

The AMSSA Info Sheet series has been created to inform and support our members and community partners. The Info Sheets cover a wide range of topics and highlight important facts and trends from across Canada and BC. Our goal is to assist organizations in navigating the rapidly changing landscape of the BC settlement sector.*

National Household Survey—Highlights

The results of the first National Household Survey (NHS) were released on May 8, 2013 and contain data related to citizenship, country of birth, ethnic origin, religion and language. AMSSA has created this Info Sheet to highlight what relevant information is available for BC communities and how it can be accessed.

NHS Highlights—Demographics, Source Countries, Languages, Ethnic Origins, Age Groups and Religions

All data is based on the total number of recent immigrants that arrived between 2006-2011, unless otherwise noted.

	Canada	BC
Demographics		
Recent Immigrant Arrivals (2006 - 2011) ¹	1,162,915	185,120
Male Arrivals ²	555,250 (47.7%)	87,110 (47.1%)
Female Arrivals ³	607,670 (52.3%)	98,005 (52.9%)
% of Total Population that is Foreign Born at end of 2011 ⁴	20.6%	27.6%
Source Countries		
Number of Countries of Birth amongst Recent Immigrants ⁵	188	140
Top 3 Source Countries of Recent Immigrants ⁶	Philippines (13.1%), China (10.5%), India (10.4%)	China (20.8%), Philippines (15.0%), India (14.0%)
Language		
Number of Languages spoken amongst Recent Immigrants ⁷	118	86
Top 3 Languages of Recent Immigrants (Excluding English/French) ⁸	Tagalog (9.9%), Arabic (6.9%), Punjabi (5.3%)	Mandarin (11.9%), Punjabi (11.6%), Tagalog (10.9%)
Ethnic Origin		
Top 3 Ethnicities amongst Recent Immigrants ⁹	South Asian (18.5%), Filipino (12.6%), Chinese (12.1%)	Chinese (25.7%), South Asian (17.5%), Filipino (14.2%)
% of Recent Immigrants that are a Visible Minority ¹⁰	78.0%	80.4%
Age		
2001 - 2005 Age Breakdown ¹¹	Under 15 (12.6%), 15 to 24 (15.8%), 25 to 54 (61.6%), 55 to 64 (5.7%), 65 and older (4.3%)	Under 15 (10.8%), 15 to 24 (15.7%), 25 to 54 (60.5%), 55 to 64 (7.6%), 65 and older (5.3%)
2006-2011 Age Breakdown ¹²	Under 15 (19.2%), 15 to 24 (14.5%), 25 to 54 (58.6%), 55 to 64 (4.4%), 65 and older (3.3%)	Under 15 (16.6%), 15 to 24 (15.5%), 25 to 54 (58.2%), 55 to 64 (5.7%), 65 and older (3.9%)
Religion		
Number of Religious Affiliations amongst Recent Immigrants ¹³	84	60
Top 3 Religious Affiliations amongst Recent Immigrants ¹⁴	Christian (47.5%), No religious affiliation (19.5%), Muslim (17.4%)	Christian (38.5%), No religious affiliation (32.4%), Sikh (10.9%)

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Statistics Canada, 'Citizenship Data Table: 99-010-X2011026', 2013. Available at: <http://bit.ly/17FLSKT>. Also see: NHS Focus on Geography Series – British Columbia. Available at: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/as-sa/fogs-spg/Pages/FOG.cfm?lang=E&level=2&GeoCode=59>.

7, 8. Statistics Canada, 'Detailed Mother Tongue Data Table: 99-010-X2011033', 2013. Available at: <http://bit.ly/107kXH1>.

9, 10. Statistics Canada, 'Ethnic Origin Data Table: 99-010-X2011028', 2013. Available at: <http://bit.ly/12ACeM6> Note: Visible minorities are self-identified.

11, 12. See above: Footnote 1.

13, 14. Statistics Canada, 'Religion Data Table: 99-010-X2011032', 2013. Available at: <http://bit.ly/12ACeM6>.

* Disclaimer: The following summaries have been compiled by AMSSA. They have not been sanctioned by the Immigrant Integration Branch (IIB), Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) or agency representatives, so the information should be confirmed as appropriate.

HOW TO ACCESS NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY INFORMATION FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

A NHS Profile of your community will contain the information below. This information is available for all reporting municipalities across Canada and is based on the *entire population (immigrant and non-immigrant)* living within that municipality in 2011:

- Citizenship
- Immigrant status and period of immigration
- Age at immigration
- Immigrant status and selected places of birth
- Recent immigrants by selected place of birth
- Religion
- Languages spoken
- Generation status
- Visible minority population
- Ethnic origin population

Upcoming NHS Data Release:

June 26, 2013: Labour, mobility, migration, education

Aug. 14, 2013: Income and housing

Link: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

However, only **25 Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) across British Columbia have additional information broken down for recent immigrants** (arrived between 2006-2011). See **Footnote 15** for a full list of the 25 CMAs for which this data is available. **Link:** <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/dt-td/index-eng.cfm>.

Note: It is possible to correlate this information on recent immigrants across two data sets. For example, one can determine the number of recent immigrants who arrived from a specific source country **and** who fall within a specific age group.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

These online information sources provide additional information on Canada, BC and BC communities:

CANSIM

Statistics Canada's socioeconomic database. The following data is available under the Ethnic Diversity and Immigration category:

- Citizenship
- Education, training and skills
- Integration of newcomers
- Immigrants and non-PR residents
- Visible minorities
- Labour market and income
- Health status/access to care
- Ethnic groups

Link: <http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/>

CIC Statistics Database: Facts and Figures

Demographic information on new permanent and temporary residents. The data is divided into national, provincial and a limited number of urban areas. Preliminary figures for 2012 are available.

Link: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/menu-fact.asp>

WelcomeBC: Regional Profiles and Fact Sheets

Immigration and diversity profiles on BC communities (based on 2006 data), as well as fact sheets on im/migration and regional trends (up to 2011 data).

Link: <http://www.welcomebc.ca/Immigrate/about-bc/facts-landing/>

Limitations of the National Household Survey

- Data on recent immigrants does not exist for all communities but only for a list of 25 select cities (Census Metropolitan Areas) in BC (see above).
- The change from the Statistics Canada **mandatory** long-form census to the **optional** National Household Survey is raising concerns regarding the accuracy of the NHS data collected. Vulnerable groups such as recent immigrants, refugees and low income families are less likely to fill out the questionnaires, leading to an under-representation of the experiences of these groups.¹⁶ This effect is compounded by the fact that the surveys were only available in English or French.
- In addition, the optional nature of the survey is leading to low response rates, especially in smaller communities, distorting the accuracy of the results. This makes it more difficult to get a clear picture of Canada at a regional and local level.¹⁷
- Nearly 25% of all municipalities in Canada did not have enough responses for data to be published.¹⁸

15. The following Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) have detailed information available for recent immigrants: Abbotsford - Mission, Campbell River, Chilliwack, Courtenay, Cranbrook, Dawson Creek, Duncan, Fort St. John, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Parksville, Penticton, Port Alberni, Powell River, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Quesnel, Salmon Arm, Squamish, Terrace, Vancouver, Vernon, Victoria, Williams Lake. Please note that large CMAs, such as Vancouver, do not have this information divided into individual municipalities.

16. The Globe and Mail, 'Experts debate how much national household survey statistics count', 2013. Available at: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/experts-debate-how-much-national-household-survey-statistics-count/article11743163/>.

17, 18. Canada.com, 'Data gaps mark National Household Survey, Statistics Canada warns', 2013. Available at: <http://o.canada.com/2013/05/08/national-household-survey-problems/>.