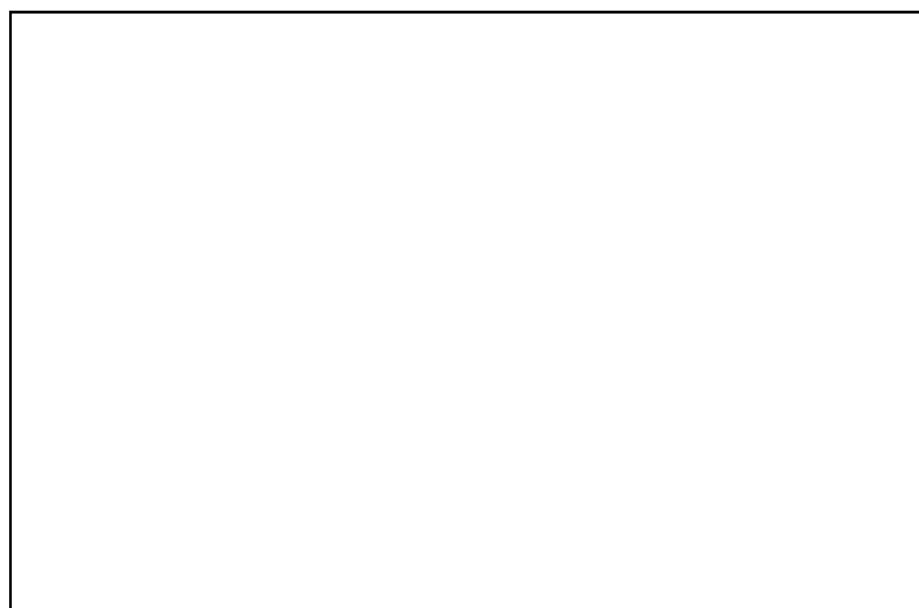
India is the primary source country for immigrants living in Mississauga. This is the case for both total immigrants and recent immigrants, and the proportion of

immigrants from India is increasing.

Among total immigrants, the United Kingdom is ranked as the second most frequent source country, but for recent immigrants the United Kingdom slipped down to 14th position.

Immigrants from Poland are the third most populous group of total immigrants living in Mississauga and the second most populous

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group of recent immigrants.

Similar to the trends for Canada and the Toronto CMA, immigrants to Mississauga from the United Kingdom and Europe are being replaced by immigrants from Asia. Among the top ten source countries for total immigrants are the United Kingdom, Poland, Italy and Portugal. Only Poland stays on this list for recent immigrants. (See Table 1.)

Period of Immigration

The above chart compares the period of immigration for those immigrants settling in Canada, the Toronto CMA and Mississauga.

Immigrants to Canada as a whole are fairly evenly divided between all the time periods.

Immigrants to the Toronto CMA tend to be more recent arrivals with almost half having arrived after 1981.

Immigration to Mississauga corresponds to the city's overall growth pattern. In the last few decades Mississauga experienced rapid growth; much of this growth was fuelled by recent immigrants. Fifty-two percent of immigrants living in Mississauga arrived after 1981 and almost a full quarter arrived in the five year period between 1991 and 1996.

LANGUAGE

Statistics Canada asks questions regarding bilingualism, mother language and home language. Bilingualism refers to the ability to speak both English and French. Mother language refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood. Home language is the language spoken most often at home.

Bilingualism

Bilingualism has been steadily increasing. In 1971 only 13% of the Canadian population spoke both English and French. This increased to 16% in 1991 and increased again in 1996 to 17%.

Bilingualism rates are lower in the Toronto CMA and Mississauga. In the Toronto CMA the rate is 8% and in Mississauga it is slightly lower at 7.5%. (See Table 2.)

Mother Tongue

Canada	17.0%
Toronto CMA	8.0%
Mississauga	7.5%

As the level of immigration increased, so did the multilingual nature of Canada's population. Table 3 shows the number of people with English, French or a non-official language as their mother tongue.

In 1996, approximately 17 million persons, representing 60% of Canada's population, reported English as their mother tongue. This proportion held true for the Toronto CMA and Mississauga, where the number of people reporting English as their mother tongue was also approximately 60% of the population.

The proportion of people reporting French varied considerably between Canada and the Toronto CMA and Mississauga. In Canada, those

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Mother Tongue	Canada		Toronto CMA		Mississauga	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
English	16,890,615	59.2	2,562,685	60.6	320,205	59.0
French	6,636,655	23.3	52,355	1.2	7,325	1.3
Non-official Language	4,598,290	16.1	1,520,875	35.9	199,910	36.9
Multiple Languages	402,560	1.4	96,990	2.3	15,010	2.8
Total	28,528,125	100.0	4,232,905	100.0	542,450	100.0

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reporting French as their mother tongue represented about 24% of the population, whereas in the Toronto CMA and Mississauga the rate was only slightly higher than 1%.

In Canada there were 4.6 million people, or 16% of the population, who reported a mother language other than English or French. This is a result of the increased number of immigrants as well as the higher proportion of immigrants coming from countries where neither English and French is the principal language.

In the Toronto CMA the proportion of people reporting a non-official language as their mother tongue was 36%. In Mississauga the rate was marginally higher at 37%.

Home Language

Although 4.6 million people

reported a non-official language as their mother tongue, only 2.6 million or 9% of people in Canada did not speak English or French at home. In the Toronto CMA and in Mississauga, approximately 73% spoke English at home and 23% spoke a non-official language at home. (See Table 4.)

Many immigrants will switch from speaking their mother tongue to one of the official languages after they have been in Canada for some time.

Changing immigration patterns have had a profound affect on the languages spoken at home. With the increased number of new Canadians coming from Asia, Chinese surpassed Italian as the most common non-official language spoken at home in Canada. This increase is a reflection of recent growth in the number and rate of immigration as well as the change in the primary source countries of origin for immigrants.

Across Canada, of the non-official

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**Table 4
Official Language as Home Language, 1996**

	English	French	Non-official Language	Multiple Responses
	%	%	%	%
Canada	66.7	22.3	9.0	2.0
Toronto CMA	72.7	0.5	23.0	3.8
Mississauga	72.8	0.5	22.3	4.4



Table 5 - Mother Tongue: Top 10 Non-official Languages, 1996

Rank	Canada		Toronto CMA		Mississauga				
	#	%	#	%	#	%			
1	Chinese	715,635	2.5	Chinese	286,460	6.8	Chinese	24,095	4.4
2	Italian	484,500	1.7	Italian	202,440	4.8	Polish	22,560	4.2
3	German	450,140	1.6	Portuguese	107,795	2.5	Italian	19,645	3.6
4	Polish	213,410	0.7	Polish	79,620	1.9	Punjabi	19,550	3.6
5	Spanish	212,890	0.7	Spanish	72,800	1.7	Portuguese	17,270	3.2
6	Portuguese	211,290	0.7	Punjabi	64,625	1.5	Tagalog (Philippino)	10,435	1.9
7	Punjabi	201,785	0.7	Tagalog (Phipino)	58,260	1.4	Spanish	9,045	1.7
8	Ukrainian	162,700	0.6	Tamil	54,260	1.3	Arabic	7,385	1.4
9	Arabic	148,555	0.5	Greek	49,230	1.2	Croatian	6,940	1.3
10	Dutch	133,800	0.5	German	47,495	1.1	Urdu	5,520	1.0
	Other	1,663,585	5.8	Other	497,890	11.8	Other	57,465	10.6
	Total	4,598,290	16.1	Total	1,520,875	35.9	Total	199,910	36.9